

No 1, Tower Bridge Road, Southwark: Report on the
Archaeological watching brief

TQ 3308 7902

LBS Reg. No. 96/336

Case No. TP/165-1

Oxford Archaeological Unit

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Summary

The Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out a archaeological recording exercise (watching brief) at No 1 Tower Bridge Road during groundworks for the construction of a nursing home. The groundworks revealed extensive makeup deposits and modern disturbance to a depth of up to 2 m, but also revealed portions of four timber-lined pits, which formed part of a series of late 18th- or 19th-century tanning pits. The latter features were investigated and recorded.

1. Introduction

The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) carried out an archaeological recording exercise during the construction of a new four-storey nursing home at No 1 Tower Bridge Road (NGR 3308 7902) as a condition of planning approval (LBS Reg. No. 96/336). The OAU undertook the work on behalf of the developer (Mr Lakhani); Ian Lang, of Ian Lang Associates, acted as agent. The main contractors were Thomas Weatherald Ltd.

As a condition of planning approval it was required that a programme of archaeological work to be implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation approved by the Local Planning Authority. A written scheme of investigation for an archaeological watching brief was prepared by the OAU and approved by the Southwark Borough Archaeologist, John Dillon.

1.1 Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the eastern side of Southwark near to its boundary with Bermondsey. It lies at the junction of the Old Kent Road, New Kent Road and Tower Bridge Road (Fig. 1). The site is roughly triangular in shape and comprises an area of approximately 3800 square metres. It is bounded on its west side by Tower Bridge Road and on the north-east and south-east sides by Aberdour Road. The historic boundary between Southwark and Bermondsey formed the NE boundary of the site.

An archaeological evaluation in 1991 (OAU 1991, fig. 6) indicated that there were modern and/or disturbed strata to depth of at least 2 m below the present surface. This was confirmed by the geotechnical survey undertaken for the developer by Wardell Armstrong Geotechnics Ltd. Below the level of the make-up deposits the evaluation revealed evidence for prehistoric and Romano-British features. The underlying geology consisted of yellow dense sandy gravels. The site was at a general level of between 2.50 m to 2.80 m OD prior to commencement of the development works .

1.2 Archaeological background

1.2.1 Prehistoric activity is attested in the adjacent areas. To the north-east of the development, on a sand and gravel island at Bermondsey, evidence for early Bronze Age to late Iron Age/early Romano-British occupation has been found (eg SMR nos 090195, 091287 & 091284). To the south-east a freshwater lake was the focus of early activity (Bricklayers Arms site) and Neolithic stone tools have been found in the silts of the lake bed. Bronze Age timbers have been found in marshy ground on the lake edge (*Current Archaeology* No 124).

1.2.2 Romano-British activity is well attested in the area. The line of Watling Street, linking Roman London with the channel ports, followed the present line of Tabard Street and the Old Kent Road. It was possible that Watling Street crossed the southern part of the development. Elsewhere, roadside burials have been found, including one in a lead coffin (SMR no 090254). There was a possibility of finding evidence of roadside settlement. In Leroy Street, just to the east of the development site, the Museum of London has carried out excavations which revealed parts of the foundations of a probably Roman building and fragments of sculpture.

- 1.2.3 There is less evidence for Saxon and medieval activity, although Bermondsey Abbey, which was a Saxon foundation, lies in the vicinity. Other medieval structures include Lock Bridge and the Leper Hospital to the north-east.
- 1.2.4 A fort, built as part of the Civil War defences, is thought to have existed below the modern roundabout next to the site.
- 1.2.5 Prior to the OAU evaluation in 1991 no archaeological finds were known from the development site. The 1991 evaluation (OAU 1991), in advance of an earlier development proposal, revealed prehistoric features, pottery and flintwork and also Romano-British pottery and a coin in association with ditches and pits.
- 1.2.6 The redevelopment lies within an Archaeology Priority Zone as defined in Southwark Council's Unitary Development Plan. There is particular potential for the discovery of both Roman and prehistoric remains.

2 Aims and strategy

2.1 Aims

The aims of the fieldwork were:

- (i) To record any archaeological remains within the areas of disturbance that will be caused during site clearance, and the excavation of lift shafts. The excavation of a connection into the sewer at the SE end of the site under Aberdour Street was expected to be in an area of previous disturbance.
- (ii) To recover artifacts from the site.
- (iii) To make available the results of the investigation.

2.2 Strategy

- 2.2.1 The watching brief comprised the monitoring of all areas affected by groundworks to a depth greater than 1 to 1.2 m below the general site level (2.5 m to 2.8 m OD). In particular attention was directed to monitoring the excavation of the 3 lift shafts for the new building, any grubbing out during piling and subsequently the excavation of deeper drainage trenches and manholes (to a depth of 1 to 1.2 m or greater below present surface level) (Fig. 2).
- 2.2.2 The monitoring of the excavation of the lift shafts and for piling was undertaken by the Project Manager, monitoring of the drainage excavations by an Archaeological Supervisor and the Project Manager.

- 2.2.3 Where conditions allowed, all trench edges and intrusions were recorded. Where archaeological features were observed, sections were hand-cleaned and drawn and the features planned.
- 2.2.4 The project was under the general direction of an OAU Project Manager.
- 2.2.5 Monitoring was undertaken by the Southwark Council Archaeology Officer, who was informed in advance of site visits to facilitate co-ordination of monitoring visits.

3 Description of results

3.1 Soils and ground conditions

The ground conditions at the time of the watching brief were generally good. The excavation for the piling (Trenches 1, 2 and 3) was begun in dry sunny conditions, but completed in heavy rain and overcast conditions. The excavation of the lift shafts was undertaken in overcast conditions. The excavations cut mainly through made ground, consisting variously of brick and mortar rubble, gravel and dark brown silty clay loams. The underlying natural gravel was only found in a limited number of locations.

3.2 Archaeological features

Very few archaeologically significant features and deposits were located during the watching brief; the only interesting features were found in Trench 6. The results of the fieldwork are briefly described in the following paragraphs. All recorded contexts are listed in Appendix 1. No archaeologically significant finds were recovered during fieldwork. The absence of any pottery, clay tobacco pipes and other material is in itself sufficiently unusual to be worthy of note.

3.2.1 Trenches 1, 2 & 3 (Figs. 2 & 4)

Three trenches were excavated to grub out obstructions during the piling operation.

Trench 1 (Fig. 4) was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.7 m below the present ground surface. Clean natural gravel (007) was encountered at a depth of 1.9 m. This was sealed under a thick layer of dark brown silty loam (004), which was possibly of alluvial origin. This layer was 1.2 m thick. Overlying this were recent deposits (001-003) comprising demolition rubble. The dark brown soil was laid up against the south face of a wall (006) of London Stock brick. It had a stepped plinth and survived to a height of 1.85 m. It was built off a concrete foundation (005), which itself rested on the gravel (007). The wall was aligned WNW to ESE. On the N side of the wall was a gravel and mortar layer 1.1 m deep capped by a laid brick floor (010); the latter was sealed by a dark brown clay loam (009). It is very probable that 006 was the external wall of a building fronting London Bridge Road. No significant archaeological features or deposits located.

Trench 2 was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.3 m below the present ground surface. Clean gravel (016) was found at a depth of 0.9 m below the surface. The gravel was sealed by a dark

brown silt loam (015), flecked with charcoal. This layer was 0.9 m thick. A wall (013) of London Stock brick, this time on a NNE to SSW alignment, was uncovered. The orientation of this wall was at a right angle to 006 in Trench 1 and it may well have formed an internal wall of the same building. No concrete foundation was revealed. Either side of the wall, sealing the deep layer of dark brown clay loam (015) were single deposits (012=014) comprising loose brick rubble. No significant archaeological features or deposits located.

Trench 3 was excavated to a maximum depth of to 2.1 m below the present ground surface. Clean gravel was not located. The dark brown silty loam (023) was found and was at least 1.5 m thick and not bottomed. A very substantial structure built of red brick (021) on a timber corduroy (022) was located. The structure was very thick and only one face was found within the small trench. The orientation of the structure was similar to that of the walls in Trenches 1 and 2. The upper deposits (17-20) consisted of loose demolition rubble and trampled temporary surfaces. No significant archaeological features or deposits located.

3.2.2 Trenches 4, 5 and 6 (Figs. 2, 3 & 4)

These trenches were excavated in the locations of two lift shafts and a hoist. The pits for the south (Trench 4) and north (Trench 5) lift shafts were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8 m. The pit (Trench 6) for the hoist was excavated to a depth of 1.6 to 1.7 m. All three pits were excavated after the piling operation was completed.

Trench 4 revealed substantial modern disturbance, some of it very recent. A dark brown clay loam (026) at least 1.1 m thick was revealed at one edge of the trench. This included some small brick and charcoal flecking. Over most of the trench this layer had been severely truncated. The major feature revealed was the corner of a very substantial concrete structure (031) set in a large pit (035). The underlying natural was not located, nor were significant archaeological features or deposits found.

Trench 5 (Fig. 4) was recorded in section only, since a layer of concrete had been poured into the bottom of the trench prior to archaeological recording. A narrow wall of red brick (043) was found in opposite corners of the trench and probably ran diagonally across the trench on an approximate SE-NW alignment. This wall stood 1 m high in section. A dark brown silt clay loam (48=52) was located at a depth of 1.6 m on either side of the wall; it appeared not to have been bottomed. On the SW side of the wall a series of rubble layers (049-051) was located. On the NE side of the wall a further loam (047) was found. This layer was 0.5 m thick and capped by thick concrete pad (045) with an ashy deposit (046) under it. Over the concrete were thin layers of tarmac and then a loose rubble layer. No significant archaeological features or deposits located.

Trench 6 (Fig. 3) revealed evidence for 4, possibly 5, timber-lined tanning pits. Two pits (Pits 1 & 2) were quite well preserved and were located at the NE side of the trench. The pits comprised plank walls on a plank base, set into a shallow foundation trench (061) cut into the natural gravel (063) (Fig. 3 section 2). The two pits appear to have shared a single foundation trench. The sides of the pits were formed from at least two planks laid one on top of the other with their edges butted. The gap between the edge of the foundation trench and the planking would presumably have been backfilled; similarly it is probable that the gap between the tanks was filled. The side walls seem in some instances to have been given additional support by small

posts driven into the ground (for example context nos. 67, 72 & 83; see Fig. 3). The plank floor of Pit 2 was revealed by excavation. It had traces of a white coating, probably a product of the tanning process. The excavated evidence suggests that Pits 1 and 2 were both approximately between 1.4 to 1.6 m square. The sides of the pits were probably no more than two planks high and measured 0.9 m from top to bottom. The black fill within the tanks (contexts 65 & 70) was indistinguishable from the fills between the tanks (context 66) and around the tanks (contexts 64 & 95).

Pits 3 and 4 were less well preserved. Like Pits 1 and 2, they appear to have a common foundation cut (062). Only parts of these pits survived, but the evidence of the foundation trench and the extant timbers indicates that they are similar in size to Pits 1 and 2.

In addition to the 4 pits which have been identified there are two other pieces of planking which cannot be so readily explained. Parallel to the SW edge of Pit 2 and within its foundation cut (063) was an additional plank (076) set on its edge. At first this appeared to form a channel with plank 077, but this seems unlikely given that 077 clearly forms the side of a pit with a plank base. It is possible that 076 is simply a displaced upper plank from the side of Pit 2. The other stray plank (079) was displaced by the new piling. It lies at the edge of a further cut 096 into the underlying natural (063). This cut runs from the end of plank 080 of Pit 3 to the corner of Pit 1 and may have held a fifth pit lying to the NW (Fig. 3, Pit 5). In which case it is likely that 079 was the edge of the pit. The stump of a very large timber post (068; 0.4 m x 0.38 m), which may well have formed part of the superstructure of the tanning complex was located at the corner of Pit 3 and would have stood in the angle between the latter and the suggested fifth pit to the NW.

3.2.3 Drainage trenches (Figs. 2, 5 & 6)

In consultation with the Southwark borough archaeologist, it was determined that excavation of manholes 5, 6, 20, 21, 22 and 23 on the E side of the new building, and manholes 19 and 24 on the W side of the building together with their connecting drain runs should be monitored archaeologically (see Fig. 2 for locations of manholes and drains). These were the runs which it was planned should be excavated to at least 1.2 m below the general site level. The drain runs and manholes revealed no significant archaeological features or deposits, but did reveal a large number of more recent structures and disturbances. The connection from the site drainage to the main sewer under Aberdour Street was undertaken without archaeological recording.

Manhole 19 to Manhole 23. On the W side of the new building, manhole 19 and the trench connecting it to manhole 24 disturbed only recent makeup deposits, and these were not archaeologically recorded. The depth of excavation was insufficient to reveal the natural gravel. Manhole 24 and the run to manhole 23 was made through heavily disturbed brick structures and demolition deposits. These were not recorded in detail. No significant archaeological features or deposits were located.

Manhole 5 to Manhole 23. The main run was on the E side of the new building from manhole 5 in the N via manholes 6, 20, 21 and 22 to manhole 23 in the south. The pits for manholes 5 and 6 were excavated to a depth of 1.2 m and that for manhole 20 to a depth of 1.4 m. The trenches connecting the manholes were excavated to similar depths (Fig. 5, section 102 and 6, section 105). Manhole 21 was excavated to a depth of 1.7 m. Natural gravel was not located in the

drain run from manhole 5 to manhole 21 (Figs. 5, section 102 and 6, section 105). Nor was it located in the drain run from manhole 21 to manhole 22 (Fig. 6 section 107). Natural gravel (144) was located in manhole 22, which was excavated to a depth of 2 m. The clean sandy gravel was located 1.7 m below the general site level. The trench between manhole 22 and manhole 23 was excavated to a depth of between 1.9 m and 2.5 m and natural was observed between 1.3 m and 1.6 m below the present site surface level. It appears that the top of the natural rises up towards the S end of the site.

The run from manhole 5 to manhole 23, revealed a number of brick-built structures (108, 116, 119, 132, etc) of uncertain function. Among them were the remains of what appears to have been a well or circular soakaway (142). Throughout the length of the trench between manhole 5 and manhole 23 dark brown silt/clay loam was revealed truncated by service trenches, the brick structures and what appear to be modern test pits. The southern part of the trench was cut through the remains of substantial brick built structures and demolition deposits. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were located.

3.3 Conclusion

The watching brief revealed very little of archaeological significance. Given the depth of made ground and the limited extent of deep excavation this is scarcely to be wondered at. The most interesting features were the remains of tanning pits found in Trench 6. The 1991 evaluation located a pit (Trench 2: pit 204, fill 205) containing a number of cattle horn cores, which are often found as a by product of the tanning process, and this provides further confirmation of the interpretation of the timber-lined pits in Trench 6.

The date at which tanning was established on the site can be defined quite closely. Roque's map of 1746 (Fig. 7) shows that the area around the development site was not built up. To the N there were tanneries along the N side of Long Lane, but the road to Kent (Kent Street on the 1746 map) was flanked by gardens and orchards. The contrast with Horwood's map of 1799 (Fig. 8) could not be more marked. On Horwood's map, Kent Street (now Tabard Street) has been superseded as the main road south-east by a new road, Great Dover Street, which led into Kent Road. A new road - Bermondsey New Road (now Tower Bridge Road) - links Kent Road via Grange Road and Star Corner with Long Lane to the north. The whole area is much more built up, and the tanneries have spread south of Long Lane. The area to the east of Bermondsey New Road, and north of Kent Road is dominated by tanneries and leather manufactories. There is a large leather manufactory in the angle between Kent Road and Bermondsey New Road, the area which coincides with the location of the development site.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Ian Lang of Ian Lang Associates acting as agent to the developer, to Derek Laws for plans of the site drainage scheme, and to Glyn Robinson of Glyn Robinson Associates for the geotechnical report produced by Wardell Armstrong and for information regarding piling schemes. The co-operation of Sid Armstrong, the Site Manger for the main contractors Weatheralds is acknowledged. Finally thanks are due to John Dillon of the London Borough of Southwark who monitored the on-site archaeological work.

References

OAU 1991 Oxford Archaeological Unit, *Field Evaluation: 1 Tower Bridge Road, Southwark*, (OAU Client Report, May 1991)

Illustrations

- Fig. 1 Site location.
- Fig. 2 Building outline and trench location.
- Fig. 3 Trench 6 plan and sections
- Fig. 4 Trenches 1 and 5 sections
- Fig. 5 Sections of drain trenches (section 102)
- Fig. 6 Sections of drain trenches (sections 105, 107, & 108)
- Fig. 7 Roque's 1746 map
- Fig. 8 Horwood's 1799 map

Appendices

No 1 Tower Bridge Road, Southwark (Site Code TER 96) - Context Index

Site Area	Context	Type	Description	Relationships
Trench 1 - piles 7 & 15				
Trench 1	1	deposit	rubble, including brick, levelled	is over 002
Trench 1	2	deposit	thin concrete/mortar layer	is over 003, is below 001
Trench 1	3	deposit	brick and mortar rubble in loam	is over 004, is below 002
Trench 1	4	deposit	dark brown silty loam - garden soil?	is over 006, is below 003
Trench 1	5	structure	concrete footing	fill of 008, is below 006
Trench 1	6	structure	wall with stepped plinth built of yellow brick. See wall 013	is over 005; (same as 013?)
Trench 1	7	deposit	natural gravel	cut by 008; is below 004; (same as 016)
Trench 1	8	cut	foundation trench for wall 006	cuts 007; filled by 005
Trench 1	9	deposit	very dark brown clay loam	is over 010
Trench 1	10	deposit	surface of laid yellow bricks	is over 011, is below 009
Trench 1	11	deposit	fill of mortar and gravel below floor 010	is over 006, is below 010
Trench 2 - pile 112				
Trench 2	12	deposit	levelled rubble layer, comprising loam with mortar and brick fragments	abuts 013
Trench 2	13	structure	wall of brick. Continuation of 006?	is over 016; abutted by 012 & 014; (same as 006?)
Trench 2	14	deposit	dark brown clay loam with brick rubble	is over 015
Trench 2	15	deposit	dark brown clay loam, with some brick fragments	abuts? 013; is over 016; is below 014; (same as 004?)
Trench 2	16	deposit	natural gravel	is below 016; (same as 007)
Trench 3 - pile 134				
Trench 3	17	deposit	levelling of loose grey mortar and loam with brick and tar fragments	is over 018
Trench 3	18	deposit	dark brown, almost black compacted clay loam layer	is over 019; is below 017
Trench 3	19	deposit	thin layer of ?trampled loose mortar	is over 020 & 021; is below 018
Trench 3	20	deposit	loose rubble infill, comprising brick and concrete fragments	is over 023; abuts 021; is below 019
Trench 3	21	structure	wall of red brick	is over 022; fill of 024
Trench 3	22	structure	laid timber corduroy	fill of 024; is below 021
Trench 3	23	deposit	very dark brown to black silt, with much charcoal. Not bottomed.	cut by 024
Trench 3	24	cut	foundation trench for brick wall 021	cuts 023; filled by 022 & 021
Trench 4 - south lift shaft				
Trench 4	25	deposit	tarmac surface	cut by 037; is over 038
Trench 4	26	deposit	dark brown clay loam with brick and charcoal inclusions	cut by 035 & 039; is below 038
Trench 4	27	structure	concrete slab	fill of 039; is below 028
Trench 4	28	deposit	loose rubble layer comprising brick and concrete with mortar	fill of 039; is over 027 & 031; is below 038
Trench 4	29	structure	brick wall only visible in section	is over 030; butts 031; is below 028; cut by 039?; fill of 035?
Trench 4	30	deposit	compacted rubble in matrix of dark brown clay loam	fill of 035; abuts 031; (same as 033)
Trench 4	31	structure	concrete structure, corner seen in section	fill of 035; butted by 030 & 033; is below 028
Trench 4	32	deposit	brick rubble and gravel	fill of 035
Trench 4	33	deposit	compacted rubble in matrix of dark brown clay loam	fill of 035; abuts 031; cut by 036; (same as 030)
Trench 4	34	deposit	loose rubble, comprising brick, stone and mortar	fill of 036; cut by 037
Trench 4	35	cut	large cut containing concrete structure 031	filled by 030, 033 & 031, & 029?
Trench 4	36	cut	large cut filled with loose rubble 034	filled by 034; cuts 033
Trench 4	37	cut	small cut containing rubble and gravel 032	filled by 032; cuts 025 & 034
Trench 4	38	deposit	make-up under tarmac 025, includes concrete layer	is below 025; is over 026 & 028; is below 025

No 1 Tower Bridge Road, Southwark (Site Code TER 96) - Context Index

Site Area	Context	Type	Description	Relationships
Trench 4	39	cut	cut containing concrete slab 027 and rubble 028	filled by 028 & 027; cuts 029?
Trench 5 - north lift shaft				
Trench 5	40	deposit	loose rubble comprising brick and mortar with concrete fragments	cut by 042; is over 044; (same as 099)
Trench 5	41	deposit	loose gravel and mortar	fill of 042
Trench 5	42	cut	round bottomed cut filled with loose mortar and gravel 041	cuts 040 & 053; filled by 041
Trench 5	43	structure	brick wall	butted by 048 & 052?
Trench 5	44	deposit	tarmac surface	is below 040; cut by 042; is over 045
Trench 5	45	deposit	concrete ?surface	is below 044; is over 046
Trench 5	46	deposit	layer of ash or degraded tarmac	is below 045; is over 047
Trench 5	47	deposit	brown silt loam with small stone and brick rubble	is below 046; is over 048
Trench 5	48	deposit	very dark brown clay loam with few inclusions	is below 047; ?butts 043; (same as 052)
Trench 5	49	deposit	rubble layer with small brick	is below 053; is over 050
Trench 5	50	deposit	dark brown silt loam with small brick and stone rubble	is below 049; is over 051
Trench 5	51	deposit	layer of pink plaster or mortar and brick (very small rubble)	is below 050; is over 052
Trench 5	52	deposit	very dark brown clay loam with few inclusions	is below 051; ?butts 043; (same as 048)
Trench 5	53	deposit	concrete	cut by 042; is over 049; (not same as 045?)
Trench 5	99	deposit	loose rubble	cut by 042; is over 053; (same as 040)
Trench 6 - hoist				
Trench 6	54	deposit	loose mortar, concrete and brick rubble, demolition/levelling layer	is over 055 & 059; ?cut by 057
Trench 6	55	deposit	concrete slab	is over 056; is below 054; cut by 057
Trench 6	56	deposit	black silty loam, fill of Tank 3	is below 055; is over 080, 081, 083 & 094; same as 085 & 097?
Trench 6	57	cut	pit	filled by 058; cuts 055 & 059, also 054?
Trench 6	58	deposit	fill of pit 057	fill of 057
Trench 6	59	deposit	concrete, thin layer	is over 060; is below 054
Trench 6	60	deposit	brick and mortar rubble, fill of pit 090	fill of 090; (same as 089)
Trench 6	61	cut	foundation cut for Tanks 1 & 2	cuts 063; filled by 064, 066, 076, Tank 1 (065, 072, 073, 077, 078, 087, 088 & 095) & Tank 2 (067, 069, 070, 071, 074, 075, 091 & 092)
Trench 6	62	cut	foundation cut for Tanks 3 & 4	cuts 063; filled by 085, 095, 097, Tank 3 (056, 080, 081, 083 & 094) & Tank 4 (056, 082 & 086)
Trench 6	63	deposit	gravel	cut by 061, 062 & 96
Trench 6	64	deposit	black silt loam, fill around Tanks 1 & 2	fill of 061; butts 077, 078 & 087; same as 066; cut by 090
Trench 6	65	deposit	black silt loam, fill of Tank 1	butts 073, 077, 078, 087 & 088; cut by 090
Trench 6	66	deposit	black silt loam, fill between Tanks 1 & 2	fill 061; butts 067, 072, 073 & 074; cut by 090
Trench 6	67	timber	post, supporting plank 074	?cuts 063, butted by 074 & 066
Trench 6	68	timber	large post, ?part of building; driven into gravel 063?	?cuts 063; ?butted by 085
Trench 6	69	timber	plank wall, NE side of Tank 2	is over 071; butted by 066 & 070
Trench 6	70	deposit	black/ very dark brown silt loam with brick and mortar flecks and pieces of stones, fill of Tank 2	butts 069, 074, 075 & 091; is over 071, 092 & 093
Trench 6	71	timber	plank floor of Tank 2	is below 074 & 069; (same as 092)
Trench 6	72	timber	post supporting plank wall 073	?cuts 063, butted by 066 & 073
Trench 6	73	timber	plank wall, SE side of Tank 1	butted by 065 & 066; is below 088
Trench 6	74	timber	plank wall, NW side of Tank 2	is over 071 & 092; butted by 066 & 070

No 1 Tower Bridge Road, Southwark (Site Code TER 96) - Context Index

Site Area	Context	Type	Description	Relationships
Trench 6	75	timber	plank wall, SW side of Tank 2	is over 092; is below 91; butted by 064 & 070
Trench 6	76	timber	plank wall, parallel to 077	fill of 061; butted by 064
Trench 6	77	timber	plank wall, SW side of Tank 1	butted by 064 & 065
Trench 6	78	timber	plank wall, NW side of Tank 1	below 087; butted by 065 & 095
Trench 6	79	timber	plank wall fragment, possibly a continuation of 080, displaced by new piling	fills 096; butted by 085
Trench 6	80	timber	plank wall NW side of Tank 3	is below 094; butted by 085 & 056
Trench 6	81	timber	plank wall SW side of Tank 3	butted by 056 & 097
Trench 6	82	timber	plank wall, SW side of Tank 4	below 086; butted by 056 & 097
Trench 6	83	timber	post supporting plank wall 081	cuts ?063; butted by 097
Trench 6	84	deposit	dark brown silty loam with brick and small stone, possibly lower fill of pit 090	is over 085; cut by 090?
Trench 6	85	deposit	very dark brown silty loam	fill of 096; same as 056?
Trench 6	86	timber	upper plank SW side Tank 4	is over 082; butted by 056 & 097
Trench 6	87	timber	upper plank NW side Tank 1	is over 078; butted by 065 & 095
Trench 6	88	timber	upper plank SE side Tank 1	is over 073; butted by 065 & 066
Trench 6	89	deposit	fill of pit 090	fill of 090; same as 060?; below 054
Trench 6	90	cut	large pit?	cuts 056, 064, 065, 066, 070, ?084, 095
Trench 6	91	timber	upper plank SW side Tank 2	is over 075; butted by 064 & 070
Trench 6	92	timber	plank floor of Tank 2	is below 075 & 074; same as 071
Trench 6	93	timber	loose timber in Tank 2	is over 071; is below 070
Trench 6	94	timber	upper plank NW side of Tank 3	is over 080; butted by 085 & 056
Trench 6	95	deposit	fill around Tank 1	same as 064; cut by 090
Trench 6	96	cut	foundation trench for possible tanning pit	cuts 063; is filled by 079 & 085
Trench 6	97	deposit	fill around tank 3	(same as 085)
Drainage trenches				
Drains	101	deposit	levelled backfill	is over 102, 110, 122, 123
Drains	102	deposit	sand & mortar deposit	butts 103; is over 104; is below 101
Drains	103	structure	concrete footing	is over 104; butted by 102; below 101; (same as 123)
Drains	104	deposit	make-up for 103	is over 105; is below 102 & 103
Drains	105	deposit	thin sand layer	is over 106; is below 104
Drains	106	deposit	sandy loam	is over 107; is below 105
Drains	107	deposit	sand & mortar	is below 106
Drains	108	structure	brick structure	fill of 165; butted by 112; filled by 109;
Drains	109	fill	fill of brick structure	fill of 108, (is below ?111)
Drains	110	fill	brick & mortar rubble	is over 111; is below 101
Drains	111	deposit	charcoal and clinker deposit	is over 112; same as 115?
Drains	112	fill	brick & mortar rubble	fill of 165; butts 108
Drains	113	deposit	dark brown clay loam, backfill	cut by 165; is over 114
Drains	114	deposit	brown clay with charcoal	is below 113 & 125
Drains	115	deposit	charcoal and clinker deposits	is over 120 & 117; same as 111?; is below 122
Drains	116	structure	walls built of yellow bricks	is over 166; is below 115
Drains	117	deposit	mortar & clay deposit	is over 118; is below 115
Drains	118	deposit	deposit of ash, clinker & charcoal between structures 116 & 119	is over 166; butts 116 & 119; is below 117
Drains	119	structure	brick wall	is over 166; butted by 118 & 121; below 111
Drains	120	deposit	dark brown clay loam with brick & concrete rubble, backfill	is over 121; is below 115
Drains	121	deposit	gravel and sand	is over 125; butts 119; is below 120
Drains	122	deposit	clay and gravel	is over 115, 120 & 123; is below 101

No 1 Tower Bridge Road, Southwark (Site Code TER 96) - Context Index

Site Area	Context	Type	Description	Relationships
Drains	123	structure	concrete slab	is over 124; is below 122; (same as 103)
Drains	124	deposit	gravel and sand bedding	is over 121; is below 123
Drains	125	deposit	dark brown sandy clay	is over 114; is below 166
Drains	126	structure	brick drain	cuts 123; is below 127; cut by 128
Drains	127	structure	concrete slab	is over 126 & 128; is below 101
Drains	128	cut	service trench and fill	cuts 126 & 129; is below 127
Drains	129	deposit	mid brown sandy clay	cut by 128; is below 101; butts 130; (same as 131)
Drains	130	structure	brick wall , single skin of yellow and red frogged bricks	butted by 129 & 131
Drains	131	deposit	mid brown sandy clay	butts 130; (same as 129)
Drains	132	structure	brick culvert running NE-SW	butted by 131 & 134; is below 133
Drains	133	deposit	thin layer of gravel	is over 132; is below 101
Drains	134	deposit	mixed dump layer, comprising mixed clay with sand, gravel, ash & clinker	is over 135; butts 132; is below 133
Drains	135	deposit	clay deposit containing brick fragments	is over 136; is below 134; cut by 138
Drains	136	deposit	dark grey silty clay	is over 137; is below 135; cut by 169
Drains	137	deposit	mid brown slightly silty clay, containing ceramic drain - no visible cut for pipe	is below 136
Drains	138	cut	?test pit	cuts 135 & 136; is below 101
Drains	139	structure	rough brick wall constructed from <u>broken</u> bricks	fills 169; abutted by 140 & 141; is below 101
Drains	140	deposit	dark grey silty clay	fills 169; butts 139; is below 101
Drains	141	deposit	mixed grey and brown silty clay	butts 139; is over 137; is below 101
Drains	142	structure	part of a circular brick structure, either a well or soakaway	fills 170; is below 101
Drains	143	deposit	dark brown clay loam with some small brick rubble	is over 144; cut by 145 & 147
Drains	144	deposit	clean, moderately compacted yellow brown sandy silt (natural?) - not bottomed	cut by 145 & 147; is below 143
Drains	145	cut	triangular cut - corner of square pit?; cut from present surface?	filled by 146; cuts 143
Drains	146	deposit	red brick rubble and mortar	fill of 145
Drains	147	cut	modern pile cap	cuts 143; filled by 148
Drains	148	deposit	loose aggregate	fill of 147; below 151
Drains	149	cut	cut for new ground beam	cuts 151; filled by 150 & ground beam
Drains	150	deposit	loose brown loam and grey mortar	fill of 150; is below ground beam
Drains	151	deposit	loose mixed rubble levelling	is over 153
Drains	152	deposit	dark brown clay loam with some small brick rubble	is over 154; is below 162; same as 143)
Drains	153	deposit	layer of large brick rubble and powdered mortar	is over 162; is below 151
Drains	154	deposit	layer of disturbed material - comprising mixed loam and rubble	is over 144; is below 152
Drains	155	structure	brick built structure in face of section 110	fill of 156; butted by 157
Drains	156	cut	large cut containing brick structure 155	filled by 155 & 157
Drains	157	deposit	loose brick and mortar rubble and loam	fill of 156; is below 161; cut by 163
Drains	158	deposit	loose small rubble	fill of 171; is over 159 & 160; cut by 156
Drains	159	deposit	gravel and clay with some small rubble	fill of 171; is over 160; is below 158
Drains	160	deposit	dark grey silty clay with gravel and brick fragments	fill of 171; is below 158 & 159
Drains	161	deposit	disturbed rubble layer - bedding for pavers 164?	is over 157; cut by 163; is below 164
Drains	162	deposit	tarmac layer	is over 152; is below 153
Drains	163	cut & fill	cut and fill of cable trench	cuts 161; is below 164
Drains	164	structure	concrete slab over brick pavers	is over 163
Drains	165	cut	foundation trench for 108?	cuts 113; filled by 108, 112 & ?110
Drains	166	deposit	concrete pad below brick structures 116 & 119	is over 125; is below 116, 118 & 119
Drains	167	deposit	black silt deposit	fill of 168; cut by 126; below 123

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Site Area	Context	Type	Description	Relationships
Drains	168	cut	drain cut	filled by 167; cuts 125
Drains	169	cut	foundation trench?	filled by 139 & 141; cuts 136 & 137
Drains	170	cut	cut for well or soakaway 142	cuts 136 & 137
Drains	171	cut	large cut	filled by 158, 159 & 160; cuts 152, 154 & ?144

APPENDIX 2
GLSMR/RCHME NAR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

1. Type of Recording: Excavation
Watching Brief
Other (specify)
2. Address: No 1, Tower Bridge Road
Borough: SOUTHWARK
Site Name: No 1 Tower Bridge Road Site Code: TBR 96
National Grid Refs: centre of site TQ 3308 7902
limits of site a) 3308 7907 b) 3311 7901
c) 3305 7897 d) ~~3301~~ 7904
3. Directed/Supervised by: I. R. SCOT
Address: JANUS HOUSE, OSNEY MEAD OXFORD
For (organisation/department): OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
Funded by: MR LAKHANI (DEVELOPER)
4. Date fieldwork started: SEPT '96 Date finished: JULY '97
Fieldwork previously notified Yes/No
Fieldwork will continue Yes/No
5. Periods represented:
- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| paleolithic | roman |
| mesolithic | saxon |
| neolithic | medieval |
| bronze age | <u>post-medieval</u> |
| iron age | unknown |

6. Period Summaries

Tanning pits - timber-lined - of late 18th-century or early 19th-century date were located in one of the trenches monitored. 4; possibly 5, tanning pits \approx 1.5m square and 0.9m deep were located in a trench excavated for a hoist for the new building. (Trench 6).

The remaining groundworks revealed only modern disturbance and up to 2m of demolition debris.

7. Natural

Height above Ordnance Datum: BETWEEN 0.8m \times 1.2m OD

Type (specify): YELLOW SANDY GRAVEL

8. Location of Archive

a) Please tick those categories still in your possession:

NO PH SL MS
 PL NG CO

b) All/~~some~~ records ~~have been~~/will be deposited in the following museum, record office, etc

MUSEUM OF LONDON

c) Approx. year of transfer:

d) Location of any copies: —

e) Has a security copy of the archive been made?: Yes/No WILL BE DONE

~~If not, do you wish RCHME to consider microfilming?: Yes/No~~

9. Location of finds:

a) In your possession (delete as appropriate) ~~All/Some~~ None

b) All/some finds have been/will be deposited with the following museum/other body:

N/A

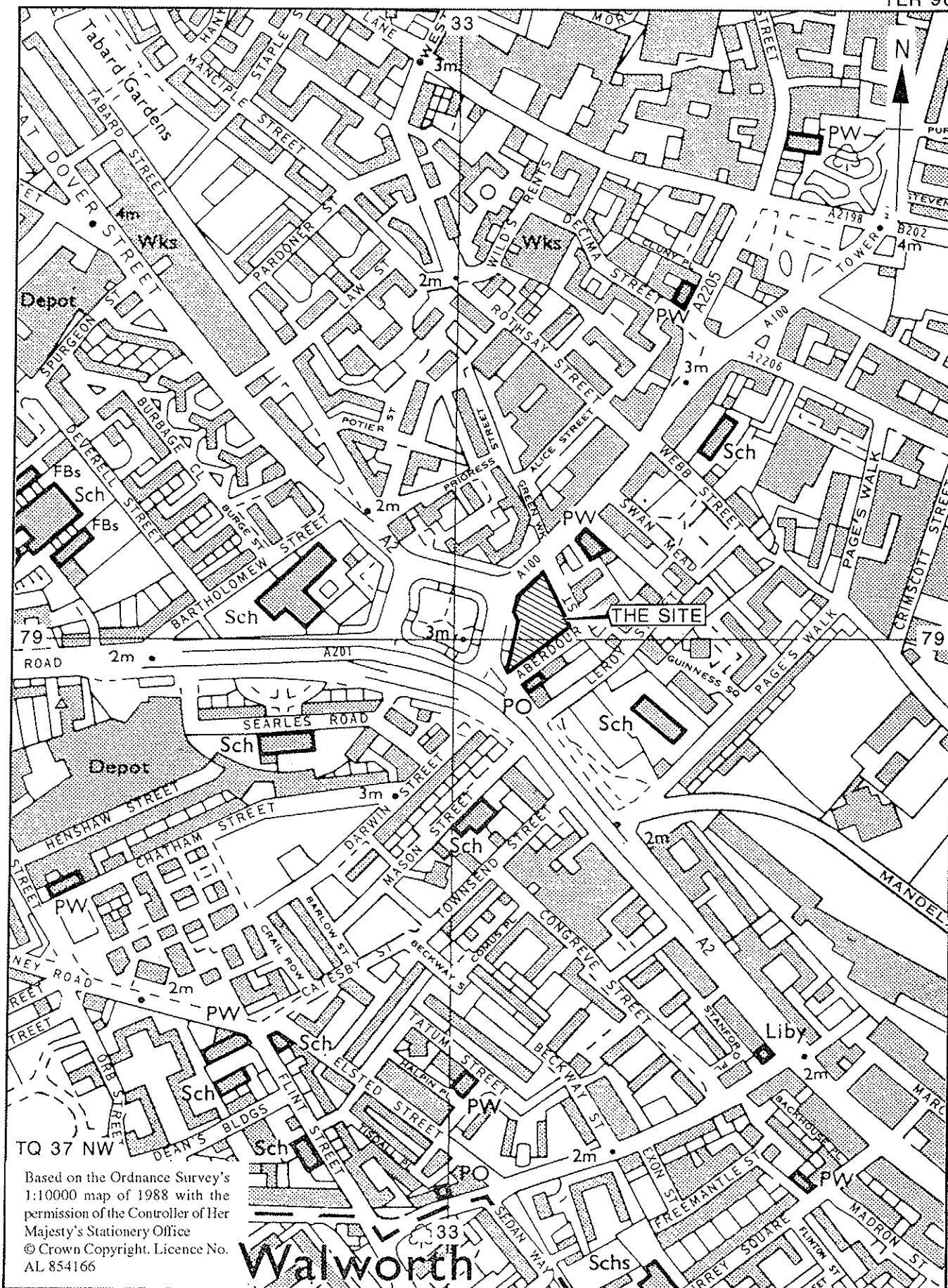
c) Approx. year of transfer: —

10. Bibliography:

OAU 1997 No 1, Tower Bridge Road, Southwark:
REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
(SEPTEMBER 1997)

Signature: 

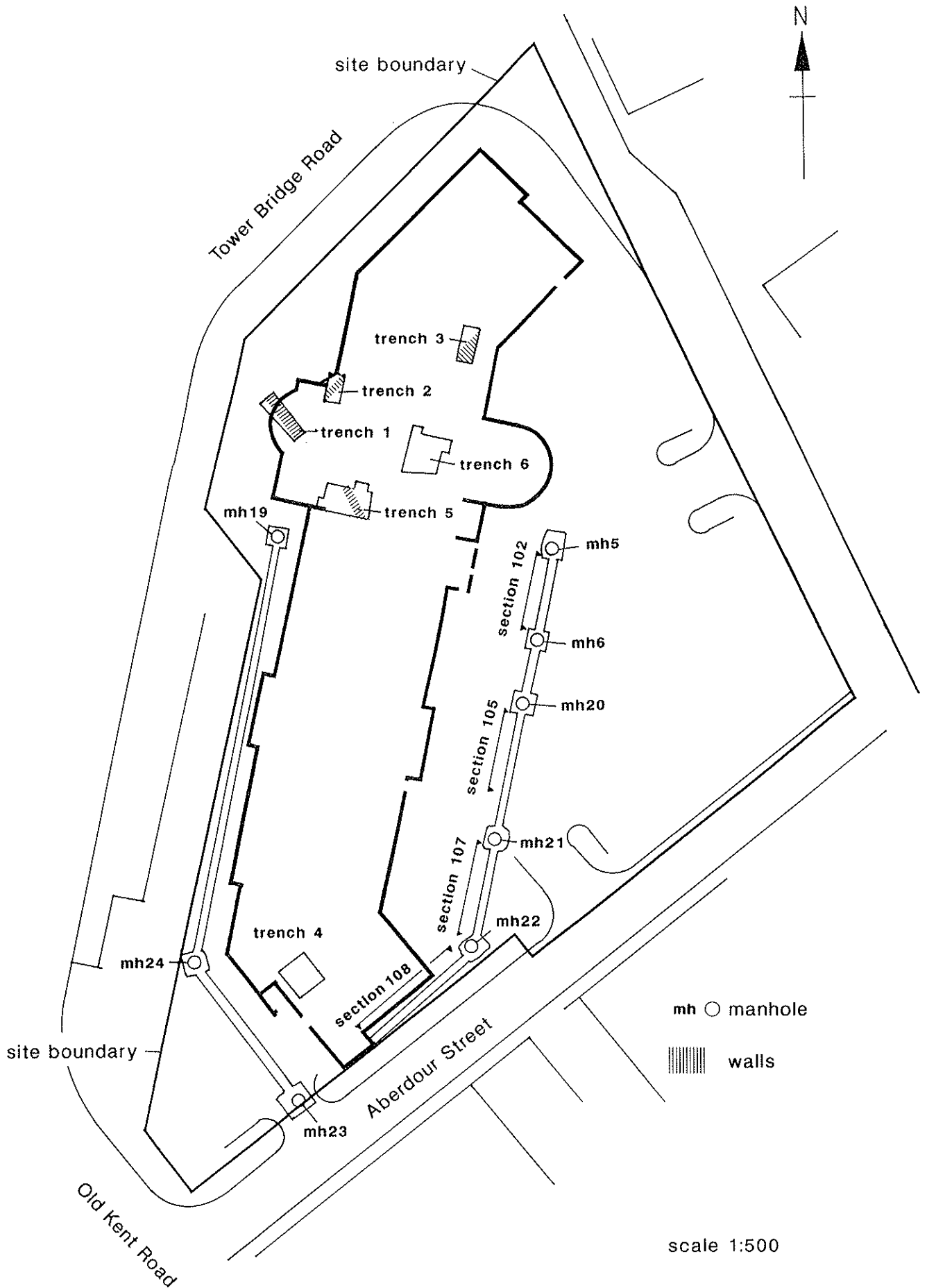
Date: 3 October 97



scale 1:5000

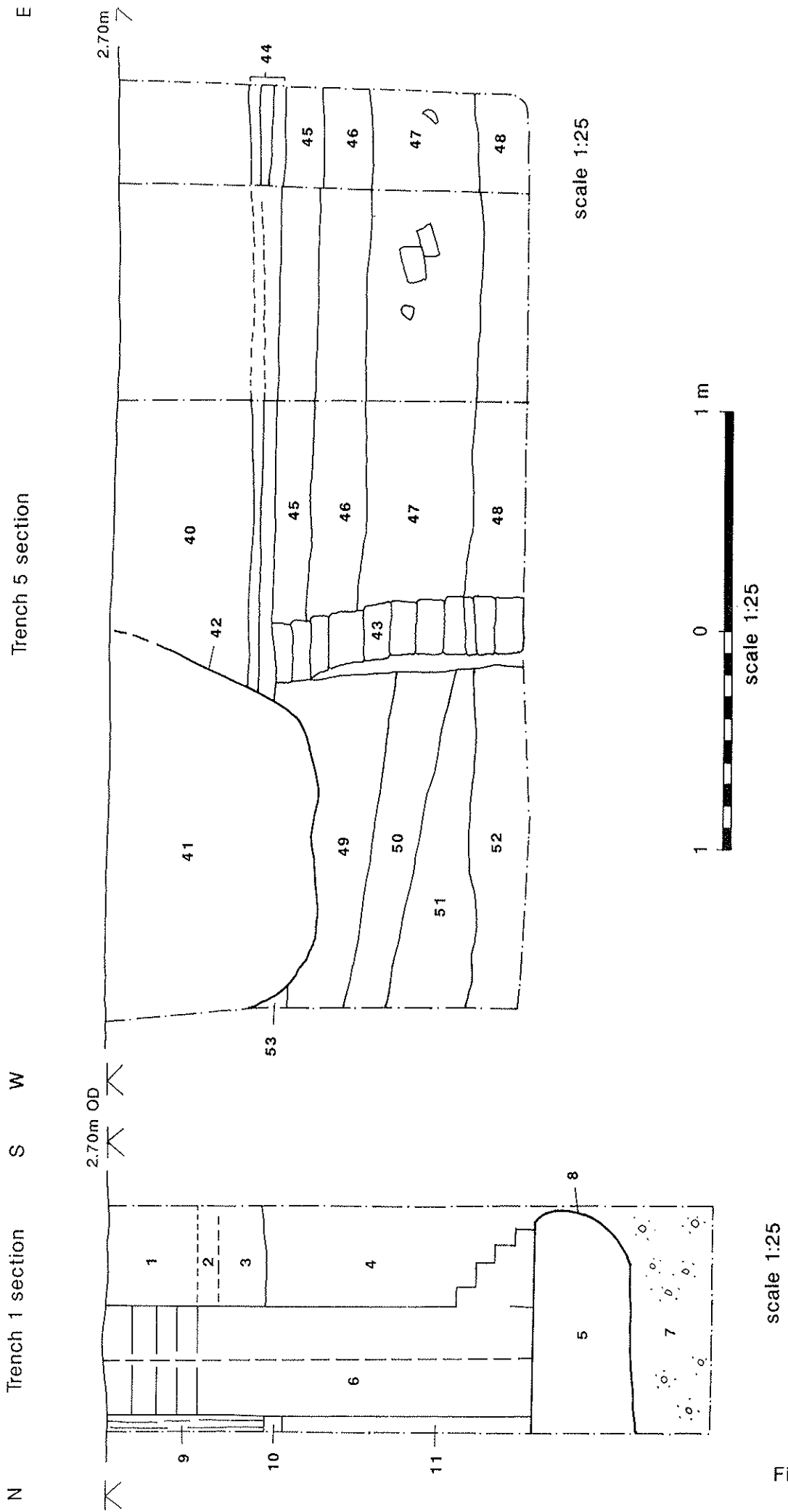
Site location

Figure 1



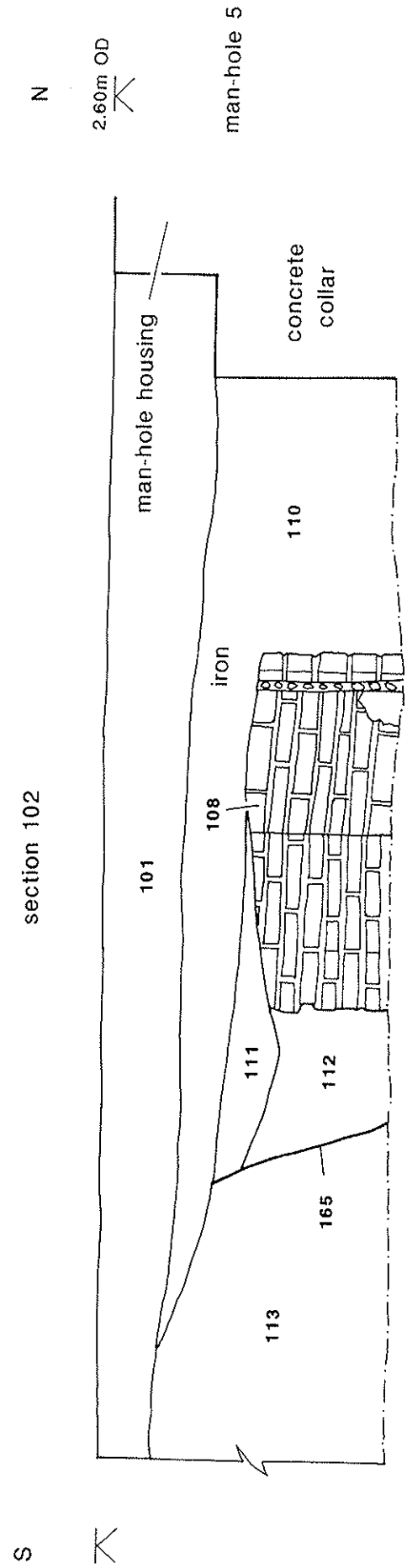
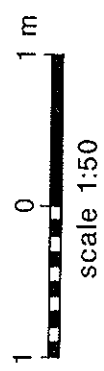
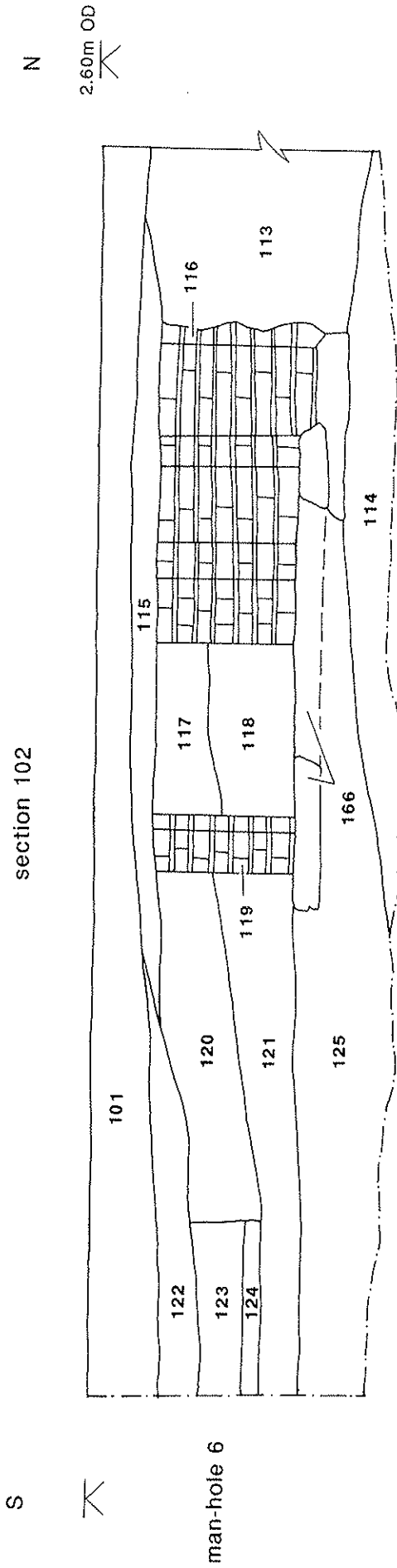
Trench location

Figure 2



Trenches 1 and 5 sections

Figure 4



sections of drain trenches

Figure 5

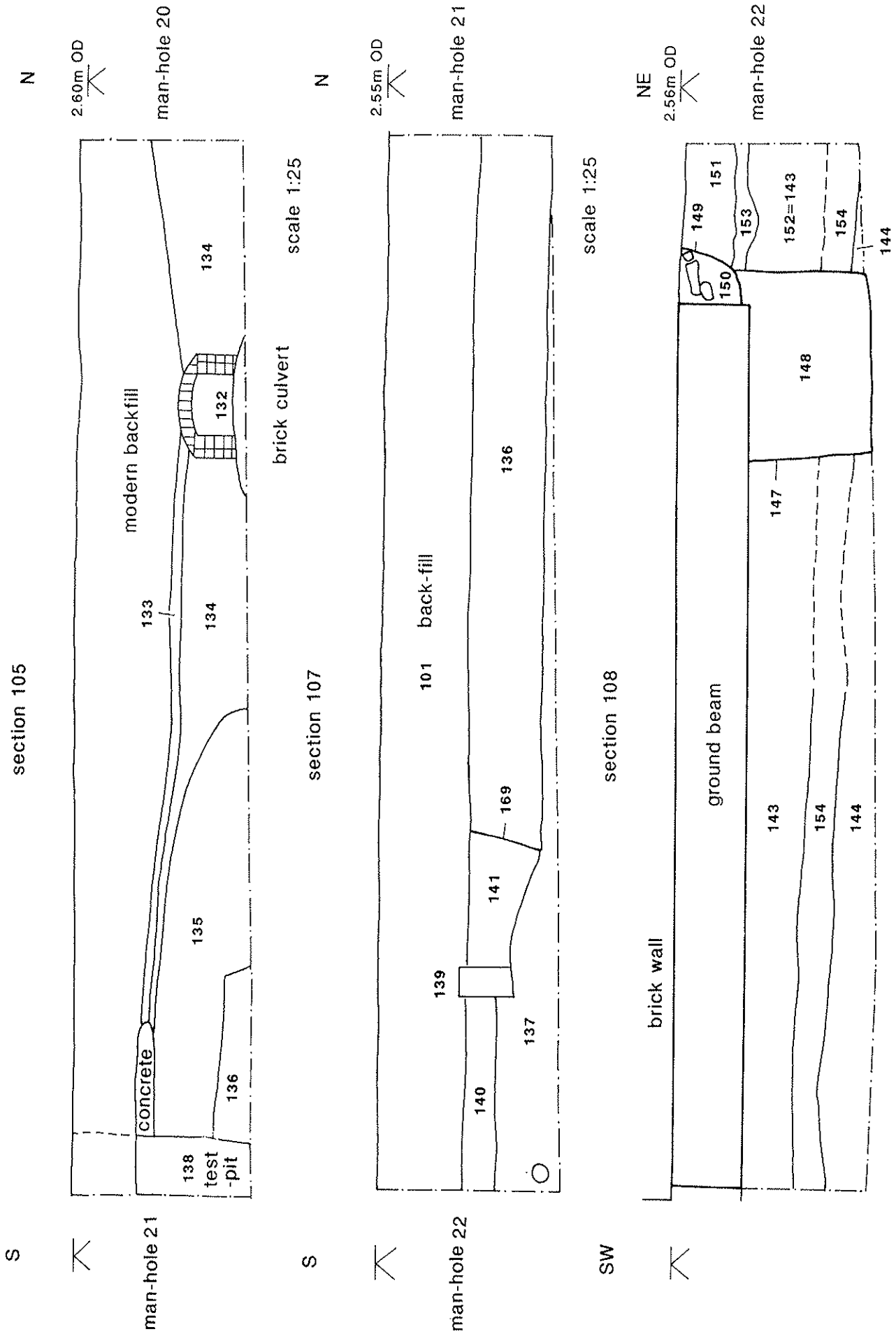
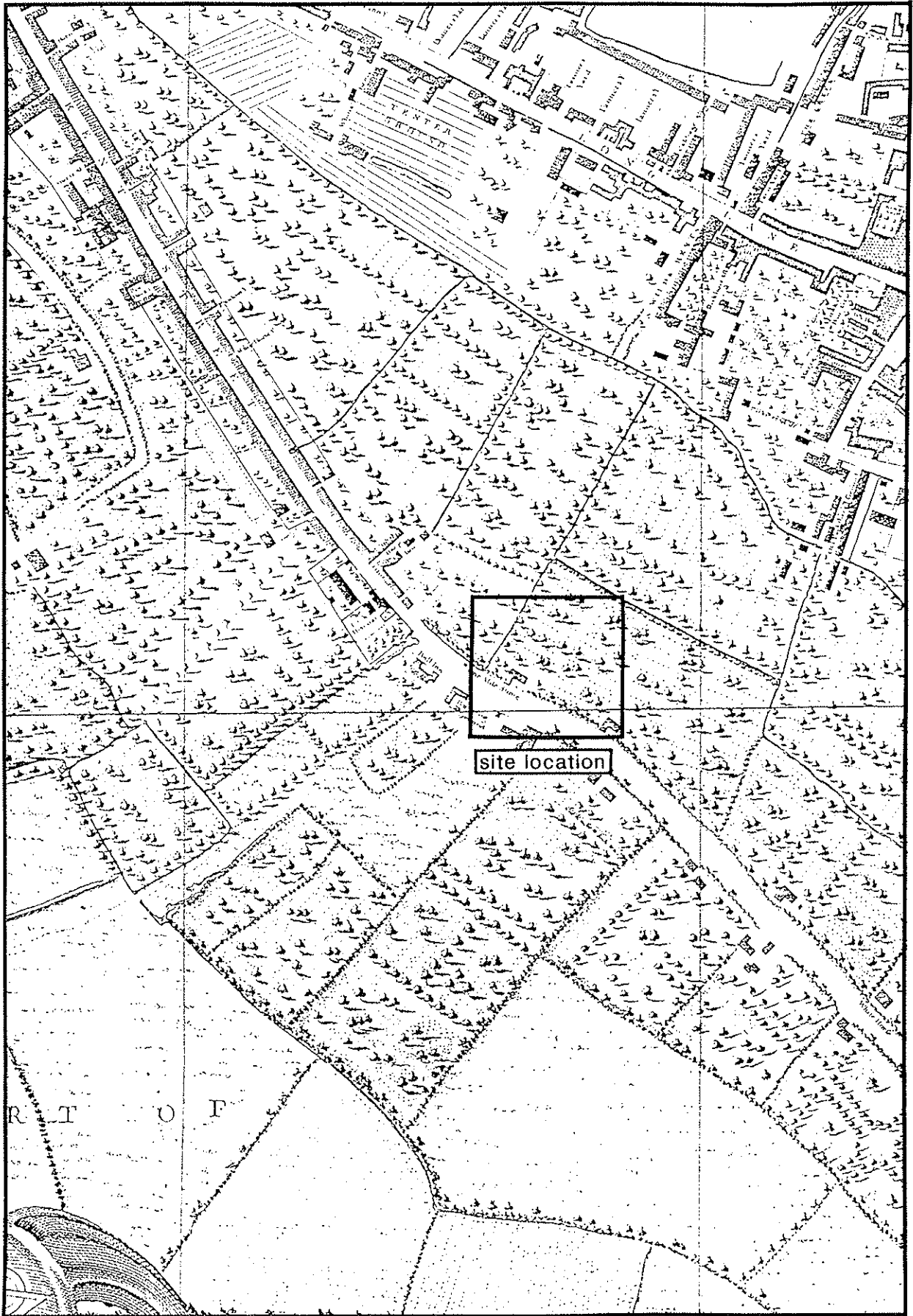
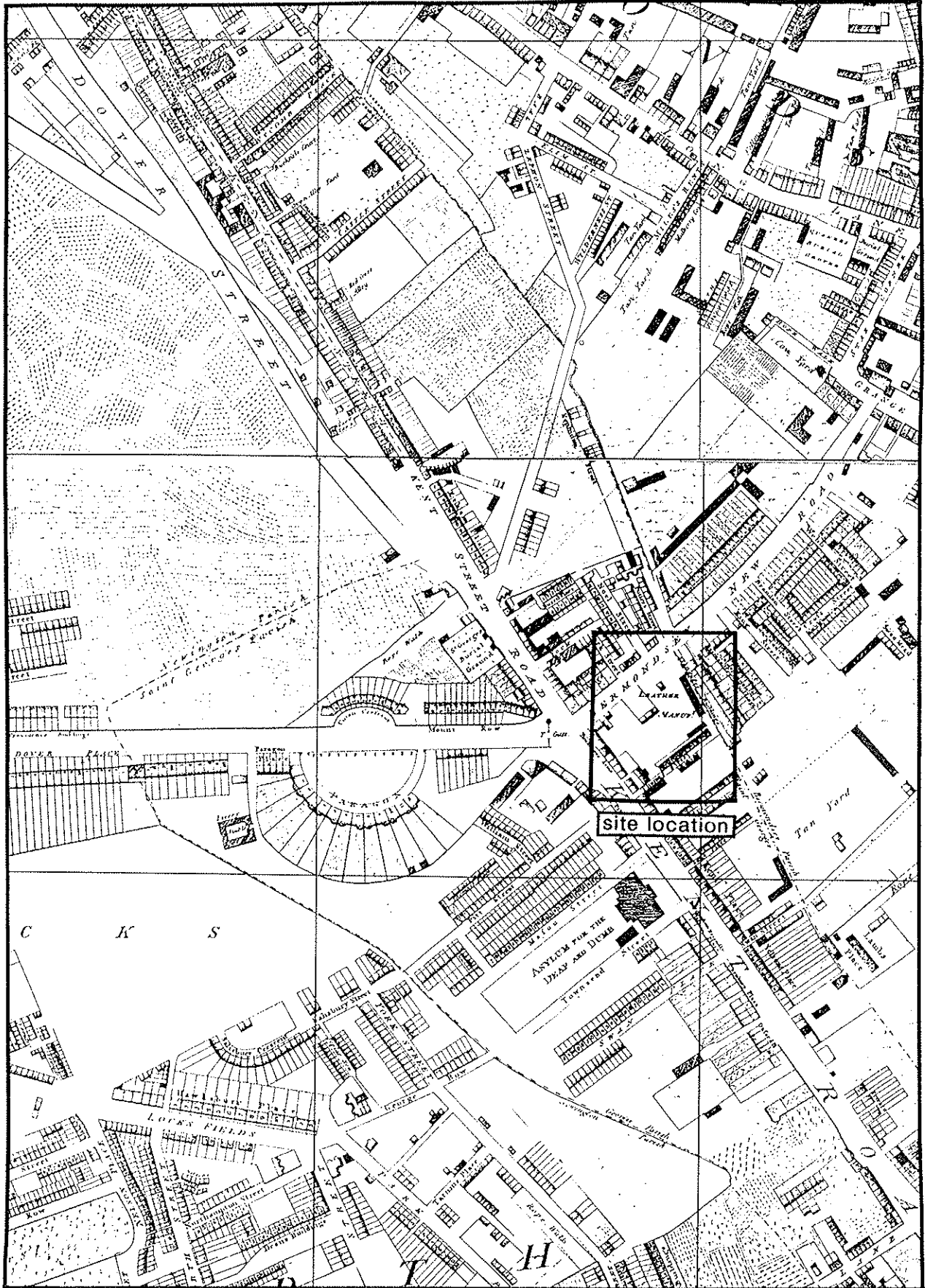


Figure 6



Roque's 1746 map

Figure 7



Horwood's 1799 map

Figure 8



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