

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION
AT
SHIRLEY PARKGATE,
STRATFORD ROAD,
SOLIHULL

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With contributions by Jane Evans

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Report 1917

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Archaeological Evaluation at Shirley Parkgate, Stratford Road, Solihull

Andrew Mann

With contributions by Jane Evans

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Shirley Parkgate, Stratford Road, Solihull (NGR SP 11693 79570).

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, as a condition of planning consent. The latter intends to develop the site for which a planning application has been submitted.

This report assesses the significance of any archaeological remains that may potentially be affected by the development.

The earliest and most significant features observed, two furrows, are thought to be medieval in date. This shows that the site was under cultivation during the medieval period and lay outside the core of the medieval settlement.

Ceramic land drains of the post-medieval period indicate that the site continued to be under agricultural use until the construction of residential and commercial properties, including a Territorial Army centre, from the mid 20th century. Large areas of the site appear to have been damaged or truncated due to this construction and subsequent demolition. The construction of a large car park, which first appears on the 1969 Ordnance Survey map, also appears to have truncated a large area of the site.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Planning background

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Shirley Parkgate, Stratford Road, Solihull (NGR SP 11693 79570; Fig 1), on behalf of CgMs Consulting. Planning consent has been granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (reference 2010-2108) with a condition requiring archaeological investigations ahead of groundworks. This evaluation represents the first phase of archaeological investigations within the development area. Others may be required in presently inaccessible areas.

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008). The project also conforms to a specification prepared by CgMs Consulting Limited (CgMs 2012) and for which a project proposal was produced (Worcestershire Archaeology 2012a).

2. Aims

The aims of this archaeological evaluation are:

- to determine the location, extent, date, character and condition of and surviving archaeological remains that may be impacted on by the development;
- to assess the impact of the application on any archaeological remains.

More specifically the following aim has been identified:

- to clarify the presence and character of any medieval activity on the site.

3. Methods

3.1 Documentary search

An Environmental Statement has been prepared by Wardell Armstrong (2010), which involved a search of the Historic Environment Record (HER). The archaeological and cultural heritage section was included as an appendix in the archaeological specification produced by CgMs Consulting (2012).

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed proposal has been prepared by the Service (Worcestershire Archaeology 2012a). Fieldwork was undertaken between 26 and 30 March 2012.

The original trench layout as proposed within the specification (CgMs Consulting 2012) was slightly amended prior to works commencing and while on site. One of the two 25m long trenches originally proposed within the car park was not excavated and a further three trenches within the former Territorial Army site were also slightly realigned due to thick concrete hard standing and construction works currently ongoing on the site. These amendments were approved by the Planning Archaeologist.

Seven trenches, each approximately 25m in length, and one 50m long trench were excavated. These amounted to just over 430m² in area. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure

2. 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 (Worcestershire Archaeology 2012b). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material and relaying of the tarmac on the trench within the car park.

3.2.2 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.

3.3 Artefact methodology, by Jane Evans

3.3.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (Worcestershire Archaeology 2012b; 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.

3.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. The date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on *pro forma* sheets.

Artefacts from environmental samples were examined, but none were worthy of comment, and so they not included below, nor included in the Table 1 quantification.

The pottery fabrics are referenced to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst 1994) and Warwickshire type series, as appropriate.

3.4 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

Although some trench locations were slightly altered in the former TA centre, and only one trench was excavated within the car park, the methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

4. Topographical and archaeological context

The background to the site is presented in the Environmental Statement (Wardell Armstrong 2010). The following is a brief summary.

The site lies between approximately 146.5 to 145m AOD and slopes from the north to the south/south-east. It overlies firm sandy clays which in turn overlie Mercian Mudstone. There is little or no evidence for pre-medieval activity on the site. Medieval activity has been identified along the frontage of Stratford Road, with agricultural fields to the rear. Shirley remained a farming community until the 18th century, with the majority of the site remaining as open fields until the construction of some residential housing and the Territorial Army centre between 1904 and 1955.

5. Results

5.1 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 3-5. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural deposits were fairly uniform across the site and consisted of very firm and cohesive, pale brown yellowish fine sandy clays. To the north and north-east these became slightly redder in appearance. Throughout the trenches the clays were punctuated by areas of loose sandy gravels.

Natural deposits were identified at varying depths across the site and were deepest in Trenches 5 and 6 below significant quantities of made ground (Plate 1). Here they were 1.85m below the current ground surface (b.g.s). Natural deposits were shallowest in Trenches 7 and 8, where they were observed at 0.35m below ground surface. The heights (both b.g.s and metres AOD) at which the natural was observed in all trenches is presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Medieval

Two shallow parallel linear features, (704) and (706), aligned approximately north-north-east to south-south-west, were observed within Trench 7 (Fig 4, Plate 2). They were between 0.45-0.60m wide and the gap between the two was approximately 4.5m. Although heavily truncated and intrinsically undated, being little more than stains in the natural (702), their wide parallel nature is indicative of medieval plough furrows. There appeared to have been little modern disturbance within this trench and the overlying topsoil/subsoil layers, appeared well established at 0.35m deep (to 145.19m AOD).

5.1.3 Phase 3: Post-medieval

The only post-medieval feature identified on site was a ditch (222) aligned approximately north-east to south-west, containing a circular ceramic land drain (Fig 5, Plate 3). A very similar looking ditch, on roughly the same alignment, was also seen in Trench 6 (604). It is possible they are the same feature. This ditch was not fully excavated due to the depth of the trench. It had steep slightly concave sides and a rounded base. The ditch edge was ill-defined with the subsoil (201) through which it cut. Its main fill was a firm dark blue-gleyed silty clay indicative of water saturation.

There was no obvious cut for the circular ceramic land drain within the upper fill (221) of the ditch, so it is thought they were broadly contemporary. Two further circular ceramic land drains were also observed within Trench 5, although these were not within ditches. These were aligned north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east.

5.1.4 Phase 3: Modern

The majority of the features, structures or layers discovered are thought to be modern in date. Throughout the entire former Territorial Army site there has been numerous reworking of the upper layers post demolition of the centre. These upper layers contained numerous brick, concrete and general building rubble that has likely originated from the centre's demolition.

Towards the south-eastern corner of the site within Trenches 5 and 6 there were significant quantities of dumped material, creating a raised mound. Two significant layers of material were discovered here. Initially a 0.40-0.60m thick layer of clinker/ash (501 and 601) material had been deposited over the former topsoil/subsoil (502 and 602). This contained occasional

crushed brick and concrete rubble. It was compact and cohesive and may have formed an area of hard standing. Above this was a layer soil (500 and 600), between 0.60-1.05m thick, containing modern rubble and rubbish.

In places, mostly the western half of Trench 1 and the majority of Trench 3, this modern disturbance extended down to the top of the natural, effectively destroying any stratigraphy that had existed. In Trench 3 a layer of contaminated ground (303), containing modern rubble, clinker and hydrocarbons directly over the natural (Plate 4). In Trench 8, within the car park, modern clinker and rubble levelling (801 and 802) for the current tarmac surface also lay directly upon the natural (Plate 5).

Throughout the remainder of the trenches within the former TA centre numerous modern walls and concrete foundations were identified (Plates 6-7). The majority of these were in Trench 2, where four walls, aligned approximately east to west, of modern bricks and cement mortar were observed. These all cut through the subsoil and natural layers and were overlain by the modern levelling/landscaping layers discussed above. Two more walls/concrete foundations were identified within Trenches 5 and 6. These cut through the clinker/ash layer (501 and 601). No associated floor surfaces were discovered.

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Jane Evans

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Table 1

A very small assemblage of artefacts was recovered, all from top soil 700. The only find of any interest was an abraded sherd from a cream ware plate, dating to c 1760-80. The remaining finds comprised fragments of modern green bottle glass (2) and plastic (2).

period	material class	material class sub-type	object specific type	count	weight (g)
Post-medieval	ceramic	cream ware	plate	1	4
modern	glass	green	bottle	2	36
modern	plastic		fragments	5	4
totals				8	44

Table 1; Quantification of site assemblage

6. Synthesis

6.1 Medieval

The only medieval features discovered were two furrows within Trench 7. These were heavily truncated and no associated finds were discovered. The only finds from this trench were from the topsoil and these were of post-medieval and modern date. No medieval finds were discovered in any of the trenches excavated. The presence of furrows and the lack of pottery would suggest that the site was located outside the core area of medieval Shirley. Allied with the cartographic evidence it would imply that the evaluated area had always been farmland through the medieval and post-medieval periods.

6.2 Post-medieval

The only confirmed post-medieval features or finds were the circular ceramic land drains and an associated drainage ditch within the former TA centre. Again this implies the continued agricultural nature of the site during the post-medieval period.

6.3 Modern

The majority of the features or layers are modern in date and can mostly be attributed to the construction of the TA centre, its demolition and the subsequent landscaping of the site. The walls discovered can be assigned to the numerous arrangements of buildings on the former TA site from their first appearance on the 1955 Ordnance Survey map until their final demolition in 1999. The construction and demolition of these building has in places destroyed any earlier stratigraphy. This is more apparent to the east and north-east of the site (Trenches 1 and 3) and below the main TA building (Trench 2). The depth of this disturbance within the eastern end of Trench 1 may have resulted from the removal of cellars as two residential buildings used to occupy this part of the site.

7. Significance

7.1 Assessment of significance

The on-site evaluation has provided new evidence of the archaeological potential of the site. As a result, an assessment of the significance of this site can be made in terms of the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological interest.

Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

No significant archaeological remains were identified during the evaluation and those that were discovered, allied with the cartographic evidence, indicates that the majority of the site has been under cultivation, probably arable, since the medieval period.

Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

The lack of residual finds throughout the majority of the trenches and the apparent landscaping that has occurred within the former TA centre suggests that large portions of the site, specifically the former topsoil/subsoil layers, have been removed. Within the former TA site the lower stratigraphic layers have been damaged or completely removed within Trenches 1, 2 and 3. This indicates that there is little potential that any significant archaeological remains survived in those areas. In the other trenches in the former TA site (4-6) the undisturbed natural was discovered at a depth of between 0.70m-1.83m below ground surface or 145.20-145.80m AOD.

The survival of furrows in Trench 7 implies that there has been less reworking and truncation within this part of the site. Although in Trench 8 the original soil horizon had been completely removed to level the area for the car park and the hardcore rubble sat directly upon sterile natural. The natural in Trenches 7 and 8 was 0.35m below ground surface. In Trench 7 it lay at 145.10m AOD and in Trench 8 it lay at 144.40m AOD. The height difference between these two trenches and the obvious drop in the ground surface from the land surrounding the car park suggests that the area has been heavily landscaped and/or truncated to create a level surface. If previously the two areas were relatively level, then up to 0.70m of material may have been removed from the car park area. This suggests that any archaeological remains that had existed within the car park area have been completely removed.

8. 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 CgMs Consulting at Shirley Parkgate, Stratford Road, Solihull (NGR SP 11693 79570). The earliest features, two agricultural furrows, are thought to be medieval in date. This suggests that the site was under cultivation during the medieval period and lay outside the core of the medieval settlement of Shirley. Ceramic land drains of the post-medieval period also imply that the site continued to be under agricultural use until the construction of residential and commercial properties, including a Territorial Army centre, from the mid 20th century.

9. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Cathy Patrick (CgMs Consulting), Rob Gardener (Vining Management) and Anna Stocks (Planning Archaeologist, Warwickshire County Council).

10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Andrew Mann. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan. Fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Mann and Mike Nicholson, finds analysis by Jane Evans and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

11. **Bibliography**

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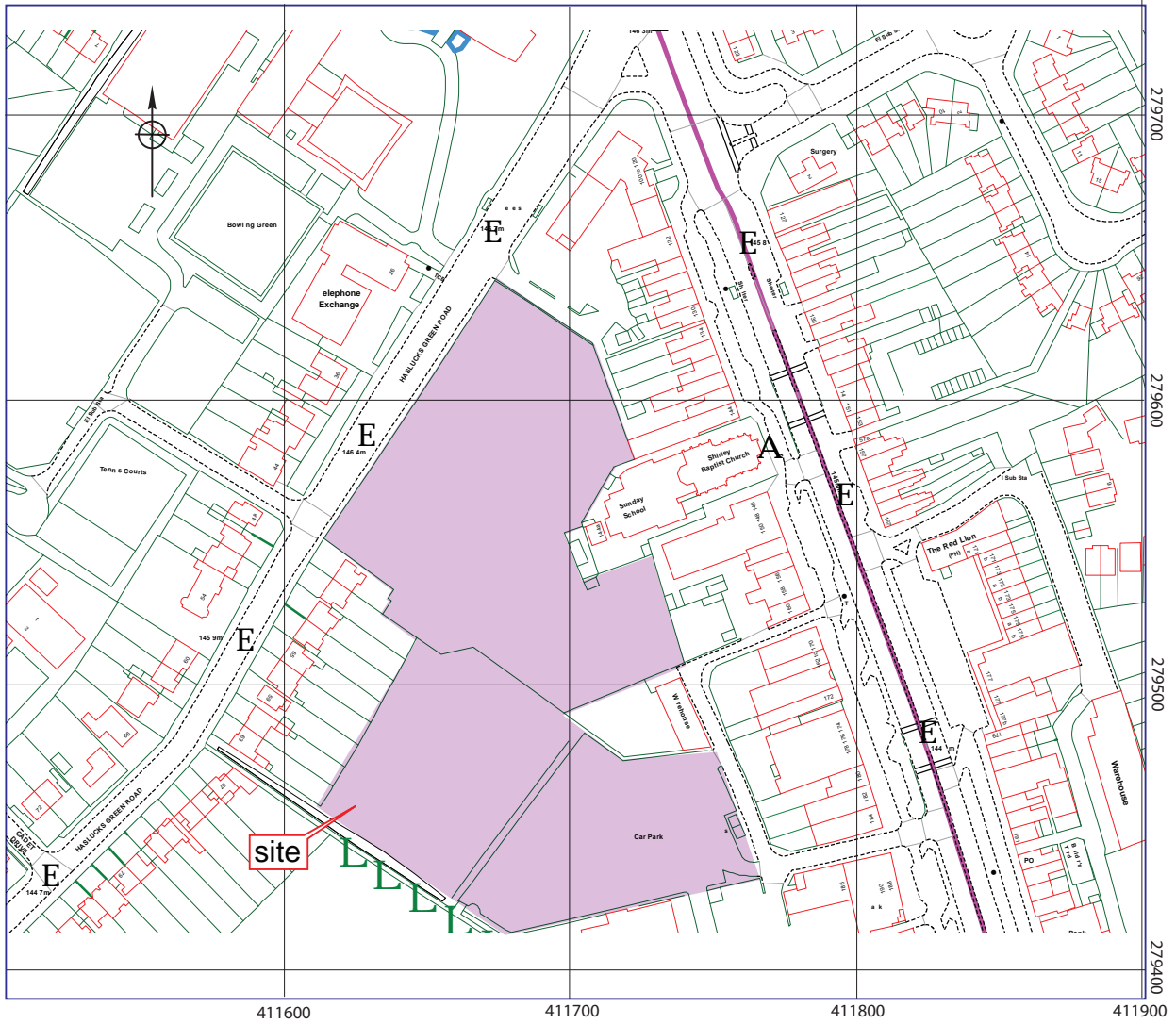
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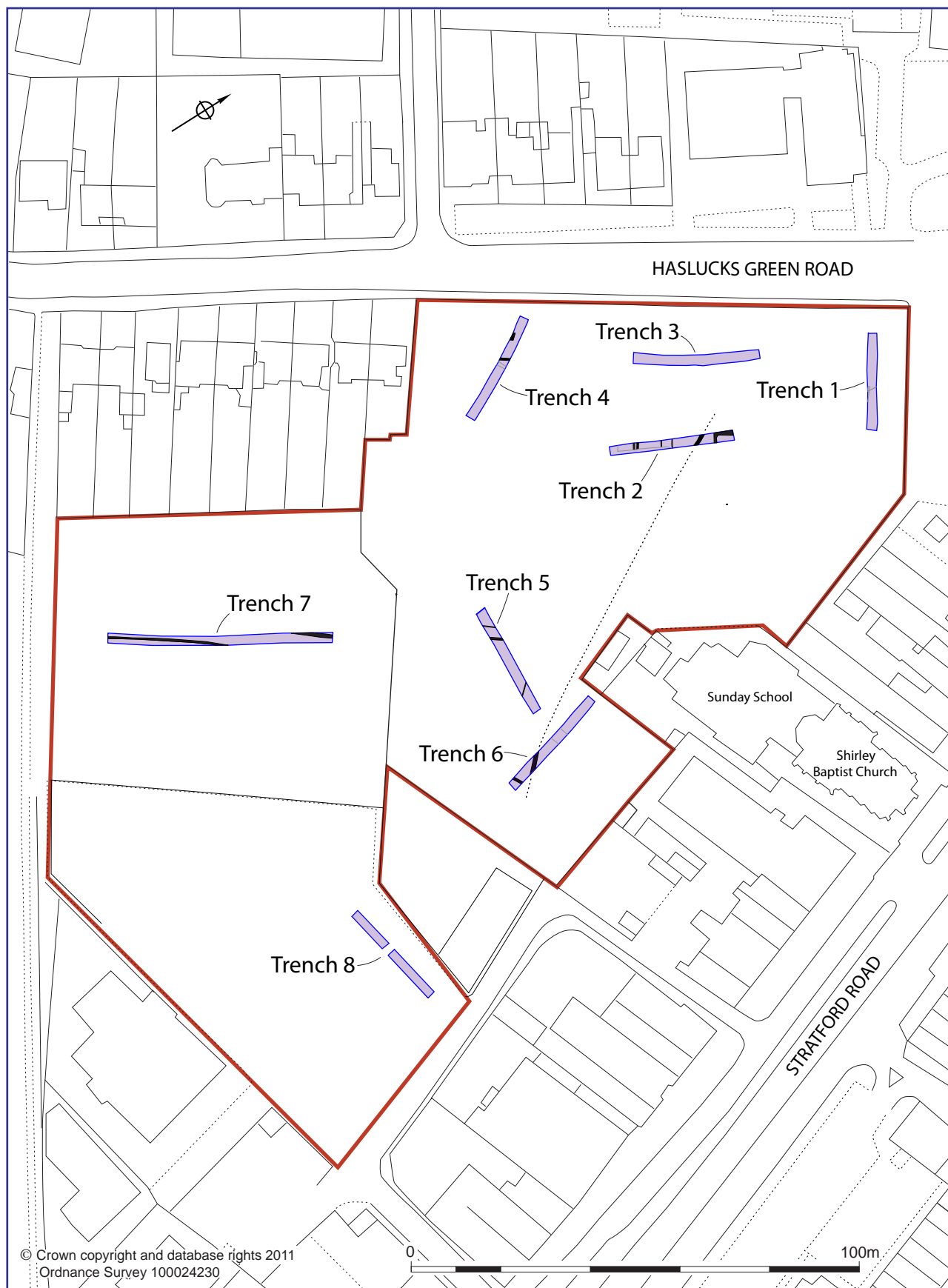
Figures



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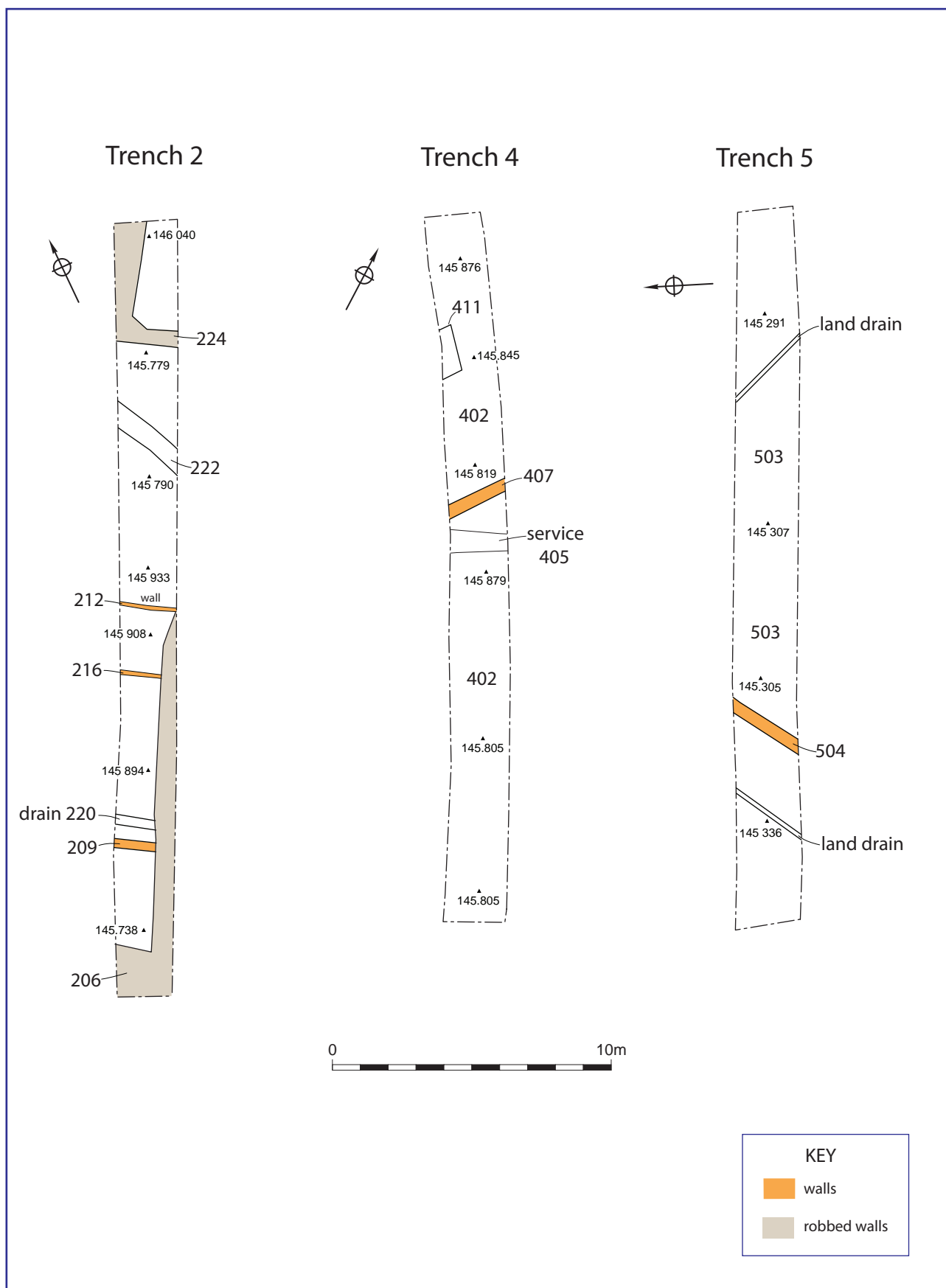
Location of the site

Figure 1



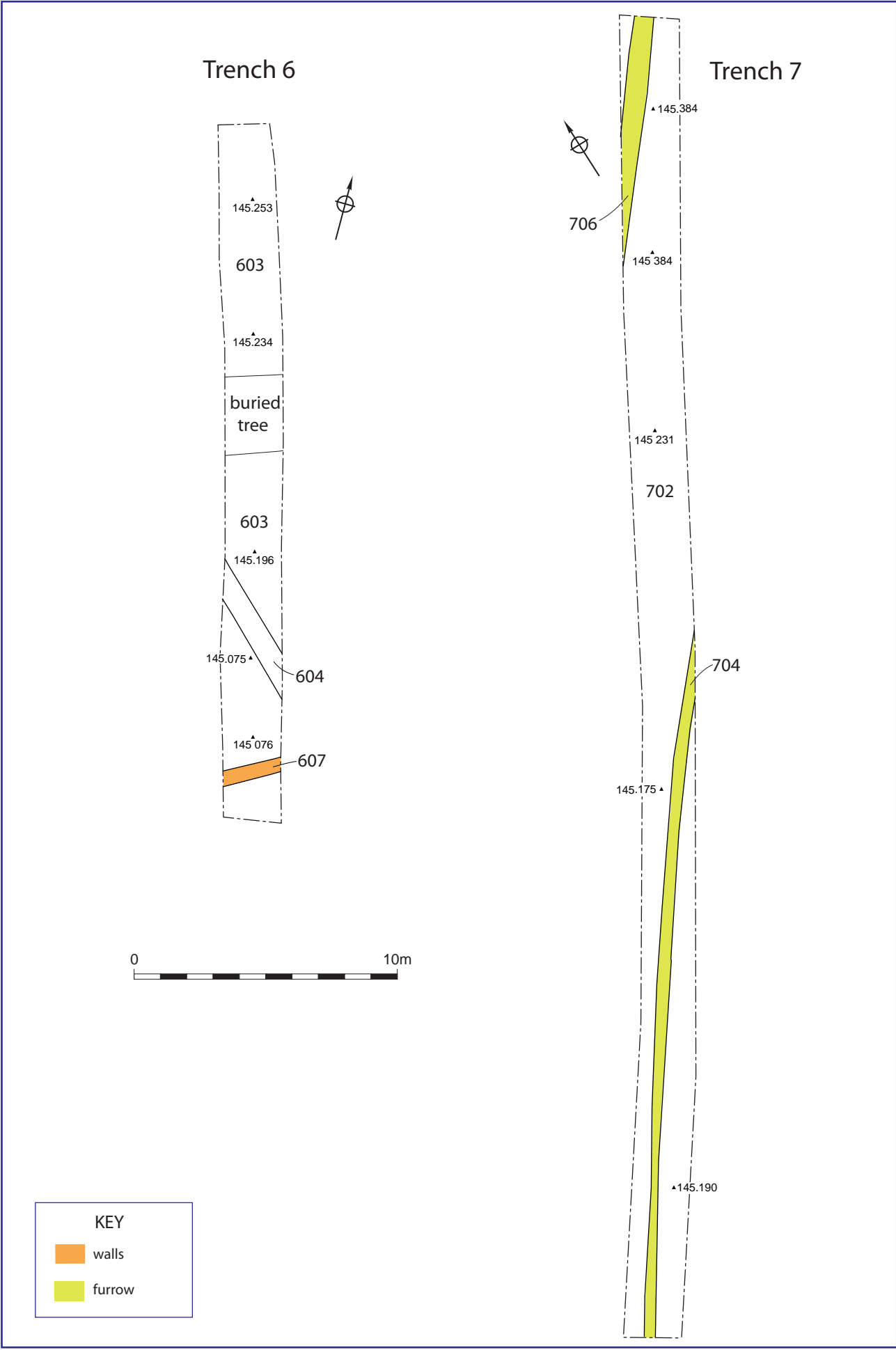
Trench locations

Figure 2



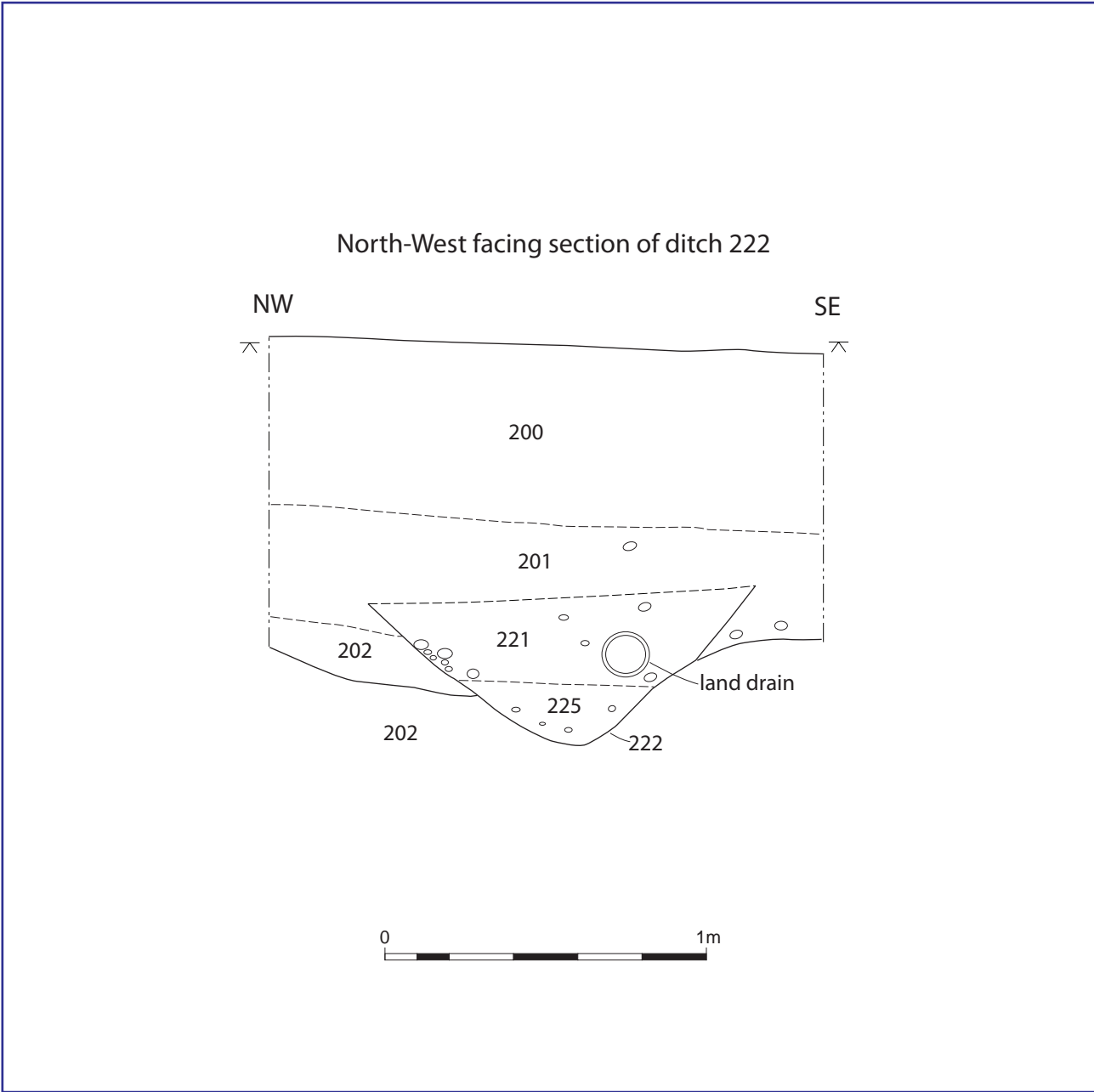
Plan of Trenches 2, 4 and 5

Figure 3



Plan of Trenches 5 and 7

Figure 4



North-west facing section of ditch 222

Figure 5

Plates



Plate 1; Made ground in Trench 5 facing south, 2m scale



Plate 2; Furrow (704) facing south-west, 1m scale



Plate 3; Ditch (222) facing south-east, 1m scale



Plate 4; made ground and contaminants in trench 3, facing east, 1m scale



Plate 5; Deposits in Trench 8, facing north, 0.30m scale



Plate 6; Walls in Trench 2, facing north-east, 1m scale



Plate 7; Typical wall construction across site. Wall (209) facing south-west, 1m scale

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 21.60m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.90-1.24m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Turf mat	Thin layer of weeds and turf. Current land surface.	0.00-0.07m
101	Mixed rubble disturbance	Layer of mixed brick rubble, concrete, clinker, soil and natural clays. Increases in depth towards the NW end of the trench.	0.07-1.03m
102	Top-soil	Mid-dark brown loam. Moderately compact but friable. Contains occasional small rounded stones, rare large rounded stone and CBM. Located towards the SE end of the trench.	0.07-0.33m
103	Sub-soil	Mid-brown clayey silt. Moderately compact and contains occasional small rounded stones. Has good clarity with natural (104).	0.40-0.72m
104	Natural	Reddish yellow fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small –medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.72m-1.10m bgs 145.90m AOD
105	Cut	Vertical cut for lead pipe.	
106	Fill	Fill of pipe cut (105). Mixture of (103) and (104).	
107	Cut	Cut for modern ceramic drain. Vertical sides and flat base. Aligned approximately NW-SE.	
108	Fill	Fill of cut (107). Includes a ceramic drain and a mixture of (102) and (103). Cuts pipe trench (105).	

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.70m Width: 1.95m Depth: 0.72m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Top-soil	Mid-dark brown sandy loam. Moderately compact but friable. Contains frequent small rounded stones, rare large rounded stone and CBM.	0.00-0.49m
201	Sub-soil	Dark-brown sandy loam. Moderately compact and contains occasional small rounded stones and occasional CBM . Has good clarity with	0.49-67

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
		natural (202).	
202	Natural	Reddish yellow fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small –medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.67m + 145.93m AOD
205	Fill	Fill of modern cut (206). Loose and soft dark brown silty clay with clinker and modern building rubble and CBM.	
206	Cut	Modern cut linear feature, possibly a robbed out wall. Has a right angle the southern end of the trench. Cuts from the modern surface.	
207	Fill	Back fill of foundation cut (210). Moderately compact mixture of dark brown and yellow sandy clay loam. Contains occasional small rounded stones.	
208	Concrete foundations	Modern concrete foundations for wall (209).	
209	Wall	Modern brick wall foundations. Aligned approximately E-W, sitting upon a concrete foundation and formed with modern frogged bricks (227x77x108 mm) and bonded with cement mortar. One course thick. Cut by (206).	
210	Cut	Modern cut for wall foundations (209). Vertical sided with a flat base.	
211	Fill	Back fill of foundation cut (214). Moderately compact mixture of dark brown and yellow sandy clay loam. Contains occasional small rounded stones.	
212	Wall	Modern brick wall foundations. Aligned approximately E-W, sitting upon a concrete foundation and formed with modern frogged bricks (227x77x108 mm) and bonded with cement mortar. One course thick. Cut slightly by (206).	
213	Concrete foundations	Modern concrete foundations for wall (212).	
214	Cut	Cut for foundation wall (212). Vertical sided with a flat base. Cuts from the modern surface.	
215	Fill	Back fill of foundation cut (218). Moderately compact mixture of dark brown and yellow sandy clay loam. Contains occasional small rounded stones.	
216	Wall	Modern brick wall foundations. Aligned approximately E-W, sitting upon a concrete foundation and formed with modern frogged bricks (227x77x108 mm) and bonded with cement mortar. One course thick. Cut slightly by (206).	
217	Concrete foundations	Modern concrete foundations for wall (216).	
218	Cut	Modern cut for wall foundations (216). Vertical sided with a flat base.	
219	Fill	Fill of modern ceramic drain cut. Mixture of (201) and (202).	

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
220	Cut	Vertical sided and flat based cut for a modern ceramic drain, aligned approximately E-W.	
221	Fill	Upper fill of ditch cut (222). Mid grey soft and malleable silty clay. Contains occasional small rounded stones. Also contains a ceramic land drain.	
222	Cut	Linear ditch cut, aligned approximately NW-SE. Its clarity with the subsoil (201) is not sharp but it is thought to partially cut through that layer. It has steep slightly concave sides, and a rounded base.	
223	Fill	Fill of modern cut (224). Loose and soft dark brown silty clay with clinker and modern building rubble and CBM.	
224	Cut	Modern cut linear feature, possibly a robbed out wall. Has a right angle the northern end of the trench. Cuts from the modern surface.	
225	Fill	Primary fill of ditch cut (222). Moderately compact mid-orangey brown, silty clay. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small rounded stones.	

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 28.15m Width: 1.95m Depth: 0.70-1.20m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Top soil	Mid-dark brown loam. Moderately compact but friable. Contains occasional small rounded stones, rare large rounded stone and frequent CBM.	0.00-0.35m
301	Sub soil	Mid-brown silty clay. Moderately compact and contains occasional small rounded stones. Is less disturbed towards either end of the trench.	0.35-0.69m
302	Natural	Reddish yellow fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small-medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.69-1.20m 145.6m AOD
303	Layer	Dark grey-black coarse sands and gravels. Loose and friable. Heavily contaminated with petrochemicals. Mostly seen in the middle of the trench, although there was no obvious cut for its deposition.	0.70-1.18m
304	Layer	Layer of mixed brick rubble, concrete, clinker, soil and natural clays. Seals contaminated material (303).	0.00-0.70m

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 25.00m Width: 1.95m Depth: 0.98m

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Top soil	Mid-dark brown loam. Moderately compact but friable. Contains occasional small rounded stones, rare large rounded stone and frequent CBM.	0.00-0.33m
401	Sub soil	Mid-brown silty clay. Moderately compact and contains occasional small rounded stones. Is less disturbed towards either end of the trench.	0.33-0.70m
402	Natural	Yellowish brown fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small–medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.70m + 145.80m AOD
403	Cut	Linear cut with vertical sides aligned approximately NE-SW. Possible robber cut for the removal of a brick wall.	
404	Fill	Fill of cut (403). Soft and friable mid-dark brown loam. Contains frequent clinker ash, concrete and crushed brick.	
405	Cut	Vertical sided cut for modern lead pipe. Aligned approximately NE-SW.	
406	Fill	Backfill of cut (405). Contains a mixture of (400), (401) and (402).	
407	Cut	Foundation cut for modern wall (409). Vertical sided and flat based. Aligned NE-SW.	
408	Concrete foundations	Modern concrete foundations for wall (409)	
409	Wall	Modern brick wall foundations. Aligned approximately NE-SW, sitting upon a concrete foundation and formed with modern frogged bricks (238x70x108 mm). Two courses thick using English bond and cement mortar.	
410	Fill	Backfill of cut (407). Contains a mixture of (400), (401) and (402).	
411	Cut	Square cut of modern rubbish pit. Vertical sided with straight sides.	
412	Fill	Fill of cut (411). Dark brown-black silty loam. Contains frequent modern brick crush, concrete, metal pipes and general rubbish.	

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 25.00m Width: 1.95m Depth: 1.27-1.83m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Top soil	Moderately compact, mid-brown loam. Contains frequent modern rubbish, concrete and CBM. Re-deposited top soils and subsoil mix.	0.00-1.13m
501	Layer	Layer of compact and cohesive black clinker ash. Contains occasional small rounded stones and crushed brick and concrete.	1.13-1.40m
502	Buried soil	Former soil horizon, buried by layer (502). Dark grey-brown silty loam, moderately compact and cohesive.	1.40-1.83m
503	Natural	Yellowish brown fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small–medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	1.27-1.83m+ 145.34m AOD
504	Concrete foundation	Modern concrete foundations for a demolished wall, not longer visible. No cut seen. Sealed by (500).	

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 26.00m Width: 1.95m Depth: 1.85m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Top soil	Moderately compact, mid-brown loam. Contains frequent modern rubbish, concrete and CBM. Re-deposited top soils and subsoil mix.	0.00-1.13m
601	Layer	Layer of compact and cohesive black clinker ash. Contains occasional small rounded stones and crushed brick and concrete.	1.13-1.40m
602	Buried soil	Former soil horizon, buried by layer (602). Dark grey-brown silty loam, moderately compact and cohesive.	1.40-1.85m
603	Natural	Yellowish brown fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small–medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	1.85m+ 145.2m AOD
604	Cut	Linear ditch cut. Not excavated due to depth. Contains land drain.	
605	Fill	Fill of ditch (604) Not excavated, but appears similar to (602).	

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
606	Cut	Appears vertical sided and aligned approximately NE-SW.	
607	Concrete foundation	Modern concrete foundations for wall (608).	
608	Wall	Modern brick wall foundations. Aligned approximately N-S, sitting upon a concrete foundation and formed with modern Two courses thick using stretcher bond and cement mortar. Sealed by (600)	
609	Fill	Backfill of foundation cut. Dark brown silty loam, containing frequent clinker ash fragments.	

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.00m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.35m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Top soil	Dark brown, silty loam, moderately compact. Contains occasional small rounded stones, roots and CBM.	0.00-0.20m
701	Sub soil	Light brown sandy loam. Firm and moderately cohesive. Contains occasional medium rounded stones.	0.20-0.35m
702	Natural	Yellowish brown fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small–medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.35m+ 145.38m AOD
703	Fill	Fill of (704). Light brown grey soft and malleable silty loam. Very sterile similar to (701)	
704	Cut	Heavily truncated ditch/furrow. Is intermittent across the trench and seen mainly as a stain. Not excavated as only a few millimetres deep.	
705	Fill	Fill of (706). Light brown grey soft and malleable silty loam. Very sterile similar to (701)	
706	Cut	Heavily truncated ditch/furrow. Is intermittent across the trench and seen mainly as a stain. Not excavated as only a few millimetres deep.	

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 23.00m Width: 2.00m Depth: 0.45m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Tarmac	Tarmac surface.	0.00-0.07m
801	Layer	Brick rubble, hardcore for tarmac surface.	0.07-0.17m
802	layer	Black firm and cohesive clinker ash layer.	0.17-0.35m
803	Natural	Yellowish brown fine sandy clay with pockets of gravels (small–medium rounded stones). Very firm and cohesive.	0.35m+ 144.61m AOD

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 34 | Context records AS1 |
| 2 | Field progress reports AS2 |
| 2 | Photographic records AS3 |
| 126 | Digital photographs |
| 1 | Drawing number catalogues AS4 |
| 1 | Scale drawings |
| 8 | Trench record sheets AS41 |
| 1 | CD-Rom/DVDs |
| 1 | Copy of this report (bound hard copy) |

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Warwickshire Museum
The Butts
Warwick
Warwickshire, CV34 4SS

Tel. Warwick (01926) 412500
