

Site at Bristol Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester

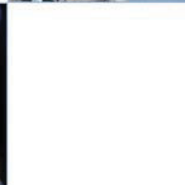
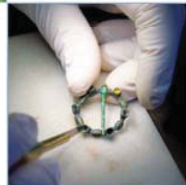
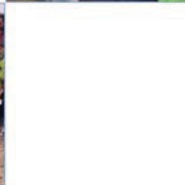
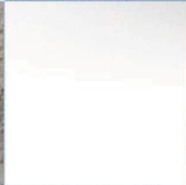
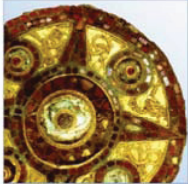
An Archaeological Evaluation Report

Planning Application Number: 08/00192/FUL
National Grid Reference Number: SO 8083 1431

AOC Project No: 30230

Site Code: GLRCM:2009.13

Date: November 2009



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An Archaeological Evaluation Report

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National Grid Reference (NGR):	SO 8083 1431
AOC Project No:	30230
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Date of Report:	November 2009

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

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Date: November 2009

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Date: November 2011

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Non-Technical Summary

In October and November 2009, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of ISG Pearce, at land at Bristol, Road, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire.

The evaluation comprised twelve machine-excavated trenches. Natural clays were observed at a height between 15.57mOD in the west of the site, and 14.06mOD in the north of the site. All overlying deposits were truncated by the Tesco car park in the south of the site but in the north a sequence of subsoil and buried topsoil was observed. Across much of the northern area, this was overlain by made ground associated with the construction of the store.

In the west of the site two ditches, a possible posthole and a beamslot were identified in higher areas of the site, while most of the other trenches showed some evidence of marshland. All of the cut features were undated. In the far north-west of the site wall foundations relating to Green Farm were observed. These were truncated by construction associated with the Tesco store.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document is an archaeological evaluation report on fieldwork conducted on land adjacent to Bristol Road and the Tesco Store, Bristol Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester. (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The site is irregular in shape and orientated roughly north-south. It measured 4.34 hectares and is centred on NGR SO 8083 1497. The site is bound by Severnvale Drive to the north and east, mixed commercial, residential and municipal buildings to the south and St James Road to the west.
- 1.3 Currently, the site was within land occupied by a Tesco's store, petrol filling station and car park. The proposed development site is occupied by an undeveloped grassed area within the northern half of the site, and mixture of grass and pathways within the southern area.
- 1.4 The proposed development involves the extension of the existing Tesco store with additional retail units and car parking to the north. In addition to the main development, a diverted sewer trench and new retail units will also be installed along the southern and eastern boundaries of the existing store.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local planning authority is the Gloucester City Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Jonathan Smith of Gloucester City Council Historic Environment Team.
- 2.2 A planning application was submitted to develop the site (Application No 08/00192/FUL). The scheme proposed the redevelopment of the existing Tesco store, the construction of a new sales floor extension to the north of the store and three retail units to the east of the store. The area to the north of the store was to be developed as parking. In addition, diverted sewer drains were to be excavated to the south of the store (Figure 2).
- 2.3 A Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation was produced in July 2008 by Jonathan Smith of Gloucester City Council Historic Environment Team (Gloucester City Council 2008). The brief states the requirement for an archaeological evaluation of a sufficient number of trenches to characterise any remains. Further discussion with Jonathan Smith agreed that a watching brief should be conducted during the excavation of the diverted sewer trench.
- 2.4 The site was located in an Area of Principal Archaeological interest as designated in the Local Plan (SPD 4).
- 2.5 The first stage in the archaeological investigation was the production of a Desk Based Assessment (AOC 2008). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared (AOC 2009) as a method statement for the second stage, evaluation by trenching.
- 2.6 This document reports on the results of the evaluation trenching.

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map indicates that the base geology at the site is Blue Lias Formation and undifferentiated Charmouth Mudstone
- 3.2 The site slopes gently from south to north and lies at a heath of approximately 16m OD.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following information was drawn from the Desk-Based Assessment (AOC 2008).

4.1 The Prehistoric Period (c. 500,000 BP – AD 43)

- 4.1.1 There are no prehistoric finds or features within the site itself. In the wider vicinity of Quedgeley, however, two archaeological interventions have recorded prehistoric worked flint. Both sites were undertaken due to development works along Olympus Park to the north-east of the site. One flint scraping tool was found on the upper alluvial deposit, the second was a small beaked flint tool and outer core flake found in the base plough soil level approximately 400m from the site. Unfortunately, these flints have not been more precisely dated, and no evidence of a settlement has been discovered (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 1996*).

4.2 The Roman Period (AD 43 – 410)

- 4.2.1 Evidence of a Roman villa complex was recorded in 1994 during construction works at the Olympus Park Cobe development site, to the north-east of Bristol Road, approximately 600m from the site. During these works large amounts of Roman building material was discovered. A number of walls, an area with evidence for a hypocaust under floor heating system, and the remains of an *opus signinum* floor were located. Many ditches, rubbish pits, a kiln or hearth and a stone lined pit (possibly a cess pit) were also discovered. Such finds indicate that this was a Roman settlement site, probably a small villa. Many finds were of a good quality, suggesting that the buildings were of high status. The pottery dates range from the 1st to the 4th centuries, suggesting that the site was occupied for several hundred years (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 1995*).
- 4.2.2 Further excavation of the Cobe site on Olympus Park led to the discovery of a Roman stone coffin. This was intact and had been hewn from a single block of limestone, with the mason's tool-marks still clearly visible. Unfortunately, the lid had been broken into several pieces due to weathering. The coffin contained a single burial of a presumed female adult, the head placed to the south and feet to the north. Further investigation revealed six jet pins between the feet of the individual, two of which had been elaborately carved and the heads had been pierced. These were dated to the mid 3rd century. Immediately to the west of the coffin, a large Severn Valley ware storage jar and two copper alloy coins were uncovered. One of the coins was badly weathered and therefore illegible, the second, however, was marked sestertius of Severus Alexander dating it to 222-231 AD (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 1995*).
- 4.2.3 A two week excavation undertaken in July 2002 planned to determine the line of the Roman Road between Glevum (Gloucester) and Abonae (Sea Mills). It is believed to exit the south gate of the former colonia and connect to the port at Sea Mills, two miles north of Bristol. The road surface was discovered to be bedded directly onto the natural clay and consisted of a single layer of close-set oolitic gravel mixed with bunter pebble. The original width was measured to be approximately 7.50

metres, marked by two one metre-wide shallow ditches. The dating evidence unfortunately is not tangible. However, a coin was recovered from the earliest construction layer. Although it is too corroded to be positively identified, it appears to date from either the 2nd or 3rd centuries (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 2002*). The road extends south-east across two development sites on Olympus Park, and was also seen on the land adjacent to Tesco.

4.2.4 Other finds in the area include:

- A Roman coin, which was discovered during a watching brief, undertaken on at the Honda Showroom, Bristol Road;
- An evaluation undertaken in the Olympus Park area (NGR 8129 1471) that revealed field boundaries and a metalled trackway.
- A watching brief, also on Olympus Park, which recorded the presence of a Roman trackway at NGR 8125 1462.

4.3 The Early Medieval (AD 410-1066) and Medieval Periods (AD 1066-1550)

4.3.1 A Saxon ditch feature running east-west and 3.40m wide was recorded towards the southern end of a new road alignment approximately 600m from the site. The fill contained banded and garden snails in association with 10th century cooking bowl sherds and numerous butchered bone fragments. Similar sherds were recovered from a ditch located on the south side of the villa complex mentioned above (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 1995*).

4.3.2 Quedgeley Manor (NGR SO 8110 1475, approximately 500m from the site) has been recorded from as early as 1095 and was held by Walter of Gloucester at this time. In time it was inherited by his son Miles of Gloucester, Earl of Hereford. In 1165 it was divided between Miles' daughters who granted the manor to LLanthony Priory, which retained it until the Dissolution.

4.3.3 The area known as Manor Farm dated from at least 1066 and possibly even as far back as 982. It is a large moated site east of Bristol Road. The surviving house is H-shaped and has two storeys. The southern cross wing dates to the 19th century and the northern area appears to date from the early 16th century – this is possibly the manor place recorded in 1538. During World War 1, the buildings were first used as a cavalry depot, then as a plough school. After the war, it was used as a training centre for ex-servicemen. Later it was divided into two dwellings and remained so until 1967.

4.3.4 A moated site west of the church in the grounds of Quedgeley House is presumably that of Woolstrop Manor, approximately 300m south-west of the site, but no part of the house remains there today. The later house was built to the north-west in the 18th century, and in 1820, it was enlarged by adding a west side. During the mid 20th century, it was converted into twelve flats.

4.3.5 Other Medieval sites, finds and features within the study area are:

- Medieval farming settlement with the remains of two buildings surrounded by a network of field boundaries recovered during evaluation trenches at RAF Quedgeley;
- 12th and 13th century pottery recovered from a shallow ditch on the site of the medieval manor near Woolstrop Cottage recovered during evaluation works;
- The Church of St. James, also known as St. James and St. Mary Magdalene in the 12th

century, is a small building of ashlar with a Cotswold stone roof. Over the years it has been extended, heavily restored and rebuilt;

- A medieval and post medieval ridge and furrow, visible as earthworks, was mapped from aerial photographs taken in 1946, 1955 and 1959. By 1990, all of this area was either destroyed or only visible as crop marks.

4.4 Post-Medieval (c. AD 1550 – 1900)

- 4.4.1 Both the Briars and Green Farm (in the north-west of the site) have been the subject of watching briefs. Although no positive archaeological results were noted, there was scant evidence of light manuring in the plough soil levels. Green Farm was present on maps of the 19th and 20th century until it was demolished in the late 20th century.
- 4.4.2 Two chest tombs and two pedestal tombs were present dating to the late 17th and 18th centuries to the east and north of the Church of St. James.
- 4.4.3 As Quedgeley was originally a roadside settlement, the older houses are widely spaced timber framed buildings with thatched roofs. As the population increased so did the number of buildings, from 27 in 1801, to 80 in 1861. They were mostly built of brick, and in pairs, along the main road.
- 4.4.4 Quedgeley also boasts an early 19th century milestone with an iron plate, raised serif lettering and border. It is mounted on a rectangular stone post with a rounded top.

5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

5.1 The aims of the evaluation and were defined as being:

- 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 Gloucester City Council to make an informed decision on the status of the archaeology condition and any requirement for further mitigation work.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.

5.2 The specific aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the presence of any remains of the Roman road identified 2002 in the proximity of the site (*Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 2002*), or other features from the Roman period.

- To determine the presence of any remains of medieval and post-medieval features associated with Green Farm (AOC 2008) in the northern part of the site.
- 5.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 STRATEGY

- 6.1 The evaluation consisted of 12 trenches of varying length at base (as detailed in section 8).
- 6.2 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London's Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- 6.3 The evaluation trenching was undertaken in accordance with the WSI (AOC 2009) and the Brief (Smith, J. 2008).
- 6.4 A unique site code was obtained from Gloucester Museums Service (**GLRCM: 2009.13**) and was used as the unique site identifier for all records.
- 6.5 The archaeological evaluation was monitored by the Gloucester City Council Historic Environment Team and Andy Leonard, Fieldwork Divisional Manager, for AOC Archaeology.

7 METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 The detailed methodology is set out in the WSI (AOC 2009). The evaluation comprised the excavation of 12 trenches (Figures 2), with selected hand excavation of archaeological features where present.
- 7.2 The entire site was visually inspected and CAT scanned before the commencement of any machine excavation. All machining was carried out using a JCB 3CX excavator under the constant supervision of the archaeological Project Supervisor. A 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket was used. Undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed in successive level spits down to the natural geology.
- 7.3 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of their spatial distribution.
- 7.4 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trenches that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All archaeological features were investigated by hand, with cleaning, inspection, and recording both in plan and section.
- 7.5 The trenches were accurately located to the National Grid using a totalstation.

8 RESULTS

8.1 Trench 1

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
16.57m to 16.35m	0.00m	0.20m	101	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil
16.15m	0.20m	0.29m	102	Firm gravel made ground
15.86	0.49m	0.04m	103	Dark brown, silty clay, buried topsoil
15.81	0.53m	0.25m	104	Land drain
15.81	0.53m	0.25m	105	Land drain cut
15.81	0.53m	0.25m	106	Land drain
15.81	0.53m	0.25m	107	Land drain cut
15.81	0.53m	0.24m	108	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil
15.57	0.67m	0.03m	109	Brownish yellow, natural clay

8.1.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3) was located in the south-west of the site. It was aligned approximately north-south and measured 30m x 2m. Natural clays (109) were observed in Trench 1 at a height of 15.57mOD and were overlain by mid brownish yellow, silty clay subsoil (108) which was 0.24m thick.

8.1.2 The subsoil was cut by two land drain trenches [105] and [107] which ran south-west to north-east. They were filled by land drains (104) and (106) respectively. The land drains were overlain by dark brown silty clay buried topsoil (103) 0.04m thick. The buried topsoil was overlain by two deposits associated with the construction of the current Tesco store; made ground deposit (102) consisted of gravel and hardcore and was 0.29m thick. It was sealed by dark brown, silty clay topsoil (101) 0.20m thick.

8.1.3 No archaeological features were observed in the trench.

8.2 Trench 2

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.56m to 15.48m	0.00m	0.46m	201	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil
15.02m	0.46m	0.12m	202	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil
14.90m	0.58m	0.22m	203	Mid brown, clayey silt, ditch fill
14.90m	0.58m	0.22m	204	Steep sided ditch
14.90m	0.58m	0.04m	205	Pale brownish yellow silty clay natural

8.2.1 Trench 2 (Figures 2 & 4) was located in the west of the site. It was moved from its planned position and shortened due to lack of space, resulting in its final dimensions of 7m x 2m, aligned east-west. Natural clays (205) were observed in Trench 2 at a height of 14.90mOD, cut by a linear ditch [204]. This was steep sided with an irregular base and measured 2.20m x 0.60m and 0.22m deep, and is thought to be a field boundary. The ditch was filled by firm mid brown clayey silt (203). Numerous fragments of undiagnostic pottery were recovered from this fill as well as a single small sherd of Roman colour-coated ware. The ditch was overlain by mid yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil (202) 0.12m thick. This was sealed by dark brown silty clay topsoil (201) 0.46m thick.

8.3 Trench 3

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.44m to 15.22m	0.00m	0.16m	301	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil
15.28m	0.16m	0.94m	302	Yellowish brownish grey silty clay, made ground
14.34m	1.10m	0.18m	303	Greyish brown silty clay deposit
14.34m	1.10m	0.10m	304	Mid brown clayey silt demolition deposit
14.24m	1.20m	0.12m	305	Dark brown sandy clay buried topsoil
14.34m	1.10m	0.22m	306	Linear unmortared limestone feature
14.12m	1.32m	0.15m	307	Land drain
14.12m	1.32m	0.15m	308	Land Drain cut
14.12m	1.32m	0.11m	309	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil
14.34m	1.10m	0.22m	310	Limestone wall footing
14.01m	1.43m	0.20m	311	Brownish grey natural clay
14.34m	1.10m	0.18m	312	Mid brown clayey silt demolition deposit
14.26m	1.18m	0.12m	313	Dark brown sandy clay buried topsoil
14.34m	1.10m	0.22m	314	Cut of linear feature

8.3.1 Trench 3 (Figures 2 & 5) was located in the north-west of the site, aligned north-south and measuring 30m x 2m. It was moved 5.00m to the east due to encroaching trees. Natural clay (311) was observed at height of 15.44m OD, overlain by mid yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil 0.11m thick. The subsoil was cut by land drain trench [308], which was 0.20m wide and 0.15m deep. It contained land drain (307). The subsoil was overlain at the northern end of the trench by dark brown sandy clay buried topsoil (313) 0.12m thick.

8.3.2 The buried topsoil was cut by a linear feature [314]. It had an irregular base and steep sides and measured 2.00m long, 2.20m wide and 0.22m deep. The cut contained two parallel probable wall foundations [306] and [310]. Both foundations were constructed from roughly squared, unmortared limestone block which ran north-west to south-east. They were both 2.30m long, 0.48m wide and 0.22m high. These foundations were almost certainly related to Green Farm, which stood in the area and was demolished after 1979 (AOC 2008), probably at the time of the construction of the Tesco

store. The foundations were partially overlain by demolition deposits (304) to the south of [306], and (312) to the north of [310]. Both contexts were brown clayey silt and contained fragments of CBM. Deposit (312) also contained two sherds of 17th century Staffordshire pottery. Both contexts measured 5.00m x 2.00m x 0.18m deep. Between the wall foundations and also partially overlying them was a deposit (303) probably associated with the demolition of Green Farm. It consisted of greyish brown silty clay 0.18m thick and contained frequent CBM fragments. Three bricks were retained from this context and their dimensions indicate a 17th century date.

- 8.3.3 The demolition deposits were overlain by 0.94m of brownish grey, silty clay made ground (302). This deposit covered the entire grassed area of the site and was probably imported from the Tesco store site when it was built. The made ground was sealed by 0.16m of dark greyish brown, silty clay topsoil (301).

8.4 Trench 4

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.20m to 15.03m	0.00m	0.10m	401	Brownish grey silty clay topsoil
14.93m	0.10m	0.85m	402	Mixed brownish grey, silty clay and gravel made ground
14.18m	0.85m	0.30m	403	Modern rubble dump
14.08m	0.95m	0.15m	404	Brownish grey silty clay natural
14.18m	0.85m	0.50m	405	Modern rubble dump

- 8.4.1 Trench 4 (Figures 2 & 6) was located in the northwest of the site. It was moved 3.00m east and 3.00m south due to encroaching trees. The trench was aligned east-west and measured 28m x 2m. Natural brownish grey alluvial clays (404) were observed in Trench 4 at a height of 14.08mOD, overlain by two dumps of modern rubble (403) and (405). These are probably associated with the structures of Green Farm. The rubble dumps were sealed by recent (20th century) made ground (402) 0.85m thick. This was sealed by brownish grey silty clay topsoil (401) 0.10m thick.

- 8.4.2 No archaeological features were observed in this trench and any subsoil overlying the natural clay had been truncated.

8.5 Trench 5

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.48m to 14.95m	0.00m	0.15m	501	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil
15.33m	0.15m	0.76m	502	Mixed brownish grey silty clay made ground
14.57m	0.91m	0.18m	503	Very dark brown clayey silt, buried topsoil

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
14.39m	1.09m	0.25m	504	Land drain
14.39m	1.09m	0.25m	505	Land drain cut
14.39m	1.09m	0.18m	506	Yellowish brown clayey silt, subsoil
14.21m	1.27m	0.30m	507	Brownish grey silty clay natural

8.5.1 Trench 5 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the north of the site. It was moved 6m south and 2m west due to low hanging power lines. It was aligned north-south and measured 30m x 2m. Natural brownish grey clays (507) were observed at a height of 14.21mOD and were sealed by yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil (506) 0.18m thick. The subsoil was cut by a land drain trench [505] with associated land drain (504). The land drain was overlain by buried topsoil (503), consisting of a 0.18m thick, very dark brown clayey silt with a clear odour of decomposition. The buried topsoil was sealed by modern brownish grey silty clay made ground (502) 0.76m thick which was in turn overlain by topsoil (501) consisting of dark greyish brown silty clay 0.15m thick.

8.5.2 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.6 Trench 6

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.61m to 15.51m	0.00m	0.15m	601	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil
15.46m	0.15m	0.50m	602	Rubble backfill
15.46m	0.15m	0.50m	603	Cut of removed modern structure
15.46m	0.15m	0.90m	604	Dark brownish grey silty clay made ground
15.46m	0.15m	0.40m	605	Tarmac
14.27m	1.19m	0.00m	606	Land drain
14.27m	1.19m	0.00m	607	Land drain
14.41m	1.05m	0.14m	608	Very dark greyish brown silty clay, buried topsoil
14.27m	1.19m	0.21m	609	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil
14.06m	1.40m	0.05m	610	Mid brownish grey silty clay natural

8.6.1 Trench 6 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the north of the site and was aligned east-west. It measured 30m x 2m. Natural brownish grey clays (610) were observed in Trench 6 at a height of 15.61mOD and were overlain by yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (609) 0.21m thick. The subsoil was cut by two land drains [606] and [607], overlain in turn by a buried topsoil (608) which consisted of very dark greyish brown silty clay and again was characterised by a strong odour of decomposition.

8.6.2 The buried topsoil was overlain by a tarmac track [605] probably associated with the construction of the current Tesco store. The buried soil was also cut by a large irregular vertically-sided feature [603] measuring 2.70m x 2.00m x 0.50m deep. This probably represented the removal of a structure associated with Green farm at the time of the construction of the retail store. The cut contained modern rubble backfill (602). These features were overlain by modern made ground (604) consisting of dark brownish grey silty clay 0.90m thick, subsequently overlain by topsoil (601), a very dark greyish brown silty clay 0.15m thick.

8.6.3 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.7 Trench 7

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.65m to 15.25m	0.00m	0.18m	701	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil
15.07m	0.18m	0.75m	702	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground
14.35m	0.90m	0.15m	703	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil
14.20m	1.05m	0.10m	704	Mid brown silty clay subsoil
14.10m	1.15m	0.17m	705	Soft brownish grey silty clay alluvium
13.93m	1.32m	0.50m	706	Firm, bluish grey natural clay
14.35m	0.90m	0.50m	707	Very hard reddish brown road

8.7.1 Trench 7 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the west of the site and measured 28.00m x 2.00m. It was shortened due to limited space and was aligned east-west. Natural bluish grey clays (706) were observed in Trench 7 at a height of 13.93m OD, sealed by mid brownish grey alluvium (705) 0.17m thick. The alluvium was overlain by subsoil (704), consisting of mid brown silty clay 0.10m thick. A buried topsoil overlay the subsoil, comprising a dark greyish brown, silty clay deposit (703), 0.15m thick.

8.7.2 In the northern section of the trench a rough road [707] 0.50m thick, was present. This ran along the length of the trench, was aligned east-west and was constructed of compacted stone. The road could also be seen in Trench 9 as context [903] and it was probably built and used during the construction of the current Tesco store.

8.7.3 The road was overlain by modern made ground (702), a brownish grey clayey silt 0.75m thick, subsequently overlain by dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (701) 0.18m thick.

8.7.4 No archaeology was observed in this trench.

8.8 Trench 8

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.78m to 15.68m	0.00m	0.15m	801	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil
15.53m	0.15m	0.85m	802	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground
14.68m	1.00m	0.15m	803	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil
14.44m	1.15m	0.24m	804	Yellowish brown silty clay subsoil
14.20m	1.39m	0.15m	805	Brownish yellow natural clay
14.05m	1.54m	0.05m	806	Bluish grey natural clay

8.8.1 Trench 8 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the north of the site. It was aligned south-west to north-east and measured 17.80m x 2m. A length of 12.20m was left unexcavated due to low hanging power cables limiting machine access. Natural brownish yellow clays (806) were observed in Trench 8 at a height of 14.05m OD. They were overlain by natural brownish yellow clay 0.15m thick, in turn overlain by subsoil (804), a yellowish brown silty clay 0.24m thick. The subsoil was overlain by buried topsoil (803) which consisted of dark brown clayey silt 0.15m thick. This deposit was sealed by a sequence of brownish grey clay made ground 0.85m thick (802) and dark greyish brown topsoil 0.15m thick (801).

8.8.2 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.9 Trench 9

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.85m to 15.74m	0.00m	0.08m	901	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil
15.66m	0.08m	0.60m	902	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground
15.41m	0.33m	0.28m	903	Reddish brown gravel and type 1, haulage road
15.13m	0.61m	0.22m	904	Whitish grey stoney rubble road base
15.66m	0.08m	0.30m	906	Bluish grey clay, redposited natural
14.91m	0.83m	0.15m	907	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
14.76m	0.97m	0.30m	908	Brownish yellow natural clay
14.76m	0.97m	0.00m	909	Land drain

8.9.1 Trench 9 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the centre of the site, aligned north-south and measuring 30m x 2m. Natural brownish yellow clays (908) were observed in Trench 9 at a height of 14.76m OD. It was cut by a land drain [909] and was sealed by buried topsoil (907) 0.15m thick. The buried topsoil was overlain by the base layer of a haulage road [904] which consisted of compacted whitish grey concrete and stone and was 0.22m thick. The haulage road was topped with 0.28m of red gravel and stone. This context is equivalent to [707] to the west and formed an access road during the construction of the Tesco store.

8.9.2 The buried soil was also overlain by a 4.00m long deposit of bluish grey clay (906) located at the northern end of the trench and 0.30m thick. The haulage road was overlain by a deposit of made ground consisting of mid brownish grey clay (902) up to 0.60m thick. Deposits (902) and (906) represent the phase of deposition during the Tesco store construction seen across most of the evaluation trenches in the north-west of the site. They were sealed by topsoil (901) 0.08m thick.

8.9.3 No archaeology was observed in this trench.

8.10 Trench 10

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.95m to 15.89m	0.00m	0.15m	1001	Greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil
15.74m	0.15m	0.75m	1002	Brownish grey, clayey silt made ground
14.99m	0.90m	0.35m	1003	Gravel and tarmac haulage road
14.99m	0.90m	0.15m	1004	Dark brown clayey silt buried topsoil
14.84m	1.05m	0.15m	1005	Yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil
14.64m	0.95m	0.08m	1006	Beamslot fill
14.64m	0.83m	0.08m	1007	Beamslot
14.62m	0.97m	0.15m	1008	Posthole fill
14.62m	0.97m	0.15m	1009	Posthole
14.70m	1.40m	0.40m	1010	Ditch Fill
14.70m	0.97m	0.40m	1011	Ditch cut
14.69m	0.97m	0.02m	1012	Brownish yellow natural clay

8.10.1 Trench 10 (Figures 2 & 7) was located in the west of the site, aligned east-west and measured 20m x 2m. The final 10.00m at the eastern end of the trench could not be excavated due to limited space. Natural brownish yellow clay (1012) was observed at a height of 14.69m OD and was cut by a ditch,

a possible beamslot and a possible posthole. The ditch [1011] was linear, orientated south-west to north-east with a v-shaped profile. It measured 2.30m x 0.80m wide and 0.40m deep, was similar to that found in Trench 2 and probably had a similar function, a field boundary. The ditch contained fill (1010) which consisted of firm yellowish brown clayey silt. No finds were retrieved from this context.

8.10.2 The possible posthole [1009] was located immediately to the east of the ditch. It was round with vertical sides and measured 0.20m in width and 0.15m in depth. The fill (1008) consisted of firm yellowish brown clayey silt, very similar to the ditch fill (1010). The possible beamslot [1007] was located 0.60m east of the posthole and ran north-south. It was linear in plan with vertical sides and a flat base, measuring 2.00m long, 0.20m wide and 0.08m deep. The beamslot fill (1006) was similar to the posthole fill (1008) and ditch fill (1010). The similarity in these fills and the proximity of the features suggests that they were contemporary and possibly related. No finds were retrieved from any of these features.

8.10.3 The archaeological features were overlain by yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil (1005) 0.15m thick. This was sealed by dark brown clayey silt buried topsoil (1004) 0.15m thick. This was overlain at the eastern end of the trench by a tarmac haulage road [1003] 3.00m long, 1.00m wide and 0.35m thick, in turn sealed by brownish grey clayey silt made ground (1002) 0.75m thick. The made ground was sealed by dark greyish brown silty clay topsoil (1001) 0.15m thick.

8.11 Trench 11

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth (BGL)	Thickness	Context Number	Description
15.90m to 15.60m	0.00m	0.10m	1101	Tarmac Cap park
15.80m	0.10m	0.20m	1102	Stone bedding for car park
15.40m	0.30m	0.25m	1103	Type 1 stone bedding
15.15m	0.55m	0.20m	1104	Blue grey redeposited clay
14.95m	0.75m	0.20m	1105	Blueish black clay topsoil
14.75m	0.95m	1.55m	1106	Firm dark grey alluvium

8.11.1 Trench 11 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the north of the car park measuring 25m x 2m and was aligned east-west. Alluvial clays (1106) were observed in Trench 11 at a height of 14.75m mOD. These were probably equivalent to those seen in the trenches to the north. However, this deposit was rather higher and softer, possibly representing a pond cut off from the marshy areas to the north by higher land which has since been truncated. The grey alluvium was overlain by a buried topsoil (1105) 0.20m thick, bluish black clay in nature. It smelled strongly of decomposition and contained one sherd of pottery and one piece of tile both dated to the 17th – 18th century. The buried topsoil was overlain by redeposited blue grey natural clay (1104) 0.25m thick. This was probably used to level the car park. The clay was sealed by a sequence of bedding layers (1103) and (1102) 0.25m and 0.20m thick respectively. These layers were sealed by the tarmac car park surface (1101) 0.10m thick.

8.11.2 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

8.12 Trench 12

Level (m OD) of Top of Context	Depth	Thickness	Context Number	Description
	(BGL)			
15.35m to 15.16m OD	0.00m	0.12m	1201	Tarmac Cap park
15.04m	0.12m	0.28m	1202	Type 1 stone bedding
14.76m	0.40m	0.08m	1203	Natural blue grey clay

8.12.1 Trench 12 (Figures 2 and 8) was located in the far south of the car park, aligned south-west to north-east and measured 20m x 2m. Natural bluish grey clays (1203) were in Trench 12 at a height of 15.16mOD. Any alluvial deposits or soils, as well as archaeological features, had been truncated by the car park construction. The natural clay was overlain by a car park bedding layer (1202) 0.28m thick and the tarmac surface (1201) 0.12m thick.

8.12.2 No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

9 FINDS

Finds were retained from four contexts (203), (303), (312) and (1105). These included numerous sherds of pottery, a single piece of glazed tile and three bricks.

9.1 Pottery

9.1.1 Pottery was retrieved from contexts (203), (312) and (1105). The pottery from ditch fill (203) included a single small sherd of Roman colour-coated ware with a red fabric. Many more fragmented sherds were also retained, these were undiagnostic.

9.1.2 The pottery from wall demolition deposit (312) was made up of two sherds of glazed Staffordshire pottery dating to the 17th century.

9.1.3 A single sherd of pottery was found in alluvial deposit (1105); this had a red fabric and has been tentatively dated to the 17th or 18th century.

9.2 Ceramic Building Material

9.2.1 Three pieces of CBM were retained from made ground deposit (303), these included two complete bricks and another brick fragment. These dimensions of these bricks date them to the 17th century.

9.2.2 A single piece of glazed tile was retrieved from alluvial deposit (1105); it has been dated to the 17th century.

9.3 Environmental Samples

9.3.1 Environmental samples were taken from ditch fills (203) and (1010), the results are forthcoming.

10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The archaeological evaluation met its primary aim; to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains.
- 10.2 The natural geology sloped generally from south to north with a high point of 15.57m OD at the base of Trench 1 and a low point of 14.06m OD at the base of Trench 8. This slope accounted for the presence of archaeology (in Trenches 2 and 10) on the high land in the south and west, while across much of the north of the site soils were alluvial in nature, probably an indication marshland.
- 10.3 The area seems to have been drained in the post-medieval period. Cartographic evidence showed Green Farm lying on the north of the site in 1848 (AOC 2008). The presence of structural remains in the area and 17th century finds would suggest the farm was active around this date and the land had been drained by this time.
- 10.4 The impact of the construction of the current Tesco store is significant. The southern part of the car park had been heavily truncated to natural geology. During the store's construction it seems that Green Farm was demolished and a thick layer of made ground (probably from the ground reduction from the store) had been deposited across the field in the north-west of the site.
- 10.5 The Written Scheme of Investigation included a requirement for watching brief during drainage excavations to the south and east of the existing store. Given the degree of impact caused by the existing store it is recommended that such work is not necessary.
- 10.6 The undated features identified in Trench 10 may relate to the Green Farm but could well relate to earlier activity on the site. Further work in this area should be undertaken to mitigate the impact of the proposed development. However, the final decision will rest with Gloucester City Council's Historic Environment Team.
- 10.7 Publication of this evaluation report will be limited to its addition to the online ADS OASIS website (Appendix B). A short summary will be submitted to the local round-up once a decision on the requirement for any further work has been made.
- 10.8 The archive will be prepared following local guidance documents and deposited with the Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery.

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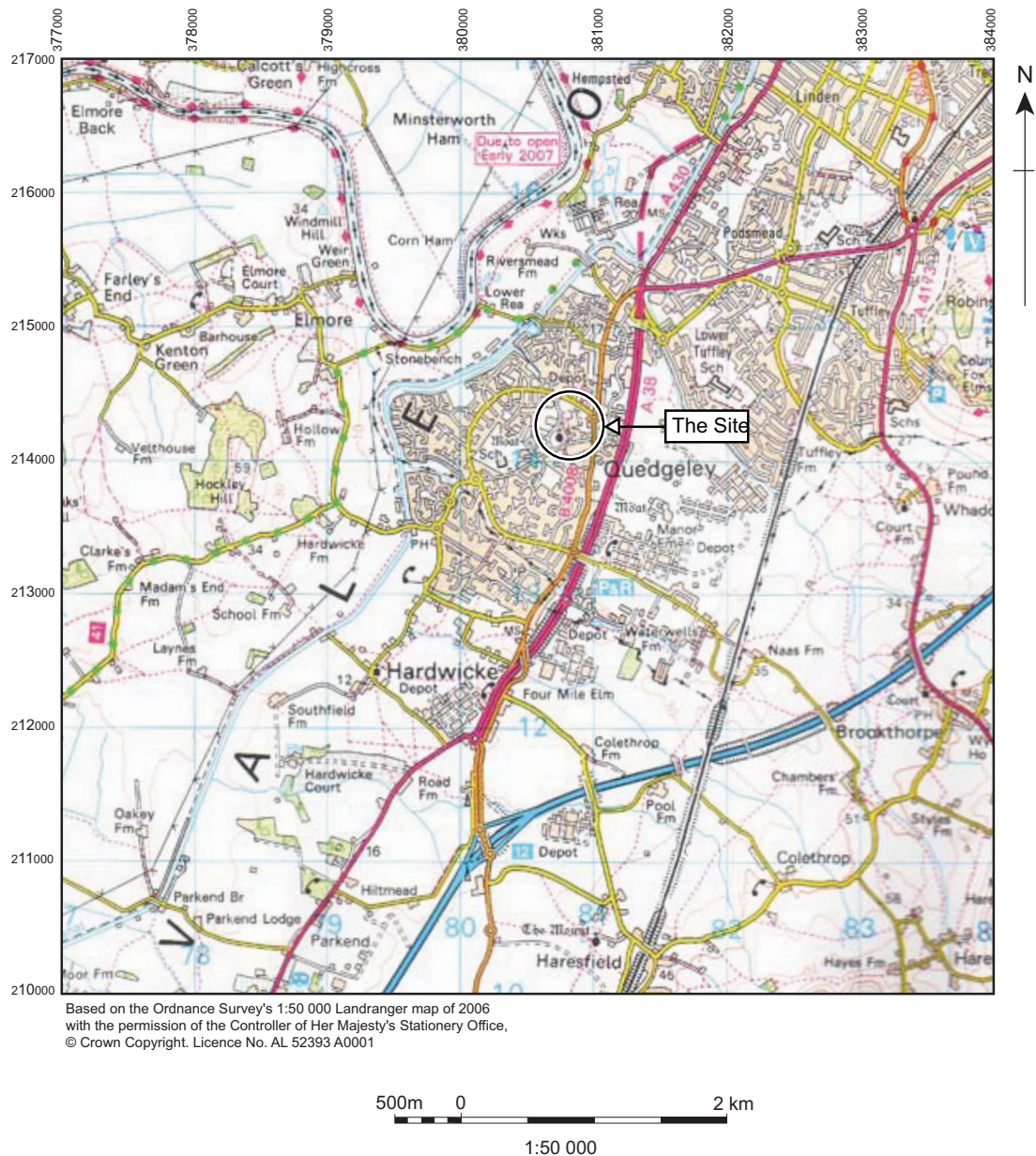
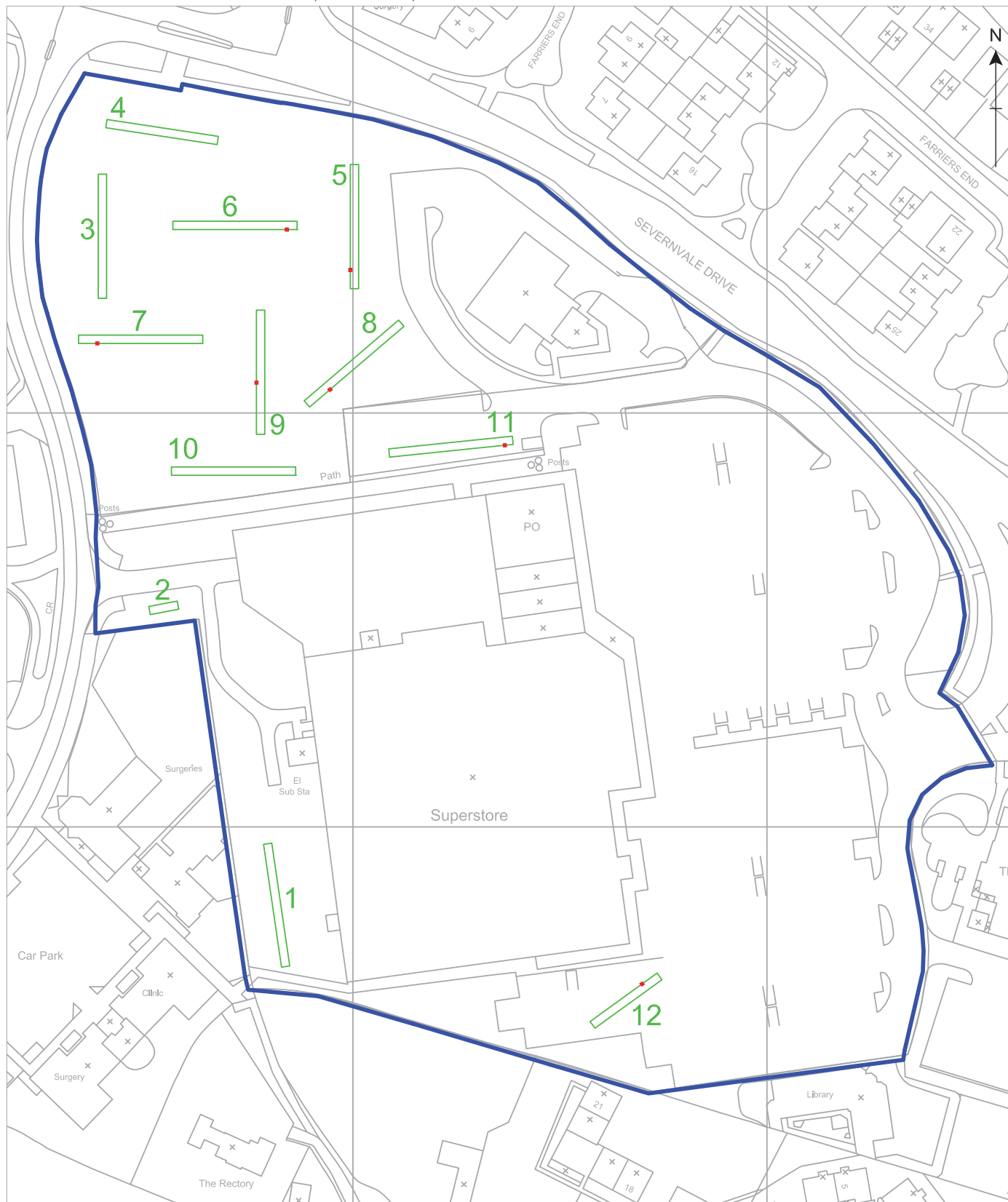


Figure 1: Site Location



Based on the Ordnance Survey's 1:1250 Superplan Digital Data of 2004
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- Site Outline
- Evaluation Trenches
- Sample Sections

Figure 2: Detailed Site/Trench Location

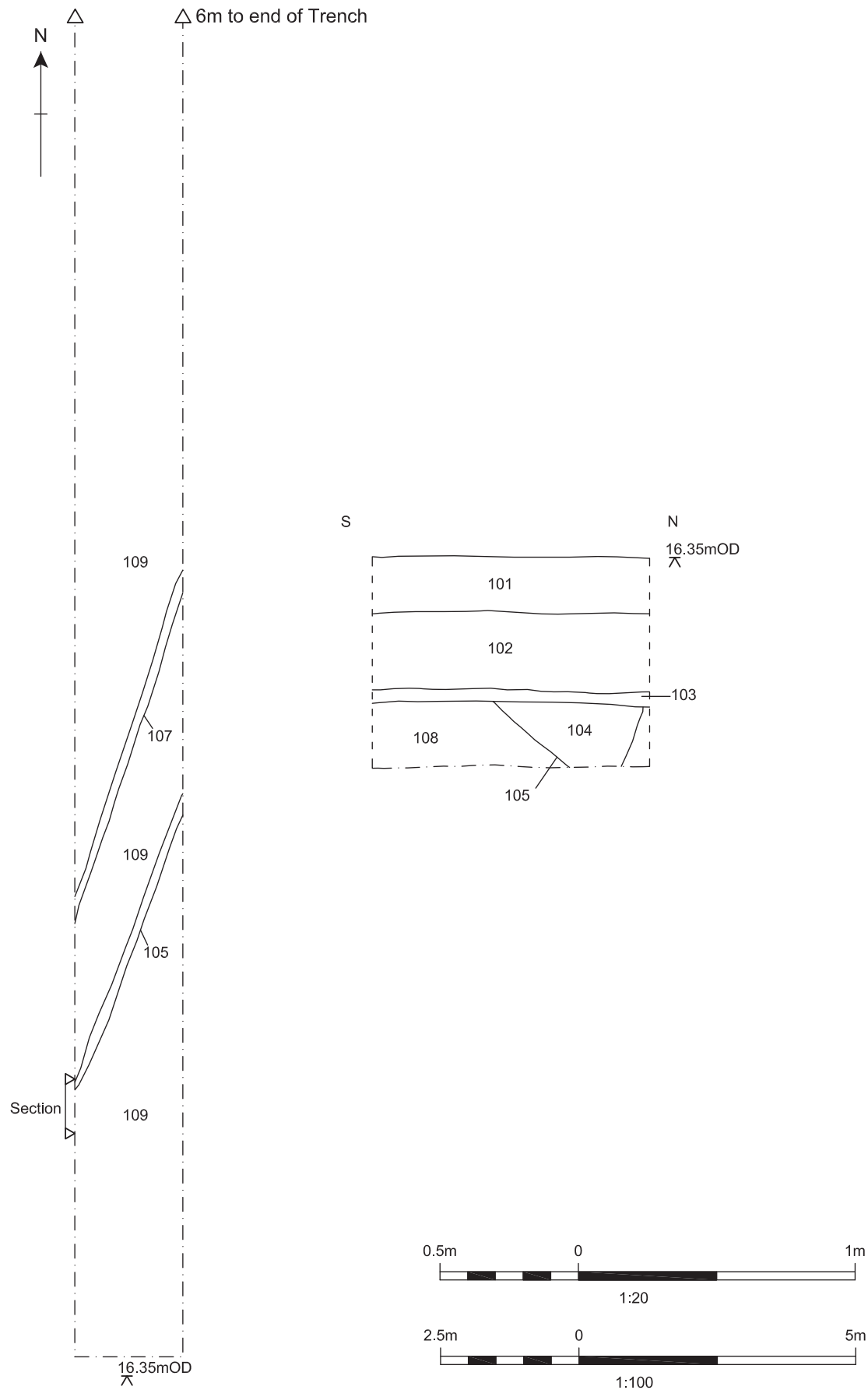


Figure 3: Trench 1: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:20)

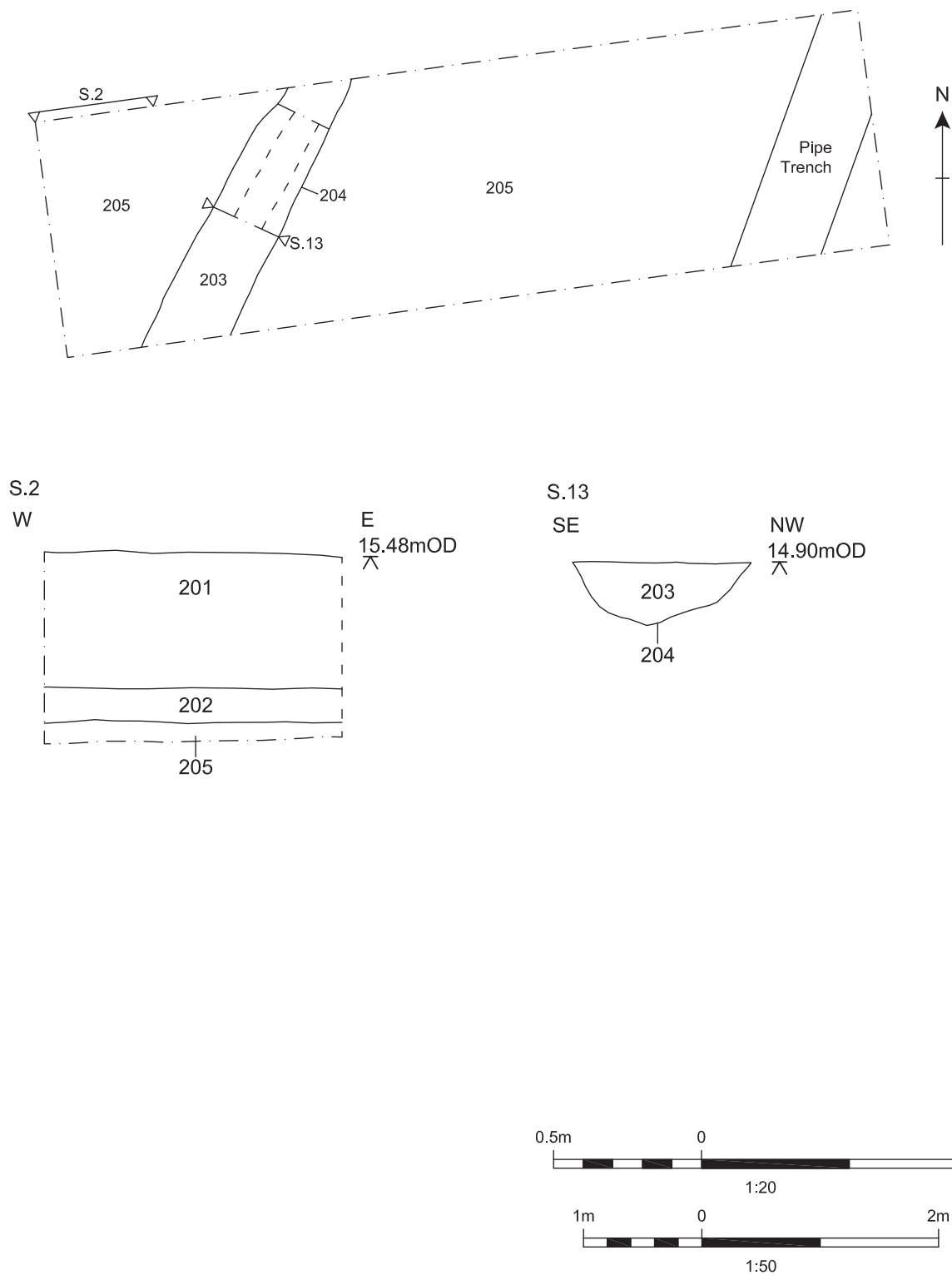


Figure 4: Trench 2: Plan (1:50) & Section (1:20)

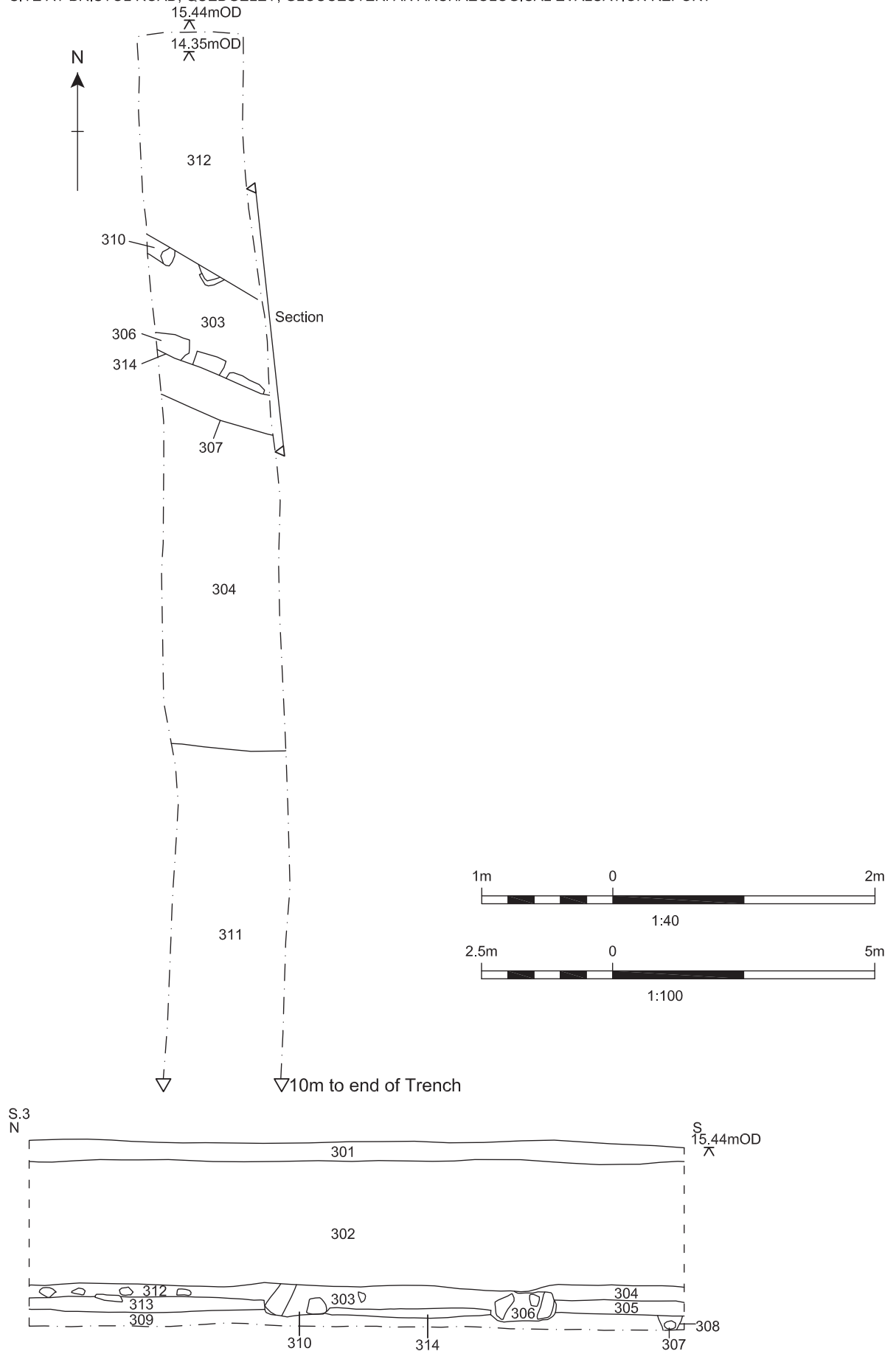


Figure 5: Trench 3: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:40)

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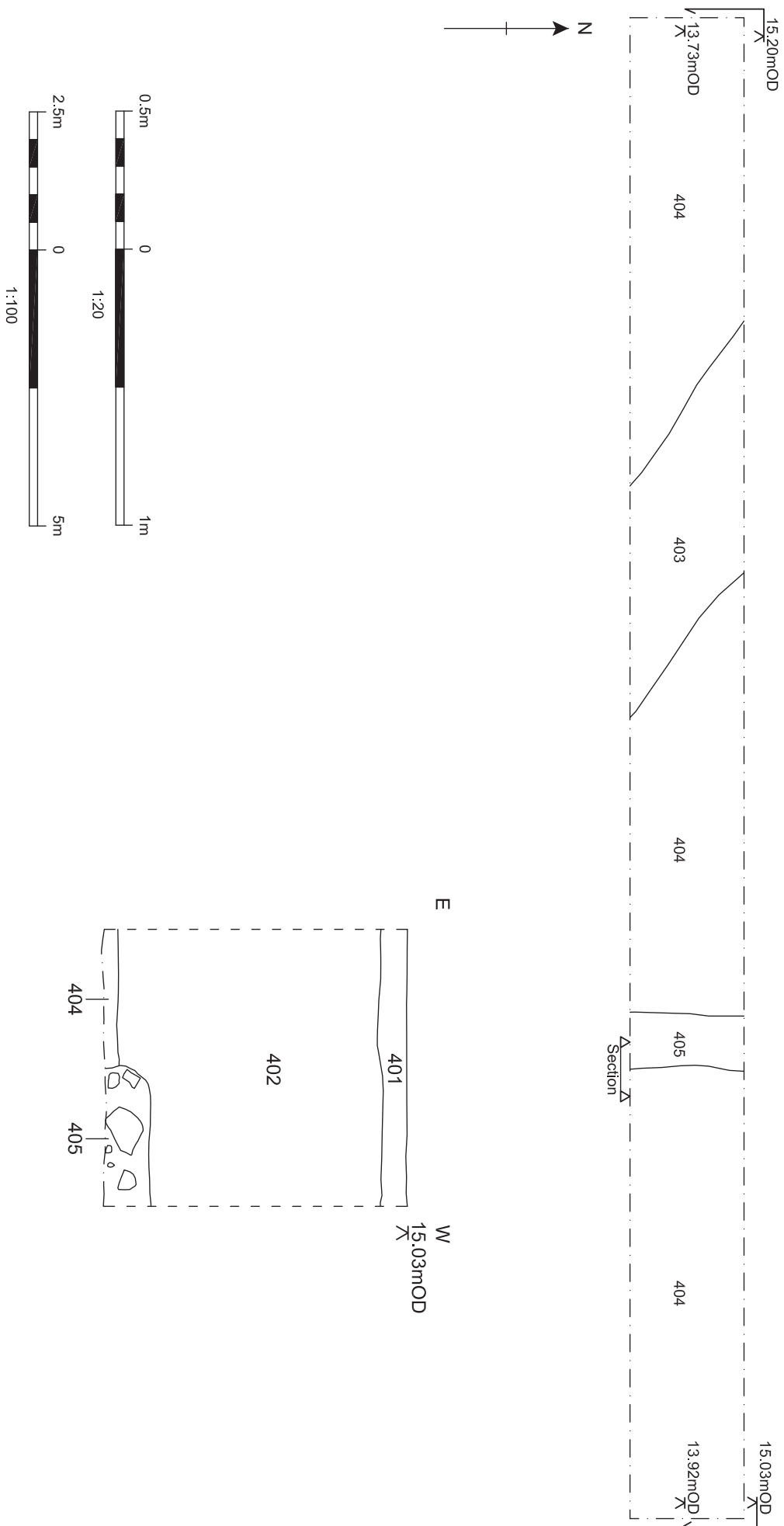


Figure 6: Trench 4: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:20)

SITE AT BRISTOL ROAD, QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTER: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

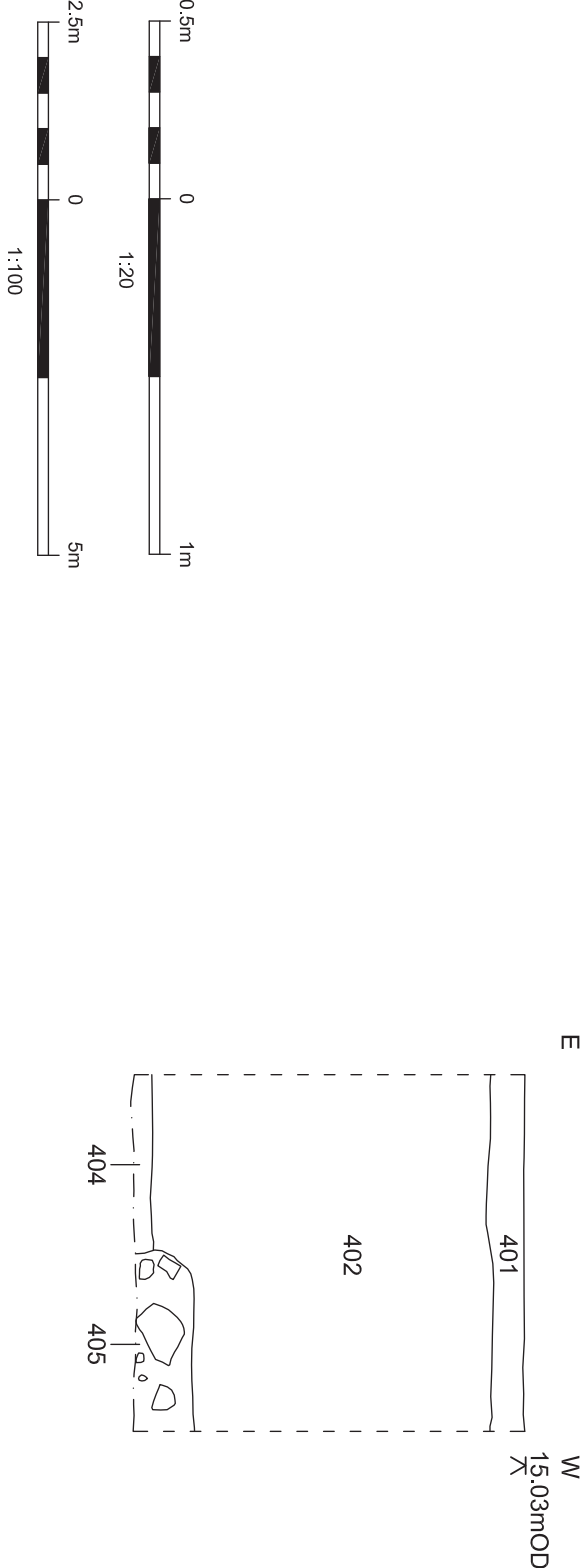
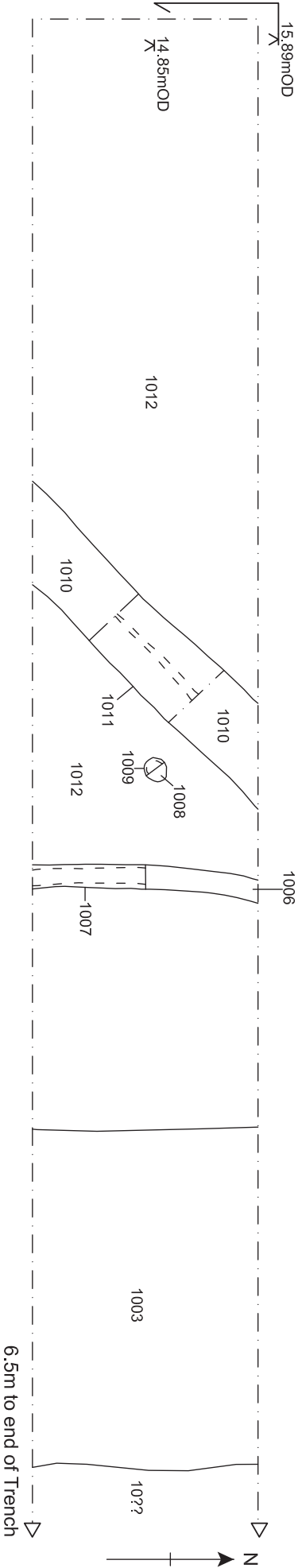
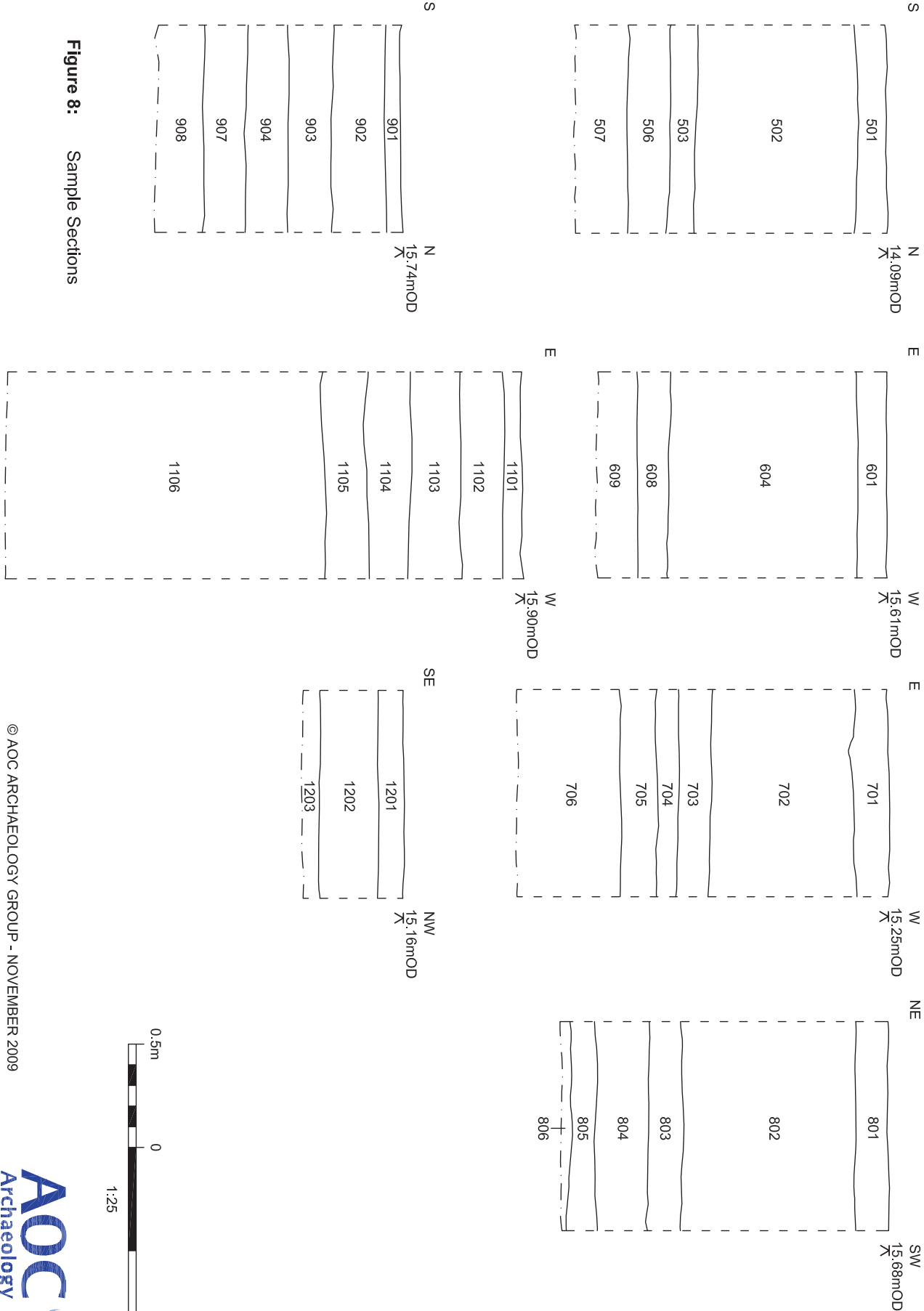


Figure 7: Trench 10: Plan (1:100) & Section (1:20)

SITE AT BRISTOL ROAD, QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTER: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT



Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context Register						
Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth	Plan No.	Section No.
101	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.20m	1	1
102	Firm gravel made ground	30.00m	2.00m	0.29m	1	1
103	Dark brown, silty clay, buried topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.04m	1	1
104	Land drain	6.50m	0.40m	0.25m	1	1
105	Land drain cut	6.50m	0.40m	0.25m	1	1
106	Land drain	6.50m	0.40m	0.25m	1	1
107	Land drain cut	6.50m	0.40m	0.25m	1	1
108	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.24m	1	1
109	Brownish yellow, natural clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.03m	1	1
201	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil	7.00m	2.00m	0.46m	2	2
202	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil	7.00m	2.00m	0.12m	2	2
203	Mid brown, clayey silt, ditch fill	2.20m	0.60m	0.22m	2	13
204	Steep sided ditch	2.20m	0.60m	0.22m	2	13
205	Pale brownish yellow silty clay natural	7.00m	2.00m	0.04m	2	2
301	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.16m	3	3
302	Yellowish brownish grey silty clay, made ground	30.00m	2.00m	0.94m	3	3
303	Greyish brown silty clay deposit	2.00m	1.60m	0.18m	3	3
304	Mid brown clayey silt demolition deposit	5.00m	2.00m	0.10m	3	3
305	Dark brown sandy clay buried topsoil	22.00m	2.00m	0.12m	3	3
306	Linear unmortared limestone feature	2.30m	0.48m	0.22m	3	3
307	Land drain	2.30m	0.30m	0.15m	3	3
308	Land Drain cut	2.30m	0.30m	0.15m	3	3
309	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil	330.00m	2.00m	0.11m	3	3
310	Limestone wall footing	2.30m	0.48m	0.22m	3	3
311	Brownish grey natural clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.20m	3	3
312	Mid brown clayey silt demolition deposit	5.00m	2.00m	0.18m	3	3
313	Dark brown sandy clay buried topsoil	5.00m	2.00m	0.12m	3	3
314	Cut of linear feature	2.00m	2.20m	0.22m	3	3
401	Brownish grey silty clay topsoil	27.00m	2.00m	0.10m	4	4
402	Mixed brownish grey, silty clay and gravel made ground	27.00m	2.00m	0.85m	4	4
403	Modern rubble dump	2.80m	2.00m	0.30m	4	4
404	Brownish grey silty clay natural	27.00m	2.00m	0.15m	4	4
405	Modern rubble dump	2.00m	1.00m	0.50m	4	4
501	Dark brown, silty clay, topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.15m	5	5
502	Mixed brownish grey silty clay made ground	30.00m	2.00m	0.76m	5	5

503	Very dark brown clayey silt, buried topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.18m	5	5
504	Land drain	2.40m	0.12m	0.25m	5	5
505	Land drain cut	2.40m	0.12m	0.25m	5	5
506	Yellowish brown clayey silt, subsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.18m	5	5
507	Brownish grey silty clay natural	30.00m	2.00m	0.30m	5	5
601	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.15m	6	6
602	Rubble backfill	2.70m	2.00m	0.50m	6	6
603	Cut of removed modern structure	2.70m	2.00m	0.50m	6	6
604	Dark brownish grey silty clay made ground	30.00m	2.00m	0.90m	6	6
605	Tarmac	2.00m	3.50m	0.40m	6	6
606	Land drain	4.00m	0.08m	0.00m	6	6
607	Land drain	3.50m	0.30m	0.00m	6	6
608	Very dark greyish brown silty clay, buried topsoil	27.30m	2.00m	0.14m	6	6
609	Yellowish brown silty clay, subsoil	27.30m	2.00m	0.21m	6	6
610	Mid brownish grey silty clay natural	27.30m	2.00m	0.05m	6	6
701	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil	28.00m	2.00m	0.18m	7	7
702	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground	28.00m	2.00m	0.75m	7	7
703	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil	28.00m	2.00m	0.15m	7	7
704	Mid brown silty clay subsoil	28.00m	2.00m	0.10m	7	7
705	Soft brownish grey silty clay alluvium	28.00m	2.00m	0.17m	7	7
706	Firm, bluish grey natural clay	28.00m	2.00m	0.50m	7	7
707	Very hard reddish brown road	28.00m	1.80m	0.50m	7	7
801	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil	29.50m	2.00m	0.15m	8	8
802	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground	29.50m	2.00m	0.85m	8	8
803	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil	29.50m	2.00m	0.15m	8	8
804	Yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	29.50m	2.00m	0.24m	8	8
805	Brownish yellow natural clay	29.50m	2.00m	0.15m	8	8
806	Bluish grey natural clay	29.50m	2.00m	0.05m	8	8
901	Dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.08m	9	9
902	Brownish grey clayey silt made ground	26.00m	2.00m	0.60m	9	9
903	Reddish brown gravel and type 1, haulage road	9.00m	2.00m	0.28m	9	9
904	Whitish grey stoney rubble road base	7.50m	2.00m	0.22m	9	9
906	Bluish grey clay, redeposited natural	4.00m	2.00m	0.30m	9	9
907	Dark, greyish brown, silty clay buried topsoil	30.00m	2.00m	0.15m	9	9
908	Brownish yellow natural clay	30.00m	2.00m	0.30m	9	9
909	Land drain	13.80m	0.20m	0.00m	9	9
1001	Greyish brown, silty clay, topsoil	20.00m	2.00m	0.15m	10	10
1002	Brownish grey, clayey silt made ground	20.00m	2.00m	0.75m	10	10
1003	Gravel and tarmac haulage road	2.00m	2.00m	0.35m	10	10
1004	Dark brown clayey silt buried topsoil	20.00m	2.00m	0.15m	10	10
1005	Yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil	20.00m	2.00m	0.15m	10	10
1006	Beamslot fill	2.00m	0.20m	0.08m	10	15
1007	Beamslot	2.00m	0.20m	0.08m	10	15
1008	Posthole fill	0.20m	0.20m	0.15m	10	14

1009	Posthole	0.20m	0.20m	0.15m	10	14
1010	Ditch Fill	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m	10	16
1011	Ditch cut	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m	10	16
1012	Brownish yellow natural clay	20.00m	2.00m	0.02m	10	10
1101	Tarmac Cap park	25.00m	2.00m	0.10m	11	11
1102	Stone bedding for car park	25.00m	2.00m	0.20m	11	11
1103	Type 1 stone bedding	25.00m	2.00m	0.25m	11	11
1104	Blue grey redeposited clay	25.00m	2.00m	0.20m	11	11
1105	Blueish black clay topsoil	25.00m	2.00m	0.20m	11	11
1106	Firm dark grey alluvium	25.00m	2.00m	1.55m	11	11
1201	Tarmac Cap park	20.00m	2.00m	0.12m	12	12
1202	Type 1 stone bedding	20.00m	2.00m	0.28m	12	12
1203	Natural blue grey clay	20.00m	2.00m	0.08m	12	12

Appendix B – OASIS Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: aocarcha1-64636

Project details

Project name Site at Bristol Road, Quedgley

Short description of the project forthcoming archaeological evaluation

Project dates Start: 26-10-2009 End: 06-11-2009

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes 30230 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes 30066 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes GLCRM:2009.13 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing

Monument type DITCH Roman

Monument type DITCH Uncertain

Monument type POSTHOLE Uncertain

Monument type	BEAMSLOT Uncertain
Monument type	WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches','Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	GLOUCESTERSHIRE GLOUCESTER QUEDGELEY Site at Bristol Road
Postcode	GL2 4PF
Study area	4.34 Hectares
Site coordinates	SO 8083 1431 51.82663382 -2.278194029890 51 49 35 N 002 16 41 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 14.06m Max: 15.57m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology

Project brief originator	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard
Project supervisor	Ian Hogg
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	ISG Pearce

Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Contents	'Ceramics'
Digital Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography'
Paper Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Plan','Report','Section'

Entered by	Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@aocarchaeology.com)
Entered on	18 November 2009

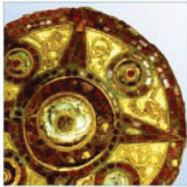
OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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2006

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