

OPYO/01



OLD PLACE YARD, BICESTER

TRIAL TRENCHING

commissioned by Environmental Design Partnership
on behalf of Cherwell District Council

May 2016

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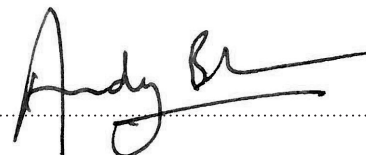
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PROJECT SUMMARY

Archaeological field evaluation, comprising 6 trial trenches, was undertaken by Headland Archaeology on Land at Old Place Yard, Bicester, Oxfordshire. The investigations were predominantly focused either within or immediately to the north and east of the cloister of Bicester Priory. Trenches here uncovered evidence for a sequence of events that had affected the remains of what had once been the core of the ecclesiastical site. Pottery associated with the remains was predominantly 14th century in date. At some time subsequent to this the walls, including faces to the footings and even core work from the foundations appear to have been substantially robbed out. One exception to this was observed in a trench on the south side of the cloister where a short section of stone wall five courses high was exposed. Otherwise, following the phases of robbing the bases of the foundations had been compromised through the construction of buildings on the site and services associated with these. To the west of the site ditches of probable medieval date were revealed along with a further disturbed section of wall foundation. This latter is likely to have been associated with ancillary priory buildings. Only one small remnant of disturbed flooring was located, this being in the area of the chapterhouse. Other deposits encountered appear to be underlying natural.

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SUMMARY

Archaeological field evaluation, comprising 6 trial trenches, was undertaken by Headland Archaeology on Land at Old Place Yard, Bicester, Oxfordshire. The investigations were predominantly focused either within or immediately to the north and east of the cloister of Bicester Priory. Trenches here uncovered evidence for a sequence of events that had affected the remains of what had once been the core of the ecclesiastical site. Pottery associated with the remains was predominantly 14th century in date. At some time subsequent to this the walls, including faces to the footings and even core work from the foundations appear to have been substantially robbed out. One exception to this was observed in a trench on the south side of the cloister where a short section of stone wall five courses high was exposed. Otherwise, following the phases of robbing the bases of the foundations had been compromised though the construction of buildings on the site and services associated with these. To the west of the site ditches of probable medieval date were revealed along with a further disturbed section of wall foundation. This latter is likely to have been associated with ancillary priory buildings. Only one small remnant of disturbed flooring was located, this being in the area of the chapterhouse. Other deposits encountered appear to be underlying natural.

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological site investigation on land at Old Place Yard, Bicester, Oxfordshire.

PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The developer has submitted a planning application for a development on the site to Cherwell District Council.

The archaeological advisor to the planning authority, Richard Oram, advised that in line with paragraph 128 of the National Planning Policy Framework, the applicant should submit the results of a field evaluation in order to provide further information relating to the significance of known archaeological remains associated with a former priory within the proposed development area.

A scope of work for the field evaluation was agreed between the agent (EDP) and the archaeological advisor for the local planning authority (Richard Oram) with input from Historic England's Inspector for the area (Eliza Alqassar). In response to this a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by Headland Archaeology (2016) and approved by the archaeological advisor to the planning authority.

The evaluation was designed to provide further information about the archaeological resource to enable appropriate decisions to be reached regarding the planning submission. This report presents the results of that field evaluation.

SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The site is located in the south of the town of Bicester, Oxfordshire, which is 13km to the north east of Oxford (Illus. 1). Centered on National Grid Reference (NGR) 458369, 222179, the total size of the site is 0.46 hectares (ha). It occupies a comparatively flat area of land with the eastern part displaying a very slight north-south gradient, and is located at approximately 69m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). It comprises two empty plots, largely covered by demolition material compacted into hard-standing, which were previously the sites of a care home and local authority offices.

The British Geological Survey records the underlying solid geology at the site as being limestone of the Cornbrash Formation (BGS 2015), with the eastern parcel of land potentially overlain by alluvium.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The eastern of the two land parcels contains part of the considerably disturbed remains of Bicester Priory, comprising the west end of the church, the cloister and chapter house, as well as possibly part of the lay cemetery, the vestry, part of the chapter house and the warming house. However, investigations in 1983 and 2014 identified that some walls, previously recorded within the site, have been destroyed and therefore the levels of survival of the remains could be compromised. The western land parcel still lies within the priory precinct and features associated with the priory have been identified in its vicinity.

Bicester Priory was founded by Gilbert Bassett in 1182. It was one of a series of Augustinian houses in the Oxfordshire area (Hinton 1967). The site of the Priory housed eleven monks and a Prior and was situated on land adjoining the Manor House of Gilbert Bassett. The Priory appears to have been relatively small and poorly funded, with a wealth of documentary evidence relating to its history (*Ibid.*). It

was dissolved in 1536 and Hinton comments that the church was likely to have been demolished soon after this as no mention is made in Leland's Itinerary.

Several investigations have been made into the remains believed to be on the site. A detailed desk based assessment of the site was undertaken as part of the current phase of work (EDP 2016) and contains references to previous phases of work which have been summarised below.

The earliest of these occurred in 1819 under the guidance of John Dunkin. There appear to have been no structures visible above ground within the site at this time, with great depths of demolition debris apparently sealing remains surviving to window height. Trenches were opened to search for the Priory remains. Dunkin discovered remains predominantly toward the eastern extent of the site, including part of the suspected chapter house and the eastern inner cloister wall. A large vaulted drain, believed to redirect water from below the church was also observed.

The next known investigations are detailed by Hinton (1967) reporting on remains recorded by a schoolboy, David Watts, together with the site foreman, during development on the site. Hinton reproduced a plan of the remains observed by Watts from measurements and photographs taken at the time. This seems to record the aisles, north and south church walls, including probable pilaster bases, with part of the cloister, and from which Hinton produced an extrapolated plan, combining the above with Dunkin's work, to form a conjectured Priory layout on which subsequent layouts have been based.

Hinton then opened four trenches near the former TA centre to the east of the site and recorded part of the north wall of the north transept of the church (1968). Further observations of the remains of wall foundations and skeletal remains were made during redevelopment of the TA centre in 1973 and in 1983. Monitoring of an extension to St Edburg's House also revealed walls consistent with Dunkin's 1819 plan.

Oxford Archaeology undertook a watching brief in 1995 immediately northwest of the development area and the probable remains of a cemetery were recorded. A ground penetrating radar survey of the area by Arrow Geophysics (2006) appears to show the north-west corner of the church, the extent of the cloister and other possible wall foundations. Modern disturbance obscured some of the results.

Evaluation and excavation to the northeast of the development area revealed extensive remains of the east end of the church (John Moore Heritage Services [JHMS] 2012). Further evaluation within the development area in 2013 (TVAS) recorded wall foundations and robbed out wall foundations. Watching briefs in 2014 (JMHS) and 2015 (Cotswold Archaeology) also identified heavily disturbed remains associated with the priory. These more recent investigations have demonstrated that the remains have suffered a combination of robbing, combined with disturbance and truncation from 20th century development.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In general, the purpose of the evaluation was to obtain further evidence for the improved precision in establishing the extent, nature, level of preservation and importance of any heritage assets within the affected area, and therefore refining the prediction of the impact of the development proposal (following the *National Planning Policy Framework*).

The resulting archive (finds and records) are to be deposited with the County Museums Service.

Trenches were located with specific objectives in mind:

- + Trench 1 - in an area for a proposed drainage system;
- + Trench 2 – to evaluate levels of preservation on the west end of the church;
- + Trench 3 – to establish levels of preservation in the SW corner of the cloister;
- + Trench 4 - in an area for a proposed drainage system to establish level of preservation of the south side of the cloister;
- + Trench 5 – to establish the level of preservation of north side of chapter house;
- + Trench 6 – to evaluate levels of preservation on the north side of the cloister and south side of the church.

Following a site monitoring meeting, and discussion of the exposed archaeological remains, extensions to Trench 2 and Trench 3 were agreed with a view to characterising survival within the interior of the probable church location and test for the location of the interior western cloister wall respectively.

A further objective was the use of detailed topographic survey to more accurately position the priory remains identified to date.

METHOD

The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the above mentioned WSI's and method statement and in accordance with the following documents:

- + *Code of Conduct* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)
- + *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014a)

Trenches were set out using a differential GPS. Prior to excavation, utility plans were consulted and all trench areas, including a 2m additional buffer, were scanned using a cable avoidance tool to identify any potential buried services. During machine excavation, potential service cuts were investigated by hand to avoid machine damage of buried services. Trenches were excavated using a 180 JCB mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket, to depths where archaeological features were identified or geological deposits encountered.

Due to excessive water ingress, a generator and submersible pump were used to reduce water levels and allow as full investigation as practical. Trenches 4, 6 and the extension to Trench 2 proved most problematic with water ingress occurring as quickly as the pump could remove it. Water entered the trenches from the lines of the archaeological wall foundations within the trenches.

The original, proposed positions of trenches were altered or adjustments made due to on site conditions and these are summarised below:

- + Trench 1 – Moved approximately 2m north due to presence of electricity cable;

- + Trench 2 – Moved approximately 2m east due to proximity to extant building walls;
- + Trench 3 – 2m extension to the east requested by Archaeological advisor and Historic England;
- + Trench 4 – Shortened to north by 1.5m due to presence of a water service pipe and manhole;
- + Trench 5 – Moved south approximately 3m due to presence of trees and 0.5m west to avoid undermining extant site boundary wall;
- + Trench 6 – Moved approximately 1m east due to presence of manholes for foul water drains and services, and extended 2m northwards to establish survival or not of floor levels in church.

Exposed archaeological remains were recorded on Headland Archaeology Evaluation Trench sheets and each feature identified was subsequently investigated and excavated by hand to determine form, function and retrieve dateable material. All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The recorded contexts were assigned unique numbers and recording was undertaken on Headland Archaeology pro-forma trench and context record sheets.

Identified features were hand excavated and sampled to establish their form, character and function and retrieve dateable artefactual material where possible.

Drawings of significant archaeological remains and the general stratigraphy of the site were produced at scales of 1:20 in plan, with sections of stratigraphy produced at 1:10. Complimentary digital surveying was also undertaken, with levels above Ordnance Datum recorded across remains identified using dGPS.

Digital and black and white photographs were taken of all trenches and identified features, with a graduated metric scale clearly visible.

An overall site plan of the trenches and recorded features was digitally produced. Digital surveying was undertaken using a Trimble dGPS system. The survey also recorded the lines of Old Place Yard Road and a courtyard to the rear of the library, located between the two investigation areas, to enable further location of the site within the established Ordnance Survey.

RESULTS

Results are presented by each trench with subsequent discussion relating phasing and overall discussion of the site and remains

TRENCHING IN THE PRIORY PRECINCT

TRENCH 1 (ILLUS 2)

The earliest deposit recorded was a natural geological deposit of limestone brash (102) identified at 0.60m below ground surface (70.14m aOD). Towards the western end of the trench and observed extending 2m east-west in section only, the geological deposit was overlain by a dark grey sandy clay deposit with limestone fragments (112). This was encountered at approximately 0.50m below ground level and survived to 0.09m deep.

Several features recorded cutting through the natural geology are described below.

A sub-circular cut [105] was interpreted as a post-hole. The feature had been heavily truncated surviving to 0.07m in depth, with no dateable material recovered from its fill (104). No associations with other features could be positively asserted.

Immediately east of the post-hole was a ditch [107], oriented north-south and 0.62m wide and 0.24m deep. Pottery of possible Iron Age date was recovered from the fill (106). An environmental sample was taken from the ditch and contained charcoal, animal bone, burnt bone, snail shell, burnt seed, pottery and CBM. Approximately 1.6m to the west of this was a further heavily truncated ditch [109], also oriented north-south and measuring 0.58m wide by 0.08m deep. No dateable material was recovered from its fill (108).

An east-west linear feature [111] was interpreted as a ditch, and although it had a stratigraphic relationship with both of the ditches mentioned above ([107] and [109]), there was too little of the ditch exposed within the trench to enable meaningful investigation, as such, the feature was left unexcavated and recorded in plan only.

At the southwestern end of the trench a northwest-southeast oriented wall foundation [103] was partially exposed (Illus. 3). The foundation appeared to survive to a maximum of two random courses in height, with some fragments of a yellow-brown gritty sandy clay, probable mortar also observed. The foundation overlay an earlier deposit (112). No specific function could be ascribed to the wall foundation.

The features identified were sealed by a dark grey slightly silty sandy clay topsoil (101).

TRENCHING IN AREA OF CHURCH, CLOISTERS AND CHAPTER HOUSE

TRENCH 2 (ILLUS 4 AND 5)

The earliest deposits encountered were a mid-blueish grey sandy clay containing limestones (208) (67.59m aOD); and within the extension to the north a mid-yellowish brown sandy clay containing stones (213) (67.51m aOD). The latter deposit was interpreted as a subsoil formation whilst (208), exposed in a sondage, was noted to contain charcoal and animal bone fragments.

Overlying this deposit (208) was a 0.40m deep mid-yellowish brown sandy clay (207). Mortar, limestone and charcoal fragments, concentrated towards the upper part of the deposit suggested a level of contemporaneity with the construction of wall foundations.

Cutting (207) an east-west oriented rubble wall foundation [205] was recorded extending beyond the limits of the trench to the east (Illus. 6). The foundation measured 1.50m wide and greater than 6.8m long, and consisted of roughly hewn and natural limestones of variable sizes bonded by a yellow-brown gritty sandy clay containing occasional charcoal fragments. The northern face was partially exposed in the extension to the trench and displayed up to 5 random courses of limestones (Illus. 7). Due to the constant excessive ingress of water and the depth of the trench (1.35m in extension) the base of the foundation could not be ascertained. The top of the wall foundation was encountered in places at 0.45m below ground surface between 68.14m and 67.79m aOD, with the recorded lower extent at 67.46m aOD. The foundation was interpreted as relating to the demolished southern wall of the priory church. In this case all that survived was the core of the foundation and footing the rest having been robbed out or removed through later levelling of the site.

On the same foundation and oriented north-south was the partial remains of what appears to be a later wall foundation [206] at the western extent of the trench. This measured greater than 0.40m wide and extended beyond the trench limits to the west, south and north. This foundation was more highly disturbed and loose, but built in a similar way to foundation [205] with no discernible facing between the north-south and east-west components. The function of the wall foundation was not clear. It aligned with the inner western cloister wall to the south and may have been part of the western end of the church to the north, or possibly a pilaster base, and its highest surviving point was recorded as 67.98 to 67.86m aOD.

Within the extension to the trench and overlying the subsoil (213), a further developed soil horizon of mid yellowish brown sandy clay (209) was sealed by (207). Overlying this was a sequence of dumped deposits (210, 211, 212 – Illus. 5 – Section C) containing mortar, limestone and charcoal and deriving from a demolition sequence, probably related to deconstruction and robbing of structural remains associated with the church.

Cutting through this sequence was a steep sided flat based cut [215] which was interpreted as a robber trench. A similar profiled cut was noted in a sondage to the south of foundation [204] and observed to follow the southern line of wall foundation [205]. The two cuts were interpreted as relating to robbing of masonry from the wall foundations. Clay pipe probably dating to the 17th -19th century was recovered from the fill of robber trench (203).

No evidence for the survival of internal church floors was identified.

Variably sealing the remains in the trench were topsoil (202) and made ground (201) associated with recent demolition on the site.

TRENCH 3 (ILLUS 8 AND 9)

A brownish grey sandy clay (309) containing limestone and charcoal fragments was recorded in the eastern half of the base of the trench at 68.24m aOD. This was exposed in the 2m extension to the trench and no archaeological remains were encountered here. To the west end of the trench at 0.85m below ground surface (67.35m aOD) the earliest deposit comprised a series of rough limestone slabs of variable size (304) which were interpreted as bedding material to stabilise the ground. Excessive water ingress prevented full examination of the character of the deposit. These were sealed by a 1.65m wide deposit of reddish brown clay (305) which was believed to also be associated with stabilising the ground. This clay also appeared to overlie (309).

An area of probable wall collapse [308] was identified overlying the clay deposit, (Illus. 9 – section 009). This was associated with a yellow brown sandy clay (312) which was interpreted as deriving from demolition and the general collapse of the wall.

A greater than 0.60m wide, north-south oriented, rubble wall foundation [303] (Illus. 10) was identified (largely in section) at the extreme west end of the trench. The foundation consisted of variable sizes of limestone blocks bonded with a yellow brown gritty, sandy clay mortar and was encountered at 67.84m aOD (0.45m below ground surface). The foundation was heavily disturbed and loose, and the base was not identified.

Overlying [303] was a dumped deposit of mortar and limestone fragments (310) and a mid- grey gritty-sandy-clay (311) containing frequent mortar, limestone and charcoal, which were both interpreted as relating to levelling following demolition of the wall foundation.

Cutting the lower clay deposit (309) and immediately east of levelling deposit (305) a trench cut [307] was partially exposed against a baulk. The baulk was partly dug out by hand to expose the extent of the cut revealing it to be greater than 0.50m wide and oriented North-South. A slot into the fill of the cut (306) recovered clay pipe stem and white glazed pottery. The cut was interpreted as a trench for the exposed modern pipe.

Subsoil (302) and topsoil (301) completed the stratigraphic sequence in the trench.

TRENCH 4 (ILLUS 11 AND 12)

The earliest deposit encountered was a dark bluish grey sandy clay (408) at 67.16m aOD. Overlying this was a dumped layer of sandy clay and stones (407) which was identified as relating to the grubbing up of the wall foundations. Disarticulated human remains (Patela and broken humerus) were noted within this demolition layer and, although they were damaged, they appeared to be in a fairly robust condition. These were left in situ in accordance with the WSI.

At the southern end of the trench a wall and its foundation [404] were partially exposed in section (Illus. 13). The wall consisted of roughly hewn limestones bonded in a yellow-brown gritty sandy clay mortar and surviving to at least 0.60m depth between 67.78 and 67.11m aOD, the top lying approximately 0.45m below ground surface. The foundation represented remains of the southern outer-cloister wall.

A heavily disturbed wall foundation [405] was recorded in the expected location of the inner cloister wall approximately 3m to the north of this at 67.36m aOD and comprised rough limestones in a similar mortar bond to [404]. The foundation ended before the western baulk (Illus. 14) perhaps indicating a probable opening or entrance to the inner cloister, or alternatively indicating that the foundation has been entirely removed by Post-medieval/Modern impacts at this point.

Overlying the inner cloister wall [405] was a loose, light brownish grey, sandy clay with stones (406) interpreted as a dumped deposit related to robbing of the wall foundation. Sealing this and butting against the outer cloister wall [404] a levelling deposit of mid grey sandy clay (402) was identified sealed by a further dumped demolition deposit of dark brownish yellow deposit comprising mortar, stone and sandy clay (403). This was sealed by the present topsoil (401).

TRENCH 5 (ILLUS 15 AND 16)

The earliest deposits encountered in the trench were a probable construction layer made up of fragmentary limestone and mortar (513) with a mid-reddish brown sandy clay and limestone subsoil (507).

An east-west oriented, robbed out wall foundation [511], was identified in the southern end of the trench, at 67.37m aOD. This contained mortar, sandy clay and limestone fragments (512) representing the debris from removal of the wall foundation.

An east-west oriented limestone wall foundation [510] was identified to the north of this, its top at a height of 67.70m aOD. (Illus 17) The foundation comprised limestones of variable sizes and was roughly faced to the north and south. A sondage against the northern face revealed at least 3 random courses. This was abutted by a further wall foundation [508] oriented north-south and partially exposed against the eastern edge of the trench. A lower step foundation [509] beneath the main foundation [508] was also recorded with a sondage excavated against the northern edge of the trench revealing this to comprise 4 uneven, random courses of roughly hewn limestones. Both wall foundations and step foundation were bonded in a yellow brown sandy clay mortar.

Associated with the step foundation [508] and abutting its western edge was a light yellowish grey sandy mortar with limestone fragments (506). This was interpreted as a setting deposit for an overlying row of variably sized limestones [505] which was identified as the disturbed remains of a stone floor associated with the walls. The top of the floor deposits were encountered at 67.77m aOD.

Wall foundation [510] was identified as probably relating to the northern wall of the chapter house, with wall foundations [508] and [505] relating to a further structure to the north.

The wall foundations were overlain by a coarse layer of greyish yellow sandy mortar and limestone fragments (504) deriving from the demolition or robbing of the foundations. Oyster shell, pottery and tile of medieval provenance was recovered from the deposit. Disarticulated human bone (Phalanges and a vertebrae) were noted within (504) indicating the disturbance of a grave in the area. No evidence of a grave cut was identified within the trench.

Sealing this and the identified foundations and floor surface, a 0.23m thick reddish brown silty clay (503) was recorded. This appeared to be a subsoil formation, post-demolition, over the remains identified, though this may equally may have been some form of imported levelling deposit.

Topsoil (502) and tarmac and make-up (501) for a modern path completed the stratigraphic sequence.

TRENCH 6

A dark brown silty clay at 67.44m aOD. (608) was recorded in the central and southern areas of the trench. Pottery was recovered from the deposit and an environmental sample taken contained charcoal, animal bone, burnt bone, snail shells, burnt grain seeds, unworked flint, wood fragments, possible coprolites and a small fragment of modern glass.

An east-west linear foundation trench [606] cut through (608). It measured 1.40m wide and contained a limestone foundation made up of variably sized roughly hewn limestones [605] in a sandy mortar and limestone matrix (607). It was roughly faced to the south and north with at least 3 uneven random courses surviving. The base of the foundation could not be ascertained due to excessive ingress of water from the foundation cut. The foundation measured 1.22m wide with the top recorded at 67.60m aOD, 0.95m below ground level.

Approximately 2.70m to its north, the heavily disturbed remains of a further east-west wall foundation [603] was recorded at 67.70m aOD. The foundation comprised roughly hewn limestones of variable sizes bonded in a yellow-brown sandy clay mortar with at least 1 course surviving. The problem of water ingress prevented fuller excavation to establish the foundation depth. The eastern end of the foundation was entirely cut away by a modern foundation cut.

Both wall foundations were overlain by a mid-yellowish brown sandy mortar and limestone dumped demolition deposit (602 & 604). Heavily compacted modern made ground consisting of demolition debris (601) sealed the remains and formed the present ground surface.

FINDS

BY JULIE FRANKLIN, PAUL BLINKHORN, JULIE LOCHRIE

The assemblage numbered 33 sherds (107g) of pottery, five sherds (357g) of ceramic building material, and a handful of finds of clay pipe, glass, lithics and industrial waste. The majority of finds dated to the medieval period though there was also some modern material and one Mesolithic find.

TR	FEATURE	POT- TERY (MEDI)	POT- TERY (MEDI)	POT- TERY (MOD)	POT- TERY (MOD)	CLAY PIPE	GLASS	LITH- ICS	CBM	CBM	IND WASTE	DATING
		COUNT	WGT	COUNT	WGT	COUNT	COUNT	COUNT	COUNT	WGT	WGT	
1	ditch [107]	7	26g				2	1	1	42g	<0.5g	Mixed Medi?
2	robber trench 204					2						Mod
3	linear 307			1	1g	1						Mod
3	subsoil								1	142g		Medi
5	demolition 504	24	77g						3	173g		L13th-14th
6	buried ground sur- face 608	1	3g									L11th- M14th
	TOTAL	32	106G	1	1G	3	2	1	5	357G	<0.5G	

Table 1. Summary of assemblage by feature

POTTERY

The pottery assemblage comprised 33 sherds with a total weight of 107g. It was recorded using the conventions of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1984; 1994). Five different fabrics were noted (see Table 2). The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region. The sherds are all fairly small, but are in fairly good condition and appear reliably stratified. The majority of the assemblage was found in demolition deposit (504).

FABRIC CODE	FABRIC NAME	DATING	SHERDS	WGT
OXAC	Cotswold-type Ware	AD975-1350	6	25g
OXAM	Brill/Boarstall Ware	AD1200 – 1600	24	77g
OXR	St. Neots Ware	AD900-1200	1	1g
OXY	Medieval Oxford Ware	AD1075–1350	1	3g
CRM	Creamware	mid 18 th – early 19 th C	1	1g
TOTAL			33	107G

Table 2. Pottery type series

CLAY PIPE

Three pieces of clay pipe stem were recovered from robber trench [204] (203) and linear [307] (306). Their narrow bore indicates a modern date and they were most likely deposited in the 19th or early 20th century.

GLASS

Two very small fragments of colourless glass were recovered from ditch [107] (106). They appear to be of modern window glass. The feature is otherwise of apparent medieval date but the size of these fragments suggests they are intrusive.

LITHICS

A single lithic was retrieved from ditch (106) [107]. It is a microlith fragment belonging to the narrow blade technology of the later Mesolithic. Associated finds were of medieval date and thus the microlith fragment is certainly residual.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

A single fragment of an encaustic floor tile (92g) was found in demolition deposit (504). The upper surface was worn to the point that nearly all the glaze and a lot of the slip was missing, making exact identification of the design impossible, although it appears to originally have been geometric rather than figurative. The tile is 18mm thick. It is in an orange sandy fabric (fabric FT1) with numerous keying stabs on the lower surface. It appears to be a "Stabbed Wessex" type, a fairly common find in the region (eg Mitchell 2003, 209). A smaller fragment, weighing 42g and missing almost all of both the main surfaces, occurred in ditch [107] (106). It is 20mm thick.

A sherd of a ridge-tile was found in subsoil (302). It is in a hard orange fabric with fairly dense angular limestone inclusions (fabric RT1). It is 14mm thick. Such tiles have been noted at other sites in the region (eg Williams 2012, 167). Two fragments of flat roof tile occurred in demolition (504). Both appear to be of Brill type (fabric RT2), a common find at sites in Oxfordshire. One fragment is 13mm thick, the other 15mm.

INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Industrial Waste, in the form of magnetic residues weighing <1g, was retrieved from ditch [107] (106). This small quantity of magnetic material appears to be a mixture of possible hammerscale and small fragments of metal wire. It is unclear if this material is residual, intrusive or contemporary to the ditch.

FINDS DISCUSSION

The earliest find was a fragment of Mesolithic microlith, though this was clearly residual and being highly patinated may have originated some distance from its find spot in Trench 1.

The earliest stratified finds were of medieval date. Demolition deposit [504] contains the largest number of medieval finds. All could have been laid down in the 14th century. However the floor and roof tiles found therein may derive from the demolished structure which may have been of some age. The pottery is perhaps a more reliable indicator of the date of this deposit and the 24 sherds of Brill/Boarstall Ware might be 14th century or as late as the 16th century. The encaustic floor tile must derive from a building of some status.

Ditch [107] seems to have been backfilled in or after the 14th century, though may have been open for some centuries before that. The buried ground surface (608) may also be medieval, though is dated by only one small sherd of pottery. Robber trench [204] and linear [307] appear to be modern.

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ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

BY LAURA BAILEY

INTRODUCTION

Two samples and hand collected animal bone, recovered during archaeological work at Old Place Yard, Bicester, Oxfordshire, were received for palaeo-environmental assessment. The site comprised wall foundations that may have related to parts of a former priory cloisters, chapter house and the walls of a priory church. The samples were taken from the fill (106) of ditch [107] in Trench 1, and deposit (608). The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains in the samples and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible.

METHODOLOGY

Bulk samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. All samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications up to x45. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers *et al.* (2006) and Zohary *et al.* (2012).

The aims of the animal bone assessment were to provide a basic quantification of the available data, to characterise the assemblage as far as possible and to identify the potential of the data-set to benefit from further analysis.

Numbers of identifiable fragments were recorded together with the preservation and any signs of modification of the bone in order to assess the quality, quantity and potential of the assemblage. Where possible, fragments were identified to species level with reference to Schmid (1972).

Material from the retents of sieved samples were examined and weighed (see Retent Table A3.2) but not individually counted.

The bone, from each context, was given a condition score ranging from 'excellent' to 'very poor', excepting where only a small sieved sample is present (Table A3.3).

RESULTS

Results of the assessment are presented in Tables A3.1 (Flot samples), A3.2 (Retent samples) and A3.3 (Hand collected animal bone). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is highlighted in the tables.

WOOD CHARCOAL

Wood charcoal was present in varying quantities in both samples. Where possible charcoal was identified as oak or non-oak. All charcoal was found to be non-oak.

CEREAL GRAIN

Cereal grain was present in both samples and included hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and oats (*Avena sativa*). The grain was generally heavily abraded and broken. Cereal grain was particularly abundant in the fill (106) of ditch [107].

TERRESTRIAL MOLLUSCS

A small number of well-preserved terrestrial snail shells were present in both samples. However, it is likely, given the presence of modern roots, that the shells are modern.

OYSTER SHELL

Two fragments of oyster shell (*Ostrea edulis*) were hand collected from deposit (504). Given that the oyster shell was recovered from a deposit deriving from the demolition or robbing of wall foundations, it is possible that the shell may have been re-used for wall pinnings. Two small fragments of heavily fragmented oyster shell were also present in deposit (106).

BURNT BONE

Small amounts of indeterminate burnt bone were recovered from deposit (106) and (608). The bone has been weighed and is quantified in Table A3.2.

ANIMAL BONE

Animal bone was hand collected from the fills (106) and (108) of ditches [107] and [109] respectively (Table A3.3). Identifiable elements from deposit (106) included sheep and cow mandible fragments and sheep scapula fragments. A bird phalange and fragmented sheep teeth were present in the retents from this deposit (Table A3.1). Other identifiable elements included sheep metapodial and a cow vertebra with evidence for canid gnawing (Table A3.3).

DISCUSSION

The palaeoenvironmental material offered some insight into site activity. The crop assemblage represented by oats, hulled barley and bread wheat is typical for the medieval period in England (Van der Veen *et al.* 2013). The animal bone assemblage suggests that inhabitants enjoyed a varied diet with bird (probably chicken), sheep and cattle bone present. It is also possible that oysters were consumed on site.

It is unlikely that analysis of the material would provide any further information.

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DISCUSSION

Deposits and features within Trench 1, within the precinct of the priory, reflect a pattern observed during previous evaluation of the area (TVAS 2013). The wall foundation recorded may relate to ancillary structures within the precinct or may represent some form of boundary wall. Structural evidence from the earlier evaluation suggests a continuation of priory activity in the area. The presence of a burial (Richard Oram pers comm) unreported in the TVAS investigation of 2013, would also seem to support the suggestion of activity related to the priory in the vicinity.

Ditches noted in Trench 1 may also be indicative of activity pre-dating the priory, similar to that previously observed. Comparison between the two evaluations does suggest variable levels of preservation, in many places poor, and later disturbance to remains within this area of the development.

The overall stratigraphic sequence on the site varied from trench to trench. The sequence in Trench 2 demonstrated a deeper subsoil formation to the north of the wall foundation than in its south. This may be due to colluviation, with the ground rising noticeably towards the north.

Within Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 6 a deposit from which animal bone and pottery of ?Saxo-Norman (yet to be confirmed) date was recovered appears to predate the priory construction. Wall foundations in Trench 6 were observed to cut the deposit. Provisional interpretation of environmental evidence from a sample taken in Trench 6 suggests that this may have been marginal ground in proximity to water course, likely to be seasonally waterlogged or water meadow type land probably associated with the original line of a former stream course.

The structural remains identified indicate a high degree of variability in preservation ranging from totally robbed out foundations in Trench 5 to heavily disturbed remains comprising several courses of roughly faced foundations in Trenches 2 and 4. There is also considerable variation in height to which structures survived below ground level, from 0.45m to 0.85m. Almost all structural remains identified comprised wall foundations only, and so survival of walls themselves was limited to a single observation in Trench 4. Only one heavily disturbed floor surface was identified (see trench 5 below). Elsewhere on the site this type of feature having been entirely removed by later robbing out or modern disturbance. These findings augment previous investigations from 1983 onwards, which demonstrates

that the survival of the remains of the priory has been significantly compromised through robbing and subsequent damage caused by the construction of buildings on the site.

It appears that the remains exposed are part of the outline of a cloister broadly 27m square internally lying to the south of the church. There appear to be gaps in the interior of the cloister as recorded in Trench 4 either a result of later robbing or possibly entrances. The walls identified also match the Arrow Geophysics anomalies which do appear to show the broad outline of the cloister area. The cloister walk measures approximately 2.7m in width along each side.

Within Trench 3, deposits interpreted as potentially being for stabilising and bedding were observed. It may well be that some structural feature, to the interior of the cloister, existed here. Trenching in 2013 by TVAS recorded wall foundations and a possible floor remnant which can now be demonstrated to lie within the interior of the cloister.

The southern wall of the Priory church was identified in trenches 2 and 6, though it was entirely destroyed towards the east in Trench 6 by the foundations of a 20th century building. This ties in with a prior watching brief which also recorded extensive truncation of foundations, probably of the southern church wall, to the east of Trench 6. A partially exposed north-south, eastern face of a foundation in Trench 2 hints at a possible western church wall, but with so little exposed this could equally be a pilaster base, similar to those recorded in the 1964 investigations.

Trench 5 also identified the apparent corner of a structure with the disturbed remnant of an associated floor surface and bedding deposit. This was the only trench in which any evidence of the survival of floor surfaces was identified, although even here the small proportion that survived had been disturbed. The extension to Trench 2, to check for remains and floor levels within the interior of the church, only recorded a sequence of subsoil and demolition related deposits.

The Trench 5 foundations appeared to indicate a corner of a building. Post-excavation analysis, suggests that this formed part of the north wall of the chapter house and the eastern wall of a further structure to the north, the robbed wall foundation within Trench 5 representing a partition wall within the chapter house. This ties in roughly with the antiquarian plans of these features.

The pre-existing plan of the layout of the Priory complex does not match exactly with the remains recorded during this evaluation and it is evident that extrapolations, particularly in 1968, have been made with regard to this. Illustration 21 combines the evidence from this investigation with the plans from 1819 and 1968 where known points and descriptions of specific remains exist. The dGPS survey of features provides a more precise location of the known remains relative to given plans which were not precisely located in earlier investigations. More recent evidence is also incorporated within illustration 21. The 1968 and 1819 plans can be seen to more accurately align with 2013 excavation plans and the survey following adjustments based on the data collected during this investigation.

Furthermore, geophysical anomalies identified in 2006 may be used to locate the probable northwest corner of the church and help tie down the western extent of the church, the location of which is at present unknown.

A minimum of two phases of demolition appear to have occurred. The original destruction of the priory, potentially shown by early sequences of layers of material during this evaluation and deposits described by Dunkin in 1819. A later post-medieval, probably Victorian, robbing out of foundations as

evidenced by a robber cut in Trench 2 and further layers of demolition-based dumped deposits. Demolition and robbing also appears to have disturbed graves in the area as evidenced by the presence of disarticulated human remains, a point where similar remains were noted by Dunkin in 1819.

CONCLUSION

The results of this evaluation indicate relatively poor preservation of remains of priory structures with predominantly rubble wall and robbed out wall foundations surviving. Modern demolition and construction, with at least 2 phases of robbing and demolition of the remains, contributing to substantial truncation, followed in some areas by wholesale destruction during the construction of 20th century buildings. So the level of preservation and survival varies greatly across the trenched areas, with wall foundations either totally removed or surviving as little as 0.45-0.5m below the current ground surface. In general, extensive denudation of remains has occurred with evidence of floor surfaces generally absent and only one instance of partial survival observed during the current phase of work.

The digital survey of the site undertaken during this evaluation and subsequent re-adjustment of the pre-supposed plan of the layout of recorded remains, has contributed to more accurately positioning and scaling of the remains identified in disparate investigations. Furthermore, the prior geophysical plots may be seen to hold further detail in view of the revised plan than originally interpreted from that report.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

APPENDIX 1.1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER

TR01	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	NW-SE	12	1.6	0.60
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
101	Topsoil – Dark grey slightly silty sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal fragments			0-0.60
102	Natural Geological Deposit – Limestone Brash			0.60
103	Dry stone wall foundation – little surviving bonding material? Possible fragments of decayed mortar, 2 random courses, roughly hewn limestone blocks, NW-SE orientation, >2.10m long, >0.24m wide			0.25
104	Mid-greyish brown clayey silt – fill of post-hole 105			0.60
105	Sub-circular cut, 0.31 x 0.27 x 0.07m deep, heavily truncated post-hole			0.60
106	Mid-greyish brown clayey silt containing frequent small limestone fragments - single fill of ditch 107			0.60
107	Linear cut – 1.84 x 0.62m x 0.24m deep, N-S orientation, steep sides, concave base – Ditch			0.60
108	Mid-greyish brown clayey silt, fill of 109			0.60
109	Linear cut, N-S orientation. >1.58m long, 0.58m wide and 0.08m deep, truncated ditch			0.60
110	Dark grey clayey silt – fill of 111			0.60
111	Linear cut E-W orientation >0.50m wide, not excavated – Probable ditch			0.60
Summary: Wall foundation, post-hole, 2 ditches, 1 x linear				

TR02	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	E-W with N-S extension	8	1.6	0.50-1.35
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
201	Brick, stone demolition debris – Made ground			0-0.40
202	Dark grey slightly silty sandy clay - Topsoil			0-0.30
203	Dark grey Clayey, sandy-silt, containing frequent limestone, charcoal and mortar fragments – backfill in robber cut			0.30
204	Linear cut E-W orientation, >7m E-W > 1.5m N-S Minimum 0.32m deep. – Robber trench over wall foundation			0.3
205	Wall foundation E-W orientation 1.58m wide >7m long, Roughly hewn limestones of variable size			0.45-0.70

	set in light yellowish brown gritty sandy clay mortar, Random coursed, survives to 5 rough courses, 0.50m deep	
206	Wall foundation – N-S orientation, >0.60m wide >1.50m long, >0.40 deep. Roughly hewn limestones of variable size, heavily truncated and loose to south, set in yellowish brown sandy clay mortar	0.50
207	Subsoil- Mid yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent small limestones, occasional mortar and charcoal fragments.	0.45
208	Mid bluish-grey sandy clay and limestone	0.60
209	Yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent small limestones, occasional mortar and charcoal fragments.	0.60-0.85
210	Mid-grey sandy clay and stones containing frequent mortar patches, and small angular limestones – dumped demolition deposit	0.30
211	Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent charcoal fragments and occasional limestone fragments - dumped demolition deposit	0.45
212	Mid brown gritty clayey sand containing frequent mortar fragments pea-gravel and occasional limestone fragments – Dumped demolition deposit	0.60
213	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay and stones – Subsoil deposit	1.20
214	Mid grey gritty sandy clay containing frequent limestone fragments and occasional charcoal fragments – fill of 215	0.30
215	Partially exposed cut, >1m N-S >1m E-W, 0.35m deep, steep sides flat base – Robber cut – same as 204	0.30
Summary: Wall foundations, robber cut		

TR03	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	E-W	8.8	1.6	0.80
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
301	Topsoil - Dark grey, slightly silty clayey sand containing frequent limestones			0-0.20
302	Dark grey sandy clay- subsoil			0.30-0.70
303	Limestone rubble wall foundation, N-S, >0.50m wide >0.40m deep – Former inner western cloister wall			0.60/0.70
304	Variably sized limestones, partially exposed, possible ground stabilising deposit or structural			0.85
305	Reddish brown slightly sandy clay, possible bedding deposit			0.80
306	Mid grey sandy clay and limestone fragments – Fill of 307			0.60
307	Partially exposed linear cut, N-S, >0.50m wide – service trench cut			0.60
308	Variably sized roughly hewn limestones in a yellow-brown sandy clay – Wall collapse			0.60

309	Mid brownish grey sandy clay	0.65
310	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay, mortar and limestones – Dumped demolition deposit	0.75
311	Mid grey, gritty sandy clay containing frequent limestones, mortar and charcoal – Levelling deposit	0.60
312	Light brown sandy clay containing frequent limestones – associated with wall collapse and demolition	0.60
Summary: Wall foundation, beddings deposits, possible robbed wall, service trench		

TR04	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	N-S	6.4	1.6	1.00
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
401	Dark grey slightly silty sandy clay - Topsoil			0-0.25/0.67
402	Mid grey gritty sandy clay containing frequent charcoal, limestone fragments and occasional mortar fragments – Levelling deposit			0.60
403	Dark brownish yellow mortar, stone and sandy clay – Demolition deposit			0.25/0.55
404	Limestone wall foundation, E-W, roughly hewn limestones, 5 random courses – Southern outer cloister wall			0.43
405	Limestone wall foundation, E-W orientation, ends within trench at west, >1.06m long, >0.50m wide, roughly hewn limestones – inner cloister wall			0.78
406	Light brownish grey sandy clay and stones – demolition/robbing backfill			0.50
407	Mid-yellowish brown sandy clay and stones – demolition deposit			0.90
408	Mid-bluish grey sandy clay			0.77
Summary: Wall foundations				

TR05	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	N-S	9.5	1.6	0.70-0.90
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
501	Tarmac and make up layer for modern path			0-0.45
502	Dark greyish brown silty clay topsoil			0-0.20
503	Mid reddish brown silty clay – subsoil or levelling deposit			0.45
504	Light greyish brown sandy mortar and limestone fragments – Demolition deposit			0.60
505	Limestone floor remnant, variable sized limestones, single course in section, 0.66m wide exposed			0.70
506	Light yellowish grey sandy mortar and limestone fragments, setting deposit for floor surface			0.75
507	Mid reddish brown sandy clay and limestones – Subsoil			0.86
508	Limestone wall foundation, N-S, >2.60m long, >0.67m wide single random course			0.65

509	Step limestone wall foundation, N-S, >0.86m wide, >2.60m long, minimum 4 random courses	0.73
510	Limestone wall foundation, E-W, 3 random courses, roughly hewn limestones, >1.60m long, 1.40m wide	0.70
511	E-W linear cut, 1.15m wide, 0.06m deep – robbed out wall foundation	0.92
512	Light greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent mortar and limestone fragments – Fill of 511	0.92
513	Light greyish yellow sandy mortar and sandy clay containing frequent limestone fragments – construction or demolition deposit	0.91
Summary: Robbed wall foundation, wall foundations, floor surface remnant		

TR06	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
	N-S	10.5	1.6	1.00
Context	Description			Depth below ground level (m)
601	Modern demolition rubble – made ground			0-0.70
602	Mid-yellowish brown sandy mortar and limestone fragments – demolition deposit			0.70
603	Limestone wall foundation, E-W, >1.30m wide >0.40m long, 0.15m depth exposed, Roughly hewn limestones			0.85
604	Mid-yellowish brown sandy mortar and limestone fragments – demolition deposit			0.70
605	Limestone wall foundation, E-W, 1.22m wide, 0.21m deep, >1.60m long Roughly hewn limestones			0.95
606	Linear foundation cut for 605, step sides 1.40m wide			0.95
607	Mid greyish yellow sandy mortar and limestone fragments, packing/fill in foundation trench			0.95
608	Dark brown silty clay containing frequent charcoal fragments and animal bone fragments			1.10
Summary: Wall foundations, layer				

APPENDIX 2 FINDS DATA

APPENDIX 2.1 FINDS CATALOGUE

Trench	Context	Feature	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date
1	106	ditch [107]	2	1	0	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	small pieces of possible hammerscale	
1	106	ditch [107]		1	42	CBM	Floor tile	FT1 Stabbed Wessex	14th
1	106	ditch [107]		1	1	Pottery (Medi)	OXR	St Neots Ware	10th-12th
1	106	ditch [107]		6	25	Pottery (Medi)	OXAC	Cotswolds-type Ware	11th-M14th
1	106	ditch [107]	2	1	1	Lithics	Tool	microlith fragment. Distal fragment with abrupt retouch to either lateral.	Meso

Trench	Context	Feature	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date
								Most likely crescent shaped microlith	
1	106	ditch [107]	2	2	0	Glass	Fragments	window glass?	Mod?
2	203	robber trench 204		2	3	Clay Pipe	Stems	narrow bore	L18th-E20th
3	302	subsoil 302		1	142	CBM	Roof tile	RT1 Shelly	14th
3	306	linear [307]		1	1	Pottery (Mod)	CRM	Creamware	M18th-E19th
3	306	linear [307]		1	2	Clay Pipe	Stem	narrow bore	L18th-E20th
5	504	demolition 504		2	81	CBM	Roof tile	RT2 Brill type	13th-14th
5	504	demolition 504		1	92	CBM	Floor tile	FT1 Stabbed Wessex	L13th-14th
5	504	demolition 504		24	77	Pottery (Medi)	OXAM	Brill/Boarstall Ware	13th-16th
6	608	buried ground surface 608		1	3	Pottery (Medi)	OXY	Medieval Oxford Ware	L11th-M14th

APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

Table A3.1. Retent results

Context	Sample	Sample Vol (l)	Pottery	Glass	Burnt bone	Unburnt bone	Marine shell	Terrestrial shell	Charred plant remains	Charcoal		Material available for AMS Dating	Comments
					Mammal	Mammal				Qty	Max Size (cm)		
608	001	40		+	+	++++			+	++++	1	Y	Charcoal is non-oak. Cereal grains includes indeterminate cereal and oat. Unburnt bone-84g, heavily fragmented, includes sheep vertebra, cow phalange, sheep mandibular condyle, bird ulna. Indet. burnt bone- 4g.
106	002	40	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	-	-	Y	Charcoal is non-oak. Cereal indet. and oat grains. Unburnt bone (61g) includes bird phalange, sheep teeth and heavily fragmented longbone. Indet burnt bone-3g

Key: + = rare (1-5), ++ = occasional (6-15), +++ = common (16-50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

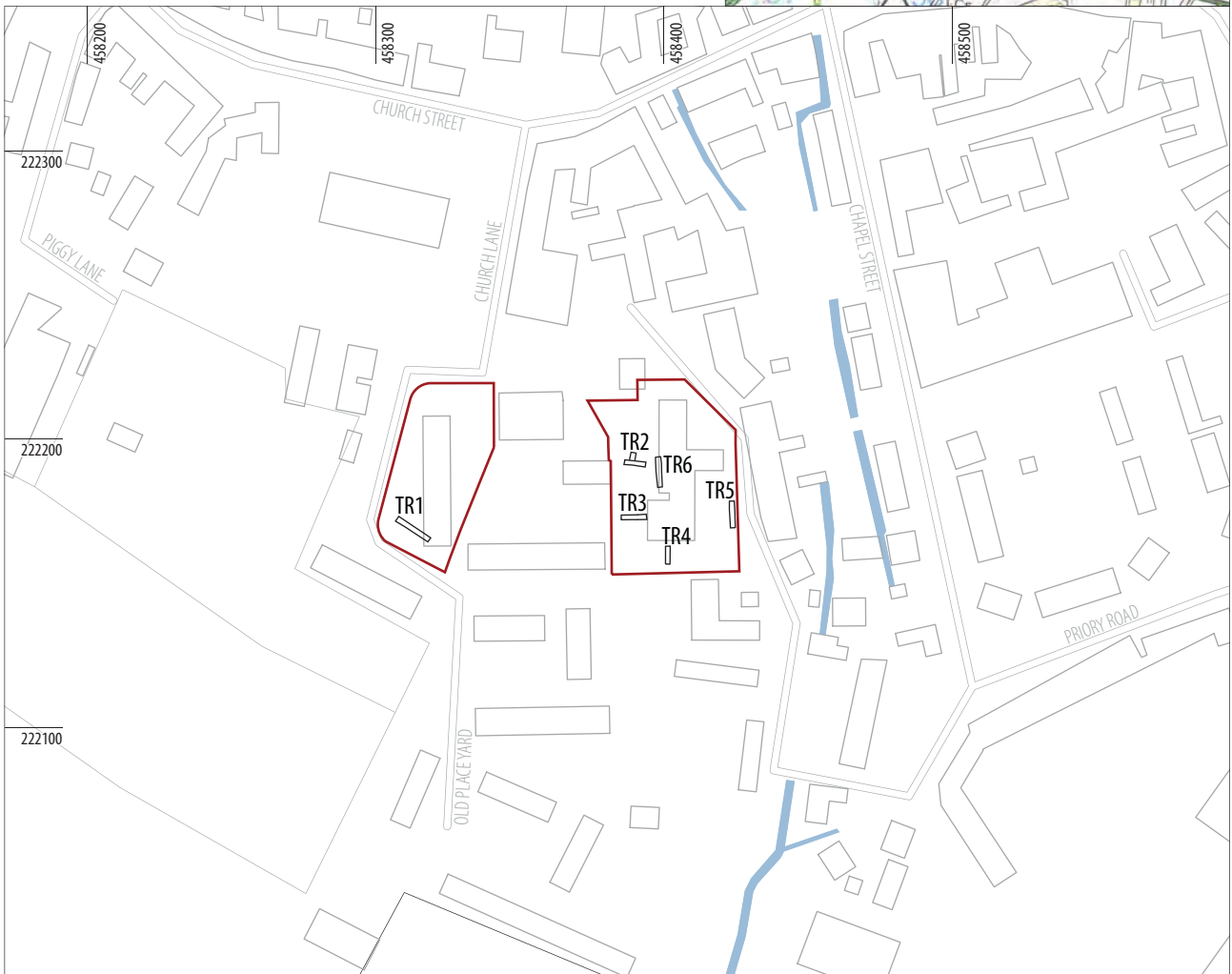
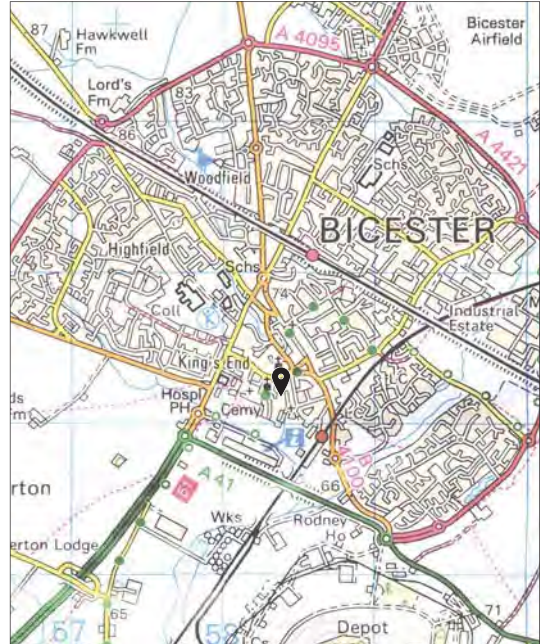
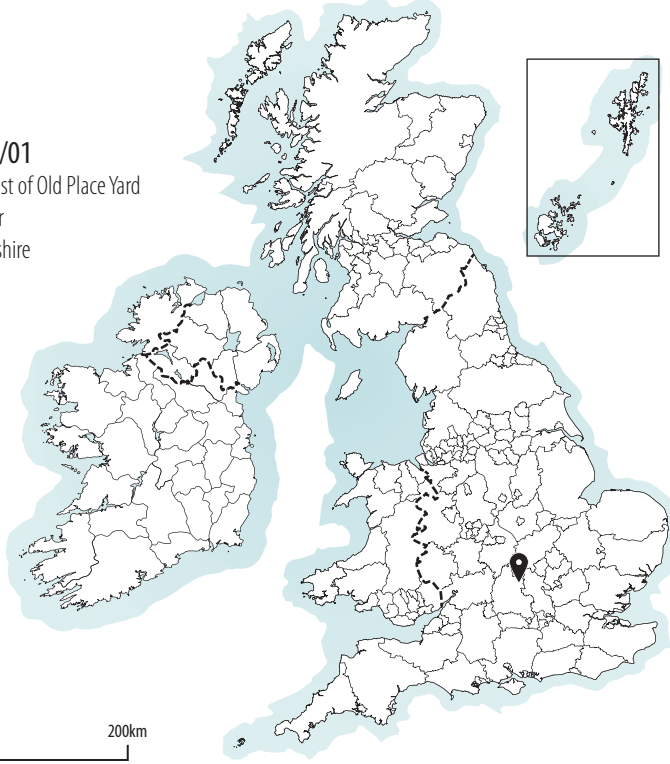
Table A3.2 Flotation sample results

Context	Sample	Total flot Vol (ml)	Hulled Barley	Bread Wheat	Oats	In-det. cereal	Charcoal		Material available for AMS	Comments
							Qty	Max size (mm)		
608	1	10					+	5	N	Also contains terrestrial snail shell
106	2	20	+++	++	+	+	++	5	Y	Cereal grain heavily abraded

Table A3.3 Hand collected animal bone

CONTEXT	Description	Condition	IDENTIFIABLE			Notes	TOTAL
			Cattle	Sheep			
106	Fill of ditch [107]	Poor	1	2		Sheep and cow mandible fragments, sheep scapula	3
108	Fill of ditch [109]	Poor	1	1		Sheep metapodial, Canid gnawed cow vertebra	2
TOTAL			2	3			5

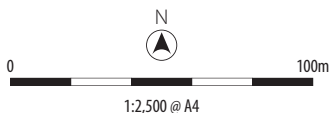
OPYO/01
land east of Old Place Yard
Bicester
Oxfordshire



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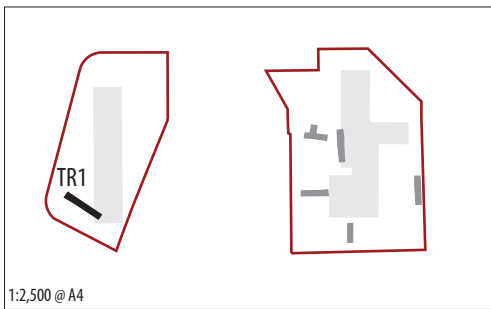
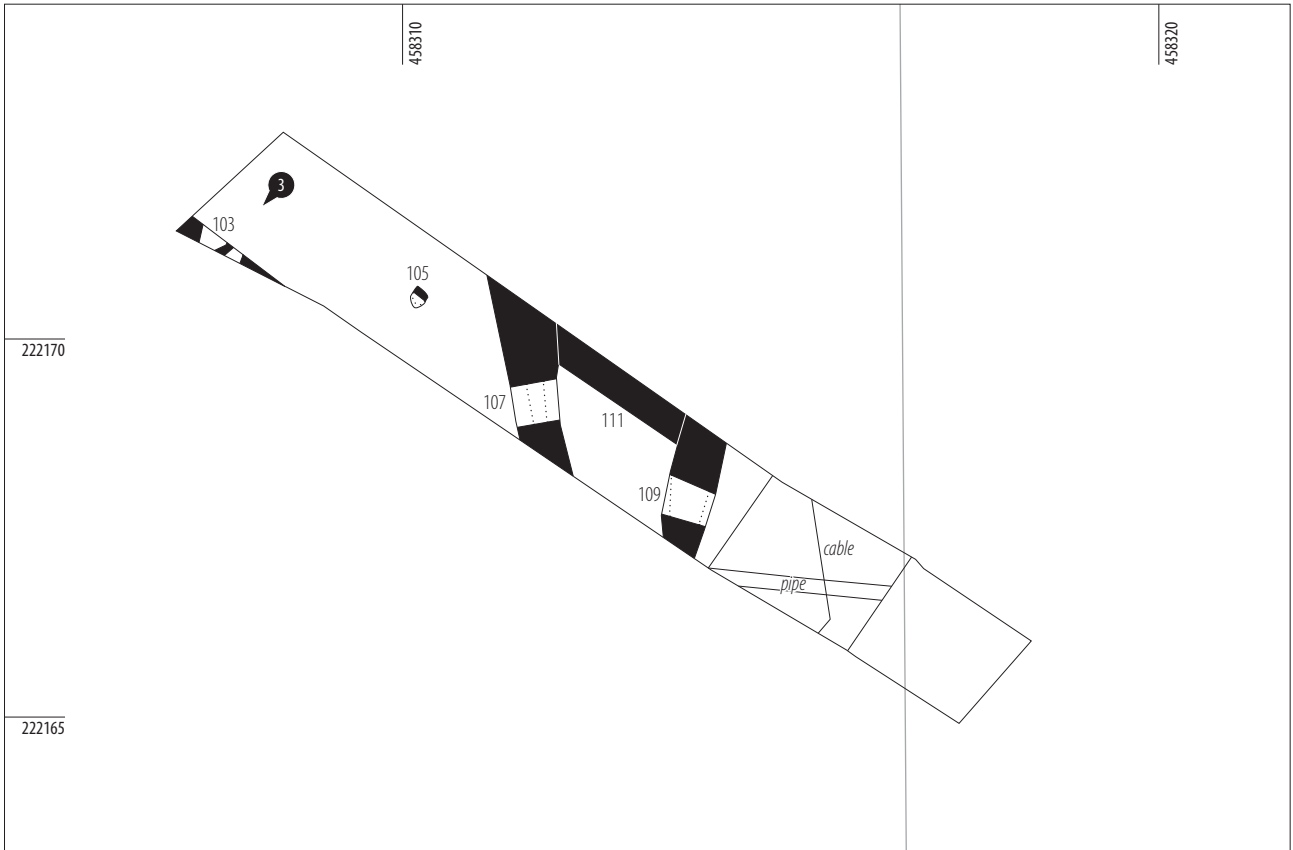
KEY

- development boundary
- trench location



MIDLANDS & WEST Unit 1, Clearview Court, Twyford Road
Hereford HR2 6JR
01432 364 901
www.headlandarchaeology.com

ILLUS 1 Site location



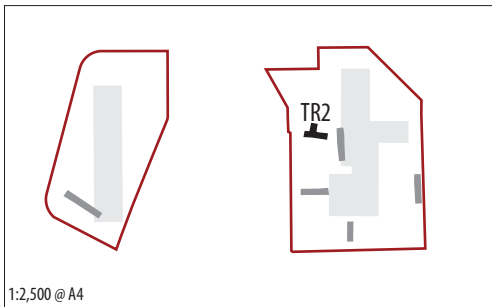
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ILLUS 2 Plan of Trench 1



ILLUS 3 NE facing view of dry-stone wall [103]



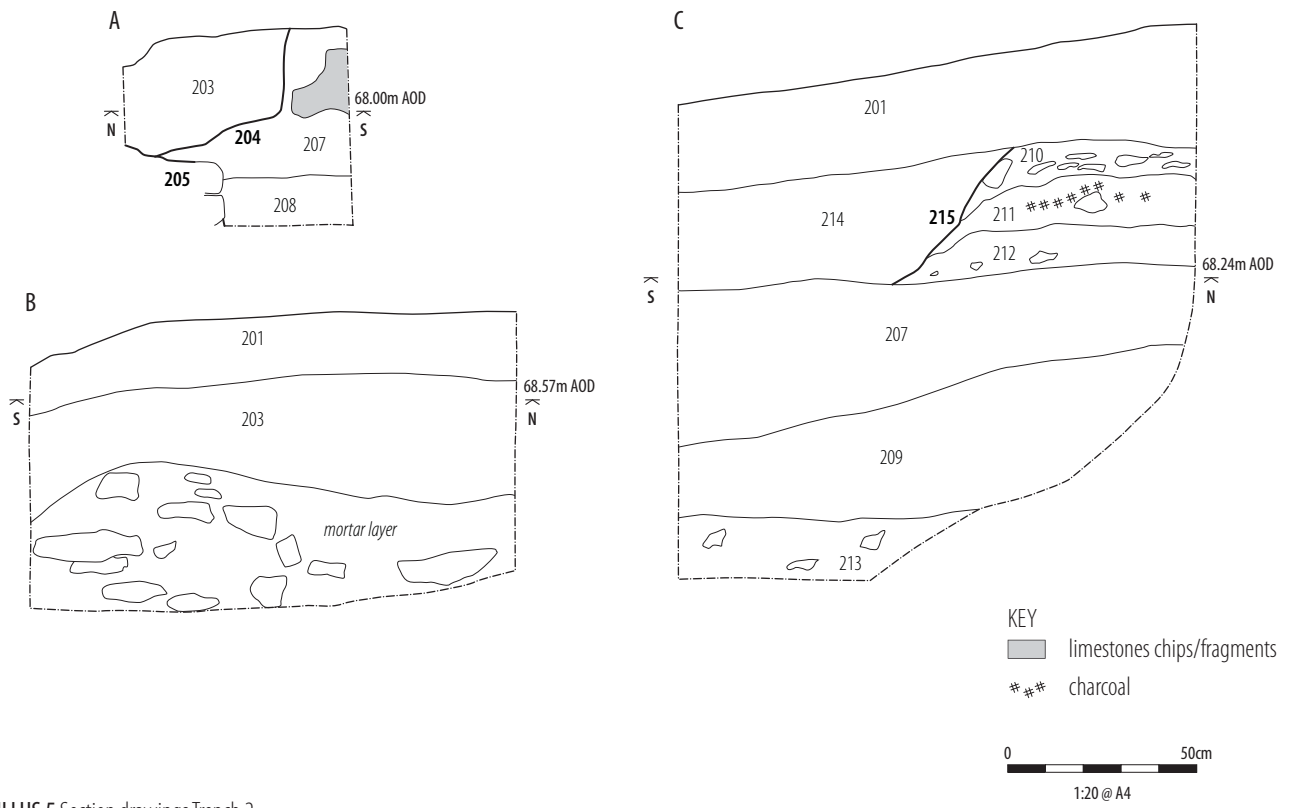
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m AOD	m AOD	m AOD
01 67.98	07 68.14	13 68.09
02 67.79	08 67.80	14 68.24
03 67.86	09 67.81	15 67.59
04 68.09	10 67.88	16 67.79
05 68.10	11 68.01	17 67.83
06 67.08	12 68.14	

location for Illus 6-7



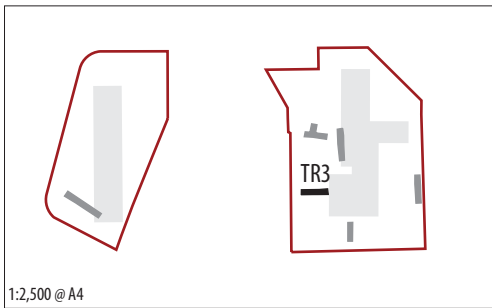
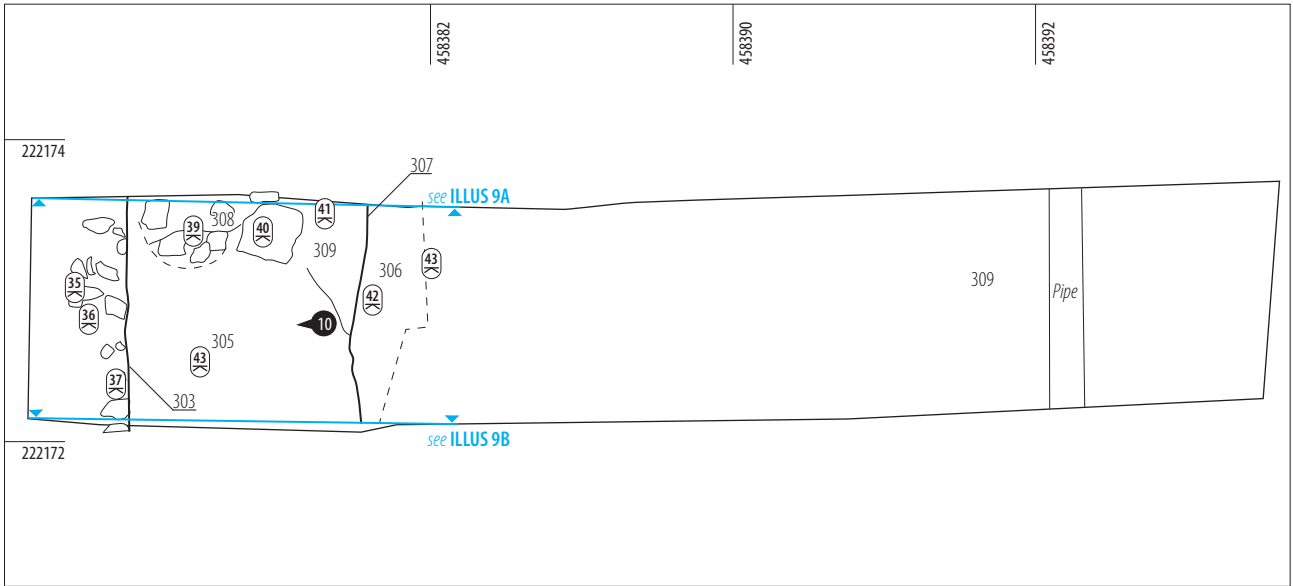
ILLUS 4 Plan of Trench 2



ILLUS 5 Section drawings Trench 2



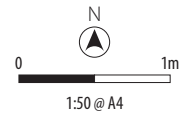
ILLUS 6 E facing view of wall foundation [205] **ILLUS 7** View of northern face of wall foundation [205] in trench extension



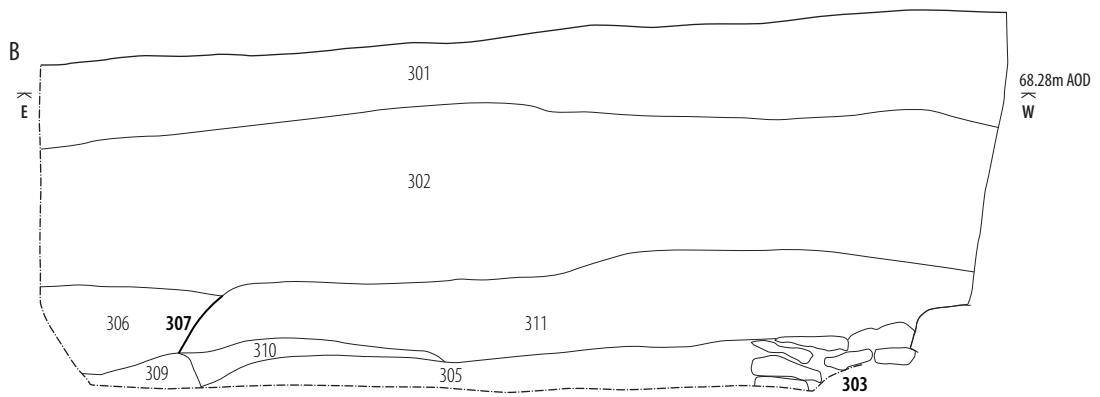
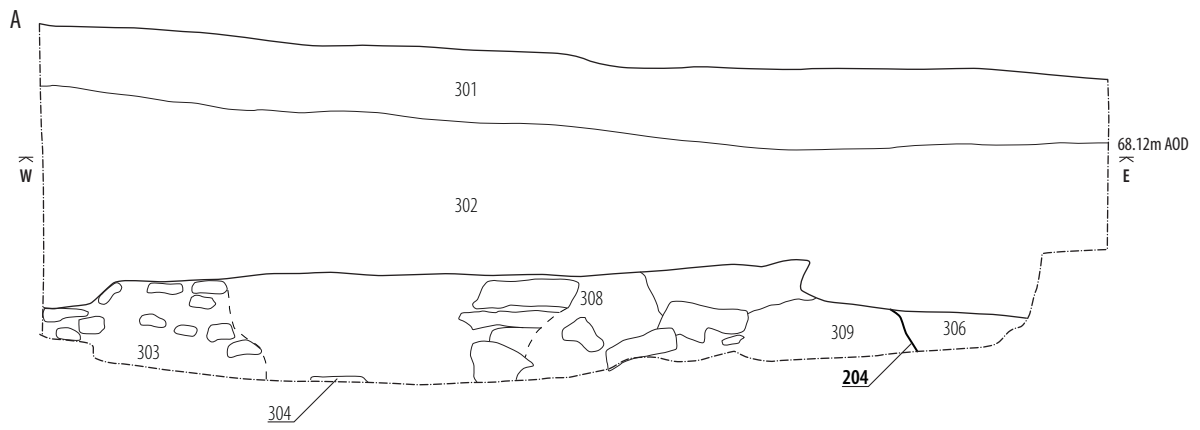
KEY

	m AOD		m AOD
35	67.84	41	67.47
36	67.64	42	67.47
37	67.40	43	67.77
38	67.35		
39	67.35		
40	67.49		

location for Illus 10



ILLUS 8 Plan of trench 3



ILLUS 9 Section drawings Trench 3



ILLUS 10 W facing general view of wall foundation [303]

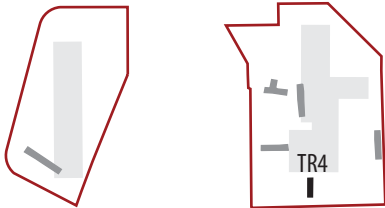
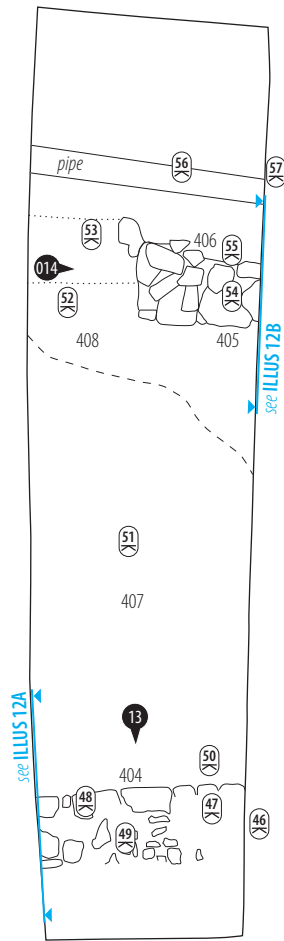
458400

458405

222162

222160

222158

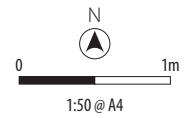


1:2,500 @ A4

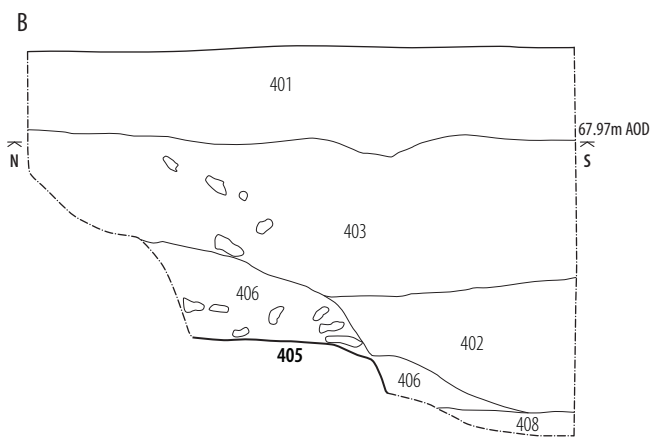
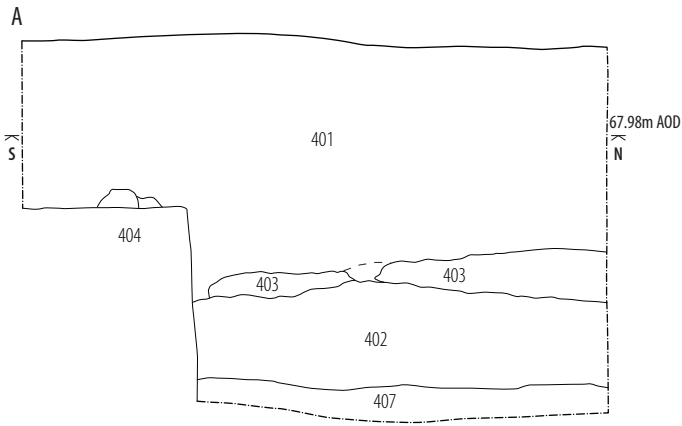
KEY

m AOD	m AOD
46 68.18	52 67.16
47 67.69	53 67.31
48 67.72	54 67.36
49 67.78	55 67.51
50 67.11	56 67.85
51 67.14	57 68.12

location for Illus 13-14



ILLUS 11 Plan of trench 4

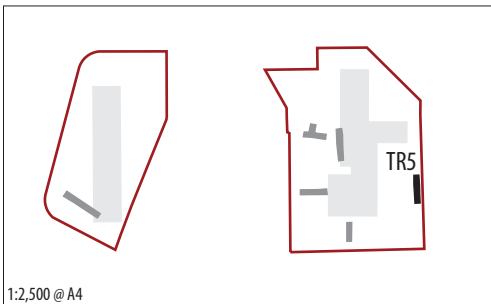
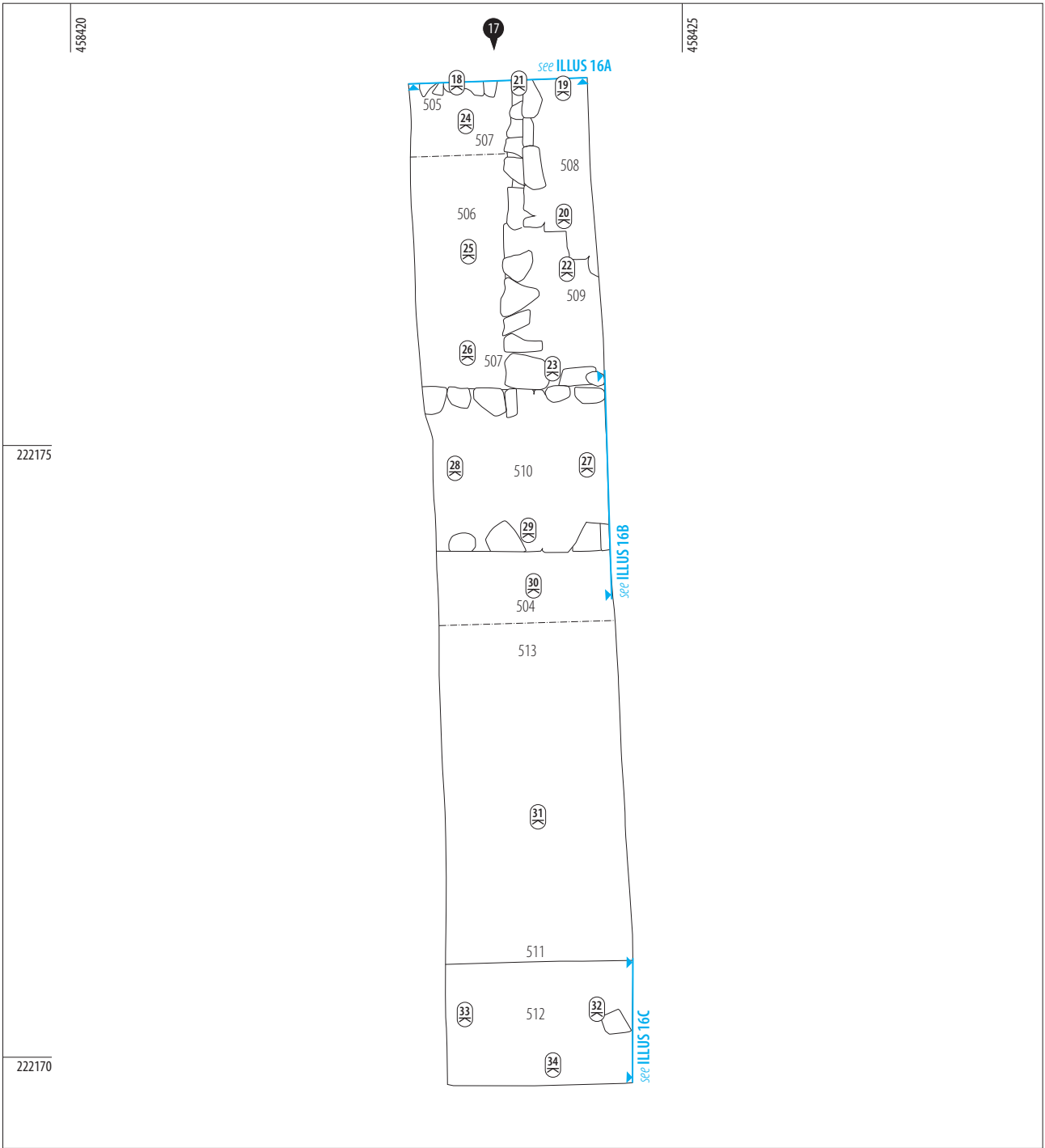


ILLUS 12 Section drawings Trench 4



ILLUS 13 N facing elevation, wall [404]
ILLUS 14 Plan view of wall foundation [405]

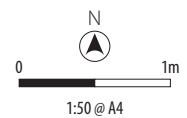




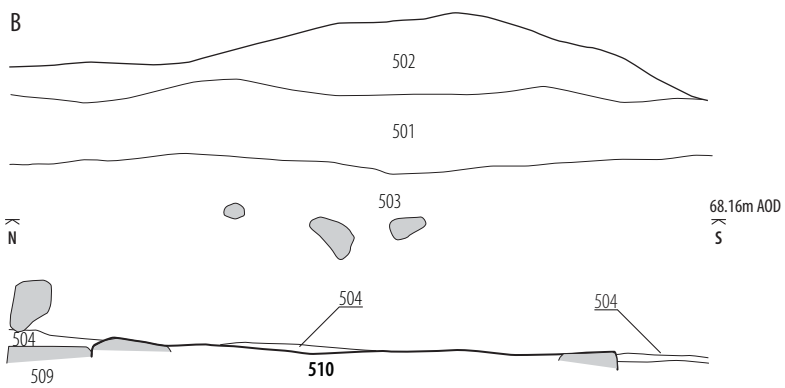
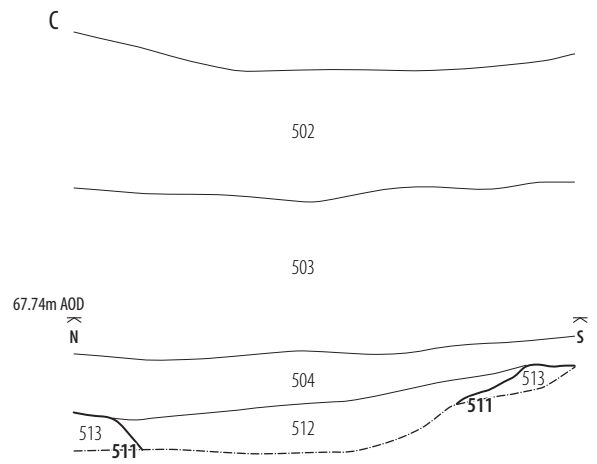
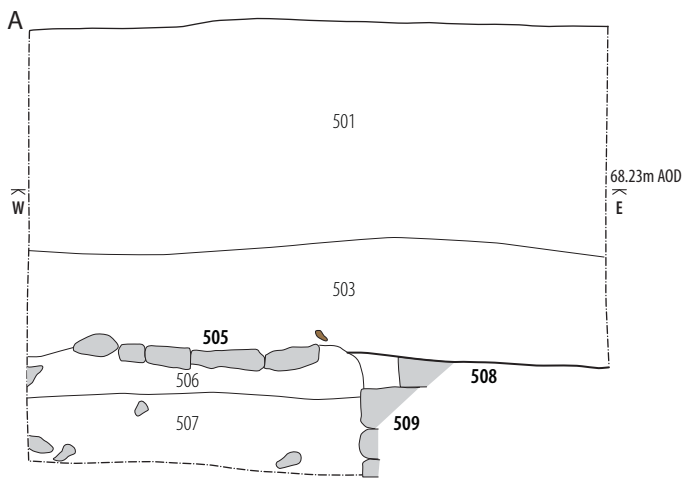
KEY



m AOD	m AOD	m AOD
18 67.77	24 67.41	30 67.70
19 67.80	25 67.70	31 67.53
20 67.81	26 67.44	32 67.46
21 67.72	27 67.71	33 67.38
22 67.72	28 67.76	34 67.55
23 67.67	29 67.77	

location for Illus 17



ILLUS 15 Plan of Trench 5



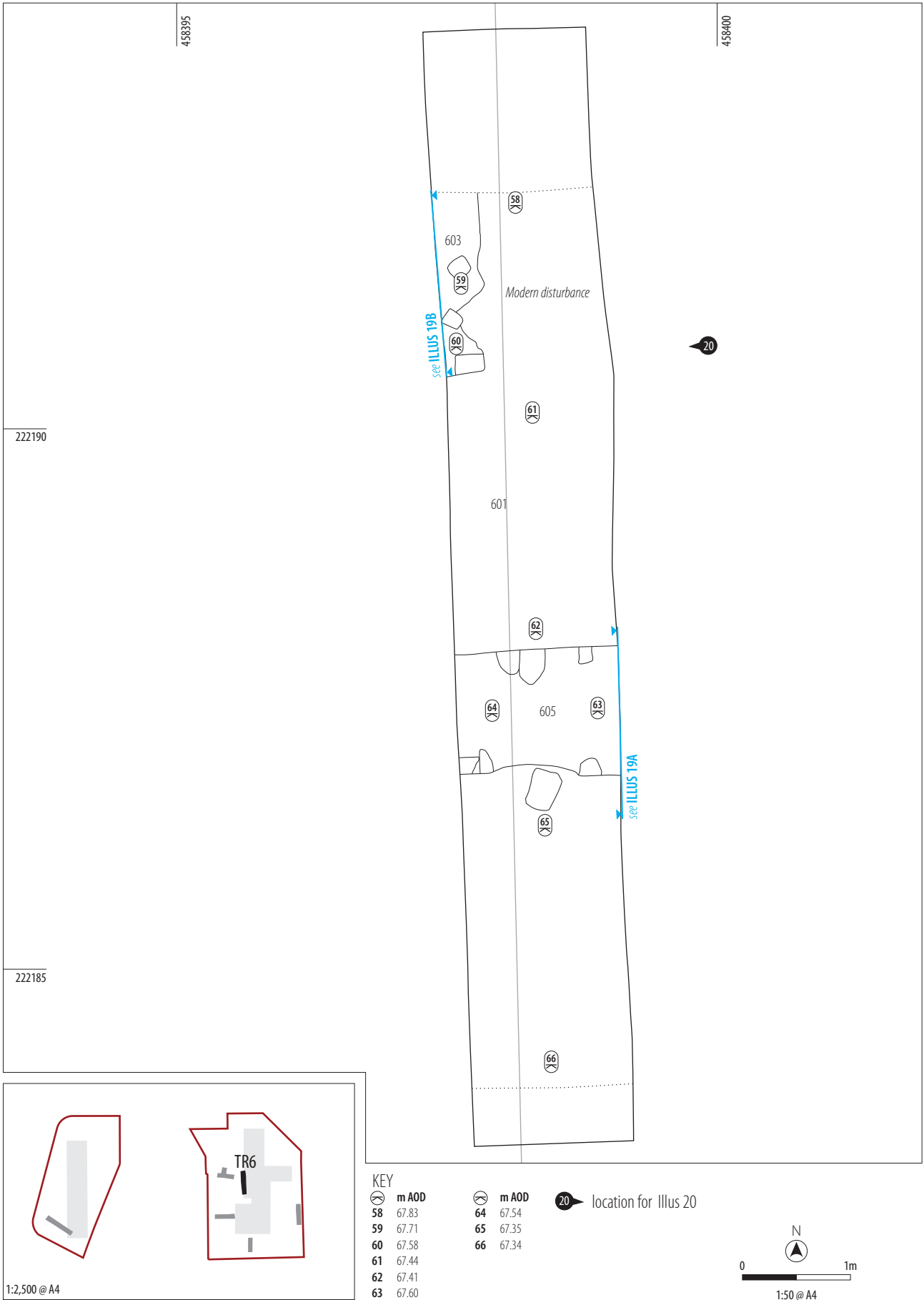
KEY
 bone
 lime stones



ILLUS 16 Section drawings Trench 5

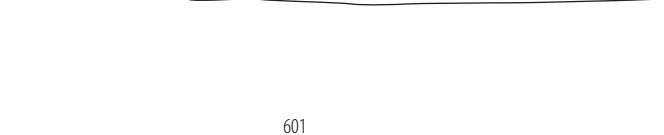


ILLUS 17 S facing view of wall foundations [509] and [510]



ILLUS 18 Plan of trench 6

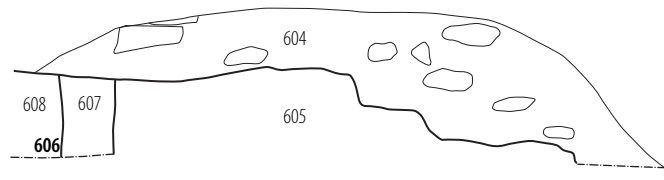
A



601

N

87.25m AOD
S



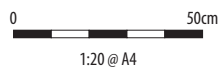
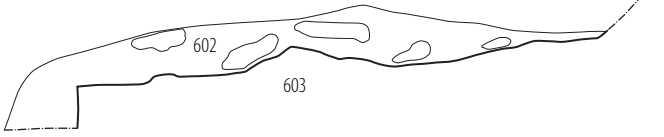
B



601

68.09m AOD
S

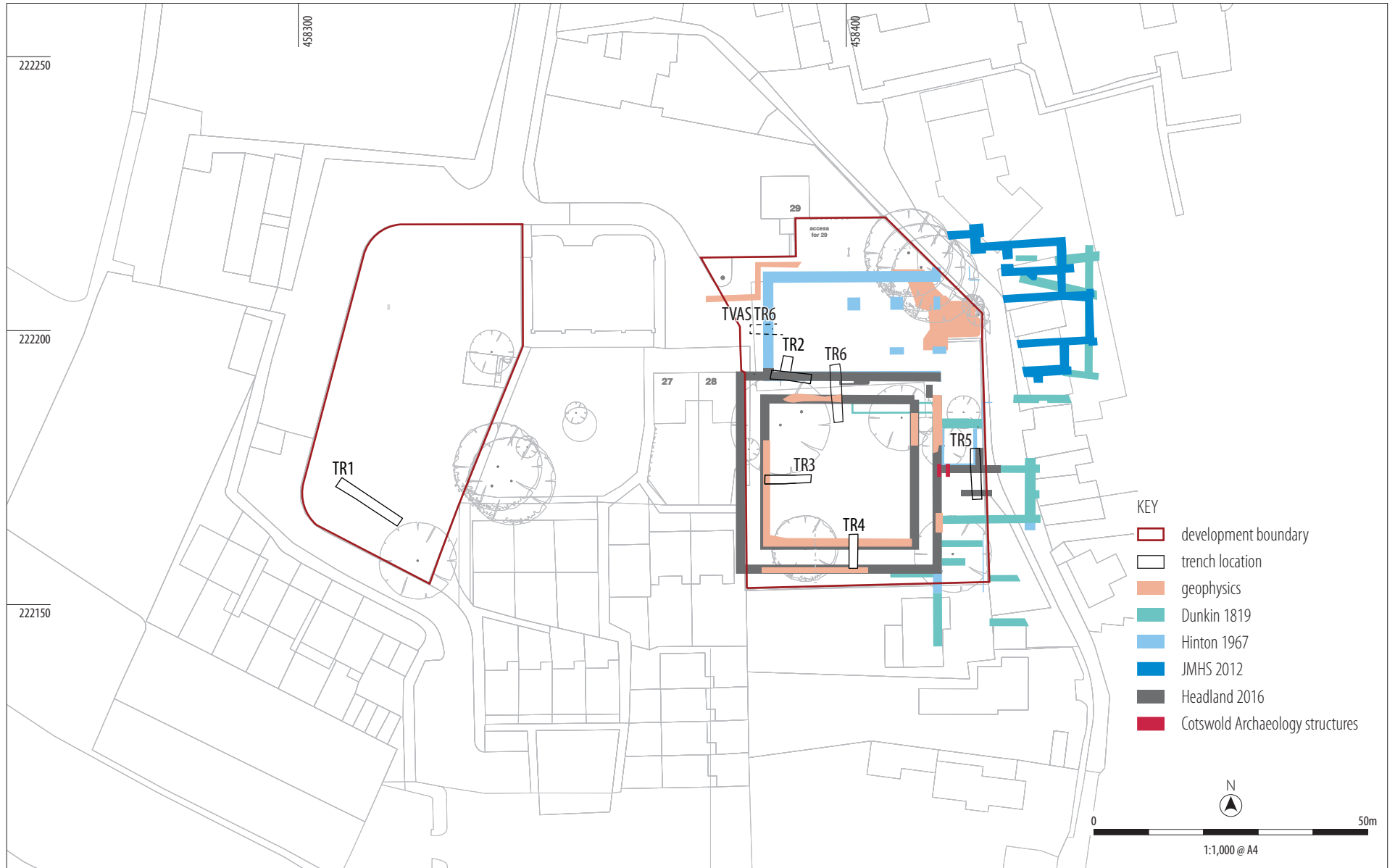
N



ILLUS 19 Section drawings Trench 6



ILLUS 20 W facing general view Trenches 6 and 2, showing wall foundations ([603] and [605] in foreground)



ILLUS 21 Composite plan of investigations on Priory site



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