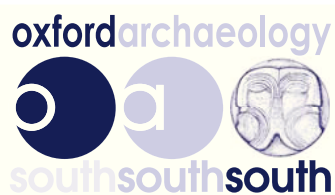


Daniel Department Store  
Phase 2 Redevelopment  
Peascod Street  
**Windsor**



**Archaeological  
Watching Brief Report**



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# Daniel Department Store, Phase 2 Redevelopment, Peascod Street, Windsor

## *Archaeological Watching Brief Report*

*Written by Mike Sims*

*and illustrated by Julia Collins*

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## Summary

*Between March and May 2011, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief during the Phase 2 development of the Daniel Department Store, Peascod Street, Windsor, Berkshire (NGR: SU 9677 7677). The work was commissioned by W J Daniel and Company Ltd in advance of the redevelopment of an existing store. The watching brief revealed evidence of extensive truncation of the southern third of the site by modern intrusions, together with post-medieval cellarage along the Peascod Street front of the site. Remains of the structures recorded on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century OS maps were also observed together with two associated brick-lined wells. Evidence for probable late medieval or early post-medieval occupation of the site was observed in the form of demolition debris and residual finds. No evidence for any deposits, features or structures predating the 15th century was observed.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology South (OAS) was commissioned by W J Daniel and Company Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the Phase II redevelopment of the Daniel Department Store, Peascod Street, Windsor, Berkshire (NGR: SU 9677 7677). The work was commissioned by in respect of a planning application for redevelopment of the existing department store (Planning References No. 08/00940 and 08/00941).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a part of a condition of Planning Consent as specified by Berkshire Archaeology (BA, 2010).
- 1.1.3 OAS produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) in response to this requirement prior to the fieldwork being undertaken (OA, 2009).

### 1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on the north side of Peascod Street, in the centre of Windsor, and is centred on NGR: SU 9677 7677 (Fig. 1). Prior to the redevelopment the site was occupied by retail properties fronting Peascod Street and backing onto a service area to the north. The underlying topography slopes down to the north with a 3.5 m drop from front to rear.
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is alluvium and brickearth over Shepperton gravel (Geological Survey of Great Britain, sheet no. 269).

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in a desk-based assessment (Oxford Archaeology 2008) and is included here together with relevant information taken from the Victoria County History of Berkshire.
- 1.3.2 Medieval (AD 1066-1550): There is a notable lack of documentary sources for the town of Windsor which impedes investigation into this period. Analysis of the Domesday Book indicates that the area of the town of Windsor had a small population, with an average of 2.5 people and only 0.5-1 plough team per square mile. In c 1070, William I constructed Windsor Castle and by 1110 Henry I had shifted the royal residence from Old Windsor Manor to the castle. The hub of the town was the market square with its



parish church, established in 1184. The offshoots of the central area of the town spread out from the castle hill toward lower ground. In the reign of Henry I the town was granted by Empress Matilda to Reading Abbey, in whose keeping it remained until the dissolution.

- 1.3.3 The town had reached its largest medieval extent by the 13th century. It is during this period of expansion that Peascod Street was first colonised (Astill 1978. 61). In 1308, Peascod Street is first mentioned in records making it the oldest referenced street in the town. Astill's plan of medieval Windsor indicates that the site of 116-126 Peascod Street was firmly within the bounds of the medieval town. Sieges of the castle in 1193, 1216 and 1263 may have resulted in buildings on Peascod Street being demolished. The importance of the Thames for transport and trade continued throughout the medieval period. There is extensive medieval activity noted in the area, ranging from buildings and associated features, burials, find spots and spreads and burgage plot activity.
- 1.3.4 Post-Medieval (AD 1550-1900): The earliest map featuring Peascod Street is John Norden's 1607 plan of the town of Windsor and the Little Park. This map may be generic in its representation of private town houses, and only half of the site is present on the edge of the map. However, the survey gives a good idea of the sort of buildings that lay on this street during the early Stuart period. Both sides of the street are built upon by, mostly, single storey houses. Many have shared or individual burgage plots with some out buildings. The land that would become Bridgewater Way is shown as open farmland. The next maps to depict Peascod Street with any detail are the 1812 Clewer Parish Map, adapted from a 1711 estate map, and the 1819 Windsor Parish Enclosure Map. These merely show crude representations of urban dwellings backing on to farmland and have no detail concerning the buildings on the Site.
- 1.3.5 The Windsor Parish Tithe Map of 1852 shows little detail for the buildings, but does provide information on the land that the north-western half of 120-125 now occupies. This area was occupied by two gardens and a play ground. A study of the Ordnance Survey maps from the 1st edition onwards shows a continuation of urban development and redevelopment from 1881-1932. The rearward plots are gradually built upon until in the modern period only the yards to the rear of 116-118 and between 125 and 126 remain. In 1881 the arrangement of the long thin buildings along the street front with their oblong-shape rear yards is strongly suggestive of survival of medieval burgage plot boundaries. A further survival was hinted at by the compilers of the Victoria County History, who asserted that despite there being Victorian shop fronts on the buildings along Peascod Street the structures themselves were at least one hundred years older. However, they also record that the oldest examples of housing on the street had been swept away.
- 1.3.6 Past Impacts on the Site. Due to the extensive terracing, redevelopment and basementing of the Site there is little potential of extensive buried remains surviving on the Site. At the site of the New Library, natural was found at an average depth of 0.9m; this further makes it unlikely any archaeology will be found as the modern basements of 116-125 are c 2-3m deep. The other site in close proximity to Daniels Department Store, the Prudential Assurance Building, revealed no notable archaeology.
- 1.3.7 Previous work by OA during the Phase 1 development at 116, 117 and 118 Peascod Street in 2009 observed only late post-medieval activity with no evidence for earlier occupation of the site.





## 2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The specific aims and objectives of the watching brief were:

- i. To gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of any potential archaeological remains within the area of study.
- ii. Subject to the results of the watching brief, to seek to establish, as far as is practical, the chronology, plan form and function of archaeological features affected by development and interpret the results in terms of the known archaeology of Peascod Street, Windsor and its surrounds.
- iii. To provide sufficient information to enable Windsor Borough Council to discharge the conditions relating to archaeological investigations contained within the planning consent.

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The archaeological investigation was conducted as a watching brief consisting of a series of site visits during those works likely to impact on potential archaeological deposits. These works included the demolition of the cellar walls and the probing of the ground prior to laying the piling mat. The base and sides of all the excavations were closely examined for archaeological evidence and the spoil was examined for artefactual remains.
- 2.2.2 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with the established OA Field Manual (OAU 1992).
- 2.2.3 A plan showing the extent of the excavations and the location of the recorded sections was maintained at a scale of 1:50 (Fig. 2). The excavations and any recorded sections were photographed using colour digital photography and black and white print film. A general photographic record of the work was also made.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The standing buildings were demolished prior to the start of the excavations with the exception of the modern sub-basement floor along the northern edge of the site, which was broken out after the trial pitting along the southern (Peascod Street) edge had finished.
- 3.1.2 The trial pitting was conducted in order to determine the presence of any obstructions which may have interfered with the piling operations. This operation involved the systematic removal of any potential obstructions such as cellar walls and floors. These were then crushed on site and the material used to backfill the voids caused by the demolition of the cellars and to construct the piling platform.
- 3.1.3 The stratigraphy of the site was compiled by recording sample sections across the width of the site. These sections will be described individually followed by an overall discussion and conclusion.

*Section 11 (Rear of Number 119)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.4 This was located approximately 15m south of Peascod Street, roughly on the line of the rear of the 19<sup>th</sup> century street frontage.
- 3.1.5 A layer of grey-brown clay silt was exposed in the base of the section (107). This deposit contained charcoal flecking and fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> century ceramics together with numerous fragments of clay roof tile and ceramics dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3.1.6 Overlying 107 was a 0.35 m deep layer of yellowish grey-brown clay silt (106), which also contained many fragments of tile and charcoal flecking. Cut into this layer was a circular well shaft (109) (Fig. 2). This measured approximately 1.1 m in diameter. It had been lined using unfroged bricks measuring 0.225 m x 0.105 m x 0.072 m laid tangentially around the circumference without mortar (110).
- 3.1.7 Overlying 106 and Well 110 was a 0.55 m deep layer of light grey-brown clay silt (102), which contained fragments of brick and tile together with lenses of mortar. Layer 102 was cut by a north-south aligned construction cut (105), 0.6 m wide by 0.75 m deep. This contained a concrete footing (104) which supported wall (103). The wall was constructed using plain red bricks and lime mortar laid using English stretcher bond. The top of the wall had been truncated, presumably by a later phase of building.
- 3.1.8 Butting up to the eastern side and also running over the top of Wall 103 was a loose mixture of dark grey brown clay silt and demolition debris (101), up to 0.7 m in depth. This deposit formed a base for the 0.5 m deep concrete floor slab (100), the ground floor of the demolished building.

*Section 12 (Located behind the eastern cellar wall of Number 125)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.9 This was recorded following the demolition of the eastern cellar wall associated with number 125. The face exposed represents the construction cut for the cellar.
- 3.1.10 A layer of orange-brown sandy silt (115) was encountered at a depth of 1.5 m below the original ground floor level. This was very clean and represents a layer of undisturbed natural ground. It could be seen to be in excess of 1.2 m deep within the section. Overlying this was a 1.2 m deep layer of clean yellow brown sandy silt (114), also a probable layer of undisturbed ground.
- 3.1.11 Layer 114 was overlain by a 0.3 m deep layer of reddish brown clay silt (113), containing many small sub-angular flints. Above 113 was a 0.3 m deep layer of mid brown clay silt (112) containing flecks of lime mortar and fragments of roof tile. Overlying this was a layer of grey-brown clay silt (111), 0.28 m in depth. This deposit produced many fragments of brick and tile, together with flecks of lime mortar. The concrete floor for the demolished building rested upon this layer.

*Section 13 (Rear of number 122/123)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.12 This was located approximately in the centre of the site towards the rear of the former numbers 122/123. As before, the section was exposed following the demolition of the existing ground floor.
- 3.1.13 At the base of the section a clean deposit of pale reddish-brown clay silt (120), a probable undisturbed natural brickearth, was encountered at a depth of 2 m below ground level. Overlying this was a 0.4 m deep layer of light orange-brown clay silt (119), which in turn was overlaid by a 0.3 m deep layer of yellow-brown clay silt (118). Both these layers were probable undisturbed natural deposits.



- 3.1.14 Layer 118 was covered by a 0.3 m deep layer of dark grey-brown clay silt (117). This context contained numerous fragments of plain red clay peg tiles together with charcoal flecking, oyster shell and a fragment of a possible late medieval/ early post medieval pot (Plates 1 and 2). Layer 117 was sealed by a 1 m deep deposits of grey-brown clay silt (116) containing numerous fragments of brick and tile, lenses of reddish brown brickearth, partially burnt coal and fragments of glazed earthenware all dating between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

*Section 14 (Rear of Number 126)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.15 This was located towards the rear of number 126 approximately 12 m north of Peascod Street.
- 3.1.16 A probable continuation of the layer of the pale reddish brown silt clay brickearth (120) was exposed at a depth of 1.35 m below ground level. This was overlaid by probable continuations of layers 119 (0.4 m deep) and layer 118 (0.4 m deep).
- 3.1.17 Above 118 was a 0.15 m deep layer of a grey-brown clay silt (122), which produced fragments of plain tile, pantile and brick together with much charcoal flecking. It is possible that this layer may represent a continuation of layer 117.
- 3.1.18 Overlying 122 was a 0.36 m deep layer of light grey-brown clay loam (121). This deposit produced fragments of tile and contained flecks of lime mortar.

*Section 15 (Adjacent to Peascod Street)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.19 This was located immediately south of the pavement alongside Peascod Street, roughly in the centre of Number 124.
- 3.1.20 A layer of light orange-brown clay silt, a probable continuation of (119), was observed at a depth of 1.15 m below the pavement level. Overlying this was a 0.4 m deep layer of yellow-brown clay silt, similar to, and a probable continuation of, (118).
- 3.1.21 Covering 118 was a 0.15 m deep layer of grey-brown clay silt (125). This was overlaid by a 0.4 m deep layer of light grey-brown clay silt (124). This deposit contained charcoal and mortar flecking together with pottery and brick fragments. The paving slabs (123) together with their associated cement bed had been laid directly upon 124.

*Section 16 (rear of Number 124)(Figs 2 and 3)*

- 3.1.22 This was located approximately 22 m south of Peascod Street towards of rear of Number 124.
- 3.1.23 A continuation of the pale reddish brown brickearth 120 was exposed within the base of the section. This was overlaid by probable continuations of layers 119 (0.4 m deep) and layer 118 (0.3 m deep).
- 3.1.24 On the western side of the section, layer 118 was overlaid by a layer of dark grey-brown clay silt. This contained much charcoal flecking together with fragments of tile and is a probable continuation of layer 117.
- 3.1.25 On the eastern side of the section layer 118 was cut by a vertically sided circular pit (132) measuring 0.9 m in diameter and 1.4 m in depth. This was filled entirely by a coarse black gritty sand or possibly fine clinker (131). No artefacts were recovered from the fill. It is unclear if the pit was cut from a higher level as the top has been truncated.
- 3.1.26 Overlying 118 was a 1 m deep layer of grey-brown clay silt containing numerous fragments of brick and tile and lenses of reddish brown brickearth, suggesting it is a continuation of layer 116.



- 3.1.27 Cutting layer 116 and the top of pit 132 was a north-south aligned foundation trench (127), measuring 0.6 m deep and 0.6 m wide (127). Constructed within this trench was a vertical brick wall (126), 0.5 m wide with a surviving height of 1.55 m. The wall was built using a plain unfrosted red brick, 0.225 m x 0.11 m x 0.072 m in size. These were laid using lime mortar in English stretcher bond. The location and alignment of the wall suggests that it originally formed the boundary wall between Numbers 124 and 125.
- 3.1.28 On the eastern side of the wall a floor composed of a weak cement mix (130) had been laid butting up to the wall and sealing pit 132. This probably formed a sub-basement to the rear of Number 125. A loose mix of demolition debris (129) had been used to backfill the cellar during a later phase of building work.

*Section 17 (Centre of Number 119)(Fig. 2 and fig. 3)*

- 3.1.29 This was located approximately in the centre of Number 119, 2 m south of Peascod Street and spanning the west wall of the cellarge associated with Number 119.
- 3.1.30 At the base of the section a layer of light yellowish grey silt clay (142) was encountered. This deposit contained flecks of chalk and lime mortar. Overlying this was a 0.6 m deep layer of grey-brown clay loam (141) containing numerous fragments of flat roof tile and pantile, together with chalk blocks and flecks of lime mortar.
- 3.1.31 Above 142 was a 0.45 m deep layer of dark grey-brown clay silt (139) which produced charcoal flecking and fragments of roof tile. This was overlaid by a similar layer of light grey-brown clay silt (138), 0.5 m deep. Cutting this layer was a vertical straight edged feature (136), 1 m deep. Built up against the western edge of the cut was a brick wall (134), forming the western side of the U-shaped cellar beneath Number 119. The wall had been constructed using an unfrosted plain red brick and lime mortar, laid using English stretcher bond. On the western side of the wall the gap between the construction cut and the wall had been backfilled with a loose grey-brown silt (137).
- 3.1.32 Butting up to the western side of wall 134 was a 0.7 m deep layer of mixed dark and light grey-brown clay silts, brick and tile fragments and mortar flecking (135). Butting up to the eastern side of wall 134 was a floor composed of a single layer of bricks laid in a weak mortar bed (140). The cellar had been backfilled with a mixture of demolition debris and grey-brown silts (133).

*Other features*

- 3.1.33 Other features encountered during the course of the watching brief were a second brick lined well, (143), located towards the rear of Numbers 121 and 122 (Fig. 2). This was very similar in construction to Well 110 and was cut from a similar level.
- 3.1.34 The cellarge below numbers 120 and 121 was also observed during the course of the watching brief, with its demolition enabling details of its construction to be observed. (Plate 1). The cellar took the form of two parallel barrel vaulted brick arches, each 8.4 m long, 3.15 m wide and 2.8 m tall. The tops of the arches had already been truncated by a previous phase of building work and they were filled by a loose mixture of demolition debris. During the excavation of the floors of these cellars an arched brick culvert, (144), approximately 1 m wide and 1 m tall was exposed running roughly 5 m south to, and parallel to Peascod Street and which could be seen to run underneath Number 119 to the west.



### 3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 The vast majority of the finds recovered were post-medieval in date, and included fragments of both 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century glazed pearlware, creamware and earthenware. Similarly the majority of the fragments of bricks and tiles date between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 3.2.2 Fragments of earlier roofing tiles and glazed earthenware which may date to the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries were recovered from layer 116 and a large fragment of a probable ewer, dated to between the 15<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, was collected from layer 117.
- 3.2.3 The finds assemblage has been assessed in Appendix B.

### 3.3 Environmental remains

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the watching brief.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The site has been subject to a number of modern intrusions which had destroyed the potential archaeology on the site. The modern sub-basement along the northern edge of the site, which represents roughly 33% of the development area, had truncated the stratigraphy completely, with only undisturbed natural deposits being exposed following removal of the floor slab.
- 4.1.2 The southern edge of the site fronting Peascod Street has been disturbed by both the excavation of the cellars and by the culvert 144. This disturbance also extends throughout most of the southern half of the development area with only post-medieval made ground deposits being observed within the excavations.
- 4.1.3 The presence of quantities of roofing tiles together with sherds of pottery dating to between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries suggest that there had been occupation of the site during that period. The number of fragments of roofing tile recovered may indicate the demolition of a building dating to that period, possibly constructed along the Peascod Street frontage, where later building works would have destroyed any structural evidence.
- 4.1.4 The majority of the stratigraphy observed directly relates to buildings shown on the Ordnance Survey maps (Figs 4 and 5). The position of cellarage shown on Fig. 2 corresponds closely to the plot divisions shown on both the 1881 1<sup>st</sup> ed OS map (Fig. 4) and the 1932 ed OS map (Fig 5).
- 4.1.5 Wall 103 observed within section 11 corresponds with one of the north-south walls subdividing Number 119 shown on the 1932 map. Wall 126 recorded in Section 16 similarly corresponds with the north-south wall forming the eastern side of the yard to the rear of Number 123. Pit 132 also recorded in the same section may predate the walls construction, but its fill suggests that it may have been originally excavated as a soak-a-way pit to the property. Floor 130 is also associated with Number 123.
- 4.1.6 The position of both the wells (110 and 143) place them within the interiors of nos 119 and 123 respectively, a not unusual location during the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The size and style of the bricks used would suggest that they both date to the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Their location, each roughly 12 m north of Peascod Street is similar to the location of Well 20 observed during the first phase of work and is it possible that the wells follow the same aquifer or spring line running east-west across the underlying slope of the ground. The date of their construction suggests that they would both have



had a hemi-spherical well cap similar to that over Well 20, but it is possible that later construction work has truncated them.

- 4.1.7 A number of madeground layers were observed (layers 102, 106, 107, 111, 121, 122 and 124). The majority of these layers produced fragments of brick, tile and pottery dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 4.1.8 As with the previous Phase One work in Numbers 116, 117 and 118, to the immediate west of the site, no evidence in the form of deposits or truncated features was observed to show that the site had been occupied prior to the late medieval or early post-medieval period.
- 4.1.9 The construction of the cellarage fronting Peascod Street together with their associated drainage culvert 144 may have destroyed any such evidence. It is also possible that the street has been widened in the past so that the earlier street frontage may be situated beneath the present Peascod Street. However, the absence of any truncated rubbish pits within the remainder of the site or of residual finds dating to the period would mitigate against the site being part of a medieval (or earlier) street frontage.
- 4.1.10 The presence of the 16<sup>th</sup>/ 17<sup>th</sup> century pottery and roofing tiles suggest that there was a structure and probable domestic occupation on the site during this period. No archaeological evidence for the buildings construction was encountered during the period of groundworks and it is probable the evidence is absent for the reasons discussed in preceding paragraph. The presence of the post-medieval made ground layers further north from the street frontage may have also disturbed any such evidence in the areas which would have formed the rear of these earlier premises.
- 4.1.11 The observations from this phase of work broadly tallies the observations from the work in Phase 1 which suggests that any medieval or earlier activity was concentrated further up the hill close to the castle, with the lower part of the street only becoming occupied during the Tudor period onwards.





## APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth	Width	Length	Comments	Finds	Date
100	Layer	0.5 m	5 m	> 5 m	Concrete floor slab	-	C20th
101	Layer	0.65 m	-	-	Demolition debris	Brick	C20th
102	Layer	0.55 m	-	-	Layer	Brick, tile	C19th
103	Structure	0.55 m	0.5 m	> 2 m	Brick wall	-	C19th/ C20th
104	Structure	0.25 m	0.6 m	> 2 m	Concrete footing for 103	-	C19th/ C20th
105	Cut	0.25 m	0.6 m	> 2 m	Construction cut for 104	-	C19th/ C20th
106	Layer	0.3 m	-	-	Layer	Brick, tile	C19th
107	Layer	> 0.25 m	-	-	Layer	Tile, bone, pottery	C19th
108	Fill	0.7 m	0.7 m	> 1 m	Backfill of Well 110	Brick, tile	C19th
109	Cut	1 m	1 m	> 1 m	Well shaft	-	C19th
110	Structure	1 m	1 m	> 1 m	Brick lining of well	Brick	C19th
111	Layer	0.28 m	-	-	Layer	Brick, tile	C19th
112	Layer	0.3 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	C19th
113	Layer	0.3 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	C19th
114	Layer	1.2 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
115	Layer	>1.2 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
116	Layer	1 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	Late C16/ C17th
117	Layer	0.3 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile, bone, pottery	C15th/ C16th



118	Layer	0.3 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
119	Layer	0.4 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
120	Layer	> 0.3 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
121	Layer	0.36 m	-	-	Layer	Brick	C19th
122	Layer	0.15 m	-	-	Layer	Brick, tile	C19th
123	Surface	0.07 m	> 2 m	> 2 m	Concrete slab pavement	-	C20th
124	Layer	0.4 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile, bone, pottery	C19th/ 20th
125	Layer	0.15 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick	C19th
126	Wall	1.2 m	0.5 m	> 2 m	Brick cellar wall	Brick	C19th
127	Cut	1.2 m	0.6 m	> 2 m	Construction cut for 126	-	C19th
128	Fill	0.55 m	-	-	Backfill of 127	-	C19th
129	Fill	1.2 m	> 1 m	> 1 m	Demolition debris backfilling cellar	Brick, tile	C19th
130	Floor	0.12 m	> 1 m	> 1 m	Cement floor to cellar	-	C19th
131	Fill	1.25 m	1 m	1 m	Clinker ash backfill of 132	-	C19th
132	Cut	1.25 m	1 m	1 m	Possible soak-a-way pit	-	C19th
133	Fill	1.7 m	> 1 m	> 1 m	Demolition debris backfilling cellar	Brick, tile	C20th
134	Structure	1.7 m	0.5 m	> 2 m	Brick cellar wall	Brick	C19th
135	Layer	0.65 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	C19th
136	Cut	1.7 m	0.6 m	> 2 m	Construction cut for 134	-	C19th
137	Fill	1 m	0.1 m	-	Backfill of construction cut 136	-	C19th
138	Layer	0.48 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	C19th
139	Layer	0.46 m	-	-	Made ground	Brick, tile	C19th
140	Floor	0.1 m	> 1 m	> 2 m	Brick cellar floor	Brick	C19th





141	Layer	0.55 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
142	Layer	> 0.3 m	-	-	Natural	-	-
143	Well	1 m	1 m	> 1 m	Brick lined well	Brick	C19th
144	Culvert	1 m	1 m	> 10 m	Brick culvert beneath cellars	Brick	C19th



## APPENDIX B. FINDS ASSESSMENTS

**Pottery by John Cotter****Introduction and methodology**

- B.1.1 A total of 27 sherds of pottery weighing 1001g were recovered from four contexts.
- B.1.2 For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation.
- B.1.3 Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.).

**Date and nature of the assemblage**

- B.1.4 The assemblage is in a fresh though fragmentary condition. Apart from one late medieval sherd all the pottery is of post-medieval date. The earliest piece (ctx 117) is a large fresh jar rim in white-firing Coarse Border ware from the Surrey/Hampshire border. This has a diameter of 190mm. and a short piece of attached strap-handle with characteristic stabbed and incised decoration which, together with its globular form, identify the vessel as a probable cistern for brewing and storing ale or beer. These have a full date range of c 1350-1525 but are most typical of the 15th and early 16th centuries (Pearce and Vince 1988).
- B.1.5 Contexts (116) and (107) produced a few fresh body sherds from late 16th- or 17th-century local glazed redwares and Surrey Border whiteware, although (107) also produced a fragment of a 19th-century water-closet (post- c 1850).
- B.1.6 The assemblage of 19 large fresh sherds from Context (124) contains Staffordshire-type transfer-printed Pearlware tableware forms and a brown English stoneware ink bottle allowing an unusually narrow deposition date of c 1820-1830/40 to be suggested. No further work is recommended.

Context	Spot date	Number	Weight	Comments
107	C1850-1900+	5	99 gms	1 x sherd of yellow ware flange from the rim of a C19th water closet with broad white slip band applied internally. Remainder of the pottery is fresh and probably C17th including 2 sherds of green-glazed Border ware (1 vessel) and 2 sherds of post-medieval redwares (PMR).
116	C1550-1750?	2	37 gm	Fresh body sherds of post-medieval redwares or red Border ware in a similar fabric, including a large jug body sherd with a splash of green glaze.
117	C1350-1525	1	145 gm	Fresh sherd of rim and shoulder from a Coarse Border ware jar (CBW) (possibly a cistern). Form was a globular body with a short cylindrical neck and a short squared/flanged rim (approx diameter 190 mm). Stub of a strap-handle attached to the neck with



				typical CBW stabs and pricks and a pair of incised parallel lines running down the centre of the handle. Coarse unglazed fabric except for a speck of purplish glaze on rim. Possibly 15th/ early 16 <sup>th</sup> century ?
124	C1820-1830/40	19	720 gm	Sherds from 2 separate vessels of blue transfer printed Pearlware including a large footring bowl and a small cylindrical jar with lid seating (possibly a mustard pot or similar), both with Chinese style scenes. 1 x rim sherd from a late Chinese porcelain dish with blue hand painted decorations. Brown salt glazed ink bottle (c1815+). Body sherd of Yellow ware, body sherd of German selter water bottle (grey fabric). Body sherd of late Nottinghamshire stoneware. PMR/late red Border ware including flanged dish rim. All large fresh sherds.
<b>Total</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>1001 gms</b>	

**The Clay pipe by John Cotter**

B.1.7 A single piece of clay pipe stem (1g.) was recovered from Context (124). This is in a fresh condition. Its narrowness and narrow stem bore suggest a 19th-century date. No further work is recommended.

**The Ceramic building material (CBM) by John Cotter**

B.1.8 The CBM assemblage comprises 20 pieces weighing 4361g. These came from four contexts.

B.1.9 The assemblage consists almost entirely of large fresh peg tile (roofing tile) fragments and one fragment of ridge tile. Although medieval and post-medieval peg tiles cannot generally be closely dated, the good preservation of some of the examples here allows a dating within a century or two to be suggested on the basis of intrinsic characteristics.

B.1.10 However, association with more closely-datable pottery from the same contexts has also been useful in dating the CBM. This broadly confirms the CBM dating but is not the over-riding factor in the dating suggested here. Much of the tile assemblage here is probably late medieval or 'Tudor' in date (broadly 15th-17th century) and only Context (142) produced tiles with later, probably 18th-19th century, characteristics.

B.1.11 The earlier tiles - which are in the majority here - are of typical rectangular form with a pair of circular nailholes near the upper end. These are all handmade with many slight irregularities and handling marks - particularly along the edges. They all occur in a smooth or finely sandy orange or orange-brown fabric (see descriptions in spreadsheet) which may be made from the local London Clay. A thickness of 13-15mm is typical.

B.1.12 A complete late medieval or early Tudor peg tile from Context (117) is notable as complete tiles of this date - with associated pottery dating - are fairly rare. The tile has a length of 280mm., a width of 167mm. and a thickness of 14-18mm. (average c 15mm.). This has a pair of circular nailholes, crudely punched-through the upper end. One of the nailholes appears to have been imperfectly perforated during manufacture but the small c 5mm. hole subsequently punched-through after firing was probably sufficient to take a narrow iron nail (but not a wooden peg). These 'blind' nailholes have been observed on other medieval tiles in the Thames Valley. The complete tile is associated with a large



fresh sherd from a Coarse Border ware jar datable, most probably, to the 15th or early 16th century. Tiles from other contexts are mostly of 16th-17th century appearance but still mostly very similar to the complete tile. A single piece of plain curved post-medieval ridge tile occurred in Context (142). See the table for fuller details. No further work is recommended although it is recommended that all the CBM should be retained for future reference.

<b>Context</b>	<b>Spot date</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Comments</b>
107	C16th C17th	- 6	824 gm	Fresh peg tile fragments in a smooth orange fabric similar to those in (117), but slightly more fine voids caused by dissolved ?chalk, Thickness 13-15mm. 1 smaller fragment in a coarser sandier medieval-looking fabric 15mm thick & sandier underside. 1x thinner corner fragment 11-13mm thick with an over-fired darker red-brown fabric with more surface voids & grey ash glaze along edges. Only 1 with trace circular nailhole
116	Late C16th- C17th	5	1269 gm	Large fresh peg tile fragments in a orange smooth and sl sandy fabrics. Slight irregular manufacture. Some sanded underside. 13-16mm thicknesses typical. Leaf impression in one. Trace circular nailhole in one
117	C15th C17th	- 1	1278 gm	Complete 'medieval' peg tile. Length 280mm, Width 167mm, Thickness 14-18mm (average 15mm). Pair of fairly crude circular nailholes punched-through from upper surface, c16 & 18mm diam & c 61mm apart (centre-centre), exit bumps on underside. The left nailhole is only c5mm across on the inside and may have been made 'blind' - for use with an iron nail? The other nailhole is fully open. Black staining on lower int third and faint white ? mortar stains in same position ext plus general weathering show the tile was used. Also quite weathered and pitted in upper 60mm extent. Fairly smooth or very finely sandy orange-brown fabric with crude handling marks along edges and lower extent. Sides squared but slightly irregular. Few visible inclusions except very rare limestone/chalk to 8mm. Mostly fine red, brown and clear quartz sand, rare fine flint. Creased/crinkled lower internal end area during manufacture. Internal spalling near top. Fabric & irregularity suggest 'Tudor' date.
Total		12	3371 gm	

**Mortar** by John Cotter

B.1.13 A single piece of building mortar (180g.) was recovered from Context (142). The piece is sub-triangular in shape and unusually thick and slab-like (20mm thick), although its flattened edges appear to be accidental. In composition it is very hard or dense with a very sandy texture and is pale grey in colour. The outer surface is smoothed and flat white the inner (broken) surface is very irregular and has traces of soft red brick embedded in it. A date in the 18th or 19th century might be suggested. No further work is recommended.



## APPENDIX C. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

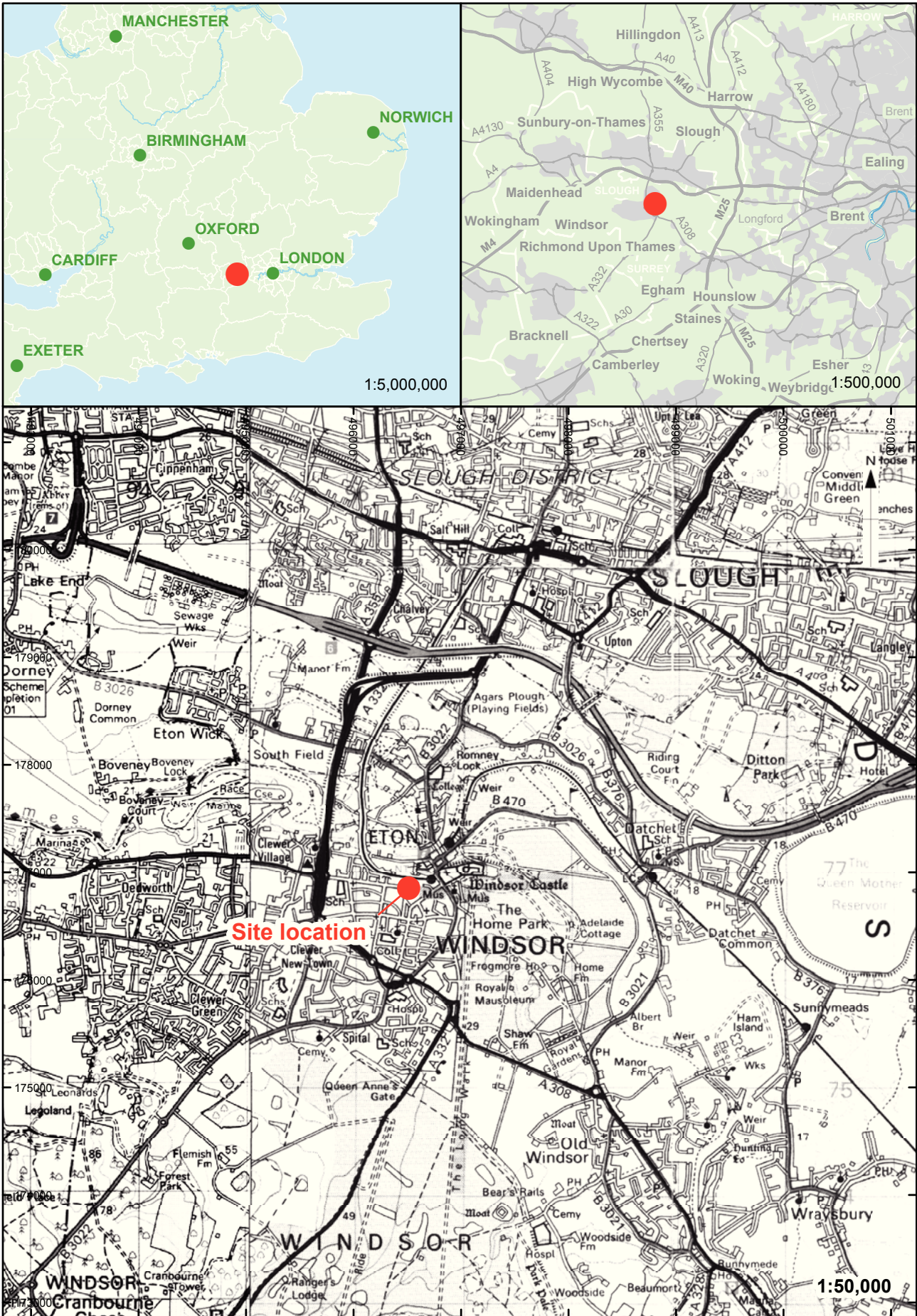
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## APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Daniel Department Store, Phase 2 Redevelopment, Peascod Street, Windsor
Site code:	WIDAST 11
Grid reference:	Centred at NGR SU 9677 7677
Type of watching brief:	Removal of underground obstructions prior to the construction of a piling mat and commencement of piling.
Date and duration of project:	Between March and May 2011
Area of site:	1,500 m <sup>2</sup>
Summary of results:	The watching brief revealed evidence of extensive truncation of the southern third of the site by modern intrusions, together with earlier basementing along the Peascod Street frontage of the site. Remains of the structures recorded on 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> century OS maps were also observed together with two associated brick-lined wells. Evidence for a late 16 <sup>th</sup> or 17 <sup>th</sup> century structure, in the form of demolition material, was encountered. No evidence for any deposits or structures predating the 16 <sup>th</sup> century was observed.
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Reading Museum in due course, under the accession number: REDMG.2009.177





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Figure 1: Site location

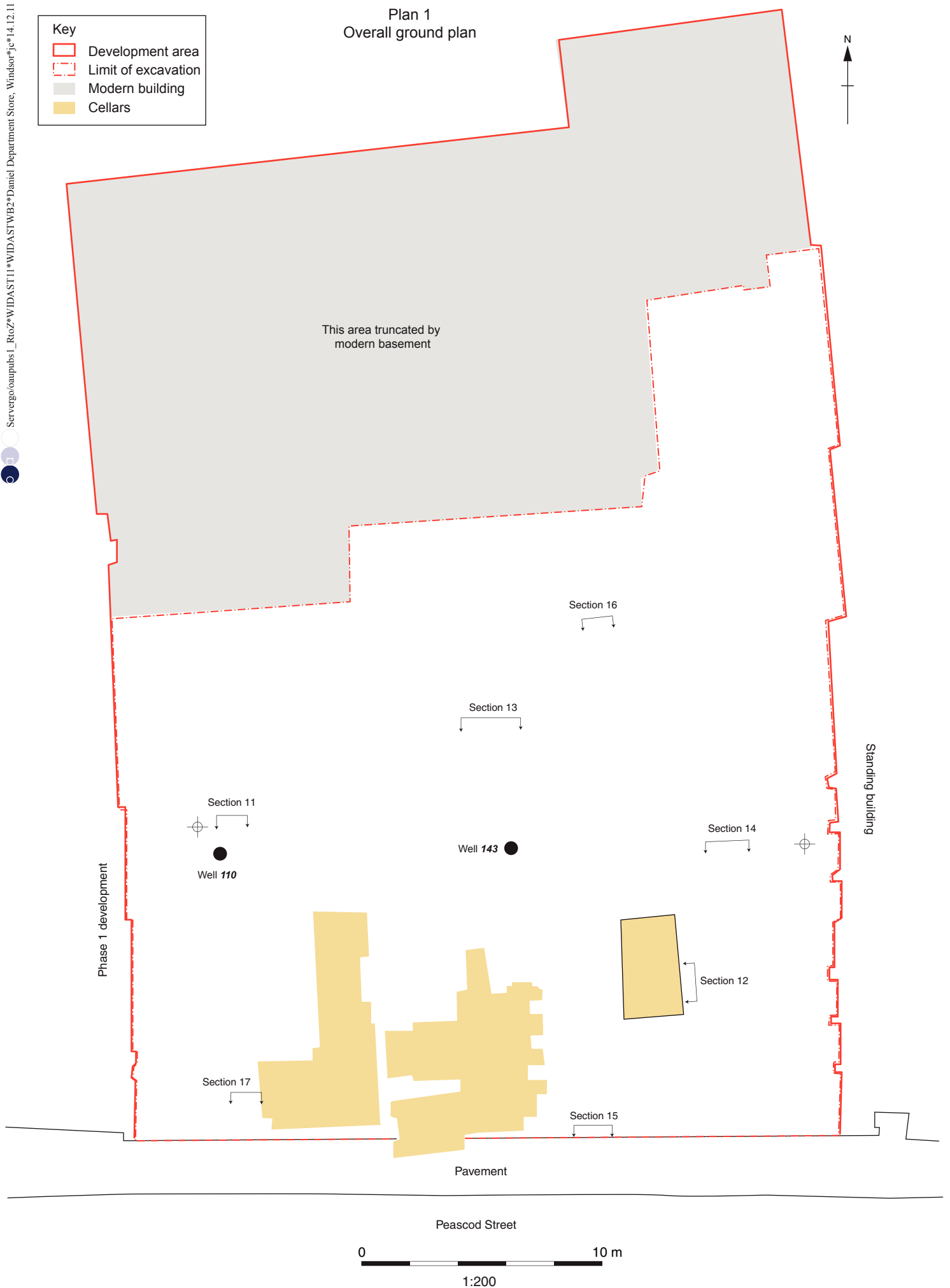


Figure 2: Site plan



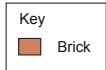
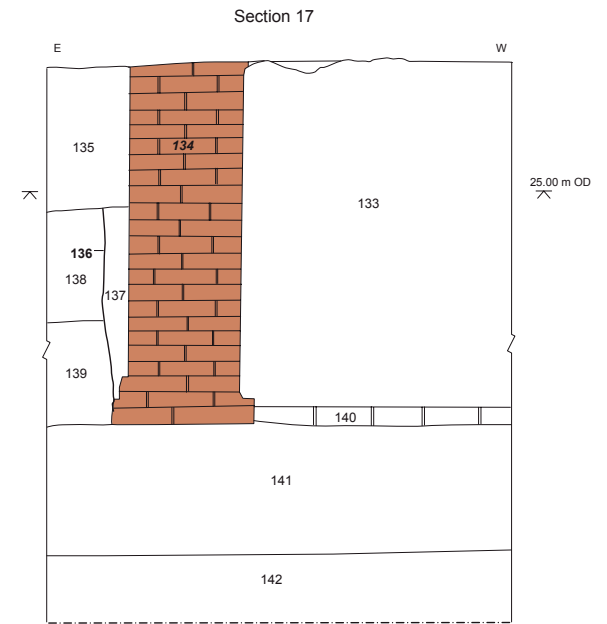
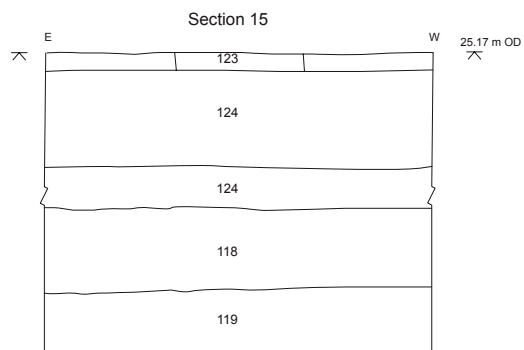
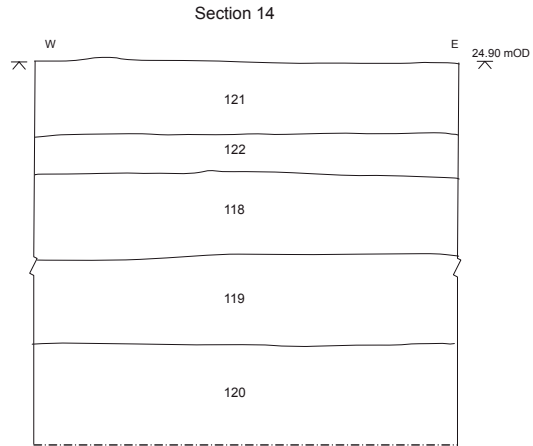
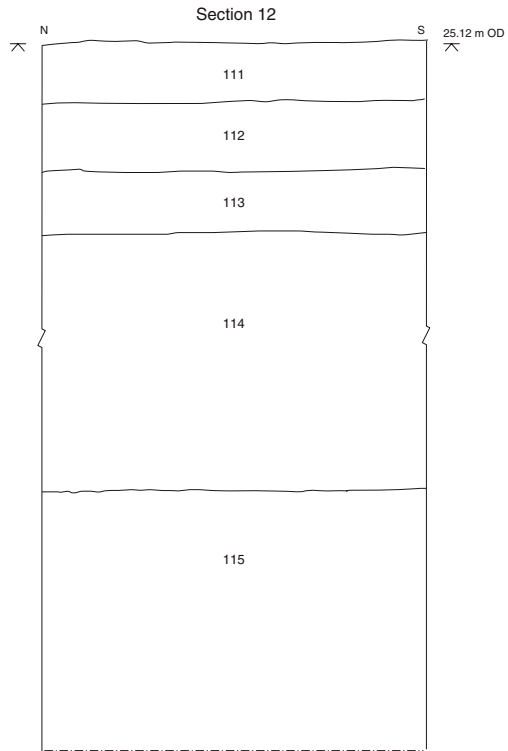
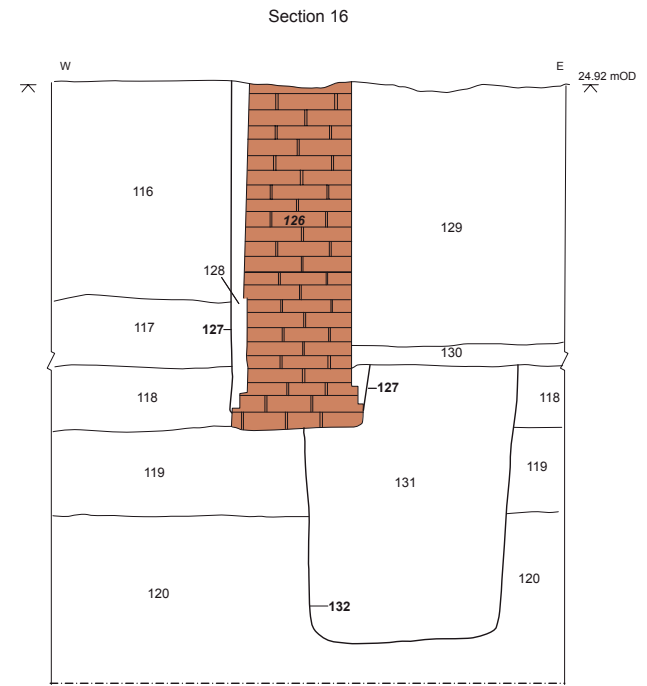
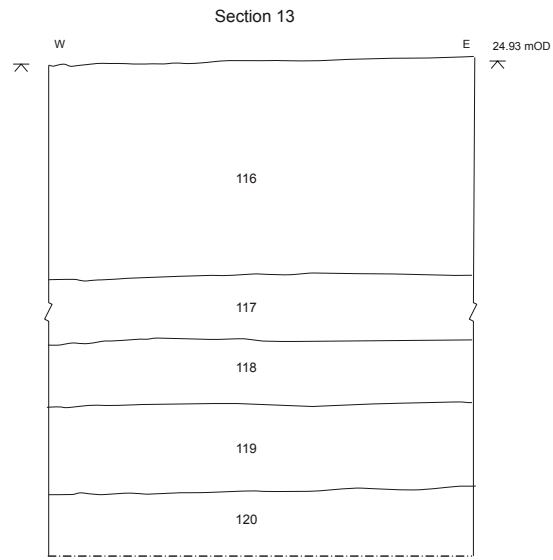
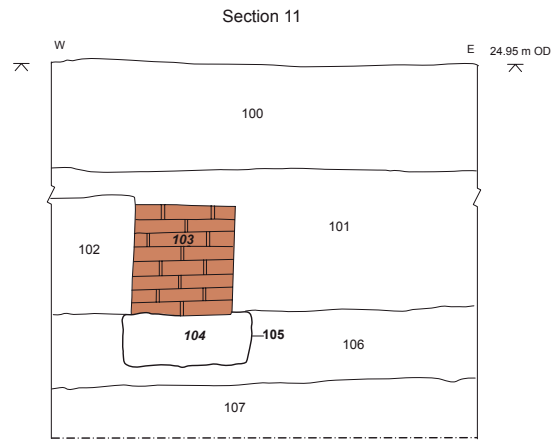
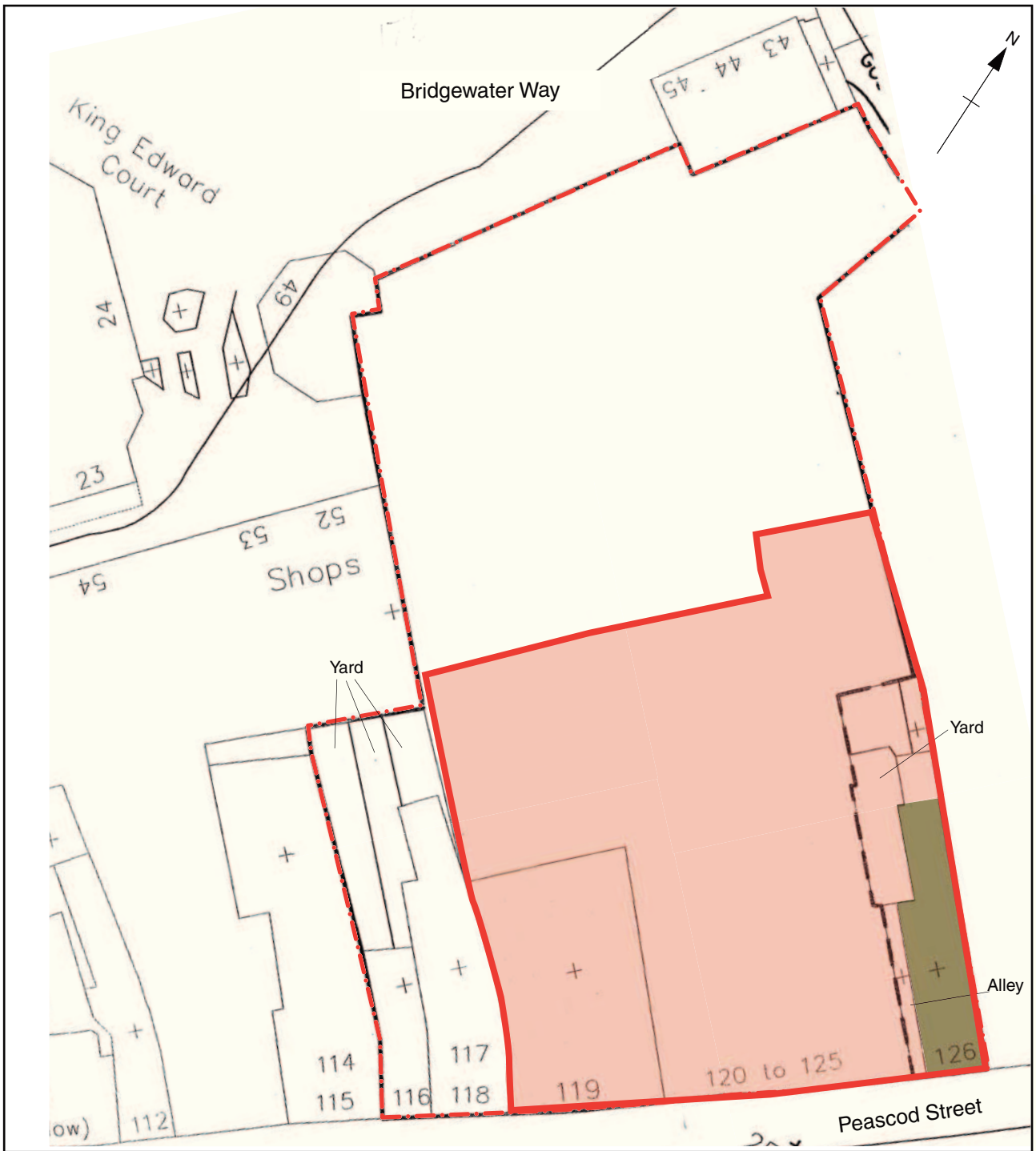


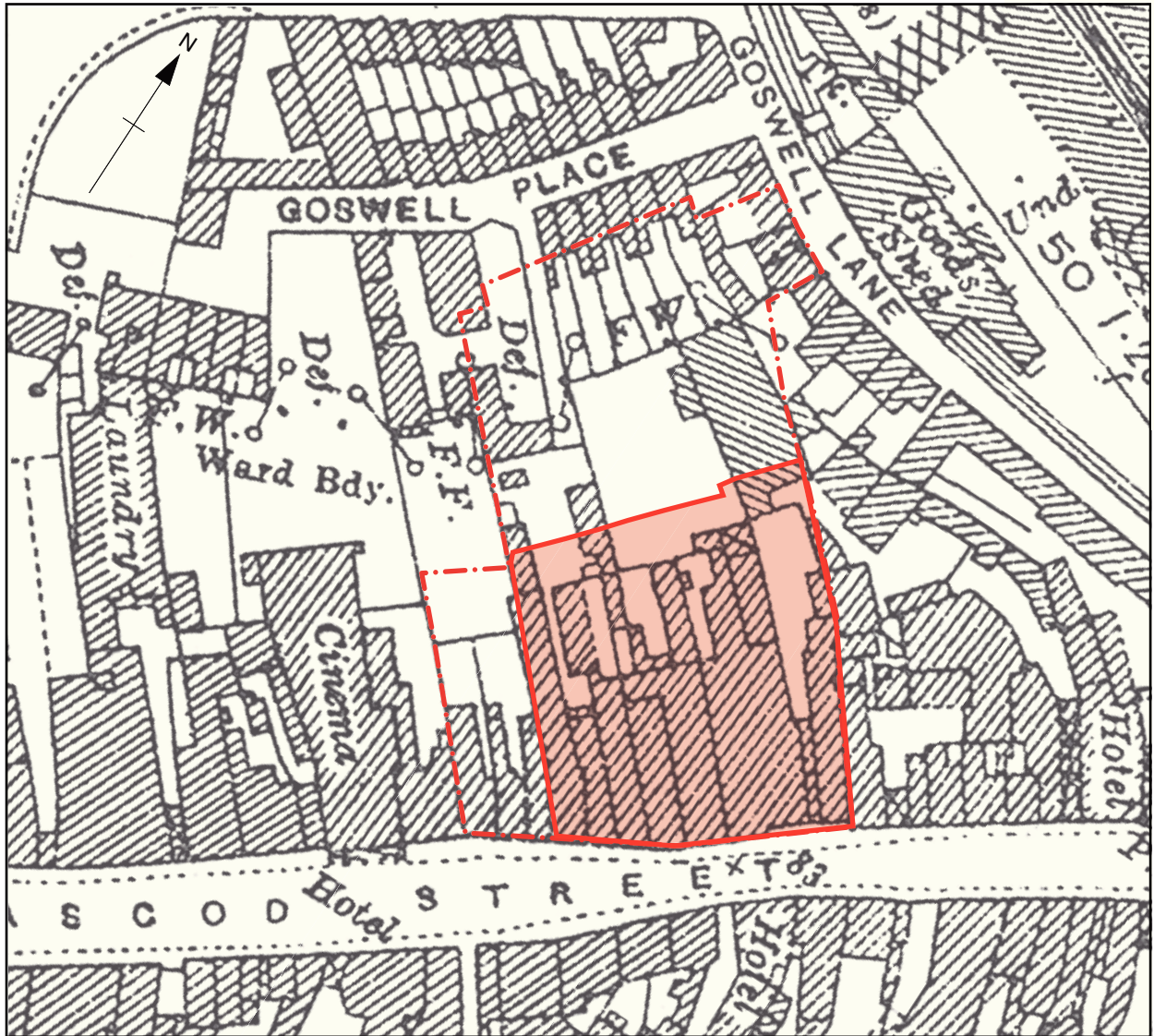
Figure 3: Sections



NOT TO SCALE

- - - Approximate area of development
- Buildings present on c. 1881 copy of 1st Edition OS Map
- Phase II development

Figure 4: 1881 Ordnance Survey plan of area



NOT TO SCALE

- - - - - Approximate area of development
- Phase II development

Figure 5: 1932 Ordnance Survey plan of area





Plate 1: Peg tile from context 117

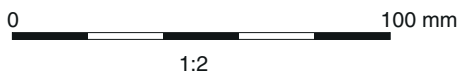
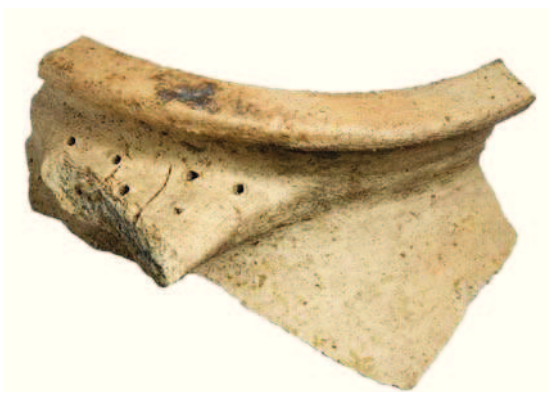


Plate 2: Rim sherd from Coarse Border ware cistern/jug 15th - Early 16th century





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