

The Friary Guildford Surrey



Archaeological Evaluation Report



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SUMMARY

In June 2005 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at the Friary, Guildford, Surrey on behalf of CgMs Consulting. Five trial trenches were excavated in two town centre car parks located between Leapale and Commercial Roads. The trenches were situated in order to investigate the potential survival of any archaeological remains associated with the Friary, its precinct and the secular town.

The archaeology of the eastern car park, between Leapale and Woodbridge Roads was dominated by a former Victorian Police Station and associated disused services. Trench 5 revealed a limited amount of weathered chalk which contained solution features which were filled by alluvial sands that contained worked flints, possibly deposited there in the Mesolithic/early Neolithic.

The archaeology of the western car park, between Woodbridge and Commercial Roads, consisted of some Post-Medieval cut features and an early modern basement. Actual structural remains from the Friary were not encountered. However, Trench 2 contained a Victorian/early modern footing which had been built using chalk blocks which may have been taken from earlier Medieval structures associated with the Friary. Some Post-Medieval cut features were also encountered during work in this car park. Post-Medieval deposits were found right down to the natural deposits and no features of earlier date were found during the evaluation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

- 1.1.1 In June 2005 OA carried out a field evaluation in the car parks between Leapale and Commercial Roads in Guildford, Surrey (NGR SU 995 496), on behalf of CgMs Consulting in respect of a planning permission granted for the erection of a mixed-use development on land adjacent to The Friary Centre, Guildford (reference GU01/2222). The evaluation, the first element of a phased evaluation, was carried out in respect of a planning condition which required a programme of archaeological works.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The site encompasses an area of *c* 1.3 ha and is roughly triangular in shape. It is bounded to the north-east by Leapale Road, to the north-west by Commercial Road, to the south by North Street, and the site is bisected by Woodbridge Road running north-south through the site. Currently occupied by a mix of commercial and retail properties with areas of car parking, the site slopes down from the south-east corner at 42 m OD to 36 m OD at the western end of the site on Commercial Road.
- 1.2.2 The site lies in the Guildford Gap, a valley cut through the chalk of the North Downs by the River Wey. The underlying geology is primarily Sands, with some weathered Chalk found in Trench 5. The gravel terrace associated with the River Wey was not encountered during the evaluation.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 In connection with the consideration of the application for planning permission, an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment has been produced by Paul Chadwick (CgMs, 2002) and therefore only a brief background description is reproduced here.
- 1.3.2 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on or near the site. However the Surrey SMR indicates that the site of the Dominican Friary lies immediately to the west, and the historic settlement of Guildford lies immediately to the south of the proposed development site. An excavation of part of the Dominican Friary was carried out prior to the construction of The Friary Shopping Centre and Bus Station.

Prehistoric

- 1.3.3 Mesolithic flints and fragments of ox bone (undated) were discovered during the Friary excavations. Although the site would appear to have been truncated by Medieval and Post-Medieval development, the presence of prehistoric remains is still a significant possibility.

Roman

- 1.3.4 Little evidence of Romano-British occupation has been found locally. Given the distribution of Roman villas in the vicinity and a possible Roman road, added to this the strategic significance of the Wey crossing, there is a possibility that Roman artefacts and deposits may be encountered on the site.

Medieval

- 1.3.5 The evidence provided by the excavations on The Friary Shopping Centre site and related documentary evidence allows a reasonably secure model of Medieval and Post-Medieval deposits across the site.
- 1.3.6 In the western portion of the site (west of Woodbridge Road), it is likely that the Friary Precinct wall and gates, probably with associated gate-houses constructed of chalk blocks with a mortar bond, and roadways would be encountered. Also 'lean to' structures against the precinct wall would not be unexpected.
- 1.3.7 It is also possible that burials could be encountered towards the southern part of site, particularly in the area immediately east of the Commercial Road.

Post Medieval and Modern

- 1.3.8 Evidence suggests that in the late 1520s a house for Henry VIII was constructed within the Friary Precinct. The precise location of this building, known as the 'House Of Honours' is unknown.
- 1.3.9 By 1739 the east side of Friary Lane (later Woodbridge Road) had a small number of dwellings along it, the west side is shown as open garden areas.
- 1.3.10 By 1794 The Friary was bought by the government, the mansion was converted into officers' quarters and barracks built in the grounds.
- 1.3.11 By 1871 development of the land to the north of North Street was essentially complete. Leapale Road was, in part occupied by the rear of the County Police Station, and by residential properties.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

- 2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were to determine the location, extent, date, character, significance, quality and state of preservation of any potential archaeological features, rather than to fully excavate all deposits down to the level of the natural geology.
- 2.1.2 The trenches were excavated in such a way as to determine the thickness, depth and depositional history of any archaeological and environmental deposits and sought to characterise the nature of deposits encountered in terms of physical composition (e.g. Stone, sand, gravel etc) and their archaeological formation.

- 2.1.3 The trenches assessed the overall survival and presence of structural remains associated with the archaeological periods represented. In particular:
- to clarify the impact of Medieval/Post-Medieval ploughing and Post-Medieval to 20th century developments and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of any remains
 - to clarify the presence and character of any Medieval and Post-Medieval structural remains associated with the Friary Precinct and Precinct Wall
 - to establish the presence/absence of any Medieval burials associated with the Friary
 - to establish the presence and character of any Medieval agricultural or horticultural activity associated with the Friary and the back lands of the historic settlement of Guildford
- 2.1.4 The potential for the recovery of additional structural information would be assessed in the light of, for example, later disturbance such as Medieval and Post-Medieval truncation.
- 2.1.5 The presence, condition and survival of artefactual, ecofactual and environmental remains (e.g. animal and human bone, plant remains, pollen, peat, charcoal, mollusca).
- 2.1.6 An appraisal will made of the relative value of the stratigraphic units identified within each trench in terms of their importance for preservation and conservation.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The evaluation consisted of five trenches distributed across the site to achieve the evaluation aims set out above (Fig. 2). Trench 3 was initially intended to be positioned in the interior of a building between Woodbridge and Commercial road, however it was rejected due to extensive asbestos contamination. Trench 1 measured 22 m long by 1.8 m wide, Trench 2 was 26 m long by 1.8 m wide, Trench 4 was shortened to 17 m length by 1.8 m wide due to the presence of geological bore holes and services which rendered the area impossible to excavate. Trench 5 measured 9.5 m long by 1.8 m wide and Trench 6 measured 10.5 m long by 1.8 m wide. The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

3.2 Fieldwork Methods and Recording

- 3.2.1 Trench positions varied slightly in the light of ground conditions, the location of services and the need to work within an active car park.
- 3.2.2 The trenches were laid out and tied to the National Grid.

- 3.2.3 Machine excavation proceeded in level spits of no more than 0.2 m along the length of each trench. Machine excavation was halted at the top of the archaeological sequence and visual and hand inspection of deposits was carried out.
- 3.2.4 Sufficient features were excavated to fulfil the aims of the evaluation and to assess the archaeological potential of each trench. Selective excavation, half sectioning of small features (such as postholes) and emphasis on recovering dating evidence from the surface of features was undertaken in preference to full excavation of archaeological material either by hand or by machine.
- 3.2.5 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was carried out in accordance with established OA practices (OA Field Manual, 1992). Bulk finds were collected by context and any small finds and samples from them were allocated unique numbers.
- 3.2.6 Colour transparency and black-and-white negative photographs were taken of all trenches and archaeological features. Site plans were drawn at an appropriate scale with larger scale plans of features as necessary. Trench plans were drawn at a scale of 1:100. Section drawings of features and sample sections of trenches were drawn at a scale of 1:20.
- 3.2.7 Environmental sampling procedures were carried out in accordance with the OA Environmental Sampling Guidelines and Instruction Manual (OA, first edition, July 2000). OA's environmental department was also consulted regarding the recovery of bulk samples (charred plant remains, cremation, waterlogged remains, bones and artefacts).
- 3.2.8 Backfilling of trenches took place only after consultation with Surrey County Council and CgMs.

3.3 Finds

- 3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental Sampling Methods

- 3.4.1 Due to the absence of any early archaeological features, only one 10 litre sample was taken as part of the evaluation to assess the preservation of charred plant remains (sample 1, context 104) from a Post-Medieval sub-rectangular pit. The sample was processed by flotation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot collected onto a 250 micron mesh. This sample was air-dried. The flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification, and the residue assessed for charred remains and finds.

3.5 Presentation of Results

- 3.5.1 A general description of the archaeology of the site, as well as the working conditions which affected the evaluation works follows in section 4. Then a more detailed trench by trench description of the archaeology, as well as finds and environmental assessments, follows in section 5.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and Ground Conditions

- 4.1.1 The site was located in two active car parks, which presented several difficulties to the archaeological works. The area had several services, some active and others disused, which caused Trench 4 to be shortened and moved, and which obscured visibility and slowed machine work in other trenches. Geological bore holes were being drilled on site at the same time as the evaluation work resulting in logistical difficulties as well as a change in the position of Trench 6 to accommodate a drilling rig.

4.2 Distribution of Archaeological Deposits

- 4.2.1 The archaeology of the eastern car park, between Leapale and Woodbridge Roads, was dominated by the Victorian Police Station that was located there and some associated disused services. This car park is also located on higher ground than the other and Trench 5 revealed a limited amount of weathered chalk and alluvial sands which contained worked flints, possibly deposited there in the Mesolithic/early Neolithic (See section 5.2, table 4 below).
- 4.2.2 The archaeology of the western car park, between Woodbridge and Commercial Roads, consisted of some Post-Medieval cut features and an early modern basement. Trench 2 contained a Victorian/early modern footing which had been built using chalk blocks, possibly taken from earlier Medieval structures associated with the Friary. Some Post-Medieval cut features were also encountered during work in this car park.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of Deposits

Trench 1

- 5.1.1 Trench 1 measured 22 m by 1.80 m and was aligned east-west (Fig. 3). The natural was exposed at 1.4 m below the current ground surface at the eastern end and 0.7 m at the western end of the trench.
- 5.1.2 The natural sand (100) was overlain by a 0.45 m thick layer of sandy brown subsoil (101) which seems to have been formed through colluvial processes. There is a possibility that some agricultural activity, such as ploughing or furrowing, may have contributed to the formation process of this deposit as there were occasional flecks of ceramic materials present in 101. Nonetheless due to the sandy consistency of the

soil and the limited view provided by the trenching it is difficult to be certain of this interpretation. A 0.25 m thick layer of patchy darker buried topsoil (105) overlay 101, which was darker, more silty and which contained a higher concentration of debris than the subsoil. This seems to represent a previous ground level. This was capped by a layer of modern overburden which included the modern tarmac surface (Fig. 3). Post-Medieval finds were encountered throughout 101 and 105.

- 5.1.3 Only one pit was encountered in this trench (103), a sub-square feature that measured approximately 1 m square in plan by 0.8 m deep in section (Fig. 3). This pit was filled by a silty sand (104) with some chalk inclusions. Post-Medieval finds were found in this deposit (See Appendix 1 and Finds Assessment below, 5.2).

Trench 2

- 5.1.4 Trench 2 measured 26 m by 1.8 m and was aligned roughly east-west. The natural was exposed at 0.62 m below the current ground surface at the eastern end and 0.9 m at the western end of the trench.
- 5.1.5 The deposits overlying the natural sand in Trench 2 were similar to the layers observed in Trench 1. These comprised a 0.34 m thick layer of sandy subsoil (202), a demolition layer associated with the construction of the modern car parks (201) and the modern surfacing (200)(Fig. 4). Trench 2 contained two late structures as well as two cut features.
- 5.1.6 The eastern structure consisted of a concrete floor (210), which abutted a 0.34 m wide brick wall (211). This structure appeared to form part of a cellar or basement as the construction cut (208) was cut through the subsoil and at least 0.7 m of the natural sand on the eastern side of the wall, while the floor was at about 0.55 m below the level of the top of the natural. In plan the structure extended for 7 m from the wall 211 before stopping (Fig. 4).
- 5.1.7 The western structure comprised a chalk footing (215), a drain casing (214) which were both overlain by brickwork (216, 217). The chalk footing was aligned north-south east-west and filled foundation cut 218. The chalk blocks were not evenly cut and seem to have been taken from an earlier building and re-used. The bonding used in the construction of this structure was similar to that used in the brickwork and is consistent with a Post-Medieval date (Fig. 4). The brickwork overlying 214 and 215 (217, 216) was patchy and in some places heavily truncated by later activity, it may be that the walls that were meant to be seen above ground, with the ground level being represented by a small sandy horizon (223), which overlay the chalk footing (215) and also separated the subsoil (202) from the later demolition layer (213)(See Fig. 4, section 205).
- 5.1.8 Trench 2 also contained a large pit (220) and what could be a foundation cut (204). The pit (220) truncated the possible foundation cut making the actual shape and total extent of 204 difficult to ascertain due to its location within the trench. The terminus of 204 was excavated revealing a very square cut measuring 0.4 m in depth by 0.7 m

in width, which was filled by three brown sandy fills (205, 206 and 207). These fills contained Post-Medieval pottery (Fig. 4, section 202, see also Appendix 1 and section 5.2 below).

- 5.1.9 Pit 220 was sub-square and measured approximately 1.2 m in plan and 0.6 m in depth. It was filled by two sandy fills (221, 222) which contained Post-Medieval finds (Fig. 4, section 204, see also Appendix 1).

Trench 4

- 5.1.10 Trench 4 measured 16.2 m by 1.8 m and was aligned east-west. The depth to the top of the natural was 1.08 m deep at the eastern end and 0.64 m deep at the western end. Trench 4 had to be shortened due to a water main being located at the western end of the proposed trench limit. Two cased bore holes which had to be left in place had been dug and a water meter had been placed just to the west of the water main. The area in between was too small to excavate therefore the trench was started to the east of the bore holes (Fig. 5).
- 5.1.11 The archaeology of Trench 4 was dominated by the remains of the Victorian Police Station, which truncated any trace of earlier activity within the trench. The natural sand was overlain by a 0.3 m thick layer of sandy brown subsoil (409), a 0.35 m thick layer of patchy darker buried topsoil (401), and was capped by a layer of modern overburden including the modern tarmac surface (Fig. 5). There was also a 0.3 m layer of demolition rubble (408) within the extent of the Victorian structures. All this was sealed by a layer of modern surfacing for the car park (400)(Fig. 5).
- 5.1.12 Trench 4 contained two large modern pits (412 and 413) both of which truncated all deposits below the modern surfacing (400). Pit 412 was seen in section (Fig. 5, section 401) and measured 1.2 m in width and 0.8 m in depth and was filled by loosely compacted demolition rubble (410, 411). Pit 413 was only recorded in plan as it was dug next to structure 406 / 407 and did not appear in the section of the trench. It was revealed to be at least 1.5 m in diameter and of considerable depth (at least 1 m), although it was not fully excavated due to the depth. It was also filled with rubble associated with the demolition of the Victorian Police Station (414)(Fig. 5, see also Appendix 1).
- 5.1.13 Trench 4 also contained an extensive series of Victorian walls, associated surfacing and drains which extended throughout the eastern part of the trench (see Fig. 5). These structures consisted of a concrete footing (406) filling a construction cut (403) and packed in by a sandy fill (404). On top and around this there were brick walls, drains and some limited brick surfacing which were heavily truncated (structure 407). The overall extent and alignment of this structure seems to be fairly complex and would require further exposure to ascertain its true form, nonetheless it is certain that structure 407 is associated with the Victorian Police Station and the structure found in Trench 6 (Figs 5 and 7, see also Appendix 1).

Trench 5

- 5.1.14 Trench 5 measured 9 m by 1.8 m and was aligned NE/SW. The depth to the top of the natural was roughly 0.8 m throughout the length of the trench. A disused manhole and drain were encountered running down the centre of the trench which slightly obscured visibility. However this did not prevent the level of the natural sand from being reached, nor did it affect the archaeological sampling of the trench, as the services did not truncate any visible features.
- 5.1.15 The natural sand in Trench 5 was overlain by a 0.44 m thick layer of subsoil (501) and a 0.4 m thick layer of modern overburden, including the modern surfacing of the car park (502).
- 5.1.16 The trench contained one sub-rectangular pit (503) which measured approximately 1 m square, and reached a depth of 0.3 m. It was filled by a brown sand which contained Post-Medieval ceramic building materials (CBM)(Fig. 6, see also table 2 below).
- 5.1.17 Trench 5 also contained a small chalk outcrop with a series of holes and indentations caused by solution further down in the chalk. As the geology was unusual, when compared with the rest of the site, a small intervention was excavated which produced two flint flakes. It is possible that these solution features formed and were filled in by alluvial sands in the Mesolithic or Neolithic when the flakes were deposited.

Trench 6

- 5.1.18 Trench 6 measured 10.6 m by 1.8 m and was aligned north-south. The top of the natural was encountered at a depth of 1.60 m at the northern end of the trench. In the rest of the trench the natural was truncated by services and the remains of the basement of the Victorian Police Station (603)(Fig.7).
- 5.1.19 The southern half of the trench was excavated down to 1.8 m to reveal demolition rubble from the collapse of the Police Station (602). At the mid-point of the trench, the wall of the station was encountered (603). There were also two modern cement drains associated with the old building. It seems that the wall is cut into the subsoil but this is difficult to verify as the machine could not excavate any further between 603 and the cement drain.

5.2 Description of Finds

Post Medieval Ceramic Materials

By John Cotter (OA)

The Pottery

- 5.2.1 A total of 17 sherds of pottery weighing 428g. was recovered (see Table 1). Except for one sherd, all the pottery is of 18th and 19th century date and comprises both

local and English regional types as well as one sherd of later Chinese porcelain. The remaining sherd is a sandy grey Medieval coarseware, probably from the Limpsfield kilns in east Surrey and dating to *c* 1150-1400. It was residual in its context. None of this material warrants further study.

Table 1. Summary of pottery types and dates.

Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight	Comments
U/S	c1770-1800/25	6	262	Profile LPM11 Creamware saucer. Rim PM26 Staffs white stoneware chamberpot. 3x local post med red earthenware PM1/LPM1/PM2.7 inc 1 rouletted dec. 1x prob LPM2 flowerpot
104	c1770-1830	2	22	LPM11 Creamware. Rim PM2.7 pink-buff earthenware dish
207	c1770-1800/25	3	10	Rim LPM11 creamware plate. Rim PM26 Staffs white stoneware plate. Bodysherd M55 Limpsfield-type coarse grey ware
222	c1750-1850	4	30	4 vess incl bs PM24 ?Isleworth-type combed (Staffs-style) slipware c1750+. Bs LPM2 flowerpot. Bs PM9 tin-glazed. Chinese porcelain PM40 dish footring
414	c1750-1900	2	104	LPM2 late post-med red earthenware large bowl base or lid dome, glazed int/ext. Slightly iron-streaked glaze
TOTAL		17	428	

Ceramic Building Materials

- 5.2.2 A total of 7 fragments weighing 3796g. were recovered, all from the same context (414)(see Table 2). These are mostly from 19th-century bricks although one is probably 17th century. A worn Post-Medieval floor tile and a late Post-Medieval roof tile fragment were also recovered. None of this material warrants further study.

Table 2. Summary of ceramic building materials.

Context	Spot-date	No	Weight	Comments
414	17-E19C	1	458	Floor tile, soft orange-red fine sandy fabric. Upper surface very worn with no evidence of glaze surviving. Almost complete. Sides 116mm long x 24mm (max) thick. Prob local, small 'quarry'-type. Bedded in thick white mortar
414	18/19C?	1	160	Roof tile. Corner frag. Pasty red fabric. Circular nail hole

414	19C	5	3178	Brick. Fragments from min 5 bricks. All red. 1 with shallow frog prob mid 19C. 1 denser, thinner, v regular, 49mm thick prob from 19C architectural detail brick. 2 others also prob 19C including 1 poss flooring brick (worn upper surface). 1 much coarser worn brick end 50mm thick x 104mm wide prob 17C
TOTAL		7	3796	

The Clay Pipes

- 5.2.3 A total of 5 fragments of clay pipe weighing 18g. were recovered (see Table 3). One small residual stem may be of 17th century date. The other pieces are of 18th and late 18th/early 19th century date. None of this material warrants further study.

Table 3. Summary of pipes

Context	Spot-date	Stem	Bowl	Mouth	Tot sherds	Tot Wt	Comments
U/S	c1730-1780	0	1	0	1	12	Complete bowl (chipped). Heeled, unmarked
207	L18/19C?	2	0	0	2	4	1x stem bore 1.5mm, 1x prob 17C stem with 3.5mm stem bore
222	L18/19C?	2	0	0	2	2	Stem bores c1.5mm
TOTAL		4	1	0	5	18	

Lithics

By Rebecca Devaney (OA)

- 5.2.4 Five pieces of flint were recovered from three contexts during the evaluation (*Table 4*). Of note are broken blades from contexts 207 and 222. Both have dorsal blade scars and platform edge abrasion, characteristics associated with an earlier Prehistoric industry.
- 5.2.5 The presence of struck flint, in particular the blades, suggests human activity at the site during the Mesolithic or Earlier Neolithic.

Table 4. Summary of flint

Context	207	222	505	Total
Flake	1			1
Blade	1	1		2
Blade-like flake	1		1	2
Total	3	1	1	5

Animal Bone Assessment**By Fay Worley (OA)**

- 5.2.6 Twelve fragments (102g) of animal bone were recovered from the evaluation. The animal bone was recovered from contexts (104, 206, 222 and 414) and unstratified material. The majority of the specimens were sheep or goat and generally well preserved.
- 5.2.7 Fill 104 contained a sheep or goat distal metacarpal (19g) which had been butchered with chops to the posterior mid-diaphysis (one of which severed the bone) and a chop to the anterior distal epiphysis, probably inflicted during dismemberment. The animal was at least 18-24 months old at death (following Silver 1969) and was a fairly large individual (Bd = 31.4 mm) (following Driesch 1976).
- 5.2.8 Fill 206 included a sheep/goat tibia mid-diaphysis fragment (11g) which had been chopped when fresh.
- 5.2.9 Fill 222 contained a medium mammal rib (7g), probably also sheep/goat.
- 5.2.10 Modern fill 414 included a medium mammal rib (5g) and hare left tibia (8g).
- 5.2.11 Seven fragments 52g of animal bone were collected from unstratified deposits. This material included a sheep/goat left tibia (older than 36-42 months at death following Silver 1969), right radius, right scapula and mandible fragments. Only the process of the mandible was represented, this had been butchered leaving a horizontal knife cut. In addition a fragment of medium mammal long bone and indeterminate medium mammal sized cortical bone were represented, these may also both be sheep.
- 5.2.12 No further information can be obtained from such a small assemblage.

Metal Assessment**By Leigh Allen (OA)**

- 5.2.13 A total of 12 metal objects were recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage comprises 10 iron objects 8 of which are nails and 2 copper alloy objects. The two other iron objects are a length of wire with the ends twisted around each other and a solid rectangular strip with at least two perforations through it. The two copper alloy finds are Surrey Constabulary helmet badges.

Table 5. Summary of metal objects found

Context	Object	Material	Condition	Length
U/S	Two Surrey Constabulary helmet badges	Copper alloy	Complete	80mm
205	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	38mm
205	Nail	Iron	Complete	77mm
414	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	34mm

414	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	42mm
414	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	30mm
414	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	71mm
414	Nail	Iron	Incomplete	60mm
414	Length of looped and twisted wire	Iron	Incomplete	115mm
414	Rectangular strip with at least 2 perforations through it	Iron	Incomplete	173mm

Other Finds

By Rose Grant (OA)

Shell

- 5.2.14 A total of 3 oyster shell fragments were recovered from the site. Two from context 104 weighing 39 grams and one from context 414 weighing 15 grams.

Glass

- 5.2.15 A total of 3 fragments of glass were recovered from the site.

Table 6. Summary of glass.

Context	Fragment Count	Weight (grams)	Object
U/S	1	9	Vessel sherd
222	1	11	Glass stem
414	1	5	Sherd

Coal

- 5.2.16 A total of four fragments of coal were recovered from context 207 weighing 20 grams.

5.3 Environmental Assessment

By Seren Griffiths (OA)

- 5.3.1 The sample from context 104 produced frequent quantities (5-25 items) of charcoal >2mm and some charred grain (<5 items) and weed seeds were present (<5 items). The sample also contained frequent quantities of comminuted coke or clinker. The charred grain and seed material had little identifiable internal structure and were poorly preserved. This might be consistent with high temperature combustion. Molluscs were frequently noted in the flot (5-25 items).

- 5.3.2 The preservation of charred remains from context 104 poor, making identification difficult. The finds that were recovered as part of the wet sieving included a range of Post-Medieval material (Fe objects, ceramic building material, glass and a copper alloy pin). Assessment of this sample demonstrates that charred remains are preserved; further excavation should include a targeted sampling strategy if more Post-Medieval deposits with waterlogged or more frequent occurrences of charred plant material become evident (see English Heritage CAG *Environmental Archaeology* 2002).

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of Field Investigation

- 6.1.1 The site was located in active car parks, which presented several difficulties to the archaeological works. The area had several services, some active and others disused, which caused Trench 4 to be shortened and moved, and which obscured visibility and slowed machine work in other trenches. Moreover, geological bore holes were being drilled on site at the same time as the evaluation work which resulted in logistical difficulties as well as a change in the position of Trench 6 to accommodate a drilling rig. Despite this disruption, close co-operation allowed all trenching to proceed in a timely manner and the distribution of the trenches was not seriously affected by these factors. Moreover, the natural sand was reached and clearly visible in all trenches and the archaeology was readily identifiable.

6.2 Overall Interpretation

Summary of results

- 6.2.1 The archaeology of the old Police Station car park, between Leapale and Woodbridge Roads, is dominated by the foundations of the former Victorian Police Station and associated disused services. This car park was located on higher ground and Trench 5 revealed a limited amount of weathered chalk filled by alluvial sands which contained worked flints, possibly deposited there in the Mesolithic/early Neolithic.
- 6.2.2 The archaeology of the Commercial Road car park, consisted of some Post-Medieval cut features and a modern basement. Although actual structural remains from the Friary were not encountered, a Victorian/early modern footing in Trench 2 may have been constructed using chalk blocks recovered from Medieval structures associated with the Friary. Some Post-Medieval cut features were also encountered during work in this car park.
- 6.2.3 Post-Medieval deposits were found immediately overlying the natural deposits and no features of earlier date were found during the evaluation apart from the five prehistoric flint artefacts in Trench 5.
- 6.2.4 There was no evidence of any agricultural or horticultural activity within the trenches, nor were there any other features associated with the Medieval Friary. It is

plausible that any agricultural activity associated with the Friary could have been truncated by later ploughing and/or development in the area.

Significance

- 6.2.5 The archaeology of the evaluated area has been heavily truncated by Post-Medieval activity, particularly by Victorian building. The presence in Trench 5 of prehistoric flint artefacts would strongly indicate a potential for the survival of Mesolithic/Neolithic artefacts across the site. Considering the recovery of similar finds during the Friary shopping centre excavations this is perhaps not surprising.
- 6.2.6 Trench 2 produced evidence of Medieval remains, particularly a series of faced chalk blocks. Although re-used in the case of Trench 2, it is not unlikely that intact Medieval structures and associated deposits will survive across the site, just as was seen during the shopping centre excavations.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>No./wt</i>	<i>Date</i>
001								
	100	Layer			Natural sands			
	101	Layer		0.68	Subsoil			
	102	Layer		0.50	Modern overburden			Modern
	103	Cut	1.00	0.75	Sub-squared pit			
	104	Fill		0.75	Fill of pit 103	Pot, bone, flint, glass, metal		Post Med
	105	Layer		0.18	Layer of buried topsoil			Post Med
002								
	200	Layer		0.40	Modern overburden			Modern
	201	Layer		0.30	Demolition layer			Modern
	202	Layer		0.32	Subsoil			
	203	Layer			Natural sands			
	204	Cut	0.64	0.40	Terminus of possible post med foundation cut			
	205	Fill		0.05	Fill of 204	Metal		Post Med
	206	Fill		0.15	Fill of 204	Bone		
	207	Fill		0.30	Fill of 204	Pot, flint		Post Med
	208	Cut	6.00	1.00	Foundation cut for Victorian /early modern building			19th/20th C?
	209	Fill		0.03	Fill of 208			
	210	Floor			Early modern cement floor			19th/20th C?
	211	Wall	0.32	1.10	Early modern brick wall			19th/20th C?
	212	Fill		0.72	Modern fill of 211/210			Modern
	213	Layer		0.36	Demolition layer			Modern
	214	Drain		0.40	Early modern drain and casing			19th/20th C?
	215	Wall	0.40	0.40	Victorian or early			19th/20th

					modern foundation made of re-used stones			C?
	216	Wall	0.40	0.50	Early modern brick work			19th/20th C?
	217	Wall	0.50	0.40	Early modern brick wall			19th/20th C?
	218	Cut	1.00	0.38	Foundation cut for 214- 217			19th/20th C?
	219	Void						
	220	Cut	1.45	0.60	Post Medieval pit cut			
	221	Fill		0.40	Fill of 220	Pot, flint, CBM		Post Med
	222	Fill		0.20	Fill of 220	Pot, flint, CBM		Post Med
	223	Layer		0.02	Lens of sand representing early modern ground level			19th/20th C?
004								
	400	Layer		0.32	Layer of modern overburden			Modern
	401	Layer		0.38	Buried topsoil			19th/20th C?
	402	Layer			Natural sands			
	403	Cut	1.00	0.50	Foundation cut for 406			19th/20th C?
	404	Fill	0.20	0.50	Fill of 403			19th/20th C?
	405	Fill		0.20	Later layer of fill sealing cut 403			Modern
	406	Struc.	1.00	0.40	Footing for 407			19th/20th C?
	407	Wall	0.50	0.40	Brick wall			19th/20th C?
	408	Layer		0.30	Demolition layer			Modern
	409	Layer		0.28	Subsoil			
	410	Fill		0.06	Fill of 412			Modern
	411	Fill		0.60	Fill of 412			Modern
	412	Cut	1.30	0.80	Modern pit			Modern
	413	Cut	3.00	Not known	Large modern rubbish pit			Modern
	414	Fill			Fill of 413			Modern

005								
	500	Layer			Natural sands filling dissolution in chalk	Flint?		Meso??
	501	Layer		0.36	Subsoil			
	502	Layer		0.37	Modern overburden			Modern
	503	Cut	1.00	0.30	Post Medieval pit cut			Post Med
	504	Fill		0.30	Fill of 503	CBM		Post Med
	505	Layer			Natural chalk			
006								
	600	Layer			Natural sands			
	601	Layer		0.45	Subsoil			
	602	Fill		2.00+	Demolition rubble from police station			Modern
	603	Wall	1.00	2.00+	Demolished police station			19th/20th C?

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: The Friary, Guildford

Site code: GUFT05

Grid reference: SU 995 496

Type of evaluation: Trial Trenches. A total of six trenches were excavated

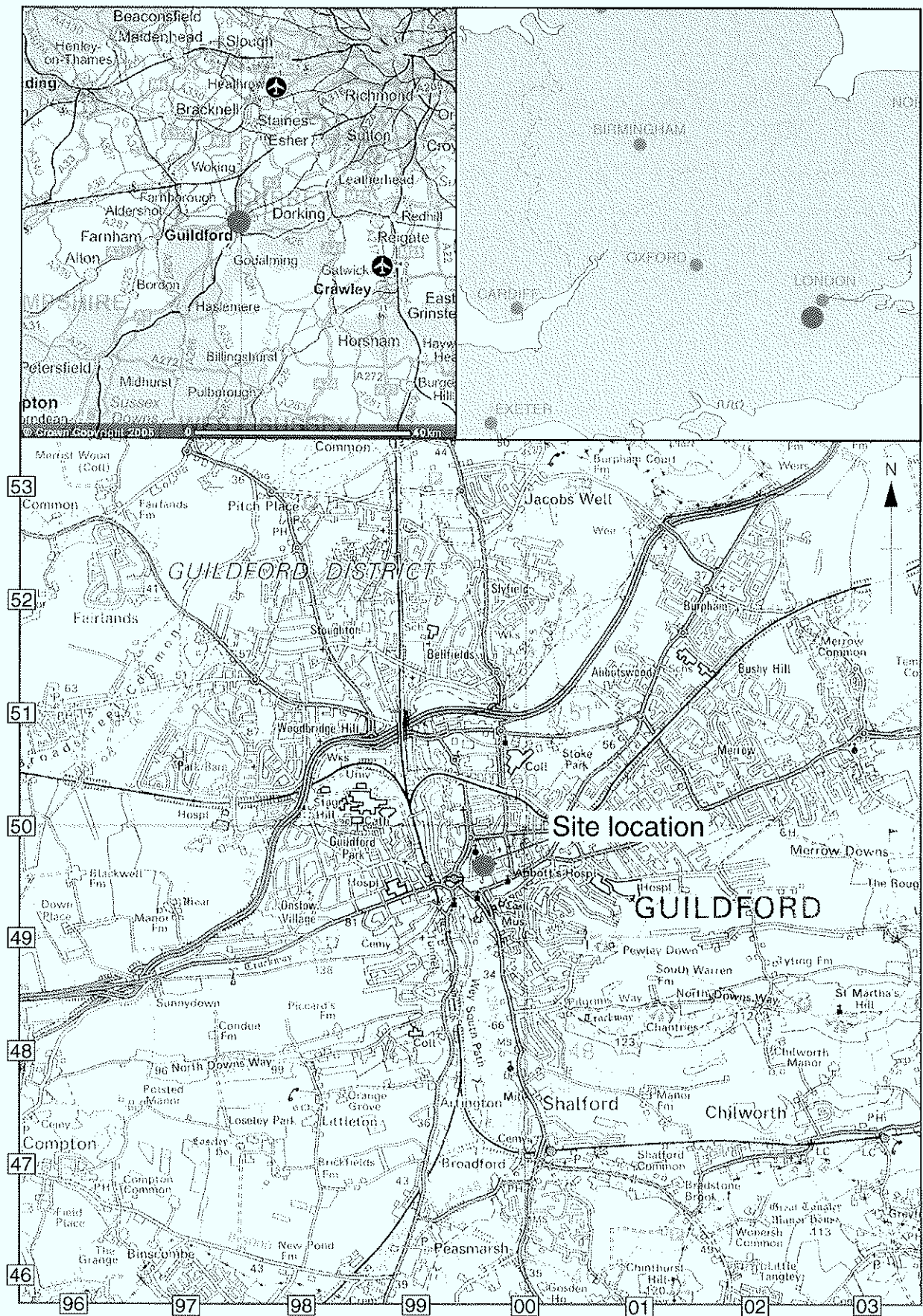
Date and duration of project: 13th to the 21st of June 2005.

Area of site: c 1.3 ha

Summary of results: The evaluation revealed a high level of Post-Medieval truncation across the site. The archaeology of the old Police Station car park, between Leapale and

Woodbridge Roads, was dominated by the foundations of the Victorian Police Station. Trench 5 revealed a limited amount of weathered chalk filled by alluvial sands which contained worked flints, possibly deposited in the Mesolithic / early Neolithic. The archaeology of the western car park, between Woodbridge and Commercial Roads, consisted of some post Medieval cut features and a modern basement. Trench 2 also contained a Victorian / early modern footing which had been built using chalk blocks, possibly taken from Medieval structures associated with the Friary

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the appropriate museum service in due course.



Scale 1:50,000

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Figure 1: Site location

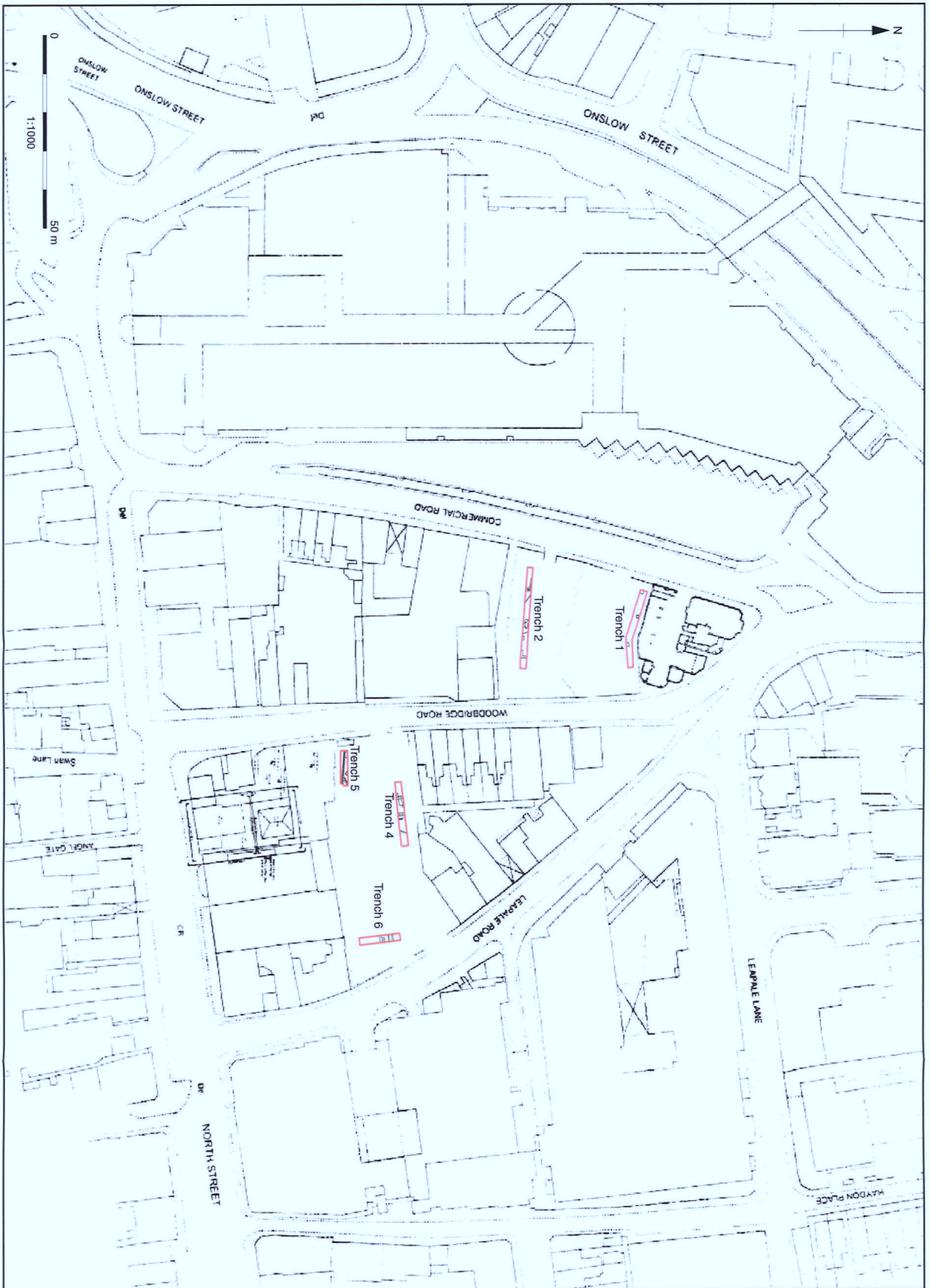


Figure 2: Trench location plan

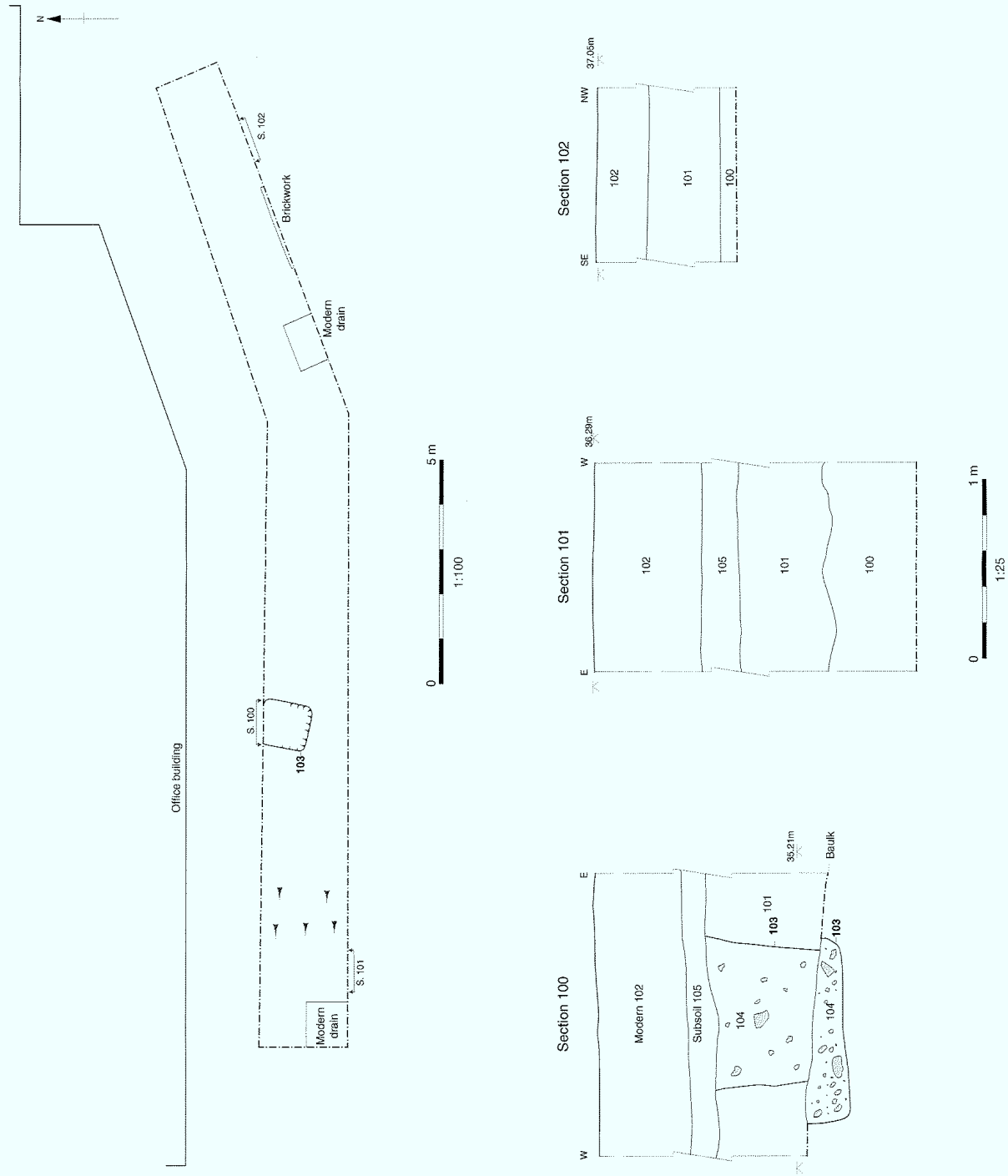


Figure 3: Trench 1, plan and sections

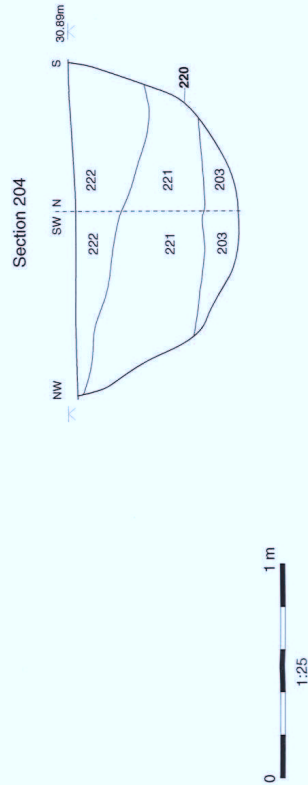
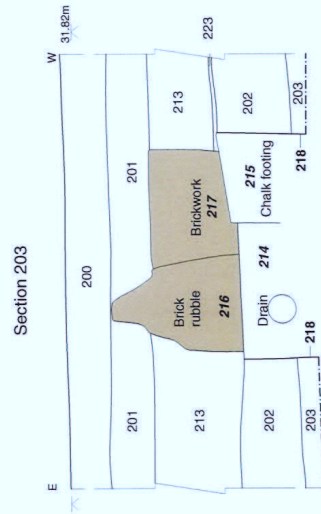
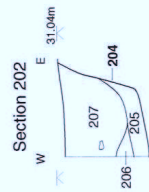
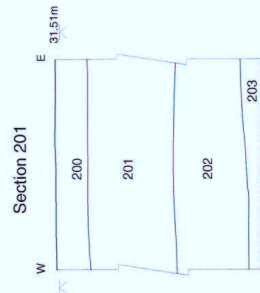
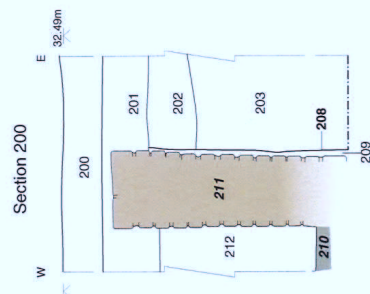
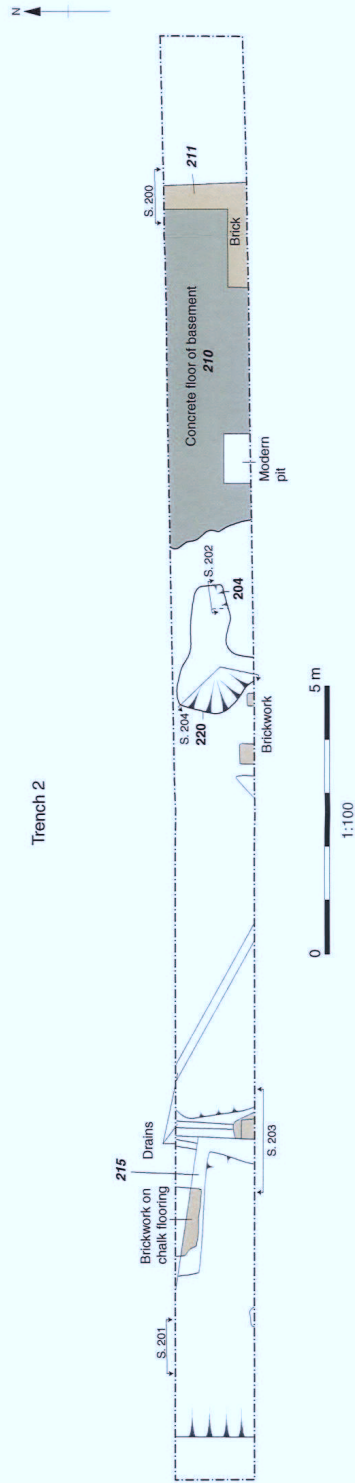


Figure 4: Trench 2, plan and sections

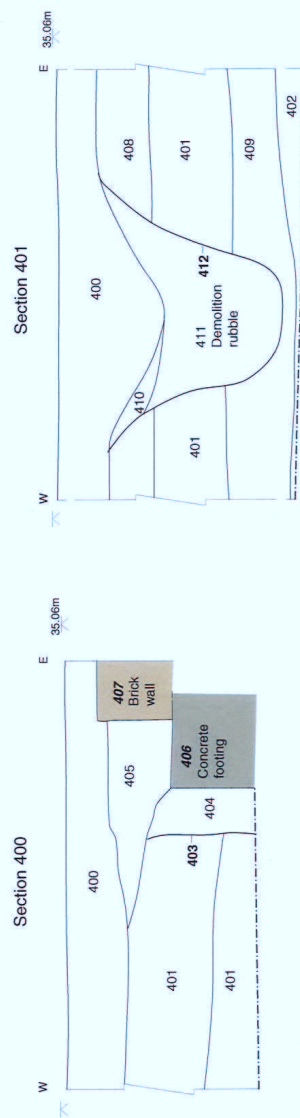
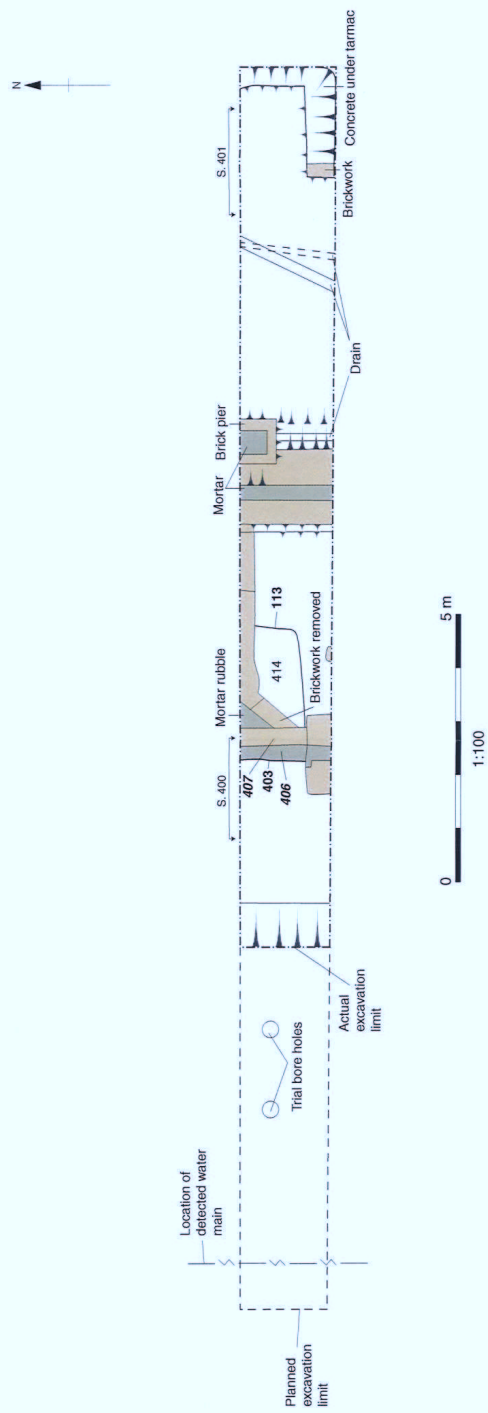


Figure 5: Trench 4, plan and sections

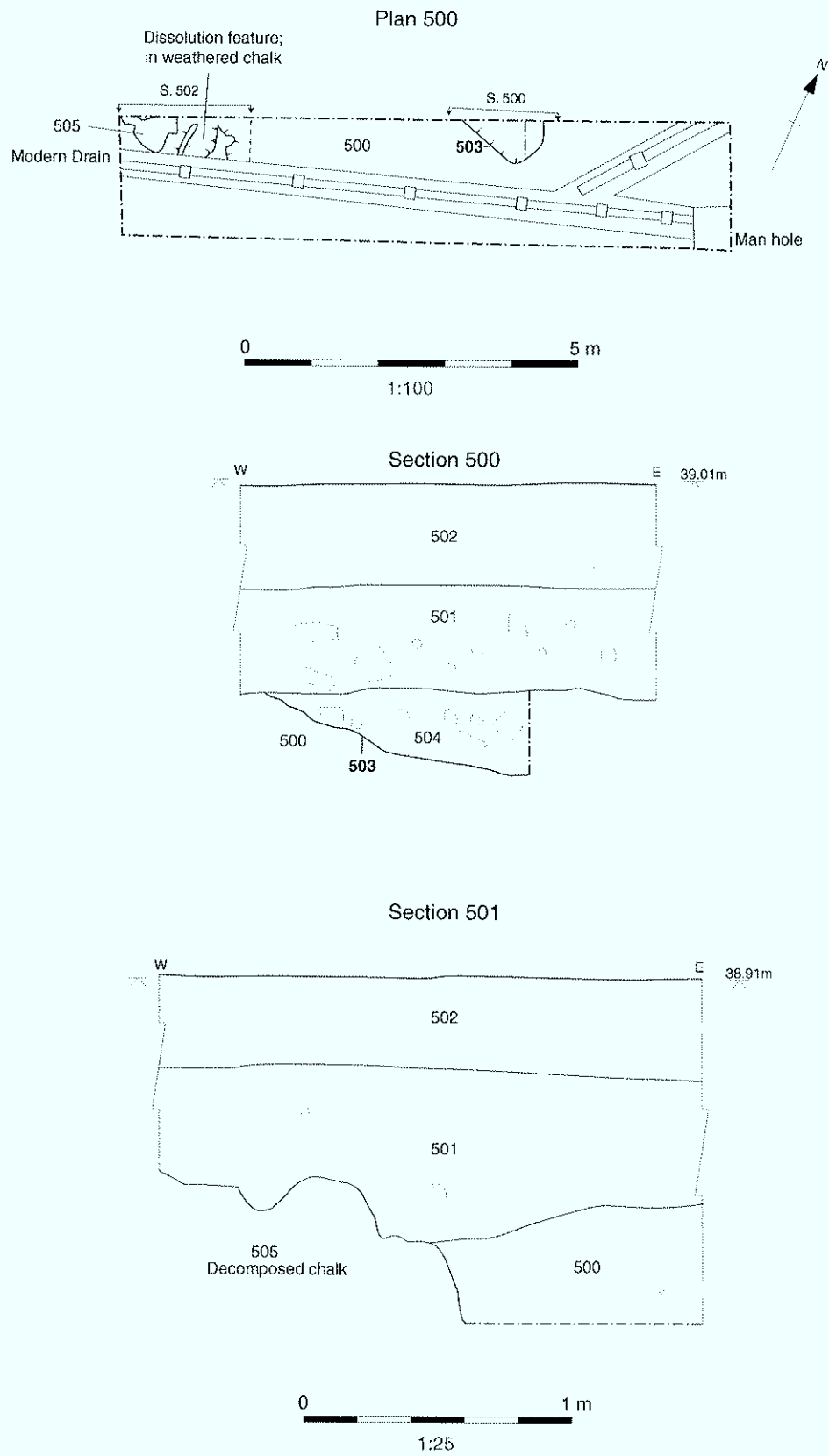


Figure 6: Trench 5, plan and sections

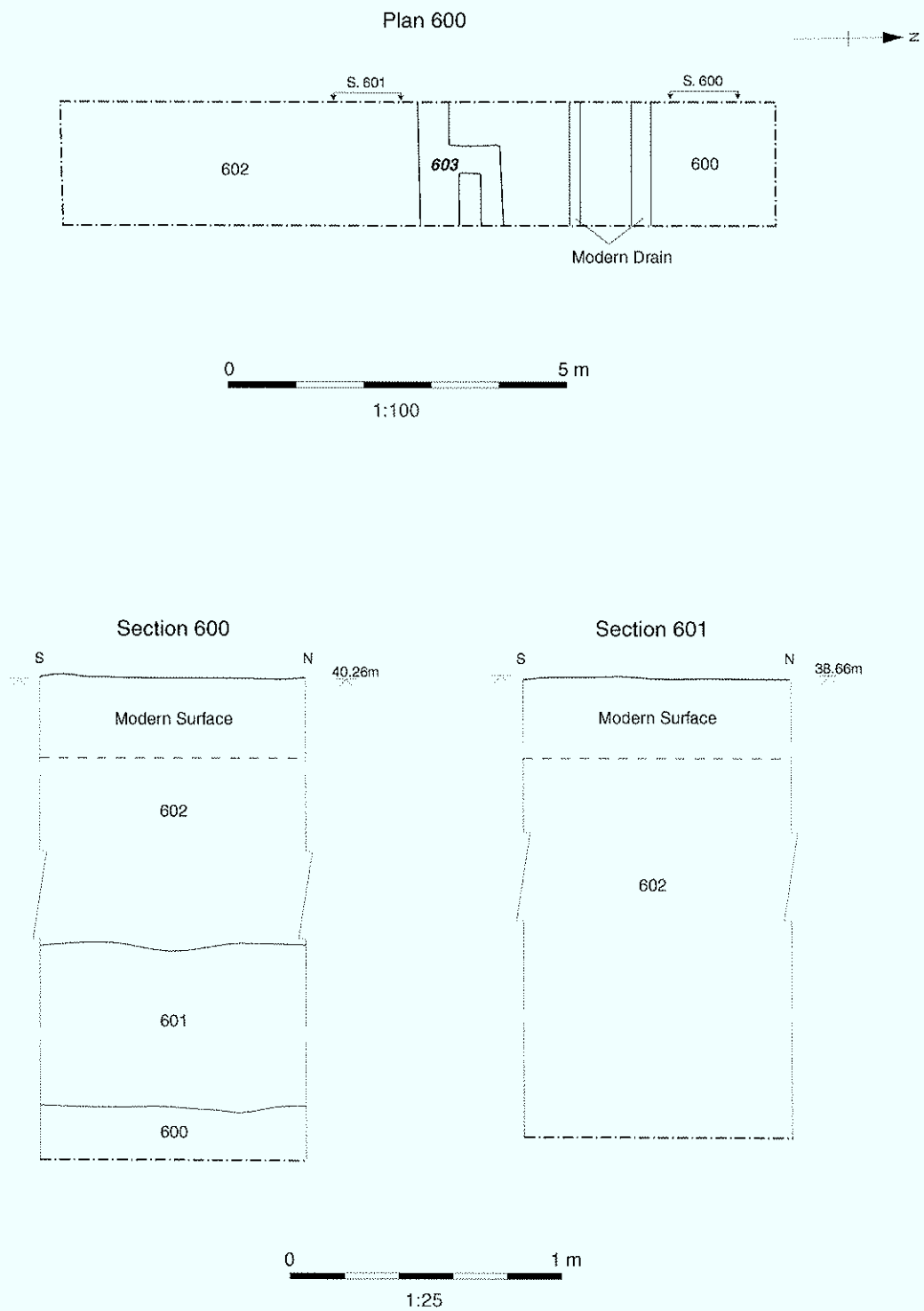


Figure 7: Trench 6, plan and sections



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