ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF BETWEEN THE RIVER SEVERN AND HYLTON ROAD, WORCESTER

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Archaeological watching brief between the River Severn and Hylton Road, Worcester

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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological watching brief was requested by the Environment Agency on land between the River Severn and Hylton Road, Worcester (centred on NGR SO 842 550; Fig 1). The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological remains were present and if so to indicate their date, nature and location.

The watching brief was carried out in respect of groundworks associated with the flood alleviation scheme. It follows on from earlier investigations undertaken by the Service (Vaughan 2008a-c). A general topsoil strip amounting to just over 3400m² in area was excavated over the site. In addition three trenches, amounting to just over 280m in length and 2m wide, were excavated to varied depths, the maximum 3m below ground surface. In addition and thirteen pile foundations were drilled for a retaining wall adjacent to Sabrina Bridge.

A sequence of deposits containing variable post-medieval and modern material was identified. These were determined to be of modern, 19th/20th century, origin, and are considered to be deliberate make-up and dump deposits intended to raise the ground level to prevent seasonal flooding. The findings reflect those of the previous investigations, which identified deposits containing material relating to the demolition of the buildings that occupied the southern half of the site from at least the later 18th century to the mid 20th century (Vaughan 2008b).

The structural remains, 108 and 121, located in the northern area of Trench 1 were broadly contemporary and date to the second half of the 20th century. Cartographic sources indicate this area of the site remained unoccupied by buildings and appears to have been under grass until 1965 when two boathouses are recorded. It is therefore probable that 108 relates to one of the boathouses.

The additional wall remnants revealed in Trench 2 are likely to relate to the commercial (or industrial) and residential structures that appear on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884 and occupied the area northeast of the railway viaduct. However due to the limited proportions uncovered within the trenches it is not possible to establish their exact relationships.

Alluvial deposits (103, 105, 107, 126 and 4003) were only partially observed within the trenches, at 0.80-1.10m below the present ground surface toward the north end of the site and at 1.55m toward the south, directly below the modern make up and demolition deposits. However no archaeological features or finds were recorded from the alluvium.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological watching brief was requested by the Environment Agency on land between the River Severn and Hylton Road, Worcester (centred on NGR SO 842 550; Fig 1).

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008).

The project also conforms to a project proposal, including detailed specification (HEAS 2008).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the watching brief 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 treatment which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of Worcester Historic Environment Record (HER).

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2008).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 11 August 2008 and 9 December 2008. The site reference number and site code is WSM 101663.

A general topsoil strip amounting to just over 3400m² in area was excavated over the site. In addition three trenches, amounting to just over 280m in length and 2m wide, were excavated and thirteen pile foundations were drilled. The locations of the trenches, pile foundations and the general strip are indicated in Figure 2.

Access to the deep trenches was not made for safety reasons and observations were restricted to those made from the ground surface. Due to the necessary depth of the excavation for Trench 3 all excavating was carried out using pre-assembled box-shuttering sections. This restricted the visibility and identification of the deposits and only allowed for limited observations.

Observation of the excavated trenches was undertaken during and after machine excavation. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual

material, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

The pile foundations for a retaining wall adjacent to Sabrina Bridge were monitored in an attempt to assess the nature of more deeply buried deposits, however due to the rotary boring techniques and the employment of drilling fluid it was not possible to ascertain accurate depths of deposits (Plate 24).

2.2.2 Structural analysis

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

2.3 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams

2.4 Artefact methodology

2.4.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995, appendix 4).

2.4.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. The finds were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. The dates were used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on *pro forma* sheets.

The pottery was examined under ×20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992, Worcestershire On-line Ceramic Database 2009).

2.5 Environmental archaeology methodology

2.5.1 Sampling policy

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). In the event, no deposits or horizons were identified which were considered suitable for environmental analysis, so no samples were taken.

2.5.2 Methods in retrospect

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

3. Topographical and archaeological context

The background to the site has been described in the previous archaeological evaluation (Vaughan, 2008a)

4. Results

4.1 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-4 and Plates 1-23. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 Phase 1 Alluvial deposits

At no point were natural undisturbed geological deposits revealed.

Alluvial deposits (103, 105, 107, 126) were only partially observed within Trench 1. The light brownish grey orange alluvial clay was of a varied depth of between 0.80m and 1.10m below the ground surface.

A further alluvial deposit (4003) similar to those recorded within Trench 1 was observed within the base of Trench 3, 1.55m below the ground surface.

No archaeological features or finds were recorded from the alluvium.

4.1.2 Phase 2 Post-medieval to modern deposits

Trench 1

The topsoil comprised moderately dark brown silty clay, to a depth of up to *c* 0.50m below the present surface. Below this a sequence of deposits containing variable quantities of modern debris were recorded, which were of a varied depth between 0.26 and 1.10m below the ground surface.

180m southwards along Trench 1 clinker ash deposits containing pottery, glass and metal fragments (127) overlay and sealed a previous topsoil horizon (128), 0.90m below the ground surface. 128 overlay a further clinker ash deposit (129), which in turn sealed a further topsoil horizon 131.

The partial footprint of a building (108) was revealed 0.25m below the ground surface; it was punctuated with four column bases (115, 116, 117 and 118). The wall was three brick courses thick (0.20m) with concrete foundations (109). The bases were of varied size but all had metal plates and bolts for the attachment of iron girders. The foundations were cut into 112. Located to the southeast of the entrance to 108, was a herringbone floor (121), overlying deposit 112.

Trench 2

Trench 2, 15m south of Sabrina Bridge, revealed a sequence of deposits similar to those in Trench 1. Disturbed topsoil, consisting of deposit of mid to dark silty clay mixed with clinker ash with occasional fragments of pot, glass, bottles (136, 142) sealed various structures.

At the northern limit of the trench and beneath footpath (101) a concrete floor (140) was partially revealed 2.60m long and 1.80m wide, and continued outside the limits of the trench.

Three walls (133, 134 and 135) were revealed 0.40m below the ground surface. The three walls continued beyond the depth of excavation at 1.80m. The three walls had the same foundations (139), cut through 145, a possible levelling layer. A further clinker ash deposit (146) was sealed by 145, and contained pottery, glass and metal fragments.

Further brick structures were observed, including floor 144, wall 147 and its associated foundation cut (148). A backfill deposit 143, composed of broken limestone and fragments of brick, sealed these features.

Beneath deposit 142 the base of a brick chimney (152) was exposed along with a red glazed tiled fireplace. An additional wall (157) was viewed in the western section of trench however due to the depth of the trench it was not possible to record these structures further.

At the southern most end of trench 2 1.20m from the ground surface, three linear brick walls (156, 157 and 159) were exposed beneath deposit 142. Each was bonded with lime mortar and ran NE to SW. The extent of these walls was not uncovered as they exceeded the width of the trench. No associated foundation cut for the walls was visible. Brick surface (158) was located to the south east of 157, however due to the limits of excavation their relationship could not be ascertained.

Trench 3

Revealed in the west facing section was a brick wall (4000) and below this a brick inverted arch (4001). However the pre-assembled shuttering prevented complete observation of the structure consequently it was not possible to ascertain the exact relationship between 4000 and 4001.

4.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams

4.2.1 The artefact assemblage

The assemblage, recovered from twelve stratified contexts, consisted of 150 finds with a total weight of 22.207kg (Table 1). These comprised brick, clay pipes, glass, metal, pottery and tile. The standard of preservation was generally very good, with little abrasion of the ceramic finds being evident.

Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
Brick	Post-medieval	2	6388
Ceramic	Post-med/modern	1	352
Clay pipe	Post-medieval	14	24
Glass	Modern	11	1904
Glass	Post-med/modern	28	5338
Metal	Modern	1	6
Metal	Post-med/modern	1	8
Pottery	Post-med/modern	79	5647
Pottery	Post-medieval	3	1278
Tile	Post-med/modern	10	1262
Totals:		150	22207

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

4.2.2 Pottery

The assemblage contained 82 pottery items, with a total weight of 6.925kg. Where possible, these were identified by form, although all could be dated to broad production spans, according to the fabric types shown in Tables 2 and 3.

Fabric no.	Fabric name	Total	Weight (g)
100	Miscellaneous	38	1013

	post-medieval wares		
81	Stonewares	17	2092
83	Porcelain	4	68
84	Creamware	2	2
85	China	21	3750
	Totals:	82	6925

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric

The complete absence of any Roman or medieval pottery was notable. With the exception of two very small sherds of creamware (fabric 84), which was manufactured during the late 18th century, all the pottery was either late post-medieval (19th century) or early modern (20th century) in date. Porcelain (fabric 83) was limited to a few small sherds (in contexts 102 and 113). The former context yielded a single sherd from a dish, decorated by hand painting (though this was of poor quality, indicative of a mass-produced ware). The porcelain sherds found in 113 were from a lid with a plain glaze.

The remainder of the pottery sherds were useful, yet unremarkable, in terms of broad dating evidence. A range of china (85), stonewares (81) and miscellaneous glazed earthenwares (100) were typical of those in domestic use during a late 19th century - early 20th century date range. However, there was no sign of the post-medieval red (78) and buff (91) coarse wares that are frequently found in 17th and 18th century contexts.

The stoneware finds included several intact vessels, among them an ink bottle and two jars, all from 102, and 19th -early 20th century in date. The most notable of the stoneware artefacts was a complete hot water bottle from 102. This incorporated a flattened side, for stability, with a threaded filler port on the opposite, top side (this type of bottle was still in production during the 1920s). Also from 102 was a tall salt-glazed, stoneware bottle (minus its single 'ear' handle), of late 19th century manufacture. This was probably used for storing gin, and bore the trademark 'eagle' stamp of its maker, Ober-Selters of Nassau, Germany (Comer 2006).

4.2.3 Other artefacts

Two complete bricks were retrieved, from separate contexts (108 and 121), but proved to be identical in size and fabric. There were solid (i.e. unfrogged) and had a substantial thickness of 3 inches (76mm); this was a good match to the Imperial brick size introduced in 1840, but it was noted that the current metric standard is also close to this size. However, extrusion marks on each of the bricks suggested they dated from the second half of the 20th century, rather the mid 19th century (pers comm Shona Robson-Glyde).

A number of floor tile fragments, coloured and glazed in the style of the Gothic Revival, came from 142. These were probably late 19th century, or 20th century, in date.

Clay pipe stems were found in 106, but without bowls or any stem stamps being present, so these are undiagnostic in terms of date, except for a broad 17th-19th century production span.

A nickel-brass three-pence coin, dated 1955, provided a precise *terminus post quem* date for context 113. The only other metal find, from 124, was a corroded steel fragment, probably from a watering-can, or similar vessel.

The glass finds provided more precise dating evidence. In context 113, small fragments of wire-reinforced safety glass, an early 20th century invention, were found. Context 102 contained a green bottle manufactured by turn-moulding, a technique in use from approximately 1880 to 1915. Contexts 102 and 127 produced small bottles that once contained 'Dr MacKenzie's Catarrh Cure' and 'Field's Ink', respectively, probably both from the early 20th century. Context 102 also contained a number of other identifiable bottles.

These included 'Camp Coffee and Chicory Essence' bottles from Paterson's (produced from 1885 onwards) and some of a similar date range from Symington's. Bottles used for Garton's HP Sauce and Daddie's Sauce had earliest production dates of 1903 and 1904, respectively. Two green bottles, for beverages, bore the name and 'hand' trademark of Crockett's, a brewery that traded in Worcester from 1847 until the 1960s.

5. Synthesis

5.1 Overview of artefactual evidence

The finds salvaged from this site were practically all from the late post-medieval and modern periods, and typical of discarded domestic material, rather than the products of industrial activity. The *terminus post quem* dates deduced for this site's contexts are shown in Table 3. Although several of the late 19th century/early 20th century glass bottles belonged to reasonably narrow date ranges, these came from contexts that also contained pottery with potentially wide production spans, which have limited the *terminus post quem* accuracies.

Context	Material	Fabric no.	Fabric name	Period	Date range	Ceramic *TPQ*
102	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Modern	1903-1950	1903
	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Modern	1904 -1950	
	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	c.1880-1915	
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval /modern	*c*.1850-1950	
	Pottery	83	Porcelain	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1850-1950	
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1850-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1850-1950	
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval /modern	*c*.1850-1950	
104	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Post-medieval modern	*c*.1875-1925	1875
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
106	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1850-1925	1875
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	'Semi-China'	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1875-1950	
108	Brick	-	-	Modern	*c*.1950-2000	*c*.1950
113	Ceramic drain	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1850-1950	1955
	Glass (safety)	-	-	Modern	1909-*c*.1950	
	Metal	-	-	Modern	1955	
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
	Pottery	83	Porcelain	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c*.1800-1950	

Context	Material	Fabric no.	Fabric name	Period	Date range	Ceramic *TPQ*
114	Glass (window)	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1900-1950	1900
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Pottery	84	Creamware	Post-medieval	1760-1790	
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
121	Brick	-	-	Modern	*c.*1950-2000	*c.*1950
124	Metal	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	Undated	1875
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Tile	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1875-1950	
127	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1900-1925	1875
	Pottery	81	Stoneware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1875-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
136	Clay pipe	-	-	Post-medieval modern	1700-1900	1800
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval modern	*c.*1800-1950	
	Pottery	100	Glazed earthenware	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	
142	Glass (vessel)	-	-	Post-medieval/modern	*c.*1850-1925	1875
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/modern	*c.*1875-1950	
	Tile	-	-	Post-medieval/modern	c.1875-1925	
146	Glass (bottle)	-	-	Post-medieval/modern	*c.*1875-1925	1875
	Pottery	85	China	Post-medieval/ modern	*c.*1800-1950	

Table 3 Summary of context dating based on artefacts

5.2 Prehistoric, Roman and medieval

No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts of this broad date range were identified during the watching brief. However, at no point was the full sequence of deposits down to the natural geology observed, so there remains the possibility that archaeological deposits, where present, survive in areas of the site not disturbed by the present development.

5.3 Post-medieval and modern

A sequence of deposits containing variable post-medieval and modern material was identified. These were determined to be of modern, 20th century, origin and contained material relating to the demolition of the buildings that occupied the southern half of the site from at least the later 18th century to the mid 20th century. The deposits are considered to be deliberate make-up and dump deposits intended to raise the ground level to prevent seasonal flooding.

Building 108 and floor 121, toward the north end of the site, were broadly contemporary and date to the second half of the 20th century. Cartographic sources indicate this area of the site remained unoccupied by buildings and appears to have been under grass until 1965 when two boathouses are built. It is possible that 108 relates to one of the boathouses.

The additional wall remnants revealed within the southern half of the site are likely to relate to the commercial (or industrial) and residential structures that occupied the site from the later 18th century. However due to the limited proportions uncovered within the trenches it is not possible to establish their exact relationships.

No significant archaeological features, layers, horizons, structures, or archaeological artefacts were identified during the project. However, the possibility remains that significant archaeological deposits survive in areas of the site not disturbed by the current development, as, for example, in previous fieldwork along this side of the riverbank, *c* 3m depth of make-up deposits have been recorded and a late medieval structure identified.

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 watching brief was undertaken on behalf of the Environment Agency of land between the River Severn and Hylton Road, Worcester (centred on NGR SO 842 550; HER ref WCM 101663). A sequence of deposits containing variable post-medieval and modern material was identified. The findings reflect those of the previous investigations, which were determined to be of modern, 20th century, origin and contained material relating to the demolition of the buildings that occupied the southern half of the site from at least the later 18th century to the mid 20th century. The deposits are considered to be deliberate make-up and dump deposits intended to raise the ground level to prevent seasonal flooding.

A brick and concrete structureand associated brick floor toward the north end of the site were broadly contemporary and date to the second half of the 20th century. They were located in an area of the site that remained unoccupied and under grass until 1965 when two boathouses are depicted on cartographic sources.

Wall remnants within the southern half are likely to relate to the commercial (or industrial) and residential structures that occupied the site from the later 18th century. However due to the limited proportions uncovered within the trenches it is not possible to establish their exact relationships.

Alluvial deposits were only partially observed within the trenches, at 0.80-1.10m below the present ground surface, within the northern half and at 1.55m within the southern half, directly below the modern make up and demolition deposits. No archaeological features or finds were recorded from the alluvium

No significant archaeological features, layers, horizons, structures, or archaeological artefacts were identified during the project. However, the possibility remains that significant archaeological deposits survive in areas of the site not disturbed by the current development, as, for example, in previous fieldwork along this side of the riverbank, c 3m depth of make-up deposits have been recorded and a late medieval structure identified.

7. Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Ed Wilson (Senior Archaeologist, Environment Agency), David

James (Barhale), James Dinn (Archaeological Officer, Worcester City Council) and Sheena Payne (HER Officer, Worcester City Council).

8. Personnel

The report preparation was led by Elizabeth A Curran. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan. Fieldwork was undertaken by Nick Daffern, Adam Lee, Andy Mann and Darren Millar, finds analysis by Dennis Williams, and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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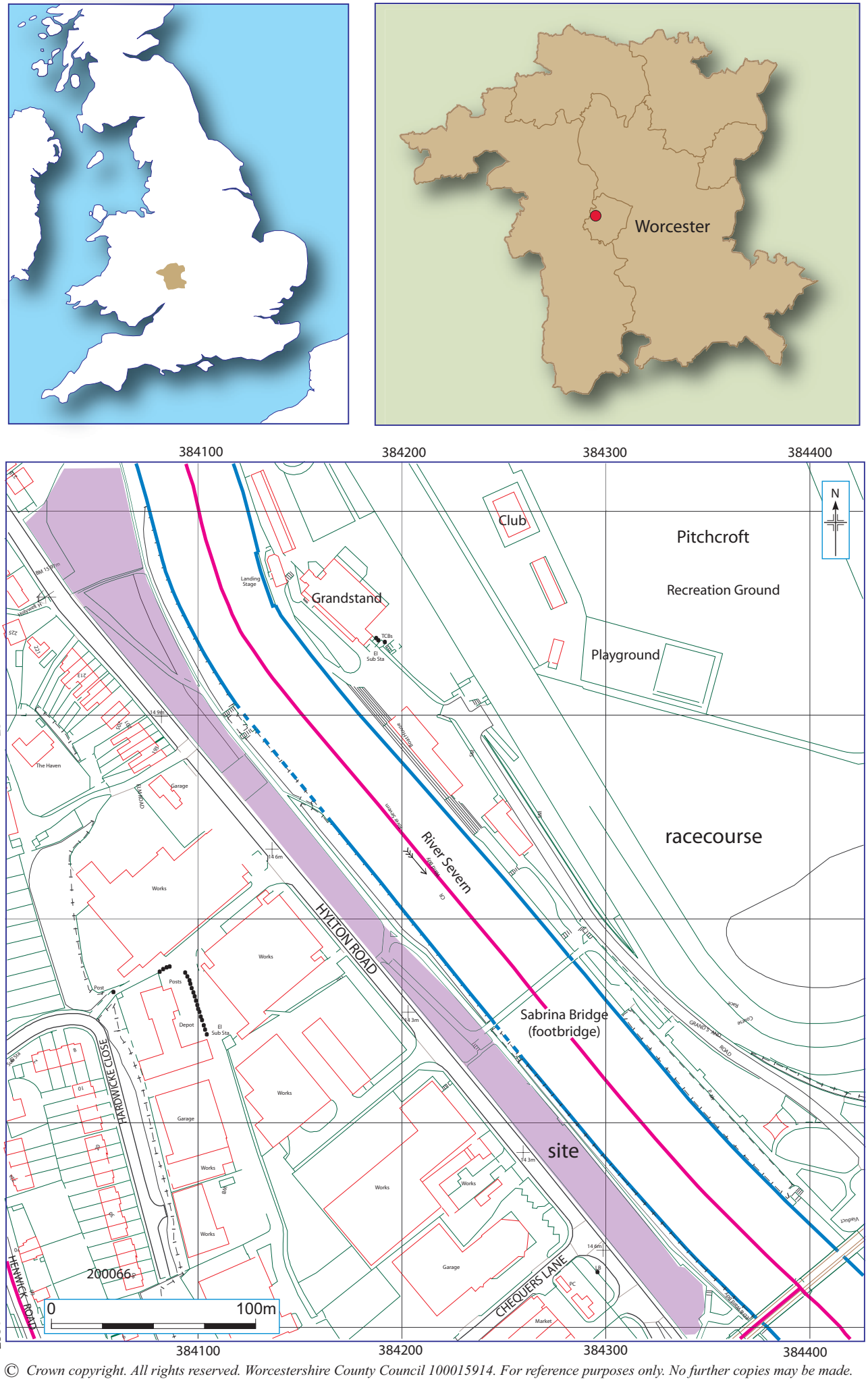
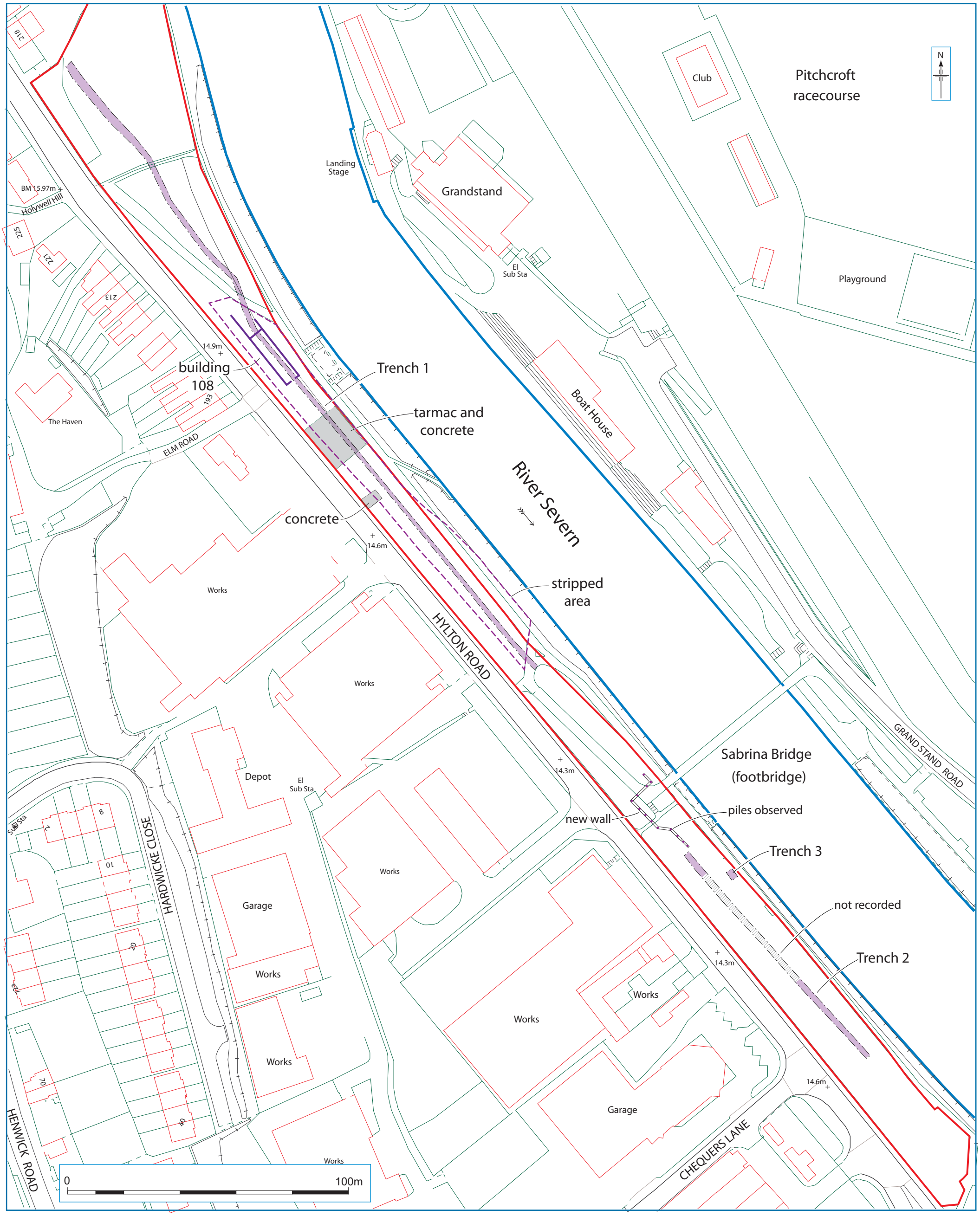
Figures

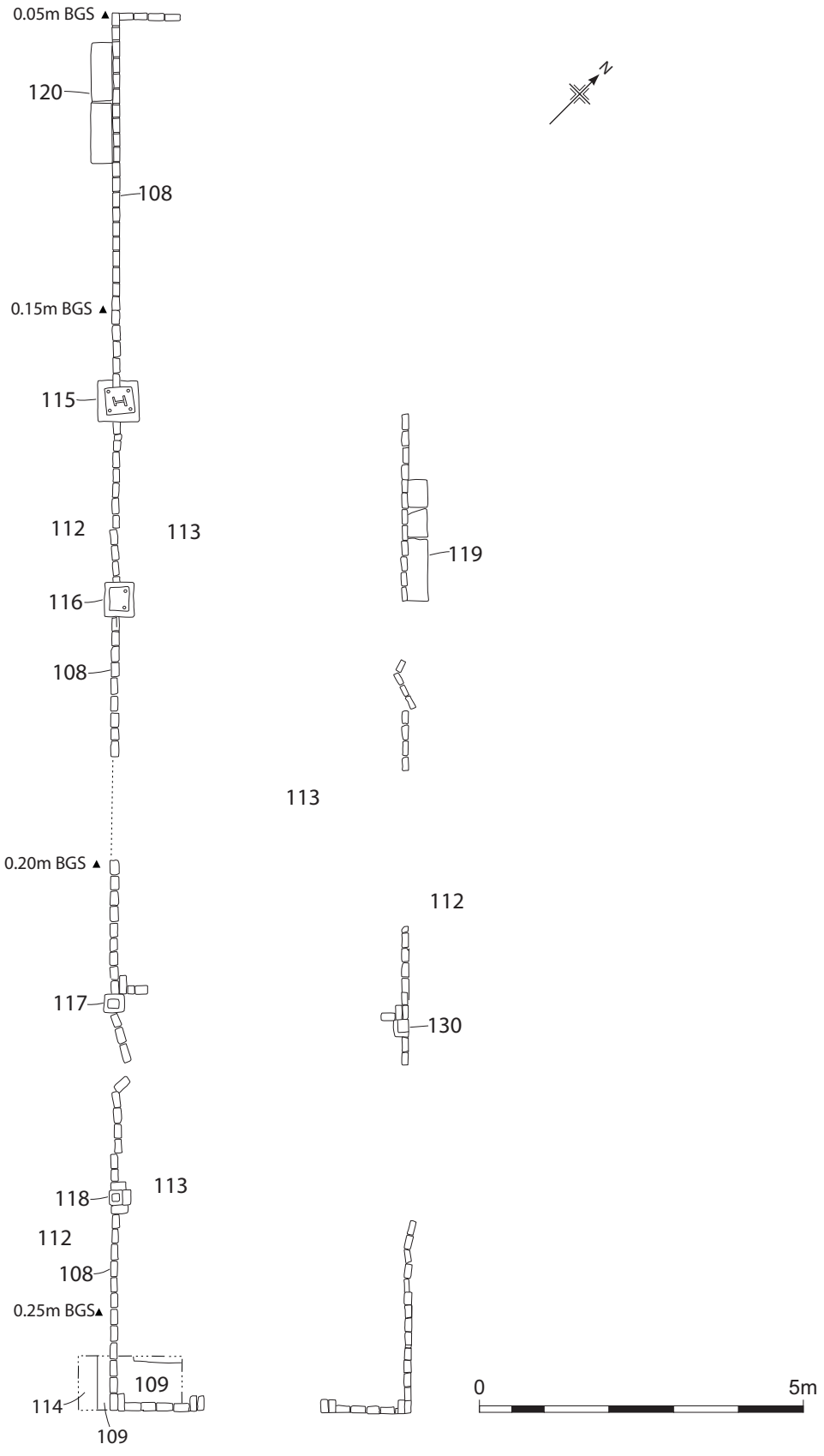


Location of the site *Figure 1*



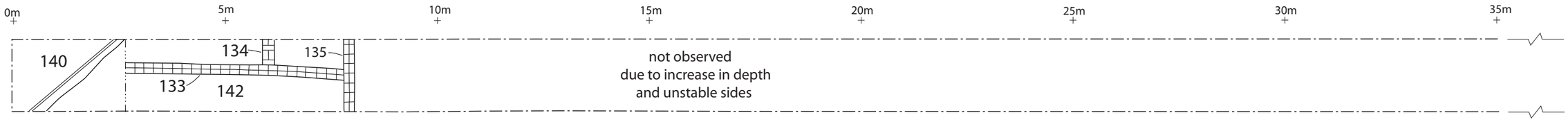
Trench location plan.

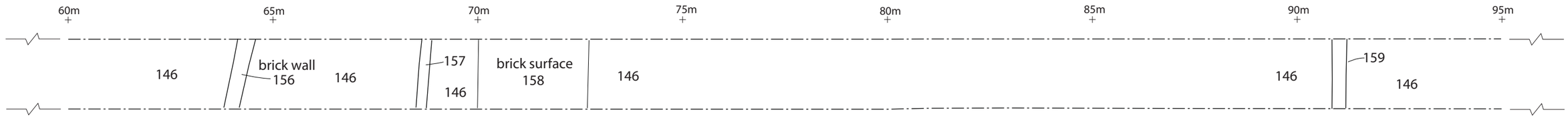
Figure 2



Trench 1: building 108 (see Fig 2 for location) *Figure 3*

TRENCH 2: PLAN





Plan of Trench 2

Figure 4

Plates

Plate 1: Northwest facing section across stripped area within Trench 1

Plate 2: Site strip for Trench 1, general northwest view of wall 108, sealed by 101, dated to the second half of the 20th century

Plate 3: Trench 1, concrete pillar base 115, with imbedded metal plate and bolts, view northeast

Plate 4: Trench 1, southwest face of wall 108

Plate 5: Trench 1, concrete pillar base130 within 108 – view northeast

Plate 6: Trench 1, concrete slabs 119 abutting wall 108, view northeast

Plate 7: General site strip for Trench 1, general northwest view of wall 108 and possible entrance

Plate 8: General site strip for Trench 1, herringbone brick floor surface 121, view northwest

Plate 9: Southwest facing section within Trench 1

Plate 10: Northeast facing section through Trench 1

Plate 11: Middle segment of site strip and Trench 1, view northwest

Plate 12: Middle segment of site strip and Trench 1, view south

Plate 13: Sample northwest facing section of Trench 1

Plate 14: Trench 2, Southeast view of concrete floor 151 with wall 133 in the background

Plate 15: Trench 2, wall 133 and 134, view southeast

Plate 16: Trench 2, southeast view of fireplace 152

Plate 17: Wall 154 within northeast facing section of Trench 2, with 152 to the southeast

Plate 18: Cellar floor 144 in the base of Trench 2, view southeast

Plate 19: Northwest face of cellar wall 147 in Trench 2

Plate 20: Brick surface 158 in Trench 2, view northeast

Plate 21: General shot of Trench 2 in progress, view northwest, brick wall 157 and surface 158 within base of trench

Plate 22: General shot of Trench 2 on completion of the excavation, view northwest

Plate 23: Trench 3, brick wall 4000 and inverted arch 4001 within the southwest facing section

Plate 24: Drilling of the pile foundations for retaining wall, view southeast

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 280m Width: 2m Depth: 1.80m+

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Topsoil	Firm dark brown fine silty clay. With occasional small sub rounded gravel, ash and charcoal, and ceramic building material.	0.00-0.50m
101	Pedestrian pathway	Compact yellow and grey. Containing small and large angular and sub angular stone.	0.00-0.26m
102	Clinker ash dump	Loose and friable black clink. With small to medium angular lumps of ash. Contains occasional fragments of pottery, glass, metal and ceramic building material	0.00-0.40m
103	Possible alluvial deposit	Firm and cohesive light brownish grey orange silty clay. Occasional iron pan. Very sterile.	Unrecorded
104	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles (domestic rubbish).	0.20-0.40
105	Alluvial clay layer	Firm and cohesive light brown orange silty clay. Sterile, Very rare charcoal fragments.	0.40-0.60
106	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles (domestic rubbish).	0.60-0.80
107	Alluvial clay layer	Firm and cohesive light brown orange silty clay. Sterile, Very rare charcoal fragments. As 105, possibly equal to 103.	0.80+
108	Wall	Bricks 210 × 110 × 75mm. Wall 3 courses thick. Bonded with orangey sandy cement. Wall punctuated by 4 column bases 115, 116, 117 and 118. later 20th century date	0.15-0.35m
109	Concrete foundations	Concrete foundations for wall 108.	0.45+
110	Cut	Cut for wall foundations. Straight sided linear orientated north to south. Right-angled corners, sharp top break of slope top, sides vertical and flat. Sharp break of slope base and flat base.	0.25-0.45
111	Backfill	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles (domestic rubbish).	0.25-0.45
112	Levelling layer	Firm and cohesive light brown orange silty clay. Sterile, Very rare charcoal fragments.	0.25-0.35
113	Demolition	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Contains demolition rubble, glass, concrete rubble, asbestos corrugated roof and bricks.	0.25-0.39
114	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles	0.45+

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
115	Pillar base	Concrete square pillar bases within wall 108. With metal plates and bolts attached. 0.60x0.60m	0.15-0.35m
116	Pillar base	Concrete square pillar bases within wall 108. With metal plates and bolts attached. 0.50x0.50m	0.15-0.35m
117	Pillar base	Concrete square pillar bases within wall 108. With metal plates and bolts attached. 0.28x0.28m	0.15-0.35m
118	Pillar base	Concrete square pillar bases within wall 108. With metal plates and bolts attached. 0.21x0.21m	0.15-0.35m
119	Concrete blocks	Concrete blocks on eastern edge of wall to add support to wall. Butts up against wall. 0.35m wide and 1.90m long	0.15-0.35m
120	Concrete blocks	Concrete blocks on western edge of wall to add support to wall. Butts up against wall. 0.35m wide and 1.90m long	0.15-0.35m
121	Floor	Hand made, herringbone floor. Bricks measured 220 × 110 × 75mm, Located at south east of wall 108.	0.20-0.35m
122	Levelling layer	Firm and cohesive light brown orange silty clay. Sterile, Very rare charcoal fragments	0.22-0.64
123	Alluvial deposit	Firm and cohesive light brownish grey orange silty clay. Occasional iron pan. Very sterile. As 103.	0.64-0.90
124	Possible earlier topsoil horizon	Firm and cohesive mid to light orangey grey brown silty clay. Possible buried topsoil buried by 123.	0.90-1.10+
125	Road Surface	Very compact dark grey black tarmac and road stone mix.	0.30-0.50m
126	Possible alluvial deposit	Firm and cohesive light brownish grey orange silty clay. Occasional iron pan. Very sterile. As 103 and 123.	0.50-0.58m
127	Clinker ash dump	Loose and friable black clink. With small to medium angular lumps of ash. Contains occasional fragments of pottery, glass, metal and ceramic building material	0.58-0.90m
128	Previous topsoil horizon?	Firm and cohesive mid to light orangey grey brown silty clay. Possible buried topsoil.	0.90-1.10m
129	Clinker ash dump	Loose and friable black clink. With small to medium angular lumps of ash. Contains occasional fragments of pottery, glass, metal and ceramic building material	1.10-1.20m
131	Previous topsoil horizon?	Firm and cohesive mid to light orangey grey brown silty clay. Possible buried topsoil. Same as 124.	1.20m+
132	Redeposit marl	Firm soft light reddish brown clay silt marl. Few small gravels and lenses of charcoal.	0.40-0.60m
3000	Modern topsoil	Friable mid dark brown coarse silty sand. Frequent rounded angular pebbles and brick fragments. As 100?	0.00-0.36m
3001	Demolition layer	Friable mid brown orange coarse silty sand. Frequent rounded and angular pebbles and brick fragments.	0.36-0.69
3002	Demolition layer	Firm dark black sand and clay, with occasional clinker and ash. Frequent charcoal and wood lumps and occasional ceramic building material.	0.69-1.01m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3003	Made ground deposit.	Firm mid-light orange reworked alluvial clay with occasional patches of coarse sand. Occasional ceramic building material.	1.01m+

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 95m Width: 2m Depth: 1.80m+

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
133	Wall	Bricks 220 × 110 × 75mm 2 courses wide, bonded with yellowish orange pale sandy cement. Beneath 142	0.40-1.80m+
134	Wall	Bricks 220 × 110 × 75mm 2 courses wide, bonded with yellowish orange pale sandy cement. Beneath 142	0.40-1.80m+
135	Wall	Bricks 220 × 110 × 75mm 2 courses wide, bonded with yellowish orange pale sandy cement. Bonded with 133. Beneath 142	0.40-1.80m+
136	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive mid to dark brown silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles. As 137 and 138 and 142	Varied depth
137	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive mid to dark brown silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles. As 136 and 138 and 142	Varied depth
138	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive mid to dark brown silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles. As 136 and 137 and 142	Varied depth
139	Cut	Cut for wall foundations of wall 133, 134, 135. Straight sided linear orientated. Right-angled corners, sharp top break of slope top, sides vertical and flat. Sharp break of slope base and flat base.	0.40-1.80m+
140	Floor	Concrete floor at base of trench, not possible to assess further. Beneath 101. Above 104.	0.26-0.36m
141	n/a	Unused	n/a
142	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles (domestic rubbish). Below topsoil.	Varied depth
143	Backfill	Fill of 144 and 147. Loose friable light greyish white coarse sand. With occasional patches of fine silty sand. Fragments of brickwork, frequent angular pebbles and degraded fractures limestone blocks. Overlay 144.	Varied depth
144	Floor	Bricks 0.22x0.11x0.075m. Brick floor single course. Not bonded, with loose sand filling in joints. 1.80m wide and 2.65m long. 0.08m deep. Beneath 142 Overlay 145.	0.60-0.80m
145	Levelling layer	Firm and cohesive light brown orange silty clay. Rare charcoal fragments. Above 146.	0.40-0.60m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
146	Clinker ash dump	Moderately compact and cohesive dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Occasional rounded stones and frequent fragments of pot, glass, bottles (domestic rubbish).	0.60-0.80m
147	Wall	Bricks 220 × 110 × 75mm Wall with double thickness of brick. Bonded with pale yellowish orange sandy cement. Beneath 143.	1.40m+
148	Cut	Cut for 147. Cuts 145.Limited recording due to depth of trench.	1.40m+
149	Wall	E-W wall. Limited recording due to depth of trench	1.40m+
150	Cut	Foundation cut for wall 150. Limited recording due to depth of trench	1.40m+
151	Floor	Floor surface beneath 142 at southern edge of trench south of Sabrina bridge. Limited recording due to depth of trench	1.40m+
152	Brickwork	Chimney brickwork with associated fireplace. Beneath 142.	1.40m+
153	Cut	Foundation cut for 152. Limited recording due to depth of trench.	1.40m+
154	Wall	N-S wall. Limited recording due to depth of trench	1.40m+
155	Cut	Foundation cut for 155. Limited recording due to depth of trench	1.40m+
156	Wall	Limited recording due to depth of unstable trench. Wall running NE-SW. Unfrogged bricks bonded with lime mortar. Beneath 142.	1.20m+
157	Wall	Limited recording due to depth of unstable trench. Wall running NE-SW. Unfrogged bricks bonded with lime mortar. Beneath 142.	1.20m+
158	Surface	Brick surface may relate to wall 157. Running NW-SE. Above 146. Frogged bricks. No mortar bonding. Beneath 142.	1.20m+
159	Wall	Limited recording due to depth of unstable trench. Wall running NE-SW. Bonded with lime mortar. Beneath 142	1.20m+

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 2m Width: 2m Depth: 2m+

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4000	Wall	Wall beneath flood alleviation bund. Limited recording due to depth of trench. Relationship with 4001 unclear, view obscured by shoring. Red bricks bonded with pale yellowish orange sandy cement. Exact depth below ground surface unknown as machined off for access prior to excavation.	0.05-0.85m
4001	Wall	Limited recording due to depth of trench. 210 × 110 × 75mm. Wall 3 courses thick, with inverted arch. Bonded with orangey sandy cement. Wall punctuated by column for possible drainage. Depth of wall between 0.25-0.65m	0.85-1.50m
4002	Made ground.	Limited recording due to depth of trench. Dark brown black silty clay with patches of light brownish orange clay, mixed with clinker ash. Contains demolition rubble, glass and brick fragments. Below 4001.	1.10-1.45m
4003	Possible alluvial deposit?	Firm and cohesive light brownish grey orange silty clay. Limited recording due to depth of trench and shuttering within trench. Sealed by 4002.	1.45m+

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

57	Context records AS1
10	Fieldwork progress records AS2
2	Photographic records AS3
103	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
1	Context number catalogues AS5
2	Trench record sheets AS41
10	Scale drawings
2	Box of finds
1	Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery
Foregate Street
Worcester
WR1 2PW

Tel (01905) 25371