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Archaeological Observation & Photographic Survey

On behalf of:

Mr & Mrs T. Vaughan
The Queens 113 Lower Galdeford
Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1RU

September 2014



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1 Executive Summary

Border Archaeology undertook a programme of Archaeological Observation of ground works & Photographic Survey relating to the conversion of outbuildings at The Queens Public House to holiday let units. The work was carried out between January 25th and February 5th 2014 with observation subdivided into two discrete areas.

Area 1 comprised the footprint of an outbuilding measuring 4.5m × 8.5m to the rear of the public house. A photographic survey of this structure was carried out prior to demolition, following which an L-shaped foundation trench was excavated.

A sandstone foundation aligned north-south and an associated lime-mortar floor were revealed beneath modern landscaping deposits and the internal floor surface of the outbuilding. These appeared to form part of an earlier building on a similar footprint extending to the south of the public house.

Area 2 comprised an extant building measuring 5.4m × 4.6m immediately north of Area 1 and forming the rear section of the existing range. A concrete floor was removed and the surface reduced by 0.3m. A trench was opened east-west to a further 0.4m below this level.

The ground works revealed a series of internal subdivisions within the building. These included an extension of a corridor running north-south from the front of the public house. Several later subdivisions occurred within this corridor, probably associated with the use of the building as a WC. A lime-mortar floor surface, possibly a continuation of that observed in Area 1, was revealed at the base of the trench in this area.

2 Introduction

Border Archaeology was commissioned by Mr and Mrs T Vaughan to carry out a programme of Archaeological Observation (Watching Brief) & Photographic Survey at The Queens Public House 113 Lower Galdeford Ludlow Shropshire SY8 1RU (NGR: SO51337 74696) in respect of a proposed change of use and conversion of outbuildings to holiday lets (SCC Planning Ref: 13/03757/FUL) (*fig. 1*).



Fig 1: Location of site

Copies of this report will be submitted to Mr and Mrs T Vaughan and to Mick Krupa Esq Historic Environment Records Officer Historic Environment Team Shropshire Council.

3 Site description

The study area at 113 Lower Galdeford lies within the Ludlow Galdeford Conservation Area and occupies a back-plot location some 20m away from the line of the 13th /14th century town defences (HER No. 01177; NMN SA147) and close to the site of Galdeford Gate (HER No. 01765) (SO 5133 7472), one of eight such points of entry through the defensive circuit into the town. The area lies close to the eastern main gate (Galdeford Gate) within an area of presumed later 12th -century extra-mural settlement. The study area is also bounded to the S by the Augustinian friary, part of which is a SAM and is depicted on John Wood's 1835 map of Ludlow as being within a garden or orchard area.

Ludlow is classified as un-surveyed by the Soil Survey of England & Wales (SSEW 1983); however, the town lies adjacent to a hinterland characterized by typical argillic brown earths of the BROMYARD series (571b). These comprise well-drained fine reddish silty soils over Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone (SSEW 1983).

The land is currently occupied by an antiques shop and by The Queens Public House with a large beer garden and vacant plot to the rear.

4 Brief historical & archaeological background

The eastern suburb of Lower Galdeford appears to date from the later 12th century and evidently represents a period of expansion contemporary with the laying-out of Corve Street and Old Street (Conzen 1988, 266; Dalwood 1996, 17). The area may have formed a small late Saxon or early medieval pre-urban settlement prior to that date (HER No. 08073) (SO 513 747), later becoming the focus for farms and agricultural activity associated with the town fields (Faraday 1991). During the post-medieval period, Galdeford was the site of the town barn.

Construction of the defences, which comprise a ditch (now largely in-filled), gates and town wall, began with the issue of a licence in 1233 and continued until around 1317. The circuit respects the curving alignment of adjacent property boundaries, which were thus in existence prior to its construction. The defences also follow the local topography, with some existing parts of the town becoming extramural suburbs.

It appears, based on its relatively slight construction compared with true defensive works, such as the town walls at Shrewsbury, that the primary function of the wall at Ludlow was administrative, providing a means of controlling access into the town. Upkeep of the fabric, largely of rubble sandstone masonry, was through the provision of murage grants and these are recorded in 1294 and 1309. By the mid-15th century, the defences were in the ownership of the Corporation and a century later leases were being issued for lime-pits, gardens and small houses. A drawbridge evidently spanned the ditch at Broad Gate in 1691, although a cottage is recorded as occupying the ditch at this time.

The section of the town wall extending S from the site of Galdeford Gate is designated as a Grade II Listed Building (Listed Building No. 1282006)

Evidence of Galdeford Gate was revealed during the course of a watching brief (unpublished) on engineering excavations carried out during the rebuilding of 116-9 Lower Galdeford. A curving outer face of dressed stones was identified c 1.7m below modern street level forming part of a circular structure estimated to measure around 6.5m in diameter. Excavations continued internally to reveal a layer of *in-situ* masonry at a depth of around 2m below street level, which has subsequently been interpreted as the base of a tower, probably part of the Galdeford Gate. The gate is mentioned in the mid-16th century and in 1603 'Galdeford Tower' contained a gaol.

Border Archaeology previously carried out a programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation and Heritage Impact Assessment at The Queens (BA 2013) in connection with a separate application for a proposed development comprising six new dwellings on land to the rear of the property following the demolition of the existing shop and outbuildings (SCC Planning Refs. 12/02607/FUL; 12/02151/OUT).

The evaluation results demonstrated activity in the area from at least the 13th century, and possibly as early as the 12th century, based on the recovery of a sherd from a jar (fabric C1), possibly of that date. The pottery evidence confirmed that areas of undisturbed medieval stratigraphy survived despite disturbance of earlier deposits during the early post-medieval and later period. A relatively small amount of bulk slag and hammer-scale was also recovered, all of which relates to ironworking.

5 Methodology

Archaeological Observation within the area specified was carried out in accordance with *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA, 2008 - updated Nov 22nd 2013) and *Understanding Historic Buildings A guide to good recording practice* (King 2006). Border Archaeology adheres to the *IfA Code of conduct* (2013 - updated Mar 20th 2014) and *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in archaeology* (2008 - updated Mar 20th 2014).

Ground works were carried out by machine and toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. Where any clear archaeological horizon was attained, machining ceased and excavation proceeded manually to the base of archaeological deposits or to engineering impact depth.

Manual excavation proceeded in a manner consistent with achieving full characterisation of all structures, features and deposits constituting the archaeological sequence thus revealed and with the aim of securing preservation by record of the archaeological deposits.

Full written, graphic and photographic records were made in accordance with Border Archaeology's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (2014). Separate written descriptions of each context were compiled.

Drawn records were produced at an appropriate scale. Representative measured sections were prepared as appropriate showing the sequence and depths of deposits, where practicable and strictly within established safety parameters. A temporary benchmark (TBM) was established at appropriate locations and plans, elevations and sections contain grid and level information relative to OS data. All drawings are numbered and listed in a drawing register, these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records.

A photographic record was made using a high-resolution digital camera, comprising photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. An appropriate scale was included in

each photograph and all such records were indexed and cross-referenced to written site records. Details concerning subject and direction of view were maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.

5.1 Sampling

No deposits suitable for the recovery of palaeoenvironmental/palaeoeconomic samples were identified during the course of this programme of works

5.2 Recovery, processing and curation of artefactual data

All finds recovered during the course of the ground works were late 19th century or later in date and were recorded but not retained.

6 Summary of Results

6.1 Area 1

6.1.1 Modern contexts

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(101)	Disuse deposit, underlying (113), overlying (106)
(113)	Soil dump or landscaping layer , underlying (114), overlying (101) and (112)
(114)	Asphalt path surface running along the E side of the site, overlying (113)

6.1.2 Late post-medieval contexts, associated with later 19th -century building and terracing behind the street frontage

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(106)	Stack-bonded, sandy mortared brick surface within building, underlying (101), overlying (107)
(107)	Sandstone masonry rubble and sand deposit underlying (106), filling [117]
[108]	Cut for terracing to the rear of the street frontage, filled by (109) (110) and (111)
(109)	Soft organic dump of material, underlying (110) filling [108]
(110)	Soft clay silt, underlying (111), overlying (109), filling [108]
(111)	Reddish clay, underlying (112), overlying (110), filling [108]
(112)	Cinder path underlying (113) overlying (111)
[117]	Construction cut for floor (106), filled by (106) and (107) cutting (102) and (105)

6.1.3 Post-medieval (early 19th -century) contexts associated with earlier phase of building on the site

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(102)	Lime mortar floor surface, cut by [108] and [117] overlying (103)
(103)	Very thick poorly stratified garden soils, underlying (102) cut by [104] overlying (115)
[104]	Cut for wall, filled by (105) cutting (103)
(105)	N-S oriented wall, sandstone, lime mortar bonded, cut by [108] and [117], filling [104]
(115)	Post medieval garden soils, underlying (103), overlying (116)

6.1.4 Natural deposits

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(116)	Cohesive red clay, underlying (115)

6.2 Area 2

6.2.1 Modern contexts, concrete floor surface and sub-base

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(211)	Concrete floor, from C20 usage of the building as the public house WC, overlying (212)
(212)	Brick rubble and sand forming a crude sub base, underlying (211) overlying (210)
(207)	Internal wall foundation, brick (220mm × 100mm × 70mm), thickness not determined, stack bond? cement mortared oriented E-W, forming a cubicle, underlying (210), overlying (206), contemporary with (208) and (209)
(208)	Internal wall foundation, brick (220mm × 100mm × 70mm), thickness not determined, stack-bond? cement mortared oriented E-W, forming a cubicle, underlying (210), overlying (206), contemporary with (207) and (209)
(209)	Internal wall foundation, brick (220mm × 100mm × 70mm), thickness not determined, stack bond? cement mortared oriented E-W, forming a cubicle, underlying (210), overlying (206), contemporary with (207) and (208)
(210)	Concrete floor surface adjacent to in-filled half of doorway on E elevation of building, underlying (212) overlying (207), (208) and (209)

6.2.2 Late post medieval contexts, corridor running N-S through the 19th –century outbuilding and made up deposits

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(201)	Brick and stone rubble made-ground deposit, underlying (206), overlying (205) contemporary with (202), (203) and (204)
(202)	Brick and stone rubble made-ground deposit, underlying (206), overlying (205) contemporary with (201), (203) and (204)
(203)	Brick and stone rubble made-ground deposit, underlying (206), overlying (205) contemporary with (201), (202) and (204)
(204)	Brick and stone rubble made-ground deposit, underlying (206), overlying (205) contemporary with (201), (202) and (203)
(206)	Internal wall foundation, brick (220mm × 100mm × 70mm), three courses thick, running bond, cement-mortared oriented N-S, forming a continuation of the extant corridor arrangement within the public house building. Underlies (207), (208) and (209), overlies (201), (202), (203) and (204)

6.2.3 Post-medieval (probably early 19th -century) floor surface

CONTEXT	INTERPRETATION
(205)	Lime-mortar floor surface, revealed within construction trench, earlier floor surface probably associated with earlier building on the site, underlying (201), (202), (203) and (204)

7 Discussion

7.1 Mid-late post-medieval (probably early-mid 19th century) features

Ground works within Area 1 revealed a substantial wall course (105) oriented N-S (*Plate 2; fig. 2*). This was constructed from unworked, un-coursed, lime-mortar bonded sandstone and was located directly beneath the brick-built E elevation of the former outbuilding. It was similar in construction and material to the lower part of the extant boundary wall which formed the W elevation of the building (*Plate 1*). A lime-mortar surface (102) was revealed in the S-facing section of the E-W trenching (*Plate 3; fig. 4*); this appears to have been a continuation of the floor surface (205) encountered at this level in Area 2 (*fig. 6*).

It is likely that this earlier stone building was constructed as a lean-to, utilising the existing boundary wall to the W. It was similar in width to the later brick building, which was also constructed in this manner. The southern extent of wall (105) was truncated. The northern extent ran beneath the eastern elevation of Area 2 and it was thus not possible to establish its full extent.

These structural elements probably constituted the earlier phase of outbuilding construction associated with the 'Queen's Head', as the property is referred to in the 1851 trade directory. John Wood's 1832 map of Ludlow shows a building in the location on the frontage of Lower Goalford (*sic*) now occupied by the present public house but no buildings are depicted to the S of it. It seems most likely therefore that the masonry outbuilding was not erected until after 1832.

Underlying (102) and (105) were two distinct layers of garden soil, (103) and (115), consistent with the historic map evidence, which suggests that the plot was formerly orchards (*Plate 3; figs. 3 & 4*).



Plate 1: View W of extant boundary wall forming lower structure of western elevation of outbuilding (Area 1)



Plate 2: View N of wall course (105) in section (Area 1)



Plate 3: E-W trench at N end of Area 1, showing whitish lime-mortar surface (102) in section

7.2 Late post-medieval (mid-late 19th –early 20th century) features

Excavations in Area 1 revealed that the post-medieval garden soil layer (103) was later terraced or stepped [108] (*fig. 3*). The terrace had subsequently been in-filled by a series of made-ground deposits, (109), (110) and (111), underlying a cinder path surface (112) running between the E elevation of Area 1 and the beer-garden area (*fig. 3*).

The stone outbuilding (105) had been demolished by this point and replaced by two brick-built outbuildings (referred to as Area 1 and Area 2). Some of the stone from the earlier building appears to have been reused as

sub-base material (107) underlying the brick floor surface in Area 1 (106). The northernmost building (Area 2) was erected before the southern building (Area 1), which may not have been constructed until after the former fell out of use as a stables, probably towards the end of this period.

The northernmost outbuilding (Area 2) had a large double-width doorway on the eastern elevation (*Plate 4*). A bricked-up entrance is discernible on the S elevation of Area 2; this was probably a pitching door for a hay loft, over the stables (*Plate 5*). Removal of the modern floor surfaces revealed the brick coursing for the W wall of the internal corridor (206), probably a later addition contemporary with the construction of the S building (Area 1) (*fig. 5*).



Plate 4: E elevation of Area 2 (formerly stables) showing bricked-up double-door (partially obscured by covered passageway)

The S outbuilding (Area 1) was constructed as a lean-to using the W boundary wall. The stable building (Area 2) was freestanding but built up against the boundary wall.



Plate 5: Internal view looking N of S elevation of Area 2, showing bricked-up doorway and corridor extending along the E side of the Area 1 building; the wooden sill for a possible pitching door is also visible in this picture



Plate 6: Internal view S of internal corridor (206) in Area 2

7.3 Modern features

In Area 1, modern deposits comprised a post-demolition accumulation overlying the brick surface (106) and the modern path surface (114) overlying (112) (fig. 3).

Area 2 underwent a change of use during this period, with the upper storey sealed by a plasterboard ceiling and the internal space converted into the public house toilet. The doorway into Area 1 and the double-doorway on the eastern elevation were bricked up. A number of additional internal walls were added during this period.

8 Summary & conclusion

The programme of archaeological work was subdivided into two discrete areas.

The first of these, Area 1, comprised the footprint of an outbuilding measuring 4.5m × 8.5m situated to the rear of the public house. A photographic survey was made of the structure prior to demolition and the commencement of ground works, which involved excavation of an L-shaped foundation trench.

Underlying modern landscaping deposits and an internal floor surface, a N-S sandstone foundation was revealed together with associated lime-mortar flooring, which appeared to represent an earlier building on a similar footprint extending to the S of the public house.

Situated immediately N of Area 1 and forming the rear section of the existing range, Area 2 comprised an extant building measuring 5.4m × 4.6m. A concrete floor was removed and the surface reduced by 0.3m. An E-W trench was opened to a further 0.4m below this level.

A series of internal subdivisions were revealed within the building, which included an extension of a corridor running N-S from the front of the public house. Later subdivisions within this corridor were probably associated with the use of the building as a WC. A lime-mortar floor surface, possibly a continuation of that observed in Area 1, was revealed at the base of the trench in this area.

9 Appendix: Drawings



Fig 2: Plan of Area 1, showing N-S wall (105)

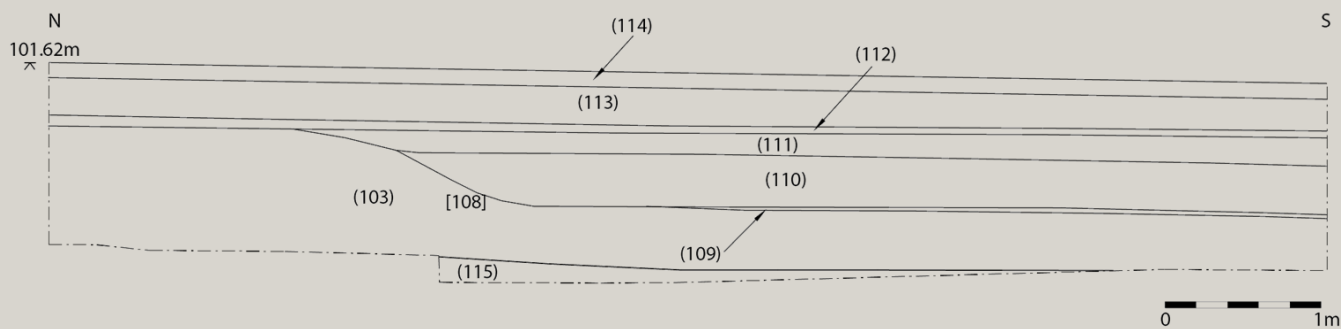


Fig 3: W-facing section of Area 1

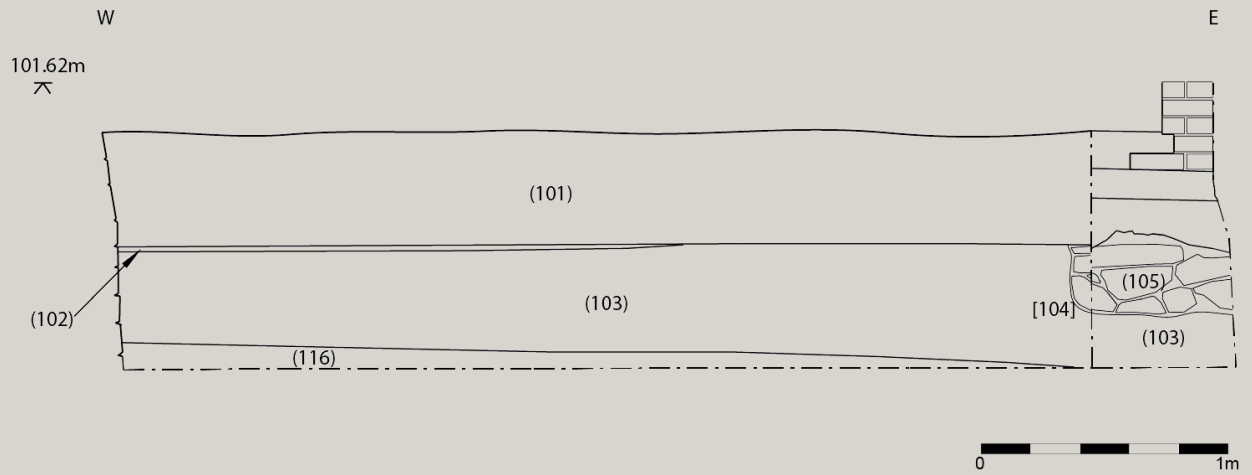


Fig 4: S-facing section of Area 1

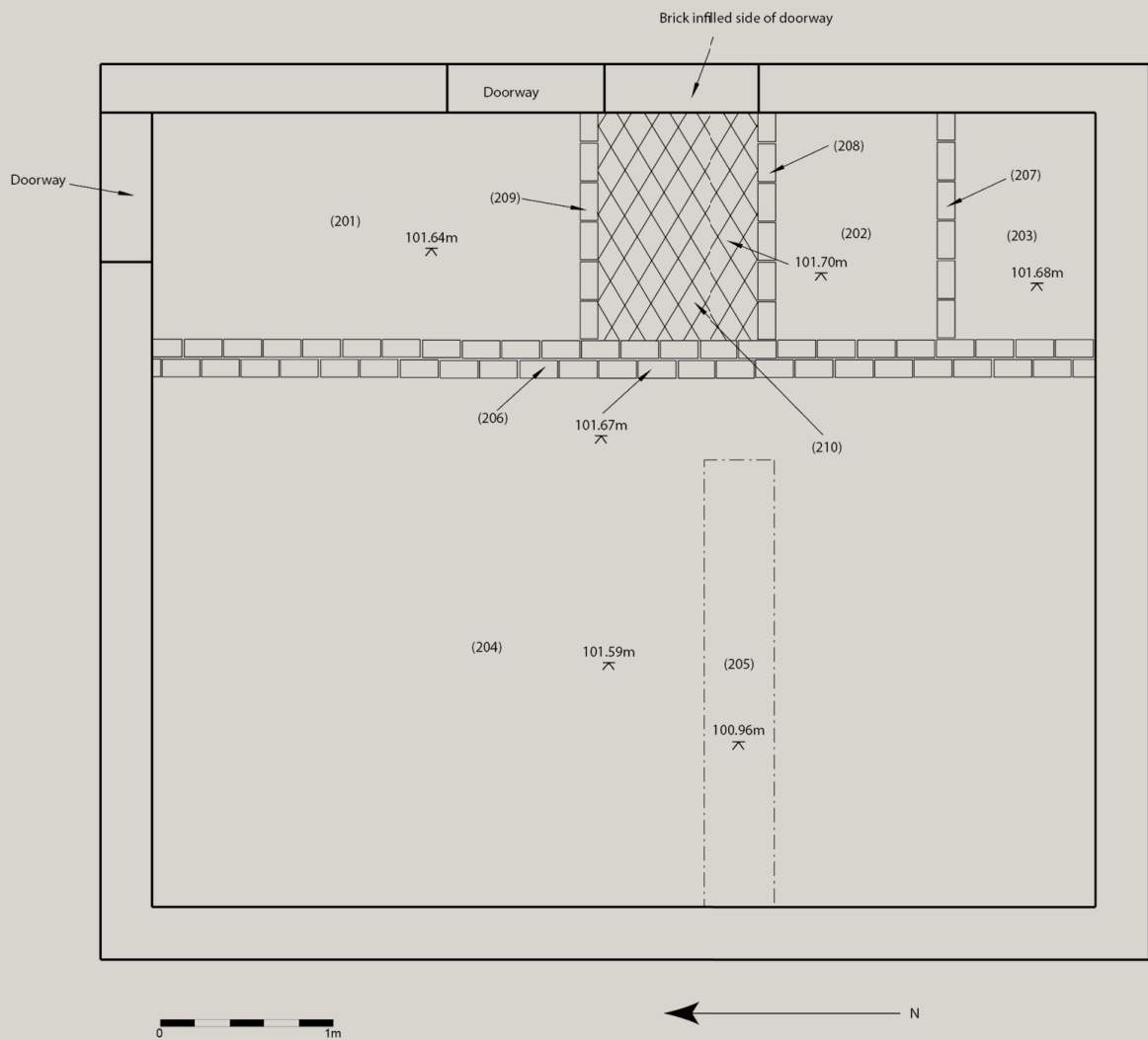


Fig 5: Plan of Area 2

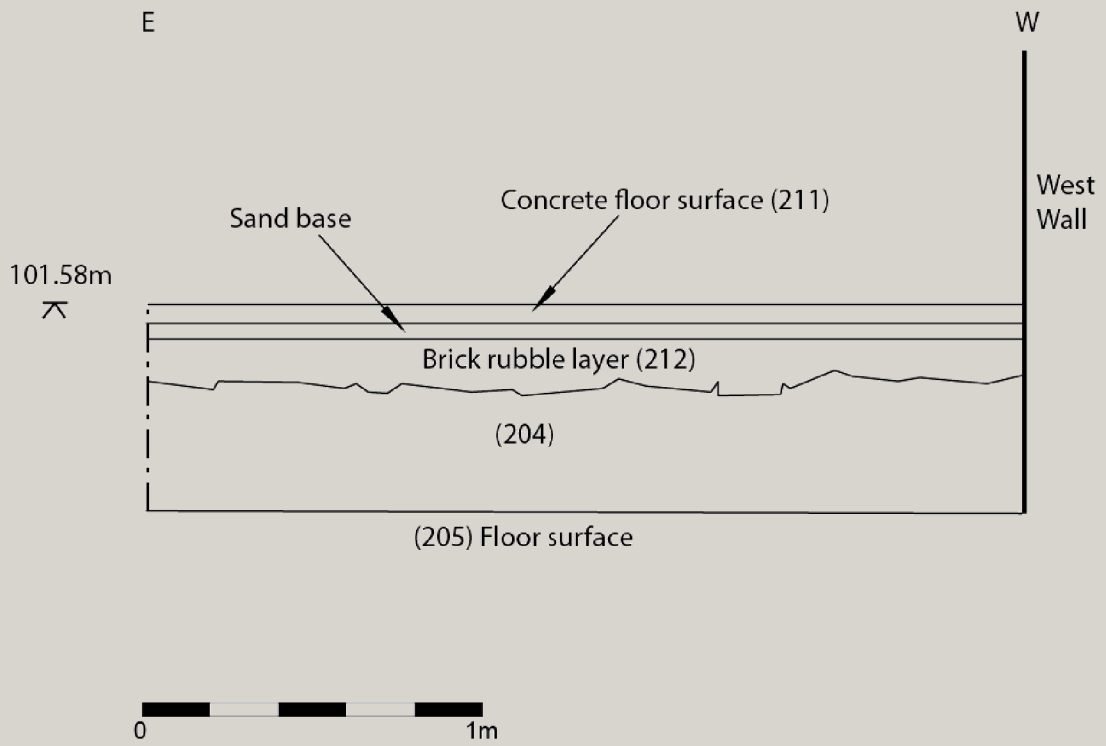


Fig 6: N-facing section of trench in Area 2

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10.1 Cartographic Sources

John Wood 1835 Map of Ludlow

1885 Town Plans – Ludlow, Shropshire 1:1500.

1963-1964 Post WWII – Herefordshire 1:10,560.

1968 Post-WWII - Herefordshire 1:2,500.

1974-1988 Post WWII – Herefordshire 1:2,500.

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