

Archaeological evaluation at 83, The Pippin, Calne, Wiltshire



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Archaeological evaluation at 83, The Pippin, Calne, Wiltshire

Pete Lovett

With contributions by Derek Hurst and Elizabeth Pearson

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 83, The Pippin, Calne, Wiltshire (NGR 399786, 171111). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, whose client intends redevelopment of the site.

The site lies close to the historic centre of Calne. It comprises three narrow plots extending from the High Street to the west, but accessed from The Pippin to the east. At the time of the evaluation it was an open area divided into three plots by low walls with recently cut vegetation. The site included areas of hardstanding including a car park, grassed areas and a path.

A desk-based assessment of the site had identified a moderate to high potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains relating to its former occupation and use in the medieval and post-medieval/early modern periods. This was thought likely to relate to former burgage/property division and associated backyard activity of local significance.

Five trenches of varying length were excavated across the site. The locations of trenches were limited by the presence of services crossing the site.

The evaluation revealed a large ditch of unknown date, but sealed by 13th century garden soils. The presence of free-threshing wheat from within the ditch suggests a possible Saxon date. A possible metalled surface of medieval date was identified on the eastern edge of the site, whilst two small ditches were excavated in the southern half. These too were beneath medieval garden soils.

Within the burgage plot on the western side of the site was a sequence of complex stratified medieval and post-medieval deposits associated with backyard activity. This included a number of medieval pits cutting into the natural strata, and robbed out walls with associated demolition deposits. A post-medieval stone boundary wall defined the plot, and was later faced with brick. A number of brick structures were built during the 18th-19th centuries, including one with evidence for a hearth. These had gone out of use by the early 20th century, with the site becoming the mix of hard standing and grass that exists today.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 83, The Pippin, Calne, Wiltshire (NGR 399786, 171111). It was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, whose client, McCarthy and Stone Retirement Lifestyles Ltd, intends redevelopment of the site.

A desk-based assessment of the site (CgMs 2015) identified a moderate to high potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains relating to its former occupation and use in the medieval and post-medieval/early modern periods, evidence of which was likely to relate to former burgage/property divisions and associated 'backyard' activity, of local significance.

Discussion with the Archaeology Service for Wiltshire Council established that an archaeological evaluation of the site was appropriate.

The project conforms to *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a).

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation 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.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was led by Peter Lovett (BSc (hons.)); who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2012 and has been practicing archaeology since 2004, assisted by James Spry (BA (hons.) and Aidan Woodger (BA (hons.); MSc). The project managers responsible for the quality of the project were Tom Rogers (BA (hons.); MSc) and Tom Vaughan (BA (hons.); MA; ACIfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt (BSc (hons.); PG Cert; MCIfA)). Elizabeth Pearson (MSc; ACIfA) contributed the environmental report. Derek Hurst (BA (hons.); PG Dip) contributed the finds report. Elspeth Iliff (BA (hons.); MSc) identified the animal bone.

3.2 Documentary research

Prior to fieldwork, a desk-based assessment was prepared (CgMs 2015), which included a search of the Historic Environment Record (HER).

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2016).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 15 and 18th March 2016.

Five trenches, amounting to just over 133m² in area, were excavated over the site area of c3,300m². The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed under archaeological supervision using a wheeled excavator, employing a toothless bucket. 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 Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.4 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.

3.5 Artefact methodology, by Derek Hurst

3.5.1 Artefact recovery policy

The finds work reported here conforms with the relevant sections of *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), with archive creation informed by *Archaeological archives: a guide to the best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2011), and museum deposition by *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections* (SMA 1993).

3.5.2 Recovery policy

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

3.5.3 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, except for a fragment of fuel ash slag from 513.

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 Worcestershire Archaeology (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

The animal bone was scanned and commented on by Elspeth Iliff.

3.5.4 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

- post-medieval material in general, and;
- generally where material has been specifically assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

See the environmental section for other discard where appropriate.

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Elizabeth Pearson

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). A total of seven samples (each of up to 10 litres) were taken from the site, of which 6 were selected for assessment (Env Table 1). Animal bone was also hand-collected during fieldwork.

3.6.2 Processing and analysis

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flots were 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 scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammscale. The flots were scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2012). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd edition (Stace 2010).

Charcoal was examined under a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope in order to determine the presence of oak and non-oak charcoal.

3.6.3 Discard policy

Scanned residues will be discarded after a period of 6 months following submission of this report unless there is a specific request to retain them. Flots will be retained.

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

A desk-based assessment of the site (CgMs 2015) was undertaken prior to fieldwork, as summarised below.

The site lies within the historic urban core of Calne, bounded by The Pippin to the east and lying to the rear of properties fronting the High Street to the west. It has a broadly level topography at c 66mAOD, although there are some internal divisions with higher and lower terracing.

The solid geology of the study site is limestone of the Stanford Formation. Superficial alluvial deposits (clay, silt, sand and gravel) are noted as potentially lying within the study site's south-eastern extents (British Geological Survey 1974, Sheet 266). The course of the River Marden lies c 60m to the south.

The site lies within Calne Conservation Area, within which a number of listed buildings (Grade I, II* and II) stand.

No previous archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the site itself, although trial trench evaluation, geophysical survey and an archaeological watching brief have been undertaken on the site of the Zion Baptist Chapel (HER EWI6973 to 6975) immediately to the north. This work recorded evidence of the former burial ground associated with the chapel, comprising burials, pathways, boundary walls, possible refuse pits and a drain culvert. Previous archaeological assessment and subsequent trenched evaluation (HER EWI3565 and 5155) were undertaken on the site of the former Harris Bacon factory immediately to the south of the site although this revealed extensive late 19th and 20th century disturbance across much of the site.

No heritage assets from the prehistoric period are recorded by the HER and HEA within the study site itself, or its immediate proximity, although in the wider study area, prehistoric activity is recorded in the form of an assemblage of unstratified Mesolithic flints (HER MWI72773 and 73100) found c 465m to the west of the study site and two roughly located residual Neolithic green stone axes (HEA 212443), c 475m to the north-west of the study site. A single Bronze Age burial (HER MWI5168) containing a skeleton with a chloritic slate wristguard was found during quarrying works in 1844-5 at the Piece Quarries, c 387m to the north-east of the study site.

There are no heritage assets from the Roman period recorded on the HEA or HER for the study site itself, or its immediate proximity, although there is a record of the recovery of an unspecified assemblage of unstratified pottery finds (HER MWI5176) from the Harris Bacon factory site, c 85m to the south of the present site.

The settlement of Calne is documented as forming the centre of a royal estate in the 9th century, and to have developed into a borough by the 11th century with a market and fair recorded in the 13th century (WCAS 2004; Cotswold Archaeology 2008). The probability that settlement was established much earlier within Calne may be suggested by 5th to 7th century deposits recorded during archaeological investigations conducted to the rear of Church Street (HER EWI3225), c 205m to the south of the study site, the church at this time probably being the site of a minster (HER MWI5188; NMR 887778). This area and the early church are likely to have formed the focus of associated settlement in this period, this conjectured by McMahan (WCAS 2004) to have lain to the south of the River Marden and c 110m to the south of the study site at its closest conjectured point. The DBA suggests that on current evidence the study site is likely to have been peripheral to the focus of settlement identified in this period.

No medieval heritage assets are identified on the study site. It is thought to have occupied an area of probable planned extension to the medieval settlement north of the River Marden which probably developed in the late 12th to early 13th century, accompanying the creation of a new market place at The Strand. Evidence of this planned extension is identified by a pattern of burgages (long narrow land parcels) that appear to have been laid out along High Street and Curzon Street.

Previous field investigations undertaken both immediately to the north and south of the study site (HER EWI3565, 6973 and 6975) within this area of planned settlement have not recorded any clear evidence to corroborate the presence of burgages or any associated 'backyard' activity (pits or ancillary structures), although small amounts of residual medieval pottery have been found (HER MWI5197). However, any such evidence from these sites in both instances may have either been previously removed as a result of later development or burial activity, or in the case of the investigation at the Zion Baptist Chapel site (HER EWI 6973 and 6975), to an insufficient depth to reveal activity of this period that may have been present beneath later post-medieval horizons.

Current evidence would suggest the study site lies in an area of possible burgages that were laid out as part of the planned expansion of settlement in Calne during the late 12th to early 13th centuries. Unlike the adjacent areas of the Zion Baptist Chapel and site of the former Harris Bacon Factory, the study site itself would appear to have been subject to less, recent development disturbance.

4.2 Current land-use

The study site currently comprises undeveloped areas of open space (grassed and planted areas) and hardstanding car parking. The site is rectangular and divided into three separate plots by low walls.

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-12. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural was observed in all five trenches. In the central and western parts of the site, the natural was a compact light greyish white limestone, slightly degraded. In the two trenches on the eastern edge of the site, the natural was a harder, and stonier material. It ranges from between 0.88m and 1.36m below ground surface.

A possible remnant subsoil was occasionally present across the site. This was a yellowish brown silty clay or silty sand, and remained only sporadically, usually where the ground sloped heavily

(Plate 11). It was probably truncated during the terracing and landscaping that took place during the medieval formation of the burgage plots.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Undated deposits

A substantial curvilinear ditch, (515), was excavated in Trench 5 (Figs 7 and 11; Plates 13-16). This was 2.4m wide and just over 1m deep, and was clearly sealed by the lowest medieval garden soils, approximately 1m below the current ground level. The three upper fills were probably comprised of upcast material that had subsequently eroded back in to the ditch from a bank on the western, outer side. There was also a distinct basal clay fill. Whilst no datable artefacts were retrieved from the ditch, some butchered animal bone was recovered, and charcoal was present and sampled in three of the fills.

A small pit or possible ditch terminus was excavated on the western edge of Trench 4. This feature, (414), was sealed by a possible metaled surface, (412) (Fig 6; Plates 2-4). This surface was also undated, though is almost certainly medieval.

Sealed beneath the subsoil was a small sub-circular feature (509) (Fig 7; Plate 10), filled with a light grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The edges of this feature were indistinct, and seemed to run under the natural. It is postulated that this was the result of rooting, rather than human activity.

A small pit or possible ditch terminus (215) was excavated in Trench 2, in the central north part of the site. This feature cut the natural and was in turn truncated by a 19th century rubbish pit (Figs 4 and 8; Plate 19).

5.1.3 Phase 3: Medieval deposits

A number of small gullies were present on the southern side of the site. (409) ran north-east to south-west from the eastern side of the site, and appeared to cut through an early garden soil that covered the metaled surface (412) (Fig 6; Plates 1, 2 and 4). Further to the west in Trench 5, another gully (511) ran north-west to south-east, and appeared to cut an earlier small ditch (Figs 7 and 11; Plate 12). These features appeared to be sealed by the lowest medieval garden soil, over 1.4m below the current ground level.

In the northern side of the site, in what was still within the backyard area associated with houses on the High Street, were a series of medieval deposits, in Trench 3 (Figs 5, 9 and 12; Plates 21-24). A thin light brown silty sand sat within what appeared to be a shallow rectilinear cut. This could have been a natural hollow in the geology, although the straight edge would indicate a deliberately cut feature. It was situated on the southern edge of a sondage, and so was not revealed in its entirety in plan. This appeared to be cut by another straight sided feature, though once again the limited view of the sondage prohibited further understanding as to extent or function.

In the base of the sondage in Trench 3, cutting through the natural geology, were a large circular pit and a small posthole. Both of these features were very shallow, suggesting that they had been cut from higher up, though from what level it was not possible to determine.

Running north-west to south-east in the sondage in Trench 3, was the remnant of a probable robbed out wall (327/337). As seen in the northern section of this sondage, built up against the eastern side of the wall was a soil with frequent limestone rubble throughout (340), whilst on the western side, a material rich in daub, and sandy pink mortar (325) sat above a possible remnant of subsoil. This also looked to have built up against the wall, but both deposits were subsequently cut by the robber trench for the wall (324/338).

The same pattern is repeated in the southern section, though the daub-rich material has been replaced by a mid grey brown silty sand deposit with frequent limestone fragments. A pit (326) dissected these two deposits in the western section of the sondage.

Sealing the robbed out wall and associated deposits in the northern section was a stony layer (309), which did not extend to the south. It may be associated with the demolition of the wall.

5.1.4 Phase 4: Post-medieval deposits

The robbed out wall and demolition horizons in Trench 3 were sealed by a thick garden soil (308), which may be equivalent to a similar deposit in trench 5 in the southern half of the site (505). This would have been a well-worked soil associated with horticultural activity in the backyards of the burgage plots. There was a large pottery dump in (505), which may have sat within a cut, though none was observed during machining, when the assemblage was identified.

To the east, in Trench 4, in what would have sat outside the limits of the burgage plots, was soil layer (404). Whilst this is probably of similar date as (308) and (505), it may have undergone different processes, being potentially more agricultural in nature. The thick soil layer (205) excavated in Trench 2 is probably of similar provenance.

The large boundary wall (319) was dug through garden soil (308). This was a limestone wall with a rubble core and a dressed face (Fig 5; Plates 5 and 6). At its western end, it had been truncated by modern disturbance associated with the construction of a storm drain. At this point it was approximately 0.5m below the ground surface, but it rose up to the east. Approximately 5m from the eastern end of Trench 3, two extra courses of the wall survived, so it lay just beneath the turf line. It was from this point that a brick face could be seen, having been added to the southern side of the wall. It was only visible on the more heavily truncated stretch of wall to the west as a red brick dust stain. A shallow pit full of limestone chippings was dug against the south side of wall (319); this was interpreted initially as being a working pit associated with the original construction of the wall, but upon further consideration it was conjectured to be as a result of work required to fit the later brick facing on to the limestone wall. At the eastern end of the wall, there is a return south (320), though this wall is not bonded to or even abutting (319), rather it was built with a gap of c 50mm.

In Trench 1 in the north-eastern corner of the site, a shallow scoop pit (106) cut through the natural (Figs 3 and 8; Plate 25). This was at least 1m across, and contained some pottery and animal bone. Its function is unclear, though the backfill was a heavy clay which looked to have accumulated via low energy deposition, so a rubbish pit is unlikely. This feature was truncated on its eastern side by another shallow pit of indeterminate function, (107).

5.1.5 Phase 5: 19th century deposits

In the western end of Trench 3 was a brick and tile built structure, (305), approximately 1.5m by 1.85m (Figs 5, 9 and 12; Plates 7 and 8). This was constructed both of bricks on edge and on bed in a shallow construction cut, with large ceramic tiles making up the floor in the centre of the structure. These tiles appeared to have been reused from elsewhere, as they had two different types of mortar attached. The tiles were substantial, 305mm x 305mm x 51mm (1 foot square and 2 inches thick). A hearthstone lay against the western wall. There were ash and coal deposits covering parts of this surface, and along with the hearthstone, are indicative of some form of heating. The structure was later truncated from above, presumably when the higher courses were removed, and brick and domestic rubbish were used to backfill it.

A small rectangular brick structure was built to the east of (305) (Plate 9). This was constructed of yellow factory made bricks, and seemed to be a brick-lined pit. At some point it appears to have had a line of bricks added as an internal division, although the purpose is not known.

A large pit (213) backfilled with clean blue clay and dumps of porcelain and iron work was excavated in Trench 2 in the central northern half of the site (Figs 4 and 8; Plates 18-20). It in turn was truncated on its western side by the construction cut for a possible cellar wall (210). This structure was on the very western edge of the trench, running north-west to south-east. It went all the way to the surface and was covered by a thin scree of tarmac. It was backfilled with a firm yellowish brown silty clay, which was not excavated.

In Trench 5 in the southern half of the site, further accumulation layers (504; 403) had developed, followed by an isolated rubble spread (503) to the south-west.

5.1.6 Phase 6: Modern deposits

The site was laid to tarmac in the north-eastern and northern central parts, with associated levelling layers beneath. A rubble layer was excavated from Trench 1 on the eastern edge. Modern topsoils covered the earlier material in Trenches 3, 4 and 5.

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Derek Hurst

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

A relatively large finds assemblage for the scale of fieldwork came mainly from stratified contexts and could be dated from the medieval period onwards (see Table 1). Using pottery as an index of artefact condition, this was generally good with the majority of sherds displaying low levels of abrasion, and the average sherd sizes by period of pottery were:

medieval at 9.9g ie average;

post-medieval at 53.2 ie well above average, and;

modern at 41.9g ie well above average

The finds were therefore relatively well preserved, and largely likely to indicate little site disturbance following first deposition.

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
medieval	ceramic		pot	12	119
?medieval	ceramic		pot	1	23
late medieval	ceramic		pot	2	67
late med/early post-med	ceramic		pot	6	52
late med/early post-med	ceramic		roof tile(flat)	11	999
post-medieval	ceramic		clay pipe	17	61
post-medieval	ceramic		pot	30	1595
post-medieval	glass		bottle	6	1493
post-medieval	glass		window	2	1
modern	ceramic		brick	3	9137
modern	ceramic		pot	94	3939
modern	ceramic		sewer pipe	1	172
modern	ceramic		slab	3	4500
modern	glass		bottle	13	532
modern	glass		vessel	2	94
modern	glass		window	3	42
modern	glass		wine glass	1	31
modern	metal		wire	2	3
modern	metal	copper alloy	fitting	1	130
modern	metal	iron	pin	1	32
modern	metal	iron	corrugated	1	372
modern	stone	slate	roof tile	2	32
undated	ceramic	fired clay	-	2	15
undated	metal	iron	?nail	1	5
undated	metal	iron	nail	1	4
undated	metal	iron	object	3	692

period	material class	material subtype	object specific type	count	weight(g)
undated	metal	iron	hoop	1	11
undated	organic	animal bone	-	384	5003
undated	organic	shell	oyster	6	66
undated	organic	shell	snail	1	1
undated	slag	fuel ash slag	-	4	59
totals				617	29,282

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

5.2.1 Summary artefactual evidence by period

The artefacts represented a typical domestic assemblage.

Phase 3: Medieval

Several features were of 13th–14th century date and produced a variety of pottery fabrics types including flint-tempered and shell-tempered wares, and a sherd of Newbury ware (510), typically 12th–14th century, cooking pot (Vince 1984). Medieval glazed wares, mainly in a fine sandy fabric, were also present.

Significantly these features were later than other deposits that were not associated with datable finds, but did contain animal bone.

Phases 4-6: Post-medieval and modern

There was a good range of post-medieval wares, including some substantially complete mid-18th century vessels of high quality (505), as these included scratched-blue white stonewares and examples of large stoneware jugs suitable for serving, one of which exhibited a 'GR' stamp just below the rim. The latter in particular would have been a suitable vessel for use in a hostelry context. The same context (505) produced near-complete examples of glass wine bottles of 17th century style - the classic 'onion' bottle.

Another layer (308) of the same general period produced a large quantity of animal bone (257 fragments, 3.5kg) in good condition comprising large and small mammal and bird bones. A large proportion of the mammal bone consisted fragments of cattle bone which included unfused epiphyses, indicating juvenile cattle, perhaps from a single individual. The cattle bone was mostly butchered: some chopped longitudinally (Elspeeth Liff, pers comm). Bird bone was also prominent in this assemblage.

context	material class	material subtype	object class	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	Tpq start	Tpq end
100	glass			bottle	modern	3	310	n/a	n/a
100	glass			bottle	modern	4	130		
100	glass			wine glass	modern	1	31		
100	ceramic		building material	sewer pipe	modern	1	172		
100	ceramic		domestic	pot	modern	1	196		
100	ceramic		domestic	pot	modern	12	610		
100	ceramic		domestic	pot	post-medieval	1	134		
100	metal	iron		pin	modern	1	32		
105	ceramic		domestic	pot	post-medieval	1	7	1550	1800
105	organic	animal bone			undated	2	13		

context	material class	material subtype	object class	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	Tpq start	Tpq end
105	metal	iron		?nail	undated	1	5	1550	1800
212	glass			bottle	modern	3	70	1800	1900
212	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	2	8		
212	ceramic		domestic	pot	modern	12	622		
212	ceramic		domestic	pot	modern	52	2337		
212	metal	iron		object	undated	2	652		
212	organic	animal bone			undated	17	520		
302	glass		domestic	vessel	modern	1	92	1800	2000
302	metal	copper alloy	domestic	fitting	modern	1	130		
302	metal	iron		plate(oven)	modern	1	372		
305	ceramic			slab	modern	3	4500	1800	1950
305	ceramic		building material	brick	modern	1	2985		
308	ceramic		domestic	pot	medieval	1	1	1600	1700
308	ceramic		domestic	pot	post-medieval	7	91		
308	organic	animal bone			undated	257	3547		
309	ceramic		domestic	pot	?medieval	1	23	1100	1300
311	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	2	4	1850	1950
311	ceramic			roof tile(flat)	late med/early post-med	2	29		
311	ceramic			roof tile(flat)	late med/early post-med	6	840		
311	metal			wire	modern	2	3		
311	ceramic		domestic	pot	medieval	1	4		
311	ceramic		domestic	pot	post-medieval	4	33		
311	glass		domestic	vessel	modern	1	2		
311	organic	animal bone			undated	1	9		
311	ceramic	fired clay			undated	1	9		
311	slag	fuel ash slag			undated	2	48		
311	stone	slate		roof tile	modern	2	32		
312	ceramic			brick	modern	1	2848	1800	1950
313	ceramic		domestic	pot	modern	13	152	1900	2000
313	glass		domestic	window	modern	1	40		
313	metal	iron	building material	nail	undated	1	4		
314	ceramic		building	brick	modern	1	3304	1800	1950

context	material class	material subtype	object class	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	Tpq start	Tpq end
			material						
321	glass			bottle	modern	3	22	1800	1900
321	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	4	7		
321	ceramic			pot	modern	4	22		
321	ceramic			pot	post-medieval	4	197		
321	ceramic			roof tile(flat)	late med/early post-med	2	116		
321	glass			window	modern	2	2		
321	organic	animal bone			undated	48	127		
321	slag	fuel ash slag			undated	1	10		
321	metal	iron		hoop	undated	1	11		
321	organic	shell			undated	1	1		
324	ceramic		domestic	pot	medieval	1	14	1200	1400
325	ceramic		domestic	roof tile(flat)	late med/early post-med	1	14	1200	1800
404	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	1	7	1600	1900
404	organic	animal bone			undated	1	78		
404	metal	iron		object	undated	1	40		
405	ceramic		domestic	pot	late med/early post-med	3	25	1600	1700
405	organic	animal bone			undated	14	271		
406	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	4	17	1600	1700
406	glass			window	post-medieval	2	1		
406	ceramic		domestic	pot	late med/early post-med	3	27		
406	organic	animal bone			undated	4	34		
406	organic	shell			undated	6	66		
413	organic	animal bone				15	82		
505	glass			bottle	post-medieval	6	1493	1720	1760
505	ceramic			clay pipe	post-medieval	4	18		
505	ceramic			pot	late medieval	2	67		

context	material class	material subtype	object class	object specific type	period	count	weight(g)	Tpq start	Tpq end
505	ceramic			pot	post-medieval	13	1133		
505	organic	animal bone			undated	1	27		
506	ceramic		domestic	pot	medieval	4	70	1200	1400
506	ceramic	fired clay			undated	1	6		
510	ceramic		domestic	pot	medieval	5	30	1200	1400
510	organic	animal bone	domestic		undated	13	94		
512	organic	animal bone			undated	9	147	n/a	n/a
513	organic	animal bone			undated	2	54	n/a	n/a
513	slag	fuel ash slag			undated	1	1		

Table 2: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

5.3 Environmental analysis, by Elizabeth Pearson

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Env Tables 1 to 3.

Uncharred woody and herbaceous root fragments and other seeds remains, particularly in Phase 2 deposits, are assumed to be modern and intrusive as they are unlikely to have survived for long in the soils on this site.

5.3.1 Phase 2: Undated

Low levels of poorly preserved charred cereal remains were present in all three fills (512, 513 and 514) of a curvilinear ditch [515], which consisted mostly of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp free-threshing), with occasional hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oat (*Avena* sp) grains.

Charcoal was moderately abundant in (512). Most fragments appeared to be non-oak, and a couple of fragments could be identified as Betulaceae, most likely alder or hazel (*Alnus/Corylus* sp). However, the fragments and the assemblage are considered to be too small to merit further analysis.

An abundance of uncharred root material suggests some contamination from modern soil layers. As medieval deposits overlie [513] it is possible, considering that the soils are developed in limestone, and are therefore relatively free-draining, that charred plant remains from Phase 2 deposits are intrusive from Phase 3 medieval deposits.

5.3.2 Phase 3: Medieval

Charred cereal remains were more abundant (moderately so) and more diverse than those from Phase 2 deposits. Free-threshing wheat grain, including club wheat (*Triticum aestivo-compactum*) was similarly dominant, with smaller quantities of oat and hulled barley being identified. Occasional unidentified small grass grains, vetch/pea (*Vicia/lathyrus* sp) and stinking mayweed are likely to have been weeds of the cereal crop(s).

The combination of wheat, barley and oat grains is most likely to be the residue from mixed grain crops, called maslin crops, which were commonly grown during the medieval period. They were an insurance against unpredictable growing conditions, ensuring a greater chance of a successful harvest.

Should further fieldwork be undertaken on this site, these remains indicate the potential, following the recovery of further samples and larger volumes, to obtain information on the type of crops grown, growing conditions and the distribution of arable processing waste.

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Period	Phase	Sample volume (L)	Volume processed (L)	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
507	3	Layer		Medieval	3	10	10	Yes	Yes
508	2	Rooting	509		0	6	6	Yes	Yes
510	4	Gully	511	Medieval	3	10	10	Yes	Yes
512	5	Ditch	515	undated	2	10	10	Yes	Yes
513	6	Ditch	515	undated	2	10	10	Yes	Yes
514	7	Ditch	515	undated	2	6	6	Yes	Yes

Env Table 1: List of bulk samples

Context	sample	large mammal	charcoal	charred plant	uncharred plant	artefacts	comments
507	3		occ	mod		occ seed-other, pot	
508	2		occ	occ			
510	4	occ	mod	mod		occ pot,	
512	5	occ	occ	occ-mod	abt*	occ seed-cereal	
513	6	occ	occ	occ	abt*	occ seed-cereal, clinker	
514	7	occ	occ	occ	abt*		

Env Table 2: Summary of environmental remains; occ = occasional, mod = moderate, abt = abundant, * = probably modern and intrusive

context	sample	preservation type	category remains	quantity/diversity	species detail	comment
507	3	ch	grain	++/low	<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing), Cereal sp indet grain, <i>Avena</i> sp grain	mostly free-threshing wheat
507	3	ch	seed	+/low	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp	
507	3	ch	misc	++/low	unidentified wood fragments	
508	2	ch	grain	+/low	<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, cf <i>Avena</i> sp grain	mostly free-threshing wheat
508	2	ch	misc	+/low	unidentified wood fragments	
510	4	ch	grain	++/low	<i>Triticum aestivo-compactum</i> grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp grain, <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled), <i>Avena</i> sp grain, cf <i>Avena</i> sp grain, Poaceae sp indet grain (2mm size)	mostly free-threshing grain
510	4	ch	seed	+/low	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp, <i>Anthemis cotula</i>	
512	5	ch	misc	++/low	<i>Alnus/Corylus</i> sp, unidentified wood fragments, non-oak wood	woody & herbaceous. Probably modern and

context	sample	preservation type	category remains	quantity/diversity	species detail	comment
						intrusive
512	5	ch	grain	+///low	<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, Cereal sp indet grain, <i>Avena</i> sp grain	
512	5	ch	misc	+/low	unidentified wood fragments	
512	5	?wa	misc	++++/low	unidentified wood fragments	probably modern and intrusive
513	6	?wa	misc	++++/low	unidentified root fragments	woody and herbaceous. Probably modern and intrusive
513	6	ch	grain	+/low	<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain, <i>Triticum</i> sp grain, <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled)	
513	6	ch	misc	+/low	unidentified wood fragments	small, unidentifiable
514	7	?wa	misc	++++/low	unidentified wood fragments	woody and herbaceous fragments. Probably modern and intrusive
514	7	ch	grain	+/low	Cereal sp indet grain	poorly preserved
514	7	ch	misc	+/low	unidentified wood fragments	small frags

Env table 3: Plant remains from bulk samples

Key:

preservation	quantity
ch = charred	+ = 1 - 10
min = mineralised	++ = 11 - 50
wa = waterlogged	+++ = 51 - 100
?wa = waterlogged or uncharred	++++ = 101+
	* = fragments

6 Synthesis

6.1 Undated

The large curvilinear ditch of unknown function in the southern half of the site was clearly sealed by 13th-14th century garden soils, and contained fills of a significantly different nature than the more humic material overlying it. The presence of free-threshing wheat, however, would preclude a prehistoric date. The cultivation of this cereal crop is generally considered to occur between the late Roman period and the early medieval in the South-West of England (Webster 2007, 163), though recent work in the West Midlands has pushed the date back at least into 2nd century AD (Mann *et al*, 2015). As noted above, Saxon deposits have been excavated c 200m south of the site, dating to the 5th to 7th centuries, whilst Roman activity has also been recorded within Calne.

6.2 Medieval

The medieval activity identified during the evaluation supports the proposed date for the planned extension of the town during the late 12th to early 13th centuries. The garden soils identified in the southern half of the site date from the 13th to 14th centuries and are typical of backyard activity. The walls seen in the north-western side of the site, and their subsequent demolition and robbing, are indicative of the changing uses of the burgage plot. This is further highlighted by the pits that were

seen in the base of the sondage in Trench 3. These probably predate the stone built structures, and were possibly in use as domestic waste pits. The walls are likely to represent outbuildings associated with whatever activities the owners of the house were undertaking. The wide range of fabric types presumably indicates a wide range of sources, with wares being derived from different geologies. Such information would be valuable for determining more about the local medieval economy.

6.3 Post-medieval

The urban planning that resulted in the layout of the High Street and these burgage plots defined the landscape until at least the 20th century. The eastern end of two plots is well-defined by the wall that first bisects them and then bounds them from more agricultural land, beyond the High Street. This difference is noticeable in the archaeological remains, with little activity beyond the burgage plots until the post-medieval period, whilst the evidence within the back yard areas paints a picture of continuous occupation and changing functions.

The burgage plot activity continued into the post-medieval period, with accumulated garden soils burying the earlier structures, and the boundary wall being constructed. It may be that this extant wall replaced an earlier medieval one, though this was not possible to determine during the evaluation. This wall is visible on the 1828 Map of Calne (CgMs 2015, fig 2), by which time it had probably been faced with brick.

A substantial butchered animal bone assemblage was dumped into the garden soil, thought likely to represent typical domestic consumption rather than anything of a larger scale. A large dump of 18th century pottery in a similar garden soil in Trench 5 contained stamped stoneware, typically associated with public houses. The great variation of pottery types in this assemblage suggest that it may all have come from such an establishment. Indeed, the building which fronts the High Street to which this land was once attached appears to be a former Georgian coaching house.

The post-medieval assemblage reflects a national trade in ceramics with such goods travelling from major production centres such as Stoke-on-Trent. Despite that being quite normal and therefore unexceptional, the site has still produced something of note, which is the near-complete group of vessels from (505). This suggests that the site may have potential to produce other such well-preserved material, which would certainly be of local interest as well as having some research potential for detailing national trade links for this area of Wiltshire.

6.4 19th century

A number of 19th century outbuildings were identified within the eastern end of the burgage plots associated with 11, High Street. Whilst the construction date for these structures was only broadly determined, their subsequent demise clearly occurred in the 19th or 20th century. One structure had evidence for burning within it, whether of an industrial nature or more domestic it was not possible to discern.

6.5 Research frameworks

The following research questions are derived from *The Archaeology of South West England; south West Archaeological Research Framework* (Webster 2007)

- Research Aim 21: Improve our understanding of the environmental aspects of farming:

Environmental studies in the post-medieval period remains under-exploited; there is substantial opportunity to enhance our understanding of agricultural, industrial, and urban environments and their development. The agricultural landscape in the post-medieval is an aspect that is often overlooked, from both rural and urban sites. The site at Calne has the potential to inform what crops were being either produced, processed or consumed.

- Research Aim 27: Investigate the origins of free-threshing wheat:

The presence of free-threshing wheat in the undated ditch in the south of the site could help to further the debate about the introduction of this cereal crop in the region. The ditch is sealed by 13th-14th century soils, and seems not to be associated with any burgage plot activity.

- Research Aim 33: Widen our understanding of the origins of villages.
- Research Aim 35: Develop our understanding of Early Medieval urban settlement.
- Research Aim 36: Improve our understanding of Medieval and later urbanism.
- Research Aim 47: Assess the archaeological potential for studying Medieval economy, trade, technology and production:

Material culture in the post-medieval period can be further illuminated by the analysis of the artefactual remains of urban settlement sites. The increase in the volume of waste produced and the survivability of material allows for various themes to be discussed, notably household equipment, fixtures and fittings, and the fabric of buildings.

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation demonstrates that the site contains deeply stratified deposits from a range of periods, with a potential late Roman or early medieval feature sealed by a series of medieval and post-medieval layers of varying complexity. Where the excavated areas were sited within the known burgage plots, the archaeology was at its most complex, with 13th-14th century urban activity at the bottom of a sequence that continued all the way up to the 20th century, including the remains of structures from a number of periods.

In the areas of the site outside the burgage plots, the archaeological remains are noticeably more agricultural in nature. There are medieval ditches at the bottom of the sequence, but the subsequent soil layers are relatively undisturbed, and do not demonstrate the same sort of activity as noted to the west.

There have been relatively few medieval assemblages excavated in Calne, especially where associated with a good sequence of stratigraphic deposition. This site, therefore, is considered to have the potential to add further to our understanding of local trade and industry from the 12th -13th centuries onwards. The lower strata of the site remain undated due to the absence of finds. Further investigation may address the dating of these deposits.

The recovery of such a well-preserved mid-18th century pottery group was notable as such groups are rare. The potential for further material of this quality makes the site of interest. Environmental evidence, in the form of charred cereal crop waste of medieval date and well-preserved animal bone of post-medieval date was also of significance.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The large undated ditch sealed by the medieval garden layers is of note due to the presence of free-threshing wheat. It has the potential to answer questions about the production of the cereal crop in the region and the early settlement of the town, if it can be adequately dated.

The burgage plot activity is typical of such sites, though the level of research so far undertaken in the region is low.

Few assemblages of medieval and post-medieval pottery from Calne have been available for study and this site holds the potential to produce this which could provide base-line data to aid the creation of a model of the earlier socio-economic history of the town.

The evaluation has demonstrated the potential to recover environmental remains of potential for aiding interpretation of the local arable economy and activities relating to crop storage and/or processing on the site.

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

Archaeological remains were encountered in all five trenches. The greatest density was within the burgrave plots on the west of the site, where there was up to 1.3m of stratified deposits. The post-medieval burgrave boundary wall that ran the length of this trench was visible on the surface at the eastern end of the trench.

The 19th-20th century wall in the middle of the site was sealed directly by the tarmac surface of the existing car park, though the 19th century pottery dump that that wall cuts was 0.75m below the ground level, buried beneath later made ground. The post-medieval pit feature on the north-eastern edge of the site was similarly c 0.7m below the current ground level.

The medieval remains in the south of the site were sealed by extensive garden soils that had built up over the intervening centuries. On the south-eastern edge of the site, these features were approximately 0.95m deep, whilst to the west they were up to 1.4m below the current ground level. It should be noted however, that the post-medieval garden soils, whilst devoid of any features or structures in the evaluation trenches, nonetheless hold the potential for such remains to be present within them.

8 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.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken of 83, The Pippin, Calne, Wiltshire (NGR 399786, 171111). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, whose client intends redevelopment of the site.

The site lies close to the historic centre of Calne. It comprises three narrow plots extending from the High Street to the west, but accessed from The Pippin to the east. At the time of the evaluation it was an open area divided into three plots by low walls with recently cut vegetation. The site included areas of hardstanding including a car park, grassed areas and a path.

A desk-based assessment of the site had identified a moderate to high potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains relating to its former occupation and use in the medieval and post-medieval/early modern periods. This was thought likely to relate to former burgrave/property division and associated backyard activity of local significance.

Five trenches of varying length were excavated across the site. The locations of trenches were limited by the presence of services crossing the site.

The evaluation revealed a large ditch of unknown date, but sealed by 13th century garden soils. The presence of free-threshing wheat from within the ditch suggests a possible Saxon date. A possible metalled surface of medieval date was identified on the eastern edge of the site, whilst two small ditches were excavated in the southern half. These too were beneath medieval garden soils.

Within the burgrave plot on the western side of the site was a sequence of complex stratified medieval and post-medieval deposits associated with backyard activity. This included a number of medieval pits cutting into the natural strata, and robbed out walls with associated demolition deposits. A post-medieval stone boundary wall defined the plot, and was later faced with brick. A number of brick structures were built during the 18th-19th centuries, including one with evidence for a hearth. These had gone out of use by the early 20th century, with the site becoming the mix of hard standing and grass that exists today.

9 Acknowledgements

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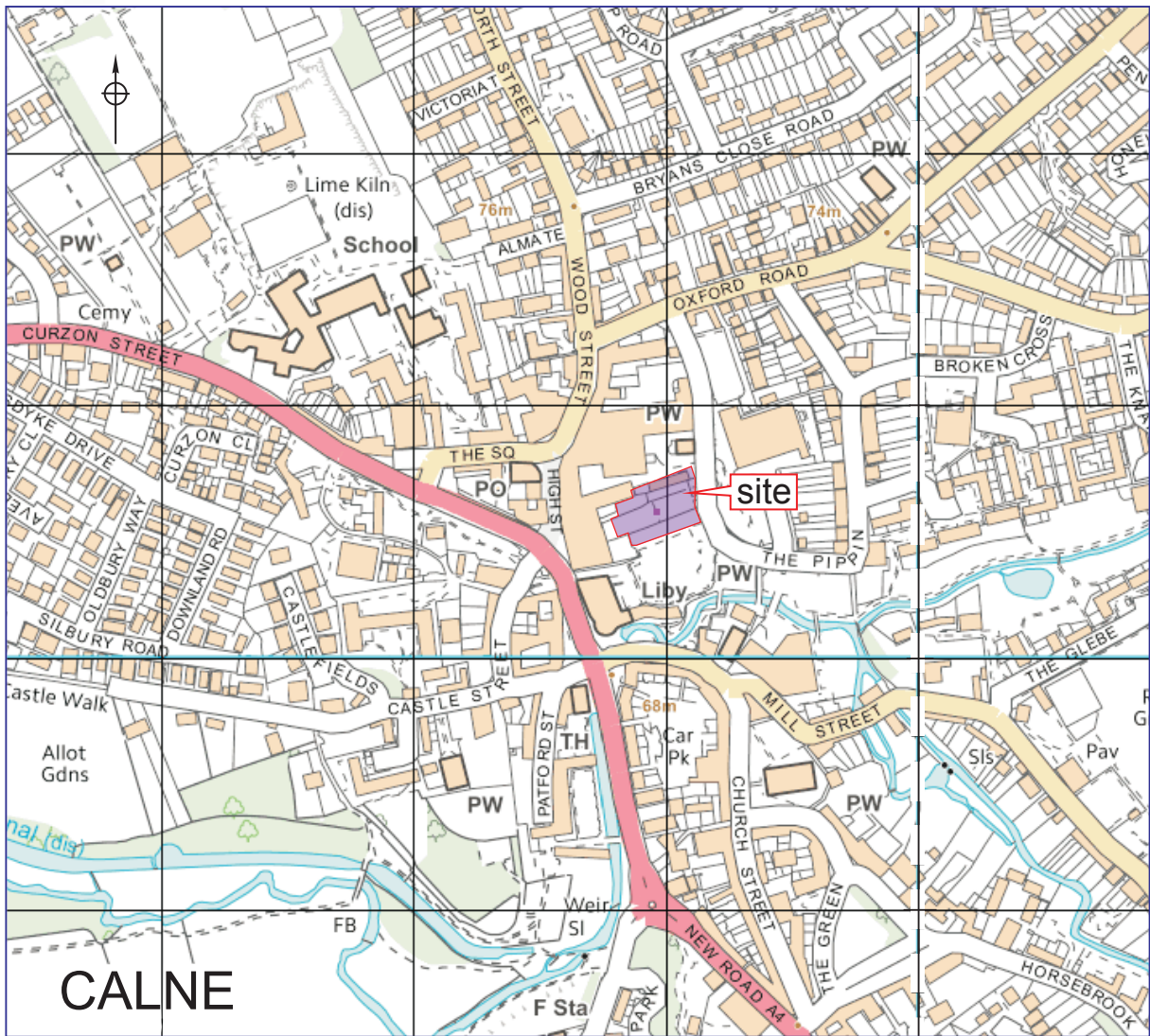
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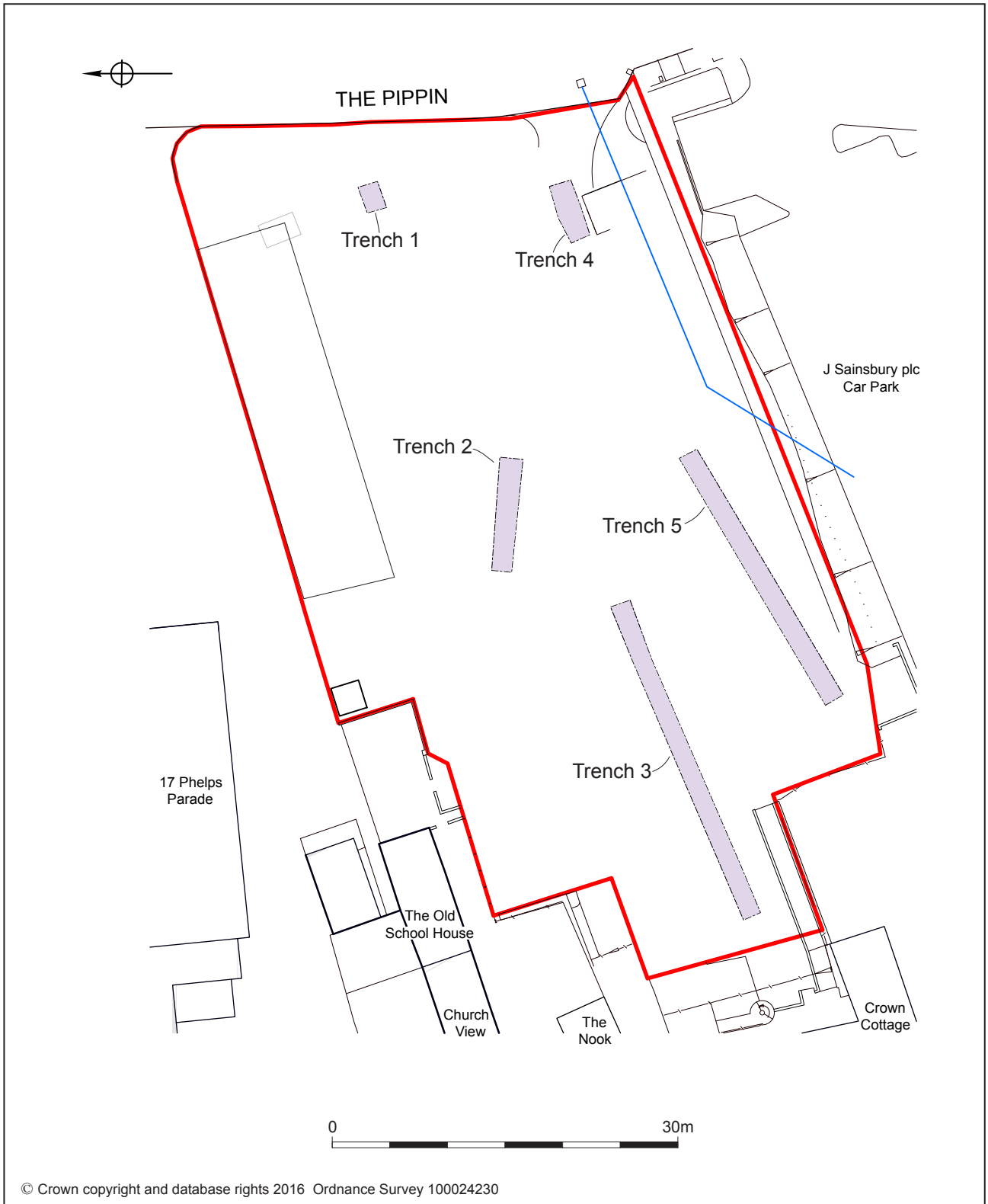
Figures



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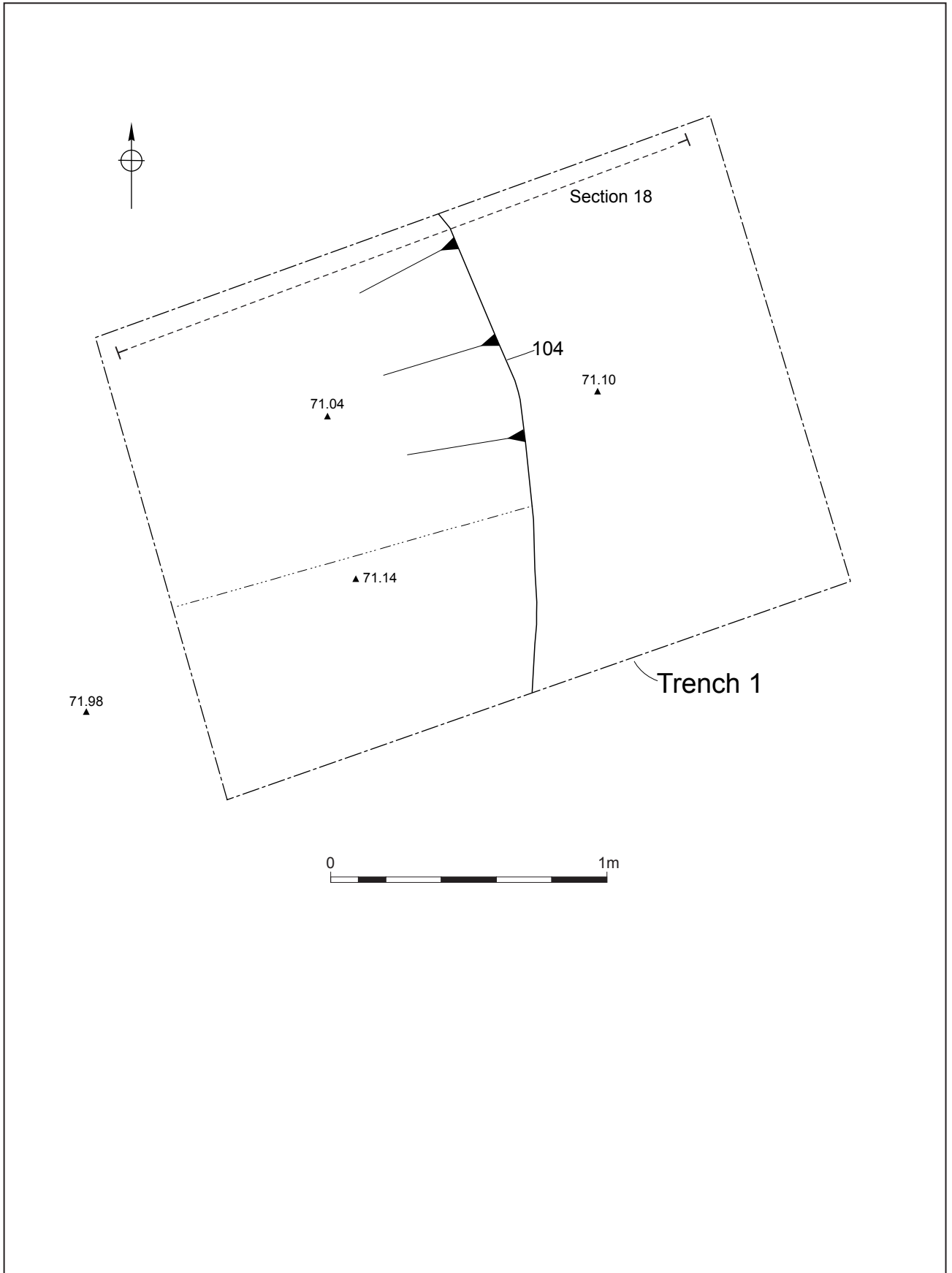
Location of the site

Figure 1



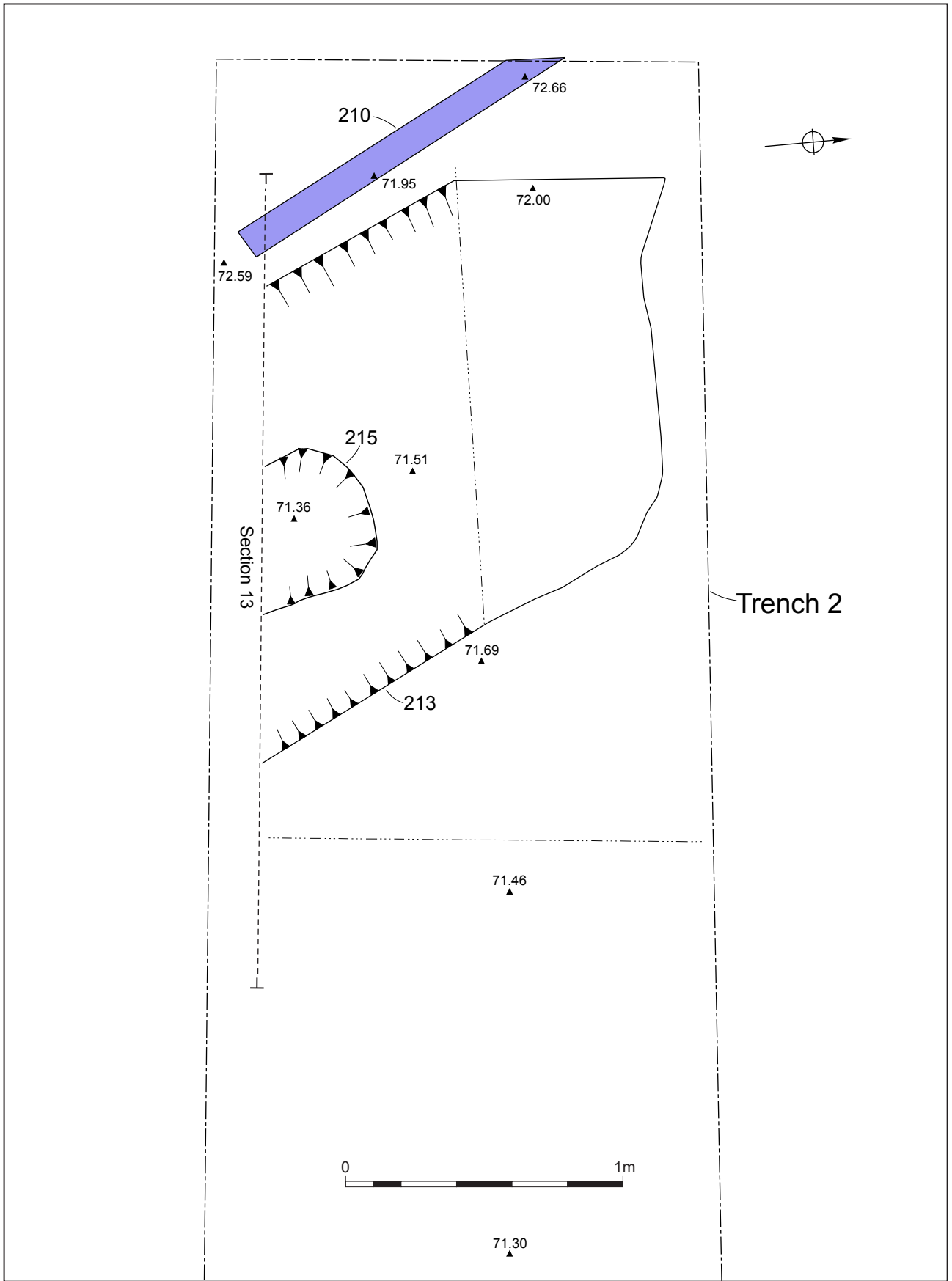
Location of trenches

Figure 2



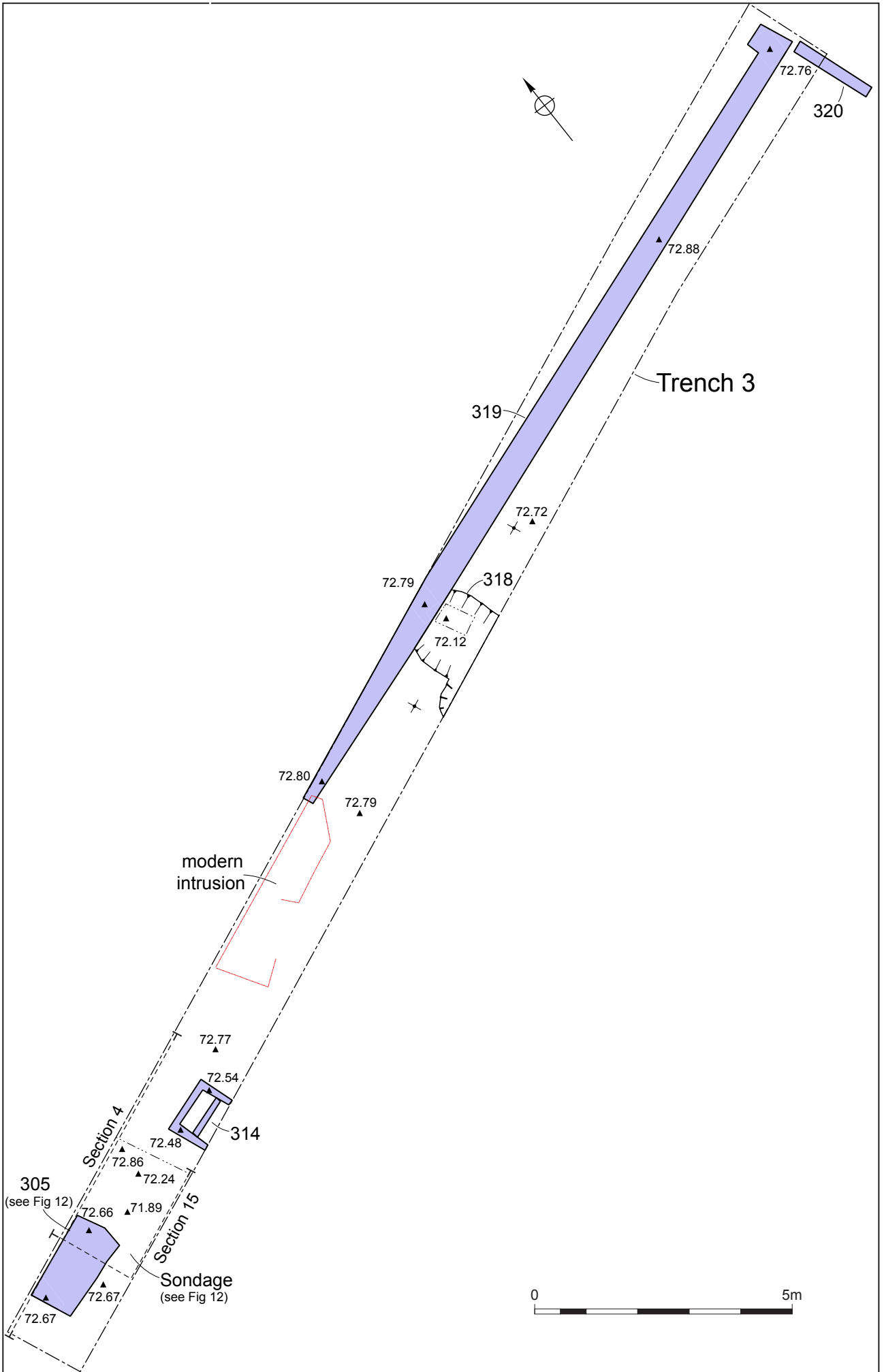
Pit 104 in Trench 1

Figure 3



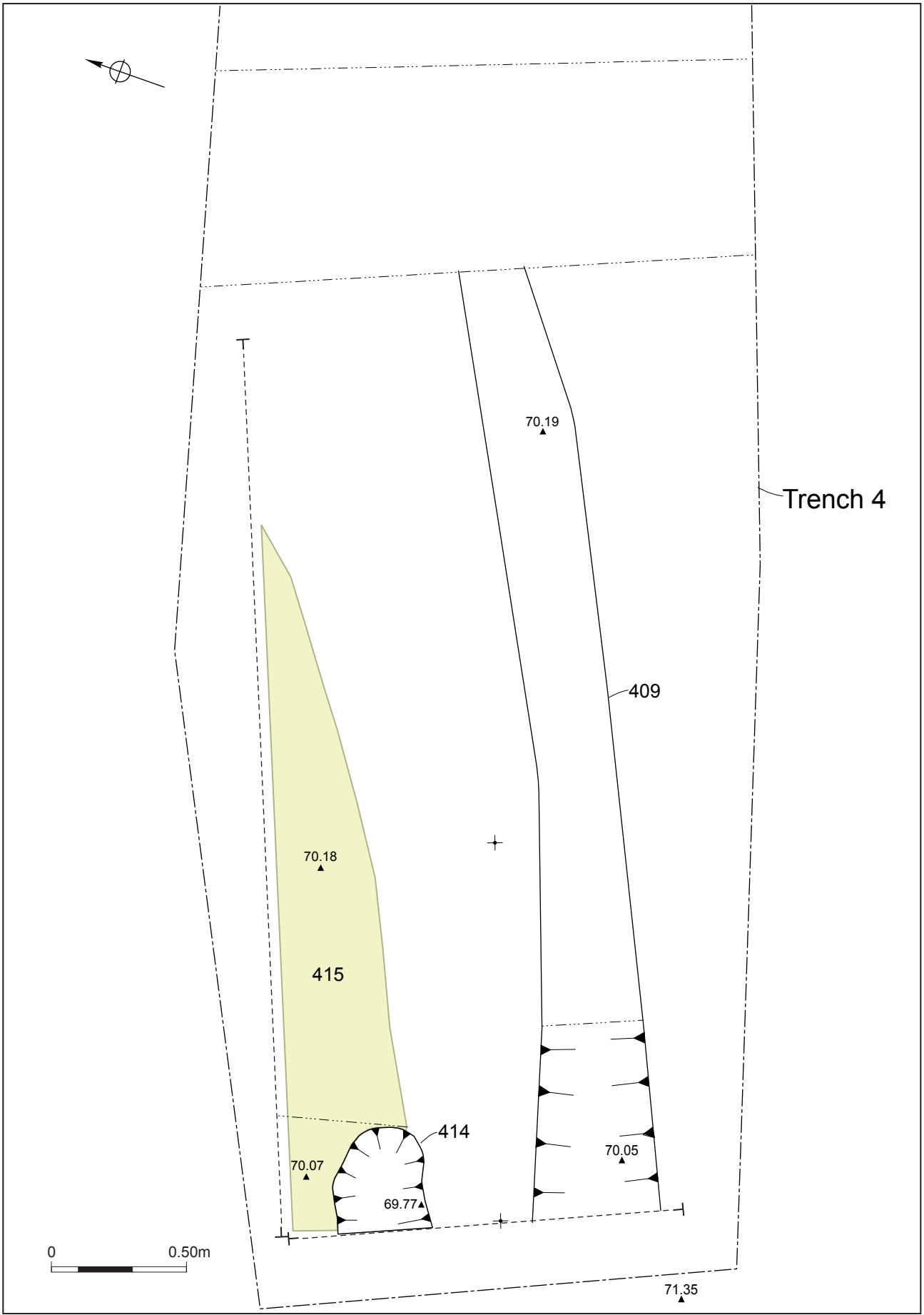
Features in Trench 2

Figure 4



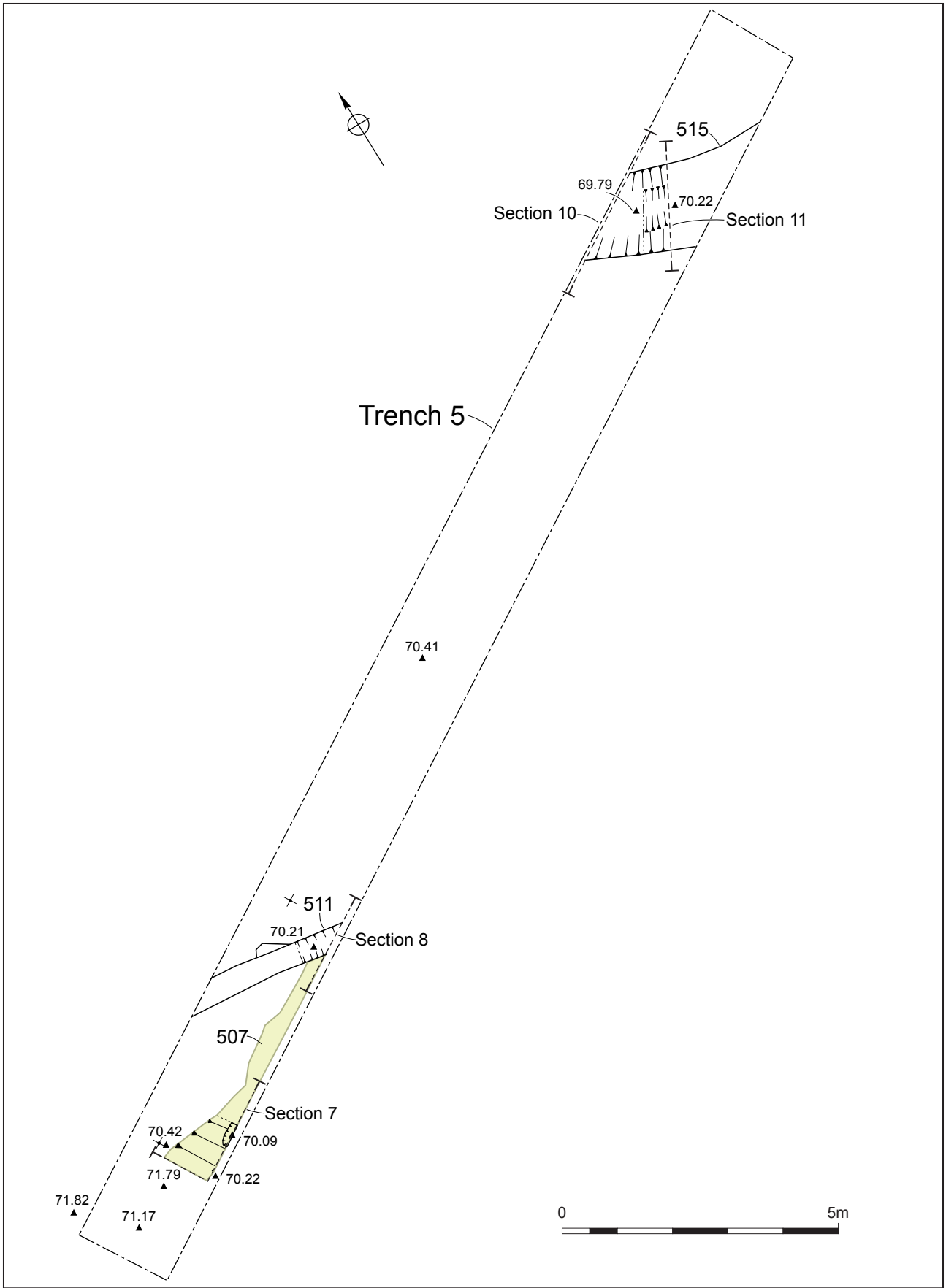
Features in Trench 3

Figure 5



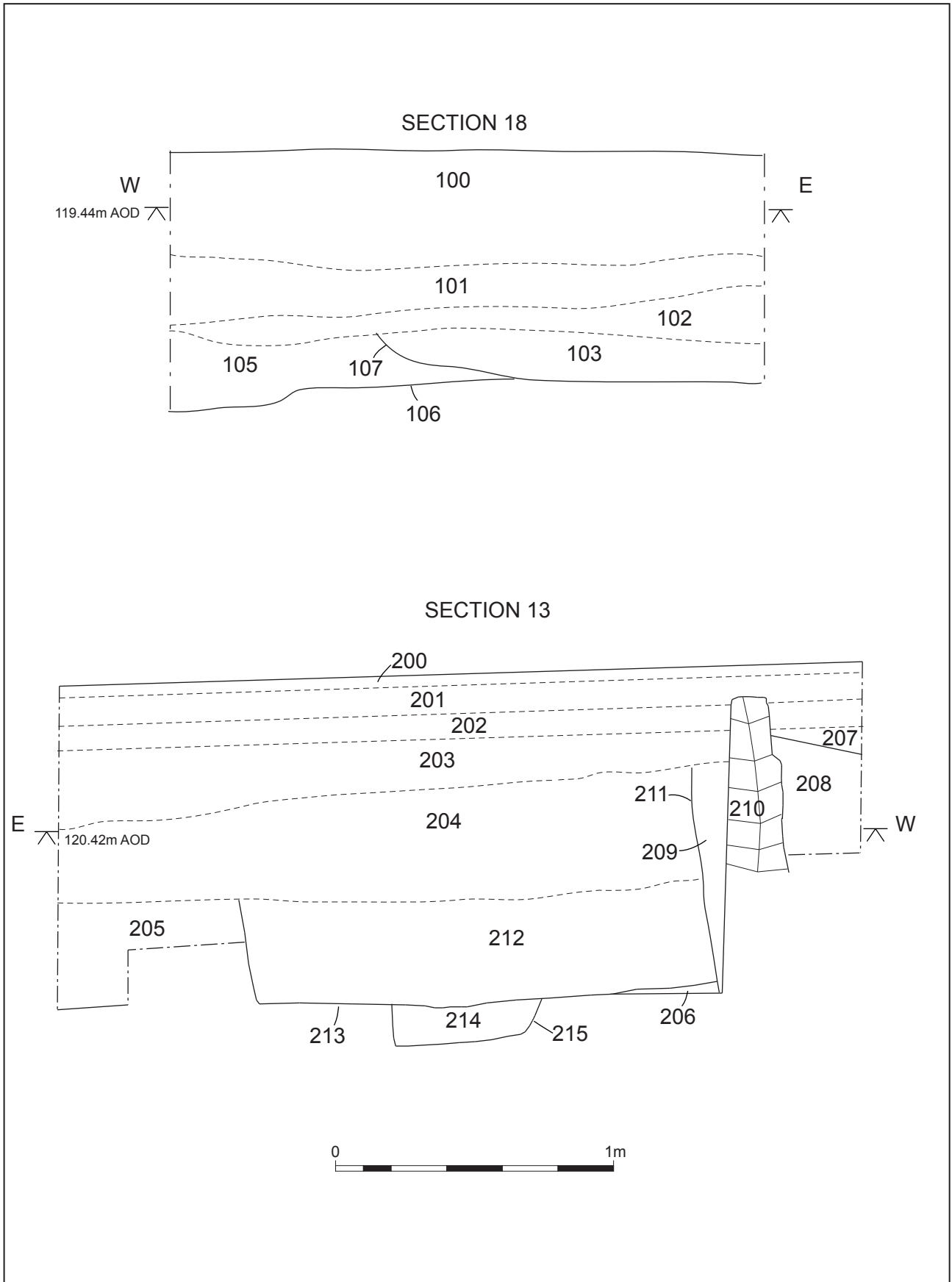
Features in Trench 4

Figure 6



Features in Trench 5

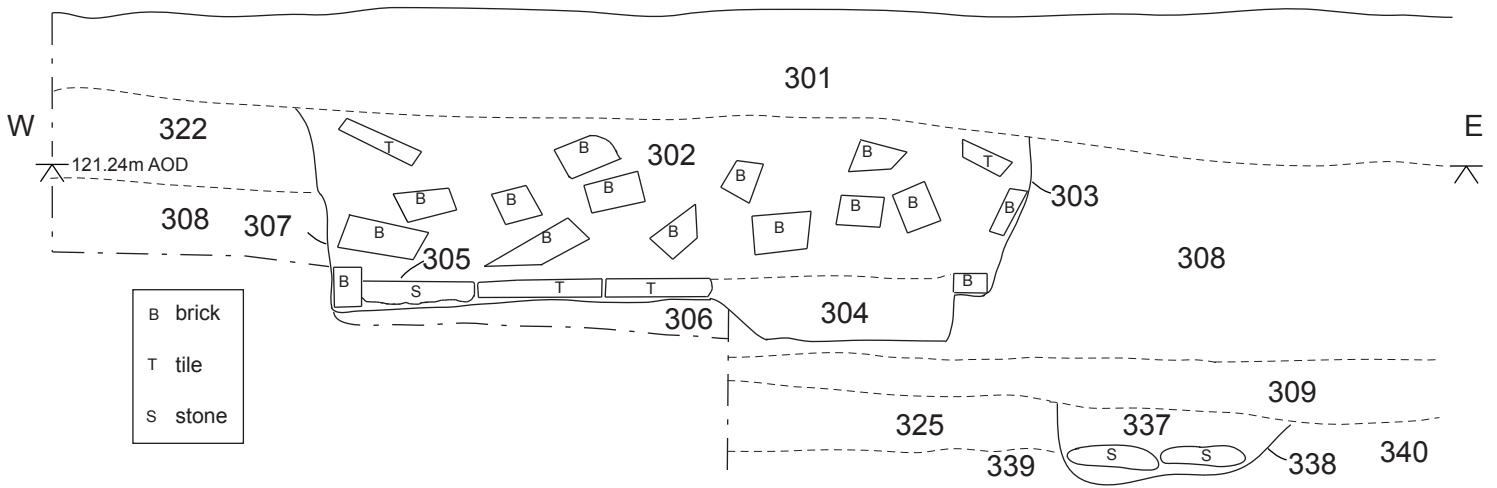
Figure 7



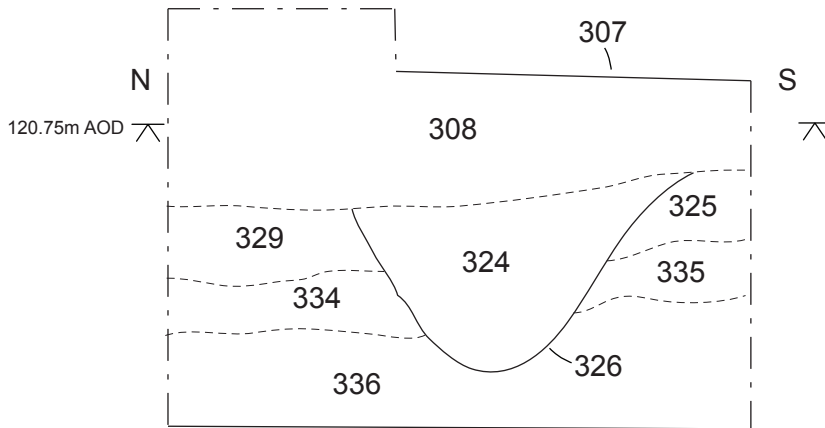
Sections 13 and 18

Figure 8

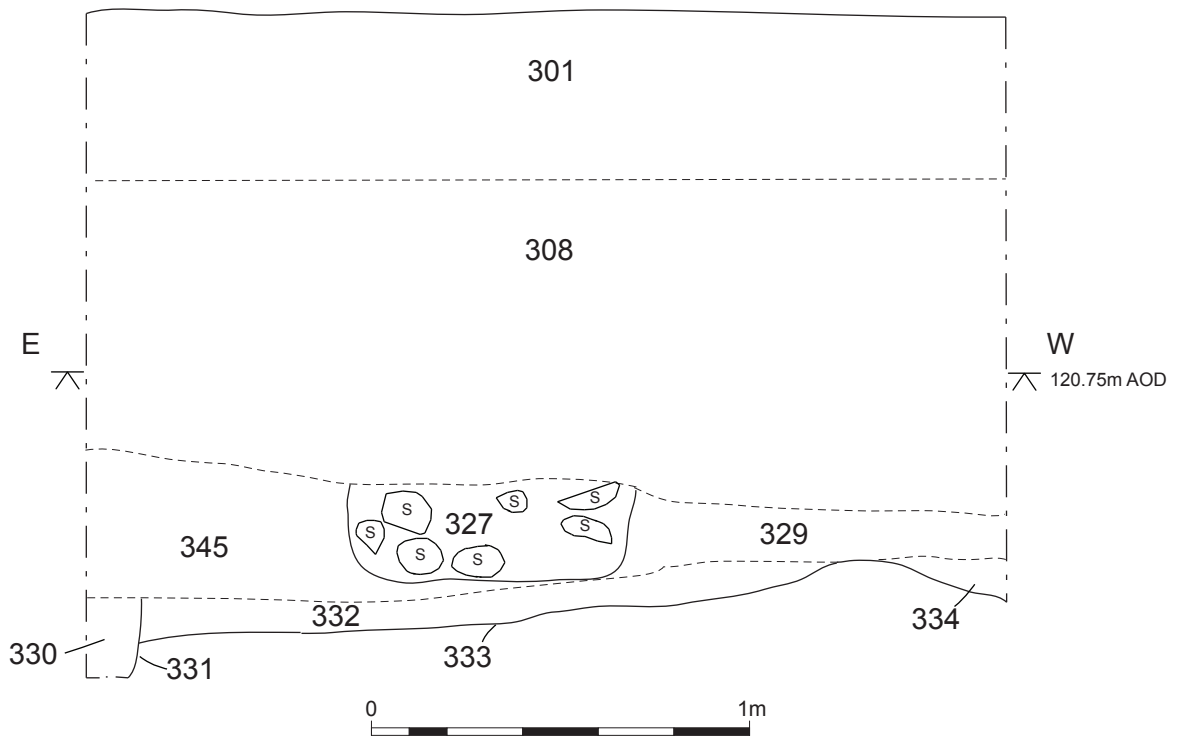
SECTION 4



SECTION 16



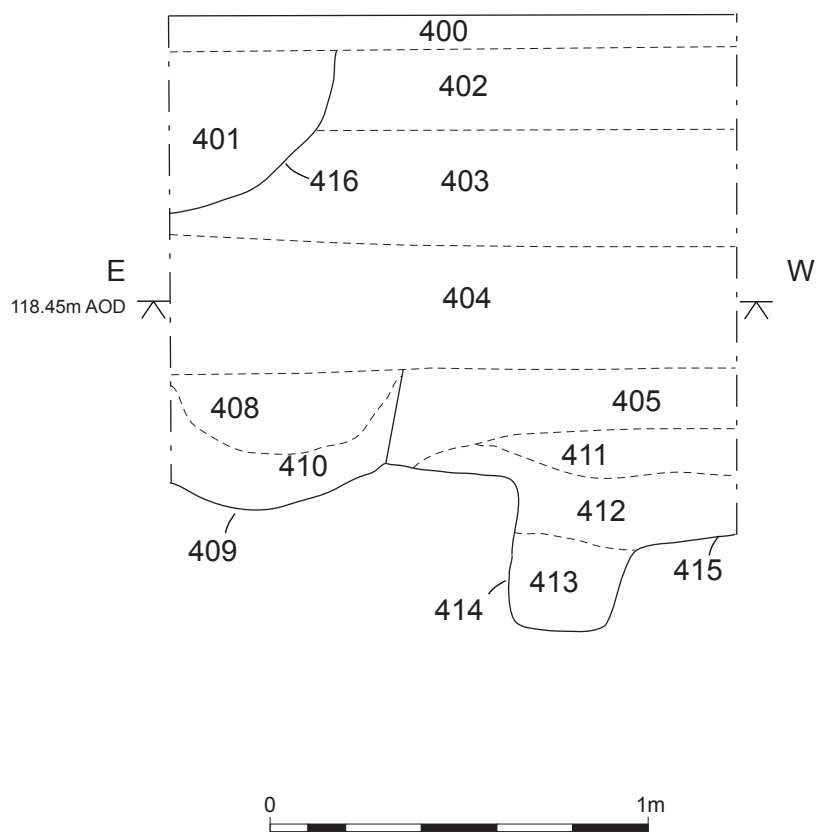
SECTION 15



Sections 4, 15 and 16

Figure 9

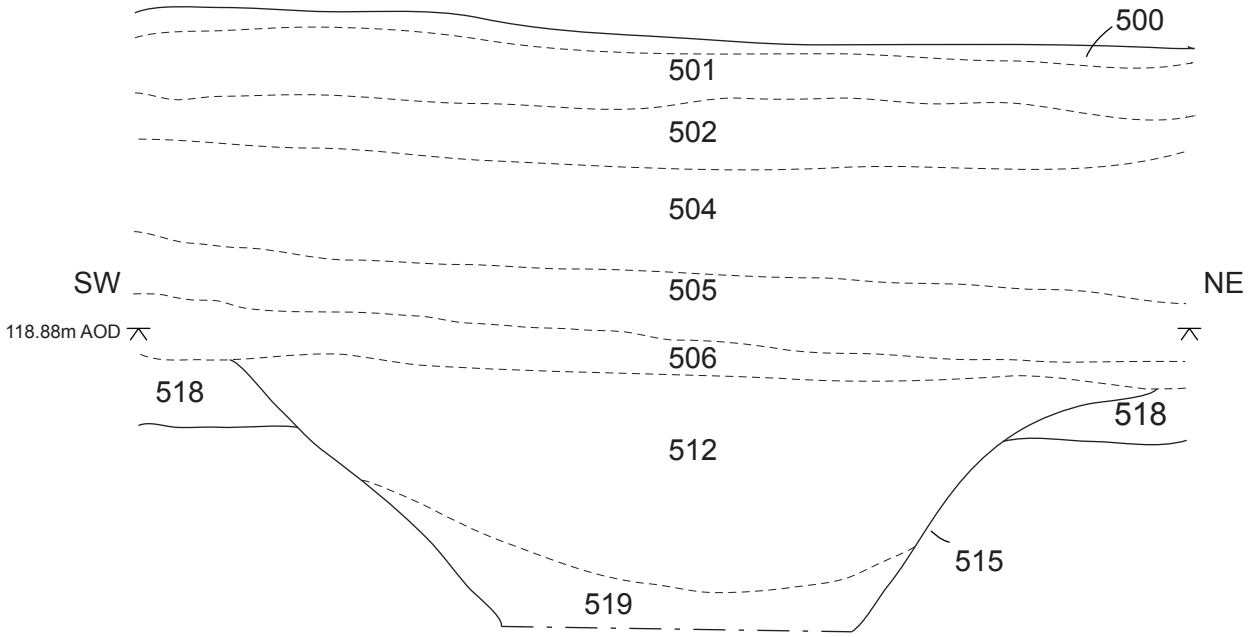
SECTION 1



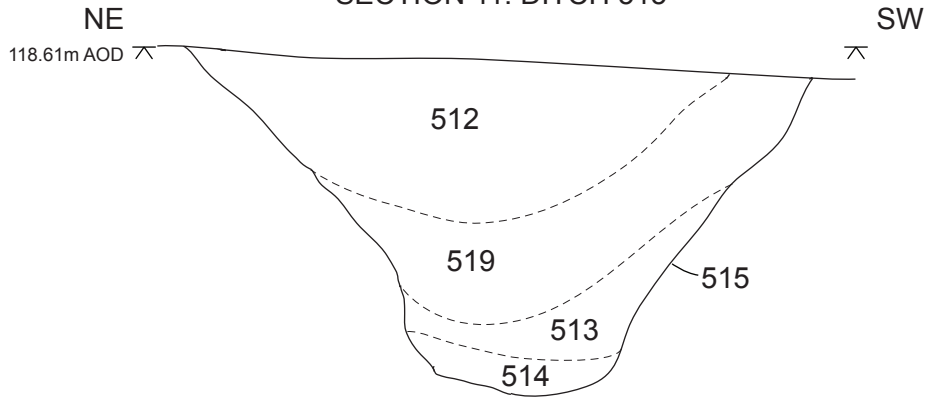
Section 1

Figure 10

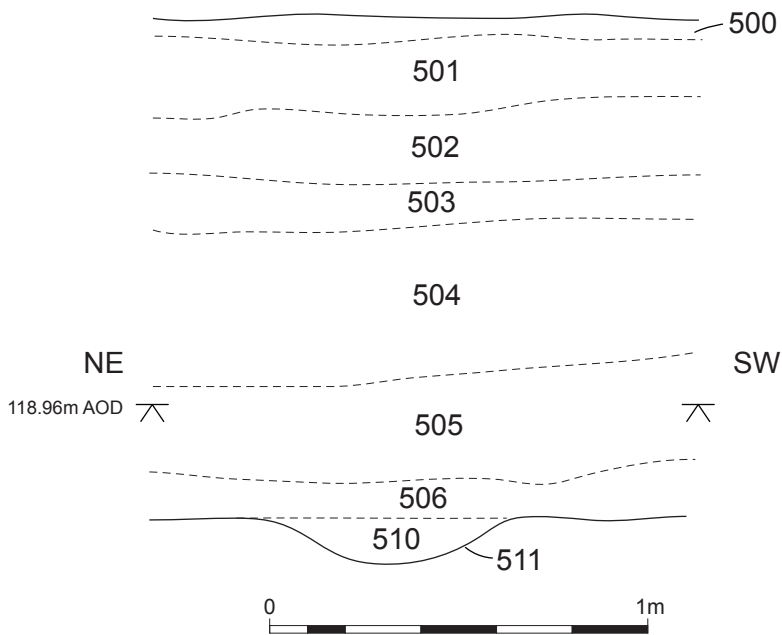
SECTION 10: DITCH 515



SECTION 11: DITCH 515

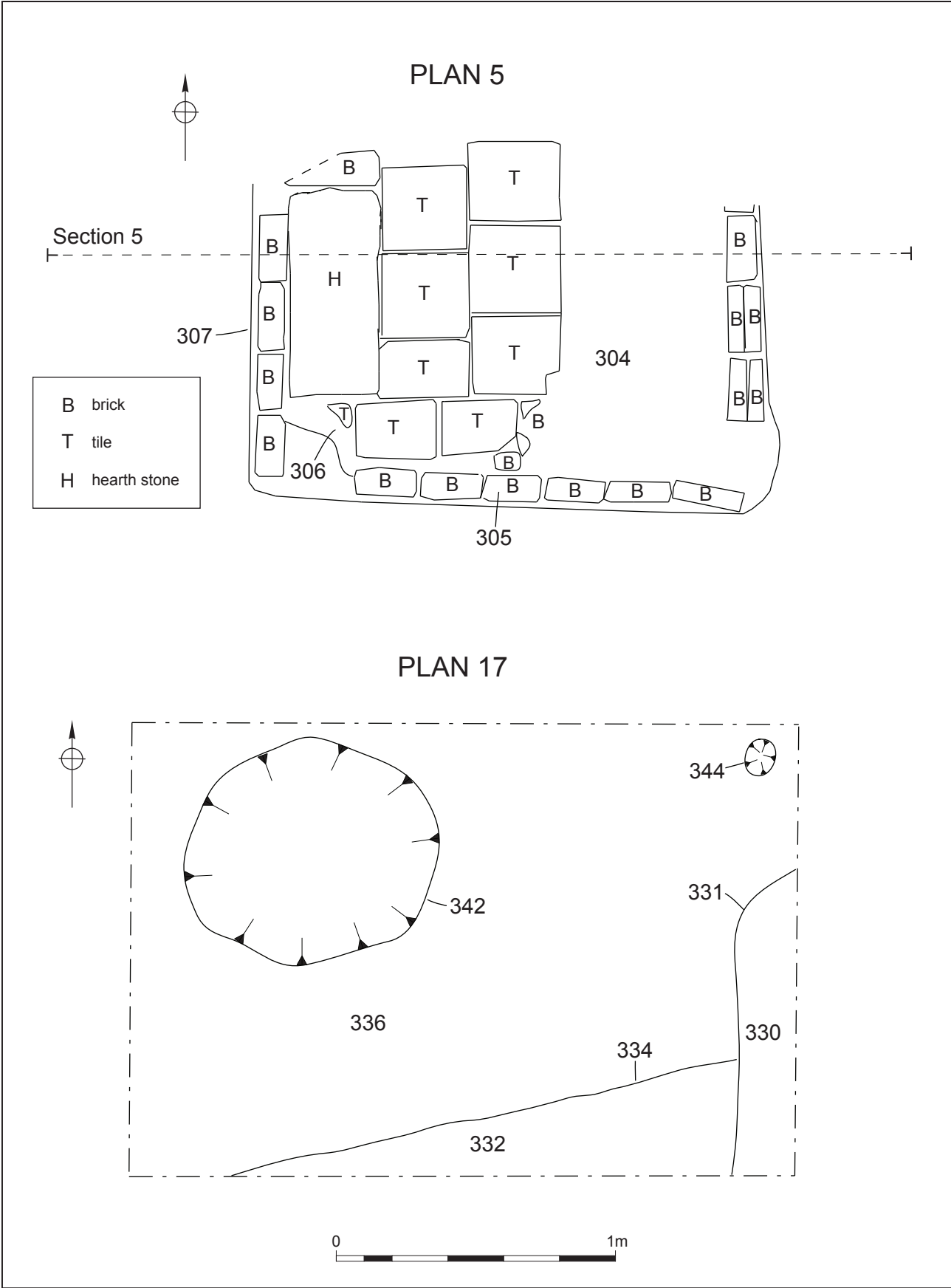


SECTION 8: DITCH 511



Sections 8, 10 and 11

Figure 11



Plans 5 and 17

Figure 12

Plates



Plate 1 Trench 4, looking east (1m scales)



Plate 2 Ditch 409, pit 414 and hollow 415, looking west (1m scale)



Plate 3 Pit 414 sealed by possible surface 412, looking west (0.5m scale)



Plate 4 Possible surface 412 in cut 415, looking north (1m scale)



Plate 5 Burgage boundary walls 319 and 320, looking west (1m scales)



Plate 6 Burgage walls 519 and 520, looking south (1m scales)



Plate 7 Victorian brick structure 305, looking north (1m scales)



Plate 8 Victorian brick structure, looking south (1m and 0.2m scales)



Plate 9 Brick structures 312 and 314, looking south (1m scales)



Plate 10 Possible pit 509 and trench section, looking south (1m scale)



Plate 11 Remnant subsoil in Trench 5 lying along slope, looking west (0.5m scale)



Plate 12 Medieval ditch 511, looking south (0.5m scale)



Plate 13 Undated ditch 515, looking south-east (1m and 0.5m scales)



Plate 14 Undated ditch 515, looking north-west (1m scales)



Plate 15 Undated ditch 515, looking north-west (1m scales)



Plate 16 Trench 5, looking south-west (1m scales)



Plate 17 Trench 5, looking north-east (1m scales)



Plate 18 Trench 2, looking east (1m scales)



Plate 19 Pits 213 and 215, looking south (1m scales)



Plate 20 Wall 210, looking west (1m scales)



Plate 21 Sondage in Trench 3 showing south facing section (1m scales)



Plate 22 Sondage in Trench 3 showing north facing section (1m scales)



Plate 23 Sondage in Trench 3 showing east facing section (1m scales)



Plate 24 Base of sondage in Trench 3 showing pit 342, looking north (1m scales)



Plate 25 South facing section in Trench 1 (1m scale)

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Length: 2.15m Width: 1.6m Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
100	Topsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown loamy sand	0.43m	Modern topsoil
101	Modern Layer	Layer	Loose mid greyish pink Cobbles	0.26m	Likely modern levelling
102	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty sand	0.21m	Old subsoil underneath 101
103	Unknown	Fill	Compact mid whitish crème Cobbles	0.21m	Fill of unknown feature
104	Natural	Layer	Compact mid yellowish white limestone		Limestone natural
105	Unknown	Fill	Moderately compact mid greyish green clayey sand	0.33m	Fill of feature [106]. Some animal bone and pot, but nature of feature not determined in limited trench size.
106	Unknown	Cut		0.33m	Possible early feature, very shallow so may have been truncated in more recent times. True form and function not
107	Unknown	Cut		0.21m	Cut of unknown feature cutting through [106]

Trench 2

Length: 10m Width: 1.6m Orientation: North-west to south-east

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
200	Modern Layer	Layer	Compact dark bluish grey Tarmac	0.04m	Car park tarmac
201	Modern Layer	Layer	Loose mid yellow sandy gravel	0.13m	Gravel base layer for tarmac above
202	Modern Layer	Layer	Loose mid greyish pink stony gravel	0.10m	Pink stony hardcore, most likely levelling hardcore
203	Subsoil	Layer	Compact dark brownish grey silty sand	0.24m	Pre carpark subsoil layer with post-med cbm
204	Subsoil	Layer	Compact mid greyish brown silty sand	0.30m	Old subsoil with post-Med CBM and pot
205	Subsoil	Layer	Compact light greyish brown silty clay	0.40m	Old subsoil, beneath 204
206	Natural	Layer	Compact mid yellowish white limestone		Natural limestone, as elsewhere on site

207	Modern Layer	Layer	Moderately compact dark grey Hardcore	0.19m	Old soil layer that has been dumped inside wall 210 , underneath carpark
208	Layer	Layer	Moderately compact mid greyish brown silty sand		subsoil that has built up inside wall/structure 210 after it has gone out of
209	Construction Cut	Fill	Moderately compact mid brown silty sand	0.56m	Backfill of construction cut [211]containing wall 210
210	Wall	Structure		1.06m	Wall in construction cut [211]. Part of post med/ Victorian garden buildings or dividing walls. Regular coursed, stretcher, reddish orange brick with crème mortar
211	Construction Cut	Cut		1.06m	Construction cut for wall
212	Pit	Fill	Compact mid blueish grey clay	0.38m	Fill of pit [213]. Contains lots of post-med pot, animal bone and some metal objects. Not sure of origin but in the context of surrounding features it is most likely a domestic rubbish dump. Contains Staffordshire Stone China
213	Pit	Cut		0.38m	Post med rubbish pit cut, containing 212.
214	Gully	Fill	Friable mid greenish yellow silty clay	0.13m	Fill of potential gully terminus [215]. No finds or dating or charcoal within.
215	Gully	Cut		0.13m	Cut of gully containing fill 214. It has likely been later truncated by later activity (e.g. 213), so may have originally been much deeper. Also cannot be sure it is actually a gully/ditch. Possibly relates to other earlier features cut into the chalk seen elsewhere on site

Trench 3

Length: 29m

Width: 1.6m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
300	Topsoil	Layer	Moderately compact dark grey silty sand	0.10m	Topsoil as elsewhere on site. Not under carpark
301	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact dark grey silty sand		
302	Layer	Fill		0.45m	Rubble backfill of disused cellar probably broken bricks from robbed walls of

					brick cellar. Loose brick rubble in grey sandy silt a grey mortar
303	Layer	Cut		0.45m	Robbing cut/ demolition of brick cellar 305.
304	Layer	Layer	Loose mid blackish grey ash and coal	0.16m	Ash and coal rake-out from hearth
305	Cellar	Structure		0.30-0.50m	Small cellar. Brick, tile and stone rectangular lined cut. Brick walls, with tiles surrounding a sandstone hearth stone.
306	Cellar	Layer	Compact grey chalky mortar	0.01m	Mortar bedding for tile/stone floor a brick walls of cellar
307	Cellar	Cut		0.30m	Construction cut for brick, tile and stone lined cellar. Rectangular cut with gradual break of slope to near vertical sides.
308	Garden soil	Layer	Moderately compact dark grey sandy silt loam	0.80m	Garden soil accumulation, Possibly contains a second horizon, runs across whole trench
309	Layer	Layer	Moderately compact mid grey silt	0.20m	Made ground/ demolition rubble
310	Robber trench	Fill	Compact grey clay		Fill of robber cut [317] with a material derived from some substantial process?
311	Pit	Fill	Loose grey sandy silt	0.20m	Infill of brick lined pit/ cellar
312	Wall	Structure		0.06m	Wall subdividing brick lined pit [314] reducing its size for some reason. Yellow frogged brick, factory made. Bonded with yellow grey chalky sand mortar
313	Pit	Fill	Loose grey sand	0.15m	Infill of brick pit prior to subdivision
314	Wall	Structure		0.14m	Yellow frogged brick bonded with a hard chalky sand mortar
315	Pit	Fill	mid grey silty sand	0.13m	Backfill of construction cut [316] between brick and edge
316	Pit	Cut		0.60m	Construction cut for brick lined pit/ cellar
317	Robber cut	Cut		0.40m	Robber cut removing brick lining of cellar/pit feature 314
318	Construction Cut	Cut			Construction hollows filled by demolition debris. May have had another purpose when originally cut.

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319	Wall	Structure			E-W boundary of property dividing trench 3. Sandstone wall with rough rubble core and fair face. Face blocks well squared on outer face and bed/top
320	Wall	Structure			N-S brick boundary wall. Respects but does not meet 319. Post med. Red brick wall. Could be later however.
321	Construction Cut	Fill	Loose mid grey silt		Demolition fill of hollows [318]
322	Layer	Layer	mid grey silty sand & mortar	0.25m	Mix of garden soil and demolition or construction debris
323	Wall	Structure			brick repair/refacing of E-W boundary wall
324	Pit	Fill	dark grey silty sand	0.45m	Fill of pit/ditch [326]
325	Modern Layer	Layer	mid grey silty sand	0.20m	Made ground
326	Pit	Cut		0.45m	Rubbish pit or shallow E-W ditch
327	Wall	Structure		0.25m	Wall foundation alignment uncertain. Sandstone blocks in a mix of grey sandy mortar and grey silty sand
328	Construction Cut	Cut		0.25m	Construction cut of wall
329	Layer	Layer	mid grey silty sand	0.20m	made ground, rubble demolition
330	Backfill	Fill	Moderately compact light grey silty sand	0.20m	Backfill/disuse of pit [331]
331	Pit	Cut		0.20m	Rubbish or storage pit
332	Subsoil	Fill	Compact olive brown silty sand	0.10m	Possible subsoil or fill,. Disuse of [333]
333	Linear	Cut		0.10m	Possible linear feature, may be a natural hollow in the natural
334	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid olive brown silty sand	0.12m	Possible soil horizon above natural, may be cultural
335	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact olive brown silty sand	0.10m	Relatively clean deposit possibly a subsoil
336	Natural	Layer	Compact light greyish white chalk		Natural geological deposits pre-dating archaeology
337	Wall	Structure		0.20m	Possible N-S wall boundary. Horizontally bedded sandstone in dark grey sandy silt with moderate pink mortar fragments

338	Construction Cut	Cut		0.20m	Possible construction cut of wall 337. Only seen in section. Note a change in deposits to the W and W of this as with wall 327 in south section
339	Layer	Layer	mid grey silty sand	0.10m	made ground/ garden layer or yard soil
340	Layer	Layer	mid grey silty sand	0.20m	Made ground with construction/ demolition rubble
341	Backfill	Fill	Compact light grey silty	0.20m	Backfill of pit [342]
342	Pit	Cut		0.20m	Storage pit or rubbish pit
343	Posthole	Fill	Compact light grey silty	0.10m	Fill of post hole [344]
344	Posthole	Cut		0.10m	Cut of posthole form uncertain horizon below 309
345	Subsoil	Layer	grey silty sand	0.40m	Made ground
346	Wall	Cut		0.35m	Interpolated cut of E-W stone boundary wall, only partially viewed in sondage in chipping hollows

Trench 4

Length: 5m

Width: 1.90m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
400	Modern Layer	Layer	Firm light whitish yellow Concrete	0.10m	Concrete slab, top layer of trench
401	Modern Layer	Layer	Loose rubble	0.30m	layer of rubble, CBM and stone seen into south section of trench only. Modern dumping
402	Topsoil	Layer	Friable light greyish brown loamy sand	0.15m	Old topsoil layer seen under 400
403	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid brownish grey loamy silt	0.20m	Subsoil beneath topsoil 402
404	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact mid greenish grey clayey silt	0.50m	Old subsoil, most likely post-med
405	Subsoil	Layer	Moderately compact light greenish grey silty clay	0.18m	Early subsoil
406	Unknown	Fill			Not recorded
407	Unknown	Cut			Potential discrete feature seen during machining, though not recorded. Will be part of 404.
408	Gully	Fill	Firm mid orangey yellow silty clay	0.18m	Upper fill of gully [409]. No finds/ dating
409	Gully	Cut		0.35m	Cut of gully containing 408

					and 411. No dating, just some bone in 411. has possibly been truncated by earlier activity. It could possibly fit in with other largely sterile features on site, however it does cut through 405 which has been recorded as post-med subsoil
410	Gully	Fill	Moderately compact mid grey clayey silt	0.30m	Lower fill of gully [409]. Some animal bone within, probably natural silting activity
411	Surface	Layer	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt	0.12m	Layer that sits on top of potential surface 412. may be an actual fill of the cut [415], or just a trample/ built up layer on 412.
412	Surface	Layer	Moderately compact whitish yellow pebbles		Fill of surface within the shallow cut [415]. Possible floor surface but no clear evidence of metalling - though it should not be ruled out until further investigation. Subangular limestone pebbles in a brownish grey clayey silt matrix
413	Surface	Fill	Firm mid orangey grey silty clay	0.27m	Fill of pit [414]. No finds/dating so not sure of origin and it runs under trench section. Possibly much earlier than other features
414	Pit	Cut		0.27m	Cut of pit containing single fill 413. Unsure of origin or function at this point
415	Surface	Cut		0.17m	Cut for possible laying of surface 412
416	Modern Layer	Cut		0.30m	Modern disturbance cut, filled with 401

Trench 5

Length: 25m

Width: 1.6m

Orientation: North-east to south-west

Context summary:

Context	Feature	Context	Description	Height/ depth	Interpretation
500	Topsoil	Layer		0.15m	Modern turf layer
501	Modern Layer	Layer	Loose Silty rubble	0.20m	Modern dumping layer above older topsoil
502	Topsoil	Layer	Friable dark greyish brown silty loam	0.20m	Buried topsoil
503	Layer	Layer	rubble	0.14m	Thin rubble layer from 19th

					or 20th century
504	Layer	Layer	Friable dark brownish grey sandy clay	0.38m	Garden soil, 19th or 20th century
505	Layer	Layer	Friable dark brownish grey sandy clay	0.40m	Garden soil, as with 504 but more clayey
506	Layer	Layer	Friable dark brownish grey silty clay	0.20m	13th-14th century soil associated with backyards of burgage plots facing the high-street to the west
507	Layer	Layer	Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay	0.22m	Possible subsoil remnant, present in northern side of the trench. May be part of medieval burgage activity
508	Rooting	Fill	Firm light yellowish grey sandy clay	0.12m	Result of rooting, has charcoal in it
509	Rooting	Cut		0.12m	Probable result of rooting and has been fashioned by the excavator to look like a pit
510	Gully	Fill	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay	0.12m	Fill of small medieval gully, sealed by 13th/14th century layer
511	Gully	Cut		0.12m	Small Medieval gully, probably agricultural/horticultural in function associated with burgage plots
512	Ditch	Fill	Soft mid yellowish grey clayey silt	0.48m	Upper fill of large ditch, probably derived from the bank material
513	Ditch	Fill	Soft light greyish yellow silty clay	0.20m	Lower fill of possible prehistoric ditch [515]. Low energy deposition.
514	Ditch	Fill	Soft light yellowish clay silt clay	0.08m	Basal fill of ditch [515]
515	Ditch	Cut		1.06m	Large curvilinear ditch, sealed beneath 13th/14th garden soils. Possibly truncated by medieval activity. Good possibility of prehistoric activity
516	Gully	Fill	Firm dark greyish brown		Fill of small gully, cut by later gully [511]
517	Gully	Cut			Small possibly medieval gully truncated by probably its direct replacement [511]. Unexcavated
518	Natural	Layer	Compact light yellowish white limestone	0.33m	Natural limestone
519		Fill	Soft light yellowish grey silty clay	0.33m	Low energy fill of ditch [515], probably derived from bank material on western edge

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive (WA project code: P4797)

The archive consists of:

79	Context records AS1
5	Field progress reports AS2
2	Photographic records AS3
136	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
8	Scale drawings
7	Sample records AS17
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
1	Bag of flots, and sorted remains from residues
6	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Box of finds
1	CD-Rom/DVDs
1	Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Wiltshire Museum
41, Long Street,
Devizes,
Wiltshire, SN10 1NS

Telephone: 01380 727369
