



Archaeological Services
University of Durham

Land West of Market Place, Ripon, North Yorkshire

archaeological evaluation

on behalf of

Corstophine & Wright Hills Erwin Ltd

and

Maple Grove Developments Ltd

ASUD Report 1287

June 2005

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and

Maple Grove Developments Ltd

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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 on land to the west of the Market Place in Ripon. The works comprised the excavation and recording of eighteen trial trenches across the site.
- 1.2 The works were commissioned by Corstophine & Wright on behalf of Maple Grove Ltd, and conducted by Archaeological Services University of Durham in accordance with a Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation provided by Archaeological Services and approved by the Heritage Unit at North Yorkshire County Council.

Results

- 1.3 An undated pit, a 19th century well and the foundations of recently demolished buildings were identified in Trenches 1 – 3 in the northeast of the proposed development area. This part of the site showed evidence for significant truncation of archaeological deposits.
- 1.4 A number of pits, gullies and walls of medieval or post-medieval date were identified in Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8. All these were in a part of the site that had formerly been the rear of burgage plots.
- 1.5 A medieval ditch and cobble surface, overlain by ash and charcoal deposits, with these being overlain by more recent building foundations was found in Trench 17.
- 1.6 No archaeological features earlier in date than the 19th century were identified in the remainder of the site.

Recommendations

- 1.7 Based on the results of this evaluation, the proposed development area has been subdivided into three areas of high, medium and low archaeological potential respectively. It is recommended that an open-area excavation be carried out on the area of high archaeological potential and a watching brief during construction works on the area of medium archaeological potential. No further works are recommended on the area of low archaeological potential.

2. Project background

Location (Figure 1)

- 2.1 The site is located to the west of the city centre at Ripon, North Yorkshire (centred on NGR: SE 3110 7135). It covers an area of just over 1.7ha and is bounded by Blossomgate to the west; the rear of properties along Westbourne Grove / St Wilfred's Place / St Wilfred's Road to the north; the rear of properties along North Street / Fishergate / Market Place to the east and the rear of properties along Westgate to the south.

Development proposal

- 2.2 It is proposed to construct a supermarket to the rear of Blossomgate, with residential housing along the Blossomgate street frontage itself. An access road is proposed along the northern edge of the development, between Blossomgate and the junction of North Street and Coltsgate Hill. The remainder of the site (*i.e.* the land to the east of the supermarket and south of the access road) is proposed to form a car park.

Objective

- 2.3 The objective of the evaluation was to assess the nature, extent and potential significance of any surviving archaeological features 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 advance of development.

Methods statement

- 2.4 The works have been undertaken in accordance with a Project Design (ref. PC04.226) and Written Scheme of Investigation (ref. PC05.172) provided by Archaeological Services University of Durham and approved by the Heritage Unit at North Yorkshire County Council (Appendix 3). These documents were based on an earlier Written Scheme of Investigation provided by the Heritage Unit at North Yorkshire County Council.

Dates

- 2.5 Fieldwork was undertaken between 10th and 26th May 2005. This report was prepared between 31st May and 28th June 2005.

Personnel

- 2.6 Fieldwork was conducted by Neil Adamson, Alan Rae, Louise Robinson and Natalie Swann [and supervised by Andy Platell]. This report was prepared by Andy Platell, with illustrations by David Graham and Janine Fisher. Specialist analysis was conducted by Dr Chris Cumberpatch (ceramics), Louisa Gidney (animal bone), and Dr Charlotte O'Brien (macrofossil analysis). The Project Manager was Peter Carne.

Archive/OASIS

- 2.7 The site code is **RWM05**, for **Ripon, Land West of Market Place 2005**. The archive is currently held by Archaeological Services University of Durham and will be transferred to Harrogate Museum in due course. Archaeological

Services University of Durham is registered with the **Online Access** to the **Index of archaeological investigation** project (OASIS). The OASIS ID number for this project is **archaeol3-8954**.

3. Landuse, topography and geology

- 3.1 Landuse: At the time of the evaluation the proposed development area comprised a mixture of open ground, largely used as both informal and formal car parking space but also some areas of tree and scrub, and a number of commercial buildings and yards. Some of these properties were unoccupied and scheduled for demolition as part of the proposed development. However, a number of them were still occupied, pending commencement of the proposed development.
- 3.2 Site and situation: The site lies at a mean elevation of *c.*39m OD on a plateau to the north of the River Skell, *c.*1km west of its confluence with the River Ure.
- 3.3 Geology: The solid geology of the area consists of Permian strata; the Edlington Formation (formerly Middle Marl) across most of the site with the Brotherton Formation (formerly Upper Magnesian Limestone) along the northwest edge (BGS 1992). Geotechnical boreholes drilled across the site identified rockhead at depths between 7.0m and 12.5m. Deposits of glacial till up to 7m in depth overlay this solid geology, with up to 4m of fluvioglacial deposits overlying this. The fluvioglacial deposits mainly consisted of fine orange-brown sand, with clay or gravel in places (GRM 2004).

4. Historical and archaeological background

The prehistoric and Roman periods (up to 5th century AD)

- 4.1 In spite of a relatively large number of Neolithic and Bronze Age sites in the general vicinity (especially funerary and ritual monuments such as henges), there is a paucity of such remains in the city itself. A small number of prehistoric objects have reportedly been found in the city, although all are now lost or lacking proper provenance. Similarly, few Romano-British objects have been found, although a Roman urn was found on the west side of North Street in the early 19th century (OAN 2003).

The medieval period (5th century AD to AD 1540)

- 4.2 Ripon is first documented in the seventh century, when St Wilfred established a monastery in *c.* AD 660 (Hall and Whyman 1996). This is thought to have been on the site of the present cathedral (Whyman 1997). The early town developed around this focus, to the east of the current Market Place (*ibid*).
- 4.3 It is not clear exactly when the Market Place was laid out in its current form. MacKay (1982), purely on documentary evidence, suggests that the Market Place and surrounding burgage plots had been laid out by 1320, although more

recent archaeological work suggests that it was not fully established until the mid to late fourteenth century (ASUD 2001, YAT 2000b).

The post-medieval period (AD 1541 to AD 1899)

- 4.4 The medieval settlement pattern survived almost intact until the late nineteenth century, as shown by early maps of the area (OAN 2003). These show long, thin burgage plots running westwards from the Market Place /Fishergate / Horsefair (now North Street). Smaller properties front Westgate and Blossomgate and open fields occupy the centre of the site.

The modern period (AD 1900 to present)

- 4.5 Modern changes are largely restricted to the amalgamation of properties into larger plots and a number of infill buildings to the rear of the street frontages. The fields to the north of the proposed development area were developed as terraced housing in the late 19th / early 20th century (*ibid*).

Previous archaeological works

- 4.6 Archaeological interventions have been carried out under the Market Place (ASUD 2001, YAT 2000b) and to the rear of properties to its east (WYAS 1999, YAT 2000a). Further from the site, excavations have been carried out around the cathedral (Whyman 1997). The current site has been subject to two archaeological assessments (Briden 1995, OAN 2003).

5. The evaluation trenches

Introduction

- 5.1 The original Written Scheme of Investigation specified 18 trial trenches covering a nominal surface area of 275m². However, it was recognised that the locations and sizes of these trenches may have to be altered during excavation due to access difficulties and the presence of underground services. The eventual locations of the trial trenches are shown on Figure 2 and the actual area excavated totalled c.300m².

Trench 1 (Figure 3)

- 5.2 This trench was located at the northern edge of the site, where the proposed new access road will join Coltshill Lane. Since the former buildings along the road frontage are known from geophysical investigations to be cellared (AEG 2004), the trench was relocated towards the rear of the plot and measured 8m by 2m in size.
- 5.3 A brick wall [55] was aligned north-south along the western side of the trench. It had a rectangular brick projection filled with charcoal, probably the base of a former chimney, on its eastern side. An electric cable ran parallel to the wall and underlay the chimney base. A sewerage pipe ran along the eastern side of the trench and a third metal pipe (possibly a disused water pipe) crossed the northern end of wall [55] (possibly due to having been warped following demolition of the building), cut [F56] downwards into the subsoil and then turned northwards (as shown by the line of its fill [57]). All these features were cut into the natural subsoil, here an orange-brown sand [58]. Above this

was a deposit of dark orange-brown silt [54] thickening to 0.25m in depth towards the northern end of the trench.

- 5.4 The trench was filled with a loose rubble fill [150] 0.35m thick. To the west of wall [55] this rubble was slightly deeper and had originally been thought to be a cellar fill. It could not be properly excavated due to access restrictions but during backfilling of the trench, a machine slot was excavated through it, proving it to be only *c.*0.05m deeper than the fill to the east, and therefore not a cellar fill. A thin layer of topsoil [53] overlay this rubble on the eastern side of the trench and completed the stratigraphic sequence.

Trench 2/3 (Figure 3)

- 5.5 This trench was located *c.*5m to the west of Trench 1. Two small trenches were originally specified for this area. However geotechnical test pits had proved that the street frontage was cellared (AEG 2004) so Trench 2 was relocated towards the rear of the plot and merged with Trench 3, forming one longer trench, 10m long by 2m wide. The natural subsoil in this trench was a loose gravel [75], markedly different to the sand present in Trench 1 just 5m to the east. Two sondages were excavated into this to determine that it was not redeposited material.
- 5.6 A pit [F68] measuring 1.6m in diameter by 0.6m in depth was present towards the north of the trench. It contained a rather mixed upper fill of silt, gravel and clay [66] overlying a grey-brown sandy silt lower fill [67]. A masonry fragment was collected from the upper fill but no other finds were recovered.
- 5.7 The base of a mortared brick and stone wall [70] in a shallow cut [F69] was aligned east-west across the trench, overlying the fills to pit [F68]. A second mortared brick wall [60], in cut [F59], was present in the southeast corner of the trench, running in a north-south direction for 1.6m before turning eastwards. This wall was at least 0.5m deep although its full depth was not determined.
- 5.8 A well [F62] was present in the centre of the trench, measuring 1.4m in diameter. It contained a brick lining [64] with fine sand [63] infilling the gaps between the bricks. The well was filled with a loose rubble fill [65]. A shallow east-west gully [F72] cut the top of the well and was thought to cut the infill as well, although this was hard to determine since there was little difference between the gully fill [71] and the well fill.
- 5.9 A layer of building rubble 0.2m thick [74] overlay all the above deposits and a brick and concrete surface [73] overlay this. As with Trench 1, service pipes lay directly under the building rubble. Their extreme shallowness indicates a considerable degree of truncation in this area since the demolition of the former buildings. This was confirmed by a local member of the public, who informed the author that the ground level had been reduced at this time.

Trench 4

- 5.10 Due to access difficulties, Trench 4 could not be excavated.

Trench 5 (Figure 4)

- 5.11 Trench 5 was located on car parking space to the rear of 77 North Street and measured 14m by 2m. The natural subsoil in this trench (here orange-brown sand [114]) was reached at a depth of 0.9m. Geotechnical Test Pit TP-D [95] was partly exposed in the southeast corner of the trench (AEG 2004).
- 5.12 Seven features were cut into this natural sand. At the eastern end of the trench, pit [F99] measured 0.4m in diameter by 0.1m in depth and contained a number of pig bones surrounded by a brown clayey silt [98]. Two metres to the west, pit [F101] measured 1.6m by 0.6m by 0.1m in depth and was filled with a grey-brown clayey silt containing sand patches [100]. Pottery dating from the 13th to 15th centuries was recovered from this pit. Three metres further to the west, pit [F103] measured 0.8m in diameter by 0.3m in depth and contained a brown clay silt fill [102]. A sherd of Cistercian pottery dating from the 15th to 17th century was recovered from this pit. To the west of this, pit [F105] measured 0.9m in diameter by 0.2m in depth and was filled by a similar brown clay silt fill [104] that also contained pottery dating from the 13th to 15th centuries. A metre to the southwest, a small scoop [F107] 0.2m in diameter and 30mm in depth may have been the base of a highly truncated posthole. It was filled with a brown clayey silt [106]. A metre to the west, pit [F109] measured 0.5m in diameter by 0.4m in depth and contained a significantly stonier fill [108] than the other features in this area. At the western end of the trench, posthole [F111] measured 0.3m in diameter by 0.2m in depth. It was filled with a dark grey-brown clay-silt [110] that appeared to be of fairly recent origin, due to the organic nature of its fill.
- 5.13 All the above features (with the probable exception of [F111]) were overlain by a dark reddish-brown clay silt [97]. This deposit was truncated by a 4m long cut [F113] along the northern (but not the southern) baulk of the trench. Cut [F113] was 0.3m deep, was filled with a reddish-brown sandy silt that contained late 19th to early 20th century pottery [112] and may have been a ditch truncated longitudinally by the trench.
- 5.14 A layer of former topsoil [94] overlaid the above deposits and above this was a layer of silty rubble containing irregularly laid bricks and stone [93] with a compacted gravel [92] road surface overlying this.

Trench 6 (Figure 5)

- 5.15 This trench measured 7m by 2m and was located on informal parking space behind Irelands Court. Originally intended to be excavated north-south, it was re-orientated east-west to avoid an underground telephone cable.
- 5.16 The natural subsoil, here orange-brown sandy gravel [126], was reached at a depth of 1.0m. A grey-brown silty clay [137] 0.3m thick overlaid this. Two features were cut into this deposit. Cut [F123] was at least 2m long by 0.6m wide and 0.7m deep, although it was only partly exposed in the southeast corner of the trench. It was filled with a dark brownish-grey clay silt that contained frequent stones [122] overlying a thin layer of orange-brown silty clay [136]. At the western end of the trench, pit [F125] measured 1.0m by 0.6m by 0.1m in depth and was filled with a dark grey-brown silty clay [124].

- 5.17 A deposit of old topsoil [121] 0.35m thick covered the whole trench with a rubble and gravel deposit [120] forming the car park surface above this.

Trench 7 (Figure 5)

- 5.18 Due to access difficulties, Trench 7 was relocated slightly to the north of its nominal position and was excavated on informal car parking space to the rear of 18/20 Fishergate. It measured 9m by 2m and the natural subsoil (here orange-brown sand) was reached at a depth of 1.2m.
- 5.19 One feature was cut into this natural sand. Gully [F119] was aligned north to south and measured 1.0m in width and 0.6m in depth. It was filled with a grey-brown sandy silt [118]. Sealing this deposit, and covering the whole trench, was a dark reddish-brown sandy silt [146] 0.25m thick.
- 5.20 Cutting deposit [146] at the eastern end of the trench, pit [F117] was 1.0m wide, 0.2m deep and at least 1m long (although it was not fully exposed). It contained an upper fill of very dark purple-brown sandy silt [116] over a lower fill of greenish grey sandy clay [115]. Medieval pottery was recovered from both fills.
- 5.21 An east west aligned wall [145] formed most of the southern baulk to the trench (except for the western end, where it was not exposed due to a slight divergence between the wall line and the trench edge). The wall was made from a mixture of rounded stones and reused bricks bonded together with lime mortar. Three courses of brick / stone survived to a height of 0.6m and the wall sat directly upon silt deposit [146]. A second wall at a right angle to this crossed the eastern end of the trench. Filling the rest of the trench to the height of both walls was a dark grey-brown silt [148], probably an old garden soil.
- 5.22 A layer of modern building rubble 0.15m thick [147] overlay most of the trench and a gravel car park surface [144] 0.4m thick overlay this.

Trench 8 (Figure 6)

- 5.23 This trench measured 12m by 2m and was located on rough grass and scrub to the north of Lands Court. The orange-brown sand natural subsoil [135] was reached at a depth of 1.1m.
- 5.24 Two pits were cut into this natural sand. In the west centre of the trench, pit [F132] measured 1.0m by 0.6m by 0.1m in depth and contained a dark reddish brown sandy silt fill [131]. At the western end of the trench, pit [F134] measured 0.6m by 0.5m by 0.1m in depth and contained a similar (although stonier) fill [133]. A single, heavily abraded sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this fill.
- 5.25 A 0.3m thick layer of reddish-brown sandy silt [130] overlay these two pits with 0.3m of dark grey-brown silt loam [129] overlying this. Modern building rubble [128] 0.25m thick overlay this with 0.25m of topsoil [127] completing the sequence.

Trench 9 (Figure 7)

- 5.26 This trench measured 7m by 2m and was located on an area of rough parking to the northwest of Trench 8. The natural subsoil (orange-brown sand [141]) was reached at a depth of 0.85m. Above this was 0.25m of grey-brown silty clay [140], then 0.4m of old topsoil [139], with 0.2m of gravel [138] forming the car-parking surface. The only feature identified in this trench was an animal burrow [F143].

Trench 10/16 (Figure 7)

- 5.27 To avoid blocking access to the car park, Trench 10 was moved slightly southwards so that it cut through the foundations of a recently demolished building. Since Trench 16 also had to be moved to this area, the two trenches were amalgamated to form a single trench, 19m long by 2m wide.
- 5.28 The natural subsoil (orange-brown sand [84]) was reached at a depth of 1.3m towards the west of the trench, rising in a noticeable but poorly defined step of 0.5m towards the east. Three soil horizons were present above this sand: a grey-brown sandy silt [83] 0.4m thick that was only present below the step, then a slightly darker but otherwise similar sandy silt [82] 0.35m thick and finally an old topsoil [81] 0.2m thick. A dry-stone wall [85] was partly exposed in the extreme west of the trench, below deposit [82].
- 5.29 A deposit of orange-brown sand similar to the natural subsoil but containing clay lumps [80], layer overlay the entire trench, thickening from 0.05m in the east to 0.4m in the west. It was cut by a modern intrusion [F79], a square cut lined with bricks. A thin tarmac layer [77] overlay this and then rubble [76] from the recently demolished buildings that had stood on this spot.

Trench 11/12 (Figure 8)

- 5.30 Trenches 11 and 12 were located on the eastern side of an area of official car parking. To avoid underground services, Trench 12 was moved southwards and amalgamated with Trench 11 to form a single trench 23m long and 2m wide. The natural subsoil (orange-brown sand [91]) was reached at a depth of 0.8m.
- 5.31 Two features were cut into this natural subsoil. Towards the southern end of the trench, pit [F87] measured 0.7m in diameter and 0.1m in depth and was filled by a dark grey-brown clay silt [86] containing modern pottery. Feature [F88] was a linear cut 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep aligned northeast to southwest across the centre of the trench. Tooth-marks in the base of the cut indicated that it had been machine-excavated and it may have been the base of a service trench, truncated to below the former level of the pipe.
- 5.32 A layer of old topsoil [90] up to 0.2m thick overlay the natural subsoil at the northern end of the trench but was progressively truncated southwards, so that it was not present at all in the southern half of the trench. A crushed dolomite car park surface [89] overlay the whole trench.

Trench 13 (Figure 9)

- 5.33 This trench measured 8m by 2m and was located in the compound to the rear of the former Blossomgate Motors. The natural subsoil in this trench was an orange-brown sand [52] similar to that present in most other trenches. It was excavated to a depth of 1m to fully investigate this deposit and prove that it was not redeposited. Above the subsoil was a layer of orange-brown sandy clay [51] 0.3m thick, an old topsoil [50] 0.25m thick and then a gravel surface [49] 0.25m thick. No archaeological features were identified in this trench and no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 14 (Figure 9)

- 5.34 This trench was located on rough grass to the rear of the former scout hut on Blossomgate. To avoid underground services, it was split in two. The western half measured 10m by 2m while the eastern half was amalgamated with Trench 15 and is described below (Paragraphs 5.37 to 5.38). The natural subsoil in this trench was a slightly grittier sand [39] than found elsewhere on the site.
- 5.35 Three features were cut into this natural subsoil. At the western end of the trench, pit [F43] was rectangular in shape, measuring 0.75m by 0.5m by 0.1m and was filled by a dark brown silty clay [44] containing modern pottery and glass. Slightly to the east, a north – south aligned linear cut [F40] contained a culvert [41] with walls made from limestone and sandstone blocks, with a limestone slab 0.6m by 0.5m by 0.1m thick forming the roof. Water was still flowing through the culvert. Above this roof, the remainder of the cut was filled with a rather mixed deposit of silt and sand, with much stone, brick and mortar [42] containing late 19th to 20th century pottery. Eastwards again, cut [F48] contained a dog burial [47]. This was of recent date and was reburied without further investigation.
- 5.36 Two layers of topsoil [46 and 38] separated by 0.1m of gravel [45], possibly part of an old path, completed the sequence in this trench.

Trench 15 (Figure 10)

- 5.37 This trench was located to the east of Trench 14 and incorporated the eastern half of the originally proposed location for that trench. It was L-shaped in plan, with the two branches measuring 5m (east - west branch) and 7m (north – south branch). As in Trench 14, the natural subsoil [35] was grittier than elsewhere on the site.
- 5.38 Above the subsoil was a deposit of orange-brown sandy silt [34] 0.4m deep towards the north, overlain by a similar depth of grey-brown gravel [37] towards the south. Both were overlain by 0.4m of dark grey-brown clay silt [36] and then 0.1m of topsoil [33]. Two plastic water pipes in an indistinct cut truncated these deposits and supplied the Ripon Motor Club building. No archaeological features were identified in this trench and no artefacts were recovered.

Trench 16

- 5.39 Due to access difficulties, Trench 16 was moved eastwards and amalgamated with Trench 10. It is described above as part of that trench (Paragraphs 5.27 to 5.29).

Trench 17 (Figures 11 and 12)

- 5.40 Trench 17 was located in the car park for Valentino's Restaurant at the southwest corner of the site. It measured 7m by 2m and the natural subsoil in this trench (here a yellow-brown sandy gravel markedly different to that found elsewhere on the site) was reached at a depth of 0.7m.
- 5.41 A deposit of grey-brown sandy silt [29] overlay the natural subsoil across the whole trench. This deposit contained 39 sherds of medieval pottery but no later material and also contained a copper alloy pin [SF1]. Along the western baulk it was cut by a north-south aligned ditch [F32] filled by a darker grey-brown silt [31]. At the southern end of the trench, it was overlain by a cobble surface [24] composed of sub-rounded pebbles up to 0.2m in diameter. A number of stones visible in the western baulk overlying ditch fill [31] may have been a continuation of this surface. All these deposits contained medieval pottery (together with a single sherd from ditch fill [31] that was possibly Roman in date – the only potentially Roman object recovered from the evaluation, and even this would have been residual).
- 5.42 A layer of burnt reddish-brown silt containing ash [3] 0.1m thick overlay the above deposits and contained 19 sherds of medieval pottery with no later material being present. It was cut by two pits: in the eastern baulk pit [F23] measured 0.3m in diameter and 0.3m in depth, while in the western baulk pit [F28] measured 0.4m in width and 0.3m in depth; both contained similar grey-brown silts [22] and [27] respectively. Sealing these, and covering much of the centre of the trench, was a deposit of charcoal [4] 0.1m thick. Charcoal patches to the north [30] and south [6] may have been continuations of this general deposit. A patch of ash [5] overlay the charcoal in the centre of the trench.
- 5.43 In the north of the trench, charcoal deposit [4] was cut by an irregularly shaped feature [F21] containing a loose fill of grey-brown silty clay [20] that was packed with rounded stones up to 0.2m in diameter. This was probably an animal burrow that had been deliberately infilled with stone.
- 5.44 A brick-lined cellar [F7] filled with mixed building rubble [8] cut charcoal deposit [4] at the southern end of the trench while a floor consisting of flagstones up to 0.6m in length and 0.15m thick [2] overlay charcoal deposit [4] at the northern end of the trench.
- 5.45 A layer of rubble 0.2m thick [1] covered the whole trench and a thin layer of tarmac completed the stratigraphic sequence.

Trench 18 (Figure 13)

- 5.46 This trench measured 11m by 2m and was located in the northwest corner of the site, on the forecourt of the former Blossomgate Motors. The natural

subsoil here was a yellow-brown sandy gravel [19], coarser than that found in Trench 17.

- 5.47 At the southern end of the trench, a large east – west aligned cut [F18] was part exposed. This contained an orange-brown sandy gravel fill [16] that became siltier lower down [17]. While these deposits may have been the fills of a ditch, their very clean nature suggests that they are more likely to be a variation within the natural geology and [F18] is a natural feature.
- 5.48 Two other features were cut into the gravel. In the centre of the trench, cut [F13] was aligned east – west and contained a salt-glazed ceramic pipe [12]. To the south of this, pit [F15] measured 1.9m by 0.5m by 0.1m in depth and contained a dark grey-brown silty clay [14] with a diesel odour and was likely to be a modern intrusion.
- 5.49 A deposit of old topsoil [149] 0.3m thick overlay the whole trench and above this was a rubble deposit [11] 0.4m thick containing modern brick and concrete fragments. This was overlain by a tarmac surface [10].

6. The finds

Pottery assessment

Summary

- 6.1 The pottery assemblage consisted of 144 sherds. As discussed elsewhere (Cumberpatch 1999), there is no established type series for the Ripon area, although a number of medieval potteries are known from excavations in the area around Ripon and a number of pottery assemblages from both production and consumption sites have been published. The types described in this assessment follow, as far as is possible, the type series set out in an earlier report (*ibid*) with the addition of types not present in the 8-9 Market Place assemblage. For the purpose of this assessment generic names have been assigned and salient characteristics noted in the data table (Table 2.1).

Results

- 6.2 The pottery assemblage consisted of two principal elements: medieval material and recent (19th to early 20th century) material, with a small later medieval to early post-medieval component. Summary details of the assemblage are presented in Table 2.1.
- 6.3 The medieval material is primarily of local origin and is diverse in nature, a feature of other assemblages from Ripon (Mainman 1997). Only one imported sherd was noted, part of a French Martincamp flask. The small quantities of later medieval / early post-medieval wares are limited to sherds of Cistercian ware and Green Glazed Sandy wares.
- 6.4 The recent material forms only a small part of the assemblage and is restricted in its occurrence. Although work on assemblages dating to between the 18th and 20th centuries is proving to be of considerable interest in many situations, the group here is rather too small to be of great significance on its own.

Conclusions

- 6.5 The quantity of medieval pottery recovered is sufficient to allow the relationship between this assemblage and those from other sites to be studied. The significance of the occurrence of later medieval / early post-medieval sherds could be examined with reference to the stratigraphic details relating to the site. Any further work on the recent material would be restricted to basic quantification and the identification of decorative designs and motifs.

Recommendation

- 6.6 Further work is recommended on the assemblage to produce a full report conforming to the standards set out by the Medieval Pottery Research Group for the publication of medieval and later pottery assemblages (Slowikowski, Nenck and Pearce 2001). This would consist of the following elements:
- Full description and quantification of the assemblage by sherd number, sherd weight and estimated (maximum) number of vessels
 - Full description of medieval fabric types and vessel types present in the assemblage with reference to published groups from the town and surrounding areas
 - The identification and full description of the range and types of post-medieval and modern wares
 - Quantification and identification of the recent elements in the assemblage and consideration of their significance with reference
 - Recommendations for illustration (maximum of 20 illustrations)

Animal bone assessment

- 6.7 A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered; the bones were in a reasonably good state of preservation, with bones from infant animals, birds and fish recovered. Approximate counts, and descriptions where appropriate, of both identifiable and indeterminate fragments are given in Table 2.2 while Table 2.3 gives an idea of the numbers of identifiable bones found for each species, categorized by provisional context date. Since no horse or deer bones were found, fragments noted in Table 2.2 as cattle or sheep size have been included with the appropriate species for Table 2.3.
- 6.8 It can be seen that there are no major differences apparent between the medieval and post-medieval groups. The majority of the identifiable bones are of cattle and sheep, with sheep bones being slightly more numerous. Pig bones are unusually well-represented in both groups, though less abundant than cattle and sheep. In such a small assemblage, bird bones are also comparatively abundant with goose positively identified and the other bird bones of domestic fowl size. The only shellfish present is oyster and fish bones were only found in post-medieval contexts. The presence of dog is indicated by gnawing marks on bones from several contexts.
- 6.9 Among the cattle bones, the presence of infant, veal calf bones in both groups is of note. The medieval find had definitely been butchered, so these cannot be dismissed as natural infant mortalities. The remaining cattle bones appear to derive from adult animals with only the later fusing epiphyses unfused. Teeth are conspicuous by their absence, despite the presence of some mandible fragments, so this line of evidence for age at death is lacking. Some domestic

craft working is suggested by a small group of three horn cores from Context [29], a medieval pit fill. Butchery marks were more evident on the post-medieval finds.

- 6.10 The sheep bones show general representation of all body parts, though teeth are infrequent. No very juvenile animals are represented.
- 6.11 In contrast, half of the pig remains found are loose teeth or skull fragments. Context [98] contained a few indeterminate scraps and one limb bone from a tiny piglet, perinatal or possibly foetal. This was certainly too small for the conventional sucking pig for the table and suggests the keeping of a backyard pig.
- 6.12 The impression gained from this small group is of refuse from domestic household consumption. No obvious differences were seen either between the two periods or between the burgrave plots and the farmland. No companion animals were disposed of in the contexts encountered. A moderate level of prosperity is suggested by the veal and poultry bones. The absence of cattle and sheep skulls contrasts with the presence of pig, suggesting the former were bought in lacking heads while the latter could have been either explicitly procured for brawn or represent the keeping of back yard pigs. The infant piglet bone supports the latter suggestion. Fish and shellfish were available but not common.
- 6.13 Once the phasing and dating have been finalised, it is strongly recommended that this group should be revisited for ageing, body part and metrical data for comparison with the finds from Ripon Market Place when the analysis of that assemblage finally takes place.

Clay pipe assessment

- 6.14 One stem fragment measuring 29mm long x 7mm diameter was recovered from Context [88]. No further work is recommended on this item.

Glass assessment

- 6.15 Twenty glass sherds were recovered; summary details are presented in Table 2.4. Nineteen of these came from 19th – 20th century contexts, the exception was a sherd of slightly curved green window glass from Context [116]. Because of the small size of the assemblage and its recent date, no further work is recommended on these items.

Building materials assessment

- 6.16 Ten brick fragments with mortar attached were recovered from Context [30]. A mortar fragment was recovered from Context [115]. A lump of very soft dolomitic limestone measuring 295mm x 95mm x 70mm and carved to form a gently concave surface on one face was recovered from Context [66]. None of these objects have the potential to add further information about the site and no further work is recommended on this assemblage.

Metal objects assessment

- 6.17 Eighteen metal objects were recovered. Summary details of the assemblage are presented in Table 2.5. Nine of these objects were iron nails recovered from pits thought to be of medieval date.
- 6.18 A copper alloy pin [SF1] was recovered from Context [29] in Trench 17 and measured 33mm in length. Caple (1991) has shown that average pin length decreased throughout the medieval period and pins of between 30mm and 34mm typically date from AD 1500 – 1630. However, with a single example this date should be treated with caution.

Industrial residues assessment

- 6.19 Eight lumps of slag were recovered from five contexts. Summary details of the assemblage are presented in Table 2.6. Although all contexts were of medieval date, the small size of the assemblage limits their interpretive value and no further work is recommended on these items.

7. The environmental evidence

Methods statement

- 7.1 Five litre sub-samples from each of 12 environmental samples were manually floated and sieved through a 500 μ mesh. The residues were retained, described and scanned using a magnet for ferrous fragments. The flots were dried slowly and scanned at x 40 magnification 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 University of Durham. Total numbers of remains per species were logged and the results were interpreted in their archaeological and palaeo-ecological contexts. Plant taxonomic nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

Results

- 7.2 The samples produced flots that ranged from 5 to 400ml in volume. A few charred seeds occurred in all of the flots, with greater numbers of them present in contexts [29] and [100]. Charred cereals included oats, barley and wheat, and hazelnut fragments occurred in a few contexts. There were few charred arable weed seeds and chaff was absent. Low numbers of uncharred seeds were present, due to the lack of waterlogged conditions. Coal, charcoal, bone fragments and modern roots were present in many of the contexts, and pot fragments occurred in Contexts [29] and [104]. The contents of the residues and flots are listed in Table 2.7.

Discussion

- 7.3 A few charred cereal grains occurred in all of the contexts, with slightly higher numbers present in Context [29] (general silt layer in Trench 17), and Context [100] (pit fill in Trench 5). In general, the charred remains were badly preserved. The cereals were dominated by grains of wheat, barley and indeterminate cereals, with lesser numbers of oat grains present. Chaff was absent, but many of the wheat grains had the characteristic shape most often associated with bread wheat. A few hazelnut fragments were present in

Contexts [29], [31], [116] and [118]. This crop assemblage is typical for medieval sites in Northeast England as, although a wide range of cereals were cultivated in Britain at that time, bread wheat, oats and barley were most commonly used (Huntley & Stallibrass, 1995).

- 7.4 The low number of arable weed seeds and absence of chaff may indicate that crop-processing occurred away from the site, however low chaff would be expected with barley and the free-threshing bread wheat. A charred sedge nutlet was present in Context [30] that may indicate an area of damper soil conditions, and a few charred grass and vetch seeds were present which grow in a range of open and waste ground habitats. Uncharred seeds were low in number due to the absence of waterlogged conditions. The few that occurred included fat-hen, common chickweed, raspberry, elder and sedge, however these are likely to be modern introductions. Small amounts of modern roots were present in many of the contexts.
- 7.5 The largest numbers of charred remains occurred in Context [29], a general silt deposit at the base of Trench 17. This context also contained a large amount of charcoal and some coal, bone fragments, hammerscale, mortar and slag. This suggests that the area was used for the disposal of waste from domestic, and possibly also small-scale industrial activities. The residues of other contexts included fragments of pot, brick, metal and clinker, which suggests that many of the other features were used for similar waste disposal. Spherical calcareous material of probably geological origin was present in Contexts [102] and [104].

Recommendations

- 7.6 No further plant macrofossil work is recommended for any of the contexts. Although Context [100] contained a relatively large number of cereal remains, they were typical of medieval / post-medieval sites in Northern England and full analysis would only provide a larger volume of the same assemblage with possibly a few additional weed taxa. If required, plant macrofossils suitable for radiocarbon dating are present in Contexts [29], [30], [31], [102], [100], [116], [118], [131] and [133].

8. The potential archaeological resource

- 8.1 The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features of medieval or post-medieval date in Trenches 5, 6, 7 and 8. In all cases, these features were sealed by undisturbed deposits of former topsoil, followed by a layer of rubble, then gravel forming the current ground surface. This has to a large extent protected the archaeological features from truncation by modern development. These trenches were all located at the rear of former burgage plots, as identified by the desk-based assessment (OAN 2003). It is likely that the unsampled burgage plots have a similar sequence of deposits and therefore this area should be regarded as having a high archaeological potential, as shown in Figure 14.
- 8.2 A number of archaeological deposits of medieval date were identified in Trench 17, at the southern end of Blossomgate. These included spreads of

charcoal and ash likely to have been derived from industrial processes. No such deposits were identified in Trench 18 at the northern end of the street. Blossomgate was identified as a medieval road running out of the city by the desk-based assessment (*ibid*). The evaluation has shown that occupation was restricted to the southern end of this road until the 19th century and this southern end of the proposed development area should also be regarded as having a high archaeological potential.

- 8.3 A pit of undetermined date, a 19th century well and foundations of recently demolished buildings were identified in Trench 2/3. However, both this trench and Trench 1 showed signs of heavy truncation of deposits when the former buildings were demolished, and this will reduce the archaeological potential of this area. Therefore it should be regarded as having a medium archaeological potential.
- 8.4 No archaeological deposits earlier than the 19th century were identified in the remainder of the site. The desk-based assessment identified this area as open fields until this date and therefore this area should be regarded as having a low archaeological potential.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 A condition was placed on the planning consent for this development, specifying a scheme of archaeological works in advance of commencement of building works. This assessment has been carried out as part of that scheme of works. The Project Design for the assessment stated that recommendations for mitigation would be provided where appropriate.
- 9.2 It is recommended that an open-area excavation be carried in the area marked as being of high archaeological potential on Figure 14. This would cover a statistically significant sample area of both the burgage plots and the southern end of Blossomgate, allowing their accurate characterisation and dating. The recommendations will require discussion and approval from the North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Unit and the planning authority.
- 9.3 A watching brief is recommended for the area marked as being of medium archaeological potential on Figure 14. An archaeologist would be present during ground clearance operations to record any archaeological features uncovered by these operations.
- 9.4 No further archaeological works are recommended for the area marked as being of low archaeological potential on Figure 14.
- 9.5 The results of this assessment along with the results of any further work should be published together in an academic journal.

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Figure 1

Location of the proposed development area

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proposed development area



scale 1:12 500 - for A4 plot



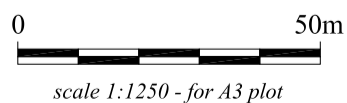
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



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Figure 2
Location of trenches within the
proposed development area

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-  proposed development area
-  trench

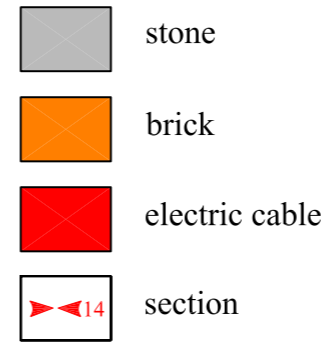
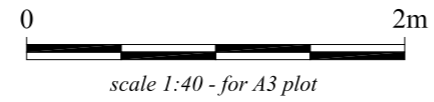
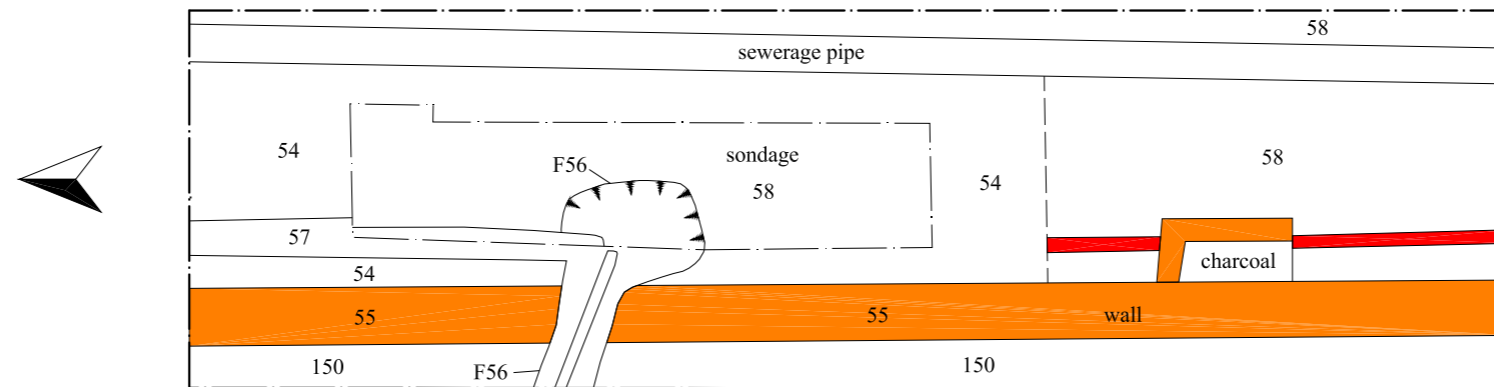


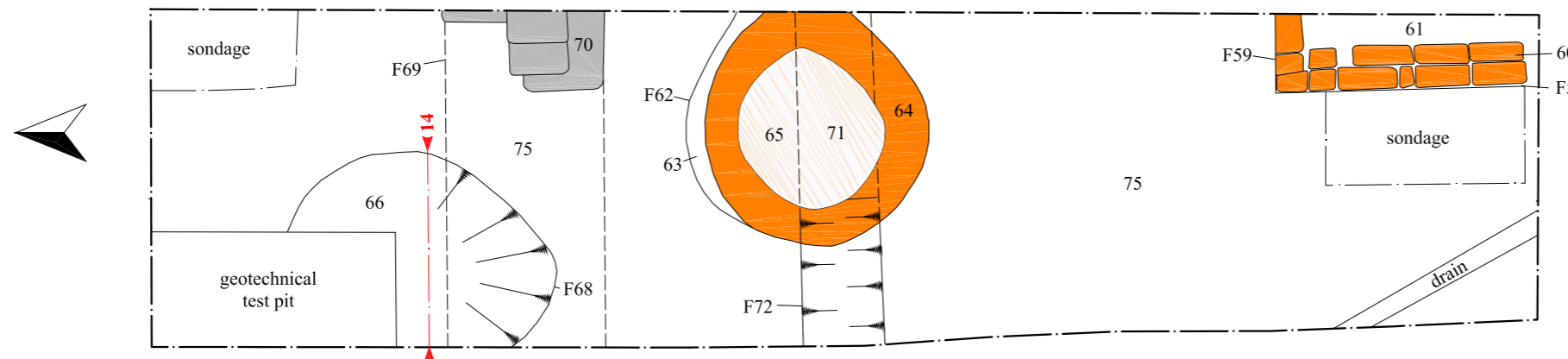
Figure 3
 Plan 12 of Trench 1
 Plan 15 and Section 14 of Trench 2/3



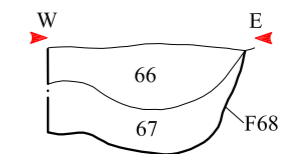
**Trench 1
 Plan 12**



**Trench 2/3
 Plan 15**



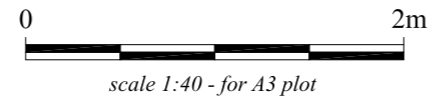
**Trench 2/3
 Section 14**





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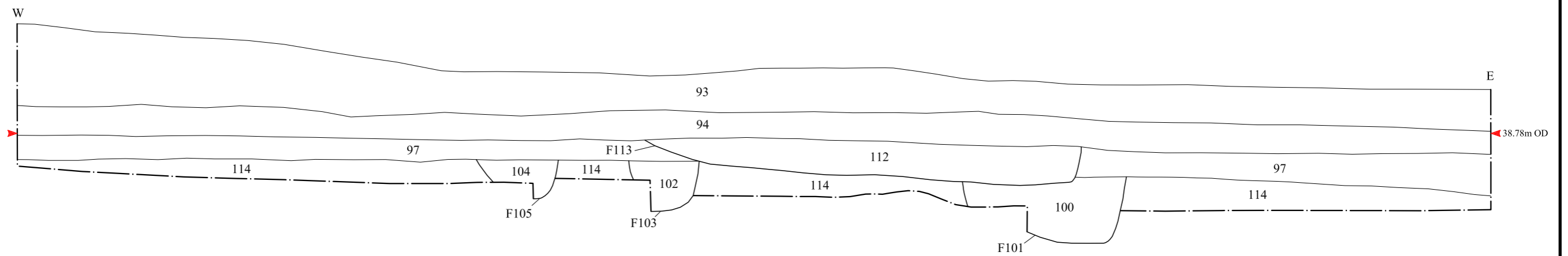


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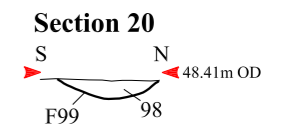
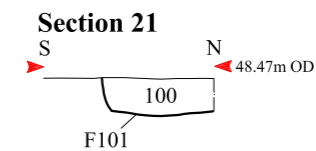
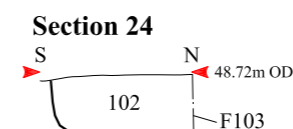
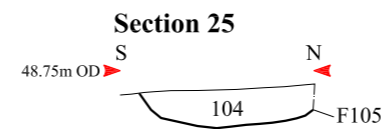
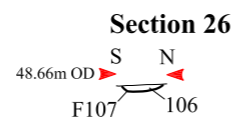
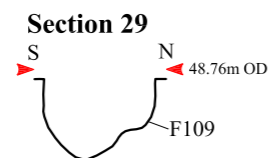
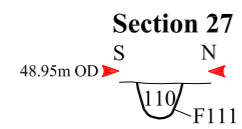
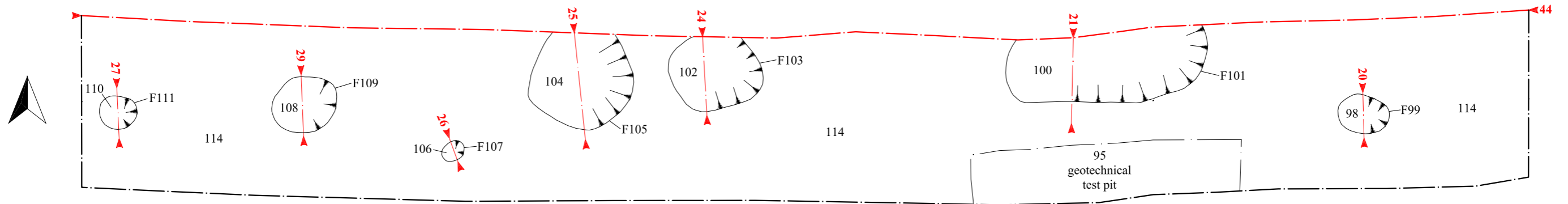
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Figure 4
Section 44 and Plan 28, and Sections 27,
29, 26, 25, 24, 21 and 20 of Trench 5

**Trench 5
Section 44**



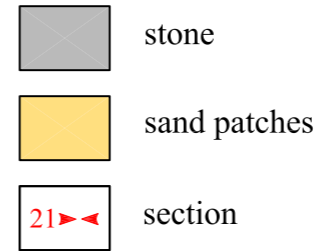
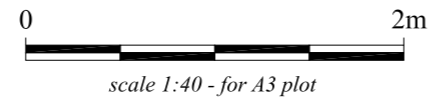
**Trench 5
Plan 28**





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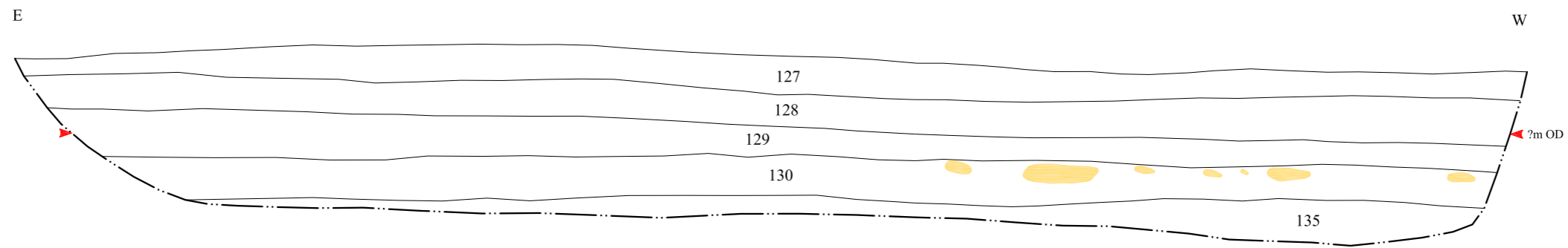
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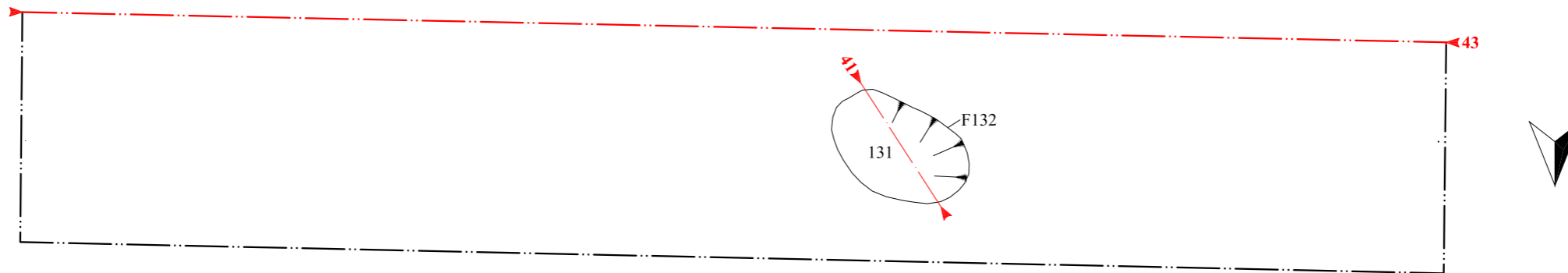
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Figure 6
Sections 43 and 41 and Plan 40 of Trench 8

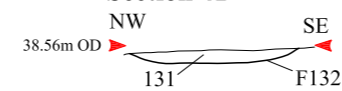
**Trench 8
Section 43**



**Trench 8
Plan 40**



Section 41



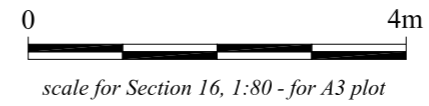
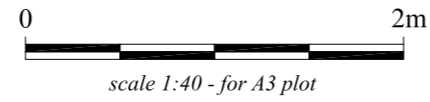
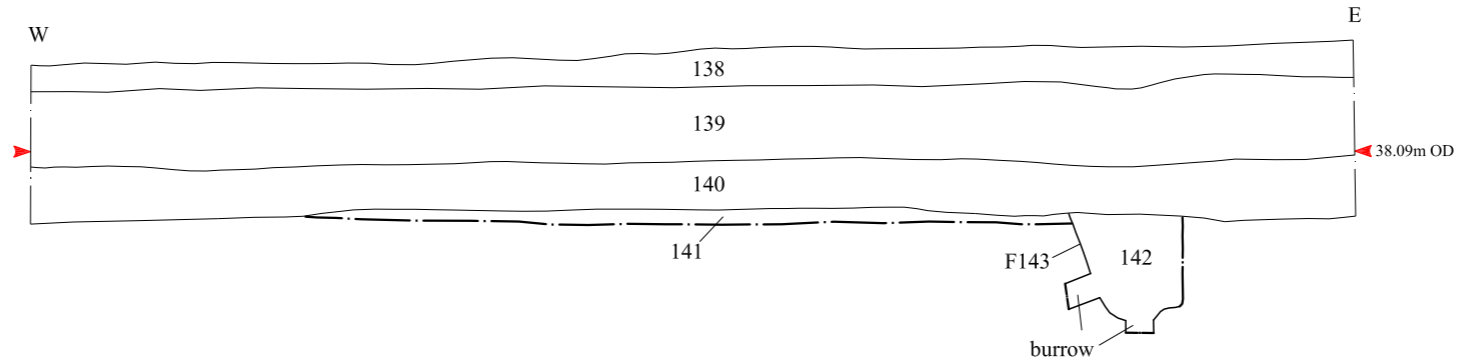
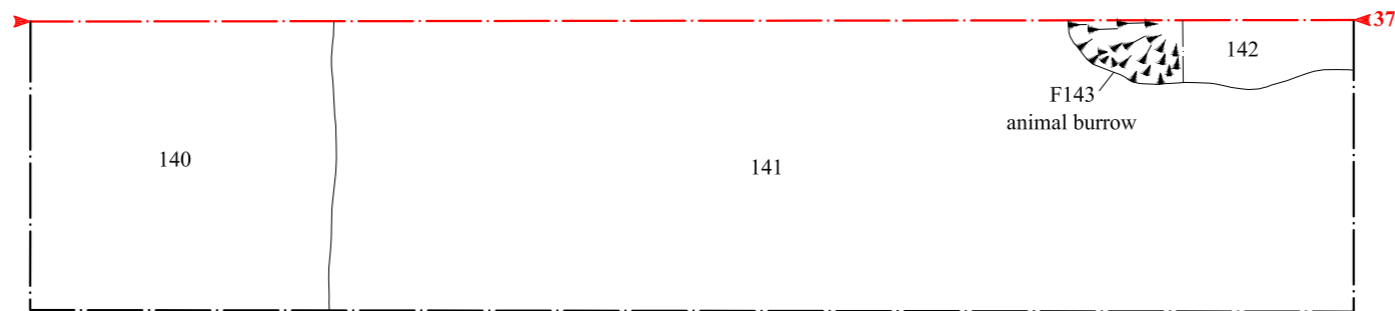


Figure 7
 Section 37 and Plan 36 of Trench 9
 Section 16 of Trench 10/16

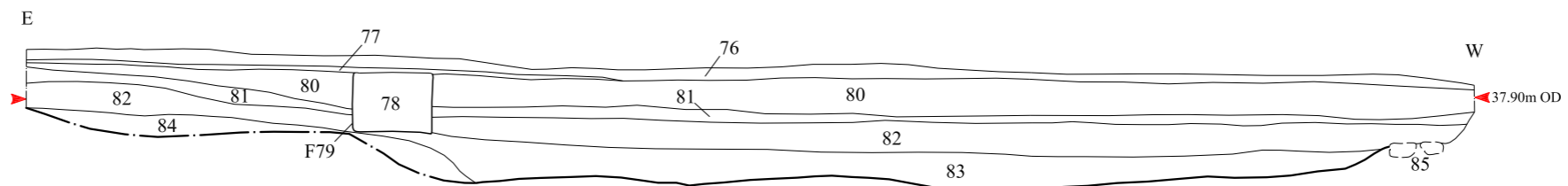
**Trench 9
Section 37**



**Trench 9
Plan 36**



**Trench 10/16
Section 16**





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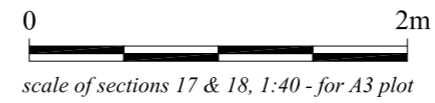
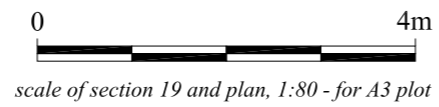
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21 section

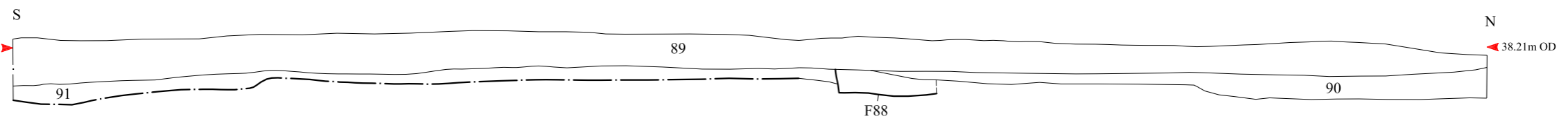
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Figure 8

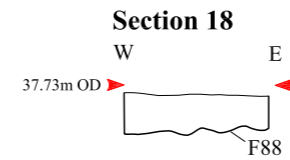
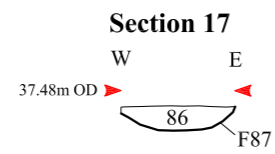
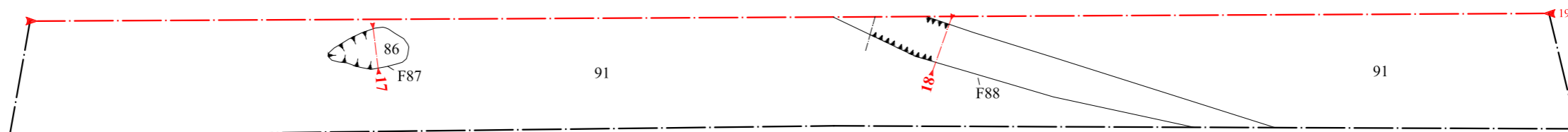
*Sections 19, 17 and 18 and Plan of Trench
11/12*



**Trench 11/12
Section 19**



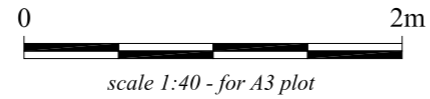
**Trench 11/12
Plan**





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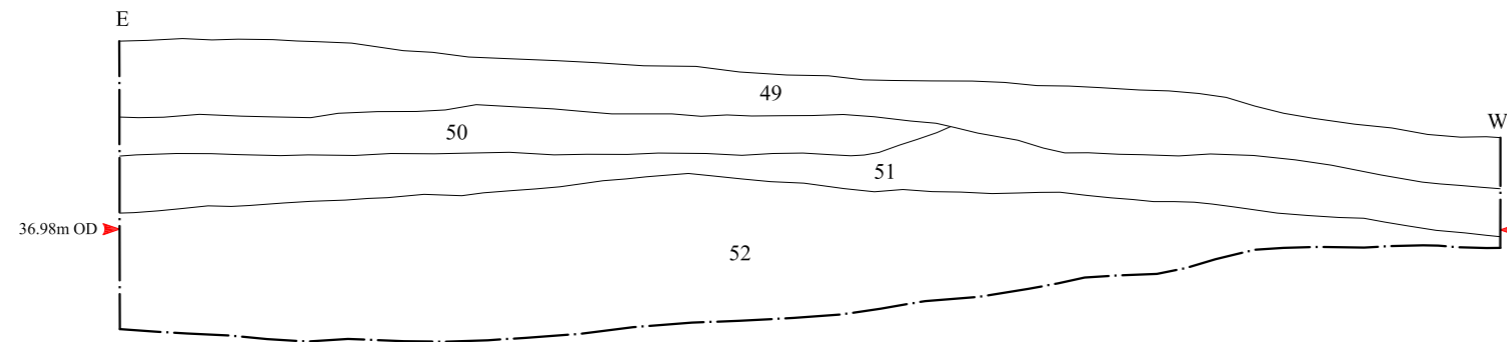
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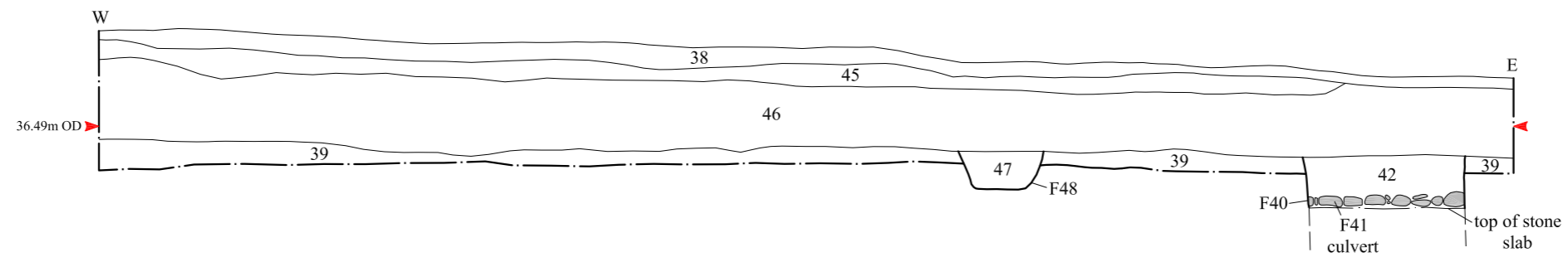
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Figure 9
Section 11 of Trench 13
Section 13 of Trench 14

**Trench 13
Section 11**



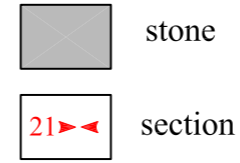
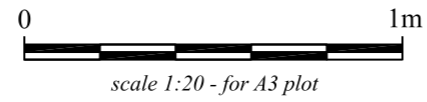
**Trench 14
Section 13**





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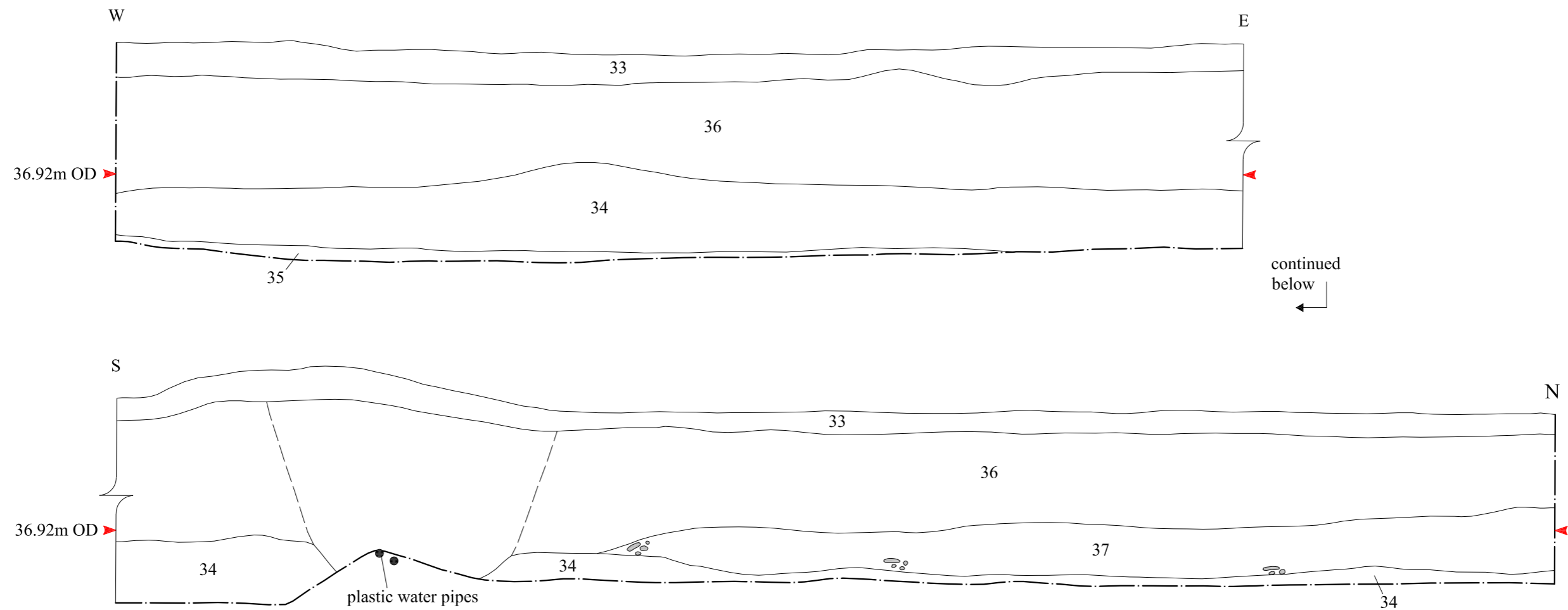
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Figure 10
Section 10 of Trench 15

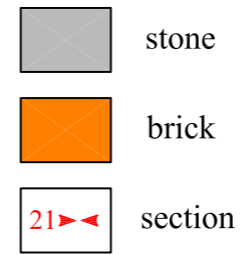
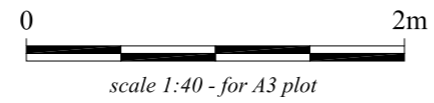
**Trench 15
Section 10**





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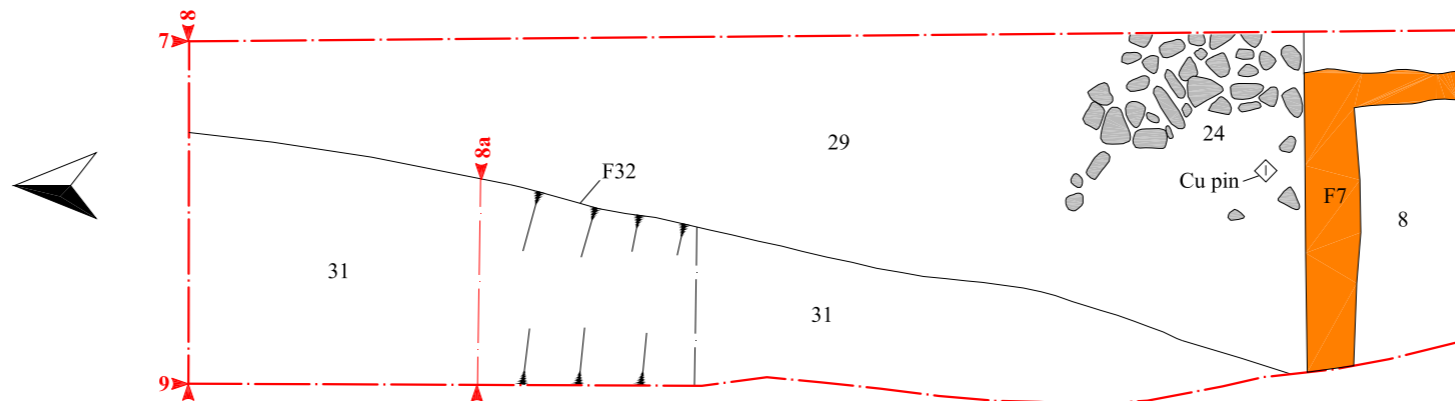
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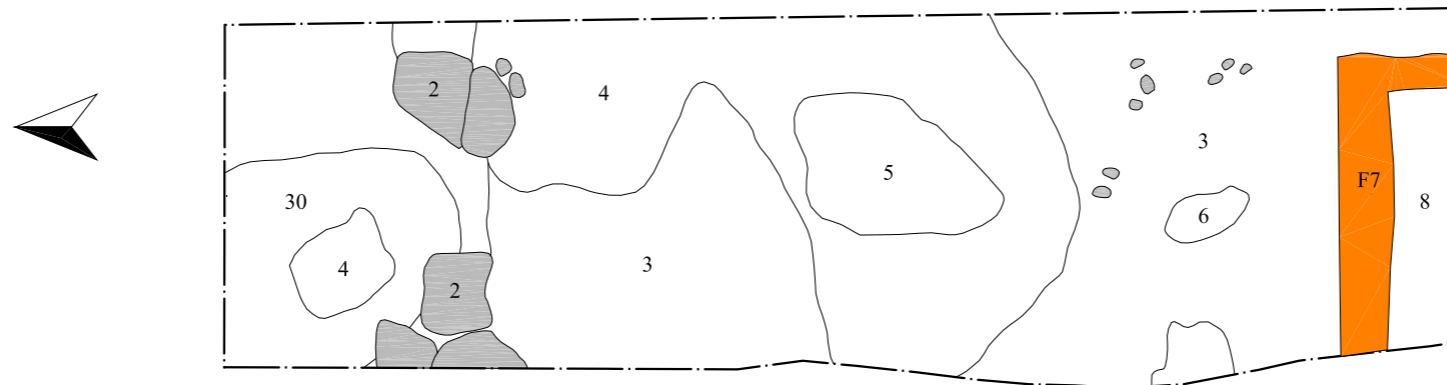
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Figure 11
Plans 4/39 and Plan 1 of Trench 17

**Trench 17
Plan 4/39**



**Trench 17
Plan 1**



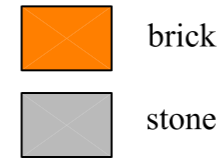
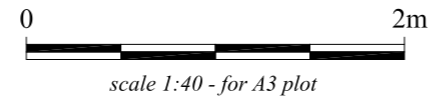
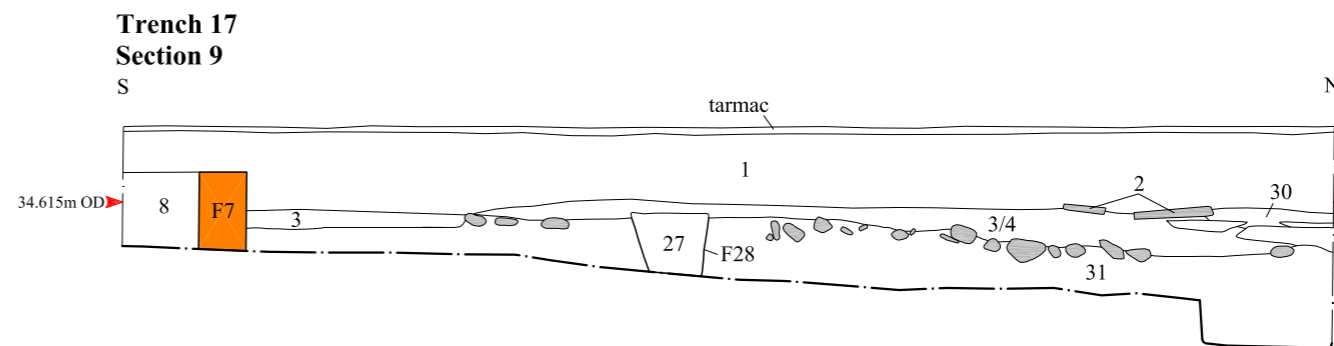
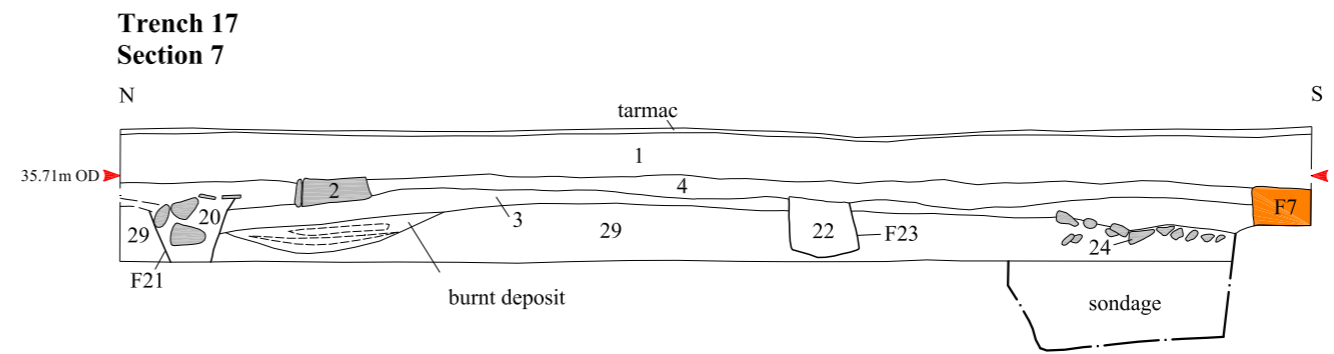
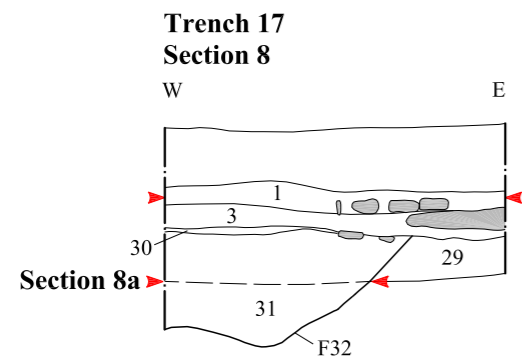


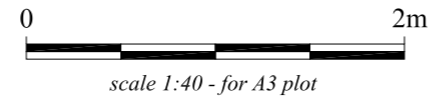
Figure 12
 Sections 7, 8 and 9 of Trench 17





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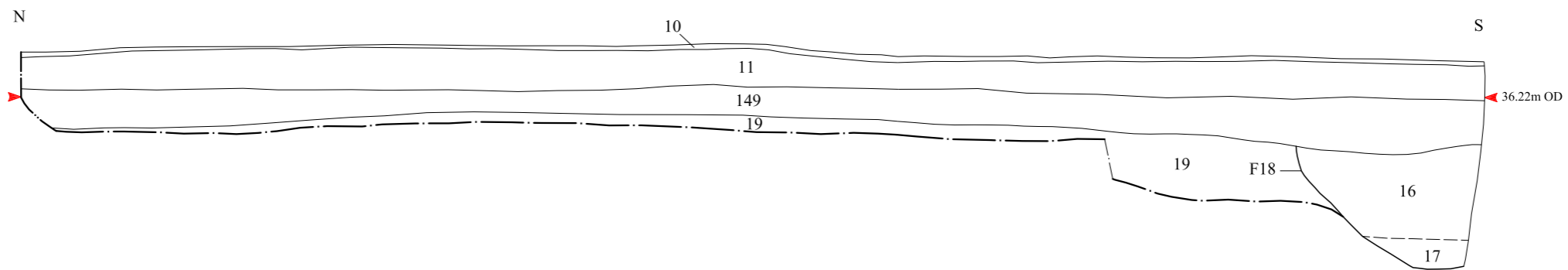


21 section

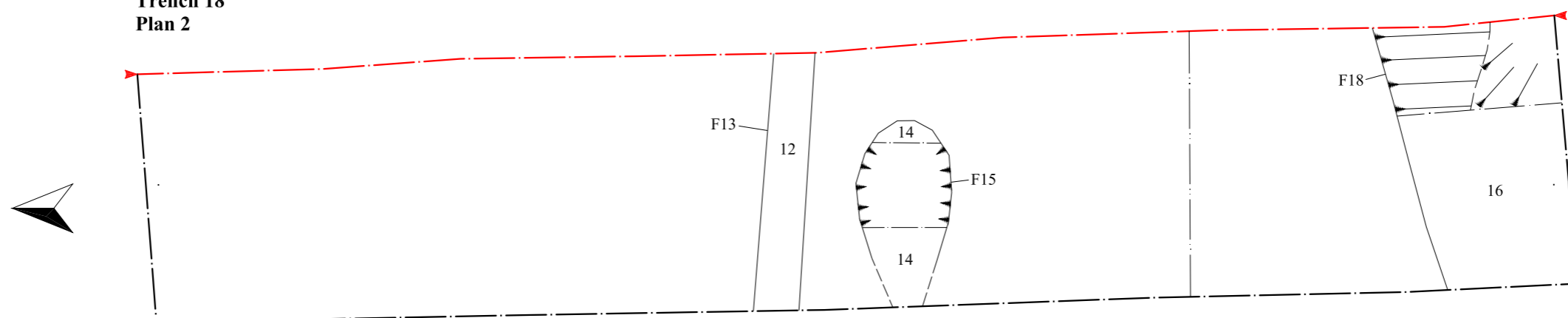
**Land West of Market Place, Ripon,
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archaeological evaluation
ASUD Report 1287**

Figure 13
Section 3 and Plan 2 of Trench 18

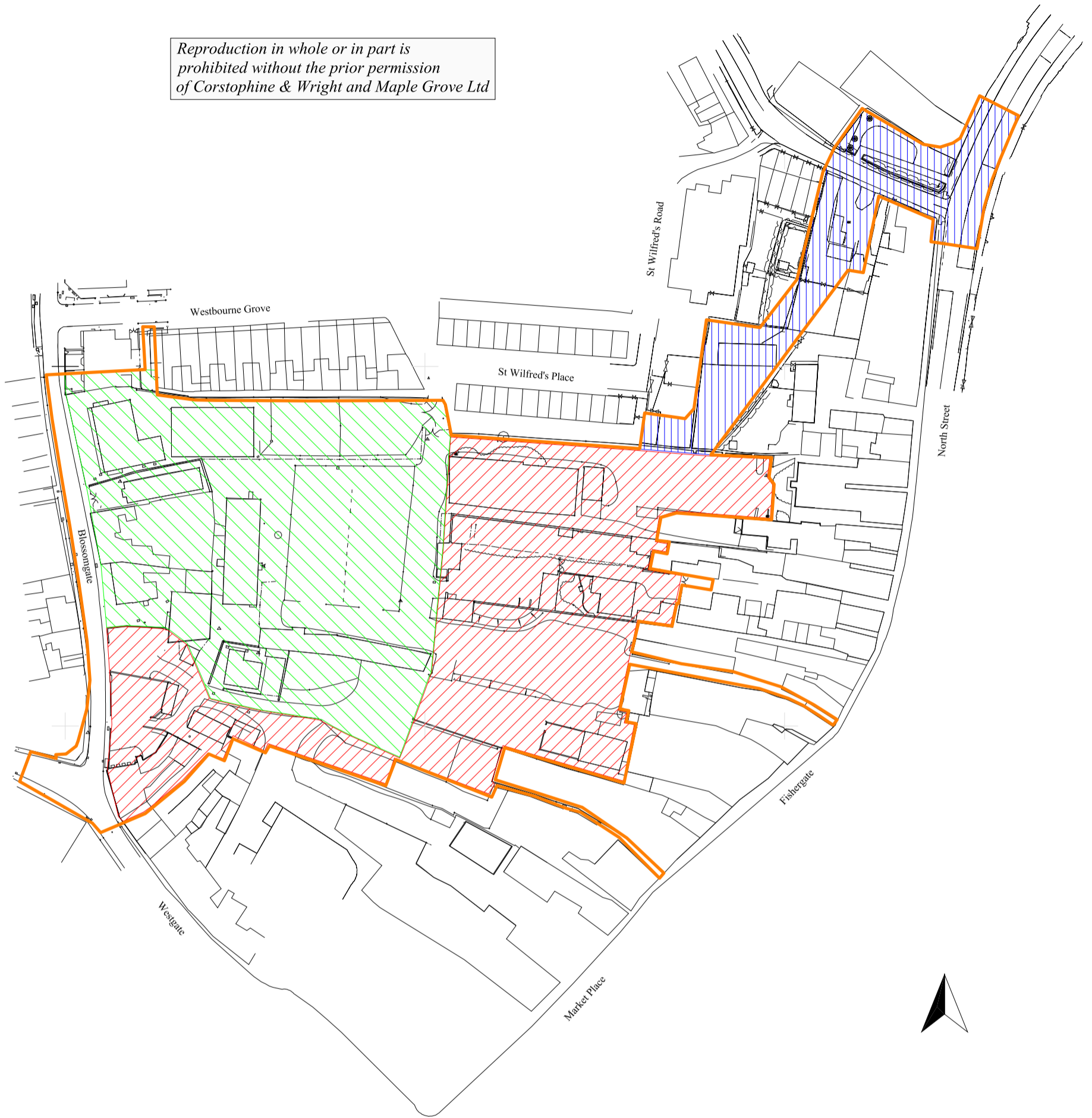
**Trench 18
Section 3**



**Trench 18
Plan 2**



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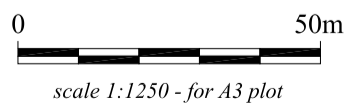






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Figure 14
Location of areas of potential
archaeological significance within
the proposed development area

on behalf of
**Corstophine & Wright
and
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-  proposed development area
-  area of high archaeological potential
-  area of medium archaeological potential
-  area of low archaeological potential

Appendix 1: Context data

Summary list of contexts. The • symbols in the columns at the right indicate the presence of finds of the following types: P pottery, B bone, M metals, F flint, S slag, O other materials.

No	Description	P	B	M	F	S	O
1	Made ground, Trench 17	•	•				
2	Flagstone floor, Trench 17						
3	Burnt reddish-brown silt containing ash, Trench 17	•	•				
4	Charcoal deposit, Trench 17						
5	Ash patch overlying 4, Trench 17						
6	Charcoal deposit, probably a continuation of 4, Trench 17						
F7	Brick-lined cellar, Trench 17						
8	Rubble fill of F7, Trench 17						
9	Void						
10	Tarmac, Trench 18						
11	Made Ground, Trench 18						
12	Fill of F13, Trench 18						
F13	Pipe trench, Trench 18						
14	Fill of F15, Trench 18						
F15	Pit, Trench 18						
16	Top fill of F18, Trench 18						
17	Bottom fill of F18, Trench 18						
F18	'Ditch cut', possibly natural, Trench 18						
19	Natural gravel, Trench 18						
20	Fill of F21, Trench 17		•				
F21	Animal burrow, Trench 17						
22	Fill of F23, Trench 17	•	•			•	
F23	Pit cutting 3, Trench 17						
24	Cobble surface over 29, Trench 17	•	•				
25	Fill of F26. Same as 3						
F26	Shallow scoop at base of 3, Trench 17						
27	Fill of F28, Trench 17						
F28	Posthole cutting 31, Trench 17						
29	Grey-brown sandy silt, Trench 17	•	•	•		•	
30	Charcoal deposit, probably a continuation of 4, Trench 17						
31	Fill of F32, Trench 17	•	•	•			
F32	N – S ditch, Trench 17						
33	Topsoil, Trench 15						
34	Orange-brown sandy silt over 35, Trench 15						
35	Natural gritty sand, Trench 15						
36	Dark grey-brown clay silt over 34, Trench 15						
37	Grey-brown gravel replacing 34 in S of Trench 15						
38	Topsoil, Trench 14						
39	Natural gritty sand, Trench 14						
F40	Cut for culvert, Trench 14						
41	Stone culvert, Trench 14						
42	Fill of F40 over culvert, Trench 14	•					•
F43	Pit cut, Trench 14						
44	Fill of F43, Trench 14	•					•
45	Gravel spread under 38, Trench 14						
46	Topsoil layer under 45, Trench 14						
47	Fill of F48, Trench 14						
F48	Cut for animal burial, Trench 14						
49	Gravel surface, Trench 13						
50	Old topsoil, Trench 13						
51	Orange-brown sandy clay under 50, Trench 13						

No	Description	P	B	M	F	S	O
52	Natural sand, Trench 13						
53	Topsoil, Trench 1						
54	Made ground, Trench 1						
55	N-S brick wall, Trench 1						
F56	Cut for service pipe, Trench 1						
57	Fill of F56, Trench 1			•			
58	Natural sand, Trench 1						
F59	Wall cut, Trench 2/3						
60	Brick wall in F59, Trench 2/3						
61	Fill to E of 60, Trench 2/3						
F62	Cut for well, Trench 2/3						
63	Sand infill behind 64, Trench 2/3						
64	Brick lining to well F62, Trench 2/3						
65	Rubble fill of well F62, Trench 2/3						
66	Upper fill of F68, Trench 2/3						•
67	Lower fill of F68, Trench 2/3						
F68	Pit cut, Trench 2/3						
F69	Cut for 70, Trench 2/3						
70	E-W wall, Trench 2/3						
71	Fill of F72, Trench 2/3						
72	Gully cutting well F62, Trench 2/3						
73	Brick / concrete surface, Trench 2/3						
74	Made ground,, Trench 2/3						
75	Natural gravel, Trench 2/3						
76	Demolition rubble, Trench 10/16						
77	Tarmac surface, Trench 10/16						
78	Fill of F79, Trench 10/16						
F79	Modern brick-lined intrusion, Trench 10/16						
80	Made ground (orange-brown sand), Trench 10/16						
81	Old topsoil, Trench 10/16	•					
82	Mid brown silt, Trench 10/16						
83	Grey-brown sandy silt, Trench 10/16						
84	Natural sand, Trench 10/16						
85	Dry-stone wall, Trench 10/16						
86	Fill of F87, Trench 11/12	•	•				•
F87	Pit, Trench 11/12						
F88	Machine-excavated cut, Trench 11/12	•		•			•
89	Modern crushed dolomite car park surface, Trench 11/12						
90	Old topsoil, Trench 11/12						
91	Natural sand, Trench 11/12						
92	Gravel surface, Trench 5						
93	Made ground, Trench 5						
94	Old topsoil, Trench 5						
95	Fill of F96, Trench 5						
F96	Geotechnical test pit, Trench 5						
97	Dark reddish-brown clay silt, Trench 5						
98	Fill of F99, Trench 5		•				
F99	Pit at E end of Trench 5						
100	Fill of F101, Trench 5	•	•			•	
F101	Pit W of F99, Trench 5						
102	Fill of F103, Trench 5		•	•			
F103	Pit W of F101, Trench 5	•	•	•			
104	Fill of F105, Trench 5						
F105	Pit W of F103, Trench 5	•	•	•			•
106	Fill of F107, Trench 5						
F107	Posthole W of F105, Trench 5						

No	Description	P	B	M	F	S	O
108	Fill of F109, Trench 5						
F109	Pit W of F107, Trench 5						
110	Fill of F111, Trench 5	•					
F111	Posthole at W end of Trench 5						
112	Fill of F113, Trench 5	•					
F113	Ditch cut visible in N baulk of Trench 5						
114	Natural sand, Trench 5						
115	Upper fill of pit F117, Trench 7	•	•				
116	Lower fill of pit F117, Trench 7	•	•				•
F117	Pit cut, Trench 7						
118	Fill of F119 Trench 7	•	•				
119	Gully cut, Trench 7						
120	Made ground, Trench 6						
121	Old topsoil, Trench 6						
122	Upper fill of F123, Trench 6						
F123	Pit cut, Trench 6						
124	Fill of F125, Trench 6						
F125	Pit cut, Trench 6						
126	Natural sand, Trench 6						
127	Topsoil, Trench 8						
128	Made ground, Trench 8						
129	Old topsoil, Trench 8						
130	Reddish-brown sandy silt under 129, Trench 8						
131	Fill of F132, Trench 8		•	•			
F132	Pit cut, Trench 8						
133	Fill of F134, Trench 8	•	•				
F134	Pit cut, Trench 8						
135	Natural sand, Trench 8						
136	Lower fill of F123, Trench 6						
137	Grey-brown sandy silt cut by F123, Trench 6						
138	Made ground, Trench 9						
139	Old topsoil, Trench 9						
140	Grey-brown silty clay under 139, Trench 9						
141	Natural sand, Trench 9						
142	Fill of F143, Trench 9						
F143	Animal burrow, Trench 9						
144	Gravel surface, Trench 7						
145	E-W wall, Trench 7						
146	Dark reddish-brown sandy silt under 148, Trench 7						
147	Made ground, Trench 7						
148	Old topsoil, Trench 7						
149	Old topsoil, Trench 18						
150	Rubble fill, Trench 1						

Appendix 2: Data tables

Table 2.1: Pottery

Trench	Context	Type	Number	Part	Form	Spot date	Notes
5	100	Reduced Sandy ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	Fine sandy fabric with brown glaze externally
5	100	Reduced Sandy ware	1	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	Sandy texture
5	102	Cistercian/Blackware	3	BS	Hollow ware	C15th - EC17th	Burnt and discoloured
5	102	Reduced Sandy ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	Later medieval	Brown glaze externally
5	106	Reduced Sandy ware type	1	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	
5	106	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 1	5	Base & BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	
5	106	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 1	2	Handle stump	Jug	C13th - C15th	One with deeply impressed V shaped stamp on handle
5	106	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 2	1	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	
5	110	Tile	1	Fragment	Tile	Undated	
5	112	TP Whiteware	2	Profile	Plate	LC19th - EC20th	Vine frieze internally
5	112	TP Whiteware	1	Rim	Dish	LC19th - EC20th	Floral border
5	112	TP Whiteware	1	Base	Dish	LC19th - EC20th	Unidentified design
5	112	Whiteware	2	Rim	Saucer	LC19th - EC20th	Moulded saucer/small plate
7	115	Green Glazed Sandy ware	2	Base & BS	U/ID	C15th - C16th	Green glazed internally
7	116	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 1	3	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	
7	118	Whiteware	2	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	White body but orange external margin and patchy green glaze

Trench	Context	Type	Number	Part	Form	Spot date	Notes
7	U/S	Buff Sandy ware	1	Rim	Jug	C12th - C14th	
7	U/S	Martincamp ware	1	BS	Flask	C14th - C16th	
7	U/S	Whiteware	1	BS	Hollow ware	LC19th - C20th	
7	U/S	Yellow Glazed Coarseware	1	Rim	Pancheon	C18th - C19th	
8	133	Green Glazed Sandy ware	1	Base	Hollow ware	C15th - C16th	Heavily abraded base
9	U/S	Stoneware	1	Base	Hollow ware	LC19th - C20th	Distinctive stoneware vessel with band of blue decoration
9	U/S	Stoneware	1	BS	Bottle	C19th - EC20th	
9	U/S	Stoneware	1	BS	Jam jar	LC19th - C20th	
9	U/S	Whiteware	1	Rim	Cup	LC19th - C20th	
10 \ 16	81	Porcelain	1	Rim	Cup/bowl	C19th - EC20th	Chinese landscape
10 \ 16	U/S	Stoneware	2	Complete	Bottles	LC19th - EC20th	Ginger beer bottles; made in Chesterfield for use by Ripon beverage manufacturer
11 \ 12	86	Brick	1	Fragment	Brick	Undated	
11 \ 12	88	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 1	4	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	Brown glaze externally
14	42	Green Glazed Sandy ware	1	Base	U/ID	C16th - C17th	
14	42	Plaster	1	N/A	N/A	Undated	Soft white plaster
14	42	Porcelain	1	Profile	Toy	C19th - EC20th	Toy coffee pot
14	42	Porcelain	1	BS	U/ID	C19th - EC20th	
14	42	Stoneware	2	Base & BS	Jam jar	LC19th - EC20th	Fluted body

Trench	Context	Type	Number	Part	Form	Spot date	Notes
14	42	TP Whiteware	1	BS	Flatware	C19th - EC20th	Albion pattern
14	42	TP Whiteware	1	Rim	Hollow ware	C19th - EC20th	
14	42	Unglazed Red Earthenware	3	BS	U/ID	Recent	
14	42	Whiteware	4	Base & BS	Hollow ware	LC19th - EC20th	
14	44	Tile	1	Fragment	Tile	Undated	
14	44	Unglazed Red Earthenware	3	BS	U/ID	Recent	
14	44	Whiteware	2	Rim	Flatware	LC19th - EC20th	Lustre decoration
14	44	Whiteware	1	BS	Flatware	LC19th - EC20th	
17	1	Cistercian ware	1	Rim	Cup	MC15th - C16th	
17	1	Ripon Reduced Sandy ware 1	2	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	
17	3	Buff Sandy ware	1	Decorative element	Jug	C13th - C14th	Lower part of a face mask with nose, mouth and beard; ?Winksley
17	3	Fired clay	4	Fragment	U/ID	Medieval	Part of oven or kiln?
17	3	Reduced Coarse Sandy ware	1	Decorative element	U/ID	Medieval	
17	3	Reduced Gritty ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	C12th - C14th	One sherd with patchy green glaze externally
17	3	Reduced Gritty ware	1	Base	Hollow ware	C12th - C14th	Unglazed, reduced throughout
17	3	Sandy wares	5	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	Five small sherds in various local sandy fabrics
17	3	Tile	1	Fragment	Tile	Undated	
17	3	Winksley type ware	1	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C14th	See Winksley report
17	3	Winksley type ware	1	Rim	Jug	C13th -	Flat topped jug rim

Trench	Context	Type	Number	Part	Form	Spot date	Notes
						C14th	
17	3	Winksley type ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C14th	
17	22	Fired clay	1	Fragment	U/ID	Undated	Part of oven or kiln?
17	22	Tile	1	Fragment	Tile	Undated	
17	24	Buff Sandy ware	1	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	
17	24	Coarse Sandy ware	1	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	Reduced core and internal surface
17	24	Fired clay	1	Fragment	U/ID	Medieval	Part of oven or kiln?
17	24	Oxidised Sandy ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	Reduced core with oxidised margins
17	29	Buff Coarse Sandy ware	4	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C14th	
17	29	Buff Sandy ware	6	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C14th	May include Winksley type ware
17	29	Buff Sandy ware	1	Rod handle	Jug	C13th - C14th	?Winksley
17	29	Buff Sandy ware	1	Rim	Jug	C12th - C14th	?Winksley
17	29	Coarse Sandy ware	1	Rim	Hollow ware	Medieval	Odd coarse fabric with thin green glaze
17	29	Fired clay	1	Fragment	U/ID	Medieval	Part of oven or kiln?
17	29	Oxidised Coarse Sandy ware	1	Rim	Hollow ware	Medieval	Distinctive flanged rim
17	29	Reduced Gritty ware	7	BS	Hollow ware	LC11th - C13th	
17	29	Reduced Gritty ware	1	Base	Hollow ware	LC11th - C13th	
17	29	Reduced Gritty ware	1	Rim	Hollow ware	LC11th - C13th	
17	29	Reduced Gritty ware	1	BS	U/ID	Medieval	Green glaze internally
17	29	Reduced Sandy ware	6	BS	Hollow ware	C13th - C15th	

Trench	Context	Type	Number	Part	Form	Spot date	Notes
17	29	Scarborough ware	1	BS	Hollow ware	C12th - C13th	
17	29	Splash Glazed Sandy ware	4	BS	Hollow ware	LC11th - EC13th	
17	29	Tile	1	Fragment	Tile	Medieval	
17	29	Whiteware	1	Rod handle	Jug	C13th - C14th	?Winksley
17	31	Coarse Sandy ware	2	Rim & BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	Odd orange fabric with thick black deposit externally
17	31	Greyware	1	Base	Hollow ware	Roman?	Unusual fine sandy greyware, possibly Roman
17	31	Gritty ware	2	BS	Hollow ware	Medieval	One with green glaze externally
17	31	Reduced Gritty ware	1	Rim	Jar	C12th - C14th	Distinctive angular diamond shape rim
17	31	Whiteware type	1	Base	Hollow ware	Medieval	A pale grey sandy ware with very light surfaces and patchy light green glaze
		Total	144				

Table 2.2: Animal bone data

Trench	Context	Species	Element	Comments
5	98	pig	fem	unfused, perinatal
5	98	indet	frags	
5	100	cow	phal 1	prox fused
5	100	cow size	rib	x 3 frags
5	100	cow size	scap	
5	100	s/g	scap	
5	100	s/g	scap	
5	100	s/g	tib	
5	100	s/g	tib	
5	100	s/g.size	l. bone	frag
5	100	s/g size	rib	frag
5	100	pig	UC	male, & frags skull
5	100	goose	scap	
5	100	bird	l. bone	
5	100	pig	fib	
5	102	cow	jaw	
5	102	s/g	jaw	
5	102	indet	frags	x 5
5	102	cow	car r	
5	102	cow	tar c	
5	102	cow	rad	infant calf, chopped & chewed
5	102	s/g	mt	
5	102	bird	corac	very juvenile
5	102	indet	frags	x 6
5	104	s/g	jaw	
5	104	cow	fem	prox unfused
5	104	cow	car 4	
5	104	cow	jaw	
5	104	s/g	mc	dist fusing, large
5	104	s/g	tib	dist fused
5	104	s/g	vc	fusing/unfused
5	104	s/g	vl	fused
5	104	goose	cmc	
5	104	indet	frags	x 11
7	115	s/g	tib	prox fused
7	115	indet	frags	x 3
7	115	s/g	vc01	
7	116	cow	ish	
7	116	cow	cq	
7	116	cow	acet	fused, chopped
7	116	cow	UM3	in wear
7	116	cow	hum	infant calf
7	116	s/g	vc01	chopped
7	116	s/g	scap	
7	116	s/g	cal	
7	116	s/g	fem	
7	116	s/g	hum	dist fused
7	116	s/g	fem	
7	116	s/g	UM1/2	in wear
7	116	pig	hum	prox unfused
7	116	pig	fem	
7	116	pig	LC	female
7	116	indet	frags	x 7
7	116	oyster	shell	x 1
7	118	s/g	skull	frags

Trench	Context	Species	Element	Comments
7	118	cow size	vt	fused, chopped
7	118	fish	vert	
7	118	indet	frags	
7	118	indet	frag	
8	131	cow size	rib	prox fused
8	133	s/g	ish	chewed
8	133	cow size	l. bone	x 1 frag
8	133	oyster	shell	x 1
11/12	86	indet	frag	
17	1	s/g	mc	dist unfused
17	1	s/g	tib	
17	3	indet	frag	burnt
17	20	goose	phal	wing
17	20	bird	l.bone	indet but poss d.fowl size
17	22	cow	car r	chopped
17	22	fish	frag	
17	24	s/g	ish	
17	24	indet	frag	x 2
17	29	cow	hc	basal mes poss
17	29	cow	hc	basal mes poss
17	29	cow	hc	in frags
17	29	cow	vc01	chopped
17	29	cow size	l. bone	x 4 frags
17	29	s/g	rad	dist unfused
17	29	s/g	phal 1	prox fused, chewed
17	29	s/g	cal	prox fused, chewed
17	29	s/g	fem	
17	29	s/g	size vd	unfused
17	29	pig	uln	
17	29	pig	UC	male
17	29	pig	LM3	unerupted
17	29	indet	frags	
17	29	s/g	tib	dist fused
17	29	cow	tooth	frag
17	31	indet	frag	
17	31	cow	hc	tip sawn off
17	31	s/g	tib	dist fused
17	31	goose	tib	
17	31	fish	frag	
-	U/S	cow	pub	chopped
-	U/S	cow	phal 2	prox fused
-	U/S	s/g	tib	prox fused
-	U/S	s/g	tib	
-	U/S	s/g	vt	fused
-	U/S	s/g	vt	unfused
-	U/S	cow	size	rib
-	U/S	indet	frags	

Table 2.3: Approximate fragment counts for the species present

Species	Medieval	Post-Medieval
Cattle	12	7
Sheep/goat	15	13
Pig	5	3
Goose	2	2
Bird sp.	2	1
Fish	-	3
Oyster	1	1

Table 2.4: Glass

Trench	Context	Type	Notes
7	116	Green window glass	1 sherd, slightly curved
11/12	86	Clear bottle glass	1 neck sherd and 2 body sherds
11/12	86	Brown bottle glass	1 body sherd
11/12	86	Clear window glass	1 sherd
11/12	88	Clear bottle glass	2 body sherds
11/12	88	Clear bottle glass	2 base sherds
11/12	88	Clear bottle glass	1 neck sherd with cap marked 'DEWAR'S SCOTCH WHISKEY'
11/12	88	Brown bottle glass	2 body sherds
11/12	U/S	Clear bottle glass	1 complete vessel marked IMPERIAL W. WELLS & SONS RIPON
14	42	Clear bottle glass	2 conjoining body sherds, marked -E- -STE- (TRADE) MARK
14	42	Frosted bottle glass	1 body sherd, marked with a T or H
14	42	Brown bottle glass	1 body sherd
14	44	Frosted bottle glass	1 neck sherd
14	44	Brown bottle glass	1 base sherd
14	44	Brown bottle glass	1 body sherd

Table 2.5: Metal objects

Trench	Context	Metal	Type	Notes
1	57	Galvanised steel	Can	85mm x 75mm diameter, marked 'WASTE PIPE JOINT COMPOUND'.
5	102	Fe	Nail	56mm x 5mm dia, heavily corroded
5	102	Fe	Nail	49mm x 7mm dia, heavily corroded
5	102	Fe	Nail	48mm x 5mm dia, heavily corroded
5	102	Fe	Nail	61mm x 7mm dia, heavily corroded
5	104	Fe	Nail	120mm x 8mm x 6mm, heavily corroded
5	104	Fe	Nail	54mm x 5mm x 4mm, lightly corroded
7	116	Fe	Nail	35mm x 7mm dia, heavily corroded
8	131	Fe	Nail	34mm x 2mm x 2mm, lightly corroded
9	U/S	Fe	Nail	69mm x 14mm dia, heavily corroded
9	U/S	Fe	Service pipe	Fragment from pipe c.300mm dia. Lightly corroded
9	U/S	Cu alloy	Strip	55mm x 15mm x 1mm thick, rolled into a ring but joint not sealed
11/12	88	Fe	Sheet	1mm thick. Crumpled into a lump, heavily corroded
17	22	Fe	Strip	55mm x 24mm x 5mm, heavily corroded
17	29	Cu alloy	Pin	32mm x 1mm dia, rounded head
17	29	Cu alloy	Strip	43mm x 8mm x 1mm
17	29	Cu alloy	Tube	28mm x 5mm external diameter, 1mm thick
17	31	Pb alloy	Window Came	80mm x 5mm x 3mm

Table 2.6: Industrial residues

Trench	Context	Weight	Notes
5	100	35g	2 lumps of slag
5	104	89g	2 lumps of slag
17	20	16g	1 lump of slag
17	29	11g	2 lumps of slag
17	30	15g	1 lump of slag

Table 2.7: *Macrosfossil results*

Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6
Context	29	30	31	102	104	108
Volume processed (ml)	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Flot volume (ml)	5	5	5	70	25	150
Volume assessed (ml)	5	5	5	70	25	150
<i>Residue contents (relative abundance)</i>						
Bone (calcined)						
Bone (unburnt)	2		1	2	2	
Brick		3				
Coal				1		1
Hammerscale	1	1			1	
Metal					1	
Mortar						1
Pot	1				1	
Slag		1			2	
Tooth					1	
<i>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</i>						
Bone (burnt)		1				
Bone (calcined)						
Bone (Unburnt)	1				1	1
Calcareous spheres				1	2	
Charcoal	2	1		3	1	2
Clinker/cinder						
Coal				1	1	1
Modern roots		1	1	1	1	1
Molluscs						
<i>Charred remains (total counts)</i>						
(a) <i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> (Corn marigold)	1					
(a) <i>Fumaria</i> sp (Fumitory)		1				
(c) <i>Avena</i> sp (Oats)		3	2			
(c) Cerealia indeterminate	9	2		2		1
(c) <i>Hordeum</i> sp (Hulled barley)						
(c) <i>Hordeum</i> sp (Barley)	2			2	1	
(c) <i>Triticum</i> sp (Wheat)	6		2			
(c) <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> (Bread wheat)			3			1
(t) <i>Corylus avellana</i> (Hazelnut)	4		1			
(w) <i>Carex</i> sp trigonous nutlet (Sedge)		1				
(x) Poaceae (Grass)						
(x) <i>Vicia</i> sp (Vetch)						
<i>Waterlogged remains (relative abundance)</i>						
(a) <i>Chenopodium album</i> (Fat-hen)		1				1
(r) <i>Stellaria media</i> (Common chickweed)		1				
(t) <i>Rubus idaeus</i> (Raspberry)						
(t) <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (Elder)						
(w) <i>Carex</i> sp trigonous nutlet (Sedge)						

(a: arable weed; c: cultivated plant; r: ruderal; t: trees/shrubs; w: wetland; x: wide niche)
Relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

Sample	7	8	9	10	11	12
Context	100	115	116	118	131	133
Volume processed (ml)	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Flot volume (ml)	400	100	100	50	100	150
Volume assessed (ml)	400	100	100	50	100	150
<i>Residue contents (relative abundance)</i>						
Bone (calcined)	1					
Bone (unburnt)	2	2		1		1
Brick						
Coal		2	1			
Hammerscale	1	1	1		1	
Metal			1			
Mortar	1	2				
Pot						
Slag	1					
Tooth						
<i>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</i>						
Bone (burnt)		1				
Bone (calcined)					1	
Bone (Unburnt)	1				1	1
Calcareous spheres						
Charcoal	3	3	2	1	2	2
Clinker/cinder			3			
Coal	1		1	1	2	2
Modern roots		1	1		1	1
Molluscs					1	
<i>Charred remains (total counts)</i>						
(a) <i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> (Corn marigold)						
(a) <i>Fumaria</i> sp (Fumitory)						
(c) <i>Avena</i> sp (Oats)	2				2	3
(c) Cerealia indeterminate	24			1	1	
(c) <i>Hordeum</i> sp (Hulled barley)	15					
(c) <i>Hordeum</i> sp (Barley)	3		1		1	1
(c) <i>Triticum</i> sp (Wheat)	6	1		1	1	
(c) <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> (Bread wheat)	16					
(t) <i>Corylus avellana</i> (Hazelnut)			1	1		
(w) <i>Carex</i> sp trigonous nutlet (Sedge)						
(x) Poaceae (Grass)				1		
(x) <i>Vicia</i> sp (Vetch)	2				1	
<i>Waterlogged remains (relative abundance)</i>						
(a) <i>Chenopodium album</i> (Fat-hen)			1		1	
(r) <i>Stellaria media</i> (Common chickweed)						
(t) <i>Rubus idaeus</i> (Raspberry)		2	2			
(t) <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (Elder)		2	2			
(w) <i>Carex</i> sp trigonous nutlet (Sedge)		1				

(a: arable weed; c: cultivated plant; r: ruderal; t: trees/shrubs; w: wetland; x: wide niche)
Relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

Appendix 3: Project specification

Location and Description

1 The site is located on land to the rear of shops and buildings on the west side of the market place in Ripon. The land is bounded by the following roads: Blossomgate, Westgate, Fishergate, North Street, St Wilfred's Road, St Wilfred's Place, and Westbourne Grove. The site is approximately 2 hectares in area, and is accessed through Blossomgate. Currently, the area contains surfaced and unsurfaced car parking areas, a stone mason's yard, brick storage buildings, the site of a car sales garage, other garages and commercial buildings, and areas of trees and scrub vegetation. A number of shops on Fishergate use the area for rear access to their premises. The site is proposed for a new supermarket and housing development.

Archaeological Importance

2 A desk-based assessment report was completed by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) in 2003 (Issue 2003-4/162). The report indicates that there is the potential for important archaeological deposits of medieval origin, and possibly of Roman date, to survive within the development area, especially the eastern side of the area. The development site includes a number of complete burgage plots, and there are indications that some small scale industries may have been located off Blossomgate. The assessment report also sets out an indicative research agenda which the evaluation should address.

Aims and Objectives

3 The OAN assessment recommends a 10% field evaluation, equating to about 1750 m², to determine the extent and degree of survival of archaeological remains. Currently, the presence of a number of buildings and walls, and the need to service shops on Fishergate would preclude an evaluation of this size. Moreover, the proposed supermarket development is planned for the western half of the area, with only car parking and pedestrian access areas planned for the eastern side. However, a new access road between North Street and Blossomgate will be built to service the development, and the line of this road will need to be investigated.

4 Archaeological evidence from this site has the potential to illuminate the industrial, political and ecclesiastical history of Ripon. Remains from the pre-Conquest, AngloNorman, high medieval, and early post-medieval periods may be present. Excavation may bring to light evidence of specialised activities such as malting or hide processing, as well as generalised or repeated activities such as land layout, rebuilding and levelling. A more general understanding of the potential of the site can be obtained from the recent report by Finlayson (2004) on work at the Arcade (8-9 Market Place).

5 The general aim of the work will be to provide information on the nature, extent, depth, preservation, and quality of archaeological remains. This general aim should be augmented by 2-4 additional research aims, developed by the archaeological contractor from the indicative research agenda in the OAN report, and these should be set out in a statement of aims before the evaluation begins.

6 The aims will be achieved through archaeological trial trenching, concurrent environmental sampling and assessment, post-excavation assessment, preparation of an evaluation report, and transfer of the evaluation archive to the Harrogate Museums Service.

Conditions

7 Although the Health & Safety Executive does not consider archaeological investigations to fall within the definition of "construction work" in the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 1994, archaeological work on site should not start until an archaeological project risk assessment has been lodged in the Health and Safety File of the client.

8 Archaeological work should not start until the Curator of Harrogate Museums Service and environmental specialists have confirmed formally that they *are* aware of the proposed work and are available to give advice or specialist services. Work should not start until a contingency plan for bad weather has been agreed as part of any contract.

9 The County Archaeologist should be informed of the name of the archaeological contractor, and the start date of archaeological works at least two weeks prior to the commencement of operations.

10 Copyright in the documentation prepared by the archaeological contractor and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of a licence in favour of North Yorkshire County Council and Harrogate Borough Council to use such documentation for their statutory functions and provide copies to third parties as an incidental to such functions. Under the Environmental Information Regulations, such documentation is required to be made available to enquirers, regardless of its confidentiality, if it meets the test of public interest.

11 This scheme summarises the elements of archaeological work needed to mitigate the impact of the current development proposals on archaeological interests. It is no_ contract or complete specification, and the County Heritage Unit makes no warranty that the works are fully or exactly described. The details of implementation must be the subject of a contract between the client and their selected contractor.

Access and Monitoring

12 Access to the site should be arranged through Maple Grove Developments Ltd, Sceptre House, Sceptre Way, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PRS 6AW, Tel (01772) 697744. Enquiries about archaeological matters should be directed to the County Archaeologist, Heritage Section, Planning & Countryside Unit, County Hall, Northallerton, tel (01609) 780780 ext 2330.

13 Archaeological work will be subject to a programme of monitoring, the details of which should be agreed between the archaeological contractor and the County Archaeologist. This programme of monitoring should include at least one site visit during fieldwork, and an inspection of the archive by the Curator of the Harrogate Museums Service, who should also be invited to any on-site monitoring meetings.

Statement of Research Aims

14 A short, precise document should be produced detailing two to four research aims to be pursued above and beyond standard archaeological evaluation objectives. The document should briefly summarise the theoretical or substantive issues to be addressed, identify the evidence which may inform on these issues, and formulate the aims in terms of questions or hypotheses (cf Thomas 1999) which can be tested against the finds or deposits likely to be found on the site. The document should not provide a potted history of Ripon, nor should it refer in general to previous investigations in Ripon except where these works have raised particular issues or questions relevant to the site. The aims should involve several classes of evidence, so that even if archaeological remains are limited, then at least one of the aims should be capable of effective investigation. The document should also outline the strategy or programme for the recovery of finds and environmental evidence. The research aims should be submitted to the County Archaeologist before trial trenching starts on site.

Trial Trenching

15 Eighteen (18) number trial trenches should be excavated to evaluate the potential for archaeological remains. These trenches, their indicative sizes and locations are depicted on the plan accompanying this brief and listed in the appended schedule of trenches. The nominal area for this trenching is -275 m². Where necessary to recover important archaeological information, up to an additional 25 m² of excavation may be carried out on selected trenches.

16 The removal of surfacing and overburden in general for all trenches will be subject to archaeological observation. Removal should be undertaken by a back-acting excavator, using a wide, toothless or ditching bucket, except where site constraints dictate opening up by hand. Machine excavation should proceed only to the top of archaeological deposits or natural whichever is the higher. Thereafter, investigations should proceed by hand excavation and scientific recording. Deep homogenous fill deposits may be excavated by machine subject to archaeological supervision.

Metal Detection and Unstratified Finds Recovery

17 Where feasible, spoil from machine clearance and archaeological excavation should be subject to the detection and collection of metal objects. All cleaned surfaces of features and archaeological layers should be scanned for metal object signals, and excavation priorities assessed taking these signals into account. Metal objects should be recovered from the surface of in situ deposits before the end of each day, subject to archaeological supervision such that finds are properly recorded and conserved. Where feasible, local detectorists should be contacted to assist in this work. All metal detection should be undertaken according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice.

18 Other non-metallic unstratified finds arising from overburden removal should be recovered and incorporated into the investigations in accordance with an appropriate finds collection, conservation and disposal strategy which should be included in the research aims document.

Recording

19 All in situ archaeological features and deposits should be hand cleaned, given context numbers, and planned at conventional scales to show the horizontal distribution of contexts. The elevation of the underlying natural subsoil where exposed should be recorded. All excavation areas should be plotted with respect to nearby roads and buildings.

20 All major discrete features should have their shape, character, and depth determined by hand excavation of cross-sections, and appropriate sampling for environmental remains. Any large features such as pits, quarry, or sink holes likely to extend deeper than 1.2 m below surface should be augered to find their approximate depth. Any other unknown or enigmatic features should be investigated similarly on a sampling basis. In respect of post and stake holes, a representative sample of these should be investigated to obtain a general understanding of their character, depth and size distribution across the site. All metal finds should be X-rayed to determine their character.

21 Using the information and artefacts collected to this stage, all features and deposits should be assessed as to their origin or function, probable date, and importance for further recording. At this stage and in conjunction with a site visit, the County Archaeologist should be consulted to discuss the potential of the remains, and agree further targeted investigation in relation to the research aims of the evaluation.

Environmental Deposit Analysis

22 Concurrent sampling and assessment of soil materials for environmental information should be undertaken. The archaeological contractor should arrange for a site visit by the Archaeological Science Advisor of English Heritage to advise on sampling and techniques. Concurrent environmental assessment should inform excavation and recording techniques, and indicate which deposits require additional sampling or recovery.

23 As an indicative strategy, all deposits with the following Munsell colour notations should be automatically sampled and their composition and origin evaluated:

- a) Values of less than or equal to 3 and Chromas of less than or equal to 2;
- b) Values of higher than or equal to 7 and Chromas of less than or equal to 2. Other deposits should be sampled in accordance with the research aim document.

24 The contribution of metal-working industrial debris to deposits should be assessed, and the quantities of slags and hammer scale in deposits should be determined. Stone used for crucibles, whetstones, anvils, etc, should be recovered and analysed.

25 The contribution of building materials to deposits should be assessed. Where coherent fragments of mortar occur, these should be collected and analysed. All tile, and dressed, decorated, carved or marked stone should be collected and analysed.

Post-Excavation Assessment

26 All plans and sections should be checked prior backfilling or leaving the site. The content of field records at this stage should be sufficient to meet NYCC guidelines on reporting. Harris matrix diagrams should be prepared to show visible relationships amongst contexts, and any concordances between trenches.

27 Following Management of Archaeological Projects (1991) guidelines, an assessment enumerating the different kinds of evidence from the site, their potential, and costs for further analysis should be prepared and submitted as part of the summary evaluation report. «

28 All finds should be identified, subject to investigative conservation as appropriate, and properly packaged and stored. A site archive should be compiled, consisting of all photographs and primary written records such as plans, sections, site narrative, concordance of contexts, and the assessment report. Catalogues of finds, plans, sections, and photographs should be produced and cross-referenced. The site archive should be inspected by the Curator of the Harrogate Museums Service, and

should be prepared and packaged in accordance with the curatorial requirements of the Harrogate Borough Museums Service.

Summary Report

29 A summary report should be prepared following NYCC guidelines on reporting. The report should incorporate a brief introduction, a summary of works carried out including photographs of operations, description of the remains including relevant plans and sections, summaries of specialist investigations, interpretation and assessment of the significance of the remains in relation to the research aims, catalogues of finds, plans and sections, and photographs, and copies of this WSI and the research aims document.

30 Six (6) copies of the summary report should be produced, three (3) for Maple Grove Developments Ltd, and one (1) each under separate cover for the Harrogate Museums Service, the North Yorkshire County Council Highways Client Unit, and the County Historic Environment Record (Heritage Section). The archaeological contractor should be prepared to provide additional copies to Maple Grove Developments for planning purposes.

References

English Heritage (1991) Management of Archaeological Projects

Finlayson, R (2004) The Arcade, Ripon: Report on the Excavation & Archaeological Analysis York Archaeological Trust Report No 2004/45.

Oxford Archaeological North (2003) Land to West of Market Place, Ripon: Desk-Based Assessment (Issue 2003-4/162).

Thomas, R. (1999) "Writing Excavation Reports: a question of questions?" In: The Archaeologist 34:19.