

Archaeological Evaluation of
Wood End Farm,
Sutton Road,
Walsall, 2004

BCSMR 2647 and 10269

Project No. 1184

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By

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with a contribution by
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BCSMR 2647 and 10269

Summary

Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation on a block of land centred on NGR SO 0390 9800 in May 2004. Friel Construction Limited commissioned the work as part of a planning application for a residential development. A preceding desk-based assessment suggested the presence of archaeology relating to a medieval moated site just to the north west of the proposed development area. Also, later deposits relating to post-medieval farm buildings on the site and a turn-pike road, which ran through what is now the front garden of the property. Four trial trenches were excavated to determine the nature and extent of any below-ground archaeology. Also further building recording was carried out within the present farmhouse to look for any possible re-used timbers from earlier structures on the site.

The evaluation concluded that there is high potential for the survival of below-ground remains within the development area. Trench 1 uncovered a compacted pebble surface, which was almost certainly the remains of the turn-pike road, along with the foundations of farm buildings visible on maps dating back to 1784. Trench 2 produced evidence of earlier features dug into the natural subsoil, which were dated to the late medieval period. Trench 3 located the original front wall of the property c.7m in front of the house, this is visible on historic maps. Immediately south of the boundary wall, a compacted clinker surface was revealed, this appeared to date to the late nineteenth century and may relate to resurfacing of the turn-pike road prior to its being relocated, in the early twentieth century, some meters to the south. Trench 4 was heavily truncated by twentieth century disturbance, however, the northern edge of what was most likely a pond was located in the south end of the trench. Cartographic evidence supports the presence of a pond in this area and ceramic evidence suggested that it had been deliberately back-filled in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century.

1.0 Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Birmingham Archaeology on behalf of Friel Construction Limited in May 2004. The area under evaluation was a block of land centred on NGR SO 0390 9800 (Fig. 1). It comprised an irregular block of land fronting onto Sutton Road, between numbers 263a and 371 (Fig. 2). A brief for the archaeological work, produced by Wolverhampton City Council (Appendix D), proposed that this evaluation would form the second phase of work with regard to the proposed development. This followed on from a desk-based assessment and rapid building assessment carried out by Birmingham Archaeology (Litherland and Nichol 2004). Four trenches were excavated to assess the nature and extent of any below-ground archaeology and further building recording was carried out within the farmhouse attic space.

2.0 Site Location

The proposed development area is currently occupied by a farmhouse (BCSMR 10269) dated to c.1836 (Shaw 2004, 1), which replaced an earlier structure that had been raised by 1784 (*ibid*). Ancillary structures associated with the farm are located to the rear of the farmhouse. A moated site lies just to the north west, outside the proposed development area; this was backfilled during the 1960s. The Rushall Canal, is cut through fields to the rear of the plot and is straight and embanked at this point.

3.0 Geology and Topography

The underlying geology of the South Staffordshire region is generally complex, consisting of a mixture of marls, different coloured sandstone and some limestone outcrops. The drift geology within the development area is principally Wenlock Shale with outcrops of Woolhope Limestone (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1954). The proposed development area (situated between 140-145m AOD) has a slight westerly aspect, with land sloping away northwest towards Walsall, southwest towards the Full Brook, with higher ground to the east where there is a limestone ridge.

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

A detailed historical and archaeological background for the proposed development area is given in the desk-based assessment (Litherland and Nichol 2004). A brief synopsis is given here.

The historic town, or Borough, of Walsall is situated in and around a shallow stream valley (Baker 1989, 9). Much of the land to the north and east of the town lay within the bounds of the royal forest of Cannock. To the east and south was the Foreign of Walsall, an extensive rural tract surrounding the medieval town, and it is in the Foreign, to the east of Walsall, that the proposed development area lies.

The proposed development area is close to a medieval moated site and contains a stream that may be contemporary. Ponds to the south of the area, visible on later maps, may also relate to the medieval period. This would place the proposed development area in the centre of the medieval landscape and evidence from this time may survive below-ground.

The earliest documentary evidence associated with the site is a reference for William Shelford owning a house at Wood End Farm in the 1400s. The Tudman family rented the land at this time and the farm can be traced as being leased by the Tudmans right up until 1794 when William Rawlins is recorded as the tenant. The earliest map evidence, Talbot's Map, surveyed in 1784, depicts three sides of the moat with a range of buildings forming the fourth arm. Immediately to the north of the moat a second structure, perhaps a house, is shown within what may be a garden enclosure. Three other buildings are shown in a field to the east, two on the frontage of the turnpike road (now Sutton Road), these were probably barns and animal sheds. The

current farmhouse on the plot was built in 1836 and, according to documentary evidence, used materials from the old house, which was demolished at this time. This later building is depicted on the Tithe Map of 1843 close to the turnpike road.

The most recent owners of the farm were the Downes family, who were tenants in 1893 when the farm was sold to them. They continued to work the farm up to the present. Mr Downes undertook a small excavation on the moat platform during the 1930-40s, these failed to locate any structural remains, and the surviving part of the moat itself were filled in by Mr Downes in 1967 (SMR entry).

The turn-pike road is visible on the earliest map, 1784. Its original course ran through what is now the front garden of the farmhouse. The road was moved to the south in the early twentieth century and the garden of the farm extended up to the new line of the road.

5.0 Aims and Objectives

The main aim of the evaluation was to identify the nature, extent and date of any below-ground archaeology.

The main objectives were, therefore, to:

- Demonstrate, with the minimum archaeological intervention, the nature and degree of survival of archaeological remains.
- Enable an assessment to be made of the archaeological importance of any remains.
- Develop a methodology for the preservation/excavation of significant archaeological remains.

More specific aims were to identify:

- Any surviving remains associated the turn-pike road in front of the house.
- The date, make-up and style of any foundations from the earlier farm buildings visible on historical maps.
- Any occupation associated with the medieval moated site to the north west.

6.0 Methodology

The evaluation consisted of four trenches (Fig. 2), which were machine excavated, using a JCB with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision. In some instances the length or orientation of trenches was changed in consultation with the Black Country Archaeologist, to avoid possible live services (Trench 3) or due to problems with access for the machine (Trench 2).

Trench 1 was excavated along the north east edge of the development area. This trench was 40m x 2m and was placed to expose the turn-pike road and farm buildings visible on the 1784 and later maps. Trench 2 was positioned to the rear of the development area to attempt to locate remains associated with an earlier farmhouse, which was demolished in 1836. Trenches 3 and 4 were located in the front garden of the current property with the intention of identifying the turn-pike road and any

associated roadside activity. Trench 4 was positioned to attempt to locate a large pond just to the south of the turn-pike road. Both trenches were 15m x 2m, Trench 3 was L-shaped to avoid a possible live electricity service and to further investigate a wall which was partially exposed in the southern section.

Subsequent cleaning and excavation of the trenches was by hand. Recording was by means of pre-printed *pro-formas* for contexts and features, supplemented by plans (at 1:20 and 1:50), sections (at 1:20 and 1:50), monochrome print and colour slide. Artefacts were collected by context and environmental samples were taken where appropriate. It is intended to deposit the archive with an appropriate museum/public archive after publication of the results.

7.0 Results

7.1 The Evaluation

Trench 1 (Figure 3)

The natural subsoil (1000) was located in the southern end of this trench at a depth of just 0.3m below the topsoil, it was a light yellow/cream sandy clay with occasional small rounded stones.

A compacted pebble layer (F103/1004) overlay the natural subsoil, it had a camber with a maximum depth of 0.5m in the center of the feature, and c.0.2m at the edges. It was 6m wide and appeared to be running roughly east-west. No dating evidence was recovered from it. Just to the south of this two thin layers overlay the natural. 1001 was a thin layer c.0.1m deep of dark blue/grey silty clay and 1003 was a 0.1m deep layer of dark brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from these layers.

The earliest structural remains were located at the far northern end of the trench. Two walls F109/1009 and F111/1011, orientated east-west, cut into the natural subsoil. F109 was a substantial brick wall c.0.4m wide, two courses of which remained *in-situ*, the wall was header-bond with lime mortar. The bricks were red and 9x 4x 3 inches (23x 10x 7.5cm). F111 was a narrower wall, only a single brick length wide (0.23m), 3 courses survived, and was once again header bond with lime-mortar. The bricks were the same size and colour as those in F109 and clamp-made. In-between these two walls over the natural, and abutting both walls, was a cobbled surface F110/1010. This surface was 4.7m across, 0.1m deep and made up of rounded stones c.0.05-0.1m in diameter. No finds were recovered from it.

A later addition to the farm was located further to the south. Four walls F105/1008, F106/1012, F107/1013 and F113/1014 cut the natural subsoil, orientated east-west, with F105 running north-south and abutting F104. F106 was 0.23m wide and only had one course remaining *in-situ*. It consisted of machine cut bricks 9x 4x 3 inches (23x 10x 7.5cm) bonded with lime mortar. F107 was a more substantial wall 0.3m wide. It was lime mortared with an irregular bond, with bricks the same dimensions as F106. F113 was the remains of an east-west wall running across the trench abutted by a narrower north-south wall, F105. F113 was constructed of mis-matched bricks of various colours and sizes, some machine cut, some clamped, with an irregular bond. The width of this wall was undetermined as it had been almost entirely removed. Wall F105 was 0.3m wide and was constructed of machine cut bricks 9x 4x 3 inches (23x 10x 7.5cm), it was stretcher bond with lime mortar. A cobbled surface

F108, survived between these two ranges of buildings. It was made up of rounded stones c.0.04-0.09m in diameter, and up to 0.15m deep.

Overlying the demolished range of farm buildings was a layer of brick and tile rubble containing post-medieval pottery, iron fittings and horse shoes (1006), which was up to 0.4m deep. This was overlain by a layer of redeposited natural (1002), which extended over most of the trench and was up to 0.5m deep. No finds were recovered from this layer. An east-west linear, F104, cut through 1002 and the north edge of F103. This was a straight sided flat bottomed feature, 0.75m wide, containing two fills. The earliest fill (1005) was up to 0.35m deep, and a mid-brown orange gravel-silt. This was overlain by a dark blue-brown clay rich silt (1007) up to 0.25m deep. No finds were recovered from this feature. The topsoil was a dark brown slightly clayey silt up to 0.2m deep with occasional small stones and charcoal flecking (1000).

Trench 2 (Figure 4)

The natural subsoil (2009) was uncovered at a depth of c.0.8m below the current ground surface. This was a light brown/beige clay with occasional small rounded stones. Two features were cut directly into the natural, F202 and F203. Feature F202 was a small oval pit 0.65 x 0.4m and up to 0.12m deep. This was filled with a light brown/grey clay fill (2004) and contained the remains of a single juvenile sheep. Unfortunately the burial could not be dated. Feature F203 was a linear, the width was unclear as it was truncated to the south by F204, but it was >1m. It was filled by a light brown/blue grey clay (2005), which contained a single sherd of 15th century pottery and a horse metapodial.

Cutting across the top of F203 was a cobbled pathway (F204). This was c.1m wide and made up of sub-angular blue grey stones c.0.06-0.12m in diameter with longer stones forming an edge down either side. Overlying this surface were broken tiles and bricks. These, in turn, were overlain by a mid-grey silty clay layer (2003) containing post-medieval pottery and fragments of brick and tile. This layer was up to 0.2m deep and ran across the whole trench. F205 was a redbrick land drain, which cut through the cobbled surface and (2003). This was made up of red bricks 9½ x 4½ x 2½ inches (23 x 11 x 6.5cm), which were unmortared.

Overlying all these features was a layer of light yellow/cream clay, which appeared to be redeposited natural (2002) it was c.0.2m deep and extended over the entire trench. No pottery was recovered from this layer, just 3 fragments of brick. Cut into this layer were two features, F200 and F201. Feature F200 was a wide shallow linear running roughly north-south across the west end of the trench. It was c.1.6m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloping sides. The fill (2001) was a dark brown friable organic clayey silt with occasional small rounded stones, very similar to the topsoil. Post-medieval pottery and glass were recovered from this feature. F201 was a small posthole near the centre of the trench. It was c.0.3m in diameter and up to 0.1m deep and bowl-shaped. It contained a single fill (2006) which was white and appeared to be degraded cement. No dating evidence was recovered. The topsoil (2000) overlying these features was a dark brown friable organic clayey silt with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. It was surprisingly deep, c.0.7m and contained post-medieval pottery and glass.

Trench 3 (Figure 5)

The light brown/beige clay natural subsoil (3004) was located at a depth of 0.9m below current ground level. Overlying this was a layer of mid-light silty clay (3001), c.0.6m deep, containing occasional small rounded stones and fragments of brick and tile. Cut into this was F300, a red brick wall running parallel to the front of the farmhouse. This wall had a stone foundation, c.0.48m deep (3008), made up of sub-angular grey stones up to 0.2m in diameter. Above this, 3 courses of red bricks 3007 and 3008 survived. The bricks were 9½x 4½x 3 inches (24x 11x 7.5cm) and laid in an irregular bond with the bottom course (3009) being stepped out by 0.06m.

On the southern side of the wall, a layer of grey clay mixed with sub-angular grey stones and tile fragments (3010) overlay the natural subsoil. This was c.0.3m deep and cut through by the wall, F300. Above this was a mid-light brown clay, c.0.35m deep, containing frequent small rounded stones (3003), again, cut by the wall. Both of these layers were cut by a late post-medieval or modern service trench (F301).

Overlying F301 and layer 3006 was a compacted clinker surface (3002). This abutted the wall, F300, and was c.0.4m deep. No finds were recovered from this layer. The topsoil (3000) was a dark brown silt and overlay the surface to a depth of 0.2m.

Trench 4 (Figure 5)

The natural subsoil (4008) was located in this trench at a depth of c.0.5m below ground level. Cut into this was a very large feature, F402, >2m east-west and >7.5m north-south. The lower fills were not excavated as the trench was contaminated with petrol, 4007 was the earliest fill uncovered, and it was only partially excavated, it was composed of solid blue/grey clay to a depth of >0.3m. No finds were recovered. This was overlain by 4006, which was a mid brown silty clay c.0.35m deep, that contained post-medieval pottery. This was overlain by 4005, a layer of very compacted clinker c.0.35m deep. It appeared to have a high iron content as parts of it had rusted into solid orange lenses. Above this was 4004, which was c.0.2-0.25m deep and was a layer of redeposited natural. F402 was cut by a service trench (F401).

At the northern end of this trench a tarmac surface (4009) >0.1m thick was uncovered just below the topsoil, this was >2m wide and >3m long. The topsoil (4000) was a dark brown silt c.0.3m deep. This and layer 4009 were cut by the most recent driveway (F400) which was c.4.25m wide and 0.4m deep, and consisted of a pink hardcore, mixed with a black clinker layer, c.0.3-0.35m deep, laid as a foundation (4003) overlain by a 0.05-0.07m thick layer of pink tarmac (4002).

7.2 Building Recording by Steve Litherland

An inspection was made of all the roof spaces in each range of the building. The entire building had been re-roofed in red tile, probably within the last twenty to thirty years, although the sawn rafters (scantling 4 inches by 3 inches) were largely reused. All the timbers in the later cross range were sawn, and the roof was a conventional common-rafter design. However, in each of the two sections of the double-span roof over the original range there survived a single pair of purlins. The timbers were adzed, their scantling being 8 inches by 6 inches. The scarf joints were pegged and the timbers were clearly reused wall plates or beams, as each timber contained a number of redundant mortice and peg holes. In the front range the purlins were supported in the middle section of the house by conventional timber beams

running in line with the walls either side of the staircase, whereas in the rear range they were supported by a continuation of the staircase walls which acted as trusses. The ceilings of the main range were also original, consisting of horsehair mortar on a lathe frame.

The use of load-bearing walls as trusses was a common feature of later 18th-century and early 19th-century agricultural building across the region (Peters 1980, 17) and this may be an example of this tradition, albeit in a farmhouse. Despite the evident reuse of the purlins from an earlier building their scantling and character was more indicative of a 17th-century, or even 18th-century, style of carpentry. It is recommended that no further recording is required of the roof structure.

8.0 Discussion

The earliest feature on-site appears to be the linear (F203) found in Trench 2 which may date to the late medieval period.. The sheep burial (F202) did not produce any dating evidence, however, as it was clearly below (2002), and therefore presumably pre-dates the demolition of the earlier house, and may be contemporary with F203. The cobbled pathway, may have been a garden path associated with the pre-1784 farmhouse. The debris overlying this feature (2003) is consistent with the demolition of the building in 1836. The redeposited natural (2002) overlying the area probably derives from the excavation of the adjacent swimming pool, and represents a spread of material.

The turnpike road located in Trench 1 was a compacted pebble surface (F103). It had a camber, but no drainage ditches were visible. 1001 and 1003 are layers which seemed to fill slight depressions in the natural subsoil, and may represent detritus washed off the road and trodden in. However, no evidence of a corresponding compacted pebble surface was located in Trenches 3 or 4.

The compacted clinker surface (3002) located in Trench 3, abutting wall F300 may relate to the turnpike road. Pottery from a service trench below this surface was dated to the late nineteenth century, and therefore this would appear not to be the original turnpike road surface. However, it may relate to later re-surfacing, possibly a repair to the road after the service trench (F301) was dug. The surface abutts the garden wall of the property, suggesting that it was contemporary, and may have been either a pavement running along the edge of the turnpike road, or the road itself. The cartographic evidence shows that the wall was dismantled when the road was moved and the whole area covered over with topsoil or drive surface.

Farm buildings are depicted on historic maps within the northern part of Trench 1. The northern range is visible on the earliest map and pre-dates 1784; the southern range first appears on the 1902 map. Walls F109 and F111 correspond with the position of the northern range, and probably represent the external walls of this building, with the cobbled surface (F110) being an internal work area. Walls F105, F106, F107 and F113 were constructed using both machine cut and clamp-made bricks, which were presumably reused from other farm buildings which had been in the vicinity. F113 and F107 appear to be the external walls with F106 and F105 representing internal divisions. F108, the second cobbled surface was probably an

external yard surface which the buildings were ranged around. As no earlier archaeology was found under these buildings, it would seem that either there was no earlier occupation or that the later buildings had truncated it. The overlying debris (1006) is consistent with the time of the demolition of the buildings in the 1960s.

The wall in Trench 3, F300, appears to be the boundary wall of the property, which is visible on the historical maps. The brickwork is consistent with the early nineteenth century and appears similar to the rounded entranceway still surviving above ground, which it is in line with. The relatively deep foundations of this wall are probably due to the wet nature of the ground here. The water table is very high here, this is probably due to water running off the limestone ridge to the south.

The modern disturbance in Trench 4 had truncated all but the deepest archaeology. The current driveway, F401 cuts through a tarmac surface (4009), which is presumably an earlier drive surface. The large feature F402 is probably the remains of a pond; it may be of post-medieval date as the earliest surviving map of the area (drawn up in 1784) does not show any pond, but a small pond is shown on the 1819 map and a larger one is visible on the 1886 map immediately to the south of the turnpike road. The pottery dated the episodes of backfilling to the late nineteenth-early twentieth century, suggesting that the pond was filled prior to the turnpike road being moved. The layer of compacted clinker (4005) was probably laid down over the back-filled pond to create a more solid surface and prevent subsidence. The whole area was then covered in redeposited natural to level the ground. As neither of these ponds are on the early maps it is unlikely that they relate to the medieval moated site to the north west.

9.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

The evaluation concluded that below ground deposits were relatively well preserved. The most significant findings were from Trench 2 which produced evidence of the pre-1784 farmhouse believed to have been located in this area and of earlier features dug into the natural subsoil, which were dated to the late medieval period. The dating of this property would allow a better understanding of the history of the site and the local area and there is also the possibility of earlier features surviving that may relate to the moated settlement just to the northwest. Thus, further work may be recommended in this area, however, if the proposed development of the site follows exactly the line of the current property boundary then these remains will be preserved in situ. Should groundworks be undertaken in this area it is recommended that the work be subject to archaeological monitoring. No further work is recommended at the front of the house as the presence and make-up of the turn-pike road has been established and the foundations of the farm buildings have been located and excavated. All recommendations are subject to approval by the Black Country Archaeologist.

10.0 Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Friel Construction Limited, and thanks are due to Dave Green for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks also go to Mike Shaw, the Black Country Archaeologist, who monitored the project on

behalf of Walsall M.B.C. The evaluation was carried out by Diminder Chuhan, Keith Hinton and Kristina Krawiec and supervised by Emma Hancox. Kirsty Nichol monitored the project on behalf of Birmingham Archaeology, Steve Litherland carried out the building recording. The report was written by Emma Hancox and illustrated by Nigel Dodds.

11.0 References

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APPENDIX I

Wood End Farm, 265 Sutton Road, Walsall

Brief for Archaeological Assessment

1. Summary

- 1.1 Friel Homes Ltd have submitted a planning application for demolition of an existing farmhouse at 265 Sutton Road, part demolition of outbuildings and construction of elderly person's apartments.
- 1.2 The farmhouse is thought to date from 1836 but may lie on the site of an earlier house. The present building is not listed but is considered to be of some merit.
- 1.3 A medieval moated site lies within the property, some 120m to the west but outside the current proposed development area. The moated site may have been the precursor of the current farmhouse but there may have been further structures associated with it in the development area.
- 1.4 Accordingly Friel Homes Ltd have agreed to commission an archaeological assessment of the area in order that its archaeological potential can be taken into account in coming to a decision on the planning application.

2. Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Wood End Farm, 265 Sutton Road, is located around 1 mile east of Walsall at SO03909800.
- 2.2 The building originally formed part of a larger farm complex, shown in detail on the Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1886 (BCSMR 10269). It dates from 1836 but replaced an earlier building which was in existence by 1784.
- 2.3 This building itself replaced a 15th century farmhouse which is thought to have lain within the moat which lies 150m east of the present farm building. The moat was infilled in the 1960s but its site survives (BCSMR 2647). Ancillary buildings of the medieval farmhouse may have been located within the proposed development area.
- 2.4 Behind the current farmhouse are a long rectangular outhouse and a detached garage.

3. Requirements

- 3.1 The purpose of the work is to:
- (1) Gather information as to the history of the site and its buildings to enable the significance of the surviving buildings and the necessity for recording ahead of demolition or alteration to be assessed
 - (2) To assess the potential for the presence of buried archaeological remains in the development area and, if remains do survive, their condition, date, depth of burial and importance.

- 3.2 The work should be divided into four stages:

Stage 1: Desk-based assessment

- 3.3 A desk-based assessment of the landholding. The intention is to gather information about past land use on the site, paying particular attention to the history of the buildings on the site and their likely location. Especially important is to establish the functions of the buildings within the farm complex, and to establish the location of the 15th century and 18th century farmhouses. Was the 15th century farmhouse within the moat as assumed in the sources?

- 3.4 The Walsall Local History Centre and Staffordshire Record Office/William Salt library should be visited and a printout of records for the area in the Black Country Sites and Monuments Record (tel: 01902 555493) should be obtained. Of particular value may be the sources cited in the Victoria County History description of the site (VCH Staffs Vol 17, 179). A particular priority will be to locate a map of 1784 of land belonging to Queen Mary's School, Walsall, a reduced version of which is reproduced in a history of the school (D J P Fink 1954 *Queen Mary's School*). This appears to show that the medieval building formed a fourth arm of the moat rather than lying within it.

Stage 2: Building Assessment

- 3.5 The date, nature and significance of the farmhouse and ancillary structures surviving on the site should be assessed and recommendations made for their recording ahead of demolition and/or alteration.

Stage 3: Trial trenching

- 3.6 Trial trenches and pits should be excavated to determine whether archaeological deposits are located in the area of the proposed new buildings and, if so, their condition, character, depth of burial and date. Particular attention should be paid to establishing whether there is

evidence of an earlier building on the farmhouse site. The environmental potential of any archaeological deposits uncovered should be assessed.

- 3.7 The precise location of the trial works should be agreed with the Black Country Archaeologist once the desk-based assessment has been completed but for the moment provision should be made for the excavation of around 90 square metres, 5% of the proposed development area.

Stage 4: Analysis and Report

- 3.8 On completion of the work an illustrated report should be produced detailing the results. The report should include an assessment of the impact of development and be used to devise and agree an appropriate mitigation strategy (see 3.9 below).

Stage 5: Recording ahead of/during development

- 3.9 Depending on the results of the archaeological assessment it may be necessary, if planning permission is granted, to carry out building recording and further archaeological excavation ahead of and/or during development. The requirements for this should be assessed and agreed with the Black Country Archaeologist on completion of the Stage 4 report.

4. General conditions

- 4.1 The work should be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced archaeological staff, preferably under the supervision of a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The building recording should be undertaken by an appropriately qualified specialist.
- 4.2 An appropriate recording strategy should be used and the method and justification for this stated in the reports.
- 4.3 The code of conduct, standards and guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists should be adhered to. The building analysis should adhere to the guidance issued by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (*Analysis and Recording for the Conservation and Control of works to Historic Buildings*, ALGAO 1997) and the RCHME (*Recording Historic Buildings: a Descriptive Specification*, RCHME 1990).
- 4.4 The English Heritage regional archaeological science adviser should be consulted on scientific issues and scientific work should be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations of *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage 2002).

- 4.5 A specification for the work required should be prepared by the contractor and agreed with the sponsor and the local planning authority before the work commences. It is advisable to submit a draft of the specification to the Black Country Archaeologist before the submission of a tender in order to ensure that the work proposed meets the requirement of the brief.
- 4.6 On completion of the work the site archive should be deposited with an appropriate museum/public archive. The site owner is encouraged to deposit any finds with the archive. In this case archives should be deposited with the Walsall Local History Centre (tel: 01922 721305). **It is intended that a small number of slides should be stored with the SMR. The contractor should therefore take an extra copy of the most vital photos and submit these together with the reports to the SMR.**
- 4.7 Copies of all reports should be provided to the LPA, together with two copies for the Black Country Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The report will normally become a publicly accessible part of the SMR within 6 months of completion.
- 4.8 Reports should contain the following information:
- Location, aims and methodology
 - Results of documentary research
 - A written summary of the findings together with appropriate illustrations, which should be related to the national grid.
 - List of sources consulted and their full titles/reference numbers
 - A copy of the brief
- 4.9 On completion of the work a summary report should be sent for publication in West Midlands Archaeology and any other appropriate local or national archaeological journal.
- 4.10 Health and Safety

It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with relevant Health and Safety regulations.

Site procedures should be in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers

4.11 Monitoring

The work will be monitored by the Black Country Archaeologist on behalf of the Planning Authority and provisions for monitoring should be agreed

with him. At least five working days notice of commencement of any fieldwork should be given to the Black Country Archaeologist.

Prepared on 29th March 2004 by Mike Shaw, Black Country Archaeologist on behalf of Walsall MBC

APPENDIX II

Context	Coarseware	Willow pattern	Yellow Ware	Transfer printed Ware	Cream Ware	Porcelain	Salt glazed Stoneware	Black Ware	Cistercian Ware	Trailed Slip Ware	Manganese Mottled Ware	Green Glazed Medieval Pottery	Clay Pipe	Tile	Brick	Glass	Ferrous	Copper Alloy	Slag	Crucible	Bone	Mortar	Total
1000							2										1						3
1006						1												1					2
2001				2				1	1	1	1	1		4	2				1	1			14
2003	5		4	1		1	1		1	1	1		1	2	2	1	7						28
2005												1									2		3
3002				4			1						2										7
3010				1										4								1	6
4006	2	14	6	2	2	1	1						1										29
Total	7	14	10	10	2	3	5	1	2	1	2	2	4	10	4	1	8	1	1	1	1	1	1

Table 1 Artefact Quantification



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 B15 2TT

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Fig.1

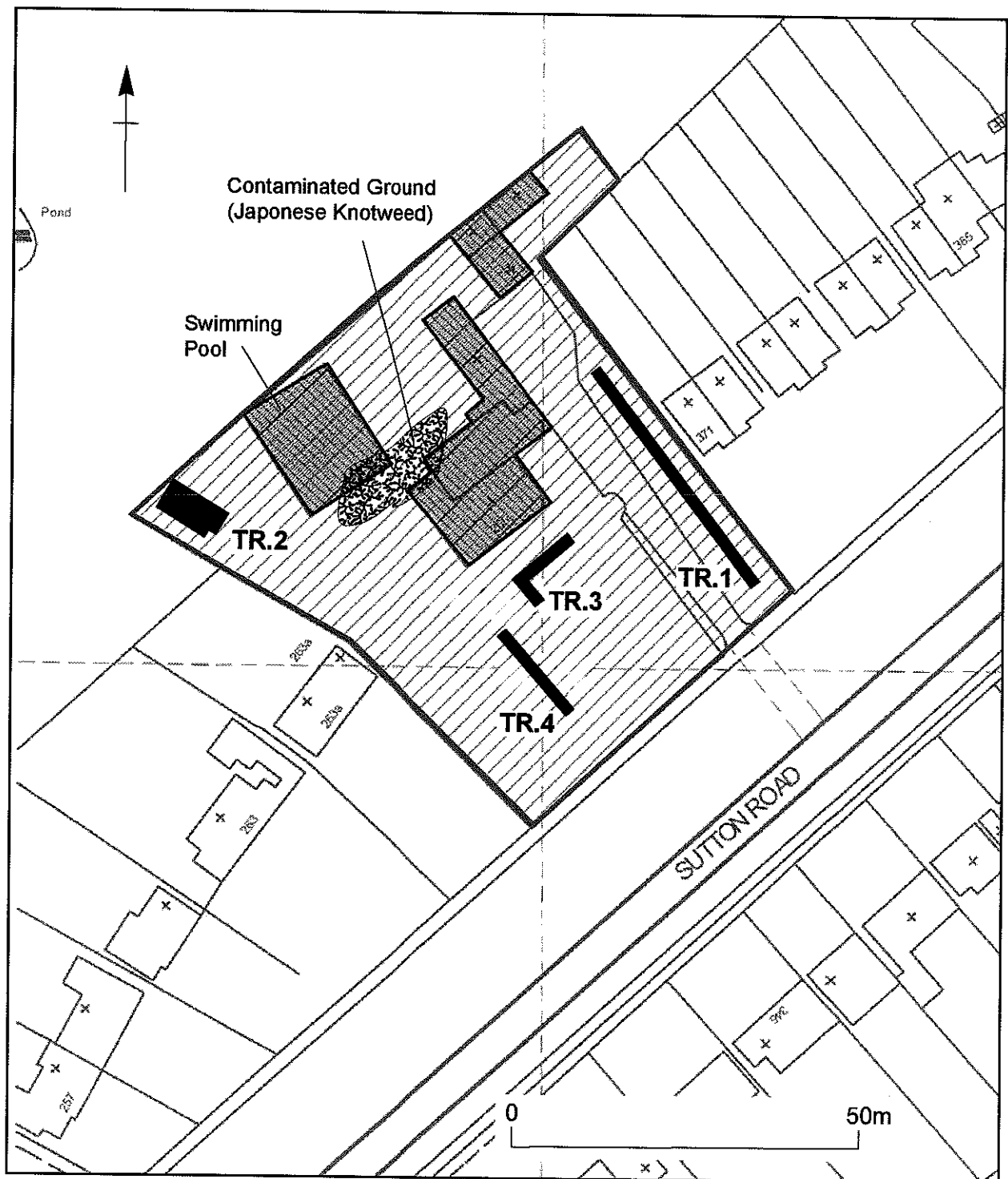
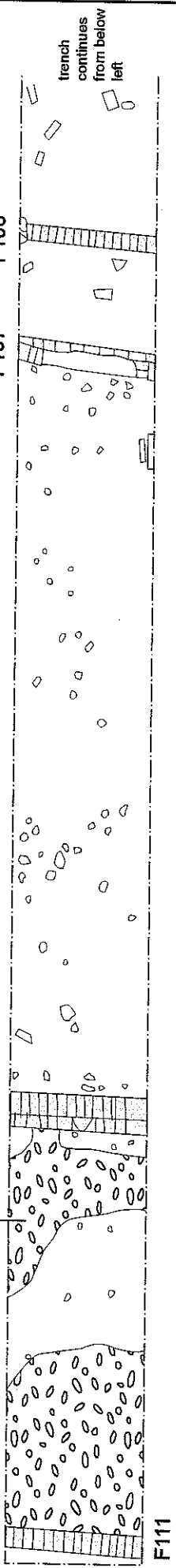


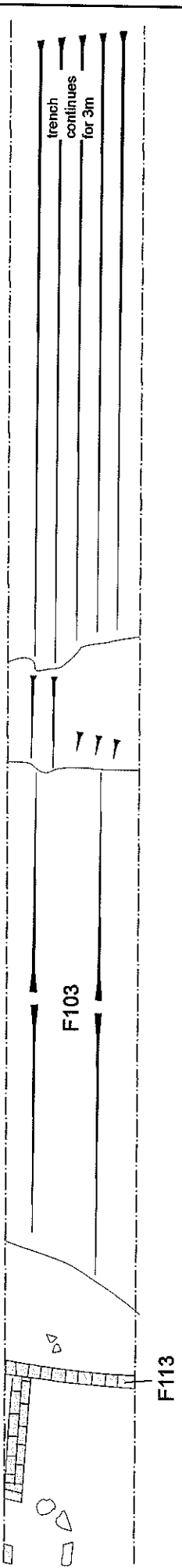
Fig.2

Trench 1

Plan



Section



Section

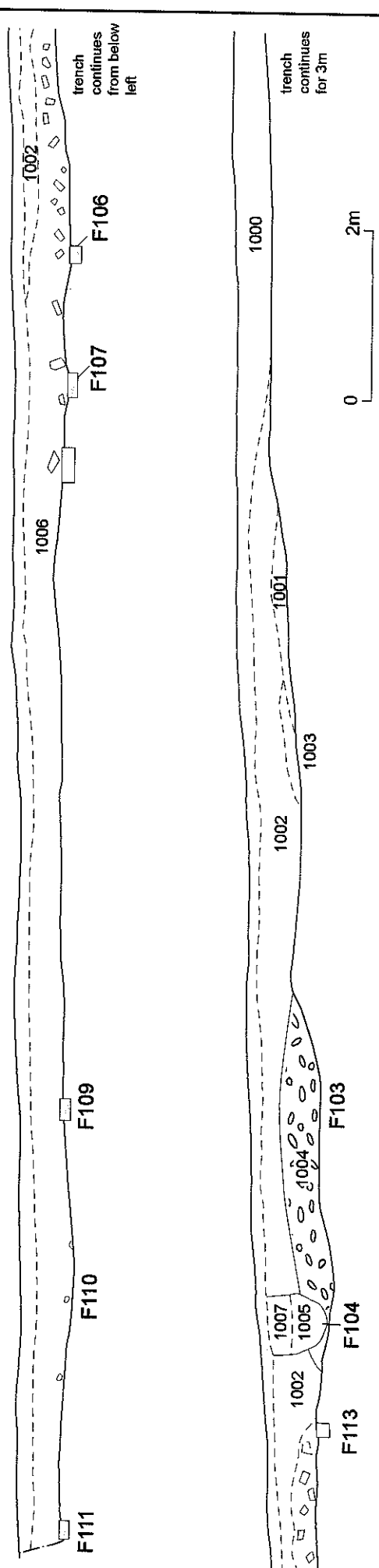
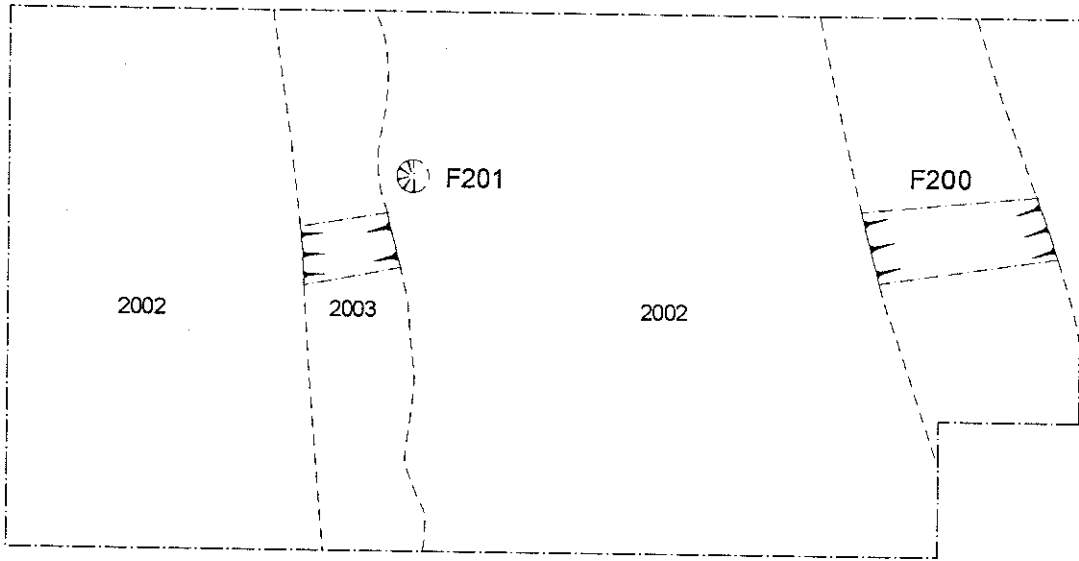


Fig.3

Trench 2

Initial machining to 2002



Secondary machining to natural

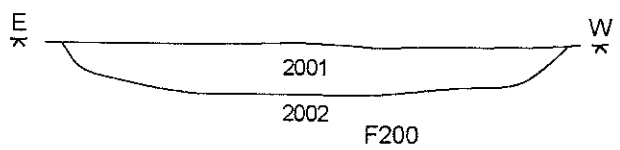
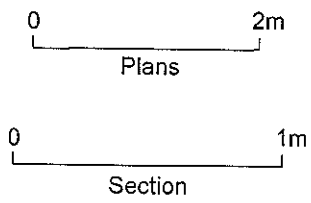
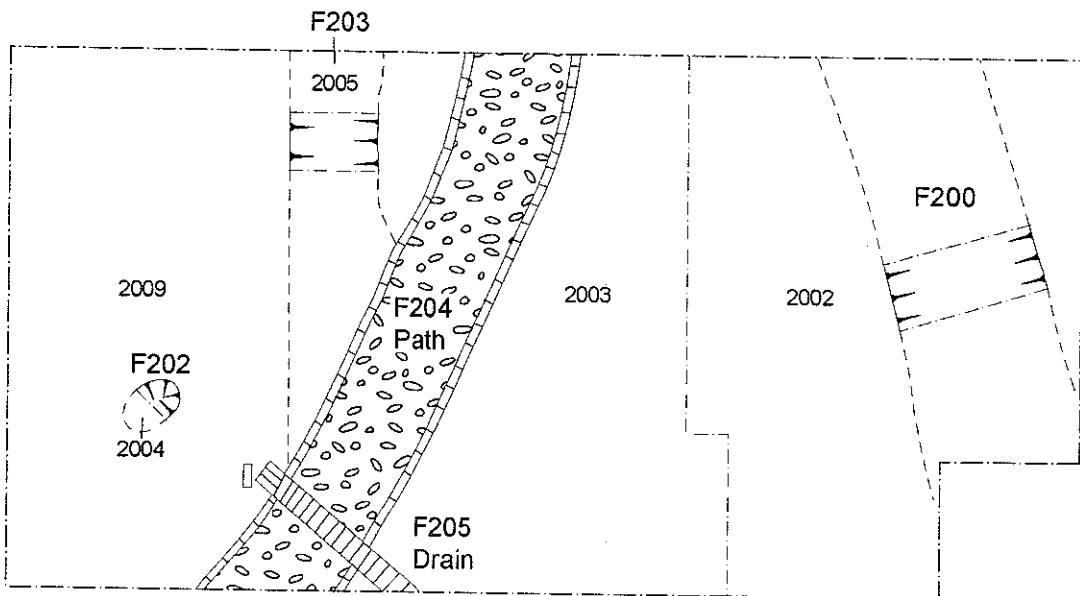


Fig.4

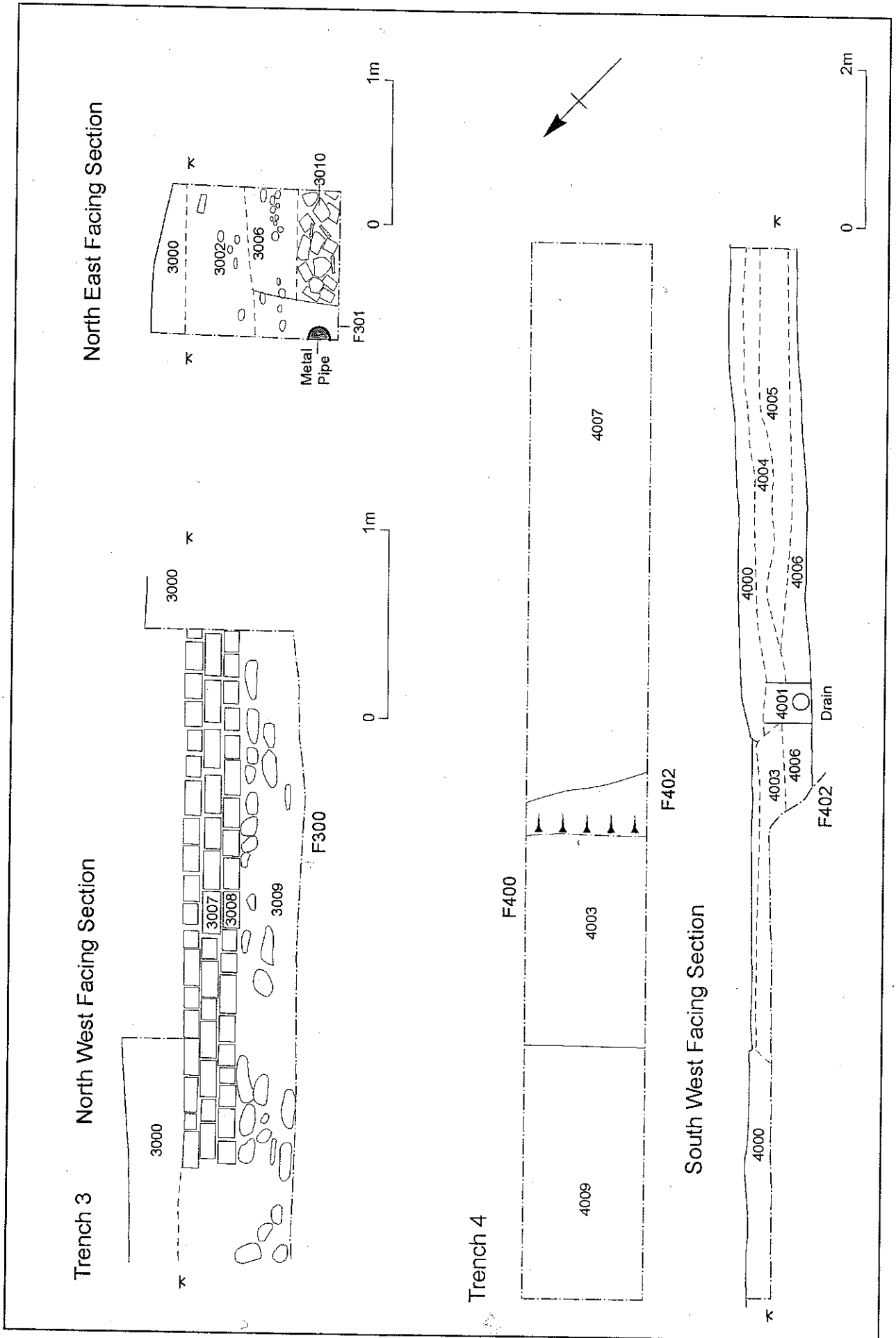


Fig.5