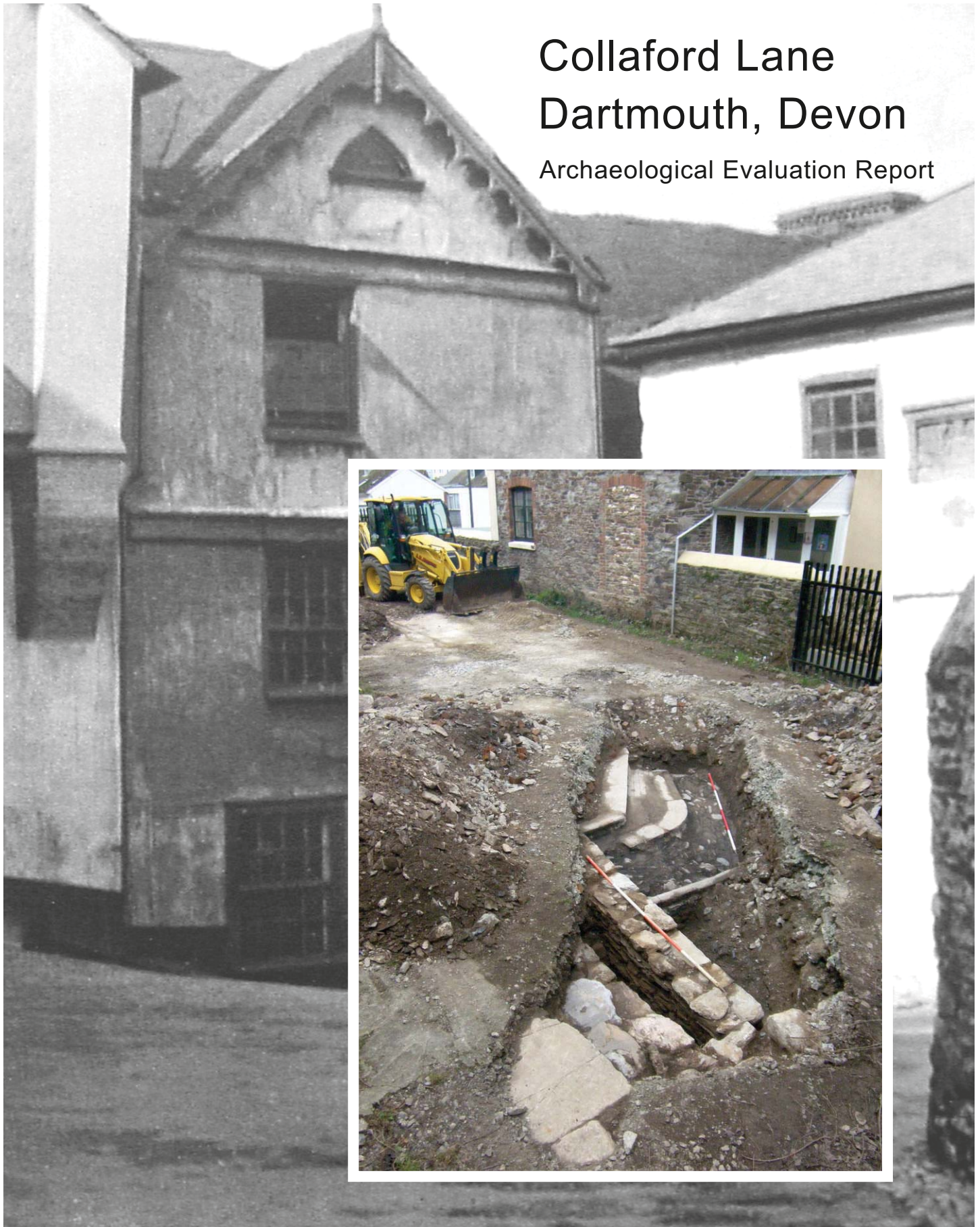


Collaford Lane Dartmouth, Devon

Archaeological Evaluation Report





**COLLAFORD LANE,
DARTMOUTH, DEVON**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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March 2012

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QUALITY ASSURANCE

SITE CODE	83881	ACCESSION CODE		CLIENT CODE	
PLANNING APPLICATION REF.	15/2787/11/F	NGR	287710, 051328		

VERSION	STATUS*	PREPARED BY	APPROVED BY	APPROVER'S SIGNATURE	DATE	FILE
1	I	SC				X:\PROJECTS\83881\REPORT\83881_COLLAFORD LANE_EVALUATION REPORT_SC V1.DOC
1.1	I	NB				X:\PROJECTS\83881\REPORT\83881_COLLAFORD LANE_EVALUATION REPORT_NB V1.1.DOC

* I= INTERNAL DRAFT E= EXTERNAL DRAFT F= FINAL

**COLLAFORD LANE,
DARTMOUTH, DEVON**

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COLLAFORD LANE, DARTMOUTH, DEVON

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by NOMA Architects on behalf of their client Western Power Distribution to undertake archaeological trial trench evaluation on land adjacent to Collaford Lane, Dartmouth, Devon centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 287710, 051328. The evaluation, undertaken between 13th and 16th February 2012 comprised the machine excavation of four trenches which varied in size and were located to determine the archaeological potential of any surviving remains potentially threatened by the proposed development. Specifically it was hoped to determine, if possible, the foundation construction method of the extant remains of St Saviour's Place with a view to dating the property.

Excavation of two trenches and two testpits were successful in locating a number of masonry structures within the eastern part of the Site thought to correspond to properties depicted in early OS mapping and shown in early 20th century photographs. A single wall was thought to potentially belong to an earlier phase of buildings in this area of Site but this could not be proven. Examination of the extant remains of St Saviour's Place confirmed this to be a single phase structure but could not provide a date for its construction. It was however established that the construction of this building was likely to have significantly impacted on any earlier deposits below. The northern part of Site showed a deep depositional sequence of garden soils correlating with open ground shown on the 1888 OS map, this lay beneath structures thought to be the remnants of a 1950s building.

Finds recovered confirm a date range focusing on the 19th and 20th centuries, with the possibility of some earlier 18th century material.

COLLAFORD LANE, DARTMOUTH, DEVON

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by NOMA Architects on behalf of their client Western Power Distribution and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to George Oxford (Noma Architects) and Bob Orchard (Western Power Distribution) in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Graham Tait, County Archaeologist, Heritage Environment Services, Devon County Council for his advice and support.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Susan Clelland and Naomi Brennan. The report was compiled by Susan Clelland and Naomi Brennan and the figures were prepared by Ken Lymer. The finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd who also edited this report.

Finally Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Dartmouth Museum for their considerable help and assistance.

COLLAFORD LANE, DARTMOUTH, DEVON

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by NOMA Architects on behalf of their client Western Power Distribution (the Client) to undertake archaeological trial trench evaluation on land adjacent to Collaford Lane, Dartmouth, Devon in support of a planning application for the construction of a three storey building containing three residential flats on the currently vacant site. The land, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 287710, 051328 is hereafter referred to as 'the Site' (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 Consultation with Devon County Council Historic Environment Service (DCC HES) outlined the requirement for an archaeological desk-based assessment and a subsequent trial trench evaluation to be undertaken prior to submission and determination of a planning application.

1.2 Historic Background

1.1.3 A comprehensive historic background has been documented in *Collaford Lane, Dartmouth, Devon, Archaeology and Heritage Desk-Based Assessment* (Wessex Archaeology 2012a). A summary of that information is provided here:

1.1.4 The DBA (WA 2012a) demonstrated the presence of a number of structures on the Site in addition to St Saviour's Place. The map regression in combination with the Listed Building descriptions for the two adjacent Grade 2 Listed houses, which adjoin the Site (1197551 and 1208590 to the south), indicate that a house was situated on the eastern boundary of the Site (first observed on the 1619 map and remaining on the Site until post-1936) (reproduced in Watkin 1935). The house was built on the same northwest-southeast street frontage alignment as the listed properties and is likely to have originated in the medieval period.

1.1.5 The western area of the Site is shown as blank on the 1619 map (reproduced in Watkin 1935). However the date of the subsequent construction of additional structures on the Site (including St Saviour's Place) cannot be clearly determined as the next available map of the Site dates to 1888. This suggests that St Saviour's Place and the additional buildings illustrated on the 1888 Ordnance Survey (OS) map were constructed between 1619 and 1888.

1.1.6 The 1888 arrangement of structures was maintained until 1936 (OS map 1936). Between 1936 and 1954 the majority of the structures were demolished (leaving behind the extant remains of St Saviour's Place as seen today) and a new rectangular structure was constructed in the centre

of the Site (OS map 1954). This structure was demolished by 1968 (OS map 1968) resulting in a Site very similar to that of the current situation.

1.3 The Site, location and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site which lies within the centre of Dartmouth close to the historic church of St Saviour, comprised a roughly rectangular area of 0.005ha which aligned east-west, bounded by a wall which fronts onto the pavement of Collaford Lane to the east with mature trees situated outside of the property on either side of the gated entrance. The Site is surrounded by residential development on the remaining three sides (**Figure 1**).
- 1.3.2 The southern boundary of the Site is retained by a high wall, above which a series of three storeyed houses with associated gardens are situated.
- 1.3.3 Prior to the commencement of the trial trench evaluation the area of the Site was vacant, under tarmac and used as a private car park. The ground was generally flat with an entrance ramp sloping down towards Church Square. Some building remains, thought to be the remains of St Saviour's Place, lay within the southern part of the Site (**Figure 1**).
- 1.3.4 The underlying bedrock of the area is Bovisand Formation (mudstone, siltstone, limestone and sandstone) the superficial geology is recorded as head composed of clay, silt sand and gravel (BGS).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1.1 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for the project (Wessex Archaeology 2012b) was prepared in consultation with the DCCHES this outlines the project background, aims and methodology. A summary is included here.
- 2.1.2 The general aims of the project were to conduct an archaeological trial trench evaluation in an attempt to establish the presence/absence, extent, evaluation and date of archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
- 2.1.3 Specifically this project aimed to:
- clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by the proposed development.
 - identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving below/above ground remains within the Site.
 - identify the foundation construction method of St Saviour's Place with a view to dating these structures.
 - establish the potential for earlier remains to be present beneath St Saviour's Place via the agreed test pit methodology.

- assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- compile an indexed archive of the site records, finds and reports
- produce a report which will present the project information in sufficient detail to allow interpretation without recourse to the project archive.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 A total of two machine dug trial trenches and two machine dug test pits were excavated as indicated on **Figure 1** representing just less than 10% of the area proposed for redevelopment (0.05ha). The exact location and dimension of these trial excavations varied from the proposed specification due to spatial and Health and Safety considerations encountered. All amendments were however designed to answer, as far as was practicable, the principal aims and objectives laid out in the agreed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WA 2012b)

3.2 Evaluation Trial Trenching

- 3.2.1 The evaluation trial trenches (**1** and **2**) and test-pit trenches (**3** and **4**) were laid out in accordance with the plan given in **Figure 1** and surveyed with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. Where height accuracy using the GNSS was not considered sufficient a dumpy level was used to obtain height information. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 3.2.2 **Trench 1** (12.5m x 2.5m x 2.2m) aligned east to west was located towards the north-west of the Site and situated to investigate the potential of for surviving remains and levels of impact towards the north-west of the Site. Siting of the trench was hindered by an overhead cable to the south-west and a concrete rear access to property bounding the Site to the north present in the far north-west of the Site.
- 3.2.3 **Trench 2** (7.4m x 2.4m x 1.1m) aligned north-west to south-east and was located as close to the Site frontage as was practicable. Siting the south-eastern end of the trench was hindered by Health and Safety considerations relating to proximity to standing buildings (Collaford House, the breezeblock wall fronting the Site and the extant remains of St Saviour's Place). The length of the trench to the north-west was governed by the width of the Site and the remaining space available for the machine.
- 3.2.4 **Test pit 3** (2.28m x 1.14m x 1.12m) was sited to expose the foundation courses of the extant remains of St Saviour's Place. The extant wall face was cleared of vegetation though the ivy covering the upper surviving wall courses was cut back as far as was possible though not completely removed since the ivy network was effectively securing the stonework from further collapse. The width was determined to allow full excavation while

maintaining adequate space for the removed spoil and to maintain machine manoeuvrability.

- 3.2.5 **Test pit 4** (2.1m x 1.6m x 1.2m) was located within the extant remains of St Saviour's Place. The test-pit was moved from the eastern end of the extant structure due to the presence of tree root disturbance and the remains of a modern electricity housing unit both of which destabilised the extant remains.
- 3.2.6 The trial trenches were laid out in advance and all locations were scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to any excavation. Removed spoil was stored an appropriate and safe distance from the trench and all material was visual scanned for artefacts.
- 3.2.7 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. A full photographic record was compiled utilising digital images, black and white negatives and colour slides. This illustrated both the detail of the deposits and features encountered as well as the Site as a whole. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20 with reference to the OS National Grid. The Ordnance Datum height of all principal features and levels were calculated and annotated on the drawings.
- 3.2.8 After recording had been completed and following a Site visit from Graham Tait (Devon County Council Historic Environment Service) at which time the trenches and test pits were seen, approved and signed off, the trenches/test pits were backfilled with the excavated material and compacted by machine.

4 EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Overall the results of the trenches correlated well with the 1888 OS mapping detailing the early modern use of the Site. Archaeological features were present in all four trenches. These remains comprise a possible culvert, stone wall foundations, a cobbled surface, stone steps and demolition deposits.
- 4.1.2 To aid clarification of the results of the evaluation the principal features and deposits have been separated into four phases of activity all dating from the early modern to modern period. Detailed trench summaries are contained in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.1.3 Despite excavation to considerable depth the natural geology was not reached in any of the trial trenches.

4.2 Phase 1 – early modern and earlier

- 4.2.1 The earliest structural remains on site are thought to be an east to west aligned stone wall **215** stone built wall (**Figure 2, Plates 1 and 2**). Only a small portion of the wall, which lay adjacent and parallel to later wall **214**, was accessible at the south-eastern end of **Trench 2**. An approximately

0.7m depth of wall **215** was exposed to reveal the northern wall face which comprised of randomly coursed stone slab facing bonded with pale yellow-white mortar. The exposed wall was poorly faced and slightly overhanging and from what was visible, did not appear to be bonded to north to south aligned wall **216** (**Figure 2 and Plate 1**).

- 4.2.2 No datable architectural fragments were present within the exposed elevation of wall **215**. Demolition deposits **202** and **224** filled the gap between walls **215** and **214** and predominately comprised slate and rubble fragments containing only 19th-20th century artefacts, however as the depth of the wall was not fully exposed this represents only the latest in the backfill sequence. The function of this wall is unclear though it may have been the original retaining wall for the lower yard/cellar area at the rear of the buildings fronting onto Collaford Lane replaced by wall **214**. If this is the case then a post-medieval or early modern date is likely though the possibility wall **215** relates to an earlier structure cannot at this stage be entirely precluded.

4.3 Phase 2: early modern (19th- early 20th century)

Collaford Lane properties

- 4.3.1 Structural evidence present within **Trench 2** records the rear of the early modern (19th to 20th century) properties on the street frontage and comprised a suite of broadly contemporary and associated remains (**Figure 2 and front cover**). A 0.9m height of east to west aligned stone built wall **214** (**Figure 2, Plates 1 and 3**) is thought to form a southern property division and retaining wall for the sunken yard/cellars associated with the rear of these properties. The wall also functioned to demarcate the northern side of the access gunnel leading from Collaford Lane to St Saviour's place. The wall is likely to have butted the rear wall of the terraced properties fronting Collaford Lane and may have replaced parallel wall **215**. Wall **214** (**Figure 2, Plate 3**) was randomly coursed, was 0.48m wide and constructed of stone slab facing which included rare brick fragments it was bonded with pale grey-white to pale yellow-white mortar. Traces of render were present on the northern wall face. The base of the wall was not reached due to health and safety constraints. Both **214** and **215** abutted or were abutted by stone wall fragment **216**, only a small portion of the western face of this was seen and it is likely to relate to the rear wall of the properties.
- 4.3.2 A retained platform, **208** (**Figure 2, Plate 3**) constructed of rounded cobbles, angular stone slabs and rare brick fragments bonded with a pale yellow-white cement mortar butted the northern face of wall **214** and was overlain by cobbled surface, **207**. The surface of **207** was darkly stained suggesting humic or charcoal rich occupational debris. Parallel to Collaford Lane and butting wall **214** a later single course of red brick had been mortared onto this western edge of the surface over which a curved cement coping had been lain which may have served to prevent run off into the sunken cellared area to the east. A later alteration to **207**, cut **210**, appears to have been a roughly rectangular cut to allow the insertion of a base of brick and stone fragments (**211**), possibly to support a pillar.
- 4.3.3 Two stone built steps, **204** and **205** (**Figure 2, Plate 4**) led up from surface **207** to the south-west. The lower of the two, **205**, projected out by 0.7m and

comprised a curved line of edging stones bonded with a pale grey-white lime mortar and is likely to have contained a brick and stone rubble core, though this was obscured by an overlying mortar surface, **206** lain over the core of the step. Only 0.5m of the upper step **204** was visible but it could be seen to comprise of rectangular stone blocks bonded with a pale grey-white cement mortar. Pecked horizontal grooves were present on the upper and external step face, possibly as an anti-slip precaution. Remnants of mortar surface **206** were recorded on the external step face. This grey sandy cement mortar surface **206** was approximately 0.01m deep had scored grooves on the upper surface and was also found to overlying a portion of surface **207** (**Figure 2, Plate 5**).

- 4.3.4 The exact nature of later cut at the north end of **205, 212** was unclear but may have been intended to allow the insertion of a utility.
- 4.3.5 A bedding layer of re-worked natural clays butted the southern side of wall **215** and formed the foundation for paving **222** comprising stone and slate slabs. This paving is thought to be the original surface accessing Collaford Lane and St Saviour's Place. A similar style of paving (**303**) was recorded in **Trench 3** adjacent to the front of St Saviour's Place (**Figure 3, Plate 6**). A subsequent bedding (**221**) and flagstone paving (**219**) (**Figure 2, Plate 2**) were then lain perhaps in response to subsidence and the construction of wall **214**.

St Saviour's Place

- 4.3.6 A degree of landscaping appears to have been undertaken prior to and during the construction of St Saviour's Place. A landscaping or levelling deposit of re-worked natural clays (**309**) (within which fragments of slate and stone fragments were noted), was laid. The foundation trench, **306** for the front (northern) wall of St Saviour's Place cut through levelling layer **309**. The exposed elevation of the front (north) wall of the St Saviour's Place **308** (**Figure 3, Plate 7**) showed a single episode of construction. The basal foundation courses stepped out slightly from a formally laid string course overlain by randomly coursed and un-faced stone constructed to ground level, approximately 1m in height. The upper and visible part of the wall was formed of randomly coursed stone bonded with yellow white cement mortar. The construction cut was backfilled with a mixed and subsequently heavily bioturbated deposit of reworked topsoil and occupation debris (**307**). Deposit **305**, a levelled topsoil equivalent to layer **107** in Trench 1 (see 4.3.6 below), sealed the wall foundation. A bedding layer of yellow sand and degraded mortar (**304**) overlay deposit **305** and formed the foundation for a stone slab and cobbled yard surface, (**303**) which butted the above ground base of wall **308** (**Figure 3, Plate 6**).

Open land

- 4.3.7 A sequence of post-medieval-modern layers (**107, 108, 109, 110**) (**Figure 4, Plate 8**) comprising a build-up of occupation debris interspersed with levelling dumps were recorded within the north-west of **Trench 1** and are likely to have resulted from land reclamation and the use of this area as open land being used as garden soil or perhaps for grazing. Artefacts recovered throughout this sequence of deposits included some residual material dating from the 18th century but a majority of the assemblage dated to the 19th and 20th centuries. The 1888 OS map records the use of this

area as open land and the deposits recorded within the trench support this. No natural horizons were reached with 19th century artefacts still being recovered from deposit **110** at a depth of 2.2m below the current ground surface at which point excavation ceased. The accumulation of these deposits is contemporary with the structural evidence recorded within **Trenches 2 and 3**.

Western boundary

- 4.3.8 At the west end of **Trench 1** was **111**, a level area of yellow cement mortar set with irregular fragments of stone slabs (**Figure 4, Plate 9**). Along the western edge of which were some slabs that appeared to have been laid vertically behind which a void could be glimpsed. It is not clear whether this is part of the structure visible on the 1888-1936 OS mapping forming the north-west corner of the Site or considering the large number of water conduits in the area (Wessex Archaeology 2012a) whether something of this nature lies beneath. As the structure was left *in situ* its exact phasing is uncertain but potential made ground deposit **105**, which contained modern glass and pottery, was banked up against its western face.

4.4 Phase 3 – early to mid 20th century

- 4.4.1 Referencing the 1936 and 1954 OS map editions, it was between these dates that the terrace of properties fronting Collaforde Lane were completely demolished and the tenements of St Saviour's Place were reduced to their basal courses. By 1954 a rectangular building was erected within the centre of the Site the concrete foundation rafts for which were recorded within the eastern end of **Trench 1 (112, 113 and 115)** overlying a banded levelling deposits (**104, 105 and 106**) (**Figure 4, Plate 10**).
- 4.4.2 **Test pit 4**, which was situated within the footprint of the tenement block showed a succession of demolition deposits built up within this area (**404, 405, 406, 407 and 408**) relating to the demolition of the buildings after 1936 (**Figure 5, Plate 11**). The lowest of these (**408**), which was only seen at the limit of excavation, was a distinct layer of blue-grey slates likely to derive from the destruction of the roof of St Saviour's Place. This does suggest that further demolition deposits may lie beneath this. **Testpit 4** was excavated to a maximum safe depth of 1.2m nevertheless at just over 6m aOD this was around 1m above the base of the foundation of the front wall of St Saviour's Place, seen in **Testpit 3**.
- 4.4.3 A number of redundant utilities (**116, 217 and 310**) were noted on Site these included possible water pipes in **Trenches 1, 2 and Test pit 3**, an electrical cable in **Trench 1** and electrical components visible within the north-east corner of the extant remains of St Saviour's Place. Though the exact date of these is not known those in **Trench 1** are likely associated with the 1950s structure while the rest well date to the later stages of occupation of St Saviour's Place in the early 20th century.

4.5 Phase 4 – present day

- 4.5.1 A layer of Type I granular sub-base stone gravel recorded overlying the demolition debris in **Trench 2 (201)**, the mixed deposits of surfacing and

levelling seen in **Trench 1 (101)** and the granular stone sub-base found beneath the topsoil in **Test pit 3, (302)** all represent the latest use and levelling of the Site for use as a car park.

- 4.5.2 Upper deposits **402** and **403** which lay directly below the modern topsoil in **Test pit 4** appear to represent attempts to level and consolidate this part of Site.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered from the Site during fieldwork, all of post-medieval/modern date. These finds were removed from site to confirm their range and date, but have not been retained.
- 5.1.2 Finds were collected from six contexts (**105, 107, 110, 202, 305, 404**). Material types represented include pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone, glass, clay tobacco pipes, stone roofing slate and oyster shell. From this assemblage, the pottery (coarse redwares, creamware, feldspathic-glazed English stoneware, refined whitewares) and glass (clear bottle/jar and window) confirm a date range focusing on the 19th and 20th centuries, with the possibility of some earlier (18th century) material.
- 5.1.3 In addition a number of modern artefacts found within the demolition deposits in **Trench 2** were photographed on Site to confirm their presence, but have not been retained.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 Overall, the evaluation at Collaford Lane has largely succeeded in achieving its aims. The principal aim was to identify any surviving remains of the any structure or features which may be impacted by the proposed development. Archaeological remains recorded in during the investigation predominately conformed to the built environment reflected in the 1888-1936 OS maps (**Figure 6**).
- 6.1.2 The evaluation confirmed the below ground survival of the basement levels of properties which fronted the original Collaford Lane. However, as confirmed by an old photograph of the Site (**Figure 6, Plate 11**, Dartmouth Museum reference number B0304) the frontage of these buildings was in line with the frontage of Collaford House. Much of the footprint of these, therefore, would lie beyond the current eastern boundary wall. Hence the structures encountered in **Trench 1** are from the rear portion of these properties (**Figure 6, Plate 12**, Dartmouth Museum reference number B0310). The presence of fragments of brick within several of the structures in **Trench 2** would seem to suggest that the structures as they presently appear relate to the early modern usage of the Site. Nevertheless some traces in the photographs (**Figure 6, Plates 11 and 12**) of fancy bargeboards at the frontage and decorative detail around one of the dormer windows hint that these were once higher status buildings.
- 6.1.3 A photograph showing the rear of the Collaford Lane properties (**Figure 6, Plate 12**) shows the access gunnel situated between the easternmost part

of the tenement block of St Saviour's Place with accommodation above. However, there are suggestions from the image that then north wall of this access once extended further (this could potentially be wall **215**). It may also be that the access originally ran to the north of this and that there were two detached properties on Site, later joined together and the access moved across, potentially to allow communal access to the basement levels. This idea is supported by an engraving in St Saviour's church (not illustrated) which appears to show two separate properties on the frontage and **Plate 11 (Figure 6)** which shows the southern part of the frontage projecting further out than the rest of the structure.

- 6.1.4 The chimney visible in **Plate 12 (Figure 6)**, possibly a boiler or wash house situated at basement level could well have been the source of some of the bricks within the demolition debris in **Trench 2 (202)**. The access to the basement levels, visible in the photograph is thought to correspond to steps **204** and **205** and wall **214**. Wall fragment **216** is likely related to the rear eastern wall of these properties.
- 6.1.5 The extant north wall of St Saviour's Place (**308**) was confirmed as being of a single phase of construction but contained no chronologically distinctive features. Though cut into a made ground deposit (**309**) this also remained undated. Due to the depth of deposits accumulated within the footprint of the tenement block it was not possible to reach the equivalent foundation level within the confines of **Test pit 4**.
- 6.1.6 Although the potential for earlier remains beneath this structure cannot be excluded the evidence suggest that the depth of disturbance from the construction of St Saviour's Place is considerably below the medieval ground surface.
- 6.1.7 A narrow area of flagstone paving came be seen in **Plate 12 (Figure 6)** bounded by cobbles this would correlate to the findings from **Test pit 3** where only a few slabs were located and none adjacent to the wall. This confirms **303** as the early modern yard surface. The 1888 mapping (**Figure 6**) would seem to suggest **Test pit 3** lay in the vicinity of one of the sets of steps leading to the tenement blocks and **Plate 12 (Figure 6)** confirms these made of to be stone. There were no traces of an adjacent structure visible on wall **308** indicating that the steps cannot have been keyed in to the main wall.
- 6.1.8 A sequence of post-medieval/modern made ground deposits within a garden soil matrix correspond to the area of open ground depicted in the 1888 town plan (**Figure 6**). At this time this area of Site apparently lay within properties to the north but by the 1906 OS map the northern boundary of Site appears to have moved to its current position.

7 ARCHIVE

- 7.1.1 The archive is presently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the project archive number **83881**. It comprises of a single lever arch file of records and drawings as well as black and white negatives, colour slides and associated digital data. This archive will be deposited with

the Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery under Accession Number
2012.11.

8 REFERENCES

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Wessex Archaeology, 2012b, *Collaford Lane, Dartmouth, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation*, unpublished client report ref 83881.01

9 APPENDIX 1: DETAILED TRIAL TRENCH TABLES

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1			Type:	Machine excavated	
Dimensions: 12.50x2.15m		Max. depth: 2.20m		Ground level: 5.66-5.85m aOD	
Easting: 287699.97			Northing: 051326.11		
Context	Description			Depth (m)	
101	Modern overburden	Car park surfacing consisting of a variation of deposits consisting of mid red clay with 40% stone, mid yellow sand and concrete, mid grey stone and mid brown rubble. Compact. Overlies (102). Equivalent to (201) and (302).			0.00-0.38 bgl
102	Layer	Possible surfacing/ made ground. Dark grey-black silty clay. Very gritty. 1% stone, <1cm. Compact. Homogeneous. Clear interface with (103). Overlies (103).			0.38-0.42 bgl
103	Layer	Thin mortar surface or spread. Pale yellow-white sandy mortar. Discontinuous deposit. Homogeneous. Compact. Overlies (104).			0.42-0.44 bgl
104	Layer	Layer in central part of trench only. Pale grey silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Compact. Slightly mixed. Overlies (105).			0.03 deep
105	Made Ground	Possible made ground. Dark grey-black silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1cm. Very slightly mixed. Compact. Clear interface with (106). Deeper in south-facing section. Overlies (106) and (114).			0.42-0.56 bgl
106	Made Ground	Possible levelling for 1950s structure. Mid red silty clay. 15% stone, angular, <1-3cm. Occasional mid red-brown and mid red-orange bands. Compact. Clear interface with (107). Overlies (107) and possibly (114).			0.56-0.71 bgl
107	Layer	Possible buried soil/ accumulated deposit. Mid brown silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-6cm. Rare mortar flecks. Occasional pottery and clay pipe. Slightly mixed. Compact. Very slightly diffuse interface with (108). Overlies (108).			0.71-0.94 bgl
108	Layer	Mid red-brown silty clay. 2% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Homogeneous. Compact. Clear interface with (109). Deeper to west. Overlies (109).			0.94-1.22 bgl
109	Layer	Dark grey-black silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-2cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Overlies (110). Slightly diffuse interface with (110).			1.07-1.28 bgl
110	Layer	Mid brown silty clay. 1% stone, angular, <1-4cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Contains pottery, brick, animal bone and iron. Full depth extent not reached.			1.17-2.20+ bgl
111	Structure	Pale yellow sandy cement mortar with slate slabs and vertical slate edging on east face. Possible wall/ surface remnant or possible cap for water culvert. Left in situ.			-
112	Structure	Concrete slab, possible 1950s building platform. Full extent not seen. Overlies (113).			0.25 deep
113	Layer	Likely equivalent to (103) but no clear stratigraphic relationship. Thin mortar surface or spread. Pale yellow sandy mortar. Discontinuous deposit. Homogeneous. Compact. Overlies (104).			0.03 deep
114	Structure	Concrete slab beneath (105), adjacent to (112), may run beneath. Extent and depth unknown.			-
115	Structure	Concrete slab overlying (112) on south-east part of trench. Highest deposit at this point.			0.08 deep
116	Cut	Cable conduit. May not be a true cut as (104) and (105) may have accumulated around cable. 0.25m diameter. Filled with (117). Full depth not seen.			0.20+ deep
117	Fill	Mass of copper wire, some still in situ. May have originally been			0.20+ deep

	some more organic insulation/wrapping since decomposed. Fill of (116).	
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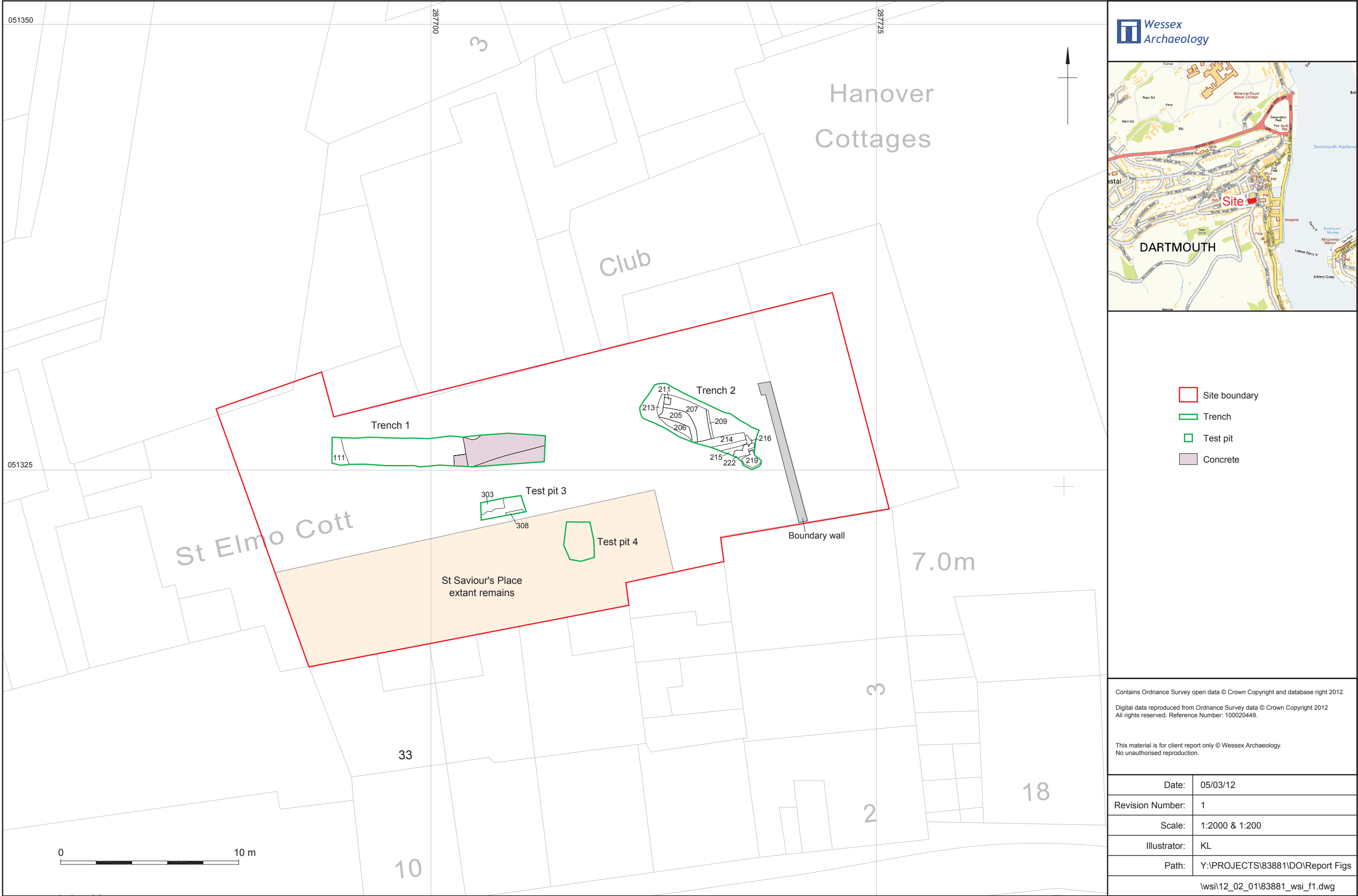
TRENCH 2			Type:	Machine excavated	
Dimensions: 7.40x2.40m		Max. depth: 1.10m		Ground level: 5.81-6.11m aOD	
Easting: 287715.03			Northing: 051327.71		
Context	Description			Depth (m)	
201	Modern overburden	Car park surface. Mostly mid grey stone, angular, 2-20cm. Frequent voids. Compact. Overlies (202), (218) and (219)			0.00-0.38 bgl
202	Layer	Demolition debris. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 70% stone, and brick rubble. Frequent voids. Friable. Slightly loose. Mixed. Overlies (203), (206), (209), (211), (213), (215) and (216).			0.26-1.10 bgl
203	Layer	Demolition debris. Mid blue-grey slate (some with peg holes) in pale grey degraded mortar. Slightly mixed compact. Not excavated.			1.10+ bgl
204	Structure	Step or possible wall base. Stone built, north-west - south-east aligned with south-west return. Pale grey-white cement mortar, one course high. 0.50m+ wide. Pecked channels on upper and external face. Remnants of mortar (206) on external face. Overlies (205).			0.15 high
205	Structure	Step/ kerb. Similar/ associated with (204). Pale grey-white lime mortar, only one course high. 0.70m+ wide. Some pecking on upper face of curving kerb stone. Core likely rubble but obscured by overlying mortar (206). Likely overlies (208).			0.13 high
206	Surface	Pale grey sandy cement mortar surface. Applied to core of (205), external face of (204) and directly overlying a portion of (207). Scored grooves on upper surface.			~0.01 deep
207	Surface	Cobbled surface of possible rounded beach cobbles and rare stone angular fragments. Bedded into pale yellow-grey mortar. Upper surface darkly stained, likely humic/charcoal rich occupational debris. (208) - base/platform beneath. Two slightly raised circular areas (0.12-0.15m diameter) may be later alterations or indicate that there was always a upper mortar surfacing.			-
208	Structure	Platform base for (207). Rounded cobbles, angular stone slabs and rare brick fragments in pale yellow-white cement mortar. Butts (214).			0.42+ high
209	Structure	Red brick coping on (207). One course high set in pale grey-white cement mortar. Cement rounded on upper face to create doomed effect.			0.13 high
210	Construction cut	Roughly rectangular cut to insert possible pillar base (211). Cuts cobbled surface (207).			-
211	Structure	Possible pillar base, fill of (210). Mix of stone and unmatched brick types (including air brick) forming rectangular base. Includes remains of upright steel bar. Left in situ.			-
212	Construction cut	Construction cut for alteration to (205) at north-end. North-east - south-west aligned. Irregular. Exact nature unclear. Filled with (213).			0.16+ deep
213	Structure	Alteration on north end of (205), possibly to lay utilities but exact nature unclear. Irregular stone, no clear bonding agent. Fill of (212).			0.16+ high
214	Wall	East - west aligned stone built wall. 0.48m wide. Stone slab facing with rare brick fragments, thin stone rubble core. Random coursed with pale grey-white to pale yellow-white mortar. Traces of render on north face (better faced). Butts/butted by (215) and (216)			0.90+ high

215	Wall	East - west aligned stone built wall. 0.40m+ wide. Stone slab facing. Random coursed with pale yellow-white mortar. North face only seen, poorly faced, slightly overhanging. Butts/butted by (216).	0.73+ high
216	Wall	North-south aligned stone built wall. 0.25m+ wide. Stone slab facing. Random coursed with pale yellow-white mortar. West face only seen, poorly faced. Butts/butted by (214) and (215).	0.73+ high
217	Cut	No visible. Cut for insertion of utility (218). Cuts (222).	0.13-0.18 bgl
218	Fill	Iron pipe, fill of (217). Likely water pipe.	0.13-0.18 bgl
219	Surface	Pale grey stone slabs. Only small extent seen. Overlies (220).	0.05 high
220	Layer	Possible bedding or levelling for (219). Mid grey-brown silty clay. 25% stone, angular, 2-8cm. Compact. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies (221).	0.08 deep
221	Layer	Possible levelling/ made ground. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 25% stone, angular, 4-10cm. Occasional mortar flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies (222).	0.10+ deep
222	Surface	Pale red grey stone and blue slate slabs. Bedding into mid orange clay. Unclear whether this is the edge of a surface overlying (215) or its south face. Only small extent seen.	0.04 high
223	Layer	Same as layer 202. Demolition layer present between walls 214 and 215. Indistinguishable from 202. Overlies 224	0.25-0.65m
224	Layer	Demolition deposit of mid blue-grey slate (some with peg holes) in pale grey degraded mortar. Slightly mixed compact. Partially excavated. Located between walls 214 and 215 overlain by 223	0.65-0.73m

TRENCH/ TESTPIT 3			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 2.28x1.14m		Max. depth: 1.12m	Ground level: 5.73-5.79m aOD	
Easting: 287703.99		Northing: 051322.91		
Context	Description		Depth (m)	
301	Topsoil	Modern topsoil. Mid brown silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-5cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Under grass - bioturbated. Clear interface with (302). Overlies (302).	0.00-0.08 bgl	
302	Modern overburden	Levelling/ car park surface. Equivalent to (101) and (201). Mid blue-grey stone, 40%, angular, 2-8cm. Some overlying sand (discontinuous). Occasional voids. Homogeneous. Compact. Clear interface with (303). Overlies (303).	0.08-0.29 bgl	
303	Surface	Yard surface composed of large stone slabs and rounded cobbles. Some smaller slate and stone fragments also present. Set into pale grey-white lime mortar. Apparently overlies (304).	0.24-0.31 bgl 0.08 deep	
304	Layer	Possible bedding for (303). Mid yellow sand, possibly degraded sandy mortar. Homogeneous. Slightly discontinuous. Friable. Clear interface with (305). Overlies (305).	0.27-0.30 bgl	
305	Layer	Likely equivalent to (107). Possible buried soil. Mid brown silty clay. 8% stone, sub-angular - angular, <1-4cm. Rare charcoal and mortar flecks. Very slightly mixed. Compact. Diffuse interface with (307) and (309). Overlies (307).	0.30-0.64 bgl	
306	Construction cut	Construction cut for east - west wall of St Saviours Place. East-west aligned. Straight, steep sides. Base not seen, full width not seen. Seen in section only, diffuse. Filled with (307) and (308). Cuts (309).	0.47 deep	
307	Deliberate backfill	Deliberate backfill within construction cut (306). Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-8cm. Occasional charcoal flecks, frequent mortar flecks. Highly bioturbated. Very slightly mixed. Moderately compact. Overlies/ banked against (308).	0.47 deep	

308	Wall	Front (north) wall of council tenement known as St Saviour's Place (or Court). East - west aligned, stone built. Random coursed with pale yellow-white cement mortar. Width not determined due to overgrowing vegetation. Foundation steps out slightly from vertical. Fill of (308).	1.96 high
309	Made Ground	Mid red-brown clay. 5% stone, angular, Homogeneous. Compact. Cut by (306) and (310).	0.61-1.10+ bgl
310	Cut	Utility trench, probably for water pipe. Straight, steep to vertical sides. Base not seen. Full width not seen. Seen in section only. Filled with (311). Cuts (309).	0.48+ deep
311	Deliberate backfill	Deliberate backfill of utility trench (310). Dark grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1-10cm. Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact. Bioturbated. Iron pipe at base.	0.48+ deep

TRENCH/ TESTPIT 4			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 2.10x1.60m		Max. depth: 1.20m	Ground level: 6.95-7.18m aOD	
Easting: 287708.34			Northing: 051321.10	
Context	Description			Depth (m)
401	Topsoil	Modern topsoil/ accumulated ground. Mid brown silty clay. 20% mudstone rubble and fragments, angular, <1-25cm. Occasional plastic and concrete. Heavily bioturbated - under scrub. Homogeneous. Moderately compact. Clear interface with (402). Overlies (402).		0.00-0.27 bgl
402	Made Ground	Deliberate deposit/ made ground - stoning. Mid red clay. 40% stone, angular, 2-6cm. Homogeneous. Compact. Some bioturbation. Clear interface with (403). Overlies (403).		0.27-0.37 bgl
403	Made Ground	Deliberate deposit/ made ground - stoning. Mid grey silty clay. 80% stone, angular, 2-10cm. Occasional small voids, very little sediment matrix. Some bioturbation. Homogeneous. Moderately compact. Clear interface with (404). Overlies (404).		0.37-0.47 bgl
404	Layer	Possible accumulated layer, could also be demolition debris. Mid brown silty clay. 15% stone, angular, <1-18cm (mostly <1-6cm). Occasional pottery, clay pipe and frequent mortar flecks. Slightly mixed. Compact. Fairly clear interface with (405). Overlies		0.45-0.72 bgl
405	Layer	Demolition debris. Mid orange-brown silty clay. 20% stone, angular, <1-6cm. Slightly mixed. Compact. Fairly clear interface with (406), slightly diffuse interface with (407). Overlies (406).		0.64-0.95 bgl
406	Layer	Discrete dump of blue-grey roof slate fragments in south-west corner of testpit. Fairly clear interface with (407). Overlies (407).		0.90-1.00 bgl
407	Layer	Accumulated deposit/ demolition debris. Mid red-brown silty clay. 5% stone, angular, <1cm. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Clear interface with (408). Overlies (408).		0.94-1.16 bgl
408	Layer	Demolition/ deliberate deposit. Roof material. Mid blue-grey slate fragments with pale grey-white mortar flecks. Depth not fully excavated.		1.16+ bgl



Site location showing archaeological trial trenches with principal structure numbers shown

Figure 1



Plate 1: Walls 214, 215 and 216, view from west (1x1m, 1x0.5m)



Plate 2: Surfaces 219, 222 and wall 215, view from north-west (1x0.5m)



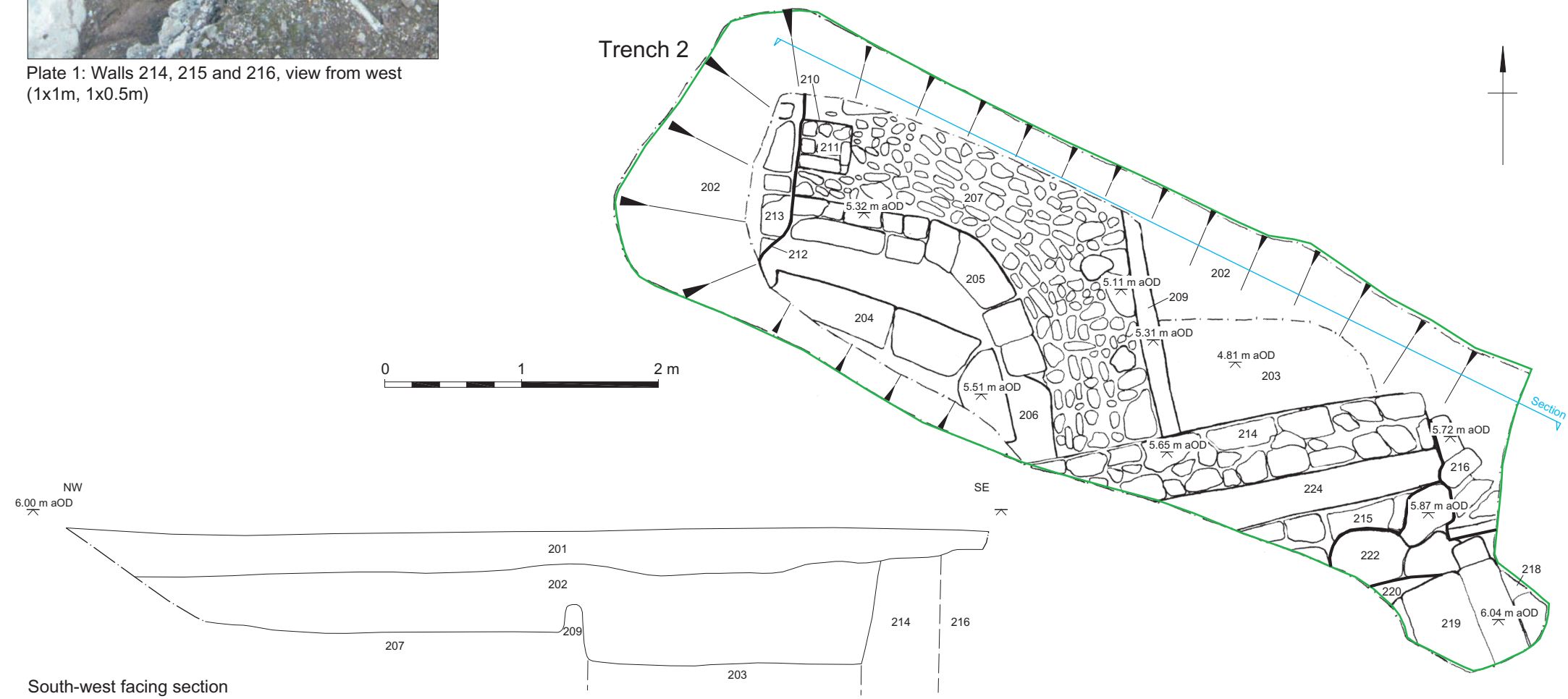
Plate 3: Wall 214, platform 208, surface 207 and coping 209, view from north-east (1x1m, 1x0.5m)



Plate 4: Steps 205 and 205, view north-west (1x1m, 1x0.5m)



Plate 5: Detail of mortar 206, view from east (1x0.5m)



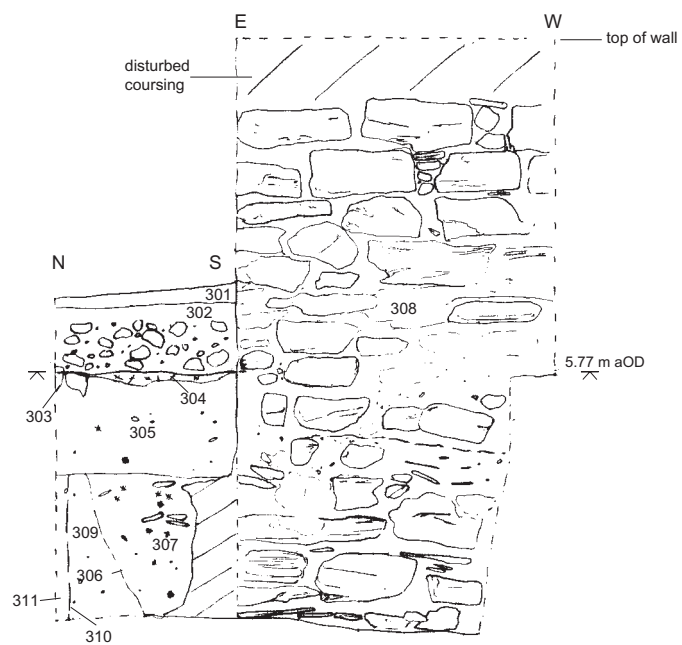
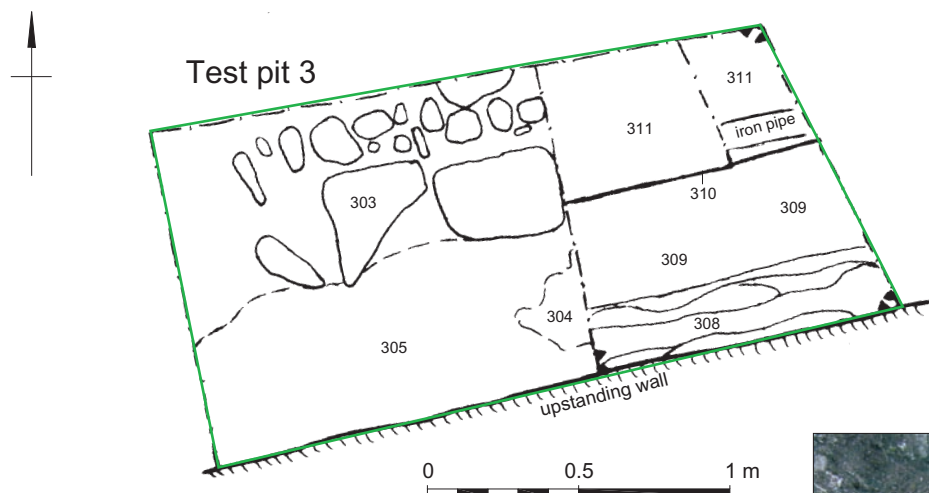
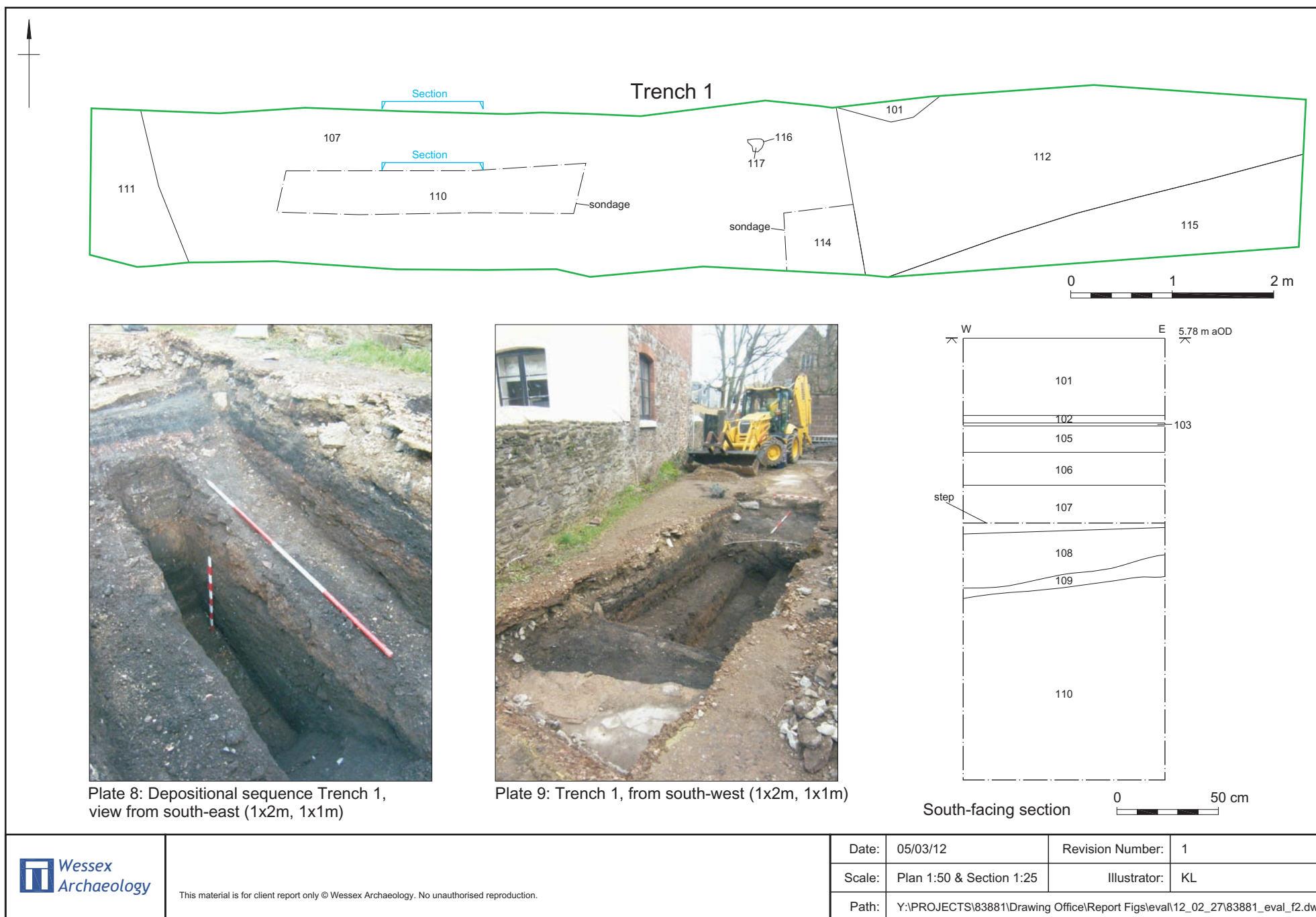


Plate 6: Test pit 3, view from west (1x1m, 1x0.5m)



Plate 7: North-facing elevation of wall 308, from north-east (1x1m, 1x0.5m)



Trench 1: plan, section and photographs

Figure 4

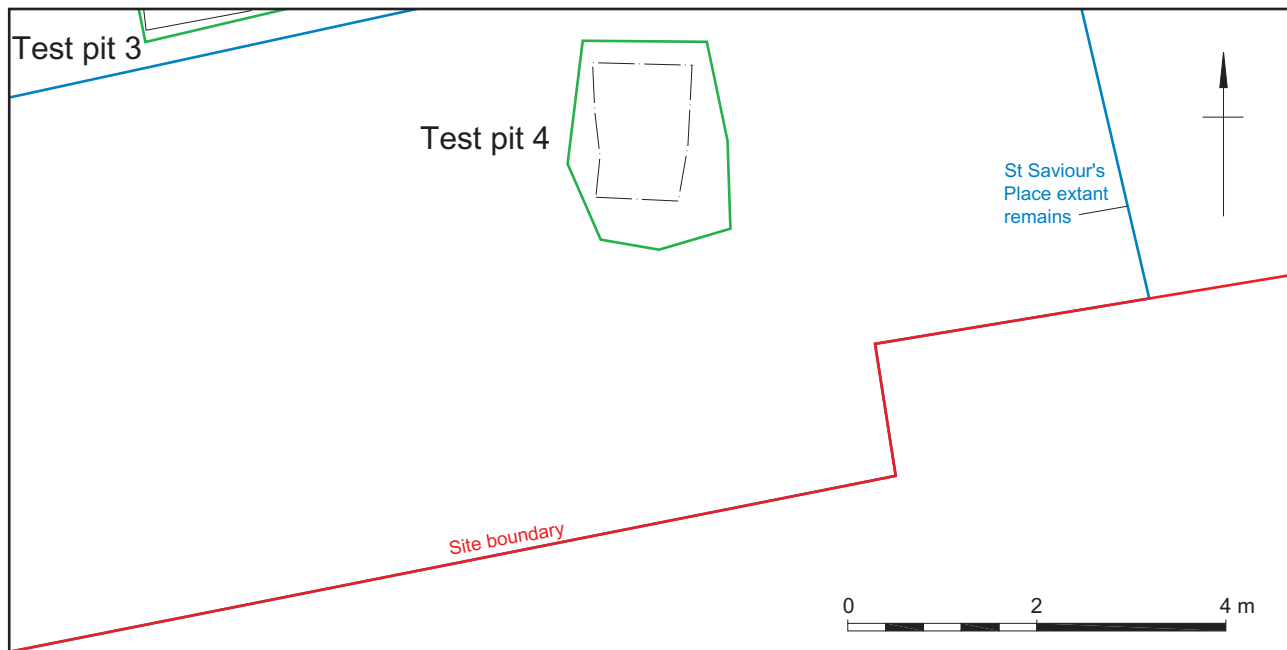



Plate 10: Test pit 4, from north-east (1x2m, 1x1m)

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1888 Ordnance Survey Town Plan (Dartmouth 1:500)



Plate 11: Collaford Lane/ eastern frontage of Site, view from west



Plate 12: St Saviour's Place/ rear of Collaford Lane properties, view from west



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