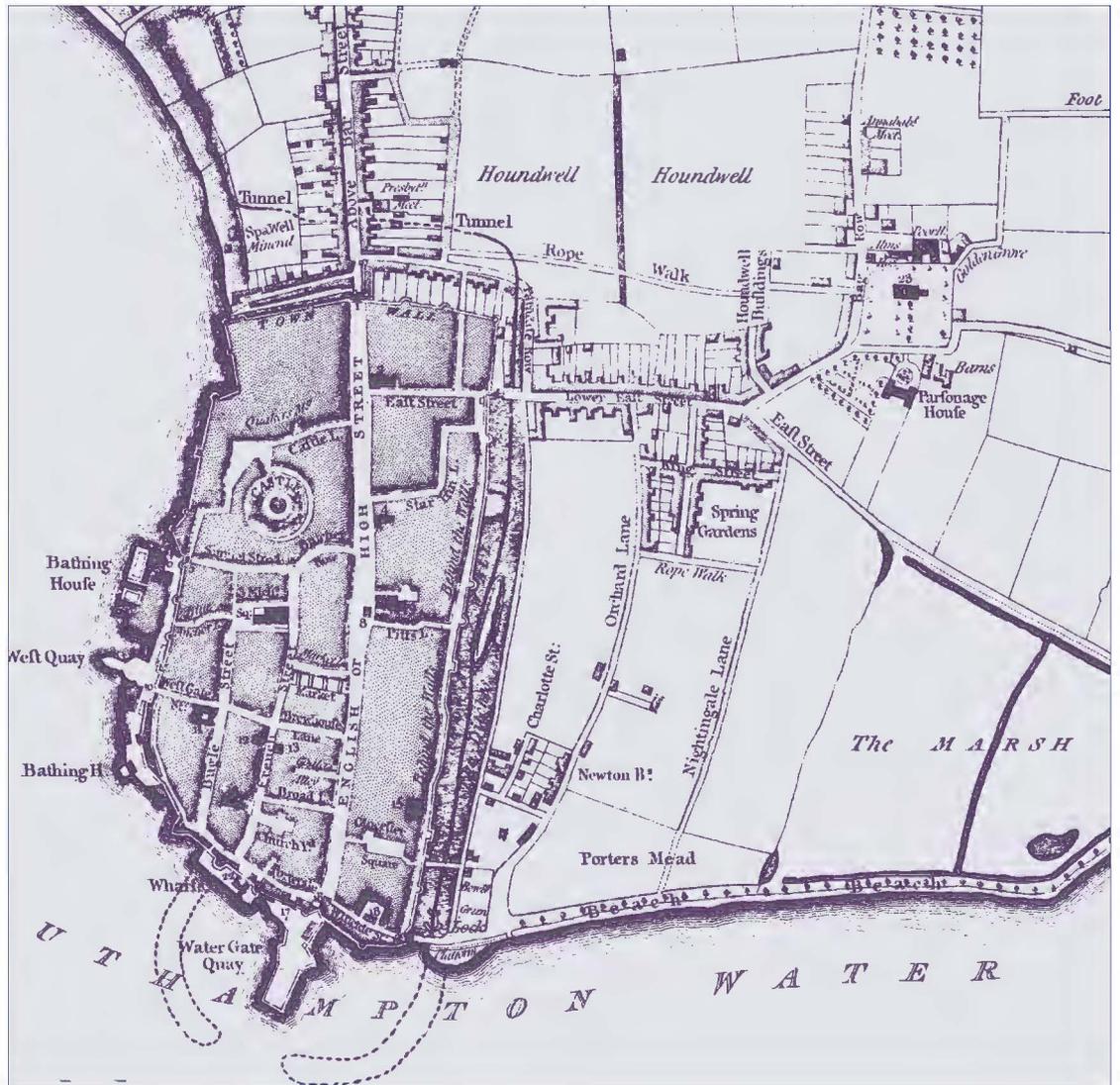


# Dolphin Hotel, 34-35 High Street, Southampton

## Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 53200

SHCU code: SOU1248

June 2003

**Dolphin Hotel, 34-35 High Street,  
Southampton**

**Archaeological Evaluation  
Report**

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### Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

**Figure 1 – Site and trench location**

**Figure 2 – Trench 1: Test sondages and trench section with detail**

**Figure 3 – Trench 2: Phased plans and trench section**

**Figure 4 – Trench 2: Phased plans and trench section**

**Figure 5 – Trench 3: Plan and trench section with plates**

**Figure 6 – Trench 3: Detailed sections with plates**

## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Alan Leather Associates, acting on the behalf of the owners of the Dolphin Hotel, High Street, Southampton, to undertake an archaeological evaluation. The owners have applied for outline planning permission (Southampton City Council's Heritage Conservation no. 5593) to develop the car park of the Dolphin Hotel. The proposed site includes development of the 'Back of the Walls' frontage (currently used as a car park) with the focus of the development at the eastern end of the property, just inside what would have been the walled boundary of the Medieval town of Southampton. The National Grid Reference is 442080 111351. Fieldwork was undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2003.

An earlier desk-based assessment indicated that there was a high potential for evidence of post-10<sup>th</sup> century occupation on the Site (SCCAU 2003). Such archaeological potential might have included ancillary buildings associated with the present Hotel or its earlier medieval antecedents. Previous excavations (SOU 105.61) suggest that the area of the present car park may also have been previously used for light industrial activity, such as pottery and copper alloy working. There was also the possibility that lime kilns perhaps associated with the stone building phases of the present hotel buildings or with the construction or repair of the town wall, which lay immediately to the east, might be encountered. Previous excavations (SOU 934, 997, 1039) to the south of the Site suggested that significant archaeological deposits could survive up to 3m below the present ground surface.

The current evaluation comprised the excavation of three trenches within the footprints of the proposed new development.

Trench 1 was not fully excavated to the natural brickearth, though where revealed the brickearth was found to be cut by a series of stake holes; two of which yielded Romano-British and Anglo-Norman pottery. Medieval and Post-medieval dumps, levelling episodes and the cobbled remnant of a 19th century stable block floor sealed these features.

Trench 2 revealed substantial evidence of domestic occupation of the site in the Medieval period in the form of a series of inter-cutting rubbish and latrine pits. These were sealed by Medieval midden layers and Post-medieval made ground.

Trench 3 also produced Medieval occupation evidence in the form of rubbish pits and a possible timber building. These remains were sealed by medieval and Post-medieval garden soils.

Any development on the site that involves reducing the level of the current ground surface may impact pre-19<sup>th</sup> century remains. The cut features revealed will be impacted if development reduces the surface height below 4.65m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

## **Acknowledgements**

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by Alan Leather Associates and Wessex Archaeology is grateful for the assistance provided by Bob Musker, owner of the Dolphin Hotel and his staff. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the assistance and advice of Alan Morton from the Southampton Heritage Conservation Unit, who monitored the work on the behalf of the Planning Authority.

Niels Dagless, who compiled this report, directed the fieldwork and was assisted by Sue Clelland, Simon Skitterel, Jonathan Crisp and Laura Cassie. Lorraine Mepham assessed the finds, and Liz James prepared the report illustrations. Richard Greatorex, who also edited this report, managed the project for Wessex Archaeology.

# **Dolphin Hotel, 34-35 High Street, Southampton**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Alan Leather Associates, acting on behalf of the owners of the Dolphin Hotel, Southampton to undertake an archaeological evaluation in the car park of the Dolphin Hotel, 34-35 High Street Southampton (hereafter the Site). The Site is centred on National Grid Reference is 442080 111351 (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The owners of the Dolphin Hotel, have applied for outline planning permission (Southampton City Council's Heritage Conservation no. is 5593) to develop the car park of the Dolphin Hotel. The proposed site includes development of the 'Back of the Walls' frontage (currently used as a car park) with the focus of the development at the eastern end of the property.

1.1.3 The Site lies within Area 5c of the Local Areas of Archaeological Importance as defined in the City of Southampton Local Plan (1995).

1.1.4 The buildings of the Dolphin Hotel currently occupy the western end of the Site. The Hotel is protected under Grade II Listed Building status. Whilst the majority of the building appears to date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, there are elements (for example a stone mullioned window to the rear of the building) which might date to the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

1.1.5 Alan Morton prepared a brief for the evaluation on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and a specification was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA7887.01).

1.1.6 Evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (1994, as amended). The fieldwork was carried out by Wessex Archaeology from the 22<sup>nd</sup> April to the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2003.

#### **1.2 Topography and Geology**

1.2.1 The Site generally lies approximately between 6.7m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) (a spot height taken 50m to the south of the Site) and 7.6m above aOD (a spot height taken 100m to the north of the Site) (SCCAU 2003).

1.2.2 The underlying geology for the immediate area comprises outcrops of river deposits (mainly loam and clay) and the Earnley Sand of the Bracklesham Group (Ordnance Survey 1987). The latter appears to run the length of the High Street. Excavations in this area indicate that these 'natural' deposits are overlain by brickearth (Hodson 1975; SCCAU 2003).

### **1.3 Archaeological Background**

- 1.3.1 A desk-based assessment conducted earlier this year by the SCCAU indicated that whilst there was the possibility of encountering prehistoric or Roman features and artefacts on the Site, the greater potential was for evidence of post 10<sup>th</sup> century occupation (SCCAU 2003). Such archaeological evidence might include ancillary buildings associated with the present Hotel or its earlier medieval antecedents.
- 1.3.2 The area of the car park may also have been used for light industrial activity, such as pottery and copper alloy working as indicated in excavations at 61-64 High Street (SOU 105.61).
- 1.3.3 There was also the possibility that limekilns, perhaps associated with the stone building phases of the present hotel buildings or with the construction or repair of the town wall, which lay immediately to the east, might be encountered. Previous excavations (SOU 934, 997, 1039) to the south of the Site suggest that significant archaeological deposits could survive up to 3m below the present ground surface.
- 1.3.4 In the later Medieval period part of the Site appears to have been occupied by a mixture of capital and tenement buildings the partial remains of which one might well expect to find within the area of the present car park.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1.1 The overall aims and objectives of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, condition, complexity, significance, and quality of any archaeology that may be affected by the proposed development. More specifically:
- to identify, investigate and record any significant archaeological features and deposits that occur within the footprint of the proposed new development. Significant features and deposits will constitute remains, including evidence for past environments, relating to pre-19<sup>th</sup> century use of the area.
  - to establish, through artefact and palaeo-environmental sampling, the date and function of these features
  - to place the results of the work in the context of previous investigations in the vicinity
  - to produce a report on the results of the fieldwork for circulation to the Alan Leather Associates and their client and the Heritage Conservation Unit. The report will enable the Heritage Conservation Unit to make informed decisions regarding the possible need for further archaeological mitigation in connection with this planning proposal
  - To create a fully ordered and indexed archive, including the material finds, from the programme of archaeological evaluation. The archive will be of the required standard to be deposited with Southampton City Museum and in accordance with the standards laid down in *Standards*

*for the Deposition of Archaeological Archives with Southampton City Council (1997).*

### **3 METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Evaluation Trenches**

- 3.1.1 Evaluation comprised the excavation (serially) of three trial trenches in the area of the present car park of the Dolphin Hotel. Each trench measured 15m by 2m, amounting to a total evaluation area of 90m<sup>2</sup> (**Fig 1**).
- 3.1.2 Before excavation began the proposed trench positions were scanned with a CAT and Genny to locate any below ground services. Live services necessitated the relocation of Trench 3 approximately five metres further east than had been intended within the Specification.
- 3.1.3 Topsoil, demolition debris and other recent overburden were removed by a six tonne tracked machine from each trench under the constant supervision of an appropriately qualified archaeologist. Mechanical excavation continued down to the top of archaeological horizons or to the surface of *in situ* natural deposits, whichever were first encountered. Further excavation was by hand and machine as appropriate.
- 3.1.4 All archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A drawn and digital record was compiled, including both plans and sections, and tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. A full photographic record was also maintained using both colour transparencies and black and white negatives (on 35mm film).
- 3.1.5 All trenches were fenced off using Heras Fencing, covered in netting where appropriate and backfilled on completion.

### **4 RESULTS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 Three trenches were excavated within the footprints of the proposed development. The results set out in this report are based on the archive of the evaluation, currently held by Wessex Archaeology under project code 52300.
- 4.1.2 Descriptions of the deposits and features, numbers in bold, within the trenches are tabulated in **Appendix 1**.

#### **4.2 Deposit Sequence and Archaeology**

##### *Trench 1*

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 was 12.4m long and 2m wide (**Fig. 2**). It was excavated to a depth of 1.4m (4.92m aOD) along most of its length. Test sondages were excavated at the east and west ends of the trench down to the top of the brickearth, at a depth of 4.22m aOD.

- 4.2.2 At the east-end of the trench, 11 stake holes (**118-128**) were revealed cutting the brickearth. These formed two roughly parallel lines aligned north-east to south-west. Two of the stake holes **118** and **119** yielded small fragments of pottery, an Anglo-Norman fragment from **118** and a prehistoric fragment from **119**.
- 4.2.3 At the west-end of the trench, 4 further stake holes were revealed (**131-134**). These were larger in plan and deeper than those at the east-end. They did not appear to form a coherent pattern.
- 4.2.4 The brickearth (**129**) through which the stake holes at each end of the trench were cut was brown silty clay. It contained occasional small to medium sub-angular flint pebbles and several fragments of weathered bone. This 're-deposited' layer was removed to reveal a light yellowish brown 'natural' brickearth.
- 4.2.5 The re-deposited brickearth and stake holes were sealed by a sequence of apparently dumped layers (**108, 114 & 116**). Layer **108** was a dark brown to dark greyish brown silty loam containing occasional flint pebbles. It yielded brick rubble, shell, tile and fragments of Post-medieval pottery. **116** was a dark brown to black silt loam, again containing brick, shell, tile and fragments of high medieval coarsewares which appear to be residual within the layer. **114** were a dark grey silty clay loam containing occasional flint pebbles, shell and post-medieval brick and tile.
- 4.2.6 Above these layers was a sequence of activity associated with the construction of a Post-medieval stable block. A level surface for this building was created through a dumping episode (**107**) of brick rubble and mortar. Through this, foundation walls were constructed (**102**) and over it a bedding layer of sandy gravel was laid. The floor of the stables comprised fairly regular cobbles (**103**) with occasional drain runs constructed from vertically laid tiles.
- 4.2.7 The bedding layer for the concrete slab and tarmac that comprise the current car park appears to have been formed from the brick rubble created by the demolition of the stable block.

#### *Trench 2*

- 4.2.8 Trench 2 was 13.8m long and 4.7m wide (**Fig. 3**). The long edges were stepped to provide a safe working environment. The base of the trench was c. 2m wide. Re-deposited brickearth (**219**), through which features were cut, was encountered at 4.65m aOD; natural brickearth was encountered at a depth of 1.8m (4.30m aOD).
- 4.2.9 The earliest features cut the natural brickearth (**204**) and are sealed by re-deposited brickearth (**219**). Ditch **224** was aligned east to west. Clear in plan the resultant profile was very shallow, less than 0.07m deep. The fill comprised dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles. It yielded 11 sherds of High Medieval and Anglo-Norman pottery. Pits **226** and **228** were heavily truncated by a later feature (**213**). **226** was possibly oval in plan with moderate concave sides. It was filled with a

dark grey-brown silty loam that yielded a sherd of Anglo-Norman pottery and a residual Romano-British sherd. No conclusions can be drawn regarding the nature and shape of pit **228**. Truncated by **213** and continuing into the section, not enough of this feature could be revealed to make any sensible interpretation. Furthermore the feature was not fully excavated due to constraints of space and depth. The mottled brown silty loam fill yielded High Medieval and Anglo-Norman Pottery.

- 4.2.10 Cut through the re-deposited brickearth (**219**) was a series of pits. At the north end of the trench were pits **211** and **213**. **213** (**Fig. 4**) an oval pit with steep to near vertical sides was filled with a sequence of deposits yielding Late Medieval pottery with residual High Medieval and Anglo-Norman sherds. The lowest excavated fill comprised a dark greyish brown 'cessy' deposit (**230**). Pit **211** cut into the top fills of **213**. It was a shallow (truncated) oval pit with irregular shallow to steep sides and a flat base. It was filled with a loose, friable, very dark greyish brown silt (**212**) containing common flint pebbles, tile, slate, shell bone and Late and High Medieval pottery.
- 4.2.11 At the south end of the trench was another sequence of three pits **205**, **207** and **209** (**Fig. 4**). **207** was the earliest of the three and was roughly oval in plan and had near vertical sides. Though not fully excavated it yielded evidence of a series of dumps of cessy material and domestic waste dating to the High Medieval Period. **210**, a shallow oval pit with gently sloping sides and a concave base, truncated the upper fill of **207** as did **205**, a slightly deeper pit with steep concave sides and a flat base. Both these pits yielded similar domestic waste containing Post-medieval pottery.
- 4.2.12 Slightly to the south of this series of pits was a possible post pit **220** (**Fig. 4**). Sub-circular in plan it had stepped sides and a flat base. In the centre of the base was what appeared to be a small roughly square post-hole. The fills contained no evidence of either packing or a post-pipe. One possibility is that the feature was fully re-excavated when the post was removed. The fills contained domestic waste. The upper fill contained Late Medieval Pottery with residual High Medieval and Anglo-Norman sherds. These residual sherds were also present in the lower fill indicating a certain amount of reworking of the deposits.
- 4.2.13 Overlying the deposit of reworked brickearth (**219**) and sealing pits **205**, **207**, **209**, **211** and **212**, were a series of dumped layers (**232-234**) (**Fig. 3**) the earliest of which (**232**), a mid greyish brown clayey silt, contained a sherd of late medieval pottery (5.15m-4.5m aOD). Through these layers cut (**235**), an east to west aligned vertical sided cut containing wall foundation (**239**). This foundation was set on a mid grey brown sandy loam bedding layer (**240**) and comprised un-coursed rough limestone blocks and red brick fragments set in a mid brown clay. This wall represents the remains of a coal shed and stable constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.2.14 The bedding layer for the concrete slab and tarmac that comprise the current car park appears to have been formed from the brick rubble created by the demolition of these buildings.

### *Trench 3*

- 4.2.15 Trench 3 was 14.8m long and 3.7m wide (**Fig. 5**). The sides were stepped to provide a safe 2m wide working area. The trench was excavated to the top of redeposited brickearth (**304**) at a depth of 4.65m aOD at the western end of the trench and 4.45m aOD at the eastern end. The depth of this redeposited brickearth extended to at least 3.93m aOD. There was no change in the consistency or the inclusions within the redeposited natural witnessed during the excavation of features, which truncated it. This would appear to suggest therefore that natural brickearth in this area of the Site lies below 3.93 aOD.
- 4.2.16 Historically the area of the site in which Trench 3 was situated has remained undeveloped. This was evidenced by the two layers (**302** and **303**) of homogenous and largely undifferentiated garden soil that sealed the brickearth to a depth of 1.85m.
- 4.2.17 Cutting the redeposited brickearth were 4 possible post-holes (**315**, **326**, **330** and **332**), a possible beam slot (**328**) and 5 pits (**311**, **313**, **317**, **322** and **324**).
- 4.2.18 None of the 'post-hole' features had evidence of packing or of a post pipe and as such the interpretation is tentative, based purely on size and shape. **315** and **326** were of a similar size and depth, though at over 6m apart are unlikely to be related. **330** truncated **323**. This may indicate a sequence of replacement or possibly that **330** was the post pipe for **323**. The fills of these two features were very different. **330** contained a dark brown silt loam containing small brick fragments and fragments of shell. In contrast the fill of **332** was a mottled yellow brown silt loam very similar to the surrounding brickearth. Thus it is possible that this is just one feature with the fill of **332** being re-deposited brickearth packing and the fill of **330** a topsoil derived sediment after the removal of a the post.
- 4.2.19 Roughly 0.4m to the east of **330** was a possible beam slot (**328**). The shallow feature was aligned north south, had moderate to steep concave sides and a concave, slightly sloping base. It had a slightly protruding sub-rectangular terminus.
- 4.2.20 A seemingly linear alignment of pits (**324**, **322**, **317**) extended a short distance into the trench out of the southern section. The earliest of these pits (**324**) was quite shallow with steep concave sides and a flat sloping base. It was filled with a mottled yellowish brown silt loam (re-deposited brickearth). This was substantially different from the two later pits, which were larger in plan, and deeper, with fill that appeared to be derived more from dumping of previously reworked deposits and domestic waste. **322** which was in turn cut by **317** truncated **324**. These two later pits were not fully excavated due to the restriction of space. However **317** did yield a fill that appeared to comprise building rubble: limestone dust, fragments and pebbles and flint debris. Features **311**, **313**, **324**, **315**, **328**, **326** and **332** all lie stratigraphically above **304**.
- 4.2.21 At the western end of the trench were pits **311** and **313**. These have no direct stratigraphic relationship but are both truncated by feature **305** which maybe a late Medieval pit or ditch. **313** was a sub-circular pit with near vertical

sides. This feature was not fully excavated however the upper fill comprised dark greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional small flint pebbles and High Medieval domestic waste with some residual Anglo-Norman material. Pit **311** was sub-circular in plan with steep concave sides and, as with **313**, was not fully excavated. The fill of **311**, comprising a dark greyish brown clayey silt loam containing occasional small flints and chalk flecks, produced a similar mix of High Medieval domestic waste and residual Anglo-Norman material as the fill of **313**.

- 4.2.22 The large north-south aligned ‘ditch’ which truncated both these pits, appears to have been cut from a higher level, truncating layer **303**. The ‘ditch’ was not fully excavated but was augured to a depth of 3.18m (3.06m aOD). It contained a series of dumped domestic deposits containing a mix of High and Late Medieval, Anglo-Norman and Romano-British pottery. The lowest excavated fill (at 3.63m aOD) contained only High Medieval Pottery.
- 4.2.23 The level from which a number of the post-holes and pits in trench 3 were originally cut from through the redeposited brickearth may have been slightly truncated during machining and cleaning. Hence some of the levels from which they are cut may vary by up to 15cm, though this may also be due to local variations in the manmade topography.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 The evaluation produced a moderately small finds assemblage, most of which derived from contexts within Trenches 2 and 3. The date range of this assemblage is predominantly Anglo-Norman to late medieval, with small quantities of earlier (prehistoric and Romano-British) and later (Post-medieval) material. Finds are predominantly representative of standard domestic refuse, with very little evidence for industrial or other activity. There is evidence for a significant level of reworking of earlier deposits, with much of the material pre-dating the Late Medieval period occurring residually.

### **5.2 Methodology**

- 5.2.1 Finds have been quantified by material type within each context (see **Appendix 2 Table 1**). Material types and codes follow Southampton City Council’s ‘Standards for the deposition of archaeological archives’. The finds are discussed here in their material groupings.

#### *Stone*

- 5.2.2 This material group comprises one worked flint flake (not closely datable within the prehistoric period), and a small quantity of roofing slate (medieval or post-medieval). There are no complete slates, although a few retained nail holes.

### *Ceramic Building Material*

- 5.2.3 This category includes fragments of roof tile, roof furniture, hearth tile, brick and floor tile. Two fragments, both from Trench 2, could be of Romano-British date, though neither are closely diagnostic and have been tentatively identified solely on fabric grounds.
- 5.2.4 Both flat roof tiles and ridge tiles include some medieval fragments; amongst the ridge tiles is one example that is probably from the 13<sup>th</sup> century Laverstock kilns. Much of this material, however, can be only broadly dated as medieval or post-medieval. Two fragments from one context (reworked brickearth in Trench 2) possibly derive from roof furniture (louvre, finial or chimney pot), probably medieval. The single hearth tile has stab marks on one face. All the bricks are unfroged.

### *Pottery*

- 5.2.5 The earliest pottery recovered comprises a single small sherd of later prehistoric (probably Late Bronze Age) flint-tempered ware, and two Romano-British sherds, one coarse greyware and one grog-tempered ware. All three sherds were found residually in later contexts.
- 5.2.6 The post-Roman pottery assemblage has been quantified within each context by broad ware group, following the framework of the existing Southampton type series (Brown 2002). This information is presented in **Table 2**. Some attribution to specific wares has also been made at this stage, again following the Southampton type series (information in archive). This part of the assemblage ranges in date from the Anglo-Norman to the post-medieval period.
- 5.2.7 Pottery dating to the Anglo-Norman period (late 11<sup>th</sup> century – c.1250) comprises 31 sherds, all in flint-tempered fabrics (EMFT). These wares mark a continuation of a Middle Saxon ceramic tradition (see Timby 1988, group VI wares), and there is a possibility that some of these sherds pre-date the conquest period. There are no closely diagnostic forms however, and most of these sherds occurred alongside later medieval wares.
- 5.2.8 A number of fabric types are present within the High Medieval assemblage (c.1250-c.1350). These include the locally made Southampton Coarseware (STCW), Southampton Whiteware (STWW) and Southampton Sandy ware (STS); some sandy wares at this stage have not been attributed to specific wares. Sherds in these wares appear to derive almost exclusively from jars, with one bowl and one dripping pan also recognised. Also identified were a few sherds of Laverstock-type finewares (LV) from the Salisbury area, and one sherd of South Hampshire Redware (SHR); both types represent glazed jugs. Four sherds have been identified as imported wares - two (joining) Saintonge wares, one North French, and one Iberian – all from evaluation Trench 2. There is also one sherd containing igneous inclusions, possibly from a south-western source. A significant proportion of the High Medieval assemblage, particularly sherds from the dump layers in Trench 2, occurred alongside Late Medieval wares.

- 5.2.9 The Late Medieval assemblage (c.1350-early 16<sup>th</sup> century) consists entirely of sandy wares. These are likely largely to fall within the group of Late Medieval Well-Fired Sandy wares (LWFS) – all fine, sandy wares probably of local source. Vessel forms include three bunghole vessels and a cauldron. Two non-local wares were also identified within this group, Coarse Border Ware (SRWW) and Tudor Green ware (TDG), both from the Surrey/Hampshire border whiteware industry.
- 5.2.10 Post-medieval wares include coarse redwares (PMR), Westerwald stoneware, and later factory-produced wares.

#### *Clay Pipes*

- 5.2.11 Both fragments of clay pipe are plain stems.

#### *Glass*

- 5.2.12 Two pieces of vessel glass were recovered, one from the base of a small phial, both post-medieval (18<sup>th</sup> century or later).

#### *Metal*

- 5.2.13 Three iron objects were recovered – a nail, a clench bolt and an unidentified, heavily corroded object. None are closely datable.

#### *Mineral Waste*

- 5.2.14 One piece of iron working slag (unknown date) came from reworked brickearth in Trench 2, and two pieces of clinker from garden soil in Trench 3.

#### *Animal Bone*

- 5.2.15 The animal bone is generally in good condition with little surface weathering, although a few pieces (notably from the reworked brickearth in Trench 1) are in poorer, more weathered condition. Cut marks were visible, as was evidence of damage by carnivores, and some pathology. The most numerous species represented are cattle (one unusually large example from Trench 2), sheep/goat and pig. Other species represented by smaller numbers include birds (probably domestic fowl, including spurred male birds) and dog.

#### *Shell*

- 5.2.16 The small number of marine shells collected consist entirely of oyster, and include both left and right valves, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste. No shells were collected from the midden recorded in section in Trench 2.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

- 6.1.1 Throughout the three trenches the level at which the brickearth, and the archaeological cut features, was encountered lay between 4.22m and 4.65m aOD. Overlying the brickearth across the site were layers of accumulated Medieval and Post-medieval garden soils, dumps and levelling episodes. This tallies well with the results of previous excavation on the Site. Maitland -

Muller excavated a trench to the rear of either the Star Hotel or the Dolphin Hotel in the 1950's (SCCAU: 2003). Natural 'clay' was discovered at a depth of 1.98m. It was overlain by a dark soil the surface of which was 1.22m below the modern ground surface. Above this layer was building debris. The results of this excavation are comparable even if the exact location of the trench is uncertain.

- 6.1.2 Across the site the level of preservation of remains was high. The overall character of the remains can be described as domestic: latrine pits, rubbish pits and midden layers. These contrasts with some of the more industrial remains found on similar sites nearby (SCCAU: 2002).
- 6.1.3 In alignment, size and potential depth the north-south ditch in Trench 3 could be the Saxon town ditch. If this is the case the fill patterns and date range of the finds indicate it was only finally filled in well into the Medieval period. The ditch has been located on two sites to the south of the Dolphin Hotel. Excavations at 61-64 High Street in the 1970's "...produced evidence dating from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. It included an 8m wide and 2m deep Late Saxon ditch running parallel and to the east of the High Street which may have been the boundary ditch to the settlement" (SCCAU: 2003). In 1999 an evaluation at the Pouparts warehouse, again on the east side of the high street, produced evidence of a sequence of deposits, from 4.2m aOD to below 2.86m aOD containing Late-Saxon and Anglo-Norman pottery. Again this was interpreted as an extension of the ditch seen at 61-64 High Street (ibid.).
- 6.1.4 The post-holes and beam slot in Trench 3 point towards a structure of some kind though they do not appear to be substantial enough to indicate a building of any size, possibly an out-house or similar. Excavations immediately to the south of the Site (SOU 106) revealed evidence of several phases of building, the earliest of which were of timber and dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1.1 The evaluation has demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains across the area to be impacted by the development. All three trenches produced evidence of pre-19<sup>th</sup> century remains.
- 7.1.2 Trench 1 was not fully excavated to the natural brickearth, though where revealed the brickearth was cut by a series of stake holes two of which yielded Romano-British and Anglo-Norman pottery. These features were sealed by Medieval and Post-medieval dumps and levelling episodes.
- 7.1.3 Trench 2 revealed substantial evidence of domestic occupation of the Site in the Medieval period in the form of a series of intercutting rubbish and latrine pits. These were sealed by Medieval midden layers and Post-medieval made ground.
- 7.1.4 Trench 3 also produced Medieval occupation evidence in the form of rubbish pits and a possible timber building. The large ditch that was revealed at the

western end of Trench 3 might well be the Late Saxon town ditch. These remains were sealed by a Medieval and Post-medieval garden soil.

- 7.1.5 Any development on the Site that involves reducing the level of the current ground surface may potentially impact pre-19<sup>th</sup> century remains. Cut features are likely to be impacted where proposed groundwork extend below 4.65m aOD and the upper fills of the ditch in Trench 3 will be impacted by groundwork extending below 5.10m aOD.

## **8 REFERENCES**

### **References**

Brown, D.H., 2002, *Pottery in Medieval Southampton c.1066-1510*, Southampton Archaeol. Monog. 8 / Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Res. Rep. 133

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## Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

### Trench 1

Context	Description	Finds	Depth in Metres
101	Demolition rubble		0.15-0.35
102	Brick walls associated with 19 <sup>th</sup> century stables		0.25-1.2
103	Cobble floor of 19 <sup>th</sup> century stables		0.23-0.35
104	Modern make up/bedding layer for concrete slab		0.15-0.25
105	Concrete slab		0-0.15
106	Sandy bedding layer for cobble surface		0.35-0.4
107	Levelling layer comprising building rubble		0.60-1.0
108	Post Medieval dump layer below <b>107</b>	Post-medieval pottery	0.4-1.4
109	Modern pipe trench aligned NE-SW		0.4-1.4
110	Backfill of pipe trench <b>109</b>		0.4-1.4
111	Red brick lining for manhole associated with <b>109/ 110</b>		0.15-1.1
112	Cut for modern pipe trench aligned NE-SW		0.25-1.4
113	Backfill of pipe trench <b>112</b>		0.25-1.4
114	Post medieval dump, part of made ground		0.4-2.1
115	Void		
116	Post medieval dumped material forming made ground	High Medieval pottery	0.25-2.1
117	Dump of post medieval material, similar to <b>108</b>		0.4-1.0
118	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay	Anglo-Norman pottery	2.1-2.2
119	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay	Pre-historic pottery	2.1-2.2
120	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
121	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
122	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
123	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
124	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
125	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
126	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
127	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
128	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
129	Layer of redeposited brickearth		2.1-2.2
130	Dump of probably post medieval material forming made ground		2.1-2.2
131	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid to dark grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
132	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid to dark grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
133	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid to dark grey silty clay		2.1-2.2
134	Stake hole cutting redeposited brickearth filled with mid to dark grey silty clay		2.1-2.2

## Trench 2

Context	Description	Finds	Depth in Metres
200	Tarmac layer		0-0.1
201	Sand and gravel layer below tarmac		0.1-0.5
202	Void		
203	Void		
204	Natural undisturbed brickearth		1.8+
205	Sub circular pit with sloping concave sides and a flat base. 2.4m x 1.02m filled with <b>206</b>		1.8-2.4
206	Dump of 10yr 3/2 very dark greyish brown clayey silt occasional small to medium limestone lumps, flint pebbles and chalk flecks.	High Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery	1.8-2.4
207	Sub-rectangular pit with steep sides (not bottomed) 1.35m x 0.67m. filled with <b>208, 217</b> and <b>218</b>		1.8-2.4
208	Dump of 10yr 3/2 very dark greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium limestone lumps, flint pebbles and chalk flecks.	High Medieval, Late Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery	1.8+
209	Shallow sub circular pit with straight sloping sides and a concave base. 1.08m x 0.63m. filled with <b>210</b>		1.8-2.03
210	Dump of 10yr 4/3 mid yellow brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium limestone lumps and flint pebbles	Post-Medieval pottery	1.8-2.03
211	Base of oval pit with shallow to steep concave sides and a flat bottom. 1.6m x 1.01m filled with	High medieval and Late Medieval pottery	1.75+
212	Dump of 10yr 3/2 very dark greyish brown silt containing common flint pebbles.		1.75+
213	Oval pit with steep to near vertical concave sides and a flat base. 1.75m x 0.40m filled with <b>214, 215, 216</b> and <b>230</b> .		1.75+
214	Naturally derived deposit of 10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown silty clay containing very sparse flint pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.		1.75+
215	Dump of 10yr 4/6 dark yellowish brown silty clay.	Anglo-Norman, High Medieval, and Late Medieval pottery	1.75+
216	Dump of 10yr 4/3 brown silt loam containing occasional flint pebbles.		1.75+
217	Dump of 10yr 5/1 light grey clayey silt containing small flint pebbles. Cessy		1.8+
218	Dump of 10yr 5/3 brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium limestone lumps and flint pebbles.	High Medieval pottery and Late Medieval pottery	1.8+
219	Reworked brickearth overlying natural truncated by most features in trench.	Anglo-Norman, High Medieval and Late Medieval pottery.	1.5-2.1
220	Sub-circular post pit with steep convex sides and a concave base that is stepped. 0.80m x 1.00m filled with <b>221, 222</b> and <b>223</b> .		1.8-2.41
221	Backfill of post pit. 10yr 3/2 very dark greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium limestone lumps and flint pebbles.	Anglo-Norman, High Medieval and Late Medieval pottery	1.8+
222	Dump of 10yr 2/1 black clayey silt with occasional small flint pebbles.		1.8+
223	Dump of 10yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium limestone lumps and flint pebbles.	Anglo-Norman, High Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery	1.8+

Context	Description	Finds	Depth in Metres
224	East west linear with shallow concave sides and a flat base 0.95m wide. Filled with <b>225</b> .		2.1-2.17
225	Naturally accumulated 10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional small to medium flint pebbles	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval pottery	2.1-2.17
226	Oval? Pit with moderate concave sides (not bottomed). Heavily truncated on all sides. Filled with <b>227</b> .		2.1+
227	Naturally accumulated 10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown silt loam containing sparse flint pebbles.	Romano British and Anglo-Norman pottery	2.1+
228	Pit of uncertain shape due to level of truncation has vertical sides. Filled with <b>229</b> .		2.1+
229	Dump of 10yr 4/3 brown silt loam mottled with 10yr 5/6 yellow brown clay loam. Contains moderate limestone lumps and flint pebbles	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval pottery	2.1+
230	Dump of 10yr dark grey brown silty clay containing very sparse flint pebbles. Cessy		2.1+
231	Void		1.5-2.1
232	Shell midden recorded in section. 10yr 5/2 mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles.	Late Medieval pottery	1.0-1.65
233	Dump of modern building rubble recorded in section of trench.		1.0-1.4
234	18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> -century dark earth.		0.4-1.6
235	Cut for east west red brick and stone wall associated with 19 <sup>th</sup> century stables.		0.4-1.65
236	Modern east west drain run.		0.4-1.2
237	Void		
238	Void		
239	East west red brick and stone wall associated with 19 <sup>th</sup> century stables.		0.4-0.8
240	Bedding layer for wall <b>239</b> .		0.8-1.65

### Trench 3

Context	Description	Findings	Depth in Metres
300	Tarmac		0-0.1
301	Brick rubble bedding layer for tarmac		0.1-0.3
302	10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles and mortar flecks-post med garden soil.	Post-Medieval pottery	0.3-0.8
303	10yr 3/2 very dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles. Accumulated garden soil.	High Medieval pottery	0.8-1.85
304	Reworked brickearth layer 10yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown silt loam with very occasional small flint pebbles	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval pottery	1.85+
305	Very substantial north south ditch cut with steep near vertical sides (not bottomed) filled with <b>306, 307, 308, 309, 310</b>		1-3.18+
306	Dump of 10yr 3/3 dark brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles, chalk and limestone lumps	High Medieval, Late Medieval and Post Medieval pottery	1.0+
307	Dump of 10yr 4/3 brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles, chalk and limestone lumps	High Medieval and Post-Medieval	1.0+
308	Dump of 10yr 3/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt loam with occasional small to medium flint pebbles and limestone lumps	Romano British, Anglo-Norman, High Medieval and Late Medieval Pottery	1.0+
309	Dump of 10yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles and limestone lumps		1.0+
310	Dump of 10yr 3/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles and limestone lumps	High Medieval pottery	1.0+
311	Sub-circular pit with steep concave sides (not bottomed) 0.97m x 0.60m. Filled with <b>312</b> and heavily truncated by <b>305</b> .		1.75+
312	Naturally accumulated deposit of 10yr 3/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt loam with occasional small to medium flint pebbles and chalk flecks.	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval	1.75+
313	Sub-circular pit with steep near vertical sides. Truncated by <b>305</b> and filled with <b>314</b> . 1.74m x 0.44m.		1.85+
314	Gradual accumulation 10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flint pebbles	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval pottery	1.85+
315	Sub-circular posthole with moderate concave sides and a concave base possibly associated with <b>330</b> . Filled with <b>316</b> 0.41m x 0.39m.		1.85-1.95
316	Silted fill. 10yr 3/3 greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small flint pebbles. No evidence of packing.		1.85-1.95
317	Oval pit with vertical sides (not bottomed) filled with <b>318, 319, 320 and 321</b> . Cuts <b>322</b>		1.85+
318	Naturally silted 10yr 4/3 silty loam containing very sparse flints.		1.85+
319	Dump of 10yr 4/2 dark grey brown silt loam occasional flints and charcoal flecks.		1.85+
320	Dump of 10yr 5/6 yellowish brown silty clay containing abundant limestone dust, fragments and pebbles and occasional flints.	High Medieval pottery	1.85+

Context	Description	Finds	Depth in Metres
322	Oval pit with vertical sides (not bottomed) filled with <b>323</b> . Cuts <b>324</b> truncated by <b>317</b> .		1.85+
323	Dump of 10yr 5/2 grey brown sandy silt loam sparse flints and charcoal flecks.	Anglo-Norman and High Medieval pottery	1.85+
324	Heavily truncated pit possibly sub-rectangular with steep concave sides and a flat slightly sloping base. Filled with <b>325</b> .		1.85-2.15
325	Possibly dumped 10yr 5/4 yellow brown silt loam mottled 10yr 4/3 brown with sparse flint pea grit and charcoal flecks		1.85-2.15
326	Roughly circular posthole cut with steep concave sides and a flat base. Filled with <b>327</b> .		1.85-1.96
327	Naturally derived 10yr 3/3 dark brown silt loam mottled 10yr 5/4 yellowish brown containing sparse sub rounded flints.		1.85-1.96
328	Terminating gully aligned north south. Moderate to steep concave sides with a concave slightly sloping base. Possibly a beam slot. Filled with <b>329</b> .		1.85-1.95
329	Dump of 10yr 4/3 dark brown silt loam mottled 10yr 5/4 yellowish brown containing sparse flint pea grit and charcoal flecks		1.85-1.95
330	Possible post hole. Skewed rectangle in plan steep concave sides and a flat base. Filled with <b>331</b> . Truncates <b>332</b> .		1.85-1.93
331	Naturally derived fill. 10yr 3/3 dark brown silt loam containing sparse sub rounded flints and flecks of shell.		1.85-1.93
332	Roughly rectangular possible post hole. Steep slightly concave sides with an irregular base. Filled with <b>333</b> and truncated by <b>330</b> .		1.85-1.93
333	Naturally accumulated fill. Mottled 10yr 5/4 to 10yr 5/3 yellowish brown to brown silt loam. Contains flint pea grit.		1.85-1.93

## Appendix 2 Finds Tables

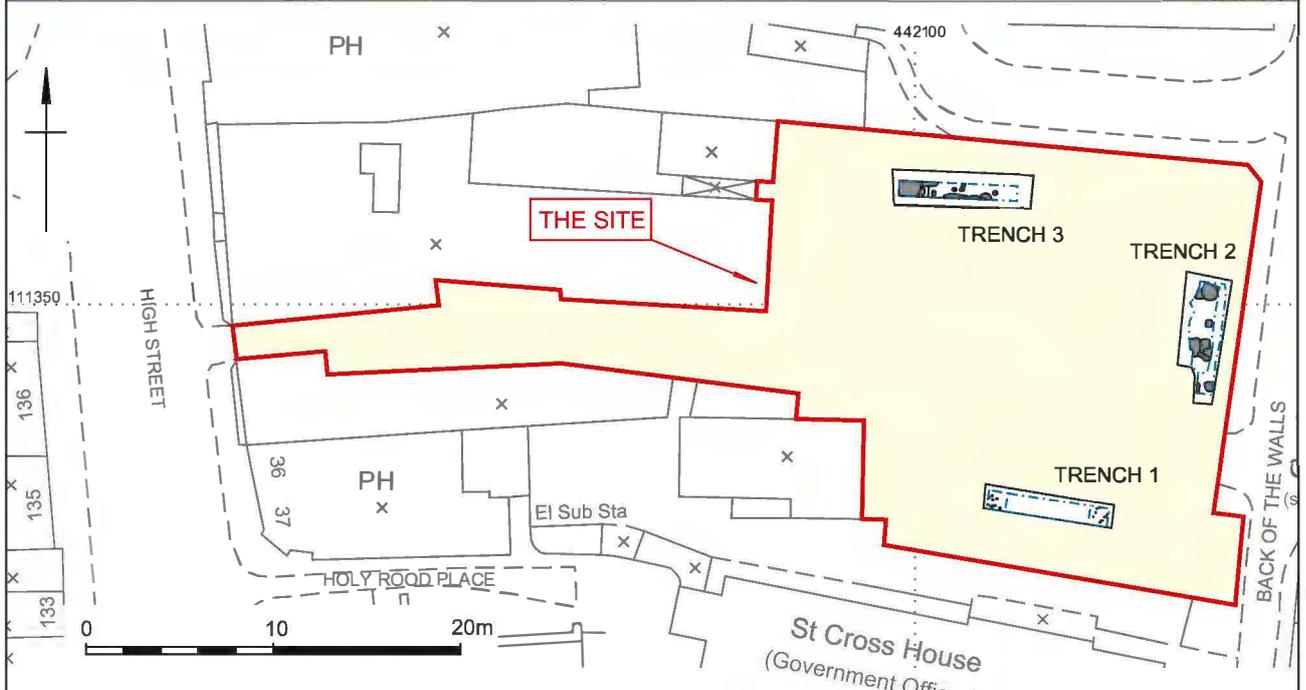
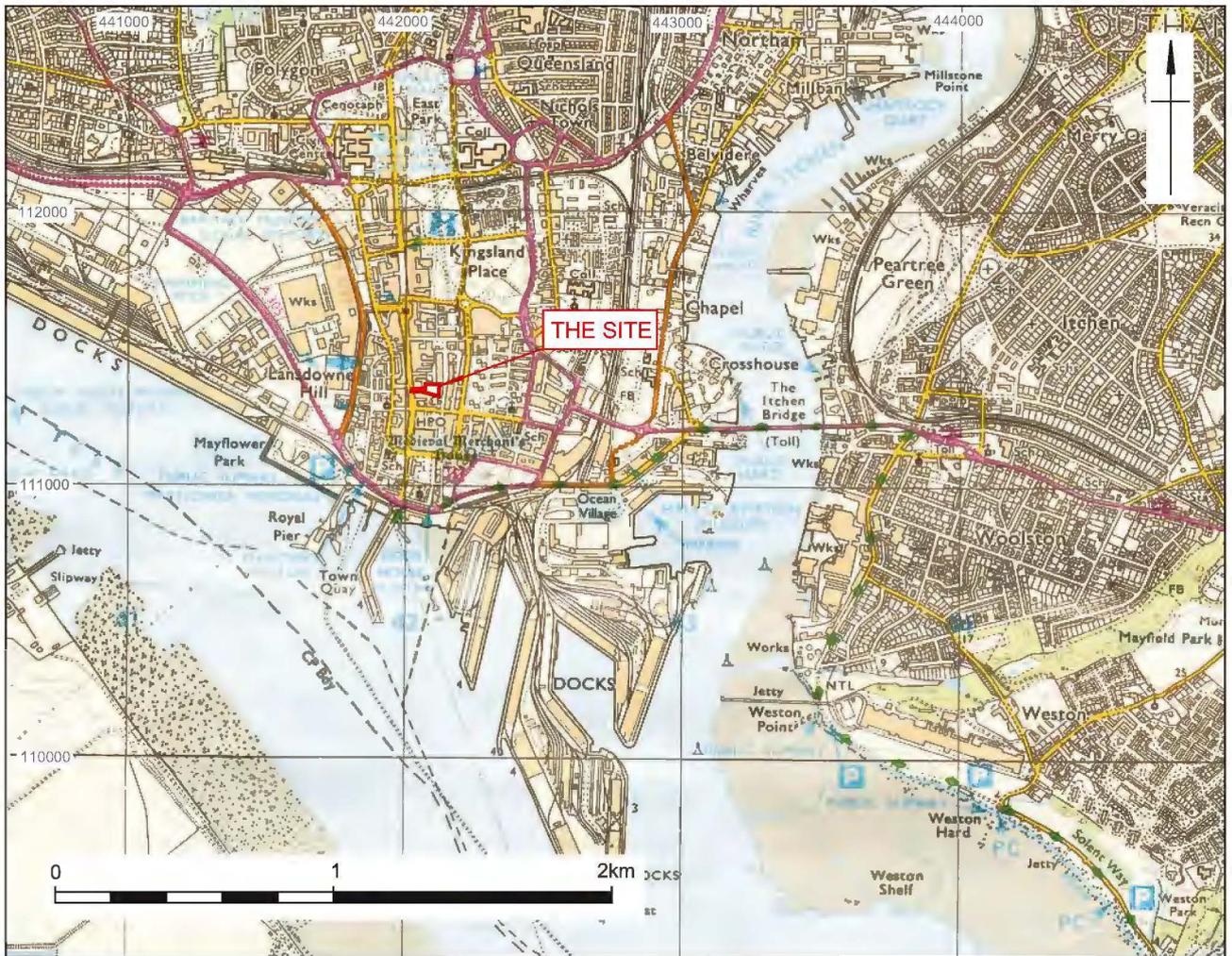
**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	MATERIAL TYPE CODE										
		FLNT	SLAT	CRMC	PCLAY	POT	GLAS	IRON	MINW	SLAG	BONE	SHELL
108	Dump layer				1/2	4/64	2/13					
114	Dump layer			2/249 (P-med.)								
116	Dump layer			1/304 High Med.)		2/38					2/108	
118	Stake hole					1/2						
119	Stake hole					1/1						
129	Redeposited brickearth										5/95	
206	Dump layer		3/72	2/346		7/109					13/507	1/16
208	Dump layer		6/610	3/464		11/318					23/747	
210	Dump layer		1/33			2/82					7/137	
212	Dump layer		2/126	2/544		16/435		1/37		3/248	92/1984	10/397
216	Dump layer		1/130	4/397		7/204		1/19			10/278	1/74
218	Dump layer					6/223					21/722	
219	Reworked brickearth			2/212		8/340					6/173	
221	Backfill of post-pit		5/288	1/130		11/151					9/237	
223	Dump layer		3/163	2/215		5/150					6/82	
225	nat. accumulated layer					11/48					1/30	
227	nat. accumulated layer					2/12						
229	Dump layer					3/27		1/77			2/45	
232	Shell midden			1/100		1/24					2/31	
302	Garden soil			1/93	1/3	21/441					1/40	2/33
303	Garden soil			1/18		1/5			2/20			

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	MATERIAL TYPE CODE										
		FLINT	SLAT	CRMC	PCLAY	POT	GLASS	IRON	MINW	SLAG	BONE	SHELL
	Reworked brickearth					4/19						
306	Dump layer			1/666		3/162						
307	Dump layer			1/243		5/143					7/616	
308	Dump layer	1/1	1/167	3/183		5/57					8/188	
309	Dump layer		1/735	2/169							6/80	
310	Dump layer					2/18					5/67	
312	nat. accumulated layer					5/24						
314	Accumulation layer		1/13			10/97					5/151	
320	Dump layer		1/42			1/40					4/127	
321	Dump layer		3/515	5/986		8/171					21/247	1/55
323	Dump layer					2/16						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1/1</b>	<b>28/2894</b>	<b>34/5319</b>	<b>2/5</b>	<b>165/3421</b>	<b>2/13</b>	<b>3/133</b>	<b>2/20</b>	<b>3/248</b>	<b>256/6692</b>	<b>15/575</b>

**Table 2: Pottery by context (number / weight in grammes)**

	PREHIST.	ROMANO-BRITISH	ANGLO-NORMAN	HIGH MEDIEVAL			LATE MEDIEVAL		POST-MEDIEVAL	
Context	all wares	all wares	coarsewares	Coarsewares	sandy wares	imports	sandy wares	non-local wares	all wares	TOTAL
108									4/64	4/64
116				2/38						2/38
118			1/2							1/2
119	1/1									1/1
206					4/32				1/29	5/61
208					1/2	1/7	8/288		1/21	11/318
210									2/82	2/82
212				1/9	4/242	1/21	8/160	2/13		16/445
216			1/35	1/21	4/67		1/81			7/204
218					4/81	1/56	1/86			6/223
219			1/33		5/84	1/76		1/147		8/340
221			1/16	3/29	5/78		2/28			11/151
223			1/5		2/74				2/71	5/150
225			8/35	2/5	1/8					11/48
227		1/5	1/7							2/12
229			2/21		1/6					3/27
232							1/24			1/24
302									21/441	21/441
303				1/5						1/5
304			3/8	1/11						4/19
306				1/17			1/66		1/79	3/162
307					3/70				2/73	5/143
308		1/13	1/1	2/6			1/37			5/57
310					2/18					2/18
312			4/19		1/5					5/24
314			6/41	1/19	3/37					10/97
320					1/40					1/40
321							5/139		2/26	7/165
323			1/15					1/1		2/16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1/1</b>	<b>2/18</b>	<b>31/238</b>	<b>15/160</b>	<b>41/844</b>	<b>4/160</b>	<b>28/909</b>	<b>4/161</b>	<b>36/886</b>	<b>162/3377</b>



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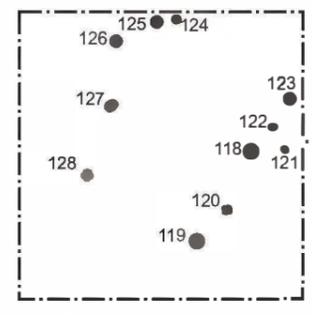
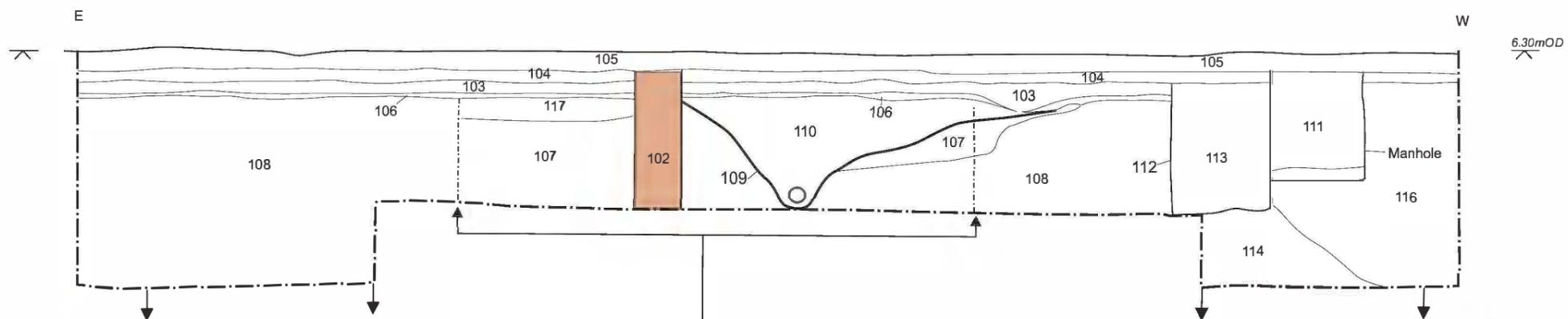
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Site and trench location

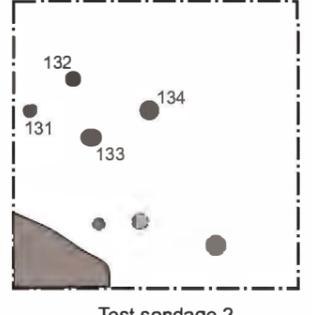
Figure 1

TRENCH 1



Test sondage 1

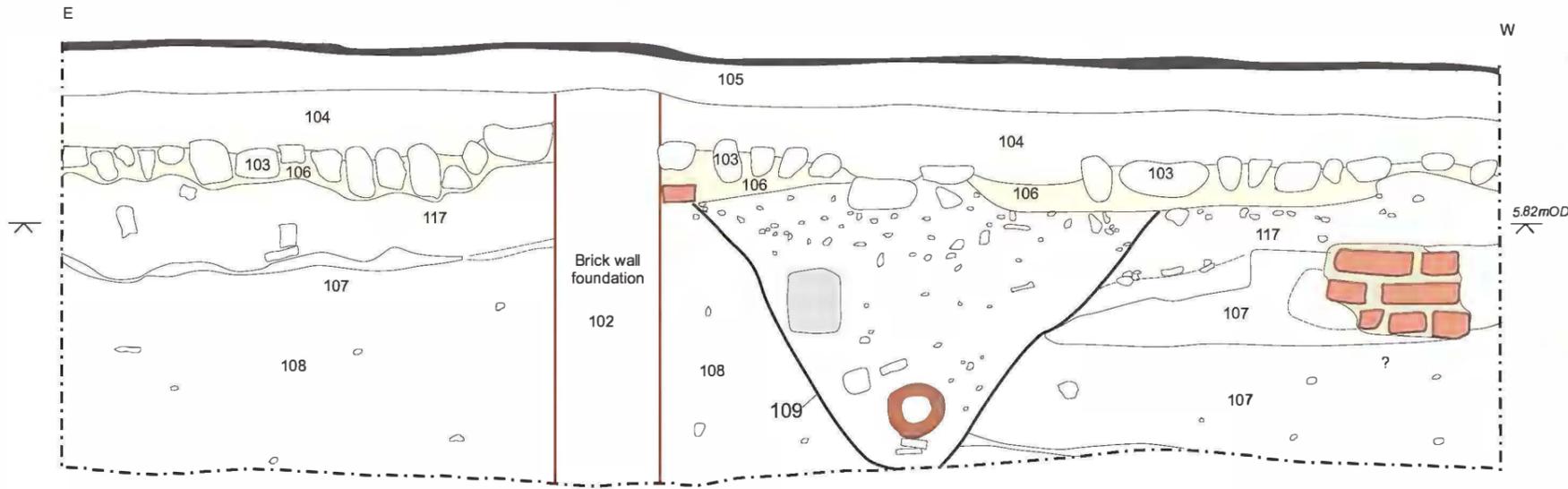
Detailed section



Test sondage 2



Plans & section: 0 5 10m



Detailed section: 0 1m



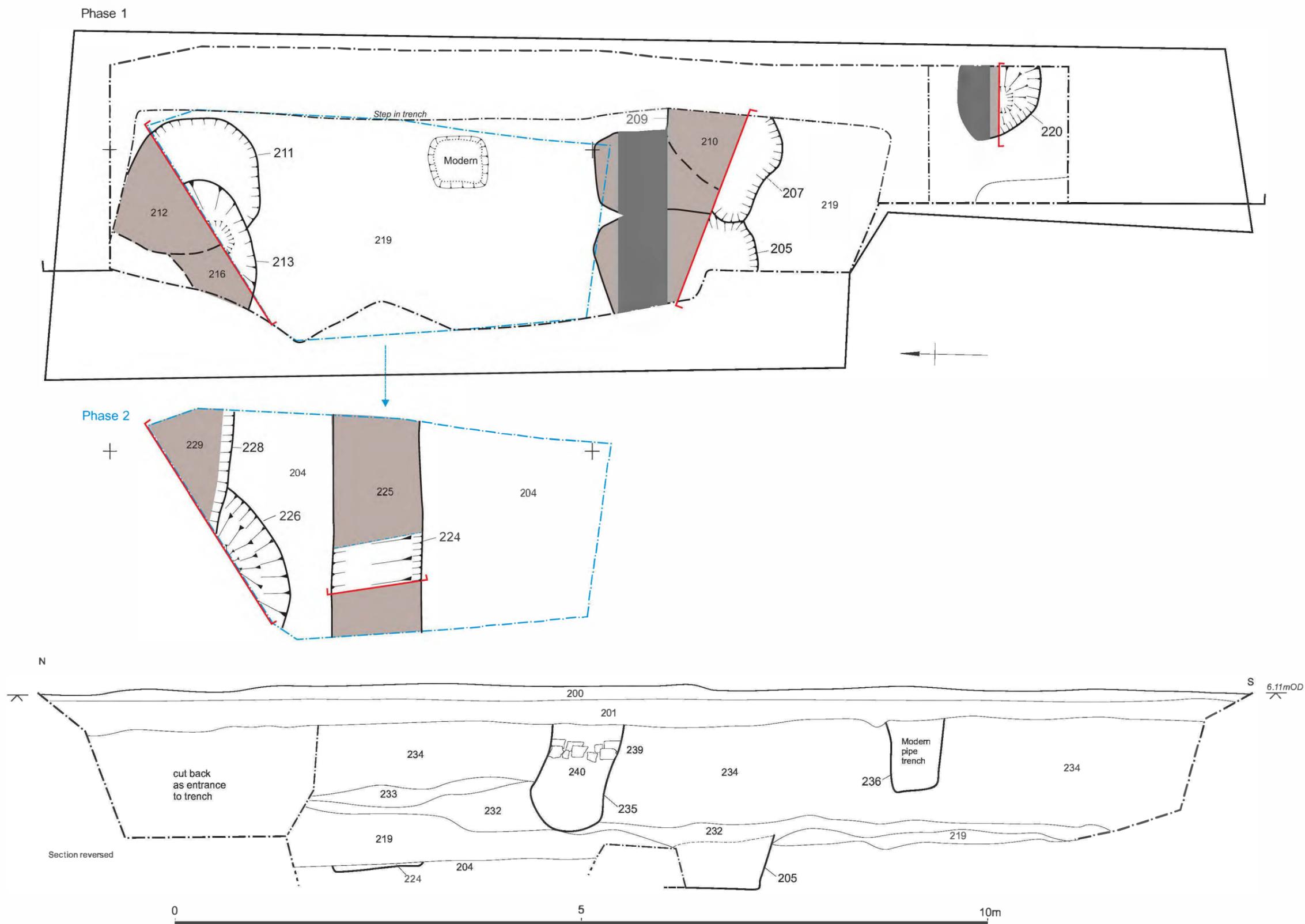
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Trench 1: Test sondages and trench section with detail.

Figure 2

TRENCH 2

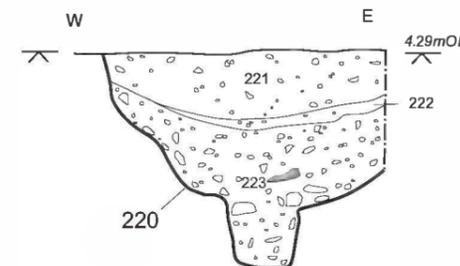
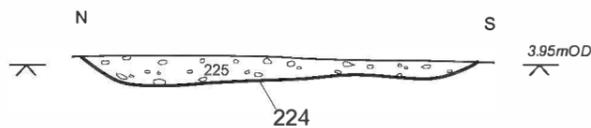
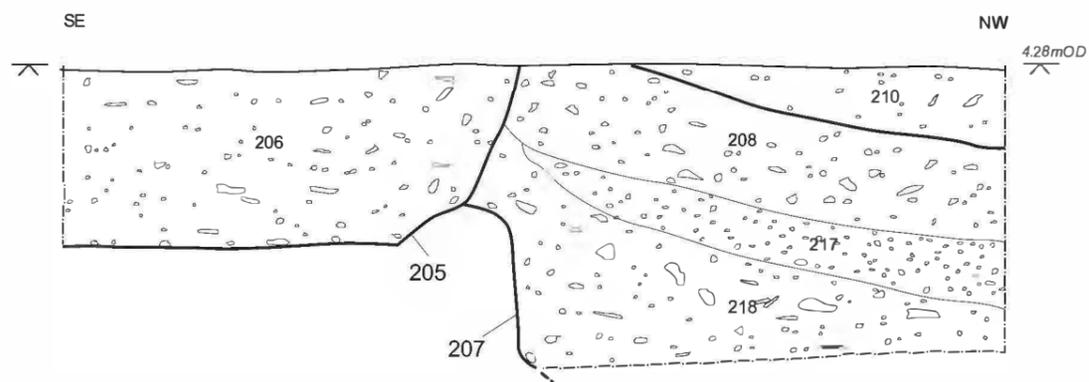
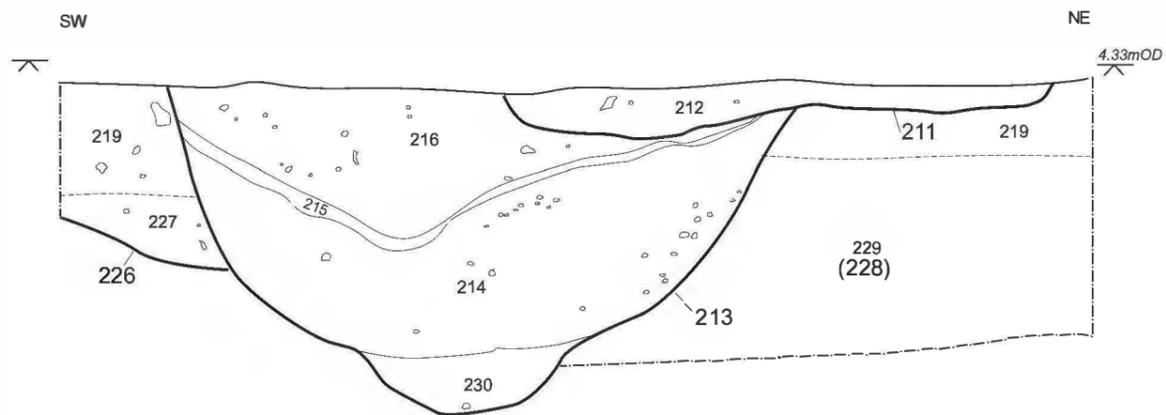


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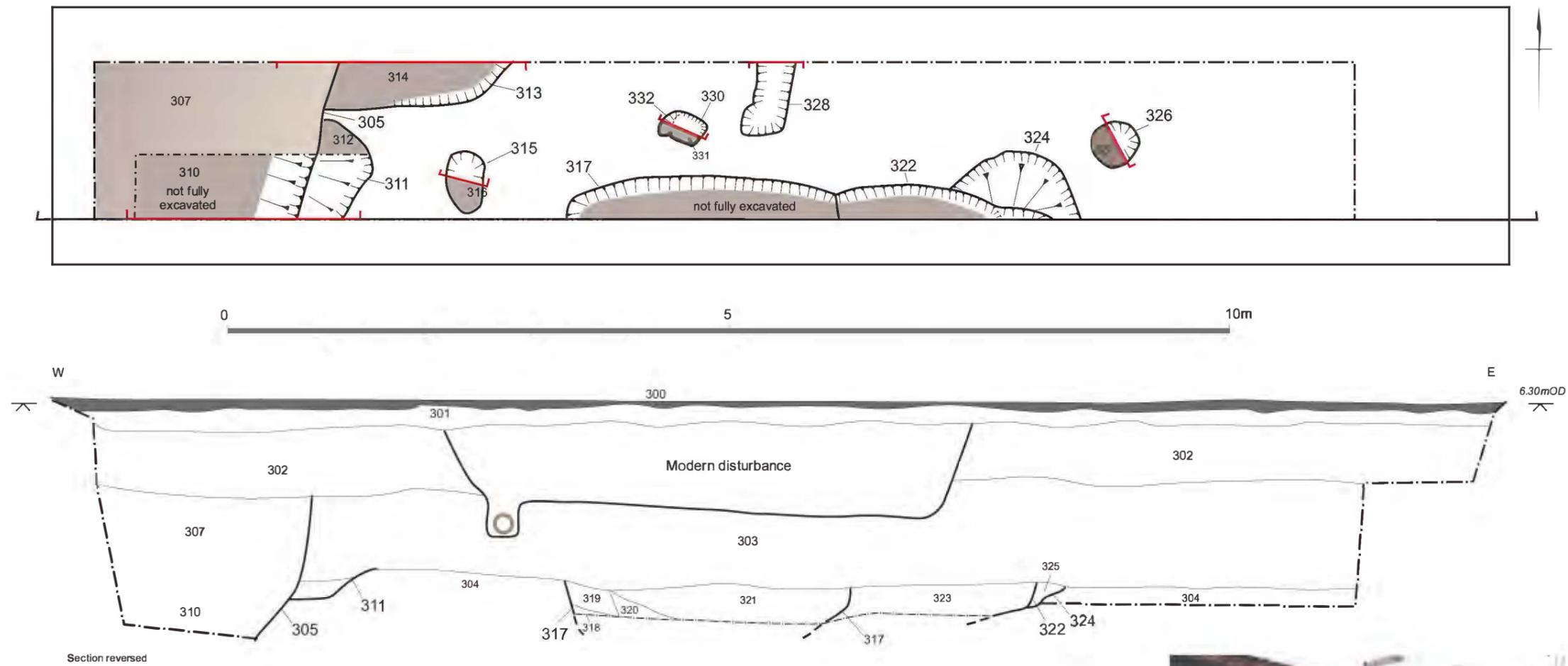
Trench 2: Phased plans and trench section .

Figure 3

TRENCH 2



TRENCH 3



West end of section through 317/322/324

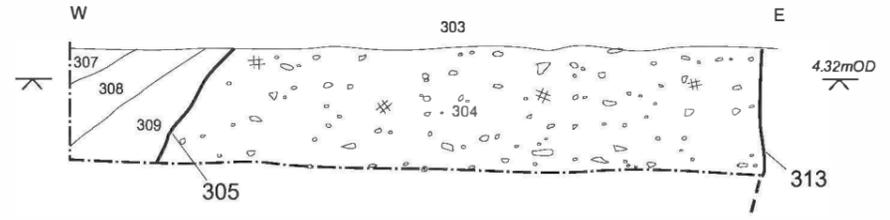
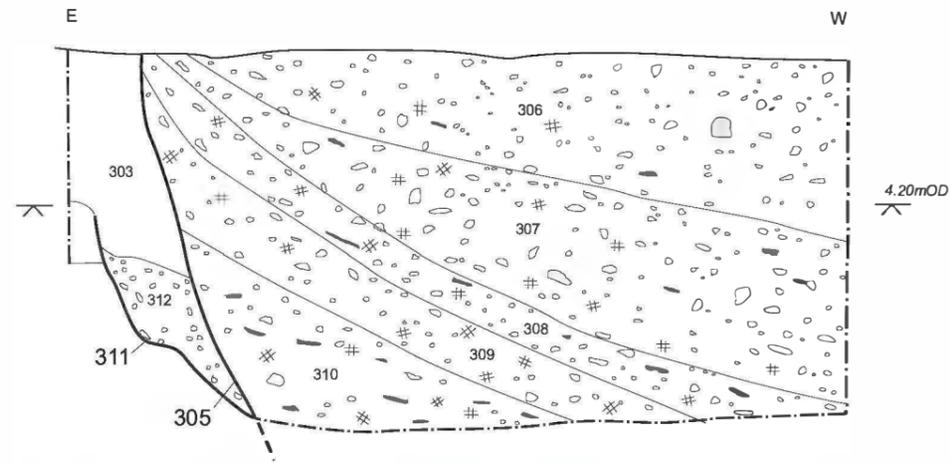


East end of section through 317/322/324



Overview of western end of Trench 3

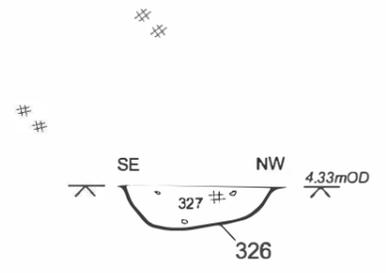
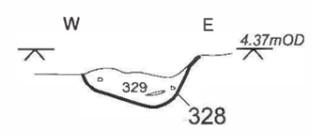
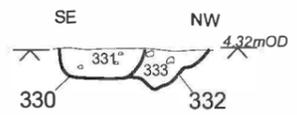
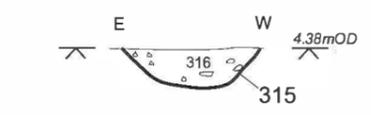
TRENCH 3



Section through 311/305



Section through 313/305



See Figure 5 for section locations

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Date:	16/06/03	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:20 at A3	Illustrator:	SEJ
Path:	X:\projects\53200\1.1\Evaluation\A3fig6.cdr		