

birmingham archaeology

LAND ADJACENT TO THE CROWN
AND CUSHION PUBLIC HOUSE,
WELLINGTON ROAD, PERRY BARR,
BIRMINGHAM:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
2006

Project No.1408

**LAND ADJACENT TO THE CROWN AND CUSHION PUBLIC HOUSE,
WELLINGTON ROAD, PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM:**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2006

By

Mary Duncan

For

Landstone Group Ltd

For further information please contact:

Alex Jones (Director)

Birmingham Archaeology

The University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Birmingham B15 2TT

Tel: 0121 414 5513

Fax: 0121 414 5516

E-Mail: bham-arch@bham.ac.uk

Web Address: <http://www.barch.bham.ac.uk/bufau>

**LAND ADJACENT TO THE CROWN AND CUSHION PUBLIC HOUSE, WELLINGTON ROAD,
PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM:**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2006

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT.....	1
1.2	LOCATION AND GEOLOGY.....	1
2	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
3	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2
4	METHODOLOGY	2
4.1	FIELDWORK.....	2
5	RESULTS	3
5.1	INTRODUCTION.....	3
5.2	SUBSOIL (NATURAL).....	3
5.3	TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS.....	3
6	THE FINDS	4
7	DISCUSSION	5
8	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	6
9	REFERENCES	6

Appendix 1: Birmingham City Council Brief

Appendix 2: feature and context descriptions

List of figures

Fig. 1: Site location

Fig. 2: Trench location

Fig. 3: East facing section, Trench 1 and northeast facing section, Trench 2

Fig. 4: East facing section, Trench 3

List of plates

Plate 1: Trench 1 view northwest

Plate 2: Trench 2 view southeast

Plate 3: Trench 3 view south

SUMMARY

Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to the Crown and Cushion Public House, Wellington Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham (NGR SP 0671 9088) in February 2006. The evaluation was required by Birmingham City Council, to provide further information to facilitate the determination of a planning application for a proposed residential development. A desk-based assessment carried out prior to the evaluation indicated that the site had potential to contain archaeological deposits associated with a Roman pottery kiln, dating to the second century AD, discovered nearby in the 1950s. Evidence of settlement dating to the first and second centuries AD was also recorded at the kiln site. The site is also close to the predicted line of the Roman road Icknield Street, and near to the location of several finds of Roman coins.

Three trial-trenches were excavated over the area of the proposed development. No significant archaeological features were encountered during the evaluation. A shallow gully of probable pre-late 19th century date was recorded in one trench. This was partly filled by a degraded buried soil, overlying the natural sand and gravel, which was present in all the trenches. Although this contained no dating evidence it probably pre-dated the late 19th century development of the site. Another layer sealing the buried soil, also encountered in all trenches was probably a 19th century garden soil. Cutting these soils were the remnants of brick footings and associated brick surfaces associated with 19th century housing and related structures depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 and later maps. No evidence of activity dating to the Roman period was recorded. The depth of stratigraphy and the preservation of a buried soil demonstrated that, if early deposits had been present on the site, there was a good probability that they would have been preserved, indicating a lack of activity rather than later destruction of any evidence.

LAND ADJACENT TO THE CROWN AND CUSHION PUBLIC HOUSE, WELLINGTON ROAD, PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2006

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the project

This report outlines the results of an archaeological evaluation, carried out by Birmingham Archaeology, in February 2006, at land adjacent to the Crown and Cushion Public House, Wellington Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham. The evaluation was commissioned by Landstone Group Ltd and was required by Birmingham City Council, to provide further information to facilitate the determination of a planning application (Planning Application Number N/07712/05/FUL) for a proposed residential development.

The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by Birmingham City Council (Appendix 1), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006) which was approved by Birmingham City Council, prior to implementation. The work was carried out in accordance with guidelines laid down in the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 2001) and conformed to Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990), Birmingham City Council's Archaeology Strategy Supplementary Planning Guidance (BCC 2004) and policy 8.36 of the Council's Unitary Development Plan.

1.2 Location and geology

The site is located adjacent to the Crown and Cushion Public House on the corner of Wellington Road and Birchfield Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham (Fig. 1, centred on NGR SP 0671 9088 and hereinafter referred to as the site). The site covers a total area of 0.164 ha. The present character of the site is a grassed area to the west and part of a tarmac surfaced car park to the east. The site is bounded by Wellington Road to the south with the Crown and Cushion Public House, associated car park and Birchfield Road to the east. To the north and west of the site are modern light industrial units. The cutting for a railway line and Perry Barr Station are located beyond the industrial units, to the north of the site. The River Tame is situated 0.4km further to the north.

The underlying geology of the local area consists of sand and gravel and Bunter pebble beds with some areas of boulder clay (British Geological Survey, Sheet 168)

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Prior to the evaluation a desk-based assessment (Ramsey 2006) was carried out and the main points are summarised below. Previous archaeological excavation at Wellington Road, 350m to the west, identified archaeological remains associated with a Roman pottery kiln dating to the second century AD, and evidence of settlement from the first and second centuries AD. The site is also close to the predicted line of Icknield Street, and the location of several finds of Romano-British coins. The assessment highlighted the potential for archaeological remains of this period to survive within the site boundaries. The assessment also highlighted the potential

for archaeological remains of the post-medieval period to be present within the site boundaries. Cartographic evidence suggested that the area of the site immediately to the north of the present Crown and Cushion public house was not developed during the post-medieval period. It was thought likely that there was a greater potential for the survival of pre Post-medieval remains in the northern part of the site, given this lack of development. The proximity to the River Tame also indicated that there was potential for waterlogged environmental remains to survive, which could significantly contribute to our understanding of the local environment.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the evaluation was to determine the character, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains.

More specific aims as detailed in the written scheme of investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006, 3) were to:

- Investigate the survival of structures and deposits related to Roman pottery manufacture.
- Investigate the survival of structures and deposits relating to Roman settlement.
- Investigate the survival of environmental remains, particularly within alluvial deposits.
- Investigate the potential for the site to contribute to the understanding of the historic development of this part of Birmingham.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork

The site covers an area of approximately 0.164 hectares. A total of 3 trenches were excavated across the site totalling 112m² that provided a 7% sample of the total area (Fig. 2). Trenches were regularly spaced across the site. Trench 3 was located in a part of the site which was thought to have the least disturbance from late post-medieval and modern development.

All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the natural subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned, and sections were drawn through all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and feature cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using monochrome, colour slide and digital photography.

The full site archive includes all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). Finds and the paper

archive will be deposited with the appropriate repository, subject to permission from the landowner.

5 RESULTS (Fig. 2)

5.1 Introduction

Detailed summaries of the contexts within individual trenches are presented in Appendix 2 and full details are available in the project archive. Contexts in Trench 1 are numbered from 1000 onwards, contexts in Trench 2 are numbered from 2000 onwards and contexts in Trench 3 are numbered from 3000 onwards.

5.2 Subsoil (natural)

The natural subsoil was reached at a height of approximately 102m AOD, 1.0- 1.2m below the present ground surface. It generally consisted of orange sand and gravel (1010, 2010 and 3016) with some areas of natural clay (1017 and 1018).

5.3 Trench descriptions

Trench 1 (Fig. 3, Plate 1)

The natural subsoil (1010) was cut by an east- west aligned gully (1009), 1m wide and 0.40m deep, with a flat base and steeply sloping sides. The primary fill of gully 1009 was a brown sandy silt (1008), 0.25m deep. A layer of brown sandy silt (1007), 0.30m deep, sealed the natural subsoil and filled the upper part of gully 1009. This was sealed, in the southern part of the trench, by a layer of brown- green silt (1006), 0.10m deep. Layer 1006 was sealed by a layer of black charcoal- rich silt- clay (1005), 0.10m deep. Layer 1005 was cut by an east- west aligned vertical- sided foundation trench (1015) and two large vertical sided pits (1011 and 1021). Square pit 1011 was 3.75m wide and 0.65m deep. It contained a concrete block or pile (1014) and two silty clays fills (1012 and 1013). Sub- circular pit 1021 (not illustrated) was 4.50m wide and 0.85m deep and contained a black silty fill (1025). Foundation trench 1015, was 2.25m wide and 0.80m deep. It contained brick rubble and an east- west aligned brick wall on its north side (1016). Layer 1005 was also cut by a small pit (1020, not illustrated), 1.25m wide and 0.85m deep, filled with silt and modern rubbish (1024). South of 1015, layer 1005 and the fill of pit 1011 were sealed by a floor surface (1004), 0.20m thick, constructed of red bricks (each measuring 9" x 4" x 3") laid at an angle. Surface 1004 and layer 1005 were sealed by a layer of clinker and ash (1003), 0.10- 0.20m deep. This was sealed by a layer of topsoil and turf (1000), 0.30m deep.

Trench 2 (Fig. 3, Plate 2)

The natural subsoil (2010) was sealed by a layer of brown sandy silt (2006), 0.30m deep. This was sealed by a layer of dark grey clay- sand- silt (2004), 0.30m deep. Layers 2004 and 2006 were cut by an east- west aligned ceramic drain (2011), 0.3m wide and 0.60m deep, and a foundation trench (2007), at least 1.8m wide and 0.60m deep, containing brick rubble and an east- west aligned brick wall (2008) on its north side. Layer 2004 was cut by a brick wall footing (2009), 0.20m deep. Layer 2004 and the fill of 2007 were sealed by a floor surface (2005), 0.20m thick, constructed of red bricks (each measuring 9" x 4" x 3") laid at an angle. Surface 2005 was overlain by tarmac (2002), in places, and sealed by a layer of brown sand (2001 and 2003), 0.15m deep. This was sealed by a layer of topsoil and turf (2000), 0.30m deep.

Trench 3 (Fig. 4, Plate 3)

The natural subsoil (3016), the upper surface of which was highly disturbed in places, was sealed by a layer of brown silt- sand (3006), 0.10m- 0.30m deep. This was sealed by a layer of dark grey clay- sand- silt (3005), 0.35- 0.50m deep. Layer 3005 was cut by two later pits (3017 and 3018, not illustrated), containing modern rubbish in their fills. Layer 3005 was sealed, in the southern part of the trench, by a layer of brick rubble (3014), 0.25m deep. Layers 3014 and 3005 were cut by a pipe trench (3008), 2.0m wide and 0.60m deep, filled with sand and brick rubble (3009). At the northern part of the Trench 3, layer 3005 was sealed by a floor surface (3015), 0.20m thick, constructed of red bricks (each measuring 9" x 4" x 3") laid at an angle. Surface 3015 was cut by a pit (3019) to the north, 2.3m wide and 1.05m deep, containing two brick rubble and silt fills (3012 and 3013). Surface 3015 was also cut by a modern pipe, to the south. South of this was a layer of brick rubble (3001), 0.25m thick, which sealed layer 3005 and abutted a manhole structure (3007) made of red brick (3003). Layers 3005, 3014 and surface 3015 were sealed by a tarmac surface (3000), 0.25m thick.

6 THE FINDS

By Erica Macey-Bracken with comments by Stephanie Rátkai

A small assemblage of finds, including pottery, glass, clay pipe, shell and animal bone, was recovered from the site. The finds were washed, and quantified by count and weight, then examined macroscopically for the purposes of this report. The assemblage was fragmentary, but is stable, and should present no long-term storage problems.

Table: Quantification of finds

Context	Pottery	Brick	Glass	Clay Pipe	Shell	Animal Bone
1016	12	-	7	-	-	57g
1024	2	-	-	1	-	-
1025	2	-	-	-	-	-
3005	5	-	5	-	4	-
3012	-	1	-	-	-	-
u/s, Tr. 2	4	-	-	-	-	-
u/s, Tr. 3	1	-	1	-	-	-

The pottery assemblage consisted mostly of 19th century glazed wares (Stephanie Rátkai, pers. comm.), including a sherd of industrial slipware (unstratified, Trench 3), a sherd of salt-glazed stoneware (1024) and five sherds from a white ware teapot (1016). Several sherds of unglazed flowerpot were also recovered (1024 x 1, 1025 x 1, 3005 x 1). The only earlier pottery recovered from the site was a sherd of 18th century black ware (unstratified, Trench 3) and a sherd of slip-coated ware of 18th- 19th century date (1025).

Several glass bottles were also recovered from the site, including a near complete Codd bottle (unstratified, Trench 3). The bottle, in common with many others of its type, had had its neck broken off, presumably to remove the marble from the inside. The body of the bottle was embossed with the name WILLIAM CRISP and the address NEW JOHN ST BIRMINGHAM. Further embossing on the other side of the bottle read: PATENT SAFE GROOVE 4 SOLE MAKERS DAN RYLANDS LD BARNESLEY. Dan Rylands was a bottle maker based at Hope Glass Works, Barnsley, Yorkshire, and is credited with patenting the screw cap in 1889. Other bottles recovered from the site included a partially complete green glass Hamilton bottle, which

was recovered during the machining of Trench 2 (unstratified). Two complete clear glass phials, one still with its cork in-situ, and containing a brown liquid were also recovered during the machining, as was the base of a green glass bottle.

Other glass recovered from the site included three conjoining fragments of a clear glass jug which had been moulded with a diamond pattern on the body (1016), and five fragments of modern window glass (3005), one of which was opaque, with clear decorative crosses and a Fleur-de-Lys –like pattern.

The remainder of the assemblage consisted of four small pieces of oyster shell (3005), a fragment of clay pipe stem (1024), two pieces of animal bone (1016) and a small fragment of brick (3012).

7 DISCUSSION

The earliest archaeological feature recorded was undated shallow gully 1009. The upper part of gully 1009 was filled with undated degraded buried soil layer 1007. This undated buried soil layer was present in all the trenches (Layers 2006 and 3006). The buried soil layer, and consequently the gully, may pre-date the post- medieval development of the site, which is apparent on the 1890 Ordnance Survey map (Ramsey 2006), and may be associated with agricultural use of the site.

The survival of a buried soil probably pre-dating the late 19th century development of the site indicates that if evidence of any earlier activity was present on the site, it would probably have been preserved below the buried soil. This demonstrates that the site was not the focus of Roman activity in the area. It seems that the site has been built up rather than terraced down during the late 19th- 20th century occupation of the site.

The presence of a natural sand and gravel subsoil demonstrates that any possible continuation of the Roman kiln site, to the west, lies elsewhere in the locality. The kiln site at 224 Wellington Road is located on a clay subsoil (Hodder 2004), which would have been necessary for extraction of the raw material. Bands of the clay, recorded in Trench 1, may suggest the beginnings of a natural clay subsoil to the west. Although the scope of this archaeological evaluation is limited, it would still be expected to find sherds of Roman pottery, even if they were residual, had there been any Roman occupation on the site.

It is likely that layer 1006, above the buried soil in Trench 1, and the coal- rich layer recorded in all of the trenches (1005, 2004 and 3005) is a 19th century garden soil. It is probable that all of the subsequent activity, discovered on site, relates to the structures depicted on the 1890 first edition Ordnance Survey map of the area or later maps. The first edition Ordnance Survey map depicts properties on the frontage of Wellington Road that equate to the footings recorded in Trench 2 (2007 and 2009). It also seems probable that the brick built structures in Trench 1 (1015) and Trench 3 (3007) could be related to small structures illustrated on the 1890 map at the periphery of the back plots. The brick surface (1004, 2005, and 3015) is presumably related to the yard surfaces associated with the use of the site after the demolition of some or all of the dwellings along the Wellington Road frontage. It is notable that the bricks forming the surface had been laid at an angle in order to create the surface. This would presumably not only have been more time consuming to lay down, as opposed to a flat brick surface, but would also have created an uneven floor surface as a result. The reason for this is unclear at present.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by Landstone Group Ltd. Thanks are due to Ian Humphries for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks also go to Dr. Mike Hodder, who monitored the project on behalf of Birmingham City Council. Work on site was undertaken by Mary Duncan, Erica Macey-Bracken, Phil Mann and Sally Radford. Mary Duncan prepared the written report which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Laurence Jones who also managed the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

9 REFERENCES

- Birmingham Archaeology, 2006 *Land adjacent to the Crown & Cushion P.H., Wellington Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham. Archaeological Evaluation: Written Scheme of Investigation.*
- Birmingham City Council, 2004 *Archaeology strategy: Supplementary planning guidance.*
- Birmingham City Council, 2005 *Crown and Cushion Wellington Road, Birmingham: Brief for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Field Evaluation.* Birmingham City Council Development Directorate
- Department of the Environment (DoE), 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning.*
- Hodder I, 2004 *Birmingham: The Hidden History.* Tempus.
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 2001 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations.*
- Ramsey, E. 2006 *Land adjacent to the Crown and Cushion Public House, Wellington Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham: An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1398.

**APPENDIX 1: Birmingham City Council Brief for Archaeological Desk-based
Assessment and Field Evaluation.**

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE**

Application number N/07712/05/FUL

Wellington Road, Crown and Cushion, Birmingham (SP 0671 9088)

Proposed student residence development

Brief for *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Field Evaluation* in advance of determination of planning application

1. Summary

*Proposed development at Wellington Road is close to a Roman pottery kiln site and close to the line of a Roman road, and may contain remains of Roman industry and settlement. This brief is for assessment of the impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains, consisting of an **archaeological desk-based assessment followed by an archaeological field evaluation consisting of excavated trenches**. This will determine the need for preservation of archaeological remains in-situ and/or for further archaeological excavation in advance of commencement of development.*

2. Site location and description

The application site is located on the north side of Wellington Road. The western part of the site is grassed, and the rest is a tarmac-surfaced car park.

3. Planning background

N/07712/05/FUL is for student residences on the whole site. Because the site may include archaeological remains which would be affected by the proposed redevelopment, an assessment of its archaeological implications is required in advance of consideration of the proposals and before the application can be determined. This is in accordance with Policy 8.36 of the City Council's Unitary Development Plan, the City Council's Archaeology Strategy which has been adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance, and government advice in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16, "Archaeology and Planning". The archaeological assessment will enable appropriate archaeological mitigation strategies to be devised. The mitigation strategies may involve modification of site layout or foundation design to ensure in situ preservation of archaeological remains, or, if this is not feasible, **full recording of archaeological remains by archaeological excavation in advance of development, followed by analysis and publication of the results.**

4. Existing archaeological information

A Roman pottery kiln site was excavated to the west of the application site and on the south side of Wellington Road, in 1959. Remains of the kiln included tapered clay fire-bars, pieces of the floor, possible fragments of kiln walling, flat stone 'rubbers' used in manufacture and several hundredweights of sherds. The kiln products were of late 2nd century date, and late 1st and early 2nd century pottery indicates earlier occupation of the site. Other Roman finds are recorded

in the vicinity of the site in the Sites and Monuments Record, and the probable line of the Roman Ryknild Street runs to the east.

5. Requirements for work

The archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation are required to define the likely extent, survival and significance of archaeological remains in the area of the proposed development, so that appropriate mitigation strategies can be devised. The mitigation strategies may involve modification of site layout or foundation design to ensure in situ preservation of archaeological remains, or, if this is not feasible, full recording of archaeological remains in advance of development, followed by analysis and publication of the results.

In particular, the archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation must address the following:

- (i) The survival of structures and deposits relating to Roman pottery manufacture;
- (ii) The survival of structures and deposits relating to Roman settlement;
- (ii) The survival of remains of past environmental conditions, particularly in alluvial deposits;
- (iii) The potential of the site to contribute to an understanding of the historic development of this part of Birmingham.

6. Stages of work

The extent, survival and significance of archaeological remains on the application site, as described in part 5 above, are to be assessed by site inspection and a search of published and unpublished written records, illustrations and maps, archaeological and geotechnic records, and a comparison with archaeological evidence from nearby Roman sites. The attached guidance note provides information on sources. In addition, relevant papers in the West Midlands Archaeological Research Framework should be consulted.

The archaeological field evaluation is to consist of excavated trenches across the whole site. The number of trenches and the location and size of each trench are to be agreed on site with the Planning Archaeologist prior to commencement. Surface deposits in each trench are to be mechanically removed, under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation is to be entirely manual. Excavation in each trench is to be sufficient to define record and sample all archaeological features encountered. The potential of deposits to contain evidence of the past environment and industrial residues must be assessed. Finds are to be cleaned, marked and bagged and any remedial conservation work undertaken.

7. Staffing

The archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological field evaluation are to be carried out in accordance with the Code of Conduct, Standards, Guidelines and practices of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and all staff are to be suitably qualified and experienced for their roles in the project. It is

recommended that the project be under the direct supervision of a Member or Associate Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

8. Written Scheme of Investigation

Potential contractors should present a Written Scheme of Investigation that which details methods and staffing. It is recommended that the Written Scheme of Investigation be submitted to the City Council's Planning Archaeologist before a contractor is commissioned, to ensure that it meets the requirements of the brief.

9. Monitoring

The archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological field evaluation must be carried out to the satisfaction of Birmingham City Council, and will be monitored by the Planning Archaeologist. At least five working days notice of commencement of the assessment must be given to the Planning Archaeologist, so that monitoring meetings can be arranged.

The monitoring will include a review meeting on completion of the research for the archaeological desk-based assessment to determine requirements for the field evaluation, and at least one site meeting during the evaluation.

10. Reporting

The results of the archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological field evaluation are to be presented as a written report, containing the following:

- (i) Copies of historic maps and other appropriate illustrations
- (ii) An analytical summary of features and deposits found in the evaluation;
- (iii) Appropriate plans and sections;
- (iv) A summary of finds;
- (v) An assessment of the site's significance in terms of national, regional and local importance. The non-statutory criteria for scheduling should be employed;
- (vi) A copy of this brief.

A copy of the report must be sent to the Planning Archaeologist.

11. Archive deposition

The written, drawn and photographic records of the archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological field evaluation, together with any finds, must be deposited with an appropriate repository within a reasonable time of completion, following consultation with the Planning Archaeologist.

12. Publication

The written report will become publicly accessible, as part of the Birmingham Sites and Monuments Record, within six months of completion. The contractor must submit a short summary report for inclusion in *West Midlands Archaeology* and summary reports to appropriate national period journals. On completion of the project the contractor must also complete the obligatory fields of the OASIS

form and submit an electronic version of the report to OASIS
(<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/oasis>).

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Date prepared: 30 December 2005

Planning Archaeologist: Dr Michael Hodder 0121-464 7797 fax 0121-303 3193

Mike.hodder@birmingham.gov.uk

Birmingham City Council

Alpha Tower

Suffolk Street Queensway

Birmingham B1 1TU

Wellington Road, Crown and Cushion.doc

APPENDIX 2: Feature and context descriptions

Heights are the present ground level taken from the centre of each trench and shown in metres AOD.

Trench 1 25m in length x 1.6m in width, Top of trench 103.25m AOD, maximum depth of trench 102.01m AOD

See Fig.3, Plate 1

Context number	Description	Max dimensions (m)	
		Width	Depth
1000	Topsoil and turf		0.3
1001	Levelling sand layer		0.1
1002	Black and yellow silt and clay layer	4	0.1
1003	Layer of clinker, charcoal and ash		0.2
1004	Brick built floor surface		0.2
1005	Black charcoal rich silt- clay layer		0.1
1006	Green-brown silt layer		0.1
1007	Mid brown sandy silt layer		0.3
1008	Fill of 1009 brown sandy silt	1	0.25
1009	Cut of linear gully	1	0.4
1010	Natural sand and gravel		
1011	Square pit probably cut for footing	3.75	0.65
1012	Fill of 1011 charcoal rich silty clay	2.3	0.25
1013	Fill of 1011 mixed silty clay	2.25	0.4
1014	Fill of 1011 concrete block	1.5	0.65
1015	Cut of foundation trench	2.25	0.8
1016	Fill of 1015, brick rubble and brick wall	2.2	0.9
1017	Band of natural clay	7.6	
1018	Band of natural clay	2.3	
1019	Area of natural silt	0.7	0.3
1020	Cut of pit, sub circular	1.25	0.85
1021	Cut of pit sub circular	4.5	0.7
1022	Same as 1018	2.3	
1023	Same as 1019	0.7	0.3
1024	Fill of 1020 silt and assorted mod. rubbish including wood	1.25	0.85
1025	Fill of 1021 black clinker and charcoal with some silt	4.5	0.85

Trench 2 20m in length x 1.6m in width top of trench 103.2m AOD, maximum depth of trench 101.87m AOD

See Fig.3, Plate 2

Context number	Description	Max dimensions (m)	
		Width	Depth
2000	Topsoil and turf		0.3
2001	layer of brown sand		0.15
2002	Narrow layer of tarmac	4	0.1
2003	Clean sand		0.15

2004	Dark grey clay- sand- silt		0.3
2005	Brick built surface		0.2
2006	Mid brown sandy		0.3
2007	Cut of foundation trench	>1.8	0.6m
2008	Brick rubble and brick wall		0.6
2009	Brick built wall footing		0.2
2010	Natural sand and gravel		
2011	Drain	0.3	0.6

Trench 3 25m in length x 1.6m in width top of trench 102.88m AOD, maximum depth 101.62m AOD

See Fig.4, Plate 3.

Context number	Description	Max dimensions (m)	
		Width	Depth
3000	Tarmac car park surface		0.25
3001	Brick rubble layer		0.25
3002	Blue clay cap of drain in manhole structure 3007		0.25
3003	Brick make up of 3007		0.05
3004	Ceramic pipe within 3007	0.3	0.55
3005	Dark grey clay- silt- sand		0.5
3006	Brown silt- sand layer with some pebbles		0.3
3007	Brick built manhole structure	1	0.7
3008	Cut of pipe trench	2	0.6
3009	Fill of 3008 sand and brick rubble		0.6
3010	Lens of clean sand, levelling layer over 3015	1.5	0.05
3011	Lens of dark grey clay and silt at north end over 3013		0.15
3012	Primary fill of pit 3019 silt with various rubble	2.3	0.75
3013	secondary fill of pit 3019 silt with rubble and mod. rubbish	2.3	0.3
3014	Brick rubble layer	>4.4	0.25
3015	Brick surface	6.5	0.2
3016	Natural sand and gravel		
3017	Modern pit at north end of trench	2	1
3018	Modern pit at north end of trench	2.2	1
3019	Cut of modern pit at north end of trench	2.3	1.05



Fig.1

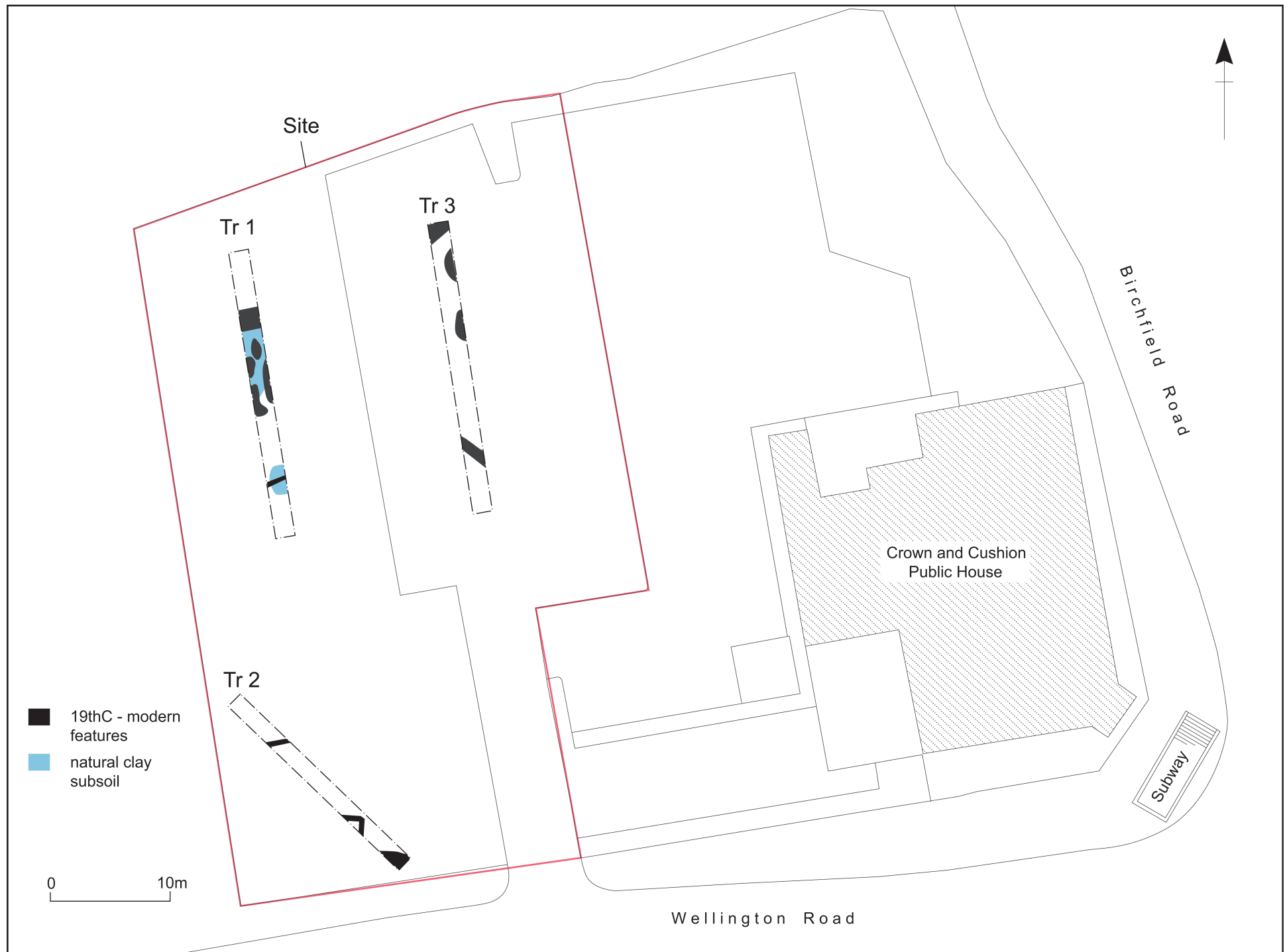


Fig.2

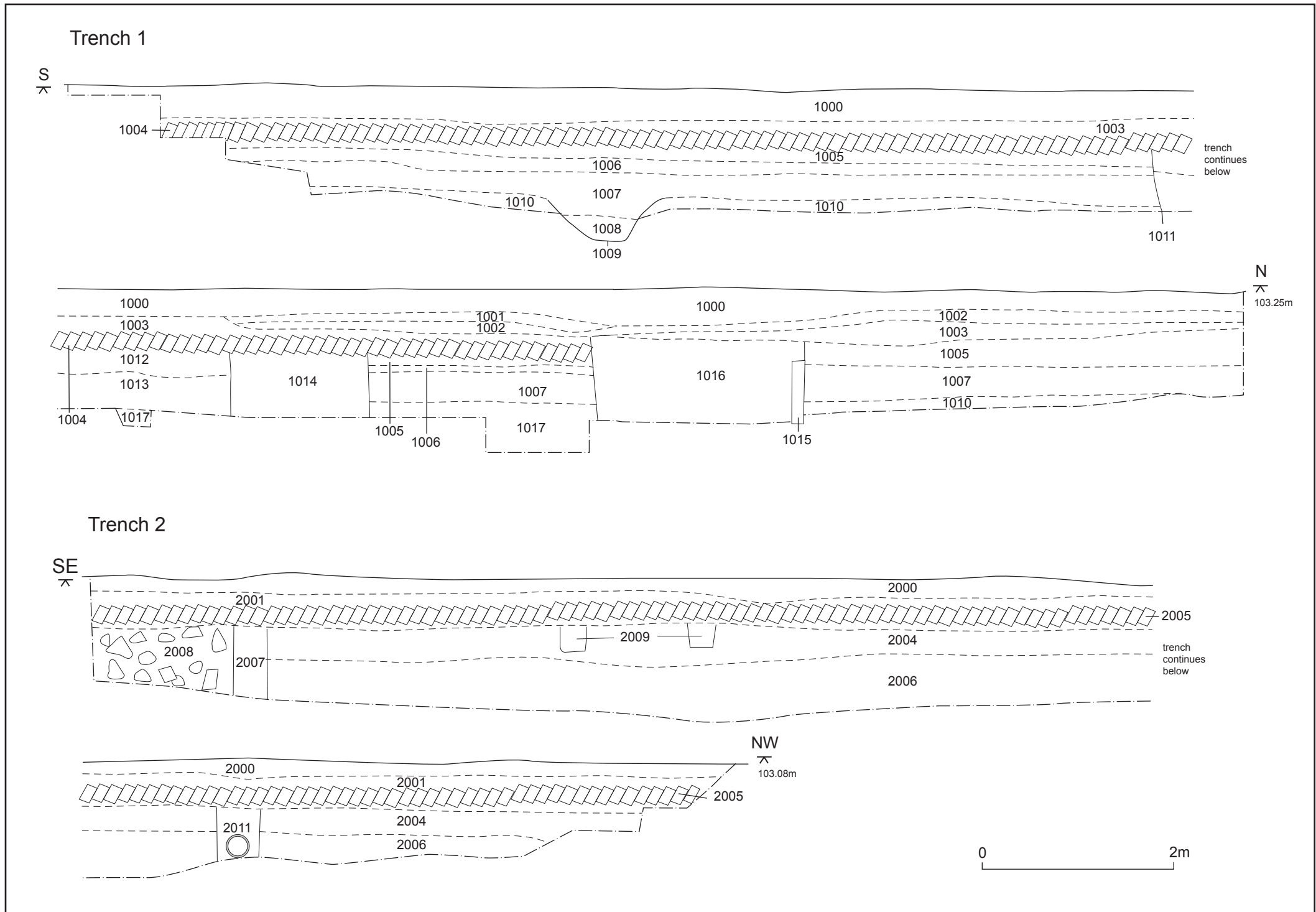


Fig.3

Trench 3

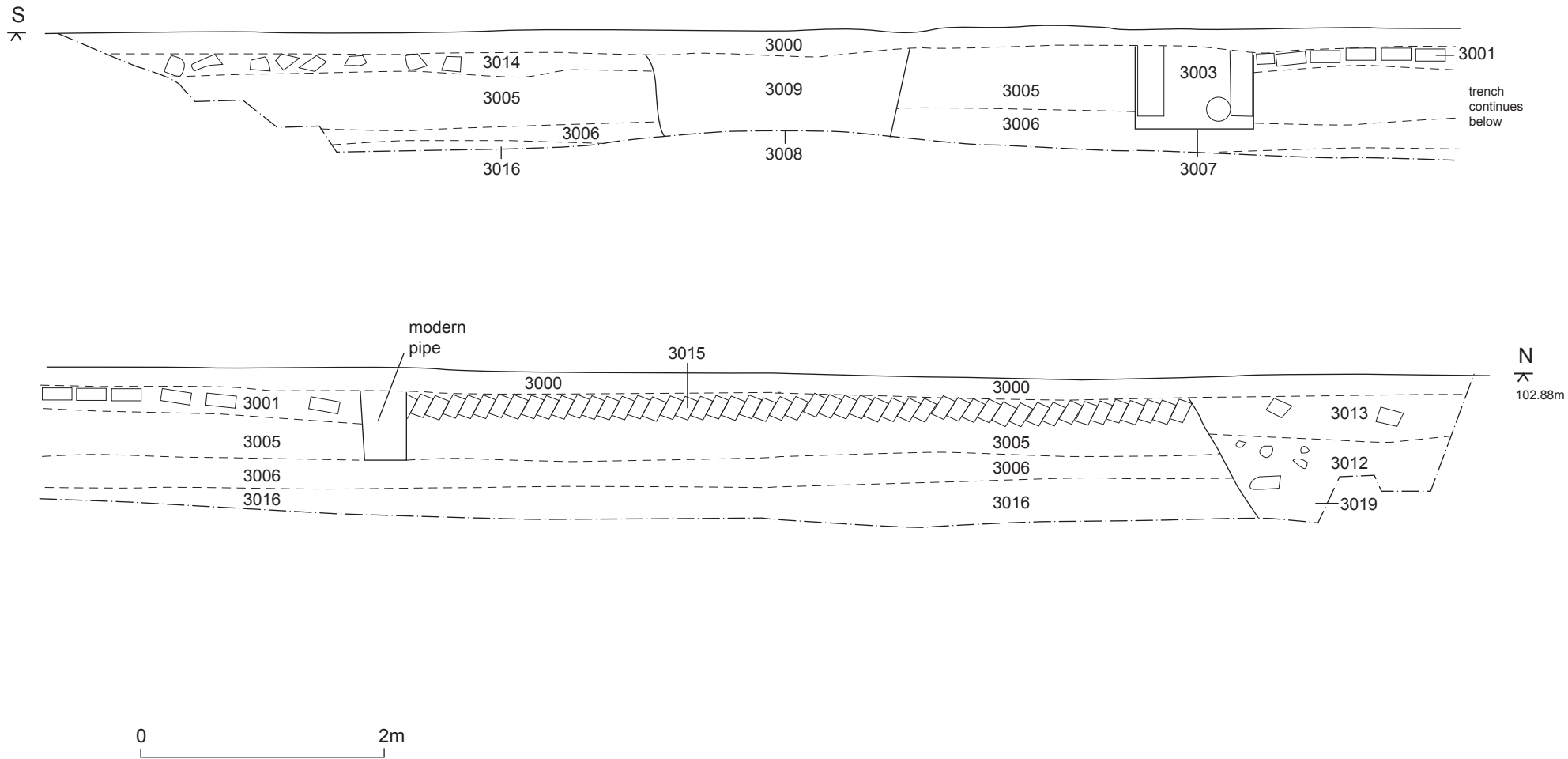


Fig.4



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3