

St Dunstan's Church Cranford Park London Borough of Hillingdon



Archaeological Watching
Brief Report



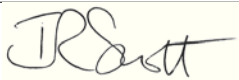
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New Vestry, St Dunstan's Church, Cranford Park, Hillingdon

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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Summary

In June and July 2013 Oxford Archaeology (OA) undertook an archaeological investigation at St Dunstan's Church, Cranford Park, Hillingdon, Middlesex (NGR: TQ 1016 7818) during the construction of a new vestry.

The investigation observed deep deposits of churchyard soil together with associated grave cuts. These had been sealed below spreads of construction debris probably originating from the rebuilding of the nave in 1716, the 19th century restoration and the construction of the old vestry in the early 20th century.

Evidence for the occupation of the nearby Manor house in the form of domestic debris dating between the 13th and 17th centuries was recovered together with a piece of worked flint suggesting prehistoric activity in the area, but no evidence was observed for any earlier phases of the church's construction or for occupation of the site prior to the church's construction.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA), was commissioned by Ian Angus of Carden and Godfrey Architects to undertake test pit excavations, building recording and an archaeological watching brief at St Dunstan's Church, Cranford Park, Middlesex, as part of the demolition of the existing vestry and construction of a replacement.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken in order to meet the requirements of the Diocesan Archaeological Adviser and the Local Planning Archaeologist for the London Borough of Hillingdon. Discussions with Geoffrey Hunter, Head of Care of Churches, Robert Whytehead (Diocesan Archaeological Advisor for London) and Sandy Kidd (Planning Archaeologist for London Borough of Hillingdon) have established the scope of work required; OA produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailing works to implement those requirements (OA, 2012a).
- 1.1.3 All work was to be undertaken in accordance with local and national planning policies (specifically NPPF Section 12 and local polices).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies within the churchyard of St Dunstan's Church, Cranford Park in the London Borough of Hillingdon, (NGR TQ 10118 78178). St Dunstan's Church is located south of the M4 motorway, by junction 3, and west of the Parkway A312. It is bordered by the access road to the south with open agricultural land beyond that; to the west, north and east the area is woodland.
- 1.2.2 The site lies on an area with two different geologies. Upper deposits of brickearth across the area overlie the drift geology deposits. To the north the drift geology is of the Taplow Gravel Formation (fluvial sands and gravels) formed up to 2 million years ago in the Pleistocene Period. To the south the drift geology consists of the Langley Silt Member (wind blown clays and silts). These both overlie the solid geology of the London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand) formed approximately 34 to 55 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period, (British Geological Survey; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>).



1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following background has been prepared with reference to Cherry and Pevsner (1991), St Dunstan's church guides (1938 and undated), the Victoria County History (VCH) volume for Middlesex and listed building (2012) and RCHME (1937) entries.
- 1.3.2 The parish of Cranford is first mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and a priest is mentioned in association with it, which suggests a church existed. Originally the church was dedicated to St John the Baptist, with Cranford being referred to as 'Cranford St John'. During the medieval period the church was re-dedicated to St Dunstan (Abbot of Glastonbury, Bishop of Winchester, Bishop of London and Archbishop of Canterbury during the 10th century). There are records of the advowson (the right in English law of a patron to present, to the Diocesan Bishop, a nominee for appointment to a vacant ecclesiastical benefice or church living). In 1217 this was held by Roger of Cranford, by 1231 the advowson was held by John de Masey and his wife Aveline.
- 1.3.3 In 1287 the Knights Templar acquired the presentation, with some land, from Simon and Euphemia Weyf of Acton (VCH 1962). The advowson passed to the king following confiscation of Templar's lands in 1308. The first recorded rector was Walter de Sutton in 1310.
- 1.3.4 There are records of Roger Northburgh, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield presenting a priest to the living in 1333. By 1363 the advowson had come into the hands of the Prior of the Knights of St John who held it until the Dissolution. With the dissolution of Religious Houses by Henry VIII, the Cranford Park Estate and advowson were given by the King to Henry, Lord Windsor, and it remained within the family until 1604. In 1604 the estate was purchased by Sir Roger Aston, one of King James' ministers. In 1618 the manor was purchased by Elizabeth Lady Berkeley, in whose estate it has remained to the present day. This is with the exception of the adjacent mansion which was demolished in 1939, leaving only the 18th century stables to the west of the church.
- 1.3.5 St Dunstan's Church is a Grade II* Listed Building, English Heritage listed Building No. 202944; first listed in 1949 (<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-202944-church-of-st-dunstan-hayes>).
- 1.3.6 The listed building entry describes the church as being probably 13th century with a 15th century tower, an early 18th nave and 20th century vestry. The nave and chancel are separate (both under pitched roofs), with the tower to the west and the modern vestry to the north-west. There are four vaults under the church, including a 17th century vault in the chancel to the Berkeley family, one to the Gregory family (in the nave and dating to 1780) and two others near the church doors (VCH 1962).
- 1.3.7 While the exterior of St Dunstan's is relatively modest in design and scale, the interior is of particular interest because there is a medieval wall painting of early 14th century and 15th century date, a variety of quality fixtures and fittings and an impressive collection of monuments, dating from the early 17th century onwards.
- 1.3.8 A blocked lancet in the chancel is probably 13th century, and possibly also the chancel. Although the majority of the tower (excluding the belfry level) dates to the 15th century, restoration works, undertaken in 2006, determined that the ceiling is medieval. Elements dating to the 16th and 17th centuries include a priest's doorway in the north-east corner of the chancel, which was unblocked and made into a window during early 20th century restorations (Church of St Dunstan 1938) and the monuments in the chancel. The monuments include one in marble to Elizabeth, Lady Berkeley (died 1636) and one to the Aston family by William Cure, which was erected by 1613, (VCH 1962) and shows the figures of Sir Roger Aston, his two wives, four daughters, and infant son.



Also in the chancel are tablets to Thomas Fuller (died 1661) and Sir Charles Scarborough (died 1693). On the south wall are two large matching tablets erected c. 1700 to the 8th Lord Berkeley (died 1658) and the 1st earl (died 1698).

- 1.3.9 Eighteenth century elements of the church include brick buttresses, which were probably added before the 18th century. The belfry, also in brick, was added in 1716. The nave, also perhaps of the 15th century, was destroyed by fire in 1710, which also damaged the tower and the chancel arch. The nave was rebuilt in brick by Elizabeth, Countess Dowager of Berkeley, in 1716. It comprises two bays and has round-headed windows and a south doorway with stone quoins, voussoirs and cornice. The marble font was given to the church in 1716, also by Lady Berkeley.
- 1.3.10 In 1895 the church was extensively restored by J L Pearson. The tie-beam roof on the nave was renewed, the gallery was removed, and the vestry was added against the north wall of the tower (Church of St Dunstan 1938). According to parish records the tower was rebuilt in 1940.
- 1.3.11 In 1936-7 there were further extensive restorations (by Martin Travers) during which the church was entirely closed. The present gallery was erected, the chancel was restored, and the remains of a 15th-century fresco was discovered over the east window. The vestry to the north-west is a 1950s addition, probably replacing a late 19th century one. The church was still lit by gaslight in 1958. The chancel ceiling was restored in 2006 and was found to be of medieval date.
- 1.3.12 In terms of documents and other artefacts associated with St Dunstan's Church there are baptism and marriage registers dating from 1564. The burial register dates from 1566. The ancient plate consists of a chalice and paten (1639), a flagon (1649), and two patens (1650 and 1698), (RCHME 1937,12).

Previous Work

- 1.3.13 VCH (1962) records that the earlier restoration works of 1936-37 involved opening vaults in order to strengthen the church floor. The bodies within the vaults were reburied in the churchyard, but it is not clear whether this included all or selected vaults or parts of vaults.
- 1.3.14 The later works in the 20th century included the addition / replacement of the vestry and the restoration of the ceiling.
- 1.3.15 A watching brief was undertaken by MoLAS in 1996 as part of drainage works excavated around the perimeter of the church. Pottery was recovered from one of the contexts dated to 1230-1650. There was evidence to suggest that there was a soil horizon that had been present since at least the early medieval period, though it had been disturbed by later phases of rebuilding and alteration. The foundations of the 18th century nave, seen as greensand blocks, appeared to demonstrate reuse of earlier building material (MoLAS 1996). Two vaults, both of brick, were seen up against the north wall of the nave. One had been demolished and backfilled with concrete rubble in the recent past, while the other was incorporated into the nave structure and seemed to be occupied (MoLAS 1996).
- 1.3.16 Excavation of a test pit by OA in 2012 on the western edge of the churchyard revealed deep deposits of post-medieval made ground probably relating to the construction of the stable block abutting the churchyard (OA, 2012b)

Potential



- 1.3.17 There is moderate potential for significant non-burial archaeology to be encountered during the proposed works. This may include structural elements from the various phases of the church's construction and alteration. There may also be deposits and features related to the occupation and use of the church. There may be a range of finds of all artefact classes, in particular pottery, which is durable.
- 1.3.18 There is a high potential for disarticulated and articulated human remains to be encountered. These will comprise discrete, undisturbed burials and charnel from previous disturbances in the churchyard (for example, as a result of alterations to the church and/or burial activity). Funerary remains, such as gravestones, coffins and burial structures (for example, brick shaft graves and vaults) may also be encountered.

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The work was undertaken in two parts; following the demolition of the existing vestry, two test pits were excavated in order to determine the underlying strata and if possible to identify the depth of any burials within the footprint of the new extension. This information would then be used, if necessary, to revise the foundation design for the new build.
- 2.1.2 After the excavation of the test pits, and following the approval of the foundation design, the construction of the new build was started. OA then conducted an archaeological watching brief during this phase of work which included ground reduction within the footprint of the new vestry, drilling of the piles and the excavation of the associated service trenches.
- 2.1.3 The aims of the two phases of investigation were:

Test Pits

- To identify if any graves, or burial structures, may be shown to lie where the previous and proposed extensions are, within the limitations of the test pits,
- To explore the presence, depth and concentration of burials in the development area;
- To establish the degree of likely disturbance to burials, or any other archaeology, caused by the proposed development,
- To inform all concerned parties of the results,
- To consider any appropriate mitigation strategies.

Watching brief

- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains affected by the proposed works and allow for the preservation by record of any such remains whose presence and nature could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other potentially disruptive works.
- To signal, before the destruction of the material in question, the discovery of a significant archaeological find, including burials, for which the resources allocated are not sufficient to support a treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard. All



groundworks will be halted until the remains have been suitably investigated and dealt with by the attending archaeologist,

- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features within the site and to take samples where appropriate.
- To make available the results of the investigation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The test pits each measured 1.5m x 1m in size and were excavated by a small tracked excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under archaeological supervision. Excavation proceeded down to a maximum depth of 1m or until the first archaeological horizon was encountered. Hand cleaning was then used to establish the nature of the findings and where possible to collect dating evidence.
- 2.2.2 The watching brief was undertaken as a continuous archaeological presence during those works likely to disturb or destroy any potential archaeological deposits. These works included the ground reduction within the footprint of the new vestry by machine, the drilling of the 13 piles using a flight auger and the excavation of a service trench, connecting the new vestry to the main services opposite the Lynch Gate, using a mixture of machine and hand excavation.
- 2.2.3 All excavation and recording in both phases of work followed procedures detailed in the *OA Fieldwork Manual* (OAU 1992). Archaeological features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. A plan of the excavations was maintained at a scale of 1:20 and any recorded sections were drawn at 1:20. A photograph record consisting of black and white negative and colour digital photographs was maintained.
- 2.2.4 In addition, any buried human skeletal remains encountered were processed in accordance with the Church of England and English Heritage guidelines: *Guidance for the Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England*, published 2005.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Description of deposits

The Test Pits

- 3.1.1 These were located on the centre line of the footprint of the new vestry (Fig. 3). Test Pit 1 was sited to the north of the old vestry on a grassed part of the churchyard, within the footprint of the new construction, while Test Pit 2 was situated within the centre of the old vestry. They were excavated following the methods detailed in paragraph 2.2.1.

Test Pit 1

- 3.1.2 This was machine excavated to a depth of 1m below the level of the current churchyard. Exposed within the base of the pit was a layer of dull orange-brown silty clay (14) (Fig. 4, Section 10). This deposit produced occasional angular fragments of a red clay tile.
- 3.1.3 Lying directly above 14 was a 0.2m deep layer of mid brown silty clay containing many angular fragments of both red clay tile and also brick (13). This had been covered by a layer of light brown silty clay, 0.16m in depth containing flecks of lime mortar and small abraded fragments of a red clay tile (12).



- 3.1.4 Overlying 12 was a 0.12m deep layer of grey-brown clayey silt loam (11), which produced many sub-angular fragments of brick tile and limestone. This had been sealed by the present day topsoil and turf, a 0.22m deep layer of dark grey-brown clayey loam containing occasional angular fragments of both brick and tile (10).
- 3.1.5 Undisturbed deposits were not encountered within the pit.

Test Pit 2

- 3.1.6 This was sited within the northern end of the old vestry. The floor level of the old vestry at this point was approximately 0.36m below the level of the churchyard. It was decided to excavate the pit to a depth of 1m below the vestry floor rather than 1m below the level of the churchyard.
- 3.1.7 At a depth of 0.8m a human inhumation was encountered and machine excavation was stopped. The pit was then hand dug to its full 1m depth. (Fig. 4, Sections 20 and 21).
- 3.1.8 Exposed within the base of the pit was a layer of dull orange brown silty clay (23), this is similar to, and a probable continuation of, layer 14 observed within Test Pit 1. Overlying this was a 0.2m deep layer of dull brown silty clay with occasional angular fragments of red clay tile (22), a probable continuation of layer 13.
- 3.1.9 Cut from the top of layer 22 was an approximately 0.6m wide by 0.4m deep rectangular cut (26). Only 0.5m length of the western end of this feature was exposed within the confines of the test pit which could be seen to have been backfilled with a dark brown silty clay, (25), which produced small fragments of clay tile and the tip of a flint blade. Cleaning of the feature showed it to contain an inhumation of an adult female, (24) but no coffin was observed. Due to the limits of the test pit only the head and shoulders could be examined. The inhumation was left *in situ* following cleaning and subsequently reburied when the test pit was backfilled.
- 3.1.10 Sealing the backfill of the grave and overlying layer 22 elsewhere was a 0.42m deep layer of loosely compacted construction debris (21). This was composed of a mixture of soils together with lime mortar and numerous small to medium sized fragments of red clay brick and peg tiles. The brick floor to the old vestry consisting of two layers of brick had been laid upon this deposit (20). The two layers were oriented at 90° to each other and used shallow frogged hand moulded bricks, 0.22m x 0.115m x 0.07m in size, bonded with a pale cream lime mortar.
- 3.1.11 The underlying natural deposits were not encountered.

The New Construction

- 3.1.12 The excavations for the new vestry included the reduction in ground level of an area 9.4m x 6.3m in size to a depth of 0.9m below the level of the current churchyard (Fig.3). The results of the test pitting indicate that this level of impact would be above the depth of burial at approximately 1.2m below churchyard level.
- 3.1.13 The reduction was carried out using a tracked excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under archaeological supervision, with the material being removed in approximate 0.1m spits.
- 3.1.14 Exposed throughout the base of the reduced area was a dull orange-brown silty clay (36). This was same as layers 14 and 23 recorded within the test pits. Exposed within the surface of this deposit were several east-west aligned rectangular grave cuts (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, Section 31). These varied from 0.55m to 0.75m in width and 1.6m to 1.8m in length. The features were similar and a sample description can be applied to all. The



feature (38) could be seen to have vertical sides and to be in excess of 0.3m in depth (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, Section 31). Backfilling it was a grey-brown clayey silt containing angular fragments of red roof tile and gravel inclusions (37).

- 3.1.15 Sealing the features was a 0.32m deep layer of mid orange-brown silty clay (35). This layer produced small angular fragments of both brick and tile together with occasional charcoal flecking. Its composition indicates that it is the same as, and a continuation of, layer 13.
- 3.1.16 Above layer 35 was a layer of grey-brown clayey silt loam 0.12m in depth (34) containing gravel inclusions and small angular fragments of red tile and limestone identical to those within layer 11. Overlying 34 was the present day topsoil and turf, 0.25m in depth (33), a continuation of layer 10.
- 3.1.17 Cutting through layer 33 was the foundation cut for the walls of the old vestry (39). This measured 0.62m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of approximately 1m below the level of the existing churchyard. Constructed within this trench were the foundations supporting the old vestry walls (Fig. 4, Section 30). At the base of the foundations was a layer of green sandstone blocks approximately 0.3m x 0.25m x 0.2m in size (32), laid without mortar. Above these stones was a layer of weakly bonded demolition debris within a lime mortar matrix (31). The demolition material consisted almost entirely of broken roof tile, a plain red clay peg tile estimated to be 0.25m by 0.15m in size, together with lumps of mortar.
- 3.1.18 Built directly upon this conglomeration was the vestry wall (30). This was brick built using a dark red hand moulded brick 0.218m x 0.105m x 0.64m in size bonded with a pale cream coloured lime mortar. These had been laid using English Stretcher bond with two toes or steps at the base of the wall. On the interior of the vestry, both layer 21 and the floor surface 20 butted up to the foundations.

Installation of the piles

- 3.1.19 Following the completion of the ground reduction a series of thirteen 0.2m diameter piles, each over 4m in depth were drilled. The location of the piles in relation to the possible grave cuts observed suggested that the impact would be minimal and it would not be necessary to resite any of the piles.
- 3.1.20 The piles were installed using a small rotary piling rig which used a flight auger to drill the holes for the pile lining. A watching brief was conducted to monitor the upcast from the holes.
- 3.1.21 The underlying London Clay was encountered at a depth of 3.9m below the level of the churchyard. This was overlain by a 1.5m deep band of terrace gravels. Above the gravels was a 0.5m thick layer of a dark orange brown sandy clay alluvium, the top of the undisturbed natural. Layer 36 directly overlaid this deposit and be seen to measure between 0.5m and 0.75m in depth below the level of the ground reduction, giving a total depth of between 0.9m and 1.15m. Undiagnostic fragments of bone were recovered from the upcast of Pile No. 4.

Service trenching

- 3.1.22 The original plans for the new building intended to utilise a soak-a-way pit to dispose of the rain water, the final plan combined this with the foul water drain within a single trench. This was dug from the south-west corner of the new building and ran alongside the existing pathway, through the Lynch Gate and connected with the main sewer in the roadway outside the church's boundary (Fig. 3). The trenching measured 1.5m at its



deepest point as it connected with the main sewer, rising to a level of approximately 0.6m deep at the wall of the new building.

- 3.1.23 The connection to the main sewer was within redeposited material used to backfill the pipe trench and undisturbed deposits were not observed. The route of the pipe from the connection to the north side of the Lynch Gate was tunneled in order to preserve the stone paving slabs forming part of the Lynch gates construction.
- 3.1.24 The stratigraphy observed within the 35m length of open trenching forming the remainder of the connection was broadly similar throughout its length.
- 3.1.25 The dark orange-brown silty clay (36) was exposed within the base of the trench along its length (Fig. 4, Sections 32 and 33), with depths in excess of 0.45m being recorded. Above layer 36 was a continuation of the lighter orange-brown silty clay, 35, measuring between 0.25m and 0.3m in depth.
- 3.1.26 Within the area of paving surrounding the steps leading down the tower doorway (Section 32) a 0.1m deep bed of cement mortar (40) had been laid directly upon layer 35. This supported the York Stone paving slabs (not shown).
- 3.1.27 Elsewhere layer 35 was overlain by a 0.1m deep layer of grey-brown clayey silt loam mixed with angular pieces of broken stone and tile. This is similar to and a probable continuation of layer 34 (Section 33).
- 3.1.28 A 0.22m deep layer of the present day topsoil and turf, 33, completed the section.

3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 The artefacts recovered during the course of the watching brief consisted mostly of fragments and red clay roof tile with a smaller number of fragments of brick. This was recovered from layers 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 23, 34, 35 and 36. A representative sample (<1%) of the material was retained.
- 3.2.2 A much smaller quantity of animal bone and pottery together with coffin fittings and disarticulated human bone was recovered from layer 36. A single fragment of worked flint was recovered from the backfill, 25, within grave 26. The human bone was re-interred on site, while the remainder was retained.

3.3 Environmental remains

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the watching brief.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 While the underlying natural deposits were not exposed during the course of the excavations, the drilling of the piles showed that undisturbed alluvial deposits started at a depth of between 1.7m and 2m below the current churchyard level.
- 4.1.2 Overlying this was the churchyard soil 36 (also 14 and 23). This was formed over a period of time as the ground was disturbed by a succession of adjacent and possibly intercutting grave cuts. This activity has mixed the soil to such an extent that it has become almost impossible to distinguish between individual grave cuts and the redeposited material used to backfill them. Dating evidence recovered from this deposit suggest that this process spanned the 13th to 19th centuries. The few grave cuts that could be identified appear to be late, possibly 19th century, in origin.



- 4.1.3 Layer 35 (also 13 and 22) is suggestive of construction debris mixed with soils. The dating of the fragments observed indicate a probable 17th- to 18th-century date. This corresponds with the major rebuilding of the nave, following a fire, in 1716.
- 4.1.4 Layer 12, observed at the northern edge of the site is possibly the remnants of an earlier topsoil horizon, but is more probable to represent a spread of the material cast up during the ground reduction undertaken as part of the original vestry's construction.
- 4.1.5 Layer 34 (also 11) also appears to a mixture of construction debris and soils. Although the material recovered was broadly similar to that from layer 35, it probably originates from either the restoration of the church in 1895 or when the original vestry was constructed in the 20th century.
- 4.1.6 The details of the foundations and floor levels of the original vestry were recorded within sections 20, 21 and 30. The presence of the green sandstone boulders, 32, in the base of the foundations is similar to those observed by MoLAS in 1996 within the foundations of the nave. This was interpreted as the reuse of earlier building material. The thick deposit of broken brick and tile bound with a weak lime mortar, 31, appears to be an attempt to provide a substitute for concrete, possibly dictated by either cost restraints or by the material shortages of the period. It is probable that this deposit extended throughout the footprint of the original vestry and that layer 21 also formed part of the same layer, with the presence of the lime mortar being confined to the areas under the walls. It is possible that both the green sandstone blocks and the broken tiles and brick originated from the demolition of the adjacent Cranford Park Mansion in 1939. The construction of the brick walls, 30, is standard for the period as is the construction of the brick floor 20.
- 4.1.7 Layers 10 and 33 are landscaping layers of topsoil and turf deposited over the construction layers.
- 4.1.8 No evidence of any phases of the churches construction pre-dating the present church was observed, similarly no evidence for activities unconnected to the church was observed. It is unclear if this is due to the prolonged disturbance of the site as indicated by the depth of the churchyard soil or by the absence of evidence. The paucity of artefacts unconnected to the church's construction may indicate the area had been unoccupied before becoming part of the churches precinct with the few finds recovered representing accidental loss (such as the flint blade) or migration of finds from the manor house adjacent.



APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth	Width	Length	Comments	Finds	Date
Test Pit 1							
10	Layer	0.22m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Present day topsoil and turf	Brick, tile	C20th
11	Layer	0.12m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Construction layer	Brick, tile	C20th
12	Layer	0.18m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Spread of material from the original vestry's construction	Brick, tile	C20th
13	Layer	0.2m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Construction layer	Brick, tile	C18th
14	Layer	> 0.5m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Churchyard soil	Tile	C17th ?
Test Pit 2							
20	Floor	0.15m	> 3m	> 3m	Old vestry floor	Brick	C20th
21	Layer	0.42m	> 3m	> 3m	Made ground, hardcore	Brick, tile	C20th
22	Layer	0.2m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Construction layer	Brick, tile	C18th
23	Layer	> 0.2m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Churchyard soil	Tile	C17th ?
24	Skeleton	-	-	-	Articulated burial of a sub-adult female	-	C19th
25	Fill	0.4m	0.7m	> 0.5m	Backfill of grave cut	Flint, tile	C19th
26	Cut	0.4m	0.7m	> 0.5m	Grave cut	-	C19th
Building Construction							
30	Structure	0.2m	0.6m	> 4m	Brick foundations for the old vestry east wall	Brick	C20th
31	Layer	0.32m	0.6m	> 4m	Weak lime concrete composed of broken tile and brick	Brick and tile	C20th
32	Structure	0.25m	0.4m	> 4m	Base course of green sandstone in foundations	-	C20th
33	Layer	0.25m	> 5m	> 5m	Present day topsoil and turf	Brick, tile	C20th
34	Layer	0.12m	> 5m	> 5m	Construction layer	Brick, tile	C20th



35	Layer	0.32m	> 5m	> 5m	Construction layer	Brick, tile	C18th
36	Layer	> 0.5m	> 1m	> 1.5m	Churchyard soil	Tile, pottery, clay pipe	C13th/ C18th
37	Fill	> 0.35m	0.7m	> 1.5m	Backfill of Grave 38	Brick and tile	C18th
38	Cut	> 0.35m	0.7m	> 1.5m	Grave cut	-	C18th
39	Cut	0.6m	0.6m	> 5m	Foundation cut for the old vestry	-	C20th
40	Layer	0.11m	> 3m	> 3m	Cement bed supporting the York stone slabs forming the steps down to the tower door	-	C20th



APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX C. FINDS REPORTS

The Ceramic Building Materials by John Cotter

- C.1.1 A total of 11 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 1212g were recovered from two contexts. All of this appears to be of post-medieval date - in common with most of the pottery dating from this site. The material was catalogued using a template established for other CBM assemblages in southern England and the information recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. By this system broad predictable functional categories of CBM were recorded, per context, by fragment count and weight (ie. plain roof tile, brick fragments, floor tile and 'other' types of CBM). Similar items from the same contexts are sometimes recorded in the same record whereas single or more significant items have a separate record. This approach gives a reasonably detailed snapshot of the composition of the assemblage.
- C.1.2 Measurable dimensions were recorded (in a comments field) where necessary and an approximate spot-date was assigned to the latest material in each context. Spot-dates assigned are based on the character of the material itself and are of necessity quite broad due to the highly conservative nature and regional variation of this class of building material. CBM dates should therefore be used with caution and regarded as of secondary importance to dates based on pottery or clay pipes.

Summary of the assemblage

- C.1.3 The CBM assemblage is in a fragmentary but mainly fresh condition with 10 pieces of roof tile present including some large fresh pieces. Most of the roof tile appears to be peg tile. These all have typical orange-red fabrics although slight fabric variations are present. The largest freshest pieces are in Context [31] where the latest pieces probably date to c 1750-1900. These include a two-thirds complete peg tile in a fine smooth orange-red fabric (resembling flowerpot) which has been very neatly finished and looks quite recent. This has a pair of circular nailholes of which the left one is 'blind' (not fully pierced) - suggesting it may never have been used for roofing. Other pieces of peg tile are coarser-looking and may date from the 17th or 18th centuries. A single small piece of post-medieval red brick covered in white mortar was also recovered from Context [36]. Fuller details may be consulted in the catalogue. No further work on the assemblage is recommended.
- C.1.4 The Ceramic building material retained for analysis comprises 4 pieces weighing 142g. These came from just two contexts. These have not been recorded elsewhere but are described here. The assemblage consists entirely of flat roof tile (peg tile) which appear to be of medieval date - although they cannot generally be closely dated.

Context	Spot-date	Roof tile	Brick	Total no. of shards	Weight	Comments
31	1750-1900	6		6	998g	Fragments from a minimum of 5 peg tiles. Includes two thirds complete upper part of tile, width 160mm x 13mm thick with 2 circular nailholes of which the left one is blind (not fully pierced), very neatly made and finished. Modern looking in fine smooth orange-red "flowerpot" like fabric,



						edges possibly knifed or planed? Fragments of others including 1 with circular nailhole. Some coarser, possibly 17th or 18th century ?
31	1750-1900		1	1	28g	Fragment of red post medieval brick covered in mortar possibly 17th to 19th century ?
36	1700-1850	4		4	186g	Fragments from a minimum of 2 flat tiles. No nailholes present. Probably pre-modern, up to 1850 in date? 3 x light orange sandy fabric. 1 x worn denser orange-brown tile
Total		10	1	11	1212g	

Assessment of the Post-Roman Pottery by John Cotter

C.1.5 The site produced a total of 5 sherds of post-Roman pottery weighing 46g. The Estimated Number of Vessels (ENV) was 5. All the pottery was examined, spot-dated and fully catalogued during the present assessment stage (see Excel spreadsheet in archive). This was catalogued in accordance with the standards of the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) and using the system of post-Roman pottery fabric codes developed in London over several decades (LAARC 2007), plus some recent updates. For each context and fabric the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded. Vessel form, if identifiable, was also recorded together with ENV (minimum vessel count). Vessel part, decorative details, condition and traces of use are recorded in the comments field and potential illustrations also indicated.

Date and nature of the assemblage

C.1.6 A small assemblage of mainly post-medieval pottery came from a single context [36]. Overall the pottery assemblage is in a fairly poor and fragmented condition although most sherds are fairly fresh. The context is dated to c 1770-1830 by the presence of two vessels in developed Creamware (CREA DEV). Two sherds (vessels) of residual green-glazed Surrey/Hampshire border ware (c 1550-1700) are residual in the context as is a small worn sherd from a medieval jug with traces of applied red strip decoration. The latter is in a fine sandy pale buff -brown fabric with a yellow glaze and is most probably identifiable as Brill/Boarstall ware from west Buckinghamshire (BRIM, c 1250-1500). It probably dates to the late 13th or the 14th century. Fuller details may be consulted in the catalogue. No further work on the assemblage is recommended.

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Context	Spot-date	Fabric	Earliest date	Latest date	No. of sherds	Weight	Comments
36	1770-1830	Creamware with developed	1760	1830	1	16g	Fragment of bowl, part of the footring base



		pale glaze CREA DEV					
36	1770-1830	Creamware with developed pale glaze CREA DEV	1760	1830	1	9g	Fragment of a large bowl, possibly part of a chamberpot
36	1770-1830	Surrey-Hants border whiteware: green glazed BORDG	1550	1700	1	17g	Fragment of a straight sided dish, glazed internally
36	1770-1830	Surrey-Hants border whiteware: green glazed BORDG	1550	1700	1	3g	Edges worn/ abraded. Glazed on both sides
36	1770-1830	Brill/ Boarstall ware BRIM	1250	1500	1	1g	Fragment of a jug. Traces of 2 converging applied red strips under a clear yellow glaze. Fine light buff-brown sandy fabric
Total					5	46g	

The Worked Flint by Geraldine Crann

Context	Description	Date
25	SF20: Burnt blade fragment, proximal end damaged by heating, distal end snapped in antiquity	Mesolithic/ early Neolithic

Discussion/Recommendations.

C.1.7 The single worked flint is of low potential beyond illustrating a human presence in the area in the earlier prehistoric period. It requires no further work.



APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name:	New Vestry, St Dunstan's Church, Cranford Park, Hillingdon
Site code:	SDN 12
Grid reference:	Centred at NGR TQ 1016 7818
Type of watching brief:	Machine and hand excavation of building foundations and service trenching
Date and duration of project:	June and July 2013, 6 site visits
Area of site:	Approximately 900m ²
Summary of results:	<p>The investigation observed deep deposits of churchyard soil together with associated grave cuts. These had been sealed below spreads of construction debris probably originating from the rebuilding of the nave in 1716, the later restoration and the construction of the old vestry in the 1940s.</p> <p>Evidence for the occupation of the nearby Manor house in the form of domestic debris dating between the 13th and 17th centuries was recovered together with a piece of worked flint suggesting prehistoric activity in the area, but no evidence was observed for any earlier phases of the church's construction or for direct occupation of the site prior to the church's construction.</p>
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at Janus House and will be deposited with the Museum of London under the Accession Number SDN 12.



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Figure 1: Site location

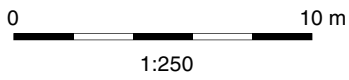
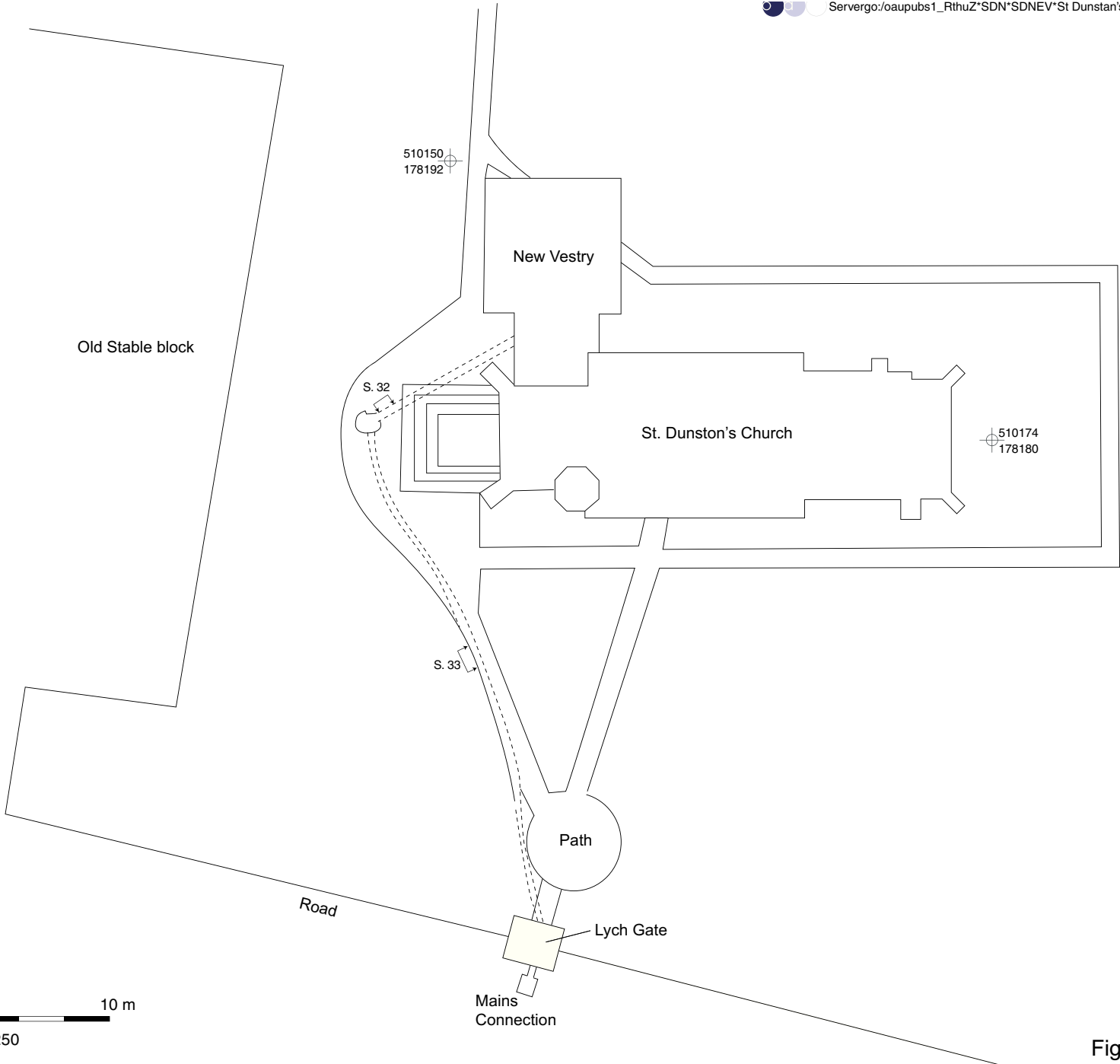
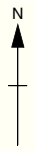
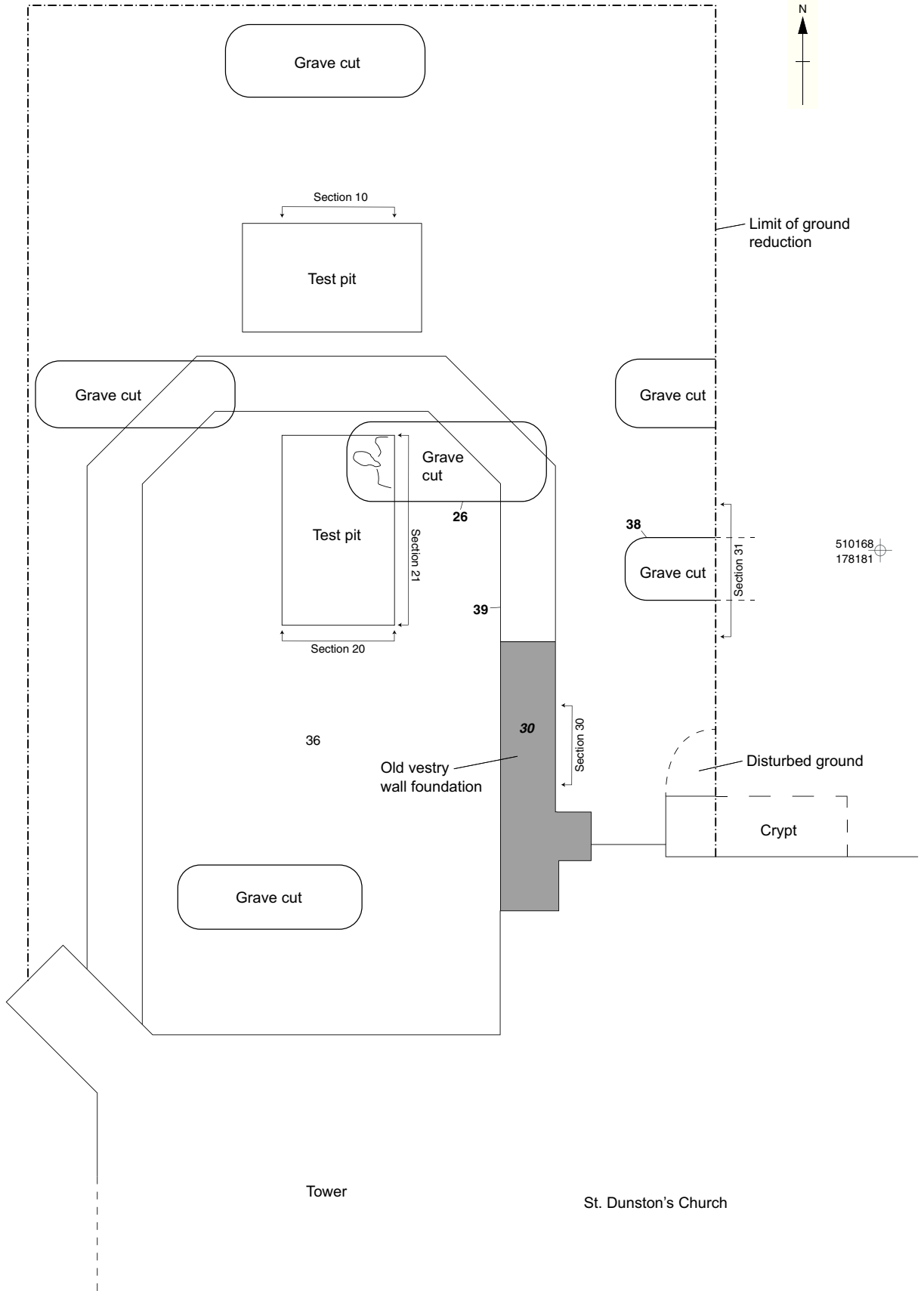


Figure 2: Overall site plan

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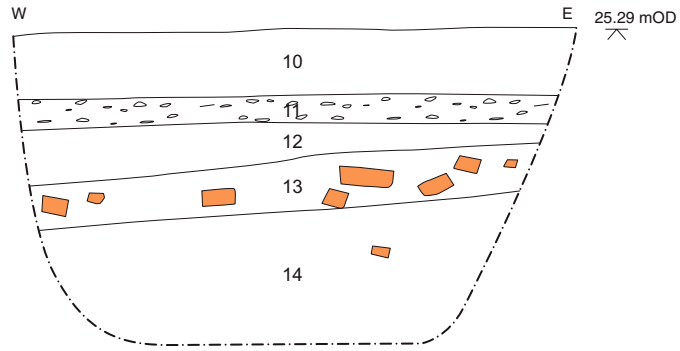
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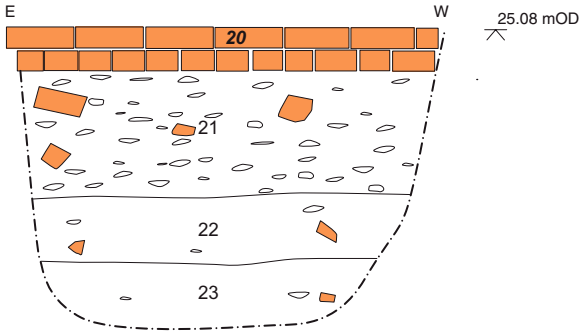
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Figure 3: Plan of new vestry

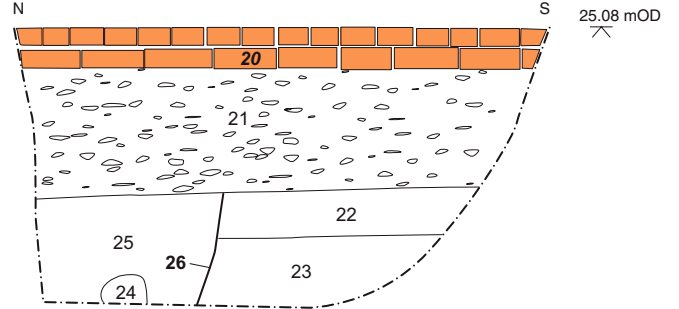
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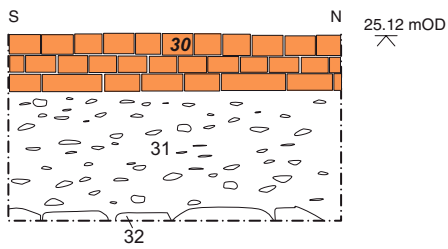
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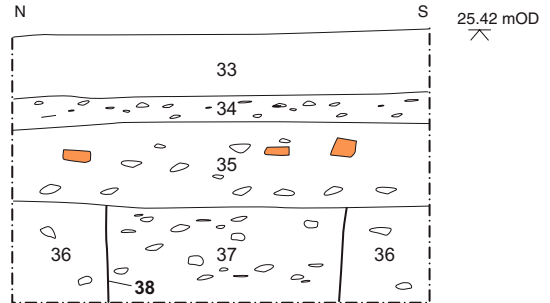
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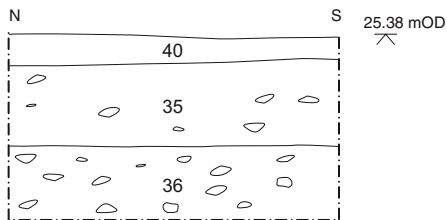
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Section 31



Section 32



Section 33

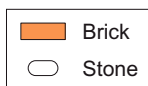
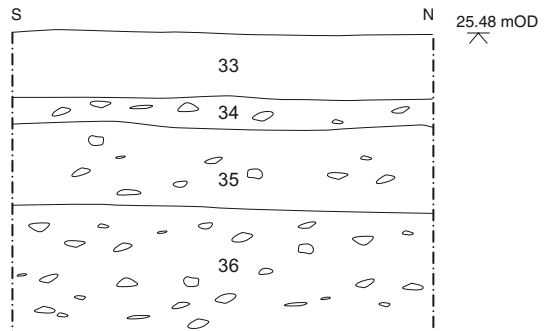


Figure 4: Sections



Plate 1: Section 31



Plate 2: Section 33



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