

**AUDLEY END HOUSE
SAFFRON WALDEN
ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
PROPOSED NEW CAFÉ AND VISITOR RECEPTION
AREA**

| | | |
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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the specification. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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Albion Archaeology is grateful to English Heritage for commissioning the project. The archaeological works were part of scheme being designed and managed by the R H Partnership and we would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Graham Black (R H P), the building contractors who undertook the ground works, T. Butler & Sons and the staff at Audley End.

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Structure of this report

After the introductory Section 1, this report presents a summary of the results of the archaeological works (Section 2). A synthesis of the results and their significance is presented in Section 3.

Following Drury's referencing (1982), the house built by Sir Thomas Audley 1538-44 is referred to as Audley End I, whilst the Earl of Suffolk's house begun after 1603 is referred to as Audley End II.



Key Terms

Throughout this report, the following terms or abbreviations are used:

| | |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| Architects | R H Partnership (RHP) |
| EH | English Heritage |
| EHCR | Essex Historic Conservation Record |
| IFA | Institute of Field Archaeologists |
| SAM | Scheduled Ancient Monument |
| SMC | Scheduled Monument Consent |



Non-Technical Summary

Two trial trenches were excavated within the Service Yard, on the site of the proposed new cafe and visitor reception area. The excavations uncovered wall foundations and other archaeological remains likely dating to the 17th century or later (Audley End II, after 1603). Some finds were recovered, mostly brick, peg tile and several sherds of red earthenware and stoneware pottery. Where datable finds were broadly of 17th-century date or later. Undisturbed geological deposits were not encountered.

Although the confines of the work mean that it is difficult to interpret the structural remains with certainty, the wall remains encountered in Trench 1 were either remains associated with the range of buildings forming the Great Kitchen on Winstanley's plans of 1676 and 168, or, more likely, associated with buildings shown on later maps dating to the 1760s. Trial Trench 2 contained an earlier wall foundation and brick surface associated with the out buildings along the northern edge of the service yard and shown on the 1904 OS Map.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Background to Project*

R H Partnership (architects) have been commissioned by English Heritage to obtain planning permission for a new café and visitor's reception facility at Audley End House, Saffron Walden, Essex. Although the new café will largely use the footprint of existing outbuildings within the service yard, the front wall of the new build is beyond the line of the existing walls. The works required SMC class 6 as the service yard is within the scheduled area (SAM 84). The works comprised the excavation of two trial trenches located along the proposed front wall of the new build. Each trial trench measured approximately 2m x 1m.

A desk-based assessment (Lowerre, 2006), undertaken by English Heritage prior to start of works, identified significant archaeological potential within this area of the site.

1.2 *Stages of the Work*

Following on from the desk-based assessment, which identified potential for the survival of a number of specific structural features associated with the development of Audley End from the 12th century to the present day, two trial trenches (2m x 1m) were excavated towards the southern edge of the proposed development area. Prior to start of works, SMC Class 6 consent was obtained.

In order to facilitate excavation, the trial trenches were opened up under archaeological supervision by the main contractors. The trenches were then hand excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m.

1.3 *Location and Description*

Audley End house is situated in parkland on the south-western edge of Saffron Walden, within the hamlet of Littlebury (Fig. 1). The River Cam, diverted as part of the early 17th century landscaping works, runs through the park to the west of the house. The development site is located at National Grid Reference (NGR) TL524381.

The proposed development area is within the service yard to the north of the house which contains an existing range of garages and out buildings along its northern edge.

1.4 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

The archaeological and historical background to Audley End House and the surrounding area is complex. Archaeological knowledge of the site is largely based on piecemeal intervention over the past 20-30 years. A series of larger excavations were, however, undertaken by Drury and Cunningham in the late 1970s and 1980s (see Drury, 1982, Cunningham, 1987), but since then work has been largely confined to small-scale trenching and monitoring during minor works.



Audley End House is on the site of Walden Abbey, a Benedictine foundation, which at the Dissolution passed into the ownership of Sir Thomas Audley. Between 1538 and 1544, Sir Thomas converted the abbey buildings into Audley End House. A plan dating to around 1600 shows that the house was closely based on the layout of Walden Abbey with fishponds, an inner and outer court and a home farm.

During the later 16th century, a three-storey Stable range was built to the west of the Cam. The house was rebuilt between 1603 and 1616 by the Earl of Suffolk as a Jacobean 'prodigy house', and was further restored and altered during the 18th and 19th centuries. Large parts of the 16th-century house and associated buildings, including the Great Kitchen range, were demolished in the early 18th century. It is now half-H in plan, with wings extending towards the east.

The area around the house has undergone extensive landscaping and change since the 12th century. Prior Reginald, who took office in 1166, oversaw the digging of fishponds and the westward diversion of the main north-south road running through the estate, to run along the east bank of the Cam. The digging of the fishponds probably also curtailed the westward extension of the road from Abbey Lane to the north-east of the house (Drury, 1982).

Elements of the various building phases can be seen in the structure and layout of the current house and grounds. At the conversion of the abbey into a house, the cloister, established south of the abbey church in the late 12th century and rebuilt in the middle of the 14th, seems to have remained largely intact, save for the addition of an upper gallery to give access to the rooms on the first floor (Drury, 1982). Excavations in the 1950s and in 1979 revealed parts of the cloister wall (Drury, 1982) and showed how the abbey cloister had been incorporated into the house. Audley End II originally had seven ranges, enclosing two courtyards, most of which were demolished in the early 18th century. Winstanley's view of Audley End in 1676 shows almost the full extent of the buildings: the great gatehouse and its side-wings enclosing the Principal (or Great) Court and, beyond, the surviving Great Hall of Audley End I, with its flanking porches and further wings to the east enclosing the inner court. The inner court of Audley End II followed the plan of the earlier abbey cloister, although there is no sign of any earlier work above ground level. The Mount Garden created as part of the 17th century landscaping can be seen to the south of the house, with large ponds on the site of the medieval fishponds to the north. Plans by Winstanley and dating to the same period (1676 and 1688), also show a Bowling Green to the east of the house and a kitchen range and Wood Yard to the north of the Principal Court.

The grounds of Audley End were landscaped by Capability Brown 1763-8 at the same time that Robert Adam was remodelling the house. All traces of the 18th century formal gardens and earlier 17th century gardens were obliterated by Brown. Further landscaping was carried out by Richard Woods (1780), whose work included the creation of the 'Elysian Gardens' to the north-west of the house. During the 1830s, the third Lord Braybrooke attempted to restore something of the



Jacobean formality and constructed the parterre garden to the east of the house using a design by William Gilpin.

The Historic Environment Record records a number of pre-medieval finds from the vicinity of Audley End, including a Mesolithic tranchet axe (HER no. 400), Iron Age and Romano-British finds from the eastern part of the park (HER nos. 489, 491), a 19th-century report of a Roman pottery kiln and coins from the flower garden behind the house (HER no. 399) and, from between Audley End and Saffron Walden, Bronze Age burial urns.

1.5 Previous Archaeological Work

Whilst some of the earlier work is summarised in *Saffron Walden: Excavation and Research 1972-80* (Drury in Basset (ed) 1982), recent work has not been subject to any synthesis and, furthermore, the archives are held in various locations.

Various small scale evaluation and watching brief work has been undertaken over the past few years, largely associated with insertion of cable trenches and other ancillary work. No recent work has been undertaken within the are of the service yard, although archaeological work during the insertion of a cable trench and lighting piers, to the south of the service yard, in 2005 revealed elements of the earlier 17th century house and possible remains associataed with Waldern Abbey to the south of the service yard (Cooper-Reade & Ingham, 2005).

A desk top produced by English Heritage in advance of this work (Lowerre, 2006) gives a detailed description of the development of this area of the site and possible archaeological remains within the development area.

- North cloister and associated buildings from the earliest phases of the construction of Walden Abbey
- Twelfth century road running north-south to the west of the monastic complex
- Sixteenth-century yard to north of house (Audley End I)
- Jacobean Great Kitchen, Cellar and Wood Yards and associated boundary walls (Audley End II)
- Early 18th-century paths and associated plantings (pre-Capability Brown)
- Later 18th-century buildings (?brewhouse or building to north), boundary wall and associated paths and plantings

1.6 The Historic Maps, Plans and Drawings

There is a large number of existing maps, plans and drawings for Audley End, the most significant of which are reproduced and listed in the Conservation Plan, which provides a useful source for the known record (OAU, 2002). In addition, Drury's interpretative plan (1982) draws on a number of the historic plans, the archaeological evidence and the existing landscape to show the buildings and layout of Audley End I and the landscape features that were altered when Walden Abbey was built. Most plans and maps significant to the development of the service yard are illustrated in the desk-based assessment (Lowerre, 2006)



2. RESULTS

2.1 Introduction

Following on from a brief summary of methodology (see Albion Archaeology, 2007), the trenches and finds are described separately. The results are synthesised in a separate section, with detailed context and finds tables in the appendices.

2.2 Method Statement

Albion Archaeology is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and adheres to the IFA Code of Conduct and all the relevant standard and guidelines. Albion's own standards are outlined in Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records* (1996). Guidance contained in English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991) is followed as is that in the Archaeological Archives Forum's guidance (Brown, 2007).

The work was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology, 2007), approved by English Heritage. Copies of the report will be deposited with English Heritage, the EHCR, ADS and the NMR. In addition the results will be uploaded onto the OASIS website. All archival material will be kept together and, subject to agreement with the site owner, deposited at Saffron Walden Museum.

- The site contractors broke out the modern surface and removed modern overburden under archaeological supervision.
- All layers and deposits below the present surface were hand excavated.
- Finds were collected and assigned to an individual context.
- All features and deposits revealed were fully recorded in accordance with the Albion's *Procedures Manual*.
- No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were recognised
- The work was monitored by English Heritage

2.3 Trench Descriptions

2.3.1 Introduction

The trenches were cut through the loose sand and gravel yard surface and its associated make-up layers. These layers were varied between 0.44m thick to the west (Trench 2) and 0.55m thick to the east (Trench 1). Trench 1 contained a modern service trench and the remains of a brick and clunch wall, whilst Trench 2 contained a nineteenth century brick wall and one, possibly two, post medieval pits.

2.3.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located on the north-west corner of the proposed building in front of the existing garages.



Removal of a service trench (106) that had been cut through the yard surface, the yard surface itself (100) and make up layers (101/102), revealed a wall footing (111) and its foundation trench (117). The wall comprised randomly coursed brick and clunch blocks; the brick measuring approximately 220mm x 100mm x 50mm thick. At its eastern end the wall widened by a single course, possibly representing the position of a pier or buttress. The foundation cut for the wall had been excavated through a stony grey-brown silt sand (103) containing glazed red earthenware and brick, only broadly dateable, but consistent with a late 17th-century/early 18th-century date.

A layer of loose pale yellow lime mortar (114) was uncovered at the base of the trench below both layer 103 and the wall and its foundation (117/111). The mortar extended beyond the edges of the trench and was at least 150mm thick.

No material pre-dating the 17th century was encountered. Where dateable, most finds had a date consistent with the later 17th/18th centuries.

2.3.3 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located towards the middle of the southern wall of the proposed building, just in front of the existing garages.

Removal of the yard surface (200) revealed a brick wall along the northern edge of the trench which turned north, towards the existing garages, approximately 400mm from the western end of the trench. The wall was constructed in an irregular English-style bond from bricks measuring approximately 250mm x 100mm x 60mm thick. There was no foundation trench associated with this wall footing, although the bricks had been laid on a thin mortar surface (20mm thick) which extended southwards and continued beyond the southern edge of the trench.

Immediately below the wall, the trench contained what appeared to be levelling/demolition layers (205/206). These were 400mm thick and contained fragments of building material and a sherd of Frechen stoneware. A sub-rectangular, flat-based pit (213), 750mm deep had been cut through this layer. Pit 213 contained brick and mortar fragments and a single sherd of red earthenware pottery.

A possible garden soil was identified beneath the demolition layer. This comprised a firm dark grey brown soil (207) 130mm thick and containing occasional brick fragments.

The layer of garden soil was removed to reveal a layer of gravel (208) above a deposit (209) containing charcoal, ash, burnt clay, occasional fragments of tile and brick and a small fragment of coal (7g). These layers possibly represent the backfill of a gravel-capped, rubbish pit, the edges of which were outside the confines of the trench

No material pre-dating the 17th century was encountered. Where dateable, most finds had a date consistent with the late 17th/18th centuries



2.4 The Finds

2.4.1 Introduction

The archaeological investigation produced a finds assemblage comprising pottery, ceramic building material, vessel glass, clay tobacco pipe, metal objects, worked stone, animal bone and shell fragments. The material was scanned to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range. The majority of the datable assemblage is of 17th-18th century date.

2.4.2 Pottery

Thirteen pottery sherds, weighing 214g, were recovered. These were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. Sherds are generally small (average sherd weight 16g), although unabraded. Three fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Ceramic Type Series used by Albion Archaeology. Fabrics are listed below (Table 1) in chronological order.

The pottery is datable to the 17th-18th centuries and mainly comprises undiagnostic local red earthenware sherds (Cunningham's Fabrics 21 and 40, 1982, 1). Three sherds of imported German stoneware, including two from Bellarmine face jugs also occur.

| Fabric type | Common name | Sherd No. | Context:Sherd No. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| <i>Post-medieval (1500-1750)</i> | | | |
| Type P01 | Fine glazed red earthenware | 9 | (103):5, (207):3, (211):1 |
| Type P23 | Raeren stoneware | 1 | (207):1 |
| Type P25 | Frechen stoneware | 3 | (205):1, (207):2 |

Table 1: Pottery Type Series

2.4.3 Brick

A number of bricks and brick fragments were sampled from levelling and demolition layers and foundation trenches. All examples are moulded, and bear attributes characteristic of this process, including coarse moulding sand on most faces and occasional surface features such as straw impressions. Colours range from yellow and orange to dark red. The faces of several examples are entirely obscured by mortar layers. Dimensions of a single complete brick recovered from layer (103) fall within the range of 210-230 x 100-110 x 45-50mm quoted for late 17th to early 18th century bricks (Ryan 1996, 95).

2.4.4 Roof tile

Twelve oxidised sand tempered fragments of late medieval/post-medieval flat roof tile, weighing 1.1kg were recovered. Pieces range in thickness from 13-18mm, and the presence of round holes on some fragments indicates the use of wooden pegs as a means of attachment. Three fragments recovered from layer (103) have mortar adhering to their broken edges, indicating reuse. The layer also yielded three pieces of black-glazed curved tile, presumably designed for a specialised use, although their precise function remains unclear.



2.4.5 Clay pipe

Two post-medieval clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were recovered from layers (103) and (207).

2.4.6 Vessel glass

Six vessel glass sherds were recovered from layers (103) and (207). They comprise an olive green octagonal moulded wine bottle base of late 18th century date (context 103) and miscellaneous wine bottle body sherds, broadly datable to the post-medieval period. The glass survives in variable condition, although most sherds are affected by corrosion products to some degree.

2.4.7 Metal objects

A large iron timber nail with a flat, square head and tapering stem (total length 133mm) was recovered from layer (103). Layer (209) contained several pieces of copper alloy sheet, likely to derive from a single object.

2.4.8 Worked stone

Two pieces of clunch were collected from layer (103) and demolition layer (205). The latter yielded a block fragment 100mm thick, with roughly tooled/ dressed surfaces and the former a roughly shaped lump, bearing no visible tool marks.

2.4.9 Animal bone

The faunal assemblage comprises twenty-one well-preserved fragments, weighing 1.9kg. The majority of the bone derived from layer (103) which contained over 1.5kg. Smaller quantities were recovered from layers (207) and (209). Diagnostic elements are mainly large mammal long bones. Rib, mandible, phalange and scapula fragments, and complete horse teeth are also present.

2.4.10 Shell

Fourteen oyster shell fragments (133g) were recovered from layers (103), (207) and (209).



3. SYNTHESIS

3.1 *General Summary*

The evaluation within the northern service yard uncovered archaeological evidence for structures and features most likely post-dating 1725, after the demolition of the buildings shown in Winstanley's plan of 1688. It is possible to speculate that some of the deposits were formed during the demolition works in the early 18th century and that layers in the base of Trench 2 may represent rubbish disposal associated with the Great Kitchen. Although by no means certain, it is most likely that the wall in Trench 1 represents one of the 18th century buildings seen on plans dating from the early 1760s at the time Capability Brown was carrying out his landscaping works. Where datable finds are present they can only be given a broad post-medieval date, although the general character of the assemblage is consistent with the late 17th century/early 18th century.

3.2 *Audley End II (17th – early 18th)*

Sometime prior to 1616, Thomas Howard, first earl of Suffolk, had largely completed the construction of the Jacobean house as represented on Winstanley's plan of 1688. Although the Great Kitchen and its associated buildings would have been located in the vicinity of what is now the service yard, the structural remains revealed more likely date to later phases of activity. It is possible that the material in the base of Trench 2 (layers 208 and 209) may represent the upper layers of a rubbish pit associated with the kitchen and yard areas shown on Winstanley's plan, although finds from these deposits and the sealing layer of ?garden soil were only broadly datable to the general post medieval period.

3.3 *Audley End II (18th century)*

This period covers the pre-1725 demolition of large parts of the house including the buildings around the Principal Court and the Great Kitchen and the works of Capability Brown (1763-8). A map dated to 1752 shows that the house was largely in the same form as it is today, although with various yards, and an area of tree planting and paths to the north. By the mid 1760s various ancillary buildings, including an L-shaped kitchen, brew house and small building to its north, had been built to the north of the house. The L-shaped kitchen forms part of the existing range of buildings and is outside the development area, although discrepancies in the mapping make it difficult to tell whether the brewhouse shown on a map dating to 1763 is a representation of the existing brewhouse building, or an earlier building in a slightly different location. It is perhaps unlikely that an earlier brewhouse was built, demolished and re-built in a slightly different position in a relatively short space of time. However, regardless of the exact location of the brewhouse, a small building to the north of the brewhouse, since demolished, would have been within the confines of the current service yard, although its exact position and alignment is not entirely clear.

It is possible that the layer of mortar in the base of Trench 1 and the ?demolition and levelling layers (205, 206) in Trench 2 were formed during the demolition of the Great Kitchen and nearby buildings before 1725. It is equally possible that



these layers in Trench 2 derive from minor alterations to the building layout during the later 18th and 19th centuries. However, the ?garden soil sealing Layers 205 and 206 would be consistent with the parkland shown in this area from the 1750s until the construction of a new kitchen, brewhouse and associated buildings in the early 1760s.

Although the size of the trench and the presence of a modern service trench made interpretation difficult, the foundation trench for Wall 111 in Trench 1 cut a layer containing bricks and other finds consistent with a late 17th/18th century date. It is therefore most likely that this wall is associated with the ?earlier brewhouse or associated building to the north which are shown in various positions on plans from the 1760s onwards.

3.4 19th Century and Later

The 19th century layout of buildings within and around the service yard is largely that of today. The brick wall found within Trench 2 represents an earlier alignment of the southern wall of the range of buildings along the northern edge of the service yard. Although the footprint of these buildings is largely consistent with that shown on the 19th century maps, modern blockwork and wooden garage doors are more recent additions.

3.5 Significance of Results

The results show that significant remains relating to the development of the ancillary buildings at Audley End exist within the area of the proposed development. Although the service yard is largely in its 19th century form, some alterations to buildings and surfaces have taken place. This gives further evidence from this period an added significance. Wall remains, presumably associated with the current range of buildings along the northern edge of the service yard, were uncovered just below the surface in Trench 2.

The dating of the pre-19th-century features is by no means secure and without uncovering a larger area, linking the structural remains to either the Winstanley plan showing the Great Kitchen or later plans showing other buildings in the vicinity of the service yard is only speculative. It is possible that further investigation of these remains may resolve some of the discrepancies on the map evidence for this area and would enable a more secure phasing. The wall remains (Wall 111, Trench 1) tentatively linked to 18th century buildings that were known to exist in this area were revealed at a depth of 550mm below ground surface (46.96m OD). Construction and associated works are therefore likely to impact on structural remains and deposits associated with the post medieval development of Audley End.



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5. APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY TABLES

**Trench: 1**

Max Dimensions: Length: 2.00 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.2 m. Max: 1.4 m.

Co-ordinates:

Reason: Evaluate development area.

| Context: | Type: | Description: | Excavated: | Finds Present: |
|----------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 100 | External surface | Loose sand and gravel. 0.18m thick. Current yard surface material. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 101 | Levelling layer | Firm mid brown silty sand 0.10m thick. Contained moderate amounts of brick fragments and small stones. Probable levelling layer for current yard. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 102 | Levelling layer | Firm light brown grey silty sand 0.10m thick. Contained occasional brick fragments. Probably associated with levelling for current yard area. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 103 | Layer | Friable mid brown grey silty sand occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones 0.85m thick. Contained frequent amounts of brick fragments. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 105 | Demolition layer | Mixture of dark grey-brown silty sand and fragments of lime mortar and brick. Up to 0.35m thick. Probable demolition material of wall (111) which it overlay. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 106 | Service Trench | Linear ENE-WSW profile: concave base: uneven dimensions: max depth 0.5m, max breadth 0.55m Trench dug to contain water pipe. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 107 | Backfill | Loose sand and gravel. Repair to car park surface. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 108 | Backfill | Firm dark brown grey silty sand Contained frequent fragments of brick, stones and charcoal flecks. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 110 | Backfill | Mixture of sand and gravel, and dark brown-grey silty sand. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 111 | Wall | Wall visible in southern section of trench, aligned E-W. Constructed with brick and squared clunch blocks with lime mortar bonding. Wall steps out at its eastern end (a possible buttress). Bricks measure 70mm x 220mm x 120mm. Visible dimensions of clunch blocks measure between 20mm and 50mm long and approximately 15mm thick. Wall is sat on mortar and brick foundations (112) and (113) and within foundation trench [117]. Wall is overlain by collapsed/demo material (105). Top of surviving wall is 0.55m below the current ground surface at 46.97m OD. Possibly associated with range of kitchen buildings marked in this location on 17th century maps. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 114 | Surface | Layer of loose pale yellow lime mortar. Up to 0.10m thick. Mortared surface present across whole trench that appears to continue beneath foundation trench [117] associated with wall (111). Top of mortar is 1.25m below current ground surface at 46.28m OD. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 117 | Foundation trench | Linear E-W profile: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.65m Foundation trench for wall (111). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 112 | Foundation | Hard light grey-white lime mortar. Foundation for wall (111). Up to 0.05m thick. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 113 | Foundation | Brick rubble and mid brown grey silt. Foundation for wall (111). Up to 0.28m thick. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 115 | Backfill | Firm mid grey silty sand Contained frequent amounts of brick fragments and mortar. 0.45m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 116 | Backfill | Firm mid grey brown clay silt Contained moderate amounts of brick and mortar fragments. 0.25m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 2.00 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.1 m. Max: 1.25 m.

Co-ordinates:

Reason: Evaluate development area.

| Context: | Type: | Description: | Excavated: | Finds Present: |
|-----------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 200 | External surface | Loose light yellow Gravel with sandy silt. Current yard surface material. 0.20m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 201 | Levelling layer | Firm mid brown grey Mixture of mid brown-grey sandy silt and yellow gravel. 0.25m thick. Probable levelling layer for current yard surface. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 202 | Levelling layer | Firm mid brown grey sandy silt 0.32m thick. Probable levelling layer for current yard surface. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 203 | | Brick wall forming a corner aligned approximately E-W / N-S and measuring 0.35m wide and 0.65m deep. 4 regular courses visible and bonded with lime mortar. Top of wall was 0.10m below current ground surface at 46.97m OD. The wall appears to be associated with 19th century range of outbuildings. Individual bricks measured 70mm x 220mm x 120mm. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 204 | Surface | Layer of lime mortar located directly beneath wall (203). 0.04m thick. Possible remnant of an external surface associated with wall (203). Top of mortar was 0.42m below the current ground surface at 47.22m OD. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 205 | Demolition layer | Demolition spread consisting of fragments of clunch, brick, chalk, mortar and mid brown sandy silt. 0.40m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 206 | Layer | Firm mid brown grey sandy silt Contained moderate amounts of brick fragments and stones. 0.25m thick. Possible levelling layer. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 207 | Layer | Firm dark grey brown silt Contained occasional brick fragments. 0.13m thick. Possible garden soil. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 208 | Layer | Firm mid brown-grey silt and orange gravel. 0.10m thick. Present throughout trench overlying waste material (209). May represent a capping layer to a hypothesised pit that contains waste material (209). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 209 | Layer | Firm dark brown grey sandy silt Contained frequent lumps of charcoal and lenses of ashy material and orange (scorched) clay. At least 0.20m thick. A dump of charcoal rich waste material present throughout the trench. The extent of this material may suggest that it is contained within a refuse pit, the sides of which lie outside the confines of the trench. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 213 | Pit | Sub-rectangular profile: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max depth 0.75m, max breadth 0.65m Pit only partially visible in trench. Located partially underneath wall (203). | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 210 | Fill | Firm mid brown grey silt Contained moderate amounts of brick fragments and gravel and occasional fragments of mortar. 0.55m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 211 | Fill | Firm light brown grey sandy silt Contained moderate amounts of brick fragments and gravel and occasional fragments of mortar. 0.20m thick. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 212 | Fill | Firm dark grey sandy silt Contained occasional mortar fragments. Probable slumping of garden soil (207) into pit. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



6. APPENDIX 2: FINDS SUMMARY BY FEATURE

| Trench | Feature | Feature type | Context | Find type | Sherd/frag no. | Weight (g) | | |
|--------|---------|------------------|---------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----|------|
| 1 | 101 | Levelling layer | 101 | Ceramic building material | 3 | 131 | | |
| | 103 | Layer | 103 | Animal bone | 13 | 1741 | | |
| | | | 103 | Ceramic building material | 10 | 6722 | | |
| | | | 103 | Clay pipe | 1 | 4 | | |
| | | | 103 | Iron nail | 1 | 33 | | |
| | | | 103 | Clunch | 1 | 873 | | |
| | | | 103 | Pottery | 5 | 116 | | |
| | | | 103 | Shell | 1 | 10 | | |
| | | | 103 | Vessel glass | 5 | 298 | | |
| | | | 117 | Foundation trench | 115 | Ceramic building material | 2 | 427 |
| 2 | 205 | Demolition layer | 205 | Ceramic building material | 1 | 797 | | |
| | | | 205 | Worked clunch block | 1 | 2870 | | |
| | | | 205 | Pottery | 1 | 9 | | |
| | 207 | Layer | 207 | Animal bone | 2 | 31 | | |
| | | | 207 | Ceramic building material | 4 | 442 | | |
| | | | 207 | Clay pipe | 1 | 6 | | |
| | | | 207 | Clinker | 1 | 10 | | |
| | | | 207 | Coal | 3 | 55 | | |
| | | | 207 | Pottery | 6 | 71 | | |
| | | | 207 | Shell | 3 | 14 | | |
| | | | 207 | Vessel glass | 1 | 22 | | |
| | | | 209 | Layer | 209 | Animal bone | 6 | 142 |
| | | | | | 209 | Ceramic building material | 5 | 1673 |
| | | | | | 209 | Coal | 1 | 7 |
| | | | | | 209 | Copper alloy sheet frags | - | 2 |
| | | | | | 209 | Shell | 10 | 109 |
| | | | 213 | Pit | 211 | Ceramic building material | 5 | 515 |
| 211 | Pottery | 1 | | | 18 | | | |



7. APPENDIX 3: EHCR RECORD SUMMARY

| | |
|--|--|
| Site Name & Address: Audley End House, Saffron Walden | |
| Parish: Littlebury | District: Uttlesford |
| NGR: TL524381 | Site Code: SWAEM07 |
| Type of Work: Evaluation | Site Director/Group: Wesley Keir, Albion Archaeology |
| Date of Work: July 2007 | Size of Area Investigated: 2 x test pits approx. 1m x 2m |
| Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden | Funding Source: English Heritage |
| Further Work Anticipated: Yes | Related EHCR Nos: 401, 402, 406, 407 (SAM 84) |
| Final Report: Cooper-Reade, H. & Keir, W. (2007) Audley End House: Archaeological Evaluation: Proposed New Café and Visitor Reception Area (Albion Archaeology Report 2007/76) | |
| Periods Represented: Post-medieval | |
| SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: <p>The evaluation within the northern service yard uncovered archaeological evidence for structures and features most likely post-dating 1725, after the demolition of the buildings shown in Winstanley's plan of 1688. It possible to speculate that some of the deposits were formed during the demolition works in the early 18th century and that layers in the base of Trench 2 may represent rubbish disposal associated with the Great Kitchen. It is most likely that the wall in Trench 1 represents one of the 18th century buildings seen on plans dating from the early 1760s at the time Capability Brown was carrying out his landscaping works. Where datable finds are present they can only be given a broad post-medieval date, although the general character of the assemblage is consistent with the late 17th century/early 18th century.</p> | |
| Previous Summaries/Reports: None | |
| Author of Summary: H. Cooper-Reade | Date of Summary: 31/07/07 |

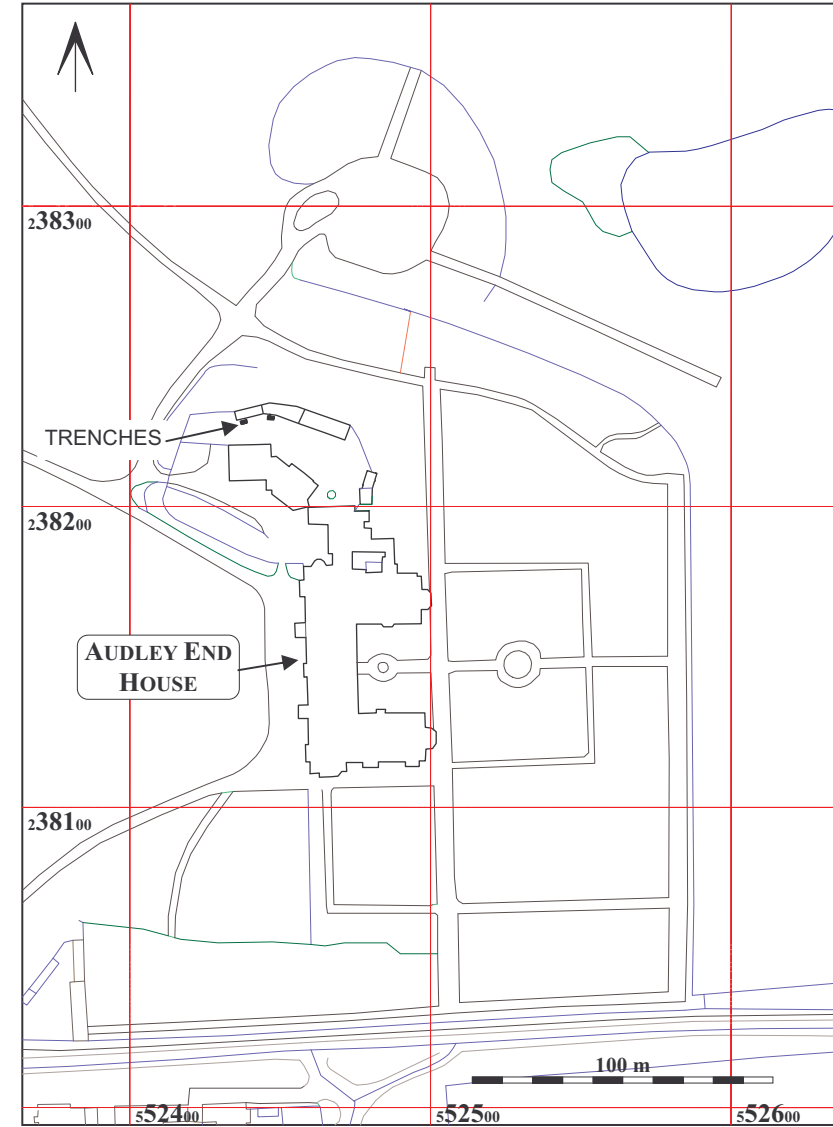
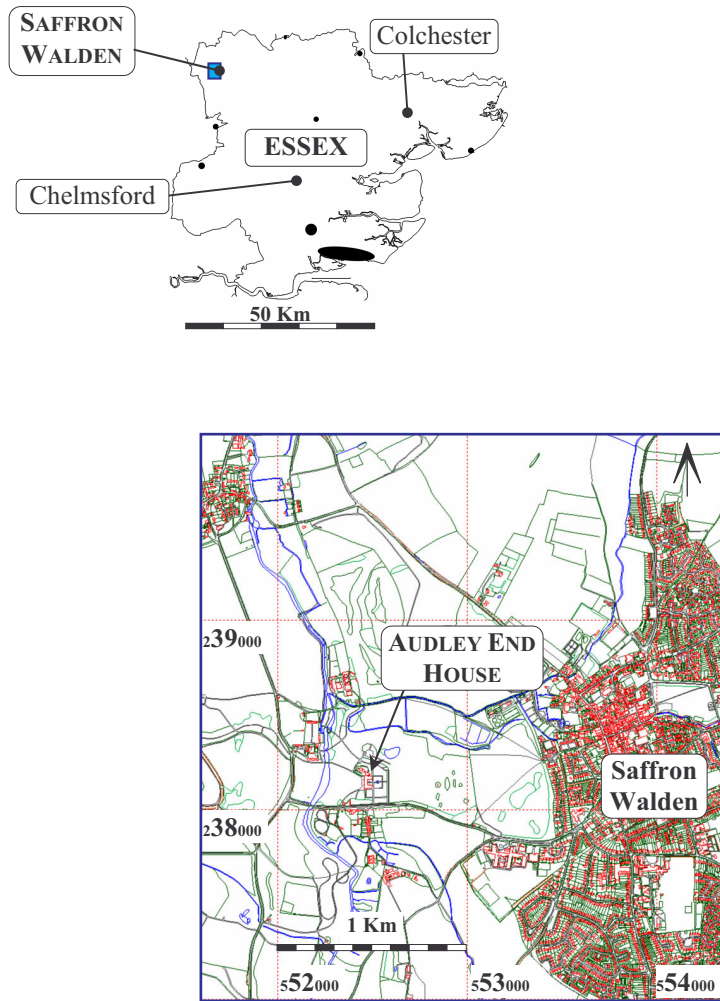


Figure 1: Site location map

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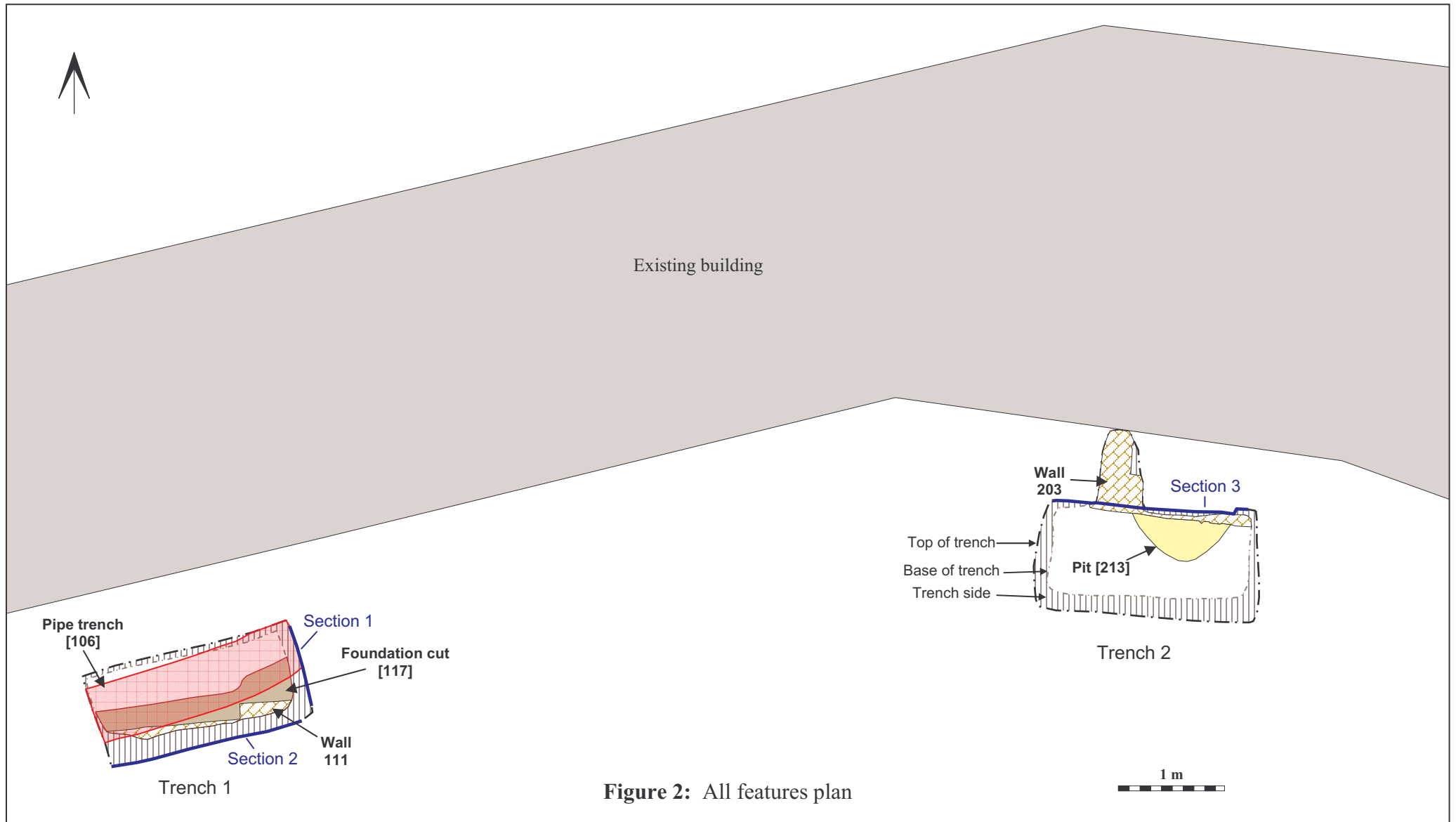


Figure 2: All features plan

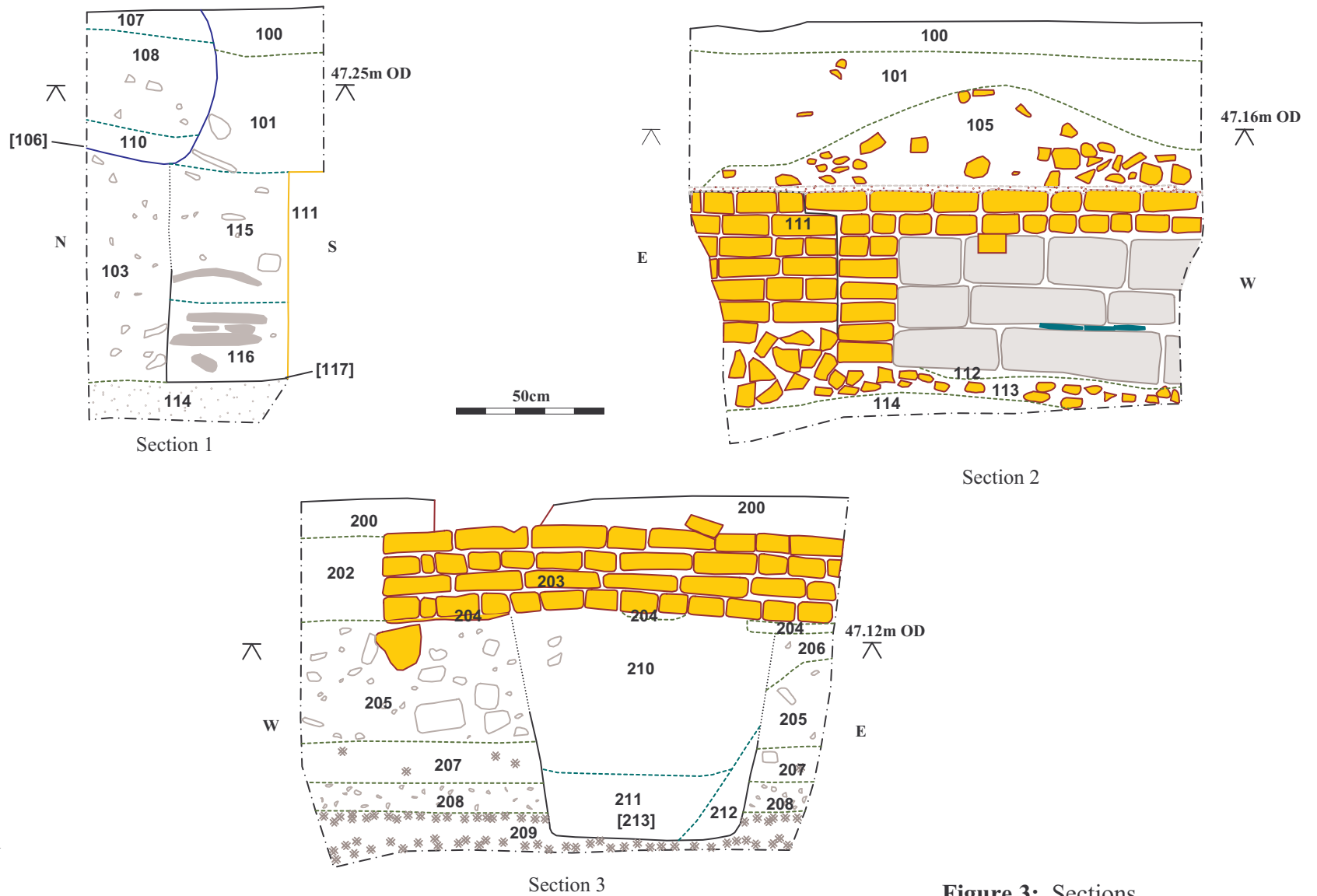
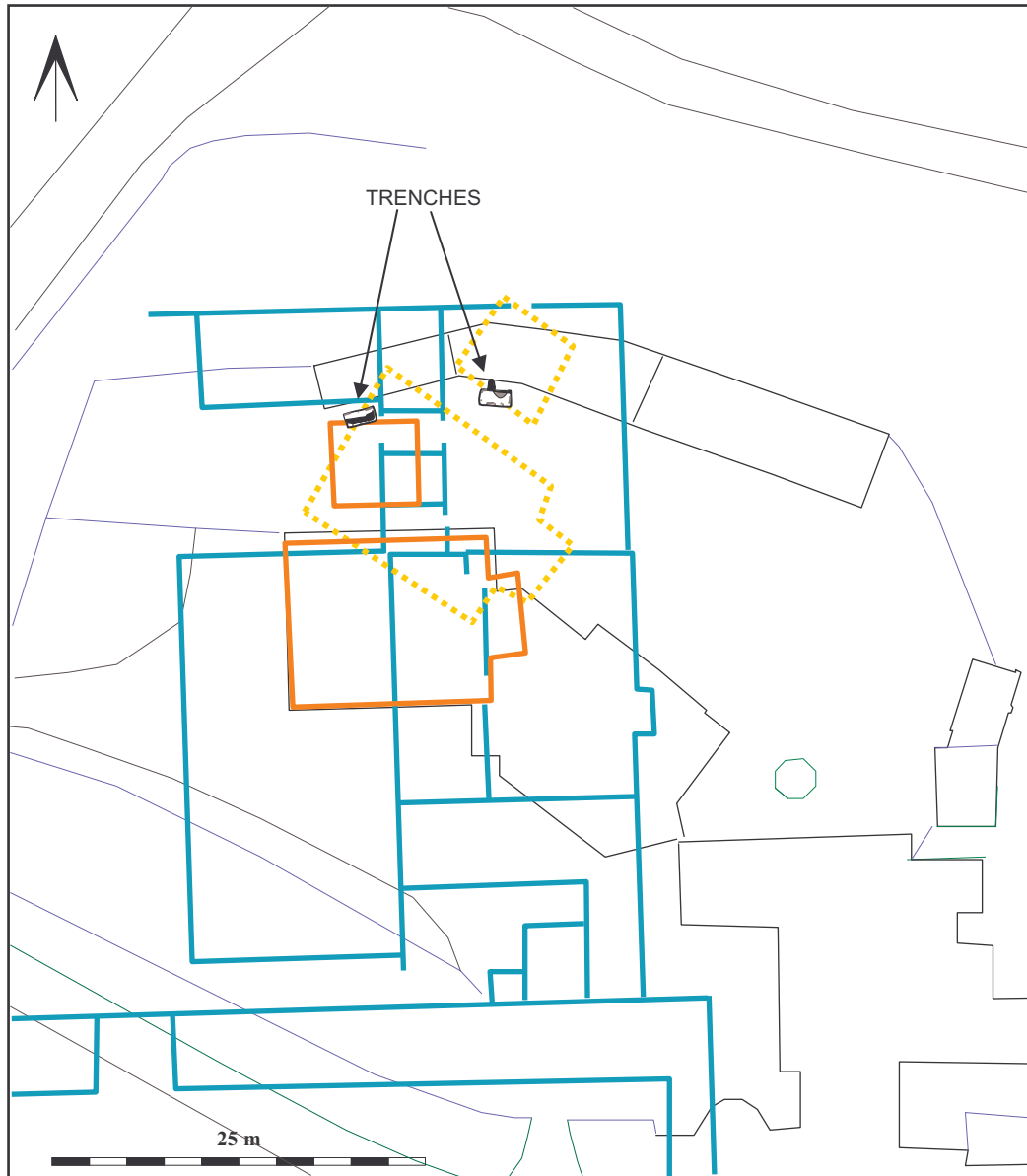


Figure 3: Sections



- Buildings shown on 1688 Winstanley map (approximate position)
- ⋯ Brewhouse and adjacent building as shown on estate plan dated 1763 or later, position uncertain
- Brewhouse and adjacent building, alternative interpretation of map evidence (1763-1765)

Figure 4: Interpretative Plan

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Plate 1: Trench 1: wall 111



Plate 2: Trench 1: deposit 103. Scale 1m



Plate 3: Trench 2: wall 203, pit [213], garden soil 207 (base of trench). Scale 1m



Plate 4: Trench 2: wall 203, pit [213], charcoal deposits 209 (base of trench).
Scale 1m