



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample & Observation and Recording Report

Land to the Rear of 59 High Street South
Dunstable
Bedfordshire



Quality Check

<i>Author</i>	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA	<i>Version</i>	254/DKH/2.1	<i>Date</i>	31.01.18
<i>Editor</i>	David Kaye BA ACIfA	<i>Version</i>	254/DKH/2.1	<i>Date</i>	01.02.18
<i>Revision</i>	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA	<i>Version</i>	254/DKH/2.2	<i>Date</i>	14.02.18
<i>Revision</i>	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA	<i>Version</i>	254/DKH/2.3	<i>Date</i>	05.03.18

© KDK Archaeology Ltd. 2018 No part of this document is to be copied in any way without prior written consent.

Every effort has been made to provide as complete and as accurate a report as possible. However, KDK Archaeology Ltd cannot accept any liability in respect of, or resulting from, errors, inaccuracies, or omissions contained in this document.

© Ordnance Survey maps reproduced with the sanction of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
KDK Archaeology Licence No. 100053538

Unit 3 Leighton Road Leighton Buzzard Bedfordshire LU7 1LA

Tel: 01525 385443

Email: office@kdkarchaeology.co.uk

Website: www.kdkarchaeology.co.uk





CONTENTS

Summary	3
1. Introduction	3
2. Aims & Methods	7
3. Archaeological & Historical Background	8
4. Results.....	12
5. Conclusions	26
6. Acknowledgements	27
7. Archive	28
8. References.....	29

Appendices:

1. Excavation Summary Tables	33
2. Finds Concordances	39
3. List of Photograph	40
4. Specialist Reports.....	42
5. OASIS and Site Data.....	53

Figures:

1. General location	4
2. Site location.....	5
3. Development plan with new build highlighted	6
4. Overall archaeology plan	19
5. Archaeological Phase Plan	20
6. Well [108] & Stone Capping [112] – plans and sections.....	21
7. Wall [105] – plan	22
8. Wall [105] & Pit [114] – sections.....	23
9. Postholes [119/121], [123] & [125] – plans and sections.....	24
10. Wall [105] overlaid over 1880 OS map	25

Plates:

1. Strip map area, looking W	15
2. Strip map area stratigraphy, looking NW.....	15
3. Garage footing trench, looking NNW.....	15
4. Garage footing trench, stratigraphy, looking SW.....	15
5. Service trench, looking S.....	15
6. Service trench, stratigraphy, looking E	15
7. Well [108] with stone cap [112], looking NE	16
8. SW facing section of well [108] & stone cap [112].....	16
9. Well [108] fully excavated, looking SE	16
10. Wall [105], looking N.....	16
11. NE facing section of wall [105]	16
12. NW facing section of wall [105]	16
13. Collapsed/demolished brick wall [104], looking NE	17
14. Detail of collapsed/demolished brick wall [104], looking NE.....	17
15. Collapsed/demolished brick wall [104] seen the trench baulk, looking SE.....	17
16. Pit [114], seen in trench baulk, looking NE.....	17
17. W facing section of posthole [123]	17
18. SW facing section of posthole [119]/[121]	17
19. NNE facing section of posthole [125].....	18



Summary

In September and October 2017 an Archaeological Open Area Excavation & Watching Brief took place at the land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire prior to the construction of a single dwelling on the site. The earliest feature recorded on the site was a well with possible associated stone capping, dated to the Romano-British period. Post-medieval structural footings, depicted on OS mapping for the area were also recorded along with associated collapse/demolition material. A post-medieval rubbish pit and post-hole were also found, along with two further post-holes that were undated.

1 Introduction

1.1 In September and October 2017 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme an Archaeological Open Area Excavation & Watching Brief on the land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. The project was commissioned by David King, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by KDK (Shlasko 2016), and approved by Hannah Firth, Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Central Bedfordshire County Council. The relevant planning application reference is CB/16/01394/FULL.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *The Site*

Location

The site is in the administrative district of Central Bedfordshire, in the town and parish of Dunstable. It is situated to the rear of number 59, on the northern side of High Street South, at National Grid Reference TL 02092 21650 (Fig. 1). Land to the rear of 59 High Street South is located within the Dunstable Conservation Area and part of the property lies within the boundary of the Dunstable Priory Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1004676).

Description

The site is rectangular and is bounded to the rear by the plots from numbers 57 and 59 High Street South to the northwest and southwest respectively, Montpelier House to the southeast, and the Priory grounds to the northeast. It is accessed by a side gate to the rear of the building (Fig. 2).

Geology & Topography

The site is located within the town centre of Dunstable where superficial deposits have not been mapped. Surviving natural soils are likely to comprise the Upton 1 Association, namely shallow well drained calcareous soil (Soil Survey 1983, 342a). The solid geology, which is chalk, is part of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation (Undifferentiated) (British Geological Survey). The site lies at a height of c.145m AOD.

Development

The development will comprise the erection of a three-bedroom detached dwelling with access and a turning area (Fig. 3).

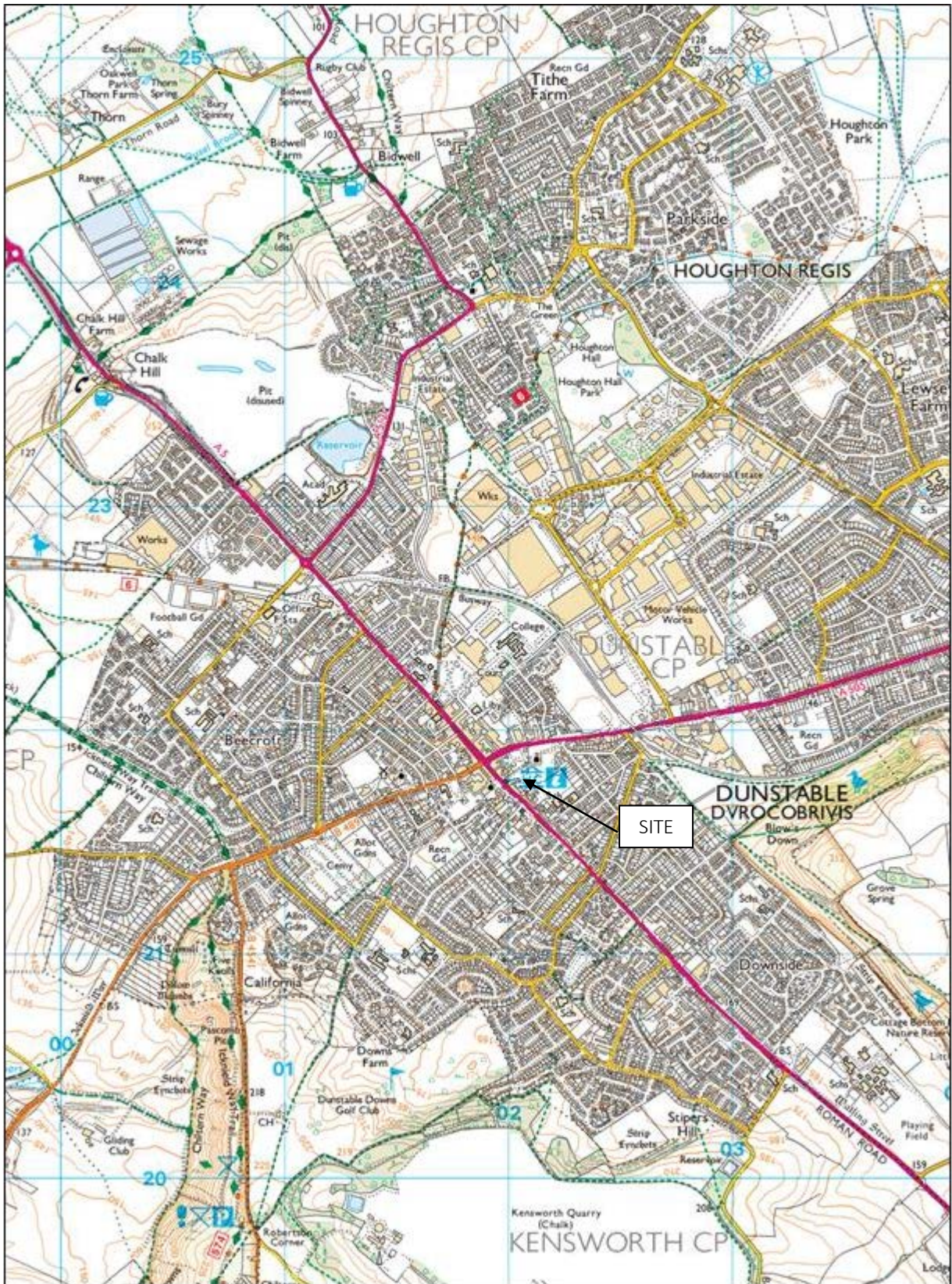


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

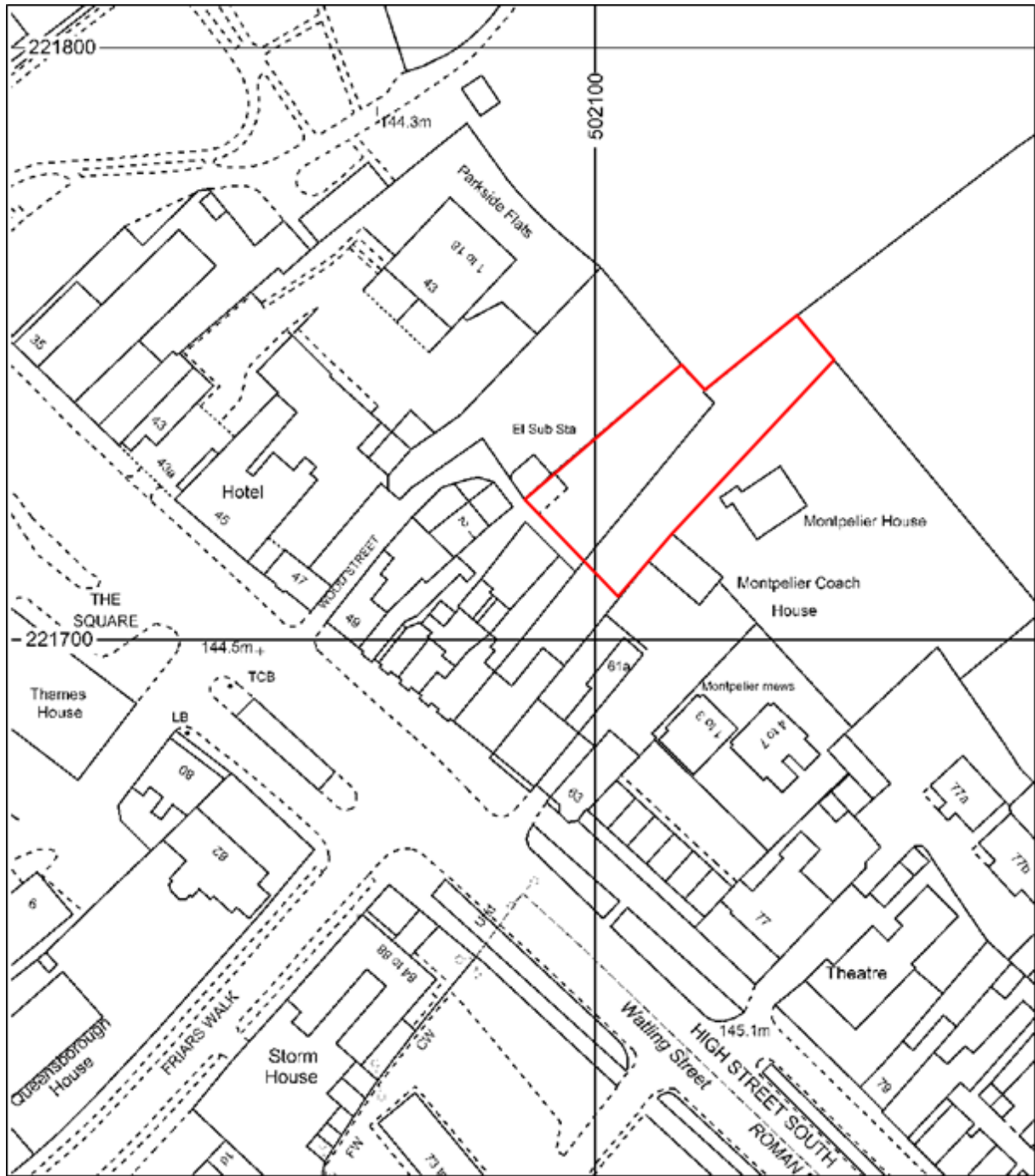


Figure 2: Site location (scale 1:250)

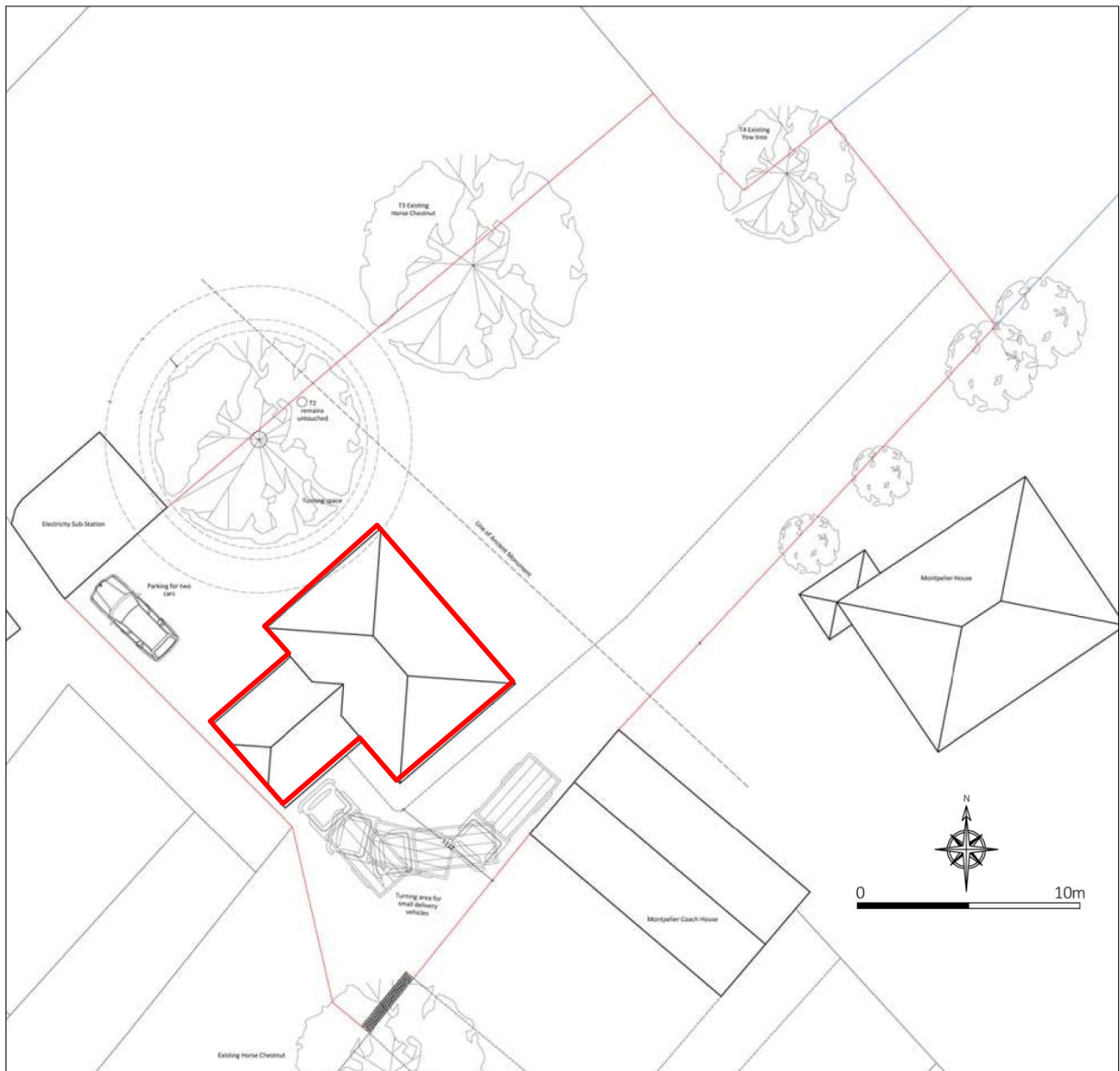


Figure 3: Development plan with new build highlighted (scale as shown)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 The aims of this project as defined in the approved WSI (Shlasko 2016) were:

- To establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area
- To establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscape

Regional research queries that may also have been addressed during the course of this project included the origins and development of small towns, their interrelationships with their hinterlands and early town planning from the Saxon through to the early post medieval periods (Wade 2000: 24-25; Oake 2007: 14; Medlycott 2011: 70 and Edgeworth 2007: 121-123).

More specifically, further evidence was sought to help clarify the relationship of the clunch footing and neighbouring clunch spread that was revealed during trial trenching in 2014 (Kaye 2014) with Dunstable Priory and/or extra-mural medieval or post medieval development.

2.2 *Methods*

In line with the requirements of the Brief, the methods used were as follows:

- Prior to the commencement of the development, a programme of archaeological investigation and recording comprising an Open Area excavation (also known as a Strip, Map and Sample excavation) was undertaken in the footprint of the new building. As a main drain was installed at the rear of number 59 in 2013 which is ready to connect all drainage for the current development, neither soakaway nor septic tank were needed.
- A Watching Brief of the excavation of the services and the footing trench for the associated car port/garage were also monitored.

In addition, the proximity of the site to the Scheduled Monument (SM) and attendant concerns regarding spoil management and vehicle movements that may encroach on or impact the SM have been addressed as follows:

- The car park was designated out of use and out of bounds for the duration of the archaeological investigations and the only vehicle on-site was the excavator.
- The fence adjacent to the High St South side of the site was moved to allow the excavator full access to the site without encroaching on the SM.
- The spoil was stacked along the fence on the north side of the site, adjacent to the electricity sub-station. Storage and removal from site did not encroach on the SM.

2.3 *Standards*

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The Design Brief
- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (HE 2015, EH 2008)



3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The site lies within the core of the Roman and medieval towns of Dunstable (HER 135 & 16986). Part of the site is also within the precinct of the Dunstable Priory (HER 131), which is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1004676; HER 131). The site is in the Dunstable Conservation Area, which is an area of high archaeological sensitivity, and previous work there has revealed archaeology.

This section has been compiled with information from the Historic Environment Record (HER), the Dunstable Extensive Urban Survey (EUS 2003) and a Design Brief prepared for a previous phase of investigation at the site (CBC 2013). The following text has been modified from KDK's reports of previous archaeological investigations at 59 High Street South (Kaye 2013 and 2014) and on other nearby sites (Shlasko 2016), updated with information from the Central Bedfordshire HER (HER search number 201617/208).

3.2 *Prehistoric* (before 600BC)

There is limited evidence of prehistoric occupation within the town of Dunstable, although a Neolithic flint blade (from an unstratified context) was recovered during an archaeological evaluation at 59 High Street South (Kaye 2014:12). In the late 19th century, antiquarian Worthington G Smith found Palaeolithic hand axes and worked flint while walking behind the Ashton Grammar School (HER 12286), in the northwest quadrant of the town. Smith also identified Palaeolithic tools at sites around Caddington parish, southeast of Dunstable (EUS 2003: 19); the finds from Ashton Grammar School were derived from material imported in from Caddington, rather than being *in situ*.

Most of the archaeological discoveries of prehistoric remains have been found outside the town centre. For instance, there is evidence of seasonal occupation during the Mesolithic in the form of lithic scatters around Dunstable (*ibid*: 19). Substantial evidence of Neolithic land use, such as the Maiden Bower causewayed camp (HER 666), dating to the middle part of the Neolithic, is found southeast of Dunstable, near the Dunstable Downs (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1015593>). Neolithic remains have also been identified in fields to the north of the Icknield Way (HER 1444) (EUS 2003: 19). Two (reputedly) Bronze Age axe heads were found at Montpelier House (HER 18784), c65m east of the development site, and a large number of Bronze Age barrows and burials have been found in and around Dunstable, including a barrow at Marina Drive, c2km southwest of the town. Five Knolls (NHLE 1009892; HER 138), a barrow cemetery reputed to be the finest group of burial mounds in the Chilterns and the site of excavations by Sir Mortimer Wheeler, is found south of Dunstable (*ibid*: 19).

3.3 *Iron Age* (600BC-AD43)

The hill fort at Maiden Bower gives an indication of the scale of Iron Age occupation in the area around Dunstable. That site demonstrates a high level of continuity from the Neolithic right through until the Roman period, with extensive use during the Iron Age (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1015593>). In Dunstable, evidence of Iron Age occupation has been found at the Priory Middle School (HER 13357) and at 1, 3 & 5 Edward Street (HER 6274), approximately 490m northwest of the development site. Other Iron Age features from Dunstable, include a possible round house in Grove House Gardens (HER 17802). Possible residual finds of Iron Age pottery have been recovered from excavations in the area of Dunstable Park (HER 9431) and in excavations in the core of the Roman and medieval town (HER 11270).



3.4 **Roman** (AD43-c.450)

The Roman settlement of *Durocbrivis* or *Durocbrivae* (HER 135 & 11284) was situated at the crossing of the Icknield Way (HER 353) and Watling Street (HER 5508), which ran from London to Chester. The core of the Roman town appears to have extended some 400 metres beyond the crossroads. It is not clear what role the town had in the Roman period. There is no evidence for a military presence, which would suggest that the town may have been a form of staging post or *mansion* or even an administrative centre or *pagus*. (CBC 2013: 5; EUS 2003: 20).

Roman material has been found in all four quadrants of Dunstable, in an area similar to that of the medieval town. Evidence for Roman buildings was revealed in Dunstable Friary, a well and cess pits were discovered in St Mary's Street (HER 11273) and the remains of a young Barbary ape were found in a cess pit in Friary Field (*ibid*:22). A Roman cemetery (HER 11284), which was in use from the 3rd to the late 4th century lay in the south-west quadrant (*ibid*:23).

More recently Roman features from the mid-1st to the late 3rd or early 4th century were revealed to the rear of the Old Palace Lodge. These included several ditches and pits and a single female burial with an accompanying vessel (Summerfield-Hill forthcoming).

The extent of the Roman town is currently more readily assessed by the location of the cemeteries than by boundary markers, such as a wall or ditch. However, a possible defensive ditch dating from the late 1st-early 2nd century was discovered in Priory Gardens that lie to the north of the development site (EUS 2003: 24). Whether this ditch is associated with that found on the site of the medieval Friary in the south-west quadrant is uncertain, but any such association could be indicative of a town boundary (*ibid*:24).

3.5 **Saxon** (c.450-1066)

The Roman town appears to have been largely deserted following the Roman withdrawal, but Saxon settlement evidence has been found in the northwest quadrant, consisting of sunken featured buildings and a pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery (HER 152; EUS 2003: 24).

Despite the lack of archaeological evidence, it has been suggested that some form of settlement probably continued near the crossroads of Watling Street and the Icknield Way, precisely because these routes retained their importance long after the official Roman presence had ended (*ibid*: 25).

3.6 **Medieval** (1066-1500)

The medieval town (HER 16986) was established by Henry I in the early 1100s using the existing crossroads as a basis for a planned market town. The burgage plots appear to have survived to some extent within the town, particularly along High Street South. By 1109, Henry had built himself a residence at 'Kingsbury' (HER 148) on the north side of Church Street, and some 20 years later he founded an Augustinian Priory dedicated to St Peter (NHLE 1004676; HER 131).

The priory complex was located between the High Street South and Church Street. Surviving remains of the Priory include the Grade I listed church (NHLE 1114581; HER 132) and gatehouse (NHLE 1321391; HER 6329) and the Grade II* listed undercroft at Priory House (NHLE 1114593; HER 6311). The rest of the Priory buildings were destroyed following the dissolution of the monasteries in the mid-16th century. The discovery of Totternhoe stone, the



predominant building material of the more significant priory buildings, in 19th century wall foundations at the Saracen's House (Mustchin 2012) and in pits at 65-65 High Street South (Rouse 2005:10), is an indication of the fate of many monastic buildings.

The remains of a large monastic building, thought to have been the priory itself, were discovered to the rear of the Saracen's Head Hotel in 1983. The bake house and brew house cellars, which were found approximately 50m north-east of the development site, had been converted for lime production after the priory was dissolved in 1539 (CBC 2013: 5; EUS 2003: 10, 27).

The full extent of the Priory precinct is not known. Excavations at Montpelier House, to the rear of the development site (EBD 187), found no archaeological evidence of medieval activity, but this would not be unusual for a peripheral location. The discovery of a late medieval/early post-medieval back street running parallel with High St South (EBD 728 & 739) may be a relic of the earlier boundary. Archaeological evaluations by KDK Archaeology Ltd on this site in 2014, revealed a clunch footing in Trench 2 which had the same orientation as the presumed boundary of the Priory. At the time of the evaluation hypotheses regarding the clunch footings were that the Priory precinct may extend further than previously thought, or the footing may be related to a building outside the precinct, but built respecting the orientation of the Priory boundary (Kaye 2014: 16). Further hints of the boundary wall were thought to have been revealed during trial trenching to the rear of 11-15 High Street South in 2016 (Compass Archaeology 2016). The remains of a large NW-SE aligned Totternhoe clunch wall with an associated demolition dump consisting of mortar dust mixed with crushed tile, chalk and Totternhoe clunch was revealed to the rear of the property. However, it was subsequently shown to be a sub-surface of a clunch lined or built structure of unknown function (*pers. comm.* H Firth 2018).

Nothing survives of the Dominican friary, which was established in the southwest quadrant of the town in 1259. However, archaeological investigations have revealed the location of the church, ancillary buildings, cemetery and the extensive garden/orchard to the southwest (EUS 2003: 29).

Excavations at 4 Great Northern Road, Dunstable revealed two parallel ditches that aligned on the Roman Road. Both were both in excess of 2m in width and were some 24m apart. Dating was difficult, but the presence of medieval pottery in the upper fills could suggest that these ditches were either created in the medieval period or could perhaps date back to the Roman construction of the road and were either re-established, or still partly open at this time (Albion Archaeology 2014: 11 & 13).

Subsequent investigations at a nearby site in Walnut Grove demonstrated that one of the V-shaped ditches continued into this area and that it was probably a boundary or enclosure ditch peripheral to settlement or industrial activity. However, evidence for industrial and domestic activity was revealed in a later ditch that partially re-cut the V-shaped ditch and contained worked Totternhoe clunch that appeared to be construction waste, as well as a small amount of ferrous slag, pottery, lava quern and animal bone. The finds were datable to c1105-1250 (Albion Archaeology 2015, 10-11 & 14). The presence of worked stone would suggest a high status building and the proximity of the site to the possible location of the Hospital of St Mary Magdalene (HER 154) was noted but not further commented on (*ibid*: 15).



3.7 *Post-Medieval* (1500-1900)

Dunstable thrived from the 17th century and particularly the 18th century as a coaching town, whereby numerous inns were established to cater for travellers (EUS 2003: 35).

In addition to its role as a coaching stop, by the 17th century Dunstable became involved in the straw plaiting industry. By the mid-19th century, when the railway had replaced stage coaches, hat factories had taken over many of the premises formerly used as inns and stables (Albion 2003: 44). By the end of the 18th century, 59 High Street South had become a private house. It was subdivided into 3 tenements by the mid- 19th century. In 1870, Eliza Osbourne, who had been running her hat and bonnet making factory next door, rented the property from Munt and Brown, another hat manufacturer based in what is now Priory House. It had previously been occupied by George Horn, a plait dealer who had become bankrupt. During a Watching Brief at 59 High Street South, excavators encountered a brick-built, lined tank and a capped well at the rear of the property (Kaye 2013). Both were almost certainly associated with the industrial heritage of the building, and lie 10 and 15m respectively south of the proposed development.

The development site is surrounded by buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries, including 47 & 47a High Street South (NHLE 1311903; HER 6069), a Grade II listed building located approximately 45m northwest of 59 High Street South and The Friars (NHLE 1114599; HER 6252), located approximately 54m to the southwest.

Specific to the site itself, OS mapping depicts a building once stood within the footprint of the proposed development. It appears to have been attached to the Coach House found immediately to the SE of the site boundary. This building appears on the 1880-1902 mapping, but by the 1924 OS map the building is no longer present but still shows the existing Coach House adjacent to the site.

3.8 *Modern* (1900-present)

As befits a property in the core of a historic small town, No. 59 High Street South has had a diverse and interesting history. It is recorded as having been a farm, and a hat and straw bonnet factory before becoming Grey House Hotel in the 1950s. It was subsequently re-branded as the Four Kings Public House (HER 4548), but is now residential.



4 Results

4.1 *Site Stripping*

An area of 65.24 sq. m. was mechanically stripped of topsoil and overburden under close archaeological supervision, as required in the Brief (Fig. 4). The stratigraphy encountered comprised:

- Mixed reddish brown made ground (100), redeposited clayey sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular stones and fragments of ceramics and tile. This layer was approximately 0.26m deep and covered the entire excavated area.
- Buried topsoil (101) of dark greyish black sandy silt. It contained occasional small stones and charcoal fragments and frequent ceramic building material (CBM). The layer was approximately 0.35m deep although it was not evenly distributed across the excavated area.
- Sub-soil (102) extended across the site. It was a mid-greyish brown sandy silt, quite compact, with frequent small chalk fragments. It was 0.7m deep. A sherd of late 3rd-4th century pottery was recovered from this deposit.

The underlying natural strata (103) comprised chalk interleaved with light reddish brown clayey sand (Plates 1 & 2).

Complete descriptions of all contexts are presented in the Appendix 1: Context Table, whilst specialist reports for pottery, CBM, animal bone and environmental samples are in Appendix 4.

4.2 *Sampling Strategy*

On completion of the site strip in the footprint of the new building, the archaeological features revealed comprised:

- Well [108]
- Possible stone capping [112]
- Stone/chalk wall [105]
- Collapsed/demolished brick wall [104]
- Pit [114]
- Post-holes [119], [120], [123] & [125]

Following consultation with the AA, it was agreed that subsequent excavation would follow the sampling strategy outlined in the Brief (Fig. 4).

4.3 *Observation and Recording*

In addition to the Open Area excavation, the project included monitoring of the excavation of a footing trench for the new garage and a service trench. These trenches revealed the general site stratigraphy. Aside from a small portion of the collapsed brick wall [104], observed at the northern end of the service trench, no other archaeological finds, features or deposits were observed (Fig. 4; Plates 3-6).

4.4 *Phasing*

Phasing was established for the archaeological features by combining dating and stratigraphic evidence. The phases are presented in Fig. 5 and described in chronological order as follows:



4.5 *Phase 1*

Well [108] was found towards the western side of the area. It was sub-rectangular in plan and steep sided. It contained a single homogenous backfill (110) that contained Roman pottery and CBM dating between the late 3rd and early 4th century, and animal bone (cattle, sheep/goat and pig). The well was hand excavated to a depth of 1.2m, after which the depth of the fill was further assessed by inserting a 2m steel rod. The base of the feature was not reached.

The pottery consisted of plain rimmed and flanged dishes, a single bowl, jars and beakers. Such finds suggest discarded waste of a Roman household activity. The dominating presence of dishes and beakers in the assemblage suggests dining activity and a level of status, as finewares were included in the assemblage (Appendix 4).

The CBM consisted of a mixture of constructional and roofing pieces. It is not clear as to whether these fragments are from a nearby building or if they have been reused for other purposes prior to being dumped (Appendix 4).

The animal bone was mainly cattle, sheep/goat and pig. The remains did not derive from a primary deposit as there were examples of gnawed bones, and a lack of teeth remaining in the jaw, rather the bones were buried or re-buried after some time. Butchery marks were noted representing a range of processes such as skinning, jointing and filleting (Appendix 4).

Environmental samples were also taken from the well. The results indicate that cereal grains were present in the sample. Charred cereal grains included bread wheat type with spelt most frequent and a single specimen of barley. The grains present were puffed and fragmented which likely suggests their exposure to high temperatures. Chaff such as glume bases was found which suggests later stages of cereal processing was taking place in the vicinity or that their presence derives from chance loss in a domestic hearth or oven. It has been interpreted that this material likely represents domestic waste deliberately deposited within the backfill of the well (Appendix 4).

Cutting into the top of the well's backfill was probably the remains of a stone capping layer [112] (Figs. 4-6; Plates 7-9).

4.6 *Phase 2*

Possible stone capping [112] was found along the western side of the well [108], orientated NE-SW. It was constructed of unbonded pieces of clunch which respected the limit of the construction cut for the well. However, it did not extend to fully cover the well and the lower stones particularly appeared to be within the upper fill, so it is possible that they were just part of the backfilling process (Figs. 4-6; Plates 7 & 8).

4.7 *Phase 3*

Clunch/chalk wall [105] was situated towards the southeast end of the area. It was orientated SE-NW with a return orientated NE-SW. It was primarily constructed of clunch with fragments of chalk found at the NW end that may have been a repair. The clunch was roughly hewn with a dressed exterior face and occasional near-ashlar finish to some of the pieces, whilst the chalk was more roughly shaped and dressed. Two courses survived with traces of lime mortar in places. At the southeast end red bricks were also incorporated into the wall that measured 230 x 100 x 70mm & 210 x 85 x 55mm (L x W x D; 9 1/16 x 3 15/16 x 2 3/4 & 8 1/4 x 3 3/8 x 2 3/16 inches). The wall represents the structural foundation to a building that is depicted on the 1880-1902 OS map for the site. The map shows a building that appears to be attached to the, still existing, Coach House which is situated immediately to the southeast of the site (Figs. 4-5, 7-8 & 10; Plates 10-12).



4.8 *Phase 4*

Collapsed/Demolished Brick Wall [104] was found at the southeast end of the area and consisted of concentrations of stretcher bond coursed bricks originally forming a structure that had collapsed or had been demolished, and were now resting on their side. A variety of different types of post-medieval unfrogged bricks bonded with lime mortar were noted, each brick measuring 225 x 100 x 65mm (L x W x D; 8 7/8 x 3 15/16 x 2 9/16 inches). Also recorded were modern bricks that were frogged, bonded with cement mortar and measured 230 x 110 x 65mm (9 1/16 x 4 5/16 x 2 9/16 inches). The bricks are comparable to those used to construct the Coach House and are likely to be the remains of the now demolished building that once stood on the site, depicted in the 1880-1902 OS mapping (Figs. 4-5 & 10; Plates 13-15).

Pit [114] was observed in northeast baulk of the area, and was covered by the uppermost layer of made-ground (100). The pit was filled with backfilled material (115-118) containing post-medieval CBM and animal bone. The pit was interpreted as a post-medieval rubbish pit (Figs. 4-5 & 8; Plate 16).

Post-hole [123] was sub-rectangular in plan and backfilled with (124), containing a small fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material (Figs. 4-5 & 9; Plate 17).

Unphased/Undated

Post-hole [119]/[121] was sub-circular in plan and was backfilled by (120) which contained no finds. Cutting into (120) was a further cut [121], which was square in plan and filled by (122). It is likely that post-hole [121] represents a post cutting into a pre-existing post-hole [119] (Fig. 4-5 & 9; Plate 18).

Post-hole [125] was also sub-rectangular in plan and backfilled with (126) that contained a very small (<1g) sherd of abraded pottery that was dated to the early-late 2nd century, which was likely to be residual. Consequently, this feature was categorised as unphased/undated (Figs. 4-5 & 9; Plate 19).

Environmental samples taken from post-hole [125] contained fairly sparse and fragmented cereal grains that could not be identified. It was thought to have represented material that had moved across the site through trample, wind or water action.



Plate 1: Strip map area, looking W
(2 x 1m scale)



Plate 2: Strip map area stratigraphy, looking NW
(2 x 1m scale)



Plate 3: Garage footing trench, looking NNW
(2 x 1m scale)



Plate 4: Garage footing trench, stratigraphy, looking SW
(1m scale)



Plate 5: Service trench, looking S
(1m scale)



Plate 6: Service trench, stratigraphy, looking E
(2 x 1m scale)



Plate 7: Well [108] with stone cap [112], looking NE (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 8: SW facing section of well [108] & stone cap [112] (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 9: Well [108] fully excavated, looking SE (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 10: Wall [105], looking N (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 11: NE facing section of wall [105] (1m scale)



Plate 12: NW facing section of wall [105] (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 13: Collapsed/demolished brick wall [104], looking NE (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 14: Detail of collapsed/demolished brick wall [104], looking NE (1m scale)

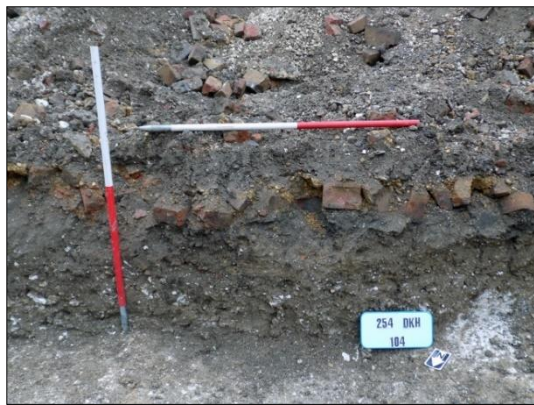


Plate 15: Collapsed/demolished brick wall [104] looking SE (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 16: Pit [114], seen in trench baulk, looking NE (2 x 1m scale)



Plate 17: W facing section of posthole [123] (scale 500mm)



Plate 18: SW facing section of posthole [119]/[121] (scale 500mm)



Plate 19: NNE facing section of posthole [125]
(scale 500mm)

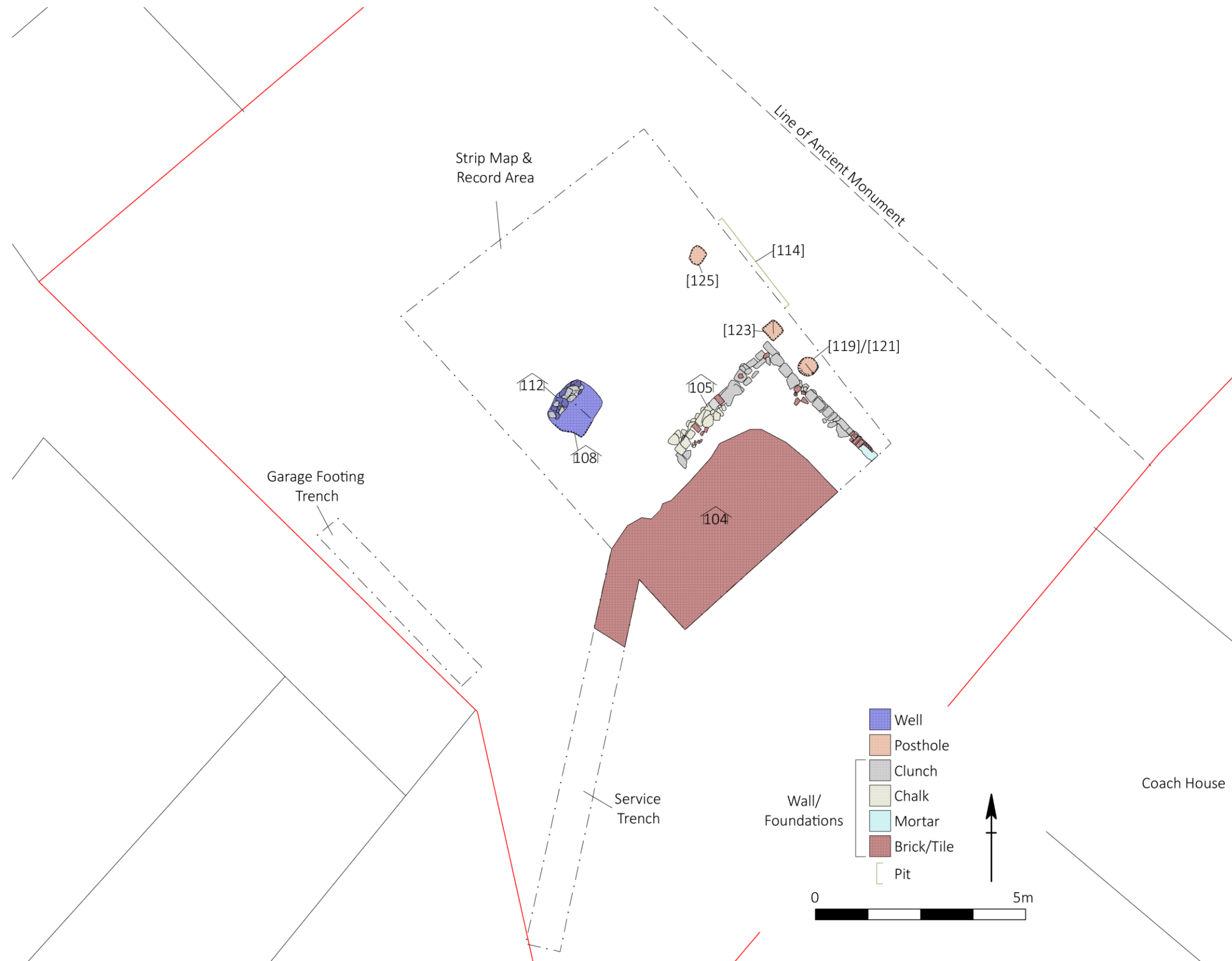


Figure 4: Overall archaeology plan (scale 1:100)

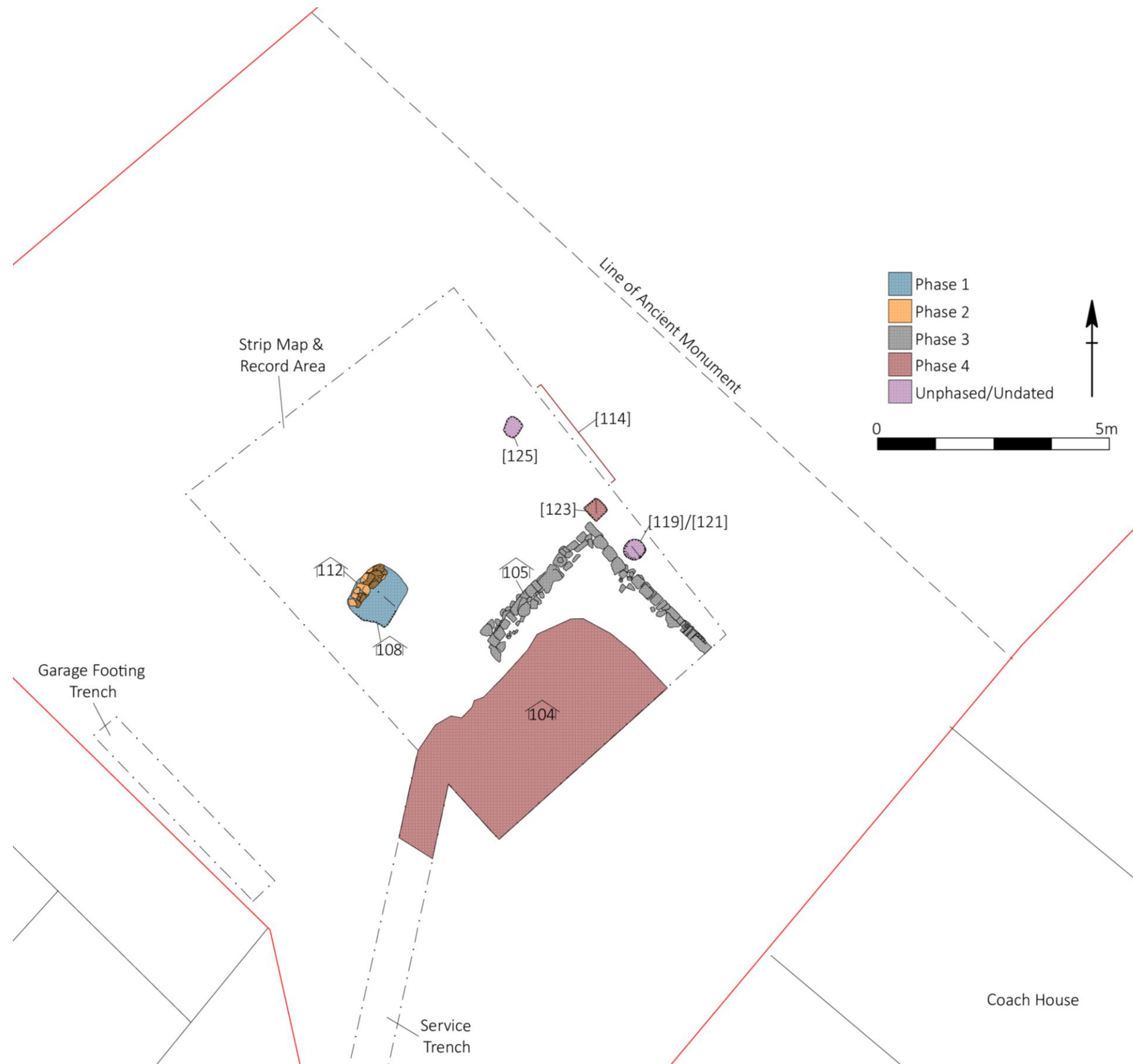


Figure 5: Archaeological Phase Plan (scale 1:100)

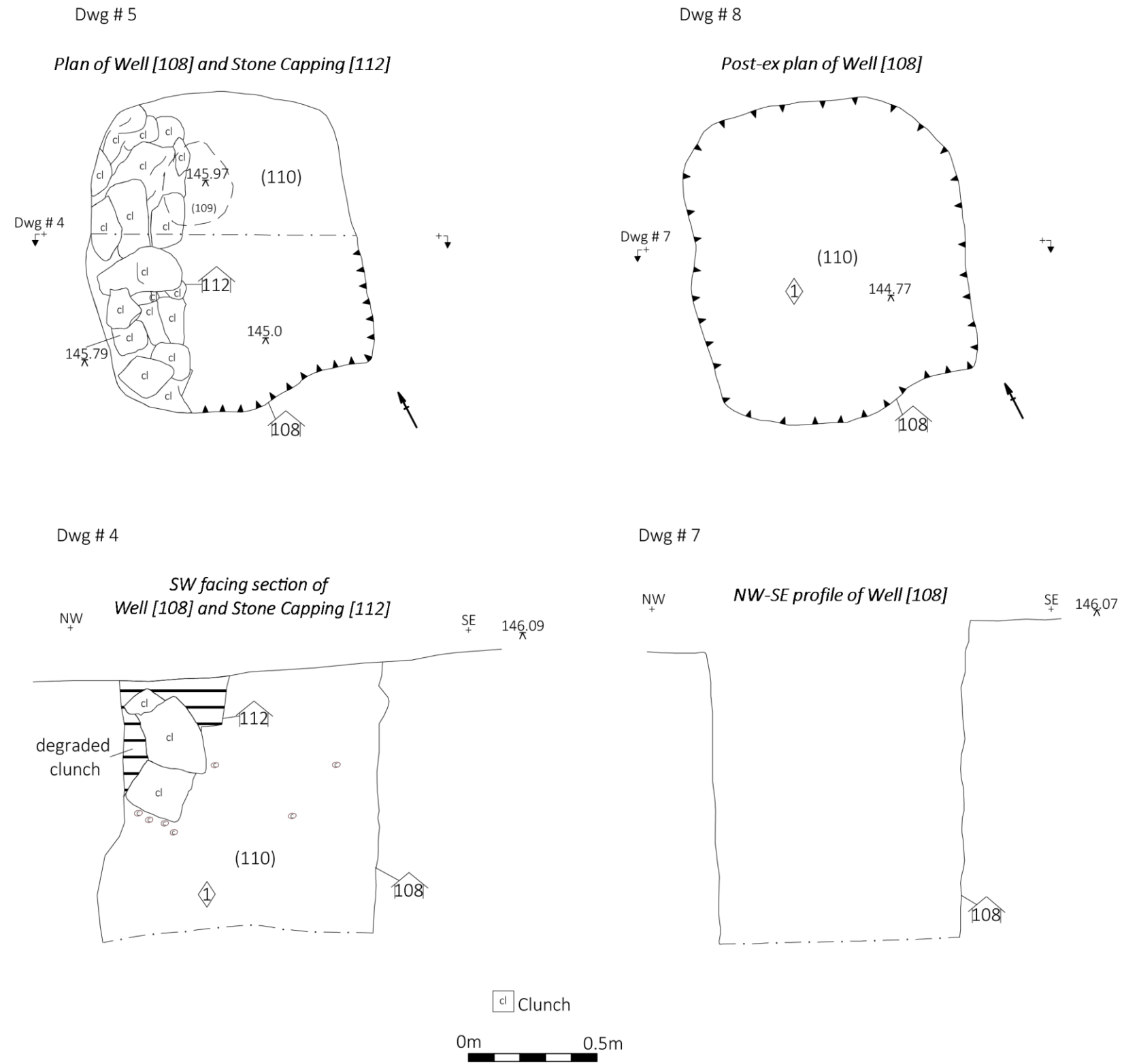


Figure 6: Well [108] & Stone Capping [112] – plans and sections (scale 1:20)

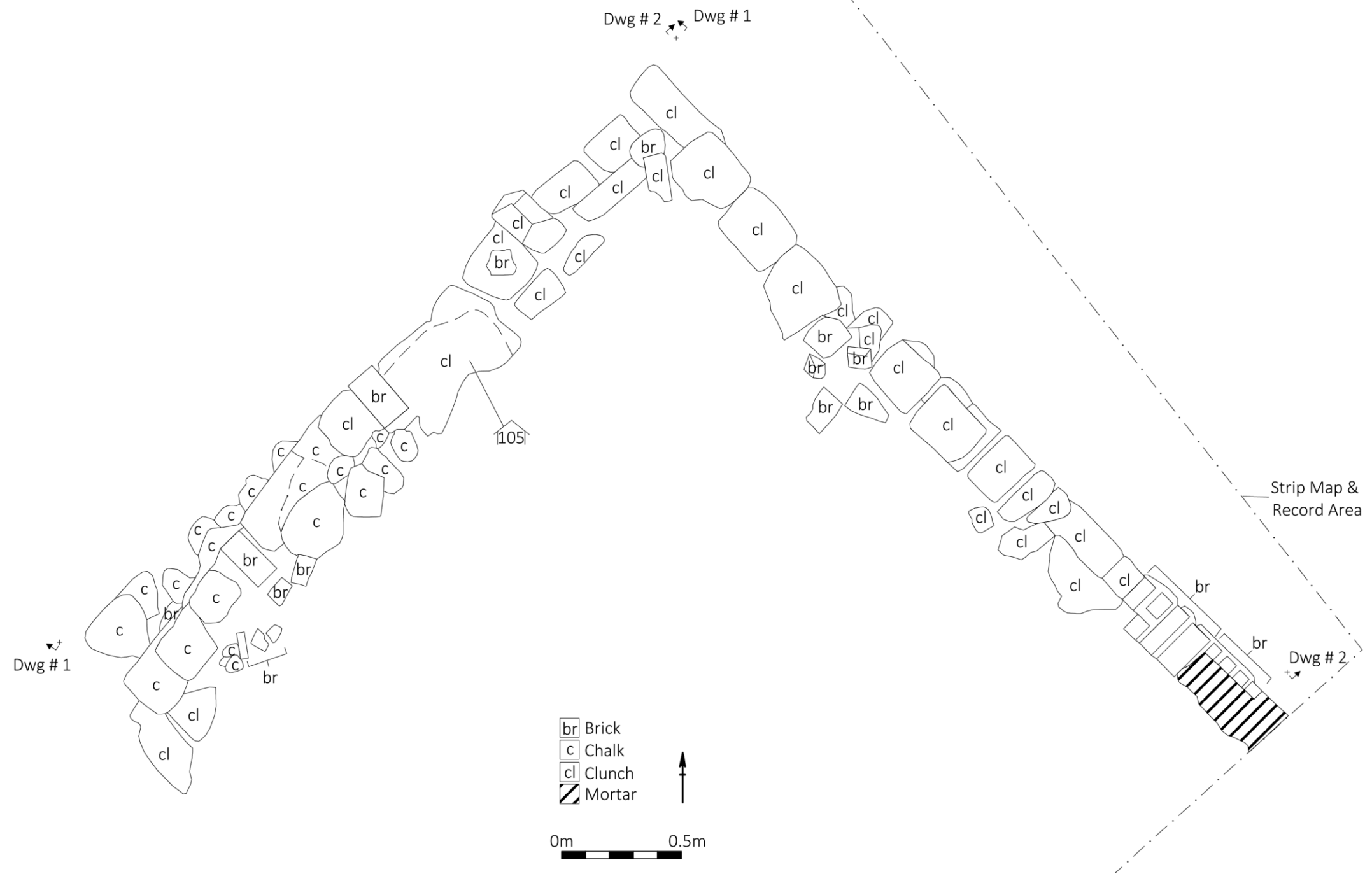


Figure 7: Wall [105] – plan (scale 1:20)

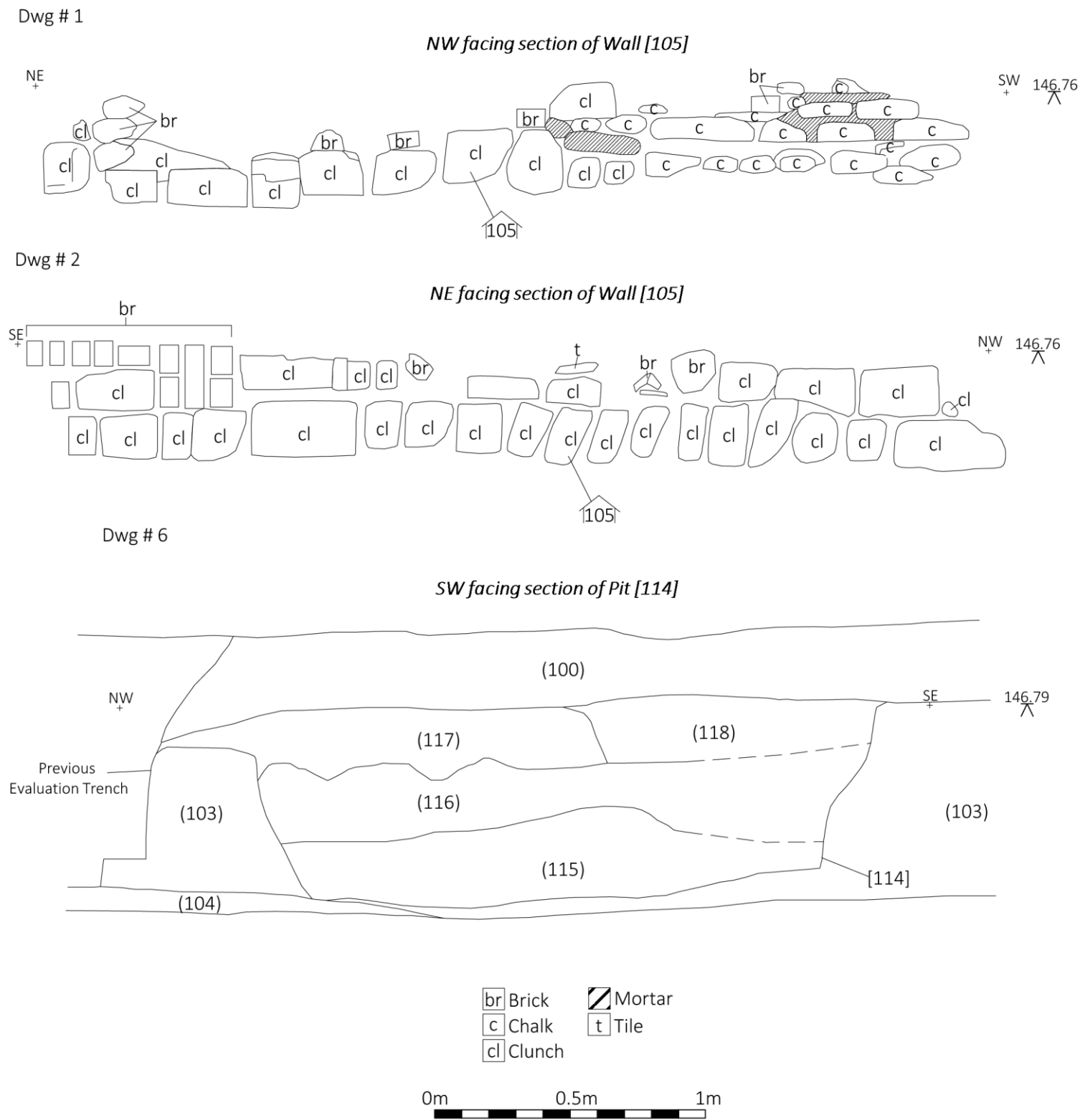


Figure 8: Wall [105] & Pit [114] – sections (scale 1:20)

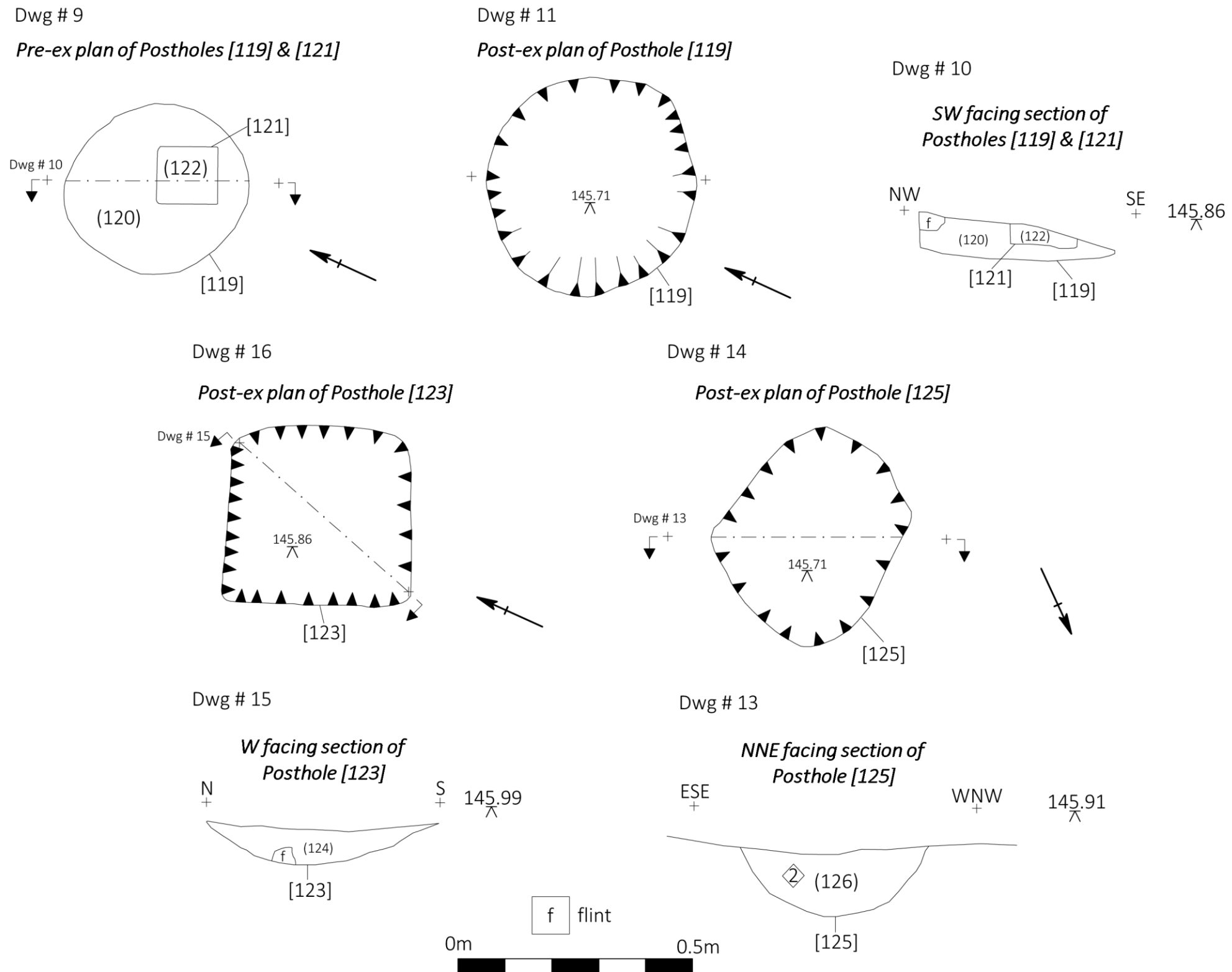


Figure 9: Postholes [119/121], [123] & [125] – plans and sections (scale 1:10)

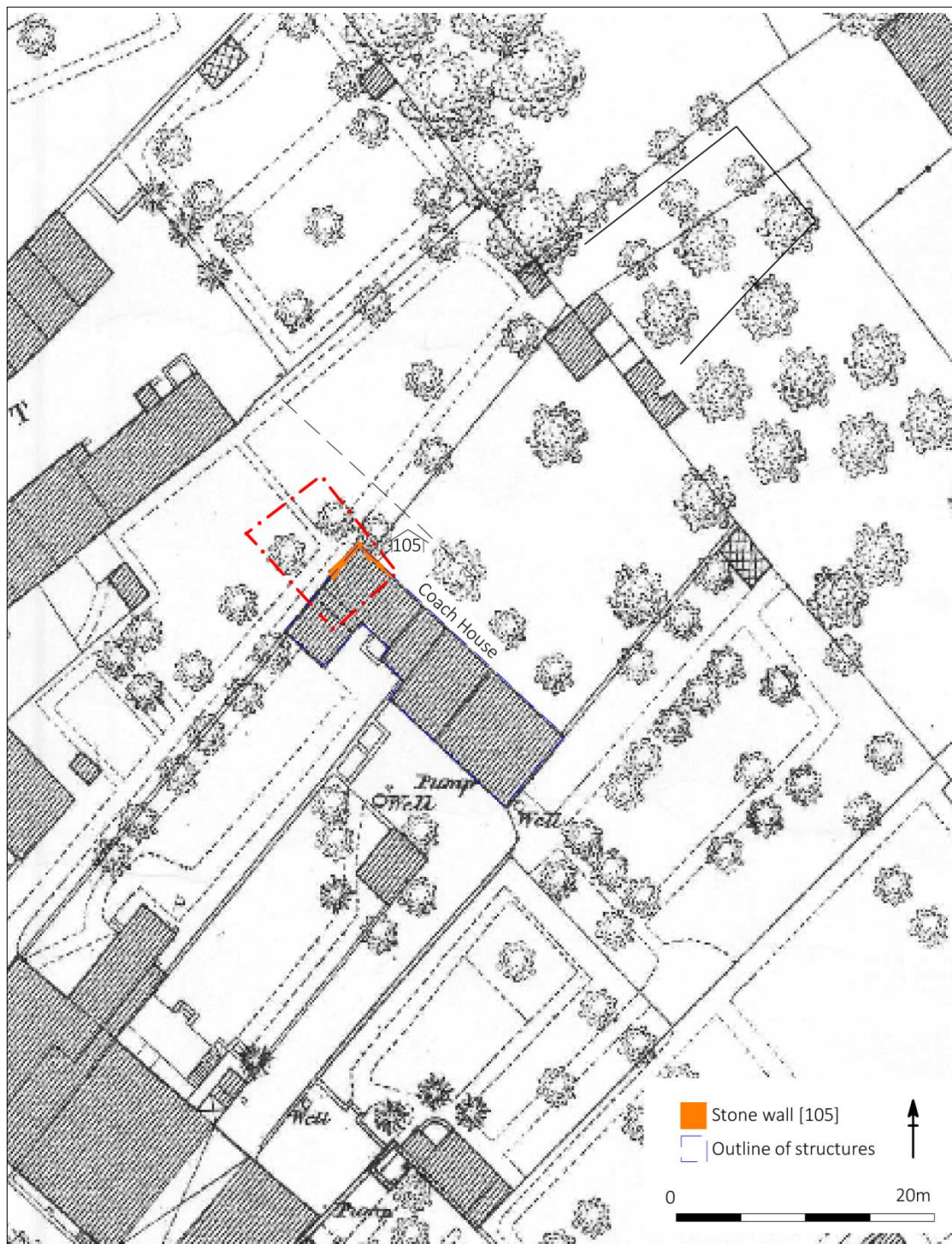


Figure 10: Wall [105] overlaid over 1880 OS map (scale 1:500)



5 Conclusions

The results of this project indicate that the earliest activity on the site dated to the Romano-British period. The well was clearly backfilled during the Roman period as it contained pottery and CBM dating to late 3rd-early 4th century, along with animal bone.

The presence of a well and the finds found within it indicates a settlement was clearly in the vicinity with one or more high status dwellings close by. The core of the Roman town was situated at the crossing of Icknield Way and Watling Street and spanned some 400m beyond the crossroads and as such would have incorporated the development site.

Associated with the well was what may have been a stone capping [112]. No dating was recovered from the capping but this too may have been dated to the Roman period when the well had gone out of use and had been backfilled.

Post-medieval activity was also found on the site that included stone wall foundation [105]. Ordnance surveying mapping of the area depict a building existed in the footprint of the development which lines up with the foundation found during this project. This building appeared to have been attached to the Coach House, found immediately to the southeast of the site boundary. The mapping indicates this building on the site existed from at least 1880-1902, after which it is no longer shown on the OS mapping (Fig. 10). To the southeast of the wall foundation [105], collapsed/demolished brick wall [104] was also found. It is likely that this material derived from the same building.

A rubbish pit [114] was also observed in section that was filled with a series of dumped deposits containing post-medieval CBM. It is likely that such dumping may represent backyard activity from the properties fronting the High Street.

Post-holes [119/120] contained no finds, [123] contained post-medieval CBM and [125] contained a residual sherd of Roman pottery.

It is probable that these post-holes date to the post-medieval period but this is not clear whether they are contemporary to one another. All three were on the same alignment and may possibly have formed a fence line that extended beyond the limit of excavation, or possibly part of a larger structure. However, there were too few of them to draw any definitive conclusion.

As shown in the historical background the site is situated in the core of the Roman and medieval town of Dunstable, and in particular is immediately adjacent to the Precinct of the 13th century Dominican Priory, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. It is thought that the edge of the Monument is the boundary for the Priory precinct. However, the previous evaluation carried out on the site revealed clunch footings approximately 7m to the southwest of the Precinct boundary which may suggest the Priory extended beyond the known boundary (Kaye 2014). This project, however, found no evidence of medieval features that, in particular may have been associated with Dunstable Priory. One explanation is that the Priory did not actually extend into the southern part of the site, or that this was an area where features associated with the Priory are more interspersed.

As the quantity of archaeology on the site was relatively small, the research aims of the project was not be advanced to any great degree. However, the excavation combined with the previous evaluation did demonstrate the general principal that significant archaeological features are present in and around the site, even if somewhat dispersed.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to David King for commissioning this report. Thanks are also due to Bedford Historic Environment Record Office for providing historic environment records and other relevant documents; and to Hannah Firth of Central Bedfordshire County Council monitoring the project.

The fieldwork was carried out by Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA and Dr Derek Watson. The report was written by Carina Summerfield-Hill, and edited by David Kaye BA ACIfA.



7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Written Scheme of Investigation
3. Initial report
4. Monitoring sheets
5. Site drawings
6. Site recording sheets
7. Finds
8. Client's site plans
9. List of photographs
10. B/W prints & negatives
11. Specialist reports
12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Luton Museum (LTNMG 1263).



8 References

Standards & Specifications

ALGAO 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14.

Allen J. L. & Holt A. St J. 1986 (with later updates) *Health & Safety in Field Archaeology*. London: Federation of Archaeological Managers & Employers

Brickley M. & McKinley J. I. 2004 *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Technical Paper.

CifA 2014 *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds, Archiving)*

CifA 2014 *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CifA 2014 *Code of Conduct*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CifA 2014 *Standards & Guidance for Archiving Archaeological Projects*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

EH 2008 *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. PPN3: Archaeological Excavation*. London: English Heritage

EH 2011 *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. London: English Heritage

Ferguson L. M. & Murray D. M. 1997 *Archaeological Documentary Archives: Preparation, Curation and Storage*. Manchester: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Paper 1

Gurney D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14

HE 2015 *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*. London: Historic England

Shlasko E. 2016 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Open Area Excavation & Archaeological Watching Brief: Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. KDK254/DKH/1.2*.

SMA 1995 *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive - the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for Use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales*. London: Society for Museum Archaeologists

Walker K. 1990 *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage*. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Archaeology Section (London).

Watkinson D. & Neal V. 1998 *First Aid for Finds*. Hertford & London: Rescue

Secondary Sources

Albion Archaeology 2003 *Extensive Urban Survey for Bedfordshire: Dunstable Archaeological Assessment* KDK Archaeology Ltd.

Albion Archaeology 2014 *4 Great Northern Road, Dunstable, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication 2014/81*.

Albion Archaeology 2015 *Plot 8 Walnut Grove, Dunstable, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication 2015/133*.



- British Geological Society: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>
- Brown, N & Glazebrooke J 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties – 2 Research Agenda and Strategy* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8
- Central Bedfordshire Council 2013 *Brief for a Scheme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire.*
- Historic England: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1015593>
- Kaye, D 2013 *Observation & Recording Report: 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire.* KDK Archaeology Ltd 004/DHS/2
- Kaye, D 2014 *Archaeological Evaluation: Land to the Rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire.* KDK Archaeology Ltd 043/DHS/2
- Medlycott, M (ed) 2011 *Research and Archaeology Re-visited: revised framework for the East of England* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24
- Mustchin, A (ed) 2012 *Land rear of the Saracen's Head, 45 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire: an archaeological evaluation* Archaeological Solutions
- Oake, M et al 2007 *Bedfordshire Archaeology Research and Archaeology: resource assessment, research agenda and strategy* Bedfordshire Archaeology 9
- Rouse, C 2005 *Watching Brief: 65-75 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire* Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd
- Shlasko, E 2016a *Heritage Asset Impact Assessment: Dunstable Leisure Centre.* KDK Archaeology Ltd 220/DLC/1
- Shlasko, E 2016b *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Open Air Excavation and Archaeological Watching Brief: Land to the Rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire.* KDK Archaeology Ltd 254/DKH/1.2
- Victoria County History: 'Parishes: Dunstable', in *A History of the County of Bedford: Volume 3*, ed. William Page (London, 1912), pp. 349-368. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/beds/vol3/pp349-368> [accessed 13 July 2016].
- Williams, A & Martin GH 2002 *Domesday Book: a complete translation* London: Penguin

Specialist Report

Pottery and Ceramic Building Material Report

- Brodrib, G., 1987, *Roman brick and tile*, Sutton, Gloucester.
- Brown, A., 1994, 'Detailed description of the pottery, mainly Harrold ware', in Brown, A. A Romano-British shell gritted pottery and tile manufacturing site at Harrold, Bedfordshire, *Bedfordshire Archaeology, Vol 21*, 51-78.
- Brown, A., 1994, 'Tiles and bricks in shelly Harrold fabric' in Brown, A. A Romano-British shell-gritted pottery and tile manufacturing site at Harrold, Bedfordshire, *Bedfordshire Archaeology Vol 21*, 79-86.
- Fawcett, A. R., 2002, 'The pottery' in Archaeological investigations at Ashton St Peters Lower School, Dunstable, Herts Archaeological Trust Report (HAT 477).
- Fawcett, A. R, 2004a, 'The Roman pottery' in Gardner, R. Archaeological investigations at 24 Friary Fields, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, *Bedfordshire Archaeology Vol 25*, 168-171.



Fawcett, A. R., 2004b, 'The Roman pottery' in *Excavations at Land at Meppershall*, Bedfordshire Archaeology Vol xx, xx-xx.

Fawcett, A. R., 2016, 'The Roman pottery and CBM' in *Excavations at Old Palace Lodge, Church Street, Dunstable*, KDK Archaeological Report No xxx/DOP175.

Fawcett, A. R., 2017, 'The Roman pottery and CBM' in *Excavations at Black Cat Quarry*, Bedfordshire, Archaeological Research Services Ltd, Report No xx (BCQ14-16).

Going, C. J., 1987, *The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus: The Roman pottery*, Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report No 3.2/CBARR 62, Chelmsford and London.

Matthews, C. L., 1981, A Romano-British inhumation cemetery at Dunstable, *Bedfordshire Archaeology Vol 15*, 1-73.

Perrin, J. R., 1999, 'Roman pottery from excavations at and near to the Roman small town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956-58', *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies*, Vol 8, Oxbow.

Tomber, R and Dore, J., 1998, *The national Roman fabric reference collection: A handbook*, MoLAS Monograph 2, London, Museum of London Archaeology Service.

Webster, P., 1996, *Roman Samian pottery in Britain*, *Practical Handbook in Archaeology 13*, CBA, York.

Wilson, M. G., 1984, 'The other pottery' in Frere, S. S. *Verulamium excavations III*, University of Oxford Committee, Archaeological Monograph 1, Oxford.

Animal Bone Report

Grant A 1982 The use of toothwear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates. In Wilson B, Grigson C and Payne S (eds) *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports British Series **109** 91-108.

Lauwerier R 1988 *Animals in Roman Times in the Dutch Eastern River Area*. Amersfoort: ROB Nederlandse Oudheden **12**.

Lyman L 1994 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Payne S 1973 Kill-off patterns in sheep and goats: The mandibles from Asvan Kale. *Anatolian Studies* **XXIII** 281-303.

Serjeantson D 1996 The animal bones. In Needham S and Spence T (eds) *Refuse and Disposal at Area 16 East Runnymede: Runnymede Bridge Research Excavations*. London: British Museum Press **2** 194-223.

von den Driesch A 1976 *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Zeder M and Lapham H 2010 Assessing the reliability of criteria used to identify post-cranial bones in sheep, Ovis, and goats, Capra. *Journal of Archaeological Science* **37** 2887-2905.

Zeder M A and Pilaar S 2010 Assessing the reliability of criteria used to identify mandibles and mandibular teeth in sheep, Ovis and goats, Capra. *Journal of Archaeological Science* **37** 225-242.

Environmental Report

Cappers, R., Bekker, R., and Jans, J., 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*. Second edition. Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA). Burkhuis.



-
- Hillman G., 1981. 'Reconstructing crop husbandry practices from charred remains of crops' in Mercer R. 1981. *Farming practice in British prehistory*. pp 123-162. Edinburgh University Press
- Stace C., 1995, *New Flora of the British Isles*, 2nd Ed, Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge University Press.
- Jacomet, S., et al, 2006, *Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites*, 2nd Ed, Archaeobotany Lab IPAS, Basel University.



Appendix 1: Excavation Summary Tables

Context Register

Context	Context Type	Dimensions (Width, Length, Depth, Height)				Description (Colour/Texture/Consistency or Shape/Sides/Base/Orientation)										Interpretation
100	Layer	>7	>10	~0.26		Mixed	Reddish	Brown			Firm		Clayey	Sandy	Silt	Made-ground: topmost layer found throughout the site.
101	Layer	>4		0.35		Dark	Greyish	Black			Compact		Sandy		Silt	Buried topsoil: some rooting, frequent cbm <0.08m, occasional charred material, wood and (redeposited) chalk (sub-angular <0.05m). Context predominantly concentrated in W corner but was also noted in garage footing and services trench.
102	Deposit	>7	>10	~0.70		Mid	Greyish	Brown			Compact		Sandy		Silt	Sub-soil: extends across site, also in services trench and garage footing
103	Layer	>7	>10			Mixed	Orangey	White			Firm		Chalky	Clayey	Silt	Natural strata - primarily consists of chalk with a series of streaks oriented NW -SE interleaved with light reddish brown clayey sand that appears to be geological variation. Chalk more dense concentrated at W side of site.
104	Structure				0.40											Collapsed/demolished brick wall: was found at the SE end of the area consisting of concentrations of stretcher bond coursed bricks originally forming a structure that had collapsed or had been demolished, and were now resting on their side. The structure was constructed of a variety of different bricks of post-



108	Structure	1.00	1.25	>3.2												Well: Sub-rectangular/square feature cutting straight into the natural strata. This feature was excavated by hand to a depth of 1.2m and was still continuing. It primarily contained a single homogenous fill (110) which contained a variety of different pottery fabrics. On the surface of the well a further shallow deposit was also noted (109), that could only be seen in plan and may be an episode of natural silting. The surface of the well also exposed a concentration of clunch [112], thought to have been a capping. This clunch respected the sides of the well and appeared to have some regularity, orientated NNE-SSW.
109	Deposit	0.25	0.35	0.02		Dark		Brown	Fairly	Loose	Fairly		Silty	Clay		Shallow deposit: found on top of fill (110) for well [108] and partly overlying stone capping [112]. This was thought to be an episode of natural silting and contained no finds, and was only really visible in plan.
110	Fill	1.00	1.25	>1.2		Mid		Brown	Fairly	Loose	Fairly		Silty	Clay		Backfill of well [108]: consisting of one homogenous fill excavated down to a depth of 1.2m and still continuing. The fill contained a good variety of Roman pottery fabrics including bases and rim sherds, along with tile, animal bone and oyster shell.
111	Cut	0.40	1.20	0.55		Linear	Straight	Irregular	NNE - SSW							Possible construction cut for stone capping [112]: found cutting through fill (110) of well [108].



112	Structure	0.40	1.20	0.55												Possible stone capping: was found along the western side of the well [108], orientated NE-SW. It was constructed of clunch pieces with no bonding used. The placement of the stones respected the limit of the construction cut for the well and as such was thought to be the partial remains of a capping for the well
113	Deposit	>7m	~3m	0.25m		Mid	Greyish	Brown			Friable		Sandy	Silt		Made-ground: found in the SE and SW section of the strip map area.
114	Cut	2.30 m		0.72m			Compound	Flat								Cut for large pit: observed in section only. Contained a series of dumped deposits containing post-medieval cbm. Thought to have been a rubbish pit.
115	Fill	2.10 m		~0.30		Light	Greyish	Brown			Soft		Sandy		Silt	Fill of pit [114]: dumped material containing cbm.
116	Fill	2.20 m		~0.20		Mid	Yellowish	Brown			Friable		Clayey	Silt		Fill of pit [114]: dumped material containing tile fragments.
117	Fill	1.50 m		0.16m		Dark	Greyish	Black			Compact		Clayey	Sandy	Silt	Fill of pit [114]: dumped material containing cbm.
118	Fill	~1		0.18		Mottled	Yellowish	Brown			Compact		Clayey	Sandy	Silt	Fill of pit [114]: dumped material containing a fragment of red brick with lime mortar attached.
119	Cut	0.43		~0.20		Sub-circular	Concave	U-shaped								Post hole: found towards the NE side of the strip map area. Filled by (120), which in turn was cut by post-hole [121].
120	Fill	0.43		~0.20		Mixed	Reddish	Brown			Compact		Silty	Chalky	Chalk	Fill of post-hole [119]: backfill with no finds.



121	Cut	0.13	0.13	0.07		Square	Concave	Flat								Post-hole: squarish in plan, found cutting fill (120) of post-hole [119].
122	Fill	0.13	0.13	0.07		Dark		Brown			Loose		Sandy		Silt	Fill of post-hole [121]: backfill material containing no finds.
123	Cut	0.42		0.14		Sub-rectangular	Compound	Flat								Post-hole: was square-like in plan and backfilled with (124) containing a small fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material
124	Fill	0.42		0.14		Mottled	Greyish	Brown			Compact		Sandy	Chalky	Silty	Fill of post-hole [123]: backfill material contained a fragment of post-medieval CBM.
125	Cut	0.35	0.42	0.14		Sub-rectangular	Concave	U-shaped	NE-SW							Post-hole: squarish in plan and filled by backfill (126) that contained a small fragment of Roman pottery.
126	Fill	0.35	0.42	0.14		Mid		Brown		Fairly	Friable	Fairly	Silty		Clay	Fill of post-hole [125]: backfill material containing a small fragment of Roman pottery.



Plan Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Details
1	3	1:20	Plan of walls [105-107] & stripped area
2	5	1:20	Plan of well [108] & wall [122]
4	8	1:10	Plan of well [108] post-ex
5	9	1:10	Pre-ex plan of post-hole [119] fill(121); posthole [120] fill(122)
5	11	1:10	Post ex of post-hole [119]
6	12	1:10	Continuation of dwg 1/3
4	14	1:10	Plan of post-hole [125]
4	16	1:10	Plan of posthole [123] & fill (124) sectioned

Section Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Contexts
1	1	1:20	NW facing clunch [105]& chalk walls [106/107]
1	2	1:20	Ne Facing clunch wall [105]
2	4	1:10	SW facing section of well [108] & wall [112]
3	6	1:20	SW facing pit [114], fill (115-118)
4	7	1:10	NW-SE profile of well [108]
5	10	1:10	Section [119] & [120]
4	13	1:10	NNE facing section of post-hole [125]
5	15	1:10	Section of post-hole [123] & fill (124)

Sample Register

Sample No	Context No	Sample Type	Quantity
1	110	Bulk – fill of well [108]	40 litres
2	126	Bulk – fill of post-hole [125]	10 litres



Appendix 2: Finds Concordances

Context Nos.		Pottery		CBM		Animal Bone		Shell		Pipe		Glass		Other	
Fill	Wall	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms	No.	Gms
(102)		1	24			7	196					2 (bottle neck and glass base)	275		
(110)		53	432	8	303	37	534	3	56						
(110)		47	537	7	287	15	436	4	94					1 x Fe (nail)	14
(115)				4	390										
(116)				3	158										
(117)				3	31										
(118)				2	435										
(124)				2	124										
(126)		1	1												
	105	2	49	1*	101					2	5	2	10		
	112													1 x large worked stone	
TOTALS		104	1043	30	1829	59	1166	7	150	2	5	4	285	2	-

Note: finds highlighted in red were not retained for the archive

* Brick with Made In clearly showing



Appendix 3: Photograph List

Site Code: 254/DKH		Site Name: Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Beds		
Shot	View	DSLR	B&W	Subject
1	NE	✓	✓	Collapsed wall [104] (2x1m scale)
2	NE	✓		Collapsed wall [104] (2x1m scale)
3	SW	✓	✓	Service trench (2x1m scale)
4	E	✓		Service trench stratigraphy (2x1m scale)
5	W	✓	✓	Strip, map area (2x1m scale)
6	W	✓		Strip, map area (2x1m scale)
7	SW	✓	✓	Strip, map area (2x1m scale)
8	SW	✓		Strip, map area (2x1m scale)
9	SW	✓		Strip, map area (2x1m scale)
10	S	✓	✓	Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
11	S	✓		Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
12	S	✓		Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
13	S	✓	✓	Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
14	SE	✓	✓	Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
15	SE	✓		Wall [105] stone detail (1m scale)
16	NW	✓	✓	Footing trench for new garage (2x1m scale)
17	SW	✓		Footing trench for new garage, stratigraphy (1m scale)
18	W	✓		Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
19	W	✓		Wall [105] (2x1m scale)
20	NW	✓		Strip, map stratigraphy (2x1m scale)
21	SE	✓		Strip, map strata & collapsed wall [104] (2x1m scale)
22	NE	✓	✓	Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
23	NE	✓		Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
24	NE	✓	✓	Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
25	NE	✓		Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
26	NW	✓		Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
27	NE	✓	✓	Pit [114] fills 115-118)
28	NE	✓	✓	Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
29	NE	✓		Well [108] & wall [112] (2x1m scale)
30	NE	✓		Detail of wall [112] in relation to well [108] (1m scale)
31	NE	✓		Detail of wall [112] in relation to well [108] (1m scale)
32	NE	✓		Detail of wall [112] in relation to well [108] (1m scale)
33	NE	✓	✓	(103) post removal of 105-107 wall (2 x 1m scale)
34	NE	✓		(103) post removal of 105-107 wall (2 x 1m scale)
35	NE	✓	✓	Well [108] post-ex (2x1m scale)
36	SW	✓		Well [108] post-ex (2x1m scale)
37	SE	✓		Well [108] post-ex (2x1m scale)
38	E	✓		East corner of strip, map area (2x1m scale)
39	E	✓		East corner of strip, map area (2x1m scale)
40	NE	✓	✓	Pre-ex of Post-hole [119] & cut [120] (500mm scale)



41	NE	✓	✓	Cut [120] & fill (122) sectioned (200mm scale)
42	NE	✓	✓	Cut [119] & fill (121) sectioned (500mm scale)
43	NE	✓	✓	Post-hole [119], post-ex (500mm scale)
44	NE	✓	✓	Pre-ex of post-hole [123] fill (124) (500mm scale)
45	E	✓		Test slot through natural variation – none archaeological
46	E	✓	✓	Post-hole [123] & (124) sectioned (500mm scale)
47	E	✓	✓	Post-hole [123], post- ex (500mm scale)
48	SE	✓	✓	Post-hole [125], post-ex (500mm scale)



Appendix 4: Specialist Reports

Pottery and Ceramic Building Material

The Roman pottery and ceramic building materials from Land to the Rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire (DKH 254) 28/01/18: 14.30

Andy Fawcett

Introduction

A total of 106 sherds of Roman pottery with a combined weight of 965g and an estimated vessel equivalent (R.eve) of 1.50 as well as 12 fragments of CBM with a weight of 545g were recovered from the archaeological excavations at 59 High Street South, Dunstable.

All of the CBM and virtually the entire pottery assemblage was retrieved from the Well context 110; Table 1 displays the quantities of pottery recovered from the fill of this feature.

Table 1. Pottery totals from Well fill 110

Fabric	Sherd No	%	Weight/g	%	R.eve	%
LNV CC	14	13.5	46	4.5	0.26	17.5
UNS CC	7	6.5	26	2.5	0.06	4
OXF RS	3	3	13	1.5	0.05	3.5
HAD OX	3	3	21	2	-	-
UNS OX	2	2	5	0.5	0.07	4.5
HAR SH	18	17	221	23	0.06	4
PNK GT	4	4	57	6	13	8.5
DOR BB 1	9	8.5	152	16	0.24	16
UNS BB	16	15.5	153	16	0.28	18.5
GRS	25	24	232	24	0.30	20
UNS GT	3	3	39	4	0.05	3.5
Totals		100		100		100

This report describes the methodology used to record the pottery and CBM assemblages and then goes on to discuss the condition of the material. This is then followed by an analysis of the pottery and CBM from Well fill 110. Finally, an overall discussion of the pottery and CBM assemblages forms the last part of the report.

Methodology

All of the pottery and CBM has been examined at x20 vision and thereafter assigned to fabric groups. Codes for the pottery have been allocated to these groups for both fabric and form types, based upon the national system developed by Tomber and Dore (1998) and those employed at Chelmsford by Going (1987). These systems have been supplemented by fabric codes used as part of the Bedfordshire ceramic type series and a full breakdown of these (as well as other codes relating to form and abrasion) can be seen below.

The pottery from the well context has been recorded by sherd number, weight as well as by rim/base percentage (r.eve). Other types of data recorded include decoration and the level of abrasion. Each fabric (or form within it) has been given a date range, followed by an overall date range for the context as a whole. A full breakdown of the ceramic assemblage can be seen in Table 2.

The CBM fabrics have been recorded by form type (for instance *imbrex* or brick) and where possible depth measurements have been taken as well the presence of marks and impressions. A full breakdown of the CBM assemblage can be seen in Table 3.



Condition

The pottery assemblage recovered from Well fill 110 suffers from only slight abrasion, only a very small number of sherds may be considered to suffer from significant abrasion. These occur in fabrics that have a tendency to degrade in certain conditions and in particular their surfaces such as fabric OXF RS.

Despite the lack of abraded sherds the assemblage generally suffers from a fairly high level of fragmentation, for instance LNV CC fabrics have an average weight of just 3.28g, HAD OX 7g and UNS BB 9.56g. Although some of the coarsewares such as DOR BB 1 have a better average weight (16.88g) in general the average for most fabrics is below 10g; the overall average sherd weight stands at low 9.27g.

As Table 1 has shown the total estimated vessel equivalent figure (based on the presence of rims) stands at 1.50. This figure represents a reasonable level of preservation, however due to the fragmentary nature of the assemblage many vessels cannot be identified beyond their general form class such as jar or beaker for example. Nevertheless, the presence of certain general forms, for example the B6 dish and H41 beaker, help to provide a reasonable dating sequence which has further been enhanced by the combination of identified fabrics within the assemblage.

The CBM assemblage similarly suffers from only slight abrasion although the fragmentation observed within the group is high. Many pieces can only be described as 'fragments' whilst the remainder of the assemblages contains very few identifiable types such as *imbrex* or flat tile.

The assemblages from Well 108

Pottery

The fineware element of the pottery assemblage consists of three fabrics LNV CC (Cambridgeshire), OXF RS (Oxfordshire) and UNS CC (unknown source), and these account for 23% (sherd number), 9% (weight) and 24.5% (rim e.v.e) of the entire collection.

Two regional coarseware fabrics are present within the assemblage, a small number of HAD OX sherds (Hertfordshire) and nine of DOR BB1 (Dorset), thereafter the only other sourced fabric is the Bedfordshire late shell tempered ware HAR SH.

The remainder of the assemblage is made up of unsourced fabrics, principally UNS BB and GRS, which are both likely to be of a local origin.

As mentioned earlier within the text, the assemblage is fairly fragmented making positive identification of forms beyond their general class of vessel difficult. However, this aside analysis of the form assemblage shows that it consists of plain rimmed and flanged dishes (11), a single bowl, jars (4), beaker/jars (2) and finally three beakers. Completely absent from this range are for instance, flagons, *mortaria*, and bowl-jars (a typical popular later Roman form).

Most of the recorded decorative styles were noted on the LNV CC sherds which consisted of rouletting and single example of a barbotine scale design. This latter style was accompanied by a single line of rouletting on an indented beaker sherd.

The only decoration observed on coarseware fabrics (apart from burnishing) were two instances of intersecting arc patterns both of which occurred on B1 (plain-rimmed dishes) in fabrics DOR BB1 and GRS.

The date of the pottery assemblage retrieved from the Well context 110 is between the late 3rd and early 4th century. The presence of form types such as the H41 beakers and the B6 dish have provided



a broad range, however the presence of fabric OXF RS and PNK GT, as well as the single beaker sherd with barbotine decoration indicate a date no later than the early 4th century. There is no sign of residuality amongst the assemblage (depicted by the consistent level of abrasion across fabrics), therefore it is not possible to be more precise with regards to the date range, however elements of this group hint at a date that is more likely to be around the early 4th century.

CBM

The very small and fragmentary CBM assemblage was entirely recovered from Well fill 110. Three fabric types were noted Msc, Msc and Msfe, and with the exception of one *imbrex* fragment (54g) all of these occurred in oxidised fabrics. The *imbrex* fragment has clearly been over-fired almost to the point of vitrification and typically displays a blue/grey surface with bright orange margins and grey core. Only two other potential *imbrex* fragments were noted within the assemblage whilst *tegula* pieces were completely absent.

Only a single fragment of flat tile (which may represent the remains of a *tegula* roof tile mid-section, indicated by its depth) was noted (58g). Equally only a single fragment of flat/brick (76g), which may have been utilised for either roofing or constructional purposes, was recorded. Two small true brick pieces were identified (90g and 105g) and at least two of the recorded 'fragments' appear likely to be the remains of bricks.

None of the recorded fragments displayed marks, impressions or mortar, either on their surfaces or over the breaks (the latter would have indicated that they had been reused in some capacity).

Conclusion

The pottery assemblage contains many elements that suggest it is the discarded waste of Roman household activity. The lack of jars (storage) and *mortaria* (food preparation) for example, and the dominating presence of dishes and beakers strongly indicate that this activity was concerned with dining and a hint of status is depicted by a fairly high percentage of finewares.

This is a quite a small assemblage of pottery that has been recovered from a single fill that is neither large enough, or contains sufficient data in terms of form types and fabric quantities, to make direct comparisons with groups of a similar date. Nevertheless, late Roman activity for instance, has been consistently recorded in Dunstable representing a range of activities at St Peters Lower School (2002), Friary Fields (2004a) and at several locations to the south of Dunstable (Matthews 1981). The range of fabrics encountered within this current group is typical of the later Roman period, the combination of fabrics HAR SH, OXF RS, LNV CC and HAD OX were noted by Matthews (1981, 48-59) in Dunstable and are repeated in numerous later assemblages in Bedfordshire as a whole, for example at Meppershall (Fawcett 2004b) and Black Cat Quarry (2017).

The CBM assemblage as we have seen is small, fragmentary and contains few diagnostic pieces. The group contains a mixture of constructional and roofing pieces which have clearly been dumped within the well. It is not possible to say whether these pieces were fragments from a nearby building or if they had already been reused for other purposes before being disposed of.



Pottery and CBM fabric and form codes

LEZ SA 2 (R01a)	Lezoux samian ware (category 2)
LNV CC (R12b)	Lower Nene Valley colour coated ware
UNS CC (R38)	Un sourced colour coated ware
OXF RS (R11g)	Oxford red/brown slipped ware
HAD OX (R22a)	Hadham oxidised ware
UNS OX (R05a)	Un sourced oxidised ware
DOR BB 1 (R07a)	Dorset black burnished ware (category 1)
UNS BB (R07)	Un sourced black burnished ware
GRS (R06)	Un sourced sandy grey wares
HAD RE 2 (R22c)	Hadham reduced ware (category 2)
HAR SH (R13)	Harrold shell-tempered wares
PNK GT (R09a)	Pink grog tempered ware
UNS GT (R35a)	Un sourced grog tempered ware

Roman pottery form codes

B = Dish, C = Bowl, G = Jar, G/H = Jar or beaker, H = Beaker

Abrasion codes

Abr = Abraded, Sli = Slightly

Ceramic building materials

Ms	Quartz sand fabric
Msg	Quartz sand with grog
Msc	Quartz sand and calcite
Msfe	Quartz sand and ferrous inclusions



Table 2: Pottery Assemblage

Cut	Type	Fabric	Form	No	Wgt/g	R.eve	B.eve	Decoration	Condition	Comments	Fabric date	Context date
None	Subsoil	HAR SH	B1 Bro223	1	24	0.04			Sli	Very large late dish	L3rd-4th	L3rd-4th
108	Well	LNV CC	B Perrin 239	1	4	0.07			Sli	Brown cc a Drg31 copy	AD300-350	?L3rd?/E4th
108	Well	LNV CC	H41.2 tsm	1	4	0.11			Sli	Brown cc	4th	
108	Well	LNV CC	H41 tsm	1	3	0.08			Sli	Black cc	3rd-E4th	
108	Well	LNV CC	Body	11	35			4 x rouletted, 1 x scale	Sli	One indented sherd	E3rd-E4th	
108	Well	UNS CC	H tsm	1	5	0.06			Sli	Possibly a H41 style beaker	3rd-E4th	
108	Well	UNS CC	Body	6	21			2 x rouletted	Sli		3rd-4th	
108	Well	HAD OX	Body	3	21				Sli		M/L3rd-4th	
108	Well	OXF RS	C tsm	1	8	0.05			Abr	Surfaces typically patchy	L3rd-4th	
108	Well	OXF RS	Body	2	5				Abr	Surfaces typically patchy	L3rd-4th	
108	Well	UNS OX	G/H tsm	1	2	0.07			Sli		Roman	
108	Well	UNS OX	Body	1	3				Abr		Roman	
108	Well	HAR SH	G tsm Bro 242 style	1	13	0.06			Sli	Oxidised	L3rd/E4th+?	
108	Well	HAR SH	Body	13	95				Sli	Oxidised and reduced	3rd-4th	
108	Well	HAR SH	Base	1	20		0.10		Abr		3rd-4th	
108	Well	HAR SH	Base	1	34		0.23		Sli		3rd-4th	
108	Well	HAR SH	Base	1	21		0.12		Sli		3rd-4th	
108	Well	HAR SH	Base	1	38		0.21		Sli		3rd-4th	
108	Well	?PNK GT	G tsm	1	39	0.13			Sli		L2nd-3rd/E4th	
108	Well	PNK GT	Body	3	18				Sli		L2nd-3rd/E4th	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	B1.4	1	34	0.07		Intersecting arcs	Sli		E/M2nd-M/L4th	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	B1 tsm	1	13	0.04			Sli		E2nd-M/L4th	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	G Ver213 5	1	23	0.13			Sli		E-L3rd	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	Body	4	40				Sli		2nd-M/L4th	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	Base	1	18		0.02		Sli		E2nd-M/L4th	
108	Well	DOR BB 1	Base	1	24		0.06		Sli		E2nd-M/L4th	



108	Well	UNS BB	B6 tsm	1	12	0.07			Sli		M/L3rd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	B6 tsm	1	18	0.08			Sli		M/L3rd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	B1 tsm	1	11	0.06			Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	B1 tsm	1	5	0.05			Sli	Not sure if a B1	E2nd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	B1 tsm	1	2	0.02			Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	Body	9	43				Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	Base	1	34		0.11		Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	UNS BB	Base	1	28		0.09		Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	GRS	B1.4	1	23	0.08		Intersecting arcs	Sli		E2nd-4th	
108	Well	GRS	B1 tsm	1	15	0.11			Sli	Looks convex could be late	E2nd-4th	
108	Well	GRS	B6 tsm	1	15	0.04			Sli		M/L3rd-4th	
108	Well	GRS	G tsm	1	16	0.07			Sli		Roman	
108	Well	GRS	Body	20	160				Sli		Roman	
108	Well	GRS	Base	1	3		0.05		Sli		Roman	
108	Well	UNS GT	G/H tsm	1	6	0.05			Sli	Not Belgic style grog tempered	Later Roman	
108	Well	UNS GT	Body	2	33				Sli	Not Belgic style grog tempered	Later Roman	
125	P/Hole	LEZ SA 2	Body	1	1				Abr	Less than one gram	E-L2nd	E-L2nd
TOTAL				105	966							

**Table 3:** Ceramic Building Material Assemblage

Context	Cut	Type	Form	Fabric	Depth	No	Wgt/g	Abrasion	Comments	Date	Pot date
110	108	Well	Frag	Msg		1	7	Sli	Oxidised	Roman	?L3rd?/E4th
110	108	Well	Frag	Msc		1	20	Sli	Oxidised, possibly a brick fragment	Roman	
110	108	Well	Frag	Msfe		1	2	Sli	Oxidised with fine black iron ore	Roman	
110	108	Well	Frag	Msfe		1	12	Sli	Oxidised possibly a brick fragment, fabric as above	Roman	
110	108	Well	Brick	Msg	37mm+	1	90	Sli	Oxidised	Roman	
110	108	Well	Brick	Msg	40mm	1	105	Sli	Oxidised	Roman	
110	108	Well	Flat	Msc	18mm	2	58	Sli	Join, oxidised with thick grey core	Roman	
110	108	Well	Imbrex	Msg	18mm	1	54	Sli	Blue/grey surfaces, orange margins, grey core overfired/vitrified	Roman	
110	108	Well	Flat/brick	Msfe	24mm+	1	76	Sli	Oxidised with fine black iron ore	Roman	
110	108	Well	?Imbrex	Msc	13mm	1	64	Sli	Buff	Roman	
110	108	Well	?Imbrex	Msc	13mm	1	57	Sli	Buff, different fabric to above	Roman	
TOTAL						12	545				



Animal Bone Report

Land to the Rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire (254/DKH). The animal bones.
November 2017 for KDK Archaeology.

Matilda Holmes

Introduction

A small number of bones were recovered from the backfill of well 108 (context 110). They were well preserved and probably resulted from the disposal of butchery and food waste.

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection. Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/ goat', unless a definite identification (Zeder and Lapham 2010; Zeder and Pilaar 2010) could be made. Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (micro – rat/ vole size; small – cat/ rabbit size; medium – sheep/ pig/ dog size; or large – cattle/ horse size). Ribs were identified to size category where the head was present, vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments.

Tooth wear and eruption were recorded using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Payne (1973), as were bone fusion, metrical data (von den Driesch 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996) and any evidence of pathological changes, butchery (Lauwerier 1988) and working. The condition of bones was noted on a scale of 0-5, where 0 is fresh bone and 5, the bone is falling apart (Lyman 1994, 355). Other taphonomic factors were also recorded, including the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. All fragments were recorded, although articulated or associated fragments were entered as a count of 1, so they did not bias the relative frequency of species present. Details of associated bone groups were recorded in a separate table. No sieved samples were made available, which may lead to a negative bias in the number and variety of small mammals, fish and bird bones recorded in the assemblage.

The Assemblage

Bones were in good condition, though a few were freshly broken suggesting they were friable upon excavation (Table 1). The incidence of gnawed bones combined with the absence of teeth remaining in the maxilla or mandible implies that this is not a primary deposit, but bones were buried or re-buried after a period of time. Butchery marks represented a range of processes including skinning, jointing and filleting of meat from the carcass.

Very few head or vertebral fragments were recovered, the majority of bones coming from the limb bones of cattle and sheep/ goat (Table 2). When combined with the butchery data, this suggests that they originated as a mixture of primary butchery (phalanges and possibly metapodials) and meat (upper limb bones) waste. There was no evidence for very young animals, with all early and intermediate bones fused. The only late fusing bone recovered, a sheep/ goat cervical vertebra was unfused, indicating an animal that died before becoming fully mature.



Table 1: Condition and taphonomic factors affecting the hand-collected assemblage identified to taxa and/or element. Teeth included where stated.

Condition	110
Fresh	
Very good	13
Good	7
Fair	2
Poor	
Very poor	
Total	22
Refit	0
Fresh break	4
Gnawed	6
Loose teeth	3
Teeth in mandibles	0
Butchery	6
Burning	0
Unidentified	26

Table 2: Species representation by anatomical element (fragment count). Hand collected bones.

Element	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Pig
Loose tooth	1	1	1
Cervical vertebra		1	
Scapula	1		
Humerus	2		
Radius		2	
Ulna	1		
Femur	1		
Tibia	1	5	
Metapodial	1		
Metatarsal	1	1	
1st phalange	2	1	
2nd phalange	1		
3rd phalange	1		
Total	12	10	1



Environmental Sampling Report

An assessment of the plant macrofossils from an excavation on Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable

By Anna West

Introduction and methods

Two bulk samples were taken from archaeological features during the excavation. Both samples were processed for KDK Archaeology Ltd by Suffolk Archaeology CIC, in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful insight into the utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from this site.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. Once dried the flots were rapid scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant macrofossils or ecofacts were recorded in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to *New Flora of the British Isles* (Stace 1995).

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry before being scanned with a magnet to retrieve any ferrous material present. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

Quantification

For this report, macro remains such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones were scanned and recorded quantitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens

Remains that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance:

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

SS No	Context No	Feature/cut no	Feature type	Approx date of deposit	Flot Contents
1	110	108	well	Roman	charred cereal grain fragments ###, charred chaff ##, charred seeds #, charcoal ++, bone fragments #, amphibian/small mammal/bird bones #, rootlets +++
2	126	125	post hole	Undated	charred cereal grains fragments #, bone fragments #, charcoal +, rootlets +++, snails +++

Table 1. Material recovered from sample flots

Both samples produced relatively small flots, between 10 and 40ml. Rootlets fragments were present within both flots and made up the majority of the material recovered; these are regarded as modern contaminants within the archaeological deposits.

Terrestrial snails were common within all the flots, especially within Sample 2, from post hole fill 126, which produced 10ml of flot material consisted almost entirely of terrestrial snail shells. Small mammal/amphibian/bird bones were rare within Sample 1, well fill 110. None of this material has been identified for the purposes of this report.



The preservation of the plant macrofossils present within the samples was through charring and is generally fair to poor. Wood charcoal fragments were rare within the flots and were highly comminuted, making them unsuitable for species identification or radiocarbon dating.

Cereal grains were present in both samples, however, within Sample 2 the material was highly fragmented and abraded making identification impossible. Charred cereal grains were recovered from Sample 1. A small number were identifiable as bread wheat type (*Triticum* sp.), however, elongated wheat grains, most likely spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.), were most frequent. Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) was also observed but only as a single specimen. The majority of the grains present were extremely puffed and fragmented, possibly through the exposure to high temperatures, this made identification even to broad species impossible.

A number of spelt wheat glume bases and spikelet forks were also recovered, along with a single wheat rachis fragment, which was too fragmented to identify.

Charred grass (Poaceae) fruits were possibly also present, but the fragmented nature of the material made distinguishing between cereal caryopses and wild grasses difficult to impossible. The charred seeds of goosefoot family (Polygonaceae) and small legume/medick/clover (*Vica/Medicago/Trifolium* sp.) were present within Sample 1, but as single specimens.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general, the samples were fair to poor in terms of identifiable material. Cereal grains were present within Sample 1 although many were too poorly preserved for precise identification. The presence of chaff such as glume bases suggests that the later stages of cereal processing (Hillman stages 8-14) were taking place in the vicinity. In wetter climates glume wheats such as spelt were often heated or parched before being pounded, in order to release them from their spikelets. This was often done in small batches immediately prior to use and the waste produced may have been disposed of within the domestic fire or used as fodder for livestock (Hillman, 136-137).

The cereal grains and chaff recovered from Sample 2, fill of well 108, may represent the later stages of cereal processing or chance loss in a domestic hearth or oven. It is therefore likely that this material represents domestic waste deliberately deposited within the backfill of this archaeological feature.

The material recovered from Sample 2, fill of post hole 125 was fairly sparse and fragmented. It is therefore possible that it had been moved across the site through trample, wind or water action before becoming incorporated into the archaeological deposits.

Due to the limited nature of the material recovered from these samples it is difficult to draw any conclusions other than agricultural and domestic activities were taking place within the vicinity. It is not recommended that any further work is carried out on the flot material from these samples, they should however be retained as part of the site archive.



Appendix 5: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire	Project Site Code	254/DKH
OASIS reference	Kdkarchal-267628	Event/Accession no	LTNMG 1263
OS reference	TL 02092 21650	Study area size	130 sq. m
Project Type	Open Area Excavation & Watching Brief	Height (mAOD)	145.3
Short Description	In September and October 2017 an Archaeological Open Area Excavation & Watching Brief took place at the land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire prior to the construction of a single dwelling on the site. The earliest feature recorded on the site was a well with possible associated stone capping, dated to the Romano-British period. Post-medieval structural footings, depicted on OS mapping for the area were also recorded along with associated collapse/demolition material. A post-medieval rubbish pit and post-hole were also found, along with two further post-holes that were undated.		
Previous work	Kaye, D 2014 Archaeological Evaluation: Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. KDK 043/DHS/2	Site status	None
Planning proposal	Erection of a single dwelling with associated garage	Current land use	Car park
Local Planning Authority	Central Bedfordshire Council	Planning application ref.	CB/16/01394/FULL
Monument type	Well, post-holes, stone wall foundations, collapsed brick wall, pits	Monument period	Roman-Post-medieval
Significant finds	Pottery, animal bone, cbm	Future work	Unknown
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	Hannah Firth (Central Bedfordshire County Council)	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	David Kaye BA ACIfA	Director/Supervisor	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA
Sponsor/funding body	David King (landowner/developer)		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	26.09.17	End date	04.10.17
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	Luton Museum (LTNMG 1263)	Pottery, animal bone, cbm	
Paper		Brief, WSI, report, site records, development plans, photographs	
Digital		All of the above in digital format onto a CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title	Archaeological Strip Map and Record & Observation and Recording Project: Land to the rear of 59 High Street South, Dunstable, Bedfordshire		
Serial title & volume	254/DKH/2.0		
Author(s)	Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA		
Page nos	53	Date	31.01.18