

MOOR STREET, BRIERLEY HILL, DUDLEY

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation





**MOOR STREET,
BRIERLEY HILL, DUDLEY**

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Entran Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation ahead of a planning application for industrial development at Moor Street, Brierley Hill, Dudley (NGR 391202 286905; hereafter the 'Site').

The evaluation trenches targeted two historic buildings located within the Site; the Moor Lane Glassworks, which was located on the frontage of Moor Street (formerly Moor Lane) and was the earliest known glass works in Brierley Hill, and the Moor Lane Bottle Works, which was located in the central part of the Site.

No evidence for the Moor Lane Glassworks was uncovered in the north of the Site. The results demonstrated that following the demolition of the works in c. 1870, the area had been greatly affected by quarrying and mining activity.

The truncated remains of a brick wall associated with the Moor Lane Bottle Works were revealed in the centre of the Site. Two shallow trenches were also revealed that corresponded with buildings on historic maps, and may have represented robbed out walls. Evidence of sustained heating immediately to the west of one of the trenches may have been associated with the production of glass or an earlier pottery. No evidence of any furnace superstructure or flues was revealed. A large dump of stoneware wasters may have derived from pottery production at the 1878 Moor Lane Bottle Works, and the presence of saggars hinted at the earlier production of finewares.

Up to 2.75m of made ground was revealed in the centre of the Site, which formed a levelling layer prior to the insertion of concrete beams and modern crane bases, and demonstrated that evidence for the former bottle works only survived in isolation.

The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield and will be deposited in due course with the relevant local authority museum.

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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Entran Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Nick Davey in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Peter Boland, the Historic Environment Advisor to Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for his contributions to the project.

The report was compiled by Neil Dransfield and illustrations were prepared by Chris Breeden. The artefacts were assessed by Lorraine Mephram and the project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Norton. Fieldwork was directed by Neil Dransfield with the assistance of Jamie Patrick.

MOOR STREET BRIERLEY HILL, DUDLEY

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Entran Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Moor Street, Brierley Hill ('the Site'). The work was carried out in advance of the redevelopment of the Site, and following the production of a Desk Based Assessment (APS 2012) that indicated the potential for the survival of a historic glass and bottle works within the Site.

1.1.2 Following discussions between APS and Peter Boland, the Historic Environment Advisor to Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council and advisor to the local planning authority, Wessex Archaeology produced a Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) for an agreed programme of evaluation trenching (Wessex Archaeology 2012). The work was required in order to investigate the archaeological potential of the Site, and to inform the extent and nature of any further work that may be required.

1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The Site, centred on NGR 391202 286905, comprises an irregular/sub-rectangular plot of land extending over c. 3.5ha, bounded by Moor Street to the north, Moor Street Trading Estate to the west and to the east by the Stourbridge Junction to Dudley branch railway line (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 The Site is currently primarily under hard-standing (mostly concrete and stone gravel) and is used for stockpiling industrial residues, with a railway goods track passing through the eastern portion of the Site. Topographically the part of the Site evaluated lies on fairly level ground, sloping slightly up from south to north, at around 122m AOD. The underlying bedrock consists of the Etruria Formation of mudstone and sandstone (www.bgs.ac.uk).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 General

2.1.1 The desk-based assessment (DBA) for the Site (APS 2012) concluded that there are no designated heritage assets within the Site boundary. No prehistoric or Romano-British remains are noted within the development area.

2.2 Medieval

2.2.1 The Site is located within what was formerly Pensett Chase, which during the medieval period was likely to have been extensively wooded and relatively unpopulated. The medieval township of Brettell was located approximately 400m to the south of the Site (APS 2012).

2.3 Post-Medieval

- 2.3.1 The township of Brettell remained as an agricultural entity until the advent of coal mining in the 16th century and, due to the availability of coal, glassworkers began to operate in the area from the beginning of the 17th century. The construction of the Stourbridge Canal allowed the establishment of collieries, firebrick works, glassworks and foundries along its course and this was further stimulated in the 1850s when the Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton Railway was built through the township. By the 19th century Brettell had become absorbed into the industrial settlement of Brierley Hill (APS 2012).
- 2.3.2 Two entries are located within the Site namely the Moor Lane Glassworks on the Moor Street frontage and the Moor Lane Bottle Works to the south. The former survived until demolition around 1870.
- 2.3.3 The Moor Lane Glassworks was the first glassworks to be built (by Robert Honeybourne) in Brierley Hill after 1744, possibly on the site of a pre-existing German sheet and crown glasshouse. It was first listed as a bottle works producing best and ordinary flint glass and phials. The glassworks is mentioned on a list of 1796 as being a nine pot works and having a glass cone. The company continued and diversified production through the 18th and early 19th centuries and in 1824 the firm was leased to the glassmakers Joseph Silvers and Joseph Stevens. The lease mentions a glasshouse used for making flint glass, warehouses, pot rooms, store rooms, crate shops, barns, hovels and other outbuildings. In 1870 the glassworks was in poor condition, exacerbated by subsidence caused by extensive coal mining. The Moor Lane Glassworks was subsequently demolished and the 1884 Ordnance Survey map shows no evidence of the former building in an area of extensive quarrying and 'old coal shafts'. A new factory was built just to the east at North Street, which still survives as the Grade II listed Royal Brierley Crystal Works (APS 2012).
- 2.3.4 The Moor Lane Bottle Works was built around 1771 under the ownership of William & Thomas Seager. The business was let to John Westwood and Joseph Moore in the same year when it was described as a glasshouse, yard, pot rooms, store rooms and other suitable conveniences and several dwelling houses for workmen. The Works was initially listed as bottle producers but by 1839 the company had diversified, producing pottery in addition to glass. In 1845 the factory made 980 tons of bottles, pottery and firebricks consuming 320 tons of clay, 450 tons of sand and 3500 tons of coal. The factory closed in 1857 for 21 years. After re-opening in 1878 the Works was listed as making glass bottles and stoneware, although it appears to have made only pottery by 1884. It was advertised for sale as a pottery in 1900 and had been demolished by 1910 (APS 2012).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The aim of the project was to determine the archaeological potential and significance of the area to be investigated, and to make available the results of the investigation.

3.2 Objectives

- 3.2.1 To achieve the project aim as outlined, the following generic objectives were defined:
- To determine the general nature of the remains present.
 - To determine the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual evidence.
 - To determine the approximate extent of the remains.
 - To determine the nature of activity or activities that the remains represent.
 - To determine the degree of complexity of the material present.
 - To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The methodology for excavation, recording and artefact analysis is detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2012) and is summarised below.
- 4.1.2 All machining was undertaken using a mechanical excavator (JCB 3CX) fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, and under the direct supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist. Machining ceased at the first archaeological horizon or the level of natural geology, whichever was reached first.
- 4.1.3 All revealed deposits and structures were hand cleaned and planned at an appropriate scale. Appropriate excavation was undertaken to characterise archaeological deposits and all recording took place in accordance with standard Wessex Archaeology methodologies. Finds were recovered and treated in accordance with current national guidelines (IfA 2008b and UKIC 2001).
- 4.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists' (IfA) Standard and Guidance, the IfA Code of Conduct, and other current and relevant best practice and standards and guidance (IfA 2008a and b).

5 EVALUATION TRENCH RESULTS

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 Four evaluation trenches were excavated (**Figure 1**) covering an area of 198m². The trenches were targeted on the location of the former Moor Lane Glass and Bottle Works as located on historic cartographic evidence (**Figure 2**).
- 5.1.2 **Trench 1** (20 x 1.8m) was targeted on the Moor Lane Glassworks but was moved further to the south than originally proposed due to an extant building.
- 5.1.3 **Trench 2** (50 x 1.8m) was located to target the Moor Lane Bottle Works. The trench was relocated further to the east than originally proposed due to surface obstructions, immovable subsurface concrete and subsurface railway lines.
- 5.1.4 The proposed **Trench 3** was divided into two separate trenches (**3** and **4**) in order to avoid the same obstructions as revealed by Trench 2. Each trench covered 20m x 1.8m and was relocated to maximize the potential to encounter the Moor Lane Bottle Works.

5.2 Trench 1

- 5.2.1 Trench 1 (**Figures 2** and **3**) was excavated to a depth of 1m with a deposit of blackened clinker, cinder and ash (**103**) revealed throughout the trench (**Figure 3**), and overlain by the modern ground surface (**101** and **102**). Two sondages revealed deposits of mixed modern made ground (**104**, **105** and **106** – see **Appendix 1**), to a depth of 3.5m below the current ground level at each end of the trench (**Plate 1**). A black stained yellowish brown silty clay (**107**) was revealed at the base of the section, which may represent the interface with the natural geology.

5.3 Trench 2

- 5.3.1 The natural clay (**207**) was encountered at a depth of 1.2m in the northern half of Trench 2. A foundation for an in-situ brick remnant of a heavily truncated wall foundation (**212**) was cut through the natural, and which aligned with structure **307** in **Trench 3** (see **5.4.5** below). A banded clay deposit (**206**) overlay wall **212**, and may have formed a levelling layer below a row of firebricks (**205**; **Figure 4**).
- 5.3.2 The firebricks (**205**) were overlain by a substantial domed deposit of pink clay **204** (**Figure 4**), which extended into **Trench 3** (see **316**). The southern section of this deposit, and the underlying fire bricks, were truncated by a large pit (**208**), which was filled with a mixed clay (**209**) and slag and clinker (**210**). Deposit **210** was overlain by 0.3m to 0.4m thick deposits of coal and clinker (**203** and **211**), which extended along the full length of the trench. Deposits **203** and **211** were overlain by levelling for the disused railway and sleepers (**201** and **202**; **Figure 4**).
- 5.3.3 The eastern half of the trench had been truncated by the insertion of a substantial modern concrete beam (**213** - **215**), which extended along the full length of the trench (**Figure 4**) and into Trench 3.

5.4 Trench 3

- 5.4.1 The natural clay (**306**) was encountered at a depth of 1.1m below ground level. Several features were recorded that probably related to the Moor Lane Bottle Works.
- 5.4.2 At the eastern end of the trench was a 0.8m diameter pit or posthole (**308**) with a single 0.5m deep fill (**309**). The fill was darker in the central portion, and was indicative of a post pipe (**Figure 5**).
- 5.4.3 To the immediate west of the pit was a shallow right angled feature (**322**), that extended from the southern trench edge for 2m, before turning 90° and extending into the northern trench edge (**Figure 5**). The feature was very shallow (0.1m) and filled with a grey silty sand (**310**). The shape of the feature was indicative of a wall robber trench or trench for housing machine footings.
- 5.4.4 To the immediate west of feature **322** was a linear cut (**318**), which extended across the width of the trench and measured 0.4m in width. The feature was located between a natural sandstone block (**312**) and the natural clay (**306**; **Figure 5**). The surface of the sandstone (**312**) had been subjected to heat, which had discoloured a 1m squared area a bright pink colour (**313**; **Figure 5**). It was not clear whether linear cut **318** originally housed a wall footing; however, the feature does appear to correspond with one of the Moor Lane Bottle Work structures on the 1884 OS map (**Figure 2**). The presence of a heavily burnt area within close proximity to a wall or machine footing is indicative of a possible furnace (either pottery or glass). There was a great deal of truncation in this area and any furnace structures may have been subsequently robbed out or removed.
- 5.4.5 A fragment of north-west to south-east aligned wall foundation (**307**; **Figure 5**) constructed from un-frogged, pressed (handmade) bricks was revealed beneath the modern concrete beam dividing Trench 2 from 3. The wall was aligned with **212** in Trench 2, and was similarly truncated at its upper and southern extents by a cut (**320**) containing a mixed clay deposit (**321**). No evidence of the wall was seen to the east and it is likely that the wall originally returned to the south-west, corresponding with a Moor Lane Bottle Works' building shown on the 1884 OS map (**Figure 2**).
- 5.4.6 The archaeological features in the trench were overlain by dumps of made ground (**317** and **314**) below re-deposited natural clay (**303**) and domed pink clay (**316**), similar to deposit **204** in **Trench 2**. These deposits were overlain by a spread of industrial waste (**315**) and the current ground surface make up **302** and **301** (not illustrated).

5.5 Trench 4

- 5.5.1 Trench 4 was located within an area of extensive ground disturbance, and the natural geology (**412**) was only partially observed at a depth of 1.45m below current ground level in the eastern half of the trench (**Figure 6**).
- 5.5.2 At the western end of the trench, a 2.75m deep sondage revealed a dump of sandy grit (**411**) that contained a high percentage of broken pottery (see **6.1** below). The deposit was at least 0.7m thick (**Figure 6**) and was of uncertain provenance.

- 5.5.3 Made ground deposits that were 1.85m thick (**405** and **406**) overlay deposit **411** (**Figure 10**). These deposits were cut by a large pit (**407**), which was filled with large lumps of broken concrete in a mixed sandy/silty clay (**408**; **Figure 6**).
- 5.5.4 In the eastern half of the trench a thin band of redeposited natural yellow clay (**409**) abutted a substantial concrete beam (**Figure 6**), the base of which was not exposed. The deposits were overlain by the bedding material (**403** and **402**) for the interlocking concrete sets (**401**) of the current ground surface.

6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a small assemblage of finds, consisting largely of ceramic material and glass waste, resulting from the use of the Site as a glassworks and pottery manufactory (the Moor Lane Works). The pottery, mainly stoneware, dates to the 19th or early 20th centuries, and would fit with the use of the works to manufacture stoneware after 1878 and up until the closure and demolition of the Works in the early years of the 20th century. Nine fragments of 'saggars' (used in fineware pottery production) were also revealed and may relate to an earlier phase of the pottery.
- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 With the exception of four sherds of refined whiteware (three of them transfer-printed), which probably represent domestic refuse, all of the pottery consists of stonewares with feldspathic glazes, some with an underlying yellow ochre dip on the upper part of the vessel. The sherds represent a range of storage vessel forms, although no complete vessels are present. At least four sherds exhibit firing faults, including probable underfiring (glaze not fused), warping, and breakage during firing, with glaze running over sherd breaks. These sherds are sufficient to identify this group as waste from stoneware production, although nearly all derived from made ground deposits and so cannot be regarded as being *in situ*.
- 6.2.2 The forms represented can be summarised as follows:
- Medium-sized preserve jars with a groove below the rim (for lid attachment), some with close-spaced vertical ribbing. One jar is stamped '32' below the rim. Some carry a yellow ochre dip over the rim.
 - One example of a larger cylindrical jar with a simple rim and a narrow shallow grooved band a little way below the rim.
 - Larger cylindrical jars, shouldered, with a bead rim; some carry a narrow rouletted band around the shoulder. These vessels carry a yellow ochre dip above the shoulder.

- Bottles, represented mostly by handles, although the overall form is cylindrical, with sloping shoulders. One example of a narrow-mouthed, internally screw-threaded bottle, with handle stumps on rim and shoulder. The bottles are yellow ochre dipped above the shoulder.
- One example of a cylindrical form with a handle stump at the base of the vessel; possibly a jug or tankard.

6.2.3 The vessels represented, with the exception of the possible jug/tankard, are all storage vessels, for foodstuffs or other commodities. The general forms are represented in late 19th century catalogues, such as those of Doulton & Watts or James Stiff & Sons (both 1873; Green 1999, appendices 17-18), where the cylindrical jars are described as 'wide mouth pots' for soups, jellies, etc. The ribbed jars were widely used for preserves, for example by Hartleys (jams and marmalades).

6.2.4 Most of the pottery came from made ground deposits in Trenches 2, 3 and 4, the largest group from a deliberate pottery dump (**411**) in Trench 4 (**Plate 1**).

6.3 Other Ceramics

6.3.1 Nine fragments were identified as deriving from cylindrical, flat-based saggars, for containing and protecting fineware pots during firing (**Plate 2**). From measurable bases these appear to be around 400mm in diameter. Most fragments came from made ground in Trench 3, with one piece from made ground in Trench 1; the latter appears to derive from a smaller, thinner-walled vessel.

6.4 Glass

6.4.1 Apart from one piece of vessel glass, again probably domestic refuse, all of the glass consists of waste material, probably cullet for use in the glassworks. Fragments came from Trenches 1, 2 and 3, all from made ground.

6.5 Ceramic Building Material

6.5.1 Three pieces of recovered Ceramic Building Material (CBM) all belong to post-medieval flat roof tiles. One of these (from made ground deposit **315**) is ribbed, and has a surviving complete width of 170mm.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	CBM	Glass	Pottery	Other Ceramics
103		3/70	3/18	1/47
203		11/1475	2/96	
305			3/233	
311	1/60		24/1285	
314			2/130	6/2964
315	2/1299	1/26	13/615	2/871
411			12/3090	
TOTALS	3/1359	15/1571	59/5467	9/3882

CBM = ceramic building material

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The results from Trench 1 demonstrate that there is at least 3.5m of made ground in the northern part of the Site. The level of the natural geology (**117.85m AOD**) was considerably deeper (over 2m) than the average level of natural geology (**119.9m AOD**) revealed in Trenches 2, 3 and 4. The depth of made ground is most likely a result of the infilling of the quarrying marked on the 1884 OS historic map. Trench 1 as excavated lay beyond the footprint of the Moor Lane Glassworks. It is possible that remains survive on the street frontage, although the results from Trench 1 suggest that quarrying is likely to have destroyed any such remains following demolition of the building around 1870.
- 7.1.2 The results from Trenches 2 and 3 indicate that heavily truncated remains of some of the Moor Lane Bottle Works survive between areas of modern truncation and ground remediation. However, little can be inferred regarding the nature of the truncated buildings other than that they correspond in location with historic map evidence.
- 7.1.3 The evidence is limited to heavily truncated fragments of brick wall foundation and two possible robbed out walls or machine bases. A post pit, containing redeposited pottery wasters, may also have been associated with the Bottle Works. A large dump of stoneware wasters may have derived from pottery production at the Moor Lane Bottle Works from 1878, and the presence of saggars hints at the earlier production of finewares.
- 7.1.4 Evidence of sustained heating in the form of a small patch of discoloured natural sandstone hints at the presence of a furnace-like structure; however, none of the superstructure was revealed.

7.2 Conclusions

- 7.2.1 The results confirm that the northern part of the Site has been heavily truncated by late 19th-century quarrying and mining activity. At least 3.5m of made ground was revealed. It is possible that remains of the former Moor Lane Glassworks survive on the street frontage, although it is likely that quarrying has destroyed any such remains.

- 7.2.2 The results from Trenches 2, 3 and 4 confirm that some features associated with the Moor Lane Bottle Works do survive; however, these features have been severely truncated and are of uncertain function.

8 ARCHIVE AND COPYRIGHT

8.1 Archive

- 8.1.1 The archive will be deposited in due course with the relevant local authority museum.
- 8.1.2 The site archive will be prepared in line with United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (2001) and English Heritage (2006) guidelines.

8.2 Copyright

- 8.2.1 This report, and the archive generally, 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. Users remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No. 1	Ground Level (122.05m AOD):	Dimensions: 20 x 1.8m Max depth: 3.5m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
101	MODERN SURFACE - Modern concrete surface	0 – 0.3
102	BEDDING LAYER - Compressed brick rubble	0.3 – 0.45
103	MADE GROUND - dark greyish black layer of mixed clinker, cinder and ash with silt	0.45 – 1.2
104	MADE GROUND - a thin layer and black sand sandwiched between two layers of brick rubble	1.21 – 1.4
105	MADE GROUND - a dense uniform layer of black silty sand including coal or coke fragments	1.4 – 2.2
106	MADE GROUND - a brown silty sand matrix containing a high percentage of brick rubble	2.2 – 3
107	NATURAL INTERFACE - a mixed yellow/greyish brown “stained” silty clay. Contained impressed brick rubble within the deposit.	3 – 3.5

Trench No. 2	Ground Level (121.39m)	Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 1.5m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
201	RAIL TRACK – forming the W edge of the trench. One of the sidings on the early 20 th C. OS map	0 - ?
202	RAIL BEDDING – composed of 0.18m thick red crushed stone beneath 0.05m thick layer of black coal and clinker as bedding for timber sleepers set 0.52m apart secured in black ash and clinker overlain by the modern gravel	0 – 0.48
203	MADE GROUND - 0.36m thick layer of mixed clinker, coal and rubble	0.48 – 0.85m
204	CLAY CAPPING - a 2.5m long by 0.35m high, domed deposit capping fire brick layer 203. (Also in Trench 3 as deposit 316).	0.6 – 0.9
205	FIRE BRICK LAYER – a 3.3m long layer of fire bricks laid side by side. Further inspection revealed only one row of bricks and no apparent structure. The eastern part of the deposit truncated by the modern concrete beam cut 213	0.9 – 1
206	MADE GROUND – a 0.5m thick deposit of banded material. Red clay overlying the natural with black clinker and a mixed grey grit overlying the clay	0.72 – 0.9
207	NATURAL – a greyish yellow silty clay containing sub-rounded sandstone cobbles.	1.1 – 1.5+
208	CUT – a partially exposed cut for a possible clay lined 209 pit containing clinker and slag 210 (See 320 in Trench 3).	0.8 – 1.3+
209	FILL – apparent clay lining or base to cut 208. At least 0.6m wide by 12.5m long by 0.7m deep. Deposit contains some brick rubble and correlates with deposit 321 in Trench 3.	0.8 – 1.3+
210	FILL – substantial, loose mixture of clinker and slag industrial waste product within apparent pit 208. The deposit continued below deposit 211 to the southern end of its exposed length	0.8 – 1.25
211	MADE GROUND – pinkish grey grit with clinker and rubble under the rail bedding at the southern end of the trench	0.5+

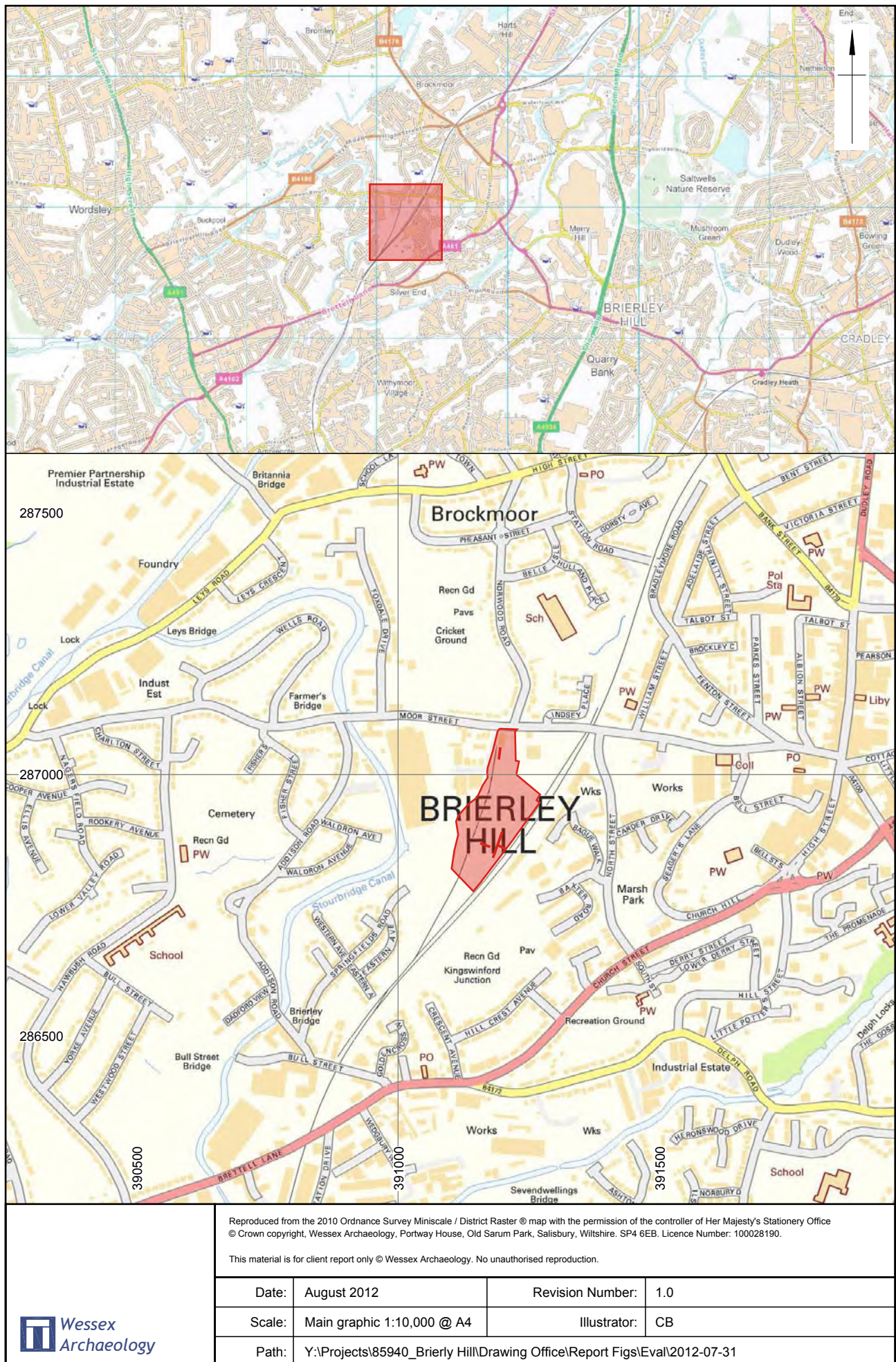
Trench No. 2	Ground Level (121.39m)	Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 1.5m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
212	WALL (?) – one solitary orange handmade brick which aligns with wall 307 in Trench 3. The walling was severely truncated by pit 208 to its south and top and the concrete beam cut 213 to its east	1.3+
213	MODERN BEAM CUT – at least 50m long extending the entire length of Trench 2 along the western side of beam 214. The opposing cut was clearly visible in the western end of Trench 3.	0.5+
214	MODERN CONCRETE BEAM – a substantial concrete beam running the entire length of Trench 2 and extending into the western end of Trench 3.	0 – 1
215	FILL – a variable backfill of the modern beam trench 213	0.5 – 1+

Trench No. 3	Ground Level (121.94)	Dimensions: 20 x 1.8m Max depth: 1.6m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
301	MODERN SURFACE – compacted loose gravel layer	0 – 0.25
302	BEDDING LAYER - brick rubble in a reddish brown clayey silt matrix	0.25 – 0.5
303	CLAY CAPPING - uniform light yellowish silty clay re-deposited natural clay capping throughout the trench	0.5 – 0.7
304	MADE GROUND – brick rubble layer	0.7 – 0.95
305	MADE GROUND – a dark greyish black silty clay	0.95 – 1.1
306	NATURAL – a greyish yellow silty clay containing sub-rounded sandstone cobbles.	1.1 – 1.6+
307	WALL – heavily truncated brick wall foundation measuring 1m long by 0.4m wide and 0.4m high consisting of 5 visible courses. The wall was located below modern concrete beam 214 and truncated to the south and east by cut 320	0.9 - 1.3
308	POST CUT – an oval pit measuring 0.8m diameter and 0.5m deep. Unknown function, possibly associated with the glass works.	1.1 – 1.5
309	POST PIT FILL - The light yellowish brown silty clay fill contains a darker stained centre of a probable post pipe. The brick and tile fill suggest a late date, possibly contemporary with the glass works	1.1 – 1.5
310	FILL OF CUT 322 – a grey silty sand containing some mortar and a handmade brick	1.1 – 1.10
311	FILL OF CUT 318 – a dark grey silty sand containing a high percentage of clinker and coal	1.1 – 1.5
312	NATURAL SANDSTONE – consolidated sandstone within the natural geology next to the area of burning 313	1.1
313	HEAT EFFECTED AREA – an area of natural sandstone measuring at least 1.2m x 1.05m which has been dis-coloured pink by sustained heating	1.1
314	MADE GROUND – a compact thin mixed dark grey silty clay with ash layer above the natural to the east of wall 307	1.1 – 1.3
315	MADE GROUND – a dark greyish black silty clay with clinker and ash overlying pink clay capping 316 and re-deposited clay 303	0.3 – 0.8

Trench No. 3	Ground Level (121.94)	Dimensions: 20 x 1.8m Max depth: 1.6m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
316	CLAY CAPPING – a substantial deposit of pinkish clay at least 0.65m thick which extended into trench 2 (204). The deposit was evident in the northern section of the trench and petered out to the east and south	0.4 – 1.05
317	MADE GROUND DUMP – a loose dump of pink sand and rubble within deposit 314	1.1+
318	LINEAR CUT – a NW-SE aligned cut extending across the width of the trench measuring 0.4m wide by 0.4m deep. The cut had a flat base and vertical eastern edge. The western edge, through 312, was moderately concave.	1.1 – 1.5
319	VOID	
320	PIT CUT - a partially exposed cut that truncated the top and eastern end of wall 307. The cut corresponds with 208 in Trench 2	1.1 – 1.6
321	PIT FILL - a mixed yellow/pink/black clay with some brick rubble and clinker filling cut 320	1.1 – 1.6
322	L-SHAPED CUT – a shallow (0.1m deep) right angled feature measuring 0.25m wide. The southern (SW-NE aligned) section extended from the southern trench edge for 2m before turning at 90° to the NW into the northern trench edge.	1.1 – 1.2

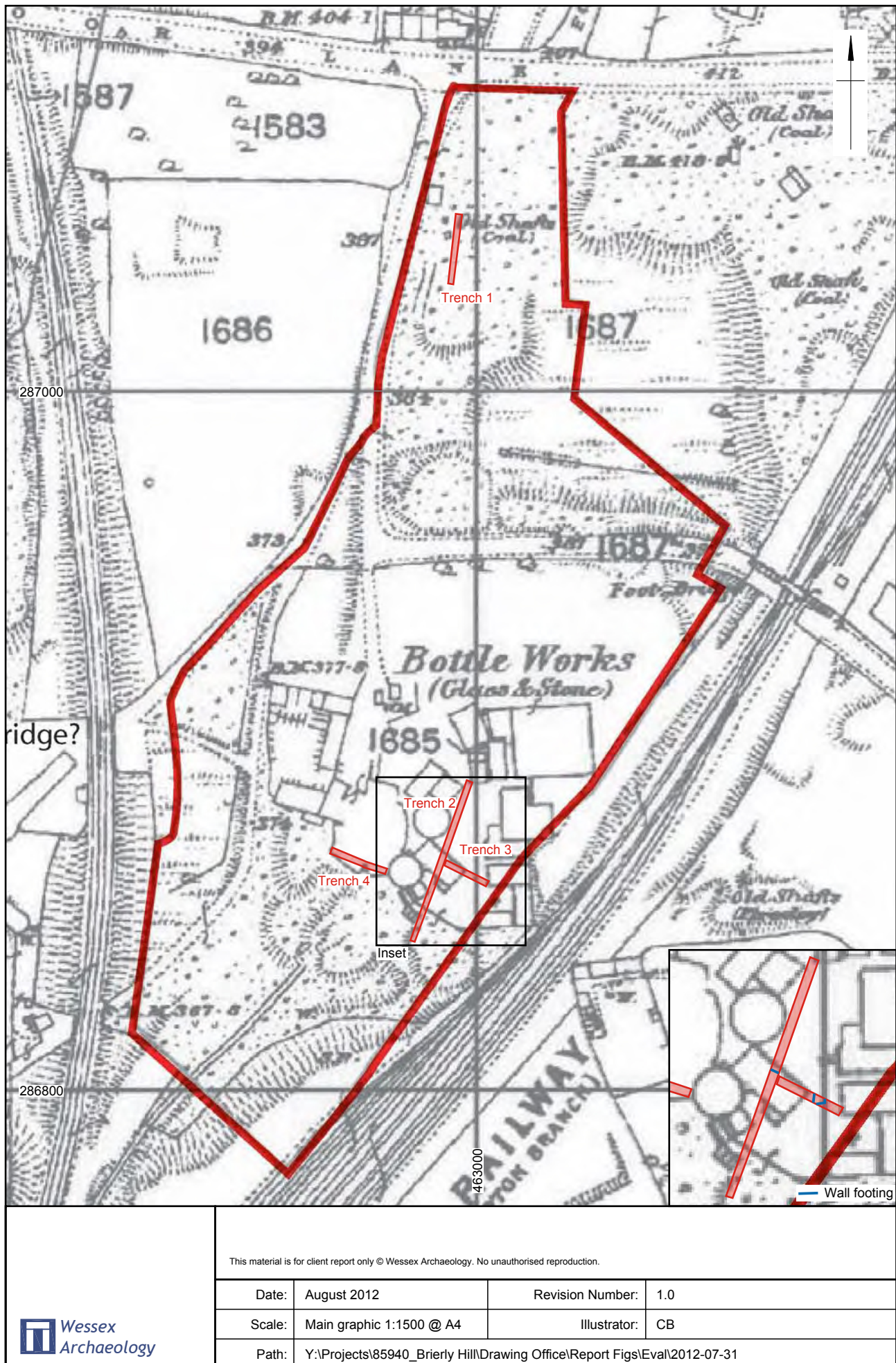
Trench No. 4	Ground Level (121.32m)	Dimensions: 20 x 1.8m Max depth: 2.75m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
401	MODERN SURFACE – consisting of small shaped interlocking concrete sets	0 – 0.06
402	BEDDING LAYER – a light pinkish sand	0.06 – 0.15
403	LEVELLING LAYER – a greenish grey sand with hard core below 402	0.15 – 0.19
404	LEVELLING LAYER – a 0.4m thick deposit of modern hard core	0.19 – 0.59
405	MADE GROUND – a mixed dark silty loam and sand	0.59 – 0.74
406	RE-DEPOSITED NATURAL – ground consolidation by yellow silty clay	0.74 – 1.44
407	CUT - large, 7m wide, partially exposed cut through 406 in the western part of the trench filled by 408	0.18 - 0.74+
408	FILL – highly mixed dark brown and yellow clay containing frequent very large lumps of broken concrete	0.18 - 0.74+
409	MADE GROUND – thick (0.45m) mixed deposit of yellow/brown silty sand and clay containing brick rubble located at the eastern end of the trench	0.74 – 1.2
410	MADE GROUND – a 0.6m thick layer of homogeneous black ash located beneath 406 at the western end of the trench	1.44 – 2.04
411	POTTERY DUMP – a 0.7m+ thick layer of yellow sandy grit containing a high percentage of broken pottery below 410 at the western end of the trench. The deposit was exposed in a deep sondage and a selection of pottery was collected for specialist analysis	2.04 – 2.75

Trench No. 4	Ground Level (121.32m)	Dimensions: 20 x 1.8m Max depth: 2.75m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
412	NATURAL – A greyish yellow silty clay containing some sandstone fragments	1.45m+



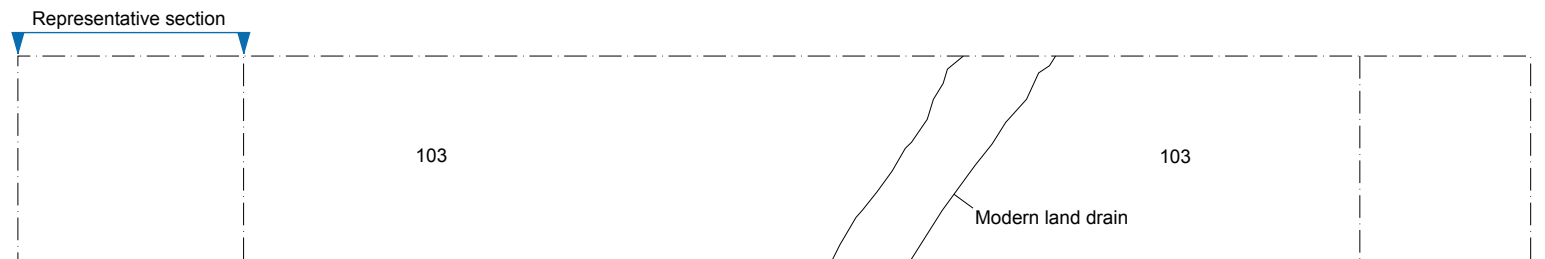
Site location

Figure 1



Trench locations on the 1884 OS map

Figure 2

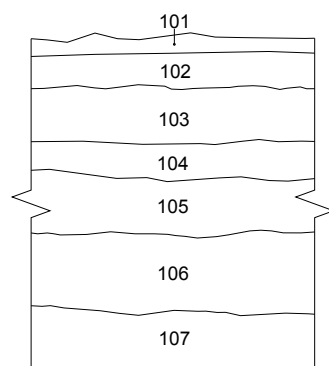


Trench 1 plan 1:100

0 5m

North

South



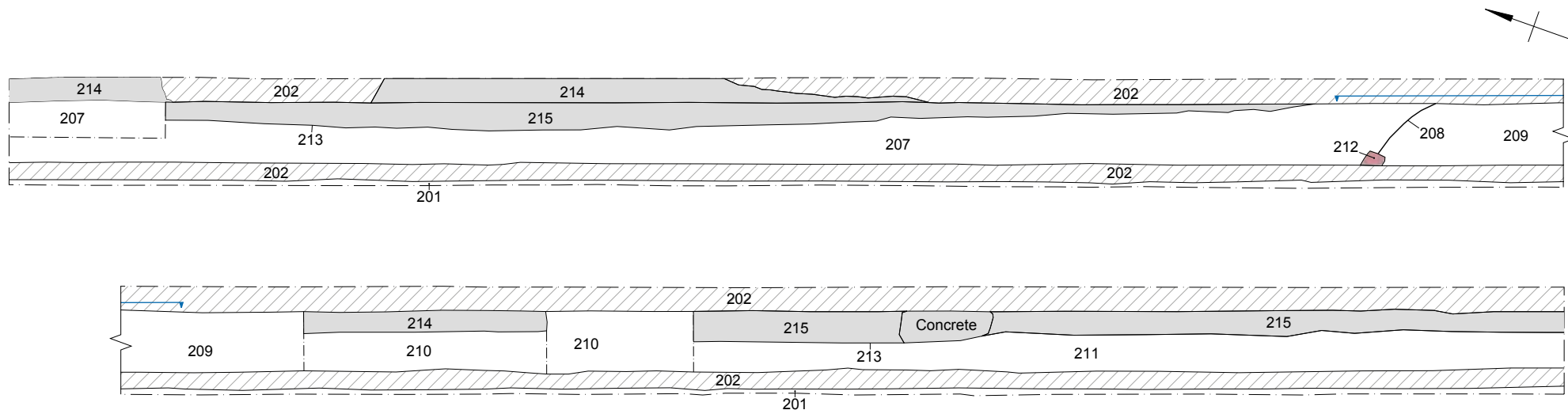
Trench 1 representative section, west facing 1:80

0 3m

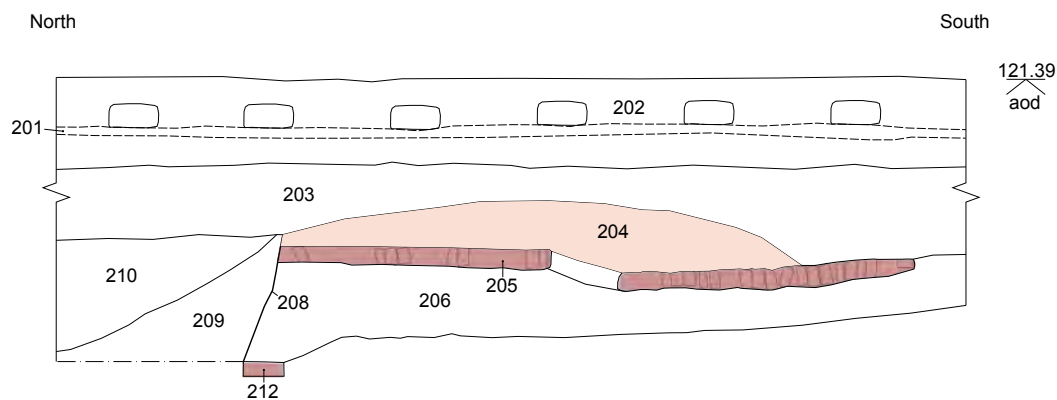
121.44m
aod



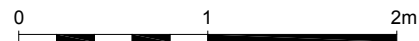
Trench 1 representative section, looking east



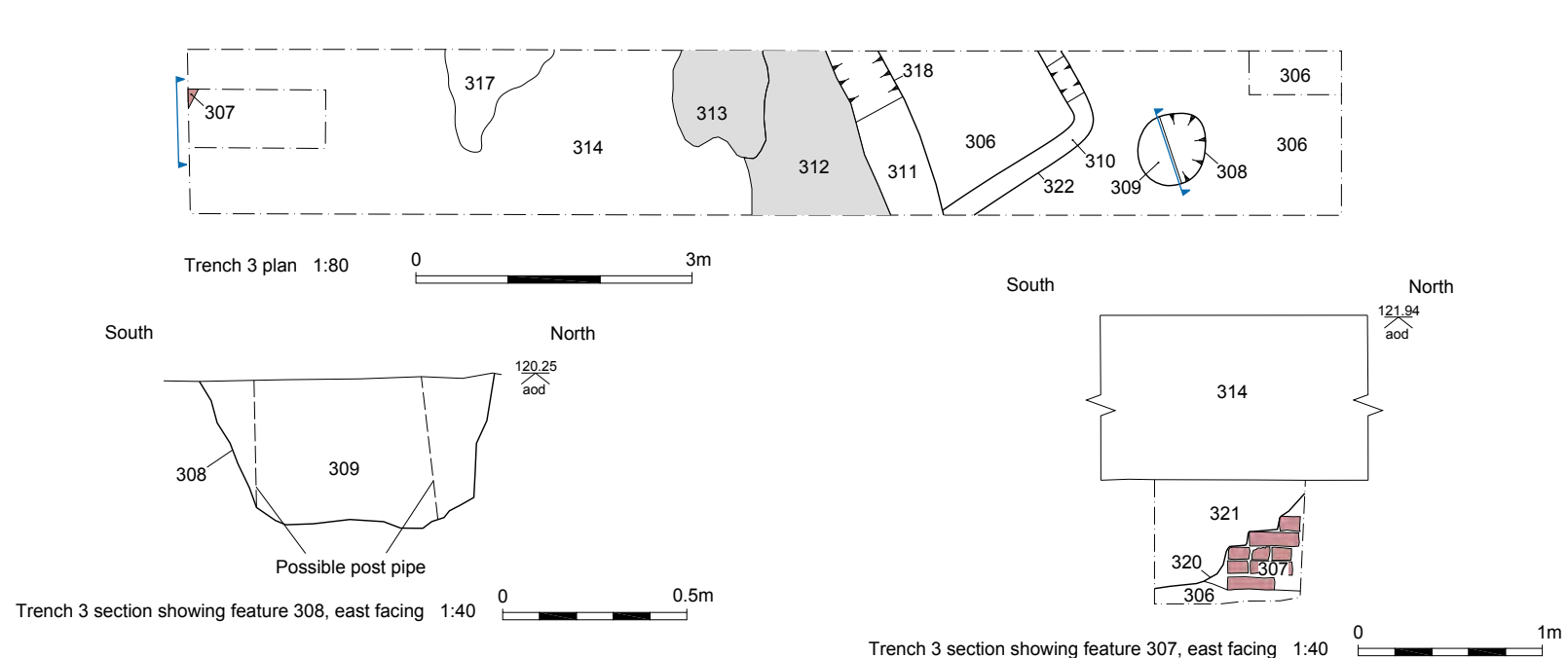
Trench 1 plan 1:100



Trench 2 section, east facing 1:40



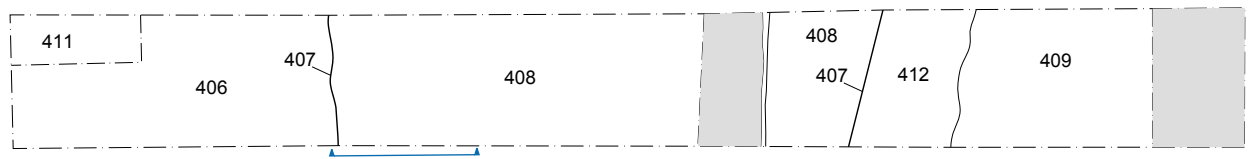
Trench 2, looking south 1:40



Feature 308, looking west



Feature 307, looking north-west

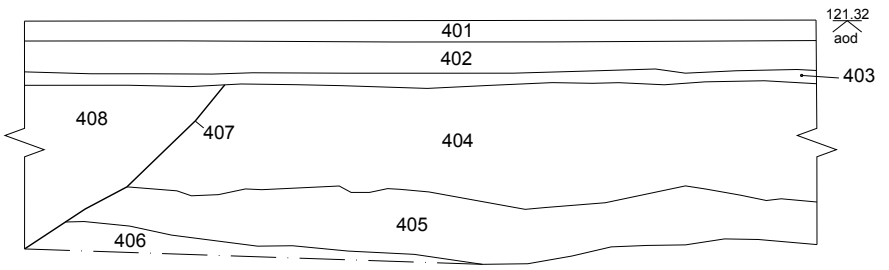


Trench 4 plan 1:100



North

South



Trench 4 section showing feature 407, east facing 1:40



Trench 4, looking north-east



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Concrete

Date:	August 2012	Revision Number:	1.0
Scale:	As described	Illustrator:	CB
Path:	Y:\Projects\85940_Brierly Hill\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\2012-07-31		



Plate 1: Stoneware from pottery dump 411.



Plate 2: Flat-based saggars 314.



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