

Goodhart Building University College Oxford



Excavation and watching brief report

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Goodhart Building, University College, Oxford

Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief Report

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Summary

Between September 2014 and April 2015 Oxford Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological excavation and recording during renovations and alterations to The Goodhart Building, University College, Oxford (centred on SP 518 062). The work was commissioned by Dr Roland Harris on behalf of University College and followed on from a watching brief carried out during the excavation of engineering test pits in May 2013.

The excavation areas comprised new strip foundation trenches on the site of the recently demolished Goodhart Cottage (Area 1), and a new lift shaft within The Goodhart Building itself (Area 2). Whilst the full archaeological sequence was investigated within the lift shaft trench, the strip foundation trenches were only excavated to the archaeologically arbitrary formation level for the new footings.

The earliest features encountered were within Area 2, and comprised two pits and a roughly northeast-southwest aligned linear feature. The relationship between the pits and the linear feature was uncertain, although the linear feature probably truncated at least one of the pits. During excavations in advance of the construction of the Goodhart Building in the 1960s, a possible property boundary between High Street and Merton Street was revealed. This was thought to have originated in the 11th century and subsequently determined the alignment of Kybald Street, a thoroughfare between High Street and Merton Street first created around 1130. Pottery dating from between 1050 and 1250 was recovered from the linear feature within the lift shaft, and it is thus possible that the feature either represents part of the earlier property boundary, or is evidence for activity fronting onto Kybald Street.

It was also noted that this feature was on a similar alignment to two ditches encountered during the 1960s excavations. These were interpreted as possible Bronze Age ring ditches, but no dating evidence was recovered. Consequently, it is possible that these three features may have represented different phases of the same boundary, although the possibility that the ditches recorded during the earlier works represent prehistoric features cannot be entirely discounted.

The linear feature had itself been truncated by a what appeared to be the north-west corner of a limestone-built structure. This may relate to a structure fronting onto the northern side of Kybald Street. Little evidence for the street itself was revealed, with the exception of a flattish layer of uncut stone, possibly representing a surface, which was overlain by a possible trample layer.

Other structures were encountered in Area 1. The phasing of these was largely established by their relationship with a silty clay deposit, encountered throughout the strip foundation trenches, and overlying the putative surface and the stone-built structure within the lift shaft. This was interpreted as a garden soil, consistent with maps showing this area as part of a garden or a vacant plot in the 16th and 17th centuries, and it is possible that this transition occurred following the closure of the eastern end of Kybald Street in 1447. The dating evidence from these deposits was predominantly 15th-16th century.

A number of the stone walls in Area 1 appeared to be overlain by the garden soil, and therefore seem likely to predate this suggested hiatus in occupation. It is possible that the two phases of a roughly east-west aligned wall in the southern arm of the trenches represented the rear boundary of properties fronting High Street and



Kybold Street, as it roughly corresponds with the conjectured boundary between these plots suggested by Salter in his Survey of Oxford. An east-west aligned stone wall and a stone-lined pit lay to the north of this possible boundary and may therefore be associated with properties fronting High Street. This would suggest that the structure in Area 2 relates to a property fronting Kybold Street.

From at least the 16th century the High Street frontage was occupied by the Angel Inn, and a 16th century pit which truncated the garden soils is likely to represent activity to the rear of the property. A number of structures also appeared to truncate the garden soil deposit(s). A stone-lined semi-circular structure produced artefacts dating to 1740-1840 from its excavated upper fills, and this feature may have represented the top of a well to the rear of the Angel which was backfilled in the latter part of the 18th century. A stone and brick structure in the northern arm of the trench almost certainly relates to a 19th-century cellar to the rear of the Angel.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) were requested by Dr Roland Harris undertake a programme of archaeological recording during the refurbishment of the Goodhart Building and the adjacent Goodhart Seminar Room and Goodhart Cottage at University College, Oxford (centred SP 5182 0620: Figs 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of planning approval for the scheme from Oxford City Council (planning reference 13/02347/FUL, approved 22.12.2013). A brief was prepared by Dr Roland Harris (Harris 2014), which set out the archaeological recording work necessary to discharge the planning condition. The brief drew upon baseline data presented in the Archaeological Assessment and Mitigation Strategy (Harris 2013), which detailed the heritage resource at the site, outlined the design of the proposed development and proposed a mitigation strategy designed to minimise the impact of the latter upon the former.
- 1.1.3 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced which outlined how OA would implement the requirements for below-ground archaeology within the brief.
- 1.1.4 All work was undertaken in accordance with local and national planning policies. Two policies in the Oxford Local Plan 2001-16 (adopted November 2005) were of particular relevance to below-ground archaeology: Policy HE2 and HE3 (Harris 2013). All work was also carried out in full accordance with the appropriate sections of the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct, the IFA Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, the IFA Standards and Guidance for excavation, the IFA Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief, and the British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group Code of Practice.

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is situated on the eastern side, and c 100m north, of the edge of a gravel promontory consisting of Quaternary River Gravels of the 2nd (Summertown-Radley) Terrace Deposits (British Geological Survey sheet 236). The promontory extends between the River Isis c 1 km to the west and the River Cherwell c 400m to the east. The gravels on this terrace are typically overlain by a 0.3m depth of red brown loessic loam. The site is centred on NGR SP: 518 062.
- 1.2.2 Existing ground levels were recorded at approximately 61.60m OD. During excavations at University College Buttery and Kitchen in 2007, natural gravel was recorded at 58.9m OD, although this is likely to have been truncated (OA 2007). The excavations at Logic Lane in the 1960s (Radcliffe 1963) recorded gravel at between 4 and 5 feet from ground level (1.22-1.52m). This was seen to be overlain by "a small area of ancient red loamy topsoil" (i.e. the loess), and consequently the top of the gravel encountered does appear to have been undisturbed. Assuming that the ground level in the 1960s was similar to that of today, it was anticipated that the top of the undisturbed gravel would be encountered at 60.08-60.38m OD.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 An Archaeological Assessment and Mitigation Strategy was prepared by Dr Roland B Harris for this project (Harris 2013), which detailed the archaeological and documentary background of the site. It summarised the use of the site before the construction of the Goodhart Building and adjacent Goodhart Cottage in 1961-2, as evidenced by

documentary and cartographic sources and by previous archaeological investigations on the site and in the vicinity. The archaeological and historical background from this document is reproduced below; full references and illustrations can be found in the source document (Harris 2013).

Previous archaeological investigations

Logic Lane excavation 1960-1 (Fig. 2)

- 1.3.2 In July and August 1960 rescue excavations were carried out prior to construction of the Goodhart Building. These were followed, in October 1960 to January 1961, by more limited archaeological examination of the foundation pits dug by the building contractors. The report makes no reference to any archaeological investigation within the substantial area excavated for the basement of the Goodhart Building. The archaeological excavation had the aim of finding evidence of medieval Kybald Street and Saxon occupation. Accordingly, the initial trench was located largely below the Goodhart Seminar Room, adjacent to the dogleg in Logic Lane that marks the point where it crossed Kybald Street. This first trench encountered what the excavator described as a 'Victorian wine-cellar' (but which was probably a garage pit), so was expanded eastwards and north-eastwards by two adjacent trenches. These saw significant discoveries that included two prehistoric ditches, late Saxon pits, and later medieval buildings, pits and evidence of Kybald Street. The findings of the subsequent inspection of the foundation pits dug by the contractors were less significant, but did include further evidence of the prehistoric ditches in three of the trenches. Importantly, one of the foundation pits revealed the continuation of one of the two ditches excavated in the main archaeological trenches, and showed that it was curved and thus probably part of a ring ditch.

Geotechnical trial pits 2013 (Fig. 2)

- 1.3.3 Two geotechnical test pits were excavated by OA in May 2013, to investigate the foundations of 1961-2. Test Pit 1 was located towards the south end of the arcade of the Goodhart Building, against the outside wall of the store by staircase 3. It was excavated against the side of one of the concrete pad foundations to a depth of 1.9m below ground level; probing by the engineer showed that the foundations continued to at least 3.0m below ground level (c 58.60m OD). Test Pit 2 was excavated against the eastern end of the north wall of Goodhart Cottage. It revealed the bottom of the foundation of the cottage at 1.4m below present ground level (c 60.20m OD). Neither test pit revealed any stratified archaeology or pre-1961 features, although in both cases an homogeneous deposit of mid-brown clayey silt was identified at c 1.0m below-ground level (c 60.60m OD) and below. In Test Pit 1 this included fragments of modern (i.e. 20th-century) material, and in Test Pit 2 it contained 19th-century material, including part of a marmalade jar (doubtless reflecting the proximity of Cooper's marmalade factory from 1874-1900, and then shop to 1919, at 34 High Street). This deposit was evidently disturbed close to the 1961-2 foundations, but may represent post-medieval garden soils. The findings were in contrast to those of the 1960-1 Logic Lane excavation, where significant archaeology was found just 3.7m west of Test Pit 2.

Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity

Angel Inn 1876

- 1.3.4 Excavations on the site of the Angel Inn, demolished in 1876 to make way for the new Examination Schools, revealed a series of pits, some with steps cut into the sides. Little is recorded and initially the site was misinterpreted as a prehistoric ('British') settlement,

but the form of the pits and the finds (which included pottery and a ring of twisted gold wire) suggest late Saxon occupation that included cellared buildings along the High Street.

University College kitchens 1892

- 1.3.5 Excavations (presumably during building works) in 1892 produced medieval pottery, including jugs.

University College Radcliffe Quadrangle 1940

- 1.3.6 Subsidence in 1940 revealed a stone-built chamber under the north-east corner of the southern half of the lawn, which was probably an 18th-century sump pit.

University College new Common Room 1969

- 1.3.7 During construction of a new Common Room (south of the 17th-century kitchen) in 1969, a large stone-lined chamber with a brick vault (probably a cess pit) was discovered lying across the line of Kybald Street. This must post-date the 17th-century partial closure of this part of Kybald Street. Post-medieval pottery was found.

92-3 High Street 1969

- 1.3.8 Medieval rubbish pits (producing a substantial pottery group) were exposed during construction of a new strong room for the bank in 1969.

Postmaster's Hall Yard, Merton College, Merton Street 2000-3

- 1.3.9 Excavations took place prior to building works to the rear of 4a Merton Street (Merton stables – a stone townhouse of c 1200). This revealed 11th-century (or later) pits, an undercroft adjacent to 4a Merton Street (probably supporting a chamber rather than a hall), a second building to the north (on the Kybald Street frontage), and later medieval pits.

University College kitchen and buttery 2006-8

- 1.3.10 An evaluation, trial holes, excavation and watching brief were undertaken prior to and during refurbishment of the kitchen and replacement of the kitchen stores and buttery. The excavation showed that intact and deeply stratified archaeological levels survive from as early as the 13th century. Remains of an earlier wall were found; it is unclear whether this wall formed part of an earlier building that predates the college or if it was part of a boundary wall between two plots of land fronting either the High Street or Kybald Street. The construction trenches for the chapel (1639-41) and the buttery (1859-61) were identified. It is not completely clear whether the construction trench for the chapel relates to the original building or to possible reconstruction works during the 17th century, prior to the construction of the kitchen (1668-9). The watching brief revealed two walls that coincide with those depicted on James King's plan (1848), comprising the west wall of the larders/scullery (i.e. on the south side of the kitchen) and a wall defining the eastern extent of the Fellows' Garden. There was very little stratified late Saxon or Saxo-Norman pottery present, with 13th- to 14th-century sherds (mainly Brill/Boarstall wares) representing the earliest significant assemblage. However, late Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery was discovered as residual material in later phases, so it seems probable that deposits of the 10th and 11th centuries were disturbed by later action, most probably the 13th-century construction of the college. Other finds included a fragment of Romanesque worked stone (beak-head).

The site before the Goodhart Building

Prehistoric period

- 1.3.11 The Logic Lane excavation in 1960-1 produced several struck flints, representing residual finds in medieval and later contexts, which included an end-scraper or long-flake probably of Mesolithic origin. Other residual finds of Mesolithic date have been found in Oxford, although no site has yet been identified.
- 1.3.12 Neolithic finds in the Logic Lane excavations were limited to a single sherd from a Peterborough Ware bowl and, possibly, some of the struck flints and a fragment of a pick of red-deer antler. More substantial evidence for Neolithic occupation in Oxford is attested by other sites, and includes a middle Neolithic enclosure at the Radcliffe Infirmary site.
- 1.3.13 By contrast, the 1960-1 excavation at Logic Lane provided significant evidence of Bronze Age activity in the form of remains of two ditches. Ditch 1 was 0.86m wide and had a U-shaped bottom cut 0.79m into the natural gravels; the ditch was curved and probably formed part of a ring ditch. Ditch 2 was wider, at 2.16m, and its more gently sloping bottom was cut 0.74m into the gravels; it appeared to be straight. Bronze Age finds include a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead. The ring ditch suggests that the Logic Lane site represents part of a Bronze Age barrow cemetery. Such evidence is widespread in Oxfordshire and, more locally, within Oxford. More substantial evidence has been identified by aerial photography and excavation at the University Parks and Science Area, Port Meadow, the Sackler Library (Beaumont Street), and the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Roman

- 1.3.14 Roman finds from the Logic Lane excavation of 1960-1 were limited to a few sherds of pottery in residual contexts. Only one of these was described in the excavation report, comprising a colour-coated shallow bowl, of local manufacture imitating Samian ware and probably of 4th-century date. Similarly small quantities of residual pottery are typical of excavation sites in central Oxford, along with some *ex situ* building materials. A denser concentration of such finds could suggest Roman occupation in the Christchurch and All Saints, High Street, area to the west of University College.

Saxon

- 1.3.15 A putative beam slot (possibly two postholes, as only observed in the sections), a posthole, and four pits were identified during the Logic Lane excavation of 1960-1 as late Saxon features. The possible beam slot and posthole appear to have marked an east-west aligned boundary below later Kybald Street (presumably separating properties fronting the High Street from those fronting Merton Street), while the pits were short-lived rubbish pits. The latter produced a significant assemblage of late Saxon pottery, mainly comprising St Neots ware. Other finds of this period include a bone implement, bones from domesticated animals, and two knife blades.
- 1.3.16 A second substantial assemblage of St Neots ware was excavated at 4a Merton Street in 2000-3, and this site, together with the findings on the site of the Angel Inn in 1876, provides further evidence of late Saxon occupation in this area of Oxford. This is consistent with the fact that Oxford was an Anglo-Saxon burh founded as part of the system of 31 fortresses, which the most recent analysis suggests were built between May 878 and August 879 as a crucial part of Alfred's successful military strategy to drive the Vikings from Mercia and London. If correct, this dating represents a significant revision of the conventional assignment of the construction of the burh at Oxford to



between 911 and 914-19, but is more consistent with the discovery of a silver penny of King Alfred (871-99), which carries the mint-name Oxford (Ohsnaforda).

- 1.3.17 The location of a burh at Oxford was doubtless stimulated by the important middle Saxon crossing of the Thames in St Aldate's. The extent of the burh is not entirely certain, although it has long been accepted that the area between the later medieval Eastgate and Schools Street/Oriel Street (in which the proposed development lies) represents an extension, perhaps of the early 11th century or even the 10th century. The evidence for this is largely topographic (the eastern part of the later medieval town wall is offset northwards by c 60m at this point). The case for a smaller burh has also relied on matching the length of the perimeter of the defences to the value of the hidage for Oxford (itself not entirely clear for this burh due to the corrupted text) in the Burghal Hidage, despite the fact that a strict relationship between hides, manpower, and wall length demonstrably does not apply throughout the system of Alfredian fortresses. The importance of determining the extent of the Saxon burh can be overemphasised, however, since it is probable that it had suburbs from the outset. Certainly, the archaeological evidence (such as the extent of Saxon metalled road surfaces, which includes Catte Street and the eastern part of the High Street, and evidence of domestic occupation predating the late 10th- or early 11th-century foundation of St Peter in the East) for the so-called eastern extension does not differentiate this area from the more certainly identifiable Saxon burh to the west.

Medieval

- 1.3.18 Indisputably, by the early to mid 11th century the site lay within the town centre and to the south of the High Street, which led to the Eastgate and to a crossing of the Cherwell beyond (later Magdalen Bridge). Use of the area set well back from the High Street at this period is demonstrated by the discovery of 11th-century rubbish pits at Logic Lane, and 11th-century (or later) pits at Postmaster's Hall Yard, Merton Street. The excavations at Logic Lane showed that east-west Kybald Street (marked today by the dogleg in Logic Lane, and its surviving western section) was created around 1130, possibly along the line of an 11th-century boundary fence. The excavators also conclude that Logic Lane (which doglegged across Kybald Street) was established at the same time or later, but this assumes that the lengths north and south of Kybald Street are coeval. Beam slots were excavated along the north and south frontages of Kybald Street. Both appeared to be contemporary with the setting out of the street and had gone out of use by the mid 12th century; that on the south side was replaced by a stone wall (either of a building or boundary) on its northern side, encroaching slightly into the road. Four sections of later medieval walls were discovered, two sections at least probably dating to the 13th century, but their relationship and function were not clear. Numerous pits were excavated, mostly south of Kybald Street (reflecting the location of the archaeological trenches), with pottery dating from the 11th century through to the 15th century.
- 1.3.19 Documentary evidence of the High Street and Kybald Street plots in the area now occupied by the Goodhart Building and Goodhart Cottage survives from the early 13th century onwards, and records the location of the proposed development within several tenements and academic halls (Salter 1960; Fig. 3). The rear boundary of the High Street properties lay just south of Goodhart Cottage, so that the cottage, the northern part of the Goodhart Building and Cecily's Court lie within what were the rear parts of the plots of 83-7 High Street. In the medieval period 83-4 High Street was a tenement (owned by University College from c 1275); 85 High Street was a tenement (recorded from 1279 and known by 1452 as the Sarsen Head); and 86-7 High Street was a

tenement recorded from the 13th century and an academic hall (Bostar Hall and, from 1448, Magdalen Hall) between 1352 and 1462.

- 1.3.20 South of these High Street properties were tenements fronting the north side of Kybald Street, comprising, east to west, Baggard's tenement, Wine (or Vine) Hall, and Horsemull Hall. Baggard's tenement is recorded from the 13th century, later forming part of the yard of the Tabard (or Angel) Inn, and today approximating to the yard east of the Goodhart Building). Wine or Vine Hall was an academic hall in 1305, and is today occupied by the majority of the Goodhart Building. Horsemull Hall was a tenement recorded from c 1200, but an academic hall by 1293, which absorbed Vine Hall c 1310, became Hare Hall in 1325-6, ceased to be an academic hall after 1461, and today approximates to the garden west of the Goodhart Building.
- 1.3.21 The southern end of the Goodhart Building and the Goodhart Seminar Room lie within parts of properties between Kybald Street and Merton Street, respectively comprising Nightingale Hall and Chimney Hall, both academic halls by 1293. Chimney Hall ceased to be recorded after 1426, at which point it either merged with Nightingale Hall – which survived until c 1460 – or became part of a garden and vacant plot in this area. It is unclear how the history of these properties, as studied by Salter, can be reconciled with the archaeological evidence.
- 1.3.22 In 1447 the eastern part of Kybald Street was closed, at which point it was called Harehall Lane or Nightingale Hall Lane.

Post-medieval and modern period

- 1.3.23 The Logic Lane excavation of 1960-1 revealed two post-medieval rubbish pits, of 16th to 17th-century date, which had been cut through medieval Kybald Street. Agas's 1578 map shows the area south of the High Street properties east of Logic Lane as given over to gardens, and the site of the Goodhart Building is again shown as gardens and yards on Loggan's more reliable map of 1675. By the date of Faden's map of Oxford (1789), buildings had extended southwards along the east side of Logic Lane nearly as far as the dogleg. A ground plan of the Angel Inn was produced in 1829 by Samuel Griffith (Fig. 4). The 1876 Ordnance Survey 1:500 Town Plan (Fig. 5) shows that the Merton Street frontage had been mostly built up and that the rear of these plots and those fronting the High Street had been largely infilled. The substantial blank area immediately east of the development shows the site cleared for the building of the Examination Schools.
- 1.3.24 The late 19th century saw University College acquire additional properties east of Logic Lane, so that it owned all the land between the lane and the Examination Schools: in 1885 it acquired 86-7 High Street and 9-12 Merton Street, along with the land between, from Magdalen College. In 1895-6 ten new rooms were built behind 88-9 High Street (University Hall), but all of this property was then replaced in 1902-3 by Moore's Durham Buildings. Unlike that of its predecessor, the rear wing of the new building was set back from Logic Lane behind a narrow garden. In 1935 the upper floors of 83 and 84 High Street were converted to ten sets of undergraduate rooms. The upper floors of 85 High Street and Bostar Hall (86-7 High Street) were converted to student use in 1946 and 1949 respectively. A dedicated law library was created in the Durham Buildings in 1949/50.
- 1.3.25 The development site in the late 1950s was described as 'a mess, containing a cottage, some garages, and a rickety furniture store'.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 General

2.1.1 The general aims of the work were to:

- ⑩ determine the character of any remains present;
- ⑩ ensure that deposits were removed (where appropriate and practicable) by proper controlled archaeological methods;
- ⑩ ensure that archaeological data was recovered from the areas subject to watching briefs;
- ⑩ determine or estimate the date range of any remains from artefacts or otherwise;
- ⑩ determine the potential of the deposits for significant palaeo-ecological information;
- ⑩ seek any evidence for medieval pre-college property boundaries and buildings, and medieval and post-medieval college buildings.

2.2 Specific aims and objectives

2.2.1 The specific aims and objectives of the excavation and watching brief were to investigate:

- evidence for the nature of the palaeo-environment (ancient environment), and the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and later pre-college medieval human activity in the area (including further evidence for Bronze Age ditches as found in the 1960-1 Logic Lane excavation);
- evidence for medieval occupation of High Street tenements, including property boundaries;
- evidence for medieval Kybald Street;
- evidence for post-medieval occupation, including property boundaries.

3 PROJECT SPECIFIC EXCAVATION AND RECORDING METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of works

3.1.1 The 1960-1 Logic Lane excavation and the 2013 geotechnical test pits guided the development of the mitigation strategy for subsurface archaeology. The impact on significant archaeological deposits and features by the works was minimised by:

- limiting most of the refurbishment works to the main Goodhart Building to above-ground works, without modification of the 1961 foundations;
- reusing existing drain runs and service routes; and
- undertaking archaeological excavation and watching briefs to investigate and record the loss of any significant archaeology.

3.1.2 The mitigation strategy adopted for the proposed developments means that few elements of the works penetrated the level of significant archaeology. However, minor elements of the development approached or went deeper than the 1960-2 interventions, and these were subject to minor excavations and watching briefs.

Excavation (Fig. 2)

- 3.1.3 The subsurface interventions which were subject to archaeological excavation comprised:

Area 1: Goodhart Cottage

- 3.1.4 The foundation for an extended plan of the annex (i.e. the replacement of Goodhart Cottage): the new building extended 2.1m further south and 0.6m further west, and was a storey taller, requiring replacement of the 1961-2 mass concrete strip foundations. The pre-existing 1.4m-deep foundations were removed and back-filled with granular fill, and new foundations created on the north and east sides through this using concrete strip foundations c 830mm wide. The slight adjustment to the position of the west foundation required back-filling of the trench resulting from removal of the 1961-2 foundation, and then creation of a new trench partly within the granular fill and partly to the west, up to 1.4m deep (i.e. to c 60.20m OD) for concrete strip foundations c 830mm wide. The entirely new southern foundation was of the same design, requiring a 1.4m-deep (i.e. to c 60.20m OD) trench for concrete strip foundations c 830mm wide.
- 3.1.5 The area of the site was relatively restrictive, and consequently the strip foundations were excavated in three sections from north to south.

Area 2: Lift shaft

- 3.1.6 The foundation for a lift in the Goodhart Building area towards south end on west side of staircase 3 was partly cut into the 1961 foundation pad, but mostly into the area to the south-east (c 6m²). The top of the earliest archaeological horizon was at c 60.03m OD, with a number of negative features being excavated to a maximum depth of 59.54m OD. The remaining gravel and modern fills were then excavated by a groundwork contractor to the formation depth at the base of the 1961 foundation (c 58.60m OD).

Watching brief (Fig. 2)

- 3.1.7 The subsurface interventions which were subject to archaeological watching brief comprised:

Floor slab

- 3.1.8 Floor slab for the extension (i.e. the replacement of Goodhart Cottage), comprising 150mm reinforced concrete slab, on 50mm lean mix concrete and 150mm Type 1 stone. For the most part this represented replacement of the existing slab, but the slightly larger footprint meant that the new slab projected beyond that existing.

Service diversions

- 3.1.9 Limited re-routing of services, drainage and IT/comms requiring trenches.

Landscaping

- 3.1.10 Minor landscaping work in Cecily's Court, including installation of ramps.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 4.1.1 The following section summarises the stratigraphic sequence from the earliest deposit to the most recent. Although the strip foundations were excavated in three sections (see 3.1.5 above), for the sake of clarity the following descriptive text and subsequent interpretation makes no distinction between the different phases of trenching.
- 4.1.2 Detailed context descriptions are presented in the context inventory (Appendix B), and within the descriptive text in Section 4.2 and 4.3 below where they are integral to the interpretation of the deposit in question.
- 4.1.3 Finds reports are presented in Appendix C. A discussion and interpretation of the results can be found in Section 5.
- 4.1.4 Seven stratigraphic phases were identified and these formed the basis for the specialist assessments and the phase summaries that follow in the subsequent sections.

List of stratigraphic phases

Phase	Date
Phase I	Terrace gravel
Phase II	Early medieval features
Phase III	Possible medieval structures and features
Phase IV	Garden soils
Phase V	Post-medieval pits and structures
Phase VI	Later post-medieval structures
Phase VII	Modern

4.2 Excavation

Area 1: Goodhart Cottage (Figs 6 and 7)

Phase I - Terrace gravel

- 4.2.1 Natural gravel was only seen in the extreme south-west corner of the strip foundation trenches at an approximate elevation of 60.06m OD.

Phase III - Possible medieval structures and features

- 4.2.2 The gravel had been truncated by at least two pits (75 and 77) filled by a fairly homogeneous clayey silt (76 and 68/69 respectively).
- 4.2.3 The fills were similar in composition to a series of deposits at the base of the excavated stratigraphic sequence throughout the strip foundation trenches. There was no distinction between the composition of these deposits, so they were allocated a single context number (3). However, given that the elevation at the base of the trenches was relatively consistent, and that the natural gravel was not seen elsewhere, it seems likely that these deposits were filling other negative features. The fact that the top of the gravel should theoretically rise from south to north would appear to strengthen this hypothesis, as would the fact that a limited amount of augering in the northern arm of the trench suggested that in this location at least, the homogeneous deposit (3) was in excess of 1.5m deep, and was still present at approximately 57.84m.
- 4.2.4 In the southern arm of the trenching, pit fill 68/69 appeared to be truncated by the construction cut (78) for a roughly east-west aligned limestone wall footing (71), although this relationship was far from certain. Wall footing 71 was overlain by a



structure of similar construction (70), but offset to the south (Plate 1). It was unclear whether Structure 71 was a contemporary offset footing for Structure 70, or whether the former was an earlier wall on a similar alignment. Both Structure 70 and Fill 68/69 had been truncated by later features (65 and 67 respectively) which may have in fact been part of the same pit.

- 4.2.5 In the south-west corner of the trenching, Structure 71 appeared to be abutted by a square-cut stone-lined pit (57, 61), although once again this relationship was not established with any degree of certainty.
- 4.2.6 In the eastern arm of the trenching, an east-west aligned limestone wall bonded with a sandy lime mortar (24) was encountered. The construction cut (25) for the lower element of the wall was seen to truncate the top of the possible pit fill(s) (3) which were overlain by the garden soils described below. These deposits (here numbered 2 and 34) also appeared to abut the northern and southern face respectively of the upper element of wall 24.

Phase IV - Garden soils

- 4.2.7 Overlying deposit 3 and abutting the faces of wall 24 were a series of homogeneous deposits of very similar composition (2, 46, 47, 34, 35 and 30) which are likely to represent garden soils.

Phase V - Post-medieval pits and structures

- 4.2.8 The fill (56) of the construction cut (58) for the northern wall (57) of the stone-lined pit described above (4.2.5) had been truncated by the cut of a large pit (36/55) which also truncated the garden soils (35). The composition of the lower excavated fills of pit 36/55 (37, 53 and 54) was indicative of degraded organic content, perhaps suggesting that the primary function of the feature was as a cess pit. The upper fills (39 and 48-52) are interpreted as the backfilling of the feature once it had become redundant.
- 4.2.9 The garden soil (here numbered 35) and possible cess pit (36/55) had been truncated by the cut of a sub-circular feature (41), which had some evidence for a brick and stone lining (33) around its south-eastern extent (Plate 2). The fills of the pit (42-45) contained 18th to early 19th century artefactual material.

Phase VI - Later post-medieval structures

- 4.2.10 In the north-west corner of the trenching, the garden soil (here numbered 2) was overlain by a thin lens of compacted mortar (32) which may have represented a construction horizon for the structures to the east. The earliest of these appeared to comprise a cellar (26) constructed of roughly hewn stone and unfrogged bricks (Plate 3). The northern extent of the structure lay beyond the northern limit of the trenching, and consequently only the southernmost 0.75m of the southern end of the cellar was revealed. The internal width of the cellar (east-west) was 2.7m, with the walls measuring approximately 0.5m wide. A 0.75m-wide threshold was positioned centrally within the southern wall. The backfill of the structure comprised a very loose and unstable deposit of brick, stone, ash and charcoal (29), probably derived from the demolition of the structure to which the cellar belonged. The south-east corner of the partially demolished structure appeared to be overlain by a layer of limestone rubble (27), the top of which comprised two large flat stones which may have represented the remnants of a surface. This was defined along its eastern edge by a north-south aligned wall footing (28) constructed from four courses of unfrogged brick, which terminated c 1m to the north of the southern extent of this section of trenching.

Modern

- 4.2.11 The remaining deposits encountered within the strip foundation trenches comprised mixed deposits with brick rubble and other construction debris throughout (1), which are likely to represent material originating from the demolition of the buildings which occupied the site prior to the construction of the Goodhart Building and Cottage.

Area 2: Lift shaft (Figs 8 and 9; Plate 4)

- 4.2.12 The deposits within the lift shaft trench had been heavily truncated during the construction of the Goodhart Building.

Phase I and II - Terrace gravel and early medieval features

- 4.2.13 Natural gravel was encountered at 60.03m OD and had been truncated by two shallow, sub-circular features (18 and 20) which are likely to represent the bases of heavily truncated pits. Pit 20 was cut by a north-east/south-west aligned linear feature (16), which was 0.7m wide and 0.38m deep. The fill (15) was overlain by a layer of silty sand and gravel (12), which may have represented an upper fill of the same feature.

Phase III - Possible medieval structures and features

- 4.2.14 In the south-east corner of the trench, deposit 12 and the linear feature had been truncated by the north-west corner of a masonry structure (10), the western face of which was on a perpendicular alignment to the feature. Deposit 12 was also overlain by a flattish layer of uncut stone (7), possibly representing a rudimentary surface and overlain by a compacted lens of material (6) which may have been a trample layer. Both 'surface' 7 and the overlying layer appeared to abut the western face of wall 10 and may have been contemporary with this.

Phase IV - Garden soils

- 4.2.15 Deposit 6 was overlain by a c 0.2m-thick layer of fairly homogeneous sandy silt (9), which may possibly have been the equivalent to the garden soils within the strip foundation trenches described above. The respective elevations of the top of the deposit are broadly consistent with this interpretation, being c 60.60m OD in Area 2 and an average of 60.40m OD in the Area 1 strip foundation trenches.

Phase VI - Later post-medieval structures

- 4.2.16 Deposit 9 had been truncated by a stone-lined drain (4) within a construction cut (5) on a similar north-east/south-west alignment to the earlier linear feature. The drain and deposit 9 were overlain by a second layer of possible garden soil (8).

Modern

- 4.2.17 The remainder of the stratigraphic sequence comprised truncation by 19th century services and cuts associated with the construction of the Goodhart Building.

4.3 Watching brief*Floor slab*

- 4.3.1 The general reduction in advance of the construction of the floor slab did not impact below the probable garden soils described above. Although a number of structures were revealed at this elevation within the strip foundation trenches, no evidence for these structures was encountered during the reduced dig, suggesting a greater degree of truncation - possibly as the majority of this area was within the footprint of the former Goodhart Cottage.



Service diversions

- 4.3.2 The majority of the service diversions and new installations were predominantly restricted to existing service runs or did not impact below modern deposits. The exception to this was the trench for a new manhole, immediately to the south west of the Goodhart Building (within the southern watching brief area indicated on Figure 2), which revealed a cobbled surface approximately 0.35m below the existing ground level. It seems likely that this surface was associated with the configuration of buildings and yards which were demolished prior to the construction of the existing building.

Landscaping

- 4.3.3 The impact of the landscaping within Cecily Court was not sufficient to expose any significant archaeological horizons.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Reliability of field investigation

5.1.1 Although there was a paucity of datable artefactual material the stratigraphic sequence is reasonably well understood. However, only a relatively small area was subject to excavation and the archaeologically arbitrary depth of the strip foundation trenches was dictated by the foundation design of the new build. Consequently the following interpretation is necessarily circumspect.

5.2 Interpretation

Phases I and II - Terrace gravel and early medieval features (11th-13th century)

5.2.1 The earliest features revealed during the works were the two truncated pits (18 and 20) encountered at the base of the sequence within the lift shaft trench (Area 2). Although no dating evidence was recovered from these features, they appeared to have been truncated by the north-east/south-west aligned ditch (16), which produced 11th-13th century pottery. During the excavations in the early 1960s, a possible beam slot and posthole below the surfaces of the later Kybald Street were interpreted as marking an east-west aligned boundary separating properties fronting the High Street from those fronting Merton Street, and it is possible that the linear feature encountered within the lift shaft either represents part of this earlier property boundary, or alternatively is evidence for activity fronting onto Kybald Street (see below).

5.2.2 It was also noted that this feature was on a similar alignment to two ditches encountered during the 1960s excavations (Ditch 1 and the ditch in contractors pit J15: Radcliffe 1963; Fig. 2). These were interpreted as possible Bronze Age ring ditches, but no dating evidence was recovered and they were dated by means of the composition of the fills, and the possibility that one of them may have been on a curvilinear alignment (Ditch 1). Consequently, it is possible that these three features represented different phases of the same boundary. However, any correlation between these features is based purely on their spatial proximity and similarity in alignment and dimensions, and as such the possibility that the ditches recorded during the earlier works represent prehistoric features should not be discounted.

Phase III - Possible medieval structures and features (14th-15th century)

5.2.3 The linear feature had itself been truncated by what appeared to be the north-west corner of a limestone-built structure bonded with degraded lime mortar (10). The function of this structure was unclear, although it may have represented evidence for a structure fronting onto the southern side of Kybald Street. Little evidence for the street itself was revealed, with the exception of a flattish layer of uncut stone (7), possibly representing a rudimentary surface and overlain by a compacted lens of material (6), which may have been a trample layer.

5.2.4 A number of other structures were encountered within the strip foundation trenches (Area 1) to the north-east of the lift shaft. The phasing of these was largely established by their relationship with a fairly homogeneous silty clay deposit (2, 9, 30, 34, 35, 46, 47), encountered throughout the strip foundation trenches and overlying the putative surface and the stone-built structure within the lift shaft. This deposit was loosely interpreted as a garden soil (see below).

5.2.5 It is possible that the two phases of roughly east-west aligned wall encountered in the southern arm of the trenches (70/71) represented the rear boundary of properties

fronting High Street and Kybald Street, as it roughly corresponds with the conjectured boundary between these plots suggested by H.E. Salter in his Survey of Oxford (Salter 1960).

- 5.2.6 The 14th-15th century artefactual material recovered from the fill of the construction cut for stone-lined pit 57/61 would suggest that it predates the closure of the eastern end of Kybald Street in 1447 (see below).
- 5.2.7 During the 1961 works, beam slots were revealed along the north and south frontages of Kybald Street. Both appeared to be contemporary with the setting out of the street and had gone out of use by the mid-12th-century; that on the south side was replaced by a stone wall (either of a building or boundary) on its northern side, encroaching slightly into the road. Four sections of later medieval walls were discovered, two sections at least probably dating to the 13th century, but their relationship and function were not clear. It is possible that the wall identified within the lift shaft trench is of a similar origin, although the limited nature of the excavations and the heavy truncation from later features made this difficult to establish with any degree of certainty.

Phase IV - Garden soils (15th-16th century)

- 5.2.8 The deposit(s) (2, 9, 30, 34, 35, 46, 47) overlying these structures are tentatively interpreted as garden soils and may represent evidence that this area became part of a garden or a vacant plot following the closure of the eastern end of Kybald Street in 1447, possibly as a result of the economic decline in Oxford throughout the 15th century. This is consistent with the early cartographic evidence from Agas' plan of 1578, which shows the area south of the High Street properties east of Logic Lane as given over to gardens. The site of the Goodhart Building is again shown as gardens and yards on Loggan's more reliable map of 1675 (Harris 2013). Consequently, it seems likely that the garden soils originate from the period between the decline of the medieval tenements in the latter part of the 15th century and the development of the area once incorporated into the rear yard of the Angel Inn from the 17th century onwards.
- 5.2.9 It is worth noting that one sherd of creamware (1740-1830) and two sherds of post-medieval black-glazed redware (1580-1750) were recovered from deposit 46, which would suggest that the dating of these deposits is incorrect. However, it seems likely that these were attributed to deposit 46 in error, and possibly represent contamination from feature 41 (see below), particularly as two joining pieces of chamber pot are from the same vessel as sherds found in fill 45 of the feature.

Phases V and VI - Post-medieval pits and structures (16th-19th century)

- 5.2.10 In contrast to the structures overlain by these garden soils, a number of structures were also encountered which appeared to post-date the deposit(s). The stone-lined semi-circular structure (33), with some evidence for brick repair of the upper courses, was located centrally within the new build. This may have represented the top of a well to the rear of the Angel Inn, which fronted High Street from at least the 16th century. The fact that the stone lining was not consistently present around the top of the feature may suggest an alternative interpretation, although it is possible that the top of the structure had been robbed prior to backfilling.
- 5.2.11 A stone-and-brick-built structure in the northern arm of the trench (26/27/28) almost certainly relates to a 19th-century cellar to the rear of the Angel, the backfill of which (29) appeared to suggest that this remained in use until the demolition of the adjacent properties in advance of the construction of the Examination Schools, which were completed in 1882.



5.2.12 The relationship between pit 55 and the garden soils was unclear, as they were truncated in this area of the trenching. However, the fact that the pit appeared to truncate the stone-lined feature – together with the fact that 16th-17th century material was recovered from the lower, cessy fills (48-54) – would suggest that this feature represents a cess pit to the rear of the Angel Inn, possibly backfilled in the 18th century and predating the probable latrine block shown on Samuel Griffith's ground plan of 1829 (Fig. 4).

Modern

5.2.13 The remaining deposits within the trenches are interpreted as modern construction/demolition material probably originating from the demolition of the buildings which occupied the site prior to the construction of the Goodhart Building.



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APPENDIX B. CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context no	Type	Depth (m)	Comment	Soil Description	Date
1	Deposit	0.52	Demolition deposit	Brick rubble and gravel in a soft dark brownish grey clayey silt matrix	
2	Deposit	0.52	Garden soil	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional sub-angular stones, charcoal flecks and degraded oyster shell	
3	Deposit	0.54	Possible pit fill	Moderately soft mid brownish green sandy silts with moderate rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and degraded oyster shell	
4	Structure		Stone-lined drain		
5	Cut	0.35	Construction cut for stone-lined drain 4		
6	Deposit		Rubble-rich layer possibly associated with the demolition of structure 10	Moderately compact mixed dark greyish brown sandy silt with patches of brownish yellow mortar throughout and pebbles and fragments of limestone throughout	
7	?Surface		Possible rudimentary surface	Limestone fragments with occasional tile and CBM	
8	Deposit	0.36	Garden soil	Lightly compacted dark greyish brown sandy silt with <1% well sorted stones between 2mm and 10mm	
9	Deposit	0.38	Garden soil	Lightly compacted dark brownish grey sandy silt with <1% well sorted stones between 2mm and 20mm	
10	Structure		Possible NW corner of a stone building ?fronting Kybald Street	Roughly hewn limestone blocks in lime mortar bond	
11	Fill	0.26	Fill of drain 4	Lightly compacted dark brownish grey sandy silt with <1% well sorted stones between 2mm and 20mm	
12	Deposit	0.20	Possible buried soil/ground surface	Loose dark brown silty sand and gravel with c 30% sub rounded gravel fragments	
13	Cut		Construction cut for wall 10		
14	Fill		Backfill of construction	Thin vertical mortar deposit	



Context no	Type	Depth (m)	Comment	Soil Description	Date
			cut 13	within construction cut 13 against west face of wall 10	
15	Fill	0.34	Fill of ditch 16	Soft dark brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded gravels throughout	
16	Cut		Cut of possible medieval ditch		
17	Fill		Fill of heavily truncated pit 18	Soft, dark brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded/rounded gravels throughout	
18	Cut		Cut of heavily truncated pit		
19	Fill		Fill of heavily truncated pit 20	Soft dark brown silty sand with moderate rounded/sub-rounded gravels throughout	
20	Cut		Cut of heavily truncated pit		
21	Structure		Modern wall	Brick and cement-based mortar wall with concrete footing	
22	Cut		Modern truncation		
23	Fill		Fill of modern truncation	Mixed with ceramic pipe fragments and brick rubble throughout	
24	Structure	0.44	East-west aligned wall	Roughly hewn stone blocks in creamy brown sandy lime mortar	
25	Cut		Construction cut for wall 24		
26	Structure		Brick and stone cellar		
27	?Surface		Possible surface	Roughly hewn limestone blocks	
28	Structure		North-south aligned wall	Unfrogged bricks in a creamy grey sandy lime mortar	
29	Fill		Backfill of cellar 26 - demolition material	Mixed brick, stone, ash, charcoal. Very loose	
30	Deposit	0.26	Garden soil	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional sub-angular stones, charcoal flecks and shell	
31	Deposit	0.38	Modern demolition deposit	Moderately firm dark yellowish brown clayey silts with moderate rounded pebbles and brick rubble throughout	



Context no	Type	Depth (m)	Comment	Soil Description	Date
32	Deposit		Possible construction horizon	Thin lens of mortar	
33	Structure	0.45	Circular stone and brick structure. Soakaway or well		
34	Deposit		Garden soil	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks	
35	Deposit		Garden soil	Soft dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks	
36	Cut		Pit cut		
37	Fill	0.80+	Pit fill	Soft dark grey clayey silt with green mottling and occasional charcoal flecks and fragments, small pebbles and coarse sand inclusions throughout	
38	Cut		Tip-line within pit 36		
39	Fill	0.60+	Pit fill	Soft dark grey clayey silt with very rare limestone cobbles and charcoal flecks	
40	Deposit	0.55+	Possible pit fill	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and fragments, rare limestone pebbles and fragments	
41	Cut		Construction cut for Structure 33		
42	Fill	0.2	Fill of ?Well 33	Soft mid brown clayey silt with c 2% charcoal	
43	Fill	0.15	Fill of ?Well 33	Soft mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional gravel and 2% charcoal	
44	Fill	0.12	Fill of ?Well 33	Soft mid orange-brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and 5% gravel fragments	
45	Fill	0.68	Fill of ?Well 33	Soft mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles, charcoal flecks and CBM	
46	Deposit	0.40	Possible pit fill/garden soil	Soft dark greyish brown clayey silt with rare charcoal flecks and fragments and rare limestone fragments	



Context no	Type	Depth (m)	Comment	Soil Description	Date
47	Deposit	0.40+	Garden soil	Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and fragments, rare shell fragments and very rare limestone pebbles	
48	Fill	0.35	Fill of Pit 55	Friable light brown sandy silt with 20% gravel	
49	Fill	0.40	Fill of Pit 55	Friable mid brown sandy silt with 5% gravel	
50	Fill	0.10	Fill of Pit 55	Friable yellow brown silty sand with 30% gravel and occasional mortar lumps	
51	Fill	0.28	Fill of Pit 55	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt with 5% gravel	
52	Fill	0.08	Fill of Pit 55	Firm dark brown silty clay	
53	Fill	0.16	Fill of Pit 55	Friable mid grey silty clay with 5% gravel	
54	Fill	0.40	Fill of Pit 55	Friable mid brown sandy clay with 5% gravel	
55	Cut		Pit cut		
56	Fill	0.35	Fill of construction cut 58	Compact reddish brown sandy silt with 1% gravel	
57	Structure		Possibly the lining of a ? square-cut ?cess pit - same as 61		
58	Cut		Construction cut for 57 and 61		
59	Deposit	0.60	Garden soil	Firm light grey brown clay silt with 5% gravel, occasional charcoal flecks	
60	Fill	0.30	Fill of stone-lined pit 58	Loose yellowish white mortar with occasional limestone lumps	
61	Structure		Possibly the lining of a ? square-cut ?cess pit - same as 57		
62	Surface	0.06	Compact mortar surface or bedding layer	Compact yellow brown gravelly mortar	
63	Deposit	0.20	Modern layer	Compact mid grey brown clay silt with 10% mortar lumps, 1% brick, occasional lumps of coal and 5% gravel	
64	Fill	0.60	Fill of pit or intrusion 65	Firm mid grey brown silty clay with 5% gravel and occasional limestone lumps	



Context no	Type	Depth (m)	Comment	Soil Description	Date
65	Cut		Possible pit cut		
66	Fill	0.80	Fill of possible pit 67	Friable mid brown clay silt with 5% gravel and occasional limestone lumps	
67	Cut		Possible pit		
68	Deposit	0.60	Possible pit fill. (Fill of 77)	Tenacious dark grey brown silty clay with 1% limestone lumps and occasional charcoal flecks	
69	Deposit	0.60	Possible pit fill. (Fill of 77)	Tenacious dark grey brown silty clay with 1% gravel and occasional charcoal lumps	
70	Structure		East-west aligned wall overlying 71	Limestone in grey ashy lime mortar bond	
71	Structure		East-west aligned wall overlain by 71	Limestone in clay bond	
72	Surface	0.10	Possible yard surface	Limestone cobbles	
73	Deposit	0.35	?Backfill - re-deposited garden soil	Friable mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent pebbles, CBM, charcoal and shell fragments	
74	Deposit	0.35	?Backfill - re-deposited garden soil	Friable dark greenish brown sandy silt with occasional pebbles, cobbles, shell and CBM	
75	Cut		Possible pit cut		
76	Fill		Possible pit fill		
77	Cut		Pit cut		
78	Cut		Construction cut for wall 70		



APPENDIX C. FINDS REPORTS

C.1 Medieval and post-medieval pottery

by John Cotter

Introduction

- C.1.1 A total of 132 sherds of pottery weighing 4.530kg were excavated. Of this 45% by sherd count is medieval and 55% post-medieval (c 1480+). By weight the percentage of the total differs fairly considerably, 27% and 73% respectively, due to the more robust nature of post-medieval pottery. The average sherd weight for the medieval pottery is 21g, and for post-medieval pottery 45g. The precise division, however, is difficult to determine with accuracy as the currency of late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (c 1400-1625) spans the traditional divide between medieval and post-medieval. Although grouped here for convenience with the medieval fabrics, there are several indications that at least some vessels in this fabric are of early post-medieval date, although some earlier sherds are bound to be present. The pottery is generally in a fragmentary but fairly fresh condition, with the post-medieval vessels commonly surviving as large fresh sherds.
- C.1.2 The range of fabrics and vessel forms present is typical of sites along or near the main thoroughfares of central Oxford and is entirely domestic in character. There are no reasonably-sized groups of material that deserve detailed description or publication or add very much to our knowledge of pottery of this period from Oxford, although the late 17th-18th century assemblage includes some attractive tankards and jugs in English and German stonewares. No definite late Saxon material is present (even residually) and the earliest material is probably of later 11th- or 12th-century date. A range of pottery types up to the late 19th century is represented. Most of it comes from pit fills, from the backfill of a post-medieval well and from a few ditch fills and garden soils.

Methodology

- C.1.3 An intermediate-level catalogue of pottery types was constructed (in Excel), following standard procedure, for the whole assemblage and spot-dates produced for each context. The catalogue includes, per context and per pottery fabric, quantification by sherd count and weight only. Given the relatively small size of the assemblage and its fragmentary nature more detailed quantification (of vessel form etc) was not considered worthwhile. However, additional details including vessel form, part, decoration or any other features of note were frequently recorded in a comments field. Full details remain in the archive. As better parallels exist elsewhere, no material was illustrated. What follows is simply a quantified table of the various fabrics present and a summary report focusing on the more significant or interesting aspects of the assemblage.

Pottery Fabrics

- C.1.4 Medieval pottery fabrics were recorded using the system of codes developed for the Oxfordshire County type series (Mellor 1994). Post-medieval fabrics were recorded using the codes of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014) which can be applied to most post-medieval types in south-east England. A breakdown of the fabrics present is given in the table below.



Fabric	Common Name	Date	Sherds	Weight
OXBF	SW Oxon ware (Kennet Valley A)	875-1250	2	67
OXAC	Cotswold-type ware	1050-1250	2	50
OXY	Medieval Oxford ware	1075-1300	4	48
OXAQ	East Wilts ware (Kennet Valley B)	1150-1350	1	15
OXAG	Ashampstead-type ware (Berks)	1175-1400	3	46
OXAM	Brill/Boarstall ware (Bucks)	1225-1625	23	442
TUDG	Tudor Green ware (Surrey/Hants)	1375-1550	1	5
OVBX	Late medieval Brill ware (Bucks)	1400-1625	23	550
RAER	Raeren stoneware (Germany)	1480-1550	2	84
FREC	Frechen stoneware (Germany)	1525-1750	7	453
BORD G	Border ware, green glazed (Surrey/Hants)	1550-1700	3	139
PMR	Post-medieval red earthenwares	1550-1900	12	1190
TGW	English tin-glazed earthenware	1575-1825	11	239
PMBL	Post-medieval black-glazed redware	1580-1750	3	412
WEST	Westerwald stoneware (Germany)	1590-1750	13	331
CHPO	Chinese porcelain	1600-1900+	3	34
BRSL	Brill post-medieval slipware	1650-1800	1	65
LONS	London stoneware	1670-1900	1	93
NOTS	Nottingham stoneware	1700-1800	2	57
SWSG SCRB	Staffs white stoneware with scratch- blue dec	1740-1780	1	11
CREA	Creamware (Staffs/Yorks)	1740-1830	1	19
CREA DEV	Developed Creamware (Staffs/Yorks)	1760-1830	9	121
PEAR	Pearlware (Staffs/Midlands)	1780-1840	1	35
PEAR TR	Transfer-printed Pearlware	1780-1840	1	4
TPW	Transfer-printed wares (Staffs etc)	1780-1900+	2	20
Total			132	4530

Table 1. Pottery types and quantities in roughly chronological order

Summary

- C.1.5 The earliest stratified pottery (context 15) comes from the fill of medieval ditch (16) and probably dates to c 1050-1250. This comprises just two sherds including a bowl rim in Cotswold-type ware (Fabric OXAC) and a probable jar base in South-west Oxfordshire/Kennet Valley A ware (OXBF). Both these fabrics have pre-conquest origins (from c 900+), but are commonest in Oxford during the early post-conquest period, which is probably the date here; an earlier date however cannot entirely be ruled-out. Only eight sherds, including the last two, are in fabrics datable up to the middle of the 13th century (including OXY).
- C.1.6 Brill/Boarstall ware fabrics (OXAM and OVBX) dominate the site assemblage, as they do on most medieval/early post-medieval sites in the city. The earlier fabric (OXAM) occurs as fairly smallish jug sherds. These include a few decorated strip jugs, some quite thickly potted, suggesting an increase in site activity from the late 13th or 14th century. Context (3), a possible pit fill, contains 13 fairly fresh Brill sherds of this date, as well as a few other sherds of common high medieval fabrics (OXAG, OXAQ). Other pit contexts with OXAM jug sherds may also be of this date, but can only be broadly dated, up to c 1500, due to the lack of diagnostic features. The late medieval/early post-medieval Brill/Boarstall fabric (OVBX, to c 1625) is not always easily distinguished from OXAM, but vessels tend to be thicker walled, plainer and more sparsely glazed or



unglazed. It mainly occurs here as smallish drinking jugs and a few wide bowls; the bowls are mainly 16th and early 17th century.

- C.1.7 Post-medieval pottery is fairly plentiful and comes from a wide variety of sources including local, regional and some imported sources (German stonewares). Contexts which can be securely dated to the 17th century are fairly rare, compared to the number of contexts containing 18th-century pottery, and much of the 17th-century material seems to have ended up there. Pit (55) (filled by (48), (51), (52) and (53)), however, probably dates to the mid/late 17th century and also contains a clay pipe bowl of c 1640-1670. It contains a range of pottery typical of this period including several bowls and a jar in the ubiquitous post-medieval red earthenware (PMR), as well as green-glazed Surrey/Hampshire Border ware (BORDG) and parts of three jugs/bottles in brown salt-glazed Frechen stoneware (FREC) from Germany.
- C.1.8 One closely datable 17th-century type comprises a few sherds of English tin-glazed ware drinking vessels (cups and mugs) with a characteristic purple-speckled glaze datable to c 1630-1680 (TGW, Orton Type B). These however are residual in an 18th-century context (45). The feature with the largest assemblage of pottery from the site (41 sherds, 1205g) is a probable well (33), containing fills (44) and (45), full of typically 18th-century pottery including many large and fresh sherds. The lower fill (44) dates to c 1790-1830 while the upper fill (45) has pottery of c 1740-1780, but also a clay pipe bowl of c 1750-1790 and a pipe stem possibly of late 18th- or early 19th-century date. It seems likely therefore that the well was backfilled at this later date but contains earlier 18th- and also 17th-century material - including a clay pipe bowl of c 1630-1655 from (45). The well fills produced parts of several highly decorated tankards and drinking or serving jugs in imported Westerwald stoneware (WEST) probably dating to the period c 1690-1750. There were also two decorated tankards in Nottingham stoneware, also dating to c 1700-1750. Another mug/tankard in developed Creamware with brown banded decoration dates from c 1790-1830. Parts of at least three chamberpots also came from the well fills: two in 18th-century tin-glazed ware (TGW) and one in black-glazed redware (PMBL) of similar date. Overall the character of the well - with its several drinking vessels and chamberpots - is similar to what one might expect from a post-medieval latrine associated with an inn or a hostelry, but one would need a larger assemblage to be more definite about this.
- C.1.9 The black-glazed chamberpot from (45) is represented by a large complete base sherd while the rim and shoulder of the same vessel were found in a different pit nearby (46). Noteworthy items from other contexts are few but include a small conical (PMR) vessel with a flanged horizontal rim and an internal glaze. This may be an 18th-century 'stool pan' (conical chamberpot) once set into a wooden commode; given its small size it must have been made for a child (context (59) garden soil). Also noteworthy is a small attractive teabowl of c 1750 (TGW) decorated with polychrome colours in the Japanese Imari-style showing a stylised landscape with a hut; this is from another pit fill dated by late 18th- or early 19th-century pottery (40). The latest pottery from the site comprises two small sherds from two Keiller's Dundee marmalade jars of c 1850-1900 in transfer-printed whiteware (TPW), both from a demolition deposit (1). No further work on the pottery is recommended.

C.2 Clay tobacco pipes

by John Cotter

- C.2.1 A total of 24 pieces of clay pipe weighing 219g were recovered from seven contexts. These have been catalogued and recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. The catalogue records, per context, the spot-date, the quantity of stem, bowl and mouth fragments, the overall sherd count, weight, and comments on condition and any makers' marks or decoration present.
- C.2.2 The catalogue comprises nine pipe bowl fragments (from a minimum of 9 bowls), 14 pieces of stem and one mouthpiece. Though fragmentary the condition of the material is quite fresh and includes seven complete bowls and some stem pieces up to 105mm long. A mixture of fairly fresh and fairly worn material is however present. This is described in some detail in the catalogue and so is summarised here. Most of the bowls are local types (though showing London influences) of the 17th and 18th century, all plain and unmarked. These have been classified by comparison to the published local typology (Oswald 1984) or the London type series (Atkinson and Oswald 1969). The three earliest pipe bowls are of Oxford Type A, c 1630-1655, but are all residual in later contexts ((23), (45) and (59)). One of these (45) is from one of the late 18th-century backfills of well (33) which produced half of the pipes from the site (12 pieces) including a bowl of c 1750-1790 and a stem possibly of late 18th- or early 19th-century date. No pipes definitely later than this were identified. No further work is recommended.

C.3 Metalwork

by Leigh Allen

- 5.2.14 A total of seven iron objects were recovered from the excavation. All are very corroded and in a poor fragmentary condition. They comprise a key, the arm from a horseshoe, the fragmentary remains of an iron vessel, three nails and a strip. The majority were recovered from garden soils and the late 18th century backfill of well 33.
- 5.2.15 The key was recovered from garden soil (context 2). It is complete but very corroded. It has an oval bow with internal moulding at the top of the stem. The stem appears hollow at the tip and the bit is in line with the end of the stem. Unfortunately the form of the bit is obscured by corrosion. Keys of this type were designed for use in mounted locks in the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 5.2.16 The horseshoe arm was recovered from the fill of a mid/late 17th century pit (context 48). The arm has a plain profile, wide web and no calkin at the heel.
- 5.2.17 The fragmentary remains of a large metal vessel were recovered from the 18th century backfill of a well (context 45). The flat base has an approximate diameter of 215mm with gently sloping sides, possibly from a large platter.
- 5.2.18 Nails were recovered from contexts 23 and 45.

C.4 Glass

by Ian R Scott

- C.4.1 There are just 12 sherds of glass from the site (Table 2).
- C.4.2 Most of the glass comes from fills 44, 45 and 46 of well 33, with seven sherds from context 45, and single sherds from contexts 44 and 46. The 'globe and shaft' wine bottle base (Cat. No. 1) from fill 44 dates to the late 17th century. The glass from context 45, apart from the upper part of a 17th-century small flask (Cat. No. 2) and a single sherd of

window glass, dates to the 18th century. The window glass might well date to the 18th century, but can only be dated 'post-medieval'. The single sherd from layer 46 is the base of a free-blown cylindrical phial or pharmaceutical bottle again of 18th-century date.

- C.4.3 There is a single body sherd from a wine bottle that is not closely datable from context 8. The glass from context 40 comprises a body sherd from thick-walled early 18th-century squat wine bottle, the precise form of which is not certain, and a second sherd from either a wine bottle or a flask, which might well be 18th-century in date but lacks any distinctive features.

Table 2: Summary quantification of glass by context and glass type (sherd count)

Context	Vessel						Window	Total
	wine bottle	globe and shaft bottle	bottle	flask	phial	stemmed glass		
8	1							1
40	1		1					2
44		1						1
45	2			2	1	1	1	7
46					1			1
Total	4	1	1	2	2	1	1	12

- C.4.4 Overall the glass comprises several vessel sherds of 18th-century date including body sherds probably from early 18th-century wine squat bottles, and two sherds (Cat. Nos 1-2) from context 44 that are of 17th-century date. The window glass from context 45 could be 17th- or 18th-century in date but is not closely datable.

Catalogue of selected glass

- C.4.5 Context 44 (1) 'Globe and shaft' wine bottle. Base from a small example with shallow push-up or kick, and thick walls. Dark green glass. Late 17th century
- C.4.6 Context 45 (2) Flask. Upper body and neck/finish from a flask with short narrow vertical above sloping shoulder in dark green glass. The top of the neck has been hand tooled into a small everted or funnel-shaped rim with a folded finish. Possibly dates to the 17th century.
- C.4.7 Context 45 (3) Phial or pharmaceutical bottle. Base and much of body of a free-blown cylindrical phial in dark green glass. Late 17th- or more probably 18th-century. D: 28mm
- C.4.8 Context 45 (4) Stemmed wine glass. Rim and part of the bowl of a funnel-shaped stemmed glass in colourless glass. Unclear whether the rim is from a trumpet or bell-shaped glass with an applied stem and foot and dating to the later 18th- or very early 19th-century, or from a trumpet-shaped glass with a drawn stem dating to the early to mid 18th century. Rim D: 55mm.

C.5 Worked bone

by Leigh Allen

- C.5.1 Two worked bone objects were recovered from the excavation: a brush head and a handle, both from garden soils.
- C.5.2 The small brush head from context 59 is unusual in that the head, rather than being straight sided, tapers to a rounded end and is curved in profile. It is pierced by 38 small circular holes to hold the bristles and on the back of the head are four grooves which would have held copper alloy wires to secure the bristles in place. The whole head is

stained green from the wires. Below the head a short section of handle survives. This is highly polished with mouldings at the base. The handle is hollow and must have been attached to another section of handle, possibly of a different material. The curved profile of the head suggests that this little brush was designed for a specific purpose.

C.5.3 The second object is a simple polished handle from a whittle tang implement from context 47. It is circular in section, expanding towards the rounded butt end, and is a common form in the post-medieval period.

C.6 Animal bones

By Lena Strid

C.6.1 A total of 17 animal bones were recovered from this site. The bones were in a good to fair condition regardless of phase. No bones were burnt.

C.6.2 The assemblage consists of the usual domestic species found on urban sites: cattle, sheep/goat, pig, and domestic fowl as well as one bone from horse (Table 3). Ageing data were limited, but both sub-adult and adult animals were present, as well as two juvenile calf bones (Table 4). A single sheep/goat mandible from Phase II had a mandibular wear stage of 35 (cf Grant 1982), representing an animal of 3-4 years (Payne 1973).

C.6.3 Butchering marks were found on a total of three bones: one calf pelvis from Phase II, one large mammal rib and one cattle femur from Phase 3. Transverse cut marks from filleting were found on the large mammal rib and on the ilium of the calf pelvis. The cattle femur had been portioned mid-shaft and just above the trochanter minor.

C.6.4 Pathologies were found on a single horse metatarsal from Phase III. The bone had small exostoses at the proximal joint and minor bone deformation of the anterior joint surface. The pathologies may be age related but may also derive from muscle strains.

C.6.5 No further information can be gained from such a small sample of bones.

Table 3. Number of identified bones/taxon

	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV	Phase VII
Cattle	1	2	1	1
Sheep/goat	1		1	
Pig	1	3	2	
Horse		1		
Domestic fowl		1		
Large mammal		1	1	
TOTAL	3	8	5	1
Total weight (g)	107	288	68	19

Table 4. Number of bones/taxon with visible fusion stage. UF= unfused, F= fused. Fusion stages according to Serjeantson 1996.

		Cattle			Sheep/goat			Pig		
		UF	Fusing	F	UF	Fusing	F	UF	Fusing	F
Phase II	Juvenile									
	Early fusion			1						



	Mid-fusion									
	Late fusion									
Phase III	Juvenile									
	Early fusion							2		
	Mid-fusion									
	Late fusion	1								
Phase IV	Juvenile	1								
	Early fusion									
	Mid-fusion						1			
	Late fusion						1			
Phase VII	Juvenile	1								
	Early fusion									
	Mid-fusion									
	Late fusion									

C.7 Worked stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

- C.7.1 Five pieces of stone were retained – four of oolitic limestone (189g) from context 12 and one of sandy limestone (164g) from context 7. These are all likely to be fragments from roofing but none are diagnostic.



APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Goodhart Building, University College, Oxford

Site code: OXUG14

Grid reference: SP5182 0620 (centred)

Type: Excavation and watching brief

Summary of results: Between September 2014 and April 2015 Oxford Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological excavation and recording during renovations and alterations to The Goodhart Building, University College, Oxford (centred on SP 518 062). The work was commissioned by Dr Roland Harris on behalf of University College and followed on from a watching brief carried out during the excavation of engineering test pits in May 2013.

The excavation areas comprised new strip foundation trenches on the site of the recently demolished Goodhart Cottage (Area 1), and a new lift shaft within The Goodhart Building itself (Area 2). Whilst the full archaeological sequence was investigated within the lift shaft trench, the strip foundation trenches were only excavated to the archaeologically arbitrary formation level for the new footings.

The earliest features encountered were within Area 2, and comprised two pits and a roughly northeast-southwest aligned linear feature. The relationship between the pits and the linear feature was uncertain, although the linear feature probably truncated at least one of the pits. During excavations in advance of the construction of the Goodhart Building in the 1960s, a possible property boundary between High Street and Merton Street was revealed. This was thought to have originated in the 11th century and subsequently determined the alignment of Kybald Street, a thoroughfare between High Street and Merton Street first created around 1130. Pottery dating from between 1050 and 1250 was recovered from the linear feature within the lift shaft, and it is thus possible that the feature either represents part of the earlier property boundary, or is evidence for activity fronting onto Kybald Street.

It was also noted that this feature was on a similar alignment to two ditches encountered during the 1960s excavations. These were interpreted as possible Bronze Age ring ditches, but no dating evidence was recovered. Consequently, it is possible that these three features may have represented different phases of the same boundary, although the possibility that the ditches recorded during the earlier works represent prehistoric features cannot be entirely discounted.

The linear feature had itself been truncated by a what appeared to be the north-west corner of a limestone-built structure. This may relate to a structure fronting onto the northern side of Kybald Street. Little evidence for the street itself was revealed, with the exception of a flattish layer of uncut stone, possibly representing a surface, which was overlain by a possible trample layer.

Other structures were encountered in Area 1. The phasing of these was largely established by their relationship with a silty clay deposit, encountered throughout the strip foundation trenches, and overlying the putative surface and the stone-built structure within the lift shaft. This was interpreted as a garden soil, consistent with maps showing this area as part of a garden or a vacant plot in the 16th and 17th centuries, and it is possible that this transition occurred following the closure of the eastern end of Kybald Street in 1447. The dating evidence from these deposits was predominantly 15th-16th century.

A number of the stone walls in Area 1 appeared to be overlain by the garden soil, and therefore seem likely to predate this suggested hiatus in occupation. It is possible that the two phases of

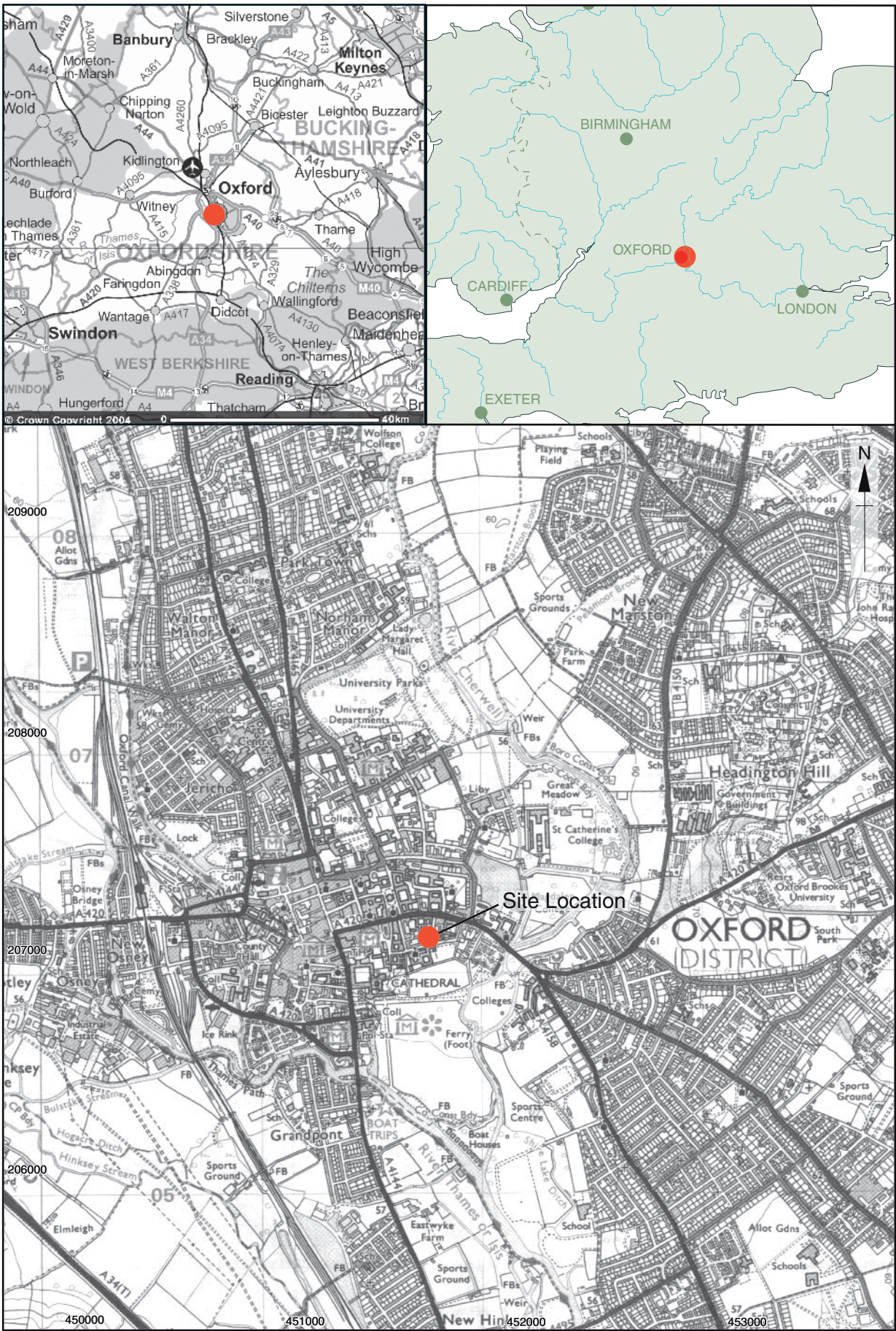


a roughly east-west aligned wall in the southern arm of the trenches represented the rear boundary of properties fronting High Street and Kybald Street, as it roughly corresponds with the conjectured boundary between these plots suggested by Salter in his Survey of Oxford. An east-west aligned stone wall and a stone-lined pit lay to the north of this possible boundary and may therefore be associated with properties fronting High Street. This would suggest that the structure in Area 2 relates to a property fronting Kybald Street.

From at least the 16th century the High Street frontage was occupied by the Angel Inn, and a 16th century pit which truncated the garden soils is likely to represent activity to the rear of the property. A number of structures also appeared to truncate the garden soil deposit(s). A stone-lined semi-circular structure produced artefacts dating to 1740-1840 from its excavated upper fills, and this feature may have represented the top of a well to the rear of the Angel which was backfilled in the latter part of the 18th century. A stone and brick structure in the northern arm of the trench almost certainly relates to a 19th-century cellar to the rear of the Angel.

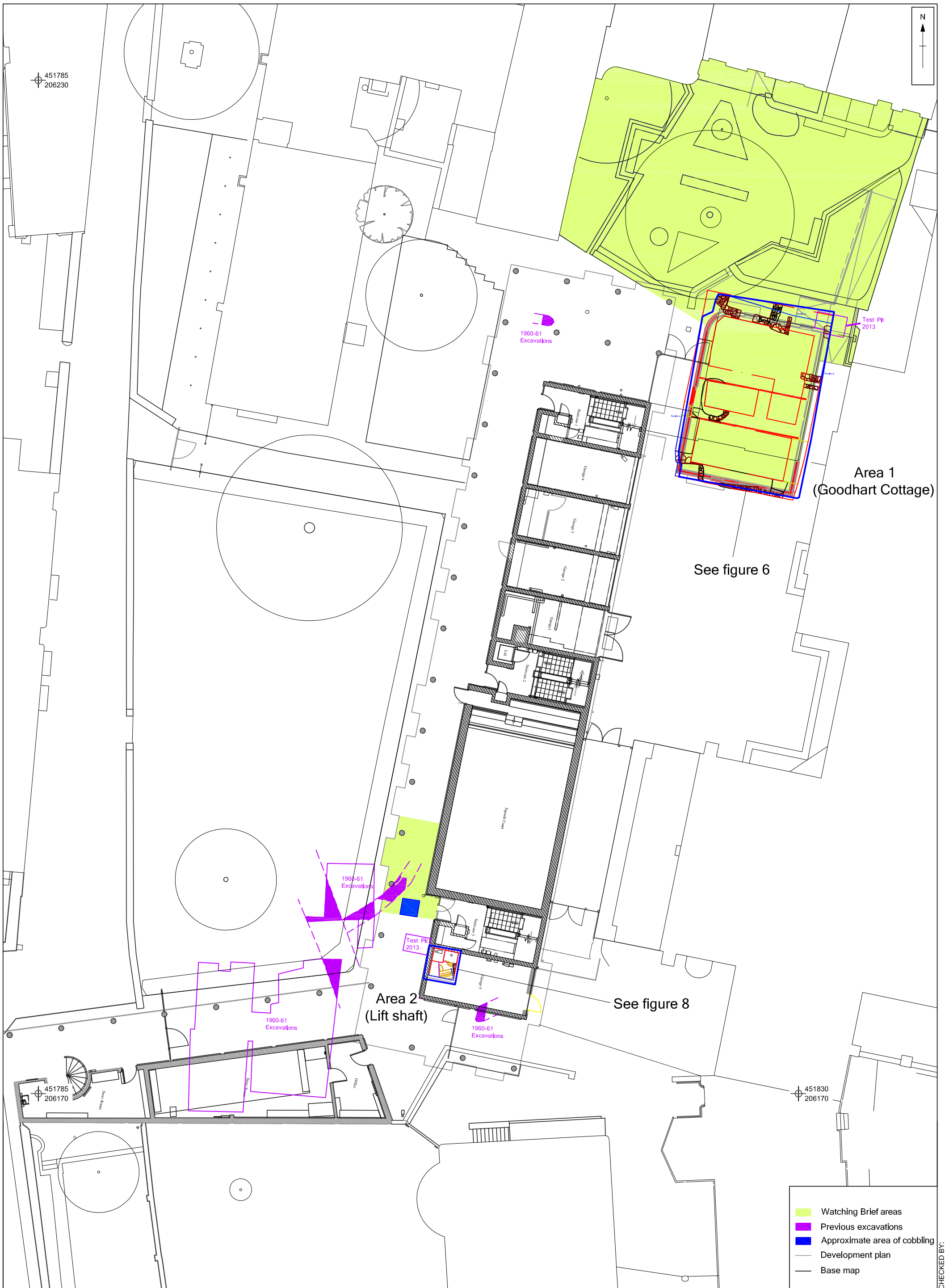
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS: 2015.17

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Figure 1: Site location



- Watching Brief areas
- Previous excavations
- Approximate area of cobbling
- Development plan
- Base map

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Scale at A3 1:200

Figure 2: Site plan

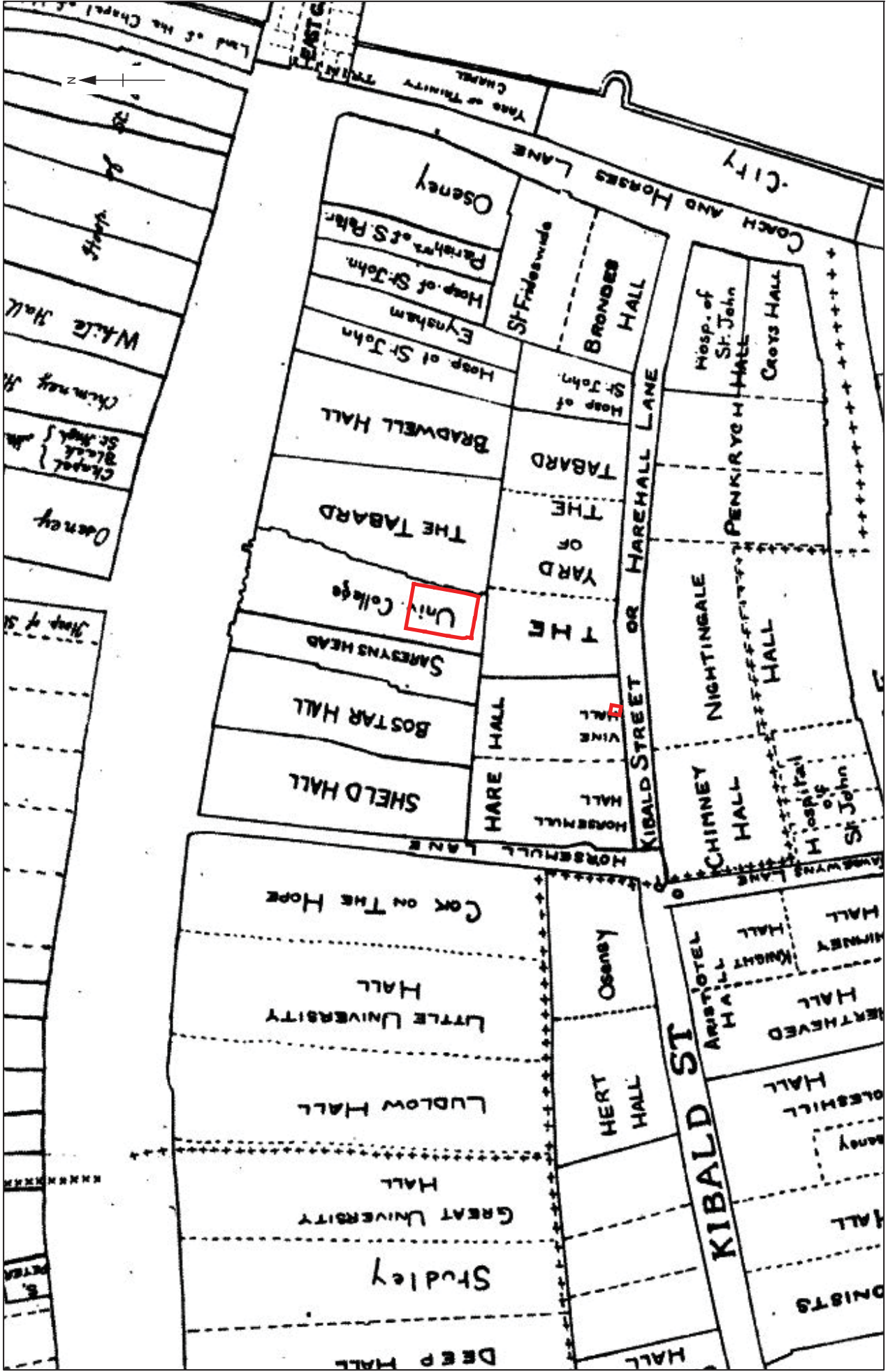
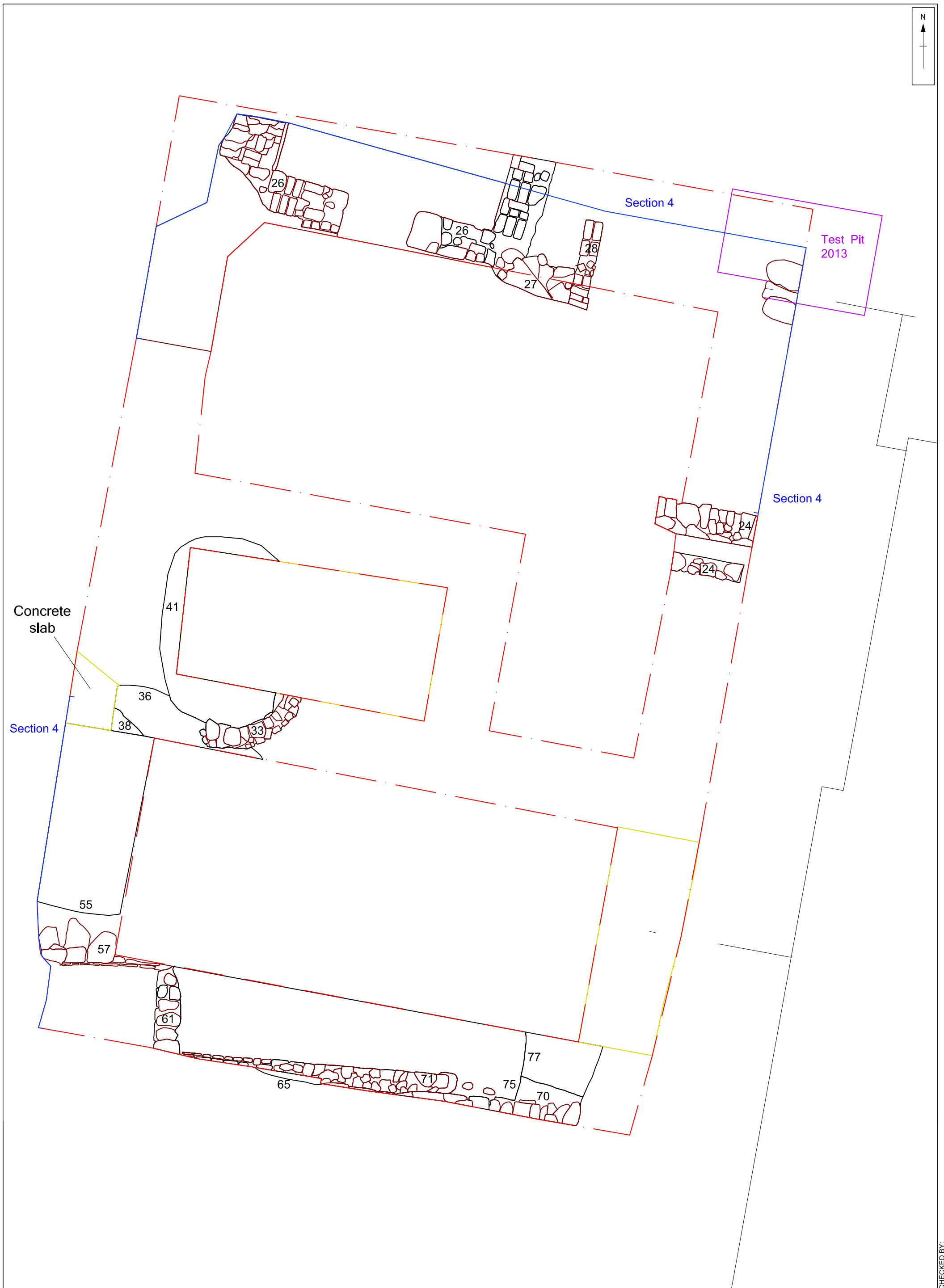


Figure 3: Excavation areas on Salter's (1960) survey of Oxford



Figure 5: Excavation areas on OS 1st Edition map of 1876



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Figure 3: Plan of Area 1

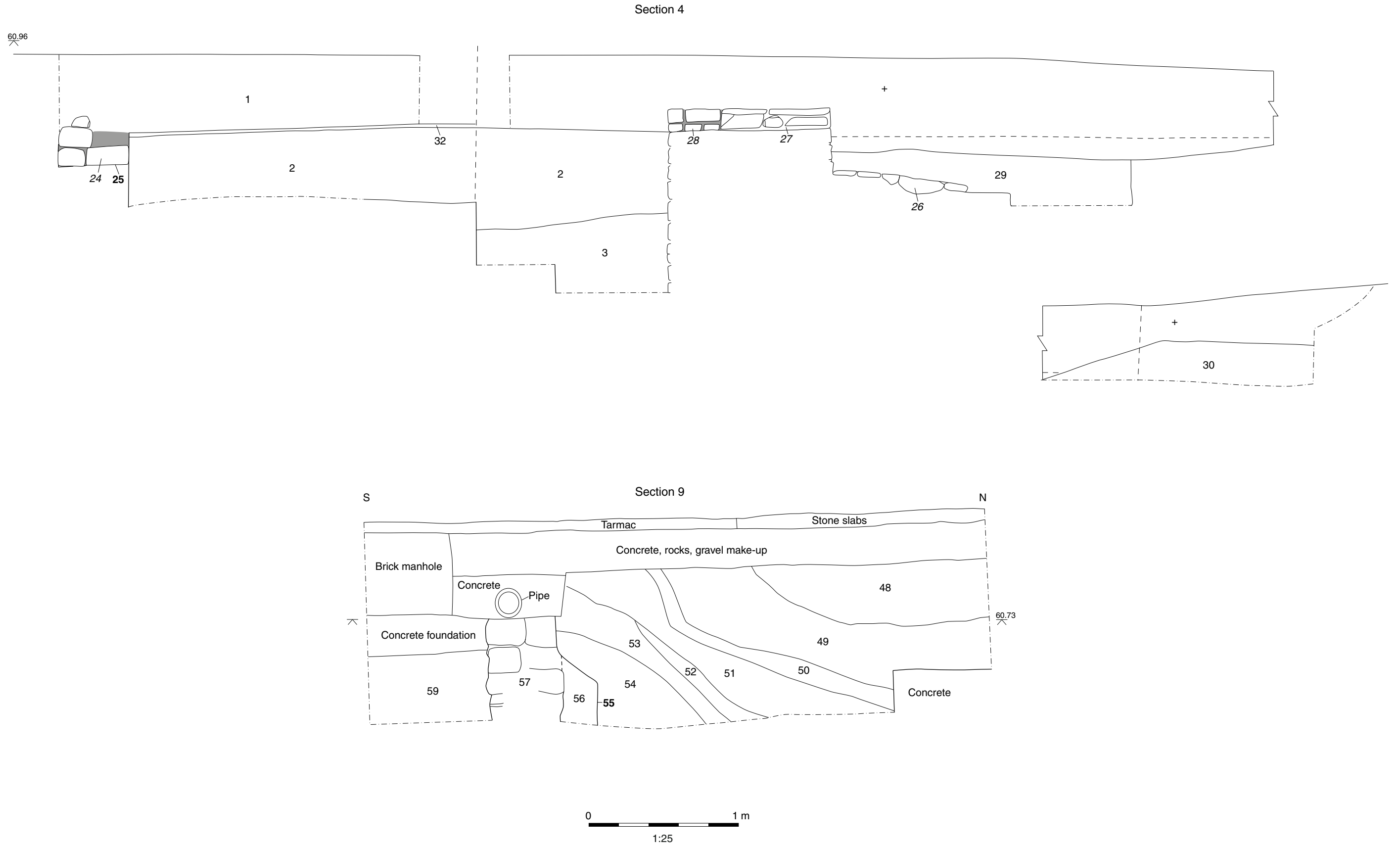
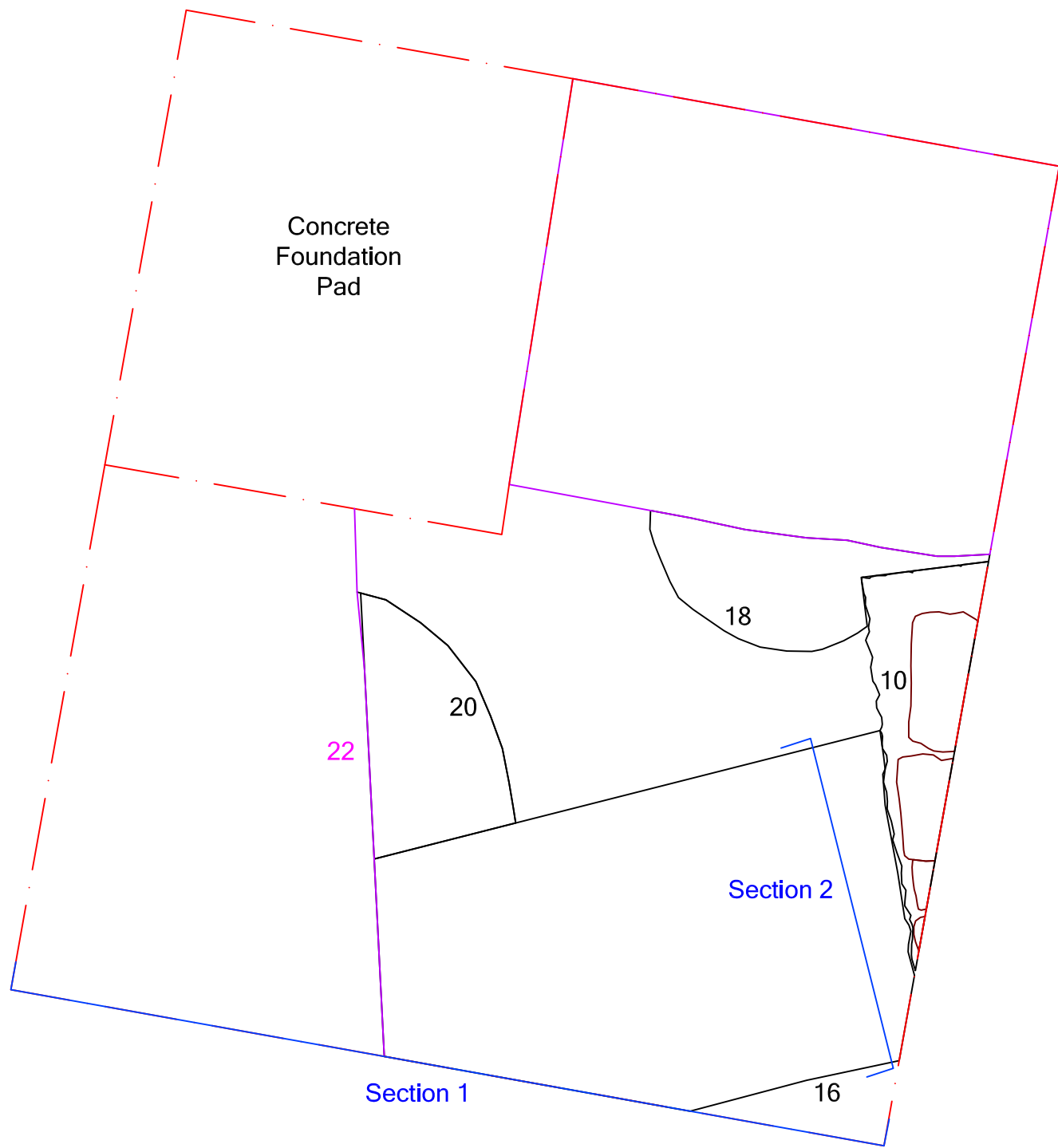
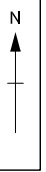


Figure 7 : Area 1, Sections 4 and 9



— Features/Structures
□ Modern truncation

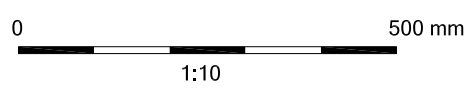


Figure 8: Plan of Area 2

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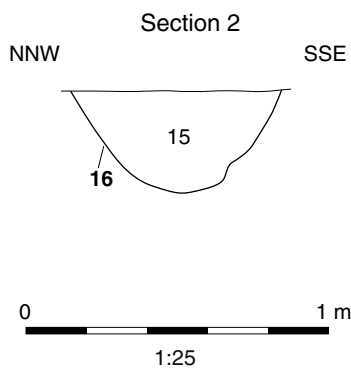
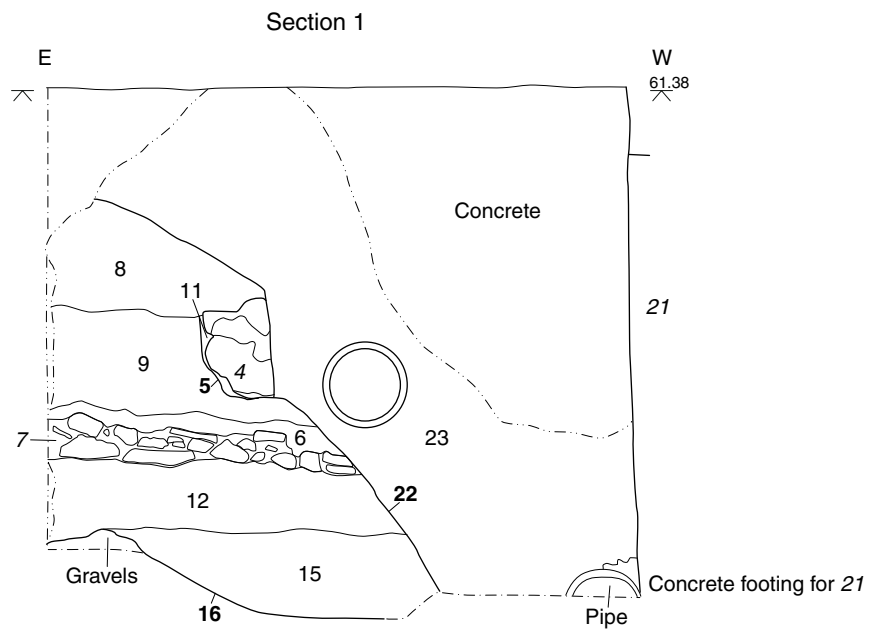


Figure 9 :Area 9, Sections 1 and 2



Plate 1 Walls 70/71 and Structure 57/61



Plate 2 Structure 33



Plate 3 Cellar 26



Plate 4 Area 2



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