

**Wednesbury Town
Centre, Market Hall
Archaeological
Evaluation Stage 3
2007**

Checked by

Supervisor..... date...8.5.07.....

Project Manager..... date...8.5.07.....

WEDNESBURY TOWN CENTRE STAGE 3

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2007

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT.....	1
LOCATION AND GEOLOGY	1
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	1
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2
METHODOLOGY	3
FIELDWORK.....	3
RESULTS.....	4
TRENCH 1	4
TEST PIT 1	4
TEST PIT 2	5
TEST PIT 3	5
TEST PIT 4	5
TEST PIT 5	5
THE FINDS	6
THE FINDS BY <i>STEPHANIE RATKAĪ</i>	6
DISCUSSION	7
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	8
REFERENCES	8
FIGURES	
Figure 1 Location	
Figure 2 The overall development	
Figure 3 Locations and details of trench 1 and the test-pits	
Figure 4 Plan and section of trench 1	
Figure 5 Sections test pits 1, 3, and 5	
PLATES	
Plate 1 Trench 1 north facing	
Plate 2 Trench 1 south facing	
Plate 3 Test-pit 1	
Plate 4 Test-pit 2	
Plate 5 Test-pit 3	
Plate 6 Test-pit 4	
Plate 7 Test-pit 5	
TABLES	
Table 1 Quantification and spot dates of pottery	
Table 2 Quantification and spot dates of other finds	

SUMMARY

In August 2007 Birmingham Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of William Morrison Supermarkets PLC, in advance of proposals for the construction of a new supermarket and associated petrol filling station in Wednesbury, West Midlands (centred on SO 9862 9490). The work described represented the third stage of evaluation under the footprint of the former Market Hall at the eastern end of the development site. A single evaluation trench and five test pits were excavated within the area. The results of the evaluation revealed a series of Post-medieval deposits. The depth of material suggested a period of substantial infilling of large features within the site that may relate to clay pits associated with the localised pottery industry. Above this material structural remains of the 19th-century housing stock were discovered along the Camp Street frontage with associated wells and brick-lined cess pits to the rear.

WEDNESBURY TOWN CENTRE STAGE 3

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2007.

- **INTRODUCTION**

- **Background to the project**

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by William Morrison Supermarkets PLC, with advice from S R Davis Architects, to undertake a programme of trial trenching ahead of the construction of a car park for a Morrison superstore development in Wednesbury town centre this report (hereafter referred to as 'the site' Planning Application Number DC/04/42399 and DC/05/44324).

This report outlines the results of the evaluation trench and test pits excavated on the site, this work was carried out in August 2007 and was undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 2001).

The evaluation represented the culmination of several stages of archaeological work. These include an archaeological impact assessment (Lobb 2006), two earlier phases of trial trenching (Krawiec 2007 and Mann 2007) as well as a larger area excavation (Edgeworth and Ratkai forthcoming).

The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (Appendix 1), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2007) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

- **Location and geology**

The site was located in Wednesbury town centre, and was bounded by Union Street, Holyhead Road, Russell Street and Camp Street (Fig. 1). This stage 3 evaluation was confined to within the footprint of the market hall, now demolished, close to the junction of Camp Street, Upper Russell Street and the Shambles and is centred on NGR SO 9862 9490 (Fig. 2).

The underlying geology consists of the Upper Coal Measure overlaid by grey clays and alluvial deposits to the north of the development area. The ground slopes down gently towards the south-east and the nearby valley of the River Tame (Lobb 2006, 1).

At the time of the evaluation the site was part of the construction site for the William Morrisons Supermarket development and was being used for storage. The area was formerly covered by the now demolished market hall.

- **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The archaeological and historical background of the site was researched prior to the commencement of the project and presented in 'Wednesbury Town Centre Archaeological Impact Assessment 2006 (Lobb 2006). A brief summary of the result are presented here.

The historical evidence for the earliest origins of Wednesbury are debated. The earliest settlement is believed to lie around Church Hill. However, it is unclear whether the origins are from an Iron Age hill fort or an Anglo-Saxon burh (Lobb 2006, 2-3). Wednesbury is an Old English place name meaning 'Woden's Burh' and the place names 'Woddes beorge' and 'Weardbyrig' are mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon chronicles (ibid.). However, no Iron-Age or Anglo-Saxon finds have been located in the area and archaeological evaluation undertaken on earthworks around the hill revealed a post-medieval date (Buteaux 1990).

Wednesbury is mentioned in the Domesday book and must have existed by at least the Medieval period. There is no archaeological evidence to confirm early medieval occupation. However, the focus of the town shifted from Church Hill down to the present market place. Litherland (1992) suggests this was likely to have occurred in the wave of occupation in the 12th and 13th centuries. Recent archaeological excavation in 2005 revealed evidence of pottery dating from the 13th to 18th centuries associated with numerous wasters and saggars suggestive of an association with a kiln (Ironbridge Archaeology forthcoming). This was the earliest known archaeological evidence within the town of the documented 'Wednesbury Ware'.

The majority of the archaeological evidence dates to the post-medieval period. Archaeological work elsewhere in the town has revealed a range of post-medieval wares (Lobb 2006, 3). The other industry associated with the town was coal and iron production of the 18th and 19th century.

The earlier phases of archaeological work on the site have uncovered the remains of a pottery kiln and associated deposits dating to the 16th to 17th century (Edgeworth and Ratkai *forthcoming*) supporting other evidence of the continuation of the pottery industry. This was associated with evidence for plot boundaries seen along the Camp Street frontage (Mann 2006). Evaluation on the other side of the road to the northeast of the site revealed suggestions of timber-framed buildings dating to the early post-medieval period (Krawiec 2006). However, the majority of evidence particularly adjacent to the site has been associated with the later 19th century layout of the town with limited evidence of the earlier post-medieval period.

• 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 stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2007 2) were to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the nature, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains identified
- To provide data concerning the development of Wednesbury from the medieval period to the present.
- To contribute towards an appreciation of the development of the pottery industry in the late medieval-early post-medieval Wednesbury.
- To contribute to the broader appreciation of the development of the town.

The evaluation area is as close as the Morrisons Superstore development gets to the market place that represents the medieval heart of Wednesbury (Lobb 2006 3). The evaluation

represented an opportunity to investigate the area with the hope of discovering significant finds dating the earliest settlement of Wednesbury within the medieval core.

- **METHODOLOGY**

- **Fieldwork**

A single trial trench was excavated along the north-eastern edge of the site orientated north-west to south-east, and was 20m long and 3.1m wide. Five further test pits were excavated across the site. These measured 4m² each. Due to the limited impact of the development within this area, trial excavation was not undertaken beneath a depth of 2m below the current ground level.

The evaluation trench was located in order to assess the extent of medieval activity within the site, in the area in the closest proximity to the market place at the centre of Wednesbury. The test pits were distributed evenly to assess the archaeological significance and the depth of stratigraphy across the site, in order to inform on future planning decisions within the local area.

All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no significant archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections were drawn through all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50. 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 and colour slide film.

Soil samples were taken from datable archaeological features for the recovery of palaeo-environmental and economic remains. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work was undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' published by English Heritage.

The full site archive includes all artefactual and/or ecofactual 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.

- **RESULTS**

- **Trench 1**

Trench 1 was excavated in an area considered to have high potential for medieval archaeological deposits. The trench was aligned northwest-southeast and was 20m long and 3.1m wide. This was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.85m below the ground surface.

The natural subsoil (1002) was encountered at the western end of the trench. It consisted of compact yellow clay and was 1.25m below the modern ground surface (133.85m AOD). A substantial deposit (1011) cut the natural in the eastern half of the trench. Due to later truncation the edge of this feature could not be defined, however it was at least 14m wide. The feature was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.75m below the ground surface before excavation was halted. The fill of this feature consisted of dark grey silt (1001) with layers of yellow-black clay (1018), brick rubble (1019) and coal mining waste (1017) evident sloping downwards at the eastern side of the trench. The base of the excavation contained water-logged deposits.

Cut into the upper deposits of this feature were brick built tanks. These were in a single cut (1013) and consisted of a clay lining (1008) and two interconnected rectangular brick built cists which were generally aligned along a northeast-southwest axis. The backfill of these consisted of coal waste (1010) and iron rich slag (1007), capped by a layer of clay (1025). The upper 1.3m of fill consisted of demolition rubble (1026). Pottery excavated from the clay lining (1008) dated to predominantly to the 17th to 18th century although earlier pottery from the 15th to 16th century was recovered but was possibly residual.

Also cutting the upper deposits of feature 1011 was a brick lined well (1020). This had a brick capping and had not been backfilled and therefore was too dangerous to investigate closely. A further brick lined well (1024) was located close to the western end of the trench. It had been backfilled with rubble rich silt (1025).

A shallow pit (1004) 1.1m in diameter and 0.11m deep was located midway along the trench. The fill (1003) consisted of quite clean sandy silt that contained pottery dating to 17th to 18th century with earlier pottery dated to 15th to 16th century. A further rectangular pit (1006) was located close to the west end of the trench the fill (1005) was mixed clay and clinker produced finds dating to the 17th to 18th century.

Several service trenches and a manhole truncated much of the deposits at the western end of the trench. The trench was sealed by a layer of mixed grey silt and brick (1000).

- **Test Pit 1**

Test pit 1 was located towards the southeast side of the site. The top of the trench was at 134.85m AOD. The test pit was 4m² in plan and excavated to a maximum depth of 2.5m below the modern ground surface.

The natural subsoil was not encountered in the course of this evaluation. A machine dug sondage was excavated and uncovered the top of a layer of brown compact silt rich clay (1114). Overlying this was a layer of black degraded stone with the appearance of coal waste (1113). Into this layer the remains of brick-built foundation walls were present in the northeast and southwest facing sections (1102, 1107, 1115) as well as the remains of associated service trenches (1105, 1106) and a brick built floor surface. These features were sealed by a demolition layer (1101) of crushed mortar with some evidence for the stockpiling of bricks

during demolition (1002). The area of the test pit was sealed by a layer of rubble rich silt and clay 0.54m deep (1100).

- **Test Pit 2**

Test pit 2 was located close to the frontage of Russell Street. The top of the trench was located at around 134.4m AOD. It was 4m² in plan and excavated to a maximum depth of 1m below the modern surface.

The natural subsoil was not encountered within this test pit. The earliest deposit consisted of a layer of mixed black silt rich in rubble (2002). Above this were the remains of brick built walls and tiled and concrete floors (2001). This was sealed by a layer of rubble (2000) that had a maximum depth of 1m.

- **Test Pit 3**

Test pit 3 was located close to the southern corner of the area. It was 4m² in plan the top of the test pit was located at 134.22m AOD and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.4m.

The natural subsoil (3009) was encountered at around 1.4m below the surface (132.82m AOD) and consisted of compact yellow clay which sloped downwards towards the south-eastern side of the test pit. Cut into this were the brick built remains of a foundation wall or walls (1005 and 1007) this was aligned northwest-southeast. Immediately to the southwest of this footing on the same alignment was a large cast iron cylinder sunk into the ground (3006). And further to the southwest was the remains of a concrete flagstone surface (3008). These and the area of the test pit were sealed by a series of rubble dumps (3000, 3001, 3002 and 3003) which combined had a maximum depth of 1.4m.

- **Test Pit 4**

Test pit 4 was located close to the boundary of the site with Camp Street. The test pit was 4m² and excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m below the surface level (132.31m AOD). The natural subsoil was not encountered in the course of the excavation due to the instability of the strata although a machine dug sondage was excavated to a depth of 2.1m below the surface.

The earliest deposit encountered (4003) consisted of a deposit of black friable stone, probably coal mining waste. The deposit was not fully excavated. However, it was at least 1.12m deep. Sealing this was a layer of yellow clay (4002), 0.11m deep and brown sandy soil with some brick rubble (4001), 0.3m deep. Cut into this were the remains of two brick built cellars (4006 and 4007) the outline of which was still visible on the surface. These had been back filled with crushed brick rubble (4004 and 4005). Beyond these structures the area of the test pit was sealed by a layer of loose black clinker 0.52m deep (4000). Cutting this layer was a drain (4008) that ran between the cellars. To the southeast of the cellars and at the surface of the trench were the remains of a brick surface (4009).

- **Test Pit 5**

Test Pit 5 was excavated in the western corner of the market hall footprint. The trench measures 4m² in plan and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.7m (132.16m AOD).

The natural subsoil consisted of yellow clay (5009) was encountered at a depth of 1.7m below the ground surface. This was exposed within a machine dug sondage towards the northern side

of the test pit. The natural subsoil was overlaid by a layer of mixed coal waste 0.8m deep (5004). This was in turn overlaid by a narrow layer of clay 0.2m deep (5003) which was in turn sealed by a layer of humic-rich silt 0.05m deep (5003). Cut into this layer were the remains of two brick built tanks or cellars (5005 and 5006) and a brick built well (5008). These structures were back filled by brick demolition rubble (5007 and 5005) all of which were visible on the surface prior to excavation. The area of the trench was sealed by a layer (5001) of mixed silt and sand 0.1m deep.

• **THE FINDS**

• **The finds by Stephanie Ratkaí**

The finds from the site dated predominantly to the post-medieval period. The earliest pottery dated to the 15th to 16th century but appeared to be residual. The majority of pottery dated to the 17th to 18th century and are quantified in table 1 below. A single waster was found that may be associated with the adjacent kiln site (Edgeworth and Ratkaí *forthcoming*). Otherwise the finds were consistent with the 17th to 18th century including brick, tile, bottle glass and slag. These finds are collated in table 2 below.

Context	Ware/Fabric	Quantity	Form	Date	Comment
1003	Coarseware	1		17th-18th c	overfired
1003	Late oxidised ware	1		15th-16th c	
1008	Coarseware	2		17th c	internal red-brown glaze
1008	Coarseware	1	jar?	17th-18th c	
1008	Late oxidised ware	1	jar	15th-16th c	reduced (?overfired) surfaces
1009	Coarseware	1	jar base	17th c	internal streaky brown glaze
1016	Coarseware	1	jar base	17th c	internal red-brown glaze
1016	Coarseware	2	owl?	late 17th-18th c	internal black slightly 'metallic' glaze
	Brown salt-glazed stoneware	1	jar base	later 19th-20th c	
1023	stoneware	1	jar base	c	
5007	Coarseware	1	owl	18th c?	
5007	Coarseware	1	owl	18th c?	
5007	Waster	1	jar	18th c?	dense buff fabric, internal and external white slip, not glazed, burnt in patches

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Material	Quantity	Form	Date	Comment
1003	Glass bottle	1		late 18th c?	
1003	CBM	1	brick/tile	post-medieval	
1005	Slag	1			
1005	CBM	3	brick/tile	post-medieval	
1005	Clay pipe stem	1			
1008	CBM	1	roof tile	post-medieval	
1016	Clay pipe stem	1			
1016	CBM	1	roof tile	post-medieval	
5007	Flowerpot	20	flowerpot	18th-19th c	4 vessels represented, probably production waste

Table 2: Other Finds

• DISCUSSION

No evidence of activity prior to the Post-medieval period was encountered within the course of this evaluation. The earliest pottery dated to the 15th to 16th century but given the occupation at adjacent sites this could well have been residual.

The earliest deposits identified were located at the eastern end of trench 1 as part of the purported cut 1011. They were associated with a brown waterlogged clay deposit within test pit 1 (1114) and possibly the deep deposit of coal was partially excavated in test pit 4 (4003). As no distinct edges to the cut were located it is not certain whether the stratigraphy was resultant from build up on a steep slope to the south of the site, or the fill of a large negative feature. The lines of stratigraphy that slope downwards towards the east, as seen in the south facing section of Trench 1 (Fig 4) would suggest a large cut. This could possibly be the edge of a clay quarry pit. Within the context of Wednesbury and the pottery kiln identified in an earlier phase of work on the development site (Edgeworth and Ratkai *forthcoming*) could suggest a local sourcing of clay close to the place of manufacture.

The remains of the 19th century housing and associated built features illustrated on the 1844 and 1890 maps (Lobb 2006 Fig. 3 and Fig. 4) were evident in the trench and all of the test pits. The brick-lined cists with clay proofing located in trench 1 were probably cess pits, that had been continuously emptied and ultimately back-filled with industrial waste. These were associated with two wells. A further well and brick built tank were located in test pit 5. These suggested domestic areas to the rear of the line of former terrace houses visible on the 19th century maps. Structures in some of test pits could also relate to small scale industrial activity. This included the cast iron cylinder in test pit 3. The nature of in the economy in Wednesbury was conducive to small scale cottage industries, probably in the back plots of the properties on Camp Street and Russell Street.

The evaluation revealed depths of material overlying the natural subsoil at 133.85m AOD in trench 1 that sloped sharply to 132.82m AOD in test pit 3 and 132.16m AOD in test pit 5 suggesting a marked slope existed prior to landscaping in the immediate area. The presence of the large feature (1011 in trench 1) meant the natural level was not located within the centre of the site in test pits 1, 2 and 4.

The site would appear to have a substantial depth of material overlying the natural subsoil. In comparison with earlier trenching in the immediate vicinity depths of 1.3m and 1.7m of overburden were discovered with several of the test pits having over 2m of overburden. Immediately to the south-east the natural subsoil was encountered at a similar depth from 132.74m AOD (Trench H, Mann 2006) to as deep as 131.08m AOD (Trench F, Mann 2006). The nature of these adjacent deposits supports the theorem that the area was extensively quarried for clay south of Camp Street.

Overall the evidence suggests that post-medieval activity has largely obscured evidence of medieval occupation within the site. However, it is possible that early deposits survive on the site preserved below the depth of disturbance that the development will entail.

- **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The project was commissioned by William Morrison Supermarkets PLC with advice from SR Davis Architects. Thanks are due to Neil Weatherhead of SR Davis Architects for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks also go to Graham Eyre-Morgan and Charlotte Lewis, who monitored the project on behalf of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council. Work on site was undertaken by Mary Duncan, Matt Edgeworth, Sam Hepburn and David Brown. Specialists to whom thanks are due are Stephanie Ratkaí. Mary Duncan produced the written report which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Chris Hewitson. The project was managed by Alex Jones for Birmingham Archaeology.

- **REFERENCES**

Birmingham Archaeology 2007 *Archaeological Evaluation, Wednesbury Town Centre (Morrisons) Former Market Hall*

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) 2001 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*

Edgeworth, M and Ratkai, S. forthcoming *Wednesbury Town Centre Redevelopment Post-Excavation Assessment*. Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1620 c.

Krawiec, K. 2007 *Wednesbury town Centre Development, Archaeological Evaluation Stage 1 2006* Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1468C.02

Lobb, M. 2006 *Wednesbury Town Centre Archaeological Impact Assessment 2006* Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1468

Mann, P. 2007 *Wednesbury Town Centre Development Stage 2 Archaeological Evaluation 2006* Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1518.

Appendix 1: Design Brief, Wednesbury Town Centre Phase II
Sandwell Mbc, Evaluation

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

WEDNESBURY TOWN CENTRE

SANDWELL MBC

AUGUST 2006

PHASE II



Site: Wednesbury Town Centre land bounded by Union Street, Holyhead Road, Russell Street and Camp Street.

Borough Archaeologist: Graham Eyre-Morgan (0121 569 4025)

Assistant Archaeologist: Charlotte Lewis (0121 569 4217)

Planning Officer: Christine Phillips (0121 569 4040)

Applicant: WM Morrison Supermarkets plc

Agent: Allan Broadhead SRD Architects (0121 569 9234)

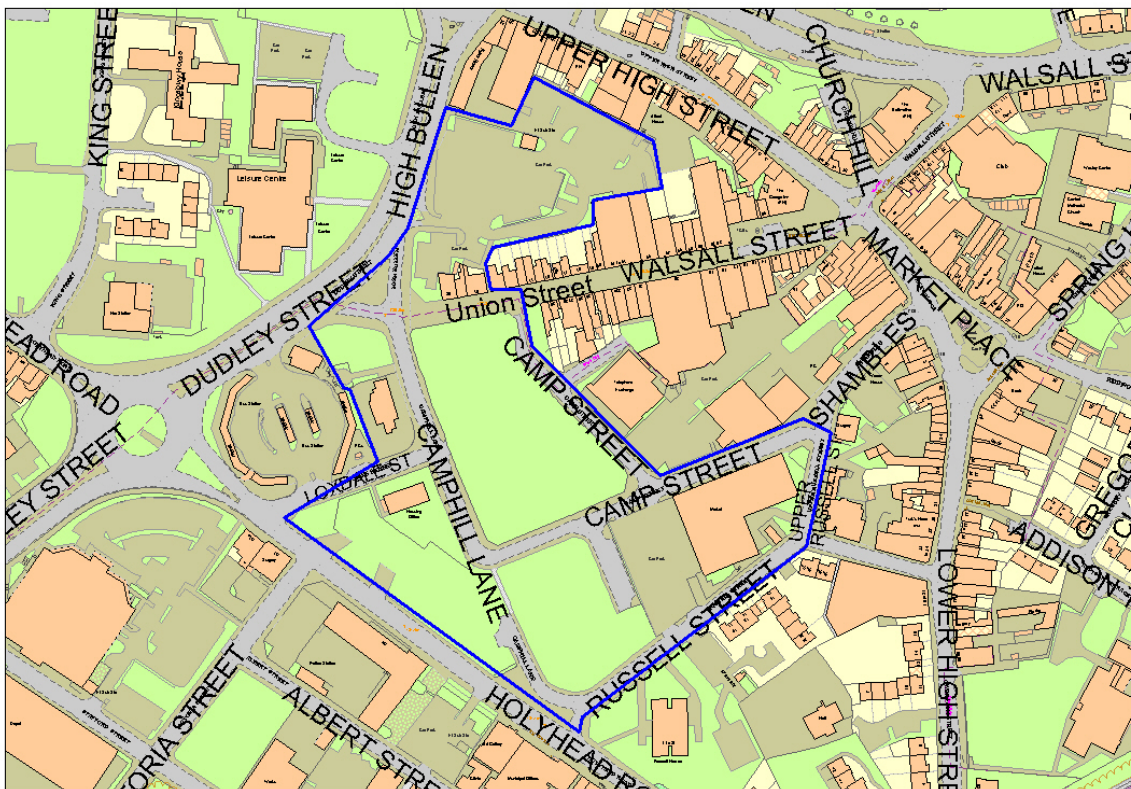
This archaeological brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Borough Archaeologist should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their written scheme of investigation, as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

1. Introduction

The Assistant Archaeologist for Sandwell MBC has prepared this Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation. Planning consent has been granted to WM Morrison Supermarkets plc for redevelopment of Wednesbury Town Centre, land bounded by Union Street, Holyhead Road, Russell Street and Camp Street. Drawing on the results of the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment completed by Birmingham Archaeology in July 2006 this Brief sets out the mitigation strategy for the evaluation and excavation of the below-ground archaeological remains within the development area. Should substantial archaeological remains be discovered during the evaluation phases, it is possible that a third phase warranting further more extensive archaeological work maybe required before any development can take place. Once completed the results will be deposited at the Community History and Archive Service at Smethwick Library, Wednesbury Museum and National Monument Record Centre where they will be available for public and research consultation.

2. Site Location and Description

The proposed development lies within an “Area of Archaeological Potential” as defined in the Councils Unity Development Plan 2004. The development area is located at land bounded by Union Street, Holyhead Road, Russell Street and Camp Street, Wednesbury NGR 9862 9490. The aim of this investigation is to access the archaeological potential of the area identified in the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment completed by Birmingham Archaeology in July 2006.



Plan highlighting extent of development area, Wednesbury Town Centre.

Copyright Sandwell MBC 2006

3. Planning Background

3.1 Planning Applications DC/04/42399 and DC/05/44324 has conditional approval, based on Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (DoE and DNH 1994) together with the Councils UDP policies, the following condition has been attached to the planning permission of this site:

“ No development, demolition or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.”

3.2 Based on the advice given in *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE 1990, paras 21-22) the evaluation is designed provide sufficient information on the presence/absence, nature, quality and extent of any below ground remains. If present, the investigation will identify any archaeological remains thereby enabling the formulation, if appropriate, of an additional programme of excavation; should the deposits be of ‘national importance’ there will be a presumption in favour of their in-situ preservation.

This Brief and the resulting Contractors’ Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) will ensure that the requirements of the Phase II Survey are completed to an appropriate standard.

4. Archaeological Background

The site is within close proximity to the historic core of the medieval town, possible Anglo Saxon burgh and possible Iron Age hill fort, the 14th Century church of St Bartholomew’s stands a short distance to the north. Due to recent excavations at Lower High Street and Meeting Street, the extent of the medieval core of the town have been extended with early pottery finds and large ditch, thus this area could prove a link between the two sites recently discovered. It is believed that the location of the proposed development was the focus of later medieval and post medieval occupation. It has been

suggested that that alignment of the Roman road running from the Roman Fort at Metchley to the Fort at Stretton suggests that it should be either in or close to the study area. A full historical record can be found in Birmingham Archaeology's Phase 1 report, July 2006.

Recent excavations at Meeting Street revealed a large ditch and contained a large assemblage of early post-medieval pottery shards. The report for "Archaeological Trial Trenching Land Adjacent to No 4 Meeting Street" is held with the SMR Officer Fay de Souza. An open area excavation was undertaken at the Lower High Street, Wednesbury by Ironbridge Archaeology in 2005. A large assemblage of medieval and post medieval pottery was discovered which from first glances dated from 13th to 18th Centuries. In this assemblage was a large amount of saggars and wasters, which suggested the close proximity to a late medieval pottery kiln. Further information can be obtained from the Borough Archaeologist. Excavations by Mike Hodder at the Shambles/Upper Russell Street and Market Street have all revealed medieval remains. Should archaeology be discovered it is possible that further archaeological work may required at the site before any development may take place.

5. Requirement for Work

5.1 The purpose of the archaeological investigation is to locate and identify any surviving remains within the constraint area; in this particular instance this office wishes to know the extent, the date, nature and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits, which may be present under the area, proposed for development. The work must also assess the relative importance of these deposits, and the potential loss of any archaeological information by the development, therefore substantiating any need for further excavation or change in the planning consent.

5.2 A 5% sample of the development area will be investigated by trial trenching and the layout should be designed to ensure uniform coverage across the site; a trench plan must be appended to the specification.

5.3 The site-specific aims are:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the development area
- To determine the nature, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered
- To provide further information on the origins and development of Wednesbury from the medieval period to the present day
- To contribute to any existing corpus of academic knowledge
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation subject to any confidentiality restrictions

5.4 The evaluation recommended above is only the first stage in the archaeological investigation of each of the sites recommended. The scope of any further archaeological recording on each of the sites will depend on the results of the preliminary (and a third phase if appropriate) evaluation of surviving archaeological deposits.

5.5 If evaluation indicates that significant archaeological evidence survives on the site, and would be negatively impacted by the proposed redevelopment, a further stage of detailed archaeological excavation and recording will be carried out, in accordance with a site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the Assistant Archaeologist, which sets out specific aims of further recording work.

6.0 General Methodology

6.1 The evaluation shall be supported by a Written Scheme of Investigation.

6.2 The contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

6.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience, of the site director and all other project personnel (including specialist staff) shall be supplied to the Assistant Archaeologist as part of the written scheme of investigation.

6.4 Notification of the supervisor/project manager's name and the members of the team shall be provided in writing to Assistant Archaeologist at least one week in advance of commencement of work.

6.5 The site code for this project is WTCP2WS06.

6.6 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.

6.7 Should the client wish to curtail the investigation for any reason at any point in advance of its completion the contractor will still be expected to produce a full report including specialist finds assessments within the timetable set out below.

6.8 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the production of the written scheme of investigation, the content of the report, and the general execution of the project.

7. Evaluation Methodology

7.1 The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

7.2 It is recommended that a minimum of 5% of the area to be developed is investigated by trial trenching. The trial trenches will be machine excavated using a toothless ditching bucket, and under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be hand cleaned in all trenches and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

7.4 At least 50% of all contained features shall be excavated. A stated percentage of structural and linear features to be excavated shall be provided in the WSI. For those trenches where substantial nineteenth and twentieth century masonry remains are encountered hand dug test pits will be excavated within the trench in order to examine the presence/absence of earlier remains. NOTE: In some circumstances it may be necessary to use shoring to support the sides of the trench, but advice must be sought from the Assistant Archaeologist before employing this methodology.

7.5 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site grid will be tied to the national grid.

7.6 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the WSI. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

7.7 The photographic record shall consist of photographs in both monochrome and colour mediums with negatives if 35mm or medium format cameras are used in preference to digital cameras. This shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. A photographic register and supporting plan detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot shall accompany the photographic record.

7.8 The contractor must arrange, through a suitably qualified specialist, the assessment of the environmental and metallurgical potential of the site through the examination of suitable deposits. Guidance should be sought from the appropriate English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science and details of the methodology included within the WSI.

8.0 Finds

8.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed and marked with both the site code and context number.

8.2 The WSI shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.

8.3 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*. Details of the finds retrieval policy must be included within the WSI.

8.4 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with Wednesbury Museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing with the Assistant Archaeologist.

9.0 Results

9.1 The draft full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages shall be submitted to the Assistant Archaeologist within six weeks of completing the fieldwork for approval. Once approved a total of eight copies plus a copy on CD-ROM are to be supplied to the Assistant Archaeologist for general distribution.

9.2 The report must contain:

- The aims and methods adopted during the course of the evaluation.
- Detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion. This must be linked to the research objectives cited above and consider the sites in their local, regional and national context.
- An assessment of the local, regional national importance of the site. The latter should be based on the criteria for scheduling as set out in Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990).
- Impact Assessment and recommended mitigation strategy will be used to assess the impact of the proposal on the surviving archaeological resource.

- The contractor is also expected to formulate a mitigation strategy and future research programme. The latter should be based on national/regional/local research frameworks and identify the aims/objectives of any future excavation.
- Although the emphasis should be on those deposits that are likely to be destroyed, the wider potential the site must also be considered
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- All specialist reports and assessments
- Site location plan, copies of any historical maps and a representative sample of the photographs including colour prints
- Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. All corners of each trench shall be given a 10 figure grid reference
- A section/s within each trench showing the depth of deposits including the present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale
- Sufficient plans by period and area to aid interpretation
- Artefact illustrations that would be submitted in any future publication

9.3 The following appendices should also be included:

- Location and summary of the archive contents
- Completed summary sheet (copy attached to brief)
- Photographic register
- Archaeological brief, the approved contractors' written scheme of investigation together with the completed pro-forma and site location plan which were submitted as part of the planning application

9.4 The proposed format of the report will be described within the WSI.

10.0 Archive

10.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the Contractor must contact the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library (High Street, Smethwick, West

Midlands B661AB. Tel. 0121 5582561), to determine the requirements for the deposition of the archive.

10.2 The archive should include the record photographs, negatives, colour slides, film register, and digital information together with a copy of the Report.

10.3 Photographic prints should be re-produced at a minimum of five by four inches and labelled on the back using indelible ink with the film and frame number, date, photographers name together with the site code, name and grid reference; the photographs being mounted in archival quality sleeves.

10.4 It is the responsibility of the Contractor to meet the Community History and Archives Service requirements with regard to the preparation of material for deposition.

10.5 Written notification of the commencement of fieldwork shall be given to Community History and Archives Service at the same time as the Assistant Archaeologist.

10.6 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to Assistant Archaeologist at the time of deposition.

11.0 Monitoring

11.1 The Assistant Archaeologist will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and should be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, interpretation and reporting stages.

11.2 Written Notification of the start date will be given to the Assistant Archaeologist at least one week before the commencement of work and once the fieldwork stage of the investigation has been completed.

12.0 Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

12.1 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed in writing with the Assistant Archaeologist before being implemented.

12.2 This Brief has been written following a cursory examination of the site by the Assistant Archaeologist, potential contractors are therefore strongly advised to carry out their own inspection before submitting a written quotation.

12.3 If on first visiting the site or at any time during the recording exercise, it appears that:

- i) part or the whole of the site is not amenable to the recording programme outlined above, and/or
- ii) an alternative approach may be more appropriate or likely to produce more informative results, and/or
- iii) any features that should be recorded as having a bearing on the interpretation of the site have been omitted,

then it is expected that the Contractor will contact the Assistant Archaeologist as a matter of urgency.

For further information regarding the content of this Brief please contact the author at the address below. As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content and presentation of this Archaeological Brief.

Graham Eyre-Morgan
Borough Archaeologist
Charlotte Lewis
Assistant Archaeologist
Sandwell MBC
Development House
Lombard Street
West Bromwich
West Midlands
B70 8RU

Tel (0121) 569 4025

Fax (0121) 569 4265

Email: graham_eyremorgan@sandwell.gov.uk

Email: charlotte_lewis@sandwell.gov.uk

Appendix 2: The Written Scheme of Investigation

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, WEDNESBURY TOWN CENTRE (MORRISONS)
FORMER MARKET HALL

PART A (SITE SPECIFIC)

1 INTRODUCTION

This document describes the programme of work required to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the above site. It follows the requirements of a general Brief for archaeological work in Wednesbury Town Centre prepared by the Assistant Archaeologist, Sandwell MBC. Any proposed changes to the work detailed in this document will be discussed with the Assistant Archaeologist before implementation.

The work is required in advance of the construction of a new Wm Morrisons Supermarket, and related developments. This document relates only to the field evaluation stage of trial-trenching within the footprint of the former Market Hall.

A separate written scheme of investigation would be prepared should further, mitigation fieldwork be required.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The area for evaluation comprises the footprint of the former Market Hall (adjoining Camp Street, Upper Russell Street and Russell Street, Wednesbury.

The overall site centre is NGR. SO 9862 9490.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The main source for the archaeological and historical development of the site is the desk-based assessment completed by Birmingham Archaeology in Summer 2006.

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, defined by Sandwell MBC Unitary Development Plan (2004). The site is located close to the possible Iron Age hill fort, Saxon burgh, and to the historic core of the medieval town. The suggested alignment of the Roman road from Metchley to Stretton could lie near, or even within the site. The church of St Bartholomew, which originated in the 14th century, is located just to the north of the site.

Recent work at Lower High Street and Meeting Street, the extent of the medieval settlement has been expanded. At the former site a large group of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered, including evidence for nearby pottery manufacture. At the latter site a substantial ditch was identified, containing early post-medieval pottery. Earlier work at Shambles/Upper Russell Street and Market Street also identified medieval remains. In particular, medieval deposits may be anticipated on the Camphill Lane and Camp Street frontages within the site.

Earlier trial-trenching undertaken in advance of the present development identified a pit, beam-slot and possible property boundary ditch close to the southern frontage of Union Street, to the east of its junction with Camphill Lane. These features contained pottery of late medieval to early post-medieval date. Most of the

remainder of the area evaluated to the north of Camp Street and to the northeast of Camphill Lane was heavily disturbed by modern activity.

A single trench cut to the southwest of the Camphill Lane/Camp Street junction identified a pit containing a large quantity of pottery of predominantly 17th century date, together with overall layers containing large quantities of relatively large and unabraded sherds of similar date. Subsequent excavation identified part of the base of a pottery kiln, along with a group of associated features, possibly representing one or more fences/windbreaks. The main feature identified was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch, which varied in both width and depth. The northwestern and southeastern excavated segments of the ditch were comparatively shallow, and flat-based in profile. Towards the centre of the excavation the ditch both broadened and deepened. This enlargement of the ditch is interpreted as evidence of use related to the process of pottery production, perhaps for puddling clay. The southwestern part of the area excavated contained brick buildings of 19th century date notably associated with cellared outbuildings.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the evaluation is to determine the character, extent, date, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains. In particular, it is intended to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the nature, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains identified.
- To provide data concerning the development of Wednesbury from the medieval period to the present.
- To contribute towards an appreciation of the development of the pottery industry in late medieval-early post-medieval Wednesbury.
- To contribute to the broader appreciation of the development of the town.

PART B (GENERIC)

5 METHODOLOGY

The field investigation will comprise:

1x trench measuring 2m by 20m, located to investigate the area at the junction of Camp Street and Russell Street.

Five test-pits each measuring 4m square, positioned to investigate the remainder of the footprint of the Market Hall as widely as possible.

All trench/test-pit locations have been agreed with the Borough Archaeologist. Some limited re-location of trenches may be required to avoid live services. Should the depth of overburden exceed 1.2m it will be necessary to broaden the trench to a total width of 4m, so that the trench will measure a minimum of 2m wide at base. The maximum depth of excavation will be 2m below the modern surface in the trench, and 1.2m in the test-pits. No deeper excavation will be undertaken. Trenches dug to a greater depth than 1.2m below the modern surface will be stepped and/or battered for safety.

All topsoil and modern overburden will be removed using a JCB excavator/360 degree excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. A toothed bucket may be required to remove modern (eg demolition) deposits. Subsequent cleaning and excavation will be by hand. A representative sample of archaeological features and deposits will be manually sample excavated sufficiently to define their character and to obtain suitable dating evidence. Generally, 50% of pits or post-holes and a 1m section of linear/ curvilinear features will be excavated. Archaeological deposits will not be completely excavated unless this is unavoidable. The depth of archaeological deposits across the site will be assessed, although the full length of every trench will not necessarily be excavated down to natural. Where extensive 19/20th century structural remains hand-dug test-pits will be dug to prove/disprove the presence of earlier below-ground deposits.

All stratigraphic sequences will be recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features will be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections will be drawn of all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:10. A comprehensive written record will be maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and feature cards. Written records and scale plans will be supplemented by photographs using monochrome and colour print and colour slide photography.

Twenty litre soil samples will be taken from suitable datable archaeological features for the recovery of charred plant remains. The environmental sampling policy followed the guidelines contained in the Birmingham Archaeology Guide to On-Site Environmental Sampling and the *Report of the Association for Environmental Archaeology Working Party on Sampling and Recovery*, September 1995. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work will be undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' published by English Heritage.

The full site archive will include all artifactual and/or ecofactual 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 (Walker 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 Wednesbury Museum, subject to permission from the landowner.

6.0 STAFFING

The project will be managed Birmingham Archaeology by Alex Jones (BA, MA, MIFA), and supervised in the field by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeological supervisor assisted by a team of up to two experienced site assistants.

Specialist staff will be, where appropriate:

Stephanie Rátkai, post-Roman pottery

Erica Macey-Bracken, small finds

Dr Ben Gearey/ Dr Emma Tetlow, environmental analysis

Matilda Holmes, animal bone

7 REPORT

An illustrated archive report would be compiled on completion of the fieldwork, to include:

(a) Summary.

- (b) Description of the archaeological background.
- (c) Aims and methods.
- (e) A narrative description of the results and discussion of the evidence, set in their local, regional and national research context, supported by appropriate plans, sections and photographs.
- (f) Summary of the finds and environmental evidence.
- (g) Specialist assessments of the finds and environmental evidence.
- (h) Impact assessment and recommended mitigation strategy
- (i) Site location plan, identifying the trench locations, copies of historic maps, a selection of plans and sections, with AOD levels, as appropriate.
- (j) Appendices including the archive contents; fieldwork summary sheet; photographic register; archaeological brief; this document

The written report will be made publicly accessible, as part of the Sandwell MBC Sites and Monuments Record within six months of completion. Two copies of the report will be lodged with the Assistant Archaeologist, Sandwell MBC. A digital copy on CD-ROM will be provided. A summary report may be submitted for inclusion in *West Midlands Archaeology*. If the results are considered of regional or national importance it may be appropriate to publish the report in an archaeological journal.

8 TIMETABLE

Review/ monitoring meetings will be arranged during the fieldwork.

Week 1 Machining of overburden.

Week 2: hand-excavation and recording.

9 GENERAL

All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The project will follow the requirements set down in the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001).

A detailed Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork. All current health and safety legislation, regulations and guidance will be complied with. The evaluation will conform to the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992 and Health and Safety in Field Archaeology Manual (SCAUM 1991).

Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and covered. In the event that human remains need to be removed this will be carried out under the terms of a Home Office Licence and adhering to relevant environmental health regulations. All finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1997 will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. If removal is not possible on the same working day as discovery, appropriate security arrangements will be provided to keep the finds safe from theft.

BIRMINGHAM ARCHAEOLOGY 7 AUGUST 2007.

Appendix 3: The Photographic Register

Photo register
 Film Number 1
 Colour Slide
 200 ASA

No.	Description	Scales	Or	Photo by
1	TP 5 Pre-ex of sondage SW fac. sec.		NE	MD
2	TP 5 SW fac sec +Plan		NE	MD
3	TP 4 Pre-Ex of sondage NE fac. sec.		SW	MD
4	Trench 1 PX	1x1x2m	NW	MD
5	Trench 1 PX	1x1x2m	NW	MD
6	Trench 1 Plan and SW fac. sec.	1x1x2m	NW	MD
7	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	NW	MD
8	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	SE	MD
9	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	SE	MD
10	Trench 1 Plan	1x1x2m	SE	MD
11	Test Pit 1		NE	MD
12	TP 1 SE and NE fac sec and plan	1x1x1m	NW	MD
13	TP 1 NE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	SW	MD
14	TP 5 plan and SE fac sec	1x1x2m	NW	MD
15	TP 5 SE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	NW	MD
16	TP 3 SE fac .sec.	1x1x1m	NW	MD
17	TP 3 plan	1x1x1m	W	MD
18	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
19	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
20	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
21	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
22	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
23	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
24	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
25	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
26	1005 NE fac. sec.	1x1m	SW	DB
27	1005 NE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	SW	DB
28	1004 SW fac. sec.	1x1m	NE	SH
29	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	NW	MD
30	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	SE	MD
31	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	NW	MD
32	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	SE	MD
33	Sondage in 1021 S fac. sec.	1x1m	N	SH
34	TP 1 sondage	1x1m	N	MD
35	TP 1 sondage	1x1m	N	MD
36	TR 1 general	1x1x1m	NW	MD
37	TR 1 open well		NW	MD
38	TR 1 general	1x1m	NW	MD
39	TR 1 general	1x1m	NW	MD

Photo Register
 Film Number 2
 Black and White
 200 ASA

No.	Description	Scales	Or	Photo by
1	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	SE	MD
2	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	NW	MD
3	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	SE	MD
4	TR 1 After Machining	1x2m	NW	MD
5	TR 1 general	1x1m	NW	MD
6	TR 1 general	1x1m	NW	MD
7	TR 1 open well		NW	MD
8	TR 1 general	1x1m	NW	MD
9	1004 SW fac. sec.	1x1m	NE	SH
10	1005 NE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	SW	DB
11	1005 NE fac. sec.	1x1m	SW	DB
12	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
13	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
14	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
15	TP 2 Plan and SE fac. sec.	1x2m	NW	MD
16	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
17	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
18	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
19	TP 4 NE fac. sec. and plan	1x1x1m	SW	MD
20	TP 3 plan	1x1x1m	W	MD
21	TP 3 SE fac .sec.	1x1x1m	NW	MD
22	TP 3 SE fac .sec.	1x1x1m	NW	MD
23	TP 5 SE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	NW	MD
24	TP 1 NE fac. sec.	1x1x1m	SW	MD
25	TP 1 SE and NE fac sec and plan	1x1x1m	NW	MD
26	Test Pit 1		NE	MD
27	Trench 1 Plan	1x1x2m	SE	MD
28	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	SE	MD
29	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	SE	MD
30	Trench 1 Plan and NE fac. sec.	1x1x2m	NW	MD
31	Trench 1 Plan and SW fac. sec.	1x1x2m	NW	MD
32	Trench 1 PX	1x1x2m	NW	MD
33	Trench 1 PX	1x1x2m	NW	MD
34	TP 4 Pre-Ex of sondage NE fac. sec.		SW	MD
35	TP 5 SW fac sec +Plan		NE	MD
36	TP 5 Pre-ex of sondage SW fac. sec.		NE	MD

Photo Register
Digital Camera

Photo No	Description	Orientation	Scales	Photo By
1650-0	Trench 1	SE		MD
1650-1	Trench 1	NW		MD
1650-2	Test-pit 2	SE		MD
1650-3	Test-pit 2	N		MD
1650-4	Test-pit 1	SE		MD
1650-5	Test-pit 1	E		MD
1650-6	Test-pit 4	SW		MD
1650-7	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-8	Test-pit 4	SE		MD
1650-9	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-10	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-11	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-12	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-13	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-14	Trench 1	NW	2 x 1m	MD
1650-15	Trench 1	NW	2 x 1m	MD
1650-16	Trench 1	NW	2 x 1m	MD
1650-17	Trench 1	NW	2 x 1m	MD
1650-18	Trench 1	SE	2 x 1m	MD
1650-19	Trench 1	SE	1m	MD
1650-20	Trench 1	NW	1m	MD
1650-21	Trench 1	NW	1m	MD
1650-22	Trench 1	NW	1m	MD
1650-23	Trench 1	NW	1m	MD
1650-24	Test-pit 3	S	1m	MD
1650-25	Test-pit 3	S	1m	MD
1650-26	Test-pit 3	S	1m	MD
1650-27	Test-pit 2	E	1m	MD
1650-28	Test-pit 5	W	1m	MD
1650-29	Test-pit 5	W	1m	MD

Appendix 4: Sandwell MBC SMR Summary Sheet

Site name/Address: Wednesbury Town Centre land to the south of Camp Street on the plot of the former Market Hall	
Borough: Sandwell	NGR: 9862 9490
Type of Work: Phase 3 Archaeological Evaluation	Site Code: WTCP2WS06
Contractor: Birmingham Archaeology	Date of Work: August-October 2006
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Wednesbury Museum (to be deposited)	
Title of Report: WEDNESBURY TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT, AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, STAGE 3, 2007	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: <p>In August 2007 Birmingham Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of William Morrison Supermarkets PLC, in advance of proposals for the construction of a new supermarket and associated petrol filling station in Wednesbury, West Midlands (centred on SO 9862 9490). The work described represented the third stage of evaluation under the footprint of the former Market Hall at the eastern end of the development site. A single evaluation trench and five test pits were excavated within the area. The results of the evaluation revealed a series of Post-medieval deposits. The depth of material in trench 1 and test-pits 1 and 4 suggested a period of substantial infilling of large features within the site that may relate to clay pits associated with the localised pottery industry. Above this material structural remains of the 19th-century housing stock were discovered along the Camp Street frontage in trench 1 and test-pit 4, with associated wells and brick-lined cess pits to the rear in test-pits 1, 2 and 3.</p>	
Author of Summary: CH	Date of Summary: 27/11/2007.



Fig.1

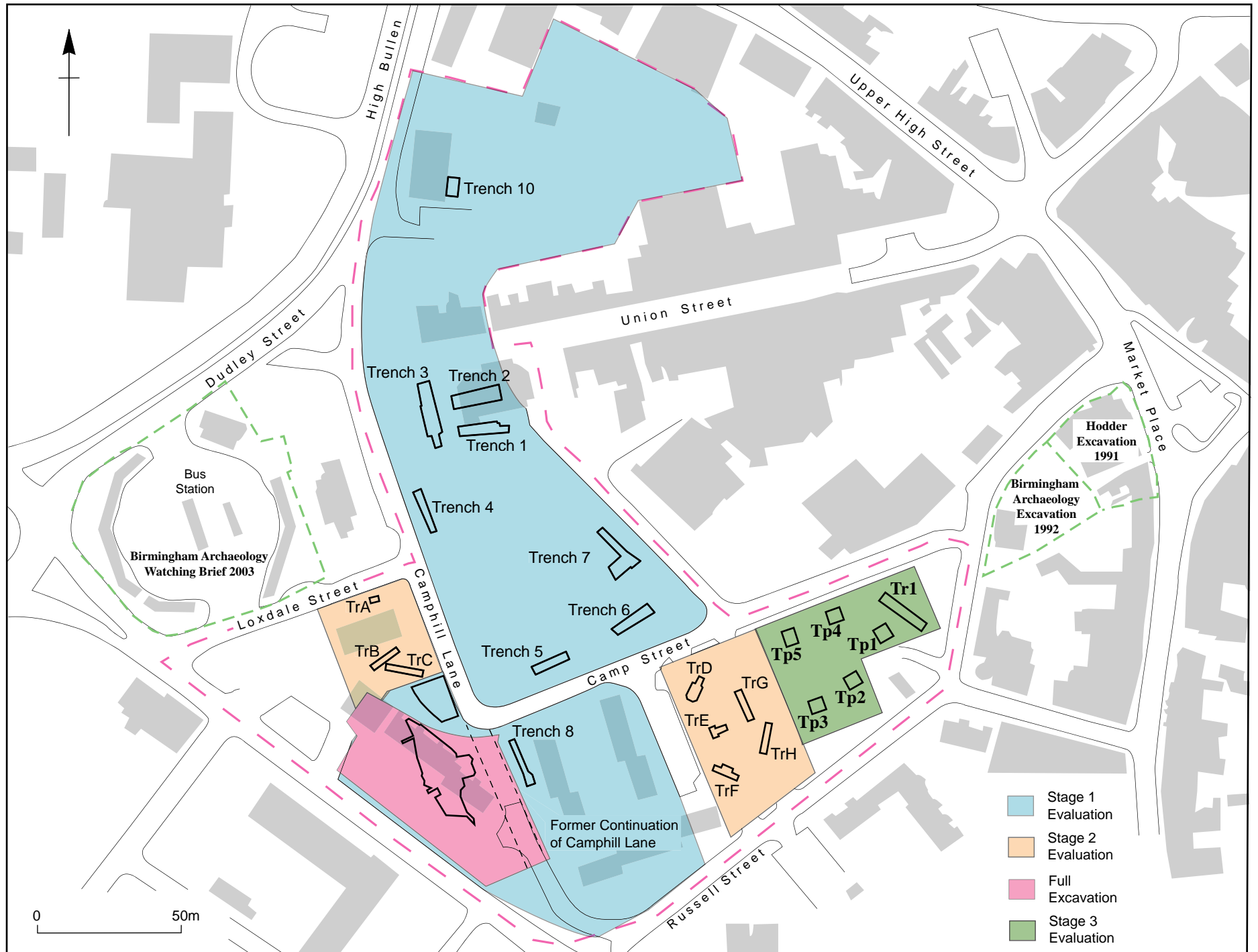


Fig.2

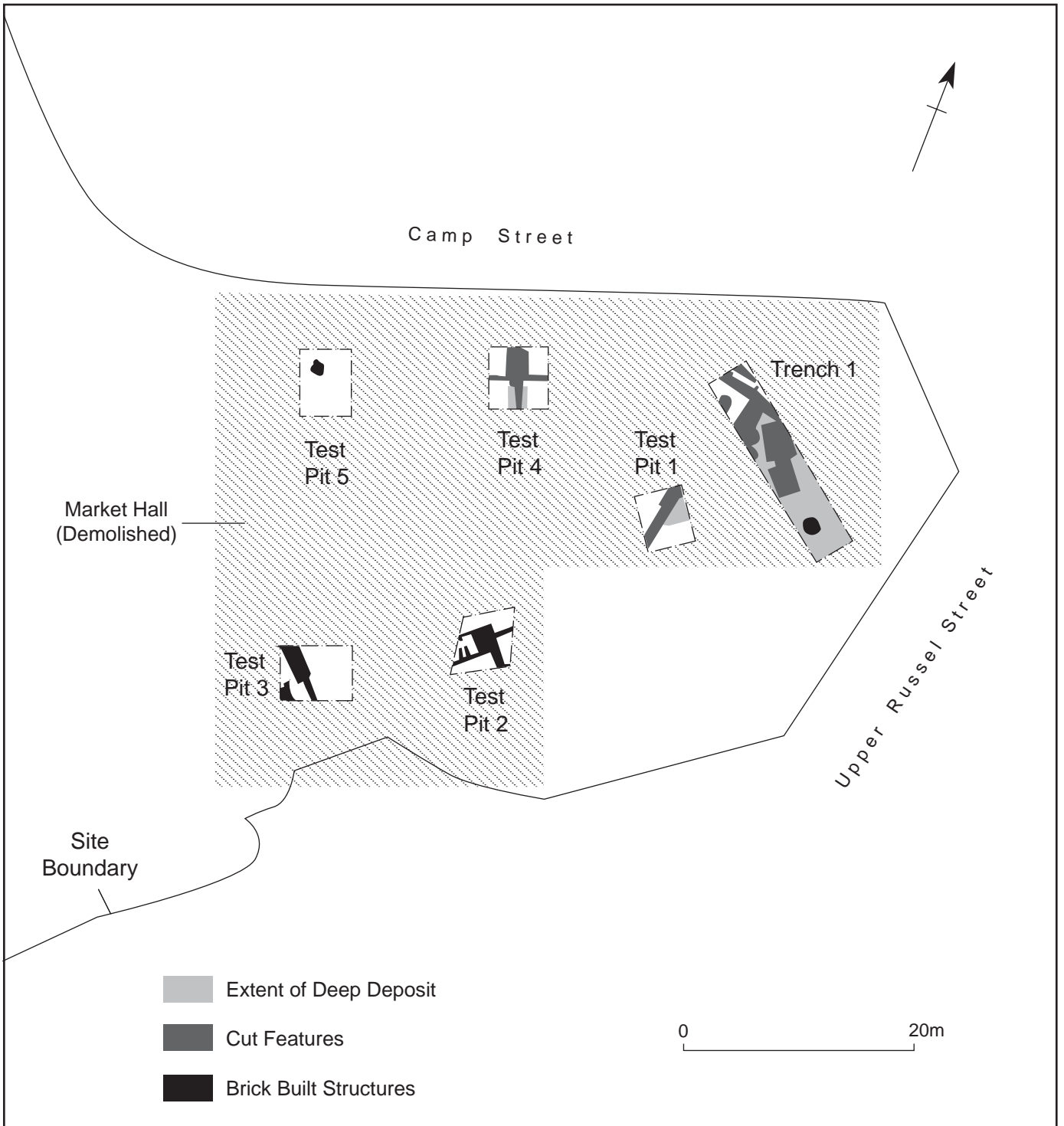


Fig.3

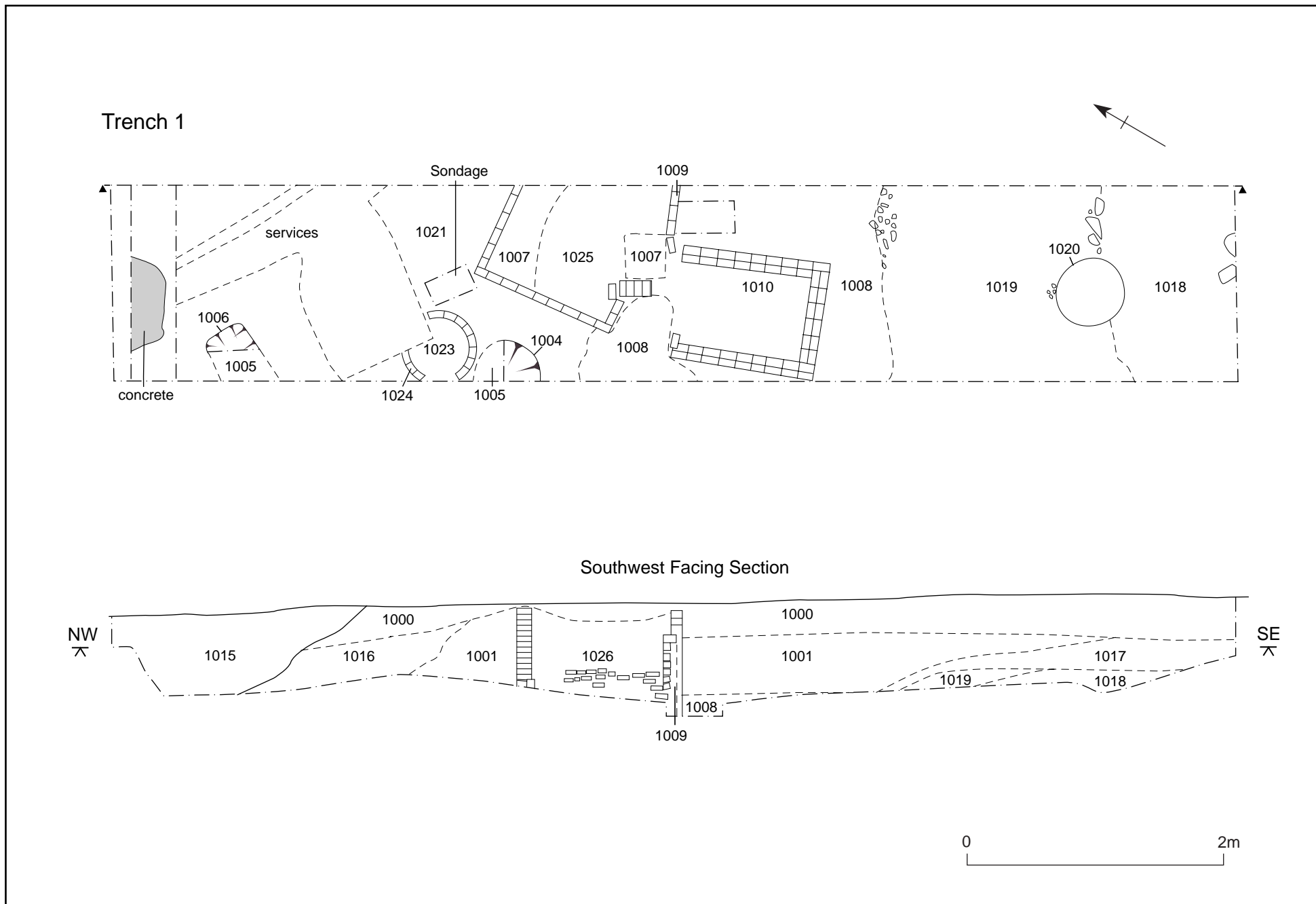


Fig.4

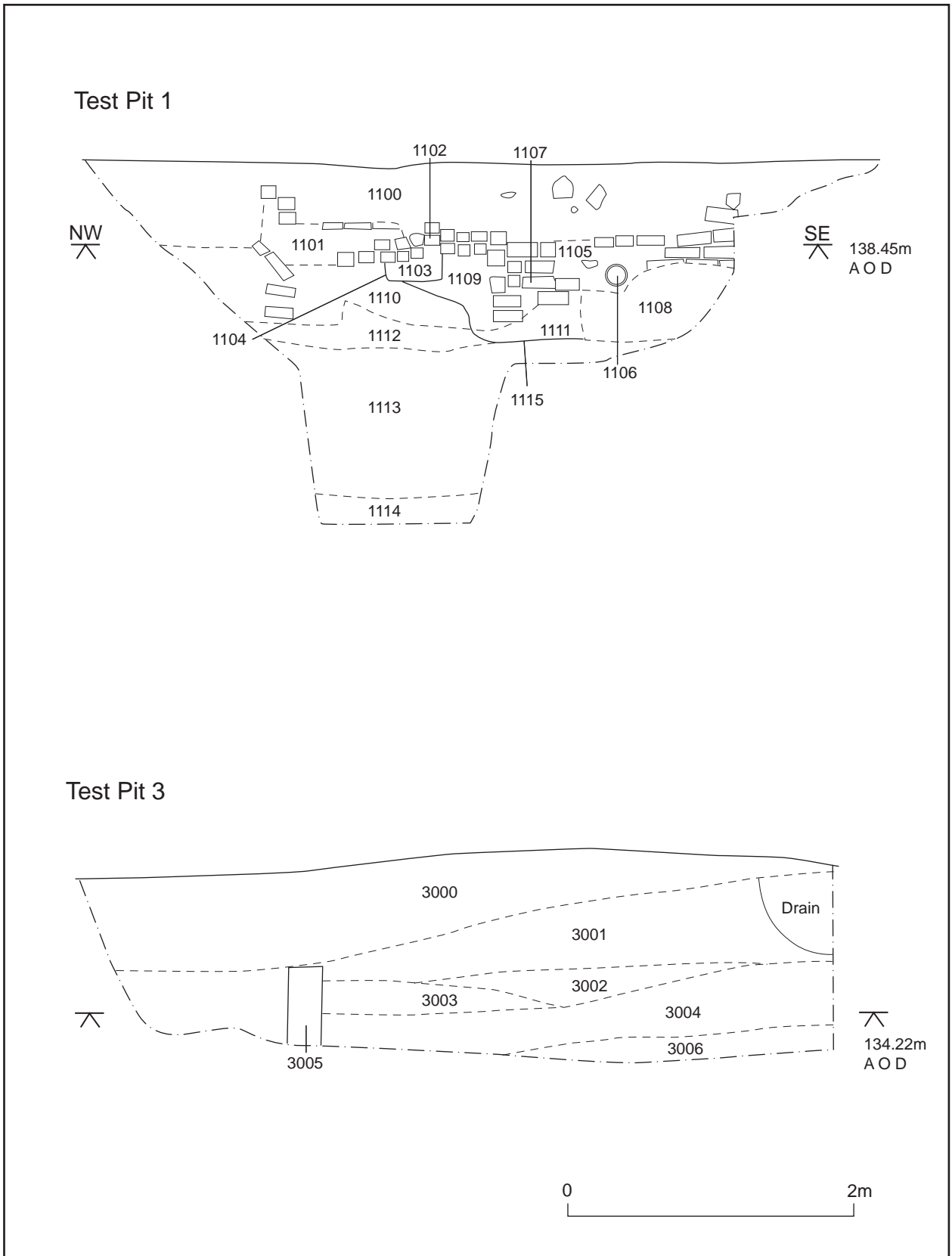


Fig.5



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5



Plate 6



Plate 7