

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION  
AT WHITTINGHAM HOUSE,  
WORCESTER ROAD, DROITWICH,  
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt

29 November 2002

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Project 2309  
Report 1128  
WSM 32085

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## **An archaeological evaluation at Whittingham House, Worcester Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire**

**Chris Patrick, Laura Griffin, Derek Hurst and Elizabeth Pearson**

### **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Whittingham House, Worcester Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire (NGR SO 900 632). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting who are acting on behalf of The Planning Bureau, who intend to submit a planning application in the future for a residential development on the site. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate what its location, date and nature were.

The four trenches that were excavated identified a number of archaeological features consisting of pits and gullies dating from the late Saxon to medieval periods, which demonstrated activity on the site from the 10<sup>th</sup> century to the post-medieval period. The trenches also showed that the ground level of the area had been raised up to 1.8m by the deposition of large quantities of soil on the site sometime in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. A backfilled brine shaft dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century was also found along with features associated with cottages shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps that once stood adjacent to the Worcester Road.

A brief assessment was also carried out on the nature and condition of a Second World War bomb shelter that was present in the garden of Whittingham House.

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## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Whittingham House, Worcester Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire (NGR SO 900 632; Fig 1), for CgMs Consulting who are acting on behalf of The Planning Bureau Limited. The client is considering demolition of the existing house which stands on the site, and replacing it with a residential development for which a planning application will be submitted in the future. Pre-application consultations with Worcestershire County Council's Planning Archaeologist indicated that further information on the site would be needed prior to the granting of planning permission as a site of archaeological interest may be affected.

#### 1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999). The project also conforms to a written scheme of investigation prepared by CgMs Consulting which was approved by the Planning Archaeologist for Worcestershire County Council (CgMs 2002a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (AS 2002).

#### 1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate mitigation, which could then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

More specifically the following aims have been identified.

- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of prehistoric, Roman and/or medieval deposits evidencing settlement at the site.
- To make a brief assessment as to the nature and condition of an underground bunker present in the garden and thought to be a Second World War bomb shelter.

### 2. Topographical and archaeological context

The site consists of c 0.4 ha of land at Whittingham House, Worcester Road, Droitwich, which is located within the town centre, c 50m south of the Droitwich High Street (Fig 2). The site is made up of a two storey residential house with brick outbuildings and surrounding gardens. It is bounded by Tower Hill to the north, Worcester Road to the east, and an access road to the south and west which leads to the Raven Hotel and Rowan Court. The site is situated on the north facing slope of the valley of the River Salwarpe. The underlying geology is Mercian Mudstone. Subsidence caused by 19th century and early 20th century brine extraction has affected a large area on the east side of the town, especially to the north of the High Street (Buteux and Hurst 1996).

A comprehensive archaeological desk-based assessment, which reproduces a series of historic maps, has already been prepared for the site and this particular development scheme (CgMs 2002b) and the following summarises its results.

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Evidence for prehistoric activity in the area consists of a flint flake dated to between the Mesolithic and later Bronze Age that was found re-deposited in a archaeologically excavated, later feature 35m to the north of the site (WSM 27753). In addition to this, Iron Age remains associated with salt making have been recorded at various locations around the town.

A Roman road forms the eastern boundary of the site and Roman finds spots and deposits, including a cobbled road surface parallel with the present-day Worcester Road, are recorded between 35-50m to the north of the site (WSM 00679, 04167, 25593 and 27753). Roman remains are also recorded on SAM 30097 which is located 130m to the north of the Site and there are further SMR entries relating to Roman activity along the length of the Roman Worcester Road.

The site lies within the medieval parish of St Andrew (tithe map; WCRO BA1572 dated 1840), and within a group of parishes which constituted the borough of Droitwich. The site is just beyond the area of the medieval town as presently understood (Buteux and Hurst 1996). Medieval buildings occupy sites just beyond the site of the proposed development. One of these may once have been the manor house (now the Raven Hotel).

Naturally more information was available for the post-medieval period. The site was largely undeveloped throughout the post-medieval period. Buildings are recorded on maps from 1640, however, though none survive. Post-medieval remains are likely to be represented by demolished buildings and terracing and a low to moderate potential was identified for the site. The house that presently occupies the site is believed to have been built around 1932 by the Wilcox family who were dentist and combined their domestic accommodation with two dental surgeries. The garden has been extended over the years by the purchasing of adjoining plots of land.

Severe brine subsidence was affecting the High Street by the early 20th century, and the effects of this radiated out following the underground brine runs to the north and south. The site lies on the southern brine run which flows northwards towards the Upwich brine well which is situated on the main area of brine springs. It is likely that subsidence has had an impact of the surface topography of the site, as a survey of active subsistence in 1972-3 carried out for Wychavon District Council (Drawing ref W268B) indicates continuing (though by this period quite minimal ie a fall of 2-4mm) subsistence extending across the whole site of the proposed development, except in its south-west corner. As the 1972-3 subsidence is likely to be affecting the same area, it may be expected that the central north part of the site would show some signs of the effects of subsidence. A brine pipe crosses the northern part of the site from east to west, formerly supplying the Lido on the eastern side of Worcester Road.

### 3. **Methods**

#### 3.1 **Documentary search**

Prior to fieldwork commencing a comprehensive desk-based assessment was prepared (CgMs 2002b).

#### 3.2 **Fieldwork**

##### 3.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A WSI was by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2002a) was approved by the Planning Advisory Archaeologist of Worcestershire County Council and a specification was also prepared by the Service (AS 2002). Fieldwork was undertaken between 11<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

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Four trenches, amounting to just over 88.64m<sup>2</sup> in area, were excavated over the site area of 0.4ha, representing a sample of 2.2%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a JCB 3CX excavator, employing a toothless bucket, 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.

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.

#### 4. **Description**

The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1, with Tables 1 and 2 summarising the artefacts recovered. The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 6, 7, 8 and 9.

##### 4.1 **Phase 1 Natural deposits**

Natural deposits were identified in all four trenches at depths of between 1.5m and 1.8m. The natural rises up from the east (Fig 8) before levelling out towards the centre of the site.

No prehistoric or Roman deposits were discovered in the evaluation.

##### 4.2 **Phase 2 Late Saxon**

Early medieval features were found in the western end of Trench 2 (Fig 7). These consisted of a linear gully (207) aligned approximately east to west, which contained pottery dated to between the 10<sup>th</sup> to mid 11<sup>th</sup> century. The gully measured approximately 0.75m wide and 0.4m deep with shallow sloping sides and appeared to terminate just short of the northern edge of the trench. The gully seemed to be a re-cut of an earlier, narrower gully (209), which follows the same alignment and also terminates at the northern edge of the trench. Both gullies are then cut by a shallow sub-circular pit (211), which was thought to be post-medieval in date.

##### 4.3 **Phase 3 Medieval**

Medieval features were found in Trench 1. An oval shaped pit (100) was present at the eastern end of the trench, measuring approximately 2m in diameter and 0.3m deep. To the west of this was a linear aligned approximately north to south, measuring 0.65m wide and 0.35m deep. To the west of this were two small rounded pits (108 and 113), both 108 and 103 were then cut by a large sub-rounded pit (111).

##### 4.4 **Phase 4 Post-medieval**

Post-medieval deposits were present in all four trenches. These included a north to south aligned linear in Trench 1 (106), and a shallow oval pit in Trench 2 (211). Also in Trench 2 was what is thought to be the backfilled remains of a brine shaft (220, Fig 7). The shaft was square in plan and measured 2m by at least 1.5m, it was visible in the trench at a depth of 1.7m and was machine excavated to a depth of 4m before the excavation was abandoned on safety grounds. A pipe ran from the shaft. Two linear features were present to the west of the shaft (222 and 224) and appeared to be associated with brine shaft. Neither was excavated.

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Post-medieval features were also present in Trench 4 (Fig 9), these consisted of four small pits (406, 409, 410 and 414), a shallow linear gully (412) and a cobbled surface (404).

All four trenches showed that a large quantity of soil had been dumped on the site in post-medieval period burying all of the features described above and raising the ground surface by between 1.5 and 1.8m (Figs 6, 7, 8 and 9).

#### 4.5 **Artefacts**

##### 4.5.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

##### 4.5.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 97 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a terminus post quem produced for each stratified context.

Pottery 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).

##### 4.5.3 **Artefactual analysis**

A summary of the artefacts recovered is provided in Table 1. The assemblage retrieved from the excavated area came from ten stratified contexts (102, 105, 107, 112, 202, 204, 206, 210, 407 and 411) and the site surface. The group ranged in date, from the late Saxon to modern periods, with the earliest material from all contexts dating to the mid 10th century. The level of preservation was generally good with low levels of abrasion.

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of 23 sherds weighing 231g. The group was primarily of late Saxon date and from a single feature (context 206). Remaining sherds were medieval or later in date (see Table 1). All sherds were grouped and quantified according to fabric (see Table 2).

Ceramic building material accounted for 33% of the assemblage and comprised ten fragments of flat roof tile and two pieces of brick. The roofing tile was of a long-lived type which was produced between the 13th and 18th centuries and therefore contexts containing fragments were dated by associated material. Other finds consisted of a near complete clay pipe bowl of post medieval date (context 210).

A sample of material was taken from dumping layers sealing the archaeological contexts in Trench 1. This consisted of glass bottles and stoneware jars, which could be dated to the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

##### 4.5.4 **Discussion of the artefacts**

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 based on the evidence recorded and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

###### *Late Saxon*

Material of this period consisted of 17 sherds of shelly St Neots-type ware (fabric 49) retrieved from context 206 (fill of 207). Vessels of this fabric are first identified in Worcestershire in the mid 10th century and continued in use until the mid 11th century. The sherds were well preserved and could be identified as coming from a globular jar and an

inturned rim bowl. All body sherds came from the jar and displayed the distinctive corrugated internal surface commonly associated with vessels of this fabric. All sherds displayed blackening and soot deposits, suggesting heavy use over an open fire.

Small quantities of vessels of this fabric have been found previously in Droitwich from the excavations at Friar Street (Hurst 1992, 138) and Upwich (Lentowicz 1997, 78).

### *Medieval*

A total of four small sherds of pottery and four fragments of flat roof tile were identified as medieval in date. The pottery consisted of a small sherd of Worcester-type unglazed ware (fabric 55; context 105), a small sherd of Ham Green type ware (fabric 143; context 107) and two sherds of oxidised glazed Malvernian ware (fabric 69; contexts 102 and 112). The larger sherd of Malvernian ware (context 112) displayed sooting on the internal surface which may have resulted from use as a curler or burning following discard. Three contexts (102, 105 and 112) were given a *terminus post quem* of late medieval date based on the finds retrieved from them.

### *Late post-medieval and modern*

Five contexts (107, 204, 210, 407 and 411) were identified as having a post-medieval *terminus post quem* on the basis of the artefacts retrieved. Context 107 could be more closely dated to the 17th century by the presence of a small sherd of black glazed post-medieval red sandy ware (fabric 78).

Remaining material included two fragments of brick (contexts 204 and 407), six fragments of flat roof tile (contexts 107, 204 and 411) and a near complete clay pipe bowl (context 210).

The latest datable context was 202, which contained a small sherd of modern stone china dating between the late 19th and 21st centuries. The sample material taken from the dumping layers in Trench 1, which included glass bottles and late stoneware jars (fabric 81.4) was also of this date.

## 4.6 **Environment**

### 4.6.1 **Method of analysis**

#### *Fieldwork and sampling policy*

The environmental sampling policy was as defined in the County Archaeological Service Recording System (1995 as amended). Large animal bone was hand-collected during excavation and samples of 10 litres taken from four contexts of Late Saxon to post-medieval date (See Table 1).

#### *Processing and analysis*

The samples were processed by flotation followed by wet-sieving using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a 300µm sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were scanned using a low power EMT stereo light microscope and remains identified using modern reference collections housed at the County Archaeological Service.



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### *Results*

Hand-collected animal bone - A small assemblage of 340g of animal bone was hand-collected from a Late Saxon gully and four post-medieval contexts. All bones showed slight evidence of waterlogging.

Context 206: Saxon gully - A cattle radius (distal epiphysis, chopped across the mid-shaft) and unidentified large mammal fragments were recovered in association with two bird tibia and an unidentified bird bone, probably from the same species.

Contexts 107, 210, 407 and 411: post-medieval contexts - A section of large mammal (horse/cattle sized) femur or humerus shaft from context 411 showed that it had been chopped and its marrow removed. This is likely to have been from a sturdy animal as the bone showed evidence for strong muscle attachment. Also recovered were a cattle distal epiphysis (210), and a possible chopped sheep or goat long bone shaft (107).

This is a small assemblage, but shows some evidence for disposal or preparation of food waste on the site. It also demonstrates that the potential for survival of bone in good condition, probably as a result of slight waterlogging of the soils.

### *Wet-sieved samples*

Environmental remains were poorly preserved in these samples. Only occasional charcoal fragments were found in all samples, and in pit 102, a charred barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and free-threshing wheat grain (*Triticum* sp free-threshing) were recorded. These are likely to have been either accidentally charred during parching prior to storage or milling, or as a result of crop waste being used as fuel for fires.

Occasional fragments of large mammal bone and teeth (cattle molar in ditch 107) and small mammal bone (105) were recovered from the residues. Copper staining was also noted on burnt fragments of bone in the Late Saxon gully (206).

## 4.7 **The methods in retrospect**

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved. However three of the trenches were shorter than was intended in the project design, Trench 2 was 16.6m long due to the discovery of a backfilled brine shaft and a cast iron pipe that was not identified on the service plan. The location of Trench 3 was changed to avoid it damaging the brine pipe that crossed the site. The trench was also shortened to 13.6m so that access to the rear of the property could be maintained. A 2m wide bulk was left in the centre of the Trench 4 because of the presence of a gas pipe running diagonally across it. All four trenches were substantially deeper than was anticipated.

## 5. **Discussion**

### 5.1 **Late Saxon to medieval**

All of the late Saxon and medieval features that were discovered were located in Trenches 1 and 2. This demonstrates activity on the site from the 10<sup>th</sup> century onwards. There is a possibility that the ditch in Trench 2 (207) which was associated with late Saxon pottery may be a continuation of a boundary alignment further to the west, where it is represented by the rear of plots, which would usually be interpreted as medieval burgage plots. This opens up the possibility that the ditch may relate to the original laying out of boundaries and plots in the town, relating to the borough as described in Domesday Book (Thorn and Thorn 1982). The kink in the street pattern between Friar Street and the High Street has previously been commented on as indicative of a difference in date in the laying out of these two main streets in the town (Bond and Hunt 1992, 195-6). At Friar Street, on the west side of the town,

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excavation has shown that the boundaries of individual (burgage) plots here were first established in the early 13th century (Hughes and Hunt 1992, 125), suggesting that this was a later medieval phase to the development of the townscape.

Subsequent changes to the street plan might include the establishment of Dripping Lane, though normally this would simply be interpreted as the back lane to burgage plots, as originally laid out on the High Street. Excavation evidence from the east end of Dripping Lane has also suggested major alterations in this vicinity, in this case terracing possibly dating to the 16th century (Bretherton *et al* 2002).

## 5.2 **Post-medieval**

The most notable feature of the post-medieval period is the dumping of large quantities of soil on the site, which has raised the ground level by 1.5 to 1.8m. The finds recovered from the layers during the excavation of the trenches suggests that the dumping took place sometime in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The material is a dark-brown clayey-silt soil and is similar to topsoil. It is very clean and contains very few inclusions apart from some layers that are mixed with a red clay and some clusters of broken bricks. It would seem that the soil was dumped here after being excavated during some kind landscaping in the vicinity, possibly from the park and Lido across the road.

The features in Trench 4 are probably associated with building that is shown fronting on to the Worcester Road on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1883.

The brine shaft found in Trench 2 probably dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> centuries and was one of many shafts sunk around the town at this time to try to tap into the underground brine stream and could be up to 61m deep (Hurst 1992, 28). A number of these shafts would have been unsuccessful and backfilled soon after their excavation.

## 5.3 **Assessment of bomb shelter**

A brief assessment was made of an underground bunker that was located in the garden to the north of the house. The structure is a Second World War bomb shelter that, according to the present owner, was constructed for the Wilcox family who built Whittingham House. The shelter consists of a buried chamber with prefabricated concrete walls measuring 2.9m long, 1.8m wide and 2m high. The chamber is accessed at its southern end by a concrete staircase with thick concrete flanking walls. At the north end of the chamber at ceiling height, is a square escape hatch leading to a short tunnel, which leads out in to the garden. No internal features are present other than some hooks in the walls and it is unlikely that the shelter was ever used.

## 6. **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 at Whittingham House, Worcester Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire (NGR SO 900 632). It was undertaken for CgMs Consulting who are acting on behalf of The Planning Bureau, who intend to submit a planning application in the future for a residential development on the site. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate what its location, date and nature were.*

*Four trenches were excavated and within these were identified a number of archaeological features consisting of pits and gullies dating from the late Saxon and medieval periods,*

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*demonstrating activity on the site from the 10<sup>th</sup> century to the post-medieval period. The trenches also showed that the ground level of the area had been raised by up to 1.8m by the deposition of large quantities of soil on the site sometime in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. A backfilled brine shaft dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> centuries was also found along with features associated with cottages shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps that once stood adjacent to the Worcester Road.*

*A brief assessment was also carried out on the nature and condition of a Second World War bomb shelter that was present in the garden of Whittingham House.*

## 7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 53 Context records AS1
- 2 Colour transparency film
- 2 Black and white photographic films
- 4 Sample records AS17
- 5 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

## 8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank Cathy Mould of CgMs Consulting for her kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project.

## 9. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Chris Patrick. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken with assistance from James Goad and Marc Steinmeiser, finds analysis was by Laura Griffin, environmental analysis was by Elizabeth Pearson and illustration was by Carolyn Hunt and Laura Templeton. Background research was by Derek Hurst.

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## 11. Abbreviations

WSM Numbers prefixed with 'WSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.

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# Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

**Trench 1**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 20m Width: 1.6m Depth: 1.7m

Orientation: E-W

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Cut	Cut of sub circular pit with gradually breaking sides and a flat base, 2.45m in diameter, 0.55m deep, filled by 101 and 102..	1.7-2.25m
101	Fill	Light to mid-grey, silty sand with gravel and charcoal. Fill of 100.	1.7-2.1m
102	Fill	Friable mid-grey silty sand fill with gravel and charcoal. Fill of 100.	2.1-2.25m
103	Cut	Cut of linear ditch, sharply breaking sides with flat base, 1.3m wide, 0.62m deep, filled by 104 and 105.	1.7-2.3m
104	Fill	Friable light to mid-grey silty sand fill with gravel and charcoal. Lower fill of 103.	2.1-2.3m
105	Fill	Friable mid-grey silty sand with gravel and charcoal flecks. Upper fill of 103.	1.7-2.1m
106	Cut	Cut of linear ditch with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. 1.29m wide and 0.34m deep. Filled by 107.	1.7-2.4m
107	Fill	Friable mid-grey silty sand	1.7-2.05m
108	Cut	Cut of probable posthole or small pit. Circular with gradually breaking sides and flat base.	1.7-2.05m
109	Fill	Fill of posthole (108). Gradual in-fill of windblown material and natural erosion. Friable, light grey, silty sand. Occasional gravel and charcoal flecks.	1.85-2m
110	Fill	Fill of posthole (108). Gradual in-fill of windblown material and natural erosion. Friable, light to mid-grey. Gritty sand with gravel and charcoal flecks.	1.85-2m
111	Cut	Cut of shallow, oval pit truncating both ditch (103) and posthole (108).	1.7-1.95m

		Probably not refuse pit.	
112	Fill	Gradual in-fill of windblown material and natural erosion.	1.7-1.95m
113	Cut	Cut of probable posthole, heavily truncated.	1.7-1.8m
114	Fill	Fill of posthole. Gradual in-fill of windblown material and natural erosion. Friable, light grey, silty-sand, occasional gravel.	1.7-1.85m
115	Layer	Probably imported topsoil. Dark, grey black, silty sand with occasional cbm and gravel.	0-0.6m
116	Layer	Probably imported top-soil Friable, mid-grey, silty sand, with occasional cbm and gravel.	0.6-0.8m
117	Layer	Re-deposited natural. Friable, mid-red pink. With cbm, charcoal, ash and burnt bone.	0.1-1.7m
118	Layer	Possible remains of buried post-Medieval sub soil. Friable, mid to dark grey, silty sand. With gravel and charcoal.	1.5-1.7m
119	Natural	Friable, mid grey, silty sand and gravel.	1.7m+

**Trench 2**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 16.6m Width: 1.6m Depth: 1.9m

Orientation: NE-SW

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface. (b.g.s.) – top and bottom of descriptions.
200	Layer	Topsoil	0-3m
201	Layer	Orange red clay mixed with dark brown clayey silt.	0.3-0.7m
202	Layer	Very dark brown/black clayey silt.	0.7-1m
203	Layer	Thin band of orange/red clay with ash and charcoal.	1-1.05m
204	Layer	Very dark brown clayey silt mixed with orange red clay, rounded stones and brick and tile.	1.05-1.9m
205	Layer	Natural orange-red marl clay with patches of grey.	1.9m+
206	Fill	Medium grey-brown clayey silt with rounded small stones: lots of pot, bone and charcoal. Fill of 207.	1.9-2.06m
207	Cut	Shallow, oval cut.	1.9-2.06
208	Fill	Red-brown clayey silt. No finds. Fill of 209	1.9-2.2m
209	Cut	Flat bottomed sloping sides.	1.9-2.2m
210	Fill	Medium-dark brown clayey silt with charcoal and rounded stones. Fill of 211	1.9-2.02m
211	Cut	Shallow, oval pit.	1.9-2.02m



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212	Fill	Medium brown clayey silt with small rounded stones. Same as 208?	1.9-2.2m
213	Cut	Cut of 212, same as 209	1.9-2.2m
220	Cut	Cut of brine shaft	1.9-4m+
221	Fill	Fill of brine shaft	1.9-4m+
222	Cut	Linear, unexcavated	1.9m+
223	Fill	Fill of unexcavated linear	1.9m+
224	Cut	Cut of linear, unexcavated	1.9m+
225	Fill	Fill of linear unexcavated	1.9m+

**Trench 3**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 13.6m Width: 1.6m Depth: 1.7m

Orientation: E-W

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s.). Top and bottom of descriptions.
300	Natural	Compact light to mid red pink.	1.7m+
301	Layer	Friable, dark grey black, silty sand. CBM flecks and gravel. Brought in to raise the level of garden.	1.5-1.7m
302	Layer	Friable, mid-brown red, silty sand. Gravel, pea gravel, cbm, mortar and charcoal flecks. Brought in to raise level of garden.	1.1-1.5m
303	Layer	Friable, mid-brown-grey silty sand. CBM, gravel and charcoal flecks. Brought in to raise the level of garden.	0.6-1.1m
304	Layer	Friable, mid to dark – grey black silty sand. CBM ,gravel, charcoal flecks. Probably imported top-soil.	0-0.6m

**Trench 4**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5m Width: 1.6m Depth: 1.8m

Orientation: NE-SW

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s). Top and bottom of description.
400	Layer	Friable, mid to dark grey black, silty-sand. Brought in top soil.	0-0.5m
401	Layer	Friable, mid brown grey, silty-sand. Mortar flecks, charcoal flecks, gravel and cbm.	0.5-1.8m
402	Road surface	Tarmac	0-0.2m
403	Surface	Gravel surface. Compact mid grey brown silty-sand. Gravel and large pebbles	1.7-1.75m
404	Layer	Make up for gravel surface(403). Compact light grey blue silty sand. Charcoal flecks, CBM.	0.2-1.75m
405	Natural	Compact mid orange-red.	1.75m+
406	Cut	Cut of small pit. Roughly circular, gradually sloping sides, concave base.	1.75-1.9m
407	Fill of pit.	Gradual infill of windblown material and natural erosion. Friable mid to dark grey, silty sand. Charcoal flecks, gravel, and large pebbles.	1.75-1.9m
408	Cut	Cut of posthole truncated by ditch. Circular, sharply sloping sides, flat base. Truncated by 410	1.75-2.05m

409	Fill	Fill of 408. Gradual in-fill of windblown material after post decayed. Compact, light to mid grey silty sand. CBM, gravel, charcoal flecks.	1.75-2.05m
410	Cut	Cut of linear ditch. Sharply sloping sides, flat base. Truncated 408.	1.75-2m
411	Fill	Fill of ditch (410). Gradual in-fill of windblown material. Compact light to mid grey silty sand. Charcoal flecks, gravel, large pebbles, cbm.	1.75-2m
412	Cut	Cut of linear gully, filled by 413	1.75-1.87m
413	Fill	Fill of gully 412	1.75-1.87m
414	Cut	Cut of pit	1.75-2m
415	Fill	Fill of pit 414	1.75-2m

<b>Material</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Saxon pottery	17	166
Medieval pottery	4	60
Post-medieval pottery	1	3
Modern pottery	1	2
Flat roof tile	10	436
Brick	2	626
Clay pipe	1	15

**Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage**

<b>Fabric number</b>	<b>Fabric name</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
49	St. Neots-type ware	206	17	166
55	Worcester-type unglazed ware	105	1	3
69	Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware	102	1	10
69	Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware	112	1	38
143	Ham Green type ware	107	1	9
78	Post-medieval red sandy ware	107	1	3
85	Modern stone china	202	1	2

**Table 2: Quantification of pottery fabrics**

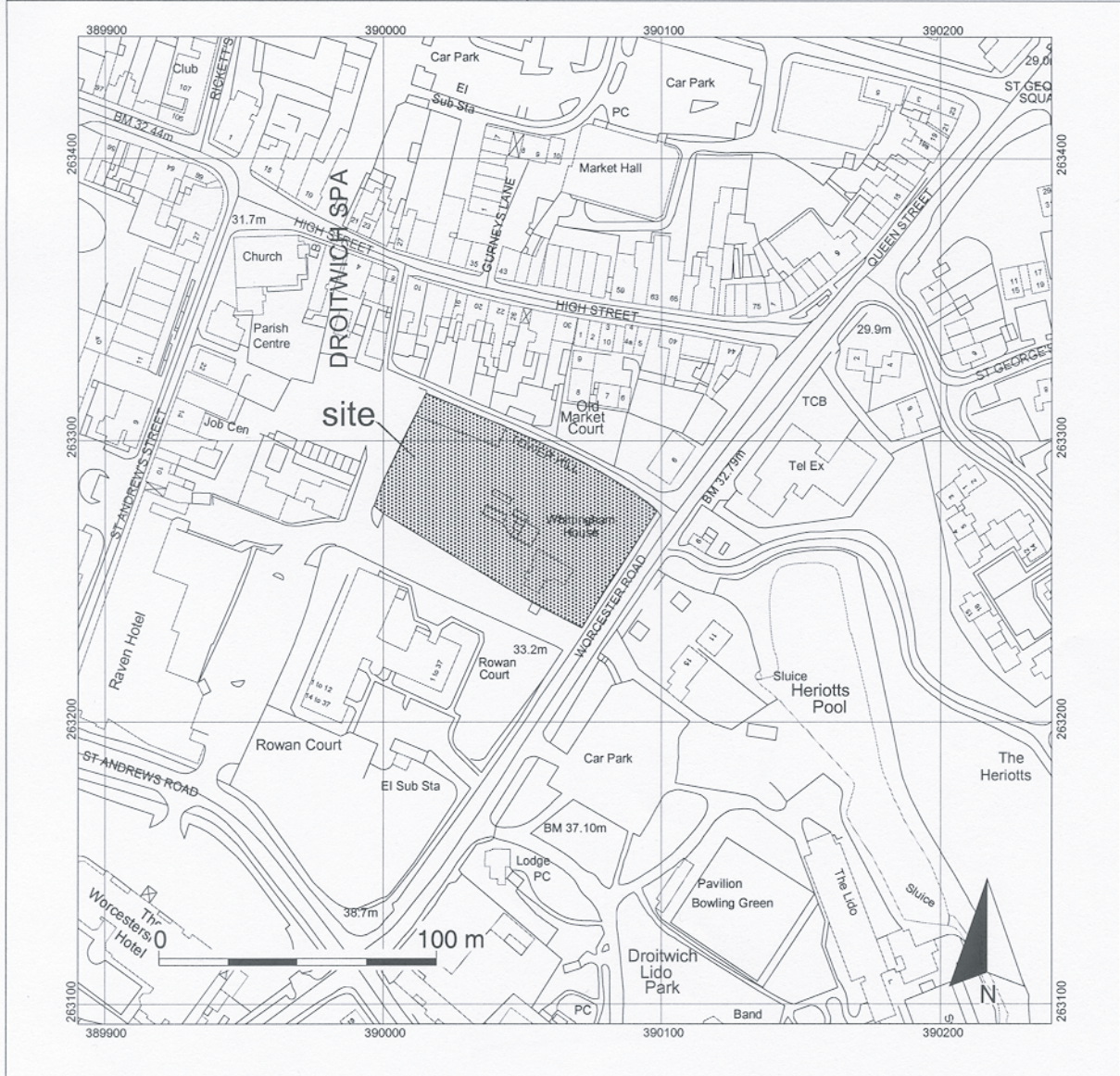
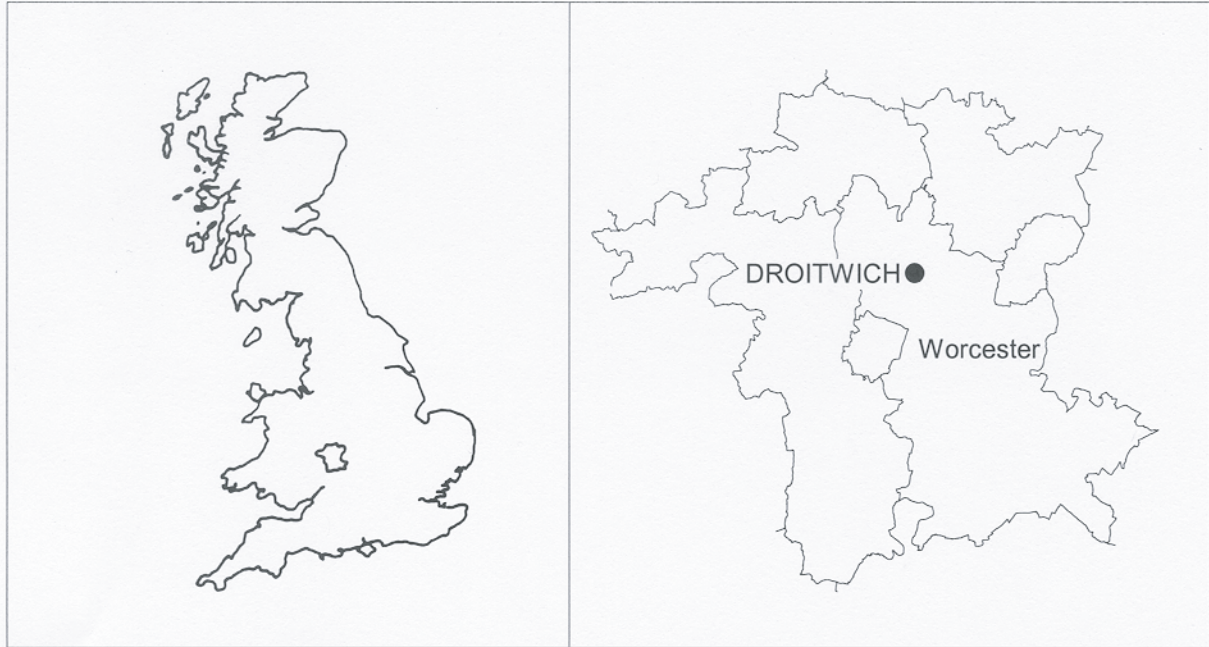


Figure 1: Location of Site

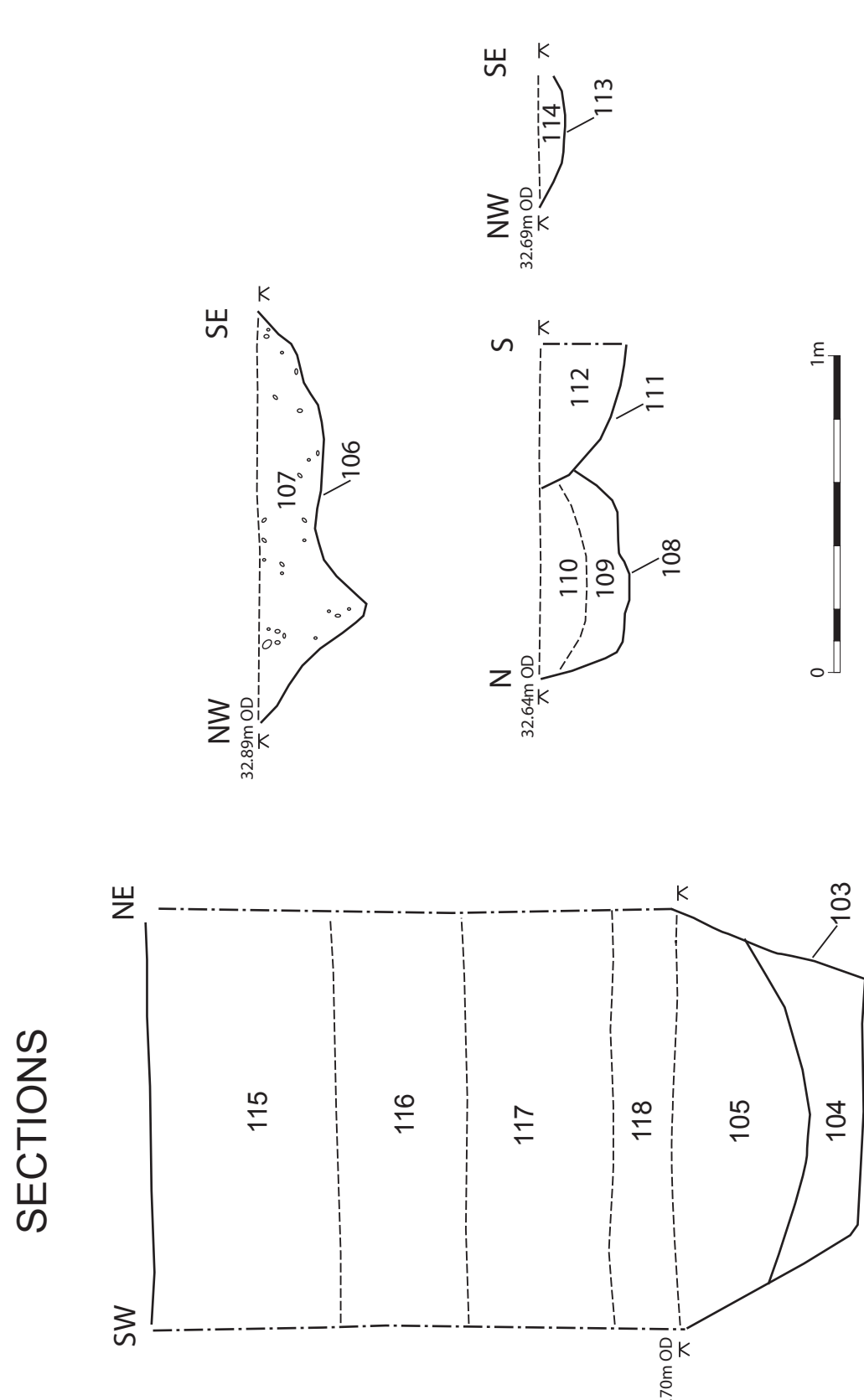
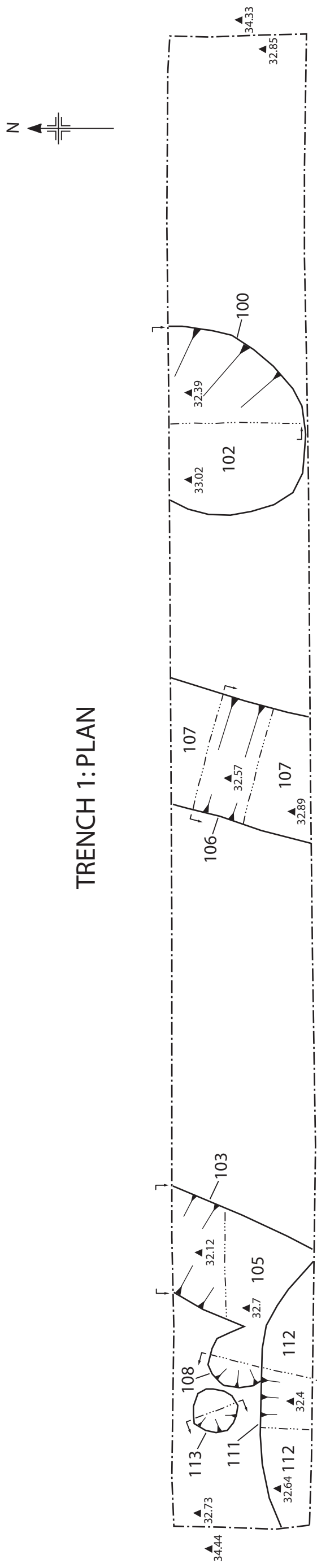
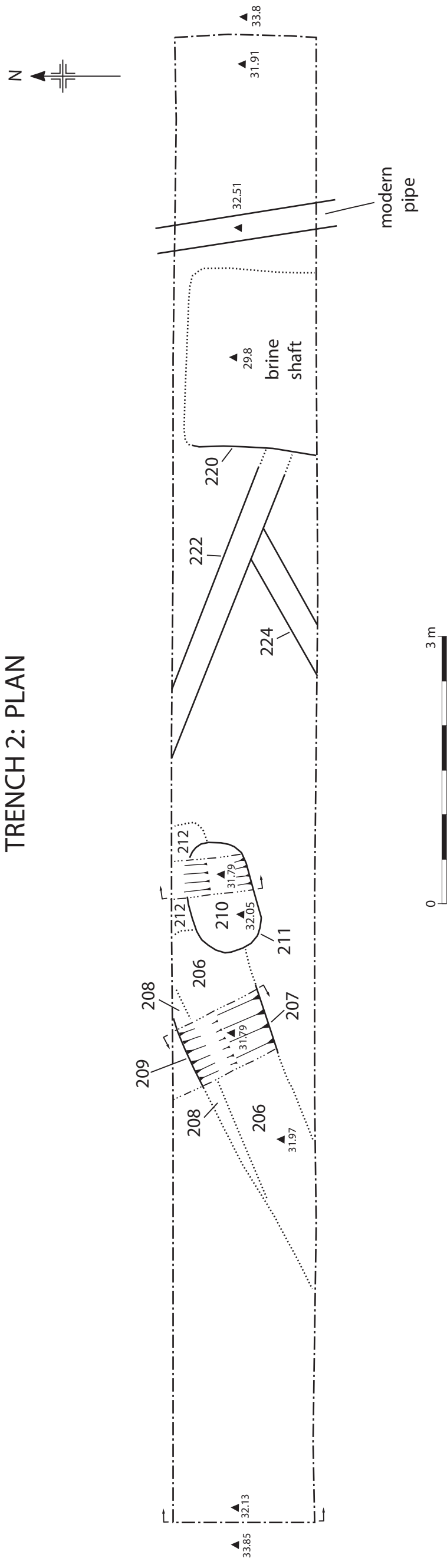


Figure 3: Trench 1, plan and sections.



# TRENCH 2: PLAN



# SECTIONS

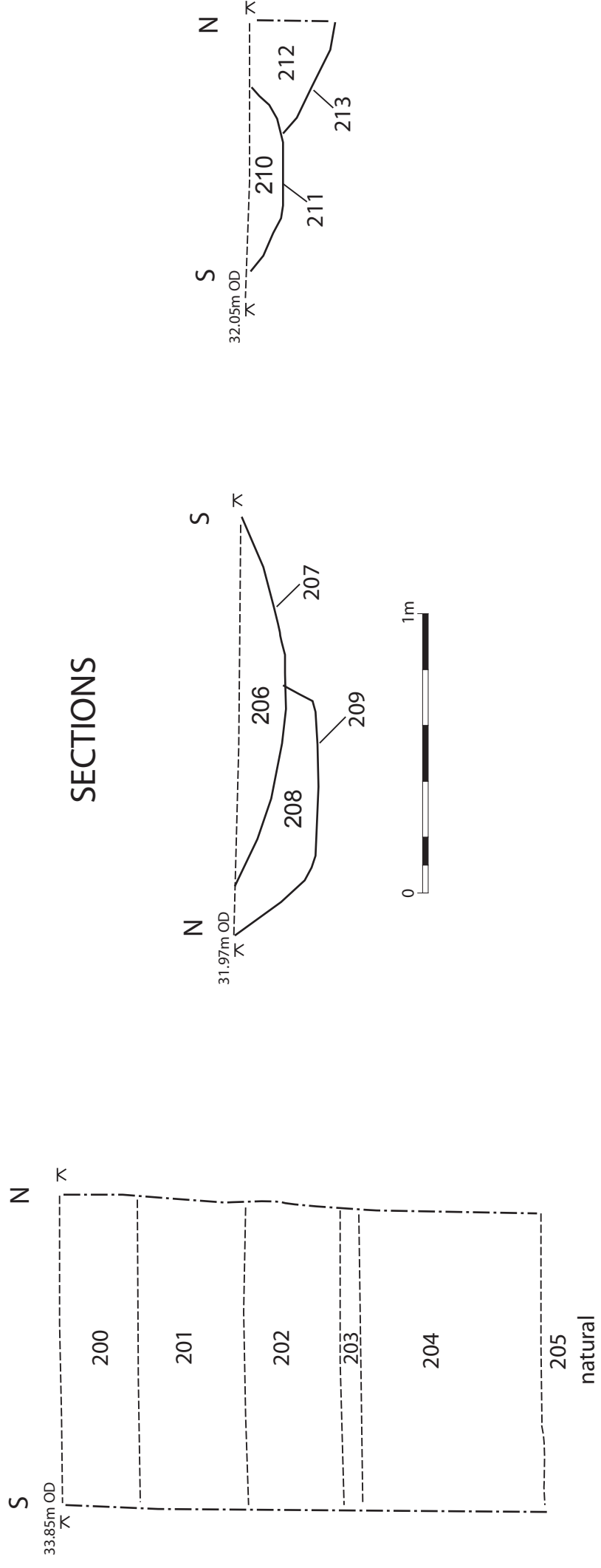


Figure 4: Trench 2, plan and sections.



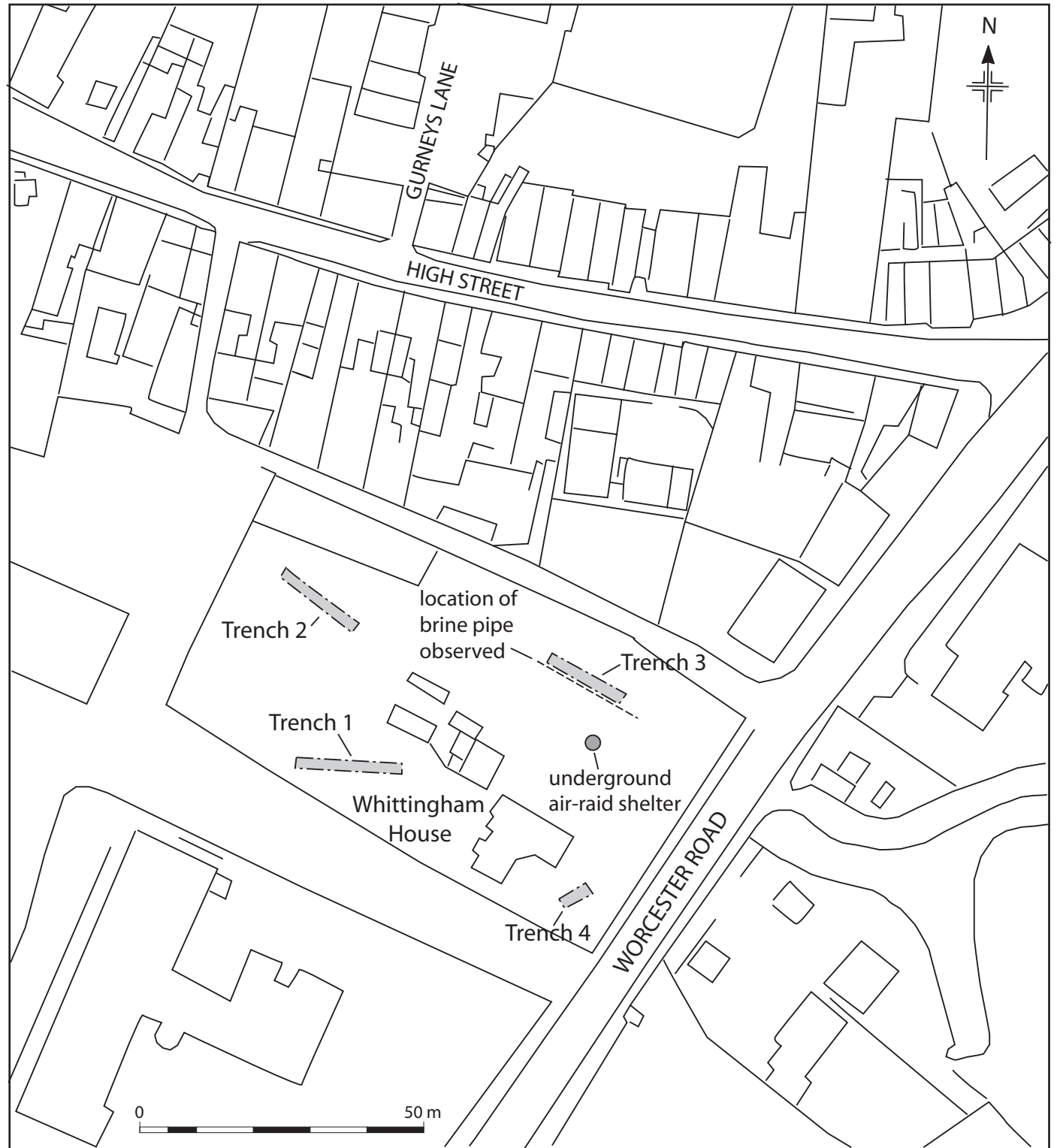


Figure 2: Trench location plan.

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# TRENCH 3: SECTION

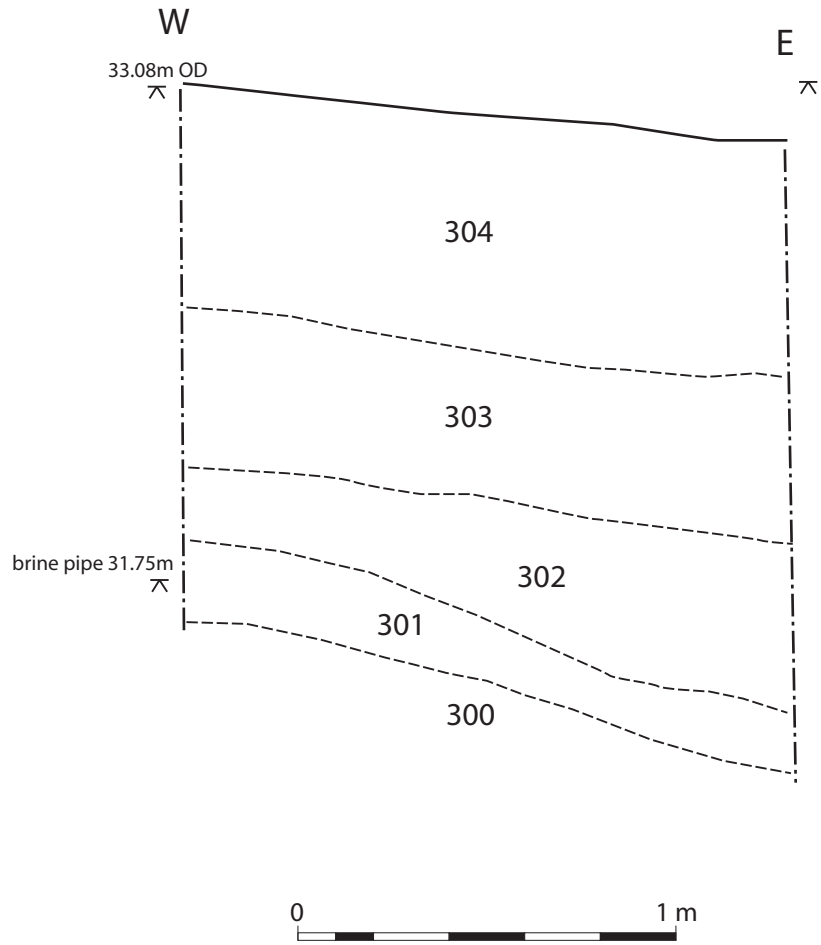
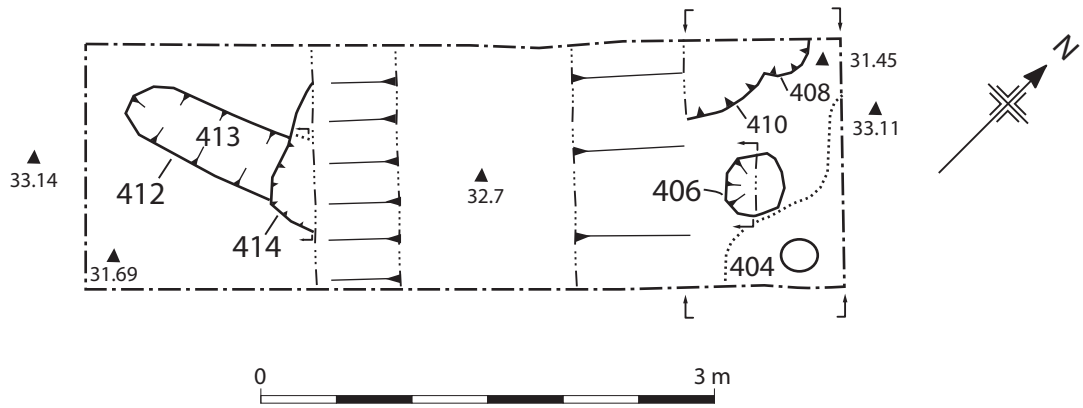


Figure 5: Trench 3, section.

# TRENCH 4: PLAN



# SECTIONS

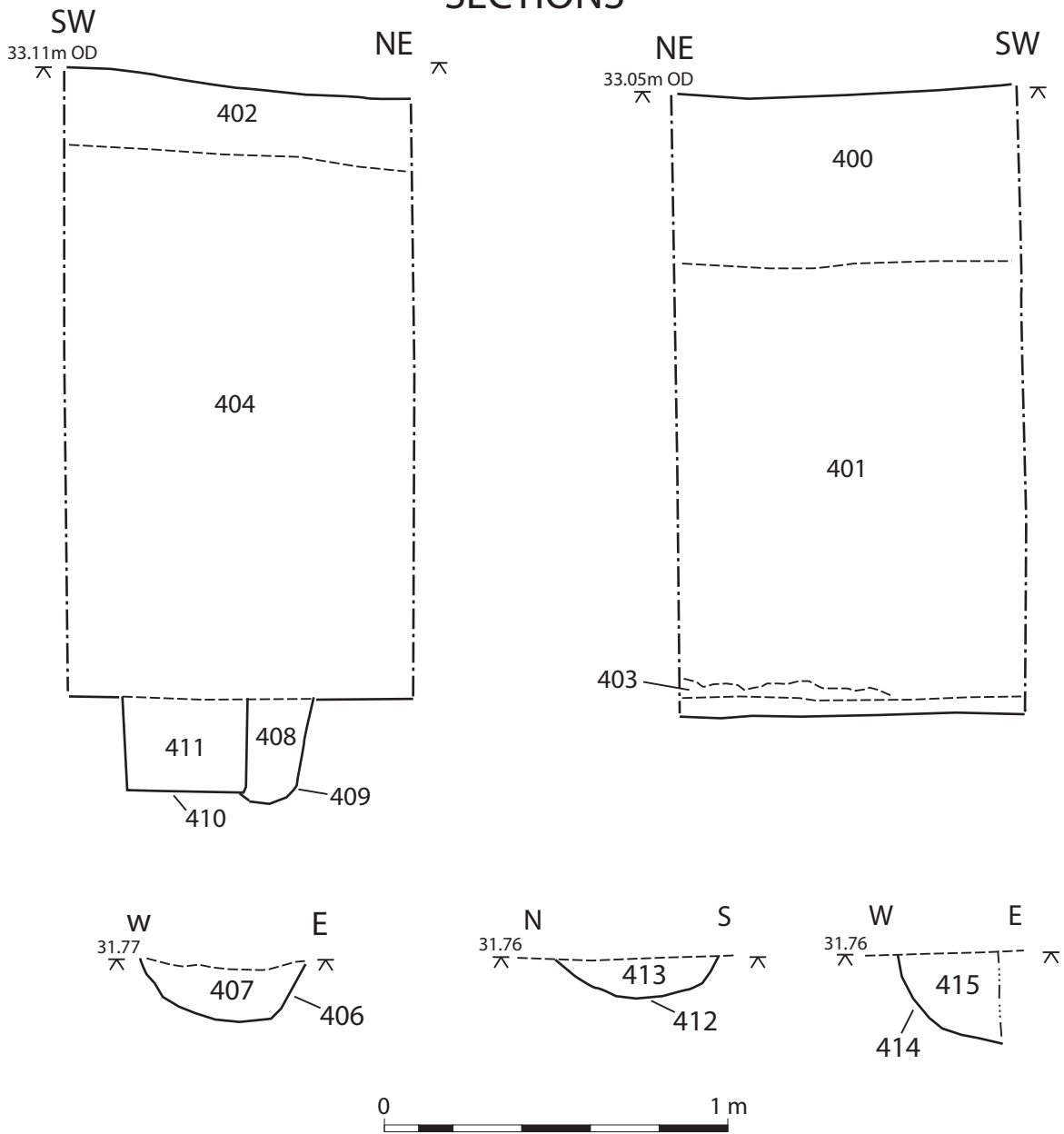


Figure 6: Trench 4, plan and sections.