

Goldborough Cottage Longborough Gloucestershire



Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Oxford Archaeology

September 2004

Client: Mr C Ray

Issue N^o: 1

OA Job N^o: 2392

Planning Ref N^o: CD.4994/A

NGR: SP 179 297

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Prepared by: Mike Sims
Position: SWD Project Supervisor
Date: 24th September 2004

Checked by: Andrew Holmes
Position: SWD Project Manager
Date: 26th September 2004

Approved by: Nick Shepherd
Position: Head of Fieldwork
Date: 28th September 2004

Signed...  PP. N. SHEPHERD

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Oxford Archaeology
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Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

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Goldborough Cottage, Longborough, Gloucestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

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SUMMARY

In september 2004 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Goldborough Cottage, Longborough, Gloucestershire (NGR: SP 179 27) The work was commissioned by Mr. C Ray in advance of the excavation of foundations for a new conservatory, porch and extensions. The watching brief encountered no evidence for significant archaeological remains or activity predating construction of the standing dwelling.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In September 2004 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Goldborough Cottage, Longborough, Gloucestershire (NGR: SP 179 297). The work was commissioned by Mr. C Ray in respect of a planning application for the construction of a garage extension, new conservatory and porch (Planning Application No. CD.4994/A)
- 1.1.2 A project brief was set by, and a Written Scheme of Investigation (OA 2004) was agreed with Charles Parry, the Senior Archaeological Officer representing Gloucestershire County Council.
- 1.1.3 The site is situated on the north-western edge of the village of Longborough (Fig. 1). The site is bounded to the east by allotments, to the north by the grave yard of the church of St James and to the south and east by residential properties.

1.2 Landuse, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on an east facing slope at approximately 176 m above OD and occupies an area of 0.03 hectares. The site of the proposed works was originally landscaped gardens. The underlying geology is undifferentiated clays over argillaceous limestone beds (GSGB Sheet 217).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the watching brief was prepared for the WSI for the project (OA, 2004) and is reproduced below.
- 1.3.2 The development site is located in close proximity to the medieval parish church of St James and is therefore in an area where medieval settlement associated with the church is likely to be present. The building contains Norman work in the north and south doorways and the church was appropriated to the abbot of Hailes in 1325. The south transept and the bellcote date to the 14th century and while the remainder of the church was restored in 1885.
- 1.3.3 The village contains numerous buildings of 17th century and later date. Ganborough House, about 1.5 km south of the church, dates to the 18th century. Just south-east of this is a prehistoric long barrow, which is accompanied by at least 9 more in Hull

Plantations to the west (Verey, 1970, 307-8). There is therefore a possibility of prehistoric features extending into the development area around the church.



2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area.
- 2.1.2 To identify and record the extent, condition, quality and date of archaeological remains in the areas affected by the development.
- 2.1.3 To make available the results of the archaeological investigation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The groundwork consisted of two phases, the excavation of the footings for the new conservatory and dayroom and the excavation of the footings for the new workshop and porch (Fig. 2).
- 2.2.2 Visits were to the site during each of these two phases of work in order to monitor the stratigraphy exposed.
- 2.2.3 A record of the extent of the excavations was planned at a scale of 1:100 showing the location of the sections (Fig. 2), while the sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. The sections were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. A general photographic record of the work was made Recording followed procedures detailed in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The landscaping of the gardens has produced distinctive areas of stratigraphy with the western (higher) area of the site producing deeper deposits and layers of made ground.

Phase 1 excavations, (Fig. 3, sections 1 and 2)

- 3.1.2 At the base of both these sections a compacted layer of weathered and frost shattered tabular limestone (3) was reached. This was overlaid by a tenacious layer of ~~an~~ orange brown silt clay (2), 0.35 m in depth, containing many small fragments of sub-angular limestone ~~and~~ representing a layer of highly weathered corn brash. Within section 2 this was overlain by a 0.4 m deep layer of ~~a~~ probable colluvium, a tenacious yellow brown silt clay (4) containing many very small fragments of limestone. A layer of friable grey brown clay loam (1) of between 0.15 m and 0.25 m in depth, the present day garden soil, completes the stratigraphy in both sections.

one record.

Phase 2 excavations (Fig. 3, sections 3, 4 and 5)

- 3.1.3 As in phase 1 all these sections reached the frost shattered limestone (3) at their base. At the highest point of the excavations (Section 3) this was overlaid by a tenacious mid brown clay silt (5), 0.4 m deep and containing many small to medium limestone fragments; a layer of partially weathered corn brash. Within sections 4 and 5, both located further down the slope, the limestone 3 was overlaid by a 0.25 m thick layer of a tenacious pale brown clay silt (6), a probable colluvium containing some small sub-angular limestone fragments.
- 3.1.4 Layers 5 and 6 were sealed by the weathered corn brash (2) of between 0.2 m (Section 5) and 0.6 m (Section 3) depth. In sections 3 and 4 this was overlaid by the present day topsoil and turf (1) 0.35 m in depth.
- 3.1.5 Within section 5 this corn brash was overlaid by a 0.2 m deep layer of a friable dark brown clay loam (7), the original topsoil, which was sealed below a 0.3 m deep layer of made ground, the tenacious grey brown clay silt (8). The present day topsoil and turf (1), 0.2 m deep, completes the section.

3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 No finds were recovered either from the sections or from examination of the spoil.

3.3 Palaeo-environmental remains

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The watching brief showed that only a limited amount of activity has taken place within the area of the site. The landscaping for the present day dwelling (of mid-^{20th} ~~twentieth~~ century construction) has substantially raised the ground level on the northern side of the site, raising it approximately 1.0 m above the level of the grave ^{one word} yard immediately to the north.
- 4.1.2 No significant or earlier archaeological remains were observed during the course of the watching brief suggesting that the site had always been of a pastoral or garden nature prior to construction of the standing dwelling. ✓

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i> Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	Layer	0.25 m	Modern garden soil and turf	-	-
2	Layer	0.4 m	Weathered corn brash	-	-
3	Layer	>0.5 m	Natural limestone	-	-
4	Layer	0.4 m	Colluvium	-	-
5	Layer	0.4 m	Colluvium	-	-
6	Layer	0.25 m	Colluvium	-	-
7	Layer	0.2 m	Buried topsoil	-	C20th
8	Layer	0.3 m	Made ground	-	C20th

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

GCC, 2004 *Goldborough Cottage, Longborough: Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Recording*

IFA, 1992 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Verey, D 1970 *The Buildings of England: the Cotswolds*. Penguin

OA, 2004 *Goldborough Cottage, Longborough, Gloucestershire - Written Scheme of Investigation*

OAU, 1992 *Fieldwork Manual (ed. D. Wilkinson)*

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Goldborough Cottage, Longborough, Gloucestershire

Site code: LOGO 04

Grid reference: SP 179 297

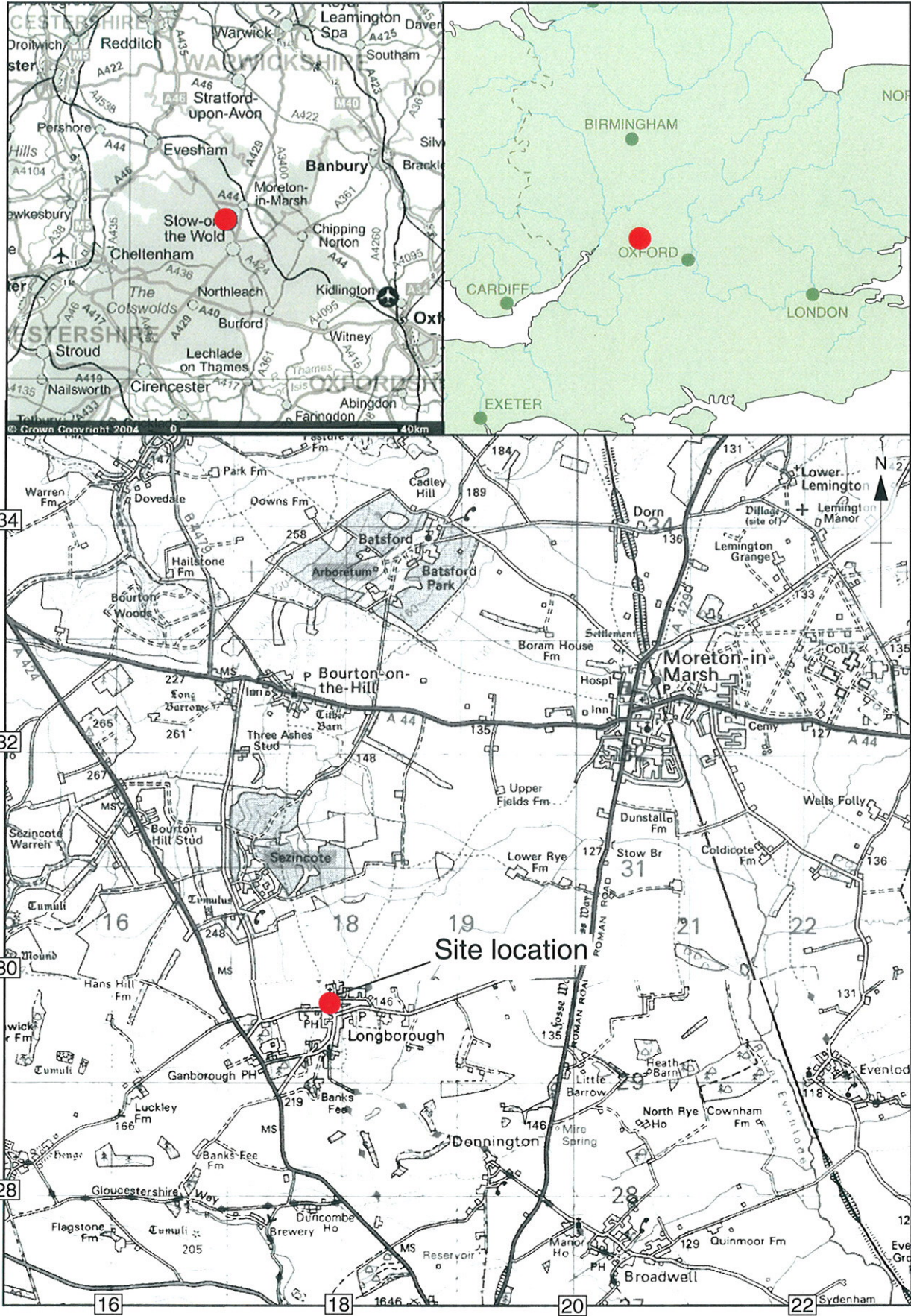
Type of watching brief: Excavation of foundations for house extensions

Date and duration of project: Between the 14th and 22nd of September 2004, 2 site visits

Area of site: 0.026 hectares

Summary of results: No significant archaeological remains earlier than the 20th century *water* observed.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Gloucestershire County Museums Service in due course.



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Figure 1: Site location

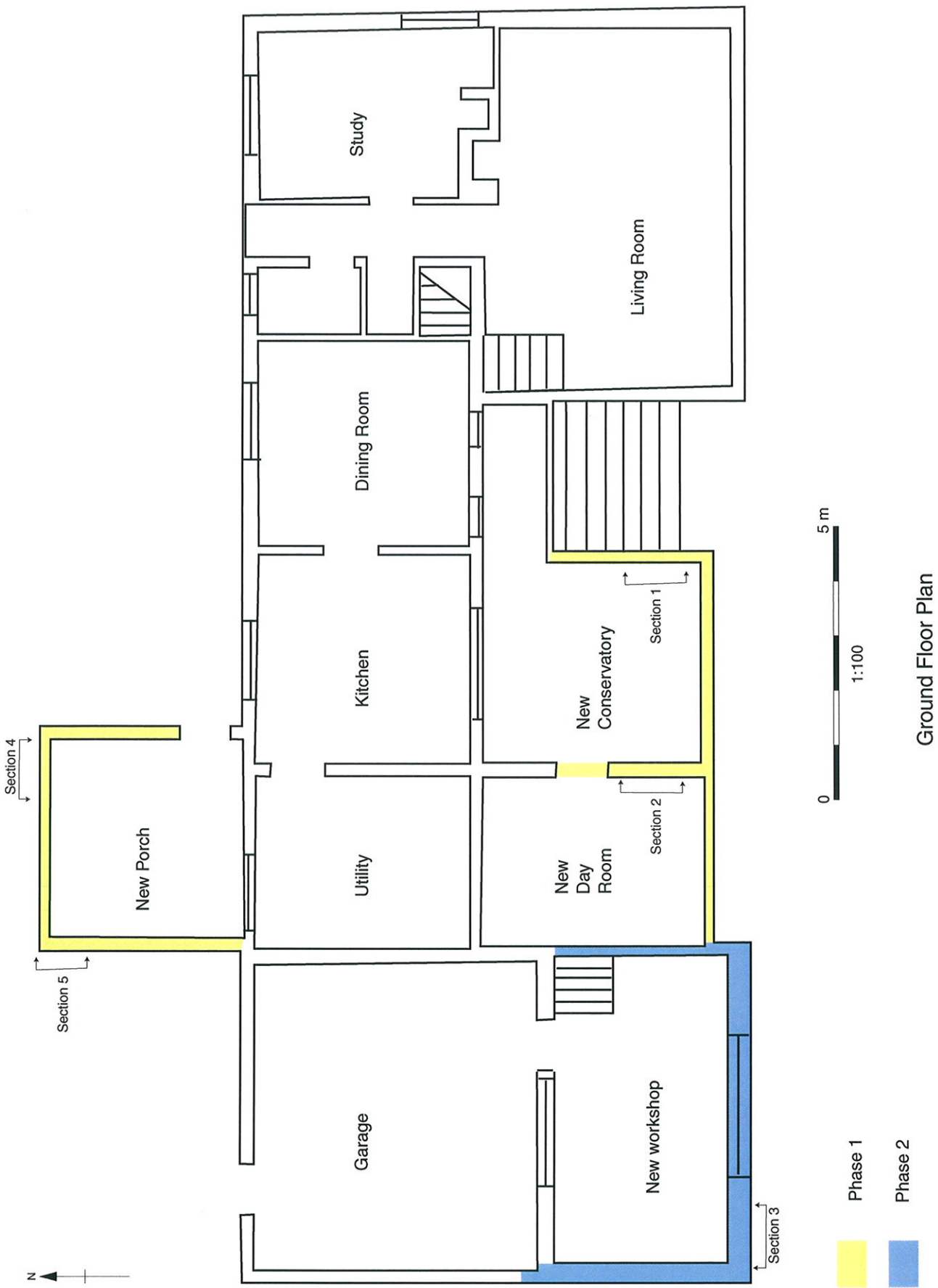


Figure 2: Site Plan, showing location of sections

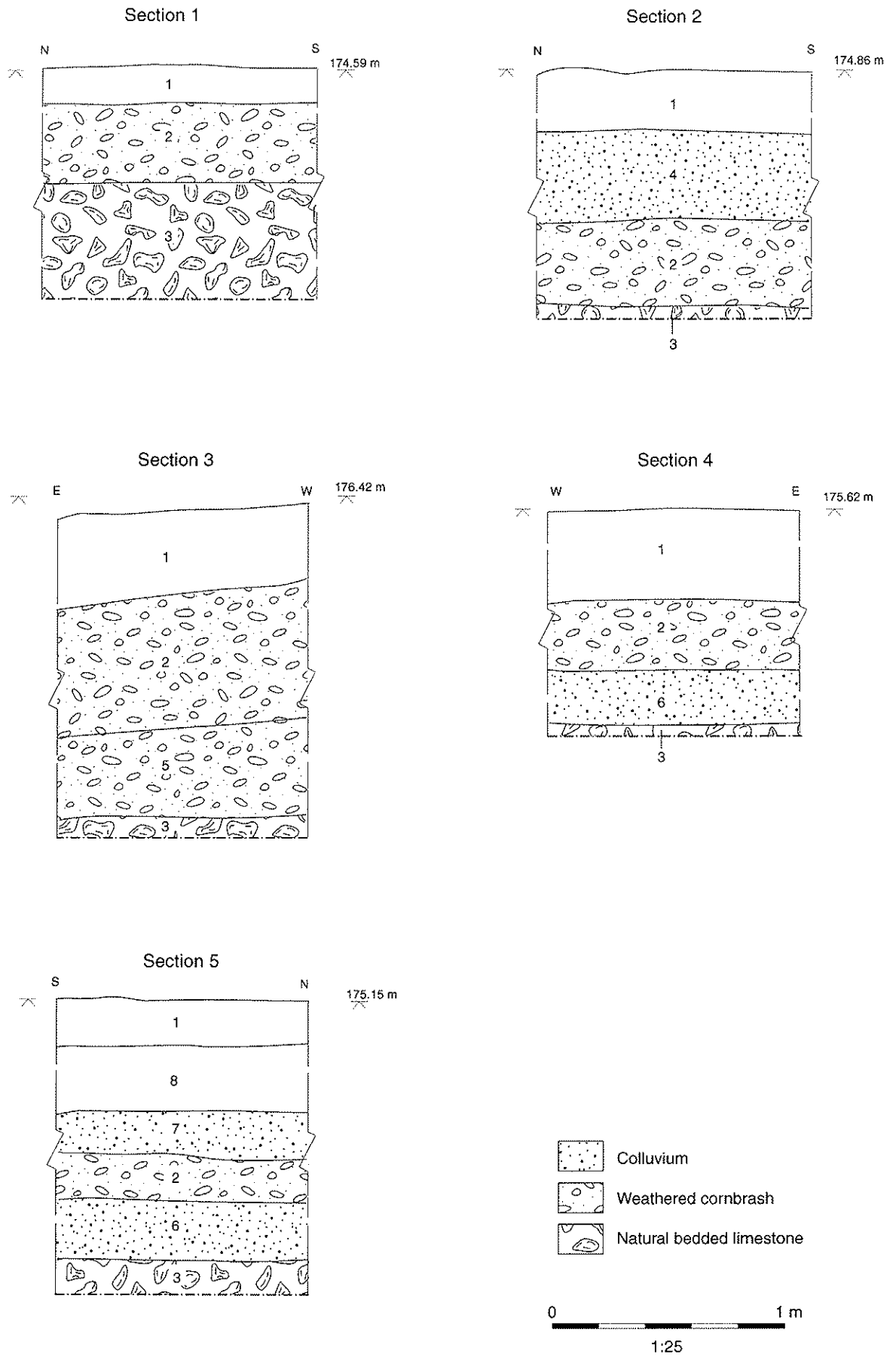


Figure 3: Sections



Oxford Archaeology

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606
e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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