

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION  
AT  
THE CATTLE MARKET,  
UTTOXETER,  
STAFFORDSHIRE

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Project P2966  
Report 1482  
EST 1409



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# **Archaeological evaluation at the Cattle Market, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire**

**Tom Vaughan**

**With contributions by Angus Crawford**

## **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the Cattle Market, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire (centred on SK 091 335). It was commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited through Iain Ferris Archaeological Associates. They intend to develop the site for mixed residential and commercial use for which a planning application will be submitted. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological features or deposits were present and if so to indicate their nature, date and location.

Seven trenches were excavated across the site. The western side was still in use as a car park and was therefore unavailable. No significant archaeological remains predating the post-medieval period were identified and the natural matrix was generally observed at a shallow depth. The minimal artefactual assemblage dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and later. The site appears to have remained as undeveloped fields on the outskirts of the town, throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods prior to the establishment of the cattle market in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Cartographic sources indicate that the areas set back from the street frontages comprised a series of sub-rectangular fields, probably put to agricultural use. An alignment of postholes observed toward the middle of the site probably represents one such field boundary. The lack of any medieval artefactual material, which would have been deposited with domestic refuse used as manure on the fields, is surprising. However, it is clear that as the market came to be developed throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the soils were frequently disturbed and truncated across the site, particularly with footings for buildings, levelling activities and the deposition of hardcore and concrete surfaces. The large pit and adjacent structure may be identified with the sawmill and timber yard off Carter Street, which date from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.

A photographic survey was also undertaken of the extant public house building toward the south side of the site, behind the White Hart Hotel. It appears to have been constructed in two phases, the earlier wing of which retains later 19<sup>th</sup> century decorative ironwork along the porch.



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## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the Cattle Market, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire (centred on National Grid reference SK 090 335; Fig 1). It was commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited (the Client) through Iain Ferris Archaeological Associates (the Consultant). They intend to develop the site for mixed residential and commercial use and will submit a planning application to Staffordshire County Council, who considers that it may affect archaeological remains.

#### 1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Iain Ferris Archaeological Associates (Ferris 2006) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2006).

#### 1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to

- establish the likely presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and features within the proposed development site;
- define the nature, extent and significance of surviving deposits and features;
- characterise the palaeoenvironmental history of the site;
- provide information to allow the formulation of a mitigation scheme for any further work in advance of development, where appropriate;
- provide a permanent record of the public house building on the Cattle Market site.

### 2. Methods

#### 2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing desk-based assessment of all available and relevant documentary, cartographic and secondary sources and site archives was undertaken (Ferris 2004).

## 2.2 **Fieldwork methodology**

### 2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2006).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October 2006. The site reference number and site code is EST 1409.

Seven trenches (6-11 and 15), amounting to just over 237m<sup>2</sup> in area, were excavated over the site area. The locations of the trenches are indicated in Figure 2. Trenches 1-5 are located within the Malting car park and will form part of a subsequent evaluation. Trenches 12-14 were not excavated, due to their location within a functioning car park. However an open trench was visible to the north and south of the electrical sub-station to the west end of the car park, which was photographed (Plates 47 and 48).

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

### 2.2.2 **Structural analysis**

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

## 2.3 **Artefact methodology, by Angus Crawford**

### 2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. These comprised the majority of the finds recovered from the site. All other artefacts were recovered from stratified deposits.

### 2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a *terminus post quem* date produced for each stratified context.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992; Hurst 1994).



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## 2.4 **Environmental archaeology methodology**

### 2.4.1 **Sampling policy**

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). In the event, no deposits or layers were observed which were considered to contain the potential to provide palaeoenvironmental information, and no samples were taken.

A single timber was retrieved from a post-medieval/modern pit (Trench 11, 1104).

## 2.5 **Building recording methodology**

The recording of the public house conformed to the specification for a photographic/level 1 survey as defined in English Heritage *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (EH 2006). The project was undertaken on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006, comprising a photographic record of the main elevations, room spaces and fittings, along with a brief written description.

## 2.6 **The methods in retrospect**

Although three of the ten trenches were unavailable for excavation and the corrugated iron lean-to on the south side of the pub was inaccessible, the methods adopted are considered to have allowed a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project (Section 1.3 above) have been achieved.

## 3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

The site has been the subject of a desk-based assessment (Ferris 2004), which is summarised below.

The site comprises the former Cattle Market, encompassing a substantial irregular area located to the west of Uttoxeter town centre. It is bounded by properties off the High Street, Smithfield Street, James Street, John Street, Collin Street and Carter Street; and is currently accessed off Collin Street. It is largely disused, the market having closed in early 2005, although the south-western side is still a functioning car park. The majority of the structures within the site have been demolished and the concrete hard-standing pulled up. The main exception is the public house building, behind the White Hart Hotel.

The site slopes down considerably from north to south, although it is unclear if this follows the natural slope, or is the result of previous levelling works or landscaping during the recent demolition. The underlying geology of the area comprises Glacial Sand and Gravel over solid geology of Triassic Mercia Mudstone. Glacial Till and Boulder Clay may also be present. Gravel quarries have been recorded in the vicinity and a gravel pit has been recorded on the western side of the site.

The site lies within an unsurveyed urban area. However to the west, soils of the Salwick Soil Association (572m) predominate, comprising deep reddish fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging, some deep well-drained coarse loamy soils and some fine loamy soils affected by groundwater. The parent material is reddish till and glacio-fluvial drift. To the east along the River Dove, are soils of the Fladbury 2 Soil Association (813c). These comprise stoneless clayey soils, variably affected by groundwater, some with sandy subsoils and some similar fine loamy soils. The parent material is river alluvium (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

The town is thought to have Saxon origins, and was recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, within the Saxon Hundred of Totmonslo. A weekly market and annual July fayre was granted to the borough in 1308, which would have formalised its position as the local market town for the agricultural produce from the surrounding area. The earliest cartographic survey was undertaken in 1629 on behalf of the Crown and the Duchy of Lancaster. Although this doesn't survive, a revised version by Peter Lightfoot from 1658 does. This indicates the main roads with buildings along the frontages and enclosed crofts to the rear, backing onto an open field system, which occupies the majority of the present Cattle Market area. The only exception is the western half of Smithy Lane, modern Smithfield Road, where fields extended up to the roadside.

The Market itself was founded in 1856, although the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887 indicates that occupied only the northern side, along Smithfield Road, with the rest of the area remaining largely undeveloped, under fields and orchards. A saw mill is located off Carter Street along the southern side. Development continued through the later 19<sup>th</sup> and particularly the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the construction of animal pens, stalls, sheds and offices associated with the Cattle Market, the establishment of a timber yard to the west of the saw mill, the formalisation of roads along the west side of the site and general infilling along the street frontages. Of note is the public house, which appears with the existing L-shaped footprint on the OS map of 1955. There is a building in the same approximate position on the map of 1901, although this appears to have a rectangular plan, so may represent an earlier building or the eastern wing of the present structure. The present corrugated lean to on the south-east side was erected between 1964 and 1973. The building has suffered recent fire damage, the iron pillars are badly damaged and the integrity of the roof has been breached.

There are no recorded archaeological sites within or stray finds recovered from the site, although the site itself lies within the defined medieval borough of Uttoxeter (MST 2357). Little archaeological work has been undertaken within the town. Of a total of five investigations carried out within the vicinity, only two have yielded archaeological remains. At 48-50, High Street, 0.4km to the east-north-east, an evaluation identified a number of medieval pits, a buried soil with 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, evidence of 17<sup>th</sup> century levelling activity, an 18<sup>th</sup> century property boundary with subsequent truncation. At the Lion Buildings, off the Market Place, there was evidence of horn and bone working of 18<sup>th</sup> century date and stray pottery sherds of the 15<sup>th</sup> century and later.

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-5. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

#### 4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

The natural matrix varied across the site. Toward the north and south sides it comprised predominantly sand and pebble gravel, while toward the middle there was a band of variable sandy clay and clayey sand with pebble gravel.

A topsoil and subsoil profile was observed in all trenches, with the exception of Trench 7, where modern overburden lay directly over the natural matrix (Plates 34 and 35). These soil horizons were however frequently disturbed and truncated, containing charcoal and occasional post-medieval and modern artefacts (Section 4.1.2 below).

Within the trench associated with the electrical sub-station to the west end of the car park on the west side of the site, the natural matrix of sandy clay with pebble gravel was observed at less than 0.30m depth, below disturbed soils containing modern building debris (Plates 47 and 48).

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#### 4.1.2 **Phase 2 Post-medieval/modern deposits**

The overburden, including topsoil and subsoil were frequently disturbed and contained post-medieval/modern material. A layer of modern hardcore (gravel, building rubble, crushed tarmac, etc) with variable disturbed soil and redeposited natural was spread over the surface of the site generally. Toward the north site of the site, off Smithfield Road, this horizon lay directly over the natural matrix (Trench 7; Plates 34 and 35). To the rear of James Street, the natural was truncated by frequent post-medieval/modern dump deposits to the south and the footing for a modern east-west aligned brick wall, defining a former builder's yard (Trench 8; Plates 36 and 37).

Toward the south-east corner of the site a group of five small associated postholes and a ditch were identified (Trench 6). All were cut into the subsoil from the level of the topsoil. The postholes contained comparable fills, without any clear post-pipes or packing material. Within the area exposed there was no apparent alignment or structural form, although the ditch appeared to define their eastern extent. Two contained 18<sup>th</sup> century material, the rest were dated by association (Plates 31-33).

Within the middle of the site a group of four associated postholes were identified, on a east-north-east to west-south-west alignment (Trench 10) They were of differing size and profile but with comparable fills, and were cut into the subsoil, from the level of the topsoil and were without any apparent post-pipes or packing material. One contained later 18<sup>th</sup> century material, the rest were dated by association (Plates 40 and 41).

Along the south side of the site, to the rear of the Heritage Centre, a concrete and brick structure was observed, cut to more than 2m into the natural (Trench 11). It comprised double skin walls of machine made red bricks and a thick concrete base. A large deep sub-rectangular pit was identified to the west, with sheer sides and a flat base, a probable wooden lining, and a drainage pipe leading off from the east corner. The lower fill contained 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century material including sawn timber fragments (Section 4.3 below). It had been truncated by a 20<sup>th</sup> century intrusion (Plates 42-44).

#### 4.1.3 **Phase 3 Undated deposits**

A wide shallow hollow was identified within the natural toward the north-west side of the site (Trench 9). The homogeneous fill was very similar to the subsoil and was without finds. It is considered to be a natural undulation rather than a deliberately cut feature (Plates 38 and 39).

#### 4.2 **Artefact analysis, by Angus Crawford**

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 and 2.

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of 16 sherds of pottery weighing 411g. In addition fragments of tile, brick and clay pipe stems, coal, furnace slag, steel wire and animal bone were recovered. The group came from six stratified contexts and could be dated to the late post-medieval/modern period onwards (see Table 1). Level of preservation was good with the majority of sherds displaying little abrasion.

All sherds have been grouped and quantified according to fabric type (see Table 2). All sherds were datable by fabric type to their general period or production span.

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

| Context | Material                  | Type                  | Total | Weight (g) |
|---------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------|------------|
| 0       | Pottery                   | Post-medieval         | 1     | 60         |
| 612     | Ceramic building material | Post-medieval         | 2     | 12         |
| 614     | Bone                      | Animal                | 2     | 1          |
| 614     | Ceramic building material | Post-medieval         | 3     | 21         |
| 614     | Pottery                   | Post-medieval         | 1     | 3          |
| 1010    | Coal                      |                       | 1     | 5          |
| 1014    | Pottery                   | Post-medieval         | 1     | 2          |
| 1105    | Bone                      | Animal                | 1     | 25         |
| 1105    | Brick                     | Post-medieval         | 2     | 1945       |
| 1105    | Burnt                     | Stone                 | 1     | 47         |
| 1105    | Claypipe                  | Stem                  | 2     | 3          |
| 1105    | Coal                      | -                     | 1     | 20         |
| 1105    | Steel                     | Wire                  | 1     | 5          |
| 1105    | Pottery                   | Post-medieval         | 2     | 18         |
| 1105    | Pottery                   | Post-medieval -modern | 10    | 280        |
| 1105    | Slag                      | Blast furnace         | 1     | 44         |
| 1105    | Stone                     | Marble                | 1     | 337        |
| 1105    | Tile                      | Roof                  | 6     | 1783       |
| 1501    | Pottery                   | Post-medieval         | 1     | 48         |

**Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage**

#### 4.2.1 Post-medieval/modern

Fabric types were fairly evenly distributed with no dominant fabrics. While ten out of the sixteen sherds were of modern stoneware, they were all from a single 19<sup>th</sup> century ink bottle (context 1105). The remaining fabrics consisted of two sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century post-medieval buff wares (one unstratified and one from context 614) and two sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century post-medieval red sandy ware (contexts 1105 and 1501). Two further sherds were of post-medieval creamware (contexts 1014 and 1105), which could be more precisely dated, as this fabric was at its most popular from 1760 to 1795. All sherds, excepting the stoneware ink bottle, were indicative of domestic kitchen wares utilised during the 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century.

| Context | Fabric number | Fabric name                  | Date                     | Total | Weight (g) |
|---------|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|------------|
| 0       | 91            | Post-medieval buff ware      | 18 <sup>th</sup> century | 1     | 60         |
| 614     | 91            | Post-medieval buff ware      | 18 <sup>th</sup> century | 1     | 3          |
| 1014    | 84            | Creamware                    | 1760-95                  | 1     | 2          |
| 1105    | 78            | Post-medieval red sandy ware | 18 <sup>th</sup> century | 1     | 12         |
| 1105    | 81.4          | Miscellaneous late stoneware | 19 <sup>th</sup> century | 10    | 280        |
| 1105    | 84            | Creamware                    | 1760-95                  | 1     | 6          |
| 1501    | 78            | Post-medieval red sandy ware | 18 <sup>th</sup> century | 1     | 48         |

**Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric**

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#### 4.2.2 **Other finds**

The remainder of the assemblage consisted of five fragments of ceramic building material (two from context 612 and three from context 614), two house brick fragments and six of roof tile (context 1105), three fragments of animal bone (one from context 614 and one from context 1105), two clay pipe stems (context 1105) and blast furnace slag (context 1105). All of these finds could be securely dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 4.3 **Environmental analysis**

The timber recovered from pit 1104 in Trench 11 to the rear of the Heritage Centre comprised a worked fragment of oak, 0.14x0.35x0.81m. It portrayed an L-shaped saw cut at one end, had one cut long edge and had been split tangentially (pers. comm. Elizabeth Pearson).

#### 4.4 **Building recording**

A full photographic record of the public house was undertaken on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006. (A sample are included as Plates 1-30 below).

It is located toward the south-east side of the Cattle Market, to the rear of the courtyard of the White Hart Hotel, who maintained and ran the establishment on market days (NGR: SK 09045 33505). It comprises a single storey red brick building with distinct wings on an L-shaped footprint, with steep pitched roofs, which are not conjoined, and suspended wooden floors.

The eastern wing comprises a single room, approximately 4m by 8.5m (Plates 1-11). The eastern gable end has a wide chimneybreast, which does not continue above the eaves. A chimneystack rises from the southern elevation. The building is accessed from the north, where there is an open porch supported by decorated iron columns. The bricks are generally laid in stretcher bond, although header-stretcher courses are used every fourth or fifth course. The wide sash windows along with north elevation are wood framed and the doorway has a sandstone Norman arch. The pitched roof is tiled. The internal walls have been plastered, hiding any original fittings or alterations (such as windows within the south wall; Plates 18-23). The fireplace in the eastern wall appears to have been altered as a wooden clad recess. That in the south wall is extant, with a black painted plaster surround and mantelpiece, although it contains brick infill reducing the size of the grating.

The west wing is similar, being a single room, with toilets in the south end, totalling approximately 6m by 14m (Plates 10, 12-17). The walls comprise red bricks in stretcher courses. The pitched roof is covered with corrugated sheet. The windows within the north, west and south elevations are wood framed within wide shallow arched openings. The chimneystack on the east wall is extant, as is the fireplace, with a wide protruding internal chimneybreast and a simple tile surround, although the ironwork or stove has been removed. The internal walls are painted brick, and no traces of alteration were observed, indicating that it is generally unaltered (with the exception of a window in the southern elevation which has been reduced in width; Plates 24-29). This wing contains the bar itself, plus toilets and rear access through the south wall. The bar is of slatted wood, with surfaces, cupboards and shelves affixed to the walls behind. The partition wall through to the toilets is of brick and appears to be contemporary with the rest of the wing. There is a loft above, lit by windows within the north and south gable ends (Plate 30). The roof is supported by wooden joists.

The south elevation of the eastern wing and most of the east elevation of the western wing are obscured by a corrugated iron lean to, which was inaccessible (Plates 10-12).

## 5. **Synthesis**

No features, finds, structures or horizons were identified predating the post-medieval/modern period.

The shallow hollow within the natural observed toward the north-west side is considered to be a natural undulation rather than a deliberate cut feature. It lies within the area of a gravel pit marked on the 1901 OS map, so may relate to this, although the fill was an apparently sterile subsoil.

### 5.1 **Post-medieval/modern**

All the observed features were determined to be of 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date, either on the basis of intrinsic finds or association with so dated features.

The postholes observed toward the middle of the site (Trench 9) are roughly parallel with Smithfield Road, 120m to the north, and probably represent a field boundary predating the development of the cattle market in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. No defined alignment was apparent in the postholes toward the south side of the site, although they probably relate to similar boundary or agricultural function.

The large rectangular pit with associated drainage lies within the area of a timber yard denoted on the 1901 OS map, part of a Saw Mill off Carter Street first recorded on the 1886 OS map. It is therefore conjectured to represent a later 19<sup>th</sup> / early 20<sup>th</sup> century sawpit, and the structure to the east to be an associated building of unknown function.

The frequent modern truncation layers, areas of disturbance and the general spread of modern hardcore material across the site relate to activities associated with the cattle market and the recent demolition of the majority of the cattle market buildings and the breaking out of the previous concrete surfaces.

### 5.2 **Artefactual assemblage, by Angus Crawford**

The assemblage indicates that there is no significant archaeological activity on site. As a whole it is indicative of general rubbish discard during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### 5.3 **The public house**

The public house appears to have been built in two phases, primarily on the basis of the roofs of the two wings, which are not conjoined. The eastern wing with the north porch and decorated iron pillars appears to have been erected first and is denoted on the OS map of 1901 (Ferris 2004, Fig 6). The building was subsequently extended by 1955 with a western wing (Ferris 2004, Fig 7). Due to the plasterwork on the internal walls of the eastern wing, it is unclear how much alteration the building has undergone. The western wing, however, does not appear to have been materially altered since its construction, although the toilets are probably a later insertion.

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## 6. Significance

### 6.1 Archaeological

In considering significance, the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments (DoE 1990, annex 4), have been used as a guide.

These nationally accepted criteria are used to assess the importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. Though scheduling is not being considered in this case they form an appropriate and consistent framework for the assessment of any archaeological site. The criteria should not, however, be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

No significant archaeological remains predating the post-medieval period were identified. The minimal artefactual assemblage dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and later.

The site appears to have remained as undeveloped fields on the outskirts of the town, throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods prior to the establishment of the cattle market in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Cartographic sources indicate that the areas set back from the street frontages comprised a series of sub-rectangular fields, probably put to agricultural use. The line of postholes observed toward the middle of the site probably represents one such field boundary. The lack of any medieval artefactual material, which would have been deposited with domestic refuse used as manure on the fields is surprising. However, it is clear that as the market came to be developed throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the soils were frequently disturbed and truncated across the site, particularly with footings for buildings, levelling activities and the deposition of hardcore and concrete surfaces.

The large pit and adjacent structure may be identified with the saw mill and timber yard off Carter Street, which date from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The public house appears to have been constructed in two phases, the earlier wing of which retains later 19<sup>th</sup> century decorative iron-work within the porch which may be considered to be of local architectural interest.

It is not considered that the site has the potential to yield much further information, or to contain significant archaeological remains that would be vulnerable to disturbance from the proposed development. A targeted watching brief would appear to be the appropriate level of future response during groundworks.

## 7. Publication summary

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited at the Cattle Market, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire (centred on National Grid ref. SK 091 335; HER ref. EST 1409). Seven trenches were excavated across the site. The western side was still in use as a car park and was therefore unavailable. No significant archaeological remains predating the post-medieval period were identified and the natural matrix was generally observed at a shallow depth. The minimal artefactual assemblage dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and later. The site appears to have remained as undeveloped fields on the outskirts of the town, throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods prior to the establishment of the cattle market in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Cartographic sources indicate that*

*the areas set back from the street frontages comprised a series of sub-rectangular fields, probably put to agricultural use. An alignment of postholes observed toward the middle of the site probably represents one such field boundary. The lack of any medieval artefactual material, which would have been deposited with domestic refuse used as manure on the fields, is surprising. However, it is clear that as the market came to be developed throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the soils were frequently disturbed and truncated across the site, particularly with footings for buildings, levelling activities and the deposition of hardcore and concrete surfaces. The large pit and adjacent structure may be identified with the sawmill and timber yard off Carter Street, which date from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.*

*A photographic survey was also undertaken of the extant public house building toward the south side of the site, behind the White Hart Hotel. It appears to have been constructed in two phases, the earlier wing of which retains later 19<sup>th</sup> century decorative ironwork along the porch.*

## 8. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

|     |                                  |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 4   | Fieldwork progress records AS2   |
| 3   | Photographic records AS3         |
| 153 | Digital photographs              |
| 1   | Drawing number catalogues AS4    |
| 2   | Context number catalogues AS5    |
| 1   | Levels records AS19              |
| 2   | Abbreviated context records AS40 |
| 7   | Trench records sheets AS41       |
| 5   | Scale drawing sheets             |
| 1   | Box of finds                     |
| 1   | Computer disk                    |

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery,  
Bethesda Street,  
Hanley,  
Stoke on Trent,  
ST1 3DW  
Tel: 01782 232323

## 9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Malcolm Caddy, Jim Vickers, Steve Woodington (Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited), Iain Ferris (Iain Ferris Archaeological Associates), Steven Dean (Senior Archaeologist, Staffordshire County Council) and Suzy Blake (Historic Environment Records Officer, Staffordshire County Council).



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## 10. Personnel

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Tom Vaughan, who was also responsible for the quality of the project. Fieldwork was undertaken by Adam Lee, Stephen Potten, Dennis Williams, finds analysis by Angus Crawford, environmental analysis by Elizabeth Pearson and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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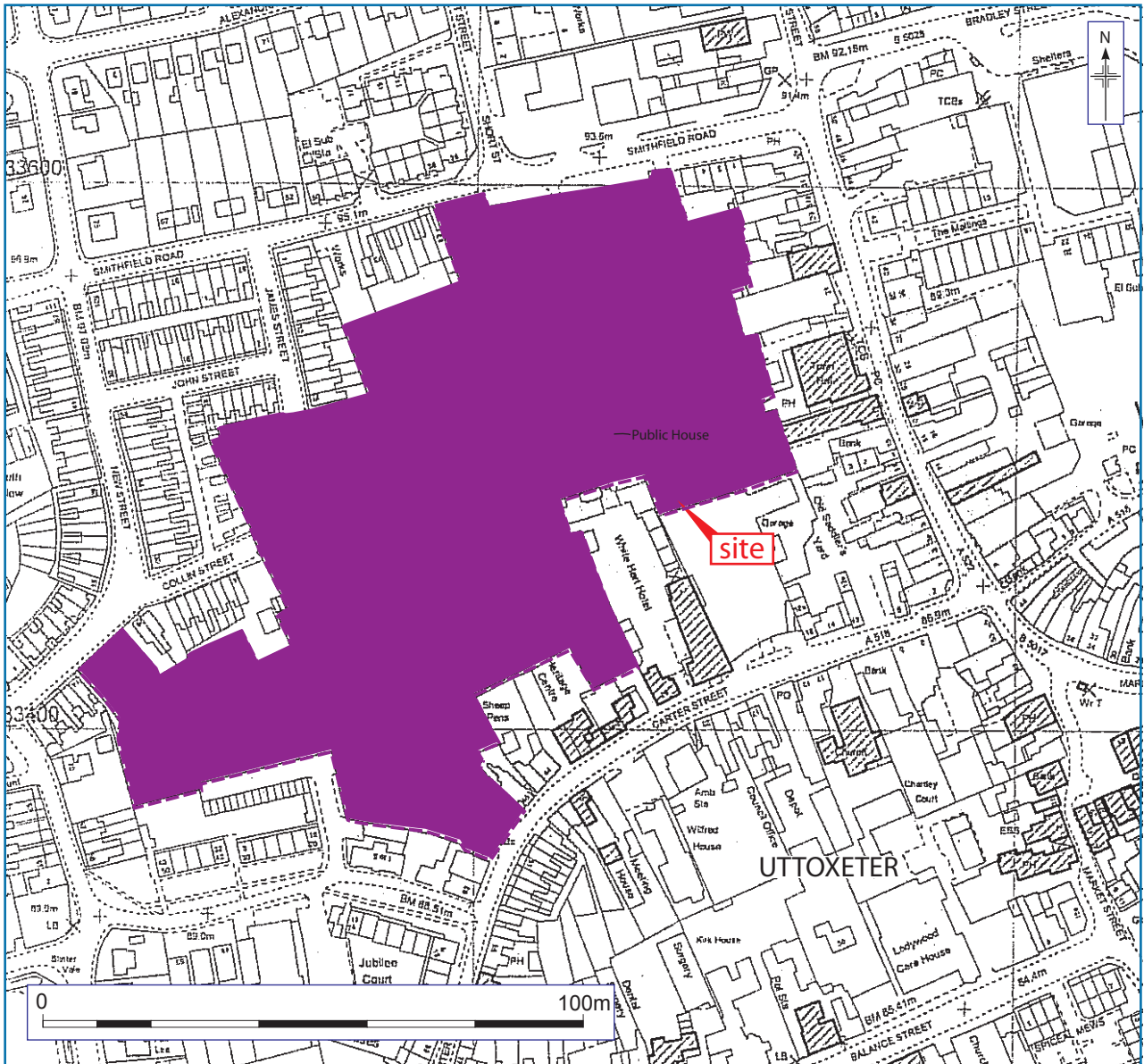
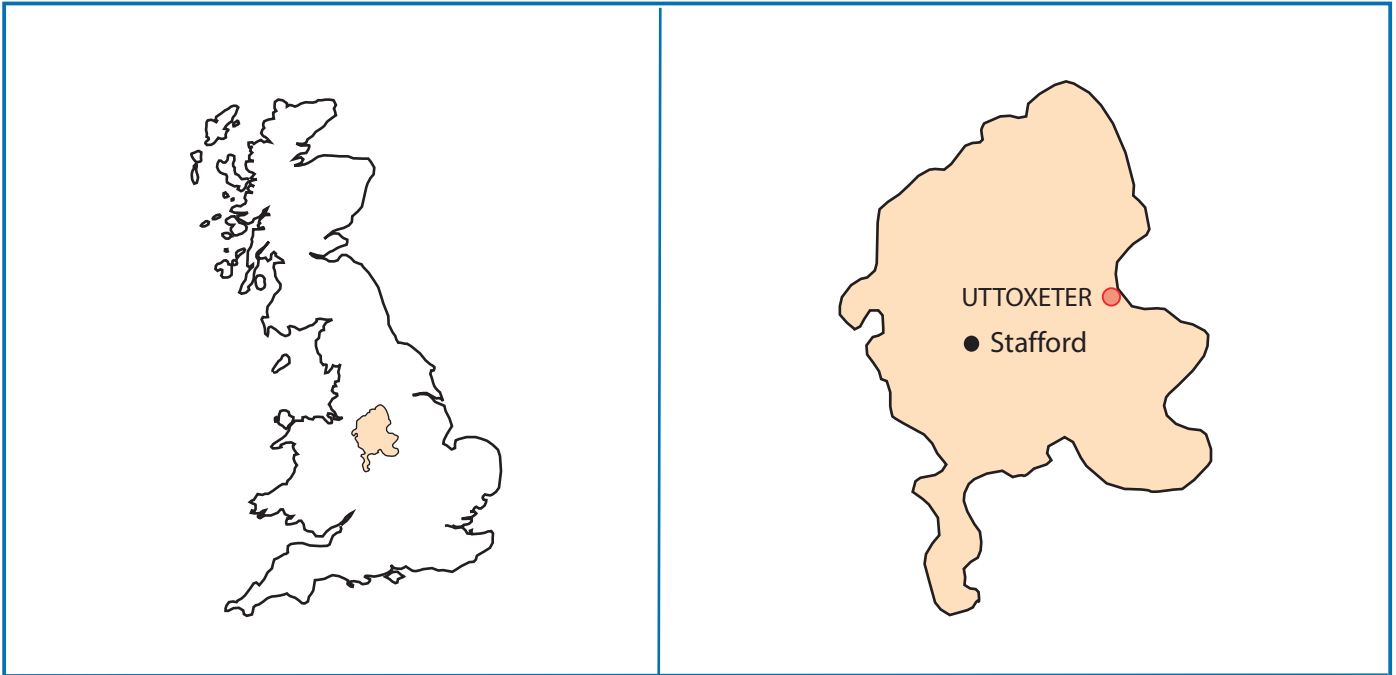
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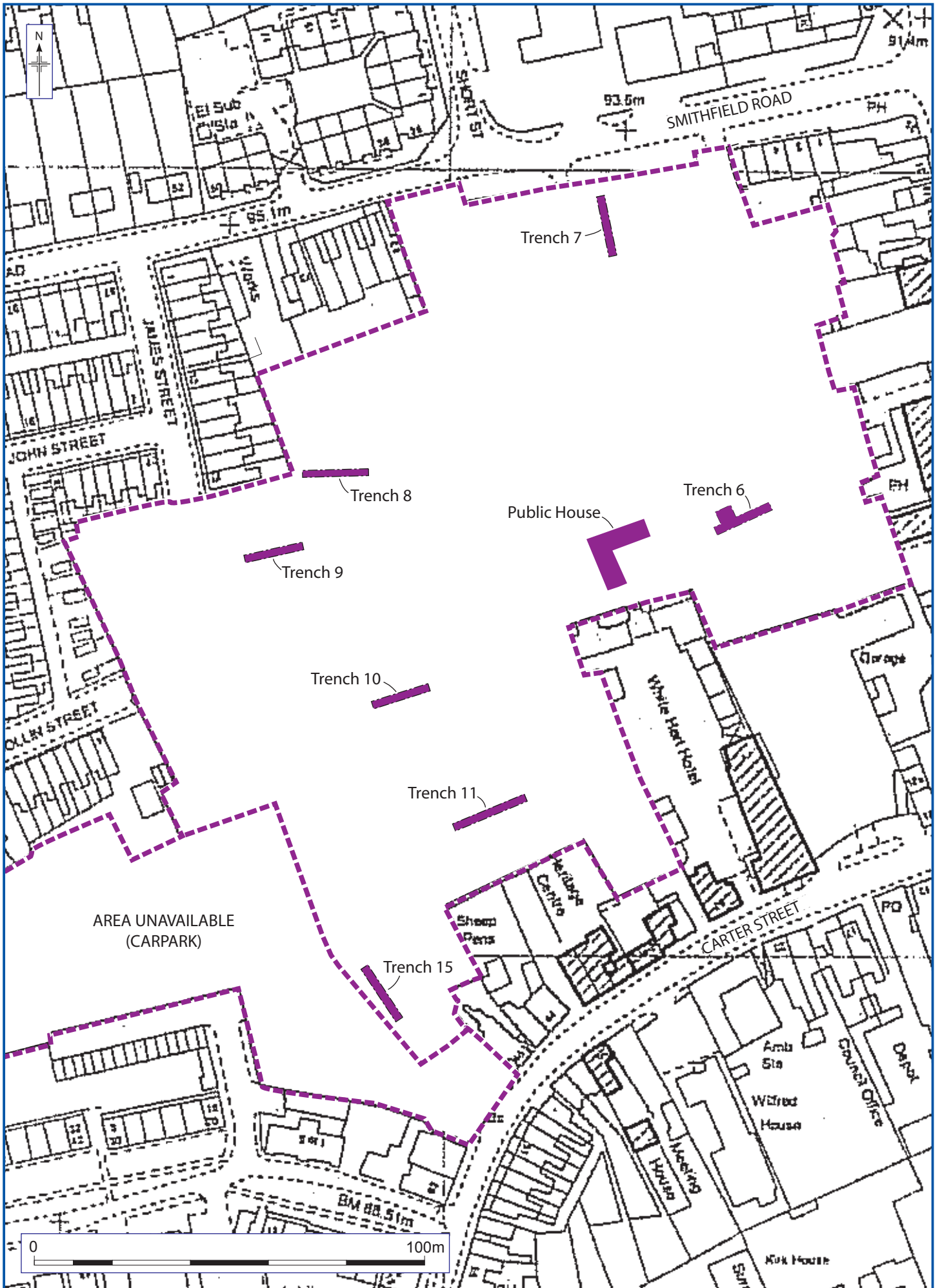
## Figures



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Location of the site.

Figure 1

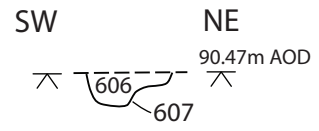


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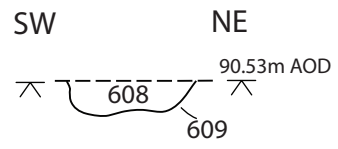
Trench location plan

Figure 2

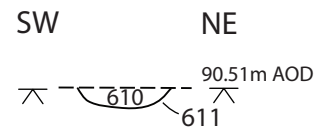
POSTHOLE 607: SECTION



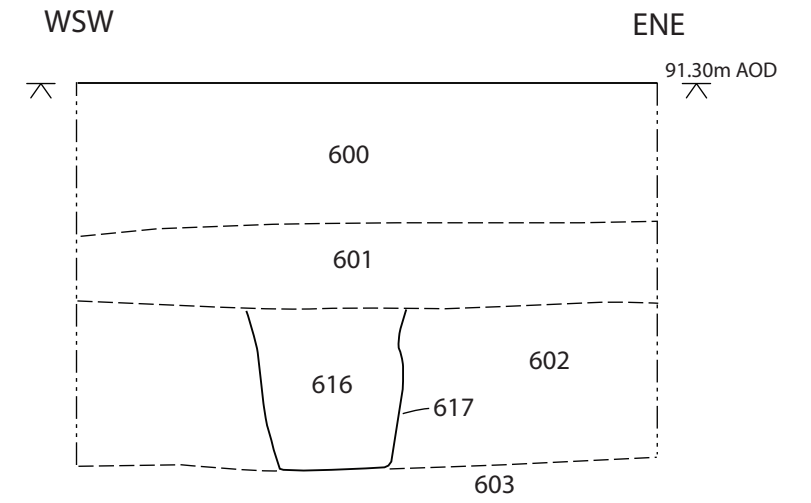
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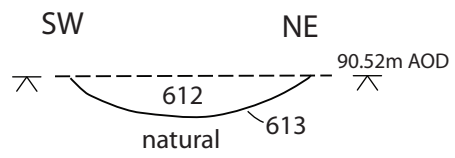
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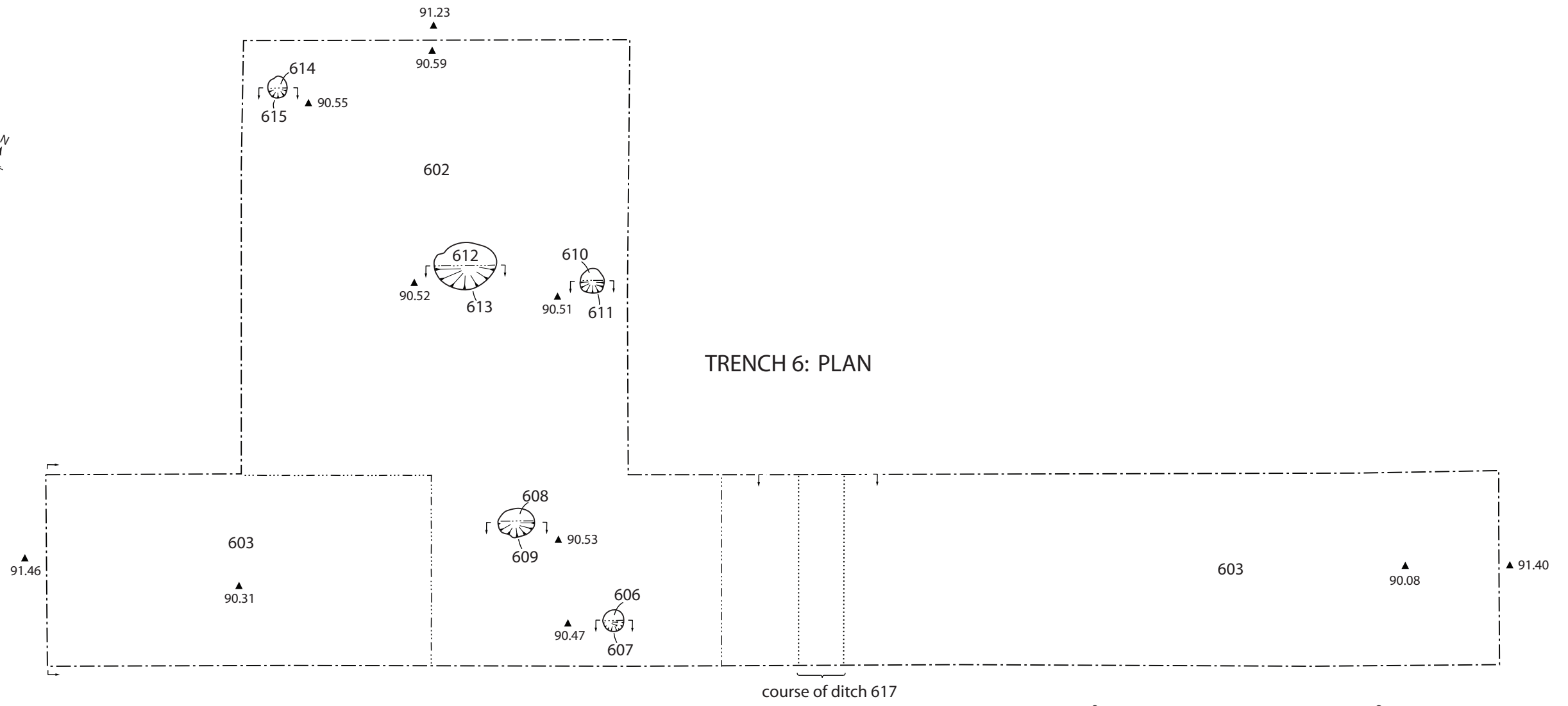
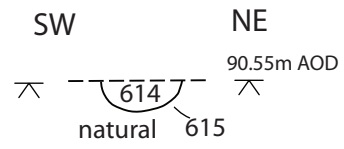
DITCH 617: SECTION



POSTHOLE 613: SECTION



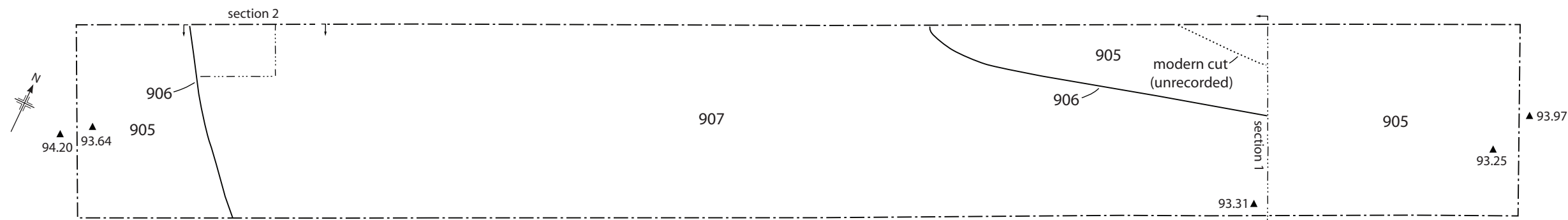
POSTHOLE 615: SECTION



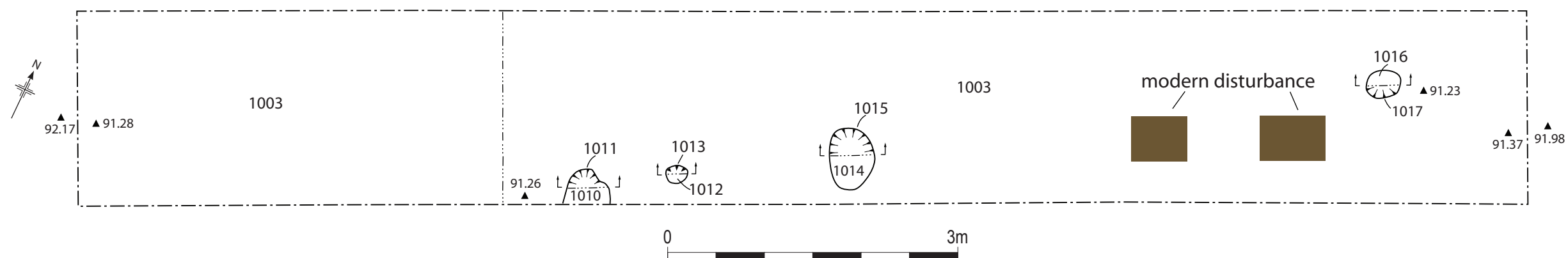
Trench 6: plan and sections

Figure 3

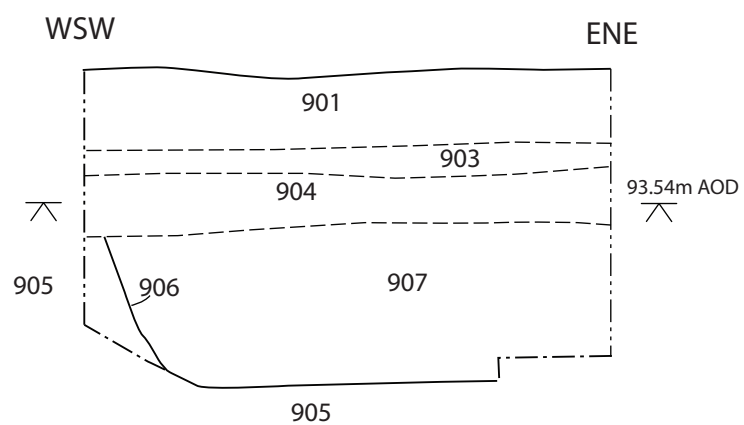
TRENCH 9: PLAN



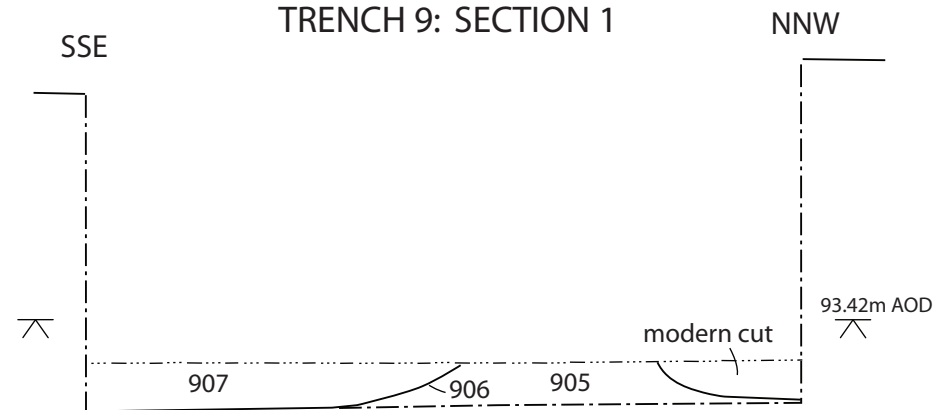
TRENCH 10: PLAN



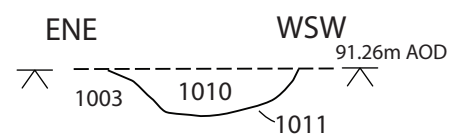
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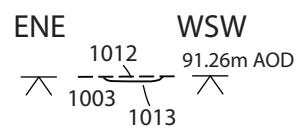
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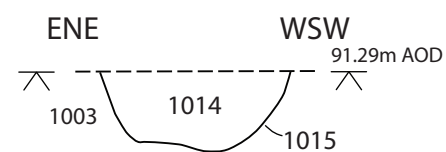
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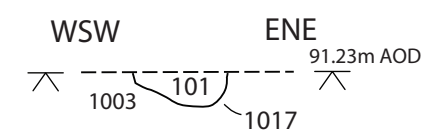
TRENCH 10: POSTHOLE 1013



TRENCH 10: POSTHOLE 1015



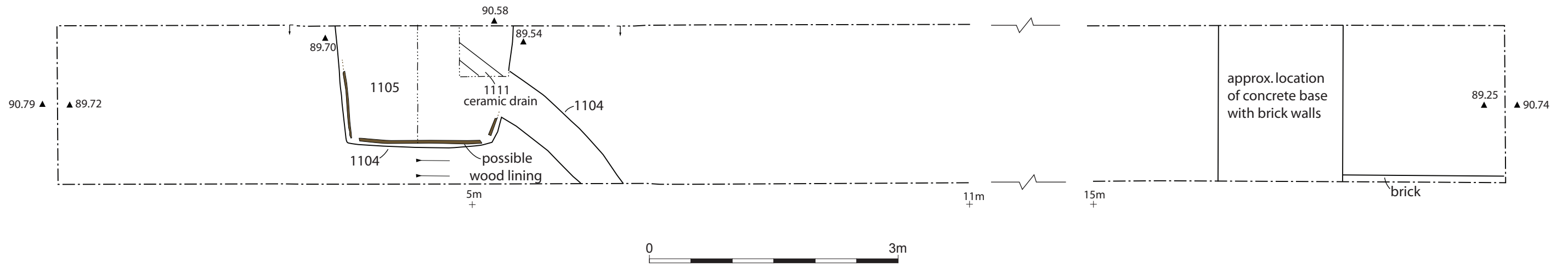
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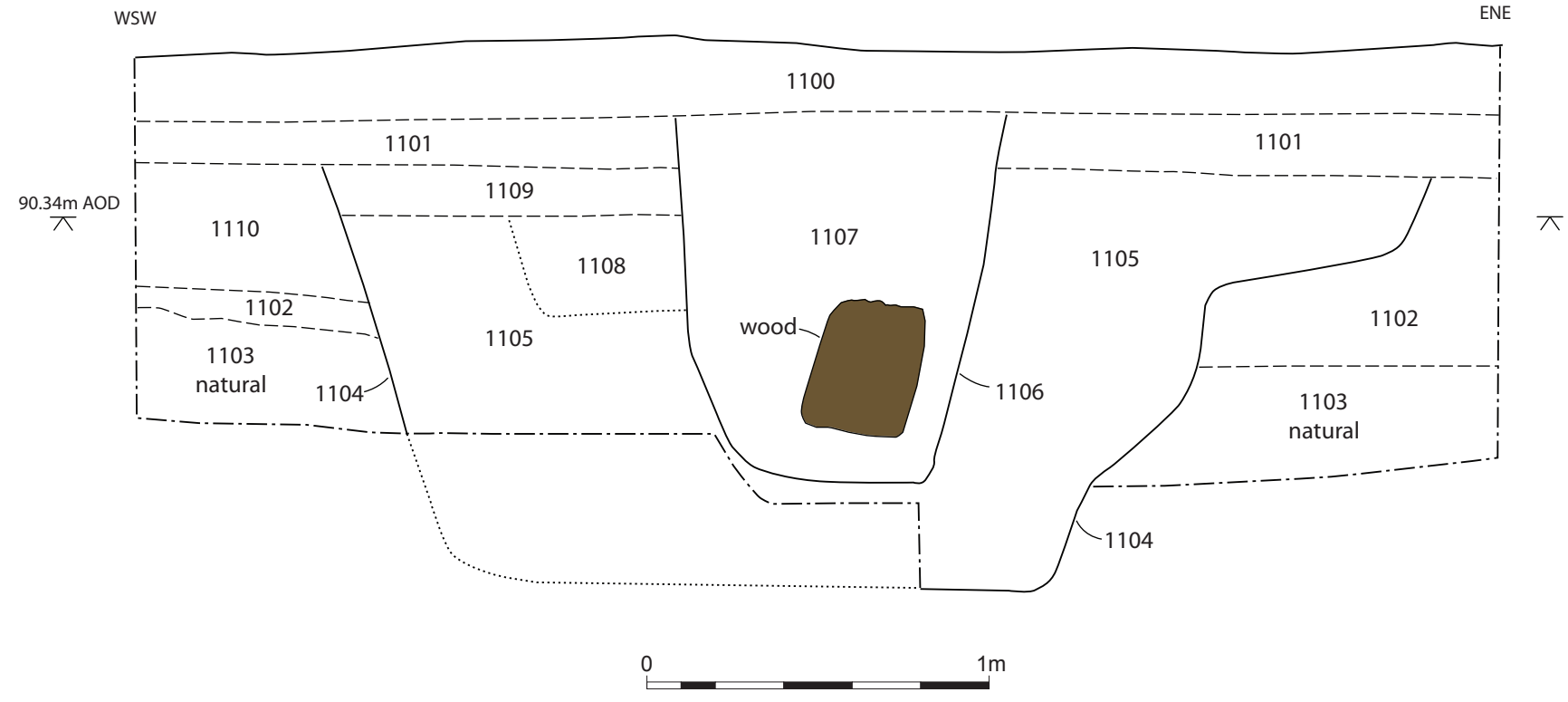
Trenches 9 and 10: plans and sections

Figure 4

### TRENCH 11: PLAN



### TRENCH 11: NNW SECTION



Trench 11: plan and section

Figure 5



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## Plates



*Plate 1. The public house, east and west wings, north elevations, general view south*



*Plate 2. The public house, east wing, north elevation and porch, view south*

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*Plate 3. The public house, east wing, decorated iron pillar on north porch, view south*



*Plate 4. The public house, east wing, detail of decorated iron pillars on north porch, view east*

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*Plate 5. The public house, east wing, entrance under porch, view south-south-east*



*Plate 6. The public house, east wing, window detail in north elevation under porch, view south*

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*Plate 7. The public house, east and west wings, north and east elevations, general view south-west*



*Plate 8. The public house, east wing, east elevation/gable elevation, view south-west*

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*Plate 9. The public house, east and west wings, east elevations, general view west*



*Plate 10. The public house, east and west wings, south and east elevations, general view north-west*

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*Plate 11. The public house, east wing and lean to, south elevations, view north*



*Plate 12. The public house, west wing, east elevation, view west*

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*Plate 13. The public house, west wing, south elevation/gable end*



*Plate 14. The public house, west wing, south elevation/gable end, view north*





*Plate 15. The public house, west wing, west and south elevations/gable end, view north-east*



*Plate 16. The public house, west wing, west and north elevation/gable end, view south-east*

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*Plate 17. The public house, west wing, north elevation/gable end, view south*



*Plate 18. The public house, east wing, room space, view east*





*Plate 19. The public house, east wing, room space, view east-south-east*



*Plate 20. The public house, east wing, fireplace in south wall, view south*

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*Plate 21. The public house, east wing, room space, view west-south-west*



*Plate 22. The public house, east wing, room space, view west-north-west*





*Plate 23. The public house, door in north wall, view north*



*Plate 24. The public house, west wing, room space, view north-west*

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*Plate 25. The public house, west wing, room space, view north*



*Plate 26. The public house, west wing, room space, view south-south-west*



*Plate 27. The public house, west wing, room space and partition, view south*



*Plate 28. The public house, west wing, room space, view south-south-east*

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*Plate 29. The public house, west wing, fireplace in east wall, view east*



*Plate 30. The public house, west wing, loft space and roof joists, view north*

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*Plate 31. Trench 6, general view east*



*Plate 32. Trench 6, posthole group, view north-north-west*

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*Plate 33. Trench 6, posthole 609, view north-north-west*



*Plate 34. Trench 7, general view north-north-west*





*Plate 35. Trench 7, general view south-south-east*



*Plate 36. Trench 8, general view east-north-east*

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*Plate 37. Trench 8, general view west-south-west*





*Plate 38. Trench 9, general view east*



*Plate 39. Trench 9, hollow 906, section, view north-north-west*

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*Plate 40. Trench 10, general view west-south-west*



*Plate 41. Trench 10, posthole 1017, view north-north-west*

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*Plate 42. Trench 11, general view west-south-west*

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*Plate 43. Trench 11, pit 1104, view west-south-west*



*Plate 44. Trench 11, pit 1104, view north-north-west*





*Plate 45. Trench 15, general view south-south-east*



*Plate 46. Trench 15, general view north-north-west*





*Plate 47. Trench associated with electrical sub-station within car park on west side of site, south section, view west-south-west*



*Plate 48. Trench associated with electrical sub-station within car park on west side of site, north section, view west-south-west*



## Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

### Trenches 1-5

Unexcavated – within Malting car park and subject of separate evaluation.

### Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.00m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.85-1.30m

+ 4m by 4.50m extension:

Orientation: east-north-east by west-south-west

#### Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 600     | Overburden     | Demolition rubble. Red and grey brick and tile, mortar and concrete. Compacted.   | 0.00-0.40m  |
| 601     | Topsoil        | Dark brown sandy loam, with occasional small sub-rounded pebbles.   | 0.25-0.60m  |
| 602     | Subsoil        | Mid brown sandy loam with occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles.  | 0.45-1.03m  |
| 603     | Natural        | Light orangey brown sandy clay with frequent pebble gravel  | 0.95m +   |
| 604/5   | Unused         | -   | -   |
| 606     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Inc charcoal flecks. Fill of 607. No defined postpipe.  | c 0.60-0.84m  |
| 607     | Cut            | Posthole. Oval. Sharp break of slope, sheer concave sides curving to irregular base with shelf to east side. Filled by 606. Cuts 602 and 603.           | c 0.60-0.84m  |
| 608     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Inc charcoal flecks. Fill of 609. No defined postpipe.  | c 0.60-0.79m  |
| 609     | Cut            | Posthole. Sub-oval. Filled by 608. Cuts 602 and 603.  | c 0.60-0.79m  |
| 610     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Inc charcoal flecks. Fill of 611. No defined postpipe.  | c 0.60-0.77m  |
| 611     | Cut            | Posthole. Oval. Moderate break of slope, concave sides at 45° to horizontal, curving to shallow concave base. Filled by 610. Cuts 602.                  | c 0.60-0.77m  |
| 612     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Inc soft brick/tile fragments, pottery sherds and charcoal flecks. Fill of 613. No defined postpipe.                    | c 0.60-0.81m  |
| 613     | Cut            | Posthole. Sub-oval. Filled by 612. Cuts 602 and 603.  | c 0.60-0.81m  |
| 614     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Inc soft red brick/tile fragments, pottery sherds, glazed china and charcoal flecks Fill of 615. No defined postpipe.   | c 0.60-0.76m  |
| 615     | Cut            | Posthole. Sub-oval. Sharp break of slope, sheer sides at 60° to horizontal, curving to concave base. Filled by 614. Cuts 602 and 603.                   | c 0.60-0.76m  |
| 616     | Fill           | Dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles and red roof tile (not retained). Compact but not cohesive. Fill of 617. | 0.60-1.03m  |

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 617     | Cut            | Ditch. Aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. Steep break of slope, sheers sides at >70° to horizontal, straight to flattish base. Filled by 616. Cuts 602 and 603. Sealed by 601. | 0.60-1.03m  |

### Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.70m Width: 1.90m Depth: 0.70-1.15m

Orientation: north-north-west by south-south-east

#### Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description  | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|--|---|
| 700     | Overburden     | Mid-dark blackish grey slightly clayey sandy silt with frequent modern building debris and patches of brownish orange sand and gravel (redeposited natural). | 0.00-0.90m  |
| 701     | Natural        | Brownish orange sand and pebble gravel with occasional clayey patches. Compact. Cut by occasional modern intrusions.   | 0.65m +   |

### Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 16.30m Width: 1.90m Depth: 0.50-0.65m

Orientation: east-north-east by west-south-west

#### Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 800     | Overburden     | Mid orangey brown clayey silt with moderate small-large stones, charcoal flecks and frequent small-large modern building debris. Compact                      | 0.00-0.29m  |
| 801     | Topsoil        | Dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent small-large rounded stones, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional small-medium building debris. Compact.       | 0.29-0.54m  |
| 802     | Subsoil        | Mid orangey brown slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small-large rounded stones. Compact.   | 0.54-0.62m  |
| 803     | Natural        | Brownish orange sand and gravel with occasional clayey patches. Neither compact nor cohesive. Cut by modern brick wall foundation and deeper deposits of 804. | 0.50m +   |
| 804     | Dump deposit   | Mixed patches of dark greyish brown clayey silt with modern industrial and building debris.   | 0.45->0.65m   |

**Trench 9**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.00m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.75-0.90m

Orientation: east-north-east by west-south-west

Main deposit description

| Context | Classification       | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------------|---|---|
| 901     | Topsoil / overburden | Mid blackish brown fine loamy sand, neither compacted nor cohesive. Frequent small-medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stones, occasional small-large building debris, occasional large sub-rounded stones, occasional root disturbance. | 0.00-0.10m  |
| 902     | Overburden           | Black silty loam with frequent gravel, neither compacted nor cohesive. Occasional large sub-angular stones. Discontinuous.  | 0.10-0.16m  |
| 903     | Overburden           | Dark greyish brown fine loamy sand, moderately compact and cohesive. Moderate charcoal flecks, small-medium sub-rounded stones, occasional light orangey brown lenses.  | 0.16-0.29m  |
| 904     | Relict topsoil       | Mid greyish brown sandy clay loam, moderately compact, cohesive. Occasional small-medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stones.  | 0.29-0.59m  |
| 905     | Natural              | Light orangey brown sandy clay, moderately compact, cohesive. Frequent small-medium rounded and sub-rounded stones.   | 0.59m +   |
| 906     | Cut / hollow         | Aligned approximately east-west, but generally broader than width of trench. Shallow break of slope, slightly concave sides at 30-70° to horizontal, curving to shallow flattish base. Probable natural hollow. Filled by 907.          | 0.38-0.84m  |
| 907     | Fill / subsoil       | Light grey sandy clay loam, occasional small-medium sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks, large sub-rounded stones and small building debris. Fill of 906. Same as 908?   | 0.38-0.84m  |
| 908     | Subsoil              | Mid greyish brown sandy clay loam, occasional small-medium sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks, large sub-rounded stones and small building debris. Same as 907?   | 0.44-0.59m  |

**Trench 10**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 15.00m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.75-1.00m

Orientation: east-north-east by west-south-west

## Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 1000    | Overburden     | Dark greyish brown sandy loam, with brick and mortar demolition rubble and extant wall with four courses surviving. | 0.00-0.40m  |
| 1001    | Topsoil        | Mid greyish brown sandy loam with occasional small pebble gravel.   | 0.40-0.55m  |
| 1002    | Subsoil        | Mid brown sandy loam with moderate small-medium pebble gravel   | 0.55-0.95m  |
| 1003    | Natural        | Light orangey brown sandy clay with frequent pebble gravel.   | 0.95m+  |
| 1004-9  | Unused         | -   | -   |
| 1010    | Fill           | Dark greyish brown sandy loam, occasional charcoal flecks plus a single piece of coal. Fill of 1011.                | c 0.81-0.93m  |
| 1011    | Cut            | Posthole. Filled by 1010. Cuts 1002.  | c 0.81-0.93m  |
| 1012    | Fill           | Dark greyish brown sandy loam. Fill of 1013.  | c 0.81-0.82m  |
| 1013    | Cut            | Posthole. Filled by 1012. Cuts 1002.  | c 0.81-0.82m  |
| 1014    | Fill           | Dark greyish brown sandy loam, with white & yellow glazed pottery sherds. Fill of 1015.                             | c 0.77-0.98m  |
| 1015    | Cut            | Posthole. Filled by 1014. Cuts 1002.  | c 0.77-0.98m  |
| 1016    | Fill           | Dark greyish brown sandy loam. Fill of 1017.  | 0.75-0.84m  |
| 1017    | Cut            | Posthole. Filled by 1016. Cuts 1002.  | 0.75-0.84m  |

**Trench 11**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 20.00m Width: 1.90m Depth: 1.10-2.00m

Orientation: east-north-east by west-south-west

## Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 1100    | Overburden     | Hardcore, brick rubble, crushed tarmac and other modern building debris.  | 0.00-0.30m  |
| 1101    | Topsoil        | Mixed dark brown clayey silt, frequent small-large stones, moderate small-large building rubble and occasional wood fragments. Compact.   | 0.20-0.50m  |
| 1102    | Subsoil        | Light yellowish grey clayey silty sand. Frequent small-large rounded stones, moderate root activity and worm action.  | 0.50-1m   |
| 1103    | Natural        | Orange clayey sand and pebble gravel. Compact and cohesive.   | 0.80m +   |
| 1104    | Cut            | Pit. Square plan, continues into north baulk. Sharp break of slope, irregular, sheer sides to flat base. Maximum 3.25m long, >2m wide, c 1.70m deep. Filled by 1105, 1108 and 1109. Sealed by 1101.<br><br>Linear spur on east side off to east-south-east. Filled by 1111. | 0.33-1.70m  |
| 1105    | Fill           | Mixed dark blackish brown humic clayey silt. Waterlogged. Frequent small-large rounded stones, charcoal flecks, small-very large planks of wood. Compact. Primary fill of 1104. Sealed by 1108.   | 0.33-1.58m  |
| 1106    | Cut            | Pit? Near vertical sides curving to flattish base. Only observed in north-north-west section. Cuts 1101, sealed by 1100. Filled by 1107.  | 0.17-1.28m  |
| 1107    | Fill           | Mixed dark blackish grey clayey silt with patches of orange clay, timber and fragments of salt-glazed pipe (not retained). Frequent small-large rounded stones and charcoal flecks. Fill of 1106.   | 0.17-1.28m  |
| 1108    | Fill           | Orange silty clay with black charcoal rich patches. Compact. Secondary fill of 1104. Overlies 1105, sealed by 1109.   | 0.51-0.81m  |
| 1109    | Fill           | Mid brownish grey clayey silt, with moderate small-medium rounded stones and moderate charcoal flecks. Compact. Tertiary fill of 1104. Overlies 1108, sealed by 1101.   | 0.37-0.52m  |
| 1110    | Subsoil        | Slightly mixed mid blackish/brownish grey clayey sand with frequent charcoal flecks, small-large rounded stones and patches of lighter grey clayey silt.  | 0.31-0.74m  |
| 1111    | Service pipe   | Unglazed orange ceramic pipe. Aligned east-west. Within 1105. Fill of 1104.   | c 1.50-1.70m  |

**Trenches 12-14**

Unexcavated as within extant car park.

**Trench 15**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 16.00m Width: 1.90m Depth: 0.85-0.87m

Orientation: north-north-west by south-south-east

## Main deposit description

| Context | Classification | Description   | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|---|---|
| 1500    | Overburden     | Hardcore levelling deposit. Brownish pink fine sub-angular gravel and gravel dust above black gravel.   | 0.00-0.13m  |
| 1501    | Topsoil        | Dark blackish brown clayey silt, with moderate small-medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.  | 0.10-0.38m  |
| 1502    | Subsoil        | Light yellowish grey slightly clayey sandy silt with moderate small-large rounded stones, root activity and occasional building debris and pottery sherds. Compact. | 0.37-0.81m  |
| 1503    | Natural        | Brownish orange sand and gravel and patches of light yellowish grey clayey sand with occasional pebbles. Uncompact.   | 0.78m +   |