

Former Glove Factory,
Ladywell,
Barnstable,
Devon.

Archaeological Monitoring and
Recording

January 2017

ASSESSMENT REPORT

Information matrix

SITE DETAILS	
Site address	Former Glove Factory, Ladywell, Barnstable, Devon.
Site postcode	EX31 1QS
Site NGR	Centred on SS 55593 34167
Site area	c. 925 sq m
Site aOD height (min/max.)	c. 30m
Topography	Ground slopes towards the north
Ground conditions	Urban area of disused buildings
Site geology (solid)	Pilton Mudstone Formation - Mudstone.
Site geology (drift)	None recorded
PROJECT DETAILS	
Client	Mazzard Investments Ltd
Client project reference	N/A
Development proposal	Building redevelopment
Local Planning Authority	North Devon Council
Planning reference	53428
Planning Condition no.	N/A
INVESTIGATION	
C1 site code	C1/AMR/15/GFP
Investigation type	Archaeological monitoring and recording
Fieldwork dates	9-11/12/2015 & 15/9/2016
Fieldwork team	Peter Fairclough
Post-excavation team	Tara Fairclough, Cheryl Green, Clare Randall
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DETAILS	
Previous events for Site	N/A
Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)	Approved by Mr Stephen Reed (DCC) on 28/05/2015
Scheduled Monument Consent ref.	N/A
Historic Environment Record reference	N/A
Collecting Museum	Barnstaple Museum
Museum accession code	NDDMS2015.19
OASIS reference	contexto1-211787
REPORT	
Draft report date	30/01/2017
Final report date	31/01/2017
Prepared by	Clare Randall
Illustrations by	Tara Fairclough
Internal review by	Cheryl Green
Checked and approved by	Cheryl Green
ARCHIVE	
Site records	5 No. trench/context records, Registers (graphics and photos), Day record (all .pdf), 2 No. drawings (.pdf)
Site images	138 photographs (.jpg)
Artefacts	N/A
C1 STAFF	
Projects Director, Historic Buildings Archaeologist	Richard McConnell BA (Hons), PCIfA
Fieldwork Manager, Osteoarchaeologist	Stuart Milby BSc (Hons), MSc, PCIfA
Post-excavation Manager, Historic Buildings Archaeologist, Stone Specialist	Cheryl Green FSA, BA Hons, PhD
Illustrator, Project co-ordination, Historic Buildings Archaeologist	Tara Fairclough BA (Hons), PCIfA
Archaeological Officer, Animal Bone Specialist, Archivist	Clare Randall FSA, BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, PCIfA
Senior Field Archaeologist, Environmental processor	Peter Fairclough BA (Hons)

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Summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out Archaeological Monitoring and Recording as a condition of granting planning permission for redevelopment at the Former Glove Factory, Ladywell, Barnstable, Devon. The project was commissioned and funded by Mazzard Investments Ltd.

The monitoring programme was requested by North Devon Council due to the potential for discovering medieval or earlier archaeological features or deposits.

Despite the location of the Site, no archaeological features or deposits earlier than the post-medieval period were noted. A deposit of silts is most likely to represent a tanning pit, with a limestone culvert providing a sluice into it. Both of these are likely to have been associated with the industrial use of the Glove Factory. An earlier floor of the Glove Factory was also seen with part of a cobbled surface butting a limestone flag at the same horizon. No dateable finds were recovered, but in both cases, these structures were overlain by modern demolition and make up layers.

This report is produced solely for the benefit of an individual client and for the proposed uses stated in the report, and should not be relied upon for other purposes or by other parties unless specifically agreed by us in writing. The different elements of the report are designed to be integral to each other and therefore do not necessarily stand alone. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of C1 using reasonable skill and care, however no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or less than fully representative information. This report is limited to the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. Any investigative work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations imposed by such factors as timescales, budgets, seasonal variations and weather conditions.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording as a condition of granting planning permission for redevelopment at the Former Glove Factory, Ladywell, Barnstable, Devon (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**). The project was commissioned and funded by Mazzard Investments Ltd.

1.2 The evaluation was requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), North Devon Council (NDC) on the advice of Mr Stephen Reed (Historic Environment Officer, Devon County Council). In a consultation email to Mazzard Investments Mr Reed stated:

"...the proposed development site does lie within the historic core of Pilton and in close proximity to several Listed Buildings including the parish church of St Mary the Virgin that has its origins as a 10th century Benedictine Priory. As such, any groundworks associated with the creation of the car parking areas have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological deposits associated with the medieval and earlier settlement here."

1.3 The programme of archaeological works comprised four elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the project strategy; archaeological monitoring and recording; post-excavation and report production (this document); and archive deposition.

1.4 The requirement follows advice by Central Government as set out in paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012). This states:

"Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted."

2. Aims & Objectives

2.1 The principal objectives of the archaeological work were:

- to assess the known archaeological and historical potential of the Site;
- to understand the significance of the archaeological resource;
- to determine the character of the archaeological remains, where present;
- to recover environmental information, which may provide further information relating to the local historic environment of the area;
- and to provide sufficient information to enable further mitigation strategies to be determined, where appropriate.

3. Methodology

3.1 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014), and in accordance with the Devon County Council *The Historic Environment and Development: Practice Note*. (2009). COAS adhered to the *Code of Conduct* of the CIfA (1985, rev. 2000, 2014), and *Regulations for Professional Conduct* (CIfA, 2014, rev. 2015) at all times during the course of the monitoring programme. The fieldwork methodology is summarised below.

3.2 COAS gave notification of the commencement of archaeological works to Mr Stephen Reed (Historic Environment Officer, Devon County Council) and invited him to conduct a Site visit for the purpose of monitoring archaeological fieldwork as appropriate. A Site visit was not deemed necessary.

- 3.3 An archaeologist was present on Site to monitor all groundworks (comprising seven trenches) for the purpose of identifying and recording any archaeological remains, features and deposits present. Provision was made to allow extra time for the excavation and recording of features revealed as a result of groundworks.
- 3.4 All the groundwork trenches were recorded using a combination of COAS *pro-forma* profile sheets and profile forms in digital format using iPad mini tablets. This included logging the deposit sequence encountered and a digital photograph of a representative section.
- 3.5 Any archaeological features/deposits were recorded using standard COAS *pro-forma* feature intervention recording forms in digital format using iPad mini tablets. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a “Harris-Winchester matrix” diagram. Soil colours were logged using a Munsell soil colour chart. Any features were drawn on dimensionally stable media at scales of 1:20 (plans) and 1:10 (sections).
- 3.6 The location, extent and altitude of archaeological features and deposits were mapped relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum using a TopCon GRS-1 Global Positioning System receiving real-time calibrations to produce accuracies of 1-2cm.
- 3.7 A digital photographic record of any features/deposits was carried out to illustrate the detail and general context of any remains. The record also included working shots to demonstrate the nature of the archaeological investigation.

4. Results

- 4.1 All deposits were recorded as individual contexts and ascribed a unique number. Contexts referenced in this report are presented in standard terms, e.g. (100), (203).
- 4.2 Archaeological monitoring was carried out on Site from 9 to 11 December 2015, and again on 15 September 2016. Weather conditions were generally dry and overcast but with some spells of rain. Ground conditions were generally dry.
- 4.3 A total of seven groundwork trenches were monitored (**Figure 2**). Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7 were archaeologically sterile (see **Plates 1 & 2**). The upper layer was concrete, with layers beneath of made ground containing modern building rubble. The natural mudstone shillet was only seen in Tr1. All contextual information is provided in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.4 Trench 2 contained, below a modern make up layer (202), a light grey limestone culvert/channel (204) measuring c. 0.25m wide and c. 0.20m deep which was bedded into a lime mortar (206). This ran on a north to south alignment, curving out of the trench towards the north-east at its northern end (**Figure 2**). This structure defined an area on its eastern side which was filled with a very dark grey brown silty clay with small limestones and frequent waterlogged twigs and branches. On its western side this was butted by a rubble of grey angular bricks and concrete fragments, of evidently modern origin.
- 4.5 In Trench 3, where the concrete (300) overlay two layers of made-up ground of rubble (301) and silty clay with mortar fragments (302), a floor layer was identified. This comprised a packed cobble surface (303) and a single limestone flagstone (304) butted to it on the same level.

5. The finds

- 5.1 No finds were observed or collected during archaeological monitoring.

6. Discussion

- 6.1 Despite the location of the Site indicating that there was a possibility of disturbance of medieval or earlier remains, no archaeological features or deposits pre-dating the post-medieval period were noted. A deposit of organic rich silts in Tr2 was bordered by a post-medieval culvert/channel. The deposit of silts most likely

represents a tanning pit, with the culvert providing a sluice into it. Both of these are likely to have been associated with the industrial use of the Glove Factory. The earliest part of the building is of likely late 18th or early 19th century origin, and used as a tannery or warehouse, being expanded in the later 19th and 20th century (Green and Wapshott 2012). An earlier floor of the Glove Factory was seen in Tr3, with part of a cobbled surface butting a limestone flag at the same layer, and indicating that there was more than one type of floor surface in this area. No dateable finds were recovered, and in both cases, these structures were overlain by modern demolition and make-up layers so it is not possible to provide a date for their construction.

7. Archive

- 7.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) requires that an archaeological archive arising from development works is made publicly accessible (para. 141). The archive comprises two parts: the paper/digital archive including site records and images; and the artefact/ecofact assemblage. In this case no finds were noted or retained.
- 7.2 The digital archive (consisting of born-digital data and digital copies of drawings produced during fieldwork) will be transferred into the care of a Trusted Digital Repository. The only suitable repository for digital archaeological archive is the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The digital archive will be compiled in accordance with the standards and requirements of the ADS, as set out on their website.
- 7.3 Copies of this report will be deposited with the client/agent and included as part of the Devon Historic Environment Record. A digital copy of the report will also be deposited with the ADS, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – <http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>).
- 7.4 Archive deposition will ordinarily be carried out within three months of completion of reporting.

8. Bibliography

- | | |
|--|---|
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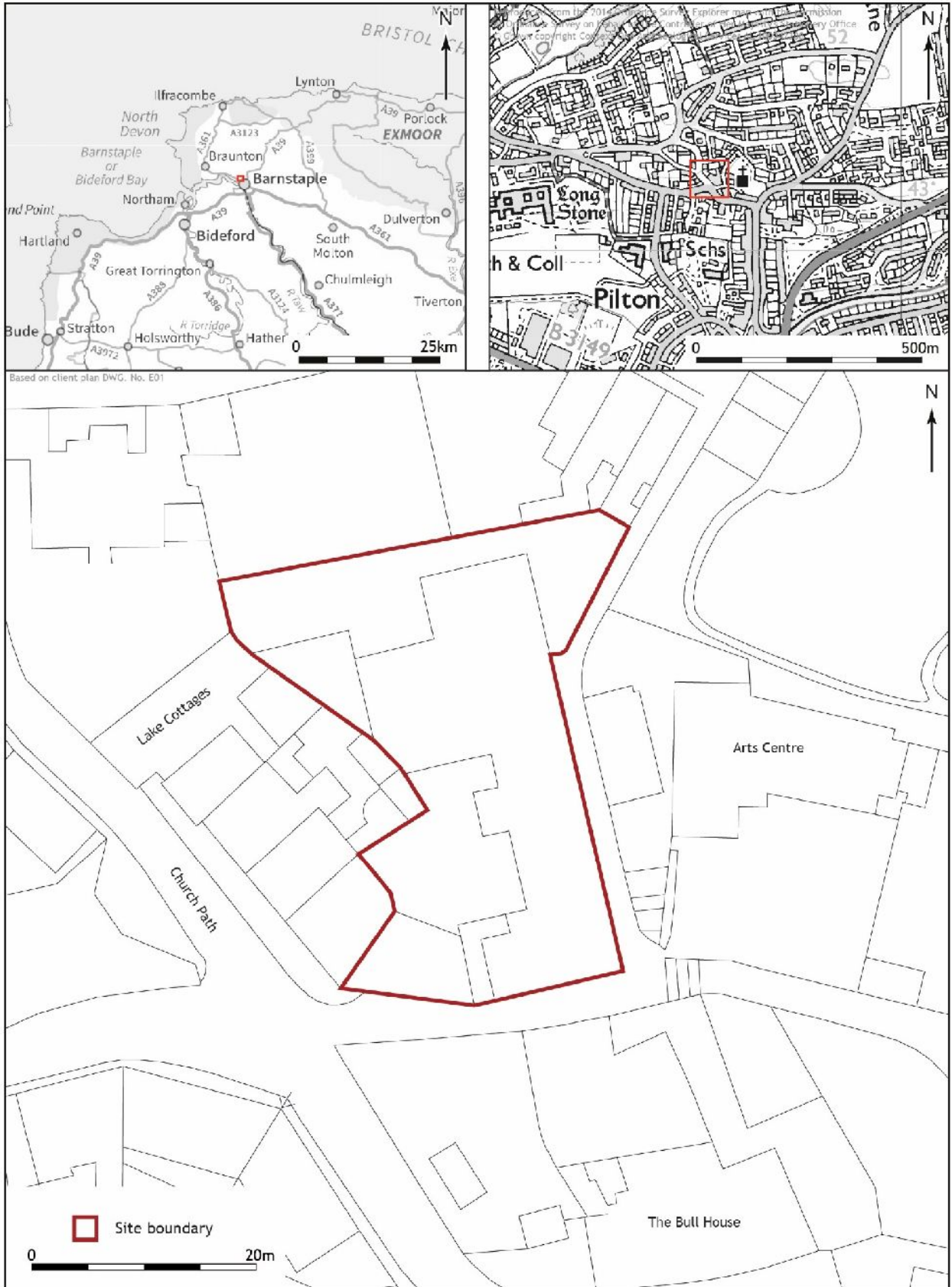


Figure 1. Site setting

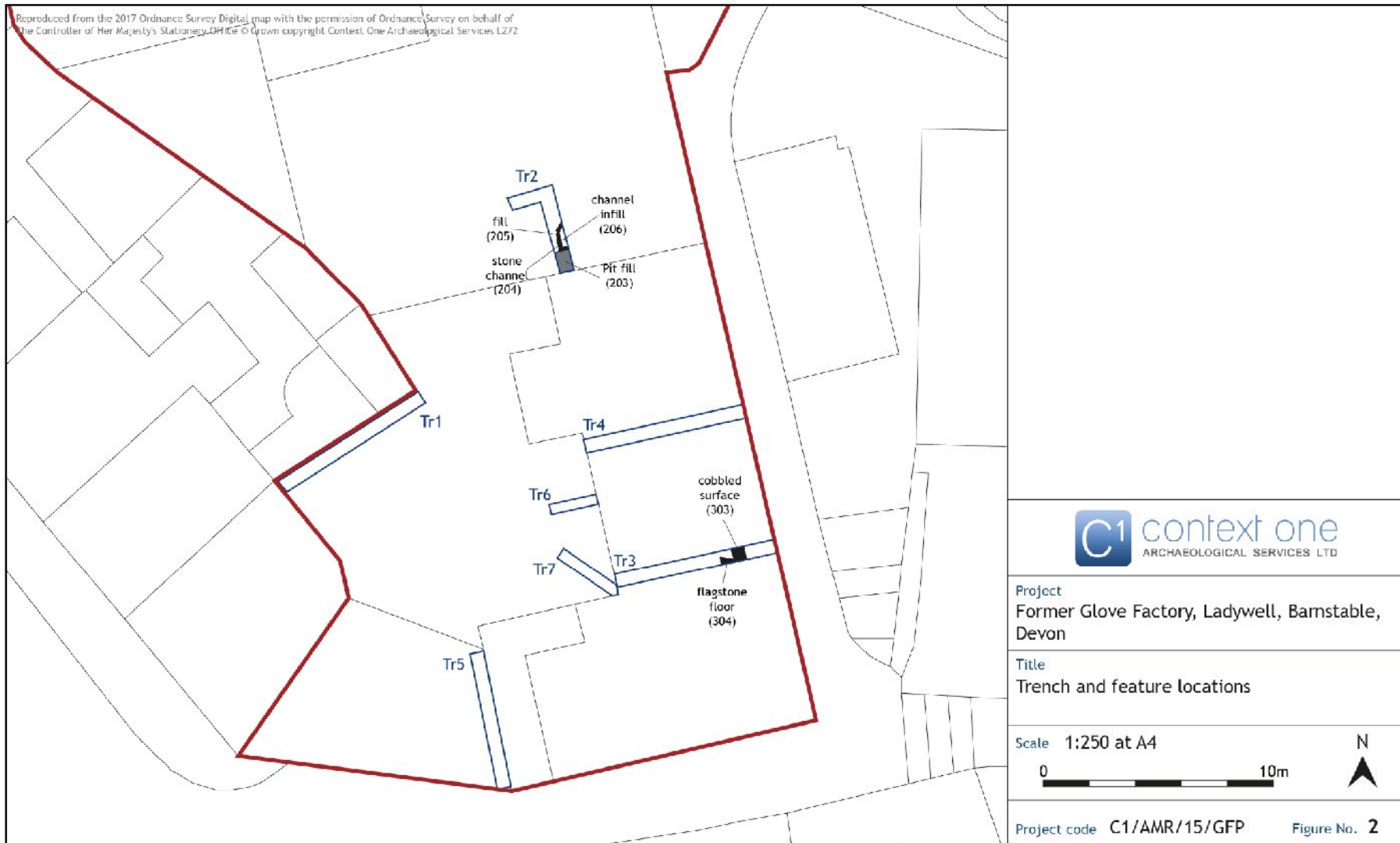


Figure 2. Trench and feature locations



Plate 1. Tr1 profile (facing N; 1m & 0.5m scales)



Plate 2. Tr4 profile (facing S; 1m & 0.5m scales)



Plate 3. Tr 2 culvert and pit (facing W; 0.5m scale)



Plate 4. Tr2 Floor (204)/(206) (facing S; 1m & 0.5m scales)

Appendix 1: Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/DIAMETER	THICKNESS/DEPTH (m)
Trench 1									
101	Modern	Layer	Concrete slab	NA		102	Trench	Trench	0.20m
102	Modern	Layer	Made ground - grey clay silt	101		103	Trench	Trench	0.08m
103	Natural	Layer	Natural - shillet	102		NA	Trench	Trench	0.17m
Trench 2									
200	Modern	Layer	Concrete slab	NA		201	Trench	Trench	0.17m
201	Modern	Layer	Made ground - rubble	200		203, 204, 205, 206	Trench	Trench	0.20m
202	Modern	Layer	Compact, very dark grey silty clay with frequent angular limestone fragments and the occasional larger rounded pebble	201		203	Trench	Trench	0.24m
203	Post-medieval	Fill	Pit fill - Compact very dark grey brown silty clay with small limestones and frequent waterlogged twigs and branches	202		206	1.0m	0.60m	0.55m
204	Post-medieval	Structure	Light grey limestone culvert/channel	202		206	1.0m	0.25m	0.20m
205	Modern	Layer	Rubble of grey angular bricks and concrete fragments	202		Abuts 204	1.0m	0.60m	0.55m
206	Post-medieval	Layer	White lime mortar bedding for culvert/channel	204		NA	1.0m	0.35m	0.22m
Trench 3									
300	Modern	Layer	Concrete slab	NA		301	Trench	Trench	0.12m
301	Modern	Layer	Made ground - rubble	300		302	Trench	Trench	0.25m
302	Modern	Layer	Made ground - Compact mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional angular mortar fragments	301		303	Trench	Trench	0.32m
303	Post-medieval	Structure	Floor - close packed cobbles	302	304	NA	0.60m	0.50m	0.08m
304	Post-medieval	Structure	Floor - Single flagstone	302	303	NA	0.60m	0.40m	0.08m

Trench 4									
400	Modern	Layer	Concrete slab	NA		7-401	Trench	Trench	0.19m
401	Modern	Layer	Made ground - grey clay silt with moderate angular limestone fragments	7-400		NA	Trench	Trench	0.31m
Trench 5									
500	Modern	Layer	Concrete slab	NA		7-501	Trench	Trench	0.18m
501	Modern	Layer	Made ground - rubble	7-500			Trench	Trench	0.16m
502	Modern	Layer	Made ground - grey clay silt with moderate angular limestone fragments	7-501	7-401	NA	Trench	Trench	0.18m
Trench 6									
600	Modern	Layer	Made ground - compact mid grey-brown silty clay	NA		NA	Trench	Trench	0.55m
Trench 7									
700	Modern	Layer	Made ground - compact mid grey-brown silty clay	NA		NA	Trench	Trench	0.70m

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