

Bruton Knowles

**Land Adjacent to the Rectory
Dymock, Gloucestershire**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR SO 70009 31234

© OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

October 2001

Bruton Knowles

**Land Adjacent to the Rectory
Dymock, Gloucestershire**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR SO 70009 31234

© OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

October 2001

Bruton Knowles

**Land Adjacent to the Rectory
Dymock, Gloucestershire**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR SO 70009 31234

Prepared by: A Simmonds/A Norton

Date: October 2001

Checked by: J Hiller

Date: 18th October 2001

Approved by: *R. Williams*
Assistant Director
Date: *19/10/2001*

© OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

October /2001

Land Adjacent to the Rectory Dymock, Gloucestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

CONTENTS

Summary.....	2
1 Introduction.....	2
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	2
1.2 Geology and topography.....	2
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	3
2 Evaluation Aims.....	5
3 Evaluation Methodology.....	5
3.1 Scope of fieldwork.....	5
3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording.....	5
3.3 Finds.....	6
3.4 Presentation of results.....	6
4 Results: General.....	6
4.1 Soils and ground conditions.....	6
5 Results: Descriptions.....	6
5.1 Description of deposits.....	6
5.2 Finds.....	8
5.3 Palaeo-environmental remains.....	10
6 Discussion And Interpretation.....	10
6.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	10
6.2 Overall interpretation.....	11
Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory.....	13
Appendix 2 Bibliography and references.....	15
Appendix 3 Summary of Site Details.....	15

LIST OF FIGURES

- Fig. 1 Location of Dymock
- Fig. 2 Site location
- Fig. 3 Location of trenches
- Fig. 4 Trench 1 plan and section
- Fig. 5 Trench 2 plan and section
- Fig. 6 Trench 3 plan
- Fig. 7 Trench 4 plan and section

**Land Adjacent to the Rectory
Dymock, Gloucestershire**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR SO 70009 31234

SUMMARY

In September 2001 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) carried out a field evaluation on land adjacent to the Rectory, Dymock, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 70009 31234). The work was undertaken on behalf of Bruton Knowles Property Assets Consultancy of Gloucester. Four trenches were opened in the course of the work.

The evaluation revealed a large north-south aligned ditch, possibly a boundary ditch, dated to the late Roman period, and the remains of an east-west aligned Roman road or trackway surface. An undated gully and a pit were also identified in the course of the work. A quantity of iron slag was recovered, suggesting an industrial site of unknown status nearby. The Roman features were sealed beneath ploughsoil horizons of probable ?medieval date, as medieval sherds were incorporated in their make-up.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work (Figs 1 and 2)

- 1.1.1 In September 2001, the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) carried out a field evaluation on land adjacent to the Rectory, Dymock, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 70009 31234), in advance of a planning application for the erection of a dwelling.
- 1.1.2 Bruton Knowles Property Assets Consultancy of Gloucester commissioned the evaluation on behalf of their client The Diocese of Gloucester. It was carried out in accordance with a project brief set by and a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) agreed with Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer of Gloucester County Council. Owing to the potential for archaeological remains on the site of the proposed development, the evaluation was required in accordance with PPG 16 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The village of Dymock is situated on the edge of the floodplain of the River Leadon (Fig. 1). The underlying geology is Devonian mudstone, sandstone and associated drift over Lower Old Red Sandstone.
- 1.2.2 The development area is located between St Mary's churchyard and the Rectory and covers some 950-sq. m (Fig. 2). The site lies between 35 m and 40 m OD and slopes gently to the west towards the Rectory. The land around the Rectory appears to have

been artificially levelled during its construction in the mid-20th century. Early 19th century maps show this site in use as an orchard, and it is currently the garden of the unoccupied Rectory.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Information relating to the archaeological background for this report was supplied by the Sites and Monuments Record Office for Gloucestershire.
- 1.3.2 The proposed development site is located within what is thought to be the central part of a Roman Town (*Macatonion*), and contains the predicted alignment of one of the two main Roman roads that served the town.
- 1.3.3 The site is immediately adjacent to Dymock's medieval parish church, suggesting that it is an area where medieval settlement could be present. There is evidence to indicate that the church may be Anglo-Saxon in origin, with the potential for early medieval settlement in the vicinity.

Roman

- 1.3.4 A Roman settlement at Dymock probably developed in ribbon fashion along the Roman road (RR X48), which may have joined another road (RR 610) at a so far undiscovered junction (Margary, 1967). Possible evidence for this second road has been located immediately east of the proposed development site, and its projected line passes centrally through this site.
- 1.3.5 Extensive evidence of Roman settlement in Dymock has been previously been identified. In *c* 1900 a skeleton with an associated denarius of Caransins together with Roman pottery was discovered in the adjacent churchyard. In 1951 a rubbish pit containing 2nd-4th century pottery and a 3rd century glass jug was discovered (SMR 5351). The same year in a field to the north, a skeleton and pottery sherds were found (SMR 14049).
- 1.3.6 To the north-east of this development site the Malvern Research Group identified the Roman road, together with the foundations of buildings together with 2nd-3rd century pottery and 2nd century coins. Two ditches beneath the original road surface may hint at early military activity after the conquest; the infilled ditches were sealed beneath occupation deposits. Crop marks immediately adjacent to the sewage works are plotted on SMR Aerial Photograph maps and suggest that an organised field system was in place in the Roman period (SMR 5351).
- 1.3.7 On a building site near the village school to the west of this site, a Roman pottery scatter including samian was collected from topsoil removed from the south side of the access road. No features were noted in the foundation trenches for the new houses, although iron slag was noted.
- 1.3.8 In 1994 an evaluation 300 m to the east near the local sewage works, located extensive evidence of Romano-British and medieval activity. The major features

excavated included at least two phases of late 1st-2nd century timber framed buildings covering an area of almost 300 sq. m. The deposits within the construction trenches for the buildings contained large amounts of daub and evidence of timber posts, stakes and wattling. These lay within a rectilinear enclosure complete with gated entrance. The features may have been aligned with a road that is thought to have run *c* 30 m to the south of the excavated area (SMR 15285).

- 1.3.9 Five adult inhumations were located outside the enclosure. One appeared to be a shroud burial, while the remaining four were coffin burials containing a combined total of 88 coffin nails and 13 coffin fittings. Two infant inhumations cut the upper fills of the southern enclosure ditch suggesting continuing activity after disuse of the original enclosure (SMR 15285).
- 1.3.10 Later second and third century ditches may indicate a later Roman enclosure to the east of the original, or be part of the field system associated with the Roman settlement. A number of pits produced variable amounts of iron smelting slag. Fragments of mould indented with the shape of small tools and brooches indicate that the manufacture of copper alloy objects was taking place in the close vicinity (SMR 15285).

Medieval

- 1.3.11 The Manor of Dymock was granted to William de Gamage in 1199. Henry III and Henry IV granted a weekly market and an annual fair. This included a privilege exempting the inhabitants from the tolls of the markets and fairs. The market is believed to have lapsed before the mid-14th century and there is no evidence for a post-medieval market being held in the settlement. Competition from markets and fairs at Newent was possibly responsible for the decline of Dymock's trading status. The market is believed to have been held on the area of open land to the south of the church and to have extended along the road to the west and east (SMR 17266).
- 1.3.12 St Mary's Church, adjacent to the proposed development site, possibly incorporates Anglo-Saxon fabric in the lower parts of its structure. The length of the nave suggests a Norman addition to walls surviving from a pre-conquest church, and the early Norman southern doorway appears to have been inserted into an earlier wall. At some point before the 14th century the church is believed to have fallen into a ruinous condition, necessitating the 14th-century rebuilding of the chancel and west end of the nave, and the addition of the north transept and the south chancel. The prevailing explanation for the ruinous condition of the church is that it may have been sacked. Although no supporting documentary evidence exists to support this, the 13th century was a period of serious border warfare with the Welsh during which Gloucestershire is believed to have suffered greatly (SMR 5360).

Post-medieval

- 1.3.13 At Dymock Parish Hall, to the south east of the site, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeological Service carried out an archaeological evaluation in 1999. This

revealed evidence of large scale 17th century levelling or dumping. Medieval finds dating from as early as the 14th century may have been redeposited (SMR 20354).

- 1.3.14 A watching brief in 1991 at the Crown Inn to the south recovered early post-medieval pottery sherds and the neck of a glass vessel of indeterminate, but undoubtedly, post-medieval date (SMR 12053).

2 EVALUATION AIMS

- 2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were to determine the location, extent, date, character, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the development.
- 2.1.2 Attention was to be given to sites and remains of all periods including with provision for environmental sampling included.
- 2.1.3 A particular aim was to investigate the survival of Roman deposits and the location of the road, that was thought to pass through the site. The potential for early-middle Saxon remains was considered owing to the proximity of the site to the church.
- 2.1.4 The evaluation sought to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusion on the site and assess the degree of archaeological survival of all buried deposits and surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- 2.1.5 All remains were to be recorded to established OAU standards (OAU Fieldwork Manual, Wilkinson 1992), in order to secure their preservation by record.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork (Fig. 3)

- 3.1.1 The evaluation was originally designed to comprise three trenches measuring 10 m in length by 1.8 m wide, to be excavated to the top of the significant archaeology or the natural geology. The trenches were sited over the predicted alignment of the Roman road with one placed as close as possible to the boundary with the adjacent churchyard (OAU, 2001).
- 3.1.2 The original location of Trench 1 was moved to the west away from this boundary in order to avoid an obvious area of made ground. However, on the recommendation of Charles Parry (Gloucestershire County Council's Senior Archaeological Officer) the trench location was reinstated and renumbered as Trench 4.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 3.2.1 The trenches were excavated by machine and cleaned by hand. The revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples.

3.2.2 All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

3.3 Finds

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

3.4 Presentation of results

3.4.1 The trenches are described individually, after which the finds evidence is summarised. The stratigraphic and finds data are then brought together in an interpretation, which considers the significance and reliability of the evaluation's findings.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

4.1.1 The site is located on a red sandy clay brick-earth. Ground conditions were very dry, in part due to the proximity of a stand of Lime trees. The root systems of these trees had penetrated considerably into the strata exposed in the trenches.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of deposits

Trench 1 (Fig.4)

- 5.1.1 As initially machined, Trench 1 was found to be completely within a large unidentified feature. The trench was extended on the recommendation of Charles Parry further to the north-west, in order to locate the western limit of this feature (Fig. 4).
- 5.1.2 Natural geology (14) was encountered 0.95 m below the ground surface at 38.34 m OD. It was overlain by a layer of probable ploughsoil (51) that was 0.5 m thick, and contained no dating evidence.
- 5.1.3 This ploughsoil (51) was cut by a substantial feature (50). The west edge of the feature was found to be orientated NNE-SSW. Since the feature does not appear in Trench 4 (east of this trench) and extended fully along Trench 1 and beyond, it is clearly linear in nature and so is probably a large ditch.
- 5.1.4 The ditch was 1.8 m deep, and more than 4.6 m wide, with the west edge sloping gently to a flat base. The primary ditch fill (19) was a light brown sandy clay and contained pottery probably dating to the 3rd century AD. The fill was overlain by a charcoal and slag-rich fill (18), 0.2 m thick, which may represent deliberate dumping

of industrial waste. Pottery dating from post-270 AD was recovered from fill 18. This was sealed beneath the main ditch fill (17) that contained a number of large pieces of sandstone, the largest of which measured 0.4 m x 0.25 m x 0.12 m, and had been worked. This fill was overlain by a lens of re-deposited natural (16), that was clearly within the limits of the ditch cut, and was overlain by the final fill of the ditch (15), a dark brown clay with occasional slag and small pieces of limestone.

- 5.1.5 Layers (11, 12 and 13) seen in plan towards the southern end of the trench probably represent the more southerly limits of the fills of ditch 50. Fills 12 and 13 exhibited the same slag and charcoal-rich properties of fills 15 and 18 seen in section, while fill 11 contained a similar amount of sandstone fragments to fill 17. Pottery of 2nd century or later date was recovered from fill 11. The upper fill of the ditch was sealed beneath a layer of ploughsoil (52), itself overlain by the present topsoil (10).

Trench 2 (Fig.5)

- 5.1.6 Natural sandy clay (23) was identified at 38.82 m OD, 0.94 m below the ground surface. This was cut by a small linear feature, probably a gully (25) that was 0.35 m wide and 0.1 m deep and was not dated. This was oriented approximately NNE-SSW and extended throughout the full length of the trench. The gully was filled by a light brown sandy clay (24) that has been affected by root action.
- 5.1.7 The gully fill was overlain by two soil layers; a gravelly lower layer (22) of light-brown sandy clay loam that was 0.25m thick. This lay below a 'cleaner' layer (21) of reddish-brown loam including pieces of sandstone and occasional charcoal that was 0.2 m thick. Pottery probably dating to the early-mid 2nd century AD was recovered from layer 21. These layers are both interpreted as former ploughsoils, and were overlain by the modern topsoil (20).

Trench 3 (Fig.6)

- 5.1.8 Natural reddish brown clay (33) was located at 38.68 m OD. A small circular feature, probably a pit (37), 0.5 m in diameter was cut into this layer at north end of the trench. The pit contained no dating evidence. The pit fill was overlain by a similar soil layer sequence to Trenches 1 and 2, consisting of two layers of ploughsoil (32 and 31) that contained pottery of 2nd-century date, and then topsoil (30).

Trench 4 (Fig.7)

- 5.1.9 Natural reddish-brown clay (44) was overlain by a 0.06 m thick layer of fine limestone gravel (43). This layer, likely to be a metallised surface, was present in patches throughout the trench and had clearly been damaged by later plough action. The gravel surface was overlain by a thin layer of brown-grey sandy clay (42) with occasional charcoal and slag inclusions. This appears to be either a build-up of soil over the metallised surface, or the base of a later ploughsoil.
- 5.1.10 Above this was a 1 m thick layer of mixed clay (41) coloured brown and pink. This is best interpreted as made ground, either back-filling a modern cut feature, or

derived from the levelling of the ground immediately west of the site for the erection of the Rectory during the mid-20th century. The made ground was overlain by the modern topsoil (40).

5.2 Finds

5.2.1 *Pottery by Paul Booth*

5.2.2 The evaluation produced 64 sherds (1271 g) of Roman pottery, plus two medieval sherds (13 g) in a heavily sand-tempered poorly reduced fabric (these are not discussed further here). The Roman pottery was in relatively good condition; the average sherd weight (almost 20 g) being substantial and surfaces being reasonably well-preserved, though a few sherds were moderately abraded. The pottery was scanned quite briefly by context and recorded using the codes employed in the OAU system for recording Iron Age and Roman pottery. Fabrics were generally defined at a medium level of precision within the framework of the recording system (thus, for example, Severn Valley wares were recorded as a group with no attempt to subdivide them at this stage). Quantification was by sherd count and weight, with numbers of vessels indicated by rim count.

5.2.3 *Fabrics and forms:* The Roman fabrics present were:

- S20. South Gaulish samian ware. 2 sherds, 13 g.
- S30. ?Central Gaulish samian ware. 1 sherd, 10 g.
- F51. Oxfordshire colour-coated ware. 10 sherds, 330 g.
- F61. 'South-western brown slip ware'. 1 sherd, 3 g.
- O10. Fine, slightly sandy oxidised coarse wares. 1 sherd, 3 g.
- O30. Fine abundantly sandy oxidised wares, probably North Wiltshire. 1 sherd, 3 g.
- O40. Severn Valley wares, undifferentiated. 29 sherds, 621 g.
- O41. Organic-tempered Severn Valley ware. 2 sherds, 71 g.
- R10. Fine reduced wares, mostly micaceous. 7 sherds, 141 g.
- R30. Moderately fine sandy reduced wares. 7 sherds, 42 g.
- B11. Dorset black-burnished ware (BB1). 3 sherds, 21 g.

5.2.4 A significant proportion of the assemblage, as would be expected, is assigned to the Severn Valley ware industry (fabrics O40 and O41), though specific sources within that industry were not identified. The reduced fabric groups R10 and R30 may have included reduced Severn Valley wares, though heavily micaceous fabrics, included here in the R10 category, may have originated from a separate industry, the source of which is at present unknown (cf Timby 2000, 137). It is impossible to say if the tiny sherds of ware group O were also from this industry. Apart from this the main identifiable source of pottery was the black-burnished ware industry.

5.2.5 Twelve vessels were represented by rim sherds, eight in Severn Valley ware (O40). These consisted of two probable tankards, five jars (of which one was a large storage jar) and an uncertain jar or bowl type. Rim sherds in other fabrics were of a jar (fabric R30), a flagon (fabric O30), a small bowl or carinated bowl (fabric O10) and a beaker in fabric F51. This last vessel, which accounted for all the Oxford colour-

coated ware sherds from the site, was a good example of Young (1977) type C27 with rouletted band and white-painted scroll decoration, dated after AD270. The majority of the other vessels were not of closely dated types and could only be assigned a general date range of 2nd century or later. Fragments of two different vessels in context 21 (fabric R10 and R30), with rusticated decoration of early-mid 2nd century type, were amongst the few relatively closely dateable individual pieces.

Table of quantities and date of Roman pottery by context

<i>Context</i>	<i>No. Sherds</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Date of group</i>	<i>Comments</i>
11	3	10	2C or later	
18	21	688	After AD 270	Young type C27
19	4	21	?3C	
21	24	306	?early-mid 2C	1 medieval sherd ?intrusive
23	5	130	2C or later	
31	2	45	mid 2C or later	1 medieval sherd ?intrusive
32	5	71	2C or later	

5.2.6 *Context and chronology:* Much of the pottery derived from general layers, mainly interpreted as plough-soils (overall quantities of pottery by context are summarised in the table above). Context groups 18 and 19, however, were ditch fills. These were the only groups to contain colour-coated wares and suggest a date at least in the 3rd century for the infill of this feature. The Oxford type C27 vessel in the upper fill might indicate a 4th century date for this context, but in the absence of other diagnostic late Roman types a later 3rd century date may be more likely. There was no distinctively early Roman pottery either, and the majority of the assemblage falls within a 2nd-3rd century range. Low level activity both earlier and later is possible, however, because the group is too small for arguments based on negative evidence to be completely reliable.

5.2.7 *Building Materials by Leigh Allen*

5.2.8 A small assemblage of 6 fragments of building material weighing 237g was recovered. Three of the fragments (from contexts 11, 19 and 31) are very small and abraded with no complete measurable dimensions. The fabric types however are consistent with a Roman date. Two larger fragments of flat tile recovered from context 21, together with Roman pottery of early to mid second century date, are Roman but they exhibit no distinguishing features. They could be from any one of the many types of tile used in the Roman period for the construction of floors or tiled roofs. The final fragment from context 13 has a roughly circular peg hole at the upper end and is medieval or post-medieval in date.

5.2.9 *Animal Bone by Beth Charles*

5.2.10 A total of 25 (614g) pieces of animal bone was recovered from the evaluation trenches. From this number, 14 bone fragments were identified to species. To identify species, all fragments of bone were counted including elements from the vertebral centrum, ribs, long bone shafts as well as individual teeth. The bone preservation was good. A sheep radius and cattle metatarsal from context 19 had indications of gnaw marks, possibly dog. Cattle bones were the most numerous elements in the assemblage below. A small number of sheep and horse bones were also recovered. There were no clear indications of butchery marks on the elements recovered apart from a possible chop mark on a horse radius from context 12.

Table of elements recovered according to identification and context.

<i>Ctx</i>	<i>Horse</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Unidentified</i>	<i>Total</i>
11	0	1	0	0	1
12	1	0	0	0	1
18	0	0	0	1	1
19	0	3	1	4	8
21	0	2	0	2	4
23	0	2	0	0	2
31	0	1	0	0	1
32	0	2	0	1	3
42	1	0	0	3	4
Tot	2	11	1	11	25

5.2.11 **Other finds:** A single iron nail with a circular flat flanged head and a shank with a rectangular cross section was recovered from context 32. The tip of the shank is missing. A total of 58 pieces of iron slag was recovered from 5 contexts, with a total weight of 3175 g. Twenty-nine pieces were recovered from context 12 and 16 pieces from context 21. The pieces were large and indicate iron-smithing in the general area, though no focus for this activity was identified in any of the trenches. Slag from the large ditch indicates a Roman date for this activity.

5.3 Palaeo-environmental remains

A single soil sample was taken from context (18), a charcoal and slag rich fill of ditch [50]. This sample has not been processed but has been retained by OAU for future research purposes if required.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

6.1.1 The site has not previously been built on or experienced modern agricultural usage. It was an orchard until the 1950s, when it became the garden of the newly built Rectory adjacent.

6.1.2 Overall the site appears not to have suffered significant truncation though plough damage was evident, as was root action; the stratigraphic sequence is well preserved.

The only exception to this is Trench 4, where all the post-Roman stratigraphy has been removed and replaced by modern made ground.

6.2 Overall interpretation

- 6.2.1 The trenches were positioned to investigate the presence of a Roman road thought to pass in an east-west direction through the area. An intermittent metalled surface (43) was seen in Trench 4, and it can be assumed that this is the Roman road, which has been disturbed by ploughing.
- 6.2.2 The absence of any evidence for the road in the other three trenches can be attributed to its removal through ploughing. The lower ploughsoil in (22) in Trench 2 contained significant quantities of gravel, suggesting that this was the remains of the disturbed trackway surface.
- 6.2.3 The large ditch (50) seen in Trench 1 is clearly of Roman date. No stratigraphic link could be established between this ditch and the metalled surface. The ditch seems to run north-south with the road is aligned east-west. This would result in the two features crossing and so it is unlikely that they are of contemporary date.
- 6.2.4 To the north-east of the development site the Malvern Research Group identified the Roman road sealing two ditches. This hinted at early military activity after the conquest. The finds from the ditch (50) suggest a 3rd or 4th century date for its infilling, and without clear dating for the metalled surface, it remains unclear which is earlier, though it seems likely that the ditch post-dates the use of the trackway. The ditch could represent a very large field boundary or enclosure.
- 6.2.5 In 1994, an evaluation 300 m to the east, near the local sewage works, located 2nd and 3rd century ditches, which may indicate the site of a Roman enclosure/agricultural settlement. A number of pits there contained amounts of iron smelting slag, as was seen within the fills of ditch 50.
- 6.2.6 The small pit in Trench 3 and gully in Trench 2 were both undated and could represent farming activities from any period.
- 6.2.7 The evaluation has identified at least two major phases of Roman activity on this site; a period of activity represented by the road/track, evidence for which has been truncated across the site by later ploughing in the later Roman/post-Roman period. A second phase represented by the ditch suggests that there may have been a large enclosure on the site, possibly post-dating the road surface, though not necessarily so. Medieval sherds in the ploughsoils over the road surface and the upper fills of the ditch suggest that the site has been ploughed in the medieval period, and the evidence from the east of the site shows a considerable build-up of made-ground, possibly a headland at the edge of the field here.
- 6.2.8 The recovery of substantial quantities of iron slag from the trenches suggests that there is an industrial focus nearby, while the limited ceramic building material

evidence may suggest buildings in the vicinity, supported by the presence of animal bones from a number of contexts. Sandstone pieces within the large ditch may represent demolition rubble from nearby structures.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctx No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>No./ wt</i>	<i>Date</i>
1								
	10	Layer		0.15	Modern topsoil			
	11	Layer		0.65	Fill of ditch 50	Pottery, iron slag, animal bone		C2+
	12	Layer		1.60	Fill of ditch 50	Iron slag, animal bone		
	13	Layer		0.08	Fill of ditch 50			
	14	Layer			Natural brick-earth			
	15	Fill		0.40	Fill of ditch 50			
	16	Fill		0.15	Fill of ditch 50			
	17	Fill		0.60	Fill of ditch 50			
	18	Fill		0.20	Fill of ditch 50	Pottery, animal bone		AD270+
	19	Fill		0.30	Fill of ditch 50	Pottery, animal bone		?C3
	50	Cut	4.60+	1.80	Ditch			
	51	Layer		0.50	Lower ploughsoil			
	52	Layer		0.30	Upper ploughsoil			
2	20	Layer		0.20	Modern topsoil			
	21	Layer		0.20	Upper ploughsoil	Pottery, iron slag, animal bone		e-mC2?/ medieval
	22	Layer		0.25	Lower ploughsoil			
	23	Layer			Natural brick-earth	Pottery, iron slag, animal bone		C2+
	24	Cut	0.35	0.15	Gully			
	25	Fill	0.35	0.15	Fill of gully			

3	30	Layer		0.30	Modern topsoil			
	31	Layer		0.20	Upper ploughsoil	Pottery, iron slag, animal bone		MC2+/ Medieval
	32	Layer		0.40	Lower ploughsoil	Pottery, animal bone		C2+
	33	Layer			Natural brick-earth			
	34	Void						
	35	Void						
	36	Void						
	37	Cut	0.50	0.10	Pit			
	38	Fill	0.50	0.10	Fill of pit 37			
4	40	Layer		0.30	Modern topsoil			
	41	Layer		0.95	Made ground			
	42	Layer		0.08	?ploughsoil	Animal bone		
	43	Layer		0.06	Metalled surface			
	44	Layer			Natural brick-earth			

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

Gethyn-Jones, J E 1951 *Dymock Down the Ages*.

Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record

Margary, I D 1967 *Roman Roads in Britain*. John Baker. London

OAU 1992 *Fieldwork Manual* (first edition, ed D Wilkinson)

Timby, J R, 2000 Pottery, in E Price, *Frocester. A Romano-British settlement, its antecedents and successors, Volume 2 The finds*, Stonehouse, 125-162

Young, C J, 1977, *The Roman pottery industry of the Oxford region*, Brit Archaeol Rep (Brit Ser) **43**, Oxford

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Land Adjacent to the Rectory, Dymock, Gloucestershire

Site code: SOYDH 2001.54

Grid reference: SO 70009 31234

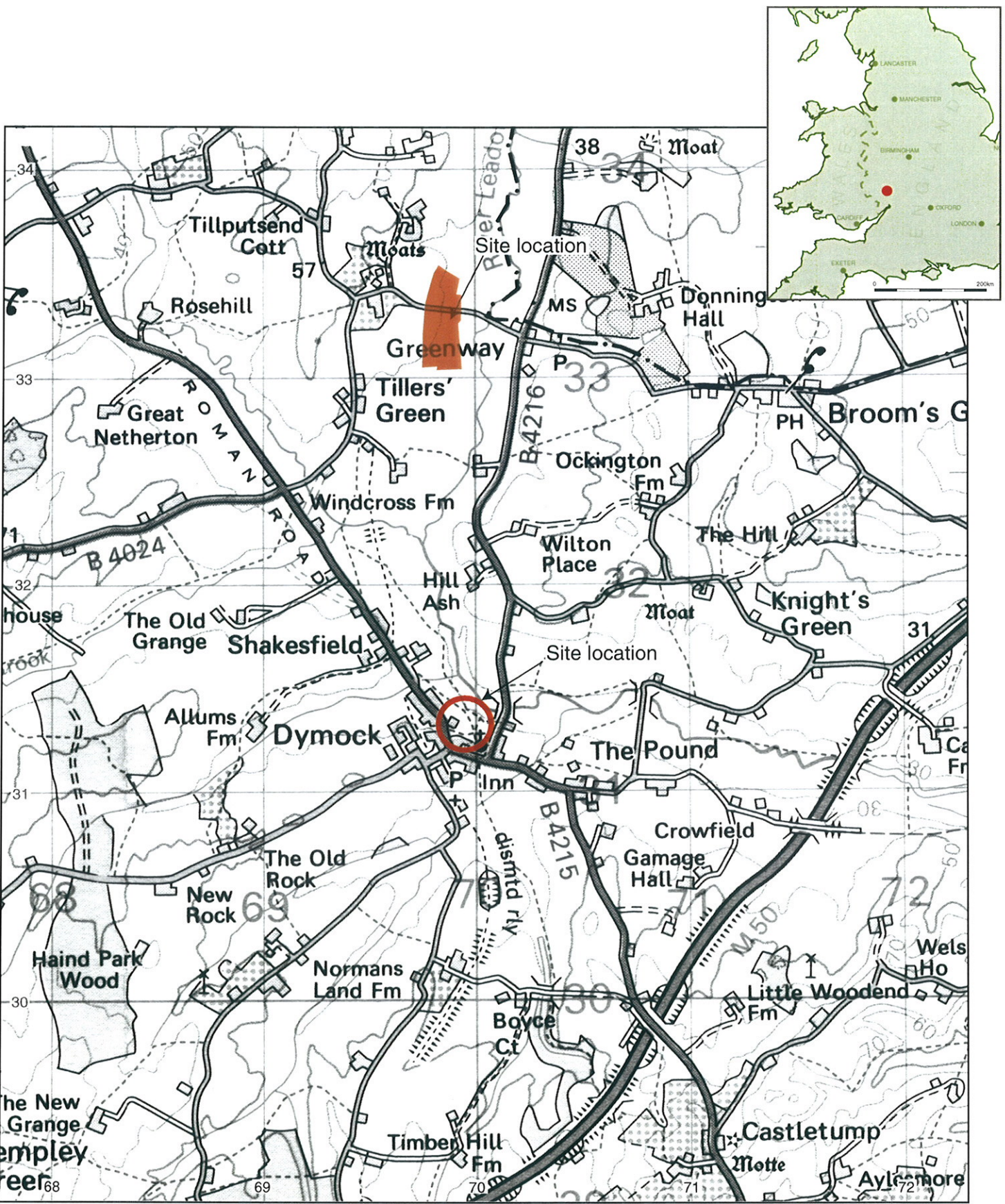
Type of evaluation: Four 10m trenches

Date and duration of project: 18/9/2001 to 26/9/2001

Area of site: 950 sq. m.

Summary of results: . The evaluation revealed a large north-south aligned ditch, possibly a boundary/enclosure ditch, dated to the late Roman period, and the remains of an east-west aligned Roman road or trackway surface. An undated gully and a pit were also identified in the course of the work. Two phases of Roman activity have been identified, though their temporal relationship is uncertain. Iron slag was recovered in sufficient quantities to suggest Roman industrial activity nearby.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OAU, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Dean Heritage Museum Trust in due course.

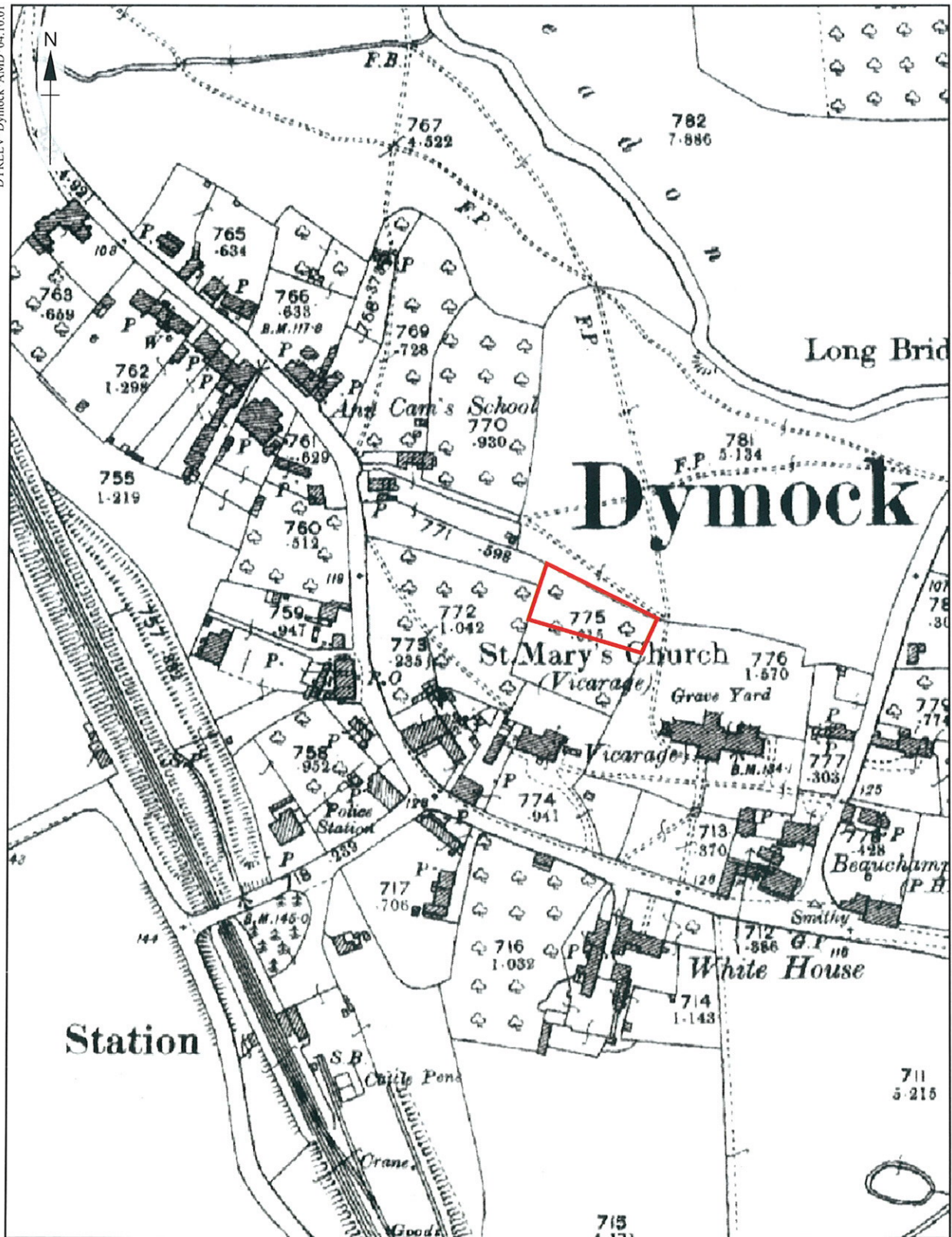


Reproduced from the Landranger 1:50,000 scale by permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 1989. All rights reserved. Licence No AL 100005569

Scale 1:25000

Figure 1: Site location

DYREEV*Dymock*AMD*04.10.01



Based on the 1900 Ordnance Survey County Series by permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 1989. All rights reserved. Licence No AL 100005569

Scale 1:1250


 Study Area

Figure 2: Study Area

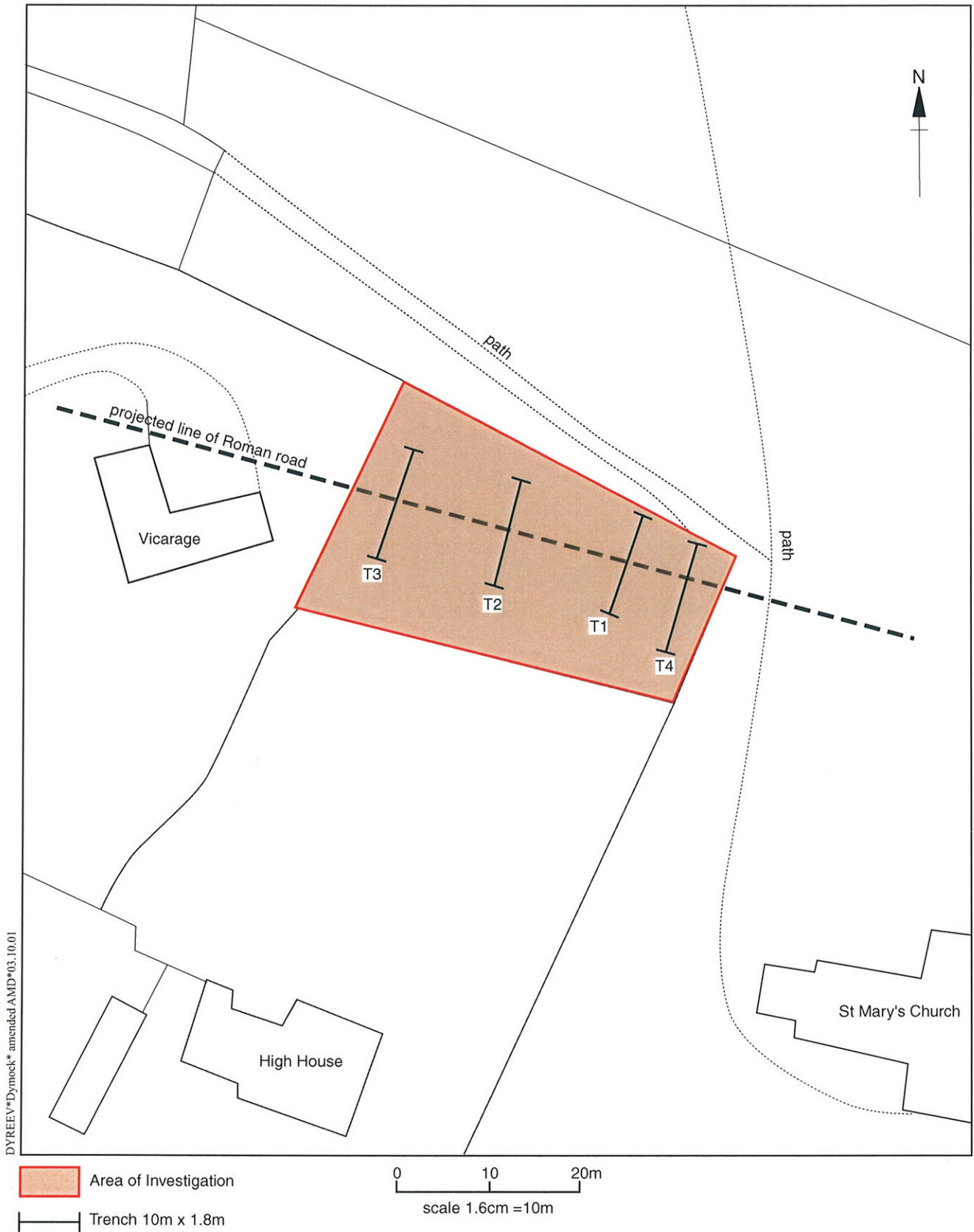


Fig 3: Location of Archaeological Trial Trenches

Figure 4 a: Trench 1: Plan

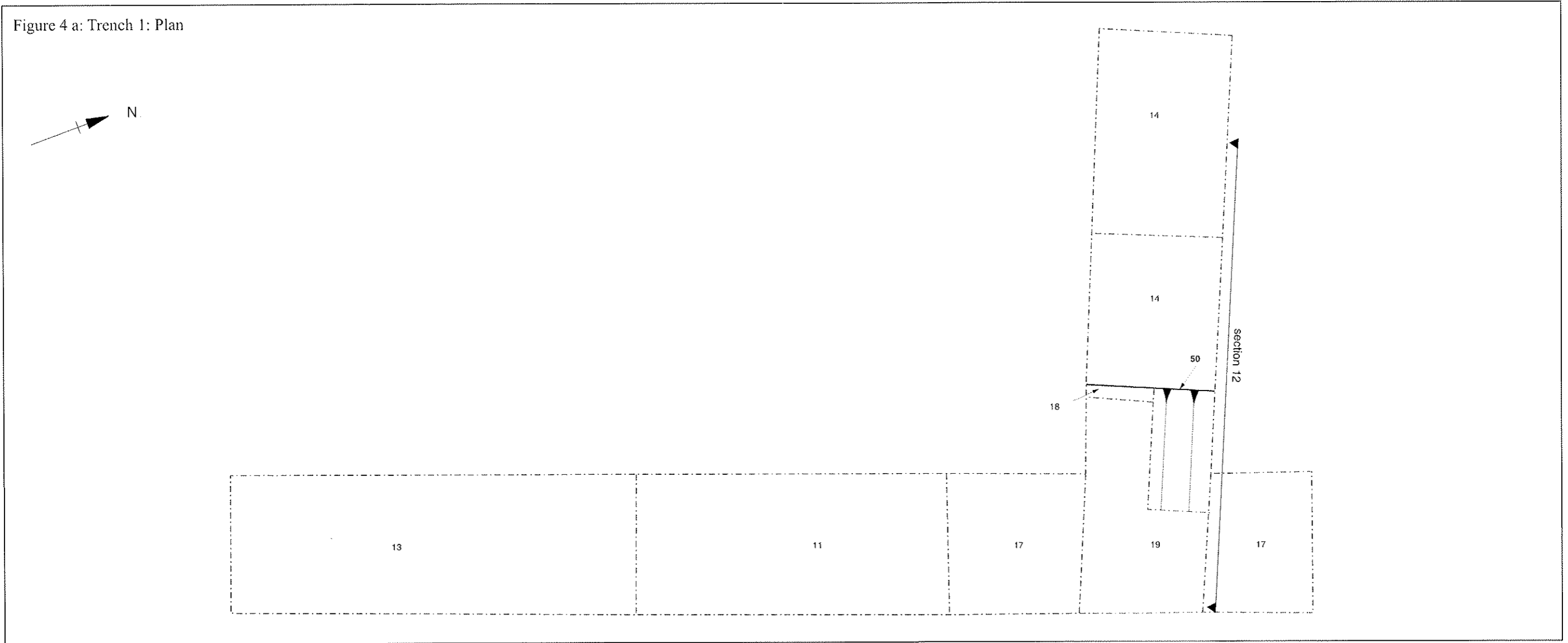


Figure 4 b : Trench 1: Section 12

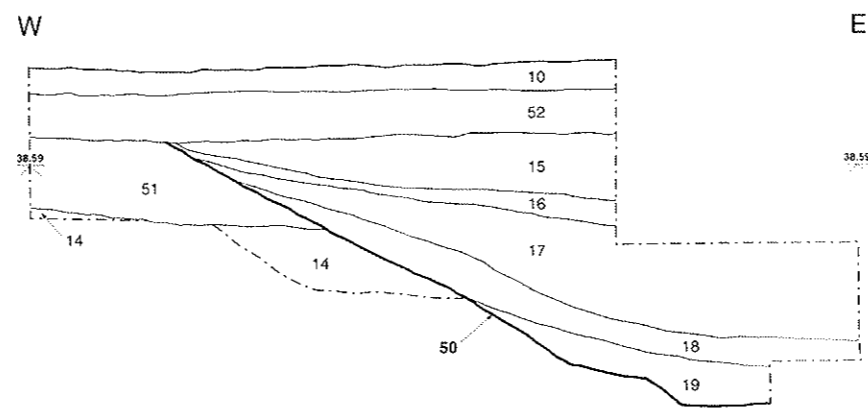
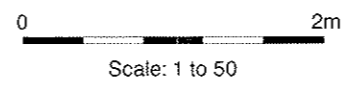


Figure 4 : Trench 1: Plan and Section

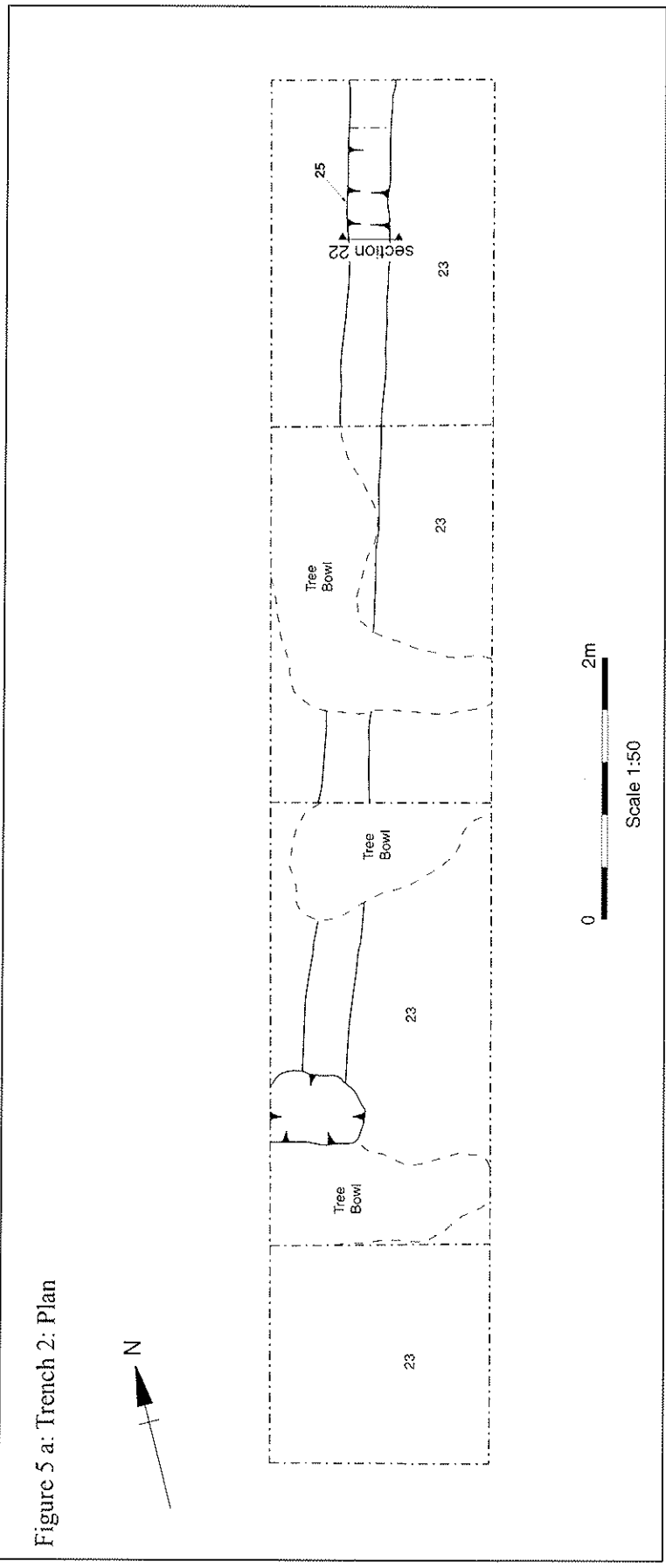


Figure 5 b: Trench 2: Section 22

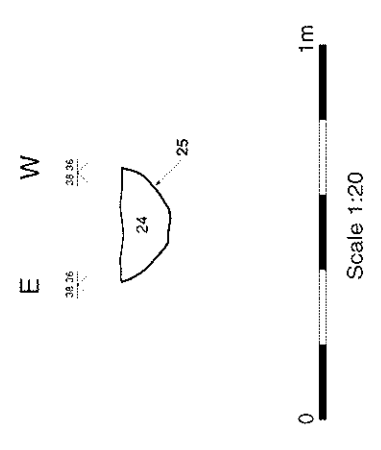
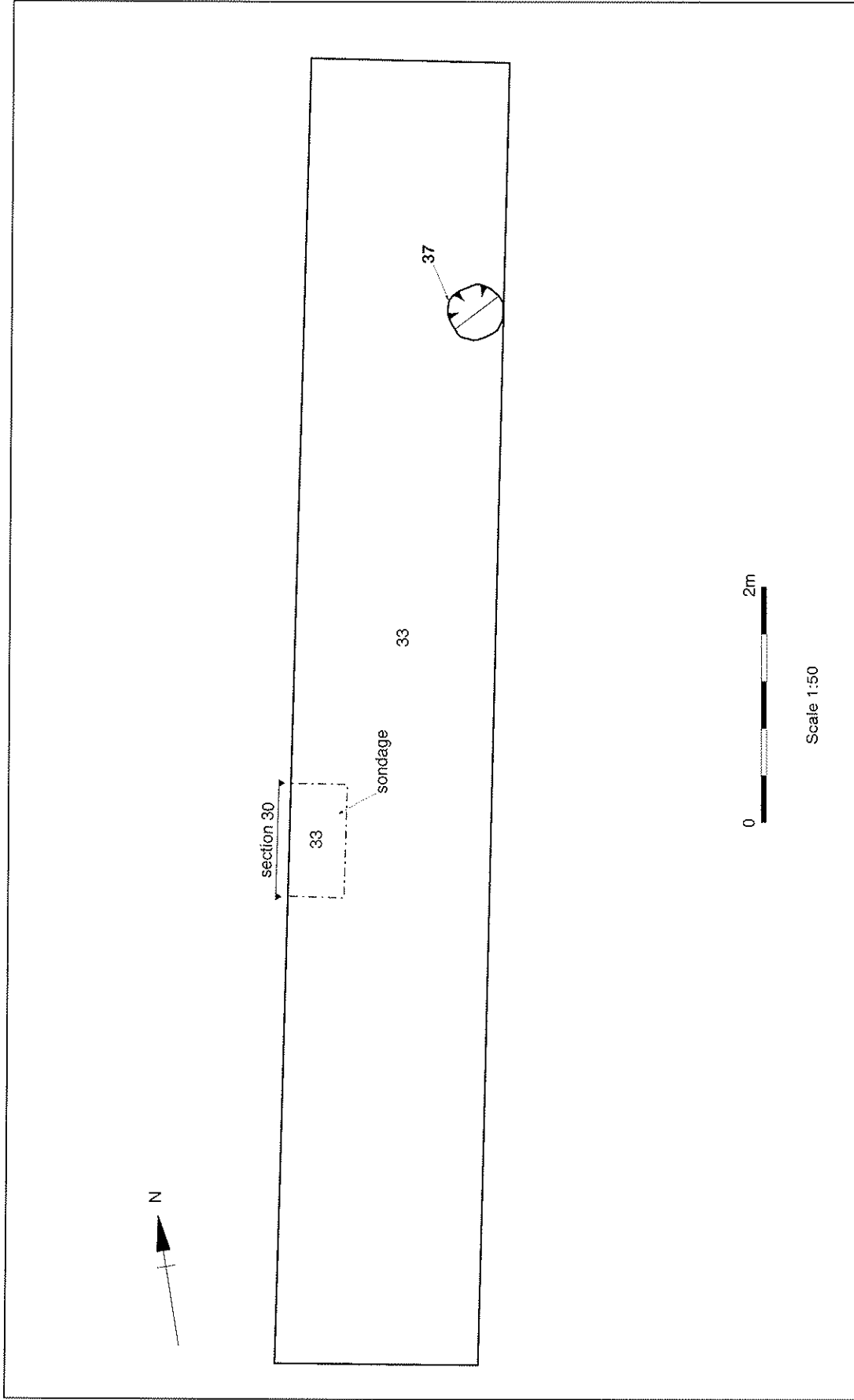


Figure 5: Trench 2: Plan and Section



DYREEV'Dynock AMD*03.10.01

Figure 6: Trench 3: Plan

Figure 7a : Trench 4: Plan

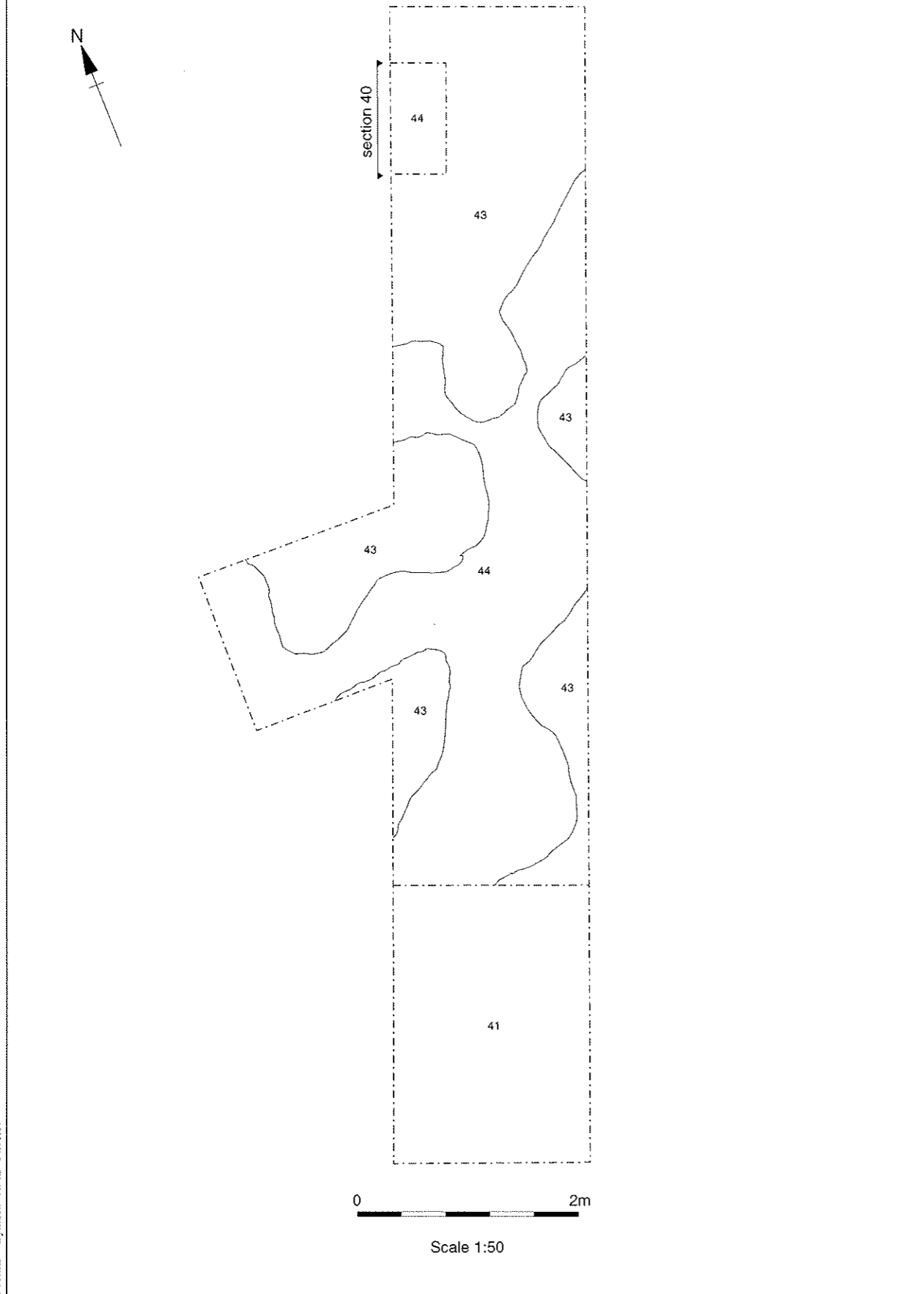


Figure 7b : Trench 4: Section 40

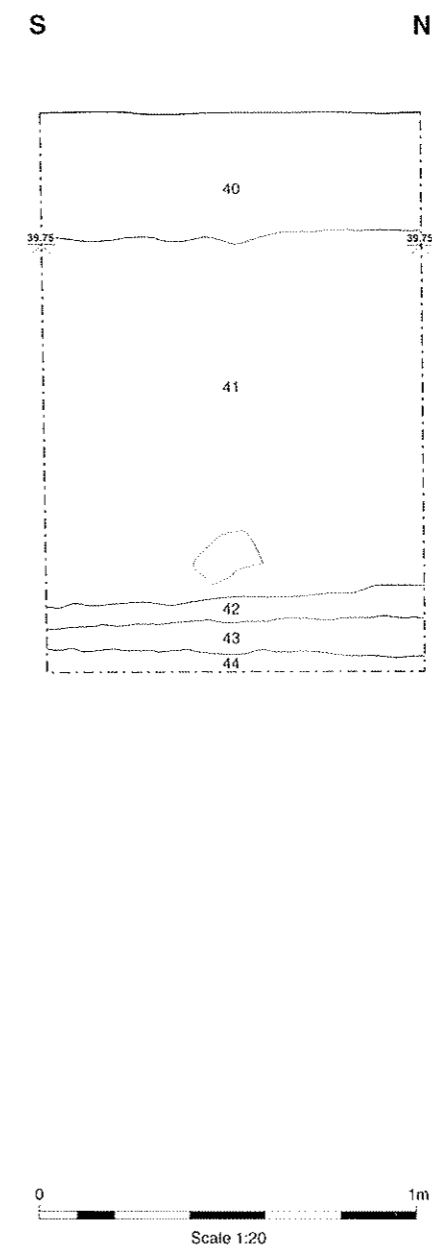


Figure 7 : Trench 4: Plan and Section



OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Tel: 01865 263800 Fax: 01865 793496

email: postmaster@oau-oxford.com www.oau-oxford.com



Director and Chief Executive: David Jennings B.A., M.I.F.A. Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited.
Private Limited Company Number: 1618597 Registered Charity Number: 285627.
Registered Office: Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES