

Riley's Snooker Hall Pound Avenue Stevenage



Archaeological Evaluation Report



September 2014

Client: Churchill Retirement Limited

OA East Report No: 1660

OASIS No: oxfordar3-187479

NGR: TL 2355 2486

Riley's Snooker Hall Pound Avenue Stevenage

Archaeological Evaluation


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Summary

Between 20th and 22nd of August 2014 Oxford Archaeology conducted an archaeological evaluation at Riley's Snooker Hall, Pound Avenue, Stevenage, Hertfordshire (TL 2355 2486) in advance of the demolition of existing buildings and construction of apartments for sheltered accommodation.

Five trenches, totalling 82m, were excavated. The stratigraphically earliest feature was an undated boundary ditch located beneath a series of channels and associated flood deposits of post medieval to modern date. A narrow ditch and pit, located towards the east corner of the site, were also post medieval in date.

Trenching along the south-west edge and north-west frontage of the site exposed a sequence of layers. These included the former topsoil and subsoils, the latter of which contained Roman and medieval pottery, suggestive of low level agricultural activity in the vicinity.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Riley's Snooker Hall, Pound Avenue, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation issued by Sally Dicks of CgMs consulting (HCC Planning Application 14/00064/FPM Condition 20).
- 1.1.2 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by HCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, (Stevenage Borough Council), with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.3 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The underlying geology of the site is undifferentiated glaciofluvial deposits comprised of chalky sand and gravel (BGS 1995: Sheet 221 Hitchin). These deposits overlie the solid geology of Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk formation.
- 1.2.2 The site lies within the town of Stevenage, on the eastern edge of the Old Town. The site is generally flat, at 90m above Ordnance Datum. Historically, a small stream crossed the eastern half of the site and a pond appears to have bordered the northern part of the site (Dicks 2014).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following background is drawn from the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Sally Dicks of CgMs (Dicks 2014).

Iron Age and Roman

- 1.3.2 Although the locality appears to have been fairly densely settled in the Roman period, the current evidence suggests that any settlement was situated to the south of the site in the area around The Six Hills Roman Barrows and North Hertfordshire College. Closer to the site, a number of Roman pits were recorded at Howarde Court, c.160m to the west, which does suggest settlement along this section of the Roman road.

Saxon and medieval

- 1.3.3 There is no evidence from later cartographic or documentary sources to suggest occupation of the site during the medieval period. The available documentary evidence, which dates to the 16th and 17th century, indicates that the site lay within pasture. Indeed, the presence of a stream within the site and a pond to the north would provide an attractive environment for livestock grazing rather than settlement.

Post-medieval and modern

- 1.3.4 Cartographic sources demonstrate that from the early 18th century until the mid 19th century the site occupied an area of pasture associated with the adjacent *Old Workhouse*. Prior to this, it is likely that the land was used for holding/grazing livestock.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Richard Johnson and Aaron Ford of the clients, Churchill Retirement Limited and CgMs who commissioned the work, specifically Sally Dicks of CgMs who prepared the DBA and WSI. Kelter Plant Limited supplied the machine. Andy Instone DC for Hertfordshire, monitored the project. The project manager was Aileen Connor who also prepared the Project Design, site work was directed by Michael Webster with assistance from Emily Abrehart. Site survey was carried out by James Fairbairn. The finds were assessed by Rob Atkins, Carole Fletcher and Anthony Haskins. The Illustrations were produced by Gillian Greer.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
- 2.1.2 The trenching was designed as a percentage coverage of the proposed development site.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The Brief required that five Evaluation trenches were excavated within the development site.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by James Fairbairn using Leica GS08 Scanner, Michael Webster located Trench 1 by triangulation from the existing building.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 Because of the presence of live services across the development site the length and position of the trenches were altered from those shown on the original trench layout plan.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below by trench. The trenches measured 1.80-2m wide and 5 to 27.5m long (Fig. 1). A full list of trench dimensions, orientations, descriptions and related context data can be found in Appendix A.

3.2 Trench 1

3.2.1 The trench (figure 2) was located along the south-west boundary of the site, parallel with the south-west side of the Snooker Hall. Gravel natural (5) was exposed at a depth of 0.65 to 0.70m (Plate 1). This was sealed by a subsoil (4), which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and two lithics. Overlying this deposit was a buried topsoil (3), which had been truncated during the laying down of a stone surface (2), which was in turn sealed by the modern vegetation layer (1). Two modern service trenches, which cut surface layer (2), were recorded in the section edge of the trench.

3.2.2 Two features were recorded in the base of the trench. A pit (7) located at the south-east end of the trench contained a single fill (6). Pit 9 was located towards the middle of the trench and contained fill 8. Both features were modern in date and had cut through the buried topsoil (3).

3.3 Trench 2

3.3.1 Trench 2 (figure 2) was located in the car park, c.8m north-east of the snooker hall. Natural mixed clay and gravel (14) were exposed at a depth of 1.05m (plate 2). The natural was sealed by a lower subsoil (13), an upper subsoil (12), a silt deposit (11) and the modern hard core and tarmac material (10), which sealed the whole of the car park area.

3.3.2 There were no archaeological features present in the trench, the silt layer (11) contained coal and modern Ceramic Building Material (CBM), while the upper subsoil (12) contained medieval pottery and CBM.

3.4 Trench 3

3.4.1 Trench 3 (figure 3) was located c.20m south-east of Trench 2. Natural mixed clay and gravel (42) were exposed at a depth of 0.75 to 1m (Plate 3). The natural was sealed by subsoil deposits (44 & 49). This was in turn sealed by a silt (40) and finally by the modern car park make up (10).

3.4.2 A series of features were exposed within the trench. Ditch 51 (figure 3, plate 6) was filled by (50) and represented a former ditch truncated by a possible channel (54), which was filled by (41 & 43). A channel (46), located in the south-eastern half of the trench, was filled by (45), which contained modern glass. It was cut by pipe trench (53) which was filled by (52). The latter two features were sealed by the silt layer (40).

3.4.3 A modern channel (48), filled by (47), was cut into silt layer (40). This can be equated to channels (20 & 34) located in Trenches 5 and 4 respectively.

3.5 Trench 4

3.5.1 Trench 4 was located in the car park (figure 4), c.2m north-east of Trench 3. Natural clays and gravels were exposed at a depth of 0.70-0.85m (plate 4). The natural was sealed by silty clay layers (28 & 29), subsoil deposits and the possible fill of a channel (31). All were sealed by a silt deposit (26) similar to 11, 40 & 16 recorded in Trenches

2,3 and 5 respectively. The north-west end of the trench was ramped as to allow access.

- 3.5.2 A series of features were recorded cutting into the subsoil layers. A channel (**32**), filled by deposits 30, which contained slag/CBM, and (**35**), which contained CBM. A ditch (**37**) was also recorded (figure 4, plate 7) that was filled by two deposits (35 & 36).
- 3.5.3 The former was sealed by silt layer (26), the latter by (27), which represented the infill of hollow depression which formed over the ditch (**37**).
- 3.5.4 A channel (**34**), filled by (33), was cut into silt layer 26 and truncated by the car park (10). This feature contained modern glass and CBM and was a continuation of channel (**20 & 48**), recorded in Trenches 5 and 3 respectively. A pit (**39**) located at the south-east end of the trench (plate 8), was filled with brick (38). This feature cut silt layer (26) and was modern in date.

3.6 Trench 5

- 3.6.1 Trench 5 was located c.5m north-east of Trench 2 (Fig. 5). Natural gravels and clays (25) were exposed at a depth of 0.95-1m (Plate 5). The natural was sealed by a possible subsoil (18). This was overlain by layers 17 and 16 which equate with layers 13, 12 and 11, recorded in Trench 2. Layer 17 contained a sherd of medieval pottery.
- 3.6.2 The south end of the trench contained a different sequence of deposits. The natural grey clay silt was sealed by a possible subsoil (21) and a silt layer (16). This end of the trench was sealed by the car park surface (10) and stepped for access.
- 3.6.3 A series of intercutting channels were recorded towards the middle of the trench. Channel **24** was filled by deposits 22 and 23, the former contained post medieval pot and bone. This feature was cut by modern channel **20**, which was filled by a single deposit (19) that contained pottery and CBM. This latter channel was cut into a silt layer (16) which was a continuation of **34** and **48**, recorded in Trenches 4 and 3 respectively.

3.7 Finds Summary

- 3.7.1 The subsoil layer in Trench 1 contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and two lithics (Appendix B), the subsoil layers in Trench 2 and at the north end of Trench 5 contained medieval pottery. The earliest deposits within the channel sequence contained post medieval pottery; the later channel contained modern dating material.
- 3.7.2 Of the two linear features excavated only ditch **37** in Trench 4 contained finds and CBM, dating to the post medieval period.

3.8 Environmental Summary

- 3.8.1 No features were uncovered that warranted environmental sampling. All channel and flood deposits were of post medieval or later date.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Discussion

- 4.1.1 The evaluation uncovered a low density of archaeological features and material. The only features uncovered were two ditches and one of these was the stratigraphically earliest feature on site, representing the truncated remains of a boundary ditch. The recovery of prehistoric, Roman and medieval material from subsoil deposits along the south-west and north-west sides of the site suggests partial survival of the agricultural soils, but the finds could be residual.
- 4.1.2 Flood deposits and subsequent drainage channels dating from the post medieval through to the modern period, were present across the majority of the north-east of the site.

Conclusions

- 4.1.3 The location of the site, next to the medieval core of the town of Stevenage, and close to the route of a Roman Road suggests that the site was once pasture or partially cultivated fields. A late medieval listed building (2 Letchmore Road), immediately to the west of the site was a Butchers during the 16th century and, in the mid 18th century, a Slaughter House. The area of evaluation was pasture land used for holding livestock (Dicks 2014, 12).
- 4.1.4 Later maps show the immediate area containing ponds and a stream course or channel running across the area of the car park. The back filling of the later channel, which contained modern material, possibly took place in the 1930s when the cinema and associated car park were constructed.
- 4.1.5 Very little archaeological activity was recorded. The lithics, Roman and medieval pottery were residual and indicative of agricultural activity in the vicinity. The earliest feature on site, an undated ditch, may represent a field boundary pre-dating the channel. The flood deposits were of post-medieval date at the earliest. A channel, or stream and ponds, are shown on the 1834 Stevenage Tithe Map; the ponds were located along the northern boundary of the site where Pound Avenue runs. This could suggest Pound Avenue, shown on the 1963 Ordnance Survey, should have been named Pond Avenue, although it runs through Pound Green.

Recommendations

- 4.1.6 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology, contained two modern pits, truncated during excavation of the trench. Trench make up consists of modern vegetation layer, stone layer/spread, buried topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of gravels and sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.90
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	13.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1	Layer	-	0.20	Modern Vegetation, Dark greyish brown sandy silt	-	Modern-
2	Layer	-	0.15	Stone layer/spread mid orange brown fine sands and rounded stones.	-	Modern-
3	Layer		0.20	Buried Topsoil, dark grey brown sandy silt.		Modern
4	Layer		0.15	Subsoil Mid brown sandy silt, small stones and gravel lenses.	Pottery/Flint.	Med to Post Med
5				Natural Gravels		
6	Fill	0.60	0.10	Fill of 7, Mid grey brown sandy silt		Modern
7	Cut	0.60	0.10	Truncated pit, sub rectangular with shallow sides & flattish base.		Modern
8	Fill	0.50	0.22	Fill of 9, mid greyish brown sandy silt.		Modern
9	Cut	0.50	0.22	Truncated pit, sub rectangular with near vertical sides & flattish base.	-	Modern
Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of Car park surface, Silt layer, upper and lower sub soils overlying a natural of gravels and sand.					Avg. depth (m)	1.25
					Width (m)	1.80
					Length (m)	4.80
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
10	Surface	-	0.30	Car Park, Tarmac and Stone Hoggin	-	Modern
11	Layer	-	0.20	Silt flood deposit of dark grey silt	-	Post Med to Mod
12	Layer		0.25	Subsoil, pale yellowish brown clay silt	Pottery/CBM	Post Med
13	Layer		0.40	Lower sub soil mid greyish brown		Med to Post Med
14	Layer	-	-	Natural sands & gravels with clay patches.	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contains undated ditch, channels and service trench, cutting through a modern car park, silt flood deposit, sub soil overlying the natural clays and gravels.					Avg. depth (m)	1.25
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	20.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
10	Surface		0.30	Car Park, Tarmac and Stone hoggin.		Modern
40	Layer		0.20	Silt flood deposit similar to (11, 16 and 26).		Post Med to Mod
41	Fill	9.30+	0.45	Secondary fill of 54 mid/dark grey brown clay silt.		Post Med
42	Natural			Clays and Gravels in base of trench.		
43	Fill	2.50	0.35	Primary fill of 54 mid brown clay silt		Post Med
44	Layer	3.60	0.42	Subsoil mid brown clay silt similar to (49)		Med to Post Med
45	Fill	5.00+	0.75+	Fill of 46 mid to dark grey brown silty clay	Glass	Post Med
46	Cut	5.00+	0.75+	Channel with 45° SE edge		Post med
47	Fill		0.65+	Fill of mod channel 48 same as (19 & 33)		Modern
48	Cut		0.65+	Channel. SE end of trench same as 20 & 34		Post Med to Mod
49	Layer		0.65	Similar to (44), a mid brown clay silt		Med to post Med
50	Fill	1.75	0.30	Fill of ditch. Mid grey brown clay silt including flints, pebbles & clay lumps.		Poss. Med
51	Cut	1.75	0.30	SW-NE boundary ditch. Wide shallow U shaped profile, cut by channel 54		Poss. Med
52	Fill	1.50	0.60+	Fill of 53 . Dark grey brown clay silt		Modern
53	Cut	1.50	0.60+	Modern pipe trench cuts channel 46		Modern
54	Cut		0.65+	Cut of SE side of channel cuts ditch 51 not fully exposed in the limits of the trench.		Post Med to Mod.

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
The trench contained a ditch a modern brick filled pit and two inter cutting channels the trench cut through a car park make up, silty flood deposit and sub soil layer over lying the natural clays and gravels.					Avg. depth (m)	1.10
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	27.50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
10	Surface		0.30	Modern car park. Tarmac & stone hoggin		Modern
26	Layer		0.30	Silty flood deposit similar to (11, 16 and 40), truncated by (10)		Modern
27	Layer	3.35	0.25	A mid greyish brown clay silt infill of hollow formed over ditch 37		Post Medieval
28	Layer		0.75	Subsoil, SE end of trench mid yellow brown silty clay similar to (29) cut by ditch 37		Med to Post Med
29	Layer		0.80	A sub soil similar to (28)		Med to Post Med
30	Fill	10+	1.25	Fill of 32 a dark greenish grey clay silt	CBM	Post Med
31	Layer		1.20	Mid greyish brown silty clay deposit at the NW end of trench. Possible infill of former channel similar to (41).		Post Medieval
32	Cut	10+	1.25	Channel equated to 46 (Trench 3) SE edge slopes at 45°. NW edge at 15-20°. Wide flattish base, cut by 34 , cuts subsoil (29).		Post Medieval
33	Fill	5.00	2.00	Fill of 34 similar to fills (19 & 47) comprises a very dark grey clayey silt	Pottery & CBM	Modern
34	Cut	5.00	2.00	Modern channel filled by (33), same as 20 & 48 sides at 40 to 45°. U shaped profile, cuts channel 32 and layer/fill (31)		Modern
35	Fill	1.25	0.50	Secondary fill of 37 seals 36. Dark greyish brown silty clay	CBM	Post Medieval
36	Fill	0.45	0.16	Primary fill of 37 sealed by 35, comprises a mid reddish brown grey silty clay		Post Medieval
37	Cut	1.25	0.66	A narrow ditch aligned roughly East to West with sides at 45° forming a steep narrow U shaped profile, the ditch cuts sub soils 28 and 29.		Post Medieval
38	Fill		1.00	Brick fill to pit 39		Modern
39	Cut		1.00	Pit at E corner of trench, cuts silt layer 26		Modern

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contains two inter cutting channels, the trench was cut through a car park make up, a silty flood deposit, upper and lower sub soil layers overlying the natural gravels and clays.					Avg. depth (m)	1.20
					Width (m)	1.80
					Length (m)	16.70
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
10	Surface		0.30	Car park. Tarmac and stone hoggin layer		Modern
16	Layer		0.18	Silt flood deposit equated to (11, 26 & 40)		Modern
17	Layer		0.20	Possible upper subsoil, seals channel 24 , similar to (12)	Pottery	Post medieval
18	Layer		0.35	Sub soil cut by channel 24 equated to layer 13 in Trench 2		Med to Post Med
19	Fill	6.00	1.50	Fill of modern channel 20 comprises a very dark grey silty clay including clay lumps	Pottery & CBM	Modern
20	Cut	6.00	1.50	Modern channel (same as 34 & 48) aligned NW to SE. Sides at 45°, wide flattish base, wide U shaped profile. Cuts channel 24 .		Modern
21	Layer		0.65	Subsoil at the south end of trench cut by channel 24 and seals 25. Pale to mid brown clayey silt with clay lumps & lenses.		Medieval to Post Medieval
22	Fill		0.52	Fill of south side of channel 24 comprises a mid to pale grey brown yellow clay silt	Pottery/ Bone	Post Medieval
23	Fill		0.62	Fill of north side of channel 24 comprises a mid brown clay silt		Post Medieval
24	Cut	8.65	1.10+	A channel cut filled by (22 and 23), cuts sub soil (18 and 21) sealed by layer (17)		Post Medieval
25	Layer			Natural silt & gravels at south end of trench.		

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Slag

B.1.1 The excavation produced a single fragment of undiagnostic slag from context 30, fill of a channel (32). Although the slag cannot be closely dated it was recovered alongside 19th or 20th century brick.

Context	Weight (kg)	Description	Date
30	0.060	Undiagnostic fragment	Not closely datable although most likely post-medieval.

Table: Glass

B.2 Flint

by Anthony Haskins

B.2.1 Two flints were submitted for assessment. These were recovered from a subsoil deposit (4). One is a large plough struck flake of dark greyish-brown opaque poor quality flint, with a thick off white abraded cortex.

B.2.2 The second is a soft hammer struck secondary flake, of good quality semi translucent light greyish-brown flint with a thick un-abraded cortex. It is not possible to assign a date to the soft hammer struck flake, although the style of working would imply an earlier prehistoric date.

B.3 Glass

by Carole Fletcher

B.3.1 The excavation produced an assemblage of bottle glass, and two glass artefacts, weighing in total 0.242kg, from three contexts. Context 33, the fill of Channel 34, produced two sherds from relatively modern bottles. The channels 46 and 48 each produced a single glass artefact, these may be electrical insulators but this is a tentative identification. Overall the glass assemblage is most likely 20th century.

Context	Weight (kg)	Description	Date
33	0.090	Base shard from a clear, colourless moulded bottle, traces of an embossed name are present on the front of the bottle the only clearly recognisable letter is T. The base bears four embossed or raised marks the number 4, the letter R within a circle and the letter S alongside an unknown symbol within a small circle.	20th century
	0.014	Shard from a brown glass bottle.	19th-20th century
45	0.071	Complete circular object that looks like a small candle holder. The base has an unfinished mould mark. Its use is unclear but it may be an electrical insulator.	20th century
47	0.067	Complete circular object that looks like a small candle holder. The base has an unfinished mould mark. Its use is unclear but it may be an electrical insulator.	20th century
Total	0.242		

Table: Glass

B.4 Pottery

by Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.4.1 Archaeological works produced a pottery assemblage of five sherds, weighing 0.059kg. The assemblage spans the late 12th to the 19th century. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the mean sherd weight is low at approximately 0.012kg.

Methodology

- B.4.2 The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) and *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.
- B.4.3 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded in the summary catalogue. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.
- B.4.4 The assemblage is domestic in nature, indicating low levels of pottery deposition across the site from the mid 12th century onwards. Trenches 1 and 2 each produced only a single sherd of pottery. From Trench 1, subsoil layer 4, a single abraded sherd in a buff sandy fabric was recovered, which may be a medieval Bedfordshire or Buckinghamshire fabric. A single sherd of a Post-medieval Redware bowl was recovered from the layer (context 12) in Trench 2.
- B.4.5 Two features in Trench 5 produced pottery. Layer 17 contained a single sherd of reduced sandy ware tentatively identified as Hertfordshire Greyware and the modern channel **20**, context 19, produced a sherd of terracotta plant pot and a highly decorated rim sherd from a Flow Blue bowl, which is finished with hand applied gilding following the moulded pattern and the transfer printed decoration. The Flow Blue vessel is a 19th century table ware while the terracotta cannot be closely dated.
- B.4.6 The assemblage, with the exception of the plant pot sherd, is domestic in nature although the low levels of medieval pottery suggest those few sherds present are the result of a medieval manuring scatter. The more recent pottery, which was recovered alongside 20th century material in the form of a plastic Thermos flask cup, may represent rubbish deposition or clearance, perhaps in part relating to the Old Workhouse adjacent to the site.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Sherd Count	Weight (kg)	Context Date Range
4	Buff Sandy ware, possibly a Bedfordshire or Buckinghamshire fabric	Body sherd	1	0.007	Not closely datable
12	Post-medieval Redware	Bowl body sherd	1	0.006	Mid 16th-18th century
17	?Hertfordshire Greyware	Body sherd	1	0.006	Late 12th-mid 14th century

19	Refined White Earthenware – Flow Blue moulded and gilded decoration	Bowl rim sherd	1	0.013	19th century
	Modern Terracotta – horticultural wares	Plant pot body sherd	1	0.027	
Total			5	0.059	

Table: Pottery

B.5 Ceramic Building Material

by Rob Atkins

Introduction

B.5.1 A small collection of CBM was recovered from the site comprising 17 fragments (1.217kg; Table 1).

Type	No. of contexts	No. Fragments	Weight (g)
Brick (post-medieval to modern)	5	10	863
Drain	1	1	113
Floor tile	1	2	151
Roof tile	3	4	90
Total			1217

Table 1: Brick, drain, floor tile and roof tile

Results

Post-medieval/modern brick

B.5.2 The small collection of brick comprised small fragments and the diagnostic fragments all date to the late post-medieval or modern periods. The asbestos cement brick was recorded by Carole Fletcher and was then discarded.

B.5.3 The assemblage comprises:

- Context 11 2 ?brick fragments (6g; undiagnostic)
- Context 12 2 brick fragments (60g; one fletton (5g) -late 19th/20th century and one undiagnostic (55g)
- Context 30 3 fletton brick fragments (227g) - late 19th/20th century
- Context 33 1 asbestos cement brick fragment (350g) -20th century
- Context 35 2 brick fragments (220g) - One fletton type (14g) - late 19th/20th century and one hard red 18th-19th century (206g)

Drain

B.5.4 One ceramic drain fragment (113g) from context 30 (19th century).

Floor tile

B.5.5 One possible floor tile fragment (151g) from context 19. 151mm (6") wide. Yellow sandy fabric with red slip. c.19th century

Roof tile

B.5.6 The four roof tile fragments were all very abraded. They comprise:

- Context 11 1 fragment (5g). Hard orange sandy. Fully oxidised. Well made. Post-medieval
- Context 12 2 fragments (67g). Hard orange sandy. Fully oxidised. Well made. Post-medieval
- Context 22 1 tile fragment (18g). Orange sandy. Fully oxidised. ?Late medieval – post-medieval

B.6 Miscellaneous finds

by Carole Fletcher

- B.6.1 A small assemblage of more modern domestic refuse was recovered from contexts 11 and 19. Fragments of coal and cinder or clinker from a domestic fire were recovered alongside several plastic articles, the most recognizable of which is a cup from a Thermos flask from the 20th century, possibly the 1960s.

Context	Material	Form-description	Weight (kg)	Date
11	Coal	Formless fragments	0.007	Not closely datable
	Cinder or clinker	Formless fragments	0.012	Not closely datable
19	Plastic	Cup from a THERMOS flask. Marked on the base with Made in England, and the UK Registered number 847245, company name and Registered Trade Mark	0.023	20th century
	Plastic	Fragment from a toy (smoking) pipe in bright yellow plastic	0.002	20th century or later

Table: Miscellaneous finds

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

by Chris Faine

- C.1.1 Three fragments of bone were recovered from the evaluation with 2 being identifiable to species. The weight of the assemblage was 20g. The sample consisted of partial cattle cranium and 1st phalanx from context **22**, and a sawn cattle rib from context **33**. The rib displayed two cut marks on its caudal edge and eburnation on the ventral surface may indicate use as a weaving tool.

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|---|
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| Medieval Pottery Research Group | 1998 | <i>A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms</i> . Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper I |
| Medieval Pottery Research Group | 2001 | <i>Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics</i> Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 |

APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-187479		
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation at Riley's Snooker Hall, Pound Avenue, Stevenage		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	20-08-2014	Finish	22-08-2014
Previous Work (by OA East)	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XHT RSH 14	Planning App. No.	14/00064/FPM
HER No.	n/a	Related HER/OASIS No.	n/a

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5
Development Type	Housing Estate

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Boundary Ditch	Uncertain	Channel	Modern 1901 to Present
Ditch	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...
Channel	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...

Project Location

County	Hertfordshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	Stevenage Borough.	Riley's Snooker Hall Pound Avenue Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 2UU
Parish	Stevenage	
HER		
Study Area	3ha	National Grid Reference TL 2355 2486

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Sally Dicks Cgms
Project Design Originator	Aileen Connor
Project Manager	Aileen Connor
Supervisor	Michael (Tam) Webster

Project Archives

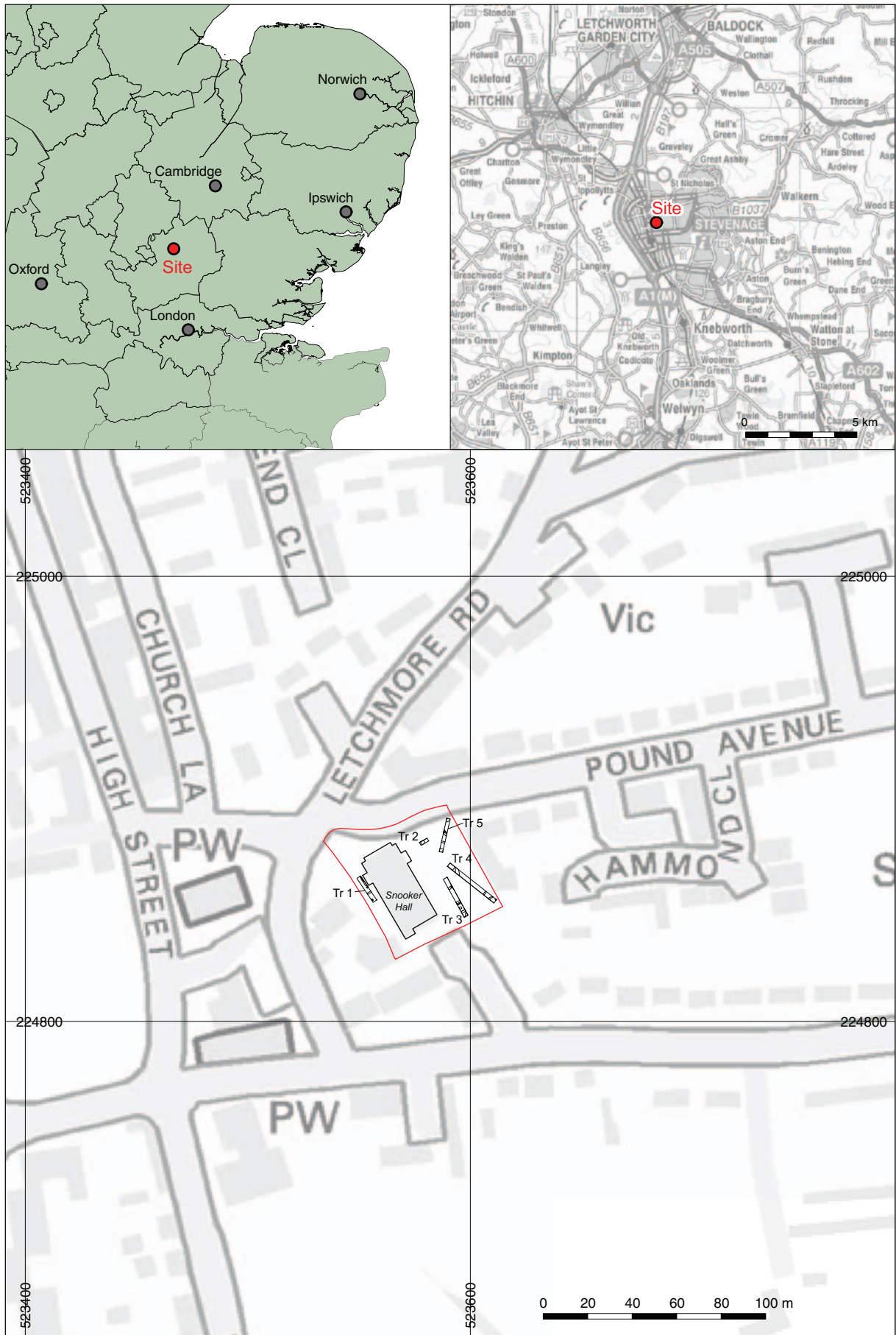
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Hertfordshire HER...	OA East office Bar Hill	Hertfordshire HER
XHT RSH 14	XHT RSH 14	XHT RSH 14

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
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Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location showing development area (red) and archaeological trenches (black)
Scale 1:2500



Figure 2: Trench plan

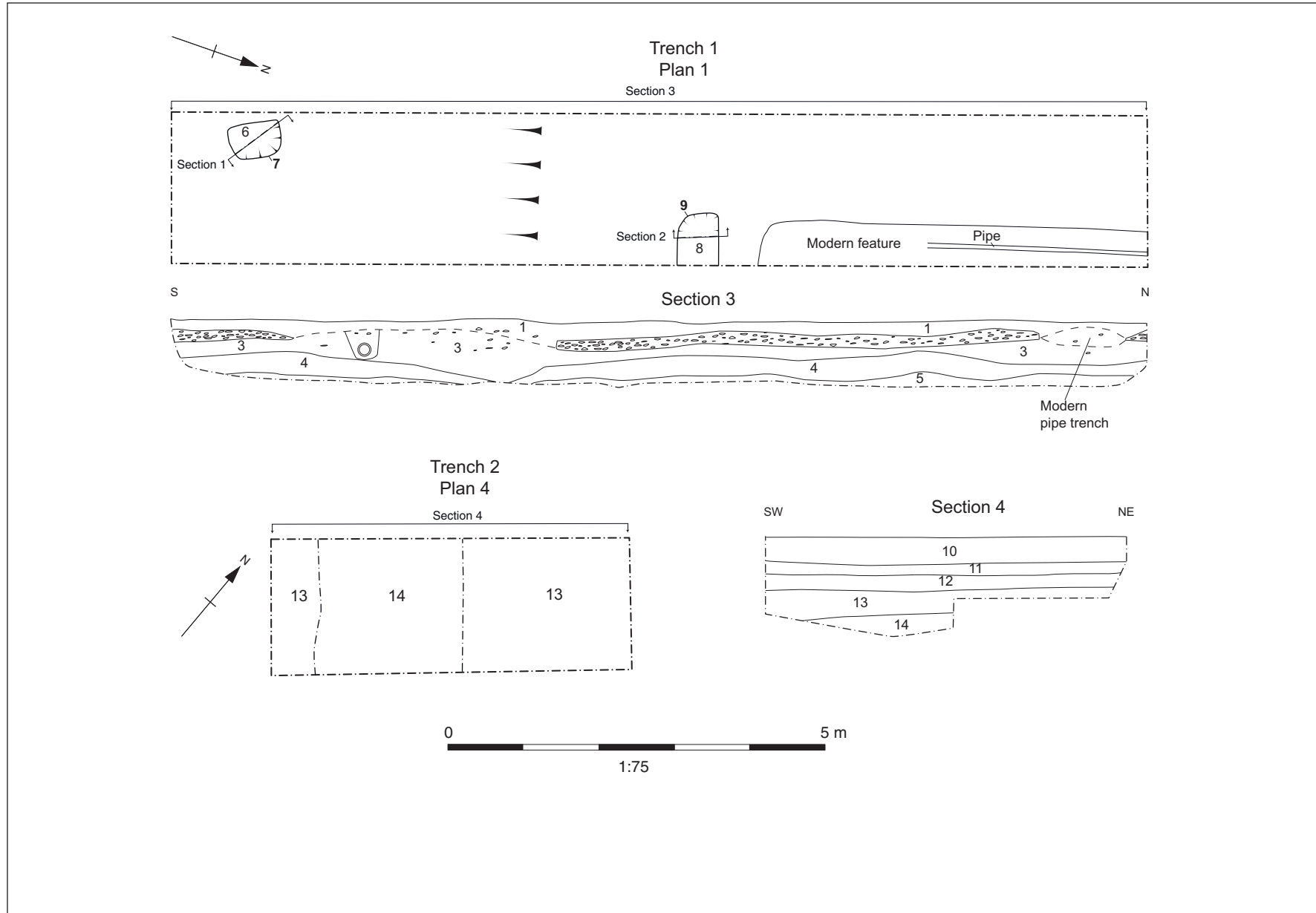


Figure 3: Plan and sections of trenches 1 and 2

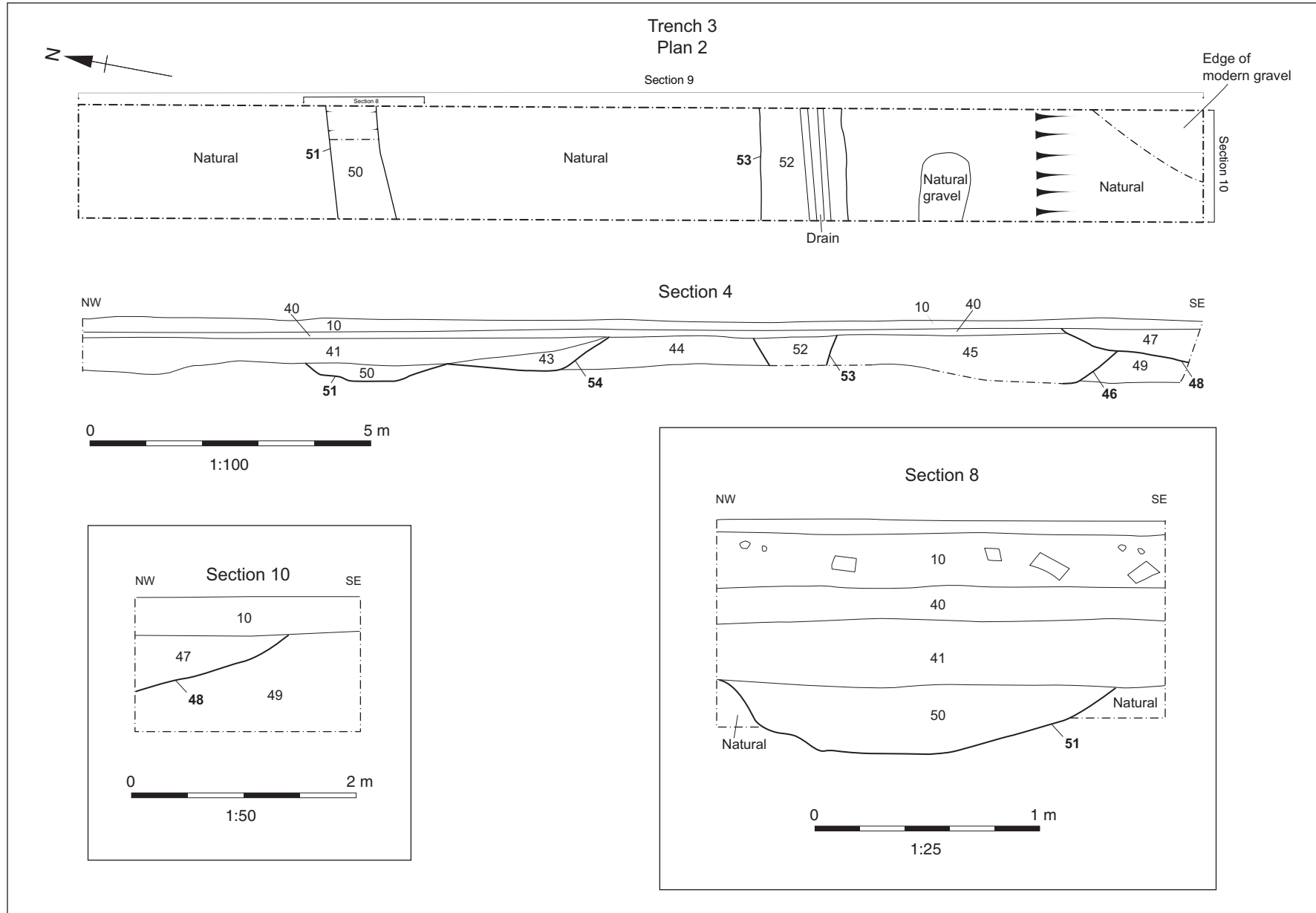


Figure 4: Plan and Sections of Trench 3 and detail Section of 51

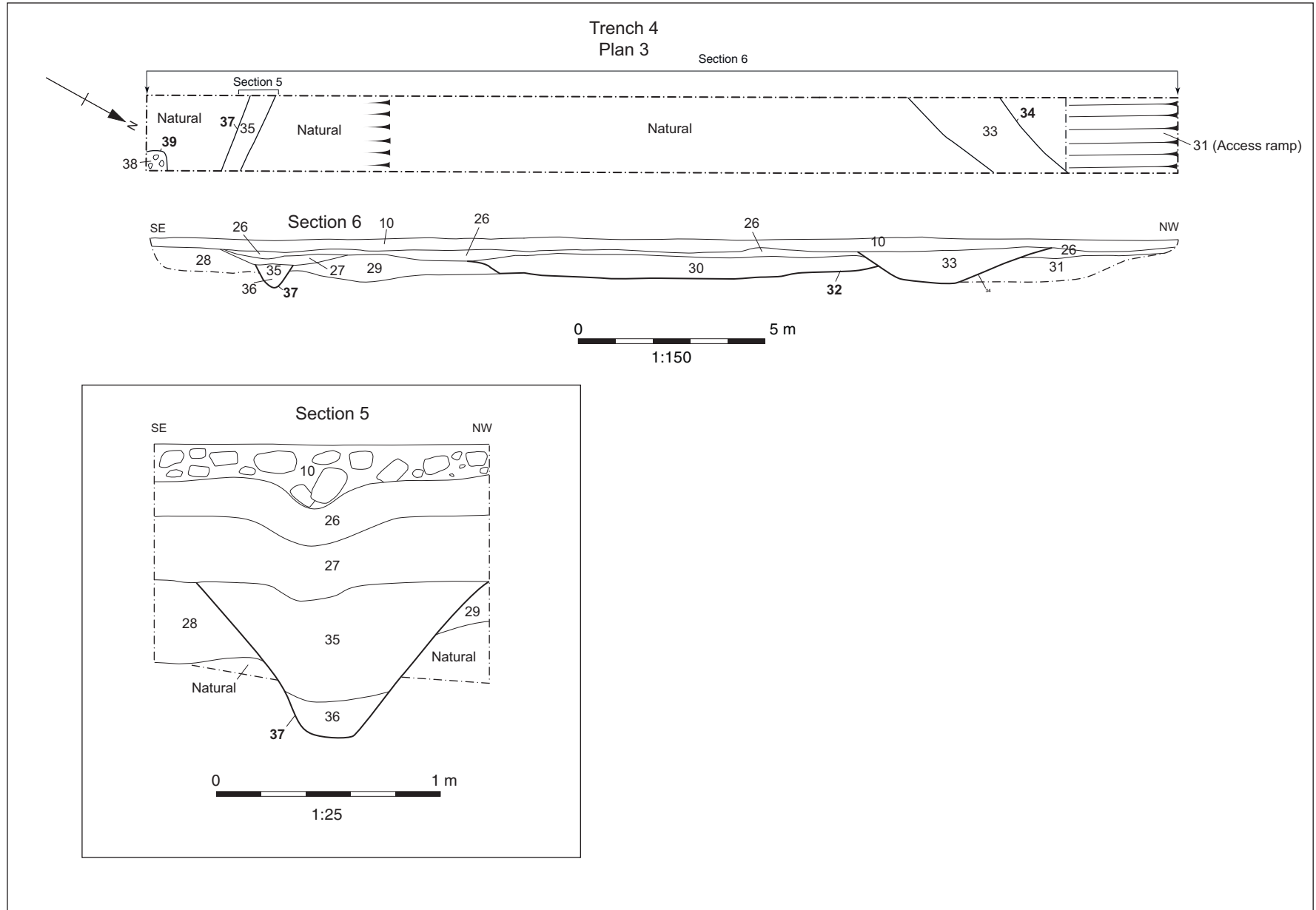


Figure 5: Plan and Section of Trench 4 and detail Section of 37

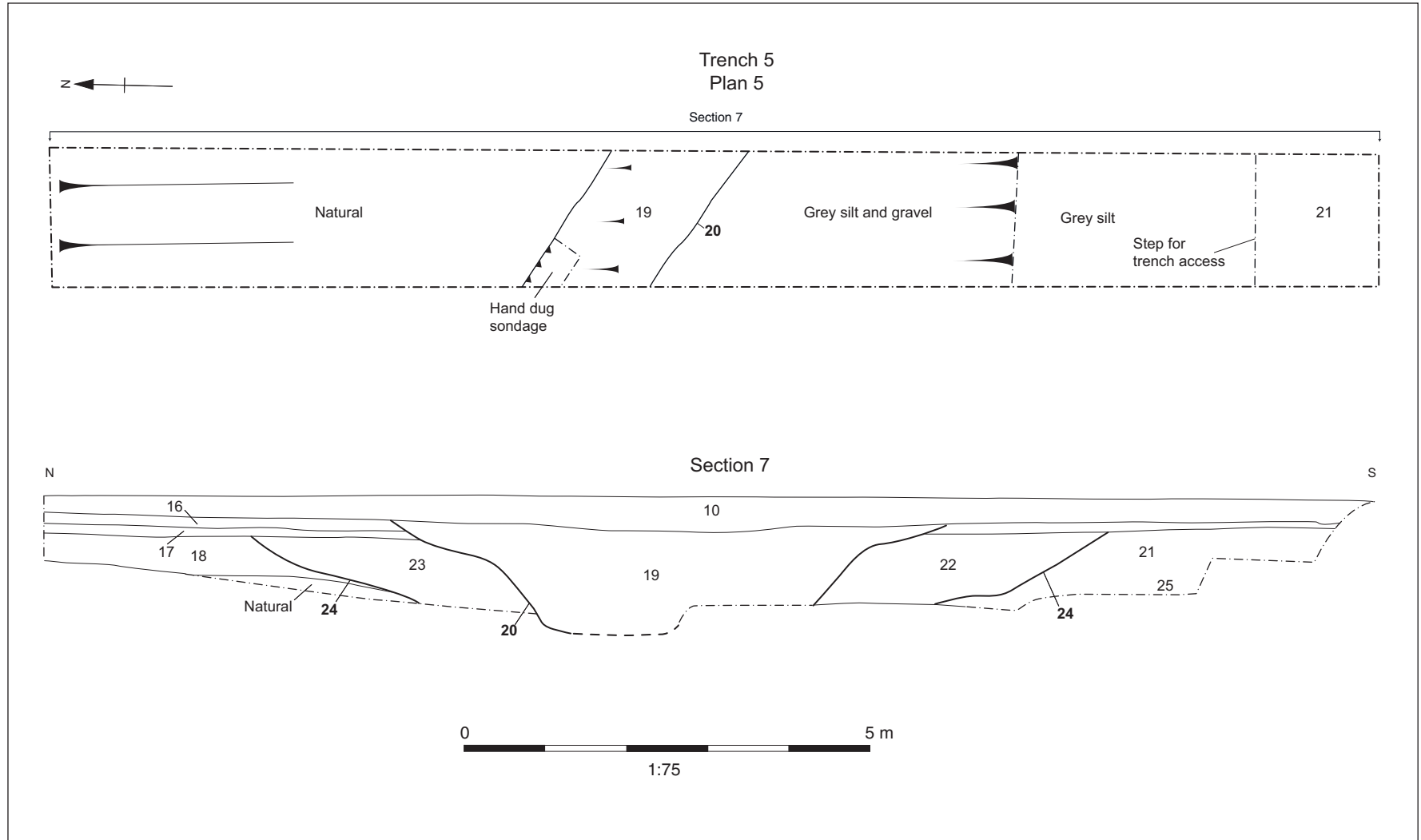


Figure 6: Plan and Section of Trench 5



Plate 1: General shot of Trench 1



Plate 2: Section detail of Trench 2



Plate 3: General shot of Trench 3



Plate 4: General shot of Trench 4, showing modern channel



Plate 5: General shot of Trench 5 showing modern channel



Plate 6: Detail section of ditch 51 in Trench 3



Plate 7: Detail section of ditch 37 in Trench 4



Plate 8: Detail of brick filled pit 39 in Trench 4



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