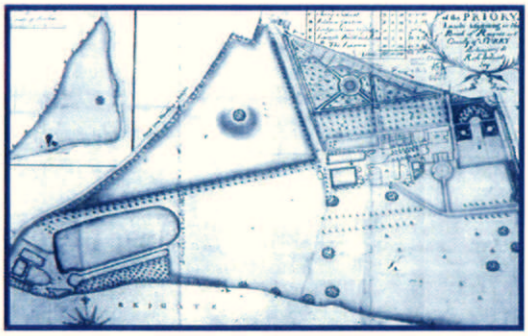
Priory Park
Reigate
Surrey



Desk-based Assessment, Geophysical Survey and Evaluation

Oxford Archaeology

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology undertook a staged programme of archaeological work at Priory Park, Reigate, Surrey, during May-July 2005 on behalf of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Land Use Consultants. This programme included a desk-based assessment, walkover survey, geophysical survey and trenched evaluation. Most of the fieldwork was targeted at elucidating the location and layout of the medieval Reigate Priory, and the post-Dissolution development of the Priory as a residence set in landscaped parkland. Stone wall foundations and burials, probably from the medieval Priory, were uncovered in one of the evaluation trenches. Evidence was also uncovered of post-Dissolution structures including a 17th-18th century building, that may have been a gatehouse or stable block. A section through an 18th century avenue leading to the Priory showed that it had earlier predecessors, possibly originating as a medieval hollow-way. Geophysical survey was also carried out on a known Bronze Age site within the Park, though the results were limited.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA), has been commissioned by Land Use Consultants (LUC), on behalf of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC), to undertake a programme of archaeological assessment and field evaluation at Priory Park, Reigate (NGR TQ 251 496; Fig. 1). This assessment follows the success of a Stage 1 Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid by RBBC for the implementation of a conservation and enhancement plan for Priory Park. The results of this work will form part of the submission for the Stage 2 HLF application in September 2005.

1.1.2 Priory Park today occupies an area of approximately 58 ha within Reigate. The Park is registered as Grade II on the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest (GD2180). Set within the Park is the Grade I listed former Priory building which is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument (AM 119). A school currently occupies the Priory building. The proposal area also contains a locally designated Site of High Archaeological Potential/Importance (SHAP 3120), this being a Bronze Age site.

1.1.3 The Park and Priory have a rich development history dating from their foundation in the late 12th to 13th centuries and continuing through to their municipal acquisition by Reigate Corporation in 1945. This report on documentary and non-invasive and invasive field investigations is intended to contribute to a detailed understanding of the historical development of the Priory and the associated parkland.

1.1.4 There are two principal aims to the archaeological assessment. The investigations were designed to provide an integrated, detailed examination and record of current and potential surviving archaeological remains relating the development of the Priory and Park, particularly the eighteenth century gardens, in order to inform the proposed reinstatement works. The desk-based assessment was also carried out to assess the general archaeological potential of the whole Park so that the archaeological implications can be considered for any future intrusive management works.

1.1.5 This archaeological assessment has three components:

- a desk-based assessment incorporating a site walkover survey.
- a geophysical survey of the area surrounding the present Priory House, the Bronze Age site and the former site of the icehouse.
- a programme of evaluation trenching targeted on the results produced both by the desk-based assessment and geophysical survey.

1.1.6 The results of these three strands of work are presented below. The desk-based assessment appears first, incorporating the results of the site walkover. This is followed by the results of the geophysical survey and then the field evaluation. The concluding discussion combines the information obtained from all three strands of work.

2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1.1 Priory Park is located immediately to the south of the historic town centre of Reigate, Surrey, centred on NGR TQ 251 496. The Park occupies an area of *c* 58 ha, of which *c* 3 ha are formal gardens and *c* 20 ha are wooded. The site is bounded by Bell Street and privately owned houses to the south and east, Park Lane to the west and commercial properties in Reigate town centre to the north. The site contains both the Municipal Park and Reigate Priory School.

2.1.2 The Park is located on a varied topography. The southern area is occupied by a Greensand Ridge that reaches a height of 131 m OD, whilst to the north the land slopes gently down from the foot of the ridge to Reigate town centre, which lies at an approximate height of 80 m OD. The Wray/Lesborne Stream once probably crossed the centre of the site but is now mostly culverted on a more northerly route and under the present buildings on the Priory site.

2.1.3 The 1:50,000 Geological Survey of Great Britain (BGS sheet 286, 1974) shows the site overlying three divisions of the Lower Greensand. The lower area to the north is formed from Folkestone Beds, whilst the ridge is formed of Sandgate Beds overlying Hythe Beds. Some small outcroppings of Hythe Beds occur higher on the ridge. Atherfield Clay is found below the ridge to the south.

3 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

3.1.1 A previous *Historic Landscape Survey and Management Plan* of Priory Park was produced for RBBC in August 2000 (Couch 2000). This document includes an account of the historical, archaeological, cartographic and pictorial background of the site for the period from approximately AD 1150 onwards. This present desk based assessment expands upon our understanding of the site pre-AD 1150, but should be read in conjunction with the detailed information contained within the *Historic Landscape Survey and Management Plan* for the period post-dating AD 1150. The aims of the desk-based assessment were to:

- Provide insights into the pre-"monastic" history and archaeology of the Priory and Park. This may potentially include prehistoric and Roman evidence, as well as the original development of the deer park associated with Reigate Manor and Castle;
- Establish the location of the original priory precincts and buildings (including the Priory hospital) and to assess the extent and quality of any below-ground preservation;
- Establish the possible development of any medieval ancillary features, such as fish and mill ponds within Priory Park, and identify their incorporation into the post-medieval planned parkland landscape following the monastic Dissolution of AD 1536;
- Establish the degree of survival and chronology of alteration to building structures and the parkland landscape from the 16th century through to the early 20th century.

Sources consulted

3.1.2 This assessment was made following the standards set out by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) and the field survey was conducted to Level 1 standards (RCHME 1999). The general approach and methodology has been to consider the archaeology in terms of the archaeological sites and monuments present within the study area. These resources may be nationally or locally designated (by registration, listing or scheduling), may appear in the national or local archaeological record, or may be identified from scrutiny of the landscape and historic records. The approach adopted provides an indication as to the extent, survival and importance of archaeological features within the study area. The sources consulted comprise:

- The Surrey County Council Sites and Monuments Record

- The National Monuments Record (Swindon)
- The National Monuments Record Aerial Photography Collection (Swindon)
- English Heritage (London) for information on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens
- Surrey History Centre (Woking) for archive and cartographic sources
- Bodleian and Sackler Libraries (Oxford) for published sources
- Relevant archives and sources held by Oxford Archaeology.

3.1.3 Sites and features identified from these sources have been given a unique (**OA**) number (allocated OA numbers **OA 1** to **OA 17** and **OA 35** to **OA 54**), are included within a gazetteer (Appendix 1) and marked on the features map (Fig. 2). Sites and features recorded during the walkover survey have been allocated unique OA numbers **OA 18** to **34** (see below). Details of the sources consulted are recorded in Appendix 5.

Walkover survey

3.1.4 The site visit and walkover survey was undertaken between 31st May and 3rd June 2005 inclusive. The walkover served to assess information previously listed and to examine the topography and geomorphology of the site. The walkover also sought to record any previously unidentified archaeological features and attempt to place them in their proper chronological position in the development of the parkland landscape.

3.1.5 Where identified, features were plotted using a hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS). This gives accuracies of around one metre. Items of detail were noted as they were observed. In general no transects were walked. The exception to this was the wooded area on the northern side of Park Hill. Here three transects were walked; one on the upper slopes, one across the middle of the hill and one at the base of the hill. The use of transects in this location was adopted due to the heavily wooded nature of the ground. Had a less systematic walkover been carried out here, items of interest may not have been observed. In general, weather conditions were fair with drizzle on one day. When the weather was fine, the intense light made earthworks difficult to observe. Therefore, a visit was made to the site between 7.30 pm and 9.00 pm in order to take advantage of low sunlight conditions.

3.1.6 The walkover survey identified a number of distinct landscape features within the Park, including extant earthworks and linear features. These features have been allocated unique OA numbers (**OA 18** to **34**), are listed in Appendix 1, and are depicted on the features mapping (Fig. 2).

- **OA 18** - A flattened platform of approximately 0.75 ha.
- **OA 19** - A strong scarp (approximately 3 m high, 7 m wide) with a low bank on top.
- **OA 20** - A slight ditch and bank.
- **OA 21** - A flattened platform of approximately 0.4 ha.
- **OA 22** - Bank and ditch, approximately 750 m long, 1 m high and 0.5 m wide, which extends east-west across the southern foot of Park Hill.
- **OA 23** - Bank and ditch, approximately 180 m long, 0.5 m high and 2 m wide, which extends north-south across the grassed area of Priory Park.
- **OA 24** - Possible ridge and furrow.
- **OA 25** - Very slight earthwork, approximately 100 m long, 0.2 m high and 2 m wide, with a flat top. Extends east-west just north of the present path that links the lake to the house

- **OA 26** - An earthwork approximately 15 m long, 0.3 m high and 2 m wide with a flat top, overlying OA28.
- **OA 27** - Slight earthwork possibly representing wall footing.
- **OA 28** - Strong earthwork running north-south, 1 m high and 3 m wide on top. The scarps are 2 m wide.
- **OA 29** - A series of very slight earthworks, covering an area of approximately 0.6 ha.
- **OA 30** - A series of very slight earthworks covering an area of approximately 0.30 ha.
- **OA 31** - Three banks approximately 30.0 m long, 0.50 m high and 0.50 m wide.
- **OA 32** - Terracing around a natural knoll, consisting of two terraces each approximately 2 m wide on top, approximately 2 m high and 1.5 m wide
- **OA 33** - Present northern boundary of Park, a substantial brick wall that sits atop a low, wide earthen bank, approximately 0.5 m high and 4 m wide.
- **OA 34** - Series of earthworks between grassed area in front of the house and Bell Street, covering an area of approximately 0.7 ha.

Discussion by period

Palaeolithic Period

3.1.7 Lower Palaeolithic sites seem to concentrate close to rivers and other bodies of water with occupations present by c. 250,000 bp (Roe 1981). Later glacial advances such as the Devensian (c. 70 – 30,000 bp) will have affected the survival of the ephemeral remains of the Lower Palaeolithic period and will have resulted in negligible human activity during the Middle Palaeolithic period in the region. Episodic utilisation appears to have returned by the Upper Palaeolithic, c. 10,000 bp, as the ice sheet receded (Jacobi 1980).

3.1.8 Evidence for occupation/exploitation within Surrey in the Upper Palaeolithic period derives from only a small number of sites from which diagnostic lithic artefacts have been recovered (Ellaby 1987). These are thought to be the product of casual hunting losses by foraging hunter gatherer groups that entered the region during the summer months. The area occupied by the park may potentially have represented an attractive position to exploit hunting grounds in the region (Lewis *et al.* 1992). No strata are at all likely to survive from that period on this site. No known finds of Palaeolithic artefacts have, however, been recorded from within Priory Park and the likely potential for evidence of this period is considered low.

Mesolithic Period

3.1.9 The Mesolithic period is marked by the alteration in the lithic technology previously utilised by Upper Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers, such as the introduction of microliths, blades etc, that is believed to have resulted as a response to the rise in temperature at the end of the last glacial period. The resultant climate change enabled woodland to become established in the previously open countryside, requiring the need to adapt previous hunting strategies (Ellaby 1987).

3.1.10 Evidence for Mesolithic occupation activity within Surrey is well attested, and analysis of artefact concentrations would suggest a degree of semi-permanent occupation in areas situated on free draining soils, such as the sands and gravels, and which had

access to a permanent water supply (Ellaby 1987). The pattern of known settlement of this period is dominated by the area of the Lower Greensand, within which the parkland is situated. Early Mesolithic occupation in this area is well documented, however a distinct shift in settlement/occupation focus appears to occur around c. 6000 BC, where later Mesolithic sites appear to predominate on the gravels and clays, south of the Greensand escarpment (Ellaby 1987). Ellaby suggests that one potential reason for this shift in emphasis of occupation activity away from the Greensand in the later Mesolithic period could relate to burning practices to encourage game to areas of open pasture, which over time, would have caused irreversible damage to the soil structure (ibid).

3.1.11 Whilst the early and later mesolithic periods are characterised by differing lithic technologies, a third further distinct 'Horsham' or 'Wealden' lithic assemblage has been identified in Surrey dating between 7000 BC to 6000 BC, so called from a characteristic hollow point. These points are believed to represent arrowheads and represent an increase in the use of the bow as a hunting tool in response to an increasingly thickening woodland with the appearance of Oak and Elm (Ellaby 1987). The known distribution of such distinctive points is concentrated in the Weald.

3.1.12 No known finds of this period have been recorded from within Priory Park itself. However, Mesolithic flintwork has been recovered immediately to the north of the Park at 16 Bell Street (**OA 47**) and the Congregational Church (**OA 50**), and a significant Mesolithic site is known to lie 1.5 km to the NW on Reigate Heath (Cotton 2004). Given that most of the Park lies on Greensand deposits, the potential for Mesolithic occupation must be regarded as good.

Neolithic Period (4,300 BC - 2,300 BC)

3.1.13 Recorded evidence for Neolithic activity within Surrey remains limited with only a small number of field monuments being known, these being a causewayed enclosure at Staines, a long barrow at Badshot Lea and cursus monument at Stanwell (Field and Cotton 1987). The evidence for occupation activity in this period is dominated by artefacts rather than monuments.

3.1.14 Artefacts have been recovered from all over the Greensand in Surrey, upon which the study area is situated. Whilst known sites of this period appear to have distributions which favour riverine locations, the light, warm and easily worked soils situated on the Greensand are thought to have been attractive to the earliest farmers and their primitive cultivation practices (Field and Cotton 1987).

3.1.15 Pollen studies have suggested that extensive woodland clearance for arable farming and husbandry began in the Neolithic period with a change from lime with oak and pine woodland to beech dominated woodland by c 2,000 BC. This is matched by an increase in the appearance of cereal grains and ruderals in archaeological contexts (Girling and Grieg 1977).

3.1.16 Although no specific finds from this period appear within the boundary of the park, there have been a number of finds from the area surrounding the park, recorded outside of the 1km study area. These include polished flint axes and leaf-shaped arrowheads from Reigate Heath, 1.5 km to the NW. This suggests at least a potential for Neolithic activity in Priory Park.

Bronze Age Period (2,300 BC - 600 BC)

3.1.17 In the Bronze Age the intensification of land use may be associated with a change in agricultural practices and increasing population with greater social complexity (Cunliffe

1978). Further clearances of woodland have been claimed in the Wealden area towards the end of the Bronze Age. A higher frequency of cereal remains is indicative of widespread arable uptake with open grassland for grazing (Holgate 1995).

1.1.1 Early Bronze Age activity in areas immediately adjacent to Priory Park is represented by two separate stray finds of barbed and tanged flint arrowheads (**OA 38-39**). The lack of context for these finds makes interpretation difficult. They could simply be casual losses, but the presence of a barrow cemetery further down the Greensand ridge at Reigate Heath (1.5 km to the NW) raises the possibility that they could derive from disturbed burials. A probably Bronze Age pit is also recorded just outside the Park (**OA 16**), but its precise date is unclear.

1.1.2 A series of Late Bronze Age copper alloy artefacts have been found by metal detectorists in a restricted area on the ridge in the southern part of Priory Park. These consist of a barbed spearhead, two socketed axes, a socketed gouge, a sword blade fragment and copper ingot fragments (Williams 1996). Trial excavation of two small trenches in the vicinity of these finds produced no archaeological features, but did yield a further socketed axe along with a small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery and worked flint (**OA 11-13**) (Williams 1994). The Late Bronze Age activity has been designated as an area of high archaeological potential.

3.1.18 Earthworks present on the same area of the ridge may well be associated with the Late Bronze Age finds. These include a flattened area on the top of the ridge, (**OA 18**), enclosed by a strong scarp, approximately 3 m high and approximately 7 m wide with a low bank on-top (**OA 19**). The overall height of the scarp reduces to approximately 1 m high and 0.5 m wide, to the north and east. Due to the thickness of the vegetation and the gradient of the bank, it was decided not to explore the southern side of the ridge for safety reasons. However, this bank appears to extend right round the top of this area, enclosing an area of approximately 0.75 ha. A further slight bank and ditched feature (**OA 20**) observed to the west may also be associated with these earthwork features. A second similar, but smaller area (**OA 21**) is visible at the western end of the ridge. Here an area of approximately 0.4 ha was observed, again consisting of a flattened area surrounded by a scarp of approximately 1 m high and 0.5 m wide. This feature is less certain as a Bronze Age feature and may directly relate to the removal of the reservoir in this vicinity.

3.1.19 The finds from Priory Park fit with a recognised pattern of metalwork deposition at favoured high points spaced at regular intervals along the Surrey Greensand ridge (Cotton 2004). The presence of ingots could indicate that metalworking was also taking place, or may represent trading. The significance of the earthworks is not clear, but high status enclosed or defended settlements were a feature of the Late Bronze Age in other parts of southern England (Needham 1993). The Priory Park site could thus have seen a combination of ritual (metalwork deposition), craft and settlement activities, making it potentially highly significant in a regional context. It is possible, however, that during the later development of the area as a formal park, elements of the earthworks of this site were improved upon and incorporated into the parkland landscape.

Iron Age Period (600 BC - 43 AD)

3.1.20 Although the number of known Iron Age settlements in Surrey has increased substantially over the last two decades, there is still little evidence from the Reigate area. Some Late Iron Age coins are recorded as deriving from the Reigate area, but their exact findspots are unknown (NMR 400277 and 400314).

1.1.3 No artefacts or other settlement evidence of Iron Age date have so far been identified from within Priory Park. Terraces associated with the 'knoll' in the northern part of Priory Park (**OA 32**) have been suggested to represent part of an Iron Age fortification (letter from Dr T. Welsh, dated 21st April 2002), but this seems unlikely. Given the lack of evidence from the surrounding area, the potential for Iron Age remains within the Park must be regarded as an unknown.

Roman Period (43AD – 410 AD)

3.1.21 There is no evidence that the Reigate area was a major centre of population during the Roman period, although a possible villa is known 1km to the NW of Priory Park at Colley Farm, and tile production sites are known to have existed in the Doods Road area, 1.5 km to the NE. The only Roman find from the Park itself is a copper alloy phallic pendant found with a metal detector on the Greensand ridge (Alexander and Bird 1996). Although only an isolated find, it is of interest as it may indicate the presence of a ritual site situated on the ridge top (David Williams pers com).

Early Medieval Period (AD410 - 1066)

3.1.22 That a settlement of this period existed, prior to the establishment of medieval Reigate, is inferred from the documented Manor of Reigate, recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as *Cherchefelle*, and by recent excavations carried out in 1986 adjacent to the parish church of St Mary Magdelene, situated c. 1km to the east of the medieval town centre, that would have originally belonged to the early manor (Poulton 1987). Excavation revealed evidence of plot boundaries and associated occupation and industrial activity indicating that settlement existed around the church, possibly acquiring proto-urban characteristics by the Saxo-Norman period (Poulton 1987).

3.1.23 At the time of the Norman Conquest the Manor is known to have been held by Edith, the widow of Edward the Confessor (VCH 1967), indicating that at this date it may already have been a part of a Royal Demesne. Poulton suggests that the expansion of the early settlement in the Saxo-Norman period was implemented on an ordered basis (Poulton 1987). This may mean that the Demesne held Royal status. The development of this settlement is thought, however, to have come to an abrupt end with the establishment of the castle and new town of Reigate in the 12th century, the area within which the Priory and park are situated. No documentary evidence exists to indicate that the site now occupied by Priory Park had been developed prior to the Conquest. The Domesday entry does record, however, that the Demesne contained a relatively large area of meadowland and wooded swine pasture (VCH 1967).

3.1.24 Whilst no direct evidence for early Medieval activity has been found within Priory Park, a knoll located in the north west of the park (**OA 17** and **OA 32**) has been suggested, through survey conducted by Dr Thomas Welch, to represent the former remains of an earlier Saxon defensive ringwork (letter from Dr T. Welch, dated 21st April 2002). Without invasive investigation, this suggestion cannot be evaluated. It is just as, if not more, likely a later post-medieval park landscape feature such as a prospect mount.

3.1.25 Given the emphasis of early settlement away from the area of the later planned medieval town, the site is considered likely to only have a low potential for evidence dating to the early medieval period.

Later Medieval Period (AD1066-1550)

3.1.26 The Manor at Reigate (*Cherchefelle)* was in all probability given by William II, c. 1088, to William de Warenne on his creation as 1st Earl of Surrey. It is to this period that the new motte and bailey castle was constructed (c. 1090) and the planned new town of Reigate established. The establishment of the area of Priory Park (**OA 2**) as a Baron's hunting preserve can probably be attributed to the period between this, and the settling of part of the Demesne of Reigate upon the Augustinian Order, between 1202 and 1233 for the founding of a *hospitium*.

3.1.27 The medieval town was centred on the castle with its nucleus being formed by High Street and Bell Street. A foundation within the latter half of the 12th century is supported by evidence recorded from archaeological investigations which have produced pottery of this date, but no earlier (O'Connell 1977).

3.1.28 The size and extent of the medieval deer park, within which Priory Park is thought to be situated, remains uncertain, although, it would appear likely to have been within an area defined by Bell Street to the east, High Street to the north and Park Lane to the west (Fig. 2). It may be possible to suggest that the northern extent of the former deer park extended up to the southern side of High Street prior to the establishment of the planned town (Fig. 2). The castle would have provided a commanding view over which the hunt could have been observed with deer being driven up to a point that is now defined by the High Street. Certainly, the alignment of Bell Street and Park Lane describes a loose funnel shape, the narrowest point being situated at the base of the castle. The definition of the park boundary south of the castle may equally have influenced the development of High Street and Bell Street, the nucleus of the medieval town in the later 12th century. Such an interpretation may be supported by the suggestion that the later Priory was situated further to the north of Priory House along Bell Street at Brewery Yard (**OA 9/10**: discussed below, Williams 1980). The parkland on which it was built therefore incorporating an area perhaps extending as far north as the High Street.

3.1.29 Whether the Priory was established on uncultivated parkland does, however, also remain uncertain. The presence of possible ridge and furrow earthworks (**OA 24**) has been noted within the park at the base of Park Hill, although their precise function and character remain uncertain, as does the date of their creation. It therefore remains possible that the land provided to the Priory was taken from cultivated arable land, established subsequent to the development of the planned town, rather than from the deer park (Dennis Turner, letter dated 7th July 2005). In this case, the park boundary would not have extended as far north as the High Street and west of Bell Street.

3.1.30 Evidence of medieval activity on Park Hill has been recorded from the recovery, by metal detectorists, of a 12th-13th century seal die (**OA 37**), and from archaeological excavations of a bank and ditched feature (**OA 53**), of uncertain function, on the west side of Park Hill. This was shown to contain a small assemblage of medieval pottery.

The Priory

3.1.31 The Priory at Reigate, an Augustinian house of canons, was first founded between 1202 and 1233 by William de Warenne, 6th Earl of Surrey, as a *hospitium*. The land was taken from Reigate Manor, and became established as a separate Manor in its own right. The house was re-ordered as a Priory in 1298, and by 1334 had become an exclusively religious house (O'Connel 1977). There are a number of records of enlargement of the Priory lands throughout the 14th century. The area known as Spittlefield, located to the south east of Priory Park, became established to provide rents to support the Priory's hospital.

3.1.32 The life of the collegiate body was centred around its church. This would have been the first major building to have been constructed, subsequent to which the requisite permanent accommodations for the canons would have been provided. At this date the

model would have undoubtedly been monastic; all things being equal, following a standard plan such as that illustrated in figure 4 (from Braun 1951). The layout of the other buildings such as dormitories, refectory, chapter house, rere-dorter etc around a cloister to the south of the church would be expected, but topography or other reasons often reversed this layout or rendered it unsuitable. The culverting of the Wray Stream is most likely to date from this period as active management of water sources to improve sanitation was a normal "monastic" requirement.

3.1.33 Associated with the priory complex would have been a separate hall building with kitchens attached, normally located on the eastern side, that would have served as the hospital or 'infirmary' (Braun 1951). Over time, as monasticism gained in popularity and austerity began to wane, apartments for officials within higher ranks were created, sometimes as separate buildings within the monastic precinct. However, the degree to which this was achieved largely depended on the wealth of the foundation.

3.1.34 The wider precinct of the would contain the more practical and everyday functions such gardening, stores, barns, stabling, a bakehouse and very probably a brewery. An illustration of the extent of a monastic precinct and the buildings which it would have enclosed, has been reproduced in figure 4 (after Braun 1951). The degree to which these were elaborated would depend on the wealth and importance of the foundation and the layout cannot easily be predicted in a small establishment.

3.1.35 The Priory at Reigate is thought to have been such a modest foundation, with the number of canons resident often falling below six (Hooper 1945), and is unlikely to have contained elaborate ranges of buildings. Documentary evidence from the Winchester Diocesan Records does describe the Priory church as large enough for the local inhabitants to attend service, and having a Chapter House , a Hospitium and a burial ground (Scears post-1949). The Priory also owned various other farms and properties equating to an extensive land holding. The precise arrangement and number of buildings forming the monastic house remains uncertain, but is likely to have been heavily influenced by local topography, resources and circumstances of the environment in which it was set.

3.1.36 As illustrated above, the principal focus of any monastic house of this period was its church. Traditionally, this is thought to form the basis of the present southern range of the Priory House. The orientation of the present surviving structure and the existence of architectural features, such as the now-walled up Great West Door, and documentary reference to the former Lady Chapel, have been considered indicative of a former ecclesiastical origin. Figure 5 shows a hypothetical development history (from Shaikhley and Pattison 1996) from Priory to present day.

3.1.37 John Evelyn's description of the building in 1655 as 'an ancient monastry in well repair' seems to suggest that the present structure is the modified church and conventual buildings, but should not be taken as a literal reference to older fabric.

3.1.38 The building survey undertaken of the upstanding structure has found no building fabric earlier than the 16th and 17th centuries, with recent investigation also having revealed the presence of an *in situ* post-Dissolution window arch at the western end of the southern range (Tony Howe pers com). On present knowledge of the building, there is no direct evidence that southern range of Priory House does represent the former location of the Priory church.

3.1.39 Judith Roebuck of English Heritage has noted that this does not rule out the existence of earlier fabric, especially in cellars and foundations (comments on the conservation plan, July 2003).

3.1.40 To date, evidence recorded archaeologically of potential former Priory remains on the site has also been limited, although this is most likely the result of the small scale nature of archaeological interventions on the site rather than a true absence of surviving below

ground deposits. A composite plan illustrating the results of both invasive and non-invasive archaeological investigation undertaken around the Priory is shown in figure 6.

3.1.41 To the south of Priory House a number of large north to south aligned stone wall foundations, measuring between 0.80 m to 1.45 m wide were recorded by an archaeological watching brief conducted in 1993 during trench excavation for floodlighting (**OA 43**). No dating evidence was recovered by the excavations, although the lack of any associated ceramic building material recorded with these foundations suggests that they are 16th century or earlier (Williams 1993). Probe survey undertaken between the recorded walls met with resistance along the excavated trench at a depth of 0.70 m to 0.75 m from present ground surface. A single trial trench was excavated to ascertain the nature of this resistance which was shown to be caused by a mass of mortared stone (Williams 1993). This evidence may possibly suggest the presence of further structures or associated internal floor surfaces etc. Documentary evidence also records the disturbance of burials (see **OA 43**) in this location during initial construction works on the sunken garden, the discovery of which, caused the sunken garden to be moved further to the south of the building (Williams 1992). The presence of these recorded remains does support the conjecture that the claustral range extended south of the present Priory House (see figure 6).

3.1.42 Further evidence of potential and probable monastic structures has been recorded during a watching brief conducted at 38-40, Bell Street in 1990 (**OA 45**) and by excavations undertaken by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (SCAU) in 1993, north east of Priory House, in the Bell Street car park (**OA 44**).

3.1.43 The remains of a mortared surface and stone foundations were recorded from 38-40 Bell Street, whilst at the Bell Street car park two sets of massive stone wall foundations dated to the 13th century were recorded. These were interpreted as forming a substantial structure c. 25 m in length, possibly the remains of a lodge or hospice attached to the medieval Priory (SCAU 1993). While the interpretation of these structures is tentative, the presence of substantial masonry structures does suggest that the Priory precincts extended this far. This precinct could originally have incorporated an area immediately south of the watercourse (Lesbourne Brook) perhaps along the present park boundary, and west of Bell Street, perhaps extending as far as the watercourse illustrated by Rocque to the west.

3.1.44 Among the evidence of later 17th and 18th century activity recorded in the area of the playgrounds to the south east of Priory House (**OA 42**) is residual evidence of medieval pottery, dressed masonry and roof tiles that are indicative of medieval structures on, or in close proximity, to this location (Williams 1990). The precise character and location of the priory precinct remains uncertain.

3.1.45 No earthworks or definite landscape features have been observed within the parkland that give an indication of the location of any former buildings of the Priory. Archaeological monitoring during path reinstatement works conducted to the south, south west and south east of Priory House has produced no evidence of archaeological deposits associated with the Priory. However, the depth of reinstatement works was shown to be too shallow to have affected any potential surviving archaeological horizons (SCAU 2000). Equally, recent geophysical survey, carried out by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory (Linford 1993) and Arrow Geophysics (see Section 6 below) to the north, south and east of the house, has provided inconclusive evidence for the presence of former structures adjacent to the present Priory building.

3.1.46 Part of the survey area includes the later formal gardens, as depicted in the Estate Plan of 1767(?) (Fig. 8), and these in part may have masked the buried deposits with overburden. The results must however also be seen as generally disappointing, and perhaps not a true reflection of the site's potential, given that walls recorded to the south of the Priory in 1993 were not masked by material such as demolition rubble (Williams

1993), yet were not picked up by the survey. The presence of extensive demolition deposits elsewhere on the site cannot, however, be dismissed as these were certainly observed closer to Priory House in 1993 (Williams 1993).

3.1.47 The paucity of information regarding the medieval phases of the Priory makes any interpretation of its location and extent difficult, and, ultimately conjectural. Any attempt at providing a possible interpretation are still largely based on general assumptions about the layout of such establishments.

3.1.48 It can only be re-iterated that local conditions would have been an important factor in its siting and general layout. Primary to this would have been the importance of an accessible watercourse in the planning of the monastic complex. In reference to Rocque's map of Surrey dated 1768, two structures are illustrated in the presumed location of the Austin (or Augustinian) house with a watercourse running to the north and west to Park pond (Fig. 7). It is noted that the stream running to the north was culverted in the monastic period and the illustrated alignment of the stream by Rocque makes it fairly clear that this watercourse was managed.

3.1.49 Evidence for the remains of an infilled watercourse on the boundary of the park and town (**OA 40**) was recorded by excavation undertaken by Woods in 1974. A version of this appears on Bryant's survey of 1785 and this watercourse appears to be the one excavated at Brewery Yard (**OA 9/10**, Williams 1980). The stream course recorded at Brewery Yard was backfilled with extensive demolition rubble around the late 16th century and it is suggested that this event may reflect the recorded conversion of the buildings of the Priory after they were inherited by Lord Howard, or even be the remains of the former Priory itself at this location (Williams 1980).

3.1.50 The position of the watercourse north of the main Priory might suggest the focus of the domestic buildings in this area. If the church was in vicinity of the south wing then this would suggest claustral buildings to the north (as in Fig. 11). As the site of the church is not established this remains totally conjectural.

3.1.51 Such a model is difficult to reconcile with the recorded evidence that exists in the formal gardens situated to the south of the present building. But it is important not to give too much significance to theoretical models derived from larger and more formal exemplars. Building remains are where they are and, until they are dated and a better understanding obtained, they should not be over-interpreted. The presence of burials in this location may just as strongly indicate a lay cemetery as the position of a cloister garth (use of which as a burial ground is not certain in a preaching order anyway).

3.1.52 The structure recorded by excavation within Bell Street car park might represent the original location of a hospital or infirmary (as the house was founded as a hospital in the first place). While there are some standard plans for 12th and 13th century hospitals, there is no certainty that they would be followed in such a house as this.

3.1.53 The building illustrated by Rocque, and noted by gardeners working in the grounds who exposed its foundations (Scears post-1949), to lie to the west of the Priory building, has been thought either to represent the location of the later post-medieval gatehouse (although this does not preclude that this may have had medieval antecedents), or ancillary structures associated with the post-medieval ownership of the house. If the latter, they were replaced by the structures shown on Ireland's Estate Plan of 1767(?) (Fig. 8). Recent fencing works within the park have also exposed further evidence relating to this structure (David Williams pers com).

3.1.54 Outside the priory precinct it is possible that some former park land would also have been used by the Augustinian order. The lowland along the Wray/Lesborne stream could have been used as meadowland for pasturing cattle. Such a low lying lea would also easily lend itself for the development of a series of fish ponds. Rocque's map (Fig. 7) clearly shows a chain of such features (**OA 35**) south of a larger lake that may

represent original ponds attached to the priory, although these may have been the main manorial fish ponds, which the priory could have shared (Dennis Turner, letter dated 7th July 2005). By 1771 these had become the "thermometer" and other smaller western lakes depicted on the c. 1770 Estate Plan (Fig. 8). Elements of these appear on the early Ordnance Survey 6" maps of the area (Fig. 12) and those in the west still survive as earthworks hidden by encroaching woodland at the foot of Park Hill. There is also mention of timber being cut from the park from the 14th to the 16th century, although it is unclear whether this was from the lands owned by the priory or from deer park on Park Hill. Ridge and furrow (**OA 24**) earthworks indicate that part of the meadowland was brought under cultivation at this time, or perhaps earlier (see 5.9.4 above). This may have been as a response to the population pressure to expand arable cultivation in the 12th and 13th centuries.

3.1.55 Clearly, the archaeological and historical evidence for the form and position of the priory is, at best, inconclusive. However, it is clear that the priory buildings, whatever form they took, are to be found around and under the present Priory House. Therefore, all areas surrounding the current Priory House building have significant archaeological potential to contain remains of this period.

3.1.56 Interventions so far have been suggestive but further small scale investigations, other than to test for existence and depth of deposits to inform mitigation measures, are unlikely to be useful. Only relatively large area excavations will provide any useful information from this period.

Post-Medieval Period (AD1550-1900)

3.1.57 After the Dissolution of the Priory in 1536 the Priory passed into the hands of the Howards, who adapted the Priory for their country seat. There is little documentation of 16th century activities. It is referred to in a document prepared at the time of Elizabeth I, in which it is included in a list of deer parks with a circumference of over one mile. Otherwise, the early documentary evidence is very sparse, with no detailed mapping of the Park until Richard Ireland's Estate Plan (Fig. 8), presumed to date to around 1770. The exact date of this map is not clear but must post-date Ireland's purchase of the property in 1767. He had cleared many buildings shown on the site by 1771 (pers. comm. J. McInally of SCC) so the map must predate that year. This raises issues of what we are to make of the variations from Rocque's Map, published in 1768 but apparently surveyed by 1762 (Couch 2000, 11). The differences may be a result of scale and the greater precision of an estate map as against an atlas. A sketch plan of the Park exists from 1727 (Couch 2000) depicting the course of a formal walk and a carriage drive entering from Bell Street. These features are also depicted on the Estate Plan. The development of what were probably former monastic fishponds (**OA 35**) into ornamental lakes may also be traced between Rocque's map (Fig. 7) and the Estate Plan (Fig. 8).

3.1.58 In the Survey of the Manor of Reigate, 1623, reference is made to "Reigate Park" having deer, ponds with fish and heron, timber and tenanted land. In addition to what they owned, the family and successors rented the part of the manor held by the town but sold up after 1681 to the Parsons family. Parsons continued renting the Park Hill area of the manor.

3.1.59 New ownership seems to have been the driver of the new landscape developments in the park although it seems likely that the second generation was responsible for the "Walk lately planted across a mead" noted in 1727. While the design of the post-medieval parkland does not appear to have involved the activity of any noted landscape designers, it followed principles of garden design that were fashionable during this period. This resulted in the development of a formal garden with sweeping vistas to the south (towards Park Hill) and to the west. It has been suggested that the gardens close to the house were divided from the Park proper by a ha-ha, and a series of formal walks and

rides were laid out across the parkland to selected features within the landscape (Fig. 13). Such a layout is mainstream at this date but the ha-ha would be improbably early, Walpole claiming a first at Houghton House in the 1730s (Walpole 1780). Excavation (see below section 8.1.27) indicates a 19th century date for the ha ha. These features probably included the knoll, a likely prospect mount (**OA 17**), the ornamental ponds and possibly "prospects" visible from the top of Park Hill. The plan shown by 1770 would be typical of a Bridgeman layout of around 1725-30 with items such as the serpentine walks and clumps of trees more fashionable from the 1740s. Although not depicted on any plans, the path that forms the walk around Park Hill had become established by the 1920s, when the Park was given to the Corporation of Reigate, as commemorated by a monument at the top of Park Hill.

3.1.60 A 1727 plan (Couch 2000) depicts a number of formal walks around and within the Park, which are then again illustrated on the Estate Plan *c* 1770 (Fig. 8). Evidence of these formal walks may still survive within the Park, as suggested by a very slight earthwork bank (**OA 25**), approximately 0.2 m high and 1 m wide, probably again visible at **OA 26**. This is on the line of an avenue described as 'a walk lately planted across a mead' on the 1727 plan. The same avenue is depicted on all plans to *c* 1770. The earthwork itself is aligned with the western side of the house. It is likely that this avenue formed part of a formal walk that extended around the western part of the lake, from where a view of the house could be appreciated. From this point, the walk is likely to have progressed back towards the house. To the immediate south of the ditch and bank that formed the Priory boundary (**OA 22**), a flattened area is visible that extends to Bell Street. The entire length of this walk is still utilised today as a footpath. With strategically placed trees or clumps the views to the house would have been dramatically altered as progression is made along this walk. This is one of the underlying ideas behind the early 18th century concept of the formal walk within polite landscapes (Williamson 1995).

3.1.61 Another feature dating from this period is the avenue that extends from the entrance to the Park from Park Lane (**OA 28**). This avenue survives as a substantial bank measuring approximately 1 m high and 3 m wide, that extends north to south. The scarps that form its edges are approximately 2 m wide. This feature is probably the 'drive' depicted on a 1727 plan (Couch 2000) and the avenue is also depicted on the *c* 1770 Estate Plan (Fig. 8). Notably, the earthwork of this avenue appears to be overlain by that of **OA 26**. This suggests that the avenue from Park Lane was developed prior to the formal walk. By 1681, John Parsons who owned the Park created a new entrance to the Park from Bell Street. It seems likely that this latter entrance became the main entry point to the Park at this time, with the entrance from Park Lane reducing in importance. Certainly, it would have made sense for the entrance to the Park to be from Bell Street, as it would afford improved views to the house compared to the Park Lane entrance, which would essentially see a visitor approaching the house from the back. It is likely that the formal walk at **OA 25/OA 26** was established at this time.

3.1.62 The three east-west banks (**OA 31**) also probably date from this period. Although they do not appear on any Park plans consulted for this report, they are likely to be associated with the development of the area as a formal park. They are overlain by the western bank of a ditch and twin bank feature (**OA 23**) that extends north-south from the present tree line to the present footpath. This feature is depicted on the 1845 Tithe map as a field boundary (figs 9 and 10).

3.1.63 Also dating from this period are two clear and distinct terraces that partially surround the 'grassy knoll' to the west of the Park (**OA 32**). These terraces were only observed to the south and east of this feature, meaning that they would have been visible from the formal walk at **OA 25** and the avenue from Park Lane (**OA 28**). The terraces themselves are approximately 2m wide and are formed of two scarps, each measuring approximately 2m high and 1.5m wide. The terraces peter out into the natural slope of

the knoll. No evidence for them could be seen in the field to the west of the knoll, although waist-high grass may have obscured the evidence. These terraces are typical of early 18th century prospect mounts. While there is a possibility that this terracing may have its origins in earlier earthworks (**OA 17**), an interpretation of the knoll as the remains of a prospect mount is more probable given its low-lying location.

3.1.64 A series of very slight earthworks (**OA 29**) were observed to the east of the avenue earthwork (**OA 26**). These probably relate to the kitchen garden and cherry orchard depicted on the *c* 1770 Estate Plan (Couch 2000; Fig. 8). It is possible that the phasing of these works could be ascertained with a more intensive survey. The possible route of the serpentine paths along the eastern edge of the Park, depicted on the *c* 1770 Estate Plan (Fig. 8), is visible as a series of earthworks within the wooded area between the grassed parkland and Bell Street (**OA 34**). The undergrowth at the time of the survey was too dense to make any substantive assessment of the condition of these features. They could be confirmed through excavation.

3.1.65 No evidence of the enclosures on Park Hill, depicted on the 1768 plan, was visible during the walkover survey. However, it should be noted that only the northern slope of this hill was surveyed, as the southern side was too overgrown to allow anything to be seen, let alone surveyed. There was also no apparent evidence of the east-west avenue, described as a 'Coach Way planted each side' (Couch 2000), in front of the house, nor of the boundary depicted on the 1727 plan mentioned in the ha-ha discussion (3.1.59). However, the line of the avenue is likely to have been preserved by that of the current path. No evidence of the pond structures, nor of the other garden features depicted as surrounding the house on the *c* 1770 Estate Plan (Fig. 8) were visible, apart from a few very slight earthworks (**OA 30**). The location of an icehouse in woodland is recorded on the Estate Plan of *c* 1770 (Fig. 8) and may also have already been shown by Rocque (Fig. 7). This area remains wooded today, but a knoll with a single mature tree may indicate the location of this feature (**OA 36**).

3.1.66 A structure of uncertain date (**OA 41**) has been recorded during refurbishment works on the public toilets located centrally in the Park. Underpinning works revealed a walled structure with some surviving timbers measuring *c* 3.8 m internally. Evidence suggests that the structure dates to around the 18th century and is likely to be contemporary with the development of the landscaped Park, perhaps in conjunction with water management associated with the lake to the west upon which it appears to be aligned (Williams 1993a). The location of a former stable block very near to the lake is also noted (**OA 54**).

Summary of archaeological potential

3.1.67 At present, there is no evidence for activity within Priory Park during the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic, and while future finds of these periods cannot be ruled out, the potential has to be classified as low. During the later Bronze Age, a significant site existed on Park Hill, where metalwork was deposited. A class of site is becoming increasingly recognised at this period consisting of deposition of special finds on hill tops and sides without any other associated structural remains, but earthworks may have been constructed here. The potential for further Bronze Age remains on and around the hill is thus clearly high. There is no evidence for Iron Age or Romano-British activity within the park, other than a stray find of a Roman pendant. The potential for significant archaeology from these periods is therefore considered low. The potential for early medieval occupation is also considered low, as the earliest pottery so far recovered from archaeological excavations within Reigate town centre dates to the 11th-12th centuries. The focus of settlement in this period is thought to have been around St Mary's church, 0.5 km to the north-east of the Park.

3.1.68 It seems certain that the Priory founded in the early 13th century was located on the site of, or very close to, the present Priory House. However, the layout and extent of the Priory buildings remains uncertain. Stone wall foundations have been uncovered both to the south and to the north-east of Priory House, suggesting that the complex was fairly extensive. Medieval burials are also recorded to the south of the house. Clearly, the area surrounding Priory House must be considered of high potential for medieval remains associated with the Priory. There is less evidence available for contemporary land-use around the Priory, although an area of possible ridge and furrow within the Park suggests the survival of agricultural or horticultural features, despite later landscaping.

3.1.69 Many of the earthworks within the Park can be associated with the formal landscape developed from the 17th century onwards. These include formal avenues and features probably associated with the former kitchen gardens. Whilst such features are considered important in understanding and characterising the development of the parkland landscape, the garden was never of national importance, though typical for the period, and less important, perhaps, than the medieval potential of the site.

4 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 A combination of geophysical survey techniques were adopted across the proposal area in order to maximise results. The approach employed and area investigated by the survey was as follows (Fig. 14):

- ***Resistance*** - survey was implemented over an area of 3.65 ha, incorporating all soft landscaping areas surrounding Priory House
- ***Detailed magnetometry*** - survey was implemented over an area of 0.69 ha, targeted on the later Bronze Age site on Park Hill
- ***Ground Penetrating Radar*** - survey was implemented over an area of 0.3 ha, targeted on the site of the icehouse

Aims

4.1.2 The aims of the geophysical survey were:

- to provide an accurate survey base that can be used to add archaeological observations and which can be assessed against existing historical map evidence and previous survey data;
- to inform, through analysis of the results of the survey, the most appropriate strategy to be adopted for the invasive fieldwork;
- to address the aims and objectives of the project as stated above;
- to produce a plan which will inform current and potential future archaeological investigations/research, and act as a basis of information for the conservation and enhancement programme.

Fieldwork methods and recording

Resistance

4.1.3 Resistance survey was conducted using a Geoscan Research's RM15 resistance meter and MPX15 multiplexer. A 0.5 m separation twin probe configuration was employed in all areas and data was collected as a series of 20 m by 20 m girds using a traverse spacing of 1 m and a sample spacing of 1 m.

4.1.4 The resisitivity data was divided into four survey blocks:

- Carriageway Block (Zone W)
- Tennis Courts Block (Zone X)
- Playground Block (Zone Y)
- Priory School Block, consisting of three non-contiguous parts (Zone Z)

4.1.5 These four survey blocks were processed separately, and were not levelled with respect to one another. The general data processing flow for each survey block was as follows:

- Local geopositioning of each grid within the survey block.
- Dummying of out-of-range values.
- Data rejection at three standard deviations from the survey block mean.
- DC shifting of individual grids within the survey block.
- Data despiking using a moving average technique.
- Global geopositioning of the survey block within the National Grid.
- Minimum curvature data gridding using a cell size of 0.1 m.
- Grid display using histogram equalisation.

4.1.6 While preserving point features of potential archaeological significance, the data rejection at three standard deviations retained high resistance noise spikes caused by ground hardening beneath tree cover and at the edge of public walkways. To improve visual appeal and survey interpretability, the decision was taken to additionally apply the data despiking technique itemised above.

Magnetometry

4.1.7 Detailed magnetometry records localised magnetic fields that can relate to former human activity. Alteration of iron minerals present within topsoil is related to activities such as burning and the break down of biological material. These minerals become weakly magnetic within the Earth's magnetic field and can accumulate in features such as ditches and pits that are cut into the underlying subsoil. Mapping this magnetic variation can provide evidence of former settlement and land use.

4.1.8 The detailed magnetic survey was carried out using a Bartington Grad601-2 gradiometer. This instrument effectively measures a magnetic gradient between two fluxgate sensors mounted vertically 1 m apart. Two sets of sensors are mounted on a single frame 1m apart horizontally. The instrument is extremely sensitive and is able to measure magnetic variation to 0.1 nanoTesla (nT). All readings are saved to an integral data logger for analysis and presentation.

4.1.9 Data was collected at 0.25 m centres along traverses 1 m apart in a parallel fashion. The survey area was separated into 30 m by 30 m grids giving 3600 recorded measurements per grid. This sampling interval is very effective at locating archaeological features and is the recommended methodology for archaeological prospection (English Heritage, 1995).

4.1.10 The survey grids were set out using a Topcon GTS212 total station and referenced using Differential GPS due to a lack of topographic features suitable for referencing.

4.1.11 Magnetometry data downloaded from the Grad 601-2 data logger is analysed and processed in specialist software known as ArcheoSurveyor. The software allows greyscale and trace plots to be produced for presentation and display.

Ground Penetrating Radar

4.1.12 Radar data were acquired using a Malå GeoScience AB RAMAC/GPR system consisting principally of a 250 MHz shielded antenna, CUII control unit and XV11 monitor. Nominal station spacing was one centimetre, traverses were collected at 1.0m spacing, and the time window was set to ninety nanoseconds.

4.1.13 The location of the profiles acquired are shown in figure 21. Note that this and all subsequent figures are coordinated to a local grid rather than the National Grid due to the lack of ground reference points and the difficulty in obtaining accurate GPS readings beneath ubiquitous tree cover. For ease of survey relocation, markers have been left on site at local grid coordinates (0,0) and (0,10).

4.1.14 The survey grid was extended westward from the area originally contemplated due to the pronounced undulations in ground surface that were encountered in that region.

4.1.15 Radar wave propagation velocity was set to 10.0 centimetres per nanosecond for this survey.

4.1.16 Spherical divergence correction was applied to the radar profiles to correct for the geometrical attenuation of radar energy through the subsurface.

4.1.17 Using proprietary software, a series of depth slices was produced from the acquired radar profiles at vertical centres of 100 mm. Depth slices show the variation in signal reflection across a survey area as a function of depth.

Results

Resistance (Fig. 16)

Zone W (Carriage Way Block)

4.1.18 The survey results have produced a series of low resistance linear anomaly features in the area of open grassland to the west of the school playground. The 18th century carriageway at the western extent of the survey area was recorded as a low resistance feature (**A**). Similar low resistance anomalies defining south-west to north-east and east to west orientated linear features (**B** and **C**) were recorded extending to the east of the carriageway. These are considered likely to represent the remains of surviving below ground features relating to the formal layout of the 18th century kitchen gardens as recorded in this area by Richard Ireland's survey of 1770 (Fig. 17).

4.1.19 At the southern extent of the survey area two large low resistance anomalies (**D** and **E**) were recorded. The more northerly of these two anomalies (**D**) appears to be regularly sided and rectangular in character. When viewed in relation to survey data extracted from the 1933 Ordnance Survey of the site, it would appear likely that the anomaly features identified as **D** and **E** correspond with the location of a land enclosure mapped at this time (Fig. 18). The precise nature and function of this land plot remains uncertain. A similar feature is also noted to the south (**F**) in the Tennis Court Block discussed below.

Zone X (Tennis Court Block)

4.1.20 Survey within this area proved problematic due to the fragmentary nature of survey grids caused by the presence of buildings, fences and hedges. Three low resistance anomalies (**F**, **G** and **H**) were however recorded.

4.1.21 A large low resistance anomaly (**F**) was recorded to the south-west of the tennis courts. This again appears to be regularly sided and rectangular in character, and like the low resistance anomalies **D** and **E** observed to the north, corresponds well with the former location of a defined land plot as illustrated by the 1933 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 18). The precise nature and function of this land plot remains uncertain. Recorded at the north-west side of anomaly **F** was a further east to west aligned low resistance anomaly (**G**). A precise understanding of the date or function of this anomaly remains unclear, although it may have the potential to represent the remains of an earlier boundary as illustrated in Ireland's 1770 survey (Fig. 17).

4.1.22 A further east to west aligned low resistance linear anomaly (**H**) was recorded to the south-east of the tennis courts and to the east of the paddling pool. Examination of historic mapping for the site provides no clear indication of potential boundary features in this area, and as such the date and function of this feature remains uncertain. It is interesting to note however that the linear feature is associated with an area of high resistance immediately to the south and lower resistance to the north. No clear interpretation regarding these distinctions can be made at this stage.

4.1.23 Areas of high resistance were noted around the area of the tennis courts and to the south west of the Priory building. High resistance readings in the area of the tennis courts could have been caused by ground compaction during their construction. The high readings adjacent to the Priory building are of uncertain origin, although they are consistent with those recorded by resistance survey in the adjacent area to the south of the Priory building by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory (Linford 1993). The potential in this area for high resistance readings to relate to demolition deposits of former structures cannot be discounted.

Zone Y (Playground Block)

4.1.24 Survey within this area again proved problematic due to the presence of playground surface materials and equipment, trees and hedges. A small number of low and high resistance anomalies (**I** to **L**) were however recorded.

4.1.25 All of the clearly definable recorded anomaly features were located within the area of the croquet lawn. The features recorded comprise two north-east to south-west aligned low resistance linear anomalies (**I** and **J**) and two high resistance features of uncertain form (**K** and **L**). This area had previously been subject to resistance survey, carried out by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory (Linford 1993). When viewing the results of both surveys together, linear anomaly **I** can be identified within the earlier survey data, whilst anomalies **J**, **K** and **L** are not readily discernible. Deeper penetration by survey conducted in 1993 revealed high resistance anomalies in this area, orientated north to south, these being interpreted as either potential structural foundations or drainage features. The possibility that they may represent further evidence for 18th century path structures that have been recorded to the south within the playground cannot on present evidence be discounted. The combined results of both surveys require further clarification in order to ascertain the precise character and function of the features recorded.

4.1.26 Areas of high resistance readings were located to the east of the playgrounds. It is suggested by the surveyor that these may potentially indicate evidence of structural features, however, on analysis of historic mapping this is considered unlikely post-1727, as no evidence for buildings in this location are illustrated. The possibility that earlier structures could be present in this location pre-1727 remains, however.

Zone Z (Priory School Block)

4.1.27 Survey within areas adjacent to the east, north and west of the Priory building revealed few discernible anomalous features with the exception of three low resistance linear anomalies (**M**, **N** and **O**) in the area immediately to the east of the building. The low resistance readings suggest the presence of excavated features rather than the presence of potential structural foundations. These linear anomalies could be indicative of the presence of former boundary divisions or relate to drainage/service features. The potential for anomalies **N** and **O** to represent the remains of robbed out foundation trenches cannot be discounted, however.

4.1.28 Areas of higher resistance are recorded in this area, and although discrepancies in data collection may have been acquired due to the presence of trees, undergrowth and

pathways, the potential remains for these to represent possible demolition deposits of former structures in this area.

Magnetometry (Figs 19 and 20)

4.1.29 The detailed magnetic survey was carried out over a total of 0.3 ha (figs. 19 and 20). The survey area to the north, south and east was covered with trees and shrubs which severely restricted the extent of the survey.

4.1.30 It is possible that the magnetometry survey has located several very low magnitude positive linear and possible curvilinear anomalies within the centre and western part of the site. It is difficult to confidently interpret their origin although it is possible that they are a response to the magnetically enhanced fill of cut features.

4.1.31 In the north-west of the site and close to the monument are areas of 'noise' interpreted as magnetic debris. It is likely that this debris is associated with ferrous and thermoremnant material and is related to the modern use of the Park.

4.1.32 Ferrous material within the trig point towards the centre of the site has caused surrounding magnetic disturbance. The site also contains several strong discrete dipolar anomalies which are responses to ferrous objects within the topsoil and likely to be modern in origin.

4.1.33 In conclusion, the detailed magnetic survey located a number of geophysical anomalies within the survey area. Although several low magnitude positive linear and possible curvilinear anomalies may be present in the site it is not possible to define them as archaeological features. Modern ferrous and thermoremnant material has caused areas of magnetic disturbance and debris. The tree cover surrounding the site restricted the survey area to the north, south and east.

Ground Penetrating Radar (Figs 21-24)

4.1.34 Data interpretation was divided into two parts: profile-based interpretation and grid-based interpretation. In the course of profile-based interpretation, individual radar profiles are manually inspected for anomalies of interest. Grid-based interpretation is carried out by combining, imaging and inspecting a selection of the depth slices produced from the profile data. Grid-based anomalies may confirm, conflict with or add to the information derived from profile-based interpretation.

4.1.35 In the profile-based interpretation, twelve anomalies have been selected from the radar profiles acquired during this survey (Fig. 21). Each anomaly has been graded as either high priority or low priority, based on the perceived necessity to carry out intrusive investigation to establish the source of the anomaly. High priority anomalies are recommended for excavation; low priority anomalies are not. The source of each anomaly listed below should be encountered within one metre of the ground surface.

- Anomaly A (high priority) - This anomaly has limited depth extent, but a high reflection coefficient in parts. It is considered likely to be structural in origin.
- Anomaly B (high priority) - A better-defined anomaly than anomaly A, this feature has a strong reflection coefficient and good depth extent. It is considered likely to be structural in origin.
- Anomaly C (high priority) - A narrower anomaly than anomaly B, this feature is considered likely to be structural in origin.
- Anomaly D (low priority) - This anomaly extends across eight survey lines and has a hyperbolic shape typical of a linear feature intersected at right angles. It has limited depth extent and is unlikely to be structural in origin.

- Anomaly E (low priority) - This anomaly is similar in character to anomaly D, with a classic hyperbolic shape and limited depth extent. It is considered unlikely to be structural in origin.
- Anomaly F (high priority) - This broad anomaly shows horizontal banding typical of a flat-lying reflector. Buried approximately half a metre below surface, it is of interest as a possible building remnant.
- Anomaly G (low priority) - A well-defined shallow anomaly, this feature is interpreted to be a tree root extending southwards from the bole centred at approximately (2,7).
- Anomaly H (high priority) - The only anomaly that extends right across the survey area, this feature is probably another tree root (or roots), but has been graded as high priority because of its lateral persistence.
- Anomaly I (high priority) - This broad anomaly shows horizontal banding and a reasonable depth extent, and may be caused by a back-filled ditch or other earthwork.
- Anomaly J (high priority) - This feature has a concave upward shape, but is otherwise similar to anomaly I. Like that feature, it is considered likely to be caused by some form of earthwork.
- Anomaly K (high priority) - The high reflection coefficient and well-defined shape in parts of this hyperbolic anomaly indicate that it may be of structural origin.
- Anomaly L (high priority) - The reflection coefficient of this hyperbolic anomaly changes along its length. It should only be investigated if anomaly K proves to be of interest.

4.1.36 For the grid-based interpretation, three depth slices have been combined to produce the grid displayed in figure 22, which shows variations in reflected radar energy from 500 mm to 800 mm below surface across the survey area. In this image, warm colours denote high reflection coefficients and dark colours denote low reflection coefficients. The colour stretch is linear on the interval "grid mean ± one standard deviation".

4.1.37 Figure 24 shows the same grid overlain by the profile-based interpretation of figure 22. Note the numerous correlations between profile anomalies and the depth slice grid: anomalies A, D, E, F, G and K are all manifest, while anomalies B and C are lost in the grid due to the generally high-amplitude response of the surrounding region. Anomaly H disappears at approximately the same location as the diminished grid response, and the poor correlation of the northern part of anomaly L may be due to a profile-based mispick. Anomalies I and J show an inverse correlation with the depth slice grid. These two features were interpreted to be due to earthwork activity, and exhibited a deeper and more diffuse radar response than most of the hyperbolic anomalies. The depth slice grid is picking up the edges of these two anomalies, rather than their centres.

4.1.38 The depth slice grid also provides some new anomalies:

- Anomaly M - This region of elevated reflection coefficients contains a large number of profile anomalies, and should be regarded as fairly prospective throughout.
- Anomaly N - Similar to anomaly Q, this linear feature could represent another tree root, or be due to structural remains.
- Anomaly O - This anomaly may be related to anomaly P, which it closely resembles. Its limited horizontal extent makes it a poor follow-up target.

- Anomaly P - Like anomaly O, this feature has limited horizontal extent, making it a poor follow-up target.
- Anomaly Q - Like anomaly G, this feature is probably a tree root.
- Anomaly R - This feature is similar to the grid-based expression of anomalies I and J, and may also be due to earthwork activity.

4.1.39 The grid-based anomalies listed above are not recommended for intrusive investigation until excavation results over the high priority profile-based anomalies have been adequately assessed.

4.1.40 In conclusion, there is some uncertainty as to whether the icehouse which was the subject of this radar survey is still *in situ* or whether it has already been removed. The lack of unequivocal structural signatures within the survey area would support the former alternative. Although a number of well-defined anomalies have been identified within the dataset, it would have been our wish to encounter anomalies of significant depth extent (more than a metre) and/or greater spatial consistency (better imaged on the depth slice grid), which would have been firmer indicators of buried structural remains across the site.

4.1.41 Notwithstanding this reservation, we are confident that the twelve profile-based anomalies and six grid-based anomalies discussed above represent the most important features of potential archaeological interest in the immediate subsurface. Coupling our findings with the pronounced undulations in ground surface encountered in the western part of the survey area, we would have no hesitation in recommending nine of these anomalies for any future intrusive investigation.

5 TRENCH EVALUATION

Aims

5.1.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were:

- to determine the presence/absence, extent, date, character, significance, quality and state of preservation of any potential archaeological anomalies identified by the geophysical survey;
- to establish through evaluation the effectiveness and quality of the geophysical survey;
- to address the aims and objectives of the project as stated above;
- to provide accurate survey data in order to inform the development of the conservation and enhancement programme.

Scope of fieldwork

5.1.2 A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the area of the Park (Fig. 25). The excavation strategy employed the use of machine trenching in all areas. The trenches each measured 1.30 m wide and varied in length from 4.2 m to 16.0 m, targeted on features identified from the results of the desk-based assessment, site walkover and geophysical survey.

Fieldwork methods and recording

5.1.3 Machine trenching involved the removal of modern overburden by a 3 tonne excavator under constant archaeological supervision. Such overburden consisted of a varying depth of topsoil (up to 0.40 m deep), except in Trench 4 which was situated within the area of the hard-surfaced tennis courts.

5.1.4 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, to retrieve finds and, where suitable, environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:50, and where excavated their sections drawn at 1:20. All trenches and features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

5.1.5 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context.

Presentation of results

5.1.6 The stratigraphic sequence revealed in each evaluation trench will be described, the trenches being grouped by area. Following this, the finds will be summarised. The trench groups are as follows:

- Formal gardens (Trenches 1-3 and 12)
- Tennis courts (Trench 4)
- The ha-ha (Trenches 5 and 11)
- Park Lane Avenue (Trench 7)
- Kitchen gardens (Trenches 6 and 8)
- Western parkland (Trenches 9 and 10)

6 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS (FIGS 26-37)

Formal gardens

6.1.1 Four trenches were excavated within the formal gardens located adjacent to Priory House (Trenches 1 to 3 and 12) with the aim of establishing the presence of any surviving features relating to the medieval Priory and its later development.

Trench 1 (Fig. 26)

6.1.2 Trench 1, measuring 7.60 m long by 1.20 m wide, was located within the area of croquet lawn situated to the south-east of Priory House. The trench was specifically targeted to examine anomalies recorded in this area by geophysical survey. Natural sand (104) was encountered along its length at a depth of 1.05-1.20 m, and this was overlain throughout the trench by a 0.60 m deep layer of 'made ground' containing stone rubble, chalk and modern brick fragments (101). This layer is thought to relate to the development of the croquet lawn in this area. Deposit 101 was sealed by a 0.25 m thick subsoil (103) that in turn was overlain by a 0.25 m depth of topsoil (102). None of the geophysical anomalies recorded within the area of the trench were observed.

Trench 2 (Fig. 27)

6.1.3 Trench 2, measuring 8.40 m long by 1.30 m wide, was located immediately to the south of Priory House. The trench was specifically targeted between the sunken garden and south-eastern corner of the house in order to examine the potential for evidence relating to the former monastic house and precinct that is suggested to survive in this area by the results of the desk-based assessment. Natural sand (226) was encountered along its length at a depth of 0.75-0.85 m. This was overlain by a dark brown loose silty sand (214), 0.25 m thick, thought to represent the remnants of a former buried soil horizon. Deposit 214 was truncated by two massive stone wall foundations (222 and 223) at the

eastern end of the trench and by a series of grave cuts (212, 216, 218 and 220) located in the central and western parts of the trench.

6.1.4 The stone wall foundations 222 and 223 were of similar construction, consisting of blocks of unfaced sandstone bonded with a lime mortar. Wall foundation 222 measured 2.00 m long and 1.50 m wide, and survived to a height of 1.00 m. No clear continuation of the wall foundation was seen in the northern section of the trench, although later robbing may have removed any evidence of this. An approximate north-south alignment seems likely. However, it remains possible that the foundation genuinely terminated within the trench; if so, the massive nature of the foundation makes it conceivable that it served as a footing at the corner of a large structure. No construction cut for the wall was revealed, although excavation was not undertaken to the full depth of the foundation. Wall foundation 223 measured 1.50 m long by 1.20 m wide, and survived to a height of 0.80 m. The foundation ran north-south and was shown to be aligned approximately parallel with the eastern wall of the south-eastern projecting wing of Priory House. Again, no construction cut for the wall was revealed, although excavation was not undertaken to the full depth of the foundation. Its western face, however, was shown to have been constructed against a vertical edge. No clear relationship between the two recorded foundations could be ascertained due to later robbing (224) and truncation. No dating evidence was recovered from either feature.

6.1.5 The graves recorded to the west of the stone wall foundations were all aligned east-west. The grave cuts varied in dimension, the largest (212) measuring 2.40 m in length with the two smallest inter-cutting graves (216 and 220) measuring 1.40 m in length. The graves were only partially excavated, human remains being exposed in two of them (218 and 220). The human remains were recorded *in situ* but not removed from the site.

6.1.6 The skull of a juvenile (SK 203) was partially exposed at the western end of grave cut 218. The grave was filled by a dark brown silty sand (219). The upper bodies (from the pelvis to the skull) of two further juvenile burials, SK 201 and 202, were exposed together within grave cut 220. Both burials were positioned with the skull located at the western end of the grave, with SK 202 shown to partially overlie SK 101. The grave was filled by a dark brown silty sand (221). Grave cuts 212 and 216 were subject to partial machine truncation, and no human remains were exposed. Both graves contained a similar dark brown silty sand fill (213 and 217) similar to that recorded in graves 218 and 220. The greater size of grave cuts 212 and 216 relative to those of the juvenile burials 218 and 220 suggests that they contain adult interments. No dating evidence was recovered from any of the graves.

6.1.7 Overlying and sealing both the wall foundations and grave cuts was a light brown silty sand deposit (206), 0.22 m in depth, that contained numerous fragments of brick, tile and sandstone, that is interpreted as representing a later demolition horizon. Fragments of roof tile from this deposit have been dated to between the 16th and 18th century. This deposit was in turn overlain by a further dark grey silty sand 'made ground' deposit (205), 0.24 m in depth, which again contained fragments of brick and a single clay pipe bowl dated to between 1680 and 1710. This deposit was truncated within the western half of the trench by a 0.60 m deep vertically-sided and flat-bottomed cut (207) that also truncated the graves. Cut 207 contained a series of back-fill deposits (208, 209, 210 and 211) all of which contained numerous fragments of brick, sandstone and concrete. The upper fill (208) of cut 207 was sealed by a 0.22 m depth of garden topsoil (204).

Trench 3 (Fig. 28)

6.1.8 Trench 3, measuring 7 m long by 1.20 m wide, was located along Monk's Walk on the west side of Priory House. It was targeted to examine whether remains survived of the building, possibly a gatehouse, depicted in this location by Rocque's map of 1768 (Fig. 7). Natural sand (305) was encountered throughout the trench at a depth of 0.42 m. The natural was overlain by both a deposit of rubble containing red brick and chalk

fragments (301), 0.18 m in depth, and a deposit of brown silty sand containing numerous stone fragments (303), 0.40 m in depth. No dating evidence was recovered from either deposit. Both deposit 301 and 303 were cut by a modern pit (302). Pit 302 measured 2.40 m in diameter and 0.88 m deep and contained a single rubble fill (306) from which modern metal cans were recovered. The fill of pit 302 was sealed by a 0.16 m depth of garden topsoil (304).

Trench 12 (Fig. 37)

6.1.9 Trench 12, measuring 7.20 m long by 1.30 m wide, was located slightly further to the north of Trench 3 within Monk's Walk, again in an attempt to locate the "gatehouse". Natural sand (1204) was exposed in the eastern half of the trench, at a depth of 1.20 m. The natural was overlain by 0.60 m depth of mixed loose grey/brown sand (1203) interpreted as the remains of a former buried soil horizon. Overlying deposit 1203 at the western end of the trench was a sequence of structural remains (1205 to 1208) believed to represent part of the building.

6.1.10 In the southern side of the trench, deposit 1203 was overlain by 0.08 m deep brown silty sand deposit (1208), within which a single-course brick foundation was recorded (1207). A single sherd of pottery of mid 16th- to mid 17th-century date and a clay pipe bowl dated to 1680 to 1710 were recovered from this deposit. Overlying foundation 1207 was the surviving remains of a mortar and brick floor surface (1205 and 1206). This floor surface was constructed using an initial 0.04 m thick layer of lime mortar (1206) that was laid over both foundation 1207 and directly upon deposit 1208. Set within 1206 was a single course of red bricks (1205) that formed the solid surface of the floor, extending beyond the western limit of the trench on its southern side. Samples of brick floor 1205 recovered by the evaluation have been dated to between the 16th and 18th century.

6.1.11 Truncating floor surface 1205 throughout the centre of the trench, was an east-west aligned robber trench (1214), measuring 2.90 m long by 0.56 m wide and *c* 0.30 m deep. This was filled with a mortar-rich, compact, light brown sand (1210) deposit that contained numerous crushed brick fragments, and a piece of corrugated iron at its surface. It seems likely that this trench marks the location of a former wall, although no surviving structural remains were identified within it. The character of floor surface 1205 suggests that it may well have abutted a structural wall at this location, as no evidence for a continuation of the floor was seen in the northern section of the trench.

6.1.12 Lying to the north and cut by robber trench 1214 was a compact brown sand deposit (1212) that contained a high frequency of crushed brick and sandstone rubble. Fragments of CBM dating from the 13th to 16th century were recovered. This deposit is thought either to represent a demolition horizon of the former adjacent structure or to have been created during its construction. Overlying this deposit and adjacent to cut 1214 was an irregular group of bricks forming no clear pattern (1211). It is unclear whether this was a disturbed structural feature or merely represents a demolition deposit.

6.1.13 Overlying and sealing robber trench 1214 was a 0.30 m deep brown silty sand and rubble-rich deposit (1202). This was in turn overlain by a 0.40 m depth of topsoil (1201).

Tennis courts

6.1.14 A single trench (Trench 4) was excavated within the area of the existing tennis courts. The aim was to establish whether any features survive relating to the former structures and yards depicted in this area by historic maps.

Trench 4 (Fig. 29)

6.1.15 Trench 4, measuring 7.20m long by 1.20m wide, was located at the south-west side of the tennis courts. Excavation within the trench did not reach a depth at which natural geology was encountered. The earliest feature revealed at the base of the trench is interpreted as the remains of a chalk floor (404), at least 0.12m thick. The exposed extent of this floor surface was 3.0m east-west by the full width of the trench. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature. Floor surface 404 was overlain by a series of loose gravel and sand deposits (402, 403 and 406), together 0.50m in depth, that form bedding layers for the tarmac surfacing (401) of the tennis courts above.

The ha-ha

6.1.16 Two trenches (Trench 5 and 11) were excavated within the area of the former ha-ha situated to the south of the sunken garden and formal garden area. The aim of the evaluation was to establish the current state of any surviving below-ground features relating to the ha-ha and to confirm its alignment and extent.

Trench 5 (Fig. 30)

6.1.17 Trench 5, measuring 5.25 m long by 1.30 m wide, was located at the presumed western end of the ha-ha. The natural sand (507) was cut by the ha-ha ditch (508), which measured 1.50 m deep and was greater than 3.80 m wide, extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. The retaining wall forming the northern side (506) and western terminal end (505) of the ha-ha was a near-vertical, brick and mortar feature, constructed on a 0.30 m high stepped brick and mortar foundation. Terminal wall 505 was shown to reduce in its depth of construction as it extended southwards, following the rise of the ha-ha ditch. Both walls were well preserved. A single sample of brick was recovered from each wall (505 and 506), and these have been dated to the 19th century. The ha-ha ditch contained three fills (502 to 504). Primary fill 504 consisted of a light brown silty sand that contained occasional crushed brick fragments, 0.30 m thick. Overlying this deposit was a loose dark brown silty sand (503), up to 0.56 m thick, that contained frequent brick fragments and charcoal. This deposit was in turn sealed by a light grey silty sand (502), 0.66 m thick, that again contained numerous brick, tile and sandstone fragments and charcoal. No dating evidence was recovered from any of the deposits. The ha-ha wall and ditch were both overlain by a 0.20 m depth of topsoil (501) that was cut by a modern service trench containing a cable and a gas main. This service trench also cut through the full sequence of deposits within the ha-ha ditch.

Trench 11 (Fig. 36)

6.1.18 Trench 11 measured 4.20 m long by 1.20 m wide. It was located to the east of Trench 5 in order to ascertain the true alignment of the ha-ha, which was duly uncovered. The natural sand (1103) was cut by the ha-ha ditch, which measured up to 1.20 m deep. The retaining wall along the northern side of the ha-ha ditch (1107) was of identical construction to that in Trench 5, again showing a stepped foundation. The ditch contained a series of back-fill deposits (1102, 1104-6 and 1108), although the relationship between some of these fills is obscured by truncation from a modern cable trench. At the northern end of the Trench 11, the basal fill (1106) consisted of dark brown silty sand, up to 0.60 m deep. This was overlain by a layer of grey sand (1105), 0.25 m deep. The natural was not reached in the southern part of the trench, where a lower fill of orange brown silty sand (1108), at least 0.25 m thick, was overlain by a layer of light brown sand (1102), 0.45 m thick. Deposits 1102 and 1105 were both overlain by a rubble layer (1104), 0.60 m thick, that may relate to the construction of the modern service trench. The ha-ha wall and ditch were both sealed by a 0.15 m thick layer of topsoil. No finds were recovered from Trench 11.

Park Lane Avenue

Trench 7 (Fig. 32)

6.1.19 Trench 7 was excavated in an area of open parkland to the west of Priory House, in order to investigate the raised linear earthwork thought to represent the former avenue to the house from Park Lane. The trench measured 11.50 m long by 1.30 m wide. Natural sand (729) was encountered at a depth of 0.22-0.70 m. The earliest activity was represented by cuts 727 and 730, which contained identical fills of dark grey-brown silty sand (728 and 711 respectively). The two cuts seem likely to belong to a single feature, taking the form of a large ditch or hollow beneath the later linear earthwork, up to 0.70 m deep. A series of ditches on either side of the raised earthwork were shown to cut deposits 711 and 728. At the south-western end of the trench, deposit 711 was cut by a ditch (709). This measured 1.75 m wide and 0.60 m deep, and was orientated on a parallel north-west to south-east alignment to the raised earthwork avenue. In profile the ditch had a steep sloping northern side with a gradual break of slope to a flat bottomed base. The ditch contained a single dark grey silty sand fill (710) that yielded occasional fragments of 16th- to 18th-century brick and tile, and three sherds of pottery dating to the mid 13th to mid 15th century. A further sequence of NW-SE aligned ditches (719 and 724) were recorded at the north-eastern end of the trench. The earliest ditch in this sequence was ditch 724, which cut through deposit 728. Ditch 724 measured 1.65 m wide and 1.00 m deep, and had a shallow U-shaped profile. The ditch contained two fills (725 and 726). Primary fill 726 comprised a dark grey silty sand from which fragments of glass, a 17th- to 18th-century clay pipe stem, three fragments of 16th-18th century CBM and 16 sherds of 13th- to 14th-century pottery were recovered. Sealing fill 726 was a dark brown clay sand (725), from which a fragment of a late or post-medieval iron horseshoe, a fragment of 13th- to 16th-century CBM and two sherds of 13th-14th century pottery were recovered. Fill 725 was cut on its south-western side by ditch 719. Ditch 719, measuring 1.85 m wide and 0.95 m deep, had an irregular U-shaped profile. The ditch contained two fills (720 and 721). Primary fill 721 comprised a dark grey silty sand from which a single sherd of mid 12th-13th century pottery was recovered. Fill 721 was overlain by a dark brown silty sand (720) that contained occasional brick fragments, but no dating evidence.

6.1.20 Partially overlying ditch 709 was a compact grey-brown sand, sandstone and crushed brick deposit (713), 0.20 m thick, that is thought to form the foundation for the raised avenue. The relationship of this foundation deposit to ditches 719 and 724 situated immediately to the north-east remains uncertain as the north-eastern extent of deposit 713 had been cut away by a small NW-SE aligned gully (715). This gully, measuring 0.32 m wide and 0.25 m deep, had a uniform U-shaped profile. It may have been contemporary with the construction of the avenue, serving as a drainage feature on its north-east side. A similar drainage feature was not, however, observed on the opposing south-west side of deposit 713. Overlying deposit 713 was a 0.16 m deep layer of brown sand (712) that contained a high frequency of mixed sandstone and crushed brick fragments. This deposit in section appeared to cap deposit 713 and is interpreted as forming a further construction horizon for the raised avenue.

6.1.21 To the south-west, construction deposit 712 was overlain by a 0.18 m deep orange-brown silty sand (708) that contained occasional pebbles. To the north-east, deposit 712 and ditch fills 716 and 720, were overlain by a further orange brown silty sand (714) that again contained occasional pebbles. Both of these deposits (708 and 714) are thought likely to represent the remains of surface materials from the avenue that had slumped either side of the former carriageway. To the south-west of the avenue, deposit 708 was overlain by a later deposit of made ground (707), consisting of a dark grey-brown silty sand that contained occasional crushed brick fragments. No dating evidence was recovered from 707, but it could represent the remains of material laid down adjacent to the avenue to consolidate ground level during later landscaping. This deposit

was cut by a later NW-SE aligned drain cut (702). This drain cut measured 1.50 m wide and 0.80 m deep, and contained a red brick retaining wall (703), measuring 0.42 m in width and 0.40 m in height, situated along the base of its north-eastern edge. The wall was sealed by a series of clay back-fill deposits (704 to 706).

6.1.22 To the north-east of the avenue, deposit 714 was cut by a later NW-SE aligned ditch (717). Ditch 717, measuring 1.60 m wide and 0.55 m deep, had a shallow U-shaped profile, with much of its north-eastern side being cut away by later ditch 722. The ditch contained a single fill (718) comprising light brown silty sand with frequent fragments of sandstone, brick, chalk pebbles and flint. Three sherds of mid 18th- to mid 19th-century pottery, fragments of glass, animal bone, a 17th- to 18th-century clay pipe fragment and six pieces of 16th- to 18th-century CBM were recovered. Ditch 717 was cut by a further NW-SE aligned ditch (722) on its north-eastern side. Ditch 722, measuring 1.00 m wide and 0.60 m deep, had a steep-sided U-shaped profile and contained a single dark grey-brown silty sand fill (723) that contained no dating evidence. Overlying and sealing both ditches 717 and 722 and drain service cut 702 was a 0.34 m depth of topsoil (701). The depth of topsoil recorded over the upper construction deposit sequence of the raised avenue was significantly more reduced, reaching only 0.12 m.

Kitchen gardens

6.1.23 Two trenches (Trenches 6 and 8) were excavated to the east of the Park Lane Avenue, in order to target a series of linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey, believed to represent remains of the former 18th century kitchen gardens.

Trench 6 (Fig. 31)

6.1.24 Trench 6, measuring 5 m long by 1.30 m wide, was targeted to examine a north-east/south-west aligned linear anomaly (B) identified by geophysical survey. Natural sand (610) was encountered at a depth of 0.94 m. The natural was overlain at the south-western end of the trench by a 0.50 m deep dark grey loose silty sand (604) that contained small quantities of brick and sandstone fragments and which is considered likely to represent the remains of a buried soil horizon. At the north-eastern end of the trench the natural was cut by a pit or ditch terminus (607), measuring approximately 0.60 long by 1.20 m wide and 0.85 m deep, although its full extent was not revealed within the trench. Pit/ditch terminus 607 contained two fills (608 and 609). Primary fill 609 comprised a dark brown silty sand that contained sparse fragments of sandstone. This deposit was overlain by dark grey-brown silty sand (608) that contained more frequent sandstone and crushed brick fragments. This fill produced two sherds of mid 15th-mid 16th century pottery, fragments of animal bone and three pieces of 16th-18th century CBM. Both pit/ditch terminus 607 and buried soil horizon 604 were cut by a north-east/south-west aligned ditch (605). Ditch 605, where exposed, measured 0.60 m long by 3.30 m wide and 0.77 m deep. In profile the ditch had gently sloping uniform sides with an uneven undulating rounded base. The ditch contained a single fill (606), consisting of dark grey silty sand that contained a small number of large sandstone fragments. In addition, 17th- to 18th-century bottle glass, CBM, fragments of animal bone and four sherds of residual 13th- to 14th-century pottery were recovered from this deposit. Overlying and sealing the ditch was a 0.40 m depth of subsoil (603) that in turn was overlain by a 0.10 m deep rubble and sand deposit (602). Deposit 602 was overlain by a 0.20 m depth of topsoil (601).

Trench 8 (Fig. 33)

6.1.25 Trench 8, measuring 6 m long by 1.30 m wide, was targeted to examine a north-east/south-west aligned linear anomaly (C) identified by geophysical survey. Natural sand (804) was encountered at a depth of 0.70 m. The natural was shown to have been

cut by a single north-south aligned ditch (801), measuring 0.64 m wide and 0.25 m deep. In profile the ditch/gully had steep, near vertical sides with a concave base. The ditch/gully contained a single fill (802), consisting of a loose brown sand that contained occasional sandstone fragments. Overlying and sealing the ditch was a 0.38 m depth of subsoil (805) that in turn was overlain by a 0.36 m depth of topsoil (803).

Western parkland

6.1.26 Two trenches (Trench 9 and 10) were excavated in an area of open parkland located to the east of Park Lake (Trench 10) and to the west of the earthwork avenue leading from Park Lane (Trench 9). The aim of evaluation within these areas was to examine low earthworks recorded by the walkover survey.

Trench 9 (Fig. 34)

6.1.27 Trench 9, measuring 16 m long by 1.20 m wide, was located across the projected alignment of a former linear earthwork thought to represent the remains of an 18th century avenue leading westwards from Priory House to the lake and western area of the Park. Natural sand (904) was exposed throughout the trench, encountered at a depth of 0.42 m. Overlying and sealing the natural was a 0.14 m depth of subsoil (905) which in turn was overlaid by a 0.28 m depth of topsoil (903). Topsoil 903 was cut by a modern ditch (901). This measured 0.90 m wide and 0.78 m deep, and was filled by a single deposit of orange-brown silty sand (902) that contained an abundance of large stone rubble blocks. The ditch is thought to represent the remains of a drainage feature. No evidence relating to the presence of a former raised earthwork avenue was identified within the trench.

Trench 10 (Fig. 35)

6.1.28 Trench 10, measuring 8.50 m long by 1.30 m wide, was located within an area recorded as containing a number of slight east-west linear earthworks situated immediately to the west of Park Lake. The trench was targeted to intersect with one of the suspected earthwork features as identified by the site walkover. Natural sand (1003) was exposed throughout the trench, encountered at a depth of 0.58 m. Overlying and sealing the natural was a 0.34 m depth of brown silty sand subsoil (1002) that in turn was overlain by a 0.24 m depth of topsoil (1001). No evidence relating to the putative earthwork features was recorded either in plan or section within the trench. A total of nine sherds of residual 19th century pottery and four fragments of 16th- to 18th-century CBM were recovered from deposits 1001 and 1002. In addition, an incomplete iron whittle tang knife of 17th-century or later date and a single iron nail were also retrieved from deposit 1002.

7 FINDS

Flint (by Rebecca Devaney)

7.1.1 A single flint flake was recovered from context 1002. It is damaged and heavily calcined. One piece of burnt unworked flint, weighing 9g, was also recovered from context 1002.

Pottery (by John Cotter)

7.1.2 The pottery assemblage comprises 41 sherds weighing 523g. This has been spot-dated and quantified by context, and comments recorded on pottery fabrics and forms present (see Appendix 3, Table 1). The pottery ranges in date from the late 12th or 13th century through to the 19th century with most of the assemblage dating to the 13th and 14th

centuries. Pottery types present are almost entirely of relatively local (Surrey) origin. These comprise parts of cooking pots in Limpsfield grey ware and green glazed or slip-painted jugs in orange-firing Earlswood-type ware and a jug rim in white sandy Kingston-type ware. A few sherds of late medieval and post-medieval wares are also present. The assemblage is in a fragmentary condition and mostly consists of body sherds.

Ceramic Building Material (by John Cotter)

7.1.3 A total of 35 pieces of CBM weighing 6.503 kg were recovered. Apart from two complete 19th-century bricks the assemblage mostly comprises fragments of post-medieval red brick and post-medieval roofing tile. A few pieces of medieval roofing tile were also present (see Appendix 4, Table 2).

Metalwork

7.1.4 A total of six iron objects were recovered. The assemblage comprises the arm from a horseshoe, a whittle tang knife and four nails. The horseshoe arm from context 725 is large and robust. It has a plain outline and three visible square nail holes, and there is a calkin at the tip of the arm. This is a form introduced in the 14th-15th century and continuing in use into the post-medieval period. The knife from context 1002 is incomplete and the blade is very damaged. There is a widening or bolster at the junction of the blade and the tang has a copper alloy strip or shoulder plate wrapped around it. Bolsters are a 17th-century introduction. Nails were recovered from contexts 718, 726 and 1002.

Clay pipe (by Jon Cotter)

7.1.5 A total of five pieces of clay pipe weighing 36 g were recovered. The assemblage comprises two complete pipe bowls that date to *c* 1680-1710, one mouth fragment of 17th- to 18th-century date, and two stem fragments also of 17th- to 18th-century date (see Appendix 4, Table 3).

Glass

7.1.6 A total of nine fragments (251 g) of glass were recovered (see Appendix 4, Table 4). Contexts 606 and 726 both contained neck fragments from 'onion bottles', used for wine or sack and dating from the 17th or early 18th centuries. Small fragments of glass were also recovered from context 1212, and a piece of modern window glass from context 1001.

Slag

7.1.7 Three fragments of slag weighing a total of 3 g were recovered (see Appendix 4, Table 7).

Animal Bone (by Fay Worley)

7.1.8 A total of 11 fragments (refitted count) of animal bone weighing a total of 71 g were recovered. Of these only one, a red deer femur, could be identified to species with the rest being medium or large sized mammal fragments (see Appendix 4, Table 5). The condition of the bone was recorded on a six point graded scale based on that suggested by Lyman (1996) (see Appendix 4, Table 6).

7.1.9 Context 606 contained five fragments of indeterminate medium or large mammal sized cortical bone. The condition of the bone was fair (stage 3).

7.1.10 Context 608 contained four fragments of animal bone including two large mammal indeterminate cortical bone fragments, a medium mammal sized right zygomatic arch and a red deer distal femur. The femur was in good condition (stage 2) and exhibited butchery marks. Fine horizontal knife cuts were identified located in a vertical distribution on the posterior distal diaphysis of the femur. In addition, the lateral condyle had been chopped off. These butchery marks may have resulted from disarticulating and defleshing the carcass suggesting that the bone was waste from venison consumption. The deer was skeletally mature when killed as indicated by the fusion of the distal femur.

7.1.11 Context 718 contained two large mammal long bone diaphysis fragments, one of which had been broken when the bone was fresh, possibly during the retrieval of bone marrow. The fragments were in poor condition.

8 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

Reliability of field investigation

8.1.1 The trenched evaluation and geophysical survey has allowed an accurate record to be made of archaeological features and deposits where they survived. Recent truncation or disturbance of features and deposits was recorded in many parts of the site, particularly within the area immediately surrounding Priory House. Many of the trenches yielded few datable finds, and issues of residual finds were also apparent. However, in many cases interpretation of the dating and sequence of the archaeological features was aided by cartographic and documentary sources.

Chronological overview

8.1.2 In the following section, the development through time of the landscape of Priory Park will be discussed in the light of the new evidence obtained from the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching.

Prehistoric and Roman periods

8.1.3 Due to the absence of previous finds in the Park dating to the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic or Neolithic, the potential for significant archaeology of these periods was considered low at the desk-based assessment stage. This conclusion has not been changed by the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching. The only potential early prehistoric artefact recovered from the evaluation was a single residual flint flake from the subsoil in Trench 10, which need not relate to anything more than a fleeting presence in he landscape.

8.1.4 Previous metal-detector finds of several copper alloy objects had led to the identification of a significant later Bronze Age site on Park Hill. Small-scale excavation on the hill had produced some Late Bronze Age pottery and flintwork, but failed to locate any contemporary features. A series of earthworks are present on the hill, although their ascription to the Bronze Age is uncertain.

8.1.5 Whilst the fieldwork discussed in this document did not seek to implement invasive evaluation of the Bronze Age site, it was subject to geophysical survey using detailed magnetometry. The survey area was located on the hill summit, immediately to the north-west of the point where the socketed axe had been found and the pottery recovered through excavation. The survey sought to identify the potential for any surviving below-ground archaeological features associated with the previously recovered artefacts. Furthermore, it was hoped that the results of the geophysical

survey would provide a clearer understanding of the character, form and extent of the Bronze Age site.

8.1.6 The detailed magnetometry survey has identified a limited number of anomalies that may be of archaeological origin. The identified anomalies consist predominantly of linear cut features possibly relating to enclosure boundaries or, in the case of the curvilinear features, structures such as roundhouses. Two areas of high magnetic disturbance were also recorded by the survey that are interpreted as ferrous or thermoremanent debris. Whilst a modern origin has been assigned to these anomalies by the surveyor, the possibility exists that these areas of high magnetic response could be of greater antiquity, perhaps relating to the remains of waste product derived from the processes of metal production on the site.

8.1.7 The nature of the Bronze Age site on Park Hill unfortunately still remains enigmatic. The magnetometry survey does however suggest the potential for survival of below-ground features. The high magnetic debris spreads identified by the survey, if demonstrated to relate to Bronze Age craft activity or metalwork, would increase the significance of the site.

8.1.8 The potential for significant Iron Age or Romano-British archaeology within the Park had been considered low, as previous finds had been limited to a stray Roman pendant from Park Hill. This conclusion still stands, as no finds or features of these periods were identified during the recent fieldwork. Despite the extensive post-medieval truncation observed in the evaluation trenches, residual Roman pottery might have been expected had a settlement of this date been present in the immediate vicinity.

Medieval period

8.1.9 The potential for significant early medieval archaeology within the Park was again considered low at the desk-based assessment stage, as the focus of occupation in this period is thought to have been centred on St Mary's Church, 0.5 km to the north-east. Features or deposits associated with the use of the area as a deer park in the period leading up to the foundation of the Priory were also considered unlikely, given that a defining characteristic of deer parks was their emptiness and lack of development. The results of the trenched evaluation support these conclusions, with no artefacts recovered dating to before the 13th century.

8.1.10 The Priory is thought to have been founded between 1202 and 1233. One of the primary aims of the archaeological investigations was to elucidate the location and layout of the original Priory and its associated buildings, and to determine the extent, significance and state of preservation and of any below-ground features relating to it. The desk-based assessment provides a review of our present understanding of the Priory, derived from documentary and cartographic sources as well as from previous archaeological investigations on the site. This showed that our knowledge remains very limited, primarily due to the small scale and fragmentary nature of previous archaeological investigations.

8.1.11 The results of the resistivity survey conducted around Priory House were generally disappointing. A limited number of potential archaeological anomalies were identified, particularly to the east of the house, but whether any of these relate to the period of the Priory is unclear. Evaluation trenching targeted to examine two of the recorded anomalies within the croquet lawn (Trench 1) to the east of Priory House produced negative results. The presence of a high-rubble content demolition deposit exposed within this area may have generated the false positive results recorded by the survey. The results of resistivity survey previously conducted to the south of Priory House by English Heritage must also be viewed critically, as it failed to register substantial stone features uncovered by the present evaluation (Trench 2) and by Williams (1993a).

8.1.12 Trial trench evaluation immediately to the south of Priory House in Trench 2 produced evidence of two massive stone wall foundations. No associated floor surfaces or extensive demolition deposits survived. No evidence was recovered to securely date these features, although they were sealed by a deposit containing 16th to 18th century CBM. The two stone wall foundations were of similar construction, although their alignments differed. The eastern foundation was more massive in construction and its exact orientation could not be ascertained. The adjacent north-south aligned wall foundation has a close correspondence with the present eastern wall of the nearby southern projecting wing of Priory House. It may well be part of a similar stone foundation recorded a short distance to the south by Williams (1993a).

8.1.13 It is thought that the two projecting wings on the south-facing elevation of the present Priory House formerly projected further to the south than they do today, being reduced in length during Richard Ireland's alterations of 1766-80. It has further been suggested that these wings represent the eastern and western sides of the original priory cloister (Fig. 5; Shaikhley and Pattison 1996). As no dating evidence was recovered in direct association with the foundations in Trench 2, it is unclear whether they are indeed medieval in origin, or simply relate to post-Dissolution rebuilding.

8.1.14 Four graves were recorded (but not fully excavated) to the west of the stone foundations in Trench 2. The graves apparently belonged to two juveniles and two adults. The graves seem to be reasonably intact, although they have suffered some truncation from post-medieval feature 207. This feature may relate to the 19th century excavations for the sunken garden, during which the disturbance of burials is recorded. While no dating evidence was recovered from the graves, their east-west alignment is consistent with Christian tradition. Interpretation of these burials is difficult. Members of the order were often buried within cloisters in medieval religious houses, and thus the burials in Trench 2 may be evidence for the position of the cloisters. However, it is just as likely that the burials could belong to a lay cemetery attached to the Hospital/Priory and have nothing to tell us about the detailed layout of the religious complex.

8.1.15 In summary, the remains from Trench 2 are clearly of significant interest in relation to the medieval Priory. However, the scant results of the geophysical survey and the limited nature of the excavated evidence mean that uncertainty remains as to the precise disposition of the Priory complex (cf. figs 5 and 11).

8.1.16 Some evidence for the contemporary landscape surrounding the Priory was recovered from evaluation Trenches 6 and 7, to the north-west of Priory House. The investigations in Trench 7 suggest that the 18th century Park Lane avenue was a rebuilding of an earlier track or road, demarcated by flanking ditches on either side. The fills of ditches 709, 719 and 724 yielded 13th- to 15th-century pottery, although this is all likely to be residual, as ditches 709 and 724 also contained 16th- to 18th-century CBM. While the source of the medieval pottery is unclear, it may have been associated with feature 727, which predates and was cut by the ditches. No datable finds were recovered from feature 727 itself, and as it was only partially excavated its character is uncertain. However, it is possible that it is a medieval hollow-way underlying, and forming a precursor to, the later Park Lane Avenue. This could have served as an access route to the priory. However, a glance at any of the antiquarian maps shows that it is pointing directly to the kink in Park Road at the south corner of Spittle Field, suggesting an earlier route straight across the park from the west end of High Street, presumably closed off when the land was emparked. An equally striking diversion of Park Lane to Bell Street can be suggested around the south and east sides of Spittle Field (see especially the Tithe Map figures 9 and 10). Further evidence for medieval activity in this general area came from Trench 6, where 13th- to 15th-century pottery was recovered from ditch 605 and pit 607. Again, this material was residual, being associated with 16th- to 18th-century CBM and glass.

8.1.17 Agricultural or horticultural activity contemporary with the Priory remains unproven following the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching. A small area of possible ridge and furrow had been identified by the walkover survey to the south-west of Priory House, and Trench 10 was targeted to investigate this. However, no trace of ridge and furrow was evident within the trench, and only post-medieval finds were recovered. As discussed in the desk-based assessment, it is possible that the ponds depicted on historic maps in the western part of the Park originated as medieval fishponds, but investigation of these features lay outside the remit of the recent fieldwork.

Post-Dissolution period

8.1.18 Following its Dissolution in 1536, the Priory was converted to residential use by the Howard family (Fig. 5). As discussed above (*Medieval period*), stone wall foundations uncovered in Trench 2 may well be associated with one of the south-projecting wings of the pre-1766 Priory House. Meanwhile, Trench 12 was targeted to investigate the building, a possible gatehouse or stable block, depicted on Rocque's map of 1768. Structural remains were duly found in the western part of the trench. A brick and mortar floor surface was uncovered, which was truncated on its northern side by a robber trench. This robber trench is probably that of an east-west wall, forming the northern side of the floor. While the bricks from the floor could only be given a broad dating of 16th-18th century, the foundation layer in which they were set contained mid 16th-mid 17th century pottery and a clay pipe fragment dated to 1680-1710. The dating evidence thus suggests that the structure was built during the late 17th or early 18th centuries, supporting identification with the building depicted by Rocque. No evidence for a medieval precursor to the building was apparent.

8.1.19 Developments in the wider landscape around Priory House are difficult to discern. Evidence from Trench 7 indicates that at some point the putative medieval hollow-way was in-filled and replaced by a double-ditched road or track, although material from the ditches can only be broadly dated to the 16th-18th century. The track was around 4 m wide, and the flanking ditches were up to 1.6 m deep. No trace of the track surface survived, due to the later rebuilding which probably took place in the 18th century.

Eighteenth century landscape

8.1.20 Significant changes occurred in the landscape of Priory Park during the later 18th century, depicted by Ireland's estate plan of *c* 1770 (Fig. 8). Priory House itself is thought to have been altered in the period 1766-80 with the shortening of the south-projecting wings (Fig. 5; Shaikhley and Pattison 1996). The detached building shown on Rocque's map must also have been demolished during this period, as it is not depicted on the *c* 1770 estate plan. This is supported by the fact that no artefacts later than the 18th century were recovered in association with the structural remains or demolition layers in Trench 12.

8.1.21 The resistivity survey in the area to the west of Priory House produced evidence for features depicted by the *c* 1770 estate plan, suggesting that this plan was a reasonably accurate record of the parkland landscape rather than a proposal (which would anyway be extremely old-fashioned by that date). These included two linear features (Fig. 16, B and C) interpreted as internal boundaries forming part of the geometric layout of the kitchen gardens. These features were investigated by evaluation Trenches 6 and 8 respectively. Anomaly B proved to be a substantial feature (ditch 606), 3.3 m wide and 0.77 m deep, and contained dating evidence in the form of 17th- to 18th-century bottle glass. Anomaly C was a slighter feature (ditch 801), yielding no datable finds.

8.1.22 Trench 7 was targeted on the Park Lane avenue, a feature visible as a low earthwork and as a resistance anomaly, as well as being depicted on the estate plan. The stratigraphic sequence exposed in the trench showed that the earlier double-ditched track had at some stage been rebuilt, by laying down two make-up layers of compacted

rubble (712 and 713). These layers produced no datable finds. However, the reconstructed avenue was flanked by ditch 717 on its north-eastern side, which contained 18th- to mid 19th-century material. The south-western side of the avenue was flanked by a drain cut of uncertain date. No surfacing of the avenue survived, although it could have been unsurfaced from the outset. The avenue appears to have been around 5 m broad, and stood at least 0.40 m proud of the surrounding ground surface, with a gentle camber. The surviving rubble make-up of the avenue lies 0.12 m below the current ground surface. The avenue appears to have gone out of use by the time of the 1845 tithe map (Fig. 10).

8.1.23 The *c* 1770 estate plan also shows an avenue or formal walk running westwards from Priory House towards Park Lake. The line of this was assumed to be represented by a low earthwork identified during the walkover survey (**OA 25**). However, targeting of this feature by evaluation Trench 9 produced no evidence for the avenue, or for any other features beyond a modern service trench. It is therefore possible that the avenue has left no below-ground remains.

8.1.24 Ancillary buildings and yards are depicted by the *c* 1770 plan to the south-west of Priory House. Evaluation trenching in the area of the present tennis courts (Trench 4) was undertaken in order to investigate whether any of these structures survived. Trench 4 produced evidence for a chalk floor at its western end, 0.30 m below the present ground surface. Although no datable finds were recovered from the trench, the likelihood is that the floor belongs to the structures shown on the estate plan. Trench 4 covered only a very small part of the tennis courts, and the potential clearly exists for further remains in the area.

8.1.25 An icehouse depicted by the *c* 1770 plan at the southern boundary of the estate was targeted by the ground penetrating radar survey. A series of anomalies were identified, some of which may relate to structural features. However, these anomalies formed no clear pattern, and are difficult to relate to the outline of the icehouse as shown on the estate plan. In the absence of invasive evaluation, the state of preservation of the icehouse remains unclear.

Nineteenth and twentieth century developments

8.1.26 The subsequent development of the Park can be traced in the 1845 tithe map (figs 9 and 10) and successive Ordnance Survey maps (figs 12 and 18). During the course of the 19th century, Priory House was extensively altered (Fig. 5; Shaikhley and Pattison 1996). Much of the formal 18th century garden layout was abandoned, although a new sunken garden was constructed to the south of the house, in front of which a ha-ha was built. The Park Lane Avenue was replaced by a new drive running along the northern boundary of the estate (Fig. 10).

8.1.27 The most significant 19th century feature encountered during the trenched evaluation was the ha-ha to the south of Priory House. The western terminus of the ha-ha was located in Trench 5, while Trench 11 demonstrated its continuation some 85 m to the east. The ha-ha ditch was up to 1.5 m deep, and while its full width was not uncovered, the rise in the ditch profile suggests that it could have been as much as 8-9 m broad. Brick samples from the ha-ha wall have been dated to 1830-1900, although the ha-ha may well belong to the period after 1845, as it does not appear on the tithe map of that date. The ha-ha walls were in a good state of preservation in both Trench 5 and Trench 11. The ditch fills were truncated by modern gas pipes and cables, however.

8.1.28 The flat-bottomed feature (207) in Trench 2 may also date from this period. On the basis of the form and character of this feature, it is considered likely that it represents part of the initial excavations for the creation of the sunken gardens to the south of the house during the 1880s. These initial excavations were abandoned due to the presence

of foundations and human burials. This resulted in the sunken gardens being relocated further to the south of the house in the position that they occupy today.

8.1.29 The resistance survey identified two large anomalies to the west of the present tennis courts (anomalies **D/E** and **F**; Fig. 16) which correspond to rectangular enclosures depicted on the 1933 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 18) and still visible as rectangular parch marks today. In the absence of invasive evaluation, the nature and function of these land plots remains uncertain.

9 SIGNIFICANCE FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARK

9.1.1 Drawing on the results of the recent fieldwork, the park can be divided into areas of high, moderate and low archaeological potential (Fig. 38). Areas of high potential are:

A: The area immediately around Priory House, including the possible monastic building foundations and burials, and the post-Dissolution gatehouse

B: Park Lane Avenue, including the possible medieval hollow-way

C: The Bronze Age site on Park Hill

9.1.2 Areas of moderate potential are:

D: The areas to the south and west of Priory House, including the 18th century kitchen gardens and the 19th century ha-ha

E: The undated earthworks at the eastern edge of the Park

F: The area of 18th-19th century features to the south-west of Priory House. This includes the site of the icehouse and stable block, and also linear earthworks such as the possible formal walk

G: The area of the former ponds at the western edge of the Park

H: The knoll, with its undated earthworks

I: The undated earthworks at the western end of the Greensand ridge

9.1.3 The remainder of the Park is designated as having a *relatively* low potential, although future archaeological finds in these areas cannot be ruled out.

9.1.4 The results of the evaluation trenching may provide an argument for extending the bounds of the Priory scheduled area westwards, to include the post-Dissolution gatehouse/stable block and the possible 18th century features in the present tennis court area. Unfortunately, uncertainty remains as to the precise disposition of the medieval Priory complex itself, although the results from Trench 2 suggest the survival of medieval wall foundations and burials. Further work around Priory House, probably area investigation rather than trenching, should be a priority of any future programme of invasive fieldwork, to clarify the evaluation results both from Trench 2 and from the earlier work in the Bell Street car park.

9.1.5 The Bronze Age site on Park Hill would similarly benefit from further invasive evaluation. This should seek to both clarify the results produced by the geophysical survey and ascertain more directly the form, function, extent and chronology of the

activity recorded on the site. In particular, investigation of the earthworks on the hilltop may elucidate whether these features are of Bronze Age date. This would provide a more informed basis upon which decisions regarding the future management and conservation of the site can be founded, but should logically not be carried out unless invasive measures are proposed for other reasons for this area of the site.

9.1.6 The current management proposals for the park envisage restoration of landscape features including the 19th century sunken garden and ha-ha. The sunken garden lies in an area sensitive in terms of medieval building foundations and burials, and hence archaeological mitigation would be required prior to any deep excavations being made. Meanwhile, the trenched evaluation demonstrated that the ha-ha walls were in a good state of preservation, but the presence of modern pipes and cables running within the in-filled ha-ha ditch may complicate any restoration.

9.1.7 Building works (The Pavilion) are also scheduled to take place on the area of the present tennis courts. As the trenched evaluation (trench 4) revealed evidence of possible 18th-century structures only 0.30 m below the tennis court surface, archaeological mitigation would be recommended prior to the commencement of works.

Appendix 1: Priory Park Cultural Heritage Gazetteer

OA No.	Description	Grid Reference	Reference
1	Remains of post-medieval lime kiln	TQ 24700 49100	SMR 420
2	Medieval deer park	TQ 25000 49500	SMR 833
3	Re-buried human bones, possible post-medieval	TQ 2515 4906	SMR 857
4	15th Century undercroft, part of the old Market House, demolished 1728	TQ 24990 50360	SMR 1004
5	Reigate Castle	TQ 25200 50350	SMR 1039
6	Reigate Priory and Hospital, SAM SU119. Priory founded 1235 and dissolved 1535. Building survey carried out in 1996	TQ 25310 49980	SMR 1047; Shaikhley and Pattison 1996
7	Excavation at 'The Pantry': buried soil with a considerable amount of 13th C pottery and some mesolithic flakes	TQ 25080 50220	SMR 1073; Woods 1975
8	Excavation at 43 High Street: medieval drainpipes and possible kiln; post-medieval malting kiln and well	TQ 25350 50150	NMR 641879 Williams 1981
9	Excavation at Brewery Yard: medieval structure associated with late 15th C penny	TQ 25360 50120	SMR 2337
10	Excavation (same as 9): 16th C pottery and a gold coin of 1584-7 recovered. Later excavation on same site revealed a 16th C wooden structure	TQ 25360 50120	SMR 2480; Williams 1980
11	Metal detector finds: two Late Bronze Age socketed axes, socketed gouge, sword blade fragment and copper ingot fragments; also a Roman copper alloy phallic pendant	TQ 25150 49400	SMR 3120; Williams 1994; Williams 1996; Alexander & Bird 1996
12	Metal detector find: Late Bronze Age barbed spearhead. Excavation at the site of this find proved negative	TQ 24830 49490	SMR 3804; Williams 1996
13	Excavation: Late Bronze Age pottery and worked flint recovered.	TQ 25160 49390	SMR 4293; Williams 1994
14	Excavation at 24-36 Bell Street: medieval occupation, inc. a post-built structure, poss. malting kiln. Subsequent watching brief recovered 12th-16th C pottery and 13th C structural evidence	TQ 25360 50110	SMR 4298; Stevenson 1997
15	Excavation (same as 14): probable 16th C mill house	TQ 2535 050110	SMR 4299
16	Excavation (same as 14): probable Bronze Age pit	TQ 25360 50110	SMR 4300
17	Undated oval ringwork, formed by a bank, scarp, broad shallow ditch and counterscarp	TQ 24900 49900	SMR 4720
18	A flattened platform occupying approximately 0.75 ha.	TQ 25100 49426	-

OA No.	Description	Grid Reference	Reference
19	A strong scarp with low bank on-top, approximately 3.0 m high and 7.0 m wide	TQ 25018 49424	-
20	A slight ditch and bank. Possibly associated with OA 52 above.	TQ 25007 494427	-
21	A flattened platform occupying approximately 0.40 ha	TQ 24676 49433	-
22	Bank and ditch approximately 750 m long, 1.0 m high and 0.50 m wide. Extends east to west along southern base of Park Hill.	TQ 25282 49725	-
23	Bank and ditch approximately 180 m long, 0.50 m high and 2.0 m wide. Extends north to south across grassed area of Priory Park.	TQ 25141 49919	-
24	Possible traces of ridge and furrow comprising 3 slight ridges on a north - south alignment.	TQ 25007 49779	-
25	Very slight earthwork approximately 100 m long, 0.2 m high and 2.0 m wide. Extends east to west just to the north of the present path from Priory House to Priory Lake.	TQ 25012 49932	-
26	Slight earthwork approximately 15.0 m long, 0.30 m wide and 2.0 m wide. Has a flat top and overlies OA 61 below.	TQ 25141 49980	-
27	Possible wall footing identified in a trench cut for the insertion of a new path. Extends east from this point as a very slight earthwork along the south of the school area.	TQ 25174 49987	-
28	Strong earthwork extending north to south. 1.0 m high, 3.0 m wide on top with 2.0 m wide scarps.	TQ 25064 50127	-
29	A series of very slight earthworks covering an area of approximately 0.60 ha.	TQ 25120 50084	-
30	A series of very slight earthworks covering an area of approximately 0.30 ha.	TQ 25273 49944	-
31	Three banks approximately 30.0 m long, 0.50 m high and 0.50 m wide.	TQ 25007 49839	-
32	Terracing around a knoll. Comprises two 2 m wide terraces and 2.0 m high.	TQ 24982 49995	-
33	Present northern boundary of Priory Park. Comprises a substantial brick wall on a low, wide earthen embankment. Embankment is 0.50 m high and 4.0 m wide.	TQ 252161 50155	-
34	Series of earthworks between the grassed area in front of Priory House and Bell Street. Cover an area of approximately 0.70 ha.	TQ 25423 49866	-
35	Probable location of monastic ponds from Rocque's map.		-
36	Location of icehouse.		-
37	Metal detector find: 12th-13th C copper alloy seal die	TQ 252 495	Williams 1992
38	Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead	TQ 246 498	Williams 1994
39	Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged flint arrowhead (not closely provenanced)	"On or close to the footpath forming the S boundary of the park"	Williams 1994
40	Excavation: northern perimeter wall of park shown to be 19th C and to be built over a silted-up stream	TQ 252 501	Woods 1975
41	Watching brief: substantial structure of chalk blocks with brick facings, floored with clay and timber. Probably 18th C and relating to water management in gardens	TQ 251 499	*Surrey Archaeological Collections* 86, 226
42	Excavation: unstratified medieval pottery; 17th-18th C garden path	TQ 254 499	Williams 1992
43	Watching brief: possible wall footings which may relate to priory	TQ 254 499	Williams 1993a

OA No.	Description	Grid Reference	Reference
44	Watching brief: wall footings which may relate to priory	TQ 254 501	Jones 1993
45	Watching brief at 38-40 Bell Street: wall footings which may relate to priory. Sculpted building stone recovered	TQ 254 501	Unpublished notes
46	Watching brief at 13 Bell Street: 12th-13th C layers, post-medieval wall foundations	TQ2535 5020	Williams 1993b
47	Excavation at 16 Bell Street: Saxo-Norman pottery, medieval building remains and kiln, post-medieval structures. Mesolithic flint also recovered	TQ 254 502	SMR 1047 Williams 1983
48	Excavation at Timothy White's	TQ 2525 5025	Woods 1974
49	Excavation at Natwest Bank: medieval settlement evidence	TQ 2525 5025	*Surrey Arch. Soc Bulletin* 1974
50	Excavation at Congregational Church: Mesolithic flint, medieval settlement evidence, post-medieval well	TQ 251 502	NMR 641888 *Surrey Archaeological Collections* 1977
51	Evaluation for new access road: no finds	TQ 251 501	NMR 1067920
52	Watching brief during demolition of reservoir: no finds	TQ 245 494	NMR 1073333
53	Void		NMR 1073331
54	Site of former stables		

Appendix 2: Archaeological Context Inventory

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thickness (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
1								
	101	Layer	-	0.60	Rubble layer			
	102	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil			
	103	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil			
	104	Layer	-	-	Natural			
2								
	201	Burial	-	-	Partially exposed burial within same grave cut (220) as burial 202			
	202	Burial	-	-	Partially exposed burial within same grave cut (220) as burial 201			
	203	Burial	-	-	Partially exposed burial within grave cut 218			
	204	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil			
	205	Layer	-	-	Same as 206	Clay pipe	1	1680-1710
	206	Layer	-	0.20	Made ground containing demolition rubble	CBM	7	16-18 C
	207	Cut	3.50	0.60	Modern trench cut			
	208	Fill	-	0.50	Fill of cut 207			
	209	Fill	-	0.36	Fill of cut 207			
	210	Fill	-	0.20	Primary fill of cut 207			
	211	Fill	-	0.36	Secondary fill of cut 207			
	212	Cut	2.40	-	Grave cut - unexcavated, filled by 213			
	213	Fill	-	-	Fill of 212, where truncated			
	214	Layer	-	0.25	Buried soil			
	215	-	-	-	*Void*			
	216	Cut	1.40	-	Grave cut - unexcavated, filled by 217			
	217	Fill	-	-	Fill of 216, where truncated			

	218	Cut	1.40	-	Grave cut - unexcavated, filled by 219 and contained burial 203 where exposed			
	219	Fill	-	-	Fill of 218, where truncated			
	220	Cut	1.38	0.10+	Grave cut containing burials 201 and 202. Filled by 221			
	221	Fill	-	0.10+	Fill of grave 220			
	222	Wall	0.85	0.40	Sandstone and lime mortar wall foundation			
	223	Wall	1.30	0.60	Sandstone and lime mortar wall foundation			
	224	Cut	0.34	0.30	Robber trench? cut into wall 223			
	225	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of 224			
	226	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
3								
	301	Layer	5.00	0.22	Modern made ground			
	302	Cut	2.40	0.90	Modern pit cut			
	303	Layer	-	0.40	Modern rubble horizon			
	304	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil			
	305	Layer	-	-	Natural			
	306	Fill	-	0.90	Fill of pit 302	Metal cans	-	Modern
4								
	401	Layer	5.00	0.09	Tarmac tennis court surface			
	402	Layer	5.00	0.18	Gravel bedding layer for tarmac surface			
	403	Layer	4.20	0.37	Made ground layer for tennis courts			
	404	Layer	3.00	0.12	Compact chalk surface or possible floor			
	405	Layer	0.70	0.17	Sandy layer thought to be part of tennis court construction			
	406	Layer	1.20	0.40	Made ground layer for tennis courts			
5								
	501	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil			

	502	Layer	-	0.66	Tertiary fill of 508			
	503	Layer	-	0.56	Secondary fill of 508			
	504	Layer	-	0.30	Primary fill of 508			
	505	Wall	3.40	1.35	Ha-ha terminal wall of brick construction	CBM	1	1830-1900
	506	Wall	2.00	1.35	Main ha-ha wall of brick construction	CBM	1	1830-1900
	507	Layer	-	-	Natural			
	508	Cut	4.60+	1.30	Ha-ha ditch containing 502 to 506			
6								
	601	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil			
	602	Layer	-	0.10	Made ground			
	603	Layer	-	0.40	Subsoil	CBM Clay pipe	1 1	16-18 C 17-18 C
	604	Layer	-	0.50	Buried subsoil/topsoil horizon?			
	605	Cut	0.60	0.77	NE-SW aligned ditch, filled with 606			
	606	Fill	-	0.77	Fill of 605	Pottery Glass Slag Bone	4 1 1 5	1200-1400 17-E18 C
	607	Cut	1.20	0.85	Pit cut, filled with 608 and 609			
	608	Fill	-	0.30	Secondary fill of pit 607	Pottery CBM Bone	2 3 4	1450-1550 16-18 C
	609	Fill	-	0.58	Primary fill of pit 607			
	610	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
7								
	701	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil			
	702	Cut	1.30	0.80	Modern drain cut, filled with 703 to 706			
	703	Wall	0.64	0.40	Brick retaining wall for drain 702			
	704	Fill	-	0.30	Secondary fill of 702			
	705	Fill	-	0.56	Primary fill of 702			
	706	Fill	-	0.70	Tertiary fill of 702			
	707	Layer	-	0.30	Made ground layer			
	708	Layer	-	0.18	Possible layer of slumping from avenue			

					surface			
	709	Cut	1.30	0.60	Ditch cut, filled with 710			
	710	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 709	Pottery CBM	3 1	1250-1450 16-18 C
	711	Layer	-	0.45	Dumped material either within ditch or natural hollow over which raised venue constructed (also see 727)			
	712	Layer	-	0.16	Mixed rubble and hardcore surface layer on raised avenue			
	713	Layer	-	0.20	Compact hardcore layer forming foundation for raised avenue			
	714	Layer	-	0.22	Possible layer of slumping from avenue surface			
	715	Cut	1.30	0.25	Ditch cut, filled with 716			
	716	Fill		0.25	Fill of 715			
	717	Cut	1.30	0.55	Ditch cut, filled with 718			
	718	Fill	-	0.55	Fill of 717	Pottery CBM Clay pipe Bone Iron	3 6 1 2 1	1750-1850 16-18 C 17-18 C
	719	Cut	1.30	0.95	Ditch cut, filled with 720 and 721			
	720	Fill	-	0.25	Secondary fill of ditch 719			
	721	Fill	-	0.74	Primary fill of ditch 719	Pottery	1	1150-1300
	722	Cut	1.30	0.60	Ditch cut, filled with 723			
	723	Fill	-	0.60	Fill of 722			
	724	Cut	1.30	1.00	Ditch cut, filled with 725 and 726			
	725	Fill	-	0.80	Secondary fill of cut 724	Pottery CBM Iron	2 1 1	1200-1400 13-16 C 14C+
	726	Fill	-	0.20	Primary fill of cut 724	Pottery CBM Clay pipe Glass Slag	16 3 1 1 2	1230-1400 16-18 C 17-18 C 17-E18 C

						Iron	1	
	727	Cut	1.30	1.45	?large ditch/hollow, filled with 726			
	728	Fill	-	1.45	Fill of 727			
	729	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
8								
	801	Cut	0.70	0.25	Ditch/gully filled with 802			
	802	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 801			
	803	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil			
	804	Layer	-	-	Natural			
	805	Layer	-	0.38	Subsoil			
9								
	901	Cut	0.90	0.78	Ditch cut (drainage), filled with 902			
	902	Fill	-	0.78	Fill of 901			
	903	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil			
	904	Layer	-	-	Natural			
	905	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil			
10								
	1001	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	Pottery CBM Glass	4 3 1	19-20 C 16-18 C modern
	1002	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	Pottery CBM Iron	5 1 2	19-20 C 16-18 C 17C+
	1003	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
11								
	1101	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil			
	1102	Layer	2.30	0.60	Made ground			
	1103	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
	1104	Layer	3.10	0.60	Backfill layer of ha-ha			
	1105	Layer	0.80	0.25	Backfill layer of ha-ha			
	1106	Layer	1.20	0.60	Backfill layer of ha-ha			
	1107	Wall	0.35	1.50	Ha-ha wall of brick construction			
12								
	1201	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil			
	1202	Layer	-	0.30	Made ground			

	1203	Layer	-	0.50	Sand make-up layer			
	1204	Layer	-	-	Natural sand			
	1205	Floor	-	0.10	Single course brick floor surface	CBM	6	16-18 C
	1206	Floor	-	0.04	Mortar bedding layer for brick floor surface 1205			
	1207	Wall	-	0.10	Single course brick footing			
	1208	Layer	-	0.08	Construction deposit for wall 1207 and floor 1205 and 1206. No discernible cut evident within confines of trench	Pottery Clay pipe	1 1	1550-1650 1680-1710
	1209	-	-	-	Void			
	1210	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of 1214			
	1211	Wall?	-	0.10	Fragmentary brick alignment either representing former structural remains or demolition deposits			
	1212	Layer	-	0.30	Probable demolition horizon	CBM Glass	1 6	16-18 C
	1213	-	-	-	Void			
	1214	Cut	0.60	0.30	Robber trench, filled by 1210			

Appendix 3: Pottery

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context

Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comments
606	c1200-1400	4	42	3 vess. All bss. Larger 2 bss prob Earlswood-type jug, unglz, white slip dec incl horiz slip band and oblique slip strokes below. Pale pink-buff (similar to Kent fabrics M40BR, M10R & LM32 ie. From Wealden clay source). 1x Earls-type jug bs w allover white slip under copper green glz. 1 plain.
608	c1450-1550?	2	31	1x oxid pasty orange chalk-flecked (dissolved) unglz (similar to Kent fabric PM64 & LM Medway fabrics). 1 Earls
710	c1250-1450?	3	3	1 vess, prob base floor from Surrey Kingston or Coarse Border ware jar/skillet. Green glzd int, sooted ext/under
718	c1750-1850?	3	37	2x PM/LPM hard redwares, int glz. 1x med. (see clay pipes - 17-18C stem)
721	c1150-1300	1	20	Limpsfield-type greyware cpot base. Prob 13C?
725	c1200-1400	2	48	1x ?Earls jug base/floor - trace glz under. 1x Coarse Limpsfield-type cpot bs (rounded orange-red quartz incls up to 3mm). Sooted ext
726	c1230-1400	16	185	(NB 1x clay pipe stem 17/18C - prob intrusive?). 2 vess. 1x rim Kingston-type jug rim plain thickened/sub-collared, green glz int/ext. Other vess (15 sh) from single jug body and thumbed base. Prob Earlswood - orange-red w ao ext white slip under copper-green glz (similar to Mill Green ware but much coarser. Rounded orange medium/coarse quartz, sparse red iron oxide/clay pellets to 4mm, some with pipeclay lining/coating)
1001	c1800-1900+	4	71	2x flowerpot. 2x bss ?Earls
1002	c1830-1900+	5	78	2x mod stoneware flagon rim (Bristol glz). 2x flowerpot. 1x worn med
1208	c1550-1650	1	8	Bs Frechen stoneware jug PM5. Rosey int glaze
TOTAL		**41**	**523**	

Appendix 4: Other Finds

Table 2: Quantification of CBM by context

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight (g)	Comments
206	16-18C	7	435	Roof tile fragments from 4-5 tiles, reddish, orange-buff. Includes corner and edge fragments & 1x circular nail hole. Fabric of some is marl-streaked. Fabric of 1 is very pasty & chalk flecked like Kent pot Fabric PM64. Probably Wealden/Gault clay sources
505	*c* 1830-1900	1	2065	Complete brick, frogged. Purplish-brown fabric. Identical to that in context 506
506	*c* 1830-1900	1	2097	Complete brick, frogged. Purplish-brown fabric. Length 228mm, width 107mm, thickness 67mm
603	16-18C	1	182	Corner fragment soft orange-red brick
608	16-18C	3	287	Fragments include corner fragment of soft orange-red brick. 2 bricks
710	16-18C?	1	13	Roof tile scrap, over-fired, worn, pasty
718	16-18C	6	269	Roof tile fragments from 4-5 tiles, reddish, orange-buff. Includes corner & edge fragments. 1 or 2 possibly late medieval?
725	13-16C?	1	16	Roof tile scrap, over-fired. Circular nail hole.
726	16-18C	3	77	Roof tile corner with square nail hole. 2x small scraps soft red brick
1001	16-18C	3	63	Roof tile fragments from 3x tiles. 1 in PM64 fabric
1002	16-18C	1	17	Roof tile fragment. Very hard - probably joins tile in 1001
1205	16-18C	6	941	2 broken soft orange-red bricks, width of one = 108mm
1212	13-16C?	1	41	Roof tile fragment, fairly coarse with possible traces of glaze, possibly over-fired
TOTAL		**35**	**6503**	

Table 3: Quantification of clay pipe fragments by context

Context	Spot-date	Stem	Bowl	Mouth	Total no.	Weight (g)	Comments
205	*c* 1680-1710	0	1	0	1	12	Complete bowl, milled. Damaged spur
603	17-18C	1	0	0	1	6	Stem bore *c* 2 mm
718	17-18C	0	0	1	1	2	Stem bore *c* 2 mm
726	17-18C	1	0	0	1	5	Stem bore *c* 2 mm
1208	*c* 1680-1710	0	1	0	1	11	Complete bowl, milled. Damaged spur
TOTAL		**2**	**2**	**1**	**5**	**36**	

Table 4: Quantification of glass by context

Context	No. fragments	Weight (g)	Date	Comments
606	1	193	17-early 18 C	'Onion bottle' mouth and neck
726	1	47	17-early 18 C	'Onion bottle' mouth and neck
1001	1	5	Modern	Window glass
1212	6	6	?	Small fragments

Table 5: Quantification of identified animal bone by context

Species	Context			Total
	606	608	718	
Red deer	-	1 (37 g)	-	1 (37g)
Large mammal	-	2 (5 g)	2 (27 g)	4 (32 g)
Medium mammal	-	1 (2 g)	-	1 (2 g)
Medium/large mammal	5 (0 g)	-	-	5 (0 g)
Total	**5 (0 g)**	**4 (44 g)**	**2 (27 g)**	**11 (71 g)**

Table 6: Condition of faunal assemblage by context

Context	Condition			No. of fragments
	2	3	4	
606	-	100%	-	5
608	50%	50%	-	4
718	-	-	100%	2

Table 7: Quantification of slag by context

Context	No. of fragments	Weight (g)
606	1	2
726	2	1

Appendix 5: List of Sources Consulted, Bibliography and References

Main Sources Consulted

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the National Monuments Record (NMR)

This is a database of all known archaeological sites and findspots within the area, constructed from evidence supplied by archaeological investigation, early maps, aerial photographs and local knowledge. This is the prime repository of information on recorded archaeological remains within the study area

The NMR is the national database of archaeological and architectural sites and buildings in England. Initially based on the Ordnance Survey field inspector's records it is updated from various sources, including the National Library of Aerial Photographs and any information received from the SMR's of England.

OA carried out an assessment of the records held by the SMR and NMR of the study area. This identified 17 archaeological entries (**OA 1-17**), all of which were allocated an OA number, added to the gazetteer of archaeology (Appendix One), referred to in the text and marked on the Archaeological Features Map (Fig. 2).

English Heritage - information on Scheduled Monuments

EH was consulted in order to determine whether the Study Area contained any Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs). SAMs are nationally important sites protected by government legislation. One SAM lies within the area, Scheduled Monument (AM 119), currently occupied by a school.

The Surrey History Centre

This assessment involved examination of all early maps up to the beginning of the 20th century at the Surrey History centre, Woking. Appendix Four contains a list of all the cartographic sources used.

British Geological Survey map (Sheet 286).

The geology of an area has a strong influence on the development and settlement of an area. For this reason the British Geological Survey Map (286) was consulted to assess the geology of the study area.

Published sources.

A range of published sources were examined to gain an understanding of the archaeological background of the area. Appendix Four contains a full bibliography.

Field inspection

A site inspection can provide further information on the archaeological potential of the proposed development site based on topography, the nature of the existing buildings, current land use, and the extent of past ground disturbance. For this assessment a field inspection was between 31st May and 3rd June 2005. The results of the site visit are discussed in Section 4.

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Other Sources

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Cartographic Sources

- John Norden map 1594
- John Senex Map 1729
- Sketch map 1727
- John Rocque map 1768
- Estate survey 1770
- Reigate Tithe Map, 1845

- Ordnance Survey map, 1870
- Ordnance Survey map, 1896
- Ordnance Survey map, 1912
- Ordnance Survey map, 1933
- Borough Surveyors Plan, 1944
- 1:500 Ordnance Survey map, 1850

Appendix 6: Summary of Site Details

Site name: Priory Park, Reigate
Site code: REPP 05
Grid reference: TQ 251 496
Type of evaluation: Desk-based Assessment, Geophysical Survey and Trenched Evaluation.
Date and duration of project: May to July 2005; duration approximately three months.
Area of site: *c* 58 ha
Summary of results: Oxford Archaeology undertook a staged programme of archaeological work at Priory Park, Reigate, Surrey, during Spring 2005 on behalf of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Land Use Consultants. This programme included a desk-based assessment, walkover survey, geophysical survey and trenched evaluation. Much of the fieldwork was targeted at elucidating the location and layout of the medieval Reigate Priory, and the post-Dissolution development of the Priory as a residence set in landscaped parkland. Stone wall foundations and burials probably belonging to the medieval Priory were uncovered in one of the evaluation trenches. Evidence was also uncovered of post-Dissolution structures including a 17th-18th century building which may have been a gatehouse or stable block. A section through an 18th century avenue leading to the Priory showed that it had earlier predecessors, possibly originating as a medieval hollow-way. Geophysical survey was also carried out on a known Bronze Age site within the Park, though the results were limited.
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with an appropriate museum in due course.

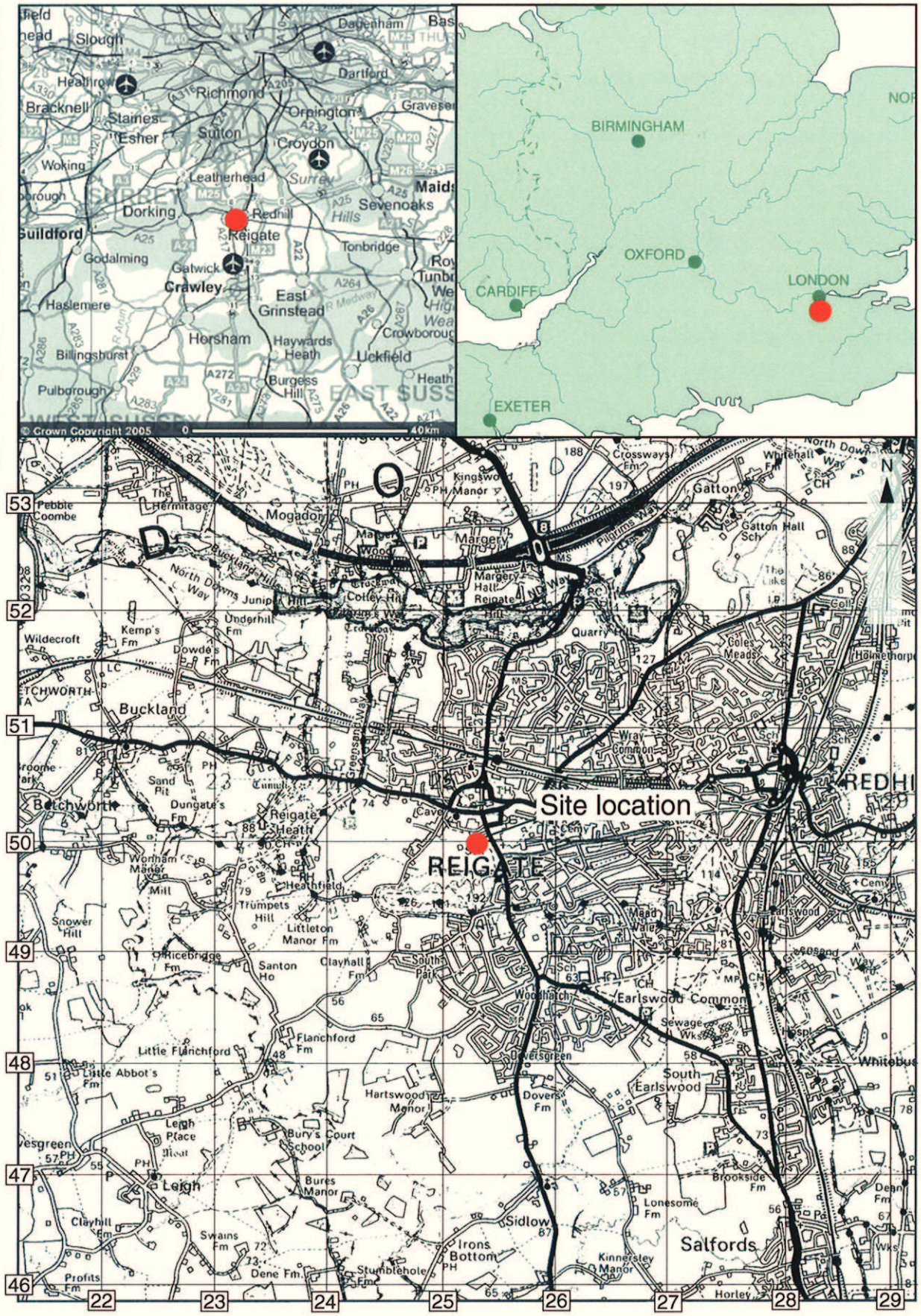


Figure 1: Site location

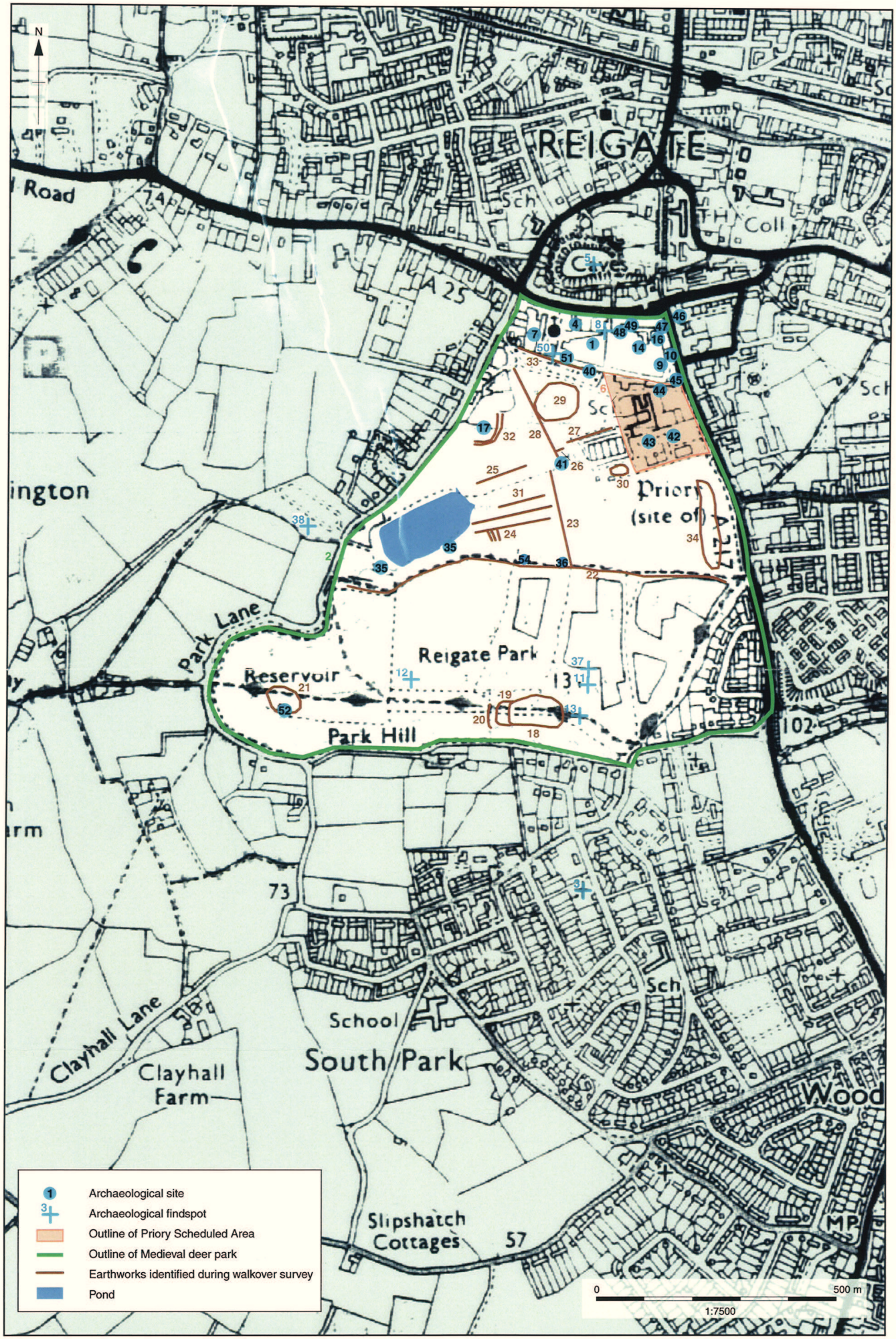


Figure 2: Archaeological features map

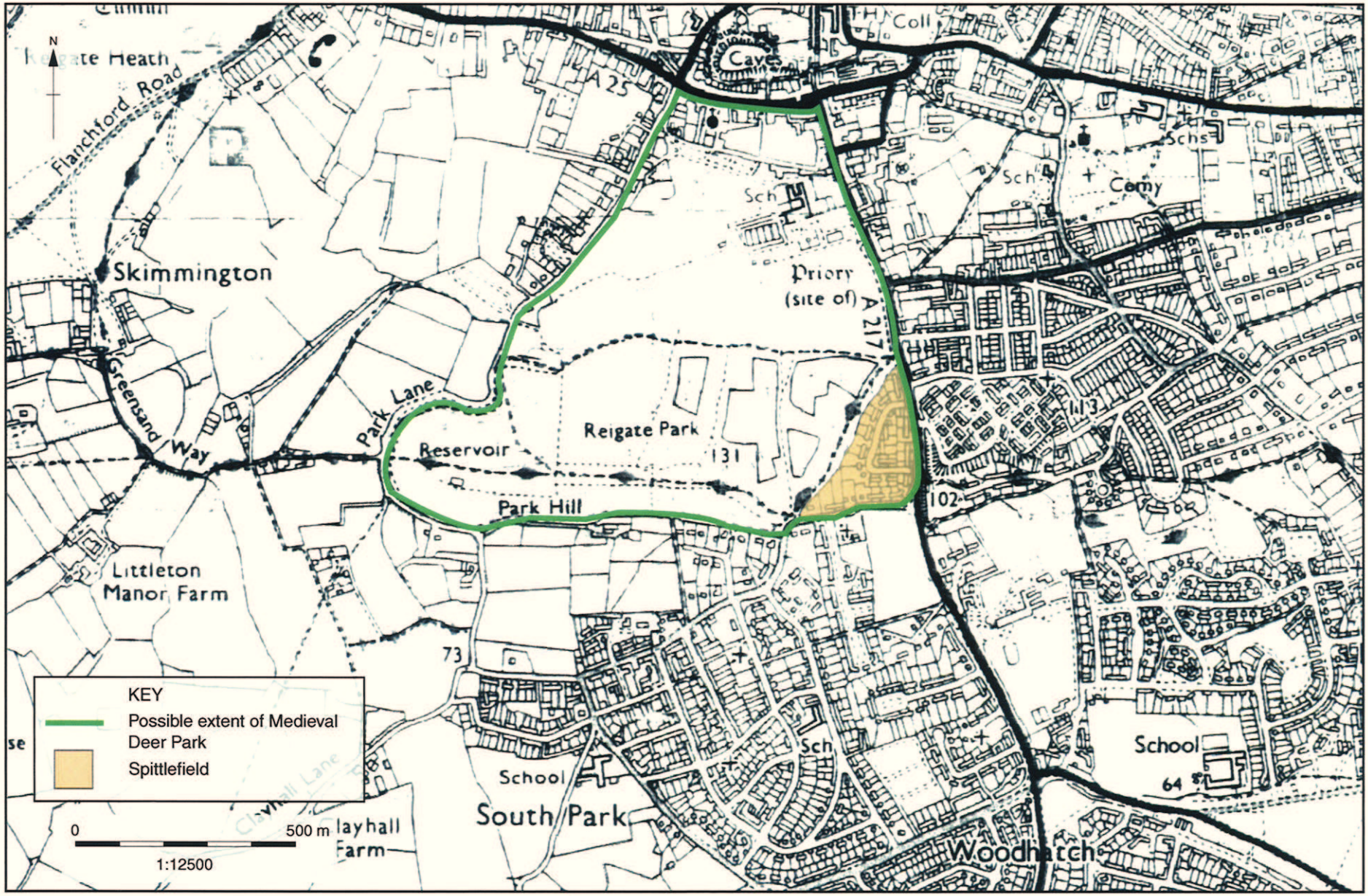


Figure 3: Extent of Medieval Deer Park

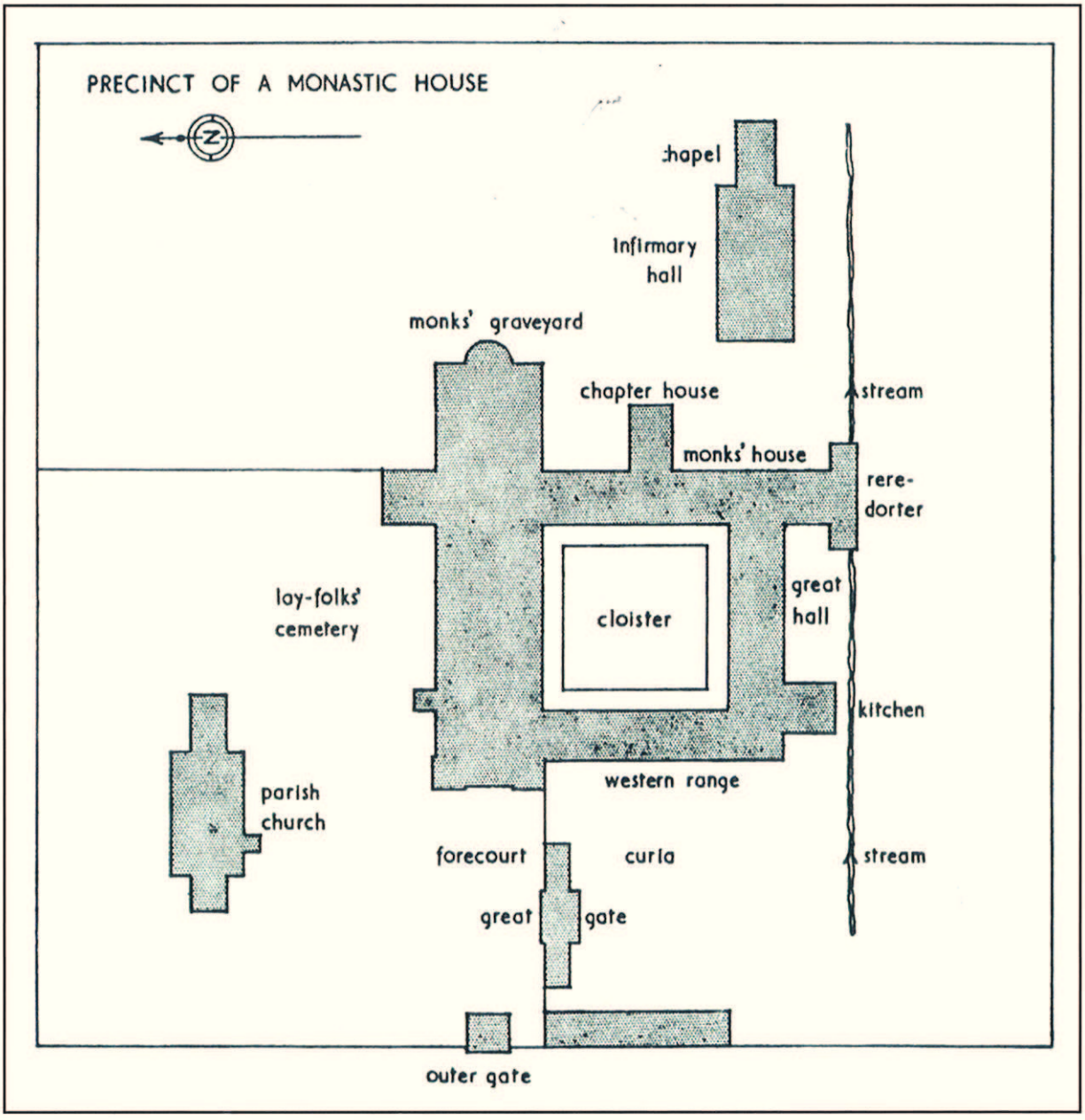


Figure 4: Idealised model of a Monastic complex (Braun 1951)

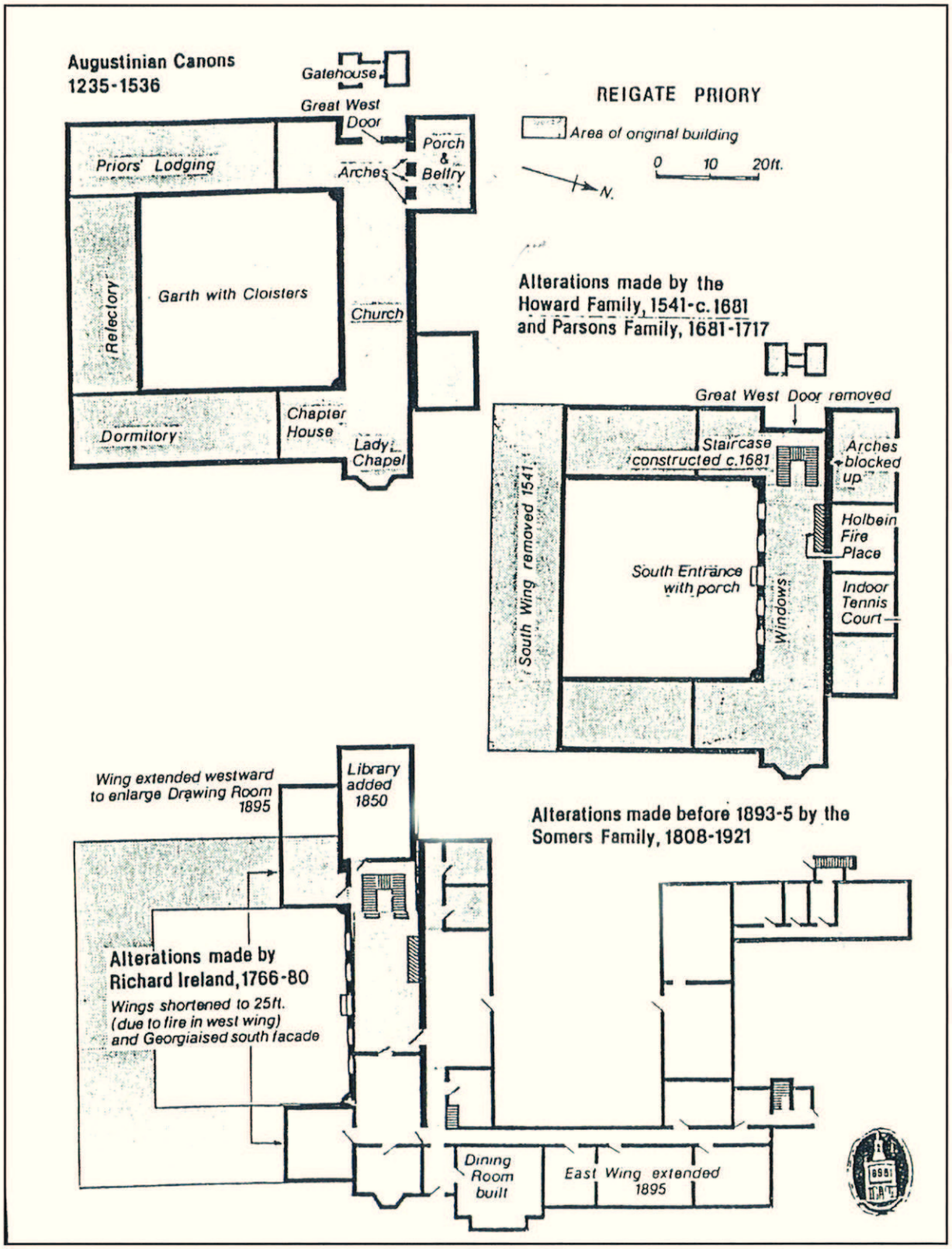


Figure 5: Reconstruction plan of Reigate Priory with later alterations and additions (Shaikhley and Pattison 1996)

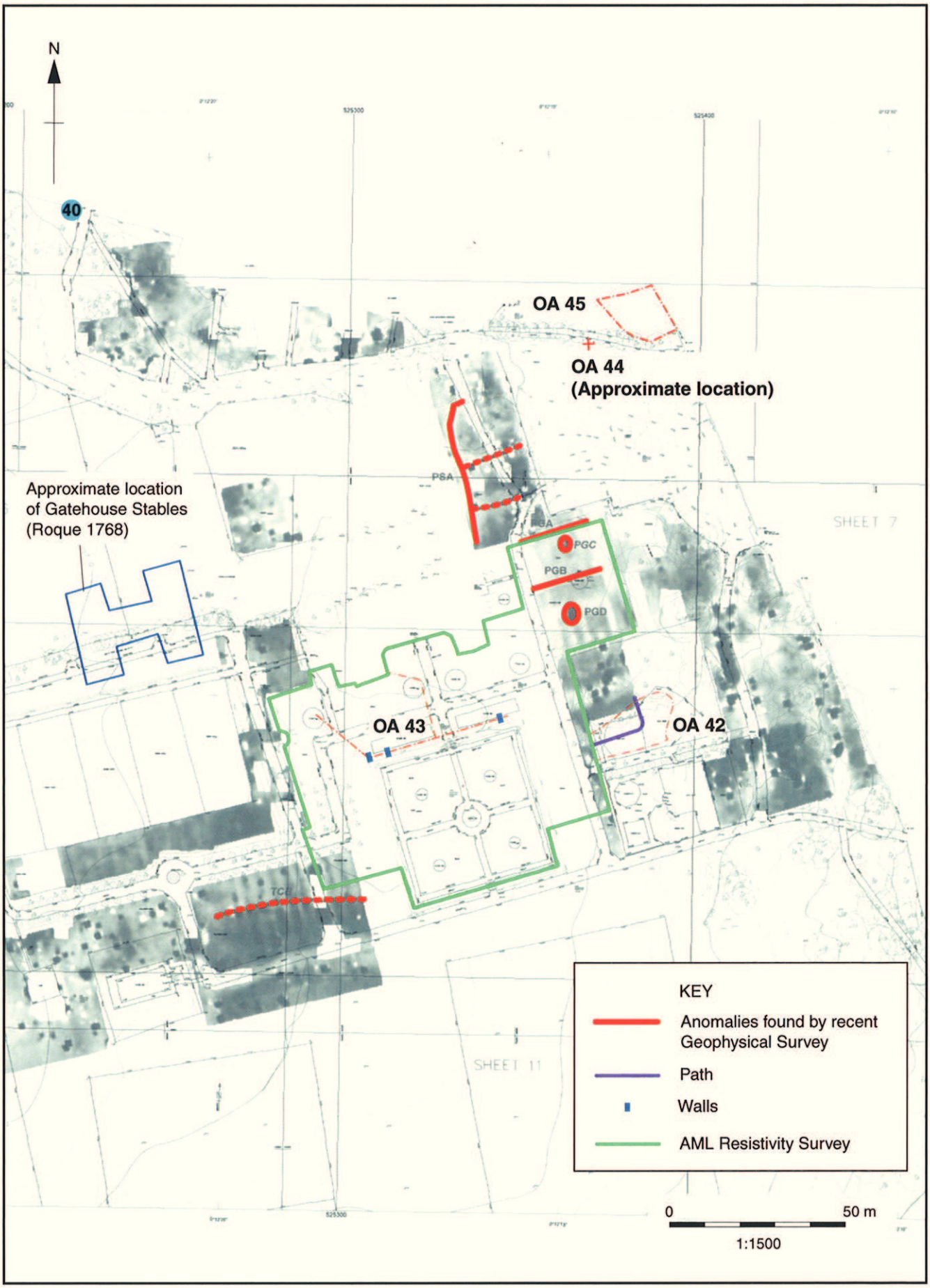


Figure 6: Composite plan of previous archaeological investigations and recorded features within area of Priory House

Figure 7: John Rocque's map of Surrey, 1768

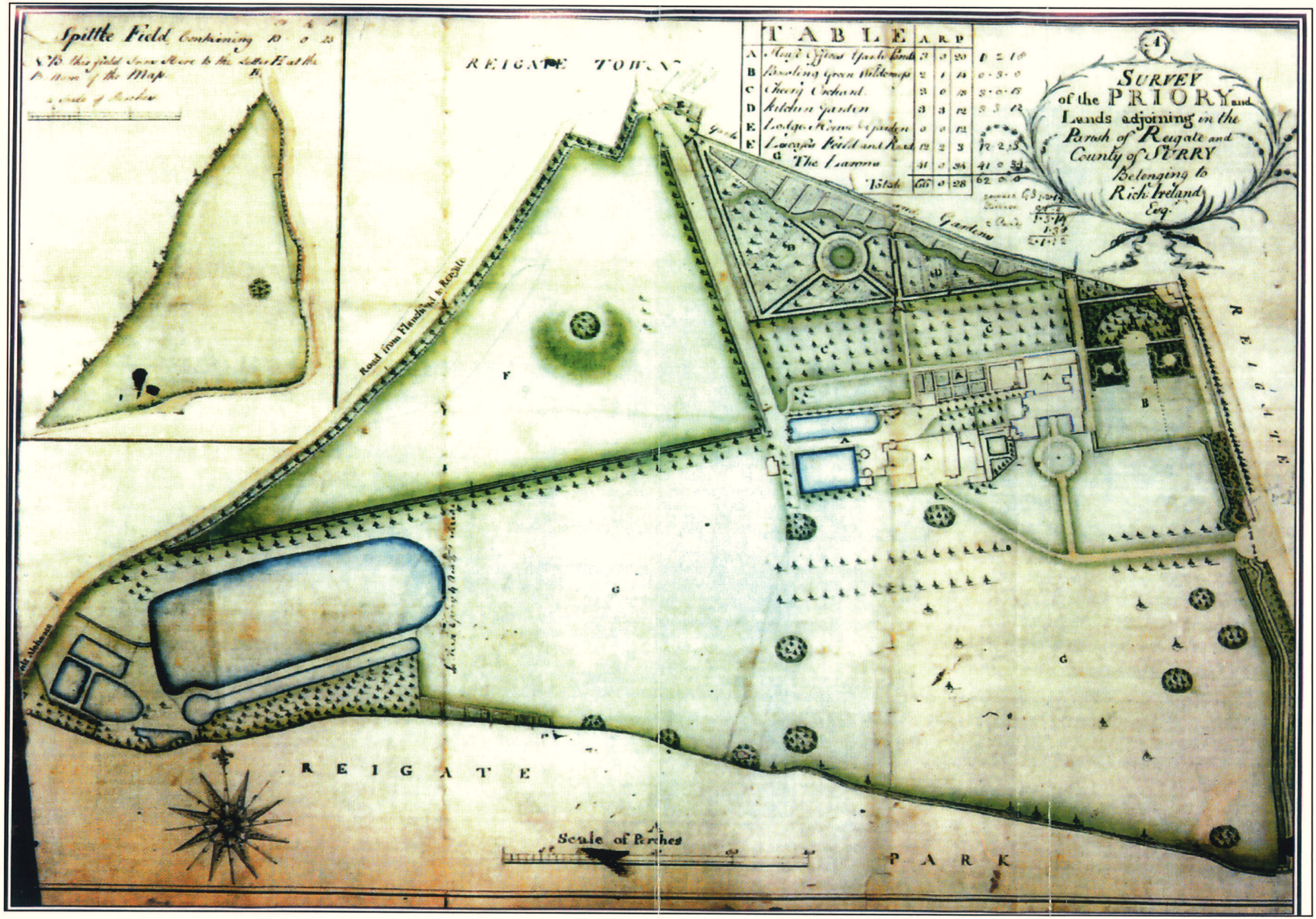


Figure 8: Ireland's Estate Plan, c.1770

Figure 9: 1845 Tithe Map (South)

Figure 10: 1845 Tithe Map (North)

Figure 11: Composite overlay of monastic complex model, with alterations, over John Rocque's map of Surrey, 1768

Figure 12: Ordnance Survey Map, 1874

Figure 13: Probable route of the formal walk

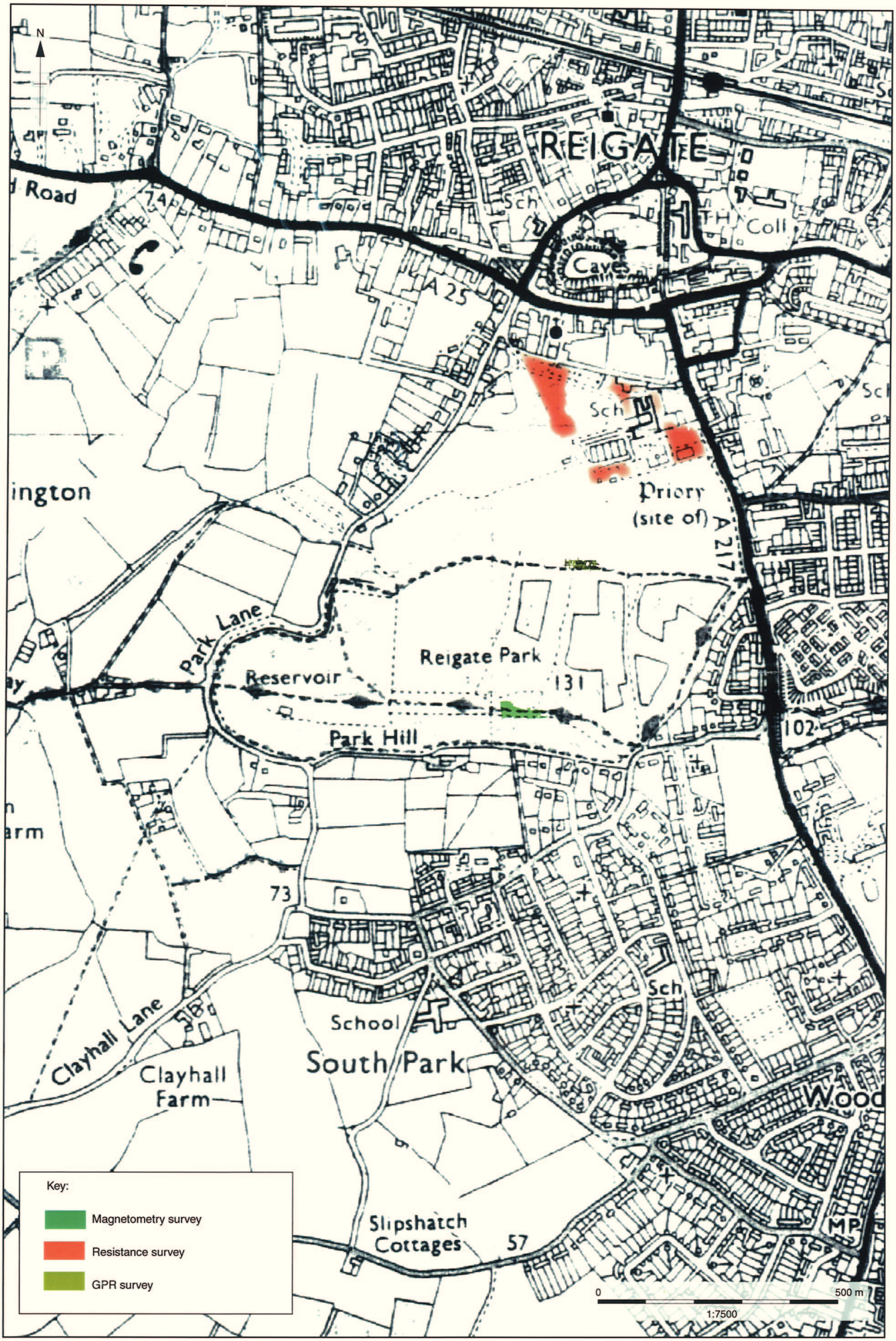


Figure 14: Map of park, showing location of the three geophysical survey areas

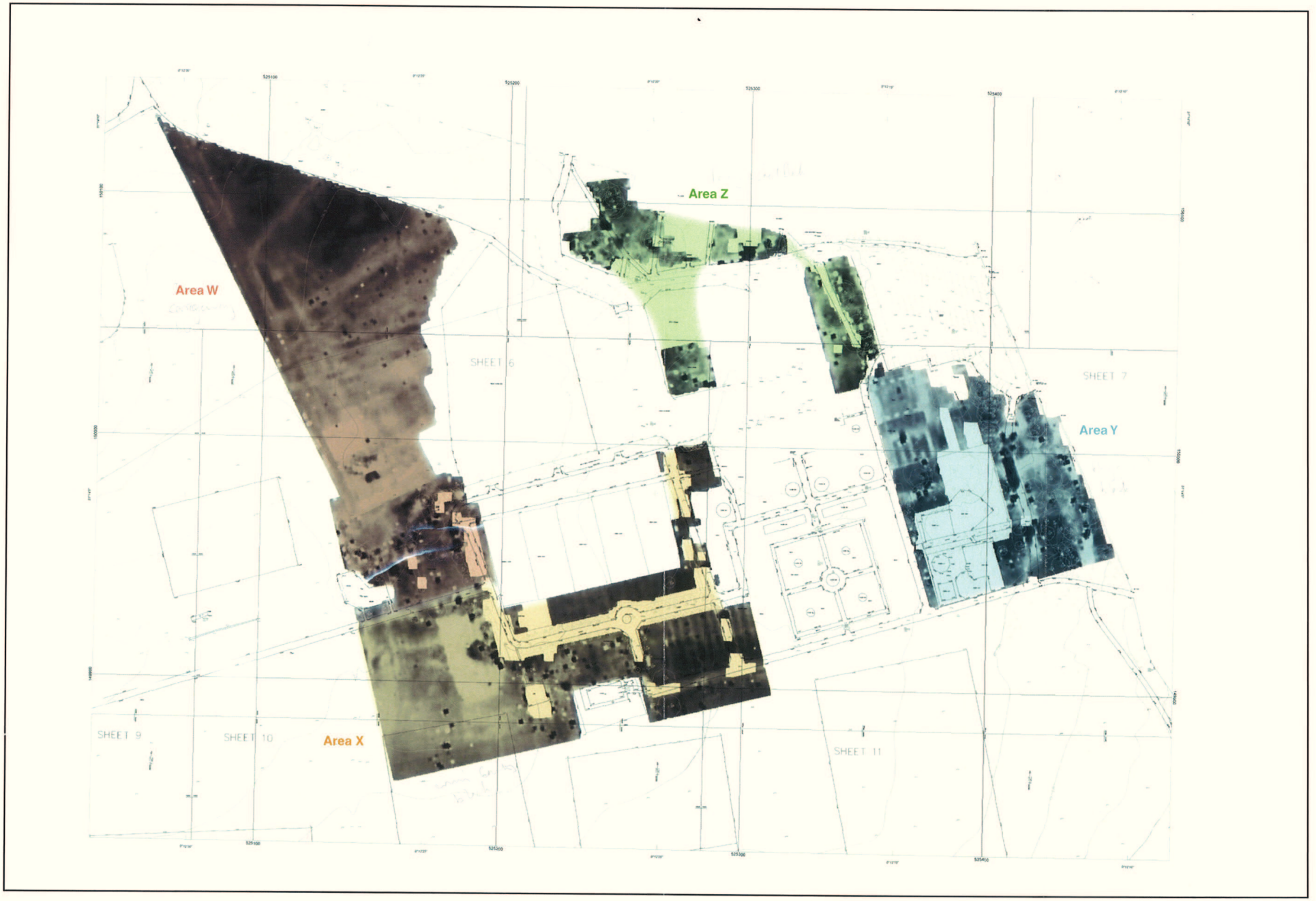


Figure 15: Resistivity Survey results with survey blocks defined

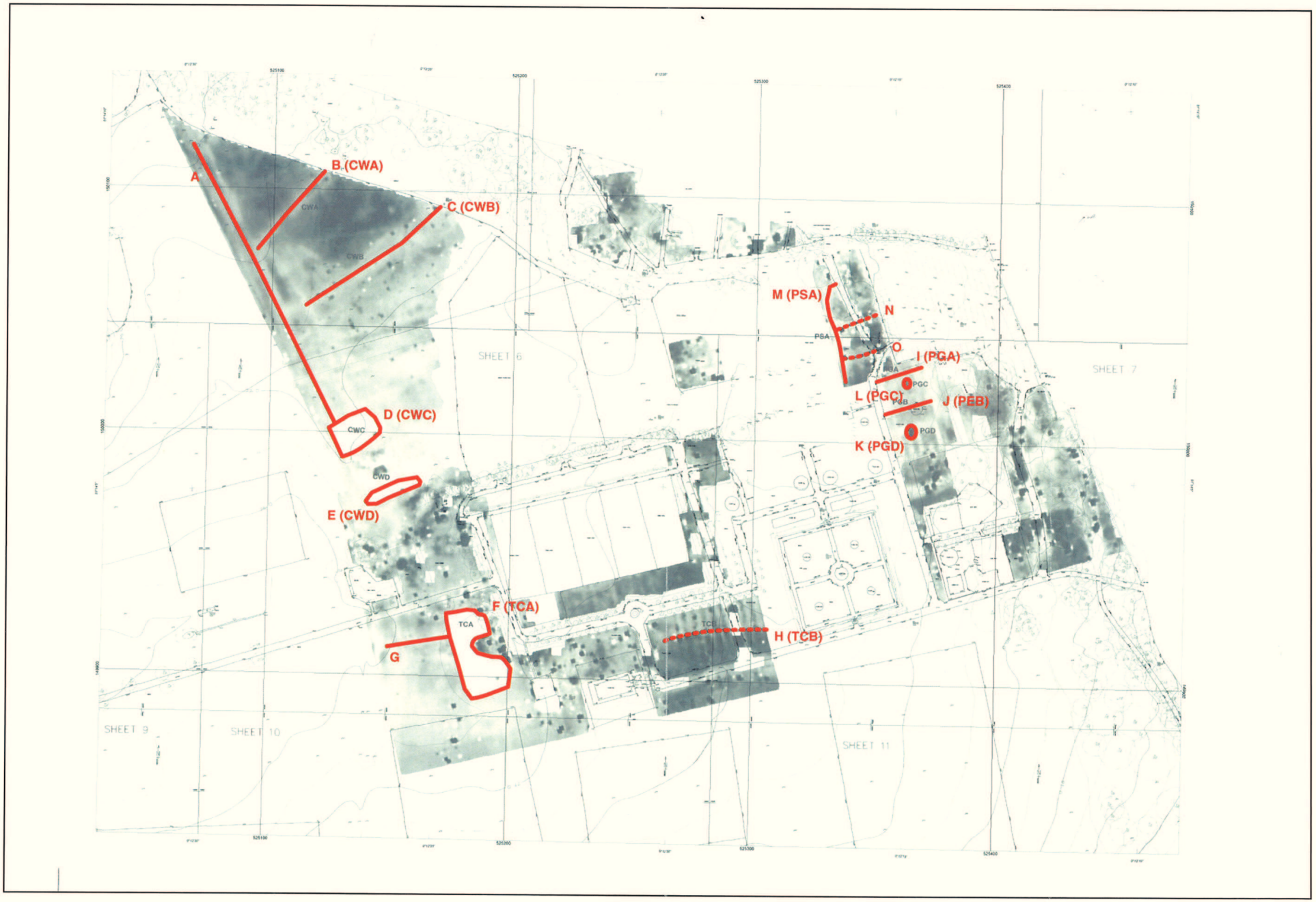


Figure 16: Interpretation plan of resistivity survey results

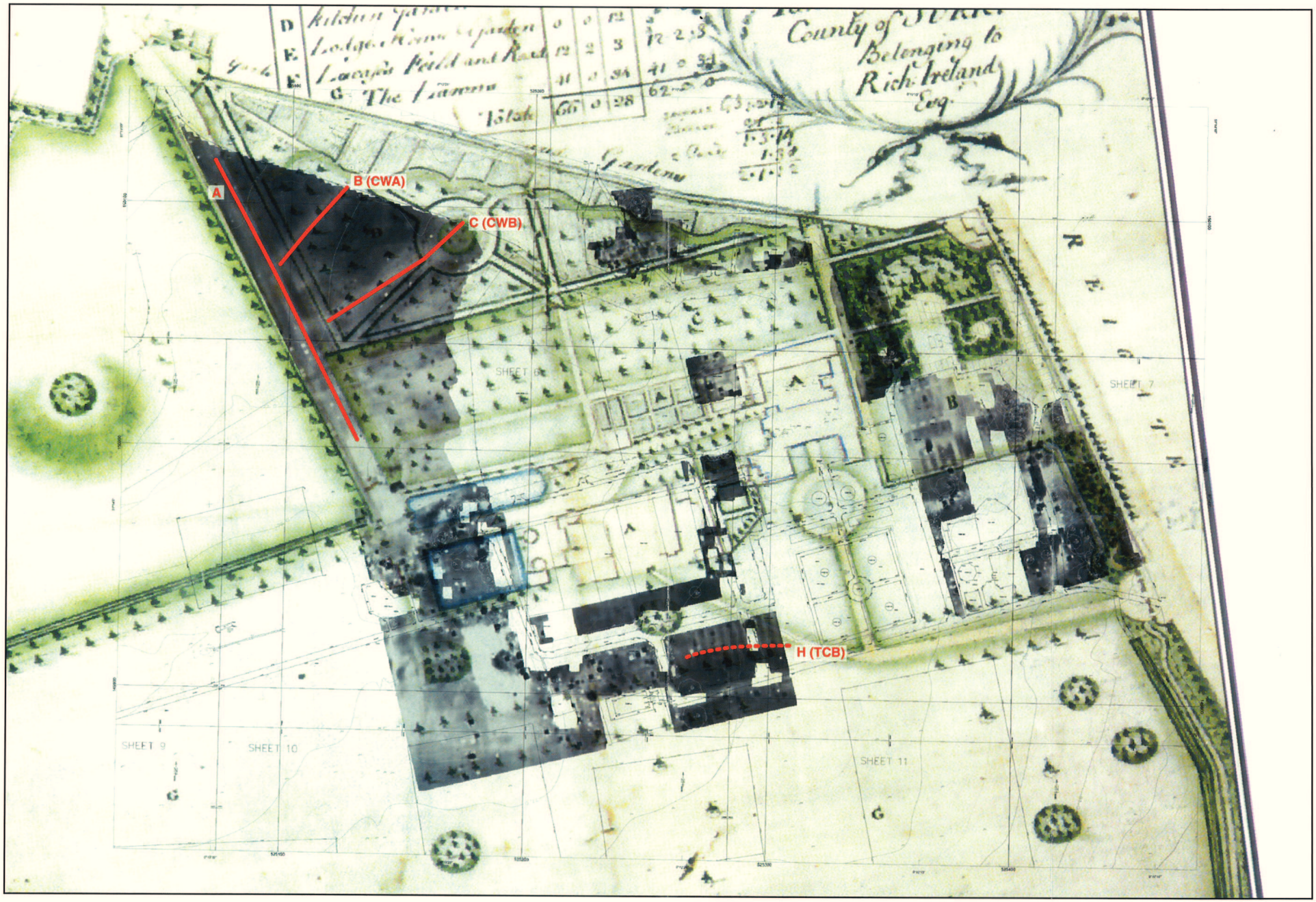


Figure 17: Indicative overlay of Ireland's 1770 plan and resistivity survey results

Figure 18: Indicative overlay of 1933 Ordnance Survey map and resistivity survey results

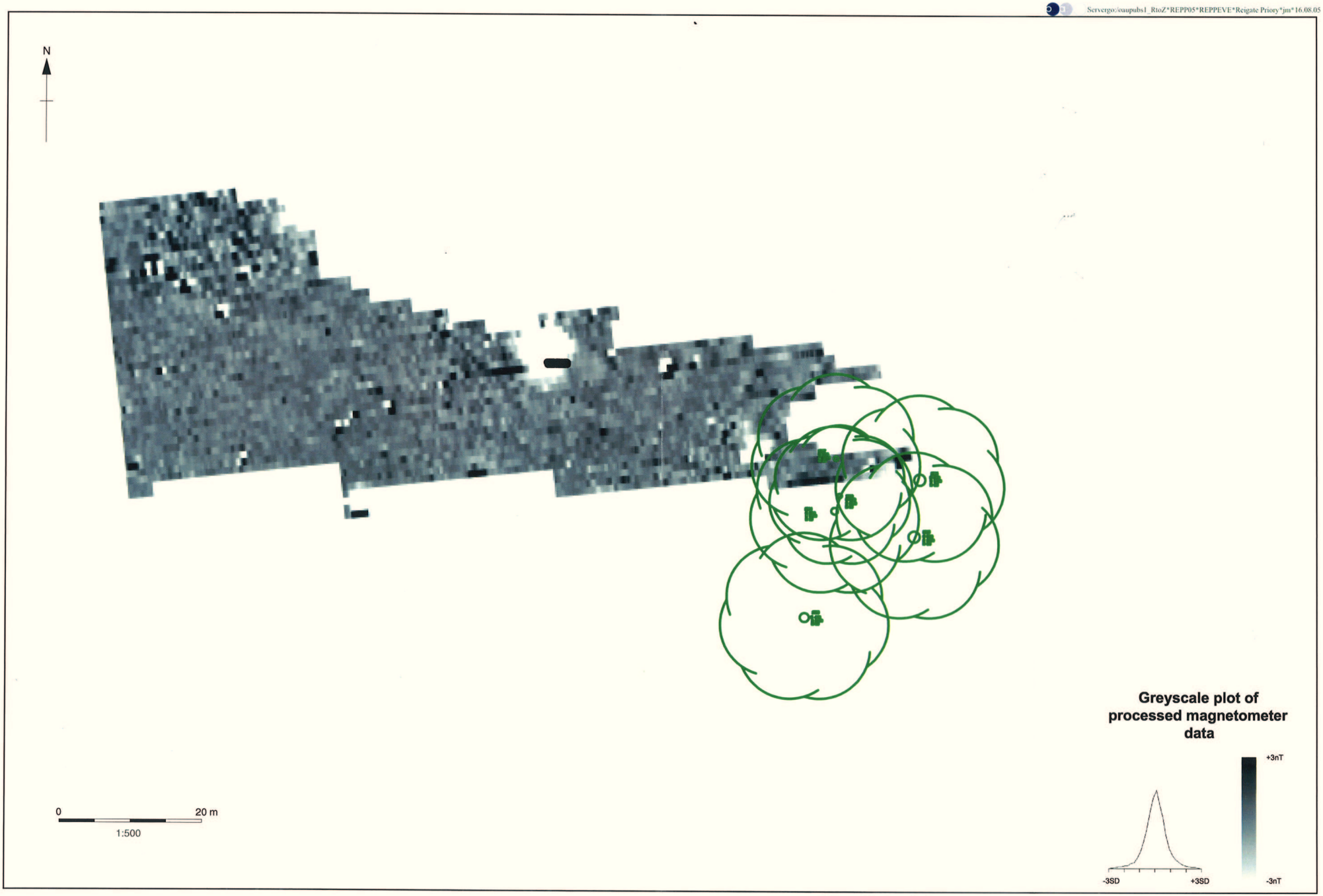


Figure 19: Detailed magnetometry survey, greyscale plot of processed magnetometer data

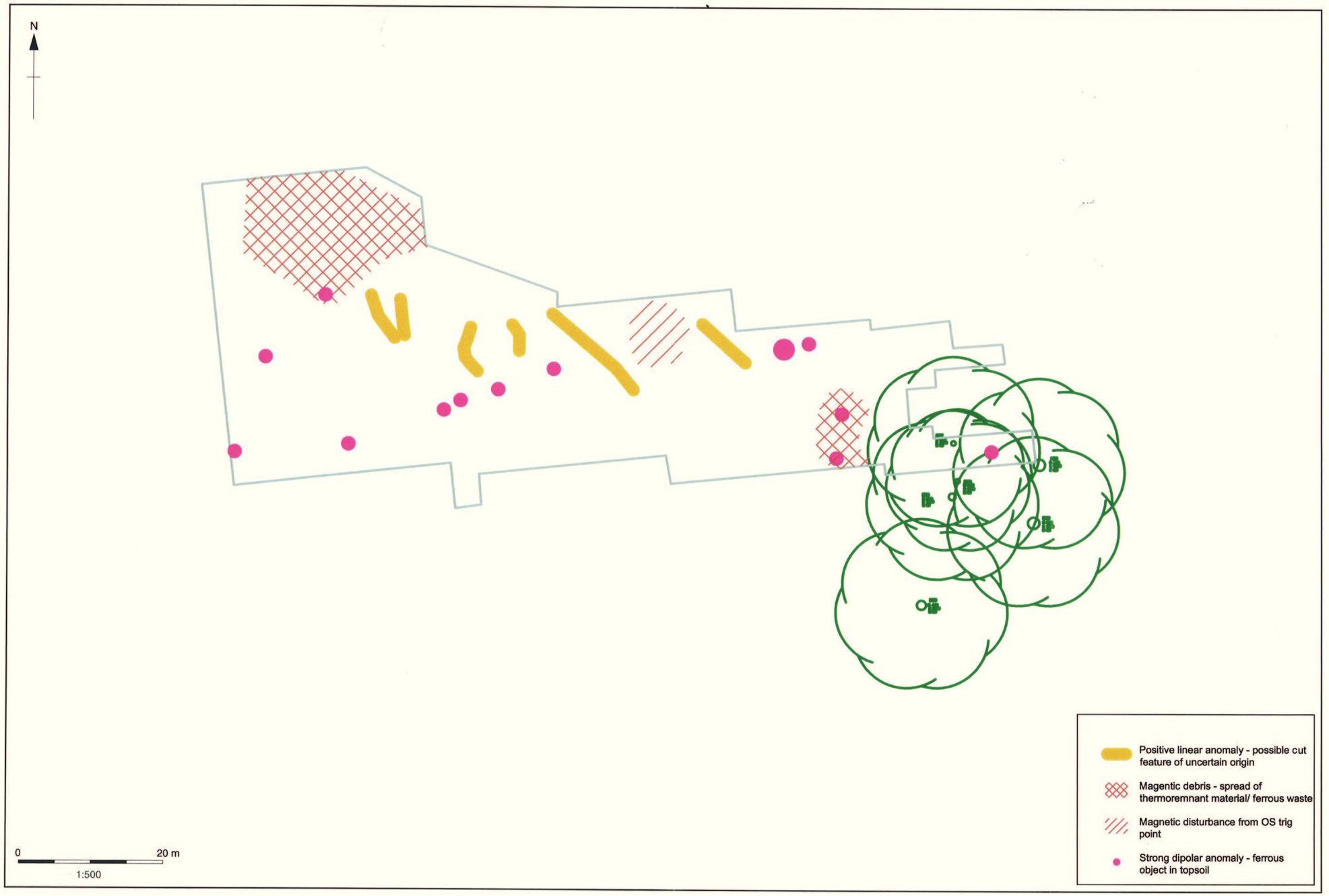


Figure 20: Abstraction and interpretation of magnetometer anomalies

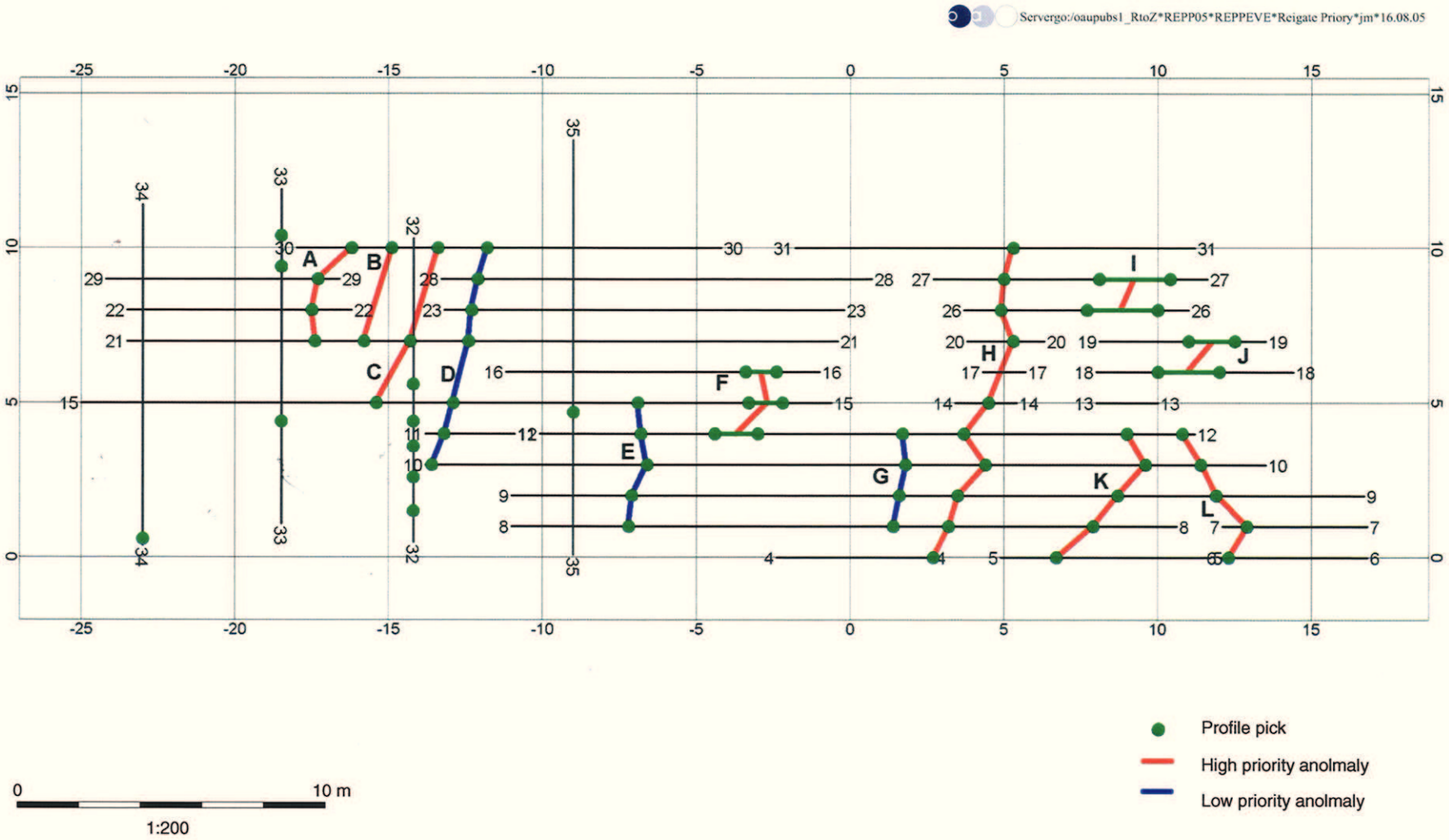


Figure 21: Ground penetrating radar survey, profile anomalies

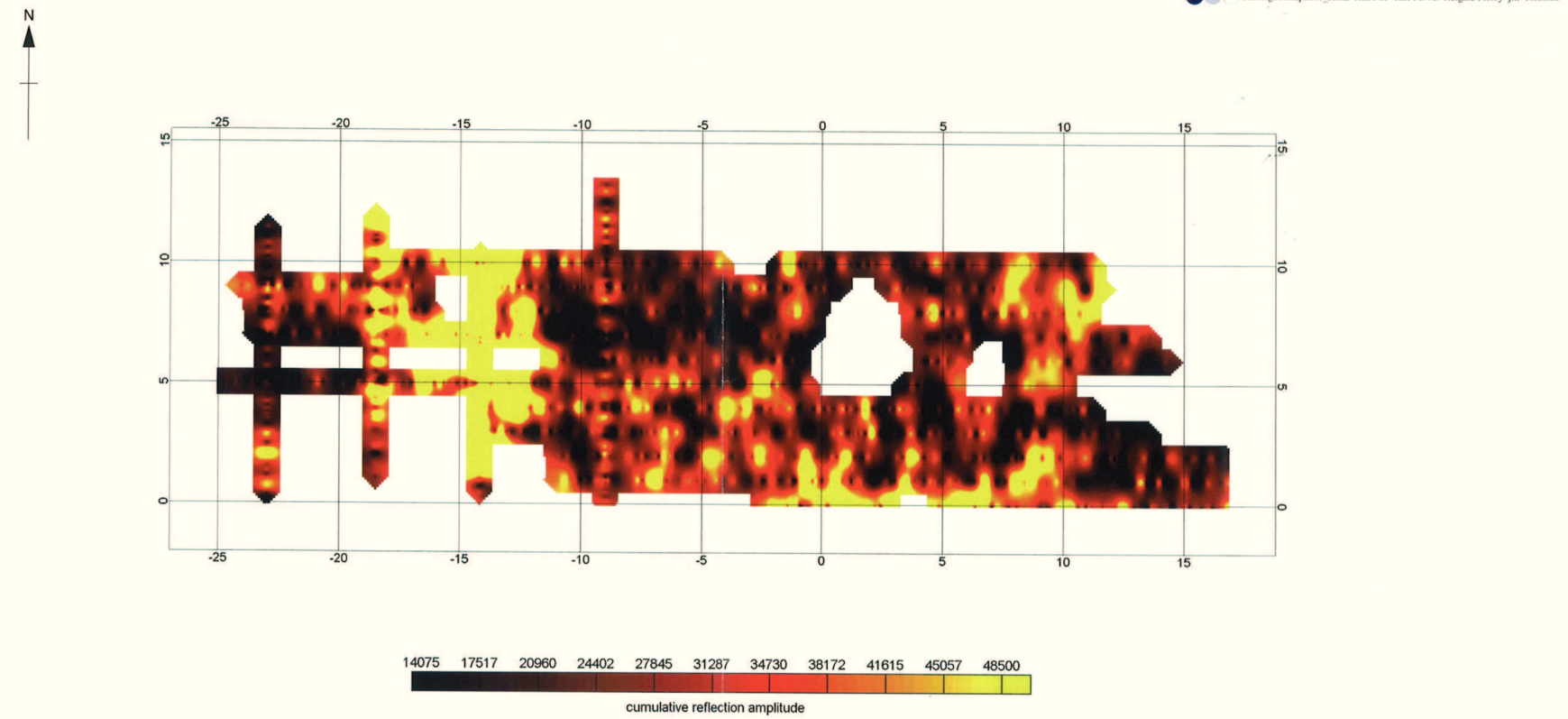


Figure 22: Ground penetrating radar survey, depth slice

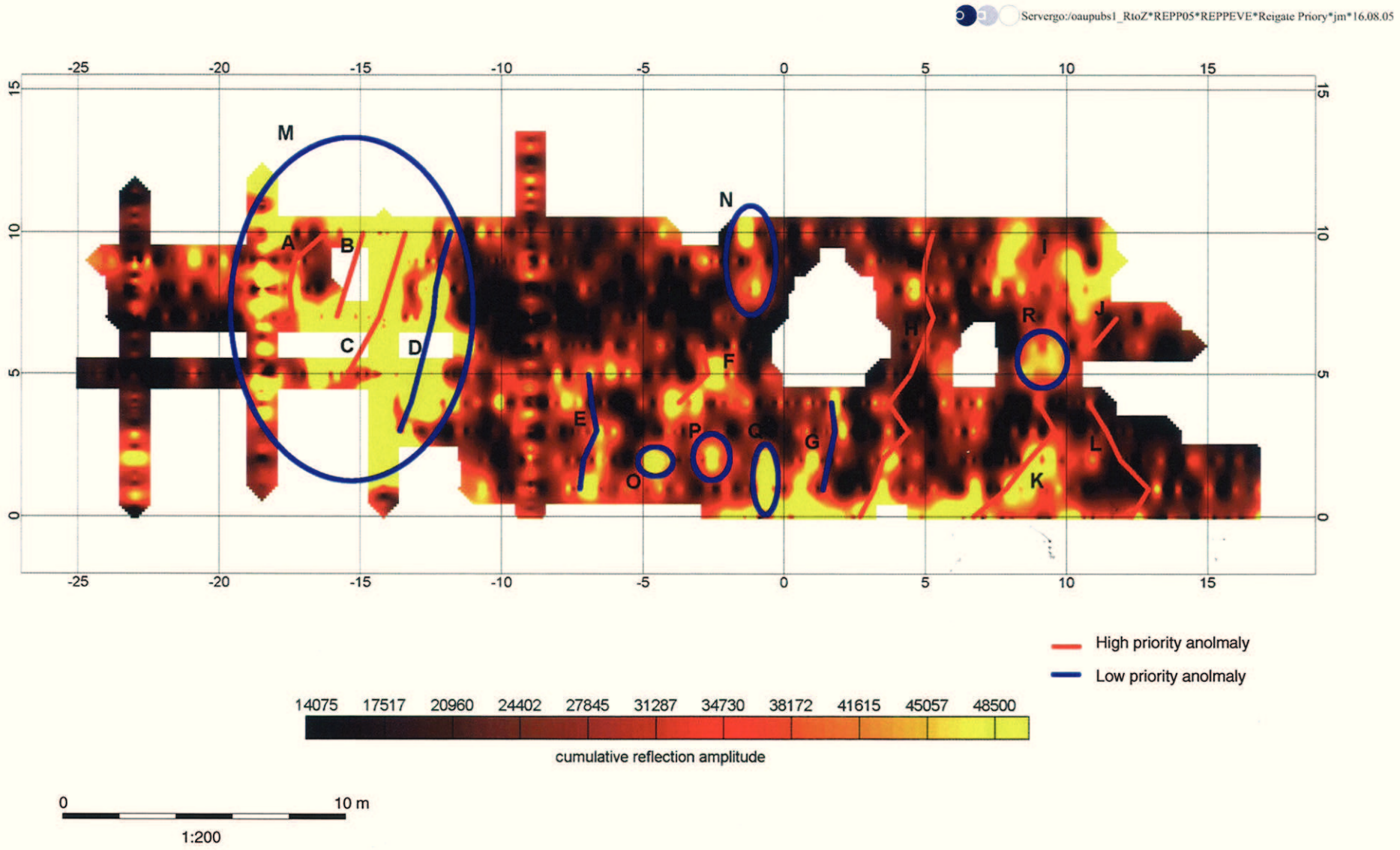


Figure 23: Ground penetrating radar survey, profile and grid anomalies overlain on depth slice

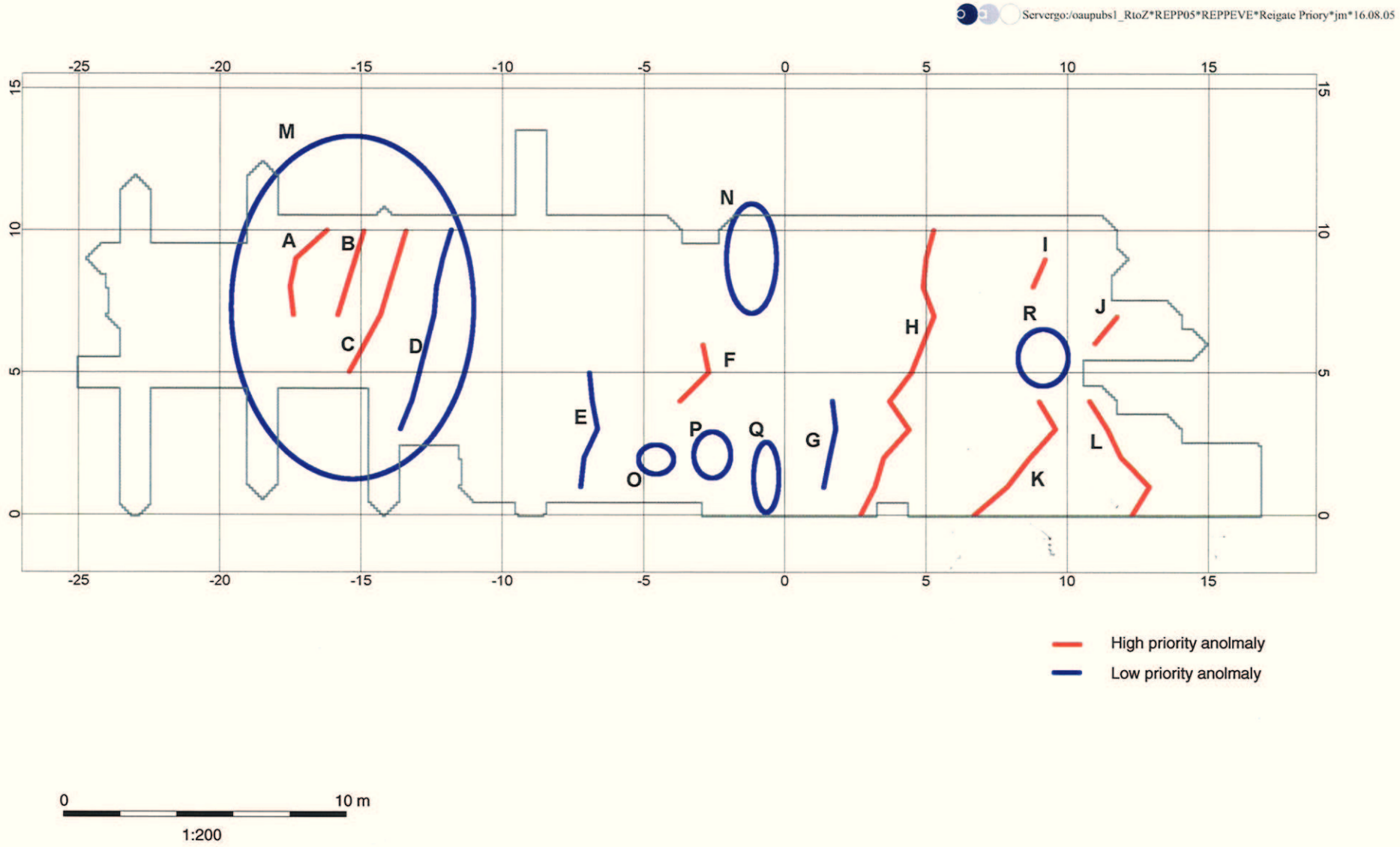


Figure 24: Ground penetrating radar survey, combined interpretation

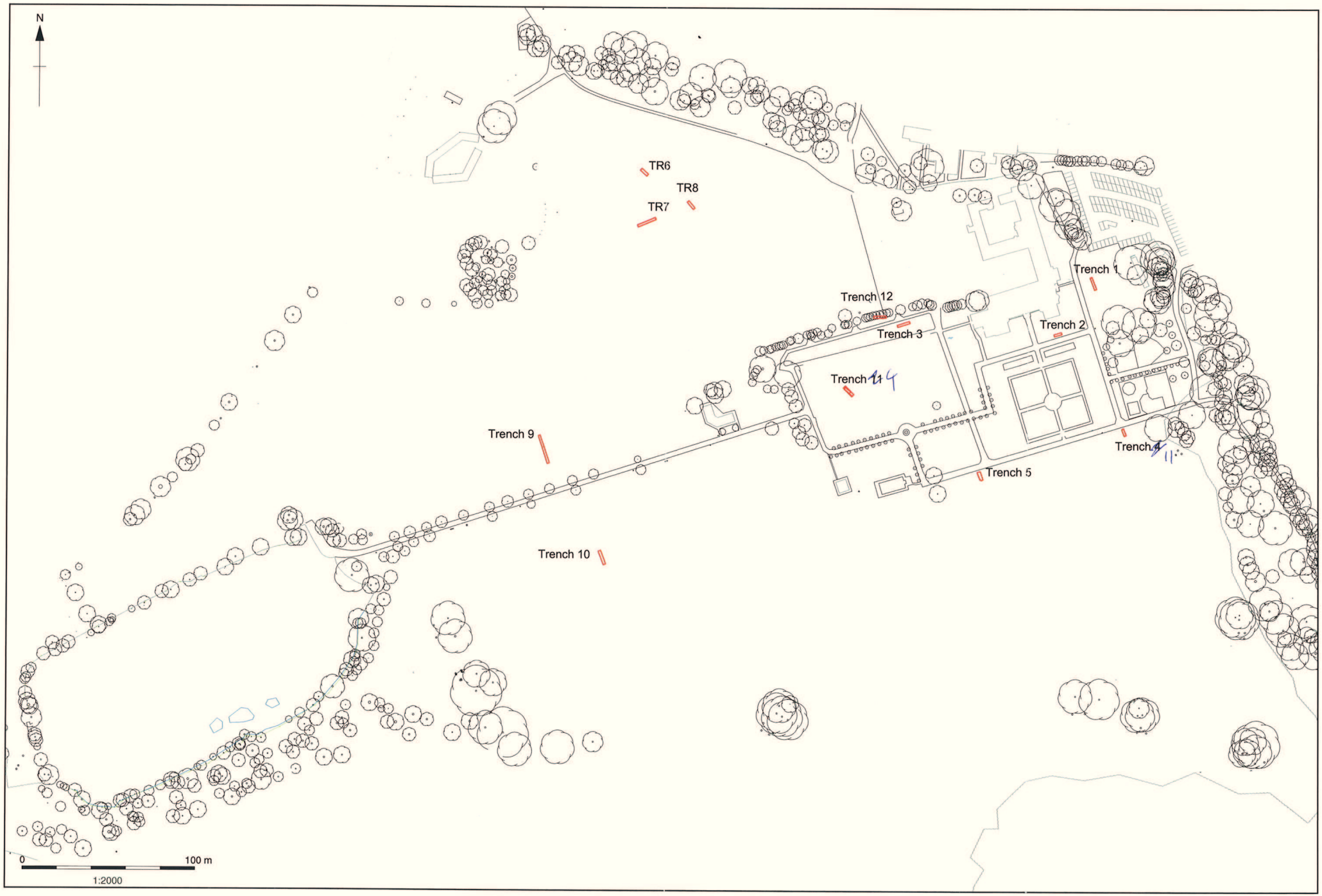


Figure 25: Trench location plan

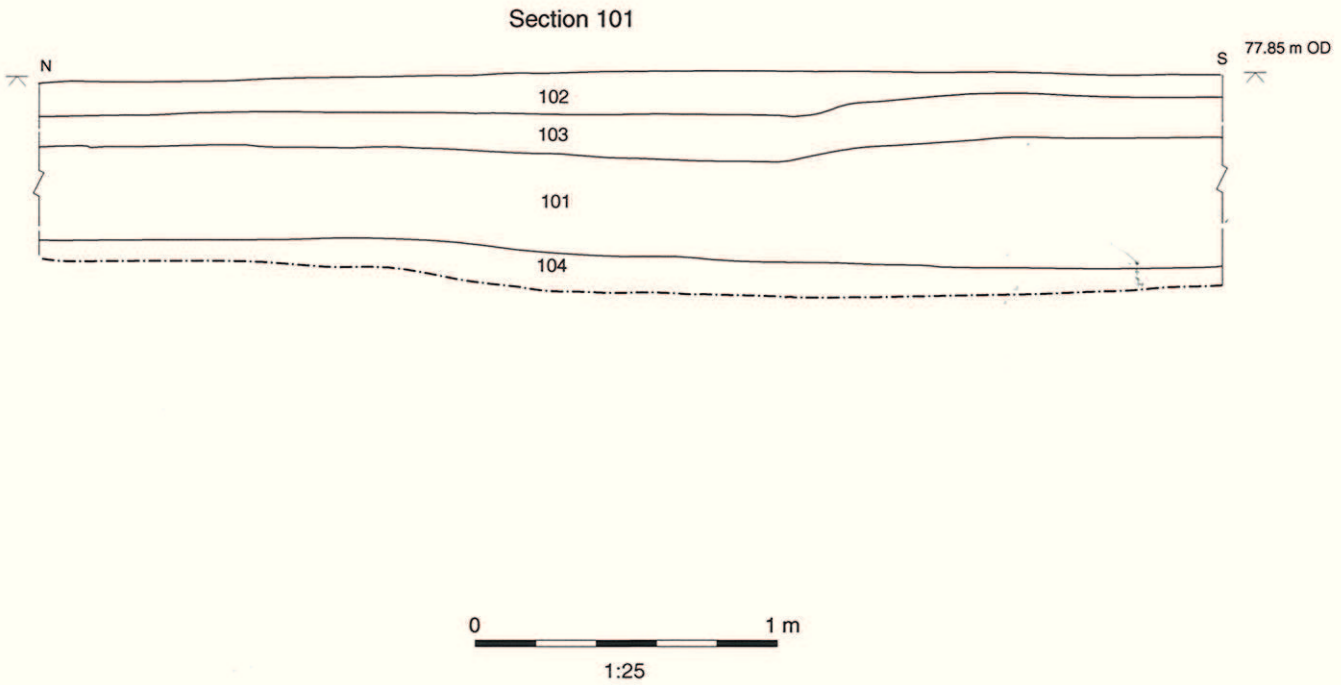
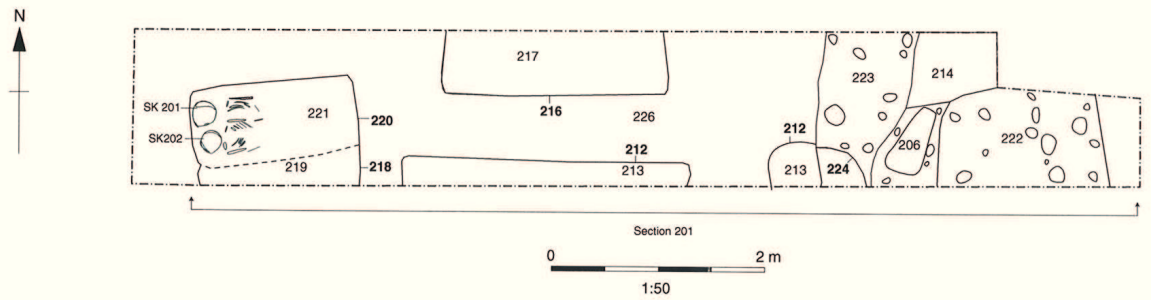


Figure 26: Trench 1, section

Plan 201



Section 201

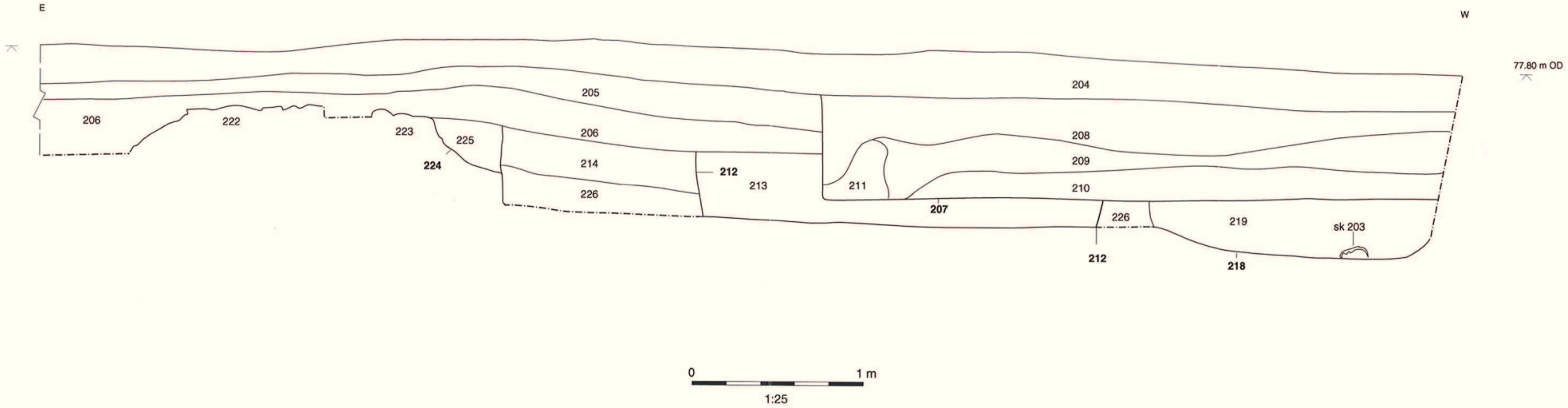


Figure 27: Trench 2, plan and section

Section 301

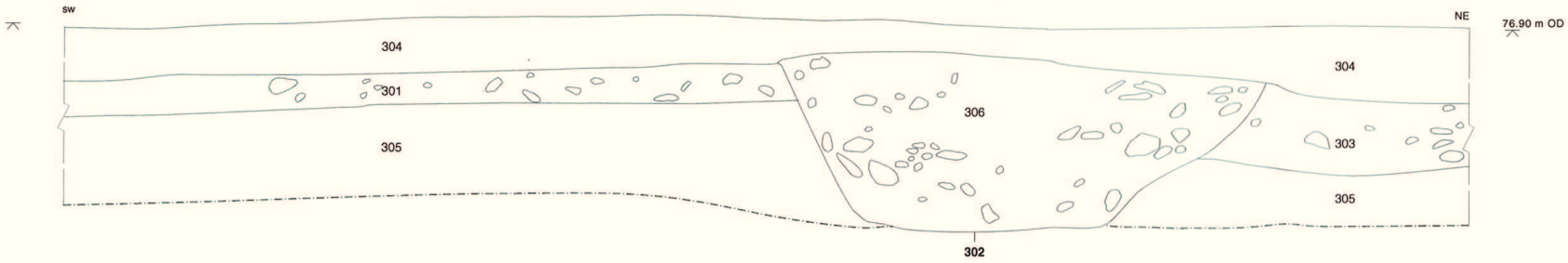
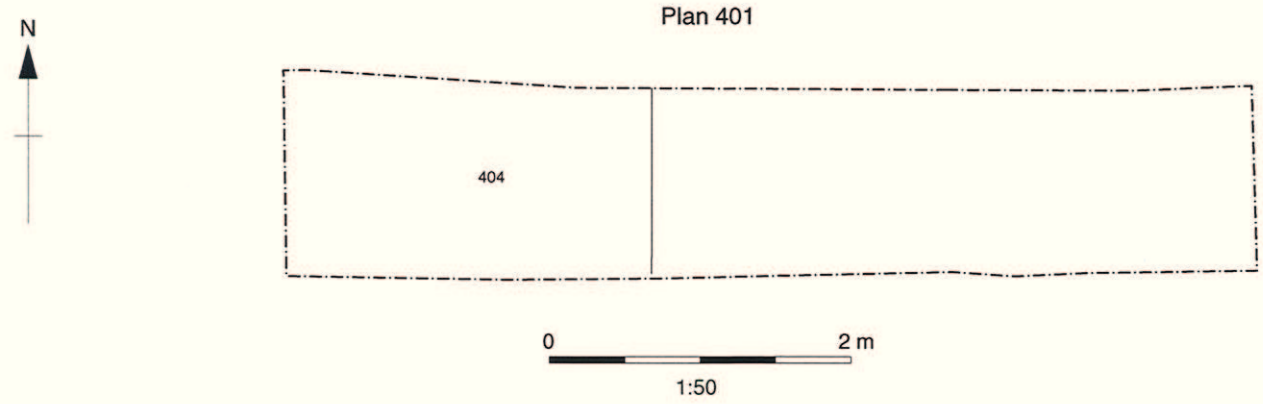


Figure 28: Trench 3, section



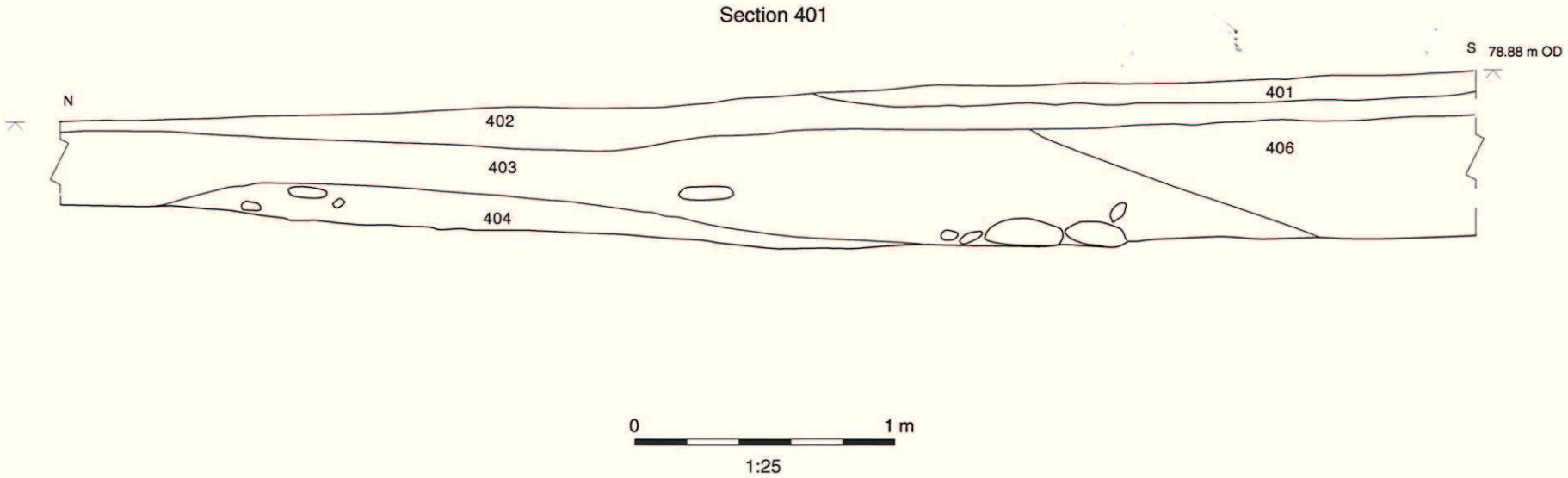


Figure 29: Trench 4, plan and section

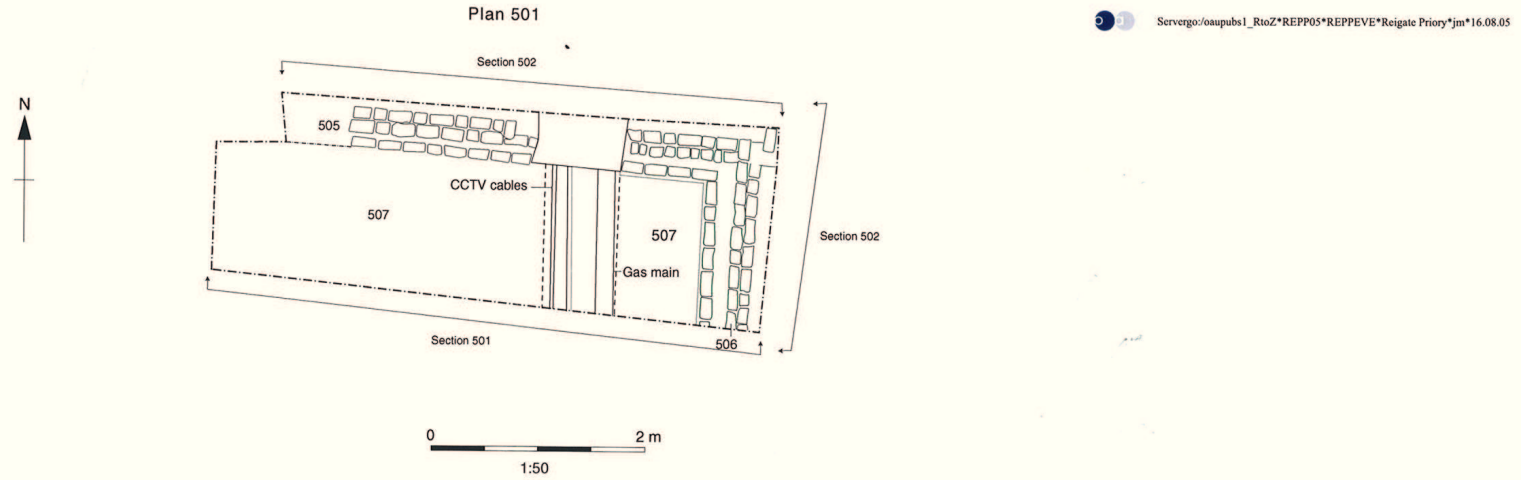
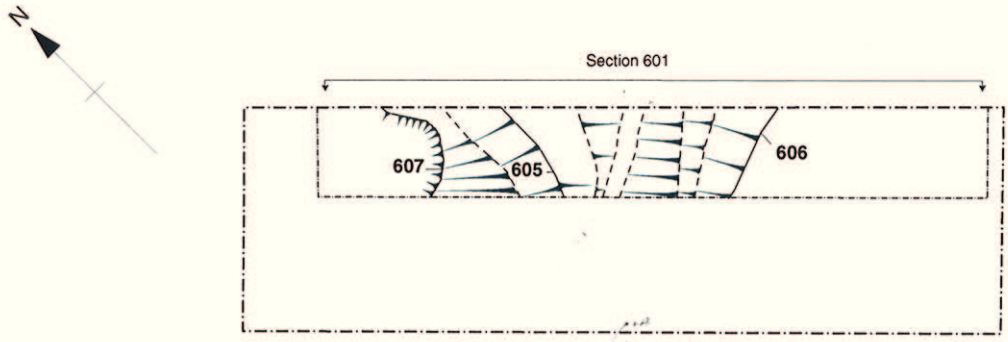


Figure 30: Trench 5, plan and section

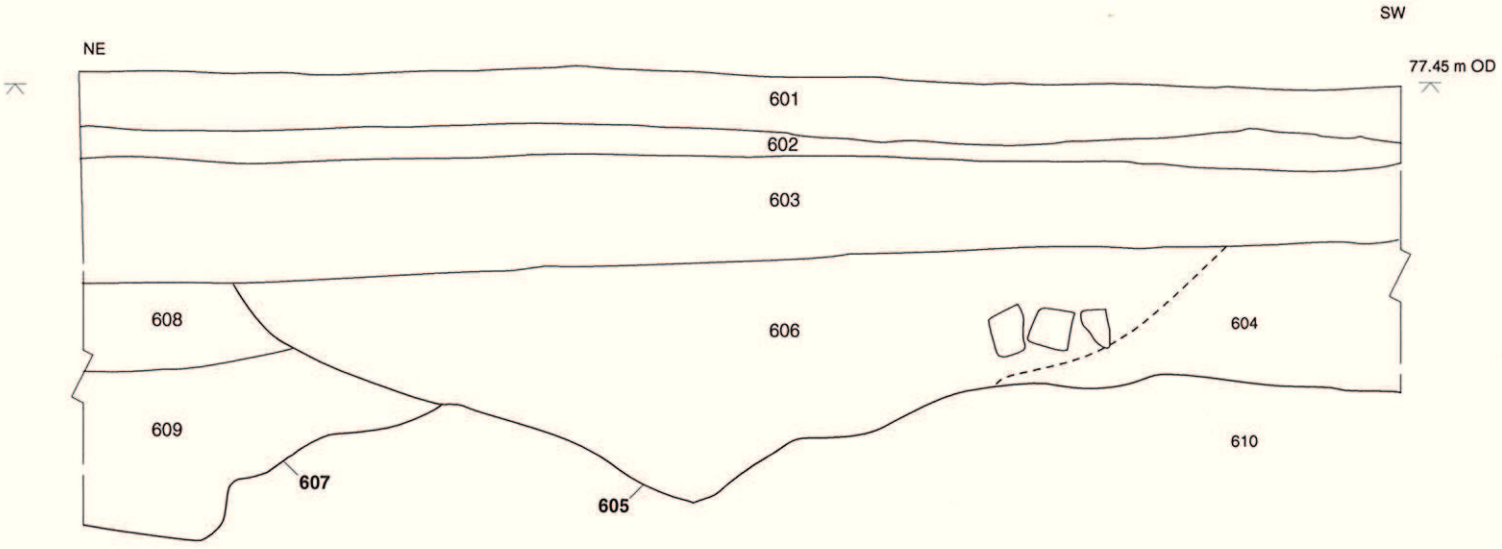
Plan 601



0 2 m

1:50

Section 601

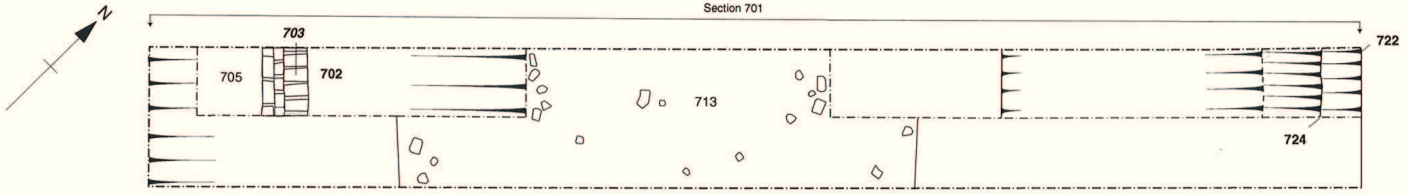


0 1 m

1:25

Figure 31: Trench 6, plan and section

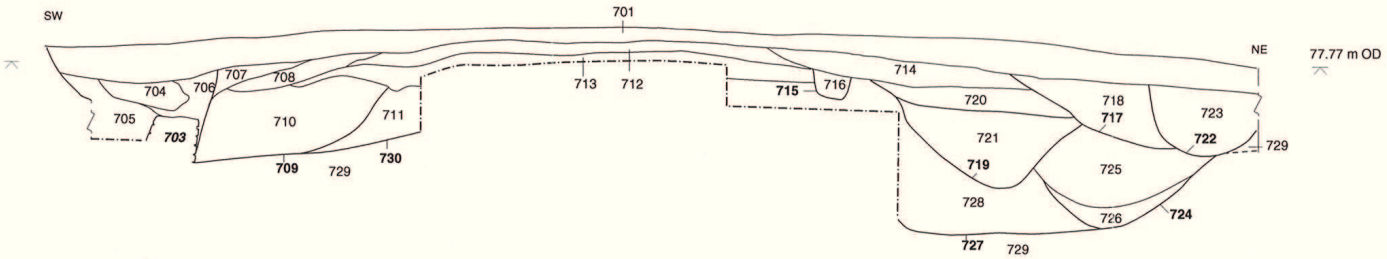
Plan 701



0 2 m

1:50

Section 701



0 2 m

1:50

Figure 32: Trench 7, plan and section

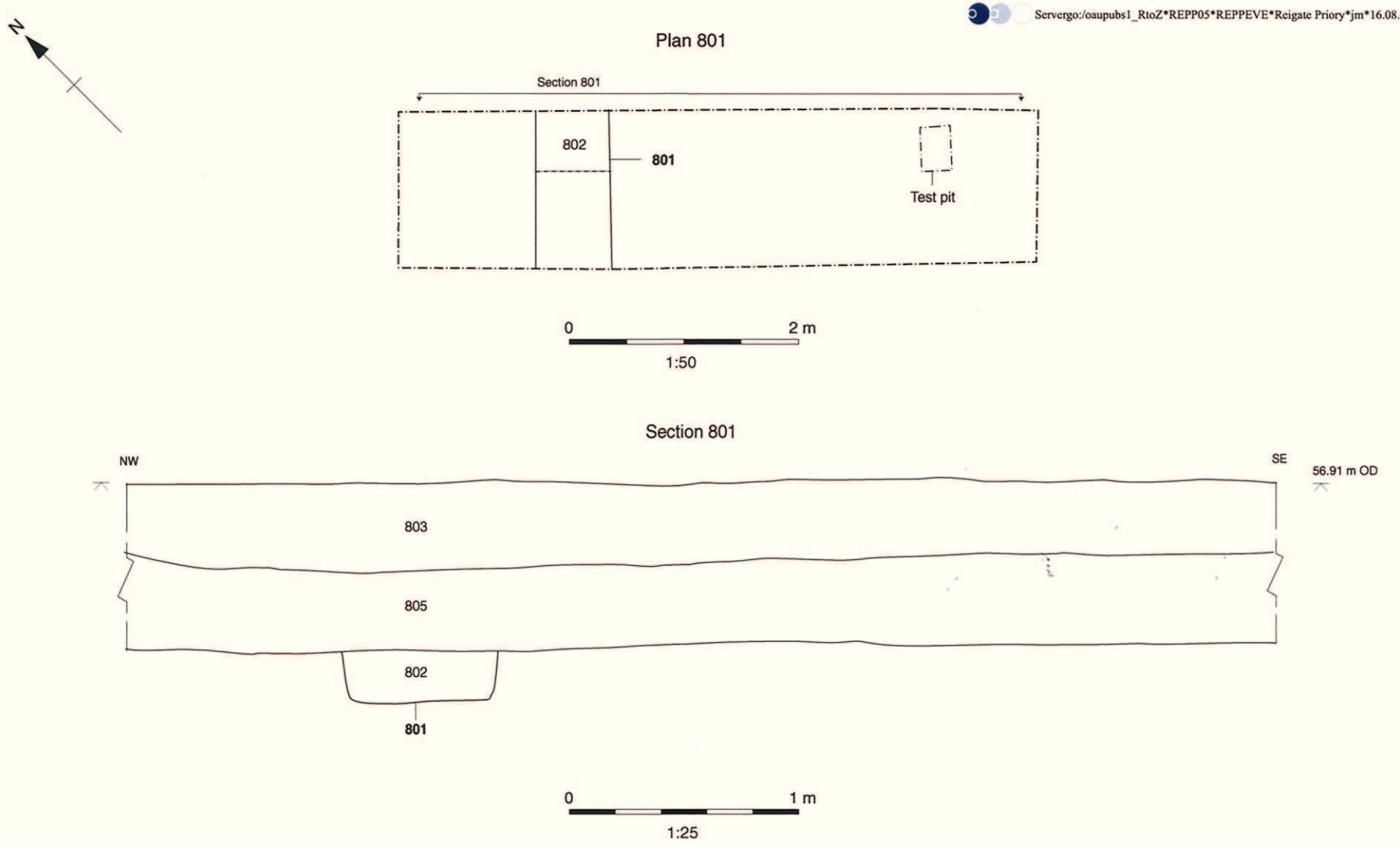
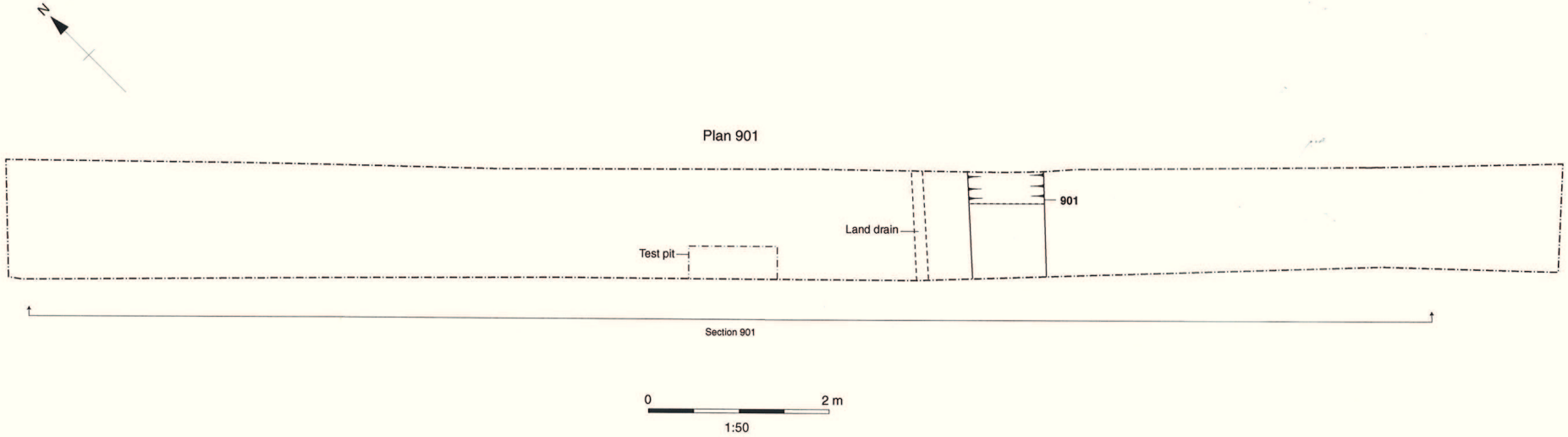


Figure 33: Trench 8, plan and section



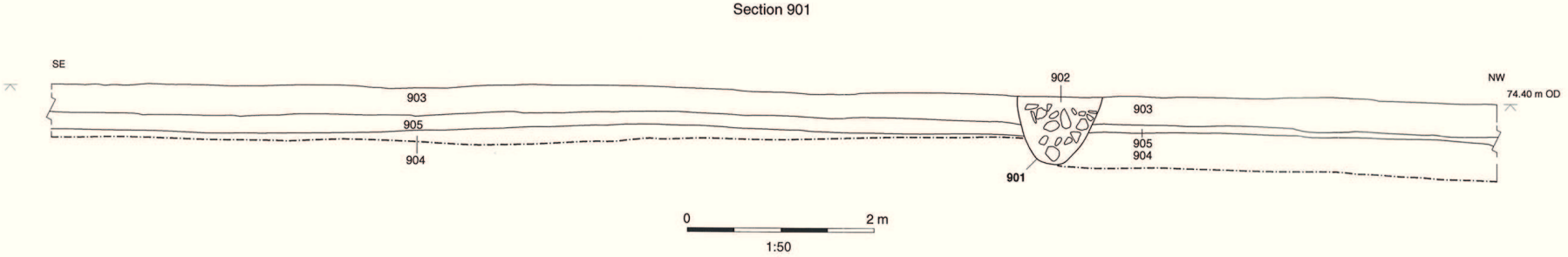


Figure 34: Trench 9, plan and section

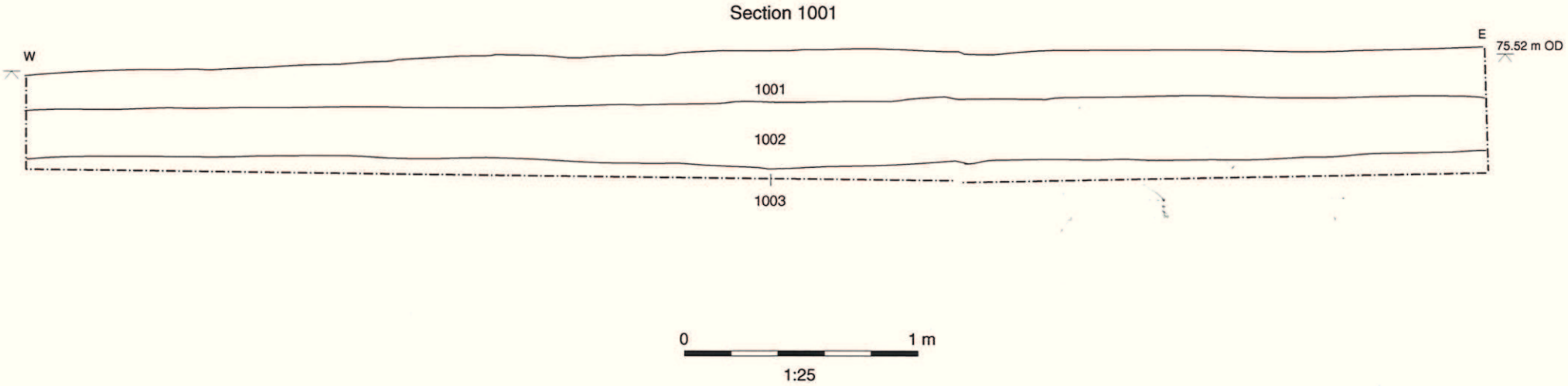
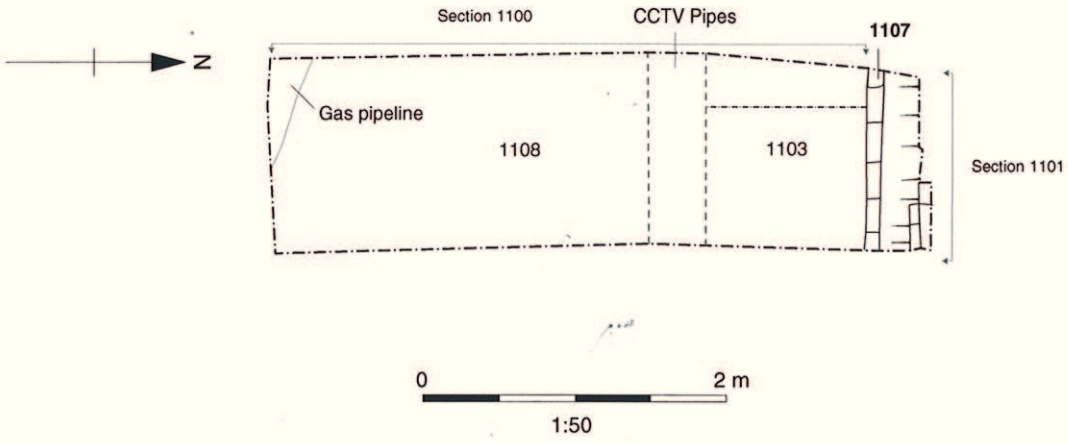
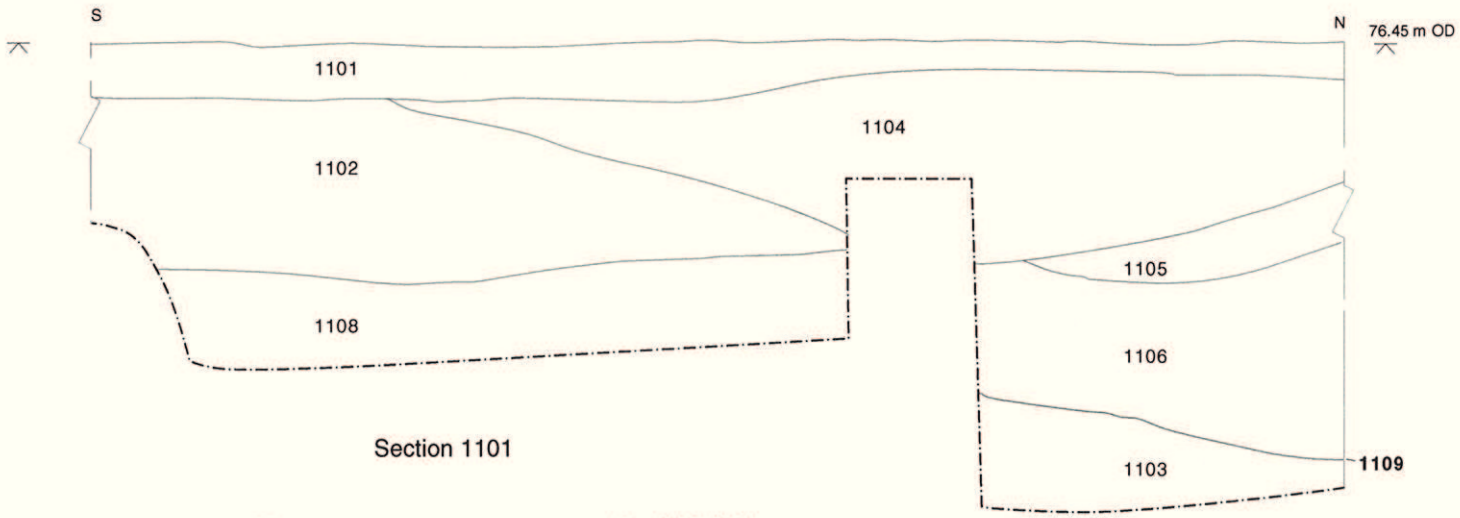


Figure 35: Trench 10, section

Plan 1100



Section 1100



Section 1101

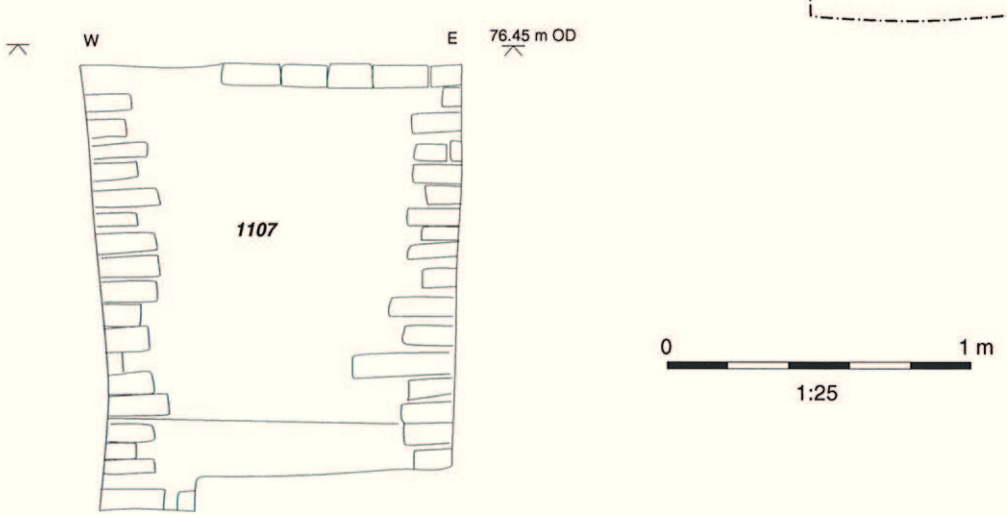
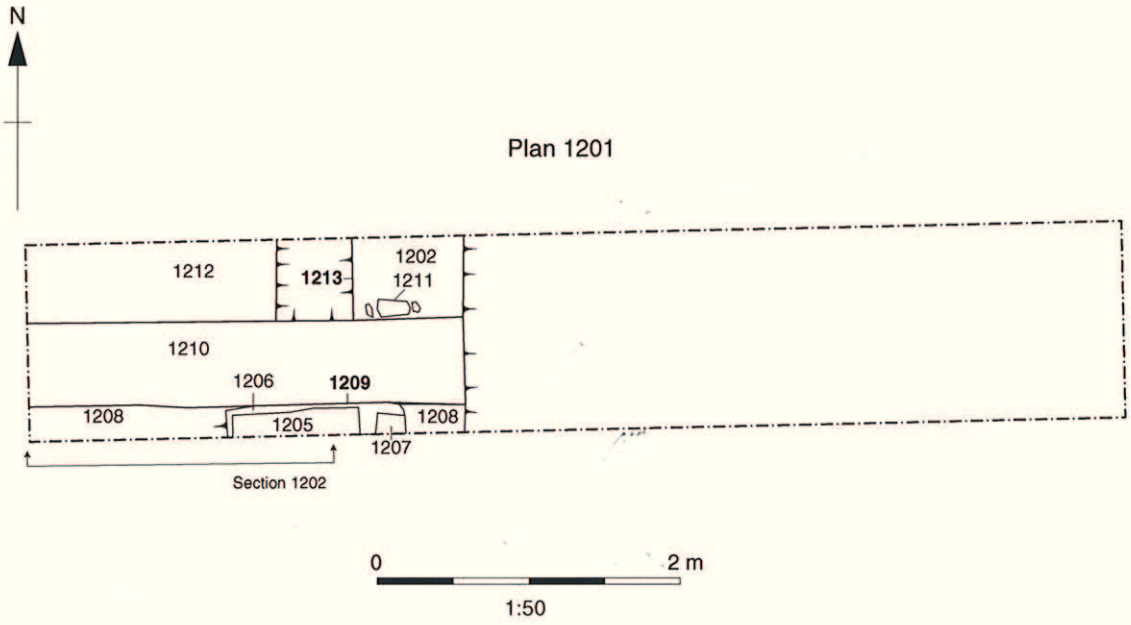


Figure 36: Trench 11, plan and sections



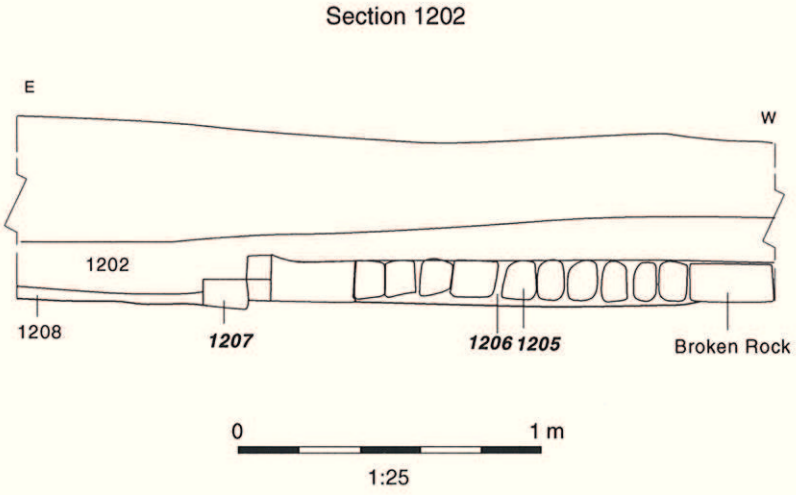


Figure 37: Trench 12, plan and sections

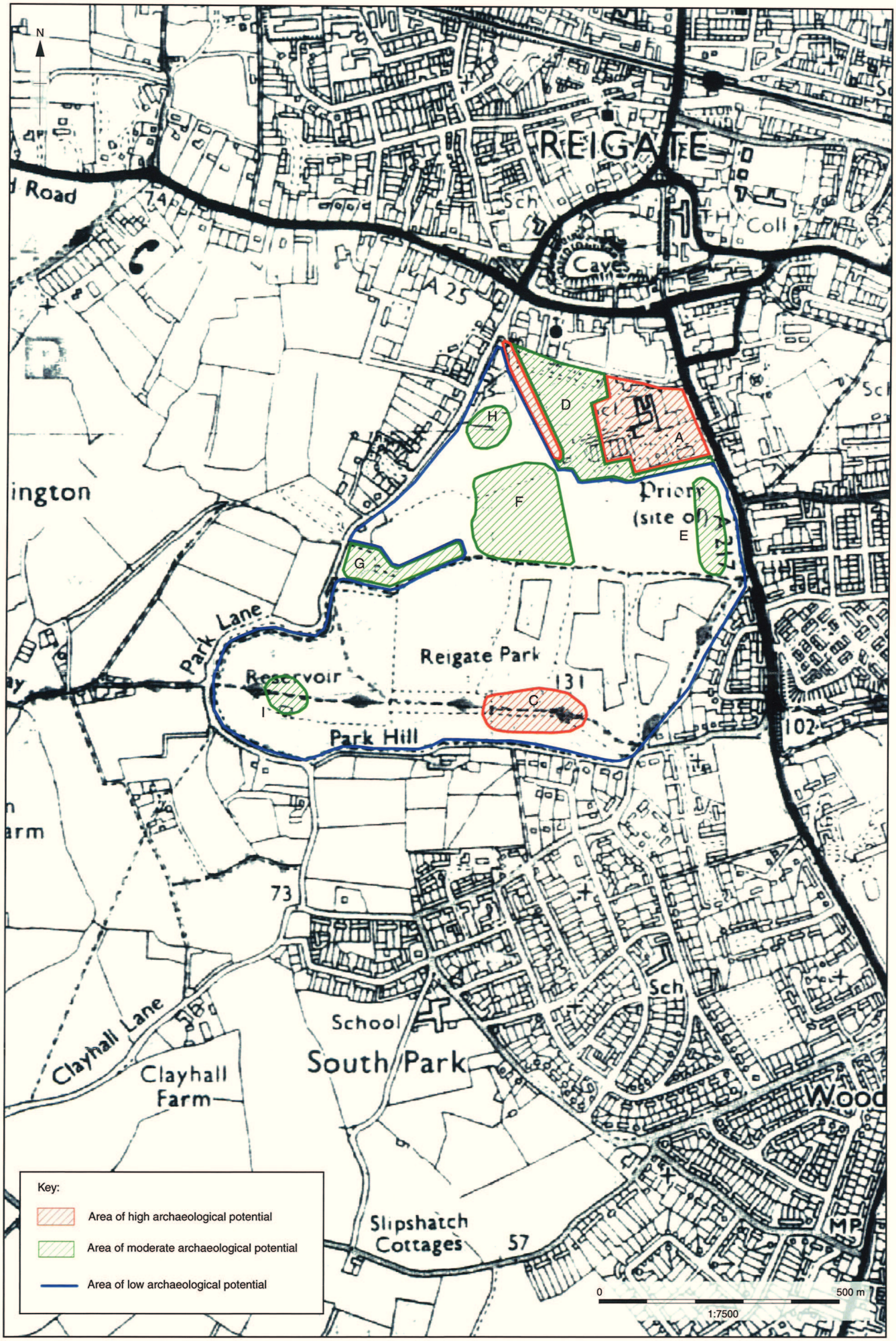


Figure 38: Area of high, moderate and low archaeological potential