



12 The Close Salisbury

Archaeological Evaluation



Ref: 248650.02
August 2021



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Document Information

Document title 12 The Close, Salisbury
Document subtitle Archaeological Evaluation
Document reference 248650.02

Commissioned by Historic Building Advisory Service
Address PO Box 2140
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On behalf of [REDACTED]
Address 12, The Close
Salisbury
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Site location 12 The Close, Salisbury
County Wiltshire
National grid reference (NGR) 414498 129629 (SU 14498 29629)
Statutory designations Grade II Listed building (NHLE 1355834)
Planning authority Wiltshire County Council
Museum name Salisbury Museum
Museum accession code TBC
OASIS Id wessexar1-428243

WA project code 248650
Dates of fieldwork 26 – 28 July 2021
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Quality Assurance

Issue	Date		Author	Approved by
1	20/08/2021	External draft	PO/RLC	DDR
2				



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Historic Building Advisory Service (Salisbury), on behalf of the client, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the garden immediately west of 12 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EB, centred on NGR 414498 129629 (SU 14498 29629).

Two trial trenches were hand excavated in level spits by archaeologists. Trench 1 measured 5.50 m by 0.80 m and Trench 2 was 2.05 m long and 0.70 m wide. The excavation proceeded up to a level that was both safe and suitable to achieve evaluation aim.

Well preserved remains of the north and south walls of medieval Hall of the Vicars Choral, which had survived / been left in place following the demolition of the building in the early 19th century, were located. The walls appear to align as anticipated with scars in the sidewall of the main range, with a made ground deposit of crushed and compacted mortar from the demolition having been spread over the area and covering the walls. No intact floor levels were identified, and it is likely these were removed at the time of the demolition. A single decorated fragment of medieval tile recovered from an overlying post demolition deposit may be a remnant of the original floor of the hall. A modern soakaway was also identified at the southern end of Trench 2, relating to drainage works undertaken at the property in the late 19th / early 20th century.

No earlier deposits or features predating the medieval hall walls were identified with further excavation being restricted within the trenches and having achieved the aim of identifying the remains of the medieval hall. Intact deposits were left in situ and survive between the two walls. Significant modern truncation was observed at the southern end of Trench 2 due to the installation of the soakaway.

The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource within the site and inform the proposed application and design of the proposed development.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 26th and 28th July 2021.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Bob Hill of Historic Building Advisory Service for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, on behalf of the client, and for the client's help and cooperation during the works.



12 The Close Salisbury

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Historic Building Advisory Service (Salisbury), on behalf of [REDACTED], to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the garden immediately west of 12 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EB, centred on NGR 414498 129629 (SU 14498 29629) (**Fig. 1**).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of a garage and garden room on the west side of 12 The Close. The Grade II Listed property (NHLE 1355834) is thought to have originated as the service wing and accommodation dormitories for members of the Vicars' Choral. Remains of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral are thought to extend into the present-day garden. The evaluation was undertaken with the aim of locating such remains in order to inform construction methods and any associated impact and required mitigation in association with any future planning proposals.

1.1.3 The works, carried out between the 26th and 28th July 2021, comprised the hand excavation of two trenches measuring 5.50 m long and 0.80 m wide (Trench 1) and 2.05 m long and 0.70 m wide (Trench 2).

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.

1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The evaluation area was located in the garden of 12 The Close, Salisbury within Salisbury City Conservation Area. The site lies in Salisbury city centre, approximately 200 m north-east of Salisbury Cathedral and 20 m west of St Anne's Gate (NHLE no. 1355835) the eastern thoroughfare to the cathedral.

1.3.2 Existing ground levels were recorded at approximately 45.80 – 46.20 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Newhaven Chalk Formation - Chalk. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 72 to 86 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. With superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits, 4 - Sand and Gravel formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (British Geological Survey 2021).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A summary of the archaeological and historical background has previously been assessed within the Historic Building Condition Survey and Historic Building Impact Assessment (Historic Building Advisory Service 2019 and 2020). A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Archaeological and historical context

12 The Close

- 2.2.1 The site is located within the grounds of the Grade II listed building, 12 The Close (NHLE no. 1355834). The Hall of the Vicars' Choral was presumably built on this site from the earliest time of the Cathedral's foundation, the remnants of which are suspected to extend into the garden of the property. Parts of the building probably date to the 13th and 14th centuries, with elements from the 15th century. The present building externally would appear to be 16th to 17th century and altered later.
- 2.2.2 The building, as it now is seen, appears to be the service wing and the possible dormitory and accommodation for the Vicars' Choral.
- 2.2.3 Some historians suggest that the site as a whole originally incorporated what is now No. 13 in some manner. The original site is thought to have included a large open hall that extended from the west side of what is now the garden end of the hall, and where there are the three, pointed arch headed doorways. The hall is believed to have been removed in the early 19th century, though scars within the face of the sidewall of the extant property indicate its presence.

Salisbury

- 2.2.4 The city of Salisbury lies at the confluence of five rivers. The surrounding landscape contains evidence of human activity from the Palaeolithic, most notably at Milford hill on the eastern fringes of the city. Bronze Age flint tools have also been found during an archaeological evaluation in 1994, 50 m to the south-west of 12 The Close.
- 2.2.5 The locality continued to attract human occupation through the periods that followed, although this was predominantly along the fringes of the flood plain where conditions were drier. As a result, it is generally accepted that the cathedral, with its associated settlement, was founded on a 'green-field' site, a comparatively low-lying area, known as Myrfield, which was already owned by the bishop.
- 2.2.6 The city grew from a planned settlement, which was laid out on a gridded chequerboard to the north and east of the cathedral. The proximity of the River Avon provided an opportunity to incorporate a system of water courses which flowed through the streets. These were designed to supply water but also flush the streets of waste, a combination which resulted in periodic outbreaks of plague.
- 2.2.7 The Close formed one of the primary thoroughfares to Salisbury Cathedral from the east through St Anne's Gate (NHLE 1355835). As such the buildings within The Close were well placed to serve the Cathedral as well as high status individuals attracted not only to the theological centre but to the economic hub of the city.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site were to:

- confirm the presence of the remains of the medieval Hall of the Vicars' Choral and record the depth at which such remains are located; and
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character and preservation of any surviving remains of the medieval Hall.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out to target the extrapolated locations of the north and south walls of the medieval hall (**Fig. 1**).

4.2.2 Two trial trenches measuring 5.50 m long and 0.80 m wide (Trench 1) and 2.05 m long and 0.70 m wide (Trench 2) were hand excavated in level spits. The excavation proceeded to a depth that was both safe and suitable to achieve evaluation objectives.

- 4.2.3 Spoil from hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.
- 4.2.4 Completed trenches were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including hand drawn plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 or 1:10) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The excavated trenches revealed what are likely to be the walls of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral (**Fig. 1**) as well as more recent 19th to 20th century disturbance. The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by trench. Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**).
- 5.1.2 **Figure 1** displays the excavated trenches with the uncovered walls and the positioning in relation to the property, and projected lines of the medieval hall; **Figure 2** depicts the east and west facing sections of Trench 1, and **Figure 3** shows the east facing section of Trench 2.

5.2 Archaeological results

Trench 1

- 5.2.1 The earliest activity found within Trench 1 was the construction of the southern wall of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral observed at a depth of 0.0.84 m below ground level (bgl; 45.06 m aOD). Foundations (114) of tightly packed chalk nodules were recorded, on top of which the 0.80 m wide hall wall (112) was constructed (**Plates 1 – 4**). The wall comprised of flint

nodules bonded with mortar, three courses of which were found to remain. The foundations protruded 0.20 m from the base of the wall on either side and were backfilled with yellow-brown coarse silty sand (113).

- 5.2.2 Abutting the south side (outside) of the wall at the same level as the foundations, a possible buttress or other structure (115) contemporary with the hall wall was recorded (**Plates 1 – 3**). This structure consisted of tightly packed chalk nodules and flat stones of unidentified type, much like the construction of foundations 114. It appeared on a north-south alignment, approximately at a right-angle to the hall wall and measured 1 m long, the full width was not visible in the trench.
- 5.2.3 Abutting the north side (inside) of the wall was a made ground deposit (116), consisting of compacted light grey-white chalk with silt. This deposit was likely constructed as a levelling layer or floor surface of the hall, although no finds were recovered to confirm the date.
- 5.2.4 A demolition layer (103) overlay the hall wall in the centre of the trench (**Plate 5**). The 0.23 m thick layer consisted of light yellow-grey fine mortar fragments, common ceramic building material (CBM), glass, pottery, shells, and metal objects. The deposit varied in depth petering out towards the southern end of the trench. This deposit is thought to be derived from the demolition of the hall, removal of the stone and subsequent spreading of the remaining crushed mortar.
- 5.2.5 Deposits 109 and 110 were recorded within the western section at the southern end of Trench 1 and consisted of brown-grey sandy silt with common mortar, and stone, and dark grey sandy silt loam, with thicknesses of 0.29 m. Finds recovered from these deposits are largely post-medieval, although a single medieval roof tile was recovered from 109. The purpose of these deposits is unclear, it is possible that they are layers created during the demolition of the hall. These deposits were excavated along with fills 102 and 120 relating to the installation of a soakaway (106/105) and were only discernible post excavation, when the upstanding sections were cleaned and recorded.
- 5.2.6 Pit 107 measuring 0.30 m deep, cut deposit 109, and again was only clearly discernible once cleaning of the upstanding section had been undertaken. This was excavated along with fill 102. The pit contained a yellow-brown sandy silt (108), within which residual medieval roof tile, post-medieval CBM, glass, flint nodules, stones and fine mortar fragments were recovered. The purpose of this pit is unknown, though the finds suggest it was used to dispose of building material rather than for household refuse.
- 5.2.7 A large cut (119) was recorded at the southern end of the trench (**Plate 5**), which clearly truncated the mortar deposit (103) that overlay the remains of the medieval hall's southern wall. The cut related to the installation of a soakaway (106/105) and comprised of a dump of building material sealed by a piece of corrugated iron overlaid with garden soil deposits 102/120. These deposits contained large amounts of pottery dating to the modern and post-medieval pottery, post-medieval glass, CBM, animal bone, clothes hooks and shell, and extended to the full depth of the excavated trench at c. 1 m bgl. A single sherd of residual medieval pottery was also found. The trench was overlain by the existing garden soil (101).

Trench 2

- 5.2.8 The earliest deposit reached within Trench 2 was recorded as a made ground deposit (201) on the south side (inside) of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral, consisting of compacted light grey-white chalk with silt. This deposit likely represents a levelling layer or floor surface of the hall.

- 5.2.9 Foundations were cut for the northern wall of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral to a depth of 0.60 m bgl. The wall, recorded at 45.58 m aOD, consisted of foundations (203) of tightly packed chalk nodules 0.35 m wide, on top of which the flint wall (204) was constructed (**Plates 6 – 7**). The wall survived with a width of 0.5 m due to truncation of the northern side during the installation of a modern soakaway in the 20th/21st century. The foundations were backfilled with yellow-brown coarse silty sand (205).
- 5.2.10 Against the south side of the wall a made ground deposit (206) of mortar rubble with a thickness of 0.35 m was recorded. This deposit is possibly a demolition layer created during the destruction of the hall in the 19th century. The deposit contained pottery dating to the modern, post-medieval and medieval periods as well as medieval roof tiles, glass, and a single fragment of floor tile.
- 5.2.11 The remains of the wall were covered by an imported garden soil (207) of greyish brown loam measuring 0.41 m thick, which contained a post-medieval roof tile and pottery. This layer was cut by a modern soakaway (208) found at the northern end of the trench, which removed the northern face of the wall. The most recent layer is 0.08 m of gravel (211) which overlays the soakaway and garden soil.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a relatively small assemblage of finds, mostly of post-medieval/modern date with a few items of prehistoric and medieval date. The range of types is as expected for the city.
- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material within each context, and the results are presented in Table 1. A substantial part of the assemblage derived from two contexts: 102 (garden soil) and 106 (fill of 20th-century soakaway 104), which were observed to comprise chronologically mixed assemblages consisting largely of fragments of CBM and bottle glass; these are ubiquitous finds in the city. After recovery the finds from these contexts were scanned and recorded (with the exception of the ceramic building material) but only selected items retained for further processing.

Table 1 Finds by material type (number /weight in grammes)

Context	Animal Bone	CBM	Glass	Pottery	Other Finds
102	2/8	3/145	26/1005	55/870	1 shell
103		6/319			1 shell
106		1/273	61/2189	75/4173	1 stone
108	8/63	4/186	3/23	5/288	
109	28/140	25/794			1 CTP; 1 flint; 2 stone; 3 shell
103	7/20	8/356	1/1	1/10	2 flint; 1 iron
113	1/2	2/88			
120		7/1372	2/20		1 stone; 1 shell
203		4/204			
206	6/107	14/980	1/8	1/54	2 shell
207		6/1431		2/11	
Total	52/340	80/6148	94/3246	139/5406	

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounted to 139 sherds, weighing 5406 g. With the exception of two medieval sherds, the assemblage was of post-medieval/modern date. Condition was fair to good; the assemblage was fragmentary but sherds were relatively unabraded and there were several groups of conjoining sherds (although often on fresh breaks). Mean sherd weight overall was 38.9 g, a relatively high figure which is undoubtedly skewed by the preponderance of thick-walled sherds of post-medieval earthenware.
- 6.2.2 The pottery has been quantified by ware type, and quantification has been by sherd count and weight within each context. Medieval wares follow the local type series (eg Mephram 2000) and post-medieval/modern wares follow regional/national nomenclature (eg Verwood earthenware, tin-glazed earthenware). Details of vessel form (where known) and other diagnostic features have also been noted. The level of recording accords with the 'basic record' advocated for the purpose of characterising an assemblage rapidly (Barclay et al 2016, section 2.4.5). Details of the pottery by context are given in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Pottery by context

Key: MED = medieval; PMED = post-medieval; MOD = modern

Context	Period	Ware	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	Comment
102	PMED	Porcelain	1	2	
102	MOD	Refined whiteware	7	222	cylindrical preserve jar(s), grooved below rim, Frank Cooper's Seville Orange Marmalade
102	MOD	Refined whiteware	3	5	transfer-printed
102	PMED	Creamware	3	17	chamberpot (rolled rim); small jar
102	MOD	Pearlware	3	13	transfer-printed
102	PMED	White salt glaze	18	158	chamberpot, bowls (no plates)
102	PMED	English stoneware	1	10	Notts-type, bowl
102	PMED	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	34	open forms
102	PMED	Redware	5	84	
102	PMED	Verwood earthenware	6	166	
102	PMED	Verwood earthenware	3	62	glazed int & out
102	PMED	Staffs-type slipware	1	11	handle from cup/porringer
102	MED	Wessex coarseware	1	86	jar rim (type 2); scratch-marked & sooted over rim
106	PMED	Staffs-type slipware	1	4	platter rim
106	PMED	Redware	1	5	rim, unglazed, poss flowerpot
106	PMED	Verwood earthenware	4	34	manganese glazed ('Wiltshire Brown'); rim, loop handle and 2 body sherds; streaky brown glaze
106	PMED	Tin-glazed earthenware	4	28	3 body sherds (1 drug jar, 2 open forms); 1 plate rim; all blue dec
106	PMED	White salt glaze	4	27	cylindrical ?cup with carinated base; rim from small (tea) bowl
106	PMED	English stoneware	5	82	cylindrical tankard rim(s)
106	PMED	Porcelain	1	2	small (tea) bowl
106	PMED	White salt glaze	3	32	plates

106	PMED	Tin-glazed earthenware	7	275	plain chamberpot, drug jar (banded); remainder open forms (blue painted dec)
106	PMED	Staffs-type slipware	2	28	open forms
106	PMED	Verwood earthenware	43	3656	incl lid, chamberpot, cream pan, other bowls
108	PMED	Verwood earthenware	3	270	flared bowl rim; jar/chamberpot rim; body sherd
108	PMED	Verwood earthenware	1	11	thin-walled, unglazed body sherd
108	PMED	Westerwald stoneware	1	7	jug/mug handle
103	PMED	Verwood earthenware	1	10	rim, flanged dish/bowl
206	PMED	Redware	1	54	body sherd, unglazed (flowerpot)
207	MED	Laverstock fineware	1	7	slip-dec body sherd
207	PMED	Staffs-type slipware	1	4	rim, cup

Medieval

- 6.2.3 The two medieval sherds were both local products. A body sherd in Laverstock fineware from context **207** is slip-decorated and undoubtedly belonged to a decorated jug of 13th- or early 14th-century date. The second sherd from context 102 is in Wessex coarseware (Mephams 2000, fabric E422B; Mephams 2018), almost certainly also a Laverstock product, and is from the rim of a scratch-marked jar of 12th-/13th-century date.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.2.4 The remaining 137 sherds were post-medieval/modern, with a likely overall date range of 17th-century or later. Local wares made up almost half of this total in the form of Verwood-type earthenware (61 sherds). These distinctively pale-firing earthenwares were produced at various rural locations along the east Dorset border, including Verwood, from at least the mid-17th-century until 1952 when the last kiln in Verwood closed. Closer dating within this period is difficult as the industry was relatively conservative, maintaining a basic repertoire with little chronological change. However, the dominance by Verwood-type wares of the markets outside the core distribution area of east Dorset appears to date from the mid-18th-century (prior to this date Salisbury was supplied with red-firing earthenwares primarily from the Crockerton kilns outside Warminster), and sherds from Salisbury are likely to fall into this date range. Bowl forms predominated here (standard forms for kitchen or dairy), and there are also examples of chamberpots and a lid. Four sherds carried a streaky brown manganese glaze, a variant produced in the 18th century at several of the east Dorset kilns and formerly erroneously known as 'Wiltshire Brown ware'.
- 6.2.5 Other earthenwares were notable by their absence and consisted largely of modern unglazed flowerpots. Alongside the earthenwares, more closely datable wares included Westerwald stoneware (17th-/18th-century, one jug/mug handle), Staffordshire-/Bristol-type slipware (late 17th-/18th-century; cups and platters), tinglazed earthenware (17th-/18th-century; blue-decorated drug jars and flatwares; monochrome chamberpot) and English stoneware (18th-century; one Nottinghamshire-type bowl sherd with lustrous salt glaze; at least one cylindrical tankard). Other wares from the 18th century included white salt-glaze (tablewares, chamberpot) and porcelain (including a tea bowl). Refined wares appeared from the mid-18th century and included creamware (chamberpot, small jar), pearlware (transfer-printed tablewares) and whiteware (transfer-printed tablewares; Cooper's marmalade jar).

6.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

- 6.3.1 The assemblage of CBM was absolutely typical of the city. Of most interest was a fragment from a decorated floor tile of 13th-/14th-century date. The decoration is worn and the overall design is uncertain; no parallel has been found. A second medieval floor tile, glazed but with the upper surface very worn, was apparently plain.
- 6.3.2 The remainder of the CBM, however, consisted of fragments of roof tile, and most of these were of medieval date, although there were a few post-medieval examples from context 207, including two fragments probably from a pantile. One possible ridge tile was identified amongst the medieval roof tile (from context 108), but otherwise all fragments appear to derive from flat peg-tiles. The peg-tiles were typically handmade in poorly wedged, pale-firing clays with prominent iron oxides occurring as red/brown pellets and were often glazed over the lower third of the tile (the visible part, after tile-hanging). Peg-tiles were almost certainly made locally; one source is documented at Alderbury from the mid-14th to the late 15th century (Hare 1991), but either this or some other local source must have been supplying the city from its 13th-century foundation, as roof tile fragments appear from the earliest levels. A few fragments are in more evenly coloured orange-red fabrics, firing slightly harder, and may date slightly later, perhaps late medieval or early post-medieval; comparable fragments were found, for example, on what appears to have been a 17th-century military enclosure at Old Sarum (Wessex Archaeology 2015).

6.4 Glass

- 6.4.1 This category included both vessel and window glass; the whole assemblage is entirely of post-medieval/modern date. There are only two fragments of window glass. The vessel glass consists largely of fragments of free-blown green wine bottles, and these include examples of onion, mallet and cylindrical forms, illustrating the development of these bottles from late 17th through to early 19th century when they were finally superseded by machine-made bottles. The only other vessel types recognised were phials, represented by one complete example (from soakaway fill 106) and one base. The complete phial was a cylindrical form in pale greenish glass, probably of 18th-century date (Castillo Cardenas 2014, 314). In addition, a small fragment from a colourless vessel from context 108 could be from a drinking vessel, although of unknown form.

6.5 Worked Stone and Flint

- 6.5.1 Four pieces of stone were recovered; all were in limestone. One was recognisable as part of an architectural moulding, perhaps from a door or window surround (from context 106). Two small flat fragments from context 109 probably belonged to roof tiles. The fourth, from context 120, was also in limestone and almost certainly represented building material of some kind, but showed no signs of working.
- 6.5.2 Three pieces of worked flint were also recovered. One piece (from context 103) showed edge damage and is of prehistoric date, but the other two (one from 103 and one from 109) are in much fresher condition and could well have resulted from the more recent use of flint for walling; the material is well in evidence in buildings around The Close, as elsewhere in the city.

6.6 Animal Bone

- 6.6.1 The quantity and provenance of the animal bones is provided in **Table 1**. The bones are generally well-preserved and came from six deposits of post-medieval date. The identified elements are mostly from livestock; they include 11 sheep/goat bones, seven cattle bones and six pig bones. The range of elements is consistent with mixed deposits of waste from

difference stages in the carcass reduction sequence, from butchery to meat consumption. The butchery noted on two sheep/goat vertebrae and a pig sacrum indicates that carcasses were divided into sides by chopping through the vertebral column. A few of the cattle bones are from young calves indicating the ready availability of veal from the local dairy industry. The other identified bones include a rabbit femur, goose femur and sternum, partridge tibiotarsus and the coracoid from a crow or rook.

6.7 Other Finds

- 6.7.1 Other finds comprised one plain clay tobacco pipe stem, an iron nail and a small quantity of marine shell (oyster and cockle).

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in demonstrating that the well-preserved remains of the north and south walls of The Hall of the Vicar's Choral survive in the garden of 12 The Close. The walls appear to align as anticipated with scars in the sidewall of the main range, with made ground deposits confirming the demolition of the hall in the early 19th century. A modern soakaway was then installed, backfilled and overlain with garden soils.
- 7.1.2 No earlier deposits were exposed during the works as the greatest possible depth was reached due to the confines of the trench, as well as achieving the aims of identifying the remains of the walls of the medieval hall, and leaving any further intact deposits directly relating to the hall in situ. It is possible that further archaeological deposits may therefore lie beneath the observed activity as the natural geology was not reached.
- 7.1.3 The presented results provide further information on the archaeological resource within the site and will be used to inform the proposed planning application and design of the proposed development.

7.2 Discussion

- 7.2.1 Both Trenches 1 and 2 contained very similar stratigraphic sequences pertaining to the construction and demolition of medieval hall. The east-west aligned walls found within the trenches share the same construction of chalk fragment foundations, onto which substantial flint nodule walls were built. A buttress or other structure was identified abutting the south side of the southern wall, although it was not possible to determine its exact purpose the construction methods suggest it is contemporary with the hall wall.
- 7.2.2 The substantial nature of the surviving walls attest to the quality of construction that still survives within the existing structure of 12 The Close, and what was invested within religious buildings during the medieval period. This is opposed to more insubstantial medieval structures that have been identified within the secular Chequer areas of Salisbury.
- 7.2.3 Made ground layers identified internally of the two were possibly used to level up and construct the hall floor, although no finds were recovered from these layers to confirm the date. A single piece of medieval decorated tile found unstratified within a later deposit may attest to the nature of the floor within the hall at the time of demolition. Due to the scope of the investigation, it was not possible to establish whether these made ground deposits represent one spread spanning the two trenches or whether there are a number of such deposits across the area.

- 7.2.4 All further deposits and features appear to date to the post-medieval and modern periods, pertaining to the demolition of the hall in the 19th century, and installation of drainage and garden features.
- 7.2.5 The finds recovered appear to concur with the current understanding that the medieval hall was demolished in the early 19th century. The deposits encountered often contained building material from the medieval and post-medieval periods, suggesting repairs were made to the hall during its use. Modern pottery sherds likely accumulated during the period of demolition, and installation of drainage associated with the current house.

8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. The Salisbury Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

8.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
 - 1 files/document cases of paper records

Digital archive

- 8.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (eg site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

8.3 Selection strategy

- 8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, ie the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.

- 8.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 8.3.1 Pottery (139 sherds): small assemblage, almost entirely post-medieval/modern, containing expected range of types for the city. Commonly occurring local Verwood-type wares have already been discarded from chronologically mixed layers 102 and 106; retain all remaining sherds (32).
- 8.3.1 Ceramic Building Material (80 frags): small assemblage, largely comprising medieval roof tile which is ubiquitous in the city. Decorated floor tile is item of intrinsic interest, particularly since no parallel has been found for the design. Otherwise little archaeological significance (since all is redeposited), and little further research potential. Retain floor tiles (1 decorated and 1 plain) and possible ridge tile fragment only.
- 8.3.2 Stone (4 frags): negligible quantity, little or no archaeological significance, but moulding fragment is of intrinsic interest. Otherwise no further research potential. Retain moulding fragment only.
- 8.3.3 Worked Flint (3 pieces): negligible quantity, little or no archaeological significance, no further research potential. Retain none.
- 8.3.4 Glass (94 frags): small assemblage, all post-medieval/modern and consisting largely of commonly occurring free-blown green bottle glass. Complete phial is object of intrinsic interest. Little archaeological significance beyond dating evidence; no further research potential; retain complete phial only.
- 8.3.5 Animal Bone (52 frags): negligible quantity, little or no archaeological significance, no further research potential. Retain none.
- 8.3.6 Marine Shell (8 shells): negligible quantity, little or no archaeological significance, no further research potential. Retain none.
- 8.3.7 Other finds (1 clay pipe stem, 1 iron nail): negligible quantity, little or no archaeological significance, no further research potential. Retain none.

Documentary records

- 8.3.8 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (Written Scheme of Investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 8.3.9 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

8.4 Security copy

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 OASIS

- 8.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 1). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the County Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

9 COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive and report copyright

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

9.2 Third party data copyright

- 9.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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Wessex Archaeology 2015 Longhedge, Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire (Phase 2); post-excavation assessment and updated project design, unpub client rep, ref 84973.04



APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 5.54 m	Width 0.80 m	Depth 1.07 m
Easting 414504.5237		Northing 129617.2870		m OD 45.80
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
101		Topsoil	Garden soil. Dark greyish brown loam. Fairly compact. On surface wood chips. Common rooting. Some CBM, modern pottery, glass and metal objects. Moderately clear horizon below although tree roots have disturbed it places. Modern garden soil.	0.0–0.51
102	119	Backfill/Garden soil	Dark brownish grey sandy silt loam with common rooting. Fairly loose compaction. Contains common post-medieval pottery, glass, CBM etc. In places disturbed by thick tree roots. Backfill of soakaway	0.25–0.84
103		Demolition layer	Light whitish grey silt sand. Abundant finely grind mortar mixed with soil. Some roots. Common CBM, glass, pottery, shells, metal objects. Clear horizon above and below. Peters out towards S Most likely mortar that has spread across while taking down the medieval walls. Thickness varies.	0.40–0.63
104		Number not used.	void	
105	119	Fill of soakaway	Very common CBM, stones, mortar, ceramic pipe fragments. Covered with corrugated iron sheet.	0.50–1.07+
106	119	Fill of soakaway	Equal to 105	
107	108	Pit	Incomplete pit with steep, straight sides. Depth: >0.30 m.	0.73+
108	107	Deliberate backfill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with moderate sub-rounded stone ≤30mm	0.73+
109		Made ground	Mid brownish grey sandy silt with common mortar, and sub-rounded stone. Fairly tight compaction. clear horizon above. Possibly formed during the demolition of the medieval hall.	0.72+
110		Made ground	Dark blackish grey. Sandy silt loam. Disturbed by tree roots. Fairly compact, and fairly clear horizon above.	0.70+
111		Number not used	Void.	



112	117	Wall	Linear wall aligned E-W with straight sides and an unknown base. Constructed from flint nodules and bonded with mortar. Maximum height: 0.30 m.	0.58+
113	117	Deliberate backfill	Backfill. Mid yellowish brown coarse sandy silt. Moderate compaction, homogeneous. Possibly medieval backfill of wall foundation.	0.50+
114	117	Foundation	Linear foundation aligned E-W with unknown sides and an unknown base. Constructed from chalk and bonded with mortar. Maximum height: 0.08 m.	0.84+
115	118	Buttress?	Possible incomplete buttress with unknown sides and an unknown base. Constructed from chalk and sub-rounded stone and bonded with mortar and sandy silt. Maximum height: 0.08 m.	0.93+
116		Floor surface?	Floor?. Pale greyish white chalk. Fairly tight compaction, contained some sub-rounded chalk blocks especially in the northern end. Possibly remnant of a floor foundation.	0.50+
117	112, 114	Construction cut	Linear construction cut for wall	
118	115	Construction cut	Construction cut for buttress	
119		Cut of soakaway	Modern cut of soakaway	0.4-10.7+
120	119	Garden soil	Equal to 102	

Trench No 2		Length 2.05 m	Width 0.70 m	Depth 1.06 m
Eating 414503.7254		Northing 129628.4109		M OD 46.16
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
201		Made ground	Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with common chalk and flint frags (sub angular, 1-5cm)	0.81+
202	203, 204, 205	Construction cut	Construction cut for wall. Width: 0.58 m. Depth: 0.20 m.	0.8+
203	202	Wall foundations	Linear wall aligned E-W with irregular sides and an unknown base. Constructed from mostly chalk blocks, flint nodules, few roof tile frags and bonded with loose yellowish sandy mortar. Maximum height: 0.10 m.	0.96+
204	202	Wall	Linear wall aligned E-W with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from flint nodules and bonded with yellowish, sandy mortar. Maximum height: 0.50 m.	0.5-0.93
205	202	Deliberate backfill	Mid grey brown sandy loam with flint fragments	0.81
206		Deliberate backfill	Light brownish grey sandy loam with flint and chalk fragments	0.5-0.81



207		Topsoil	Dark grey sandy loam with flint and stone frags	0–0.41
208	209, 210	Soakaway cut	Feature consists of a rubble layer, under polythene sheet, then loose mortar fill including medieval tiles under tarp layer. PVC pipe uncovered but backfilled.	0.02
209	208	Soakaway fill	Loose rubble.	0.3+
210	208	Soakaway fill	As above	0.002–0.3
211		Made ground	Gravel layer. Thin spread of gravel over garden soil and soakaway.	0–0.08



Appendix 2 OASIS record

OASIS ID: wessexar1-428243

Project details

Project name	12 The Close, Salisbury, Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Historic Building Advisory Service (Salisbury), on behalf of the client, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the garden immediately west of 12 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EB, centred on NGR 414498 129629 (SU 14498 29629). The archaeological evaluation found the remains of the north and south walls of The Hall of the Vicars' Choral. The walls appear to align as anticipated with scars in the sidewall of the main range, and made ground deposits confirming the demolition of the hall in the post-medieval to modern period. No earlier deposits were exposed during the works as the greatest possible depth was reached due to the confines of the trench. It is possible that further archaeological deposits lie beneath the observed activity as the natural geology was not reached.
Project dates	Start: 26-07-2021 End: 28-07-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	248650 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	WALL Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE (SMOKING) Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SHERD Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SHERD Medieval
Significant Finds	FLOOR TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale extensions (e.g. garages, porches, etc.)
Prompt	Research



Position in the
planning process

Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY SALISBURY 12 The Close, Salisbury
Postcode	SP1 2EB
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 14498 29629 51.065278156523 -1.793075903845 51 03 55 N 001 47 35 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Damian De Rosa
Project supervisor	Piotr Orczewski
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

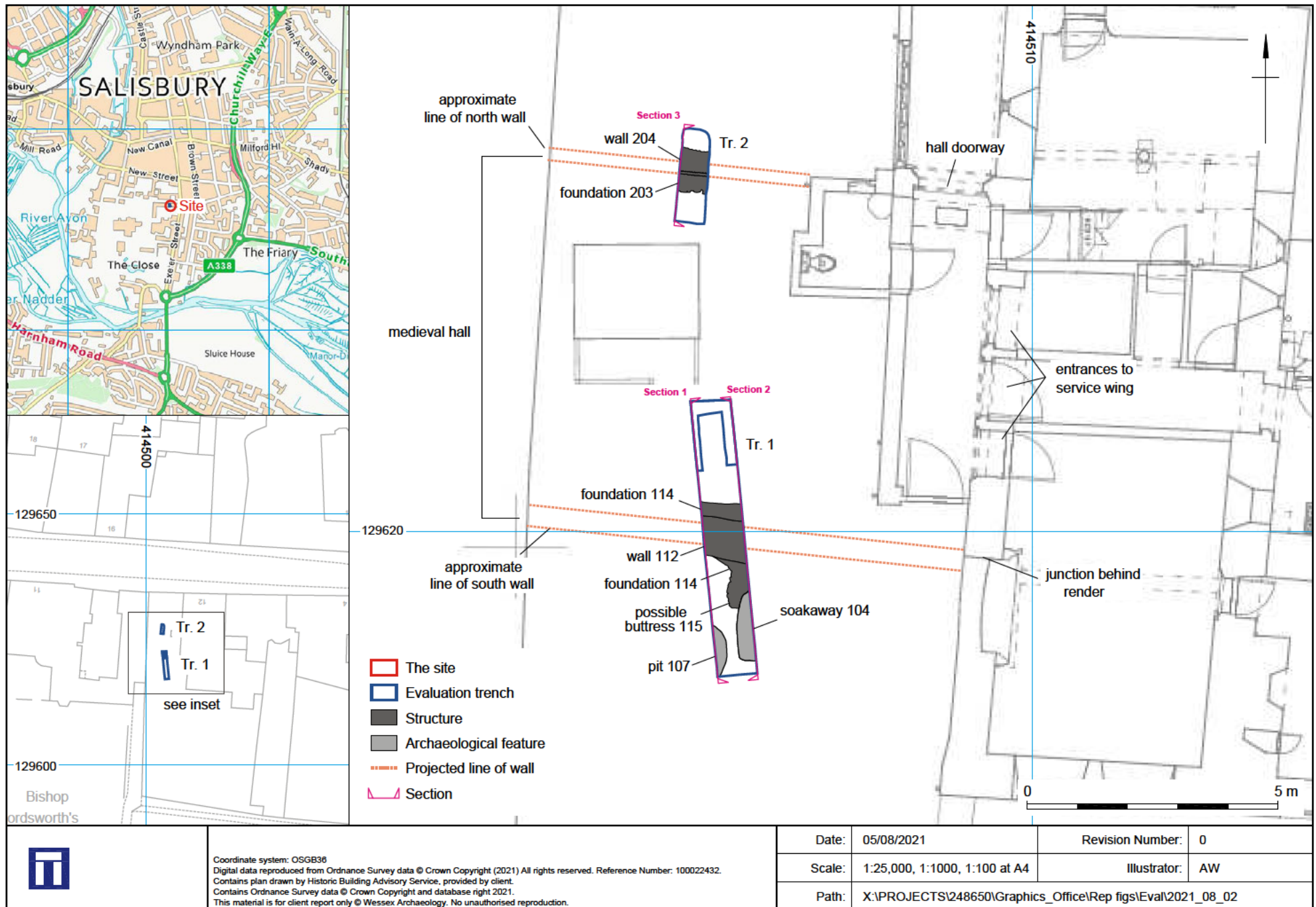
Project archives


Physical Archive recipient	Salisbury Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Salisbury Museum
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury Museum
Paper Media available	"Plan","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1



Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	12 The Close, Salisbury, Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Capps, R.
Other bibliographic details	Unpublished client ref. 248650.02
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	A4 bound booklet
<hr/>	
Entered by	Rachael Capps (r.capps@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	16 August 2021

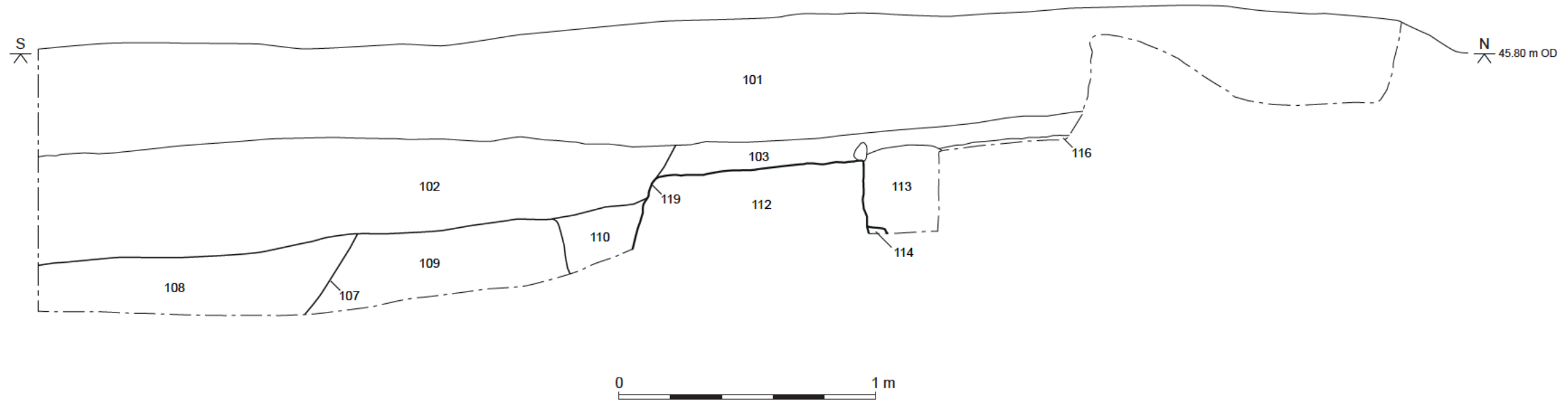


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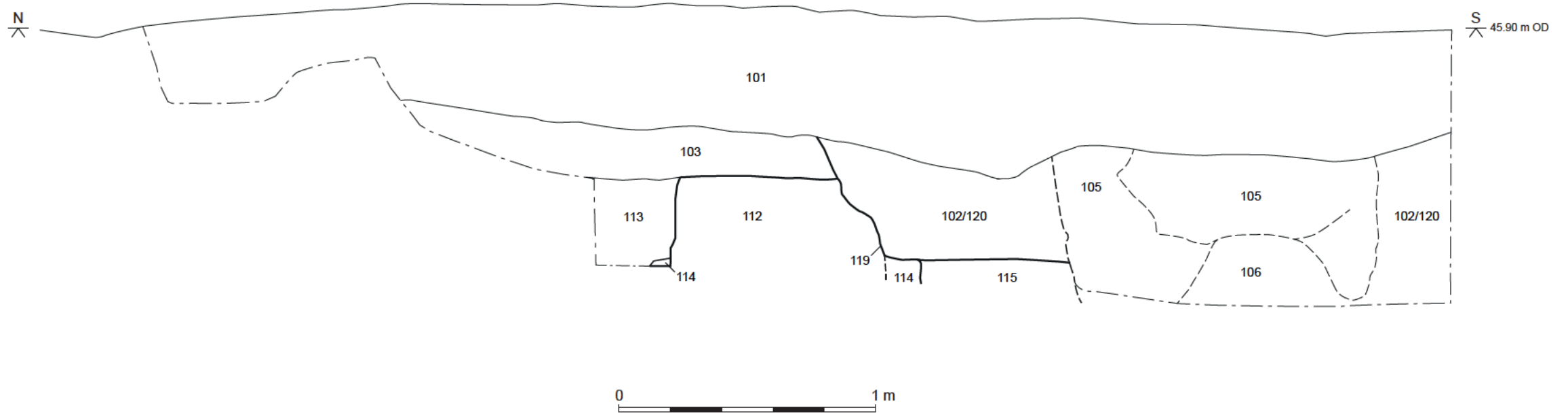
Trench location plan

Figure 1

Section 1: east facing section of Trench 1

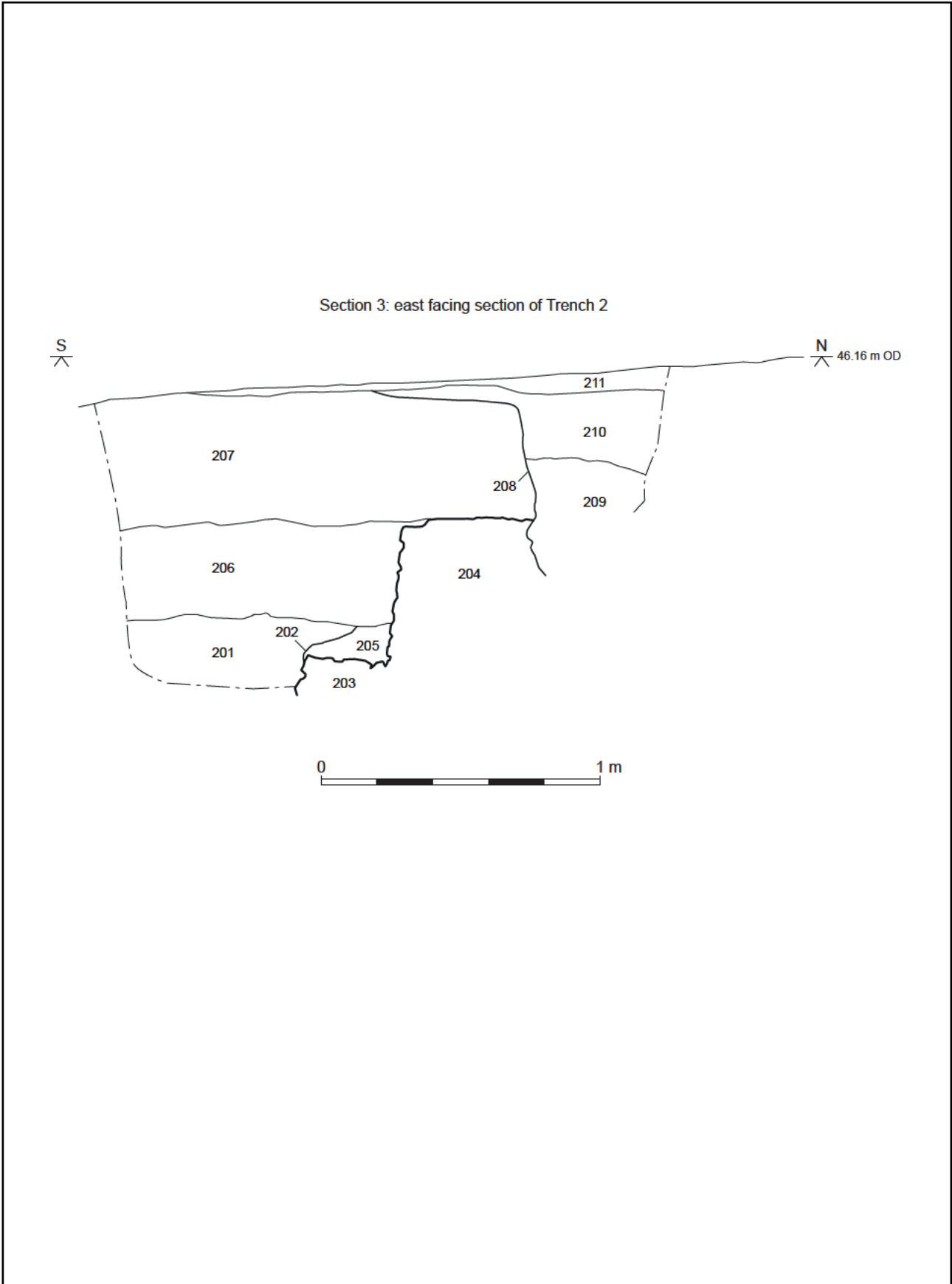



Section 2: west facing section of Trench 1



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Trench 2: section

Figure 3



Plate 1: Trench 1, view from south showing wall 112 and soakaway 104 in foreground



Plate 2: Trench 1, view of wall 112, foundations 114 and possible buttress 115 from above


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Plate 3: Trench 1, view of wall 112, foundations 114 and possible buttress 115 from the south



Plate 4: Trench 1, foundation 114 and wall 112


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Plate 5: Trench 1, view from south showing top of soakaway and demolition deposit 103



Plate 6: Trench 2, view from east showing wall 204



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Plate 7: Trench 2, detail of foundation 203 and wall 204 from the south

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FS 000509