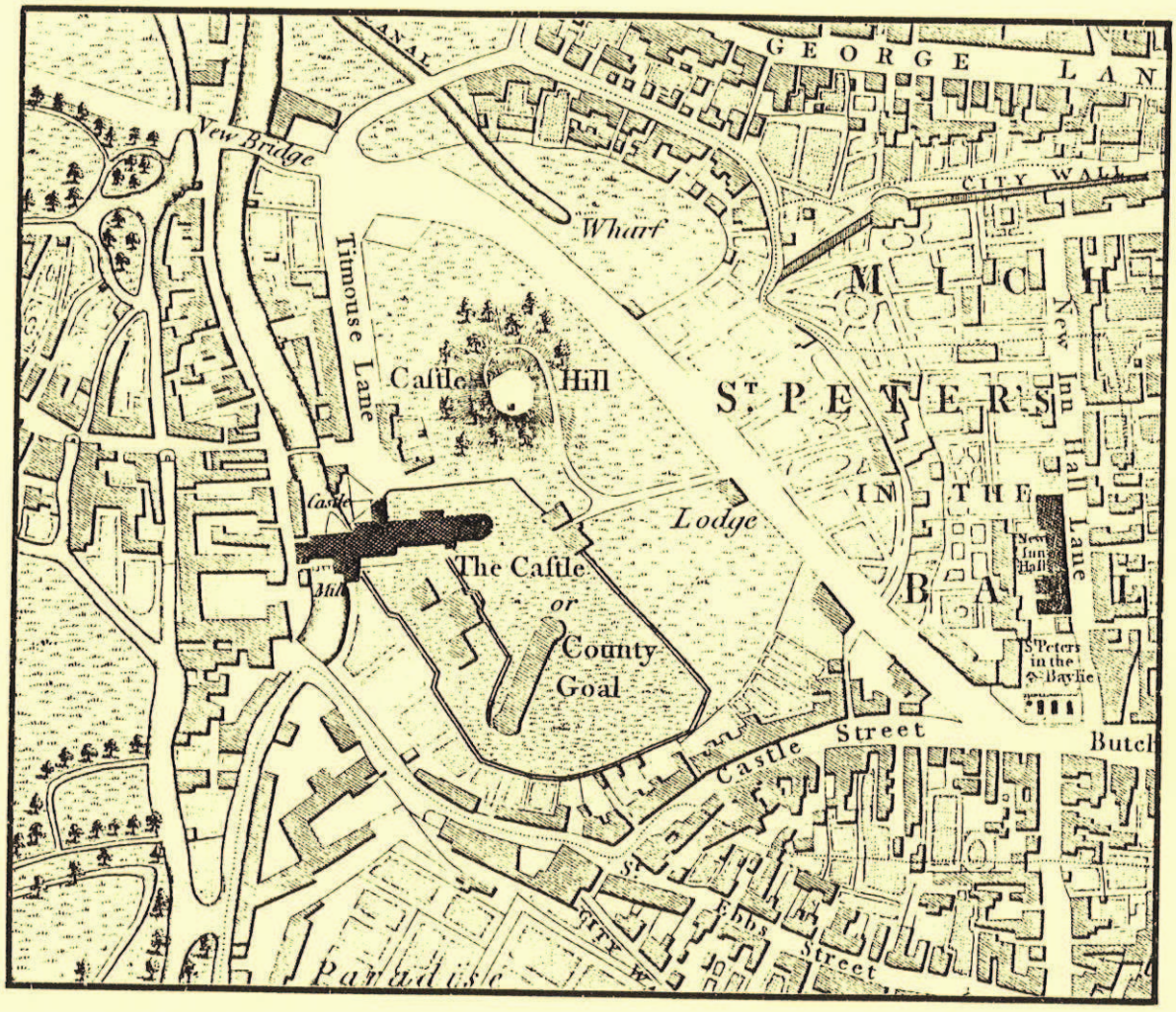
FORMER CANTEEN SITE

PARADISE ST, OXFORD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION



OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
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1 Introduction and methodology

The Oxford Archaeological Unit undertook a field evaluation for Thomas and Co. on the former canteen site at Paradise Street, Oxford during November 1993. The evaluation followed an archaeological desktop assessment for the same client. It is proposed that flats and a car park are to be built on the site. A brief for the evaluation was issued by the Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service , and a Written Scheme of Investigation was drawn up to cover this brief.

Two 10 m long trenches were excavated (Fig.1) using a JCB (equipped with a 3 ft ditching bucket) down to the top of significant archaeological horizons. The deposits below this were hand excavated: the depth of these deposits necessitated the use of a shoring scheme. The trench widths were wider than the 1.85 m stated in the WSI (see Figs 3, 5) owing to the presence of recent stone, brick and concrete structures which hampered machining.

2 Geology and topography

The site lies on the Thames floodplain, and Thames Gravel forms the underlying natural geology. The triangular shape of the site is bounded by Paradise Street to the north-east and by the Castle Mill stream to the west (Fig.1); the site lies to the south-east of the Swan Bridge. The area is currently in use as a car park and is bounded in part by stone walls; its ground surface is at 56.9 m OD.

3 Historical and archaeological background

A preliminary study of the site in its Oxford context has already been set out in the desktop study (OAU September 1993): a brief summary of that information follows. Early maps of 1574, 1615, and 1677 show buildings on the Paradise and Castle Mill Stream frontages to the site, with further buildings extending back from the mill stream in or adjacent to the southern edge of the site. Trial trenches dug by the Oxford University Archaeological Society in 1977 showed that occupation of the street frontage may have taken place at the end of the 11th or beginning of the 12th century. A medieval revetment to the Castle Mill stream was uncovered along with stone river walls. Trenches dug by the OAU in 1991 on the north side of Paradise Street identified the Oxford Castle ditch and a stone built culvert.

For further discussion of the site in a wider context, see Section 7.

4 Trench descriptions

Trench 1 (Figs 2, 3)

Trench 1 was wider than the 1.85 m stated in the brief owing to the presence of a large limestone and brick built cellar, of Victorian date which occupied a large area of the trench. A medieval trading token was recovered from the machining level but is not stratified.

The earliest deposit in the trench was a portion of probable foundation wall (154), which overlay natural gravel at 54.71. A silty deposit abutted the wall, and may have been the construction trench fill. However, both this deposit and the wall itself were cut by later pits. A large square pit, 151, was fully excavated within the confines of the trench and was seen in section to have truncated the wall. Early medieval[1] pottery from the pit fills gives a date range of the late eleventh to the early twelfth century, for the infilling of this feature. Fill 150, at the base of the pit contained a good assemblage of closely datable pottery. The amount of animal bone and density of pot finds suggests that the pit was used for domestic refuse.

Successive gravel layers overlay the infilled pit; the latest of these, 116 (a deposit of reddish brown gravel) may have functioned as a surface but no associated structures were found within the trench to which this deposit may have been related. Another large pit, 143, was cut through 116 and was filled with a greyish green cess-like material. It contained a single sherd of late 12th-century pottery.

Above these deposits lay two layers of dark grey brown loam, the latest of which (110) was probably a cultivated soil. The layer was homogenous in appearance and was seen in plan to occupy the eastern half of the trench. Spot dating of 25 pot sherds gives a late medieval date range between the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries.

Cleaning of 110 exposed the top of a linear arrangement of large limestone blocks, 115, aligned roughly N-S, and placed as two parallel alignments. Removal of the fill between the stones revealed a limestone-built three-coursed drain (Figure 3, Section 2). Two blocks laid facing each other were grooved: a sluice gate is the likely explanation. The drain was seen to be in a construction trench, 117, which cut the loamy deposit 110. Given that 110 is a late medieval context, it must be assumed that the drain construction falls within this period, or is of post-medieval date. Finds from the fill of the drain date to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

All that part of the drain which lies south of the sluice gate (Fig. 3) was clearly

[1] The term 'Early Medieval' is used throughout this report to denote the period from the late 11th to the mid-13th centuries.

built as an integral part of the structure represented by wall 136, a NW-SE wall foundation. North of the sluice gate the drain may have been a later addition as the stones, 149, packed in behind the drain obscure the face of wall 136. Pottery from 149 dates to the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries. Traces of a mortar floor were excavated from the top of 149, contexts 133, 134; mortar floor 134 also overlapped a drain capping surface, 155. This capping (Fig.3, Section2) comprised small limestone fragments in a hard mortar matrix, and appeared to be suspended over the drain but unsupported. It is possible that a wooden pipe had been present in the drain at the time of the capping, had collapsed, and left the mortar capping in situ (B. Durham pers comm). Deposits (119, 132, 125) of limestone rubble in mixed sandy soils attest to the probable demolition of the structure as they directly overlay the floor, drain and wall. Demolition layer 109, which overlay the infilled drain, contained pottery of eighteenth to nineteenth century in date.

Successive layers overlying these deposits were machined. They contained brick, tile, limestone and mortar fragments and totalled 0.75 to 1.3 m in depth.

Other features identified within the trench included a large deep Victorian pit, 135, whose upper fill contained a large quantity of clay pipe, the lower fill containing Willow pattern china fragments.

The other major feature is the aforementioned cellar, constructed from only 0.30 m below the present ground level. The height from which it was constructed, with the wall being set flush against a construction box cut through the soil build-up layers, shows it to be Victorian in date. Re-used ashlar limestone was incorporated in the cellar construction. Finally, rubble make up for the current car park overlay the traces of robbing of the cellar.

Trench 2 (Figs 4, 5)

The earliest excavated deposit, 258, overlay the natural gravel and consisted of a dark brown silt with frequent organic inclusions, twigs and small sticks. The context produced a leather shoe and 2 sherds of late 11th century pottery. Above this deposit lay a series of silt layers (269, 261, 262) containing molluscs. On-site examination by Dr Mark Robinson led him to the conclusion that these deposits were within a former watercourse. Waste pottery, probably thrown into the water is exclusively of early medieval date.

At the east end of the trench a series of silts, 260, 256, 255, 254, again appeared to have been laid down within a watercourse. The overlying deposits, 253, 252, 251, 250, were again very silty, but contained limestone pieces, small stones and pebbles. Finds from 251 suggest a date range of the late twelfth to early thirteenth centuries. A rubble spread 220 had clearly sunk into the silty deposits below. It may be that 220 acted for a short time as a revetting wall; however, it seems more likely that it represents a dumped layer of rubble with the aim of land raising. A final part in this process seems to have been the

depostion of thicker sandy silt layers (211, 219, 264, 267, 265). A wooden stake/post was located within context 219, but could have been driven in from higher up in the sequence.

Wall 233, aligned E-W, showed partly within the trench but ran under the northern baulk. It comprised up to eight courses of limestone blocks and was roughly built. There was apparently no construction trench associated with the wall. While it may well be that the construction of the wall truncated the fills of pit 237, with subsequent soil layers abutting it, this could not be definitely observed on site. The function of the wall, whether structural or part of a terracing policy, is therefore unknown. Finds from the fills of 237 consisted of sherds closely dated to the late twelfth to mid-thirteenth centuries. Finds from layers above the infilled pit have a broader date range, with the fabrics remaining in common use from the late eleventh through to the fifteenth centuries.

Also problematical was the stonework (231) seen in the northern section: only a very tentative case can be made for a wall. What was clear was that the stones lay in a construction trench which cut the fill of a deliberately infilled drainage ditch (227), the backfill composed of sandy gravel. Fill 212 in 227 contained late medieval pottery of thirteenth to fifteenth century in date. The stones 231 are therefore late medieval or later.

A thick loam, 210, was observed throughout the trench and probably represents a cultivation soil. Layer 208, directly over 210 was very similar in character.

Above these deposits lay successive building sequences relating to probable Victorian and later stuctures, including walls red-brick floors and concrete rafts. The presence of this material necessitated a wider and shorter trench than stated in the brief.

5 The pottery and environmental evidence

5.1 Pottery assessment

A total of 302 sherds (4.2 kg) were recovered from excavation. These have been identified using a x20 binocular microscope and classified into fabric types established for Oxford by R. Haldon and M. Mellor (Haldon and Mellor 1977). Appendix 1 gives the number of sherds and a "spot date" for each context. It should be noted that the spot date does not take residual or intrusive material into consideration. All the sherds do not, therefore, necessarily belong to the date given.

The majority (80%) of the pottery is early medieval, with smaller quantities of late medieval (12%) and post medieval (7%) wares also present.

The early medieval pottery belongs to three traditions: Oxford Early Medieval

Ware (Fabric type AC: 20%), Oxford Medieval Ware (Fabric type Y: 32%) and Abingdon Fabric Type A (Oxford Fabric type AG: 26%). Although the later two of these are long-lasting traditions continuing from the late 11th to early 14th and 15th centuries respectively, it has been possible to date the assemblage from Paradise Street more closely by the vessel and rim forms present.

Oxford Early Medieval Ware is characterised by an abundance of oolitic limestone in the clay fabric. It is commonly found in Oxford from the mid-11th century to late 12th/early 13th century. At Paradise Street cooking pots are the most common form in this ware dating from the late 12th to early 13th century. Context 150 contains an exceptional group of rims dating from the late 11th to early 12th century. These have survived as substantial pieces of pottery which are clearly hand-made and include one vessel which has been decorated on the shoulder with a line of square notches.

Oxford Medieval Ware and Abingdon Fabric Type A are quartz gritted fabrics commonly found between the late 11th and 14th/15th centuries. The cooking pot rims found in contexts 150, 224, 248, 250 and 251 at Paradise Street can be dated by comparison to other local assemblages as late 12th - early 13th century date. Comparative vessels can be found at St Aldates, Oxford (Haldon and Mellor 1977 Fig. 21 No 13, Fig. 20 No 8), The Hamel, Oxford (Mellor 1980 Fig. 10 No 16) and at Broad Street, Abingdon (Haldon and Parrington 1975 Fig. 25 and Fig. 27)

In the late medieval period several sherds from a jug of mid-13th to mid-14th century form are found in Contexts 232 and 208. The progressive dominance of this finely thrown and highly decorated ware (Oxford fabric types AM and AW), made at Brill in the mid 13th to 15th century, should be indicative of the late medieval period at Paradise Street but is noted for its virtual absence from the assemblage. This is a highly-fired quartz tempered fabric which increases in popularity within the pottery market in Oxford throughout the Late medieval period. The absence of this and other common late 14th to 16th-century wares such as Cistercian, Midlands Purple and Surrey Borderwares from the Paradise Street assemblage suggests a lack of activity on the site at this date. In terms of chronology the Paradise Street assemblage appears to end in the mid 14th century.

Other late medieval wares include a small number of sherds in local wares such as the flint tempered Abingdon Type C (Oxford fabric type AQ), shell tempered Seacourt-type (Oxford fabric type BK) and imports to the region such as Surrey White Ware (Oxford Fabric type BG) and Mill Green Ware. These wares date from the late 12th to 15th century.

A small number of Post medieval sherds are found at Paradise Street including 16th- to 17th-century Cologne Stoneware, 17th-century Blackware, 18th-century Glazed Red earthenware and Staffordshire Salt Glazed Stoneware and 19th-century Creamware and Transfer Printed Wares. These sherds are present in the later features of the site but do not signify a continuous

sequence of occupation on the site.

The Paradise Street pottery assemblage has proved to be of particular importance to the knowledge of early medieval pottery from Oxford. The state of preservation is very good, enabling several new and better examples of vessel forms to be added to those previously known and published from Oxford. This type of assemblage is indicative of well-stratified archaeological deposits with good levels of preservation having had little disturbance. This is not a typical urban pottery assemblage characterised by small heavily abraded sherds of pottery which are often disturbed in their stratigraphic archaeological context. I recommend that some consideration be given to the value of this pottery assemblage as a contributor to our knowledge of early medieval Oxford in the 11th, 12th and early 13th centuries.

5.2 Environmental evidence

Contexts with environmental potential came mainly from Trench 2, although the fill of drain 115 in Trench 1 could be of some use in providing evidence of diet. The context of the drain relative to surrounding structures would need to be better understood if this is to be a useful exercise.

In Trench 2, silt layers were examined on site by Dr Mark Robinson and the results have been described above. More detailed analysis of these deposits would clearly have potential, in that it should be possible to more closely define the changing environment of the site, from low-lying marsh with watercourses, to a drier environment. Whether such detailed analysis should be carried out will depend on whether further archaeological excavation on the site is carried out, as a better understanding of the sequence is clearly required if the environmental potential is to be fully realised.

6 Reliability of results

The reliability of the evaluation is generally good and there was no difficulty in recognising significant archaeology. some probelems were encountered with detailed interpretation, notably the two stone structures and related deposits in Trench 2 (see above and Section 7). The stratigraphy in Trench 1 is relatively undisturbed by later activity until the Victorian period. This has produced a well-preserved stratified pottery asemblage which is discussed above (Section 5).

7 Summary and discussion

In Trench 1 a well-stratified sequence begins above the natural gravel at 54.71 m OD, i.e. 2.19 m below current ground level. The top of significant archaeological deposits varied from 55.82 to 56.15 m, i.e. 1.08 to 0.75 m below ground level. The sequence probably begins in the late 11th century, though it could be slightly earlier. A small section of stone wall, 154, from this period could correspond broadly to a phase of 12th -century building noted during archaeological work in 1977 (Fig.1, Trench I). Wall 154 could be possibly interpreted as part of a building on the Paradise St frontage.

The wall was cut about by later rubbish pits before gravel was laid over the top, perhaps to formalise a back yard space.

Loam layers (the latest being 110) above the gravel contained 13th-15th century pottery and this may well be the archaeological evidence of the area being taken over by the Greyfriars in 1310, with the subsequent creation of gardens and orchards. On the (albeit limited) evidence of Trench 1, buildings along the Paradise St frontage did not survive into this period.

In the 15th century or later, a stone structure of which one wall, 136, and a stone drain, 115, were found was built. An area of yard, 149, north of the wall is probably the interior of the building although it is not possible to be certain. From the historical evidence we know that buildings definitely existed by 1537, so again the archaeological and historical evidence are reasonably in accord.

Rubble layers containing 18th- and 19th-century pottery testify to the end of the structure's life. Davis' map of 1797 and the 1st edition OS Map (1878 show a decreasing density of buildings on the site and it is quite possible that the area in which Trench 1 was situated was open ground by the late 18th century.

No evidence was found in Trench 1 of any predecessor to Swan Bridge, as discussed in the desktop study.

The sequence in Trench 2 begins above natural gravel at 53.95 m OD, i.e. 2.65 m below ground level. The top of significant archaeology is at 55.55 m OD, i.e. 1.2 m below ground suface.

A series of silts were forming in moving water, probably by the late 11th century; these deposits clearly have some environmental potential (see Section 5.2). This would seem to back up the suggestion made in the desktop study (OAU September 1993) that some of the site was low-lying and marshy during the early medieval period. The presence of moving water suggests that the Castle Mill Stream was wider and less formalised at this time.

The general impression from the trench is of layers progressively becoming thicker and containing more coarse components, although it is difficult to be precise about dating, as the evidence was generally poor. It can reasonably be

supposed that the land was gradually drying-out as the level was raised, although there is little evidence of deliberate dumping, with the exception of a rubble spread, 220. Two stone structures in the trench cannot be clearly interpreted, and although wall 233 is large enough to be a revetting wall, it is not aligned parallel to the stream as would be expected for such a feature.

Two thick loam layers, 210, 211, were very similar to the loams found in Trench 1 and should represent the same event (see above). This would imply that in the early 14th century, when the Greyfriars took over the site, it was either dry enough, or was made dry enough, to form part of a garden.

The absence of pre-Victorian structures above the garden soil could indicate that Trench 2 was situated in an area clear of buildings, but on the evidence of Loggan's 1675 Map this would seem unlikely. A more probable explanation is that the Victorian buildings removed all trace of earlier structures.

Trench 2 did not provide any evidence of a wharf relating to the castle, as discussed in the desktop study.

Two important points can be made about the pottery recovered during the evaluation (see also Section 5.1). Firstly, a general dearth of 14th- to 16th-century material was noted and as this is the period for which some kind of horticultural use has been proposed for the site, we can suggest that an orchard is more likely than a garden; if the latter were the case, pottery could normally be expected to enter the soil when it was being fertilised with domestic waste. Secondly, some of the early medieval pottery recovered is in good condition, and represents better examples of some wares than have previously been published. This, coupled with the well-stratified sequence of deposits found, particularly in Trench 1, indicates that the archaeology overall is of high quality.

8 Predicted impact of the development

The current development proposal involves a block of flats along the west and south-west sides of the site, with an access road and car-parking accounting for the remainder. The footprint of the proposed building is shown on Figure 1.

Two main points should be made about the archaeology, relative to any development. Firstly, significant archaeological deposits were encountered at depths of between 0.75 and 1.2 m during the current evaluation. The presence of significant deposits closer to the surface than this cannot be ruled out, as the 1977 work (Fig.1, Trenches I and II) showed that pre-19th-century archaeology lay fairly close (c. 0.3 m) to the surface of the site and it is evident that there is considerable variation across the site. Secondly, it can now be reasonably predicted that elements of well-preserved archaeology exist across the whole site and that stone structures, as well as 'soft' archaeology, could be encountered at any point. Beyond this, is is doubtful whether the layout of

medieval and post-medieval structures on the site can be predicted in a way which can usefully be fed into the design process for the new building, although particularly heavy structures (i.e. river walls) are most likely to occur close to the Castle Mill Stream.

A definitive foundation design has not yet been drawn up, but a number of possibilities are being considered (information from annotated copy of Drawing DE05/04):

1 Strip footings

These would vary between 600 and 2000 mm in width, and would be laid to a minimum depth of 1200 mm below ground level. Clearly such footings would impact into the top of the archaeological sequence over at least part of the building footprint.

2 Piling and ground beams

A pilot scheme for this kind of foundation was based on 36 piles measuring 600 mm in diameter. Most of the linking beams would be 600 mm deep and either 450 or 600 mm wide while some would be only 300 mm deep and 300 mm wide. No information on the dimensions of any pile caps was provided. While the ground beams for this type of scheme would have a far lesser impact than strip foundations, all of the piles would need to be driven through the archaeology. Augered piles would lessen the impact on the archaeology directly surrounding them, but considerable damage to archaeology could result if any piles encountered obstructions which had to be broken out.

It should be possible to carry out landscaping of the access road and car-parking areas without any archaeological impact, but any services requiring trenches could cut into archaeological deposits.

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OAU September 1993 *Former Canteen Site, Paradise St, Oxford: archaeological desktop assessment.*

APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT DATA AND FINDS SUMMARY

3S= Number of pottery sherds
L C11= Late eleventh century
E C12= Early twelfth
M C12= Mid twelfth century

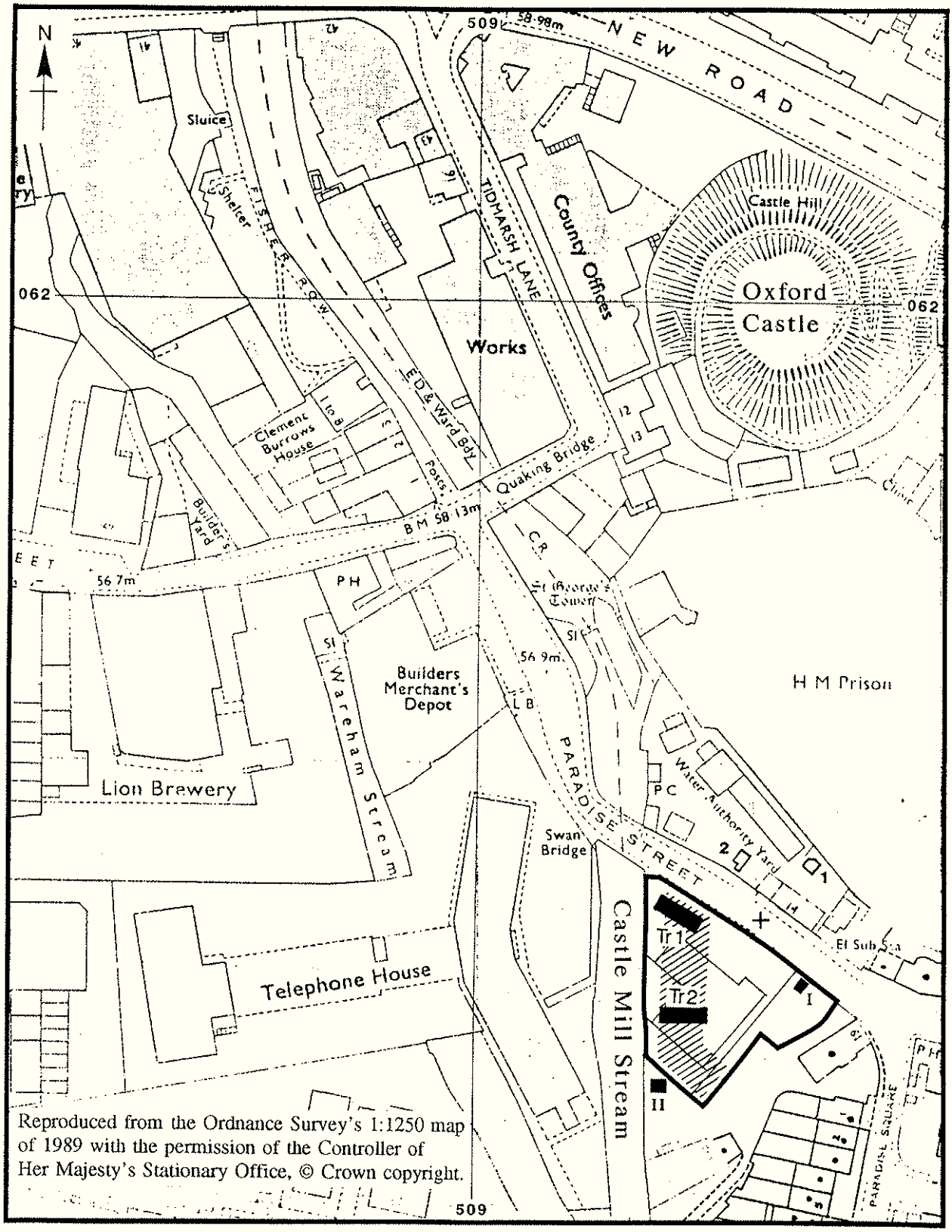
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Comments	Finds data	Date
100	Layer	-	0.20 m	Car park surface.	-	Modern
101	Layer	-	0.07 m	Car park make-up.	-	Modern
102	Wall	0.36 m	0.90 m	Cellar wall.	-	Victorian
103	Layer	-	0.20 m	Make up layer.	-	Post medieval
104	Layer	-	0.10 m	Make up layer.	-	Post medieval
105	Layer	-	0.11 m	Make up layer.	-	Post medieval ?
106	Layer	-	0.08 m	Layer of mortar fragments.	-	Post medieval ?
107	Layer	-	0.70 m	Make up layer.	11S C13-C15	medieval
108	Layer	-	0.24 m	Make up/dump layer.Probably same as 124.	1S L C12-M C13	Early medieval/ Residual
109	Layer	-	0.06 m	Layer of sand.	1S C18-C19	Post medieval/ Victorian
110	Layer	-	0.41 m	Thick clay loam layer, cultivation soil ?	25S L C13-L C15	Late medieval
111	Layer	-	0.08 m	Mortar deposit.	-	Post medieval
112	Cut	5 m	1 m	Construction cut for wall 102.	-	Post medieval/ Victorian
113	Fill	-	0.23 m	Backfill of cellar 102.	-	Victorian/ Post Victorian
114	Fill	0.42 m	0.70 m	Fill of stone built drain 115.	4S M C16-C17	Post Victorian
115	Structure	0.95 m	0.70 m	Stone built drain with sluice and capping.	-	Late medieval
116	Layer	-	0.06 m	Possible gravel surface?	15S E C13-15	Late medieval
117	Cut	-	-	Construction cut for stone drain 115.	-	Late medieval
118	Fill	-	0.44 m	Fill of 117, abutted by stone drain 115.	-	Late medieval
119	Layer	1.0 m	0.02 m	Deposit of sand and limestone/mortar.	-	Late/Post medieval
120	Layer	-	0.27 m	Make up layer.	-	Post medieval

121	Layer	-	0.04 m	Sand.	-	Post medieval
122	Layer	-	0.41 m	Make up deposit.	-	Post medieval
123	Layer	-	0.08 m	Ground make up.	-	Post medieval
124	Layer	1.50 m	0.32 m		1S M C11-L C12	Residual
125	Layer	1.0 m x1.0 m	0.27 m	Possible demolition debris from structure/building 157.	1S C16-17	Post medieval
126	Fill	1.60 m	0.09 m-0.41 m	Fill of robber trench 127.	-	Modern
127	Cut	1.60 m	0.41 m (max)	Robber trench removing part of wall 102.	-	Modern
128	Layer	-	0.21 m	Infill of cellar 102.	-	Victorian
129	Layer	-	0.22 m	Infill of cellar 102.	9S C19	Victorian
130	Layer	-	0.54 m	Infill of cellar 102.	1S C17-C18	Victorian
131	Layer	-	0.07 m	Concreted mortar.Possible floor within 102.	-	Post medieval
132	Layer	0.50 m x0.50 m	0.30 m	Deposit of loam with mortar and limestone fragments.	-	Post medieval
133	Layer	0.50 m x 0.50 m	0.05 m	Mortar floor.	-	Late medieval
134	Layer	1.50 m x 1.0 m	0.20 m	Make up layer for floor 133.	-	Late medieval
135	Fill	1.95 m	1.60 m	Fill of pit 138.	3S C19	Victorian
136	Structure	0.62 m	0.35 m+	Wall, part of structure 157.	-	Late medieval
137	Layer	-	-	Ground surface contemporary with structure 157.	-	Late medieval
138	Cut	1.95 m	1.60 m	Victorian rubbish pit.	-	Victorian
139	Fill	1.72 m	0.21 m	Upper fill of pit 138. Clay pipe in this deposit.	-	Victorian
140	Layer	-	0.03 M	Possibly same as 141.	2S L C11-E C14	Early medieval
141	Layer	-	0.12 m	Cultivation soil, as 110.	-	Early medieval
142	Fill	-	0.40 m	Cess-like fill of pit 143.	1S M C12-L C12	Early medieval
143	Cut	1.20 m	0.40 m	Large cess pit.	-	Early medieval
144	Layer	-	0.11 m	Dirty gravel layer, possible floor.	-	Early medieval
145	Fill	-	0.12 m	Upper fill of pit 151.	1S L C12-E C13	Early medieval
146	Layer/fill	-	0.29 m	Deposit, function unknown.	3S L C12-M C13	Early medieval
147	Fill	-	0.16 m	Pit fill in 151, or deposit over pit fill 148.	7S L C11-L C12	Early medieval
148	Layer/fill	0.30 m	0.04 m	Lens of sand, possibly within pit cut 151.	-	Early medieval

149	Layer	-	0.20 m+	Rubble packing between wall 136 and drain 115.	3S C16-C18	Post medieval
150	Fill	-	0.15 m	Base fill of pit 151.	49S M C11-E C13	Early medieval
151	Cut	2.0 m	0.55 m	Large vertical sided pit.	-	Early medieval
152	Layer	-	0.26 m	Clean sandy gravel.	1S E C13-M C13	medieval
153	Layer	-	0.22 m	Possible fill of cut for wall 154.	1S L C11-E C14	medieval
154	Structure	0.75 m-1.0 m	0.25 m	Foundation wall.	-	Early medieval
155	Layer	-	0.04 m	Capping for drain 115.	-	Late medieval
156	Finds ref.	-	-	Number assigned to animal bone within fill 150.	-	Early medieval
157	Structure	-	-	Group context for structure incorporating drain 115, wall 136 etc.	-	Late medieval
200	Layer	-	0.15 m	Car park surface.	-	Modern
201	Layer	-	0.14 m	Make up for 200.	-	Modern
202	Layer	-	0.30 m	Modern rubbish deposit.	-	Modern
203	Structure	0.44 m	0.70 m	Modern wall foundation.	-	Modern
204	Cut	0.80 m	0.90 m	Construction cut for 203.	-	Modern
205	Layer	-	0.10 m	Sand layer.	-	Modern
206	Layer	-	0.18 m	Cinder.	-	Modern
207	Layer	-	0.10 m	Mortary sand.	-	Modern
208	Layer	-	0.27 m	Soil horizon.	11S M C13-M C14	Late medieval
209	Layer	-	0.09 m	Mortar deposit.	-	medieval
210	Layer	-	0.40 m	Soil horizon.	2S M C11-E C13	Early medieval/ Residual
211	Layer	-	0.34 m	Soil horizon.	34S L C12-E C13	Early medieval
212	Fill	0.85 m	0.50 m	Fill of cut 227.	18S C 13-C15	Late medieval
213	Fill	-	0.70 m	Fill of modern cut, 218.	-	Modern
214	Fill	-	0.60 m	Fill of 218.	-	Modern
215	Fill	-	0.55 m	Fill of 218.	-	Modern
216	Structure	-	0.43 m	Modern concrete raft.	-	Modern
217	Structure	0.21 m	0.10 m	Red brick wall.	-	Modern
218	Cut	2.50 m	2.00 m	Construction cut for wall 217.	-	Modern
219	Layer	2.00 m	0.28 m	Layer of gravel.Same as 221.	-	Late medieval
220	Layer	3.22 m	0.22 m	Limestone rubble.	6S C13-C15	Late medieval

221	Finds ref.	-	-	Cleaning layer.	7S C13-C15	Late medieval
222	Layer	-	0.30 m	Silt deposit.	-	Modern ?
223	Layer	0.40 m	0.06 m	Lens within 208.	-	medieval
224	Layer	0.54 m	0.22 m	Lens within 209.	1S L C11-E C14	medieval/ Late medieval
225	Layer	-	0.30 m	Soil horizon.	-	Late medieval
226	Layer	-	0.23 m	Soil layer.	-	Late medieval
227	Cut	1.20 m	0.70 m	Ditch, possibly for drainage.	-	Late medieval
228	Fill	-	0.22 m	Upper fill of ditch 227.	-	Late medieval
229	Cut	0.80 m	0.70 m	Construction trench for possible wall 231.	-	medieval
230	Layer	-	0.15 m	Layer of soil.	-	medieval
231	Structure	0.75 m	0.50 m	Wall, tentatively thought to align NNW.	-	Late medieval
232	Fill	-	0.42 m	Fill of cut 229.	1S M C13-M C14	medieval
233	Structure	-	-	E-W aligned wall. Finds from within stonework.	2S L C11-E C14	Late medieval?
234	Layer	-	0.32 m	Make up layer for concrete 216.	-	Modern
235	Layer	-	0.30 m	Sandy silt, through which rubblle layer 220 has sunk.	-	Early medieval?
236	Deposit	0.09 m	0.68 m	Wooden stake/post.	-	Late medieval
237	Cut	-	0.30 m	Pit.	-	Early medieval
238	Number deleted	-	-	-	-	-
239	Layer	-	0.20 m	Gravel/limestone rubble.	-	Modern
240	Layer	-	0.22 m	Sandy mortar layer.	-	Modern
241	Layer	-	0.15 m	Modern building disturbance.	-	Modern
242	Layer	-	0.22 m	Soil. Possibly same layer as 210.	-	Late medieval
243	Layer	-	0.10 m	Soil. Bone pin from this deposit.	-	Late medieval
244	Layer	-	0.15 m	Soil, lies against wall 233.	4S C13-C15	Late medieval
245	Layer	-	0.18 m	Soil, abutts wall 233.	-	Late medieval
246	Layer	-	0.22 m	Soil, abutts wall 233.	3S L C11-E C14	medieval
247	Layer	-	0.10 m	Construction debris? from wall 233.	-	Late medieval ?
248	Fill	-	0.20 m	Upper fill of pit 237.	24S L C12-M C13	Early medieval
249	Fill	-	0.08 m	Primary fill of 237.	6S L C12-E C14	Early medieval

250	Layer	-	0.15 m	Dump/infill: part of land reclamation process over former river course.	20S L C13-L C13	Early medieval
251	Layer	-	0.10 m	As 250.	12S L C12-L C13	Early medieval
252	Layer	-	0.04 m	As 250.	-	Early medieval
253	Layer	-	0.12 m	As 250.	-	Early medieval
254	Layer	-	0.06 m	Waterborn/former rivercourse deposit.	-	Early medieval
255	Layer	-	0.07 m	As 254.	-	Early medieval
256	Layer	-	0.10 m	As 254.	-	Early medieval
257	Layer	-	-	Same context as 260.	-	Early medieval
258	Layer	-	0.20 m	Organic water born deposit. Leather shoe from this layer.	2S L C11-E C14	Early medieval
259	Layer	-	0.10 m	Sand in ex-rivercourse.	-	Early medieval
260	Layer	-	0.10 m	Sandy gravel in ex-rivercourse.	-	Early medieval
261	Layer	-	0.15 m	Dark silt,organic matter. Channel deposit.	3S L C11-E C14	Early medieval
262	Layer	-	0.10 m	Dark silt, note the quantity of burnt clay.	-	Early medieval
263	Layer	-	0.18 m	Sandy gravel in channel.	2S E L11 - E14	Early medieval
264	Layer	-	0.34 m	Sandy gravel, possible land reclaimation.	2S L C12	Early medieval
265	Layer	-	0.14 m	Sandy silt, as 264.	-	Early medieval
266	Layer	-	-	Natural gravel.	-	Pre-historic
267	Layer	-	0.20 m	As 264.	-	Early medieval
268	Layer	-	0.20 m	As 250.	-	Early medieval
269	Layer	-	0.16 m	Waterborn silt deposit.	1S L C12-M C13	Early medieval
270	Layer	-	0.24 m	Blue-grey clay over natural,266.	-	?Norman, early river deposit



Scale 1:1250

Site boundary

Proposed flats

Tr2 1993 Archaeological trenches

2 1991 Archaeological trenches

II 1977 Archaeological trenches

\+ 1980 Archaeological observation

figure 1

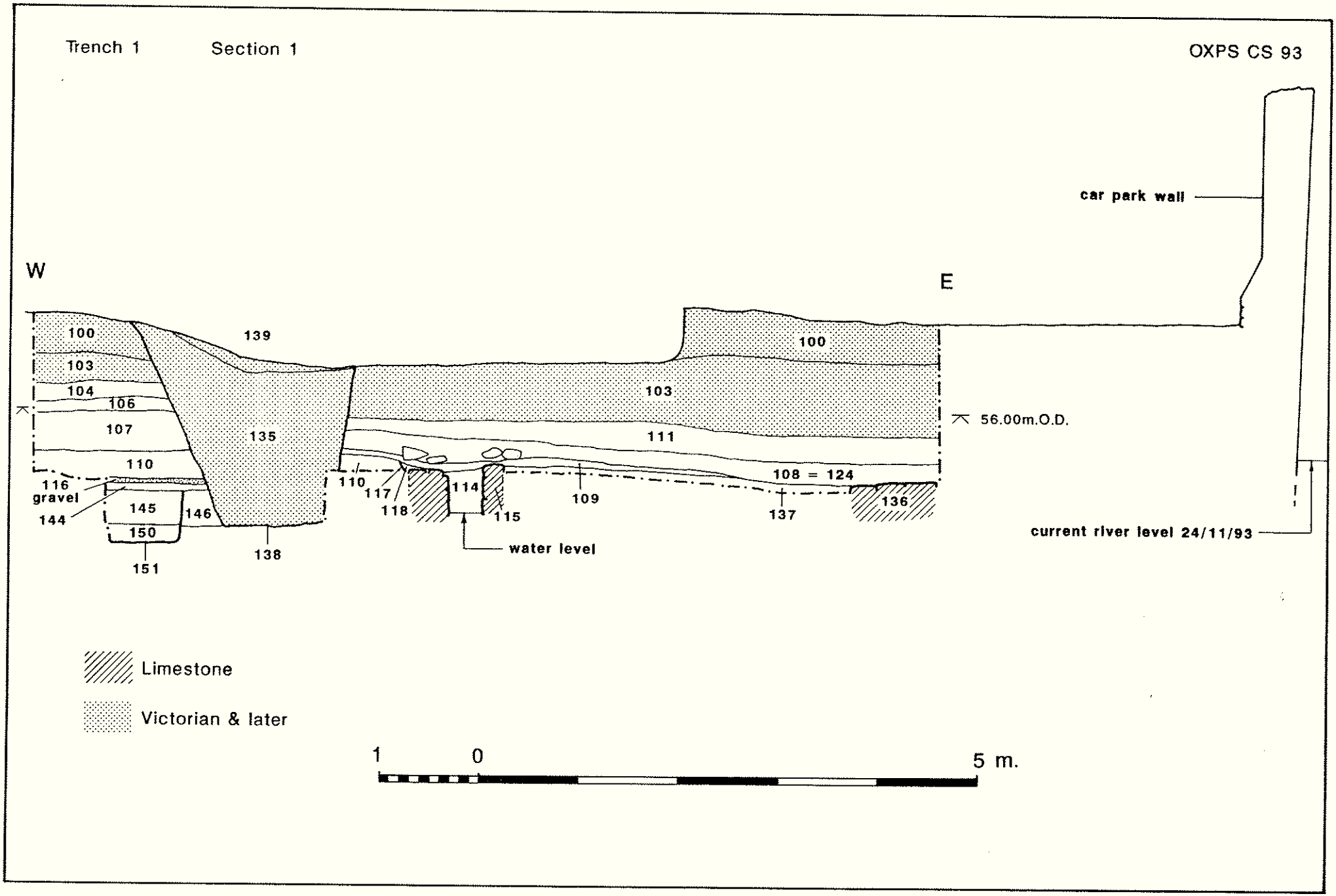

Trench 1
Section 1
OXPS CS 93
car park wall
W
E
100
103
104
106
107
110
116
gravel
144
145
146
150
151
139
135
138
110
117
118
114
115
water level
103
100
111
108 = 124
109
137
136
56.00m.O.D.
current river level 24/11/93
Limestone
Victorian & later
1
0
5 m.

figure 2

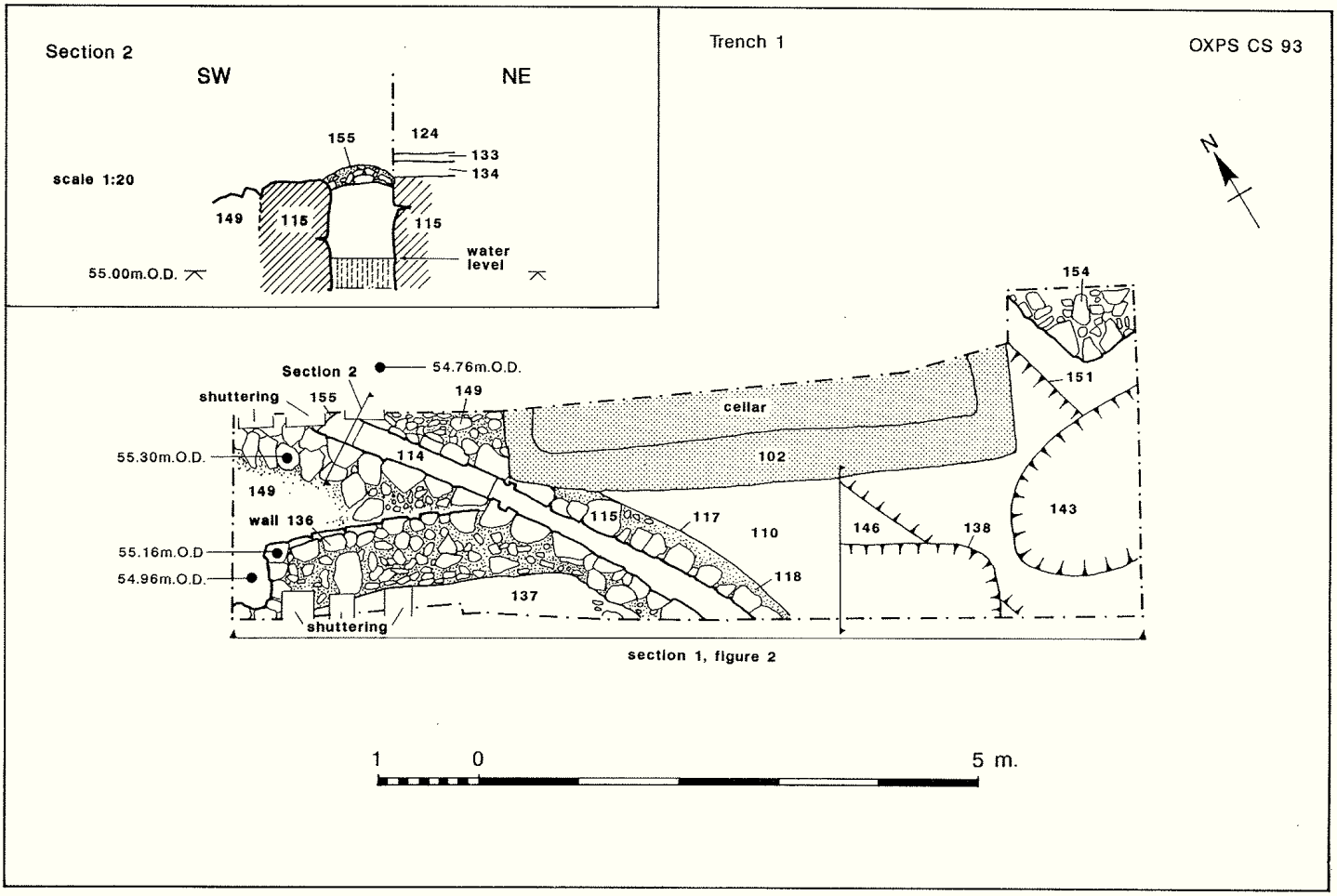

Section 2
SW
NE
scale 1:20
155
124
133
134
149
115
115
water level
55.00m.O.D.
Trench 1
OXPS CS 93
N
154
Section 2
54.76m.O.D.
shuttering
155
149
151
cellar
55.30m.O.D.
114
102
149
wall 136
115
117
110
146
138
143
55.16m.O.D
54.96m.O.D.
118
137
shuttering
section 1, figure 2
1
0
5 m.

figure 3

Trench 2

OXPS CS 93

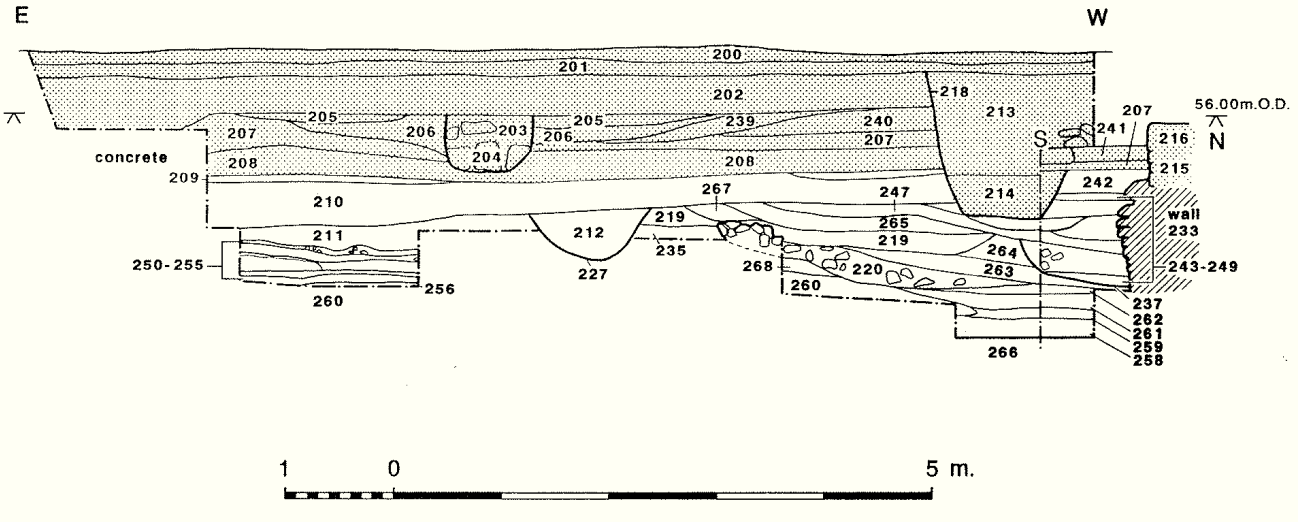


figure 4

Trench 2

OXPS CS 93

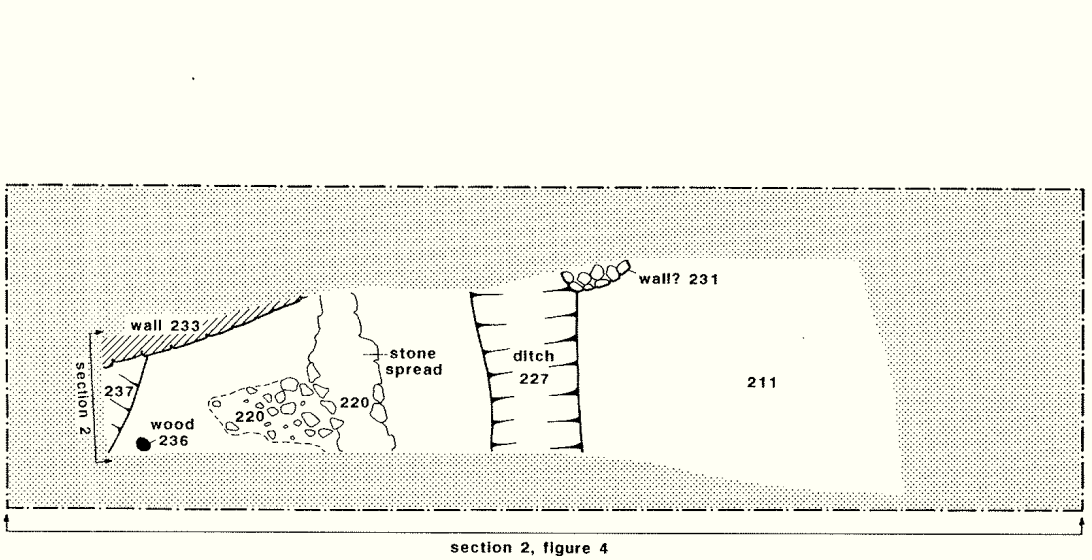


figure 5

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