

The Load of Hay
Brent Street
Hendon
London
NW4



Archaeological Evaluation Report



Oxford Archaeology

6th October 2003

Client: CgMs Consulting

Issue N^o: 1

Planning Ref N^o: W05057G/01

NGR: TQ 237 886

Client Name: CgMs Consulting

Client Ref No:

Document Title: The Load of Hay, Brent Street, Hendon, London NW4

Document Type: Evaluation

Issue Number: 1

National Grid Reference: TQ 237 886

Planning Reference: W05057G/01

OA Job Number:

Site Code: BHJ 03

Invoice Code: BHJEV

Receiving Museum: Museum of London

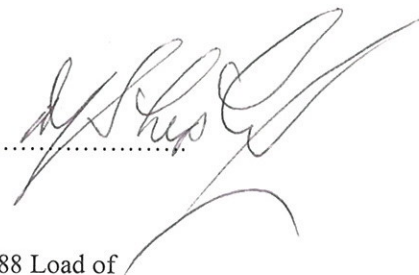
Museum Accession No: TBC

Prepared by: Mike Sims
Position: Supervisor
Date: 25th September 2003

Checked by: Andrew Holmes
Position: Contracts Officer
Date: 25th September 2003

Approved by: Nick Shepherd
Position: Head of Fieldwork
Date: 7th October 2003

Signed.....



Document File Location H:|PROJECTS|London LO\Brent BT\4688 Load of Hay\evRep.doc

Graphics File Location Server 10:/oaupubs 1/AtoH*BHJEV*Load of Hay*JM*6.10.03

Illustrated by Julia Moxham

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology

© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd 2003

Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800

f: (0044) 01865 793496

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Load of Hay, 9 Brent Street, Hendon, London. NW4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CONTENTS

Summary.....	2
1 Introduction	2
1.1 Location and scope of work	2
1.2 Geology and topography	2
1.3 Archaeological background.....	2
2 Evaluation Aims	2
3 Evaluation Methodology	3
3.1 Scope of fieldwork	3
3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording.....	3
3.3 Finds	3
3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence.....	3
4 Results: General.....	3
4.1 Soils and ground conditions	3
4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits.....	4
5 Results: Descriptions	4
5.1 Description of deposits.....	4
6 Discussion and Interpretation.....	5
6.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	5
6.2 Overall interpretation	5
Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory	6
Appendix 2 Bibliography	7
Appendix 3 GLSMR/RCHME NMR Archaeological Report Form	8

LIST OF FIGURES

- Fig. 1 Site location
 Fig. 2 Trench location plan and plan of features
 Fig. 3 Trench plans
 Fig. 4 Sections

SUMMARY

In September 2003, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at the Load of Hay Public House, 9 Brent Street, Hendon, London NW4 on behalf of CgMs Consulting. The evaluation revealed the bases of post-medieval boundary ditches, possibly tenement ditches set out in a grid pattern parallel to the line of the present day Brent Street. The upper strata of the site had been heavily truncated/disturbed during the construction of the recent car park. No evidence of earlier archaeology was encountered during the evaluation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 In September 2003 OA carried out a field evaluation at the site of the former Load of Hay Public House located at 9 Brent Street, Hendon, London NW4 (NGR: TQ 237 886)(Fig.1) on behalf of CgMs Consulting, in respect of a planning application for redevelopment of the site (Planning Application No.W05057G/01).

1.1.2 A brief was set by, and a WSI agreed, with Brent Council's Archaeological Advisor (OA 2003).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies on a gentle SW-NE slope running from 52 m down to 50.5 m OD and is c.0.2 hectares in area. The site is presently a concrete surfaced car park with the demolished base of the old public house sited along the SW edge. The site is bounded to the NE by Brent Street, to the NW by the Hendon Adath Ylsroel Synagogue, by properties fronting Shirehall Lane to the SE and by properties fronting Elm Close to the SW. The underlying geology is London clay.

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The site is within an Archaeological Priority Area as shown on the Brent UDP proposals map which has been designated to cover the medieval and post-medieval historic core of Hendon and the Roman road, the route of which Brent Street follows. Details of the archaeological background can be found in the CgMs brief for the project (CgMs 2003).

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1.1 To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the development area and to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality, date, depth below ground level and depth of any archaeological remains present.

2.1.2 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.

2.1.3 To make available the results of the evaluation.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The site measured approximately 0.2 hectares, of which approximately 30% of this area comprised the demolished public house, which with its cellars had destroyed the underlying archaeology. The evaluation comprised four trenches, each measuring 10 m long by 2 m wide, representing almost 6% of the site area (Fig.2).
- 3.1.2 Trenches 1 and 2 were placed 5 m apart, aligned SW-NE in the northern half of the site; Trench 3 was placed centrally, aligned N-S and Trench 4 was sited towards the southern extent of the development site, aligned SE-NW.
- 3.1.3 After breaking up the concrete car park surface using a hydraulic breaker the overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a mechanical excavator (JCB) fitted with a toothless bucket.
- 3.1.4 Excavation continued, removing the overburden in spits until either the first significant archaeological horizon was reached or undisturbed natural.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 3.2.1 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20, a series of sample sections showing the stratigraphy of each trench were also recorded. All features and the sections were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures detailed in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

3.3 Finds

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

3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 3.4.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were identified during this evaluation.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 4.1.1 The site is located on a gentle slope running from SW-NE. All the trenches came down onto a yellow brown sandy clay natural. Wheel rutting and disturbance from construction of the existing concrete carpark had caused significant mixing between the original topsoil, subsoil and natural and the trenches were deliberately machined through this disturbance down onto undisturbed natural.

4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

- 4.2.1 The archaeological deposits were distributed between the southern and northern trenches with none found centrally.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of deposits

Trench 1 (Fig.3, plan 100)

- 5.1.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 0.55 m below ground level coming down onto the surface of a yellow brown natural clay (104). Cutting into the surface of this natural was a SW-NE aligned ditch (107) running centrally down the trench. Filled with a tenacious grey-brown clay silt (106), this ditch was up to 0.8 m wide by 0.4 m deep (Fig.4, section 102). Both the natural and the ditch were sealed by a heavily disturbed silty layer (103), 0.25 m deep and composed of mixed yellow brown and grey silty clays. The nature of the mixing appears to have been indicative of heavy wheel rutting caused by dumper trucks. Above this layer were three thin layers of gravel mixed with tarmac scalpings (101, 102 and 105), all forming the base for the reinforced concrete car park surface (100).

Trench 2 (Fig.3, plan 200)

- 5.1.2 This trench was excavated to a depth of 0.6 m below ground level coming down onto a yellow brown natural clay (204). Cutting across the natural at the SW end of the trench was a NW-SE running ditch (206) that measured up to 1 m in width by 0.3 m deep. It was filled by a grey-brown silty clay (205)(Fig.4, section 200), which produced sherds of pottery of late 17th-18th century date. Overlying both the natural and this ditch was a layer of mixed yellow brown and grey silty clay (203). This was 0.25 m deep and identical to layer 103 and presumably from the same event. This context was overlain by 2 layers of scalpings and gravel (201 and 202), both approximately 0.06 m deep, sealed by the reinforced concrete layer (200).

Trench 3 (Fig.3, plan 300)

- 5.1.3 In Trench 3 natural was reached at a depth of 0.6 m below ground level and as in the previous trenches, this was a yellow-brown clay (304). This was overlain by a layer of mixed yellow brown and grey silty clay (303) that was 0.28 m deep. Overlying this layer were 3 thin layers of gravel and scalpings (301, 302 and 305) with a total depth of 0.14 m and forming the base for the reinforced concrete surface (300)(Fig.4, section 300). No archaeological features were observed in this trench.

Trench 4 (Fig.3, plan 400)

- 5.1.4 Trench 4 was excavated to a depth of 0.75 m below ground level coming down onto a tenacious yellow brown natural clay (404). This was overlaid at the SE end of the trench by a friable grey- brown clay silt (407) - a buried topsoil - which produced several pieces of 18th century pottery. Both this buried soil and the natural were cut by a SE-NW running ditch (406), measuring 0.35 m deep by approximately 0.8 m

wide, which ran along the NE side of the trench. This was filled by a friable grey brown clay silt (405)(Fig.4, section 401), which also contained 18th century pottery. These contexts were sealed by a 0.25 m deep layer of mixed yellow brown and grey clay (403), identical to that seen in the other trenches. Overlying this layer was a 0.1 m thick layer of crushed brick (402) and a 0.06 m thick layer of gravel (401) forming the base for the reinforced concrete surface (400).

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 The conditions in the field were dry and clear with no intrusion by modern features (e.g. services). The distribution of the trenches and percentage sample of the site should give a good reflection of the overall archaeological potential of the site.

6.2 Overall interpretation

- 6.2.1 The lack of early archaeological features and residual finds suggests that this site was probably agricultural in nature for the majority of its history. The linear features exposed in three of the trenches appear to form a right-angled grid, aligned with the present Brent Street.
- 6.2.2 The recovery of late 17th to 18th century finds from the fills of these ditches indicates a post-medieval date for the layout, probably from the division of tenement/building plots running out from Brent Street during the urbanisation of the area.
- 6.2.3 The overall layer of mixed clays (103,203,303 and 403) appears to have been formed during the topsoil stripping prior to construction of the existing car park and shows all the hallmarks of dumper and lorry wheel rutting, mixing the underlying subsoil and remnants of the topsoil. This would have destroyed any archaeological evidence close to the surface leaving only the deeper features such as the ditches surviving.
- 6.2.4 A closer examination of early maps may confirm the alignment and extent of the boundary ditches.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
1						
	100	Layer	0.12 m	Concrete surface	-	Modern
	101	Layer	0.06 m	Gravel base for concrete	-	Modern
	102	Layer	0.05 m	Crushed tarmac	-	Modern
	103	Layer	0.18 m	Disturbed/wheel rutted soils	Brick, glass	Modern
	104	Layer	>0.2 m	Natural clay	-	-
	105	Layer	0.05 m	Crushed stone	-	Modern
	106	Fill	0.4 m	Fill of ditch 107	-	Post-medieval
	107	Cut	0.4 m	Boundary/plot ditch	-	Post-medieval
2						
	200	Layer	0.15 m	Concrete surface	-	Modern
	201	Layer	0.05 m	Gravel base for concrete	-	Modern
	202	Layer	0.1 m	Crushed tarmac	-	Modern
	203	Layer	0.25 m	Disturbed/wheel rutted soils	Brick, glass	Modern
	204	Layer	>0.1 m	Natural clay	-	-
	205	Fill	0.3 m	Fill of ditch 206	Tile, pottery	C 17th-18th
	206	Cut	0.3 m	Boundary/plot ditch	-	C 17th-18th
3						
	300	Layer	0.15 m	Concrete surface	-	Modern
	301	Layer	0.12 m	Gravel base for concrete	-	Modern
	302	Layer	0.05 m	Crushed tarmac	-	Modern
	303	Layer	0.3 m	Disturbed/wheel rutted soils	Brick, glass	Modern
	304	Layer	>0.1 m	Natural clay	-	-
	305	Layer	0.05 m	Scalpings	-	Modern
4						
	400	Layer	0.22 m	Concrete surface	-	Modern
	401	Layer	0.08 m	Gravel base for concrete	-	Modern
	402	Layer	0.05 m	Crushed tarmac	-	Modern
	403	Layer	0.25 m	Disturbed/wheel rutted soils	Brick, glass	Modern
	404	Layer	>0.1m	Natural clay	-	-

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
4						
	405	Fill	0.32 m	Fill of ditch 406	Tile, pottery, iron, glass	C 18th
	406	Cut	0.32 m	Boundary/plot ditch	-	C 18th
	407	Layer	>0.2 m	Buried soil horizon	Tile, pottery, iron	C18th

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY

OA 1992 *Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson)

CgMs 2003 *Load of Hay, Brent Street, Hendon, NW : Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation*

OA 2003 *Load of Hay, Brent Street, Hendon NW4: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

APPENDIX 3 GLSMR/RCHME NMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

1) TYPE OF RECORDING

Evaluation, Excavation, Watching Brief, Building Recording, Survey,
Geoarchaeological Evaluation, Fieldwalking, Other

2) LOCATION

Borough: Brent

Site address: 9 Brent Street, Hendon, London NW4

Site Name: The Old Load of Hay Site Code: BHJ 03

Nat. grid Refs: centre of site: TQ 2370 8860

Limits of site: N TQ 2373 8863 S TQ 2367 8856

E TQ 2373 8862 W TQ 2366 2371

3) ORGANISATION

Name of archaeological unit/company/society: Oxford Archaeology

Address: Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 OES

Site director/supervisor: Mike Sims Project manager: Jon Hiller

Funded by: CgMs Consulting

4) DURATION

Date fieldwork started 22/09/03 Date finished: 23/09/03

Fieldwork previously notified? NO

Fieldwork will continue? NO

5) PERIODS REPRESENTED

Post-Medieval, Unknown

6) PERIOD SUMMARIES Late 17th and 18th century boundary ditches (possible
tenement plots); 18th century buried soil horizon.

7) NATURAL

Type: London clay

Height above Ordnance datum: Average 51.5 m OD

8) LOCATION OF ARCHIVES

- a) Please provide an estimate of the quantity of material in your possession for the following categories:

NOtes x 40	Plans x 4	PHotos	Ngtives x 48
SLides x48	COrrrespondence	MScRipts (unpub reports, etc)	
BUlk finds 2Kg	SMAll finds	SOil samples	
OTHer			

- b) The archive has been prepared and stored in accordance with MGC standards and will be deposited in the following location: Museum of London
- c) Has a security copy of the archive been made?: yes

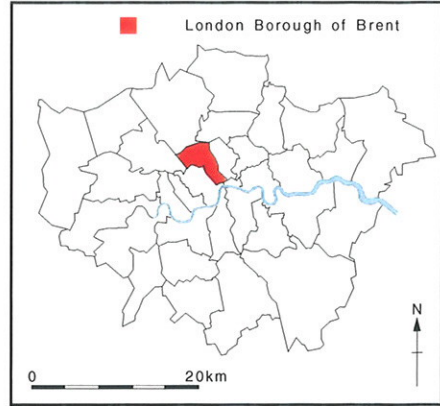
10) BIBLIOGRAPHY

See Appendix 2 Bibliography

SIGNED:

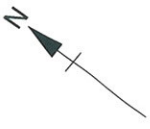
DATE: 4/10/2003

NAME : Jon Hiller

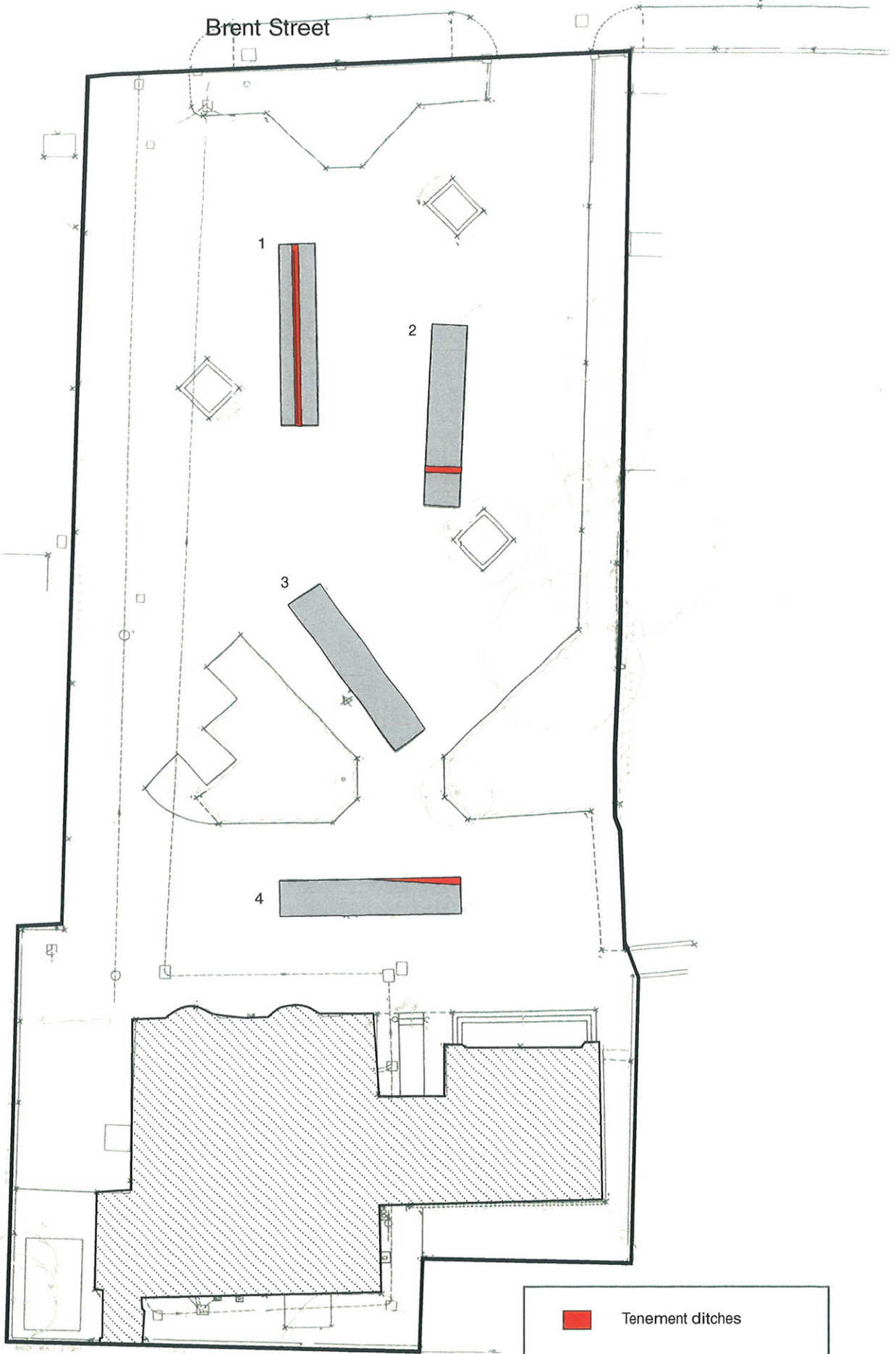





Reproduced from the Pathfinder 1:10:000 scale map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 2003 All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 100005569

Figure 1: Site location



Brent Street



	Tenement ditches
	Development site boundary
	Footprint of demolished building

0 10 m
1:300

Figure 2:Trench location plan and plan of features

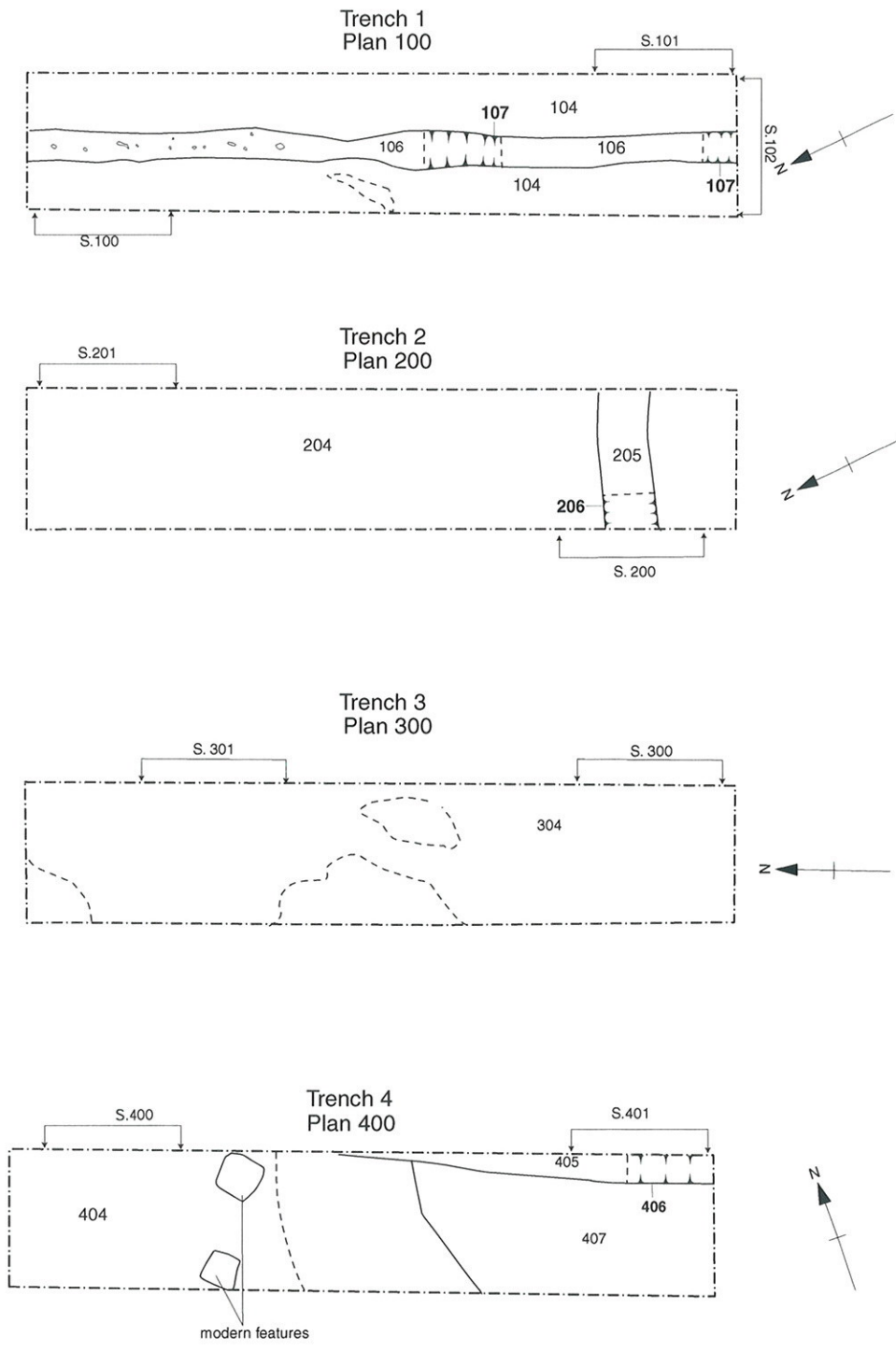


Figure 3: Trench plans

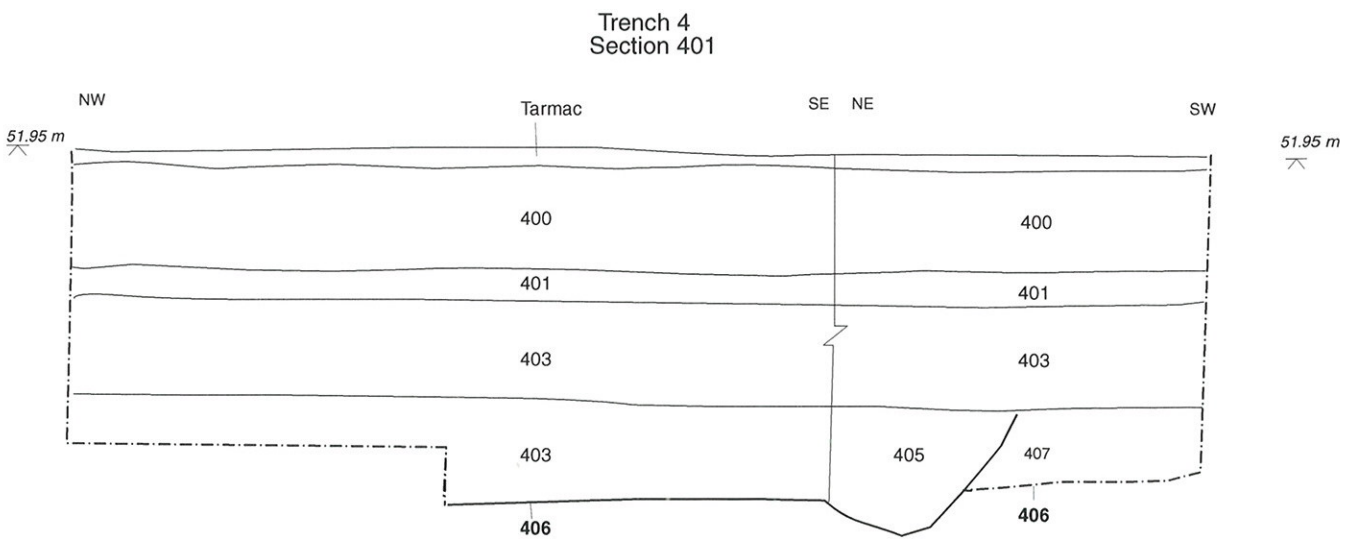
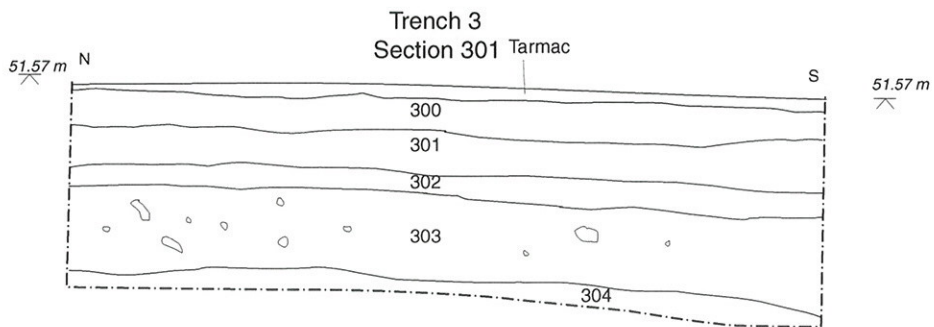
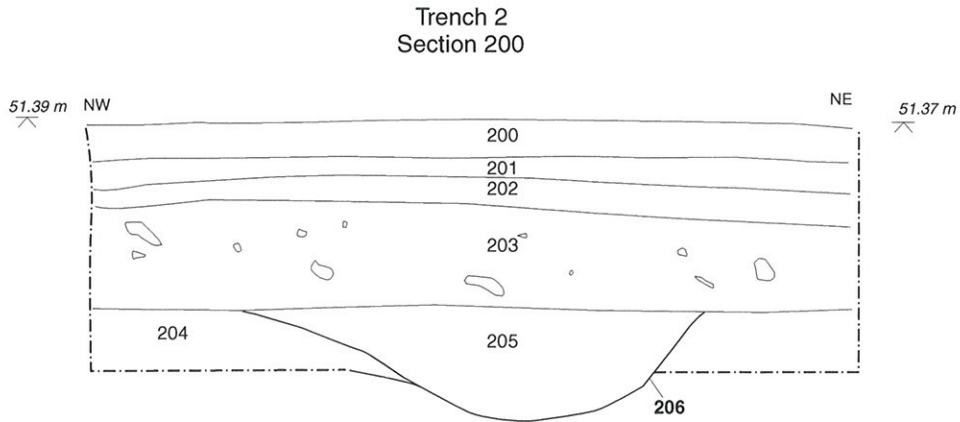
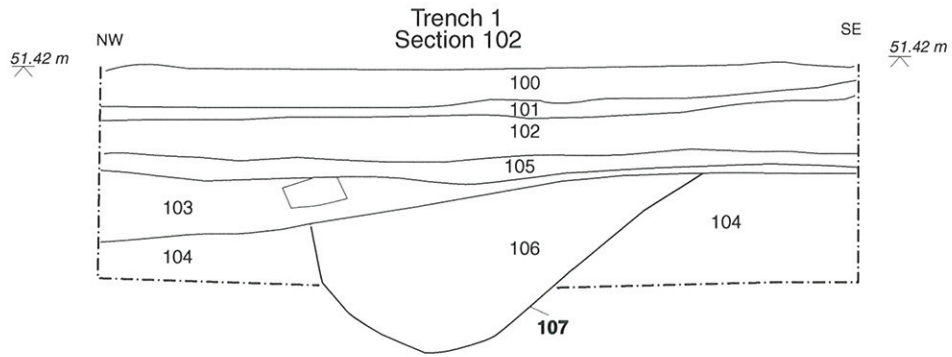


Figure 4: Sections



Oxford Archaeology

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

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



Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster LA1 1TF

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



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

Oxford Archaeological Unit is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627

Registered Office:

Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES