

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

For Sidney Sussex College

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L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

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Local Authority: Cambridge City Council

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. The evaluation was implemented because of the potential for archaeological remains on the site. The work was carried out by L - P : Archaeology. This report has been prepared by John Duffy of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

The site became Sidney Sussex College in the late 16th century with the first stone laid in 1596. Previously the site was owned by Trinity College, Cambridge who took possession of the site after the Dissolution. Before the Dissolution the site had been occupied by a Franciscan friary, or Greyfriars. The friary was established in the mid 13th century and there is the possibility of earlier Medieval occupation on the site and the King's Ditch crosses the College grounds. Roman activity is also recorded in the vicinity, especially to the north and north east along Jesus Lane.

The objectives of the evaluation were to assess the preserved archaeological deposits on the site, specifically the Medieval Franciscan Friary, and to assess the implications for the proposed development.

The ground penetrating radar, test pitting exercise and geotechnical boreholes identified two phases of structures, likely to be walls associated with the Greyfriars occupation on the site. This was sealed by a demolition layer, likely associated with the Dissolution period and the Trinity College ownership of the site, with further Post-Medieval dumped layers and gravel deposits immediately below the lawn. Below the level of the walls was at least 1m of deposit which is likely to contain features pre-dating the friary.

The extent of the deposits encountered indicate that any development work would need archaeological mitigation in the form of a full excavation of the development area.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This evaluation report has been prepared by John Duffy of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.
- 1.2. The geophysical survey was carried out by Lizzie Richley and John Duffy of L - P : Archaeology on 9th July 2014. The test pits were excavated by John Duffy and Cornelius Barton of L - P : Archaeology between 3rd to 7th November 2014. The monitoring of the geotechnical boreholes was undertaken by John Duffy of L - P : Archaeology between 17th December and 19th December 2014.
- 1.3. The site is located on the Master's Garden, Sidney Sussex College, Sidney Street, Cambridge (FIGURE 1). The National Grid Reference is 544998, 258691.
- 1.4. The event number, ECB4266, provided by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record was also used as the site code.
- 1.5. The work was carried out in accordance with the written scheme of investigation prepared by John Duffy of L - P : Archaeology (DUFFY 2014).

2. Site Background

2.1. PLANNING

- 2.1.1. In March 2012 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG 2012). Section 12 of this document sets out planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment.
- 2.1.2. In considering any planning application for development the local planning authority, Cambridge City Council, must consider the policies 4/9, 4/10, and 4/11 within the Cambridge Local Plan (adopted 2006). On matters concerning archaeology and the historic environment Cambridge City Council take impartial advice from the Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council (HET).
- 2.1.3. The site is adjacent to the Grade I listed building surrounding Hall Court and Chapel Court within the college (LB-47263) (ENGLISH HERITAGE 2014) and falls within the Central Cambridge Conservation Area (CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL 2014).
- 2.1.4. The evaluation is to be undertaken ahead of the submission of a planning application as requested by Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team due to the high archaeological potential and significance of the site. This is to provide as much detailed information about the archaeological deposits on the site at the earliest stage of the development process.
- 2.1.5. L - P : Archaeology, on behalf of Sidney Sussex College, and Cambridgeshire HET, on behalf of Cambridge City Council, have agreed the methodology for these works in a written scheme of investigation (DUFFY 2014). The written scheme of investigation was based on a advice provided by Cambridgeshire HET.

2.2. GEOLOGY

- 2.2.1. The British Geological Survey GeoIndex shows the site to be located on gault and upper greensand formations (BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 2014). This data is at relatively low resolution and does not give site specific data.

2.2.2. The site area is likely to be situated on gravel terraces and floodplains created by the River Cam.

2.2.3. The boreholes on the site encountered made ground to approximately 2.5m BGL below which was a sand and gravel natural deposit. Below the sand and gravel, at approximately 4m BGL, was a grey clay. This extended to the full depth of both boreholes, approximately 20m BGL.

2.2.4. No natural deposits were encountered in the test pits.

2.3. TOPOGRAPHY AND SITE CONDITIONS

2.3.1. The site of Sidney Sussex College is in the centre of Cambridge to the south and east of the River Cam (FIGURE 1). The College is between Jesus Lane to the north, Sidney Street to the west, Malcolm Street to the east and King Street to the south. The grounds include extensive gardens and several courtyards, as well as the College Chapel, Masters Lodge, residential and administrative buildings.,

2.3.2. The proposed development area is located on the terraced area at the western limit of the Master's Garden. The western area of the site is a gravel path and the eastern area is a lawn (FIGURES 2 AND 3). A low wall, with central steps, and flower beds separate the site area from the remainder of the Master's Garden.

2.3.3. The site is flat appearing heavily landscaped, with a height of 9m OD.

2.4. ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

2.4.1. The archaeological and historical background of the site can be divided into three main phases. These are the development of the site prior to the establishment of the friary in the 13th century, the period of occupation by the friary and then the subsequent occupation of the site by the college.

PRE GREYFRIARS

2.4.2. Evidence of Roman activity was identified within Cloister Court during excavations in 1958 (SALWAY 1996) (05004c). Further evidence has been recovered in the vicinity of the site suggesting evidence for Roman activity. Sites and findspots to the north and north east of the college have been

recorded along Jesus Lane including Roman pottery and kiln wasters (04638) and Roman pottery (04608). At least 32 burials were identified in a late Roman cemetery (CB15727/ECB1410) also on Jesus Lane. A Roman figurine and pottery has been recovered on Malcolm Street (04705).

- 2.4.3. There is less evidence for the Early Medieval period in the vicinity of the site but finds include Saxon brooches and probable inhumation on Jesus Lane (04608a) and another Saxon brooch (04804).
- 2.4.4. The site is located close to the River Cam, approximately 350m to the north and east. The site therefore has potential for remains predating the foundation of the Medieval friary.

GREYFRIARS

- 2.4.5. The Grey Friars were present in Cambridge from approximately 1225 and founded a new house on the site in 1267 (MOORMAN 1952). The King's Ditch is known to have run through the plot and is recorded as a visible earthwork in places (04999). Essex's Map of Cambridge shows the layout of the Greyfriars site possibly in the 13th century (FIGURE 4). Work undertaken on identifying the friary and establishing its layout include excavations (SALWAY 1996) and geophysical survey (FERRABY & HORNE 2011) (OGDEN 2012).
- 2.4.6. Salway's excavations (05004) identified the presumed friary church, in the area now known as Cloister Court, and also four graves were identified. The excavations also recovered 14th century high quality stained glass. Earlier Medieval remains below the church building were also recorded and these may be structures demolished to make way for the friary.
- 2.4.7. A reconstruction of the site was prepared by Moorman which included the friary church cloister and frater buildings (MOORMAN 1952) (FIGURE 5). The current site would be located in the area Moorman indicates as the cloister.
- 2.4.8. Medieval remains have been identified within the grounds of the College and include Medieval stonework and glass objects (04602), an earthwork and possible stone structure (05004b). Medieval pottery has been recorded on Sidney Street (04539) and a Medieval seal (04434) is thought to have been

found in the College grounds although the exact location is not known.

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2.4.9. The Greyfriars were removed from the site in 1538 and it passed into the ownership of Trinity College and was in a ruinous state by 1547. In 1589 the executors of Lady Frances Sidney's (Countess of Sussex) will began negotiating with Trinity College to purchase the land. However, it required an Act of Parliament, passed by Elizabeth I, to allow the purchase. The first stone was laid in 1596 and the site remains as part of Sidney Sussex College (05004a).

2.4.10. Little of the Greyfriars site continued into the College period with the exception of the old refectory which was used by the College until it was demolished in 1776 and replaced by a new chapel (HIND ET AL. 1994).

2.4.11. The college currently includes five listed buildings:

- ◆ The Grade I listed buildings surrounding Hall Court and Chapel Court (DCB7095/NHLE1106237).
- ◆ The Grade II* listed Cloister Court (DCB7151/NHLE1125496).
- ◆ The Grade II listed Gateway Entrance from Jesus Lane to the College Garden (DCB7097/NHLE1106363).
- ◆ The Grade II listed Walls fronting Sidney Street, Wall of Hall Court and Wall of Chapel Court (DCB7150/NHLE1125495).
- ◆ The Grade II listed East Boundary Wall fronting Malcolm Street (DCB7152/NHLE1125497).

2.4.12. The site appeared to have remained largely undisturbed, with the exception of the terracing and service trenching, during the time of the College and has been in constant use as a lawn or garden throughout this period.

PREVIOUS EVALUATION

2.4.13. In 1994 an evaluation was carried out approximately 10m to the south of the site (HIND ET AL. 1994) (FIGURE 2). The evaluation consisted of one trench and two test pits although the excavation was limited due to the presence of

numerous services across the site.

2.4.14.The evaluation identified three broad phases on the site. Phase 1 was monastic features, Phase 2 consisted of College related dumping and Phase 3 was modern intrusions and gardening. Natural was only identified in a small area at approximately 6.10m OD.

2.4.15.Phase 1 consisted of a reddish brown sandy clay silt, 0.5m thick, over natural with one sherd of Medieval pottery recovered. This deposit was considered to be a possible horticultural deposit. It was cut by a clay lined feature, possibly a fishpond, which contained 13th to 15th century pottery.

2.4.16.Phase 2 consisted of a series of dump layers sealing the possible fishpond. The lowest layer of this sequence was a demolition layer, 0.3m to 0.45m thick, containing clunch fragments and mortar. Based on the evidence in the report the top of this deposit was approximately 7.25m OD. Above this deposit was a light brown fine sandy clay and above that was a mid grey brown sandy silt.

2.4.17.Phase 3 was modern services and gravel layers which may have represented possible paths.

2.4.18.The information contained within this evaluation is useful for understanding the current site due to its close proximity.

3. Aims

3.1. The general aims of the evaluation were:

- ◆ To determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains.
- ◆ To assess the character, date, location and preservation of any archaeological remains on the site. The results will include a comment on the quality and significance of the remains.
- ◆ To assess the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological remains on the site.
- ◆ To assess the anticipated impact of the development proposals on any surviving archaeological remains.
- ◆ To collect enough information to allow a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised, if required. Any such strategy could consist of further fieldwork followed by a programme of post excavation analysis, reporting and possible publication and dissemination.

3.2. The specific aims of the archaeological evaluation were:

- ◆ To assess the results of the Ground Penetrating Radar survey results and to further characterise the features identified in the survey.
- ◆ To assess the footings of the current building from an archaeological and structural perspective and to assess the impact the results would have on the design of the proposed development.

4. Methodology

4.1. The fieldwork was split into three phases (FIGURE 3). The initial phase was a ground penetrating radar survey undertaken as a research project further extending the surveys undertaken elsewhere in the College grounds, including the Master's Garden (OGDEN 2012). The second phase of the fieldwork was the test pitting within the area of the proposed development. The final phase of fieldwork was the monitoring of geotechnical boreholes within the Master's Garden.

4.2. GROUND PENETRATING RADAR

EXPLANATION OF GEOPHYSICAL METHODS

4.2.1. Ground-penetrating radar (GPR) involves the transmission of high-frequency radar pulses from a surface antenna into the ground. The time taken for the pulse to reflect to the antenna is measured. This is then calibrated in nanoseconds (ns, billionths of a second) and using velocity analysis techniques, can be converted into depth below ground surface (CLARK 1996).

4.2.2. The technique allows for the creation of timeslices or a series of subsurface plans at increasing depth (GAFFNEY & GATER 2003). Timeslices provide the opportunity for geophysicists to analyse reflections at varying depths on the horizontal plane (NEUBAUER ET AL. 2002).

4.2.3. This technique has been applied to a range of archaeological sites, in particular over substantial urban and ancient archaeological remains (GAFFNEY ET AL. 2004; NEUBAUER ET AL. 2002).

DATA ACQUISITION

4.2.4. The survey area was restricted to level surfaces across which the radar could be traversed.

4.2.5. A local survey grid was established within all four survey areas, and used to record the starting and ending points of individual GPR profiles. This grid origin (0,0) and corner points of each survey area were then surveyed in British National Grid using a SmartNet enabled Leica GPS500.

4.2.6. The survey was conducted using a Sensors and Software/Noggin Plus System

with rugged terrain cart and a 500 MHz antenna. A setting of 4 stacks was used for ungained data collection with a total time window of 100 ns, was collected at a 0.25m line separation in zig-zag acquisition mode. A total area of measuring 7m by 22m was surveyed on the garden terrace.

- 4.2.7. The radargrams were recorded in real time directly to the digital video logger (DVL), whilst the starting and ending coordinates were recorded manually for each traverse and subsequently data entered into the GPR software format.

SIGNAL AND IMAGE PROCESSING

- 4.2.8. The radargrams were imported into the GPR processing software for signal and image processing before being exported to the GIS for interpretation.
- 4.2.9. A standard range gain and wobble reduction were applied to all radargrams to boost relative reflections at depth and remove unwanted low frequency DC drift noise.
- 4.2.10. A zero ns (time zero point) was calculated and set to 104 samples. Radargrams were then resampled and sliced at 18 samples (3.6 ns) between 104 – 500 samples.
- 4.2.11. Although hyperbola migration was not performed, a selection of hyperbolas were used to estimate the approximate velocity of each radarwave using a constant velocity model for the survey as a whole: 0.07 m/ns. This calculation was then used to estimate the depth of each timeslice.
- 4.2.12. Timeslices were then gridded using an inverse distance gridding algorithm at 0.25 cell size, with a 3 x 3 low pass filter applied to the gridded data. All timeslices were subjected to vertical interpolation and then exported for georectification in the GIS.

STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

- 4.2.13. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that interpretation of the survey presents an accurate indication of the nature of sub-surface remains, any conclusions derived from the results form an entirely subjective assessment of the data and the importance attributed to certain features is a product of the

judgment of the surveyor. Geophysical survey facilitates the collection of data relating to variations in the form and nature of the soil or subsurface materials. This may only reveal certain archaeological features and may not record all the material present.

4.3. TEST PITS

- 4.3.1. A total of three test pits were excavated in order further define the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (FIGURE 3). The methodology for the excavation and recording of these test pits is set out within the written scheme of investigation (DUFFY 2014).
- 4.3.2. The location of Test Pit 1 was moved 1m north west from its original position to attempt to avoid the high speed data cables. These cables were still identified in the south west corner of the test pit.
- 4.3.3. Test Pit 3 was excavated further to the south along the existing college building to avoid services and the cellar window. The test pit was reduced in size from 1m by 1m to approximately 1m by 0.65m due to the restricted space available.
- 4.3.4. All test pits were excavated to a depth where deposits encountered meant that no further excavation was possible.

4.4. GEOTECHNICAL BOREHOLES

- 4.4.1. Two geotechnical boreholes were excavated to allow a greater understanding of the ground conditions for the structural engineers. The boreholes were located on the terraced lawn and on the lower main lawn (FIGURE 3). Both boreholes were excavated to a depth of 20m.
- 4.4.2. The excavated material was examined by an archaeologist in order to determine the likely depth of deposit below the level excavated within the test pits.

5. Results

5.1. Results are given below each method employed on the site. For the test pits deposit numbers are given in (parentheses) and cut numbers are given in [square brackets]. Heights are given in mOD and depths are given below ground level (BGL).

5.2. GROUND PENETRATING RADAR (FIGURES 6 AND 7)

5.2.1. The results of the survey indicated at least two different structural phases within the garden terrace area. The results of this survey, although in a smaller area, support the results of the previous survey in the Master's Garden (OGDEN 2012).

5.2.2. The results of the survey are shown below using five separate timeslices at varying depths to indicate the underlying features. The results indicate at least two structural phases as well as heavy disturbance by more recent services.

TIMESLICE 14

5.2.3. This timeslice shows the upper deposits within the site at a depth of 37 to 40cm below ground level. Features, likely to be pipes and drains, are visible across the western half of the survey area.

TIMESLICE 25

5.2.4. A possible wall is identified in the northern area of the survey running approximately northwest to southeast. This is at a depth of 68 to 72cm below ground level and is at a similar depth and on an identical alignment to possible walls in the previous survey of Master's Garden (OGDEN 2012).

TIMESLICE 28

5.2.5. The possible wall is clearly visible at this level, 77 to 80cm below ground level, and can be seen extending further south.

TIMESLICE 39

5.2.6. The possible wall is still visible at this level, 108 to 111cm below ground level, although it is possibly at the very base of the feature. A linear feature running across the centre of the survey area is visible and is a continuation of a feature identified to the east in the previous survey (OGDEN 2012).

TIMESLICE 64

5.2.7. A second possible wall is visible at approximately 180cm below ground level. This is on a slightly different alignment to the possible wall visible in the survey, see Timeslices 25 and 28. Possible walls are visible at this level on the previous survey to the east and are on the same alignment (OGDEN 2012).

5.3. TEST PIT 1 (FIGURE 8 AND 9)

5.3.1. Test Pit 1 was excavated in the centre the terraced area of the garden (FIGURE 3). It measured 2m by 1m and reached a maximum depth 1.4m BGL where excavation ceased to the the presence of structural remains.



Plate 1 - Test Pit 1 General Shot

5.3.2. The upper deposit was a 0.18m thick topsoil (101) which sealed two service trenches [107] and [109]. However, both service trenches appeared to cut the lower portion of the topsoil suggesting the top portion of the topsoil was deliberately separated during the excavation of the service trenches and then relaid above them once backfilled.

5.3.3. Service trench [107] was vertical sided with a flat base measuring 0.65m deep. It contained a series of plastic pipes, at 0.45m BGL, containing high speed data cables for the university running across the southwest corner of the test pit. The fill was a mixed gravel and dark grey/brown silty sand (108) with the pipes set

on a bed of orange sand.

- 5.3.4. A second cut [109] was visible with near vertical sides and flat base running north south along the western edge of the test pit. The upper part of the feature was cut by the cable trench [107] and was filled by a mid grey brown silty sand (110). The lower part of the cut was filled by a brick lined culvert (111) at 0.65m BGL. The culvert was three coarses deep with an additional coarse forming a capping on the structure. The brickwork was disturbed by cut [107] but was red bricks measuring 70mm by 110mm by 220mm. A void was still visible within the culvert.
- 5.3.5. Both service trenches [107] and [109] cut through a sequence of gravel layers grouped together using the context (120). The uppermost gravel was 0.15m thick mid grey gravel and silty sand (102) below this was a compacted orange gravel and sand layer (103). Below (103) was a mid grey gravel and silty sand layer (104) over an orange sand with chalk and gravel layer (105). The earliest layer in the sequence was a mid to light grey silty sand with chalk and gravel (106) which was 0.14m thick across most of the test pit but was 0.3m thick at the eastern limit of the test pit.
- 5.3.6. These gravel and sand layers appear to be from a series of deposits that have been deliberately built up and contribute to the existing raised terrace in this area of the Master's Garden. It is unclear if these deposits are deliberately laid to form the terrace or are laid to create paths within the college grounds, as suggested in the evaluation to the south (HIND ET AL. 1994).
- 5.3.7. These layers, and visible across the test pit, was a dark brown silty clayey sand deposit (112). The deposit had a maximum depth of 0.24m in the northern section but became thinner to the south where the depth was 0.1m in the southern section. This layer appeared to be a deposit dumped to level the ground over the demolition material below.
- 5.3.8. Layer (112) sealed a clunch rubble and mortar layer (113), including sandstone roof tiles, which was visible across the trench and in turn sealed the remains of a wall 114 (PLATE 2). The rubble layer was 0.24m thick over the wall but up to 0.5m thick to the west of the wall. The remains of the wall suggested

an end or corner of a heavily mortared stone and clunch built wall. The wall survived to a depth of at least 0.38m and was stepped at 0.2m below the surviving top of the wall.

5.3.9. A near vertical foundation cut [119] was visible in the north section of the test pit and it was filled by a thin lower grey clay deposit (116), visible in the northern and eastern sections of the test pit. The upper fill of the foundation cut was a dark grey clayey sandy silt (118) visible in the northern, eastern and southern sections of the test pit.

5.3.10. To the west of wall 114 the cut of the foundation trench [119] cut through a dark brown clayey silt (115). Below deposit (115) was a similar layer identified at the base of the trench, a dark grey/brown clayey silt (117). It is likely that (117) is a continuation of deposit (115).



Plate 2 - Test Pit 1 Wall 114

5.4. TEST PIT 2 (FIGURES 10 AND 11)

5.4.1. Test Pit 2 was excavated in the northern area of the terraced lawn and measured 2m by 1m. It reached a maximum depth of 1.5m BGL where excavation ceased

due to space limitations caused by the presence of structural features.

- 5.4.2. The uppermost layer identified in the test pit was the topsoil (201) which had a maximum thickness of 0.12m. This extended across the entire test pit and formed the lawn of the garden.



Plate 3 - Test Pit 2 General Shot

- 5.4.3. A series of gravel layers (220) were identified in the upper 0.5m of the test pit and were similar to the deposits identified in Test Pit 1. The uppermost gravel layer was mid grey gravel and silty sand (202). This extended across the entire test pit and was visible in all sections with a maximum thickness of 0.18m. This had a thin lens of orange sand and gravel (218), 0.04m thick, above it in the north section below topsoil (201). Below (202) was a mixed orange and grey gravel (217) with occasional mortar fragments visible in the eastern half of the test pit.

- 5.4.4. Below these deposits was a mixed orange/grey gravel (216) visible across the test pit with a possible lens of mixed gravel (215) approximately 0.1m thick. A charcoal rich gravel (203) was identified below deposit (216) although this

deposit did not extend to the eastern section of the test pit. Below this was a thin layer of orange sand and gravel (221).

5.4.5. Extending across the entire test pit and below (203) was 0.14m thick rubble layer consisting of clunch fragments, mortar, chalk and ceramic building material (204). Below this was a dark grey silty sand (205) which was visible in all sections apart from the eastern section. Deposit (206), a 0.12m thick mid to dark grey brown silty sand, was identified below deposit (205).

5.4.6. A deposit of dark grey silty sand (207) with frequent clunch and chalk fragments was recorded across the test pit and was visible in all sections. The deposit had a maximum thickness of 0.21m and may represent an initial leveling of the site similar to deposit (112) in Test Pit 1.

5.4.7. A possible demolition layer (208) was identified across the test pit and sealing wall 209. This deposit consisted of mortar and clunch rubble with some chalk fragments and sandstone roof tiles, and was similar to layer (113) in Test Pit 1.

5.4.8. Wall (209) was clunch and mortar built with trace evidence that the upper part of the faces of the wall had a mortared finish (PLATE 4). The wall survived to a height of 0.7m though due to limited excavation space it was unclear if the base of the wall was reached. The wall extended across the test pit at a slight angle and measured 0.6m wide. The wall survived to a greater depth than the wall in Test Pit 1 and had a different construction method and alignment.



Plate 4 - Test Pit 2 Wall 209

5.4.9. To the east and west of wall 209 a grey clay layer was identified running up to the wall faces. To the east was (219) which was an unexcavated grey clay with a thin, 0.01m, burnt silty sand deposit (214) with frequent charcoal flecks directly above. To the west of wall 209 excavated in a small sondage against the wall was a 0.1m thick grey clay deposit (210). The two grey deposits appeared similar and both butted wall 209 but both deposits were at different depths. Deposit (219) was 1.16m BGL and deposit (210) was recorded at 1.28m BGL.

5.4.10. To the west of wall and sealed by clay (210) the cut for the foundation trench for the wall was identified [213]. The cut appeared to run parallel with the wall and had near vertical sides though no clear base was identified. It was filled by a sand and mortar fill (212) and cut through a dark grey silty clay (211) similar to (115) and (117) in Test Pit 1.

5.5. TEST PIT 3 (FIGURE 12)

5.5.1. Test Pit 3 was excavated against the eastern wall of the college buildings in order to assess the depth and condition of the foundations for the building. Space was limited due to existing services and surfaces. The test pit measured 1.2m by 0.65m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.



Plate 5 - Test Pit 3 General Shot

5.5.2. The area of the test pit was covered in 0.04m thick flagstones (301) bedded on a cement layer (302) 0.05m thick.

5.5.3. The southern half of the test pit was excavated through a black silty sand with frequent brick rubble, slate and bath fragments (303). This deposit appeared to fill a brick lined structure, probably a soakaway, 304. The footings of the building (305) were exposed within the soakaway area but were heavily disturbed with large voids prompting excavation to cease in this half of the trench.

5.5.4. The northern half of the trench identified the remains of an iron service pipe (306) fixed on a concrete base (307). This was possibly the remains of a previous drainage pipe or downpipe for the college building. Due to the nature of the footings in this test pit the concrete and pipe were left in situ.

5.6. GEOTECHNICAL BOREHOLES

5.6.1. Two boreholes were excavated on the site with one adjacent to Test Pit 1 and one to the east of the terraced area of the garden (FIGURE 2).

- 5.6.2. Borehole 1 was excavated on the main lawn of the Master's Garden and encountered natural sand and gravel at approximately 2.5m BGL sealing a natural grey clay from 4m BGL. Above (406) was a mixed grey sandy clay (405) at approximately 2.3m BGL. This was sealed by a mid grey brown clayey sand (404) at approximately 1.3m BGL. Identified above this layer was a clunch and mortar layer (403) similar to the demolition layers visible in TP 1 and TP 2. The top of (403) was approximately 1m BGL and was sealed by a 0.7m thick mixed deposit of topsoil and mortar (402). The topsoil (401) was 0.3m thick.
- 5.6.3. The sequence in Borehole 2 was identical to the sequence excavated in Test Pit 1 with the natural sand and gravel encountered at approximately 2.4m BGL with the natural grey clay encountered at 4.3m BGL. This was sealed by a dark grey brown clayey silt which was similar to (117) in Test Pit 1.

6. Finds by Lorraine Mepham

6.1. The assemblage recovered from the site is small, but includes a range of material types: pottery, ceramic building material and mortar, clay tobacco pipes, glass, metalwork, animal bone and marine shell. The date range is almost entirely post-medieval/modern, with a few medieval items.

6.2. All finds have been quantified (count and weight) by material type within each context, and this information, together with details of the finds, is presented in (APPENDIX 2).

6.3. POTTERY

6.3.1. This small assemblage (22 sherds; 252g) includes a range of ware types: coarse glazed redwares (6 sherds), Staffordshire-type manganese mottled ware (2 sherds); Frechen stonewares (8 sherds), Westerdale stoneware (1 sherd), pearlware, transfer-printed (1 sherd), and refined whiteware (3 sherds). The coarse redwares are not closely datable, but the stonewares and manganese mottled wares suggest a late 17th/early 18th century date for possible dumped deposit (112) (which is supported by the clay tobacco pipes: see below), while the presence of refined wares in gravel build-up layer (120) and possible dumped deposit (207) indicates a 19th or 20th century date for these contexts.

6.4. CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL (CBM)

6.4.1. This category includes fragments of roof tile, hearth tile, brick and drainpipe (16 fragments; 1716g). Fragments of medieval roof tile were recovered from possible dumped deposit (112), gravel build-up layer (120) and layer (211). These fragments are characterised by coarse, irregular fabrics, in most cases relatively pale-firing. Tile fragments in finer fabrics, more evenly fired to a red-orange colour, are later (post-medieval) in date; these derived from gravel build-up layer (204) and wall demolition deposit (208).

6.4.2. Two fragments were identified as hearth tile, both from wall demolition deposit (208); these are thick tiles (thickness 30-35mm) in coarse, sandy fabrics. The more complete has two deep perforations on the underside. These tiles are probably of medieval date.

- 6.4.3. One brick fragment was recovered, of which the thickness (60mm) was the only surviving original dimension. This is from an unfrosted brick, and the fabric is coarse; while not particularly chronologically distinctive, an 18th or early 19th century date can be suggested.
- 6.4.4. Fragments of 19th/20th century glazed stoneware drainpipe were recovered from gravel layer (102) and gravel build-up layer (120).
- 6.4.5. One fragment of coarse mortar was also recovered, lacking any surfaces. No further comment is possible.

6.5. CLAY TOBACCO PIPES

- 6.5.1. This category comprises 77 fragments (430g). Of this total, 62 are plain stem fragments. Further comment on these is extremely limited, but the clear variation in stem (and stem bore) diameter suggests that the assemblage is chronologically mixed, although there is a preponderance of thicker stems which suggests an emphasis on the 17th or early 18th century.
- 6.5.2. More closely datable are the bowls. Cambridgeshire clay pipe bowls generally follow the London typology (ATKINSON & OSWALD 1969), and nine bowls, all from possible dumped deposit (112), can be assigned to type. One is of type 10 (c. 1640-60), seven of type 13 (c. 1660-80), and one of type 20 (c. 1680-1710). There are three bowl fragments from the same context, all with milled rims, which undoubtedly fall into one or more of these three types. One of these is of interest in preserving traces of what appears to be handwritten script in some form of pigment, possibly ink (now faded to a pale sepia colour). The lettering is, unfortunately, illegible. There is one bowl heel, of later 17th or early 18th century date, from possible dumped deposit (207), alongside a stem fragment with a long, square spur, possibly of London type (c. 1780-1820), and from the same context is a fragment of stem with the stamped mark PAWSON / CAMB, belonging to the manufacturer James Pawson and, later, his widow Ann, who operated from premises at 11 Sidney Street, Cambridge, in the late 18th and early 19th century (FLOOD 1976).

6.6.GLASS

6.6.1. Seven fragments of green bottle glass recovered from gravel build-up layer (120) include two wine bottle necks, of late 18th or early 19th century date. Two fragments from gravel layer (102) are from 19th or 20th century clear vessels, including one jar rim.

6.7.METALWORK

6.7.1. The metalwork includes items of iron (9) and lead (1). All objects came from possible dumped deposit (112), and comprise a small, roughly rectangular fragment of lead sheet, with one denticulate edge, of unknown function (possibly an offcut or waste); a handmade, square-sectioned iron nail; and fragment of a possible vessel, comprising a wire rim with sheet iron folded over it. None of these objects are datable.

6.8.ANIMAL BONE by Lorrain Higbee

6.8.1. The assemblage comprises 96 fragments of animal bone and includes material of late post-medieval and early modern date. The assemblage is quantified in (APPENDIX 3) and briefly described in the following sections.

LATE POST-MEDIEVAL

6.8.2. The late post-medieval assemblage comprises 79 fragments, c. 95% of which were recovered from dump deposit (112) and the rest from dump deposit (207) and demolition deposit (208). The following species have been identified and are listed in terms of their relative frequency: sheep/goat, pig, cattle and domestic fowl.

6.8.3. Dump deposit (112) included a large group of post-cranial sheep/goat bones. The bones are from a minimum of at least four young adult animals and include one articulating forelimb. Signs of butchery were noted on a number of bones, in particular the middle and distal shaft of the tibia. Also recovered from this deposit were several pig bones including the femur from a foetal pig. This evidence suggests that pigs were bred and reared in close proximity to the Site, a not uncommon practice in Cambridge during the post-medieval period (HIGBEE FORTHCOMING). Several calf bones and the femur from a domestic fowl

were also recovered from this deposit. The bones recovered from deposit (207) and (208) include a small number of sheep/goat bones and the tibia from a young pig.

EARLY MODERN

6.8.4. Seventeen fragments of animal bone were recovered from early modern gravel layers (102), (120) and (204). The identified remains include a cattle tibia, and two sheep/goat bones, a humerus and tibia.

6.9. MARINE SHELL

6.9.1. This category consists entirely of oyster (10 fragments; 110g). Both right (7 examples) and left valves (3 examples) are represented, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste.

6.10. POTENTIAL AND FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

6.10.1. This is a small assemblage, which has a correspondingly limited potential to contribute further to an understanding of the site beyond what has already been recorded in terms of the range of types and their chronology. The assemblage is mostly of relatively recent date, and comprises commonly occurring types, although the clay pipe bowl with script lettering is of interest – apart from this, the assemblage is of purely local significance. With the exception of a few fragments of medieval ceramic building material (roof and hearth tiles), there is nothing here that can be associated with the medieval friary.

6.10.2. Data has been collected to an appropriate archive level, and no further analysis or publication is warranted.

7. Medieval Window Glass by Dr Hugh Willmott

- 7.1. A small but significant assemblage of medieval window glass was recovered from excavations at Sidney Sussex College. Interestingly the material is similar in composition to a more extensive assemblage from previous excavations in the latter half of the 20th century, which also dates to the second half of the 14th century (SALWAY 1996). As is often typical for medieval window glass, the assemblage is in an advanced stage of decay and devitrification, and as there is little that can be done to arrest this or prevent further deterioration, this report serves as the permanent record of the finds. On its own, given the very limited size of the assemblage, little can be said about the glass contextually. Given its size and location it must derive from the earlier Franciscan friary, and presumably adorned the church or one of the other principal cloistral buildings until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s.
- 7.2. The most important of the fragments are three pieces from context (204), which together form the majority of a single rectangular quarry measuring 105 x 58mm (APPENDIX 4). Made in what is termed 'white glass' (actually green tinted potash glass), this is grozed all the way around on its external face. The internal face is painted with typical bold strokes to create a geometric diaper pattern. The decoration and shape of the quarry indicate that it originally would have formed an edge border to a larger paneled scene.
- 7.3. The second fragment of significance is a single piece, also from context (208) from a figural scene, again in 'white' glass. No original edges remain and the fragment has suffered severe surface flaking. However, enough remains to identify the pattern as a portion of drapery, possibly from the lower portion of a tunic.
- 7.4. The final fragment from context (208) is slightly different. It is made from a light blue glass, intentionally coloured so. No evidence for surface painting or a stain wash remains, and it might never have been present, three of the external edges are grozed showing that the piece originally formed part of a narrow edge border 28mm wide.
- 7.5. Context (204) also produced four fragments of 'white' medieval window glass. However, these are very small and retain no diagnostic features such as edges or painting that allow for more accurate identification.

8. Summary and Conclusions

- 8.1. A site at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge is proposed for redevelopment. The proposed redevelopment involves the construction of a basement kitchen with links to the existing college building.
- 8.2. The site is within the grounds of Sidney Sussex College and is immediately adjacent to a Grade I listed building. The site is also within the boundaries of the known Greyfriars site in Cambridge, occupied from the 13th to 16th centuries. Nearby excavations have indicated the possibility of earlier Medieval occupation on the site, pre-dating the friary, and Roman occupation.
- 8.3. Although only across a small area, the results of the ground penetrating radar were fairly positive and indicated at least two phases of structure. This ties in with the results of the previous survey to the east across the main lawn of the Master's Garden. However, the results indicated that several services cross the site, especially within the gravel paths. These areas of disturbance may well have disturbed earlier deposits. It must also be noted that although useful the results of the survey are limited as evidence by the identification of the wall in Test Pit 2 which did not show on the radar.
- 8.4. Test Pits 1 and 2 showed a good sequence of Post Medieval deposits over a demolition layer which in turn sealed two different walls, both substantial and likely to be associated with the friary. The sandstone roof tiles in the demolition layer support the evidence of this being a substantial structure and the presence of the stained glass suggests the link to the friary. The wall in Test Pit 2 appears to run parallel to a possible wall on the radar survey, approximately 1.5m apart. The wall in Test Pit 1 may also be visible on the survey.
- 8.5. The two walls were at different depths, were different sizes and were of slightly different construction. This suggests at least two phases of substantial structure associated with the friary built on slightly different alignments. These structures are likely to be buildings associated with the main church identified to the north and may correspond to the cloister shown on Moorman's reconstruction (FIGURE 5).
- 8.6. The recovered artefacts were generally of a Post Medieval date and were recovered from the upper deposits within each test pit. However, Medieval stained glass was

recovered from the demolition layer within Test Pit 2.

- 8.7. The deposits below the walls were not excavated in the test pits due to restricted space. However, the two boreholes indicate a deposit depth of approximately 1m below the excavated level in the test pits. These deposits are similar to the lower deposits, described as horticultural or turned over deposits, identified in the 1994 evaluation to the south (HIND ET AL. 1994).
- 8.8. Although excavation within the test pits was through approximately 1.5m of Post Medieval deposits these sealed a series of substantial Medieval structures associated with the friary, a significant historic site within Cambridge, with approximately another 1m of archaeological deposit below these structures which maybe Medieval or earlier in date. The site has a significant potential to provide detailed information on the Medieval friary and earlier deposits.
- 8.9. The impact from the proposed development would include the excavation of a 5m deep basement covering the entire site (FIGURE 13). This would remove all archaeological deposits on the site as well as the upper levels of undisturbed natural.
- 8.10. No further work is recommended on the results of the ground penetrating radar, test pitting or boreholes with no further work recommended on the finds assemblage. The extent of the deposits encountered suggest that any development work would need archaeological mitigation in the form of an excavation of the development area.

9. Archive

9.1. The paper archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x Drawing Register
- ◆ 3 x Drawing Film
- ◆ 1 x Photographic Register
- ◆ 3 x Context Register
- ◆ 49 x Context Sheets

9.2. The finds archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x box artefacts as described in Section 6 (all materials).

9.3. The archive is to be deposited at the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store.

SOURCES CONSULTED

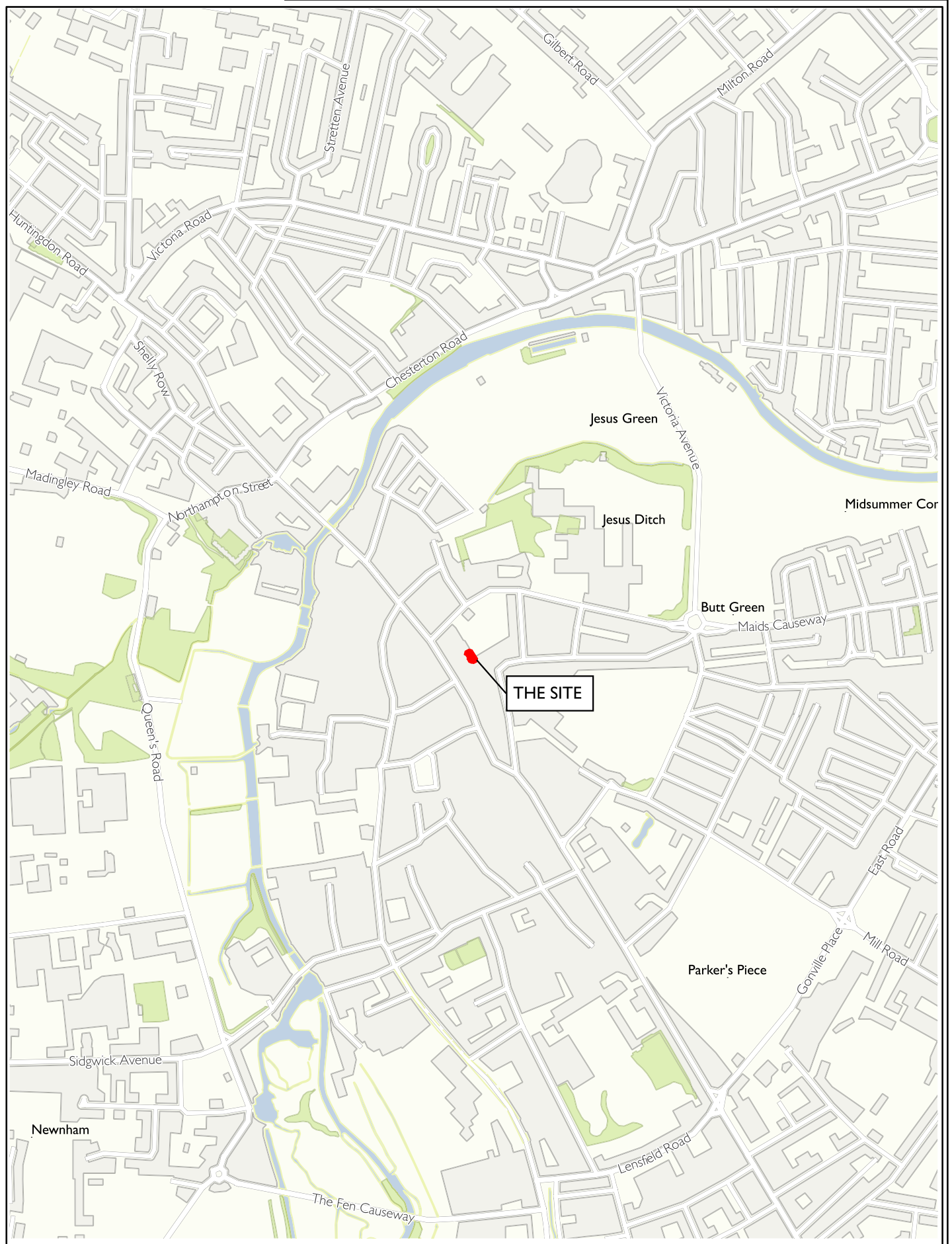
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FIGURES

FIGURE 1 // Site Location



0 500 m



PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

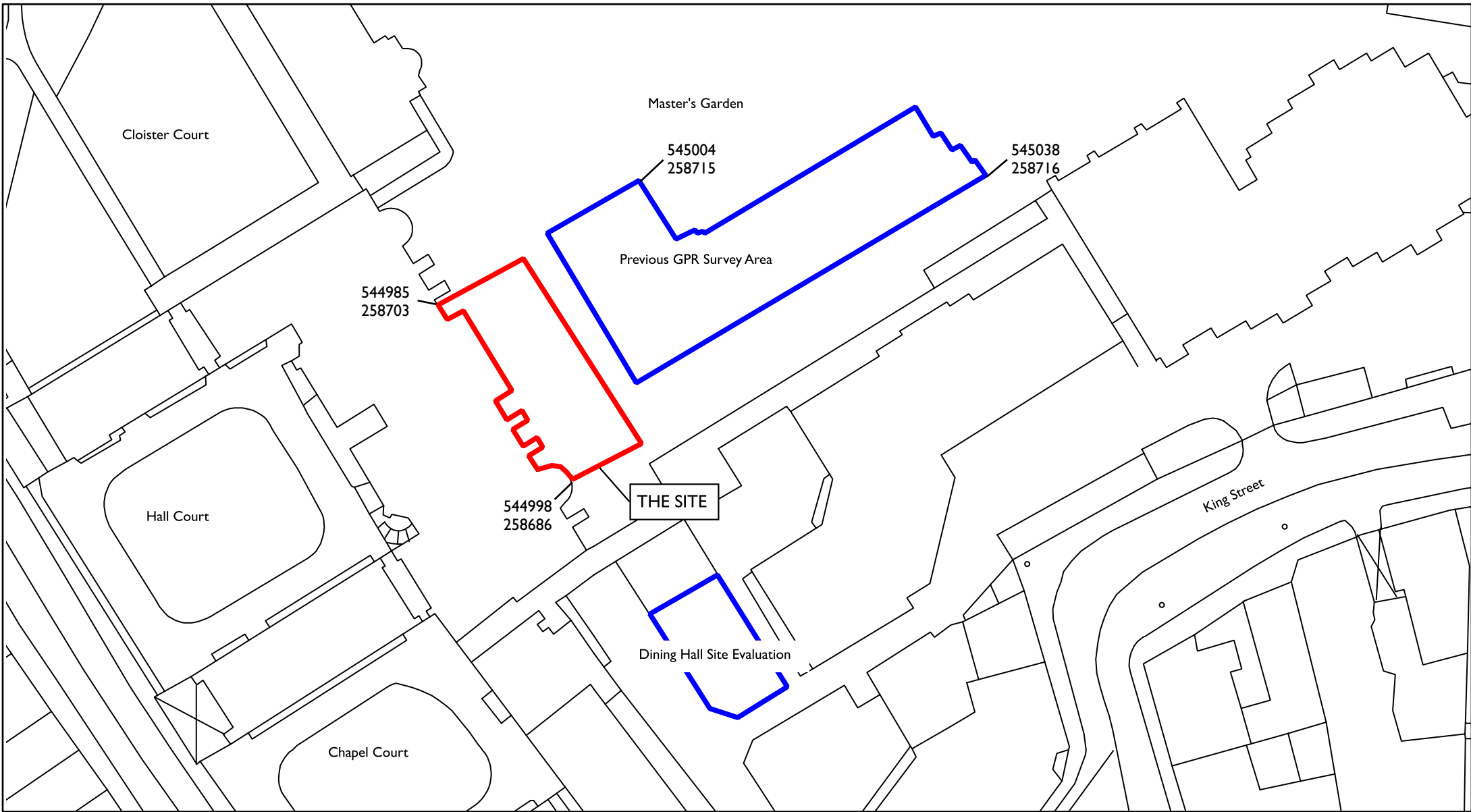
DESCRIPTION // Site Location

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FIGURE 2 // Site Detail



0 20 m



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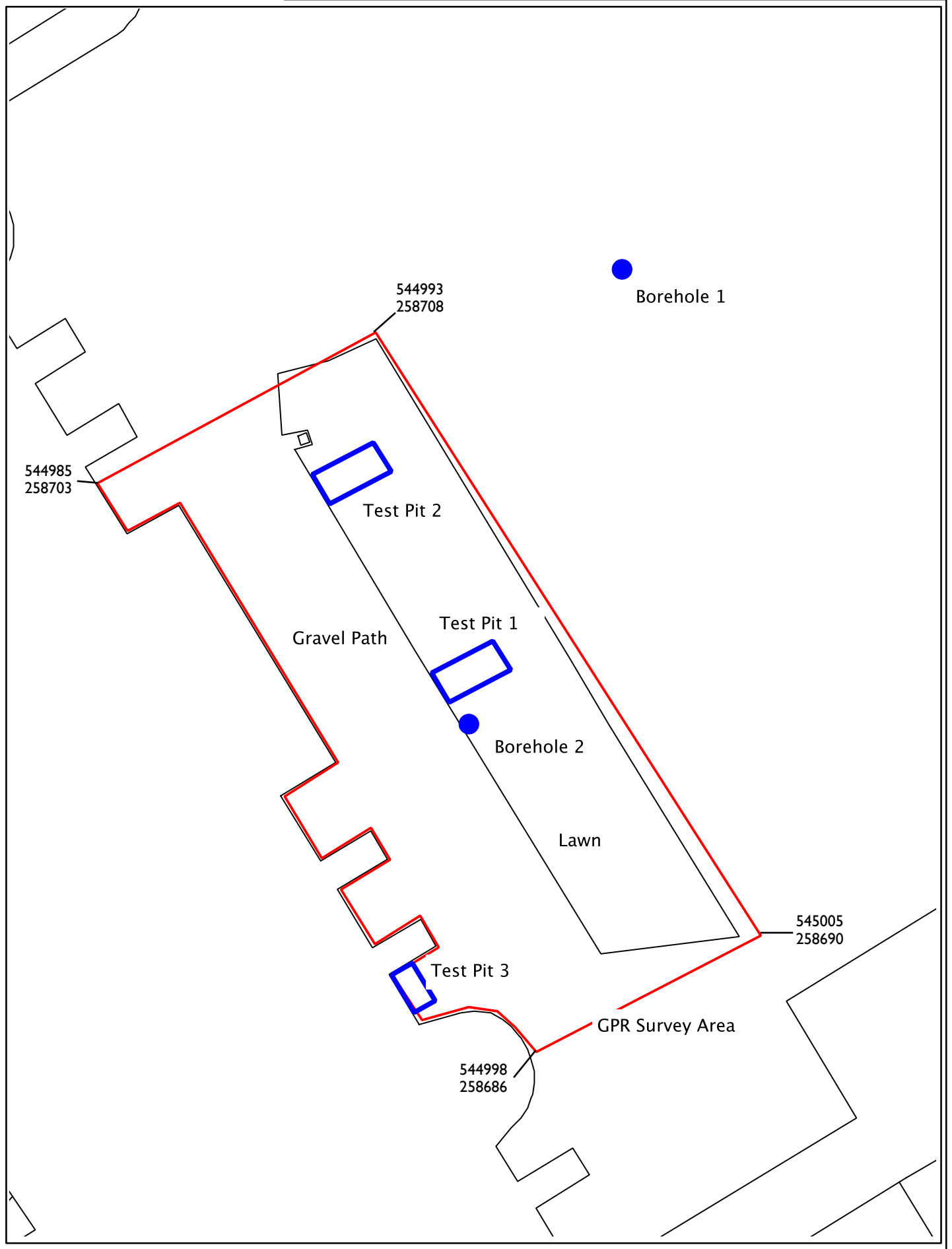
DESCRIPTION // Site Detail

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FIGURE 3 // Evaluation Areas



0 5 m



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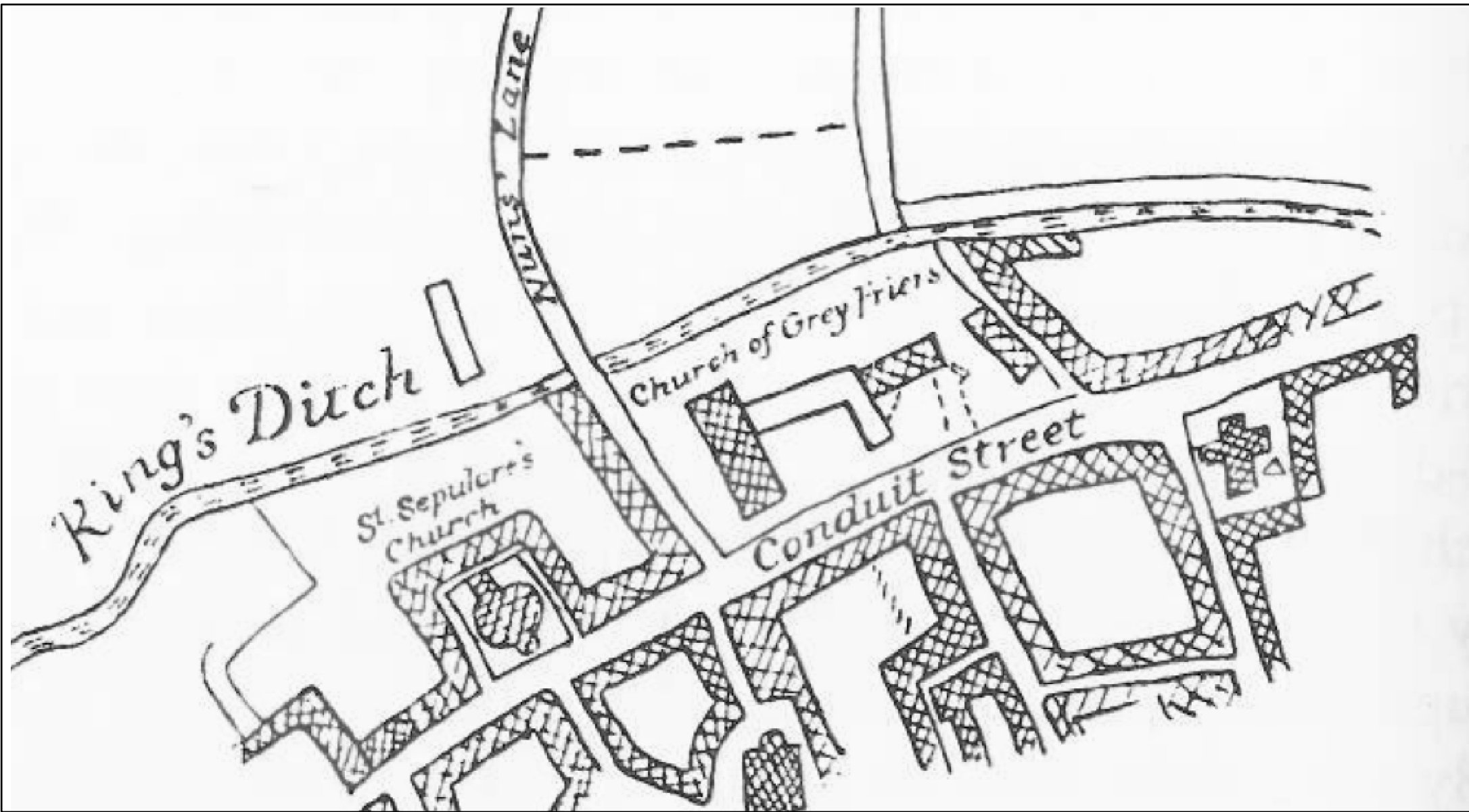
DESCRIPTION // Evaluation Areas (GPR, Test Pits, Boreholes)

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FIGURE 4 // Essex's Map



NOT TO SCALE

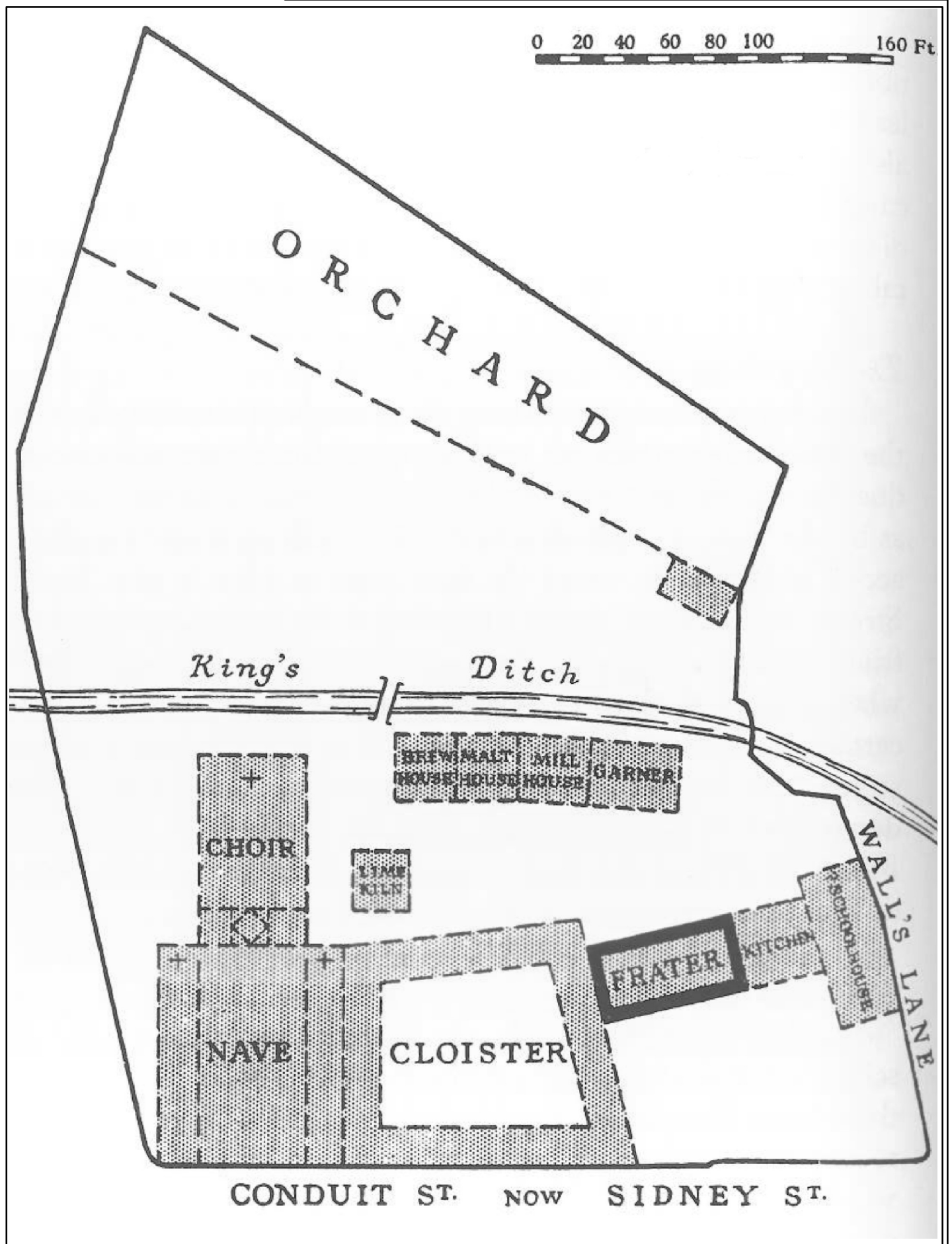
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DESCRIPTION // Essex's Map of Cambridge

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FIGURE 5 // Moorman's Reconstruction



NOT TO SCALE

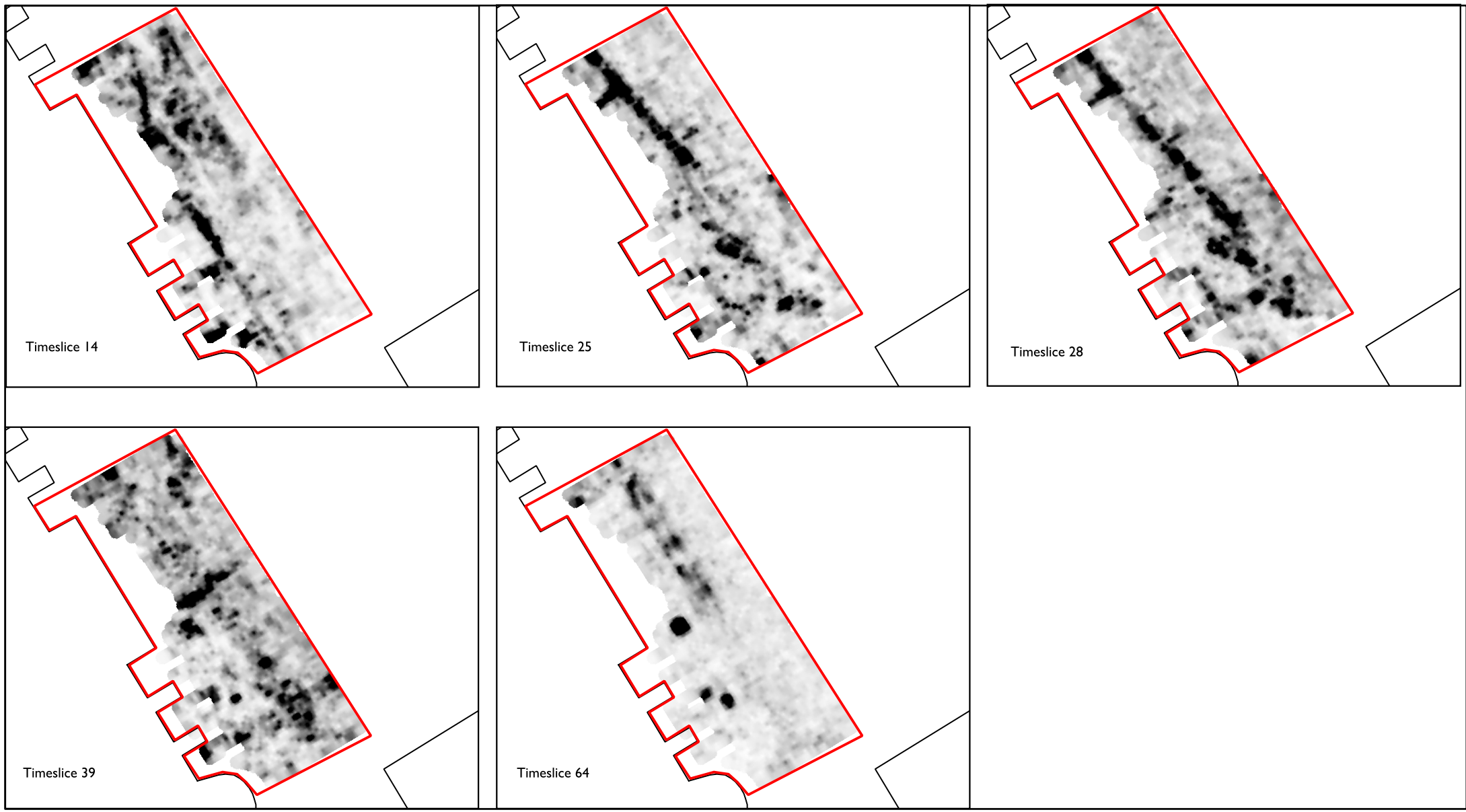
PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

DESCRIPTION // Moorman's Reconstruction

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FIGURE 6 // GPR Results



Timeslice 14

Timeslice 25

Timeslice 28

Timeslice 39

Timeslice 64

0 10 m



PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

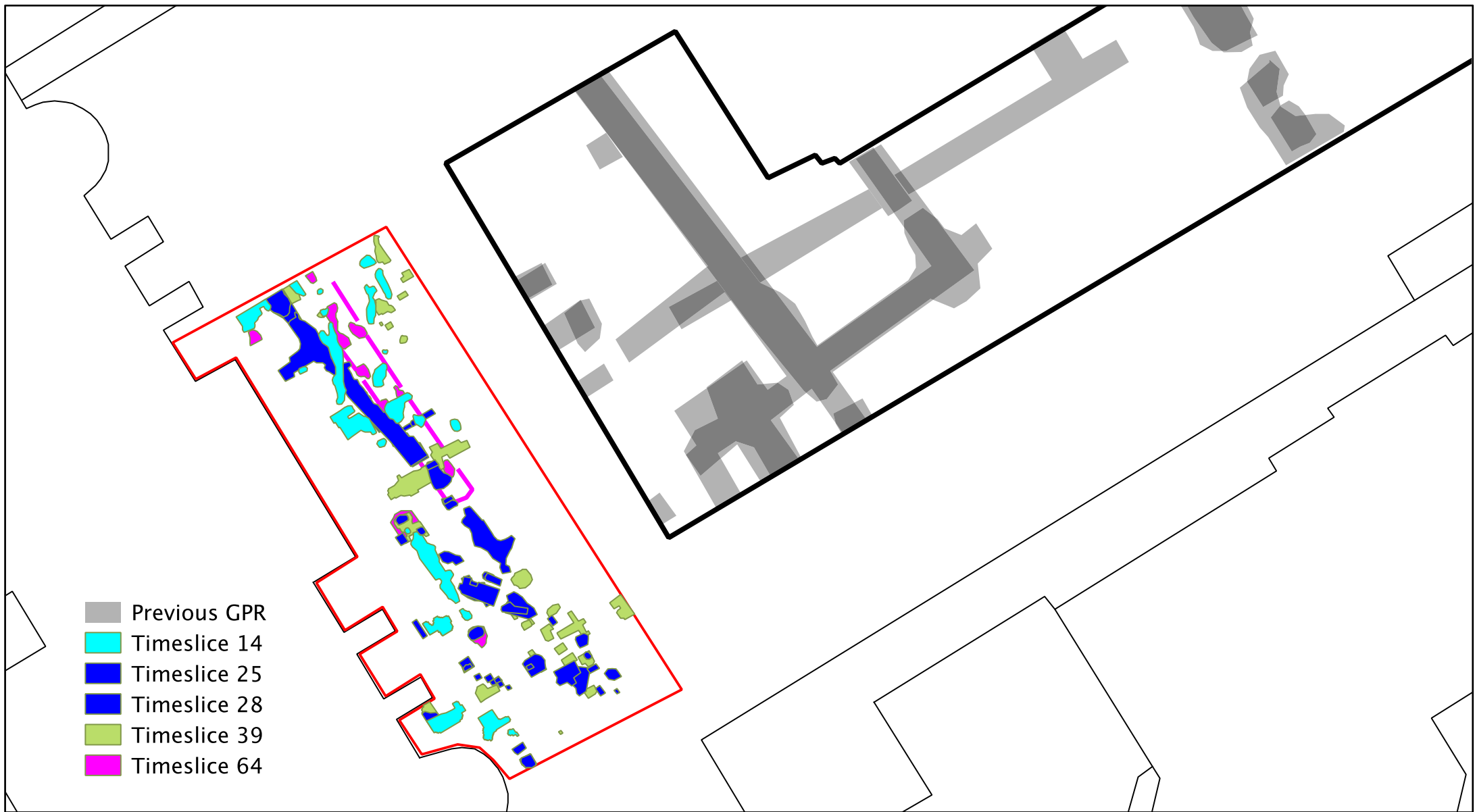
DESCRIPTION // GPR Timeslices

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FIGURE 7 // GPR Interpretation



- Previous GPR
- Timeslice 14
- Timeslice 25
- Timeslice 28
- Timeslice 39
- Timeslice 64

0 10 m



PROJECT // I224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

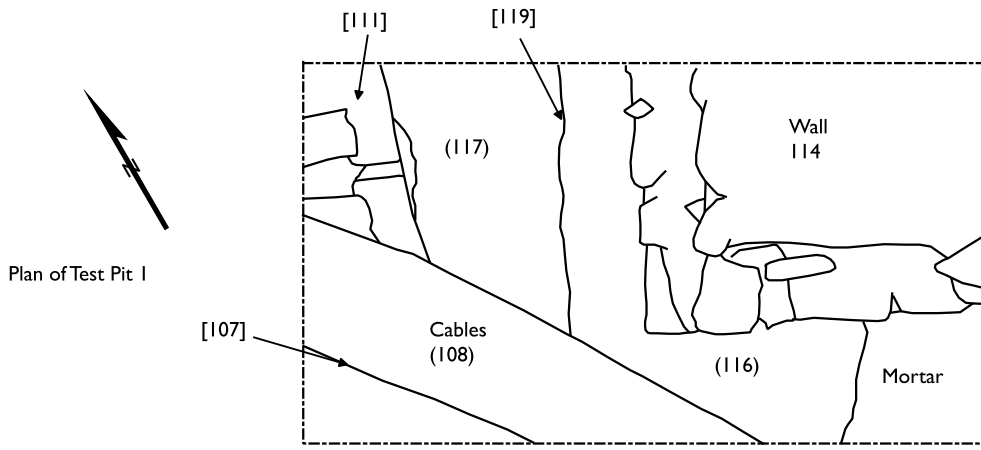
DESCRIPTION // Interpretation of GPR results

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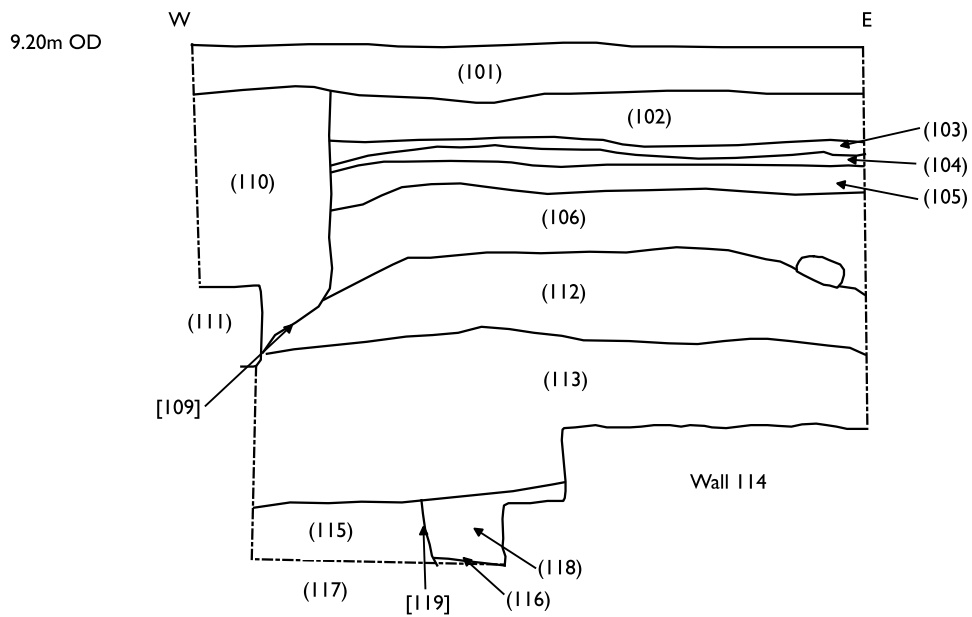
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L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

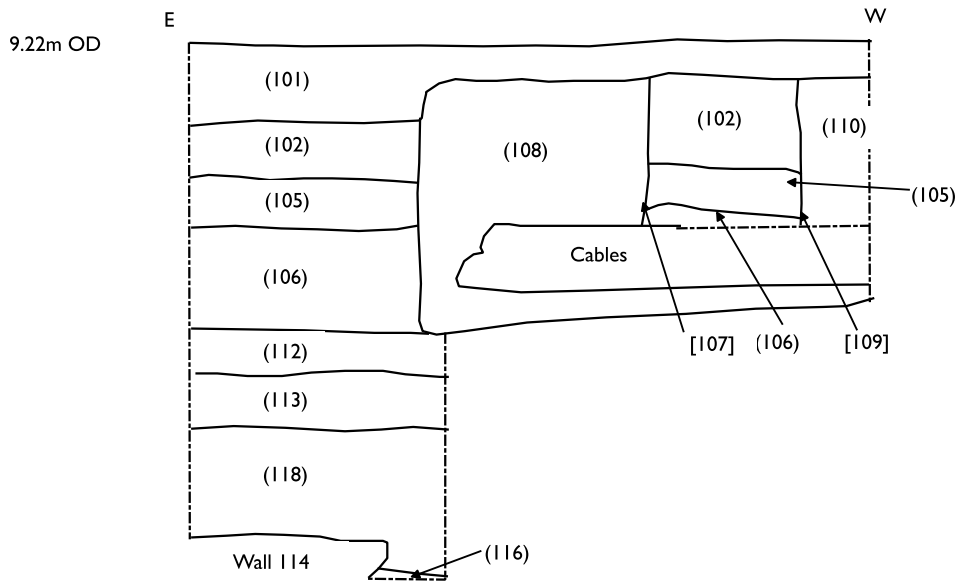
FIGURE 8 // Test Pit I - Plan and Sections



Test Pit I South Facing Section



Test Pit I North Facing Section



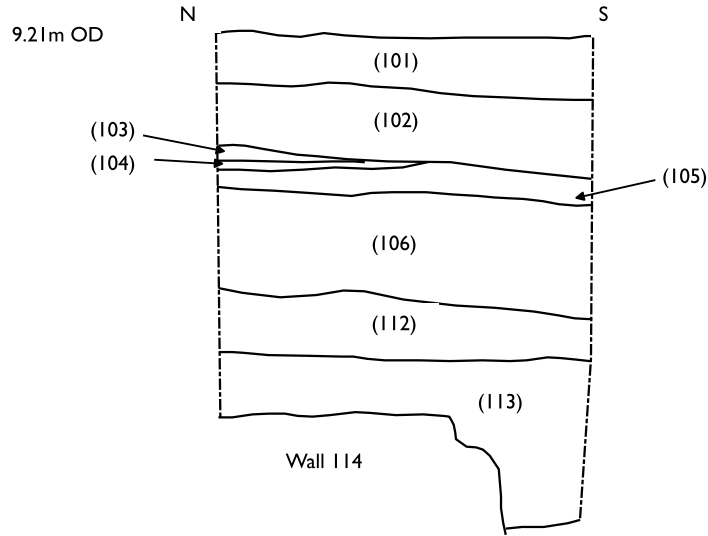
PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

DESCRIPTION // Test Pit I - Plan and Sections

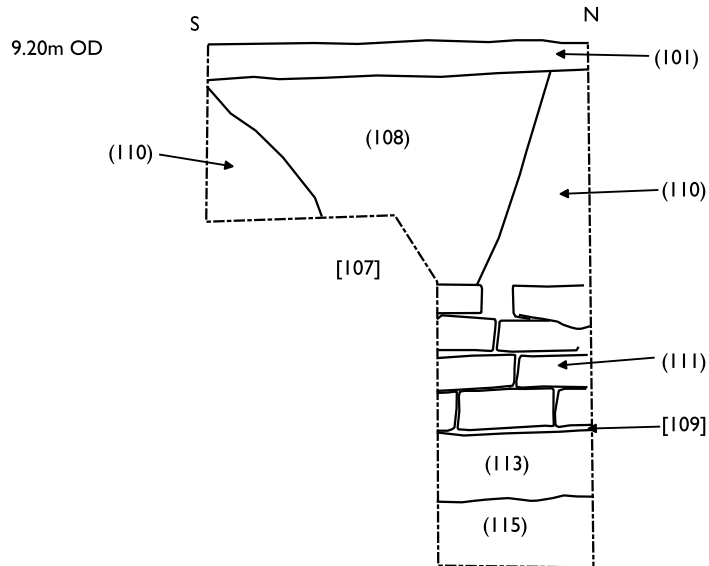
DOC REF: LPI224L-AER-v1

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Test Pit I West Facing Section



Test Pit I East Facing Section



0 1 m

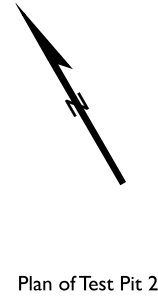
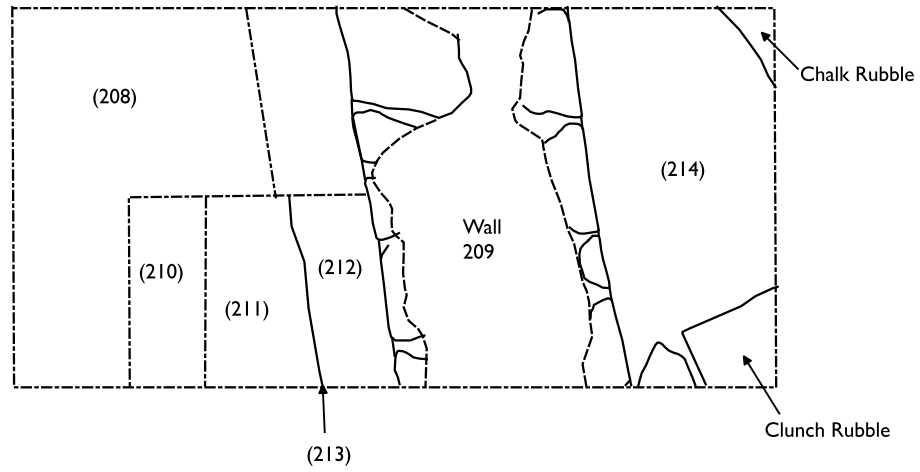
PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

DESCRIPTION // Test Pit I - Sections

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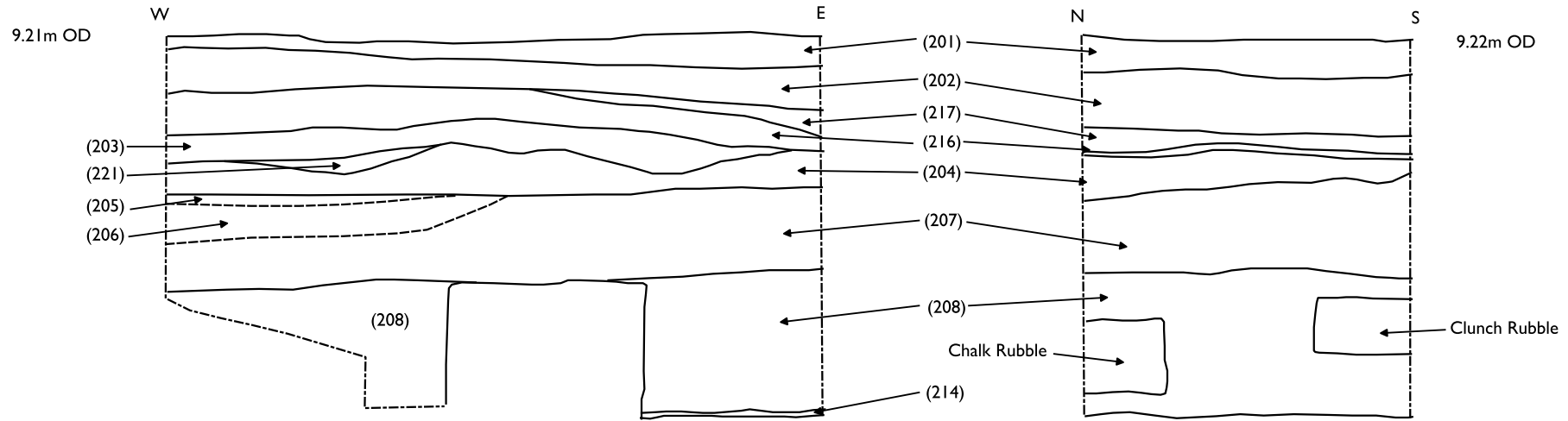
L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

FIGURE 10 // Test Pit 2 - Plan and Sections



Test Pit 2 South Facing Section

Test Pit 2 West Facing Section



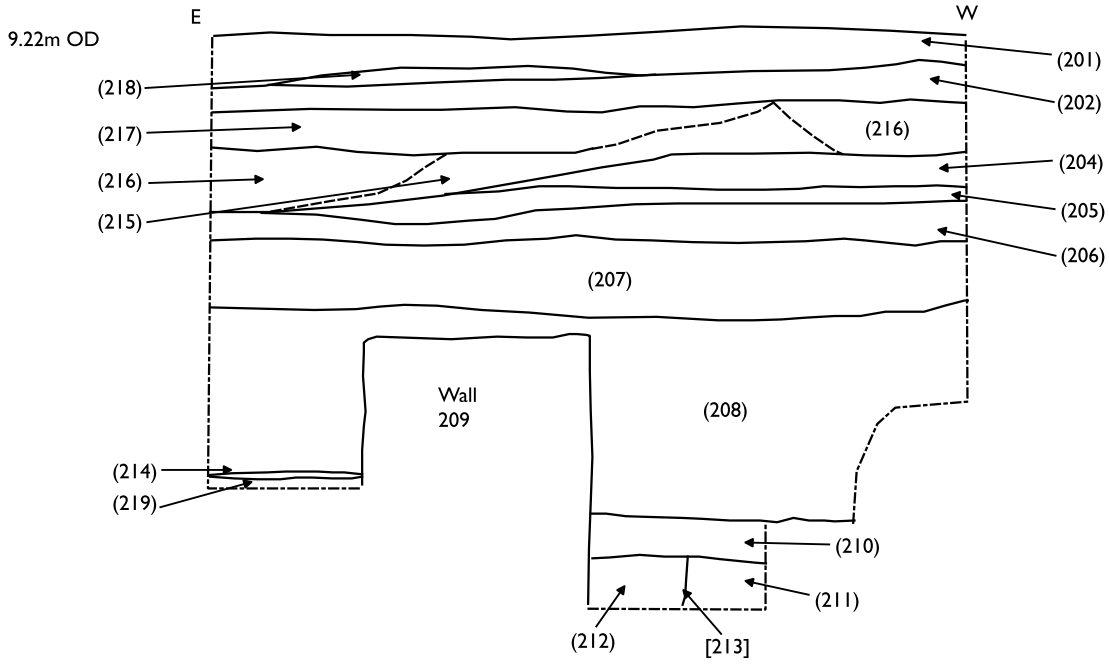
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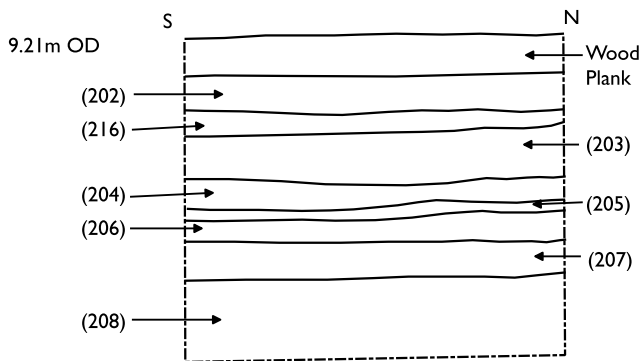
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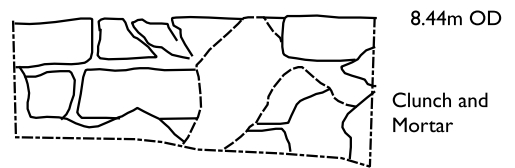
Test Pit 2 North Facing Section



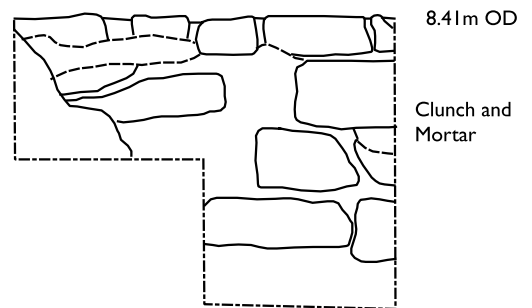
Test Pit 2 East Facing Section



Wall 209 East Facing Elevation



Wall 209 West Facing



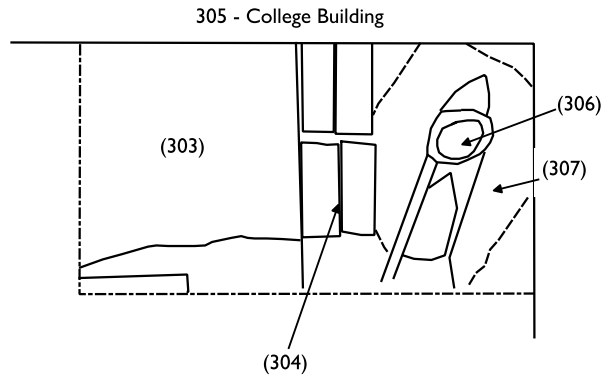
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DESCRIPTION // Test Pit 2 - Sections

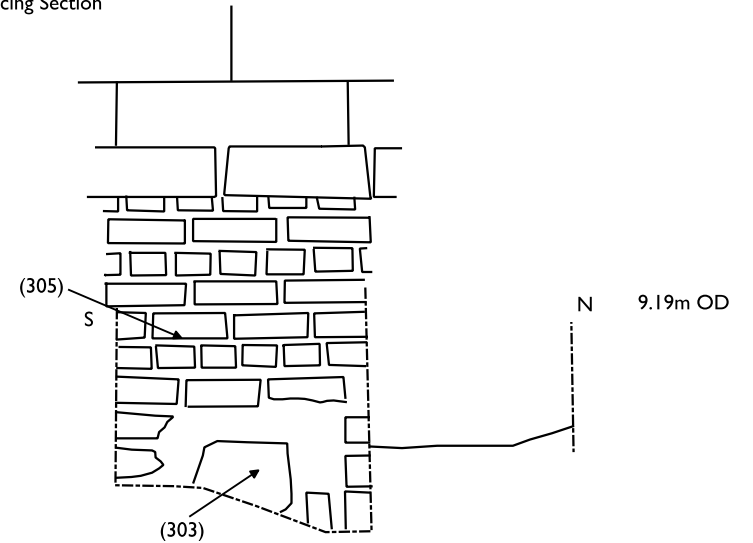
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Test Pit 3 Plan

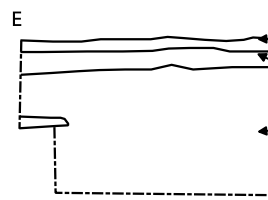


Test Pit 3 East Facing Section

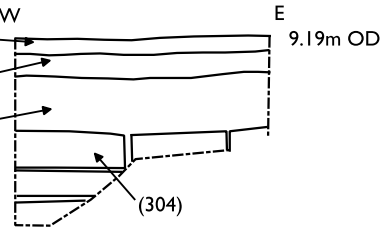


Test Pit 3 South Facing Section

9.19m OD



Test Pit 3 North Facing Section



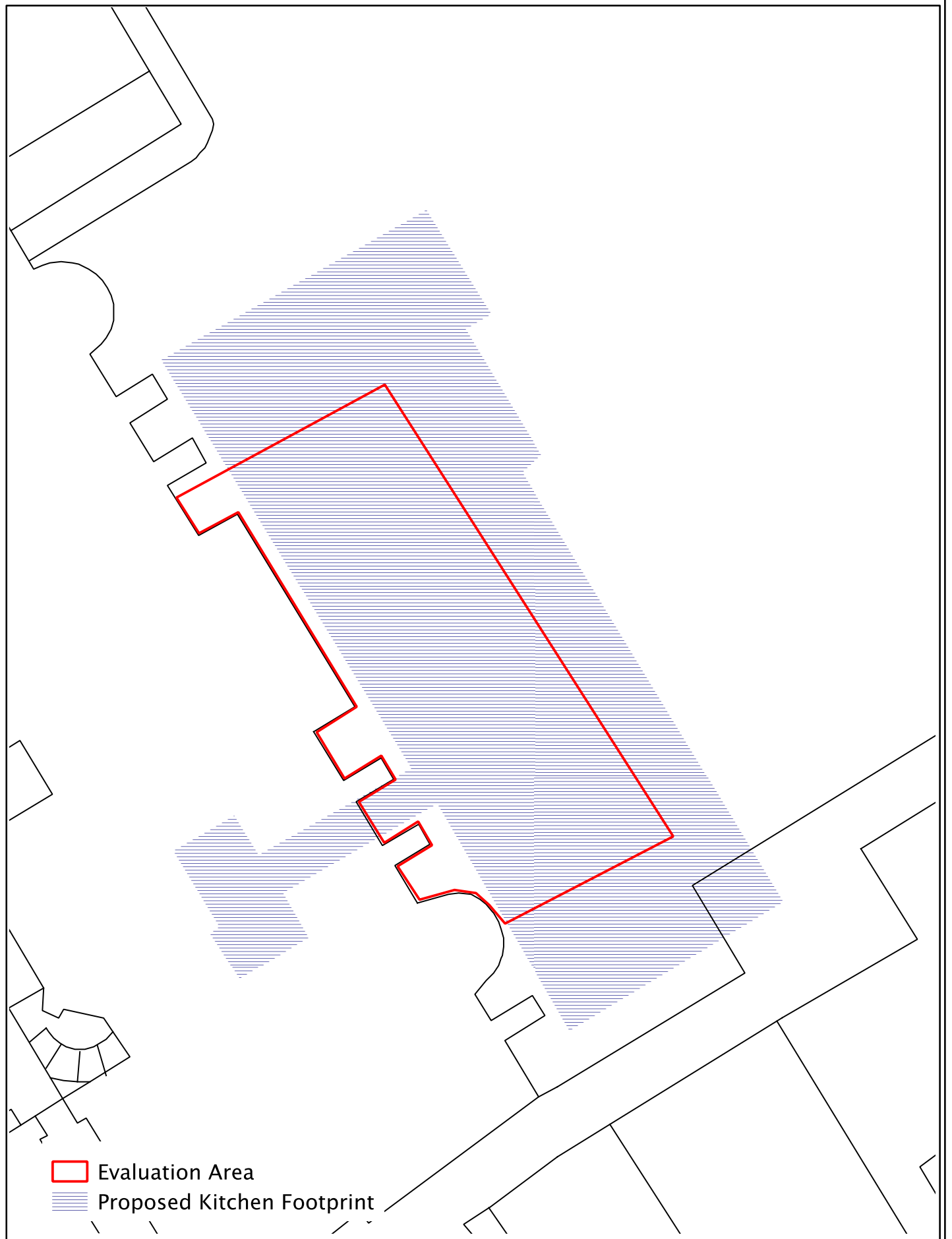
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DESCRIPTION // Test Pit 3 - Plans and Sections

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FIGURE 13 // Proposed Development



0 10 m



PROJECT // 1224L - Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge

DESCRIPTION // Proposed Development Area (courtesy of Pleasance Hookham and Nix)

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OASIS FORM

APPENDIX I

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: Iparchae1-202281

Project details

Project name	Sidny Sussex College, Cambridge
Short description of the project	Evaluation within the Master's Garden at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Consisting of a ground penetrating radar survey, archaeological test pits and geotechnical boreholes.
Project dates	Start: 09-07-2014 End: 19-12-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4266 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	WALL Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Geophysical Survey","Test Pits"
Development type	Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school, hospitals, law courts, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Solid geology	UPPER GREENSAND AND GAULT
Drift geology	SAND AND GRAVEL OF UNCERTAIN AGE OR ORIGIN
Techniques	Ground penetrating radar

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Sidney Sussex College

Postcode	CB2 3HU
Study area	154.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 44998 58691 52.2069148172 0.122240739346 52 12 24 N 000 07 20 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 7.50m Max: 9.20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	L - P : Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	L - P : Archaeology
Project director/manager	John Duffy
Project supervisor	John Duffy
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Sidney Sussex College

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council
Physical Archive ID	ECB4266
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council
Digital Archive ID	ECB4266
Digital Contents	"Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council
Paper Archive ID	ECB4266
Paper Contents	"Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report Sidney Sussex College
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Duffy, J
Other bibliographic details	LP1224L-AER-v1
Date	2015

Issuer or publisher	L - P : Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	Spiral bound A4 and digital (pdf)
Entered by	John Duffy (john.duffy@lparchaeology.com)
Entered on	2 February 2015

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FINDS BY CONTEXT

APPENDIX 2

Context	Material	No.	Wt	Comments	Date
102	clay pipe	3	19	plain stems	post-med
120	clay pipe	7	23	plain stems	post-med
207	clay pipe	9	34	plain stems	post-med
207	clay pipe	1	5	stamped stem (PAWSC / OAM)	post-med
207	clay pipe	1	3	stem/spur (square spur)	late C18/early C19
207	clay pipe	1	2	bowl heel	C17
112	clay pipe	43	180	plain stems	post-med
112	clay pipe	7	123	bowls (1 incomplete); bulbous, milled (London type 13)	c.1660-80
112	clay pipe	1	14	bowl; small bulbous, milled (London type 10)	c.1640-60
112	clay pipe	1	10	bowl; long bulbous, milled London type 20)	c.1680-1710
112	clay pipe	3	17	bowl fragments, 2 milled, 1 with remnants of sepia script lettering (inked?)	late C17/early C18
113	shell	7	68	oyster (5 R, 2 L valves, all unmeasurable)	undated
112	shell	2	38	oyster (1 R valve, measurable; 1 L valve, unmeasurable)	undated
208	shell	1	4	oyster (R valve, unmeasurable)	undated
120	mortar	1	53	no surfaces	undated
112	lead	1	20	roughly rectangular sheet fragment, one end 'denticulate'; function unknown	undated
112	iron	1	37	rim of ?vessel; wire with sheet folded over	undated
112	iron	7	31	sheet fragment, possibly part of ?vessel	undated
112	iron	1	10	handmade nail, square-sectioned	undated
120	glass	7	209	green wine bottle; 2 rim/necks	C18
102	glass	2	11	clear bottle/jar	modern
112	CBM	4	276	roof tile; 1 pale-firing (peg hole); 1 overfired; 1 mortared	medieval
208	CBM	1	327	hearth tile, coarse sandy fabric; 2 deep perforations in rear; thickness 30mm	medieval
120	CBM	1	397	brick, coarse fabric, thickness 60mm, unfrogged	post-med
120	CBM	2	66	stoneware drainpipe	modern
120	CBM	2	113	roof tile (1 pale-firing)	medieval
208	CBM	1	196	roof tile, mortared	post-med
208	CBM	1	140	hearth tile, coarse sandy fabric, thickness 35mm	medieval
211	CBM	2	105	roof tile, coarse sandy fabric (conjoining)	medieval
204	CBM	1	41	roof tile (peg hole)	post-med
102	CBM	1	55	stoneware drainpipe	modern
120	pottery	1	7	refined whiteware	modern
102	pottery	2	11	redware, glazed	post-med
112	pottery	3	32	redware, glazed (1 small convex bowl rim)	post-med
112	pottery	2	24	Staffs-type manganese mottled ware; 2 bases, cylindrical jugs/tankards	late C17/early C18
112	pottery	1	7	Westerwald stoneware	late C17/early C18
112	pottery	7	100	Frechen stonewares	C17
207	pottery	1	38	redware, glazed	post-med
207	pottery	2	4	pearlware (transfer-printed)	modern
207	pottery	1	8	Frechen stonewares	C17
207	pottery	2	21	refined whiteware	modern

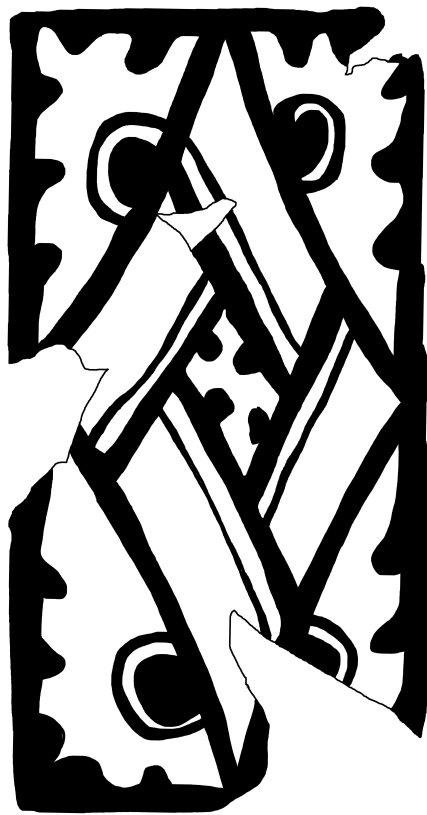
ANIMAL BONE

APPENDIX 3

Number of specimens identified to species (or NISP) by period.			
Species	post-medieval	early modern	Total
cattle	7	1	8
sheep/goat	34	1	35
pig	9		9
domestic fowl	1		1
Total identified	51	2	53
large mammal	14	4	18
medium mammal	19	4	23
mammal		2	2
Total unidentifiable	33	10	43
Overall Total	84	12	96

MEDIEVAL STAINED GLASS

APPENDIX 4



Medieval Window Glass
Context (204)
Drawn by Dr H Willmott
Scale 1:1