

Box House, Box, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

(NGR ST 8224 6848)



By Kevin Potter & Gareth Dickinson

On behalf of Box House Developments Ltd

Avon Archaeology Limited

Bristol, August 2015



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SUMMARY

An Archaeological Evaluation was undertaken by Avon Archaeology Limited in July 2015, on behalf of Box House Developments, on the site of proposed new buildings within the grounds of Box House, Box, Wiltshire, centred on NGR ST 8224 6848. A large Roman villa complex, Scheduled Ancient Monument 30299, is centred on an area to the north-east of the proposed development. The schedule boundary of the monument encompasses two of the proposed areas of development, around the pool and the lawn to the north of Box House.

The project was required to inform the planning process for the development by Wiltshire Council (application refs 14/07756/FUL and 14/07876/LBC) and as a condition imposed by Historic England (formerly English Heritage) for work on the scheduled site.

In total, eight trial trenches were opened, located in the area of the pool terrace to the north-east of Box House, on the lawn between Box House and an outbuilding known as the Coach House, and on the garden terraces to the north of the lawn.

Unsurprisingly most of the trenches contained ceramic material from the Romano-British period; however this was, in most cases, residual. Only Trenches 4, 5 and 7 revealed archaeological structures and deposits believed to be of Romano-British origin. The trenches located on the lawn contained structural material related to building collapse, and a possible surface; both of which included Pennant stone roof tiles, which are almost certainly Romano-British in date. In Trench 7 a shallow linear feature containing abraded Romano-British ceramics was recorded.

The trenches in the pool area revealed deposits and structures of post-medieval date; however, a stone dump containing medieval ceramics was observed in Trenches 1 and 2 and an undated mortar surface was identified in Trench 3.

Trenches 6 and 8, located on the garden terrace, contained no in situ archaeological remains earlier than the 19th century, and demonstrated a high degree of very recent truncation.

The evaluation has shown that well preserved Romano-British structural remains and deposits are located within the proposed development area on the lawn between Box House and the Coach House, and that features of a similar period are present at the base of the garden terrace.

However, it was also clear that the surface of the Romano-British archaeology is sealed below a substantial depth of more modern overburden. In the case of the lawn area, no Roman archaeology was encountered above 43.56m aOD, 1.36m below the modern ground surface. Even so, there is a possibility that the groundworks relating to the construction of the new Coach House will impact on buried archaeology in the area, as it is proposed that the new foundations may extend to up to 3.5m below the existing floor level of the Coach House, which previous evaluation work (Watkins 2008) has shown will intersect with buried Romano-British features, including a wall.

In the pool area, no stratified Roman archaeology was encountered. The maximum depth that trenches were excavated to in that area was 44.45m aOD, which is 0.81m below the modern ground surface. At this depth, both a stone spread and mortar surface, which may be medieval in origin, were recorded. The depth of intrusive development groundworks that will be undertaken in the pool area is to a maximum of 0.3m below the current ground surface. Again,

this means that there is unlikely to be a negative impact upon any surviving archaeology, medieval or Romano-British.

Trenches were also excavated into the lawn terrace to the north of Box House. This area will see the most substantial development groundwork and it is intended that a large part of the terrace will be excavated entirely to install a new Function Suite. It is also important to note that this area falls, just, outside the scheduled boundary of Box Roman Villa. Trenches were excavated on each tier of the terrace to a safe working depth. This does mean that at no point was a complete section through the terrace exposed. However, the evidence recorded strongly suggests that the terrace is a modern construction. A shallow gully, which may be Romano-British, was recorded in the trench at the base of the terrace, at a height of 38.98m aOD (0.50m below the ground surface). The base of the terrace, which will be removed during the development, is at c.39.85m aOD, and thus, in principle, above the level of the possible Roman archaeology identified. The trench in the mid terrace determined that the entire mid terrace, from 41.63m aOD to 39.99m aOD was made modern ground and contained plastic and modern ceramics.

The trench at the top of the terrace could not be safely excavated to a depth that conclusively determined the make-up of the terrace to its base (which is the surface of the mid terrace). The bottom of the trench was at 41.45m aOD, 1.41m below the surface of the terrace. Remains of a collapsed limestone wall were found on the southern side of the trench and may reflect a retaining wall, meaning that the ground to the south of the trench, behind the wall, could be un-disturbed and potentially contain archaeological remains. To the north of the wall, excavation would suggest that the terrace is composed of modern made ground.

It is clear that archaeological remains are buried on the development site. However, it is also apparent that the proposed development seems unlikely, in the main, to impact negatively on such remains. In the Pool Area and the area of the proposed Orangery Link preservation in situ should be possible. In the case of the garden terrace it seems unlikely that there will be any archaeology present. In the case of the Coach House there is some potential for impact upon buried archaeology with regard to structural features that have been identified in the area (Watkins 2008) a design solution, which will 'bridge' over buried remains, has been put forward.

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NOTES

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAL	Avon Archaeology Ltd
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey



1. INTRODUCTION

This report details the results of an Archaeological Evaluation carried out by Avon Archaeology Ltd during July 2015 in the grounds of Box House, Box, Wiltshire, on behalf of Box House Developments Limited. The evaluation was carried out to inform the planning process, for a proposal to construct new buildings on the site, including a Function Suite, Orangery and Pool House (**Figure 3**).

The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Potter 2015), which was prepared in response to criteria defined by Wiltshire Council and Historic England (formerly English Heritage). The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* issued by the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (2014) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects II* (EH 1991).

The project was supervised by Kevin Potter MCIFA and the work was undertaken during July 2015.

2. SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The site is located on the south-western margin of the village of Box, Wiltshire, on the northern side of the A4 Bath Road (**Figure 1**). The proposed development is within the grounds of the 19th century Box House, centred on NGR ST 8224 6848. In total, eight trial trenches were opened as part of the archaeological evaluation (**Figure 2**). Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were located in the area of the pool terrace to the north-east of Box House. Trenches 4 and 5 were positioned on a lawn between the house and an outbuilding known as the Coach House. The final three trenches, 6, 7 and 8, were located on the garden terraces to the north of Box House.

Geologically, the area is diverse. The principal underlying geology consists of sandstone from the Bridport Sand Formation, although outcrops of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation exist to the north-west of the site, and limestone of the Inferior Oolite group is present close to the site on the southern side of the A4. The superficial geology consists of alluvial sand with clay and gravel in the lower lying areas, and head clay to the south of the site (BGS, 2015). Tufa deposits are also known to exist in the vicinity of the study area (Hurst et al., 1987).

Topographically, the site lies on the north-west facing slope of a valley formed by the By Brooke, which is located to the north-east of Box House. Artificial terracing has taken place within the grounds of Box House, in order to create building platforms and landscaped gardens. Box House itself sits on a terrace at approximately 45.0m aOD, which steps down to approximately 38m aOD adjacent to the By Brook.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND DOCUMENTARY BACKGROUND

Historical Background

Historically, the site lay in the parish of Box, part of the Hundred of Chippenham. The earliest mention of Box comes from an 1144 AD title confirmation to Humphrey de Bohun. The Church of Thomas à Becket was certainly established by the 12th century, although late Anglo-Saxon origins are probable, with additions in the 14th, 15th, 18th and 19th centuries. Box likely developed as a small settlement because of its position on the crossroads between the Bath to Chippenham road and the branch road to Melksham. Quarrying was an important aspect of the parish economy from at least the 12th century, as was weaving and spinning.

Box appears to have remained a small settlement until the mid-18th century, when the River Avon was made navigable between Bath and Bristol. This was followed by the opening of the Kennet and Avon Canal in 1810, and the Bath to Chippenham line of the Great Western Railway in 1841. While the former allowed for an expansion of the quarrying industry in the parish, the latter had a dramatic effect on the local demographic, owing to the large numbers of labourers needed for the construction of the Box Tunnel.

The documentary and cartographic information regarding the site itself is relatively sparse. There is no evidence for medieval or post-medieval buildings on the site prior to the construction of Box House, although the north end of the coach house and the adjoining Box House Cottage date to the late 18th century. Box House was constructed as a residence for the vicar of Box, Reverend Horlock in 1811. It remained a vicarage until 1874. The 1839 tithe map shows that the majority of the house grounds were still under pasture. Extensions and modifications to Box House are visible on the 1st edition OS map of 1889. A substantial conservatory was added to the north-west facing elevation (in the area of Trenches 4 and 5) between 1889 and 1900, but was demolished between 1936 and 1973. Landscaping of the grounds to the west and north did not occur until the mid-20th century. The lower lawn area (where Trench 7 is sited) was used as allotments until the 1990s.

Archaeological Background

The area of proposed development is located within the western boundary of Scheduled Ancient Monument number 30299, a large Roman villa complex. Discovered in 1829 and subject to partial excavations during the 19th century, the core of the complex, located approximately 90m north-east of Box House, was excavated in 1902-1903 and published in 1904 by Harold Brakspear. These excavations revealed three ranges, with rooms containing mosaics, baths and hypocausts.

In 1967/68, archaeological works were carried out in advance of the construction of Selwyn Hall on Valens Terrace, again to the north-east of Box House. In addition to shedding further light on the phasing of the villa proposed by Brakspear, the excavations also revealed artefacts and features relating to Mesolithic and Neolithic activity, as well as medieval and post-medieval remains (Hurst et al., 1987).

A Roman ditch of late 1st to mid 2nd century AD date was recorded in the garden of The Hermitage, south-east of Box House on the Bath Road, during groundworks in 1980. The south-west by north-east alignment of the ditch matched that of the villa. In the late 1980s, a

series of trial excavations by students from Chippenham College revealed a wall of probable Roman date 1m below ground level adjacent to the south-east wall of Box House.

A Watching Brief carried out by Bath Archaeological Trust in 1992, revealed an 8.5m long Roman wall at a depth of 0.3m below ground level, located on the southern verge of Church Lane (Beaton, 1995).

In 1994, five test pits were excavated by Wessex Archaeology, in the vicarage grounds south-east of Selwyn Hall. They revealed the upper levels of stone walls, mortar surfaces and artefact-rich soil layers at approximately 0.6m below ground level, which were sealed below rubble deposits containing Romano-British material.

A series of archaeological watching briefs and evaluations, again in the vicarage grounds south-east of Selwyn Hall, was carried out during 2006-2007 by Oxford Archaeology, and revealed Roman structural remains at a depth of 0.4m below ground level, similar to those recorded by Wessex Archaeology in 1994 (Sims, 2006/2008).

Within the study area pertinent to this report, archaeological evaluations have been carried out by Bath Archaeological Trust (BAT) (Beaton, 1995) and Kim Watkins Archaeological Consultant (Watkins, 2008). The latter also conducted an archaeological desk-based heritage assessment in advance of the proposed development (Watkins, 2014/2015).

The evaluation carried out by Bath Archaeological Trust included two trenches in the lawn area close to Trenches 4 and 5. The first of these recorded probable Romano-British deposits at 43.27m aOD and structural remains at 42.66m aOD, while the second trench revealed Romano-British deposits at 43.06m aOD and a building at 42.66m aOD. A further two trenches were excavated on the eastern corner of Box House. Only one of these trenches contained features relating to Romano-British activity, a ditch at a height of 45.72m aOD (Beaton, 2005).

The evaluation undertaken by Kim Watkins (Archaeological Consultant) consisted of a trench located within the Coach House building and another in the lawn area adjacent to Trenches 4 and 5 and two of the BAT trenches. The results of this evaluation suggested that a substantial wall was present in both trenches at a height of 43.6m aOD in the Coach House and 42.49m aOD in the lawn area. Watkins (2008) suggests that this wall is part of a single structure and likely also relates to the wall observed in the 1992 Watching Brief on Church Lane carried out by BAT. A summary and review of all the available evidence relating to the Box House Roman Villa, up to the date of publication, has been produced by Mark Corney (2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

The standards and guidelines set out in MoRPHE (Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment), and the relevant guidelines issued by the Institute for Archaeology were followed for this project.

Trenches 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were opened using a mechanical excavator and, where possible, machined to the first significant archaeological or geological deposit. Where this was not possible, the trenches were machined to the maximum reach or limits of the mechanical excavator, after which excavation was carried out by hand. Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were all excavated by hand. The Avon Archaeology single context recording system (AAL 2013) was used to create written records of all features and stratigraphic units. Plans and sections were drawn at 1:20 and 1:10 respectively. Four temporary bench marks were established, the heights of which were established through traversing from a bench mark on the north facing elevation of The Church of St Thomas à Becket.

Finds and dating evidence were analysed by specialists, and reports were produced. The technological residue has been sent for specialist analysis to GeoArch, and the resulting report will be incorporated as an addendum to the present report once the analysis has been completed. Ceramics and pottery were analysed by Dr Jane Timby, while the remaining finds were assessed in-house by Sarah Newns and Joss Davis.

5. RESULTS

Trench 1 (Plate 1)

This trench measured 1m by 2m, was orientated north-west by south-east, and was hand excavated to 44.31m aOD, 0.95m below the modern surface. At its maximum depth, a spread of small sub-angular limestone fragments was recorded (Context 105, **Plate 1**); this deposit was not excavated and no artefacts associated with it were recovered. It is likely that it forms part of the same spread as (207) recorded to the south-east in Trench 2 and therefore is likely to be medieval in date. Overlying this material was a deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay (104), 0.28m thick, with occasional inclusions of small limestone fragments and charcoal. This deposit is likely to be post-medieval in date and is similar to deposit (206) in Trench 2, (308) in Trench 3, (404) in Trench 4 and (508) in Trench 5. The top of (104) has been truncated by cut [106] which has a rounded terminus to the north-west of the trench. The fill of [106] was composed of brownish orange gravel (102); both cut and fill are assumed to be 20th century and correspond to Cut [202] and Fill (203) in Trench 2. Overlying (102) was a buried topsoil (103) which presumably relates to the pre-swimming pool ground surface and is likely to be the same as (201) in Trench 2. The stratigraphy above (103) consists of a levelling layer (101) and paving slabs (100) both of which relate to the construction of the swimming pool area.

Trench 2 (Plates 2 & 3; Figures 4 & 9)

Trench 2 was aligned north-west by south-east, measured 3m by 1m, and was hand excavated to a depth of 0.8m below current ground level, 44.44m aOD. At this level, a dump of moderately sized limestone rubble, (Context 207, **Plate 3; Figure 4**) was seen, but not excavated. Medieval ceramics were found in direct association with this deposit. A post-medieval silty clay (context 206) directly overlay (207). Sub-rectangular or linear cut [204] truncated (206) in the north-east of Trench 2. Cut [204] was filled by a greyish brown sandy clay and extended out of the trench to the north-east and north-west of Trench 2. The south western edge of [204]/(205) was truncated by linear cut [202] which was filled by light brownish yellow gravel (203). Overlying (203) was a mid-brown buried topsoil (201), with a maximum depth of 0.18m, which was sealed below scalplings (208) and paving slabs (200). Deposits comparable to those above are discussed in the Trench 1 description.

Trench 3 (Plates 4 & 5; Figure 4)

Trench 3 was again hand excavated and measured 2m by 1m, and was aligned north-west by south-east. A packed mortar surface, (309, **Plate 5; Figure 4**) was recorded at the maximum depth of the trench at 0.84m below the modern surface, 44.456m aOD. This layer was not excavated. The overlying mid grey silty clay (308), contained ceramics of post-medieval date. This material was truncated to the south-east by the construction cut [305] for kerb stones (303). A fill of mixed limestone and ceramic building material (307) formed a base layer within [305] onto which the rectangular limestone kerb blocks (303) were placed upright. Clinker material (306) was used as packing for kerbstones (303). A second row of kerb stones (304), was observed in the east end of the trench on a north-south alignment. No construction cut associated with (304) was visible during excavation, although it was presumed to be contemporary with (303). Kerb stones (303) and (304) (**Plate 4; Figure 4**) are assumed to be

related to garden features of 19th century date. The trench was sealed by modern scalplings (302), sand (301) and paving slabs (300).

Trench 4 (Plates 6, 7 & 8; Figures 5 & 8)

This trench was orientated north-west by south-east, measured 4m by 1.2m and had a maximum depth of 1.5m below present ground level, 43.426m aOD. The trench was stripped by machine and a sondage was hand excavated in the north-eastern end of the trench. On the south-western side of this sondage, at a level of 43.526m aOD (1.4m below current ground level), a number of broken Pennant sandstone roof tiles, (406; **Plate 7 & 8; Figure 5**), were observed, with the appearance of having been deliberately laid as a surface. Beneath (406), a limestone wall core, foundation or floor base was observed, Context 407 (**Plate 7; Figure 5**). It extended outside of the bounds of the sondage on all sides, making a definite interpretation of these two structural elements difficult, although the form of the Pennant tiles appeared to be Romano-British. A mid greyish brown silty clay (405) overlay (406) and (407) and contained a mix of Romano-British and medieval ceramics. Above (405) a dark grey silty clay (404) contained post-medieval pottery. This deposit was in turn overlain by a mid-orange brown silty clay (403) and a blackish brown sandy silt (402), both of which showed signs of burning. Overlying this material were two walls, at 44.886m aOD, believed to be part of a late 19th century conservatory (**Plate 6; Figure 5**). The larger of these two walls, (408), was orientated north-east to south-west and was of Oolitic limestone block construction, and of a maximum of two courses. A ceramic sewer pipe (410) appears to respect the south-eastern end of (408) rather than to truncate it; the full width and length of (408) are unknown, as it extends outside the bounds of the trench to the north-east and south-east. The other section of masonry, (409), visible in Trench 4, was orientated north-east to south-west and was similarly constructed from Oolitic limestone blocks. This wall had two courses, of a maximum width of 0.4m, and extended out of the excavation to the south-west. As already mentioned, the ceramic sewer pipe (410) crossed the width of the trench approximately 0.15m from the north-eastern end of wall (408). Contexts (410), (408) and (409) were all sealed by a large dump of brownish grey sandy clay (401) containing frequent demolition rubble and ceramic building material. Another ceramic sewer pipe was visible in the north-east facing section of the trench and was of a later date than (410), as it cut sandy clay (401). Above this was the topsoil and turf layer (400), which was approximately 0.15m deep.

Trench 5 (Plates 9 & 10; Figures 6 & 8)

Trench 5 measured 3.5m in length, by a maximum of 1.5m wide, and was aligned north-west by south-east. A modern water pipe (502), 0.2m below the modern ground surface, transecting the trench from south-west to north-east, was revealed during machine stripping and restricted further excavation to a 0.6m wide hand dug sondage on the northern side of the trench. The north-east end of the sondage was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.66m below the ground surface (42.866m aOD). At this level, a north-south orientated stone spread (Context 509; **Plates 9 & 10; Figure 6**) was encountered, consisting of moderately sized sub-angular limestone fragments and Pennant sandstone roof tiles. Context (509) extended outside the limits of the excavation. Its main visible component consisted of a ridge formed by a number of Pennant tiles and limestone rubble, angled at approximately 45 degrees to the north-east;

the tiles are believed to be Romano-British in date. Overlying this spread was a mid-brown silty clay (Context 508) with an average thickness of 1.0m (**Plate 10; Figure 8**). This layer contained post-medieval ceramics and was cut by a north-east to south-west linear feature [506] which ran through the centre of the trench. This linear was filled by mixed rubble, composed of small to medium size limestone fragments in a matrix of mid-brown silt, and contained artefacts indicating a 19th century date. Also overlying (508), to the east of the trench, was a sequence of crushed and compacted limestone layers, (505) (**Figure 8**). While no artefactual material was recovered from this sequence, it is likely that it corresponds to construction or levelling phases associated with the construction or remodelling of Box House in the 19th century. Both (505) and the upper part of [506]/(507) were cut by a shallow, 0.28m deep, feature in the north of the trench. This cut had destroyed the stratigraphic relationship between (505) and (507). Cut [503] was flat based with moderately sloping sides and is assumed to be 20th century in date. It was filled by a mid-brown clay silt (504) similar to the overlying subsoil (501). This subsoil material had a depth of approximately 0.25m and was composed of a mid-brown silt clay with occasional small, sub-angular limestone fragments. Above this was a layer of topsoil and turf (500), 0.1m thick.

Trench 6 (Plate 11; Figure 7)

Trench 6, measuring 6.0m by 1.3m, was orientated north-east by south-west and was machine excavated to a depth of 0.8m below ground level, 42.056m aOD. At this level, the remains of a limestone block wall (602; **Plate 11; Figure 7**) was revealed in the centre of the trench, extending approximately 0.2m from the south-east edge. A sondage was hand excavated along the north-west facing elevation of this wall, to a maximum depth of 1.4m below ground level, 41.446m aOD. Wall (602) was composed of rough-hewn limestone blocks varying between 100mm and 500mm in length. Five courses were revealed, although these were somewhat irregular. It was unclear whether the north-west facing elevation thus exposed was original, or whether a dressed face had been removed, although a degree of demolition had certainly occurred, demonstrated by the number of limestone and ceramic building material fragments, including a 300mm long limestone coping stone (**Plate 11**), observed within deposit (601) which overlay the wall. No artefactual material was recovered in direct association with (602), although it is believed to be a revetment wall associated with the 19th/20th century landscaped gardens of Box House. Context (601) was composed of a friable reddish brown silty clay of very recent deposition. This context was excavated to a depth of 0.8m, but its full depth was not revealed. Overlying Context (601) was a layer of scalplings and gravel, 0.6m deep, (Context 600), which constitutes the current area of hard-standing.

Trench 7 (Plates 12 & 13; Figures 7 & 9)

This trench was orientated east to west and measured 4m by 1m. It was machine excavated down to the natural substrate, which was encountered at an average depth of 0.5m below ground level, approximately 38.95m aOD. The natural substrate (703) consisted of a coarse grained compacted limestone gravel, cut by a single linear feature [704]. (**Plates 12 & 13; Figures 7 & 9**). This linear was approximately 0.6m in width, aligned east to west, and extended outside the limit of excavation on this orientation. The sides of the feature, interpreted as a ditch or gully, were generally concave, and it had a flattish, but irregular base.

The top of this ditch or gully may have been truncated, as its depth was only 0.1m. The feature contained two fills. Primary fill (706) had a maximum depth of 0.06m and consisted of a sticky yet friable mid-yellowish grey silty clay containing occasional charcoal, and frequent sub-angular decayed limestone fragments derived from the interface with natural substrate (703). Above this, the secondary fill (Context 705) consisted of a compact mid-grey clay containing occasional sub-angular limestone fragments, charcoal and ceramic building material, in addition to sherds of moderately abraded Romano-British and post-medieval ceramics. The overlying material consisted of greyish brown silty clay layers, comprising subsoil (702) and topsoil (701).

Trench 8 (Plates 14 & 15; Figure 7 & 9)

Trench 8 was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 4.8m by 1.1m. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.8m below the ground level, and a hand dug sondage was then excavated to a maximum depth of 1.65m below the ground level, or 39.986m aOD. At approximately 1.45m below current ground level, a buried subsoil composed of mid-greyish brown silty clay, (802) (**Figure 9**), was observed. This material contained a mixed assemblage of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval finds. Above this layer was a 1.2m thick dump of mid-greenish brown clay, (801) (**Plates 14 & 15; Figures 7 & 9**), of very recent deposition. Topsoil and turf deposits (Context 800), 0.25m deep, overlay this modern landscaping material.

6. THE FINDS (Dr Jane Timby, Sarah Newns, Joss Davis)

Introduction

A relatively small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. The ceramics and technological residue were sent for specialist analysis, and the remainder of the finds was examined in-house.

Significant quantities of Romano-British ceramic tile (largely roofing tile and floor tile) and pottery sherds were recovered from Trench 7, largely residual within later contexts, although it is possible that the linear feature [704] may be of Roman date. Roman sandstone roof-tile was also recovered, and had been re-used as possible paving material within Trenches 4 and 5.

Medieval activity on the site was suggested by the presence of pottery of 13th to 15th century date within Trenches 2 and 8. Significantly, Trench 2 also yielded two large fragments of metal-working slag, for which see report by GeoArch (**Addendum**).

Background low-level prehistoric activity was suggested by the presence of a single struck flint chip, recovered, unstratified, from Trench 7.

The remainder of the finds included small quantities of animal bone, a small number of undiagnostic iron nails, and small quantities of post-medieval pottery and glass.

THE POTTERY (Dr Jane Timby) (Appendix 2, Table 1)

Introduction

The archaeological evaluation resulted in the recovery of 43 sherds of pottery weighing 386 g dating to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. This was accompanied by 72 fragments of ceramic building material weighing c 2.4 kg; one fragment of fired clay and one clay marble or bottle 'alley'.

The material was scanned to assess its composition and date and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. Known named traded Roman wares are coded with reference to the National Roman fabric collection (Tomber and Dore 1998) (codes in brackets). The data has been summarised in Appendix 2, Table 1.

The assemblage is generally quite poorly preserved with an overall sherd weight of 9 g. The Roman and medieval pottery in particular comprised moderately small, abraded sherds.

Pottery was recovered from six evaluation trenches (Tr 1-4, 7 and 8), a total eleven contexts. The ceramic building material (CBM) came from the same trenches with a total of ten contexts to which can be added an unstratified collection from Trench 7.

Roman

The Roman pottery assemblage is small comprising 11 sherds all of which appear to be redeposited finds in later levels.

Identifiable wares include one sherd from a Central Gaulish samian cup (LEZ SA) likely to date to the 2nd century; the rim of an Oxfordshire colour-coated mortarium (OXF RS) (Young 1977, type C100) dating to the later 3rd-4th centuries; one sherd of Dorset black burnished ware (DOR BB1) and three sherds of South-west oxidised sandy wares (SOW OX). The

remaining five sherds are largely grey sandy wares probably from the North Wiltshire kilns which were in production from the late 1st century onwards.

Thus on balance, although the group is extremely small, it seems to indicate activity in the locality from the mid-2nd-4th centuries.

Medieval

Ten sherds of medieval date are present distributed across five contexts. Sherds include unglazed cooking pot and glazed jug. There is one piece of Minety ware from North Wiltshire; the remaining sherds are also probably Wiltshire products.

The type of assemblage here would be typical of the 13th-15th centuries.

Two contexts could potentially date to this period on the basis of the pottery and CBM: layer (207) and buried subsoil (802) but the evidence is quite slight.

Post-medieval

There are 14 sherds present of post-medieval / modern date. These include English and German stoneware, the latter in the form of a Westerwald mug; a Staffordshire white salt-glazed plate; industrial china; glazed and unglazed red earthenware (flowerpot).

Most of these wares would be current in the 18th-19th centuries.

Ceramic building material (CBM) and other ceramics (Appendix 2, Table 2)

Most of the CBM is in quite degraded condition. Whilst some pieces can be identified or dated there are at least 10 lumps or small fragments which have not been dated.

Of the 72 pieces recorded at least 55, 76% by count appear to be Roman in date. These include examples of roofing tile (*tegulae* and *imbrices*), flat floor tile or *pila* and one small piece of box-flue from a hypocaust system.

The highest incidence of Roman fragments came from Trench 7 with 29 pieces from unstratified collection and linear [704] with 19 pieces. The latter also produced post-medieval pottery.

Also present are six fragments of house brick of post-Roman date from [305].

Half a clay 'marble' or bottle alley was recovered from subsoil (104) and an amorphous fragment of fired clay from linear [704].

Distribution

Most of the recovered ceramic material came from Trench 7 with 24 fragments of CBM and 17 sherds of pottery. Despite most of the CBM being of Roman origin the pottery indicates a post-medieval date for the feature.

Of the total 13 contexts with either pottery or CBM or both, ten have produced post-medieval material; two (207 and 802) have produced nothing later than the medieval period and one, layer (407), produced just two fragments of Roman CBM but no pottery.

Potential and further work

This is a very small group of material which appears to mainly come from very disturbed horizons. Finds indicate the proximity of a well-appointed Roman building but it seems unlikely that any levels of this date were encountered.

No further work is recommended at this stage.

Animal Bone (Joss Davis) (Appendix 2, Table 3)

A very small assemblage of animal bone was retrieved during the evaluation, comprising fourteen small fragments, weighing a total of 186g. The bone was retrieved from contexts ranging from Romano-British to Post-medieval in date.

Much of the assemblage comprised of limb fragments, from a mix of medium to large mammal species. Elements identifiable to species included a pig phalange, and tibia, pelvis and radius fragments from sheep or goats. Only one of the fragments bore cut/chop marks; however, it is likely that the majority of the assemblage does represent domestic waste from food consumption.

Almost half the assemblage was retrieved from a single context (Context 407), an undated demolition deposit. The remaining fragments were retrieved from buried subsoils (Contexts 104 and 802), a buried topsoil (Context 201), a post-medieval silty clay (Context 404), and from an undated surface of Pennant slabs (Context 406).

Worked Stone (Sarah News) (Appendix 2, Table 5)

Two complete sandstone roof-tiles and a further twelve sandstone tile fragments were recovered during the evaluation, weighing a total of 21,965g. The complete tiles were roughly hexagonal in shape and measured approximately 350mm to 400mm long by 210mm to 250mm wide. Three of the tiles retained suspension-holes, either centrally located or adjacent to one edge.

Pennant sandstone roof-tiles were present "in abundance" during the earlier excavation (Hurst et al. 1987, 46) and the author suggests that, in the later (third-fourth century) phase of the villa, ceramic roof-tiles were replaced by those of stone (as also at Gloucester (ibid.).

Eight of the tile fragments had been re-used as a possible surface within Trench 4 (Context 406) and the remainder, probably also re-used, formed Structure 509 in Trench 5.

Metalwork (Sarah News) (Appendix 2, Table 6)

A very small assemblage of metalwork was retrieved during the evaluation, comprising three iron nails, a short length of iron wire and a curved iron strip, possibly part of a collar or binding. A single roofing nail was also present, in-situ, within the nail-hole of one of the complete Roman roof-tiles.

With the exception of the wire, which is likely to be post-medieval in date, all the objects are heavily corroded, and it was difficult to make out their original form. One of the nails, with square-sectioned shank and flattened, sub-rectangular head, conformed to Frere's Type I group, the more common of the nail types defined in the report on the 1960s excavation (Hurst et al. 1987, 47-8). The in-situ roofing nail was, unsurprisingly, fractured, and had a sub-circular

shank and flattened, sub-circular head. The nails varied in length between 40mm and 64mm, well within the parameters established by Hurst (*ibid.*).

Two of the nails and the iron strip were retrieved from buried subsoils within Trenches 4 and 8 (Contexts 404 and 802). The remaining nail was retrieved from a rubble deposit (Context 207), Trench 2, of possible medieval date.

Glass (Appendix 2, Table 7)

The glass assemblage comprises twenty-three shards of post-medieval bottle glass and two shards of modern, clear window glass. It is quite likely that the majority of the assemblage derives from only three vessels – two of probable 19th century date, (a wine bottle and an embossed spirits bottle from Context 401), and a third, undated, but heavily laminating, wine bottle base from Context 507, the rubble fill of Cut [506].

Miscellaneous (Appendix 2, Table 8)

A small number of undiagnostic clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were retrieved from pit fill (203) and from silty clay deposit (404). A small oyster shell fragment was retrieved from buried topsoil (201), Trench 2.

Unstratified finds from Trench 7 included one struck flint chip and a possible clinker fragment.

7. DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

This evaluation has confirmed the presence of substantial structural remains beneath the lawn area to the west of the Coach House. The minimum depth of these remains was 1.3m (43.52m aOD) below the current ground level in Trench 4. Owing to the restrictive nature and depth of the evaluation trenches, a definitive interpretation of the remains was not possible. That said, the stones seen in Trench 5, (Context 509) (**Plates 9 & 10; Figures 6 & 8**) are likely to form part of a demolition spread, reflected by the large number of Pennant tiles, which possibly represents a roof collapse. The horizontally lain roof tiles revealed in Trench 4, coupled with the compacted stone (Context 407) beneath them, were suggestive of a surface of some description (**Plates 6 & 7; Figures 4 & 8**); however, again owing to area and depth restrictions, further examination of this could not take place. Very little dating evidence was recovered from either Trench 4 or Trench 5 associated with this material; however, the Pennant roof tiles are an indication that the remains formed part of, or the demolition waste from, a Romano-British structure. Watkins (2008) observed similar Pennant roof tile fragments and likewise inferred the presence of a Romano-British structure in the lawn area and beneath the Coach House.

The archaeology recorded in Trenches 4 and 5, in terms of level and type of archaeological material, is broadly similar to that observed during earlier evaluations carried out by Watkins (2008) and Beaton (1995). The two walls recorded by Watkins (2015) were at heights of 43.6m aOD and 42.49m aOD. In a trench immediately south-west of Trench 4, Beaton (2005, 6) recorded Romano-British deposits at 43.27m aOD and structural remains at 42.32m aOD. Interestingly, the structural remains observed by Beaton in this trench consisted of a drain and possible surface which possibly relates to the compacted limestone and flat slabs seen in Trench 4, (Contexts 406 & 407), although there is a 1.2m height difference between these

remains. There is a growing weight of evidence to support the theory that a substantial Romano-British structure is present, in varying levels of preservation, below the lawn between Box House and the Coach House.

Fill (705) of linear feature [704], (**Plates 12 & 13; Figures 7 & 9**) contained both Romano-British and post-medieval ceramics and therefore a post-medieval date must be assumed for the feature. That said, the apparent post-medieval truncation of [704] may have caused artefactual contamination. Regardless of date, however, this area appears to highlight a generally low level of preservation, particularly of shallower structures or negative features, in the lower garden area.

In the Pool House and Swimming Pool area, archaeological deposits of suspected medieval date, (105) and (207) (**Plates 1-3**), were seen in Trenches 1 and 2 at 0.8-0.95m below current ground level (44.44m aOD and 44.31m aOD). These deposits did not form part of a structure; however, Context (207) was the only deposit observed during the evaluation to contain solely medieval finds.

The majority of the deposits and structures observed during this evaluation were of post-medieval date. Immediately overlying the potential Romano-British structures in the lawn area was a substantial layer of silty clay, (Contexts 404 & 508) (**Figure 8**) containing post-medieval artefacts (**Plates 8 & 10**). In Trench 5, this layer was approximately 1m thick, while in Trench 4 its thickness was only 0.35m. The top of this deposit was remarkably consistent at 43.95m aOD and 43.90m aOD in Trenches 4 and 5 respectively. Deposits of a similar composition (Contexts 104 and 206) were seen overlying the potentially medieval layers in Trenches 1 and 2 (**Plates 1 & 3**). This material almost certainly derives from landscaping of the grounds associated with the construction of Box House in the early 19th century. As there appears to be no observable archaeology between the Romano-British and post-medieval period in the lawn area, we must assume that a degree of truncation occurred during the latter period. All other deposits and structures overlying this material are directly associated with Box House and its gardens.

Trenches 6 and 8 on the terraces showed a high degree of modern disturbance. No significant archaeology was observed in Trench 8; while a heavily disturbed wall, (**Plate 11; Figure 7**), of 19th century date was recorded in Trench 6.

Impact of the proposed development

The development proposals detailed in application references 14/07756/FUL and 14/07876/LBC specify four distinct structures, the 'Below Ground Function Room', the 'New Coach House', the 'New Orangery Link' and the 'New Pool House' (**Figure 3**). Owing to the varied nature of the archaeology observed, both during this evaluation and during previous archaeological work in the vicinity, the archaeological impact of the proposed development will differ in each of these areas.

The proposed depth of the intrusive groundworks to be undertaken in the 'New Pool House' area is to be a maximum of 0.3m below the current ground level. No stratified Romano-British remains were identified in this area, although the trenches did not exceed a maximum depth of 0.81m below the current ground surface. This was the depth of the surface of a stone spread found in Trenches 1 and 2 (Contexts 207 and 105, **Figure 4, Plates 1 & 2**), which

may be of medieval origin. Trench 3 identified a mortar surface at a similar depth (Context 309), **Figure 4, Plate 5**). As such there is potential in the Pool Area for buried archaeology at greater depth, both medieval and Romano-British. However, it is highly unlikely that the proposed development will have a negative impact upon any Romano-British or medieval archaeology, as the maximum depth of intrusive work that will be undertaken for the Pool Area development is 0.3m below the current ground surface, a full 0.5m above the buried archaeology that was identified.

The most substantial intrusive groundwork proposed by the new development is in the area of the 'Below Ground Function Room' (**Figure 3**). This area lies outside the schedule boundary of Box Villa (SAM 30299). The area of the proposed function room is currently a terraced bank, its top at a height of c42.75m aOD, dropping to a mid-terrace at c 41.62m aOD and then again to its base, on a natural slope, at c39.40m aOD. The only potentially Romano-British archaeology observed in this area was in Trench 7, in which Gully [704] was observed at the base of the terrace. Trench 8 was located on the mid terrace and was excavated to a maximum depth of 39.99m aOD. It is significant that the entirety of the material excavated from Trench 7 was composed of modern infill (Contexts (801) and (802), **Figure 9**). The clear implication is that at least the mid terrace is an entirely modern construction and that there is no potential for buried archaeology within its make-up. Similarly, modern deposits were seen in Trench 6, which was located atop the upper terrace; but unfortunately the sides of Trench 6 were unstable and the trench could not be excavated to the full depth of the terrace for safety reasons. As such, it cannot be said, categorically, that the upper terrace is a modern construction. However, given that the underlying mid terrace clearly *is* modern, it is almost certainly the case that the upper terrace is too. And the evidence recorded in Trench 6 certainly supports this narrative. Trench 6 did expose a c19th century stone block wall (Wall (602), **Plate 11, Figure 7**). Wall (602), although in a collapsed state, still served to retain the baulk to the south side of the trench. As such, there remains a question over the composition of the ground to the south of Trench 6, as, if Wall (602) forms a retaining wall, it is possible that the modern material used to make up the terraces was banked against it. However, this is not proven and it remains the case that, in the main, the terraced area of the proposed Function Suite, appears to be modern made ground. In principle, therefore, it is unlikely that the development will have a negative impact on medieval or Romano-British remains in the terrace area.

The lawn area, on which the 'New Coach House' and 'New Orangery Link' are located, demonstrates the highest potential for Romano-British archaeological remains.

No significant archaeological remains were observed in the lawn area above a depth of 43.23m aOD, approximately 1.3m below current ground level. Below this level, structural remains, believed to date to the Romano-British period, were, however, recorded. Trench 4 revealed a horizon of collapsed rubble and mortar, at 43.43m aOD, with sandstone roof tiles on its surface (Deposit (407), **Figure 5, Plates 6 & 7**). Trench 5 revealed a linear mound of stone rubble, which also contained sandstone roof tiles (Context (509), **Figure 6, Plates 9 & 10**). Whether Context (509) reflects a structural feature remains unclear, as it displayed characteristics of crude coursing, but could equally be interpreted as collapsed rubble. Regardless, the presence of Roman roof tile associated with stone rubble and mortar deposits in both Trenches 4 and 5, suggest the possibility that a Romano-British building may have stood in the locality. Further evidence of a Romano-British building in the locality was found in one of the previous evaluations (Watkins 2008). Watkins confirmed the presence of structural

remains within a trench excavated inside the current Coach House building and within another trench below the lawn to the east of the Coach House. It appears that Watkins identified a roughly east-west orientated wall that was present in both trenches. Trench 5 of this project was located roughly between these two earlier trenches, and it is a distinct possibility that Context (509) reflects a continuation of that structure, albeit with some characteristics of a deposit derived from building collapse (see **Figure 10**). It is possible that the foundations of the 'New Coach House' development, where they extend below a depth of 43.23m aOD will potentially impact on surviving Romano-British remains. In the case of the structural remains that were identified by Watkins, it is proposed that the foundation design should bridge over the structure and leave it in situ; however, the potential impact of the proposed development upon the non-structural archaeology identified during the present project remains uncertain.

Conclusions

The evaluation has added further to the corpus of evidence that there is buried archaeology on the site at Box House, most significantly Romano-British but also possibly medieval. The Romano-British remains clearly relate to Box House Roman villa although their exact character and form remain unclear as they have, thus far, only been exposed within the confines of small evaluation trenches. Even less is known about the scope and survival of any medieval archaeology but its presence was suggested through finds and surfaces identified in the pool area during this evaluation.

The evaluation also determined that any Romano-British archaeology is likely to be deeply buried and, in the main, below the depth that the proposed development will impact, with the exception of the new Coach House. It was also discovered that the terrace to the north of Box House is most likely a modern earthwork.

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Figure 1

Site location plan

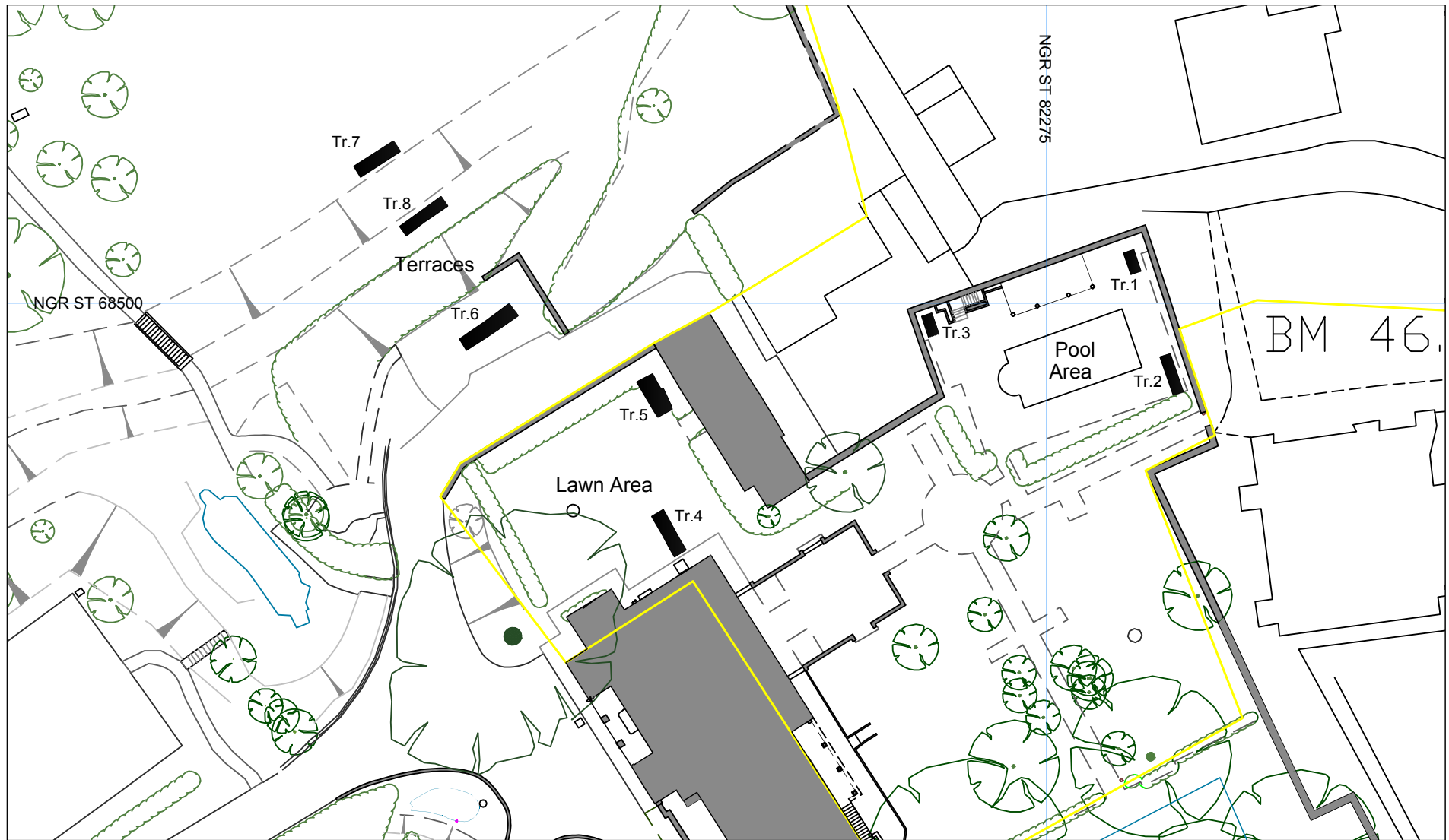


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Figure 2

Topographic site plan with locations of evaluation trenches






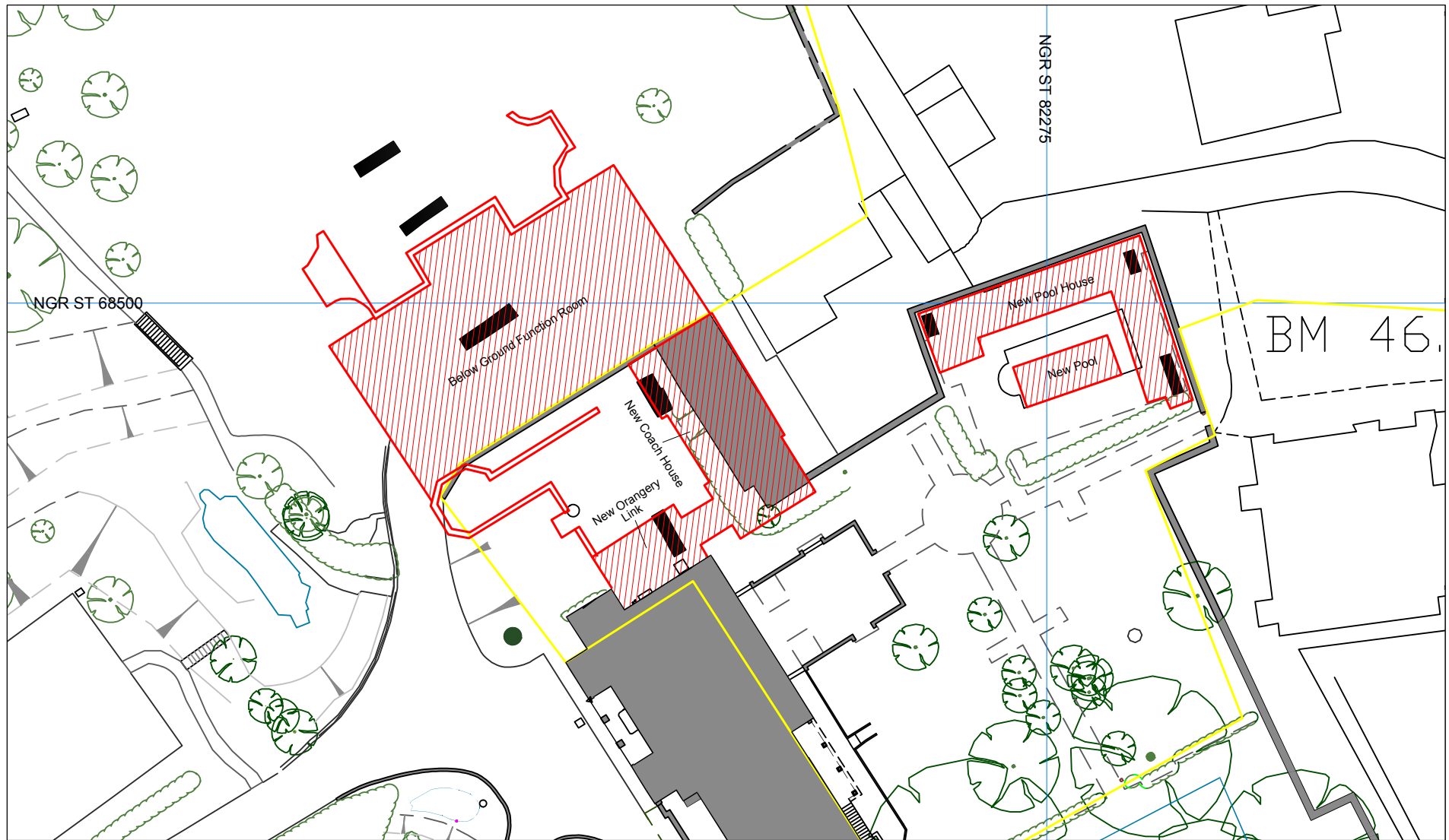



-  Scheduled Monument Boundary
-  Proposed Development Footprint
-  Archaeological Evaluation Trench



Figure 3

Site plan with the proposed development footprint



-  Schedule Boundary
-  Proposed Development Footprint
-  Archaeological Evaluation Trench

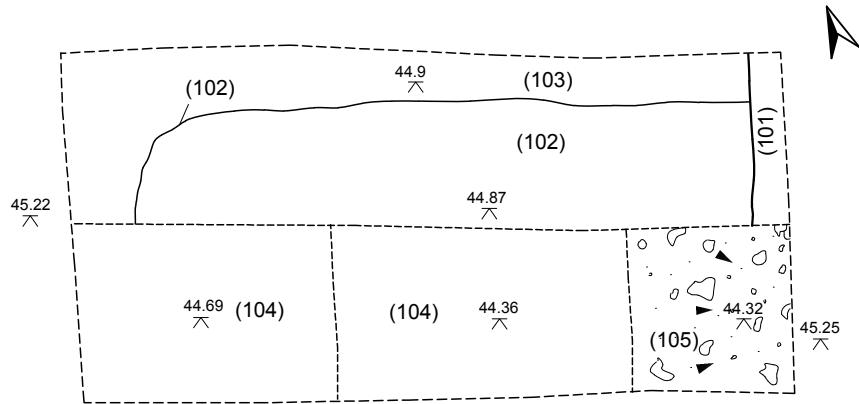
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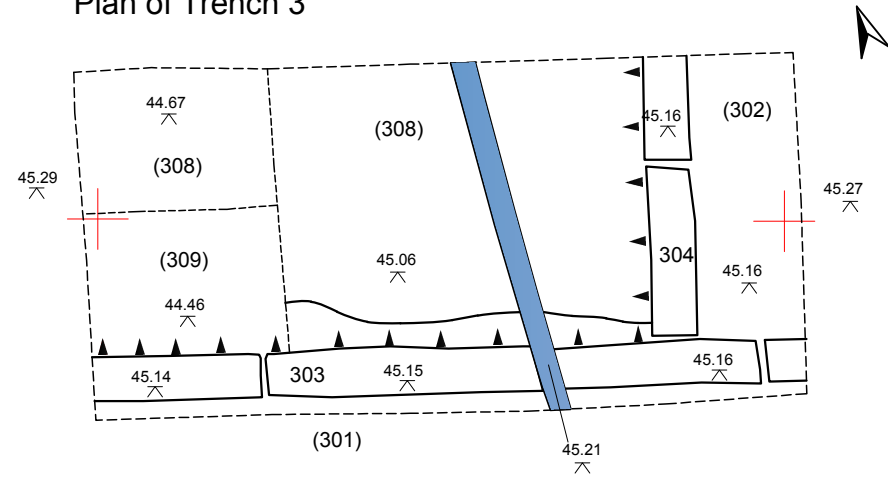
Plans of Trenches 1, 2 & 3

Figure 4

Plan of Trench 1



Plan of Trench 3



Plan of Trench 2

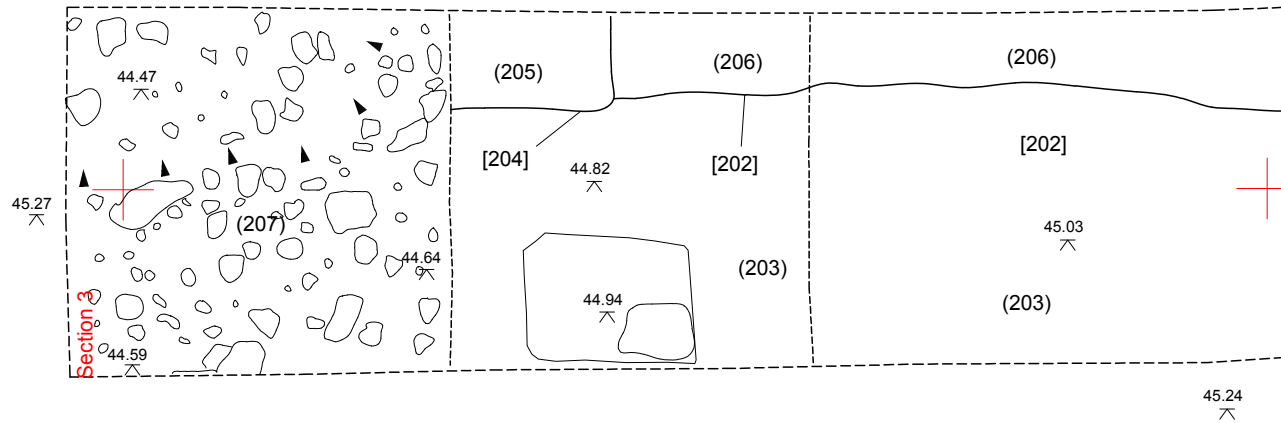


Figure 5

Plan of Trench 4

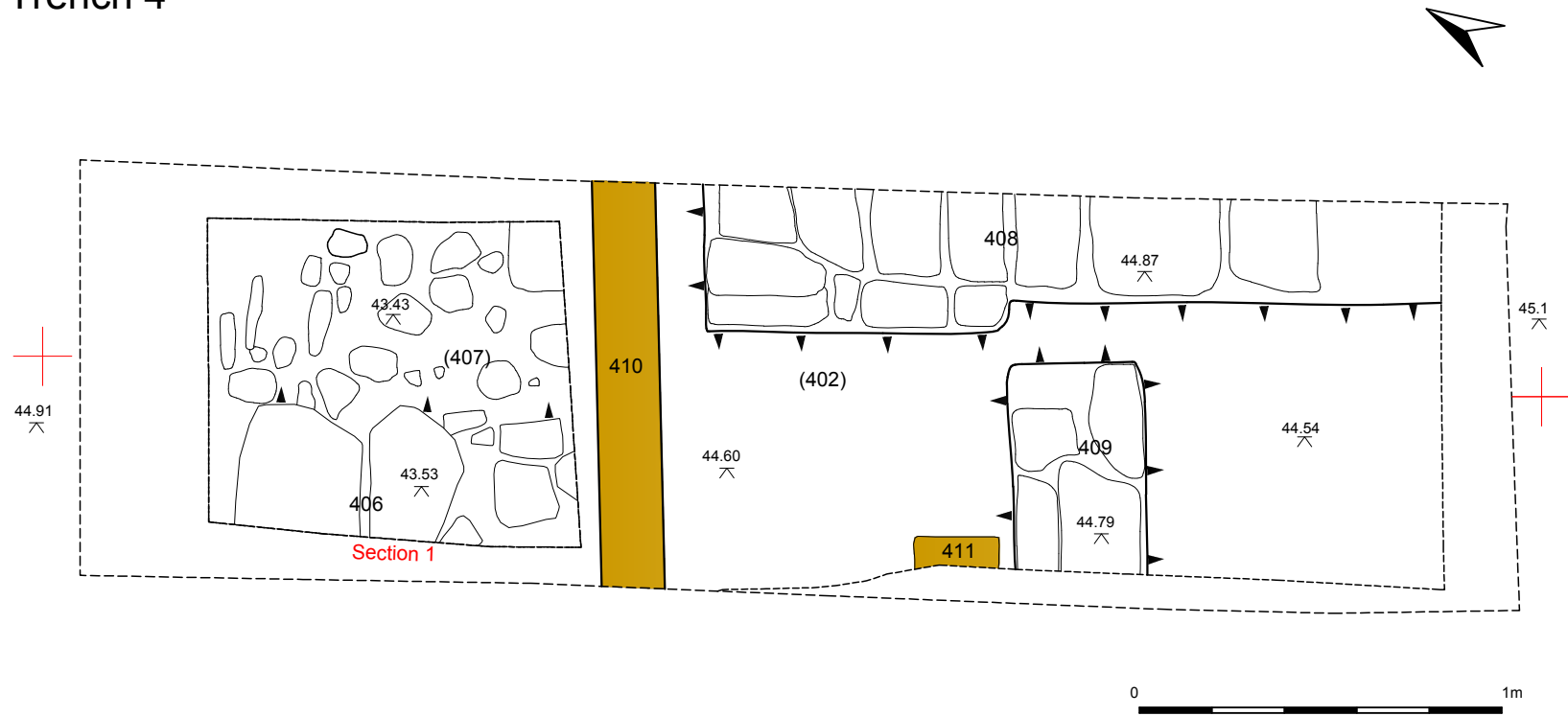


Figure 6

Plan of Trench 5

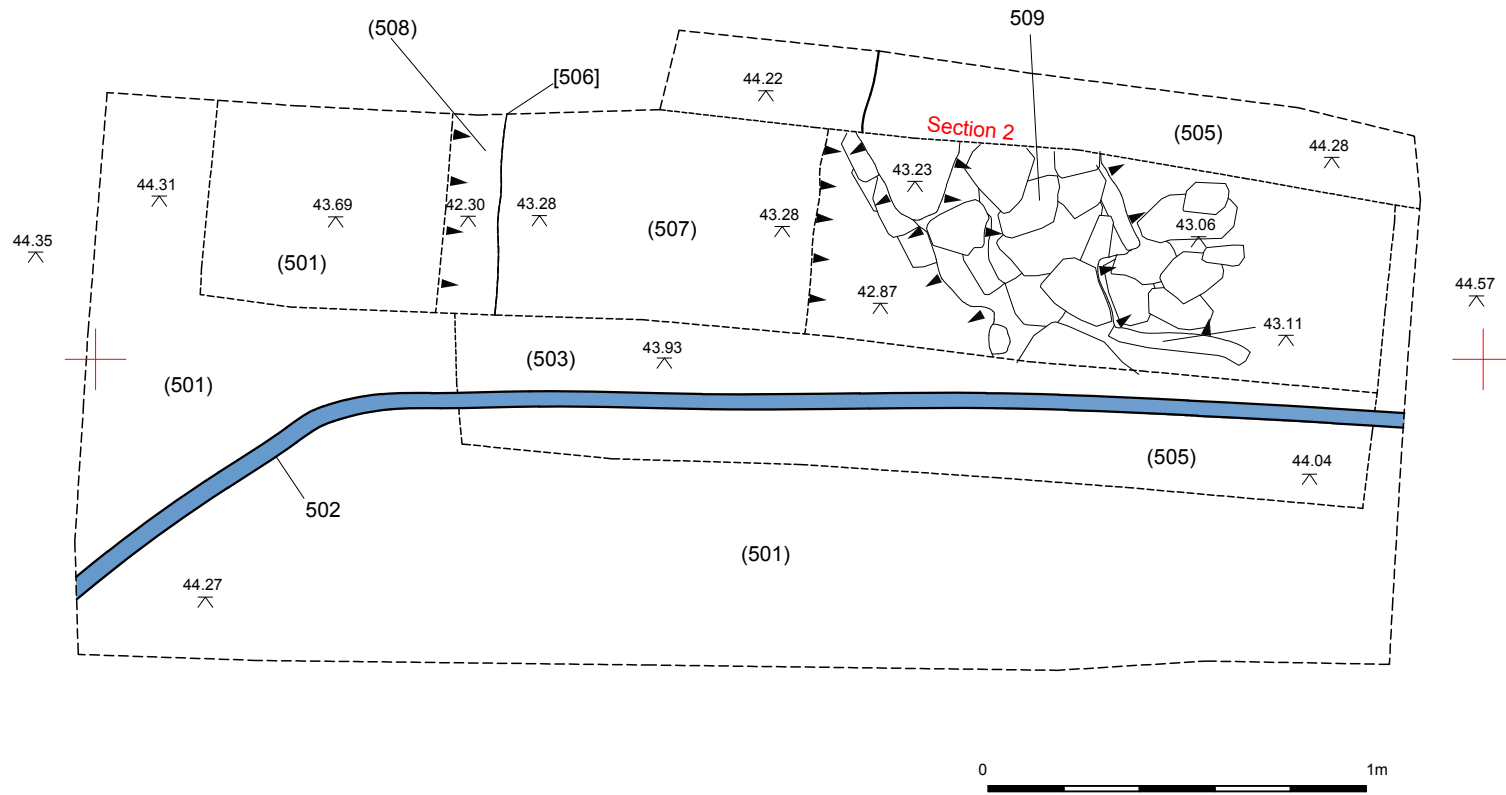
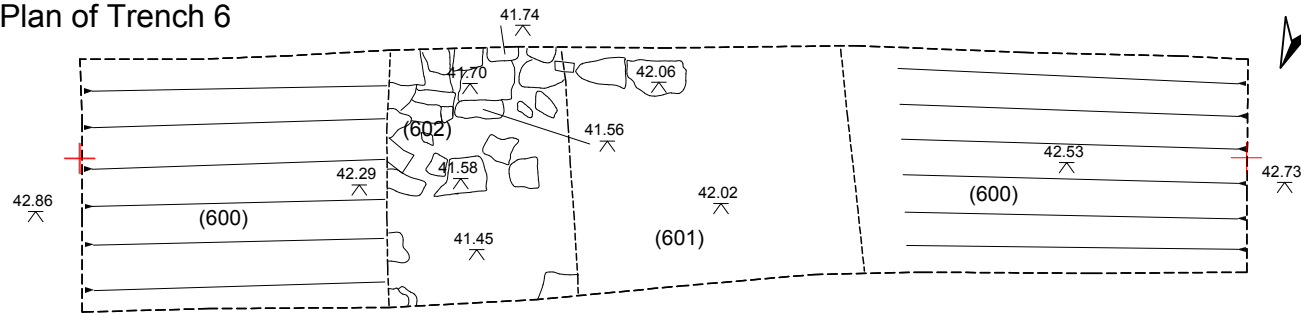


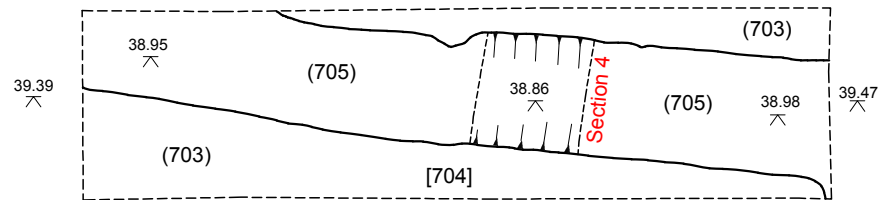
Figure 7

Plans of Trenches 6, 7 & 8

Plan of Trench 6



Plan of Trench 7



Plan of Trench 8

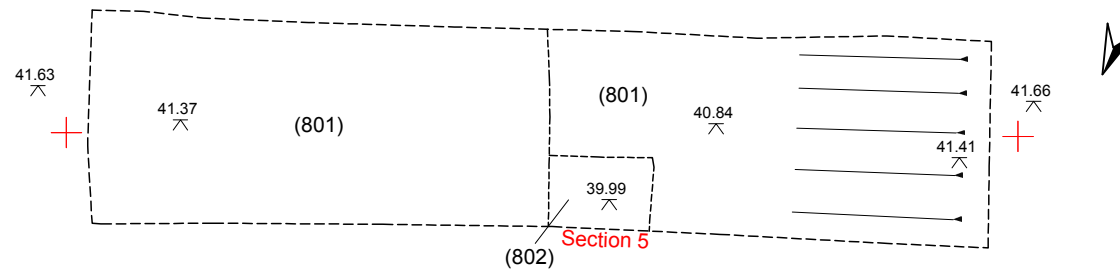
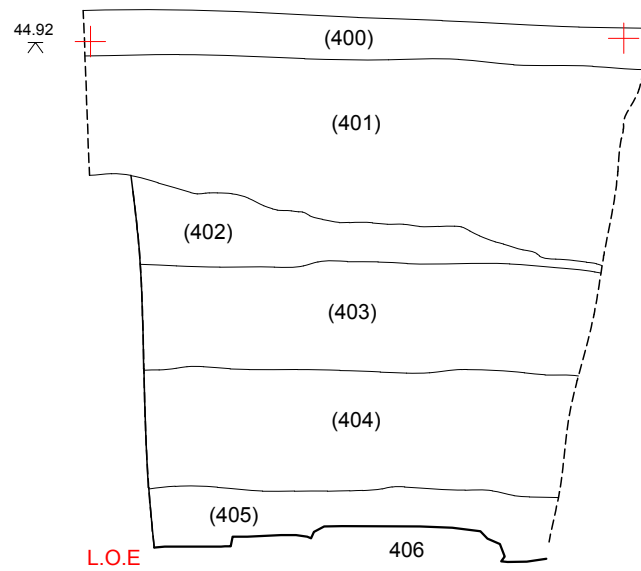


Figure 8

Sections 1 & 2

Section 1 East facing, Trench 4



Section 2 South-west facing, Trench 5

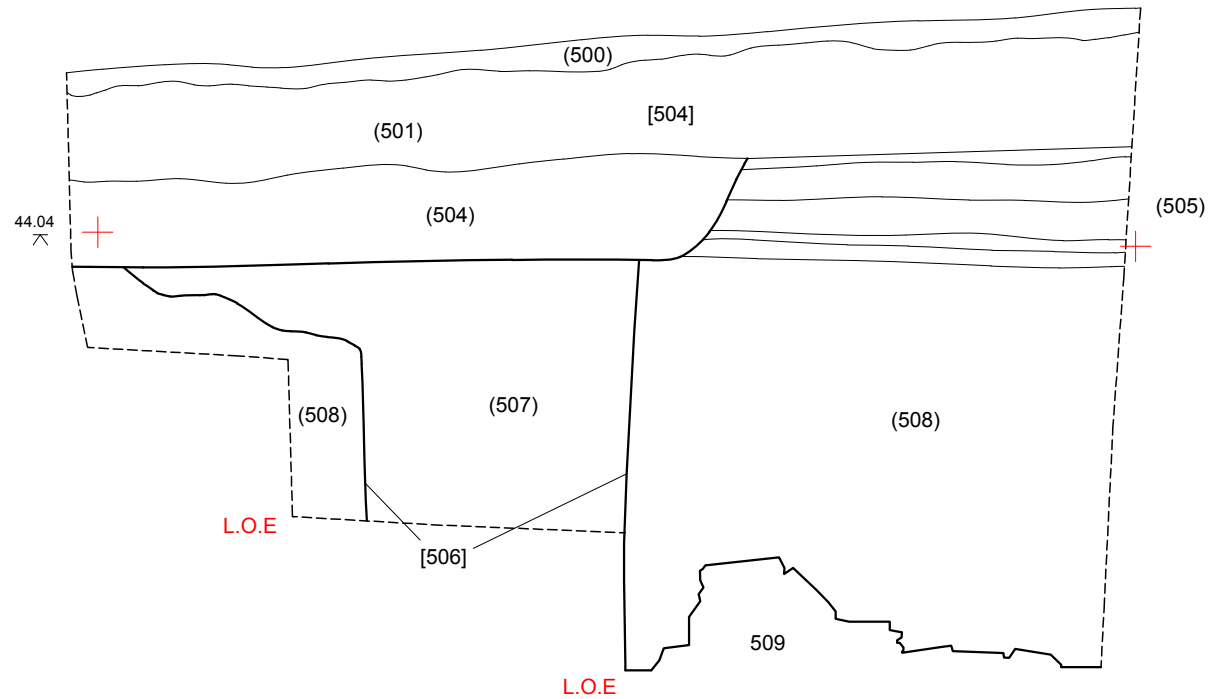
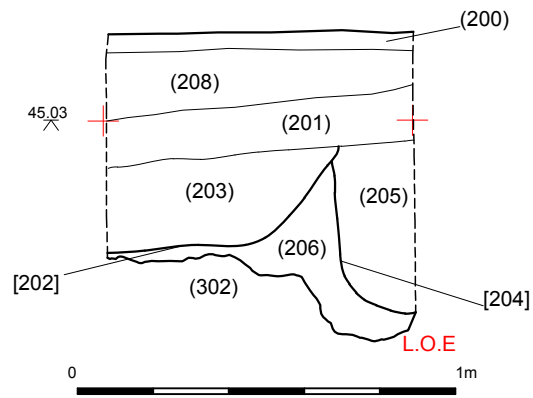


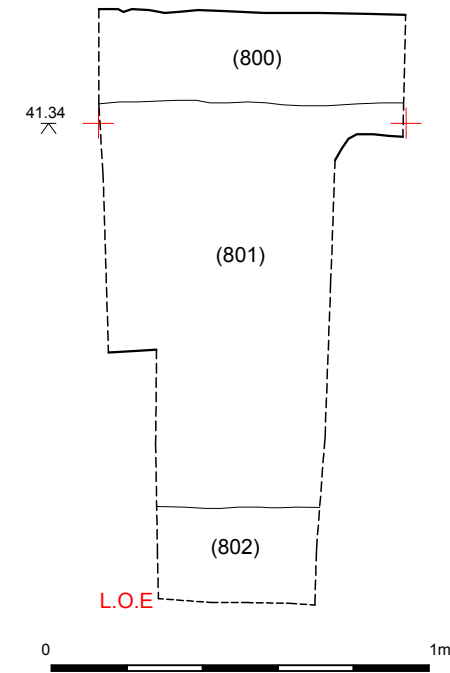
Figure 9

Sections 3, 4 & 5

Section 3 South-east facing, Trench 2



Section 5 South facing, Trench 2



Section 4 West facing, Trench 7

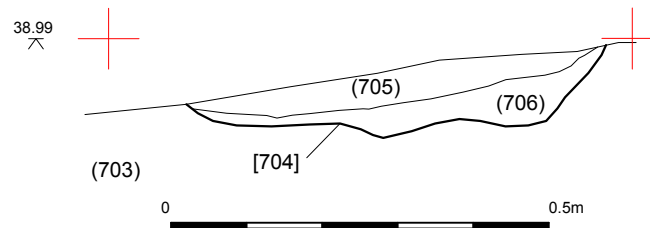
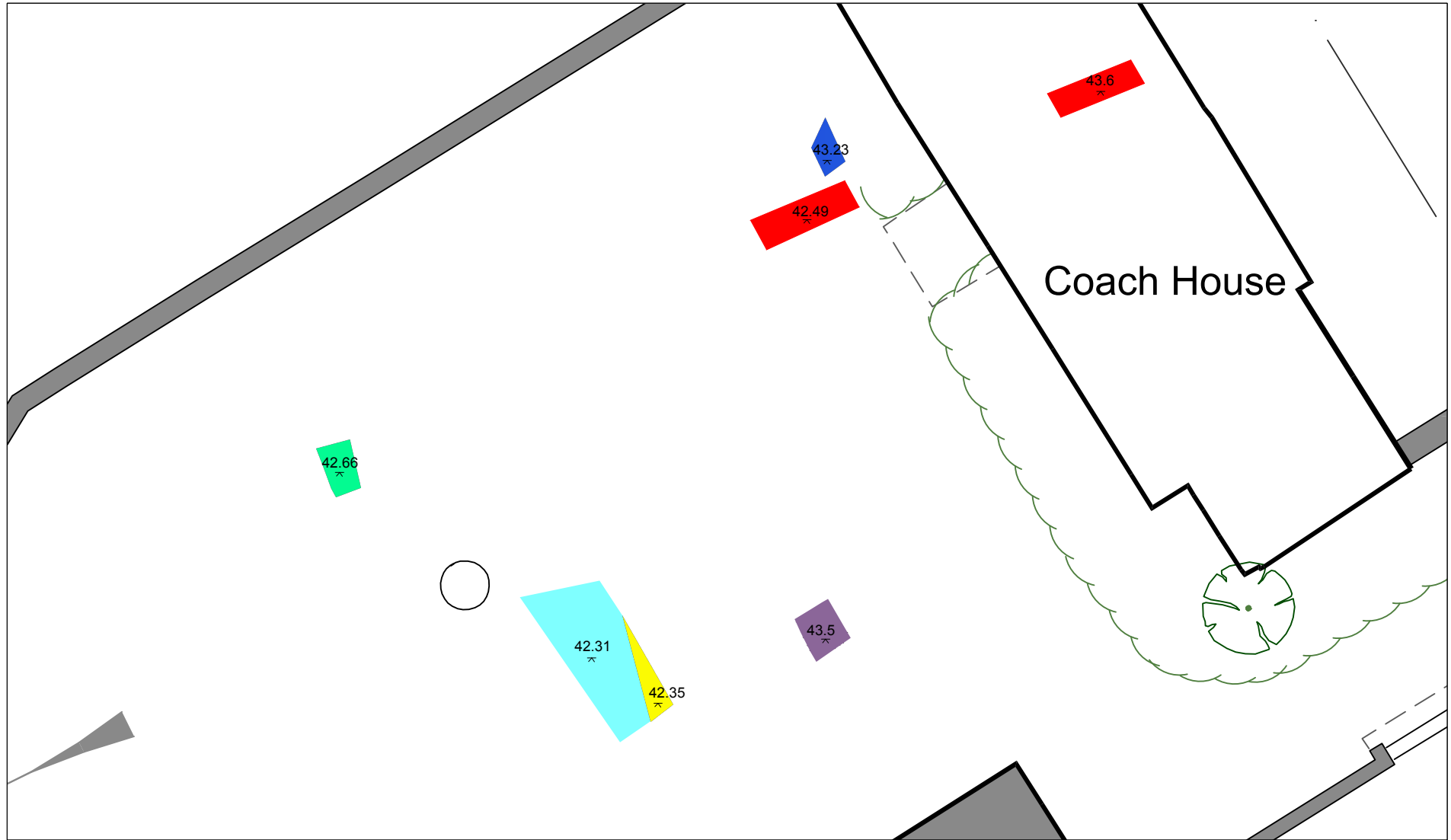


Figure 10

Locations and heights of known Romano-British structures found during this and previous site evaluation projects



- Walls (Watkins, 2008)
- Surface (BAT, 1995)
- Wall / Deposit (AAL, 2015)
- Drain (BAT, 1995)
- Surface (AAL, 2015)
- Wall (BAT, 1995)



PLATES



Plate 1: North facing section Trench 1. Rubble spread (105) at base. 1 x 0.2m scale.



Plate 2: Looking south at Trench 2. 1 x 0.6m Scale.



Plate 3: Southeast facing section Trench 2. Rubble spread (207) at base. 1 x 0.6m scale.



Plate 4: Looking north-west at Trench 3. 1 x 1m 1 x 0.4m, 1 x 0.2m.



Plate 5: South-east facing section Trench 3. Mortar surface (309) at base of section.
1 x 0.6m scale.



Plate 6: Looking south-east at Trench 4.
1 x 1m, 1 x 0.6m scale.



Plate 7: Detail of potential Romano-British
Pennant tile surface 406 and wall/foundation
407. Plan view (south-east to top) Trench 4.
1 x 0.6m scale.



Plate 8: North-east facing section Trench 4. 1 x 1m scale.



Plate 9: Looking north-west at Trench 5.
2 x 1m scale.



Plate 10: North-west facing section Trench 5.
Romano-British structural remains, 509, visible
at base of section. 1 x 1m scale.



Plate 11: North-west facing section of Trench 6
Showing remains of 19th century wall, 603.
1 x 1m scale.



Plate 12: Looking south-west at Trench 7.
2 x 1m scale.



Plate 13: South-west facing section through linear [704].
1 x 0.4m scale.



Plate 14: Looking north-east at Trench 8.
1 x 0.6m scale.



Plate 15: Box section through modern clay
dump (801). Buried subsoil (802) visible in
base. 1 x 1m scale.

APPENDIX 1: Context tables

Trench 1

Context No.	Description
100	Modern paving slabs and concrete, same as (200)
101	Modern yellow mortar and stone levelling layer
102	Fill of [106]. Brownish orange gravel, same as (203)
103	Garden soil. Mid brown silty loam, same as (201)
104	Greyish brown silty clay, same as (206, 308, 404, 508)
105	Dump of small limestone fragments and mid greyish brown silty clay, same as (207)
106	Shallow linear cut, modern, same as [202]

Trench 2

Context No.	Description
200	Modern paving slabs, same as (100)
201	Garden soil. Mid brown silty loam, same as (103)
202	Shallow linear cut, modern, same as [106]
203	Fill of [204], greyish brown sandy clay with light yellow clay inclusions
204	Cut of sub rectangular shallow pit
205	Fill of [202]. Light brownish yellow gravel
206	Greyish brown silty clay, same as (104, 308, 404, 508)
207	Dump of limestone fragments and mid greyish brown silty clay, same as (106)
208	Scalping bedding layer for (200)

Trench 3

Context No.	Description
300	Modern paving slabs
301	Sand bedding layer for 300
302	Modern dump of stone scalplings
303	Limestone kerbing orientated E-W
304	Limestone kerbing orientated N-S
305	Construction cut for kerbing [303]
306	Fill of [305]. Gritty black clinker packing material
307	Fill of [305] below kerbs 306. Rubble and brick material
308	Mid grey clay silt, same as (104, 206, 404)
309	Compact light grey mortar surface

Trench 4

Context No.	Description
400	Mid brown topsoil
401	Brownish grey sandy clay with moderate limestone rubble fragments inclusions
402	Blackish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal inclusions
403	Mid orange grey silty clay deposit
404	Dark greyish brown silty clay deposit
405	Mid greyish brown silty clay deposit
406	Pennant roof tile, dumped or placed over 407
407	Probable limestone rubble wall or foundation with inclusions a mid-grey, very loose mortar
408	Limestone wall orientated NW-SE
409	Limestone wall orientated NE-SW
410	Ceramic sewer pipe truncation
411	Ceramic sewer pipe truncation

Trench 5

Context No.	Description
500	Mid brown topsoil
501	Mid brown silty clay deposit
502	Plastic water pipe truncation
503	Cut feature
504	Fill of [503]. Mid brown silt
505	A sequence of five compact crushed limestone surfaces
506	Linear cut
507	Fill of [506]. Mid brown silt with frequent limestone rubble inclusions
508	Mid brown silty clay deposit
509	Probable stone structure orientated north-south, with frequent pennant stone roof tile

Trench 6

Context No.	Description
600	Scalpings and modern driveway
601	Mid reddish brown silty clay
602	Limestone wall

Trench 7

Context No.	Description
700	Unstratified
701	Mid brown topsoil
702	Subsoil
703	Natural substrata
704	Cut of E-W linear ditch or gully
705	Second fill of [704], mid grey clay.
706	First fill of [704], a mixed deposit of clay and decayed natural substrate

Trench 8

Context No.	Description
800	Mid brown topsoil
801	Mid greenish brown compact clay. Contains limestone, CBM and plastic inclusions
802	Dark greyish brown buried subsoil.

APPENDIX 2: Finds Tables

Table 1: Pottery (Jane Timby)

Cxt	Type	Roman			Undated	Med	Pmed	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date (tpq)
		sam	BB1	Other						
103	garden soil	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	26	Pmed
104	subsoil	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	Roman
203	pit 204	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	17	Pmed
207	layer	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	27	Med
306	fill cut 305	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	18	Pmed
308	layer	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	16	Pmed
404	layer	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	113	Pmed
405	buried subs	0	2	0	0	1	1	4	63	Pmed
705	linear 704	0	0	12	0	0	1	13	59	Pmed
706	linear 704	1	0	1	1	0	1	4	29	Pmed
802	buried subs	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	14	Med
TOTAL		1	3	14	1	10	14	43	386	

Table 2: CBM and other ceramics (Dr Jane Timby)

Cxt	Type	Roman	Med/P	undated	fclay	Other	Tot No	Tot Wt
104	subsoil	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.5
203	pit 204	0	0	1	0	0	1	6
206	layer	4	0	0	0	0	4	410
207	layer	0	0	2	0	0	2	17
306	fill cut 305	0	6	0	0	0	6	501
308	layer	0	0	2	0	0	2	39
407	foundation ?	2	0	0	0	0	2	31
705	linear 704	17	1	0	1	0	19	383
706	linear 704	2	0	5	0	0	7	44
802	subsoil	1	0	0	0	0	1	33
Tr 7 u/s	u/s	29	0	0	0	0	29	931
TOTAL		55	7	10	1	1	74	2395.5

Table 3: Animal Bone (Joss Davis)

Context number	Total weight per context (g)	Skeletal Element	Species	Comments
104	14	2 nd phalange	Pig	
104		Tibia, distal end, right	Sheep/Goat	
201	32	Innominate, left	Sheep/Goat	2 fragments
201		Radius, proximal end, left	Sheep/Goat	
404	34	Skull frag	CSZ	Cut marks
404		Unid frag	Unid	
407	64	Radius, shaft, left	SSZ	
407		Tibia, shaft frag	CSZ	
407		Tibia, shaft frag	CSZ	
407		Scapula frag	CSZ	
407		Unid	Unid	
802	12	Tibia frag	SSZ	

Unid = unidentified SSZ = sheep sized mammal CSZ= cow sized mammal

Table 4: Worked stone

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description
406	8	11,385	8 fragments of worked Pennant sandstone RB roof-tile. Probably originally hexagonal (cf. Atworth tiles, Cool 2008, 110). One of larger fragments has single nail-hole, centrally located towards upper edge. Maximum original width: 280mm; breadth: 18mm-26mm.
509	6	10,580	2 probable complete sandstone RB roof-tiles and 4 smaller fragments. Complete tiles are roughly hexagonal, with off-centre nail-hole. (1 has nail still in-situ). Dimensions of complete tiles: Tile a): 352mm (max.) by 213mm (max.) by 20mm; Tile b): 402mm (max.) by 246mm (max.) by 28mm. One of smaller fragments also retains nail-hole.

Table 5: Metalwork

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description
207	1	8	1 probable iron nail, heavily encrusted with corrosion products. Length: 45mm.
404	1	6	1 curved length of iron wire, with partially fragmented iron sheath.
405	2	24	1 probable iron nail, heavily corroded. Length: 40mm. 1 heavily corroded length of curved iron strip, rectangular in section, possibly a collar or binding. Length: 58mm.
802	1	20	1 iron nail, heavily corroded, square-sectioned shank, sub-rectangular flattened head. Length: 64mm.

Table 6: Glass

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description
103	1	6	1 shard of clear modern window glass.
203	1	8	1 shard of thick-walled, laminating olive green bottle glass.
401	15	782	<p>5 shards of olive green bottle glass, including 2 base shards with very high, narrow “kick-up” and 1 complete bottle neck with applied rim. Elongated air bubbles visible in shoulder of vessel. (All shards possibly from same vessel). Post-late 18th century (Charleston and Vince 1984, 85).</p> <p>10 shards of very pale green/clear bottle glass, including 4 conjoining base shards (no pontil mark or kick-up) marked “R & R/B” and shoulder marked “...ILLER & HIC...”. (“distiller & hickory brewer”?). (All shards possibly from same vessel.). Shoulder of bottle shows pronounced seam, which does not continue into neck, suggesting that bottle was blown in three distinct moulds and is therefore of 19th century date (Hedges 1975, 23).</p>
507	6	184	6 shards of thick-walled, laminating olive green bottle glass base with shallow “kick-up”.
Tr.7 U/S	2	8	<p>1 clear modern window glass shard.</p> <p>1 heavily laminating and weathered olive green vessel glass shard</p>

Miscellaneous

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description
201	1	<2	1 small oyster shell fragment.
203	1	4	1 clay tobacco pipe stem fragment.
404	4	14	4 undiagnostic clay tobacco pipe stem fragments, 1 with fractured spur heel.
Tr. 7 U/S	1	4	1 clinker fragment.
Tr. 7 U/S	1	<2	1 struck flint chip, showing bulb of percussion and some cortex. No secondary retouch.