



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological
Evaluation at
Jewry Wall Museum,
Welles Street, Leicester
NGR: SK 58191 04509**

Jennifer Browning


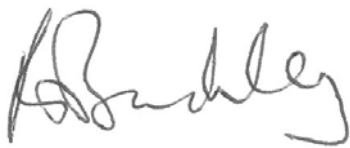


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**For:
Leicester City Council**

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CONTENTS

Summary	1
Introduction.....	1
Site Description, Topography and Geology.....	2
Archaeological and Historical Background.....	1
Aims and Objectives.....	3
Methods.....	6
Results.....	1
Trench 1	1
Trench 2	4
Trench 3	4
Discussion and Conclusions	6
Archive and Publications	9
Acknowledgements.....	9
Bibliography	9
Appendix 1: The Pottery by Elizabeth Johnson.....	11
Appendix 2: Roman Ceramic Building Material by Jenni McNulty.....	13
Appendix 3: Painted Wall Plaster and Mortar by Heidi Addison.....	13
Appendix 4: The Animal Bones by Jennifer Browning.....	14
Appendix 5: OASIS Data Entry.....	15

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location (circled).....	3
Figure 2: Proposed Development Area circled. Location of earlier phase of work also marked.....	1
Figure 3: Proposed development area with evaluation trench locations.....	1
Figure 4: Trench location plan.....	2
Figure 5: Kenyon's plan superimposed on trench locations.....	3
Figure 6: View of excavated Trench 1.....	2
Figure 7: North end of Trench 1 showing in situ Roman masonry (1m scale).....	3
Figure 8: View of central part of Trench 1, showing pits [6] and [8] (1m and 0.5m scales).....	3
Figure 9: South end of Trench 1, showing robber trench [10], pit [12] and pit [8].....	4
Figure 10: Plan of Trench 1, showing extent of concrete and archaeological features .	1
Figure 11: Section showing robber trench [10] and early pit [12].....	2
Figure 12: East and south facing sections at the north end of Trench 1	3
Figure 13: Trench 2 following excavation (0.5m scale).....	4
Figure 14: Trench 3 following excavation, showing compact mortar layer at the base of the trench	5
Figure 15: View of Trench 5 (1m scale).....	6
Figure 16: Archive photos of the Jewry Wall site, following consolidation and reconstruction. The portico walls beneath the current classroom can be seen on the left of the photograph	8
Figure 17: Archive photo, looking west.	8
Figure 18: Archive photo looking east over the ruins towards St Nicholas church	8

An Archaeological Evaluation at Jewry Wall Museum, Welles Street, Leicester, (NGR SK 58191 04509)

Jennifer Browning

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services undertook the hand-excavation of four trial trenches of varying size in the car park at the Jewry Wall Museum, Leicester (NGR SK 58191 04509). The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Remains of Roman Bathhouse, Palaestra and Anglo-Saxon Church: List entry 1013312). The work investigated the depth and preservation of archaeological deposits beneath the extant raised classroom block at Vaughan College, to establish how they might be affected by the construction of a new classroom beneath it. The work took place in an area originally excavated in the 1930s (Kenyon 1948), later occupied by Vaughan College. The area was subject to previous archaeological interventions in the late 1990s.

Despite heavy truncation and disturbance associated with the construction of Vaughan College, the work revealed areas of surviving archaeology below the car park make-up layers. Trench 1 was the largest trench, measuring 6 x 2m, and it located remains associated with two parallel walls excavated by Kenyon-part of the 'northern shops' which are believed to be pre-Bathhouse. The trench also revealed a series of pits representing both Roman and modern activity as well as intact buried soil/trample layers. Trench 3 located a compact mortar deposit, surviving beneath modern disturbance, although the nature of this feature was unclear. Although most of the finds from the site were recovered from mixed and redeposited contexts, the date range of the pottery, from the mid-late 1st to mid- 2nd century is consistent with earlier archaeological work on this part of the site, which indicates activity pre-dating the construction of the Baths c. 130 AD. Evidence for modern services and concrete foundations restricted the excavation of trenches close to the entrance to the modern building.

The work follows a previous trial trench investigation at the southern end of the site, bordering onto St. Nicholas Circle (Speed 2016). The site archive will be held by Leicester Museums Service, under accession number A.3.2017.

Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out within the car park at Jewry Wall Museum Leicester (NGR SK 58191 04509), as part of evaluative investigations to assess the archaeological impact of the construction of a new room beneath the raised classroom block of the former Vaughan College. The work was commissioned by Leicester City Council.

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 installation of the proposed new room under the existing former Vaughan College classroom block has the potential to destroy or damage buried archaeological remains associated with the Jewry Wall Scheduled Monument. It is estimated that that the new floor slab will require excavation to 400mm in the middle and 550mm at the edges, plus hardcore and blinding (S. Earney pers. comm.). This is a level below the existing museum lower ground floor level. 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. A strategy for the work was set out in the Written Scheme for Investigation (Buckley and Speed 2016).

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 area currently under consideration is located at the northern end of the site, in particular, beneath the existing classroom block. The area is surfaced with paving blocks and currently serves as a car park for the museum. The exposed, consolidated and reconstructed ruins are located to the south of the proposed development area.

The Geological survey of Britain notes that the bedrock geology consisted of mudstone of the Branscombe Mudstone Formation, while the superficial deposits consist of Wanlip member sand and gravel. The site occupies *c.* 500m² and lies at a height of *c.* 63m OD.

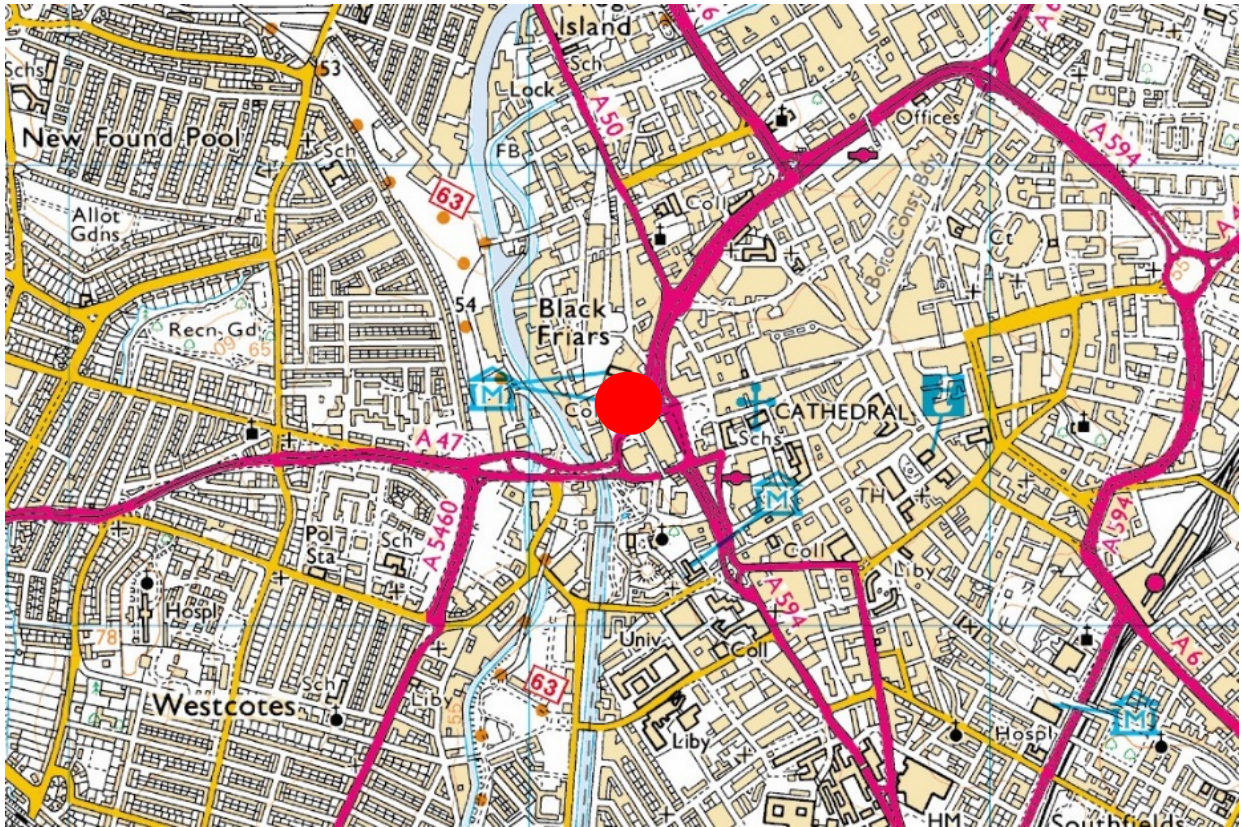


Figure 1: Site Location (circled)

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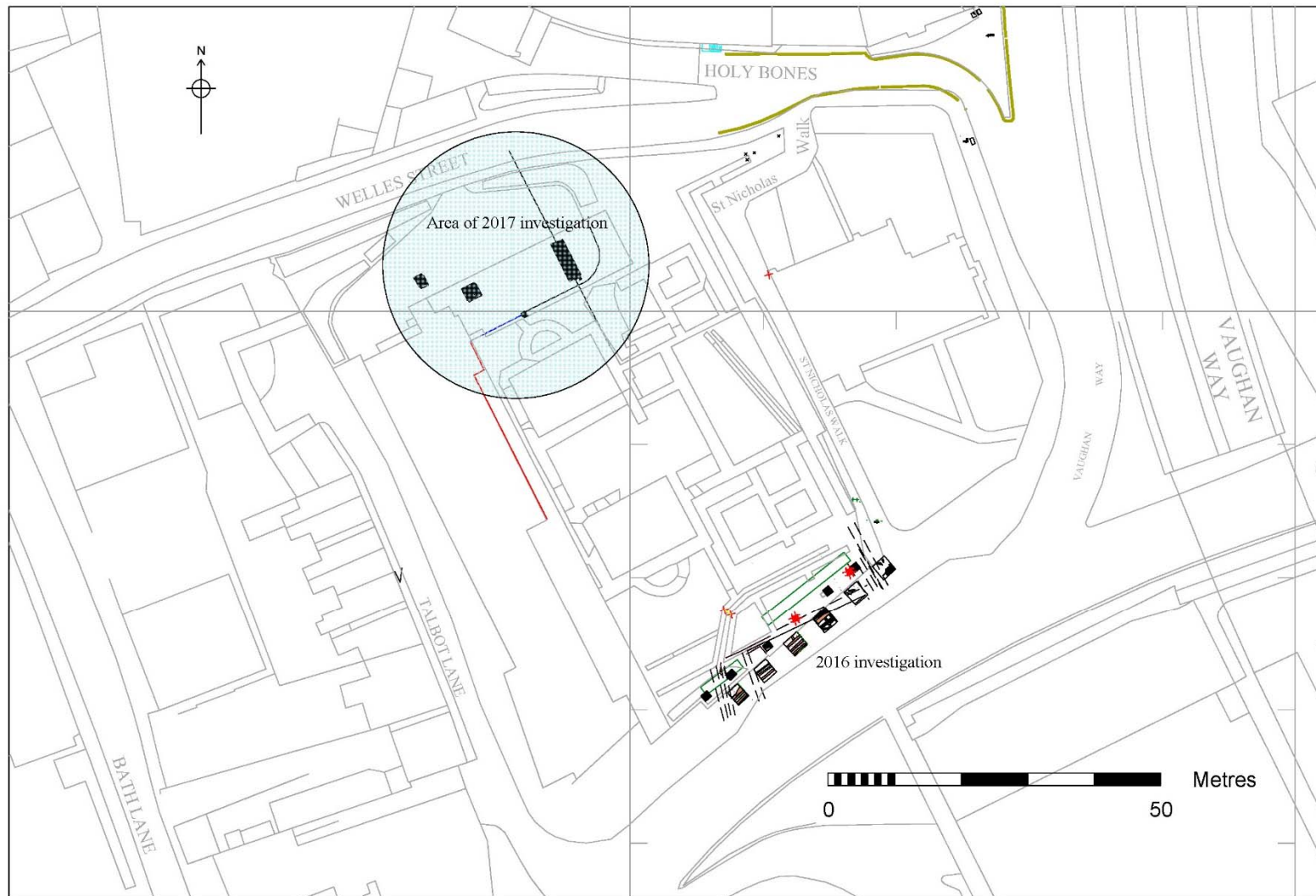


Figure 2: Proposed Development Area circled. Location of earlier phase of work also marked.

Archaeological and Historical Background

The proposed development is located within the historic core of Roman and medieval Leicester and, 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 classroom lies on the northern edge of the Roman bath house and palaestra. Upstanding Roman masonry and foundations are evident immediately to the south of the area, however, levelling associated with the construction of the existing classroom and car park are likely to have affected archaeological survival.

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 Corieltavorum. 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 Corieltavorum. The visible remains of the bath house are represented by a mixture of consolidated surviving masonry, reconstruction (the hypocaust bases, for example, are all modern replicas) and the delineation of robber trenches 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 semi-circular 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.

Previous Work (after Speed 2016)

The Jewry Wall, one of the largest fragments of standing Roman masonry in the country, was visible up to 19th century, although 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. Four seasons of excavations were carried out prior to the proposed redevelopment from 1936 to 1939, led by Kathleen Kenyon (Kenyon 1948). During the 1960s and 1970s the surrounding area underwent major redevelopment, and numerous excavations, many carried out 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.

More recently, at the north-end of the ruins, close to the current investigation, an evaluation in 1997 and watching brief in 1998 revealed 1st and 2nd century features (Gnanaratnam 1997, 1999). A watching brief in a similar location in 2004 revealed no archaeological features, but many finds of Roman date (Hunt 2004). In 2016 two phases of trial trenching located archaeological evidence consisting of Roman, medieval, and post-medieval archaeology (Speed 2016; Accession number A7 2016). A second phase of evaluation was subsequently undertaken at the revised location for the proposed ramp. 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 and 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. 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.

Aims and Objectives

The objectives are as set out in the ULAS *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ULAS 2016) for the previous evaluative trial holes bordering St Nicholas Circle whilst the methodology was agreed by Historic England on behalf of the Secretary of State, DCMS as additional detailing (rather than formal variation) further to condition (i) to the existing evaluation consent. Within

the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development. The work was monitored by both Historic England and the Leicester City Archaeologist (on behalf of the planning authority).

The aims of the individual trial holes excavated by ULAS to evaluate the impact of the proposed new floor under the existing Vaughan College classroom block were:

- T1: To excavate across the line of the two walls found by Kenyon, to investigate survival and depth,
- T2: To expose foundations of the brick wall adjacent to the classroom.
- T3: To target the line of wall found by Kenyon
- T4. To investigate features found by Kenyon
- T5. To investigate the foundations of the lift extension

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 Roman 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)?

All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014), and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014). All exploratory and mitigation work was considered in light of the East Midlands Research Framework (Cooper ed. 2006) and strategy (Knight *et al.* 2012), along with targeting national research aims.

Methods

Fieldwork was carried out in March 2017 and involved the hand excavation of four evaluation trenches across the potential development area to target the locations of the proposed buildings, as well as potential archaeological deposits. A fifth trench (Trench 4) was planned but not excavated, as it was located on an extant access route in front of the lift and doorway to Vaughan College, which are still in use.

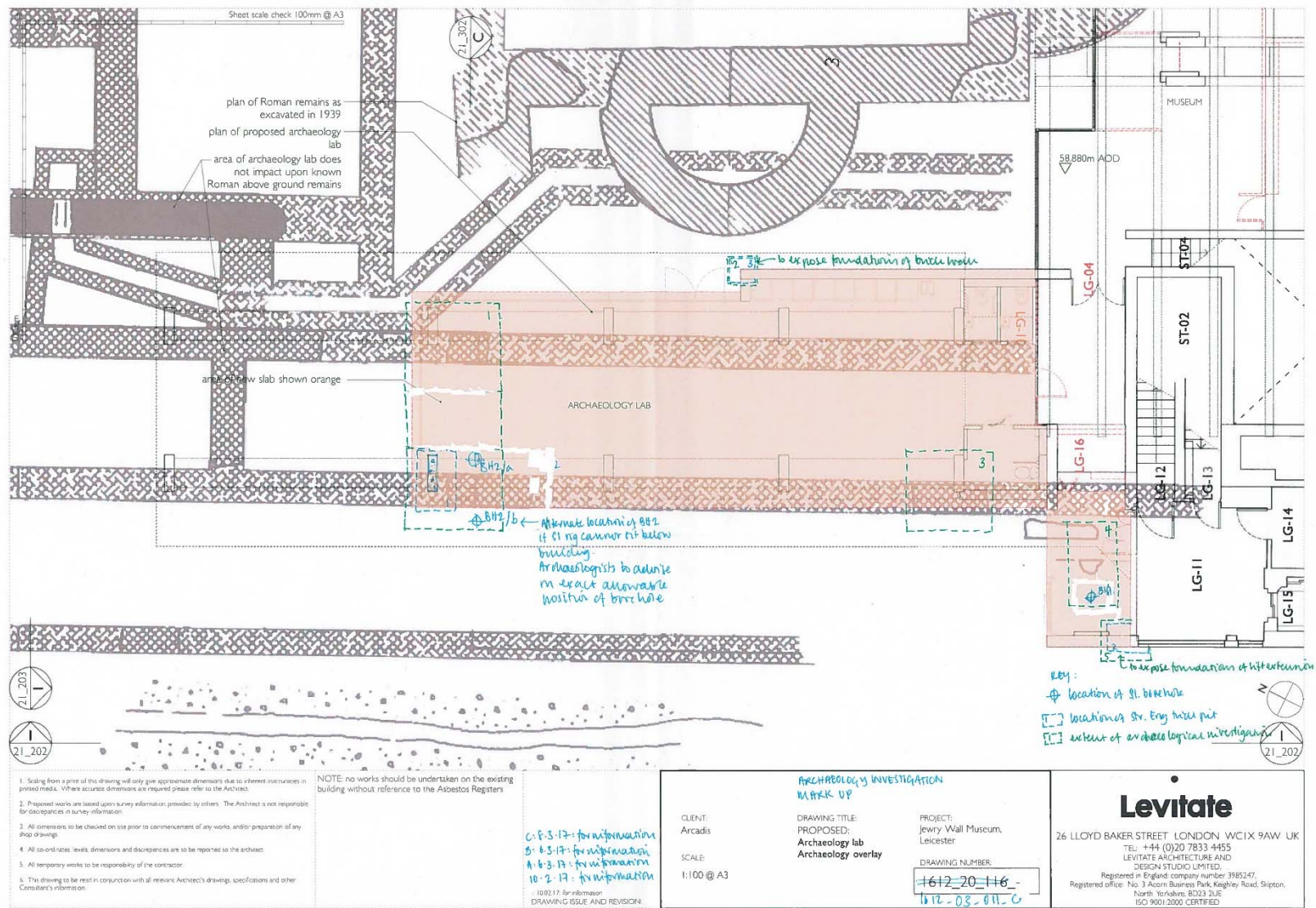


Figure 3: Proposed development area with evaluation trench locations

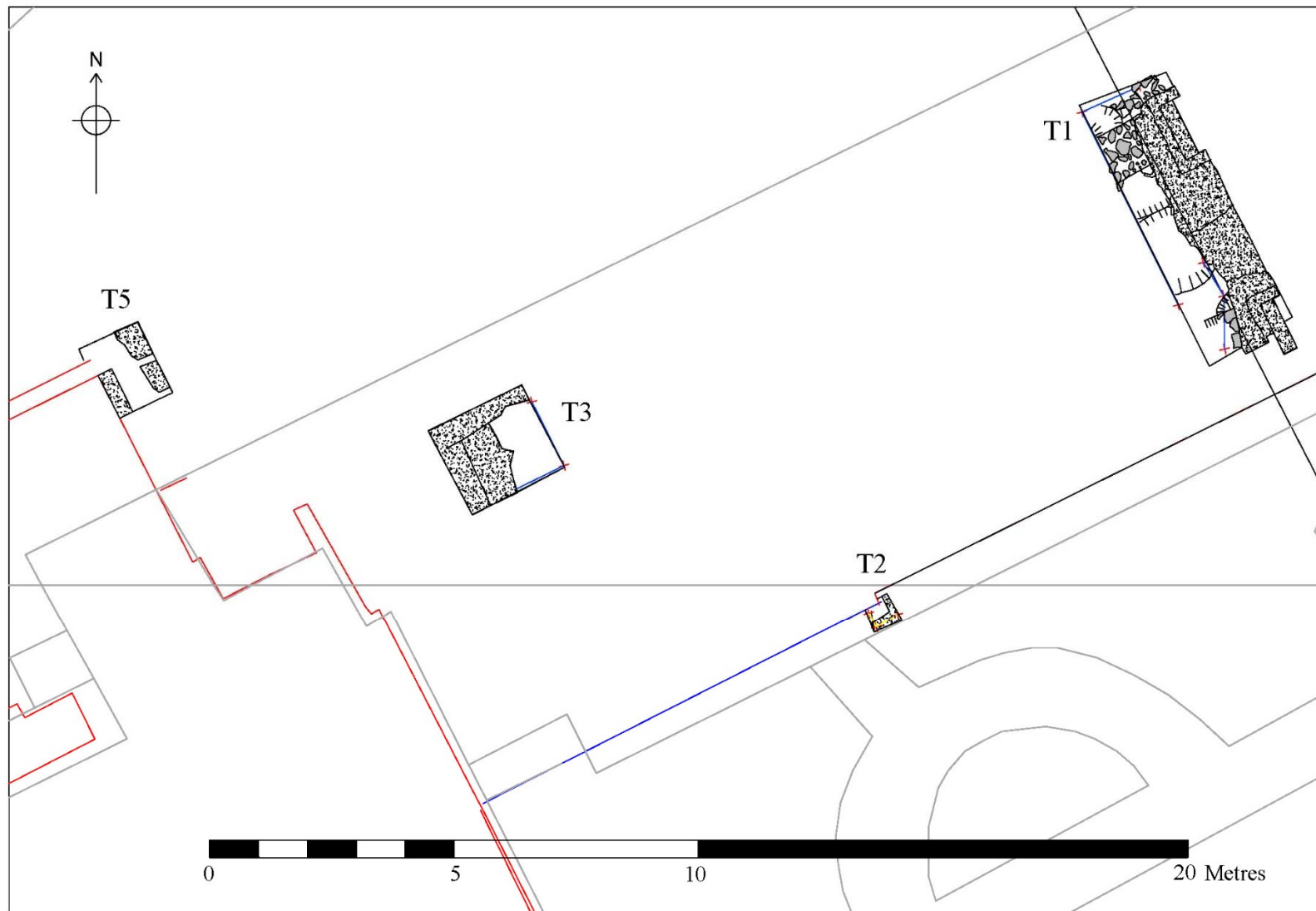


Figure 4: Trench location plan

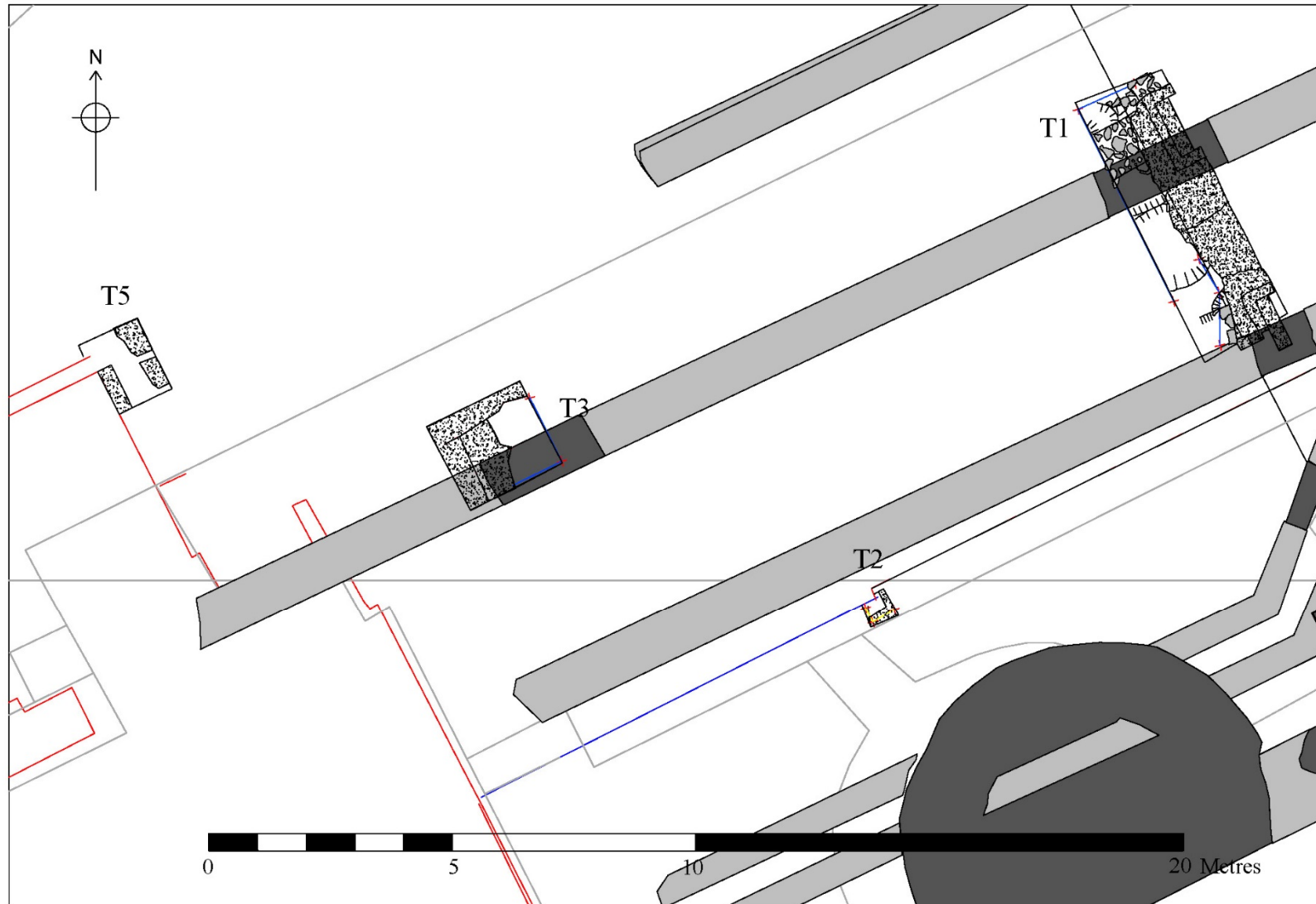


Figure 5:Kenyon's plan superimposed on trench locations

Results

Four trenches were excavated in the car park of Vaughan College.

Table 1: Trench Descriptions

TRENCH	ORIENTATION	LENGTH (m)	WIDTH (m)	MAXIMUM DEPTH	DEPTH TO TOP OF ARCHAEOLOGY (m below ground surface and m OD)
1	N-S	6.00m	2.00m	1.10m	0.65m; 58.38m OD
2	E-W	0.67m	0.60m	0.40m	Possible archaeology 0.39m, 58.60m OD
3	N-S	2.30m	1.95m	0.92m	0.76m; 58.07m OD
4					NOT EXCAVATED
5	NE-SW	1.60m	1.40m	0.38m	-

Trench 1

Trench 1 was the largest trial hole measuring 6m by 2m and was excavated to a minimum depth of 0.2m and a maximum of 1.1m. It was located directly to the southeast of two stanchions and included their foundations. As a result the north-western extent of the trench was limited by the level of the concrete foundations. The trench was excavated through a number of modern layers, comprising levelling and consolidation below the current building and car park. These consisted of modern paving blocks, layers of sands and gravel, hardcore and rubble. Archaeological deposits were encountered below these levels and included pits, layers, and the remains of mortared foundations.

A dark grey-brown silty sand was identified along the length of the trench, below the lowest car park make-up layer (1). This contained frequent pebbles, granite blocks and bricks. Pottery of both the Roman and medieval date was recovered, as well as tegula, box flue, mortar and animal bones. The deposit is very similar to the fill of several of the underlying pits and may therefore represent a backfill over the 1930s excavations, which may explain the presence of redeposited Roman and medieval finds, amongst modern brick rubble and fragments of the granite wall.

The wall foundations (2) were 0.5m high and measured 1.04m wide. They consisted of roughly finished granite blocks, measuring up to 0.3m long and 0.25m wide, bonded with a yellowish-brown sandy mortar, with white flecks. A pit was noted on either side of the wall suggesting that it may be partially disturbed. Pit [3] (4) appeared to have been dug up against the wall foundations on the north side. The fill was a greenish-brown silty sand, with charcoal flecks and finds including mid-late 1st-century pottery, animal bones and *opus signinum*. It truncated an earlier pit [20] with three silty sand fills; (17), (18) and (19) with late 1st-early 2nd century greyware. Pit [3] also cut a possible surface (5), which was made from granite fragments within a red clay matrix. On the south side of the wall foundation a further pit [6] contained a very similar fill to (1), which contained *tegula*. An adjacent feature, pit [8] also contained a similar fill and these features may represent pits that were excavated in the 1930s and later backfilled with a mixed deposit.

At the other end of the trench, a robber trench [10] was identified below the second concrete stanchion. It was backfilled with yellow-brown silty sand (11) containing frequent Roman building debris, including granite blocks, plaster, mortar, *opus signinum* and box flue tile. This cut through, and was therefore later than, layer (16), a mortar-rich deposit, which overlies a

greenish-brown silty clay, possibly representing a trample layer (14), which contained late 1st to mid-2nd century sandy wares. An earlier pit, [12], was identified beneath this layer, backfilled with greenish brown sandy silt containing frequent charcoal flecks and early Roman pottery. A second possible trample layer (15) appeared to have been cut by the pit [12]. This may represent a buried topsoil, as it sat directly above the natural sand and gravel subsoil, which was encountered at a depth of 58.14m OD in this location, although cut by archaeological deposits in other parts of the trench.



Figure 6: View of excavated Trench 1



Figure 7: North end of Trench 1 showing in situ Roman masonry (1m scale)



Figure 8: View of central part of Trench 1, showing pits [6] and [8] (1m and 0.5m scales)



Figure 9: South end of Trench 1, showing robber trench [10], pit [12] and pit [8]



Figure 10: Plan of Trench 1, showing extent of concrete and archaeological features

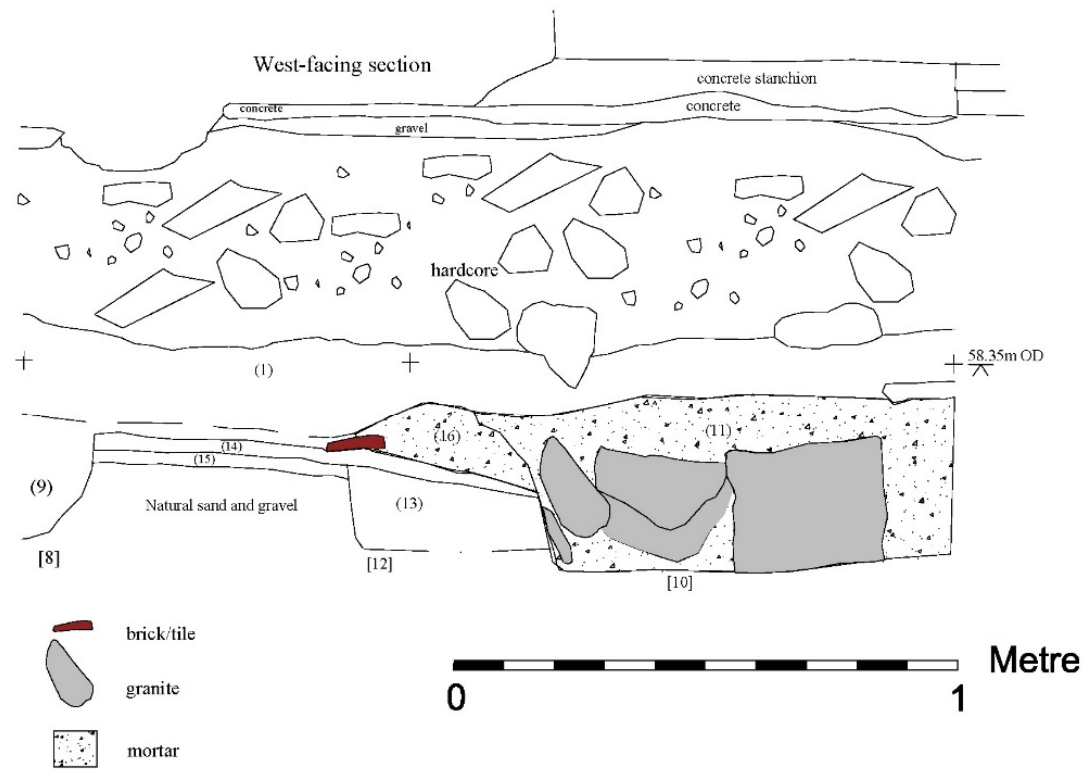


Figure 11: Section showing robber trench [10] and early pit [12]

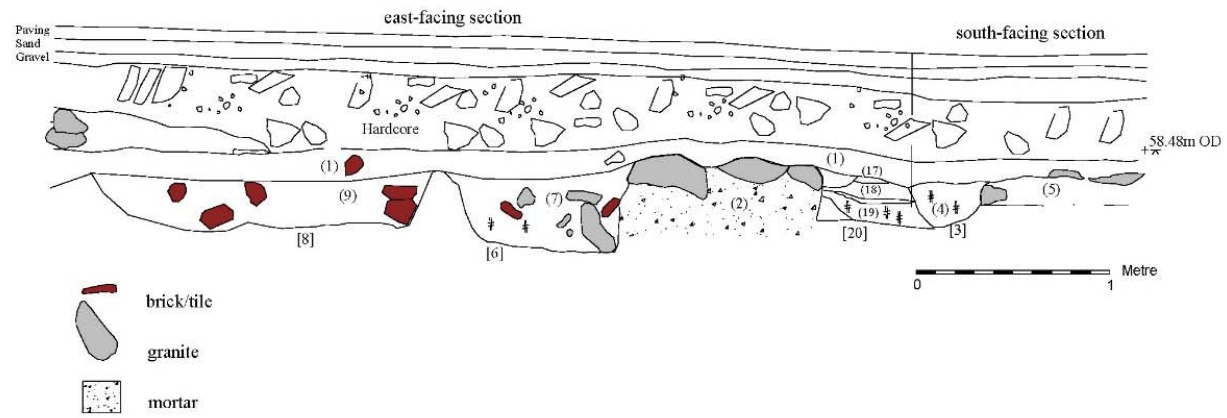


Figure 12: East and south facing sections at the north end of Trench 1

Trench 2

Trench 2 was a small trench excavated around the end of a northeast-southwest aligned modern brick wall. The trench was hand-excavated in the flower border between the paved path and the wall. Below the paving slab (0.07m thick) was a layer of concrete (0.07m thick), which overlay a thicker layer of red clay (23), possibly representing make-up. A single sherd of early Roman pottery was recovered from this layer. It lay above a bedding layer of sandy silt with frequent stones (24). The archaeological significance of this layer is unclear in such a small trench. Both the clay and the sand were cut by the construction trench for the brick wall.



Figure 13: Trench 2 following excavation (0.5m scale)

Trench 3

Trench 3 was located adjacent to a concrete stanchion close to the entrance to Vaughan College. The west and south-western parts of the trench were occupied by the modern concrete slab and foundation for the stanchion. It was possible to excavate deeper in the north-eastern part of the trench. The top layers, to a depth of 0.36m below the surface, consisted of modern paving blocks bedded in sand, overlying a thick layer of gravel and hardcore within a soil matrix. Below lay a layer of red clay containing rubble and gravel (0.10m thick), above compact yellow-brown sands and gravels. The lowest modern layer consisted of grey-brown sandy clay containing brick and concrete rubble (21), which may be associated with the demolition of the Victorian buildings, prior to the clearance of the site in the 1930s. The deposit also contained late 1st- to 2nd-century

pottery as well as a fragment of medieval Potters Marston. At the base of the trench, the top of a highly compact whitish-brown mortar deposit (22) was encountered at approximately 0.76m below ground level. It contained frequent pebbles and fragments of Roman box flue tile. Unfortunately, it was not possible to explore the nature or function of this deposit, too little was visible, within this small trench.



Figure 14: Trench 3 following excavation, showing compact mortar layer at the base of the trench

Trench 5

Trench 5 was positioned on the corner of Vaughan College. A series of make-up layers for the modern car park lay directly below the paved surface. The concrete foundation for Vaughan College extended 0.30m out from the building. A further raft of concrete was present at the northeast end of the trench. Between the two concrete areas was a gap filled with dark grey brown clayey sand with stone and brick rubble, with a cut visible in the section of the trench. A CAT scan over the area detected signals indicating a live cable. The trench was therefore not excavated further.



Figure 15: View of Trench 5 (1m scale)

Discussion and Conclusions

The current work aimed to investigate the depth and preservation of archaeological deposits beneath the extant classroom at Vaughan College, to establish how they might be affected by the construction of the proposed new classroom.

The affected area is associated with archaeology that pre-dates the construction of the bathhouse on the site in *c.*AD130 and is not well-understood. The earliest archaeological activity identified by Kenyon's excavations consisted of a series of pits cut into the natural subsoil (Kenyon 1948, 9), followed by an early Roman road on the northern part of the site, which overlaid and slumped into some of the pits (*ibid.* 10). Kenyon described the area currently under consideration as early buildings and north shops belonging to a pre-bathhouse phase of activity (*ibid.* 12-13).

Photographs taken prior to the building of Vaughan College show the site with reconstructed wall lines and remaining superstructure. The remains of the two walls targeted by the investigation, with their fragments of upstanding foundations (Figure 16-Figure 18) are also visible. While several of the photographs suggest the area was relatively flat, they do however, show that the surviving masonry of the walls is at a higher level than the foundations of the adjacent semi-circular extension, which still exists, strongly suggesting that the area was levelled for the construction of the classroom and car park.

Despite the disturbance caused by the later building, the evaluation did locate surviving, although heavily truncated, archaeology. Trench 1 revealed the location of the two parallel walls excavated by Kenyon, represented by part of the foundation (2) and a robber trench (10), [11]. A series of pits were also identified. The upper ones were filled

by a mixed backfill, containing modern bricks and probably representing the backfill of previously excavated features. There appeared to be some surviving unexcavated archaeology on the south side of the trench, comprising trample and buried soil layers and a pit [12]. Archaeology was encountered at a depth of *c.* 58.38m OD or *c.* 0.65m below the current ground level. The compact mortar layer, (22), within Trench 3 could conceivably represent a potential corridor floor on the south-east side of the wall or may be associated with wall foundations. However, too little of it was visible in the trench to be certain. Although most of the finds were recovered from mixed and redeposited contexts, the pottery has a close date range, extending from the mid-late 1st century to the middle of the 2nd century at the latest (Johnson, this report). These findings are consistent with earlier archaeological work on this part of the site, which indicate pre- bathhouse activity.

Trench 2 was a very small investigation hole, under a metre square, around the base of a modern brick wall. This encountered a clay deposit (23) and bedding layer of sand (24). It was unclear if these represented archaeological deposits associated with the bathhouse or levelling following the excavation of the site in the 1930s. The abortive Trench 5 was excavated very close to a previous archaeological intervention (Gnanaratnam 1999), which produced evidence for the northern wall of the baths, robbed out in the medieval period. The robber trench was itself cut by later pits. Roman activity included pits of 1st and 2nd century date, the earliest phase of road north of the baths and signs of industrial activity. Therefore, although it was not possible to excavate Trench 5 to the desired depth, it is entirely possible that pockets of archaeology survive in this area.



Figure 16: Archive photos of the Jewry Wall site, following consolidation and reconstruction. The portico walls beneath the current classroom can be seen on the left of the photograph



Figure 17: Archive photo, looking west.



Figure 18: Archive photo looking east over the ruins towards St Nicholas church

Archive and Publications

The archive consists of:

Unbound copy of report;

2 x A2 permatrace sheets containing plans and sections;

Finds as detailed in the finds catalogues;

Paper record, comprising indices and context sheets;

A version of the excavation summary (see above) will appear in due course in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*.

Acknowledgements

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Appendix 1: The Pottery by Elizabeth Johnson

Assemblage Size and Condition

An assemblage comprising 16 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 209g was recovered from the evaluation excavations, along with two sherds of medieval pottery. Overall the pottery sherds are small, though not particularly abraded. One jar base weighs 143g, giving an average sherd weight of just 4.4g for the remaining 15 sherds.

Methodology

The pottery was examined in hand specimen using a binocular microscope at x20 magnification and classified using the Leicestershire fabric series for Roman pottery as set out in Pollard 1994. Quantification was by sherd count and weight (grams). Vessel forms were assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed, using the Leicestershire Museums form series and other published typologies. The dataset was recorded and analysed within an Excel workbook, which comprises the archive record.

Discussion

The assemblage is small, however there are some interesting elements worth noting. The grey wares include a small jar or beaker with barbotine dot decoration (1), a jar or beaker with an everted rim (14) and a very fine grey ware (GW2) (7) comparable to 'London Type' ware fabrics, indicating a date from the later 1st century to the middle of the 2nd century (Pollard 1994, 77). This date range is further supported by the white ware flagon or bowl with traces of orange paint from (21), which could be Northamptonshire red painted ware. In addition, there is a sherd from a South Gaulish samian ware Drag.18 plate dating to the mid-late 1st century from (1) (Webster 1996, 35) along with a few transitional wares. Transitional wares also date to the mid-late 1st century and the examples present here comprise a grog-tempered ware jar and sandy ware jar or bowl from (4) and a sandy ware jar or bowl from (7). The two shelly ware jars from (11) and (23) could also date with the 1st century or the first half of the 2nd century. The example from (23) has combed decoration typical of storage jars contemporary with other transitional wares (Pollard 1994, 74-75).

In spite of some disturbance (as evidenced by the sherd of Medieval Potters Marston), overall, the assemblage does form a fairly coherent group ranging from the mid-late 1st century to probably the middle of the 2nd century at the latest. There is nothing present to indicate a date after *c.*AD150 and the group could be as early as the first quarter of the 2nd century. In a location at the heart of Roman Leicester, wares such as Black Burnished wares, Central Gaulish samian wares or mortaria from Mancetter-Hartshill and the Nene Valley would be expected from a group dating beyond this point.

Table 2: Pottery Catalogue

Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Ves part	Shds	Wgt (g)	Dating
	1	Grey sandy ware (GW5)	Jar	Base	1	143	late 1st-2ndC+
	1	Fine grey sandy ware (GW3)	Jar/beaker	Body	1	4	late 1st-mid 2ndC
	1	South Gaulish samian	Plate	Body	1	1	mid-late 1stC
	1	Cistercian ware (CW2)		Body	1		Late medieval
	4	Grog-tempered ware (GT1)	Jar	Body	2	20	mid-late 1stC
	4	Fine sandy ware (SW2)	Jar/bowl	Base	1	12	mid-late 1stC
	5	Sandy ware (SW4)	Jar/bowl	Body	1	3	mid-late 1stC
	7	Fine grey sandy ware (GW2)	Jar/bowl	Body	1	3	late 1st-mid 2ndC
	11	Shelly ware (CG1A)	Jar	Body	1	3	mid 1st-mid 2ndC
12	13	Grey sandy ware (GW5)	Jar/bowl	Body	1	3	late 1st-2ndC+
	14	Oxidised sandy ware (OW2)	Jar/beaker	Body	1	1	late 1st-2ndC
	14	Grey sandy ware (GW5)	Jar/beaker	Rim	1	1	late 1st-mid 2ndC
	18	Coarse grey sandy ware (GW6)	Jar/bowl	Body	1	3	late 1st-2ndC+
	21	Fine white sandy ware (WW2)	Flagon/bowl	Body	1	2	late 1st-mid 2ndC
	21	Fine grey sandy ware (GW3)	Jar/beaker	Body	1	1	late 1st-2ndC+
	21	Potters Marston (PM)	Jar	Base	1	3	c.1100-c.1300/50+
	23	Shelly ware (CG1A)	Jar	Body	1	9	mid 1st-mid 2ndC

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Appendix 2: Roman Ceramic Building Material by Jenni McNulty

A total of 5,162g of ceramic building material was recovered from nine contexts and has been classified by type and quantified by fragment, weight and corners (Table 3).

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

Context	Type	Frag	Weight (g)	Corners	Comments
1	Tegula*	5	2461	1	3 frags fit together
	Boxflue	1	23		
	Misc.	3	118		
4	Tegula	1	284		
	Wall	1	391		
	Misc.	2	144		
7	Tegula	1	507		
11	Boxflue	5	609		Some frags showing sooting and some with limewash/mortar
	Imbrex	2	94		
	Misc.	1	24		
14	Misc.	2	7		
16	Tegula	1	381		
	Misc.	1	30		
19	Misc.	1	5		
21	Misc.	5	57		
22	Boxflue	1	27		
Total		33	5162		

This assemblage contains a variety of ceramic building material including tegula, boxflue and wall tiles and likely represents redeposited demolition debris. The appearance of mortar on multiple fragments suggests that these fragments had been reused. In addition, six stone tesserae and one ceramic tessera were recovered from contexts (1), (4) and (7) weighing 171g. Mortar was present on tesserae from contexts (1) and (4). Modern brick was also recovered from contexts (1), (11) and (22). Fired clay was present in context (19) weighing 2g and baked clay was present in context (18) weighing 1g. All material has been discarded, except for three fragments of tegula tile from context (1) that fit together.

Appendix 3: Painted Wall Plaster and Mortar by Heidi Addison

A total of 1,042g of painted wall plaster and mortar, was collected from four contexts (1), (4), (11) and (15). The material was counted and weighed by context ().

Table 4: Quantified record of wall plaster

Context	Weight (g)	Description
1	128	Mortar-2 fragments. 1 is a fine lime mortar. 1 is an fine opus signinum mortar. Not retained
4	57	P.W.P –abraded paint-?dark maroon on fine lime wash mortar.
	30	Mortar-1 fragment-fine lime. Not retained
11	316	P.W.P- 7 fragments abraded paint surfaces on a fine lime mortar.- 1 probably dark red . Not retained
	507	Mortar- 2 fragments of fine opus signinum mortar. Not retained

15	4	Mortar- 1 fragment fine lime mortar. Not retained
Total	1,042	

The small assemblage is most probably that of demolition activity on the site, contributing to its poor preservation and fragmentary state. The intonaco surfaces of the plaster fragments are very abraded, therefore the colour or design could not be determined, however the refined lime mortar suggests that these fragments may have belonged in a prominent area within the building, requiring a particularly refined surface. Likewise the six mortar fragments are also of a fine lime mixture, three of which are an *opus signinum* mortar having the addition of finely crushed ceramic tile and dust, usually reserved for wall areas requiring protection against damp such as the base of a dado. The material has not been retained.

Appendix 4: The Animal Bones by Jennifer Browning

Introduction and Methods

Animal bones recovered by hand during the evaluation were rapidly scanned to assess preservation and variety and therefore provide an indication of the faunal potential, should the site progress to excavation. The deposits were associated with early Roman activity at the site.

The Assemblage

Eight animal bone fragments were recovered during the evaluation from five different contexts. The surface condition of the fragments was variable, with some abraded bones and others in good condition. However, most of the material does not derive from well-stratified deposits and therefore has limited analytical potential.

Table 5: Catalogue of animal bones

Context	NISP	Taxon	Element	Notes
1	1	cattle	lumbar vertebrae	2 fragments, 1 unfused and 1 fused fusion surface,
1	1	pig	1 st phalanx	Complete, fused
1	1	Large mammal	Shaft fragment	undiagnostic
4	1	Sheep/goat	tibia	Distal shaft fragment, distal likely to be unfused,
4	1	Large mammal	pelvis	fragment
11	1	cattle	radius	Proximal shaft, medial part only, proximal epiphysis fused;
13	1	Medium mammal	rib	2 fragments of shaft
19	1	Large mammal	Shaft fragment	

Appendix 5: OASIS Data Entry

PROJECT DETAILS	OASIS ID	Universi1-298822		
	Project Name	New classroom Vaughan College/Jewry Wall		
	Start/end dates of field work	March 2017		
	Previous/Future Work	Numerous previous interventions		
	Project Type	Evaluation		
	Site Status			
	Current Land Use	Car park		
	Monument Type/Period	Roman		
	Significant Finds/Period	Early Roman		
	Development Type	educational		
	Reason for Investigation			
	Position in the Planning Process			
	Planning Ref.	-		
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	Vaughan College/Jewry Wall Museum, Holy Bones, Leicester.		
	Study Area	c. 500 sq m		
	Site Coordinates			
	Height OD			
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	University of Leicester Archaeological Services		
	Project Brief Originator			
	Project Design Originator			
	Project Manager	Richard Buckley		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Jennifer Browning		
	Sponsor/Funding Body			
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient ID (Acc. No.)	ULAS	ULAS	ULAS
	Contents			
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Jewry Wall, Leicester.		
	Author	J. Browning		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2017-064		
	Date	2017		
	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester		
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf		



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