

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AND BUILDING RECORDING
AT THE
FORMER HEENAN AND FROUDE SOCIAL CLUB,
SANSOME PLACE,
WORCESTER



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Archaeological Evaluation and Building Recording at the former Heenan and Froude Social Club, Sansome Place, Worcester

Tim Cornah and Andrew Walsh

With contributions by Dennis Williams

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the former Heenan and Froude Social Club, Sansome Place, Worcester (NGR SO 8516 5521). It was undertaken on behalf of BM3 Architecture Ltd, for Worcester Community Housing, in advance of a residential development for which a planning application has been submitted.

The evaluation established that well preserved archaeological remains dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods survive on the site. These included a number of linear features including a possible burgage plot boundary ditch and a post-medieval drain. No prehistoric or early medieval activity was identified and evidence of Roman activity on the site was limited to a single sherd of pottery deposited in a later ditch.

Subsequent development on the site took place in the mid 19th century with the founding of the school and the erection of the present Gothic revival building. Within broadly the same era, a single storey bungalow and terrace were built to its south, though only the bungalow remains to a significant degree. The further development of the buildings on the site relate to the uses of Heenan and Froude social club within the 20th century.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the former Heenan and Froude Social Club, Sansome Place, Worcester (NGR SO 8516 5521; Figure 1). It was undertaken on behalf of BM3 Architecture Ltd, for Worcester Community Housing, in advance of a residential development for which a planning application has been submitted to Worcester City Council (ref P13D0088 and L13D0020).

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets, the significance of which may be affected by the application.

The project conforms to a brief prepared by Worcester City Council Development Management (Archaeology) (WCC 2013) and for which a Written Scheme of Investigation was produced by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2013). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009), *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008a), *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (IfA 2008b), and *General standards and practices appropriate for archaeological fieldwork in Worcester* (Worcester City Council 1999). The event references for this project, given by the HER, are WCM 101981 and 101982.

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation and building recording are:

- to describe and assess the significance of the heritage asset with archaeological interest;
- to establish the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological site;
- to assess the impact of the application on the archaeological site;
- to seek a better understanding and compile a lasting record of the buildings.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The evaluation was led by Andrew Walsh (BSc, MSc, FSA, Scot AlfA) who was assisted in the field by Mike Nicholson (BSc) and graham Arnold (BA, MSc). The building recording was undertaken by Tim Cornah (BA), overseen by Shona Robson-Glyde (BA, PG Dip). The report was produced by Tim Cornah and Andrew Walsh. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan (BA, MA, AlfA). The Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc, MlfA) and Dennis Williams (BSc, MA, PhD, CPhys, MinstP) contributed the finds report.

3.2 Documentary research

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was undertaken in advance of the development (Alauna Heritage 2013).

3.3 Evaluation strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2013). The site reference number and site code is WCM 101981.

A test pit (Trench 1) was monitored under watching brief conditions during a site visit and the results of this observation are included in this report. Two evaluation trenches (Trench 2 and 3), amounting to just over 89m² in area, were excavated over the site area of c 930m², representing a sample area of 9.5%. The trenches were targeted on two areas which the DBA indicated had the highest archaeological potential. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2. The test pit

was excavated on 4 December 2013; the evaluation was undertaken between 6 and 8 January 2014

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Due to depth, Trench 3 was extensively stepped and a sondage was excavated in the base. 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 WA practice (WA 2012). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.3.1 Trench 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.

3.4 Building recording strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by WA (WA 2013).

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 7 and 22 November 2013.

Building recording consisted of a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the buildings, analysis of their development, annotation of existing survey drawings and measured survey. All photographs were taken with photographic scales visible in each shot. The photographic survey was carried out with a Sony α350 digital SLR camera. All photographs were recorded on a pro-forma Photographic Record Sheet. Annotation of existing ground plans and elevations complemented the photographic record.

The project conformed to the specification for a level 3 survey as defined in the English Heritage document *Understanding historic buildings: a guide to good recording practice* (EH 2006). This level of survey is described as 'an analytical record' comprising of 'an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the buildings origins, development and use' (EH 2006). This required the following elements of survey.

Survey and drawings

- Plans of all main floors and elevations as existing (provided by client).
- Measured drawings showing the form of any architectural or functional detail not more readily captured by photography.

Photography

- Overall appearance of rooms and circulation areas.
- Detailed coverage of the building's external appearance.
- Any detail, structural or decorative, relevant to the building's design, development and use, which does not show on general photographs.

3.4.1 Building analysis

Analysis of the building was based on the study of the photographic record, building recording forms and annotated drawings. It was also informed by the historical evidence outlined below. This allowed plans to be drawn up showing the structural development of the building.

The building as recorded is depicted in Plates 7-29. Ground plans, phase plans and plate locations are shown on Figure 6.

3.5 Artefact methodology by Dennis Williams

3.5.1 Recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard WA practice (WA 2012; appendix 2).

3.5.2 Method of analysis

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

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992 and WAAS 2012).

3.5.3 Discard policy

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- where unstratified
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

See the environmental section for other discard where appropriate.

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard WA practice (2012). In the event no deposits were identified which were considered to be suitable for environmental analysis.

3.7 Statement of confidence in the methods and results

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and archaeological context

The site is located on level ground, between Sansome Place and Lowesmoor, at a height of approximately 22m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The underlying geology of the site is mapped as Sidmouth Mudstone Formation, overlain by superficial deposits of sand and gravel of the Worcester Member to the north, and alluvium (clay, silt, sand and gravel) to south (BGS 2014).

The following archaeological and historical background is taken from the brief (WCC 2013, 5-6). There is no evidence of prehistoric occupation on or near the site. A probable Roman road or yard surface has been recorded under Lowesmoor. Roman occupation has been recorded within 150m of the site, which is probably close to the edge of Roman Worcester.

The site is on the edge of the medieval Lowesmoor and Silver Street suburb, extending into the area which was occupied by burgage plots. The suburb is thought to have been first occupied in the 13th century, with plots laid out along existing roads.

Within the medieval burgage plots, evidence of industries including medieval tile making and ironworking, and early post-medieval tilemaking, lime burning, bell founding, clay pipe manufacture and glove making has been found. Remains associated with these industries are expected to be concentrated in the burgage plots but may extend beyond into the adjacent land. Remains

associated with medieval domestic occupation may also be present. The southern edge of the suburb is marked by a substantial stone wall; it is unknown whether there was a similar feature on the northern side.

Later in the post-medieval period, larger-scale and more extensive industries were located in the Lowesmoor area, including vinegar manufacture and engineering.

The social club occupied the former Holy Trinity school building, founded in 1834 and is shown on maps from 1839. The single-storey building at 25a and 25b Lowesmoor was the truncated remnant of a two-storey court dwelling of 19th century date. Other buildings and structures on the site were more recent.

4.2 The Buildings

4.2.1 Buildings description

The former Heenan and Froude Social club and the associated structures encompassed within this section lay within a plot between Lowesmoor and Sansome Place. The building that made up most of the former social club was situated at the northern end of the plot, with its three gables facing onto Sansome Place (Plate 7). The building was of brick construction with a ceramic tiled timber roof structure. The frontage of the building, on Sansome Place, was rendered hiding any of the brick detail but the half-hipped gables to the sides of the structure showed that the building was built of orange-red brick coursed in English Garden Wall Bond. The three gables on the northern elevation of the building were of an ornate Gothic style with the outer two formerly having been taken up with large pointed arch windows (Plate 8). The central gable remained as the entrance into the building though further entrances had been cut through the former windows in the north-west and north-east corners (Plate 12). This building appeared also to have had an entrance within the eastern end of its southern elevation as well as a further window in that elevations' western end (Plate 14). These were both altered in later uses of the building. No entrances appear to have been present in the western or eastern elevations of this building though small blocked windows are visible below the half hipped roofs of the gables (Plates 7 and 10).

The external architectural detailing was carried on internally with similar arches (Plate 10). The internal space was under two separate roof lines aligned east to west and supported along the centre by steel columns. Each roof line was then supported by a series of equally spaced timber tie beams with queen post trusses above (Plate 11). The roof appears to have been left open originally though a ceiling was inserted when used as a social club. One further feature was a well built into the base of the eastern elevation and accessible internally (Plate 15). This was built from the same bricks as the social club so is likely to be contemporary.

A single storey brick built structure with a flat roof obscured much of the architectural detailing of the front gables (Plate 7), such as their ornamental barge boards and a coat of arms above the original doorway (Plate 9). A further two storey brick building was attached to the south side of this building which contained a bowling alley on the ground floor then further space related to the use of the social club (Plates 23 to 26).

To the south of these buildings was a single storey brick constructed bungalow that sat within a small garden plot (Plate 16). The brickwork of the eastern wall was coursed in Flemish Stretcher Bond and topped with a simple eaves cornice. The south gable wall was coursed in Stretcher Bond and had projecting headers added to the eaves line. The north gable wall was part constructed in Flemish Stretcher Bond with the top part in Stretcher Bond. This gable also had projecting headers along its eaves line. Both gables also had decorative projecting headers within the apexes.

The building was aligned north to south along the western edge of the plot. Of the original building, only the outer walls remained as all the internal walls were of modern block work and the roof was similarly modern as shown by the roof timbers and concrete tiles (Plates 16 to 21). The rear wall of this building made up the western edge of the plot and similarly had no windows or doors. All the other elevations had two windows. The eastern elevation had a centrally set door with a semi-

circular head opening containing a simple fanlight. The equally spaced windows to either side of the door are set in segmental head openings. The southern elevation contained an off centre door with two further windows all of which were set in segmental headed openings. The unequal spacing and size of these windows is likely to have been due to an internally built chimney stack on this elevation, suggesting that all these features were in their original position. Photographs relating to the development of the building in 1981 show it as a two-storey structure with a double ridged roof line running roughly north to south (WCC 1981).

The line of the western elevation of the bungalow was continued to the south in the form of a brick wall boundary. This was clearly the remains of a two storey building as holes for first floor joists could be seen as well as the remains of equally set internal dividing walls, though these no longer remain (Plate 22).

At the southern end of this wall was a further single storey brick building with a broadly flat roof, internally divided into three rooms, one of which was clearly used as a kitchen (Plates 25 to 29).

4.2.2 Historical information

A summary of the relevant historical background as outlined in full within the DBA (Alauna Heritage 2013) is presented within this section.

The earliest detailed maps of this area date to 1822 and 1832 respectively. These both show the buildings along Lowesmoor to the south and Sansome Walk to the north, though neither shows any buildings on this plot. An estate map of 1839 shows a building entirely consistent with that of the social club prior to any of the modern extensions. This map only details half of the plot, so it is not clear as to whether the bungalow existed at this point. The next map dates to 1886 and still clearly shows the social club in the same position. Further to this, a structure is clearly visible which is likely to be the bungalow. As well this is what appears to be a terrace to the south of the bungalow, consistent with the wall discussed above. This terrace appears to have been demolished by the time of the 1940s Ordnance Survey map. Finally on the Ordnance Survey map of 1965, the social club building and the bungalow are still visible. The extension which contained the bowling alley is also visible at this point as well as the flat roofed building at the southern end of the site.

The social club building has been clearly linked with the foundation of a school on this plot in 1834 and appears to have been the original use of the social club building. This date is consistent with the cartographic evidence outlined in the paragraph above. Billing's trade directory of 1855 describes the school as a National School for Girls and details that it was erected in 1834 and '*is a large building, in the Gothic style of architecture*' (Billings 1855, 23). By 1938 the school had fallen into financial difficulty and the building was sold to Heenan and Froude Ltd for use as a social club (Alauna Heritage 2013 section 9.7.7). In 1938 planning permission for a temporary skittle alley at the rear of the premises was applied for though the building as recorded is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1940.

4.2.3 Building development

Phase 1: Mid 19th century

The Gothic architectural style of the social club building suggested a broadly 19^h century date. There has been some suggestion, as outlined by Alauna Heritage (2013 section 9.7.1) that this Gothic revival style is more likely to date from the later 19th century. However, the description of the building in the trade directory of 1855 shows that it was built in 1834 in Gothic style (Billings 1855, 23). The large open interior space within this building was also consistent with a school building.

The bungalow building in the centre of the plot appeared architecturally to be broadly of 19^h century date or potentially slightly earlier though this is unclear. The mapping evidence suggests that it is broadly contemporary with the foundation of the school. Much of the detailing of this building no longer survived as it had been entirely refurbished in the modern era to the extent that only the external walls and chimney were original, though heavily altered.

The western boundary wall to the south of the bungalow carried on the line of its back wall. This wall appeared to have been a replacement of an earlier one that was contemporary with the bungalow as they were keyed together. This later wall was the remnant of the back wall of the terrace and also appears to have been of 19th century date.

Phase 2: Mid to late 20th century

A series of three further sets of buildings were seen within the plot. These were to the front and rear of the social club and at the far southern end of the plot. These buildings were all architecturally consistent with the second half of the 20th century.

4.2.4 Discussion

The initial development of the buildings on this site clearly started with the foundation of the school in 1834 as stated within the historical evidence. This is confirmed by the cartographic evidence which shows the current building having been present on an estate map of 1839 but missing from a map of 1832. Further confirmation is given by the materials of the building which suggest it was built before 1850. Although the style of the building has been suggested to be of a later 19th century style, the DBA (Alauna Heritage 2013 section 9.7) demonstrates that church schools were employing an Ecclesiastical Gothic style much earlier within the 19th century.

The dating of the bungalow building and the terrace to its south is more difficult as the estate maps of 1839 and 1834 do not cover this area of the plot. However, a map of 1832 which details individual buildings does not show either of them at this period. They are first shown on the 1886 Ordnance Survey map, suggesting that they were built between 1832 and 1886. This would not be inconsistent with the fabric of the buildings. The architectural style of the bungalow structure and its brick coursing are consistent with the building being constructed within this time frame and more likely at around the same time as the school building in 1834. Neither the bungalow nor the terrace of houses survive within their original state so their function is partially obscured. The original internal layout of the bungalow does not survive but the presence and scale of the original chimney suggests a domestic use. The cartographic evidence along with that of the standing remains, suggest that the terrace originally consisted of three plots of one room on each ground and first floor. Though no evidence for stairs or chimneys remain, they are likely to have been domestic in character. The evidence of the building remains suggest that the terrace post-dates the bungalow.

The buildings subsequently developed with Heenan and Froude Ltd taking over the site by 1938. The building that contained the bowling alley is likely to have been built shortly after this point, and certainly by the time of the 1965 Ordnance Survey map. This map also shows the flat roofed building at the southern end of the site within its current configuration. This evidence is consistent with the standing fabric of the building.

5 Evaluation trench analysis

The detailed results of the evaluation trench analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1 Trench 1 and Trench 2 (Figure 3)

5.1.1 Natural

A pale brownish yellow sand with occasional darker mottling (103 and 202) was visible across this trench at a height of 20.7m AOD. This was overlaid by a greyish brown silty sandy gravel, 0.25m in depth (201). This layer was interpreted as an alluvial deposit (Plate 1).

5.1.2 Post-medieval

In Trench 2 layer (201) was cut by ditch 203, which was 2.66m in width and a least 1.6m in depth (Figure 5; Plate 2). It was orientated approximately north-east to south-west and contained a stone-lined drain in the base (208). The drain was constructed of limestone blocks, finished with ceramic tiles (Plate 3). The internal base of the drain was at a depth of 18.91m AOD with the top at

19.35m AOD (Plate 4) and it was filled by a greyish silt (209). The ditch was filled by deposits (204-207) inclusive, which yielded finds of 17th century pottery (205), medieval and post-medieval tiles (204, 205 and 206), and a re-deposited sherd of Roman pottery (206).

5.1.3 Modern

Ditch (203) and layer (201) were sealed by modern overburden (100-102 and 200), 0.55m in depth. The ground level around these trenches was at approximately 21.5m AOD.

5.2 Trench 3 (Figure 4)

5.2.1 Natural

A patchy orangey or reddish sand with occasional to frequent pebbles and occasional pebbles (302) was visible at a maximum height of 20.63m AOD.

5.2.2 Medieval

The natural was cut by feature [309] which was located at the southern end of the trench (Figure 5; Plate 5). It was only partially exposed but was at least 1.8m in width and 1.12m in depth, and appeared to be orientated east to west. It was filled by a greyish brown silty sand (308) which yielded finds including a sherd of 12th to 14th pottery and tile fragments dating to the 13th to 15th centuries.

Deposit (312) was only visible in the trench section (Figure 5; Plate 5). It was a brownish grey silty sand, which yielded tile dating to the 13th to 15th centuries.

5.2.3 Post-medieval

Feature [307] cut deposit (312) although it was only partially exposed in the northern end of the trench. It was at least 0.85m in width and 0.6m in depth, and appeared to be orientated roughly east to west. It was filled by a greyish brown silty sand (306) which yielded finds including pottery dating to the 17th to 18th centuries, a late 18th century teapot spout and 19th to 20th century tile, although it should be noted that these finds came from the upper part of the fill which may have been disturbed by later activity.

Feature [305] cut feature [309] and deposit (312), and it had an unclear relationship with [307]. It was 2.98m in width and at least 0.98m in depth, although it was not fully excavated. It was filled by a brownish grey silty sand (304) on its southern side, overlaid by a slightly greyish brown silty sand (303). This feature yielded tile dating to the 13th to 18th centuries.

These features were sealed at a depth of 21.02m AOD by layer 301 (see below).

5.2.4 Phase 3: Modern

Brick wall (313) was located at the north end of the trench (Plate 6). This was the remains of the boundary wall between the former social club and a residential property which had been demolished during the works. It is interesting to note that this wall sits on the same alignment as ditch 307.

The features were sealed by layer 301, which was approximately 0.5m in depth, and a possible former garden soil (300), also 0.5m in depth. The ground level around the trench was at approximately 21.85m aOD to the north and 22.05m to the south.

5.3 Artefactual analysis by Dennis Williams

The artefactual assemblage, from eight stratified contexts, consisted of tile, pottery, bone, clay pipe and slag, as shown in Table 1. The pottery was in generally good condition, with moderate levels of abrasion and a mean sherd weight that was above average (i.e. >10g).

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight (g)
Roman	ceramic	-	pot	1	94
medieval	ceramic	-	pot	1	4
medieval	ceramic	-	floor tile	1	70
medieval	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	50	3982
late medieval/ early post-medieval	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	22	5534
post-medieval	ceramic	-	-	1	206
post-medieval	ceramic	-	clay pipe	1	1
post-medieval	ceramic	-	pot	4	444
undated	bone	animal bone	-	12	68
undated	composite	-	plaster	1	28
undated	slag	slag(Fe)	-	1	280
undated	stone	-	-	1	2220
totals:				96	12931

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

The pottery comprised Roman, medieval and post-medieval sherds as summarised in Table 2.

broad period	fabric code	fabric common name	count	weight (g)
Romano-British	16	Grog tempered ware (BD32/33)	1	94
medieval	55	Worcester-type sandy unglazed ware	1	4
post-medieval	78	Post-medieval red ware	3	428
post-medieval	84	Creamware	1	16
totals:			6	542

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery

5.3.1 Summary of artefactual evidence

The context finds summary, with *terminus post quem* date ranges, is shown in Table 3.

Pottery

Roman

A single body sherd of 2nd-3rd century grog-tempered ware (fabric 16), probably from a large storage jar, was recovered from deposit 206.

Medieval

A small body sherd from a 12th-14^h century Worcester-type cooking pot (fabric 55; fill 308) bore external sooting.

Post-medieval

Black-glazed red-wares of the 17th-18th century (fabric 78; fills 205 and 306) included a rim from a large bowl or pancheon. A creamware teapot spout (fabric 84; fill 306) was late 18th century in date.

Tile

Flat roof tile accounted for the greatest part of the assemblage. Worcester tile fabrics 2a (13th-15th century), 2b (13th-15^h century) and 2c (late 15th-early 18^h century) were all represented in fills 204 and 205 (ditch 203); fabric 2a in deposit 206; and fabrics 2a and 2c within drain 208 (Fagan 2004).

Circular stamps were noted on the underside of fabric 2c tile from fill 303 (ditch 305). Fabrics 2a and 2c were found in fill 303, and fabric 2a in fill 308 (ditch 309) and deposit 312.

Machine-made tile of the 19^h-20th century was recovered from fill 306 (ditch 307). A floor tile fragment found in fill 205 was highly fired, and glazed but undecorated; this was probably manufactured in the 15th century.

Bone

Small fragments of cattle and sheep bone (fill 204 and deposit 206) were not examined in detail.

Clay pipe

A fragment of clay pipe stem (fill 306) was assigned to a broad 17th-19th century date range.

Slag

A single piece of slag recovered from fill 204 was undiagnostic, although its high density suggested a high residual iron content typical of waste from a Roman or medieval bloomery smelting process.

context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	fabric code	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	tpq date range
204	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	6	198	1450	1750	1450-1750
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	6	126	1200	1500	
	bone	animal bone	-	-	8	58	0	0	
	slag	slag(Fe)	-	-	1	280	0	0	
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	19	874	1200	1500	
205	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	10	690	1200	1500	1600-1700
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	4	374	1200	1500	
	ceramic	-	floor tile	-	1	70	1400	1500	
	ceramic	-	pot	78	1	12	1600	1700	
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	7	712	1450	1750	
206	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	1	24	1200	1500	1200-1500
	composite	-	plaster	-	1	28	0	0	
	bone	animal bone	-	-	4	10	0	0	
	ceramic	-	pot	16	1	94	100	300	
208	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	7	1270	1200	1500	1450-1750
	stone	-	-	-	1	2220	0	0	
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	8	3484	1450	1750	
303	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	1	500	1200	1500	1450-1750
	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	1	1140	1450	1750	
306	ceramic	-	-	-	1	206	1850	1950	1850-1950
	ceramic	-	pot	78	1	306	1600	1800	
	ceramic	-	pot	78	1	110	1600	1800	
	ceramic	-	pot	84	1	16	1760	1790	
	ceramic	-	clay pipe	-	1	1	1600	1900	

context	material class	material subtype	object specific type	fabric code	count	weight (g)	start date	end date	tpq date range
308	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	1	108	1200	1500	1200-1400
	ceramic	-	pot	55	1	4	1075	1400	
312	ceramic	-	roof tile(flat)	-	1	16	1200	1500	1200-1500

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

5.3.2 Significance

The assemblage from this evaluation indicated Roman, medieval and post-medieval activity, as might well be expected in an area so close to the centre of Worcester where occupation was focussed. The range of finds were typical of the periods represented and included materials manufactured in the city (medieval pottery and medieval/post-medieval roofing tile). None of the assemblage was of special interest, apart from the medieval tile stamp which should be recorded in detail for future reference, as it relates to special requirements placed on city tile makers from the mid 15th century, and the study of these stamps might ultimately inform us about the products of individual makers.

6 Synthesis

No prehistoric or early medieval activity was identified during the works. Evidence of Roman activity was limited to a single sherd of pottery deposited in a later ditch.

Medieval activity was represented by feature [309], deposit (312), and quantities of medieval tile which were recovered from other, later, features. Pottery and tile recovered from the fill of [309] and deposit (312) indicates that they date to the 13th to 15th centuries.

Feature [307] appears to be on the line of property boundaries along the rear of Lowesmoor Road, and may represent the remains of a medieval burgage plot boundary ditch, although it yielded finds dating to the 18th to 20th centuries from its disturbed upper fill. A modern boundary wall (313) was also located along this same alignment until it was demolished as part of the works. Other evidence of medieval activity included quantities of medieval tile which were recovered from other, later, features.

Post-medieval activity was represented by ditch [203] which contained a well-preserved stone drain in its base. This feature appears to be on a slightly different alignment to those associated with the medieval property boundaries along Lowesmoor. Feature [305] was also post-medieval in date.

Subsequent development on the site took place in the mid 19th century with the founding of the school and the erection of the present Gothic revival building. Within broadly the same era, a single storey bungalow and terrace were built to its south, though only the bungalow remains to a significant degree. The further development of the buildings on the site relate to the uses of Heenan and Froude social club within the 20th century.

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation has established the potential for well preserved medieval and post-medieval remains to survive on the site. The identified features include a medieval linear feature, a possible medieval burgage plot boundary ditch, a post-medieval drain located in the base of a ditch and a post-medieval linear feature. A significant quantity of medieval and early post-medieval tile was recovered from the features, indicating the presence of tile manufacture in the area, although no industrial activity was observed within the excavated areas.

The building recording highlighted the 19th century development of the site. The earlier 19th century date of the Gothic revival building is of interest and relevant for other such buildings

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation has confirmed that further archaeological work on this site has the potential to address a number of research questions, including the following:

- Documenting the extents of Roman Worcester (RP3.30)
- The medieval suburbs (RP5.1)
- Industry and land-use patterns in the suburbs (RP5.14)
- Medieval ceramic industries (RP5.30)
- Other medieval industries (RP5.31)
- Investigation of the historic suburbs (RP7.5)

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation has established that archaeological and potential archaeological remains survive below 20.7m AOD under the former social club building in the northern part of the site. To the south in the former garden they survive below a height of 21.02m AOD. It is also possible that remains survive in the western and southern areas of the site, although these areas were not investigated and are probably more truncated by modern activity.

8 The impact of the development

The development of the site for residential purposes, including associated groundworks such as foundations, service trenches and landscaping, etc., has the potential to affect or destroy buried heritage assets. These assets include archaeological features such as ditches, drains, etc., which survive below a depth of 20.7m AOD in the north of the site and 21.02m AOD to the east.

The impact on the standing buildings is almost total as only the northern half of the former social club building is to be retained.

9 Publication summary

Worcestershire Archaeology has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, Worcestershire Archaeology 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.

Archaeological evaluation and building recording was undertaken in advance of a residential development at the former Heenan and Froude Social Club, Sansome Place, Worcester (NGR SO 8516 5521; HER WCM 101981 and 101982) on behalf of BM3 Architecture, for Worcester Community Housing.

The evaluation established that well-preserved archaeological remains dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods survive on the site. These comprised a number of linear features including a possible burgrave plot boundary ditch and a post-medieval drain. No prehistoric or early medieval activity was identified and evidence of Roman activity on the site was limited to a single sherd of pottery deposited in a later ditch.

Subsequent development on the site took place in the 19th century with the founding of the school and the erection of the present Gothic revival building. Within broadly the same era, a single storey bungalow and terrace were built to its south, though only the bungalow remains to a significant degree. The further development of the buildings on the site relate to the uses of Heenan and Froude social club within the 20th century.

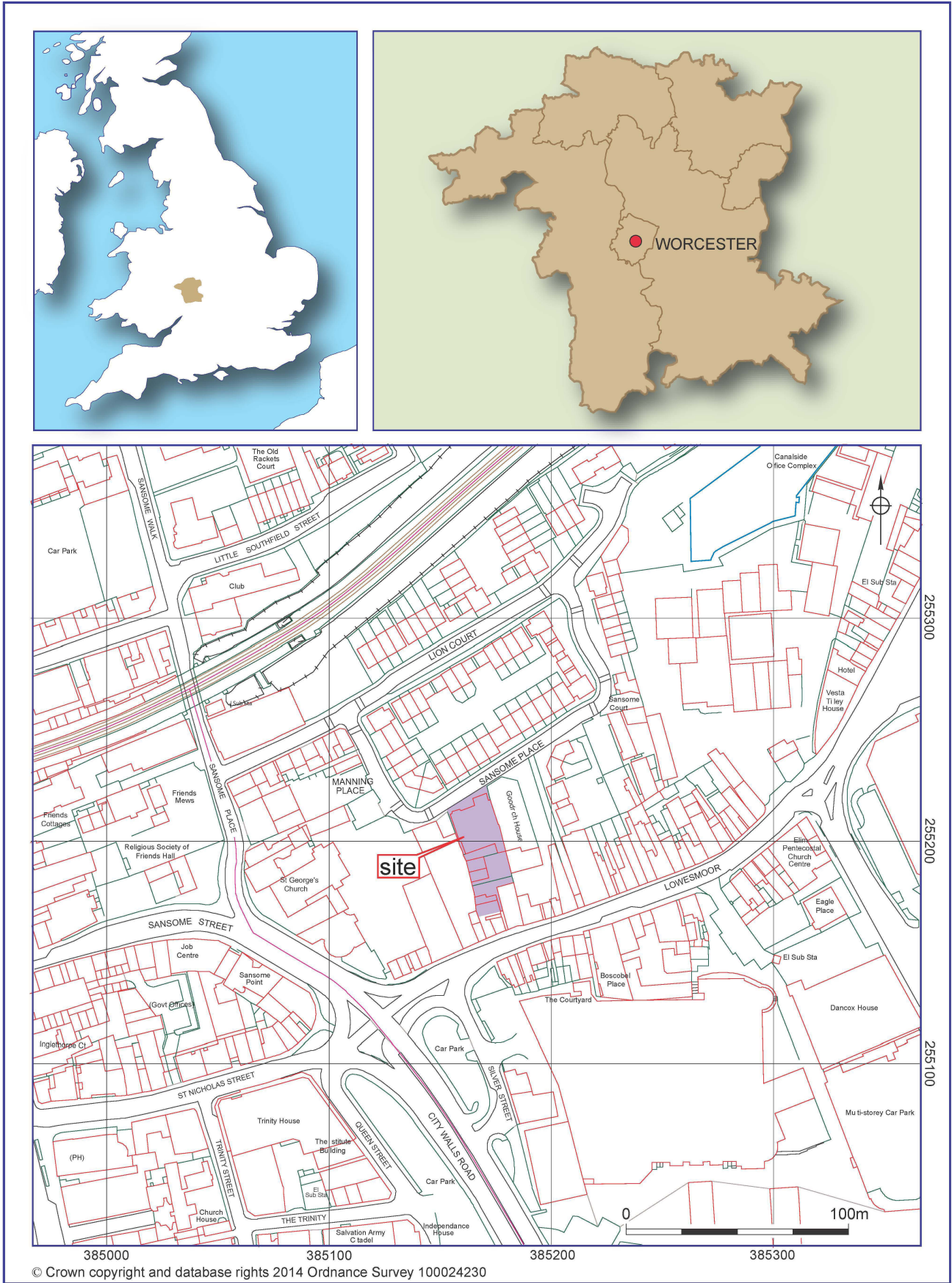
10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project; Abubakar Kumshe and Daljit Rayat (BM3 Architecture Ltd), Nobby McBride, Dave Newman and Janine Glazzard (Speller Metcalfe Living Ltd) and James Dinn (Archaeological Officer, Worcester City Council).

11 Bibliography

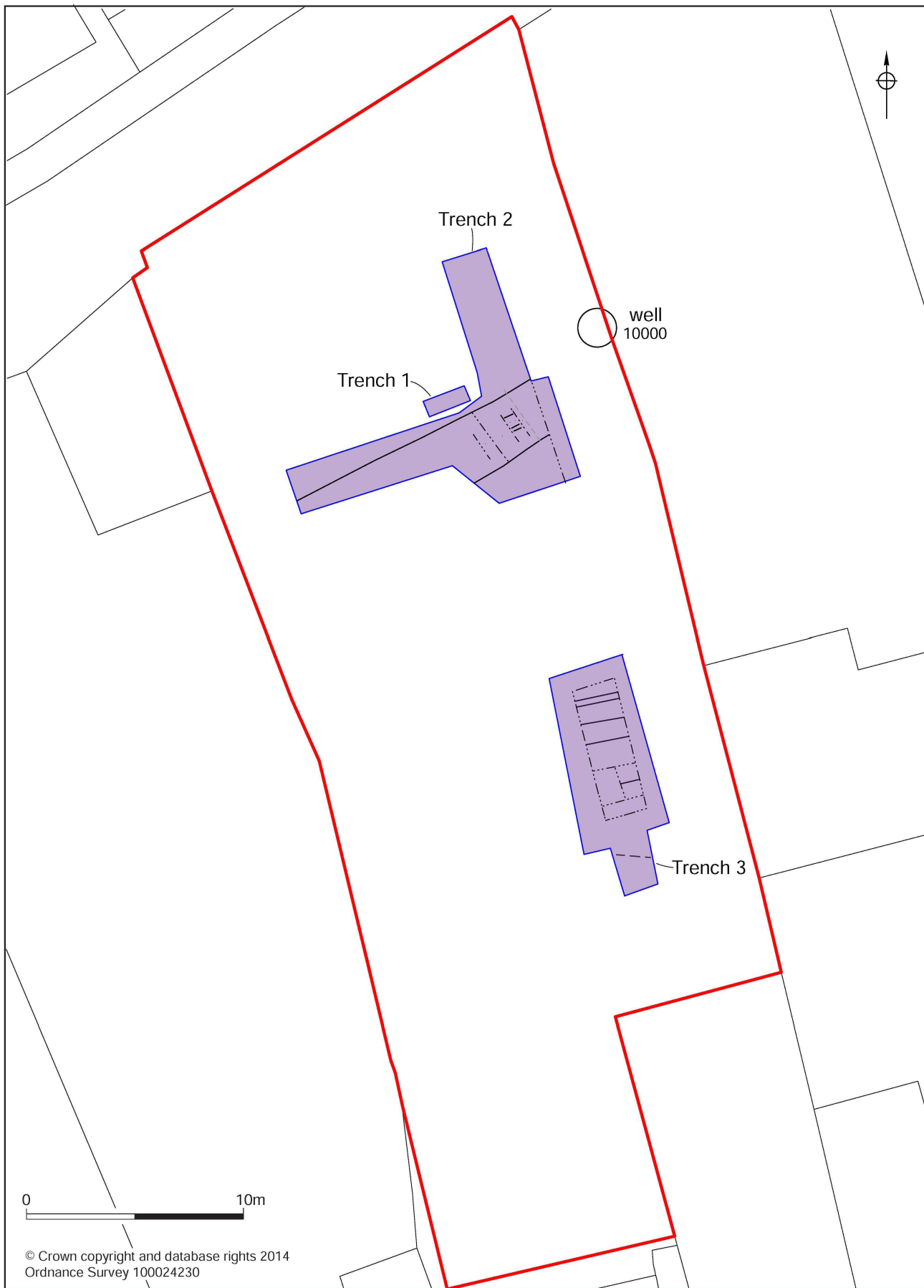
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Figures



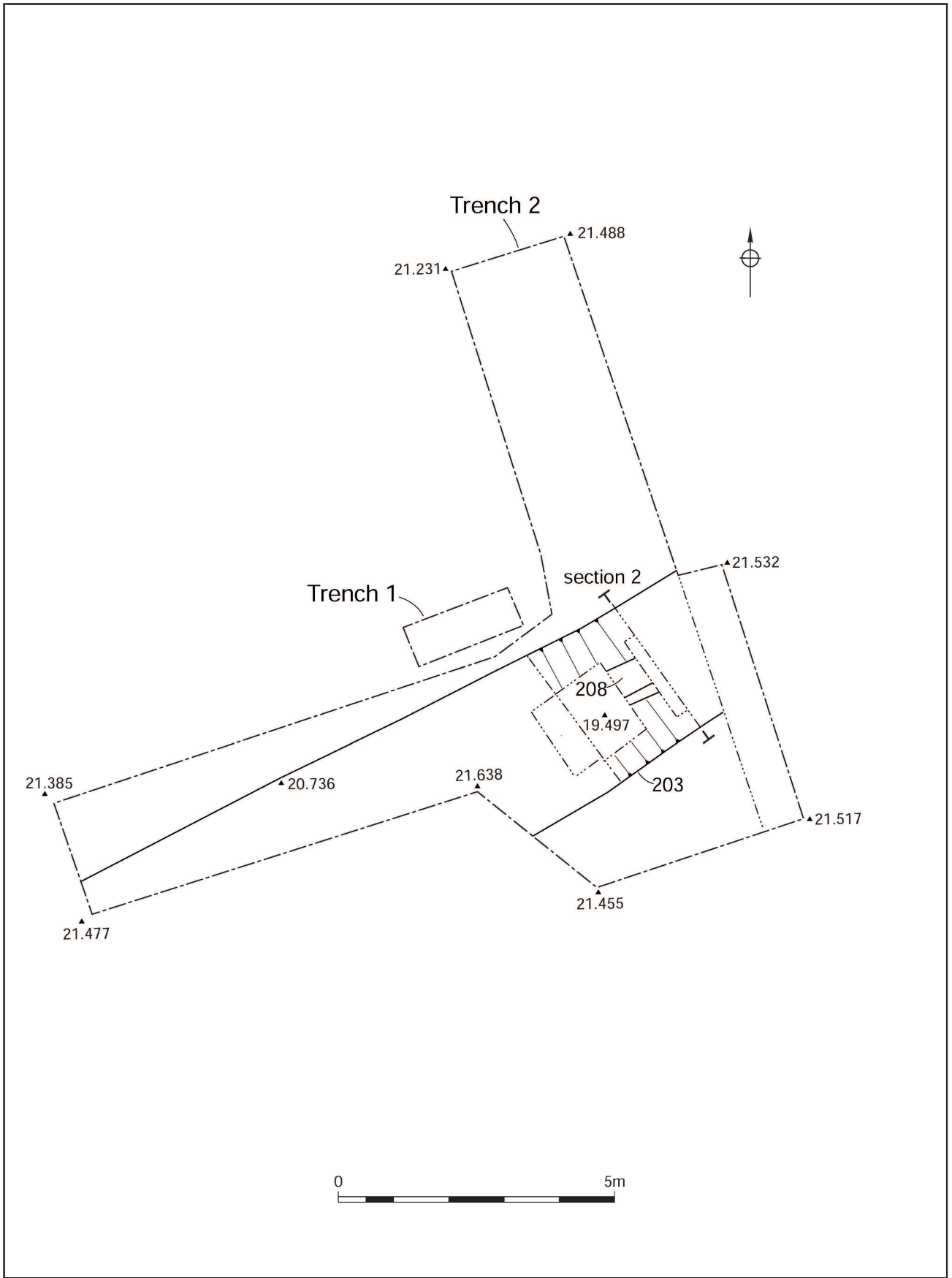
Location of the site

Figure 1



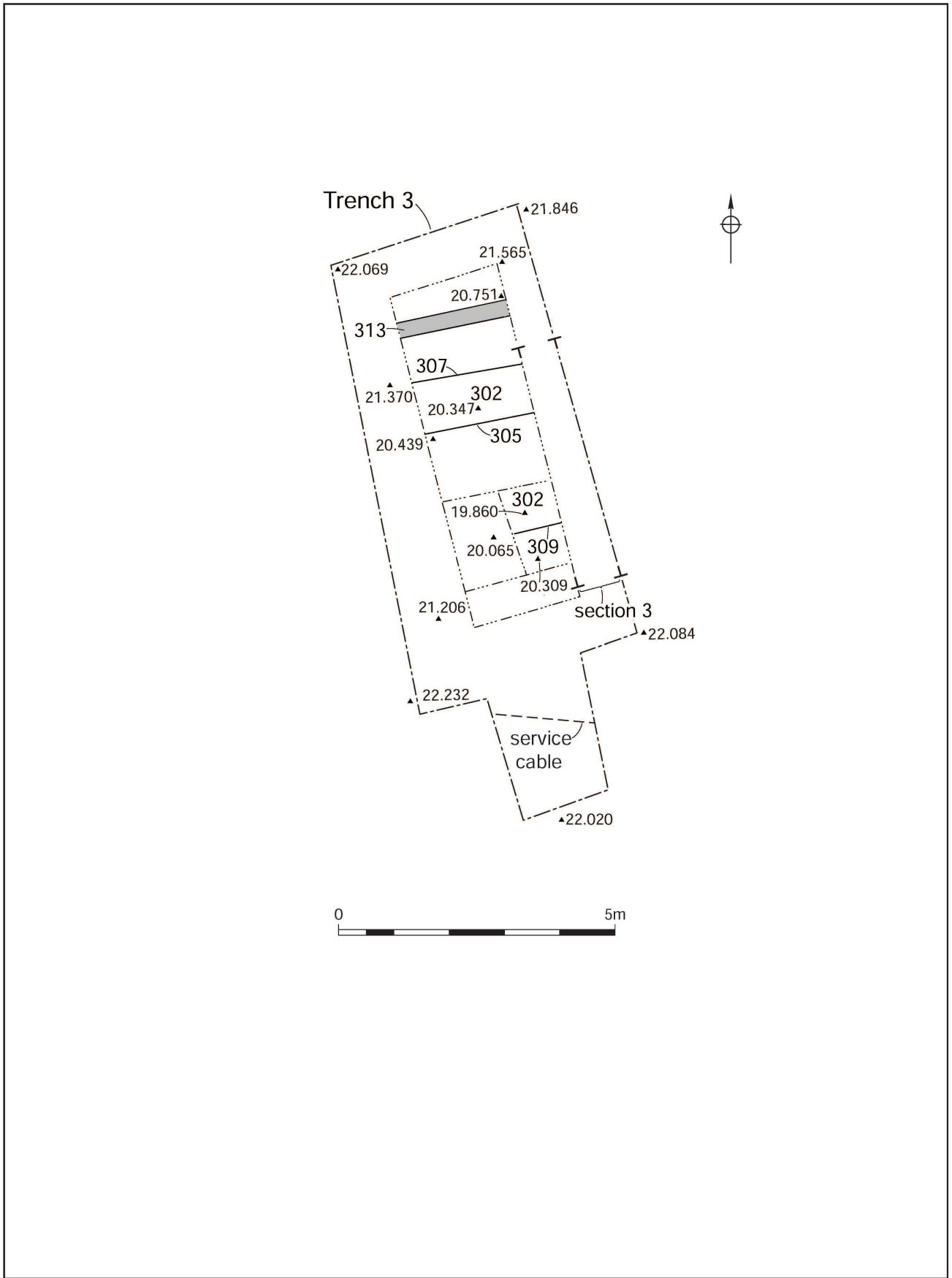
Trench location plan

Figure 2



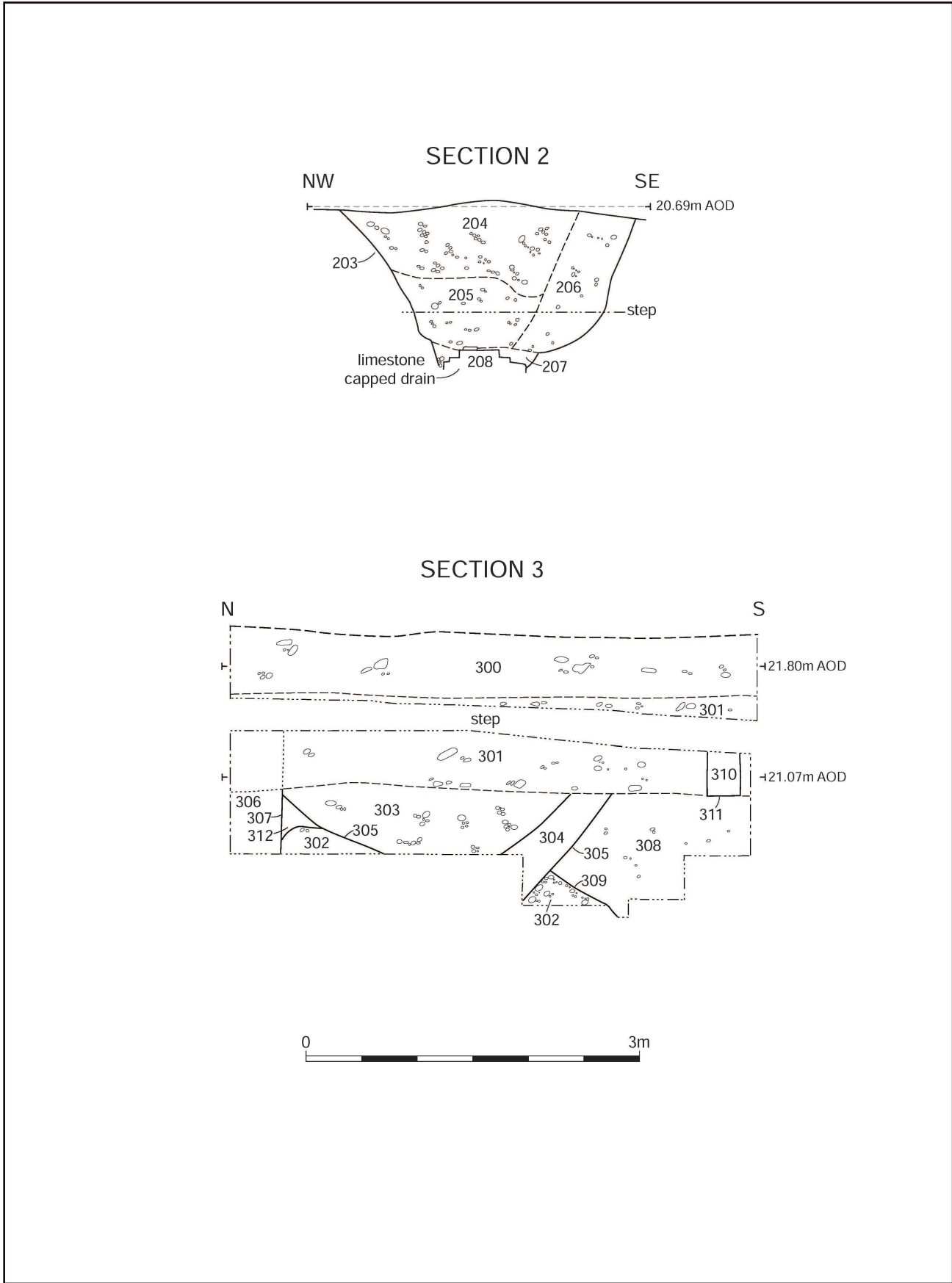
Plan of Trench 2

Figure 3



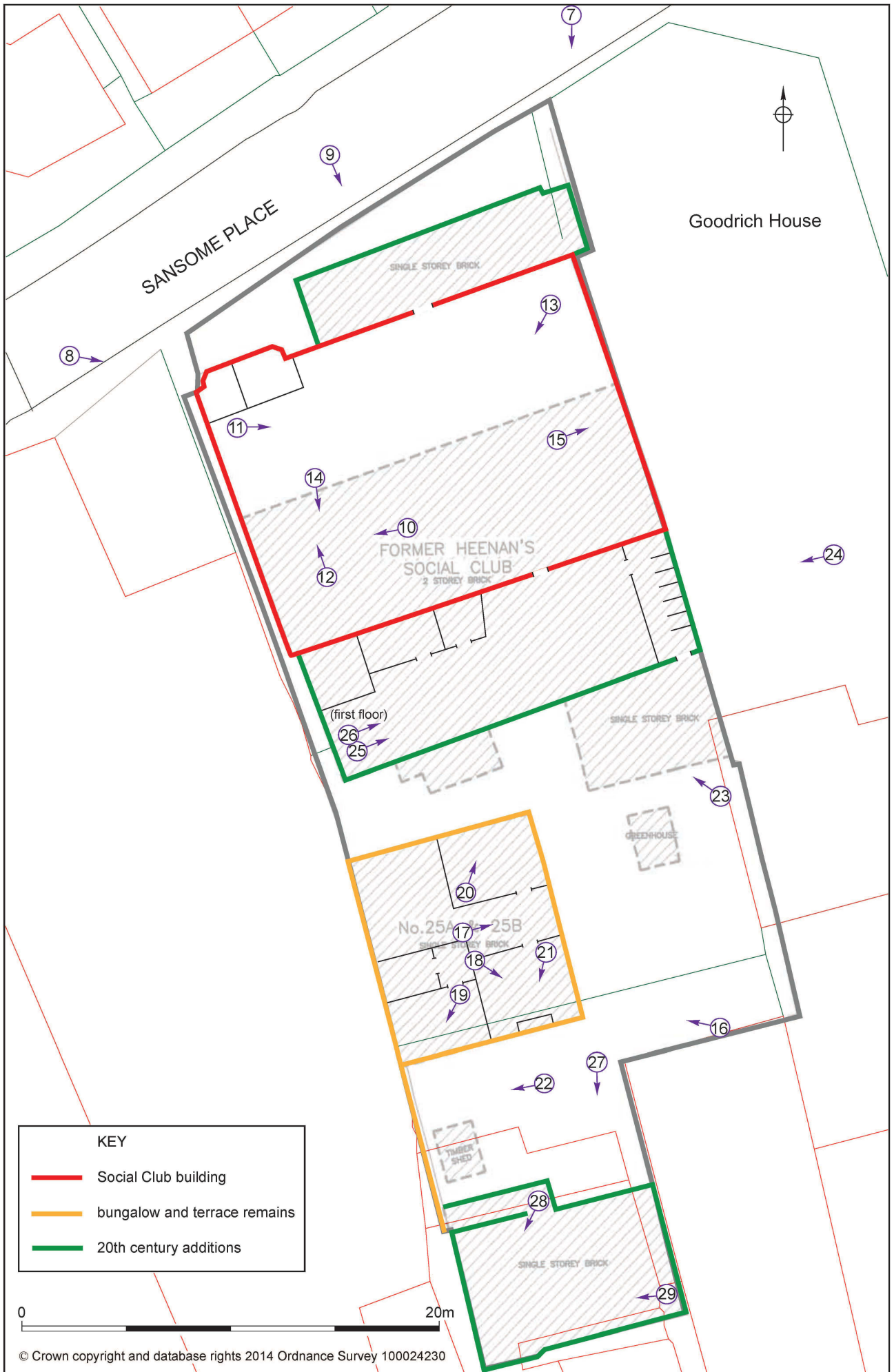
Plan of Trench 3

Figure 4



Sections

Figure 5



Building recording and location of plates 6 to 28

Figure 6

Plates



Plate 1: West facing section of the Trench 2 showing the natural sand (202), alluvial gravel (201) and modern deposits (200)



Plate 2: South-west facing section of ditch [203], looking north-east



Plate 3: Drain (208) in the base of ditch [203]



Plate 4: Looking south-west down the interior of drain (208). The drain was about 0.4m in height



Plate 5: West facing section of Trench 3. Possible burgage plot ditch [307] is to the left and linear features [305] and [309] are to the centre and left respectively



Plate 6: Wall 313 visible in section at the northern end of the trench



Plate 7: The former school and social club building with a 20th century extension



Plate 8: The entrance to the former social club, inserted through the position of a former window.



Plate 9: Architectural detailing of the former school and social club building.



Plate 10: Architectural interior detailing within the former school building with a former blocked window within the central arch.



Plate 11: Interior of the former school building after the removal of a later ceiling relating to its use as a social club.



Plate 12: Later doorway inserted through a former window.



Plate 13: The roof structure of the former school building with tie beams and queen post trusses.



Plate 14: A blocked former window at the rear of the former school building.



Plate 15: Well built under the eastern elevation of the former school building.



Plate 16: The single storey bungalow to the rear of the former school building



Plate 17: Interior of the bungalow



Plate 18: Interior of the bungalow



Plate 19: Interior of the bungalow



Plate 20: Interior of the bungalow



Plate 21: Interior of the bungalow showing the modern replacement roof timbers and the modern breeze block interior walls.



Plate 22: The wall to the south of the bungalow showing evidence of a former terrace.



Plate 23: Exterior of the building containing the skittle alley, built between 1938 and 1965.



Plate 24: Exterior of the building containing the skittle alley.



Plate 25: Ground floor interior showing the skittle alley.



Plate 26: First floor interior of the building containing the skittle alley.



Plate 27: The flat roofed building at the southern end of the plot, built between 1940 and 1965.



Plate 28: Kitchen contained within the flat roofed building at the southern end of the plot.



Plate 29: Interior of the building at the southern end of the plot.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.3m Width: 0.3m Depth: 1.8m

Orientation: East-west

Main deposit description

Context	Feature type	Context type	Description	Height/Depth	Interpretation
100		Layer	Friable sandy silt loam	0.2	Floor surface backfill
101		Layer	Soft concrete	0.02	Floor surface - 1830's +
102		Layer	Friable dark brownish grey sandy silt loam	0.58	C19th leveling material
103		Layer	Compact mid reddish orange sand	0.4	Natural
104		Layer	Compact dark reddish brown sand	0.6	Natural

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 19m Width: 2.0m Depth: 0.55m

Orientation: East-west/north-south (L-shaped in plan)

Main deposit description

Context	Feature type	Context type	Description	Height/Depth	Interpretation
200		Layer	Friable dark greyish brown	0.55	Modern overburden
201		Layer	Loose mid greyish brown	0.25	Former subsoil? Alluvial? Natural?
202		Layer	Loose light brownish yellow	-	Natural
203	Ditch	Cut		1.36	Large drainage ditch
204	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact mid brown silty sand	0.86	Upper fill of ditch [203]
205	Ditch	Fill	Soft light brown silty sand	0.72	Fill of ditch [203]
206	Ditch	Fill	Soft mid reddish brown sand	1.50	Fill of ditch [203]
207	Ditch	Fill	Moderately Compact light greyish brown silty sand	0.20+	Fill of ditch [203]
208	Drain	Structure	Limestone slab built drain	0.46+	Drain in base of ditch [203]
209	Drain	Fill	Soft light grey silty clay	0.05	Fill within drain (209)

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10.2m Width: 4 Depth: 2m

Orientation: North-south

Main deposit description

Context	Feature type	Context type	Description	Height/Depth	Interpretation
300		Layer	Friable dark greyish black	0.6	Modern overburden
301		Layer	mid greyish brown	0.6	Modern layer
302		Layer	Loose orangey red sand	0.3+	Natural
303	Ditch	Fill	Soft light greyish brown silty sand	0.6+	Upper fill of [305]
304	Ditch	Fill	Soft mid brownish grey silty sand	0.58	Fill of [305]
305	Ditch	Cut		0.98+	Possible ditch/linear feature
306	Ditch	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand	1.12+	Fill of [307]
307	Ditch	Cut		1.12+	Modern feature. Probably cut for wall 313. On same alignment as burgage plot boundaries so may be

Context	Feature type	Context type	Description	Height/Depth	Interpretation
308	Ditch	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand	1.12+	medieval in origin Fill of [309]
309	Ditch	Cut		1.12+	Linear/ditch
310	Modern Layer	Fill	Loose black ash	0.4	Fill of modern truncation [311]
311	Modern Layer	Cut		0.4	Cut of modern discrete truncation
312	Layer	Fill	Soft brownish grey silty sand	0.4	Deposit on visible in section. Fill of truncated feature or historic layer?
313	Wall	Structure		1.2+	Brick built wall

Appendix 2 The archive

Site codes: WCM 101981 (evaluation) and WCM 101982 (building recording)

The archive consists of:

- 19 Context records AS1
- 5 Field progress reports AS2
- 5 Photographic records AS3
- 282 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 3 Permatrace sheets
- 3 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 CD-Rom/DVDs
- 1 Copy of this report

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Museums Worcestershire

Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery

Foregate Street

Worcester

WR1 2PW

Tel. Worcester (01905) 25371
