
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**MARIGOLDS, 64 HIGH STREET,
OLD HARLOW, ESSEX**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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NGR: TL 4745 1159	Report No. 3372
District: Harlow	Site Code: HAHS 09
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3619
Signed:	Date: September 2009

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Harlow, Essex</i>		
<p><i>In September 2009 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Harlow, Essex (NGR TL 4745 1159). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the approval for the construction of two new dwellings and a garage.</i></p> <p><i>The site lies on the southern side of the High Street, Old Harlow, within the Old Harlow Conservation Area. It incorporates a street frontage, part of the plot of Marigolds, a large 18th century Grade II listed house.</i></p> <p><i>The evaluation revealed the remains of the 19th century building that occupied this part of the site until its recent demolition. It also revealed a Victorian well and a more recent pumping chamber.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>1st September 2009</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	
P. number	<i>3619</i>	Site code	<i>HAHS 09</i>
Type of project	<i>An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Site status	<i>Grade II listed house</i>		
Current land use	<i>Disused garden and a drive</i>		
Planned development	<i>New residential dwellings and a garage</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>19th century wall, well</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>-</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Essex</i>	<i>Harlow</i>	<i>Old Harlow</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Essex HER</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>CM17 0DR</i>		
Area of site	<i>c. 1800m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TL 4745 1159</i>		
Height AOD (max/ min)	<i>59m AOD</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>ECC Historic Environment Management Team</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Zbigniew Pozorski</i>		
Funded by	<i>EXE Property Developments</i>		
Full title	<i>Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Harlow, Essex. An Archaeological Evaluation</i>		
Authors	<i>Pozorski, Z.</i>		
Report no.	<i>3372</i>		
Date (of report)	<i>September 2009</i>		

MARIGOLDS, 64 HIGH STREET, OLD HARLOW, ESSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In September 2009 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Harlow, Essex (NGR TL 4745 1159). The evaluation was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to the approval for the construction of two new dwellings and a garage.

The site lies on the southern side of the High Street, Old Harlow, within the Old Harlow Conservation Area. It incorporates a street frontage, part of the plot of Marigolds, a large 18th century Grade II listed house.

The evaluation revealed the remains of the 19th century building that occupied this part of the site until its recent demolition. It also revealed a Victorian well and a more recent pumping chamber.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2009 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Harlow, Essex (NGR TL 4745 1159; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Mr Stephen Levy of EXE Property Developments, in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the proposed redevelopment of the site to provide two new dwellings and an attached garage for Marigolds, following the demolition of part of the existing structure (Essex Planning Ref. HLW/PL/07/0281).

1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Essex County Council Historic Environment Management (ECC HEM; dated 24/08/2009) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 25/08/2009). The project conformed to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2001), and the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14 (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. Specific research aims for the programme were:

- to locate any evidence of medieval/post-medieval occupation, its nature and extent,
- to examine the relationship of any of this evidence of occupation in the context of the development of the historic town,
- to identify and record any medieval or post-medieval ribbon development.

Planning policy context

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 The site is located in the Old Harlow, which lies to the immediate north east of Harlow New Town. Old Harlow is located within Harlow District of Essex County, and lies c. 0.5km to the east of the A414 road and c. 0.25km to the north of B183, Gilden Way. A railway line is located c.1km to the north.

2.2 The site lies on the southern side of the High Street, Old Harlow within the Old Harlow Conservation Area. It is bounded to the east and west by neighbouring residential properties which front High Street. To the south east of the site a common is located. The site, in its north-western sector, is occupied by an 18th century Grade II listed house, Marigolds. It also comprises disused garden at the street frontage and a large back garden. The new development is situated within northern part of the site, fronting High Street.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site is located to the south of valley of the river Stort and lies on relatively flat land at a height of c. 59m AOD, slightly rising to the south.

3.2 Soils in the vicinity are chalky tills of the Melford and Hanslope associations, described as deep, well drained fine or coarse loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils. The river alluvium to the immediate north, within Stort Valley, is of the Thames association and comprises stoneless, mainly calcareous clayey soils. The drift geology of the immediate area is Boulder Clay and glacial sand and gravel, with head deposits further east. The solid geology is London Clay, with a band of Upper Chalk locally (SSEW 1983).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric

4.1 A copper flat axe and an extensive late Bronze Age settlement in the town are recorded (Bedwin 1996). The Bronze Age settlement may include the earliest human cremation in the country, located in the centre of a pond barrow (Bedwin 1996). To the north-west of the present site lay a large temple. The latter became well-established in the Roman period but was originally constructed in the late pre-Roman Iron Age. Pre-Roman finds include a pit at the temple that contained the skull of a young adult, a bronze ring and an iron spear blade, dating to c.50 BC. It has been suggested that a prone burial at the temple is indicative of an execution or the discarding of an outcast (Bedwin 1996; Kemble 2001). To the south of the Old Town, at Church Langley, there is also evidence for activity ranging from the Palaeolithic to the early Iron Age (Medlycott 2000).

Roman

4.2 There is a considerable amount of evidence relating to Harlow's Roman past; the Roman town first grew in response to the foundation of a temple, in the north-western sector of modern Harlow. The temple was located on a hill which had previously been occupied by an Iron Age temple. A substantial area of occupation developed to the north and east of the temple during the Roman era, with evidence of masonry and timber buildings, an internal road pattern and manufacturing areas (Medlycott 1999).

4.3 The only extant monument dated to the Roman period is the temple hill. The plan of the temple is marked out in concrete, but no walls are visible. Three routes are known to have converged on the settlement; one ran south from the temple towards Epping, the second ran north-east from the river crossing and the third led north-west towards Braughing. It has been suggested that Old Road/Langley Lane may have been a Roman road. Harlow Mill would appear to be located close to the second of these roads, that which ran north-east from the river crossing. Some traces of internal streets have been identified during excavations, but the results remain unpublished (Medlycott 1999).

Saxon

4.4 Three 5th to 6th century brooches have been discovered, suggesting that an early Saxon cemetery was positioned to the north of the modern town, in the valley of the river Lea. To the north of the temple site, early Saxon occupation is recognised by an earth-fast post structure, which lay above levels of Roman destruction, and has been interpreted as a sub-Roman individual or small group occupying the remains of a Roman structure (Bedwin 1996, 110).

Medieval and post-medieval

4.5 Following settlement in the Roman period, Harlow developed at Harlowbury as a manorial centre, followed by the development of settlement at Churchgate during the later 11th century. Old Harlow, on the Dunmow-Hertford Road appears to have been a deliberate establishment by the dominant landowners, the Abbots of Bury St Edmunds, with the grant of a market and annual fair in 1218 (though a small settlement and market had been present in the reign of King Stephen). The settlement was centred on a row of properties on the southern side of Fore Street/High Street with the market place in front. As commonly happened, the market became infilled with further properties, with Midil Rowe on the north side and rows between Fore Street and Back Street.

4.6 It has been suggested that there was little use of the market place at Harlow prior to the 13th century (Andrews 1991), and the market was largely disbanded at the end of the 16th century, to continue only sporadically. At this time timber-framed buildings were probably built to replace the former market stalls with permanent structures. Archaeological excavations in Old Harlow have revealed evidence of 13th century structures on the north side of Market Street, identified by a series of post-holes. The structures were replaced by further timber-framed structures during the following century, interpreted as market stalls. Another building was later built on the same part of Market Street in the 17th century (Andrews 1991). The current site lies within an area of the medieval and post-medieval town.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Two trenches were excavated using a mechanical 180° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket (Fig. 2). The trenches were located within the footprints of the proposed dwellings and garage. Trench 1 measured 9 x 1.80m and Trench 2 measured 7 x 1.80m.

5.2 Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using

pro forma recording sheets, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 Trench 1 Figs. 2-3, DP 2

<i>Sample section 2 (DP 3)</i> <i>NE end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 59.23m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.06m	L1000	Topsoil. Blackish grey soft sandy silt.
0.06 – 0.55m	L1001	Layer of CBM rubble mixed with grey sandy silt.
0.55 – 0/65m	L1002	Grey brown, compact silty clay.
0.65m +	L1003	Natural yellow, compact silty clay.

<i>Sample section 3 (DP 4)</i> <i>SW end, NW facing</i> <i>0.00 = 59.36m AOD</i>		
0.00 – 0.05m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.05 – 0.15m	L1001	As above.
0.15 – 0.75m	M1006	A wall constructed of red bricks.
0.75m +	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

Description of results:

Trench 1 contained remains of a wall, M1006, and F1004 which probably formed the foundation trench for an additional wall.

Wall M1006, aligned NE/SW, was located in the western part of the trench (DP 4). A length of wall 2m+ was revealed in section (Sample Section 3) with a maximum height of 0.57m. The wall was constructed of mid to dark red bricks (0.23 x 0.11 x 0.065m/ 9.05"x4.33"x2.56") bonded with sandy mortar with chalk fragments. The wall survived to a maximum of 8 courses which did not conform to a uniform coursing. The lower courses of the wall within the trench were constructed of smaller red bricks (0.195 x 0.095 x 0.055m/ 2.56"x3.74"x2.17"). A second part of the same wall, aligned NW/SE (1.80 x 0.90m), traversed the trench (DP 2), only a single course of the wall was revealed, constructed of three lines of stretcher bricks.

F1004, aligned NW/SE, traversed the western part of the trench, it contained a mixture of CBM, rubble and topsoil, and was interpreted as the foundation trench for an additional wall which may have formed a structure along with M1006.

6.2 Trench 2 Figs. 2-3, DP 5

Trench 2, sample section 1 (DP 5) SE end, NE facing 0.00 = 59.27m AOD		
0.00 – 0.08m	L1007	Gravel surface of a drive.
0.08 – 0.20m	L1001	As above.
0.20 – 0.75m	L1002	As above.
0.75m +	L1003	Natural clay. As above.

Description of results:

Trench 2 contained the remains of two masonry structures.

M1010 was a well (1.50m in diameter; DP 8) located in the northern end of Trench 2. It was constructed of dark red bricks (0.225 x 0.105 x 0.065m/ 8.86"x4.13"x 2.56") in stretcher bond, with whitish grey mortar with chalk chunks. The well had been covered by a concrete cap, beneath which it was fairly well preserved and measured at least 6.50m in depth with the watertable at c. 5m below existing. A later alteration comprised a lead water pipe, which is believed to have been added at the same time as structure M1008.

M1008 was a wall, 'horseshoe' in plan (DP 7), located immediately north of the well. It probably represents the remains of a modern pumping chamber. It measured 1.90 x 1.10 x 0.22m and was aligned N/S. It was constructed using dark red bricks (0.225 x 0.105 x 0.065m/ 8.86"x 4.13"x 2.56"), similar to those of the well, with dark grey mortar with small chalk chunks and charcoal. Only a single course of the wall was revealed, it was constructed of a single line of header bricks. The pumping chamber was thought to be of a later date than the well as it had been built with a specific gap to accommodate the lead waterpipe, whereas the well had been subject to localised destruction and subsequent repair in order to accommodate the waterpipe. Internally M1008 contained L1009, a mid yellow, loose sand and CBM rubble. No finds were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 In eastern and southern parts of the site the natural geology was overlaid by a thin topsoil, L1000. It was blackish grey, soft sandy silt (c. 0.05 – 0.10m thick). The most substantial deposit on the site was L1001, a layer of CBM rubble (c. 0.15 – 0.45m thick). Below L1001 was L1002, a mid to dark grey, compact silty clay (c. 0.10 – 0.20m thick). The natural comprised a mid yellow, compact silty clay (c. 0.65 – 0.75m below ground level).

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site had the potential for archaeological remains, in particular for evidence of the development of the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Old Harlow. There was also possibility of prehistoric and Roman remains.

9.2 In the event the evaluation revealed only masonry features of relatively recent date. Based on the brickwork, Wall M1006 was probably constructed in the 19th century with possibly some re-used earlier bricks. Well M1010 was Victorian and probably served the house over a long period; it was relatively well preserved. M1008, the pumping chamber, was a later alteration.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

The archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at Harlow Museum. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mr Stephen Levy of EXE Property Developments for his co-operation and funding of the project, and for his assistance.

AS is also pleased to acknowledge the input and advice of Mr Adam Garwood of Essex County Council Historic Environment Management.

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APPENDIX 1

ESSEX HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION RECORD (EHCR)

EHCR	NGR TL	Description
Prehistoric		
3643	470 116	A few sherds of residual prehistoric pottery and a small number of Neolithic flint tools (scrapers and blades) were recovered in 1989 to the east of the church
9123	4717 1158	13 pieces of residual worked flint including cores, flakes and a rod fabricator. The latter is probably Mesolithic/early Neolithic, also a single rim sherds was found, probably from a simple flint-tempered coarse-ware bowl (not closely datable)
Roman		
9124	4717 1158	Roman brick and tile fragments, including a piece of combed box flue tile. Copper alloy objects consisted of a 3 rd century barbarous radiate, and a Hod Hill-type brooch. 6 pot sherds were recovered comprising a sandy grey ware, Hadham Oxidised Ware, and Samian (?South Gaulish)
Medieval		
3642	470 116	St Johns Church, some medieval pottery found to the east of the church in 1989
9122	471 115	Old Harlow – the medieval township of Harlow, now known as Old Harlow, grew up after the grant in 1218 of a Monday market and annual fair to abbot Hugh II of the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds, who held the manor of Harlowbury. The market place lies half a mile SE of Harlowbury, beside the junction of the north-south London to Epping to Newmarket Road, and the east-west Hertford to Dunmow road. The Rentals of 1302 and 1430 list 54 tenants in the market place. It is possible that an earlier market may have been held on this site during the reign of Stephen
9125	4717 1158	A sequence commenced with a structure built with earth-fast posts, datable to the 13 th century, which was succeeded by a more permanent building dating to the 13 th –14 th century
Post-medieval		
3617	470 116	Post-med finds made to the east and west of the church of St John the Baptist, 18 th and 19 th century pottery noted in sand pits, may reflect commercial sand extraction or backfilling
3641	4709 1162	Church of St John the Baptist, brick church built 1839-41 as a chapel of ease to the medieval church of St Mary the Virgin. In 1857 it became a parish church in its own right but in 1923 the two parishes were reunited. Made redundant in 1977
9126	4717 1158	A layer of gravel covering the entire site seems to represent a major renewal of the market surface c. 16 th –17 th century. On this was constructed a timber framed building which probably underwent several phases of reconstruction before being demolished in the 20 th century

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1. Marigolds, 64 High Street, Old Harlow, Essex. View SE.



DP 2. Trench 1. View E.



DP 3. Trench 1, E end. Sample section. View S.



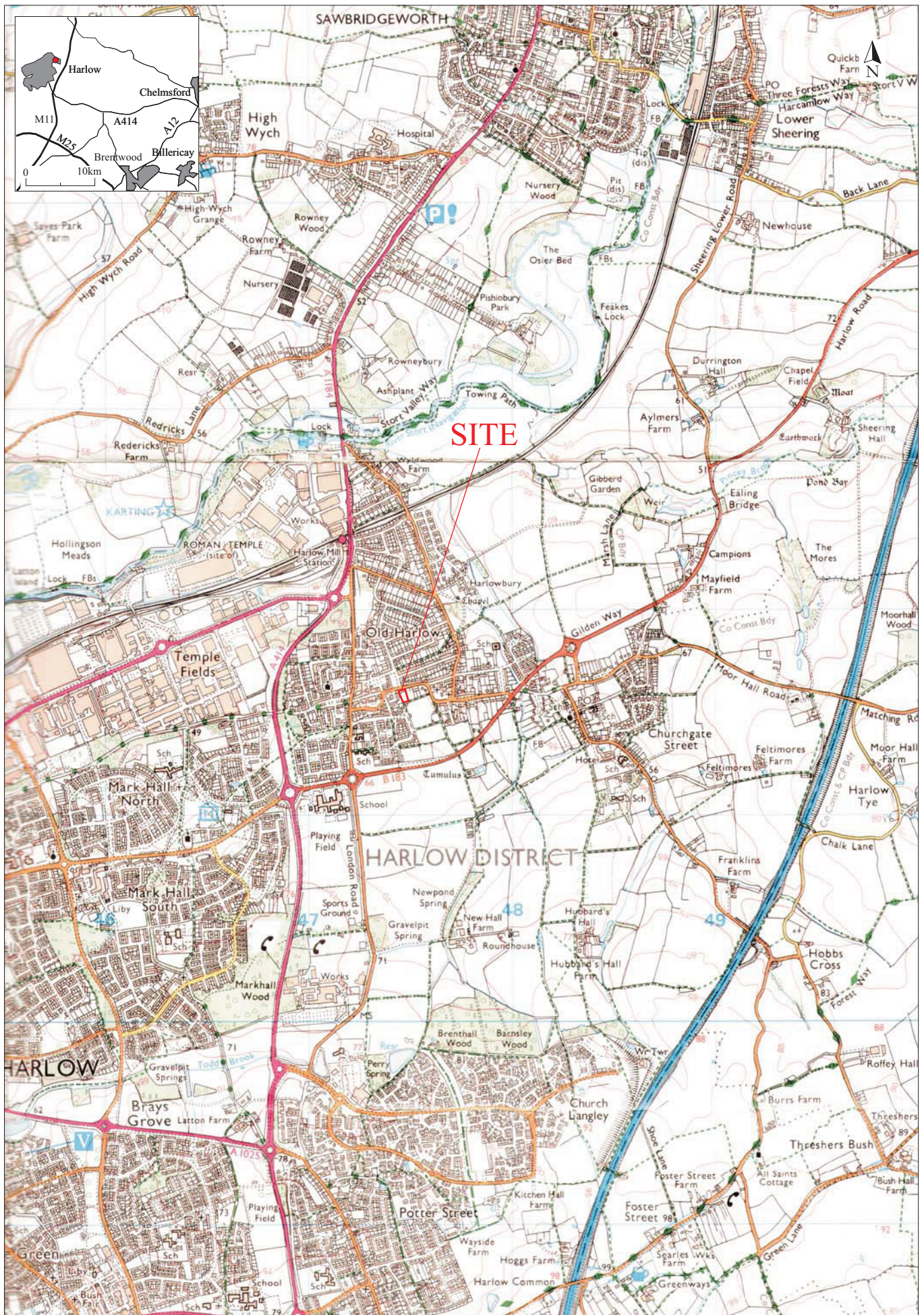
DP 4. Trench 1, W end. Sample section. View S.



DP 5. Trench 2. View N.

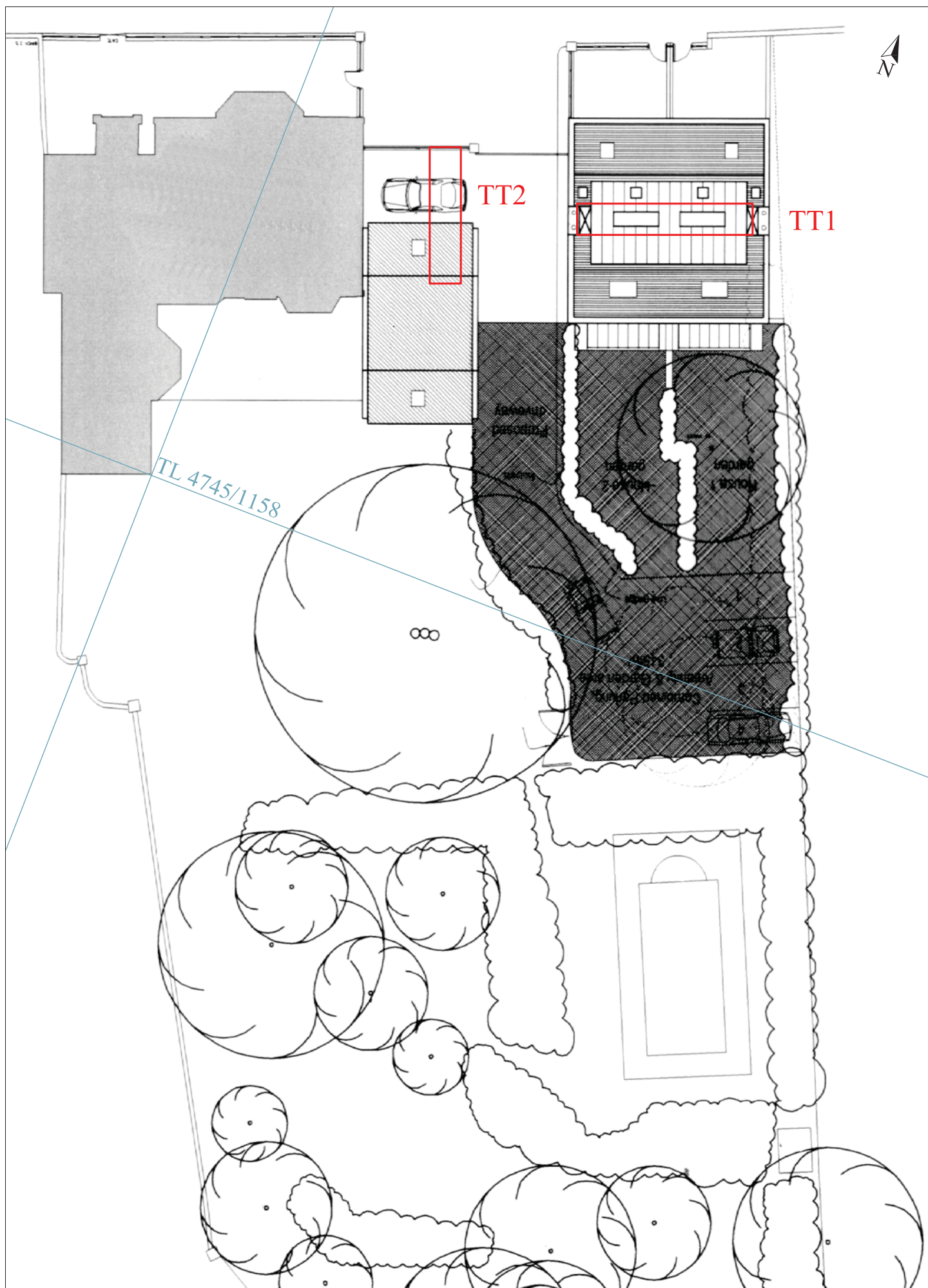


DP 6. Trench 2, S end. Sample section. View W.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4

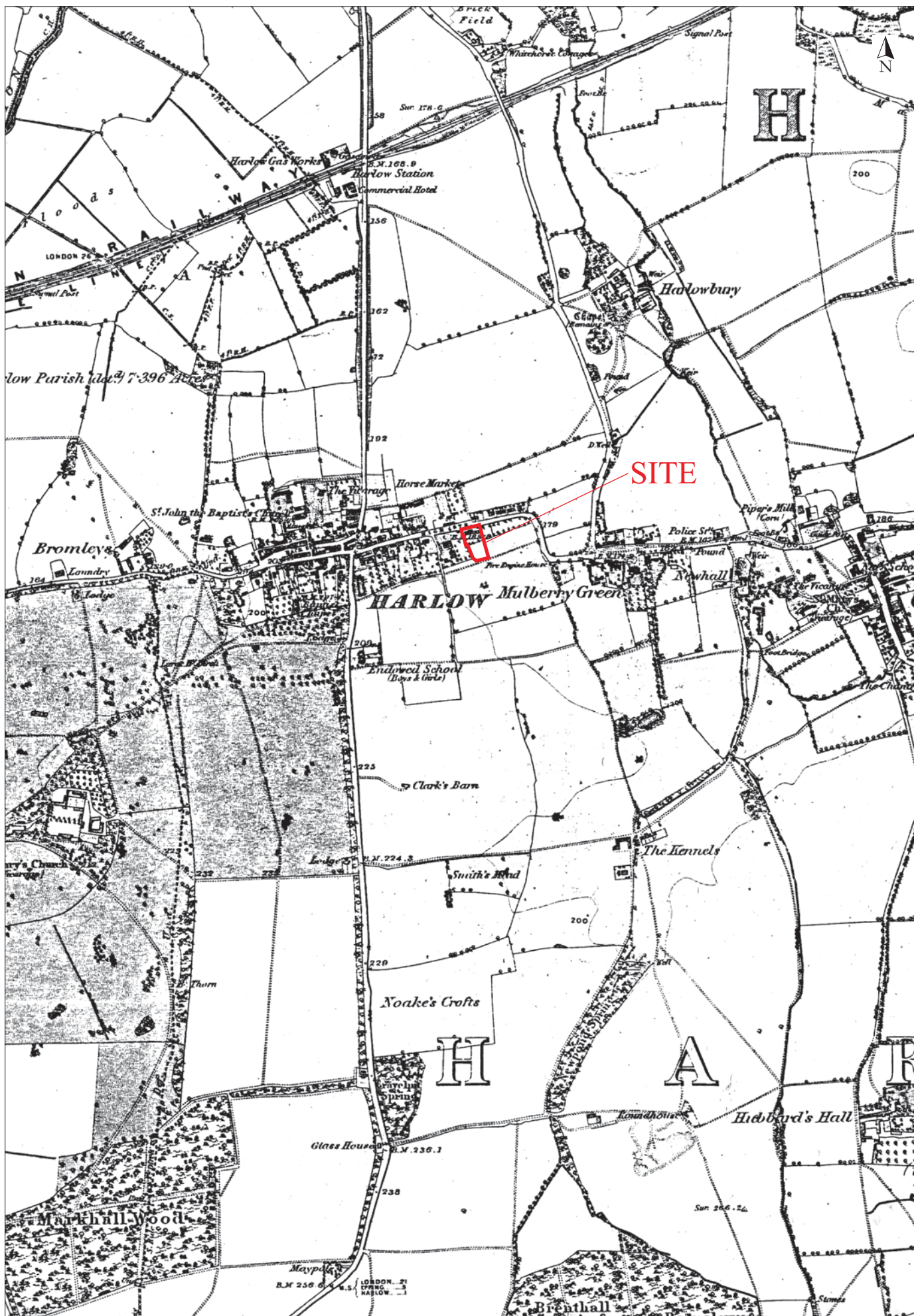


0 15m

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Fig. 2 Trench location plan

Scale 1:250 at A4

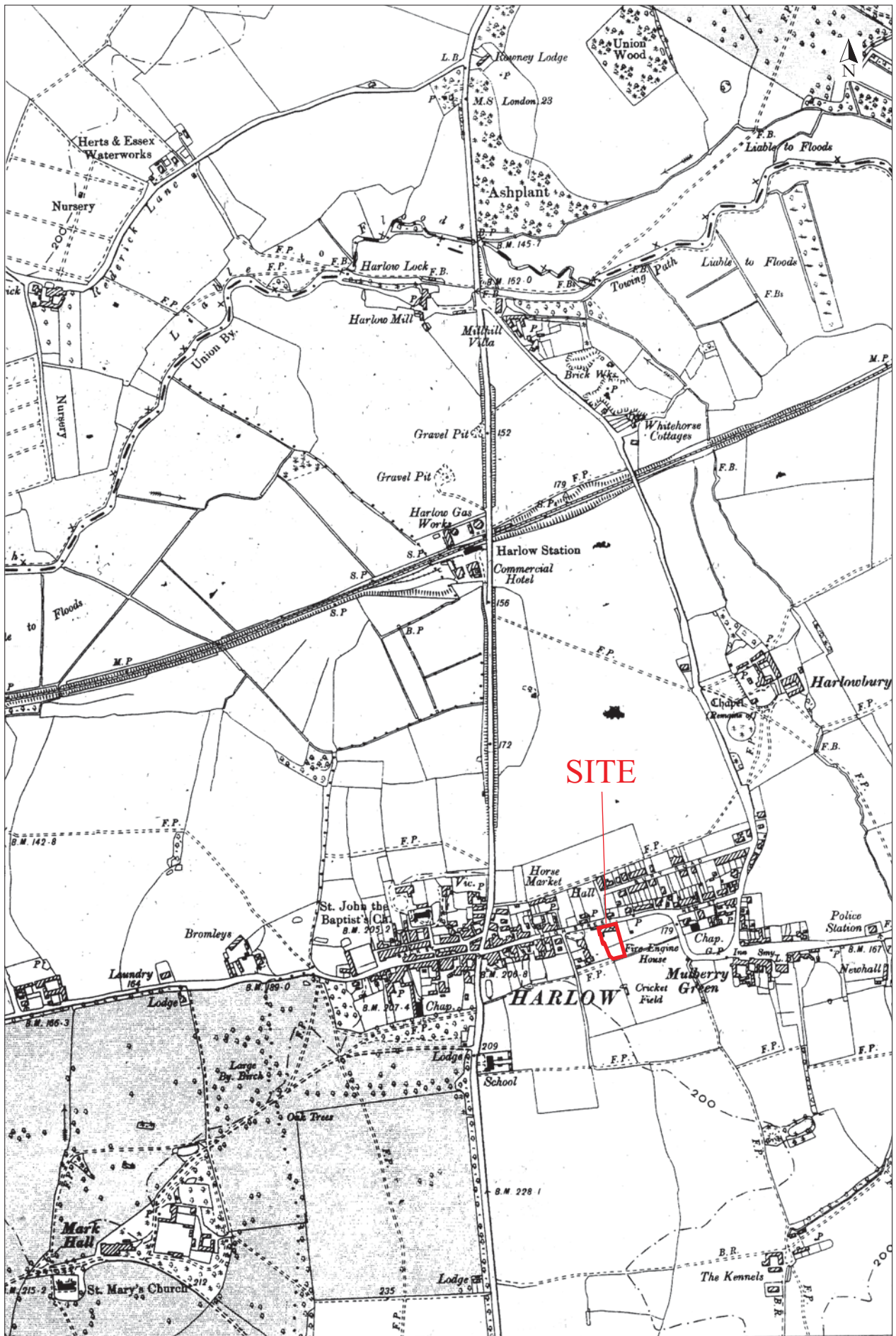


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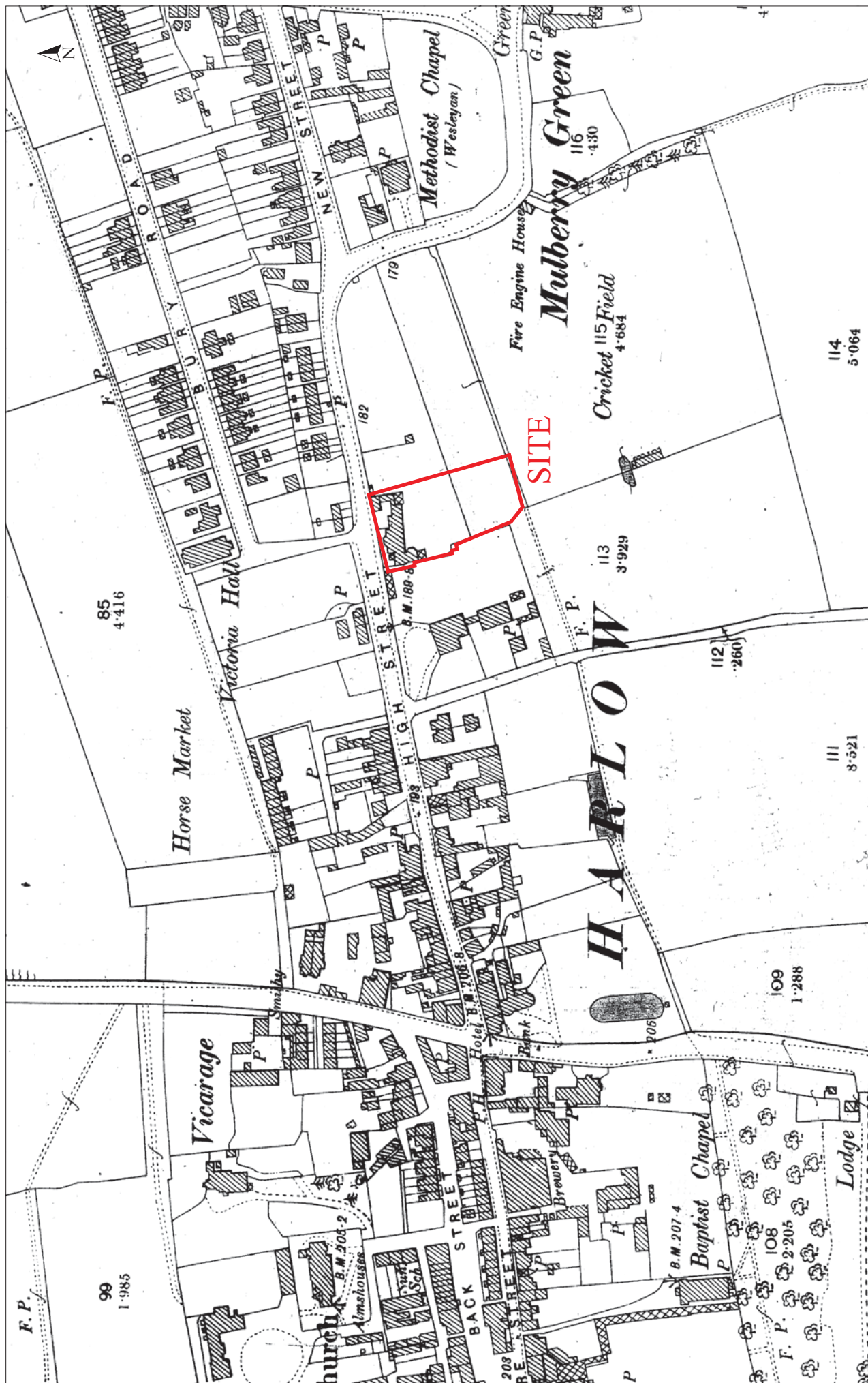
Fig. 3 1st edition OS map, 1873-8

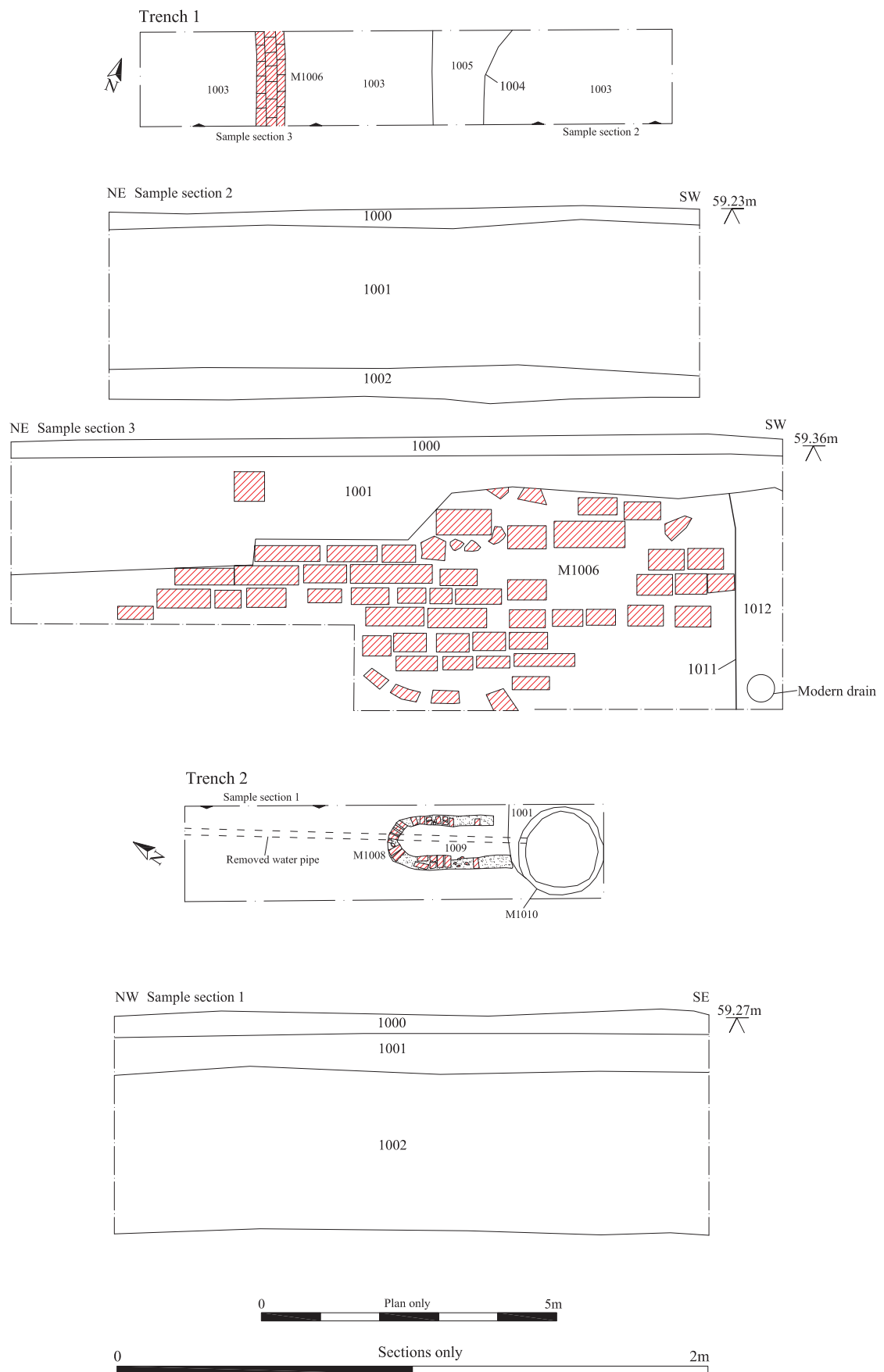
Scale 6 inch to 1 mile at A4



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Fig. 4 1st edition OS map, 1897
 Scale 6 inch to 1 mile at A4





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Fig. 6 Plans & sections
Scale plans at 1:100 & sections at 1:20 at A4