

St Cross College Western Quad Oxford



Archaeological Evaluation Report



April 2013

Client: St Cross College

Issue No: 1
OA Job No: 5600
NGR: SP 511 066



Client Name: St Cross College
Client Ref No: N/A
Document Title: West Quadrangle, St Cross College, Oxford
Document Type: Evaluation Report
Issue/Version Number: 1
Grid Reference: **NGR SP 511 066**
Planning Reference: Pre-Planning Application
OA Job Number: 5600
Site Code: OXWQX13
Invoice Code: OXWQXEV
Receiving Museum: Oxfordshire County Museum Service
Museum Accession No: OXCMS:2013.54
Event No:

Issue	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by	Signature
1	Kevin Moon and Robin Bashford Site Supervisors	Ben Ford Senior Project Manager	Ben Ford Senior Project Manager	

Document File Location W:\Oxford_St Cross College\Eval\Report and Specialist Reports
Graphics File Location Invoice_codes_a-h*OXWQX13*OXWQEV*St Cross College, Western Quad*MD*
Illustrated by Markus Dylewski and Julia Collins

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd 2013

Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263800

e: oasouth@thehumanjourney.net

f: +44 (0) 1865 793496

w: oasouth.thehumanjourney.net

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627



West Quadrangle, St Cross College, Oxford

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Kevin Moon and Robin Bashford

with contributions from John Cotter, Lena Strid, Geraldine Crann

and illustrated by Markus Dylewski and Julia Collins

Table of Contents

Summary.....	4
1 Introduction.....	5
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	5
1.2 Geology and topography.....	5
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	5
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	9
2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology.....	10
2.1 Aims.....	10
2.2 Methodology.....	10
3 Results.....	11
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results.....	11
3.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	11
3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits.....	11
3.4 Trench 1 (Fig. 3; Plate 1).....	11
3.5 Trench 2 (Fig. 4; Plate 2).....	11
3.6 Trench 3 (Plate 3).....	12
3.7 Trench 4 (Fig. 5; Plates 4 and 5).....	12
3.8 Trench 5 (Fig. 6; Plate 6).....	12
3.9 Finds summary.....	13
4 Discussion.....	16
4.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	16
4.2 Interpretation.....	16
4.3 Evaluation objectives and results.....	18



Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	20
Appendix B. Pottery and Ceramic Building Material Tables.....	24
Appendix C. Bibliography and References.....	26
Appendix D. Summary of Site Details.....	28

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location
- Fig. 2 Plan showing trench locations and all structures/features
- Fig. 3 Trench 1 plan and section
- Fig. 4 Trench 2 plan and sections
- Fig. 5 Trench 4 plan and section
- Fig. 6 Trench 5 plan and section
- Fig. 7 Approximate location of trenches on 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 25" Map, 1876
- Fig. 8 Profile AA running SSE – NNW through Trenches 1, 3 and 5
- Fig. 9 Profile BB running WSW– ENE through Trenches 2 and 4

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Trench 1 looking NNW showing stone structure 107 in foreground abutted by concrete/mortar foundations 105 for stone wall 106
- Plate 2 Trench 2 looking NNW showing ditches 209, 211 and 213 with foundations 203 to Parish boundary wall in the background sequence and walls
- Plate 3 Trench 3 looking SSE showing parish boundary wall foundations
- Plate 4 Trench 4 looking ENE with well 404 in foreground and pit 417 in background
- Plate 5 Trench 4 looking NNW showing parish boundary wall and foundations 402
- Plate 6 Trench 5 looking SSE showing ditch 504 in foreground and stone wall foundation 501 in background

Summary

In April 2013, Oxford Archaeology carried out a field evaluation at the West Quadrangle, St Cross College, Oxford (SP 511 066). The work was commissioned by St Cross College in advance of the proposed expansion of the facilities and construction of new buildings within the western quadrangle of their campus site on St Giles.

The evaluation revealed that the post-glacial loessic subsoil which overlies the 2nd gravel terrace was relatively undisturbed by later truncation. No prehistoric features were identified (and no residual prehistoric finds recovered), indeed this deposit contained the earliest pottery recovered from the evaluation, dating to c 1170-1350. Over much of the area a thick homogeneous garden soil was recorded up to c.0.9 m thick – it is likely that this deposit had formed since the medieval period, but had been subject to significant reworking up to the 18th century.

The evaluation revealed very little evidence for medieval occupation/activity such as pits/quarry holes/wells etc associated with the use of the rear of tenements fronting on to St Giles.

A series of inter-cutting ditches on a NNW/SSE alignment were recorded adjacent to a Grade II listed wall which marks the western boundary of the site. The earliest ditch contained an undated fill whose reddish colour had been clearly derived from the loess, suggesting a date not later than the early medieval, and probably a ditch demarcated the eastern boundary of the lands of the royal palace of Beaumont. The later recuts of this ditch contained fills that were very similar to each other which yielded medieval pottery along with mid 16th - early 17th century pottery and probably related to boundary ditchworks both during the period when the Carmelite Friary occupied the former palace site and after their demise at the Dissolution. The relationship between the extant boundary wall and the later ditches was unclear, however it is clear that these features and wall represent a long standing boundary in Oxford's urban landscape.

Other evidence for post-medieval activity was recorded including an upstanding wall marking the parish boundary between St Giles and St Mary Magdalen; a parallel and much more substantial wall foundation was recorded c 7m to the south of the parish boundary. This was probably a property boundary shown on the 19th century mapping, but was probably earlier in date than this.

Additionally sample excavation and recording were made of a stoned-lined well backfilled in the late 17th - mid 18th century, rubbish pits dating from the mid 18th and late 19th centuries and the corner of a mid-late 19th century sub-terrenean structure (probably a basement) which was modified and had a non-basemented extension added in the late 19th - 20th century.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Following on from the submission of a Desk Based Assessment (OA, 2012), which highlighted the potential for archaeological remains to survive at the site, Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by St Cross College to carry out an archaeological evaluation on the footprint of the proposed new building.
- 1.1.2 The site is currently composed of areas of car parking, garages, and gardens (part of the Western Quad) at the rear of the St Cross College buildings on St Giles, Oxford. It is centred on NGR SP 511 066.
- 1.1.3 A Feasibility Study for the development (Níall McLaughlin Architects, 2013) shows a new 'L-shaped' building to be constructed in the north-west corner of the college lands on St Giles, which will complete the structural development of northern and western sides of the West Quad. It includes associated drainage and service runs and hard and soft landscaping. The northern wing includes the construction of a new basement.
- 1.1.4 The evaluation was carried out prior to submission of the Planning Application, and therefore no formal brief was issued by the Local Planning Authority - although David Radford, Oxford City Archaeologist, was consulted in the preparation of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI - OA, 2013) and approved that the scope and approach of the WSI satisfied the need for evaluative work at the site.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located within the western limit of the grounds of St Cross College, St Giles in Oxford. It is bordered by Pusey Street to the north and Pusey Lane to the West. The south wing of St Cross College forms the southern boundary, with Pusey House forming the eastern boundary.
- 1.2.2 The site lies on the Second or Summertown Radley Gravel Terrace at an approximate height of 64m OD. The underlying geology is Oxford Clay.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following background is reproduced from the Desk Based Assessment (DBA) produced for the University of Oxford Estates Office (OA, 2012), which defined the heritage resource within the site and the surrounding area. Full references can be found in that document (the Study Area was defined as the area within a 250m radius of the proposed development site).

Prehistoric (up to AD 43)

- 1.3.2 Prehistoric activity has long been recognised to the north east of the Study Area. In excavations on the south side of South Parks Road, within the Science Area and northward into the University Parks, remains of Neolithic occupation and ritual, Bronze Age burial and Iron Age occupation have been seen. Recent works have suggested that this activity continues further south, and potentially into the area occupied by the Site.
- 1.3.3 Limited but significant evidence for occupation during the prehistoric period has been recently found within the Study Area. In 2008, a Neolithic henge was found at St John's College (c 190m north east of the Site). This henge was constructed during the Neolithic period but evidence suggests it was also used at intervals throughout the Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. The excavation which identified this henge did not record any additional features of the prehistoric period within the excavation area.



1.3.4 To the south of the Site, works undertaken prior to the construction of the Sackler Library (c 75m to the south of the Site) identified two large Bronze Age ring ditches, interpreted as burial mound ditches.

1.3.5 The gravel terraces upon which the Site is located are known to contain isolated artefacts of the early prehistoric period. A mammoth tusk found during works at the Ashmolean Museum (c 110m to the south of the Site) was recorded as having been found lying flat in a sandy lens within the gravels (OCC, 2011, 8). No geo-archaeological work was undertaken at this site but the tusk was dated to c 40,000 years ago (*ibid*). More recent geo-archaeological works at the Radcliffe Infirmary on the same Second Gravel Terrace geology recorded a complex sequence of deposits and placed doubts on the age attributed to this artefact and it may be of an earlier date (*Ibid*).

Romano-British Period (AD 43-410)

1.3.6 Archaeological evidence for the Roman period within Oxford is dominated by the evidence from pottery production areas located to the east and south-east of the city centre (OCC, 2011, 3).

1.3.7 Closer to the Study Area, the excavations on the south side of South Parks Road, within the Science Area and northward into the University Parks, have also found remains of Roman occupation, demonstrating continuity of use of the Iron Age settlement site. The area around South Parks Road and Mansfield College continued in use into the 4th century AD (OCC 2012).

1.3.8 Within the Study Area, there have been no recorded archaeological discoveries of Roman features, only isolated findspots of coins and pottery.

The Anglo Saxon Period (AD 410-1066)

1.3.9 The Site lay outside the Saxon town of Oxford, c 300m to the north of what is regarded as the 11th century extension of the town. There is sufficient evidence available to suggest a Saxon presence to the north east of the medieval town (Dodd, 2003, 12), but no evidence for extra-mural settlement within the Study Area itself has been recorded. However, the discovery of a Late Saxon mass grave at St John's College indicates significant activity within this area at this time albeit isolated.

The Later Medieval Period (AD1066-1550)

1.3.10 The Site lay on the border of the historic parishes of St Mary Magdalen and St Giles to the north of the medieval town, c 300m to the north of the town wall. It lay immediately east of the grounds of the Royal Palace of Beaumont, built in or around 1132 by Henry I (OA, 2006b, 3) - the site of which was granted to the Carmelite Friars in the early 14th century until it was surrendered in 1538 at the dissolution. The Grade II Listed wall marking the western boundary of Pusey House lies on the alignment of the eastern boundary of Beaumont Palace grounds.

1.3.11 The Site is located to the rear of the St Giles' frontage, which is recorded as being fully built up by the 1279 Hundred Rolls survey, although may have originated earlier in the 12th century when the suburban churches of St Mary Magdalen and St Giles were built (OA, 2006b, 3). Salter's Survey of Oxford provides descriptions of the terraced properties (plots 57-61) located where Pusey House now stands, and records the plots as dating back to the 13th century (Salter, 1969, 211-212), suggesting the Site was located within tenement gardens by this date. It is likely that the land was in agricultural usage prior to the laying out of the tenements.

1.3.12 Excavations along and behind the St Giles street frontage, such as those undertaken at the Classics Centre (c 60m to the south east of the Site) have recorded evidence of



pitting and continuous use of the garden plots throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. The earliest features found during the Classics Centre excavations were pits dated to the 12th and 13th centuries, which may have been associated with the earliest phases of the tenements (OA, 2006, 8). A second phase of medieval activity, dated to 1300-1450 saw an expansion in domestic activity, with large gravel extraction pits recorded, as well as cess pits and rubbish pits (Ibid, 8). A possible quarry pit was recorded c 10m to the east of the Site during the 1991 evaluation at St Cross (OA 44).

Post-Medieval Period (AD1550+)

- 1.3.13 Agas's map of 1578, which is the earliest map of the area, shows the Site to the north of the city, to the rear of the St Giles' frontage of houses. The Site appears to be mainly located within an undeveloped garden. The northern and southern sections of the Site cross over tenement boundaries into additional plots of land, also undeveloped gardens. The boundary wall which runs east west in the north of the Site appears to be on the boundary line dividing plots 57 and 58 St Giles on Agas' map, and is later shown as a wall on all subsequent maps until the 20th century. Although this boundary is not marked as a wall on the Agas map, just a dashed line, this may be because the surveyor knew that there was a boundary there but did not access the rear of the properties to ascertain its form. The wall is also marked as the alignment of the Parish Boundary (OA 92) between St Giles and St Mary Magdalen on Hoggar's 1850 map.
- 1.3.14 The western boundary wall of the Site is located on the boundary between the tenements and land belonging to the Beaumont Estate. It is shown as a wall on Agas' map, is now Grade II Listed, and recorded under its listing as 'Medieval and later stone wall with brick coping'.
- 1.3.15 The Site is located within c 60m of the inner Civil War defences. Although the defences are not thought to extend into the Site, the proximity of them suggests associated activity may have taken place within the Site itself.
- 1.3.16 On Loggan's 1675 map, Oxford is clearly more developed, but the Site is shown to be still located within the rear gardens of three long tenement plots of properties fronting St Giles to the east. Walls are located running in an east-west alignment through the northern and southern sections of the Site, marking the boundaries represented by dotted lines seen on Agas' earlier map. One of these walls still survives within the Site. A robber trench of a boundary wall found during excavations to the east of the Site is likely to be the same wall as the southern wall seen on this map (OA, 1991, 4 and Figure 2). The western wall is also shown. Apart from the walls the Site remains undeveloped, although the main central garden does appear to have been divided into beds.
- 1.3.17 Taylor's 1750 map of Oxford shows further development within north Oxford, including within the Site. Two buildings are now seen to be located within the Site, one small square building at the west and one long linear building to the north of wall in the northern part of the Site. In addition, Taylor's Map also shows the parish boundary separating the parishes of St Giles and St Mary Magdalen running through the Site, although not on the exact alignment seen on later maps, but more on a diagonal alignment.
- 1.3.18 Although the St Giles frontage has been developed since at least the 13th century, the frontage to the east of the Site was redeveloped in the late 18th century after being bought in 1761 by John Phillips, a wealthy City Councillor and grocer. Phillips built a large house on the St Giles frontage which survived until 1924 when the current Pusey House was built (Hylson-Smith et al, 1993, 7-8).



- 1.3.19 Hoggar's Map of 1850 is the first to show the development of residential buildings on the Beaumont land to the west of the Site. As well as the new housing, new roads have been constructed, including Alfred Street (now Pusey Street) to the north of the Site, and an unnamed lane (shown on later maps as Alfred Lane but now known as Pusey Lane) to the west of the Site. The northern boundary wall and the western boundary wall are not specifically highlighted, but the boundaries are clearly shown, and the northern wall probably dates to this period. Alfred Street was created in c 1828 (Hylson-Smith et al, 1993, 10). The larger building shown on Taylor's map has gone with the construction of Alfred Street, but the smaller building (OA 83) remains, as does the parish boundary, followed by wall. Although the alignment of the parish boundary differs from Taylor's earlier map, it is likely that Taylor's map was incorrect, as the parish boundary follows the boundary between numbers 57 and 58 St Giles seen on earlier maps.
- 1.3.20 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1876 shows new development within the Site. The small building is still present, with three smaller buildings now located in the south of the Site. Adjacent to the south east boundary a new Quaker Friends Meeting House can be seen, apparently replacing the 17th century building located further south in the location of the current Oriental Studies building. Remains of this building were identified during the 1991 archaeological evaluation just to the south east of the Site.
- 1.3.21 The OS map of 1921 is the first map to show the newly constructed Pusey House to the east of the Site. This new building included a new chapel, as highlighted on the map. The demolition required for the construction of this building does not appear to have extended into the Site. The buildings seen on earlier maps remain, as does the Grade II Listed wall to Pusey House, and the wall marking the parish boundary.
- 1.3.22 The OS map of 1939 shows demolition within and close to the Site, with the removal of the Friends Meeting House, the 18th century building at the west of the Site and one of the smaller buildings at the south of the Site seen since the 1st Edition OS map. One new building has been constructed in the north east of the Site, and one in the south.
- 1.3.23 The garages currently occupying the northern area of the Site are first shown on the OS map of 1958. The southern boundary of the garages is the wall seen on the earlier historic maps which was built along the alignment of the parish boundary.
- 1.3.24 The south wing of St Cross College was completed in 1993, since when the Site has maintained the same layout as is seen today.

Building Survey

- 1.3.25 Three boundary walls are present on the Site, a wall that runs east to west along Pusey Street, the Listed wall enclosing the west end of the site along Pusey Lane and a shorter wall within the site that runs east to west, inside of and parallel to, Pusey Street.
- 1.3.26 The boundary wall that runs east to west inside the Site, parallel with the wall along Pusey Street. It has large irregular stones with irregular coursing and has what appears to be 12 courses of 19th century red bricks built on top of it. Modern 20th century garages have been built between this and the wall running along Pusey Street. It abuts the wall running along Pusey Lane. It appears as a boundary on Agas' Map of Oxford, 1578, and as a wall on Loggan's Map of 1675, and Hoggar's Map, 1850, running into the buildings that faced onto St. Giles at the time. It is shown to follow the line of the parish boundary from Hoggar's 1850 map onwards.
- 1.3.27 The wall that runs east west along Pusey Street abuts St Cross College on its west side and it is likely that this wall was built when Alfred Street was constructed in 1828. The coursing is irregular and built with large squared stones of irregular sizes. A Tudor style arched doorway with large quoining is located towards the east of the wall and a

large gateway for vehicles has been inserted into the wall towards the west to provide access to the 20th century garages. Midway between the doorway and the gateway, the coursing changes subtly but there is no clear break in masonry. The west half of the wall has smaller and less regular coursing. It is also more weathered and appears to have had approximately 4 to 5 courses added to it. It first appeared as boundary along what is now Pusey Street on Hoggar's Map of Oxford, 1850.

- 1.3.28 The Grade II Listed wall that runs north to south along Pusey Lane is on the same alignment as the late medieval boundary wall of the Beaumont Estate and may at least partially date to this period. In the centre of the wall is a 19th century Tudor style arched doorway and on top of the wall is 20th century cement and red brick coping. Like the wall along Pusey Street, it appears to have two phases. Approximately 4.5m of the northern end of the wall appears older and more weathered with smaller less regular coursing. This section may be part of the wall seen on Agas' map. The rest of the wall appears more modern albeit with apparently reused stone blocks. This may be a later rebuild of the wall of an uncertain date. The northern extent of the wall has been removed to insert garages into this western façade and the southernmost part replaced with a wooden gate as part of St Cross College 20th century development.
- 1.3.29 To summarise therefore, the Listed western wall runs along the same alignment as a wall seen on the 1578 map and may at least partially date to this period, although it appears to have been rebuilt at a later date along part of its length. The east west inner wall, running parallel to that along Pusey Street, is first shown as a wall on Loggan's map of 1675 and may date to the 17th century. However, the alignment of the wall is also shown as a dashed line on Agas' earlier 16th century map. The dashes may represent the fact that the surveyor knew there was a boundary here but did not gain access to the rear of the properties to ascertain the form that the boundary took. It is possible therefore that this wall is of an earlier date and contemporary with the western wall. The later boundary wall along Pusey Street is first seen as a boundary on Hoggar's 1850 map and is likely to date to the 19th century at the time of the construction of Alfred Street.
- 1.3.30 Garden walls such as these have the potential to have been subject to rebuilding and repair over time due to development and maintenance. The west wall along Pusey Lane in particular appears to have been rebuilt or heavily repaired probably in the 19th century given the style of the mock Tudor doorway in the newer part.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 OA would like to acknowledge Richard Todd of PDCM Ltd and David Radford of Oxford City Council, who monitored the archaeological fieldwork. Additionally, OA would like to acknowledge the staff at the Porters Lodge at the College who facilitated access to the site. The evaluation was managed for OA by Ben Ford, and the archaeological fieldwork was directed by Robin Bashford and Kevin Moon with the assistance of Lee Grana.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

General

2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation as stated in the WSI (OA 2013) were:

- to determine the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains;
- to determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains;
- to determine the date range, and phasing, of any surviving remains by artefactual dating;
- to determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains;
- to determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy;
- to assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape;
- to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive;
- to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

Specific aims and objectives

2.1.2 The specific aims and objectives were:

- to gain a clear understanding of the nature of the geological natural and the nature and complexity of the full archaeological sequence;
- to determine pre-tenement and post tenement activity and the dates for these;
- to examine the below ground elements of the existing Grade II listed wall that stands on the boundary between the Whitefriar lands and tenements on St Giles and any of its precursors;
- To examine the below ground elements of the parish boundary wall between St Giles and St Mary Magdalen and any precursors;
- to gain a clear understanding of the nature of truncation at the site from previous activity;
- to use the results of the trenching to provide 2 cross-sections (E-W and N-S) through the development area illustrating the existing site levels, heights of natural geology, significant archaeological deposits, by phase, and the development impact levels (where known) to help inform further mitigation as necessary.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of five trenches of various sizes (Fig. 2), which were opened under close archaeological supervision by a rubber tracked excavator fitted with a 1m wide toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.2 The trenches targeted the footprint of the proposed development.

2.2.3 Trench 2 was specifically targeted to examine the existing N-S wall that formed the boundary between the Whitefriars (Beaumont Palace) lands and the rear of the tenements on the west side of St Giles, paying particular attention to any boundary precursors and the relationship with the existing parish boundary wall.

2.2.4 Trenches 3 and 4 were targeted to examine the existing E-W parish boundary wall and to pay particular attention to any boundary precursors.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, beginning with a general description of soils, and a stratigraphic account of the trenches. This is followed by an overall discussion and interpretation. An index of trenches giving the extent and depths of all deposits is presented in tabular form in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The underlying geology was reached in all trenches and consisted of a firm mid yellow/mid orange gravel. This was overlain by a layer of firm mid red/brown silt between 0.05m and 0.70m, although there was some evidence that this variation in thickness was as a result of the re-working of the upper part of the deposit to the south and west. A dark grey/brown layer of garden soil was present in all trenches and varied in depth between 0.38m and 0.90m with an average thickness of 0.65m. Trenches 4 and 5 were sealed by topsoil whereas Trenches 1 and 2 were sealed by a compacted gravel surface 0.07m deep and Trench 3 was sealed by a concrete surface 0.24m deep.
- 3.2.2 No waterlogged deposits or visible charcoal preservation was apparent and consequently no soil samples were taken due to the lack of suitable deposits.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present within all trenches.

3.4 Trench 1 (*Fig. 3; Plate 1*)

- 3.4.1 Natural geology was encountered at 62.55m OD and was overlain by a 0.05m thick layer of mid-dark reddish-brown clayey silt (104) that contained a single sherd of medieval pottery, and was in turn overlain by up to 0.83m of a fairly homogeneous greyish brown sandy silt (103). The lower c 0.2m of deposit 103 was slightly browner in colour and may have represented the re-working of the upper part of deposit 104.
- 3.4.2 Deposit 104 and possibly deposit 103 appeared to be truncated by the northern corner of a stone wall lined feature (107) which was filled by a mixed deposit (109) containing mid-late 19th century glass and porcelain. A crude concrete foundation (105) abutted the external north-western corner of structure 107, and ran north-west c 0.70m before returning at right angles beyond the western limit of the trench. This was overlain by a stone wall footing (106) which also re-used the north-west/south-east element of structure 107 to continue to the south-east, where both it and the south-eastern end of structure 107 were truncated by the cut for the existing basement. At the northern end of the trench, the remains of two deep concrete foundations (102) were also recorded.

3.5 Trench 2 (*Fig. 4; Plate 2*)

3.5.1 Natural geology was encountered at 62.60m OD. There was a suggestion of the remnant of an overlying reddish brown subsoil (216) along the western edge of the trench, although both this and the natural gravels had been truncated by a series of inter-cutting ditches on a NNW/SSE alignment (209, 211 and 213). The fill (212) of earliest of these (213) was very similar in composition to the reddish brown subsoil overlying the gravel in the majority of the other trenches, and is likely to be a re-deposition of same. There appeared to be at least 2 re-cuts, although the remaining fills were fairly homogeneous, and the relationship between ditches 209 and 211 was

uncertain. Ditch 213 also appeared to have been truncated by a feature (215) at the eastern extent of the trench, although this was only partially revealed and consequently was not fully characterised.

- 3.5.2 The fills of these features were overlain by a homogeneous silty clay deposit (205/206) which was cut by the construction trench (202) for the north-west/south-east aligned wall (201) to the east of Pusey Lane, the base of which was at 62.97m OD. Wall 201 was abutted by north-east/south-west aligned wall (203) between the west quadrangle and the garages to the north-west - the construction cut for which (204) also appeared to cut deposit(s) 205/206. The base of wall 203 was at 63.40m OD.

3.6 Trench 3 (*Plate 3*)

- 3.6.1 Natural geology was encountered at 62.32m OD and was overlain by a 0.36m thick layer of reddish brown clay silt (303). Deposit 303 was in turn overlain by 0.6m of homogeneous grey brown sandy silt (302). Deposit 303 was truncated in the western corner of the trench by the eastern corner of a square-cut early 18th century pit (305), but the relationship between this feature and the overlying homogeneous deposit was uncertain.

3.7 Trench 4 (*Fig. 5; Plates 4 and 5*)

- 3.7.1 Natural geology was encountered at 62.41m OD and was overlain by a c 0.55m thick reddish brown clayey silt deposit (407). This was overlain by up to 0.70m of homogeneous grey brown clayey silt, interpreted as garden soil (406). Deposit 407 had been truncated by 2 square-cut pits (411 and 417) dating from the mid 18th and late 19th centuries respectively. Although the relationship between these features and deposit 406 was uncertain due to the similarity in composition between the latter and the upper fills of the features, it seems likely that the fills were overlain by the 'garden soil'.
- 3.7.2 The base of the NE-SW parish boundary wall (402) was exposed in the north-east/south-west arm of the trench and was recorded at c 63.30m OD.
- 3.7.3 Deposit 407 was also truncated by the construction cut (405) for a stone-lined well (404). The upper part of the cut for the well also appeared to truncate the 'garden soil' (406) and two concrete footings which were cut from just below the topsoil. It seems likely that this cut was in fact robbing the upper courses of the well structure, and that the concrete footings themselves post-date the well. The late 17th - early 18th century dating evidence recovered from the deposits (403) overlying the remaining in-situ stone lining was inconclusive in respect of when the well was active, but as no well is shown on any of the OS mapping (the earliest of which is from 1876), it seems more likely that it is associated with the earlier of the two rubbish pits (ie - mid 18th century rather than late 19th century).

3.8 Trench 5 (*Fig. 6; Plate 6*)

- 3.8.1 Natural geology was encountered at 62.32m OD and was overlain by a c 0.48m thick layer of reddish brown clayey silt (503). This had been truncated by a north-east/south-west aligned linear feature (504), the fills of which (505, 506) produced late 18th – very early 19th century pottery. The fills of this feature appeared to be overlain by a fairly homogeneous layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt (502) up to 0.9m thick although this relationship was far from certain. Indeed it should be noted that there was a suggestion of more gravelly deposits within garden soils 502 directly above the northern edge of cut 504, that indicated 'tip lines' of fills within the linear. If this is the case then the feature was cut through the garden soils from quite high in the profile of



the garden soils, and suggest that at least the lower 0.7m depth of garden soils, 502, in this part of the site are of late 18th century date or earlier.

- 3.8.2 Deposit 502 had also been cut by a NNE/SSW aligned wall footing (501), the base of which was not reached. No dating was recovered from this structure and no construction cut observed.

3.9 Finds summary

Pottery by John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

- 3.9.1 A total of 75 sherds of pottery weighing 7.621kg. was recovered from 13 contexts. This is mostly of post-medieval date although a few medieval sherds are also present. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.).

Date and nature of the assemblage

- 3.9.2 Overall the pottery is in a fragmentary, though fresh, condition with several vessel profiles present amongst the 18th- and 19th-century material - which predominates here. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented. These are detailed in the spreadsheet and summarised here. Eight fairly small sherds of medieval pottery are present - although most of these are residual in later contexts. Possibly the earliest of these is a single sherd of East Wiltshire ware (c 1170-1350) from Context (104). Two sherds (from two separate vessels) in green-glazed medieval Surrey whiteware (c 1350-1525) came from the same context (208) along with a piece of worn medieval decorated floor tile. These do not appear to be significantly residual. Five sherds of medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM/OXBX) were also recovered but were mostly residual. These include two sherds from 13th/14th-century strip jugs. A small number of 16th- and 17th-century wares also occur - some of which are also residual.
- 3.9.3 The late 17th- or 18th-century vessels from Contexts (403), (406) and (410) are mostly in a fresh condition. These include a range of relatively local and regional wares of the period including chamberpots and a deep conical vessel (403) in post-medieval red earthenware (PMR) which may be a stool pan. These are typical finds from the backfills of latrines or cess pits in Oxford during this period. Other pottery types associated with these contexts include Staffordshire white stoneware tankards (SWSG) and Staffordshire combed slipware dishes and possibly mugs and one or two tin-glazed ware (TGW) vessels probably from London. A few early local (PMR) flowerpots were present too. These - and most of the PMR vessels - are probably products of the post-medieval Brill (Bucks) pottery industry.
- 3.9.4 There is a fairly large collection of well-preserved (though fragmentary) 'Victorian' wares - particularly from Context (413). Amongst other tablewares and crockery this context contained an attractive Sunderland pink lustreware plate profile (probably pre-1880) and a Staffordshire dish profile in blue transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) with a maker's mark datable to c 1867-1878, suggesting a deposition date of c 1870-1900 for this context group. The context also included the profiles of two very large sub-conical jars or 'crocks' in late PMR. These multi-purpose vessels were often used as bread-bins, or for general food storage, and often ended up as garden jars or flowerpot holders. The largest of these from (413) - with a diameter of 400mm. - contained a very thick, white, chalky deposit in its base - which may be something like solidified whitewash or render. No further work on the assemblage is recommended.

The clay tobacco pipes by John Cotter

3.9.5 Five pieces of clay pipe weighing 27g. were recovered from four contexts - the same as those producing the pottery above. These have not been separately catalogued but are described below.

Context (306) Spot-date: 18th century

3.9.6 Description: Two fairly fresh stem fragments (10g.) from two separate pipes. One is broadly 18th century. The other thicker stem is probably of late 17th/early 18th-century date.

Context (406) Spot-date: c 1730-1780

3.9.7 Description: A single fairly fresh broken pipe bowl (10g.). This lacks its rim and has a short length of stem attached. The bowl, which has a circular heel, is a common 18th-century type.

Context (413) Spot-date: 19th century

3.9.8 Description: A single fresh stem fragment (3g.). Of narrow-bored 19th-century type.

Context (506) Spot-date: 19th century

3.9.9 Description: A single fresh stem fragment (4g.). Of narrow-bored 19th-century type.

The ceramic building material (CBM) by John Cotter

3.9.10 A total of 15 pieces of CBM weighing 2.946kg. was recovered from 6 contexts. This was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage in a similar way to the pottery (see elsewhere) and the data recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. As usual, the dating of broken fragments of ceramic or other building materials is an imprecise art and spot-dates derived from them are necessarily broad and should therefore be regarded with caution. The fragmentary assemblage is described in the spreadsheet and summarised only briefly here as it does not significantly affect the pottery spot-dates, and there is little present of much note. Pieces (fresh or worn) of medieval and post-medieval peg tile are the most numerous type present. Of slightly more significance is a worn piece of medieval decorated floor tile from Context (208) which is datable c 1280-1330. There is also a worn piece of glazed medieval ridge tile (207). The latest items are a few fragments and one relatively complete brick of late 18th-century, or more likely, 19th-century date. No further work is recommended.

Bone by Lena Strid

The assemblage

3.9.11 The animal bone from the evaluation is quantified and described in the table below:

Table: Animal Bone

Context	Description
207	1 large dog metacarpal (GL20.7, BP25.3, BD34,SD21.1= withers height 67.8cm); 2 large mammal ribs, 1 medium mammal vertebra, 1 large mammal vertebra, 1 cattle axis, 1 medium mammal rib, 1 large mammal long bone, 1 calf metacarpal, 1 bird long bone, 1 calf pelvis, 1 sheep femur, 1 medium mammal sacrum, 1 small dog radius SD7.2 etsBP10.3, 1 medium mammal ?dog/badger femur, 2 indeterminate fragments. 253g.



Context	Description
208	1 vertebra, 3 indeterminate fragments, 26g.
409	3 medium mammal ribs, 1 sheep metacarpal (GL134.9,BD32.7,SD18.9,BP30.1), 1 indeterminate fragment, 60g.
410	1 medium mammal rib, 1 large mammal rib, 1 pig mandible, 1 large mammal scapula, 1 sheep metacarpal (GL134.5, BD29.3, SD16.2,BP25.8). 174g
413	2 medium mammal ribs, 1 sheep/goat metatarsal, 1 sheep/goat tibia, 1 large mammal vertebra, 1 fowl coracoid, 1 rabbit femur, 1 oval-section bird bone sawn at both ends. 75g.
506	1 medium mammal rib. 9g.

Shell by Geraldine Crann

The assemblage

- 3.9.12 Only 3 oyster shells were recovered during the evaluation, all from contexts in Trench 4. A single left valve weighing 20g from Context 409, and a left and right valve weighing a combined 67g from Context 413.

Worked stone by Ruth Shaffrey

The assemblage

- 3.9.13 Two pieces of utilised stone were retained and were examined with a x10 magnification hand lens and recorded in an Access Database for worked stone. One of these is a fragment of sandy limestone, probably a fragment from a roof-stone. The other is a fragment of shelly oolitic limestone, possibly Purbeck limestone, mortar. The mortar retains part of a rib or lug (the lower part does not survive so it is not possible to tell which). The inside sides are worn very smooth but the all the surfaces are worn, so the fragment may have been around for some time prior to deposition.

Table: Worked stone

Context	Descrip	Notes	Lithology
306	Possible roof stone	Fragment with no original edges and perforation but could be from roofing	Sandy limestone
207	Mortar rim fragment	Worn fragment with part of rib or lug. The base does not survive. The profile of the lug is not clear	Shelly oolitic limestone, possibly Purbeck

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The trenches were opened during good weather conditions and the revealed features were easy to identify against the underlying geology. The trenches remained dry throughout the evaluation.

4.2 Interpretation

Gravel terrace and geological deposits

- 4.2.1 The height of the top of the gravel was relatively consistent across the site and was on average at 62.46m OD, although this varied from a maximum of 62.60m OD in Trench 2 to a minimum of 62.32m in Trenches 3 and 5 (Figs 8 and 9), with the general trend being a gradual slope from west to east. The reddish brown subsoil that overlay the natural in all 5 trenches is likely to represent the post-glacial loessic subsoil which is known to overlay the 2nd Summertown-Radley gravel terrace - it varied slightly in colour and composition from that recorded across numerous sites in and around the city centre to the south, and was also significantly thicker (up to 0.55m deep) where not truncated by later features. The fact that this deposit survived in all trenches would suggest that the 0.30m variance in the elevation of the top of the gravel is unlikely to represent later truncation. Additionally, although no features earlier than the 16th century were revealed within the trenches, the top of the loess was relatively consistent (62.70m - 62.96m OD; Figs 8 and 9) which may suggest that the pre-historic ground surface remains predominantly undisturbed, although there was some evidence that the top of the deposit had been re-worked to the south and possibly to the west of the site - potentially in the 12th-14th century (although this date is based on a single sherd of pottery recovered from the disturbed upper element of the deposit in Trench 1).

Beaumont Palace/White Friars

- 4.2.2 The NNW/SSE aligned ditches in Trench 2 are probably associated with the eastern boundary of Beaumont Palace, the southern extent of which was encountered during recent excavations at the Ashmolean Library to the south (OA, forthcoming). The boundary at the Ashmolean comprised two parallel ditches on a NNW/SSE alignment, both of which had predominantly sterile reddish brown sandy silt fills, and which were thought to have been coeval and to date from the use of the palace in the 12th century - prior to the tenure of the Carmelites. The alignment of the ditches in Trench 2 is consistent with them being the northern continuation of those recorded during the Ashmolean excavation, and the composition of the fill (212) of the earliest ditch (213) is very similar to those seen to the south (although no dating evidence was recovered from 212). However, whilst the early ditch in Trench 2 appears to have been re-cut at least once during the 16th-17th century (and possible in the later medieval period), no similar re-cuts were recorded at the Ashmolean. The ditches there were found to have been truncated by a number of 12th-13th century pits associated with the properties fronting St Giles, and the conclusion was that the boundary was re-established further to the west during this period. The historic mapping from the 16th century onwards appears to be consistent with this interpretation, as a distinct and increasingly pronounced westward migration can be seen in the southern end of the boundary as the properties to the east encroach upon the Carmelite precinct (OA, 2012, Figs 4-6). It is therefore possible that the postulated westward migration of the boundary to the south is contemporary with the re-cuts seen at St Cross. As such it would seem that pressure from the more intensively occupied tenements to the south led to the

westward migration of the property boundary which was not seen further north due to less intense occupation and consequent pressure to increase the size of the tenement. The dating from the pits truncating the early boundary at the Ashmolean would imply that the westward incursion from the properties at the southern end of the boundary began during the Carmelite occupation of the site (if not before), although the fact that the Friary was already in a ruinous state at the Dissolution (Poore and Wilkinson, 2001, p.11) may go some way to explaining this possible anomaly.

- 4.2.3 The relationship between the extant stone wall and the fills of the latest re-cut of the ditch sequence in Trench 2 was unclear. The construction cut for the wall clearly truncated deposit 206, but it was unclear whether this deposit formed part of 'garden soil' 205; was an upper fill of ditch 211 or was an earlier topsoil deposit overlying the loess (216). Consequently, a construction date for the wall cannot be inferred from the dating evidence recovered from the fills of the ditch.

Tenements 16th century onwards

- 4.2.4 The late 18th - early 19th century ditch in Trench 5 lay some 1.2m to the north-west of wall 501. The wall is likely to be the property boundary shown on Hoggar's 1850 map of Oxford, and the OS 1st Edition (Fig. 7) which lies to the south of the parish boundary (OA, 2012, Fig. 7 and 8), and it is possible that the ditch is a pre-cursor to the later wall, with which the dating evidence would be consistent. Although the historic mapping does not consistently show a boundary here, it is possible that it originated as a tenement boundary - as indicated by Salter who also shows a tenement boundary immediately to the south of the parish boundary (Salter, 1969).
- 4.2.5 The medieval artefactual assemblage recovered during the evaluation was almost exclusively re-deposited in the re-cuts of the boundary ditches in Trench 2. The lack of medieval features associated with the possible tenement, together with the relatively low density of post-medieval features (the pit in Trench 3 and the pits and well in Trench 4) may simply reflect the peripheral nature of the site in relation to the city to the south.
- 4.2.6 The origin of the 'garden soil' encountered in all 5 trenches is uncertain. It appeared to overlie the fills of the majority of features, and probably post-dated the stone lined well (although the cut robbing the upper courses had truncated the soil). Given the low density of earlier features, it seems unlikely that this deposit represents the re-worked upper fills of backfilled pits etc. and as such it may be an imported garden soil - which would also account for the homogeneous nature of the deposit.

Structural remains

- 4.2.7 In addition to the wall in Trench 5, a number of the other structures encountered during the works appear to correspond with those shown on the cartographic sources (OA, 2012, Figs 4-11). The earliest phase of structure in Trench 1 is likely to be the north eastern corner of a small building first shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1876 (Fig. 7). The configuration of the buildings in this area of the site has changed by 1939, and it seems likely that this re-configuration is reflected in the addition of footing 105 and the construction of wall 106.



4.3 Evaluation objectives and results

4.3.1 The following section outlines how the results of the evaluation have addressed the site specific aims outlined in Section 2:

Aim

4.3.2 To gain a clear understanding of the nature of the geological natural and the nature and complexity of the full archaeological sequence.

Result

4.3.3 The nature of the natural geology and the overlying loessic subsoil is consistent with results from many sites in and around the centre of Oxford. The fact that the remainder of the stratigraphic sequence is relatively uncomplicated is almost certainly due to the peripheral location of the site until the later post-medieval period.

Aim

4.3.4 To determine pre-tenement and post tenement activity and the dates for these.

Result

4.3.5 The fact that there appears to be little medieval activity on the site is also likely to be a reflection of it's location. Although no features earlier than the 16th century were revealed during the evaluation, the very fact that the post-glacial horizon is relatively undisturbed may imply that there is potential for pre-historic features to survive. Relatively little activity relating to the use of the tenements was apparent, and that which was was dated no earlier than the 18th century.

Aim

4.3.6 To examine the below ground elements of the existing Grade II listed wall that stands on the boundary between the Whitefriars lands and tenements on St Giles and any of its precursors.

Result

4.3.7 No further conclusions could be drawn with regard to the Grade II listed wall, with the exception that it's base was relatively shallow, at 62.97m OD (0.90m below current ground level (bgl)).

Aim

4.3.8 To examine the below ground elements of the parish boundary wall between St Giles and St Mary Magdalen and any precursors.

Result

4.3.9 Similarly, the below ground element of the parish boundary wall did not reveal any further indications of the date of the structure other than the fact that it clearly abutted the Grade II listed wall and must therefore post-date it. Again, the foundation was relatively shallow at between 63.30m and 63.40m OD (c0.50m bgl). The similarly aligned ditch in Trench 5 is more likely to be associated with the boundary wall to the south (501) given its proximity to the latter (1.2m).

Aim

4.3.10 To gain a clear understanding of the nature of truncation at the site from previous activity.

Result

4.3.11 The nature of the truncation on the site is therefore predominantly from the relatively low concentration of post-medieval features, and the structural remains in Trenches 1



and 5. The truncation from these structures also varies. Of the structures shown on the historic mapping, only that encountered in the southern end of Trench 1 had had any impact on the potentially more significant horizon marked by the top of the buried loessic subsoil. Where other structures were encountered (with the exception of the well in Trench 4) they did not impact below the 'garden soil' deposit which overlay the loess. No evidence was recovered from the structure shown in the location of Trench 2.

Aim

- 4.3.12 To use the results of the trenching to provide 2 cross-sections (E-W and N-S) through the development area illustrating the existing site levels, heights of natural geology, significant archaeological deposits, by phase, and the development impact levels (where known) to help inform further mitigation as necessary.

Result

- 4.3.13 Natural geology was encountered at between 62.32m and 62.60m OD with an apparent slope from west to east. This was overlain by up to 0.55m of loess, the top of which was between 62.70m and 62.96m OD. The top of this deposit would appear to be the first significant archaeological horizon, although the relationship between the overlying 'garden soil' and the fills of the post-medieval pits encountered in Trench 4 was not certain given the similarity in the composition of these deposits. Figures 8 and 9 show the re-constructed topographical profiles across the site.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
Trench contained several footings and walls from the previous buildings that occupied the area.				Avg. depth (m)		1.34
				Width (m)		1.50
				Length (m)		5.20
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer	-	0.07	Gravel Car Park Surface	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.36	Make-up Layer	-	-
102	Structure	-	-	Concrete Footing	-	-
103	Layer	-	0.83	Garden Soil	-	-
104	Layer	-	0.05	Loess	Pottery	1170-1350
105	Structure	1.20	-	Building Footing	-	-
106	Structure	1.90	-	Wall	-	-
107	Structure	1.40	-	Wall	-	-
108	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109	Deposit	0.90	0.52	Deposit within 107	Pottery, Glass	1840-1880
110	Deposit	0.92	0.35	Deposit within 108	-	-
Trench 2						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
Trench contained a series of inter-cutting ditches running NW-SE. Another feature also cut these ditches but very little of it is visible. The full depth of both the NW-SE and NE-SW walls was also revealed in section.				Avg. depth (m)		1.80m
				Width (m)		1.60
				Length (m)		2.10
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
200	Layer	-	0.50	Topsoil	-	-
201	Structure	1.60	0.94	Wall	-	-
202	Cut	1.60	0.94	Construction cut of 201	-	-
203	Structure	2.10	0.50	Wall	-	-
204	Cut	2.10	0.50	Construction cut of 203	-	-
205	Layer	-	0.38	Garden Soil	-	-
206	Layer	-	0.28	Garden Soil	-	-
207	Fill	2.10	0.80	Fill of 209	Pottery, CBM, Bone, Stone	1500-1625



context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
208	Fill	0.54	0.08	Fill of 209/211	Pottery, CBM	1280-1525
209	Cut	1.30	0.90	Ditch (possibly = 211)		
210	Fill	0.64	0.80	Fill of 211	Pottery, CBM, Bone	1550-1650
211	Cut	0.64	0.80	Ditch (possibly = 209)	-	
212	Fill	0.86	0.92	Fill of 213	Bone	
213	Cut	0.86	0.92	Ditch	-	
214	Fill	0.10	0.50	Fill of 215	-	
215	Cut	0.10	0.50	Unknown Feature	-	
216	Layer	-	0.10	Loess		
217	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	
218	Layer	-	0.07	Gravel Car Park Surface	-	
Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	SW-NE
Trench contained a modern cut feature in the Western corner. The full depth of the NW-SE wall was revealed in section. No other archaeology was present.					Avg. depth (m)	1.28
					Width (m)	1.50
					Length (m)	2.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
300	Structure	-	-	Wall	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.24	Car Park Surface	-	-
302	Layer	-	0.60	Garden Soil	-	-
303	Layer	-	0.36	Loess	-	-
304	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
305	Cut	0.79	1.30	Modern Feature	-	-
306	Fill	0.79	0.40	Fill of 305	Pottery, Bone, Glass, Clay Pipe	1700-1740
307	Fill	0.79	0.64	Fill of 305	-	-



Trench 4						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench contained two pits, neither of which were fully excavated. The full depth of the NE-SW wall was revealed. A well was partially exposed in the centre of the trench but was not fully excavated. Concrete footings from a previous structure were also partially exposed.				Avg. depth (m)	0.90	
				Width (m)	1.60	
				Length (m)	8.20	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
400	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
401	Structure	1.70	0.25	Concrete Slab foundation	-	-
402	Structure	1.60	0.60	Stone Wall (parish boundary)	-	-
403	Deposit	1.40	0.90	Backfill of Well 404	Pottery	1680-1750
404	Structure	1.44	0.62	Stone well lining	-	-
405	Cut	1.44	0.62	Construction cut for well 404	-	-
406	Layer	-	0.70	Garden Soil	Pottery, Clay Pipe	1770-1830
407	Layer	-	0.70	Loess	-	-
408	Deposit	1.70	0.20	Fill of 411	-	-
409	Deposit	1.70	0.25	Fill of 411	Pottery, CBM	1720-1780
410	Deposit	1.70	0.16	Fill of 411	Pottery	1740-1780
411	Cut	1.70	0.70	Pit	-	-
412	Deposit	1.24	0.10	Fill of 417	-	-
413	Deposit	1.24	1.10	Fill of 417	Pottery, CBM, Clay Pipe	1870-1900
414	Deposit	0.80	0.15	Fill of 417	-	-
415	Deposit	1.00	0.08	Fill of 417	-	-
416	Deposit	0.50	0.42	Fill of 417	-	-
417	Cut	1.28	1.36	Pit	-	-
418	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
419	Deposit	1.08	0.36	Cap for well 404	-	-



Trench 5						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
Trench contained a ditch running NE-SW and a wall running NE-SW				Avg. depth (m)	1.50	
				Width (m)	1.70	
				Length (m)	5.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
500	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	-	-
501	Structure	0.55	0.90	Stone foundation	-	-
502	Layer	-	0.90	Garden Soil	-	-
503	Layer	-	0.48	Loess	-	-
504	Cut	1.22	0.47	Ditch	-	-
505	Fill	1.22	0.15	Fill of 504	Pottery, Glass, CBM	1790-1830
506	Fill	1.22	0.32	Fill of 504	Pottery, CBM, Clay Pipe	1830-1900
507	Layer	-	-	Natural gravel	-	-



APPENDIX B. POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL TABLES

Pottery

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
104	c1170-1350	1	7	Body sherd (bo) OXAQ. Prob floor basal sherd from large jar/bowl. Worn. Fine fairly abundant limestone incl fossil gastropods
109	c1840-1880	1	275	Complete footring base probably from a large fruit bowl in Staffs refined whiteware (REFW) with v restrained central Regency-style roundel in grey & black transfer printed decoration. On underside a small central stamped 'G' - poss a batch mark? Footring worn from use
207	c1500-1625	2	5	2x bos late Brill OXBX. 2 vess incl glazed ?jug bo & v fresh thin-walled orange-brown near-stoneware vessel (like Martincamp stoneware). Both fresh
208	c1350-1525	2	13	2x separate vessels in med Surrey whitewares (OXBG). 1x sub-beaded/squared-off jug rim with ext green glaze - finer fabric poss Kingston or Cheam? 1x v coarse basal floor sherd in Coarse Border ware (OXBG/London CBW) with int green glaze & ext splashes plus ext sooting from use - prob jar or bowl? fairly fresh but some wear to rim
210	c1550-1650	2	37	1x fresh neck/shoulder bo from Frechen stoneware (FREC) globe & cylinder jug with neck cordon. 1x small sherd from squared rim of Brill jug (OXAM/OXBX) with green speckled glaze - prob 15/16C
306	c1700-1740	3	22	3 vess. 1x fresh rim from Staffordshire drab white-dipped stoneware tankard with an iron-washed upper half ext, traces of ?handle scar; v narrow & thin-walled. 1x worn bo Tin-glazed ware ?jar with traces of smokey blue dec ext - mostly flaked off. 1x narrow plain everted jar rim in yellow border ware (BORDY) or Midlands Yellow ware?
403	c1680-1750	9	903	5 vess. Large fresh sherds. 1x (?)cup/porringer handle in Staffs combed slipware (STSL). 1x large fresh base/wall sherd from plain TGW porringer shaped like mini chamber pot with footring base & curled 'stop' at base of handle scar (yellow fabric, pale blue-tint glaze). 1x profile late-looking post-med redware (PMR) bowl/porringer with bead rim. 1x steep conical ?stool pan in late PMR (prob Brill redware, 4 joining sherds) with broad horiz flanged rim & pad base, Height c 195mm, rim diam 280mm. Clear glaze int only. 1x pad base/wall from dark brown/black-glazed jar/chamberpot with trace handle - pale brown sandy fabric - poss Brown BORDB or pmed Brill? Context contents prob from a cesspit/latrine?
406	c1770-1830	1	43	Fresh base from devel Creamware dish/plate with trace of rim (CREA DEV)



Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
409	c1720-1780	8	557	5 vess. Large fresh sherds. 1x rim from tankard in Staffs white salt-glazed stoneware (SWSG). 2x joining rims large ?oval dish in Staffs combed slipware with band of joggled dark brown dec diametrically across vessel, scalloped rim edge. 3 joining sherds making a profile of a pmed ?Brill jar/chamberpot covered with an iron-streaked or mottled dark brown glaze (similar to STMO), plain evert rim & pad base (JOINS 410). 1x bo large PMR jar. 1x bo pale orange early flowerpot (PMR)
410	c1740-1780?	5	1496	4 vess. Base & bo iron-streaked PMR jar/chamberpot - JOINS (409). Base/lower wall v large conical jar/deep bowl or crock PMR with int glaze, worn base. Worn flanged rim PMR dish. Fresh rim Brill-style PMR flowerpot with large beaded rim covered in white slip band (c1740+)
413	c1870-1900	21	729	Min 16 vess. 3x joining sherds from profile of blue transfer-printed whiteware plate (TPW) with scene of ruined abbey & basketwork rim background with more ruins in baroque roundels; printed mark on back = a wreath of ivy leaves enclosing inscrip 'ABBEY/P & B' & above wreath 'IRONSTONE' (mark of Powell & Bishop of Hanley c1867-78: Godden 1983, 178 & 154). Other TPW vessel frags, also refined whitewares (REFW) with painted dec. REFW corduroy preserve jar & profile milk jug. 2-3 saucers & sugarbowl in bone china with v simple enamel dec (BONE). Approx half-complete REFW dish with Sunderland pink lustre dec - v simple hand-painted radial design. PMR flowerpot rim. Bo stoneware ?selter water bottle. Residual FREC Bellarmine mask c1625-50
413	c1870-1900	3	2366	Profile (about one third complete vess) large PMR sub-conical jar/deep bowl or crock, height 215mm, rim diam c400mm, base diam 240mm. Bead rim, flat base showing no wear. Gently curved profile. Int covered in slightly reduced greenish-brown glaze to a limit c25mm below rim, some iron streaking in glaze. The base of the vess contains a v thick deposit (max 70mm) of thick white chalky material - once liquid - probably whitewash? Latter has a flat cracked crust & slopes slightly. A few small splashes of white higher up
413	c1870-1900	3	977	Profile. Smaller version of PMR jar/bowl above. More oxidised. Deep orange-brown glaze. Base shows some wear. Height 155mm, rim diam 340mm
413	c1870-1900	2	73	PMR x 2 vess: Wide bowl rim with glossy brown glaze prob painted on to int rim angle level. 1x base of small flowerpot in pale orange-brown fabric
505	c1790-1830	2	11	1x burnt body sherd colour-banded Creamware ?tankard (CREA). 1x bo medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM) strip jug with vertical red & cream strips under green glaze, fairly fresh - prob 13/14C



Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
506	c1830-1900	10	107	All fairly small/scrappy. Incl 4x blue transfer printed whiteware sherds - plates & bowl (TPW: Willow pattern). 1x bo Pearlware (PEAR: c1770-1840). 1x footring L18/E19C Chinese porcelain teabowl with blue painted dec (CHPO), 1x bo Westerwald stoneware jug or tankard with incised dec & blue glaze (WEST: c1675-1750), 1x 17/18C black-glazed PMR ?jug handle frag (PMBL), 1x rim & handle Raeren stoneware mug (RAER: c1475-1550), 1x small bo OXAM jug with square rouletted strips, worn, prob 13/14C
TOTAL		75	7621	

Ceramic Building Materials

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
207	13-16C	4	261	3x fairly worn orange sandy medieval peg tile frags. 1 with circular nailhole Possibly late med - 15/16C? 1x worn body sherd fom side of a medieval ridge tile in limestone-tempered Fabric IB (c1175-1325), with traces of greenish glaze ext
208	c1280-1330	1	75	Very worn edge frag medieval decorated floor tile. Stabbed Wessex type with deep stabbing underside. Remains of deeply 'inlaid' white slip decoration - scrolling vines/vegetation. Upper surface v worn with no glaze surviving. 22mm thick. Traces white mortar
210	13-16C	1	29	Worn frag med orange peg tile with traces of glaze
409	17-E19C	1	36	Worn corner frag of handmade brick in pale orange-brown/buff sandy fabric with white and red clay pellet inclusions
413	L18-19C?	2	88	Fairly shapeless frags of un-sandy light orange-brown brick with a high content of cream marl or clay pellets. Some original surfaces survive. Similar to those from many 19C houses in Oxford
505	L18-19C	1	1957	Three-quarters complete unfrogged brick in a fairly soft cream- or yellowish-coloured fabric. One large side is smooth or worn - poss from use as a paving brick? Thickness 68mm, width 102mm. Similar to those from some early/mid 19C houses and banks in Oxford
505	L18-19C	5	500	Frag from 3 separate peg tiles. 2 in orange fabric, 1 in v pale brown sandy fabric. 2 with circular nailholes. Poss 17-18C?
TOTAL		15	2946	



APPENDIX C. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- English Heritage, 1991 Management of Archaeological Projects.
- Godden, G A, 1983 The Handbook of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks
- Hey, G. and Lacey, M. 2001 Evaluation of Archaeological Decision-making Processes and Sampling Strategies.
- Poore, D. and Wilkinson, D. 2001 Beaumont Palace and The White Friars:Excavations at The Sackler Library, Beaumont Street, Oxford
- Oxford Archaeology 1992 Fieldwork Manual, (Ed. D Wilkinson, first edition, August 1992)
- Oxford Archaeology 2000 OA Environmental Sampling Guidelines and Instruction, Manual.
- Oxford Archaeology 2012 St Cross College, West Quad, Oxford. Desk Based Assessment
- Oxford Archaeology 2013 Western Quad Building. St Cross College, Oxford, Oxfordshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation
- Níall McLaughlin Architects 2013 St Cross College, Oxford, Feasibility Study (Parts 1 and 2). Client Report
- Salter, H. E 1969 Survey of Oxford Vol II



APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: West Quadrangle, St Cross College, Oxford
Site code: OXWQX13
Grid reference: **NGR SP 511 066**
Type: Evaluation
Date and duration: 02/04/13 – 10/04/2013

Summary of results:

In April 2013, Oxford Archaeology carried out a field evaluation at the West Quadrangle, St Cross College, Oxford (SP 511 066). The work was commissioned by St Cross College in advance of the proposed expansion of the facilities and construction of new buildings within the western quadrangle of their campus site on St Giles.

The evaluation revealed that the post-glacial loessic subsoil which overlies the 2nd gravel terrace was relatively undisturbed by later truncation. No prehistoric features were identified (and no residual prehistoric finds recovered), indeed this deposit contained the earliest pottery recovered from the evaluation, dating to c 1170-1350. Over much of the area a thick homogenous garden soil was recorded upto c.0.9 m thick – it is likely that this deposit had formed since the medieval period, but had been subject to significant reworking upto the 18th century.

The evaluation revealed very little evidence for medieval occupation/activity such as pits/quarry holes/wells etc associated with the use of the rear of tenements fronting on to St Giles.

A series of inter-cutting ditches on a NNW/SSE alignment were recorded adjacent to a Grade II listed wall which marks the western boundary of the site. The earliest ditch contained an undated fill whose reddish colour had been clearly derived from the loess, suggesting a date not later than the early medieval, and probably a ditch demarcated the eastern boundary of the lands of the royal palace of Beaumont. The later recuts of this ditch contained fills that were very similar to each other which yielded medieval pottery along with mid 16th - early 17th century pottery and probably related to boundary ditchworks both during the period when the Carmelite Friary occupied the former palace site and after their demise at the Dissolution. The relationship between the extant boundary wall and the later ditches was unclear, however it is clear that these features and wall represent a long standing boundary in Oxford's urban landscape.

Other evidence for post-medieval activity was recorded including an upstanding wall marking the parish boundary between St Giles and St Mary Magdalen; a parallel and much more substantial wall foundation was recorded c 7m to the south of the parish boundary. This was probably a property boundary shown on the 19th century mapping, but was probably earlier in date than this.

Additionally sample excavation and recording were made of a stoned-lined well backfilled in the late 17th - mid 18th century, rubbish pits dating from the mid 18th and late 19th centuries and the corner of a mid-late 19th century sub-terrenean structure (probably a basement) which was modified and had a non-basemented extension added in the late 19th - 20th century.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS:20113.54



Reproduced from the Landranger 1:50,000 scale by permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 1998. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 10000569

Figure 1: Site location

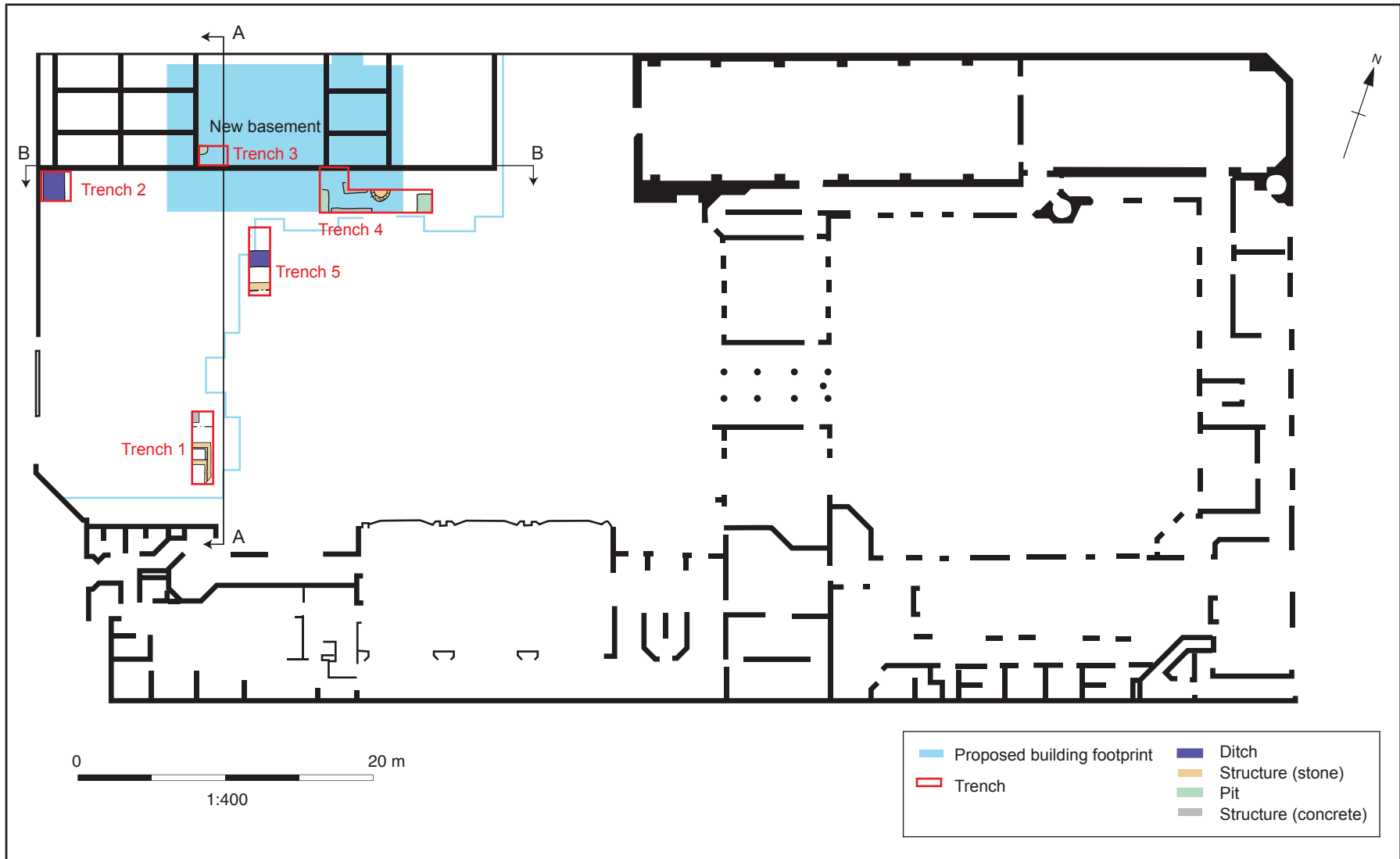


Figure 2: Trench locations

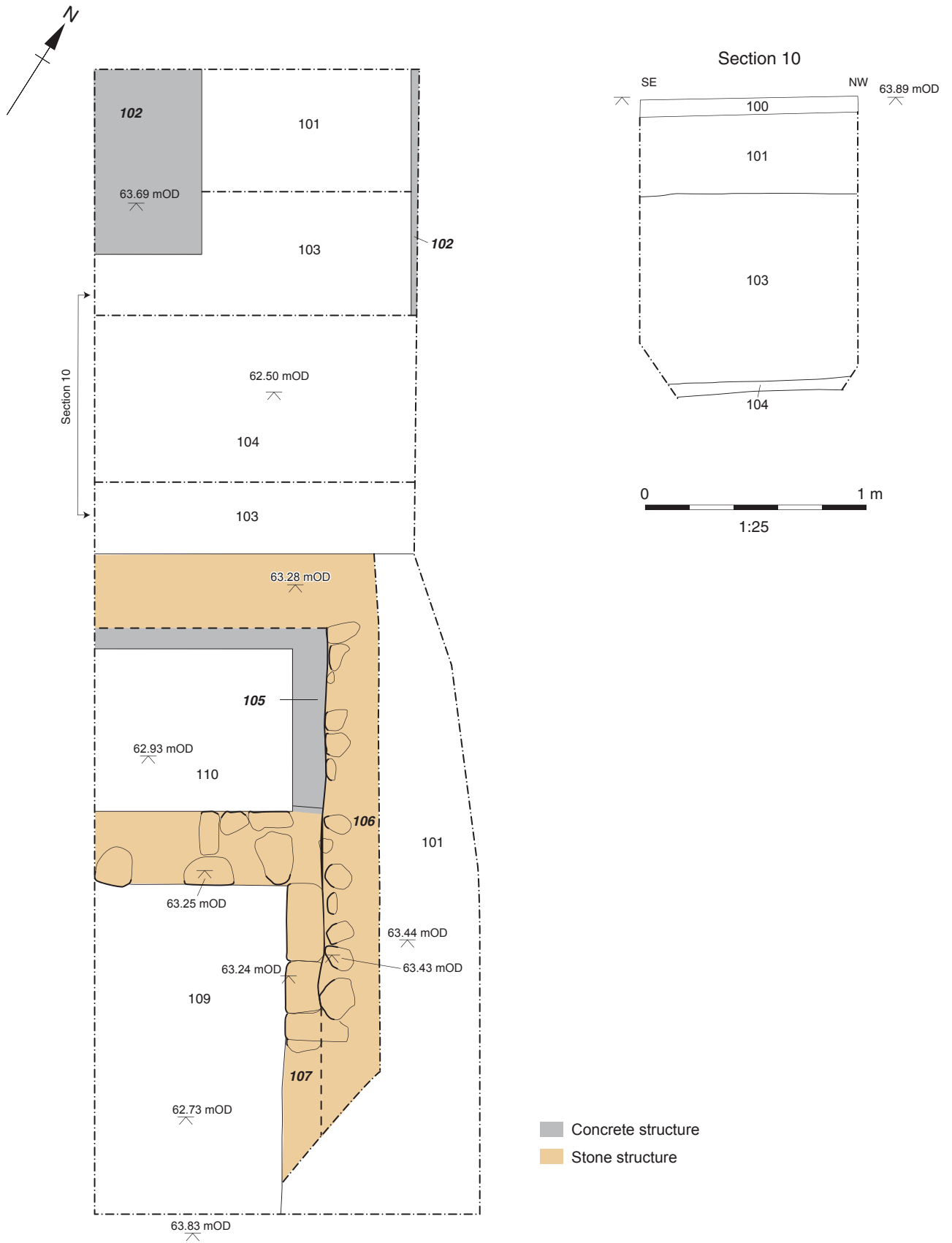
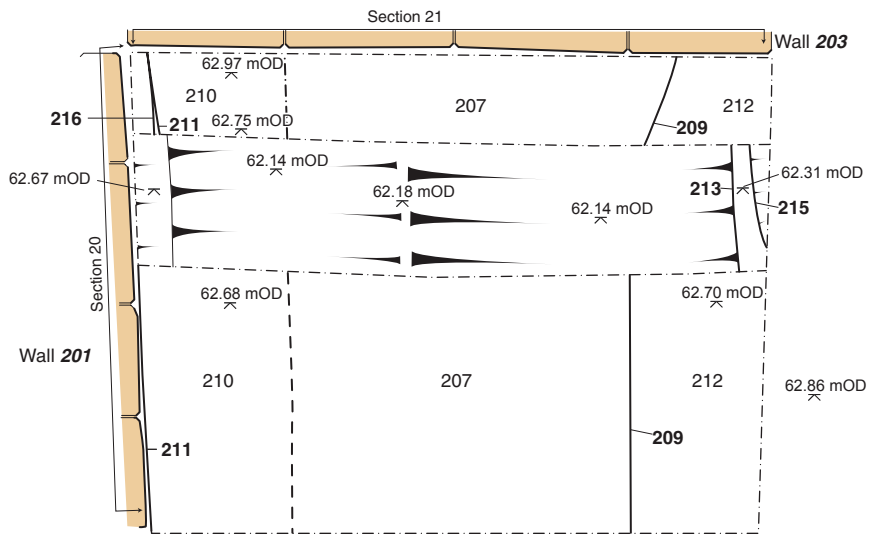
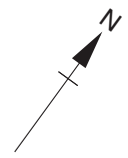


Figure 3: Trench 1 plan and section



Section 20

Section 21

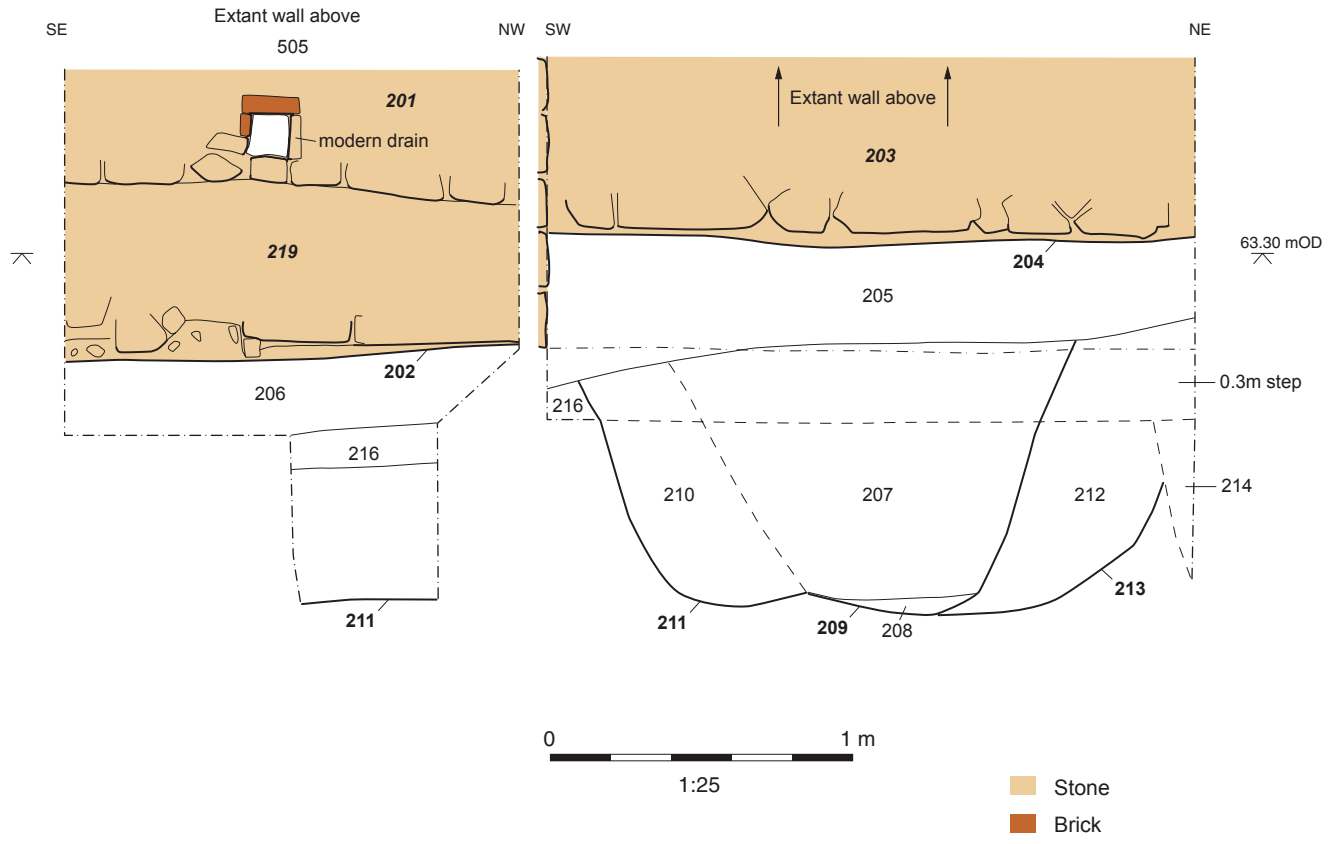


Figure 4: Trench 2 plan and sections

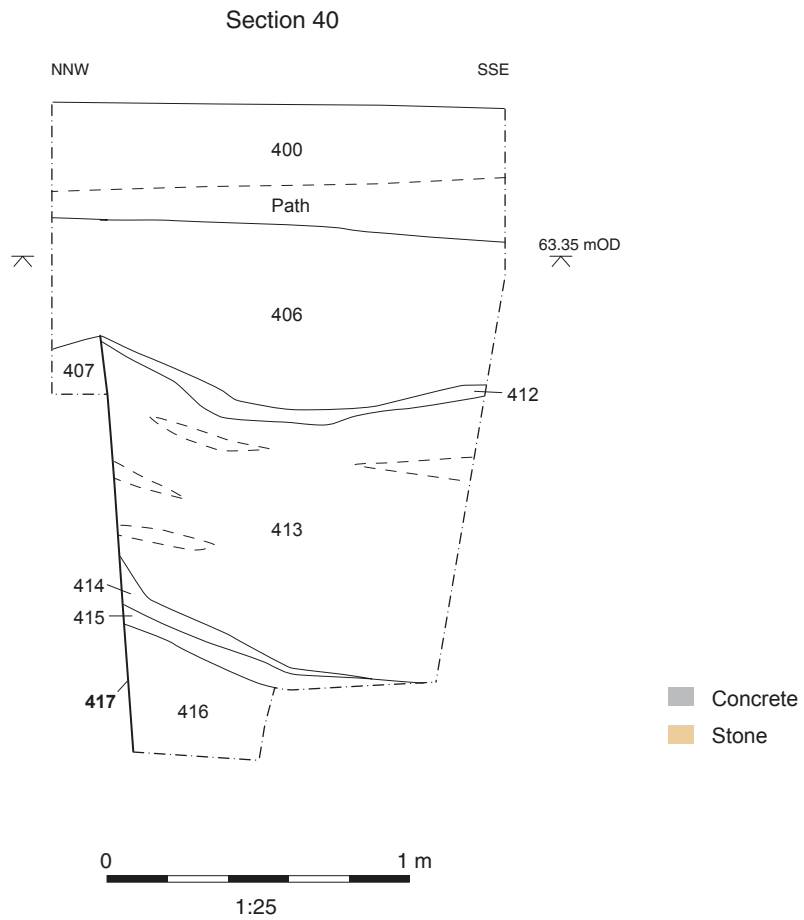
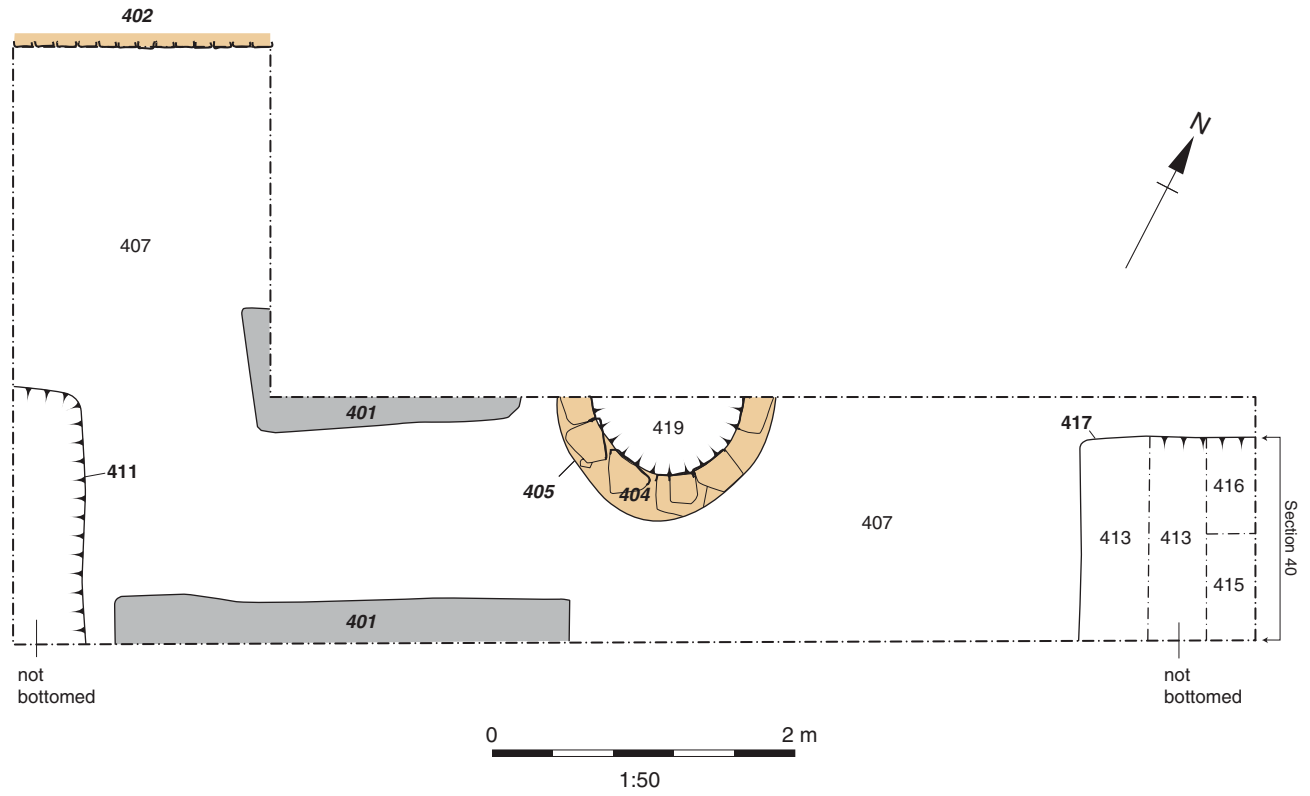


Figure 5: Trench 4 plan and section

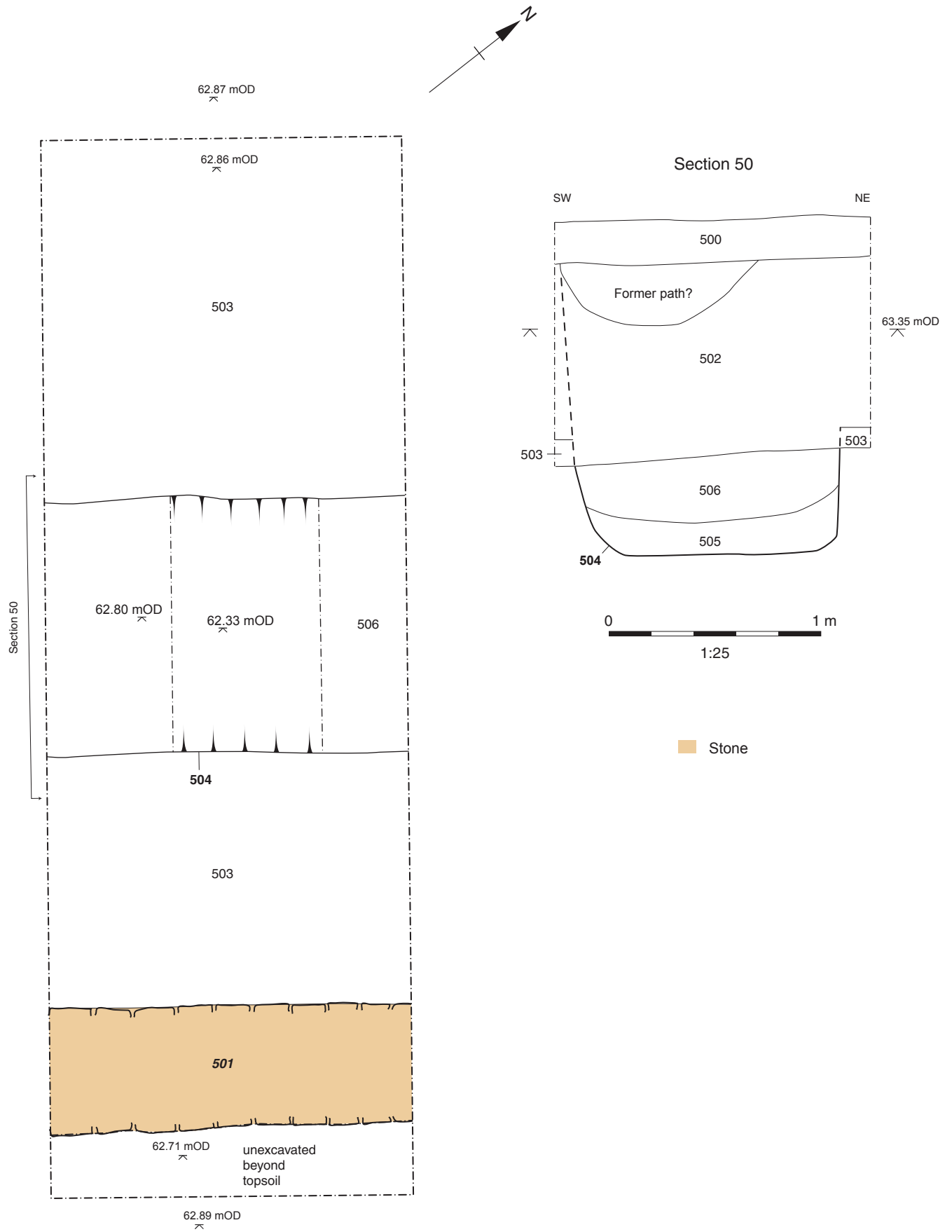


Figure 6: Trench 5 plan and section



Not to scale

Figure 7: Approximate location of trenches on 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 25" Map 1876

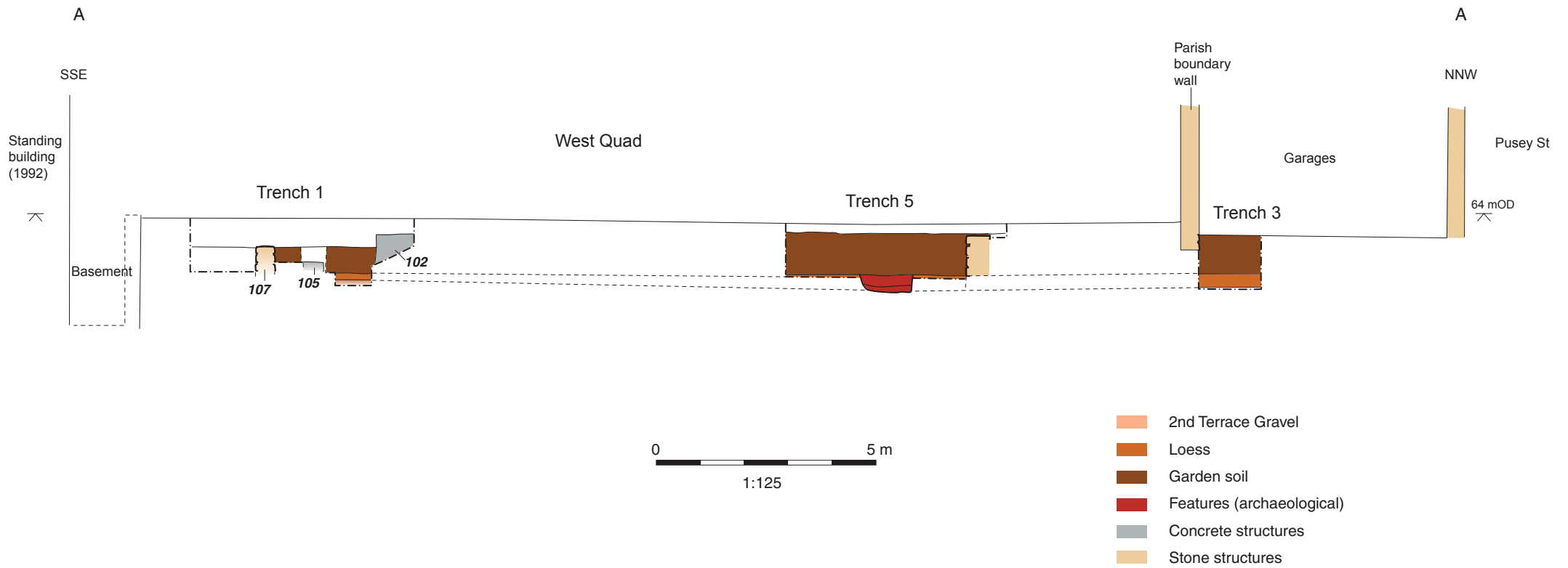


Figure 8: Profile AA running SSE – NNW through Trenches 1, 3 and 5

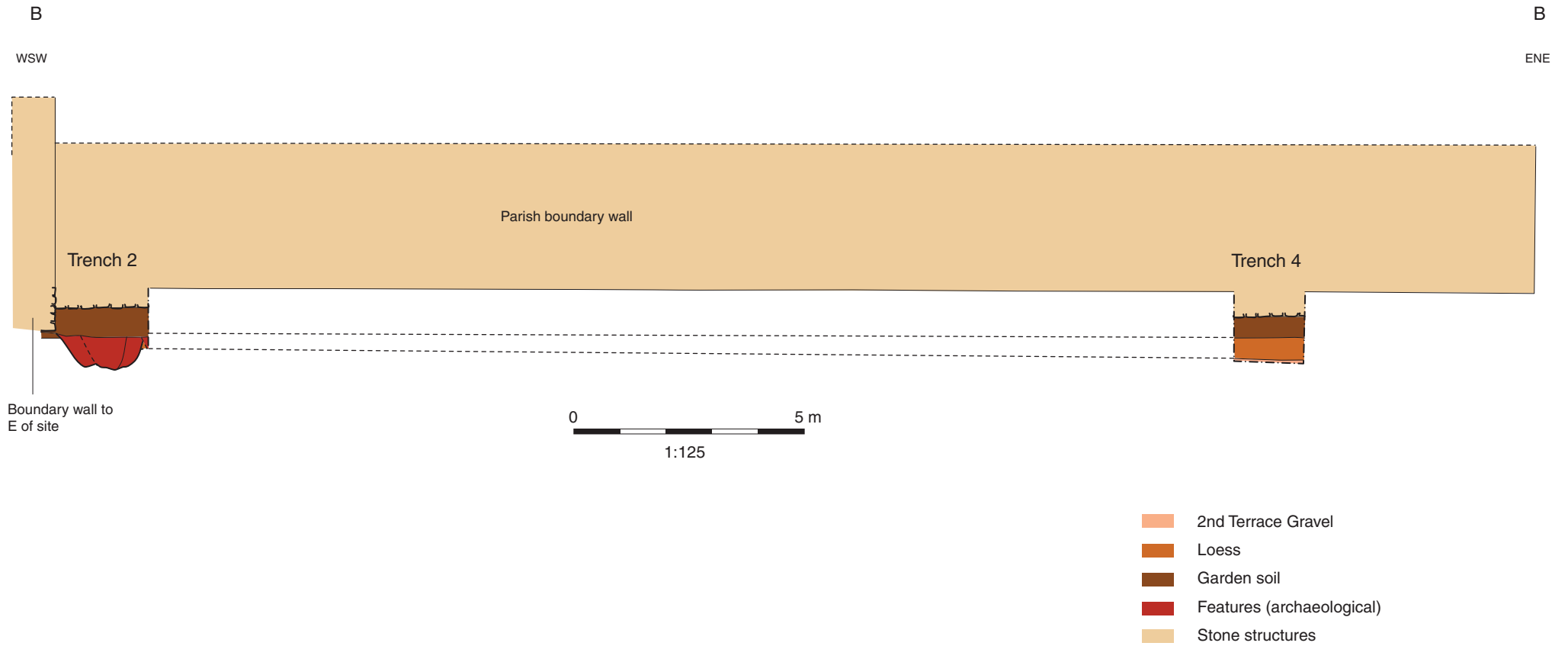


Figure 9: Profile BB running WSW– ENE through Trenches 2 and 4



Plate 1: Trench 1 looking NNW showing stone structure 107 in foreground abutted by concrete/mortar foundations 105 for stone wall 106



Plate 2: Trench 2 looking NNW showing ditches 209, 211 and 213 with foundations 203 to Parish boundary wall in the background sequence and walls



Plate 3: Trench 3 looking SSE showing parish boundary wall foundations



Plate 4: Trench 4 looking ENE with well 404 in foreground and pit 417 in background



Plate 5: Trench 4 looking NNW showing parish boundary wall and foundations 402



Plate 6: Trench 5 looking SSE showing ditch 504 in foreground and stone wall foundation 501 in background



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*