

**An
Archaeological Evaluation
at
Tower Street, Chichester
West Sussex**

NGR SU485920 104930

Site Code: TSC 08

ASE Project no. 3109

ASE Report no. 2008089

June 2008

Prepared by Giles Dawkes

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Abstract

Eight archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated by hand and machine between the 27th May and 6th June 2008 in the Tower Street car park, Chichester. The site was previously excavated in 1974 and the remains of a Roman bath house were identified amongst other findings. The masonry bath house remains were left in place after the 1974 excavation and were partially re-excavated in 1990 to evaluate the state of preservation.

The current evaluation sort to again assess the state of preservation of the bath house masonry and accurately locate the structures in advance of the redevelopment of the site. The redevelopment is a mixed-use scheme including a new museum, potentially displaying the bath house remains in situ. In addition, the evaluation sort to assess the archaeological potential of the rest of the site in particular the masonry cistern supplying water to the bath house and a Roman sewer, both of which were identified in 1974 (Down, 1978).

Trenches 2 and 4 identified the masonry remains of the cistern and the apsidal hypocaust room of the bath house (Room 1, Period 3, Period A in the 1974 excavation). The trenches provided enough information to spatially locate the rest of the archaeological features initially exposed in 1974. The bath house remains in Trench 4 were in relatively good condition and seem to have survived the repeated excavations with little structural damage. The cistern in Trench 2 had survived less well than the bath house and this had almost certainly suffered from the excavation of the internal fill in 1974.

Trench 5 was located in an area where the bath house walls survived only as robber trenches and no masonry remains were seen. However, masonry walls probably do survive in the near vicinity to the trench.

The Roman sewer was located in Trench 6, outside of the area of the 1974 excavation and was comparable in size and character to the portions excavated in 1974. The Roman sewer survives below the level of the natural at 11.60mOD in the north-west corner of the site and continues north-west beyond the site.

In this area other Roman and medieval negative features were recorded cut into natural, but the overlying later deposits had been removed, almost certainly by the construction of the existing car park in the 1970s. Similarly no archaeological deposits were identified in Trenches 1, 7 and 8 located in the car park perimeter bank.

Trench 3, located within the area of the 1974 excavation, did not identify any significant archaeological deposits, suggesting all features were excavated in 1974.

In conclusion, it is fair to suggest that only two areas have archaeological potential: the masonry structures in the south and west identified in 1974 and the negative features cut into natural to the north-west of the 1974 excavation area.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 The Environmental Samples**
- 7.0 Discussion**

References

Acknowledgements

SMR Summary Sheet

OASIS Form

Appendix 1: Bulk Finds Quantification

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1:** Site location
- Figure 2:** Trench location
- Figure 3:** Trench location (showing earlier excavations)
- Figure 4:** Plan of Trench 1
- Figure 5:** Plan of Trench 2
- Figure 6:** Plan of Trench 3
- Figure 7:** Plan of Trench 4
- Figure 8:** Plan of Trench 5
- Figure 9:** Plan of Trench 6
- Figure 10:** Sections of Roman sewer
- Figure 11:** Trench 2 Cistern wall 2/002 facing east
- Figure 12:** Trench 4 Masonry remains of the Bath House facing north
- Figure 13:** Trench 6 Roman sewer 6/006 facing north-west

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology of the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, were commissioned by Chichester District Council to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Tower Street Car Park, Tower Street, Chichester, West Sussex in advance of the redevelopment of the site.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey, (Drift Sheet 317) the site lies on valley gravels of the coastal plains, above clay deposits of brickearth.

1.2.2 The site is currently an operational car park and lies under tarmac. The site is split level. To the west the site is bounded by Tower Street, to the north by the road known as Woolstaplers and to the east by a Post Office exchange building. The site is bounded to the south by a department store. The east of the site serves as a vehicular access to both the car park and the department store delivery and collection access.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 Proposals for the redevelopment of the site include the construction of a public access Museum within the south of the site and residential units to the north. Previous excavations in 1974 revealed the remains of a Roman Bath House and the site clearly therefore lies in an archaeologically sensitive area. As a consequence, it was proposed that the site should be subject to an archaeological investigation by trial trench prior to the proposed works. The main aim of this stage of the investigation was to re-locate and expose elements of the Bath House in order to confirm the exact location.

1.3.1 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was submitted and approved by the consultant, Chris Pine of Archaeology Development Services and James Kenny of Chichester District Council (CDC).

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out between 27th May and 6th June 2008. The work was undertaken by Giles Dawkes, Louise Munns and Stephen Porter.

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1** A full archaeological background for the site has already been prepared and is not repeated here. Full details can be found in *Tower street Chichester Desk Based Assessment* (Gifford 2002) and *Chichester Excavations Volume 3* (Down 1978).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The general aim of the evaluation, as detailed in the WSI (ASE 2008), was to re-expose and accurately record the location of the archaeological remains known to exist on the site. Each trench was located with a specific objective in mind and these were as follows:

- **Trench 1 (Area A):** to confirm the presence, alignment and condition of the Roman Sewer that may lie in this area and allow for additional recording / sampling of this feature.
- **Trench 2 (Area B):** confirm status, condition and form of the cistern installation at this location and assess the level of preservation of remains that may be present in the centre and west of total site area to be assessed.
- **Trench 3 (Area C):** to allow the assessment of the general level of preservation in the centre of the site area.
- **Trenches 4 & 5 (Areas D & E):** to allow the assessment of the condition of the remains known to be present within this site area. In addition exposure will allow for the production of an accurate survey plan record of archaeological features exposed in detail.

3.1.2 Subsequent to the excavation of these five trenches and after on site discussions with Chris Pine (DAS) and James Kenny (CDC), it became apparent that a further three trenches were required to identify the sewer (Trench 6) and to evaluate the potential for survival of archaeological deposits in the north and west car park banks (Trenches 7 and 8).

3.1.3 The evaluation also sort to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions (particularly with reference to Trenches 1, 2 & 3) and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.

3.2 Fieldwork Methodology

3.2.1. The trenches were set out using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying to +/- 1cm accuracy.

3.2.2 The trenches were dug using a mechanical excavator. The trenches were excavated with a toothless grading bucket through undifferentiated topsoil and modern-made ground in spits of no more than 0.25m until the archaeological deposits were encountered, or the top of the underlying natural sediments reached (whichever was first). In Trench 4, the machine excavation stopped at the top of the sand backfill of the 1990 trench.

3.2.3 The trees in the vicinity of Trenches 1 and 2 in the west bank, were removed prior to excavation. The trench outlines were cut into the car park tarmac by road saw. The sides of Trenches 1 and 2, adjacent to the north and west

sides of the car park, were battered, by machine, into the bank. Elsewhere, trench sides were stepped in 1m for every 1m of depth by machine.

- 3.2.4 The car park was closed for the duration of the archaeological works and the site was enclosed with Heras fencing. Orange mesh fencing was be used to create a visible, physical barrier around the trenches.
- 3.2.5 A *Risk Assessment* was completed before the works were undertaken. All trenches were CAT scanned before excavation commenced.
- 3.2.6 The exposed archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section. During the evaluation, archaeological features/deposits were excavated enough to characterise them but full excavation was not be undertaken at this time, in accordance with the agreed WSI (ASE 2008). Bulk and column samples were taken from selected features, for example the Roman sewer.
- 3.2.7 Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 6 were backfilled and re-instated by a subcontractor.
- 3.2.8 Trenches 5, 7 and 8 were backfilled by machine in 300mm spits, which were compacted before further backfilling. The tarmac was not re-laid over Trench 5. No surface reinstatement was required in Trenches 7 and 8 as they were formerly grassed banks.
- 3.2.9 The Roman masonry *pilae* (stacks of square, thin tiles used to form hypocaust system) remains re-identified in Trench 4 were interred in the timber boxes installed after the 1990 evaluation with new timber boards and posts added where required. These boxes and the apsidal north wall of the bath house were then backfilled with sand by hand. The modern overburden was then backfilled by machine over the sand but was not compacted and the tarmac was not reinstated.

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 Trench 1 (Fig 4)

5.1.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1/001 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |
| 1/002 | Cut | Linear | 3m | 1.8m | 0.35m |
| 1/003 | Fill | Linear fill | 3m | 1.8m | 0.35m |
| 1/004 | Cut | Pit | 1.26m | 0.9m | N/A |
| 1/005 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.26m | 0.9m | N/A |
| 1/006 | Cut | Pit | 1.28m | 0.7m | N/A |
| 1/007 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.28m | 0.7m | N/A |
| 1/008 | Cut | Pit | 3.3m | 2m | 0.45m |
| 1/009 | Fill | Pit fill | 3.3m | 2m | 0.45m |
| 1/010 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 0.5m |

5.1.2 Summary

The top of the trench varied between the top of the perimeter bank at 13.48mOD and the car park tarmac at 12.3mOD. The trench measured 9m by 5.2m and 7.6m by 2.8m at base.

A series of modern features were recorded, some of which may have been former archaeological features fully excavated in 1974 and subsequently backfilled. Others were clearly machine dug and were cut through modern overburdened (1/010). The natural orange brown clay with gravel lenses (1/001) was seen at approximately 11.60mOD.

Linear [1/002] was cut into natural, aligned northwest-southeast and at least 3m long, 1.8m wide and 0.35m deep with straight sloping sides and a flat base. The fill was dark grey brown silt clay (1/003) with frequent rooting and finds of Roman and post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) fragments. This feature is likely to have been a feature excavated in 1974.

Subrectangular pit [1/004] was 1.26m long, 0.9m wide and was cut through modern overburden (1/010). The fill was dark grey silt clay with frequent modern CBM fragments (1/005). The pit was not excavated. This feature was apparently machine dug and may well relate to the formation of the existing car park.

Subrectangular pit [1/006] was 1.28m long, 0.7m wide and was cut through modern overburden (1/012). The pit was not excavated. The fill was dark grey silt clay with frequent modern CBM fragments (1/007). Like pit [1/004], this feature was apparently machine dug and may well relate to the formation of the existing car park.

Irregular cut [1/008] was at least 3.3m long, 2m wide and 0.45m deep with steep concave sides. The feature was not bottomed. The fill was light brown silt with modern CBM rubble (1/009). The feature was cut into natural and had been apparently been machine dug.

There was no evidence of the Roman sewer in the trench.

The trench was sealed by at least 0.5m of modern overburden (1/010) and the existing car park tarmac.

5.2 Trench 2 (Fig 5 and 11)

5.2.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 2/001 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |
| 2/002 | Masonry | Cistern wall | 2.66m | 0.66m | N/A |
| 2/003 | Cut | Construction cut | 2.66m | 0.66m | N/A |
| 2/004 | Cut | Pit | 1.95m | 0.65m | N/A |
| 2/005 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.95m | 0.65m | N/A |
| 2/006 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 0.6m |
| 2/007 | Fill | Modern backfill | 1.7m | 1.5m | N/A |

5.2.3 Summary

The top of the trench varied between the top of the perimeter bank at 13.78mOD and the car park tarmac at 12.10mOD. The top of the trench measured 7m by 5.9m and the base measured 4.5m by 5m.

The south-eastern portion of the Roman stone cistern was identified in the trench at 11.25mOD cut into the natural (2/001) orange brown clay with gravel lenses. The cistern survived as a split-stone rubble masonry wall (2/002) aligned approximately north-south. The wall was 0.62m wide and a 2.66m length was exposed. The northern end had apparently at least partially collapsed, almost certainly from the 1974 excavations. The wall was slightly curving at the south end towards a more north-east to south-west alignment. This is at odds with the square masonry feature recorded in 1974. The 1990 evaluation also noted this discrepancy. The wall was uncoursed and bonded in an off-white moderately soft coarse lime mortar. There was no evidence of the large squared greensand blocks or the tile-bonding courses recorded in the 1974 excavation. The wall was trench-built into construction cut [2/003] which was visible immediately adjacent to the outer edge of the wall. The cistern was backfilled with grey brown clay silt with modern CBM rubble (2/007), presumably after excavation in 1974.

Subrectangular pit [2/004] measured at least 0.65m wide and 1.95m long. The fill was dark grey brown silt clay (2/005) with frequent modern CBM fragments. The fill of this pit was clearly modern and therefore not excavated. This pit almost certainly represents a former archaeological feature excavated in 1974.

Sealing the features was modern overburden (2/006), at least 0.6m thick.

5.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 6)

5.3.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 3/001 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3/002 | Cut | Pit | 2.1m | - | 80mm |
| 3/003 | Fill | Pit fill | 2.1m | - | 80mm |
| 3/004 | Cut | Pit | 1.6m | - | N/A |
| 3/005 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.6m | - | N/A |
| 3/006 | Cut | Pit | 3.9m | 1.3m | 0.3m |
| 3/007 | Fill | Pit fill | 3.9m | 1.3m | 0.3m |
| 3/008 | Cut | Pit | 2.4m | 1.8m | N/A |
| 3/009 | Fill | Pit fill | 2.4m | 1.8m | N/A |
| 3/010 | Cut | Pit | 0.42m | 0.4m | N/A |
| 3/011 | Fill | Pit fill | 0.42m | 0.4m | N/A |
| 3/012 | Cut | Gully | 0.52m | 0.24m | N/A |
| 3/013 | Fill | Gully fill | 0.52m | 0.24m | N/A |
| 3/014 | Cut | Pit | 1.6m | 0.9m | 0.12m |
| 3/015 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.6m | 0.9m | 0.12m |
| 3/016 | Cut | Pit | 3.1m | 1m | 0.59m |
| 3/017 | Fill | Pit fill | 3.1m | 1m | 0.59m |
| 3/018 | Fill | Pit fill | 0.9m | 0.41m | 0.55m |
| 3/019 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 0.9m |

5.3.2 Summary

The top of the trench was at 12.1mOD and measured 6.4m by 9.1m and at base the trench measured 4.1m by 6m at approximately 11.50mOD.

A series of negative features were recorded cut into natural orange brown stiff clay with gravel lenses (3/001) seen at 11.50mOD. The fill of these features was mostly modern material, near identical to the 0.9m of modern overburden, (3/020), sealing the features. This suggests these features were former archaeological contexts fully excavated in 1974 and subsequently backfilled. These features clearly had stratigraphic relationships with the other features but these were no-longer identifiable. The only exception was pit [3/016] which had an archaeological fill, (3/018), still *in situ* and suggests the pit had been half-sectioned rather than fully excavated.

Subcircular pit [3/002] was up to 2.1m in diameter and 80mm deep with irregular concave sides and a flat base. The fill was mixed gravel, brown silt (3/003) with frequent modern ceramic building material (CBM) fragments. Cutting (3/003) was subcircular pit [3/004] at least 1.6m in diameter. This pit was not excavated but appeared to be a pit dug subsequent to the backfilling of the 1974 excavation. The fill was loose modern CBM rubble and mortar (3/005).

Irregular pit [3/006] was at least 3.9m long, 1.3m wide and 0.3m deep with near vertical sides. The fill was mixed loose gravel and grey brown silt (3/007) with Roman CBM fragments and plastic fragments. This pit was not bottomed.

Subcircular pit [3/008] was at least 2.4m long and 1.8m wide. The fill was mixed loose gravel and grey brown silt (3/009) with modern CBM fragments and plastic. The pit was not excavated.

Subrectangular pit [3/010] was at least 0.42m long and 0.4m wide. The fill was mixed loose gravel and grey brown silt (3/011) with finds of residual Roman and medieval CBM fragments, medieval and post-medieval pottery. The pit was not bottomed.

Gully [3/012] was aligned north-south and was at least 0.52m long and 0.24m wide. The fill was mixed loose gravel and grey brown silt (3/013) with modern CBM fragments. The gully was not excavated.

Subcircular pit [3/014] was 1.6m long, 0.9m wide and 0.12m deep with concave sides and a flat base. The fill was mixed loose gravel and brown silt (3/015) with modern CBM fragments. The pit was not excavated.

Subcircular pit [3/016] was at least 3.1m long, 1m wide and 0.59m deep with vertical and under-cutting sides and a flat base. The primary fill was an apparent archaeological deposit *in situ*. This was firm mottled light grey brown and dark grey clay silt (3/018) with moderate gravel. No finds were recovered from the fill. This fill presumably was left unexcavated as the other half of the pit was half-sectioned. Above the fill was mixed loose gravel and brown silt (3/017) with a single Roman box tile CBM fragment.

Sealing the trench was modern overburden (3/019) up to 0.9m thick and the car park tarmac.

5.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 7 and 12)

5.4.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 4/001 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 0.8m |
| 4/002 | Deposit | Sand | 4m | 2m | 1.3m |
| 4/003 | Masonry | Wall | 2m | 0.4m | 1.05m |
| 4/004 | Masonry | Floor | 4m | 2m | N/A |
| 4/005 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.2m | 0.2m | 0.35m |
| 4/006 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.3m | 0.27m | 0.4m |
| 4/007 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.2m | 0.2m | 0.75m |
| 4/008 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.7m | 0.2m | 0.5m |
| 4/009 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.34m | 0.27m | 0.4m |
| 4/010 | Masonry | <i>Pilae</i> | 0.2m | 0.2m | 0.3m |
| 4/011 | Masonry | Collapse | 0.84m | 0.39m | 0.19m |
| 4/012 | Masonry | Collapse | 0.7m | 0.25m | 0.2m |

5.4.2 Summary

The top of the trench was at 13.58mOD and measured 6m by 5.2m. The bottom of the trench was at 11.45mOD and measured 2m by 3.5m.

The trench exposed the masonry remains of the bath house found in 1974 and re-located in 1990. The remains had been protected with timber boxes and backfilled with builder's sand to depth of around 1.3m from the floor of the bath house.

The apsidal north wall of Room 1, Period 3A (Down 1978, 145) was identified curving east-west for 2.2m. Wall (4/003) survived up to a height of 1.05m above floor (4/004) and was at least 0.4m thick. The top of the wall was located at 12.50mOD. The internal face was heavily-sooted with what appeared to be mortar splatter, adhering in places, presumably from the subsequent nearby *pilae* construction. The rest of the wall seen was the brick core and the outer face was not exposed. The wall was built of stretcher-

coursed Roman brick bonded in a moderately soft off-white coarse lime. The bricks were on average 0.26m long, 40mm thick and at least 0.16m wide.

To the south of wall (4/004) a series of 6 *pilae* arranged in three rows were exposed. More *pilae* were in evident within the trench but it was deemed impractical to open all the timber boxes protecting the masonry.

All the *pilae* were built off a heavily-sooted *opus signinum* floor (4/004) and are described with the northernmost first. *Pilae* (4/010) was a vertical stack of at least seven 0.2m² *bassales* ceramic tiles standing at least 0.3m high. The tiles were a fairly uniform dark purple brown moderately coarse fabric. The upper three tiles were fragmentary and this *pilae* was numbered (28) in the 1990 evaluation.

Pilae (4/008) was partially covered with masonry collapse (4/012) and this *pilae* may have been two separate stacks or even a rectangular pier extending from the wall face. The *pilae* was at least 0.5m high, 0.7m long and 0.2m wide and possibly butted the internal face of wall (4/003). This *pilae* was numbered (25) in the 1990 evaluation. Masonry collapse (4/012) probably represents the remains of the *opus signinum* and ceramic tile floor supported above the *pilae*. The tiles were not *bessales* but larger and in a light orange brown fabric. These tiles measured at least 0.3m long, 0.19m wide and 45mm thick and the surfaces were not sooted. The *opus signinum* was pink and white with occasional gravel and CBM fragments.

Pilae (4/009) was a vertical stack of five 0.2m² *bassales* ceramic tiles standing 0.35m high. The bottom tile was a larger base tile measuring 0.34m by 0.27m and 40mm thick. This *pilae* was numbered (26) in the 1990 evaluation.

Pilae (4/006) was a vertical stack of seven 0.2m² *bassales* ceramic tiles standing at least 0.4m high. The bottom tile was a larger base tile measuring 0.3m by 0.27m and 40mm thick. This *pilae* was numbered (23) in the 1990 evaluation.

Overlying *pilae* (4/006) and (4/009) was masonry collapse (4/011). This collapse measured 0.84m long, 0.39m wide and 0.19m thick and comprised of *opus signinum* and fragmentary orange brown tiles, similar to (4/012).

Pilae (4/007) was a vertical stack of at least fifteen 0.2m² *bassales* ceramic tiles standing at least 0.75m high. The larger base tile was not visible but this known from the earlier investigations. This *pilae* was numbered (24) in the 1990 evaluation.

Pilae (4/005) was a vertical stack of at least five 0.2m² *bassales* ceramic tiles standing at least 0.35m high. The larger base tile was not visible but this known from the earlier investigations. This *pilae* was numbered (22) in the 1990 evaluation.

Sealing the masonry remains was builder's sand (4/002) up to 1.3m thick from the backfilling of the 1990 evaluation trench. Above was modern overburden (4/001) up to 0.8m thick.

5.5 Trench 5

5.5.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 5/001 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |
| 5/002 | Cut | Pit | 1.25m | 1.75m | 1m |
| 5/003 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.25m | 1.75m | 1m |
| 5/004 | Cut | Pit | 1.75m | 0.75m | 1m |
| 5/005 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.75m | 0.75m | 1m |
| 5/006 | Cut | Pit | 2.5m | 1.25m | 0.8m |
| 5/007 | Fill | Pit fill | 2.5m | 1.25m | 0.8m |
| 5/008 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 2.1m |

5.5.2 Summary

The trench had to be relocated slightly further west than originally intended to avoid blocking the access road. The top of the trench was located at 14.11mOD in the west, sloping gradually to 13.60mOD in the east. The top of the trench measured 10m by 6.2m and 1.75m by 3m at base.

The natural orange brown clay (5/001) with gravel lenses was encountered at 12.00mOD. The natural was cut by three large modern pits, all presumably machine dug. Pit [5/002] was at least 1.75m wide, 1.25m long and 1m deep and was filled with loose brown gravel silt with frequent modern CBM rubble and plastic (5/003). Pit [5/004] was at least 1.75m long, 0.75m wide and 1m deep and filled with loose brown gravel silt with frequent modern CBM rubble and plastic (5/005). Pit [5/006] was at least 2.5m long, 1.25m wide and 0.8m deep and filled with loose brown gravel silt with frequent modern CBM rubble (5/007).

Above the pits was modern overburden (5/008), largely undifferentiated from the pit fills and up to 2.1m thick.

No archaeological remains were present.

5.6 Trench 6 (Figs 9, 10 and 13)

5.6.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 6/001 | Deposit | Modern overburden | Tr. | Tr. | 0.7m |
| 6/002 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 2.95m | 0.5m |
| 6/003 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 0.6m | 0.1m |
| 6/004 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 2.07m | 0.31m |
| 6/005 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 1.3m | 0.7m |
| 6/006 | Cut | Sewer recut | 9.8m | 2.95m | 1.62m |
| 6/007 | Cut | Pit | Sondage | 2.95m | 1.01m |
| 6/008 | Fill | Pit fill | 1.3m | 0.48m | 0.62m |
| 6/009 | Cut | Pit | 1.3m | 0.48m | 0.62m |
| 6/010 | Cut | Pit | Sondage | 2.4m | 0.65m |
| 6/011 | Void | | | | |
| 6/012 | Fill | Sewer fill | Sondage | 0.81m | 0.17m |
| 6/013 | Fill | Sewer fill | Sondage | 1.45m | 0.66m |
| 6/014 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |
| 6/015 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 1.6m | 0.28m |

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|------------|---------|-------|-------|
| 6/016 | Fill | Pit fill | Sondage | 0.61m | 0.1m |
| 6/017 | Fill | Sewer fill | Sondage | 1.27m | 0.38m |
| 6/018 | Cut | Gully | 0.46m | 0.4m | 0.3m |
| 6/019 | Fill | Gully fill | 0.46m | 0.4m | 0.3m |
| 6/020 | Fill | Sewer fill | 1.5m | 3.25m | 0.28m |
| 6/021 | Cut | ?Sewer cut | 1.5m | 3.25m | 1.3m |
| 6/022 | Cut | Pit | 0.96m | 0.58m | 0.16m |
| 6/023 | Fill | Pit fill | 0.96m | 0.58m | 0.16m |
| 6/024 | Deposit | Layer | Tr. | Tr. | 0.14m |

5.6.2 Summary

The trench measured 11.1m by 3.3m and the top was located at 12.30mOD. Natural orange brown clay with gravel lenses (6/014) was seen at 11.60mOD. Overlying was an orange brown clay layer (6/024) with occasional brown silt mottling, charcoal flecking and CBM fragments. The layer was up to 0.14m thick and may have been the contaminated interface between the natural clay and the overlying archaeological stratigraphy.

Cutting (6/024) was subrectangular pit [6/022] measuring 0.96m long, 0.58m wide and 0.16m deep with steep regular sides and a flat base. The fill was friable burnt dark red clay (6/023) with occasional gravel inclusions. This fill had probably been dumped in still hot as the surrounding natural was heat-affected. There were no finds from the fill although fragments of burnt daub were recovered from layer (6/024) immediately adjacent to the pit. However, although no burnt daub was recovered from this fill, the burnt clay may originate from a burnt wattle and daub wall, in which the temperature was not high enough to sufficiently fire the clay.

Gully [6/018] was cut into (6/024) and aligned north to south with near vertical sides and a concave base. The fill was grey brown silt clay (6/019) with moderate gravel and finds of two sherds of Roman pottery. The gully was cut by the sewer but could have conceivably drained into an earlier phase.

Cutting the south side of gully [6/018] was sewer [6/006], (Fig 10), aligned north-west to south-east and seen for 9.8m.

A possible earlier sewer cut than [6/006] was visible. Cut [6/021] had been mostly truncated by [6/006] but portions of the sides were visible. The sides were steep and concave and at least 3.25m wide and 1.3m deep. The fill was brown grey silt clay with frequent gravel (6/020), up to 0.28m thick and at least some of this fill originated from the slumped natural.

Sewer recut [6/006] had regular V-shaped sides and a trenched drain at the base. The trenched drain was 0.39m wide and 0.48m deep with undercut sides and a flat base. There was no evidence for a lining. The primary fill was dark grey silt (6/013) with occasional gravel and chalk fragments with finds of pottery dating to AD150-300. Above was grey brown silt, (6/012), with occasional gravel and chalk fragments and finds of pottery dating to AD200-300. Above was dark brown grey silt (6/017) with frequent gravel.

Three medieval pits were identified cutting the Roman features. The extent of these features was difficult define and pits [6/010] and [6/007] were only identified in section.

Pit [6/010] cut (6/012) and had a steep, regular north side and a flat base. The fill was dark grey brown silt clay (6/005) with frequent rooting and finds of 11th-12th century pottery. The majority of this pit had been truncated by pit [6/007] which had a near vertical north side and a more gradual sloping south side. The primary fill was dark grey brown silt (6/015). Above, was grey brown silt, (6/016); grey brown silt clay (6/004) with finds of 11th-12th century pottery and residual Roman CBM; light brown sand clay (6/003) and dark grey silt clay (6/002) with frequent gravel and finds of mid/late 13th-mid/late 14th century pottery and tile, and residual Roman CBM.

Four column samples were taken through the sewer / medieval pit sequence (Column Sample Numbers 4, 5, 6 and 9).

Cutting the south side of pit [6/022] and sewer [6/006] was subrectangular pit [6/009] with steep concave sides and a flat base. The fill was grey brown clay silt (6/008) with moderate pebbles and occasional cobbles. The finds from this fill included mid/late 13th-mid/late 14th century pottery with residual 11th-13th century pottery and Roman CBM.

5.7 Trench 7

5.7.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 7/001 | Deposit | Natural | Tr. | Tr. | N/A |
| 7/002 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 0.3m |
| 7/003 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 0.8m |
| 7/004 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 1.2m |
| 7/005 | Cut | Construction cut | Tr. | 0.4m | 0.3m |
| 7/006 | Masonry | Modern wall | Tr. | 0.4m | 0.3m |

5.7.2 Summary

This trench was machine excavated to identify any surviving archaeological deposits in the car park perimeter west bank. The trench was 1m wide and 3m long.

The natural (7/001) was encountered at 11.60mOD and overlying was dumps of dark brown silt with modern CBM rubble (7/002) up to 0.3m thick. Above was dark brown silt with moderately modern CBM rubble, (7/003). Above was loose modern CBM rubble (7/004) up to 1.2m thick. Cutting (7/004) was construction cut [7/005] for modern red brick wall footing (7/006) aligned north to south parallel to Tower Street. No archaeological deposits were encountered.

No archaeological remains were identified.

5.8 Trench 8

5.8.1 List of recorded contexts

| Number | Type | Description | Max. Length | Max. Width | Max. Depth |
|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 8/001 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 0.2m |

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|-------------|-----|-----|------|
| 8/002 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 0.4m |
| 8/003 | Deposit | Modern dump | Tr. | Tr. | 0.8m |

5.8.2 Summary

This trench was machine excavated to identify any surviving archaeology in the car park perimeter north bank. The trench was 1m wide and 2m long.

The natural was not encountered. The lowest deposit identified was dark brown silt with modern CBM rubble (8/001) at 11.52mOD. Overlying was mortar dump (8/002) and topsoil (8/003).

No archaeological deposits were encountered.

6.0 THE FINDS

The evaluation produced a relatively small assemblage of finds. A summary table of these can be found in Appendix 1.

6.1 Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

6.1.1 A small Roman pottery assemblage of 113 sherds weighing 2.83kg, and amounting to 2.96 EVEs, was recovered from the evaluation. However, few of these sherds have been excavated from stratified Roman deposits. Despite this fact, most reflect activity of 3rd or 4th century activity and have probably been directly redeposited from stratified deposits of this date. Later 3rd to 4th century material was noted in the latest Roman phases of the 1972 excavations, probably reflecting the period when the baths and drainage system were going out of use (Down 1978, 152).

6.1.2 Rowlands Castle and Alice Holt grey-wares each make up about a quarter to a third of the assemblage. The Rowlands Castle wares include one sherd from a large cable rim jar with internal finger impressions and several examples of the tapered everted-rim jar form, typical of this industry. The latter type was almost exclusively recovered from 3rd century groups at Fishbourne (Cunliffe 1971, 237). There are several examples of BB1 dishes in the assemblage, which are also common in third century groups in Sussex.

6.1.3 The majority of the Alice Holt wares have lustrous grey, black or white slips, which tend to post-date AD270 (Lyne & Jeffries 1979, 35). The forms include a storage jar with incised decoration, dated to AD270-350 (Lyne and Jeffries 1979, form 4.44, fig 30, 44), as well as black-burnished ware derived bowl and jar forms.

6.1.4 A few examples of black-burnished related jar forms were also recorded in late Roman grog-tempered wares which post-date AD270. Romano-British fine-wares are only represented by a few sherds of Oxfordshire or similar red-slipped wares including a sherd with white painted decoration; these also probably date to the late 3rd or 4th centuries.

6.1.5 There are very few sherds that clearly pre-date the third century and most are central Gaulish (Lezoux) samian ware, dated to between AD120-200, including one sherd from a Dragendorff 30 bowl. There is also a single sherd of mid to late 1st century La Graufesenque samian. A bead and flange mortarium with sparse flint and quartzite grits over the flange is probably of a similar type to those discussed by Hartley in previous Chichester excavations under the heading 'Richborough No. 500 / Wroxeter 26-30'. This is an unsourced, possibly imported type which primarily dates to between AD80-125 (Hartley 1978, 248).

6.2 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

6.2.1 The evaluation produced a small but significant assemblage of medieval and post-medieval pottery. Sherd sizes vary from small (10mm across) to large (130mm across) but virtually all show very little signs of abrasion despite many obviously being residual in later contexts. The majority of the assemblage is of Saxo-Norman date, though the High medieval and post-medieval periods are also represented.

- 6.2.3 Probably the earliest sherd in the assemblage consists of a hand-made reduced cooking pot bodysherd in coarse flint tempered ware from (6/005). Close dating is not possible with certainty but a 10th- to early 12th- century date range is probable. The same context also produced three sherds from abundant flint and chalk tempered cooking pots of probable mid 11th- to 12th- century date. Similar fabrics were also recovered from (6/004) and were residual in (6/002) and (3/009). Context (6/008) contained 15 sherds of well fired oxidised cooking pots with sparse flint and chalk tempering. These sherds, which also contain sparse fine sand, include a cooking pot with simple flaring rim, a cooking pot with a beaded out-turned rim and a bodysherd with wavy combed line decoration. Although these sherds could be as early as the later 11th century their developed form and refined fabric suggests a mid 12th- to early 13th- century date is more likely. A similar vessel with beaded out-turned rim was residual in (6/002) and appeared alongside an earlier, more crudely made cooking pot with flaring rim.
- 6.2.4 The High medieval period is represented by only six sherds from (6/002). This context also contained at least nine residual Saxo-Norman sherds spanning the 11th to early 13th centuries. Both coarsewares and finewares are represented by the six High medieval sherds, which appear to span the 13th to mid 14th centuries. A bodysherd tempered with sand and sparse white flint is most probably from a Binsted cooking pot and there is another cooking pot tempered with just moderate medium sand. The remaining pieces are all from fine/medium sand tempered green glazed jugs of local manufacture. With the exception of a thumbled jug base no feature sherds are present.
- 6.2.5 The post-medieval pottery from the site all comes from (3/009), a context which obviously has a high residual element. This deposit contained a hard-fired oxidised sandy earthenware sherd with spots of glaze which is likely to be of 16th- to early 17th- century date. In addition four 17th- century green glazed whitewares were also recovered, probably deriving from the Crane Street kilns in Chichester, or the Graffham industry. The latest material consists of three late creamware sherds of probable later 18th- century date.

6.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Elke Raemen

- 6.3.1 A relatively large assemblage of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) has been recovered from eleven different contexts. Although all contexts contained Roman material, only four of these did not contain material from later periods ((3/007), (3/017), (6/012) and (6/013)) and may therefore be closed contexts. However, contexts (3/007) and (3/017) did not contain any pottery or other Roman material to affirm their dates.
- 6.3.2 A total of 26 tegula fragments were recovered from the site. Fragments are high fired with sparse fine sand-tempering. Inclusions consist of occasional iron oxides to 4 mm. Some contain in addition rare to occasional chalk inclusions to 4 mm, moderate quartz to 2 mm or occasional clay pellets to 2 mm. A piece from (6/002) has mortar adhering to the flanges and surface, which indicates re-use. Flanges can be measured at 37 to 54 mm high, with the thickness of the tile measuring between 20 and 30 mm thick.
- 6.3.3 Imbrices were represented as well, with a total of 23 pieces from five different contexts. Pieces are all high fired with sparse fine sand-tempering, some with occasional iron oxide inclusions to 2 mm.

- 6.3.4 Both criss-cross and wavy combing is represented amongst the 22 box flue tile fragments. A single piece from (6/002) exhibits roller stamp patterning. All fragments are high fired and tempered with sparse fine sand. Other inclusions consist of occasional clay pellets to 5 mm, occasional iron oxide inclusions to 2 mm or rare quartz to 2 mm. Rare chalk inclusions to 4 mm and rare crushed flint inclusions to 4 mm have been noted as well. A piece from (3/017) has a buff coloured mortar adhering to both faces, suggesting re-use. The thickness of the tiles ranges between 14 and 29 mm.
- 6.3.5 A total of 42 floor tile fragments has been recovered. Pieces are hard fired with sparse to medium fine sand-temper and occasional iron oxides to 2 mm. Other inclusions include rare crushed flint to 23 mm, rare chalk to 4 mm, occasional clay pellets to 4 mm and occasional quartz to 1 mm. Fragments measure between 29 and 56 mm thick. Two pieces from (6/004) and (6/012) exhibit mortar adhering to both surfaces, indicating re-use of the tile.
- 6.3.6 In addition, 79 pieces in similar fabrics can be identified as Roman tile fragments. However, pieces are too small to establish their shape or function. A further 75 small fragments of Roman date are unidentifiable of type.
- 6.3.7 Medieval ceramic building material is represented as well. Nine roof tile fragments of 13th- to 14th- century date were recovered from (6/002), (6/004) and (6/008). Fragments are high fired with sparse to medium fine sand-tempering as well as iron oxides to 1 mm and rare crushed flint to 13 mm. A single roof tile fragment of 14th- to 15th-century date, showing a partial round peg hole, has been recovered from (3/009). The piece is high fired with sparse fine sand-temper.
- 6.3.8 Three high fired, sparse fine sand-tempered pieces of late 17th to 18th century date were recovered from (3/009). One of these exhibits a diamond-shaped peg hole.
- 6.3.9 The earliest brick fragments were recovered from (3/009). One piece measures 50 mm high and 101 mm wide and is medium to high fired with fine sand-temper and rare crushed flint inclusions to 7.5 mm. The fragment dates to the late 16th to 17th century. A further five fragments of low fired brick from the same context are of 17th to 18th century date.
- 6.3.10 An 18th to early 19th century piece was recovered from (6/002). The fragment is hard fired with sparse fine sand-tempering and moderate iron oxide inclusions to 3 mm. Context (1/003) contained two brick fragments, dating to the 18th to 19th century. Pieces are high fired with sparse fine sand-tempering and occasional iron oxide inclusions to 1 mm. One of these pieces has been measured at 53.7 mm. The other piece has mortar adhering to the break, suggesting re-use.

6.4 The Fired Clay by Elke Raemen

- 6.4.1 A total of 12 low fired pieces were recovered from (6/024). Fragments are sparse fine sand-tempered with moderate organic inclusions. One of these exhibits a single smooth surface. A piece with two smooth surfaces at a right angle may represent a corner piece.

6.4.2 In addition, (6/002) contained a single fragment of fired clay. The piece is low fired with sparse fine sand-tempering, rare chalk inclusions to 3 mm and moderate organic tempering.

6.4.3 Most pieces are amorphous and no wattle imprints were identified. However, it is likely that the fragments represent daub. Given the mixed nature of the contexts, a date for these pieces cannot be established.

6.5 The Animal Bone by Gemma Driver

6.5.1 The animal bone assemblage comprises of 122 fragments from Roman, Saxo-Norman/Medieval and modern or undated contexts. All the bone is in a good condition with little surface weathering.

6.5.2 Animal bone was recovered from contexts (6/012), (6/013) and (6/019) which are all Roman features. The Roman assemblage includes 20 fragments of which 9 are identifiable. Pig and cattle are represented. A fragment of cattle mandible from context (6/012) displays a chop mark and knife marks which suggests that this feature contains butchery waste.

6.5.3 Contexts dated to the Saxo-Norman/ Medieval period produced the largest assemblage. 89 fragments were recovered of which 77 were identifiable. Cattle, sheep, pig, horse and dog are represented. Context (6/002) produced 78 fragments, the majority of which are cattle. Most of the cattle bone is from the skeletal extremities such as scapula, metapoidals and mandibles. A large number of these display cut marks suggesting that this feature contains primary butchery waste. Some of the knife marks can be found at the proximal and distal end of the bone suggesting dismemberment. The cattle remains originate from more than one animal. The MNI (Minimum Number of Individual) count for cattle is 2 due to the presence of two left, proximal metatarsals. Two of the cattle bones display signs of gnawing, possibly by a small rodent.

6.5.4 Ten fragments of sheep bone were recovered from context (6/002). The assemblage consists of a mixture of meat bearing and non-meat bearing elements. Two metapoidals were unfused at the distal end. Using Silver (1969; 286) the animal can be aged to less than 28 months suggesting that the animal was killed for meat.

6.5.5 Pig is represented by a single fragment of humerus and dog is represented by a single fragment of femur. Horse is represented by an upper molar and a fragment of calcaneous.

6.5.6 Context (6/008) and (6/005) also contain animal bone dated to the Saxo-Norman/Medieval period. Only 11 fragments of bone were recovered from these features and both cattle and sheep are represented.

6.5.7 14 fragments of bone were recovered from undated and modern contexts.

6.6 The Shell by Elke Raemen

A total of 59 shell fragments, all in fair condition, was recovered from six different contexts. Most of these pieces consist of lower or upper valves of oyster shell.

A minimum number of 21 individual upper valves was recovered, including only three mature specimens. The majority of these show some parasitic activity. A further 22 (minimum number of) individual lower valves of oyster shell were recovered, with again most showing parasitic activity and only two mature specimens. A piece from [6/008] also shows signs of overcrowding.

A single whelk fragment, with evidence of parasitic activity, was recovered from [6/008].

6.7 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

6.7.1 The excavations at the site produced 31 pieces of stone, weighing just over 9.1kg, from five individual contexts. The earliest material is from two contexts dated to the Roman period (contexts (6/012) and (6/013)). Context (6/012) has the most diverse assemblage as it produced three pieces of soft Upper Greensand (387g), a downland flint fragment (38g) and a slightly eroded piece of Purbeck Marble (2,100g). Context (6/013) contained a single piece of the soft Upper Greensand (36g). None of these pieces show signs of having been worked though they have been acquired from different sources, probably for use in construction.

6.7.2 There appears to be a high quantity of residual Roman stone in the medieval and later deposits on the site. Context (6/002) and (6/008) contain nine (4,246g) and five (374g) pieces of the soft Upper Greensand respectively. The latter context also contained the only worked stone from the site, consisting of a fragment from an upper stone of a Lodsworth-type Lower Greensand rotary quern (RF 2) and a hard Malmstone Upper Greensand floor cube (RF 3, measuring 30 x 24 x 23mm).

6.7.3 The few pieces of other stone, although found in medieval contexts, could be of Roman, Saxo-Norman, medieval or, from (6/002), post-medieval date. These include two pieces of Horsham stone and a single piece of carboniferous limestone from (6/002). The former consist of one roof slate fragment and a floor slab, while the latter may be from late post-medieval/modern aggregate.

6.7.4 The geological material from the site is not considered to hold any potential for further study. This is due to the small size of the assemblage, the problems with dating/residuality in most contexts and the limited range of worked pieces. The material has been fully listed for archive and no further work is proposed.

6.8 Other Finds by Elke Raemen

6.8.1 A single wound bead (<2g) in opaque brownish red glass was recovered from (6/024). The disc-shaped piece (RF <1>), with a diameter of 7 mm, is likely to be of Roman date.

- 6.8.2 Two plain stem fragments dating to the later 17th to mid 18th century were recovered from (3/009). The site also contained two glass fragments. An aqua cylindrical bottle fragment from (6/004) is of 19th- to mid 20th- century date. Context (3/009) contained a mid 17th- to mid 18th- century green glass wine bottle base fragment.
- 6.8.3 A single piece of mortar of Roman to medieval date was recovered from (6/002). The fragment is buff coloured with various inclusions, including chalk and CBM. In addition, two pieces of tar concretion, possibly representing tarmac, were recovered from (3/009).

6.9 Charcoal by Lucy Allott

- 6.9.1 A single charcoal fragment was hand collected from (6/002). This piece appears to be derived from knot wood with has twisted wood anatomy and no further work is recommended. Other charcoal fragments were recovered from the environmental samples (see below).

6.9 Potential

The pottery assemblage is small and predominantly occurs residually in later deposits so no further work is required. The rest of the assemblage, given its mixed nature, has equally little potential for further analysis. As it stands, no further work is required. However, if any further stages of excavation are undertaken, new artefacts should be studied in conjunction with this assemblage.

7.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Dr Lucy Allott

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 A total of nine samples (five bulk samples and four columns) were taken during archaeological works at Tower Street, Chichester. Samples <1> - <6> and <9> were taken from a series of fills within a Roman sewer while samples <7> and <8> were taken from the fills, (6/023) and (6/024), of two pit features adjacent to the sewer. Bulk samples were taken to recover environmental remains such as charred botanicals, bone and shell and also to assist in establishing the potential of the column samples.

7.2 Methods

7.2.1 Bulk samples were processed in a flotation tank, the flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and allowed to air dry. The residues were sorted for archaeological and environmental remains, quantified in Table 1. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (table 2). The columns have not been submitted for analysis at this stage but their condition and potential have been assessed. 10 litres of sample <7>, in which burnt clay and daub were anticipated were not processed and have been retained for recovery of daub if necessary.

7.3 Results

7.3.1 Sampling has confirmed the presence wood charcoal fragments and small quantities of charred cereals. The flots were dominated by uncharred roots (frequently >80% of the flot) which suggests some modern disturbances within the deposits.

7.3.2 A single *Triticum dicoccum/spelta* (emmer/spelt wheat) grain was noted in sample <1>, (6/013) the primary fill of a Roman sewer feature. Sample <2> from a drainage gully fill (6/019), adjacent to the sewer, and <3> from a slumped fill (6/020) within the sewer contained wood charcoal fragments only. Samples <7> and <8> contained poorly preserved charred cereal fragments. Some of these have been identified as glume wheats emmer and spelt and free-threshing bread wheat (*Triticum cf. aestivum*).

7.3.4 Charred wood fragments, bones and teeth were also noted in the residues from these samples. Residues from samples <2>, <8> and <7> were dominated by burnt clay, none of which contains wattle imprints, and CBM. A bead was also collected from sample <1> and has been incorporated in the finds report.

7.4 Further work

7.4.1 Charred wood fragments and other charred plant remains were scarce within these deposits and therefore have no potential to provide information regarding the past vegetation or plant use. The presence of a large proportion of uncharred root vegetation which indicates some modern disturbance also indicates that the potential of the column samples for providing an undisturbed pollen sequence associated with the backfilling of the feature is significantly reduced. It is therefore recommended that the column samples are not processed further. The archaeobotanical assemblage does not hold any potential for further work.

| Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 6/013 | FILL | 48 | 48 | ** | 4 | ** | 4 | | | ** | 10 | Fe*/22 Shell*/10 Pot*/82 CBM*/40 |
| 2 | 6/019 | FILL | 10 | 10 | ** | 6 | ** | 4 | | | * | 8 | FCF*/6 CBM****/48 Slag*/6 |
| 3 | 6/020 | FILL | 40 | 40 | *** | 4 | *** | 4 | * | 2 | * | 14 | Fe*/2 CBM****/24 |
| 7 | 6/023 | FILL | 30 | 20 | | | | | | | | | Burnt Clay****/7978 |
| 8 | 6/024 | LAYER | 36 | 36 | * | 4 | ** | 2 | | | * | 4 | Burnt Clay****/586 FCF*22 Pot*/22 |

Table 1: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) & weight in grams

| Sample Number | Context | Flot volume ml | Uncharred % | sediment % | Charcoal >4mm | Charcoal <4mm | Charcoal <2mm | crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | weed seeds charred | other botanical charred |
|---------------|---------|----------------|-------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 6/013 | 25 | 70 | 10 | * | ** | *** | * | (1) <i>Triticum</i> sp. | good | | |
| 2 | 6/019 | 25 | 80 | 10 | * | ** | *** | | | | | |
| 3 | 6/020 | 50 | 90 | | ** | ** | *** | | | | | |
| 7 | 6/023 | 10 | 90 | 5 | | | *** | * | indet cpr. | poor | | |
| 8 | 6/024 | 40 | 50 | 10 | * | ** | *** | ** | <i>Triticum</i> sp. (3) cf. <i>T. aestivum</i> | poor-mod | | |

Table 2: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250)

8.0 DISCUSSION

8.1 The Roman Bath House and Cistern

- 8.1.1 The masonry remains encountered in Trenches 2 and 4 provided enough information to spatially locate the rest of the archaeological features initially exposed in 1974. The bath house remains in Trench 4 were in relatively good condition and seem to have survived the repeated excavations with little structural damage. Trench 5 was located in an area where the bath house walls survived only as robber trenches and no masonry remains were seen. In addition, the modern pits identified in Trench 5 can be ascribed to immediately after the conclusion of the 1974 excavation, Alec Down machined into the natural around the masonry remains (*pers. comm.* James Kenny). However, masonry walls probably do survive in the near vicinity of the trench.
- 8.1.2 The cistern in Trench 2 had survived less well than the bath house. The published account of the 1974 excavation states 'the east side [of the cistern] collapsed dramatically when the coffer dam for the excavation was withdrawn' (Down, 1978, 151). The top of the cistern was at 11.25mOD, some 1.25m less than the top recorded in 1974 and the collapse is undoubtedly the reason for the discrepancy.

8.2 The Roman Sewer

- 8.2.1 The Roman sewer was located in Trench 6 and was comparable in size and character to the portions excavated in 1974. No masonry revetment or timber drain linings were found but recut [6/006] broadly mirrors the first recut identified in 1974.
- 8.2.2 The Roman sewer survives below the level of the natural at 11.65mOD in the north-west corner of the site and continues north-west beyond the site. The sewer was found further north than originally anticipated and suggests that the planning of the location of the sewer in the 1970s was inaccurate. The sewer probably lay on a more north-west to south-east alignment than is shown on the 1970s plan.
- 8.2.3 The sewer is a highly significant archaeological feature relating to the town planning of Roman Chichester and was not an *ad hoc* drainage channel but rather dug along a formally-designated route subsequent to the setting out of the town's streets. However, the assessment of the bulk and column samples taken from the sewer fills concluded that the environmental potential is low. Few charred plant remains were recovered and the presence of rooting significantly reduces the potential for providing an undisturbed pollen sequence.
- 8.2.4 The other Roman negative features recorded in this area, pit [6/022] and gully [6/018], were also cut into natural but the approximately 2m of overlying later deposits had been removed, almost certainly by machine, during the construction of the existing car park in the 1970s. Similarly, no archaeological deposits were identified in Trenches 1, 7 and 8 located in the car park perimeter bank.

8.3 Medieval Deposits

- 8.3.1 Cuts [6/010] and [6/007] were initially believed to have been recuts of the Roman sewer. However, these features were medieval in date and must have been later negative features cutting the backfilled Roman sewer.
- 8.3.2 These features were not identified in plan but possibly extend to the north and the south beyond the trench limits. On the 1974 excavation plan of the Period 9 medieval features, a series of pits are recorded immediately south and east of Trench 6 and some of these maybe continuations of the features identified during the current work (Down, 1978, 162). In particular, pit [6/009] is probably the western part of pit D26 and pit [6/007] is probably the northern part of pit D46.

8.4 Potential for the survival of other archaeological deposits

- 8.4.1 Trench 3, located within the area of the 1974 excavation, did not identify any significant archaeological deposits, suggesting all features were excavated in 1974. If the occasional fill of half-sectioned pit does survive, as in pit [3/016], then its significance has been greatly compromised by the removal of its stratigraphic relationships.

9.0 CONCLUSION

- 9.1** The evaluation has proved successful in addressing the Aims and Objectives as laid out in the WSI and outlined in section 3.1, above. In general terms the state of preservation of the bath house masonry has been assessed and the structures accurately in advance of redevelopment. The evaluation also assessed the archaeological potential of the rest of the site, in particular the masonry cistern and the Roman sewer, both of which were identified in 1974.
- 9.2** Trenches 2 and 4 identified the masonry remains of the cistern and the apsidal hypocaust room of the bath house (Room 1, Period 3, Period A in the 1974 excavation). The trenches provided enough information to spatially locate the rest of the archaeological features initially exposed in 1974. The bath house remains in Trench 4 were in relatively good condition and seem to have survived the repeated excavations with little structural damage. The cistern in Trench 2 had survived less well than the bath house and this had almost certainly suffered from the excavation of the internal fill in 1974.
- 9.3** Trench 5 was located in an area where the bath house walls survived only as robber trenches and no masonry remains were seen. However, masonry walls probably do survive in the near vicinity to the trench.
- 9.4** The Roman sewer was located in Trench 6, outside of the area of the 1974 excavation and was comparable in size and character to the portions excavated in 1974. The Roman sewer survives below the level of the natural at 11.65mOD in the north-west corner of the site and continues north-west beyond the site.
- 9.5** Similarly no archaeological deposits were identified in Trenches 1, 7 and 8 located in the car park perimeter bank.
- 9.6** Trench 3, located within the area of the 1974 excavation, did not identify any significant archaeological deposits suggesting all features were excavated in 1974.
- 9.7** In conclusion it is fair to assume that only two areas have archaeological potential: the masonry structures in the south and west identified in 1974 and the negative features cut into natural to the north-west of the 1974 excavation area.

References

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Hartley, K. F., 1978, *The Roman Mortaria*, in Down, Alec, 1978, *Chichester Excavations Volume 3*

Lyne, M.A.B. and Jefferies, R.S. 1979. *The Alice Holt/Farnham Roman Pottery Industry*. CBA Research Report 30. Council for British Archaeology: London.

Silver, I.A. 1969. 'The Ageing of Domestic Animals', in D.R. Brothwell and E.S. Higgs (eds) *Science and Archaeology*. London: Thames and Hudson, 283-302.

Acknowledgements

Archaeology South-East would like to thank the consultant, Chris Pine and James Kenny of Chichester District Council.

SMR SUMMARY FORM

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|-------|
| Site Code | TSC 08 | | | | | |
| Identification Name and Address | Tower Street Chichester | | | | | |
| County, District &/or Borough | West Sussex | | | | | |
| OS Grid Refs. | SU485920 104930 | | | | | |
| Geology | Brickearth and gravels | | | | | |
| Arch. South-East Project Number | 3109 | | | | | |
| Type of Fieldwork | Eval. ✓ | Excav. | Watching Brief | Standing Structure | Survey | Other |
| Type of Site | Green Field | Shallow✓ Urban | Deep Urban | Other | | |
| Dates of Fieldwork | Eval. May -June 08 | Excav. | WB. | Other | | |
| Sponsor/Client | Chichester County Council and Development Archaeological Services | | | | | |
| Project Manager | Diccon Hart | | | | | |
| Project Supervisor | Giles Dawkes | | | | | |
| Period Summary | Palaeo. | Meso. | Neo. | BA | IA | RB ✓ |
| | AS | MED ✓ | PM | Other Modern | | |
| <p>100 Word Summary. Eight archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated in the Tower Street car park, Chichester, where the remains of a Roman bath house were previously identified in 1974. The masonry bath house remains were left in place after the 1974 excavation and were partially re-excavated in 1990 to evaluate the state of preservation. The evaluation identified masonry remains of the water-supply cistern, the apsidal hypocaust room of the bath house, a portion of the Roman sewer and medieval pits. Other than the masonry remains, no other archaeology was found within the area of the 1974 excavation and nor in the surrounding perimeter banks.</p> | | | | | | |

OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol6-45316

Project details

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | Tower Street Chichester |
| Short description of the project | Eight archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated by hand and machine between the 27th May and 6th June 2008 in the Tower Street car park, Chichester. The site was previously excavated in 1974 and the remains of a Roman bath house were identified amongst other findings. This evaluation sort to again assess the state of preservation of the bath house masonry and accurate locate the structures in advance to the redevelopment of the site. Trenches 2 and 4 identified the masonry remains of the cistern and the apsidal hypocaust room of the bath house (Room 1, Period 3, Period A in the 1974 excavation). The Roman sewer was located in trench 6, outside of the area of the 1974 excavation and was comparable in size and character to the portions excavated in 1974. No archaeological deposits were identified in trenches 1, 7 and 8 located in the car park perimeter bank. |
| Project dates | Start: 27-05-2008 End: 06-06-2008 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 3109 - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | TSC 08 - Sitecode |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Monument type | BATH HOUSE Roman |
| Monument type | SEWER Roman |
| Monument type | PITS Medieval |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Roman |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Medieval |
| Significant Finds | BEAD Roman |
| Methods & techniques | 'Targeted Trenches' |
| Development type | Public building (e.g. school, church, hospital, medical centre, law courts etc.) |
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16 |
| Position in the planning process | Not known / Not recorded |

Project location

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Country | England |
| Site location | WEST SUSSEX CHICHESTER CHICHESTER Tower Street |
| Postcode | PO 19 |
| Study area | 1350.00 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | SU 485800 104500 50.8909347016 -1.309225776880 50 53 27 N 001 18 33 W Point |
| Height OD | Min: 10.05m Max: 13.78m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Archaeology South-East |
| Project brief originator | Chichester District Council |
| Project design originator | Chichester District Council |
| Project director/manager | Diccon Hart |
| Project supervisor | Giles Dawkes |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | District Council |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Chichester District Council |

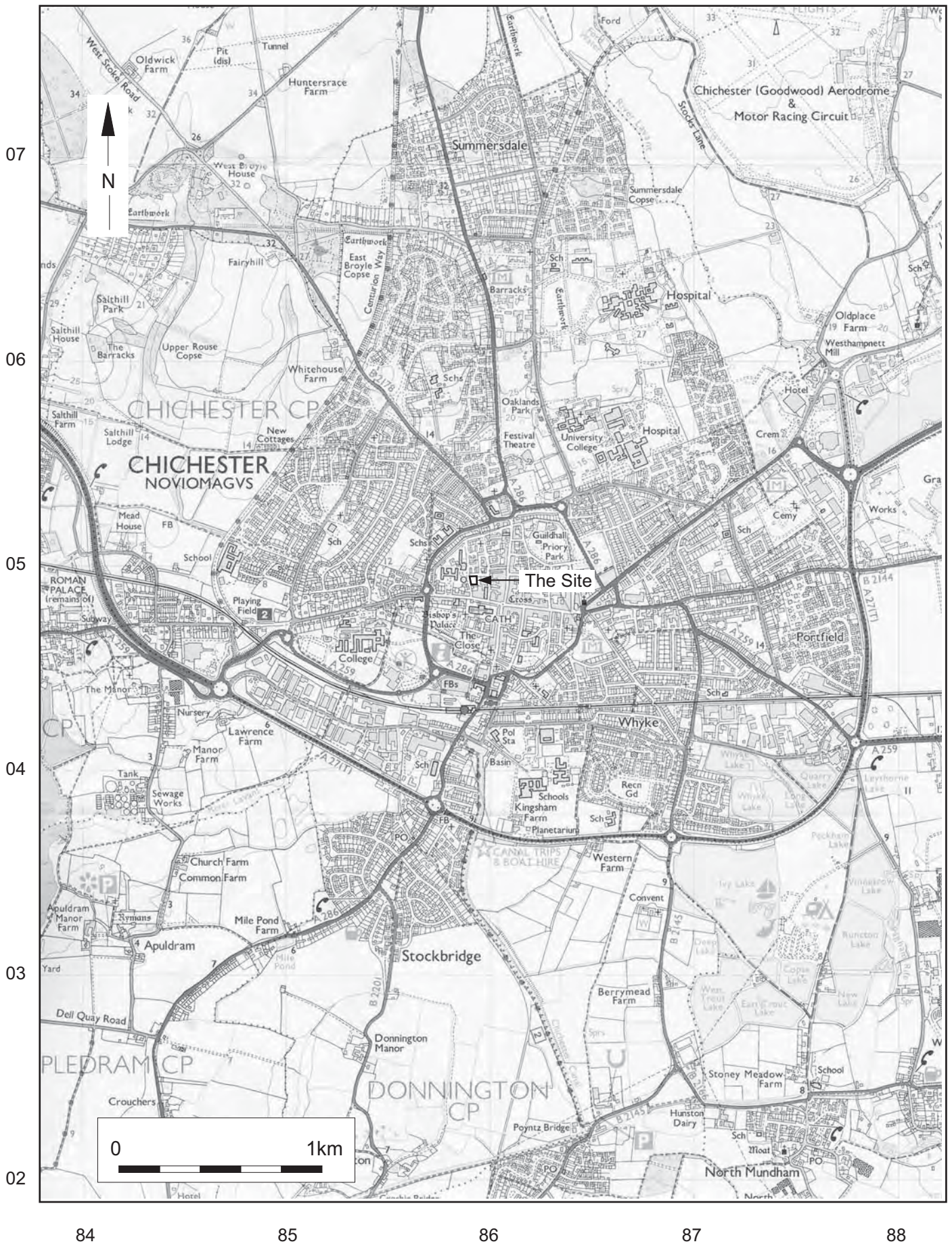
Project archives

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Physical Archive recipient | Chichester Museum |
| Physical Contents | 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass' |
| Digital Archive recipient | Chichester Museum |
| Digital Contents | 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass' |
| Digital Media available | 'Database','Survey','Text' |
| Paper Archive recipient | Chichester Museum |
| Paper Contents | 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass' |
| Paper Media available | 'Context sheet','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey ' |

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Entered by | Giles Dawkes (giles.dawkes@ucl.ac.uk) |
| Entered on | 11 July 2008 |

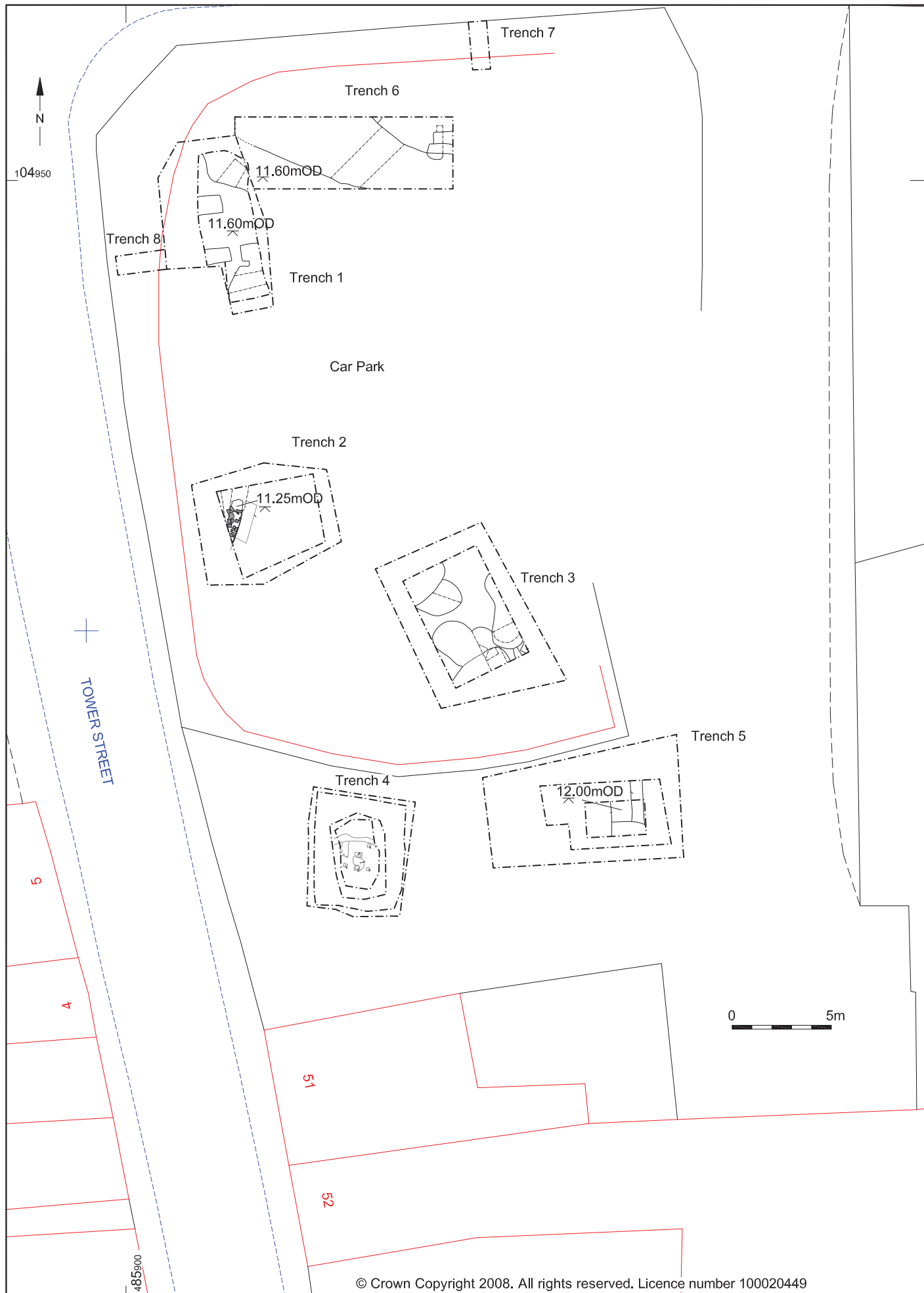
Appendix 1: Bulk Finds Quantification

| Context | Pot | wt (g) | CBM | wt (g) | Bone | wt (g) | Shell | wt (g) | Flint | wt (g) | Stone | wt (g) | F. Clay | wt (g) | Glass | wt (g) | CTP | wt (g) | Charcoal | wt (g) | Mortar | wt (g) | Tarmac | wt (g) |
|---------|-----|--------|-----|--------|------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-----|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1/003 | | | 10 | 1888 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3/007 | | | 3 | 1568 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3/009 | 9 | 86 | 12 | 1272 | 3 | 64 | 1 | 28 | | | | | | 1 | 40 | 2 | 8 | | | | | | 2 | 140 |
| 3/017 | | | 1 | 304 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/002 | 90 | 1736 | 158 | 13844 | 108 | 2370 | 32 | 636 | | | 12 | 6348 | 1 | 60 | | | | | 1 | <2 | 1 | 216 | | |
| 6/004 | 17 | 526 | 25 | 3510 | 8 | 328 | 2 | 26 | | | 1 | 28 | | | 1 | 28 | | | | | | | | |
| 6/005 | 8 | 112 | 8 | 298 | 2 | 46 | 2 | 52 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/008 | 18 | 266 | 36 | 1612 | 9 | 176 | 17 | 264 | | | 7 | 692 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/012 | 14 | 418 | 26 | 3200 | 8 | 278 | 5 | 62 | 1 | 38 | 4 | 2428 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/013 | 3 | 26 | 10 | 1224 | 1 | 70 | | | | | 1 | 36 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/019 | 2 | 12 | | | 12 | <2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/020 | | | | | 4 | 38 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6/024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 13 | 102 | | | | | | | | | | |
| T6 u/s | 1 | 16 | 3 | 902 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 162 | 3198 | 292 | 29622 | 155 | 3370 | 59 | 1068 | 1 | 38 | 25 | 9532 | 14 | 162 | 2 | 68 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 216 | 2 | 140 |



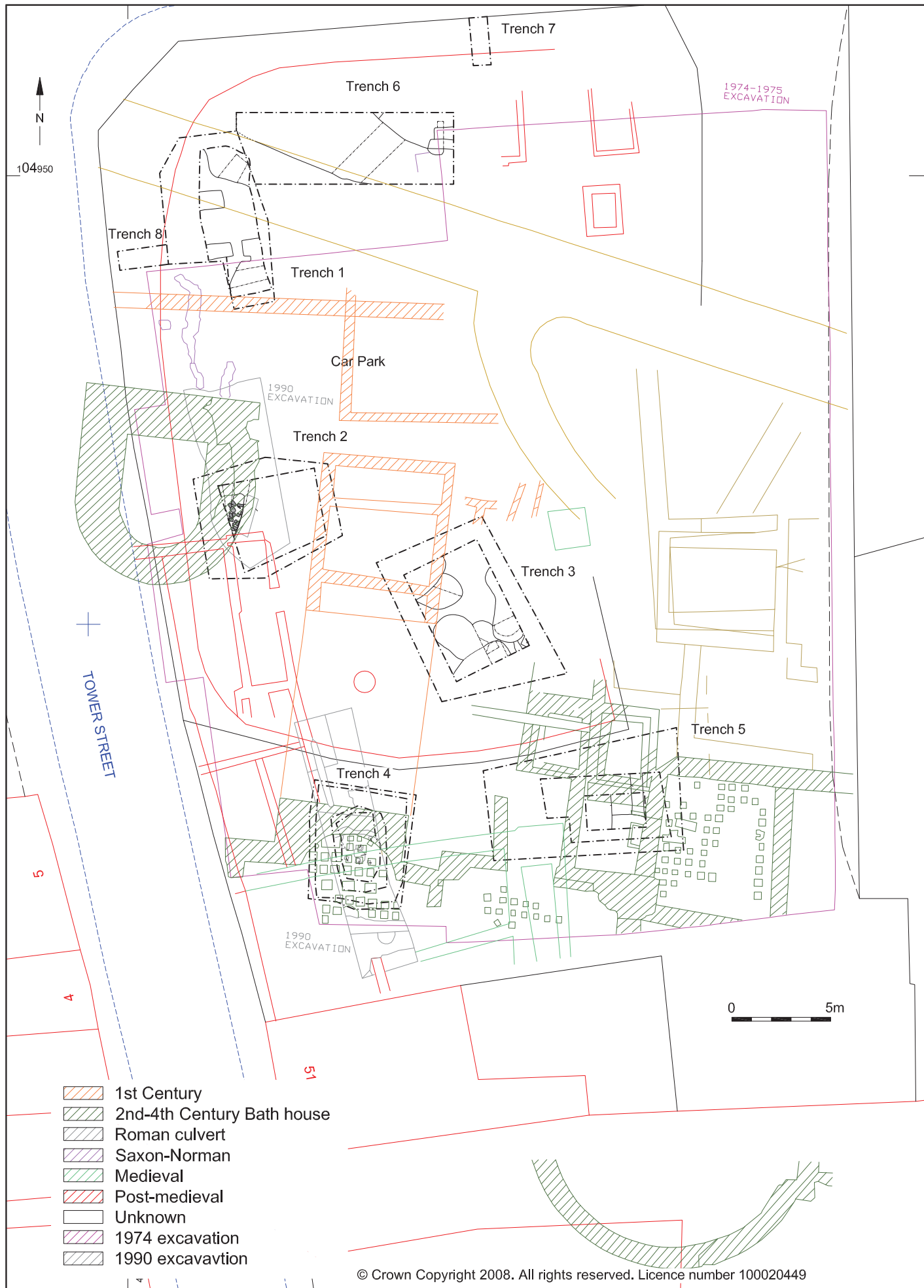
| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | Fig. 1 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Site Location Plan | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |

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| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | | Fig. 2 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Trench Location | | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |



| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | | Fig. 3 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Trench Location- with location of main features identified in previous archaeological investigations | | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |

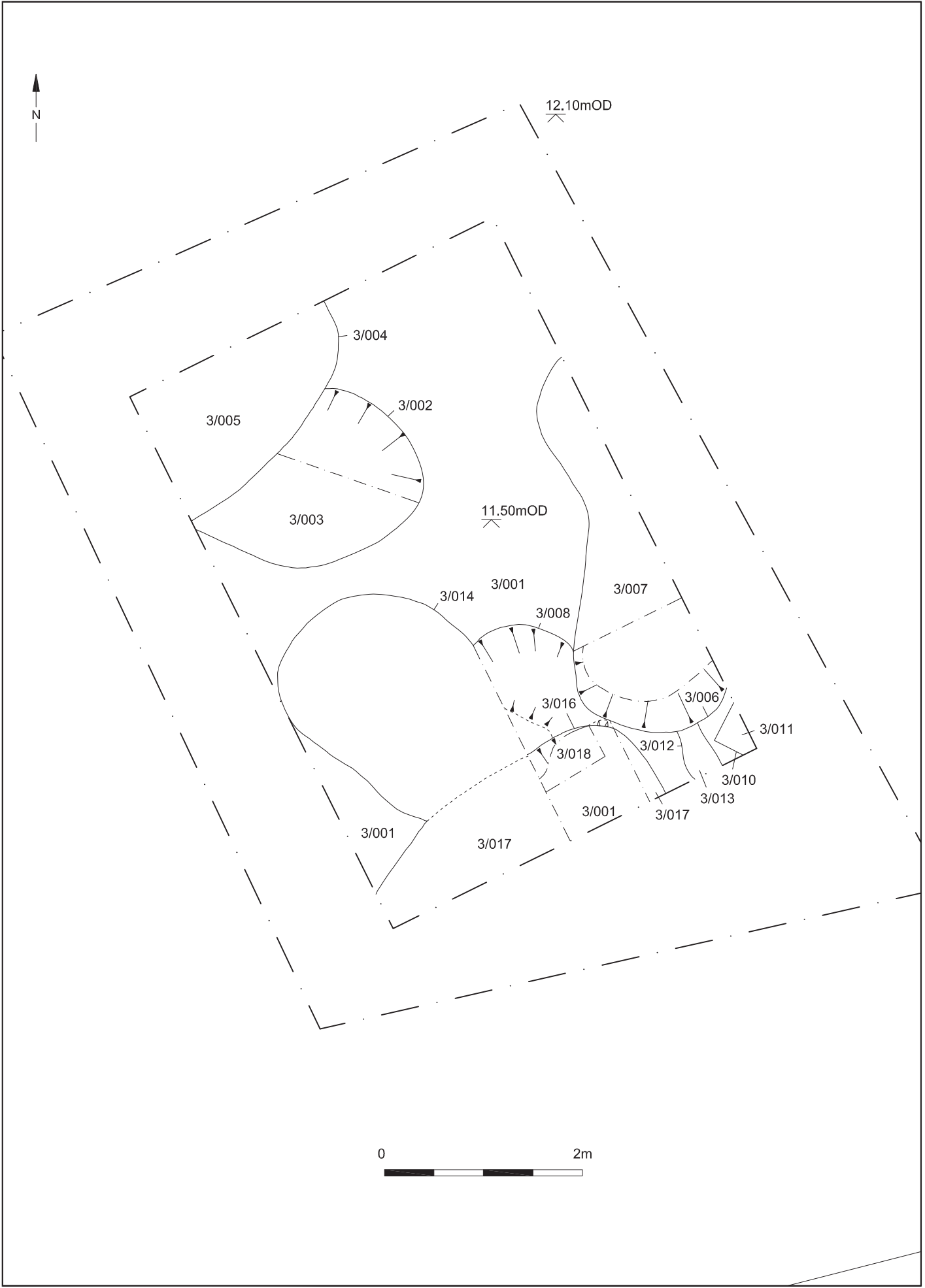


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| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | | Fig. 4 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 1 | | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |

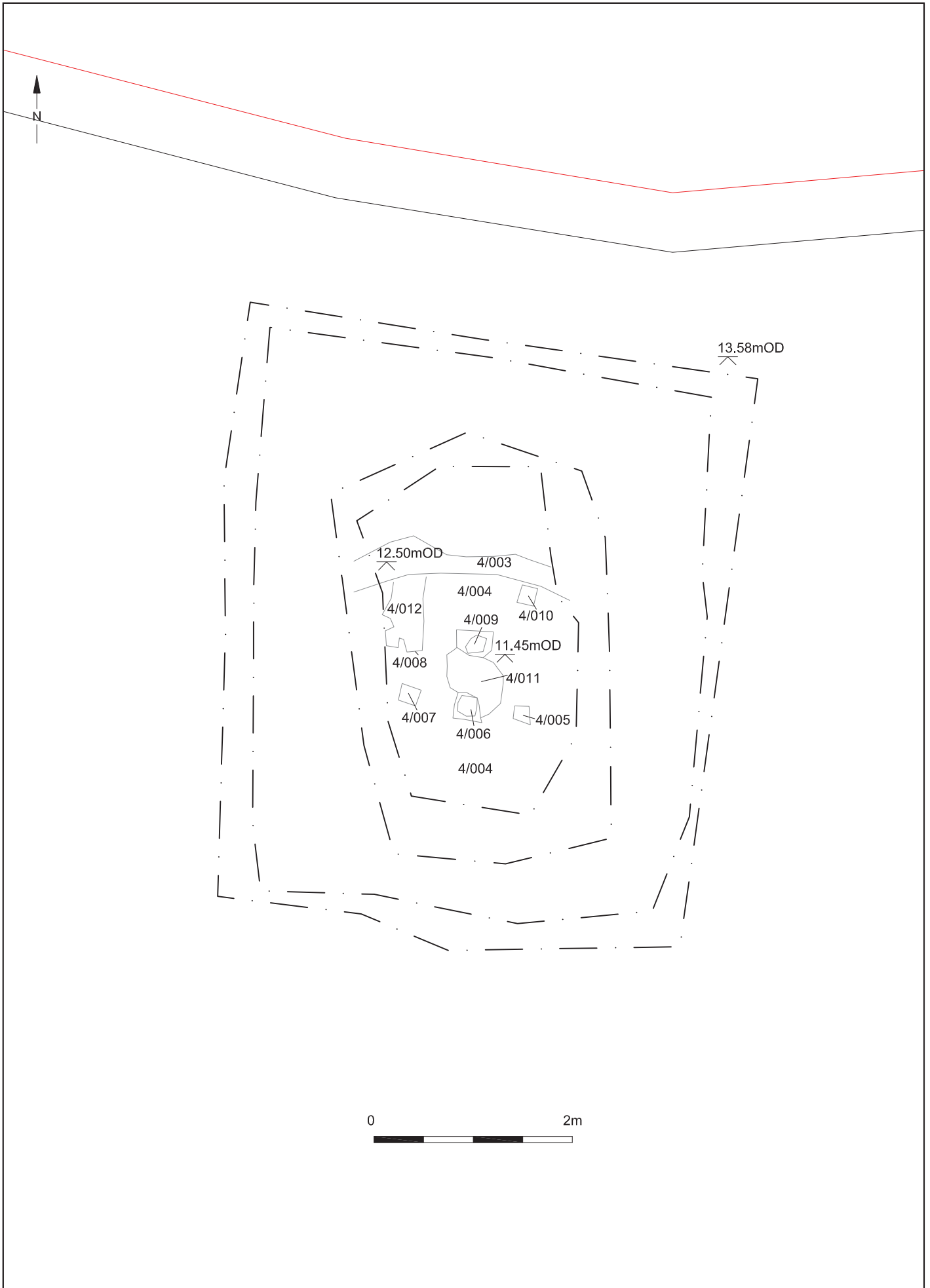


Stone
Mortar

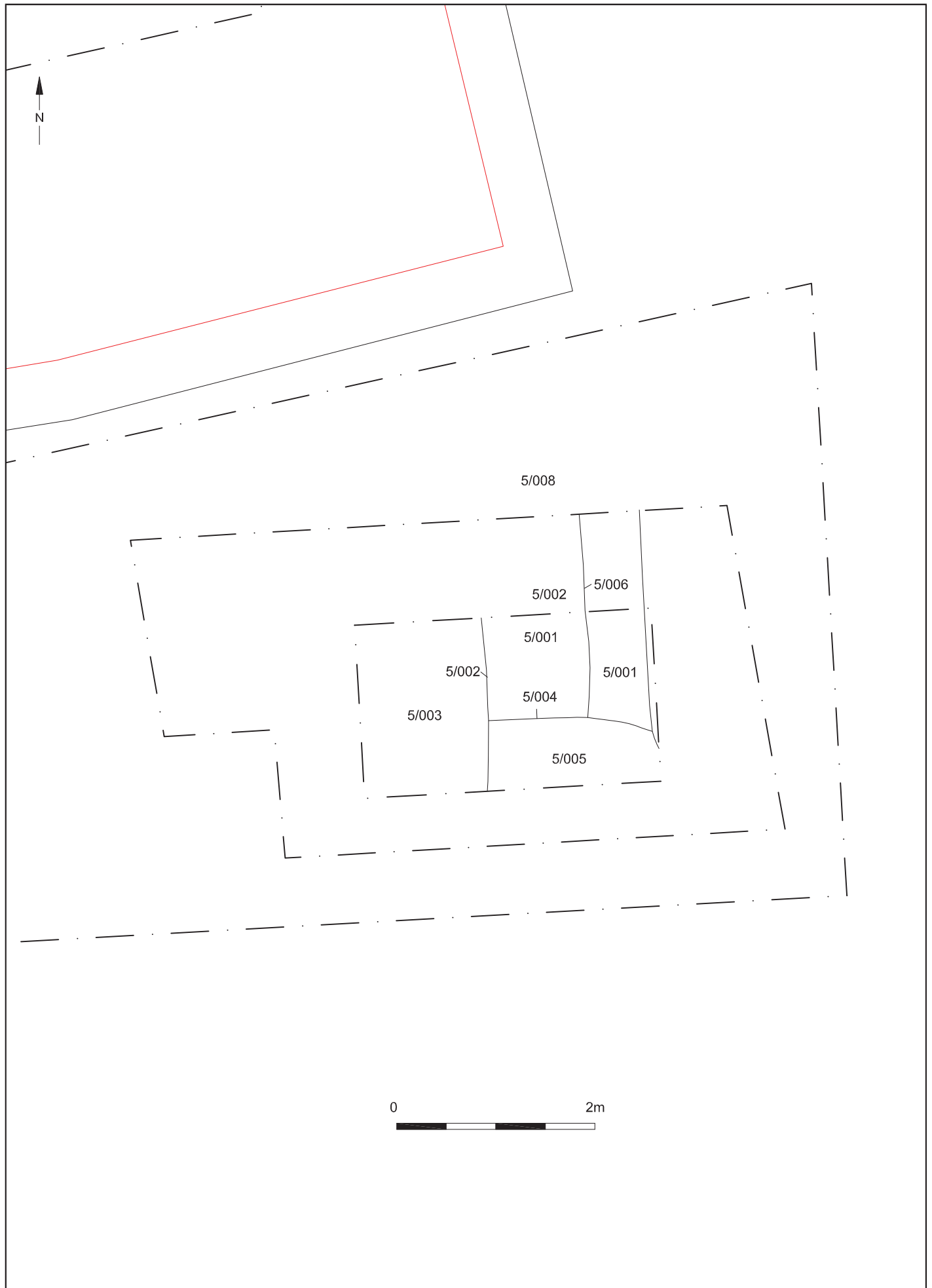
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| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | Fig. 5 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 2 | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



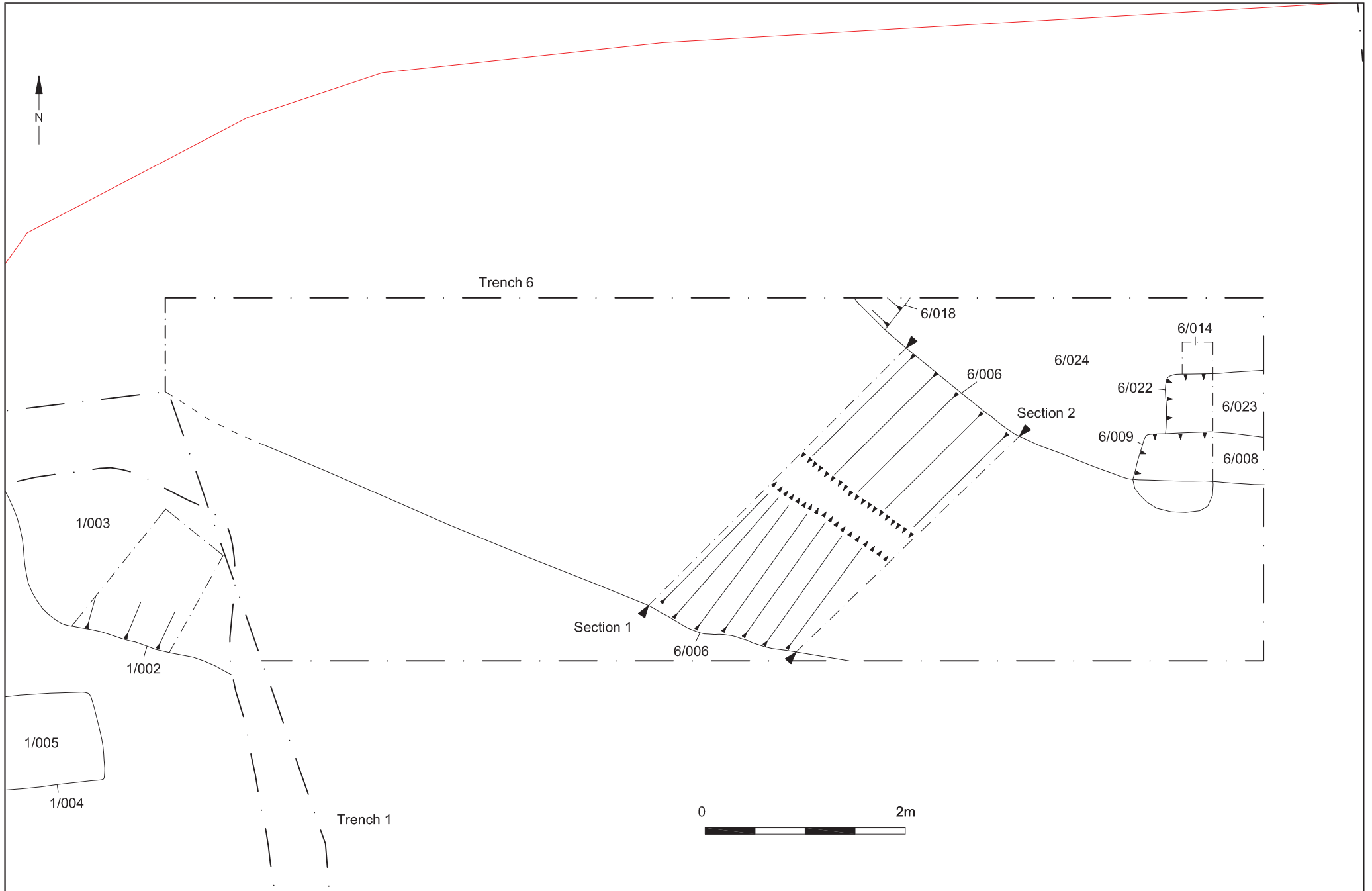
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| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | | Fig. 6 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 3 | | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | | |



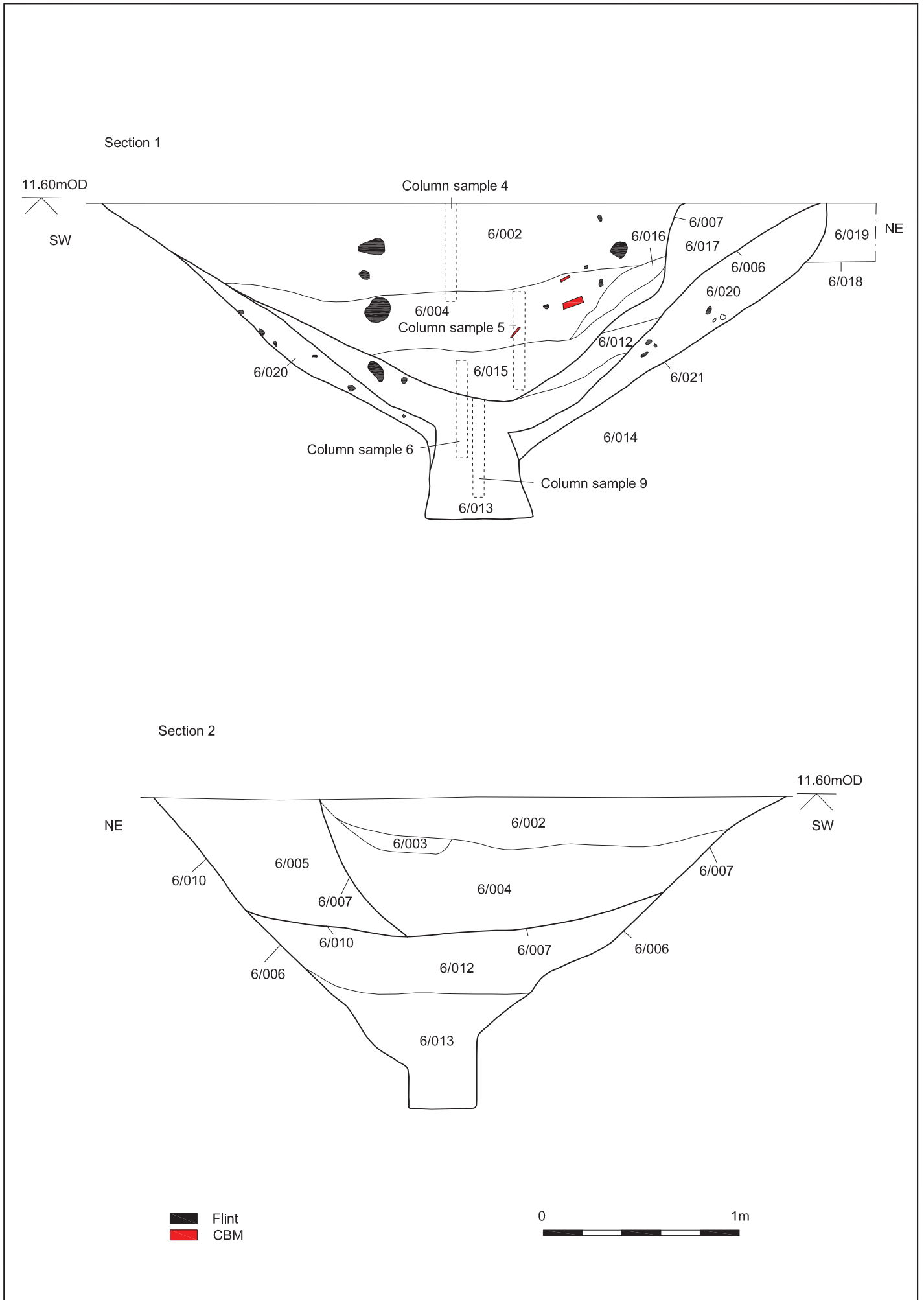
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| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 4 | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



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|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | Fig. 8 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 5 | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | Fig. 9 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Plan of Trench 6 | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Tower Street, Chichester | Fig. 10 |
| Project Ref: 3109 | June 2008 | Sections of Roman sewer | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: JLR | | |



Trench 2- Cistern wall 2/002 facing east



Trench 4- Masonry remains of the Bath House facing north

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--|
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| Project Ref: 3109 | July 2008 | Figures 11 and 12 | |
| Report Ref: 2008089 | Drawn by: SM | | |




Trench 6- Roman sewer 6/006 facing north-west

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--|
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| Project Ref: 3109 | July 2008 | Figure 13 | |
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