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## Undergraduate Centre and Access Centre, Wadham College, Oxford

### *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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## Summary

Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Bidwells LLP on behalf of Wadham College to undertake bespoke archaeological evaluation trenching, along with an archaeological watching brief on geotechnical works, within the area of the proposed Undergraduate Centre and Access Centre, Wadham College, Oxford.

The evaluation, which was undertaken during the last two weeks of August 2017, revealed terrace gravels overlain in one location by an undisturbed element of the post-glacial brickearth deposit which overlies the gravel terrace. The brickearth had been cut by at least one inhumation, which the dating evidence suggests is likely to relate to the tenure of the Austin Friars, who occupied the site from the foundation of the Friary in 1268 until the Dissolution. Medieval pits dating to the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century were also present, although it is unclear whether these pre-dated the Friary or were contemporary with its' foundation. The pits were tentatively interpreted as evidence for quarrying.

There was some evidence for post-dissolution landscaping which may have been contemporary with the demolition of the Friary buildings and the laying out of tenements fronting onto Holywell Street in the early-mid 17<sup>th</sup> century. Evidence for large features to the rear of these properties was also revealed, although the function of these features was unclear as their extent was not seen within the confines of the trenches. There was also some evidence for a later phase of landscaping in the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Ben Ford. The fieldwork was supervised by Robin Bashford, who was supported by Chris Richardson, Tom Black and Adam Rapiejko. Digitizing was carried out by Anne Kilgour. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Leigh Allen, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicky Scott.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Scope of work**

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Bidwells LLP on behalf of Wadham College to undertake bespoke archaeological evaluation trenching, along with an archaeological watching brief on geotechnical works within the area of the proposed Undergraduate Centre and Access Centre, Wadham College, Oxford. The site work took place over the last two weeks of August 2017.

1.1.2 The evaluation and watching brief formed the Stage 1 Archaeological work, and was conducted as part of pre-application investigations. Although a written brief was not supplied by David Radford (City Archaeologist, OCC), he offered advice in drawing up a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which outlined the aims and scope of the works (OA 2017). Any Stage 2 archaeological mitigation works will be subject to a separate WSI.

1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with all relevant local and national planning policies.

### **1.2 Location, topography and geology**

1.2.1 Wadham College lies on the east side of Parks Road, in the north-eastern part of the city centre. The site of the proposed development comprises Back Quad and Bar Quad, which are situated within the southern part of the College grounds, bounded to the north by the main college buildings, to the east by the Bowra Building, to the south by the rear of properties that front onto Holywell Street and to the west by buildings that form the Parks Road frontage of the college. It is situated c 70m outside the medieval City Wall and c 100m south of the Civil War defences (OA 2017).

1.2.2 The college lies midway between the River Cherwell and the River Thames, c 800 m from each, on a ridge of second or Summertown Radley gravel terrace. The underlying geology is Oxford Clay (BGS 2017).

### **1.3 Archaeological and historical background**

#### **1.4 Potential**

1.4.1 It should be noted that the existing building on the proposal site has a subterranean basement that extends to the full extent of the buildings footprint, and therefore any archaeology within this area will be entirely removed (see Figure 2). Beyond the area of this existing basement the following potential for archaeology at the site applies.

1.4.2 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in detail in a desk based assessment (DBA) produced by Oxford Archaeology (OA 2017). In summary, the site has low potential for prehistoric and Roman remains, lying away from known sites of these periods which have been recorded to the north, and it lies beyond the area of the Saxon walled town to the south. While the site also lies beyond the medieval walled area, it was part of the precinct of the medieval Austin Friary from the 13th century onwards, with potential for structural remains from this period as well as possible interments within the Friary cemetery (for a detailed summary of the archaeological and historical evidence of the Friary see O'Sullivan 2013, 272-4). Following the Dissolution, the site was sold and divided into tenements running north-south from Holywell Street and historic map evidence shows occupation continuing through from the late 16th century to the modern period.

## 1.5 Previous archaeological investigations

1.5.1 A number of archaeological investigations have taken place at Wadham over the years, mostly since the mid-20th century. The earliest recorded discoveries took place during the 19th century, when a tiled pavement, presumably representing part of the Austin friary, was found during the sinking of a well in Front Quad in 1889 (Blair 1976) and two burials were observed south of the quad, in the area that is now Back Quad (Hurst 1899 and Fig. 12).

1.5.2 Construction of the Goddard Building during the early 1950s uncovered 17th century wall foundations that were cut into a buried soil overlying a feature that was interpreted as a quarry pit (OA 2017).

1.5.3 Limited archaeological recording was undertaken during the conversion of 38 Holywell Street to the former Blackwells Music Shop and Holywell Court in 1967-8. Human skeletal material possibly relating to the cemetery of the former Friary was observed in a watching brief, but no details have been recorded as to the nature or precise location of these remains (Brown 1969, OA 2009 and Fig. 12).

1.5.4 Further evidence for the friary, including two more burials, were found during excavations by Oxford Archaeological Excavation Committee when the new library was built in 1972 (Blair 1976 and Fig. 12).

1.5.5 A series of investigations were undertaken between 1974 and 1976 in relation to a fragment of medieval wall incorporated into the eastern boundary wall of the College grounds that proved to be part of an ancillary building associated with the medieval friary. The wall was incorporated into a 17th century college service building that was eventually demolished in 1989 to make way for the Bowra Building, at which time the foundations were found to be 3.5m deep, indicating that the building of which they originally formed a part must have been of some considerable size (*ibid*).

1.5.6 During 1991, a watching brief by Oxford Archaeology at the North Lodge recorded a brick-lined cess pit and foundations of earlier buildings (OA 2017).

1.5.7 More recently, an excavation in 2011 undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in advance of construction of the Graduate Study Centre found medieval walls related to the friary and walls relating to the post-medieval and modern development of properties fronting onto Holywell Street, and the same organisation undertook salvage recording following the exposure of two burials during repair works to a sewer pipe adjacent Staircase 9 in 2013 (Cotswold Archaeology 2011, 2013 and Fig. 12).

1.5.8 In addition to these investigations, a glass phial and an onion-shaped wine bottle, both of 17th century date, were found within the college grounds in 1994 (OA 2017).

1.5.9 Beyond the College, although within the immediate vicinity, excavations on the site of the Bodleian Library extension during 1936-7 uncovered suburban occupation dating from the 13th century onward and an evaluation at Harris Manchester College in 1991 by Oxford Archaeology found evidence for the rear boundary of tenements fronting onto Holywell Street (OA 2017).

## 2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

#### *General*

2.1.1 The Stage 1 archaeological evaluation trenching and watching brief aimed to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of archaeological remains within the area of study. This work combined with the knowledge of the extent of the existing basement (see Figure 2) were intended to form sufficient Stage 1 archaeological works upon which to assess the requirement (or not) for any Stage 2 archaeological mitigation.

2.1.2 The project took account of pertinent elements of the city and regional resource assessments and research agendas available on the web:

- [http://thehumanjourney.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=553&Itemid=277](http://thehumanjourney.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=553&Itemid=277)
- <http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decP/OxfordArchaeologicalPlan.htm>

#### *Specific aims and objectives*

2.1.3 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
- ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
- iii. Establish the character, extent and date of any prehistoric, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval activity.
- iv. To confirm the extent of truncation upon the existing Site from the construction of the extant buildings and basements.

### 2.2 Methodology

#### *Scope of works*

2.2.1 A total of four archaeological evaluation trenches (Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5) were positioned within the development area. A fifth trench (Trench 3) was originally proposed as an archaeological trench, but was subsequently excavated almost exclusively within the construction trench for the existing basement by the geotechnical subcontractor (TP103). The trench positions were designed to target areas of design impact from the proposed development, avoid existing buildings and services, and provide a broad coverage to realise the above aims (Fig.2).

2.2.2 Geotechnical test pits to establish the elevation of the terrace gravel and depth of the foundations of the existing basement were also proposed in Trenches 1, 2 and 5, once the archaeological sequence had been sampled to a depth of 2m below ground level (see 2.3 below). However, as gravel was encountered at 1.8m below ground level in Trench 2, the test pit in that trench (TP102) was not required. The results from the geotechnical test pits in Trenches 1 and 5 (TP101 and TP105 respectively) are included in Section 3.

## 2.3 Site specific methodology

2.3.1 A summary of OA's general approach to excavation and recording can be found in Appendix A of the WSI. Standard methodologies for geomatics and survey, environmental evidence, artefactual evidence and burials can also be found in the appendices to that document (Appendices B, C, D and E respectively).

2.3.2 Site specific methodologies were as follows:

- i. All trenches were marked out according to the locations and dimensions as shown on Fig. 2, although it was necessary to move Trenches 4 and 5 due to the presence of un-mapped services and a large concrete block respectively.
- ii. All trenches were below 1m depth and required shoring. All trenches measured 1.8m x 3m and were excavated to a depth that realised as much of the archaeological sequence as possible within the limits of the shoring design. Trenches 1 and 5 were further deepened for geotechnical investigation work.
- iii. Trench 1 was partly within an existing walkway and the surface was removed and reinstated by OAs subcontractor.
- iv. The trenches had overburden removed by mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision from the Site Supervisor to the first significant horizon or to a depth of 1m maximum (whichever was encountered first).
- v. Significant archaeological deposits were not removed by machine except where such a procedure had been sanctioned by the City Council Archaeologist.
- vi. Hand excavation of a representative sample of archaeological deposits continued once the significant archaeological horizon had been reached. Modern truncation was removed where it could assist in revealing the nature, depth etc. of the archaeological sequence.
- vii. Sufficient features were sample-excavated to achieve the objectives above (2.1.3). For discrete features such as pits and postholes this involved half-sectioning a representative sample. No negative linear features were encountered. As deeply stratified deposits were encountered, it was appropriate in some of the trenches to excavate sample boxes and/or examine the stratigraphy revealed in the section of excavated cut features.
- viii. Hand-augering of deep archaeological features was not considered necessary.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are presented in Sections 4 and 5.

3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated e.g. pit 119 is within Trench 1, while feature 411 is within Trench 4.

### 3.2 Trench 1/TP101 (Figs 3 and 4; Plates 1, 4 and 5)

3.2.1 Natural gravel was encountered at 61.82m OD (1.65m below existing ground level (bgl)) and was overlain by a 0.30m thick layer of reddish brown clayey silt (124) which may have represented *in-situ* brickearth. The brickearth had been truncated by an east-west aligned feature (117) which was likely to represent a grave cut. This contained an outer fill predominantly composed of re-deposited gravel (125) and a main fill of re-deposited brickearth (118). Feature 117 had been truncated by a shallow pit (119) of indeterminate function, which produced pottery dating from AD1175-1350. Pit 119 and Feature 117 had been truncated by a second east-west aligned grave cut, which was partly excavated to reveal the left femur, pelvis, radius, ulna and finger bones of the associated inhumation (122). Two fragments of 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from the grave backfill (123).

3.2.2 Following the removal of the brickearth deposit, a single undated post-hole (126) was revealed cutting the gravel. The relationship between this feature and the overlying brickearth was uncertain as the fill (127) was identical in composition.

3.2.3 The fills of these features and the top of the brickearth deposit were overlain by a 0.45m thick layer of loose, light yellowish-brown sandy gravel (115), which was in turn overlain by a 0.5m thick deposit of similar composition but darker in colour (107). These deposits abutted the southern face of an east-west aligned wall footing (108). The upper course of the wall was 0.6m wide, and overlay 3 very rough courses with an irregular face which was offset by approximately 0.2m on the southern side of the wall (the northern face of the offset section of the footing lay beyond the northern edge of the trench). No obvious construction cut was apparent, but it seems likely – given the irregularity of the facing and coursing – that the offset foundation was trench-built through Deposit 115, and that Deposit 107 abutted the face of the upper course, given that the interface between these two deposits roughly corresponded with the top of the offset. Deposit 107 had also been truncated by the cut (106) for a dog burial (105).

3.2.4 The remaining deposits and features within the trench comprised the construction cut (111) for the Goddard building; the cut for the flower bed (101); and deposits associated with the flagstone paving (116, 113, 112).

### 3.3 Trench 2 (Figs 5 and 6; Plate 2)

3.3.1 Natural gravel was encountered at 61.75m OD (c1.9m bgl), and had been truncated by a pit (208). The fill of the pit (207) and the c0.8m thick deposit overlying the gravel (206) were very similar in composition and may have represented the fills of intercutting pits with only the north-east corner of Pit 208 being visible within the deeper part of the trench. The absence of any *in-situ* brickearth within the trench would appear to be consistent with this interpretation, as it

would suggest that the brickearth, and possibly the top of the gravel, had been truncated in this location.

3.3.2 Deposit 206 was overlain by a c0.4m thick layer of gravel rich material (203) which was overlain by a 0.4m thick layer of fairly homogeneous sandy silt (202). It is possible that this sequence equates to that revealed in Trench 2, with Deposit 203 equating to Deposit 115 and Deposit 202 corresponding with Deposit 107 (the elevation of the top of Deposits 203 and 115 was 62.88m OD and 62.75m OD respectively).

3.3.3 The construction cut (205) for a north-south aligned wall footing (205) appeared to truncate Deposits 206 and 203 in the eastern extent of the trench, and a mortar rich layer (201) which overlay Deposit 202 may have represented the demolition horizon for the structure. The remaining deposits within the trench represented topsoil and turf (210, 200).

### 3.4 TP103

3.4.1 The test pit was excavated almost exclusively within the construction trench for the east wall of the Goddard Building basement. Natural gravel was observed in the side of the trench at approximately 1.6m bgl (c61.50m OD).

### 3.5 Trench 4 (*Figs 7 and 8*)

3.5.1 Natural gravel was not encountered within Trench 4. The trench was excavated through the fills (407, 408, 409, 410) of a large feature (411), the extent of which was not observed. It was uncertain whether the deposit overlying these fills (406) was an upper fill of the feature, or a layer of garden soil which post-dated it. The fills of this feature were excavated to a depth of 61.67m OD (1.8m bgl), although the base was not reached. The artefactual material suggested that the feature was 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century in origin.

3.5.2 Feature 411 and Deposit 406 had been truncated by the construction cut (405) for the Goddard building. The remaining deposits within the trench represented a modern service trench (403), landscaping/garden soil and topsoil (401, 400).

### 3.6 Trench 5/TP105 (*Figs 9 and 10; Plate 3*)

3.6.1 Natural gravel was not encountered within Trench 5. The trench was excavated through the fills (517, 511, 510, 509, 506) of a large, post-medieval feature, the extent of the which was not established within the confines of the trench. The base of the feature was in excess of 3m below ground level (60.26m OD).

3.6.2 A number of later pits had truncated the upper fills of the feature (501, 503, 505, 508), although it is likely that at least some of these represented tip-lines within it (particularly 508).

3.6.3 The fills were overlain by a light brown sandy silt deposit (516) up to 0.5m thick, which was in turn overlain by a deposit of similar composition, but darker brown in colour (515). It is possible that these deposits correspond with the sequence seen in Trenches 1 and 2, although the dating evidence would appear to indicate that the sequence in Trench 5 is significantly later.

3.6.4 A large concrete block (513) was revealed in the southern part of the trench which may have represented a crane base associated with the construction of the Goddard building in the early 1950s.

3.6.5 The remaining deposit within the trench represented the existing topsoil and turf (512).

## 4 FINDS REPORTS

### 4.1 Pottery

*by John Cotter*

#### *Introduction and methodology*

4.1.1 A total of 130 sherds of post-Roman pottery weighing 1308g were recovered from 13 contexts. A range of medieval to post-medieval pottery is present. All of this 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). Fabric codes referred to for the medieval wares are those of the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994) whereas post-medieval fabric codes are those of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014). The range of pottery is described in some detail in the spreadsheet and therefore only summarised below.

#### *Date and nature of the assemblage*

4.1.2 The assemblage is mostly in a fragmentary condition with no complete profiles present, however some sherds are fairly fresh and occasionally fairly large. In general, the medieval sherds are much smaller and more abraded than the post-medieval sherds - which suggests the medieval material is mostly redeposited. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented and all typical of the wares commonly found in central Oxford. Medieval pottery comprises 68% (by sherd count) of the assemblage, and post-medieval pottery (after c 1480) comprises 32%. There is a strong presence of medieval pottery dating from the 13th-14th centuries, and of early post-medieval pottery, mainly from the 17th-18th centuries. In contrast there are only two or three pieces of later post-medieval date (late 18th- to 19th-century) and nothing definitely later than this.

4.1.3 The earliest pieces are three small residual sherds of Cotswold-type ware (Fabric OXAC, normally dating c 1050-1250 in Oxford, but can be as early as c 875). The largest single context assemblage is that from (206) which produced 65 small worn sherds (444g) of medieval pottery, the latest dating to c 1225-1300/25. The worn condition of this pottery suggests redeposition (perhaps several times over?) and is typical of pottery from, for example, medieval gravel or clay extraction pits which are commonly found in Oxford. The excavation records indicate that (206) is a layer overlying two intercutting clay extraction pits and that the pottery is probably derived from them. This interpretation certainly fits with the range and condition of the material present here. The context produced examples of most of the main pottery fabrics found on Oxford sites of the 12th-14th century. The latest of these was a single green-glazed jug sherd in fine Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM, c 1225-1625), there were also 22 sherds of early Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAW c 1175-1400) including decorated jug sherds of the 13th century. Other common fabrics present included cooking pots in East Wiltshire/Kennet Valley B ware (OXAQ, c 1150-1350), and cooking pots in Medieval Oxford ware (OXY, c 1075-1300), the latter probably residual here, as are the few sherds of Cotswold-type ware (OXAC) already mentioned. A few other contexts produced a few sherds each of medieval pottery.

4.1.4 The post-medieval assemblage is fairly unremarkable and mostly comprises fragments of well-known 17th- and 18th-century wares, such as glazed local redwares (PMR), Surrey Border

whitewares (BORD) and London tin-glazed wares (TGW). The latest piece is a dish in transfer-printed Pearlware (PEAR TR) dating to c 1780-1840. No further work on the assemblage is recommended.

## 4.2 Clay tobacco pipes

*by John Cotter*

4.2.1 A total of 78 pieces of clay pipe weighing 348g were recovered from 13 contexts. These have been catalogued and recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. The catalogue records, per context, the spot-date, the quantity of stem, bowl and mouth fragments, the overall sherd count, weight, and comments on condition and any makers' marks or decoration present. The catalogue comprises 24 pipe bowl fragments (from a minimum of 19 bowls), 54 pieces of stem and no mouthpieces. Though fragmentary the condition of the material is quite fresh and includes a few complete bowls and some stem pieces up to 70mm long. A mixture of fairly fresh and fairly worn material is however present. The material is described in some detail in the catalogue and so is summarised here. Most of the bowls are local types (though showing London influences) of the later 17th and 18th century, but there are a few non-local pipes of this date too. Bowls have been classified by comparison to the published local typology (Oswald 1984) or the London type series (Atkinson and Oswald 1969).

4.2.2 The earliest pieces are three broken bowls of c 1630-1650. More than half the assemblage (43 pieces) came from context (506) alone. The latest pieces in this context suggest a deposition date of c 1740-1780 and this fits well with the pottery dating of c 1720-1780. The context includes four pipes with makers' marks - the only marked pipes from the site. The makers' marks are all types known from other Oxford sites, but are relatively rare ones nonetheless; two are by non-local makers and their identification here is a useful addition to the growing number of these rarer types recognised from Oxfordshire.

4.2.3 Two of the marked pieces are by an unidentified (probably Oxfordshire) pipemaker whose initials 'R/B' are marked on the bowl spur. These are datable (on bowl style) to c 1750-1780 and the mark is illustrated in the local typology of pipes from St Ebbes, Oxford (Oswald 1984, fig. 54.25A). A complete burnished bowl with a large, prominent, probably oval heel is marked on the underside with the falcon head mark attributed to the city of Chester, broadly datable c 1700-50 (*ibid.*, fig. 53.19B). This is one of only three such examples reported from Oxford; the two others are marked on the upper side of the stem, one of these was recently identified from excavations at St Cross College (OXSC 14 (1056)). The third maker's mark, also on top of a stem, is a faint roughly oval mark containing the name 'ED/BEAS/TEN', for Edward Beasten (or Beeston), one of several pipemakers of this name who were active in the village of East Woodhay (Hants) around 1700-1740 (Cannon 1997, 131-2). A few examples of this mark have been identified from other Oxford sites including Rewley Abbey (Higgins 2007, fig. 22.19), and the 2007 Ashmolean Museum Extension site (Higgins forthcoming). Several examples are known from Newbury (Berks), where this type is considered in more detail (Cannon 1997). Two pipe bowls from this context are of London 'new type' (AO26, c 1740-1800) with a tall slender bowl and a prominent forward-leaning spur. They are in a finer whiter clay and have a much higher quality burnish than is normal for Oxfordshire products and although they lack markings they may well be from Broseley in Shropshire. By the 18th century Broseley pipes were considered to be the most superior products in England and Oxford has an unusually high number of these, no doubt reflecting a taste for the finer things in life by the academic community here (Oswald 1984, 251, fig. 54.21-24, 25B).

4.2.4 The latest piece from the site is a slender stem fragment dating to the late 18th or 19th century (context (102). It is recommended that the pipe bowl with the Chester mark should be illustrated at some stage, by line drawing or photograph, otherwise no further work is recommended.

### 4.3 Fired clay (FC) or crucible?

*by John Cotter*

4.3.1 The few very small pieces of fired clay identified are all from the same context. Given the small size of the assemblage the material is simply described below.

#### **Context (206) Spot-date: Medieval?**

4.3.2 Description: 5 pieces (7g): Small to very small almost shapeless scraps, probably from the same object. This may be from the wall of a pottery 'vessel' of some sort with a sandy fabric but the 'vessel' has been intensely burnt and heat-altered leaving a vesicular dark grey fabric with a lighter grey spongy outer crust which is vitreous and glaze-like in places. It has a maximum wall thickness of 11mm, of which the inner 7mm is grey and sandy with a 4mm outer crust. The internal surface is very rough and brownish and less like pottery than a burnt fired clay object. The identification here is subjective, but whether crucible or fired clay object, it might indicate some sort of industrial activity here. No metal residues, however, were observed. Alternatively, it could just be an extremely burnt piece of domestic origin. The pottery from this context dates to c 1225-1300/25.

### 4.4 Slag?

*by John Cotter*

4.4.1 A single very small scrap (2g) of hard dark brown (magnetic) material was identified from context (115). It has a sandy post-deposition crust. This might be ironworking slag, or it might be a piece of natural ironstone.

### 4.5 Ceramic building material

*By Cynthia Poole*

#### **Introduction**

4.5.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) comprising 19 fragments (884g) was recovered from trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5. It includes both medieval and post-medieval items of roof tile, floor tile and brick. It has been fully recorded on an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with guidelines set out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG 2007). The record includes quantification, fabric type, form, surface finish, dimensions and evidence of use/reuse (mortar, burning etc). Fabrics were characterised with the aid of x10 hand lens and have been assigned to the Oxford fabric series, where appropriate. The assemblage is summarised in the table below.

#### **Roof tile**

4.5.2 Flat roof tile (7 fragments, 226g) was found in trenches 2 and 5. Most were made in Oxford red sandy fabric IIIB, except for one in a pink clay with mauve-grey core, which was similar to fabric

IIIA. Fabric IIIB is generally dated to c. 1275-1400 for roof tile, but may have continued in use into the post-medieval period and IIIA, to the 14th century. Fabric IIIA is thought to originate from the Brill production site, whilst IIIB is often assigned to a production site at Ashampstead, Berkshire, though it is possible some production took place closer to Oxford. Most of the roof tile ranges from 13 to 17mm thick and probably derives from peg tiles, except for one tile 22mm thick, which has a dark brown glaze splashed across the surface and is probably a fragment of angular ridge tile. Roof tile

### Floor tile

4.5.3 Medieval floor tile (4 fragments, 107g) was made in fabric IIIB apart from one unglazed example that appears to be in fabric IVA/B. The others appear to have been plain glazed in dark brown/black or in one case yellow (amber glaze over a white slip). Two measured 19mm thick and edges were typical smooth cut bevelled or vertical. One had been scored and snapped diagonally to create a triangular tile, which appeared to have been sawn post-firing to create a yet smaller tile of one eighth size. Two indeterminate fragments of tile may also derive from floor tile.

### Brick

4.5.4 A small quantity of broken brick fragments was found trenches 4 and 5. Two were made in fabric IIIB and three in a red – pink fine sandy fabric (F). Only one brick had a complete thickness of 65mm suggesting they are probably of late 17th-19th century date. The two made in fabric IIIB may be slightly earlier, perhaps early post-medieval, but very few surfaces and characteristics survive which could indicate a more precise date than post-medieval.

### Discussion

4.5.5 The tile indicates the presence of medieval buildings broadly of late 13th – 14th century date constructed with tile roofs, using peg tile and glazed ridge tile, and some areas of tiled floor. No decorated fragments of floor tile were found suggesting the floors utilised only plain glazed tiles in two tones to create a chequerboard pattern of the dark and yellow tiles, possibly laid diagonally on the evidence of the scored and snapped example. The brick is probably all post-medieval, either indicative of later brick buildings or alterations to the earlier medieval buildings such as the insertion of fireplaces and chimneys or the addition of brick façades or extensions.

Table 1: Summary of ceramic building material record

Cntxt	Spot date	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Fab	TH mm	Comments
123	C13-C15	2	16	Tile (?floor)	IIIB	13, >15	
206	C13-C14	1	23	Floor	IIIB	>10	Amber glaze over white slip. Scored and snapped to a triangular shape and possibly sawn to a smaller triangular form post-firing.
206	C13-C14	1	15	Floor	IIIB	19	Dark brown-black glaze
206	C13-C14	1	101	Roof	IIIB	22	Dark brown glaze thinning to splashes near edge
207	C14-C15	3	21	Roof	IIIA	15	Finger depression on underside from handling
408	C18-C19	1	298	Brick	F	65	
408	C18-C19	1	67	Brick & mortar	IVA/B	12 (mortar)	Flake of brick surface attached to slab of bedding mortar.
409	C18-C19	1	24	Brick	F	>28	
502	C17-C19	1	52	Brick	F	>31	

Cntxt	Spot date	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Fab	TH mm	Comments
504	C16-C18	1	49	Brick	IIIB	>38	Burnt and blackened surfaces
504	C16-C19	1	45	Brick	IIIB	>41	Burnt and blackened surfaces
504	C13-C14	1	22	Floor	IIIB	>15	
507	LMed-EPmed?	1	47	Floor	IVA/B	15-19mm	Edges and base alongside edges knife cut. Unglazed – looks unfinished?
507	C14-C15	1	40	Roof	IIIB	17	
511	C14-C16	2	64	Roof	IIIB	13, 17	

## 4.6 Metals and other non-ceramic finds

*By Ian R Scott*

4.6.1 There are 19 metal objects (20 frags) including 9 iron (10 frags), 7 cu alloy, 2 pieces of lead and one piece of possible worked bone.

Context 202 (1) Nail, large with small T-head and chisel tip. Fe. L: 147mm

(2-3) Sheet lead. Two pieces of lead sheet or offcut. The larger 128mm x 120mm; the smaller triangular piece 111m x 80mm.

Context 206 (4) Nail with figure of eight head (Goodall Type 5) complete. Fe. L: 49mm medieval form.

(5) Tube or socket fragment. Fe. L: 35mm

Context 210 (6) Halfpenny, George V 1917 halfpenny. Cu alloy.

Context 506 (7) Worked or polished bone. Small fragment of possible worked bone. Cut edges and with polished surface but no decoration. One end with curved diagonal cut. 25mm x 9.5mm

(8) Sheet fragment, irregular. Fe. Not measured

(9) Nail incomplete and encrusted. Fe. Not measured.

Context 507 (10) Dress pin, small drawn wire pin with crimped wound wire head. Cu alloy. L: 24mm

(11) Small nail, complete, encrusted. Fe. L: 26mm

(12) Nail stem only. Fe. Not measured

Context 509 (13) Dress pin, drawn wire pin with crimped wound wire head. Cu alloy. L: 34mm

(14) Dress pin, drawn wire pin with cast spherical head. Cu alloy. L: 30mm.

(15) Lace chape, lace chape Type 2 with edges folded in secure tag. L: 29mm. Cu alloy

Context 511 (16) Heavily encrusted object of uncertain identification. Fe. L: 63mm.

(17) Heavily encrusted fragment, of rectangular section in the break at one end, appears oval in section at the opposite end. Fe. L: 55mm.

(18) Possible nail with flat head and broken stem of rectangular section. Fe. Not measured

- (19) Dress pin, small drawn wire pin with crimped wire wound head. Cu alloy. L: 23mm
- (20) Lace chape, small with overlapped seam now squashed completely flat. Cu alloy. L: 20mm

4.6.2 Little of the material is datable and none of it can be closely dated. The two lace chapes or tags almost certainly date to later medieval or early post medieval periods., but could be residual or intrusive. One nail (No. 4) from context 206 is a medieval nail form.

## 4.7 Glass

*By Ian R Scott*

4.7.1 There are 36 sherds of glass recovered during the evaluation and these comprise 29 sherds of vessel glass from possibly 20 vessels, and 7 sherds of window glass. Most of the glass came from context 506, which produced 24 sherds of vessel glass from 15 possible vessels and 5 sherds of window glass.

4.7.2 Much of the vessel glass was undiagnostic to form and little of the glass could be closely dated. The flask neck from context 506 (No. 2) might have been from a flask of 16th- or 17th-century date, but in the absence of the rim this cannot be confirmed. It might just as readily be from an 18th-century flask or water bottle. The sherds from wine bottles are probably dated to 18th or 19th century; there is no obvious modern (20th-century or later) wine bottle. The small sherds from possible pharmaceutical bottles (nos 12-13) are free-blown and therefore probably of 18th-century date.

4.7.3 The window glass is not closely datable, but most is of broadly post medieval date and most could be of 18th-century date. Most of the window glass comprises small sherds. There was no clearly modern window glass although some small pieces (nos 18-20) could be modern. One sherd of window glass with grozed edges from context 115 (No. 1) looks to be of early medieval or possibly medieval date.

Context 115 (1) **Window glass**, rectangular sherd of thick glass grozed on three sides and broken on the fourth side. Opaque weathering, colour uncertain. 46mm x 37mm. Could be medieval or early post medieval.

Context 506 (2) **Flask** with long tapering neck, no surviving finish or rim. Flask rather than bottle? Four smaller body sherds, no refits but similar green glass and iridescent weathering. Ht extant: c 120mm. Cf No. 3

(3) **Flask**. Two body sherds with similar green glass with iridescent weathering to No. 2

(4) **Wine bottle**. Sherd from the base of a cylindrical bottle with low domed kick. Probably dip moulded. Very dark olive green glass. Late 18th to early 19th-century?

(5) **Vessel**. Two body sherds with similar green glass with iridescent weathering as No. 3, but thinner walled.

(6) **Vessel**. Two small body sherds with dark lmost opaque weathering. Green glass. Undiagnostic to form

- (7) Probable **wine bottle**, small body sherd, in green glass, no weathering.
- (8) **Bottle**. Small sherd from the neck of a bottle in green glass, no weathering.
- (9) **Wine bottle**. Body sherd possibly from squat early 18th-century bottle. Dark green glass, no weathering.
- (10) **Vessel**. Three non-refitting sherds probably from the same vessel. Dark weathering on colourless or near colourless glass. Undiagnostic to form.
- (11) **Wine bottle**. Thick-walled sherd from the neck/body junction of a bottle in green glass with iridescent weathering.
- (12) **Phial or pharmaceutical bottle?** Thin walled sherd from small cylindrical vessel. Blue green glass. 18th-century
- (13) **Phial or pharmaceutical bottle?** Very thin walled sherd from small cylindrical vessel. Blue green glass. 18th century
- (14) **Wine bottle**. Small thick-walled sherd probably from wine bottle. Dark green glass.
- (15) **Wine bottle**. Small thick-walled sherd probably from wine bottle. Green glass. Some weathering.
- (16) **Flask**. Strongly curved small sherd possibly from flask rather than bottle. Green glass.
- (17) **Window glass**. Two non-refitting sherds probably from the same piece of very pale green glass with iridescent weathering. Post medieval.
- (18) **Window glass**, small sherd of pale blue green glass with regular surfaces.
- (19) **Window glass**, small sherd with some slight surface weathering. Colourless glass with hint of blue.
- (20) **Window glass**, small sherd with regular surfaces. Colourless glass with hint of yellow
- Context 507 (21) **Vessel**, small very thin-walled body sherd. Undiagnostic to form
- (22) **Vessel**, small body sherd, in green glass with iridescent weathering. Undiagnostic to form
- (23) **Wine bottle**, small thick-walled sherd of dark olive green glass. Probably cylindrical bottle?
- Context 509 (24) **Flask?** Body sherd in pale green glass with some iridescent weathering. From flask rather than a bottle?
- Context 510 (25) **Window glass**, small sherd in pale green glass with iridescent weathering. Post medieval
- Context 511 (26) **Vessel**. Strongly curved sherd with an apparent scar (rather than pontil mark) on the convex surface rather than concave face. On the concave side there was a slight bump as if a stem or handle had been attached at the scar. Vessel form uncertain. Dark green glass, no weathering.

## 4.8 Stone

*By Ruth Shaffrey*

### *Introduction*

4.8.1 A total of two pieces of stone were retained and submitted for analysis. These were examined by eye for evidence of working. One of these is a complete disc of slate (202). It has a layer of mortar attached to one face, and what appears to be the remnants of another piece of slate. Normally discs of this size (48mm diameter) are assumed to be counters, however, there is clear evidence that this was fixed in place, probably to another disc. It is therefore assumed to have been used structurally and probably decoratively.

4.8.2 A large block of moulded high quality white crystalline limestone 'marble' was retrieved from context 515. It is probably from a mantelpiece /fireplace.

## 4.9 Flint

*By Michael Donnelly*

4.9.1 A single stray flint was recovered from this evaluation. The flint was recovered from the fill (207) of Medieval pit 208. This feature cut into the natural gravels and it is likely that the flint would have originated from those deposits. The flint consisted of a partially crested blade on a broken but quite large and curved side trimming blade. It displays very heavy edge damage and has a dense patina bordering in places on iron staining. The flint is clearly early in date but its exact period cannot be determined. It could date from the late Upper Palaeolithic through to the early Neolithic period, however, the most likely date for the piece would be the Mesolithic, and given its size, an early Mesolithic date would seem most appropriate.

4.9.2 Mesolithic activity and stray blade finds are occasionally made in urban contexts in Oxford, especially close to the riverside. Work at Oxford Castle brought to light a small assemblage of blade forms as well as an early Mesolithic microlith (Mullen & Donnelly forthcoming). More recently, blade forms were occasional finds at the extensive Westgate excavations (OA forthcoming) and at St Ebbes church (OA 2017). It would appear that the riparian environment around Oxford was highly attractive to these early groups as was the case around many of our river systems.

### *Methodology*

4.9.3 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan *et al.* 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

Context	type	sub-type	notes	date
207	Crested blade	Partial single crest on side trimming blade	Old piece, possibly LUP/TUP but Mesolithic date more likely, very curved profile. Heavy edge damage and patina bordering on iron staining	EPH

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### 5.1 Animal Bone

*By Lee G. Broderick*

5.1.1 A total of 364 animal bones were recovered from the site, all collected by hand. Most of these were from undated contexts, with most of those that could be phased, through association with ceramic finds, being associated with contexts dated to the Post-Mediaeval period, with a smaller number dated to the Mediaeval (Table 1).

5.1.2 Caprines (sheep [*Ovis aries*] and/or goats [*Capra hircus*]), domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) and pigs (*Sus scrofa domesticus*) were present, in that order of abundance, in both the Mediaeval and Post-Mediaeval phases. These were supplemented by a fish bone in the Medieval phase and by rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus*) in the Post-Mediaeval, all in low quantities. The specimens were generally in moderate condition, with no discernible difference between the dated and undated material (Table 1).

5.1.3 No pattern was discernible among these species in terms of the body-part distribution and although most of the shaft-ends recovered were fused epiphyseally (the exceptions being the late-fusing proximal femur of a caprine (context (206), c.AD 1225-1300) and domestic cattle (context (511), c.AD 1620-1700) and early-fusing proximal radius of domestic cattle (context (207), c.AD 1175-1350) the small sample size, spread across several distinct parts of the site and phases, would make reading anything into this foolhardy at best. Butchery marks were observed on seven specimens, five of which were chopped through obliquely. These included caprine and domestic cattle specimens, suggesting that butchery was more concerned with expediently reducing carcasses into small pieces, perhaps for boiling in a pot, than with more anatomically precise portioning.

5.1.4 A caprine ulna from a Post-Medieval context (507) had been gnawed by canids, as had a goose (*Anser anser*) humerus, recovered from an undated context (504). Also undated was (105) which contained an ABG (Associated Bone Group) of a male dog (*Canis familiaris*). In all, this consisted of 227 specimens (62.36% of the total assemblage), including 67 rib fragments, 11 lumbar vertebrae, 10 thoracic vertebrae, 2 cervical vertebrae, 5 caudal vertebrae and 62 indet. medium mammal fragments as well as 72 specimens identified to species level from every anatomical unit. At c. 64cm high this was a large dog, similar in height to modern Foxhounds, Pointers and English/Irish Setters.

5.1.5 It is impossible to draw any further conclusions from such a small sample but it is recommended that the bones should be included in the full excavation report. If further excavations take place on the site this material should be considered together with any other material recovered but otherwise its retention should not be considered a priority.

Table 1: Total NISP (Number of Identified SPecimens) and NSP (Number of SPecimens) figures per period from the site.

	c.AD 1175-1350	c.AD 1225-1300/25	c.AD 1620-1700	c.AD 1620-1780	c.AD 1680-1780	c.AD 1720-1780	c.AD 1760-1830	c.AD 1780-1840	Undated
domestic cattle	1		2		1	2		2	1
domestic cattle?			1						
caprine		6	5		4	4	1		
pig		2		1	1				
dog									72
rabbit			1			1			
medium mammal	1	3	2	1	3	18			157
large mammal	1	11	9		2	16			2
<b>Total Mammal</b>	3	22	20	2	11	41	1	2	232
bird			1						
greylag/domestic goose									1
domestic fowl			1						
<b>Total Bird</b>	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Fish</b>		1							
<b>Total NISP</b>	3	22	22	2	11	41	1	2	233
<b>Total NSP</b>	5	22	23	2	33	41	1	2	235

Table 2: Non-species data recorded for specimens from the site..

	Butchery marks	Pathologies	Gnawed	Burnt	Ageing data	Biometric data	Sex
domestic cattle	2				6	2	
caprine	2		1		12	6	
pig		1			1	1	
dog					56	25	1
rabbit					2		
medium mammal	2	1		1			
large mammal	1						
<b>Total Mammal</b>	7	2	1	1	77	34	1
greylag/domestic goose			1				
domestic fowl					1		
<b>Total Bird</b>	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
<b>indet.</b>				2			
<b>Total</b>	7	2	2	3	78	34	1

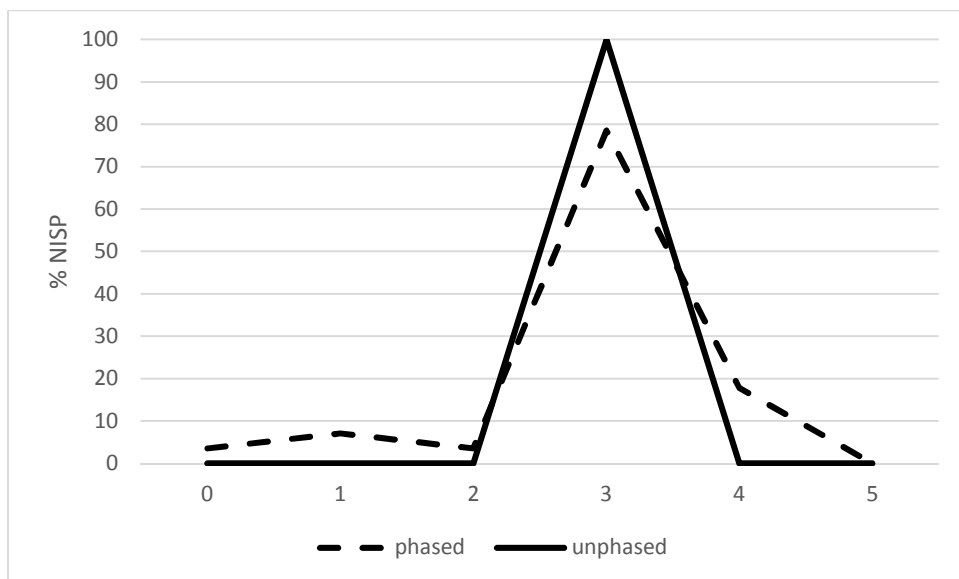


Figure 1: Condition of identified specimens (following Lyman (1996)).

Table 3: NSP and total mass of specimens per context.

Context	NSP	Mass (g)
102	1	8
105	229	1005
120	1	3
202	2	235
206	23	150
207	4	50
408	3	51
409	1	11
500	2	19
502	1	22
504	4	44
506	38	274
507	33	161
510	1	2
511	22	228

## 6 DISCUSSION

### 6.1 Reliability of field investigation

6.1.1 The distribution of trenches gives a good sample of the area to be affected by impacts from the proposed development, and the stratigraphic sequences are reasonably well understood.

### 6.2 Interpretation

#### *Geological deposits*

6.2.1 Natural gravel was only encountered in Trenches 1 and 2 (at 61.82m OD and 61.75m OD respectively) as it had been truncated by large post-medieval features in Trenches 4 and 5. The overlying deposit of possible *in-situ* brickearth in the north-east corner of Trench 1 would suggest that the gravel had not been truncated in that location, and that therefore 61.82m is a true reflection of the top of the gravel terrace. Although no brickearth was apparent in Trench 2, the relatively consistent elevation of 61.75m OD of the top of the gravel would suggest that if Deposit 206 does represent fills of intercutting pits (see 3.3.1), then they have only marginally truncated the gravels.

#### *Medieval*

6.2.2 The 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century dating evidence recovered from the pits in Trenches 1 and 2 (119 and 208 respectively) may indicate that they pre-date the foundation of the Austin Friary in 1268 (O'Sullivan 2013, 272). The function of these features is uncertain but it is possible that they are of a similar origin to the possible quarry pit recorded during the construction of the Goddard Building during the early 1950s (see 1.5.1).

6.2.3 Despite the paucity of dating evidence from the backfill of the grave (121) in Trench 1, the 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century date of the small fragments of floor tile recovered would suggest that the burial is likely to be associated with the Austin Friary. A number of burials have been recorded within the college (see Section 1 and Figure 12), but details of the nature or precise location of some of these remains are fairly rudimentary. The only accurate record is of two skeletons uncovered during repairs to a sewer pipe in 2013 (Cotswold Archaeology 2013). An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the works, and 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from beneath one of the skeletons, together with a small fragment of 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century glazed ridge tile from the grave backfill (*ibid*).

6.2.5 These burials lie approximately 60m to the west of the grave(s) recorded in Trench 1. The location of these is shown on Figure 12, together with the approximate location of the burials recorded by Hurst (1899), Blair (1976) and Brown (1969). If all these burials are associated with the Austin Friary, it suggests that the cemetery covered an area in excess of 60m<sup>2</sup>.

6.2.6 However, if the pits in Trenches 1 and 2 do pre-date the Friary, then the interpretation of the un-excavated east-west aligned cut (117) truncated by Pit 119 as an earlier grave is somewhat anomalous. If Feature 117 is a grave, then it would suggest that the area covered by the recorded skeletal remains was not utilised exclusively for burials during the tenure of the Friary, or at least that the boundaries of the cemetery were not necessarily static. Alternatively, Feature 117 may actually represent the northern edge of a pit pre-dating the foundation of the Friary, rather than a grave cut.

6.2.7 Additional burials are also known to lie in the area to the south of the Chapel. However, it is likely that these are associated with the Chapel itself, as the garden east of the college 'cloister' between the Chapel and Kitchen *"was the old churchyard, long used for interments"* (Jackson 1893, 172) and was provided by the foundress, dedicated the same day as the Chapel (29 April 1613 – *ibid*, 49). In 1893 the churchyard *"still retain[ed] at least one tombstone sunk in the grass sward, and bearing the inscription: HERE LIETH Y BODY OF ROBERT ROGERS WHO DIED Y 31 AUGUST AD 1676"* (*ibid* 172). Despite the presence of collegiate burials in this location, it is still feasible that the monastic cemetery extended into this area.

### ***Post medieval (17<sup>th</sup> century)***

6.2.8 Following the Dissolution, the site of the medieval friary was cleared and reverted to fields until the 17th century, when the College was constructed immediately to the north of the site. Cartographic sources from the 17<sup>th</sup> century indicate that at around the same time tenements were built fronting onto Holywell Street, and the rear parts of these tenements lie within the site (OA 2017).

6.2.9 The dating evidence recovered from the yellow, sandy deposit seen in both Trench 1 and Trench 2 (115 and 203 respectively) would suggest that it relates to this phase of occupation and may represent post-dissolution landscaping. Similarly, the lower fills of the large feature in Trench 5 would imply that it represents activity in the back yards of properties fronting onto Holywell Street. However, the upper fills produced later artefactual material, which suggests that it may have been open for some time (see below).

### ***Post-medieval (18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century)***

6.2.10 A later phase of landscaping is inferred from the dating evidence recovered from the deposits overlying the putative post-dissolution landscaping in Trenches 1 and 2 (107 and 202 respectively). The composition of these deposits, and that of Deposits 115 and 203, is similar to that of the post-medieval horizons recorded during the excavations in advance of the construction of the Graduate Centre to the west of the site (Cotswold Archaeology 2013).

6.2.11 Although the base of the large feature was not reached at 3m bgl, the borehole (BH102) c6m to the south of Trench 5 encountered gravel at approximately 4m bgl. Consequently, if this is the same feature, it would suggest that it's extent is in excess of 6m from north-south and approximately 3.6m deep. The western edge is likely to lie between Trench 5 and the eastern edge of TP103, as gravel was seen at 1.6m bgl in the latter. The size of the feature may account for the fact that the dating evidence from the upper fills would appear to suggest that it was still open during the putative later phase of landscaping described above, although the function of the feature is far from clear.

6.2.12 The east-west aligned wall revealed in Trench 1 almost certainly represents the northern boundary wall of the tenements fronting onto Holywell Street. The wall clearly corresponds with that shown on the OS 1st edition (Fig. 11), but may have originated as part of the original layout of the properties as it is also shown on David Loggan's plan of 1675 (OA 2017, Fig. 5).

6.2.13 It was originally thought that the north-south aligned wall in Trench 2 may have represented a tenement boundary between two of the properties fronting onto Holywell Street. However, it would appear to be too far west to be the boundary shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition, and may be an internal division within the building depicted to the rear of 36 Holywell Street (Fig. 11).

6.2.14 The extent, depth and function of the large feature in Trench 4 was also uncertain, although the dating evidence recovered suggested that it is likely to be early 19<sup>th</sup> century at the earliest. It is possible that the fills are backfilling an earlier cellared structure, and there do appear to be buildings in this approximate location on Taylor's map of 1751 (OA 2017, Fig. 9), but as no further characterisation was possible within the confines of the trench, this can be no more than conjectural.

### **Modern**

6.2.15 In addition to the modern deposits associated with the soft and hard landscaping in the location of the trenches, the evaluation revealed the construction cut for the Goddard Building in Trenches 1, 4 and TP103, together with the possible crane base revealed in the southern part of Trench 5.

## **6.3 Significance**

6.3.1 The evaluation has clearly demonstrated that outside of the construction cut for the existing basement of the Goddard Building archaeological remains from the medieval to late post-medieval periods survive at the site and have been affected by limited later truncation. Within the area of the basement all archaeological remains are likely to have been entirely removed, with perhaps the exception of very deep features, such as wells.

6.3.2 Although not encountered during the evaluation work, archaeological remains from periods earlier than the medieval remains still have the potential to survive at the site as stated in the DBA, and these would be of high local, and potentially regional, significance (OA, March 2017).

6.3.3 The medieval deposits, including the human burials, have the potential to inform on the arrangement of the Austin Friars friary complex, and are clearly of high local significance, and possibly in terms of the human remains and any other potential remains of the Austin Friary of regional if not national significance.

6.3.4 Post-medieval and later 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century archaeological remains mainly consist of homogenous land-raising deposits, and large features which may be quarry holes or infilled demolished cellars. Post-medieval structural remains are likely to be related to boundary walls. None of these remains, except perhaps the structural remains especially the 17<sup>th</sup> century boundary wall seen in Trench 1 can be considered significant.

## **6.4 Further Work**

6.4.1 Where possible, significant archaeological deposits should be left in-situ. For example, any ground reduction for an access road; service runs; piling mats should all take account of, and remain above the significant medieval horizon at c 62.50m OD, and avoid post-medieval structural remains which were encountered at c. 63mOD (c 300mm b.g.l) if possible. The grave cuts for the human burials are first encountered at the lower level of c 62.10m OD – this should constrain any depth of work in this area.

6.4.2 Only significant archaeological remains that are impacted by the design and the construction process to build that design, will need to be subject to any further archaeological mitigation work. The existing basement will be reused, and is not proposed to increase in size.

6.4.3 Although the proposed foundations extend beyond the existing basement they are limited to single or double pile caps with piles below. Where these foundations, services and other elements of the proposed scheme extend to a depth that will impact upon the significant medieval deposits that survive at the site then controlled archaeological excavation will need to be considered. Where these impacts affect the post-medieval structural remains a less onerous archaeological mitigation response would be more appropriate. The positioning of any temporary crane should be carefully considered, and perhaps located where there is already a large concrete foundation on the southern side of Trench 5

## APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1/TP102						
General description					Orientation	E-W
One possible post-hole; at least one, probably two, east-west aligned grave cuts; and a shallow pit cutting possible in-situ brickearth and terrace gravel and overlain by a possible demolition/landscaping deposit associated with the demolition of the Friary buildings prior to the foundation of the college. A substantial east-west aligned wall was also encountered which probably represents the northern boundary wall of tenements fronting on to Holywell Street.					Length (m)	3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Max. depth (m)	2.9
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Deposit		0.5	Garden soil		
101	Cut	1.5	0.5	Cut for flower bed		
102	Fill	0.8	0.2	Pit fill	Pottery, Clay pipe,	1760-1830
103	Cut	0.8	0.2	Pit cut		
104	Fill	0.6	0.85	Fill of grave cut		
105	Skeleton			Dog skeleton		
106	Cut	0.6	0.05	Grave cut (animal)		
107	Deposit	1.7	0.5	Landscaping deposit		
108	Structure	0.6	0.85	East-west aligned wall footing		
109	Fill	1.4	0.85	Fill of construction cut 111		
110	Structure			West wall of the Goddard Building		
111	Cut	1.5	2.8	Construction cut for Goddard Building		
112	Surface			Flagstone path		
113	Deposit		0.22	Bedding layer for flagstones		
114	Fill	1.5	2.8	Fill of construction cut 111		
115	Deposit	1.6	0.45	Landscaping deposit	Clay pipe, Glass	c1630-1655
116	Deposit	0.8	0.15	Sandy layer overlying wall 108		
117	Cut	0.3+	0.42+	Possible grave cut		
118	Fill	0.3+	0.42+	Fill of possible grave 117		
119	Cut	0.8+	0.4	Shallow pit		
120	Fill	0.8+	0.4	Fill of shallow pit 119	Pottery	c1175-1350
121	Cut	0.35+	0.44+	Grave cut		
122	Skeleton			Partially revealed inhumation		
123	Fill	0.35+	0.44+	Grave backfill	CBM	13 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> Century
124	Deposit	0.4+	0.3	Possible <i>in-situ</i> brickearth		
125	Fill	0.1		Fill of possible grave 117		
126	Cut			Possible post hole		
127	Fill			Fill of possible post hole 126		
128	Layer			Natural gravel		

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Natural gravel cut by a medieval pit which was sealed by a possible demolition/landscaping deposit. This was overlain by post-medieval layers which appeared to have been cut by a north-south aligned wall which probably represents a tenement boundary. A layer of mortar was also revealed which may represent the demolition horizon of the wall.					Length (m)	3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Max. depth (m)	2.2
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Deposit		0.22	Topsoil		
201	Deposit	1.8+	0.08	Demolition horizon		
202	Deposit	1.8+	0.32	Landscaping deposit	Pottery, Clay pipe, Metal, Slate	c1780-1840
203	Deposit	1.8+	0.38	Landscaping deposit		
204	Structure		0.54	North-south aligned wall footing		
205	Cut		0.54	Construction cut for Wall 204		
206	Deposit	1.8+	0.7	?Mixed pit fills	Pottery, CBM	c1225-1300/25
207	Fill	0.8+	0.44	Fill of pit 208	Pottery, CBM, Flint	c1175-1350
208	Cut	0.8+	0.44	Pit		
209	Layer			Natural gravel		
210	Deposit	1.8+	0.10	Mixed topsoil/landscaping	Coin	1917 halfpenny

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	E-W
A deep post-medieval cut covered half of the trench which was truncated by the construction cut for the basement of the standing building in the 1950s. Natural gravel was not encountered					Length (m)	3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Max. depth (m)	1.8
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Deposit	1.5+	0.36	Topsoil		
401	Deposit	1.5+	0.2	Garden soil		
402	Fill	0.5	0.2	Fill of service trench		
403	Cut	0.5	0.2	Cut for modern services		
404	Fill	0.8	1.25+	Fill of construction cut for standing building		
405	Cut	0.8+	1.25+	Backfill of construction cut		
406	Deposit	0.8+	0.38	Made ground/Garden soil		
407	Fill	0.7+	0.38	Fill of cut 411	Pottery, Clay pipe, CBM	1820-1900
408	Fill	0.7+	0.10	Fill of cut 411	Pottery, Clay pipe, CBM	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> Century
409	Fill	0.7+	0.40	Fill of cut 411	Clay pipe, CBM	18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> Century
410	Fill	0.7+	0.20	Fill of cut 411	Clay pipe	17 <sup>th</sup> Century
411	Cut	0.7+	0.55+	Cut of indeterminate function		

Trench 5/TP105						
General description					Orientation	E-W
The trench contained post-medieval deposits tipping from east to west, probably within a large feature – although the extent of the feature was not encountered within the confines of the trench. A large concrete block in the original location of the trench may have formed part of a crane base associated with the construction of the standing building. Natural gravel was not encountered at 3m below existing ground level					Length (m)	3.4
					Width (m)	1.8
					Max. depth (m)	3
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Fill	0.38	0.14	Fill of Pit 501	Pottery	c1620-1780
501	Cut	0.38	0.14	Pit		
502	Fill	0.50	0.35	Fill of Pit 503	Pottery, Clay pipe, CBM	17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> Century
503	Cut	0.5	0.38	Pit		
504	Fill	0.5	0.2	Fill of Pit 505	CBM	16 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> Century
505	Cut	0.5	0.2	Pit		
506	Fill	0.8+	0.45	Pit fill	Pottery, Clay pipe, Worked bone, Glass	1720-1780
507	Fill	0.8+	0.20	Pit fill	Pottery, Clay pipe, CBM, Metalwork, Glass	18 <sup>th</sup> Century
508	?Cut	0.8+	0.2	Tip-line		
509	Fill	0.8+	0.1	Pit fill	Pottery, Clay pipe, Metalwork, Glass	17 <sup>th</sup> Century
510	Fill	0.8+	0.05	Pit fill	Glass	Post-medieval
511	Fill	0.8+	0.43	Pit fill	Pottery, Clay pipe, CBM, Metalwork, Glass	1620-1700
512	Deposit		0.4	Topsoil		
513	Structure	0.8+	0.3+	?Crane base		
514	Cut	0.8+	0.3+	Construction cut for 513		
515	Deposit	2.7+	0.4	?Landscaping deposit	Clay pipe, Stone	c1680-1730
516	Deposit	1.8+	0.3	?Landscaping deposit		
517	Fill	0.4+	0.5+	Pit fill		

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## APPENDIX C

## SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

<b>Site name:</b>	Undergraduate Centre and Access Centre, Wadham College, Oxford
<b>Site code:</b>	OXWIB17
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 5162 0657
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date and duration:</b>	Last 2 weeks of August 2017
<b>Location of archive:</b>	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire County Museum Services in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS.2017.129
<b>Summary of Results:</b>	<p>In September 2017, Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Bidwells LLP on behalf of Wadham College to undertake bespoke archaeological evaluation trenching, along with an archaeological watching brief on geotechnical works within the area of the proposed Undergraduate Centre and Aspiration Centre, Wadham College, Oxford.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed terrace gravels overlain in one location by an undisturbed element of the post-glacial brickearth deposit which overlies the gravel terrace. The brickearth had been cut by at least one inhumation, which the dating evidence suggests is likely to relate to the tenure of the Austin Friars, who occupied the site from the foundation of the Friary in 1268 until the Dissolution. Medieval pits dating to the 12th-13th century were also present, although it is unclear whether these pre-dated the Friary or were contemporary with its' foundation. The pits were tentatively interpreted as evidence for quarrying.</p> <p>There was some evidence for post-dissolution landscaping which may have been contemporary with the demolition of the Friary buildings and the laying out of tenements fronting onto Holywell Street in the early-mid 17th century. Evidence for large features to the rear of these properties was also revealed, although the function of these features was unclear as their extent was not seen within the confines of the trenches. There was also some evidence for a later phase of landscaping in the 18th-19th century.</p>

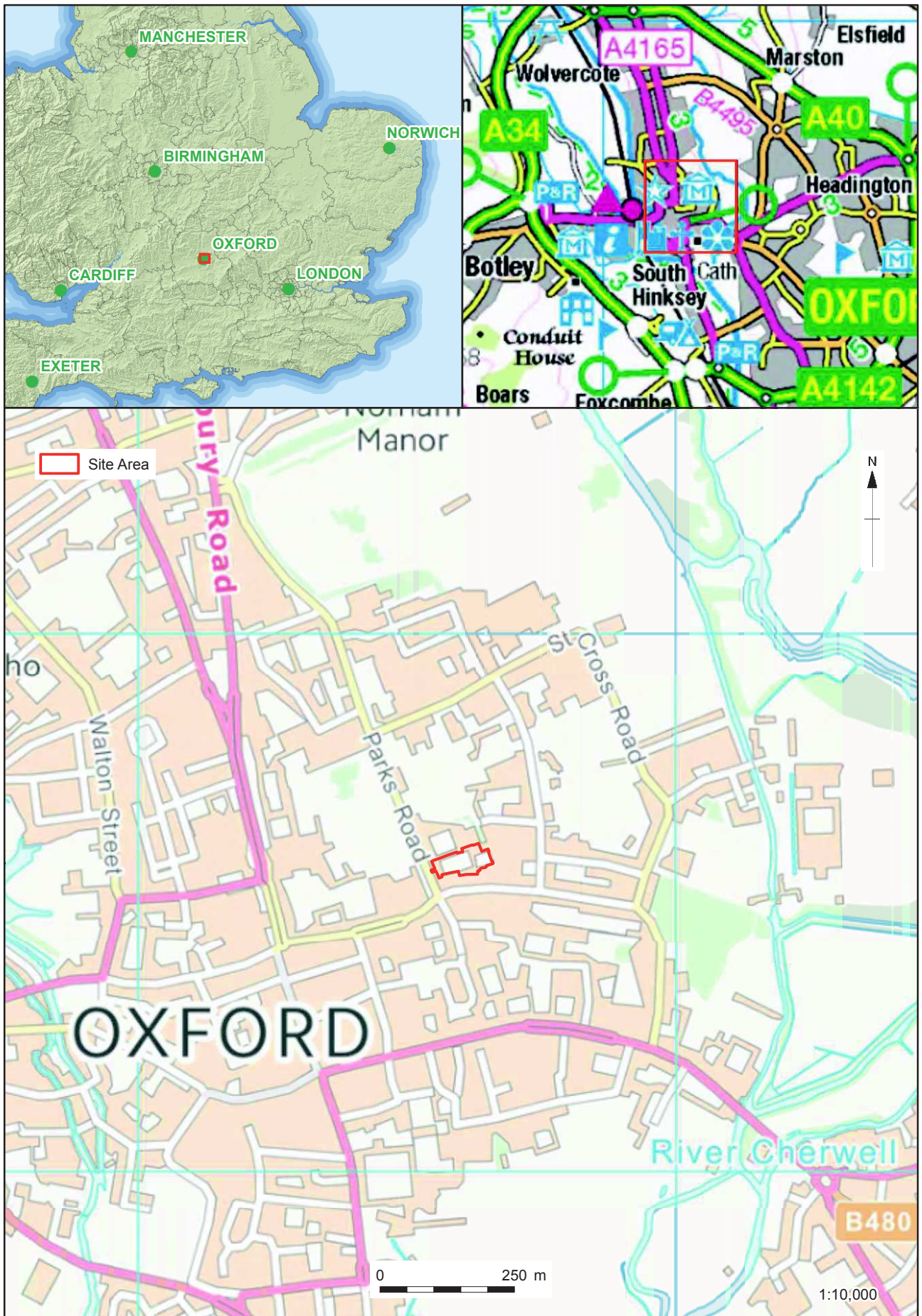


Figure 1: Site location

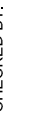
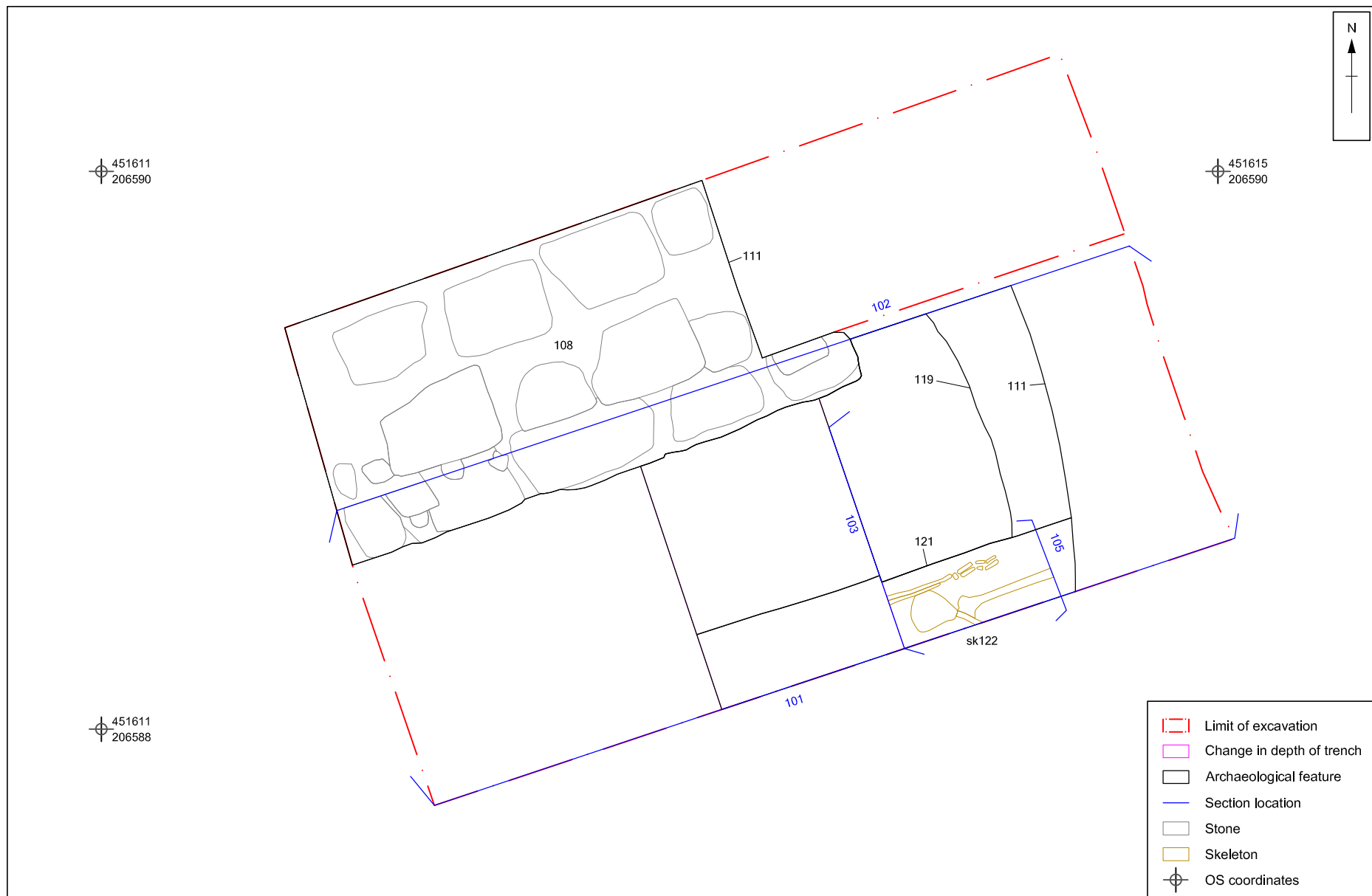


Figure 2: Trench plan



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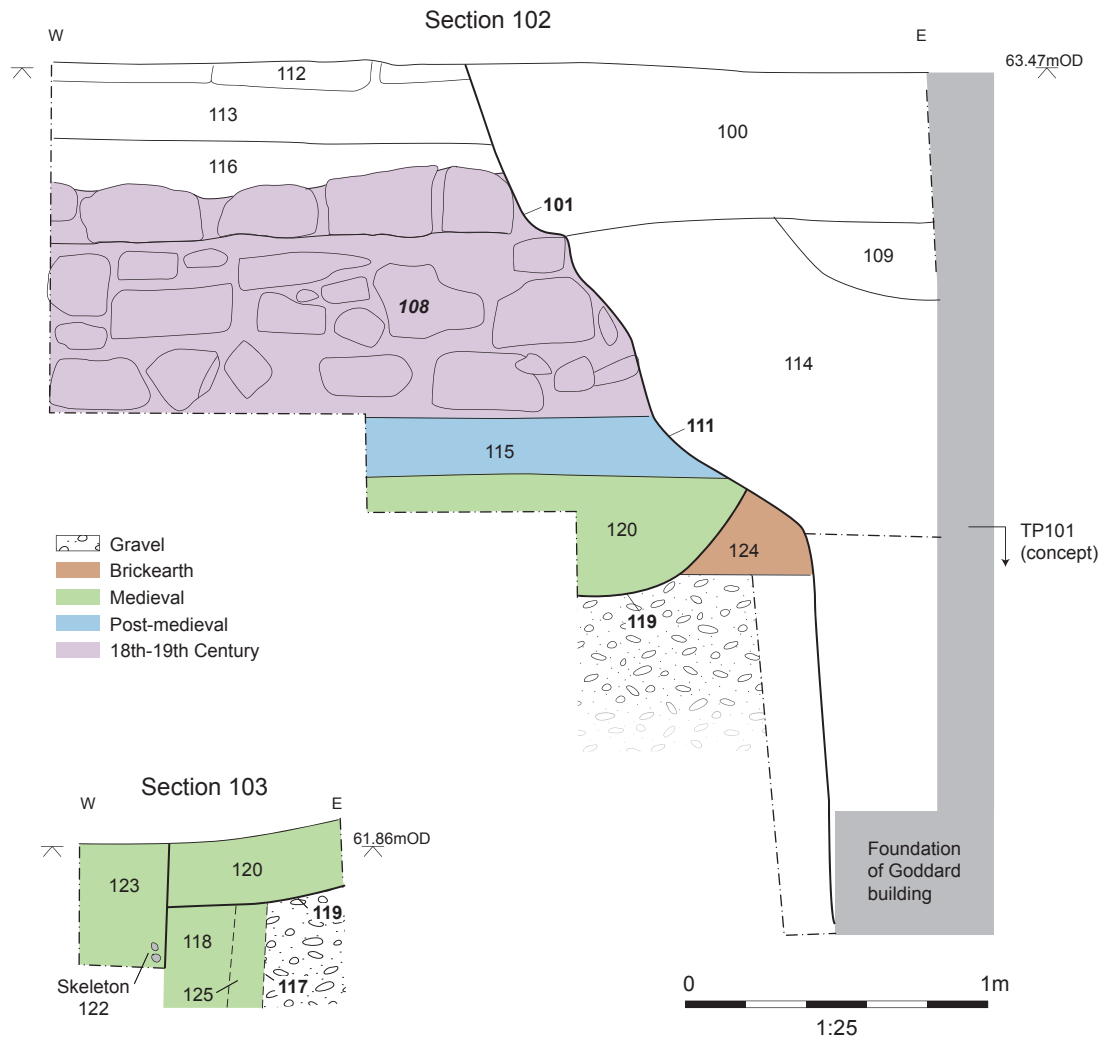
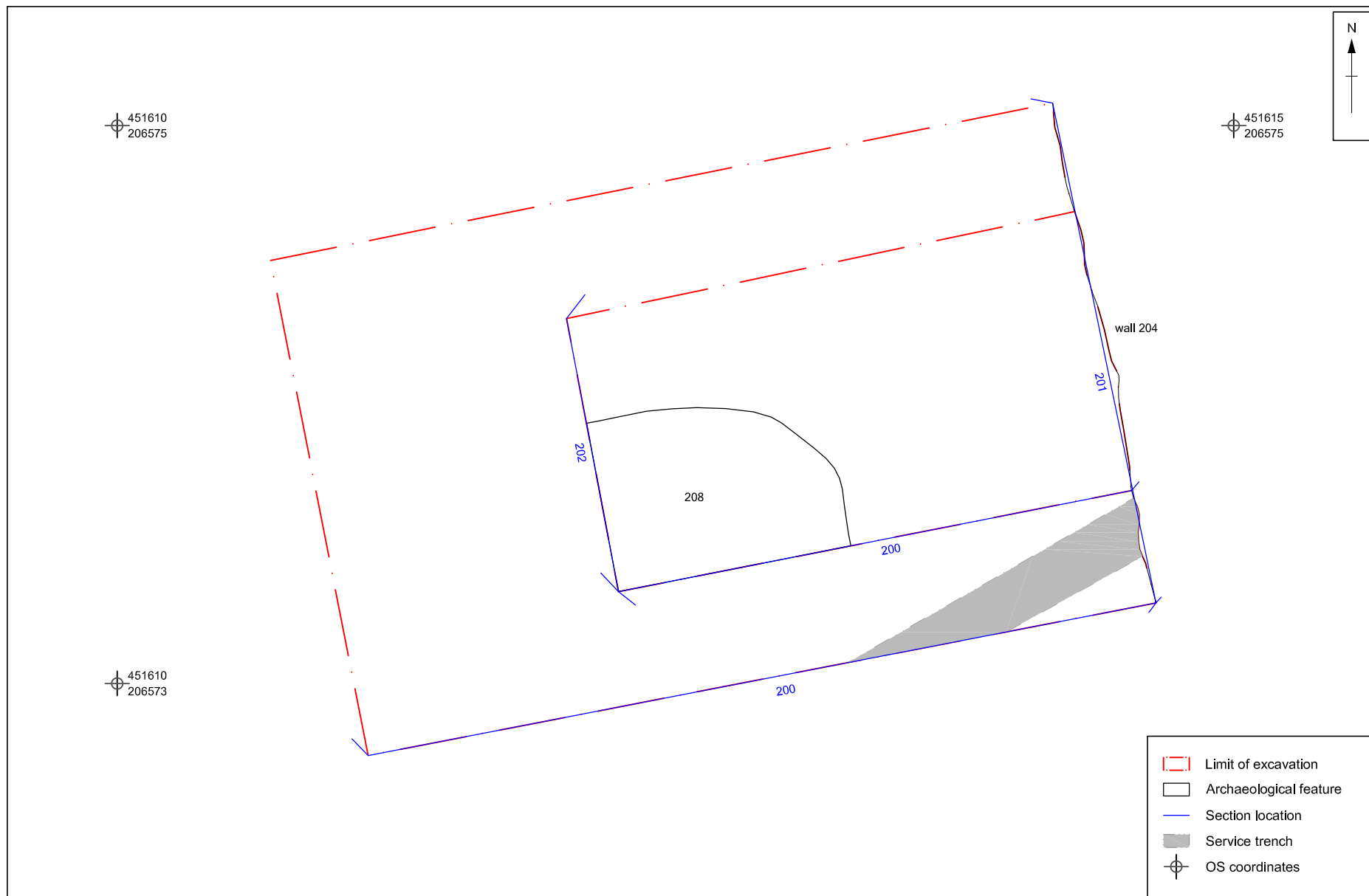


Figure 4: Trench 1, sections 102 and 103



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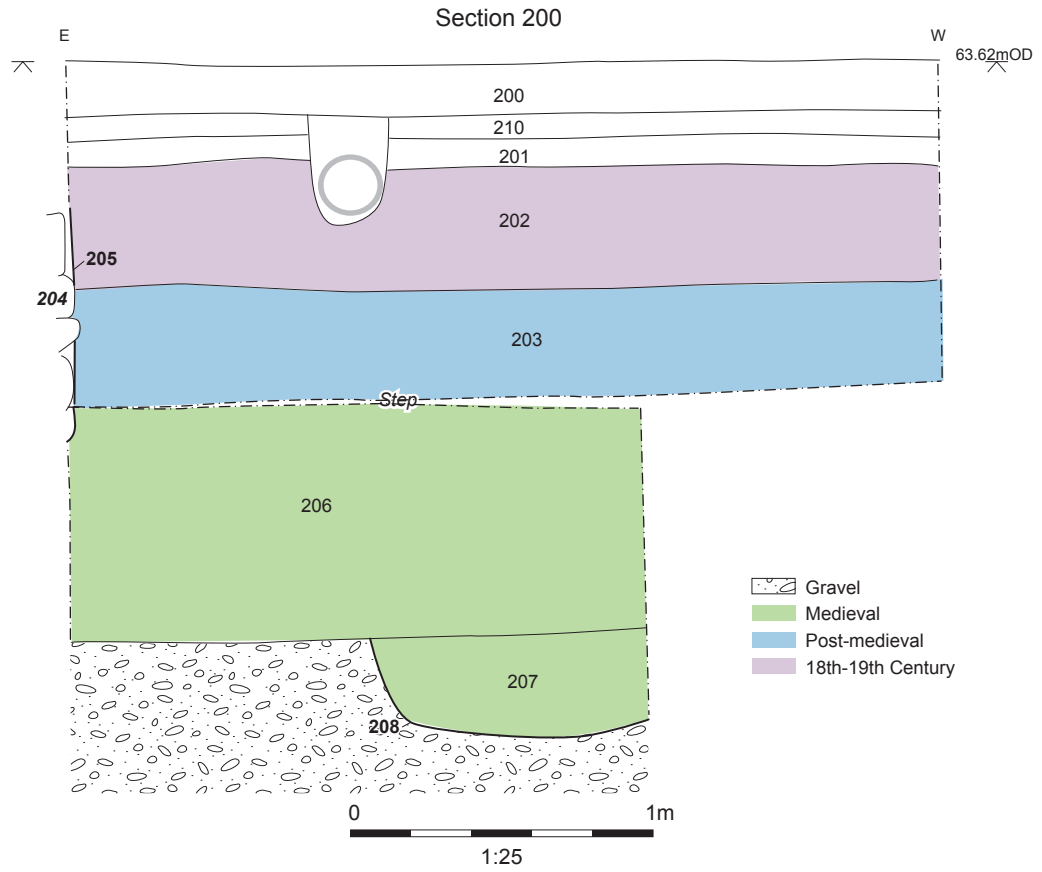
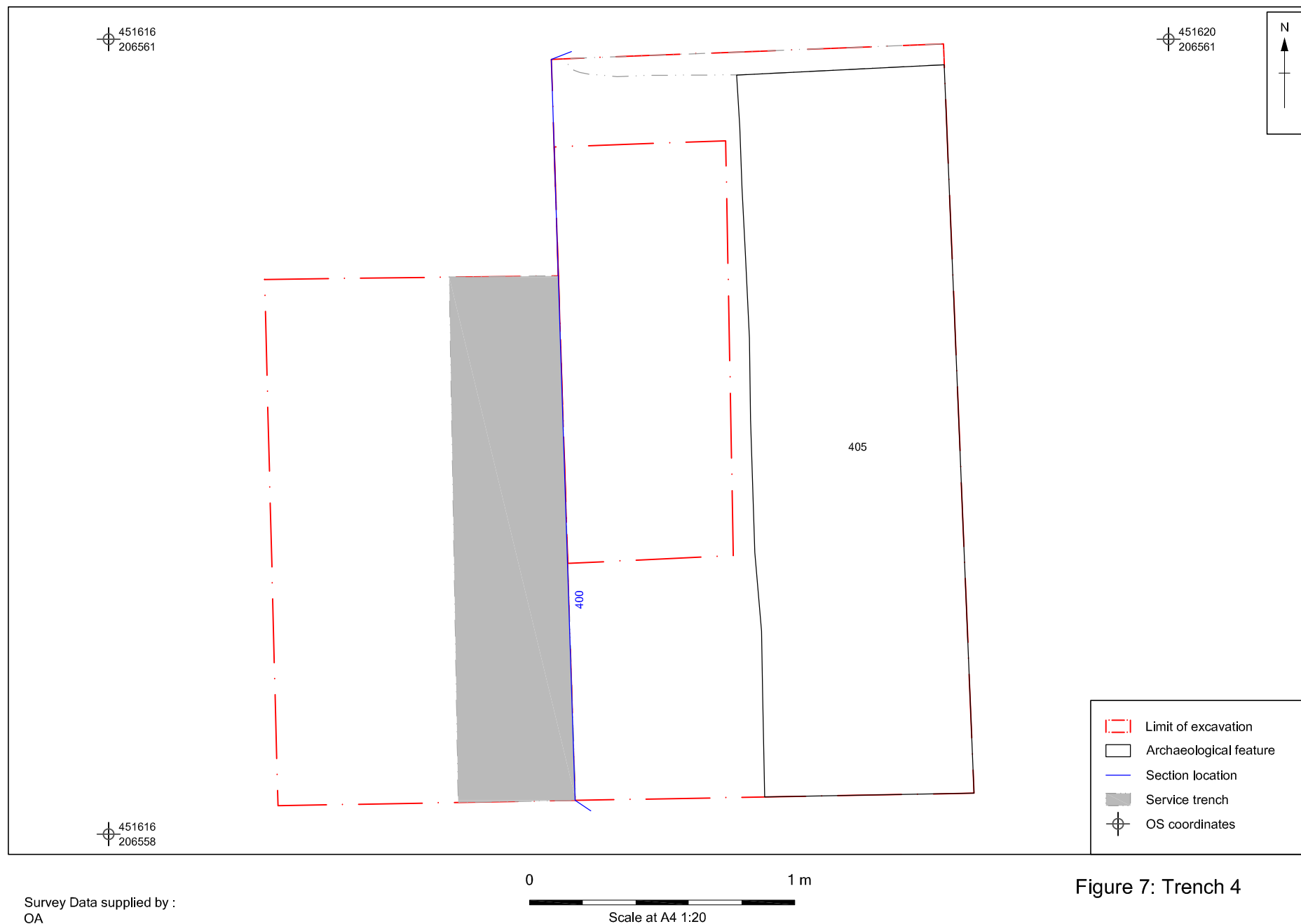


Figure 6: Trench 2, section 200



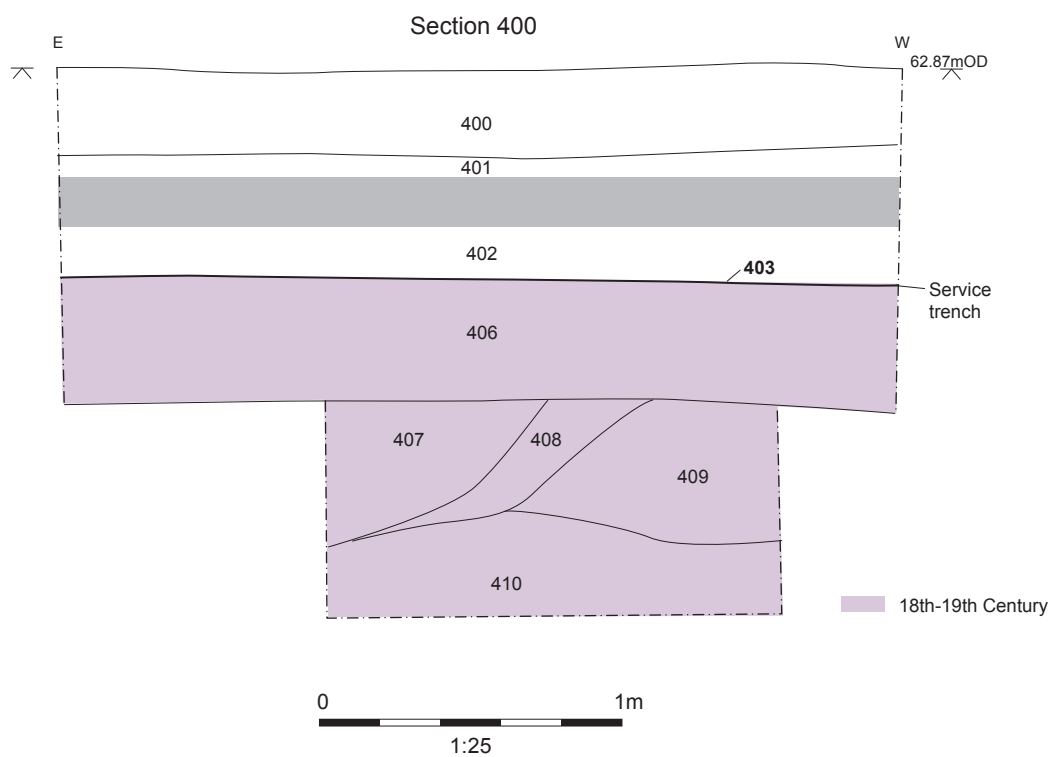
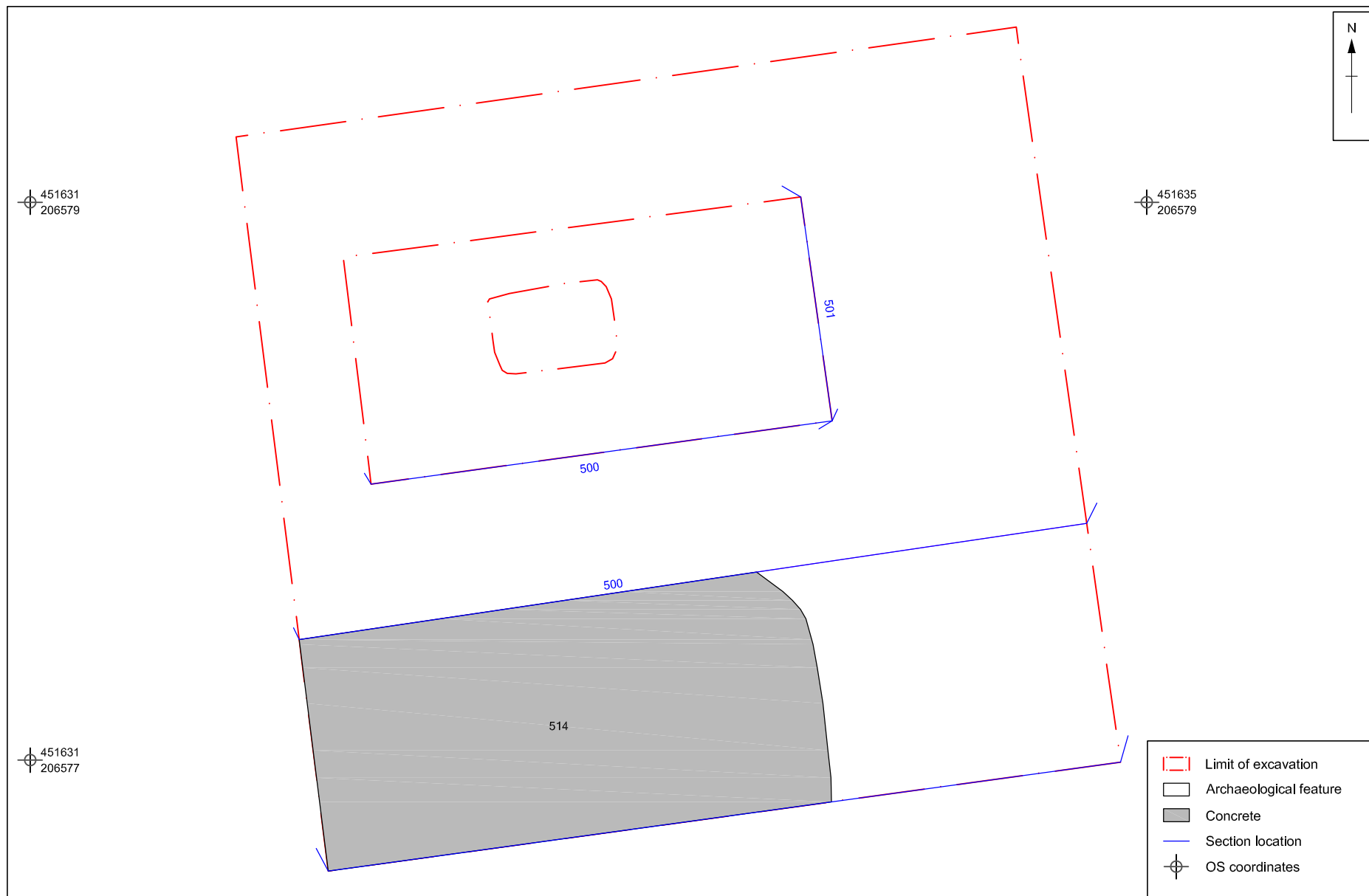


Figure 8: Trench 4, section 400



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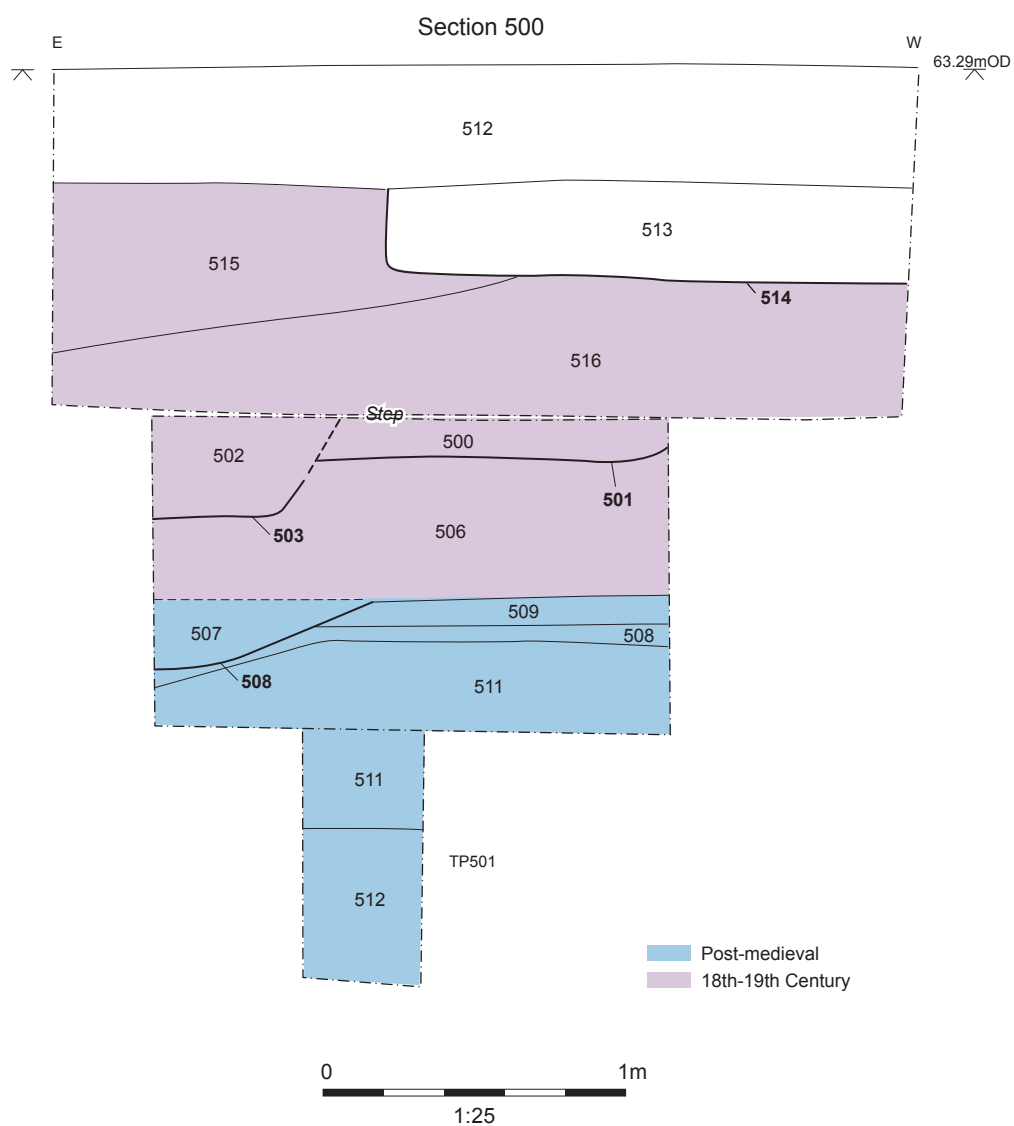
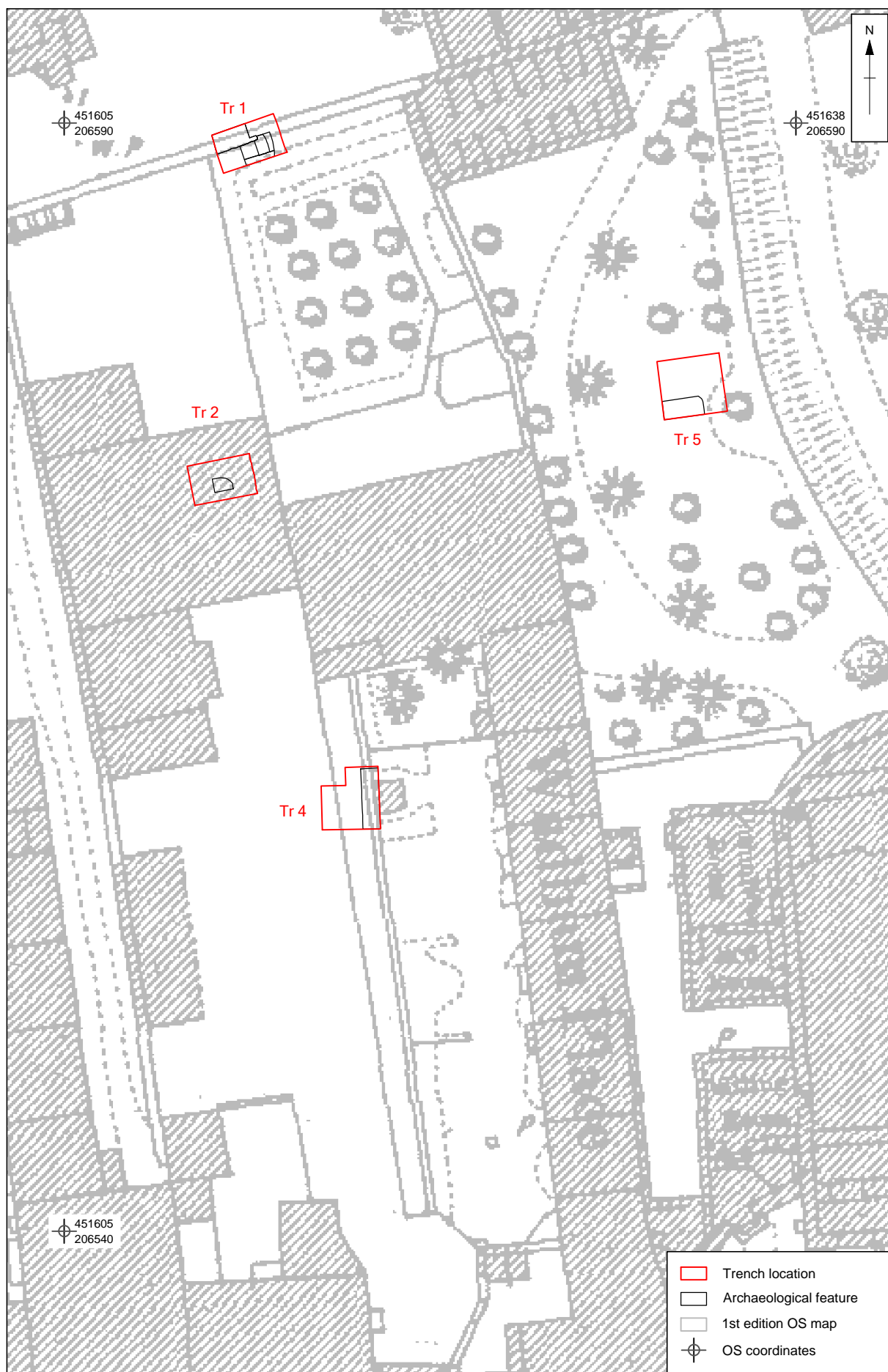


Figure 10: Trench 5, section 500

C:\Users\gary.jones\OxARCH\appdata\local\temp\AcPublish\_9756\OSWIBEV\_Proposed\_trench\_plan\_2017-09-11.dwg(A4 figure 11)\*\*\*gary.jones\* 22 Sep 2017



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Survey Data supplied by :  
OA

0 10 m  
Scale at A4 1:250

Figure 11: trench locations  
overlay on to 1st edition OS map

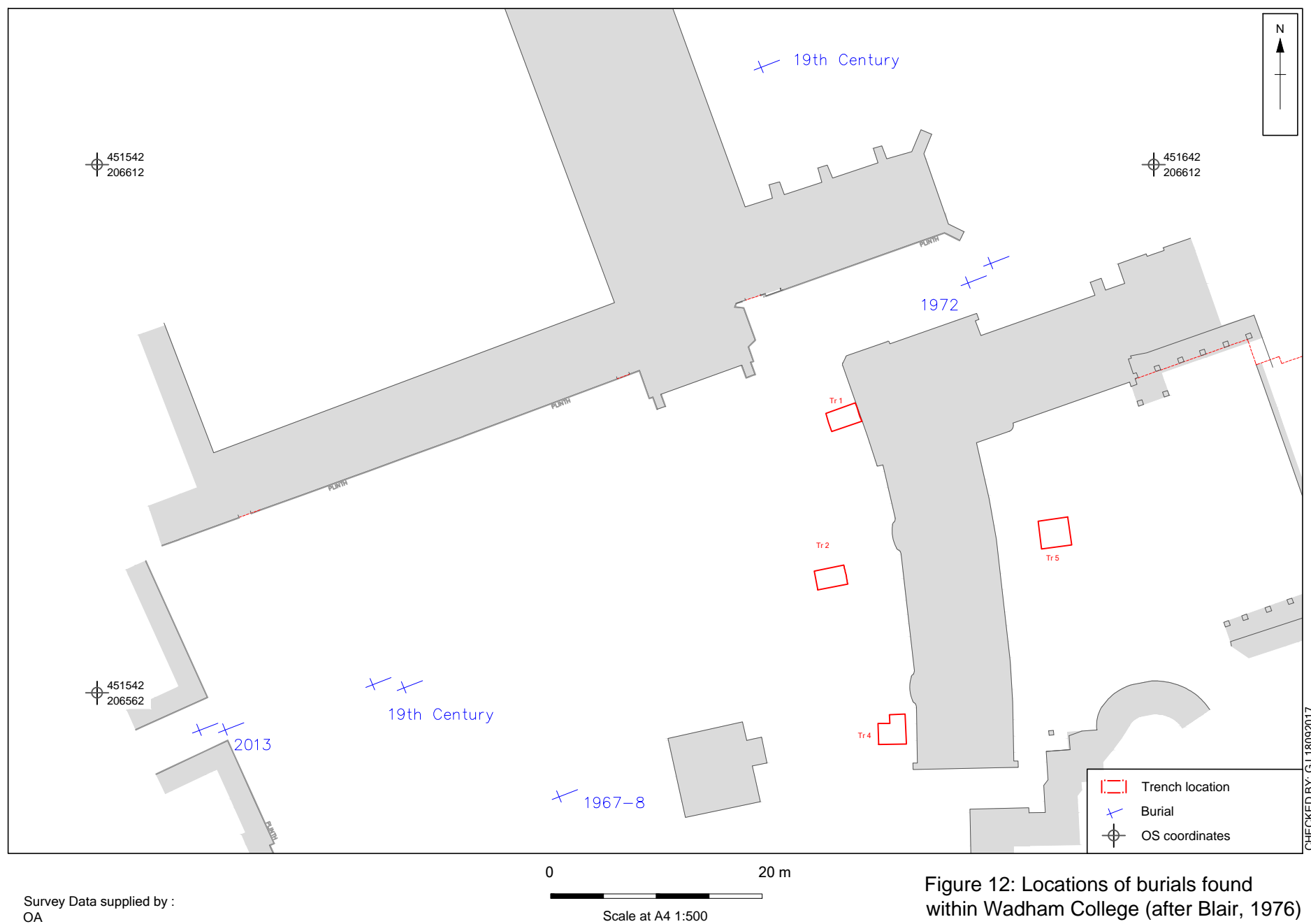




Plate 1: Trench 1 plan 102



Plate 2: Trench 2 pit 208



Plate 3: Trench 5 post excavation



Plate 4: Wall 108 in Trench 1 prior to installation of shoring



Plate 5: Dog burial 105 in Trench 1





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