

Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

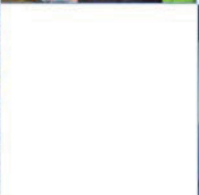
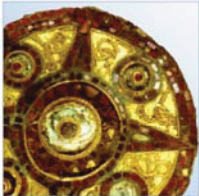
Planning Reference : 12/00294/SCO

National Grid Reference Number: SU 4161 1228

AOC Project No: 32110

Site Code: SOU 1587

Date: July 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation Report

On Behalf of: **Geoffrey Osborne Developments (South) Ltd**
Fonteyn House
47-49 London Road
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 9PY

National Grid Reference (NGR): **SU 4161 1228**

AOC Project No: **32110**

Prepared by: **Les Capon**

Illustration by: **Jonathan Moller**

Date: **July 2012**

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

Author: Les Capon

Date: July 2012

Approved by: Melissa Melikian

Date: July 2012

Draft/Final Report Stage: Draft

Date: July 2012

Enquiries to: AOC Archaeology Group
Unit 7
St Margarets Business Centre
Moor Mead Road
Twickenham
TW1 1JS

Tel. 020 8843 7380
Fax. 020 8892 0549
e-mail. london@aocarchaeology.com



www.aocarchaeology.com

Contents

	Page
List of Illustrations	iii
List of Plates	iii
Summary	iv
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Development Proposal and Planning Background	1
3. Geology and Topography	2
4. Archaeological And Historical Background.....	2
5. Strategy	4
6. Results of Archaeological Evaluation	5
7 Finds.....	16
8 Conclusions and Interpretation.....	16
9 Further Work and Publication	17
10 Archive Deposition.....	18
11. Bibliography.....	18
Appendix A - Context Register	32
Appendix B – Finds Report	35
Appendix C - OASIS Form	37

List of Illustrations

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Detailed Site/Trench Location Plan

Figure 3: Trench 1; Plan and Section

Figure 4: Trench 2; Plan and Sections

Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan and Section

Figure 6: Trenches 4 and 8; Plan and Sections

Figure 7: Trench 5: Plan and Sections

Figure 8: Trench 6: Plan and Sections

Figure 9: Trench 7: Plan and Section

Figure 10: Profiles

Figure 11: Plan Showing the profile Locations with the Ditch and Possible Archaeological Conduit

List of Plates

Plate 1: Ditch 207. Looking North

Plate 2: Feature 317, Looking North

Plate 3: Pipe in Trench 3

Plate 4: Sample Section of Trench 4

Plate 5: Ditch 513, Trench 5

Plate 6: Ditch 607, Trench 6

Plate 7: Feature 609

Plate 8: Feature 808

Summary

A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken on a site formerly occupied by domestic and commercial properties along Commercial Road and West Park Road, in Southampton. The buildings that once occupied the site were demolished following bomb damage during the Second World War, and by general site clearance in the 1980s and 1990s.

Much of the potential archaeological horizons of the site had been reworked through agriculture, horticulture, and the establishment of the properties on the site during the late 19th century, which comprised basements and significant concrete footings.

Three archaeological features were recognised during the archaeological evaluation. One of these was a shallow gully running northwest-southeast, roughly oriented to the historic Conduit House. This was potentially the location for a medieval conduit that ran from springs on Hill Lane to the city. However, no conduit was present. In both locations seen, there was a 19th century intrusion, so if the conduit had been present, it may have been physically removed in the past. The second feature was an infilled ditch running roughly north-south, which may have been filled around 1600AD. This represents a field or property boundary. The third feature was a small curving trench that revealed medieval pottery, and is the scant remnant of a feature of medieval date, of uncertain function.

Much of the 19th century activity on site was related to households and their associated drainage. Of note was one concrete-bound ceramic pipe, running downhill roughly southwards into a soakaway. This may be a storm drain from Commercial Road, or it may mark the location of the water supply from Conduit House, being simply diverted.

The evaluation has revealed that the conduit, if originally present, has been removed, and the only other feature surviving to significant depth is the field boundary. However, the foundation design is likely to require terracing of the site to enable piling to be conducted from a series of level platforms. The already truncated medieval feature and part of the medieval boundary ditch will be impacted by these works. Therefore it is recommended that any further archaeological work in relation to the development should be limited to a low level watching brief.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document presents the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation of a parcel of land east of the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton, Hampshire (Figure 1). It is proposed to develop the site to provide three blocks of student accommodation together with associated retail/social facilities and car parking.
- 1.2 The site is an irregular triangle in shape and measures approximately 0.7 hectares in size. It is bound by West Park Road to the south, Commercial Road to the north, Havelock Road to the east and The Mayflower Theatre to the west (Figure 2).

2. Development Proposal and Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is Southampton City Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Stephen Appleby, Senior Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council (HCC).
- 2.2 Within a 500m radius around the site there is one Registered Park and Garden, Central Parks (East and West Park) to the east of the site, and two Scheduled Monuments; Conduit House to the immediate north of the site along Commercial Road, and Conduit Head to the north east along Hill Lane. Both these monuments are part of the Franciscan Friar's water supply system and date to the 13th century. The site lies within a Local Area of Archaeological Importance (LAAI) 5B - Bannister Park. The proposed development site contains two HER entries, but no listed buildings or Scheduled Monuments
- 2.3 The proposed development (Planning Application Ref No: (08/00149/FUL)) is for the erection of three blocks of student accommodation together with associated retail/social facilities and car parking.
- 2.4 Planning consent (08/00149/FUL) was previously granted for a mixed-use development and an archaeological condition was attached in order that the archaeological implications of the development could be fully considered. Initially, an archaeological desk-based assessment was produced (AOC 2008), which examined the historical and archaeological evidence relating to the site. This was updated in 2012 (AOC 2012)
- 2.5 A request for a scoping opinion under Regulation 10(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 was made on 2nd October 2007, prior to a formal planning application for the redevelopment of the site with a mixed use development comprising B1 (office), residential and a hotel (Planning Reference 07/01572/SCO).
- 2.6 On 27th May, 2010, a Brief for Archaeological work was produced by Stephen Appleby, Senior Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council (HCC 2010).
- 2.7 A second request for a scoping opinion was made on 28th February 2012 (Planning Reference 12/00294/SCO) under Regulation 13(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 prior to a formal planning application for the redevelopment of the site with a mixed use development comprising a student residential scheme with ground floor commercial uses.
- 2.8 The next stage in the archaeological process was the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation, detailing the methodology that would be used for the archaeological evaluation and including some background history of the site (AOC 2012). This document was approved by Stephen Appleby of HCC, and was designed in accordance with then current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:

- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- Institute of Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2009)
- English Heritage - Archaeological Guidance Papers 3-4 London Region (EH 1998a-b)
- DoCLG – Planning Policy Statement (PPS5): Planning for the Historic Environment (DoCLG 2010)
- DoCLG – National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DoCLG 2012)

3. Geology and Topography

- 3.1 The general topography of the site slopes down from the north-east to the south-west. The levels vary across the site from 6.20 m AOD in the south-western corner to 10.54 m AOD in the north-western corner, and up to 14.20m AOD in the north-east.
- 3.2 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1987) indicates that the geology varies across the site. In the north-east area the River Terrace Deposits (predominantly comprised of gravel (Number 3)) overlie the Wittering Formation bedrock, while the Wittering Formation of the Bracklesham Group is the upper deposit in the south-west side of the site. The River Terrace Deposits present derive from the River Test, the banks of which the site was located upon prior to reclamation. A stream also previously ran across the west of the site that has now been backfilled.
- 3.3 A geotechnical and geoenvironmental report for the development site was produced in October 2007 (STATS 2007). Made ground deposits measuring up to 2.85m thick were located below the tarmac surface. The made ground comprised silty sandy flint gravel with occasional fragments of concrete, brick and other demolition waste.

4. Archaeological And Historical Background

4.1 Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 4.1.1 Palaeolithic activity in Hampshire would appear to be concentrated along the sea front and inland estuaries, and settlements and habitation gradually radiated into the hinterland.
- 4.1.2 Within the vicinity of Southampton, Mesolithic activity has been noted at Priory Avenue in St. Denys, and Neolithic activity at nearby Shirley. Bronze Age artefacts were discovered in the 19th century at Southampton Common and Cobden Bridge, and Iron Age earthworks have been recognised at Lordswood and Alder Moor, with Iron Age buildings also found near to the city centre during excavations at Maddison Street.

4.2 The Roman Period (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 4.2.1 During the Roman period the focus of settlement was north of the modern city at the bend in the River Itchen, where Bitterne now stands. *Clausentum* became an important port, and excavations have revealed traces of a bath-house, warehouses, roadways and tracks, and defences in the form of banks and walls.
- 4.2.2 There is no evidence from the Roman period of occupation within this part of the modern city. Although a Roman cemetery and pottery are recorded from the general area it was not anticipated that any Roman finds were likely to be present upon the site.

4.3 The Early Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066) and Medieval periods (AD 1066 – AD 1538)

- 4.3.1 The settlement in the Saxon period, *Hamwic*, was located to the north of the modern city centre in the Queensland, Belvidere, Chapel and Crosshouse areas of modern Southampton. The middle Saxon (c.700-850) town of *Hamwic* was situated further south around what is now Northam and St Marys.
- 4.3.2 The name Hamtun-scire was mentioned in the English Chronicle of 755. The first mention of the town that gave the name to the shire was made in the 9th century. The name Ham-tun means 'Home enclosure' and appears in the 837 English Chronicle as Hamtun/Hamtune. In 1045 the settlement was referred to as Heantun. The prefix of south first appears in documentary evidence in the middle of the 10th century – Suthamtonia.
- 4.3.3 The Saxon settlement at *Hamwic* was a relatively prosperous trading port with the continent and Scandinavia. It was one of the burghs created by King Alfred in response to the Danish raids of the 9th and 10th century, of which Hamwic suffered several times. These raids are thought to be part reasons for a decline of prosperity in *Hamwic* during the late 9th century.
- 4.3.4 By the medieval period settlement in Southampton again shifted, south to the area of the modern city centre. The Norman period saw the construction of the castle and town defences, which were all later refortified following a devastating raid by the French in the 14th century, and Southampton became one of the strongest fortified centres in England.
- 4.3.5 The site is located to the north of the main locus of the medieval city. Documentary evidence suggests that the site remained fields during this period and there may have been a lane traversing the site. Blake's research in *The Cartulary of the Priory of St Denys near Southampton* (1981) suggests that the portion of land on which the site lies was part of a tenement held by one Thurston Waget. It was subsequently divided among his heirs and reassembled in 1273/4 by Richard de Suwyck. A various number of people are listed in the rentals of 1476 and after dissolution it was demised, along with the surrounding fields to John Vaughan.
- 4.3.6 The primary medieval items of archaeological importance within the vicinity of the site are those associated with a conduit system that ran from Conduit Head (on modern day Hill Lane), through Conduit House (on modern Day Commercial Road/Water Lane) and southwards to the Friary (located on the site of the modern British Telecom Building) (Figure 2).

4.4 Post-Medieval (AD 1538 – AD 1900) and Modern Period (AD 1900 to present)

- 4.4.1 By 1600 the town's prosperity had declined and it was described as a 'decayed port', though trade and shipbuilding did continue. The conduit system across the town was still in use during this time, and the *in-situ* pipes that were uncovered during excavations at Conduit House were post-medieval in date. The cistern at Conduit House is thought to have been added at this time. Other aspects of the Conduit House are 19th century.
- 4.4.2 Evidence from Kelly's Southampton Directory shows that between 1865 and 1913 the buildings on the streets around the site were primarily residential. By 1921, some of the properties were starting to be used for commercial purposes, such as number 8 (A & B) which was used as a confectioner, milliner's and photographic studio. The Empire Theatre first appears in the 1929-30 edition.
- 4.4.3 By 1938-9 all of the properties that were on the site that front onto Commercial Road were used for commercial ventures; this probably included Nos. 4 – 10 Commercial Road, which was subject to building recording prior to demolition in 1998.
- 4.4.4 The earliest cartographic evidence dates from the beginning of the 19th century and does not indicate that the site had been developed. The 1802 plan of Southampton by an unknown

cartographer depicts the site still wholly as open fields. The late 18th century canal tunnel is shown running a short distance south of the site, along the line of the modern railway (Course, 1977: 74). The Royal Engineer's Map of 1846 shows the site as covered by open fields/gardens and an upmarket residence by the name of Bridgefield. At this time it was occupied by only two buildings. Although the house is most likely to date from the first half of the 19th century, it is possible that the earlier 1802 map was not detailed enough to show such detail.

- 4.4.5 The first Ordnance Survey Map procured, of 1877 shows that Bridgefield was still present on site and was more extensive, although the majority of the site had still not been built upon. By 1910, the degree of development had increased, particularly in the south-western portion. In 1933, The Empire Theatre, which is now the current Mayflower Theatre is shown for the first time. The area was then mostly built up.
- 4.4.6 Extensive bombing took place upon Southampton in 1940, during the Second World War, as illustrated by Bomb Damage cards held at Southampton City Archive and sources such as the Bomb damage map. It would appear that four or five areas of the site were severely affected by blasts at this time and five buildings on site are highlighted as being damaged. The map also shows a bomb crater in the southwest of the site. Along West Park Road, the bomb damage cards show that most buildings between numbers 1 and 32 had been severely damaged, and many had to be demolished.
- 4.4.7 The 1953 Ordnance Survey Map shows that the layout of the site has changed little with post war rebuilding taken place upon the same plots of land, following the same property boundaries. More recent maps of the site show complete redevelopment except for a single building along the site's southern boundary. The site is now completely void of building development, covered by tarmac and was, until recently, in use as a car park with fly tipping apparent.

4.5 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 4.5.1 There have been two previous archaeological investigations within the site itself. A watching brief carried out in 1998 by the Archaeology Unit of Southampton City Council uncovered small quantities of residual worked flint and two sherds of medieval pottery. A building survey was also conducted on the site prior to demolition.

5. Strategy

5.1 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation were as follows:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable the archaeology advisor to the Southampton City Council to make an informed decision on the status of the condition, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.
- 5.1.2 The specific aims of the evaluation were as follows:

- Determine the presence and nature of any prehistoric remains.
- Determine the presence and nature of any medieval remains.
- Determine the presence of the medieval conduit.
- To provide suitable information concerning the preservation in situ of archaeological deposits so as to inform further mitigation through foundation design or archaeological mitigation.

5.1.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

5.2 Methodology

5.2.1 Site procedures were defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2012). All work was carried out in accordance with local and national guidelines (see Section 2.8).

5.2.2 Eight trenches, numbered 1-5, were excavated (Figure 2) across the site. Prior to commencing work, a unique site code (SOU 1587) was obtained from the Southampton HER and was used as the site identifier for all records produced.

5.2.4 The evaluation was carried out over seven days between 13th and 21st June 2012.

5.2.5 Levels for each context were established from two temporary benchmarks transferred to the site from a benchmark on Conduit House (12.10mOD).

5.2.6 The site work was supervised by Les Capon under the overall management of Melissa Melikian, Operations Director. The site was monitored by Stephen Appleby, Senior Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council (HCC).

6. Results of Archaeological Evaluation

6.1 Trench 1

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
101	Tarmac	0.05m	11.84m to 12.01m
102	Demolition deposit	0.40m	11.79m to 11.96m
103	Upcast gravel and topsoil	0.70m	11.48m to 11.56m
104	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.80m	10.74m to 10.96m
105	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.30m	9.94m to 10.16m
106	Terrace Gravel	NFE	9.64m to 9.85m

6.1.1 Trench 1 was located in the northeast corner of the site, and was oriented northwest-southeast. The trench measured 26m by 2.0m (Figure 3).

6.1.2 Naturally-lain yellowish terrace gravel (106) was the earliest deposit revealed, sloping down southeastwards from 9.85mOD to 9.64mOD, although this represents more of a drop in the natural topography to the southwest. This naturally-lain sand and gravel was sealed, where untruncated, by a layer of yellowish brown sandy silty clay subsoil (105) that was up to 0.30m thick. Above the subsoil was a thick layer of very dark greyish brown sandy silt (104), with quite a high organic content, as well as occasional inclusions of brick fragments, small gravel and very occasional fragments of shell. This was clearly ploughsoil or garden soil, lying at 10.96mOD where not truncated, following the natural topography downhill southwards to 10.74mOD. This was cut into by construction events of the known 19th century housing on site.

6.1.3 The largest intrusion was located at the northern end of the trench, which was a basement [108] constructed of double breadth brick walls, bonded with cement-rich mortar. The basement was still

lined with blue and white wallpaper. This was not fully excavated: clearly this cut deeply into the potential archaeological sequence. The topmost surviving brick course lay at 11.81mOD. The fill was loose building material, dominated by brick rubble (107). This basement lies in the location of a bomb strike recorded on the bomb damage map, and represents part of No. 12 Commercial Road. The ground adjacent to the basement was made up with a dump that most likely represents the upcast layers excavated for it. This dump was mottled bark brown and yellowish brown, and was gravel rich sand with lenses of clay and sandy silt (103).

- 6.1.4 A second basement in the centre of the trench lay within the footprint of No.10 Commercial Road. This was established in a vertical sided cut [111] and built of red brick in English bond with a sandy yellow mortar. This was less solidly built than the basement to the north. The walls [112] stood for 2m, at 11.64mOD, the floor of the basement at 9.64mOD. The disused basement was backfilled with loosely compacted building, again dominated by brick rubble (113).
- 6.1.5 Two services crossed the upcast dump (103), one bound in concrete (109), running north-south, the other was just seen as a filled trench (110) running east west. Both were retained in case they were still live.
- 6.1.6 The topsoil and building events were sealed by up to 0.4m depth of rubble and general demolition material (102). This was across the entire trench except for the filled northwest basement, and formed a bed for a thin tarmac surface (101) which followed. The surface of the trench lay roughly flat at the northwest end, at 12.01m dropping only slightly southeastwards to 11.84mOD.
- 6.1.7 No features of archaeological significance were present in this trench.

6.2 Trench 2

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
200	Tarmac	0.12m	12.47m to 14.03m
211	C20 th floor slab	0.20m	12.47m to 12.48m
209	Fill of 212 (10YR 4/6)	0.50m	11.82m to 12.51m
212	Crater	0.50m	11.82m to 12.51m
206	Fill of 207 (7.5YR 5/6)	0.94m	12.05m
208	Primary fill of 207 (10YR 4/6)	0.70m	11.09m to 12.05m
207	Ditch	0.96m	11.09m to 12.05m
210	Terrace gravel	NFE	11.58m to 12.51m

- 6.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the north of the site and was oriented east west, close to the northern site boundary. The trench measured 41.5m by 2.3m (Figure 4).
- 6.2.2 The earliest deposit uncovered during the works was naturally-lain terrace gravel (210). This was truncated by a basement and a bomb crater. The gravel lay at 12.51mOD adjacent to the basement, dropping to 11.58m at the western end of the trench. The lack of any subsoil or topsoil above the gravel strongly suggests that the natural topography has been affected.
- 6.2.3 The earliest cut feature in the trench was a ditch running north-south [207]. This was 1.70m wide, and had a rounded base. . The top of the ditch lay at 12.05mOD and was present to a depth of 0.96m. The two sides were of different form. The western side of the ditch was near-vertical, while the eastern side sloped more gently at around 45°. The steep side is a surprising element, given the potential looseness of the terrace gravel it was cut through. There were two fills. The lower fill dominated the east side of the ditch, and was soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt (208) with occasional rounded gravel inclusions It may have derived from upcast material from the ditch digging, or possibly a bank on the eastern side. The upper fill appeared to have filled the ditch as a

single event, and was strong brown sandy silt (206) with frequent small-medium varied gravel. The fill can only be generally dated to between 1500 and 1900: one piece of fragmentary brick and two pieces of grey slate were noted.



Plate 1: Ditch 207. Looking North

- 6.2.4 In the centre of the trench was a hollow 10.75m wide and just 0.50m deep [212]. This had shallowly sloping edges and a rounded base. It intruded upon the north south ditch. The fill was a mix of mid brown silty clayey sand, gravel and brick rubble with occasional fragments of slate (209). This hollow lies directly below the marked location of No.2 Commercial Road, which was bombed to destruction, and may therefore represent the blast crater.
- 6.2.5 At the eastern end of the trench was the basement of a 20th century property formerly fronting Havelock Road: No.22. This was constructed with solid brick walls [202 and 203] with cement mortar, built on top of a basement slab [205]. The slab lay at 11.98mOD, the walls stood to 13.54mOD. The basement was filled with loose, uncompacted rubble (204), which was dominated by brick, but also contained discards of plastic and stone. This is not part of a property marked as bomb damaged on the 1945 map, rather it represents more modern demolition. A secondary brick wall foundation [201] lay west of the basement, 1.26m deep, standing from 12.40mOD to 13.50mOD. It probably represents part of the same building.
- 6.2.6 10m east from the western end of the trench was a concrete slab [211] at 12.47mOD, part of a former property on the site. This concrete slab may be part of No. 6 Commercial Road. This was retained because of a live signal detected, and a possible intact service identified.
- 6.2.7 All upper layers of the trench, including the backfilled crater and the basement slab, were sealed by tarmac (200). This lay at 14.03mOD at the eastern end of the trench, dropping to 12.47mOD.

6.3 Trench 3

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
300	Hard standing	0.22m	8.49m to 9.02m
302	Garden soil (10YR 4/2)	0.40m	8.06m to 8.60m
304	Concrete	0.10m	8.92m
305	Brick base, toilet block	0.23m	8.94m
308	Ceramic pipe	0.20m	8.11m to 8.16m
311	Soakaway	0.25m	8.07m
314	Soakaway	0.39m	7.65m
303	Ploughsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.40m	7.65m to 8.20m
316	Fill of 317 (10YR 4/4)	0.21m	7.50m to 7.71m
317	Medieval feature	0.21m	7.50m to 7.71m
318-320	Terrace gravel	NFE	7.21m to 8.00m

6.3.1 Trench 3 was oriented north south located in the west of the site, parallel to the boundary with the Mayflower Theatre. The trench was originally to measure 30m by 2m in plan (Figure 5); modern immovable concrete piles at the southern end curtailed the available evaluation space and the trench was eventually 2.4m wide.

6.3.2 Naturally-lain terrace gravels (318, 319 and 320) were the earliest deposits encountered, lying in bands across the topography of the trench, as it sloped downhill from 8.00mOD in the north, to 7.26mOD at the southern end of the trench. This level compares to gravel found in the nearby Trench 1, where the terrace gravels were present at 9.64mOD, indicative of some terracing or other truncation. At the northern end of the trench, foundations directly overlay the gravel, at the southern end of the trench, agricultural soils were present.



Plate 2: Feature 317, Looking North

- 6.3.3 The earliest event apparent in the trench was a short, curving length of a narrow ditch [317], just 0.22m deep with a rounded base. It was 0.50m wide and had a sharp interface with the layer above. The fill was dark yellowish brown sandy silt (316) with moderately frequent rounded gravel. Two pieces of pottery from the trench come from domestic vessels, and date from the 15th century. There was no occupation horizon associated with this feature, so its function is unclear. The top of the feature lay at 7.71mOD.
- 6.3.4 The medieval feature was sealed by 0.40m depth of dark greyish brown sandy silt which was present in most of the trench, bar later truncations. It contained inclusions of occasional gravel brick and tile fragments, and appeared to be rich in organic components, as would befit agricultural soil. This was cut by two soakaways [311 and 314].
- 6.3.5 Both soakaways were constructed of soft red bricks and held together with cement-rich sandy mortar. The bricks measured 230mm by 110mm by 70mm, consistent with a late 19th or early 20th century date. That on the west side of the trench was hardly seen [314], and lay within a cut [315] backfilled with soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt (313). The second soakaway [311] was seen to have a domed top, and also lay within a backfilled (310) cut [312]. The top of this lay at 8.07mOD. Of note was a ceramic pipe (308) that appeared to feed into the soakaway. This was present for 10m in the trench, entering from the direction of Commercial Road and Conduit House. It was mostly encased in concrete (308), and was manufactured by Kinson Pottery Ltd, Poole. This company has been in business since 1858. An additional pipe appears to feed into this (309). The major pipe was recorded at 8.16mOD at its northern point, exiting the trench southeastwards at 8.11mOD.



Plate 3: Pipe in Trench 3

- 6.3.6 A second layer of dark brown silty clay (302) overlay the soakaways, and was very similar to the agricultural soil below. It may be considered more of a garden soil, given the construction of residential properties on the site in the late 19th century.
- 6.3.7 The northern end of the trench contained a concrete base [306] with the remains of the brick superstructure of a row of toilet cubicles above. This lay at 8.94mOD and lay directly over truncated terrace gravel. Adjacent to it was a short stretch of concrete (304). Sealing both these structural elements was a layer of sand and gravel (301) that was 0.2m deep, and formed the base of a layer of hardstanding (300) that was the current ground surface. This lay at 9.02mOD in the north of the trench, dropping to 8.49mOD at the south, with an almost negligible slope.

6.4 Trench 4

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
401	Tarmac	0.05m	9.89m to 11.56m
402	Overburden	0.50m	9.84m to 11.51m
403	Demolition dump	0.70m	9.34m to 11.00m
404	Redeposited topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.40m	9.32m to 10.30m
405	Redeposited gravel (10YR 8/6)	0.20m	9.30m to 10.11m
406	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.60m	9.30m to 9.81m
407	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.10m	8.86m to 9.21m
408	Terrace Gravel	NFE	8.81m to 9.11m

- 6.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the centre of the site and was oriented northwest-southeast. The trench measured 20m by 1.6m in plan (Figure 6). The trench was lacking in any significant archaeological remains.
- 6.4.2 Naturally-lain terrace gravel (408) was the earliest deposits encountered, lying in bands across the topography of the trench, as it sloped downhill from 9.11mOD in the northwest, to 8.73mOD at the southwestern end of the trench. The terrace gravel was sealed by a layer of mid yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil (407) that was up to 0.10m deep. Above this was a layer of very dark greyish brown organic sandy silt (406), which was topsoil. This lay at 9.81mOD at the northwest of the trench, dropping to 9.30mOD to the south.
- 6.4.3 Two services and one concrete footing cut the topsoil. The concrete footing [409] was oriented north-south, as was one nearby glazed ceramic drain (410). The other service was a large glazed ceramic pipe of 0.40m diameter, bedded on concrete, running northeast-southwest, at the very southeastern end of the trench [411].
- 6.4.4 Above the services and the topsoil, the ground was made up by a maximum of 1.40m by a series of 19th and 20th century deposits. The first was a dump of redeposited terrace gravel (405), with a dump of dark greyish brown topsoil above (404). This lay at 9.81m at the northwest of the trench, to 9.30m at the southeast. Occasional fragments of porcelain, and building material proved it to post-date 1850, and probably represents upcast material from basement digging, forming garden soils contemporary with the former housing on site.



Plate 4: Sample Section of Trench 4

6.4.5 The topsoil was sealed by a dump of demolition material dominated by brick rubble (403), up to 0.70m deep, higher at the northwestern end of the trench. This represents the demolished 19th and 20th century houses from the site. Above this, 0.50m depth of made ground (402), again concentrated to the northwest was present, and was a mix of brown/ yellowish brown soil with building material, plastic, metal and general debris. This formed the subsurface to tarmac (401). The tarmac lay at 11.56m at the northwest end of the trench, dropping to 9.89mOD at the southeast end.

6.4.6 No features of archaeological significance were present in this trench.

6.5 Trench 5

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of deposit
501	Tarmac	0.08m	12.86m to 12.95m
502	Rubble dump also fills 503	1.60m	12.78m to 12.87m
503	Crater	1.40m	12.04m to 12.67m
504	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.40m	12.19m to 12.69m
506	Top fill of ditch 513 (7.5YR 5/6)	0.14m	11.79m
513	Ditch	0.98m	10.75m to 11.79m
505	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.08m	11.79m to 12.29m
514	Terrace gravel	NFE	11.23m to 12.19m

6.5.1 Trench 5 was located east of the middle of the site, oriented northwest-southeast, some 25m east of Trench 4 (Figure 7). The trench measured 22.5m by 2m in plan, and contained a boundary ditch which is possibly of medieval date. This ditch was also seen in Trenches 2 and 6.

6.5.2 Naturally-lain terrace gravel (514) was the earliest deposit encountered, lying in bands across the trench, as it sloped downhill from 11.79mOD in the northwest, to 10.75mOD at the southeastern end of the trench. The terrace gravel was sealed by a layer of mid yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil (505) that was up to 0.08m deep.

6.5.3 At the northern end of the trench, and running more north-south was a ditch [513]. This had one near-vertical edge on the western side, and the eastern side had a 50° slope. The base was almost flat, lying at 10.75mOD. This profile strongly resembles that of a ha-ha; a hidden boundary suitable for keeping livestock enclosed. The ditch was present for 5.5m in the trench, and a slot 1.5m wide was excavated. The ditch was 0.98m deep, its surface at 11.79mOD. The primary fill was brown silty clay (512), and lay at the bottom of ditch to a depth of 0.08m. This was partially sealed on both sides by yellowish brown mottled sandy gravel (510 and 511), that most likely derived from slumping of the sides through erosion. These slumped deposits were sealed by a fill of mid brownish grey sandy silt (509) with occasional gravel inclusions and rare oyster shell. Pottery from this layer was collected; although small and few, a date of the late medieval period is suggested. In the absence of later finds, this 15th century date is considered the most likely. This fill was sealed by a deposit of dark brownish grey sandy silt (508), with small rounded gravel the only inclusions. A thin lens of mottled yellowish brown silty clay above this may represent further erosion of the sides (507). The top fill of the ditch was dark brown sandy silt, with small gravel inclusions (506). This was virtually identical to the topsoil.



Plate 5: Ditch 513, Trench 5

- 6.5.4 The ditch was sealed by a layer of dark brown sandy silty clay topsoil (504) that was up to 0.40m thick, with inclusions of brick, gravel, charcoal and, very rarely, oyster shell. The depth of this may suggest some horticultural reworking. This lay at 12.69mOD where untruncated, dropping southeastwards to 12.10mOD.
- 6.5.5 The topsoil, subsoil and ditch were cut into by a large cut [503], likely to be the same intrusion or crater recorded in Trench 2. This cut to 12.04mOD, and extended for 9.8m along the trench. The crater was filled with 1.40m depth of mixed rubble and mid-brown sandy silt (502). The rubble spilled over the edge of the crater, across the topsoil by up to 0.25m. This was sealed by tarmac, lying at 12.95mOD, dropping only by 0.1m across the trench to 12.86mOD.

6.6 Trench 6

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
600	Tarmac	0.10m	11.24m to 14.26m
601	Rubble Fill of basement	0.50m	12.70m to 13.65m
602	Tiled floor	NFE	12.70m
610	Primary fill, 607 (10YR 6/6)	0.12m	9.14m
611	Garden soil (10YR 4/2)	0.80m	11.14m to 12.39m
616	Intrusion into 609	0.82m	11.40m to 12.22m
612	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.32m	10.34m to 12.36m
609	Ditch	0.20m	9.72m to 9.92m
607	Ditch	0.80m	10.25m to 11.05m
617	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.06m	10.06m to 10.12m
614	Terrace gravel	NFE	10.00m to 13.65m

6.6.1 Trench 6 was located 5m north of the site boundary with West Park Road, oriented northeast-southwest (Figure 8). The trench measured 42m by 2.2m in plan. An area in the centre remained unexcavated, due to a possible live service being identified.

6.6.2 The lowest deposit encountered was naturally-lain terrace gravel (614), lying in bands across the trench, as it sloped downhill from 13.65mOD in the northeast, to 10.00mOD at the southwestern end of the trench. The gravel was sealed, very patchily, by a thin layer of yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil (617). It is likely that this was most truncated by later construction events and reworking of topsoil. Two cut features were present across the trench. One was a continuation of the ditch seen in Trenches 2 and 5. This ditch [607] had one near vertical side, to the west, and a more sloping edge at the east. The base was rounded. It was 0.80m deep, lying between 10.25m and 11.05mOD. It appears that the western side had slumped in whilst the ditch was being established, since a deposit of mid brown clay (613) formed the upper part of the western edge, rather than the local terrace gravel. The lowest fill was mid brown clay (610), to a depth of 0.12m. The upper fill was dark brown silty clay (606) with high gravel content. Pottery within the fill suggests a medieval date.



Plate 6: Ditch 607, Trench 6

6.6.3 The base of second feature, running more southeast-northwest, oriented towards Conduit House on Commercial Road, was located 5.5m west of this boundary. The base of this linear cut [609] was bedded on, or possibly lined with, yellow clay (618). The cut had a rounded base, and was filled with sticky yellow silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and gravel components (608). This feature was truncated to only 0.20m maximum depth, at 9.92mOD. The same truncation was seen to the northwest, in Trench 8, over the same feature.



Plate 7: Feature 609

6.6.4 These features were sealed by dark brown silty clay topsoil (612) up to 0.32m deep. Inclusions within the layer of brick fragments and oyster shell indicate some reworking of the deposit. The topsoil and clay feature was later cut into by a ragged-edged intrusion [616], infilled with soft dark brown silty clay containing mixed rubble (615), dominated by brick. The topsoil horizon was also cut by a series of brick and concrete-based structures, including a large square-sided footing [604], a smaller, brick base [603], and a concrete bound-service (605). At the eastern end of the trench was a tiled floor [602] adjacent to the fill of a collapsed cellar or basement (601). All these date to the early 20th century. The floor lay at 12.70m. In association with these structures was a secondary layer of dark brown silty clay topsoil.

6.6.5 The whole trench was sealed by tarmac (600), lying at 14.26mOD at the northeast end, dropping to 11.24mOD at the southwest.

6.7 Trench 7

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
701	Tarmac	0.08m	7.50m to 8.64m
702	Demolition deposit	0.40m	6.35m to 7.02m
704	Concrete slab	0.10m	7.10m
705	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.80m	6.75m to 8.10m
707	Tree pit	0.22m	5.98m to 6.20m
708	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.10m	5.95m to 7.40m
709	Terrace gravel	NFE	5.85m to 7.30m

- 6.7.1 Trench 7 was located in the southwest corner of the site, parallel to West Park Road. It measured 26m by 1.8m, oriented northeast-southwest. The trench measured 42m by 2.2m in plan (Figure 9).
- 6.7.2 The lowest deposit encountered was naturally-lain terrace gravel (709), sloping downhill from 7.30mOD in the northeast, to 5.85mOD at the southwestern end of the trench. The gravel was sealed by yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (708) that was up to 0.10m deep. The subsoil was cut into by a small tree pit [707] with a rounded, undulating irregular base, which was filled with dark brown sandy silt with darker mottles and root fragments (706). This was virtually identical to the topsoil (705) which sealed it, to a depth of up to 0.80m, lying at 8.10mOD in the northeast, dropping to 6.75mOD in the southwest of the trench. The topsoil was cut by foundations of brick and cement [703 and 710], with an associated floor slab of weakly cemented concrete (704). This relates to properties on site depicted on the historic Ordnance Survey mapping from 1933 to 1988. The slab was sealed by demolition rubble (702) with tarmac above, lying at between 8.64mOD in the northeast and dropping to 7.50m in the southwest of the trench.
- 6.7.3 This trench contained no significant archaeological features.

6.8 Trench 8

Context	Description	Depth	OD Height of Deposit
801	Overburden	0.80m	9.88m to 12.00m
802	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	0.40m	9.30m to 11.20m
803	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	0.08m	8.90m to 10.79m
804	Terrace gravel	NFE	8.80m to 10.70m
805	C19th intrusion	0.95m	10.67m to 10.85m
806	Cut for 805	0.95m	9.77m to 10.85m
807	Fill of 808 (10YR 6/6)	0.50m	9.77m to 9.98m
808	Ditch	0.50m	9.48m to 9.98m
809	Clay deposit	NFE	9.77m to 9.98m

- 6.8.1 Trench 8 was located in the centre of the site, running northeast-southwest and joining with the southeast end of Trench 4. The trench measured 20.6m by 1.8m (Figure 6).
- 6.8.2 The earliest deposit, in common with all trenches, was terrace gravel, dropping from 10.70mOD in the northeast end to 8.80mOD at the southwest (804). The gravel was sealed by yellowish brown silty clay subsoil of 0.08m depth (803). One linear feature, oriented southeast-northwest, oriented towards Conduit House was revealed, [808]. The cut was 1.760m wide, and survived a maximum of 0.50m deep. At the base of the feature was solid yellow clay (809): it was unclear whether this was a naturally-lain band of clay within the terrace gravels, or added. This feature was filled with sticky yellow silty clay (807) with occasional flecks of charcoal within it. The function of this feature was compromised by a later intrusion into it [806], with an irregular edge, which was backfilled with dark brown sandy silty clay (805) with notable rubble components within it. This seems to be a deliberate robbing event into the feature.



Plate 8: Feature 808

- 6.8.3 This was sealed by well-worked dark brown sandy silty clay topsoil (802). The topsoil lay at 11.20m in the northeast of the trench, dropping to 9.30m in the southwest. This was cut by two foundations, one brick [811], the other concrete [810]. Above the topsoil and foundation remains was an extensive dump of fly-tipped materials up to 0.80m deep, including building materials, plastic and barbed wire (801).

7 Finds

- 7.1 The finds assemblage comprises pottery, building materials, glass, metal and animal bone. All objects have been assessed and reported on, giving a limited view of the local material culture of the site in the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 7.2 The earliest finds are medieval pottery sherds from domestic vessels, dating broadly from 1200-1485. A cooking pot sherd from Trench 3 (316) is secure dating for the feature, whilst fragments of two medieval tablewares from the fill of the boundary ditch (509 and 606) indicate that the feature was probably infilled in the medieval period. The lack of any later finds in these features supports the dating evidence.
- 7.3 The other finds, of china and relatively recent bottles glass, are of low value. The building material may be discarded, depending on the retention policy of the local museum.

8 Conclusions and Interpretation

- 8.1 During the course of the archaeological evaluation, a full sequence of deposits from natural geology through to the modern ground surface was recorded.

- 8.2 The underlying natural topography of terrace gravels shows that the site's current profile is not dissimilar, showing a gradual fall of no more than 1 in 10 in most directions. The current topography is the result of upcast deposits from basement digging, plus general demolition levelling to provide hard standing when the site was recently in use as a car park. The terrace gravels lie on a high point of 14.25mOD at the east of the site, dropping gently along the 80m of the Commercial Road frontage to 12.11m, and more steeply along the 100m of the West Park Road edge to 5.85mOD. The fall from north to south is more marked, from 12.11m to 5.85mOD along the western edge, over a distance of 80m (Figure 10).
- 8.3 Beyond the basements apparent at the locations of No.22 Havelock Road, Nos 10 and 12 Commercial Road, there are few truncations to the natural geology, although it may be recognised that each basement is over 2m deep, and typically with a concrete floor. The natural topography is also generally sealed by subsoil and topsoil, and intruded upon by brick and concrete footings that are relatively shallow, generally no more than 0.5m deep.
- 8.4 This preservation of the underlying soil horizons has meant that where archaeological features are present, they generally survive well. Three features of archaeological character were revealed in the works. The shallowest was the truncated remains of a medieval ditch in Trench 3, lying at 7.71mOD. Such a shallow surviving, truncated feature may not offer much further information about activities carried out on site in the medieval period. Also, depending on the proposed foundation design, it may be preserved in situ.
- 8.5 The bigger ditch crossed through Trenches 2, 5 and 6, and forms an approximate north-south division across the plot of land (Figure 11). There is no boundary on any historic maps shown in such a location, so this is a previously unmapped feature. The form of the ditch, with one near vertical face, resembles a ha-ha; a sunken boundary impassable to livestock. The boundary appears to be of medieval date. Even though only three pieces of pottery were collected from it, the lack of any later finds strongly suggests its early date; somewhere between 1100 and 1485. The small number of finds is likely to be the result of the site being in a rural, rather than urban location.
- 8.6 One of the main thrusts of the archaeological evaluation was to identify the course of the conduit from Conduit House into the town. Trenches 6 and 8 both identified a linear cut oriented towards Conduit House (Figure 11). The cut has a clay base, and after truncation, was seen to lay at 9.92mOD in Trench 6, downhill from 9.98m in Trench 8 just 12m distant. It is possible that the clay formed a bed for the historic conduit, but there was no conduit present. In both trenches, an intrusion into this feature was present. If this was the location of the conduit, then it had been removed during the post-medieval period. Practically, removal of the conduit would result in the water supply backing up, flooding, or being diverted. In Trench 3, a 19th century ceramic drain pipe was recorded. Possibly, this diverted the water flow of the disused medieval conduit.
- 8.7 Beyond these features, there are no other features of archaeological interest or of significance on the site.

9 Further Work and Publication

- 9.1 The proposed finished floor level for the Block B basement in the southwest of the site is level with the base of the truncated medieval feature in Trench 3, at 7.50mOD. This feature will therefore be removed during development. Switch Rooms along West Park Road will have their floor surfaces at 11.00mOD. The base of any floor slab will be below the level of the medieval ditch recorded in Trench 6. The plant rooms will extend approximately 8m into the site from the boundary with West Park Road. The floor level of the main piazza will lie at 12.15mOD, in the area of the medieval ditch

found in Trench 5. The top of the ditch was identified at 11.79mOD where truncated by a crater, but probably lies as high as 12.19mOD beyond the truncation. The top of the same ditch lies at 12.05mOD next to Commercial Road, where the plans for Block A show a finished level of 12.75mOD.

- 9.2 As the medieval features will be impacted by the development it is recommend that a limited programme of watching brief be undertaken during the construction programme. However, the final decision on any necessity for further works lies with Stephen Appleby, Senior Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council (HCC).
- 9.3 A short summary of the results will be submitted to the local archaeological round-up.
- 9.4 This report will be added to the grey literature available on the online ADS OASIS project (Appendix C).

10 Archive Deposition

- 10.1 On completion of the project AOC will discuss arrangements for the archive to be deposited with the SeaCity Museum with the developer/landowner. Following completion of each stage or the full extent of the fieldwork (as appropriate) the site archive will be prepared in the format agreed with the museum and in accordance with national (UKIC 1990) and local guidelines. The excavation archive will be security copied (microfilmed) and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR).
- 10.2 The site archive will comprise all artefacts, environmental samples and written and drawn records. It is to be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records and finds collated and ordered as a permanent record. The archaeological finds from this site have no monetary value, being the remains of broken objects that were thrown away because they were rubbish. However, they are an important source of information for future research, included in museum exhibits and teaching collections. English Heritage (EH 1991), the Institute of Archaeologists (IfA 2008) and the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993) recommend that finds are publicly accessible and that landowners donate archaeological finds to a local museum.

11. Bibliography

- AOC Archaeology (2008). *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land at the Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire*
- AOC Archaeology (2012). *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land at the Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire*
- AOC Archaeology (2012). *Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire: A Written Scheme of Investigation for and Archaeological Evaluation*
- Blake, E.O. (1981) *The Cartulary of the Priory of St Denys near Southampton*
- Department Communities and Local Government, (2010), *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning and the Historic Environment*, (Published by the Stationary Office)
- English Heritage (1991). *Management of Archaeological Projects*.
- English Heritage (1992) *Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Reports (Guidelines)*
- English Heritage (2011). *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage London Region).

- Hampshire County Council (2010): *Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road / East Park Terrace, Southampton. Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation.*
- Institute for Archaeologists (2008). *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.*
- Institute for Archaeologists (2009). *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation.*
Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- IFA (2010). *Code of Conduct.* Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- Museum of London (1994). *Archaeological Site Manual (3rd ed).* MoLAS: London
- RESCUE & ICON (2001). *First Aid for Finds.* (3rd ed).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1983). *Conservation Guidelines No 2.*
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1990). *Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice.*
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993). *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections.*
- STATS Ground and Environment Ltd (2007). *Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Report: Mayflower Plaza*

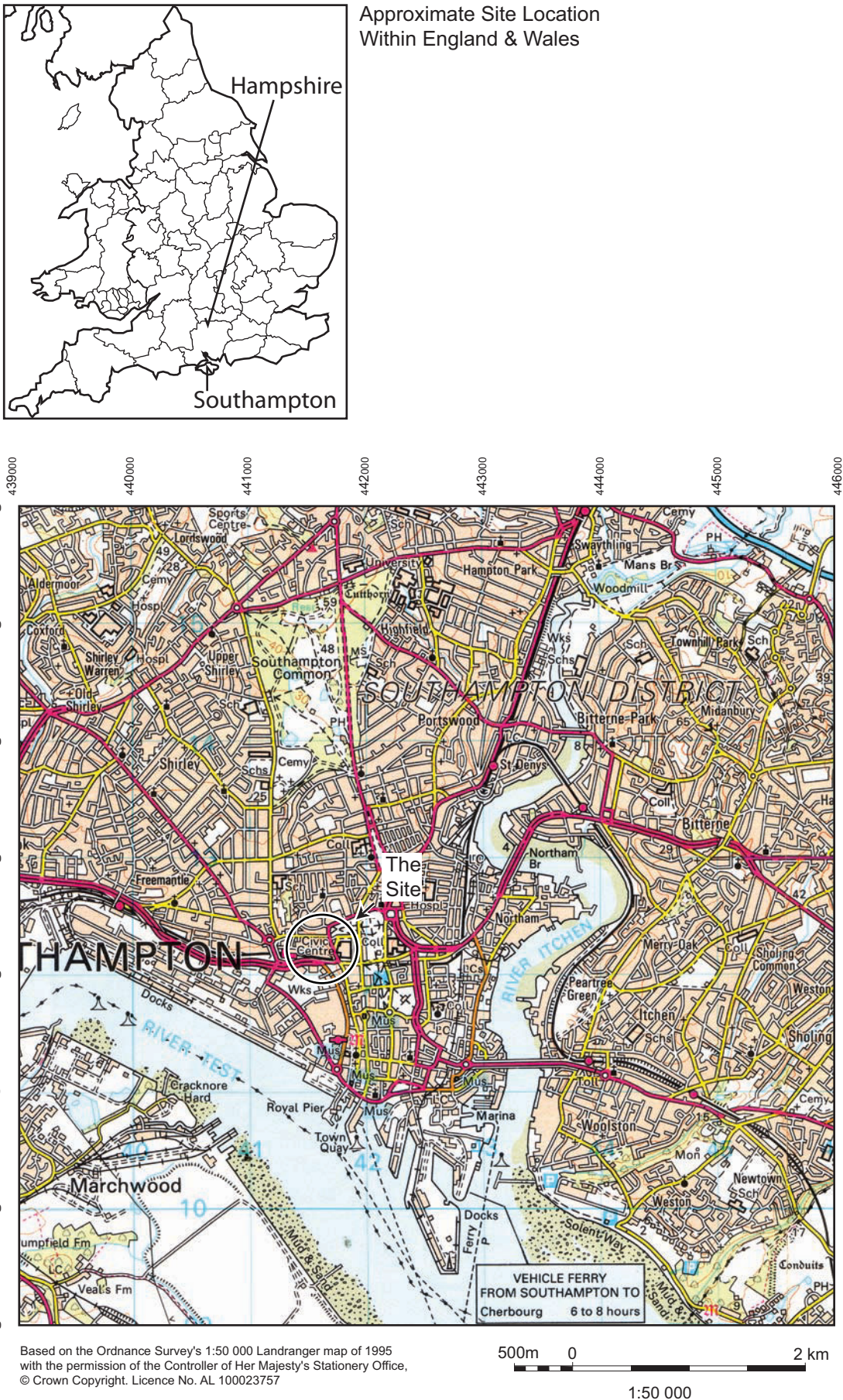
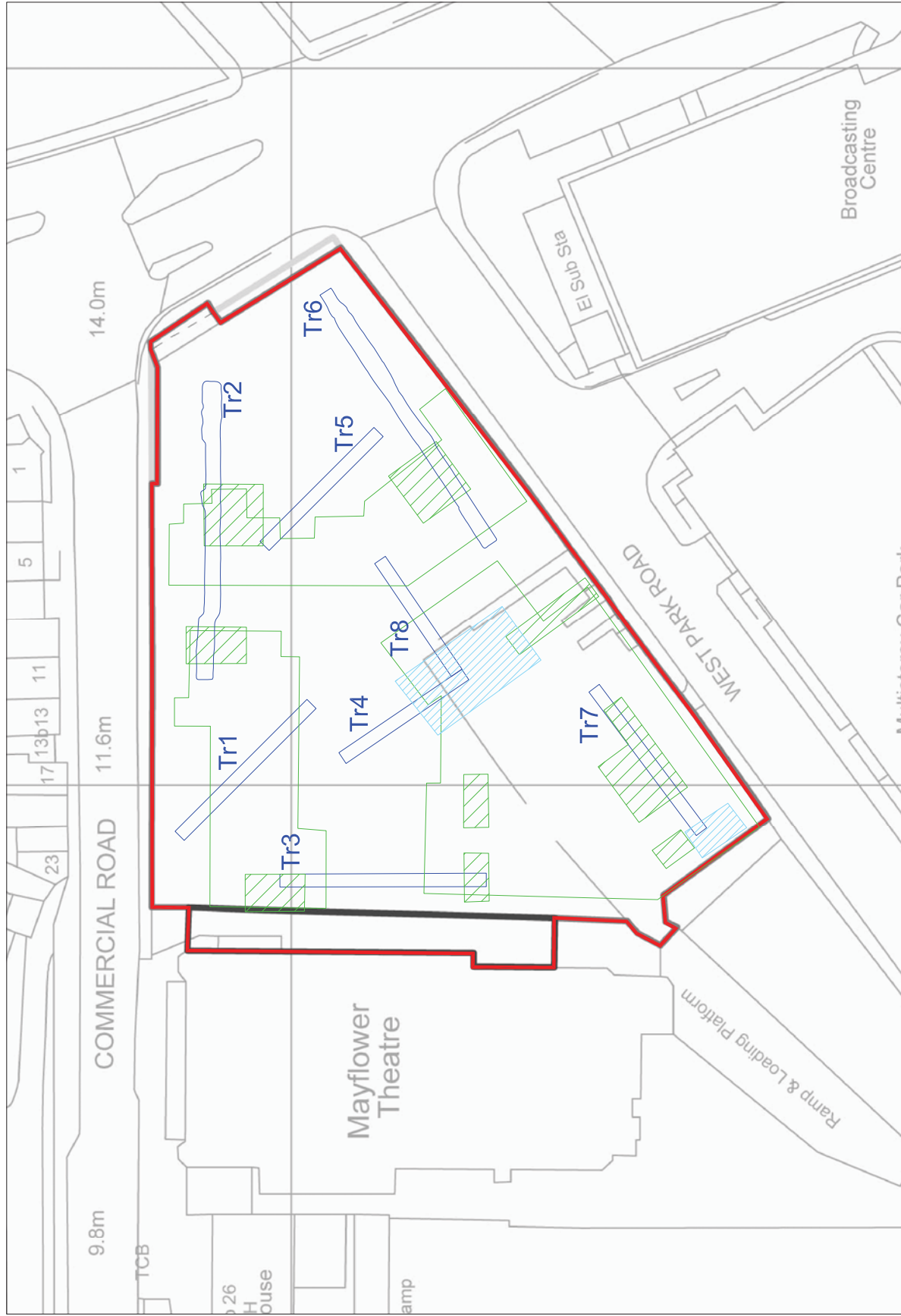


Figure 1: Site Location



Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:1250 Supermap Digital Data of 2008 with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Licence No. AL 100023757



- Outline of New Buildings
- Archaeological Evaluation Trenches
- Attenuation Pits
- 1m Deep Pile Cap

Figure 2: Detailed Site / Trench Location Plan

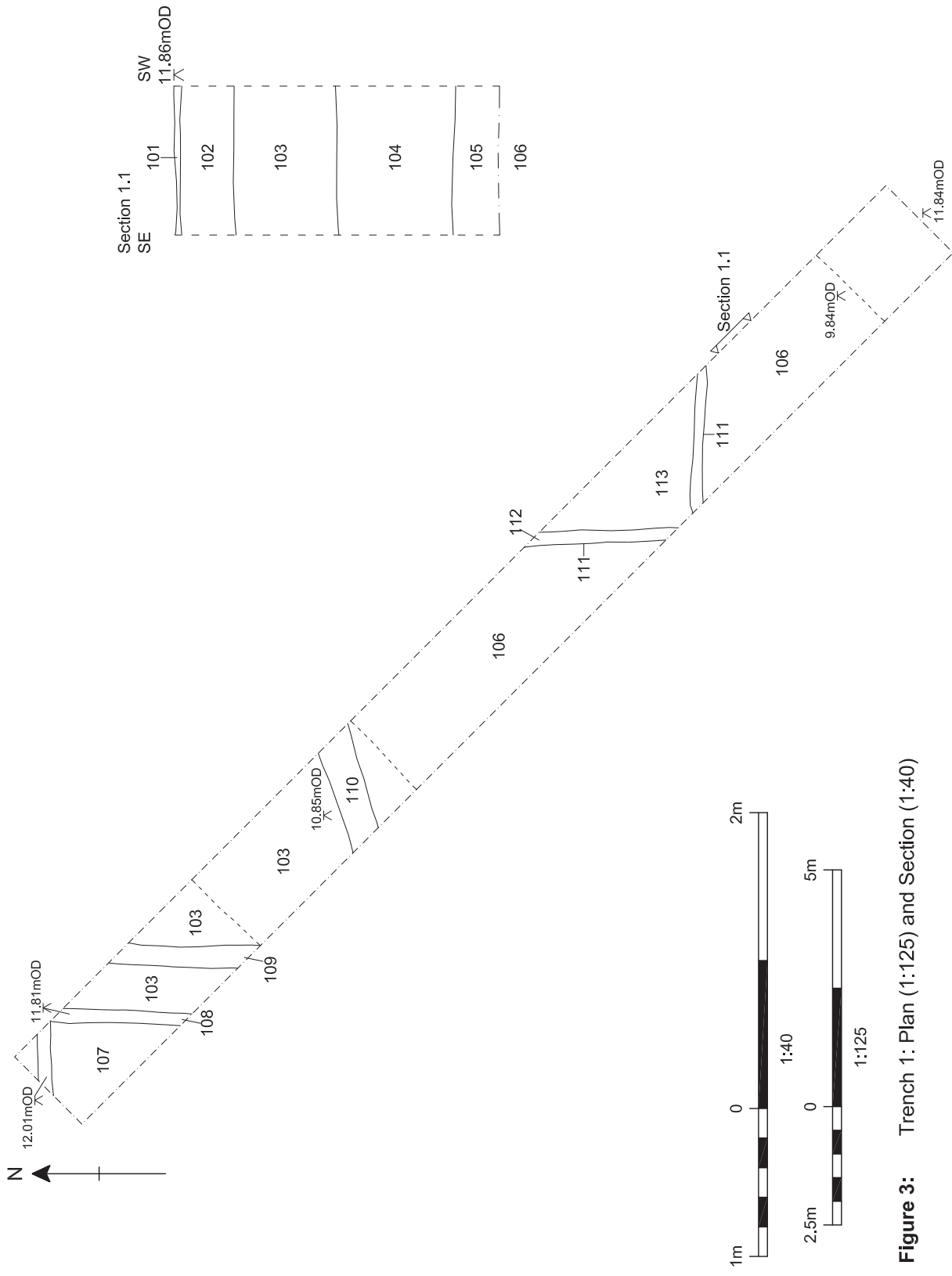


Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan (1:125) and Section (1:40)

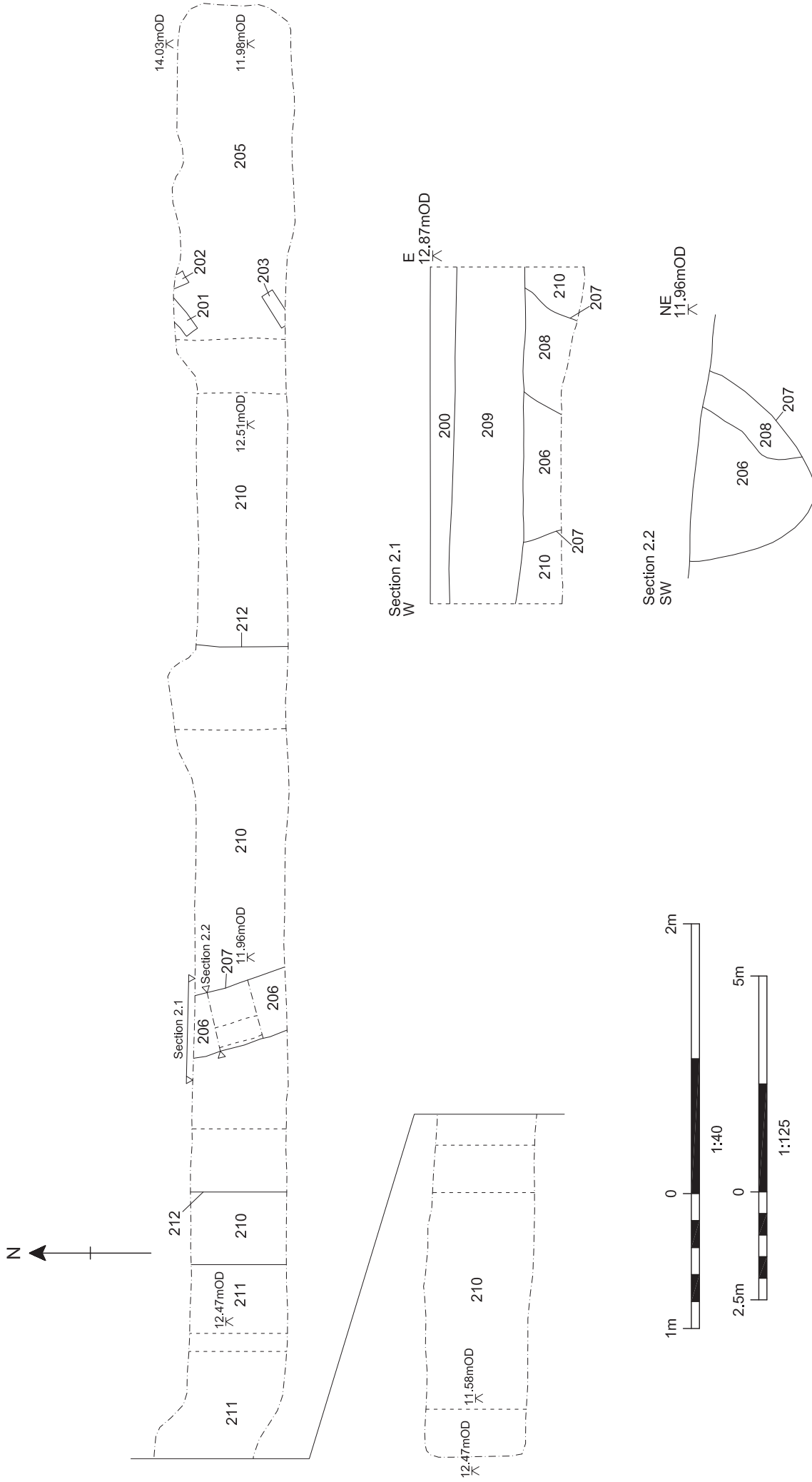


Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan (1:125) and Sections (1:40)

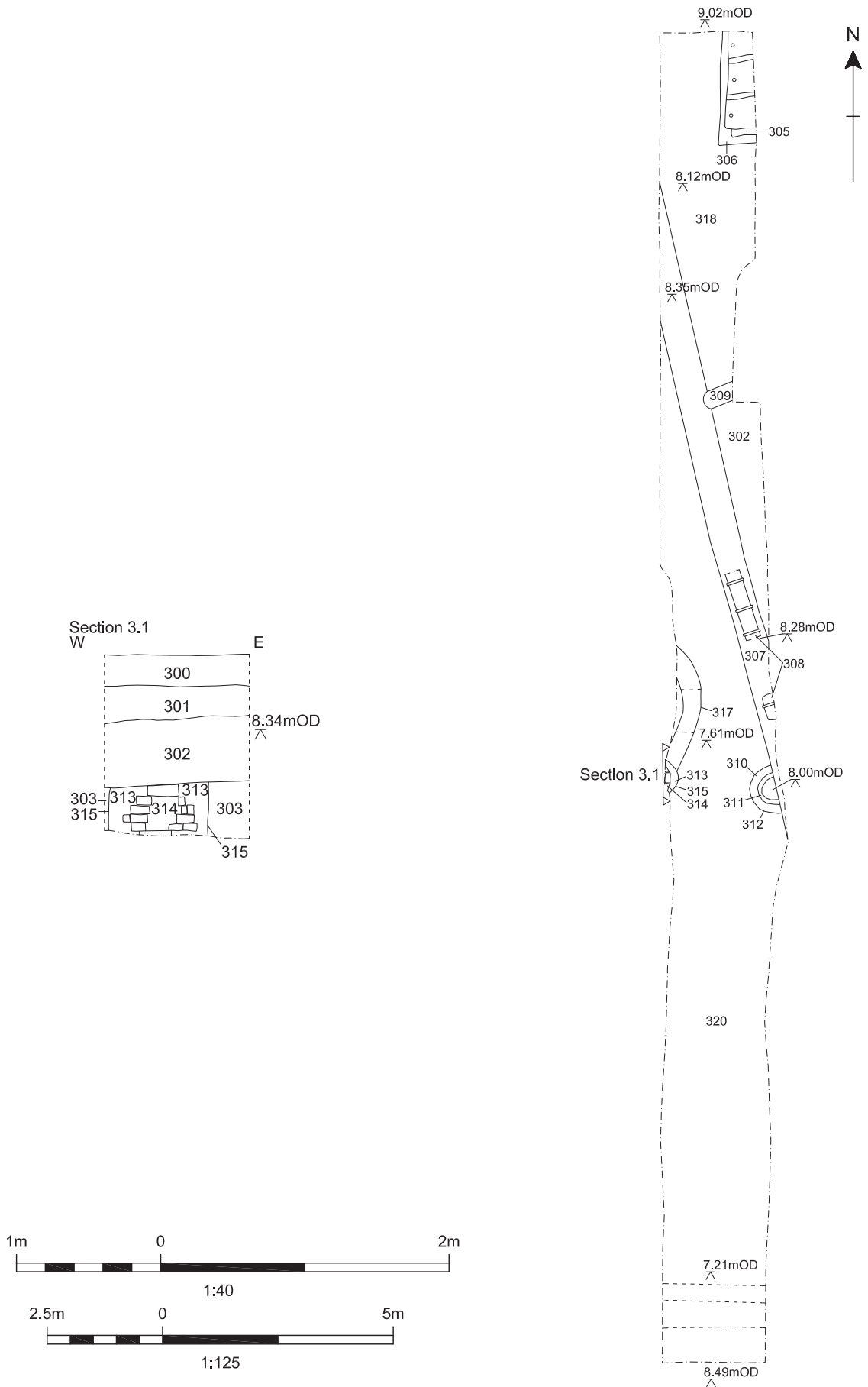


Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan (1:125) and Section (1:40)

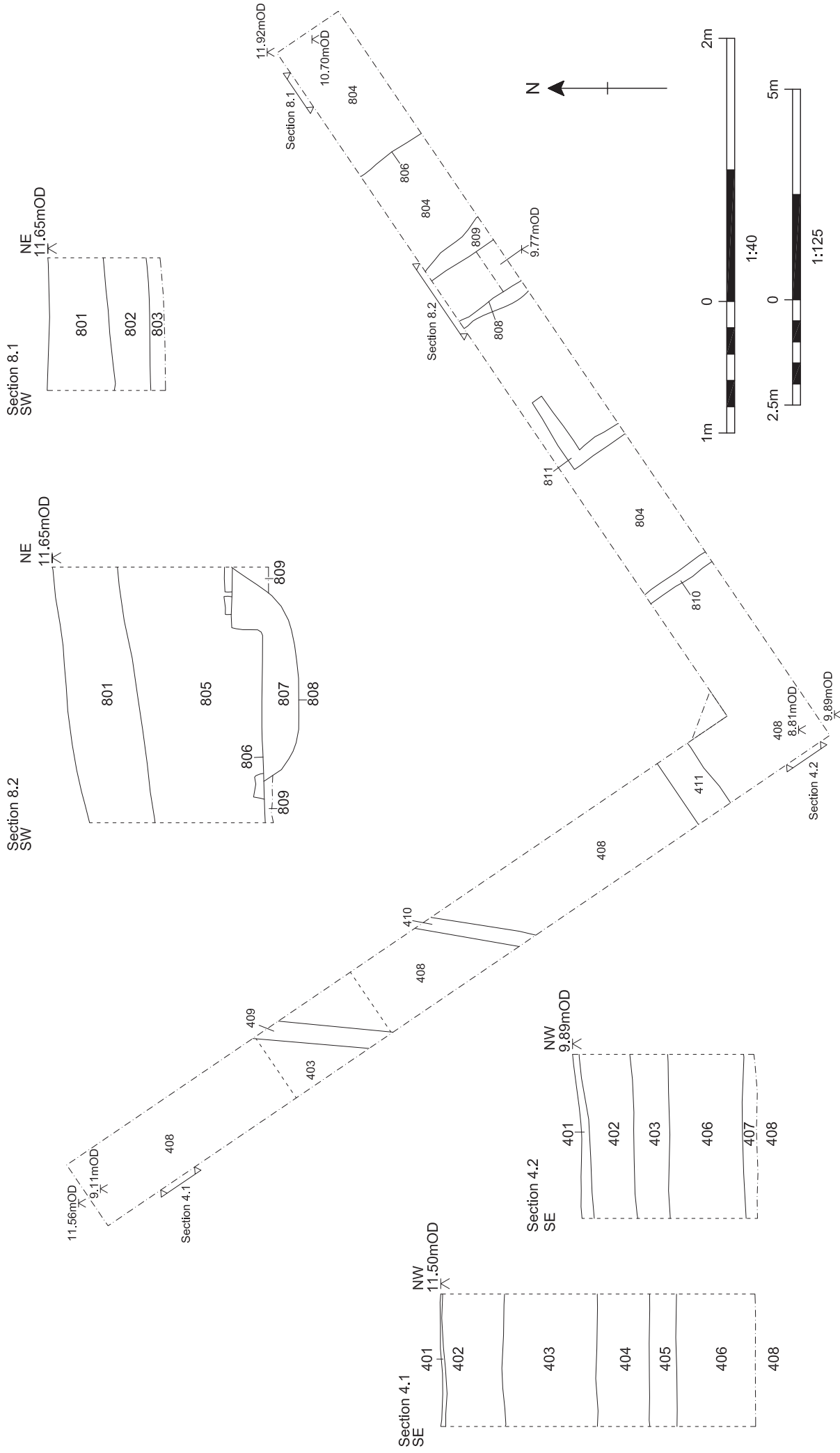


Figure 6: Trench 4 and 8: Plan (1:125) and Sections (1:40)

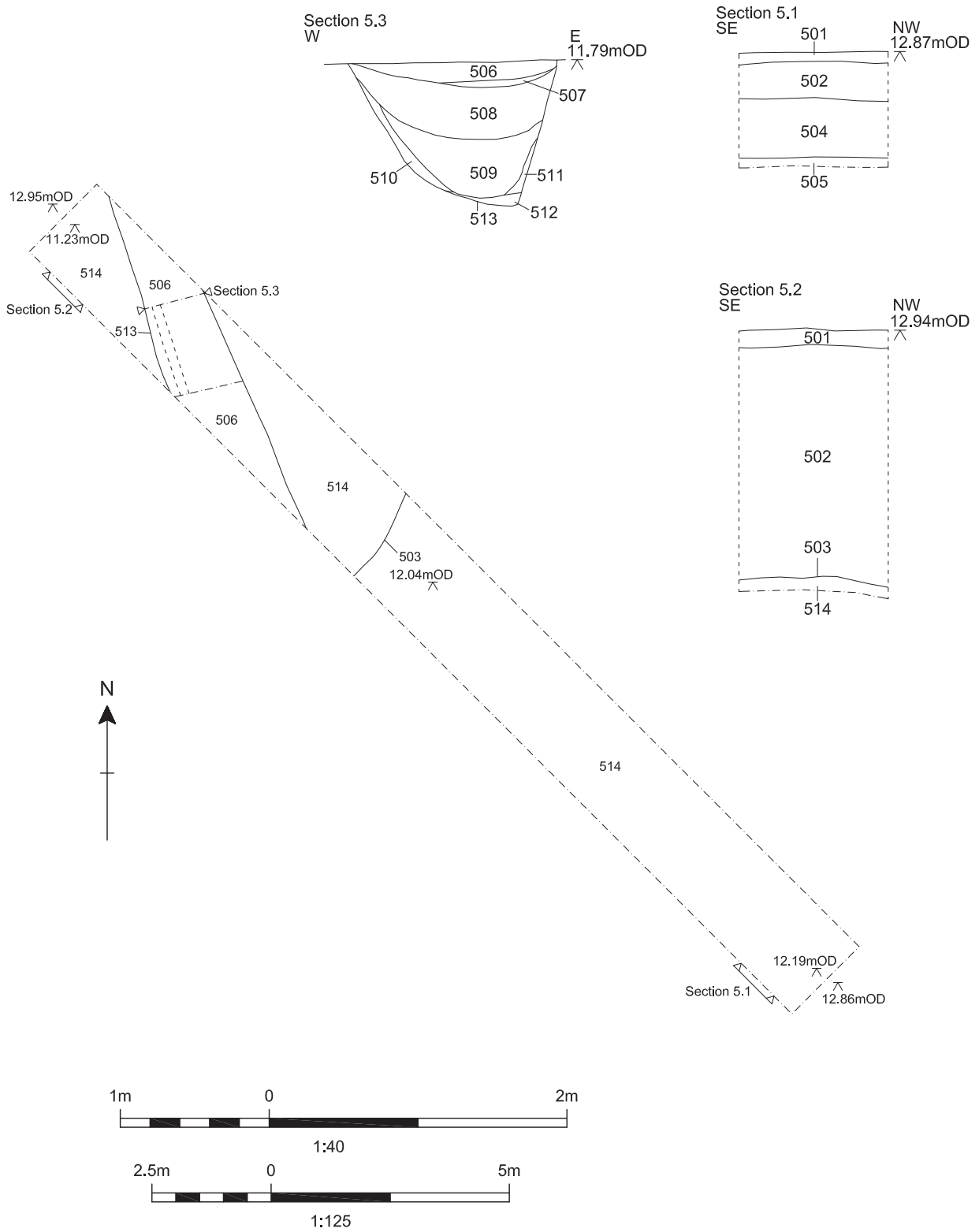


Figure 7: Trench 5: Plan (1:125) and Sections (1:40)

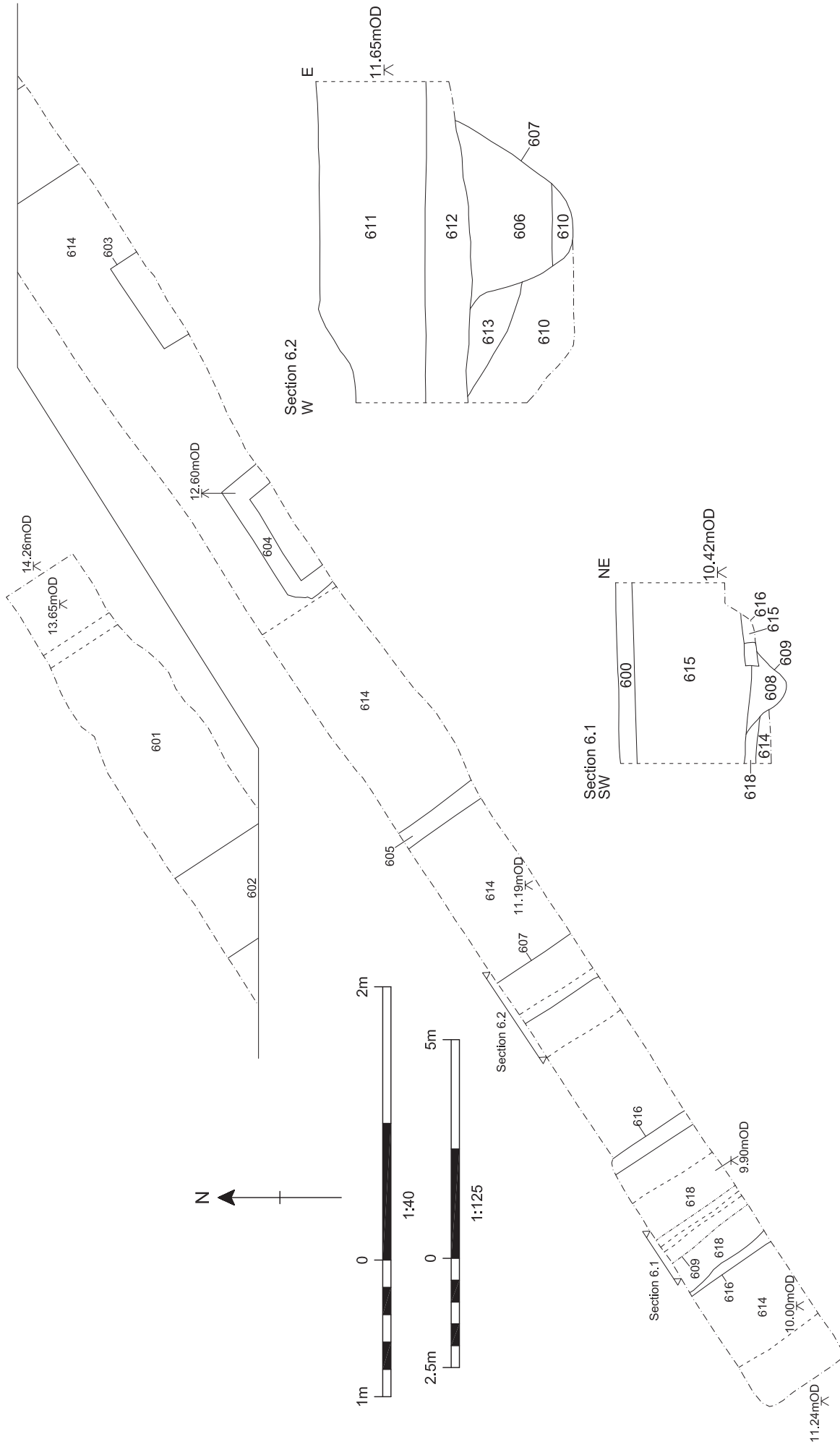


Figure 8: Trench 6: Plan (1:125) and Sections (1:40)

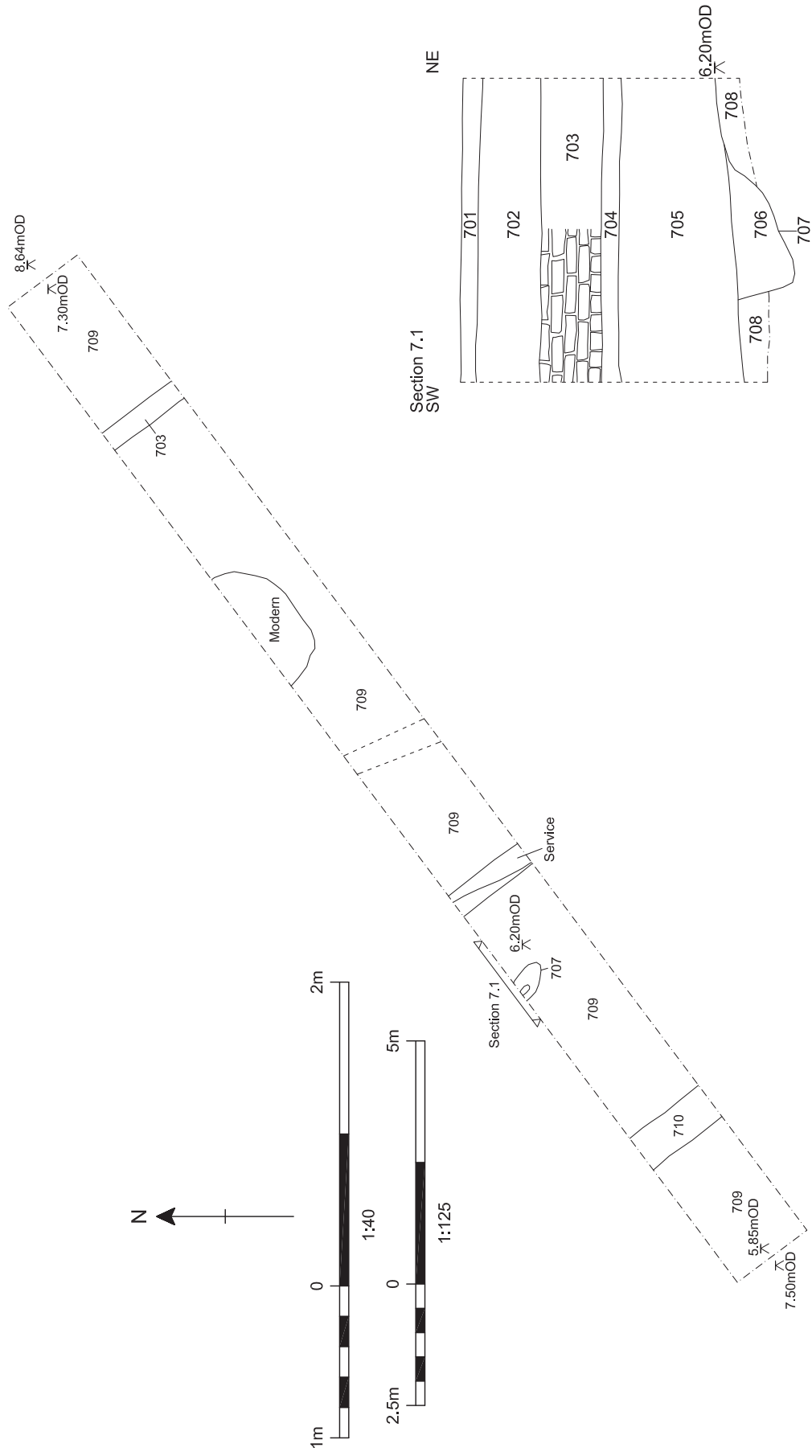


Figure 9: Trench 7: Plan (1:125) and Section (1:40)

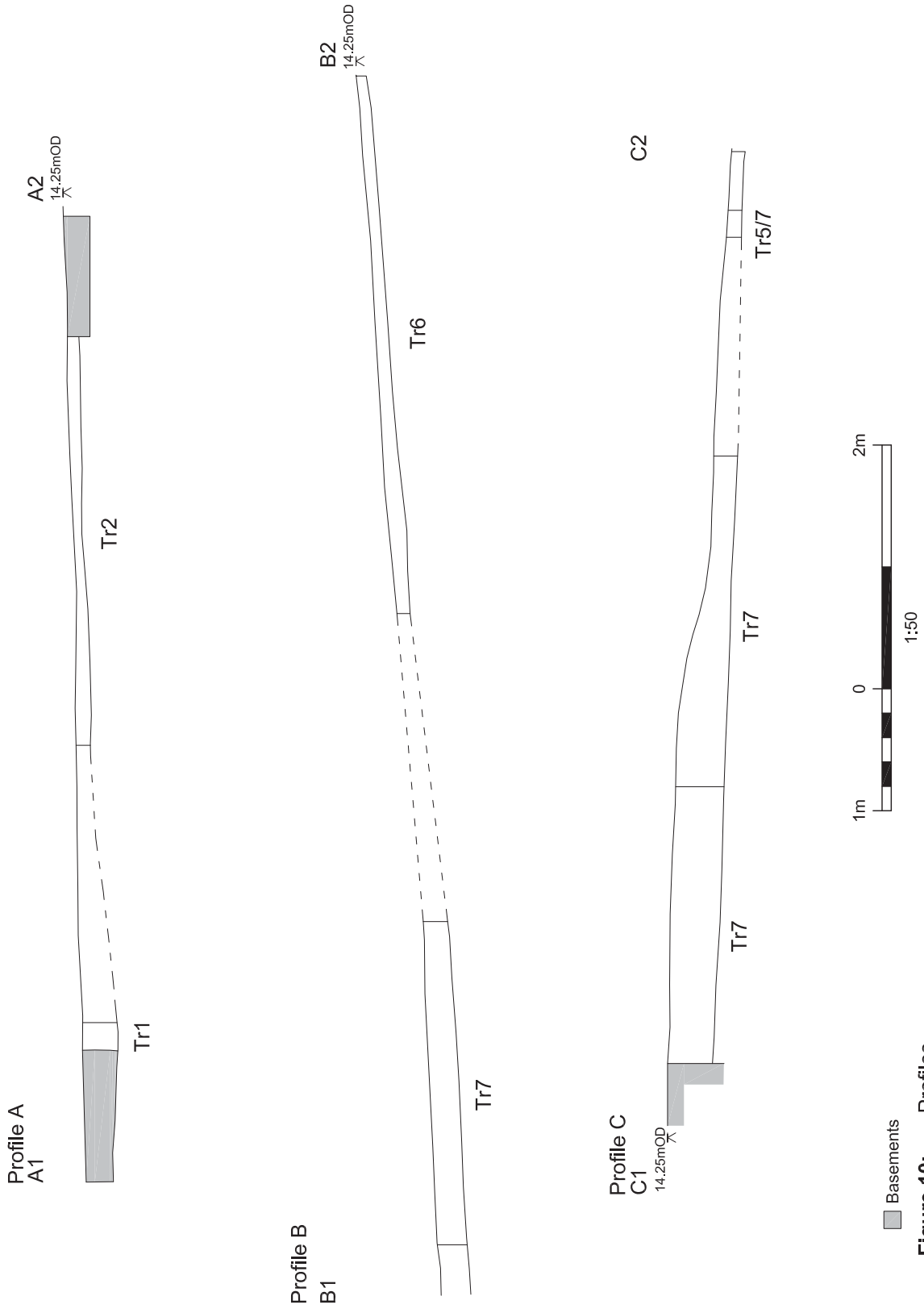


Figure 10: Profiles

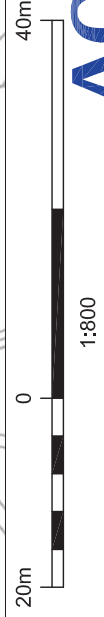
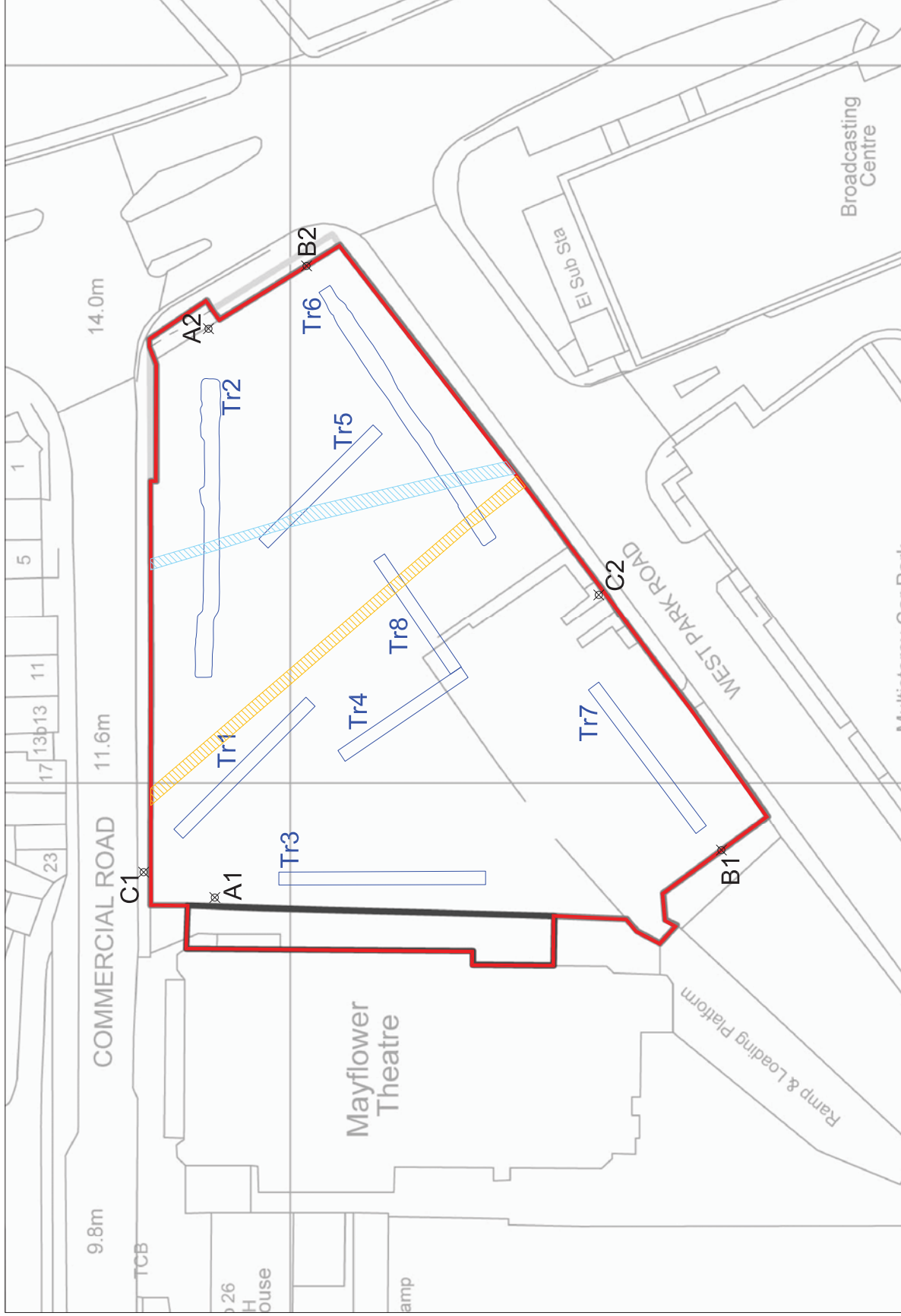


Figure 11: Plan Showing the Profile Locations with the Ditch and Possible Conduit

© AOC ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP - JULY 2012

Appendices

Appendix A - Context Register

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	Tarmac	26.00m	2.00m	0.05m
102	Demolition deposit	20.00m	2.00m	0.40m
103	Upcast gravel and topsoil	21.00m	2.00m	0.70m
104	Topsoil	26.00m	2.00m	0.70m
105	Subsoil	16.00m	2.00m	0.30m
106	Terrace Gravel	16.00m	2.00m	NFE
107	Fill of northwest basement	3.50m	2.00m	NFE
108	Northwest basement	3.00m	2.00m	NFE
109	Service: live	2.80m	0.50m	NFE
110	Service: live	2.80m	0.80m	NFE
111	Cut for basement	5.00m	2.00m	2.00m
112	Basement wall	5.00m	0.25m	2.00m
113	Fill of basement	4.50m	2.00m	1.80m
200	Tarmac	41.5m	2.3m	0.12m
201	Foundation of wall	1.26m	0.37m	1.10m
202	Basement wall	1.25m	0.48m	1.76m
203	Basement wall	1.26m	0.37m	1.76m
204	Fill of basement	2.30m	5.00m	2.02m
205	Concrete basement slab	2.30m	5.00m	0.20m
206	Fill of 207	2.30m	1.10m	0.94m
207	Ditch	2.30m	1.50m	0.96m
208	Primary fill of 207	1.00m	0.40m	0.70m
209	Fill of 212	10.75m	2.3m	0.50m
210	Terrace gravel	41.5m	2.3m	NFE
211	C20th floor slab	2.30m	5.00m	0.20m
212	Crater	10.75m	2.3m	0.50m
300	Hard standing	28.00m	2.40m	0.22m
301	Base of hard standing	28.00m	2.40m	0.20m
302	Garden soil	28.00m	2.40m	0.40m
303	Ploughsoil	28.00m	2.40m	0.40m
304	Concrete	7.00m	1.60m	0.10m
305	Brick base, toilet block	2.50m	1.50m	0.23m
306	Concrete	2.75m	1.75m	NFE
307	Concrete surround	10.00m	0.60m	0.40m
308	Ceramic pipe	10.00m	0.20m	0.20m
309	Service	0.60m	0.20m	0.30m
310	Fill of 312	1.10m	0.32m	0.25m
311	Soakaway	0.40m	0.28m	0.25m
312	Cut for soakaway 311	1.10m	0.32m	0.25m
313	Fill of 315	1.10m	0.10m	0.39m
314	Soakaway	1.10m	0.10m	0.39m
315	Cut for soakaway 314	1.10m	0.10m	0.39m
316	Fill of 317	2.70m	0.48m	0.21m
317	Medieval feature	2.70m	0.48m	0.21m
318	Terrace gravel	2.00m	1.65m	NFE

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
319	Terrace gravel	2.90m	1.65m	NFE
320	Terrace gravel	20.00m	1.80m	NFE
401	Tarmac	20.00m	1.60m	0.05m
402	Overburden	20.00m	1.60m	0.50m
403	Demolition dump	20.00m	1.60m	0.70m
404	Redeposited topsoil	10.00m	1.60m	0.40m
405	Redeposited gravel	10.5m	1.60m	0.20m
406	Topsoil	20.00m	1.60m	0.60m
407	Subsoil	2.85m	1.60m	0.10m
408	Terrace Gravel	20.00m	1.60m	NFE
409	Concrete footing	2.80m	0.50m	NFE
410	Ceramic drain	2.80m	0.50m	0.20m
411	Large ceramic drain	1.60m	0.90m	0.40m
501	Tarmac	22.50m	2.00m	0.08m
502	Rubble dump also fills 503	22.50m	2.00m	1.60m
503	Crater	9.80m	2.00m	1.40m
504	Topsoil (10YR 4/2)	12.50m	2.00m	0.40m
505	Subsoil (10YR 8/6)	12.80m	2.00m	0.08m
506	Top fill of ditch 513 (7.5YR 5/6)	4.20m	1.40m	0.14m
507	Fill of ditch 513 (7.5YR 5/6)	1.50m	1.00m	0.05m
508	Fill of ditch 513 (7.5YR 5/6)	1.50m	1.38m	0.35m
509	Fill of ditch 513 (7.5YR 5/6)	1.50m	1.00m	0.40m
510	Fill of ditch 513 (10YR 8/6)	1.50m	0.80m	0.12m
511	Fill of ditch 513 (10YR 8/6)	1.50m	0.60m	0.12m
512	Fill of ditch 513 (10YR 6/6)	1.50m	0.50m	0.08m
513	Ditch	4.20m	1.40m	0.98m
514	Terrace gravel	22.50m	2.00m	NFE
600	Tarmac	42m	2.2m	0.10m
601	Rubble Fill of basement	6m	2.2m	0.50m
602	Tiled floor	2.15m	2.20m	NFE
603	Brick footing	2.20m	0.70m	0.30m
604	Concrete footing	3.00m	1.00m	0.30m
605	Service	2.00m	0.50m	NFE
606	Fill of 607	2.2m	1.30m	0.68m
607	Ditch	2.20m	1.30m	0.80m
608	Fill of 609	2.20m	0.50m	0.20m
609	Ditch	2.20m	0.50m	0.20m
610	Primary fill, 607	2.20m	0.60m	0.12m
611	Garden soil	15m	2.2m	0.80m
612	Topsoil	28m	2.2m	0.32m
613	Subsidence event	2m	0.70m	0.32m
614	Terrace gravel	29m	2.2m	NFE
615	Fill of 616	3.2m	2.20m	0.82m
616	Intrusion into 608	3.2m	2.20m	0.82m
617	Subsoil	1.00m	0.80m	0.06m

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
618	Clay deposit, natural?	3m	2.2m	NFE
701	Tarmac	25.00m	1.80m	0.08m
702	Demolition deposit	25.00m	1.80m	0.40m
703	House foundation	5.00m	0.05m	0.40m
704	Concrete slab	25.00m	1.80m	0.10m
705	Topsoil	25.00m	1.80m	0.80m
706	Fill of 707	0.70m	0.50m	0.22m
707	Tree pit	0.70m	0.50m	0.22m
708	Subsoil	25.00m	1.80m	0.10m
709	Terrace gravel	25.00m	1.80m	NFE
710	Foundation	1.8m	0.70m	0.50m
801	Overburden	20.6m	1.60m	0.80m
802	Topsoil	20.6m	1.60m	0.40m
803	Subsoil	20.6m	1.60m	0.08m
804	Terrace gravel	20.6m	1.60m	NFE
805	C19th intrusion	6.5m	1.5m	0.95m
806	Cut for 805	6.5m	1.5m	0.95m
807	Fill of 808	1.60m	1.62m	0.50m
808	Ditch	1.60m	1.62m	0.50m
809	Clay deposit	3.00m	1.50m	NFE
810	Brick footing	1.75m	1.25m	1.40m
811	Concrete footing	1.60m	0.30m	0.30m

Appendix B – Finds Report

by Paul Fitz

Summary

A small, mixed assemblage from seven contexts was recovered during the excavation of eight trenches. All finds are summarised below with spot dates for the contexts.

Context (302) has two large sherds (53 grams) from different Blue & White Willow pattern transfer print ware plates <1785-2000. Also present within the context is a small mammal limb bone (9g). Roughly snapped at both ends it has a few feint incision marks.

Context (310) has a single tobacco pipe stem, 66mm in length and weighing 8 grams. It's internal bore is 2-3mm. <'post medieval'>

Context (316) has two sherds of medieval pottery; one cooking pot earthenware sherd (30g) with traces of internal burnt residue and evidence of burning on the sherd fabric itself. The other sherd is a green glazed border ware weighing only 1g. <1240-1500>

Context (404) has a two-thirds complete transfer printed white glazed earthenware side plate (232g). It's diameter was 160mm and it was produced by Grindley's potters of Tunstall, Staffordshire. Its base side has external black transfer of a crown with 'GRINDLEY HOTEL WARE, ENGLAND, VITRIFIED', and a batch number impressed stamp - B.1.37. The face has a thin black edging band around the rim and the words 'COOK'S HOTELS' surrounded by a floral wreath and below that, in a ribbon design 'SOUTHAMPTON'. These plates were popularly produced post 1946.



Rear side



Face side

Also from this context is a brown screw-top bottle 56mm high, weighing 230g. It has a small '4' stamped on its base. It may be a ginger beer bottle, again post war.

Context (509) has one small medieval pot sherd (3g). It is a pale pink-biscuit colour with feint external splash glaze traces. <1100-1485>. Also present is a piece of grey roofing slate (18 grams)

Context (606) has two sherds of the same medieval vessel (9g). The sherds are a pale pink fabric with external pale green glaze with occasional red specks.

A small ceramic building material fragment (brick?) of pale orange with flecks of grit and crushed red ceramic temper, weighing 10 grams, was also recovered, presumably contemporary with the pot. <1100-1500>.

Discussion/Recommendations

The finds assemblage is small in size and has little significance on a local or national level.

Material for illustration

None

Analysis of potential

The ceramic provides broad dating evidence for the features in which they occur.

Significance of the data

International and national

The assemblage is not of international or national significance.

Regional and local

The assemblage is of limited regional / local significance.

Further work required

To mark, bag and catalogue to SeaCity Museum guidelines

Preparation for deposition in the archive and conservation

As above. AOC will liaise with the museum about possible discard of building materials

Appendix C - OASIS Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-122004

Project details

Project name Mayflower Plaza

Short description of the project An eight-trench evaluation revealed a medieval boundary ditch running north-south, and a smaller, truncated medieval feature. The site may have been crossed by a medieval conduit, but if so, it was removed in the 19th century.

Project dates Start: 15-06-2012 End: 21-06-2012

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes SOU 1587 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 32110 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Monument type FIELD BOUNDARY Medieval

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE SOUTHAMPTON SOUTHAMPTON Mayflower Plaza

Postcode SO15

Study area 1.00 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 4161 1228 50 -1 50 54 28 N 001 24 29 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 5.85m Max: 12.04m

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief Southampton CC
originator

Project design AOC Archaeology
originator

Project director/manager
Melissa Melikian

Project supervisor Capon, L.

Type of developer
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Geoffrey Osborne Ltd
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive Southampton City Museum
recipient

Physical Archive ID SOU1587

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass"

Physical Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Digital Archive Southampton City Museum
recipient

Digital Archive ID SOU1857

Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass"

Digital Media "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Text"
available

Digital Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Paper Archive Southampton City Museum
recipient

Paper Archive ID SOU1857

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Stratigraphic"

Paper Media "Context sheet", "Microfilm", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished
available Text"

Paper Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Mayflower Plaza, Commercial Road, Southampton, Hampshire: An
Archaeological Evaluation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Capon, L.

Date 2012

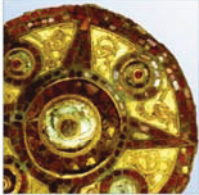
Issuer or publisher AOC Archaeology

Place of issue or London
publication

Description A4, 43 pages, 11 figures, colour plates

Entered by les capon (les.capon@aocarchaeology.com)

Entered on 12 July 2012



AOC Archaeology Group, Unit 7, St Margarets Business Centre, Moor Mead Road, Twickenham TW1 1JS
tel: 020 8843 7380 | fax: 020 8892 0549 | e-mail: london@aocarchaeology.com

www.aocarchaeology.com