



## The Manor of the More Northwood, Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



Ref: 85202  
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**The Manor of the More,  
Northwood, Hertfordshire**

**Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

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# The Manor of the More Northwood, Hertfordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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# **The Manor of the More Northwood, Hertfordshire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

### **Summary**

In May 2012 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' within the grounds of Northwood Preparatory School, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire (NGR 508193 193950), to investigate the site of the Manor of the More, one of the most impressive of the later medieval houses, and comparable to Hampton Court. The Manor was recorded as having a central Inner Court, Base Court and a northern Long Gallery extending for over 75m. The site had been investigated in the 1950s by Professor Martin Biddle, and Time Team aimed to expand upon this work with the assistance of Professor Biddle.

Two geophysical surveys by GSB Prospection had mixed results; they revealed the layout of the Inner Court and associated buildings, but were unable to find any trace of the Base Court and Long Gallery.

The evaluation consisted of seven trenches and confirmed the results of the geophysical survey, and the interpretation and phasing of the 1950s excavation that the Site had seen two main phases of activity – before and after 1426.

The earliest identified structures were the remains of two timber-framed buildings in Trenches 2 and 3 respectively. These buildings are likely to have pre-dated a licence to crenellate of 1426.

The remaining structures identified include the Great Hall, the tower of the gatehouse from the Base Court into the Inner Court, and the north-east corner of the northern and eastern accommodation blocks. These structures are likely to date from between 1426 and the period of Cardinal Wolsey's alterations, after 1521.

The results of the evaluation have augmented existing knowledge of the Manor of the More and warrant further dissemination. It is proposed that a publication report is prepared, summarising the results of the evaluation, and setting the site in its local and regional context. This report will be submitted to *Hertfordshire Archaeology and History*.



# The Manor of the More Northwood, Hertfordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Val Croft (Production Manager), Jim Mower (Development Producer), Alex Rowson (Assistant Producer), Celyn Williams (Researcher) and Kerry Ely (Locations Manager) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock, Emma Wood and Graeme Attwood (of GSB Prospection). The excavation strategy was devised by Jackie McKinley (of Wessex Archaeology). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson, with on-site finds processing by Tom Burt, both of Wessex Archaeology assisted by Laurie Alvin.

The excavations were undertaken by *Time Team's* retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Tracey Smith, Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland, Raksha Dave, Cassie Newland, and Naomi Sewpaul assisted by Greg Jones, Robin Densem, Alison Hudson, Dan Phillips, Caoimhin O Coileain and Jenny Heinzelmann of Heritage Network.

On-site pottery identification was by Paul Blinkhorn with small finds identification by Danielle Wootton.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson with initial historical research by Jim Mower, Alex Rowson and Celyn Williams of Videotext Communications. Specialist reports were prepared by GSB Prospection (Geophysics) and Dr Kevin Hayward (geological IDs), Nicholas Cooke (token), Lorraine Higbee (animal bone) and Lorraine Mephram (all other finds). Report illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram.

This report has benefited from discussion with Jacqueline McKinley (Wessex Archaeology), Phil Harding, Professor Martin Biddle and Kent Rawlinson (Historical Buildings Curator, Historical Royal Palaces). Thanks are also due to Debbie Priddy (English Heritage) and Stewart Bryant (Hertfordshire County Council), who monitored the work.

Finally, thanks are extended to Trevor Lee (Head Teacher) and the staff and Pupils of Northwood Preparatory School for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and the excavation of evaluation trenches.





# The Manor of the More Northwood, Hertfordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's *Time Team* on the site of the Manor of the More, located within the grounds of Northwood Preparatory School, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by *Time Team*, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

#### 1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The site of the Manor of the More is located on the south side of the flood plain of the River Colne, approximately 3 miles (5 km) north-west of Pinner and approximately 3 miles (5 km) south-east of Chorley Wood, and is centred on NGR 508193, 193950. It is located at a height of approximately 96m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), and currently lies under playing fields belonging to Northwood Preparatory School. The underlying geology comprises gravel with small pockets of clay (BGS Sheet 255).

1.2.2 The Site has been identified as being of national importance and has therefore been designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM number 29381, National Heritage List Entry 1015595).

1.2.3 The National Heritage List entry describes reasons for designation as follows:

*'The Manor of the More ranked amongst the most impressive of the later medieval great houses of noblemen and high churchmen, comparable in its prime with Hampton Court and other royal palaces such as Richmond. Although now buried beneath layers of imported soil, the archaeological remains survive well. The part excavations between 1952 and 1955 have demonstrated the wealth of structural evidence on the island of the inner courtyard, and reports of the appearance of the earthworks in the southern courtyard (the Base Court) prior to their burial clearly show that a similar degree of preservation is to be expected.*

*The excavations also found that waterlogged conditions in the deep features allowed the preservation of organic remains from the period of occupation, including elements of timberwork as well as evidence for the diet, and even the clothing of the occupants. The moated gardens to the north and west are also considered to survive well in this buried condition. The ditches will contain further artefactual evidence for the date of construction and duration of use, and the islands are thought to retain evidence for the layout of the gardens which, from a reference in 1530, are likely to have included knot designs.*

*The history of the manor is well documented and its development is thus associated with some of the most influential members of society in the late 15th and 16th centuries, including Archbishop Neville and Cardinal Wolsey, and later Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. During this latter period the manor may technically have become a royal palace, although most of the essential construction work leading to the final appearance of the complex had been started, if not completed, in Wolsey's time. The evidence of earlier occupation on the site is also of considerable significance.*

*The combination of evidence from documentary sources and limited excavation demonstrates a continuity of habitation spanning nearly three centuries and provides detailed information on the evolution of the character of the Site throughout this time. Apart from where the remains of earlier structures and other features were destroyed by the construction of the great house, the physical remains of the early phases have been shown to survive remarkably well.*

<http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resultsingle.aspx?uid=1015595&searchtype=mapsearch>)

### **1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 1.3.1 A Project Design was prepared by Jim Mower of Videotext Communications (Videotext Communications 2012) outlining the historical and archaeological background to the Site

### **1.4 Historical Background**

- 1.4.1 The following summary is taken from the National Heritage List entry. The antecedents of the late medieval house lie in a moated site dating from the 13th century. The circuits of moats surrounding the main house, its courtyards and gardens, remained visible as earthworks until 1937, after which it was first partly in-filled and then completely overlain by imported soil by 1957.
- 1.4.2 Recent work has shown this overburden to be anything up to 1m in depth, and only slight undulations now mark the position of the principle features. The site (specifically the central island) was partly excavated between 1952 and 1955, demonstrating two main phases of occupation before and after 1426, when a royal license was granted for the construction of a large and elaborate building. Three main periods of construction were identified prior to this date as well as three successive periods of adaptation and aggrandisement, all of which can be linked to documentary sources reflecting the changing use and status of the site.
- 1.4.3 The earliest reference to the site dates from c. 1182 when the Manor of More was granted by the Abbot of St Albans to Adam Aignel, whose family retained the property for nearly two centuries. Excavation uncovered no evidence as early as this, although by c. 1250-1300 (Period I) a small double island moated site had been constructed, in which the northern island (within the area of the later inner courtyard) served an ancillary purpose with traces of superficial building, and the southern island (largely destroyed by the later moat surrounding the inner courtyard) probably contained the principal dwelling. The intervening arm, separating the two moats, was subsequently filled in around 1300-50 (Period II) and part overlain by a small rectangular building with dwarf flint walls containing two ovens, suggesting use as a kitchen, probably still associated with a main dwelling to the south.
- 1.4.4 The construction work in Period III (c. 1350-1429) may coincide with the death of John Aignel in 1364 and the hiatus in the succession which followed until 1366 with his widow's marriage to Andrew Bures. This period saw the development of a new timber house on

the northern island, with a main hall separating a kitchen to the west from a solar to the east and several other rooms including an upper storey over the eastern end.

- 1.4.5 This house was swept away after 1426 when Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, Thomas, Bishop of Durham, William Flete and others, obtained a charter licensing them to *'enclose, crenellate, enturret and embattle with stones, lime and brik, their manor of More in Rykmersworth'*. This house, constructed shortly thereafter (Period IV), enclosed three sides of a courtyard which overlay the former dwelling and was entered via a gate house and drawbridge on the south side. Only on this side did the courtyard front directly onto the new moat, which measured up to 17m across; elsewhere the building was separated from the ditch by a berm of c. 10m.
- 1.4.6 The earlier moats were in-filled, and where the new foundations coincided with these features the builders constructed relieving arches founded on piers of chalk rubble. The lower parts of the walls were faced with dressed chalk, above which was a string course of tile and then brick in English bond. Corner turrets have been supposed from traces found during excavation.
- 1.4.7 The manor passed through several hands after 1456, including those of the Abbot of St Albans (the titular lord) and Sir Ralph Boteler, before being sold to George Neville, Archbishop of York, in the 1460s. The Archbishop elaborated on the work of his predecessors during this period up to 1472 (when Neville was arrested for treason and the property sequestered by Edward IV). A vaulted cellar was inserted beneath the east range, additions were made to the plumbing system and doubtless to the decoration of the apartments (Period V).
- 1.4.8 In the years leading to the end of the 15th century the manor passed between the King, the Dean and Canons of St George's, Windsor and the Earl of Oxford. Reverting to the Crown on Oxford's death in 1513, the manor was granted to the Bishop of Durham, and in 1520 the lease was held once again by the Abbot of St Albans.
- 1.4.9 In 1522 Cardinal Wolsey was confirmed in this position, and thus the manor came into his possession and was greatly embellished (period VI). New wings, also in brick, were added to the east and west and a further range constructed on the berm to the north. An outer walled courtyard (the Base Court) was added to the southern side of the moat, with lodgings on three sides, corner towers and a gatehouse. A second rectangular moat, broadly symmetrical to that surrounding the inner courtyard, was created on the north side (now partly overlain by a railway embankment) enclosing a formal garden which was bisected by a timber covered walkway or gallery leading from the main island.
- 1.4.10 Further moated garden areas served by interconnecting leats extended to the south-west of the great house, the main rectangular enclosure measuring in total some 130m by 60m with a smaller triangular island abutting the western end. These features, also in-filled before 1957, may have been created at this time.
- 1.4.11 The important 'Treaty of the More' introducing a period of peace with France was signed at the More in 1525. The French ambassador Du Bellay visiting the More two years later considered it more splendid than Hampton Court. Henry VIII visited the More on several occasions during Wolsey's tenure and, in 1531, the year after the cardinal's fall from favour, the manor was ceded to the Crown by the next Abbot of St Albans. Work continued on the complex (Period VII), perhaps completing projects begun by Wolsey and certainly reversing the effects of neglect in the gardens which were so evident at the time of Catherine of Aragon's sojourn there in the winter of 1531-2. Henry continued to use the More as an occasional residence and frequent meetings of the Privy Council took place

there in 1542. Accounts of decoration, embellishment and repair are recorded between 1534 and 1541. During this time the royal apartments in the inner court were divided into a 'King's Side' and 'Queen's Side', connecting in the centre of the north range and containing the usual sequence of public and private chambers. Other features, probably originating with Wolsey, included galleries and a chapel.

- 1.4.12 After the death of Edward VI in 1553 the manor entered a period of decline, hastened by structural problems no doubt exacerbated by the subsidence of the earlier ditches. A last attempt at remedial work is recorded between 1547 and 1552, and although a detailed survey of the buildings in 1568 reflects their former magnificence, it is clearly a record of decay. The house was leased to the Earl of Bedford in 1576, but by 1598 it was recorded in ruins. The third Earl, built a new house, the forerunner of the present More Park mansion, on the hill to the south-west around 1617, within the area of deer park which formerly accompanied the More. The scheduling includes the known extent of the buried remains of the great house complex of 1426 onwards, together with the associated garden areas and the remains of the earlier manor buildings and related features which it replaced. All modern structures and surfaces within this area are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath them is included. <http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resultsingle.aspx?uid=1015595&searchtype=mapsearch>

## 1.5 Archaeological background

- 1.5.1 A number of programmes of archaeological work have taken place within the grounds of Northwood Preparatory School and are summarised below.

### *1952-5 excavations*

- 1.5.2 The following background is reproduced in an edited and summarised form, with permission, from Biddle, Barfield, and Millard (1961).
- 1.5.3 In early 1952 excavations began at the site of the Manor of the More on behalf of the Merchant Taylors' School Archaeological Society. This work was completed in late 1955. An area to the south of the main building complex was not excavated, although it was assumed that buildings of Period IV or later (see below) must have been present there. This area was bulldozed in 1959-60 and then partially levelled with dumped clay. Several walls and rooms of possible forecourt buildings were seen. During works a machine broke into a hole 5 feet in diameter and 3 feet 6 inches deep which had a domed top 1 foot below ground level. Traces of wattle lining were observed. No plans or records were made at the time.
- 1.5.4 Occupation at the site can be divided into two phases – before and after 1426; when a royal licence was granted for the construction of a large and elaborate building. Eight periods of development at the site were identified and can be summarised as follows:

### Period I – c. 1250-1300

- 1.5.5 The first occupation at the site consisted of a rectangular moated enclosure apparently palisaded. The only evidence for occupation was discovered in the south-west corner of this enclosure, consisting of a 15 ft square of dark earth bounded by a foundation of flint. This construction appeared to have consisted of a series of separate foundations on which a wooden superstructure was built. No roof tiles were recovered, suggesting that the structure may have been thatched. Pottery, wooden bowls and leather were recovered from the moats associated with the enclosure. It was suggested that a larger house must have existed at the site that may have been destroyed by the construction of moats associated with later building phases.



- 1.5.6 Roman roof tiles were recovered from the moats of this Period, perhaps associated with Roman remains known to be present in the area.

Period II – c. 1300-50

- 1.5.7 The Period I occupation was followed by the construction of a kitchen building containing three ovens. The south moat of the Period I enclosure was now filled in and sealed with a layer of gravel. Set into this gravel was the north wall of a building of unmortared flint construction. The space enclosed by this building had been floored four times, the sequence of ovens associated with each of the first three floors.
- 1.5.8 Outside the building, to the south and east, lay a cobbled courtyard laid directly onto Period I occupation levels. The structure was interpreted as a kitchen building associated with a larger house that was destroyed during the construction of the Period IV moat.

Period III – c. 1350-1426

- 1.5.9 The house constructed in this Period is considered to be a good example of a developed medieval manor house. The structure was timber-built with a plan centred on a hall with a kitchen at the lower or west end and a solar wing at the upper, east end. The Period II structure had fallen into ruin when the new house was constructed. The plan was altered during construction, resulting in a manor house of six rooms, including a timber hall with a tiled roof. Excavations indicated the possibility of two storeys at the east end and a gallery at the west end. The main entrance was through a porch on the south side with another door and a staircase on the north.

Period IV – 1426 onwards

- 1.5.10 In 1426 a licence was granted to the owners 'to crenellate, enturret and embattle with stone, lime and brik their manor of the More'. The result was the Period IV house which enclosed a large courtyard entered through a gate on the south side. This entrance was flanked on the outside by two towers, possibly in the form of semi-octagons. The moat was crossed by a bridge supported on brick piers. A new moat surrounded the house from this time onwards. Only to the south did the house front onto the moat. On the north, west and east sides there was a flat space apparently empty except for the corner towers of the building.
- 1.5.11 The north range contained the principal buildings of the complex including what may have been the Great Hall, a kitchen, corner towers and possible interval towers. When construction of the house was finished, rubble and gravel from building work was spread across the courtyard, covering remnants of the Period III house which may have remained standing during construction.

Period V (Archbishop Neville's alterations) – 1460-70

- 1.5.12 As far as could be ascertained from excavation, all alterations made during Archbishop George Neville's ownership of the site were made to the eastern range. In the northern part of this range a cellar was inserted. The west wall was removed and the doorway to the north range blocked. The corner tower of the east range was reconstructed and enlarged – possibly to accommodate a garderobe.
- 1.5.13 The only other construction attributed to this Period is the brick and tile conduit which led from the gatehouse to a conduit head in the courtyard. It is probable that the main plumbing system was also laid at this time.

Period VI (Cardinal Wolsey's alterations) – post-1521

- 1.5.14 It is known that Wolsey undertook some building work at the site after 1521. Since the extent of work undertaken by Henry VIII is known, the remaining large-scale alterations



must be attributable to the Cardinal, although all records, except one, have vanished. Alterations found during excavation consisted of the building of new wings on the east and west sides of the house in the space left by Period IV buildings and the addition of another range of buildings north of the earlier north range. In the north-east corner of the Site, excavation indicated the construction of a projecting tower halfway between the north-east and south-east corners of the new wing. Evidence for a possible garderobe was uncovered on the south side of this tower.

- 1.5.15 Some alterations were made to the interiors of existing buildings such as the construction of a partition in the west half of the gatehouse. The resulting room in the east half of the gatehouse was floored with glazed floor tile, some of which remained *in situ*.

Period VII (Henry VIII's alterations) – 1540s onwards

- 1.5.16 This Period is one of minor alterations consisting of the new courtyard from Period VI being divided by two partitions and underpinned with brick, the construction of a possible base for a covered walk along the western edge of the courtyard and the excavation of several soakaway pits.

Period VIII (post-Henry VIII decline) – 1560s onwards

- 1.5.17 Following the era of prosperity at the site under Henry VIII the house began rapidly to decline. By 1566 it was in a poor state of repair and by 1598 it was in ruins. During this period the complex was occupied by unknown parties who lived mainly in two parts of the house; the Great Hall and later in the Gatehouse. Evidence for occupation at this time comes in the form of evidence for the relaying of tiles in the Great Hall, the construction of a hearth and a number of gullies and postholes cut into floor surfaces. Animal bones and 17th century pottery were recovered from these features.
- 1.5.18 The demolition contract for the More is dated 4 February 1574, and under it the house and buildings were sold to local buyers for the value of their materials: £1460. The contract does not reveal when the actual demolition took place, but in 1598 John Norden in his 'Description of Hertfordshire' wrote of '*the anncient ruynes of Morhouse*'.
- 1.5.19 During the demolition process, walls were robbed to floor level in most cases. The west wing of the Period VI building phase suffered most being completely robbed away. This was also the case in the area of the gatehouse. However, as late as 1935 brickwork could still be seen in many places, especially the moat, with the remains of the south-east corner tower being quite prominent. All visible surface remains of the site were lost when it was bulldozed in 1959-60. A diagrammatic plan of the site was included in Vol IV, Part II of *The History of the Kings Works* (Colvin (ed) 1982).

*Evaluations (1991)*

- 1.5.20 Two evaluations by Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (HAT 1991a; 1991b) identified post medieval demolition deposits, which was either moat infill or made ground; no *in situ* remains were revealed.

*Watching Brief (1995 and 1996)*

- 1.5.21 A watching brief in 1995 by HAT (HAT 1995) on geotechnical pits revealed up to 2m of made ground sealing possible moat infill, though no finds or structural remains were identified. A second watching brief by HAT (HAT 1996) appears also to have identified moat infill and that the moat was perhaps not as wide as initially recorded.



*Scrub Clearance (2010)*

- 1.5.22 During works around the school in 2010 several elements of highly decorated carved stone pillars were discovered. Stylistically they are suggestive of Renaissance period work and potentially were located either side of entrance ways within the Manor of the More.

*Geophysical survey, GSB Prospection Ltd (2011)*

- 1.5.23 In June 2011 GSB Prospection Ltd carried out a geophysical survey on the Site as part of a wider archaeological assessment being carried out by Northwood Preparatory School. This work aimed to 'define the size and position of the main house, the location and size of the long gallery and also to try to locate the original main entrance tower' (GSB Prospection 2011).
- 1.5.24 The footprint of the main manor house was recorded with clarity, showing features interpreted as buttresses, doorways, floors, and bays. A possible earlier structure was detected within the inner courtyard. The north-east corner of the building complex did not appear clearly, perhaps indicative of phases of robbing. A pier base, identified in earlier excavations as being part of the long gallery, was detected, along with an isolated response to the north. No further anomalies possibly associated with the long gallery were detected beneath or to the north of the all weather pitch owing to the nature of pitch construction and the narrow area available for survey. Structures relating to the outer (or base) court remained elusive as did the principal gatehouse.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Jim Mower (Videotext Communications 2012), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.
- 2.1.2 The project aimed to ascertain the location, date, condition, character and extent of the underlying archaeological remains and address the significance of those archaeological remains in an attempt to answer four key research questions:
- What is the surviving extent and layout of the building complex and landscape features within the scheduled area in relation to the episodes of infill and demolition in the past?
  - What is the location, extent, function and nature of the survival of the Outer Court (Base Court) and any associated buildings?
  - What is the location, extent and nature of survival of the Long Gallery?
  - From where did the Renaissance column elements originate?

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Geophysical Survey**

- 3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was undertaken in areas of the Site which had not been surveyed in 2011. The new survey by GSB Prospection LTD used a combination of fluxgate gradiometer (magnetic) and ground penetrating radar (GPR) and was able to expand upon the previous works. The survey grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.



## 3.2 Evaluation Trenches

- 3.2.1 Seven trenches (Trenches 1-7) of varying sizes were excavated, their locations determined in order to investigate and to clarify geophysical anomalies and to address specific research objectives (**Figure 1**).
- 3.2.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains or at natural geology if this was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.
- 3.2.3 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.
- 3.2.4 All archaeological deposits within the trenches were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10 and 1:20. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.
- 3.2.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.
- 3.2.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated material.
- 3.2.7 The work was carried out between 1-4 May 2012. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

## 3.3 Copyright

- 3.3.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the information held in the Site archive including the full geophysical report (GSB 2012). Details of individually excavated contexts and features are retained in the Site archive and a detailed tabulated version of these can be found in **Appendix 1**.

### 4.2 Geophysical Results

- 4.2.1 The survey concentrated in the gap between the two areas previously surveyed in 2011. The following results section is taken from the previous report (GSB 2011) and discussions with GSB staff as the final geophysical report was unavailable at the time of writing.

### *Magnetic Survey (Figure 2)*

- 4.2.2 The magnetic data are dominated by a very large spread of disturbance running through the centre of the survey area and expanding out, seemingly right across the playing fields to the west. There are two distinct zones where the response is less intense and, in fact, relatively free of anomalies; the northern-most appears to echo the approximate footprint of the main manor complex. The southern area, although close to the outer court, has a very odd, angular southern delineation which does not automatically suggest a correlation with the medieval phase of occupation.
- 4.2.3 The nature of the responses is far more intense than would be expected from a demolition spread associated with the razing of a medieval manor site. In addition, and possibly more telling, is that if these anomalies were wholly due to the former buildings on site, it is unlikely that the primary house platform would be so comparatively quiet. Rather, it would seem that this broad zone is associated with some other phase of activity, post-dating the manor house; for example, the wholesale importing of material from elsewhere which may have contained bits of building debris, refuse and fragments of metal. Even a relatively thin lens of soil/rubble containing such modern debris could produce a response of this kind. This activity may have been part of the works to fill the moats around the manor platform, explaining the northern limits, with excess material being spread out to the south and west. Works such as these are believed to have occurred during the winter of 1959-60, although there are no written records of these events (M. Biddle pers.comm).
- 4.2.4 Across the manor platform there is very little of note, aside from some negative trends and sporadic, isolated anomalies, the origins of which are unclear. It was hoped that zones of increased magnetic response may help identify areas of burning/intense heat such as hearths or kitchens within the complex. The only magnetic anomaly that appears to be within the primary structure (i.e. the inner ranges), and is potentially of an archaeological order of magnitude, lies around (M1).
- 4.2.5 Apart from a long jump track/sandpit along the northern edge of the survey area, there are two other zones of very intense, strong anomalies (M2 & M3), both of which appear to coincide with sections of the moat that were not fully back-filled by the time of the 1950s excavations (M. Biddle pers. comm.). Presumably this increased response is a reflection of relatively recent levelling of these features with a particularly magnetic fill. The remaining two anomalies of note are near-parallel linear bands of stronger response (M4 & M5) which ostensibly could demarcate the southern limit of the main manor and the northern limit of the outer court respectively. That said, the latter anomaly is coincident with a parchmark visible on aerial photographs and a trackway shown on earlier mapping and thus is more likely to be material dumped to consolidate its surface.

### *GPR Survey (Figures 3-4)*

#### The Inner Court

- 4.2.6 The GPR results from over the main manor complex are very clear but also somewhat frustrating. The primary manor structures (i.e. the southern front wing and inner ranges) have been very well-defined, with the wall lines showing very clearly, but the outer ranges have remained elusive.
- 4.2.7 The reason for the elusive outer ranges may be a result of the site's history: construction, demolition, post-abandonment or perhaps a combination of all three. At the earliest stage, the difference in response may be due to the chosen building materials: were the west, east and north outer ranges actually of timber construction, thus leaving relatively ephemeral remains behind in contrast to the more substantial walls and foundations of the central brick structure? Or is it simply differential robbing of materials: was the removal of

the buildings more complete around the outside where it would have been easier to get to the stonework forming the foundations? Or has something happened since the site fell out of use to effectively 'hide' the responses from the outer ranges? The magnetic data suggests the wholesale importing and spreading of material across much of the site and, if this were a clay-rich material, it is possible that the radar energy might suffer severe attenuation when used over these areas. The latter seems less likely given that the magnetic data seem to suggest that much of the manor platform is unaffected, which points back to the first two possibilities.

- 4.2.8 The GPR indicates the southern range has been robbed extensively and, most likely, right down to foundation level from the flanks of the moat. This is mirrored by the GPR results with two linear anomalies (G1) seemingly representing the inside edges of the entrance tower, but the rest of the structure to the east and west is absent. There is a similar drop-off in response across the north and round towards the eastern side of the complex, most noticeable in the shallowest slices and delimited by a trend (G2); beyond this most of the shallow responses are significantly diminished. Having said that, there is a band of response (G3) which seems to coincide with the northern outer range, although the archaeological validity of some of the shallower detail (for example, G4) is questionable given the apparent orientation. The fact that the northern range is visible at depth might suggest shallow robbing, but the complete lack of anomalies over the north-east corner could still be the result of a highly attenuated shallow layer; the absence of anomalies does not necessarily indicate an absence of features.
- 4.2.9 The central areas of response (G5) in the shallowest slice seem to be a demolition spread, but it is unclear as to why there should be a linear band of lower amplitude through the centre. With depth, the high amplitude anomalies start to condense down into a more clearly defined layout with linear high amplitude wall lines, and more amorphous high amplitude zones likely to be floor or yard surfaces. The strength of the responses from the surfaces is such that there is a certain amount of 'ringing', which results in their showing up in some of the deeper slices as well. There is some question as to whether all of the anomalies interpreted as yard surfaces are just that, or whether there is actually some structure to be found adjacent to the internal wall of the Inner Courtyard. For example there is an apparent rectilinear pattern to responses G6 in the south-west corner and, more convincingly, what looks to be a clear structure (G7) in the north-west corner. Likewise, some areas where the wall-lines expand seem to be genuine, perhaps buttresses (G8) or in the case of larger examples some form of bay or oriel (G9), and some of the breaks may well be doorways, for example G10.
- 4.2.10 Some zones within the footprint of the main building show more intense reflections than others, for example the areas east and west of G11 and G7. It is possible that there are cellar structures in these areas, although the only known cellar was uncovered beneath the 'room' (G12), and this has not shown a particularly strong response other than the side walls; this may be due to the nature of the back-fill.
- 4.2.11 A final point of interest in this area is the rectilinear reflections G13, starting from around 1.2m below ground level but which seem to form quite a clear rectangular feature in the 1.6m–2.0m plot. If this is a genuine structure (some conduits were recorded running through the courtyard, but the alignment of this looks different), the alignment and depth suggest that it pre-dates the Tudor manor complex; this could be part of the earliest manorial phase, or perhaps older still.

#### Base Court

- 4.2.12 The southern survey area was investigated with the intention of looking for structures Base Court and the principal gatehouse through which the manor complex is entered.





- 4.2.13 The results were somewhat disappointing, especially given the success over the main buildings. There is evidently much going on in the subsurface at this end of the site, but the patterns formed by the myriad reflectors seen within the radargrams do not present as anything obviously archaeological when viewed in plan. This is likely due to the robbing building materials, dumping of waste material and landscaping.
- 4.2.14 The only potential exceptions are the broad, but shallow, linear band of increased response G19 and the rectilinear group of responses forming G14. Both are aligned in a similar orientation to the main building, which may increase their potential significance. The former could be the remnant of a trackway into the Base Court, whilst the latter may represent some form of property divisions. However, both interpretations should be viewed with caution, for example, the primary linear anomaly that forms G14 is actually coincident with a modern cultivation trend (of which there are many) higher in the section and may simply be an echo of this. The other anomaly (G19) looks to stop at a more recent former track or path (G15), though this could be simply coincidence.
- 4.2.15 Either way, there are no obvious large structures within the survey area, implying that the principal gatehouse must be north of this area, which leaves a relatively narrow field of possibility for its position. The survey does not indicate a clear location for either the gatehouse or the line of the Base Court's southern extent and surrounding buildings. At a push, the most plausible of the recorded anomalies would be those around G16.
- 4.2.16 To the south of anomaly G1 which marked the gatehouse tower leading to the Inner Court is a clear band absent of response. Anomaly G20 which extends up the western side of the Inner Court and the western range is likely to indicate the in filled moat. If the filling material has a high clay content or is water logged the radar energy might suffer severe attenuation when used over these areas, and this dissipating energy may account for the lack of response. It is likely that the infilling material filled and spilled out over the moat edge giving a false impression of the width of the moat. The anomaly is recorded as some 15m across.
- 4.2.17 Due south of G1 and G20 is G21 which, although producing a fairly ephemeral response, is in line with the main gatehouse into the Inner Court and therefore may represent the location of the pier base for a structure crossing the moat.

#### The Long Gallery

- 4.2.18 Records indicate that the Manor of the More had a 253ft gallery extending out from the outer north range of the main manor complex, wherein walks and archery could be conducted during inclement weather. The 1950s excavations identified what may have been a pier base for the southern end of this structure but its exact location is unclear. The GPR looks to have 'picked out' the original pier base (G17) amongst the anomalies associated with the northern outer range. Immediately north, a small anomaly (G18) may be associated with the gallery but the lack of any further responses and the long-jump tracks interfering with the data immediately to the north, means little more can be said about the relative significance of these isolated reflections. Ultimately, nothing was found in either of the areas that would indicate the line of the gallery. To differentiate the footings of the timber gallery from this would be very difficult.

#### Conclusions

- 4.2.19 The survey has had mixed results. The GPR data from over the main manor complex has produced a very clear plan for the layout of the inner ranges, including room divisions, buttresses, potential bays/oriels, floor surfaces and doorways. A possible rectilinear feature, potentially pre-dating the Tudor phase of the manor, has also been identified within the Inner Courtyard.

4.2.20 The outer ranges (and for that matter the north-east corner of the inner ranges) have not been identified with such clarity, with only the northern wing showing with any kind of certainty. The reasons for this are unclear but the main possibilities are: extensive robbing of the outer, more accessible, foundation material; potentially different construction methodologies (i.e. timber as opposed to brick); or a lens of imported material masking underlying reflectors. Although the latter is perhaps least likely, the magnetic data seem to indicate the presence of an expanding spread of foreign material westward through the centre of the survey area. The anomalies are not akin to the demolition of an archaeological site, and the lack of response over the main manor complex seems to support this view. It is likely that this is contemporaneous with the back-filling of the moat and/or other earthworks. Survey over the southern part of the Base Court, hoping to find evidence of further structures including the principal gatehouse, and the search for the northern Long Gallery, was less successful.

### 4.3 Evaluation Trenches

4.3.1 Any substantial archaeological remains revealed were recorded and left *in situ*. No removal of structural elements took place and therefore the earliest phases of activity were neither fully exposed nor fully understood. The following results section is presented with reference to the phasing of the Site proposed by Biddle, Barfield and Millard (1959).

4.3.2 The following evaluation results section should be read in conjunction with the trench summaries presented in **Appendix 1**.

#### *Trench 1 (Figures 5-6)*

4.3.3 Trench 1 lay across the eastern wall of the southern gatehouse leading into the Inner Court across the moat from the presumed Base Court, as identified in the geophysical survey as anomaly G1 (**Figure 4**). The western wall and possibly the eastern wall of the gatehouse had been recorded during the 1950s excavation and dated to Period IV (post-1426) (Biddle et al. 1959, 150).

4.3.4 Several phases of archaeological deposition and construction were identified within the trench. Archaeological deposits were revealed at 0.40m below the current ground surface at a height of 95.89m aOD. The overlying deposits contained sherds of late medieval pottery as well as modern refined white wares.

#### Pre-Period IV

4.3.5 The earliest deposit was partially exposed at the southern end of the trench; this deposit (**118**) possibly represents the natural basal geology. Alternatively, it may be excavated upcast from the digging of the moat, deposited within the centre of the moated area to raise the ground level and to provide a base on which the structures were built. This material is located adjacent to, and appears to have been cut through by, the moat (**125**); identification as natural geology is therefore more probable.

#### Period IV

4.3.6 Also cutting deposit **118** was **143**, the foundation trench for the eastern wall of the entrance of the gatehouse (**105**), constructed on a stepped footing (**135**) (**Figure 5, Plate 2**). A chalk rubble, load-bearing structure (**137**) was located at the southern end of wall **105**, partially projecting out into the moat. This possibly supported the northern end of the bridge crossing the moat. Structure **137** was subsequently enhanced and reinforced by the addition of brick and chalk rubble structure **136/139** for a larger and perhaps more elaborate entrance-way. Structure **136/139** formed the foundation for the eastern of the two gatehouse towers or turrets which had been previously interpreted as semi-octagonal

in shape (Biddle *et al.* 1959, 150). This shape was confirmed by deposit **138**, a remnant of the tower or turret constructed in pitched bricks upon foundation **139**.

- 4.3.7 At the northern end of **105**, the eastern return wall, the northern wall of the chamber to the north of the tower/turret, had been removed by robber cut **133**, although minimal remains of the internal tiled floor survived (floor surface **132** on mortar bedding layer **131**). To the north of the gatehouse, the external courtyard surface (**128/129**) of the Inner Court, formed of flint nodules, also formed the road surface which led through the gatehouse archway and was recorded butting the western side of wall **105** above chalk bedding layer **127**. This metallised surface was recorded during the 1950s excavation (Biddle *et al.* 1959, pl. XIX, C and D).

#### Period V or VI

- 4.3.8 At the northern end of wall **105** was a brick plinth (**130**), corresponding to one identified during the 1950s excavation (Biddle *et al.* 1959, fig. 6), the two plinths flanking the gatehouse archway. Plinth **130** was not bonded or keyed into wall **105** and can therefore be viewed as decorative rather than structural. It is possibly the original location for one of the decorative Renaissance pillars recovered during shrub clearance in 2010. This brick plinth addition is clearly later than the gatehouse construction, and may belong to the period of Neville's (Period V) or Wolsey's (Period VI) occupation of the site (*ibid.*, 150-6).

#### Period VIII and the demolition

- 4.3.9 The remaining phases of activity revealed within Trench 1 relate to the demolition of the manor buildings, the in-filling of the moat and the use of the site for landfill. Robber cut **133** removed the northern wall of the eastern gatehouse chamber, while cut **140** removed materials associated with the semi-octagonal tower/turret. During this period the deliberate in-filling of the moat (fills **113**, **122**, **117**, and **121**) took place, as did the construction of a causeway across the moat to gain access to the interior of the site. Deposits **123**, **124**, and **116** formed part of this causeway, sealing the remains of metallised surface **128** adjacent to the demolished wall **105** (**Figure 6, section, Plate 3**). A single sherd of medieval (13th/14th century) pottery was recovered from **117**, while a sherd of post-medieval pottery (late 15th/16th century) came from **121**; both sherds are residual in these contexts.
- 4.3.10 There then followed a sequence of deposition of organic-rich deposits characteristic of topsoil formation, but mixed and mottled with dumping activity. These sealed the demolition deposits, and pottery recovered from them included modern (19th/20th) and residual medieval wares. Within this sequence was a metallised surface (**103**), constructed of small, water-worn pebbles, and laid down to provide access to the site for further dumping of material; this pebbled surface is equivalent to that identified in the 1950s and dated as late 17th century (Biddle *et al.* 1959, 161). Another late feature cutting the dumping deposits was a foundation trench (**115**) for wall **114**, a crudely built structure marking the edge of the backfilled moat, perhaps to prevent access into the soft in-filling deposits. These deposits and structures were subsequently sealed by layers associated with the landscaping of the site as a sports field.

#### Trench 2 (Figure 7)

- 4.3.11 Trench 2 was positioned to locate the northern range of buildings which had been partially excavated in the 1950s, and to investigate the junction walls recorded as anomaly G8 (**Figure 4**). Archaeological deposits revealed in Trench 2 were possibly associated with Periods III-VI. The top of the archaeological deposits was identified at 0.54m below the current ground surface, at a height of 95.63m aOD

### Period III

- 4.3.12 The earliest deposit within the trench was revealed in a small sondage; **217/241** possibly represents the natural basal geology, or may be redeposited natural, in-filling the Period III moat. Sealing deposit **217/241** was layer **216/218/236** which may also be moat in-fill. Medieval pottery from **218** was dated to the 13th or 14th century (South Hertfordshire greyware).
- 4.3.13 The earliest structures identified also belong to Period III: walls **225**, **226** and **233** are the remains of a WNW-ESE aligned building, which was revealed in the GPR survey as anomaly G13. This structure was constructed on a clearly different alignment to the E-W orientated structures of the Period IV construction, and of different materials. Walls **225**, **226** and **233** were built of roughly-shaped flint nodules in a yellow sandy mortar, quite distinct from the chalk block and brick walls of the later buildings. These walls formed a plinth for a timber sill beam belonging to a timber-framed building. No associated floor surfaces were identified, and this building was eventually demolished to make way for the Great Hall of Period IV.

### Period IV

- 4.3.14 The building interpreted as the Great Hall was constructed on a stepped footing or supporting raft of chalk blocks, mortared within a compact chalk slurry, and recorded as **243/237** within foundation trench **242**, which cut through deposit **236**. The southern wall of the Great Hall (**208**) was bonded to (and contemporaneous with) wall **207** which subdivided individual rooms within the Great Hall, probably storage rooms, with the Great Hall itself located above, on the first floor. On the southern side of wall **208**, buttress **238** supported the junction of walls **208** and **207**, and belonged to the same phase of works.
- 4.3.15 Within the eastern of the two rooms formed by **207** and **208**, layer **232** would have supported a floor surface (now removed), while the western room was a cellar which was accessed from the Inner Court via a doorway through wall **208** and down steps (**239**). Within the cellar, deposit **236** was sealed by floor remnants and levelling layers (**211**, **213** and **214**), though these had been heavily disturbed. Deposit **213** contained a sherd of 13th century pottery (London-type ware).
- 4.3.16 Outside the Great Hall, to the south of wall **208**, the Inner Court was covered by a metallised surface constructed of flint nodules (**228** and **229**, equivalent to layers **128/129** in Trench 1). This surface was laid on bedding layers (**219** and **227/247**) which in turn sealed the remains of the Period III walls **225**, **226** and **233**. Pottery recovered from bedding layer **227** dated to the 13th or early 14th century (Kingston-type ware).

### Period V

- 4.3.17 The next phase of construction saw the blocking of the doorway through wall **208** with wall **210** (**Figure 7, Plate 6**), which may have taken place during Archbishop George Neville's occupation between 1460 and 1470. Wall **210**, faced with brick with a chalk rubble core, sat directly upon the final step of **239**. During the 1950s excavations, the alterations to the manor by Neville were identified as the insertion of a cellar at the junction of the northern and eastern ranges, and the blocking of doorways. The walls associated with Neville's work are comparable with wall **210** (Biddle *et al.* 1959, pl. XX C). It was also suggested that at this time the water supply system to the manor was upgraded to lead piping (*ibid.*, 156). The course of one of the pipes was revealed in Trench 2 (**222**), running from within the eastern room below the Great Hall out into the Inner Court. During the demolition of the manor (Period VIII), the pipe trench had been re-excavated for the removal of the lead.

#### Period VI or VII

- 4.3.18 Following the blocking of the doorway, wall **210** was butted on its northern side by a retaining arch constructed inside the cellar. The arch (**224**) was constructed upon a chalk footing (**245**); it was not fully exposed, but it was clear that it been added in an attempt to correct some failing in the structure. The void between **210** and **224** was subsequently filled by blocking wall **209** (**Figure 7, Plate 5**). This remedial work possibly took place during Cardinal Wolsey's occupation in the years after 1521 (Period VI), although a later date associated with Henry VIII's occupation from c. 1531 (Period VII) is also a possibility.

#### Period VIII and the demolition

- 4.3.19 The demolition of the manor and robbing of useable materials is demonstrated by the removal of the lead piping of the water supply system, and this would have followed the demolition of the building to ground level. Robber trench **230** was dug in the south-east corner of the trench, and the cellar was backfilled with a mixed rubble deposit (**206**). Post-demolition levelling deposits sealed the whole trench (**204** and **215**).

#### Post-demolition

- 4.3.20 Cutting the top of **204** was a probable modern ditch (**240**), which truncated the top of wall **208**, partially removing a section of blocking wall **210**.

#### Trench 3 (**Figure 8**)

- 4.3.21 Trench 3 was positioned to investigate the north-east corner of the Great Hall and any structures associated with the expansion of the Manor during Cardinal Wolsey's occupation. This part of the site had been previously investigated in the 1950s (Biddle *et al.* 1959, fig 6). The geophysical survey had been unsuccessful in identifying structures in this area.
- 4.3.22 The top of the archaeological deposits was identified at 0.72m below the current ground surface at a height of 95.45m aOD.

#### Period III

- 4.3.23 The earliest deposit within the trench was redeposited natural layer **324**, seen in the south-east corner of the trench and probably derived from the initial excavation of the moat, representing upcast material deposited within the interior to raise the level and to provide a base on which to build. This deposit was sealed in turn by deposits **313** and **309**.
- 4.3.24 Walls **307** and **308** form the remains of a roughly WSW-ENE building, on a different alignment to the Great Hall, and built of different materials. The construction method matches walls **225**, **226** and **233** in Trench 2: roughly shaped flint nodules in a yellow brown mortar and, as in Trench 2, these walls formed a plinth for the timber sill beam of a timber-framed building (**Figure 8, Plate 8**). Redeposited natural layer **310** may be contemporaneous, a possible surface associated with the timber building. Revealed in a small sondage against **307** was deposit **316** which contained a single sherd of 14th century pottery (South Hertfordshire greyware), but this may be residual. Sealing deposit **316** was a possible surface (**318**) which was in turn sealed by charcoal-rich deposit **317**, derived from the burning and demolition of the timber building.

#### Period IV

- 4.3.25 Following the removal of the timber building, layer **319** and surface **323** were laid down to create working surfaces during the major works of the Period IV construction. A single large foundation trench (**327**) was cut through **319** (truncating walls **307** and **308**) for the construction of the north-east corner of the Great Hall, formed by walls **305**, **325** and buttress **326** (**Figure 8, Plate 7**). These walls were constructed in the same manner and



in the same materials as, and are contemporaneous with, walls **207**, **208** and **238** in Trench 2.

- 4.3.26 Deposits **315** and **314** in the interior of the building may have been bedding layers for a now removed floor surface.

#### Period VI

- 4.3.27 The only structure possibly associated with Wolsey's occupation is a possible supporting buttress or wall (**306**), constructed on the eastern side of wall **305**, perhaps associated with the new eastern range.

#### Period VIII and the demolition

- 4.3.28 Two large robber trenches (**321** and **322**) had removed sections of walling within the trench, and these were filled with post-demolition deposits (**303** and **320**).

#### *Trench 4 (Figure 9)*

- 4.3.29 Trench 4 was located to the south of the main manor buildings and the Inner Court, to investigate the structures associated with putative Base Court, and was targeted upon geophysical anomaly G19 (**Figure 3**). No traces of the Base Court have been previously identified archaeologically, and its location has been assumed from the analysis of historical documents.

- 4.3.30 At the western end of the trench the archaeological level was revealed at 0.62m below the current surface at 96.51 and sloped downwards to eastern end of the trench to 1.217m below the current ground surface at 96.18m aOD.

- 4.3.31 Below a levelling layer (**406**) which contained a single sherd of 13th/early 14th century pottery (Kingston-type ware) was a rammed chalk surface (**407**) which sloped at an angle of 15-20 degrees downwards from west to east (**Figure 9, Plates 9-10**). The function of this surface is unclear; it may have been the eastern side (camber) of a roadway approach towards the southern gatehouse of the Base Court, or may have been located within the Court itself. Alternatively, it may be part of some ornamental garden landscaping, although the gentle slope differs from the steeply angled slopes which separate garden terraces or *parterres*, a characteristic feature of Tudor ornamental gardens from the late 15th century onwards (Wilson 1991, 23, figs 3.3-3.5). Surface **407** sealed natural geology.

- 4.3.32 At the western end of the trench was a single post-hole (**411**), which contained fragments of white-slipped and glazed floor tiles of a type known to have been ordered by Henry VIII for Hampton Court. It is likely that the floor tiles came from the demolished buildings of the manor and that the post-hole is a post-demolition feature unrelated to the manor.

#### *Trenches 5 and 6 (Figure 10)*

- 4.3.33 Trenches 5 and 6 lay to the north of the Inner Court, and were positioned in an attempt to locate the putative towers associated with the Long Gallery constructed by Cardinal Wolsey. No trace of the Long Gallery has been identified archaeologically and its location has been assumed from Wolsey's building records.

- 4.3.34 In Trench 5, a chalk-flecked layer (**504**) was revealed at 94.47m aOD. There had been much disturbance in this area, associated with the school and the construction of the nearby railway embankment, and this deposit is probably a post-demolition levelling layer as it contained fragments of medieval roof and floor tile. Two modern post-holes (**505** and

**507**) cut through deposit **504**, and below **504** was a redeposited natural layer (**509**) which contained further medieval roof tile fragments.

- 4.3.35 In Trench 6, a modern dump of material (**603**) was revealed 0.50m below the current ground surface at a height of 94.18m aOD. A modern live service cut **603**, and no further investigation took place within this trench.

#### *Trench 7 (Figure 11)*

- 4.3.36 Trench 7 was located within the area of the putative Base Court and targeted a north-south anomaly from the geophysics interpreted as a culvert of some kind (**Figure 3**). A brick corbelled culvert (**703**) was indeed revealed, 0.15m below the current ground surface at a height of 97.15m aOD. This culvert possibly belongs to Period VI, and is comparable to a drain revealed to the north of the Great Hall (Biddle *et al.* 1959, 157).

## 5 FINDS

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered five of the trenches excavated; no finds were recovered from Trenches 6 or 7, quantities from Trenches 3, 4 and 5 are minimal, and quantities overall are small. Only ceramic building material and animal bone were encountered in any appreciable quantity. The chronological focus of the Site is in the late medieval and early post-medieval period; there are also a few items of prehistoric date.
- 5.1.2 Condition of the material is generally good; ceramic material is relatively unabraded, but the ironwork is heavily corroded. This has hampered initial identifications.
- 5.1.3 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and this information is summarised by trench in **Table 1**. Some finds were discarded on site following quantification; these included modern (19th/20th century) pottery, non-distinctive groups of ceramic building material (brick and flat roof tile fragments, iron nails, and unstratified metal detector finds of no intrinsic interest).
- 5.1.4 This section provides basic details of the finds in order to assess their potential to address the aims and objectives of the project, in particular to investigate the sequence of late medieval and early post-medieval occupation on the Site.

### 5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the Site, but only small quantities were recovered (44 sherds). This small assemblage includes sherds of medieval and post-medieval date.

#### *Medieval*

- 5.2.2 Twenty-two sherds were identified as medieval. Wares represented include local coarsewares, greywares falling within the South Hertfordshire tradition, Surrey whitewares and London-type wares. There are few diagnostic sherds, but the local coarsewares include an undeveloped jar rim of 12th or early 13th century date, while the remaining wares probably fall within a date range of 13th to 15th century. The London-type wares include both the standard ware (LOND), all sherds of which carry painted white slip decoration, apparently in lattice designs, and the later medieval variant (LLON). Amongst the greywares, which can be dated to the 13th or 14th century, are a jug (rod) handle and a developed jar rim. The Surrey whitewares include Kingston-type ware (KING) and

'Tudor Green' ware (TUDG), all in green-glazed forms (although none diagnostic to vessel form).

- 5.2.3 Some of the medieval pottery was clearly residual, occurring in contexts such as the modern infilling of the moat (deposit **117**), the infilling of the cellar in Trench 2 (deposit **206**), and modern landfill deposit **406**. However, sherds from layers **213** (possibly contemporary with the cellar construction), **218** (nature uncertain), **227** (levelling layer for cobbled surface), and **316** (pre-dating Great Hall), all of 13th or 14th century date, may have been *in situ*.

#### *Post-Medieval*

- 5.2.4 The 22 post-medieval sherds include five sherds of coarse redware, of which two (both from a modern levelling layer in Trench 2) probably derive from horticultural vessels (flowerpots). These may belong to the early post-medieval occupation of the Site (the manor house as rebuilt in the 15th century and enlarged in the 16th century), as may a sherd of a Martincamp flask (deposit **121** within the partially backfilled moat), and one of tinglazed earthenware (demolition deposit **303**). Later wares comprise English stoneware (18th century) and modern refined whitewares.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)**

- 5.3.1 This category includes fragments of roof tile, floor tile and brick. The roof tile consists largely of flat (peg) tile (166 fragments), of which one complete width survives (175mm). One curved fragment with one peg hole may be from a hip tile, while three other curved fragments may derive either from hip or ridge tiles. None of the roof tile is glazed, and these fragments cannot be dated more closely than as later medieval or early post-medieval.
- 5.3.2 No complete bricks were recovered (10 fragments), and only three preserved partial dimensions (width 100mm by depth 45mm; W 110 by D 50mm; W 115mm by D 55mm). All these could be accommodated within the expected range for Tudor era bricks, and are therefore likely to belong to Wolsey's palace. Four fragments have vitrified surfaces. One piece appears to be part of a brick 'special' (demolition deposit **113**), with one obtuse-angled arris, although the overall form is unknown.
- 5.3.3 The floor tile is more diagnostic. Of the 18 fragments recovered, 13 carry a dark green lead glaze, while nine are glazed over a white slip, appearing yellow. One of the green-glazed tiles is triangular. These plain tiles are likely to be imports, corresponding to the '*Flemyshe pavyngge tiles, of greene and youllow*' ordered by Henry VIII for the Halls at Hampton Court Palace, and laid in chequer patterns (Hurst 1999, 98).
- 5.3.4 Of most interest amongst the floor tiles, however, are four fragments from a decorated tinglazed floor tile (modern levelling deposit **102**). Sufficient of this item survives to identify it as part of a Herkenrode-type hexagonal tile of the early 16th century, with polychrome decoration. Such tiles were produced in Antwerp in the 1520s and 1530s, and are named after the pavement in the Abbey of Herkenrode in Belgium, dated to 1532; the pavement is formed of square tiles surrounded by hexagonal ones. In this country they have an extremely restricted distribution in south-east England, occurring on high status sites of the early 16th century, such as the chapel of the Vyne, Hampshire and the Tower of London, although also at several houses in the City of London (Hurst 1999). A number of tile fragments were also found during the 1950s excavations (Biddle *et al.* 1959, 186-7, fig. 21, nos. 1-16). The current example contains part of a blue rosette with orange and green spots; very similar designs are illustrated from the earlier assemblage (*ibid.*, fig. 21, no. 7, 9, 10).



5.3.5 One small fragment of painted (red) wall plaster was also recovered (layer **121** within partially backfilled moat).

#### **5.4 Stone**

5.4.1 One architectural fragment was recovered as an unstratified find. This is a simple rectangular moulding with a rebate, in a fine-grained glauconitic sandstone identified as Upper Greensand, from central southern England, possibly Reigate-Merstham.

#### **5.5 Glass**

5.5.1 With the exception of one piece of vessel glass (the neck of a green wine bottle of 18th century date from modern levelling deposit **202**), the glass recovered is all from window quarries. Seven fragments came from Trench 3, and these include three painted fragments and one stained (red) fragment, all from demolition deposit **304**. The painted pieces are too small to ascertain overall designs, but the style would be consistent with the Tudor period (see Biddle *et al.* 1959, 179, fig. 18, nos. 4-15). Plain fragments, from Trenches 2 and 3, are not closely datable but are most likely to be of 15th or 16th century date.

#### **5.6 Coin**

5.6.1 The single coin recovered is a worn hammered silver penny struck by Henry V (AD 1413 – 1422) at York. Because of the wear on the coin, it is not possible to be certain exactly which issue this belongs to, but this appears to be a class D penny. The wear on the coin indicates that it was in circulation for some time prior to its loss or deposition. The coin came from Trench 3 topsoil.

#### **5.7 Metalwork**

5.7.1 The metalwork includes objects of copper alloy, lead and iron. The three copper alloy objects comprise two lace ends (modern levelling deposit **202**), and a small, roughly disc-shaped piece with a central perforation, possibly a weight or washer (Trench 2 topsoil).

5.7.2 Seven of the nine pieces of lead recovered are miscellaneous sheet off-cuts; there is also a vessel handle (Trench 2 topsoil, probably lead alloy), and a pistol ball (context 101, 14g, diameter 12mm).

5.7.3 The iron objects are all heavily corroded. Most can, however, be identified as probable nails; no other objects were identified.

#### **5.8 Worked bone**

5.8.1 One object of worked bone was recovered. This is a fragment of long bone, cut into a deep notch at one end to form a two-pronged implement, although its function is unclear.

#### **5.9 Animal Bone**

5.9.1 The assemblage comprises 130 fragments (or 1.656kg) of hand-recovered animal bone. Once conjoins are taken into account this figure falls slightly to 122. Bone was recovered from 14 separate contexts, mostly layers, of medieval, post-medieval and modern date (**Table 2**).

5.9.2 The following information was recorded where applicable: species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was



directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

- 5.9.3 Bone preservation is extremely good and not a single fragment was affected by canid gnawing. This suggests that bone waste was disposed of rapidly out of the reach of scavenging carnivores.

#### *Medieval*

- 5.9.4 A total of 66 bone fragments were recovered from four layers (**206, 218, 316 and 406**) of medieval date located in Trenches 2, 3 and 4. The identified material includes a few cattle, sheep/goat, pig, domestic fowl and rabbit bones.

#### *Post-medieval*

- 5.9.5 Fourteen fragments were recovered from post-medieval layers **121** and **221** located in trenches 1 and 2. Seven fragments are identifiable to species, all of which are from domestic livestock (i.e. cattle, sheep/goat and pig).

#### *Modern*

- 5.9.6 Layers **102, 104** and **202** located in trenches 1 and 2 are of modern date and yielded 33 fragments of bone only eight of which are identifiable to species. The identified bones belong to cattle, sheep/goat and domestic fowl.

#### *Undated*

- 5.9.7 Nine bones were recovered from undated contexts located in trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5. The identified bones belong to cattle and sheep/goat.

### **5.10 Marine Shell**

- 5.10.1 The shell consists largely of oyster, but also includes single examples of mussel, whelk and bivalve. The oyster includes both right and left valves, ie, both preparation and consumption waste. All valves are abraded, and none survives complete. One left valve has a roughly central rectangular perforation; similarly perforated oyster shells have been recovered from medieval contexts at Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight (Wyles and Winder 2000, 185), and Fulston Manor, Kent (Wessex Archaeology 2006, 16). These could either have been accidental fork tine holes made during or shortly after deposition, or (seemingly less likely) they could have resulted from the use of oyster shells as temporary roof tiles.

### **5.11 Other Finds**

- 5.11.1 Other finds comprise one small piece of ironworking slag (undated), and seven pieces of prehistoric worked flint (six waste flakes and one large unsystematic core).

### **5.12 Potential and Further Recommendations**

- 5.12.1 The finds assemblage recovered from the Site is relatively small, and much of the material derived from redeposited contexts, such as the modern infilling of the moat. Closely datable material forms only a small component of the overall assemblage (coin, pottery, floor tiles). As such, the potential of the finds to inform on the dating of the stratigraphic sequence uncovered, and to add to an understanding of the Site, is limited. Only 30% of the faunal assemblage is identifiable to species and element, and the amount of detailed information (i.e. age and biometric) available for further study is also extremely limited.
- 5.12.2 Nevertheless, there are hints here of the conspicuous consumption of the rebuilt early post-medieval manor, in the form of imported floor tiles and pottery, and painted window



glass. The larger assemblage recovered during the excavations of the 1950s provides parallels for this material, and for the earlier, medieval artefacts.

- 5.12.3 All finds have already been recorded to an appropriate archive level, and no further analysis is proposed. Details of the finds as presented here can be incorporated in any publication report, and the two largest imported maiolica tile fragments should be illustrated.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

### **6.1 Introduction**

- 6.1.1 The programme of works undertaken by Time Team on the site of the Manor of the More was largely successful in its stated aims of enhancing the information gained from the previous works in the 1950s and from the 2011 geophysical survey.
- 6.1.2 Through the combination of further geophysical survey and evaluation trenches, the surviving extent of the building complex and the state of preservation of the remains was ascertained and proved to be extensive. It was clear that the periods of levelling and landscaping which followed the excavations of the 1950s had not had such a detrimental effect as had initially been thought.
- 6.1.3 Some of the most elusive elements of the manor, however, whose presence had been assumed through analysis of historical documents, could not be located due to the extent of later demolition and robbing. No remains could be related to the Long Gallery, and only tentative evidence was found for the existence of the Base Court.
- 6.1.4 The Project Design (Videotext Communications 2012) outlined four key research questions to be addressed by the archaeological works (see **section 3**).

### **6.2 The Extent and Layout of the Manor of the More**

- 6.2.1 The geophysical survey was successful in clearly outlining the layout of the Manor complex and confirmed that the original plan (Biddle *et al.* 1959, figs 2 & 6) was on the whole accurate, although the entire complex was not revealed.
- 6.2.2 The consensus is that the complex comprised a large moated platform with an Inner Court, surrounded by building ranges on all four sides. Only the southern range fronted on to the moat, with an inner gatehouse. To the north, west and east, a berm separated the building ranges from the moat. Subsequently, a U-shaped range of buildings was constructed within the berm to the north, west and east, filling the space. These buildings were confined by the moat on all four sides, and accessed across a bridge through the inner gatehouse on the south.
- 6.2.3 Then followed the construction of a Base Court to the south, with accommodation ranges on the west, east and south sides and access through a southern (principal) gatehouse, while to the north a Long Gallery was built (see Thurley, 1991, fig. 7).
- 6.2.4 The following discussion is referenced to the buildings contained within the northern moat including those surrounding the Inner Court. The Base Court and Long Gallery will be discussed below.

#### *Period III – c. 1350-1426*

- 6.2.5 Trenches 2 and 3 each revealed the remains of timber-framed buildings in the form of the low stone plinth bases for timber sills. Both plinths were constructed in the same manner

and from similar materials, and stratigraphically pre-dated the main structures of the manor. The building within Trench 2 was recorded by the geophysical survey (anomaly G13) and was clearly on a different alignment to the later manor structures, as were the walls in Trench 3. No clear dating for these walls was recovered.

*Period IV – 1426-1460*

- 6.2.6 The main period of construction of the manor followed the 1426 charter giving the owners licence ‘to enclose, crenellate, enturret and embattle with stones, lime and brik, their manor of More in Rykmersworth’, at which point the earlier structures of the manor were demolished and new moats dug.
- 6.2.7 The work by Time Team identified the remains of the Great Hall overlooking the Inner Court in Trenches 2 and 3 in the form of substantial buttressed walls. These walls had been built in a single planned phase; the Great Hall would have been located on the first floor with ground floor storage rooms and a cellar accessed down steps from the Inner Court.
- 6.2.8 The metallised surface of the Inner Court was exposed; it extended from in front of the Great Hall through the archway of the Inner Gatehouse.
- 6.2.9 The eastern part of the Inner Gatehouse was partially excavated in Trench 1. This would have been the original principal gatehouse prior to the construction of the southern Base Court, and was described as having semi-octagonal towers or turrets (Biddle *et al.* 1959, 150). The shape of the towers or turrets was confirmed when the base of the eastern example was revealed in Trench 1.
- 6.2.10 The gatehouse towers/turrets would have appeared similar to those of the 15th century fortified Episcopal palace of Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury in Wells (Platt 1995, pl. 101), the c. 1480 gatehouse of Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk (Allen Brown 1977, pl. 84) and the 15th century gatehouse of Someries Castle Bedfordshire (Smith 1976, 44; Falvey 1993, fig. 4).

*Period V (Archbishop Neville’s alterations) – 1460-70*

- 6.2.11 The evidence for Neville’s alterations was limited. In Trench 2 the blocking of the doorway through the wall of the Great Hall and the possible installation of the upgraded water system could perhaps be attributed to this Period. The brick plinth 130 in Trench 1 may also have been Neville’s work, although a Period VI date is more likely.

*Period VI (Cardinal Wolsey’s alterations) – post-1521*

- 6.2.12 Wolsey’s alterations involved the construction of a new U-shaped range of buildings around the north, west and east side of the 1426 manor. No trace of these structures was definitively revealed within the trenches. Trench 3, which had been positioned to investigate the junction of these two periods of work, identified a single structure which may relate to Wolsey’s eastern range. In Trench 1, the brick plinth 130 possibly belongs to Period VI, as do the remedial works revealed in Trench 2 in the form of retaining arch 224, and the brick culvert in Trench 7.

### **6.3 The Base Court**

- 6.3.1 The Base Court, located due south of the Inner Court and surrounding moat, is believed to have had internal dimensions of some 130 feet square (approximately 1500 square metres) and is likely to have been of similar proportions to Hampton Court (Thurley 1991, 93), encompassed on its western, eastern and southern sides by accommodation blocks, and with a gatehouse in the southern range.

- 6.3.2 The existence of the Base Court has been identified through the analysis of historical documents detailing repairs to be undertaken at the Manor of the More in 1568 (British Library Lansdowne MS, 13 ff. 103-6). The document refers to the '*principall gatehouse and the lodgings on eyther side*' and later the '*yinner gate hows and the lodgings unto the same*', a clear indication of two gatehouses. The 'principal gatehouse' indicates that located within the southern range of the Base Court built by Wolsey and the 'inner gatehouse' (partially excavated in Trench 1) belongs to the period after the 1426 licence to crenellate.
- 6.3.3 The geophysical survey possibly identified the southern load-bearing structure supporting the bridge that led from the Base Court through the Inner Gatehouse to the Inner Court (anomaly G21: **Figure 3**), but no further remains which could be interpreted as the ranges of the Base Court were observed in either the geophysical survey or the evaluation trenches. The lack of survival of structures associated with the Base Court may be due to the extensive post-demolition robbing of materials - access to the Base Court would have been easier and safer than crossing a derelict bridge into the Inner Court. Only as the moats were in-filled did the wholesale removal of the manor begin.
- 6.3.4 Trench 4 was located within what was believed to be part of the Base Court, but revealed no archaeological features which could definitively be associated with the courtyard. Surface 407 may have formed part of a cambered roadway approach, but this is unclear.

## 6.4 The Long Gallery

- 6.4.1 As for the Base Court, the Long Gallery's existence is known through the 1568 survey which records '*the longe gallery one the northe side of the howse into the garden with two tyrrettes on the northende of the same*' and is recorded as 253 feet or 77m long. No traces of the Long Gallery were revealed during this programme of works, though it is possible that the 1950s excavation identified the point at which the Long Gallery crossed the northern moat (Biddle *et al.* 1959, fig. XX B), but misinterpreted it as a bridge pier belonging to Wolsey's occupation.

## 6.5 Renaissance columns

- 6.5.1 The fragments of Renaissance-style columns found in 2010 are comparable to architectural details from Wolsey's most lavish residence, Hampton Court, and are likely to have been positioned either side of a doorway entrance. They could have been placed anywhere within the Manor of the More, but a grand entrance, such as the Base Court principal gatehouse, the Inner Gatehouse or perhaps the Royal Lodgings is likely. Brick plinth 130 on the north side of the Inner Gatehouse is the most likely location revealed during the work undertaken by Time Team.

## 7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1 The results of the evaluation, which have augmented existing knowledge of the Manor of the More based on previous excavations, warrant further dissemination. It is proposed that a publication report is prepared, summarising the results of the evaluation, and setting the site in its local and regional context. This report will be submitted to *Hertfordshire Archaeology and History*.
- 7.1.2 An OASIS online record (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/>) will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the AHBR. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).



## **8 ARCHIVE**

- 8.1.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Richards and Robinson 2000; Brown 2011).
- 8.1.2 The archive is currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code **85202**. It is intended that the archive will ultimately be deposited with the Three Rivers Museum, Rickmansworth, subject to the agreement of the landowners (Northwood Preparatory School)



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## 9.2 British Library Sources

Landsdowne MS 13 ff.103-6. *Particulars of the Mannor of Moore* (same hand as survey) *Hertfordshire, part of the Duchy of Lancaster, July 29 1571* (different hand, document actually dated 1568)

## 9.3 Online Sources

<http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resultsingle.aspx?uid=1015595&searchtype=mapsearch>

## 9.4 Historic Environment Records

HER Data within 1km of the Manor of the More, Rickmansworth. Hertfordshire County Council 18/04/2012



**Table 1: All finds by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

Material	Tr 1	Tr 2	Tr 3	Tr 4	Tr 5	unstrat	Total
Pottery	14/383	19/703	9/893	1 /2	1/3	-	44/1984
<i>Medieval</i>	5/171	13/295	3/31	1 /2	-	-	22/499
<i>Post-medieval</i>	9/212	6/408	6/862	-	1/3	-	22/1485
Ceramic Building Material	56/14059	93/24816	37/8991	3/333	9/1087	-	198/49286
Wall Plaster	1/10	-	-	-	-	-	1/10
Stone	-	-	-	-	-	1/5300	1/5300
Flint	3/2493	1/10	2/6	1/4	1/6	-	8/2519
Glass	-	2/25	7/17	-	-	-	9/42
Slag	-	-	-	1/109	-	-	1/109
Metalwork	9	17	3	1	4	-	34
<i>Coins</i>	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
<i>Copper Alloy</i>	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
<i>Lead</i>	6	2	1	-	-	-	9
<i>Iron</i>	3	15	1	1	4	24	48
Worked Bone	-	1/15	-	-	-	-	1/15
Animal Bone	6/70	110/1124	3/116	9/343	2/3	-	130/1656
Shell	-	10/103	-	1/7	3/29	-	14/139

**Table 2: Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP) by period**

Species	medieval	post-medieval	modern	undated	Total
cattle	7	2	2	3	14
sheep/goat	1	4	4	2	11
pig	4	1			5
domestic fowl	4		2		6
rabbit	1				1
unidentified	49	7	25	4	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>122</b>



## Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

Bgl: below ground level

aOD: above Ordnance Datum

Trench 1	Dimensions :	12m by 3m by 1.50m (max)	Ground surface level:	96.24m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	508181.27, 193963.99 508179.99, 193952.13		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
101	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of school playing field, mid-brown silty loam, friable and relatively stone free.	0-0.19m	
102	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown silty clay with abundant CBM fragments; a mix of medieval, post-medieval and modern finds. Levelling deposit for sports field. Sherds of late medieval pottery (LLON) and modern refined whiteware (REFW, marmalade jar), as well as fragments of Herkenrode-type decorated tinglazed floor tile (1530s).	0.19-0.39m	
103	Surface	Metalled surface formed of small water worn pebbles; doesn't appear to be bedded but sat/rammed into deposit 104. Late surface post-dating demolition of palace; probably associated with 20th century dumping on site.	0.04m thick	
104	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown/black silty clay with common flecks and fragments of chalk and flint and CBM fragments. Post-demolition backfill material sealing wall 105, brick plinth 130, but stratigraphically seals 134 (fill of 133). Sealed by 103. One sherd of medieval pottery and one of modern refined whiteware; fragments of medieval roof tile.	0.14m thick	
105	Structure	North-south aligned wall constructed of combination of chalk blocks with occasional brick (bricks c. 240mm x 120mm x 60mm), recorded for length of 5.60m by 0.82m wide and 0.15m high. Constructed on stepped footing 135 within construction cut 143; horizontal courses of roughly shaped chalk blocks with brick racing in parts. 105 is eastern wall of archway forming entrance to inner gatehouse. Biddle identified the corresponding western wall of the gatehouse archway.	0.15m high	
106	Cut	Cut of Biddle's trench from 1950s excavation.	-	
107	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-brown–dark grey-brown silty clay; fill of 1950s excavation trench 106.	-	
108	Cut	Cut of roughly east-west aligned gully; cuts through layer 104. Post-demolition gully possibly associated with drainage of site but unclear. Recorded for length of 3m by 0.36m wide and 0.15m deep. A second gully (110) is located 1.20m to the south.	0.15m deep	
109	Fill	Dark brown silty clay fill with rare small chalk flecks and flint inclusions. Fill of gully 108.	0.15m thick	
110	Cut	Cut of roughly east-west aligned gully; cuts layer 104. Post-demolition gully possibly associated with drainage of site but unclear. Recorded for length of 3m by 0.34m wide and 0.10m deep. Second gully (108) is located 1.20m to the north.	0.10m deep	
111	Fill	Dark brown silty clay fill with rare small chalk flecks and flint inclusions. Fill of gully 110.	0.10m thick	
112	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown/black silty clay loam with common flint gravels and CBM. Similar if not identical to 104 and 119. Located in western half of trench.	0.11m thick	
113	Layer/fill	Light grey sandy loam; abundant dumped and crushed	0.50m+thick	



		<p>limestone mortar. Evidence of cleaning off of mortar from building materials to be recycled; brick and stone. Material dumped in moat 125. Sealed by 119 and seals 142. Contained fragments of medieval roof tile and green glazed floor tile.</p>	
114	Structure	<p>East-west aligned brick wall recorded for length of 3m long by 0.40m wide and 0.23m high. Bricks 240mm x 110mm x 70mm in size. Two clear courses observed, in mix of headers and stretchers in mid-yellow sandy mortar, though many of the bricks are not mortared. Wall is late in sequence and post-dates palace demolition; appears to define edge of moat. Constructed in cut 115, which cut through 126 and 141.</p>	0.23m high
115	Cut	<p>Construction cut for wall 114; cuts post-demolition backfill/levelling layers 126 and 141.</p>	0.25m deep
116	Layer	<p>Mid to light pinky-red, layer of crushed brick, was laid down following palace demolition and partial infilling of surrounding moat. Crushed brick created surface to allow access further in to the complex for dumping of more material. 19th or 20th century in date. Beneath 126 and seals 121.</p>	0.17m thick
117	Layer/fill	<p>Light grey silty loam with abundant brick and tile fragments. Deliberate dump of waste building rubble in-filling the moat. Sealed by 121 and seals 122 and 124. One sherd of medieval greyware pottery (SHER), and medieval tile.</p>	0.67m thick
118	Layer	<p>Mid-orange-brown firm clay; only partially observed. Deposit is possibly natural basal geology, or redeposited natural material – could be material from initial excavation of moat, piled in centre of complex to raise ground level and provide base on which structures were built. Deposit 118 cut by 125 (moat) and 143 (foundation trench for wall 105).</p>	-
119	Layer	<p>Dark grey-brown/black silty loam; levelling layer below 102 in southern part of the trench. Seals wall 114. Contemporaneous with 112 and 104.</p>	0.22m thick
120	Layer/fill	<p>Mid-grey sandy loam, mortar-rich dump of material, infill deposit in moat 125. Same as 142. One of a number of mortar-rich fills.</p>	-
121	Layer/fill	<p>Mid-grey to dirty white chalk layer within partially backfilled moat. Sealed beneath 116 and sealing 117. One sherd of Martincamp flask (c.1475-1550).</p>	0.09m thick
122	Layer/fill	<p>Loose, light yellow sandy loam, mortar-rich fill of 125. Sealed beneath 117.</p>	0.65m thick
123	Layer	<p>Mid-yellow sandy loam with frequent small grit and gravel, thin layer below 124, unclear of origin and function. Possibly associated with later causeway which crossed the bridge at this point. Sealed by 124 and seals 118.</p>	0.15m thick
124	Layer	<p>Mid-orange-brown sandy clay, redeposited natural material forming possible base to surface, part of causeway.</p>	0.06m thick
125	Cut	<p>Cut of east-west orientated moat separating inner court from base court; crossed by a bridge leading to gatehouse. Recorded as 2.50m+ wide and 0.70m+ deep, but not fully exposed or bottomed. Following palace demolition, moats were used for dumping of waste material from surrounding area.</p>	0.70m+ deep
126	Layer	<p>Dark grey-brown silty loam, very organic deposit, levelling. Cut by 115 and seals 116.</p>	0.09m thick
127	Layer	<p>Light grey chalk bedding layer to internal courtyard surface 128/129.</p>	0.05m thick
128	Surface	<p>Flint cobbled metalled surface, continuation of 129. Inner</p>	0.04m thick



		court metalled surface.	
129	Surface	Flint cobbled surface of inner court. Formed of roughly shaped, similar sized flint nodules set into chalk bedding layer 127. Surface is likely to have been patched and repaired on numerous occasions. Surface butts around wall 105 and late brick plinth/buttress 130.	0.05m thick
130	Structure	Brick-built plinth/buttress butting north end of wall 105, constructed of brick (220mm x 110mm x 70mm); only single course, in light yellow sandy lime mortar. Corresponding plinth/buttress structure recorded by Biddle butting end of western gateway wall. Interpreted as decorative and not structural as not keyed into wall 105; possibly supported statue or column.	0.05m+
131	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown sandy lime mortar, rammed bedding layer for tiled floor 132, forming floor of eastern room of gatehouse.	-
132	Surface	Remains of heavily truncated and damaged (robbed) tile floor surface forming interior of eastern room of gatehouse.	-
133	Cut	Possible robber cut for removal of northern wall of eastern room of gatehouse. Cut 131, and filled with 134.	0.09m deep
134	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown/black silty clay loam with common flint and gravel, similar if not identical to 104 which seals it. Fill of 133.	0.09m thick
135	Structure	Brick and chalk block stepped footing for wall 105 in construction cut 143, yellow sandy mortar. Recorded for length of 2.40m (4.7m if including 136 which is potentially continuation of 135).	0.10m+ high
136	Structure	Brick-built, load-bearing structure at southern end of wall 105; appears to incorporate earlier structure 137. Possible function to take weight of bridge crossing the moat; forms base of single, probably octagonal, small tower or turret (one located on either side of entrance through gatehouse).	0.60m high.
137	Structure	North-south aligned linear block of chalk rubble in pale yellow mortar. Recorded for length of 0.86m by 0.50m wide and 0.20m high. Incorporated into 136 and clearly an earlier structure. Likely to be part of a load-bearing structure, perhaps an earlier bridge across the moat.	0.20m high
138	Structure	Brick structure roughly triangular in shape but in fact part of larger, probably octagonal small tower or turret; badly damaged by robber cut 140. Built on stepped footing 139, which is part of the same structure as 136. Constructed of pitched (sideways) bricks. Recorded for length of 0.96m by 0.56m wide and 0.10m high	0.10m high
139	Structure	Footing for the octagonal tower/turret 138; same as 136.	-
140	Cut	Robber cut for removal of materials associated with octagonal tower/turret. Filled with 141.	-
141	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-brown/black silty clay fill of robber cut 140. Cut by 115.	-
142	Layer/fill	Mid-grey sandy loam, mortar-rich fill of 125. Sealed by 113 and sealing 116.	-
143	Cut	Construction cut for wall 105 and footings 139, 135 and 136. Cuts 118.	-

<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	5.4m by 4.8m by 1.74m (max)	<b>Ground surface level:</b>	96.09m aOD
	<b>Coordinates (NGR):</b>	508183.18, 193983.83 508182.65, 193988.67		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>	





201	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of school playing field, mid-brown silty loam, friable and relatively stone-free.	0-0.20m
202	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown silty clay with abundant CBM fragments; mix of medieval, post-medieval and modern finds. Levelling deposit for sports field. One medieval and four post-medieval pottery sherds; medieval/post-medieval brick and tile; possible lace end fragments.	0.20-0.44m
203	VOID	VOID	VOID
204	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown silty clay with common to abundant flints <0.07m and abundant CBM. Post-demolition levelling deposit concentrated in north-east corner of trench. Overlies 223 and cut by 240.	0.27m thick
205	Fill	Very dark brown-black silty loam. Very organic fill of hollow 240. Probable garden soil, infill of late feature. Sealed by 202 in north-west corner.	0.22m thick
206	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty loam with common flint, CBM and pottery. In-filling deposit within cellar. Deposit butts later blocking wall 209. Post-demolition infilling. Two sherds of medieval pottery (LOND), possibly from same vessel as sherds from 213. Numerous fragments of medieval floor and roof tile. Object 1: worked bone implement.	0.70m thick
207	Wall	North-south aligned wall, recorded for length of .80m by 0.64m and 1m high, constructed of horizontal courses of roughly shaped chalk blocks, no facing material survives, but probably brick. Core is all that remains, bonded in light yellow mortar. Constructed on stepped footing 243. Internal wall separating cellar to west from room to east. Bonded and contemporary with wall 208; constructed in single planned phase, including buttress 238.	1m high
208	Wall	East-west aligned wall, recorded for length of 4.50m by 0.82m wide and 0.60m high, constructed of horizontal courses of roughly shaped chalk blocks, with some brick facing material surviving. Bricks 240mm x 120mm x 060mm. Core bonded with light yellow mortar. Constructed on stepped footing 243. Wall 208 forms main southern elevation of Great Hall. Doorway arch through this wall accessed the cellar, later blocked by 210. Bonded to and contemporary with 207 and buttress 238, constructed in single planned phase.	0.60m high
209	Wall	North-south aligned brick blocking wall, filling void between doorway arch blocking wall 210 and retaining arch 224. Eleven courses of bricks, 220mm x 110mm x 050mm in light yellow mortar, shoddily built infilling, perhaps final attempt at stabilisation of building.	0.60m high
210	Wall	East-west aligned brick blocking wall filling doorway arch which led from external courtyard 228/229 of the Inner Court down steps 239 into cellar. Constructed of eight courses of brick (220mm x 120mm x 050mm) in light yellow mortar. Possible addition to prevent further subsidence of Great Hall. This wall eventually butted by retaining arch 224 in a further attempt to stabilise.	0.55m high
211	Surface	Compact rammed chalk surface; possibly internal floor of cellar. Area of surface 1.30m by 0.40m by 0.04m thick observed against footing 243. Unclear if this is bedding layer or actual surface. Seals 213 and sealed by 212.	0.04m thick
212	Layer	Light yellow sandy-silt layer; appears to be collapse of render from walls 207 and 208, fallen on 211. Possibly occurred during demolition of Great Hall and removal of	0.04m thick



		useable stone and brickwork. Sealed by 206 and overlies 211.	
213	Layer	Mid-grey-brown, very sticky silty clay. Thin band of material sealing levelling layer 214 and sealed by 211. Possible trample deposit formed during cellar construction. One sherd of medieval pottery (LOND), possibly from same vessel as sherds from 206.	0.05m thick
214	Layer or surface	Layer of ceramic roofing tiles in small sondage below deposit 213; unclear if these were used as surface or as levelling/make up layer. Possibly earlier surface, replaced by 211. Sealed by 213 and overlies 236. Contains medieval roof tile.	0.02m thick
215	Layer	Mid-grey-brown silty clay loam post-demolition levelling material, is similar if not identical to 204. Sealed by 202 and overlies 231. Contains medieval floor tile.	-
216	Layer	Mid-grey clay with common chalk flecks and fragments. Layer revealed below tile 214, cut through by 242, construction cut for footing 243. Precise nature of this deposit unclear; possibly material from initial excavation of earliest phase of moat, piled into centre of moated area to raise ground surface, or perhaps actual moat in-fill. Equivalent to 218 and 236 and overlies 217/241.	0.23m thick
217	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with an orange tinge. Nature unclear, possibly natural geology or redeposited natural infilling top of earlier moat.	0.22m+ thick
218	Layer	Equivalent to 216. Four sherds of medieval pottery and medieval floor and roof tile.	-
219	Layer or surface	Light yellow sandy mortar. Same as mortar within walls 207 and 208; unclear if deliberately deposited to form surface or perhaps bedding layer to external cobbled surface 228, or if just dump of mortar. Sealed by 228, overlies 227.	0.05m thick
220	VOID	VOID	VOID
221	Layer	Thin spread of mid-grey silty clay sealing 227, probably a much later dump of material as stratigraphically butts wall 210. Associated with demolition of Great Hall. Medieval pottery (LOND, SHER), post-medieval pottery (PMR) and medieval roof tile.	0.10m thick
222	Cut	Roughly north-south aligned, meandering gully recorded for length of 4.60m with maximum width of 0.50m; 0.20m deep. This cut initially trench excavated for placing of a lead water pipe surrounded by clay layer 235; subsequently trench recut for robbing of lead piping during palace demolition. Unclear at what level original pipe trench was cut; recut visible cutting layer 232, and later in-filled with 223, post-demolition backfill.	0.20m deep.
223	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-brown-grey silty loam, post-demolition in-filling of lead water pipe, robbing trench 222.	0.20m thick
224	Retaining arch	Brick-built retaining arch, constructed in cut 244, on chalk footing 245. Recorded for length of 1.80m by 0.30m wide and 0.92m high. Located inside cellar, and butts doorway arch blocking wall 210. Not fully exposed but revealed in western section of trench. 16 courses recorded, which begin as horizontal and then angled to form the arch. Void between 210 and 224 filled by 209.	0.92m high
225	Wall	Roughly north-south aligned wall recorded for length of 1.40m by 0.50m wide and 0.10m high. Constructed of unworked flint nodules with blue patina and mid-yellow sandy mortar. Wall built from different material to main walls	0.10m high



		of Great Hall. This is possibly part of 14th century building demolished to make way for the Great Hall. Associated and contemporaneous with wall 233.	
226	Structure	Structure adjacent to wall 225, function and nature unclear, possibly stepped footing for 225 or possible floor remnant. Constructed of unworked flint nodules with blue patina and mid-yellow sandy mortar (in same manner as 225). Recorded for length of 0.90m by 0.26m wide and 0.10m high.	0.10m high
227	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay with common chalk flecks and flint inclusions, this material is potentially levelling layer for cobbles 228. Sealed by layer 219 and overlies early 14th century walls 225 and 226. Laid down as levelling following demolition of earlier building prior to construction of walls of Great Hall and Palace. One of medieval pottery (KING). Possibly equivalent to 247.	0.15m thick
228	Surface	External metalled surface, constructed of unworked flint nodules, forming the inner courtyard of Inner Court. Equivalent to 229 and to 129 in Trench 1. Surface 228 set into bedding layer 227 and sealed by 204.	0.08m thick
229	Surface	External metalled surface constructed of unworked flint nodules, forming inner courtyard of Inner Court. Equival to 228 and to 129 in Trench 1. Surface 228 set into bedding layer 227 and sealed by 204.	0.08m thick
230	Cut	Cut of robber trench for removal of material associated with Great Hall, cuts through Inner Court metalled surface 229 and infilled with 231. Recorded as 4m long by 1.20m wide.	-
231	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-brown fill of robber cut 230. Sealed by 234.	-
232	Layer	Pale yellow/buff, compact sandy clay with common chalk blocks and occasional flint nodules. Deliberately laid layer of mortar and stone to create base for floor in room formed by walls 207 and 208. Material poured into the void between the walls on which a surface could be laid. Cut by 222 for installation of lead water pipe. Butts walls 208 and 207.	-
233	Wall	Small stub of wall, 0.60m long by 0.46m wide and 0.15m high; constructed of unworked flints with blue patina in mid-yellow sandy mortar. Section of 14th building wall demolished to make way for Great Hall.	0.15m
234	Fill	Upper fill of robber cut 230, dark brown clay loam with abundant broken CBM fragments, mainly half bricks, overlies 231.	-
235	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown compact clay layer, laid down at base of pipe trench 222; would have surrounded lead pipe to help prevent leaks. Line of pipe visible in lay. Overlain by backfill material 223 following robbing of lead.	-
236	Layer	Mid-grey clay with common chalk flecks and fragments. Observed below tile 214, which had been cut through by 242. Precise nature of deposit unclear; possibly material from initial excavation of earliest phase of moat, piled into centre of moated area to raise ground surface, or perhaps actual moat in-fill. Equival to 116 and overlies 217/241.	0.23m thick
237	Structure	Structure formed of chalk blocks set into mid-yellow to pale yellow sandy mortar. Probably part of large 'raft' on which walls of Great Hall were built. Formed within construction cut 242. Wall 208 built upon it, and it supports buttress 238.	-
238	Buttress	Brick-built buttress on 237, supporting junction of 207 with 208.	-



239	Structure	Chalk and brick structure, 1.20m long by 0.40m wide. Base of probable steps leading down from Inner Court surface 228/229 through doorway arch in wall 208 into cellar. Steps become redundant when doorway blocked by 210.	-
240	Cut	Late, possibly modern ditch cutting 204; in-filled with 205. Truncates wall 208.	
241	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with an orange tinge. Nature of deposit unclear, possibly natural geology or possibly redeposited natural infilling top of earlier moat. Same as 217.	0.22m+ thick
242	Cut	Construction cut for main 'raft' on which walls of Great Hall sit. Main foundation cut filled with 243 and 237.	-
243	Structure	Chalk structure, stepped footing or part of underlying 'raft' on which building constructed. Contemporaneous with if not same as 237.	-
244	Cut	Construction cut for foundation 245 for retaining arch 224. Cuts 236.	-
245	Structure	Chalk footing for retaining arch 224 in 244.	-
246	Cut	Cut of modern, garden-related feature, probably contemporaneous with 240.	-
247	Layer	Pale yellow/buff compact sandy clay with common chalk blocks and occasional flint nodules. Deliberately laid layer of mortar and stone against buttress 238; forms the base layer/bedding deposit for metalled surface 229. Possibly equivalent to 227.	

Trench 3	Dimensions :		Ground surface level:	96.32m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):			
	4.7m by 3.7m by 1.70m (max)			
	508197.13, 193992.18 508197.02, 193996.96			
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
301	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of playing field; dark grey-brown clay silt loam with very rare, small rounded pebbles and rare chalk flecks. Seals 302. One sherd of modern pottery (REFW, Keiller marmalade jar). Object 2: medieval silver penny.	0.28m thick	
302	Layer	Very dark grey-brown, slightly sandy clay silt with rare small rounded flints, levelling layer, possibly old topsoil, sealed by 301. Overlies 320. One sherd of late medieval pottery (TUDG).	0.24m thick	
303	Layer	Light brown-cream, mortar-rich matrix with rare lens of yellow-brown silty clay. Primary dumps of material in cut 322 at eastern edge of trench. Dumped demolition deposit, predominantly mortar and brick rubble, dumped in tips from south to north, infilling 322 beside structure 306. Associated with demolition of later phases of Palace. Sealed by 320. One sherd of post-medieval pottery (TGW).	0.46m thick	
304	Layer	Light brown-cream mortar matrix with small lens of mid-brown clay. Dump of demolition material into cut 321, more mixed than 303; contained several fragments of painted glass and medieval white slipped and glazed floor tile.	0.60m thick	
305	Wall	North-south aligned wall, recorded for length of 3.40m by 1m wide and 0.64m+ high. Constructed of chalk blocks with roughly shaped edges in mid-orange-yellow sandy mortar. Three good courses of chalk rubble above stepped-out footing, which continues for another 4 courses. Originally faced with brick (now robbed). Wall turns to west and recorded as wall 325; together walls form NE corner of Great Hall. Junction of walls strengthened by addition of supporting	0.64m high	



		butress 326. Constructed flush within foundation trench 327.	
306	Wall	Roughly east-west aligned chalk block wall butting eastern side of wall 305. Bonded with mid-orange-yellow sandy mortar, three rough courses visible. Recorded for length of 1.24m by 1.30m wide and 0.24m+ high. Butts 305 to form addition on side of Great Hall, in similar construction but slightly rougher. Possibly a second butress added on eastern side to support Great Hall at a later date from 326.	0.24m high
307	Wall	Roughly north-south aligned, but on clearly different alignment to 305. Constructed of roughly shaped flint nodules with blue patina in mid-yellow-brown sandy mortar with lime flecks. Recorded for a length of 2m by 0.35m wide by 0.50m high. Wall 307 continued to north where it turns to west (recorded as 308). Truncated by 327, construction cut for walls 305, 326 and butress 327. Wall 307 contemporary with walls 225 and 233 in Trench 2 and formed part of an earlier, probably 14th century timber-framed building constructed upon flint lower walls. Sealed by 316.	0.50m high
308	Wall	Roughly east-west aligned wall, which turns to the south (recorded as 307). Truncated by 327, construction cut for walls 305, 325 and butress 326. Wall constructed of roughly shaped flint nodules with blue patina in mid-yellow-brown sandy mortar with lime flecks. Recorded for length of 0.80m by 0.35m wide and 0.26m high. Contemporaneous with walls 225 and 233 in Trench 2 and formed part of earlier, probably 14th century timber-framed building constructed upon flint lower walls. Sealed by 315.	0.26m high.
309	Layer	Mid –yellow-brown silty sand with scarce chalk pieces and CBM. Possible redeposited natural layer, dumped during the excavation of the moat into the centre of the moated area to raise the ground surface. Seen in sondage excavated against 305 and 325. Overlies 313 and sealed by 303.	0.14m thick
310	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown sandy clay with gravels, redeposited natural levelling deposit, material excavation from the moat. Similar to 315 but cleaner. Post-dates earlier building (walls 307 and 308) and pre-dates 305, 325 and 326. Cut by 321.	0.45, thick
311	Layer	Very dark grey-brown sandy clay silt, very similar to 302. Fill of cut 312.	0.43m thick
312	Cut	Cut around north-east corner of butress 326, perhaps robber trench for removal of useable material. Cuts 320.	0.43m deep
313	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown sandy clay with occasional flint. Layer of unknown origin. Possibly redeposited natural from the excavation of the moat or possibly part of levelling. Sealed by 309 and overlies 324	0.08m thick
314	Layer	Mixed lenses of white crushed chalk and yellow-green sand, with grey-brown sandy silt. Levelling deposits cut by 321 and sealing 315.	0.20m thick
315	Layer	Mid yellow-brown silty sand and gravels; layer identified in several areas in Trench 3. Levelling deposit overlying early flint wall 307, and packed around later wall 305. Post-dates 305. Possible levelling/trample during construction of 305. Stratigraphically seals 319 and sealed by 314.	0.24m thick
316	Layer	Mid grey-brown silty clay, deposit revealed in small sondage only. Deposit built up against wall 307, medieval in date, pre-dating Great Hall structure. Sealed by 318 and butts 307. One sherd of medieval pottery (SHER).	0.14m thick
317	Layer	Mid grey-brown sandy clay silt containing lens of carbon-rich	0.18m thick





		silt with three iron nails mixed in; possible burnt timber derived from timber-framed building which sat on wall 307. Mortar dumps within this deposit indicate possible collapse or demolition layer associated with collapse/demolition of wall 307. Sealed by 319 and seals 318.	
318	Layer or surface	Yellow-brown sandy clay silt only revealed in sondage. Possible surface sealed by demolition/collapse 317 and overlying possible occupation layer 316.	0.05m thick
319	Layer or surface	Predominantly mid-yellow with grey-blue patches, compact clay layer. Mottled appearance and sterile, only revealed in small sondage. Deliberately laid clay layer, below 315 and above 317.	0.08m thick
320	Layer	Mid greyish-brown sandy clay, post-demolition levelling layer. Very late in sequence, seals 303 and sealed by 302.	0.28m thick
321	Cut	Robber cut recorded for length of 0.70m by 0.87m wide and 0.70m deep; square in shape with vertical edges and flat base. Cuts 314 and filled with 304.	0.70m deep
322	Cut	Robber cut recorded for length of 1.45m by 1.20m wide and 0.60m deep; linear with straight sides. Not fully excavated, but cut against edge of 306 and 305. Cuts 310 and filled with 303.	0.60m deep+
323	Layer or surface	Mid greyish-brown mottled sandy mortar deposit. Possible surface or perhaps layer associated with demolition of wall 308, forming a rammed surface during later phases of construction. Unclear stratigraphic sequence, but sealed by 303 and against 308.	0.06m thick
324	Layer	Mid-orange-yellow sandy clay; redeposited natural layer, sealed by 313.	
325	Wall	East-west aligned wall, recorded for length of 1.60m by 1m wide and 0.64m+ high. Constructed of chalk blocks with roughly shaped edges in mid-orange-yellow sandy mortar. Three good courses of chalk rubble above stepped-out footing, which continues for another four courses. Originally faced with brick (now robbed). Bonded to and contemporaneous with 305; together forming NE corner of Great Hall. Junction of these two walls strengthened by addition of supporting buttress 326. Constructed flush within foundation trench 327.	0.64m+high
326	Buttress	Supporting buttress, constructed of chalk blocks with roughly shaped edges in mid-orange-yellow sandy mortar. Supporting structure for walls 305 and 325, corner of Great Hall.	0.64m high
327	Cut	Construction cut for walls 305, 325 and buttress 326. Structures constructed flush within it, cuts through walls 307 and 308.	-

<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	11.4m by 1.50m by 1.24m (max)	<b>Ground surface level:</b>	97.35m aOD
	<b>Coordinates (NGR):</b>	508183.28, 193898.29 508171.91, 193898.58		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>	
401	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of playing field, dark brown silty clay, seals 402.	0.24m thick	
402	Layer	Mid-grey-brown silty clay with gravel, subsoil with common pebbles. Sealed by 401 and overlies 403.	0.22m thick	
403	Layer	Mid-orange-brown silty clay; thick rubble deposit containing frequent CBM, deliberately dumped waste material when Site used for land fill. Sealed by 402 and seals 404.	0.15m thick	



404	Layer	Light yellowish-brown silty sand, deliberately dumped layer, tip deposit when Site used for land fill. Sealed by 403 and seals 405.	0.14m thick
405	Layer	Dark orange-brown silty clay layer, thick clay-rich layer, probable tip deposit when Site used for land fill. Sealed by 404 and seals 406.	0.08m thick
406	Layer	Mid-greyish-brown silty clay with common CBM. Dumped deposit when Site used for land fill. Single sherd of medieval pottery (KING), and fragments of ceramic roof (ridge) tiles.	0.13m thick
407	Layer or surface	Layer or surface formed of compact, crushed chalk filling majority of trench; sloped at 15-20 degrees. Clearly defined deposit but function unknown, possibly associated with garden activities.	0.06m thick
408	Layer	Mid-brown, slightly silty clay with frequent pebbles, revealed in sondage below 407. Nature of deposit unclear, but possibly top of natural.	0.11m thick
409	Natural	Mid-orange-brown silty clay and gravels. Natural geology.	0.11m+ thick
410	Fill	Single recorded fill of post-hole 411, dark brown silty clay; contained fragments of white slipped and glazed floor tile and animal bone.	0.40m thick
411	Cut	Cut of isolated post-hole, 0.46m in diameter and 0.40m deep, possibly associated with garden activity.	0.40m deep
412	Layer	Layer of burnt chalk, unclear from what deposit this is derived.	0.12
413	Layer	Thin band of mid-orange-brown silty clay; thick rubble deposit containing frequent CBM, dumped material.	0.04

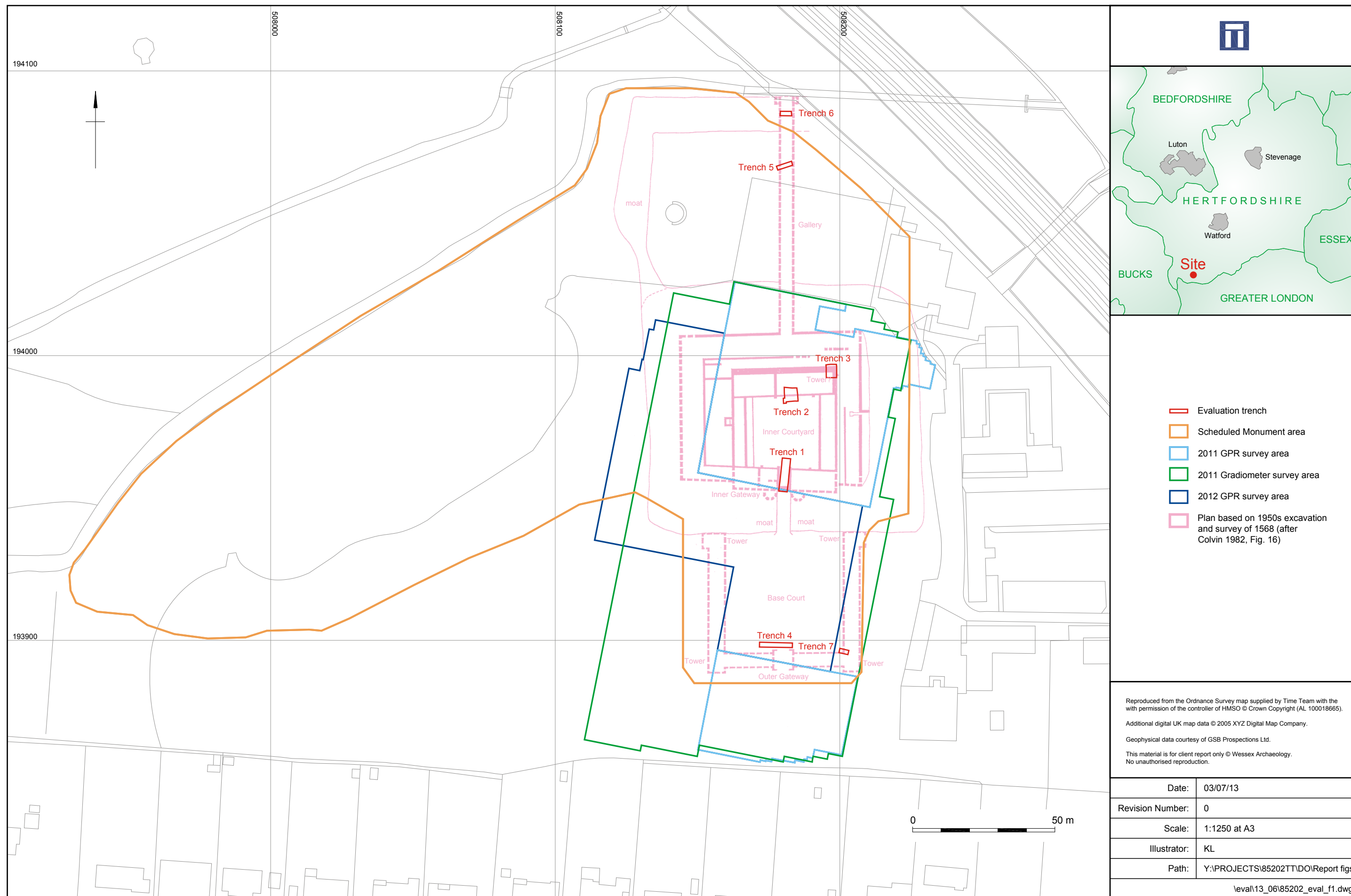
<b>Trench 5</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	5.2m by 1.4m, by 1.10m (max)	<b>Ground surface level:</b>	95.41m aOD
	<b>Coordinates (NGR):</b>	508177.96, 194065.85 508183.21, 194067.57		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>	
501	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of scrub and trees to north of tennis courts, dark brown silty clay, seals 502.	0-0.48m	
502	Layer	Layer of levelling associated with landscaping and school grounds. Dark grey-brown silty clay.	0.48-0.60m	
503	Layer	Possible old ground surface, sealed by landscaping. Very dark brown-black silty clay loam; contained one sherd of post-medieval pottery (PMR) and medieval roof tile.	0.60-0.76m	
504	Layer	Chalk flecked, mid-yellow-brown silty clay layer. Nature of deposit unclear. Trench was positioned to try and identify the Long Gallery, but this deposit cannot be linked to that structure. Contained fragments of medieval floor tile.	0.76-1.10.	
505	Cut	Cut of modern post-hole, cutting layer 504.	0.10m deep	
506	Fill	Fill of modern post-hole	0.10m thick	
507	Cut	Cut of modern post-hole, cutting layer 504.	-	
508	Fill	Fill of modern post-hole	-	
509	Layer	Mid-orange, slightly sandy silty clay, redeposited /trampled natural; contained fragments of medieval roof and floor tile.	1.10m+	

<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	4.10m by 1.40m by 0.50m (max)	<b>Ground surface level:</b>	95.24m aOD
	<b>Coordinates (NGR):</b>	508179.05, 194085.05 508183.03, 194085.01		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>	
601	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of scrub and trees to north of tennis courts, dark brown silty clay, seals 602.	0-0.24m	



602	Layer	Modern dump layer, levelling layer, potentially associated with the railway.	0.24-0.50m
603	Layer	Dump of chalk rubble, possibly associated with works to railway line to north.	0.50m+
604	Cut	Cut of modern service trench.	-
605	Fill	Fill of modern service trench, including plastic pipe and backfill.	-

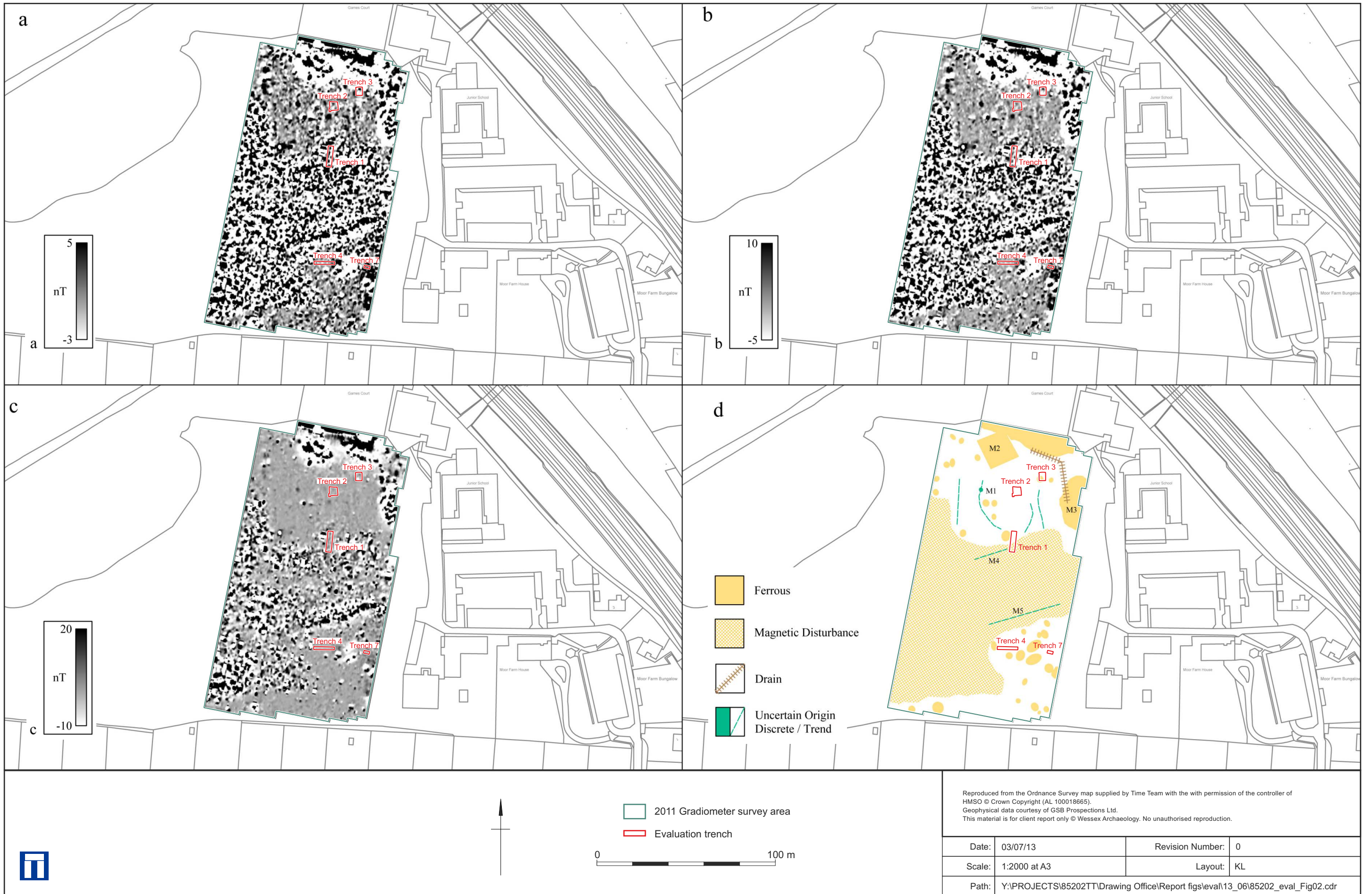
Trench 7	Dimensions :		Ground surface level:	97.54m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	3.2m by 1.5m by 0.66m (max) 508199.86, 193896.37 508203.03, 193895.72		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
701	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of school playing field. Mid- to dark brown-grey clay silt with sand	0-0.15m	
702	Layer	Mid-brown gritty clay silt with sand and gravel, dumped deposit; overlies brick culvert 703 on western side. Not excavated.	-	
703	Structure	Brick culvert aligned NNW-SSE, recorded as 1.55m long by 0.70m wide and 0.55m high max.; constructed of red bricks (230mm x 110mm x 50mm) in soft buff-coloured sandy lime mortar. Bricks laid on sides to create vaulted culvert and then constructed on at least three courses of horizontal bricks, of a size contemporaneous with Palace building. Constructed in cut 706.	0.55m high max	
704	Layer	Mid- to light orange-brown sandy clay, possibly natural but more likely to be redeposited natural or trampled material. Cut by 706, construction cut for culvert 703.	0.50m	
705	Layer	Mid-brown gritty clay silt with sandy patches. Dumped deposit against eastern side of culvert 703.	0.30m thick	
706	Cut	Construction cut for culvert 703, cuts layer 704.	0.55m+	
707	Layer	Mid-grey sandy clay layer, not seen in plan but seals 703 in southern part of trench.	0.30m thick	



Site location plan

Figure 1

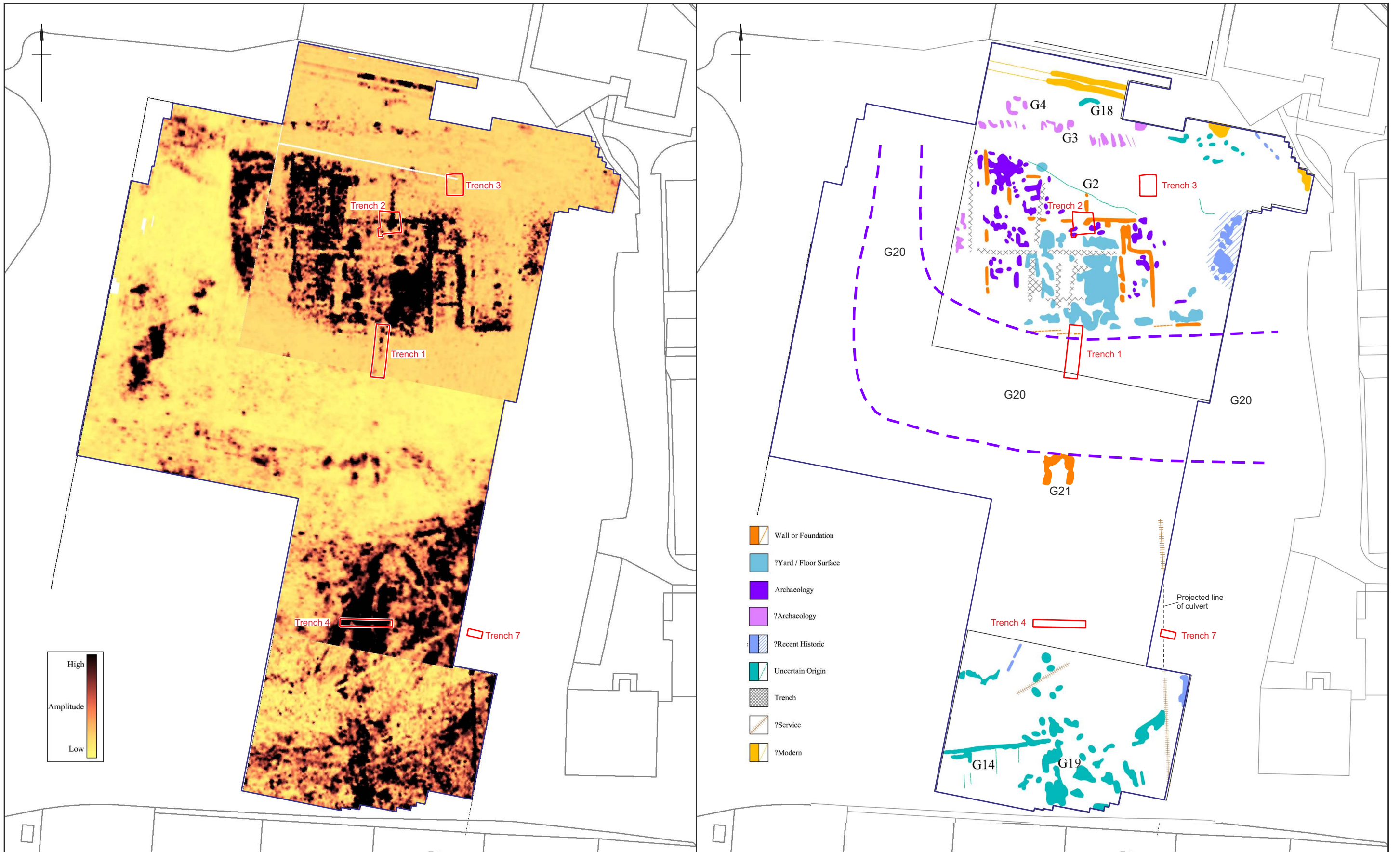




Fluxgate Gradiometer (Magnetic) survey results

Figure 2

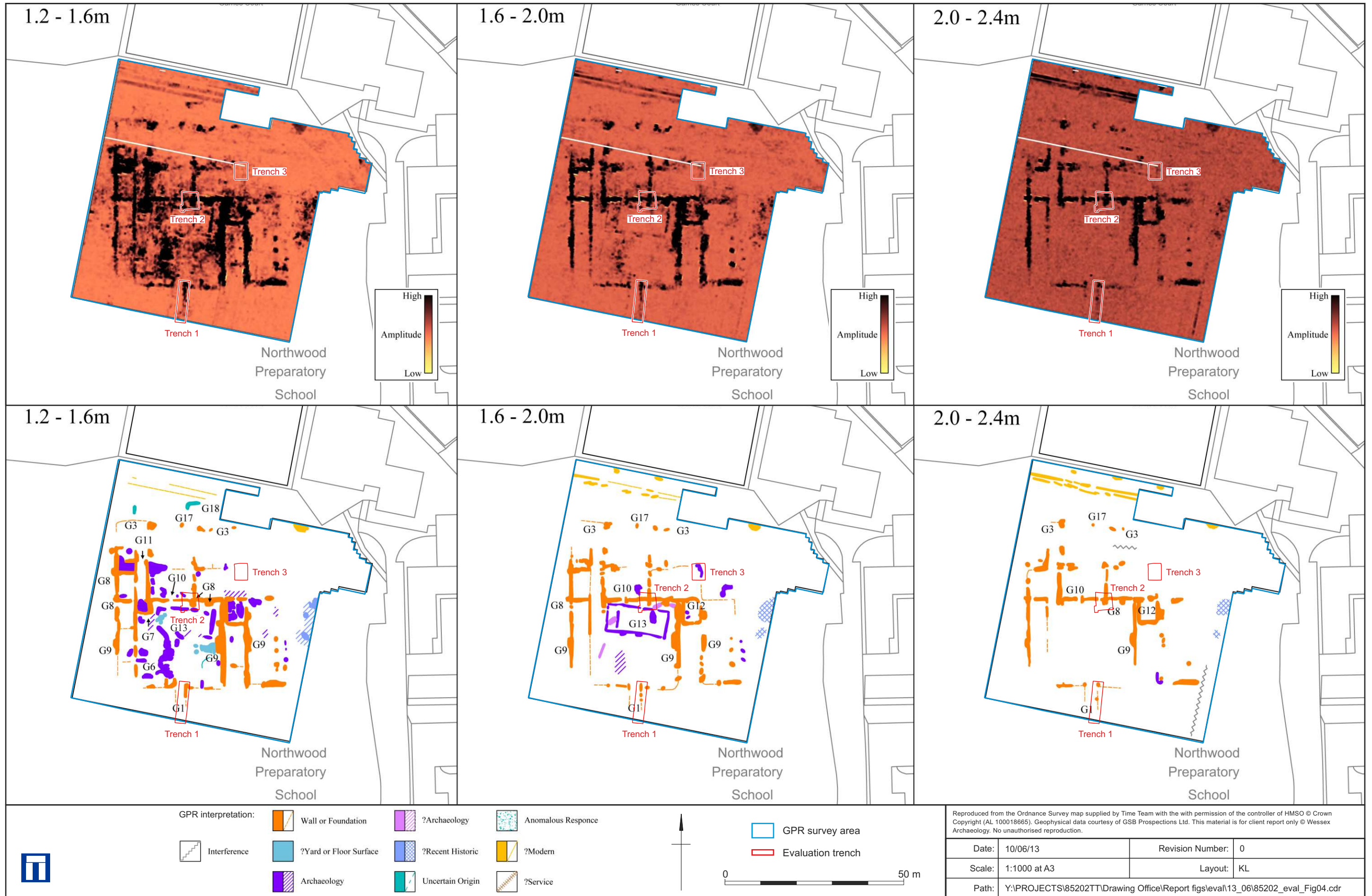




GPR survey Depth slice and interpretation 0.4-0.8m

Figure 3





GPR Survey Depth slices and interpretation 1.2m-2.4m

Figure 4



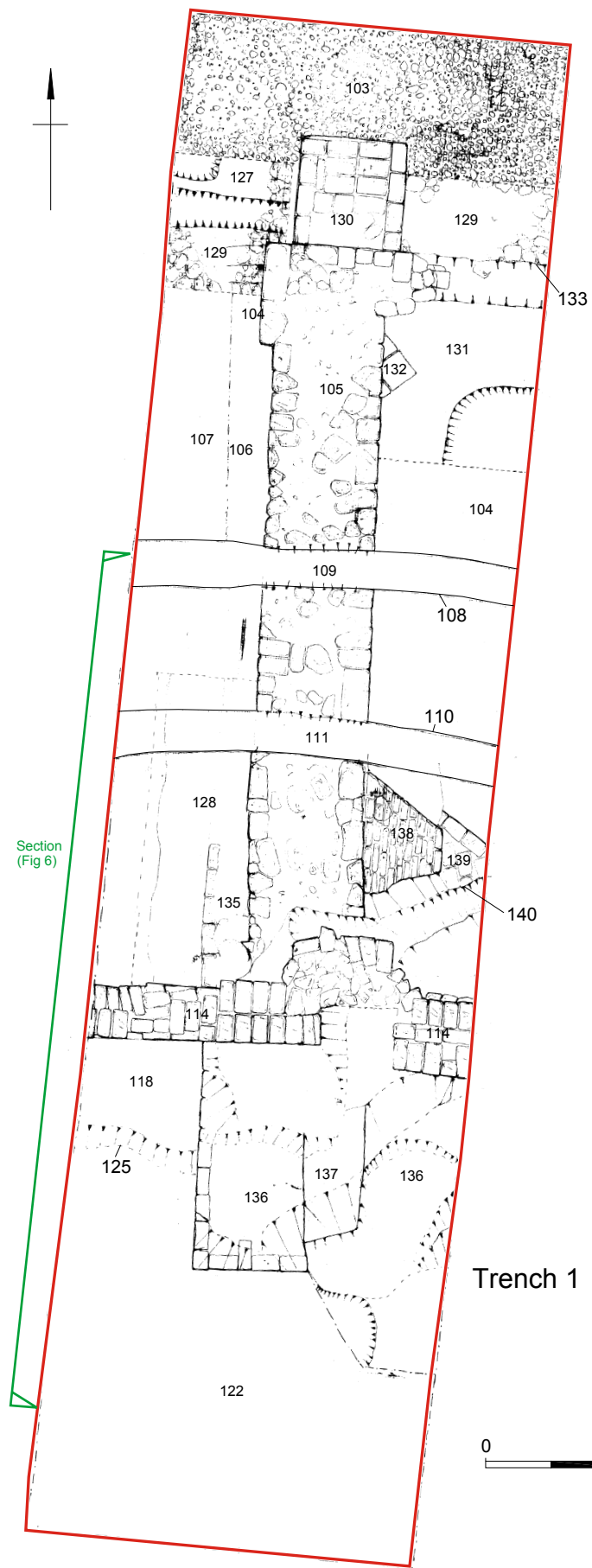


Plate 1: Trench 1, view from south (scale 2x2m)



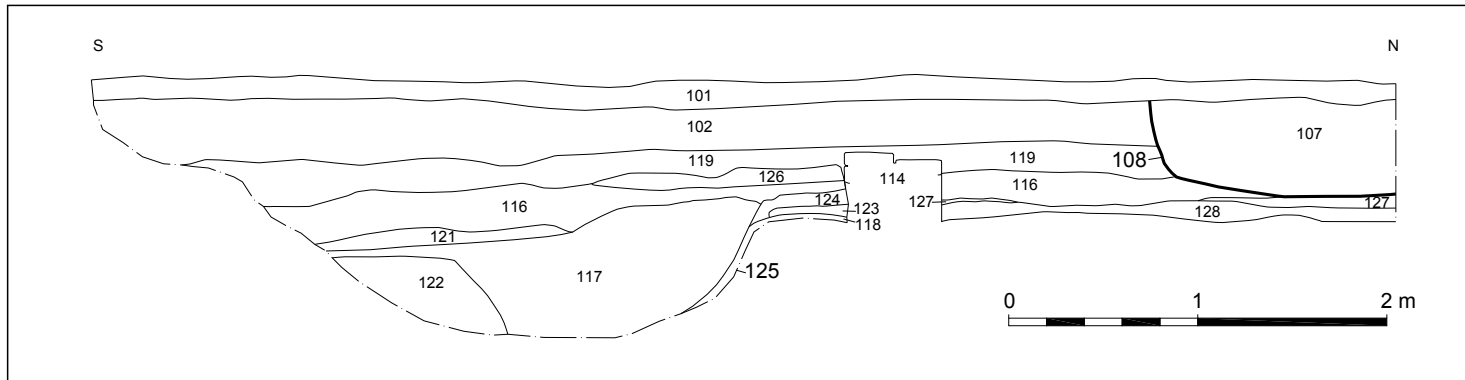
Plate 2: Trench 1, view from north (scale 2x2m)



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East facing section of Trench 1 showing moat cut 125 and late wall 114



Plate 3: East facing section of in-filled moat 125 (scales 2m and 1m)



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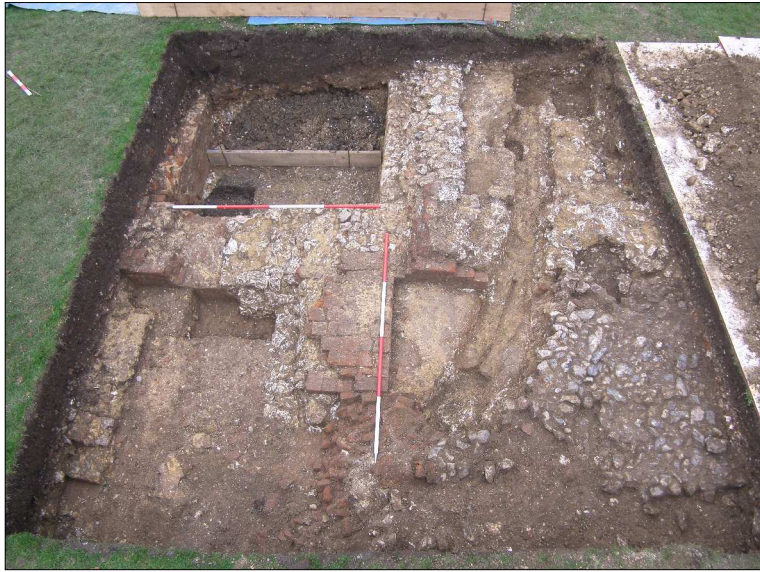


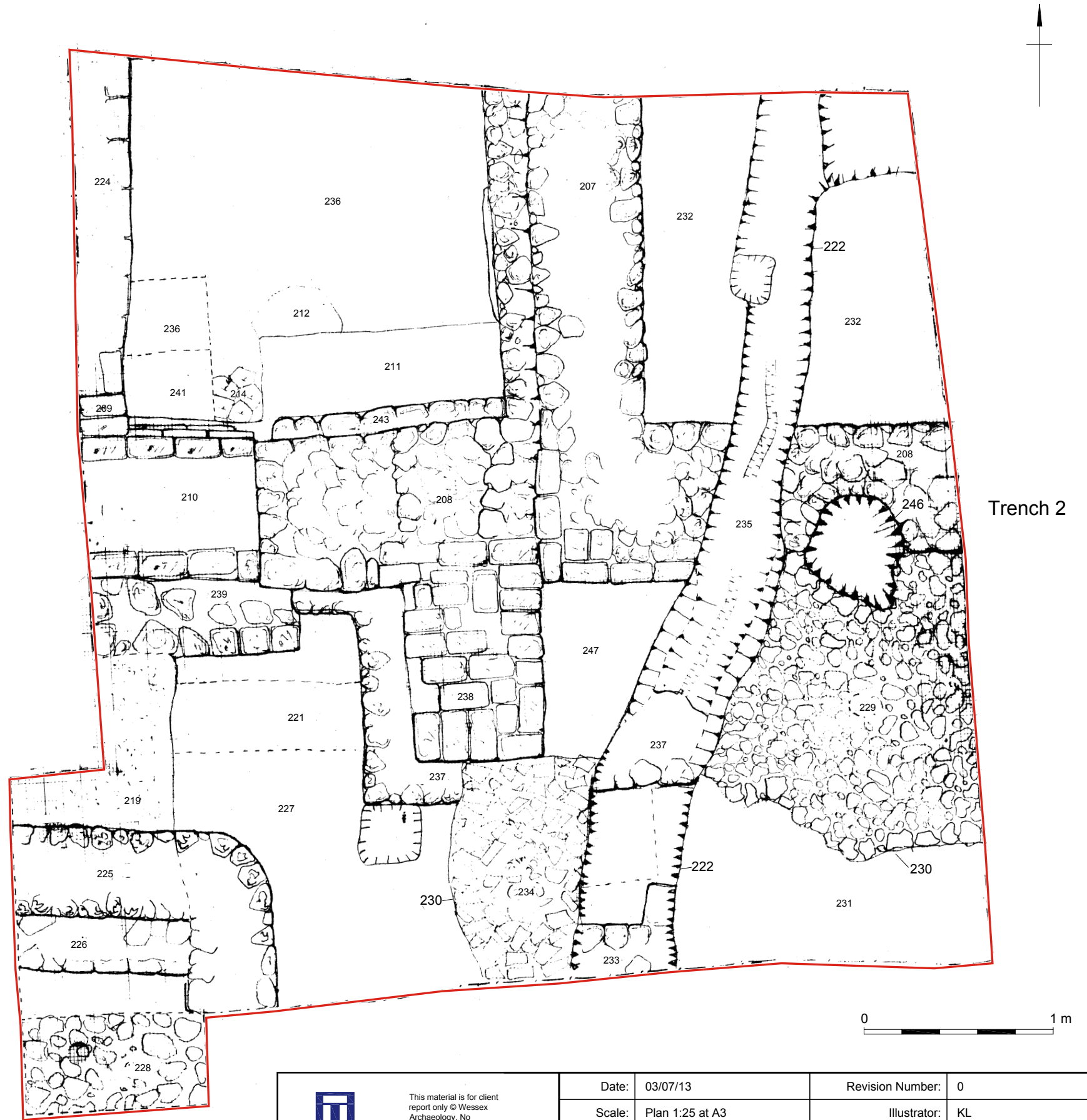
Plate 4: Trench 2, view from south (scales 2x2m)



Plate 5: East facing elevation showing retaining arch 224, and blocking 209 within the cellar of the Great Hall (scales 1m and 0.5m)



Plate 6: North facing elevation showing blocking wall 210 within the archway in wall 208 of cellar of Great Hall (scales 1m and 0.5m)



Trench 2



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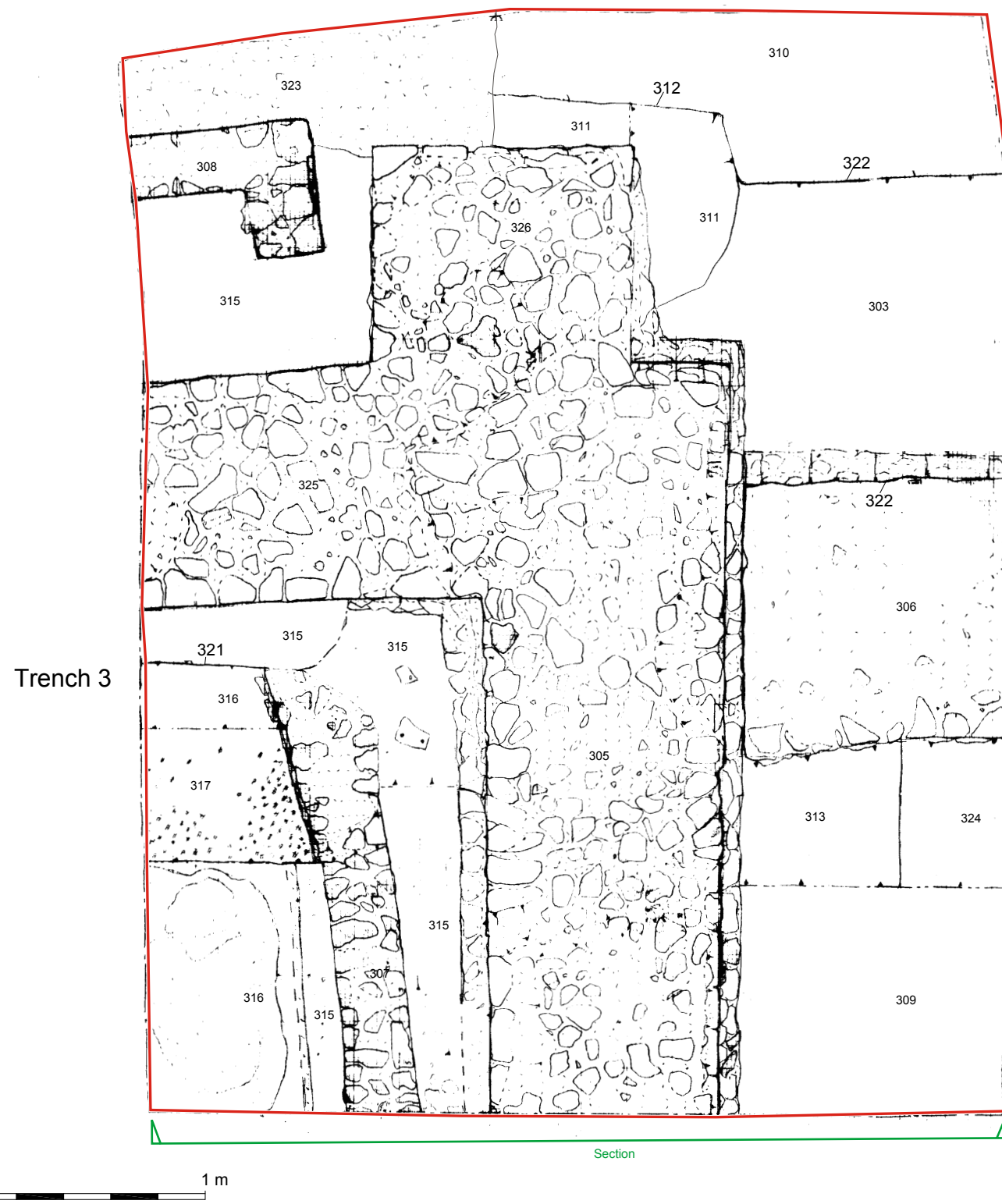
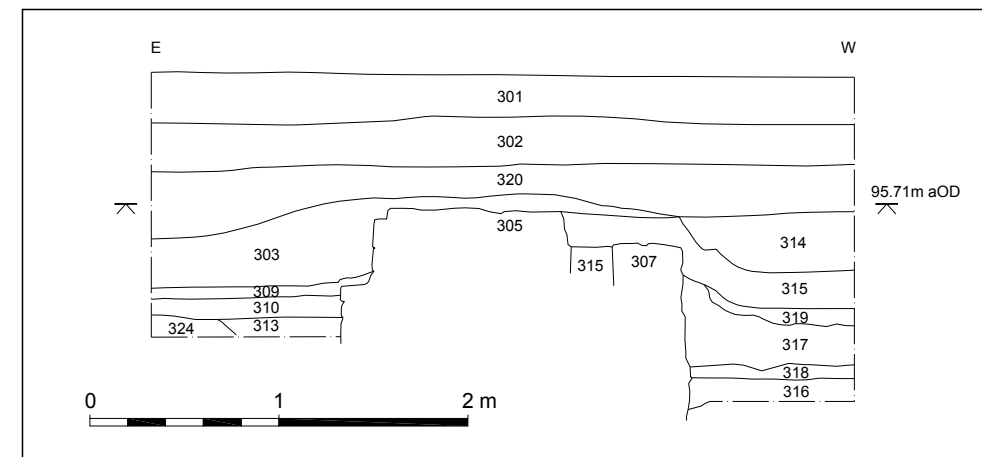


Plate 7: Trench 3, view from south (scales 2x2m)



North facing section of Trench 3



Plate 8: North facing section of Trench 3 (scales 1m, 0.5m and 0.2m)



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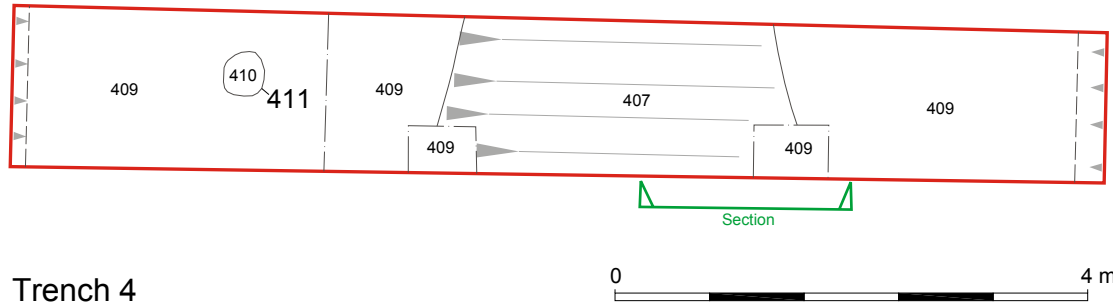




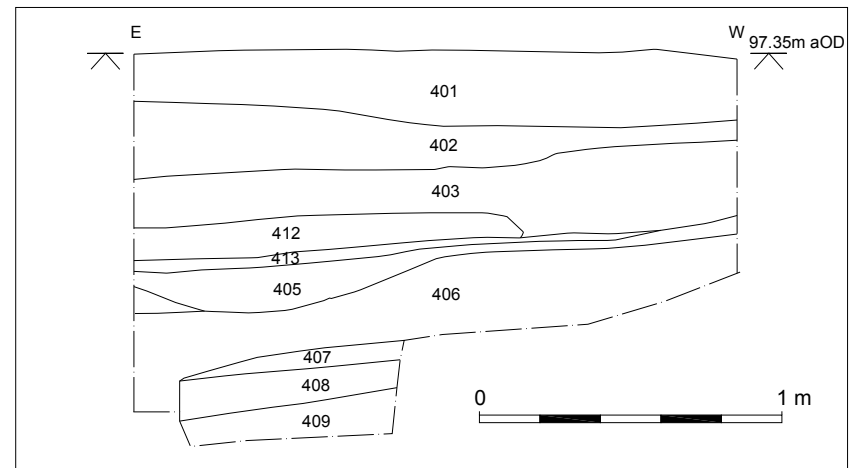
Plate 9: Trench 4, view from east



Plate 10: Trench 4, view from north



Trench 4

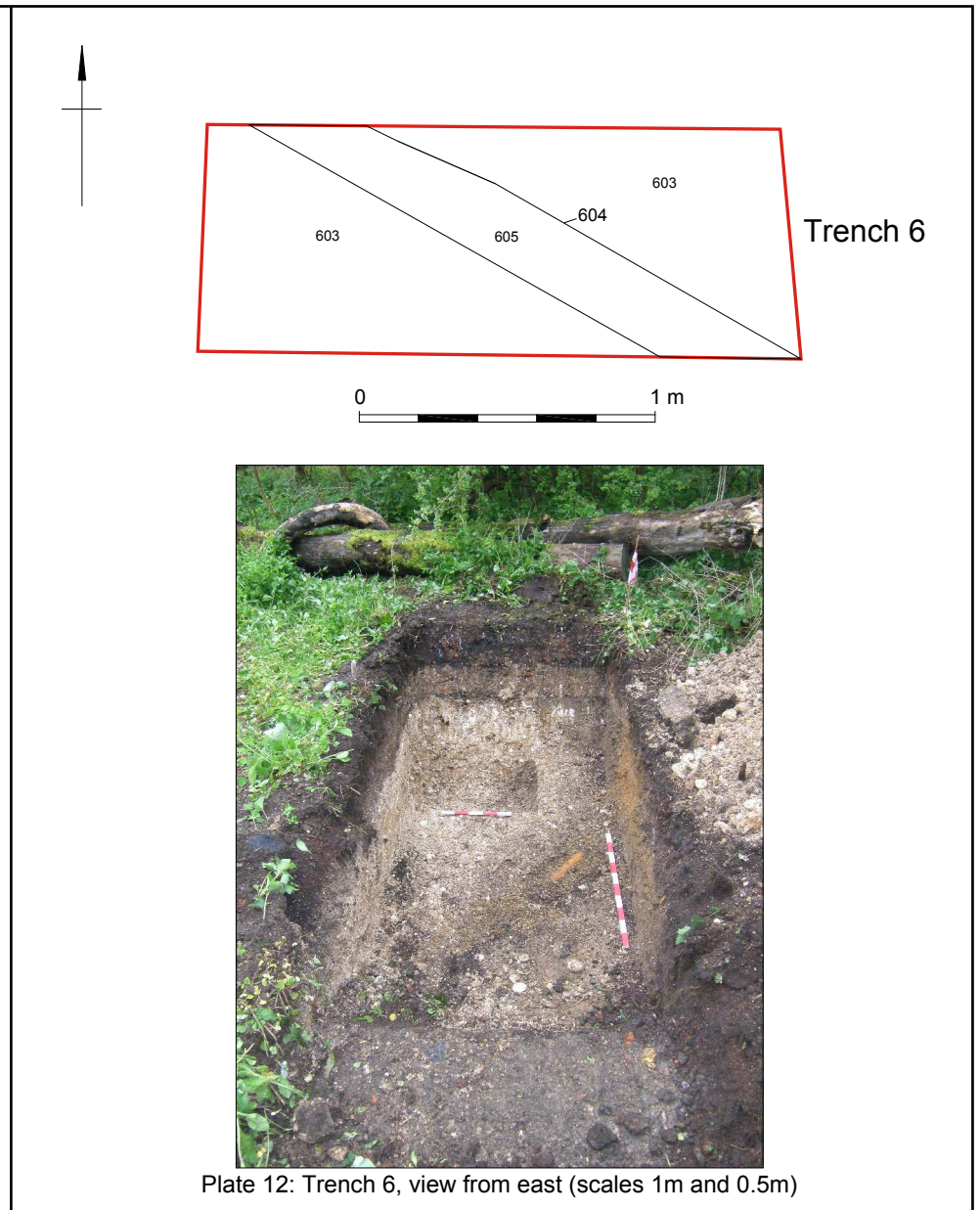
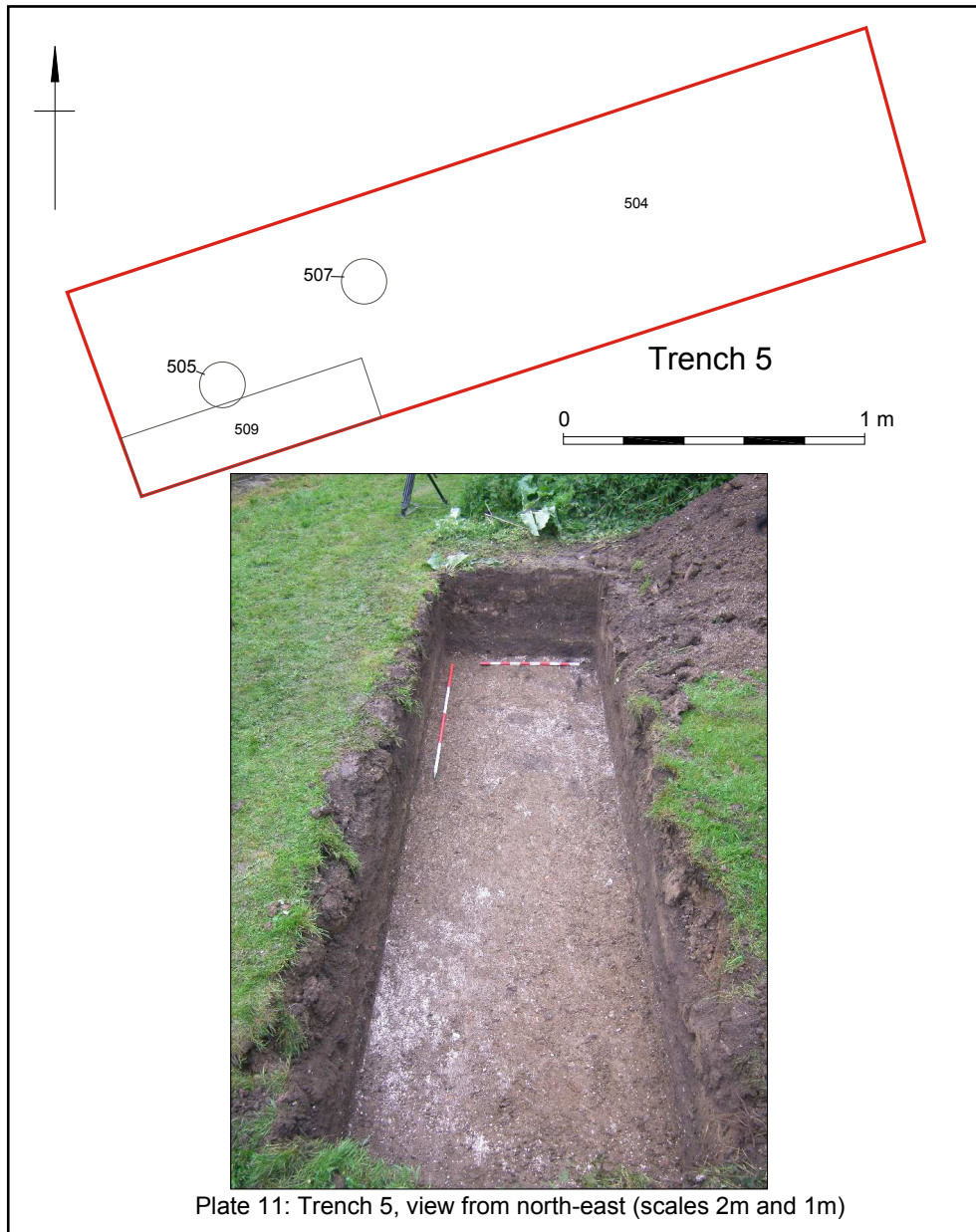


North facing section of Trench 4



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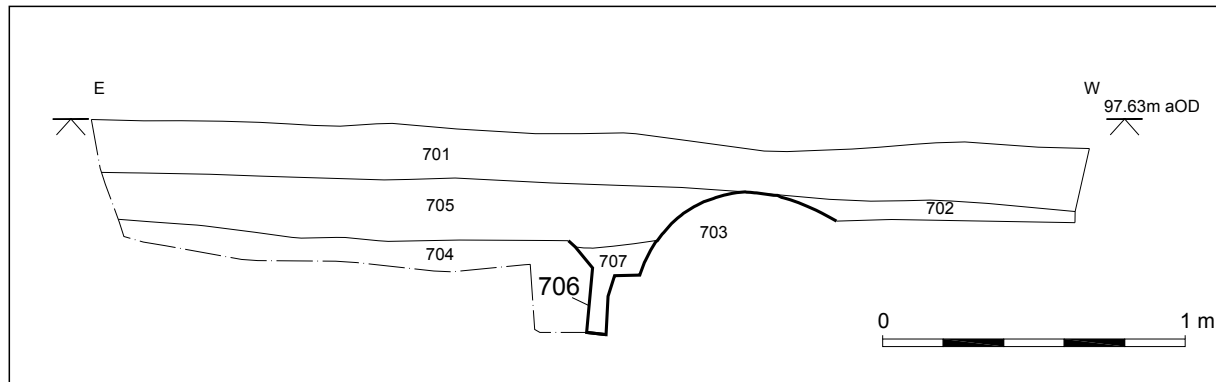
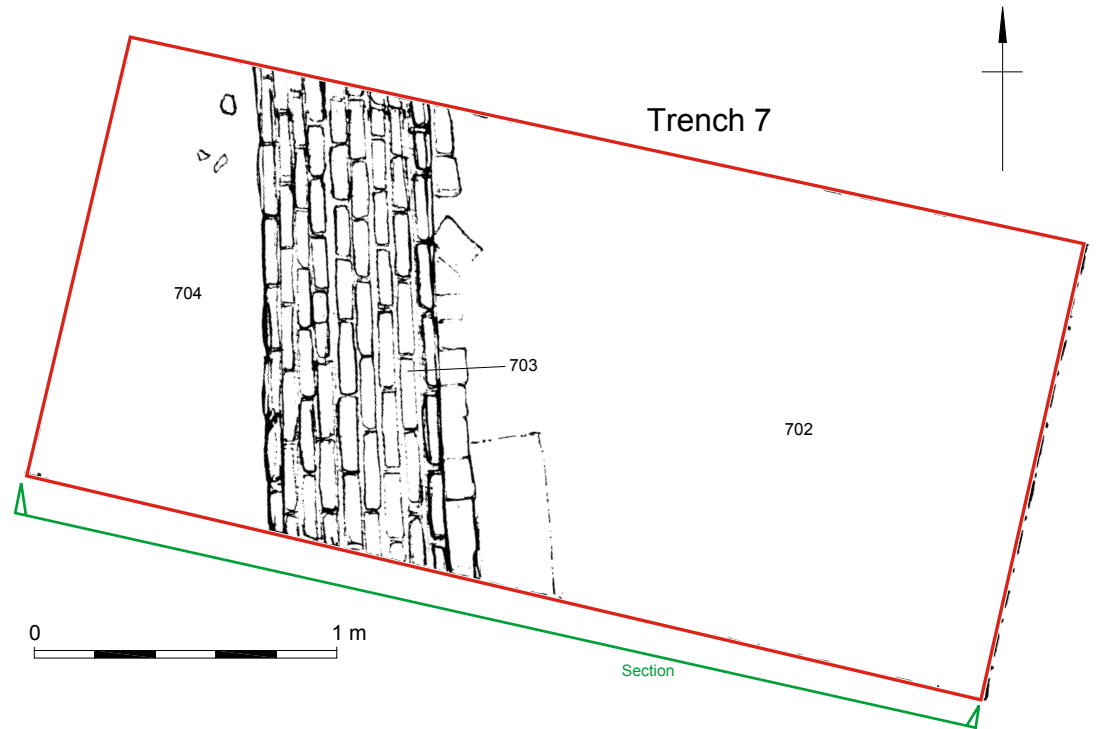
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Plate 13: Trench 7, view from west (scales 1m and 0.5m)



North facing section of Trench 7



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