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SUMMARY

In July 2005, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at 121 - 127 Highfield Lane, Southampton on behalf of Gifford. The evaluation revealed that the Pleistocene gravels on the 3rd Terrace of the Itchen River system had probably never been the focus for early human activity on this site. Other archaeological remains represented late Victorian garden activity on a small domestic scale associated with the dwellings currently occupying the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 In July 2005 OA carried out a field evaluation at 121-127 Highfield Lane, Southampton (NGR: SU 429 143), on behalf of Gifford in respect of a planning application for the erection of a 35-unit building, with car parking, amenity space and landscaping on the site (Planning Application No. 05/00393/FUL). A brief was set by Southampton City Council outlining the requirements for a field evaluation. A WSI was prepared by OA and agreed with the City Council prior to the commencement of the evaluation.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is currently a residential area located on Highfield Lane, between Shaftesbury Avenue and Portswood Road (NGR: SU 429 143). The site lies at approximately 20 m OD.
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is River Terrace Gravel deposits overlying Wittering Formation of the Bracklesham Beds.

1.3 Archaeological [and historical] background

- 1.3.1 121–127 Highfield Lane, Portswood, Southampton occupies the former Victorian Portswood Green. Desk-based investigations have established that abundant handaxe finds have been made in Portswood. Pleistocene faunal remains have also been reported in Victorian times. The site is in an area of mapped Pleistocene fluvial terrace deposits, and the site footprint was previously quarried for gravel, indicating the presence in the vicinity of deposits that could well have been the source for some of the handaxe and faunal finds.
- 1.3.2 The full extent of the gravel quarry cannot be ascertained: it was not mapped prior to 1846, and a map of 1870 shows an extensive but largely in-filled pit.
- 1.3.3 There is potential for the survival of later archaeological remains on the site. The site stands close to the junction of two historic roads: Portswood Road to the south and Highfield Lane to the west. Portswood Road is shown on all surviving maps of Southampton and clearly originated no later than the Middle Ages. Highfield Lane is not certainly shown on the so-called Elizabethan map of Southampton, but is clearly shown on the 1658 map of the manor of Portswood. According to this map, the land that later became Portswood Green appears to have been part of a highway, a triangular cut-off between the two roads; the northern edge of

which roughly conforms to the hedgeline shown in 1846. Therefore there may be surviving evidence relating to the highway.

1.3.4 There is a slight possibility that a wider range of medieval and post-medieval evidence will be present on the site. Although the historic core of Portswood village, in the Middle Ages, lay farther to the north-east, along both sides of the Portswood Road, a map of 1658 indicates that a small group of buildings existed close to the junction of Highfield Lane and Portswood Road. None is shown actually on the site, though there is a possibility that the site was occupied at an earlier period.

1.3.5 A map of 1896 shows that 127 Highfield Lane was occupying the site towards the end of the 19th century. A plan provided by the Heritage Conservation Unit shows that the buildings currently occupying the site lie in areas of known gravel extraction.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1.1 The primary aims of the evaluation were:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.

2.1.2 More specifically, the work aimed to:

- To make available the results of the investigation.
- To define any relevant research priorities if additional archaeological investigation proves necessary.

2.1.3 Detailed objectives for the Palaeolithic element of the investigation are presented in section 9.1.1.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

3.1.1 The evaluation consisted of two trenches each measuring 15 m long and 2 m wide (Fig 1). The trenches were located in order to ascertain the presence/absence of archaeological remains on the street-front side of 127 Highfield Lane, whilst the trench to the rear of the building was to investigate the extent of the former gravel quarry and any other archaeological remains. Both of the trenches were deepened at the ends in order to investigate the underlying Pleistocene gravels for evidence of early human activity (see Appendix 1).

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 3.2.1 The modern tarmac and overburden was removed by a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. The trenches were excavated to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural geology - whichever was encountered first. All machine excavation was carried out under the strictest archaeological supervision.
- 3.2.2 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features/deposits were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down 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. No finds of special interest were found during the evaluation.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 3.4.1 No deposits of palaeo-environmental potential were encountered during the evaluation: therefore no samples were collected.

3.5 Presentation of results

- 3.5.1 The results of the evaluation are presented in two separate parts. The first part below will set out the general conditions and soil types encountered during the evaluation including any archaeological remains. The Palaeolithic investigation carried out within the sondages will be presented as below this. The conclusions for the archaeological and palaeolithic investigation are presented in sections 6 and 11. Illustrations of the stratigraphy of the gravels and soils are presented at the end of this document.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 4.1.1 The site is located on River Terrace Gravel deposits (Terrace 3 of the Itchen River System) overlying Wittering Formation of the Bracklesham Beds. The soils were generally well drained, although the general weather conditions were unseasonably wet.

4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

- 4.2.1 A fairly uniform stratigraphy was observed across the site. Trench 1 reached an average depth of 1.2 m (c. 1.7 m OD) at which point the terrace gravels were encountered, whilst Trench 2 was 0.5 m deep. Above the gravels were a series of gardens soils associated with

the Victorian dwellings within the site. Further detail regarding the nature of the gravels can be found in section 11.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

- 5.1.1 Trench 1 was oriented north-south and measured 15 m in length and 2 m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m throughout. Three additional machine excavated sondages were excavated to a depth of 2 - 3 m. Sondage 1 was located at the southern end of the trench, sondage 2 was excavated in the centre of the trench and sondage 3 was excavated at the northern end to assess the sequence of Pleistocene gravel deposits and to locate the former edge of a known 19th century backfilled quarry seen on the 1870 O.S map (section 101, Fig. 3).
- 5.1.2 The former 19th century quarry edge was noted within the base of the excavation trench and was located approximately 4.8 m from the southern end of the trench. The cut for the quarry was badly preserved (having been damaged during the later backfilling) within the extent of the trench. The quarry appeared to be filled by a series of re-deposited clayey gravels. The re-deposited material was clearly sealed by further horizons with a much diminished gravel content. This change in material would appear to mark a major change in land use, from a disused quarry to potential real estate.
- 5.1.3 The quarry was sealed by a series of deposits (118 and 126). These were friable mid grey clayey silts and had an average depth of 0.25 m throughout the length of the trench. The deposits were formed in the intervening period between the closure of the quarry in about 1870 and the construction of the Victorian house in the 1880s (now housing the Conservative Club).
- 5.1.4 The excavation of Trench 1 revealed further deposits and structures. These were associated with the 1880s building and related to landscaping of the rear garden. A WSW-ENE orientated feature (120) appeared to be a garden path structure, which consisted of a brick rubble foundation layer, 117, overlain by several make-up and bedding layers of clean compacted yellowish brown gravels and purple layers of mixed ash and clinker waste (116-115). The path surface (114) was constructed with the compacted yellow gravel and the path was bordered with decorative tile edging.
- 5.1.5 The tiled edges were abutted on either side by friable brown silt loam topsoil layers 111, 112 which were deposited to an average depth of 0.2 m. The topsoil is believed to have been imported as part of the garden landscaping. This was subsequently overlain by further garden soil accumulation (113) on the northern side of the path as the garden became established. The greatest depth (0.5 m) of the secondary garden soil (113) was noted to the rear of the row of Victorian terrace housing, to the north of the 1880s house and fence alignment 105 which separates the Conservative Club from the terraced dwellings.
- 5.1.6 Layer 113 was overlain by an ash and clinker make-up layer for a mid 20th century asphalt surface 103. This was the former car park surface for the Conservative Club and was seen to

abutt a contemporary concrete curb, 107, located in the southern end of the excavation trench and respected the boundary fence 105 at the northern edge of the site. The surface was subsequently overlain by the existing asphalt car park surface 101 and contemporary gravel make-up layer.

Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

- 5.1.7 Trench 2 was oriented WNW-ESE and measured 15 m in length and 2 m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.5 m throughout. An additional machine excavated sondage (measuring 3.5 m x 1.5 m) was located at the south-eastern end of the trench to assess the sequence of Pleistocene gravel deposits.
- 5.1.8 The upper limits of the gravel contained an increased percentage of light brown silt within its matrix which may suggest the layer had been under the plough in the past. A friable light brown silt layer, 207, was seen to lie within undulations in the top of the natural gravel and was broken and discontinuous throughout the majority of the trench. The layer survived to a max depth of 0.14 m and is believed to have been the remnants of a previous cultivation/plough soil (see section 201, Fig 4).
- 5.1.9 An irregular edged, semi-circular feature measuring 1.20 m in diameter was located within the top of the natural gravel. The feature, 208, contained a single fill of friable light-mid brown silt and was fully excavated to recover datable artefacts. No finds were recovered. This feature was typical example of a tree throw pit.
- 5.1.10 A NNW-SSE orientated linear ditch was noted 9 m from the eastern end of the trench and measured 1.3 m in width and 0.45 m deep. The ditch was 50% excavated to establish its profile and to recover any datable artefacts. The ditch had poorly defined, gradual, sloping sides which were cut into the natural gravel layer 204 and contained three fills. The ditch's uppermost fill was a friable mid brown silt which contained 5-10% gravel throughout and represented material derived from plough soil 207. A single sherd of 19th century marmalade jar was recovered during the hand excavation. Fills 210 and 211 were compact orange brown gravel with 10% light brown silt within the matrix. The deposits represent primary re-deposited natural gravels and no other finds were recovered.
- 5.1.11 The ditch probably represented a former field boundary and it would seem the fills were naturally re-deposited within the ditch.
- 5.1.12 An 18th century reproduced map of the Priory of St. Denys and the manor of Portswood, copied from a map dated 1658, indicates that the area of investigation was undeveloped and remained as open fields. The map shows built structures in close proximity, located on either side of a small dotted track way which linked two larger roads, but no buildings are noted on the site of the investigation.
- 5.1.13 The ditch was overlain by a dark brown layer of silty loam with brick rubble inclusions. The layer was broken and discontinuous and is likely to represent a former 19th century garden

soil associated with the construction of the 1888 former Victorian residence. The layer was overlain by a mixed gravel make-up layer for the existing asphalt car park surface. A modern water pipe was noted 3 m from the western end of the trench and prevented the excavation of the western end of the trench.

5.2 Finds

- 5.2.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from the evaluation trenches and were assessed on site during the excavation.
- 5.2.2 A single sherd of pottery was recovered from trench 1 during the excavation of the garden path 120, from foundation layer 117. The sherd was a fragment of white glazed domestic plate with a green floral design and was attributable to the latter 19th century.
- 5.2.3 A second sherd of a pottery was recovered from trench 2 during the hand excavation of fill 209, within boundary ditch 212. The sherd was from a 19th century marmalade jar with a grey glaze.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

- 6.1.1 A 19th century quarry edge was noted within the southern end of the trench 1 and was clearly seen to cut through a sequence of Pleistocene deposited gravels 109, 110 and 128. The edge of the former quarry, 123, was poorly preserved because of activity associated with quarry's backfilling with re-deposited clayey gravels in the latter 19th century.
- 6.1.2 The backfilled quarry appeared to be sealed by an accumulation of topsoil deposits formed in the intervening period between the closure of the quarry in about 1870 and the construction of the Victorian house in 1888 (now housing the conservative club).
- 6.1.3 Features and deposits attributable to the landscaping of the rear garden of the 1888 Victorian residence were uncovered. A WSW-ENE orientated garden path, 120, structure bordered with decorative tile edging was the principle garden feature and this had been abutted on either side with contemporary imported garden soils. The soils were subsequently overlain by further garden soil accumulation on the northern side of the path as the garden became established. The greatest depth of the secondary garden soil was noted to the north of the property boundary fence line 105, to the rear of a neighbouring row of Victorian terrace housing.
- 6.1.4 At the rear of the 1888 house layer 113 was overlain by an ash and clinker make-up layer for a mid 20th century asphalt surface 103. The surface was the former car park surface for the conservative club and was located in the southern end of the excavation trench and defined a previous limit of the club before the adjacent land to the rear of the Victorian terraces was purchased. The surface was subsequently overlain by the existing asphalt car park surface 101 and contemporary gravel make-up layer.

- 6.1.5 Within Trench 2 a light brown silt layer, 207 was deposited within undulations in the top of the natural Pleistocene gravel deposit 204. The layer is believed to be the remnants of a previous cultivation/plough soil possibly accumulating in the post-medieval period.
- 6.1.6 A linear ditch also located within trench 2 is likely to represent a former field boundary associated with the deposition of plough soil 207. The ditch would seem to have been filled naturally with primary gravel fills, derived from the degradation of the ditch edges and the uppermost fill had been derived from plough soil layer 207. The uppermost fill could have been deposited as late as the 19th century, as a single sherd of 19th century marmalade jar was recovered. The ditch was backfilled prior to the building of the 1888 former Victorian residence and the deposition of associated garden soil 203.
- 6.1.7 An 18th century reproduced map of the Priory of St. Denys and the manor of Portswood, copied from a map dated 1658, indicates that the area of investigation was undeveloped and remained as open fields. The map shows built structures in close proximity, located on either side of a small dotted track way which linked two larger roads, but no buildings are noted on the site of the investigation.

6.2 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.2.1 Based upon the evidence of historical maps pertaining to previous land use of the site, coupled with the relative undisturbed nature of the soils and sediment sequence, this evaluation represents a reliable indication of the potential for the rest of the development area.

7 PALAEOLITHIC INVESTIGATION

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 *Deeper sondages into trial Trenches 1 and 2 confirmed the presence of Pleistocene river gravel at the site. The gravel was present close beneath the ground surface in the open area to the front of the existing buildings, and was at least 3 m thick, with a likely base level of c. 18m OD. The 1846 and 1870 OS mapping indicates gravel extraction in the central part of the site, broadly corresponding with the location of the existing buildings. The northern boundary of the quarried area was identified in Trench 1, broadly where shown in the 1870 mapping. Inside the quarried area, at the southern end of Trench 1, the basal remnant of the gravel was present, resting on Tertiary Whitecliffe Sand at c. 18.2m OD, and buried by 1.75m of made ground. Beyond the mapped boundary of quarrying, the gravel had been extracted to a shallower depth and was present buried by made ground between 60cm and 1m thick. The base of the gravel rose northward, leading to a gravel thickness of only c. 30cm at the northern end of Trench 1.*
- 7.1.2 *No Palaeolithic artefacts were found in the gravels during the fieldwork. However, the small amount of the gravels investigated does not preclude the possibility that some might be present in the vicinity. In Trench 2 the upper part of the gravels was more sandy and clayey, and was capped with fine sand lenses. These probably represent a change in fluvial regime from swift to quiet water flow. The surface of the gravel might have been exposed for a short period as a landsurface during this transition, and there is a low possibility that undisturbed Palaeolithic remains might be present at this horizon.*

8 PALAEOLITHIC BACKGROUND

8.1.1 The site (Fig. 1) is located on Terrace 3 of the Itchen River system, representing fluvial activity and aggradation in the later Middle or early Late Pleistocene (Edwards & Freshney 1987), between *c.* 400,000 and 60,000 years ago. Remains of Palaeolithic activity are commonly found in deposits of this date and type in Southampton, and this site is no exception. The survey of the Southern Rivers Project (Wessex Archaeology 1993) lists over 40 handaxes as coming from Terrace 3, the great majority of them from the general Portswood area, where the site is located. Unfortunately few of these have precise records of their findspot location, although one is recorded as from "The Green" which is the location of the present development site.

8.1.2 OS surveys of 1846 and 1870 show quarrying in the central part of the site, but suggest that unquarried ground, which should contain Terrace 3 deposits, is preserved to the front and back of the present buildings.

9 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

9.1.1 The primary objectives of the Palaeolithic field evaluation were:

- To establish whether Pleistocene Terrace 3 deposits are present at the site, and in particular whether the quarrying boundary is present where shown in the 1870 mapping
- To establish the characteristics, distribution and depth of any Pleistocene terrace deposits
- To assess the Palaeolithic and Quaternary significance of any such deposits

More specifically, the work also aimed to:

- Interpret the mode of formation of different Quaternary units encountered
- Determine the presence and potential of lithic artefactual evidence in the sediments
- Determine the presence of, or potential for, undisturbed primary context Palaeolithic occupation surfaces
- Determine the presence and potential of biological palaeo-environmental evidence in the sediments
- Interpret the depositional and post-depositional history of any artefactual or biological evidence found

- Assess in local, regional, national and international terms, the archaeological and geological significance of any Quaternary deposits encountered, and their potential to fulfill current research objectives, including their potential for dating

10 METHODS

10.1.1 Two trial trenches were dug with a JCB using a 1.2 m toothless ditching bucket: one at the back of the buildings presently occupying the site, and one at the front (Fig. 2, Trenches 1 and 2). After the tarmac and made ground had been removed and natural sediments reached, four deep sondages were dug, three in Trench 1, and one in Trench 2.

10.1.2 Each sondage was one bucket-width wide, 2–3 m long and up to 3 m deep. Excavation ceased at a shallower depth when pre-Quaternary deposits were reached. Each sondage was taken down in horizontal spits of 5–10 cm, respecting the interface between sedimentary units, under guidance of the Palaeolithic specialist (Francis Wenban-Smith) who recorded and numbered the sequence of sedimentary units following standard descriptive practices. Test pits were entered at the maximum safe depth (usually *c.* 1.2 m, but less if loose sands/gravel were present) to record the upper stratigraphy. Beyond this depth, recording took place without entering the trench.

10.1.3 When deep sand and gravel deposits were encountered in Trench 2, spit-samples of at least 150 litres from three different depths were set aside and trowelled through for lithic artefacts and faunal remains. A close lookout was also kept during excavation in the sondage sections and on the main spoil heap. Each trench was dug in turn, and the sondage/s then backfilled level with the pre-existing ground surface immediately following excavation and the completion of recording.

10.1.4 No suitable sediments for biological remains or dating were encountered, so no samples were taken for off-site processing.

10.1.5 A representative section from each test pit was drawn at 1:20, and photographed after excavation reached its full depth.

10.1.6 Each trench and sondage was tied into OS mapping and surveyed in with a total station giving an immediate record of its position in the landscape and the ground surface height.

11 RESULTS

11.1 Stratigraphy and distribution of sediments

11.1.1 Full details of the sedimentary sequence in each sondage are shown below. Three main groups of deposits were found, from the base:

- I — Tertiary Whitecliffe Sand
- II — Pleistocene gravel (Terrace 3 of Eastern Solent sequence)
- III — Made ground capped with tarmac

11.1.2 In summary, the sondages confirmed the presence of Pleistocene river gravel. The gravel was present close beneath the ground surface in the open area to the front of the existing buildings, and was at least 3 m deep, with a likely base level of *c.* 18 m OD. The 1846 and 1870 OS mapping indicates gravel extraction in the central part of the site, broadly corresponding with the location of the existing buildings. The northern boundary of the quarried area was identified in Trench 1, broadly where shown in the 1870 mapping. Inside the quarried area, at the southern end of Trench 1, the basal remnant of the gravel was present, resting on Tertiary Whitecliffe Sand at *c.* 18.2 m OD, and buried by 1.75 m of made ground. Beyond the mapped boundary of quarrying, in the middle of Trench 1, the gravel had been extracted to a shallower depth and was present buried by made ground between 0.6 m and 1 m thick. The base of the gravel rose northward, leading to a gravel thickness of only *c.* 0.3 m at the northern end of Trench 1.

11.1.3 The deposit underlying the Pleistocene gravel was Tertiary Whitecliffe Sand, comprising a dense and moderately compacted orange/brown fine sand.

Trench 1

11.1.4 In Trench 1, the top of which was over 1 m lower than Trench 2, only the coarser, looser bottom part of the gravel was present. In Sondage 1, at the southern end of the trench, only a thin layer of the basal remnants of the gravel was present, at a depth of 1.75 m beneath the ground surface. Clearly this had been left behind at the base of the previous gravel extraction. It did however provide a base level for the gravel of *c.* 18.35 m OD.

11.1.5 In Sondage 2 in the middle of the trench, the gravel had not been quarried as deep and appeared below made ground, at 0.65 m below the ground surface. However its base level was higher at *c.* 18.5 m OD, meaning the overall gravel thickness was only *c.* 1 m.

11.1.6 This trend continued in Sondage 3, at the northern end of the trench. The top of the gravel (truncated and overlain by made ground) appeared 0.9 m below the ground surface, and the base occurred at 19.2 m OD, with the overall gravel thickness being only *c.* 0.3 m.

Trench 2

11.1.7 The gravels were much thicker in the front of the buildings (Trench 2), where their top surface is present 0.25 m below the ground surface, and where their base was not

reached in a sondage almost 3 m deep down to 18.7 m OD. Here the top 1.5 m of the gravel (context 204) consists of moderately to poorly sorted flint pebbles in a variably clayey/sandy matrix. Lower down the bottom part of the gravel (context 205) was cleaner and coarser, with flint pebbles and cobbles in a coarse sand matrix.

- 11.1.8 The top part of the gravel in Trench 2 was capped in places by thin lenses of very fine sand. These probably represent a change in fluvial regime from swift to quiet water flow, and there may have been short-lived exposure of a temporary landsurface on top of the gravel associated with this transition.

11.2 Palaeolithic conclusion

- 11.2.1 No Palaeolithic flint artefacts or faunal remains were found, nor any sediments with, or likely to contain, palaeo-environmental remains.

11.3 Dating

- 11.3.1 The Pleistocene terrace sequence in the eastern Solent region, including Terrace 3 underlying the development site, is as yet undated. The problem is that the bedrock geology does not seem to have preserved any biological remains, which have over the last 50 years been the main means of establishing dating. Since 2002 the ALSF-funded research project Palaeolithic Archaeology of the Sussex/Hampshire Coastal Corridor (directed by Martin Bates and Francis Wenban-Smith) has been engaged in collecting OSL dates from sand-rich beds in the Eastern Solent gravel terraces. Unpublished results from this work indicate a date of MIS 7, *c.* 250,000 years ago, for Terrace 2, which would suggest a likely date of *c.* 300,000 BP for Terrace 3, which would correspond well with the rich collection of Palaeolithic handaxes sourced to it.

11.4 Presence/potential for undisturbed remains

- 11.4.1 The only horizon with any potential for undisturbed remains is the surface of the gravel in front of the existing buildings, where it is covered by finer-grained sand lenses in places. Although there is the possibility of such remains, the likelihood of them being present in the small area affected by the development is very low.

11.5 Significance, potential and priorities for further investigation

- 11.5.1 All Pleistocene fluvial deposits have potential to contribute to our understanding of the Palaeolithic. Sand and silt horizons within gravel bodies have the potential to contain undisturbed or minimally disturbed evidence. Even disturbed artefacts from fluvial gravels are a valuable source of information, since they are unlikely to have travelled far before being buried, and so still provide information of the areas where activity was concentrated and on the types of tool being made when the sediment was laid down. Paradoxically, it is also a major contribution to understanding of the period if extensive investigations *fail* to discover artefacts in a fluvial terrace body,

since this reflects either where activity was *not* taking place, or a total absence of human occupation in the era. Only accumulated observations can reveal which. If present, which is again not the case here, faunal remains from gravels are also a valuable indicator of the prevailing climate and environment, as well as having dating potential.

11.5.2 Overall, the Terrace 3 deposits present at the site are of moderate significance for understanding the Palaeolithic archaeology of the Southampton region. Terrace 3 has already proven to contain Palaeolithic remains, so confirming an absence of remains in any specific location can help in building up a picture of where activity was concentrated, which in turn can contribute to increasing understanding of Palaeolithic behaviour and settlement distribution. It is recommended that monitoring of any groundworks that impact the Terrace 3 gravel should take place to see if any Palaeolithic artefacts come to light.

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>No./wt</i>	<i>Date</i>
Trench 1								
	101	Surface	Trench	0.08 m	Tarmac car park surface			20 th century
	102	Layer	Trench	0.08-0.26 m	Gravel make-up layer			20 th century
	103	Surface	Trench	0.08 mm	Tarmac car park surface			20 th century
	104	Fill	Trench	0.60 m	Fill of [105]			20 th century
	105	Cut	Trench	0.60 m	Cut for fence line			20 th century
	106	Layer	Trench	0.14 m	Make-up layer			20 th century
	107	Stuct	0.20 m	0.46 m	Concrete curb			20 th century
	108	Cut	Trench	0.46 m	Constructi on cut			20 th century
	109	Layer	Trench	0.78 m	Natural gravel deposit			
	110	Layer	Trench	0.30 m	Natural clay deposit			

	111	Layer	1.0 m	0.24 m	Garden soil			20 th century
	112	Layer	4.10 m	0.26 m	Garden soil			20 th century
	113	Layer	12.60 m	0.38 m	Garden soil			19 th /20 th century
	114	Surface	1.60 m	0.06 m	Garden path surface			19 th century
	115	Layer	1.58 m	0.10 m	Make-up layer			19 th century
	116	Layer	1.54 m	0.10 m	Make-up layer			19 th century
	117	Layer	1.50 m	0.10 m	Garden path foundation	Pottery		19 th century
	118	Layer	1.60 m	0.30 m	Former topsoil			19 th century
	119	Layer	3.08 m	0.16 m	Former topsoil			19 th century
	120	Struct	1.60 m	0.29 m	Garden path			19 th century
	121	Fill	1.86 m	0.20 m	Fill of [123]			19 th century
	122	Fill	5.10 m	0.26 m	Fill of [123]			19 th century
	123	Cut	7.0 m	0.30 m	Quarry cut			19 th century
	124	Fill	2.72 m	0.32 m	Fill of cut [125]			19 th century
	125	Cut	2.72 m	0.32 m	Fire pit			19 th century
	126	Deposit	2.16 m	0.28 m	Re-deposited quarry deposit			19 th century
	127	Deposit	4.54 m	0.34 m	Re-deposited quarry deposit			19 th century
	128	Deposit	4.0 m	0.32 m	Natural sand deposit			
Trench 2								

	201	Surface	Trench	0.08 m	Tarmac car park surface			20 th century
	202	Layer	Trench	0.20 m	Gravel make-up layer			20 th century
	203	Layer	Trench	0.06 m	garden soil			19 th /20 th century
	204	Layer	Trench	1.32 m	Natural gravel deposit			
	205	Layer	Trench	1.30 m	Natural gravel deposit			
	206	Fill	1.40 m	0.30 m	Fill of cut [208]			17 th /18 th century
	207	Layer	Trench	0.10 m	Plough soil			17 th /18 th century
	208	Cut	1.40 m	0.30 m	natural depression			17 th /18 th century
	209	Fill	1.20 m	0.42 m	Fill of [212]	Pottery		19 th century
	210	Fill	0.58 m	0.16 m	Fill of [212]			18 th /19 th century
	211	Fill	1.20 m	0.20 m	Fill of [212]			18 th /19 th century
	212	Cut	1.50 m	0.48 m	Cut of linear ditch			17 th /18 th century

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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Wessex Archaeology. 1993. *The Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project, Report No. 1 — The Upper Thames Valley, the Kennet Valley and the Solent Drainage System*. Wessex Archaeology, Salisbury.

18th century reproduced map of the Priory of St. Denys and the manor of Portswood, copied from a map dated 1658

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: 121- 127 Highfield Lane Southampton

Site code: SOU 1365

Grid reference: NGR: SU 429 143

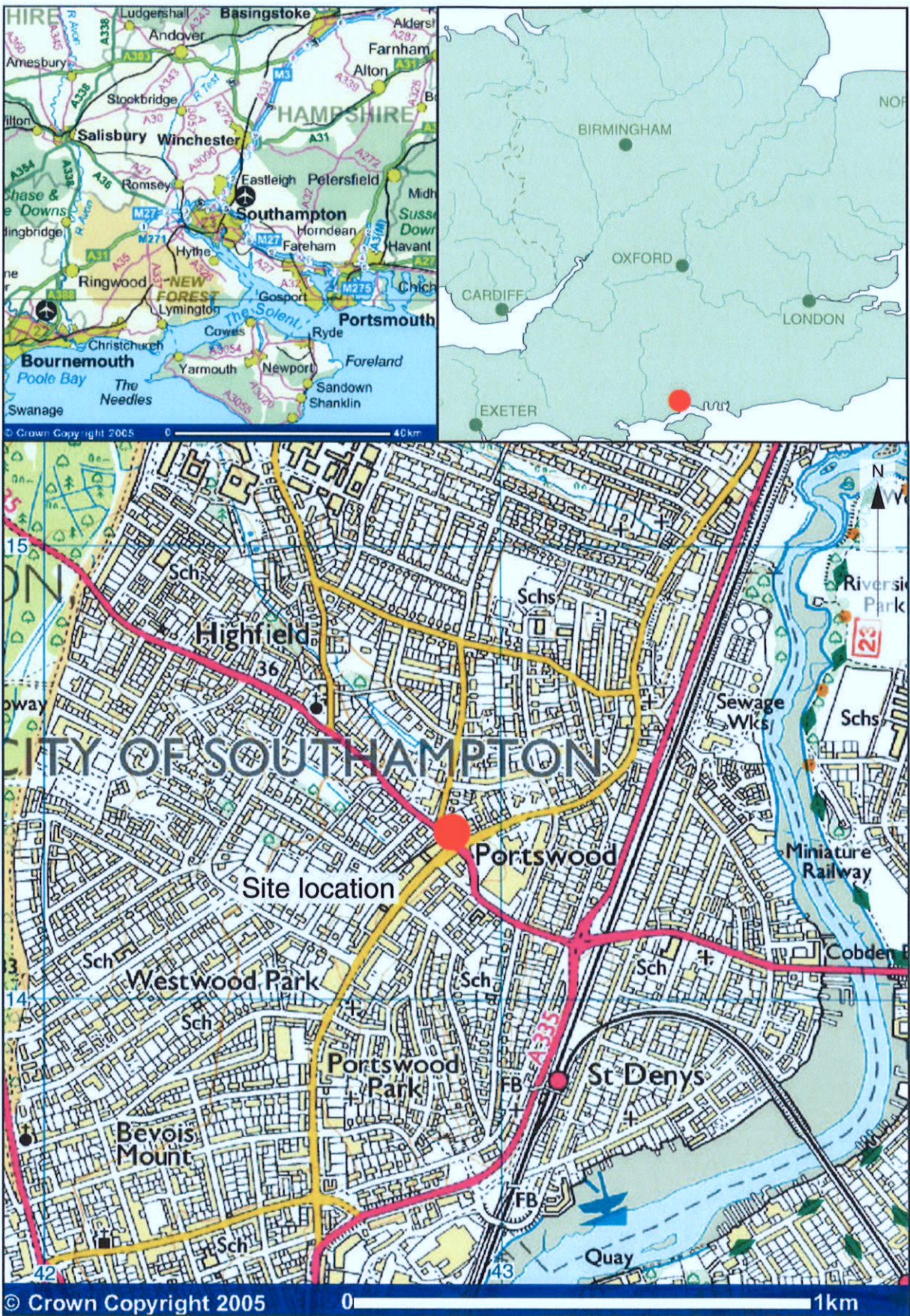
Type of evaluation: Two trench evaluation

Date and duration of project: Four days between the 25th- 28th July

Area of site: 60 square m

Summary of results: The evaluation trench 2 revealed a single field boundary ditch suggesting that the site had been ploughed and under cultivation prior to the 19th century. The evaluation trench 2 revealed a 19th century garden path and garden soil accumulation. A 19th century backfilled quarry was also revealed.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the appropriate museum in due course, under the following accession number: SOU 1365



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Figure 1: Site location

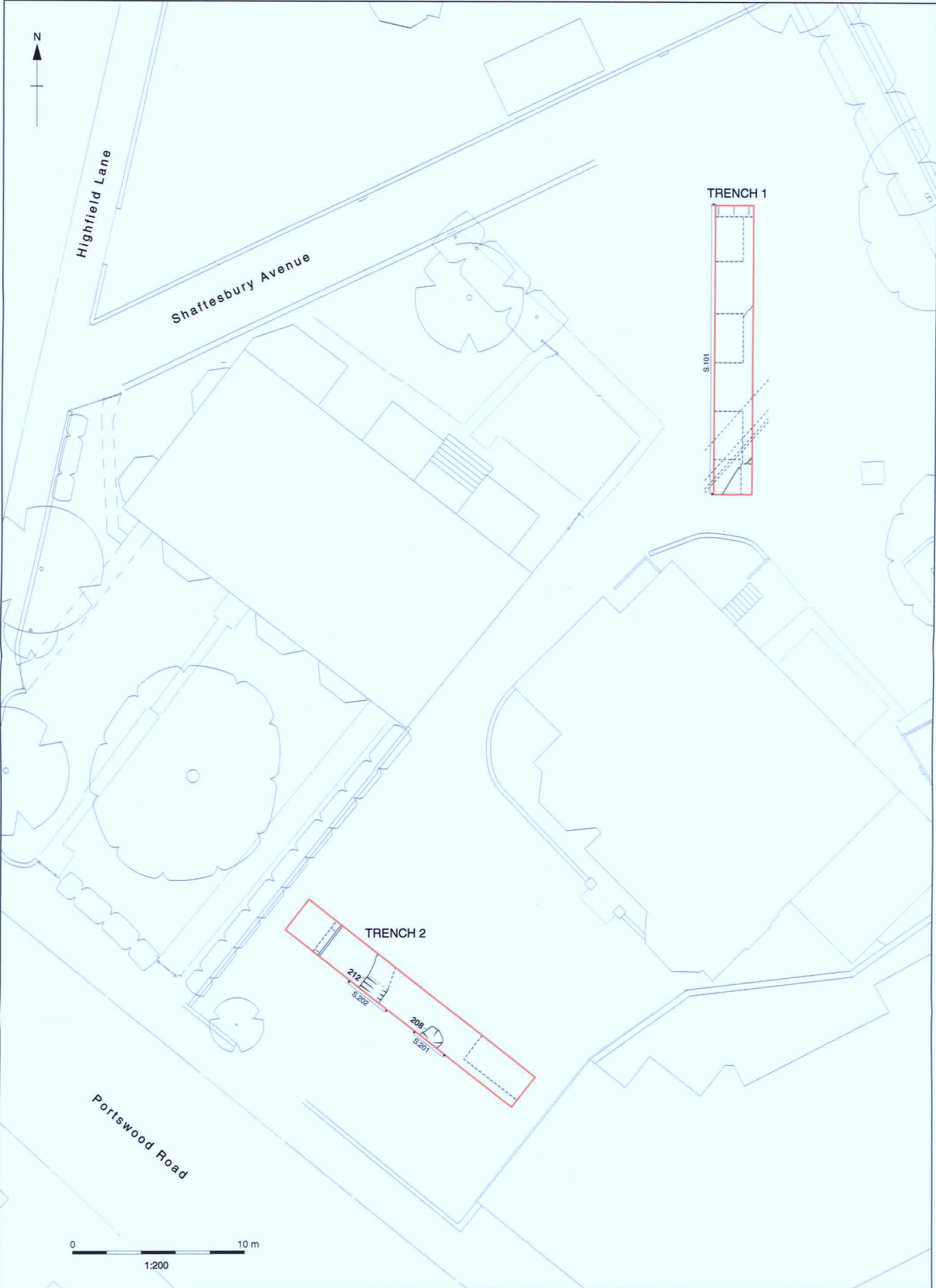


Figure 2: Trench location plan

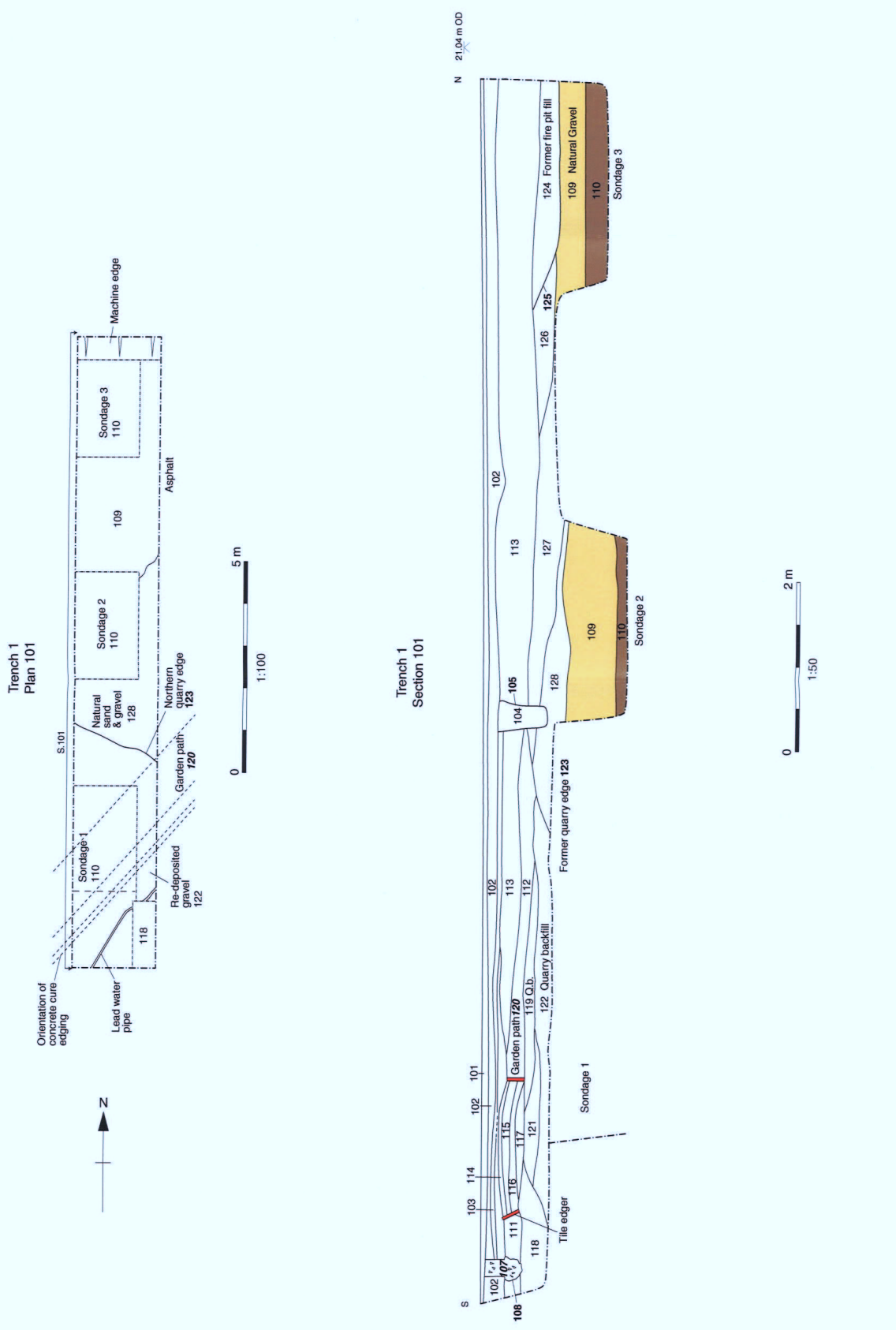
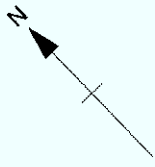
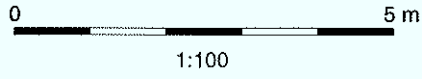
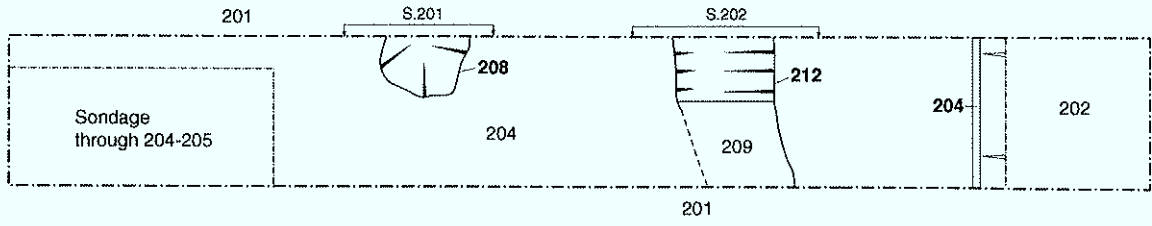


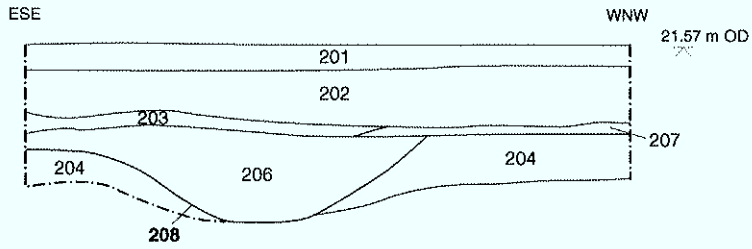
Figure 3 : Trench 1 plan and section



Trench 2 Plan 201



Trench 2 Section 201



Trench 2 Section 202

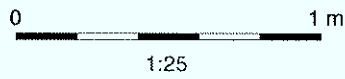
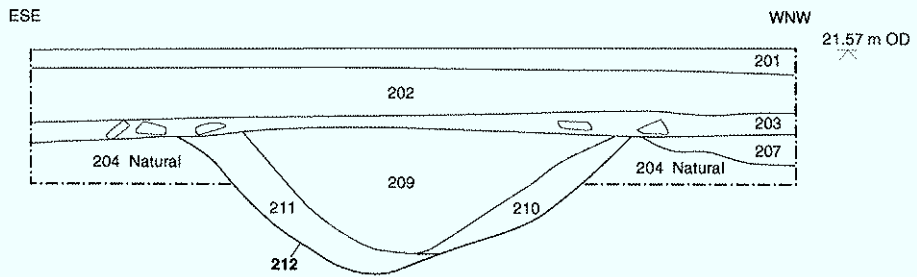
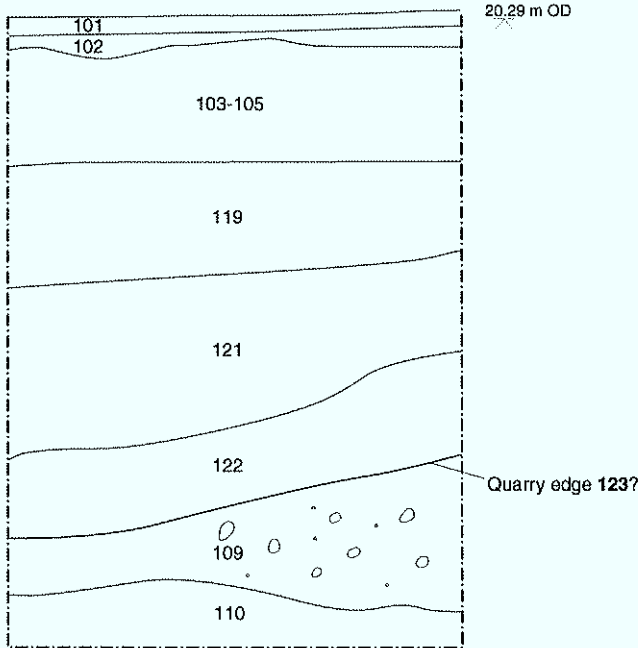


Figure 4 : Trench 2 plan and sections

Trench 1
Sondage 1
East facing



III - MADE GROUND CAPPED WITH TARMAC

101 TARMAC

102 SANDY GRAVEL. Yellowish-brown sand/gravel make-up for tarmac

103-105 MADE GROUND. Layers of clay-silt, sand and gravel with mod. common waste CBM, metal finds, organic material and ceramic finds; variable dark gray/yellowish-brown

119 SANDY GRAVEL. Mod. soft yellowish-brown sand and gravel

121 CLAY-SILTY/SANDY GRAVEL. Soft pinkish/ grayish-brown clay-silty/sandy gravel

122 STONY CLAY-SILT. Mod. soft dark gray cohesive clay-silt with frequent CBM, charcoal, gravel and flint cobbles

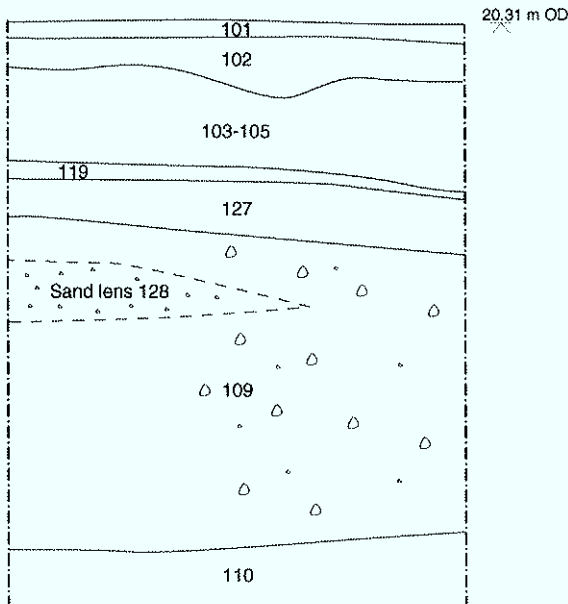
II - PLEISTOCENE FLUVIAL GRAVEL, T3

109 CLAYEY/SANDY FLINT GRAVEL. Mod. soft, poorly sorted M-VC flint gravel with occ. small cob's in cl-silt/sand matrix; clasts sub-ang. to rounded, mod. abraded; gen colour varies gray/yellowish-brown/strong brown

I - TERTIARY WHITECLIFFE SAND

110 ORANGE SAND. Dense and moderately firm orange-brown VF-F sand

Trench 1
Sondage 2
East facing



III - MADE GROUND CAPPED WITH TARMAC

101 TARMAC

102 SANDY GRAVEL. Yellowish-brown sand/gravel make-up for tarmac

103-105 MADE GROUND. Layers of clay-silt, sand and gravel with mod. common waste CBM, metal finds, organic material and ceramic finds; gen. dark gray

119 SANDY GRAVEL. Mod. soft greenish-gray/yellowish-brown sand and gravel

127 CLAY-SILTY/SANDY GRAVEL. Soft pinkish/ grayish-brown clay-silty/sandy gravel

II - PLEISTOCENE FLUVIAL GRAVEL, T3











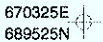








109 & 128 CLAYEY/SANDY FLINT GRAVEL. Mod. soft, poorly sorted M-VC flint gravel with occ. small cob's in cl-silt/sand matrix; clasts sub-ang. to rounded, mod. abraded; lens of mod. soft yellowish-brown F-M sand in upper part; gen colour varies gray/yellowish-brown/strong brown

I - TERTIARY WHITECLIFFE SAND

110 ORANGE SAND. Dense and moderately firm orange-brown VF-F sand

0 1 m

1:25

	Section line and number
	Section through feature not illustrated with section drawing
	Limit of excavation
	Sondage / Interior limit of excavation
	Fill line and number
	Cut line and number
	Structure number
	Unclear boundary
	Hachures indicate inclination of slope inside excavated feature
	Levels
	Grid point
	Continuation line (trench edge continues)
	Charcoal
	Clay
	Clay nodule
	Stones
	Ceramic building material
	Bone
	Pot

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