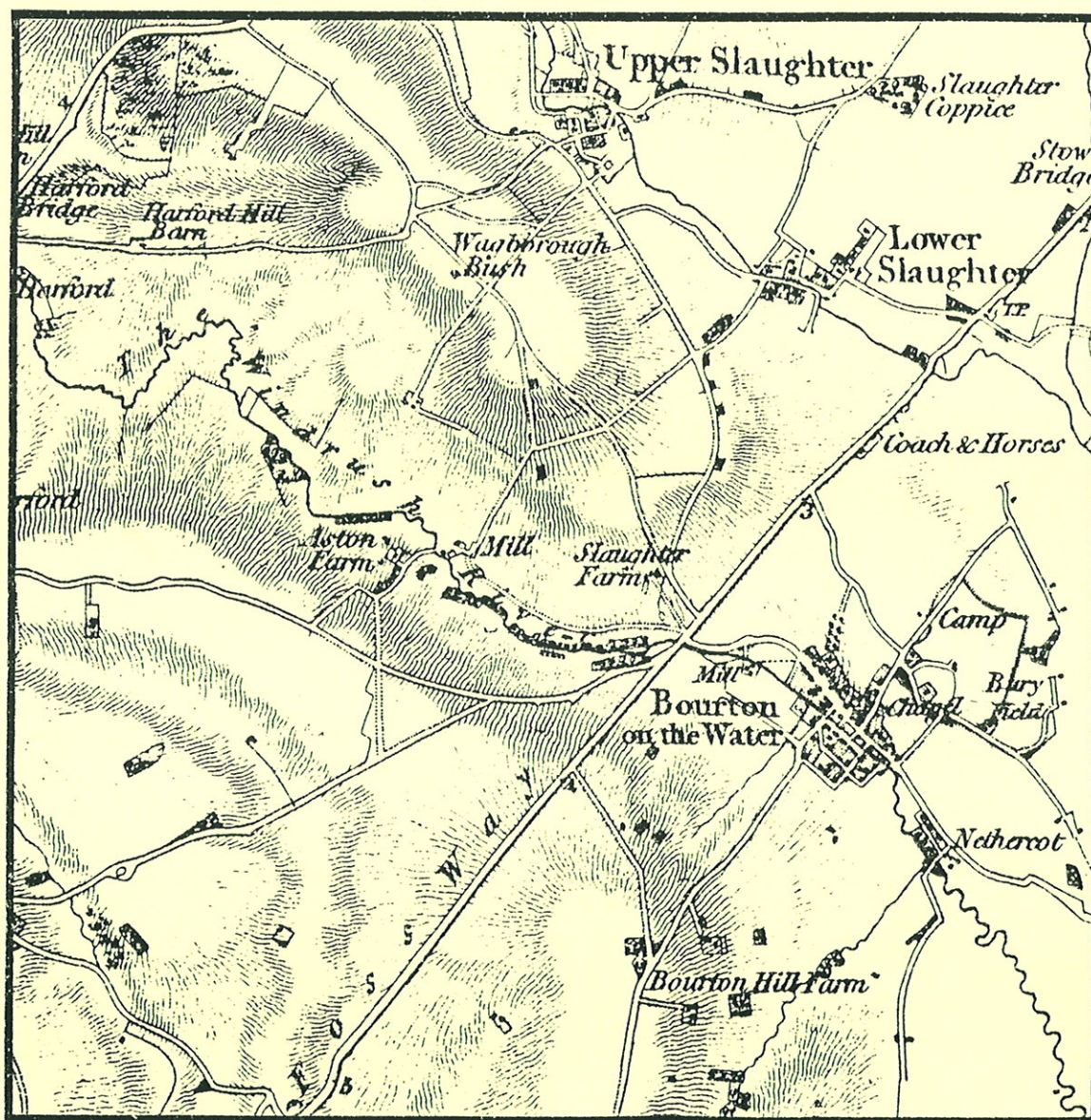


CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD LOWER SLAUGHTER

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

January 1994

CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

LOCATION
GEOLOGY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND
STRATEGY
SUMMARY

RESULTS

Trench 1
Trench 2
Trench 3
Trench 4

FINDS

INTERPRETATION

CONSIDERATION OF METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1: Site Location 1:2500
Fig. 2: Trench Location plan 1:500
Fig. 3: Trench 1 section. Trench 2 plan and sections
Fig. 4: Trench 3 plan and sections
Fig. 5: Trench 4 plan and sections

APPENDIX 1: Table of contexts

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

JANUARY 1994

CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(SP 1650 2247)

INTRODUCTION

The Oxford Archaeological Unit undertook an evaluation on behalf of A.T. Wheeler (Builders). The planning application for full planning permission (CD 2001/M) is for the erection of three dwelling houses, a class B1 building, the conversion of a store to a domestic garage, and the conversion of a barn to a dwelling house. The work was carried out between 6th and 11th of January 1994 according to a specification set by Gloucestershire County Council's Archaeological Officer.

LOCATION

The village of Lower Slaughter is situated two and a half miles SW of Stow-on-the-Wold and just over one mile N of Bourton-on-the-Water.

The proposed development site (SP 16502247) (see fig. 1), lies 100m NW of St. Mary's Church. The site is 0.262 hectares in area and currently used as a builders yard and a garden for Church View. The river Eye [also known as the Slaughter or Ey brook] runs 80m to the S of Church View.

In the northern half of the site the area is fairly level at 138m above OD. The southern half of the site slopes down to 137.50m above OD.

GEOLOGY

The geology of the site consists of Quaternary river gravels in the southern half of the site. To the north Jurassic Lower Lias Limestone was exposed. Although not seen on this site the limestone is often banded with clay deposits.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The application site lies close to the site of the medieval church (Glos Sites and Monuments Record PRN 8209) and to the site of a hall known from documentary sources (Glos Sites and Monuments Record PRN 15094). In 1237, when the Manor belonged to the Crown, the sheriff was ordered to have the king's hall at Lower Slaughter repaired. In the late 14th century the hall was built, at least partly, in stone (VCH Glos Vol VI (1965) p129).

The likely site is now occupied by Church Farmhouse, just SE of the development area; a 17th century two storey and attic building in coursed rubble. Roofed in Cotswold stone the long low range runs parallel to the street.

Church View is dated from the 17th century to the early 18th century; constructed of coursed rubble with a Cotswold stone roof. The windows are characterized by stone mullions, leaded lights, wrought iron catches and drip moulds above. Church View continues into a large barn to the west.

Lower Slaughter lies adjacent to the junction of the Roman roads of *Ryknild Street* (Condicote Lane) and *Fosse Way*.

At Bourton-on-the-Water, Salmonsbury Camp (SP 175208) is the site of an Iron Age fortified settlement. A rectilinear enclosure occupies a gravel platform, formed by two closely set ramparts, each with an external ditch (G. Dunning). The best known Iron Age find from here being c.147 currency bars found in 1860.

Occupation seems to have continued throughout the Roman Period, with extensive occupation either side of the Foss Way at Bourton Bridge. In addition a considerable area of Romano-British activity is known at the Chessels just east of Lower Slaughter, where a religious centre is indicated by the find of a collection of sculptures from a well. The well contained a small relief of Minerva, two uninscribed altars, votive plaques of Mars and of *genii cucullati*, two small statuettes and some architectural fragments. Roman activity has also been found to the west of the village at Springhill (Burnham and Wachter).

BC Burnham and J Wachter 1990 *The Small Towns of Roman Britain*

G. Dunning *Antiquity* 5 (1931) 489.

STRATEGY

Four trenches were excavated, comprising 53.92m², or just over 2% of the development area (see fig. 2). Trenches 1, 3 and 4 were each situated within the footprint of a proposed building. Trench 2 was situated to the E of a proposed house to bring the sample up to 2% of the development area. The present use of the site as a builders yard influenced the trench locations.

The trenches were excavated by a JCB. In trench 1 and 2 the concrete yard surface was first broken up with a toothed bucket prior to further excavation using a 5 foot ditching bucket. Trenches 3 and 4 were dug using the 5 foot ditching bucket.

Any archaeological deposits were then excavated by hand to establish their depth, extent, character, quality and date.

SUMMARY

In trench 1 two limestone surfaces 1/3 and 1/5 were located, which probably represent former yard surfaces. Both were post-medieval in date.

In trench 2 an area of cobbling 2/7 covered approximately 1.89m². This cobbled area filled the top of a shallow feature 2/21 which was possibly dug as a source for gravel. The full extent of this cobbling is unknown as it extends beyond the trench. Pottery indicates the feature and cobbles are medieval in date. A stone-packed posthole 2/14 and surface 2/8 were probably related to the cobbles.

Located S of the cobbled area a large pit 2/12 with traces of a clay lining produced pottery indicating a 13th - 14th century date.

In trench 3 at least nine ditches were located. Three adjacent ditches to the S were curving on the same alignment. The remaining six ditches to the N were also curving but on a slightly different

alignment to those in the S. In most cases the edges between neighbouring ditches remained equidistant.

Ditches 3/4 and 3/6 contained roman and medieval pottery. Only two sherds were recovered from the remaining ditches so it is difficult to date the ditches with any degree of certainty.

In trench 4 two curving ditches were located 4/4 and 4/7; similar in character to those in trench 3. Although two sections were hand excavated they produced no datable finds.

RESULTS

For dimensions of layers and features an list of finds, see Appendix 1: Table of Contexts.

TRENCH 1 (see fig.3)

Orientation: NE-SW

Length: 4.80m Width: 1.80m

Depth from present ground surface to natural subsoil: 0.51m.

Depth from present ground surface to top of archaeological deposits: 0.39m (top of 1/7).

Trench 1 was positioned in front of a row of lock-up garages, on the site of proposed house No. 1. The present day concrete yard surface 1/1 overlaid a limestone rubble make-up 1/2. Below this a very compact light grey limestone surface 1/3. The surface of this was very smooth, although it was not clear if this was due to wear or whether it had been scoured prior to the deposition of 1/2.

Layer 1/3 overlaid a clean orangey gravel make-up layer 1/4 which consisted of redeposited natural gravel. Below this a level surface of rounded limestone 1/5 represents an earlier yard surface. The yard surface 1/5 was bedded into a dark blueish grey clay layer 1/6. In the NE half of the trench 1/6 could be distinguished as a distinct layer, but in the SW half it could only be seen as stained limestone in the bottom of the yard surface 1/5 and a thin layer actually below 1/5. A large post-medieval sherd of pottery with a date range of 1630 - 1750 was recovered from 1/6.

Layer 1/6 overlaid 1/7, a mid brown silt clay. Layer 1/7 represented the remains of a soil at the NE end of the trench. This layer occupies a slight hollow 1.80m in length and extending beyond the limits of the trench to the NE. Stains in the natural gravel along the rest of the trench suggest it once extended along the whole trench, but it had been truncated by 1/6.

TRENCH 2 (see fig.3)

Orientation: NE-SW

Length: 7.70m Width: 1.60m

Depth from present ground surface to natural subsoil: 0.49m

Depth from present ground surface to top of archaeological deposits: 0.35m

Trench 2 was positioned between a row of lock-up garages and a barn. The present day concrete yard

surface 2/1 overlaid a yellow gravel and limestone make-up layer 2/2. Below this was a dark grey deposit of rounded 'roadstone' 2/3.

Layer 2/3 overlaid a layer of limestone rubble 2/4. This deposit was pitched at all angles; representing a make-up layer which covers the whole area of the existing yard. Layer 2/4 would correspond to the layer 1/2 seen in Trench 1.

Layer 2/4 overlaid a layer 2/5 which consisted of a mid brown sandy silt with up to 50% rounded limestone. This layer gave the impression of being a mix of soil and stone rubble which has probably been reworked a number of times before being sealed by 2/4.

Layer 2/5 overlaid a layer 2/17 which consisted of a mixed layer of mid brown silty clay and 50% limestone. The limestone mostly lying flat within the layer. The deposit abuts a cobbled area 2/7 and blocks of limestone 2/9. Layer 2/17 contained five sherds of glazed pottery suggesting a date of 1720 - 1770. Six fragments of bottle glass were also recovered from 2/17.

At the very NE end of the trench 2/17 overlaid a compacted limestone surface 2/6. The surface 2/6 only survived in the NE 0.80m, the full extent is unknown as it lies beyond the NE limits of the trench.

Surface 2/6 overlaid another surface 2/8, which consisted of a large slab of limestone and a large fragment of quartz conglomerate millstone. The full size of the limestone slab was not clear as it extended beyond the NE limits of the trench but it measured 0.05m thick and at least 0.80m across. The millstone's dimensions were:- length 0.47m, width 0.33m and thickness 0.14m. The fragment represents about a quarter of its original size.

A spread of cobbles 2/7 (3.4m in length and 0.76m wide), extended beyond the limits of the trench to the W. The cobbled area had straight edging stones, for one metre of its length, orientated up the middle of the trench. The remaining edge was well defined to the N but had no straight edging stones. The edge in the SW was ill defined and unclear.

The limestone making up 2/7 were irregular slightly rounded lumps of limestone typically 0.12m x 0.08m x 0.04m. Small limestone pieces were filling the gaps between the larger stones. A few of the larger stones had red discolouration due to exposure to heat before being redeposited as part of the cobbled surface.

The surface of the cobbles 2/7 was regular with some signs of wear but uneven with some of the stones near to the edge pitching in at an angle.

A hand dug section across the cobbles revealed them to be the latest fill of a dug feature 2/21. The angle of pitch of some of the stones represented the sloping deposits within 2/21 (see fig. 3 Section 2.3).

The cobbles 2/7 overlaid a fill of dark brown silty clay with 20% gravel 2/19. The cobbles of 2/7 were mixed into the top of 2/19, making it difficult to distinguish the junction between them. Four medieval sherds of pottery were recovered from 2/19, which ranged in date from 10th century to the 15th century in date. The fill 2/19 overlaid a fill of discoloured gravel 2/20. This gravel is very similar in character to the cleaner natural gravel which forms the sides and bottom of 2/21.

Some roughly squared limestone 2/9 were exposed within the section on the E side of the trench (see fig.3 Section 2.1). The stones did not extend far enough into the trench to establish their purpose.

A posthole 2/14 was located to the E of 2/7 (see fig. 3 Section 2.4). The posthole contained large flat pieces of limestone 2/15, pitched in vertically around the edge. The fill 2/16 consisted of a light brown silty clay .

Situated SW of 2/14 a similar size feature 2/10, had a loose fill 2/11 with the occasional piece of 'roadstone'. The fill produced a single small fragment of brick (see fig. 3 Section 2.2).

A pit 2/12, sub-rectangular in plan was located at the SW end of the trench (see fig.3 Section 2.5). The fills 2/13 and 2/22 were a clay silt, at the bottom of both these fills large slabs of limestone were pitched in with the fill at 45°. Three medieval sherds of pottery from 2/13 ranged from 12th to ?14th century in date. Two sherds of pottery from 2/22 were 12th - 13th century in date.

The primary fill 2/23 consisted of an olive green to mid brown clay. The clay was confined to the bottom of the pit 2/12, extending slightly up the W side of the pit.

TRENCH 3 (see fig. 4)

Orientation: NE-SW

Length: 16m Width: 1.70m

Depth from present ground surface to natural subsoil: at SW end, 0.63m, at NE end 0.87m.

Depth from present ground surface to top of archaeological deposits: 0.65m

Trench 3 was positioned in the vegetable garden N of Church View House and W of the office buildings. The trench occupied the site of the proposed class B1 building. The present garden soil 3/1 overlaid an earlier soil 3/2 made up of a compact mid brown sandy silt with 15% angular limestone and gravel. This layer sealed all the features exposed in the trench and produced two sherds of roman pottery and three sherds ranging from mid Saxon 8th-9th century to 12th-13th century.

Layer 3/2 overlaid a layer 3/7, a mid brown to reddish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. This layer was only located at the SW end of the trench for a distance of 2.10m.

Layer 3/7 was cut by two ditch cuts 3/4 and 3/6 (see fig.4 Section 3.1). The ditches were on the same orientation, NW-SE and 0.12m apart. The ditches appeared to be curving, although the limited width of the trench means it is difficult to be sure of their direction.

Both ditches had fairly similar uniform fills of mid brown sandy silt with 10%-15% angular limestone gravel. Three sherds of pottery from 3/5 (the fill of 3/6) were recovered: one medieval sherd dated from 12th - 13th century and the other two roman in date. The ditch 3/4 (fill 3/3) also contained one sherd of early medieval pottery and a single sherd of roman.

To the N of 3/6 running on the same alignment was another ditch (fill numbered 3/24). This ditch was not excavated but its width is similar to that of ditch 3/4.

To the N of 3/24 an amalgam of at least two ditches ran on a different alignment to 3/4 and 3/6. These were not excavated but to the N the fill 3/25 was cut by 3/11.

Three hand excavated sections revealed three main ditches curving approximately around from SE to W. The ditches were situated in a slight depression which extended for the northern 5.00m of the trench.

Ditch 3/10 had a broad U-shape profile which narrowed towards the bottom. The latest fill of ditch 3/10 (3/17) appeared to be cut by ditches 3/12 and 3/11, although the relationship with 3/11 was uncertain. The fills were fairly uniform in character similar to that of 3/6 and 3/4. The primary fill 3/20 tended towards a reddish brown colour and contained slightly more sand than the later fills.

Ditch 3/10 cut a layer 3/19 which forms a deposit in the depression at the N end of the trench. No features or deposits were identified which were earlier than layer 3/19. Layer 3/19 could be distinguished from the ditch fills as it contained a clay content within its matrix which increased in amount towards the N of the trench.

On the same alignment as 3/10 a ditch 3/11 had a broad U-shape profile. This ditch appeared to cut the latest fill of ditch 3/10. The fills of 3/11 were similar to that of 3/10 with the exception of 3/22 which was a distinctive band of sandy silt with up to 60% angular limestone gravel.

Also on the same alignment as 3/10 but to the N another broader U-shape ditch 3/12 also cut the latest fill of ditch 3/10. The fills were again fairly similar and uniform in character except for the latest fill 3/13. The fill 3/13 was a sandy silt with up to 70% sub-angular limestone gravel, which contained a sherd of roman pottery. Both fills 3/13 and 3/14 slope into ditches 3/26 and 3/12 the fills becoming deeper towards the N. A single roman sherd was recovered from the earliest fill of 3/12 (3/15).

A possible earlier cut 3/26 was identified for ditch 3/12. To the N cut 3/26 cut layer 3/19.

At the N end of the trench a feature 3/27 filled by 3/28 was exposed for 0.52m. The full extent of this feature is not known as it extends beyond the trench. As 3/27 has the same alignment as the other ditches to S it is probably also a ditch. The fill 3/28 contains noticeably more clay than any other feature in this trench.

TRENCH 4 (see fig. 5)

Orientation: NW-SE

Length: 3.60m Width 1.60m

Depth from present ground surface to natural subsoil: 0.60m

Depth from present ground surface to top of archaeological deposits: 0.60m

Trench 4 was positioned within an open fronted store, on the site of proposed house No.3. The limited length of the trench reflects the difficulty excavating the trench with a JCB and the limited area available for a spoilheap.

The store had a compacted yellow gravel floor 4/1 which overlaid 4/2 a dark grey brown sandy silt with 15%-20% sub-angular gravel.

The layer 4/2 sealed two ditches, 4/4 and 4/7. Both ditches were orientated on a similar alignment up the long axis of the trench and were curving from the NW to E. Both ditches had a broad U-shape profile and both ditches became deeper towards the W. Neither of the two ditches produced any datable finds.

Ditch 4/4 was filled by 4/3 a mid to dark brown sandy silt with 15% angular gravel limestone.

To the S ditch 4/4 cut fill 4/5 (the latest fill of ditch 4/7).

The fill 4/5 consisted of a mid to light brown sandy silt with 15% sub-angular limestone. Even under the poor light conditions within the store building the relationship could be established due to the lighter colour of 4/5. A single splinter of bone was recovered from 4/5.

Fill 4/5 overlaid 4/6 a light brown silty sand with 20%-30% rounded limestone gravel. This fill consisted of a mix of silty sand and river gravels more typical of the geology in the southern half of the site.

FINDS

Pottery Assessment

Lucy Bown

A total of 27 sherds (.2Kg) were recovered of which 6 sherds are Roman, 1 Saxon, 14 Medieval and 6 Post Medieval.

The sherds of Roman pottery divide into 4 sherds of greyware dating from the 2nd century onwards and 2 sherds of Oxford colour-coated ware dating from AD.240 - 400. One colour-coated sherd has rouletted decoration but all sherds are too small to be able to identify vessel forms. The greyware sherds were found in contexts 3/2, 3/5 and 3/13 and the colour-coated sherds in contexts 3/5 and 3/15.

A single sherd of Middle Saxon pottery was found in Context 3/2. The fabric is micaceous and crudely tempered with principal inclusions of sub-angular quartz ranging from 0.2mm to 0.5mm, quartzite of 0.5 to 1mm and red iron oxide of 0.2mm. The external surface of the vessel has been heavily burnished. This sherd is probably of Middle Saxon date belonging to the 8th or 9th century.

Within the medieval pottery the earliest sherds are St Neots Ware, a shell tempered fabric dating from the 10th to late 11th century. Three cooking pot sherds were found in contexts 2/19, 3/2 and 3/3.

The majority of the medieval pottery belongs to a tradition commonly recognised as a Cotswold Type as defined by Jope (1952). This is a calcareous, limestone tempered ware with abundant oolitic limestone tempering. This type of ware occurs in the 12th to 13th centuries in the Cotswold area, and is also known at Oxford, Gloucester and Worcester. Of the 8 sherds present in this type, two with a splashed lead glaze are probably from pitchers/jugs and the remainder from cooking pots. These sherds occur in contexts 2/13, 2/19, 2/22, 3/2 and 3/5.

A single jug sherd from a highly fired oxidised fabric with glossy copper flecked glaze is probably a product of the Brill kilns in Buckinghamshire dating from the 13th to 15th centuries. This sherd was

recovered from context 2/19.

Two other sand tempered wares are present in contexts 2/13 and 2/19. One is probably from a cooking pot in a dark iron rich reddish/brown fabric, whilst the second is a coarser quartz tempered pink/white fabric probably from a jug. These sherds are possibly of 12th to 13th century and 13th to 14th century date respectively.

Five of the Post Medieval pottery sherds belong to the broad tradition of Glazed Red Earthenware which varies in production between regions but can begin in the late 15th century and continue in production through to the 18th or 19th centuries. Four sherds in context 2/17 belong to the same vessel which is a shallow plate with a broad flanged rim. The upper surface of the rim is decorated with incised lines forming rows of triangular patterns. This type of decoration is more typical of medieval jugs found in Worcester and would therefore suggest an earlier post medieval date in the late 15th/early 16th to 17th century.

The second type of Post Medieval pottery present is Staffordshire White Salt Glaze of the 18th century. This occurred in Context 2/17.

Pottery Conclusions

The pottery from this site appears to be mixed ranging from Roman to Post Medieval in date. The early medieval shell tempered and limestone tempered cooking pots and later medieval well fired sandy wares, which have been used for the production of jugs, are typical of the Cotswold area. The post medieval wares have a much wider distribution and are common types throughout the country in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Bibliography

Jope, E.M. 1952 Regional Character in West Country medieval pottery. *Trans. Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.* 71, pps88-97

INTERPRETATION

TRENCH 1

Trench 1 revealed two compacted limestone surfaces 1/3 and 1/5. Both of these surfaces probably represent earlier yard surfaces associated with its former use as a farm. The limited size of the trench means there is also a possibility the surfaces are within a large building. The later surface 1/3 appeared to have been scoured prior to the deposition of a make-up layer for the construction of the present day yard surface.

Both yard surfaces were post-medieval in date. A large sherd of 17th - 18th century orange glazed pottery (in 1/6) was sealed under the earliest yard surface 1/5. This date range corresponds with that of Church View.

A buried soil 1/7 preserved at the NE end of the trench produced no datable finds. Stains in the bottom of the trench indicate it had been badly truncated to the SW when the 1/6 and 1/7 were laid down.

TRENCH 2

Trench 2 exposed an area of cobbles 2/7 which were sealed by post-medieval deposits. The full shape and extent of these cobbles is unclear as they extend to the W beyond the limits of the trench. A deliberate use of straight edging stones for one metre contrasts with the more uneven edge at the NE end.

A section dug across the cobbles revealed them to be set into the fill of a feature 2/21. The merging of the cobbles and fill 2/19, as well as some of the edging stones pitching in at an angle around the edge indicate the cobbles were an integral part of the fill of 2/21. The dirty disturbed natural gravel fill 2/20 may indicate that the feature was a large scoop dug to extract gravel prior to the construction of the cobbles 2/7. The layer 2/18 was also probably related to this activity. The fill 2/19 provided a useful bedding for the cobbles which would not have bedded well into exposed natural gravel.

The function of the cobbles is unclear due to the limited area exposed. The specific shape of the cobbled surface and straight edging stones could indicate it accommodated a particular structure, providing an area of hard standing.

The area between the cobbles 2/7 and the limestone 2/9 was disturbed. Feature 2/10 contained 'roadstone' typical of layer 2/3. Feature 2/10 represents an area of disturbance probably associated with layer 2/3. The depression formed by 2/10 created after the removal of stones similar to 2/9. Consequently the relationship between 2/7 and 2/9 is unclear, although they are both abutted by 2/17.

The limestone surface 2/6 at the NE end of the trench possibly represents a yard surface similar to 1/3 and 1/5. Surface 2/6 extends beyond the NE end of the trench so its full extent is not known. The earlier surface 2/8 below 2/6 extended to 1.10m in width although, its full extent is not known. It contained a large millstone fragment which could be interpreted as a postpad. The size (length 0.47m, width 0.33m and thickness 0.14m) of the millstone suggests it was driven mechanically.

The surface 2/8 rested on natural gravel. The surface 2/8 may have extended further to the SW. The rather mixed disturbed layer 2/17 could represent a deposit following the removal of 2/8. The large limestone slab which remains, if typical, would have been worth removing to be reused elsewhere.

The posthole 2/14 had a large amount of limestone packing. As this was the only posthole identified in the trench it is difficult to ascribe it to a structure although in the absence of any deep stratified deposits it would seem probable that this posthole is related to the cobble 2/7 and the ?postpad millstone 2/8.

The pit 2/12 contained pottery indicating a medieval date of 13th - ?14th century. The clay deposit 2/23 on the bottom suggest a clay lined pit with the large slabs of limestone within the fill possibly forming a clay and stone lining.

TRENCH 3 and TRENCH 4

Trench 3 contained at least nine curvilinear ditches. Two ditches, similar in character, were also located in trench 4.

The equidistant spacing of the ditches 3/6, 3/4 and 3/24 suggest they were redefining a boundary. The curve within the trench is slight but the orientation suggests these ditches are curving from the E around towards the N. Although a sequence cannot be established for these three ditches the plan

suggests 3/6 was probably dug first and then later when 3/6 went out of use the boundary was redefined on either side by two ditches, 3/4 and 3/24.

The remaining ditches at the NE end of the trench were all on a curving alignment running from SE around to the W. In contrast to the ditches 3/6, 3/4 and 3/24, these ditches intercut. The similar alignments again suggest the continual use of a boundary.

The two ditches 4/4 and 4/7 in trench 4 although not dated their character suggest they are contemporary with the ditches in trench 3.

A total of seven pottery sherds were recovered from the ditch fills. The small quantity of pottery present suggest the ditches were not near an area of occupation. The quantity of fragmented animal bone recovered would be more likely to reflect the purpose of the ditches to be agricultural enclosures peripheral to any area of occupation.

Soil layers 3/7 and 3/19

Layer 3/7 at the SW end of trench 3 represents an earlier soil horizon which has been truncated by layer 3/2 and cut by ditches 3/4 and 3/6. No finds were recovered from this layer and it consisted of a sandy silt with little gravel suggesting it had derived from the slight reworking of a natural silt subsoil.

The layer 3/19 occupies a lower area forming a slight depression at the NE end of the trench. The bottom of 3/19 was slightly irregular. This layer was cut by the ditches and was characterized by its clay content. This layer was a well worked soil and is probably not the same layer as the truncated soil 3/7 at the opposite end of the trench. Layer 3/19 is probably a cultivation soil preserved in the depression. No finds were recovered from 3/19.

CONSIDERATION OF METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

The interpretation of the medieval features in trench 2 was limited as the exposed features extended beyond the bounds of the trench. The medieval deposits did not reveal any deep stratigraphic build up. It is probable the medieval features all belong to a single phase, however it is not possible to place the medieval features within an overall context. The range of dates for the pottery indicates a high occurrence of residual sherds, especially in fill 2/19 which range from 10th-15th century.

Ditches 3/6 (fill 3/5) and 3/4 (fill 3/3) each contained a one roman pottery sherd and one medieval. This indicates residual or intrusive sherds. Consequently the two roman sherds recovered from ditch 3/12 (in fills 3/13 and 3/15) are not sufficient to ascribe a date for any of the features in trench 3.

A Parkinson
OAU
January 1994

CXT = Context (ie: 1/1 = trench 1, layer 1)

CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER (LSCV 94)					
CXT	TYPE	WIDTH (m)	DEPTH (m)	COMMENTS	FINDS
TRENCH 1					
1/1	Layer		0.06	Present concrete yard surface	
1/2	Layer		0.09-0.20	Make-up layer	
1/3	Layer		0.09	Former yard surface	
1/4	Layer		0.02-0.07	Make-up layer	
1/5	Layer		0.03-0.06	Former yard surface	
1/6	Layer		0.02-0.07	Bedding layer below 1/5	1 pot sherd AD 1630-1750
1/7	Layer		0.14	Buried soil	
1/8	Layer		-	Natural subsoil	
TRENCH 2					
2/1	Layer		0.05-0.11	Present concrete yard surface	
2/2	Layer		0.02-0.10	gravel make-up layer	
2/3	Layer		0.07	Surface?	
2/4	Layer		0.08-0.17	Rubble make-up layer	
2/5	Layer		0.11	Disturbed layer	
2/6	Layer		0.11	Former yard surface	
2/7	Fill	0.76+	0.08-0.17	Cobbles	
2/8	Layer	1.10+	0.05-0.14	Surface	Millstone
2/9	Layer	0.73	0.09	Stone edging	

**CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER
(LSCV 94)**

CXT	TYPE	WIDTH (m)	DEPTH (m)	COMMENTS	FINDS
2/10	Cut	0.38	0.11	Recent disturbance	
2/11	Fill		0.11	Fill of 2/10	Brick fragment
2/12	Cut	0.91	0.61	Pit	
2/13	Fill		0.30	Fill of 2/12	2 pot sherds 12th-13th century 1 pot sherd 13th-?14th century
2/14	Cut	0.37	0.30	Posthole with limestone packing	
2/15	Fill			Stone fill of 2/14	
2/16	Fill		0.30	Fill of 2/14	
2/17	Layer		0.08-0.17	Layer abutting cobbles 2/7	4 glazed pot sherds AD 1550-1750 1 pot sherd AD 1720-1770 6 fragments of bottle glass
2/18	Layer		0.02	Discoloured sandy gravel	
2/19	Fill		0.27	Fill of 2/21	1 pot sherd 10th-late 11th century 1 pot sherd 12th-13th century 1 pot sherd 12th-14th century 1 pot sherd 13th-15th century
2/20	Fill		0.29	Fill of 2/21	
2/21	Cut	1.08+	0.38	Pit?	
2/22	Fill		0.25	Fill of 2/12	2 pot sherds 12th-13th century
2/23	Fill		0.05	Fill of 2/12	

**CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER
(LSCV 94)**

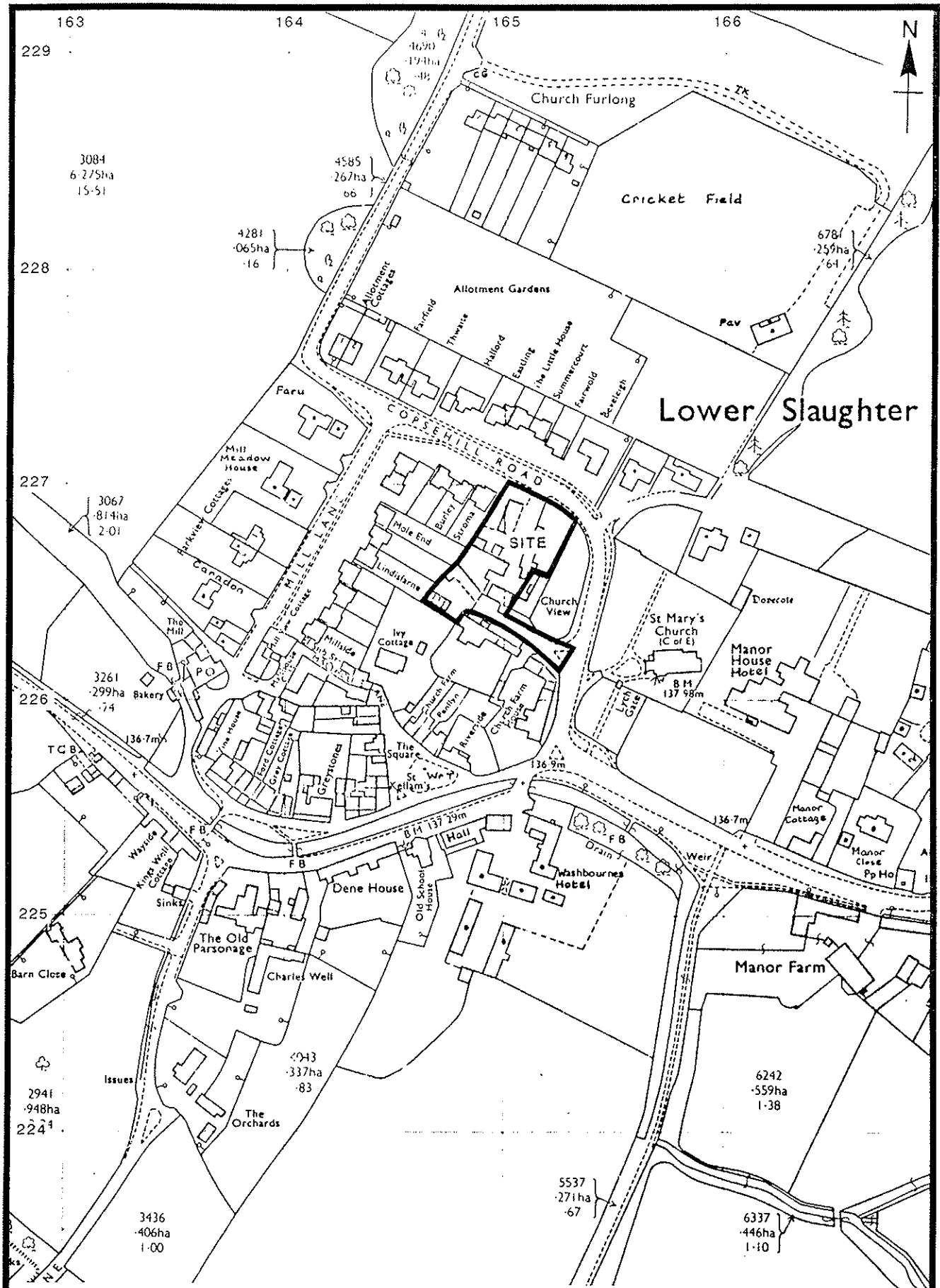
CXT	TYPE	WIDTH (m)	DEPTH (m)	COMMENTS	FINDS
2/24	Layer		-	Natural subsoil	
TRENCH 3					
3/1	Layer		0.32	Present garden soil	
3/2	Layer		0.24	Ploughsoil?	2 iron objects 1 pot sherd Mid Saxon 8th-9th century 2 pot sherds 12th-13th century 2 roman pot sherds 2nd century or later 3 bone
3/3	Fill		0.38	Fill of 3/4	1 pot sherd 10th-late 11th century 1 roman pot sherd AD240-AD400 12 bone
3/4	Cut	0.70	0.38	Ditch	
3/5	Fill		0.38	Fill of 3/6	1 pot sherd 12th-13th century 2 roman pot sherds 2nd century or later 22 bone
3/6	Cut	1.71	0.59	Ditch	
3/7	Layer		0.14	Truncated old ground surface	
3/8	Layer		-	Natural subsoil	
3/9	Fill		0.22	Fill of 3/6	
3/10	Cut	1.38	0.70	Ditch	
3/11	Cut	1.47	0.49	Ditch	

**CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER
(LSCV 94)**

CXT	TYPE	WIDTH (m)	DEPTH (m)	COMMENTS	FINDS
3/12	Cut	1.51	0.44	Ditch	
3/13	Fill		0.16	Fill of 3/12	1 roman pot sherd 2nd century or later
3/14	Fill		0.20	Fill of 3/12	
3/15	Fill		0.44	Fill of 3/12	1 roman pot sherd AD240-AD400 12 bone
3/16	Fill		0.20	Fill of 3/26	
3/17	Fill		0.20	Fill of 3/10	
3/18	Fill		0.25	Fill of 3/10	13 bone
3/19	Layer		0.14-0.25	Cultivation soil?	
3/20	Fill		0.21	Fill of 3/10	
3/21	Fill		0.25	Fill of 3/11	
3/22	Fill		0.07	Fill of 3/11	
3/23	Fill		0.22	Fill of 3/11	
3/24	Fill		0.17	Fill of 3/11	12 bone
3/25	Fill		0.19+	Unexcavated ditch fill	
3/26	Cut	0.60+	0.51	Ditch	
3/27	Cut	0.72+	0.26+	Ditch	
3/28	Fill		0.26+	Fill of 3/27	
3/29	Fill	0.52	-	Unexcavated ditch fill	
TRENCH 4					
4/1	Layer		0.20	Present surface of open store	
4/2	Layer		0.52	Former garden soil	
4/3	Fill		0.27-0.58	Fill of 4/4	
4/4	Cut	0.83+	0.27-0.58	Ditch	
4/5	Fill		0.55-0.88	Fill of 4/7	1 bone

**CHURCH VIEW, COPSEHILL ROAD, LOWER SLAUGHTER
(LSCV 94)**

CXT	TYPE	WIDTH (m)	DEPTH (m)	COMMENTS	FINDS
4/6	Fill		0.33	Fill of 4/7	
4/7	Cut	0.85+	0.55-0.87	Ditch	
4/8	Layer		-	Natural subsoil	



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's 1:2500 map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright

Scale 1:2500

figure 1, Location plan & limits of proposed development area

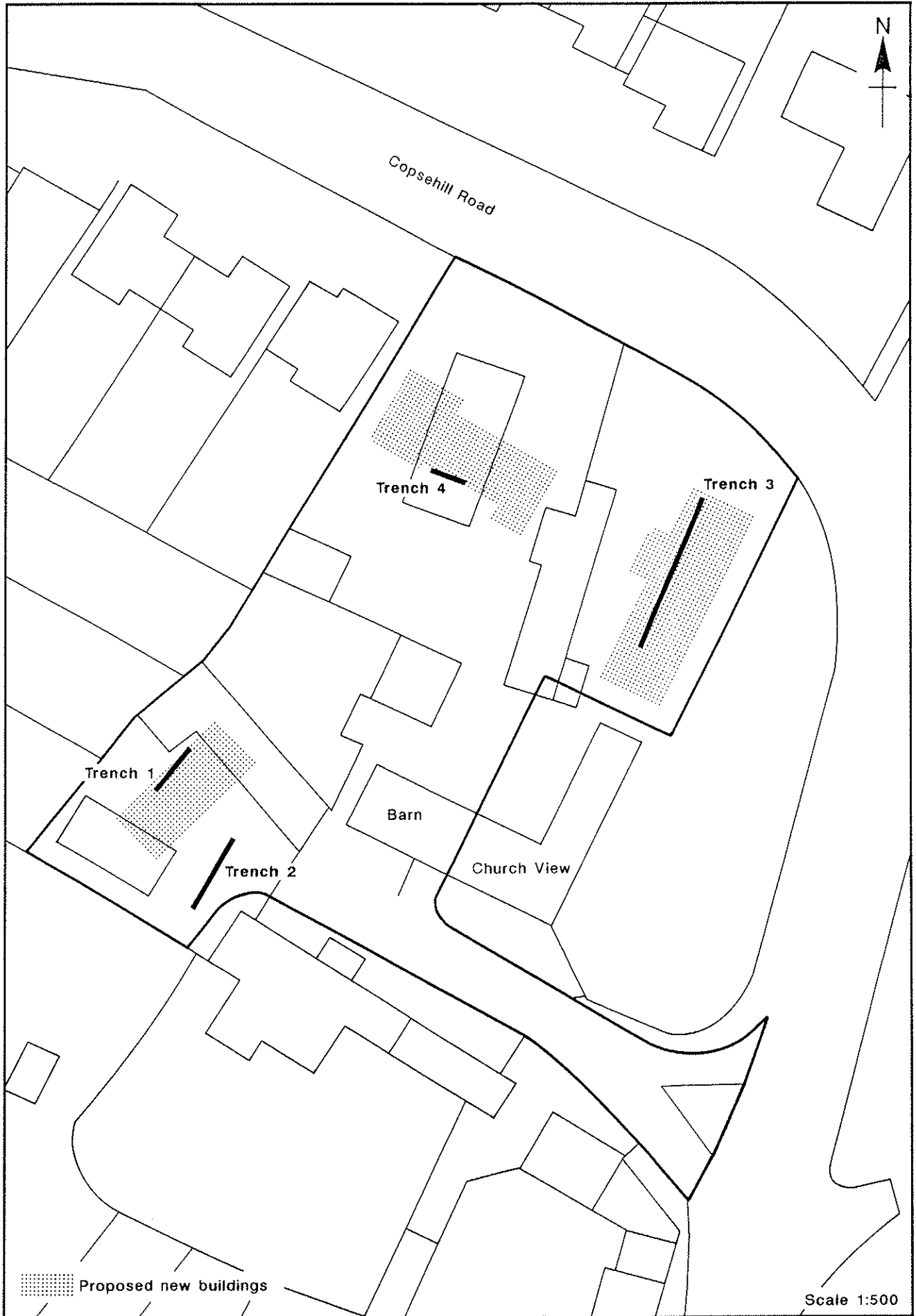
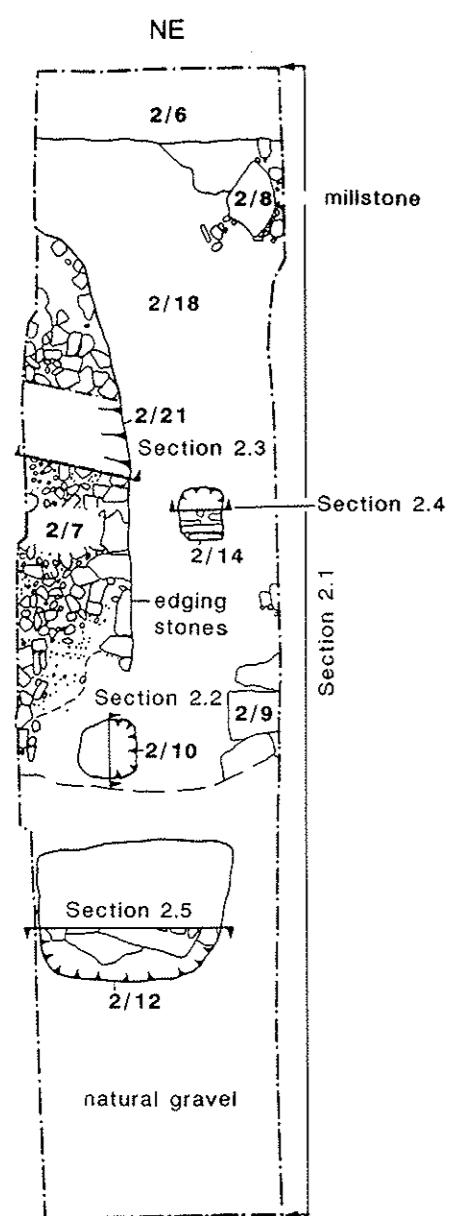


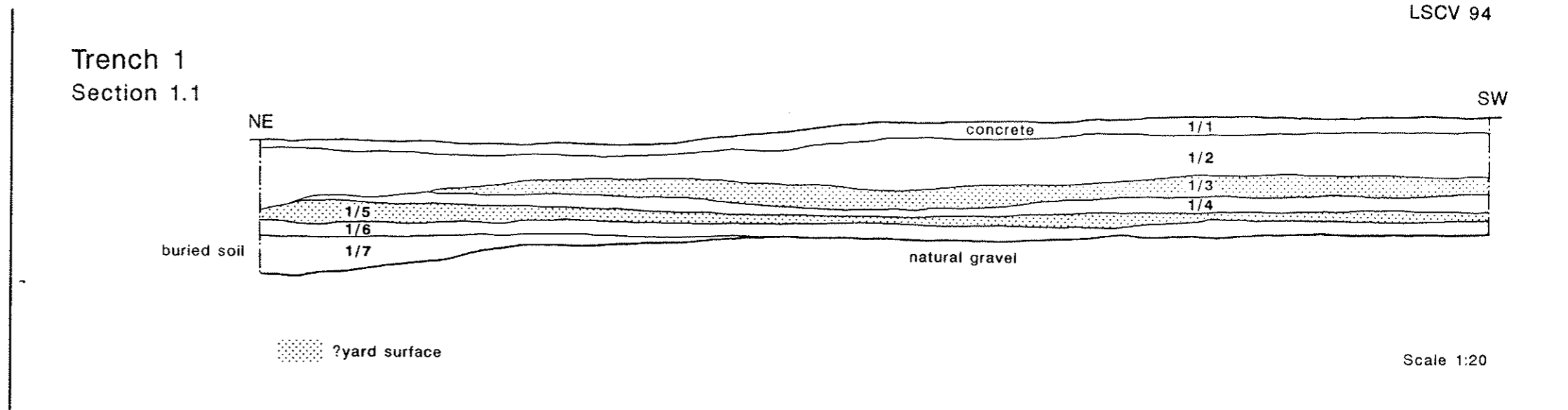
figure 2, Trench location plan

Trench 2
Plan



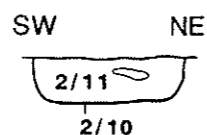
SW Scale 1:50

Trench 1
Section 1.1

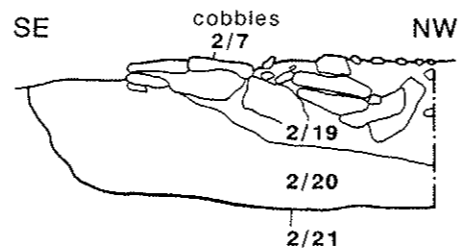


Scale 1:20

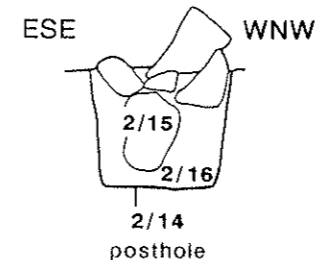
Section 2.2



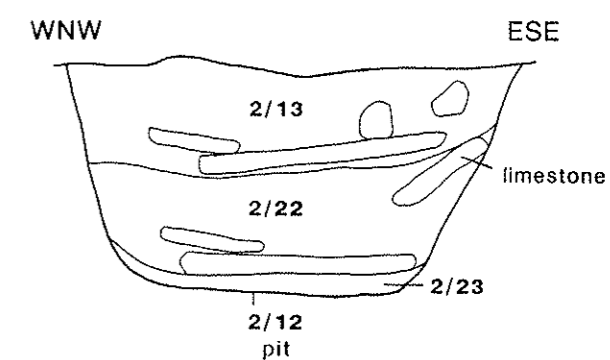
Section 2.3



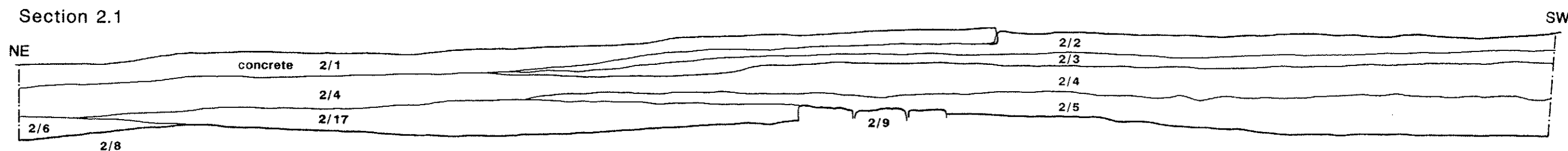
Section 2.4



Section 2.5

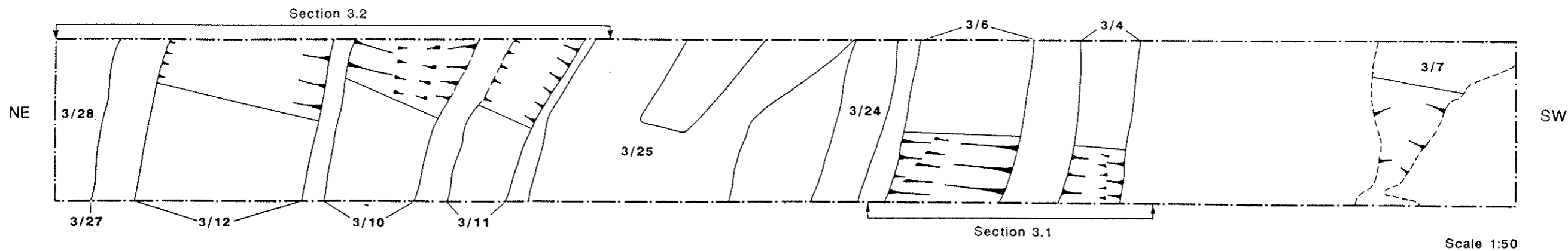


Section 2.1

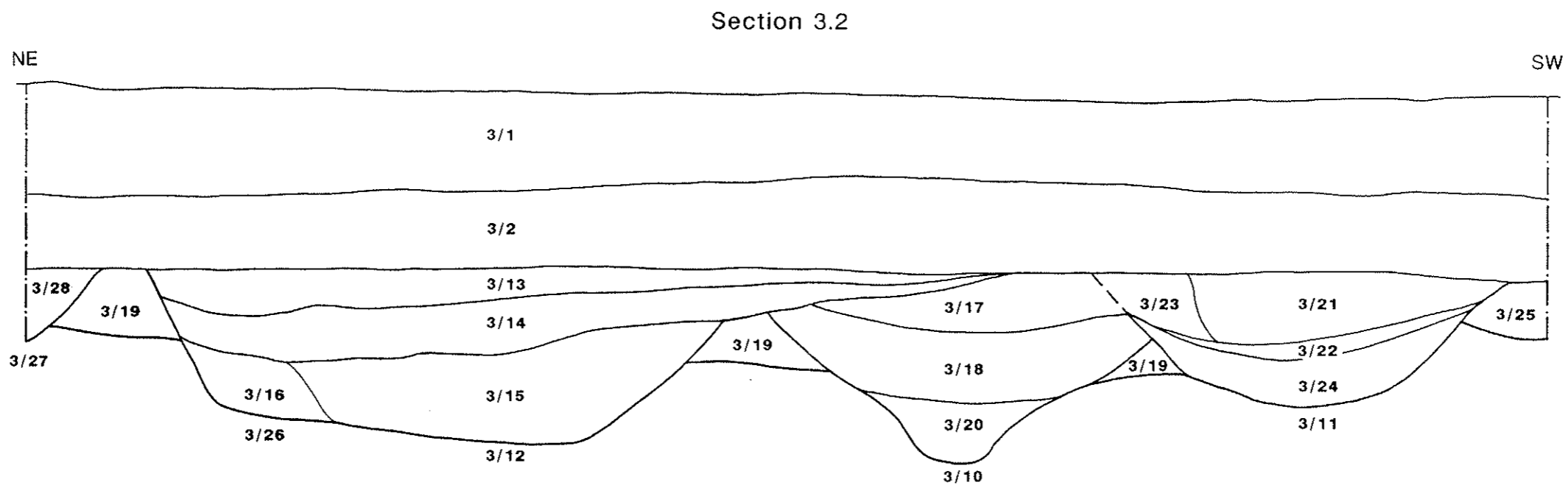
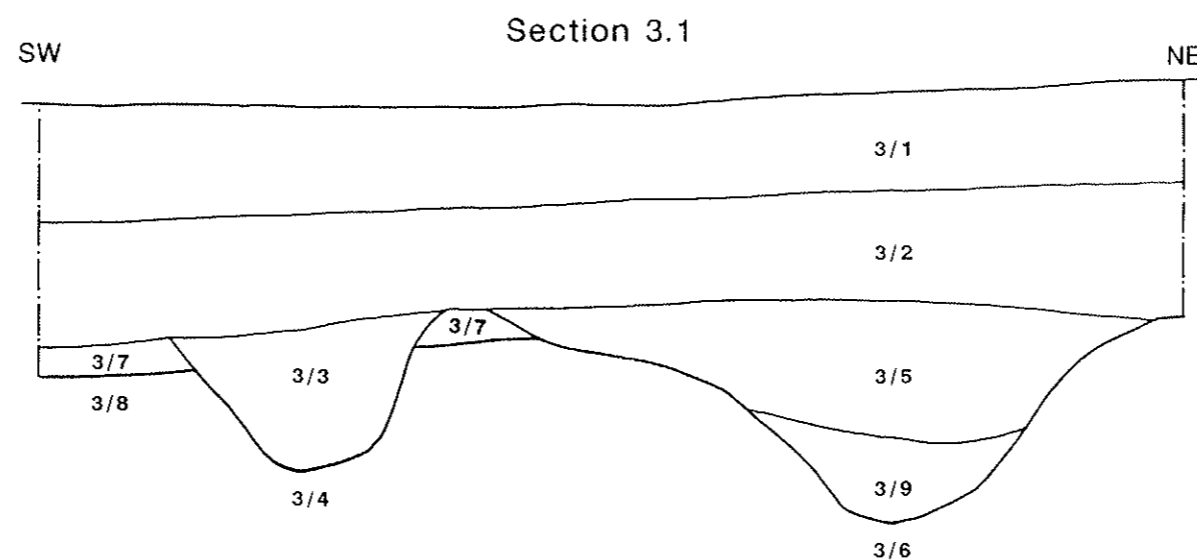


Scale 1:20

figure 3, Trench 1 section, Trench 2 plan & sections



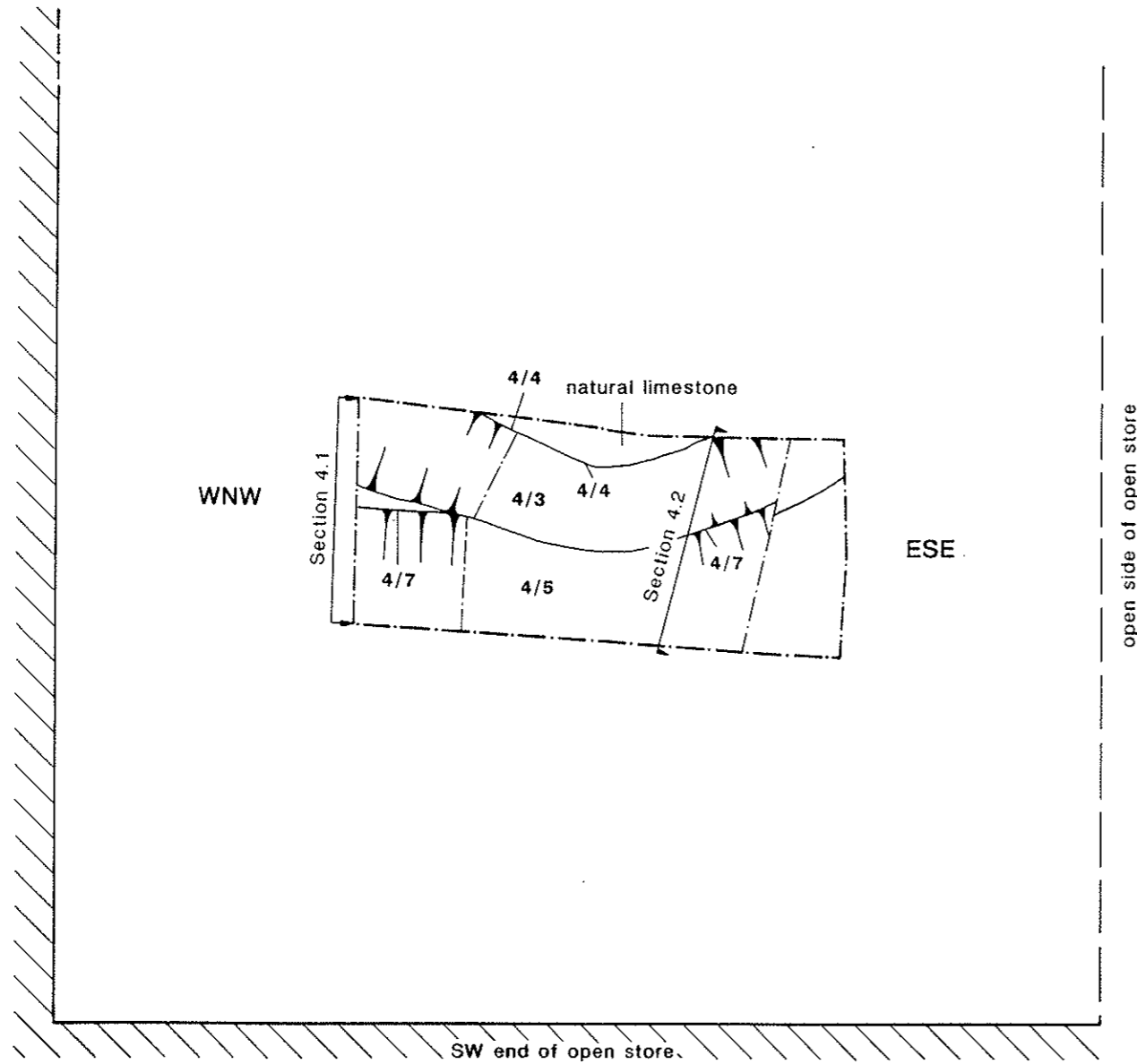
Scale 1:50



Scale 1:20

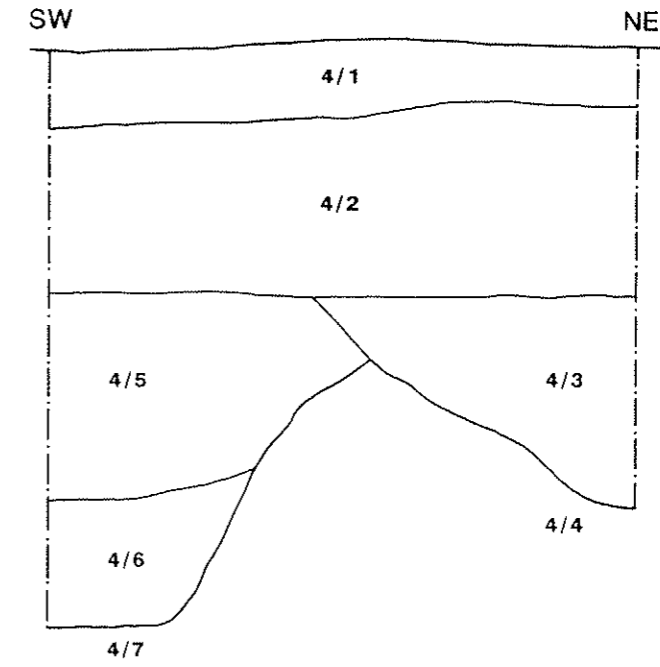
figure 4, Trench 3 plan & section

Trench 4 Plan

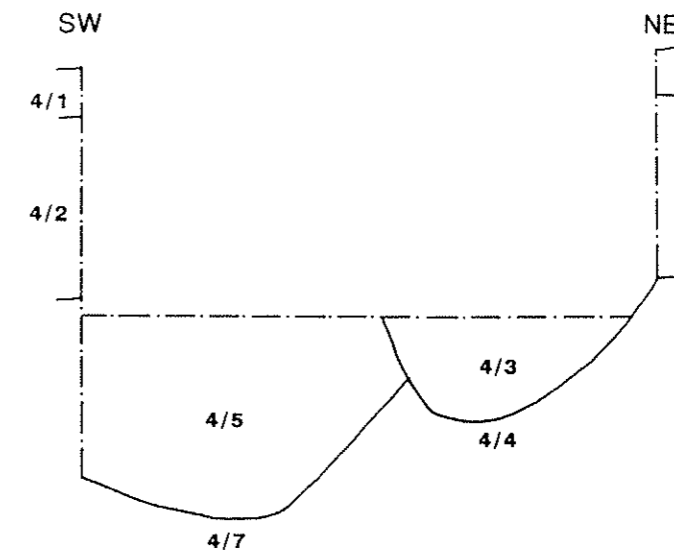


Scale 1:50

Section 4.1



Section 4.2



Scale 1:20

figure 5, Trench 4 plan & sections



The Oxford Archaeological Unit
46 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford OX1 2EP
tel. (0865) 243888 fax. (0865) 793496