Cotswold Archaeology

Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens
Hidcote Bartrim
Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief

for
National Trust

CA Project: 6282
CA Report: 17412

October 2017

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens
Location:	Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire
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An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new ceilings, floor and wall finishes to the Chapel building at Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire.

Three stone surfaces pre-dating the walls of the extant chapel were identified in the centre of the building. Subsequently a structure consisting of the north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western walls of the extant chapel was constructed. This building may have had timber floors.

At some point the structure became a four box stable, which was later, between 1907 and 1939, converted by Lawrence Johnston into a two box stable with a blue engineering brick floor.

Johnston later converted the stable into a chapel by the insertion of windows, a door and roof trusses salvaged from another church or chapel between 1930 and 1939. At the same time the current north-western wall of the building was added.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May and July 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for the National Trust at the Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 417650 242859; Fig. 1). Listed Building Consent was granted by Cotswold District Council (CDC; ref: 17/00473/LBC) for the installation of new ceilings, floor and wall finishes to the Chapel building.

1.2 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a *brief* (National Trust 2016) prepared by Martin Papworth, Regional Archaeologist, National Trust, a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Mr. Papworth. The fieldwork also followed S*tandard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014).

The site

1.3 The site comprises a former chapel building within the Hidcote Manor estate. The site lies at approximately 190m AOD.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Whitby Mudstone Formation of the Jurassic period. No superficial deposits are noted (BGS 2017). The natural substrate was not encountered during the watching brief.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The Grade II listed former Chapel building lies just to the east of the Manor House and resides within the Hidcote Manor estate, which itself lays within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Hidcote Bartrim Conservation Area.

2.2 Hidcote Manor was owned by Bradenstoke Priory in Wiltshire until the Priory was disbanded by Henry VIII in around 1539 (NT 2017). The manor house was built in the 17th Century as a farm house. It passed through several hands before being inherited in early 1907 from the Freeman family by John Tucker, who had farmed there since 1873. Within a couple of months of probate being granted the estate was put up for auction. It was advertised in The Times on 22 June 1907 as a ‘valuable freehold farm comprising 287 acres’. The land would be sold with a ‘very substantial and picturesque farm house … with lawns and large kitchen garden’. At the auction

in July 1907, the bidding had reached £6,500, at which point it was withdrawn from sale. Three weeks later Lawrence Johnston, acting on behalf of his mother, agreed to purchase the estate from John Tucker for £7,200.

2.3 Lawrence arrived at Hidcote in October 1907, his mother arriving from America in June 1908. The house was then adapted to suit their requirements and Lawrence set about extending the small garden. In 1919, Gertrude Winthrop (Lawrence's mother) bought the farm at the end of the village road, enabling the garden to be extended to its current boundaries. This period saw the extension of the Long Walk and the building of the model farm yard to the east of the house. The farm yard is first seen on the 1923 Ordnance Survey map and blue engineering bricks have been extensively used in the construction of one of its buildings. From the same period there is an extension added to Manor Farm using windows from industrial buildings and blue engineering brick detailing.

2.4 Country Life magazine ran two articles about Hidcote in 1930 and 1948 and it is clear from the photographs that the original two storey building was converted by the insertion of windows and a door salvaged from a church into its current form sometime between the visits. A photograph taken from an album created by Graham Stuart Thomas and dated 1939 shows the chapel, suggesting this convention happened between 1930 and 1039.

2.5 By the 1940s Lawrence, then in his 70s, began to put his mind to the long term future of his garden. He first approached the National Trust in 1943 to take over the property and they finally acquired the house and gardens in 1948.

2.6 A 1782 map of land belonging to William Freeman (Fig. 13) shows the manor house, and possibly a small square building in the location of the chapel. The 1841 Tithe Map (Fig. 14) showed that a building had been constructed to the north-east of the manor house and was probably the barn that would later be converted into the chapel. By the time of the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (1885; Fig. 15) the buildings were clearly laid out in their current configuration.

2.7 The Historic England listing description of the chapel describes the building as an 18th-century two-storey barn, which was later converted into a chapel (unconsecrated) in the 20th century by Lawrence Johnston. The listing notes that the Chapel consists of brick and ashlar walls, with re-used church windows and

door. Its roof consists of timber roof collars and arched braces resting on stone corbels with collar above brace and limestone roof slates. There are also a few medieval quarries (diagonal panes of glass supported by lead strips) reused in all the windows (Verey, D. and Brooks, A. 1999).

2.8 A vernacular building survey of the chapel undertaken in 1988 by the National Trust describes the building thus:

The chapel is said to have been converted in about 1907 for Roman Catholic ritual. The building originated in the 18th century when it was floored across, the upper storey being a granary reached via the external stone steps. Externally the building is mainly of stone with a stone tiled roof (E pitch artificial). The E side is of red brick, probably original, now creeper-covered, on a stone plinth. The N end (ritual E) is of ashlar with a 14th century style ecclesiastical window, of three lights with reticulated and cusped tracery, inserted in the early 20th century. The W Wall is built of coursed and squared stone rubble with a low-arched cinquefoil-cusped stone window under a moulded label, probably from the same hand as the N window, early 20th century. There is also a reset late 16th century doorway, with hollow-chamfered jambs and low-arched head, the door old or of old materials, of 4 nail-studded oak planks with ogee-moulded cover strips and edging, and long fleur-de-lys hinges; it is counter planked internally. The S end contains at upper level a three-light chamfered stone-mullioned window, 18th century reset, now with leaded glazing. It occupies the position of the original granary door, of which the central bead-moulded stone lintel remains in situ. There is a platform outside the window, with a hipped roof carried on a pair of oak posts, early C20, as is the stone bellcote with its bell upon the gable. Internally, all the windows contain old quarries of coloured glass, some of it ecclesiastical. The roof is original, of three bays with collars and through-purlins. In the early 20th century arch-braces were added, rising from moulded stone corbels below the trusses.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;

- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2017). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, comprising of the removal of deposits associated with the former stables within the chapel, to formation depth of the new chapel floor (*c*.184.28m AOD at the northern end of chapel and *c*.184.2m AOD at the southern end). Geo-textile was then placed on unexcavated deposits before the sub-base for the new floor was laid.

4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*. A detailed photogrammetric record of *in situ* floor and wall deposits was undertaken; however due to the building contractor's programme of works it was necessary to carry out this recording over a number of days, resulting in variable lighting conditions that resulted in the inconsistent colouring in Fig 3.

4.3 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The artefacts and archive will be deposited with the National Trust. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2–15)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B.

5.2 Reduction of the ground level to the formation depth for the new floor required the recording of the inner face of the west wall of the chapel, the blue brick stable floor and the features and deposits exposed by the removal of the extant chapel floor for the new floor. The features and deposits sealed by the brick floor were below the

formation level for the new floor and as such were recorded in plan and preserved *in situ*.

5.3 There were four broad phases of activity recognised within the chapel:
Phase 1: Early surfaces
Phase 2: Pre stable features and layers
Phase 3: The stables
Phase 4: Chapel

Phase 1: Early surfaces (Figs 3 and 4)

5.4 The earliest deposits observed during the watching brief were stone surfaces 111, 112 and 152. Limestone surface 112 was located towards the centre of the chapel. It was at least 1.5m by 0.73m in extent and was sealed by dump/make-up layer 108. The surface dipped slightly to the south-east and was constructed of irregular limestone slabs over 0.6m long by 0.34 wide. Its north-eastern edge was butted by possible surface 111, which infilled the slight irregularities in this edge of surface 112. The north-western edge of the surface was at 90º to the north-eastern edge, and although more irregular, was the north-western limit of the surface.

5.4 Surface 111 was 1.31m long by 0.27m wide and was constructed of an assortment of small limestone and blue lias stone blocks set on edge, with their long sides parallel with the north-eastern edge of surface 112. The highly irregular north-eastern and eastern boundaries of this layer suggest that the surface has been truncated on these sides at some point.

5.5 To the south-east of surface 111 there were two thin limestone blocks (surface/kerb 145) laid on their side and end to end, protruding through layer 109. These would seem to form ether part of a kerb orientated north-east/south-west or a possible continuation of surface 111 with the stones on a different orientation.

5.6 The undated surface 152 was located towards the northern corner of the chapel. An area of at least 1.31m by 0.27m was exposed, consisting of hard, crushed limestone gravel forming a flat surface between postholes 148 and 151 and overlying dump 109.

5.7 All the above surfaces were located at *c*.185.45m AOD, some 0.15m below the step in the foundation in the south-western wall (133) of the chapel and 0.1m below the

offset in the foundations of the north-eastern and south-eastern walls, 135 and 134 respectively, suggesting that they are likely to be earlier than the walls.

Phase 2: Pre Stable features and layers (Figs 3 and 5)

5.8 There were five, undated, north-east/south-west orientated depressions 114, 116, 118, 155 and 157; possible floor 105; wall foundations 133, 134 and 135; slot drain 144, and dump deposits 106, 107 and 109, which all possibly pre-date Phase 3 of the chapel.

Walls

5.9 Of the four walls of the extant chapel, three of their foundations (133, south-western wall; 134, south-eastern wall; and 135, north-eastern wall), clearly pre-date the Phase 3 structure. No construction trench was identified for these walls. All of the foundations are constructed of roughly squared limestone blocks, up to 0.45m long by 0.2m thick, laid in crude horizontal courses, set in an orange brown soil and mortar mix, with offsets in the foundation up to 0.16m wide. Unfortunately because of the limited exposure of the foundations and obstructions caused by a 20th-century cupboard in the south-eastern corner of the chapel, it was not possible to determine the relationship between each of the walls. However, stratigraphically they are earlier than the slots cutting the walls (114, 116, 118, 155 and 157), the possible earth floor 105 and dumps/make-up layers 108 and 109.

Slots/depressions

5.10 The undated slots/depressions (114, 116, 118, 155 and 157) located in the south-western quadrant of the chapel were up to 0.78m long by 0.18m wide by >0.05m deep. They had well defined, vertical, straight, long sides and more rounded less well-defined ends that seemed to disappear under the surrounding layers. They all contained a very lose crumbly grey brown fill. These features gave the impression that they were the result of overlying deposits collapsing into pre-existing linear voids below layers 105 and 109, explaining their loose, unconsolidated nature.

5.11 A single 0.66m long by 0.13m wide slot, 144, was cut into the foundation of the north-eastern wall (135) of the chapel. It had been constructed by cutting a 0.59 wide, vertically sided hole, through most of the thickness of the wall and then lining it with orange red bricks set in a light orange brown mortar fill 143 to form a vertical rectangular slot 0.13m wide. The slot contained no fill within the wall apart from lumps of concrete derived from the removal of the stable floor sub-base 104. The

slot seemed to continue south-west under dump 109, which also butted the bricks; and lines up with slot/depressions 114 and 116, suggesting they may possibly be part of the same feature.

Possible surface

5.12 In the south-western corner of the chapel the remains of an undated, possible earth floor, 105, was observed. It consisted of hard, flat, orange brown sand silt, which was very similar to the mortar within wall foundations 133, 134 and 135. It covered an area of at least 3.06m by 2.8m and appeared to partly overlie slot/depression 114 and the offset in wall foundation 133. Its western limits ran under the north-west wall of the chapel 136 and its northern and eastern limits were over laid by dumps 109 and 108.

Beam slots

5.13 Set in to the foundations of the south-eastern and south-western walls of the chapel were a number of slots 124, 128, 130, 159 and 160. These were sealed by the stable floor sub-base 104. Slots 124, 130 and 150 were square, up to 0.22m wide by 0.12m high, whilst slots 128 and 161 were rectangular and up to 0.18 wide by 0.09 high, with slot 161 set 0.18m into the wall. All the slots contained a soft, crumbly, grey brown fill. Slot 124 clearly continued for over 1m over the surface of possible earth floor 105 as a shallow depression, suggesting this and the outer slots may have contained timbers at some point.

Dumps

5.14 Underlying dump 108 and possible earth floor 105 in the south-eastern corner of the chapel was dump 106/107. It was seen in two small holes in the overlying layers and consisted of an undated, loose, mixed layer of dark grey silt clay and limestone gravel. The north-eastern edge of 107 was a straight line which continued eastwards towards the division between surfaces 111 and 112. The unconsolidated nature of this deposit suggests it is a dump of material that may, because of its soily nature, have been derived from an event like the cutting of the foundation trench for wall 134 or soil imported to make up the interior of the building.

5.15 Dump 108 was an undated, loose, mixed layer of grey orange clay silt and angular limestone gravel and cobbles, located immediately below stable floor sub-base 104. This layer had poorly defined boundaries, but seemed to overly the possible earth floor 105 and surface 112, and butt wall foundations 133 and 134. Dump 109

occupied the north-eastern half of the chapel and lay immediately below layer 104. It was a very patchy layer consisting of dark grey brown soil with mortar patches. The mortar patches decreased towards the upper surface of the layer. The layer had a poorly defined south-eastern boundary and two sherds of pottery dated to the late 18th to 19th centuries were retrieved from its surface.

Phase 3: The stables (Figs 3 and 6–9)

5.16 This phase consists of two successive stable layouts. The evidence for the first survives only in the south-eastern wall of the chapel and the second, later, stable consists of a blue engineering brick stable floor 102; a sand bedding layer 103; concrete sub-base 104; brick piers 125, 126 and 153; postholes 120, 148 and 151; service trench 138; drain 140 and soakaway 142.

The early stable (Figs 5 and 7)

5.17 The evidence for this stable consists of three evenly spaced vertical slots, 2.6m long by 0.15m wide set in to the internal surface of the south-eastern wall of the chapel, dividing the wall into four 2.3m wide spaces (Fig. 7). This wall is constructed of bricks above the stone foundation course 134; and because of the irregular nature of the brick bond and the way the slots have subsequently infilled, it is unclear if the slots had been cut into or built into the brick work of the wall. Between the vertical slots there were the remains of four heavily decayed horizontal timbers. It is possible that these timbers were the remnants of a previous timber-built phase of the stable that was later clad or infilled with brick; however, the most likely explanation is that the timbers were fixings for vertical planks to line the walls.

5.18 There is a clear horizontal change in the brick work *c.*3.3m above the stone rubble foundation of the wall. It is possible that this line represents the point at which the height of the wall has been raised. If vertical slots for the box walls had been built in to the inner face of the wall then it would suggest that the roof line was lower during this phase of the structure.

Later blue engineering brick stable

Postholes

5.19 The earliest features of this stable are the three unexcavated postholes 120, 148 and 151 (Figs 3 and 6). All three postholes cut dump 109 and are below the stable floor sub-base 104. Posthole 120 was the southern of the three postholes and was slightly `T` shaped in plan. It was 1.82m long by 1.04m wide; and contained two

vertical posts 121 and 122, surrounded by post packing 119, consisting of extremely hard cement. The wooden post 121 had a section measuring 0.31m by 0.2m and post 122 had a section of 0.18m by 0.17m. Both posts had been reduced in section to c. 0.15m (6") square approximately, 0.12m above the surface of the post packing, within the body of the overlying stable floor sub-base 104.

5.20 Posthole 148 was circular and 0.9m in dimeter, containing a single vertical post, 131, and cement post packing 146. Posthole 151 was square and measured 0.94m by 0.88m. It contained post 132 and cement post packing 149. The lower portion of post 131 was 0.2m by 0.16m in section and its upper portion like 121 and 122 had been reduced to 0.11m by 0.12m. Post 132 was initially 0.23m by 0.18m in section and the upper portion had been reduced to 0.14m by 0.13m. It is clear that the reduced portions of all four posts were meant to protrude through the stable floor 102 and can clearly be seen on the rectified image of the floor (Fig. 8). It seems likely that these posts were structural give the substantial nature of their post packing and it is suggested that they formed the front structural elements of two horse boxes.

Stable floor

5.21 The stable floor had a concrete sub-base 104, covering an area of 8.30m long by >4.7m wide, which was laid directly on layers 105, 108 and 109 to a thickness of 0.19m. It butted the north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western walls of the chapel, but ran under the north-western wall of the chapel (136). It had clearly been poured around the wooden posts 121, 122, 131 and 132; and was pierced by services 138 and soakaway 142. It consisted of very hard grey cement with an aggregate of blue and red brick fragments, and crushed limestone. A sherd of transfer-printed refined whiteware dating to the late 18th to 19th centuries was retrieved from this layer. The surface of the sub-base had been contoured to match that of the overlying brick floor 102 and three, 0.12m wide by up to 0.025m deep, grooves had been sculpted in to its surface to accommodate the three lines of bricks laid on their side within surface 102. On top of the sub-base 0.02m thick sand bedding layer 103 had been laid, upon which brick surface 102 was laid.

5.22 Brick surface 102 consisted of hard blue engineering bricks, bonded with a very hard, grey cement (Fig. 8). The bricks were laid flat in a running bond pattern to form four blocks, separated by three, single lines of bricks laid on their side, within the slots in the surface of sub-base 104 (Fig. 9). Filler courses of part bricks had been

added between the north-eastern and south-western walls of the chapel and the surface, as well as on the south-west side of the north-eastern line of bricks on their side. The long strips of bricks were laid such that their edge would have protruded above the surrounding bricks by about 0.02m. Two of the lines of bricks come off the south-eastern sides of posts 122 and 132 to form two square areas thought to be stable boxes (Boxes A and B on Figs 8 and 9). A third narrower area at the north-eastern end of the floor matches the north-eastern box of the earlier stable and is thought to be a tack room. These elements of the floor gently sloped down to the north-west.

5.23 The third longer strip of bricks on their side was laid against the north-western side of the wooden posts and demarcated the south-eastern limit of a brick surface, running north-east/south-west along the north-western side of the chapel. This bit of the floor sloped gently to the south-east as well as to the north-east. The north-eastern edge of this part the floor was 0.02m lower than north-east/south-west strip of bricks on their side, and it seems to form a slight channel empting in to drain 140 (Figs 3 and 6) in the north-eastern wall of the chapel.

Drains and services

5.24 Drain 140 was a 1.35m long by 0.41m wide by >0.23m high slot that had been cut into the foundation of the north-eastern wall of the chapel 135. A 6” dimeter salt glaze drain pipe had been inserted into the slot, such that its base was slightly lower than the brick floor and its north-eastern end protruded through the external face of the wall. Large orange red brick fragments set in a light grey cement mortar were then used to fill the remaining hole and keep the pipe in place. This drain was designed to take waste water running down the slight channel to the north-west of the horse boxes.

5.25 In the northern corner of the chapel, a 1” iron pipe had been cut through the wall foundation 135 and emerged through a 0.31m by 0.18m hole formed in the stable floor sub-base 104 and the over lying brick floor through a small round hole cut in one of the engineering bricks. It seems likely that this pipe may have supplied water to the stable.

5.26 Set in the middle of the north-eastern edge of the small rectangular space thought to be a tack room was a 0.66 long by 0.55m wide hole 142. It cut the brick floor and the underlying concrete sub-base 104, as well as part of wall foundation 135. It was

filled with loosely packed rubble covered with a silt clay skin, suggesting this feature might have been a soakaway.

Walls

5.27 The foundations of the north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western walls of the chapel (133, 134 and 135) were all butted by the floor surfaces of this stable. The structural detail of the north-eastern and south-eastern walls of the chapel was hidden behind plaster work and insulation. However the south-eastern wall (134) was exposed brick work (Fig. 7). It is clear that the northern most vertical brick slot in the wall (described in 5.17 above) lines up with the divisions between the tack room and Box B (Figs 8 and 9). It is also probable that the raising of this wall to its current height may have happened with the construction of the second, blue engineering brick, stable, as a Country Life photograph of 1930 clearly shows that the current roof line is pre-chapel and exists prior to the insertion of the north-eastern window of the chapel (Fig. 10).

5.28 It is clear that the north-western wall of the chapel is not contemporary with this phase of the building, as its foundation course cuts the blue brick floor 102 and is founded on the stable floor sub-base 104. However three brick structures, 125, 126 and 153, were identified within the body of sub-base 104. Structures 126 and 153 were located *c*. 2.8m in from the south-western and north-eastern walls respectively and were 0.95m apart (Figs 3 and 6). They were constructed of orange red bricks, set in white grey mortar. They form square structures 0.36m wide and one brick high, constructed of one stretcher and one header brick. It was not possible to investigate how the structures were founded as they were located under an extant wall. The third structure (125) was a single brick in line with the overlying wall located 0.32m north of the southern-western wall (133) of the chapel. It seems likely that the brick structures are brick piers or post pads forming the foundation of the north-western wall of the stable block.

5.29 It was not possible to investigate the possible chimney seen in the centre of the north-eastern wall of the chapel in the 1930 photograph (Fig. 10) due to the internal face of the wall being obscured by plaster and insulation tiles. It is also unclear from the photograph whether this is a chimney or a square plinth.

Phase 4: Chapel (Figs 10–12)

5.30 The chapel was converted from the stables by the insertion of windows and a door salvaged from another church or chapel. This happened between 1930 and 1939 based on the evidence of the photograph taken in 1930 for Country Life magazine and one taken for an album created by Graham Stuart Thomas and dated 1939. The current north-western wall of the building was built at this time. In addition, two roof trusses and corbels were also added from an ecclesiastical building and may have been fixed into the south-eastern wall of the building slightly higher than an earlier truss.

5.31 The floor of the chapel (101) was constructed of black concrete, which was up to 0.04m thick. It was laid directly upon the surface of the stable floor 102, after the raised brick strips of the earlier floor had been cut flat to the surrounding brick floor.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from two layers. The recovered material dates to the post-medieval/modern periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Pottery fabric codes (in parenthesis in the text) are equated to the Gloucester pottery type series (Vince unpublished) where possible.

Pottery

6.2 Three sherds of post-medieval/modern pottery were retrieved. The fabrics represented are Creamware (TF69, mid to late 18th century), black-glazed earthenware (TF125, 18th to 19th centuries) and transfer-printed refined whiteware (TF71, late 18th to 19th centuries).

Other finds

6.3 Floor sub base 104 produced four iron objects – one nail, two fragmentary tanged implements and a hook which appears to be a building fitting.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 Reduction of the ground levels within the chapel revealed a number of archaeological deposits and structures. Despite the complexity of the deposits

revealed it was still possible to discern some facets of the development of the building prior to it becoming a chapel between 1930 and 1939.

7.2 The stratigraphic sequence identified during the watching brief revealed four phases of archaeological activity:

Phase 1: Early surfaces
Phase 2: Pre stable features and layers
Phase 3: The stables
Phase 4: Chapel

Phase 1: Early surfaces (Figs 3 and 4)

7.3 Undated stone surfaces 111, 112, 145 and 152 are the earliest deposits identified on site; underlying deposits 108 and 109. As they are located at c.185.45m AOD, some 0.1m to 0.15m below the offsets in the foundation of the walls foundations, 133, 134 and 135, they probably pre-date the construction of these walls of the chapel. It is unclear whether they are the remains of internal or external surfaces.

Phase 2: Pre Stable features and layers (Figs 3 and 5)

7.4 The construction of the undated limestone rubble foundations of the south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern walls 133, 134 and 135 was the next identified event in this part of Hidcote Manor and pre-dates the development of the chapel building into a stable. Unfortunately, it was not possible within the constraints of the watching brief to determine if all three walls were part of the same building. These foundations featured offsets at a level above the deposits underlying floor 104, and beam slots within the south-eastern wall, indicating a suspended timber floor for the building.

7.5 Stratigraphic evidence suggests a series of different floors for the building during this phase. A timber floor supported by slots/depressions 114, 116, 118, 144, 155 and 157 was replaced by floor 105, comprising compacted orange brown sand silt, very similar to the mortar within wall foundations 133, 134 and 135. The presence of beam slot 124 in the surface of floor 105, along with slots 128, 130, 158 and 161 in the foundation of the east wall of the chapel 134 suggests that it was subsequently replaced by another timber floor at a higher level.

7.6 Overlying the possible earth floor were the thin, patchy dumps 108 and 109. The presence of mortar patches of varying colours in these layers, suggest they are dumps of construction/demolition debris from works to the pre-blue engineering brick stable building, as they are the last event prior to the construction of the stable floor sub-base and postholes 120, 146 and 149.

Phase 3: The stables (Figs 3 and 6–9)

Early stables (Figs 5 and 7)

7.7 Prior to this phase the structure cannot be assigned a function or be dated. However, the scars and timbers within the inner surface of the south-eastern wall of the building (Fig. 7), suggest that it became a four box stable with vertically boarded walls covering the face of the brick wall. The change in brick work *c.*3.3m above the stone foundation suggests this stable or the preceding structure may have been single storey in form. The features and deposits described in phase 2 (above) would not function well as floor surfaces of a farm stable. It is therefore probable that the later blue engineering brick stable floor removed the floor deposits associated with this stable.

Later blue engineering brick stable (Figs 3 , 8 and 9)

7.8 This stable was well preserved and very well constructed. It seems likely that its construction removed the floor surfaces of the earlier, four box, stable to construct three substantial postholes 120, 148 and 151 that contained four upright posts. The substantial nature of these features suggests that the four timbers had a structural function beyond forming the framework for the front of the stalls. The floor of the stable was formed by a concrete sub-base covered by a sand bedding layer for the blue engineering brick floor surface. Lines of bricks on their sides show where the box divisions were and the layout of the stable. It is clear that there were two substantial boxes occupying the space of the three southerly stalls in the previous stable, and a tack room with drainage sump (142) occupying the space of the previous northern stall. A shallow trough drain ran along the front of the boxes and exited out of a drain (140), cut through the north wall foundation 135.

7.9 The west wall of the stable was open fronted and formed of two centrally placed brick piers or post pads 126 and 153, with the possibility that similar features were placed adjacent to the ends of the north and south walls as evidenced by the pier or pad 125. While it is probable that the stable would have had doors between the brick piers in the north-western wall, it was not possible to determine this during the

watching brief. In the north-western corner of the stable an iron water pipe attests to the building being supplied with running water.

7.10 Photographs taken for Country Life magazine in 1930 clearly show the north-eastern wall of the chapel with its current roof line and no chapel window. This suggests that the roof of the stable had the basic form that it does today, although two scars below the two corbels supporting the current roof in the south-eastern wall suggest that this stable or one of the earlier structures had two similar but possibly less ecclesiastical looking trusses in the same general location (Fig. 7). This may also confirm the suggestion that the south-eastern wall of the building was heightened during the construction of the stable. The 1930 photograph also suggests there may be a chimney in the middle of the north-western gable. However, this feature could equally be a square plinth. Unfortunately the inner face of the north-western wall was obscured with plaster and insulation tiles at the time of the first visit by archaeologists from Cotswold Archaeology on 22 May 2017, so it was impossible to investigate the possible nature of this feature.

7.11 The substantial nature of the construction, water supply, the size of the two boxes and the use of cement and blue engineering bricks all point to this stable being a construction that required considerable resources to construct and one that was for show and not a utilitarian function. The use of materials, i.e. the blue engineering bricks and cement, suggest a date of construction not before the 1850s. However, it is believed that the manor was relatively poor at this time and was sold to raise money in 1907 to Mrs Gertrude Winthrop, mother of Lawrence Johnston. Therefore it is probable that this stable was built by Johnston as he was a Major in the Northumberland Hussars, a territorial cavalry regiment, with whom he served throughout the Great War until he retired when he reached 50 in 1921. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that blue engineering bricks are used in the ‘model farm yard’ constructed between 1919 and 1923 by Johnston a few metres to the east. This suggests that the blue engineering brick stable was built, probably for his own horses, between 1907 and the conversion of the building in to a chapel after 1930. It is also probable that Johnson heightened the building during these works and may have also rebuilt the north-western wall of the building in limestone ashlar to match the rest of the courtyard buildings above the foundation plinth.

Phase 4: Chapel (Figs 10–12)

7.12 The stable was converted between 1930 and 1939 by the insertion of a north-western wall into the space previously occupied by the open arcade of the stable, windows and a door salvaged from another church, and two roof trusses also salvaged from a church or chapel. The square chimney-like feature in the north-eastern wall on the 1930 photograph also seems to become shorter until it takes its current squat form. Finally previous fixtures and fittings were removed and a simple black concrete floor laid.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, Tom Weavill and Sarah Boughton. The report was written by Peter Busby and Christopher Leonard. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The archive has been compiled by Peter Busby, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard young.

9. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ Thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer		Chapel floor	Very hard, flat, granitic concrete	8.3	4.7	0.04	
1	102	Layer		Stable floor	Blue engineering bricks grouted with a very hard, grey, cement grout	8.3	4.7	0.12	
1	103	Layer		Floor bedding layer	Loose buff sand	8.3	4.7	0,02	
1	104	Layer		Stable floor sub-base	Grey buff cement with crushed red and blue brick and crushed limestone aggregate	8.3	>4.7	0.19	LC18-C19
1	105	Layer		Possible earth floor	Hard orange brown sand silt. Not excavated	>3.06	>2.8	-	
1	106	Layer		Dump	Loose dark grey silt clay with 50% crushed limestone gravel. Not excavated	>0.4	>0.32	-	
1	107	Layer		Dump	As 106	>0.7	>0.36	-	
1	108	Layer		Dump	Loose grey orange clay silt with 10%angular limestone cobbles and gravel. Not excavated	3.2	2.42	-	
1	109	Layer		Dump	Mixed buff/orange brown/dark grey brown silt clay/fine sand silt with 5% angular limestone rubble and 1% white plaster lumps and flecks. Not excavated	4.85	4.9	-	MC18-C19
1	110	-	-	-	Not used	-	-	-	
1	111	Layer		Surface	A flat surface consisting of 70% undressed limestone blocks (up to 0.2m long by 0.13m wide) and 20% blue lias blocks (up to 0.35m long by 0.1m wide) set in a dark brown clay silt. Not excavated	1.31	0.27	-	
1	112	Layer		Surface	A surface consisting of 90% irregular limestone slabs up to >0.6m long by 0.34m wide set in a dark brown clay silt. Not excavated	>1.5	>0.73	-	
1	113	Fill	114	Slot/depression fill	Very loose grey brown clay silt. Not excavated	0,73	0.16	>0.04	

1	114	Cut		Slot/depression	NE/SW orientated linear with vertical sides. Not excavated	0,73	0.16	>0.04	
1	115	Fill	116	Slot/depression fill	As 113	0.78	0.16	>0.05	
1	116	Cut		Slot/depression	As 114	0.78	0.16	>0.05	
1	117	Fill	118	Slot/depression fill	As 113	0.28	0.18	>0.04	
1	118	Cut		Slot/depression	As 114	0.28	0.18	>0.04	
1	119	Fill	120	Post packing	Extremely hard light grey cement with 75% crushed limestone and brick (red and blue) aggregate. Not excavated	1.82	1.04	-	
1	120	Cut		Posthole	Rounded 'T' shape in plan cut. Not excavated	1.82	1.04	-	
1	121	Structure	120	Post	Black, decayed, upright squared timber post	0.31	0.2	>0.16	
1	122	Structure	120	Post	As 121	0.18	0.17	>0.21	
1	123	Fill	124	Beam slot fill	Loose grey brown silt clay	>1.43	0.22	0.12	
1	124	Cut		Beam slot	NE/SW orientated linear with vertical sides and flat base	>1.43	0.22	0.12	
1	125	Structure		Brick peer or post pad	A single course structure consisting of orange red bricks (0.23m long by 0.11n wide by 0.08m high), set in a white grey mortar	0.36	-	0.08	
1	126	Structure		Brick peer or post pad	As 125	0.23	-	0.08	
1	127	Fill	128	Beam slot fill	Loose dark grey silt clay	>0.13	0.3	0.07	
1	128	Cut		Beam slot	Vertical rectangular slot cut in to wall 134	>0.13	0.3	0.07	
1	129	Fill	130	Beam slot fill	As 127. Not excavated	-	0.17	0.09	
1	130	Cut		Beam slot	Vertical rectangular slot cut in to wall 133. Not excavated	-	0.17	0.09	
1	131	Structure	148	Post	As 121	0.2	0.16	>0.2	
1	132	Structure	151	Post	As 121	0.23	0.18	>0.2	
1	133	Structure		Foundation of SW wall of Chapel	Roughly squared limestone blocks, laid in crude horizontal courses in an orange brown soily lime mortar. Not excavated	4.66	-	>0.26	
1	134	Structure		Foundation of SE wall of Chapel	As 133	7.24	.0.18	>0.3	
1	135	Structure		Foundation of NE wall of Chapel	As 133	4.6	>0.09	>0.3	

1	136	Structure		Foundation of NW wall of Chapel	A single course of orange red bricks (0.23m long by 0.11m wide by 0.08m thick) laid in hard grey sandy mortar forming the base of wall 136	7.24	>0.3	>0.11	
1	137	Fill	138	Service trench fill	Loose grey brown silt clay. Not excavated	0.3	0.18	>0.1	
1	138	Cut		Service trench	Rectangular in plan with vertical sides. Base not seen	0.3	0.18	>0.1	
1	139	Fill	140	Drain fill	Orange red bricks placed either side of a 6`` dimeter salt glazed ceramic drain pipe running through wall 135, set in a hard light grey sandy mortar. Not excavated	>0.3	0.41	>0.23	
1	140	Cut		Drain	An irregular cut through the wall foundation 135	>0.3	0.41	>0.23	
1	141	Fill	142	Soakaway fill	Loose grey brown silt clay with 95% limestone rubble not fully excavated	0.66	0.53	>0.47	
1	142	Cut		Soakaway	A square cut in plan with vertical sides. Base not seen	0.66	0.53	>0.47	
1	143	Fill	144	Slot fill	Orange red bricks forming 0.13m wide, a rectangular slot in wall 135, set in a light orange brown sandy mortar	>0.66	0.59	>0.3	
1	144	Cut		Slot	A vertical slot cut in to wall 135 partly obscured by plaster	>0.66	0.59	>0.3	
1	145	Structure		Kerb/surface	2 undressed limestone blocks laid on their side and end to end. Not excavated	0.43	0.07	-	
1	146	Fill	148	Post packing	As 120	-	0.9	-	
1	147	-	-	-	Not Used	-	-	-	
1	148	Cut		Posthole	An irregular circular cut in plan. Not excavated	-	0.9	-	
1	149	Fill	151	Post packing	As 120	0.94	0.88	-	
1	150	-	-	-	Not Used	-	-	-	
1	151	Cut		Posthole	An irregular square cut in plan. Not excavated	0.94	0.88	-	
1	152	Layer		Surface	A flat hard brown, crushed limestone gravel	>0.8	>0.56	-	
1	153	Structure		Brick peer or post pad	As 125	0.37	-	0.08	
1	154	Fill	155	Slot/depression fill	As 113	>0.11	0.17	>0.03	

1	155	Cut		Slot/depression	As 114, but the S end of the cut seems to crumble away suggesting it continues under 109. Not excavated	>0.11	0.17	>0.03	
1	156	Fill	157	Slot/depression fill	As 113	0.22	0.22	>0.04	
1	157	Cut		Slot/depression	An irregular cut in plan whose sides are undercut. Not excavated	0.22	0.22	>0.04	
1	158	Fill	159	Beam slot fill	As 127	>0.1	0.14	0.15	
1	159	Cut		Beam slot	As 128	>0.1	0.14	0.15	
1	160	Fill	161	Beam slot fill	As 127	0.18	0.3	0.09	
1	161	Cut		Beam slot	As 128	0.18	0.3	0.09	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed refined whiteware	TF71	1	8	LC18-C19
	Iron	Object		4	491	
109	Post-medieval pottery	Creamware	TF69	1	6	MC18-C19
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Black-glazed earthenware	TF125	1	48	

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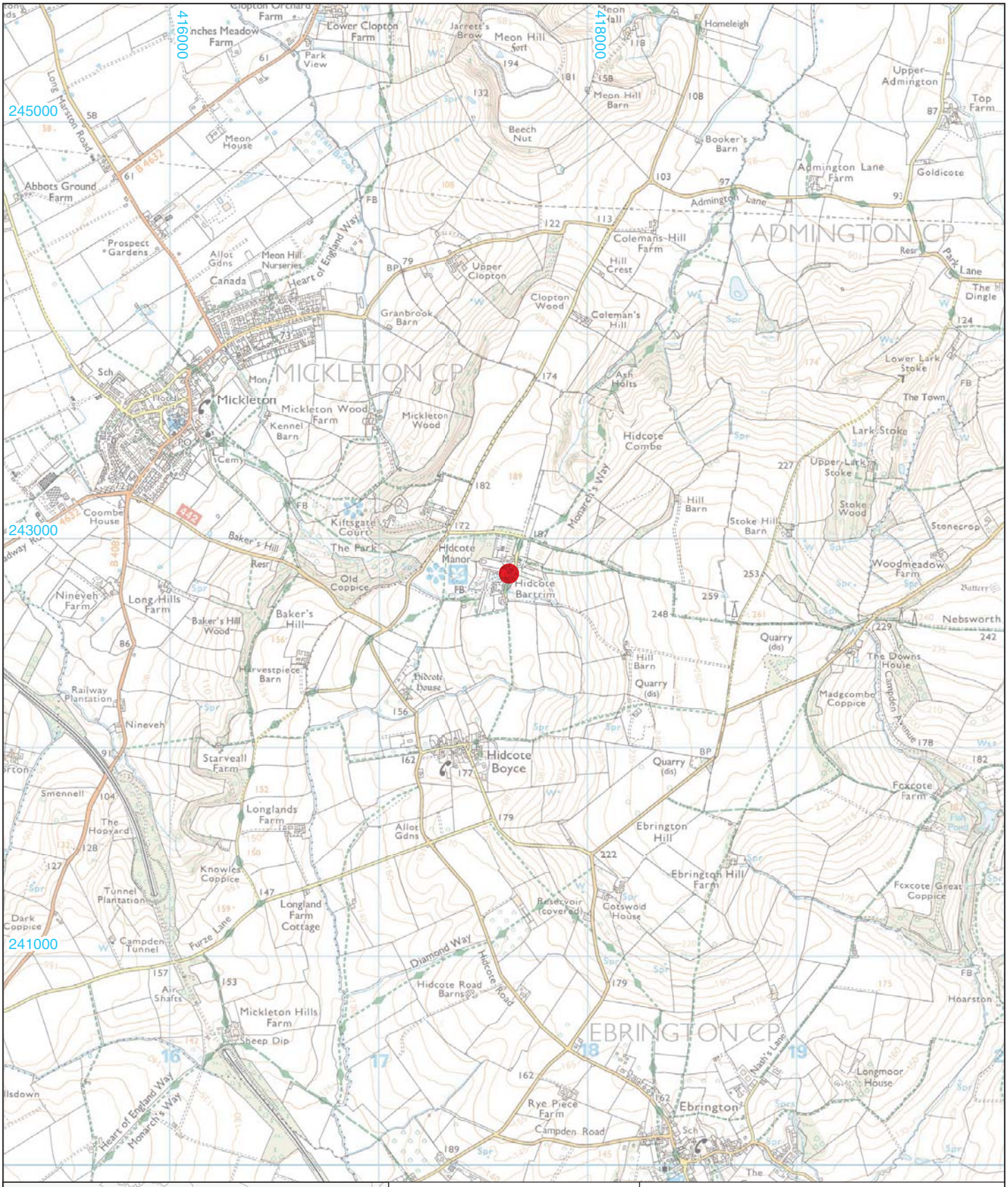
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new ceilings, floor and wall finishes to the Chapel building at Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire. Three stone surfaces pre-dating the walls of the extant chapel were identified in the centre of the building. Subsequently a structure consisting of the north-eastern, south-eastern and south-western walls of the extant chapel was constructed. This building may have had timber floors. At some point the structure became a four box stable, which was later, between 1907 and 1939, converted by Lawrence Johnston into a two box stable with a blue engineering brick floor. Johnston later converted the stable into a chapel by the insertion of windows, a door and roof trusses salvaged from another church or chapel between 1930 and 1939. At the same time the current north-western wall of the building was added.	
Project dates	22 May – 11 July 2017	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Headland Archaeology 2012 Hidcote Manor garden, Gloucestershire, Archaeological Trial Trenching	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	$30m^2$	
Site co-ordinates	417650 242859	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	National Trust	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard young	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby and Tom Weavill	
MONUMENT TYPE	Chapel	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	National Trust	Pottery
Paper	National Trust	Context sheets and drawings
Digital	National Trust	Digital photos and drawings
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire; Archaeological Watching Brief.* CA typescript report **17412**		



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PROJECT TITLE

Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Bartrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**CP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6282**	*FIGURE NO.*
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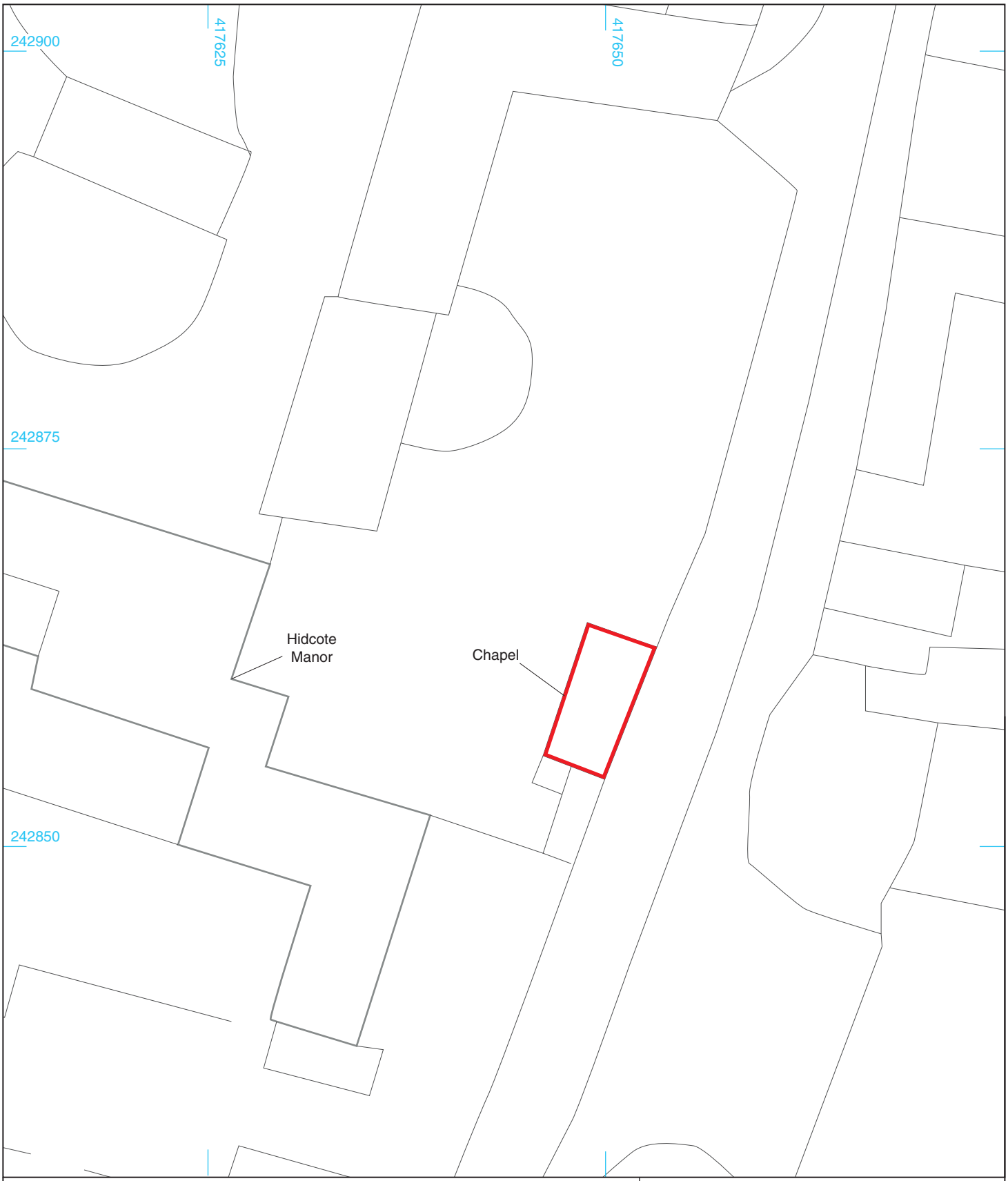
APPROVED BY	**RY**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	



site boundary

N

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PROJECT TITLE

Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

The site, showing location of chapel

DRAWN BY	**CP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6282**	*FIGURE NO.*
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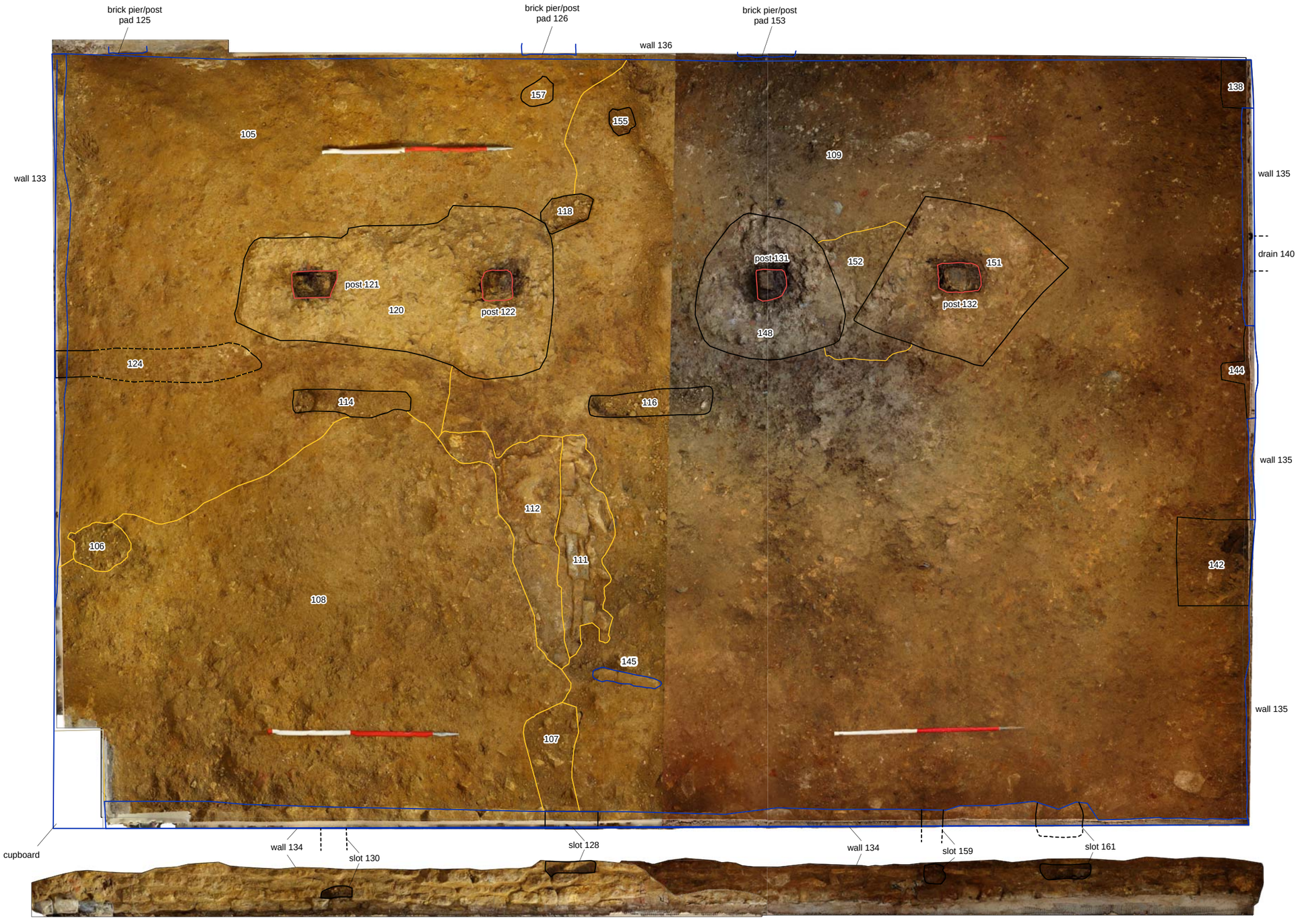

cut feature
deposit/fill
structure
timber

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE
The Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Rectified image of contexts below stable floor sub-base 104

DRAWN BY	TW	PROJECT NO.	6282	FIGURE NO.
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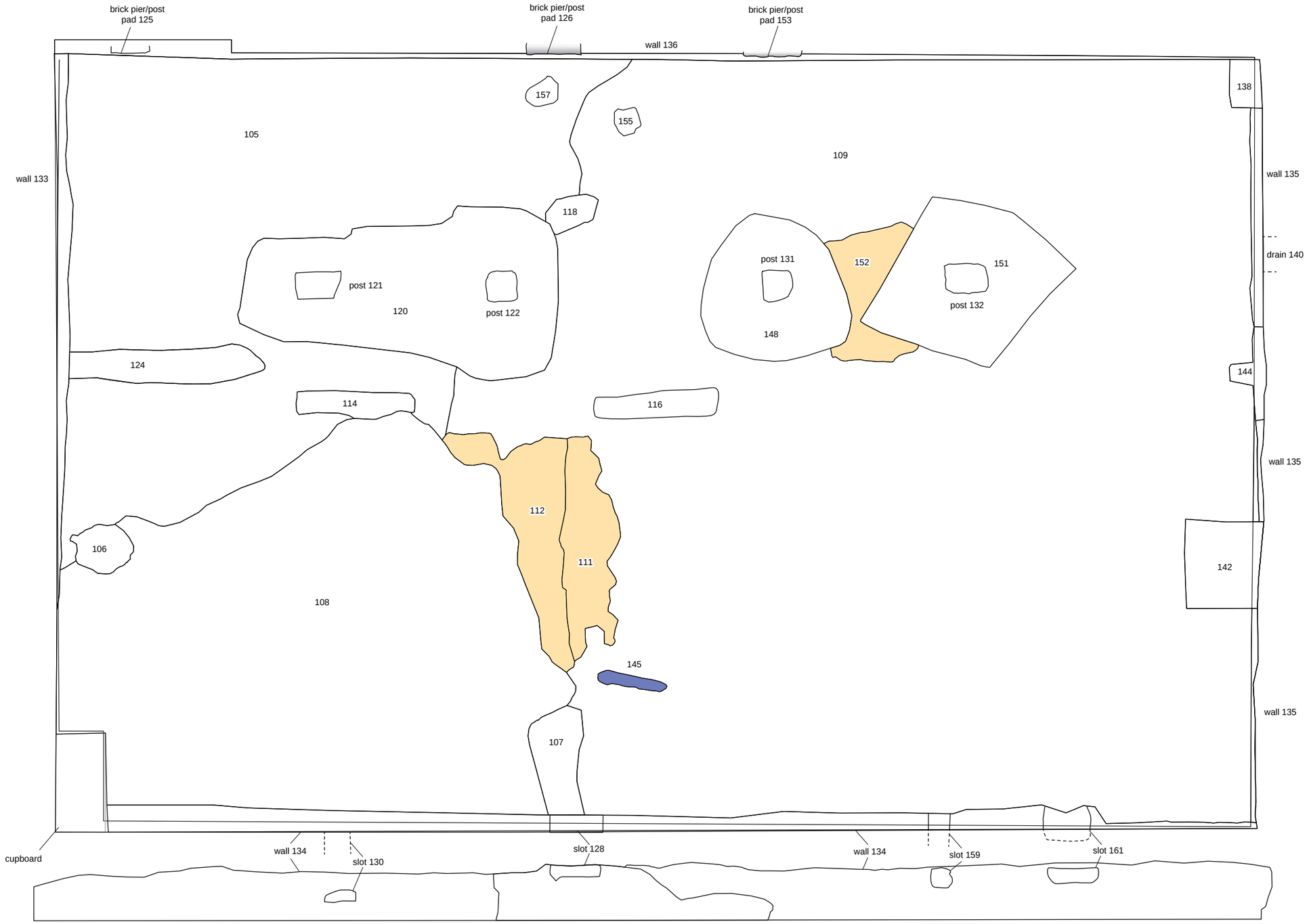

phase 1 deposit

phase 1 structure

archaeological feature

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PROJECT TITLE

The Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote, Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of Phase 1 contexts below stable sub-base 104

DRAWN BY	**CP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6282**	*FIGURE NO.*
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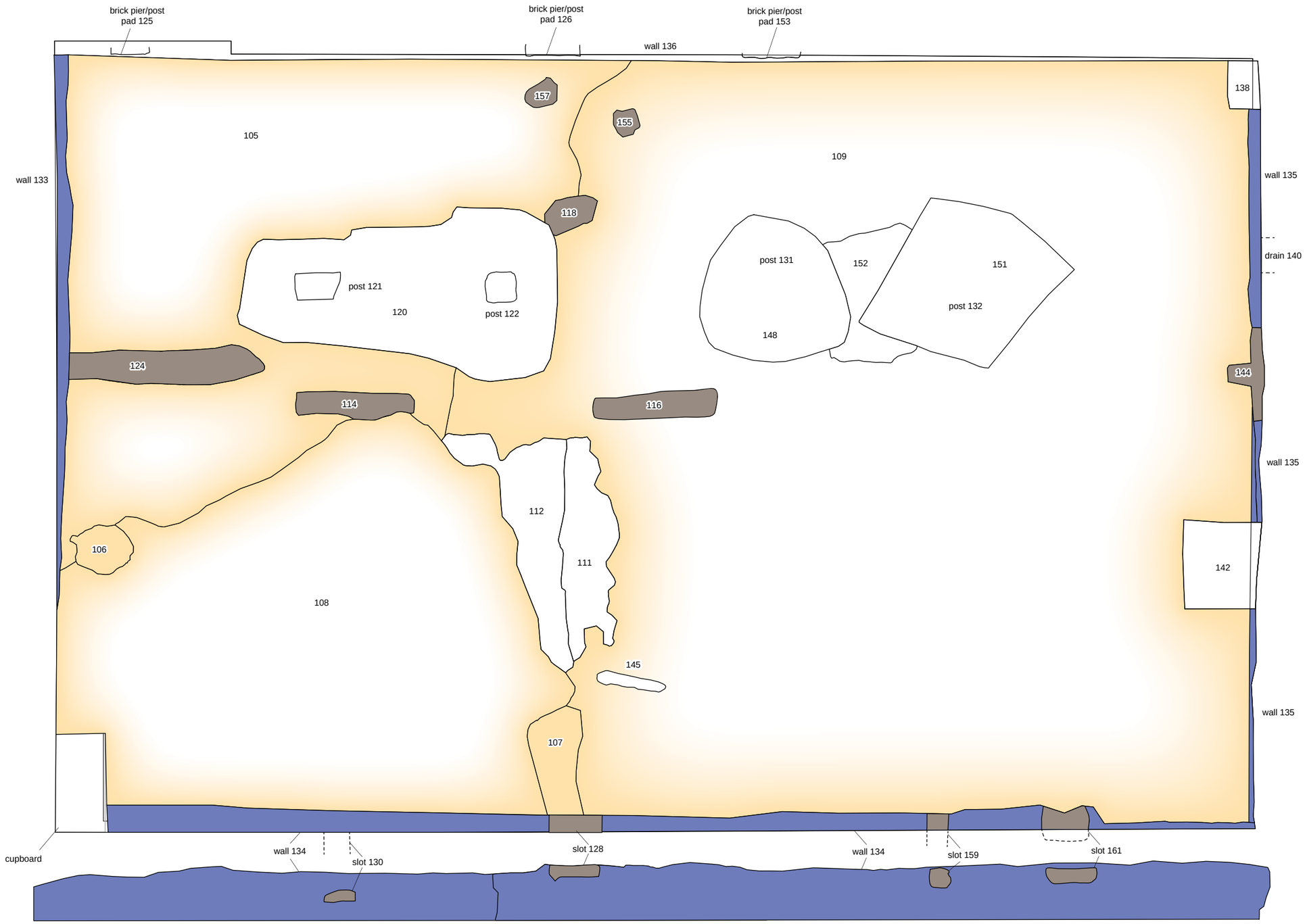

phase 2 archaeological feature

phase 2 deposit

phase 2 structure

earlier feature

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PROJECT TITLE

The Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote, Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of Phase 2 contexts below stable sub-base 104

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	6282	FIGURE NO.
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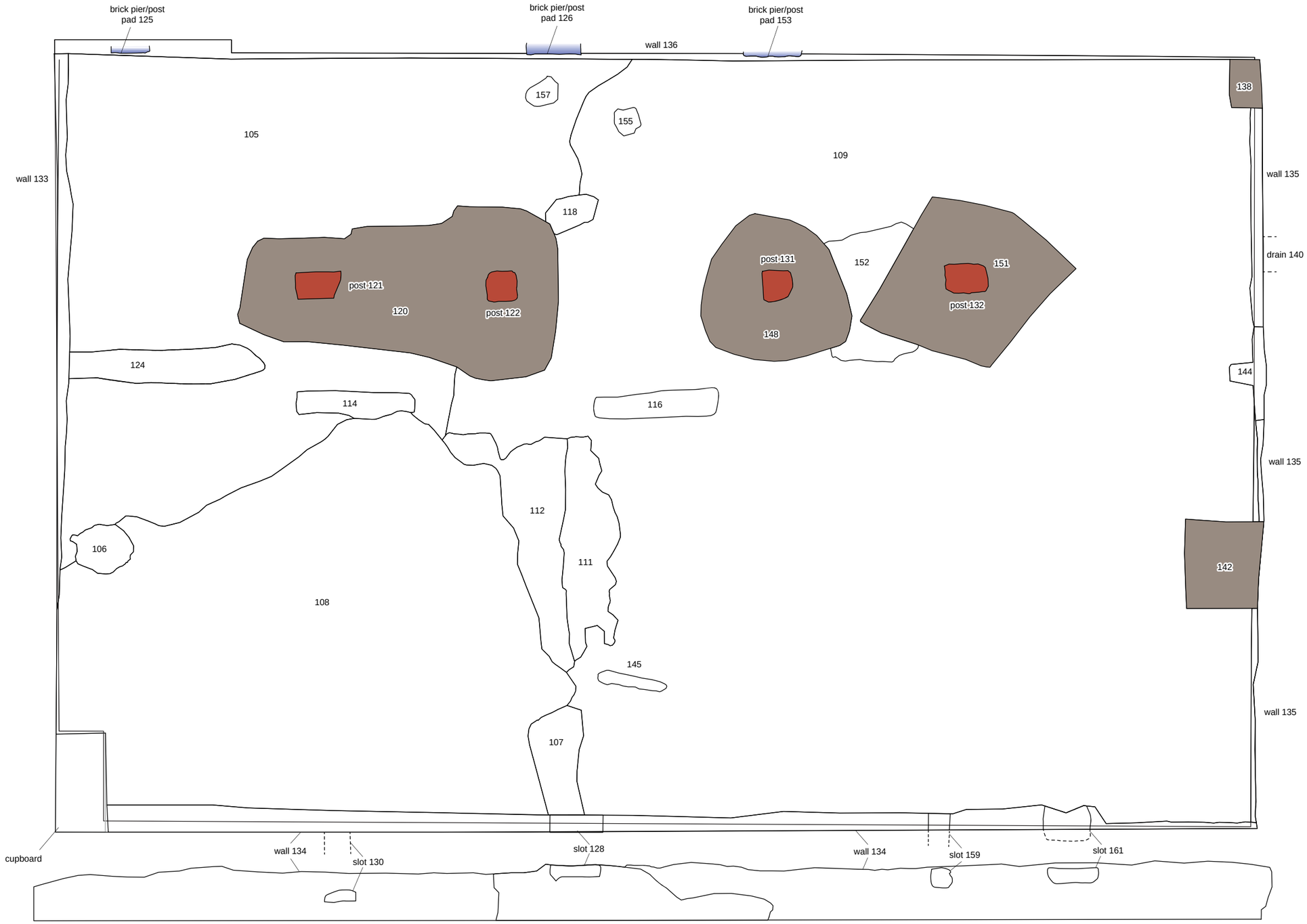

phase 3 archaeological feature

phase 3 structure

phase 3 timber

earlier feature

0 1:25 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

The Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote, Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of Phase 3 contexts below stable sub-base 104

DRAWN BY	**CP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6282**	*FIGURE NO.*
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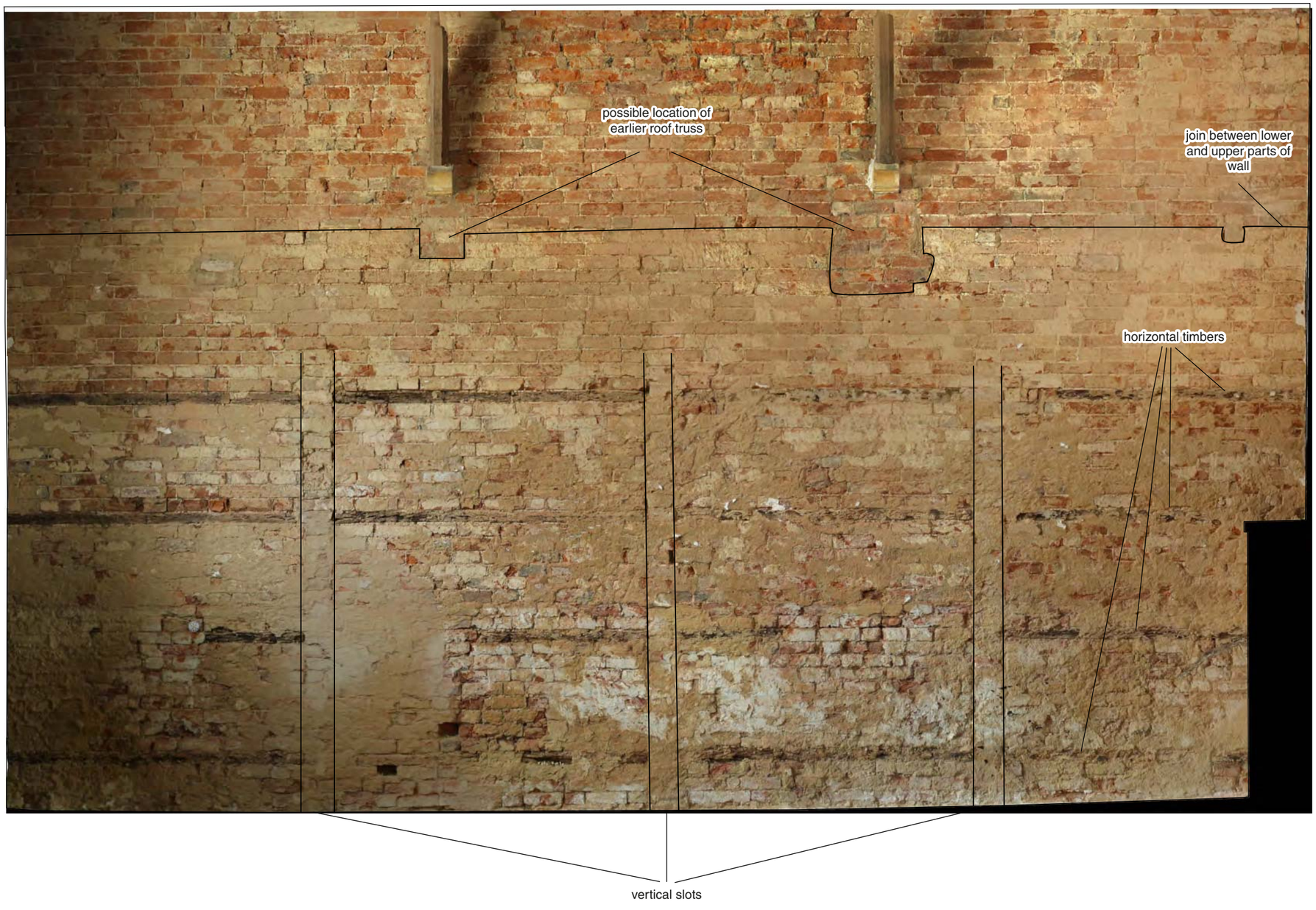

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Internal elevation of south-eastern wall of stable

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APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	1:25	

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Box A

Box B

Tack Room

timber post

blue engineering bricks on edge

0 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Rectified image of blue engineering brick stable floor 102

DRAWN BY	TW	PROJECT NO.	6282	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	13/09/2017	8
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	1:25	

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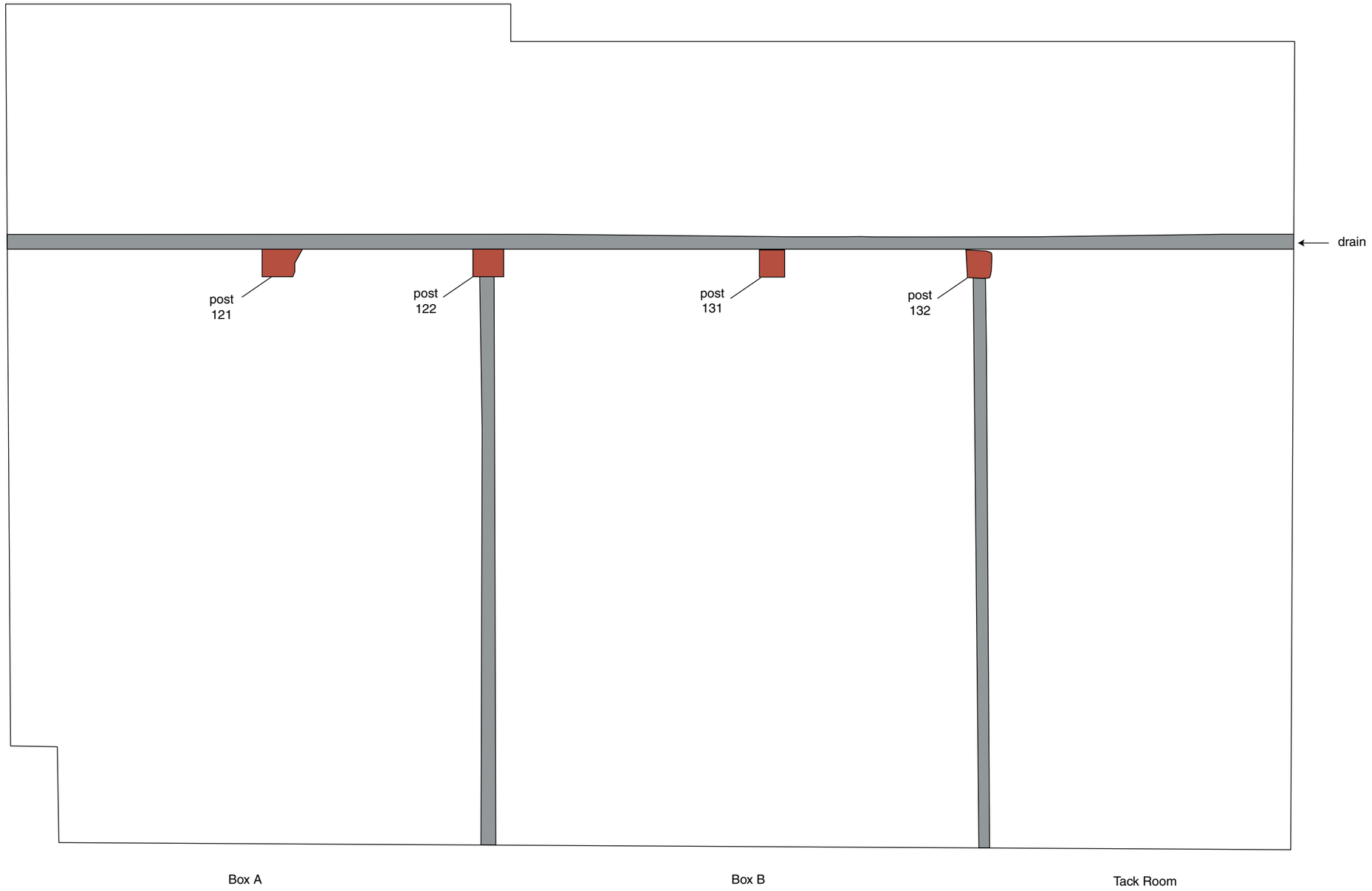

blue engineering bricks on edge

timber post

0 1:25 1m

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PROJECT TITLE

The Chapel, Hidcote Manor Gardens, Hidcote, Batrim, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of blue engineering brick stable floor

DRAWN BY	**CP**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6282**	*FIGURE NO.*
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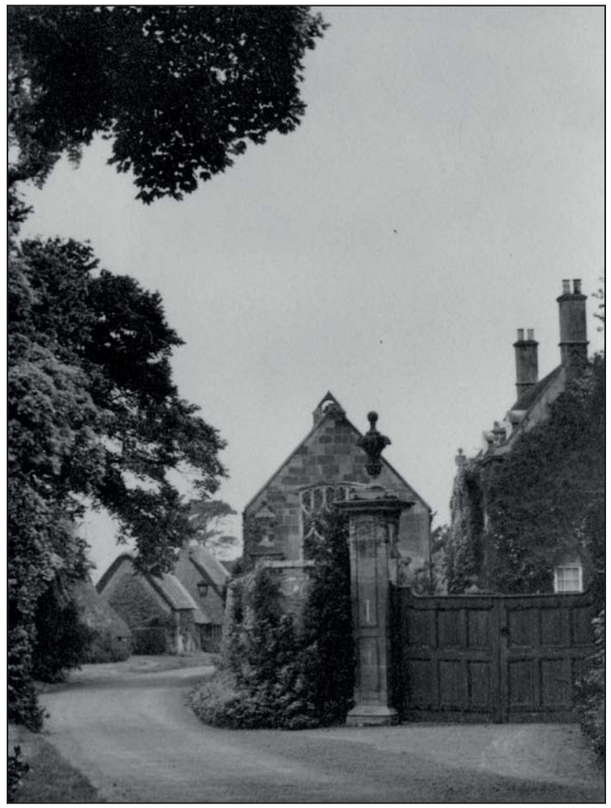
10

View of north wall of chapel and courtyard in 1930, facing south-west

12

View of north wall of chapel and courtyard in 1948



11

View of the north wall of the chapel in 1939, facing south-east (courtesy of the RHS Lindley Library)

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	6282	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	06/11/2017	10-12
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	NA	

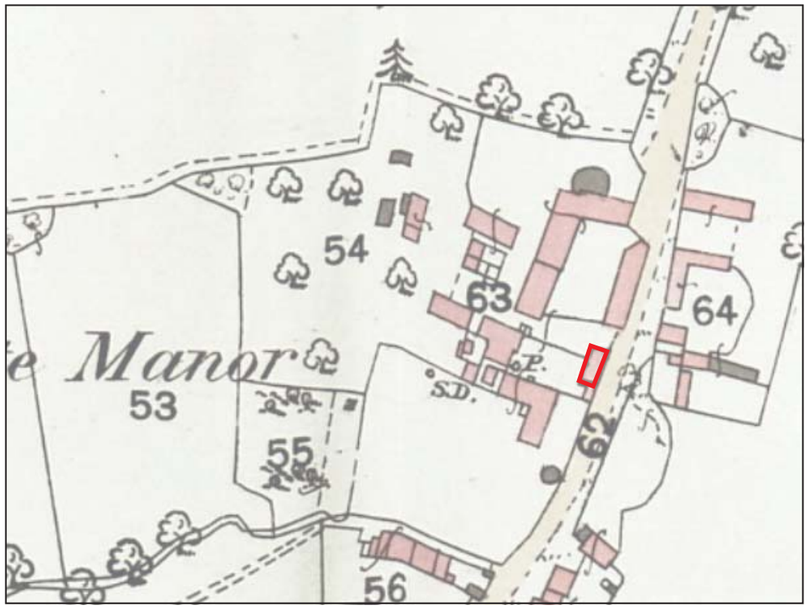
13

1782 map of land belonging to William Freeman

14

1841 Tithe Map

15



1883 25 inch Ordnance Survey map (published 1885)

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Historic maps

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	6282	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/11/2017	13-15
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	1:1,000 (approx.)	

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