

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF
AT
TUTBURY MEDICAL CENTRE,
MONK STREET, TUTBURY,
STAFFORDSHIRE

Graham Arnold

Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt

1st April 2011
Revision 2

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Project P3651
Report 1833

Archaeological watching brief at Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire

Graham Arnold

Background information

<i>Client</i>	South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust
<i>Site address</i>	Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire
<i>National Grid reference</i>	centred at SK 421130, 328995; Fig 1
<i>Planning authority</i>	Staffordshire County Council
<i>reference</i>	P/2010/01435
<i>Brief</i>	Patrick 2011
<i>Project design</i>	Patrick 2011
<i>Project parameters</i>	IfA 2008

Previous archaeological work on the site and topography

The development site lies to the rear of the Tutbury Medical Centre which is situated close to the northern edge of Tutbury between Church Street to the north-west and Monk Street to the south-east. The site lies within the historic core of the town, some 100m west of the High Street and prior to works it was considered that there was a potential here for the survival of archaeological remains of the medieval and later periods.

Within the site the ground rises generally to the north-west although a level parking area for the Medical Centre has been cut into the slope and artificial banks created above and below. Further landscaping has been carried out to create sloping footpaths and steps which provide access to the rear of the building.

No previous archaeological work has been undertaken on the site.

Previous archaeological work on associated sites

Tutbury is a borough recorded in Domesday Survey of 1086 (HER 02356), which may originally have been founded as an Anglo-Saxon burh. A market was granted to Tutbury by Henry de Ferrers in 1086. A large number of medieval and post medieval listed buildings still stand within the town.

St Mary's Church (HER 08616) to the north of the development site succeeded an earlier church which formed part of the Benedictine priory, founded by Henry de Ferrers in circa 1080. The current building retains 13th century fabric and was restored in the 19th century.

The well preserved remains of Tutbury Castle (Scheduled Monument ST022 HER 40) survive 150m to the west of the site. This is a Norman motte and bailey with a partially surviving curtain wall built on a substantial earthwork which may be an earlier hillfort. The original castle dates from the 11th century, but it has been demolished and rebuilt several times and much of the extant fabric is of 14th-15th century date. A 19th century folly is built on the motte. Excavations within the castle have recovered dated material from the Mesolithic, Roman, Saxon, Norman and Post-medieval periods.

Other archaeological features recorded in the vicinity include a substantial ditch containing 13th-14th Century pottery and waterlogged deposits and a number of related pits discovered on Monk Street during a watching brief by Birmingham Archaeology in 2005 (HER 51507). Another boundary ditch that was orientated east-west was discovered during a watching brief at the Church Hall in Tutbury in 2006 (HER 51517). Finds including pottery, metalwork and animal bone from the ditch suggested a medieval date.

Three inhumation burials found outside the churchyard of St. Mary's Church during a watching brief in 2006 (HER 51519) were dated to before the first recorded use of the cemetery in 1718. Further burials of a post-medieval date, together with an earlier medieval limestone wall were revealed during an evaluation in 2000 by Northamptonshire Archaeology to the North of St. Mary's Church, to the north-east of the current development site (HER 05522).

Aims

The aim of the watching brief was to observe and record archaeological deposits, and to determine their extent, state of preservation, date and type, as far as reasonably possible.

Methods

General specification for fieldwork	CAS 1995, IfA 2008, <i>Patrick</i> 2011	
Sources consulted	Staffordshire HER	
Dates of fieldwork	02/03/2011 - 09/03/2011	
Area of site	c 280m ²	
Dimensions of excavated areas observed	Foundations	
	Trench 1	length 18.00m
		width 4.00m
		depth 2.00m
	Trench 2	length 15.00m
		width 7.00m
		depth 2.65m
	Trench 3	length 5.60m
		width 3.00m
		depth 1.20m

Access to or visibility of structure/deposits

Observation of the excavated areas was undertaken during machine excavation. Due to site circumstances both a toothed bucket and smooth-bladed ditching bucket were used during the excavation. The toothed bucket was used to remove modern deposits such as the brick rubble from Trench 1 and the modern car park overburden. It was also used in Trench 2 to remove natural strata once it had been established that no archaeological deposits were present. All other deposits were removed using the ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces were sufficiently clean to observe well-differentiated archaeological deposits. Selected sections were cleaned by hand. Access to deep trenches was not made for safety reasons. No significant archaeological deposits or structures were observed on site.

Statement of confidence

Access to, and visibility of, deposits allowed a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

Deposit description

Trench 1 – Carpark extension

Context	Type Colour Texture	Description	Date	Interpretation	Depth (OD or below ground level)
101	Dark blackish brown humic sandy silt	Topsoil and turf with occasional small rounded pebbles	Modern	Topsoil	0-0.30m
102	Dark blackish brown silt and 20 th Century demolition material	Modern bricks, ash, coke, plastics, chicken wire and occasional asbestos and mixed porcelain – not retained due to contamination	Modern	Demolition backfill Made Ground	0.30m – 1.70m
103	Wall	Modern machine made 20 th C brick wall with drain and cast iron metalwork incorporated into structure.	20 th Century Modern	20 th Century wall of outbuilding	0.30- 1.60m
104	Dark brown sandy clay and gravels	Redeposited natural	Made ground	Made ground	1.70– 2.00m +

Trench 2 – Building extension footprint

Context	Type Colour Texture	Description	Date	Interpretation	Depth (OD or below ground level)
201	Moderately compact dark blackish brown humic sandy silt	Topsoil and turf with occasional small rounded pebbles	Modern	Topsoil	0-0.20m
202	Tarmac	Modern tarmac carpark surface and curbing	Modern	Tarmac	0-0.10m
203	Hardcore	White cream type 1 and red brick hardcore with red sands	Modern	Hardcore beneath tarmac	0.10- 0.40m
204	Loose dark blackish grey silty clay	Redeposited made ground with bricks, metalwork and 20 th Century modern debris	Made ground	Made ground	0.45 – 0.85m
205	Moderately compact dark brown sandy clay	Redeposited made ground containing later 19 th Century general domestic discard porcelain glass and tile	Modern	Made ground	0.85m – 1.60m
206	Compact mid brownish orange sands	Bioturbated natural with some visible leaching and occasionally truncated by the modern ground above	Natural	Natural	1.60 – 2.15m

207	Compact reddish orange sands, gravels and clay	Frequent large rounded gravels, occasional boulders and patches of grey clays	Natural	Natural	2.15 – 2.55m
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Trench 3 – Steps down to present building East of Trench 2

Context	Type Colour Texture	Description	Date	Interpretation	Depth (below ground level)
301	Dark blackish brown humic sandy silt	Topsoil and turf with occasional small rounded pebbles	Modern	Topsoil	0-0.30m
302	Dark blackish brown silt and 20 th Century demolition material	Modern bricks, ash, coke, modern porcelain with a modern land drain at the base	Modern	Demolition backfill Made Ground	0.30m – 0.70m
303	Compact mid brownish orange sands	Bioturbated natural with some visible leaching, occasionally truncated by modern made ground	Natural	Natural	0.70 – 1.20m
304	Compact reddish orange sands, gravels and clay	Frequent large rounded gravels, occasional boulders and patches of grey clays	Natural	Natural	1.20m +

Discussion

Three foundation trenches were excavated across the site. Trenches two and three were immediately to the rear of the Medical Centre and excavated through the substantial bank which lay between the Medical Centre and the car park. Trench 1 was situated above the car park to the north-west. Stratigraphy was similar in all three observed trenches. The natural strata on site were overlain by a considerable depth of recent made ground consisting of demolition material and topsoil. Within Trench 1 a 20th Century brick wall was recorded (Plates 3, 4) which had been partially demolished during the construction of the present bank. Within Trench 2 finds recovered from the lowest made ground, context (205) were dated to the later 19th Century and were a general domestic household discard material (Angus Crawford pers. comm.). A modern fence posthole was observed in the northeast facing section of Trench 2 (Plate 12) and a modern ceramic land drain (Plate 15) was recorded at the base of the made ground material within Trench 3. No features were recorded cutting into the top of natural deposits. The extent of the landscaping on the site shows that no archaeology was present or is likely to remain preserved *in situ* within the footprint of the development.

Conclusions

From observations during groundworks it is concluded that the slope to the rear of the Medical Centre was extensively landscaped during the original construction phase to create the level footprint of the building and car park to the rear. This comprised both truncation of natural deposits and the addition of a considerable amount of demolition material to create the artificial bank to the south-west (Plates 1, 2, 7, 8). Furthermore recent landscaping has been carried out to install modern adequate sloping footpaths, steps and supporting walls. It is considered probable that archaeological

deposits within the site were substantially disturbed during this process, although it is likely that the potential for the survival of archaeological remains in the vicinity remains high.

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 CgMs Consulting acting on behalf of South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust at Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire (NGR ref SK 421130, 328995). No significant archaeology was recorded as the ground had already been extensively landscaped to create level ground and artificial banks during the original construction of the medical centre. Within all foundation trenches observed modern made ground was recorded lying directly over natural ground.

Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Pete Leek Site Manager, JD Tomlinson Ltd, Cathy Patrick CgMs Consulting and Stephen Dean Planning Archaeologist of Staffordshire County Council.

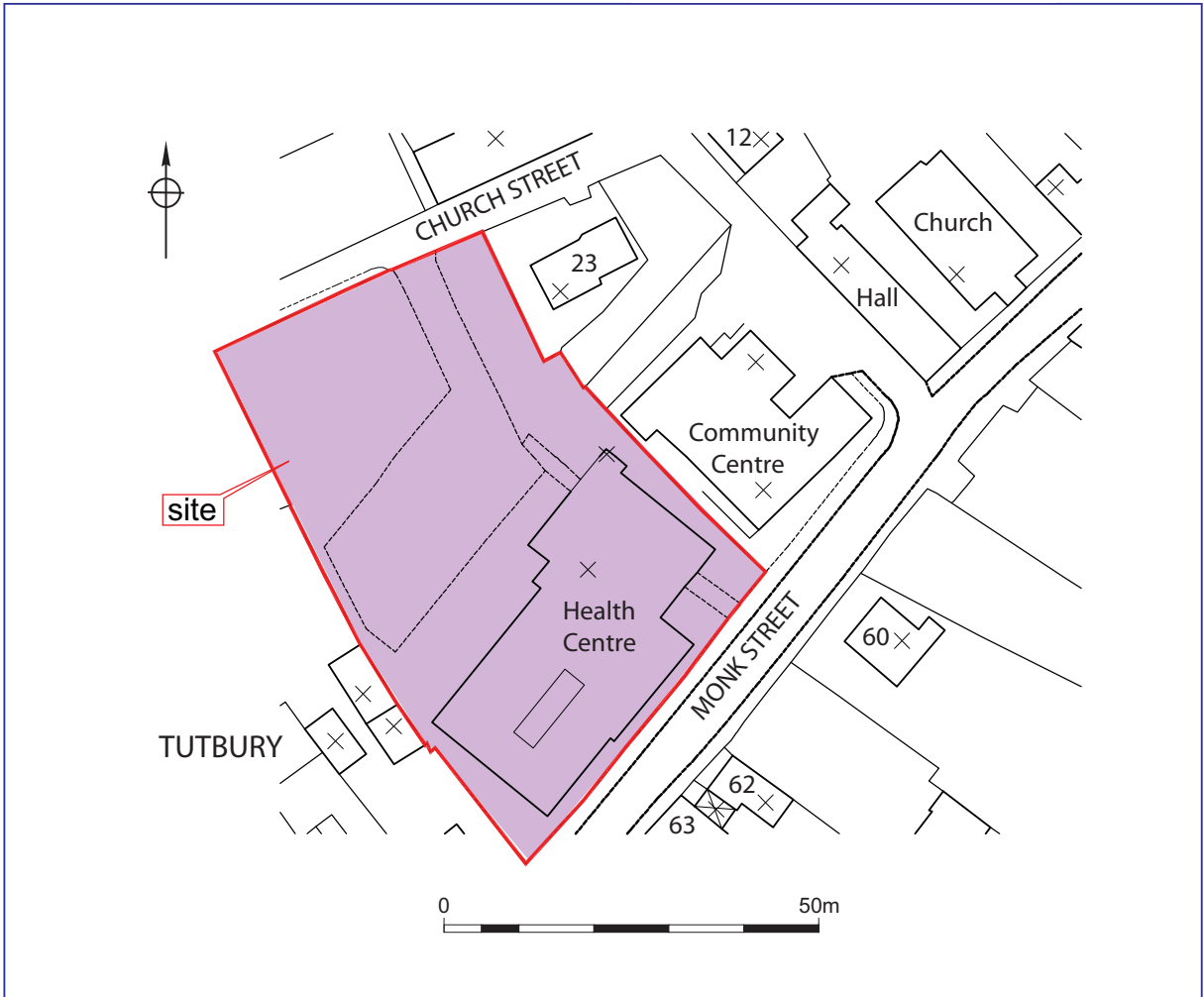
Bibliography

CAS 1995 (as amended) *Manual of Service practice: fieldwork recording manual*, County Archaeological Service, Hereford and Worcester County Council, report, **399**

Patrick, C., 2011 *Specification for archaeological observation and recording of below ground works: Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury*, CgMs Consulting unpublished document dated February 2011

IfA, 2008 *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Institute for Archaeologists

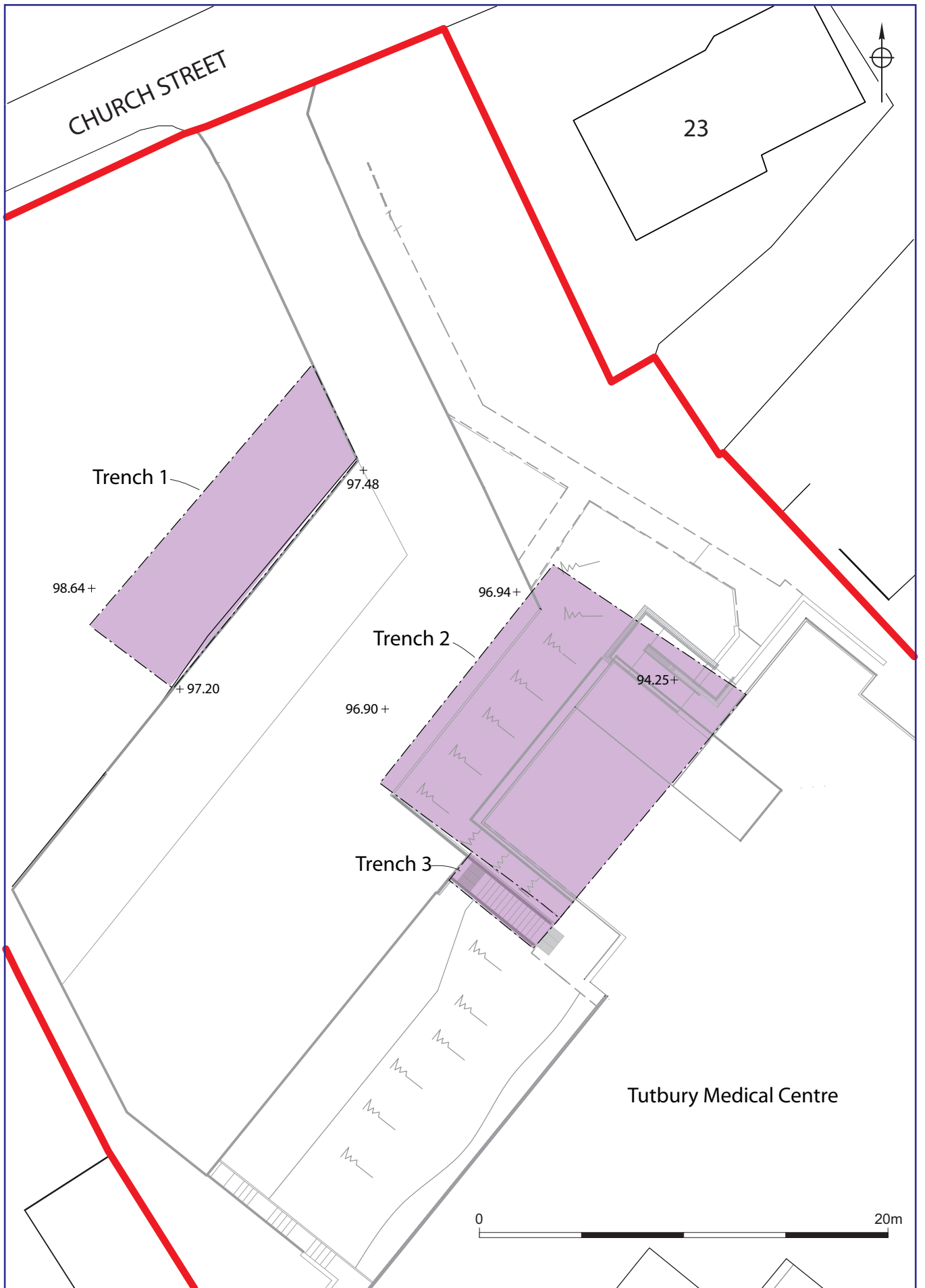
Figures



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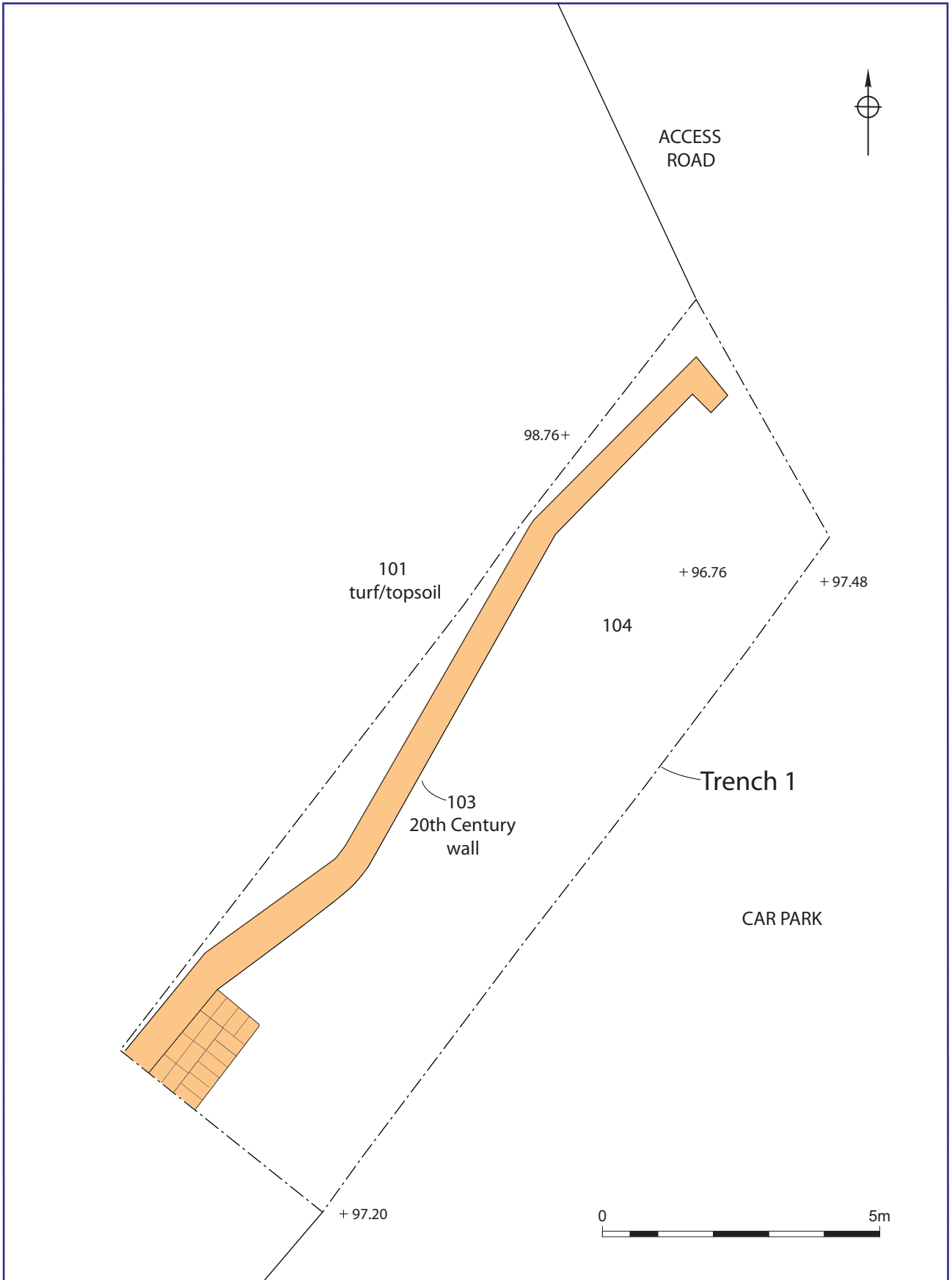
Location of the site

Figure 1



Location of the site (based upon West Hart Partnership drg no 696-101)

Figure 2



Plan of trench 1

Figure 3

Plates



Plate 1 Location of Trench 1 looking north



Plate 2 Location of Trench 1 looking east



Plate 3 Trench 1 during excavation showing the partially demolished 20th Century wall (103) looking northwest towards St Mary's church



Plate 4 Wall 103 in Trench 1 south-facing section



Plate 5 Base of Trench 1 made ground with brick fragments. Limit of excavation



Plate 6 Trench 1 completed with hardcore surface and retaining wall being constructed looking north



Plate 7 General view of Trench 2 during excavation looking southwest



Plate 8 General view of Trench 2 during excavation looking northeast demonstrating artificial bank



Plate 9 South-facing section of Trench 2 showing modern stratigraphy



Plate 10 General view of Trench 2 during excavation looking southwest



Plate 11 General view of Trench 2 during excavation looking southwest



Plate 12 General view of Trench 2 during excavation looking southwest



Plate 13 Plan of Trench 2 after excavation showing modern fencepost in section looking southwest



Plate 14 Trench 3 area for steps during excavation looking southwest



Plate 15 Modern ceramic land drain at the base of 302 in trench 3 during excavation looking north



Plate 16 Trench 3 area for steps after excavation showing made ground (302) and natural (303 + 304) looking southeast

Appendix 1 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

4	Context records AS1
4	Field progress reports AS2
2	Photographic records AS3
88	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
3	Scale drawings
1	Context number catalogues AS5
3	Trench record sheets AS41
1	Computer disk
1	Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
Bethesda Street
Hanley
Stoke on Trent
ST1 3DW
Tel: Stoke on Trent (01782) 232323

Staffordshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record

1. Activity and Source Submission Form.

Submission date March 2011

1.1 Site Activity or Event

Name of **event** (eg. Watching Brief at The Blue Boar, Ipstones.)

Watching Brief at Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire

Location of **event** (eg. The Blue Boar P.H. Overton Lane, Ipstones.)

Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury

NGR Centred at SK 421130, 328995

Civil Parish

Tutbury

Brief Description of **event** (eg. Watching brief during cellar alterations and renovation, prior to conversion to residential use.)

Watching Brief during groundworks for northern extension to the existing Medical Centre, with associated carparking, landscaping and services.

“Activity Type(s)” (highlight as appropriate) *Air Photography / Evaluation-trial excavation / Field Walking / Measured survey-drawing / Geophysical survey / Archaeological excavation-full / Archaeological excavation-part / Field survey / Photogrammetric survey / Rectified photo survey / Photographic record / AP interpretation / Salvage-rescue excavation / **Watching brief***

Commencement date (eg. 01-May-1978)

02-Mar-2011

Completion date (eg. 02-Sept-1983)

09-Mar-2011

Organisation or contractor details (organisation name, address, telephone, e-mail etc.)

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1.2 Report Details

Date

/03/2011

Type of document (highlight as appropriate) *Written / **Photographic** / Cartographic / Drawn*

Title

Archaeological Watching Brief at Tutbury Medical Centre, Monk Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire

Author(s)

Graham Arnold

Brief summary of contents

Report on a negative watching brief. Made ground and partially demolished modern brick wall from previous modern landscaping observed.

Brief description of document (eg. Written text with illustrations, bibliography and references. environmental sampling. 32 pages. *etc.*)

Written text with illustrations, plates, bibliography and references.

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Cross references to Staffordshire SMR (if applicable please list Primary record numbers)
