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Greater Manchester

Archaeological Evaluation



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Prepared by: Chris Healey
Position: Project Officer
Date: November 2007

Checked by: Ian Miller
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: November 2007

Signed.....

Approved by: Alan Lupton
Position: Operations Manager
Date: November 2007

Signed.....

Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1TF
t: (0044) 01524 848666
f: (0044) 01524 848606

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

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Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0EA
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

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SUMMARY

In July 2007, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of a site in Wigan on behalf of Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council (WMBC). The assessment was required to inform a proposed scheme of development of land bounded by Millgate, Rodney Street, Library Street and the Wiend, in the centre of Wigan, Greater Manchester (centred at NGR SD 58356 05569). The desk-based assessment concluded that despite extensive redevelopment of Millgate in recent centuries there remained a high potential for survival of buried remains in parts of the proposed development area.

In order to corroborate this conclusion, and further inform the development proposals, WMBC invited OA North to submit a costed project design to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation. This evaluation was designed to assess the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains, and establish their character, extent, date, and significance. Following the approval and acceptance of the project design, OA North was commissioned by WMBC to undertake the evaluation, which was carried out in August 2007.

The evaluation confirmed the *in-situ* survival of significant archaeological remains of Roman, medieval and post-medieval date, which were identified across the majority of the car park to the north of the Municipal Buildings within the northern part of the study area. The results obtained from the evaluation suggest that there is considerable potential for similar remains to be sealed beneath the remainder of the car park. These are also likely to represent significant archaeological deposits and, as such, they would require a mitigation record in advance of their ultimate destruction. Following consultation with the Greater Manchester County Archaeologist, it is recommended that an archaeological excavation is carried out in advance of any earth-moving works across the northern part of the study area. Elsewhere across the study area, the monitoring of earth-moving works via an archaeological watching brief may represent an appropriate mitigation strategy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) is grateful to Carl Taylor, of Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council, for commissioning the project and for facilitating logistical support throughout the fieldwork. Thanks are also expressed to Norman Redhead, the Greater Manchester County Archaeologist, for his advice and support.

The evaluation trenching was undertaken by Chris Healey, with assistance from Ric Buckle, Steve Clarke and Andrew Bates. The report was compiled by Chris Healey, the finds were examined by Christine Howard-Davis and Andrew Bates, the environmental samples were assessed by Sandra Bonsall and Elizabeth Huckerby, and the illustrations were produced by Marie Rowland. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council (WMBC) is presently devising a proposal to develop a new Joint Service Centre in Wigan town centre. It is envisaged that this facility will provide a range of council services on a single integrated site, together with improved leisure facilities that include a new swimming pool. It is proposed that the new development is focused on an area bounded by Millgate, Rodney Street, Library Street and the Wiend (Fig 1). Whilst design proposals have yet to be finalised, it is anticipated that the scheme may involve some substantial earth-moving works, including the construction of new buildings with deep basements.
- 1.1.2 In the first instance, a desk-based assessment of the proposed scheme area was compiled, which concluded that parts of the site had considerable potential to contain buried remains of archaeological significance (OA North 2007). In particular, it was considered likely that the car park immediately to the north of the Municipal Buildings was likely to contain buried remains dating to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. In order to corroborate this conclusion, and further inform the development proposals, WMBC invited Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to submit a costed project design to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation (*Appendix 1*). Following the acceptance of the project design, OA North was commissioned to carry out the evaluation, which was carried out in August 2007.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation comprised the excavation of seven targeted trial trenches of varying lengths (Fig 2), which were placed across those parts of the study area that were considered likely to contain archaeological remains. The principal aim of the evaluation was to confirm the presence or absence of the archaeological remains across the site, and to provide a good understanding of their potential.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1.1 Wigan lies close to the western boundary of the modern county of Greater Manchester, some 30km to the west of Manchester. The study area comprises some 12,200m² on the eastern side of the town's historic core, and is bounded by Millgate, Rodney Street, Library Street and the Wiend (centred at SD 58356 05569; Fig 1).
- 2.1.2 The historic core of Wigan is situated on a low hill that rises from the valley of the river Douglas, which takes a broad loop around the eastern and southern sides of the town. Millgate lies on the eastern fringe of the historic core, and rises fairly steeply from a height of 35m aOD at its south-eastern end, by its junction with Rodney Street, to a high point in excess of 50m aOD near its junction with the Wiend. Beyond the Wiend, Millgate falls to a height of 45.5m aOD at its north-western end. The land to the east of Millgate drops sharply, although the construction of a shopping arcade, a multi-storey car park and Civic Centre on the corner of Millgate and Station Road has altered its true form (GMAU 1987).
- 2.1.3 The geology of the Wigan area forms part of the Lancashire Coal Measures, which extend from the Mersey Valley in the south to the Amounderness Plain in the north-west (Countryside Commission 1998, 172). The solid geology comprises productive coal measures, with Bunter sandstone and marls to the south (Ordnance Survey 1951). The overlying drift geology consists of glacial and post-glacial tills, with fluvial deposits of gravel along the course of the river Douglas (Countryside Commission 1998, 128).

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.2.1 Although it is not the intention to wholly reproduce the historical and archaeological background documented in earlier reports (OA North 2005a; OA North 2006), a brief summary of the history and archaeology is prudent to place the results obtained from the evaluation trenches into their historical context.
- 2.2.2 **Prehistoric Period:** there is very little evidence of prehistoric activity in the Wigan area. A Neolithic polished stone axe was found at Gidlow (Jackson 1936, 74), and a Bronze Age axe hammer was discovered near Bottling Wood to the north-east (UMAU 2001, 7), although no prehistoric artefacts have been discovered in the centre of Wigan.
- 2.2.3 **Roman Period:** Wigan has long been associated with the Roman settlement of *Coccium*. Numerous Roman finds were discovered in the nineteenth century along Wallgate, King Street and Darlington Street, with a concentration around Library Street and Millgate (Hawkes 1935, 43). A cemetery was

identified during the construction of gasworks to the south of the town during the mid-nineteenth century (Watkin 1883, 20).

- 2.2.4 Excavations during the 1980s immediately to the south of the Wiend, and within the boundary of the present study area, also yielded physical remains of Roman activity in Wigan (Tindall 1983). These investigations revealed the remains of what has been interpreted as a Roman military industrial site, comprising a series of timber buildings, furnaces and hearths associated with a metalled road. Whilst the results of the excavations added weight to the hypothesis that Wigan was indeed the site of *Coccium*, the nature, function and longevity of Roman settlement remained uncertain. It was considered likely that further Roman remains had existed near the summit of the hill in the town centre, but that these deposits had probably been largely destroyed by Georgian and Victorian cellars (*op cit*, 29-30).
- 2.2.5 More recently, archaeological excavation carried out as part of the Grand Arcade Shopping Development revealed the remains of a substantial, stone-built bath house, which appears to have been constructed during the early second century (OA North 2006). The bath house was situated within the southern part of the Grand Arcade development area, and a short distance to the south of the Wiend. Other Roman remains encountered during the Phase 1 evaluation of the Grad Arcade site included a series of ditches, seemingly of military origin, which may have derived from the initial Roman occupation of the area during the late first century.
- 2.2.6 **Medieval Period:** Wigan is not named in the Domesday survey, but is thought to be the 'church of the manor' of Newton (Powell 1998, 6). Nevertheless, much of the surrounding area was probably of little importance (Hall *et al* 1995, 122). Wigan began to prosper during the thirteenth century, in part due to the granting of a market charter and three-day fair in 1245 (Hannavy 1990, 20). The town attained Royal Borough status a year later, and gradually grew in size and prosperity.
- 2.2.7 Industrial development took place at a relatively early date in the town, and included the production of textiles, coal extraction, and metal working (Powell 1998, 8). Felt working was also developing around this time, and by the eighteenth century had progressed from small cottage industries to full-scale industrial production. The textile industry was dominated, however, by the production of woollen cloth, and Wigan supported three fulling mills by the mid-fourteenth century. The industry experienced some decline during the mid-fifteenth century, with a corresponding decrease in the use of burgage plots. The current street plan, nevertheless, generally follows the medieval pattern.
- 2.2.8 Excavations during the later twentieth and twenty-first centuries have revealed physical remains of medieval Wigan. These include cultivation soils, a timber-lined well or cistern, postholes and pottery dating to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Remains of two burgage plots were excavated by Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit in 2001, and recent work by OA North has revealed further remains within the Grand Arcade Shopping Development. The earliest recorded activity was represented by pits dating to the twelfth and

thirteenth centuries, although no actual structural remains were observed (OA North 2005a). Several features of medieval date were excavated in the former Ship Yard, seemingly associated with the occupation of burgage plots to the rear of Millgate from the twelfth to fourteenth centuries. Evidence for ribbon development along Standishgate during this period has been identified in an archaeological investigation at 120-130a Standishgate (OA North 2005b)

- 2.2.9 **Post-medieval Period:** in broad terms, the period from the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries was one of increased growth and prosperity for Wigan. By 1538 John Leland was able to describe the settlement as ‘a paved town as big as Warrington, but better builded...’. The town probably increased in size by almost a third during the sixteenth century, attaining a population of approximately 4000 by 1600 (Hannavy 1990, 46), and by the 1630s Wigan had become one of the largest towns in Lancashire. As a result of this population increase, new buildings appear to have been constructed in the central part of the town, infilling many of the medieval burgage tails.
- 2.2.10 The growth of Wigan in the eighteenth century was largely due to the expansion of the coal, iron and textile industries, especially wool, linen, calicos and checks. In 1627 Wigan became an important centre of pewter production, while other metal industries also developed, including brass working. Although coal mining had been open cast and small scale in the medieval period, by the sixteenth century the majority of coal pits were sub-surface. A possible pit has been referenced to Millgate in 1619. By the eighteenth century the Wigan coal fields were recognised as amongst the most important in Lancashire. The coal industry expanded through the nineteenth century, with 140 mines recorded by 1874 (Ashmore 1982). The construction of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal in 1774 opened many more markets, including trade with Ireland (Clarke 1994, 43). Cotton was to become the dominant textile industry by the late-eighteenth century, and with the introduction of steam-powered mills in the nineteenth century the industry accounted for over half the employment in the town.
- 2.2.11 Developments in transport links included the opening of a canal branch to Manchester and the construction of the railways. This further stimulated the various industries in Wigan. The erection of Central Station to the east of Millgate in 1892 facilitated a large amount of landscaping, including the infilling of the original course of the River Douglas.
- 2.2.12 The population increased at an accelerated rate in the nineteenth century, with the majority of people crammed into tight courts and small terraces, resulting in poor public sanitation. In response to this, the provision of waterworks, gasworks and public bathing was expanded. During the twentieth century the traditional industries began to decline, and were replaced partially by engineering and food processing. Towards the end of the century extensive remodelling of the road network took place, including the construction of the ring road that partially follows the former course of the River Douglas (OA North 2006).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 EVALUATION TRENCHING

- 3.1.1 The uppermost levels of each trench were excavated by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The same machine was then used to define carefully the extent of any surviving walls, foundations and other remains, after which all excavations were undertaken manually. All deposits were levelled and related to the Ordnance Datum and Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.2 All information was recorded stratigraphically with accompanying documentation (plans, sections and both colour slide and black and white print photographs, both of individual contexts and overall site shots from standard view points). Photography was undertaken with 35mm cameras on archivable black-and-white print film as well as colour transparency, all frames including a visible, graduated metric scale. Digital photography was extensively used throughout the course of the fieldwork for presentation purposes. Photographic records were also maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

3.2 FINDS

- 3.2.1 All finds were exposed, lifted, cleaned and bagged in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC 1998). All identified finds and artefacts were retained from all material classes; these were hand collected from stratified deposits for processing and assessment.

3.3 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

- 3.3.1 Four environmental bulk samples were taken from deposits of secure provenance for the assessment of charred and waterlogged plant remains. The four samples (Table 1) were processed in their entirety.

Sample number	Context	Provisional date	Feature type	Sample volume (litres)
1	124	Late medieval	Cess-pit or well	10
2	809	Roman	Pit 810	10
3	512	Roman	Furnace 511	4
4	522	Roman	Deposit	4

Table 1: Sample information

- 3.3.2 The samples were hand-floated with the resultant flots collected on a 250 micron mesh and air dried. A representative sample from each flot was scanned with a Leica MZ60 stereo microscope and the plant material was recorded and provisionally identified. Plant remains were scored on a scale of abundance of 1-4, where 1 is rare (up to 5 items) and 4 is abundant (>100 items). The components of the matrix were also noted. The data are shown on Table 3. Botanical nomenclature follows Stace (2001).

3.4 ARCHIVE

- 3.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The archive will be deposited Wigan Museum Services (Accession No WIGMS C07.002), and a copy of the report will be sent to the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record Office in Manchester, and a summary sent to the National Monuments Record (NMR).

4 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

4.1 FIELDWORK

- 4.1.1 The project design (*Appendix 1*) allowed for the excavation of ten targeted trenches, with a combined total length of 103m. Logistical constraints on site, however, including the presence of numerous modern services, resulted in the excavation of only seven trenches. Nevertheless, the evaluation has provided a clear understanding of the archaeological character of the area.
- 4.1.2 The natural geology varied considerably across the study area, and within individual trenches; for the most part it comprised a loose yellow-orange sand punctuated by pockets of reddish-brown boulder clay. These natural deposits were encountered at a minimum depth of 0.15m below the existing ground surface in the northern part of the study area.
- 4.1.3 **Trench 1:** this north-east/south-west-aligned trench was placed along the north-western boundary of the study area (Fig 3), and was excavated to a length of 20m and to a maximum depth of 1.20m. A fragment of Roman pottery was recovered from the trench, although this was almost certainly residual within a later deposit; the earliest features excavated were of medieval origin. The natural geology (*129*) comprised yellow-orange sand with discrete pockets of boulder clay, and was exposed at depths of 0.15m and 0.49m below the modern ground surface at the western and eastern ends of the trench respectively.
- 4.1.4 The natural geology was cut by several features, including a north-west/south-east--aligned linear feature (*109*), which was exposed towards the eastern end of the trench. The excavation of a section across this feature resolved it to be the northern terminus of a steep-sided ditch, measuring 0.71m wide and 0.48m deep (Plate 1; Fig 4). The sides of the ditch were regular, terminating in a concave base. A single stakehole (*111*) was cut into the southern edge of the ditch. The ditch and stakehole were filled with a dark brown friable clayey-silt (*110*), which yielded six fragments of late medieval pottery, with a fourteenth- to sixteenth-century date range. It is tempting to interpret ditch *109* as a burgrave boundary associated with a medieval property that fronted onto the Wiend.



Looking east along Trench 1

- 4.1.5 A large pit (**122**) was revealed immediately to the east of ditch **109**, cutting into natural geology **129** (Fig 4). The pit measured approximately 2.50m across, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m (Plate 2). The lowest of the excavated fills (**124**) comprised a >0.60m thick deposit of clayey-sandy-silt containing discrete dumps of stone. This deposit was subject to sample excavation, which yielded 11 fragments of pottery. These comprised at least one sherd of Roman date, and a range of fabric types dating between the twelfth and sixteenth centuries, suggesting the pit to be of medieval origin. A considerable quantity of charcoal, with small fragments of coal and clinker, were identified in palaeo-environmental samples taken from fill **124** (4.3.1 below). Fill **124** was sealed by a lens of clay (**130**), which was overlain by the uppermost of the excavated deposits (**123**). This comprised a 0.38m thick deposit of mid-orangey-brown clayey-sandy-silt, containing buff-coloured sandy lenses, and frequent inclusions of angular sandstone fragments. Excavation of this deposit produced 40 fragments of pottery, which all dated to the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries.
- 4.1.6 Another large sub-circular pit (**114**) cut into the natural geology was exposed towards the western end of the trench (Fig 4). The pit had a wide, U-shaped profile and a concave base, with a maximum depth of 0.45m (Plate 3). The fill (**115**) of the pit comprised a mid-greyish brown silty-sand with infrequent stone inclusions.
- 4.1.7 A group of three small pits was revealed in the central part of the trench (Fig 4). The earliest of these stratigraphically was feature **118**, which had been cut by the other two pits. The base of pit **118** appeared to be concave and roughly circular in plan. It was filled with a clayey-silty-sand (**119**), which contained lumps of sand and infrequent inclusions of coal and brick fragments. Feature **120** comprised an irregular sub-circular pit, measuring approximately 1.80m in diameter. This pit was filled with a coal-rich clayey-silty-sand (**121**), which had been cut by wall **112** (4.1.9 below). Feature **116** likewise comprised an irregular sub-circular pit, measuring approximately 1m north/south by 0.90m east/west (Plate 4). Pit **116** was filled by a coal-rich clayey-sand deposit (**117**), which yielded six fragments of late medieval and post-medieval pottery. The southern part of the pit was truncated by wall **112**.
- 4.1.8 A north-west/south-east-aligned wall (**103**), composed of hand-made bricks and measuring 0.30m wide, was exposed at the western end of the trench; the wall continued beyond the edges of the trench in both directions (Fig 4). The wall had seemingly been founded on top of the natural geology, at a depth of some 1.1m below the modern ground surface (Plate 5). The foundation trench for the wall contained numerous fragments of pottery, including medieval and post-medieval sherds, although none were necessarily later than the eighteenth century. The position of the wall **103** corresponded to the rear wall of a small property shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3) and Mather's plan of 1827. It seems likely the wall formed the exterior part of a cellar that was situated immediately to the west. A concrete and stone structure (**128**) observed immediately to the east of wall **103** probably represented a later drainage feature.

- 4.1.9 The vestiges of another wall (**112**), aligned north-east/south-west, were exposed across the approximate centre of the trench (Fig 3). This wall comprised hand-made bricks, which were bonded with a lime- and sand-based mortar, consistent with an eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century construction date. The position of the wall **112** corresponded to the partition between two properties fronting onto Moore's Yard shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3) and Mather's plan of 1827.
- 4.1.10 The remains of a post-medieval building on the opposite side of Moore's Yard was represented by north-west/south-east-aligned wall **113**, which was revealed at a distance of some 3m to the east of wall **112** (Fig 4). Wall **113** similarly comprised hand-made bricks, and extended beyond the trenches in both directions.
- 4.1.11 A large feature (**108**) was partially exposed in a sondage excavated immediately to the west of wall **113**. The fill (**107**) contained a large group of pottery and other artefacts, to which an eighteenth- to twentieth-century date range may be ascribed. Feature **108** was sealed by a poorly constructed surface (**106**), which comprised bricks loosely laid against one another. The position of surface **106** corresponded to the entrance to Moore's Yard from the Wiend (Fig 3). The surface may have previously extended further west, but had been truncated by a modern service trench (Fig 4).
- 4.1.12 A modern levelling deposit (**101**) formed the uppermost excavated deposit along the entire trench. This had been cut by a north/south-aligned electric service trench, and two smaller service trenches that traversed the eastern end of the trench.
- 4.1.13 **Trench 2:** was aligned north-east/south-west, and was placed perpendicular to the boundary wall along the north-western corner of the study area (Fig 2). The trench measured approximately 5m by 2m (Fig 5), and was excavated by machine to the level of the natural geology, which was encountered at a maximum depth of 1.70m. This comprised a reddish-brown boulder clay (**203**), which was exposed at the base of the trench at a height of 49.44m aOD.



North-facing section of Trench 2

- 4.1.14 Archaeological remains within this trench comprised a 2.8m long section of an north-east/south-west-aligned brick wall (**202**), which was exposed along the southern section of the trench (Fig 4). The wall comprised hand-made bricks

set in a lime-based mortar, and survived to a maximum height of 1.60m. It had been constructed onto a substantial brick and sandstone footing, which perhaps represented an earlier structure. The position of this wall corresponded to the position of a partition between two properties that fronted onto Moore's Yard, shown on Mather's plan of 1827 and the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3). The area to the north of this wall had been backfilled with building materials (201), including mortar, blue-painted plaster render, and brick and slate fragments, all of which were indicative of demolition. There was no evidence for any floor surfaces, and the front wall of the building had been removed entirely.

- 4.1.15 **Trench 3:** was aligned broadly north/south, and placed a short distance to the south of Trench 1 (Fig 2). Whilst it had been intended to excavate the trench to a length of 15m, the presence of live services at the southern end of the trench resulted in its final measurements of 13m by 2m (Fig 6). The trench was characterised by post-medieval remains, including a floor and associated structures.

The natural geology exposed at the base of the trench comprised yellowish brown clayey-sand (320).

- 4.1.16 A sub-square pit (318) was exposed cutting through the natural geology in the approximate centre of the trench (Fig 6). The fill (317) of this feature produced three fragments of probable nineteenth-century pottery. Fill 317 was overlain by a 0.37m thick layer of mid-orangey-brown sand (315), which yielded a small group of pottery of an eighteenth- or nineteenth-century date.



View along Trench 3, facing south

- 4.1.17 Cobbled surfaces (303, 304, 305 and 312), which incorporated sandstone blocks (302, 313 and 321), occupied much of the trench base. These surfaces largely comprised squared granite setts in a matrix of dark greyish-brown sand (Fig 6). The surfaces were laid on a 0.01m thick deposit of mid-orange sand

(319). An alignment of three column bases (301) was revealed as part of the cobbled surface. A square cut (314) amongst the cobbled surface represents the removal of a fourth base.

4.1.18 A brick wall (306) was visible at a depth of 0.30m below the modern ground surface, protruding from the western edge of the trench. Although this structure was stratigraphically above cobbled surface 305 it may have been part of the same construction phase. The bricks were laid in English Garden Wall bond, with four rows of stretchers to one row of headers. A second brick wall (307) was aligned parallel to wall 306.

4.1.19 A 1m thick deposit of mixed overburden/levelling material (300/309) sealed the structures across the entire trench. Demolition activity was also evident in the form of deposits 310 and 311, which comprised discrete dumps of brick and sand respectively.

4.1.20 **Trench 4:** the project design proposed to place Trench 4 immediately to the west of the Wiend Children's Library. However, restricted access and other logistical constraints precluded the excavation of this trench.

4.1.21 **Trench 5:** measured approximately 17m by 2m, and was aligned roughly east/west across the southern end of the car park to the north of the Municipal Buildings (Fig 2). The position of this trench was designed in part to establish the precise location of the 1980s excavation trenches, which had encountered deeply stratified archaeological remains (Tindall 1983). The stratigraphy exposed in Trench 5 comprised probable Roman deposits, and external surfaces and walls cut into a thick layer of post-medieval date. It was possible to closely delineate the limits of both former archaeological trenches; the backfill of Wiend Site 3 was clearly discernible as deposit 502, and that of Site 1/4 was similarly visible as 503. A sondage was excavated mechanically through backfilled material 503 in order to ascertain the depth below the existing ground surface of the surviving natural geology (525), which was encountered at 49.40m aOD.



View looking south-east along Trench 5

- 4.1.22 Deposit **525** comprised a reddish- to orangey-brown sandy-clay. Towards the eastern end of the trench the natural geology was observed at 49.76m aOD, perhaps indicative of the ancient break of slope away from modern Millgate. Two discrete areas of material undisturbed by the 1980s excavations were encountered, in the approximate centre (Plate 6) and eastern end of the trench (Plate 7).
- 4.1.23 A layer of redeposited natural material (**522**), comprising a friable mid-greyish-brown clayey-sand, was observed across the base of the centre of the trench (Fig 7). This layer contained charcoal inclusions measuring up to 10mm, and whilst no artefacts were recovered, its stratigraphic position indicated that it was probably of Roman origin. Layer **522** was clearly of archaeological significance, and was therefore left *in-situ* and was not excavated.
- 4.1.24 A north/south-aligned linear feature (**515**) was observed cut into the natural sand (**525**) at the eastern end of the trench (Fig 7). The feature was well-defined, with vertical sides and a very slightly concave base, although the northern end was truncated by wall **506**. The fill (**516**) comprised a firm dark brown clayey-sand with inclusions of charcoal, small fragments (<5mm) of ceramic building material, and small lumps of clay. Two fragmentary and unidentifiable iron objects were also recovered.
- 4.1.25 A group of three stakeholes (**519**) situated in the central part of the trench (Plate 8) was also cut into the natural geology (**525**), and seemingly represented an early phase of activity on the site. No artefacts were recovered from the features, although they appear to have formed a right angle, implying that they had formed the corner of a boundary feature or insubstantial wooden structure.
- 4.1.26 A sub-circular feature (**511**), measuring approximately 0.37m by 0.22m, was exposed at the north-western end of the trench, at a depth of 1.15m below the modern ground surface. The feature comprised an oval cut with burnt clay sides, indicative of it having been associated with high-temperature processes (Fig 7). The form of this feature closely resembled Roman hearths discovered during archaeological excavations at the Wiend (Tindall 1983), and in advance of the Grand Arcade development (OA North 2006). Fill **512** comprised a dark-greyish-brown slightly clayey-sand, with inclusions of small sub-angular stones (<2% and measuring up to 20mm) and charcoal fragments (<5% and up to 10mm). It was sealed below cultivation soil **510**.



Hearth 511 exposed in the section of Trench 5

- 4.1.27 A section of a probable pit (**518**) was observed against the southern section of the trench (Fig 7), comprising a shallow (0.04m deep) oval-shaped feature, truncated to the west by later stone wall footings (**514**). The fill (**517**) of this pit comprised a firm, mid-brown clayey-sand which produced a charred human vertebra and a fragment of another, unidentified, charred bone (*see Section 4.2.8 below*). Although no dating evidence was retrieved from the fill material within this feature, it is considered likely on stratigraphic grounds that this was of a Roman date.
- 4.1.28 Part of another probable pit (**521**) was exposed against the southern section of the trench, cutting the natural sand (**525**). The pit similarly appeared to be ovoid in plan (Fig 7), with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The fill (**520**) comprised a dark brown sandy-clay, which yielded a fragment of seventeenth-century pottery.
- 4.1.29 A 0.60m thick layer of dark greyish-brown clayey-silty-sand (**510**) was lying over layer **522** in the centre of the trench. Ceramic fragments, an iron object, and a clay tobacco pipe stem were recovered from this deposit, which seemed to represent a cultivation layer or garden soil. A similar layer of dark greyish-brown material (**524**) was encountered across much of the eastern end of the trench, and it is considered probable that this represented the same material. No artefacts were recovered from deposit **524**, although it had been cut by a stone wall footing (**514**).
- 4.1.30 Stone wall footing **514** was exposed in the eastern part of the trench, occupying an approximate north/south alignment (Fig 7). This wall measured 0.90m across and extended southwards beyond the limit of excavation. Wall footing **514** cut through the fill (**517**) of probable pit **518**, and was itself truncated at its northern end by later brick wall **506**. The position of the stone footing corresponded to the partition between back-to-back properties shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3), although it is possible that it represented an earlier structure.
- 4.1.31 Another wall (**505**) crossed the trench on an approximate north/south alignment (Fig 7). This corresponded to the position of a boundary wall depicted on Mather's map of 1827, to the east of Moore's Yard. Another later north/south-aligned wall (**504**), also abutting **510**, was exposed across the centre of the trench (Fig 7). This wall measured 0.55m across, and survived to a height of 0.65m. It comprised hand-made bricks bonded with a lime- and sand-based mortar.
- 4.1.32 An east/west-aligned wall (**506**) was exposed in the eastern part of the trench, (Fig 7). The structure measured 3.30m long and 0.35m wide, surviving to a maximum height of 0.55m, and comprised both hand-made bricks and masonry. The position of the wall corresponded broadly to back-to-back properties shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3).
- 4.1.33 An irregular layer of rectangular granite setts (**508**), abutting wall **504** on its western side, was exposed approximately 0.50m below the existing tarmac surface. A second, more regular, layer of stone setts (**501**) was observed between 0.15m and 0.20m above **508**. The majority of the surface, however,

had clearly been re-laid as part of backfill deposit **502** subsequent to the 1980s excavations, albeit without the original bitumen bonding material.

4.1.34 **Trench 6:** the project design proposed to place Trench 6 in the western bay at the northern end of the Municipal Buildings. Close inspection of the modern ground surface, however, concluded that all archaeological remains in this part of the site had been obliterated by twentieth-century development, namely the excavation of a deep basement. The trench was thus not excavated.

4.1.35 **Trench 7:** measured 13m by 2m, and was aligned approximately north/south in the central bay at the northern end of the Municipal Buildings (Fig 2). The archaeological remains exposed in the trench included brick walls and external floors of a probable eighteenth- or nineteenth-century date, situated above a layer of soil (**706**), which was at least 0.60m thick. This probably corresponded to the thick accumulation of medieval/early post-medieval plough soil identified during previous excavations (Jones and Price 1985, 29). Layer **706** was exposed at the southern end of the trench, and was subject to sample excavation, although the natural geology was not exposed.



Looking south-east along Trench 7

4.1.36 A north-east/south-west-aligned brick wall (**708**) was exposed at the northern end of the trench. The position of this wall corresponded to the position of a boundary wall shown on Mather's plan of 1827. Another brick wall (**702**), aligned north-west/south-east across the trench, was built on redeposited material **706** (Fig 8). The surviving wall footings were 0.36m wide, and comprised hand-made bricks bonded with ash-rich lime mortar. The position of this wall corresponded to a building shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3), but absent from Mather's plan of 1827.

4.1.37 A brick surface (**705**) forming an approximate square was exposed in the southern part of the trench. It probably represented a surface internal to buildings shown on Mather's plan of 1827 and the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3). Another surface (**701**) encountered at the southern end of the trench comprised granite setts, which appeared to be contemporary with a cobbled surface that was exposed along the eastern edge of the trench (Fig 8). An area of rounded granite cobbles and bricks formed a crude surface (**707**) along the

northern end of the trench. It seems likely that these formed the floor of a yard or other external area associated with the nineteenth-century buildings. The entire area of the trench was sealed by a modern concrete-flagged path above a garden-type soil (**700**). Layer **700** contained a large group of pottery, the bulk of which dated to the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries, although a fragment of Roman pottery was also recovered.

- 4.1.38 **Trench 8:** the trench was aligned approximately north/south, and measured 13m by 1.8m (Fig 2). Archaeological remains at the northern end of the trench had been truncated by modern service trenches, whilst the construction of a nineteenth-century cellar had destroyed any earlier remains in the southern part of the trench. Nevertheless, a single feature (**810**) of a probable Roman date was revealed at a depth of 0.4m below the modern ground surface in the southern part of the trench (Fig 9). The natural geology (**813**) was encountered at a height of 50.17m aOD, a depth of only 0.4m below the modern ground surface in the central part of the trench. Layer **813** comprised slightly sandy yellowish-brown clay.
- 4.1.39 The remains of a curvilinear feature (**810**), exposed in the southern part of the trench (Plate 10), was cut into natural geology **813** (Fig 9). A large part of the feature had been removed by a nineteenth-century structure (4.1.41 below), although surviving elements permitted some characterisation. It seemingly represented part of a U-shaped ditch, surviving to a maximum depth of 0.7m, which appeared to curve southwards towards the southern end of the trench. The ditch was filled with an homogeneous mid-greyish-brown sandy clay (**809**), which yielded a sherd of Roman Greyware pottery.
- 4.1.40 Ditch **810** was also cut by two sections of a brick wall (**811** and **812**), which were aligned north/south across the central part of the trench (Fig 9). These represented a single wall that had been divided by a later drain cut (**807**). The wall measured over 2m long and 0.72m wide, and survived to a height of at least 0.55m. The position of this wall corresponded broadly to a small building shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map to the rear of a property fronting onto Smith's Yard (Fig 3). The remains of this property were exposed in the southern end of the trench, and comprised a north/south-aligned wall (**803**) and an east/west-aligned return (**804**) constructed of hand-made bricks bonded with a sand- and lime-based mortar. These formed part of a cellar, with **804** representing the rear wall of the building, and **803** a partition with the adjacent property.
- 4.1.41 A brick pier (**816**) extended from the face of northern elevation **804**, and whilst it abutted wall **804**, it was probably of a contemporary construction. The cellar was backfilled with a loose, dark grey mixture of coarse sand and clayey-silt (**801**), which was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.80m; the eastern and northern wall elevations (**803** and **804**) and the brick pier **816** were seen to extend below this depth, although the floor of the cellar was not exposed due to safety considerations.
- 4.1.42 A layer of overburden (**800**) measuring up to 0.75m thick, including the tarmac surface and the levelling deposits beneath, sealed the entire trench. A

modern drainage feature (807) also crossed the trench on a roughly north/south alignment (Fig 8).

- 4.1.43 **Trench 9:** this trench measured approximately 2m by 1.7m, and was aligned parallel to College Avenue (Figs 2). No archaeological features or deposits of significance were encountered. Natural geology (902) was encountered at a depth of between 0.60m and 0.70m below the modern ground surface (900). The geological deposits comprised a light reddish-brown boulder clay with building material pressed into the top of it; the natural geology was sealed by modern overburden material (901).



Trench 9, facing west

- 4.1.44 The uppermost layer (900) comprised a grassed topsoil layer, measuring 0.22m thick. This sealed a 0.39m thick layer of very mixed material (901) containing inclusions of mortar, redeposited clay, bricks, plaster and fragments of metal objects and coal. This layer evidently represented very recent activity, probably representing twentieth-century landscaping associated with the construction of the swimming pool, and the modern metal objects, bricks and other building material were not retained.
- 4.1.45 **Trench 10:** the project design proposed to place Trench 10 in the grassed area adjacent to Trench 9. However, this was precluded by the proximity of trees to the trench, so a decision was taken to increase the size of Trench 9 to compensate.

4.2 FINDS

4.2.1 In all, 434 fragments of artefact or ecofact were recovered in the course of the evaluation, coming from six of the seven trenches excavated, a total of 24 contexts. A summary finds catalogue is presented in *Appendix 3*. The majority of the finds were medium-sized to small fragments of pottery vessels, ranging in date from the Romano-British period to the late nineteenth century. Finds were distributed between contexts as follows:

Context	Ceramic	Clay Tobacco Pipe	Ceramic Building Material	Metalwork	Other	Bone	Total
Trench 1							
103	26	4	13	2	6		51
105		1		8	1		10
107	43	2			3	2	50
108	25				2		27
110	6		3				9
117	6					1	7
123	40			1	1		42
124	11						11
Trench 2							
201	9	2	6				17
Trench 3							
300	6			10			16
315	4		4	1			9
317	3						3
Trench 5							
505	3						3
506	2	1					3
507	46	4	4		3		57
509	3		1				4
510	16	1	3		3		23
516				2			2
517					2	2	4
520	1						1
522	1						1
Trench 7							
700	50	4		2	3	2	61
Trench 8							
800	10						10
809	4		9				13
Total	315	19	43	26	24	7	434

Table 2: Summary of artefactual assemblage

- 4.2.2 **Pottery:** many of the fragments were badly abraded, perhaps having been disturbed on a number of occasions. There was a significant amount of Romano-British pottery, coming from Trenches 1, 5 and 8 (three, seven and four fragments respectively), although most fragments were from contexts which also produced later material. Little of this material is sufficiently diagnostic to produce a precise date, but it is likely that the fragment of Central Gaulish samian ware from drain **509** in Trench 5 is of a mid- to late second-century date. Greywares from, for example, Trench 5 (layer **522**), are likely to have a broader, second- to third-century date range, and cannot be dated with any further precision. Very small and abraded fragments of a relatively fine, reduced hand-made fabric were recovered from ditch fill **809** in Trench 8. The same context also produced a fragment of a Greyware jar, and it is most likely that the two fabrics are broadly contemporary, the former reflecting a localised 'native' tradition continuing alongside more obviously Romano-British forms, rather than providing evidence of an Iron Age presence.
- 4.2.3 A group of medieval fabrics was also present within the assemblage, spanning a period from the twelfth/thirteenth century to the sixteenth century and concentrated in Trenches 1, 5, and 8. In Trench 1, material from wall **103** and pit **122** (fill **124**) included cooking vessels in the Northern Grittyware tradition, and can be dated to the later twelfth to mid-fourteenth century. In Trench 8, two fragments in a buff, gritty fabric were recovered from overburden **800**. Other Trench 1 contexts (**110**, **117**, **123**) produced fully reduced green-glazed vessels, which can only be given a broad date-range from the mid-fourteenth to the sixteenth century. A single green-glazed whiteware fragment from fill **124** probably dates to the later part of the medieval period, possibly the mid-sixteenth century. The material from Trench 5 (wall foundation **506** and pit fill **520**) cannot be dated with precision, although is probably largely sixteenth-seventeenth century, being hard-fired fine blackwares in the Cistercian ware tradition. Earlier material was also present in wall foundation **506**.
- 4.2.4 The remainder of the pottery assemblage falls within a range from the late seventeenth to the twentieth century. The earliest fabrics represented are hard-fired early blackwares, possibly dating as early as the later seventeenth century, although in the absence of diagnostic sherds this cannot be confirmed. There are several fragments of early yellow-wares, white salt-glazed stonewares, and mottled wares. These latter two are characteristic of the eighteenth century, although both come into production in the last quarter of the seventeenth century. The remainder of the material represents a restricted range of black-glazed kitchenwares, white earthenware tablewares, some of which are transfer-printed, and late grey stonewares. These date to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- 4.2.5 **Clay tobacco pipe:** in all, 19 fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered, of which only three were from bowls. The earliest bowl fragment dated to the later seventeenth century (from pit **104**, fill **105**), another to the early eighteenth century (from wall footing **506**), and a late nineteenth century-example was recovered from topsoil **700**.

- 4.2.6 **Glass:** the overwhelming majority of the eight fragments of glass recovered were late in date. A single early fragment, presumably residual, was recovered from post-medieval garden soil **510**, representing a small fragment of a Roman-British mould-blown storage bottle. Such vessels were produced from the first to the early third century AD. Fragments of late eighteenth-century wine bottle came from wall **103**, pit **107** (fill **108**), and topsoil **700**. The remainder of the glass represented late nineteenth and early twentieth century machine-blown bottles.
- 4.2.7 **Metalwork:** this was confined to three fragments of copper alloy and 25 fragments of ironwork. A single fragment of industrial residue, probably an iron slag, was also recovered. The three copper alloy fragments, none of which represented identifiable objects, were recovered from post-medieval contexts (**103**, **105**, **315**). The ironwork included nails, small blade fragments (identified from their distinctive triangular cross section), fragments of strip which might have come from barrel hoops, and structural fittings, most of which were recovered from late levelling deposit **300**.
- 4.2.8 **Leather:** small fragments of a (probably) late nineteenth-century leather shoe were recovered from wall **103**, but were too small for the style to be determined.
- 4.2.9 **Stone:** of the seven fragments of stone recovered, only one represented a recognisable object, a whetstone from pit **104** (fill **105**). The remainder of the stone objects included three fragments of cannel coal, occasionally used as a substitute for jet. None of these objects show any signs of working.
- 4.2.10 **Ceramic building material:** although 43 fragments of ceramic building material were recovered, few were of sufficient size to give any indication as to their age or purpose. None could be securely identified as Romano-British in origin, and the hand-made brick undoubtedly derives from post-medieval structures occupying the study area.
- 4.2.11 **Bone:** the entire bone assemblage comprised six fragments from secure (**107**, **117** and **517**) and unsecure contexts (**700**). The material from topsoil **700** represented a fragment of a bovine tibia and a segment from the rib of a medium mammal, probably a sheep or pig. Part of an atlas vertebra from a cow or red deer was recovered from post-medieval ditch **108** (fill **107**). A fragment of a cow humerus was recovered from post-medieval pit **116** (fill **117**). This material all would appear to represent refuse associated with domestic activity. Two fragments of charred bone were recovered from possible Roman pit **518** (fill **517**), whilst one could not be securely identified, the other represented a human vertebra, either thoracic or lumbar.

4.3 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

- 4.3.1 The results of the environmental assessment are shown in Table 3. The four samples all contained considerable quantities of charcoal and coal fragments and clinker was also identified in the fill (**124**) of a late medieval pit in Trench 1, and the fill (**809**) of a probable Roman ditch in Trench 8. The charcoal, which derived from both long- and short-lived trees, appeared to have been subjected to very high temperatures.
- 4.3.2 Other charred remains within the samples were extremely rare, but a few were recorded in the fill (**809**) of Roman ditch **810**, and layer **522**. A single undifferentiated cereal grain was tentatively identified in fill **809**, together with a seed of fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*). A sedge (*Carex*) nutlet and a fragment of charred rush (*Juncus*) stem were also recorded in layer **522**.
- 4.3.3 There is some evidence of metal working in the fill (context **809**) of the Roman pit **810**, where magnetic metal spheres were noted.

Sample number	Context number	Flot volume (ml)	Flot description	Plant remains
1	124	360	Coal 4, clinker 4, AMP 4, sand	WPR <i>Juncus</i> seeds ± modern
2	809	300	Charcoal 2, coal 4, clinker 4, AMP 4, sand, brick/tile, magnetic metal spheres, modern stems and insects,	CPR cf Cerealia 1, <i>Chenopodium album</i> 1
3	512	200	Charcoal 4 (ring and diffuse porous, coal 3, sand, modern seeds	
4	522	100	Charcoal 4 (ring and diffuse porous, coal 2, sand	CPR <i>Carex</i> nutlet 1, <i>Juncus</i> stem 1

Table 3: Assessment of charred and waterlogged plant remains

Plants scored on a scale of 1-4, where 1 is rare (up to 5 items) and 4 is abundant (>100 items).

CPR = charred plant remains, WPR = waterlogged plant remains; AMP = amorphous plant remains

- 4.3.4 There is an extremely small assemblage of charred plant remains (except for charcoal fragments) in the four samples from this evaluation, although there is still some potential for the possible preservation of plant remains in other areas of the site. It is not possible to say whether the coal and clinker present in the samples was contemporary with the features, or was derived from more recent industrial activity.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 Although extensive and well-preserved Roman and medieval remains of considerable archaeological significance were excavated recently at two locations in the Grand Arcade Shopping Development site (OA North 2006), large-scale industrial and domestic construction during the Georgian, Victorian and later periods have disturbed much of the ground in the Millgate area of central Wigan. This is represented by thick deposits of demolition material and make-up ground revealed during the present evaluation in Trenches 2 (**201**), 7 (**706**), 8 (**801**) and 9 (**901**). Nineteenth- and twentieth-century disturbance in the present study area is associated primarily with the construction of the swimming baths, the Town Hall, and the Municipal Buildings, which led to a reduction of the ground level by as much as 4m to the immediate south of Trenches 6-8, and the resultant obliteration of the sub-surface archaeological resource. The excavation of modern trenches for drainage and electric services has similarly had a negative impact on any significant buried remains, and archaeological excavations carried out in the 1980s systematically removed all archaeological deposits in the northern part of the study area. Nevertheless, archaeological features cut deeply into the natural geology demonstrably survive *in-situ*, proving some important evidence for the nature of Roman and medieval activity. Moreover, small islands of undisturbed archaeological stratigraphy also survive across the site, offering some potential to inform a better understanding of the post-medieval development of the area, and its transition from the medieval period.
- 5.1.2 Several features of a Roman date were recorded in Trenches 5 and 8, and artefactual material was recovered from Trenches 1, 5 and 8. The discovery of a probable hearth in Trench 5 (**511**) adds weight to the industrial character of the Roman activity observed during the 1980s excavations, whilst the limited ceramic assemblage testifies to the military aspect of the Roman settlement. The function of the apparent ditch (**810**) exposed in Trench 8 cannot be interpreted with confidence, although it was reminiscent of plot boundary features identified on Roman sites elsewhere in the North West, such as Walton-le-Dale (Gibbons *et al* forthcoming) and Lancaster (Howard-Davis *et al* forthcoming), which have been associated with a military-style planned layout. Tentative evidence for insubstantial timber structures of a Roman date was provided by features **515** and **519** in Trench 5, with pit **518** and layer **522** representing associated activity.
- 5.1.3 The identification of Roman features confirms that deep archaeological stratigraphy survives *in-situ* across parts of the site, and the likelihood of similar archaeological deposits in the vicinity of Trenches 5 and 8 remains high. Given the relative heights of the probable Roman hearth **511** in Trench 5 and the natural geology in the adjacent Wiend trenches (Sites 1/4), it is possible that approximately 0.50m of relatively intact stratified Roman deposits will be encountered in this area.

- 5.1.4 The evaluation has also demonstrated that some features of medieval date also survive *in-situ*, represented in Trench 1 by a shallow ditch (**109**), possibly representing a burgage plot boundary, and a large pit (**122**). Both of these features survived beneath the floor level of buildings shown on nineteenth-century mapping (Fig 3), in a part of the site where it was thought likely that archaeological remains had been largely truncated by post-medieval development. This part of the site, moreover, contained physical evidence for early post-medieval activity, represented by pits **118**, **120** and **116**, which clearly pre-dated the structures shown on nineteenth-century mapping. This period was represented elsewhere in Trench 5 by pit **521**, which survived *in-situ* beneath buildings shown on the 1848 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3), and layer **706** in Trench 7. It is also likely that layer **706** seals *in-situ* medieval and/or Roman remains, as it appeared to be largely undisturbed.
- 5.1.5 The later post-medieval period was represented by brick walls (**103**, **106**, **112**, **113** and **202**) in Trench 1 and 2 at the northern end of the study area, and by a brick pier (**816**) and further brick walls (**504**, **505**, **506**, **702**, **707**, **803**, **804**, **805**, **811** and **812**) in Trenches 5, 7 and 8 at the southern end of the car park area. Although most of the brick walls can be roughly equated with parts of the buildings illustrated on the Ordnance Survey maps in these areas, it appears as though some of the stone wall footings may reflect arrangements from the eighteenth century or earlier. Cobbled floors (**303**, **304**, **305** and **312**) and the associated structures (**301** and **302**) recorded in Trench 3 appear to correspond to the position of an L-shaped building shown on Mather's plan of 1827 and the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1848 along the eastern side of Moore's Yard. Additional brick walls (**306** and **307**) and the alteration of some stanchion bases (**301**) appear to reflect the evolution of this building in the earlier nineteenth century.
- 5.1.6 The survival of natural deposits at a relatively shallow depth between the swimming pool and College Avenue in the southern part of the study area indicates that the levels of truncation in this area is not as great as may have been anticipated. The survival of deeply cut archaeological features in this area is thus considered likely, despite the absence of any such features within Trench 9.

6 SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

6.1 SIGNIFICANCE

- 6.1.1 Notwithstanding the considerable level of disturbance to below-ground remains caused by the construction of modern service trenches, nineteenth- and twentieth-century buildings, and previous archaeological excavations, the evaluation has provided evidence for significant archaeological remains surviving *in-situ* in the northern part of the study area. These remains represent several phases of archaeological activity, pertaining to the Roman, medieval, and post-medieval periods.
- 6.1.2 Evidence for Roman activity produced towards the southern end of the car park area has the potential to provide important information on the character of the Roman settlement at Wigan. Any such remains may be considered to be of regional archaeological significance, particularly in the light of the recent Roman discoveries on the opposite side of Millgate (OA North 2006).
- 6.1.3 Archaeological remains from the medieval period have the potential to inform a better understanding of the development and use of burgrave plots in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and their transition into the post-medieval period. A well-stratified sequence of deposits representing continuous occupation from the sixteenth century onwards offers a rare opportunity to archaeologically investigate such a sequence. The pottery assemblage recovered from the evaluation trenches is also of significance, as it has a potential to inform the development of the region's ceramic traditions during the medieval and post-medieval periods; the potential to identify the transition from medieval to post-medieval ceramics is of particular significance, as this has rarely been identified in the North West (Newman 2006, 137).

6.2 IMPACT

- 6.2.1 Development of this area will almost certainly have a negative direct impact on buried remains that survive within parts of the study area, involving their damage or destruction as a result of ground-reduction works or the excavation of service trenches. In particular, any earth-moving works within the area of Trenches 1, 3, 5 and 8 will certainly result in the loss of significant archaeological deposits. Similarly, any disturbance to depth within the vicinity of Trench 9 is also likely to have negative direct impact on the sub-surface archaeological resource.
- 6.2.2 Development will have a lesser impact in the areas along the western boundary of the study area and along the southern boundary of the extant car park. Evaluation has demonstrated that ground levels in these areas have been built up subsequent to extensive truncation as a result of nineteenth-century construction activity. It is considered that any archaeological remains in these areas will have been largely removed during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1 The archaeological desk-based assessment concluded that the northern part of the study area had considerable potential to contain *in-situ* remains of archaeological significance, and whilst twentieth-century development has almost certainly destroyed any buried remains across most of the other parts of the site, it was nevertheless considered plausible that these areas offered some potential for isolated pockets of surviving archaeological deposits (OA North 2007). These conclusions have been largely confirmed by the archaeological evaluation, which has provided an indication of the depth, nature, character, and significance of the sub-surface archaeological resource (Fig 10).
- 7.1.2 Whilst the buried archaeological remains across the site are not considered to be of national importance, which would merit preservation *in-situ*, their damage or destruction during the course of the proposed development would require an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated. The extent of the mitigation strategy would be finalised once detailed design proposals are known, although it is anticipated that a scheme of further intrusive archaeological investigation will be required.
- 7.1.3 Following consultation with the Greater Manchester County Archaeologist, it is recommended that any earth-moving works in the area of the car park to the north of the Municipal Buildings is preceded by a programme of controlled archaeological excavation, as this part of the study area clearly contains significant archaeological remains. Whilst these buried remains lie at a shallow depth in the northern part of the car park, deeply stratified deposits survive to the south. Significantly, these remains represent a full stratigraphic sequence, albeit fragmented by nineteenth- and twentieth-century development, and incorporate Roman, medieval and early post-medieval deposits.
- 7.1.4 The evaluation has also demonstrated that the natural geology lies at a depth of 0.6 – 0.7m below the modern ground surface immediately to the north of the swimming baths. Whilst the overlying material is of twentieth-century origin, and of little archaeological interest, any proposal for earth-moving works in this area should allow for an examination of the surface of the natural geology, and the detailed archaeological recording of any significant deeply-cut features. Similarly, whilst the ground beneath Hewlett Street and College Avenue has not been subject to intrusive investigation, it is considered likely that these elements of the study area may contain *in-situ* remains of archaeological significance. Any such remains would require archaeological investigation if the development proposals require earth-moving works in these areas.
- 7.1.5 Elsewhere across the study area, the monitoring of earth-moving works via an archaeological watching brief may represent an appropriate mitigation strategy. In particular, this may be targeted at providing an archaeological

record of any surviving remains within the vertical sections immediately beyond the footprint of the swimming baths.

- 7.1.6 Whilst lying beyond the scope of the programme of intrusive archaeological excavation, it is also recommended that some consideration is afforded to the incorporation of information panels in the final design proposals. These panels should commemorate the archaeological heritage of the area, and particularly the Roman remains that are known to have existed on the site.

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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

**Oxford
Archaeology**

July 2007

North

**JOINT SERVICE CENTRE,
WIGAN,
GREATER MANCHESTER**



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION PROJECT DESIGN

Proposals

The following project design is offered in response to a request from Mr C Taylor, of the Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council, for an archaeological investigation in advance of the proposed development of a Joint Service Centre in Wigan.

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council (WMBC) is presently devising a proposal to develop a new Joint Service Centre in Wigan town centre. It is envisaged that this facility will provide a range of council services on a single integrated site, together with improved leisure facilities that include a new swimming pool. It is proposed that the new scheme is developed within an area bounded by Millgate, Rodney Street, Library Street and the Wiend, which lie on the eastern fringe of the town's medieval core, and occupies part of the Wigan Town Centre Conservation Area. Significant buried archaeological remains have been discovered within the boundary of the Scheme Area, and also in the immediate vicinity, including along the eastern side of Millgate. In particular, Roman remains of regional importance were discovered during archaeological excavations within the northern part of the Scheme Area in the 1980s.
- 1.1.2 In order to secure archaeological interests, the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester recommended that an archaeological desk-based assessment of the Scheme Area was carried out to support and inform the planning process. The principle aim of the assessment was to identify, as far as possible, the nature and significance of the sub-surface archaeological resource within the Scheme Area, and to establish the impact of the proposed development upon this resource. In accordance with the recommendation, WMBC commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment in May 2007.
- 1.1.3 The desk-based assessment concluded that the northern part of the Scheme Area, which is currently used for car parking, has considerable potential to contain important archaeological remains pertaining to the Roman, medieval, and post-medieval periods (OA North 2007). It was considered that this part of the Scheme Area will require a programme of intrusive investigation, most probably in the form of trial trenching in the first instance, which will be designed to establish the presence or absence, extent, and character of buried archaeological remains.
- 1.1.4 This project design is for the programme of archaeological evaluation of the proposed Scheme Area, and has been formulated to meet the requirements of the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester. It should, however, be noted that this work represents an initial stage of investigation, and the discovery of buried remains of archaeological significance may require a further programme of excavation.

1.2 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA), which is an educational charity under the guidance of a board of trustees, has over 30 years of experience in professional archaeology, and can provide a professional and cost-effective service. We are the largest employer of archaeologists in the country (we currently have more than 200 members of staff), and can thus deploy considerable resources with extensive experience to deal with any archaeological obligations you or your clients may have. We have offices in Lancaster and Oxford, trading as Oxford Archaeology North (OA North), and Oxford Archaeology (OA) respectively, enabling us to provide a truly nationwide service. OA is an Institute of Field Archaeologists Registered Organisation (No 17). All work on the project will be undertaken in accordance with relevant professional standards, including:

- IFA's *Code of Conduct*, (1999); *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, (1999); *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*, (1999); *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, (1999).
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, 1991.
- *The European Association of Archaeologists Principles of Conduct for Archaeologists Involved in Contract Archaeological Work* (1998).

1.2.2 OA North has considerable experience of the evaluation and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large-scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 23 years. Watching briefs, evaluations and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables.

1.2.3 Amongst the numerous projects that OA North have completed within Greater Manchester in recent years, those of particular relevance to the Joint Service Centre Scheme include the large programme of archaeological evaluation in advance of the Grand Arcade Shopping Development on Millgate in Wigan, and the subsequent detailed excavations, an evaluation on Standishgate, and an evaluation of Trencherfield Mill on Pottery Road.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 ACADEMIC AIMS

2.1.1 The main research aim of the evaluation, given the commercial nature of the development, will be to assess the presence or absence of the archaeological remains across the site, and to provide a good understanding of their potential.

2.2 OBJECTIVES

2.2.1 The principal objectives of the project may be summarised:

- to establish the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains within the Scheme Area, and establish their extent, depth, function, chronology and relative significance;
- to inform a mitigation strategy for a final stage of more detailed archaeological excavation of significant remains that will be destroyed by development.

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 The following work programme is submitted in line with the aims and objectives summarised above. The programme of evaluation trenching will establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and, if established, will then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation. It is proposed that a total of ten evaluation trenches will be excavated across the Scheme Area, with a combined total length of 103m (Fig 1). An additional 10m of trenching will be used at the discretion of the site supervisor to maximum information from the investigation. Trenches will be dug by machine using a toothless ditching bucket, followed by hand cleaning and recording, with selective excavation to determine depth and character of features and deposits. All arisings from the excavation of the trenches will be stockpiled temporarily adjacent to the trenches, and will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological works.

- Trench 1 will be placed in the north-western part of the Scheme Area, and will be excavated for a length of 15m. The trench is intended to establish the presence or absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 2 will be placed some 5m to the south of Trench 1, and will be excavated for a length of 6m. The trench is intended to establish the presence or absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 3 will be excavated for a length of 15m. The trench is intended to establish the presence or absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 4 will be placed to the rear of the Wiend Children's Library, and will be excavated for a distance of 10m. The trench is intended to establish the presence or absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 5 will be excavated for a length of 20m. The trench is intended to establish the presence or absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-

medieval remains. It is also intended to establish the precise location of the archaeological trenches excavated during the 1980s.

- Trench 6 will be placed at the western end of the Municipal Buildings, and will be excavated for a distance of 10m. The trench is intended to establish the presence of absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 7 will be placed between the western and central wings of the Municipal Buildings, and will measure 10m in length. The trench is intended to establish the presence of absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 8 will be placed between the central and eastern wings of the Municipal Buildings, and will be excavated for a distance of 10m. The trench is intended to establish the presence of absence of Roman, medieval, and/or post-medieval remains.
- Trench 9 will be placed in the small grassed area on the southern side of College Avenue, immediately to the north of the swimming pool, and will measure 2m².
- Trench 10 will be placed a short distance to the east of Trench 9, and will be excavated for a distance of 5m.

3.2 FIELDWORK

- 3.2.1 The uppermost surface and overburden deposits will be subject to sample excavation, involving the careful excavation by machine of spits. These will be mechanically excavated down to the depth of significant archaeological deposits, and will be carried out in such a manner as to avoid or minimise damage to the archaeological remains; the work will be supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist. This deposit will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. Thereafter all excavation will proceed by hand in a stratigraphic manner. Should the trenches be excavated to depths in excess of 1.20m, they will be stepped in or battered back to accommodate health and safety constraints.
- 3.2.2 Any investigation of intact archaeological deposits will attempt not to destroy their integrity, and will be exclusively manual. Selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal. It is hoped that in terms of the vertical stratigraphy, maximum information retrieval will be achieved through the examination of sections of cut features. All excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features, which appear worthy of preservation *in-situ*.
- 3.2.3 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by the Centre for

Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.

- 3.2.4 Results of the evaluation will be recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.
- 3.2.5 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts will be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the evaluation will be generated. Photography will be undertaken using 35mm cameras on archivable black and white print film as well as colour transparency, and all frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Extensive use of digital photography will also be undertaken throughout the course of the fieldwork for presentation purposes. Photographs records will be maintained on special photographic *pro-forma* sheets.
- 3.2.6 The precise location of the evaluation trenches, and the position of all archaeological structures encountered, will be surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process will generate scaled plans within AutoCAD software, which will then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings will be generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. All information will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.
- 3.2.7 Human remains are not expected to be present, but if they are found they will, if possible, be left *in-situ* covered and protected. If removal is necessary, then the relevant Home Office permission will be sought, and the removal of such remains will be carried out with due care and sensitivity as required by the *Burials Act 1857*.
- 3.2.8 Any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996.
- 3.2.9 ***Finds policy:*** finds recovery and sampling programmes will be in accordance with best practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. OA has close contact with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the University of Durham and, in addition, employs in-house artefact and palaeoecology specialists, with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation, and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation will follow professional guidelines (UKIC). Emergency access to conservation facilities is maintained by OA North with the Department of Archaeology, the University of Durham. Samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as

appropriate. OA North employs palaeoecology and soil micromorphology specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and analysis of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

3.3 OTHER MATTERS

3.3.1 Access to the site will be arranged via the Client/main contractor.

3.3.2 The Client/main contractor will be responsible for the reinstatement of modern surfacing that will be removed as part of the evaluation trenching.

3.4 HEALTH AND SAFETY

3.4.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Safety Policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (3rd Edition, 1997). OA North will liaise with the client/main contractor to ensure all health and safety regulations are met. A risk assessment will be completed in advance of any on-site works.

3.5.2 OA North has professional indemnity to a value of £2,000,000, employer's liability cover to a value of £10,000,000 and public liability to a value of £15,000,000. Written details of insurance cover can be provided if required.

3.5.3 Normal OA North working hours are between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday, though adjustments to hours may be made to maximise daylight working time in winter and to meet travel requirements. It is not normal practice for OA North staff to be asked to work weekends or bank holidays and should the client require such time to be worked during the course of a project a contract variation to cover additional costs will be necessary.

3.5 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT PRODUCTION

3.5.1 **Archive:** the results of the fieldwork will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.

3.5.2 The paper and finds archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site will be deposited with the nearest museum which meets Museums' and Galleries' Commission criteria for the long term storage of archaeological material (MGC 1992). This archive can be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on computer

disks as ASCII files (as appropriate). The archive will be deposited with the nominated museum within six months of the completion of the fieldwork.

- 3.5.3 Except for items subject to the Treasure Act, all artefacts found during the course of the project will be donated to the receiving museum.
- 3.5.4 A synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and a copy of the publication report) will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record. A copy of the index to the archive will also be available for deposition in the National Archaeological Record in London.
- 3.5.5 **Report:** two copies of a bound and collated final report will be submitted to the Client within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Further copies will be sent to the Assistant County Archaeologist, Wigan Museum Services, and the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record. The final report will include a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design. It will include an historical and archaeological background to the study area, an outline methodology of the investigation, and present, summarise, assess, and interpret the results of the programme of archaeological works detailed above. In addition, recommendations for any further mitigation works and details of the final deposition of the project archive will also be made.
- 3.5.4 **Confidentiality:** the final report is designed as a document for the specific use of the client, and should be treated as such; it is not suitable for publication as an academic report, or otherwise, without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

4 WORK TIMETABLE

- 4.1 OA North could commence the programme of archaeological works within two weeks of receipt of written notification from the Client.
- 4.2 The evaluation trenches are expected to take approximately 10 days on site to complete.
- 4.3 A report will be submitted within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

5 STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The project will be under the overall charge of **Ian Miller BA FSA** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 5.2 The evaluation is likely to be undertaken by **Chris Healey BA** (OA North Project Officer). Chris has considerable experience of archaeological evaluations, having carried out numerous projects throughout the region. In particular, Chris played a key role in the evaluation and subsequent excavations undertaken in advance of the Grand Arcade Shopping Development on Millgate, and also directed a recent programme of archaeological evaluation on Standishgate.
- 5.3 The processing and analysis of any palaeoenvironmental samples will be carried out by **Elizabeth Huckerby BA, MSc** (OA North Project Officer), who has extensive experience of the palaeoecology of the North West, having been one of the principal palaeoenvironmentalists in the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey.
- 5.4 Assessment of any finds from the excavation will be undertaken by OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA, MIFA** (OA North Finds Manager). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England.

6. MONITORING

- 6.1 Monitoring of the project will be undertaken by the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist.
- 6.2 Access to the site for monitoring purposes will be afforded to the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist at all times.

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY CONTEXT LIST

Trench 1

Context	Description
<i>100</i>	Tarmac
<i>101</i>	Mixed levelling deposit below <i>100</i>
<i>102</i>	Clean-up layer
<i>103</i>	Brick wall aligned north/south
<i>104</i>	Foundation cut for brick wall <i>103</i>
<i>105</i>	Fill of <i>104</i>
<i>106</i>	Brick surface
<i>107</i>	Fill of feature <i>108</i>
<i>108</i>	Linear or pit beneath <i>106</i>
<i>109</i>	Linear ditch at eastern end of trench
<i>110</i>	Fill of <i>109</i>
<i>111</i>	Stakehole in side of <i>109</i>
<i>112</i>	Brick wall footing aligned east/west
<i>113</i>	Brick wall aligned north/south
<i>114</i>	Shallow sub-circular pit cut
<i>115</i>	Fill of <i>114</i>
<i>116</i>	Sub-circular pit
<i>117</i>	Fill of <i>116</i>
<i>118</i>	Sub-circular pit
<i>119</i>	Fill of <i>118</i>
<i>120</i>	Sub-circular pit
<i>121</i>	Fill of <i>120</i>
<i>122</i>	Large sub-circular pit or well cut
<i>123</i>	Upper fill of <i>122</i>
<i>124</i>	Lower fill of <i>123</i>
<i>125</i>	Fill of <i>126</i>
<i>126</i>	Shallow sub-circular pit
<i>127</i>	Stone setts and kerbstones
<i>128</i>	Concrete and stone wall footing or drain
<i>129</i>	Brick wall footing aligned east/west
<i>130</i>	Clay lens overlying pit fill <i>124</i>

Trench 2

Context	Description
<i>200</i>	Clean-up layer
<i>201</i>	Cellar backfill
<i>202</i>	Brick wall and stone footings on east/west alignment
<i>203</i>	Natural boulder clay

Trench 3

Context	Description
<i>300</i>	Modern overburden
<i>301</i>	Alignment of column bases
<i>302</i>	Sandstone structure
<i>303</i>	Cobbled surface
<i>304</i>	Cobbled surface
<i>305</i>	Cobbled surface
<i>306</i>	Brick wall on north/south alignment
<i>307</i>	Brick wall on north/south alignment
<i>308</i>	Soil layer beneath cobbled surface <i>303</i>

309	= 301
310	Demolition deposit
311	Dark brown fine sand - disturbance associated with later services
312	Cobbled surfaces
313	Sandstone blocks in overburden
314	Cut where concrete column base has been removed
315	Post-medieval layer cut by 314
316	Concrete at base of 314
317	Mixed backfill deposit filling 318
318	Nineteenth-century rubbish pit
319	Mid-orange sand = levelling layer for 303
320	Natural sandy geology
321	Sandstone structure (butted against by 303)

Trench 5

Context	Description
500	Tarmac
501	Floor surface comprising granite setts
502	Backfill of 1982-3 Trench 3
503	Backfill of 1982-3 Trench 1/4
504	Brick wall aligned approximately north/south
505	Brick wall aligned approximately north/south
506	Brick wall aligned approximately east/west
507	Make-up layer below 500 at western end of trench
508	Floor surface comprising granite setts
509	Drain on north/south alignment at eastern end of trench
510	Agricultural/garden soil cut by 505
511	Roman hearth cut below 510
512	Mid orangey-brown fill of 511
513	= 522
514	Stone wall footing on north/south alignment, cut by 506
515	Linear feature aligned north/south
516	Dark brown clayey-sand, fill of 515
517	Mid brown sandy-clay, fill of cut 518
518	Cut of probable pit
519	Stakehole
520	Dark brown sandy-clay, fill of 521
521	Probable ovoid pit cut
522	Pale reddish-brown fill sandy-clay layer
525	Natural sandy-clay geology

Trench 7

Context	Description
700	Topsoil/garden deposit
701	Cobbled surface comprising rounded stone setts
702	Brick wall on approximate north/south alignment
703	Cobbled surface along eastern edge of trench
704	Flagged surface
705	Square brick surface
706	Redeposited natural layer

Trench 8

Context	Description
800	Overburden
801	Cellar backfill
802	Construction cut for cellar wall 804

803	Cellar wall on approximate north/south alignment
804	Cellar wall on approximate east/west alignment
805	Brick wall structure on approximate north-west/south-east alignment
807	Drain cut
808	Fill of drain
809	Mid-greyish-brown sandy-clay, fill of 810
810	Roman curvilinear feature - possible ditch
811	Brick wall aligned east/west, same as 812
812	Brick wall aligned east/west
813	Natural clay geology
816	Brick pier in northern side of cellar room

Trench 9

Context	Description
900	Grass and topsoil
901	Mixed modern dump deposit
902	Natural clay geology

APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY FINDS CATALOGUE

Ctx	OR	Material	Category	Qty	Description	Period
103	1003	ceramic	vessel	26	15 fragments black-glazed redware; two fragments white salt-glazed stoneware; one fragment mottled ware; one fragment black-glazed creamware; one fragment yellow kitchen ware; four fragments Gritty-ware,	Mid-twelfth – eighteenth century
103	1003	ceramic	building material	8	Small fragments; one fragment salt-glaze pipe.	Eighteenth century or later
103	1032	ceramic	building material	5	Four fragments hand-made brick; one fragment tile.	Not closely dateable
103	1039	ceramic	tobacco pipe	4	Stems only.	Post-medieval
103	1047	copper alloy	strip	1	Fragment of plain strip.	Not closely dateable
103	1058	glass	vessel	1	One body fragment, dark olive green wine bottle.	Eighteenth century
103	1051	ind debris	residue	1	Small fragment slag.	Not closely dateable
103	1047	iron	meat hook?	1	Meat hook?	Not closely dateable
103	1062	leather	shoe	4	Small parts of a single shoe sole and uppers. Too small for identification of style.	Nineteenth century
105	1042	ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Milled bowl with small pedestal, stamped ?GR.	Late seventeenth century
105	1053	copper alloy	object	1	Unidentifiable object.	Not closely dateable
105	1046	iron	Blade	7	Fragments of blade.	Not closely dateable
105	1061	stone		1	Whetstone.	Not closely dateable
107	1065	bone	Animal	1	Not closely dateable.	
107	1000	ceramic	Vessel	43	26 fragments black-glazed redware; four fragments black-glazed creamware; nine fragments self-glazed redware; three fragments mottled ware; one fragment brown stoneware.	Nineteenth century or later
107	1037	ceramic	tobacco pipe	2	Stems only.	Post-medieval
107	1057	glass	Vessel	2	One body fragment dark green bottle; one body fragment pale greenish bottle.	Twentieth century or later
107	1068	stone		1	Probably cannel coal.	Not closely dateable
107	1007	ceramic	Vessel	25	Nine fragments black-glazed redware; three mottled ware; one fragment black-glazed creamware; six fragments yellow-slipped redware; one fragment fineware blackware, three fragments brown-glazed redware; two fragments early black-glazed redware.	Eighteenth century or later
107	1056	glass	Vessel	1	One body fragment, dark olive green wine bottle.	Eighteenth century
107	1007	stone		1	Natural.	
110	1011	ceramic	Vessel	6	Five fragments fine thumbled; one fragment	Fourteenth-

					hard fully reduced fabric.	sixteen century
110	1011	ceramic	building material	3	Two fragments semi-vitrified stone; one fragment sanded tile	Not closely dateable
117	1064	bone	animal	1	Not closely dateable	
117	1015	ceramic	vessel	6	One black-glazed redware; two fragments white china; one fragment white salt-glazed stoneware plate; two fragments sandy fully reduced bowl.	Fourteenth-seventeenth century?
123	1002	ceramic	vessel	40	One fragment white salt-glazed ware; 17 fragments black-glazed redware; 27 fragments including rim, ?late medieval reduced fabric.	Sixteenth – seventeenth century
123	1050	iron	object	1	Unidentifiable object.	Not closely dateable
123	1067	stone		1	Probably cannel coal.	Not closely dateable
124	1016	ceramic	vessel	11	One Greyware; three sandy incompletely-reduced fabric; three red gritty fabric; one green-glazed whiteware; three undiagnostic fragments.	Romano-British; twelfth-fourteenth century; fourteenth-sixteenth century
201	1008	ceramic	vessel	5	Three fragments black-glazed redware; one fragment Nottingham stoneware; one fragment mottled ware.	Eighteenth – nineteenth century
201	1026	ceramic	vessel	1	Moulded and patterned white ware.	Nineteenth century or later
201	1033	ceramic	building material	3	Brick fragments in plaster.	Post-medieval
201	1034	ceramic	building material	3	One fragment coarse yellow brick; one small undiagnostic fragment brick; one fragment? plaster.	Post-medieval
201	1034	ceramic	vessel	3	One body fragment black-glazed redware.	Nineteenth century
201	1041	ceramic	tobacco pipe	2	Stem, large bore suggests early.	Seventeenth century?
300	1009	ceramic	vessel	6	Six fragments black-glazed redware.	Nineteenth century or later
300	1044	iron	object	10	Structural fragments.	Not closely dateable
315	1010	ceramic	vessel	4	One fragment white salt-glazed stoneware; two fragments blue and white underglaze transfer-printed earthenware.	Eighteenth century or later
315	1031	ceramic	building material	4	Hand-made brick.	Post-medieval
315	1054	copper alloy	strip	1	Small fragment of plain strip.	Not closely dateable
317	1019	ceramic	vessel	3	One fragment under-glaze transfer-printed whiteware; one fragment white wall tile; one fragment painted whiteware.	Nineteenth century or later
505	1013	ceramic	vessel	3	Two fragments black-glazed redware; one fragment self-glazed redware.	Nineteenth century
506	1021	ceramic	vessel	2	Two body fragments black-glazed redware.	Late seventeenth-eighteenth century
506	1043	ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Bowl with small pedestal.	Early eighteenth century

507	1005	ceramic	vessel	42	Six sandy reduced ware; one gritty reduced ware; 14 fragments black-glazed redware; one fragment black-glazed creamware; one fragment slip decorated ware; one fragment brown stoneware; two fragments yellow ware?; one mottled ware.	Medieval; Eighteenth century or later
507	1005	ceramic	building material	4	White tile.	
507	1012	ceramic	vessel	4	Three fragments black-glazed redware; one fragment self-glazed redware.	nineteenth century
507	1036	ceramic	tobacco pipe	3	Stems only.	Eighteenth century- Nineteenth century
507	1040	ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Stem, large bore suggests early.	Seventeenth- eighteenth century
507	1069	stone		1	Probably cannel coal.	Undated
507	1070	stone	ore?	2	Unidentified.	Undated
509	1025	ceramic	vessel	2	Laminated redware fabric. Probably black-glazed redware.	Eighteenth century?
509	1028	ceramic	vessel	1	Body fragment plain samian vessel, possibly Dr 18/31. Central Gaul, Lezoux	Second century
509	1029	ceramic	building material	1	Hand-made brick?	Post-medieval
510	1006	ceramic	vessel	11	Ten small undiagnostic fragments; one sandy fabric with purple glaze.	Post-medieval
510	1006	ceramic	building material	3	Small fragments.	
510	1018	ceramic	vessel	5	Small and very eroded fragments.	Romano-British
510	1035	ceramic	tobacco pipe	1	Stem only.	Post-medieval
510	1059	glass	vessel	1	Body fragment mould-blown storage bottle.	Later first to early third century
510	1006	iron	object	1	Unidentifiable fragment	Post-medieval
510	1045	iron	strip	1	Fragment of narrow band, possibly barrel hoop.	Not closely dateable
516	1049	iron	object	2	Unidentifiable object.	Undated
517	1066	bone	human	2	Human vertebra, thoracic or lumbar, charred Unidentified fragment, also charred.	Undated
517	1020	daub		2	Small joining fragments.	Undated
520	1024	ceramic	vessel	1	One fragment early black-glazed redware.	Seventeenth century
522	1027	ceramic	vessel	1	Undiagnostic body fragment Greyware.	Second century
700	1063	bone	animal	2		Undated
700	1001	ceramic	vessel	29	One fragment Greyware; one fragment hard-fired sandy ware; ten fragments black-glazed redware; two fragments brown stoneware; two fragments grey stoneware; two fragments marbled agate ware; eight fragments white-glazed earthenware; one fragment under-glazed transfer-printed white ware; one fragment yellow kitchenware;	Romano-British; nineteenth – twentieth century
700	1004	ceramic	vessel	14	One self-glazed redware; two fragments cream kitchenware; one fragment white porcelain; five fragments black-glazed redware; one	Eighteenth century- nineteenth

					fragment modern earthenware; one fragment yellowware; one fragment mottled ware; one fragment creamware, blue rim; one fragment blue and white under-glaze transfer-printed earthenware.	century
700	1014	ceramic	vessel	2	One fragment black-glazed redware; one fragment mottled ware.	Eighteenth century
700	1023	ceramic	vessel	5	Four fragments stoneware inkwell; one fragment under-glaze transfer-printed whiteware bowl.	Nineteenth century or later
700	1038	ceramic	tobacco pipe	4	Three stems and one bowl.	Nineteenth century
700	1055	glass	vessel	2	One base fragment, dark olive green wine bottle; one undiagnostic body fragment, bluish.	Eighteenth century-nineteenth century
700	1060	glass	vessel	1	Body fragment natural bluish embossed bottle.	Late nineteenth-early twentieth century
700	1048	iron	nail	1	Single nail and mineralised wood. Forged.	Not closely dateable
700	1052	iron	nail	1	Nail with round shank. Clenched.	modern
800	1017	ceramic	vessel	10	Two undiagnostic body fragments buff Grittyware; one fragment brown stoneware; one fragment white earthenware; one fragment black-glazed creamware.	Twelfth-fourteenth century; Eighteenth century-Nineteenth century
809	1022	ceramic	vessel	1	Base fragment. Sandy Greyware fabric.	Romano-British
809	1030	ceramic	building material	9	Small fragments hand-made brick.	Post-medieval
809	1071	ceramic	vessel	3	Small and abraded fragments of ?handmade pottery.	Romano-British?

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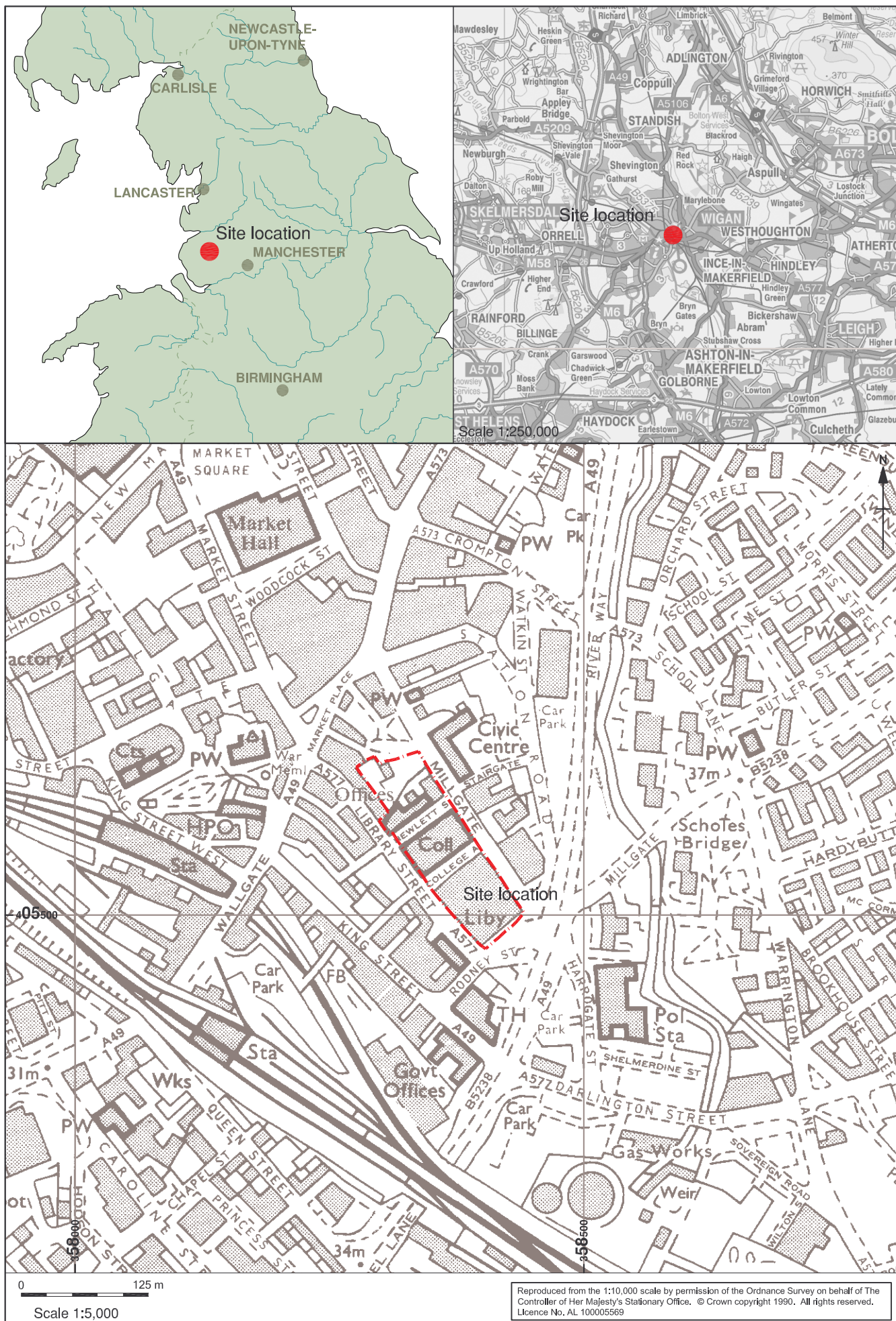


Figure 1: Site Location

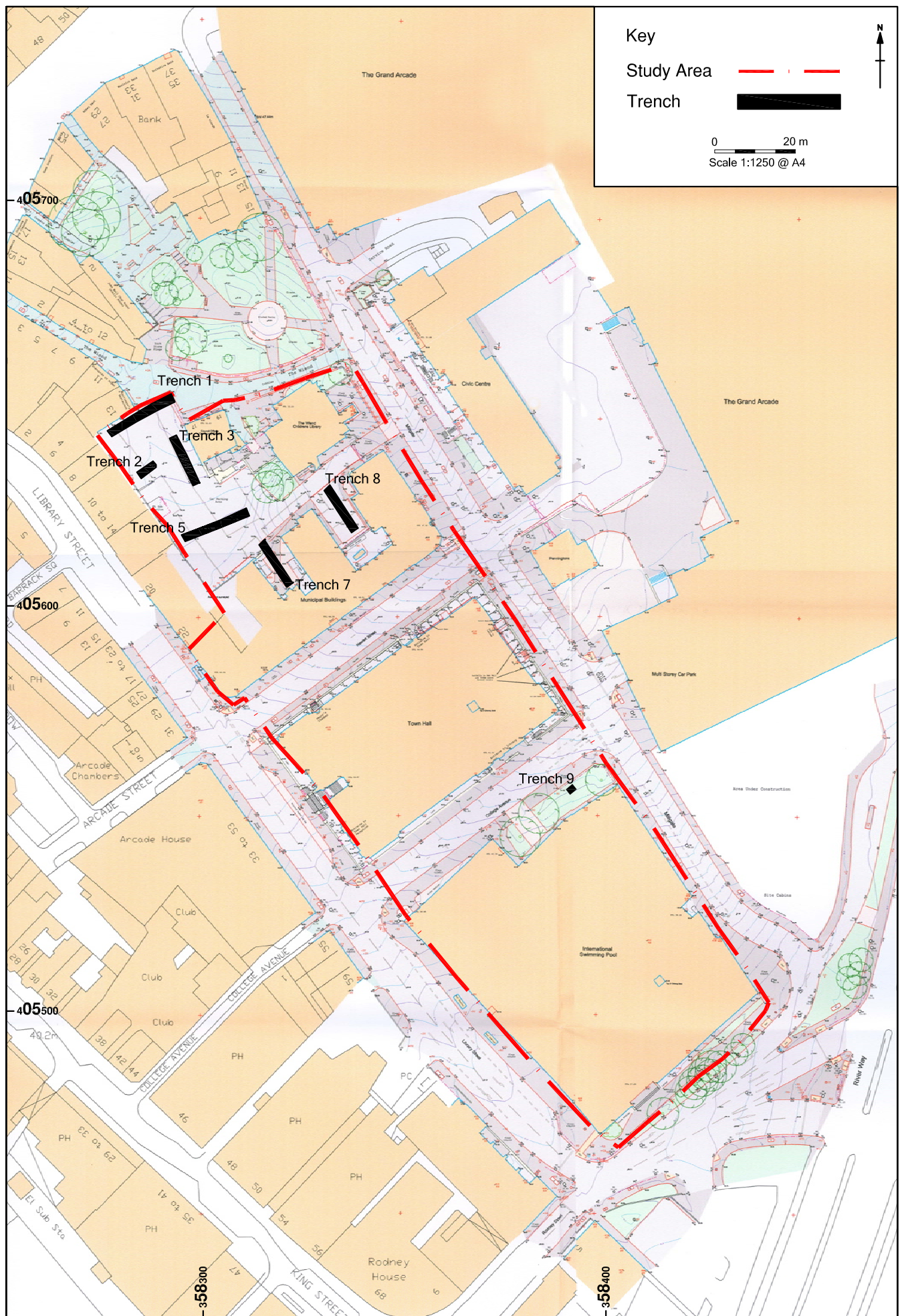


Figure 2: Trench Location map

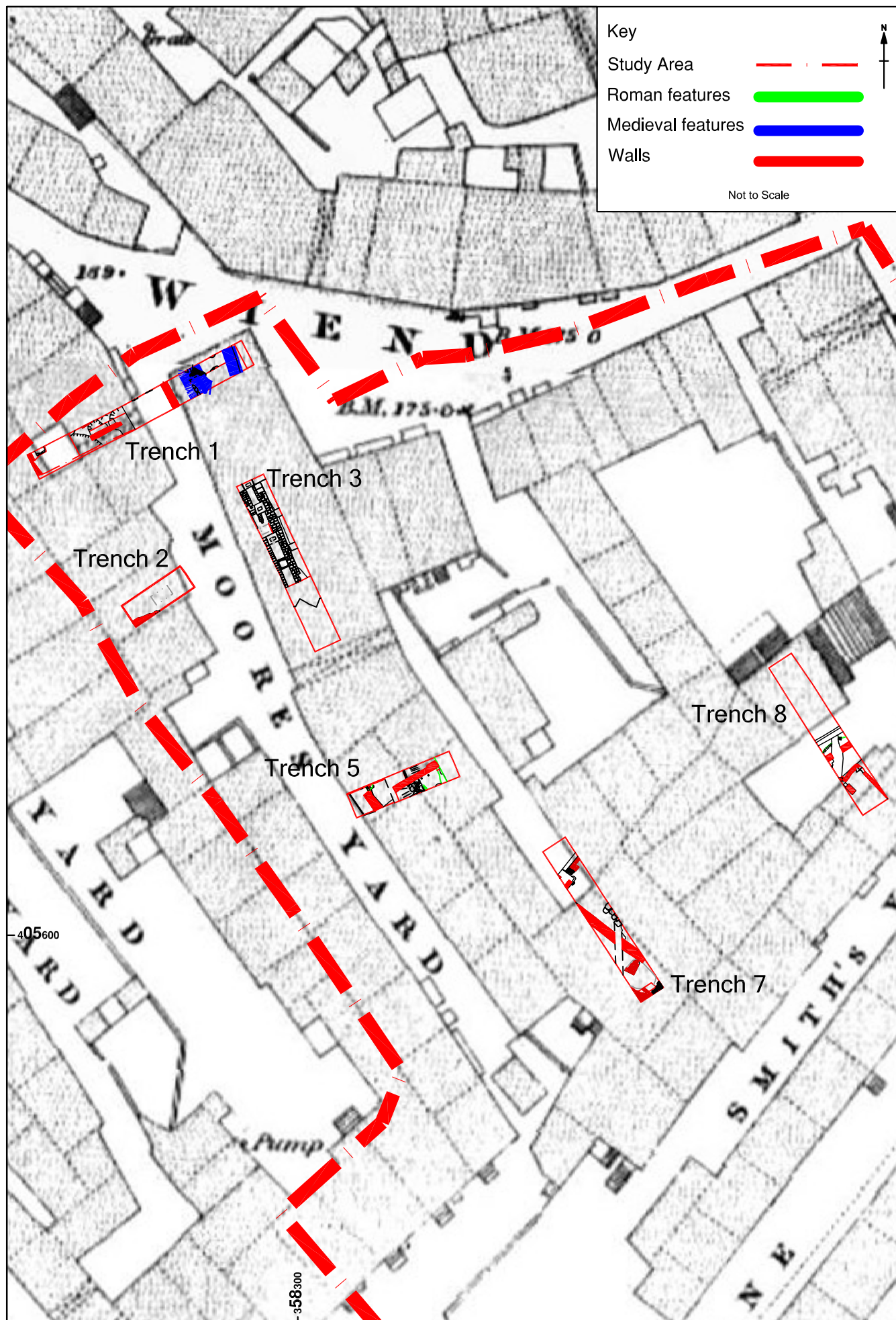
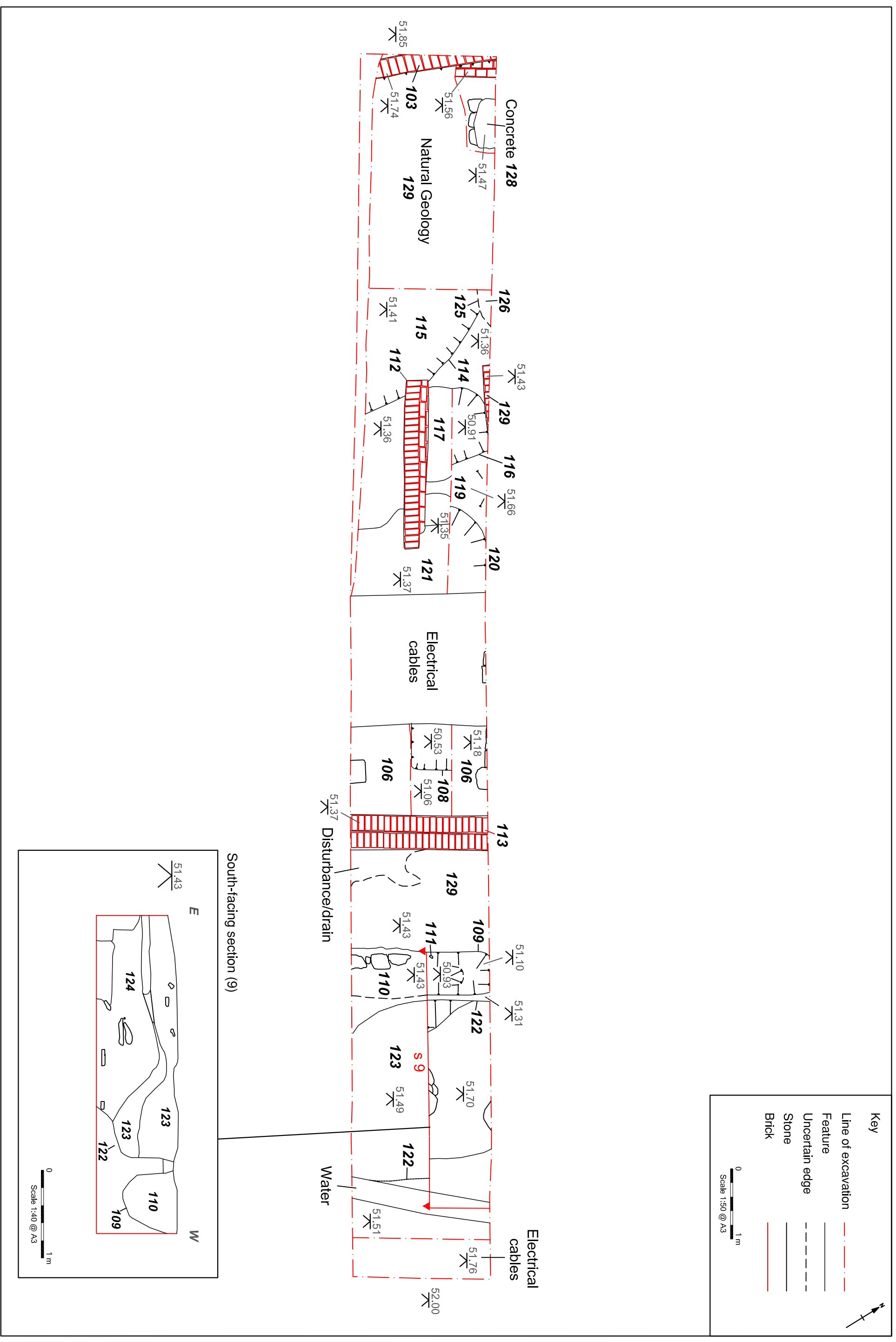


Figure 3: Trench location superimposed on the Ordnance map of 1848



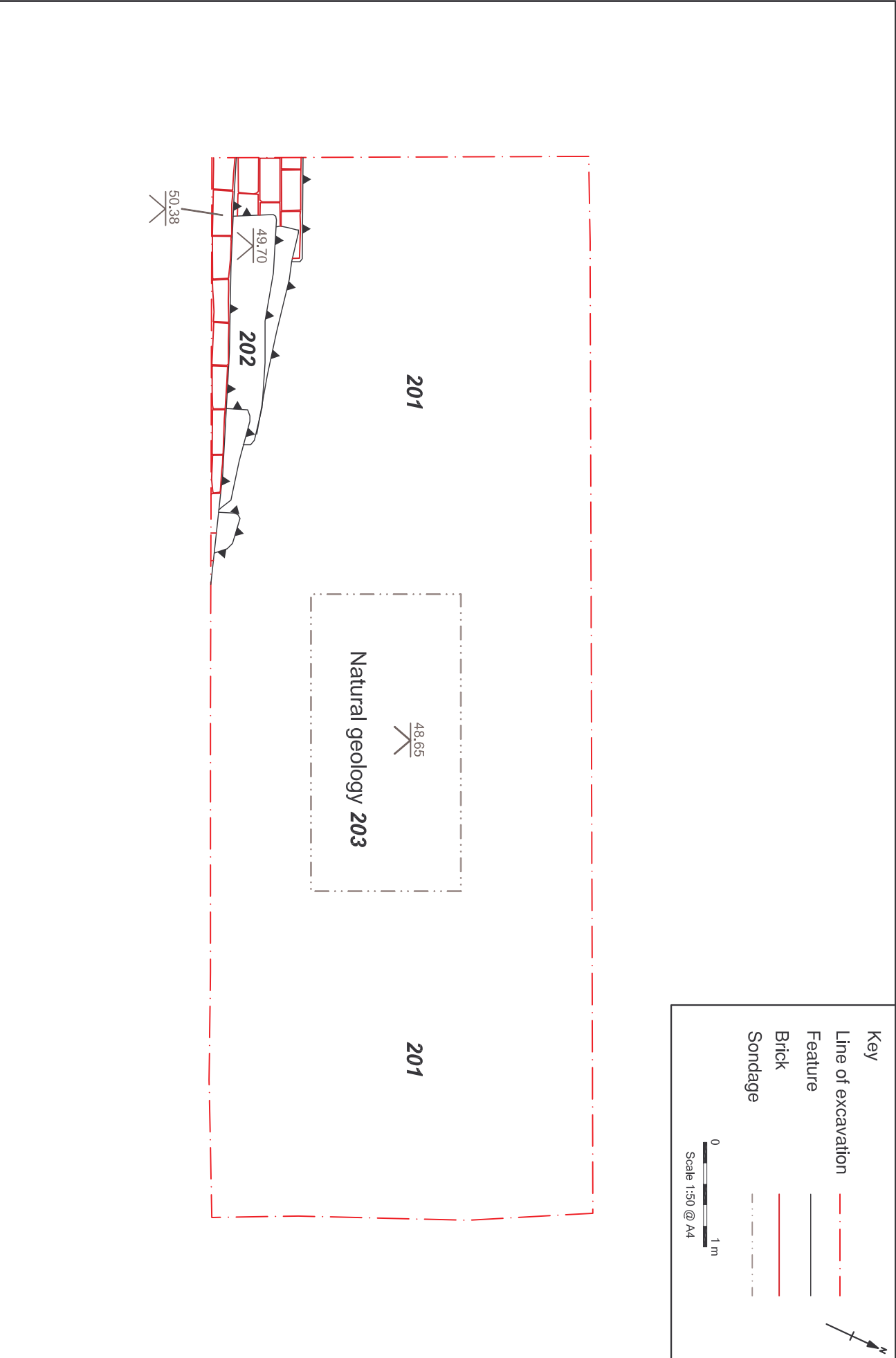


Figure 5: Detail plan of Trench 2

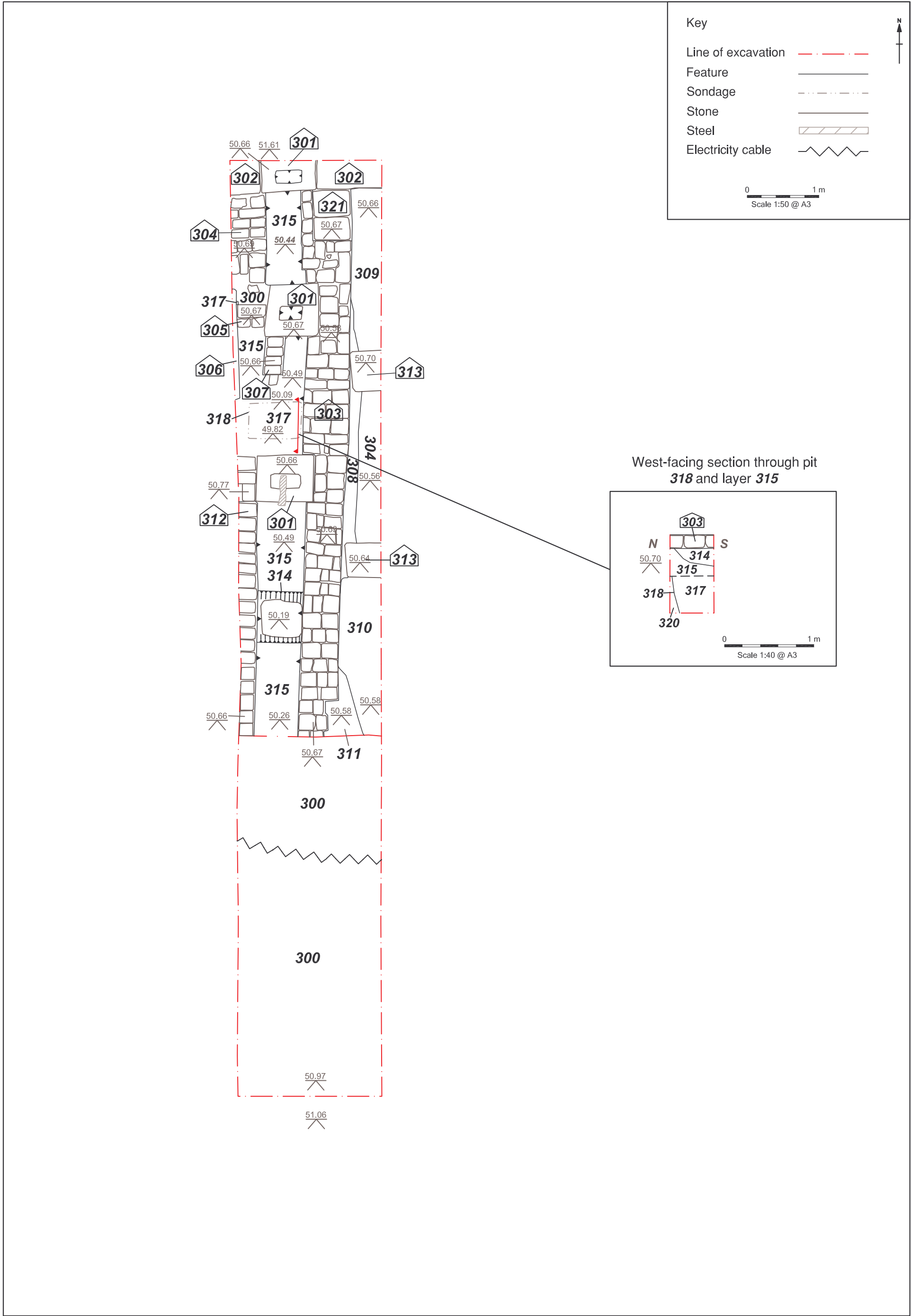


Figure 6: Detail plan and section of Trench 3

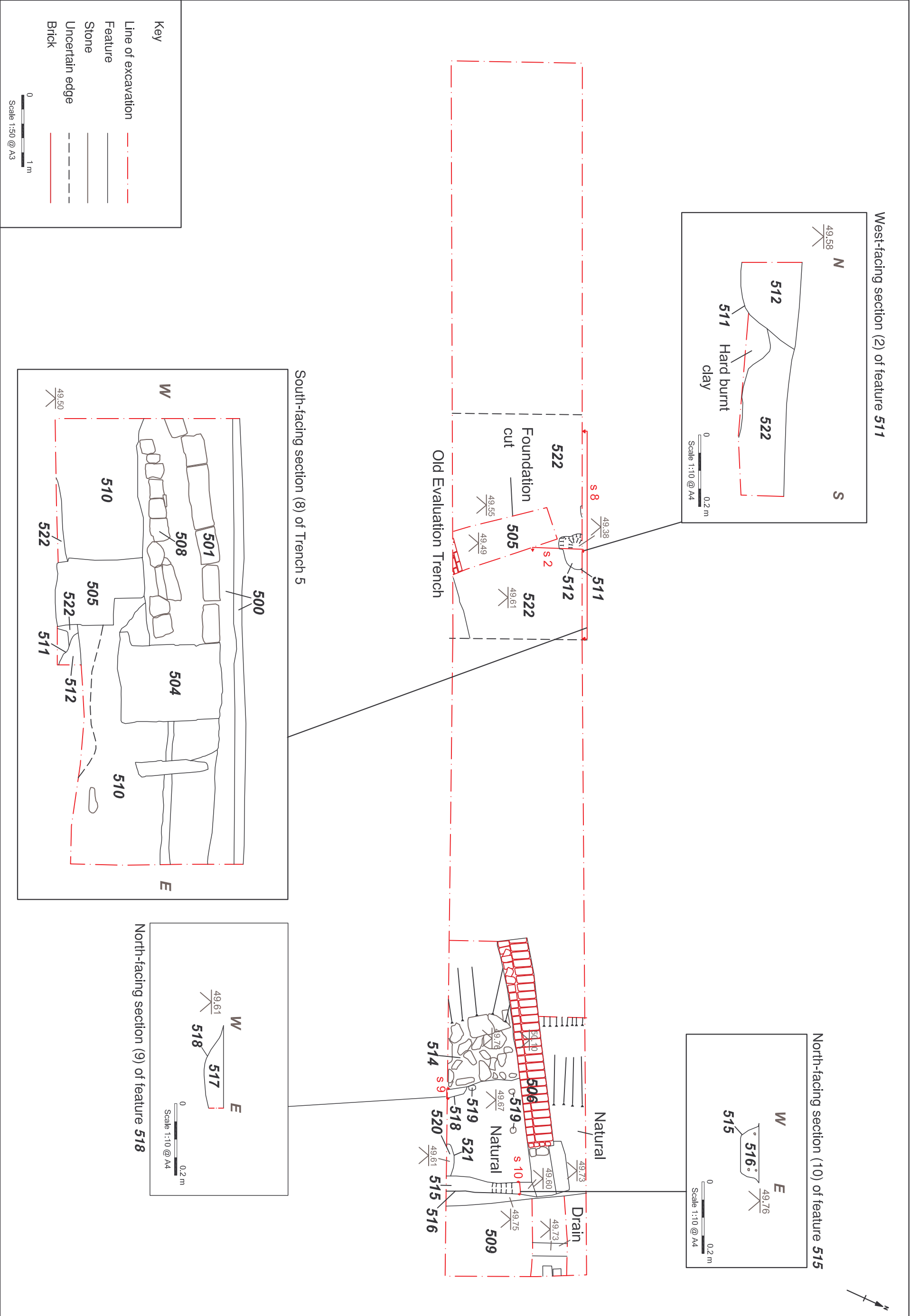


Figure 7: Plan and sections of Trench 5

Key

Line of excavation

Feature

Sondage

Stone

Uncertain edge

Brick

01m

Scale 1:50 @ A3

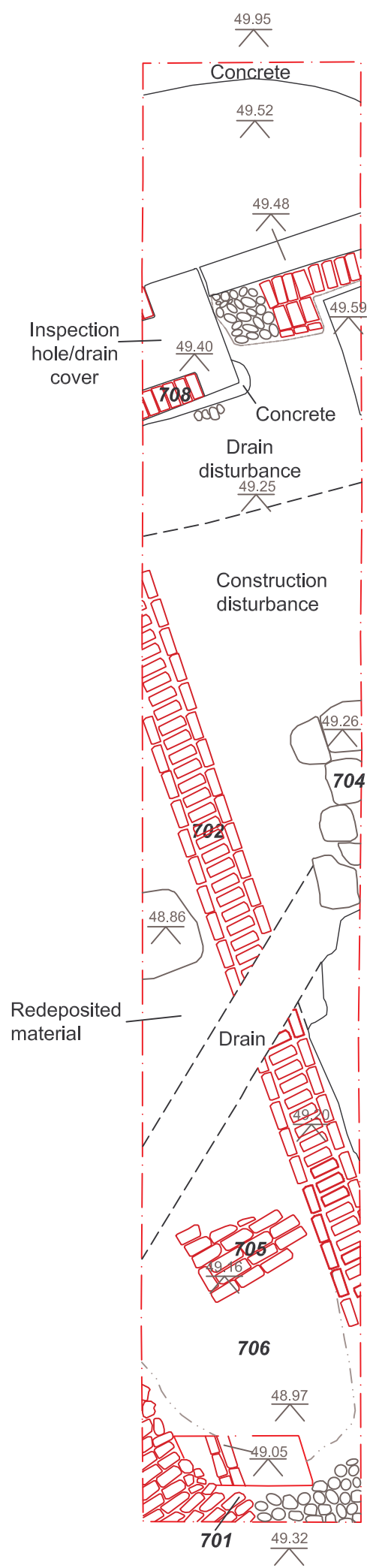
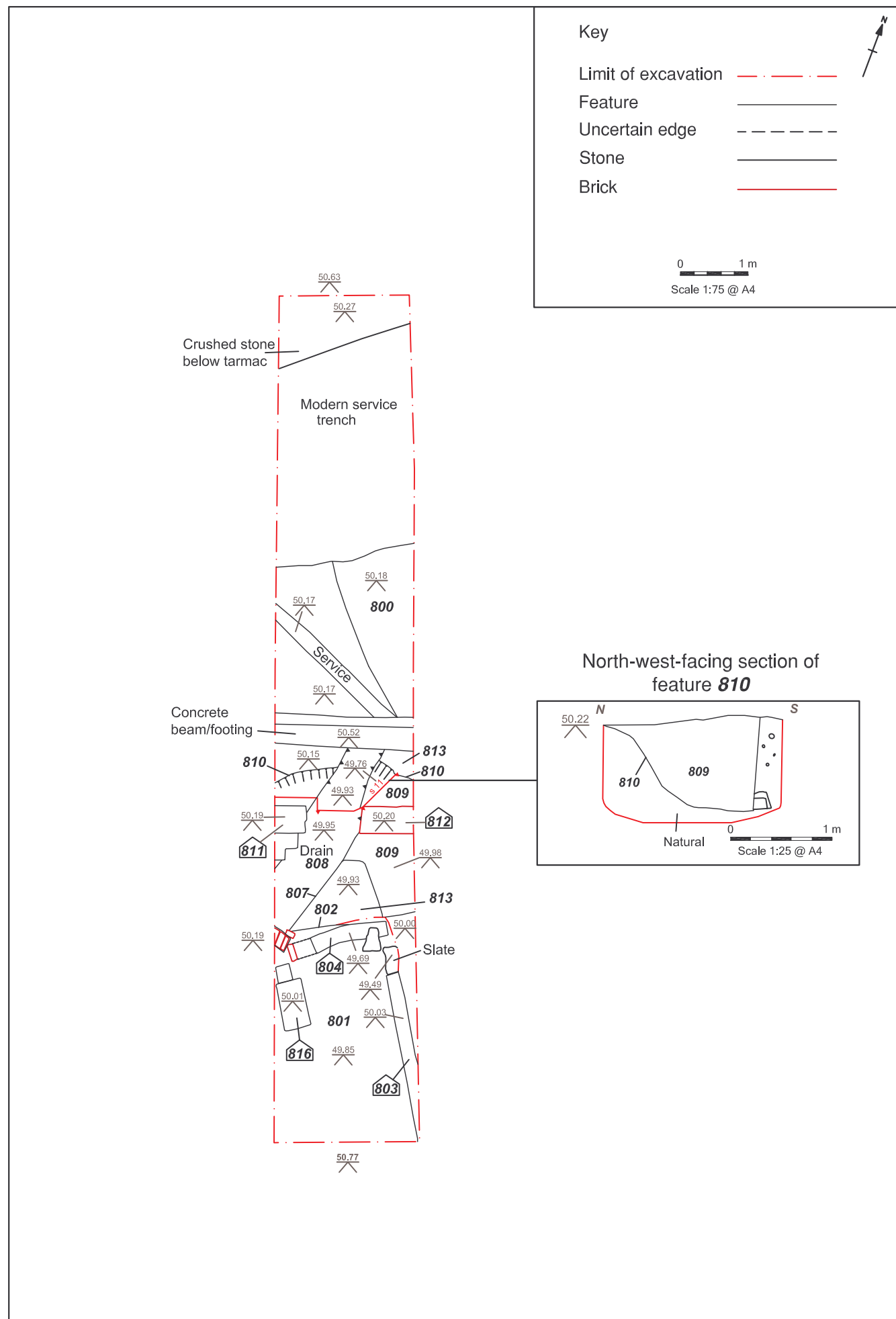


Figure 8: Detail plan of Trench 7



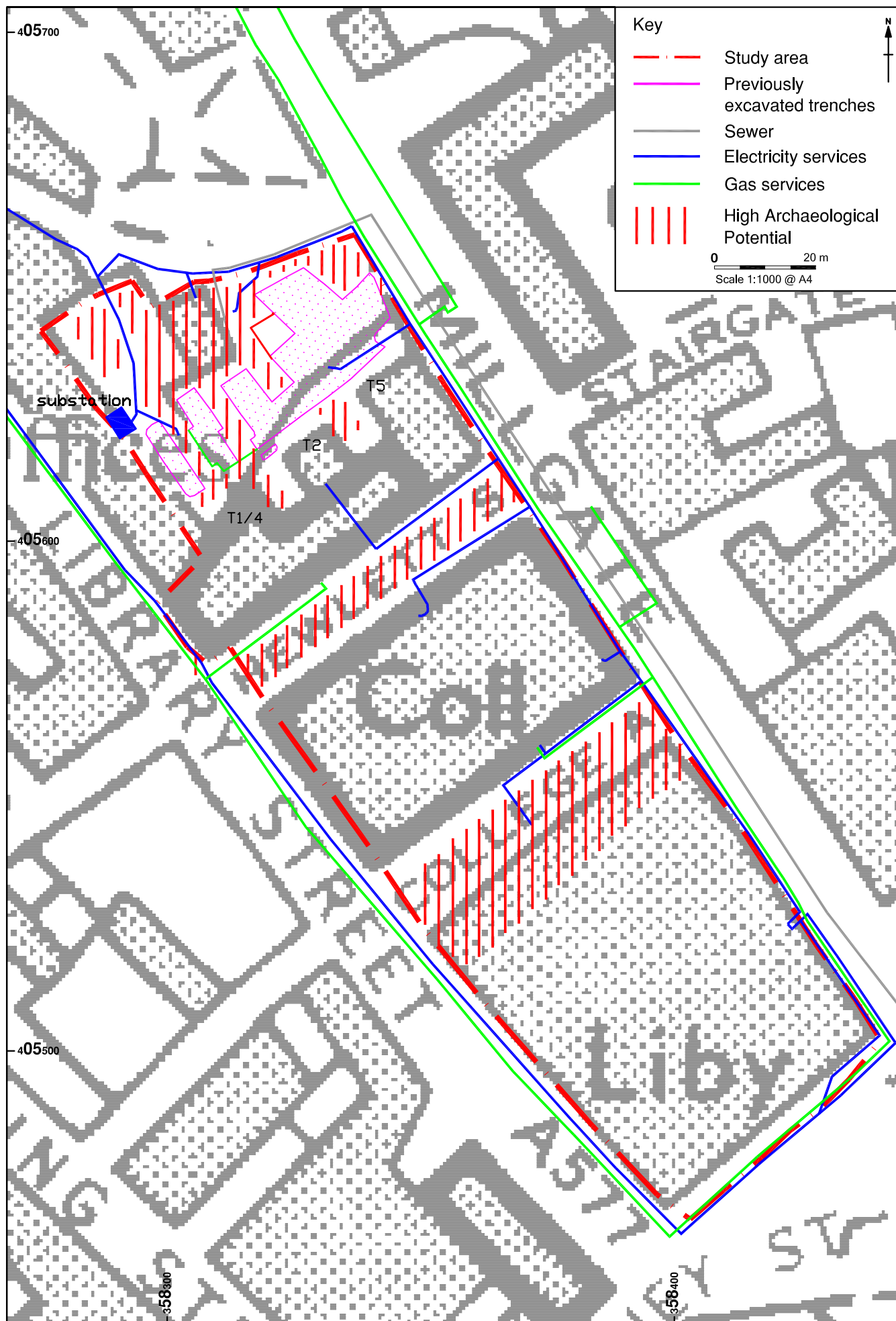


Figure 10: Scheme Area, showing revised areas of high archaeological potential



Plate 1: North-facing section through ditch terminus **109**, Trench 1

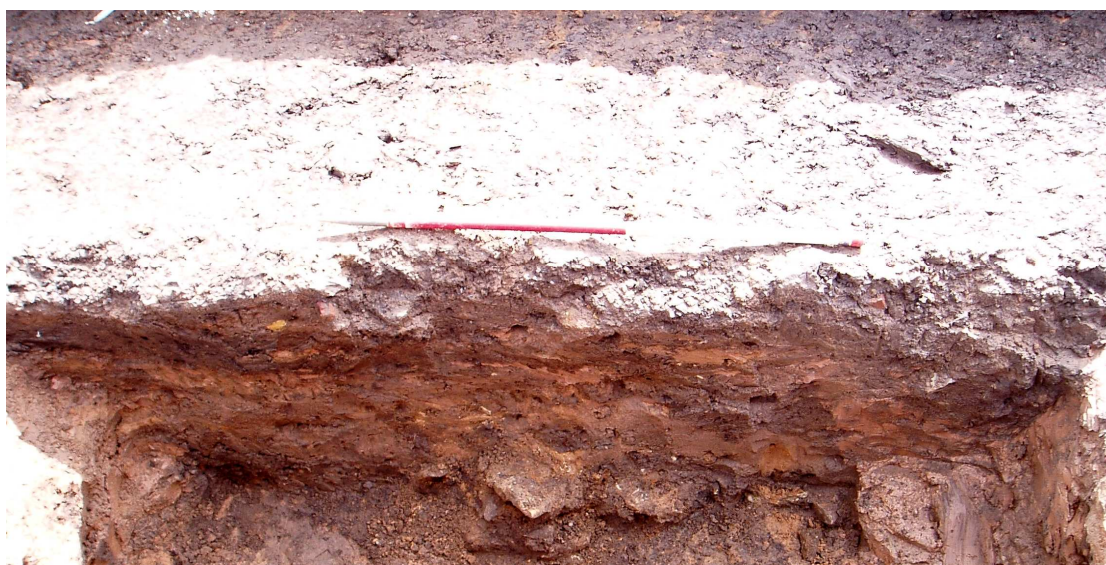


Plate 2: North-facing section through large pit **122**, Trench 1



Plate 3: South-facing section of pit *114*, Trench 1



Plate 4: North-facing section through pit *116*, Trench 1



Plate 5: Cellar wall *103*, Trench 1, looking south-east



Plate 6: Central undisturbed section of Trench 5, facing south



Plate 7: Eastern undisturbed section of Trench 5, facing west



Plate 8: Stakehole group **519** and linear feature **515**, Trench 5, facing west



Plate 9: Southern end of Trench 8, facing north



Plate 10: West-facing section through curvilinear feature *810*