UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER
Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Field Evaluation at St. Nicholas Circle, south of Jewry Wall Museum, Leicester.

NGR: SK 58226 04453

By Gavin Speed with Richard Huxley

ULAS Report No 2016-116

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Dr Gavin Speed
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For: Leicester City Council

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Dr Gavin Speed

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) carried out an archaeological investigation on land at St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester (SK 58226 04453).

The trial trench evaluation initially comprised six 2.5m² trenches located below the footpath immediately adjacent to the south of the Jewry Wall baths ruins and museum along St. Nicholas Circle. Archaeological evidence was located in all six evaluation trenches and consisted of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval archaeology. A second phase of evaluation was subsequently undertaken at the revised location for the proposed ramp (Appendix 2).

The evaluation trenches lay on the south-east side of the Roman bath complex. A Roman wall was located in two trenches, as well as an opus signinum floor, together with numerous Roman artefacts. These could relate to the baths complex, or else be evidence for a separate building adjacent to the baths.

A clay-bonded medieval wall was located within Trench 4, perhaps footings for a building fronting onto St. Nicholas Street. The human remains discovered in Trench 1 were disturbed by later service pipes, these are likely to be burials associated with the St. Nicholas churchyard to the NE.

The site archive will be held by Leicester Museums Service, under accession number A.7.2016.

1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on a footpath at St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester (SK 58226 04453), in advance of a proposed pedestrian access ramp for Jewry Wall Museum.

The proposed pedestrian access ramp is to be supported on a series of pile clusters, the installation of which has the potential to destroy or damage buried archaeological remains associated with the Jewry Wall bathhouse site, a Scheduled Monument. In view of this, the Historic England Inspector of Monuments has requested an archaeological field evaluation of the area affected, to assess the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits which may be present. Geotechnical Investigations will also be necessary to inform the design process and are to be undertaken in tandem with the AFE under archaeological supervision.

This document presents the results of a scheme of archaeological work, in accordance with the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 *Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment.*

This document forms the report for an archaeological evaluation, with an assessment of the potential impact on buried archaeological remains from groundworks associated with future development.

The proposed development affects part of a Scheduled Monument 1013312 (The Jewry Wall Baths, palaestra, and Anglo-Saxon church, Leicester). The archaeological work was required to assess the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits which might be present in order to determine the potential impact of the proposed development upon them. A strategy for the work was set out in the Written Scheme for Investigation (Buckley and Speed 2016).

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The site is located within the historic core of Roman and medieval Leicester, and in particular, affects part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Jewry Wall Roman baths (list entry number: 1013312). The Jewry Wall site was excavated between 1936 and 1939 (Kenyon 1948), after which the remains of the Roman bath house were consolidated for public display. The proposed pedestrian ramp (centred on SK 58226 04453) lies immediately to the south of the Roman bath house and palaestra, a portico, Roman drains, and further Roman walls lead south from the baths towards the proposed pedestrian access ramp (Figure 2). Roman masonry is clearly seen upstanding immediately adjacent to the proposed ramp at the west-end, there is therefore very good potential for Roman remains at a shallow depth. At the east-end archaeological deposits may have been removed by a Victorian cellar.

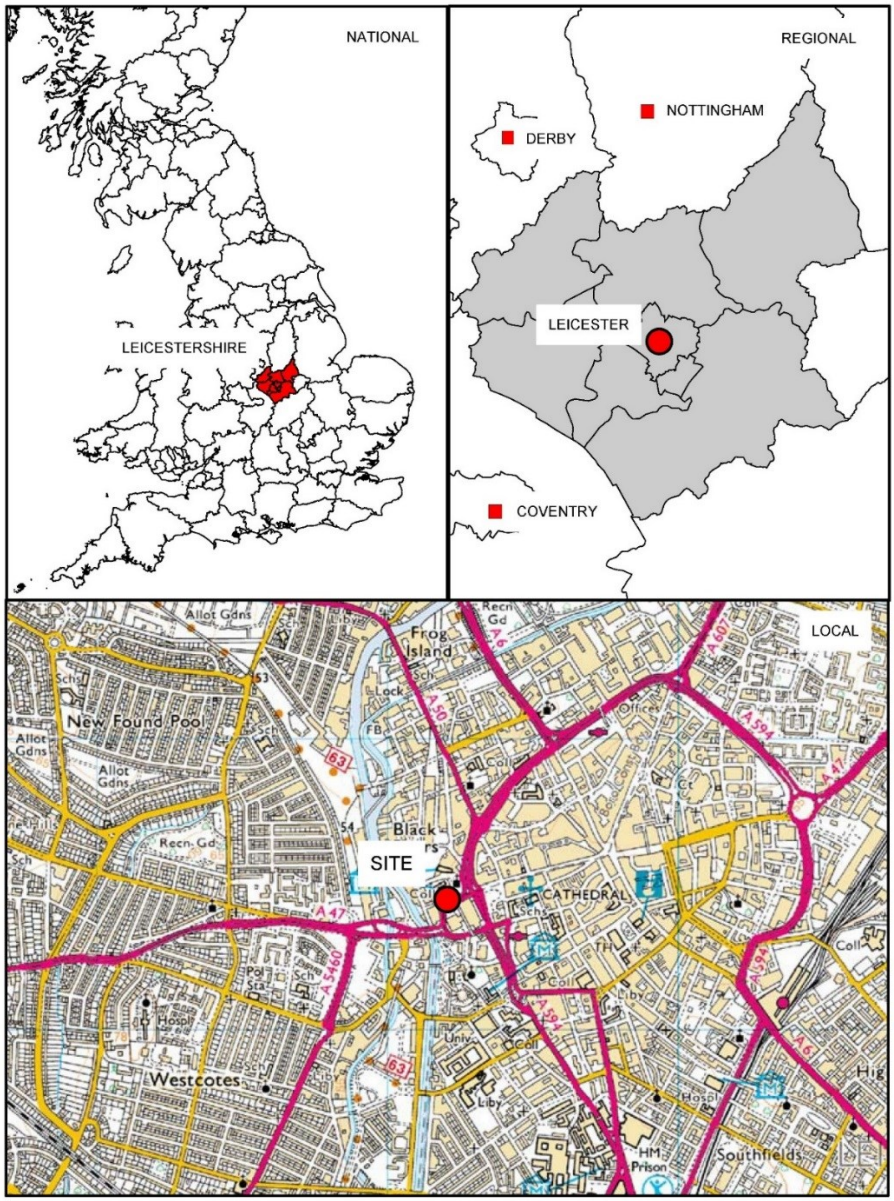

Figure 1: Site location within the UK, county of Leicestershire, and city of Leicester

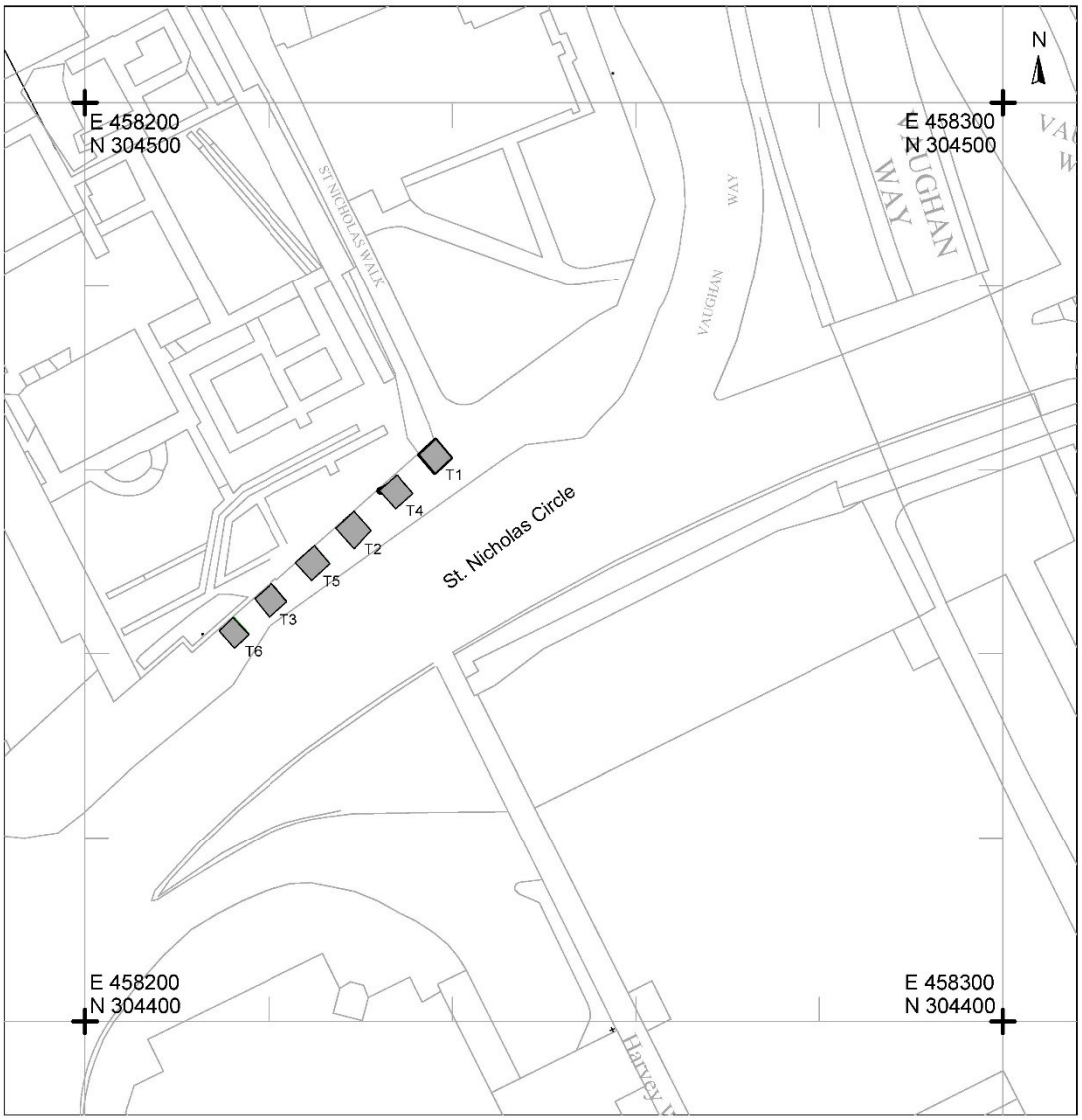

Figure 2: Trench location plan on OS 100m grid

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

The area of the evaluation trenches lay under the current footpath that borders the Jewry Wall museum and ruins to the north. The Jewry Wall is one of the largest fragments of standing Roman masonry in the country. It was visible up to 19th century (though houses were built up against it in the 18th century, Throsby 1791, 5), when it was incorporated into a factory. This was demolished in 1936 to make way for new city baths, a series of four seasons of excavations were carried out prior to the proposed redevelopment from 1936 to 1939, led by Kathleen Kenyon (Kenyon 1948, see also Figure 3, Figure 37, and Figure 38).

During the 1960s and 1970s the surrounding area underwent major redevelopment, and numerous excavations, many by Leicestershire Archaeological Unit (LAU), revealed archaeology of Iron Age, Roman, and medieval date (Clay and Pollard 1994).

In 1971 a watching brief was undertaken during construction of a footbridge over St. Nicholas Circle (accession number: A179.1971). There is no paper record in the archives (L. Hadland pers. comm.). A summary of the work records that "Foundations of a Roman wall and traces of floors and other

occupation were recorded. A quantity of pottery was recovered. Other finds…coin of Vespasian…painted wall plaster…" (Mellor 1972, 63-64). The footbridge was recently removed, though the concrete pile bases remain in situ, just over a 1 metre away from the 2016 evaluation trenches 2, 4, and 5 (visible in Figure 4).

More recently, at the north-end of the ruins (60m north of the 2016 evaluation) an evaluation in 1997 and watching brief in 1998 revealed features of the 1st to 2nd century AD (Gnanaratnam 1997, 1999). A watching brief in a similar location in 2004 revealed no archaeological features, but many finds of Roman date (Hunt 2004).

Figure 3: A dramatic illustration of the 1930s excavations of Jewry Wall. The view is looking north standing on the street, close to 2016 evaluation trenches 1 & 4 (from Illustrated London News, Feb 13 1937).

The full Scheduled Ancient Monument entry for the Jewry Wall Roman baths (list entry number: 1013312) is as follows:

> The bath house was one of the principal public buildings of a Roman town. The practice of communal bathing was an integral part of Roman urban life, and the public bath house served an important function as a place for relaxation and social congregation as well as exercise and hygiene. Public bath houses were used by most inhabitants of Roman towns, including slaves, to the extent that private bathing facilities in town houses were rare; men and women bathed at separate times of day, or in separate suites. Bath houses therefore varied in both size and plan, according to the local population and bathing arrangements, but all consisted of a series of rooms of graded temperature containing a variety of plunge-baths. The frigidarium (cold room) led, progressively, to one or more tepidaria (warm rooms) and caldaria (hot rooms). Bath houses could also include changing rooms, latrines, sauna and massage rooms, and were often linked to a palaestra or exercise area, which originated as an open courtyard but in Britain was later adapted to a covered hall. The bath house was heated by hypocausts connected to nearby furnaces; it was also linked to, and depended upon, an engineered water supply which involved the construction of drains, sewers and an aqueduct. As a necessity of Roman town life, the public bath house was one of the first buildings to be constructed after the establishment of a town. Most bath houses, therefore, originated in the first or second century AD and continued in use, with alterations, to the fifth century. They are distributed throughout the towns of Roman Britain, which were principally situated in what is now eastern, central and southern England and south Wales. In view of their importance for an understanding of Romano-British urban development and social practice, all surviving examples are considered to be worthy of protection. The remains of the Roman bath house and palaestra at Jewry Wall include the only standing fragments of the Roman town of Leicester, Ratae Coritanorum. The Jewry Wall itself, representing the west wall of the palaestra, is also rare in being one of the largest standing pieces of a Roman civilian building in the country and has contributed significantly to our knowledge of this type of architecture. The remains of the bath house were excavated in the 1930s and are thus quite well understood, revealing several unparalleled details on an unusual plan. The excavations also demonstrated the survival of pre-Roman deposits at a lower level, which remain intact. As a result of their presentation for public display, the bath house remains also serve as an important educational and recreational resource. The area of the palaestra and overlying Anglo-Saxon church is largely unexcavated and will thus preserve architectural, artefactual and ecofactual remains of a period of over a thousand years. The superimposition of the Anglo-Saxon church on the Roman building will provide a valuable insight into the manner in which civil authority was transferred to the church between the late Roman period and the Anglo-Saxon era. The monument includes the above-ground and buried remains of a Roman bath house and palaestra (exercise hall) constructed in the 2nd century AD in the northern half of Insula XXI of the Roman town, Ratae Coritanorum. The visible remains of the bath house are represented by a mixture of consolidated surviving masonary, reconstruction (the hypocaust bases, for example, are all modern replicas) and the delineation of robber wrenches by modern kerbs. In the post-Roman period the buildings were partially demolished and an Anglo- Saxon church was built on the site of the palaestra. In the 18th and 19th centuries the only standing piece of Roman masonry surviving above ground was a fragment of the west wall of the palaestra, against which a succession of domestic and industrial buildings were erected. In 1920 this fragment, known as the Jewry Wall, was taken into state care and in 1936 the site of the bath house was cleared of modern buildings. Archaeological excavations carried out between 1936 and 1939 uncovered the remains of the bath house, and the surviving parts are now exposed for public display. The site of the palaestra and Anglo-Saxon church is now largely occupied by the present church of St Nicholas and surrounding graveyard. The Church of St Nicholas is a Grade B Listed Building and is excluded from the scheduling although the ground beneath it is included. The churchyard, which is no longer used for burial, and the Jewry Wall, which is Listed Grade I, are included in the scheduling. The excavated remains of the bath house lie on the east side of the Jewry Wall Museum and take the form of a series of stone foundations, partially restored and consolidated for public presentation. They include, immediately adjacent to the museum building, the remains of three large rectangular halls representing caldaria (hot baths); on each of the north and south sides is a semicircular extension where a cold plunge bath was situated. Attached to the east are the remains of three smaller rectangular rooms representing tepidaria (warm baths) and including the remains of a hypocaust. The bath house is joined to the palaestra on the east by two blocks of rooms which were built, with the palaestra, at a slightly earlier date; that on the north contains the remains of a latrine which is connected to a series of stone-lined drains running on the north, east and south sides of the bath house. Between the two blocks is an open rectangular area, believed to have been the frigidarium where cold water basins were located. On the north side of the bath house are the foundations of stone walls believed to represent the remains of a portico which ran along the edge of the insula, and in which road side shops may have stood. Fragments of pre-Roman pottery of the early first century AD were discovered during excavation, indicating that the site of the bath house was occupied immediately before the Roman Conquest. On the eastern side of the area of exposed foundations

are the standing remains of the west wall of the palaestra, known as the Jewry Wall. The wall is constructed of coursed stone and brick and survives to a height of over 9m. Near the centre of the wall are two doorways which led from the palaestra to the frigidarium of the bath house; on the eastern face is a series of blind arches and niches. The foundations of part of a colonnade running inside of, and parallel to, the west wall of the palaestra have been discovered beneath St Nicholas Walk. In its entirety the palaestra was a rectangular building over 50m x 25m with a colonnade on two sides, occupying the north eastern corner of the insula; the remains of the greater part of the building now lie buried beneath the present church and churchyard. In the post-Roman period the Jewry Wall is believed to have served as the west wall of an Anglo-Saxon church pre-dating the surviving church of St Nicholas. Partial excavation in the area between the wall and the present church revealed two post-Roman walls connecting the two structures. The survival of late Saxon stonework in the fabric of the present building, and the alignment of the nave on one of the Roman doorways, further indicates the presence of an earlier church on the site. The remains of the earlier church are largely overlain by the present one. The northern wing of Vaughan College, all modern walls, steps, signposts, road and carpark surfaces, lamp-posts, floodlights and iron railings are excluded from the scheduling, as are the gravestones and Roman masonry fragments on the surface of St Nicholas's churchyard; the ground beneath these features is, however, included.

4. Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the archaeological work may be summarised as follows:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To advance understanding of the heritage assets
- To produce an archive and report of any results.
- To deliver archaeological supervision of works and on site guidance to contractors so as to minimise risk of accidental damage and disturbance to the scheduled monument in particular the delicate consolidated remains of Roman structures exposed at ground level and the upstanding Jewry Wall (an ancient monument in the Guardianship of Secretary of State).

The following research themes have been outlined as regional research priorities in Cooper 2006 and Knight et al 2012:

Roman

Growth of urban centres

- How does the distribution of towns correlate with Iron Age foci, and how far may their social, political and economic roles have overlapped?
- How were towns organised, what roles did they perform and how may their morphology and functions have varied over time?
- How and why did the urban landscape change in the late Roman period, and what roles may fortifications have played in this period?

Artefacts: production, distribution and social identity

- How may studies of the production, movement and consumption of pottery contribute to understanding of the regional economy?

- What can artefact research contribute to studies of eating, drinking and other manifestations of social identity?

Roads and waterways

- To what extent may communication routes have been influenced by Late Iron Age settlement patterns and routes of movement?
- How may roads and waterways have impacted upon established communities and how may roads have influenced urban morphology?

Medieval

Roads and rivers: transport routes and cultural boundaries

- To what extent were Roman roads used and maintained from the fifth century, and may some have acted as social or political boundaries?

Inland Towns, 'central places' and burhs

- How may Anglo-Saxon and British communities have utilised late Roam towns and their immediate environs?
- What was the impact of the Danish occupation upon urban development and what were the differences between Danish and non-Danish burhs and other urban settlements?

Urbanism

- How did the major towns and smaller market towns of the region develop after the Norman Conquest, both within the urban core and in suburban and extra-mural areas?
- Can we define more closely the industrial and trading activities associated with towns and the nature and extent of urban influence upon the countryside?
- How were towns organised and planned, and how did population growth impact upon their internal spatial organisation?
- What can studies of environmental data, artefacts and structural remains tell us about variations in diet, living conditions and status?
- Can we recognise the emergence of the poorer classes in the developing suburbs?

Industry and communications

- What may be learned of the material culture of industrial workers?
- What can we deduce from factory/non-factory production data about the changing economy (especially patterns of marketing and consumption?

Material culture

- How was pottery distributed across the region and can we identify competition between regional potteries?
- Can we establish a dated type series for ceramics (building in particular upon unpublished urban pit and well groups)?

- Can we identify the changing material culture of the urban and rural poor, the emerging middle classes and the aristocracy?
- What may be deduced about the symbolic use of material culture (e.g. in social competition?

5. Methodology

All fieldwork followed a written scheme of investigation for archaeological excavation (Buckley and Speed 2016), agreed with the City Archaeologist at Leicester City Council and the Inspector for Schedule Monuments at Historic England, as a condition of planning. The work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (CIfA 2014b). Internal monitoring procedures were undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These ensured that project targets were met and professional standards were maintained. Provision was made for external monitoring meetings with the City Archaeologist at Leicester City Council, and the Client.

Initially three evaluation trenches, each measuring 2.5m square were excavated. Additional areas to the north of each trench were hand cleaned, clarifying existing *in situ* archaeological deposits. This better places into context the archaeological features within the evaluation trenches. Due to the presence of archaeological deposits in all trenches three further trenches were subsequently investigated at the pile cluster locations.

As the trenches are on a public footpath, the initial site set up, including fencing, assessment of live services and acquisition of necessary permissions was undertaken by the Client's building contractor. The latter also carefully lifted and stockpiled paving materials from each of the trench positions, before carefully removing and stockpiling overburden under archaeological supervision. Once the archaeologists were satisfied that uppermost archaeological levels had been reached, they took control of any subsequent excavation work. At the end of the investigation, the clients' building contractor backfilled the trenches and made good surfaces.

Prior to any archaeological investigations photographs of the site areas were taken. The trial trenches were excavated to the top of archaeological deposits, down to a maximum depth of 1.2m. Trenches were examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located were planned at an appropriate scale. Archaeological deposits were sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention was paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and only be removed under a Ministry of Justice Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The City Archaeologist, the Client and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

Internal monitoring procedures were undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These ensured that professional standards were being maintained. Provision was made for monitoring visits with representatives of the Client, Historic England and the City Archaeologist.

Upon completion of the archaeological investigations in each of the test pits, Geotechnical investigations were carried out by structural engineers Nicholls Colton. This involved a single 100mm diameter borehole in trenches 1 and 2, to test ground bearing capabilities for the proposed foundations.

Archaeological deposits were hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Measured drawings of all archaeological features were prepared at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20, and tied into an overall site plan. All

plans were tied into the National Grid using a Differential Global Positioning System (dGPS). Archaeological deposits were excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence.

Figure 4: View of the evaluation area, prior and during initial removal of the modern paving slabs

The ULAS recording manual was used as a guide for all recording. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed were entered onto pro-forma recording sheets. A photographic record of the investigations was prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. Digital photographs were used during the recording. The

photographic record also includes 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation. The Site has been given the Leicester City Museum Service accession number: A7.2016.

6. Results

The evaluation has revealed evidence for significant Roman archaeology across the six trenches (Figure 5). The results of each trench are now discussed in turn.

Archaeological contexts are assigned as a cut number [***] and fill numbers (***).

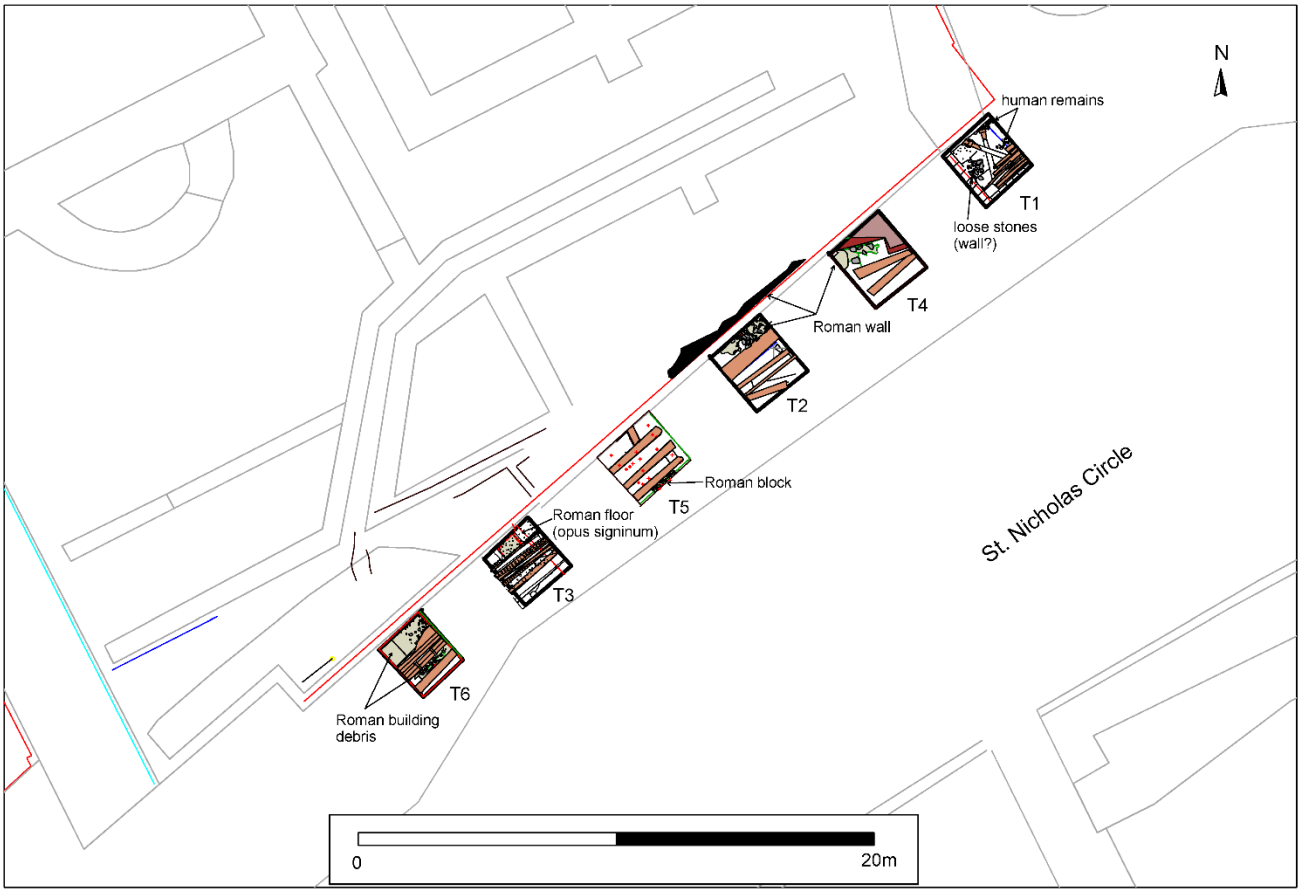

Figure 5: Trench plan, showing key findings

Figure 6: Longitudinal profile (SE-NW) across all six trenches

6.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located at the east-end of the trenches (Figure 5 & Figure 7). Below the modern pavement was a 0.5m thick modern gravel hardcore, below this were thin modern mortar layers (1), (2), (3), (4), that latter contained pottery ranging from AD 1250 to the 20th century. Underlying this was a modern pit [9], this had v-shaped sides, and contained a mid grey-brown loam silts and clay, with a charcoal lense in the base (10). Also at this point drain cut [11] was seen on the southern edge of the trench. This had disturbed human remains within the backfill (12). The pit [9] and drain [11] cut into a thick mixed soil layer (5). This was a very mixed layer containing a range of pottery sherds ranging from Roman (spanning 1st to 4th centuries AD), medieval (AD 1250-1450), and post-medieval / modern. Human remains (6) were located 1.3m below the modern pavement, mainly in the north corner of the trench. The remains of the inhumation was *in situ*, and left in position. The bones observed consisted of ribs, ulna, radius, pelvis and phalanges. Part of the cranium to the south and been disturbed by drains and lifted prior to its identification as human (see Section 7.7). It is not clear if the human remains lie below (5) or cut into it. A pile of loose dressed granite stone lay in the central part of the trench (7). A sondage was excavated close to this to clarify this deposit, the stones continued downwards to the base of the sondage. It is possible that these are part of a disturbed wall of unknown date. Below (5) a light brown-grey clay silt was located on the west-side (8). It contained Roman building debris, though it is uncertain if this is Roman stratigraphy or a further disturbed layer. Elsewhere there were numerous ceramic service pipes running E-W in the southern part of the trench. A bore hole was excavated by Nicholls Colton. Due to the methods of the drilling no archaeological deposits could be observed, Nicholls Colton informed us that natural ground level was reached at approximately 4m below modern street level.

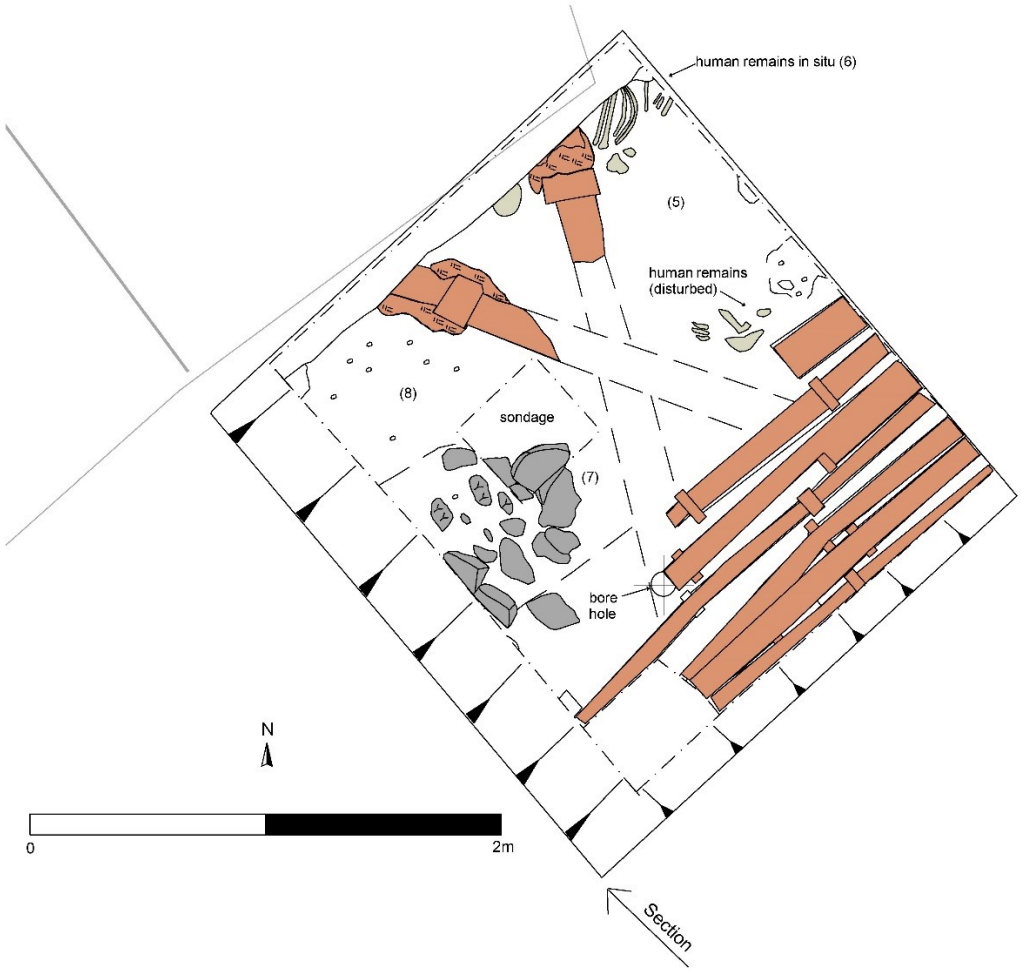

Figure 7: Plan of Trench 1

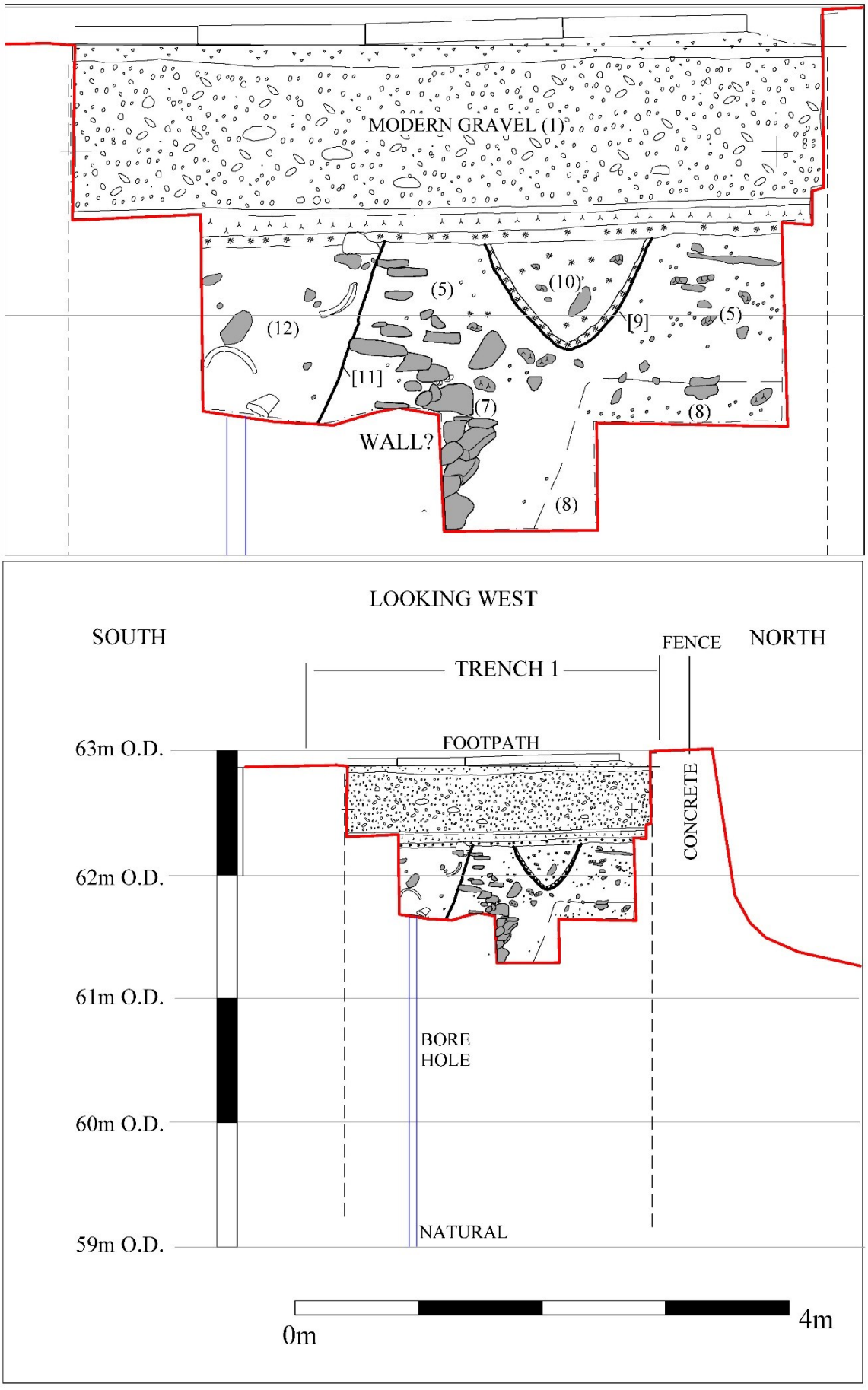

Figure 8: Section of Trench 1

Figure 9: View of Trench 1, looking NE

Figure 10: View of Trench 1, looking SE

6.2 Trench 2

Roman deposits were located to a depth of *c*.4 metres below the modern street level. The deposits consisted of floors, make up, demolition, and levelling. Below the modern pavement was a modern gravel hardcore ranging from 0.5m to 1m thickness. Immediately below this (0.5m below the modern footpath) on the northern side of the trench was a Roman wall (14) aligned approximately NE-SW, it had partly collapsed northwards. It was constructed of granite blocks, tiles (four courses), and mortar. An electric service trench and pipe cut the south-side of wall (14). An animal burrow had disturbed the wall in the southern area. Elsewhere ceramic service pipes cut into garden soil (13). The latter contained two sherds of Roman pottery, along with a sherd of medieval pottery.

A borehole was inserted below this trench (Figure 12), just to the south of the electric cable (Figure 11). Despite the narrow borehole width (*c*.9cm), it was possible to record distinct archaeological layers. Garden soil (13) was seen to be *c*.1.5m thick, below this was a possible floor consisting of crushed mortar (51). Below this was a mixed light brown silt (35), this was *c*.0.24m thick. Below this was a mid pinkish-red clay (42), this was *c*.0.24m thick, and may be floor make-up. Below this was a thin yellow-brown layer of painted wall plaster (41), perhaps wall plaster collapse. This overlay an *opus signinum* floor (36), this consisted of white grey mortar and crushed stone. The floor overlay a pink-red clay (37), likely floor make-up, this was *c*.0.27m thick. This overlay another probable *opus signinum* floor (38). This appears to be the earliest floor in the sequence at *c*.3m below modern street level. Underlying this was a deposit of dark grey and light grey silts (39), this may be more than one deposit but could not be ascertained in the narrow borehole. This contained a sherd of pottery dated to the late 1st to 2nd century AD. Natural substratum was reached at *c*.4m below the modern street level.

Figure 11: Plan of Trench 2

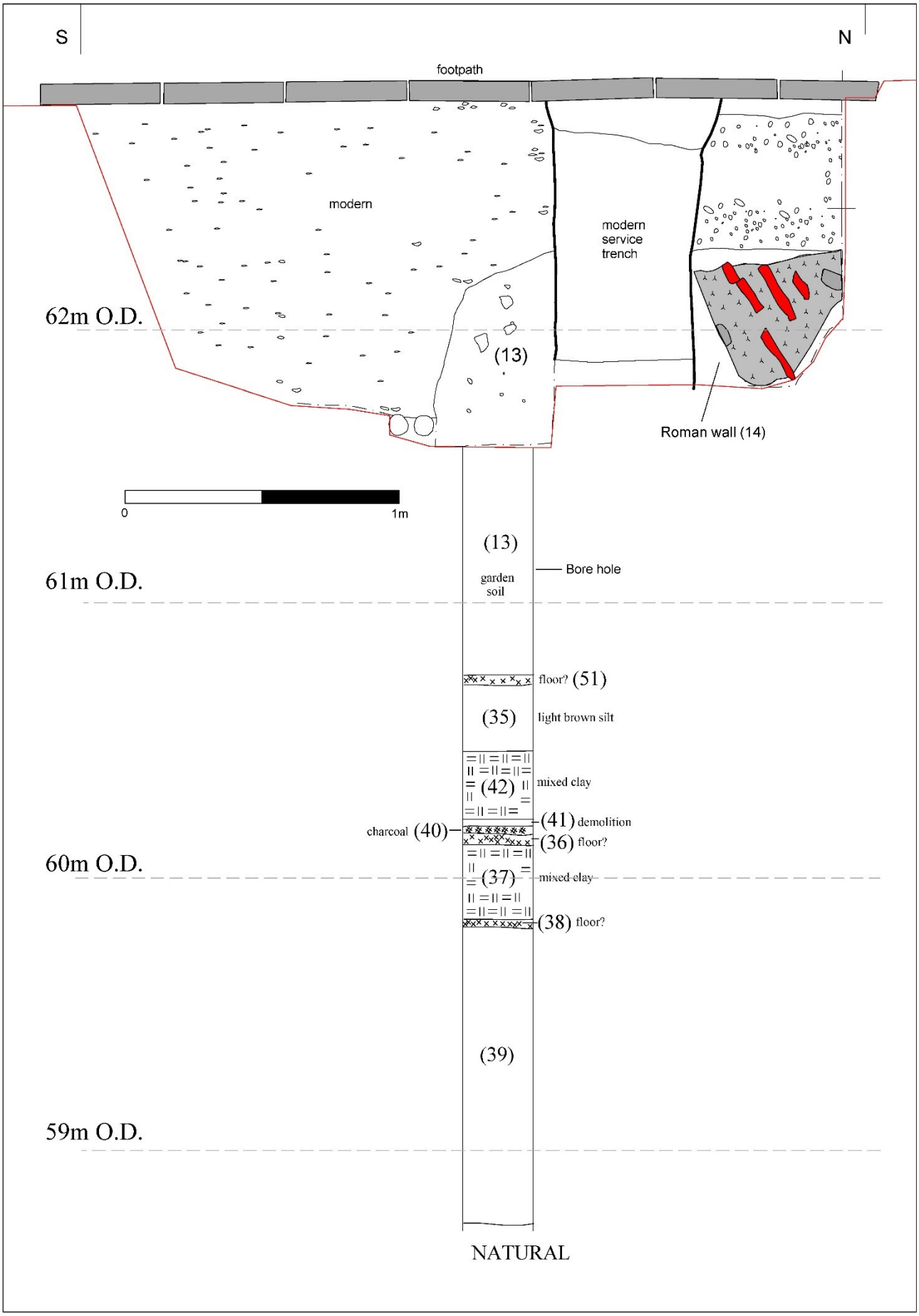

Figure 12: Trench 2 section

Figure 13: View of Trench 2, looking NE

Figure 14: Detailed view of wall (14) in Trench 2

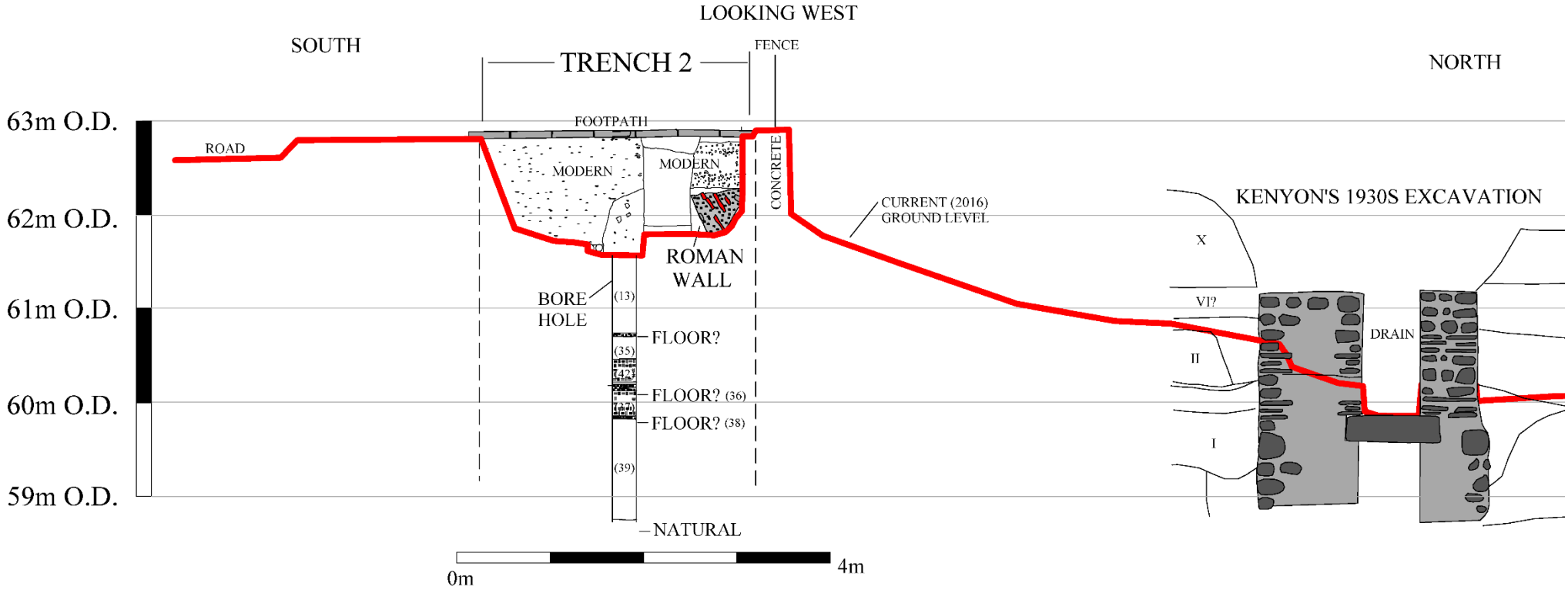

Figure 15: Trench 2 profile S-N, related to the 1930's excavation

6.3 Trench 3

Below the modern pavement was a modern gravel hardcore ranging *c*.0.5m in thickness. Immediately below this was recent tarmac and rubble. Below this was modern disturbed soil, containing service pipes (17). A modern electric service trench [16] was located on the north-side of the trench, this cut into a number of archaeological layers (15, 18, 19, 20). The upper-most was a mortar and rubble layer (15), this was 0.11m thick. Below this was a mixed red clay deposit (18), 0.21m thick. The overlay a dark grey-brown loamy-silt (19), 0.17m thick. Below this was a mid yellow-brown loam-silt (20), 0.28m thick. This contained three sherds of Roman pottery (all mid 3rd to 4th century AD), a tile fragment, and *opus signinum* fragments. Below this was a demolition layer / spread (21). It consisted of mid yellow-brown silts mixed with mortar, wall plaster, charcoal, and crushed mixed red clay, it was 0.09m thick. It contained four sherds of pottery dated to the 2nd century AD, along with Roman stone tesserae, tegula fragments, and Roman painted wall plaster. A soil sample was taken of this deposit (sample 1, see Section 7.8). It contained a small number of plant remains, along with other artefacts including rodent, amphibian and fish bones; fragments of avian egg shell; clinker and spheroids; four ferrous nails, a fragment of Roman glass vessel, and two fragments of Roman window glass (see Section 7.5). Below this was an *opus signinum* floor (22). This was 1.52m below the modern street, at around 61.1m OD. A sub-oval pit [24] of uncertain date cut into part of this on the west-side. A small investigation was made below *opus signinum* floor (22), there was a floor make-up consisting of yellow-orange sandy-clay mixed with red clay patches (25). A 16th-century copper alloy Nuremberg jeton was found over this, and is likely intrusive, having fallen from the section of the narrow trench.

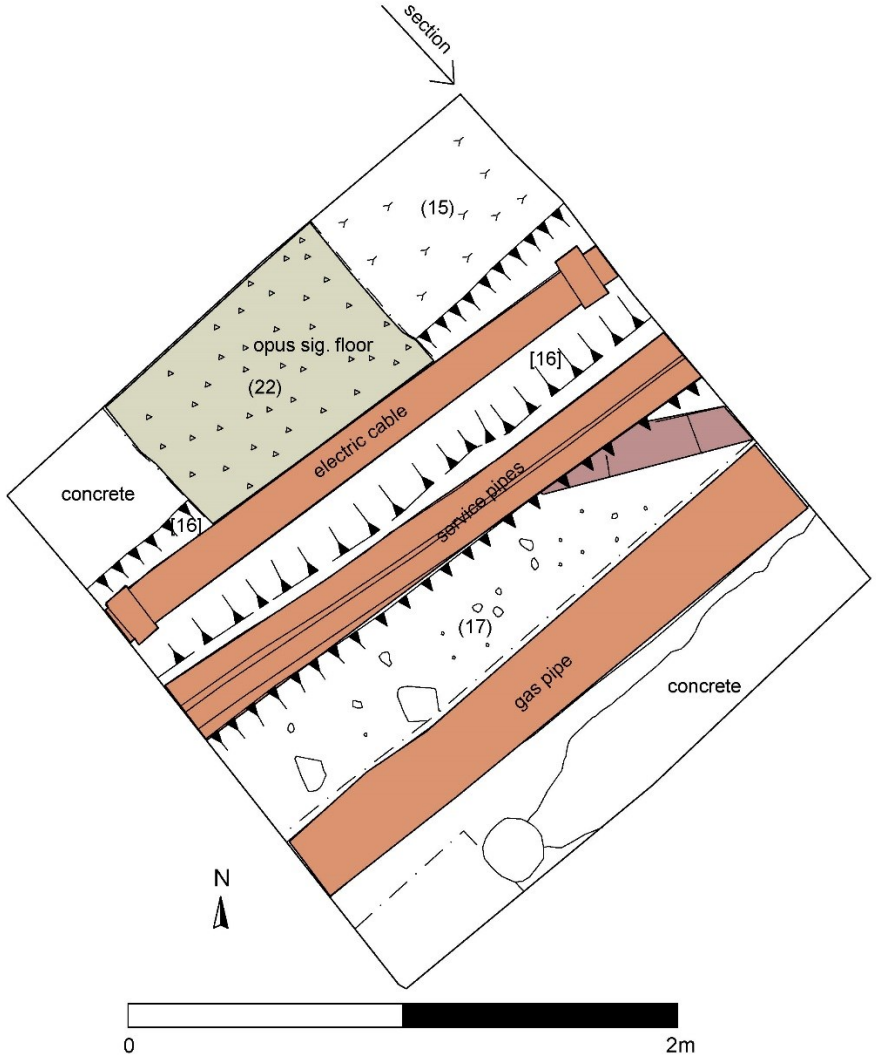

Figure 16: Plan of Trench 3

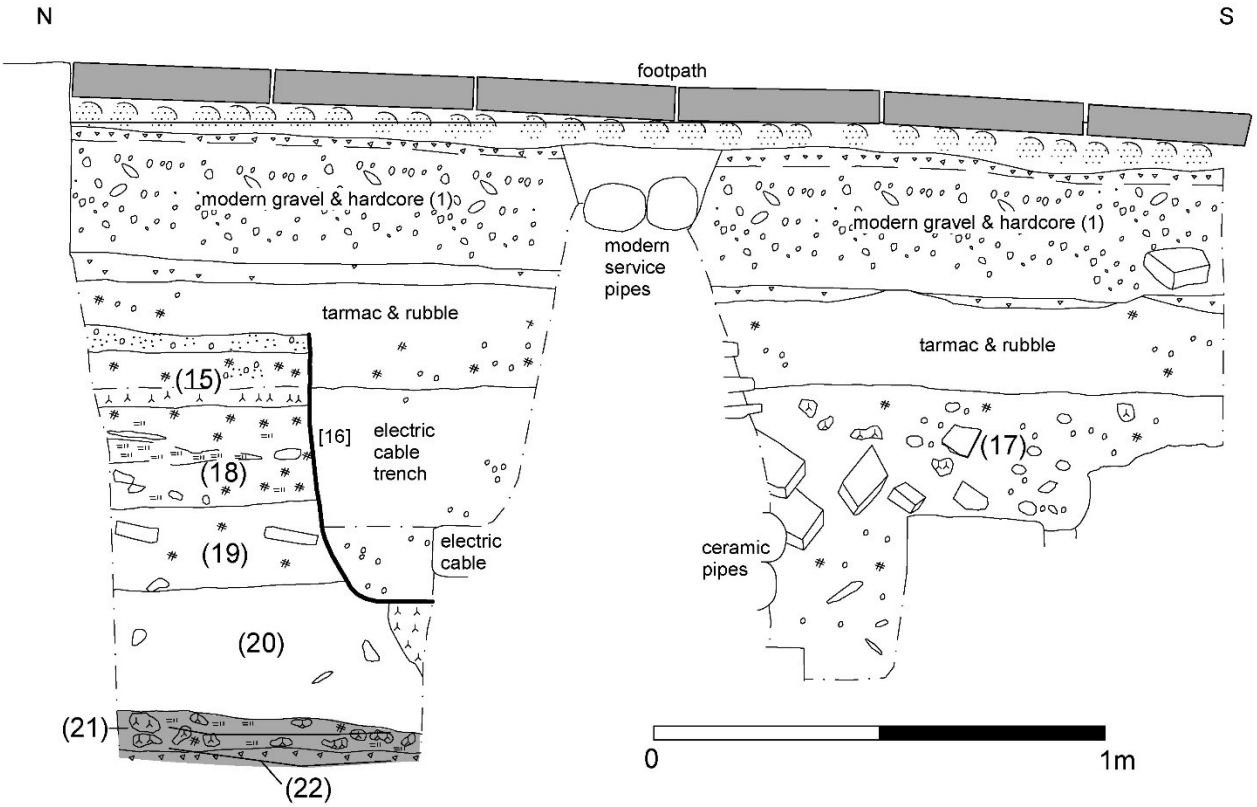

Figure 17: Trench 3 section

Figure 18: View of Trench 3, showing *opus signinum* (22), looking NE, 1m and 0.5m scale

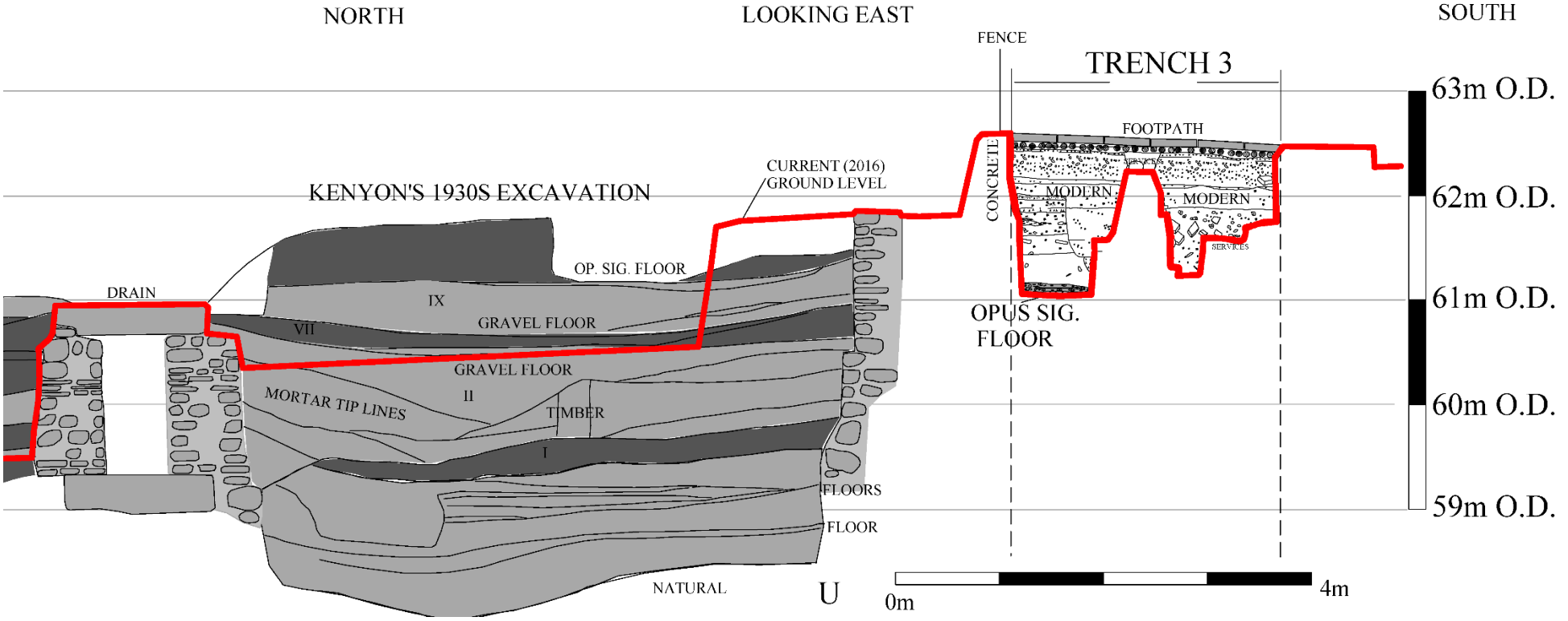

Figure 19: Trench 3 profile N-S, related to the 1930's excavation

6.4 Trench 4

Below the modern pavement was a modern gravel hardcore (34) *c*.0.5m in thickness. Cutting into this was a recent pit [32], that contained (33). Immediately below this was a mixed garden soil containing service pipes (31). Seven sherds of 3rd to 4th century AD Roman pottery were recovered from this. Numerous ceramic service pipes ran along the southern edge of the trench. A small sondage was excavated between the pipes to a depth of 1.5m below the modern street, no discernible change was seen in the layer. A brick cellar, probably from the 19th century, and corresponding with 19th century mapping was located in the NW area of the trench. The rear of this was located in the 1930s excavations, and whilst not illustrated in the published report is visible in unpublished photographs and archive notes held at the museum. A Roman wall (28), aligned approximately E-W, had partly collapsed northwards, it was located in the NW corner of the trench at *c*.62.3m OD. It consisted of a solid mortared block of coursed granite blocks and tile. This was most likely the same wall as seen in Trench 2 (14). Below this were loose granite blocks and tile fragments (27), these may be foundations for the wall. Further to the east lay clay-bonded granite and sandstone blocks (26), these could be evidence for a wall. No dating evidence was recovered, though the style of the construction would indicate a medieval date. The brick cellar wall cut [29] into the north-edge of the wall, the wall cut contained a mixed soil with numerous Roman wall fragments (30).

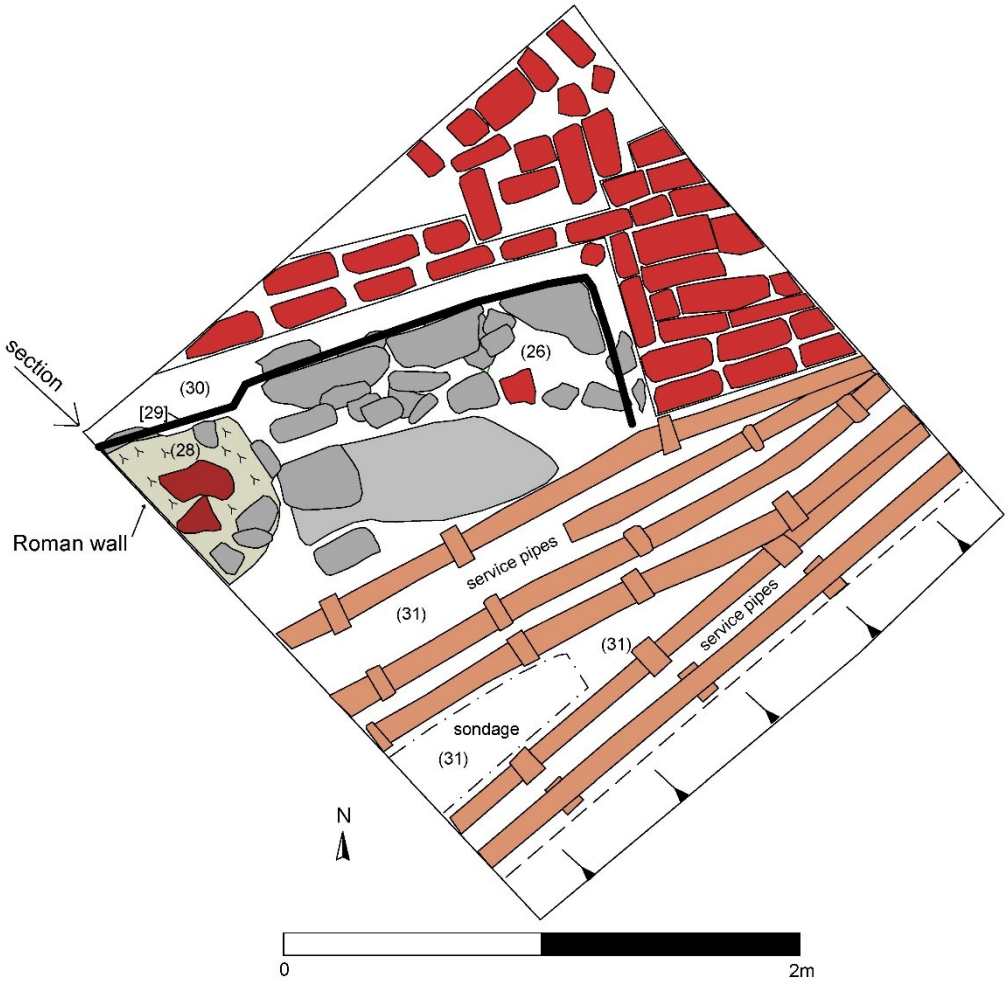

Figure 20: Trench 4 plan

Figure 21: Trench 4 section

Figure 22: View of Trench 4, 1m scale

Figure 23: Detailed view of wall in Trench 4.

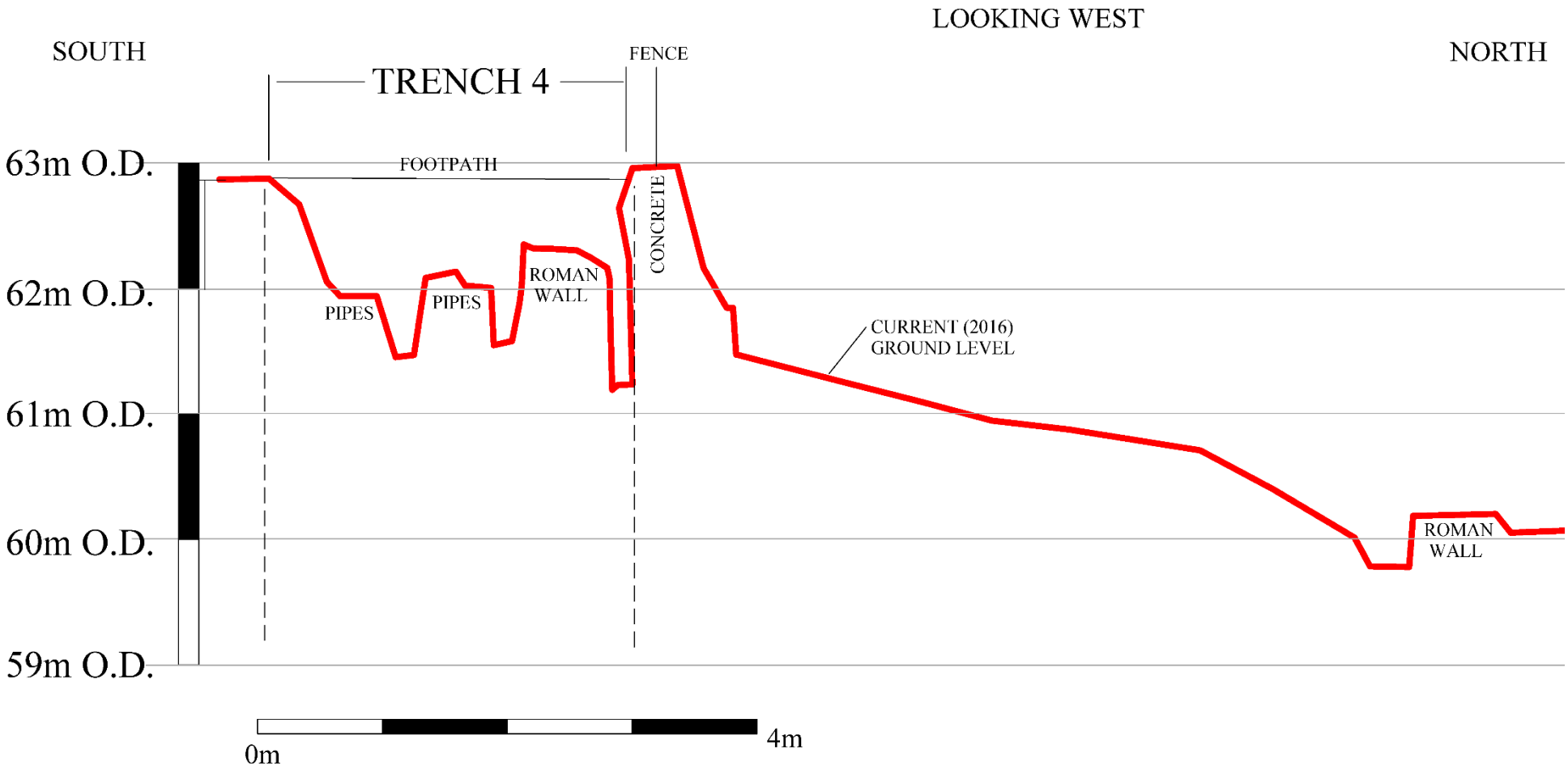

Figure 24: Trench 4 profile S-N, related to the reconstructed Roman ruins to the north

6.5 Trench 5

Below the modern pavement was a modern gravel hardcore (34) *c*.0.5m in thickness. Below this was a sequence of modern layers and disturbances (contexts 54, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65), reflecting the numerous service pipes seen within this trench. Underlying this a 'garden soil' (55) and (56) contained three sherds of Roman pottery, one sherd of later post-medieval pottery, and a stem fragment of a clay tobacco pipe of post-medieval or modern date. On the south edge of the trench was a compacted block of rounded cobbles and yellowy mortar with fragments of CBM (54) (Figs. 25-28). It measured 1m long and *c*.0.22m thick, located adjacent to the modern gas pipe, it projected out from the trench section by 0.17m (*c*.61.68m OD. *c*.1m below the modern street surface). This could be Roman, perhaps a column or statue base.

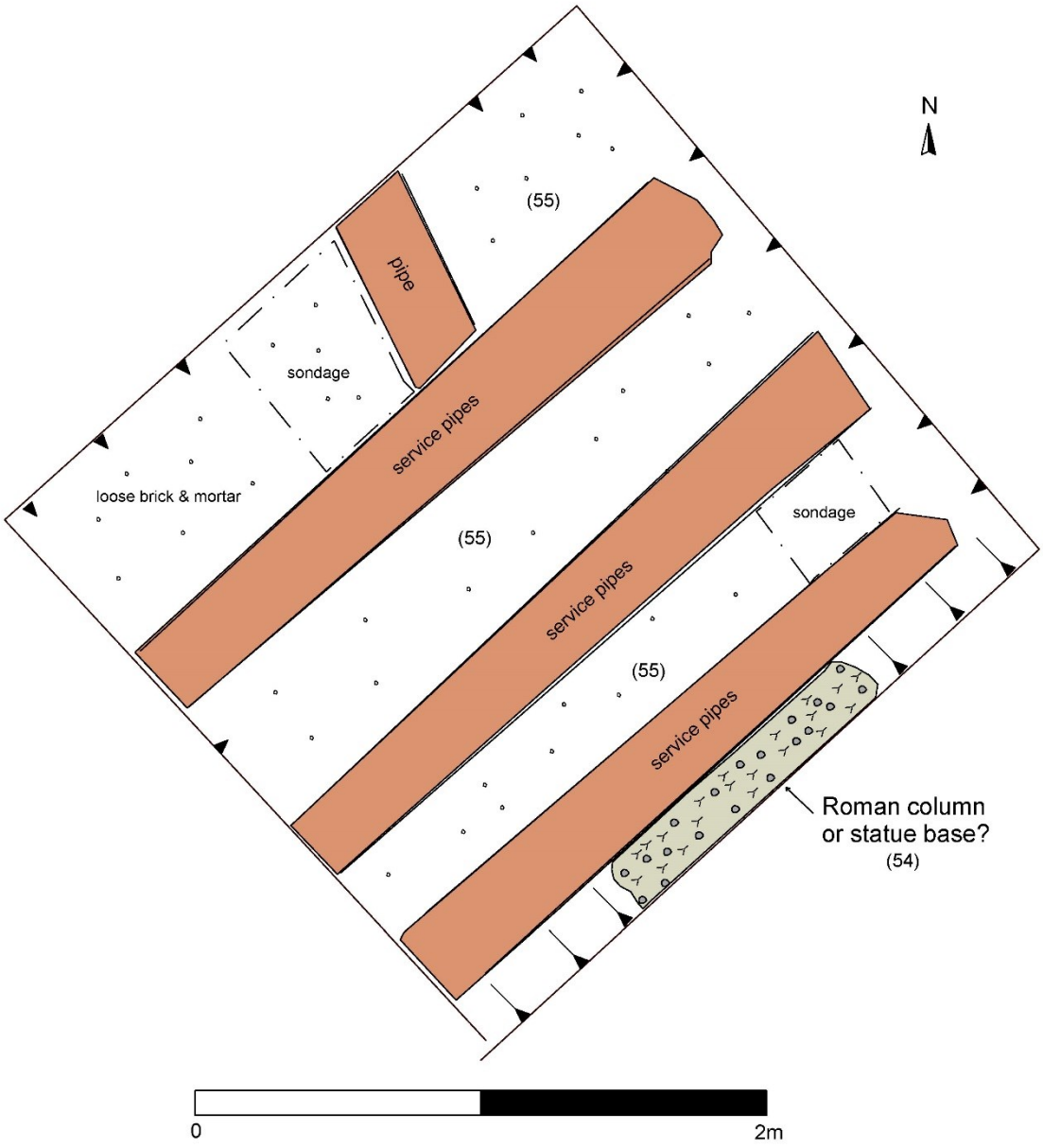

Figure 25: Plan of Trench 5

Figure 26: View of Trench 5

Figure 27: Block (54) in Trench 5

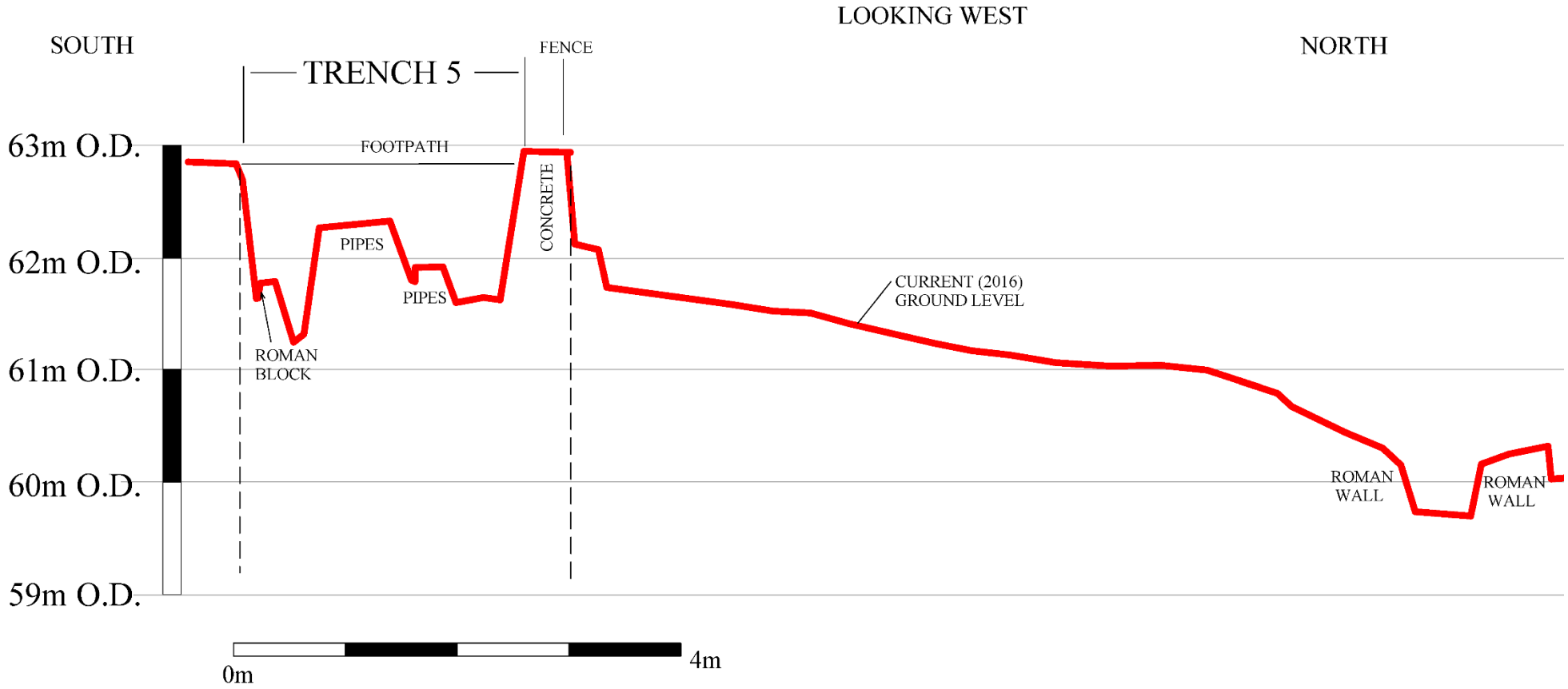

Figure 28: Trench 5 profile S-N, related to the reconstructed Roman ruins to the north

6.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located at the west-end of the trenches (Figure 29). Below the modern pavement was a 0.5m thick modern gravel hardcore, below this were modern layers of concrete, sands, and gravels. As with the other trenches modern and recent service pipes ran NE-SW across the trench. Below this in the SW corner a small pit [45] cut into earlier Roman deposits below, it contained a mid grey-brown silt-clay (46), with this were two sherds of Roman pottery, Roman box flue and tegula fragments, white intonaco plaster (the final coating of plaster spread upon a wall, esp. for fresco painting), along with four sherds of medieval pottery (AD 1100-1400), and two sherds of early post-medieval pottery (AD 1500-1750). Another shallow pit [47] was located in the NW area of the trench, it was similar to pit [45], and cut from the same level. A small sondage was dug below these pits, four layers, all potentially Roman (49, 50, 52, 53). Layer (49) consisted of mid grey-brown sand-silt 0.37m thick. It was rich in Roman building rubble (mortar, stone, plaster), it contained 1 sherd of Roman pottery, along with Roman tegula fragment and white intonaco plaster. Below this was a light creamy-yellow layer of crushed mortar with some clay and silt (50), this was 0.08m thick. Two small sherds of Roman pottery was recovered, along with a small sherd of (intrusive, from pit [45]) early medieval pottery. Below this was a dark brown-grey layer of silt-clay (52), this was 0.13m thick and contained Roman building material, including tile, *opus signinum* and mortar. Below this was a mid yellow-brown silt-clay (53), this was 0.3m thick and contained three sherds of Roman pottery (one sherd dated to the 3rd to 4th centuries AD), Roman stone tesserae, Roman box flue fragment, and cream intonaco plaster. Both layers (52) and (53) contained a small sherd of early medieval pottery in each, it is highly probable they are intrusive, from pit [45]. Towards the SE-side of the trench, between the ceramic pipes was a dark grey-brown silt-clay (43), this was much like the garden soils seen in all the trenches. Below this was a dark grey-brown silt-clay mixed with Roman building rubble and some white intonaco plaster (44). It may have been the same as layer (52) or (53).

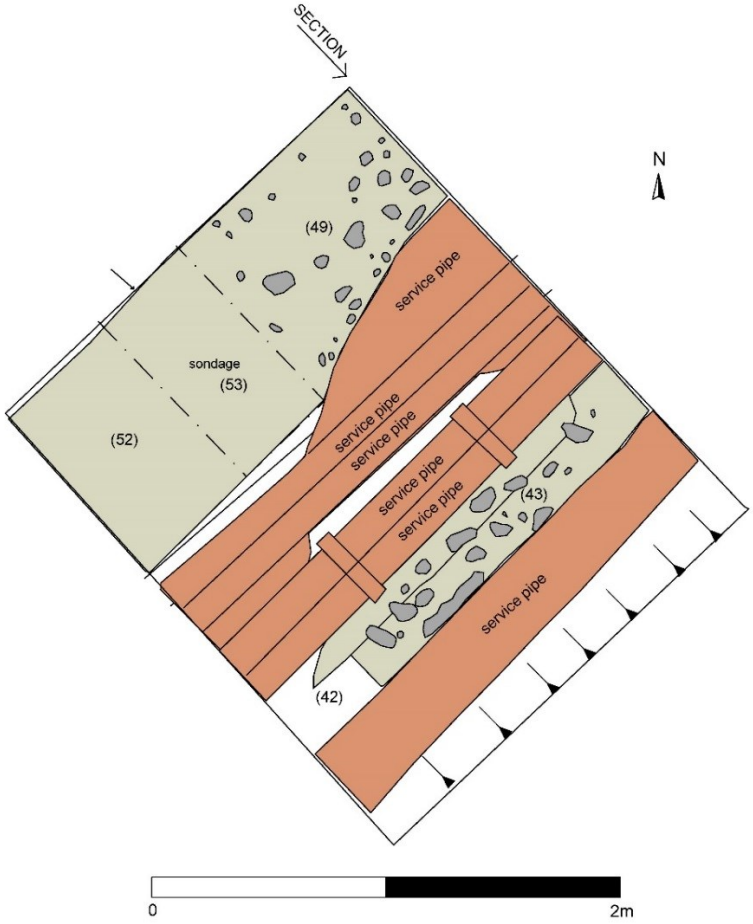

Figure 29: Plan of Trench 6

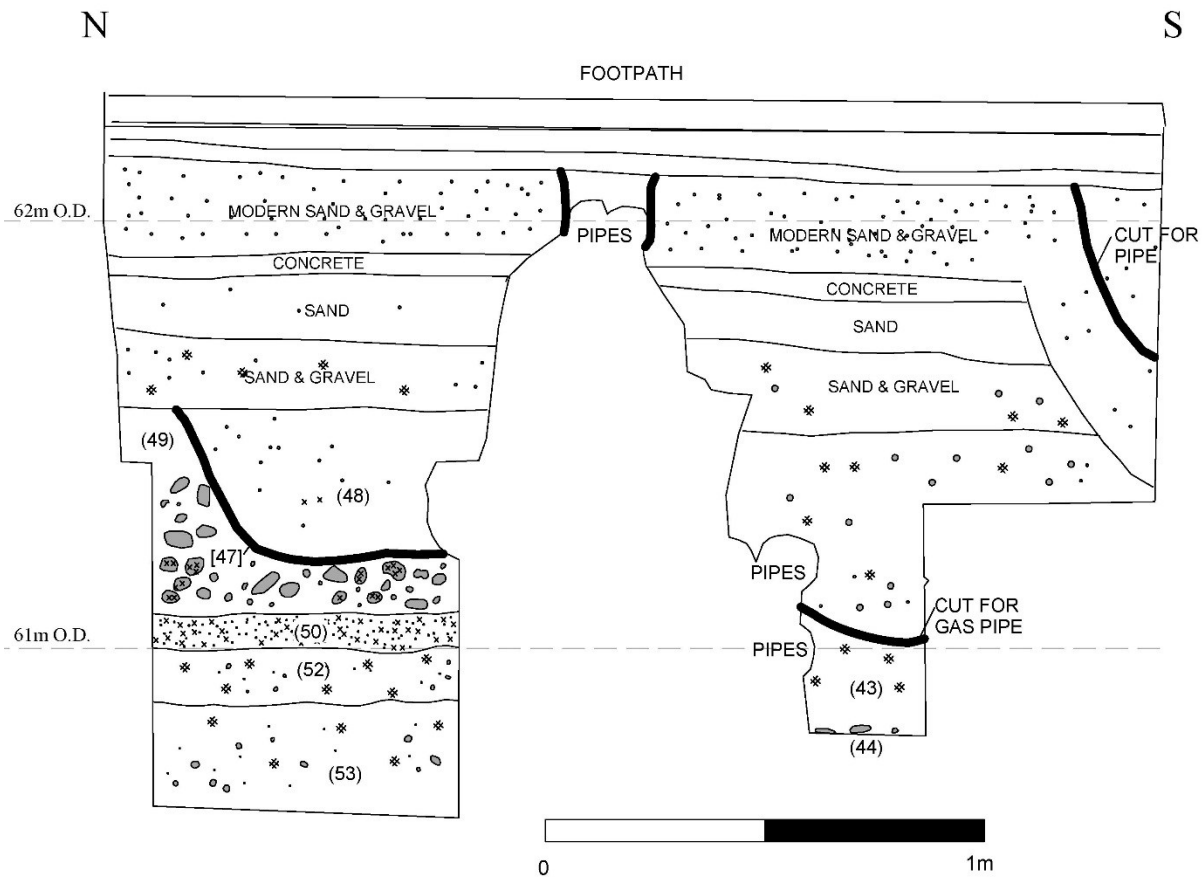

Figure 30: North section of Trench 6

Figure 31: View of trench 6

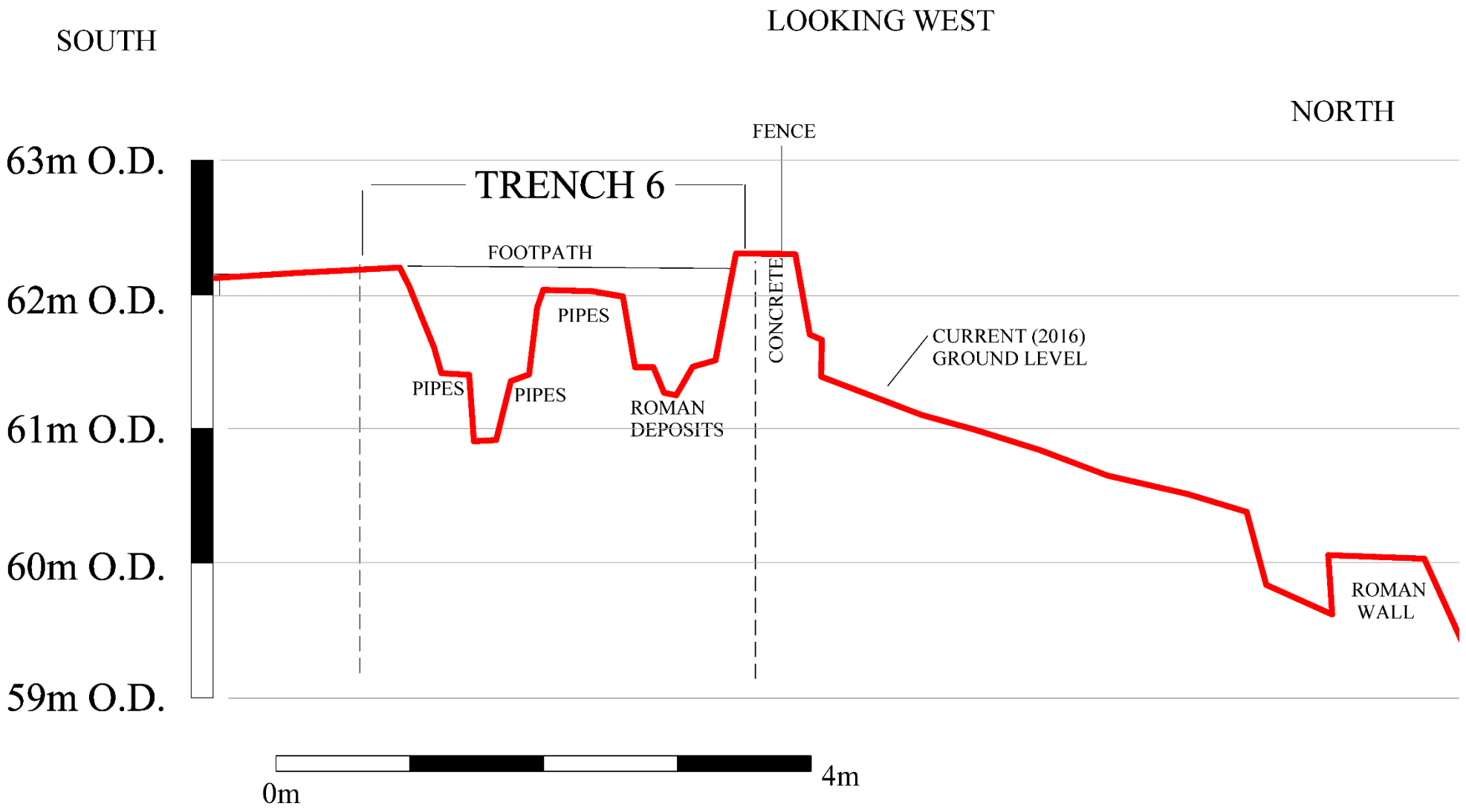

Figure 32: Trench 6 profile S-N, related to the reconstructed Roman ruins to the north

7. Finds

The trial trench evaluation recovered a range of material culture artefacts including: Roman pottery, plaster, ceramic and stone building material, glass, a nail; medieval and post-medieval pottery and a jeton; animal and human bone; and charred plant remains. This section contains the catalogue, analysis, and report of each.

7.1 Roman Pottery (by Elizabeth Johnson)

Assemblage Size and Condition

An assemblage comprising 36 sherds (566g) of Romano-British pottery was retrieved from the excavation of six 2.5m square test pits directly underneath a pavement adjacent to the Jewry Wall bath house remains. The average sherd weight of 15.7g suggests good levels of preservation overall.

Methodology

The pottery was classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series (Pollard 1994) and quantified by sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs using rims) as shown in the catalogue below. Vessel forms were also assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed. The fabric names have been given in the catalogue rather than the codes from the fabric series for clarity.

Catalogue

Table 1: Roman pottery catalogue

Tr	Cont	Fabric	Form	Shds	Wgt (g)	Diam (cm)	EVEs	Dating
1	5	NV colour-coat	Beaker	1	16			late2nd-early3rdC+
1	5	Shelly ware	Jar	1	25			2nd-4thC
1	5	White ware	Flagon	1	15			late1st-2ndC
1	5	Black Burnished ware	Bowl/Dish	1	15			mid2ndC+
1	5	Grey ware	Jar	1	37			2ndC+
1	5	Samian	Dish	1	3	16	0.05	early-mid2ndC
1	5	Samian	Plate	1	2	18	0.04	late1stC
2	13	Samian	Bowl	1	19	24	0.075	mid-late2ndC
2	13	Samian	Cup	1	4	13	0.1	early-mid2ndC
3	20	NV colour-coat	Bowl	1	6			4thC
3	20	Oxf. colour-coat	Mortarium	1	9	24	0.03	4thC
3	20	Grey ware	Jar	1	5			2ndC+
3	21	Grey ware	Jar	1	3			2ndC+
3	21	Grey ware	Jar	1	61			2ndC+
3	21	Shelly ware	Jar	1	31			2ndC+
3	21	Samian	Dish	1	8	22	0.06	early-mid2ndC
3	23	Samian	Cup	1	7	11	0.14	2ndC
3	23	Grey ware	Jar	1	40	22	0.15	2ndC
4	31	Derbyshire ware	Dish	1	36	16	0.115	mid2ndC+
4	31	Oxf. colour-coat	Bowl	1	5			4thC
4	31	MHH Mortarium	Mortarium	1	17			3rdC+
4	31	Harrold shelly ware	Jar	2	34	18	0.075	3rdC+
4	31	Grey ware	Jar	1	24	11	0.15	3rdC+
4	31	Grey ware	Jar	1	24	26	0.05	2ndC+
2	39	white ware	Misc	1	2			late1st-2ndC
6	46	Hadham oxidised ware	Flagon	1	22			3rdC+

Tr	Cont	Fabric	Form	Shds	Wgt (g)	Diam (cm)	EVEs	Dating
6	46	Samian	Beaker	1	3			mid-late2ndC
6	49	Grey ware	Jar	1	5			2nd-4thC
6	50	Grey ware	Misc	1	1			late1st-mid2ndC
6	53	NV colour-coat	Bowl	1	3			3rd-4thC
6	53	Shelly ware	Jar	1	7			2nd-4thC
6	53	Grey ware	Jar	1	5			2nd-4thC
5	55	MHH Mortarium	Mortarium	1	37			mid2ndC+
5	55	Grey ware	Dish	1	14			3rdC+
5	55	Grey ware	Jar	1	21			2nd-4thC

Trench 1
Seven sherds (113g) of pottery were recovered from a garden soil layer (5). The layer is disturbed with post-Roman material present too and this is reflected in the range of Roman pottery found. The latest datable vessel is a Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker, dating from the late 2nd-early 3rd century onwards, whilst a Black Burnished ware bowl or dish base can be dated from around the middle of the 2nd century onwards (Howe *et al* 1980; Holbrook and Bidwell 1991). There are two samian ware vessels, a South Gaulish Drag.18 plate dating to the later 1st century and a Central Gaulish Drag.18/31 dish dating to the first half of the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 32-35). A shelly ware jar base, white ware flagon and grey ware jar probably also date within the 2nd century.

Trench 2
Two sherds (23g) of Central Gaulish samian ware were recovered from a garden soil layer (13) along with some post-Roman material. One vessel is a Drag.27 cup, popular during the first half of the 2nd century, whilst the other is a bowl of some kind also dating within the 2nd century (*Ibid*, 38). One very small sherd (2g) of white ware was discovered in (39), an early deposit located at the bottom of the bore hole. White wares are most common during the 1st and 2nd centuries and a late 1st-2nd century date is most likely for this sherd. The most common white ware form in Leicester are flagons, however bowls and jars were also produced.

Trench 3
Three sherds (20g) of pottery were recovered from a garden soil layer (20), comprising a Nene Valley colour-coated ware bowl, an Oxfordshire colour-coated ware mortarium and a grey ware jar. The colour-coated ware bowl is a bead and flanged form dating to the 4th century (Howe *et al* 1980, 24-25). The Oxfordshire mortarium is a red-brown colour-coated ware imitating the samian Drag.45 form and was produced from the middle of the 3rd century and throughout the 4th century. In Leicester, examples of late Oxfordshire vessels usually date to the 4th century (Young 1980, 133, 174-175). Both vessels are abraded. The grey ware jar is burnished with a horizontal groove and probably dates within the 2nd century. Four sherds (103g) of pottery were recovered from a demolition layer (21), situated over a Roman floor. The pottery from this layer comprises grey and shelly ware jars along with a samian ware dish and could all date within the 2nd century. The dish is a Drag.18/31 form from Central Gaul dating to the first half of the 2nd century. This is the most closely datable vessel and the remaining pottery could easily be contemporary. One of the grey ware sherds is remarkably similar to the grey ware jar from (20) and, although the two sherds do not join, they are possibly from the same vessel. A further two sherds (47g) of pottery, also probably dating within the 2nd century, were recovered from a modern layer (23). The pottery comprises a 2nd century Central Gaulish samian ware Drag.33 cup and a grey ware burnished jar with rounded out-curved rim.

Trench 4
Seven sherds (140g) of pottery were recovered from a garden soil layer (31). The latest datable vessel is a colour-coated ware bowl from Oxfordshire with white painted decoration. The sherd is small and severely abraded, preventing identification to a specific form, however a range of bowls with this type of decoration were produced at this industry during the 4th century (*Ibid*, 156-173). A South Midlands

shelly ware jar from Harrold in Bedfordshire is also present. The rim is not hooked suggesting a 3rd century rather than 4th century date (Brown 1994). A mortarium from Mancetter-Hartshill is severely abraded, however traces of orange paint can be seen on the flange, which does look like a hammerhead form dating from the middle of the 3rd century onwards. Two grey ware jars are present, both with rounded out-curved rims. One is highly burnished comparable to East Midlands Burnished type wares dating to the 3rd and 4th centuries (Todd 1968). Overall, the pottery from this layer appears to be 3rd-4th century rather than earlier.

The most interesting vessel is a plain rimmed dish in Derbyshire ware. Derbyshire ware was produced from the middle of the 2nd century to the end of the 3rd century and does occur in Leicester, however, the forms found are usually jars, most commonly the deep lid-seated bell-shaped forms dating to the later 2nd and 3rd centuries. Although jars are the dominant Derbyshire ware form, other forms have been noted at sites throughout Derbyshire and it has been suggested these may largely date within the 2nd century (Leary unpublished). It is certainly worth noting the presence of a Derbyshire ware dish in Leicester as this is unusual.

Trench 5
Three sherds (72g) of pottery were recovered from a disturbed layer (55), comprising a mortarium base and grey wares. The mortarium is from Mancetter-Hartshill and dates from the middle of the 2nd century onwards. The grey ware dish is highly fired and burnished comparable to 3rd and 4th century East Midlands Burnished type wares, whilst the grey ware jar is decorated with burnished horizontal lines. Post-Roman material is also present in this context.

Trench 6
Two sherds (25g) of pottery were recovered from a modern pit (46) containing post-Roman material as well. The Roman pottery comprises an oxidised ware flagon from Much Hadham and a Central Gaulish samian ware beaker. Hadham oxidised burnished wares are not particularly common in Leicester, and date to at least the 3rd century when the industry's distribution appears to have expanded (Tyres 1996, 168-169). Samian ware beakers are also fairly uncommon. The example here is either a Form 72 or 54, as although the sherd is very small, the distinctive incised "cut-glass" style decoration is visible. These beakers date to the second half of the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 61-62).

One very small sherd (5g) from a grey ware jar was recovered from a demolition layer (49). The jar is not closely datable and a date from the 2nd century onwards is all that can be given. Layer (50) also only produced one very small sherd (1g) of Roman pottery alongside one sherd of post-Roman pottery. The Roman sherd is a fine grey ware with black surfaces and burnished decoration, including what appears to be part of a burnished circle. A date from the later 1st to the middle of the 2nd century is most likely. A further three sherds (15g) of Roman pottery was recovered from layer (53), along with one sherd of post-Roman pottery. The latest datable Roman vessel is a Nene Valley colour-coated ware castor box with roulette decoration dating to the 3rd or 4th century (Howe *et al* 1980, 24-25). The remaining vessels comprise a 2nd century shelly ware jar and a grey ware jar that could date any time from the 2nd century onwards.

Discussion
The assemblage is small, which is unsurprising given the nature of the evaluation excavations. However in spite of this, a variety of fabrics are present including seven samian ware vessels which equates to 19.4% of the total sherds. In addition there are two unusual forms, the samian ware beaker from (46) and Derbyshire ware dish from (31). Oxidised wares from Much Hadham are also not particularly common in Leicester. In addition to the 2nd century samian ware, there are also later colour-coated wares from the Nene Valley and Oxfordshire, bringing the total proportion of fine wares to a third of the assemblage. The other fabrics present include Black Burnished ware, grey, white and shelly wares and two mortaria from Mancetter-Hartshill, all of which are common in Leicester urban assemblages. The mix of table wares alongside more utilitarian forms is not unusual in urban

assemblages from Leicester, as it served as the *civitas capital* of the region. The location of the excavations, adjacent to the Jewry Wall bath house and close to another known building of high status that once housed the Peacock Mosaic, makes this an area of great interest.

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7.2 Roman plaster (by Heidi Addison)

A total of 4484g of plaster was recovered from nine contexts. The material was weighed by context and type as seen in Table 1 below.

Table 2: Roman plaster detail

Context	Weight (g)	Description
20	98	Opus signinum
21	165	Painted wall plaster- lime washed sandy plaster
31	95	Mortar
41	130	Painted wall plaster
44	18	degraded white intonaco-fine opus signinum plaster
46	845 18 12	Opus signinum White intonaco P.W.P -fine opus signinum plaster Mortar
49	887 374	Opus signinum White intonaco P.W.P with opus signinum plaster
52	127 265	Opus signinum Mortar
53	1426 15 9	Opus signinum Cream intonaco P.W.P with fine opus signinum plaster Mortar
Totals	4484g	

A total of 3808g of *opus signinum* plaster was present from six contexts. The plaster is a mixture of lime with tile dust and tile fragments indicating the need for waterproofing. A small quantity of finer painted wall plaster fragments were retrieved from context (41) which produced three reasonably well preserved fragments with a polished red intonaco (72g). The remainder of the painted wall plaster is very abraded.

7.3 Roman Ceramic and Stone Building Materials (by Heidi Addison)

A total of 3,637g of ceramic building material was recovered from nine contexts and has been classified by type and quantified by fragment and weight (Table 1.)

Table 3: Quantified record of Roman ceramic building material. *retained samples

Context	Type	Frag	Weight (g)
5	Box flue* Tegula Wall tile	2 2 1	385 500 170
13	Box flue*	2	403
20	Unclass	3	124
21	Tegula	1	21
46	Box flue* Tegula	1 1	214 275
49	Tegula	1	396
52	Unclass	1	37
53	Box flue	5	342
55	Tegula	2	770
U/S Tr.6	Box flue*	1	83
Total			3637

This assemblage includes examples of tegula roof tile, box flue tiles, indicative of hypocaust systems, and wall tiles used in masonry wall construction, or in hypocaust pilae stacks. An unstratified fragment of relief patterned flue tile belonging to Die 9 was recovered (Figure 33), adding to the four examples previously excavated at the Jewry Wall site (Lowther 1948, 276 fig.98; Betts, Black and Gower 1994, 75-76). Tiles produced using Die 9 have also been found in London, Richborough and Lullingstone in

Kent (Betts, Black and Gower 1994, 76-78). In addition six local Danehills sandstone tesserae and one manufactured from recycled tile were from contexts (5), (13), (21), (23) and (53). A small undiagnostic roofing slate fragment manufactured from Swithland slate was also recovered from (21) (not retained).

Figure 33: Fragment of relief patterned flue tile

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7.4 Medieval and Post-medieval Pottery (by Debbie Sawday)

The pottery, 27 sherds, weighing 838 grams, and the medieval ridge tile, five fragments, weighing 334 grams, were examined under a x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Allin 1981, Sawday 2009)).

The results are shown below (Table 4). Previous excavations on the Roman baths had, as has also been shown here, revealed extensive activity, including occupation, in the middle ages. The pottery suggested that the robbing of the Roman buildings had taken place from the twelfth century, and that many of the early and later medieval features had been truncated by more modern activity (Dunning1948.)

Bearing in mind the lack of published records of the medieval levels previously examined on the site, the current excavations may offer the opportunity for a more detailed examination of what has survived.

Table 4: medieval and later pottery and tile by fabric, sherd numbers and weight (grams) and misc. finds - by context.

Context	Fabric/ware	No.	Gr	Date
POTTERY				
4	CC1 – Chilvers Coton A ware	1	19	c.1250-1400
4	EA2 -_Earthenware 2	1	30	Pancheon rim, post med/modern
4	EA - Earthenware	1	19	modern
4	EA10/PO – Fine White China/Porcelain.	3	38	modern
5	SP3 – Leicester Splashed ware	1	23	Jug neck, c.1100-1250

5	CC1	3	13	c.1250-1400
5	CW/MB – Cistercian/Midland Black	1	18	c.1450/1475-1550
5	EA2	1	51	Post med/modern
5	EA	1	11	modern
5	SW5 - Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	22	Jar rim - modern
5	EA8 – Cream ware.	1	12	c.1730-1850+
13/20	RS – Reduced Sandy	1	14	c.850-c.1400
46 [45] T6	PM – Potters Marston	2	64	c.1100-c.1300/50+
46	CC1	1	29	c.1250-1400
46	MP – Midland Purple	1	36	c.1375-1550
46	MY – Midland Yellow	2	105	c.1500-1725
48 [47]	PM	1	86	Jug rim/handle stub 14th C
50 T 6	ST – Stamford	1	5	Lead glaze, c.1050-12th C.
53 T6	ST	1	11	c.1050-12th C.
55 T5	RW – Redware/Earthenware	1	141	Bowl rim, later post med.
U/S T6	MP	1	91	c.1375-1550
TILE				
4	EA10	1	16	Modern wall tile;
5	SP3	1	40	Ridge tile, c.1100-1250
5	CC1	2	250	Ridge tile, c.1250-1400
15	CC1	1	19	Ridge tile, c.1250-1400
46 [45] T6	SP3	1	25	Ridge tile, c.1100-1250
TOBACCO PIPE				
5	China Clay	2		Complete heeled bowl c. mid-17th C
45	China Clay	1		Complete spurred bowl c. mid-17th C
55 t5	China Clay	1		Stem fragment, post med/modern

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7.5 Small finds (by Nicholas J. Cooper)

A small assemblage comprising a late medieval jeton (cleaned by Heidi Addison), an iron nail, four fragments of Roman vessel glass and two of Roman window glass, was recovered from Trench 3.

1) Trench 3 (22) *opus signinum* floor. Copper alloy Nuremberg jeton, mid-late 16th century. Complete but folded in half with obverse visible. Globe surmounted by a cross within a polygonal frame. Worn with legend partially legible N+HANS. Diameter: 26mm..

This must presumably have been sitting on the Roman floor rather than being within it and may be intrusive, perhaps having fallen from the section of the narrow trench. The overlying demolition layer (21) contained later Roman pottery and the following objects were recovered from it.

2) Trench 3 (21). Head and upper shaft of Manning Type 1 nail with flat round head and tapering square sectioned shaft. Broken length: 26mm
3) Trench 3 (21) bulk sample 1. Four small fragments of colourless Roman blown vessel glass 0.5-1.00mm thick, with bubbles. Probably of 2nd or 3rd century date.
4) Trench 3 (21) bulk sample 1. Two flat fragments of bubbly blown window glass, one in a colourless glass with a rounded straight edge (length of edge 25mm, thickness 1.5mm). The other fragment is in a blue-green colourless glass and is 2mm thick.

7.6 Animal Bone (by Rachel Small)

Introduction

A total of 77 fragments were hand-collected during excavation at Jewry Wall, weighing 1,253 grams. The contexts were Roman but had been heavily disturbed in the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Method

Identification to species and element was attempted on all bones by comparison to reference material held in the University of Leicester's bone laboratory. Preservation was rated on Harland et al's (2003) four-point scale. A catalogue is given in table 1.

Results

The overall condition of the specimens was generally 'good' and gnawing was only identified on one specimen (5). The majority of specimens were cattle and foetal/neonate calf remains was present in (21). Small numbers of sheep/goat and pig were identified, and a small dog humerus was present. Cut marks were noted on two specimens (13) (21) and chop marks also on two (5). Possible singeing was noted on three fragments (53)(55). Copper staining was noted on a specimen from (21).

Discussion

Unfortunately due to the small size of the assemblage it is impossible to draw any further conclusions as to the animal husbandry practises in Roman Leicester at this time.

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Table 5: Catalogue of animal bones

Context	No. fragments	Description
5	1	Sheep/goat first phalanx complete and fused
5	1	Sheep/goat metapodium distal end fused
5	1	Cattle pre-molar
5	1	Sheep/goat molar fragment
5	1	Cattle astragalus
5	1	Pig metapodium distal end un-fused
5	1	Cattle calcaneum
5	3	Large mammal ribs
5	4	Large mammal indent
5	6	Medium mammal indent
5	3	Large mammal nasal fragments
5	2	Large mammal rib fragments, chop marks
5	1	Pig pelvis
5	1	Large mammal pelvis
5	1	Medium mammal long bone, gnawed
13	1	Large mammal tibia distal end fused, cut mark
13	1	Large mammal indent
20	2	Large mammal rib
20	1	Large mammal long bone shaft

20	1	Medium mammal thoracic vertebra spine
20	4	Large mammal indent
20	1	Small dog humerus fused
21	2	Large mammal skull fragment
21	4	Cattle maxillary skull fragment
21	1	Large mammal long bone shaft
21	2	Large mammal indent
21	1	Large mammal cervical vertebra, cut marks
21	1	Cattle third phalanx
21	2	Foetal/neonate scapula fragments (calf?)
21	1	Sheep/goat first phalanx, fused, copper staining
21	1	Cattle radius proximal end fused
21	2	Cattle molar maxillary
21	1	Cattle ulna near complete
21	1	Ossified cartilage
21	1	Large mammal indent
31	1	Cattle tibia distal end
31	1	Cattle metapodium distal end fused
31	1	Large mammal lumbar wing
31	1	Large mammal pelvis
31	1	Cattle astragalus
31	1	Large mammal long bone shaft fragment
49	2	Medium mammal ribs
49	1	Medium mammal distal end of humerus
53	2	Indent frag
53	1	Large mammal rib
53	1	Cattle mandibular molar
53	1	Cattle ulna, possible singeing
55	1	Pig pelvis
55	2	Large mammal long bone shaft poor preservation possible singeing
55	1	Large mammal indent
Total	**77**	

7.7 Human Bone (by Rachel Small)

Introduction

Twenty-eight well preserved fragments of human bone were recovered from (5) a garden soil layer. The bones were heavily disturbed by ceramic service pipes across the trench.

Method

Bones were identified by comparison to reference material held at ULAS and White and Folkens (2005) manual. Counts and details are given in Table 6.

Results

The majority of bones were fused and the mandible and maxilla had permanent dentition, indicative of an adult. However, there was also an immature vertebra (most probably lumbar). Specimens identified included skull (cranium, mandible and maxilla), scapula, vertebrae, ribs, innominate, femur and a fifth metacarpal.

The innominate had fragmented into six pieces; therefore confident conclusions on age and sex could not be drawn.

Table 6: Catalogue of human bone

Element	Side	No. fragments	Notes
Fifth metacarpal	Right	1	Complete.
Femur	Right	1	Proximal articulation and shaft.
Scapula	Left	1	Majority present.
Rib		7	3 rib heads present.
Vertebra		5	2 x vertebrae bodies; 1 x thoracic spinous process; 1 vertebra fragment; 1 x complete immature (lumbar?) vertebra.
Mandible		1	Sockets present on left: a molar, P4, P3, C1 x2, I1 x 2, I2 x 2. No sockets for premolars on right hand side. Mental eminence reduced. Copper staining.
Maxilla		1	Following teeth in *situ* on right: M3, M2, M1, P4 and C1. Sockets for I2 and I1. Socket for P3 healing over? Build-up of calculus present. Subject to attrition – dentine exposed.
Innominate	Right	6	Fragmented.
Cranium		5	Large pieces, fragmented.
TOTAL		**28**	

The maxilla contained the following teeth *in situ* on the right hand side: a third molar, second molar, first molar, fourth premolar and canine. Sockets for a lateral and central incisor were present. The socket for the third premolar had started to heal over. The teeth had a build-up of calculus and had been subject to attrition leaving pockets of the dentine exposed.

Teeth were not present in the mandible but sockets for the following teeth were identified on the left hand side: a molar, fourth premolar, third premolar, two canines, two lateral incisors and two central incisors. Again, sockets for some of the teeth were missing - molars and premolars. It is most probable that these teeth had fallen out earlier in the individual's life and the bone had later healed over. The mandible's mental eminence was reduced which is suggestive of a female. Copper staining was present.

Conclusion

At least two individuals were present in this assemblage a juvenile and an adult female, the latter had interesting dental pathologies. Unfortunately due to the small size of the assemblage it is impossible to draw any further conclusions as to the population of Roman Leicester at this time.

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7.8 Charred Plant Remains (by Rachel Small)

Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken below a footpath at St. Nicholas Circle, during June and July 2016, adjacent to the Jewry Wall baths complex. Two samples were taken: sample 1 (21) from a rubble layer above a floor context; and, sample 2 (40) from a floor context, both samples date to the Roman period. The recovery and study of charred plant remains, which may include cereal grains, chaff, and weed seeds, provides important evidence for past food production, consumption, agricultural practices and environment.

Method
One part of each sample was processed in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The flotation fractions (flots) were transferred into plastic boxes and left to air dry; they were then sorted for plant remains using a x10-40 stereo microscope. The residues were also air dried and the fractions over 4mm sorted for all finds. Animal bones were extracted from the fraction below 4mm, for other remains abundance was noted. Plant remains were identified by comparison to modern reference material available at ULAS and names follow Stace (1991).

Results
Charcoal remains were common in sample 1 (21) and a small number of plant remains were present including two barley grains (*Hordeum vulgare* L.), five indeterminate cereal grains, a large grass seed (Poaceae), and a fragment of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana* L.). This amounts to 0.9 items per litre (the deposit's volume was 10 litres). Other artefacts were common and included: rodent, amphibian and fish bones; fragments of avian egg shell; clinker and spheroids; four ferrous nails and a lead object. Modern worm egg shell capsules were also present, which is suggestive of bioturbation, however, the numbers were low suggesting the effects were minimal.

Sample 2 (40) contained fragments of charcoal and similar to sample 1 (21) the abundance was scored as common. No plant remains were present however, and no artefacts were retrieved from the residue (the sample volume was two litres).

Discussion
Both samples can be classed as low density deposits and the remains from sample 1 are indicative of waste from food preparation and consumption. If further excavation is undertaken at the site or in the vicinity additional environmental sampling is highly recommended. During previous excavations at the bath complex (Kenyon 1948) no samples were taken (environmental archaeology was not yet established as a discipline). Therefore, any further information on eating and drinking, for example that may be revealed from further work at the complex would be of great interest.

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8. Discussion

The trial trench evaluation of six 2.5m² trenches were located below the footpath immediately adjacent to the south of the Jewry Wall baths ruins and museum along St. Nicholas Circle. Archaeological evidence was located in all six evaluation trenches and consisted of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval archaeology.

8.1 Roman

Early interpretations of the Jewry Wall were as a Roman temple (Throsby 1791), or part of the Roman town defences on the west-side as a gateway (Page 1907, 24). Haverfield in 1918 proposed that the Roman public building at Jewry Wall, was that of a public baths (Haverfield 1918, 18). The interpretation during the 1930s excavation was as a forum, with the upstanding Jewry Wall as the west wall of the Roman Basilica, this was subsequently replaced by a later bath-house (Kenyon 1948, 1-2). Subsequent excavations have located the Roman forum-basilica further north (under the new 'Jubilee Square', Hebditch and Mellor 1973). The accepted interpretation now of the Jewry Wall complex is a mid-2nd-century AD public bath-house, with a palaestra under the church of St. Nicholas (Wacher 1974, 342-343).

The area of the evaluation trenches lay on the south-east side of the bath complex, just outside of the 1930s excavation (see archive photos below). This is an area interpreted as a row of porticos enclosing the bath complex (Kenyon 1948, 30; see also Wacher 1974, 356 fig.80 and Figure 35 below). The Kenyon report describes a portico as ending against a channel (drain?). After this the south-east area was on a high level (Kenyon 1948, 30). After the channel "An additional wall was built in this south-east angle, probably cutting off the area to the east…" (*ibid*). A wall projected to the south of this and ran beyond the edge of the excavation, under the street. On the west side of this was a brick tessellated floor (*ibid*). The *opus signinum* floor in Trench 3 lay on the east side of this wall in presumably a different room.

There is no reference in Kenyon's report to the south-east angled wall turning at a right angle in an N-S direction as indicated on the plan. The evidence from the evaluation trenches contradicts the site plan in Kenyon's report (Kenyon 1948, Plate XXVII). The collapsed wall (NE-SW aligned with Roman street grid) seen in Trench 2 and 4 and below the concrete block within the ruins area, may be the continuation of the south-east angled wall (also reconstructed in the ruins, see Figure 36). Internal rooms evidently lay to the south of this wall as evidenced from the *opus signinum* floor in Trench 3, painted wall plaster from Trenches 3 and 6 (the plaster is a mixture of lime with tile dust and tile fragments indicating the need for waterproofing), Roman tiles (indicative of hypocaust systems), and the tessellated floor discovered by Kenyon. If this area forms a more symmetrical arrangement for the baths complex and adjacent porticos (i.e. if it is similar to the portico on the north side of the baths), then another wall on the same alignment can be proposed a further 3.8m south of the trenches. This corresponds with the solid block in Trench 5, that could be a column base.

Another possibility (though less likely), is the Roman structural evidence seen in the trenches is evidence for a separate building adjacent to the baths. It could be part of the same structure as the Peacock Pavement building, discovered in 1898 and excavated in 1965, believed to be a town house for an important official, or else a *mansio* (Clay and Mellor 1994, 2-11). The Peacock Pavement town house lay 15m to the SE, if the town house was on a similar scale to the Vine Street town house (40m by 40m, Higgins et al. 2009) it could have easily occupied this area also, the town house and baths adjoining one another. It is interesting to note 'Roman pavement' recorded on Kenyon's plans, there is no description of these, presumably they refer to internal flooring.

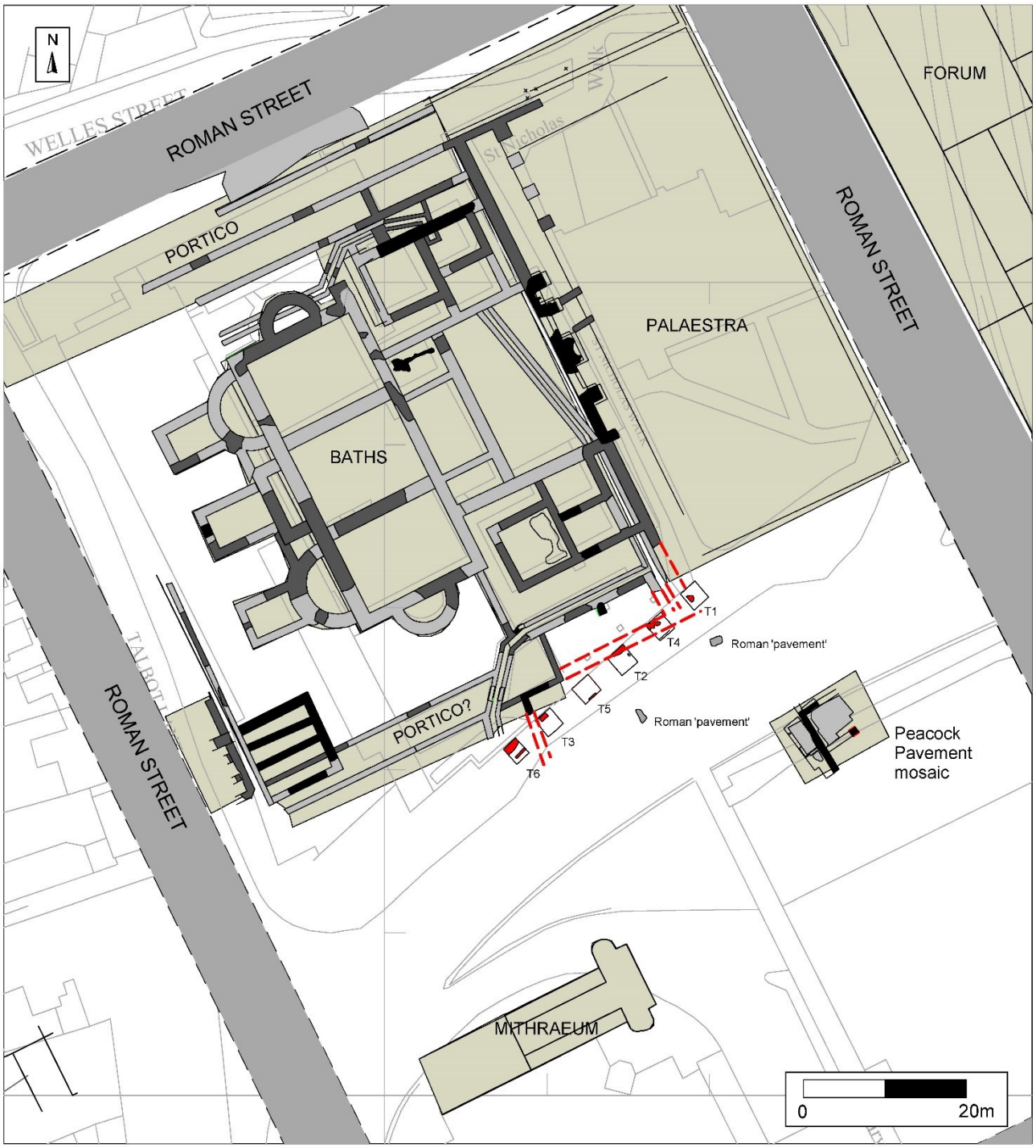

Figure 34: Roman evidence from the evaluation, in relation to surrounding Roman structures and streets

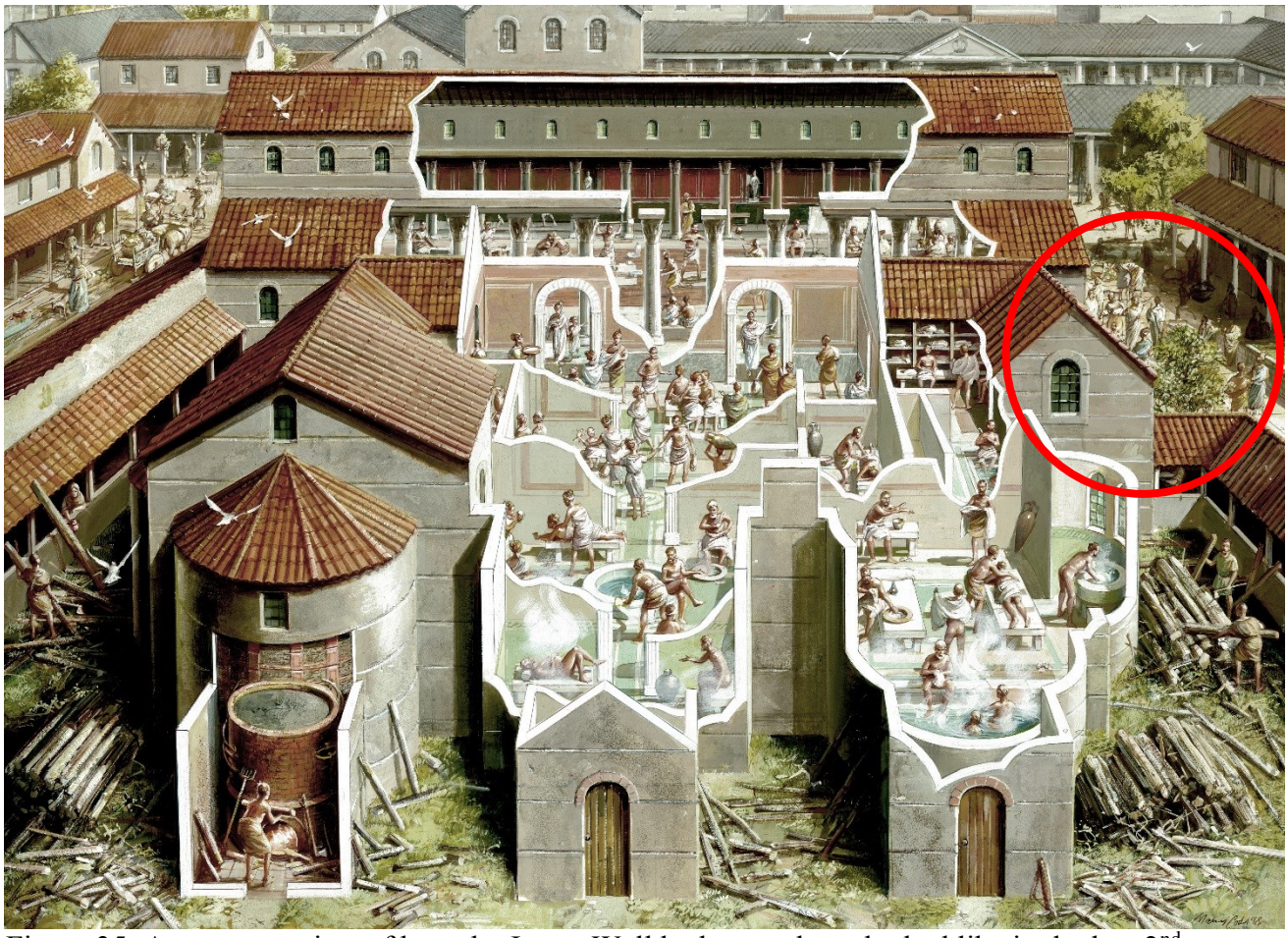

Figure 35: A cut-away view of how the Jewry Wall baths may have looked like in the late 2nd century AD. The evaluation trenches were located along the southern edge of the complex (Morris et al. 2011, 20)

Figure 36: View of wall in Trench 2 looking south, on a similar alignment to the wall under concrete block (adjacent to 1m scale) and in the reconstructed ruins in the background

Figure 37: Archive photo from 1930s excavation, the 2016 evaluation trenches lay close to the shed and fence on right. Image credit: Leicester Arts and Museums Service.

Figure 38: Another archive photo from 1930s excavation, the 2016 evaluation trenches lay close to the shed and fence on right. Image credit: Leicester Arts and Museums Service.

8.2 Medieval

Within Trench 4, clay-bonded granite and sandstone blocks (26), could be evidence for a wall. No dating evidence was recovered, but the style of the construction would indicate a medieval date. The later brick cellar was on the same alignment was this wall. This could be footings for a medieval building fronting onto St. Nicholas Street.

The human remains discovered in Trench 1 were disturbed by later service pipes, though one burial in the north corner appeared in situ, and so was left undisturbed. The bones recovered are from at least two individuals (a juvenile and an adult female). These are likely to be burials associated with the St. Nicholas churchyard, the current edge of the graveyard lay 4m to the NE. The date for the burials are unknown, the church has late Saxon origins (Courtney 1998, 130), with burials up to the post-medieval period. It is interesting to note that the human remains lay to the south of St. Nicholas Walk, either the graveyard once extended as far as Trench 1 and St. Nicholas Walk was later inserted across it, or else this is an additional area of the graveyard.

8.3 Post-medieval - Modern

Within Trench 4 a brick cellar, probably from the 19th century (and corresponding with 19th century mapping) was located in the NW area of the trench. There were various post-medieval and modern pottery sherds in the upper layers within all the trenches.

9. Conclusion

The archaeological investigation has successfully addressed the aims and objectives and the highest confidence can be placed in the data recovered and this report. There were some physical constraints, mainly the numerous live service trenches running NE-SW across the trench. Despite these there was a satisfactory application of the methodological approach.

The trial trench evaluation of six 2.5m² trenches were located below the footpath immediately adjacent to the south of the Jewry Wall baths ruins and museum along St. Nicholas Circle. Archaeological evidence was located in all six evaluation trenches and consisted of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval archaeology.

The evaluation trenches lay on the south-east side of the Roman bath complex, in an area interpreted as a row of porticos enclosing the bath complex. A Roman wall was located in two trenches, as well as an *opus signinum* floor, together with numerous Roman artefacts (pottery, tesserae, plaster, building materials). These could relate to the baths complex, or else be evidence for a separate building adjacent to the baths.

A possible clay-bonded medieval wall was located within Trench 4, perhaps footings for a building fronting onto St. Nicholas Street. The human remains discovered in Trench 1 were disturbed by later service pipes, these are likely to be burials associated with the St. Nicholas churchyard to the NE.

Despite the narrow ‘window’ in each trench, the evaluation has clearly revealed the good survival of Roman remains, below recent truncations. The archaeological remains certainly have potential to add further to our understanding of Roman and medieval Leicester.

10. Archive

The site archive will be held by *Leicester Museums Service, under accession no. A.7.2016.*

PROJECT DETAILS	**Oasis No**	universi1- 258810		
	Project Name	St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester		
	Start/end dates of field work	03-05-2016 - 10-06-2016		
	Previous/Future Work	No		
	Project Type	Evaluation		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Public footpath		
	Monument Type/Period	Roman/wall/floor, Medieval/Burial		
	Significant Finds/Period	Pottery / Roman, medieval, post-medieval		
	Development Type	Access ramp		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition		
	Planning Ref.			
PROJECT LOCATION	**Site Address/Postcode**	St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester, LE1 4LB		
	Study Area	0.01ha		
	Site Coordinates	SK 58226 04453		
	Height OD	62.60m OD		
PROJECT CREATORS	**Organisation**	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Leicester City Council		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	Dr Richard Buckley		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Dr Gavin Speed		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Developer / Leicester City Council		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		**Physical**	**Digital**	**Paper**
	Recipient	LCC MusService	LCC MusService	LCCMusService
	ID (Acc. No.)	A.7.2016	A.7.2016	A.7.2016
	Contents	• Finds	• Photos • Survey data • Report	• trench recording sheets • context summary records • context sheets • photographic recording sheet • Sample records sheet • Drawing Index sheet • CD containing digital photographs and report • Survey data • Unbound copy of this report • Thumbnail print of digital photographs
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	**Type**	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at St. Nicholas Circle, south of Jewry Wall Museum, Leicester.		
	Author	Speed, G.		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2016-116		
	Date	2016		
	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester		
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf		

11. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York (under OASIS ID: universi1-258810, see archive above).

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13. Acknowledgements

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27/07/2016

Appendix 1: Contexts list

CONTEXT	TRENCH	FEATURE TYPE	FINDS?	DATE
1	1	Modern pavement hardcore		Modern
2	1	Modern hardcore mortar		Modern
3	1	Modern make-up for (2)		Modern
4	1	Dark black layer below (3)	Medieval / post-medieval pottery	Modern
5	1	Mixed soil layer ('garden soil')	Roman pottery & Medieval / post-medieval pottery, Roman stone tesserae, Roman box flue, tegula and wall tile fragments	Post-medieval – modern
6	1	Human remains in NE corner		Uncertain, medieval – post-medieval?
7	1	Stone rubble and CBM		Uncertain Roman / medieval
8	1	Silt layer, below (5)		Uncertain Roman / medieval
9	**1**	Modern cut, into (5)		Modern
10	1	Fill of 9		Modern
11	**1**	Drains cut		Post-medieval / modern
12	**1**	Fill of 11		Post-med – modern. Ceramic service drains
13	**2**	Mixed soil layer ('garden soil')	Roman pottery & Medieval / post-medieval pottery, Roman stone tesserae. Roman box flue fragments	Post-medieval / modern
14	**2**	Roman wall superstructure		Roman-style construction type
15	**3**	Mortar and rubble layer	Medieval / post-medieval pottery	Post-med
16	**3**	Modern electric cable trench		Modern
17	**3**	Modern disturbed soil containing pipes		Post-medieval / modern
18	**3**	Mixed red clay deposit		
19	**3**	Mixed soil layer ('garden soil')		Post-med / modern
20	**3**	Mixed soil layer ('garden soil'), lower soil overlying (21)	Roman pottery, Roman tile fragment, Roman opus signinum.	Post-med / modern
21	3	Demolition layer / spread overlying floor surface	Roman pottery. Roman stone tesserae. Roman tegula fragments. Roman painted wall plaster. Environmental sample 1.	Roman
22	3	Opus signinum floor, internal floor surface of Roman building		Roman
23	**3**	Topsoil, within ruins area	Roman pottery. Roman stone tesserae.	Modern
24	3	Pit? Cuts (22) on west-side		Uncertain, post-Roman
25	3	Floor make-up for (22)		Roman
26	4	Wall foundations		Roman or medieval
27	4	Wall foundations		Roman or medieval
28	4	Wall superstructure		Roman
29	4	Brick wall cut		Victorian
30	4	Fill of 29		Victorian
31	4	Mixed soil layer ('garden soil')	Roman pottery and mortar.	Post-med / modern
32	4	Modern pit		Modern
33	4	Fill of 32		Modern
34	4	Modern hardcore		2015!

35	2	Mixed silt		Roman?
36	2 (borehole)	Opus signinum floor		Roman
37	2 (borehole)	make-up between floors		Roman
38	2 (borehole)	Opus signinum floor?		Roman
39	2 (borehole)	Dark grey silts	Roman pottery (1st-2nd century pottery)	Roman
40	2 (borehole)	Demolition or occupation debris over floor (36)	Environmental sample 2.	Roman
41	2 (borehole)	Plaster from collapsed wall	Painted wall plaster	Roman
42	2 (borehole)	Mixed clay layer, over (41)		Roman?
43	6	Modern deposit containing pipes		Modern
44	6	Layer with high quantities of Roman building material	Roman building material, white intonaco plaster	Roman?
45	6	Pit cut	See 46	Post-med
46	6	Fill of [45]	Roman pottery & medieval / post-medieval pottery. Roman box flue and tegula fragments, white intonaco plaster	Post-med
47	6	Shallow pit		Modern or post-med
48	6	Fill of [47]	Medieval / post-medieval pottery	Modern or post-med
49	6	Layer with high quantities of Roman building material	Roman pottery, Roman tegula fragment, white intonaco plaster	Roman
50	6	Layer of crushed mortar	Roman pottery & medieval / post-medieval pottery	Roman?
51	2 (borehole)	Possible floor surface, above (35)		Roman?
52	6	Layer with high quantities of Roman building material	Roman building material, including tile, opus signinum and mortar.	Roman?
53	6	Silt-clay layer, containing some Roman building material	Roman pottery. Roman stone tesserae. Roman box flue fragment, cream intonaco plaster.	Roman
54	5	Mortar in south edge of trench		Modern
55	5	Soil containing pipes	Roman pottery & medieval / post-medieval pottery. Roman tegula fragments.	Modern
56	5	Yellow sand and stone, below (55)		Post-med?
57	5	Yellow sand and gravel, below (58)		Modern
58	5	Dark silt-sand, below (59)		Modern
59	5	Yellow sand-gravel (below 60)		Modern
60	5	Lenses of gravel and tarmac		Modern
61	5	tarmac		Modern
62	5	Dark thin layer below (63)		Modern
63	5	Compacted sand		Modern
64	5	Pit cut, cuts (54)		Modern
65	5	Fill of [64]		Modern

Appendix 2 A second phase of archaeological field evaluation at the Jewry Wall Site, Leicester: Trenches 7–11 *Richard Huxley*

Summary

In view of the archaeologically positive results of the examination of Trenches 1-6 in the summer of 2016 along the line of the proposed access ramp (described above), consideration was given to moving the latter to the north west in order to partially re-use the foundations of the former footbridge over St Nicholas Circle. To assess the archaeological impact of this redesign, ULAS investigated five further trial trenches in October 2016 . Although all of them revealed some evidence for Roman, medieval and post-medieval archaeology, there was a significant amount of disturbance from later activity. The first two trenches were found to be heavily disturbed by concrete pillars relating to the former footbridge, the third was found to contain a Roman wall (that was partly truncated by a metal pillar) and the fourth and fifth trenches contained pits of medieval or Roman date. The preservation of archaeological features was found to increase to the west with the bank closest to Vaughan College representing the least truncated area.

Introduction

An initial phase of archaeological evaluation (see above, trenches 1-6) to assess the potential impact upon buried archaeological remains from a proposed access ramp to the former Vaughan College, indicated that the piled foundations would cause unacceptable damage to significant Roman deposits and structural features. In view of this, a revised location for the ramp was proposed, potentially re-using some of the foundations of a former footbridge, and in October 2016, five further trial trenches, each 1m square, were investigated by University of Leicester Archaeological Services at the proposed pile locations. The trenches were positioned within the Jewry Wall Scheduled Monument (list entry number: 1013312) along the southern edge of the site close to the boundary with St. Nicholas Circle. The ramp is designed to use six supports with one utilising an existing concrete pillar from the former footbridge. Two trenches were located next to concrete pillars in the eastern half of the site, a third was positioned next to a metal pillar in the centre of the boundary and the fourth and fifth were located in the bank in the western half of the site.

Results

Trench 7

Trench 7 was the easternmost trench and was positioned along the eastern edge of an existing concrete pillar close to the south-east corner of the Scheduled Monument. The trench measured 1m long by 0.9m wide and had a depth ranging between 0.15m -1.05m. This trench was found to contain a single mixed topsoil and rubble deposit composed of a friable dark reddish-brown loamy silt with loose modern bricks, mortar and stone. The majority of the trench was occupied by the concrete foundation for the pillar, which consisted of two layers of concrete, the uppermost located between 0.15m-0.3m below the current ground level. This prevented the trench from being fully excavated and restricted the space for investigation to the eastern third. The excavation of trench 7 was further hindered by the extremely loose friable nature of the soil and the potential risk of collapse resulted in the trench being excavated to a maximum 0.9m deep and 0.9m wide. A very loose granite, brick and mortar pile was found in the south-east corner, which had a depth in excess of 0.85m. In the north-east corner a modern ceramic pipe was found in the trench edge with loose stones and ceramic building materials (CBM) found in the base of the trench at a depth of 0.9m. No archaeological features were found in this trench.

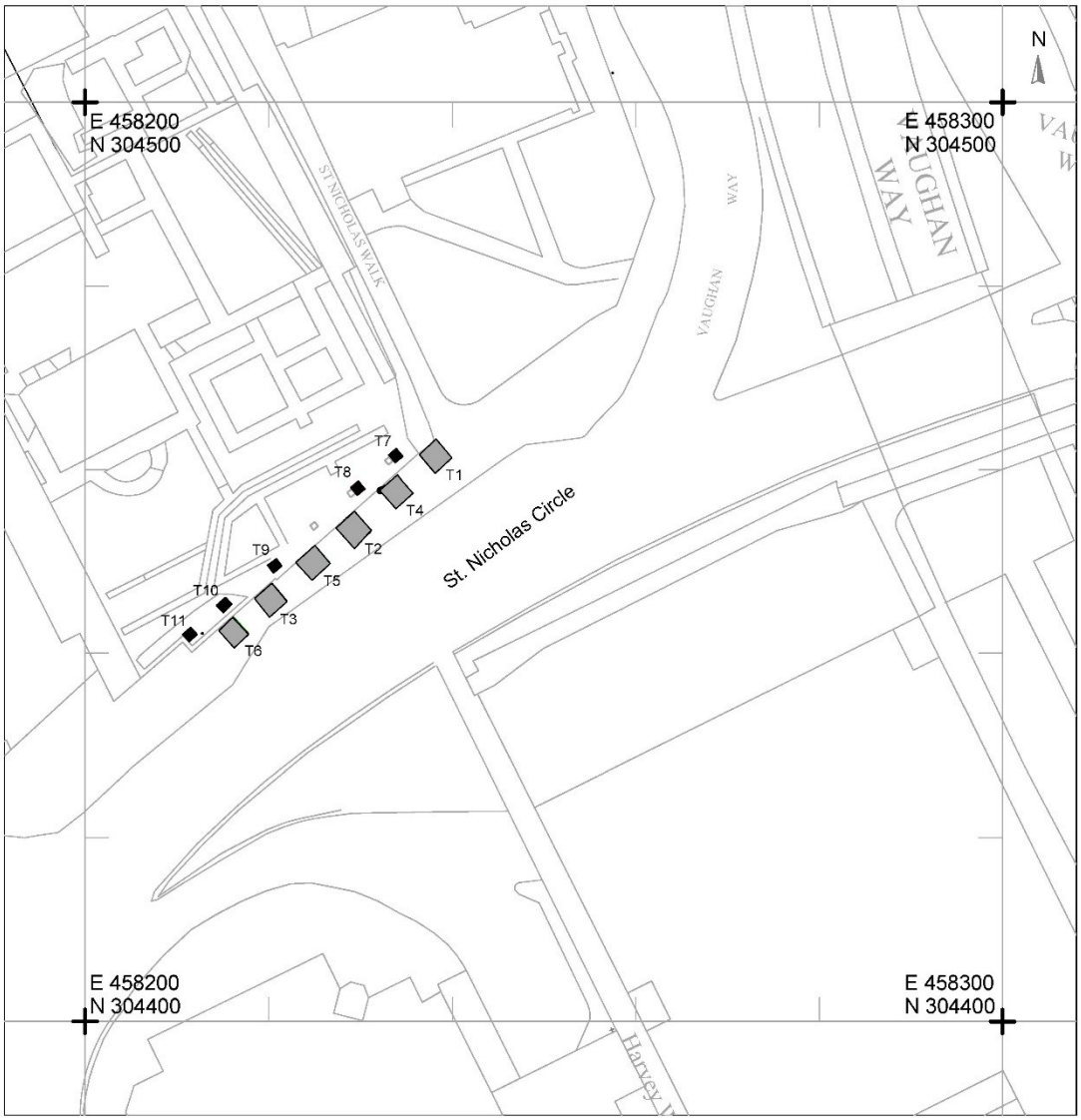

Figure 39: Trench location plan for phases 1 and 2 of the evaluation.

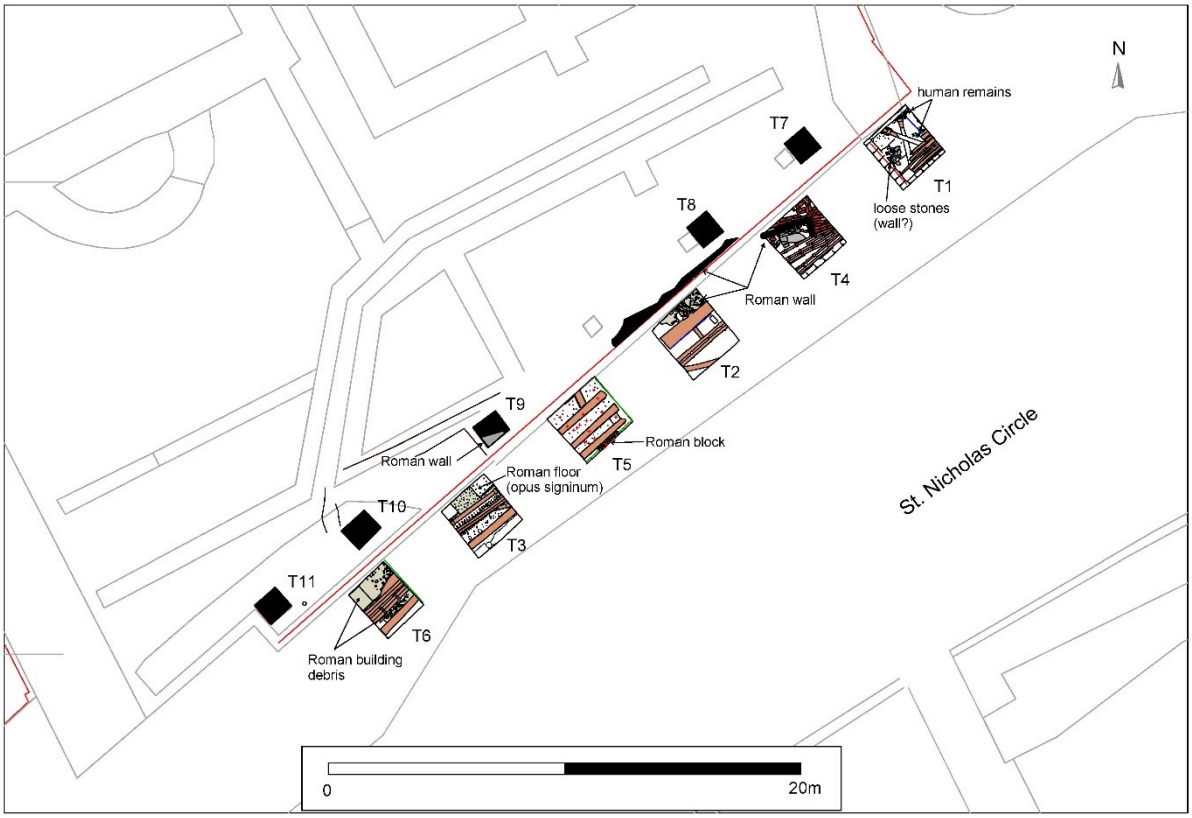

Figure 40: Detailed trench location plan for phases 1 and 2 of the evaluation.

Figure 41: Trench 7 showing the truncation from the concrete pillar

Trench 8

Trench 8 was positioned to the west of trench 7, along the eastern edge of the adjacent concrete pillar. This trench measured 1m² and had a depth ranging from 0.8m - 1.09m. The topsoil was found to be composed of a dark reddish-brown loamy silt containing loose modern bricks and stone. This was the same deposit that was encountered in trench 7 except it was much shallower ranging from 0.09m – 0.15m deep. Below the topsoil a second deposit was encountered, which consisted of a friable dark greyish-brown sandy silt with mixed loamy topsoil, clay and lenses of orange sand. This deposit was found to be the backfill from the installation of the concrete pillar and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.09m where the concrete foundations were encountered. Several artefacts were recovered from this deposit including pottery and painted wall plaster. The foundations for the concrete pillar occupied the entire area of the trench and had truncated the Victorian brick foundations visible in the south-east corner. No archaeological features were encountered in this trench.

Figure 42: Trench 8 showing the truncation from the concrete pillar

Trench 9

Trench 9 was located in the centre of the southern boundary of the site, at the corner of the southernmost east to west orientated wall and a reconstructed north to south wall. This trench measured 1.2m long by 1.1m wide and had a maximum depth of 1.15m. The topsoil encountered was a friable dark reddish-brown loamy silt containing loose modern bricks and stones with a depth between 0.10m – 0.45m. A metal pillar was found in the eastern half of the trench just below the current ground level and extended to a depth of 1.15m. This was surrounded by a mid yellowish-brown deposit consisting of loose sandy silt mixed with brick, granite, coal and tarmac fragments, which represents the backfill from the installation of the pillar. The eastern edge of the trench contained a large proportion of loose CBM and stone that extended south beneath the boundary of the site. The north to south wall was recorded during the 1936-1939 excavations as being superstructure (Kenyon 1948), however the wall encountered in trench 9 was a modern reconstructed version being composed of concrete blocks with granite pieces mortared to the top to give the effect of a stone wall. Between 0.16m – 0.3m below the

current ground level a Roman wall (66) was encountered in the southern half of the trench and found to be orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment. Wall (66) measured 0.95m high and between 0.65m – 1m long and over 0.45m wide. The visible part of the wall was found to be composed of 16 granite blocks between 0.08m – 0.35m wide, 3 tiles between 0.08m – 0.36m wide and 4 pieces of slate between 0.65m – 0.1m wide. The granite blocks were roughly squared and positioned in uneven courses between 0.1m – 0.2m in height with some smaller granite blocks, tile and slate appearing to be used as infilling. The wall was bonded with a yellowy sandy mortar that contained small pebbles. The upper course of granite blocks had two tiles mortared in position and the imprints showing the position of several more suggesting that there were at least two courses of tiles on the upper course of granite blocks. The easternmost part of the wall was found to have the remains of the Victorian houses that once occupied this part of the site still mortared to the top of it. It is unclear if wall (66) ended in the south-east corner of the trench or if it was truncated and used as part of a Victorian cellar. The wall was truncated to north-west and partly under-cut, however this may be the result of the stone being robbed. The deposit encountered in this area of the trench was the same that was found surrounding the metal post. The foundations of wall (66) were also partly undermined for the installation of the concrete foundations for the metal pillar. The north-western end of the wall was found to be sat on a small clay rich deposit (67), which had survived the extensive truncation. Deposit (67) was a mid reddish-brown colour and composed of a firm sandy clay with a few stones measuring 0.12m – 0.2m wide and >0.25m deep. This clay rich deposit had slate capping it and wall (66) appeared to be built on top of that. The excavation of this deposit was extremely difficult in the available space, however it potentially represents the remains of the foundations for wall (66).

Figure 43: Trench 9 showing wall (66) and surrounding features

Figure 44: Close up of wall (66)

Figure 45: Close up of wall (66) and deposit (67)

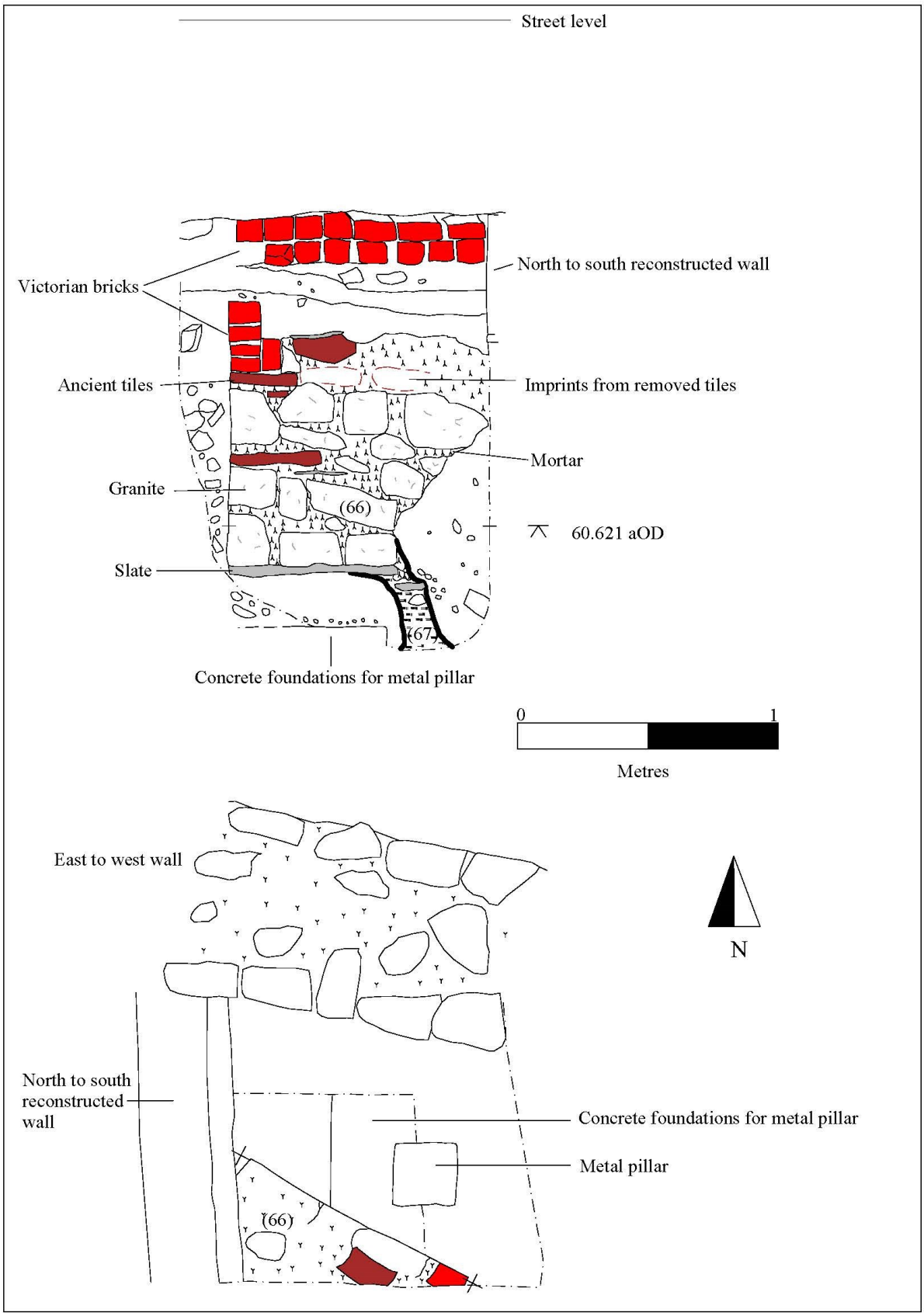

Figure 46: Section and Plan of Trench 9 showing wall (66)

Trench 10

Trench 10 was located to the west of trench 9 and was excavated through a bank that sloped to the north at an angle of about 45º. This trench measured 1m² and had a maximum depth of 1.45m and a minimum depth of 0.35m. The excavation was hindered by the remains of a beech hedge, so a baulk was left in the northern part where there was a stump and roots. The topsoil was a similar composition

to the other trenches and found to be a friable dark reddish-brown loamy silt containing a few stones, with a depth between 0.02m – 0.3m. Beneath the topsoil was a subsoil that consisted of a lens of mid reddish-brown silt containing patches of yellowish-brown sand below which was a loamy charcoal layer, which appeared to be disturbed topsoil. In addition to the modern rubbish that was found, a 1946 halfpenny was recovered from the base of the subsoil. Beneath the subsoil, a deposit was found (69) consisting of alternating layers of mid brownish-red clay with dark silt and mid greenish-brown clay silt with flecks of mortar. There were pebbles and disturbed Roman building material throughout this deposit. In addition to the Roman artefacts a fragment of medieval pottery was also recovered. The layers within deposit (69) appeared to widen and extend to the south west appearing to be the fill of a pit that was orientated at an oblique angle relative to the trench. A second deposit was found in the south-eastern corner of the trench, which was called (70). This was composed of a loose mid greenish-yellow silty sand that was slightly firmer higher in the stratigraphy. This deposit was initially thought to represent *in situ* Roman stratigraphy, however an exploratory sondage revealed (70) was actually surrounded by (69) and contained medieval pottery. Deposit (70) was therefore interpreted as another fill within a large pit.

Figure 47: Trench 10 showing deposits (69) and (70)

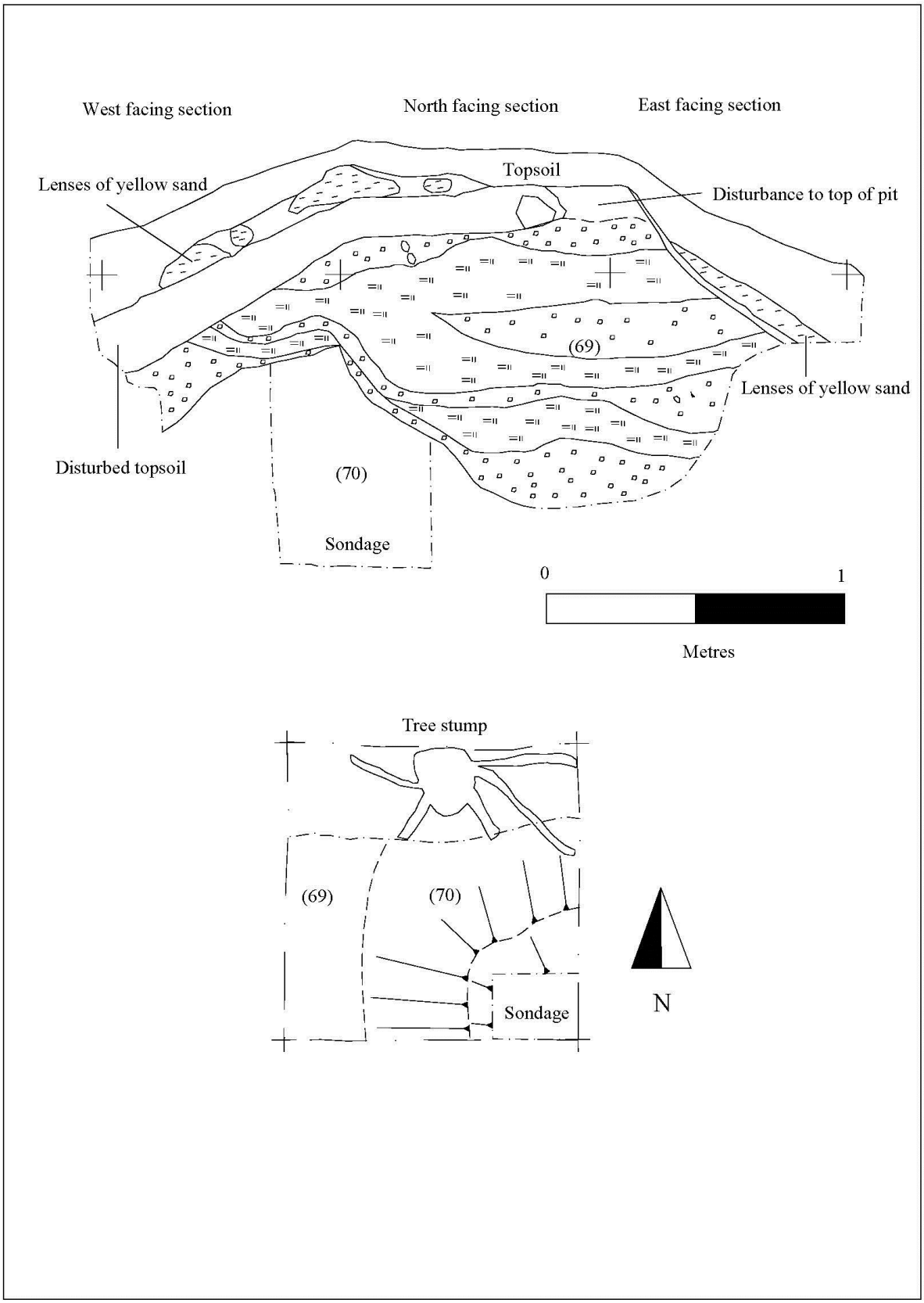

Figure 48: Section and Plan of Trench 10 showing pit fills (69) and (70)

Figure 49: Showing the sondage dug through deposit (70)

Trench 11

Trench 11 was the most westerly trench and was excavated through the same bank as trench 10. Trench 11 measured 1.10m long by 1.06m wide and had a depth ranging from 0.57m – 1.2m. The topsoil was the same as found across the trenches and was composed of a friable dark reddish-brown loamy silt with a depth ranging from 0.06m – 0.49m. This trench had a subsoil in the southern half of the trench that was composed of a friable mid greyish-brown silty sand that contained stones and CBM. This deposit ranged from 0.18m -0.2m deep and was truncated in the north by roots and the remains of the beech hedge, which is where the topsoil was found to be at its deepest. The western edge of trench 11 was occupied by a modern north to south orientated retaining wall, which was found to have a construction cut to the east that measured 0.18m wide, by 0.6m deep and was filled with concrete at its base. Within this trench two features that probably represent pits were found, with the latest being cut [71]. Only the northern edge of this feature was revealed and it had a steeply sloping edge and measured >0.78m long, by >0.72m wide, by >0.83m deep. This feature contained at least six fills with the upper fill (77) being 0.15m thick and consisting of a light yellowish-brown friable silty sand with many pebbles. The deposit beneath (78) measured 0.45m thick and was composed of a mid greyish-brown silty sand and below this a 0.14m thick layer of mid yellow-grey pebbles (79) that contained a little silt and CBM fragments was found. Beneath that a 0.11m thick layer of friable mid greenish-brown silty sand (80) was encountered and below that a 0.08m thick sandstone and mortar rich layer with a little silty sand (81) was present. The lowest fill found in pit [71] was >0.15m thick and composed of a friable mid greyish-brown sandy silt (82). This feature contained much disturbed Roman building material throughout the layers, but could be contemporary with the medieval or post medieval activity seen in trench 10. Pit [71] truncated a second pit [72], which was found in the north-east corner of the trench. Pit [72] measured 0.56m long, by 0.38m wide, by 0.63m deep and had a steeply sloping western edge. The feature contained a single fill composed of a friable dark yellowish-brown clay silt containing disturbed Roman building material and Roman pottery. Pit [72] was found to truncate three earlier deposits situated in the north-west corner. The upper layer (73) was 0.34m

thick and consisted of a friable light greyish-brown silty sand that contained ash, charcoal, Roman pottery and Roman building materials. In addition to the artefacts this layer also contained oyster and mussel shell fragments. Beneath this a light greyish-green deposit (74) measuring 0.22m thick and composed of smooth friable clay silt was found. This layer contained charcoal and small pebbles along with Roman pottery. Below this deposit a light greenish-brown sandy silt (75) measuring >0.03m thick and containing a small amount of clay and pebbles was visible in the base of the trench.

Figure 50: Trench 11 showing pit [71] truncating pit [72]

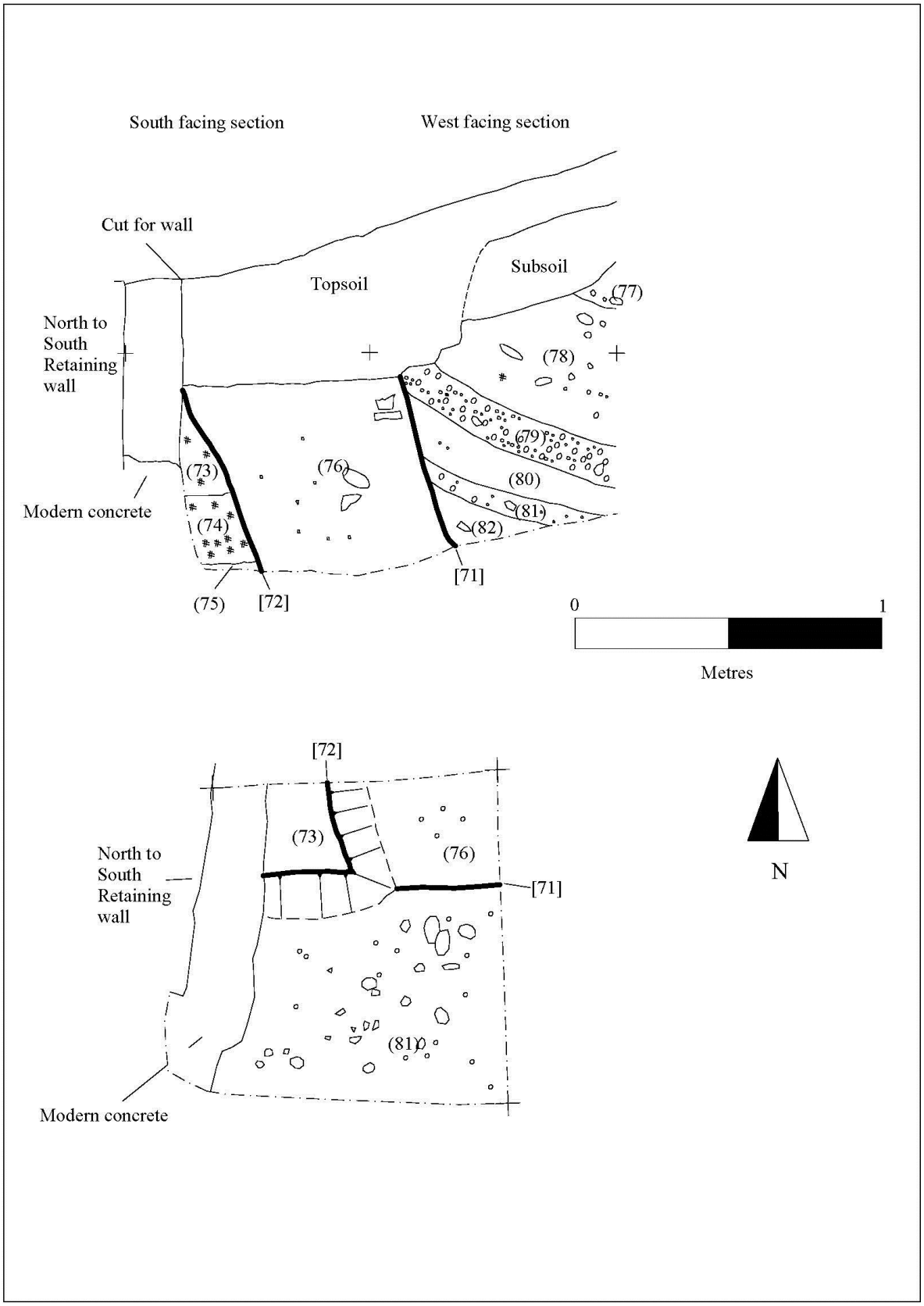

Figure 51: Section and Plan of Trench 11

Figure 52: Showing pit [72] truncating deposit (73)

Conclusion

The trenches were found to contain a varying degree of modern disturbance with the eastern half containing the largest amount of truncation and no archaeological features were encountered. Wall (66) located in trench 9 was Roman and unusual due to its north-west to south-east orientation. The wall was partly resting on deposit (67), which appeared to be the truncated remains of clay rich foundations. The presence of this deposit implies that although the wall had been heavily truncated at the ends, and partially undermined by the modern metal pillar, the surviving part of (66) could be *in situ.* If this wall is an additional part to the Jewry wall complex, the orientation suggests it could represent a small piece of an apsidal wall or perhaps more likely the remains of a drain. The drains at Jewry wall are often orientated north-west to south-east or north-east to south-west and generally on a different orientation to the walls (with the exception of apsidal walls). Wall (66) has been previously found during the construction of the metal pillar, but was not recorded. This wall is also absent from the original excavation plans by Kenyon and general photographs of the site suggest it may be either outside the limit of excavation or obscured by a baulk positioned between the east to west wall and the road. The bank that trenches 10 and 11 were excavated through is also visible on the general site photographs from the 1930s excavation. This area can be shown to consist of pits that contain Roman artefacts and building material, with at least one of them dating to the medieval period.

Overall, the results of the second phase evaluation suggest that the revised location of the pile foundations should cause minimal damage to burtied archaeological remains. However, care will need to be taken with the precise location of the pile in trenmch 9 to avoid the surviving Roman wall.

Figure 53: General site photograph from 1930's excavation (Kenyon 1948)

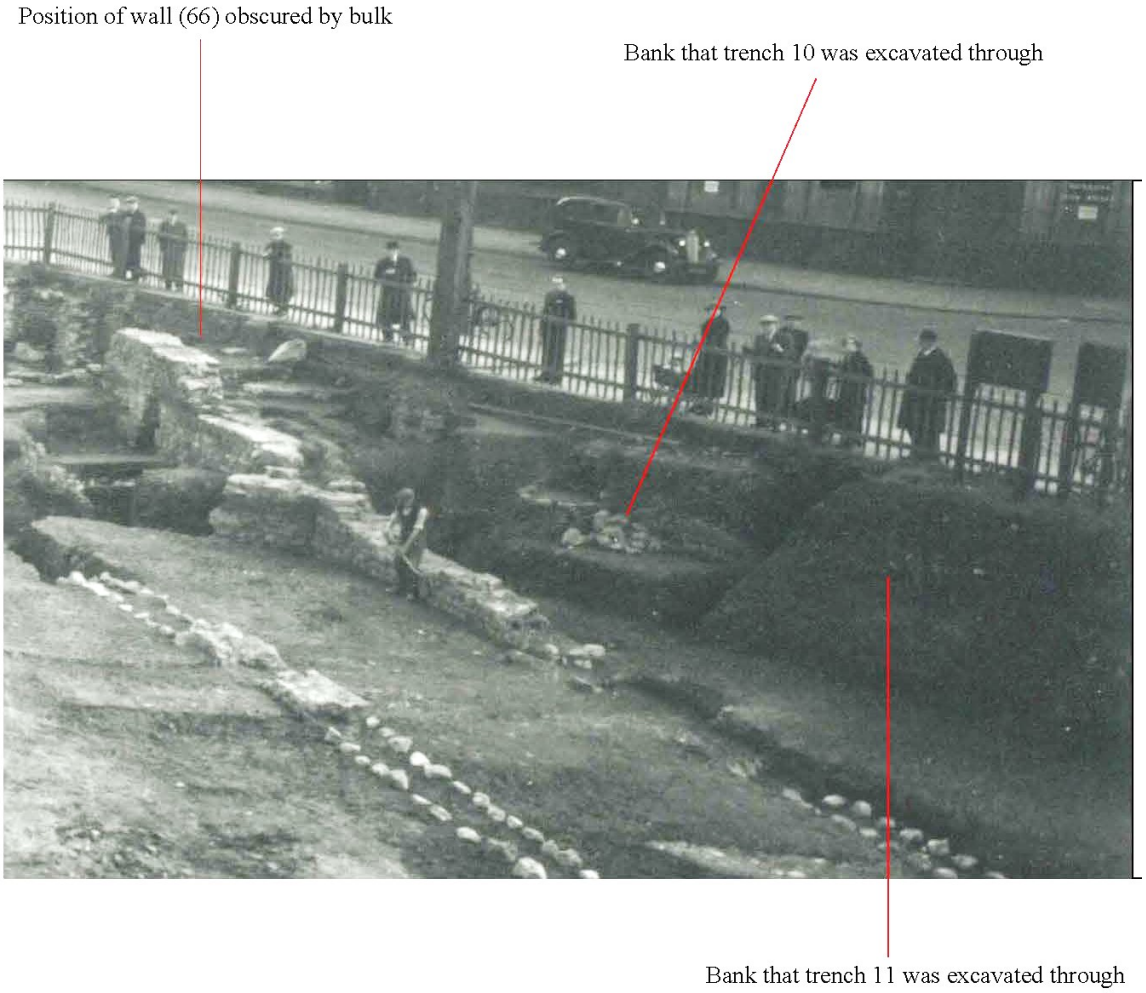

Figure 54: Close up of the boundary with positions of trenches and walls (Kenyon 1948)

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Finds

The Roman Pottery from Trenches 7-11 (by Elizabeth Johnson)

Assemblage Size and Condition

An assemblage comprising 27 sherds (652g) of Romano-British pottery was retrieved from the excavation of five 2.5m square test pits directly underneath a pavement adjacent to the Jewry Wall bath house remains. The average sherd weight of 24.1g suggests good levels of preservation overall.

Methodology

The pottery was classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series (Pollard 1994) and quantified by sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs using rims) as shown in the catalogue below. Vessel forms were also assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed. The fabric names have been given in the catalogue rather than the codes from the fabric series for clarity.

Catalogue

TP	Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Shds	Wgt (g)	EVEs	Dating
7		Subsoil	NV colour coat	Bowl	1	38	0.075	4thC
7		Subsoil	Hadham oxidised ware	Jar/flask	1	9	0.16	3rd-4thC
7		Subsoil	Grey ware	Jar	2	38		2ndC+
8		Subsoil	Oxidised ware	Flagon	1	17		2ndC+
8		Subsoil	Grey ware	Jar	3	62		2ndC+
9		Subsoil	Grey ware	Bowl	1	55	0.18	2ndC+
10	68	69	South Gaulish samian	Bowl/dish	1	7		mid-late1stC
10	68	69	Sandy ware	Jar	1	21		mid-late1stC
10	68	70	Shelly ware	Jar	1	5		1st-2ndC
10	68	70	Grey ware	Jar	1	8		late1st-2ndC+
11		Subsoil	NV colour coat	Flagon	1	10		3rdC+
11		Subsoil	Harrold shelly ware	Jar	1	9		3rd-4thC
11		73	Central Gaulish samian	Bowl	1	7	0.14	2ndC
11		73	Oxidised ware	Jar/flagon	1	17		2ndC+
11		73	Grey ware	Jar/beaker	1	14	0.12	2ndC
11		73	Grey ware (BB1 copy)	Bowl	2	48	0.15	mid/late2nd-mid3rdC

11		73	Grey ware	Jar/beaker	1	8		late1st-2ndC+
11		73	Grey ware	Jar/bowl	1	4		late1st-2ndC+
11	72	76	Grey ware (BB1 copy)	Jar	1	110		2ndC+
11	71	78	NV mortarium	Mortarium	1	58	0.1	mid3rd-4thC
11	71	78	Grey ware	Jar	2	81		2ndC+
11	71	79	Grey ware (BB1 copy)	Bowl	1	26	0.075	mid3rd-4thC

Test Pit 7
Four sherds (85g) of pottery were recovered from the subsoil layer of Test Pit 7, representing four separate vessels. A Nene Valley colour-coated ware bead and flanged bowl dates to the 4th century, whilst a Much Hadham oxidised ware narrow-mouthed jar or flask dates from the middle of the 3rd century into the 4th century (Howe *et al* 1980, 24-25; Tyres 1996, 168-169). Two grey ware jars with burnished line decoration dating from the 2nd century onwards are also present.

Test Pit 8
Four sherds (79g) of pottery were recovered from the subsoil layer of Test Pit 8, representing two vessels. The material comprises an oxidised ware flagon and a grey ware jar with burnished lattice decoration, both dating from the 2nd century onwards.

Test Pit 9
One sherd (55g) of pottery was recovered from the subsoil layer of Test Pit 9. The vessel is a grey ware flat rimmed bowl with burnished surfaces dating within the 2nd century.

Test Pit 10
Four sherds (41g) of pottery were recovered from [68] (69) and (70). The two sherds (28g) of pottery from (69) comprise a South Gaulish samian ware dish or bowl and a sandy ware "Belgic-style" burnished globular small jar. Both vessels date to the mid-late 1st century (Pollard 1994, 74-75, 113; Webster 1996, 2-3). Two sherds of Post-Roman pottery were also present in (69). The two sherds (13g) of pottery from (70) comprise a shelly ware jar dating from the mid/late 1st to 2nd centuries and a grey ware jar with burnished lattice decoration dating from the late 1st-2nd century onwards.

Test Pit 11
Test Pit 11 revealed the largest group of material, with 14 sherds (392g) of pottery recovered. Two sherds (19g) of pottery were recovered from the subsoil layer, comprising a Nene Valley colour-coated ware flagon and a South Midlands shelly ware jar comparable to those from the Harrold industries in Bedfordshire (Brown 1994). Nene Valley colour-coated ware flagons most commonly date to the 3rd and 4th centuries, though there is mounting evidence for production from the later 2nd century onwards (Perrin 1999, 98). Six sherds of Post-Roman pottery were also recovered from the subsoil layer.

Seven sherds (98g) of pottery were recovered from (73), comprising samian ware and grey ware. The samian ware Drag.37 bowl is from Central Gaul and dates within the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 47-48). The grey wares represent a bowl, two jars and a small jar or beaker. The bowl is flat rimmed with burnished intersecting arc decoration comparable with Black Burnished ware forms dating from the mid-late 2nd to the middle of the 3rd century (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 109). The fabric is similar to Black Burnished ware, but the vessel is wheel-thrown. The small jar or beaker has an everted cornice-type rim and dates within the 2nd century. The remaining two jars includes a globular form with burnished surfaces and date from the late 1st-2nd century onwards. A

complete grey ware jar base weighing 110g was recovered from [72] (76). As with the bowl from (73), the fabric is similar to Black Burnished ware and the outer surfaces are burnished, however the vessel is wheel-thrown. The vessel is not particularly closely datable and a date from the middle of the 2nd century onwards is all that can be given.

Three sherds (139g) of pottery were recovered from [71] (78), comprising an abraded Nene Valley mortarium and two grey ware jars. The mortarium is a reeded hammerhead form dating from the middle of the 3rd century to the middle of the 4th century (Rollo 1991, 19-27). One of the grey ware jars is burnished and both date from the 2nd century onwards. One sherd (26g) from a grey ware bead and flanged bowl was recovered from [71] (79). Again, the fabric is close to Black Burnished ware but the vessel is wheel-thrown. There are also traces of intersecting arc decoration comparable to Black Burnished ware types (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 109-110), however the shape does not match the straight-sided conical Black Burnished ware bead and flanged bowl form, but has slightly more rounded sides. The Black Burnished ware bead and flanged bowl dates from *c.*AD270 onwards (*Ibid*), and grey ware bead and flanged bowls date from *c.*AD250 onwards in general (Pollard 1986, 5).

Discussion

The assemblage is small, which is unsurprising given the nature of the evaluation excavations. However in spite of this, a variety of fabrics are present. The later suite of pottery is represented by Nene Valley colour-coated wares, Much Hadham oxidised wares and Harrold shelly wares, along with a later mortarium form. The earliest material came from Test Pit 10, [68] (69), dating to the mid-late 1st century. The remaining material could date within the 2nd century or could be later. The other fabrics present include samian, grey, oxidised and shelly wares all of which are common in Leicester urban assemblages. This mix is not unusual in Leicester, as it served as the *civitas capital* of the region. The location of the excavations, adjacent to the Jewry Wall bath house and close to another known building of high status that once housed the Peacock Mosaic, makes this an area of great interest.

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The Post Roman Ceramic Finds From Test Pits 7-12 at the Jewry Wall Site, Leicester (by Debbie Sawday)

The pottery, 11 sherds, weighing 131 grams, was examined under an x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Sawday 2009)).

The results are shown below (table 1) and echo those from the previous evaluation. Earlier excavations on the Roman baths had also revealed extensive activity, including occupation, in the middle ages. The pottery from the two current evaluations suggest that the robbing of the Roman buildings had taken place from the twelfth century as suggested by Dunning (1948), if not slightly earlier.
Bearing in mind the lack of published records of the medieval levels previously examined on the site, the current excavations may offer the opportunity for a more detailed examination of what has survived.

Table 7: The medieval and later pottery and tile by fabric, sherd numbers and weight (grams) and misc. finds - by context.

Context	Fabric/ware	No.	Gr	
POTTERY				
U/S TP9	NO – Nottingham Glazed ware	1	11	1230-1300+
U/S TP9	SW – Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	12	Modern
69[68] TP10	PM – Potters Marston	2	15	13th C+
76[72] TP11	CC1 - Chilvers Coton A ware	1	6	highly fired – reduced, 14th C
U/S TP11	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	1	12	c.1050-1200
U/S TP11	TO – Torksey type	1	16	c.850-1200
U/S TP11	RS- Reduced Sandy	2	13	c.850-c.1200
U/S TP11	OS – Oxidised Sandy ware	1	39	c.1100-1250
U/S TP11	PM	1	7	12th – 13th C.

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Sawday, D., 2009**,** 'The medieval and post medieval pottery and tile' in J. Coward and G. Speed, *Urban Life in Leicester: An Archaeological Excavation at Freeschool Lane*. Vol 2 *Specialist Reports* ULAS Report No.2009-140, v2**,** 36-182.

Site/ Parish: Jewry Wall, Leicester	Submitter: G. Speed
Accession No.: A7 2016	Identifier: D. Sawday
Document Ref: jewrywall2.docx	Date of Identification: 01.12.2016
Material: post roman pot/tile	Method of Recovery: test pit evaluation
Site Type: med town	Job Number: 16-050

A7.2016 - An Evaluation of the Plaster and Mortar from Test Pits 7-12 at Jewry Wall, Leicester. (by Heidi Addison)

A total of 262g of plaster and mortar was recovered from four contexts. The material was weighed by context and type as seen in Table 1 below.

Table 8 Plaster and mortar from test pits 7-12: Results

Context	Weight (g)	Description
69	8	Opus signinum- fine plaster with tile dust
70	66	Opus signinum with tile fragments.
73	16	Light beige painted wall plaster - lime washed intonaco. Opus signinum plaster.
	48	Opus signinum mortar . Lime wash facing.
UlS TP8	37	Painted wall plaster-2 grey/blue fragments-sandy lime mortar with tile dust.
	34	Painted wall plaster-2 dark grey fragments-smooth-light buff sandy mortar.
	22	Painted wall plaster-1 light grey fragment-tile dust mortar.
	15	Painted wall plaster-2 red fragments, 1 is abraded on lime wash intonaco – sandy buff mortar.
	15	Painted wall plaster- lime washed fragment-hay/straw impression on reverse. Light buff sandy mortar.
	1	Painted wall plaster-1 vibrant turquoise fragment-fine pink mortar.
Totals	262g	

A total of 262g of painted wall plaster and mortar was present in contexts (69), (70), (73) and in an unstratified context in test pit 8. The assemblage comprises mostly of opus signinum, which occurs either as a filling mortar with inclusions made up of distinctive fragments of tile or pottery, or as a refined plaster mix made up of tiles ground up into a fine dust for facing. This material is usually reserved for protecting surfaces that are likely to encounter damp such as the base of a dado. The sample is too small to comment usefully on any decorative schemes which might have been present in the building.

Roman Ceramic Tile, Tesserae and other finds from trenches 7-12 Jewry Wall A7.2016 (by Nicholas J. Cooper)

Introduction
A very small assemblage of only eight fragments (865g) of Roman ceramic tile was recovered from fills (69) and (70) of cut [68] in Test Pit 10 and context (73) in Test Pit 11 with three unstratified. The assemblage was recorded by type and quantified by fragment count and weight, and diagnostic samples were retained in the finds archive, as indicated below (Table 1).

Analysis
All the Roman tile occurred in the typical sandy brick fabrics found across Roman Leicester, and no detailed fabric analysis has been undertaken on this small assemblage. Analysis by type is presented below (Table 1).

Table 9 Roman ceramic tile

Roman Ceramic Tile Jewry Wall A7.2016						
Cut	Context	Type	Frags	Weight	Quantified record of Roman tile Retain?	Comment
68	69	misc	3	340	select	Unusual cut out
68	70	imbrex	1	230	Yes	
TP11	73	imbrex	1	90	no	
TP11	US	flue	1	100	Yes	reused
TP11	US	misc	2	105	no	
Total			**8**	**865**		

Discussion

The material probably represents redeposited demolition debris from the baths building or nearby structures and is in very fragmented condition; some of the material clearly having been reused, with mortar across broken surfaces. Two fragments of curving imbrex roof tile were recorded and a single, unusually thick (25mm) fragment of flue tile which may suggest use in the baths. The unidentified material from (69) includes a fragment which curves in the manner of a large imbrex or ridge tile, but which is sanded on both surfaces, has one knife-trimmed straight edge and part of a knife-trimmed circular or ovoid cut out. This was clearly a purpose made piece but the function is unclear.

Tesserae

Evidence for tessellated flooring was provided by an assemblage of ten tesserae from the same three contexts as the tile (69) and (70) in test Pit 10 and (73) in test Pit 11, with two unstratified in Trenches 8 and 11. Three sizes are represented, each employing a different material, all of which are typical to Leicester. The largest (four examples), with edge lengths of up to 30mm are manufactured from re-used ceramic tile. The medium-sized tesserae (three examples) with sides of up to 25mm are manufactured from the local Danehills grey sandstone. Typically these tesserae usually occur in the same size as the tile ones and are used together in corridor paving or surrounding mosaic panels. The smallest (three examples) with sides of 10-15mm are manufactured from chalk, and would have been used in more detailed mosaic work. All the tesserae have been retained in the archive

Other finds

Context (70) from Test Pit 10 yielded a single small mammal bone. Context (73) in Test Pit 11 contained a single small mammal bone, a single marine oyster shell and Roman nail shaft fragment of |Manning Type 1b (equivalent to a modern two inch carpentry nail). A 1945 penny was recovered from the subsoil of Test Pit 10. None of these finds have been retained in the archive.

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