


**A Series of Archaeological Investigations
during the excavation of the
Orchestra Pit at Nevill Holt Hall,
Nevill Holt, Leicestershire (SP 816 937)**

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CONTENTS

Summary	1
Introduction.....	1
Site Location and Geology.....	2
Historical Background	2
Archaeological Background.....	3
Aims and Methods	3
Results.....	4
Conclusion	8
Archive.....	10
Bibliography	11
Acknowledgements.....	11

APPENDIX 1: The pottery and miscellaneous finds from an evaluation and watching brief at Nevill Holt Hall, Leicestershire.

APPENDIX 2 Design Specification for Archaeological Control and Supervision of Groundworks and Archaeological Excavation

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Location of Nevill Holt

Figure 2: West facing frontage of 17th century stable block

Figure 3: Work in progress at northern end of courtyard during evaluation

Figure 4: Work in progress on orchestra pit excavation, looking north west

Figure 5: Orchestra pit excavation close to completion, with water tank in foreground, looking southeast

Figure 6: Plan of Nevill Holt Stable Block, showing work carried out during archaeological evaluation and significant discoveries

Figure 7: Post excavation plan of northwest corner of Stable Block courtyard

Figure 8a: East facing section of west wall foundations (41)

Figure 8b: South facing section of wall (25)

Figure 8c: South facing section of wall (33)

Figure 9: Post excavation plan of test pit 3

Figure 10: Plan of Nevill Holt 1661. Copy redrawn from the original by Saunders (1985)

A series of Archaeological Investigations during the excavation of the Orchestra Pit, Nevill Holt Hall, Nevill Holt, Leicestershire (SP 816 937)

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) undertook a series of archaeological investigations during groundworks associated with the proposed development of a stage and orchestra pit at the stable block, Nevill Holt Hall, Nevill Holt, Leicestershire (SP 816 937). The site lies within the stable block associated with the Hall, which is a complex structure covering many periods, with its origins in the 13th century. The field evaluation revealed many archaeological features including a pit containing medieval pottery and a series of walls, which may be the remains of the hospital that occupied the site in the 17th century. The watching brief also revealed some significant archaeological features.

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services with accession number X.A42.2005.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) was commissioned by David Ross Esq. to carry out a watching brief and field evaluation during groundworks associated with floor level reduction, drainage and the excavation of a stage and orchestra pit at the stable block, Nevill Holt Hall, Nevill Holt, Leicestershire (NGR SP 816 937). Archaeological work was required as a condition of the planning permission for the refurbishment of the existing stable block, the creation of recreational facilities and the construction of a temporary auditorium (listed building application: 04/1970/3). This work would also involve the excavation of a large soakaway and related drainage, to be constructed to the immediate northeast of the stable block, the underpinning of the east-facing outer wall of the stable block and other groundworks.

This work follows on from previous archaeological work carried out by ULAS in 2000 (Priest 2000) and during 2002-2003 (Clarke 2004) and more recently in 2004 (Hunt 2004).

The previous work revealed a number of archaeological deposits present within the evaluation area. This led the Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Service Section, acting as archaeological adviser to the Planning Authority to request that the groundworks associated with the Nevill Holt Hall conversion were carried out under archaeological supervision.

The planned conversion of the 19th century stable block wing into a changing room to service the swimming pool to be built adjacent to this building necessitated the creation of formation levels for new floors. The proposed construction of the auditorium in the northern portion of the stable block courtyard would necessitate the removal of the modern courtyard surface, the reduction of the yard area by 0.20-0.30m and the deeper excavation of the proposed orchestra pit.

It was therefore proposed to conduct a watching brief on the floor reduction works and an archaeological evaluation on the theatre area. A watching brief would also be carried out on other groundworks, connected with these works, such as drainage and the underpinning of the eastern wall of the stable block.

Subsequent to the findings of the field evaluation a further enhanced watching brief was carried out during the final stages of the excavation of the orchestra pit. This document represents an update of the previous report (ULAS Report 2005-075)

Site Location and Geology

Nevill Holt is a small village in south-east Leicestershire (Fig.1). The Hall and church, both dating from the 13th century, stand on a hilltop, dominating the cluster of houses that make up the village. The Hall itself is a complex building, covering many periods.

The stables were built in the late 17th century and then expanded in the 19th century.

The hill on which the Hall stands overlooks the River Welland to the south, and is at a height of approximately 140m OD. The underlying geology consists of Lower Lincolnshire Limestone, below clays (O.S. Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 170).

Historical Background

The following is summarised from the previous watching brief at Nevill Holt Hall (Clarke 2004):

The early origins of the village of Holt are obscure. It is not mentioned in the Domesday Book and it is thought that settlement may have begun in the 12th and 13th centuries, with the clearing of the woods from which the place-name 'Holt' is derived (Hill, 1999, 246). The prefix of 'Nevill' derives from the Nevill family, occupants of the Hall for nearly 400 years, from the late 15th century until 1868. Nevill Holt Hall is an extensive and complex country house on an east-west orientation. It appears to have its origins in the 13th century and documentary evidence suggests that there was a considerable establishment of buildings at Holt by 1302 (Hill 1997, 37). The earliest identifiable fabric comprises the stone-walled, medieval hall of c.1280 in the centre of the building, which retains the original timbers of its open roof. The hall was flanked by a service range and solar block to the east and west respectively and by 1400 the main structure comprised an elongated series of buildings, including the Hall, Solar Crosswing, Inner Hall, Service, Service/Corridor Gallery and the church, probably with a number of outbuildings (Hill 1997, 38). The phase plan produced by N. Hill illustrates the many later additions to the medieval core in the 15th-19th centuries, which created an imposing south elevation of some 100m in length (Hill 1999, 246).

The stable block also covers many periods. The west wing (Fig. 2) dates from the late 17th century when it appears to have been built on top of the ruins of an old medieval

‘Hospitall’ (Hill 1997, 69). The remainder of the building dates from the late 19th century, after the Hall passed into the hands of Sir Bache Cunard in 1877. Sir Bache was Master of Fox Hounds from 1878 to 1888 and expanded the stables in line with his new position.

The hall was converted into a school after World War I and there were many modifications to the stable buildings in the 1960s, including the construction of a gymnasium and swimming pool within the stable buildings. A new classroom had also been constructed in the northwest corner of the courtyard and a series of lean-to buildings had been attached to the outer wall of the eastern wing. Both of these constructions had been demolished shortly before this present phase of archaeological work.

Archaeological Background

The evaluation carried out by ULAS in 2000 (Priest 2000) revealed a number of archaeological deposits present within the application area, including the remains of an earlier floor surface and a large post-hole, located beneath the present flagstones of the Great Hall. Test pits within the Inner Hall revealed further evidence for earlier structures, in the form of a beaten earth floor and the remains of a stone wall, with traces of plaster (Priest 2000).

The recent watching brief carried out by ULAS during 2002-2003 (Clarke 2004) revealed a number of further discoveries including the remains of a mortar surface within the former dairy block, which was removed to reveal a number of stakeholes and post-holes, which may be interpreted as evidence of earlier structures existing beneath the present building. Gravel stripping undertaken in the vicinity of the present driveway, to the south of the Great Hall, revealed a series of cobbled surfaces that appear to correspond with the main Courtyard that appears on the 1661 plan of Nevill Holt (Fig. 8). A substantial segment of sandstone walling revealed in a drainage trench located to the southwest of the Hall may represent the remains of a structure associated with the ‘Blew-Gates’, also noted on the plan of 1661, whilst a second wall revealed in a trench to the north of the Cloisters may relate to the Orchard boundary recorded at this time. Brick and stonework foundations recorded within gardens to the rear of the Kitchen, may represent the remains of recently demolished, late 19th-century greenhouses.

The watching brief carried out by ULAS in 2004 on geotechnical trenches in and around the Stable Block in preparation for the construction of the swimming pool revealed no archaeological features (Hunt 2004).

Aims and Methods

The purpose of the watching brief and the field evaluation was to ascertain whether archaeological deposits were present. If so, the character, extent and date range of any deposits identified would be established, in order to assess their significance. Recording of these deposits would be carried out as appropriate, and an archive and this report produced. The work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA)

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs, and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation and adhered to the University's and ULAS's Health and Safety policies.

Watching Brief

In the areas to be subject to the creation of formation levels, the archaeologists were to observe groundworks by the client's contractors. If any archaeological deposits were seen to be present, the archaeologist would temporarily halt the works in order to define and record areas of archaeological interest.

Evaluation

The archaeological potential of the proposed orchestra pit was to be evaluated by stripping the entire footprint by machine, under archaeological supervision, down to the top of archaeological levels. Exposed archaeological deposits would be hand cleaned, recorded in plan and subject to sample excavation in order to establish their nature, extent, date of deposition and significance.

Four 1m square test pits were to be examined in the southern half of the courtyard down to the top of archaeological deposits, with recording and sample excavation as detailed above. These pits would supplement the information from the existing geotechnical pits (Hunt 2004). In the event that potential archaeological deposits were identified during the process, additional trenches would be examined as necessary in order to clarify their nature and extent so that an informed decision could be taken on the implementation of an appropriate mitigation strategy to secure either preservation of significant deposits in situ, or 'preservation by record' by archaeological excavation.

Enhanced Watching Brief (2006)

The archaeological field evaluation revealed a considerable number of archaeological features within the courtyard of the stable block, some of which would be affected by general formation levels required for repaving and some which would be damaged by the proposed orchestra pit. In view of this, it was proposed to implement a mitigation strategy of excavation of affected deposits on a phased basis. Initially, excavation of the area of the orchestra pit would be undertaken after the first performance season in 2006 followed by excavation of the remainder of the courtyard after dismantling of the auditorium in about five years time. In the event, the proposed mitigation strategy for the orchestra pit was modified slightly to take account of the fact that the majority of archaeological features had already been recorded adequately during the evaluation phase. Hence, with the agreement of the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council, a programme of 'archaeological control and supervision of groundworks' was undertaken during the excavation works for the pit. This included a contingency provision that work would be suspended if further archaeological discoveries were made (see Design Specification, Appendix 3).

Results

Watching Brief-Formation Levels in the Eastern Wing of Stable Block

The eastern 19th-century wing of the Stable Block had contained a swimming pool. This had been removed before work had started leaving building debris and remnants of concrete foundations. Approximately 4 metres of the northern end of this room had

already been reduced before arrival, and some services had already been replaced. A new room had been constructed over this section. The floor level was reduced during the watching brief by 0.20-0.40m. This exposed the lower courses of the inner walls of the Stable Block, which were of Ironstone, whereas the upper courses were brick.

The small room at the far southern end of the building was reduced to a similar level, except in one corner where a rectangular area, measuring 1.3 x 1.6m was excavated to a depth of 0.8m. This exposed 3 courses of foundations in stone, supporting upper brick courses laid in a similar pattern to the larger room

The ground reduction did not penetrate deep enough to expose virgin ground and the floor surface as exposed remained strewn with building debris.

No archaeological features or finds associated with archaeological features were observed during the excavation of the groundworks within the stable building.

Evaluation-Formation Levels and Orchestra Pit in the Courtyard

The four test pits were placed in the southern end of the courtyard (Fig. 4) and excavated by hand down to archaeological levels or the natural soil level.

Test pit one contained a steep sided pit or post-hole. This was not fully revealed by the excavation of the test pit, but the feature appeared broadly oval in shape and approximately 0.5m in diameter. It appeared to be formed of two components: an initial cut [10], containing a mid-greyish brown clayey sand fill (11) with few medium sized angular stones and some charcoal flecks and a secondary deeper cut [12] containing a fill (13), which was very similar to (11). Both fills contained sherds of medieval pottery.

Test pit three contained a stone feature (45) that consisted of two pitched blocks of Weldon stone, lying broadly north-south across the pit (Fig.7). To the west of these was a light grey mortar spread (5), which may be a floor make-up layer.

Test pit four also contained a thin mortar layer (17), similar to (5), along with a group of large sub-rounded cobbles (46), which may represent a former courtyard surface.

Test pit two contained no archaeological features.

The evaluation within the northern end of the stable block courtyard area revealed a series of walls and other features (Figures 3 & 5). A large brick built cess-pit or water tank (32) was situated at the northern end of the stable block a few metres from the northwest wing. This had destroyed some archaeology, and was approximately 3-4 metres deep. The tank was situated between the remains of two walls (25) and (33), which ran east to west across the courtyard. These were constructed of roughly hewn ironstone blocks, bonded together with lime mortar (figure 6b). Small sections of wall (26), (27), (28) running north to south were butted up against this wall, but had been truncated by the tank. One section, despite truncation, appeared to continue under the northwest wing of the stable block (26). The northernmost wall (25) had been partially damaged by a modern concrete foundation wall (30). This northern wall continued to a corner (31) and then turned south to be damaged by the water tank.

Parallel to the northern wall was another east-west orientated wall (33), of similar construction, some 5 metres to the south. This too was partially damaged at its eastern end by the concrete wall (30) and a series of drains. This wall joined on to another, wider wall (34) running north south down the middle of the stable yard. This had also been damaged by the tank (32) and had been heavily truncated by a large drain at its southern end, although it did appear to continue under the courtyard surface. This wall was wider than the east-west walls and was made of large roughly hewn ironstone blocks and appeared to continue on the same alignment as the northeast corner, and parallel to the west wing of the stable block.

The east-west walls butted up against the foundations of the 17th century stable block (41) (figure 6a), but at their eastern end they appeared to be attached to the north-south wall. To the west of the north-south wall was a small patch of mortar, which may be the remnants of a floor make-up layer.

On the eastern side of the north-south wall is a large patch of roughly cobbled surface (40), which runs in patches back towards the northern end of the site. This is constructed of roughly squared-off rectangular limestone blocks, pitched and not mortared. In places it appears to have been repaired with brick. This surface seems to respect the line of the north-south wall.

There may also be remnants of floor surface (39) close to the stable foundations (41).

An irregular shaped pit was discovered within the large open area to the west of the larger wall (34). This contained a large amount of horse bones and two horseshoes. A narrow linear feature [38] was uncovered running northwest to southeast across this area. This contained a fill (37) of fine brownish yellow sand.

Watching Brief- Formation levels in the courtyard and associated groundworks.

After the northern end of the courtyard had been planned and recorded the top of the brick tank (32) was removed and the tank filled with stone. The inner sides of the tank were smooth and appeared to have been rendered. Health and safety issues precluded a full study of this feature, which appeared to be at least 3 metres deep and was partially filled with water and sludge.

The southern end of the courtyard was then excavated to the level agreed on since the discovery of the walls and surfaces. For the most part the stripping revealed hardcore and patches of soil, but close to the southern archway entrance of the stable block a small section of wall (43) was revealed. This consisted of rough pieces of ironstone, apparently not mortared and aligned northeast- southwest across the entranceway. The foundations of the southeast wing could also be seen under the present surface level as they jutted out approximately 0.2m into the entranceway.

Running from the northwest corner of the southeastern wing on a similar alignment to these foundations a mortared ironstone wall was revealed (42) (Fig.4). This ran for 10.2 metres towards the middle of the courtyard, with a short hiatus around the middle section. It had been damaged at its northern end by a ceramic drain, but it appeared to continue towards the north-south aligned walls discovered during the evaluation.

The stripping of this area also showed the pitched stone surface (40) continuing into the southern side of the courtyard. A group of large cobbles were also discovered (44), which were very similar to those in test pit 4 (46).

A large soakaway, measuring 8m x 4m, was excavated to the southeast of the stable block to a depth of 2m. No archaeology was discovered within this area.

Watching Brief- Underpinning trenches and service trenches.

Once the formation levels had been excavated the courtyard was re-laid with grey hardcore. Two service trenches were then excavated in the courtyard area. One ran from west to east across the courtyard and partially damaged the large dry stone foundation wall discovered during the excavation (34). Towards the middle of the courtyard the pipe trench then turned to continue out through the northern entrance. No archaeology was encountered throughout this stretch of the pipe trench, although a large pottery rim sherd was retrieved from the trench fill.

A series of small, deep trenches were excavated along the east facing wall of the eastern stable block wing, close to where the external swimming pool was to be constructed. These were excavated in a sequence that would allow the minimum of disturbance to the outer wall but allow the whole length of the wall to be covered. The underpinning holes were all approximately 1m x 2m and were 2m deep. For the most part three courses of dry stone foundation wall were revealed to a depth of 0.6m. Under this was 0.45m of crushed brick and rubble, and then natural ironstone and clay. The rubble and natural clay was excavated under the foundations forming a 1m deep recess. This was then filled with concrete to underpin the 18th century foundations.

Excavation of the trench outside the south east corner of the stable building exposed a larger, more solid foundation, which no doubt was constructed in order to spread the load of the corner. This had to be partially cut back with a stone cutter before the wall could be underpinned. The completed trenches were backfilled after being concreted.

Following this work the ground to the east of the east wing of the stable block was stripped to facilitate the final stage of the underpinning work, which would include the driving in of ground anchors under the stable block. The ground level was reduced along the length of the east wall to a depth of around 1.8m below the present ground level; 2.7m below the finished floor level of the building. This exposed the natural sub-stratum below patches of made-up ground and soil.

Work was also carried out on the small doorway, which lies 3m to north of the south-east corner of the stable block. This door represents the main access from the inside of the east wing to where the swimming pool is to be created. The ground level within the stable block, close to the door, was reduced by 1.5m to match the external ground level. Around 1.5m of the lower part of the doorway and part of the wall foundations below the doorway were removed during this time; a series of steps are to be constructed between these areas.

No archaeological features or finds associated with archaeological features were discovered during the watching brief on the underpinning trenches and the ground reduction.

The ground reduction in the area outside the east wall of the stable block covered most of the area to be excavated further when the swimming pool is constructed. Although the stripping for the swimming pool would be slightly further to the east than the area covered by the underpinning work, this area has already been evaluated by the geotechnical trenches placed there in 2004 (Hunt 2004). As the underpinning work exposed the natural sub-stratum and did not expose any archaeology, the decision was taken not to return to Nevill Holt to observe the excavation of the swimming pool area.

Enhanced Watching Brief (2006)

The full excavation of the orchestra pit was undertaken in February 2006 and the site was visited on 16th and 17th February by an archaeologist to supervise the excavations. During these visits the ground-works were closely monitored and work was suspended while archaeological features were recorded.

The work began with the uncovering of some of the features discovered during the previous evaluation, in order that they could be recorded in more detail and to provide a point of reference so that once they were removed, possible underlying features could be recognised and recorded.

The southernmost wall (33) seen during the previous work was revealed and was recorded (Figure 8c). The north-south wall (34) was also observed, and it was confirmed that the previously observed course of this feature was the only remaining course. The drain, which ran north-south across the stable yard, and seen during the evaluation, was also uncovered and a small sherd of datable pottery discovered. This was a piece of slipware, which was dated to the 17th century.

The archaeological features were subsequently removed and the orchestra pit was excavated to the final formation levels of c.1.2m, below the finished ground level. No further archaeological finds of features were observed during these excavations.

Conclusion

The west wing of the stable buildings was constructed in 1661 after the demolition of the earlier stables, which had lain directly to the south of the main hall complex. The 'Hospitall', an almshouse of unknown date and origin, was also demolished at this time. The map of 1661 (Fig. 8) places this building in the position of the current stable block complex.

It is most likely that the wall foundations discovered during the evaluation of the courtyard area of the stable are, in some part, associated with the early hospital. The finds from the larger wall foundation (34) point to a date of 17th-18th century, but this is by no means conclusive as the wall also contains a fragment of 18th-19th century glass. We also do not have a clear date for the construction of the hospital, although Hill (1997 69) believes that it most likely dates from the arrival of Sir Thomas Nevill in 1591 and before the Dissolution.

From the ground plan of the walls discovered during the evaluation and subsequent watching brief within the courtyard area we can suppose that the north-south oriented walls (34), (42) represent the outer wall of a building, with the rough cobbled areas (40) possibly representing a yard area or pathway outside the building. The finds evidence from this yard area gives a 16th century date.

The subsequent excavation of the orchestra pit revealed the drain, which was integrated into the cobbled area, in more detail. A sherd of slipware pottery was found within the drain and was dated to the 17th century. This shows that the drain was possibly constructed no later than the 17th century, but whether the drain and the cobbled area were contemporary with the hospital or the west wing of the stables remains a moot point.

The broader dry stone section of the north-south walls (34) is very similar to the foundations of the west wing of the stable block (41) (Fig. 6a) and it is possible that these represent the western outer wall of the hospital building. We have no evidence of the ground plan of the hospital, or any convincing idea of its exact size, but if these walls are the outer reaches of the building this would make it approximately 8-10m wide.

It was not possible to determine the full length of the building from these excavations. The southernmost part of the walls (42) did not appear any further than the southern archway entrance. The southern end of the hospital may lie under the present southern end of the stable block, or may have been destroyed by the 19th century extensions to the stable building. This may also be the case with the buildings northernmost extents too, although there is evidence that at least part of the building continues under the north west wing (26).

The smaller series of walls running east to west across the courtyard (25)-(28) and (33) are mortared, unlike the broader foundations (34),(41), but seem to link onto (34) although they simply abut the western foundations of the stable block (41). Their relative size and their position suggests that they are internal walls, although the southernmost north-south wall (42) is of a similar construction and much thinner than (34), on which it seems to link. It is also unclear what wall (26) represents. Given that the corner (31) appears to be an outer wall and (25) the northernmost wall of the building, wall (26) appears tacked on to the main building.

Little remains of internal structures that could be associated with the hospital building. Apart from a few clusters of large cobbles (44) there is little archaeology within the southwest corner of the structure. The well is very deep and brick built, but given that its position would place it inside the hospital we must conclude that it is more likely to be associated with the stables.

The small area of mortar spread (35) may well be the remnants of a make-up layer for inner flooring of the hospital. It does seem to respect the line of the north-south wall (34). The more substantial layer of stone (39), which may represent a floor layer associated with the west-wing foundations (41) contains finds of various dates, from a piece of Roman Colour Coat ware to pottery of a mid 17th century date. The pit containing the horse bones and horseshoes is somewhat odd. Although it should not be surprising to find horse remains in a stable block, why would a horse be buried

under the courtyard of the stable block? It is conceivable that these remains predate the stables and the hospital.

The pit discovered in test pit 1 appears to date from the late 13th or early 14th century, which makes it contemporary with the earliest phases of the Hall.

The large water holding tank (32) is a substantial structure with many pipes feeding into it. It is unclear whether it was a holding tank for surface water or some kind of cesspit associated with the stable block. There was no dating evidence associated with it and there is no record of its construction. It may well date from Sir Bache Cunard's expansion of the stables in the 19th century or from when the stables were adapted during the use of the hall as a school in the 20th century. Its construction has damaged the earlier walls, although it also respects the line of the east-west walls (25), (33) to some extent, and one pipe, which enters into it on its northern side has been pushed in under (25), rather than destroy the wall completely.

The narrow trench [38] appears to be modern in origin and is filled with fine builder's sand (38) as if it was intended as a service trench, although it contains no pipe.

These recent evaluations and watching briefs at Nevill Holt Hall have uncovered some interesting and significant archaeology. Although the date and origins of the walls discovered within the courtyard are unclear they obviously, at least in part, pre-date the earliest phases of the stable block. They are also broadly in the right place to be the remnants of the 'Hospitall' shown on the map of 1661. Although some of the walls vary in their construction and this may be evidence of different phases within the hospital building itself. A steward's letter of 1639 refers to its use as storage (Hill 1997 after Gamble 1985), so it is plausible that these small internal walls represent later changes and adaptations.

Nevill Holt has been described as "one of the most fascinating and least appreciated buildings in the county" (Broughton, 1985). This small evaluation has given us another tantalising glimpse into its past. Further work, including full-scale excavations of the stable block, prior to the laying of a new surface, may continue to enlighten us.

Archive

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services with accession number X.A42.2005 and consists of the following:

14 watching brief record sheets, including sketch plans and sections.

1 set of colour slides

1 set of B&W photos and negatives.

2 x C.Ds of digital photos

5 Permatrace drawings.

30 Context sheets

19 masonry recording sheets.

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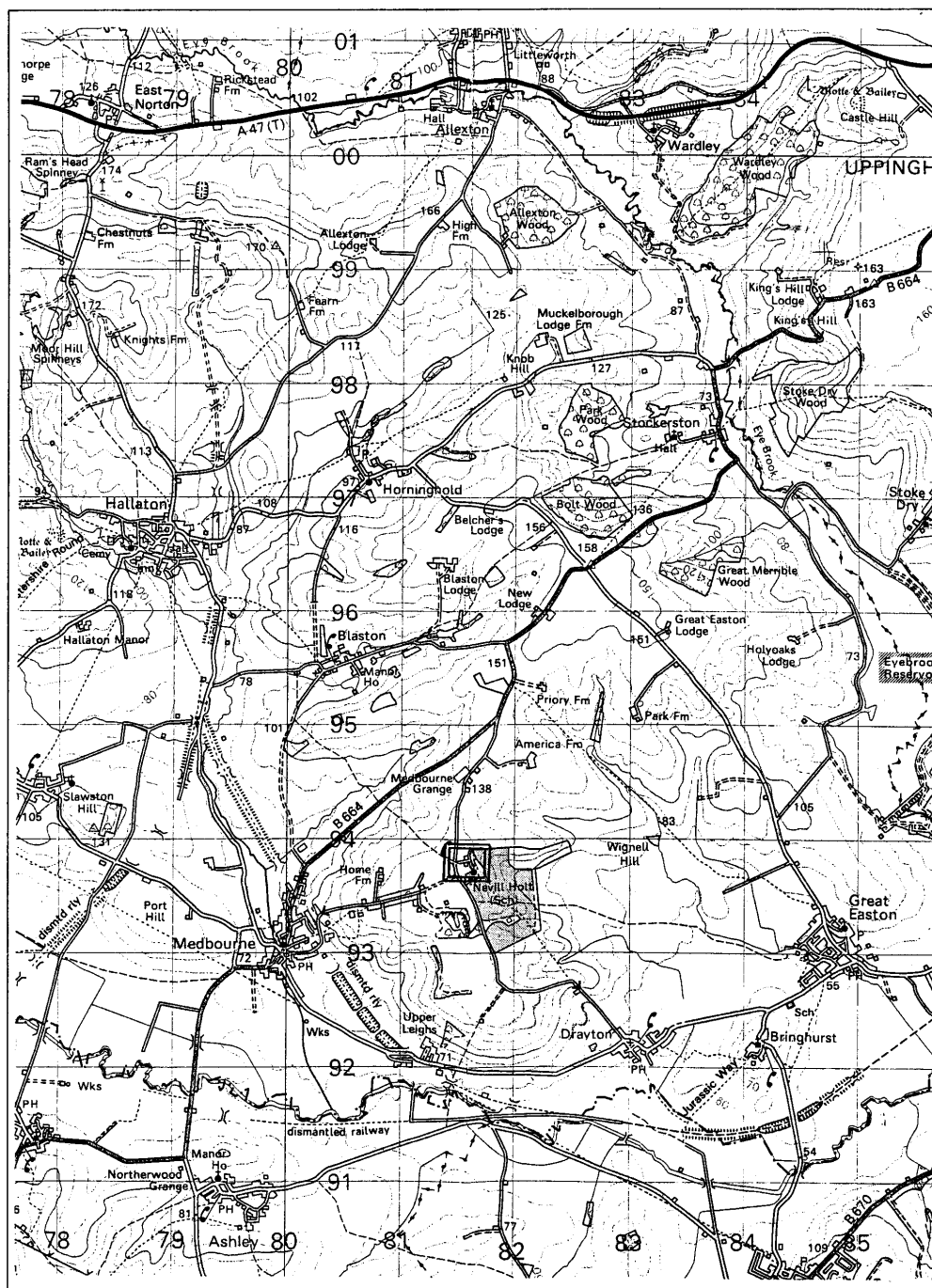


Figure 1: Location of Nevill Holt Hall. Scale 1:50 000.



Figure 2: West facing frontage of 17th century stable block



Figure 3: Work in progress at northern end of courtyard during evaluation



Figure 4: Work in progress on orchestra pit excavation, looking north west



Figure 5: Orchestra pit excavation close to completion, with water tank in foreground, looking southeast

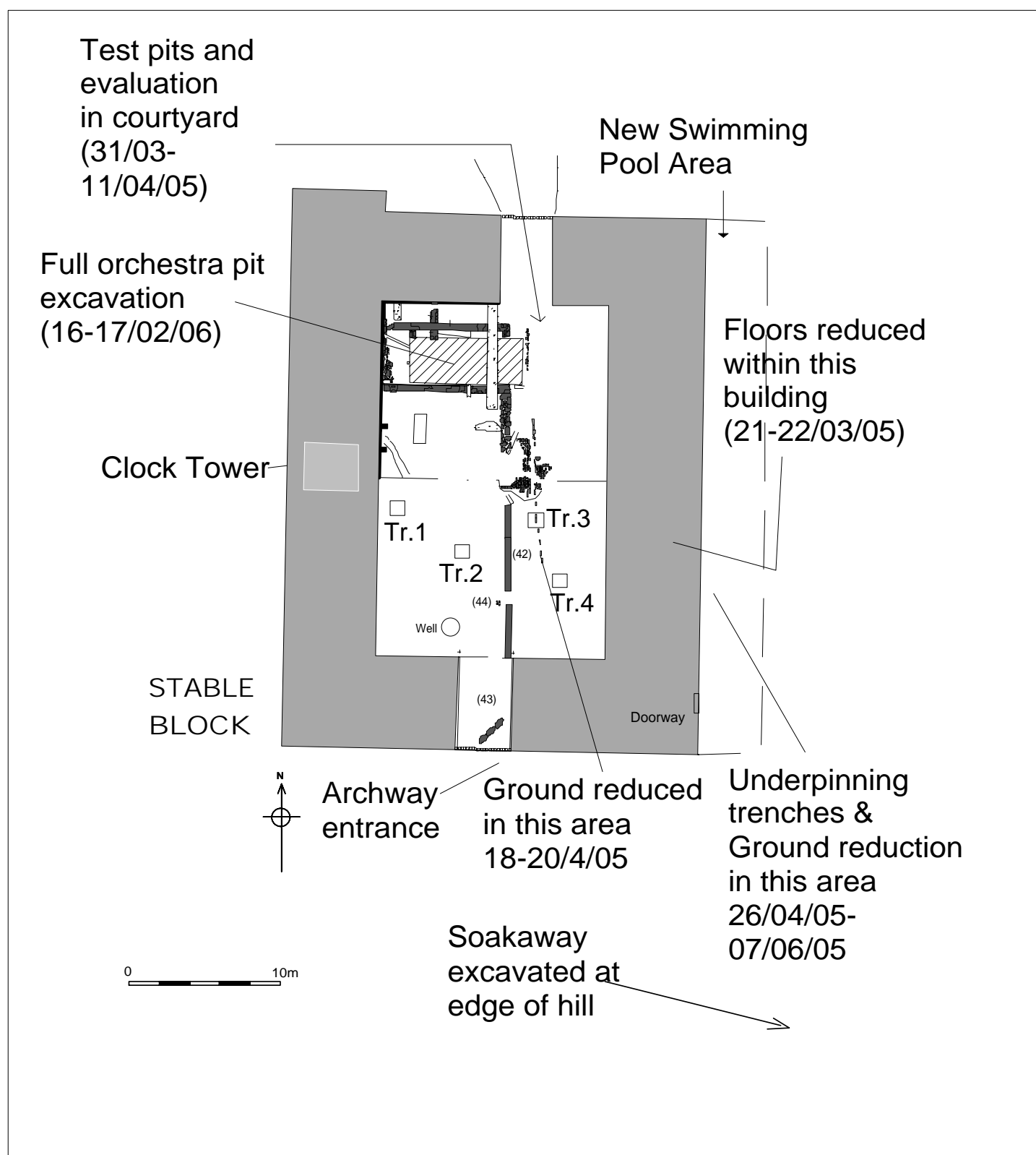


Figure 6: Plan of Nevill Holt Stable Block, showing work carried out during archaeological evaluation and significant discoveries

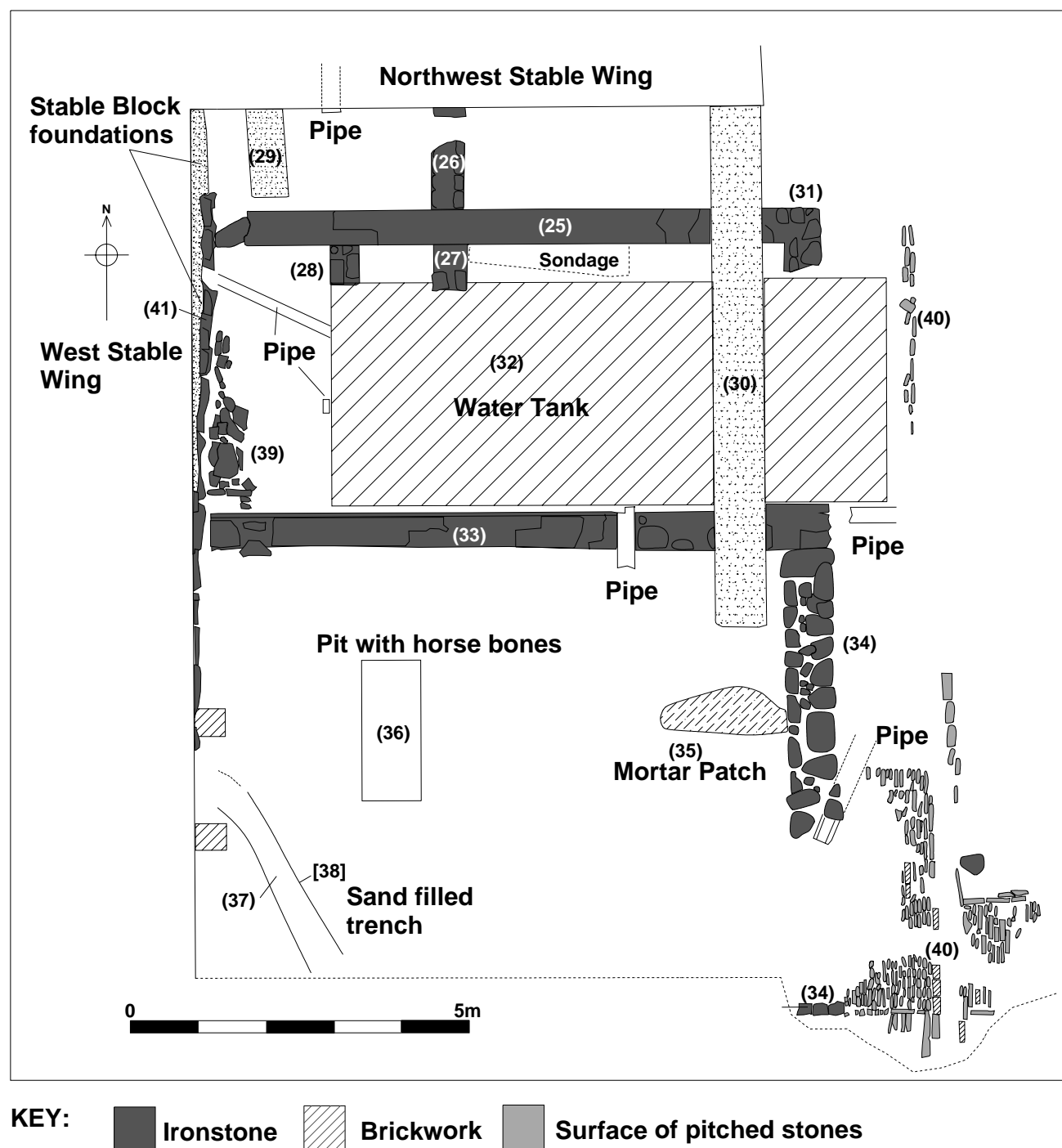


Figure 7: Post excavation plan of northwest corner of Stable Block courtyard

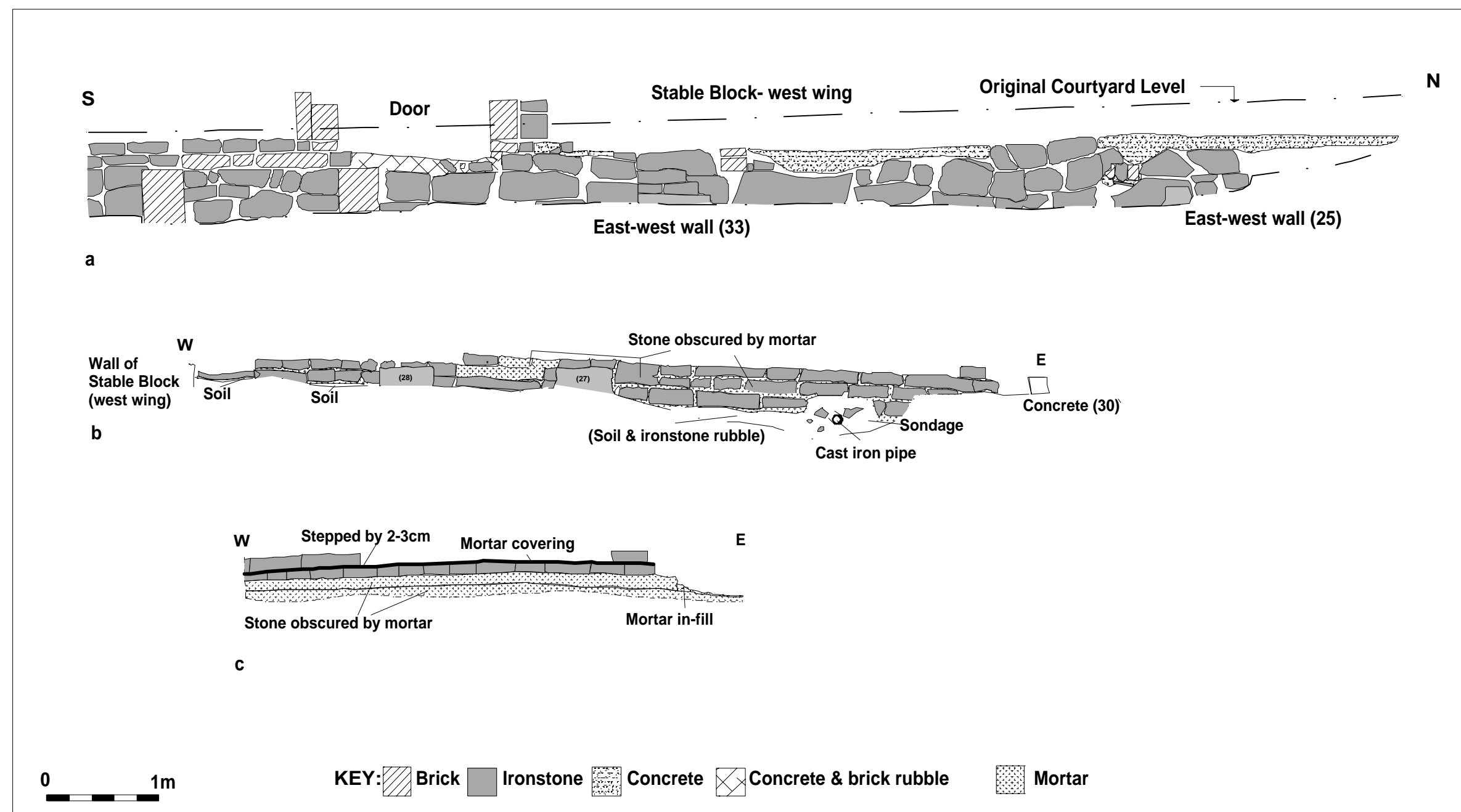


Figure 8a: East facing section of west wall foundations (41)

Figure 8b: South facing section of wall (25)

Figure 8c: South facing section of wall (33)

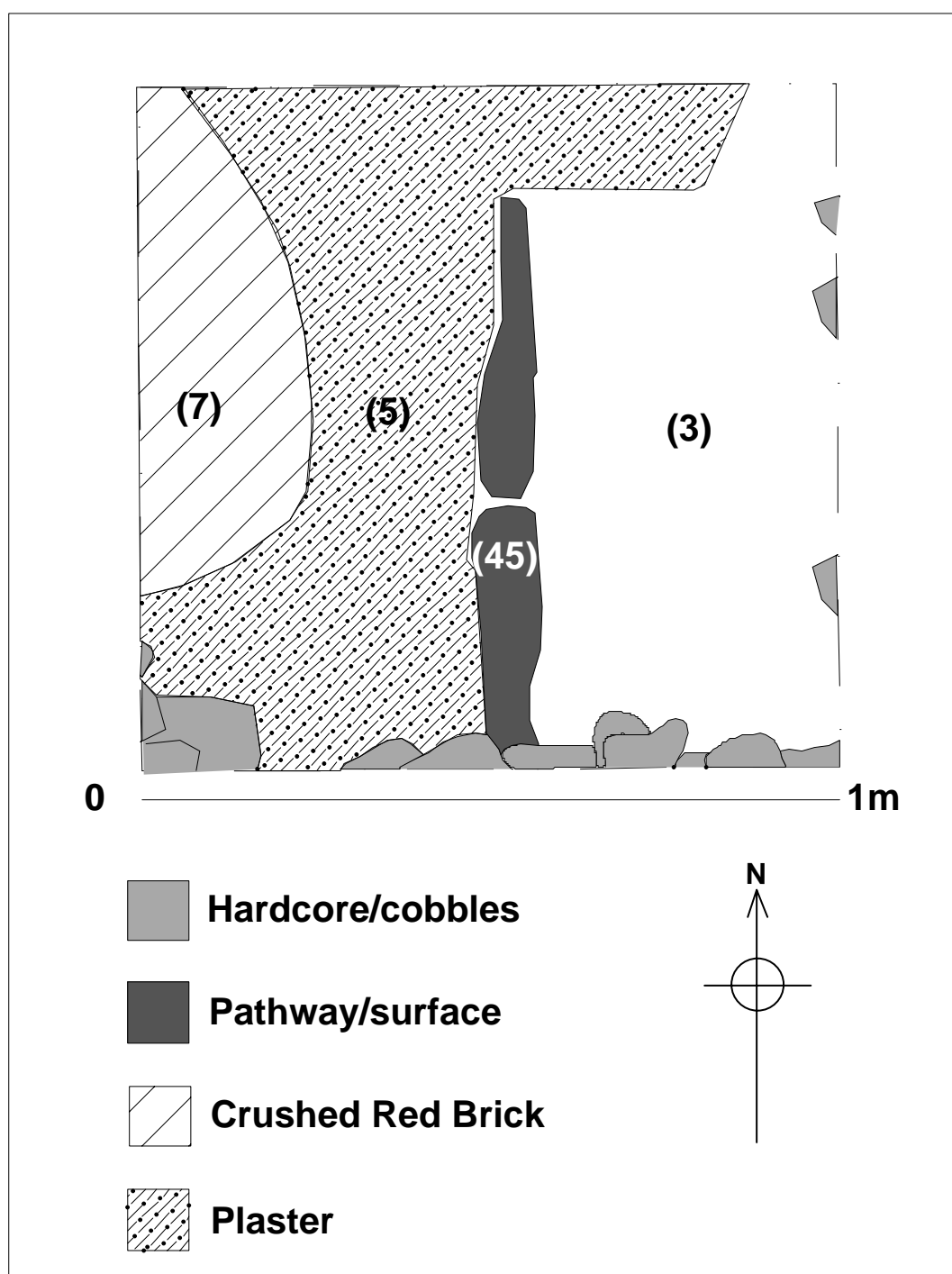


Figure 9: Post excavation plan of test pit 3

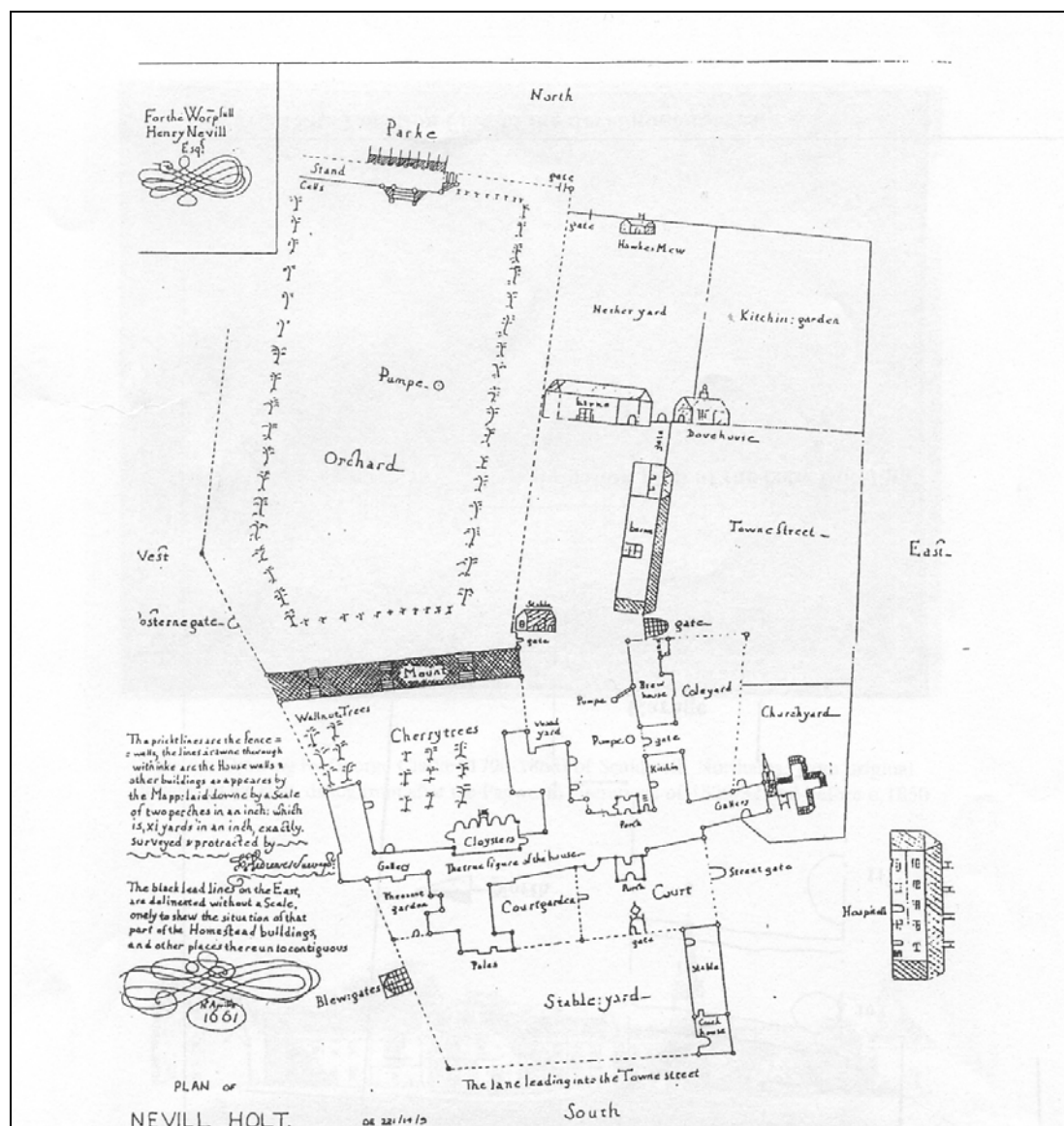


Figure 10: Plan of Nevill Holt 1661. Copy redrawn from the original by Saunders (1985)

APPENDIX 1: The pottery and miscellaneous finds from an evaluation and watching brief at Nevill Holt Hall, Leicestershire.

D. Sawday

The pottery, forty sherds, weighing 929grams, was examined under a binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Connor and Buckley 1999). Four Roman sherds, weighing thirty six grams and dating from the second to the fourth centuries AD, were residual in medieval or later contexts.

An interesting group of medieval pottery dating from the late thirteenth or fourteenth centuries, including the upper part of a jar with a thumbled rim, were recovered from contexts [10], and [13] in the local calcite gritted Stanion Lyveden type ware.

A range of pottery and other finds dating from the thirteenth to the seventeenth or eighteenth centuries were found in contexts 16 and 34. Contexts 39 and 40 produced pottery dating from the late fifteenth, sixteenth and mid seventeenth centuries, whilst context 39 also produced bottle glass dating from the early to mid nineteenth century

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Connor, A., and Buckley, R., *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5**.

Site/Parish: Nevill Holt hall, Nevill Holt, Leics. Accession No/ Doc Ref: XA42 2005/nevillholt2.doc. Material: pot & misc finds Site Type: manor house/hall	Submitter: L. Hunt Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Id: 12.07.05 Method of Recovery: evaluation & watching brief
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context	fabric/ware	sherd nos.	weight grams	comments
POTTERY				
02 test pit	SW - Stoneware	1	20	Post medieval
011 [010]	GW – Grey ware	3	34	Roman – 2nd century
011 [010]	LY4 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 4	5	126	Jar body fragments
013 [012]	LY4	12	333	Jar body fragments, and rim with thumbled applied decoration. Similar rims at Stanion (Bellamy 1983, fig.438-43) dated to the late 13th or early 14th centuries.
016	LY4	4	137	Body fragments as above.
016	LY1 – Stanion Lyveden	1	25	Glazed jug neck and

	type ware 1			shoulder, late 13th or early 14th century.
034	CW2 – Cistercian ware 2	3	14	Small cup fragments
034	EA2 – Earthenware 2	1	30	Part of large pancheon or bowl – 17th – 18th century.
034	EA6 - Blackware	1	6	Small cup rim
034	? RH – Rhenish Stoneware	1	12	? Rhenish Stoneware, possibly Frechen dating from the 17th century.
039	CC – Colour Coat	1	2	Roman
039	CW2	1	8	
039	MY – Midland Yellow ware	2	120	Bowl rim
039	EA1 – Earthenware 1	1	6	16th Century +
039	EA6	2	4	mid 17th century+
040	EA1	1	52	Jar rim, similar at Staffs dated from the 15th or 16th century, this vessel probably dates from the 16th century.
CLAY PIPE				
034		1		stem
BOTTLE GLASS				
034	glass	1		Body fragment, relatively thick wall suggests later 17th or early 18th century date.
039	glass	2		Neck and lip with string rim, base with kick up, apparently blown. Probably early to mid 19th century.
MISC.				
039	Wall plaster -	2		
039	flint	1		
BONE				
04 test pit		5		
011 [010]		2		
016		1		
034		3		
1079		1		

APPENDIX 2

Design Specification for Archaeological Control and Supervision of Groundworks and Archaeological Excavation