

Vrow Walk Hampton Court Palace



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Summary

During December 2011 and January 2012 Oxford Archaeology carried out a watching brief during works at Vrow Walk, Hampton Court Palace. The work was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces in order to create a new exit from the upper car park to Hampton Court Road. The groundwork comprised ground reduction throughout the area and excavation of service trenches.

Rubble deposits probably pertaining to the use or clearance of Henry VIII's Tiltyard were revealed in several foundation trenches and were overlain by garden soils that probably date from the use of the area as kitchen gardens from the late 17th century. The existing 19th century wall that delimits the southern extent of the garden was shown to have been founded upon an earlier wall of late 17th or 18th century date. A small rectangular structure that was found extending back from the existing Vrow Walk Gateway may date to the early 20th century, when the area was used as a pleasure garden.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) wish to modify the vehicular access into and out of the Upper Car Park at Hampton Court Palace, Surrey (NGR TQ 155 686, Fig. 1). Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by William Page, Conservation Building Surveyor, Hampton Court Palace of HRP to conduct an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks. The work was undertaken in accordance with the Method Statement (OA 2011), between December 2011 and January 2012.
- 1.1.2 The watching brief covered a total area of c 700m² and encompassed the pavement area to the west of Vrow Walk Gate, part of the existing tarmac walkway that leads from the gate toward the Wilderness, flower beds and lawns surrounding the walkway, and an area of the Upper Car Park, as well as the demolition of part of the 19th century garden wall between the walkway and the Upper Car Park. Much of the area was reduced by between 0.2m and 0.6m, by means of both a mechanical excavator and by hand excavation (Figs 2 and 3). Service trenches were also excavated, usually to a depth of 1.1m beneath the existing ground level.

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 Vrow Walk Gate is located to the north-west of Hampton Court Palace and has until recently been used as a pedestrian access from Hampton Court Road into Hampton Court Palace. There are a series of tarmac footpaths which allow access through the gate to the 20th century toilet block and to both the Upper Car Park and the gardens towards the Wilderness.
- 1.2.2 The site lies at c 10.45m aOD on the first gravel terrace of the River Thames.



1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 This section provides a summary to the background to Vrow Walk and the Vrow Walk Gate. Further details are available in the Vrow Walk historic buildings report and investigation (OA 2010).
- 1.3.2 The Vrow Walk wall forms part of the outer boundary wall to the north and west of Hampton Court Palace. Documentary evidence indicates that the boundary wall was originally constructed by Wolsey in 1515 and then utilised by Henry VIII as part of the boundary for the Tiltyard for which he began construction in 1538. Evidence suggests that the Tiltyard was little used for the purpose it was intended. However, the Tiltyard retained its form until the late 17th century when the space was divided into six sections and used as the palace kitchen gardens. The Vrow Walk walls were repaired in the 18th century and gates were installed or replaced on both the west and north at this time. In the 19th century changes included repairs and alterations to the kitchen garden walls and the heightening of the Vrow Walk wall for greater privacy. Further alterations were made to the walls during the early 20th century as this part of the palace was developed into a leisure facility for visitors with the addition of tennis courts in the north-western corner and the conversion of the sole remaining Tudor Tiltyard tower into tea rooms (OA 2010).
- 1.3.3 It is thought that the name Vrow Walk originates from the use of the walkway by ladies or 'Frau' who promenaded along the walkway in the early 18th century. Local corruption of the name means it was sometimes referred to as the Frog Walk (OA 2010).

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The aims as stated in the Method Statement (OA 2001) were:
- To record the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains within the area affected by development;
 - To take photographs of any extant wall elements before demolition;
 - To signal, before the destruction of the material in question, the discovery of any significant archaeological find for which the resources allocated were not sufficient to support a treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard;
 - To make available the results of the investigation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 All excavation and other works were carried out by contractors on behalf of HRP. All groundwork was monitored by an attending archaeologist. All necessary excavation and recording was carried out following the relevant codes of practice as outlined in the method statement (OA 2011). For the purpose of this report the site has been split into eight areas (A-H, Fig. 2) due to the variation in current ground surface, truncation and the manner in which the works were undertaken. The areas are described by their condition prior to excavation as follows:



Area	Description	Depth of Reduction
A	The gravel verge, immediately adjacent to Hampton Court Road	0.7m
B	The pavement of Vrow Walk	0.7m
C	The area of grass and tarmac between the pavement and Vrow Walk gate	0.6m
D	Vrow Walk Gateway	up to 0.6m
E	The area laid to tarmac immediately to the east of Vrow Walk Gate, extending north to the toilet block and east towards the Wilderness	0.1-0.6m
F	The lawned area east of Vrow Walk Gate	0.2m
G	The grass verge and flower beds running along the north side of the 19th century garden wall through which the exit will be formed	0.3m
H	The area of the current car park to the south of the 19th century garden wall	0.3m

- 2.2.2 The ground level over the entire area outside of the palace boundary wall (Areas A-C) was reduced in height by c 0.6m-0.7m, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. A large tree stump also had to be removed in the area immediately adjacent to the road.
- 2.2.3 Within the palace boundary the area was reduced by between 0.1m and 0.6m depending upon the design requirements. Trenches were also excavated for service runs and for the footings for pillars within the new opening of the garden wall. These were up to 1.1m in depth and were all hand excavated due to the proximity of trees carrying Tree Preservation Orders.
- 2.2.4 All plans were drawn at a scale of 1:100 and sections at a scale of 1:20. A full photographic record was maintained using both black and white print film and digital photography. Recording otherwise followed the procedures detailed in the OAU Fieldwork Manual (Wilkinson 1992).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Description of deposits

Area A (Fig. 3)

- 3.1.1 Due to the removal of a large tree stump located directly opposite the Vrow Walk Gate, as well as the presence of high voltage cables running along the roadside, almost the entirety of this area had been truncated or disturbed. The deposits that were observed when the area was reduced by 0.7m were all related to the modern services and road surfaces.

Area B (Figs 3 and 4)

- 3.1.2 Area B was reduced to an overall depth of 0.7m below the existing ground level of 9.38m aOD. Below the gravel and tarmac of the existing footpath (113) was a mixed, clay-sand deposit (101) at least 0.30m thick that continued deeper than the base of the



excavation (Fig. 4 section 104). It contained brick, gravel and clay pipe fragments, the latter including examples datable to c 1730-1780. This deposit extended throughout Areas B and C. The deposit showed evidence for significant disturbance and truncation by modern services and where disturbed by the latter, the same material had been used as backfill.

Area C (Fig. 3, Plate 1)

- 3.1.3 Area C was reduced by 0.6m to a depth of 9.81m aOD. Running N-S across the area were two service trenches, which effectively divided the area into three long thin strips. Deposit (101), as seen in Area B, was recorded throughout Area C, again extending deeper than the base of the excavation.
- 3.1.4 Between the modern services, immediately to the west of Vrow Walk Gate was a small area of brickwork (131) that survived *in situ* (Fig. 3). It had been previously truncated on all sides, as a result of which any stratigraphic relationships with surrounding deposits had been destroyed. The brickwork measured 3.8m N-S and 0.3m E-W. It was only one brick course deep (c 0.12m) and may have represented part of a brick surface or path. The bricks were very degraded but were soft, red and hand made and were bonded with creamy, lime mortar.
- 3.1.5 Structure 131 and deposit (101) were both overlain by the concrete footing for the existing roadway to the south and by the existing modern topsoil/turf to the north.

Area D (Fig. 3, Plates 2-4)

- 3.1.6 Area D, the area within Vrow Walk Gateway, contained the remains of several brick structures (102, 103, 104 and 132; Fig. 3 and Plate 3). Structures 102 and 103 were positioned to the north and south of the gateway respectively and both butted up to the inside corners of the existing brick plinths forming the gateway. Each measured 0.4m N-S x 0.32m E-W and survived to a height of three courses, totalling 0.2m. The bricks measured 220 x 110 x 60mm and were of a soft, mid-red material, bonded with a creamy, soft mortar. The bricks were laid in an irregular coursing and had been previously cut back, leaving an irregular upper surface. A brick sample taken from structure 103 suggests that it dated from no earlier than the 18th century (see below).
- 3.1.7 Running between and abutting structures 102 and 103 was wall 104, which measured 2.25m in length, 0.3m in width, and also had three courses surviving. The bricks measured 220 x 100 x 50mm and were hard and brown-red with a dark grey gritty mortar with lime flecks. The bricks were laid in an irregular stretcher bond with poor quality pointing. The upper courses of all three structures had to be removed and a 0.5m wide slot was cut through wall 104 for construction purposes; otherwise these structures were retained *in situ*. Overlying all three brick structures was a modern levelling deposit of sand and gravel, capped by the stone threshold beneath the gate.
- 3.1.8 Abutting the west sides of structures 102, 103 and 104 were the remains of structure 132 (Fig. 3, Plate 4) which probably represented a continuation of the possible brick surface (131) that was revealed in Area C. Constructed of similar bricks, it measured at least 2.6m N-S by 0.4m E-W and comprised a single course, measuring 0.075m thick. The structure had been heavily truncated to the north, possibly by the same service trenches that had truncated structure 131.

**Area E (Figs 3 and 4, Plates 5-7)**

- 3.1.9 Across most of Area E, general ground reduction exposed only modern make-up deposits and an earlier surface of the walkway (122), except near Vrow Walk Gate, where Structure 136 was exposed (Fig. 3, Plate 5). The structure comprised three elements that formed three sides of a rectangular foundation measuring 2.4m N-S and at least 2.6m E-W. Each side of the structure survived as a brick and mortar stain measuring 0.4m wide and only 0.05m in depth, suggesting that the bricks had been previously removed. There was an apparent break 0.3m wide in the centre of the east side, opposite the central point of Vrow Walk Gate. The structure was located immediately to the east of structures 102, 103 and 104 but the insertion of service trenches 3 and 4, which extended north-south across the area, had removed any stratigraphic relationship between the structures, although it seems likely that they were related.
- 3.1.10 Deeper stratigraphic sequences were recorded in the service trenches and associated trenches. Trenches 1-8 were situated close together in the western part of the area, immediately within the Vrow Walk Gate, and revealed similar sequences of deposits (Fig. 4 sections 105 and 106, Plate 6). The earliest deposits were demolition layers, represented by deposit 110 in Trenches 3, 4, 7 and 8 and by deposit 130 in Trenches 1, 2 and 5. Deposit 110 was a 0.54m thick orange-grey, clay silt with frequent pebble and charcoal inclusions. Layer 130 was exposed in the bases of the trenches closest to the gateway and was formed mainly of crushed lime mortar with small pieces of broken brick and tile. It was at least 0.2m thick. The deposit was exposed at c 9.56m aOD and was similar in appearance and level to layer 109 in Trench 13 in Area G. The depth of neither deposit was established as they extended below the lower limit of the excavation. Layers 110 and 130 were both overlain by layer 127, a mixed, homogeneous sand-silt deposit that contained sparse CBM and charcoal inclusions and measured up to 0.51m thick. It probably represented a former garden soil. It was on this layer that Structure 136 had been constructed. Structure 136 was overlain by a mixed, silty deposit (126, 129). It contained frequent gravel inclusions and measured 0.06m in thickness, and probably represented levelling. It was overlain by a thin layer of crushed lime mortar and very fragmented brick (125, 128). These deposits were sealed by a large deposit of golden sandy gravel (117), 0.2m thick, that was probably part of a path or surface and extended across the entire length of Area E, some 12m N-S x 4.5m E-W. This was in turn overlain by layer 122, a dark grey-brown silt-sand with frequent stone inclusions. Layer (122) was 0.12 thick. It contained abraded sherds from red terracotta flowerpots of 19th century date. Levelling deposit 116 overlay layer 122 and was 0.1m thick. It contained a high quantity of broken brick and CBM as well as gravel, the extent of which continued beyond the limit of excavation in all directions. This was overlain by the modern tarmac surface.
- 3.1.11 Trench 10 was situated at the northern edge of the area and exposed a slightly different sequence (Fig. 4 section 103, Plate 7). The earliest level revealed was a sandy brickearth deposit (121) that was exposed at 8.98m aOD, 1.29m below ground level. This was overlain by demolition deposit 110, which had also been recorded in trenches in the central part of the area. It was overlain by a buried topsoil layer (111) that was sealed beneath modern make-up (114) and tarmac (115).

**Area F (Fig. 3)**

- 3.1.12 Due to changes to the original design, only a small amount of Area F was impacted upon. The current topsoil (111) was disturbed to a depth of only 0.2m and no other deposits were exposed.

Area G (Figs 3 and 5, Plate 8)

- 3.1.13 Area G was excavated in a number of phases. The construction of two large brick peers to form the new exit through the 19th century garden wall required two large foundation trenches (Trenches 12 and 13) to be excavated across and to the sides of the wall (Fig. 3). The general area was otherwise reduced by 0.3m, which did not reach the base of the existing topsoil (111).
- 3.1.14 Within the two foundation trenches, the earliest level revealed was a deposit of crushed mortar with broken brick and peg tile inclusions (109) that was at least 0.22m thick and continued below the base of both trenches (Fig. 5; Plate 8). It was similar in nature to deposit 130 in Trenches 1, 2 and 5 in Area E and occurred at a similar height of 9.59m aOD. Overlying layer 109 was a layer of homogeneous, brown-grey clay silt with frequent pebble and charcoal inclusions (127) that had also been recorded in Trenches 1-8 in Area E and was probably a former garden soil.
- 3.1.15 Layer 127 was cut by the construction cut (112) for a substantial brick wall (105/106) that was revealed beneath the existing garden wall (108) along the southern boundary of the car park (Figs 3 and 5; Plate 8). It was exposed for a length of 8.8m and measured 0.45m wide and 0.5m high, surviving to four courses in height above a stepped foundation. The wall stepped out twice such that it measured at least 0.8m in width at its base. The bricks were handmade, orange/rose or rose coloured, measuring 220-228 x 100-105 x 58-64mm and were bonded by dark cream mortar with lime inclusions. The bricks were of late 17th or 18th century type. The wall was supported upon a foundation of compacted mortar, broken brick, tile, at least 0.3m thick that continued below the base of the trench. The backfill of the foundation trench comprised a mixed, silty deposit (137) derived from the material through which it was cut, as a consequence of which the edge definition was unclear.
- 3.1.16 Deposit (127) and wall 105/106 were overlain by the current garden topsoil (111) which also abutted the existing garden wall 108.

Area H (Figs 3 and 5)

- 3.1.17 Area H, comprising the current car park, was reduced by 0.3m and, where necessary, service trenches and chambers were also excavated (Fig. 3). The longest stratigraphic sequence in this area was recorded in Trench 9, at the southern edge of the site (Figs 3 and 5). The earliest deposit exposed was a natural deposit of yellow, sandy brickearth (121) that was encountered at a height of 9.11m aOD (1.28m b.g.l). This was overlain by (110), an orange-grey, clay silt that was widespread across the site and was 0.48m thick. Above this lay a thin demolition deposit of broken brick and tile (135) that was 0.06m thick. In turn this was overlain by the same topsoil deposit (111) that was recorded within the trenches of Area G, though here it survived to a thickness of 0.25m. The uppermost levels comprised make-up (134) and tarmac (133) for the current car park, the construction of which had probably impacted upon the depth of topsoil 111. Layer 134 was the earliest deposit that was exposed across the rest of Area H.



3.2 Finds

Pottery by John Cotter

- 3.2.1 A total of nine sherds of pottery weighing 124g were recovered from a single context (122). These have not been separately catalogued but are fully described here.
- 3.2.2 The assemblage consists entirely of 19th century red terracotta flowerpot sherds including the rims from two separate vessels and seven body sherds from several separate vessels. These are mostly quite worn and thus are likely to have been redeposited several times in a manner typical of pottery from garden soils or ploughed fields.

Clay tobacco pipe by John Cotter

- 3.2.3 The excavation produced a total of five pieces of clay tobacco pipe weighing 75g from a single context (101). These have not been separately catalogued but are fully described here.
- 3.2.4 The assemblage is in a very fresh condition with slight wear visible only on the separate stem fragment. There are four complete pipe bowls and a single stem fragment with a trace of thickening towards a bowl. All the pipes have a short length of stem attached (max 75mm). The two latest pipe bowls have forms typical of the period c 1730-1780 with short circular heels. Both have the makers' initials on either side of the heel, legible as 'CW' on one and less certainly as 'BC' (or 'RC'?) on the other. No attempt has been made to identify these marks. The other two pipe bowls are slender forward-leaning types of c 1680-1710. One has a small circular heel and the other a short forward-projecting spur with a discontinuous band of milling behind the bowl rim.

Brick by Alison deTurbeville

Introduction and methodology

- 3.2.5 A total of 14 brick samples were recovered from eight different contexts. Of the total samples, 10 were of a size suitable for further analysis and the results are discussed within this assessment report and are also listed in the catalogue below. Four samples were either too small or had no finished surfaces.
- 3.2.6 All the large or whole samples were individually examined for striations and imprints, mortar, size, inclusions and colour. The sizes and description were compared to dated brick samples using the Hampton Court brick typology devised by Daphne Ford in 1991 for English Heritage. A further discussion on the typology is included below.

Date and nature of the assemblage

- 3.2.7 The majority of the brick samples within the assemblage are whole bricks, which enabled some comparison to the brick typology. The bricks are all clearly post-medieval in date, unfrosted and rose, red, brown or orange coloured. The majority of the brick samples had traces of lime mortar with variation in the type and amount of inclusions and the depth of the cream/white colour.

*Brick descriptions*

- 3.2.8 Structure 103 yielded two different brick samples. One, measuring 220 x 100 x 58mm, was pale pink/rose coloured with defined arrises and fairly even surfaces. It does not exactly match a brick type on the typology but is clearly of 18th century date. The other brick was orange coloured with a smooth upper face and rough underside and uneven and undefined arrises. It measured 209 x 92 x 55mm and appeared to be of 16th-17th century date. The header measurement is, however, very small when compared to the typology measurements, indicating how difficult it is to allocate type according to size.
- 3.2.9 Three whole bricks were recovered from structure 105. These bricks were orange/rose or rose coloured and measured 220-228 x 100-105 x 58-64mm. They were clearly handmade with smooth upper faces and some visible strike markings and defined, but not sharp, arrises. The mortar was dark cream coloured with lime inclusions and a gritty texture. These bricks have the appearance of late 17th-18th century bricks, but an exact type could not be determined. They are closest in size and description to Types G and H.
- 3.2.10 Two bricks from wall foundation 107 were unusual as they were clearly late 17-18th century in date but had large amounts of a grey concrete mortar. Measuring 225 x 98-101 x 62mm and dark orange in colour, the bricks had traces of a pale coloured lime mortar indicating they had either been reset or reused, probably sometime in the 19th century.
- 3.2.11 Some fragmentary samples were recovered from wall foundation 107, the fill for a mortar foundation, one of which was clearly a 16th century brick (possibly Types A-E). Structures 131, 132 and deposit 135 all yielded brick fragments, but these were mostly without enough indicators to enable dating. Two partial bricks recovered from structure 102 could also not be definitely dated.

Comparison with the Hampton Court Brick Typology

- 3.2.12 Some bricks appeared to match types shown on the typology, but the majority of the fragments could not be accurately dated when compared to the typology. Overall, the brick typology is a very useful tool and, as a complete study of Hampton Court Palace, is invaluable to our understanding of the associated buildings and construction phases. However, it was found that there are limitations when using it to identify excavated brickwork without a historical context, particularly on mixed assemblages such as this. Within an elevation the differences between the different brick types are clearer when seen in combination with the associated mortar type and bond.

Ceramic building material (excluding bricks) by Alison deTurbeville

- 3.2.13 A total of four fragments of tile were recovered, with the majority coming from levelling deposit (101). The largest is a fragment of glazed floor tile, 21mm thick, with traces of lime mortar on the underside. Two fragments were roof tile with squared nail holes and traces of lime mortar on the underside. Two remaining fragments were of a composite slag and although technically not CBM, are listed here to highlight the varied nature of the back-fill.
- 3.2.14 A further section of roof tile was recovered from context (107), again with lime mortar traces on the underside.

**Animal bone by Lena Strid**

- 3.2.15 Two bones were recovered from layer 101, comprising a sheep femur, with a fusing proximal end, and a cattle femur, proximal end unfused.

Flint by Geraldine Crann

- 3.2.16 The single flint from context (101) can be classified as an undatable prehistoric debitage flake. It was a heavily rolled flake with much post-depositional damage, on mottled pale-grey flint, and weighed 17g. The small quantity of worked flint limits the interpretation of the material, beyond illustrating a human presence in the local area during the prehistoric period. prehistoric finds from the area.

Shell by Geraldine Crann

- 3.2.17 Two oyster shells were recovered from context 101: a complete left valve and a fragment from a right valve.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The archaeology of the Vrow Walk Gate area can be summarised into a number of phases. To the west of the gate, beyond the palace boundary, little archaeology remained due to modern truncation. However, there was evidence of a significant levelling event during the 18th century, represented by layer 101 and dated by clay pipes of a very 'fresh condition' dating from c 1730-1780. This would be broadly contemporary with the construction during the 18th century of the gates that led into the nearly formed Palace Kitchen Gardens, including Vrow Walk Gate itself. Brick structures 131 and 132 indicated the possibility that a contemporary brick path lead from the Vrow Walk gateway to Vrow Walk.
- 4.1.2 Within the palace boundary a longer and more coherent archaeological sequence was uncovered. The depth and stratigraphic position of demolition deposits 110 and 130 within Area E suggest that they occurred early, presumably dating from before the establishment of the kitchen gardens in the late 17th or early 18th century, which are represented by the overlying soil layer 127. The deposits clearly represent a significant building or demolition phase, and are likely to be associated with Henry VIII's Tiltyard. Anthonis van den Wyngaerde's view of Hampton Court from 1558-62 (Fig. 6) shows a number of entrances and structures along either side of the western boundary wall of the Tiltyard, and it seems likely that the deposits may relate to the levelling of these structures. No relationship was seen between the demolition deposits and layer 110, which was thought to be a buried subsoil, although it is possible the two were contemporary and part of the same dumping episode.
- 4.1.3 The structures found in Areas D and E posed some interesting questions pertaining to the original construction of Vrows Walk Gate. Structures 102-104 are clearly contemporary and abutting the existing gate and this is confirmed by the date of a brick sample obtained from structure 103 which is no earlier than 18th century in date. On John Rocque's plan of 1736 (Fig. 7), an opening is clear in the current location, although there is no detail. A plan of Hampton Court by an unknown hand in the office of works, c 1714 (Fig. 8), shows no entrance at the location of the existing Vrow Walk Gate but does show the new layout of the kitchen garden, believed to date from the late



17th century (OA 2010). This evidence therefore suggests that the gateway was installed between 1714 and 1736. It is therefore probably that structure 102-104 formed an early addition to the gate, perhaps supporting a door jamb.

- 4.1.4 The square structure (136) within the entrance may derive from a small gatehouse or a brick entrance. However, from the evidence of the very limited remains this is purely speculative. The narrow opening on the east side suggests it was for pedestrian access. Although not directly dated, it would seem from its position immediately behind the gate that the two structures may have been contemporary. However, 18th century and 19th century maps do not depict such a structure in this position and it is therefore probably of more recent date. It could relate to the early 20th century use of the area as pleasure gardens, perhaps representing the footings of a flimsy structure such as a timber-built kiosk.
- 4.1.5 Deposit 127, a thick homogeneous soil that overlay this horizon, would seem likely to have formed during the use of the area as the kitchen gardens. It was through this soil that the footings of the 17th century kitchen garden wall were cut, forming the dividing wall between the two most north-westerly gardens. The date of the wall was confirmed by a brick sample that was attributed to the late 17th or early 18th century. The footings were subsequently reused as the footings for the existing 19th century garden wall.
- 4.1.6 Beneath the existing pathway to the east of the gate were the fragmented remains of at least three paths that overlay the demolished remains of the possible kiosk, showing a continued resurfacing of the paths. To the west of the gate was a brick path of uncertain date.
- 4.1.7 The latest phase prior to the current construction work consisted of the construction of the current toilet block, with its associated paths and services and the construction of the car park in the 1930s overlying the south-western garden.
- 4.1.8 South of the garden wall, in Area H, archaeological levels were only exposed in Trench 11, which revealed a similar sequence of deposits to that to the north, including deposits probably pertaining to the Tiltyard (110 and 135) overlain by a garden soil (111) that is likely to date from when area formed part of the kitchen gardens.



APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth (M)	Width (M)	Length (M)	Comments	Finds	Date
100	Layer	0.2	6.7	5.5	Topsoil/Turf		Modern
101	Layer	>0.4	>10.4	9.1	Levelling		C18/19th
102	Wall	0.2	0.35	0.39	Northern plinth		
103	Wall	0.2	0.32	0.4	Southern plinth		
104	Wall	0.2	0.33	2.25	Wall infill		
105	Wall	0.55	0.45	>9	Garden wall		c. 1700
106	Wall	0.55	0.45	>9	Garden wall		c. 1700
107	Fill	>0.3	0.7	>9	Mortar foundation		c. 1700
108	Wall	N/A	0.45	>9	Garden wall		c. 1830
109	Layer	>0.2	>1.4	>1.2	Demolition		
110	Layer	0.52	>20	>20	Buried subsoil		
111	Layer	0.4	N/A	N/A	Garden topsoil		Modern
112	Cut	N/A	N/A	N/A	Construction cut		
113	Layer	0.2	N/A	N/A	Tarmac roadway		Modern
114	Layer	0.3	N/A	N/A	Make-up for concrete		Modern
115	Layer	0.15	N/A	N/A	Tarmac pathway		Modern
116	Layer	0.15	3.6	>12	Make up for tarmac		C20th
117	Layer	0.15	3.6	>12	Pathway surface		
118	Cut	0.3	3.8	>12	Cut for pathway		
119	Wall	N/A	N/A	N/A	Vrow walk wall		-1500
120	Layer	>0.2	N/A	N/A	Levelling beneath 104		
121	Layer	N/A	N/A	N/A	Natural		
122	Layer	0.15	3.6	>8	Pathway surface		
123	Layer	0.08	N/A	N/A	Levelling		
124	Layer	0.1	N/A	N/A	Levelling		
125	Layer	0.06	N/A	N/A	Levelling		
126	Layer	0.12	N/A	N/A	Levelling		
127	Layer	0.4	4.2	>12	Buried topsoil		
128	Layer	0.07	N/A	N/A	Levelling		
129	Layer	0.1	N/A	N/A	Levelling/Surface		
130	Layer	0.2	>3.5	>6	Demolition		
131	Layer	N/A	>0.3	>3.8	Brick pathway?		
132	Layer	N/A	0.4	2.6	Brick pathway?		
133	Layer	0.1	N/A	N/A	Car park tarmac		Modern
134	Layer	0.25	N/A	N/A	Car park make-up		Modern
135	Layer	0.06	>1.3	>1.8	Demolition		
136	Wall	0.05	2.5	3.3	'Gatehouse' foundation		



APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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**APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

Site name:	Vrow Walk, Hampton Court Palace
Site code:	HCP85
Grid reference:	Centred at NGR TQ 15506 68671
Type of watching brief:	General site reduction and service trenches associated with the construction of a new exit from the upper car park to Hampton Court Road
Date and duration of project:	December 2011-January 2012
Area of site:	70m ²
Summary of results:	Rubble deposits probably pertaining to the use or clearance of Henry VIII's Tiltyard were revealed in several foundation trenches and were overlain by garden soils that probably date from the use of the area as kitchen gardens from the late 17th century. The existing 19th century wall that delimits the southern extent of the garden was shown to be have been founded upon an earlier wall of late 17th or 18th century date. A small rectangular structure that was found extending back from the existing Vrow Walk Gateway may date to the early 20th century, when the area was used as a pleasure garden.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at Oxford Archaeology and will in due course be deposited with Historic Royal Palaces under accession number HCP085.

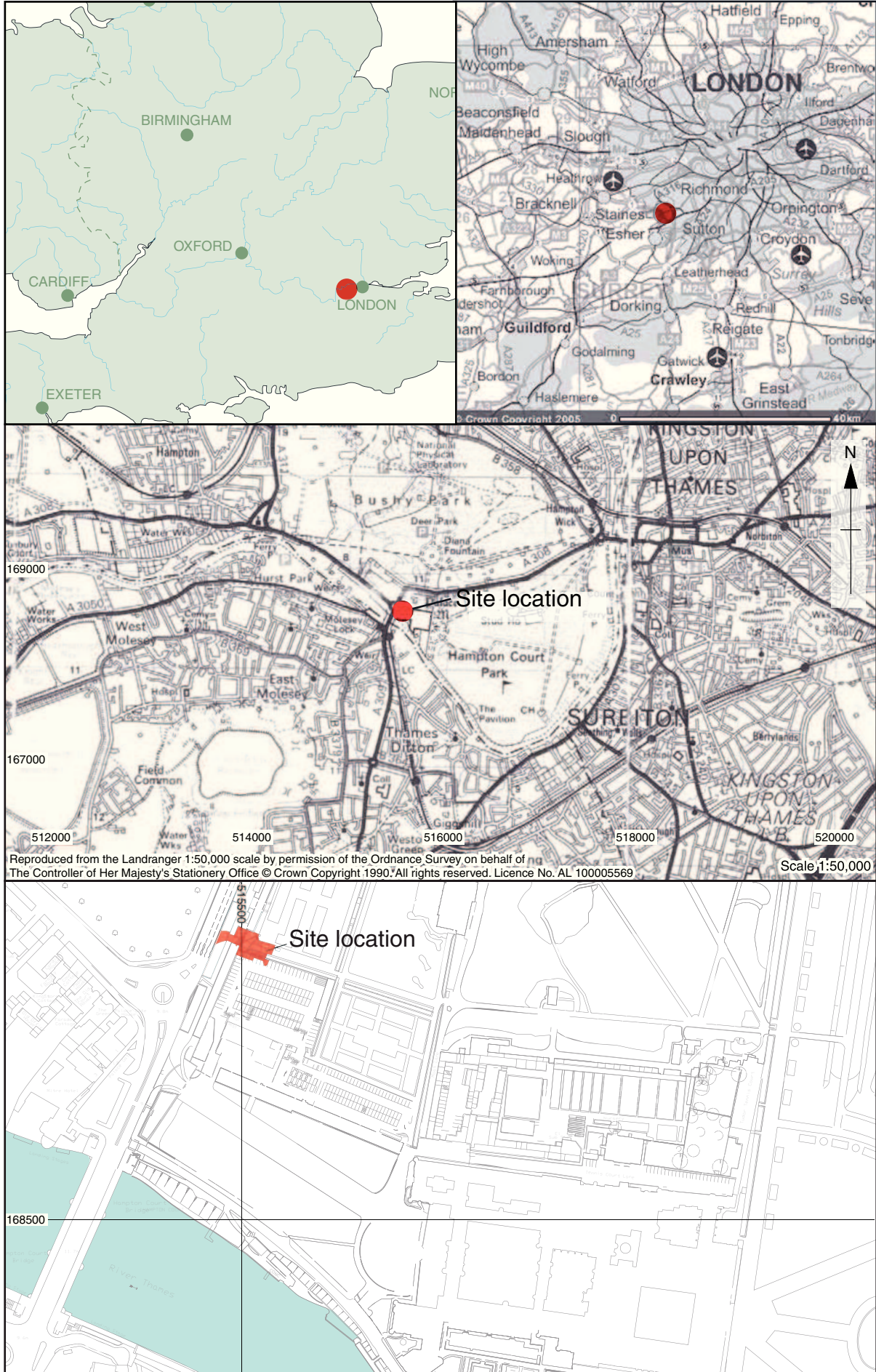


Figure 1: Site location



Figure 2: Plan of areas, trenches and service trenches

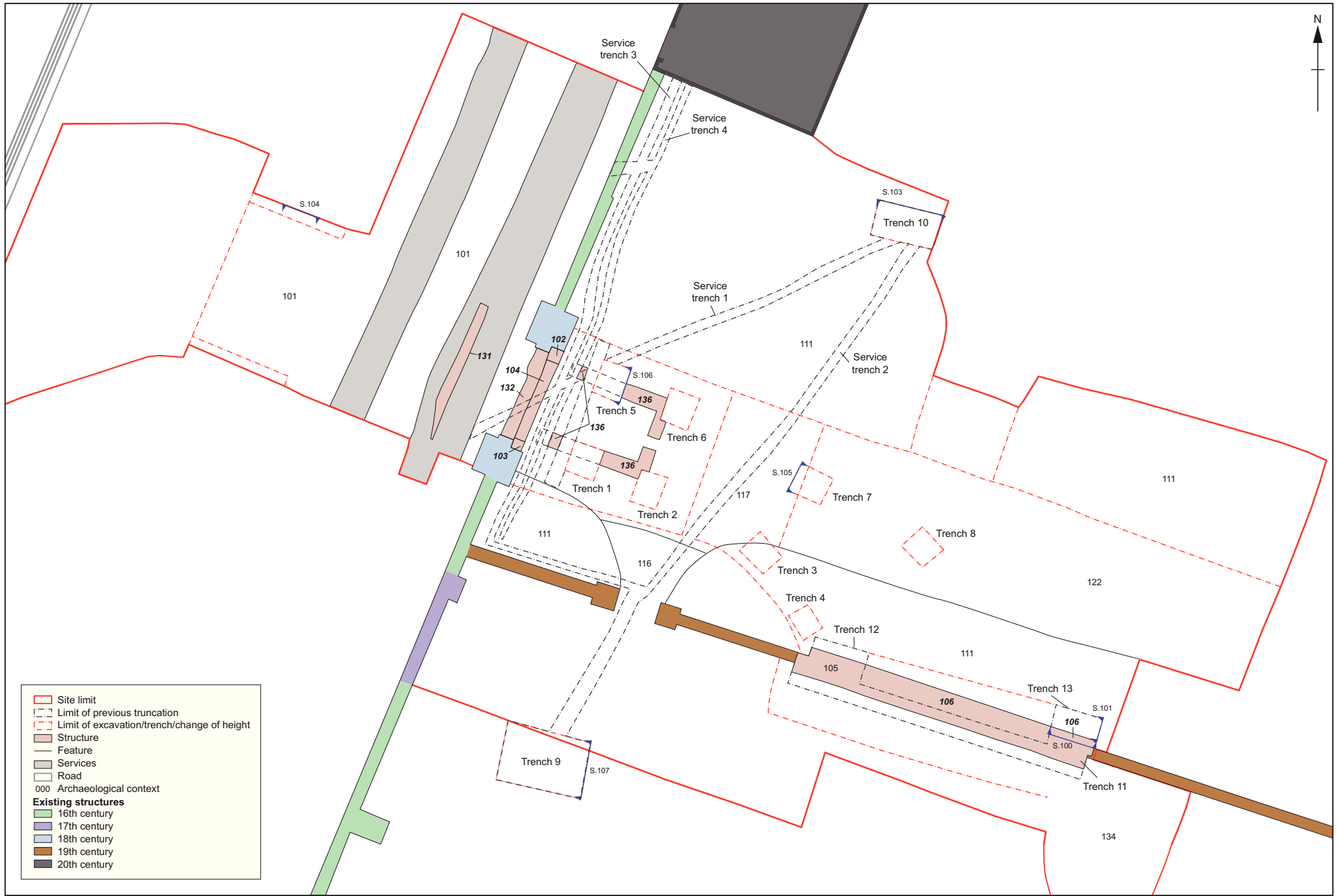
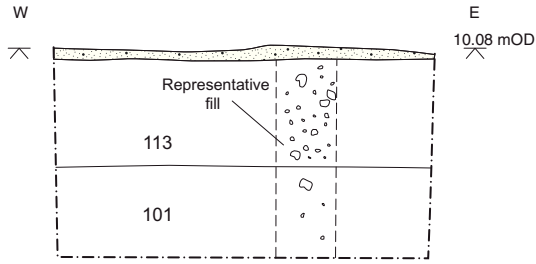
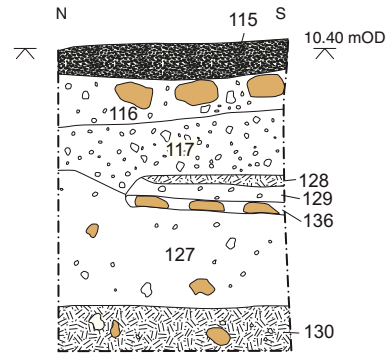


Figure 3: Plan of final reduction of site archaeology

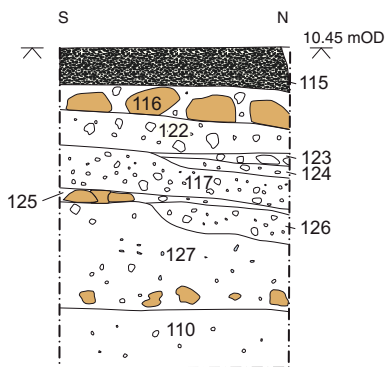
Section 104, Area B



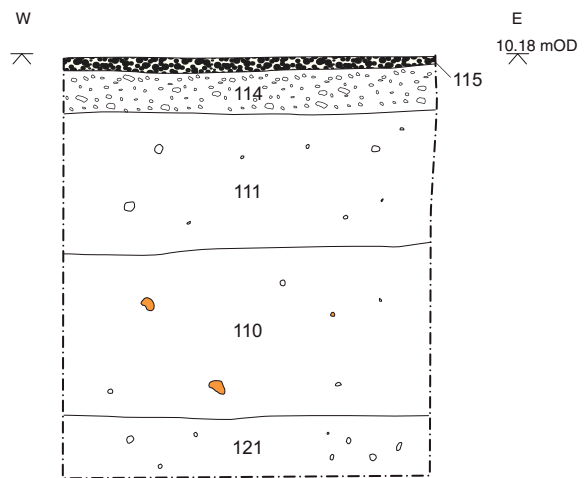
Section 106, Trench 5



Section 105, Trench 7



Section 103, Trench 10










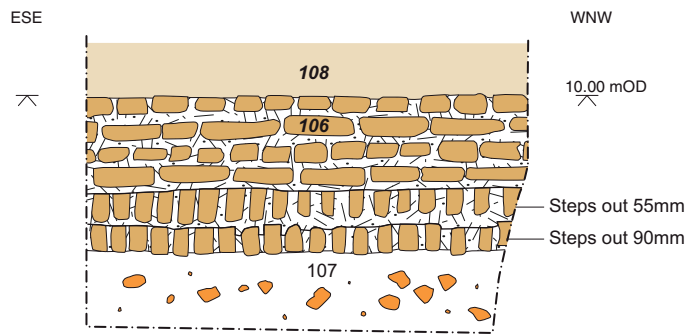
-  Tarmac
-  Stones/pebbles
-  Ceramic building material
-  Gravel pavement surface
-  Brick
-  Mortar
-  Shells

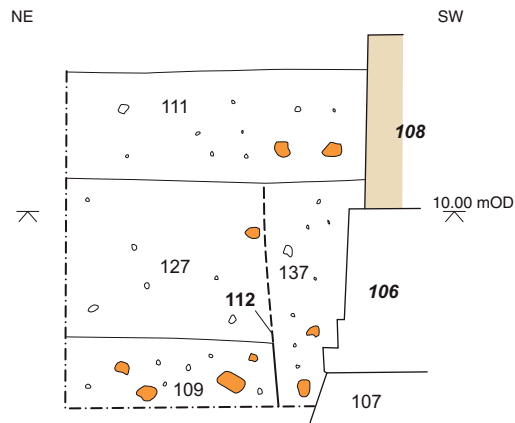


Figure 4: Sections 104, 106, 105 and 103

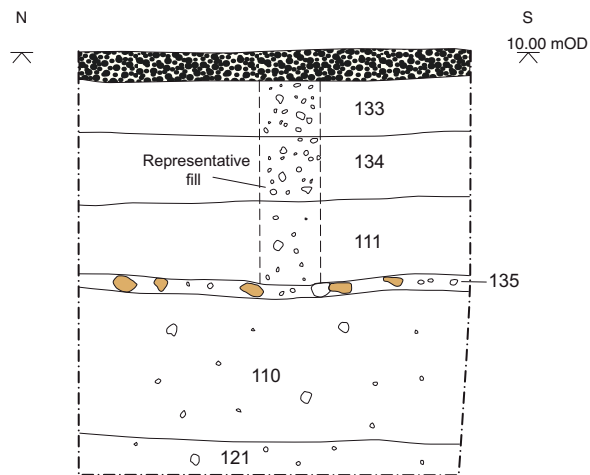
Section 100, Trench 13









Section 101, Trench 13



Section 107, Trench 9



-  Wall (partially demolished)
-  Brick
-  Mortar
-  Ceramic building material
-  Tarmac
-  Stones/pebbles



Figures 5: Sections 100, 101 and 107



Plate 1 - Machine excavation in Area C exposing modern services .
The roadside verge (Area A) and Vrow Walk (Area B) can be seen in the background



Plate 2 - View through the break in the 19th century garden wall toward Vrow Walk Gate during the groundwork. Upper Car Park (Area H) is the left and the walkway



Plate 3 - Structures 102, 103 and 104 exposed within Vrow Walk Gate , Area D



Plate 4 - Brick surface 132 exposed within Vrow Walk Gate, Area D



Plate 5 - Structure 136, exposed during ground reduction in the walkway immediately inside Vrow Walk Gate, Area E



Plate 6 - Trench 5, Area E



Plate 7 - Trench 10, Area E



Plate 8 - Wall 106 exposed beneath the existing 19th century garden wall in Trench 11, Area E



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