

HERITAGE NETWORK



GT. CHESTERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
School Lane, Great Chesterford, Essex

(HN439 / GC40)

Archaeological Assessment Report



THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

Registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists as an Archaeological Organisation

Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

GREAT CHESTERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL **School Street, Great Chesterford, Essex**

HN439

Archaeological Assessment Report

Prepared on behalf of the Governors of Great Chesterford C of E Primary School

by

Chris Turner, BSc

Report No.211

November 2003

© The Heritage Network Ltd

12 ROYSTON ROAD, BALDOCK, HERTS. SG7 6NT
TELEPHONE: (01462) 893288 FAX: (01462) 893562

Contents

	Summary	Page i
Section 1	Introduction	Page 1
Section 2	Site Background	Page 2
Section 3	Methods statement.....	Page 3
Section 4	Collected Data	Page 4
Section 5	Artefact Assemblage	Page 7
Section 6	Ecofact Assemblage	Page 10
Section 7	Further Work	Page 12
Section 8	Bibliography.....	Page 14
Section 9	Illustrations.....	following Page 14
Appendix	Context Descriptions	Page 15

The cover photo shows a general view of the site from the north-west

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Karin Semmelmann, Chris Turner, Geoff Saunders, Mark Winter, David Kaye, and Tom Burns under the supervision of Chris Turner. Chris Turner and Karin Semmelmann prepared the illustrations, Helen Ashworth carried out the finds identification and the report was edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to the Head Teacher and staff of Great Chesterford Primary School; Clive Bareham, Bareham Overy Partnership; and the Heritage Management, Advice, and Promotion Group, Essex County Council, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	Great Chesterford Primary School, School Street, Great Chesterford		
County:	Essex	District:	Uttlesford
Village/town:	Great Chesterford	Parish:	Great Chesterford
Planning reference:	UTT/0527/03/FUL	NGR:	TL 5076 4283
Client name and address:	Governors of Great Chesterford C of E Primary School		
Nature of work:	New Classroom	Previous land use:	Overgrown garden
Size of affected area:	c. 60m ²	Size of area investigated:	c. 60m ²
Site Code:	GC40	Other reference:	HN439
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Type of work:	Excavation	Curating museum:	Saffron Walden
Start of work	21/08/2003	Finish of work	16/09/2003
Related SMR Nos.:	n/a	Periods represented:	Roman / Post medieval
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Synopsis: In response to a condition on the planning permission for the construction of a new classroom at Great Chesterford C of E Primary School, School Street, Great Chesterford, Essex, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the Governors of the school to excavate the footprint of the proposed new building.

Part of the site had been built up by approximately 0.65m over the original topsoil. Beneath the overburden, at least seven roughly cut intercutting quarry pits were identified, extending eastwards, beyond the study area. The deepest of these was bottomed 2.40m below the original ground surface. The nature of the numerous fills within these features suggests that the extraction process was piecemeal. The pottery evidence indicates that most of the quarry was backfilled during the 1st to 2nd centuries AD, and was then sealed by an upper fill dating to the early - middle 2nd century.

1 Introduction

- 1.1** This report was prepared on behalf of the Governors of Great Chesterford C of E Primary School, as an assessment of the archaeological excavation in advance of development works in the grounds of Great Chesterford Primary School, School Street, Great Chesterford, Essex.
- 1.2** The investigation was a requirement of the planning consent for the development, in accordance with the provisions set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note No.16 (PPG16) on Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990). The scope of the works was defined in an Archaeological Brief prepared by the *Heritage Management, Advice and Promotion Group* (HAMP) of Essex County Council (ref. RH 04/07/03), acting as advisors to the local planning authority, Uttlesford District Council (UDC) (planning ref. UTT/0527/03).
- 1.3** The school is located in the core of the medieval town, approximately 150m ENE of the Parish Church of All Saints. The development proposes the construction of a new classroom, measuring 6 x 11m in plan, adjacent to the northeast corner of the existing buildings (centred on NGR TL 5076 4283). The site was previously occupied by an enclosed garden.
- 1.4** The present site is bisected by a NW-SE aligned flint wall, and has been landscaped to provide a pond in the northeastern corner and a mixture of paved and planted areas.
- 1.5** The aim of this project has been to investigate and record all archaeological features and deposits on the site, mitigating their destruction during the construction of the new classroom by ensuring their *preservation by record*. Evidence of Roman structures, burials and deposits, and evidence of Saxon and Medieval occupation have been considered to be of particular interest.

2 Site Background

GEO-TECHNICAL

- 2.1 Great Chesterford lies on the northern edge of the Chiltern Hills, at the northern end of a gap formed by the River Cam, or Granta, which would have formed an obvious north - south route through the hills. The village is situated where the Icknield Way crosses the River Cam.
- 2.2 The site lies at approximately 39m OD, with the natural ground surface gently sloping down to the south.
- 2.3 The geology of the area consists of chalk, and yellowish brown sandy gravels.

PREVIOUS WORK

- 2.4 The site lies to the east of the Scheduled Ancient Monument which defines the walled Roman town at Great Chesterford (SAM 24871) but is still considered to be within an archaeologically sensitive area. Evidence of Roman extra-mural occupation has been recorded on either side of South Street, within 100m to the southeast and on the eastern side of Newmarket Road, approximately 200m to the west. In addition, the school lies 150m to the north east of the parish church, where Iron Age artefacts, including pottery have been recovered.
- 2.5 The present churchyard occupies the eastern corner of a possible secondary walled enclosure to the southwest of the main Roman town. Excavations in 1986 recorded evidence of substantial wall foundations at Mill Cottage and it appears that the northern wall to the churchyard stands on substantial Roman foundations (Medlycott, 1999, p.13).
- 2.6 Excavations in the grounds of Chesterford House, 500m to the east of the site, have indicated the survival of extensive archaeological deposits, including human burials, pits and evidence of timber and masonry structures. The evidence suggests that this occupation area extends into the vicinity of the present site (HAMP, 2003).
- 2.7 Work started on the present school building in 1844, with the filling in of a pond on the site, and was finished in 1849 (CDLHAS, 2000, p.32). At that time the school consisted of two rooms, the big schoolroom (now the hall) and one other (now the kitchen). Further additions to the main school building, including new classrooms, were constructed in the 20th century (ibid, p.42).

3 Methods Statement

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation, in consultation with the Heritage Advice, Management and Promotion Team (HAMP) of Essex County Council.
- 3.2 In total an area measuring approximately 60m² was stripped. The overburden was removed, under close archaeological supervision, by a JCB machine fitted with a toothless bucket. A flint wall that crossed the southern end of the site was reduced to its footings. Spoil was scanned for unstratified artefacts.
- 3.3 Once the presence of an archaeological horizon had been established, the western baulk was machined down to provide a step, and spoil was removed from the immediate area, creating a safe working environment for hand excavation.
- 3.4 All features were systematically investigated and recorded using appropriate *pro forma* record sheets, hand drawn scaled plans, and photographs. The site was surveyed using an electronic theodolite, and the data introduced into CAD software to produce an overall site plan.

POST-EXCAVATION

- 3.5 Following current professional practice, the post-excavation stage of the present project has been divided between Archive and Assessment, and Post-Excavation Analysis and Publication.

Archive

- 3.6 The site archive, comprising of the excavation records and materials recovered, have been quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. A Harris Matrix has been compiled, together with an overall site summary, and a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.
- 3.7 The archive will be prepared in accordance with UKIC guidelines for deposition at Saffron Walden Museum.

Artefacts

- 3.8 Where appropriate, bulk finds such as pottery and ceramic building material have been carefully washed in clean water to remove the soil, and quantified. All pottery has been marked with the site code and context number.

Ecofacts

- 3.9 The ecofacts recovered from the present site consist of animal bone and marine shell. These have been cleaned and quantified as bulk artefacts. No bulk samples were taken during this excavation.

4 Collected Data

QUANTIFICATION

Documentary Archive

- 4.1 The documentary archive incorporates the written, drawn and photographic records for the excavation on the present site. The various elements of the documentary archive are quantified below:

Record Type	Quantity
Contexts records	65
Context register sheets	2
Sample sheets	0
Level sheets	2
Plans	3
Sections	10
Black & White Photographs	37
Colour Transparencies	49

Table 1: Documentary Archive

Material Archive

- 4.2 The material archive incorporates the artefacts, faunal remains and environmental samples collected during the excavation, including both stratified and unstratified material. The various elements of the material archive are quantified below:

Material Type	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	35	222
Animal Bone	68	690
Oyster Shell	3	10
Flint	5	30
Fe objects	2	205
CBM	3	110

Table 2: Material Archive

STRATIGRAPHY AND SITE PHASING

Context types

- 4.3 A total of 65 contexts were recorded from 24 features investigated.

Feature Type	Number	Sections
Quarry	7	3
Wall	1	-
Layers	15	2
Other linears (gullies)	1	1
TOTAL	24	6

Table 3: Context Types

Context Groups

4.4 One context group was established during post-excavation analysis.

Group No.	Group Type	Excavated sections	Date
46	Quarry	7	1 st - 2 nd Century AD
TOTAL		7	

Table 4: Context Groups

Phasing

4.5 The preliminary dating of the artefacts recovered from defined contexts suggests three phases of activity on the site. The first phase represents the excavation of the quarry during the 1st/ 2nd century AD. Phase 2 represents its gradual backfilling during the 2nd century AD and Phase 3 represents 19th and 20th century landscaping on the site, which may have removed any evidence of post-Roman archaeological features and deposits.

SITE NARRATIVE

4.6 Clearly there has been some extensive landscaping of the present site as the school expanded in the late 19th and 20th centuries. The enclosed garden area and the associated ground had been built up by 0.65m directly over the original topsoil layer, lifting the modern pond and garden features above any archaeological deposits.

4.7 The flint wall [12], which crossed the southern end of the site on an east-west alignment, sits on a consolidated mortar footing [13] in footing trench [14]. This wall was part of the original school building, and can be identified on the 1874 OS plan of the village.

4.8 A large quarry occupied almost half of the total area machined. The exposed area measured 6m in length, over 4m in width and with a maximum depth of 2.40m below the present day surface. It appears to have consisted of over seven roughly cut pits and continued beyond the eastern edge of the excavation trench. The number of pits, and the nature of their numerous fills, suggests that that the extraction process was piecemeal. It was probably excavated to exploit any of the underlying deposits of sand, flint and chalk. All of these resources were desirable as construction materials in the Roman period.

4.9 The quarry appears to have been excavated in the late 1st and early 2nd centuries AD, before being backfilled during the later 2nd or early 3rd century AD. A single upper fill, context (40), which contained pottery dating to the mid 2nd century AD, sealed all the pits.

4.10 There was extensive disruption of the quarry edges by animal burrows and root activity. No evidence of any re-use of the quarry area was identified during the present excavation.

- 4.11** In the southwest corner of the quarry a possible gully [31] cut into the chalk. The gully was aligned east-west and measured c.0.50m wide, and c.0.30m deep. This feature may be the result of natural undulations of the chalk or a possible attempt to provide drainage for the quarry. The single sandy fill (32) contained no datable artefacts.
- 4.12** No burials or archaeological evidence of occupation, Roman or later, were observed on the site. The only other datable finds present were unstratified modern artefacts, dating to the modern landscaping phase.

5 Artefact Assemblage

FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	Pottery		Cbm		Daub		Fe Object		Flint	
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
11	5	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	2	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	5	31	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52	6	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57	6	20	-	-	-	-	1	5	1	5
60	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	25
U/s	5	25	3	110	-	-	1	200	-	-
TOTAL	35	222	3	110	1	3	2	205	5	30

Table 5: Finds concordance

POTTERY

Introduction

4.13 A total of 35 sherds of pottery, weighing 222g, were recovered from 1 unstratified and 8 stratified contexts on the present site. Most of the assemblage was in the form of small, abraded and undiagnostic sherds. With the possible exception of the 6 sherds collected from context (52), the condition of this material suggests that it is not in its place of primary deposition.

Chronology

4.14 The material ranged in date from 1 minute fragment of residual late Bronze Age/early Iron Age flint-tempered ware to 2 sherds of 18th century glazed ware, but the bulk of the pottery was Romano-British in date, with most diagnostic sherds dating to the 2nd century AD.

Discussion

4.15 All the Roman pottery collected was British in origin and the majority came from local or regional kiln sites, including Hadham and Verulamium in Hertfordshire and Harrold in Bedfordshire. The assemblage was dominated by coarse wares, including grey wares (6 sherds, 17.14% of the total number) shell-tempered wares (6 sherds, 17.14% of the total number) and oxidised wares (4 sherds, 11.42% of the total number). Only 3 grog-tempered sherds were present (8.57% of the total number) suggesting that the quarry backfill material came from areas not occupied in the Late pre-Roman Iron Age.

- 4.16 Fine wares were limited to 1 fragment of colour-coat, possibly representing a beaker from the Lower Nene Valley kilns, and 6 brown-glazed sherds in context (52), all from one vessel and possibly representing a bowl from a kiln site in the area of Staines in Surrey.

Discussion

- 4.17 The pottery from the present site appears to have been imported on to the site in material used to backfill the large quarry. It is possible that this material came from areas in, or close to, the Roman walled town and extra-mural occupation sites. Much of this assemblage appears to represent domestic material, which would again indicate an origin on a settlement site. The lack of late Roman, Saxon and later sherds would suggest that the backfilling of the quarry took place in the Roman period, probably at some point in the late 2nd or early 3rd century AD.

Recommendations

- 4.18 Given the fact that the bulk of this assemblage is likely to have been imported on to the site during backfilling of the quarry, and therefore that none of the sherds are *in situ*, no further work is proposed.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

- 4.19 A total of 3 pieces of tile, weighing 110g, were collected from 2 contexts, 1 stratified and 1 unstratified. The assemblage comprised one unidentifiable fragment from context (40) and two unstratified tile pieces, one of Romano-British date and one of post-medieval date.

Recommendations

- 4.20 As most of the tile is unstratified, and is likely to have been imported on to the site from elsewhere, no further work is proposed.

FLINT

- 4.21 A total of 5 flints, weighing 30g, were recovered from 2 stratified contexts. The assemblage consisted of 2 burnt flints from context (60) and 3 possible flakes of Bronze Age date, 1 from context (57) and 2 from context (60). The single fragment of prehistoric pottery from the site was also recovered from (60).

Recommendations

- 4.22 As this is a small assemblage, which is likely to have been imported on to the site during the Roman period, no further work is proposed.

IRON OBJECTS

- 4.23 Two iron objects, weighing 205g, were collected from 2 contexts, 1 stratified and 1 unstratified. The assemblage included the corroded remains of a nail shank from

context (57). Nails are common finds on Roman sites. A complete horseshoe, of probable post-medieval date, was collected from the overburden.

Recommendations

- 4.24** The small size of the assemblage, and the fact that it was undoubtedly imported on to the site, means that no further work on this material is proposed.

6 Ecofact Assemblage

FINDS CONCORDANCE

Context	A. Bone		Shell	
	No	Wt	No	Wt
11	-	-	-	-
17	47	330	1	10
23	1	15	-	-
27	-	-	-	-
40	2	10	-	-
49	4	30	-	-
52	-	-	-	-
53	1	2	-	-
55	1	3	-	-
57	3	25	4	2
60	-	-	-	-
U/s	8	260	-	-
TOTAL	68	690	5	12

Table 6: Ecofact Concordance

OYSTER SHELL

4.25 Three pieces of oyster shell, weighing 10g, were collected from 2 stratified contexts. Marine shell is a common find on Roman occupation sites and the small size and fragmentary nature of this material suggests that the present site was not used for the systematic dumping of domestic rubbish.

Recommendations

4.26 As this is a small assemblage, which is likely to have been imported on to the site during the Roman period, no further work is proposed.

SNAIL SHELL

4.27 Two snail shells, weighing 2g, were recovered from 1 stratified context. Both appear to be of the same species.

Recommendations

4.28 Snails can be used as environmental indicators, but since it is probable that these were imported on to the site in material used to backfill the quarry, they are more likely to represent the environment in their original context. No further work on this material is, therefore, proposed.

ANIMAL BONE

4.29 A total of 68 fragments of animal bone, weighing 690g, was collected from unstratified as well as 7 stratified contexts.

- 4.30** The assemblage consisted of the remains of pig (boar), cattle and sheep/goats. Although the condition of the material was generally good, the majority of the fragments were small in size and unidentifiable. There was evidence of crude butchery on the some of the shaft fragments. The species represented are not uncommon on Roman occupation sites.
- 4.31** The spatial distribution of the fragments is in keeping with a series of intermittent dump backfills. There was no clear area of concentration of animal remains, with the largest amount of material coming from unstratified contexts.

Recommendations

- 4.32** As with the pottery, this assemblage reflects the deposition of domestic rubbish as backfill in the quarry pits. The small size of this assemblage, and the fact that it has been imported onto the site in a series of dump layers, means that no further work is proposed on this material.

7 Further Work

ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

- 4.33 The original aims of the project, as defined in the approved Project Design dated August 2003, centred on the retrieval of evidence for Roman and Saxon occupation. It was felt that the present site had the potential to contribute to the wider issues of the development of a Roman ‘small town’ and the transition from the Roman to the Saxon period.
- 4.34 The assessment of the fieldwork results demonstrates that the information collected provides evidence of quarrying in the 1st – 2nd century AD in this area. Although no direct evidence for settlement on the site was recovered, the presence of the quarry pits does indicate the construction of buildings in the general vicinity during this period.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT

- 4.35 The construction of the new classroom will remove archaeological deposits that extend beyond the affected footprint, although some may be preserved below the impact levels. All the archaeological features and deposits within the footprint have been recorded in written, drawn and photographic form.

CONFIDENCE RATING

- 4.36 Despite encountering a significant depth of overburden and evidence of animal disturbance, the conditions affecting the visibility of the archaeology were generally acceptable. There were no circumstances that would lead to a confidence rating for the work that was less than High.

UPDATED RESEARCH DESIGN

- 4.37 The assessment of the various classes of data from the present project demonstrates that the original research aims have been adequately met within the limitations of that data, and that no further research is required prior to publication and deposition of the archive.
- 4.38 The results obtained from the project are, however, considered to have the potential to contribute to future study of the organisation, spatial distribution and lifespan of quarries at this period and hence to a wider understanding of the industrial economy of the Roman town.

PUBLICATION

- 4.39 A summary of the results of the present project will be submitted to Essex Archaeology and History. No more detailed publication is considered necessary.

ARCHIVE

- 4.40** The Heritage Network Ltd currently holds the documentary and material archive at its premises at 12 Royston Road, Baldock. In its final form, the archive will conform to UKIC guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage. All post-excavation documentation will be filed, ordered, and indexed as part of the research archive.
- 4.41** The documentary and material archive will be deposited with Saffron Walden Museum.

TASK LIST TO ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Task	Description	Undertaken by	Days
1	Preparation of publication text	David Hillelson, Heritage Network	3
2	Preparation of publication illustrations	Karin Semmelmann, Heritage Network	1
3	Final archive	Helen Ashworth, Heritage Network	4
4	Archive deposition	Helen Ashworth, Heritage Network	0.5
Total:			7.5

8 Bibliography

Brown, N & Glazebrook, J, 2000, *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the eastern counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology

Chesterford & District Local History and Archaeology Society, 2000, *Great Chesterford, A Brief History*

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects*

HAMP, 2003, *Great Chesterford C of E Primary School: Archaeological Brief*

Hillelson, D, 2002, *Great Chesterford C of E Primary School, Great Chesterford, Essex. Project Design: Archaeological Excavation*. Heritage Network.

Medlycott, M, 1999, *Great Chesterford Historic Town Project Assessment Report*. Essex County Council Archaeology Section

Thompson, I, 1982, *Grog-tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of South-eastern England*. BAR British Series 108

Tomber, R, and Dore, J, 1998, *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection*. MoLAS Monograph 2

9 Illustrations

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Site layout
Figure 3	Principal contexts
Figure 4	Site interpretation
Figure 5	Levels
Figure 6	West facing section
Figure 7	East facing section
Figure 8	Section through quarry
Figure 9	Feature sections
Figure 10	Harris Matrix

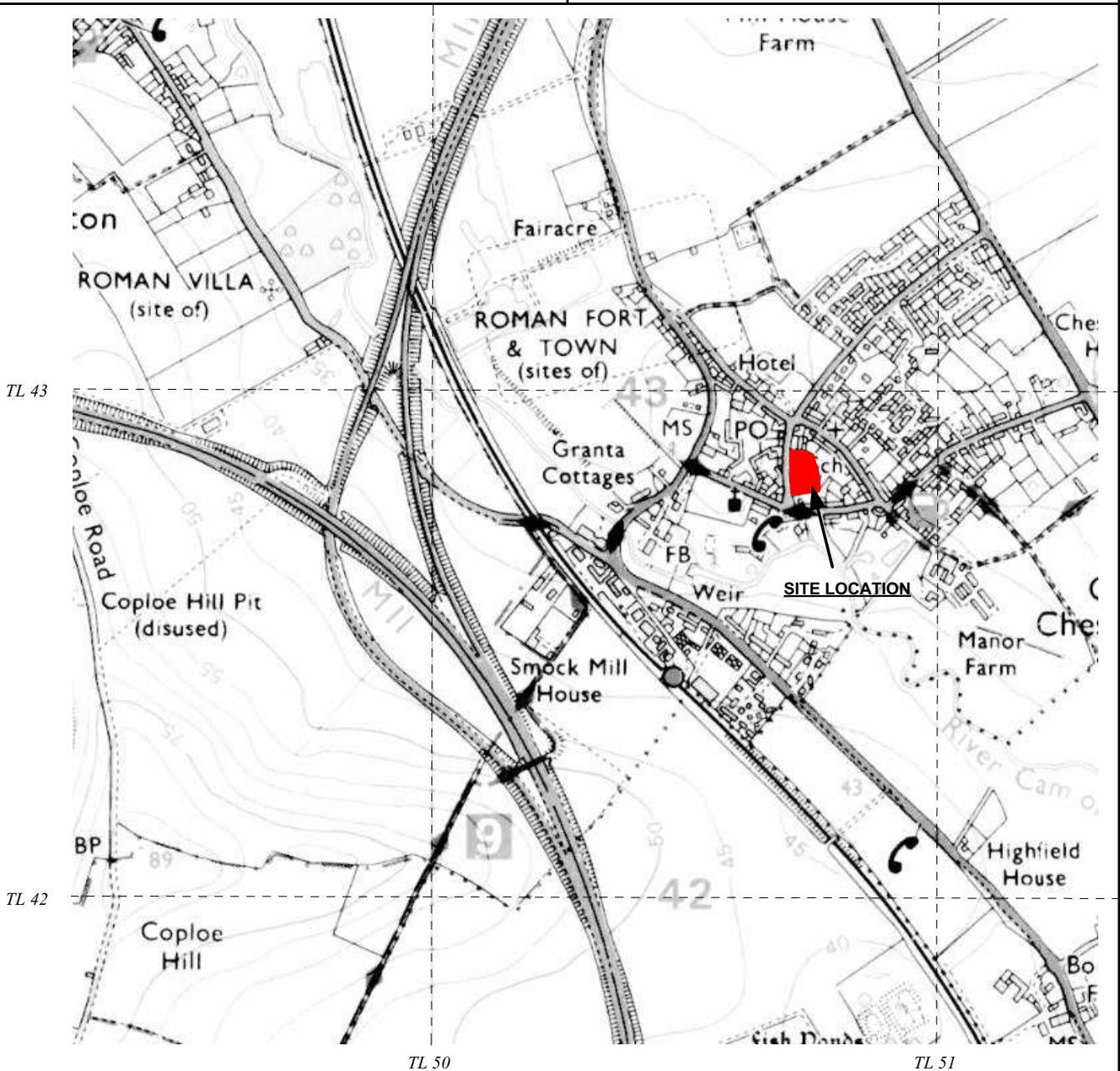
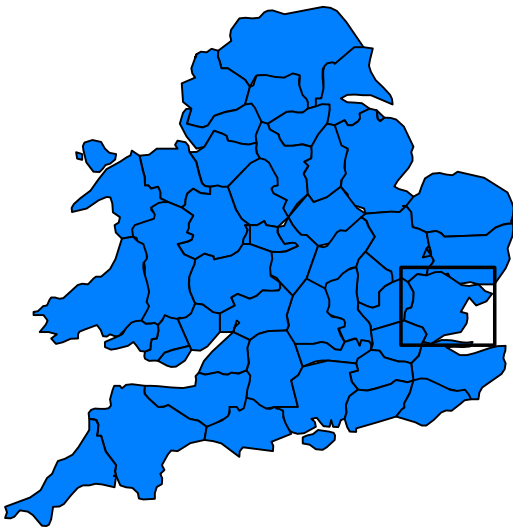
Appendix

Context Descriptions

No.	Type	Dimensions	Description	Interpretation	Date
1	Layer	Depth: 0.34m	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt. Moderate flint inclusions.	Topsoil south of wall [12]	Modern
2	Layer	Depth: 0.37m	Dark greyish brown (2.5 Y 4/2) sandy silt. Moderate flint inclusions.	Subsoil	
3	Layer	Depth: 0.26m	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions	Subsoil	
4	Layer	Depth: 0.34m+	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sand. Occasional flint.	Natural	-
5	Fill	Width: 0.60m; Depth: 0.72m	Yellow brown (10YR 6/6) sandy silt Moderate flint inclusions.	Fill of wall footing [14]	Post Med
6	Layer	Depth: 0.33m	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) silty sand. Frequent flints, CBM inclusions.	Topsoil north of wall [12]	Modern
7	Layer	Depth: 0.32m	Olive brown (2.5 Y4/3) sandy silt. Frequent flint inclusions	Subsoil	Modern
8	Layer	Depth: 0.28m	Light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) sandy silt. Very frequent chalk, CBM and flint inclusions	Built up layer	Modern
9	Layer	Depth: 0.33m	Very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) sandy silt. Moderate flint inclusions.	Original topsoil north of wall [12]	Modern
10	Layer	Depth: 0.56m	Dark greyish brown (2.5Y 4/2) sandy silt. Moderate flint inclusions.	Subsoil	
11	Layer	Depth: 0.80m +	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sand. Moderate flint inclusions.	Natural sand; fills of cut [34]	Intrusive C 1-2 nd AD
12	Wall	Height 1.70m; Width: 0.30m	Light mortar bonded flints. Aligned E-W garden boundary wall.	Flint wall	Post Med
13	Footing	Width: 0.40m; Depth: 0.56m	Concreted mortar base.	Structural footing for wall [12]	Post Med
14	Cut	Width: 0.60m; Depth: 0.72m	Steep sides, unclear on northern side	Cut for wall footing	Post Med
15	Cut	Length: c.1.8m; Depth 0.32m	Sub circular, with steep, slightly undercutting edge on the north side. Flatish base	Part of quarry cut	RB
16	Fill	Width: 0.69m; Depth: 0.20m	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty sand. Occasional flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill	RB
17	Fill	Width: 1.77m; Depth: 0.14m	Light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) sandy silt. Occasional flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill	RB
18	Fill	Width: 2.17m; Depth: 0.11m	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) silty sand. Moderate flint inclusions	Quarry backfill	RB
19	Cut	Width: 1.32m; Depth: 0.30m	Sub circular, concave sides, flat base	Re-cut into quarry backfill	RB
20	Fill	Width: 2.07m; Depth: 0.30m	Dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3) sandy silt. Moderate chalk inclusions.	Fill of re-cut [19]	RB
21	Cut	Width: 3.5m; Depth: 0.40m+	Sub circular, concave sides, irregular flat base	Part of quarry cut	RB
22	Fill	Width: 0.80m; Depth: 0.07m	Brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sandy silt. Occasional chalk fleck inclusions	Quarry backfill	RB
23	Fill	Width: 1.0m;	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty sand.	Quarry backfill	RB

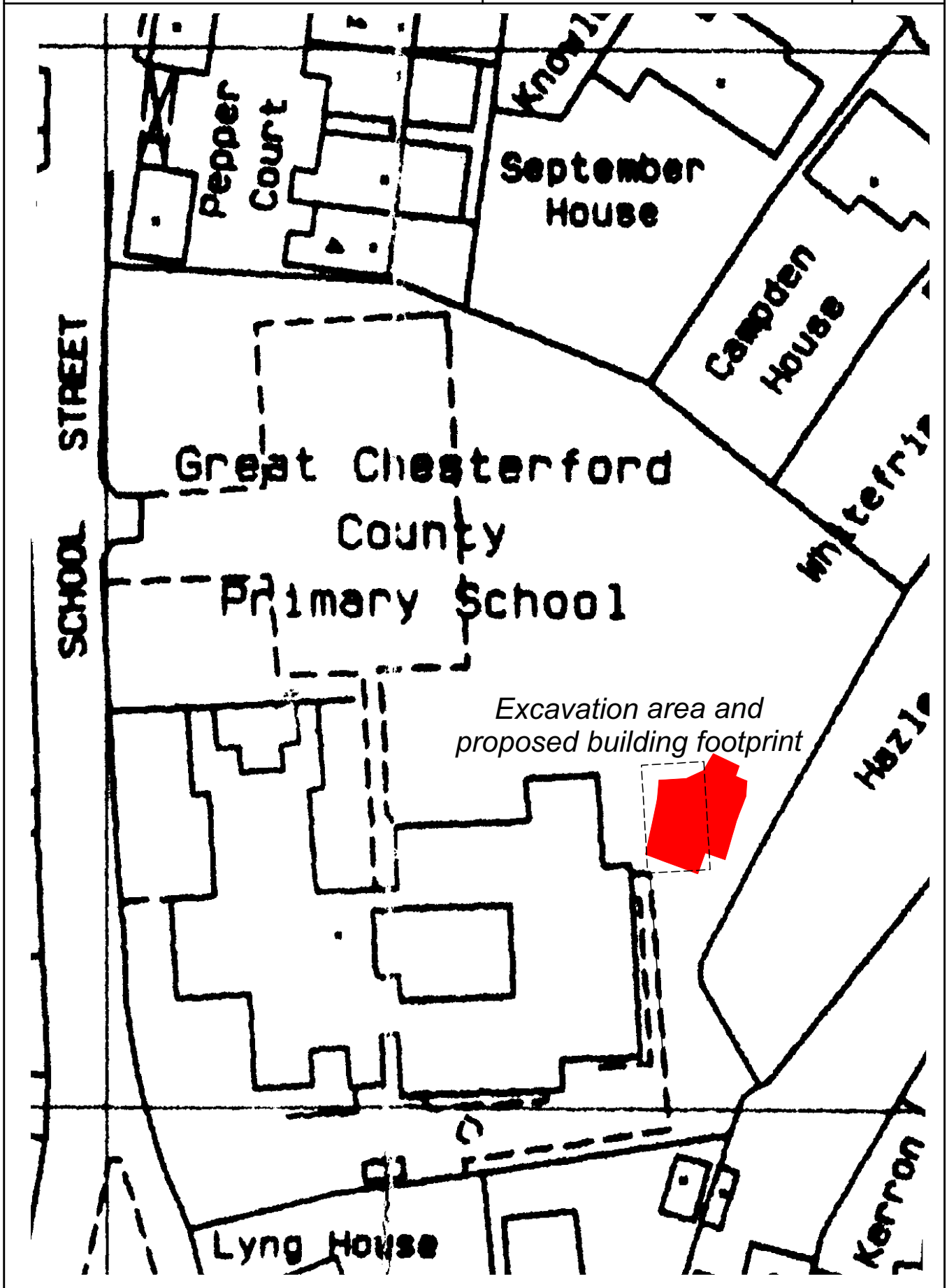
No.	Type	Dimensions	Description	Interpretation	Date
		Depth: 0.31m	Occasional flint inclusions.		
24	Cut	Dia: 0.54m; Depth: 0.20m	Sub circular, steep sides, flat base.	Poss. Pit cut into base of quarry	RB
25	Fill	Width: 0.50m; Depth: 0.15m	Dark brown (10YR 4/3) silty sand. Occasional chalk flecks inclusions.	Fill of pit [24]	RB
26	Fill	Width: 0.30m; Depth: 0.55m	Greyish brown (2.5Y 5/2) sandy silt. Occasional flint inclusions.	Fill of wall footing [14]	Post Med
27	Fill	Width: 0.64m; Depth: 0.44m	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand. Moderate flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill, fill of [28]	RB
28	Cut	Width: 0.64m; Depth: 0.28m	Steep sides, irregular concave sides and base	Part of quarry cut	RB
29	Fill	Width:0.54m; Depth: 0.04m	Pale white (7.5YR 8/1) decayed chalk.	Fill of pit [24]	RB
30	Fill	Width: 1.35m; Depth: 0.20m	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty sand. Occasional flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill	RB
31	Cut	Width: 0.78m; Depth: 0.32m	Aligned NE-SW, Irregular stepped sides, flat base.	Possible gully	Unknown
32	Fill	Width:0.78m; Depth:0.32m	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sand. Moderate flint inclusions.	Fill of gully [31]	Unknown
33	Layer	-	White (7.5YR 8/1) chalk	Chalk natural	-
34	Cut	Width:1.24m; Depth: 0.24m	Irregular in shape, sides and base	Natural/ animal cut	Unknown
35	Void	-	-	-	-
36	Void	-	-	-	-
37	Cut	Length:0.30m Width: 0.39m; Depth: 0.15m	Sub circular, 'U' shaped, irregular concave sides and base	animal burrow/ natural	Unknown
38	Fill	Width: 0.39m; Depth: 0.15m	Yellow brown (10YR 5/6) sand. Occasional flint inclusions.	Fill of animal burrow/ natural [37]	Unknown
39	Fill	Width: 3.90m; Depth: 0.20m	Grey brown (10YR 6/1) silty sand. Frequent chalk and flint inclusions	Top fill of quarry	Unknown
40	Fill	Width: 5m+; Depth: 0.50m	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) sandy silt. Occasional chalk and flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill	Early/mid C 2 nd AD
41	Fill	Width: 1m+; Depth: 0.30m	Dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy silt. Moderate flint inclusions.	Quarry backfill	RB
42	Layer	-	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sand. Occasional flint and chalk.	Natural	-
43	Layer	Width: 1.08m; Depth: 0.20m	Grey brown (10YR 6/1) silty sand. Frequent chalk and flint inclusions.	Landscape layer south of wall	Unknown
44	Layer	Width:1.20m; Depth:0.40m	Very dark grey brown (2.5Y 3/2) silty sand. Occasional chalk and flint inclusions.	Landscape layer south of wall	Unknown
45	Layer	Width: 0.20m; Depth: 0.68m	Yellow brown (10YR 5/4) sand and gravel. Frequent flint inclusions.	Landscape layer south of wall	Unknown
46	Group	-	Cuts [24]; [15]; [21]; [48]; [47]; [54]; [58]; [64];	Quarry	C 1-2 nd AD
47	Cut	Length: 1.03m; Width: 2.50m; Depth: 0.40m	Sub circular, steep sides and concave base.	Quarry cut	RB
48	Cut	Length:0.90m+ Width:0.45m+ Depth: 0.40m	Concave sides and flatish base	Southern edge of quarry	RB

No.	Type	Dimensions	Description	Interpretation	Date
49	Fill	Length: 2.5m Width: 1.03m Depth: 0.40m	Greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) sandy silt. Occasional chalk and flint inclusions.	Quarry Fill of [47]	RB
50	Fill	Width: 0.40m; Depth: 0.10m	Yellow brown (10YR 6/6) mixed silty chalk. Very occasional gravel inclusions	Quarry Fill of [47]	RB
51	Fill	Width: 0.90m; Depth: 0.06m	Mottled white and yellow brown (10YR 6/6) degraded chalk and sandy silt	Quarry backfill	RB
52	Fill	Width: 0.14m; Depth: 0.10m	Yellow brown (10YR 5/8) redeposited natural.	Quarry backfill	C 2 nd AD
53	Fill	Width: 0.85m; Depth: 0.35m	Yellow brown (10YR 4/4) silty sand. Frequent gravels and chalk inclusions.	Quarry fill of [48]	RB
54	Cut	Length: 1m +; Width: 0.94m+ Depth: 0.75m	Sub circular, concave sides, flatish base	Quarry cut	RB
55	Fill	Width: 0.65m+ Depth: 0.23m	Dark Yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) sandy silt. Occasional flint inclusions.	Quarry primary fill of [54]	RB
56	Fill	Width: 0.70m+ Depth: 0.13m	Yellow brown (10YR 5/6) sand. Frequent flint inclusions.	Secondary fill of [54]	RB
57	Fill	Width: 0.94m+ Depth: 0.39m	Dark grey brown (2.5YR 4/2) sandy silt. Occasional flint inclusions.	Upper fill of [54]	C1-2 nd C AD
58	Cut	Length: 0.7m+ Width: 0.85m+ Depth: 0.65m	Sub circular steep sides, irregular base	Quarry cut	RB
59	Fill	Width: 0.6m+ Depth: 0.13m	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty clay. Frequent chalk inclusions.	Quarry primary fill of [58]	RB
60	Fill	Width: 0.8m+ Depth: 0.6m	Dark greyish brown (2.5YR 4/2) sandy clay. Occasional flint inclusions.	Upper fill of [58]	C2/3 rd AD
61	Void	-	-	-	-
62	Void	-	-	-	-
63	Cut	Dia: 0.20m; Depth: 0.25m+	Sub circular animal burrows, on the western side of the quarry edge	Series of animal burrows.	Unknown
64	Cut	Length: 0.7m+ Width: 0.30m+ Depth: 0.20m+	Sub circular, concave sides, base not exposed.	Quarry cut	RB
65	Fill	Width: 0.30m+ Depth: 0.20m+	Dark grey brown (2.5YR 4/2) sandy clay. Occasional flint inclusions.	Fill of [64]	



Site Location

Scale 1:12500



Excavation area and proposed building footprint

Site Layout

Scale 1:500

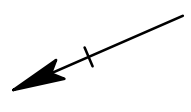
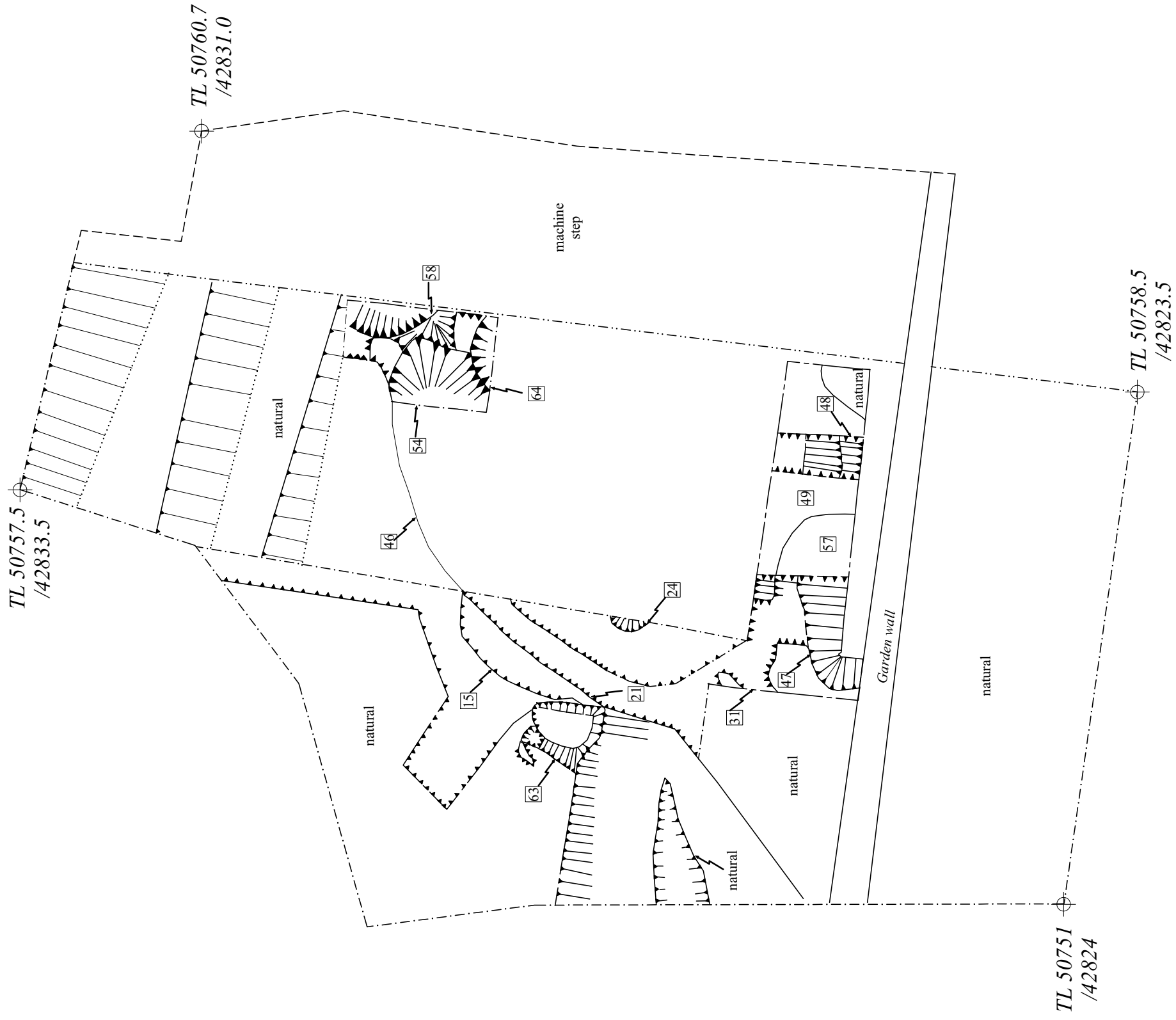
Figure 2



Gt. Chesterford Primary School

HN 439

Contexts



Scale 1: 50

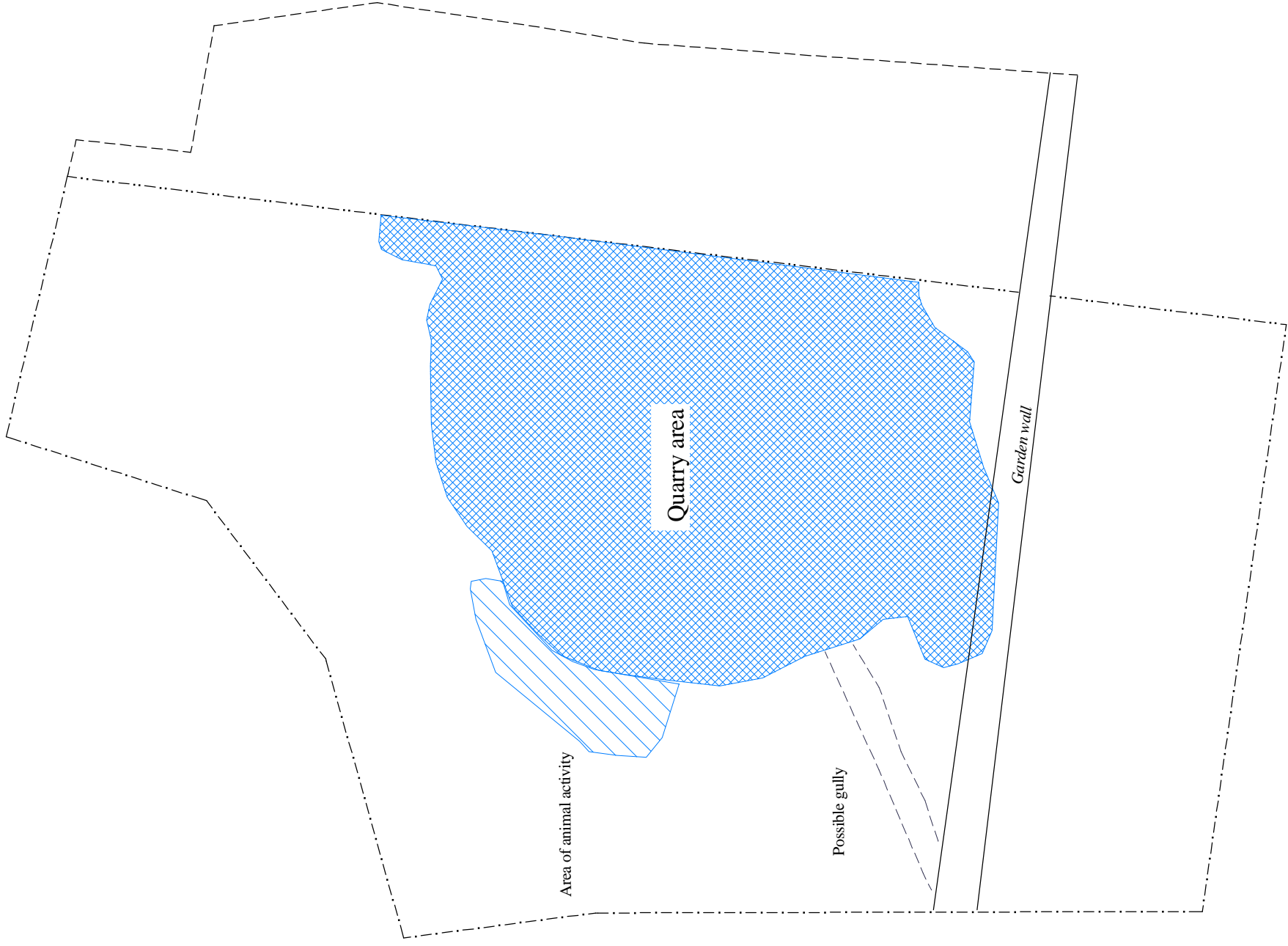
Figure 3



Gt. Chesterford Primary School

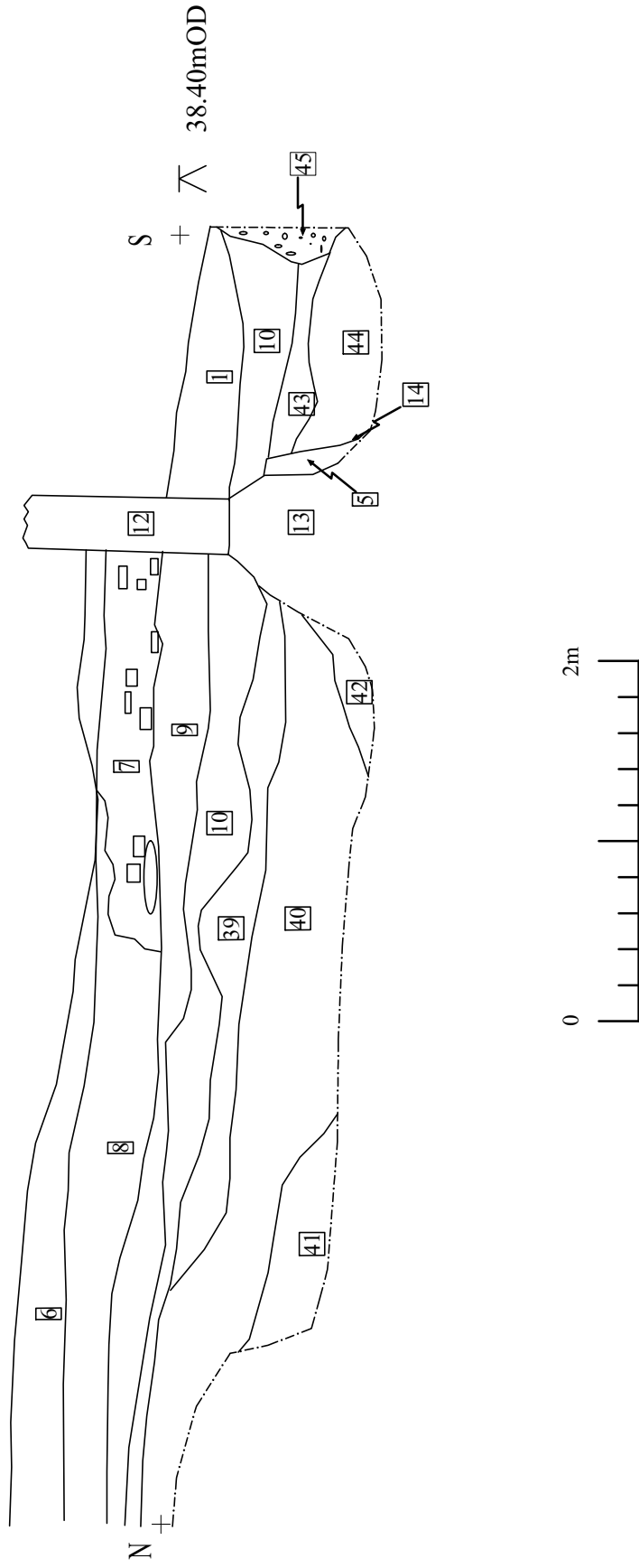
HN 439

Site Interpretation

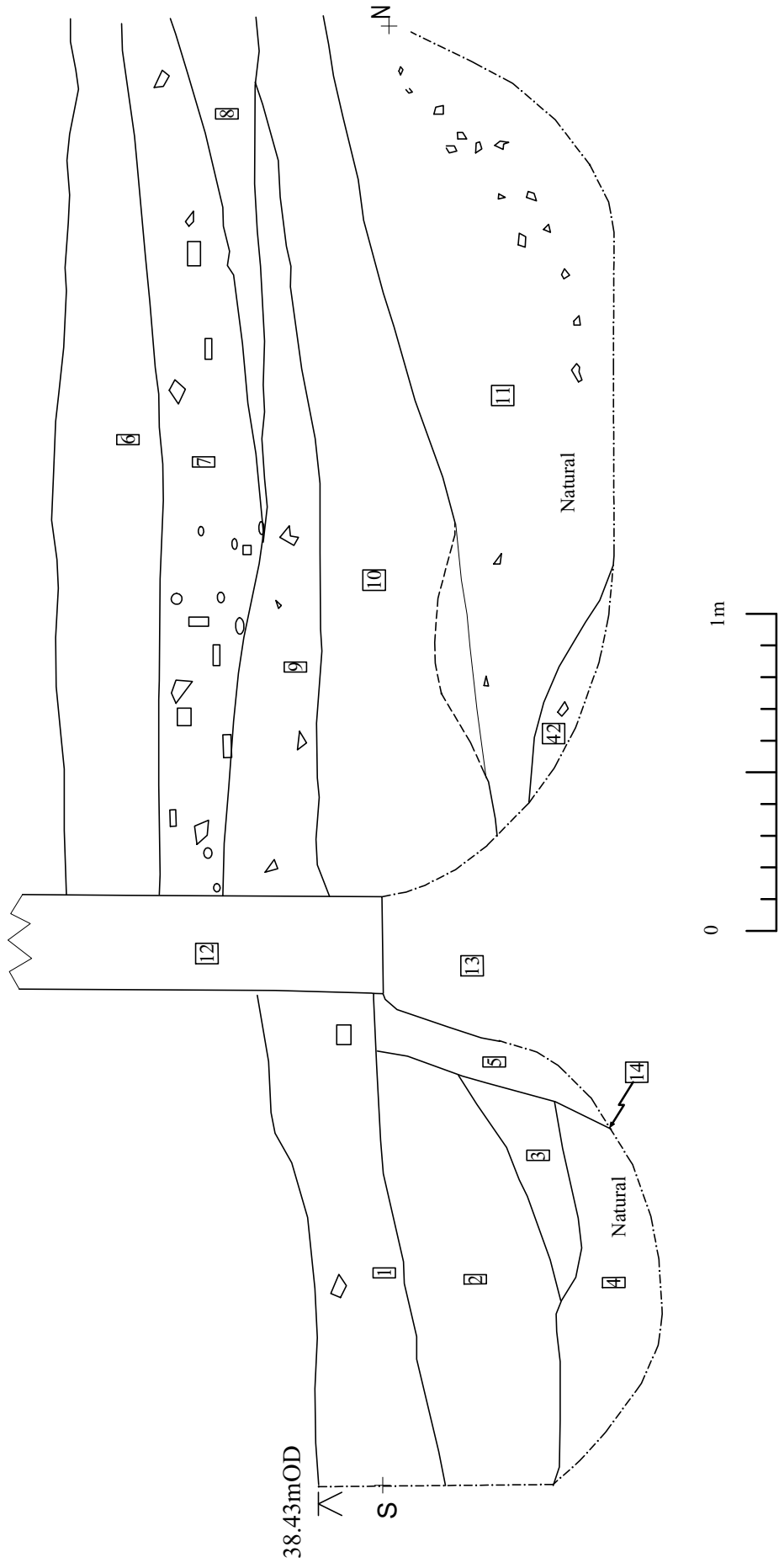


Scale 1: 50

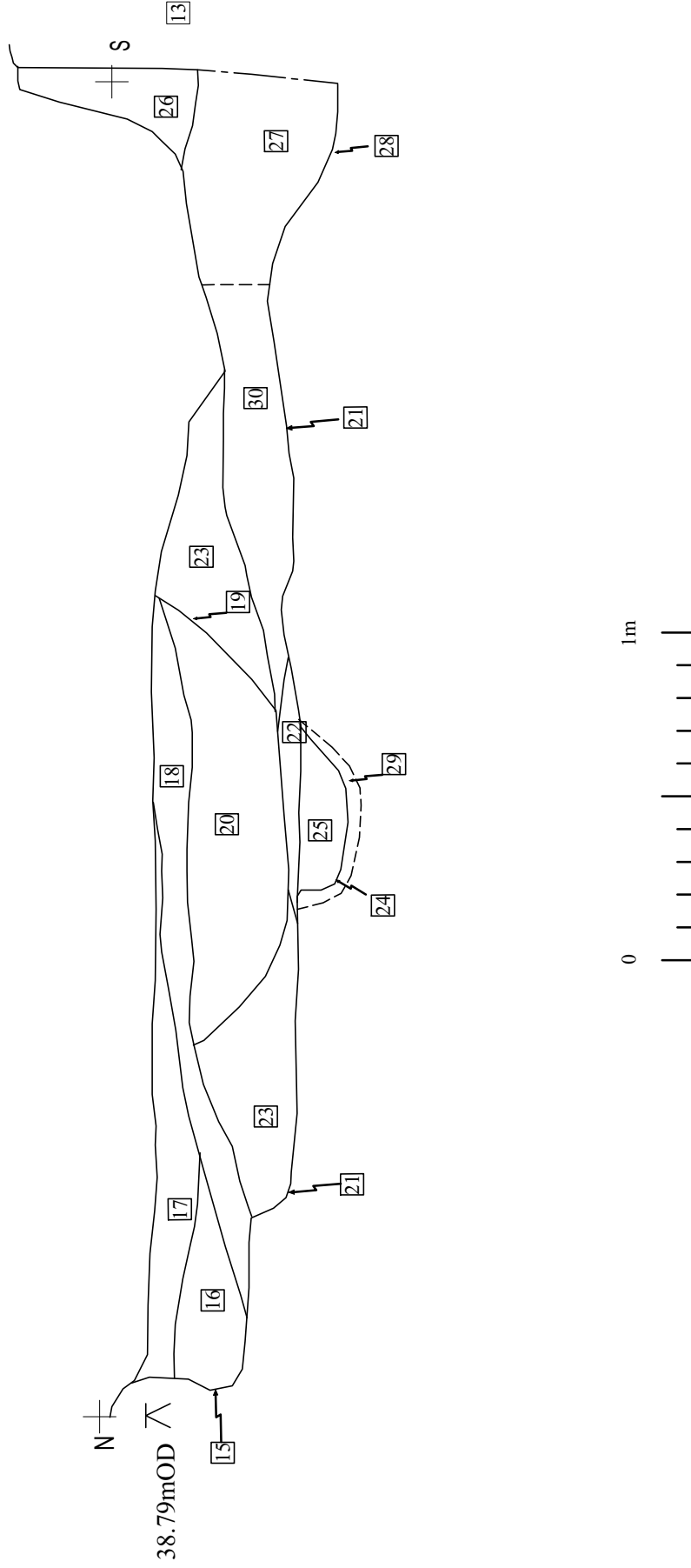
Figure 4



West facing section

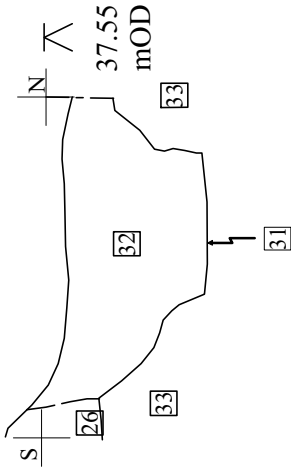


East facing section

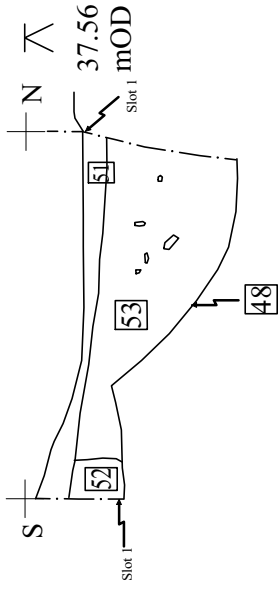


West facing quarry section

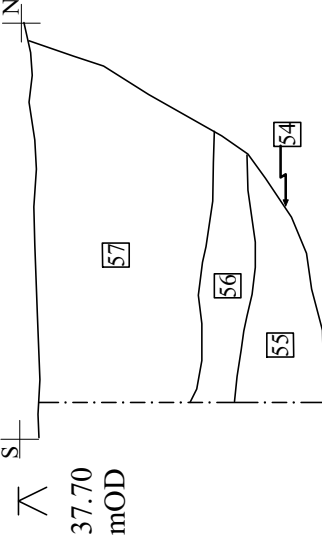
East facing section of feature 31



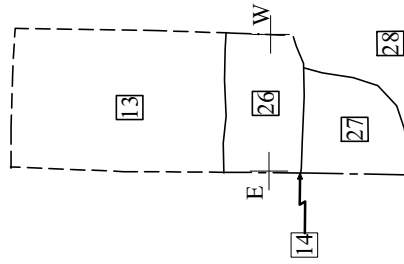
East facing section of feature 48



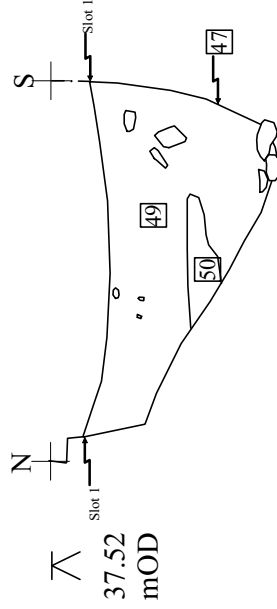
East facing section of feature 54



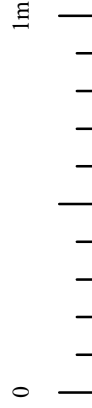
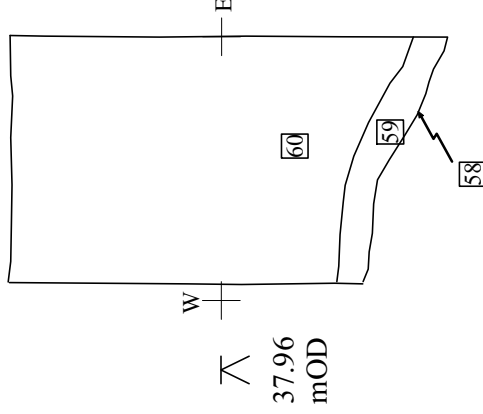
North facing section of feature 14

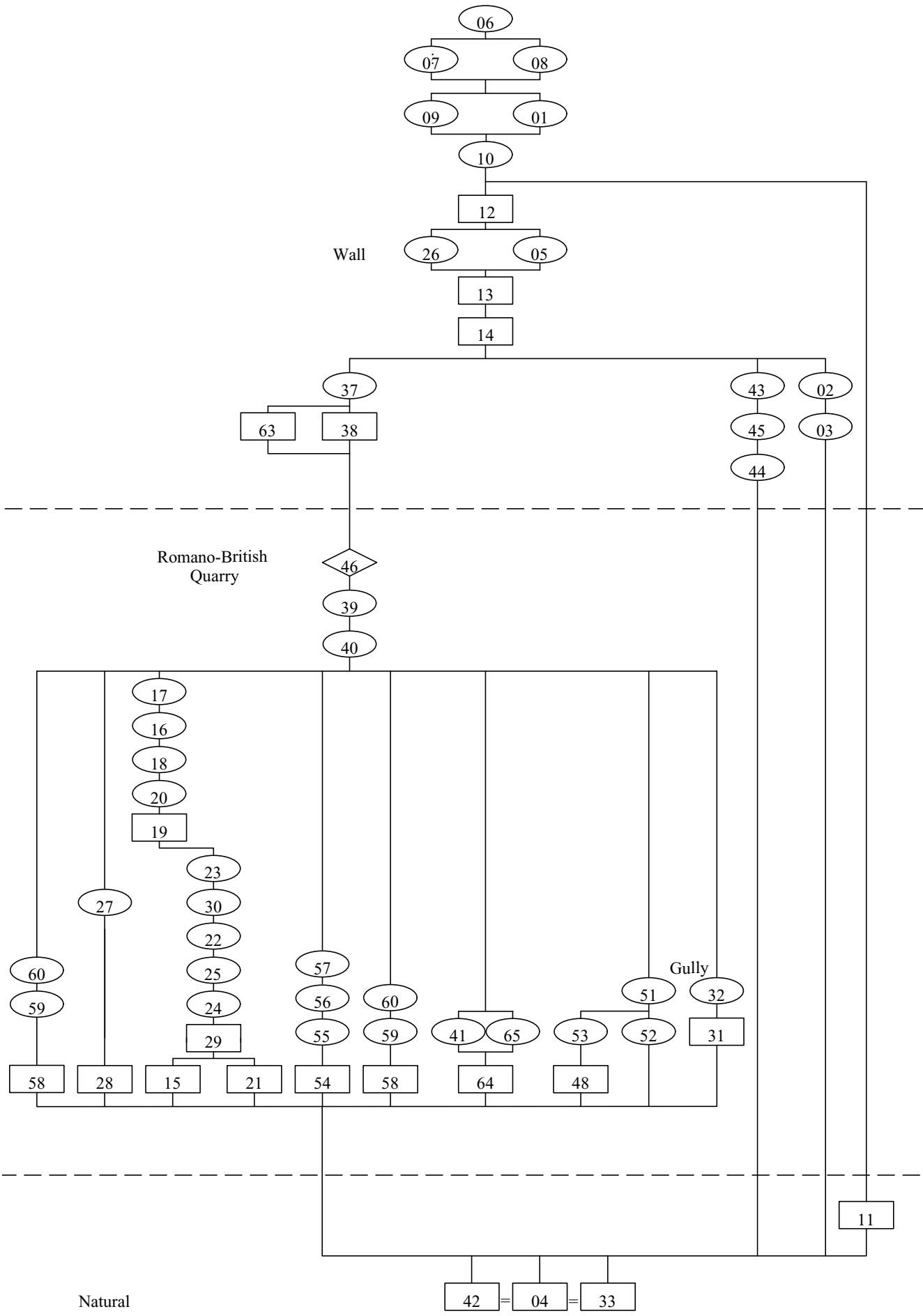


West facing section of feature 47



South facing section of feature 58





Harris Matrix

Figure 10