



1 Northgate Street, Warwick, Warwickshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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1 Northgate Street, Warwick
Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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Table of Contents

Summary.....	4
1 Introduction.....	5
1.1 Scope of work.....	5
1.2 Location, topography and geology.....	5
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	5
2 Project Aims And Methodology.....	8
2.1 Aims.....	8
2.2 Methodological standards.....	9
2.3 Fieldwork.....	9
2.4 Recording.....	10
2.5 Finds collection.....	10
2.6 Environmental sampling.....	10
3 Results.....	10
3.1 Introduction.....	10
3.2 Description of archaeological deposits/features and structures.....	10
4 Finds.....	12
5 Environmental Evidence.....	13
6 Discussion.....	13
7 Archive.....	14
7.1 Finds and paper archive.....	14
7.2 Details of the digital element of the archive.....	14
Appendix A. Archaeological Context Inventory.....	15
Appendix B. Bibliography and References.....	17
Appendix C. Summary Of Site Details.....	18

List of Figures

Figure 1 Site location

Figure 2 Plan of site showing structures uncovered

Figure 3 North facing section along southern edge of site

List of Plates

Plate 1 Sandstone wall/foundation 5 with wall 11 above, looking west

Plate 2 Detail of structure 9 looking west

Plate 3 Sandstone structure 9 with brick plinth 7 and walls 6 and 12 behind, looking north-west

Plate 4 Brick infill 12 in sandstone wall/foundations 5 after removal of wall 6, looking west

Plate 5 Overhead view of site showing structures 9, 7, 6, brick pier in wall 11 and modern wall 10

Plate 6 Structure 6 and wall 12, looking west

Plate 7 Structures 6 and 9, looking north-west

Plate 8 Walls 5, 9, 12 and 11 showing scar of lean-to and multiple phasing on wall 11

Summary

Between 7th and 9th August 2017 Oxford Archaeology conducted an archaeological watching brief during the construction of a new extension in an open courtyard to the rear of 1 Northgate Street, Warwick (SP28125 65000). The area of the extension was 3.9m by 3m, and the area was excavated to a depth of 0.6m below existing ground level.

The excavation did not reach the natural. All of the dated deposits that were uncovered were post-medieval or modern, and the works did not uncover any evidence of the Great Fire of Warwick, suggesting that they all belong after the rebuilding of the early 18th century. No residual finds of earlier date were seen.

Beneath the western wall of the property a foundation or wall built of roughly dressed sandstone blocks and some more carefully dressed pieces was uncovered, but the base of this structure was not reached. It was aligned north-south and ran along the base of the standing brick-built western boundary wall of the yard. Historical maps appear to show that the western boundary of the property was already in place by 1711. The date of this sandstone wall was not established, but it pre-dated deposits that contained fragments of pottery spot dated to c. 1680-1750. It may have been the remains of an earlier wall, or the foundation of the boundary wall established during the rebuilding in the early 18th century.

Up against the sandstone wall was a rectangular structure built of similar sandstone blocks and slabs set on edge, the top of which was only just revealed at the base of the excavation. This had a reddish-brown soft clay fill reminiscent of cess, so this may have been a cess pit or privy.

The possible cess pit and adjacent area was covered by a layer of fill containing 16th-18th century finds, indicating either a short period of use for the cess pit, or that this fill came from an earlier deposit.

Cut into this levelling layer were the remains of a small two-roomed brick building against the northern edge of the courtyard. Historic maps from 1887 until the 1950s show a narrow structure across this part of the yard, and the bricks from the wall of this structure were manufactured in the late 18th and 19th centuries, indicating that this was the building shown. The fill of this structure was a single dump of grey silt and pebbles, and milk bottle tops of mid-20th century date were found at the very top.

As well as the two small rooms or cells, there was a brick plinth or pillar further south in line with the central dividing wall, and a slight pier on the western boundary wall in line with this, suggesting an open-fronted building. The shape of the brick plinth may indicate that this open-fronted extension continued eastwards, but any trace of a corresponding pillar or wall had been removed by a later wall and a modern manhole. The modern wall, which overlay the eastern end of the two-roomed building, did extend southwards almost to the line of the pier, so may have been built to replace an earlier version.

Following the demolition of the brick structure in the later 20th century, a layer of make-up was laid down, and this was followed with a yard surface of engineering bricks.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (hereafter OA), was commissioned by Nigel James of Robothams Architects on behalf of Simon Hogg to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the excavation for the foundations of an extension to 1 Northgate Street, Warwick, a Grade II Listed Building (List entry 1035393; Grid Reference SP28125 65000).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as Condition 3 of Planning Consent (W/16/2321).
- 1.1.3 John Robinson, Archaeologist and Historic Environment Officer for Warwickshire County Council, provided a brief indicating the work necessary to meet the Local Authority's requirements (Warwickshire County Council 2017), and OA produced an archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) showing how it would meet these requirements (OA 2017). The WSI was approved by John Robinson in advance of the excavation of the foundations.
- 1.1.4 The excavation that was subject to archaeological watching brief covered the north side of the yard to the rear (west) of the standing building, and covered an area of 3.9m east-west by 3m north-south. Excavation was carried out to a depth of 600mm. This report details the results of the fieldwork.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is situated in the north of the historic town of Warwick at the southern end of Northgate Street (Fig. 1). The area excavated for the extension was in a walled open yard at the rear of the existing building (1 Northgate Street) which fronts directly on to Northgate Street (Fig. 2). To the south the site is abutted by 2 Old Square, to the west it is separated from the rear of nos 2-4 Old Square by a high brick wall. A modern brick wall forms the site's northern boundary and separates the site from an alleyway which runs between 1 and 3 Northgate Street (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area excavated lies c. 0.4m above the present level of the pavement of Northgate Street, which slopes down from 72.2m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at a point just in front of St Mary's Church to 71.80m aOD at the junction of Northgate Street with Garrison Street.
- 1.2.3 The bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation (Geology of Britain Viewer 2015).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The background information for this section has been obtained from the Warwickshire HER, supplemented by the Victoria County History for Warwickshire (VCH), and a survey of historic maps of Warwick.
- 1.3.2 A Palaeolithic find spot listed under Warwick is not properly located, and may relate to Warwickshire rather than to the town. No other evidence of Palaeolithic activity, and no evidence of Mesolithic activity, is known from the vicinity of the site.
- 1.3.3 Warwick has widespread evidence of Neolithic occupation, which has been found in excavations on Market Street (MWA1985; MWA6065; MWA 20491-2) and Brook Street (MWA1987; MWA6063-4), 200-250m west of the site. Neolithic pottery and flints have also been recovered 70m north-east of St Mary's Church (MWA6061), ie 100m ENE of

the site. A Neolithic axe (MWA4269) and a Neolithic or Bronze Age adze-hammer (MWA 2178) were found in Priory Park further east. A flint of Neolithic or Bronze Age date has also been recovered from Swan Street 120m to the south-west of the site (MWA5658), and further struck flints on Castle Lane (MWA1995).

- 1.3.4 A Bronze Age struck flint is recorded as being found 600m north-west of Warwick Castle (MWA2201), perhaps just beyond Barrack Street, and 200m or more north-west of the site.
- 1.3.5 An earthwork in Priory Park that has been tentatively identified as belonging to an Iron Age hill fort (MWA 1841), though this is not substantiated. This feature lies around 500m north-east of the site. Iron Age pottery is also recorded from a location east of Theatre Street (MWA22889), but the description of the site is "Field 364", so the location is probably incorrect.
- 1.3.6 Despite the Fosseway being only a few miles to the east, and the presence of a small Roman camp or town to the south-east of Warwick at Chesterton, there is limited evidence for Roman settlement within Warwick itself. The evidence of Roman activity in the town is mainly in the form of Romano-British cemeteries. In the mid 19th century a Roman cremation cemetery was found some 300m north-east of the site, on the north side of Priory Road (MWA1999), whilst further excavations at around the same time at Priory Park found further Roman burials (SMR MWA 4727). A pit containing a sherd of Roman pottery is also recorded as being found north-east of St Mary's Church (MWA5533), some 150m north-east of the site. Although somewhat scant these finds may indicated that there was Roman occupation under this part of the town.
- 1.3.7 The name Warwick derives from the Saxon *wara* or *waering* and *wic*, meaning "dwellings by the weir or river dam" (Mills 2003, 485). No definite evidence of early Saxon occupation has been found under the town centre, but it is believed likely that some Early Medieval occupation underlies the area of the modern town, as two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries have been found on the north side of the Avon either side of the modern town (VCH 1969, 418-19).
- 1.3.8 The burgh of Warwick was established in 914 by Ethelfleda, sister of Edward the Elder, as one of ten built for the defence of Mercia against the Danes. The burgh probably included both the site of the medieval town and the medieval castle. These defences were breached by the Danes in 1016 and the settlement razed to the ground (VCH 1969, 419-20), but was soon rebuilt, as Domesday Book records a substantial settlement (see below).
- 1.3.9 The overall layout of the burh is not known, but late Saxon pits and a timber slot were discovered under the former Woolpack Hotel in Market Square c.120m west of the site (MWA8813), and under the bus station c. 250m south-west of the site. (MWA20493). A silver Saxon coin was also recovered close to the western boundary of the town just beyond the bus station (MWA5661).
- 1.3.10 Evaluation on the east side of Northgate Street behind Nos 2-22 in 2014 revealed late Saxon deposits, but no structural evidence (TVAS 2014a; 2014b). The evidence was interpreted as activity in the back yards of properties fronting onto Northgate Street. Early medieval coins were also found north-east of St Mary's Church (MWA5534), and it has been speculated that this was the site of a late Saxon mint (MWA 1972). The church of St Mary (SMR MWA 1943) is first mentioned in Domesday Book (VCH 1969, 522-3), so was probably also present in the late Saxon period.
- 1.3.11 Warwick Castle was established by William the Conqueror in 1068, and involved the demolition of four houses, and the incorporation of the church of All Saints. Domesday

Book lists 244 houses in the town in 1086 (VCH 1969, 418-9). The date of the town wall is uncertain, but a bank and ditch found just inside its line on Barrack Street in 1965 (MWA2188) is probably the ditch and rampart erected on William's orders in the 11th century. The town wall is believed to have been standing before 1305, when Guy de Beauchamp is recorded as being given a grant of murage (a tax for building town walls) for seven years, and another in 1315 for three years (VCH 1969, 419-20).

- 1.3.12 Medieval Warwick was dominated by Warwick Castle, St Mary's Church and College (the latter completed in 1123) and St Sepulchre's Priory (consecrated in 1125) which lay beyond the town to the north-east in what is now Priory Park (SMR MWA 1958). A long medieval history of occupation in the historic town centre is clear from numerous archaeological excavations, observations and find spots of medieval date in the HER, including 13th-14th century pottery from salvage excavations at Shire Hall to the north-west of the site (MWA2184).
- 1.3.13 There were three main gates providing passage through the city wall, on the north, east, and west, the town adjoining the castle to the south. The eastern and western gates (Eastgate and Westgate) are largely extant today, but the Northgate had been pulled down by the time most of the city wall was demolished in the early 16th century. The principal streets linking East Gate and West gate were High Street (or High Pavement) and Jury Street, which intersected with the main thoroughfare running south from the North Gate, formed by Castle Street, Church Street, and Northgate Street, in the centre of the town. Here 'a right goodly cross' stood until moved to East Gate in the 15th century (VCH 1969 418).
- 1.3.14 The chief houses in the town stood mostly on the two main lines of streets. A rental of 1482 lists eight messuages (dwelling houses and adjacent outbuildings) belonging to the Earl of Warwick, in Northgate Street whilst the Manor's Steward and Bailiff had houses on Northgate Street. In the late 14th century a number of other properties were owned by St Mary's College, in Northgate Street, including Stonehall and Lymnton, whilst Canons of the college occupied Treasurer's Place and Miles Place, the latter a stone-built hall (VCH 1969, 419-23). Northgate Street was clearly a street containing wealthy properties of significant status in the late 15th century, although the VCH does not indicate the locations of the named properties in relation to 1 Northgate Street.
- 1.3.15 On John Speed's 1612 map of the county of Warwickshire both sides of Northgate Street are shown as being built up along the whole length of the street with open plots behind. The scale of Speed's plan of Warwick is however too small to provide detail of the properties, although they appear to be gabled buildings of several stories.
- 1.3.16 During the late 17th century, Warwick's sheep market was relocated to Northgate Street, which duly changed its name to Sheep Street. When the market moved to Coten End in 1823, the street reverted to its original name.
- 1.3.17 The most significant event in post-medieval Warwick occurred in September 1694, when a great fire damaged or destroyed up to 250 houses. Northgate Street, which initially appeared to have escaped the fire, was destroyed when furniture stored in the church of St Mary by the town's fleeing inhabitants caught fire, destroying much of the church and spreading into the surrounding streets (VCH 1969, 427).
- 1.3.18 The fire led to a setting up of a commission and the passing of Fire Act of 1694, which established new rules and regulations on architecture in the town. This changed the face of the town, timber-framed and thatched buildings being replaced by more fireproof, brick and tile buildings, and also resulted in the widening of many of the town streets.

- 1.3.19 The Listed Building entry for 1 Northgate Street states that the current building was constructed in the very late 17th or early 18th century, following the Great Fire. The estate map of 1711 shows the site as one of a long row of buildings fronting on to Northgate Street with linear open plots behind.
- 1.3.20 The Board of Health's 1851 map of Warwick shows 1 Northgate Street with a courtyard behind. The yard is shown as having a small structure in its north-east corner joining on to the main house. The 1st edition OS town plan of Warwick, dated 1887, shows that at that date the building extended the full width of the plot on the north side, with a small court to the south of this. The plan remained much the same on the 1:2500 plans of 1905 and 1925, and there was still a building extending east to west across the whole width of the plot on the 1:1250 scale OS map of 1952, though the western end appeared to have narrowed by this time. The building plan is the same on the 1:1250 plan of 1968-70, indicating that the building formerly occupying the site of the proposed extension was only knocked down recently.
- 1.3.21 In keeping with the rest of the street, which was home to the town's gentry and the more wealthy tradesman, the house appears to have been a family home. A number of tradesmen including an ironmonger, a boot and shoe maker, and a clerk are recorded as having lived there. By the 1870s it was a private lodging house, and is recorded as being apartments in 1904.
- 1.3.22 No previous archaeological excavation has taken place within the site. A series of evaluation trenches was excavated at 2-22 Northgate Street in 2014 (TVAS 2014a; 2014b). This work revealed archaeological deposits of late Saxon and medieval date and a stacked tile hearth constructed of re-used medieval roof tile. No associated buildings were revealed and the excavators considered that this area related to the rears of properties fronting on to Northgate Street.

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the project were:

- To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains.
- To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other remains.
- To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
- To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy.
- To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic town and the earlier historic landscape.
- To determine the potential for the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive.
- To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.
- To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

2.1.2 The specific objectives targeted by the WSI were:

- To identify whether remains of the building that formerly occupied the site of the extension, as shown on historic maps from 1877 to 1950, are present, and if so, to date and characterize them, with particular attention to the date of origin of this building;
- To look for evidence of the Great Fire of Warwick;
- To identify whether remains of earlier structures or backyard activity belonging to the early post-medieval or medieval period survive, and if so, to date and characterize them;
- To look for evidence of Saxon or earlier activity on the site, whether archaeological features and deposits or finds, and to date these and characterize the activities they represent;

2.2 Methodological standards

2.2.1 All archaeological work and the preparation of this report was conducted as set out in the WSI (OA 2017), and in accordance with local and national planning policies (DCMS 2015), with the MoRPHE Project Manager's guide (Historic England 2015), and the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), of which OA is a Registered Organisation.

2.2.2 Fieldwork techniques followed current best practice and accepted professional standards (see OA Fieldwork Manual 1992), and as outlined in:

- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation, 2008 (revised);
- English Heritage – Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists, 2003.

2.3 Fieldwork

2.3.1 All excavations were carried out by the building contractor under continuous archaeological supervision. The programme of works followed the building contractors' method statement.

2.3.2 Work comprised the hand excavation of an area 3.9m x 3m (Fig. 2). This was initially carried out to the level at which archaeological structures appeared, and thereafter was carried out broadly deposit by deposit in reverse stratigraphic order, until 0.6m below present ground level was reached.

2.3.3 All revealed archaeological deposits and features were cleaned and investigated in reverse stratigraphic order by hand.

2.3.4 All spoil and upcastings from the excavations were scanned visually and sorted for artefacts and ecofacts.

2.3.5 All sections and surfaces were cleaned and recorded.

2.3.6 The excavation was carried out in such a manner as to avoid damage to any archaeological structural evidence that might be worthy of preservation *in situ*. In the event, following a visit by Archaeologist John Robinson of Warwickshire County Council, it was agreed that the walls and stonework exposed could be removed once recorded.

2.4 Recording

- 2.4.1 All observations were recorded under a unique Event Site Code (WASMNG 17). A continuous unique numbering system was used.
- 2.4.2 All archaeological deposits and features were recorded on Oxford Archaeology pro-forma recording sheets.
- 2.4.3 A drawn record comprising plans and representative sections was made of the deposits and features uncovered on site. These were hand-drawn at scales of 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections.
- 2.4.4 A full photographic record was made, including photographs of all archaeological features and deposits as encountered and shots to illustrate work in progress.
- 2.4.5 The limits of the excavation were set out by the building contractor.
- 2.4.6 The excavation was bounded by the north and west boundary walls of the property, and by the services and concrete foundations of the standing building on the east, to which the hand-drawn plans were tied in. Plans were made with measuring tapes from a temporary site grid located with reference to the standing walls by triangulation and offsetting.
- 2.4.7 All levels recorded were related to known Ordnance Survey benchmarks and recorded as metres above Ordnance Datum (m aOD).
- 2.4.8 Upon project completion all drawings were scanned and all plans digitised and located in relation to the Ordnance Survey map of the area.

2.5 Finds collection

- 2.5.1 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of modern date. All collected finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance and standards set out in the WSI (OA 2017).

2.6 Environmental sampling

- 2.6.1 A strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits was developed in consultation with OA's environmental manager and was set out in the WSI (OA 2017).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section summarises the results of the archaeological investigation integrated with selected specialist material.
- 3.1.2 The results are presented as a single chronological narrative describing its chronological development with the earliest first and the most recent last. These are illustrated by photographs (Plates 1-6), plans (Fig. 2) and sections (Fig. 3).
- 3.1.3 All structures, deposits and features with their extents and thickness/depths as encountered are presented within the table that forms Appendix A.
- 3.1.4 Fully cross referenced site records are available in the project archive.

3.2 Description of archaeological deposits/features and structures

- 3.2.1 The earliest structure found on site was a wall or foundation (numbered 5), built of large roughly dressed blocks of greyish-green sandstone (Plate 1). Some of these were more carefully finished, and were mostly square, but others appeared to have been shaped

to a triangular cross-section, although it was not possible to recover any of these for close examination. Structure 5 was aligned north-south and ran under the present brick-built western boundary of the yard (Fig. 3). A sondage dug to 0.7m below the present ground level failed to find the base of this structure. The earliest deposits seen abutted the stonework, suggesting that this was not a foundation contemporary with the existing brick wall (11) above. It may have been built as a free-standing foundation surrounded by levelling layers, or have been part of the superstructure of a building whose floors lie at greater depth.

- 3.2.2 Structure 5 was abutted by a deposit of dark grey gritty clayey silt (13), rich in charcoal. Layer 13 was at least 0.13m thick, but was not bottomed within the limits of excavation. Sherds of tin-glazed pottery with a spot-date of 1680 to 1750 were found within it.
- 3.2.3 On the west side of the excavation, and abutting structure 5, layer 13 was cut into for the construction of stone structure (9), which was built of sandstones similar to those of structure 5. It was constructed of blocks and slabs lying up against the edge of the cut to form a rectangle 1.1m × 0.8m (Fig. 2; Plate 2). This was filled with a soft reddish-brown clay (8), which was only exposed to a shallow depth, and did not produce any finds.
- 3.2.4 Structure 9 and its fill, and layer 13 beyond it, were covered by a loose grey coarse sandy clay (3), which contained fragments of roof tile of 16th-18th century manufacture and sherds of pottery dated to between c.1550-1750 (See below 4.14 and 4.15). This probable levelling deposit was in turn cut and overlain by an east-west aligned brick-built rectangular structure (6) (Plates 5 and 6).
- 3.2.5 The walls of this structure were built of red unfrogged bricks bonded with a lime mortar. A sample brick from wall 6 was dated to the late 18th to 19th century (see below 4.17). Structure 6 consisted of walls surviving six or seven courses high, and formed two chambers 0.8m wide, which together measured 2.4m long. The southern wall of the western chamber was built upon the remains of the northern wall of structure 9. At the west end this abutted, and was mortared to, a short section of brick wall (12) filling a gap or hollow in structure 5 (Plate 4). The bricks were similar to those of structure 6, and it had a similar lime mortar. This was probably built as part of structure 6.
- 3.2.6 To the north the walls of structure 6 were cut by the concrete footings of a modern brick wall which currently forms the northern boundary of the yard. The eastern wall of the double-chambered structure was overlain by a modern wall (10). The central dividing wall bottomed at 600mm, and sat upon layer 3.
- 3.2.7 The southern wall of structure 6 could clearly be seen as a scar on the western wall of the property marking its former position and continuation upwards (Plate 6), and the line of the roof of the outbuilding which stood in the northern edge of the site. This was clearly the outbuilding marked on historic maps along the northern edge of the site. No floors or surfaces were found within this structure.
- 3.2.8 Infilling the brick chambers to their surviving height was layer 4, a grey silt with occasional pebbles. There were no finds from this, except at the very top, where metal milk bottle tops of mid-20th-century date were found.
- 3.2.9 Some 2m to the south of wall 6 a brick-built plinth or base (7) was uncovered, which was also cut into layer 3. This 0.5 x 0.5m structure was built of the same bricks as the walls of structure 6 and was set into a similar lime mortar. There is a slightly projecting brick pier in the western boundary wall 11 in line with plinth 7 (Plates 3, 5 and 8), and this suggests that there was an open-sided extension to the brick structure here. The shape of brick plinth 7 may indicate that this structure also continued eastwards as far

as the eastern limit of structure 6, but any trace of an eastern wall or further plinth had been removed by wall 10 and a modern manhole just south of its end (Plate 5).

- 3.2.10 Structures 6 and 7 were sealed by a dark grey sandy clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks (2), which covered the whole of the excavation area. This contained pottery including sherds of transfer-printed ware of Victorian date.
- 3.2.11 Layer 2 was cut on the east by a north-south aligned modern wall (10) built of frogged red bricks. This wall was built upon stepped brick footings, including the eastern wall of the chambered structure 6. At the south-west corner of the excavation layer 2 was cut by the foundation for the brick wall forming the western boundary to the property (Fig. 3). This is later than wall 11 further north, which was abutted by structure 6 (Plate 8), so it appears that the section of wall south of the brick pier was rebuilt during the later 19th or 20th century.
- 3.2.12 Layer 2 was sealed by a grey mortar-rich silt (1), the sub-base for the present block paving of the yard. To the east of wall 10 the area was taken up with series of modern services and the concrete footings/underpinning of the standing building.

4 FINDS

Pottery

by John Cotter

- 4.1.1 Seven sherds of pottery weighing 77g were recovered from three contexts. This is mainly of post-medieval date. The condition of the material is generally good but fragmentary. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and instead the pottery is simply described and spot-dated below. Fabric codes referred to those of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014).

Context (2) Spot-date: c. 1830-1900

- 4.1.2 Description: two sherds (15g). 1x body sherd possibly from wide dish/bowl in transfer-printed white ware (TPW) with blue transfer decoration externally comprising delicate foliage pattern. Thin-walled, very fine porcellaneous fabric, or possibly low-grade porcelain? (Date c. 1830-1900). 1x body sherd from a large bowl or? chamberpot in Developed Cream ware (CREA DEV, c. 1760-1830).

Context (3) Spot-date: c. 1550-1750

- 4.1.3 Description: two sherds (43g). 1x fresh rim sherd from a jar in hard orange-red sandy Coal Measures fabric, probably Midlands late medieval orange ware (MORAN, c. 1400-1820). Plain jar with simple inverted rim with internal hollowing; traces of thick black glaze lower down inside. This example is probably 16th or 17th century rather than earlier or later. 1x fairly worn body sherd (6g) in an unidentified late medieval Midlands fine white ware with a copper-green glaze all over internally and externally. Possibly from a jug form with a carinated shoulder, or from the lower wall of a dish/cup form copying Tudor green ware drinking cup forms (c. 1380-1500)?

Context (13) Spot-date: c. 1680-1750

- 4.1.4 Description: three sherds (19g). 2x sherds tin-glazed ware (TGW, c. 1570-1800). Both with a pale blue-tinted glaze. One sherd is from the wall of a bowl with traces of blue-painted horizontal lines internally; the other sherd is from a narrow strap handle, possibly from a jug? The general style and blue-tinted glaze suggest a date of c. 1680-

1750 for these two. 1x fresh body sherd in Midlands yellow ware (MY, c. 1550-1700), probably from a small jug or cup with yellow glaze internally and externally.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

by John Cotter

- 4.1.5 Four pieces of CBM weighing 3215g were recovered from two contexts. This has not been separately catalogued but is described below.

Context (3) Spot-date: 16-18C?

- 4.1.6 Description: three pieces (250g). Edge fragments from three separate flat roof tiles (peg tiles?) in a similar fairly smooth light orange-red fabric (Coal Measures origin?). Probably early post-medieval. One edge fragment is very thick (21mm thick), although roof tiles in this part of the country can be quite thick.

Context (6) Spot-date: Late 18C-19C

- 4.1.7 Description: one piece (2965g). Complete unfrogged brick. Light brown to light orange-buff. Neatly made, regular, and with a diagonal stacking mark (skintling) on one stretcher face. Length 230mm, width 110mm, thickness 64mm. Fine, fairly micaceous, fabric with rare coarse inclusions of pale brown? mudstone and rare coarse red ?chert.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 5.1.1 Due to the absence of suitable deposits, no samples were taken for environmental analysis.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 All of the deposits uncovered and dated on site were post-medieval or modern. The works did not uncover any evidence of the Great Fire of Warwick; nor was any evidence of Saxon or earlier activity uncovered on the site.
- 6.1.2 Beneath the western wall of the property, a foundation or wall built of roughly dressed sandstone blocks and some more carefully dressed pieces was uncovered (5), which was abutted by a layer containing pottery manufactured in the late 17th or first half of the 18th century. This could therefore represent the remains of a structure that was demolished after the Great Fire of Warwick in 1694, or foundations laid down during the rebuilding after the Great Fire, though it is also possible that structure 5 is later than this, as the pottery only provides a *terminus post quem* for layer 13 that abutted it.
- 6.1.3 Historical maps appeared to show that the western boundary of property was already in place by 1711. Structure 5 would therefore appear most likely to represent foundations connected with the rebuilding, especially as some of the blocks used in its construction may have been reused stonework. Layer 13 included a significant proportion of charcoal, which may have derived from the Great Fire, although this was not a destruction layer. Alternatively the charcoal could simply have been derived from domestic fires.
- 6.1.4 Cut into layer 13, and therefore constructed in the 18th century, was the rectangular structure 9, whose walls were built of a single width of sandstone blocks or slabs set on edge. Neither structure 9 nor its fill 8 were bottomed. The function of this structure was unclear, but the fill of this feature, of which only the very top was excavated, was soft with a reddish-brown colour reminiscent of cess-pit fill, so this may have been a cess pit or privy.

- 6.1.5 Layer 3 that accumulated over structure 9 contained only finds of 16th to 18th century date, and the pottery is believed to be in the earlier part of this range. This suggests either that the use of structure 9 was of short duration, or that this layer was derived from the excavation of earlier deposits.
- 6.1.6 Cut into layer 3 was the remains of a small two-roomed brick-built building (6) running along the northern edge of the courtyard. Historic maps from 1887 show a structure across this part of the yard, and the date of the bricks of this structure indicates a late 18th or 19th century date for its construction. The plinth or pillar 7 to the south, which was built of similar bricks, and was in line with the central wall of structure 6, was almost certainly the base for the central support for a roofed extension, whose west side is evident as a slightly projecting pier in the west boundary wall of the property. The east limit is unclear due to a modern manhole, though it may have underlain wall 10, as this wall was built on top of the eastern wall of structure 6 further north. This extension was probably open-sided on the south.
- 6.1.7 The milk bottle tops found at the top of the fill of the two-roomed brick structure demonstrate that it was not demolished until the mid-20th century or later, which is in accord with the evidence of the historic maps, which continue to show a building in this part of the property until at least 1952. Once demolished, the brick structures were overlain by make-up for the yard surface of engineering bricks that were present until 2017.

7 ARCHIVE

7.1 Finds and paper archive

- 7.1.1 All archiving is carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CiFA 2014b).
- 7.1.2 The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Warwickshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: T/1357, and the Warwickshire HER will be informed of the arrangements made.
- 7.1.3 The results of the evaluation will be uploaded onto OASIS following completion and approval of the report.

7.2 Details of the digital element of the archive

- 7.2.1 Upon project completion all drawings were scanned and all plans digitised and incorporated within the Ordnance Survey map of the area. This was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of GIS construction and OA Geomatics protocols.
- 7.2.2 All scans have been numbered according to the original drawing numbers. Digital plans will be given a standard new plan number from the site plan index at the time of archiving.
- 7.2.3 Each CAD drawing contained an information layout, which included all the relevant details appertaining to that drawing. Information (metadata) on all other digital files were created and stored as appropriate.

APPENDIX A. ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Type	Depth/thickness (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Comments	Findings	Spot Date
1	Layer	0.1	>3.9	>3	Mid grey mortar rich silt, frequent flecks of red brick		Modern
2	Layer	0.15	>3.9	>3	Loose dark grey sandy clay silt, frequent flecks charcoal	Pottery	1760-1900
3	Layer	0.1	>3.9	>3	Loose grey coarse sandy clay silt, frequent large blocks of sandstone	Pottery CBM	1550-1750
4	Fill of 06	>0.5	0.7	2.7	Dark grey silt, occ. pebbles, modern tin foil milk bottle tops at top.		
5	Wall	>0.4	3.9	-	N-S aligned wall large blocks of worked sandstone, no bonding		
6	Wall	0.5	0.24	3	E-W brick built walled structure built of unfrogged red bricks 230mm x 110mm x 64mm all lain on bed greyish white coarse sandy lime mortar	CBM	Late 18th-19th century
7	Plinth /base	>0.2	0.6	0.6	Unfrogged red bricks 230mm x 110mm x 60mm, all lain on bed greyish white coarse sandy lime mortar		
8	Fill of 09	>50mm	1.1	0.75	Soft reddish brown silty clay		
9	Wall	>50mm	1.4	1.2	Sandstone blocks on edge, no bonding		
10	Wall	>0.4	0.23	2	N-S aligned wall frogged red brick stepped footings southern end 0.7x0.4 m -E-W buttress		Modern
11	Wall	-	-	-	N-S aligned extant wall red bricks various ages -western boundary wall of property		
12	Wall	0.7	0.10	0.86	Infill single line of red unfrogged bricks		

					230mm x 110mm x 61mm all lain on bed, yellowish white coarse sandy lime mortar		
13	Layer	>0.1	3	3	Dark grey charcoal rich gritty clay silt	Pottery	1680-1750

APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

Mills, A. D. 2003 *Oxford Dictionary of British Place Names*. Oxford, OUP.

MoLA 2014 Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes (<http://www.mola.org.uk/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>)

OA 2017, *1 Northgate Street, Warwick Written Scheme of Investigation Archaeological Watching Brief*.

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Thames Valley Archaeological Services 2014b, *2-22 Northgate Street, Northgate Southside and The Butts, Warwick, Warwickshire, Archaeological Evaluation Phase 2*.

VCH 1969 *A History of the County of Warwick Volume VIII* (Online version of the Victoria County History Series).

Warwickshire County Council, 2017 *Brief for Archaeological Work (ref: W/16/2321), Location: 1 Northgate Street, Warwick, CV34 4SP*.

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name:	1 Northgate Street, Warwick
Site code	WASMNG17
Grid reference:	Centred at NGR 514090 189710
Type of watching brief:	Hand dug excavation of 3.9 x 3m extension
Date and duration of project:	7th to 9th August 2017
Area of site:	12m ²
Summary of results:	<p>Excavation was carried out to a depth of 600mm, but did not find natural. Beneath the western wall of the property, a foundation or wall built of roughly dressed sandstone blocks and some better-dressed pieces was uncovered. This was aligned north-south and ran along the base of the present brick western boundary of the yard. Historical maps appeared to show that the western boundary of property was already in place by 1711. The date of this sandstone wall is not known but it pre-dated deposits which contained pottery spot dated to c. 1680-1750.</p> <p>Against the western sandstone wall, and cutting the layer abutting it, a square structure built of similar sandstone blocks and slabs set on edge was uncovered, which may have been the edges of a cess pit or privy.</p> <p>The possible cess pit was overlain by a levelling layer incorporating finds of the 16th-18th centuries probably imported from elsewhere. Cut into this were the remains of a small two-roomed brick building running along the northern edge of the courtyard. Historic maps from 1887 until the 1950s show a structure across this part of the yard, and the bricks from the two-roomed building were manufactured in the late 18th and 19th centuries, suggesting that this was the building shown on the maps.</p> <p>South of the two rooms, and in line with the dividing wall, was a pillar built of similar bricks. A brick pier in the western boundary wall is in line with the pillar, suggesting that there was an open-fronted extension to the two-roomed building. Whether this continued eastwards to the full width of the two rooms is uncertain, as it was obliterated by a 20th century wall and a manhole, but the 20th century wall overlay the east wall of building, and extended south almost to the line of the pillar, so was perhaps replacing an earlier wall.</p> <p>The brick building was demolished in the later 20th century, and was followed by make-up and a yard floor of engineering bricks.</p>
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at Oxford Archaeology (South), and will be deposited with the Warwick Museum at the conclusion of the project

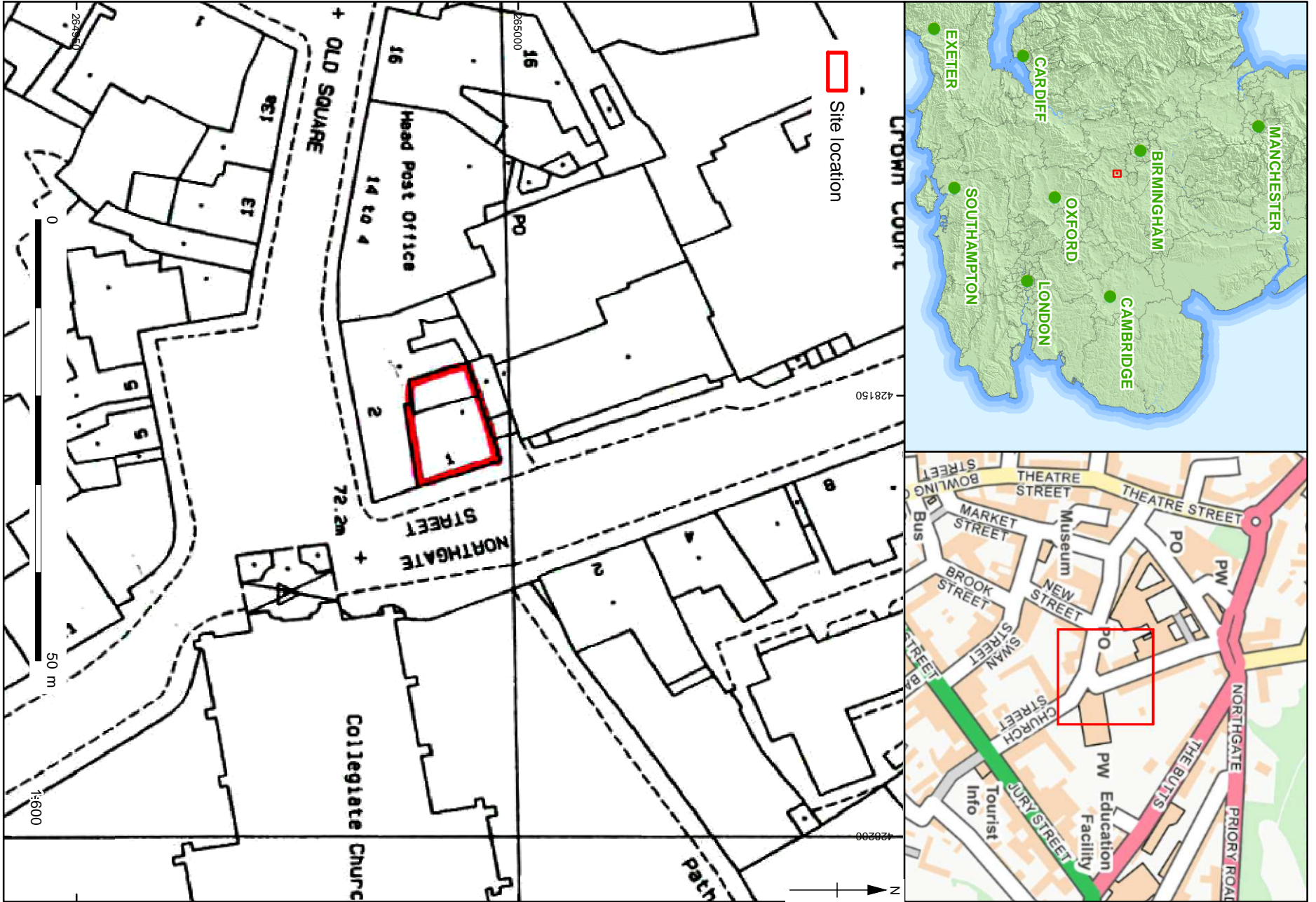


Figure 1: Site location

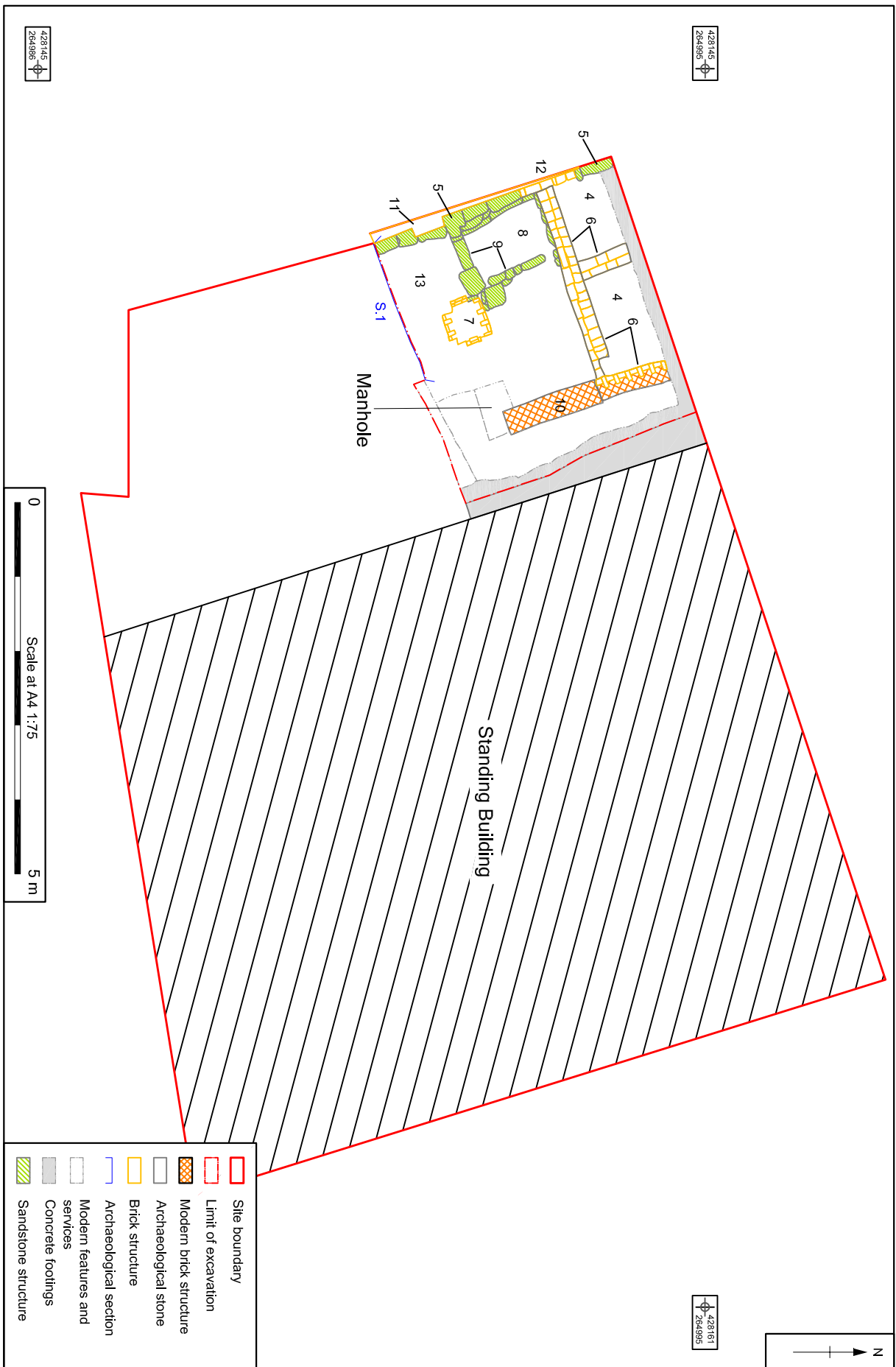


Figure 2: Plan of site showing structures uncovered

CHECKED BY:

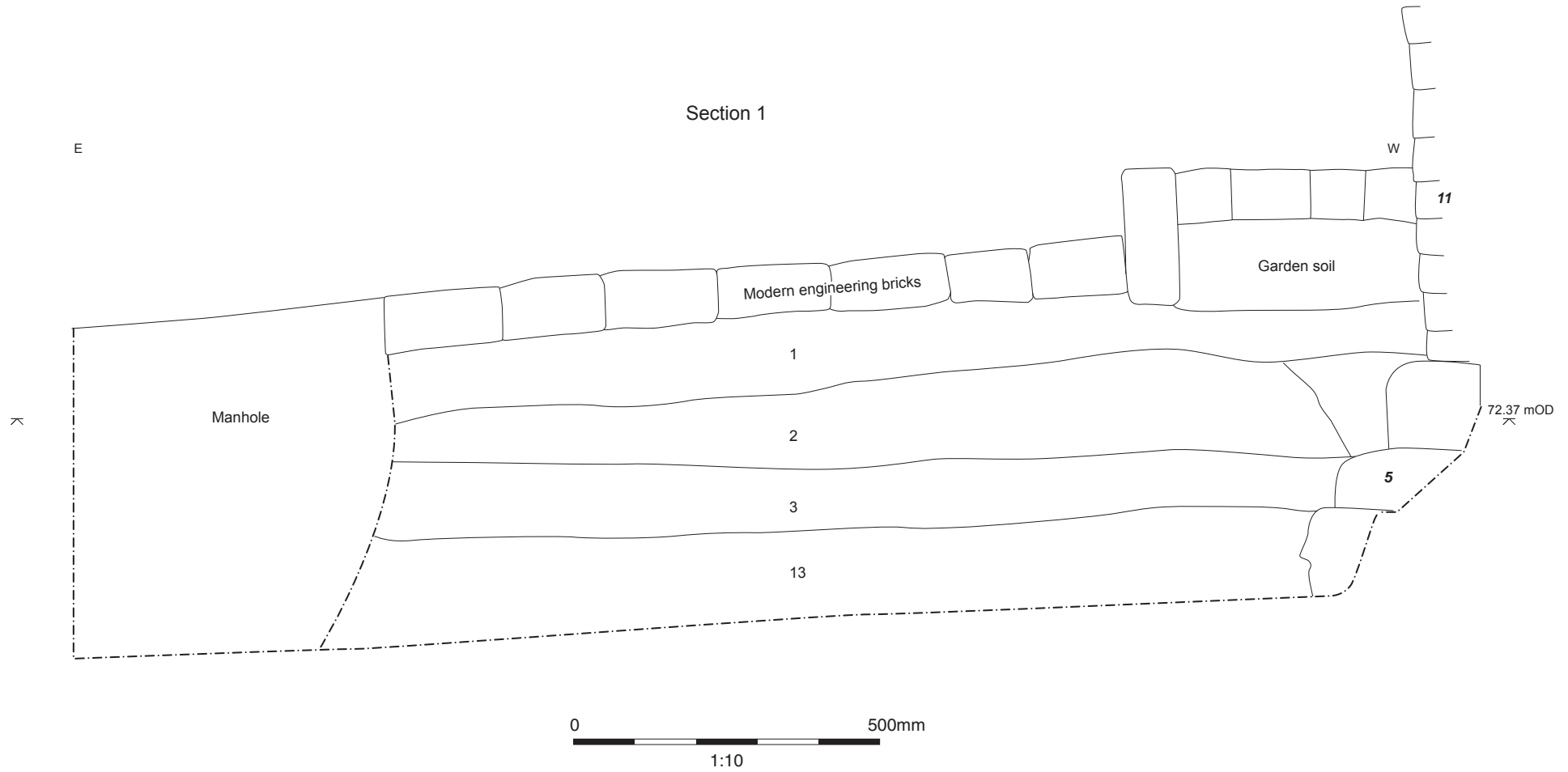


Figure 3: North facing section along southern edge of site



Plate 1: Sandstone wall/foundation 5 with wall 11 above , looking west



Plate 2: Detail of structure 9 looking west



Plate 3: Sandstone structure 9 with brick plinth 7 and walls 6 and 12 behind, looking north-west



Plate 4: Brick infill 12 in sandstone wall/foundations 5 after removal of wall 6, looking west



Plate 5: Overhead view of site showing structures 9, 7, 6, brick pier in wall 11 and modern wall 10



Plate 6: Structure 6 and wall 12, looking west



Plate 7: Structures 6 and 9, looking north-west



Plate 8: Walls 5, 9, 12 and 11 showing scar of lean-to and multiple phasing on wall 11



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