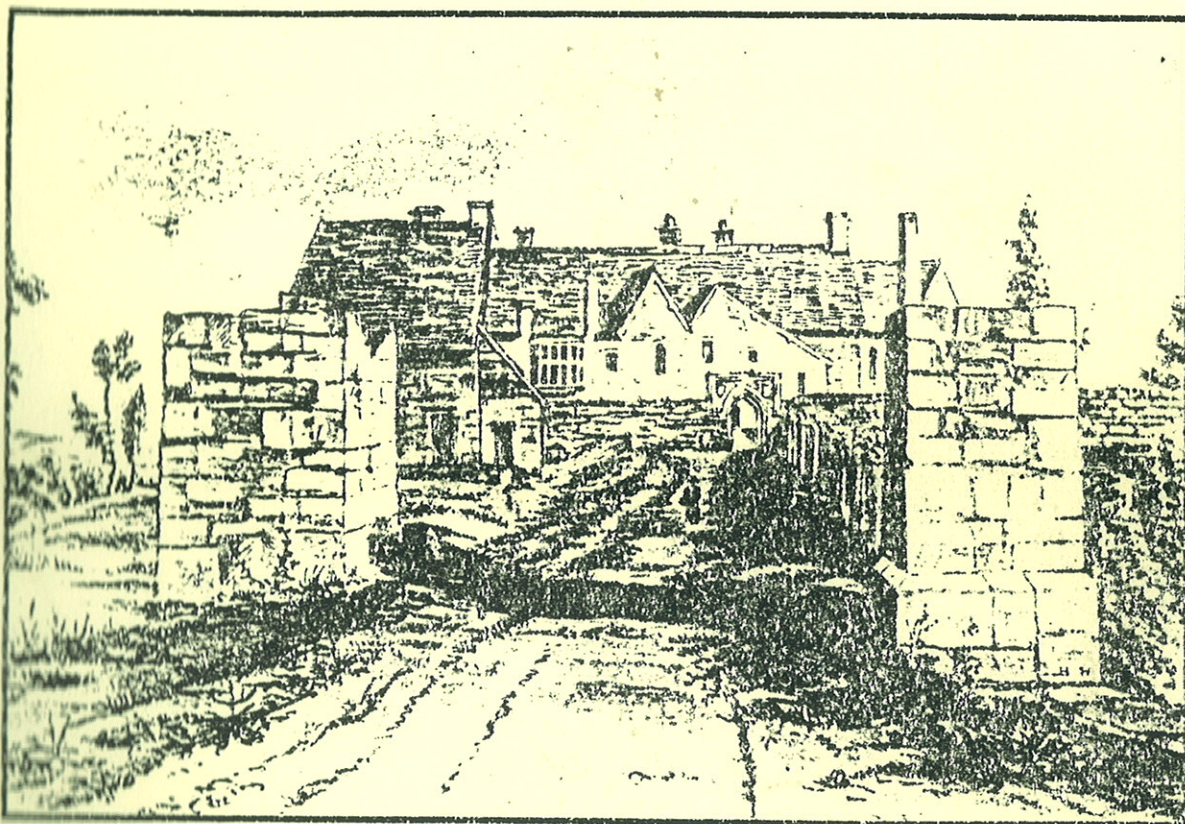


OXFORD STATION (REWLEY ABBEY)

Archaeological Field Evaluation

March - April 1994



OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT



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NGR SP 5055 0645

Oxford Archaeological Unit

Oxford 1/7/94

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Summary

A total of 23 trenches were excavated at Oxford Station, including trenches within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Rewley Abbey, a Cistercian Abbey and studium (institution for monks studying at the university) founded in 1280. Other trenches were north of the known moated Abbey complex, north of Rewley Abbey Stream and west of the Abbey, including the area of the current BR car park.

The evaluation showed pre-Abbey activity in the area, particularly west of the Abbey complex, where an Abbey-phase structure, probably agricultural, was also found. The depth of the surrounding moat, still open in the 19th century, prevented good evaluation of the medieval fills, but revetting walls exist on both sides of the moat in some areas. The main entrance road to the Abbey probably lies below Rewley Road. Within the Abbey moat the church was shown to have extended further westwards than had previously been thought. Well-preserved remains of the west end of the north range were found, including an earlier wall, either pre-Abbey or first phase of the Abbey. Substantial parts of the north precinct wall, and the reredorter across the north moat, still survive.

North of the north moat a ditch with a waterlogged fill of high environmental potential seems to indicate the presence of a previously unknown medieval site. A second ditch could form part of this site, or belong to the Civil War sconce (defensive outwork) known to have existed here. Trenches in the BR car park produced significant archaeology only in the south-east corner. The only deposits of significance north of Rewley Abbey stream were of potential palaeoenvironmental interest. The pottery assemblage recovered is of interest both because it comes from this unusual type of monastic site, and because it may help to refine the dating of some types.

The whole site is covered by a depth of at least 1 m, and usually more than 1.2 m, of post-1850 deposits which are of very low importance archaeologically. Depths of significant archaeology are summarised on Figure 1. The archaeological implications for the current development proposals are summarised in Section 8.2.

1 Introduction

The Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out an archaeological field evaluation at Oxford Station, Oxford, on behalf of Stanhope Properties PLC. The area covered by the site includes Rewley Abbey, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Oxfordshire No. 80). The need for an evaluation arose from proposals to develop the land, and a brief was set by the Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service (Oxford City Council) covering both the scheduled and unscheduled areas. This brief, together with a specification designed to fulfil its terms, formed the basis of an application for Scheduled Monument Consent to carry out the evaluation. The application was granted on the 29th April 1992, Reference HSD 9/2/640 Pt 7.

2 Topography and geology

The Oxford Station site lies at NGR SP 5055 0645 (centred) and forms a triangle bounded to the north-east and east by Castle Mill Stream, the Rewley Road site (currently under development) and by Rewley Road itself. To the west the boundary consists of the current British Rail station building and tracks, while the limit to the south is Botley Road. The area thus enclosed is approximately 6 ha, with the northern tip of the triangle being divided by Rewley Abbey Stream, which runs from west to east.

The area north of Rewley Abbey Stream, and the eastern half of the area south of the stream, are made up of waste ground with a few surviving structures from the former railway and coal yards. These include the former railway station (a Grade II Listed Building; now Tyreservices) and the swingbridge over Rewley Abbey Stream, which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The western half of the southern area is laid out as a car park for the existing British Rail station.

Current ground levels on the site are generally between 57 and 58.5 m OD.

The site lies on the Thames gravels, which are overlain in most areas by varying depths of alluvial silt.

3 Historical and archaeological background

Rewley Abbey was founded in 1280 as a Cistercian place of study, and the Cistercian order insisted that the foundation be a proper abbey. Documentation for Rewley in the medieval period is scattered and obscure, though one key text shows the crown granting the buildings of the *studium* to the Abbey in 1381 after the *studium* had failed. This has led Julian Munby to suggest that the Abbey and *studium* could have existed as separate sets of buildings (Munby 1984). In this scenario, the group of buildings currently known to have existed, to the north of the church, could be interpreted as the *studium*, while the Abbey buildings are envisaged to lie south of the church, which is the most common Cistercian layout. Evaluation work on the Rewley Road site in 1993 (OAU 1993) did not find any conclusive evidence for this idea, which should be regarded as not proven. Evaluation work in 1967 on Rewley Road, south of the present site and north of the Fire Station, did not achieve sufficient depth to be conclusive one way or another¹. The Cistercians remained at Rewley until the dissolution in 1536.

As regards the plan and form of the buildings known definitely to have existed, the church is the least well-documented, and does not appear on any views or maps. A description by the antiquarian Thomas Hearne in 1706 correctly identifies the site of the church as follows:

¹ Mr T. Hassall, pers. comm.

That part of the Abbey of Rewley now standing which seems to have been part of the chapell to some did not at all belong to the Chapell as appears from the whole Circumference of the Chapell lately discovered when the Foundation of the Walls were dug up. It was in the Garden on the East side as you enter into the house, & did not come to the said part now standing by a great many Yards. (Hearne 1706)

The actual form of the church, as defined by field evaluations in 1986 (OAU 1986) and 1994, is shown on Figure 2, and this is discussed further in Section 5.2.

The north and west ranges are better documented in that they appear on a number of historic maps and views (Figures 13-15, 17-19) and parts of the buildings survived until 1850, after which they were taken down when the area was raised for railway yards. Elements of these ranges which have been revealed by field evaluation, including the work currently under discussion, are shown on Fig.2. Views of the north range, taken from the north (see for example Loggan, Fig.14) also show a north extension which is built over the north moat; this has generally been interpreted as a reredorter, or latrine. It is probably the fact that the north and west ranges were originally buildings used to accommodate the monks, that led to their survival, in that they were easily adapted for secular use.

The system of moats surrounding the Abbey complex can clearly be seen on Loggan's 1675 map (Fig.14) and still existed in 1850 (Fig.15). A single building, probably a barn, with an enclosure to its south, is shown just west of the moated area on the 1578 map by Agas.

North of the Abbey complex, to the best of our knowledge, the area was open ground until the coming of the railway, with the single exception of the Civil War period, when a small outlying defensive work, or sconce, was built. This feature is shown on a map of Oxford's defences as they existed in 1644, together with a possible bridge over Castle Mill Stream leading to the sconce (Fig.16). The same map also suggests that the former west moat of the Abbey was part of the defensive circuit.

Figure 15 shows the site just prior to the railway construction, with the line of the tracks and the position of the proposed station marked. Much of the area was clearly occupied by gardens at this time. Once the rail tracks had been laid, activity connected with the railway seems to have spread rapidly eastwards as far as Castle Mill Stream, and involved the raising of the ground level by 1 - 1.5 m using fill material presumably brought in by train. It was at this point that the moats were filled in, leaving only Castle Mill Stream and Wareham Stream open. Some later buildings, probably agricultural, which lay just west of the west moat (Fig.15) were also taken down at this time.

The evidence from previous archaeological evaluations is summarised on Figure 2, and is also discussed where relevant within Section 5.

4 Methodology

A total of 23 trenches were excavated, of varying lengths, and 1.6 - 2 m wide, as defined in the specification. This total includes three optional trenches, Nos 25, 27, 28 which were requested during the field evaluation by English Heritage. The positions of the trenches are shown on Figure 1; it should be noted that the trench numbering, for reasons relating to the final archiving of the site records, differs from that used in the original brief and specification. Trenches were numbered from 1 to 28, with numbers 7-10 being reserved for any future evaluation on the landsouth of the Botley Road and west of Becket Street. Blocks of 100 context numbers were issued for each trench in the following manner:

Trench 1: *100-199*
Trench 2: *200-299*

...and so on. Note that context numbers are shown in italics throughout, in order to differentiate them from dates. There is no trench 15, and the numbers from *1500-1599* were used in Trench 19 which contained more than 100 contexts.

Excavation methods were as set out in the brief and specification, although it was sometimes necessary for safety reasons to step the sides of trenches using the mechanical excavator.

The pottery and small finds were assessed/spot-dated by OAU specialists, with the exception of the decorated floor tiles which had not been studied at the time of writing this report. Dr Mark Robinson of the University Museum, Oxford, visited the site to advise on the potential of environmental deposits, and environmental samples were processed by Gill Campbell of the same organisation.

When the evaluation was complete, sensitive features such as the Abbey walls were wrapped in a layer of permeous membrane and covered in sand before backfilling.

5 Description and discussion of the archaeology

5.1 Introduction

Rather than providing a trench-by-trench description, this important part of the report has been organised into a number of areas within which the evidence can be logically discussed. These areas are defined either archaeologically (e.g. the church area) or geographically, such as the area north of Rewley Abbey Stream.

Detailed information for each context is contained in Appendix 1.

5.2 The church (Figs 2, 3)

5.2.1 Pre-church contexts (Fig.3)

A very clean sandy silt, 1860, is likely to be a naturally occurring layer overlying Thames Gravel, although the latter was not reached in this area. Silt 1860 was covered by a clay-loam, 1858, and similar deposits, 1861, 1870, were found elsewhere in Trench 18. The pottery from these layers included some earlier (i.e. definitely pre-Abbey) sherds and all of the material could fit within a late 13th-century or earlier timescale.

A possible explanation for these layers is that they represent the ground level prior to the construction of the church. The mixed clay-loam may indicate meadow, or perhaps even a cultivated area. The latter would allow for pottery becoming incorporated into the layer through manuring with midden material from the town, but some pottery could also have been deposited during the early phases of the Abbey's construction. In the case of 1870, which was outside the church and not sealed by a definite construction layer (5.2.6), the deposit could have remained open for some time.

5.2.2 Construction of the church (Fig.3)

The stone foundations of the abbey church must have been trench-built (see Fig.3), cutting into the clay-loams described above. Against the church wall 1851 was a thin layer of mortar, 1853, which should relate to construction activity (i.e. a trample layer) and thus shows the height from which the construction trench was cut.

5.2.3 Structure and plan of the church (Figs 2,3)

Parts of three separate elements of the church structure were found during the 1994 evaluation: a length of the south church wall, 1851 (1.5 m wide); an external buttress, 1852 (1.4 m wide); and a possible pier base, 2538, north of the south wall. All of these had been robbed at various times after the dissolution so that only foundations now survive, although the robber trenches can be traced in plan (Fig.2) to show some wall alignments. The best surviving piece of stone foundation stood 0.5 - 0.6 m high, was constructed of large, roughly-shaped limestone pieces, and was bonded with a yellow, sandy mortar. The probable robbed pier base was a roughly circular pit with much large limestone in the bottom.

As noted in Section 3, the church was clearly demolished shortly after the dissolution, and apart from Hearne's brief note, there are no historical records of the structure. Previous evaluation in 1986 revealed part of the plan of the church, and three graves within the building. Further work on the Rewley Road site in 1993 did not locate the exact position of the east end, and, working from the intervals between the pier bases of the nave arcades, two possible east end positions were proposed (Fig.2). Observations of piling work on the Rewley Road site have since indicated that the

westernmost of these positions is the more likely, although this evidence should not be taken as conclusive.

From the 1994 trenches it is now clear that the church extends further to the west than had been anticipated, and as a result of this the west end was not found, despite the excavation of an optional trench, 25. Based on our current knowledge, the building is at least 40 m long and has narrow aisles divided from the nave by lines of piers, presumably supporting an arcade. These piers could be as much as 10 or as little as 3.5 m apart depending on the type of plan envisaged (see Fig.2). In general, the picture is slightly confused in that on the present excavated evidence, the wider spacing looks more likely, while architecturally speaking a smaller span for the nave arcades would seem more probable.

As noted above, the exact position of the west end remains unknown, but it can now be shown that the church crossed the line of the main entrance thoroughfare, from Hythe Bridge St (see 5.5.2). A small building, perhaps a remnant of the church, is shown in this position on Agas' map of 1578 (Fig.13), with a doorway in the wall just to the east of it - perhaps originally a door into the church from the cloister. If this mapping is reasonably accurate, then the building has been remodelled (i.e. its east end shortened) by 1675, when it was mapped by Loggan (Fig.14) but the door remains in the same position, becoming a gate into the courtyard of the 18th-century house. This is the situation depicted in 1720 by Burgers (Fig.17) when the same building was in use as a brewhouse (top righthand picture).

Figure 2 shows the archaeological evidence for this argument, with the north wall of the church aligning with the brewhouse building found in 1986. Altogether, there are now reasonable grounds for supposing either that the brewhouse was originally a small west chapel² or that it was the west end of the church itself.

5.2.4 The church interior (Figs 2,3)

Little is still known of the character of the church interior, although a few details can now be noted. A small section of deposits inside the church was revealed in Trench 18 (Fig.3) and some were also seen in plan in Trench 25. Figure 3 shows how make-up layers 1865, 1864 and 1863 were laid down, presumably to provide a levelled area for the hard gravel surface, 1823, 1848, which was also exposed (2520) in Trench 25. This gravel surface presumably formed a floor within the church but it cannot be dated due to the lack of finds. It is of note that such an apparently crude type of floor surface existed within this part of the church; it would not provide a suitable bedding layer for tiles, although enough fragments of decorated, glazed floor tiles were recovered to suggest that at least some parts of the church were floored in better style.

² Mr J. Mumby has recently made this suggestion.

The 1994 trenches produced a single grave (from Trench 25) which was not excavated further once it had been confirmed as an inhumation. The east-west grave lies in the south aisle of the church, as did one of the graves found during the 1986 evaluation.

5.2.5 Deposits outside the church (Fig.3)

No finds were recovered from a series of silty layers 1869, 1868, 1867 which had accumulated against the exterior of the south wall of the church (Fig.3).

A sequence of dump layers 1828, 1829 etc (Fig.3) was investigated slightly further south of the church and contained pottery dating from the late 11th century to possibly as late as the 15th century. However, the date ranges of the wares found means that all of these deposits could be no later than the late 13th century and, given the level of the top of these dumps it is logical to see them as a pre-Abbey event. The overlying gravel, 1827, and limestone layer, 1818, could then be interpreted as a general ordering of this area contemporary with the construction of the church. On-site examination of the dump layers showed them to be rich in animal bone and charcoal. No other environmental material was recovered from the single sample which was wet-sieved, from context 1831 (Section 7).

5.2.6 Later deposits (Fig.3)

Deposits which clearly post-date the destruction of the church include the robber trenches 1811, 1824 (Fig.3) and demolition layers such as 1804 and 1820. A sherd of pottery dating to the mid-16th to 17th centuries was recovered from 1804.

Two phases of robbing clearly occurred, with the robber cut 1811, which removed part of the buttress 1852, being later than the robber cut 1824 which follows wall 1851. The pottery from the earlier cut indicates 16th-century robbing (i.e. shortly after the dissolution) and this is consistent with the fact that the church is not shown on Agas' map of 1578 (Figure 13). The later robbing, however, is certainly as late as the 17th and possible even the 18th century (again using the pottery recovered) and this implies that something still showed above ground to encourage further stone-robbing in the first place. A plausible explanation is that the conglomeration of masonry at the junction of the church wall and buttress still stood partly above ground, and could have been incorporated into the garden or field walls depicted on the Agas map³. The later robbing could be that referred to by Thomas Hearne in 1706 (see Section 3).

Above the robbing and demolition deposits were a number of loam layers, 1802, 1806 (Fig.3) etc showing the ground level in the 19th century when this part of the site consisted of gardens (Figure 15) prior to the raising of the whole area after 1850 for the construction of railway yards. This latter operation is represented by deep

³ I am indebted to Mr A. Parkinson for this idea.

dumps of clay, such as 1805, and other dumped layers. The total depth of the loam and dump layers varies from 1 to 1.2 m, although this would be greater if some material had not been scraped off the ground surface to form bunds around the site. Depth information is summarised for the whole site on Figure 1.

5.3 The north range, north and west precinct walls (with reredorter), and associated moat sections (Trenches 16, 17, east end of 19) (Figs 2,4,5,6,7,8)

5.3.1 'Early' west wall, west precinct wall and associated section of west moat

The earliest structure in this area of the site, revealed in Trench 17, was a NW-SE wall (i.e. parallel to the west moat), 1703, measuring 1.1 m across (Figs 6, 7). The wall, of which clearly only the foundation survives, was roughly built of small limestone pieces. The lowest layer seen was a silty clay, 1742, which probably butts wall 1703 as there is no sign of a foundation cut. The interpretation of layer 1742, which is patently a water-deposited layer, depends partly on the function of wall 1703, but one possibility is that the wall revets the east side of an early phase of the moat, with 1742 being a moat fill. Unfortunately, no dating material was recovered from this phase of the sequence, with the exception of one sherd of late 12th- to 13th-century pottery from 1741, a layer butting the wall on its east side. It is therefore difficult to conclude whether wall 1703 is a pre-Abbey feature, or represents an earlier phase of the Abbey, particularly as the later west wall (1702; see 5.3.2) could date to the mid 14th century or later.

Some 7 m to the west, the foundation trench 1757 for another NW-SE wall, 1755, was cut into the silt layer 1742. This wall was 0.7 m wide, and far more neatly constructed than 1703 (Figs 6, 7). The pottery from its foundation trench fill, 1756, shows that it cannot have been built earlier than the late 13th century. The same dating applies to two layers of demolition rubble (presumably from the destruction of the earlier wall 1703) which butted wall 1755 on its east side, and appears to have been utilised to raise and level the area. The position of this wall (Fig.2) shows that it must have been the west precinct wall of the Abbey complex which is clearly depicted on Loggan's map (Fig.14) and still stood in 1851 (Fig.18B). This wall would also have acted as a retaining wall on the east side of the moat and the evaluation has shown that such a feature originally existed on the moat's west side.

The west side of the moat was investigated in the east end of Trench 19 (Fig.8). The retaining wall, 1957, was cut into two layers of mixed gravelly clay and silty clay, 1937 over 1954. Both layers contained early medieval pottery (no earlier than the mid-13th century from 1954, and no earlier than the late 13th century from 1937) and the mix of gravel and clay suggests that they were derived from digging or cleaning out the moat. The retaining wall is likely to have originally been associated with a rough surface made with irregular, flat pieces of limestone and a stone-built drain 1919 which ran NE-SW, presumably originally emptying into the moat. Both of these features suggest a structure against the moat wall, but no other obvious elements of

such a structure were found. Following the demise of the moat wall, silt layers began to build up over it, 1931, 1930, 1936=1929, 1928. These produced some pottery which suggests a date no earlier than the late 13th century, as well as a considerable quantity of earlier residual material. Taken at face value, the pottery could be interpreted as showing that the retaining wall went quickly out of use and was hardly present during the monastic phase of the site, but we must take into account the probability that these silt layers represent overbank floods, and the pottery could therefore be washed in from anywhere upstream. This west retaining wall was of similar construction, and the same width as, the wall on the east side of the moat. On balance, they are most likely to have been constructed at about the same time, probably when the monastery was founded. The width between the two retaining walls gives a moat 11 m wide.

Taken altogether, the possible early wall 1703, and the pre late 13th-century pottery which occurs in a number of contexts, notably 1954, are tantalising evidence for a possible pre-Abbey phase of activity at the site. This is discussed further in Section 5.4 (below).

The overbank silts described were superceded by a stony surface, 1909 which continued the full length of Trench 19, i.e 30 m westwards from the west edge of the moat. The pottery gives a date for this layer of 1550 or later, and it would be tempting to ascribe this layer to the Civil War period (mid-17th century) when the west moat formed part of Oxford's defensive circuit (see Section 3). However, the stony layer could also be considerably later in that it does directly underlie the loam, 1907, 1908 which represent the 19th-century land surface. In either case, the stone could well have been derived from the destruction of the 'barn' (see 5.4).

5.3.2 West and north walls of the north range

The foundations of the west wall, 1702, of the north range, were cut into a rubble layer, 1739, which was clearly derived from the demolition of the earlier wall 1703 (see 5.3.1). On the east side of the wall the foundation trench, 1750, cut through a layer of sandy clay, 1733, which was possibly naturally deposited. Wall 1702 was 1.2 m wide, and well-constructed from roughly squared limestone blocks over an off-set foundation of smaller unshaped stone. At a height of 0.18 m (i.e. one course) from the foundation was an 0.6 m-deep recess, flanked by the lowest element of an elaborate stone jamb. This stone, seen in plan, forms a narrow triangle with a decorated trefoil at the apex (Fig.6). An 1850 drawing of the same wall (Fig.18A) shows clearly how several of these jambs defined three wide recesses along the wall. In the 19th-century depiction these recesses contain doors and windows.

To the east of wall 1702, within the interior of the north range, was the remnant of a decorated tile floor, 1720, bedded onto mortar 1721. The level of 1721 matches the base of the recess described above, and this was clearly the original floor level at this time. The triangular jamb has been tentatively dated, on stylistic grounds, to the mid-14th century, suggesting that this structure does not belong to the first phase of the Abbey. It is also, of course, possible that the carved stones forming the jambs

were originally sited elsewhere, and were re-used. Detailed analysis of the decorated tiles may help here, and we can also note that an accumulated deposit on the floor, 1724, which post-dates the robbing of many of the tiles, contained a Nuremberg token (13th-15th century) and a finger of twisted wire, probably also 14th century. A single sherd of pottery dates from the late 13th to 15th centuries. Given that the tiles had been partially robbed, this is most likely to represent residual material which accumulated here in the post-Abbey phase, although it could indicate that the Abbey's fortunes were on the wane in the 14th or early 15th century.

Successive mortar floor levels, 1736, 1734, and an intervening make-up layer, 1735, overlay the earlier tile floor and continued into the recess, so that in its final phase it was filled to a depth of 0.4 m (Fig.7). The last mortar floor level, 1734, almost certainly provided the bedding for the brick floor which is shown in the 1850 drawing (Fig.18A). No dating material was recovered from any of the above deposits.

The sequence of floor deposits could be traced along the L-shaped trench to a robber trench for a NE-SW wall. The neat trench, which probably reflects the true shape of the wall, was 1.2 m wide, the same width as wall 1702. This wall is the north wall of the north range which also, at this point, forms the north precinct wall of the Abbey. It can be seen on Figs 17, 18B and 19A. A layer of rubble 1716, tipping towards the north moat, contained 19th-century finds and must represent the razing of the north range for the construction of railway yards.

5.3.3 The reredorter (Figs 4,5)

The approximate position of an assumed reredorter extending over the north moat from the north precinct wall was known from both historic maps (Figs 13, 14) and views of the Abbey. Some of the views (e.g. Figs 18B, 19B, and particularly 20) show that the position of the springers for the reredorter's supporting arch were situated just east of a kink in the north precinct wall, and a doorway through the same wall. The trench for this area, Trench 16, was accordingly shaped like a crucifix (Fig.4), being designed to pick up the kink in the north wall, and then extend northwards across the moat to investigate the reredorter itself. As Figure 4 shows, this strategy was entirely successful.

Beginning at the south end of the trench, the north wall of the Abbey precinct, 1612, varied in width from 1 - 1.3 m. It was not investigated to foundation level, but the height of the wall remains as seen varied considerably due to the differential robbing. Within the east arm of the trench, for instance, only a robber trench marked the wall's original position. Features visible as part of the wall were a doorway, 1620, with a void where the sill had been, and a short raised section of NW-SE masonry, 1623. The latter feature could mark the beginning of an internal wall in the north range, or be part of a buttress behind one of the reredorter's supporting arches. The remains of an arch in this position, i.e. immediately adjacent to the door, are clearly shown on Figure 20. South of the wall was a patch of mortar floor bedding with tile

impressions, 1617, and a single stone, 1615, indicating an internal partition aligned with the kink in the precinct wall.

North of the precinct wall the deposits dipped away steeply into the north moat. The lowest deposit seen in the bottom of the moat was a gravel, 1665 (this is unlikely to be natural gravel) with its top surface at 2.5 m below ground level, i.e. at 55.62 m OD. This gravel, which contained no finds, butted a length of roughly-built NE-SW masonry (1666) which was 0.9 m wide. A second layer of gravel, 1659, overlay the masonry and contained mainly 17th-18th century pottery, with some earlier material.

A much larger and better-constructed length of masonry, 1632, stood 1 m north of, and parallel to, 1666. It was 1 m wide, and faced on its south side with very large blocks of a harder, darker limestone than was seen elsewhere in the evaluation. On its north side the wall had been terraced into the north bank of the moat, cutting into an undated silty clay, 1640. Pottery from layers filled in behind the wall is mostly pre late 13th century, with two fragments whose date ranges begin in the late 13th century. This evidence would seem to be reasonably consistent with the wall being built when the Abbey was founded in 1280.

The excavated evidence fits well with that provided by the historical sources. Loggan's map of 1675 (Fig.14) gives ostensibly the best impression of how the reredorter block was constructed, with three arches supporting the structure over the moat. If this is correct, rather than just an artistic impression, then Trench 16 located the north abutment (1632) and the foundation for the northernmost pier (1666). The Trench would not have located the proposed second pier if it was placed symmetrically (i.e. 1 m from the north precinct wall) as sufficient depth was not attained in this area. Lastly, as regards the structure, the strength of the north abutment reflects the probable two-storey nature of the block. This was common in Cistercian houses, with the actual latrines being housed in a projection from the upper floor, and a vaulted room below being used for storage or other domestic uses (Coppack 1990: 97-9).

The reredorter is almost certainly the structure mentioned in a document of 1285, when complaints were made about a chamber which the Abbot of Rewley had raised over the water of the Thames, which impeded boats (Thorold Rogers 1891: 206-7). The verdict was that the chamber should be demolished, although clearly this was not done.

North of the reredorter a hard-packed surface was made up of gravel 1627 and stone 1633, 1629. This is 18th century or later, and is probably partly made-up of material from the demolished reredorter, which last appears on Loggan's map, in 1675, but had been taken down by 1720 when the view from the north was drawn by Burghers (compare Figs 14, 17). The same view by Burghers shows, arguably, a bridge utilising the remnants of the reredorter (extreme left-hand edge of the view). This would provide a sensible explanation for the hard surface, which can be seen as a track leading off the bridge to the north. Finally, the hard surface overlies a series of silts, 1669, 1668 etc which were within a shallow cut, 1645. This feature can be

reasonably interpreted as the fishpond which is depicted on the Agas map of 1578 (Fig.13).

The presence of the fishpond is a useful reminder that other features could exist in this area just north of the moat. There is also likely to have been an access across the moat during the life of the Abbey, perhaps through the reredorter block, or possibly by means of a separate bridge.

5.3.4 Later deposits

All of the areas described above were covered by a deep layer of post-1850 overburden, consisting mainly of dumped layers, with a loam layer indicative of the 19th century ground level also being found to the east and west of the west moat. Depths of post-1850 overburden are shown on the section drawings (Figs 5,7,8) and on Figure 1. The greatest depth of overburden is in the centre of the moats, being at least 2.5 m in the west moat, and 2.3 m in the north. The character of the overburden was very different in the area of Trench 16, in that there were deep deposits of 19th-century rubbish, containing much pottery and glass. These were similar to those found further north, in Trench 24, showing that dumping from the town was a fairly widespread phenomenon across the site.

5.4 The 'barn' area (Trenches 19, 27, 28) (Figs 2,8)

Trench 19 was designed to cross the position of a building shown on Agas' map of 1578, which has the appearance of a barn, and lies outside the west moat of the Abbey (Fig.13). As the trench did not prove conclusive, two extra trenches (Trenches 27, 28) were excavated on either side of, and parallel to, Trench 19.

5.4.1 Possible pre-Abbey contexts

The drawn section of Trench 19 shows a number of loam layers (1946,1959, 1952) and silt layers (1980, 1995, 1947-49) which are close to the top of natural gravel. Context 1980 seems to lie within a broad cut, 1959, into the gravel. The considerable quantities of pottery found in these layers dates from the mid-13th century or earlier, with some fragments being potentially as early as the mid-11th century. Some similar deposits were recorded in Trenches 27 and 28, but the very limited samples excavated did not, unfortunately, contain dating material. Returning to Trench 19, features cut into these layers, such as pit 1985, ditch 1979 and pit/ditch 1999, contain mainly the same kind of pottery, but some also contained a few later sherds (late 13th century onwards). The fill of the latter feature, 1970, was sampled and processed. Preservation of environmental material was good, and the plant species identified are listed in Section 7.

The complexity of the stratification in this area makes interpretation problematic, but the loams, at least, should indicate a ground level at this time, while the silt deposits,

which were often quite gravelly in character, could represent a low-lying, marshy area. Alternatively, as was suggested for some early deposits at the east end of Trench 19 (see 5.3.1), these silt layers could have derived from the cleaning-out of either the west moat, or some other water course. In a low-lying area such as Rewley, an operation like this would have the dual advantage of raising the ground level while making the drainage more efficient. Deliberate flooding of the meadows so as to cover them in fertile silt is also a possibility, and some of the pottery could have arrived here if midden deposits from the town were used to manure fields, although the high sherd counts from such a small excavated sample make this latter explanation somewhat unlikely.

A section of roughly-built stone wall 1938, running NE-SW, is difficult to date due to later robbing, but is probably most likely to have belonged to the Abbey phase. As such, it is discussed further below. However, it is notable that the earlier deposits (i.e. those discussed above) are very different in character on the two sides of the wall, and it is just possible that it was in existence at this time.

Overall, there would seem to be some evidence for pre-Abbey activity either in this area of the site, or nearby, although it cannot be satisfactorily interpreted from such a small sample. Even if the pottery derived from the moat or other watercourse, the quantities found point to occupation, rather than just agricultural activity. The possible early wall, 1703 (see 5.3.1) may also be relevant here, and it has been suggested that the manor of North Oseney, on which Rewley Abbey was built, may have previously been the site of a house or other settlement⁴. Other evidence for pre-Abbey activity is discussed in Section 5.6).

5.4.2 The 'barn'

The foundation for a very roughly-built stone wall, 1938, was 1.1 m wide and ran NE-SW. Robbing of the wall makes dating fairly difficult, but it seems to have been trench built, probably cutting from the top level of layers 1981, 1951 (or possibly 1952; but see above), and is associated with a mortar surface 1926 on the east side. This could indicate either a crude floor, or the construction level of the wall. The possibility that the wall pre-existed, and that the mortar represent a new phase of use, is discussed in 5.4.1 (above). Pottery recovered shows that the mortar was deposited in the late 13th century or later. Evidence of robbed stone features which can be aligned with wall 1938 (Fig.2) was found in both of the secondary trenches (27 and 28). In Trench 27 this took the form of an apparent butt end, 2708, and another, separate feature 2710 which lies just to the SE. The short length from Trench 28, 2815, was less clear as it was cut away by a later feature, and may have continued to the SW.

In all, joining up the three aligned features gives a minimum length of 17.5 m of wall, while Fig.2 shows how the separate feature 2710 could be interpreted as a buttress.

⁴ B. Durham, pers comm.

Problems arise in that there is no obvious parallel wall to suggest a building plan, and the quality of the stonework and lack of floor surfaces is hardly consistent with normal picture of a monastic barn. Either this is a field wall (in which case 2710 is not a buttress), or a second wall has been so badly damaged as to be unrecognisable. Overall, the problem would only be properly solved by area excavation.

A very stony layer (1909, 2703, 2808) was identified over virtually the whole area of all three trenches, and was apparently laid down following the robbing of the wall described above. The latest sherd of pottery from 1909 dates to AD 1550-1750, and it would be logical if this layer represents Civil War activity when the west moat of the former Abbey became part of the town's defensive circuit. Demolishing walls beyond the circuit would both provide stone for the defences and create a clear field of fire for the defenders.

5.4.3 Later deposits

A layer of loam (1908, 2702, 2805, 2806) overlay the stony deposits described above, and shows the level of the 19th-century ground surface. This was covered by thick dump levels which were laid down to raise the area after 1850, with the coming of the railway. Detail on these depths is given on Figure 1 and in Section 8.

5.5 The west moat and the area south of the church (Trenches 20, 21, 22, 26) (Figs 2, 8, 9)

In addition to the discussion below, the west moat has already been partially discussed with regards to the area where it was closely associated with the west precinct wall (5.3.1).

5.5.1 The west moat and bridge

The moat was investigated in Trenches 20, 21, 22, but it was a common feature of these trenches that virtually no trace of the moat cuts prior to their 19th century form was found. This was due to the depth of the moat, and the difficulty in excavating to these depths in the narrow evaluation trenches. Trench 20 showed a layer of black silt containing 19th century rubbish, 2003, at a depth of more than 3 m below the current ground level. The full width of the 19th-century moat can be seen from the section through it provided by Trench 21 (Fig.9), which shows it to have been some 10 m wide.

Perhaps the only exception to the above statement was a cut, 2208, in Trench 22 which cut the natural gravel on the south west side of the moat. From the limited area which was seen, this could have been an earlier moat cut, or part of a feature running into the moat. The silts within its fill, 2205-2207, contained late 13th- to 15th-century pottery, as well as some earlier residual material.

Trench 20 was placed longitudinally on the centre line of the moat at the point where a bridge across the moat is shown on the Agas and Loggan maps (Figs 13, 14). No trace of a bridge was found - large shaped blocks of limestone were contained in the 19th-century moat fill, but these could have come from any of the nearby structures, or from the revetment wall of the moat.

5.5.2 Outside the west moat (19th-century building)

The south-east corner of a stone building, 2117, was found just on the west edge of the west moat. The walls were 0.7 - 0.4 m wide, and associated with a gravel and mortar surface, 2114, which overlies deposits containing 19th-century pottery. A maximum length of 5 m of the south wall still survived (Fig.2). The structure is almost certainly part of the northernmost of a pair of L-shaped buildings, probably agricultural, which are shown on Hoggar's map of 1850 (Fig.15).

5.5.3 Inside the west moat (area south-west of the church)

A limestone wall 0.5 m wide, 2125, was found on the inner edge of, and parallel to, the west moat. This wall which could not be securely dated, is most likely to have originally revetted a series of silt layers, 2111, 2135, 2137. Earlier silts, investigated at the NE end of the trench, produced a single sherd of late 11th to mid 13th-century pottery. A clay layer from Trench 26, 2609, also produced pottery (3 sherds) from before the mid-13th century.

The revetment wall shows that this may have been a feature common to most, if not all, of the west moat (see 5.3.1). Also of interest is the presence of pottery which pre-dates the Abbey, and this has been noted elsewhere on the site (see 5.4.1 for discussion).

Above the deposits described above in Trench 21 was a gravel spread, 2131, with patches of a mortar surface, 2109, on the top of it. This can only be broadly dated as 15th century or later, and it is not likely to be part of the main entrance road up to the Abbey. All of the historic maps (Figs 13-15) show the road in this area (i.e. just south-west of the surviving buildings) as being some distance from the moat edge. A better candidate for the road surface might be the single gravel layer, 2607, from Trench 26. This dates to the mid-13th century or later, but it would be reasonable to expect that an area used as an entrance road for hundreds of years should have a number of successive surfaces. In general, it seems more likely that the main entrance road to Rewley, as depicted on Figs 17 and 19B, was not found during the evaluation, and lies along the line of the current Rewley Road - this accords reasonably well with the historic maps ((Figs 13-15). The line of the entrance road, as it relates to the church, is discussed in 5.2.3.

At the south
2117 (see 5.5.2)
contained a

5.6 The sconce and the area south of Rewley Abbey Stream (Trenches 23, 24) (Figs 2, 10)

Trenches 23 and 24 were placed in the area north of the Abbey Complex because of the small, outlying defensive work, or sconce, which is thought to have existed here during the Civil War period. The sconce is shown on a map of Oxford's defences as they existed in 1644, together with a possible bridge over Castle Mill Stream leading to the sconce (Fig.16). The map by Hoggar (1850) and a survey by Badcock (1829) show a suspiciously regular set of ditches north of the Abbey (see Fig.21) which could represent the remnants of the sconce, and the two trenches were positioned to cross these features. In the event, some medieval evidence was also recovered from this area.

5.6.1 Medieval deposits

A ditch running NW-SE, 2420, was found at the NW end of Trench 24. It measured 0.7 m wide, and was sealed below a layer of alluvial clay, 2419 (see Fig.10). The top of the ditch was found at considerable depth, 3.1 m below ground level (54.9 m OD). The ditch fill, 2420, contained 2 sherds of pottery, one late 12th-13th, and one late 11th - mid 13th century. This ditch fill was also of environmental interest, and the results from a processed sample (Sample 5) are described in Section 7. Preservation of both waterlogged and charred remains was excellent, and there is evidence that agricultural activity was taking place nearby, perhaps the drying of grain prior to grinding, and the drying of malted grain. Fruit stones and insect remains from the sample suggest that some kitchen rubbish was also deposited in the ditch.

The unexpected discovery of medieval evidence in this area raises the possibility that there were buildings here, to the north of the main Abbey complex. It is tempting, from the environmental evidence, to suggest the presence of a mill. While this must remain a possibility, the construction of a mill would, in the normal course of events, have raised considerable protest from those downstream, notably Oseney Abbey and the King's (Castle) Mill, in the same way that the building of the reredorter caused consternation (5.3.3). Had a mill been built, some evidence of the protest might be expected to occur in the documentary evidence (though it is always possible that the documents concerned do not survive).

Lastly, it was also unexpected that a medieval (probably 13th-century) feature should be found beneath such a depth of alluvium. The area is thus of interest not only for the medieval activity, but for the process, possibly localised, which led to the deposition of the alluvium.

5.6.2 Ditch 2406 (?medieval, ?civil war)

At the southern end of the trench, a layer of alluvium, 2417, perhaps equivalent to 2419 (see 5.6.1) was overlain by a thin layer of gravelly sand, 2416. The latter deposit contained a single sherd of mid 11th to late 12th-century pottery. A broad NE-SW

ditch, 2406, was cut from this level, measuring 5 m across but of unknown depth. No finds came from the sample of fill which was excavated. A single course of very roughly laid limestone pieces, 2412, of uneven size, was laid over 2416 on the north edge of the ditch. On its south edge, the ditch was cut through a layer of alluvium, 2409, again possibly equivalent to 2417 and 2419.

The position and alignment of the ditch described above are roughly similar to that shown on 19th-century maps by Hoggar and Badcock (Fig.21). It would thus be tempting, particularly with the possible remnant of a revetment on the north (and therefore inner) edge of the ditch, to see this as a Civil War feature. This is a reasonable argument, but cannot be conclusive as the only material recovered was medieval and in theory the ditch could date anywhere from the late 12th to the late 17th century. Layers later than the ditch (2405, 2413, 2408) apparently representing late silting, contained pottery dating to the late 17th and 18th centuries, as well as some residual medieval material.

5.6.3 Trench 23 and later deposits

Natural gravel was encountered in Trench 23 at a depth of 3 m below ground level. It was overlaid by 2307, a silty clay which Dr Mark Robinson examined on site and interpreted as a pre-alluvial layer which probably originally constituted a soil level. It is likely to have predated any occupation of the site. A layer of alluvium, 2306, was followed in the sequence of deposition by a blue-grey clay, 2305, which gradually deepened towards the west end of the trench, perhaps suggesting that it was laid in a broad channel. Clay pipe from this layer shows that it must be post-medieval or later.

Both trenches contained 1.2 - 1.5 m of late build-up. In Trench 23 this consisted mainly of the usual dumped clay, with some compacted chalk, but in Trench 24 there were deep deposits of 19th-century rubbish, probably brought from the town, and containing much china and glass.

5.7 Area north of Rewley Abbey Stream (Trenches 11, 12, 13, 14) (Fig.11)

Four trenches were excavated in this area, where there was no previous indication of any archaeology. Sample sections from each of the trenches are shown on Figure 11. Natural gravel was encountered at 3.1 - 3.3 m below ground level, and was generally covered by a deep layer of alluvium. In one place (Trench 13) there was a layer of black silt, 1306, between the gravel and the alluvium, which was waterlogged and clearly contained preserved organic remains. This layer, probably formed in a pond or channel, would have some potential for elucidating the early environment of the area, provided it could be dated. As no finds were recovered, and as the layer may well pre-date any occupation of the site, it is likely that dating would have to be done by radiocarbon.

The alluvium was covered in all of the trenches by a thin layer of clay with noticeable humic content, possibly representing the former ground surface which existed prior to 19th-century dumping. The difference between this layer, and the loam found over much of the site south of Rewley Abbey Stream (e.g. 5.3.4, 5.4.3), would seem to indicate a marshy area of meadow north of the stream, which was not cultivated.

5.8 West of the west moat (the BR car park, Trenches 1-6) (Fig.12)

5.8.1 Medieval and post-medieval deposits

Trenches 1 (see Fig.12), 2 and 5 revealed mainly alluvium over natural gravel, and no other archaeological deposits prior to the 18th/19th centuries. The only possible exception to this were two undated loam layers in Trench 5. Trench 6 was heavily disturbed by 19th-century and later building, and revealed only a peaty silt, 607, over the natural gravel.

In Trench 3, a silty clay, 312, overlay the natural gravel, and was in turn overlaid by two probable medieval layers, 319, 320. These contained pottery ranging in date from the late 12th to possibly as late as the 15th century. A ditch, approx 2 m wide, and orientated ENE - WSW, contained 16th- to 17th-century pottery in its fill. A layer of dark silt/clay, 308, sealed the deposits described above, and produced 18th- to 19th-century pottery.

To the north of Trench 3, in Trench 4 (Fig.12), a silty clay, 414, overlay the natural gravel and was then covered by a loam layer, 411, cut by a NW-SE ditch, 410, which was 1.5 m wide. The ditch was below, in order of deposition, a second loam layer, 408, a mixed and possibly dumped layer, 407, a compact gravel, 406, and a dark silt/clay, 405. The latter was similar to 308 (see above). Finds from below 405 (grouped under context number 413) ranged from the late 11th to the 15th century in date.

The medieval deposits in this area, i.e. in the south-east corner of the car park, north of the LMS building, show some similarities to those from the west end of Trench 19, in that there are loam layers close to the surface of the natural gravel, and the pottery suggests some pre-Abbey activity. The presence of a wide ditch in an area of loam could show that drainage was required so that the ground could be cultivated, but further or more detailed interpretation is not possible from the narrow evaluation trenches.

The overlying silt/clay (308, 405) may well represent a later, marshy ground surface, as was proposed for the area north of Rewley Abbey Stream.

5.8.2 Later deposits

Deep deposits of clay which had been dumped after 1850, and other 19th-century layers, were present in all of the trenches in this area. The depth of these deposits

varied from 1.7 m (area of Trenches 3 and 4) to 2.5 m (Trench 1).

6 The pottery (by Lucy Bown)

6.1 General introduction

Appendix 2 lists the number of sherds present in each context, divided by period. Detailed sherd numbers are therefore not given in this text.

Throughout this assemblage it has been noted that Oxford Fabric AQ always occurs in association with Oxford Fabric Y. As Fabric AQ has only ever been dated by poorly stratified sequences at Abingdon and therefore given the date range late 12th to 15th century, it is proposed in this report to suggest a new date of late 11th to 13th century for this fabric type. It is therefore included in this report as one of the early medieval wares to be found in Oxford.

A total of 15 Kg of pottery was recovered from the 1994 evaluation. Comparison with previous excavation assemblages from 1967, 1981, 1986 and 1993 shows that the pottery found associated with Rewley Abbey is in general predominantly early medieval. From a general observation there appear to be changes in vessel form which follow chronological trends but these need to be further investigated to quantify if relative percentages of vessel form are associated with different periods. A question of correlation between the function of vessels and areas within the Abbey precinct has also arisen from this study, for example the number of bottles associated with the Church in both the 1986 and 1994 excavations has been noted.

The most noticeable characteristics in vessel form in this assemblage are bowls and cooking vessels in Oxford Fabrics BF, AC, Y and AQ; tripod pitchers in Fabric Y and jugs in Fabrics AS, AH, AM, AW and BX. A high proportion of the pottery at Rewley Abbey is from the Brill/Boarstall industry, Fabric types AM, AW and BX. A variety of highly-decorated jug sherds, bottles and bowls are present, probably belonging to the mid- to late 13th-century production phase of this industry. Further work will be needed to investigate distinctive later Brill/Boarstall products of the 14th to 15th centuries.

A small presence of Cistercian-type Wares, Tudor Green-type ware and Surrey Hampshire Borderwares are indicative of the transition to the early post medieval period in this pottery assemblage. These wares should be further examined to investigate if there is a significant correlation between their occurrence and particular areas of the Abbey precinct.

The pottery from the 1994 evaluation will be discussed by trenches grouped into the same areas as were used for Section 5:

6.2 The church - Trenches 18 and 25

Trench 18

The majority of the pottery recovered from this trench is from the Brill/Boarstall industry of 13th to 15th century. Only a small percentage of the assemblage belongs to the early medieval traditions of the late 11th to 13th century.

Context 1847 is the earliest context to contain solely early medieval wares in the form of Oxford Fabrics AC and Y of the mid 11th to late 13th century. Contexts 1830, 1834, 1839, 1844, 1850, 1853 and 1858 contain both early medieval wares and Brill/Boarstall products. Their association could be indicative of a date in the mid 13th century.

By far the most common products in this trench are those of the Brill/Boarstall industry. These occur in the form of highly-decorated jugs, bottles and bowls. The highly decorated jugs include applied zoomorphic motifs, vertical alternating colours of applied clay strips and a variety of incised line patterns, all of which are common products of the mid to late 13th century industry.

Of note are the number of vessels common to contexts 1834 and 1829, 1836 and 1838, 1838 and 1841 and the number of bottles present. This high incidence of this particular form was also noted in the 1986 excavation within the church. Contexts 1802, 1803, 1812 and 1813 contain post medieval pottery only.

Trench 25

The majority of pottery in this trench is post medieval with the exception of a few contexts (2514, 2535 and 2609) which contain early medieval wares including a possible early 12th-century import from Andenne and Oxford Fabrics BF, AC and Y of 10th to 12th and mid 11th to mid 13th century date. Contexts 2512 and 2532 might also be early medieval but are disturbed, with post medieval pottery. Contexts 2545 and 2533 contain mid to late 13th-century highly decorated Brill/Boarstall jugs.

6.3 The north range - Trenches 16, 17 and east end of Trench 19

Trench 16

The majority of the pottery is post medieval with a small number of early medieval wares and early Brill/Boarstall products. The majority of the post medieval wares are in contexts 1604, 1605, 1609, 1610, 1614, 1627, 1629, 1634, 1641, 1648, 1657, 1658, 1659 and 1662.

The small number of early medieval wares include Oxford Fabrics AC, Y and AS of mid 11th to mid 13th-century date and occur in contexts 1622, 1644 and 1660. These wares also occur in contexts 1631, 1637, 1638 and 1639 with early Brill/Boarstall products of the mid to late 13th century.

Trench 17

Very little pottery was recovered from this trench. The earliest wares, two sherds of Oxford Fabric AQ are found in contexts 1739 and 1741, associated with mid to late 13th century Brill/Boarstall jugs. The majority of the pottery is from a variety of Brill/Boarstall wares including mid to late 13th-century decorated jugs and bottles. A small number of post medieval wares occur in contexts 1716, 1738 and 1758.

East end of Trench 19

All the pottery associated with the north range in this part of trench 19 is of early medieval date. The earliest build-up layer, context 1937 contains Oxford Fabric type AQ of late 11th to mid 13th century and undiagnostic Brill/Boarstall products of 13th to 15th-century date. Above these layers a floor layer (1922) contains an early medieval Oxford Fabric AQ cooking pot of late 11th to mid 13th century and mid to late 13th century highly decorated Brill/Boarstall jug sherds. The foundation of this floor can therefore be suggested to have been installed by the mid 13th century. Adjacent to this building, the fill of the moat and an associated drain contain pottery of a similar date, including Oxford Fabric AQ and Y cooking pots of late 11th to 13th century and mid to late 13th century Brill/Boarstall products.

6.4 West moat - Trenches 20, 21, 22 and 26

To the west of the moat Trenches 20 and 21 contain predominantly post medieval pottery. Trench 21 has a clear division of pottery dates; contexts 2107, 2108, 2112, 2113 and 2117 contain post medieval wares exclusively. To the east of the moat, inside the precinct, context 2134 contains 15th-century pottery and contexts 2136 and 2138 early medieval Oxford Fabric Y of late 11th to mid 13th century.

Trench 22

This trench contains only two contexts with pottery. Both of these contain early medieval wares Oxford Fabric Y (late 11th to mid 13th) and undiagnostic Brill/Boarstall products of 13th to 15th century. Also present in one of these contexts (2205) is a single sherd of late Saxon St Neots-type Ware of 10th to late 11th-century date.

Trench 26

Of the two contexts with pottery in this trench context 2609 contains early medieval wares including a 10th to 12th century open cooking pot/bowl form in Oxford Fabric BF and sherds of Oxford Fabrics AC and Y of mid 11th to mid 13th-century date. The second context, 2606, contains post medieval material only.

6.5 The 'barn' area - Trenches 19, 27 and 28

The majority of the pottery associated with this structure is found in Trench 19. The pottery associated with this structure divides into two early medieval periods. On examination of the matrix there is a definite early medieval period which has a TPQ of the mid 13th century. This starts at contexts 1978, 1959 and 1951, below which all the contexts have a very similar pottery assemblage comprising Oxford Fabrics BF, AC, AQ, Y and BK. These wares and the occurrence of early tripod pitcher forms are indicative of a date from the 10th to 12th century and 11th to mid 13th centuries.

From context 1977, 1940 and 1942 upwards, an area associated with stone and mortar surfaces, the pottery assemblage changes to include mid 11th- to mid 13th-century Oxford Fabrics AC, Y and early Brill/Boarstall products of the mid to late 13th century. The absence of any later Brill/Boarstall products should be noted here.

Trench 27 - no pottery

Trench 28

Of the two contexts producing pottery in this trench, context 2821 is entirely post medieval in content, whilst context 2814 contains one sherd of Oxford Fabric AQ of late 11th to mid 13th century.

An area of land between the 'Barn' and the west moat appears to have seen early medieval activity of a similar nature to that found associated with the earliest features of the 'barn'. The build-up layers 1946, 1948 and 1950 all contain early medieval cooking pot forms, in Oxford Fabrics AC and Y, of mid 11th to mid 13th century date. Above these pit 1963 contains cooking pots in Oxford fabrics AC and Y and tripod pitcher rims and bases of late 12th to mid 13th century.

6.6 West of the west moat (the BR car park) - Trenches 1 to 6

Trench 1 - no pottery

Trench 2

The small amount of pottery from this trench is entirely post medieval.

Trench 3

Five contexts from this trench produced pottery. The earliest are contexts 319 and 320 with a small number of sherds in Oxford Fabric AS of late 12th to mid 13th century date. Context 309 produced examples of the late medieval 14th to 15th century Brill/Boarstall industry. Context 308 and 310 produced post medieval pottery only.

Trench 4

Three contexts produced entirely early medieval pottery including late 11th to mid 13th century cooking pots in Oxford Fabrics AQ and Y and mid to late 13th century highly decorated Brill/Boarstall jug sherds.

Trench 5

Two contexts only produced pottery. Context 506 was a mixed assemblage of late 11th to 20th century and context 505 was purely post medieval.

6.7 The sconce - Trenches 23 and 24

Trench 23

Two contexts produced post medieval pottery of 17th to 20th-century date. The earliest type is Glazed Red Earthenware which is a long tradition dating from the 17th to 19th centuries. The other wares present are late 18th century and later including English Stonewares, Creamware and Transfer Printed Ware.

Trench 24

A small number of sherds were produced from seven contexts.

The earliest pottery is a late Saxon sherd of St Neots-type Ware of 10th to late 11th century which occurs in context 2411. Contexts 2416, 2419 and 2420 contain early medieval wares Oxford Fabrics BF, AC, Y and AK ranging in date from 10th to late 12th and late 12th to mid 13th centuries. Context 2413 also contains early medieval ware Oxford Fabric Y, though the majority of pottery is later including Brill/Boarstall, Tudor Green-type and post medieval Glazed Red Earthenware and Creamware. Contexts 2403 and 2414 contain solely post medieval fabrics including 20th century "Keiller" marmalade jars made by Maling of Newcastle, Minton China and Wedgewood Black Basalt Ware.

6.8 Area north of Rewley Abbey Stream - Trenches 11 to 14

Trench 14

This is the only trench to produce pottery in this area of which all are post medieval wares. These include mid 16th- to mid 18th-century Surrey Hampshire Borderwares, 17th- to 19th-century Glazed Red Earthenwares, 18th-century Staffordshire mottled brown glazed wares, late 18th- to 19th-century English Porcelain and Stonewares and 19th- to 20th-century Transfer Printed Wares.

7 Assessment of environmental samples (by Gill Campbell)

7.1 Results

Three samples taken during the evaluation were submitted for analysis, one from a waterlogged ditch dated to late 12th to mid 13th century (sample 5) and two from dry deposits: ?late 13th century dump (sample 1) and a layer dated to late 11th - mid 13th century (sample 9). The samples were processed by the excavator in the following manner: sample 5 was wet-sieved onto a 0.5mm mesh, sample 1 was sieved to 4mm., sample 9 was floated onto a 0.5mm mesh.

Sample 5 (context 2420): Unfortunately, the results from sieving had dried out, making assessment of the waterlogged remains in the sample difficult. However it was clear that the preservation of the waterlogged material was very good. The sample also produced some charred plant material in excellent condition. A list of the taxa identified as a result of scanning this sample under the microscope is given below:

Waterlogged plant remains: seeds of *Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus* (buttercup), *Ranunculus* Subgen. *Batrachium* (crowfoot), *Nuphar lutea* (yellow water-lily), *Stellaria media* gp. (chickweed), *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot), *Atriplex* sp. (orache), *Conium maculatum* (hemlock), *Polygonum aviculare* agg. (knotgrass), *Rumex* sp. (dock), *Urtica urens* (small nettle), lots of *Urtica dioica* (stinging-nettle), small Labiatae indet., *Carduus* sp. (thistle), *Cirsium* sp. (thistle), *Centaurea cyanus* (cornflower), *Sonchus asper* (spiny sow-thistle), *Juncus* spp. (rushes), *Eleocharis palustris* type (spike-rush), *Carex* spp. (sedges) and small grasses. In addition there were a few fragments of hazel nut, a single bullace stone (*Prunus domestica* spp. *insititia*) and many fragments of wood.

Charred plant remains: Free-threshing wheat grain including small with very humped backs, hulled barley grain, including one which had germinated, rye grain and some oat grain which could be either wild or cultivated. There was also chaff of rye, barley (apparently two-row), and both tetraploid and hexaploid free-threshing wheat rachis fragments. The sample also produced many fragments of glumes, cereal size culm nodes but very few weed seeds; a single seed of *Eleocharis palustris* type (spike-rush) and a small grass seed were noted.

Insect remains: (identifications by Dr. Mark Robinson) *Ptinus fer*, a minor food pest which will also eat waste inside buildings, a head of *Philonthus* sp., a wide ranging predator, a head of a weevil and many fly puparia.

Fish scales and fresh-water mollusca were also present.

Sample 1 (context 1831): Only material present was well preserved charcoal, both round wood and trunk wood. It appears to be all one species and was identified as *Prunus* type.

Sample 9 (context 1970): Hulled barley, wheat and rye grain, rye and hexaploid free-threshing wheat rachis fragments, a single *Atriplex* sp. (orache) seed and two *Carex*

spp. (sedge) seeds were noted on scanning this sample as well as some charcoal (mixed taxa). Preservation was again very good.

7.2 Interpretation

The results from the waterlogged ditch indicate the presence of 2-row hulled barley, rivet wheat and bread wheat as well as rye and possibly oat at the site in the late 13th century and the amount of chaff and the presence of burnt straw might suggest that agricultural activity was taking place close by, possibly the drying of grain prior to grinding and the drying of malted grain. The waterlogged remains from this feature are mainly those that would be expected to be growing in or near permanent water though some arable weeds were also recovered, e.g. cornflower and small-nettle. These weeds could have been growing in the settlement itself or have been brought in along with crops. The fruit stones and the insect remains would indicate that some kitchen rubbish may have also been deposited in the ditch.

The large amount of charcoal in sample 1 identified as *Prunus* sp. and therefore including plum, cherry, bullace and sloe may represent orchard wood since the size of the branches present would seem rather large for sloe. The smoke from this wood is sweet smelling and therefore may have had a special use either for smoking food or to give a pleasant odour to a fire.

The results from sample 9 are of less significance since the assemblage is rather small. They indicate the presence of bread wheat, rye and hulled barley at the site at this earlier date but the absence of rivet wheat and oat in the sample cannot be regarded as significant.

7.3 Recommendations

The preservation of charred plant remains at the site appears to be very good as does that of the waterlogged remains in the deeper features. Also given the amount of information that has been recovered from these 3 small samples it is clear that the potential of the material is very high. Very few monastic sites of this period have been systematically sampled for charred plant remains and the investigation of waterlogged deposits at such sites has also been limited. If further excavation is to take place at the site it is suggested that detailed sampling of waterlogged features will be necessary and that a full sampling strategy for charred plant remains would need to be implemented, though larger samples of c.30 litres would be more appropriate with concentration on those deposits which could be closely dated and had suffered minimal later disturbance. The opportunity to compare the results obtained from the environmental material with documentary evidence concerning the economy of the Abbey would be greatly valued

8 Potential impact of the development

8.1 General comments

The information below is not specific to any development scheme. Section 8.2 provides comments on an outline development scheme provided by Stanhope Developments PLC.

It is notable that the whole site has been raised since c. 1850 by the dumping of varying depths of material, notably clay. In many areas of the site these dumps overlie a further overburden of previously cultivated soil which represents the 19th-century ground level. The total depth of these two classes of deposit is normally at least 1.2 m and in some cases greater. There is thus a buffer zone of material which has a very low archaeological significance. A second common feature of the site is the great depth of clay dump used to backfill the moats which were still open in 1850. A buffer zone of up to 3 m in the centre of the moat is not unusual. Detailed information on the height at which archaeology was encountered is set out in Figure 1, but this figure should be used in conjunction with the following qualifying notes. Where a trench is not defined as containing significant archaeology, the deposit on which a level has been taken (e.g. alluvium) has been specified so that the height of made ground can be calculated, but this does not mean that the deposits below that level are significant.

NB. LEVELS GIVEN FOR SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGY ARE THE ACTUAL HEIGHTS OF THE DEPOSITS OR FEATURES CONCERNED - NO SAFETY MARGINS HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Trench 1 | Level given is top of alluvium only |
| Trench 2 | Level given is ?alluvium containing 17th-century pot |
| Trench 3 | Significant archaeology. Level given is medieval (?reclamation) layers. |
| Trench 4 | Significant archaeology. Level given is top of layer sealing medieval ditch. |
| Trench 5 | Level given is bottom of former cultivated soil. |
| Trench 6 | Level given is top ?peat relating to former marshy area. |
| Trench 11 | Level given is top of alluvium. |
| Trench 12 | Level given is top of alluvium. |
| Trench 13 | Level given is top of alluvium. |
| Trench 14 | Level given is top of alluvium. |

- Trench 16 **Significant archaeology.** Level of archaeology generally even but lower in moat (55.12 m OD) and higher on one wall section 56.97.
- Trench 17 **Significant archaeology.** Level given is top of west wall of west range.
- Trench 18 **Significant archaeology.** Archaeology level rises from 57 m at NE end to 57.3 m at SW end. Ground level has been lowered by BR bunding.
- Trench 19 **Significant archaeology.** Archaeological level lower in moat at NE end of trench. Ground level lowered by BR bunding.
- Trench 20 **Significant archaeology.** Archaeological level is significantly deeper in centre of moat - level given is at side of moat.
- Trench 21 **Significant archaeology.** As Trench 20.
- Trench 22 **Significant archaeology.** As Trench 20.
- Trench 23 **?Significant archaeology.** Level given is top of alluvium. Possible palaeoenvironmental potential below alluvium.
- Trench 24 **Significant archaeology.** Level given is top of clay overlying post medieval and medieval features. Medieval feature contained well-preserved waterlogged evidence.
- Trench 25 **Significant archaeology.** Ground level has been lowered by BR bunding.
- Trench 26 **Significant archaeology.**
- Trench 27 **Significant archaeology.** Ground level has been lowered by BR bunding.
- Trench 28 **Significant archaeology.** Ground level has been lowered by BR bunding.

0.2 Archaeological implications of current outline development proposals (Fig.22)

The plan of proposed developments passed to OAU on 28/6/94 (Fig.22) is divided into residential areas, a hotel or college area, and retail/office sites. The archaeological implications for each area are as follows:

Area 01 Residential area north of Rewley Abbey Stream

Trench 13 contains potentially interesting palaeoenvironmental deposits at a depth of 3 m. This could be impacted upon by deep foundations/services, or by piling,

which might also have a dewatering effect. Otherwise there are no archaeological constraints on this area.

Area B2 Residential area south of Rewley Abbey Stream

There is some medieval archaeology in this area, namely, a 12th/13th century ditch with waterlogged fill of high environmental potential, indicating agricultural processing and kitchen waste from unknown site in the vicinity. These deposits occur beneath alluvium at about 3 m depth in Trench 24. A second ditch in Trench 24, at a depth of 1.7m, may be part of the Civil War sence or could belong to the medieval site.

Impacts could occur from deep foundations/services, or from piling which could cause dewatering.

The south-east corner of B2 impinges on the Abbey Moat and the Scheduled Area - note that the Scheduled Ancient Monument boundary lies 25-30 m north of the Rewley Abbey boundary as currently shown on the development plan (Fig.22). Trench 16 has demonstrated that this is a sensitive archaeological zone containing the north precinct wall of the Abbey, the north moat, and possibly some archaeology north of the moat (5.3.3).

Scheduled Monument Consent will be required for the development of the south-east area of B2 as the development plan currently stands.

No significant archaeology was found in Trench 23. At present there would not appear to be archaeological constraints on the western part of area B2.

Possible additional residential land south of B2

Comments made about the SE area of B2 apply here if residential structures impinge onto the northern moat of the Abbey.

Area C Hotel/college area

The eastern half of the college building as currently shown lies within the scheduled area. Trenches 19, 27, 28 located Abbey phase (including a fragmentary building) and pre-Abbey deposits at a depth of 1.2 - 1.4 m. These deposits do not apparently extend as far west as Trench 5 (in current BR car park, west of proposed college).

The college building would require Scheduled Monment Consent. Construction below 1.2 m would impact upon the archaeology.

The college includes the LMS building which would have to be moved from its present site. This would require Listed Building Consent. The wings of the building do not appear to be included in the present scheme.

Area D Office/retail site

Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent would be required for the eastern area of D which includes the west moat of the Abbey. The top of the wall revetting the moat lies about 1.8 m below ground level. Trenches 3 and 4 in the western part of Area D had some medieval deposits (probably pre-Abbey) at about 1.7 - 2.4 m below ground level. Otherwise no significant archaeology was found, although the archaeology found in Trenches 19, 27, 28 (see Area C) could conceivably extend southwards into the northern part of Area D.

medieval

Area E Office/retail site

No archaeological features were found in this area.

north

Area F Office/retail site

This area has not yet been the subject of a field evaluation.

of the

Northern extension of Rewley Road

century

Scheduled Monument Consent would be required to extend Rewley Road across the Abbey complex. Archaeological deposits along the path of the road as currently shown are 1 - 1.3 m below ground level. These figures include the fact that ground level just north of the current Rewley Road has been lowered to provide material for bunding around the site.

of monastic site

dating sequence

9 Conclusions

reply further

Evidence of pre-Abbey activity on the site was found in the church area (5.2.1), and around the 'barn' (5.3.1; 5.4.1). Possible activity from this period also occurred south of the church (5.5.3), north of the main Abbey complex (5.6.1) and also to the west, in the current BR car park (5.8.1).

The archaeology within the moated area is generally well-preserved and can be as little as 1 m below ground level. Preservation is particularly good in the north-west corner of this area (5.3.2), as would be expected for structures which still stood in 1850. Substantial remains of the reredorter block survive north of the north moat (5.3.3). The church has now been shown to be longer than had previously expected, and may extend west as far as the small structure which was later used as a brewhouse. The main entrance road to the Abbey probably lies below the current Rewley Road.

An area of significant archaeology has been identified to the west of the main Abbey complex, in the 'barn' area. Whether an actual barn has been identified remains uncertain, but there are clearly medieval structures and deposits here, including well-preserved environmental remains. This area of archaeology extends west as far as the west end of Trench 19, but was not found in either Trench 23 or Trench 5. While

this means that it must be localised to some extent, we must also note the medieval deposits found in Trenches 3 and 4, which lie well to the south. Moving further to the south, significant archaeology was not found in either Trench 1 or Trench 2.

North of the main Abbey complex, some remains of the Civil War defensive work, or sconce, may survive in the area of Trench 24, but it is also possible that these are medieval. Trench 24 also contained a medieval ditch with a waterlogged fill preserving good environmental material. The nature of this material suggests grain processing in the vicinity during the medieval period; a previously unknown medieval site (perhaps a mill, though this remains unlikely) probably exists in this area.

Finally, nothing of archaeological significance was found in the trenches excavated north of Rewley Abbey Stream, or in Trenches 1, 2 and 6 within the current BR car park.

As regards environmental evidence, apart from that already discussed above, the fill of the north moat in the area of the reredorter contains deposits of considerable potential. In other parts of the moat, the great depth of the cuts, filled with 19th-century clay dumps, generally precluded any assessment of the earlier fills, though a possible earlier moat cut was seen in Trench 22 (5.5.1). At least some sections of the moat were apparently revetted by stone walls on both sides.

The pottery recovered from the evaluation would merit further, more detailed analysis. Aside from the general interest of an assemblage from this unusual type of monastic site, sherds found in association with the church may help to refine local dating sequences, as the church should have been constructed within a narrow date range (1280 - 1300). The association of pottery bottles with monasteries should also repay further investigation.

10 Bibliography

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APPENDIX 1 - TABLE OF CONTEXT INFORMATION

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94					
CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
TRENCH 1					
101	Layer	Loam and turf			
102	Layer	Subsoil			
103	Layer	Make-up for current BR station			
104	Layer	Tarmac for earlier BR station			
105	Layer	Make-up for 104			
106	Layer	Make-up deposit			
107	Layer	Alluvium			
108	Fill	Fill of 109			
109	Cut	Construction cut for brick culvert			
110	Structure	Brick culvert			
TRENCH 2					
111	Layer	Natural gravel			
201	Layer	Concrete in car park			
202	Layer	Make-up for concrete			
203	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
204	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
205	Layer	Silt clay ? within broad wet channel	1s Mid 11th- Late 12th; 1s 1650-1750		
206	Cut	Modern postholes			
TRENCH 3					
301	Layer	Present surface of car park			
302	Layer	Make-up layer for car park			
303	Layer	Soil and rubble			
304	Layer	Dump of sand associated with construction of railway			
305	Layer	Sandy silt dump associated with construction of railway			
306	Layer	Sandy silt dump associated with construction of railway			
307	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
308	Layer	Humic soil horizon	1s 1650-1900; 1s 1800-1900		
309	Fill	Rubble fill of ditch 311	1s 13th-15th		ICP
310	Fill	Fill of ditch 311	2s 16th-17th		
311	Cut	WSW-ENE Ditch			
312	Layer	Natural silt			
313	Layer	Natural gravel			
314	Structure	NW-SE Brick wall associated with construction of railway			
315	Structure	NW-SE Brick wall associated with construction of railway			
316	Cut	Construction trench for wall 314			
317	Cut	Construction trench for wall 315			
318	Layer	Gravel dumping associated with railway construction			

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
319	Layer	Clay silt	1s Late 12th- Mid 13th	2	
320	Layer	Clay silt	6s Late 12th- Mid 13th	1	
TRENCH 4					
401	Layer	Tarmac surface of car park			
402	Layer	Make-up for tarmac			
403	Layer	Dump layer associated with the railway			
404	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
405	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
406	Layer	Clay silt			
407	Layer	Sandy silt			
408	Layer	?cultivation soil			
409	Fill	Fill of ditch 410			
410	Cut	NW-SE ditch			
411	Layer	Silt clay			
412	Fill	Fill of ditch 410	1s ?11th-13th?	2	
413	Finds reference	Finds from deposits sealed by 405	7s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 4s ?11th-13th?; 2s 13th-15th	3	
414	Layer	?Disturbed natural silt	1s Late 11th- Mid 13th		
415	Layer	Natural gravel			
TRENCH 5					
500	Layer	Tarmac surface of car park			
501	Layer	Make-up for tarmac			
502	Layer	Make-up			
503	Layer	Sand and gravel make-up			
504	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
505	Layer	Humic soil horizon	1770-1900		1GL
506	Layer	Clay silt	1s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 2s 13th-15th; 1s 1670-1900	3	
507	Layer	Clay silt			
508	Layer	Clay ? within broad wet channel			
509	Layer	Possible channel fill			
510	Layer	Silt clay			
TRENCH 6					
600	Layer	Tarmac of car park			
601	Layer	Make-up for tarmac			
602	Layer	Coal dump associated with railway			
603	Layer	Make-up layer			
604	Layer	Sand and gravel make-up			
605	Cut	Cut for modern drain			
606	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
607	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
609	Cut	Cut for modern drain			
610	Fill	Fill of modern drain 609			
611	Fill	Fill of modern drain 609			
612	Fill	Fill of modern drain 605			
TRENCH 11					
1101	Layer	Brick rubble			
1102	Structure	NNW-SSE brick wall			

C = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1103	Fill	Fill of construction trench 1111			
1104	Layer	modern dumped gravel			
1105	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1106	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
1107	Layer	Alluvium			
1108	Layer	?natural depression			
1109	Fill	Vertical steel post			
1110	Cut	Cut for post 1109			
1111	Cut	Foundation cut for brick wall 1102			
TRENCH 12					
1201	Layer	Turf and topsoil			
1202	Layer	Dumped ash and cinder associated with railway siding			
1203	Layer	Modern dump of gravel			
1204	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1205	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
1206	Layer	Alluvial clay			
TRENCH 13					
1301	Layer	Turf and topsoil			
1302	Layer	Modern dumping			
1303	Layer	Soil weathered from 1304			
1304	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1305	Layer	Clay within wet area			
1306	Layer	Blue black organic clay			
1307	Layer	Clay soil weathered from 1505			
TRENCH 14					
1401	Layer	Turf and topsoil			
1402	Layer	Clay soil weathered from 1403	16s Mid 16th-20th	3	4GL, 2CP
1403	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway	1700-1900	1	
1404	Layer	Clay soil weathered from 1405			
1405	Layer	Alluvial clay			
1406	Layer	Blue alluvial clay			
TRENCH 19 supplementary context numbers					
1501	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1935			
1502	Layer	Mortar lens			
1503	Layer	Clay make-up layer ?for floor			
1504	Layer	Floor make-up			
TRENCH 16					
1601	Layer	Make-up layer for tarmac			
1602	Layer	Make-up layer for tarmac			
1603	Layer	Coal dump			
1604	Layer	Modern clay dump	2s 1800-1900; 3s 1770-1900; 1s 1670-1900		
1605	Layer	Gravel	1s 1700-1800; 2s 1770-1900		
1606	Layer	Modern hardcore			
1607	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1608	Layer	Modern dump of coal waste			

C = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1609	Layer	Dump layer	3s 1700-1900; 2s 1800-1900; 2s 1770-1900.	4	7GL
1610	Layer	Destruction layer	1s 1800-1900; 1s 1770-1900; 4s 1600-1800; 1s 1720-1760; 2s 1550-1750; 9s 1700-1900	7	Slag, 2N, 21GL, 2CP
1611	Layer	Sandy silt			
1612	Structure	Limestone wall			
1613	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1614	1s 1700-1800; 3s 1800-1900; 4s 1770-1900; 4s 1600-1800		1N, 4GL
1614	Cut	Robber trench		7	7CP
1615	Structure	Limestone wall			
1616	Fill	Fill of 1620			
1617	Layer	Floor			
1618	Layer	Dump layer			
1619	Layer	Modern			
1620	Cut	?gap of former door			
1621	Layer	Silty gravel			
1622	Layer	Demolition layer	9s Late 12th- Mid 13th; 1s Late 13th-15th	4	
1623	Structure	Limestone wall			
1624	Layer	?Demolition layer			
1625	Layer	Silty gravel			
1626	Layer	Make-up for floor 1617			
1627	Layer		4s 1670-1900; 10s 1770-1900; 1s 1300-1550; 2s 1600-1800; 10s 1800-1900	2	2CP
1628	Structure	Limestone ?wall			
1629	Layer	Rubble surface	5s 1600-1800; 1s 1670-1900; 8s 1770-1900; 3s 1800-1900	3	2GL, 3CP
1630	Layer	Gravel spread			
1631	Layer	Gravel make-up	26s Late 13th-15th (bottles); 3s Mid 11th- mid 13th; 1 Tile	16	
1632	Structure	Limestone wall			
1633	Layer	Limestone and mortar surface			
1634	Layer	Shelly clay silt	1s 1770-1900; 1s 1670-1900		
1635	Layer	Shelly clay silt			
1636	Cut	Cut on N side of wall 1632			
1637	Layer	Clay dump	1s Late 13th-15th; 1s Late 11th-mid 13th		
1638	Layer	Gravel dump	7s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 19s Mid 13th- Late 13th; 11s 13th-15th	8	
1639	Layer	Clay dump	1s Late 11th-mid 13th; 1s Late 13th-15th	5	
1640	Layer	Gravel dump			
1641	?Fill	?Latest fill of ?Fishpond 1645	2s 1770-1900; 1s 1720-1760		1CP
1642	?Fill	?Fill of ?Fishpond 1645			
1643	Fill	Fill of ?Fishpond 1645			
1644	Fill	Fill of ?Fishpond 1645	1s Late 11th-Mid 13th		
1645	Cut	?Fishpond			
1646	Layer	Sandy clay			
1647	Layer	Mortar layer tipping into S side of moat			
1648	Layer	Coal and cinder dump/levelling associated with construction of railway	1s 1670-1900; 1s 1800-1900		

C = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1649	Fill	Clay layer tipping into S side of moat			
1650	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1651			
1651	Cut	Robber trench			
1652	Layer	Sandy silt			
1653	Layer	Sandy silt			
1654	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1655			
1655	Cut	Robber trench			
1656	Layer				
1657	Layer	Layer tipping into moat on S side	2s 1770-1900; 4s 1900	3	4GL
1658	Layer	Layer tipping into moat on S side	2s 1600-1800		
1659	Layer	Fill of moat overlying wall 1666	1s 1550-1750; 1s 17th; 4s Late 13th-15th; 2s 1770-1900; 2s 1730-1770; 1s 1700-1900; 4s 1600-1800; 5s 1600-1800	2	2N, 3GL, 4CP
1660	Fill	Fill of 1661	3s Mid 11th- Mid 13th	1	
1661	Cut	Construction trench for wall 1632			
1662	Fill	Layer tipping into moat on S side	2s 1600-1800; 1s 1900		4GL
1663	Fill	Layer tipping into moat on S side			
1664	Fill	Layer tipping into moat on S side			
1665	Layer	Fill of moat			
1666	Structure	Limestone wall of reredorter, within moat			
1667	Layer	Fill of moat		2	1CP
1668	Fill	Fill of ?Fishpond 1645			
1669	Fill	Fill of ?Fishpond 1645			
TRENCH 17					
1701	Structure	Limestone wall			
1702	Structure	Limestone wall			PL
1703	Structure	Precinct Limestone wall			
1704	Structure	Concrete foundation			
1705	Layer	Dump of cinder and ash associated with railway yard			
1706	Layer	Dumped layer of cinder and ash associated with railway yard			
1707	Layer	Dumped layer of cinder and ash associated with railway yard			
1708	Layer	Dumped layer of coal and ash associated with railway yard			
1709	Layer	Dumped layer of coal and ash associated with railway yard			
1710	Layer	Infilling of moat 1752			
1711	Layer	Layer of dumping associated with railyard			
1712	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1713	Layer	Mortar rubble			
1714	Layer	Gravelly sand			
1715	Layer	Fill of robber trench 1717			1 Ridge tile
1716	Layer	Demolition rubble	1s 1800-1900; 1s 18th		1GL, 3CP

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1717	Layer	Robber trench			
1718	Layer	Make-up for floor			
1719	Layer	Silt and charcoal			
1720	Layer	Tile floor			
1721	Layer	Mortar foundation for floor 1720			
1722	Layer	Clay make-up layer			
1723	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1724	Layer	Silt	1s Late 13th-15th	139	2FeO, 1GL
1725	Fill	Fill of pipe trench 1726			
1726	Cut	Modern drain pipe			
1727	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1728	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1717			
1729	Layer	Late dumped clay	1s 13th-15th		
1730	Layer	Late dumped clay			
1731	Layer	Clay and stone			
1732	Layer	Clay			
1733	Layer	Light brown clay			
1734	Layer	Mortar floor			
1735	Layer	Make-up layer for floor			
1736	Layer	Mortar layer			
1737	Layer	Demolition rubble			
1738	Layer	?Cultivation soil	1s Late 13th-15th; 1s 1600-1800		1CP
1739	Layer	Demolition rubble	2s Late 12th-13th?; 11s Late 13th-15th	1	
1740	Structure	?Collapse from wall 1703			
1741	Layer	Gravel ? natural	1s Late 12th-15th		
1742	Fill	Shelly Clay			
1743	Layer	Silt			
1744	Layer	Stone Rubble	3s Late 13th-15th		
1745	Layer	Clay			
1746	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1746			
1747	Cut	Robber trench for wall 1755			
1748	Fill	Fill of modern drain			
1749	Cut	Modern brickfilled drain			
1750	Cut	Construction cut for wall 1702			
1751	Fill	Fill of construction cut 1750			
1752	Cut	E-W Moat			
1753	Cut	N-S Moat			
1754	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1747			
1755	Structure	Limestone of precinct wall			
1756	Fill	Fill of construction cut 1757	3s 13th-15th; 2s Late 12th-mid 13th	1	
1757	Cut	Construction cut for wall 1755			
1758	Layer		1s 1550-1750; 1s Late 13th-15th		
TRENCH 18					
1801	Layer	Coal deposited in former coalyard			
1802	Layer	?Cultivation layer	3s 16th-18th	1	

C = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1803	Layer	Cultivation soil	1s Mid 11th- Late 12th; 2s 13th-15th; 1s 16th-18th; 4s 1700-1900; 1 Tile	1	1GL, 2CP
1804	Layer	Demolition layer	1s Late 13th-15th; 1s Mid 16th-17th; 1s Mid 16th-17th; 1s 1670-1900	3	
1805	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1806	Layer	Cultivation soil			
1807	Layer	Sandy silt			
1808	Layer				
1809	Layer				
1810	Layer		2s Late 13th-15th	1	
1811	Cut	Robber trench for wall 1852			
1812	Fill	Latest fill of robber trench 1811	1s 16th-18th		
1813	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1811	1s 15th-16th; 3s 16th-18th; 3s 1770-1900; 1s 1800-1900; 1s 1600-1800	7	3N, 2GL, 1CP
1814	Layer	Sandy silt			
1815	Layer				
1816	Layer		1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 4s Late 13th-15th; 1s 16th-18th; 2s 1700-1900; 2s 1600-1800	4	1CP
1817	Layer		2s Late 13th-15th; 1s 13th-15th	6	1CP
1818	Layer		1s Late 12th-15th; 8s Late 13th-15th; 1 Tile	12	
1819	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1811	1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 18s 16th-18th; 1s 1700-1900; 3s 1670-1900; 5s 1800-1900; 1s 1770-1900; 1s 1720-1760; 2 Tile	23	Slag, 1FeO, 28N, 5GL
1820	Layer				
1821	Fill	Fill of Posthole/Pit feature 1822			
1822	Cut	Posthole/Pit			
1823	Layer	Compacted gravel and limestone			
1824	Cut	Robber trench for wall 1851			
1825	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1824		2	
1826	Layer				
1827	Layer				
1828	Layer		3s Late 13th-15th	68	2N
1829	Layer		29s Late 13th-15th	192	1FeO, 1N
1830	Fill	Fill of robber trench		2	1GL
1831	Layer	Charcoal deposit	1s 13th-15th; 1s Late 13th-15th	27	1N
1832	Layer	Limestone rubble		2	
1833	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1824			
1834	Layer		1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 9s Late 13th-15th; 1s 13th-15th	12	1N
1835	Layer			6	
1836	Layer		31s Late 13th-15th; 9s Mid 13th-Late 13th	2	3N
1837	Layer			1	
1838	Layer		1s Mid- Late 13th; 19s 13th-15th	5	1N
1839	Layer		1s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 13th-15th	4	1F
1840	Layer				

C = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

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FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

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PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1841	Layer		8s Mid- Late 13th; 11s 13th-15th	1	
1842	Layer				
1843	Layer	Limestone rubble and mortar			
1844	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1824	1s 11th-13th?; 2s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 2s 13th-15th	2	
1845	Fill	Fill of ?Posthole 1846			
1846	Cut	?Posthole/Pit			
1847	Layer		2s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?		
1848	Layer	Gravel			
1849	Layer		2s 13th-15th		
1850	Layer		1s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 2s 13th-15th	1	
1851	Structure	Limestone wall foundation for S wall of church			
1852	Structure	Limestone wall foundation for buttress on S wall of church			
1853	Layer	Mortar and sand spread	2s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 13th-15th	1	2N
1854	Layer				
1855	Layer	Mortar lens			
1856	Layer		1s 13th-15th		
1857	Layer				
1858	Layer	Early soil predating walls 1851 and 1852	1s 11th-13th?; 4s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 37s 13th-15th	1	1N
1859	Layer	Lens within 1858			
1860	Layer	Natural undisturbed silt subsoil			
1861	Layer	Same deposit as 1858			
1862	Layer	Probably same as 1860			
1863	Layer	Compact gravel			
1864	Layer				
1865	Layer				
1866	Deposit	Bonding for wall 1851 & 1852			
1867	Layer				
1868	Layer	Gravel lens			
1869	Layer				
1870	Layer		1s 13th-15th		
1871	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1824			
1872	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1824			
TRENCH 19					
1901	Layer	Hardcore surface			
1902	Layer	Coal dump			
1903	Layer	Dump layer associated with construction of railway			
1904	Layer	Dump of coal			
1905	Layer	Dumped sand			
1906	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
1907	Layer				
1908	Layer	Humic soil horizon	1s 1800-1900		
1909	Layer	Stony deposit ?surface	6s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?; 14s 13th-15th; 2s 15th-16th; 3 Roof Tile	13	2CP
1910	Layer				

P = Flint
CP = Clay Pipe

P = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1911	Layer		8s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 13s 11th-13th?; 1s ?; 1s 13th-15th; 4s Mid 13th- Late 13th	12	
1912	Layer	Lens sand	3s 11th-13th?; 4s 13th-14th		
1913	Fill	Fill of modern drain pipe 1914			
1914	Cut	Modern drain pipe			
1915	Fill	Fill of modern pipe trench 1916			
1916	Cut	Modern drain trench			
1917	Fill	Fill of modern pipe trench			1GL
1918	Cut	Modern pipe trench			
1919	Structure	Limestone slab drain			
1920	Fill	Fill of drain 1919	1s Mid- Late 13th	1	
1921	Cut	Cut for drain 1919	1s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?		
1922	Layer	Stony deposit			
1923	Fill	Fill of brick conduit construction cut 1925			
1924	Structure	Brick conduit			
1925	Cut	Cut for brick conduit			
1926	Layer	Mortar spread			
1927	Layer	Burnt deposit			
1928	Layer			1	
1929	Fill	Fill of moat 1932	2s 11th-13th?; 2s 13th-15th		
1930	Fill	Fill of moat 1932	3s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 13th-15th		1N
1931	Layer		5s 11th-13th?; 5s Late 11th- Mid 15th; 1s Late 11th-15th; 20s 13th-15th; 6s Mid-Late 13th	2	Slag
1932	Cut	Moat			
1933	Layer	Mortar layer on W side of moat 1932	3s 13th-15th	1	
1934	Fill	Fill of robber trench 1935	5s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?	5	
1935	Cut	Robber trench			
1936	Layer				
1937	Layer		2s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 2s 11th-13th?; 2s 13th-15th	5	
1938	Structure	Limestone wall			
1939	Fill	Fill of 1971	1s 11th-13th; 4s Late 11th- Mid 13th	2	
1940	Layer				
1941	Fill	Fill of posthole 1942			
1942	Cut	Posthole			
1943	Fill	Fill of pit 1944			
1944	Cut	Pit			
1945	Layer				
1946	Layer		1s Mid 11th- Late 12th		
1947	Layer				
1948	Layer		2s Mid 11th- Mid 13th		
1949	Layer				
1950	Layer	Alluvial layer	3s Mid 11th - Mid 13th		
1951	Layer		8 Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 2s 11th- 13th?; 1s Late 11th-15th; 5s 13th-15th	11	

F = Flint
F = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1952	Layer		1s 11th-13th? 34s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 2s Late 12th-14th; 1s 13th-15th	13	4GL
1953	?		2s 11th-13th?; 3s Late 11th-Mid 13th		
1954	Layer		2s Mid 11th- Mid 13th		
1955	Layer				
1956	Layer	Natural gravel			
1957	Structure	Wall on W side of moat 1932			
1958	Layer	Natural gravel			
1959	?		11s Late 11th- Mid 13th	1	
1960	Fill	Fill of pit 1964			
1961	Fill	Fill of pit 1964			
1962	Fill	Fill of pit 1964			
1963	Fill	Fill of pit 1964	43s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?	8	
1964	Cut	Pit			
1965	Layer	Earlier ground surface			
1966	Cut	Posthole			
1967	Fill	Fill of posthole 1966			
1968	Fill	Fill of feature 1969			
1969	Cut	?Pit/?Ditch			
1970	Fill	Fill of 1999	52s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 16s 11th-13th? 8s 13th-15th; 1s ?	29	
1971	Cut	Feature associated with 1938			
1972	Cut	Foundation cut for wall 1938			
1973	Cut	? cut for 1986 evaluation trench			
1974	Fill	Fill of 1973			
1975	Fill	Fill of pit 1944			
1976	Finds ref.	Unstratified finds from W end of trench			
1977	Fill				
1978	Fill	Fill of ditch 1979	3s 11th-13th?; 4s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 2s 13th-15th; 1s ?	3	
1979	Cut	Ditch			
1980	Fill	Fill of ?Pit/?Ditch 1999	20s Mid 11th- Mid 13th; 7s 11th-13th?; 1s Late 12th-14th	30	
1981	Layer				
1982	Fill				
1983	Cut	Posthole/Pit			
1984	Fill	Fill of 1985	1s 11th-13th?		
1985	Cut	Pit			
1986	Fill	Fill of pit 1987	1s Late 11th- Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?		
1987	Cut	Pit			
1988	Fill	Fill of 1989			
1989	Cut	?Pit			
1990	Fill	Fill of disturbance 1991			
1991	Fill	Disturbance			
1992	Layer	Silt clay			
1993	Fill	Fill of pit 1987			
1994	Cut	?Ditch			
1995	Fill	Fill of ?Ditch 1994	1s 10th-12th; 3s Late 11th-Mid 13th	2	

Q = Quail
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
1996	Fill	Fill of 1996			
1997	?Layer	Silt clay			
1998	Fill	Fill of ditch 1979	4s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th?; 1s Late 12th-14th		
1999	Cut	?Pit/?Ditch			
TRENCH 20					
2001	Layer	Present hardcore surface			
2002	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with constructon of railway			
2003	Layer	Rubbish dumped into moat	2s 1550-1600; 2s 1800-1900; 1s 1770-1900		
2004	Layer	Silt			
2005	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
2006	Cut	Cut for moat			
TRENCH 21					
2101	Layer	Hardcore of present surface			
2102	Layer	Hardcore make-up for present surface			
2103	Cut	Cut for 1986 evaluation trench			
2104	Fill	Fill of 1986 evaluation trench			
2105	Fill	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2106	Cut	Cut for moat as open in 19th century			
2107	Layer	Dump layer	2s 1770-1900; 1s 1670-1900		
2108	Layer	Dump layer	1s 1600-1800	5	
2109	Layer	Surface			
2110	Layer	Make-up for 2109			
2111	Layer	Clay			
2112	Layer	Mortar and rubble	2s 1800-1900; 2s 1650-1900; 6s 1600-1800; 1s 1550-1750		1CP
2113	Layer	Pre railway soil level	18s 18th-19th; 1s 16th-18th; 3s 1770-1900; 1s 1700-1900; 2s 1720-1770; 1s 1600-1800; 2s 1670-1900	1	3GL, 3CP
2114	Layer	Loose gravel			
2115	Layer				
2116	Layer	Mortar and gravel surface			
2117	Structure	Limestone wall			
2118	Deposit	Bonding for wall 2117			
2119	Layer	Clay			
2120	Cut	Cut for W side of moat open in 19th century			
2121	Layer	Sandy silt			
2122	Layer	Mortar lens			
2123		Remains of hedge			
2124	Layer	Deposit W of wall 2125			
2125	Structure	Limestone wall on E side of moat			
2126	Deposit	Bonding for wall 2125			
2127	Layer		1s 1550-1750; 1s 1600-1800; 1s 18th		
2128	Layer				
2129	Layer			2	
2130	Layer				

F = Flint
Fp = Flint Flake

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
2131	Layer				
2132	Cut	Cut for ditch			
2133	Fill	Fill of ditch 2132			1CP
2134	Layer		1s 15th	1	5CP
2135	Layer				
2136	Layer	2s Late 11th-Mid 13th	2s		
2137	Layer				
2138	Layer		1s Late 11th-Mid 13th		
2139	Layer				
2140	Layer				
2141	Layer	Natural silt subsoil			
2142	Layer				
2143	Cut	Cut above wall 2125			
2144	Cut	Construction cut for wall 2117			
TRENCH 22					
2201	Layer	Existing hardcore surface			
2202	Layer	Rubble make-up			
2203	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2204	Layer	Dump of mortar			
2205	Layer	Clay silt soil	1s 10th-Late 11th; 1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 5s 11th-13th?; 3s 13th-15th	2	
2206	Fill	Fill of ditch/moat 2208			
2207	Fill	Fill of ditch/moat 2208	6s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 2s 13th-15th	5	
2208	Cut	Cut for ditch/moat 2208			
2209	Fill	Fill of later moat cut 2211			
2210	Layer	Natural gravel			
2211	Cut	Cut for moat open in 19th century			
TRENCH 23					
2301	Layer	Existing hardcore surface			
2302	Layer	Make-up layer			
2303	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2304	Layer	Humic soil horizon	4s 1800-1900; 6s 1770-1900; 1s 1670-1900		2N, 9CP
2305	Layer	Waterlain clay	1s 1600-1800; 1s 1670-1900		1C, 1GL, 1CP
2306	Layer	Alluvium			
2307	Layer	Pre-alluvial deposit pre-dates occupation			
2308	Layer	Natural gravel			
TRENCH 24					
2400	Layer	Hardcore			
2401	Layer	Hardcore			
2402	Layer	Late rubbish dump			
2403	Layer	Late rubbish dump	2s 19th-20th; 1s 20th		
2404	Layer	Late rubbish dump			
2405	Layer	Silt clay			
2406	Cut	Ditch			
2407	Fill	Fill of ditch 2406			
2408	Layer	Clay silt			
2409	Layer	Clay ? alluvial			

P = Flint
P = Clay Pipe

P = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
2410	Layer	Clay slump			
2411	Layer	Clay slump	1s 10th-Late 11th (St Neots Type)	1	
2412	Layer	Limestone deposit			
2413	Layer	Clay silt	1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 3s 13th-15th; 1s Late 14/15th-16th; 1s 1600-1800; 2s 1770-1900	5	2GL
2414	Layer	Silt clay	1s 1670-1900; 1s 1700-1900		
2415	Fill	Fill of ditch 2406			
2416	Layer	Sand	1s Mid 11th-Late 12th	4	
2417	Layer	Clay			
2418	Layer	Clay			
2419	Layer	Clay	1s 10th-12th; 2s Late 12th-Mid 13th		
2420	Fill	Fill of ditch 2421	2s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 1s Late 11th-Mid 13th	3	
2421	Cut	Ditch			
2422	Layer	Clay			
TRENCH 25					
2501	Layer	Modern tarmac			
2502	Layer	Modern deposit associated with coalyard			
2503	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2504	Layer	Cultivation soil			3N
2505	Layer	Gravel spread	4s 1600-1800		
2506	Fill	Fill of 2507			2CP
2507	Cut				
2508	Fill	Fill of 2509	1s 1600-1800		2CP
2509	Cut				
2510	Fill	Fill of ditch 2511	1s Early 12th	25	
2511	Cut	Ditch			
2512	Layer	? cultivation soil	1s 10th-12th; 1s 1350-1550; 2s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 10s 13th-15th; 8s 1550-1750; 4s 18th; 15s 1600-1800; 3s 1720-1770; 5s 15th-16th; 1s 1770-1900; 2 Roof tile	136	1C, 1N, 13GL, 18CP
2513	Layer				
2514	Layer				
2515	Fill	Fill of pipe trench 2516			
2516	Cut	Modern pipe trench			
2517	Layer	Fill of robber trench 2518	3s 13th-15th; 7s 1600-1800; 2s 1550-1750; 2s 1800-1900; 2s 1670-1900	7	11CP
2518	Cut	Robber trench			
2519	Layer				
2520	Layer	Compacted fragmented limestone surface			
2521	Layer	Compacted gravel			
2522	Layer				
2523	Cut	Grave cut			
2524	Layer				
2525	Layer				
2526	Layer				

U = Coal
CP = Clay Pipe

F = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

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PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
2527	Layer	Disturbance			
2528	Layer				
2529	Layer				
2530	Layer				
2531	Layer	Cultivation soil			
2532	Layer		1s Late 11th-Mid 13th; 1s 11th-13th; 1s 1550-1750	2	ICP
2533	Layer		1s Late-15th	1	
2534	Layer				
2535	Fill	Fill of grave 2523	1s Late 11th-Mid 13th		
2536	Fill	Fill of 2527			
2537	Fill	Fill of robbed pier base 2538	1s 13th-15th; 1s 1600-1800	9	
2538	Cut	Cut for robbing of pier base			
2539	Layer	Sandy silt			
2540	Layer	Mortar layer			
2541	Layer	Modern clinker			
2542	Layer	Modern dump			
2543	Layer	Modern silt layer			
2544	Layer	Cultivation soil			
2545	Layer		2s Mid-Late 13th		
2546	Layer	Compacted limestone			
2547	Layer				
2548	Layer	Clay			
2549	Layer	Sand and gravel			
2550	Fill	Skeleton fill of grave 2523			
2551	Fill				
2552	Fill				
2553	Fill				
2554	Fill				
2555	Fill				
2556	Cut				
2557	Fill				
2558	Cut				
TRENCH 26					
2601	Layer	Surface of Co-op car park			
2602	Fill	Fill of pipe trench 2603			
2603	Cut	Modern pipe trench			
2604	Layer	Modern make-up			
2605	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2606	Layer		4s 1550-1750; 2s 1600-1800	6	2CP
2607	Layer				2N
2608	Layer			1	
2609	Layer		1s 10th-12th; 1s Mid 11th-Late 12th; 1s Late 11th-Mid 13th	1	
2610	Layer	Natural gravel			
2701	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2702	Layer	Humic soil horizon			
2703	Layer	? Compacted surface			
2704	Fill	Fill of 1986 evaluation trench			
2705	Cut	Cut for 1986 evaluation trench			
2706	Layer				

CP = Coal
ICP = Clay Pipe

P = Flint Flake
FeO = Iron (Ferrous) object

GL = Glass
PL = Plaster

N = Iron Nail

REWLEY ABBEY OXSTRA 94

CTX	Type	Comments	Pottery	Animal Bone No.	Other
2707	Fill	Fill of robber trench 2708			
2708	Cut	Robber trench			
2709	Fill	Fill of robber trench 2710		2	
2710	Cut	Robber trench			
2711	Layer				
2712	Layer				
2713	Layer				
2714	Layer				
2715	Layer				
2801	Layer	Hardcore surface			
2802	Layer	Make-up for hardcore surface			
2803	Layer	Clay dump/levelling associated with construction of railway			
2804	Layer				
2805	Layer				
2806	Layer				
2807	Layer				
2808	Layer				
2809	Layer	Fill of 2810			
2810	Cut	?robber trench			
2811	Layer	Dump layer			
2812	Fill	Fill of 2813			
2813	Cut	Fill of 2813			
2814	Fill	?ditch	1s Late 12th-13th?		
2815	Cut				
2816	Layer				
2817	Layer				
2818	Layer				
2819	Structure	Brick culvert			
2820	Layer				
2821	Fill	Fill of pit 2822	22s 1550-1750; 1s 16th-19th; 4s 15th; 27s 1600-1800; 17s 16th-18th; 3s 1700-1900; 3s 1700-1800; 1 Tile	92	PL, 1FeO, 20SCP
2822	Cut	Cut for pit			
2823	Cut	Cut for brick culvert 2819			
	/////				

APPENDIX 2 - TABLE OF SMALL FINDS

Iron objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Knife	Fe	Knife with bone handle, blade is badly damaged (late 14th century)	10
Knife	Fe	Whittle tang knife, tang complete, blade broken.	19
Object	Fe	Hooked object, hooked at one end tapering to a point, rectangular in section, other end broken.	7
Bolt and chain	Fe	Ring headed bolt with five links of a chain attached.	30
Strip	Fe	rectangular in shape and in section	3
Strip	Fe	Sub rectangular in section, tapering to a point at both ends	12
Strip	Fe	rectangular in section, curving in profile	27
Shank/ point	Fe	possible nail	13
Strip	Fe	rectangular in section	1819
Strip	Fe		1829
Misc	Fe	Not identifiable from the X-ray	2821

Nails	Fe		1834, 1831, 1828, 1838, 2607, 2504, 2512, 1836, 1930, 2304, 1819, 1858, 1659, 1813, 1610, 1614, 1829, 1819, 1819, 1819, 1853, 1724.
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Copper alloy Objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Boss/ Mount	Ca	Circular with raised centre depicting a lion's head, two protrusions/lobes on the circumference. possible horse harness decoration.	26
Ring	Ca	Wire finger ring, two strands of wire twisted to form a loop(popular in the 14th century).	16
Ring	Ca	Finger ring, cast, circular in cross section.	15
Ring	Ca	Cast, circular in section	11
Ring	Ca	small, possible buckle from a shoe or hose.	29
Loop	Ca	Cast, Circular in section	2

Pin	Ca	Spherical head with incised spiral groove around the circumference	20
Sheet	Ca	Fragment, rectangular in section	22
Token	Ca	Nuremburg token, 13th-15th century	14
Token	Ca	Nuremburg token, 13th-15th century	5
Token	Ca	Heavily clipped Nuremburg token 13th-15th century	8
Token	Ca	Too corroded to identify	28

Lead Objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Window came	Pb	Irregular lengths of window came	17,18,24.
Stylus?	Pb		6
Misc	Pb		23

Bone Objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Handle	Bone	Handle from a scale tang implement, sub rectangular in section, rounded edges, polished.	34
Comb	Bone	Fragments from a double sided simple bone comb, flat section, remaining end has a convex curve, both rows of teeth are fine, all now broken.	33

Glass objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Window glass	glass	Painted	1
Window glass	glass	undecorated	4
Vessel glass	glass		32

Flint and stone objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Flake	Flint		21
Whetstone	Stone		35

Leather Objects

Object	Material	Description	SF No
Offcut	Leather		31

Based upon the Ordnance Survey's 1:1250 map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright

KEY

Tr1 Trench 1

*55.94 Top level of significant archaeology

55.5(A) Top level of alluvium

57.5 Ground level

Levels in metres O.D.
Scale 1:1250


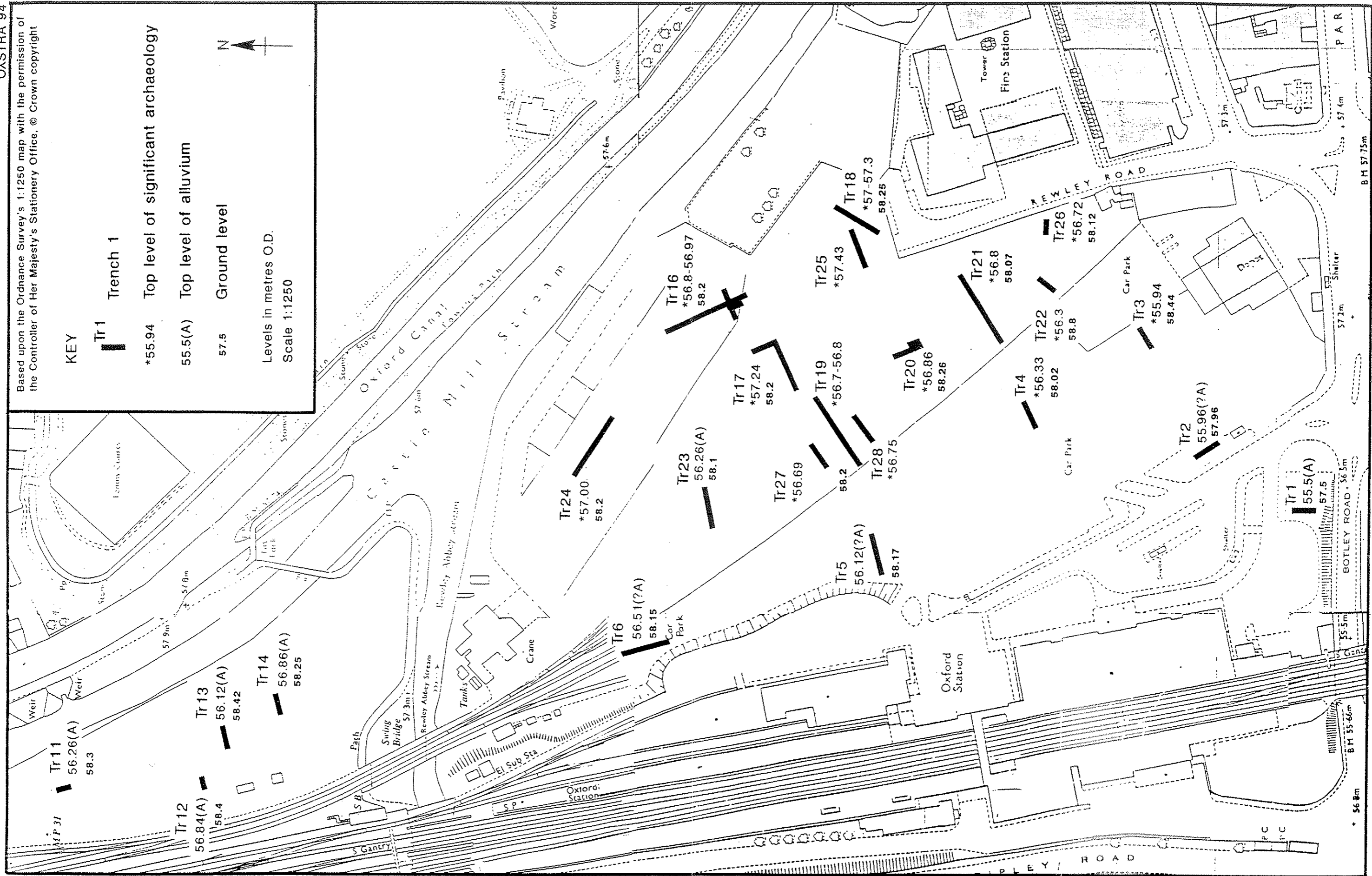
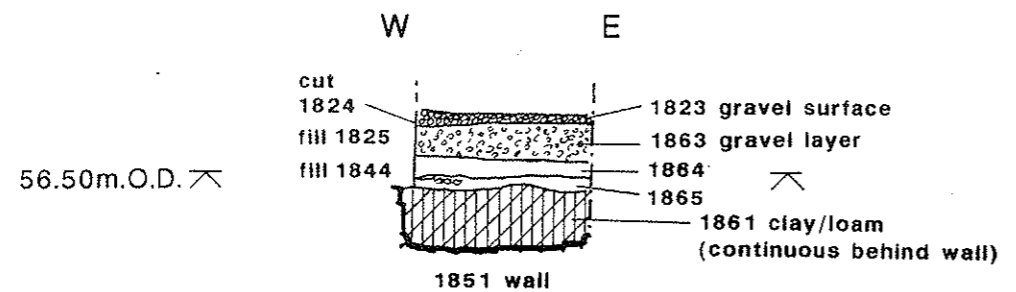
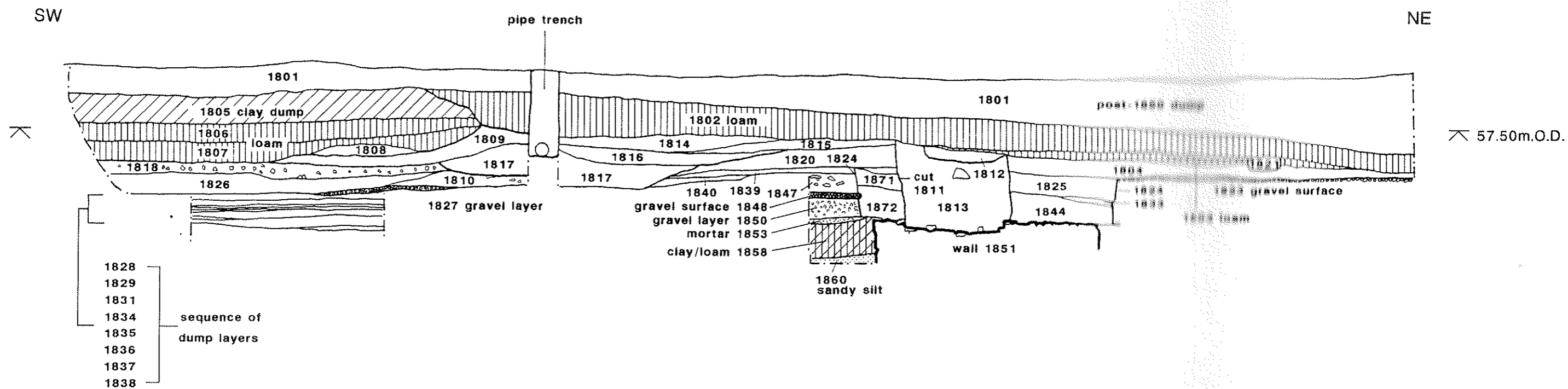



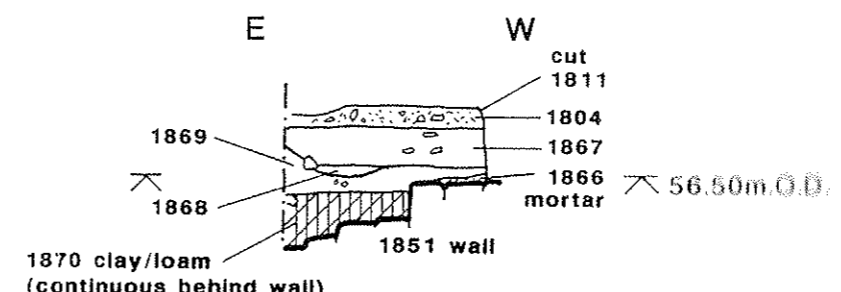
Figure 1: Trench locations and heights of archaeology. See Section 8 of report for notes

Figure 3: Trench 18, north-west section
(see fig 2 for location)

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Trench 18, section through deposits within church



Trench 18, section through deposits outside of church

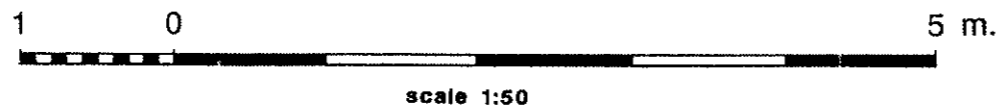


Figure 4: Trench 16, detail plan at end of excavation
 (for trench location see Figure 2)

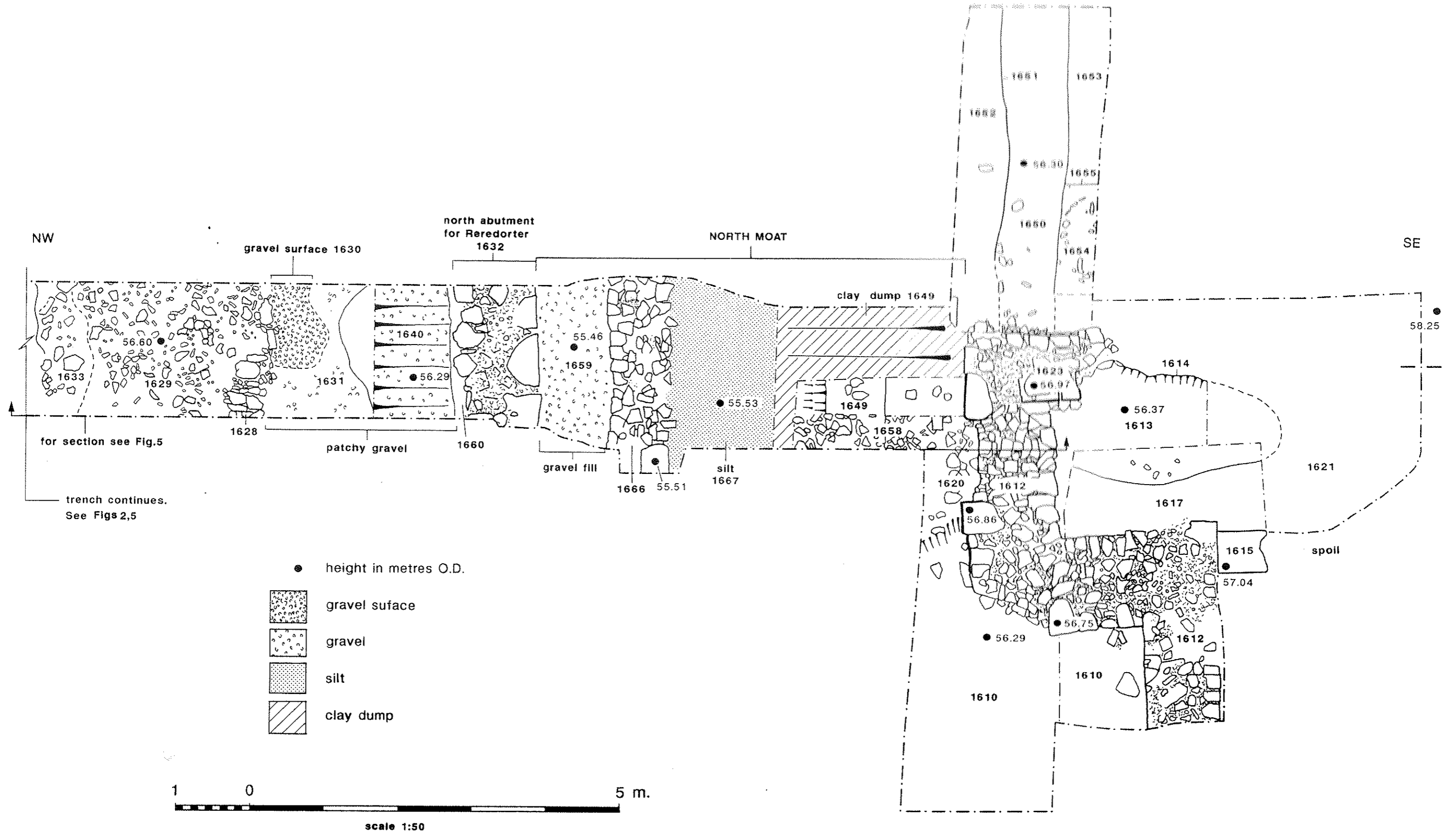


Figure 5: south-west section of Trench 16
 (see Figure 4 for location)

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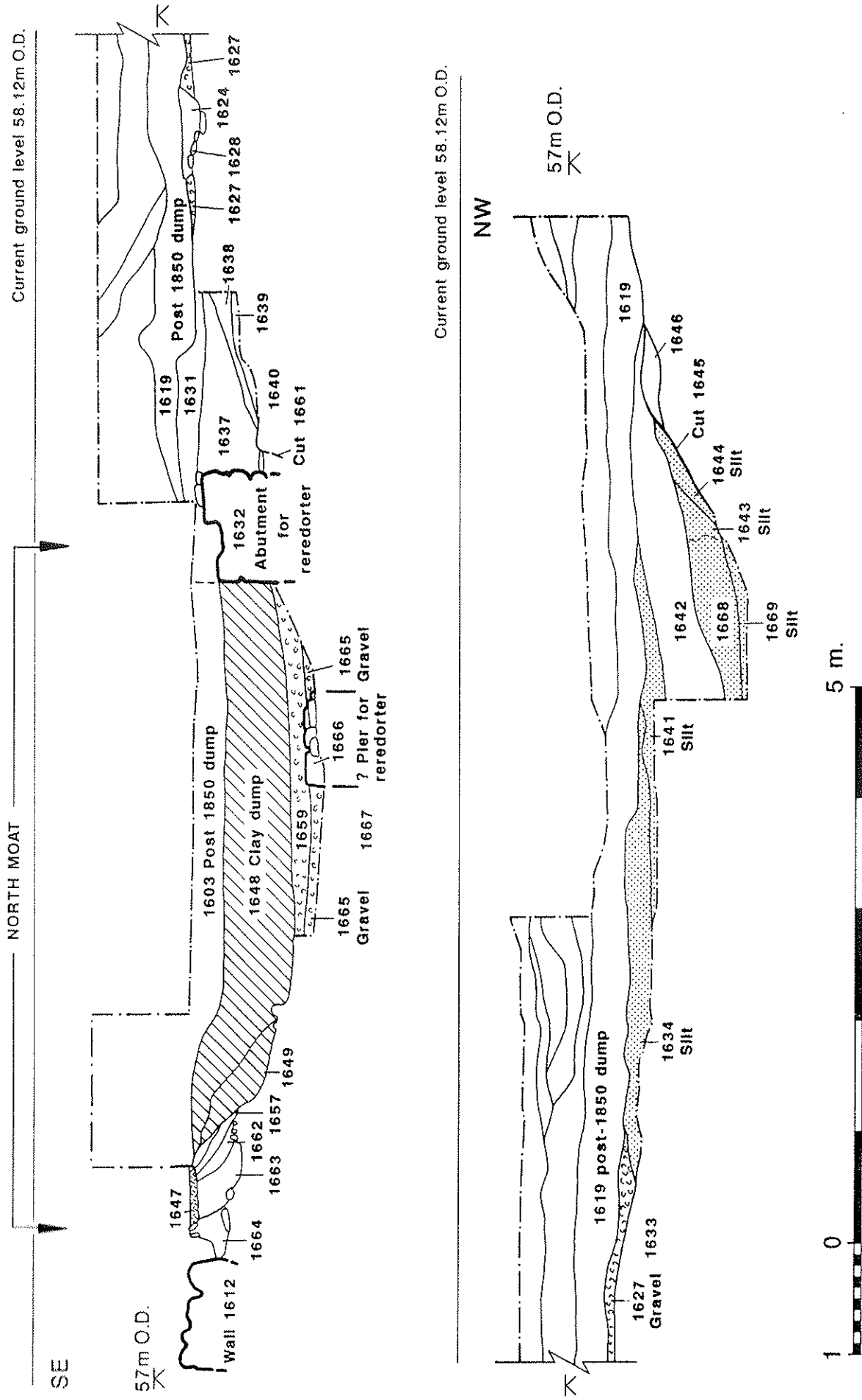


Figure 6: Trench 17, plan

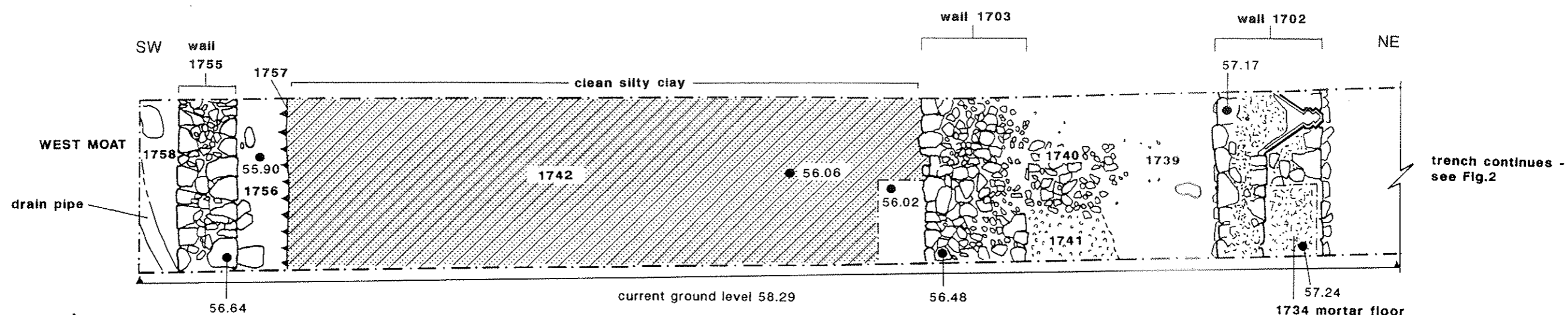


Figure 7: south section of Trench 17 (reversed)

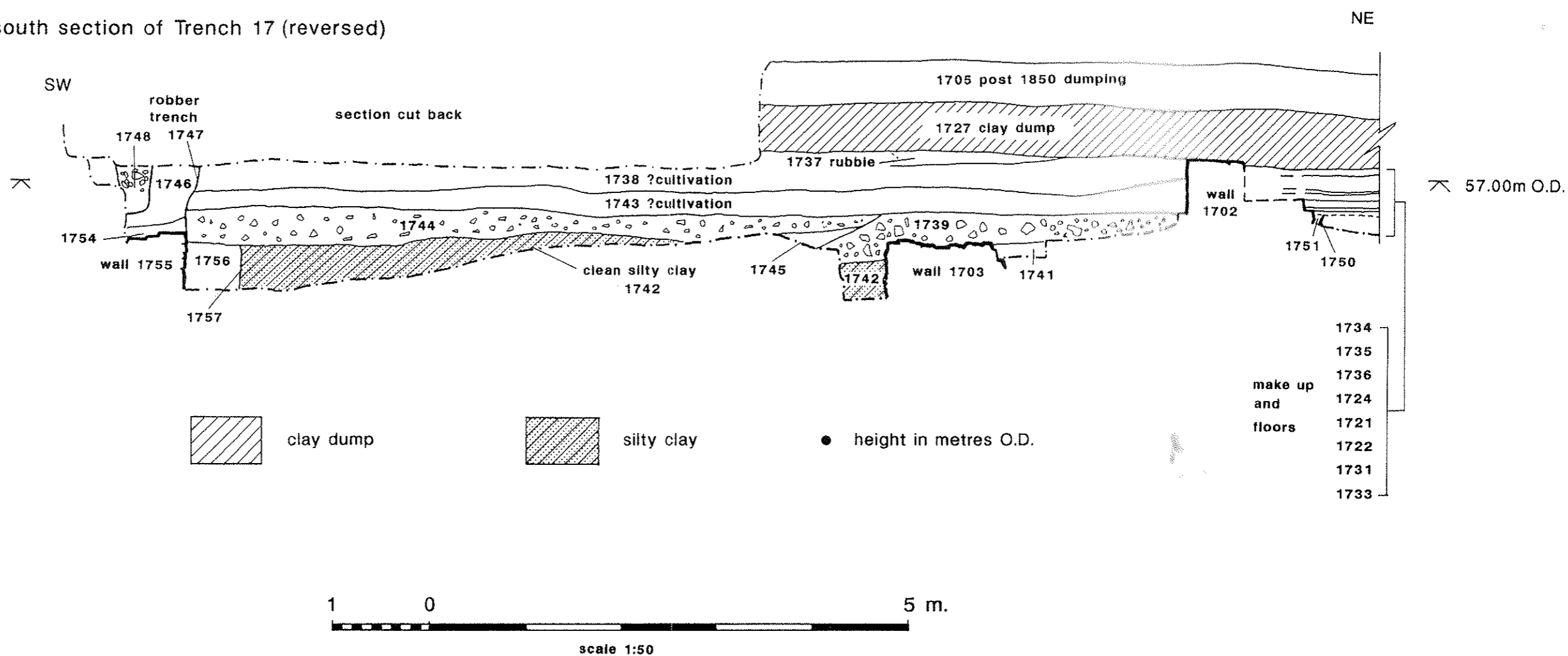


Figure 9: South section of Trench 21
(for location see Figure 2)

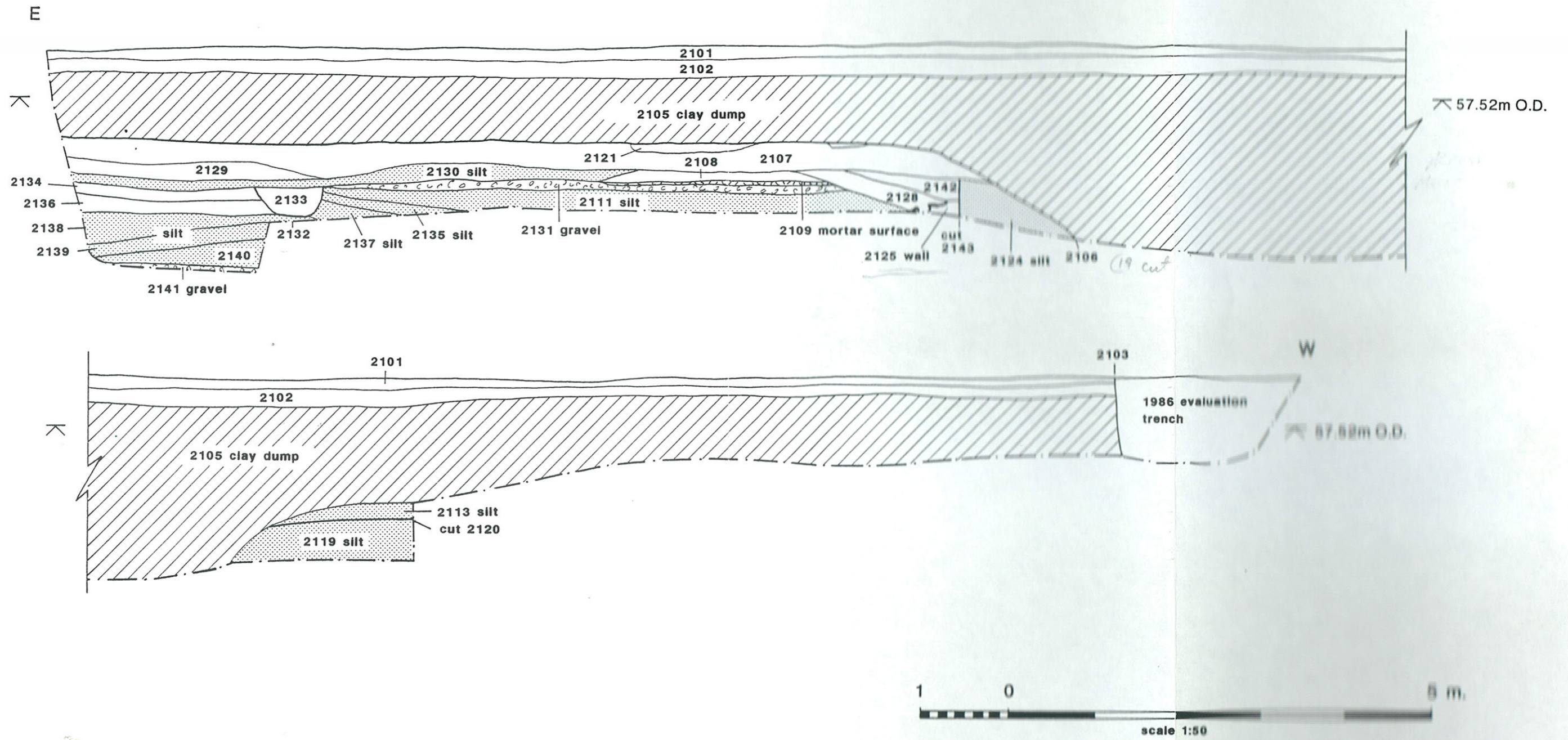
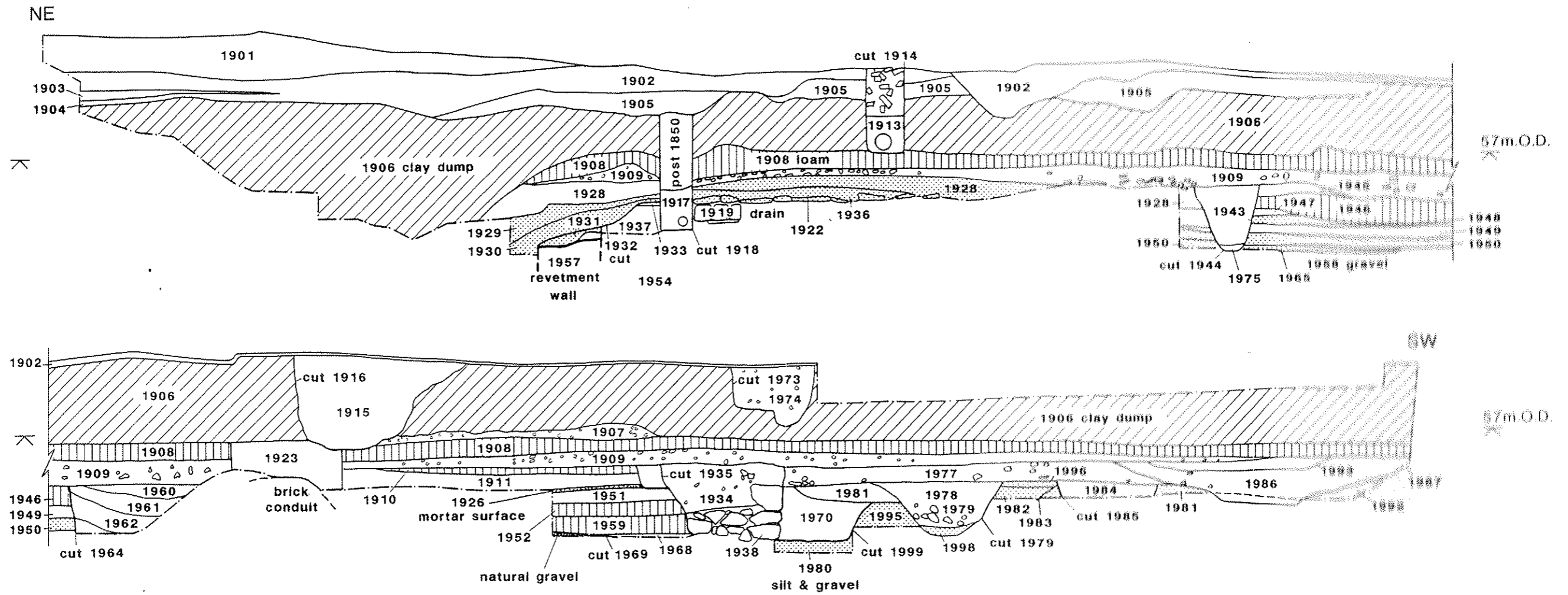


Figure 8 Trench 19, south-east section
(for location see Figure 2)



Trench 22, south section across west moat
(for location see Figure 2)

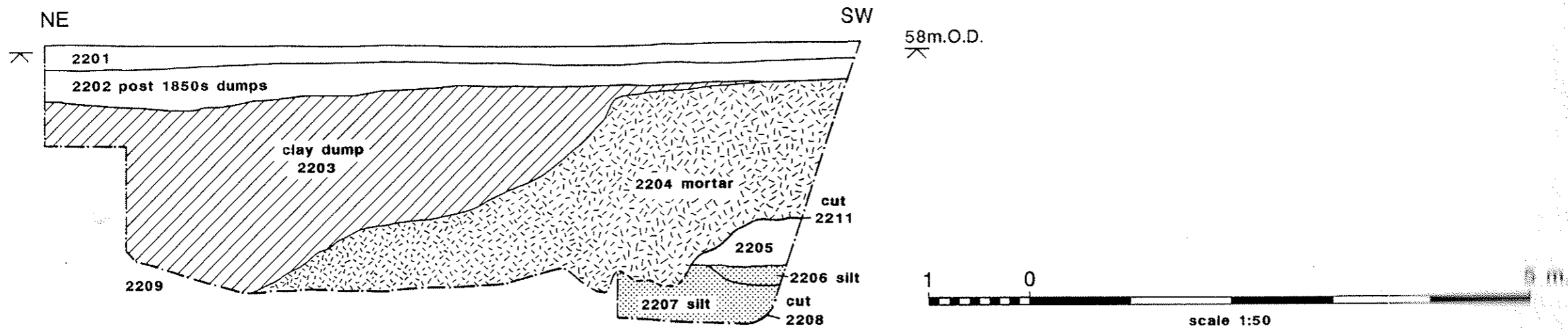
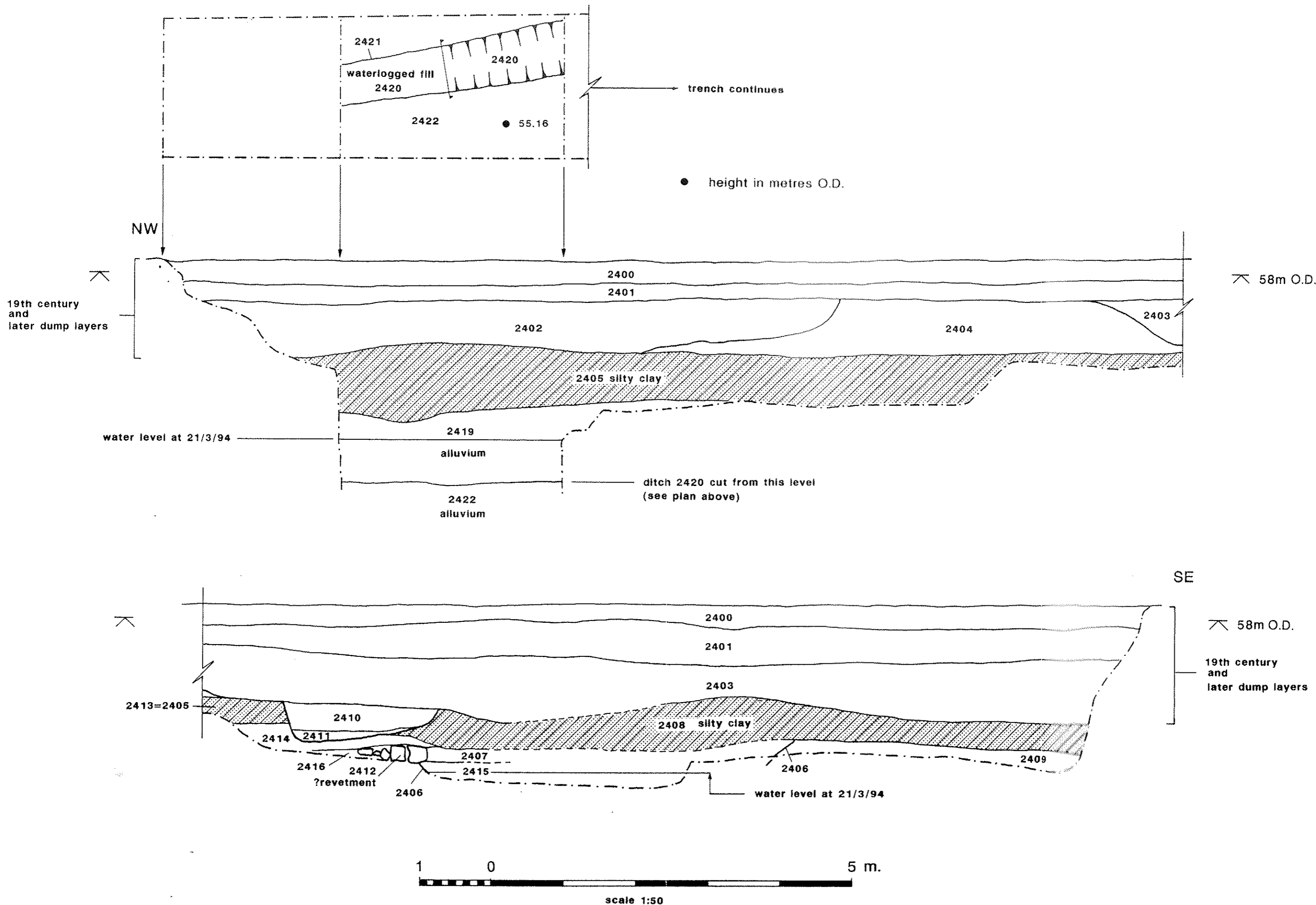


Figure 10: Trench 24, plan and north section of trench



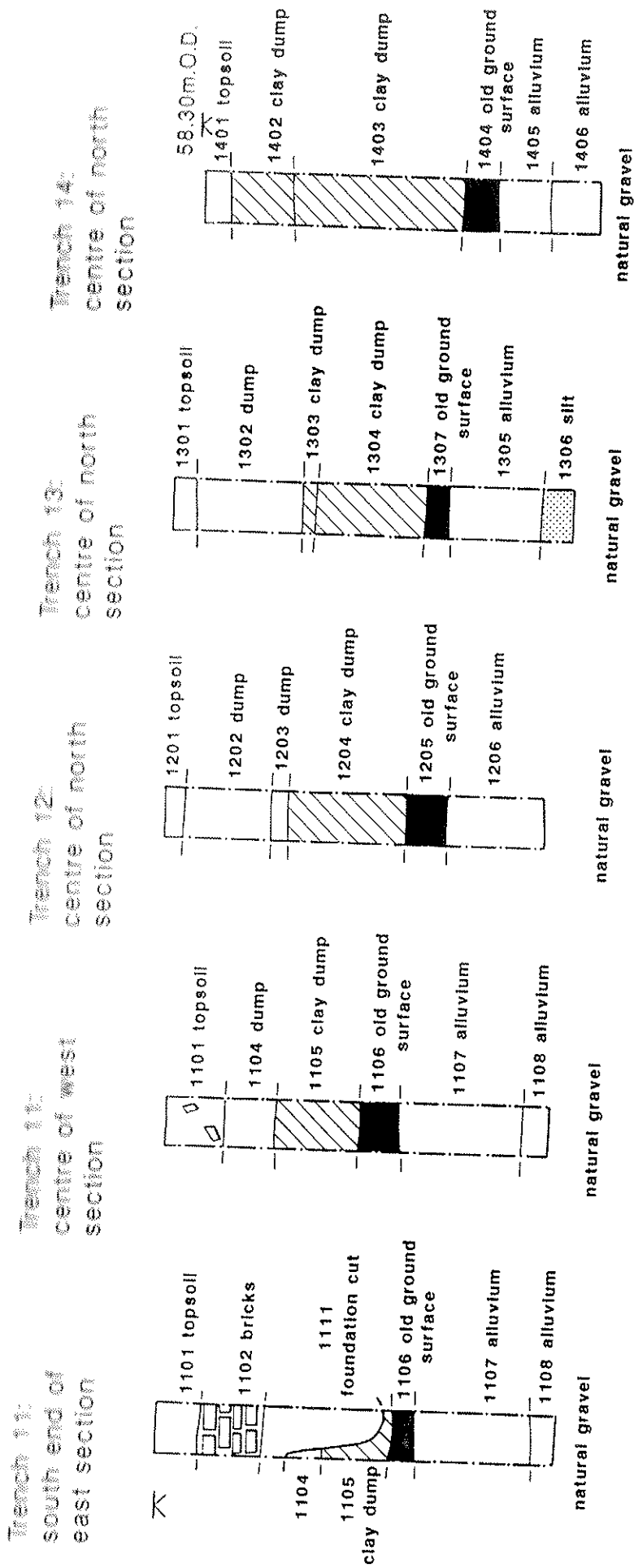
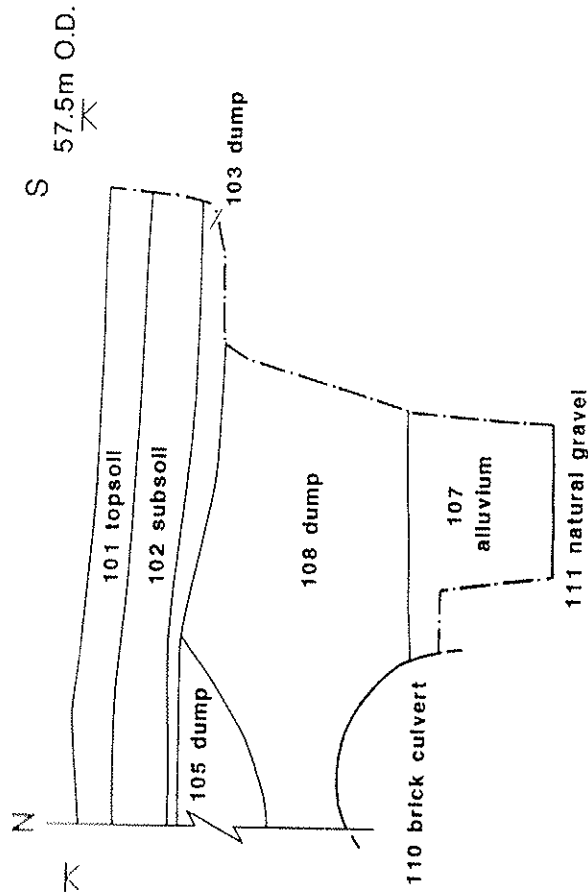


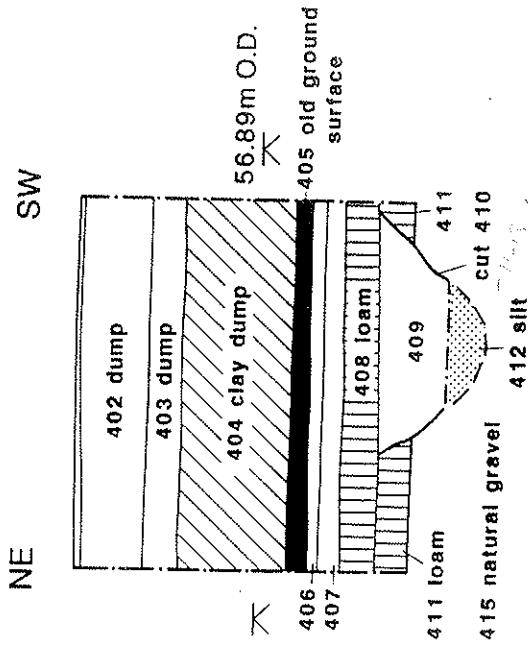
Figure 11: Sample sections from trenches north of Rewley Abbey Stream (for locations see Figure 2)

Figure 12 Trench 1, south end of east section

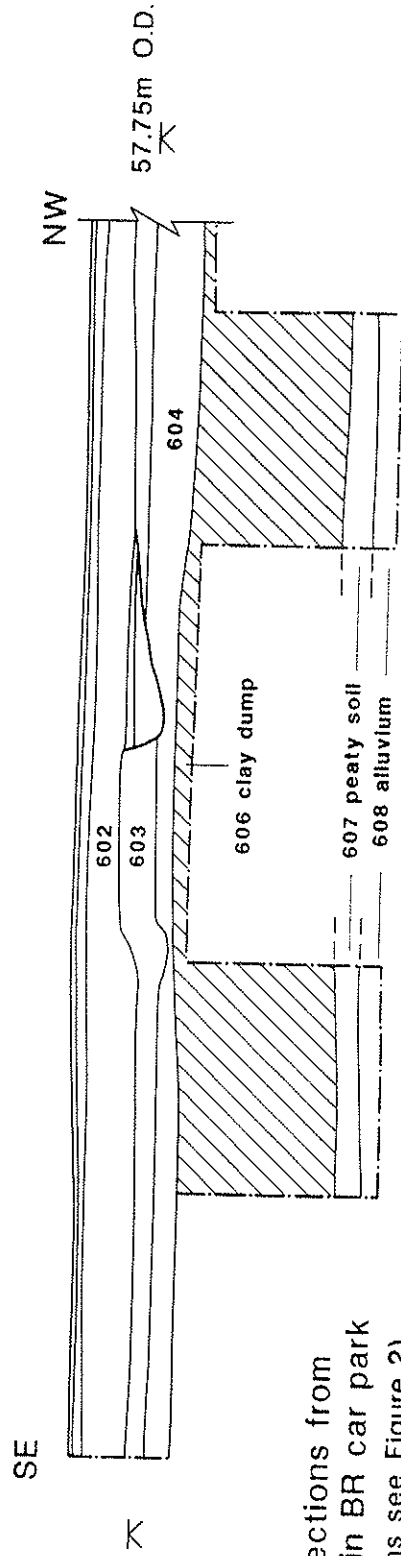


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Trench 4: south-east section



Trench 6: part of south-west section



Sample sections from
trenches in BR car park
(for locations see Figure 2)



scale 1:50

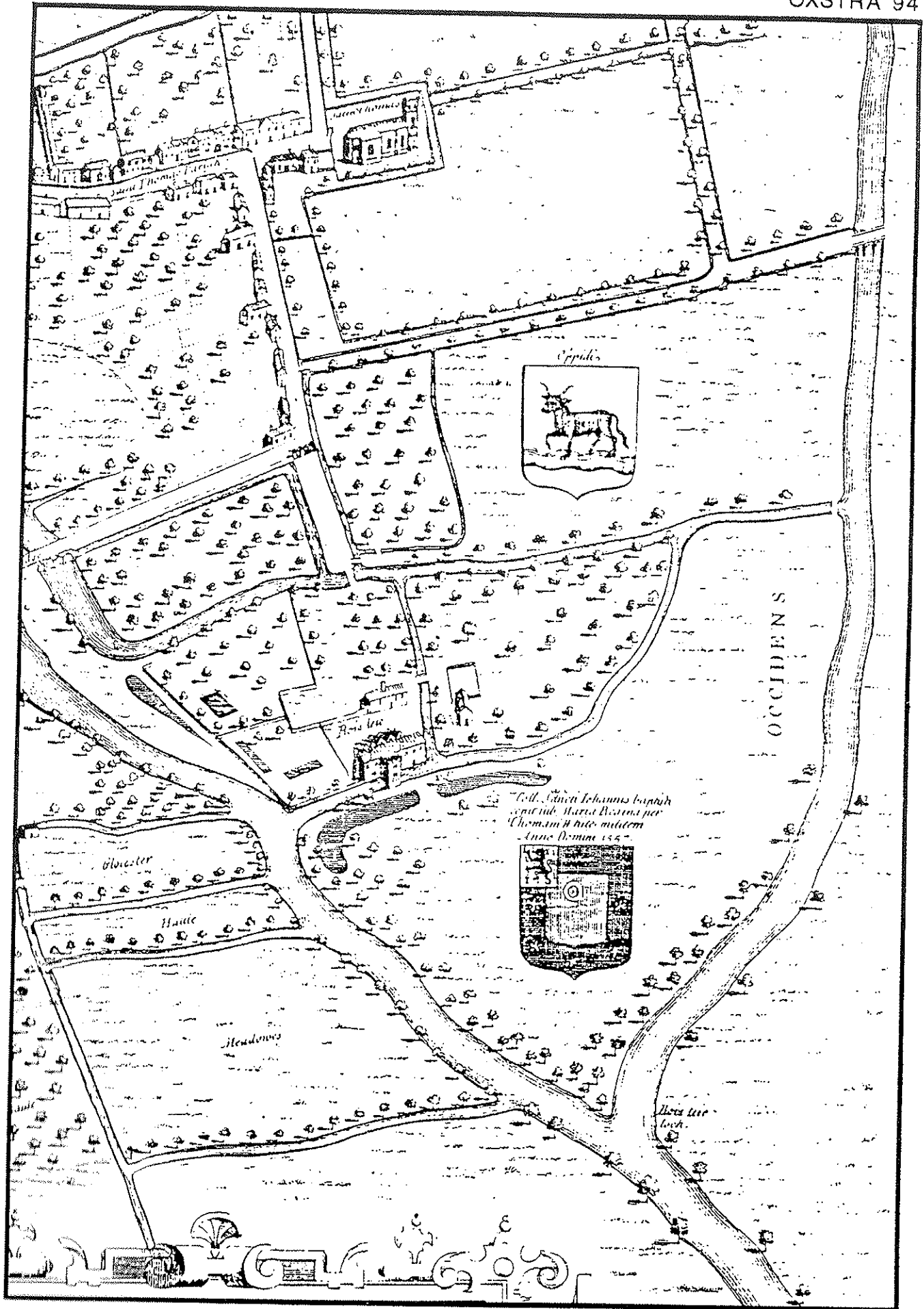


Figure 13: Detail of Agas' map - drawn 1578, engraved 1720

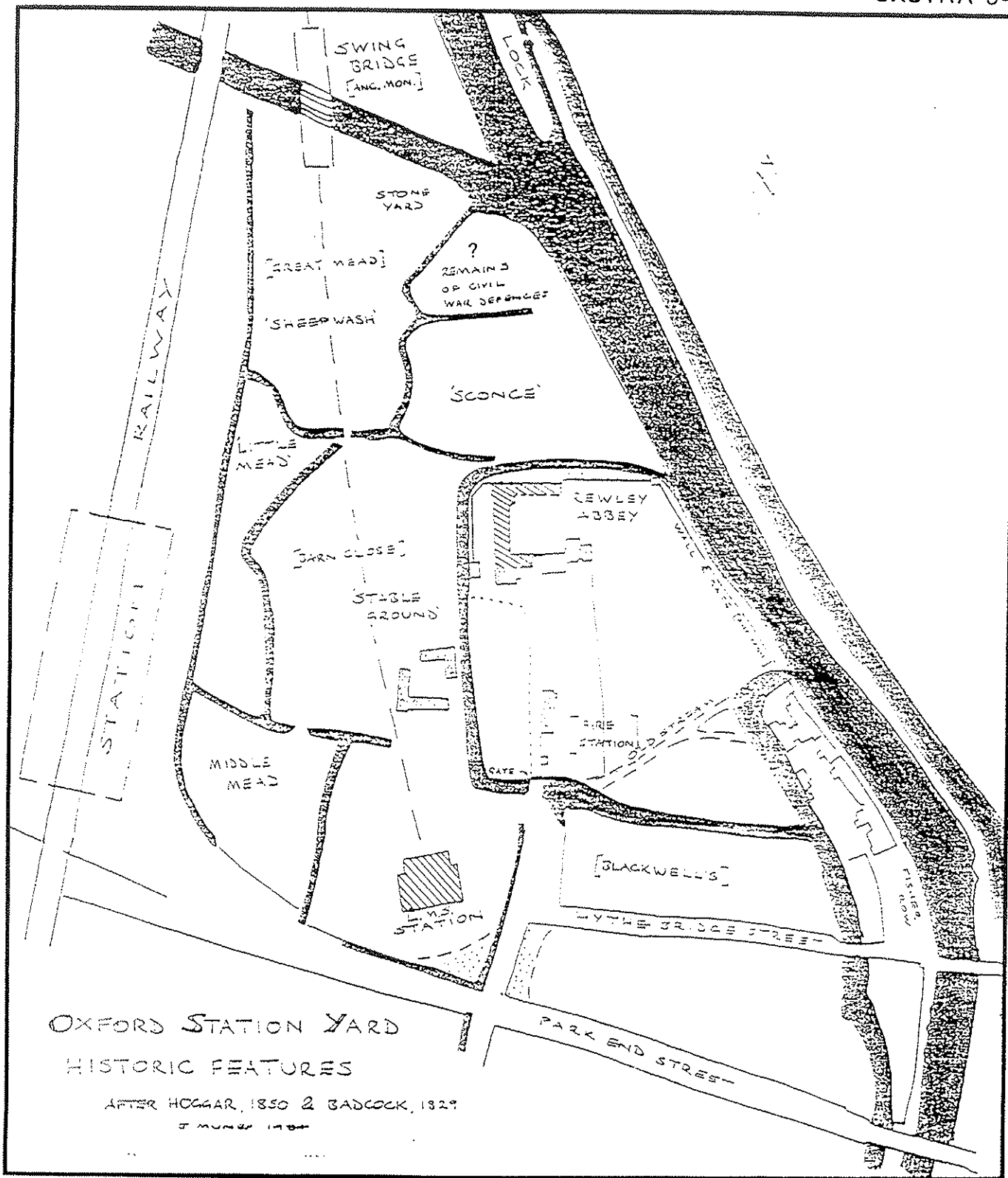


Figure 21: Oxford Station Yard, from Munby 1984

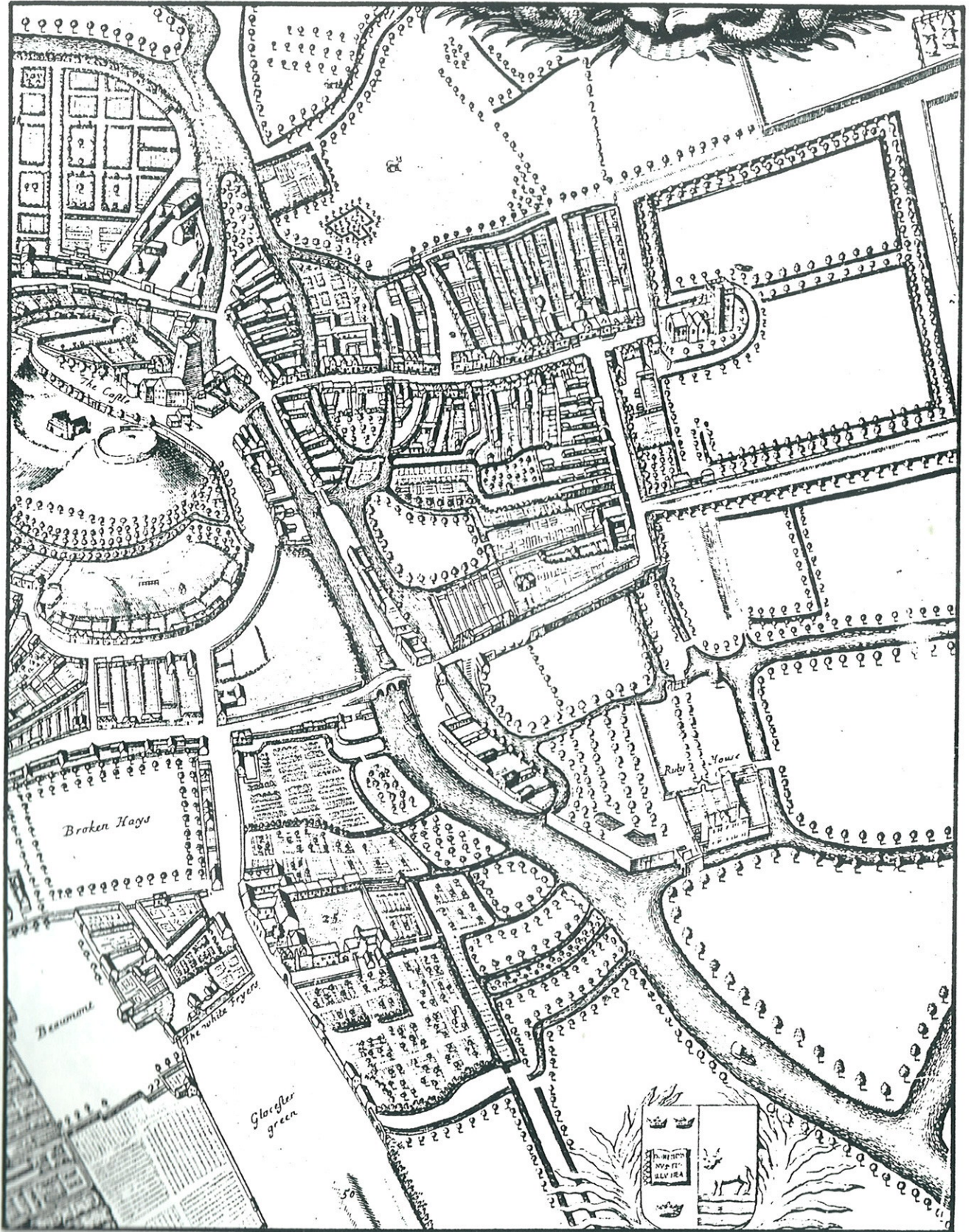


Figure 14: Detail of Loggan's map - drawn 1675

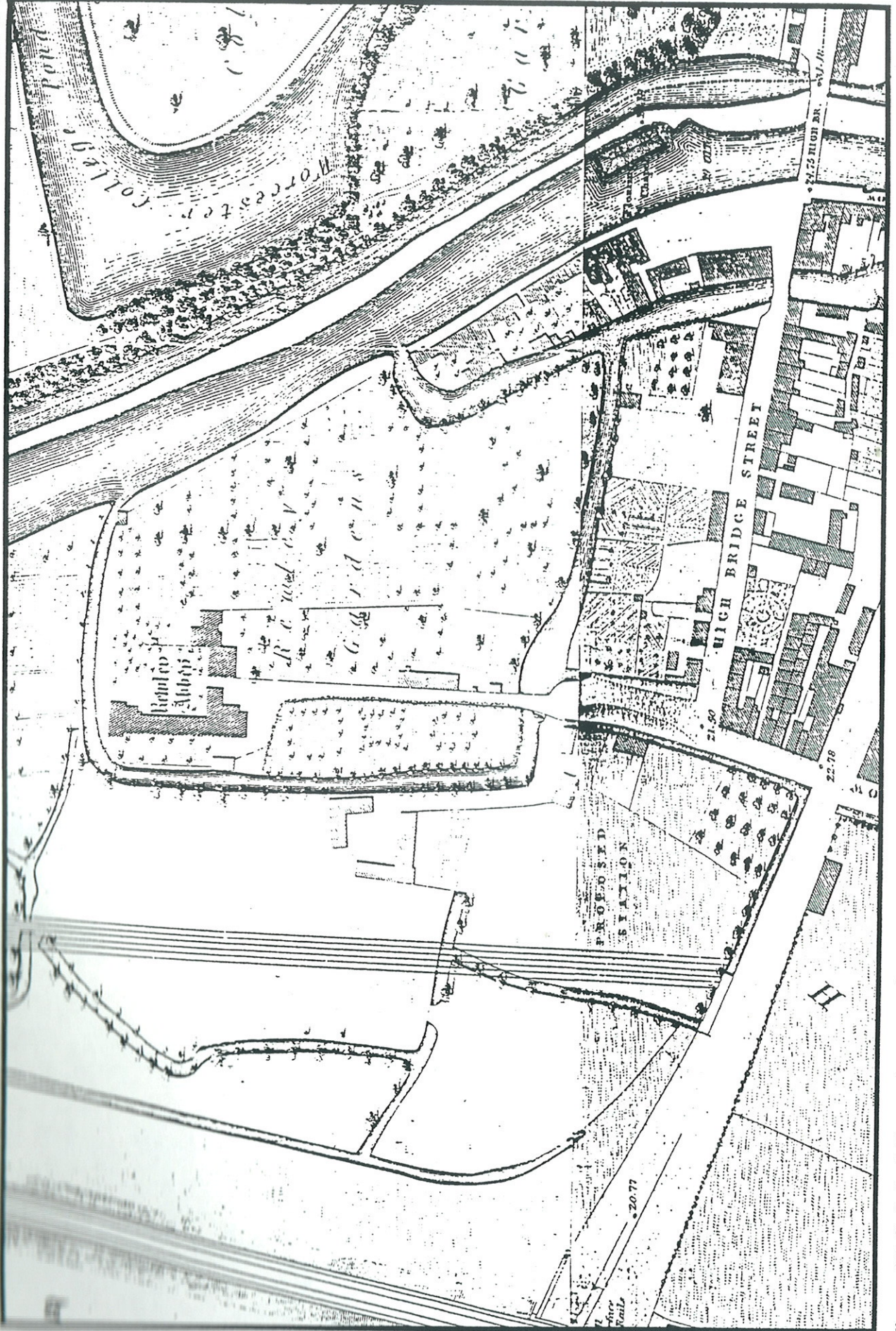


Figure 15: Detail of Hoggar's map - drawn 1850

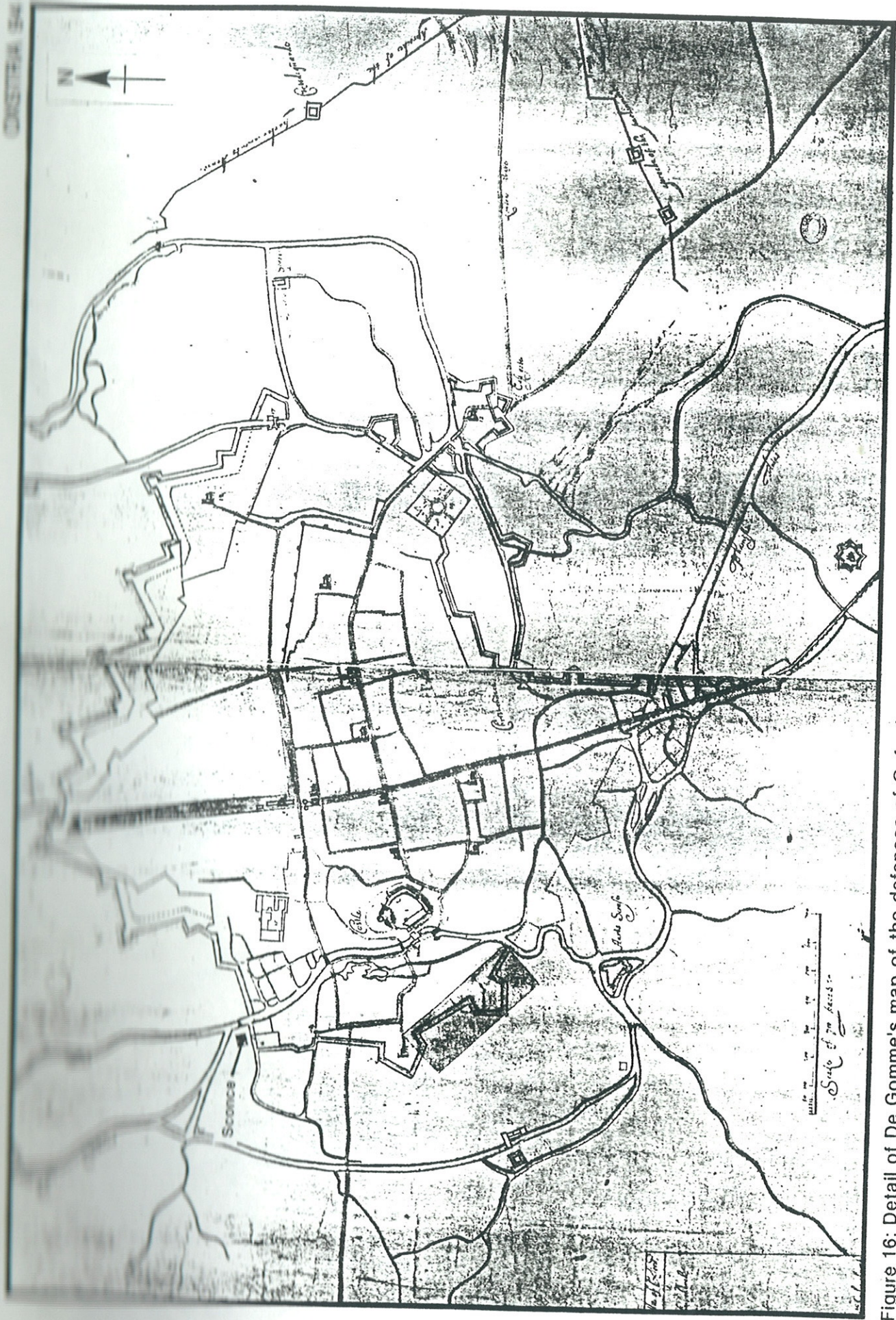


Figure 16: Detail of De Gomme's map of the defences of Oxford - drawn 1644

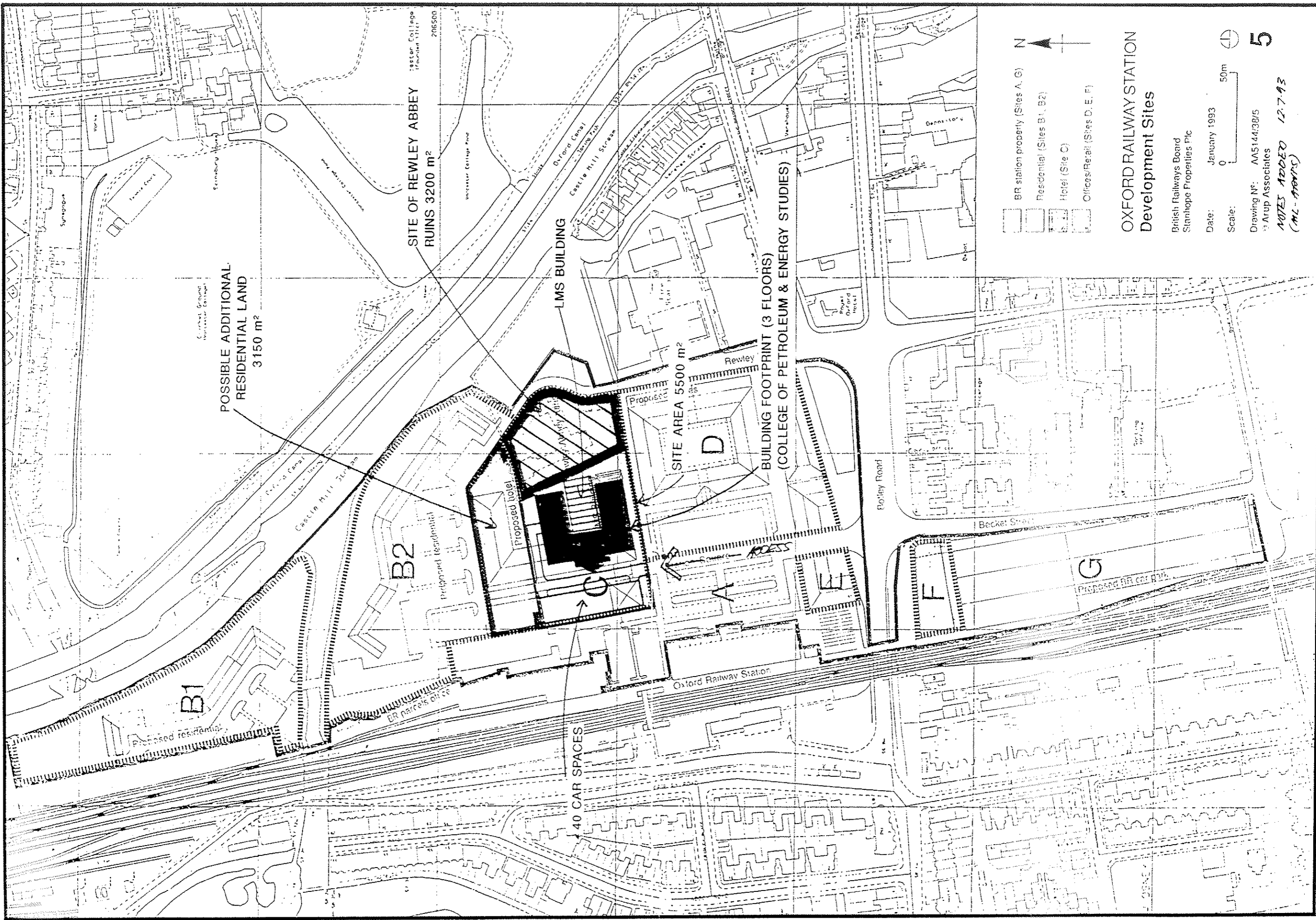


Figure 22: Outline plan of proposed developments as supplied by Stanhope Properties plc. 28/6/94

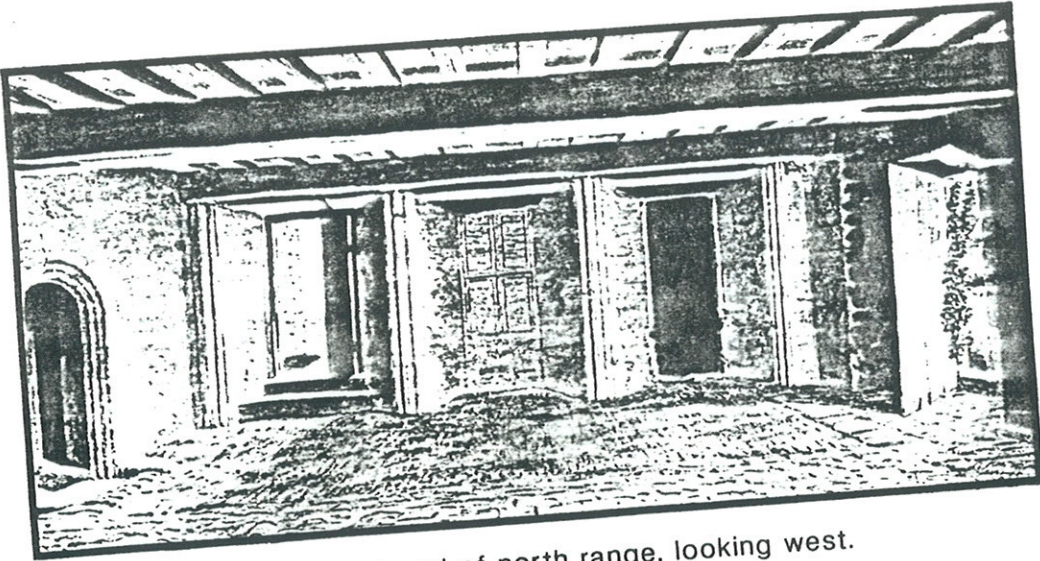


Figure 18A: Room at west end of north range, looking west.
 Drawing by W. Turner, 1850

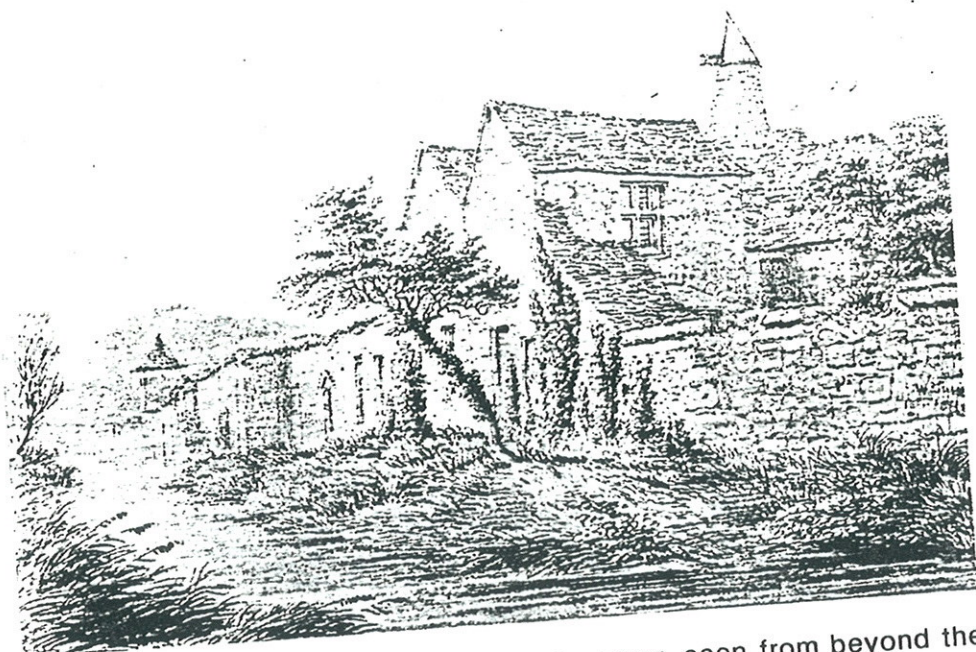


Figure 18B: North range and north-west corner, seen from beyond the
 moat. Drawing by W. Turner, 1851

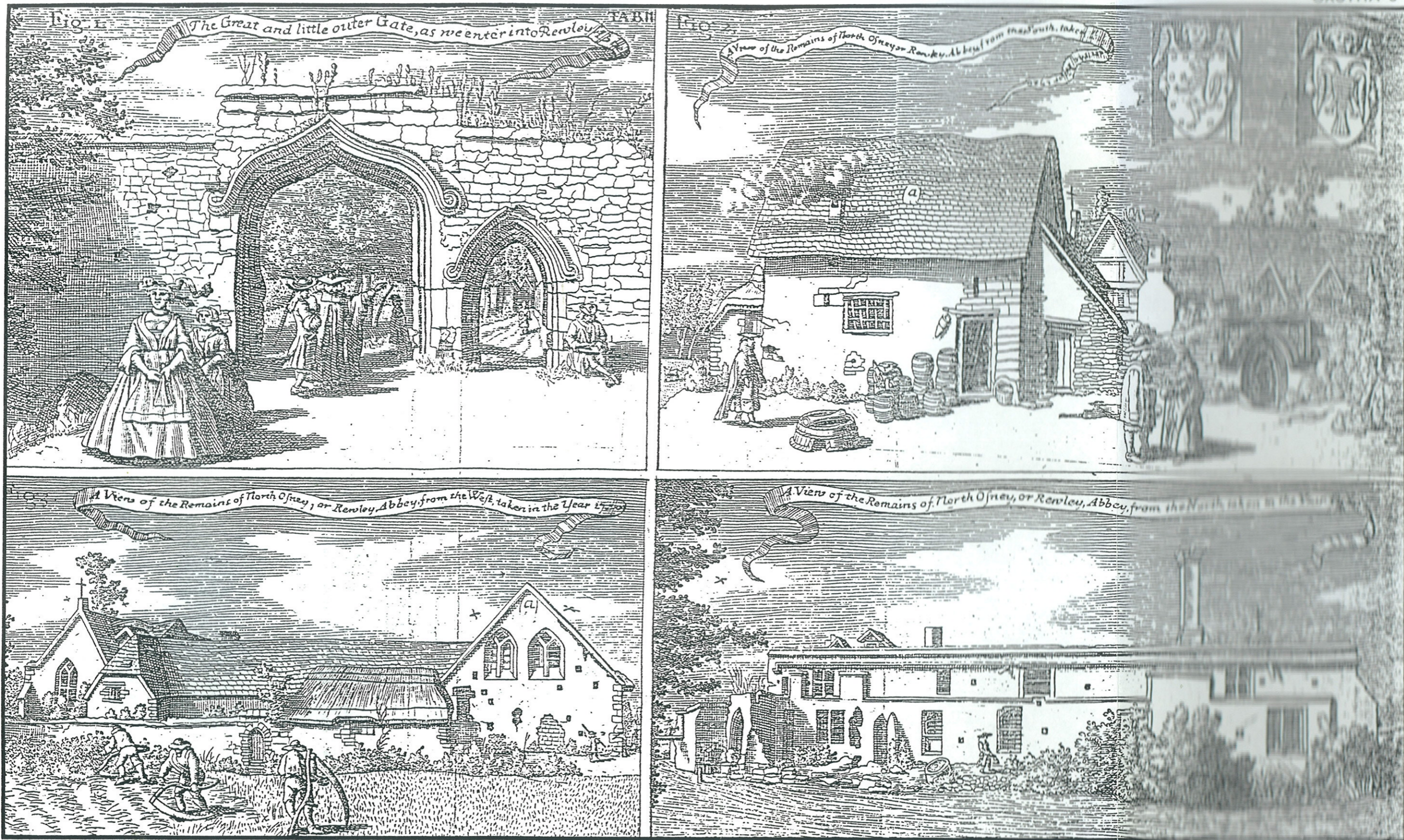


Figure 17: Four views of the ruins of Rewley Abbey as drawn by M. Burghers for Thomas Hearne, in 1720.

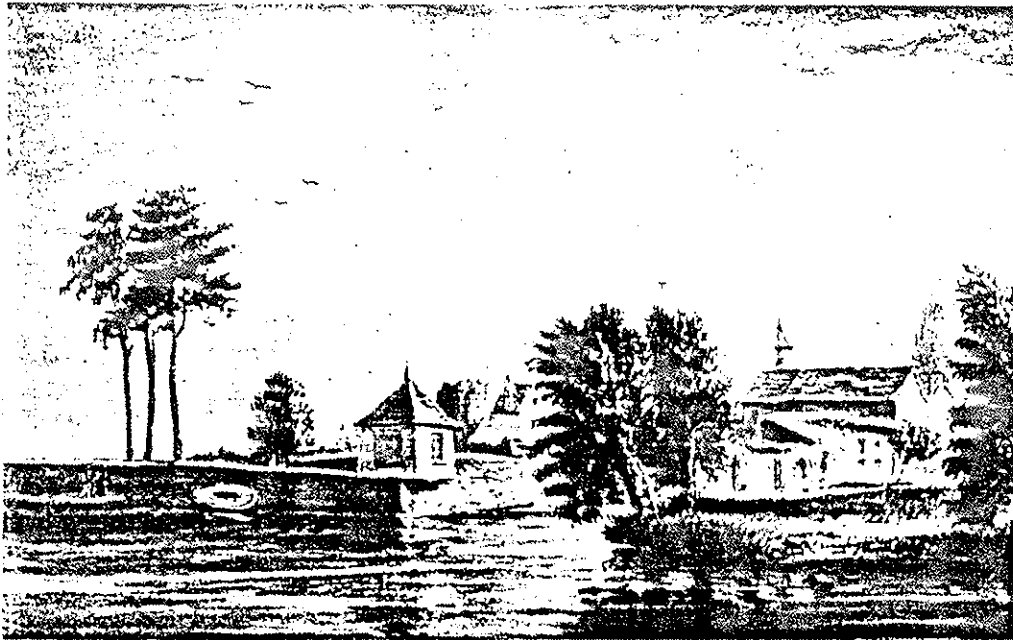


Figure 19A: View of Rewley Abbey from the north-east, drawn in 1820 by J. Fisher. Castle Mill Stream is in the foreground



Figure 19B: View north along Rewley Road in 1851, painted by W. Turner

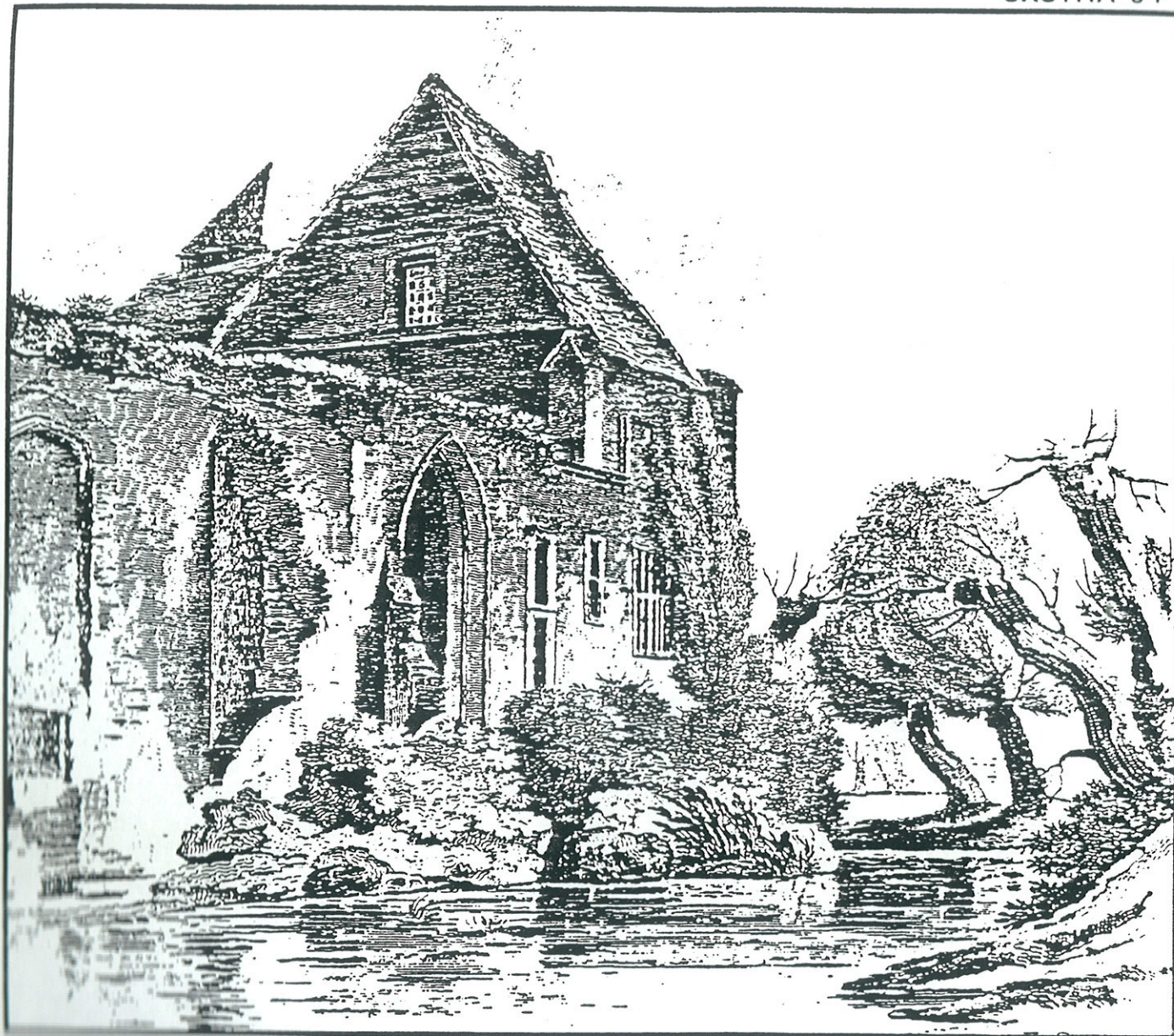


Figure 20: 19th-century view from the north of the north precinct wall and north moat