



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

**Archaeological Evaluation  
Phase 2 Report**

**Former St Hilda's Church  
and Graveyard,  
Middlesbrough, North  
Yorkshire**

**Client:**

BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd

**Planning Ref:**

N/A


**Authors:**

Evon Kirby & Matt Edmonds

**Report No:**





<b>Location:</b>	The site is bounded to the north by open ground and East Street, to the west by Stockton Street, to the south by Richmond Street and Feversham Street, and to the east by Cleveland Street		
<b>NGR:</b>	449653 521088		
<b>Project:</b>	Former St Hilda's Church and Graveyard, Middlesbrough: Archaeological Evaluation Phase 2		
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## SUMMARY

Salford Archaeology was commissioned by BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd to undertake a second phase of archaeological evaluation of an area of land formerly occupied by the market square and streets within central Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire (centred on NGR 449653 521088).

An archaeological constraints report prepared by Salford Archaeology concluded that there was potential for archaeological remains to survive *in situ* across the site. The identified potential constraints to development included the presence of medieval ecclesiastical buildings and field systems, post-medieval farm buildings, and structures relating to the development of Middlesbrough in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

A phase 1 evaluation of the archaeology – located to the east of the Phase 2 area – recorded medieval or early post-medieval structures and features, post-medieval activity in the form of quarrying and the extensive remains of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Middlesbrough. Due to the discovery of medieval or early post-medieval archaeological remains, the local planning authority recommended an archaeological evaluation of the Phase 2 area.

Fifteen trenches were proposed to evaluate the archaeological remains in the Phase 2 area. However, nineteen evaluation trenches were ultimately opened to compensate for the foreshortening of several trenches. The evaluation works were undertaken between the 9th and 20th of May 2022 and was supervised by Oliver Cook of Salford Archaeology.

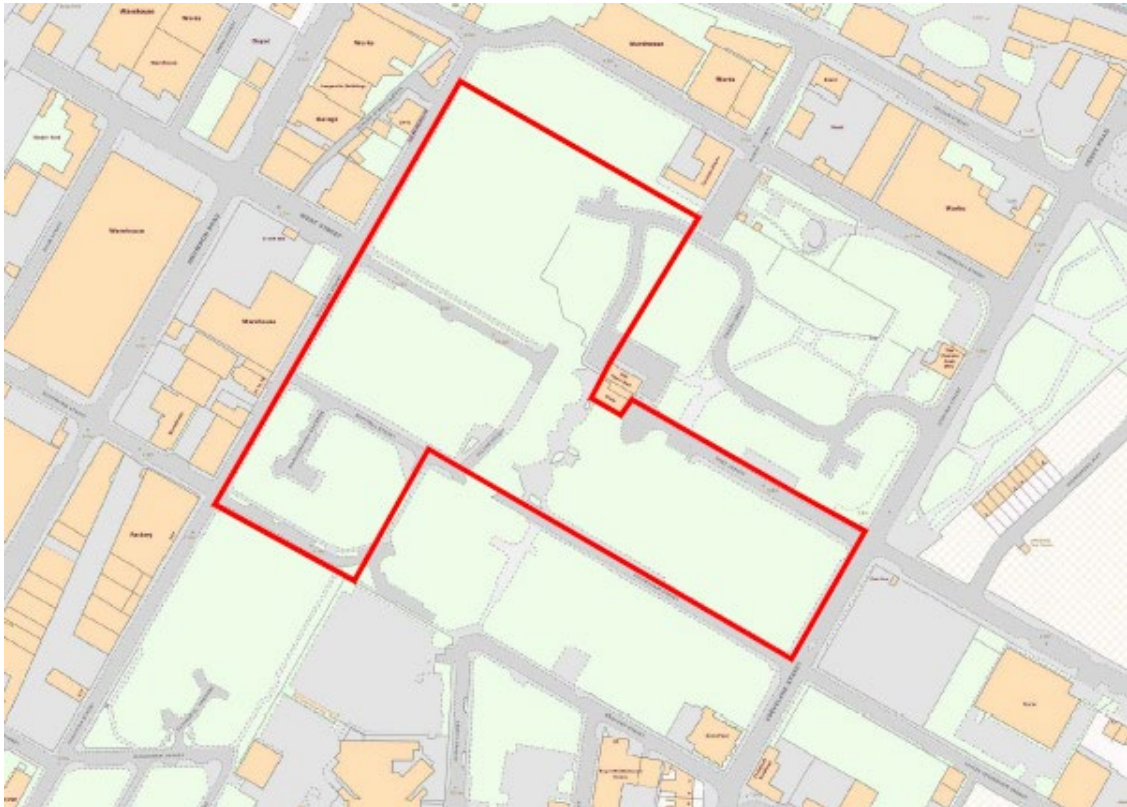
Natural sand formed the basal layer in the trenches situated in the east and south of the site; natural silty clay was revealed in the western part of the site. A linear ditch cutting the natural, representing a potential Roman feature, was observed in the northern portion of the site. In the centre and western parts of the site, a series of pits and a large linear ditch were recorded, which represented medieval occupation. Structural remains, such as walls, drains and a well, representing the development of Middlesbrough from the 1830's were also present across all parts of the site. The evaluation also revealed that large parts of the site had no archaeological potential as they had been truncated by development in the modern era.

The buried remains recorded during the Phase 2 evaluation area are only considered to be of local significance, however when placed in context with the results of the Phase 1 evaluation, the potential surviving remains across the wider development area are likely of regional importance. This report recommends that additional archaeological work is undertaken on the development area ahead of development to establish the nature of Roman activity and further investigate the remains of Middlesbrough Priory.



# 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 Salford Archaeology were commissioned by BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd to undertake a second phase of archaeological evaluation of an area of land formerly occupied by the Church of St Hilda, Middlesbrough (centred on NGR 449653 521088; Plate 1). The proposed scheme includes the erection of 10 mixed use residential and commercial blocks.



*Plate 1: Location of the Phase 2 evaluation area (the site), north at top*

1.1.2 The Phase 2 evaluation area (the site) forms part of a larger development plot encompassing now vacant land to the north-west and south of the former town hall. The area subject to investigation was bounded by Suffield Street and Feversham Street to the south, Durham Street to the east, Commercial Street to the north and Stockton Street to the west. The site was centred at NGR (National Grid Reference) 449653 521088.

1.1.3 An archaeological constraints report was produced to assess the archaeological potential of this part of the development site (Brogan 2021). This document demonstrated that there was the potential for surviving medieval, post-medieval and industrial-era archaeology remains on the site.

1.1.4 To better inform plans for the site's redevelopment, BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd commissioned Salford Archaeology to undertake a phase 1 programme of

archaeological evaluation (Cook 2022) trial trenching to assess the extent and character of the buried archaeological remains. The phase 1 evaluation, which was located within and adjacent to the former graveyard of St Hilda's, recorded medieval cut features and structures representing elements of Middlesbrough Priory. Post-medieval gravel quarries and structural remains, such as walls and drains, representing the development of Middlesbrough from the 1830's were also present, including the foundations of St Hilda's Church. A total of 121 inhumations, attributed to the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, were revealed in the former graveyard.

- 1.1.5 As a result of the findings the local planning authority recommended that an archaeological evaluation take place in the Phase 2 area of site. The proposed methodology was detailed in a site-specific written scheme of investigation (Mottershead 2021). The written scheme of investigation proposed that 16 evaluation trenches were excavated.
- 1.1.6 The evaluation works were carried out between the 9th and 20th of May 2022. An additional three trenches on top of the proposed 16 evaluation trenches were excavated across the site in order to further investigate the relationship between archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.7 The trenches were intended to assess the presence and condition of the below-ground archaeological remains, thereby enabling informed recommendations to be made for the future treatment of any surviving remains, in line with the guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework (see section 2).
- 1.1.8 The field work was supervised by Oliver Cook and the project was managed by Graham Mottershead both of Salford Archaeology. This report was written by Evon Kirby and Matt Edmonds, and was edited by Joe Brooks, all of Salford Archaeology.
- 1.1.9 The site archive was identified using the unique site code SHMP2192. The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will, upon completion of the project, be deposited with the Dorman Museum under that site code.



## 2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 The developers (BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd) are aware of the revised National Planning Policy Framework which sets out the Government's planning policies. Section 16 specifically addresses the historic environment.
- 2.1.2 Paragraph 194 states that local planning authorities when determining applications, should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. 'The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary'.
- 2.1.3 Paragraph 195 states that the local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.
- 2.1.4 Paragraph 205 states that the local planning authorities should 'require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted'.
- 2.1.5 The NPPF outlines the need for local planning policies to create plans and frameworks to implement the NPPF at a local level. Middlesbrough adopted a Core Strategy in 2008. The heritage strategy is outlined in Policy CS4: Sustainable Development which summarises the approach the local authority will take in determining planning applications which may affect the historic environment.
- 2.1.6 Policy CS4(k) states:  
'All development will be required to contribute to achieving sustainable development principles by, where appropriate protecting and enhancing Middlesbrough's historic heritage and townscape character'  
(Middlesbrough Local Development Framework, pp.30)

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Aims**

3.1.1 The main aims of the investigation were to establish the presence or absence of buried human/archaeological remains on the site and, if present, characterise the level of preservation and significance, and provide a good understanding of their potential.

3.1.2 Following the results of the constraints report (Brogan 2021) and the subsequent phase 1 evaluation (Cook 2022), it has been recommended by the local planning authority that the Phase 2 area of the site will also be subject to evaluation through trial trenching. This approach to devising proposals to mitigate the impact of development on the archaeological resource of the development area is in accordance with national guidelines set out in the National Planning Policy Framework: Section 16 (see section 2).

#### **3.2 Objectives**

3.2.1 The principal objectives of the archaeological investigation were:

- to record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;
- to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made about the need for any additional archaeological investigation; and
- to make available the results of the work

#### **3.3 Development of Aims**

3.3.1 Further, more detailed research aims may be generated and developed from the results of the archaeological evaluation, with specific reference to the North East Regional Research Framework (NERRF). These will be reviewed during an onsite meeting with the relevant archaeological curator or their advisor during the course of the evaluation.



## 4 LOCATION AND SETTING

- 4.1.1 The site (centred on NGR 449653 521088) lies within the former historic core of Middlesbrough. It occupies an area of raised ground to the south of the River Tees. The land is now largely vacant and covered by scrub and grassland but was intensely developed from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards as a commercial and residential district.
- 4.1.2 The site occupies a roughly rectangular plot bounded by Suffield Street and Feversham Street to the south, Durham Street to the east, Commercial Street to the north and Stockton Street to the west. (Figure 1).
- 4.1.3 The site lies at a height of approximately 11m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). From the middle of the site, the land falls in all directions.
- 4.1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area comprised Mercian Mudstone Group formed approximately 200 and 250 million years ago in the Triassic period. In the west, north and south of the site the overlying superficial geology is comprised of glaciolacustrine deposits of sand formed during the Quaternary period by the movement of sediment suspended in meltwater from glaciers into nearby lakes. In the central and eastern parts of the site tidal flat deposits form the superficial geology (BGS, 2022).

## 5 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1.1 The following is based on information provided in a constraints report produced by Salford Archaeology (Brogan 2021).

### 5.2 Prehistory

5.2.1 Evidence of Palaeolithic activity across Yorkshire is sparse. Lower and Middle Palaeolithic evidence has likely been removed by the Devensian glaciation (Roskams and Whyman 2005, 48). Evidence of Upper Palaeolithic activity has been found in the form of lithics, which have been identified in the vicinity of Star Carr, Flixton Carr and near Wensleydale (op. cit. 49).

5.2.2 The Mesolithic period within Yorkshire is defined by the internationally renowned sites at Star Carr and Flixton Carr, however, evidence of Mesolithic activity has been found elsewhere within Yorkshire. Single or small clusters of findspots have been found along river corridors and river terraces in lowland regions, such as the Wharfe, Aire, Calder, Vale of York and Vale of Mowbray (op. cit. 52). Evidence of Mesolithic activity in the form of lithic scatters and hearth sites have been recovered along the River Tees. The Tees would have been an attractive resource for the hunter-gatherer subsistence regimes of the period, as it provided a source of food supplies, such as fish and fowl, and a water source for wild animals (Daniels 2014, 10).

5.2.3 An assemblage of 210 flints was recovered in 2005 during archaeological excavation at Sussex Street, Middlesbrough (Graham 2005). The flints were recovered from residual contexts. Worked pieces from the collection include a microburin from the Mesolithic period, a unidirectional core (possibly also Mesolithic), a disc scraper and an oblique arrowhead both of which date to the later Neolithic. The remainder of the collection comprised flakes and angular shatter.

5.2.4 Despite the fertility of the land within the vicinity of the site, very little evidence of Neolithic evidence has been found and therefore this period is poorly understood within the Tees Valley (Daniels 2014, 11). Neolithic monuments have been identified on the upland areas and in the north-east coastal strip, however, no monuments have been identified within the valley. It has been suggested that the lack of monuments may be due to later intensive agricultural activity undertaken within the region (Daniels 2014, 11). Neolithic finds have, however, been identified within the Tees Valley, including two polished stone axes at Yarm (HER 341 and 497) and human remains found at Coatham (HER 6798).

5.2.5 The Early Bronze Age activity within the area is distinguished by a “new suite of monument types and artefacts”, including as round barrows, cist burials, pottery and



bronze axes (Daniels 2014, 12). Several round barrows survive within Yorkshire, including two at Cliffe, in North Yorkshire, and one at Carlbury in Durham, and another was excavated at Greatham (*ibid.*).

5.2.6 The artefacts found relating to the later Bronze Age and early Iron Age indicate a move towards a more intense farming of the area. Settlements and landscapes associated with this period are very susceptible to later damage. As a result of this, activity from this period is often defined by artefacts. Saddle querns have been found at Saltholme and a spear and sword were recovered from the River Tees (Daniels 2014).

5.2.7 The Iron Age of the Tees Valley saw a population increase and change to more intensive farming. Roundhouses and their deep-ditched enclosures appear ubiquitous across the area, and many have been identified through aerial photography (Daniels 2014, 15).

### 5.3 Romano-British Period

5.3.1 The frontier at Hadrian's Wall and the importance of York would have made the Tees Valley a passing point for Romans when travelling by land and sea. Piercebridge was the nearest Roman Fort to Middlesbrough. The fort guarded Dere Street with its associated Roman Bridge, which spanned the River Tees. The vicus of the fort was located on both sides of the river (Daniels 2014, 15-6).

5.3.2 The Roman occupation saw a move away from the traditional Iron age roundhouse farmstead to a Roman Villa type revealed through excavations such as those at Holme House, near Piercebridge. Many of the villa sites were located notably close to the River Tees (Daniels 2014, 16).

5.3.3 Roman finds have been recovered from Middlesbrough, including a glass fragment reported by M.E. Thomas, which was found within the site boundary during a watching brief in 1964 (Thomas 1964). The fragment was of 'greenish glass' and was identified as Roman by Mr. Bowes and B. Dobson of the University of Durham. A Roman jar was also found at Crossley's Brick Works, which was described by Spratt as a pygmy jar dated to AD 300-370 (Spratt 1979).

### 5.4 Medieval Period

5.4.1 Throughout the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries, the area was occupied by Anglo-Saxons, but by the 9<sup>th</sup> century, it had become a province of the Danish-ruled kingdom of Northumbria. Little evidence has been recovered from the period following the end of the Roman period, however, major pagan Saxon cemeteries have been identified within the wider landscape, at Darlington, Ingleby Barwick and Norton. These cemeteries date from the

sixth century onwards and their distribution indicates that the River Tees and Skerne were central to the Saxons' access to the area (Daniels 2014, 17).

- 5.4.2 Widespread Christianity within the Tees Valley was likely triggered by the baptism of the Northumbrian king, Edwin of York, in 627 AD. As a result, Northumbria became a leading force within Christianity in Northern Europe, with major figures including Cuthbert, Hilde, Benedict Biscop, Bede and Wilfred (Daniels 2014, 18). In 686, St Hilda, the Abbess of Whitby, asked St Cuthbert to consecrate a monastic cell at Middlesbrough. This is the first recorded mention of Middlesbrough, also referred to as Mydilsburgh at this time. The reason for the siting of the cell was probably its location halfway between the important ecclesiastical centres of Whitby and Durham.
- 5.4.3 The Norman conquest of the North East of Britain was brutal and drawn out. Huge tracts of north-eastern lands were given at this time to Robert de Brus as a reward from Henry I for their success at the battle of Tinchebray (1106). This included the monastic cell at Mydilsburgh. Robert founded the priory at Guisborough and granted the church at Middlesbrough on the condition that there should be monks serving God and St. Hilda in the church of Middlesbrough, who might be sufficiently maintained by the revenues of that church, the surplus being received by the mother church of Whitby (Page 1974, 105-06). This then was the initial formation of the Middlesbrough Priory.
- 5.4.4 The gift of Middlesbrough Church to Whitby was confirmed by Henry I, and in 1130 by Archbishop Thurstan (*ibid.*). In the fifteenth century, the priory had become very impoverished. The Benedictine cell of Whitby Abbey was dissolved in c. 1573. It is believed the monastery was located at the site of the later St Hilda's Church.

## 5.5 **Post-medieval and Industrial Period**

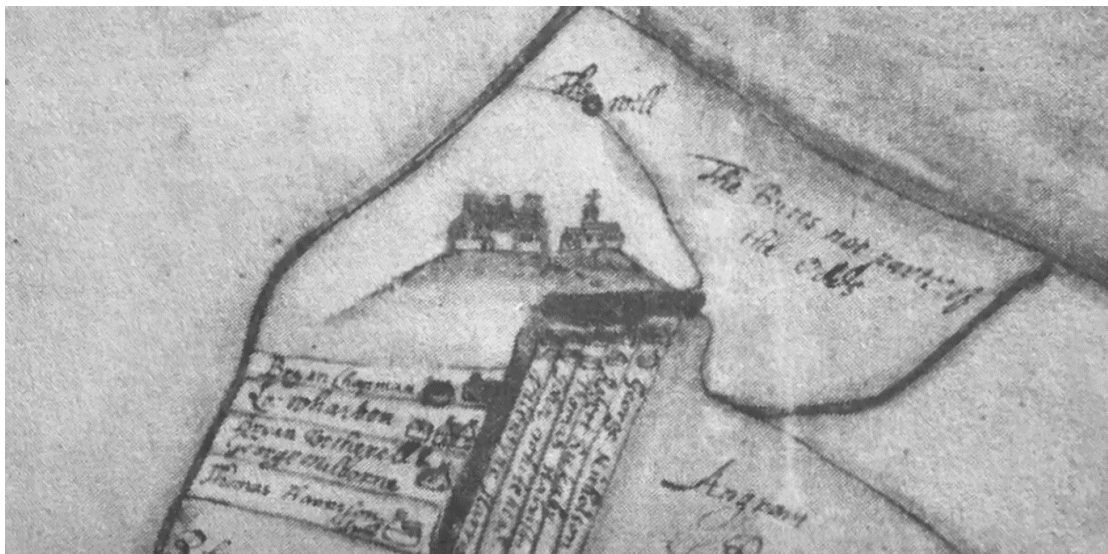
- 5.5.1 In 1791, disused gravel pits were recorded in the township of Middlesbrough. A record of the partition of the estate that encompassed Middlesbrough stated that the owner, Mr Richard William Peise, retained the right to take gravel and sand from Middlesbrough quarry (Page 1923 268- 273). At the start of the nineteenth century, the township was a swampy and dreary expanse containing four farmhouses and a population of twenty-five individuals. The church was in ruins and the churchyard unenclosed (*ibid.*).
- 5.5.2 In the early nineteenth century, the railway was built to the north of Middlesbrough, on the other side of the River Tees. The arrival of the railway increased the prosperity of the area, however, only 40 individuals lived in Middlesbrough in 1828. The influential businessman and Quaker Joseph Pease lobbied for the extension to the railway across the River Tees to Middlesbrough, seeing the potential for a further port from which to export coal. Pease and a group of Quaker businessmen bought the Middlesbrough farmstead and surrounding land, some 527 acres, and established the Middlesbrough



Estate Company with the intention of building a port and a town to supply a workforce for that port. The town's first streets were North Street, South Street, East Street and West Street, which were laid out on a grid-like pattern around a market square.

## 5.6 Development of the site

- 5.6.1 The development of the site and its environs may be traced reasonably well from the sequence of available historic mapping. The site is situated in the vicinity of Middlesbrough Priory and St Hilda's church, although their precise locations are not known.
- 5.6.2 An extract from John Gibbon's 1618 map of the area (Plate 2) gives an impression of the layout of the site in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. The map shows a church standing to the east of a large house. It is speculated that the large house – which was later incorporated into Middlesbrough Farm – had been part of the complex of buildings forming Middlesbrough Priory (Harrison and Pattenden 1983).
- 5.6.3 John Gibbon's map also shows a row of at least five buildings situated at the northern end of burgage plots to the south of St Hilda's church.
- 5.6.4 By 1730 Middlesbrough had not changed, except for the further enclosure of fields to the east and west of the medieval church. This can be seen on the map of 1730 produced for the Lordship of Acklam who owned the land (Plate 3). The map has a key which lists plot number 3 as 'Middlesbrough House' and number 4 as 'the church'. The map also shows a building to the south of the church at the northern end of the still extant burgage plots.



*Plate 2: Extract from John Gibbon's Map of Middlesbrough 1618*

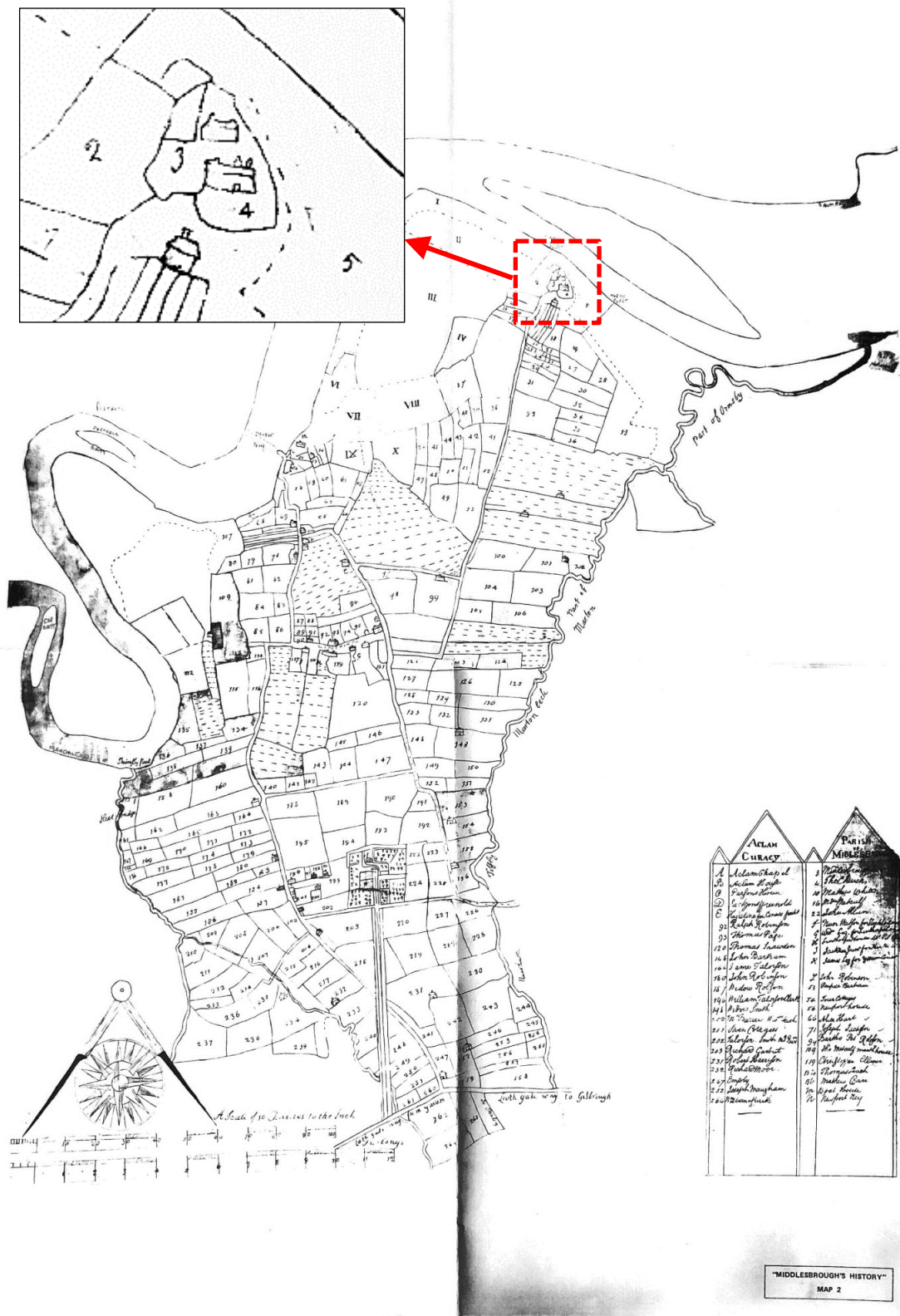
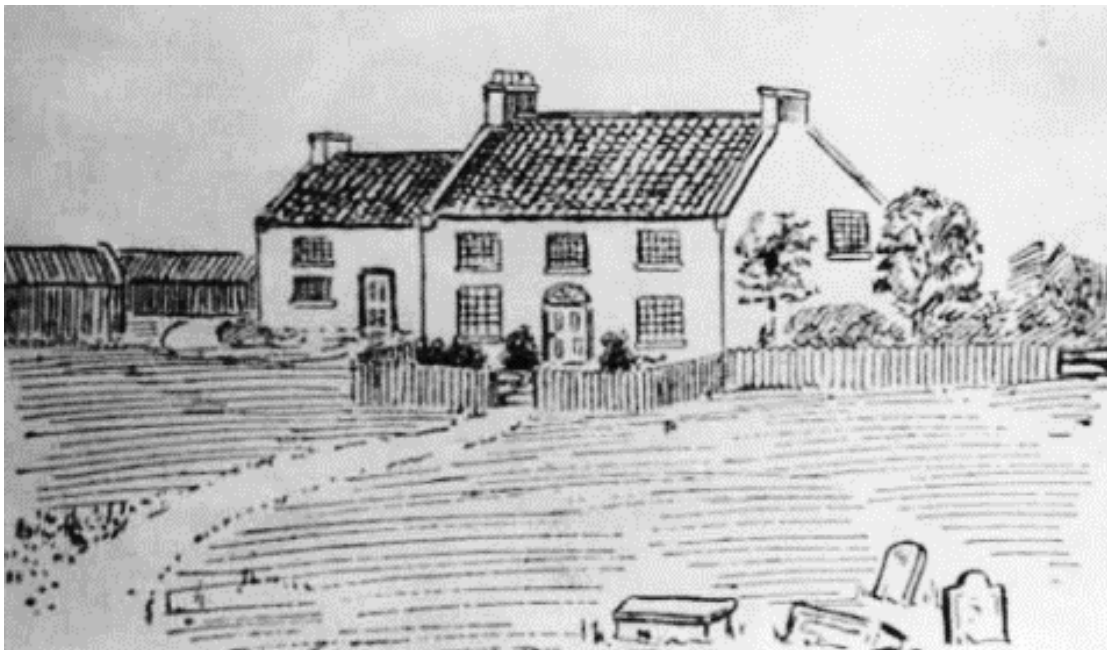


Plate 3: 1730 Map of Middlesbrough with insert showing the medieval church

5.6.5 A sketch drawn in 1808 shows the farmhouse (Plate 4) alongside some barns or sheds. In the foreground of the sketch are several tumble-down grave markers. Local

knowledge had it that the grave markers were located within the burial ground of Middlesbrough Priory. Joseph Pease, the leading quaker businessman at the heart of the plan for a new town at Middlesbrough, wrote in his diary in 1828:

*"Its [Middlesbrough's] adaptation to the purpose far exceeded any anticipation I had formed, the rising piece of land on which the Farm House of Middlesbro stands is peculiar & there remains many traces of this mound having been the site of more important buildings, there is a burial ground to which a very reasonable tradition asserts a Church or Chapel was attached in olden times, whether it stood where the waves now flow may be disputed but it does not seem improbable as remains of such an erection are visible. Imagination here had ample scope in fancying a coming day when the bare fields...will be covered with a busy multitude and numerous vessels crowding to these banks denote the busy Seaport."*

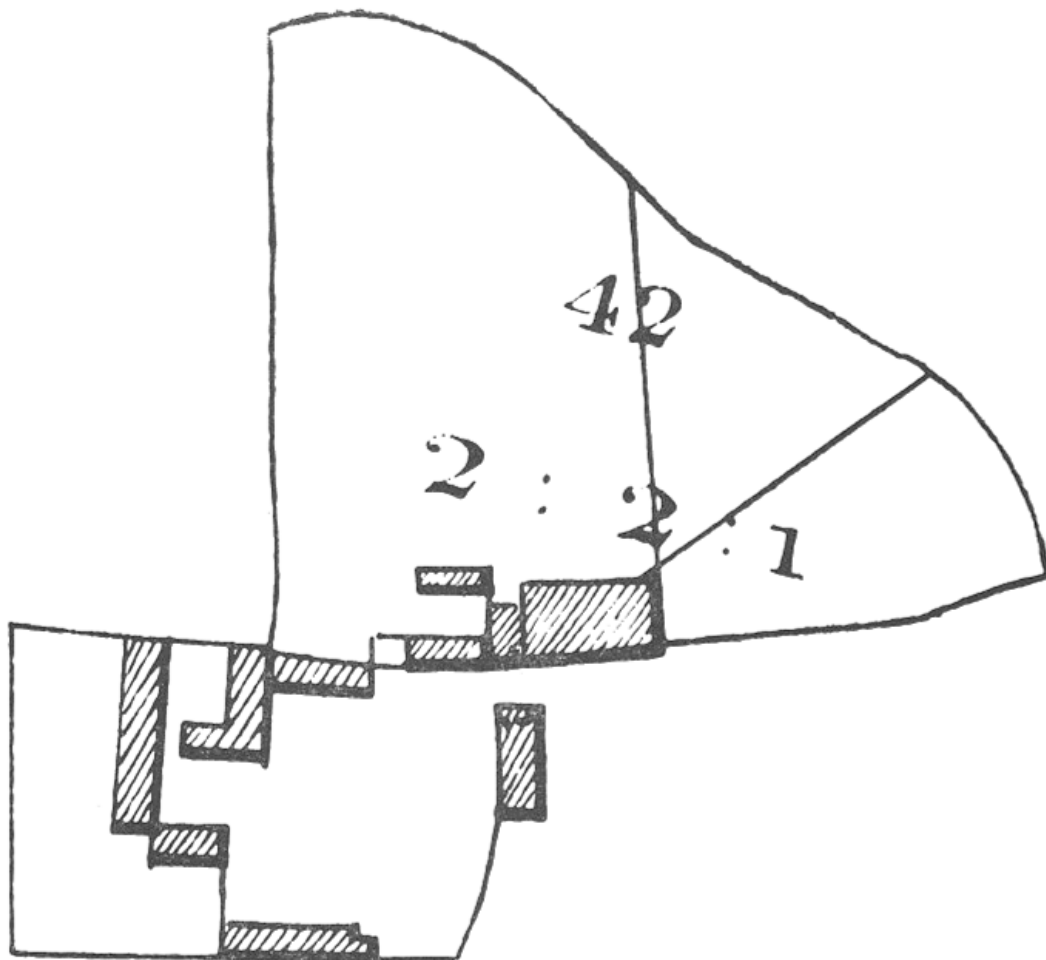


*Plate 4: Ink drawing of the farmhouse in 1808 with burials shown in foreground*

5.6.6 After the establishment of the Middlesbrough Estate Company in 1828-9, Pease and his partners bought the Middlesbrough farmland estate of William Chilton of Billingham from the tenant farmer, John Whinfield Parrington. A plan of farm and outbuildings acquired by Joseph Pease was drawn up in 1829 (Plate 5) and a vignette, was produced by Richard Otley in 1830 (Plate 6), also showing the farm complex (Moorsom 1975). The image shows the location of the farmhouse in relation to the River Tees and the situation of the farmhouse on a small hill (Plate 6). Richard Otley also created a plan drawing of the same site (Plate 7).

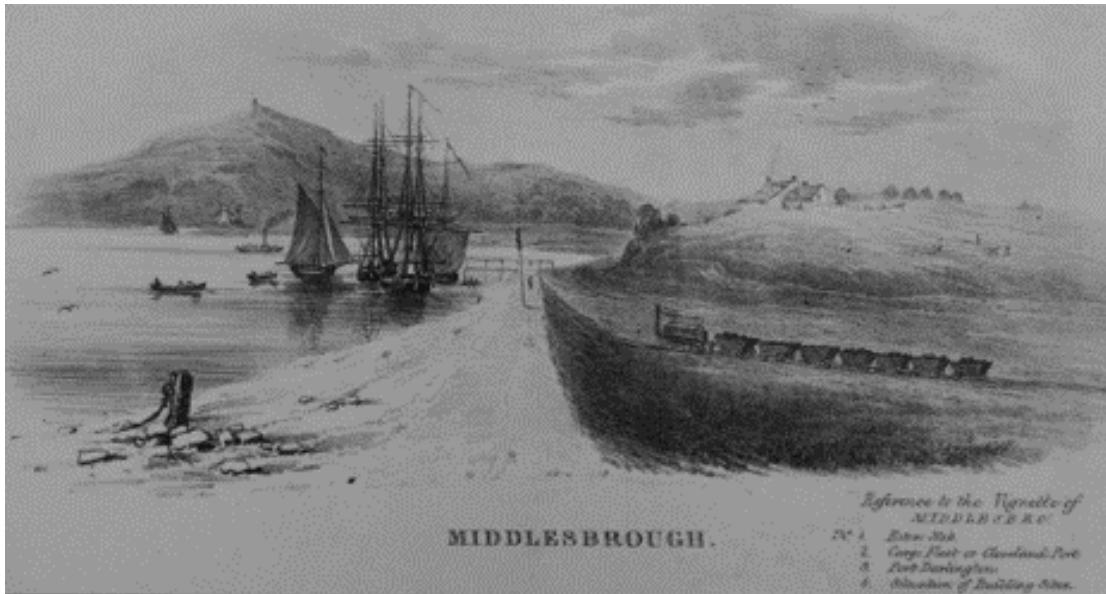


5.6.7 Otley's plans from 1830 usefully show the underlying plan of the old farmhouse and field boundaries (Moorsom 1975) (Plate 8). Around this time, the farm complex was subdivided into two plots (Lot 115 and 116); Lot 115, which corresponds with the north-east most building shown on 1829 plan (Plate 5) was acquired by Robert Manners, an innkeeper and Lot 116 by Charles Hutchinson, a common brewer (Moorsom 1981, 16). The farmhouse was converted into public house known as the 'Middlesbrough Hotel'.



*Plate 5: A facsimile of the plan drawn up in 1829 showing the farm and outbuildings acquired by Joseph Pease (adapted from Moorsom 1975)*

5.6.8 The proposed new 'Burying Ground' just off the central town square corresponds to what had been the old churchyard (Tweedle 1890). A history of the area written by Mr Tweedle in Mr Bulmer's North Yorkshire Directory of 1890 states that the old churchyard had never been completely disused, but that the bones of former parishioners had been carted off to make room for the new town (Tweedle 1890).



*Plate 6:* A vignette produced by Richard Otley in 1830 showing Middlesbrough farm, looking southeast

5.6.9 In 1831, the population in the Middlesbrough township population was relatively small, numbering 154 persons residing in 26 houses (Hardie 2018 10). By 1841, it had grown exponentially to 5,463, at which time it was recorded there were “877 occupied houses, 62 uninhabited houses and 36 in the process of being built” (ibid).



*Plate 7:* Richard Otley's plan of Middlesbrough 1830

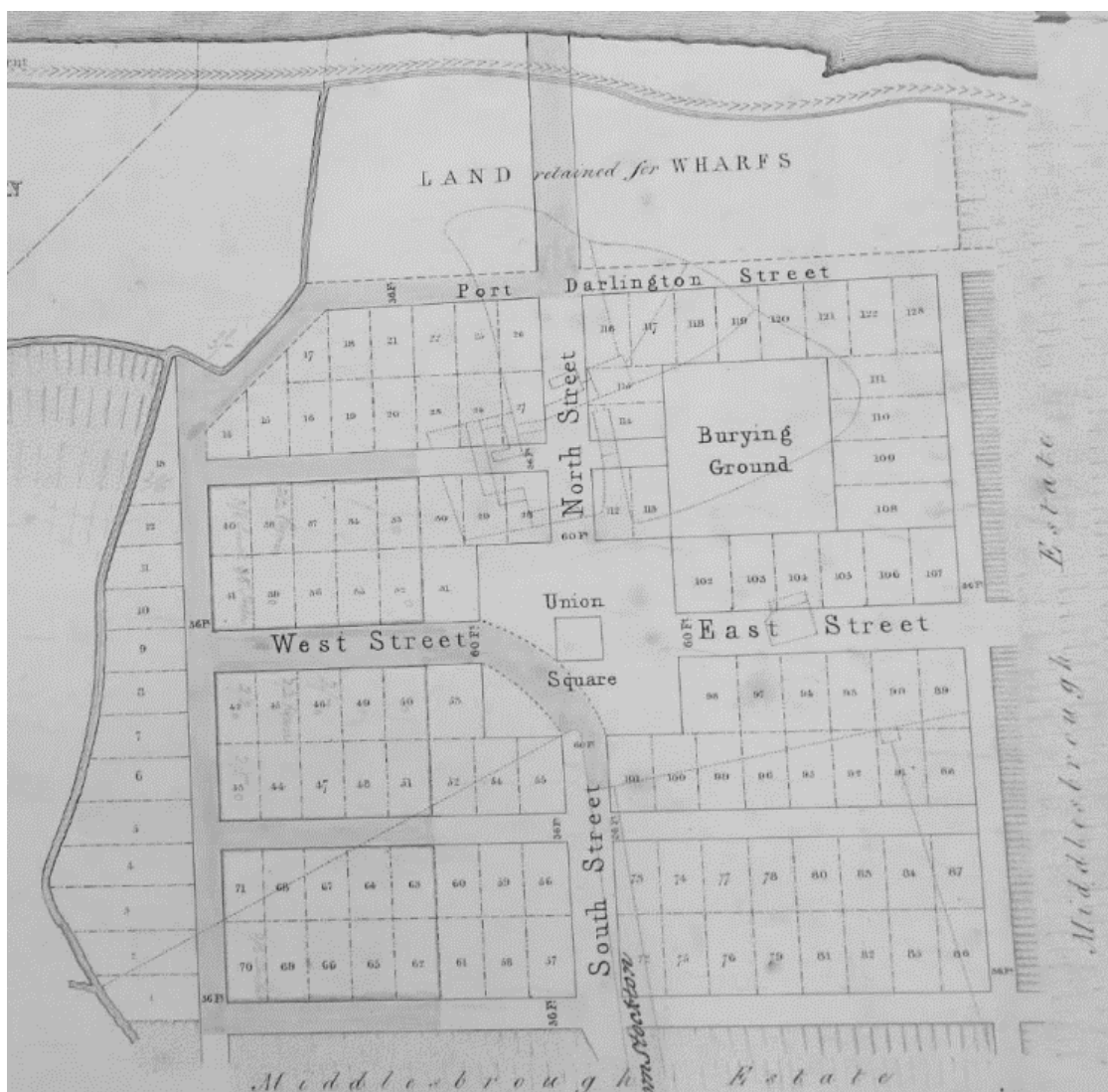


Plate 8: Mr Otley's plan for the new town of Middlesbrough, 1830. The outline of the earlier farm buildings and boundaries are superimposed over the layout for the new town

5.6.10 Despite this growth in size and population remnants of the farm complex survived within the new town for some time. An indication of its position within the emerging townscape can be gleaned from a drawing of 1832 (Plate 9) together with a contemporary account from 1846. The historian William Hylton Longstaff recounted:

*'Middlesbrough, but a few years ago, consisted of a single farm-house; now it is a populous market-town, and flourishing port of the Tees; yet its society, its buildings, its tout ensemble, is unsatisfactory: it is too new. And, among all these startling alterations, the old farm-house stood: streets have been unconsciously carried over what was once holy ground, a new church has arisen near it; the old burial-ground which long remained, was hacked up; and yet that old house, with its hidden walls of remote date, still remained. I well remember the green old churchyard, that silent city of the dead, looking strangely solemn without a church; and it made a deep and lasting impression*

*on me. It has gone; and now the last remnant of Middlesbrough, in its olden state, is about to vanish also; but in pulling down that venerable farm-house, a curious discovery has been made.'*

5.6.11 It was during the demolition of the farmhouse that vestiges of Middlesbrough Priory were found (Tweedle 1890). William Hylton Longstaff recalled: 'The process of demolition was going methodically on, when the workmen were surprised, and doubtless the owner was too, at finding a church-window'. This anecdote supports the theory that the farmhouse incorporated pre-existing elements of the medieval priory.



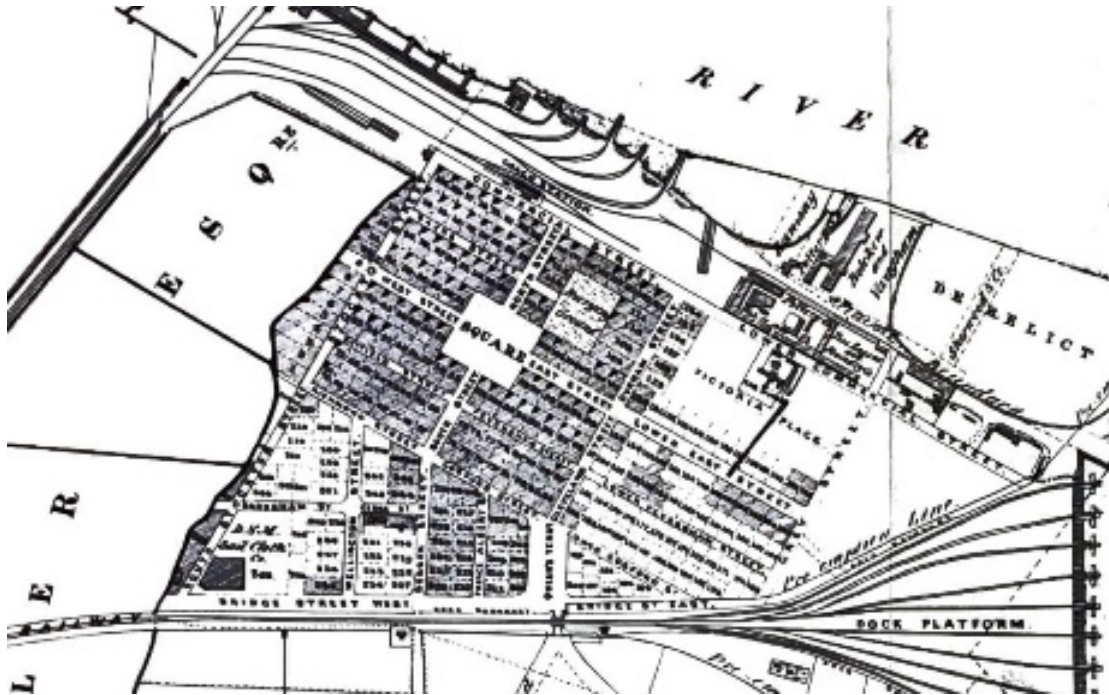
*Plate 9: Middlesbrough in 1832 showing the position of the farmhouse (1) formerly occupied by John Whinfield Parrington (adapted from Moorsom 1981)*

5.6.12 The Middlesbrough Estate Owners Plan of 1838 shows the intended 'Burying Ground' and the square at the centre of the new town of Middlesbrough (Plate 10). Within ten years of the plans for Middlesbrough emerging, a further plan for a new Anglican church was put in place, with the quaker founding father, Mr Joseph Pease donating the land. Over £2500 was raised by subscription for the construction of the new church, which was erected adjacent to the previously set out burial ground.

5.6.13 For giving the land, Joseph Pease stipulated that two pews should be reserved for his use and that the spire should not be more than 120 feet tall. This gave broad scope for the architects, John and Benjamin Green, a father and son partnership, who were commissioned to build St Hilda's Church. The pair had designed and built numerous civic buildings and notably Holy Trinity Church in Stockton. Due to the remote area and



limited funds, the Greens kept to a restricted Early English style when designing St Hilda's Church (Plate 11). The church was built in red brick to a rectangular plan, with symmetrical massing and a western tower. There was geometrical style tracery in the windows and the tall spire was braced by flying buttresses (Johnson 2020).



*Plate 10: Extract of the 1838 Middlesbrough Estate Owners Plan*

- 5.6.14 The church was consecrated in 1840 and its first incumbent was the Reverend Isaac Brown, who remained incumbent until his death in 1860.
- 5.6.15 The Town Plan Map of 1858 (Plate 12) shows the development of the site and its environs. The map shows the town hall and market house, located to the southwest of St Hilda's Church, along with the surrounding streets and yards.



Plate 11: An etching depicting St Hilda's Church soon after its construction

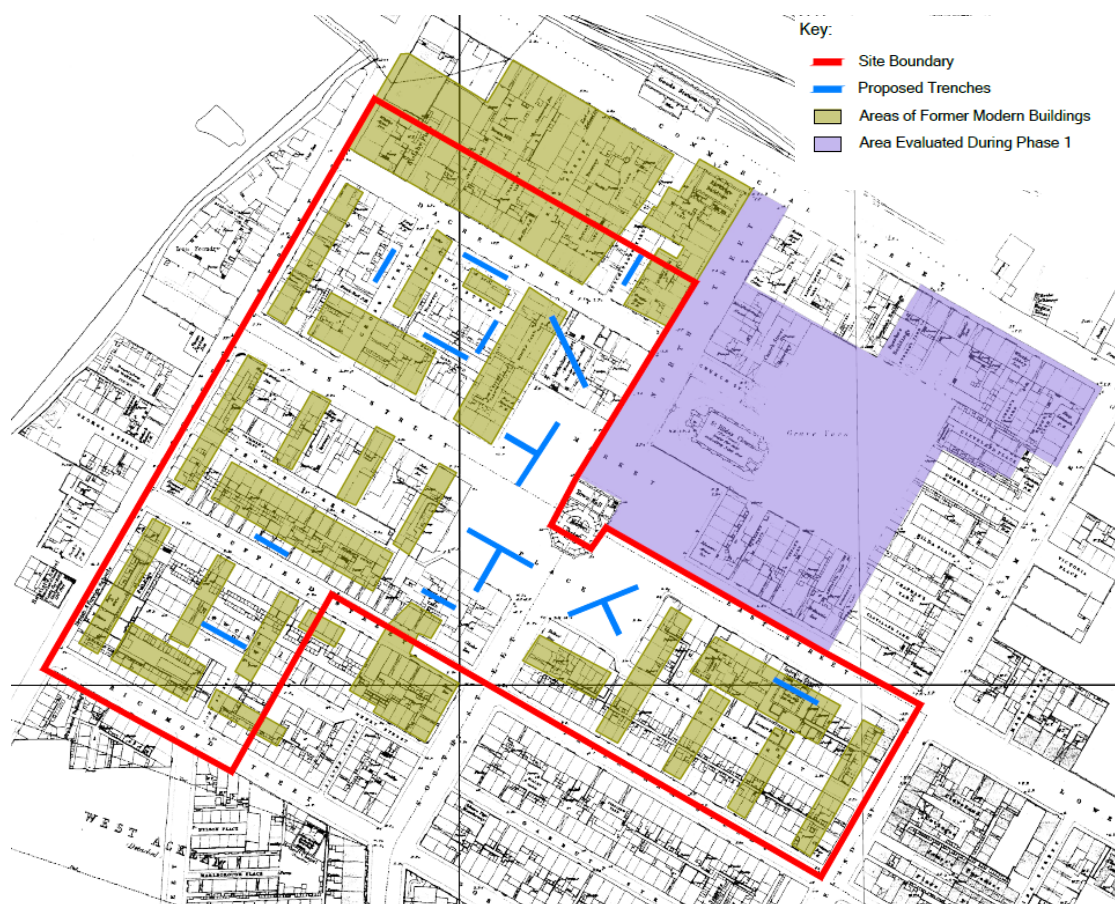


Plate 12: Phase 2 evaluation trench locations superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1858.

- 5.6.16 From the mid-1960's many of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings on the site were demolished to make way for new houses and blocks of flats.
- 5.6.17 In 1964 archaeologist M. E. Thomas conducted a watching brief during these redevelopment works. During the investigation Roman glass, medieval pottery and stone foundations – thought to pre-date 19<sup>th</sup>-century structures – were recorded to the north-west of St Hilda's church. Grave markers dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century were found in the churchyard to the north-east of St Hilda's church (Thomas 1964).
- 5.6.18 In 1969, St Hilda's Church was demolished, and the site of the church and graveyard have remained undeveloped since. Ledger stones can still be found on the site of the former burial ground (Brogan 2021).
- 5.6.19 The 1960's houses and blocks of flats were mostly demolished in the 1990's. Low density housing was constructed across the site in the late 1990's, but this has been cleared as part of the current redevelopment.

## 6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1.1 To achieve the aims of the evaluation (see section 3) 19 trenches were excavated.
- 6.1.2 Trench 1 was located at the northern end of the site and measured 35m north-west by south-east and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a total depth of 1.9m BGL (below ground level)
- 6.1.3 Trench 2 was located at the centre of the site and measured 26m north by south and was 1.8m wide, widening to 2m at the northern end where it was stepped. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.54m BGL.
- 6.1.4 Trench 3 was located at the centre of the site, abutting Trench 2 at its south-west end, and measured 13.5m west/north-west by east/south-east. The trench was 2m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.8m BGL.
- 6.1.5 Trench 4 was located in the north-west part of the site and measured 13.1m north-east by south-west and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.06m BGL.
- 6.1.6 Trench 5 was located in the north-east area of the site and measured 5.4m north-east by south-west and 2.1m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.5m BGL.
- 6.1.7 Trench 6 was located in the north-west area of the site and measured 13m north-east by south-west and 2m wide, widening to 3.5m where an exploratory sondage was excavated. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m BGL.
- 6.1.8 Trench 7 was located within the north-western area of the site and measured 19.5m west/north-west by east/south-east and 2m wide widening to 2.7m at its eastern end where it was stepped. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.22m BGL.
- 6.1.9 Trench 8 was located at the southern end of the site and measured 31m west/north-west by east/south-east and 1.8m wide, widening to 3.2m where an exploratory sondage was excavated. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m BGL.
- 6.1.10 Trench 9 extended perpendicularly from the south-western side of Trench 8. It measured c. 20m by 2m wide and was excavated to a depth of c. 2.1m BGL.
- 6.1.11 Trench 10 was located in the southern area of the site and measured 10m north-west by south-east and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.62m BGL.
- 6.1.12 Trench 11 was located in the south-west 10m north-west by south-east and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m BGL.
- 6.1.13 Trench 12 was located in the south-eastern area of site and measured 20.6m south-west by north-east, abutting Trench 13 at its eastern end. The trench was 1.96m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.33m BGL.



- 6.1.14 Trench 13 was located in the south-eastern area of the site and measured 15m north-west by south-east, abutting Trench 12 at its northern end. The trench was 2m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.58m BGL.
- 6.1.15 Trench 14 was located at the south-eastern most LOE and measured 18m north-west by south-east and 2.1m in width. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m BGL.
- 6.1.16 Trench 15 was located at the south-western most corner of the LOE and measured 15.7m north-west by south-east and was 2.4m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.66m BGL.
- 6.1.17 Trench 16 was located in the north-eastern area of the site and measured 14.1m north-west by south-east and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.03 BGL.
- 6.1.18 Trench 17 was located in the north-east end of the site and measured 6m north-west by south-east, abutting Trench 18 on its western side. The trench was 2m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 2m BGL.
- 6.1.19 Trench 18 was located in the north-east end of the site and measured 5.4m north-east by south-west, abutting Trench 17 at its eastern end. The trench was 2m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.95m BGL.
- 6.1.20 Trench 19 was located at the eastern end of the site and measured 9m north-east by south-west and 2m wide. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 3.25m BGL.

## 6.2 **General Methodology**

- 6.2.1 All archaeological work was conducted following the ClfA Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2020). Prior to the commencement of any excavation works, the location of the trenches targeted for archaeological investigation was laid out accurately with respect to the Ordnance Survey national grid. The position of this area was then scanned for any live services using a cable avoidance tool.

## 6.3 **Archaeological Excavation**

- 6.3.1 Machine excavation was used to remove topsoil and modern overburden to the depth of archaeological horizons, which was carried out under close and constant archaeological supervision. Thereafter, remains were cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.
- 6.3.2 Once the extent of buried archaeological remains was established, they were subject to detailed archaeological excavation and recording. Hand excavation was undertaken by trained professional archaeologists. All information identified in the course of the site

works was recorded stratigraphically, utilising *pro-forma* context sheets, and was accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.

#### 6.4 **Context Recording**

6.4.1 All contexts were recorded using *pro-forma* sheets. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts were cross-referenced from record sheets using sequential numbering.

#### 6.5 **Photography**

6.5.1 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts was maintained and similarly general views from standard viewpoints of the overall site at all stages of the archaeological investigation was generated. Photography was undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidance, Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for Best Practice (July 2015). All frames included a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records were maintained on photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

#### 6.6 **Planning**

6.6.1 The precise location of all archaeological structures encountered was surveyed using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process generated scaled plans within AutoCAD, which were then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, and all information was tied into Ordnance Datum.

#### 6.7 **Finds policy**

6.7.1 Finds recovery and sampling programmes was in accordance with best practice (following current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidelines, Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.

## 7 EVALUATION RESULTS

### 7.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

- 7.1.1 Natural deposits [100] were recorded at a maximum height of 9.93m AOD. The natural deposits primarily consisted of dense, mid-reddish-brown clayey sand with small gravel inclusions representing glaciolacustrine geology.
- 7.1.2 The natural deposits were cut at the middle of the trench by a rectilinear feature [114] interpreted as the construction cut for wall foundation [107], aligned north-northwest/south-southeast and exposed to measurements of 2.2m x 0.23m; continuing beyond into the northwest facing and southeast facing sections of the trench. The full width of cut [114] was lost by the truncation of a modern service to the north-east. Within cut [114] a handmade red brick wall foundation [107] of the same alignment was laid, measuring 2.2m x 0.23m with a single course surviving at a minimum and maximum height of 10m and 10.08m AOD respectively. The bricks of the wall foundation [107] were laid in header bond throughout and measured 250mm x 110mm x 70mm with no discernible mortar surviving. A construction back fill of firm mid-grey sandy clay [115] filled the remainder of cut [114] up against wall foundation [107] on its southeast side.
- 7.1.3 Directly southeast of wall [107], another handmade red brick wall [108] was uncovered, with a similar parallel north-south alignment to wall [107] which suggested that walls [107] and [108] were both constructed at some point in the 19<sup>th</sup> century but not necessarily during the same phase of construction. Wall [108] was constructed of bricks measuring 250mm x 110mm x 70mm with a very hard light pinkish-grey sandy lime-based mortar with charcoal flecks used as a bond and also skimmed over the exposed south face. The wall [108] was exposed to 7 courses with a maximum height of 10.2m AOD and a single brick footing observed at a height of 9.48m AOD, measuring in full 2.3m x 0.54m x 0.8m. The bricks forming the wall appeared to have been laid in stretcher bond, however some areas were obscured due to the overlaying mortar.
- 7.1.4 Towards the southeast end of Trench 1 a brick wall [112], stone wall foundation [109] and brick drain housing [113] were uncovered (Plate 13). Brick wall [112] was aligned east-west and ran into the southeast facing section of the trench where it likely meets the continuation of wall [108] forming the walls of a building, possibly part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Methodist chapel. As with wall [108], wall [112] was constructed of bricks measuring 250mm x 110mm x 70mm and a very hard light pinkish-grey sandy lime-based mortar with charcoal flecks. The wall [112] measured 1.3m x 0.24m and was 2 bricks wide with a single course of bricks surviving in the trench at a height of 9.6m AOD, however 5 courses were visible in the southeast facing section. At the eastern

end of the wall [112], on the south face, a U-shaped extension was keyed in, extending the width of the wall to 0.8m, consisting of firebricks with a small recess between them which contained burnt out coke; likely forming part of a boiler room construction.



*Plate 13: Trench 1 looking south-east, scale: vertical 2m*

- 7.1.5 Directly abutting the east end of wall [112] were masonry wall foundations [109] – following east-west alignment – constructed of sandstone slabs with squared edges and flat faces measuring 0.8m x 0.4 m x 0.23m. The exposed extent of wall foundations [109] measured 2.6m x 0.8m at a height of 9.54m AOD and continued into the southwest facing section of the trench with the same pinkish-grey mortar as walls [108] and [112] being used as a bond. A clear discolouration and remnants of mortar were observed on the exposed upper faces of the stone slabs that formed wall foundation [109] which indicates that wall [112] was laid on top, continuing on the same alignment.
- 7.1.6 The north facing side of [109] was partially truncated for the construction of a brick-lined drain housing [113]. The drain housing [113] was constructed of handmade bricks measuring 250mm x 110mm x 70mm forming a rectangular structure with walls aligned north-south and east-west. The southernmost wall of [113], aligned east-west, sat within the portion of [109] that was truncated and was keyed into two north-south aligned walls at its eastern and western most ends with the easternmost north-south aligned wall running into the southwest facing section of the trench. The westernmost north-south aligned wall of [113] was keyed into a second east-west aligned wall at its northmost end with this wall also continuing into the southwest facing section. The



structure [113], which was bonded using a very hard light grey mortar, differing from the mortar of [108], [109] and [112], measured 1.1m x 1.2m and was recorded at a height of 9.54m AOD. The internal area of the structure [113] was excavated to 2 courses deep allowing a large ceramic drain, measuring 0.5m wide, to be visible within the southwest facing section of the trench, which was fitted and bonded to the north-south and east-west aligned walls that continued into the section.

- 7.1.7 At the northwest end of the trench a modern cellar was exposed, constructed with a frogged brick wall [104], plus structure [105] and a cement surface [111], which was partially excavated. The wall [104], which measured 2.6m x 0.22m and was constructed with a cement mortar recorded at a height of 9.9m AOD, was aligned north/south with the east facing elevation representing the interior side of the modern cellar.
- 7.1.8 Brick structure [105] was formed with two north/south aligned walls measuring 2.1m x 0.3m with a 0.9m gap between them. They were joined at their southwestern ends forming a U-shape with a width of 1.5m that continued into the southwest facing section of the trench. The west facing elevation of the northmost north/south aligned wall of [105] formed the south interior wall of the modern cellar and was recorded at a height of 9.95m AOD. A cement surface [111] was exposed between [104] and [105] likely forming the floor surface of the modern cellar and was recorded at a height of 8m AOD; further dividing walls of the cellar were visible in the southwest facing section of the trench, laid on top of [111]. Directly east of [105] a cement wall aligned east/west was observed and recorded at a height of 9.88m AOD.
- 7.1.9 At the middle of Trench 1 towards the south-east, a deposit of destruction rubble [102] was observed overlying masonry structures [107], [108], [109], [112] and [113] as well as filling the internal area of the structure [113] (Plate 14). The deposit [102] consisted of loose friable dark brown/black silty sand with inclusions of ash and bricks. The deposit [102] had a maximum thickness of 1.6m covering an area of 11m x 2m and was recorded at a maximum level of 9.79m AOD. This deposit [102] was sealed to the southeast by a layer of chipped stone / crush [110] which also overlaid a modern service drain and was recorded at a thickness of 1m covering an area of 12m x 2m with a maximum height of 9.81m AOD.



*Plate 14: deposit of destruction rubble [102] overlying masonry structures [107], [108], [109], [112] and [113], looking north-west, scale: horizontal 1m*

- 7.1.10 At the north-western end of the trench a deposit of made ground [103] was observed overlaying and filling the modern cellar structure [104], [105] and [111]. The deposit [103] consisted of demolition rubble and a loose dark brown/black silty sand with inclusions of modern refuse and was recorded at a thickness of 1.7m with a maximum height of 9.7m AOD, covering an area of 12m x 2m.
- 7.1.11 Modern topsoil [101] sealed the entirety of Trench 1 and consisted of a mid-greyish-brown silty sand with occasional small stone inclusions. The topsoil [101] was recorded at a maximum thickness of 0.21m and at the height of 10.1m AOD at the northwest most end of the trench and 10.22m AOD at the southeast most end.



*Plate 15: Trench 2 looking south, scale: horizontal 1m; vertical 2m*

## 7.2 Trench 2 (Figure 4; Plate 15)

- 7.2.1 The earliest deposits in Trench 2 were natural deposits [200] consisting of banded layers of loosely compacted light pinkish-orange and pinkish-yellow coarse sand. This was exposed at a maximum height of 10.6m AOD.
- 7.2.2 In the southern end of the trench a concrete slab [209] was uncovered which continued into the west-facing section and southern limit of the excavation and was recorded at a maximum height of 11.01m AOD.
- 7.2.3 North of [209] in the southern/central portion of the trench, two man-made frogged cement brick walls, [204] and [206], were exposed, sitting within construction cuts [203] and [205] respectively. These features and structures were all aligned north-west/south-east. Both construction cuts [203] and [205] were cutting the natural and had vertical sides. Wall [204] survived at a maximum height of 10.94m AOD whilst [206] survived at 10.89m AOD.
- 7.2.4 Further north of [206] but following the same south-west/north-east alignment, a further modern wall of the same bricks [208] was exposed with an additional concrete footing. This wall [208] also sat within a vertical construction cut [207] of the same alignment and survived at a maximum height of 11.16m AOD.



- 7.2.5 Overlaying walls [204], [206] and partially [208] was a layer of made ground [202] consisting of demolition rubble and loosely compacted mid-brown sand, likely the result of landscaping in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This layer had a maximum thickness of 0.96m and was encountered over at approximately 11.5m AOD.
- 7.2.6 At the north-most end of the trench a deposit of stone crush [211] was observed infilling wall [208] on its north face.
- 7.2.7 Sitting on top of [211] was a concrete slab [210] which was recorded at a height of 11.16m and continued into the northern limits of the excavation and both the north and south facing sections.
- 7.2.8 Overlying made-ground [202] and concrete slab [210] was the modern topsoil [201] which covered the entire trench and was recorded at the height of 11.72m AOD at the northern limit and a height of 11.78m AOD at the southern limit, with a maximum thickness of 0.15m. This forms the current ground surface and consists of loose light brown silty sand containing brick rubble and plastic inclusions.
- 7.3 **Trench 3** (Figure 4; Plate 16)
- 7.3.1 The earliest deposit of this trench was natural firm mid-pinkish-brown clayey sand [300] recorded at a height of 10.01m AOD at the south-east end of the trench.
- 7.3.2 Overlaying the natural [300] in the south-east end of the trench was a poured concrete slab [304] covering an area of 3.5m x 2m and at a height of 10.02m AOD. On top of this slab, a man-made frogged brick wall [303] was laid to form the foundations of a modern building. This wall [303] survived in both the north-east and south-west facing sections of the trench and at maximum and minimum height of 10.71m AOD and 10.12m AOD respectively at, and running into, the south-western most limit of the excavation.
- 7.3.3 The foundations of this building appear to have been then backfilled with redeposited natural [305] which overlays [304] and abuts [303] on its south-west face, with natural deposits [300] abutting its north-east face; demonstrating that the foundations for the building were cut into the natural, although no construction cut was not visible. Deposit [305] consisted of friable mid-pinkish-brown fine sand with occasional small stones, brick fragments, concrete fragments and charcoal flecks inclusions.
- 7.3.4 Sealing the surviving foundations [303] and [304] was a layer of modern made ground [312] consisting of demolition rubble, plastic fragments and a loose mid-greyish-brown silty sand, likely the result of 20<sup>th</sup> century landscaping. The deposit covered an area of 11.5m x 2m at a maximum thickness of 0.75m.
- 7.3.5 A concrete block [306] was recorded at the south-east side of Trench 3, in the north-west end of the trench. The concrete block [306] was likely a covering for a modern service and was recorded at a height of 11.38m AOD. The whole trench was sealed by



modern topsoil [301] consisting of loose light brown silty sand containing brick rubble and plastic inclusions, which was recorded at a height of 11.78m and 12.02m to the north-west and south-east limits of the excavations, respectively.



*Plate 16: Trench 3 looking north-west, scale: horizontal 1m; vertical 2m*

#### 7.4 **Trench 4** (Figure 5; Plate 17)

- 7.4.1 The natural deposits [400] in Trench 4 consisted of firm light-mid pinkish-brown sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions, indicative of glaciolacustrine geology, and was recorded at a maximum height of 6.29m AOD at the south-east end of the trench. Natural deposits [400] were also exposed within an exploratory sondage down the centre of the trench below modern walls [404] and [406] to a depth of 5.97m AOD.
- 7.4.2 Cut into the natural deposits [400] were vertical construction cuts [403] and [405] aligned north-south, which housed modern walls [404] and [406] respectively. Both walls [404] and [406] were made up of man-made frogged bricks with a cement mortar and sat on concrete plinths/foundations. Wall [404] ran along, and into, the north-west facing section of the trench and the north-east limits of excavation and was recorded at a surviving height of 6.97m AOD. Wall [406] ran parallel to wall [404] along, and into, the south-east facing section of the trench and north-east limit of excavation and was recorded at a surviving height of 6.93m AOD. A concrete block was also exposed during the exploratory sondage, running west-east at the centre of Trench 4 below the concrete plinths of walls [404] and [406] and was recorded at a height of 6.57m AOD.

- 7.4.3 Sealing walls [404] and [406] was a layer of modern made ground [402] consisting of layers of firm clay with brick, tarmac and chipped stone inclusions, likely a result of 20<sup>th</sup> century landscaping. The deposit [402] was recorded at a maximum thickness of 0.77m and maximum height of 7.76m AOD and covered the full extent of the trench which measured 13.10m x 2m.
- 7.4.4 The entirety of Trench 4 was sealed by modern topsoil [401] measured at a maximum thickness of 0.23m and consisting of loose friable light yellowish-brown clayey sand which formed the current ground surface. The height of the topsoil was recorded at 7.87m AOD at the northeast end of the trench and 7.93m AOD at the southwest end.



*Plate 17: Trench 4 looking south-west, scale: vertical 2m*

## 7.5 **Trench 5** (Figure 6; Plate 18)

- 7.5.1 Natural deposits [500] were encountered at the southwestern end of Trench 5 at a maximum height of 7.33m AOD and consisted of loosely compacted mid-reddish-brown coarse sand.
- 7.5.2 At the north-eastern end of the trench, covering the natural [500] to a maximum recorded depth of 6.73m was a deposit of chipped stone / crush [503]. The exposed extent of this deposit was observed to be 1m in thickness and at a height of 7.73m AOD.



- 7.5.3 A layer of modern made ground [502] consisting of loose friable mid brown coarse sand with brick, cement and plastic fragment inclusions throughout, overlaid the chipped stone deposit [503] and the natural [500] at a maximum thickness of 1.1m and a top level of 8.73m AOD, covering the full extent of the trench (5.4m x 2.1m).
- 7.5.4 The current ground surface was formed by modern topsoil [501] which sealed the entirety of Trench 5 and was measured at a height of 9.83m AOD to the northeast and southwest ends of the trench with a maximum thickness of 0.4m. The topsoil was described as a friable mid-dark clayey sand.



*Plate 18: Trench 5 looking north-east, scale: horizontal 1m*

## 7.6 **Trench 6** (Figure 7; Plate 19)

- 7.6.1 Natural deposits [600] were encountered across the full length and width of Trench 6, measuring 13m x 2m, including the exploratory sondage dug to the north-west from the middle of the southeast facing section, measuring 2m x 1.5m. The natural (600) consisted of stiff light yellowish-brown clay with occasional fragments of degraded sandstone and was recorded at a maximum height of 10.13m AOD.
- 7.6.2 Towards the southwestern end of the trench the natural [600] was cut by the construction cut [603] for a brick lined well [604] (Plate 20). The cut [603] was circular in plan with a diameter of 1.17m and had a maximum exposed depth of 0.15m. The brick well lining [604] was made up of handmade bricks measuring 221mm x 112mm x 70mm with a friable grey sandy mortar. It was constructed a single brick deep with two courses exposed to a maximum height of 9.99m AOD and minimum of 9.88m AOD.





*Plate 19: Trench 6 looking north-east, scale: horizontal 1m, vertical 2m*



*Plate 20: Well [604] looking south-west, scale: horizontal 0.50m and 1m*

7.6.3 The bricks forming the well were laid in stretcher position. The internal area of the well lining [604] measured 1.01m in diameter and was filled with a friable dark brown-black fine sand and cinder deposit [605] with occasional small stones that was recorded at a



height of 0.87m AOD. This deposit (605) contained sherds of pottery dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and clay tobacco pipe which was also 19<sup>th</sup> century.

7.6.4 As with previous trenches, a deposit of modern made ground [602] was recorded which overlaid the well structure and extended across the entirety of Trench 6. This layer [602] consisted of demolition rubble and debris with plastic inclusions and a dark greyish-brown sand and was recorded to be 0.25m thick and at a maximum height of 10.38m AOD.

7.6.5 Modern topsoil [601] sealed the full extent of the trench and consisted of loose light greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional small stone inclusions. It was recorded at the heights of 10.65m AOD and 10.62m AOD at the southwestern and north-eastern limits of the excavation respectively.

#### 7.7 **Trench 7** (Figure 8; Plate 21)

7.7.1 The earliest deposit in Trench 7 was natural [700] stiff light yellowish-orangish-brown clay with occasional small fragments of degraded sandstone above a band of mid-reddish-brown coarse sand and glacial gravel which was exposed within a sondage. The maximum height of this natural deposit was recorded at 9.91m AOD and covered the whole area of the trench (20m x 2m).



*Plate 21: Trench 7 looking north-west, scale: horizontal 1m, vertical 2m*

7.7.2 At the centre of the trench a brick drain [706] aligned northeast/southwest was uncovered which appeared to be sat within a larger ditch feature [711] aligned north/south. A sondage was excavated through this sequence revealing the southwest

half of drain [706] and exposed the ditch cut [711] which was truncated by the construction cut of a brick drain [709].

- 7.7.3 Cutting through natural deposits [700] was the cut of a north-south aligned ditch [711] (Plate 22) that was identified in the middle of the trench continuing into the southwest and northeast facing sections of the trench, measuring 2m x 1.4m x .6m at its maximum exposed limits. The ditch [711] was linear in plan with a concave profile with a gradual break of slope at the base, with a curved step on the western side. The ditch [711] was cut from a highest level of 9.51m AOD and extended to a lowest level of 8.86m AOD.
- 7.7.4 The cut [711] had a primary fill [713] and an upper fill [712]. The primary fill [713] was recorded in a hand-dug slot and composed of firm mid yellowish-brown clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and a maximum thickness of 0.39m. The maximum and minimum heights of fill [713] were recorded at 9.47m AOD and 9.25m AOD respectively. Above the primary fill [713] was an upper fill [712] which consisted of stiff mid greyish-brown clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and had a maximum thickness of 0.17m at the centre. This fill was recorded at a maximum height of 9.51m AOD and minimum height of 9.34m AOD. Pottery dated to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD was recovered from the primary fill [713] (Appendix 2). In addition, a worked stone identified as a possible hone stone, also dated to the Roman period, was recovered from the primary fill [713].
- 7.7.5 Cutting the upper fill [712] of the ditch [711] was a construction cut [708] for a brick drain [709] (Plate 23). The linear construction cut [708] was aligned northeast/southwest and had a vertical profile with curved edges at the break of slope curving into a flat base. The construction cut [708], which measured 0.75m x 0.5m x 0.28m at its exposed limits, was recorded at a height of 8.98m AOD at its base and was cut from a maximum level of 9.28m AOD. The brick drain [709] was aligned northwest/southeast and was constructed using handmade bricks measuring 240mm x 120mm x 80mm with no surviving mortar visible. The drain [709] continued into the southwest facing section of the sondage however was not visible in the northeast facing section, although the construction cut [708] was visible. The construction cut [708] was filled by very stiff mid greyish-brown clayey sand [710] which contained sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and clay tobacco pipe (Appendix 2).





*Plate 22: North-east-facing section through ditch [711] and later drainage features [706]/[708]/[709]/[710] looking south-west, scale: vertical 1m*



*Plate 23: Ditch [711] and drain [706] looking north-east, scale: vertical 1m*



- 7.7.6 The construction cut backfill [710] of the drain [709] was truncated by the construction cut [705] for a later drain [706] (Plate 22). The linear construction cut [705] was aligned northeast/southwest, with a vertical profile and marginally curved edges that levelled to a flat base. The exposed extent of the cut [705] measured 2m x 0.58m x 0.15m and was recorded at a maximum and minimum height of 9.45m AOD and 9.30m AOD respectively. The cut [705] was then filled with a construction cut backfill [707] and brick drain [706], with the bricks intentionally laid on a 0.03m-0.04m thick layer of [707] at a slightly tilted angle forming a shallow V-shape at the centre of the drain. The area between the edge of the cut [705] and the drain [706] was then backfilled with the same deposit, [707]. The exposed extent of drain [706] measured 2m x 0.47m x 0.07m with a maximum and minimum recorded height of 9.42m and 9.45m AOD respectively. The bricks for drain [706] measured 240mm x 120mm x 70mm and the remains of a dark reddish-brown friable sand-based mortar were observed. The construction backfill [707] consisted of mid greyish-brown friable clayey sand with occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks, brick fragments and small stones, and was thickest at its northwest and southeast edges measuring 0.15m; measuring 0.09m at the centre. This fill [707] was recorded at a maximum height of 9.44m AOD. Sherds of 19th century pottery were recovered from the backfill [707] (Appendix 2).
- 7.7.7 Sealing the brick drain [706] in the depression caused by the tilted angle of the bricks was a thin layer [714] of mid greyish-brown clayey sand with brick rubble inclusions measuring 160mm thick at its centre and 0.5m wide with a maximum recorded height of 9.55m AOD.
- 7.7.8 Trench 7 was then layered with a sequence of made ground and dump layers demonstrating different phases of 20<sup>th</sup>-century landscaping events. The clayey sand [714] was sealed by a layer of asphalt [704] observed across the full extent of the trench with a maximum thickness of 60mm, recorded at a maximum level of 9.57m AOD. A 0.14m thick layer of chipped stone crush [703], at a maximum height of 9.71m AOD was recorded over deposit [704] also across the extent of the trench. The next modern layer observed was a deposit of made ground [702] consisting of light greyish-brown clayey sand with inclusions of crush, brick rubble and modern refuse. Deposit [702] covered the extent of the exposed trench and was recorded at a maximum thickness and height of 0.20m and 9.91m AOD respectively.
- 7.7.9 Modern topsoil [701] with a maximum thickness of 0.18m, sealed the entirety of Trench 7 and consisted of loose light greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional small stone inclusions. The topsoil formed the current ground level at a height of 10.09m AOD.



## 7.8 Trench 8 (Figure 9; Plate 24)

7.8.1 Natural deposits [800] were recorded in the base of Trench 8 and were described as sand with lenses of compacted gravel. A level of approximately 10.79m AOD was recorded on this natural deposit.

7.8.2 Cutting the natural sand was a group of seven pits all clustered towards eastern end of the trench [804], [806], [809], [811], [814],[816] and [818] (Plate 25 & 26). These pits were sub-circular in plan and continued beyond the trench limit of excavation. Their fills [805], [807], [810], [812], [813], [815], [817] and [819] were consistently described as firm mid-brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks. All the pits were encountered at between 10.79m AOD and 10.80m AOD.

7.8.3 For more information on the pits identified and recorded in this trench see the table below:

Cut of Pit	Fill(s) of Pit	Maximum Height (m AOD)	Pot Dates & Finds
804	805	10.79	14 <sup>TH</sup> Century Pot and Burnt Daub
806	807	10.80	-
809	810	10.80	-
811	812, 813	10.79	14 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> Century Pot
814	815	10.79	-
816	817	10.79	-
818	819	10.79	-

7.8.4 Cutting the fill of [807] of pit [806] was a circular post-hole [808] with an approximate diameter of 0.10m and a recorded highest level of 10.80m AOD.

7.8.5 Sealing these pits and post-holes was a sequence of layers of made ground [803] and [802]. Which had a combined thickness of approximately 2m.

7.8.6 Modern topsoil [801], at a maximum thickness of 0.18m, sealed the entirety of the Trench and consisted of loose light greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional small stone inclusions. Forming the current ground level, the topsoil was measured at a height of 12.89.m AOD.



*Plate 24: Trench 8, looking northwest, scale: vertical 2m, horizontal 1m*





*Plate 25: Pre-excitation shot of pit group [804], [806], [809], [811], [814],[816] and [818] in Trench 8, looking northwest, scale: vertical 0.25m, horizontal 0.50m*



*Plate 26: Post-ex shot of pit group [804], [806], [809], [811], [814],[816] and [818] in Trench 8, looking northwest, scale: vertical 1m, horizontal 0.50m*



## 7.9 Trench 9 (Figure 9; Plate 27)

- 7.9.1 Trench 9 extended perpendicularly from the south-western side of Trench 8. Natural deposits [800] were recorded in the base of Trench 9 and were described as sand with lenses of compacted gravel. A level of c. 10.79m AOD was recorded on the natural deposit [800].
- 7.9.2 A rectilinear brick wall [901], likely forming part of a cellar was revealed at the south-western end of the trench (Plate 28). This structure [901] was revealed over c.4.00m and was constructed of handmade brick bonded with a lime-based mortar. The southernmost part of the structure [901] consisted of a wall orientated north-east/south-west measuring 3.28m in length. A north-west by south-easterly return of the wall was exposed more fully and had a total exposed length of 1.25m and width of 0.41m. The most northerly component of the structure was a 1.16m long section of wall, which was 0.23m wide. The top of the structure lay at a height of 11.27-11.34m AOD.
- 7.9.3 Sealing the natural deposits was a sequence of layers of made ground [803] and [802]. Which had a combined thickness of approximately 2m. Modern topsoil [801], consisted of loose light greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional small stone inclusions with a maximum thickness of 0.18m, sealed the entirety of Trench 9. The topsoil Formed the current ground level at a height of 12.89.m AOD.



*Plate 27: Trench 9, looking northeast, with wall [901] in the foreground scale: 1m*





*Plate 28: Trench 9, looking east, showing the fully excavated extent wall [901] scale: 1m*

#### 7.10 Trench 10 (Figure 10)

7.10.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 10 was a layer of natural gravel (1000) which was recorded at 10.82m AOD.

7.10.2 Cutting the natural gravel towards the western end of the trench was the cut of pit [1003]. This pit was described as having steep sides and a flat base with a recorded dimensions of 1.5m north-south, 0.8m east-west and a depth of 1.10m. This pit was encountered at 12.12m AOD. The fill [1004] was described as a firm mid-brown clay with patches of gavel and large fragments of brick. These brick inclusions suggest that this feature is relatively modern.

7.10.3 Laying directly above the natural gravel at the eastern end of the trench was the remains of a concrete slab [1005]. Recorded in section it had a thickness of 0.10m and was recorded at 12.02m AOD.

7.10.4 Sealing both the fill [1004] of pit [1003] and the concrete slab [1005] was a layer of made ground. This layer [1002] was described as firm and mostly consisted of cinders and crushed brick. It had a recorded thickness of 0.30m and was encountered at 12.42m AOD.

7.10.5 Covering made ground [1002] and the whole of the trench was a layer of topsoil. This deposit [1001] was described as friable silty sand with a recorded thickness of 0.19m and a level of between 12.38m AOD and 12.61m AOD it formed the current modern ground level.



## 7.11 Trench 11 (Figure 11; Plate 30)

7.11.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 11 was a layer interpreted as natural clay [1100] which was recorded at 9.38m AOD.



*Plate 30: Trench 11, looking southeast, scale: 1m horizontal, 2m vertical*

7.11.2 Cutting the natural deposits in the south-western portion of Trench 11 was the cut of a linear ditch [1107] (Plate 31). This ditch [1107] was orientated east/west and was described as having sloping sides with a flat base (Plate 32). The total recorded length was 5.5m with a width of 0.91m and a maximum depth of 0.09m. The ditch [1107], which was recorded at a maximum level of 9.69m AOD, contained a singular fill [1108] which was described as firm mid-brown sandy clay with occasional small sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks. Unfortunately, no dating evidence was encountered but given its stratigraphic position predating later post-medieval activity, it is likely the ditch could represent a boundary marker or agricultural feature associated with the medieval activity in the area.





*Plate 31: Ditch [1107] looking east, scale: 1m vertical*



*Plate 32: West-facing section through ditch [1107] scale: 1m horizontal*

7.11.3 Sealing the fill [1108] of ditch [1107] was a layer of sub-soil [1103] which was described as a firm mid-reddish-brown sandy clay. Recorded in section this layer had a thickness of 0.3m. Pottery dated from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> century was recovered from this layer



(Appendix 2). This sub-soil could be the remains of an agricultural soil or land surface from at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



*Plate 33: Wall [1105], looking north-west scale: 1m horizontal*

7.11.4 Cutting into the sub-soil [1103] towards the eastern end of the trench was a construction cut [1104] for a brick wall [1105]. the construction cut was described as having vertical sides and a flat base with recorded dimensions of 1.88m in length, 1m wide and a depth of 0.21m. The wall [1105] itself was described as being constructed out of reddish-orange bricks with a hard lime-based mortar and a regular bond. This wall foundation had surviving dimensions of 1.88m in length by 0.35m wide and a height of 0.21m. Brick samples recovered from this masonry element were dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Appendix 2). A construction cut backfill [1105] was identified filling the space between the edges of the construction cut and the wall. Pottery dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century was recovered from this fill (Appendix 2).

7.11.5 Overlaying this brick structure [1105] and covering the whole trench was a layer of made ground, this layer [1102] was described as firm demolition rubble and gravel in a sandy clay matrix. This layer of made ground had a thickness of 0.41m and a maximum recorded highest level of 10.36m AOD.

7.11.6 Sealing made ground [1102] was a layer of topsoil [1101] which covered the whole of the trench and formed the current ground surface, it was described as loose light greyish-brown clay sand. With a recorded thickness of 0.12m and a recorded level of between 9.48m AOD and 10.48m AOD.



### 7.12 **Trench 12** (Figure 12; Plate 34)

7.12.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 12 was a layer of natural sand [1200] which was recorded at a 11.5m AOD.

7.12.2 Sealing these natural sands was a layer of modern made ground [1202] which was described as having patches of demolition rubble throughout and had a recorded thickness of 1m and was encountered at 12.5m AOD.

7.12.3 Covering made ground [1202] was a layer of topsoil [1201] which covered the whole trench and was described as a friable greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.3m with recorded levels of between 12.19m AOD and 12.89m AOD which formed the current ground level.



*Plate 34: Trench 12, looking northeast, scale: 1m horizontal, 2m vertical*

### 7.13 **Trench 13** (Figure 12; Plate 35)

7.13.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 13 was a layer of natural sand [1300] which was exposed at a level of between 10.93m AOD and 11.52m AOD.

7.13.2 Sealing the natural was a layer of modern made ground [1302] which had a recorded thickness of 1.19m and was encountered at 12.59m AOD.

7.13.3 Covering made ground [1302] was a layer of topsoil [1301] which covered the whole trench and was described as a friable greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.17m with recorded levels of between 11.99m AOD and 12.89m AOD which formed the current ground level.





*Plate 35: Trench 13, looking southeast, scale: 1m horizontal, 2m vertical*

**7.14 Trench 14** (Figure 13; Plate 36)

7.14.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 14 was a layer of natural reddish-brown clay [1400] which was recorded at 7.69m AOD.

7.14.2 Sealing this natural clay was a layer of modern made ground [1402] which was described as having patches of demolition rubble in a clay matrix and had a recorded thickness of 1.66m and was recorded at 9.15m AOD and 8.38m AOD.

7.14.3 Covering made ground [1402] was a layer of topsoil [1401] which covered the whole trench and was described as a friable greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.25m with recorded levels of between 9.4m AOD and 8.63m AOD which formed the current ground level.





*Plate 36: Trench 14, looking southeast, scale: 1m horizontal, 2m vertical*

#### 7.15 **Trench 15** (Figure 14; Plate 37)

7.15.1 Identified in the base of the trench at 7.45m AOD was a layer of redeposited natural [1500]. It was described as sand and gravel mixed with some rubble and brick and was recorded at 7.45m AOD.

7.15.2 Sitting on a layer of redeposited natural [1500] most likely in a construction cut although, none were identified or recorded, four walls were revealed. These walls [1501], [1502] and [1505] were in the middle of the trench slightly towards the eastern end where these four masonry elements formed a cellar (Plate 38). Wall [1501] was aligned north/south and was constructed out of limestone blocks with a hard pinkish-white sandy lime-based mortar with coal inclusions. This formed the eastern external wall of the cellar. The southern wall [1502] was orientated east/west and was constructed out of sandstone blocks and occasional courses of brick with a crumbly sandy lime mortar. Running parallel with [1502] was a further masonry element forming the northern external wall [1505] which was constructed out of sandstone blocks with a mortar consistent with the builds of the other walls that make up this cellar. The floor of the cellar [1507] was constructed out of red bricks.

7.15.3 Other masonry elements recorded in this trench which were associated with the cellar, previously discussed, were internal brick walls [1504] and [1506] with additional later blocking of a lightwell or coal chute with brickwork [1503]. For more information on the



walls and masonry elements of this cellar identified and recorded in this trench see the table below:

Context	Orientation	Type	Material	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Maximum Height (m AOD)	CBM Spot Dates
1501	N-S	External Wall	Stone	2.4	0.96	1.55	9.03	-
1502	E-W	External Wall	Stone and Brick	4.5	0.5	1.58	8.96	-
1503	E-W	External Wall Feature	Brick	0.75	0.24	0.33	8.94	19 <sup>th</sup> Century
1504	N-S	Partition Wall	Brick	2.14	0.14	1.59	8.91	19 <sup>th</sup> Century
1505	E-W	External Wall	Stone	4.52	0.15	1.65	9.05	-
1506	N-S	Internal Wall	Brick	1.38	0.11	1.53	8.80	-
1507	-	Floor	Brick	4.5	0.96	-	7.35	19 <sup>th</sup> Century

7.15.4 Filling the cellar were various deposits of demolition material [1508] and [1509]. This infilling was described as loose brick rubble and coarse sandy demolition material. These deposits were encountered at between 8.8m AOD and 8.75m AOD. The back fill [1509] was not excavated but [1508] had a thickness of 1.68m with some dating evidence of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, glass, metal and leather recovered from this fill (Appendix 2).

7.15.5 Sealing the infilling of the cellar was a layer of clay [1511] which was 0.85m thick and was recorded at 9.43m AOD. Sealing this clay layer was a layer of made ground [1512] which mostly consisted of limestone chips or crush. This particular layer was 0.7m thick. A layer of tarmac sealed [1513] this layer of crush and had an overall thickness of 0.10m. A further layer of made ground [1514] covered the tarmac with this layer being described as consisting of rubble and clay with a recorded thickness of 0.50m and a highest level of 9.99m AOD.



*Plate 37: Trench 15, looking southeast, scale: 1m*



*Plate 38: South-west elevation of cellar with coal chute, looking southwest, scale: 1m*

7.15.6 Covering made ground [1514] was a layer of topsoil [1515] which covered the whole trench and was described as a friable greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.12m with recorded levels of between 9.49m AOD and 10.13m AOD which formed the current ground level.



7.16 **Trench 16** (Figure 15; Plate 39)

7.16.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 16 was a layer of natural clay [1600] which was exposed at a level of 9.93m AOD.

7.16.2 Cutting the natural deposits in the middle of the trench along the western edge was a construction cut for a brick-lined drain. The rectangular construction cut [1602] contained a brick-lining [1601] and a construction back fill [1603]. This drain had overall dimensions of 1.10m by 1.m and a recorded maximum level of 9.6m AOD.

7.16.3 To the south of the brick drain at the southern end of the trench was a brick structure interpreted as the remains of a brick cellar. This brick structure consisted of three masonry elements [1606], [1609] and [1614] which formed in plan the north-west corner of this cellar. this brick structure was consistently described as being constructed out of red hand-made bricks with a hard lime mortar. With overall dimensions of approximately 2.5m in length by approximately 1.5m wide with a recorded level of between 9.64m AOD and 9.7m AOD.



*Plate 39: Trench 16, looking northwest, scale: 1m*



- 7.16.4 The brick structure which made up this cellar was backfilled with [1607] and [1608] which consisted of demolition rubble and mortar.
- 7.16.5 Sealing this rubble back fill and covering the whole trench was a layer of made ground [1612] which was described as consisting of brick and concrete rubble. With a thickness of approximately 0.7m and a recorded level of 10.40m AOD.
- 7.16.6 Covering made ground [1612] was a layer of topsoil [1613] which covered the whole trench and was described as a friable greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of approximately 0.1m with a recorded level of 10.45m AOD which formed the current ground level.
- 7.17 **Trench 17** (Figure 16; Plate 40)
- 7.17.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 17 was a layer of light pinkish-yellow natural sand [1700] which was recorded at a maximum level of 7.20m AOD.
- 7.17.2 Overlying the natural sand was a levelling layer [1703] which consisted of large pieces of limestone gravel in compacted layers. It was approximately 2.05m thick and had a recorded level of 9.25m AOD.



*Plate 40: Trench 17, looking east*

- 7.17.3 Sealing this layer of gravel / crush was a layer of modern made ground [1702] which was described as having patches of demolition rubble in a sandy clay matrix with a recorded thickness of 0.60m and was encountered at 9.85m AOD.
- 7.17.4 Covering made ground [1702] was a layer of topsoil [1701] which was seen across the whole trench and was described as a loose greyish-brown clay sand. This layer of

topsoil had a thickness of 0.15m and was recorded at 10m AOD which formed the current ground level.

**7.18 Trench 18** (Figure 16; Plate 41)

7.18.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 18 was a layer of coarse pinkish-brown natural sand [1800] which was recorded at 8.14m AOD.

7.18.2 Overlying the natural sand was a levelling layer [1803] which consisted of large pieces of limestone gravel in compacted layers. It was approximately 1.07m thick and had a recorded level of 9.21m AOD.

7.18.3 Sealing this layer of gravel / crush was a layer of modern made ground [1802] which was described as having patches of demolition rubble in a sandy clay matrix with a recorded thickness of 0.63m and was encountered at 9.84m AOD.

7.18.4 Covering made ground [1802] was a layer of topsoil [1801] which was seen across the whole trench and was described as a loose light greyish-brown silty sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.16m and was recorded at 10m AOD which formed the current ground level.



*Plate 41: Trench 17, looking north, scale: 1m horizontal, 2m vertical*



7.19 **Trench 19** (Figure 17; Plate 43)

7.19.1 Encountered in the base of Trench 19 was a layer of natural gravel and sand [1900] which was recorded at 9.82m AOD.

7.19.2 Overlaying the natural in part of the trench was a layer [1915] of sandy soil which was approximately 0.4m thick with a recorded level of between 10.02m AOD and 10.22m AOD. This layer is most likely to be the remains of a subsoil although as no dating evidence was recovered it is difficult to assign the layer to a particular phase or period.

7.19.3 Cutting this subsoil layer was the construction cut [1912] for a brick drain [1905]. The brick drain was orientated east-west with overall recorded dimensions of 1m in length by 0.81m wide with a depth of 0.64m and a recorded highest level of 10.03m AOD. The construction back fill [1907] and [1913] was described as silty sand. Cutting this drain was a later repair or modification of this earlier drain. The construction cut [1908] was part of a later masonry [1906] modification that consisted of a ceramic pipe encased in cement with some associated brickwork. This later drain was also orientated east-west with recorded dimensions of 1.3m in length by 0.65m wide and recorded level of 10.1m AOD.



*Plate 42: East-facing section through drain [1905], looking west, scale: 0.50m vertical*

7.19.4 Located either side of the drain stilted on the subsoil were the remains of two brick walls [1910] and [1911] (Plate 43). No construction cuts were recorded but they were both orientated east-west with [1910] to the south of drain [1906] and [1911] to the north. Wall [1910] had recorded dimensions of 1.01m in length by 0.22m wide and a



highest level of 10.06m AOD. Wall [1911] had recorded dimensions of 2m in length by 0.25m wide and a highest level of 10.01m AOD.

7.19.5 Overlying the brick structures and covering the trench was a levelling layer [1904] which consisted of large pieces of limestone gravel in compacted layers. It was approximately 0.20m thick and had a recorded level of 10.21m AOD.



*Plate 43: Structural remains [1910]/[1911]/[1905] in Trench 19, looking west, scale: 1m*

7.19.6 Sealing this layer of gravel / crush was a layer of modern made ground [1903] which was described as a mix of rubble and clay had a recorded thickness of approximately 0.3m and was encountered at 10.4m AOD.

7.19.7 Covering made ground [1903] was a further layer of made ground [1902] which was described as a clay with occasional rubble fragments had a recorded thickness of approximately 0.40m and was encountered at 10.7m AOD.

7.19.8 Covering made ground [1902] was a layer of topsoil [1901] which was seen across the whole trench and was described as a loose light greyish-brown silty sand. This layer of topsoil had a thickness of 0.15m and was recorded at a maximum height of 10.88m AOD which formed the current ground level.



## 8 DISCUSSION

### 8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The earliest deposits recorded on the site were of natural origin. No remains representing prehistoric activity were identified on the site. Archaeological features pertaining to the Roman, medieval, post-medieval, industrial and modern periods were recorded during the investigation. The findings of the evaluation were attributed to five phases of activity which are discussed below.

### 8.2 Phase 1: Geology

8.2.1 The table below describes the natural deposits identified in each trench and the maximum level at which they were recorded:

Trench	Context	Description	Maximum Level (m AOD)
1	100	Clay	9.93
2	200	Sand	10.6
3	300	Sand	c. 10.6
4	400	Clay	6.29
5	500	Sand	7.33
6	600	Clay	10.13
7	700	Clay	9.51
8	800	Sand	c. 10.79
10	1000	Gravel	10.82
11	1100	Clay	9.38
12	1200	Sand	c. 10.93
13	1300	Sand	10.93
14	1400	Clay	7.69
16	1600	Clay	9.93
17	1700	Sand	7.2
18	1800	Sand	8.14
19	1900	Sand	9.82

8.2.2 Levels recorded on natural deposits suggest that the natural topography of the site is characterised by a rise in the west, sloping down towards the east.

8.2.3 The natural deposits recorded in trenches 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18 and 19 represent superficial deposits of Devensian glaciolacustrine sand (BGS 2022). These deposits were located in the west, north and south of the site.

8.2.4 The natural deposits encountered in trenches 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14 and 16 represent superficial tidal flat deposits of clay (BGS 2022). These deposits were located in the central and eastern part of the site.

8.2.5 The topographic and geological data suggests that the site is located on the eastern edge of a peninsular which protrudes northwards into lower lying floodplains bordering the River Tees, situated to the north of the site. The higher ground in the west of the site forming part of the peninsular is underlain by sand; the lower lying floodplain is underlain by clay. It is likely that the lower lying area in the east of the site - considering its proximity to the River Tees and due to the clay constituting the superficial geological deposits - was probably once waterlogged and prone to flooding.

### 8.3 **Phase 2: Roman** (Figure 8)

8.3.1 In Trench 7 natural deposits were truncated by a north-south aligned ditch [711]. This feature was provisionally dated to the Roman period and is thought to represent a field boundary. The ditch had two fills with the lower primary fill containing a single sherd of 4<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and a worked stone identified as a possible hone stone (Appendix 2).

8.3.2 The pottery has been identified as a sherd of domestic cooking pot and is of a ware that is produced within east Yorkshire (Appendix 2).

8.3.3 This particular feature from which the pot was recovered could be an agricultural ditch serving as a land boundary for some other domestic purpose but it offers a tantalising evidence of Roman activity within the site boundary. However, the exact nature of Roman activity is yet to be revealed.

### 8.4 **Phase 3: Medieval** (Figure 9 & 11)

8.4.1 No further evidence of the structures associated with the medieval priory found in the previous Phase 1 evaluation fieldwork was identified in any of the trenches. This would suggest that the Phase 2 evaluation part of the site is outside the medieval precinct boundary. Some medieval activity was identified in trenches with low levels of 19<sup>th</sup>-century building activity and subsequent truncation.

8.4.2 Evidence of medieval activity was identified in Trenches 8 and 11, with a cluster of seven pits in Trench 8 and a linear ditch in Trench 11. Dating evidence was recovered from the fills of pits [804] and [811] which took the form of burnt daub and medieval pottery dated to the 14<sup>th</sup> century (Appendix 2).

8.4.3 Cutting the natural in Trench 11 was an east-west aligned linear ditch [1107], which was interpreted as a field boundary or drainage ditch. No dating evidence was recovered from its fills, but it was sealed with a subsoil that did contain pottery dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Appendix 2).

### 8.5 **Phase 4: Industrial** (Figure 18)

8.5.1 Middlesbrough developed rapidly from the 1830s and this part of the site was no exception. Evidence of this 19<sup>th</sup>-century development could be seen in Trenches 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 15, 16 and 19. When the trenches are overlayed on 19<sup>th</sup>-century maps many



of the walls recorded correspond with buildings centred around the Market Place and the surrounding streets. As the Phase 2 evaluation was mostly focused on the area of the site to the west of the old Market Place, further evidence of St. Hilda's Church and the associated churchyard were not identified.

- 8.5.2 The remains of wall foundations and drains identified in Trench 1 (Figure 3) and Trench 16 (Figure 15) seem to be associated with a Methodist chapel fronting onto Market Place. When overlaid on the 1858 map the wall in Trench 16 appears to be forming the external wall of the north-east corner of the chapel with the evidence of drains in an open area at the back of the main chapel building. The masonry remains in the middle of Trench 1 seem to correspond with the eastern wall of the chapel.
- 8.5.3 Trench 4 (Figure 5) revealed the remains of wall foundations relating to buildings and houses fronting Cross Street.
- 8.5.4 Trenches 6 and 7 also demonstrated evidence of 19<sup>th</sup>-century development. In Trench 6 (Figure 7) a brick-lined well was identified that contained 19<sup>th</sup>-century pottery in the construction cut backfill. When the trenches are superimposed on the map of 1858, masonry elements recorded in Trench 7 (Figure 8) and the well seem to be associated with properties and backyard areas annotated on the historic maps as Black Lion Yard, which was bounded by West Street, Cross Street and Mason Street.
- 8.5.5 Further evidence of this connection with the physical remains and the historic maps can be seen in Trench 15 (Figure 14). Stone foundations were identified in the trench which were interpreted as representing the main external walls for the cellar of a building constructed by 1858. When superimposed onto historic maps it is apparent that the cellar was part of a terrace of back-to-back houses annotated Newcastle Row on the 1858 map. The floor and internal walls of the cellar were constructed out of brick dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 8.6 **Phase 5: Modern**

- 8.6.1 Various layers of modern made ground and demolition deposits have been identified across the evaluation area and in most of the trenches investigated. These levelling layers are most likely the result various stages of demolition and construction in the area that have taken place across the site throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 8.6.2 Large areas of the investigation area had been subject to remediation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century resulting in truncation to the archaeological strata within the site. Several concrete wall foundations and concrete slabs were recorded which may pertain to development during the 1960's.
- 8.6.3 The demolition and remediation of these structures in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century resulted in large cut and fill events, filled with homogeneous compacted layers of clean, chipped limestone.

- 8.6.4 More recent truncation occurred following the demolition of the latest group of residential properties, which were demolished in the last decade.
- 8.6.5 Layers of topsoil were seen in all of the trenches excavated across this stage of the evaluation with these topsoil layers having been laid down and developed in the more recent past, forming the modern land surface.



## 9 CONCLUSIONS

### 9.1 Impact

- 9.1.1 The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated that buried remains of local significance survive in the Phase 2 area. The investigation has also confirmed the presence of Roman activity on the site, first detected during a watching brief in 1964 (Thomas 1964).
- 9.1.2 A ditch pertaining to the Roman period was recorded in the northern part of the site. Medieval activity was represented by a cluster of pits, recorded in the centre of the site, and a ditch identified in the western part of the site.
- 9.1.3 Additionally, remains relating to the development of Middlesbrough from the 1830's onward were recorded. These comprised various brick drains and walls which represented the cellars and foundations of various buildings fronting onto roads and streets first depicted on a plan from 1838.

### 9.2 Research potential

- 9.2.1 The results of the Phase 2 evaluation complement the findings of the previous phase of evaluation. The investigation also has the potential to address a range of archaeological research questions pertaining to the Roman, medieval, post-medieval and industrial periods raised in current research agendas presented in the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework (Roskams & Whyman, 2005) and the North-East Regional Research Framework (Petts & Gerrard, 2006).

### 9.3 Roman

- 9.3.1 Although not specifically rereferred to in the research framework documents for the region, any Roman activity identified on the site should be explored further. The features interpreted as Roman should be characterised and their relationship to other potential examples of Roman occupation on the site needs to be understood. Further archaeological investigation would allow a better understanding of whether the Roman ditch recorded during the Phase 2 evaluation represented an isolated feature or forms of part of a wider network of ditches. This would in turn allow for a greater understanding of Roman activity in Middlesbrough within the wider context of Roman activity along the Tees valley.

### 9.4 Medieval

- 9.4.1 The results of the Phase 2 evaluation confirms that medieval occupation extends across the site, from the phase 1 area – where remains thought to represent Middlesbrough Priory were discovered – to the Phase 2 area.
- 9.4.2 Although no further evidence of structures associated with Middlesbrough Priory were identified during the Phase 2 evaluation, the medieval pits and ditches recorded should

be investigated archaeologically as they likely represent activity associated with the priory complex identified to the east of the Phase 2 area.

- 9.4.3 It is likely that further archaeological investigation of the site could lead to the discovery of more structures and features relating to Middlesbrough Priory. It is also likely that supplementary finds would be retrieved and a tighter stratigraphic sequence be established. Further work would also allow for medieval occupation on the site to be situated in the context of the wider medieval landscape and associated activity in this part of the north-east.

## 9.5 **Post-medieval**

- 9.5.1 There is also the potential for further work to contribute to the understanding of the development of the site following dissolution of Middlesbrough Priory. This is outlined in research initiative PMvi from the North-East Regional Research Framework which states:

*'the 'afterlife' of ecclesiastical houses, particularly for smaller and urban establishments requires study'*

## 9.6 **Industrial era**

- 9.6.1 Structural remains associated with the development of the site during the 19<sup>th</sup> century were found in both phases of evaluation. Further investigation would lead to greater understanding of these structures and would also enable the recovery of additional artefactual evidence which may inform cultural affinities within industrial era Middlesbrough.

## 9.7 **Recommendations**

- 9.7.1 It is recommended that any groundwork undertaken within the Phase 2 evaluation area, should be preceded by detailed archaeological excavation of the site. This needs to be undertaken to fully record any Roman, medieval, post-medieval or industrial remains which may be present.
- 9.7.2 Any such works, if deemed necessary by Neil Cookson of North East Archaeological Research Limited, would be beyond the scope of an evaluation and would be subject to an updated WSI and a variation in costs.
- 9.7.3 Large parts of the site which have been remediated in the modern era no longer have archaeological potential. The remediation is discrete and easily recognised. These parts of the site are unlikely to require further archaeological investigation.



## 10 **ARCHIVE**

10.1.1 The archive is currently held by Salford Archaeology but will be deposited ultimately with the Dorman Museum. The digital archive consists of digital photographs.

10.1.2 A copy of this report will be lodged with the Middlesbrough Historic Environment Record, and the on-line OASIS (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed.

## 11 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

11.1.1 Salford Archaeology would like to thank BCEGI Construction (UK) Ltd for commissioning the archaeological works.

11.1.2 The fieldwork was directed by Oliver Cook, assisted by Evon Kirby and was managed by Graham Mottershead. The report was written by Evon Kirby and edited by Joe Brooks, and the illustrations were prepared by Sarah Mottershead.

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## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context Number	Trench	Description
100	1	Natural Clay
101	1	Topsoil
102	1	Demo. Rubble
103	1	Demo. Rubble
104	1	Brick Wall
105	1	Brick Wall
106	1	Concrete Slab
107	1	Brick Wall
108	1	Brick Wall
109	1	Brick Wall
110	1	Layer of Crush
111	1	Concrete Surface
112	1	Brick Wall
113	1	Drain
114	1	Construction Cut for Wall [107]
115	1	Construction B/Fill for [114]
200	2	Natural Sand
201	2	Topsoil
202	2	Made-Ground
203	2	Construction Cut for Wall [204]
204	2	Brick Wall
205	2	Construction Cut for Wall [206]
206	2	Brick Wall
207	2	Construction Cut for Wall [208]
208	2	Brick Wall
209	2	Concrete Slab
210	2	Concrete Slab
211	2	Layer of Crush
300	3	Natural Sand
301	3	Topsoil
302	3	Made-Ground
303	3	Brick Wall
304	3	Concrete Slab
305	3	Redeposited Natural
306	3	Concrete Slab
400	4	Natural Clay
401	4	Topsoil
402	4	Made-Ground
403	4	Construction Cut for Wall [404]
404	4	Brick Wall
405	4	Construction Cut for Wall [406]
406	4	Brick Wall
500	5	Natural Sand
501	5	Topsoil
502	5	Layer of Crush
503	5	Made-Ground
600	6	Natural Clay
601	6	Topsoil
602	6	Made-Ground
603	6	Construction Cut for Well [604]

Context Number	Trench	Description
604	6	Brick Well
605	6	Construction B/Fill for [603]
700	7	Natural clay
701	7	Topsoil
702	7	Made-Ground
703	7	Layer of Crush
704	7	Layer of Tarmac
705	7	Construction Cut for Drain [706]
706	7	Drain
707	7	Construction B/Fill for [705]
708	7	Construction Cut for Drain [709]
709	7	Drain
710	7	Construction B/Fill for [708]
711	7	Cut of Roman Ditch
712	7	Upper Fill of [711]
713	7	Primary Fill of [711]
714	7	Made-Ground
800	8	Natural Sand
801	8	Topsoil
802	8	Made-Ground
803	8	Made-Ground
804	8	Cut of Pit
805	8	Fill of [804]
806	8	Cut of Pit
807	8	Fill of pit [806]
808	8	Cut of Post-Hole
809	8	Cut of Pit
810	8	Fill of [809]
811	8	Cut of Pit
812	8	Fill of Pit [811]
813	8	Upper Fill of Pit [811]
814	8	Cut of Pit
815	8	Fill of Pit [814]
816	8	Cut of Pit
817	8	Fill of Pit [816]
818	8	Cut of Pit
819	8	Fill of Pit [818]
1000	10	Natural Gravel
1001	10	Topsoil
1002	10	Made-Ground
1003	10	Rubble Fill of [1004]
1004	10	Modern Pit
1005	10	Concrete Slab
1100	11	Natural Clay
1101	11	Topsoil
1102	11	Made-Ground
1103	11	Sub-Soil
1104	11	Construction Cut for Wall [1105]
1105	11	Brick Wall
1106	11	Construction B/Fill for [1104]
1107	11	Cut of Medieval Ditch
1108	11	Fill of [1107]



Context Number	Trench	Description
1200	12	Natural Sand
1201	12	Topsoil
1202	12	Made-Ground
1300	13	Natural Sand
1301	13	Topsoil
1302	13	Made-Ground
1400	14	Natural Clay
1401	14	Topsoil
1402	14	Made-Ground
1500	15	Redeposited Natural
1501	15	Stone Cellar Wall
1502	15	Stone Cellar Wall
1503	15	Cellar Wall – Brick Detail
1504	15	Cellar Wall – Brick Partition
1505	15	Stone Cellar Wall
1506	15	Internal Cellar Wall
1507	15	Brick Floor
1508	15	Cellar Back-Fill
1509	15	Cellar Back-Fill
1510	15	Brick Wall
1511	15	Layer of Clay
1512	15	Made-Ground
1513	15	Layer of Tarmac
1514	15	Made-Ground
1515	15	Topsoil
1600	16	Natural Clay
1601	16	Brick Drain
1602	16	Construction Cut for [1601]
1603	16	Construction B/Fill of [1602]
1604	16	Construction Cut for Wall [1606]
1605	16	Construction B/Fill of [1604]
1606	16	Brick Wall Foundation
1607	16	Backfill of Cellar
1608	16	Backfill of Cellar
1609	16	Brick Wall
1610	16	Construction Cut for Wall [1609]
1611	16	Construction B/Fill of [1610]
1612	16	Made-Ground
1613	16	Topsoil
1614	16	Brick Wall
1700	17	Natural Sand
1701	17	Topsoil
1702	17	Made-Ground
1703	17	Made-Ground
1800	18	Natural Sand
1801	18	Topsoil
1802	18	Made-Ground
1803	18	Made-Ground
1900	19	Natural Sand
1901	19	Topsoil
1902	19	Made-Ground
1903	19	Made-Ground

Context Number	Trench	Description
1904	19	Layer of Crush
1905	19	Drain
1906	19	Drain
1907	19	B/Fill of Construction Cut [1912]
1908	19	Construction Cut for [1906]
1909	19	Construction B/Fill of [1908]
1910	19	Brick Wall
1911	19	Brick Wall
1912	19	Construction Cut for [1905]
1913	19	Construction B/Fill of [1905]
1914	19	Fill of Drain [1906]
1915	19	Layer of Sandy Soil

## APPENDIX 2: FINDS REPORT

### Introduction

A total of 141 artefacts, weighing 33229g, were recovered during the Phase 2 evaluation at St Hilda's, Middlesbrough. Of the 19 trenches investigated, five produced finds from 15 stratified and unstratified contexts. The finds comprised pottery, clay tobacco pipe, glass bottles, ceramic building material, metal, marine shell, animal bone and leather. All finds were in good condition, and in the case of the ceramic material, was unabraded indicating that they had not been reworked to any extent. The exceptions to this were the shell, including the mother of pearl button and heavily corroded iron horseshoe, which were in poor condition. This was likely to be a result of acidic nature of the burial conditions.

### Methodology

Finds were collected during the evaluation using a pre-determined sampling procedure. All finds were returned to the Salford Archaeology finds lab. A finds catalogue was produced for the assemblage, providing details on each artefact's context, description, quantification, weight and date. Finds recovery was undertaken in accordance with current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' and the Medieval Pottery Research Group guidelines (CIfA 2020; MPRG et al 2016).

### Overview

The Phase 2 evaluation produced a variety of finds and materials types (see Table x1 for material types). Although two thirds of the pottery recovered dates to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later, there was a single instance of a Roman fragment and 13 medieval sherds. Glass comprises the largest diagnostic and datable part of the assemblage with a range of late 19<sup>th</sup> century to early 20<sup>th</sup> century bottles notable for their completeness. There were small quantities of clay tobacco pipe, metal objects and dressed or worked stone. Four complete bricks, both handmade and machine manufactured were also recovered. Other items of note were a single partially complete child's leather shoe or boot and a mother of pearl button.

Material	Number of contexts	Count	Weight (g)	% of total assemblage	Period
Pottery	7	45	2449	32 / 7	4 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> century
Clay tobacco pipe	4	7	22	5 / 0	19 <sup>th</sup> century
Metal objects	1	2	453	1 / 1	Mid 18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> century
Glass	1	15	8515	11 / 26	19 <sup>th</sup> century
Ceramic building material	4	6	13237	4 / 40	19 <sup>th</sup> century
Industrial, stone and building material	3	6	6203	4 / 19	Not closely datable – late 20 <sup>th</sup> century



Lithics	1	1	3	1 / 0	Not closely datable
Organics (animal bone, leather and shell)	6	58	757	41 / 2	Not closely datable
Plastic	1	1	1590	1 / 5	late 20th century
Totals		141	33229		

Table x1: Quantification of all material recovered

#### Main contexts with finds

Finds were recovered from 15 stratified contexts as well as a small amount of unstratified material from Trenches 1, 6, 7, 8, 11, 15 and 19.

Trench 1 produced a single unstratified fragment of dressed sandstone, which was not closely datable.

The fill of the well [605] exposed in Trench 6 contained single sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century transfer printed earthenware and White slip coated coarse ware, as well as clay tobacco pipe stems which are of 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

In Trench 7 finds were recovered from the fill [707] of drain [706], which comprised a fragment from a blue edge plate dating to c 1860-90s, and fragments of Industrial slip ware and White earthenware of a broadly 19<sup>th</sup> century date. A second drain [709] filled by [710] contained further fragments of White and Transfer printed earthenware, perhaps datable to the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A single clay tobacco pipe bowl fragment was too small to ascribe a date other than it was likely to be 19<sup>th</sup> century. Both drains had been cut into ditch [711], the primary fill [713] of which produced a single, unabraded rim fragment of 4<sup>th</sup> century East Yorkshire Calcite Gritted ware (EYCT)/Huntcliff type ware. A small triangular shaped stone with slight grooves on one surface was also found within this context but is not closely datable.

Trench 8 is characterised by the medieval pottery it produced. Eight fragments of medieval pottery were recovered from fill [805] of ditch [804]. The fragments comprised Tees Valley type ware and Late reduced ware. A 14<sup>th</sup> century or slightly later date would be appropriated for the emplacement of these fabrics. Pit fill [807] did not contain any closely datable artefacts. Three fragments of Late reduced ware and a small (1g) sherd unattributed of medieval oxidised ware were found in the secondary fill [812] of pit [811]. Late reduced ware was known to have been introduced in the 14<sup>th</sup> century in the Tees valley area, but is considered to have a long duration, possibly extending into the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Didsbury 2010, 235).

A single sherd of Tees Valley ware was identified in relict soil [1103]. Three sherds of Cream ware and a late example of Tin glazed earthenware were found in fill [1106], the backfill of wall foundation [1105]. A mid-18<sup>th</sup> to early- 19<sup>th</sup> century date for emplacement would be appropriate.

The largest haul of finds were recovered from fill [1508] of the cellar revealed in Trench 15. The majority of the finds comprised whole glass bottles embossed with local mineral water producers and beer brewers (see Table x1 and x2 for quantification and manufacturers). Two transfer printed stoneware mineral water bottles were also recorded. The appearance of transfer printed bottle labels and the type of closures found on the bottles suggest a late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century date for emplacement, whilst the retrieval of a plastic soft drinks crate with a manufacturing date mark of 1988 suggests the cellar was still being used to dispose of refuse in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Animal bones from drain repair fill [1914] were the only finds from Trench 19. The bones are not closely datable.

### **The pottery**

Some 45 fragments of pottery, weighing 2449g, was collected from seven stratified contexts within Trenches 6, 7, 8, 11 and 15. The pottery ranged in dated from the late Roman period, medieval, a single instance of pottery dating to the Post-medieval period, with the remainder dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> and earlier 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was in good condition, with fresh breaks and with little signs of abrasion suggesting there has been little post depositional disturbance.

### **Roman**

A single sherd of hand made calcite-gritted fabric was recovered from primary ditch fill [713]. The sherd comprises part of the shoulder of the pot but is missing the rim itself (Plate x1). The surface of the fabric is dark, almost black, and internally dark brown with vesicles indicating that the original calcite has been leached by the presumably acidic ground conditions. The fragment is likely to be part of an EYCT or Huntcliff type ware cooking pot form which has a pronounced shoulder, and when complete a down-turned hooked rim, and internal lid-seating groove (Study Group for Roman Pottery 2022). EYCT/ Huntcliff ware is named for the late Roman signal station located near Saltburn, which is situated 19km to the east. Although the fabric type takes its name from the signal station it is believed to have been manufactured in East Yorkshire, much further to the south-east. EYCT/Huntcliff ware is extremely common across northern England, during the later 4th century AD (Tyers 1996).

### **Medieval**

Thirteen medieval pottery sherds, weighing 73g were recovered from three contexts [805], [812] and [1103] in Trenches 8 and 11 (Plate x2). These comprised five body sherds in a red firing fabric, four of which were unglazed, seven sherds of reduced green ware and a single small fragment of unglazed oxidised ware. The pottery broadly dating from the late 12th to 16th centuries (Didsbury 2010).

### **Fabric descriptions:**

Fabric 1: Hard pinkish fabric with buff external margins. Fabric contains well sorted medium sub-rounded quartz grains and occasional red (iron oxide) inclusions. A single sherd only

exhibited glazing, which was copper green in colour, with the remainder being unglazed. No vessel forms were identified. Date range: early/mid-13th to 14th century. Trench 8, fill [805] and trench 11, relict soil [1103]. Tees Valley Ware Type B - red oxidised tradition.

Fabric 2: hard light grey fabric, often with a pale grey margin below glaze, with some sherds oxidised to salmon pink on exterior surfaces. Sparse mica flecks are observable within the very fine fabric. Glaze varies between olive to apple green with flecking. Although base sherds were found in both contexts [805] and [812], it has not been possible to identify the vessel forms with any degree of certainty. Date Range 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century. Trench 8, [805] and [812].

### **Late Reduced Ware**

Fabric 3: hard, pale grey fabric with white laminations and sparse black (iron oxide flecks). The glaze is apple green with flecking. The body sherds from ditch fill [805] were glazed both externally and internally. Vessel Form was not identified. Date Range 14th to 16th century. Trench 8, [805]. Late Reduced Ware.

Fabric 4: represented by a single and small (1g) unglazed fragment. Fabric is soft, sandy and oxidised with abundant quartz temper and sparse micaceous flecks and black (iron oxide?) inclusions (<0.5mm). Date Range 12th to 15th century. Trench 8, [812]. Unattributed oxidised Ware.

The medieval pottery maybe described as typical products of the area around the River Tees (See Didsbury 2010). Fabric 1 belongs to the Tees Valley Ware (TVW) tradition, in this instance only the red firing variant, Tees Valley Ware Type B (TVB) was identified. This contrasts with the Phase 1 evaluation where the buff firing (Tees Valley Ware Type A) was also present (Cook 2022). There is some argument to be made that the red firing variant has a slightly later inception date of the mid-13th to 14<sup>th</sup> century (Didsbury 2010). Tees Valley Ware was the dominant pottery type found in Hartlepool during the mid-13th to 14th century. The town is located on the north side of the mouth of the River Tees, which located 12km to the north east of the site. Tees Valley Ware has been recognised on or close to the River Tees at Hartlepool, Stockton Castle, Yarm, West Hartburn, Kirkleatham and Skelton and further to the south-east at Guisborough Priory (ibid).

Reduced green wares, represented by Fabrics 2 and 3 – classified as Late Reduced Ware (LRW) in the vicinity of the River Tees – belong to a widely distributed pottery tradition (Didsbury 2010, 234-5). Similar wares are found throughout the North of England approximately north of the line of the Rivers Ribble and Humber and into Scotland. They generally date from the mid to late 14th until the 18th century (Didsbury 2010; Hall 1996; McCarthy and Brooks 1988; cook et al 2020). However, a terminus ante quem of the 16th century could be applicable here. In the Tees Valley area, the eclipsing of Tees Valley wares by LRW was probably a 14<sup>th</sup> century process (Didsbury 2010, 235).



The single sherd in Fabric 4 was too small to identify to a particular fabric group. Oxidised wares are distributed over a wide geographical area, therefore only a broad medieval date (c 1100-1500) can be attributed.

The presence of both TVB and LRW in ditch fill [805] might suggest a 14<sup>th</sup> century or slightly later date for emplacement. This was the period when Tees Valley wares were starting to decline and Late Reduced Wares were beginning their ascendancy (Didsbury 2010). It is possible that pit fill [812] where TVW is not present, always accepting that the oxidised fragment is not a TVW fabric, may date to 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century. However, without chronological signifiers such as Rhenish stonewares, in particular Raeren drinking vessels, more precise dates cannot be ascribed (ibid).

### **Post-medieval**

A miniature purple glazed vessel was found within the cellar fill [1508] (Plate x3). Conical in shape, the vessel measured 48mm high with an internal rim diameter of 23mm. A side handle, pierced by a hole 6mm in diameter, is attached at rim level. The vessel is glazed internally and externally with a purple glaze, with an “orange peel texture”. Where visible the hard fabric is buff on surface of base and purplish red where interior is exposed.

Similar sized vessels though not identical in form have been recovered in England and Northern Europe (see for instance Hume 2022 and Reed 1992). A group of German stoneware wasters, from Raeren, Germany, and dating to c 1550, resemble miniature costrels, a type of ceramic water bottle designed to be suspended by means of strap with the neck upright, and others, also resembling costrels, have been recovered in Norway. Although specific uses have been suggested for such vessels, for instance carrying thread lubricating, others, in the case of the Norwegian examples which were recovered from churches, they appear to have been used as reliquaries (Hume 2022; Reed 1992). Although the height is similar, the form of the St Hilda’s example differs, the vessel may have been intended to carry liquid of some type.

The purple glaze might suggest the Midlands Purple tradition or purple glazed Humber ware both pottery types appearing in the later 15<sup>th</sup> century and continuing into the 16<sup>th</sup> (Watkins 1993). However, it is not certain if either of these traditions produced miniature vessels. Small ointment pots (without handles) were made at various locations in England, and its possible that the vessel may represent liquid preparations dispensed by an apothecary, as was produced by the Donyatt pottery industry in Somerset from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988, 160-61).

### **Industrial period**

Two complete stoneware bottles and twenty six fragments of Industrial period pottery, weighing 1793g were recovered from seven contexts located in Trenches 6, 7, 11 and 15. The bulk of the pottery dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or early 20<sup>th</sup> century and in the main represents fine, or table wares, with a few more utilitarian, or coarse wares.

Coarse wares were represented by stoneware jars and bottles, and a fragment of White slip coated ware. Stoneware forms comprised a wide mouth or extract jar, a jam jar later reused as a paint pot and two complete stoneware bottles with Bristol glaze and black transfer printed labels inscribed: "T.DENT/JOHNSON STREET/MIDDLESBRO" (Plate x4). Transfer printed labels appear on stoneware bottles in c 1890 (Hedges 1975, 19).

Fine or tables wares comprised transfer printed fragments in a variety of colours, including floral sheet pattern, violet field dots (peak production between 1816 and 1841). A plate rim with green transfer print, with overglaze enamelling, most commonly found on vessels manufactured after 1840 and a blue floral transfer printed fragment and a cup handle with violet sprig print were recovered from drain fill [710] (Plate x5). An early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date for deposition may be proposed for this context. A near complete white ware cylindrical mug from with painted polychrome floral may date to the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, a date which would concur with the bottles recovered from the same context (see below).

Unfortunately, none of the fine ware pottery from the site displays a makers' mark, which can enable a more accurate date, as well a indicating where the pottery was produced. The evaluation site is situated less than 300m to the south-west of the site of a pottery producing both transfer printed wares and what was described in a contemporary advert as "Brown Ware", that is the more utilitarian pots used in food preparation and storage (Lawrence 1974, 209; Williams 1985, 24-5). The pottery was established in 1834 and closed in 1887 (Williams 1985, 5, 18-19; Lawrence 1974, 209). It is highly likely at least some of the pottery was manufactured at this site.

### **Clay tobacco pipes**

Seven clay tobacco pipes fragments comprising two bowls and five stems were recovered from three contexts and unstratified. The most complete was an unstratified miniature pipe with moulded bird motifs on the bowl (Plate x6). Such pipes were produced in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A similar pipe is illustrated by pipemaker and collector Heather Coleman dated to c 1910-30 (Coleman 2022). The second bowl, from drain fill [710] was fragmentary and was likely to date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Ceramic Building Material**

In total six artefacts in this category were retrieved weighing 13237g. They comprised four complete bricks and a small fragment of burnt daub. This latter find was the earliest material being found alongside 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century medieval pottery from ditch fill [805]. The fragment, weighing 19g had a blackened flat exterior surface with the interior being grey.

The remainder of the assemblage was composed of whole bricks retrieved from structures 1105, 1503, 1504 and 1507 in Trenches 11 and 15, respectively. Trench 15 produced two fire bricks and a handmade common brick. Both fire bricks were machine made in a pale yellow fabric, and measured 300 x 110mm x 75mm (11 <sup>6</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 4 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 3") and 185mm x 114 x 62mm (7

$\frac{1}{8} \times 5 \frac{1}{2} \times 2 \frac{1}{2}$ ”), the latter’s shorter length, from brick floor [1507], was due to one end being heavily vitrified. Given that Middlesbrough owes its foundation and 19<sup>th</sup> century prosperity to the rise of the iron and steel industry, and abundance of mines extracting ore in the vicinity, the use of fire bricks was likely to have been widespread. Indeed, some of those same mines were manufacturing fire bricks for use in their own blast furnaces, such as the Bell Brothers, who in the 1860s, were involved in ironstone mining at Skelton (approximately 16km to the east) which supplied their steel works at Port Clarence, opposite the site on the north bank of the Tees (East Cleveland’s Industrial Heartland 2022).

The remainder were hand made common bricks, that from wall foundation [1105] was in a hard fine orange fabric, with a sanded base and cord marks. It measured 302mm x 108mm x 66mm ( $11 \frac{7}{8} \times 4 \frac{1}{4} \times 2 \frac{5}{8}$ ”). The second example from cellar wall [1504] was in a hard red fabric, with a sanded base and measured 240mm x 110mm x 77mm ( $9 \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \frac{3}{8} \times 3$ ”).

### Glass

Fifteen complete bottles, weighing 8515g were recovered from cellar fill [1508] (see Table x2; Plate x7). These bottles and the stoneware examples from the same context (see above), chart the changing technologies used in the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to keep the bottle contents from escaping. All but one of the bottles, the exception being that of H.F. Barker, used an internal threaded stopper, usually used in conjunction with a hard rubber stopper. Such stoppers were still found on bottles belonging to T. Dent, Middlesbrough Mineral Water Company and Jordisons Mineral Water Co Ltd of Stockton on Tees.

Internal screw caps were introduced in 1870s with characteristic ‘blob tops’, as can be seen on the T. Dent bottles in Figure x7 (Hedges 1975; Polak 2012, 52). Around the same period Hiram Codd came up with the idea of using a glass marble forced by the gas generated by the carbonated contents of the bottle against a rubber washer. A deposition dated based on the glass bottles and transfer printed ceramic bottles also found in cellar fill [1508] suggest a later 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century date for deposition.

Colour	Finish/closure	Inscription / company	Quantity	Use
pale green	Internal threaded stopper	“T.DENT/MIDDLESBRO”	7	Mineral water
pale green	Internal threaded stopper	MIDDLESBROUGH MINERAL WATER COMPANY	2	Mineral water
Pale green	Internal threaded stopper	MIDDLESBRO & DISTRICT MINERAL WATER & BOTTLING COMPANY	1	Mineral water
Pale green	Codd's Ball Stopper	H.F.BARKER	1	Mineral water



Brown	Internal threaded stopper	"J.W.CAMERON & CO LTD / WEST HARTLEPOOL"	1	Beer
Dark green	Internal threaded stopper	"COMBE & CO LTD /BREWERS LONDON"	1	Beer?
Pale green	Internal threaded stopper	M C DONALD MIDDLESBROUGH	1	Mineral water?
Pale green	Internal threaded stopper	JORDISONS MINERAL WATER CO LTD STOCKTON ON TEES	1	Mineral water

Table x2: Glass bottles from cellar [1508]

### **Metal work**

Two metal items weighing 453g were recovered from cellar fill [1508]. The artefacts comprise a curvilinear copper alloy object, possibly a decorative hook, which requires little further description, and an iron horseshoe. Measuring 139.6mm from toe to heel and 136mm wide, the horseshoe is heavily corroded (Plate x8). One heel is thickened, whilst the other, the inner branch, is narrowed or feathered indicating that the shoe is modern (late 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards; Clark 2004, 82). No calkins (projecting, turned down heels located each branch of the shoe) were evident, although fullering (a groove round the ground surface of the shoe in which the nails sit) was visible on both branches (op cit, 81).

### **Industrial, stone and building material**

Six stone fragments, one small fragment of cinder and a mortar sample weighing 6269g were recovered from five stratified and unstratified contexts. The stone fragments comprised an unworked piece of flint, a deliberately shaped small sandstone fragment, two building stone fragments and a small fragment with mortar adhering.

A single lithic was represented by a small unstruck flint nodule (3g), which was found in drain fill [707]. Although flint is not native to this part of the east coast of England, chalk beds outcrop some 70km to the south-east at Filey (North Yorkshire) and may have arrived by means of the complex history of erosion and deposition associated with the Quaternary glacial and periglacial conditions along coast (Kent et al 1980, 92, 118). Equally, it may have arrived as a manuport during the Mesolithic or later Prehistoric periods (Daniels 2014, 10).

Of the four stone fragments found on the site, three can be categorised as building stone (from Trenches 1 and 8), whilst that from Trench 7, primary ditch fill [713] exhibits signs of conversion and may have been utilised as a hone stone. The possible hone stone was composed of fine grained, pale red sandstone and was triangular in shape. Its rounded corners may hint at its origins as a beach pebble. Measuring some 54mm x 44mm and 20mm thick, one side had a smoothed surface with slight grooves possibly the result of being used to sharpen small metal

objects such as needles. A single sherd of Roman EYCT /Huntcliff ware was the only associated find with this object.

Three pieces of building stone were found in trenches 1 and 8. That found in Trench 1 measured 205mm x 140mm x 107mm had originally been rectangular in shape and exhibited evidence of dressing with either a hammer or chisel on the exposed face. In this instance a cross hatch decoration has been used. A second stone recovered from pit fill [807] and measuring 152mm x 142mm x 83mm had been dressed on three sides, one of which was fire blackened. One of the faces displayed two nonparallel grooves with fainter lines extending from one of the grooves towards the edge of the stone. The grooves may be the result of the object being reused as a hone stone (Plate x9). A small fragment of yellow sandstone, measuring 70mm x 52mm x 39mm, was recovered from ditch fill [805], other than the mortar adhering to it, the stone showed no evidence of having been dressed. Also found in the same context was small nodule of iron stone. Such nodules are likely to derive from the local Cleveland Ironstone, which was extensively mined and quarried in the area during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. A mine at nearby Skelton (approximately 16km to the east of the site) providing not only raw materials for iron production in Middlesbrough but also occasionally provided building stone (Historic England 2017, 5), suggesting that iron ore and stone may have been accessed from the same quarries. The presence of 14th century or slightly later pottery within ditch fill [805], might indicate a medieval date for emplacement. No dating evidence was recovered from pit fill [807].

### **Organic material**

Some 58 eco- and artefacts were recovered during the evacuation from six stratified contexts in Trenches 7, 8, 15 and 19. These comprised animal bone, marine shell, including a mother of pearl button, and a child's leather boot/shoe.

The mother of pearl button was in poor condition, likely the result of acidic ground conditions encountered in Trench 7. Measuring 13mm in diameter and 1mm thick, the button has four eye holes in circular recess. The associated pottery also found in context [710] would suggest a 19<sup>th</sup> century date for the object.

### **Leather**

A single, but incomplete, child's leather shoe/boot was retrieved from cellar fill [1508] (Plate x10). The shoe/boot, for the left foot, was recovered in two parts and, presumably due to the prevailing ground conditions, was in desiccated though fragile condition. Surviving parts of the shoe/boot comprise part of the upper, which includes the vamp, commonly three-quarters in length that meets the quarters (missing in this example). The tip or toe piece is evident as parts of the insole and tread sole and a half double outsole. This a separate piece of leather that extends from the front of the shoe to the centre (Veres 2005) and held in place by copper alloy nails. The second part consists of part of the insole. As the quarters were missing it was

not possible to identify whether the shoe/boot was constructed in the Balmoral/Oxford, or Blucher/Derby style which were common foot ware types in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century (ibid).

### **Molluscs**

Ten whole or fragments of marine mollusc shell were recovered during the excavation. They comprised common mussel and common cockle species. Mollusc shells were found in the 19<sup>th</sup> century fill [707] of drain [706], medieval ditch fill [805], medieval pit fill [812] and 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century cellar fill [1508]. Mollusc shell in such small quantities and from contexts varying in date between medieval and modern are of scant analytical value (Campbell 2015). That said, the site is situated in close proximity to the marine environment. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, when the first edition OS map was published (1853), what later became the Tees basin was entirely undeveloped and cartographic evidence indicates vast areas of tidal sand which would have been exploitable by the local population. Even as late as 1898 Middlesbrough had barely expanded beyond the confines of the crook of the River Tees where the sites lies and the Tees basin remained undeveloped (OS 1898). Therefore, marine mollusc in the archaeological record is not entirely unexpected. Medieval and Post-medieval remains revealed during excavations in Middlegate, Hartlepool in the 1970s demonstrated that mussels and cockle, along with limpets were found in the greatest frequency (Anderson et al 2010, 201).

### **Animal bone**

In total 44 animal bone fragments weighing 640g were recovered from four secure contexts in Trenches 8, 15, 19. That recorded from ditch fill [805] and pit fill [812] were likely to be medieval in date, whilst the animal bone from cellar fill [1508] and drain fill [1914] would have been deposited during the industrial period. Should further excavation work be necessary the bone will be assessed along with any potential faunal remains recovered during the mitigation phase.

This work will comprise all the animal bone that was recovered from secure features will being placed, where possible, under categories of species, and a table of the number of identified specimens present (NISP) will be produced. Comparative urban and castle sites will be studied to further investigate and understand the nature of the animal bone assemblage within wider regional trends.

### **Plastic**

A soft drinks crate belonging to the Britvic Corona company and dated 1988 was recovered from cellar fill [1508]. Composed of blue (but now faded) plastic, the crate measured 452mm long x 338mm wide and was 183mm high and had a capacity of 40 bottles.



## Potential of assemblage and recommendations

The Phase 2 evaluation at St Hilda's, Middlesbrough demonstrated the presence of Roman, medieval, Post-medieval and industrial period artefacts. Categories included pottery, clay tobacco pipe, glass bottles, ceramic building material, metal, marine shell, animal bone, plastic and leather.

The presence of 4<sup>th</sup> century EYCT/Huntcliff ware found in the fill of ditch [711] is of interest. That no later material was recovered from the ditch and the unabraded nature of the sherd, as well as the fresh brake might hint that this is an early feature. Although this should be treated with some caution, given that no other obvious Roman period artefacts were present within this ditch.

It should be noted, however, that Roman finds have been found within the site boundary previously. A fragment of 'greenish glass' was found during a watching brief in 1964, which was subsequently identified as Roman by Mr. Bowes and B. Dobson of the University of Durham (Thomas 1964). A 'Roman jar' was also found at Crossley's Brick Works, which was described as a pygmy jar dated to AD 300-370 (Spratt 1979). A recent survey of Roman sites along the River Tees has highlighted Roman settlement at Ingleby Barwick located 8km to the south west as well as sites dotted along the river as far as the fort at Piercebridge. Given the utility of riverine transport in the Roman period and establishment of Romanised farms after the 2<sup>nd</sup> century (Daniels 2014, 15-16) along the Tees Valley, a highly defensible riverside location such as that at St Hilda's would offer a prime settlement site. Also of note, is the apparent density of Romano-British sites south of the site and extending as far as the northern edge of the North York Moors (Spratt and Hartley 1990, 156, fig 70).

Medieval pottery fragments were identified within a pit and ditch in Trench 8 and relict soil within Trench 11. It may be significant that no other closely datable finds were present within the cut features nor within Trench 8 itself. Although later material was recovered in Trench 11, no other dating evidence was found in the relict soil. The unabraded nature of the pottery, albeit small in size (the largest sherd weighed 36g), would suggest that it has not been subject to much in the way of post-deposition disturbance. This, combined with the medieval pottery from the Phase 1 evaluation that was recovered in similar circumstances, would suggest that it is not derived from processes such as manuring. The source of the pottery remains uncertain, but the possibility that it originated from the medieval priory cannot be dismissed. Both the original 2006 North Eastern research framework (Petts and Gerrard) and the current North Eastern research framework (Newman and Newman 2022) affirm the need for further research into medieval pottery assemblages, stressing that particular attention is given to tying in assemblages from small towns and rural sites to the type series developed for the large urban centres. Moreover, the full extent of production, distribution and consumption of ceramics in the wider North East is not yet understood, as no full synthesis has been made

(ibid). The research framework, however, points to Peter Didsbury's (2010) review of the medieval urban pottery from pottery in Hartlepool as being an exception to this trend. The 2011 Medieval Pottery Research Group research framework noted the need to further develop Didsbury's assessment and highlighted the need to develop a chronological type series for Cleveland and Durham, including a reassessment of Tees Valley wares, and more generally in the North East an assessment of Late Reduced Greenwares (Irving 2011; Newman and Newman 2022). The review of the pottery from Hartlepool (Didsbury 2010) has been used as the basis for interpreting the small medieval assemblage from the site.

Research questions posited in the North Eastern research framework iterate the importance of gaining a better understand medieval ceramics (MD8; North East Research Framework 2022). Pottery being a crucial chronological indicator, with its ability to illuminate patterns of economic exchange and consumption. The evaluations have demonstrated the clear links to the Tees Valley pottery tradition. This, along with other small assemblages such as that from Egglecliffe (10km to the south west; Errickson and Daniels 2015), provide further comparators as well as contributing to an increased understanding of medieval ceramic in the region.

## **Plates**

Plate x1: East Yorkshire Calcite Grittled ware (EYCT)/Huntcliff type ware rim sherd from ditch fill [713]

Plate x2: Late Reduced Ware and Tees Valley ware from ditch fill [805] top, and (bottom) Late Reduced Ware from pit fill [812]

Plate x3: Miniature purple glazed vessel found within cellar fill [1508]

Plate x4: Stoneware extract jar bottle with Bristol glaze and black transfer printed label from cellar fill [1508]

Plate x5: Transfer printed wares and other wares from drain fill [710], including green transfer print, with overglaze enamelling, green floral sheet pattern and annular ware lid

Plate x6: Unstratified miniature pipe with moulded bird motifs on the bowl

Plate x7: A selection of bottles from cellar fill [1508]

Plate x8: A modern iron horseshoe from cellar fill [1508]

Plate x9: Dressed stone recovered from pit fill [807], possibly reused as a hone stone

Plate x10: Child's leather boot/shoe from cellar fill [1508]

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## **APPENDIX 3 : FIGURES**

- Figure 1: Site Location
- Figure 2: Trench Location
- Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1
- Figure 4: Plan of Trenches 2 and 3
- Figure 5: Plan of Trench 4
- Figure 6: Plan of Trench 5
- Figure 7: Plan of Trench 6
- Figure 8: Plan of Trench 7
- Figure 9: Plan of Trenches 8 and 9
- Figure 10: Plan of Trench 10
- Figure 11: Plan of Trench 11
- Figure 12: Plan of Trench 12
- Figure 13: Plan of Trench 14
- Figure 14: Plan of Trench 15
- Figure 15: Plan of Trench 16
- Figure 16: Plan of Trenches 17 and 18
- Figure 17: Plan of Trench 19
- Figure 18: Excavated Remains Superimposed onto the Town Plan of 1858

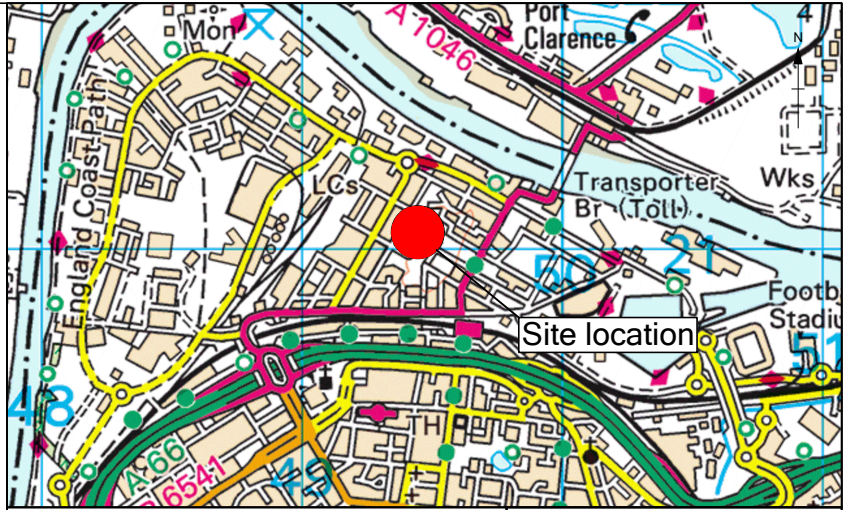
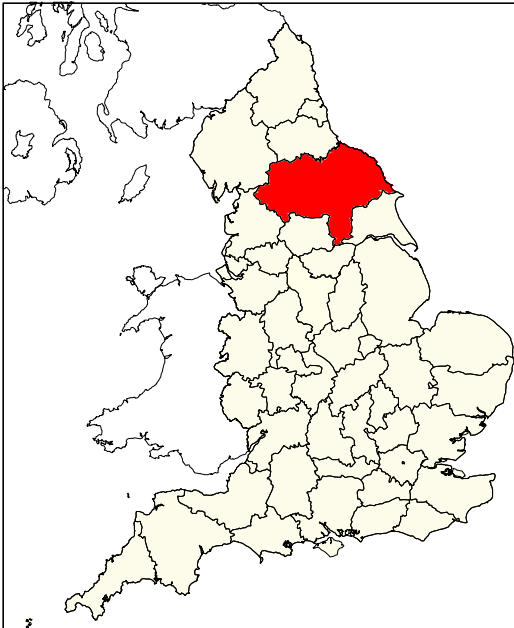


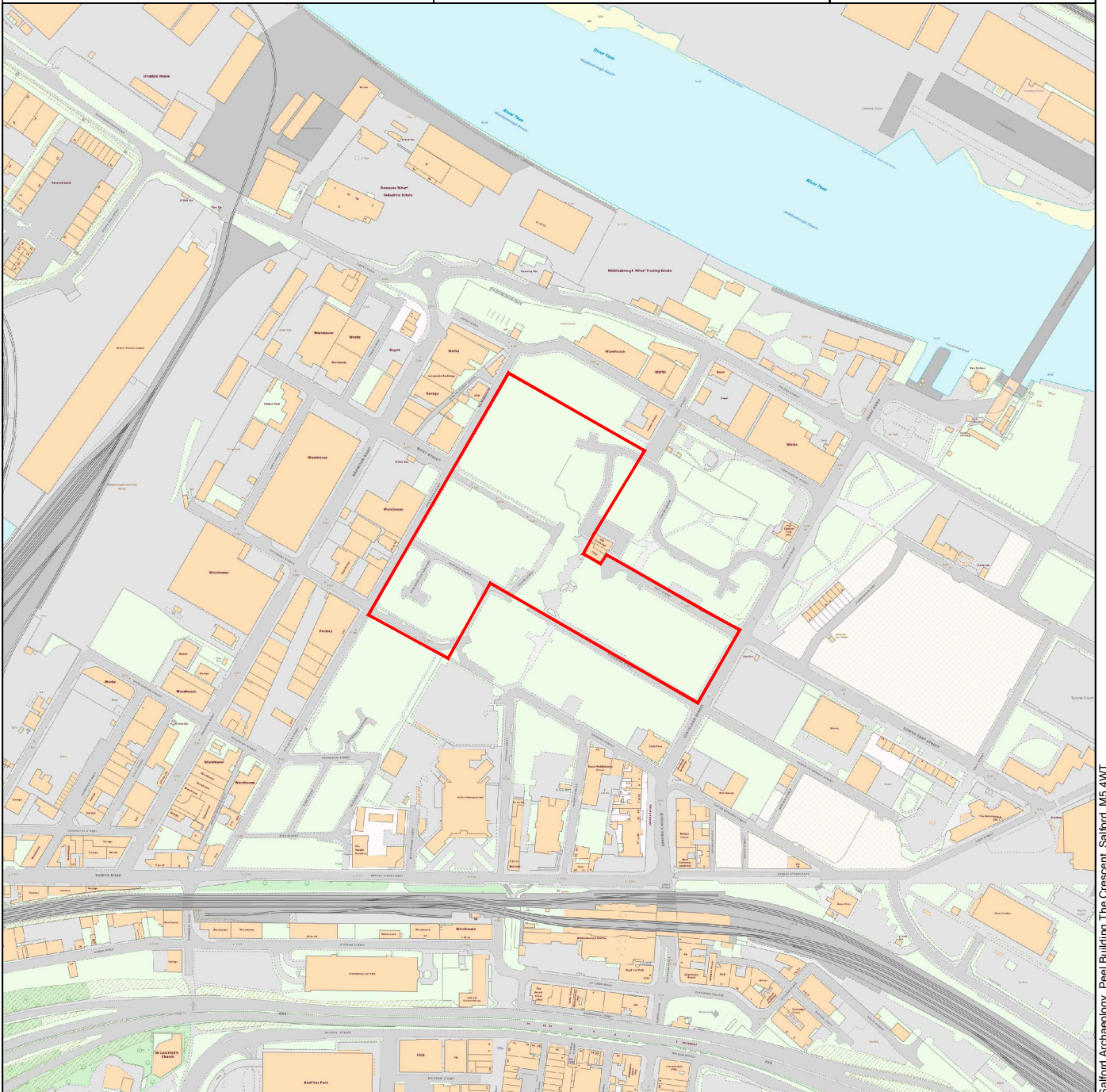
Figure 1:

Site Location

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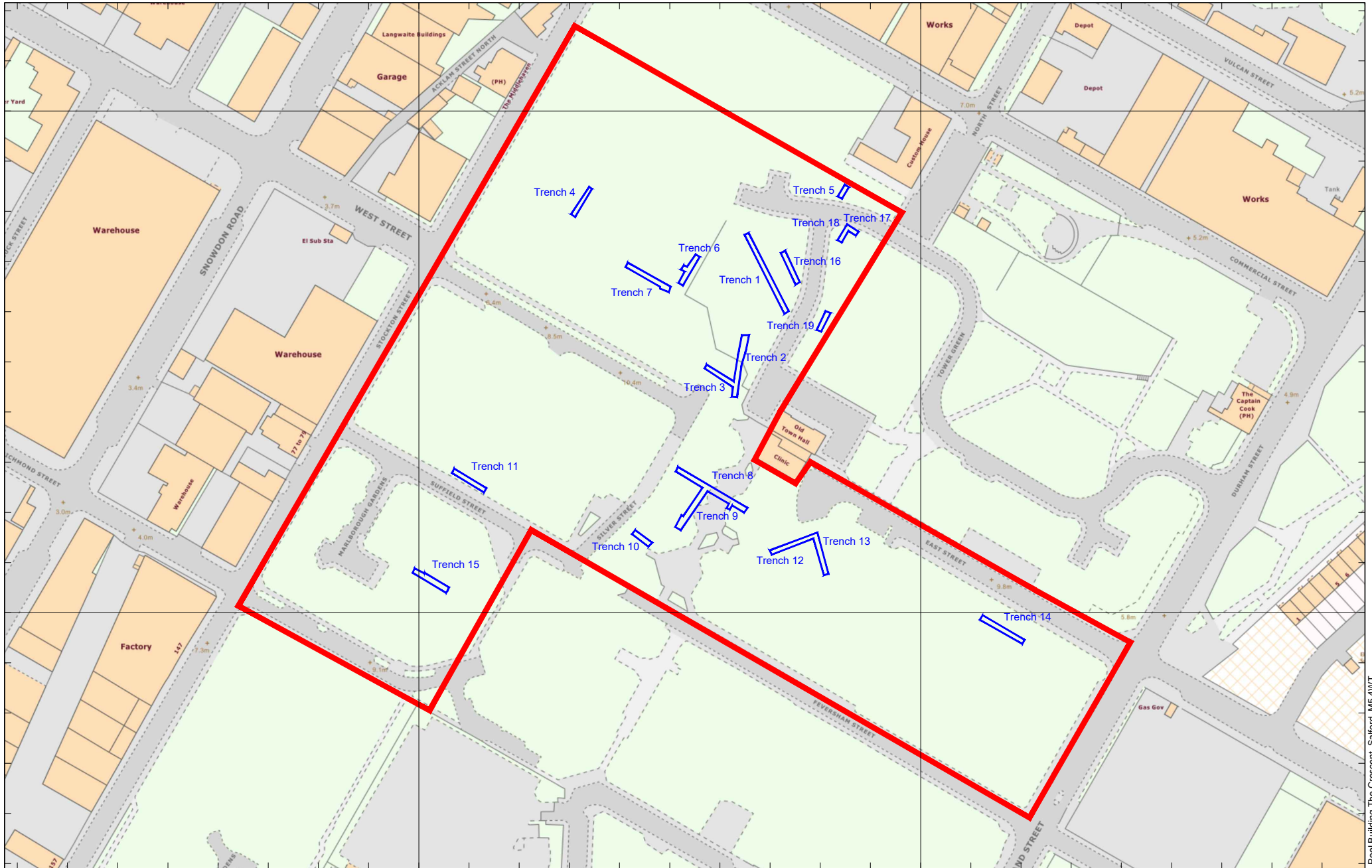
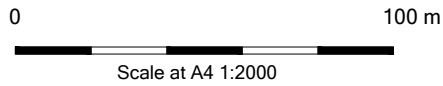


Figure 2:  
Trench Location  
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Key:

- legend
- legend



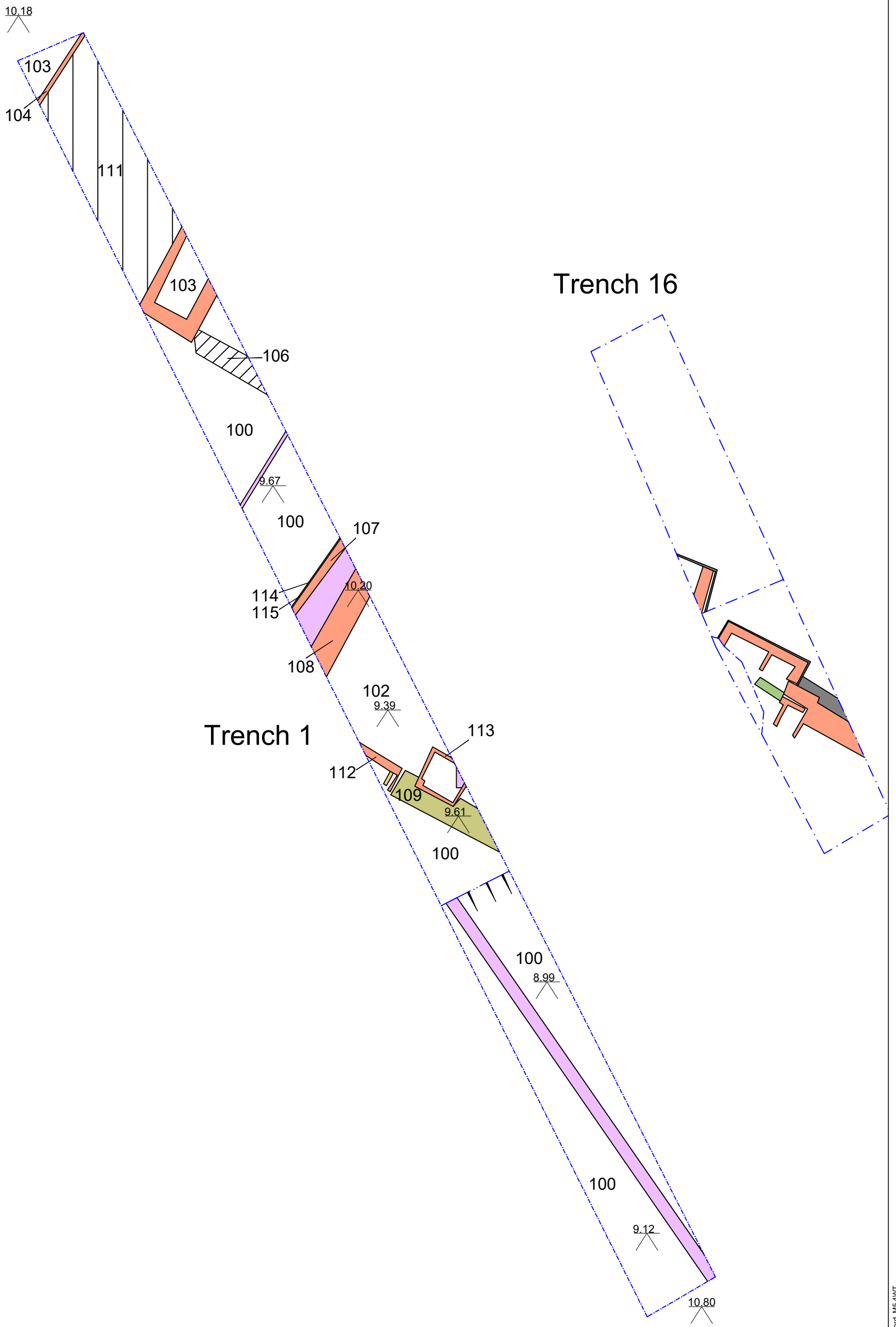


Figure 3:  
Plan of Trench 1

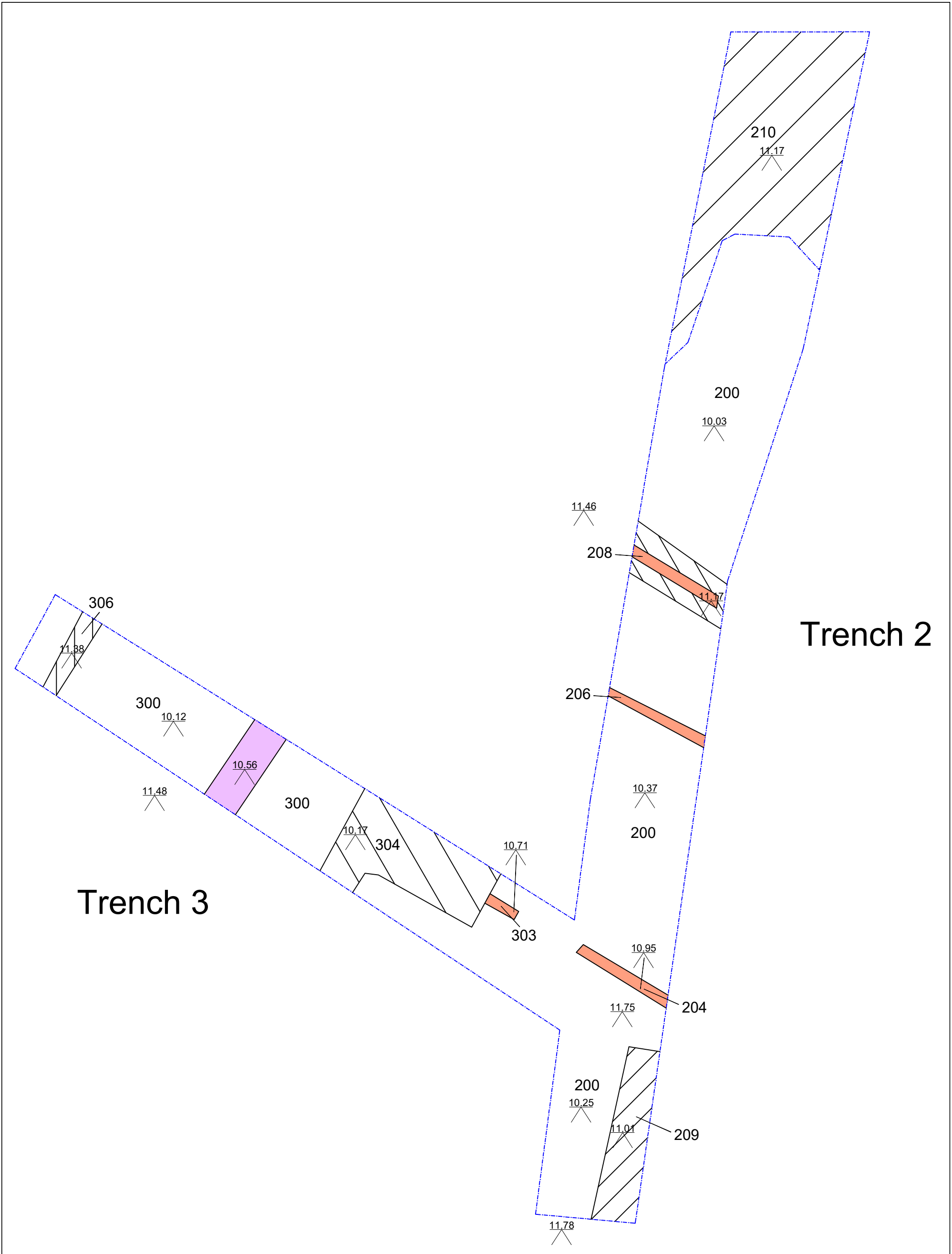


Figure 4:  
Plan of Trenches 2 and 3





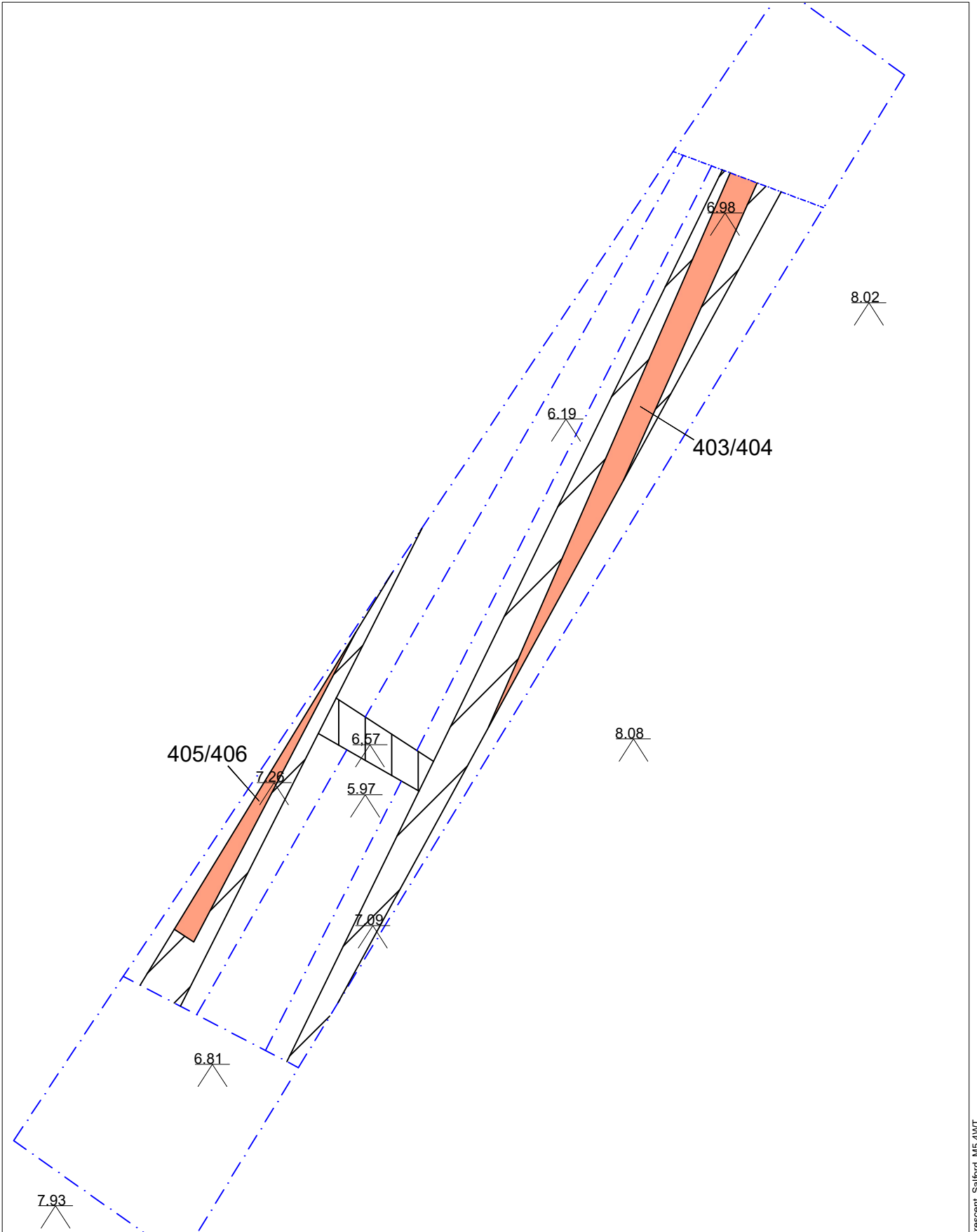


Figure 5:  
Plan of Trench 4

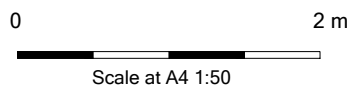


Key:

- Brick Wall
- Concrete
- Limit of Excavation



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# Trench 5

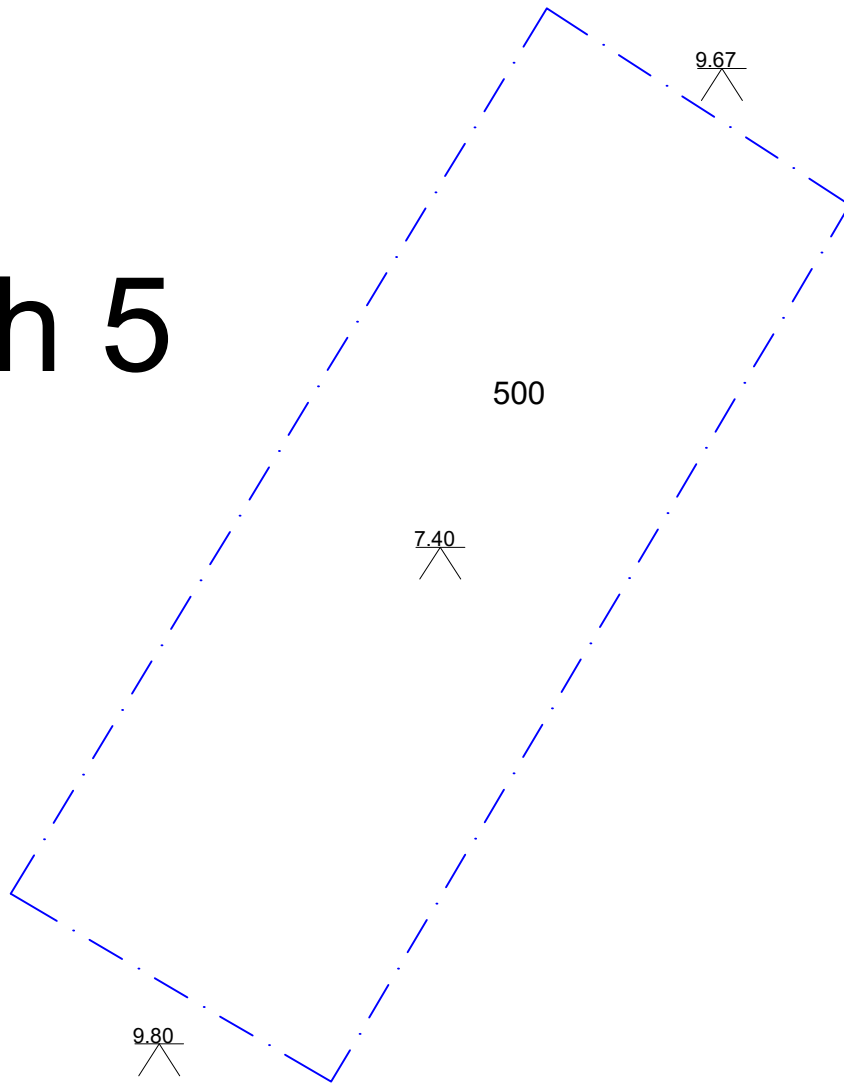



Figure 6:  
Plan of Trench 5



Key:

 Limit of Excavation



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Scale at A4 1:40

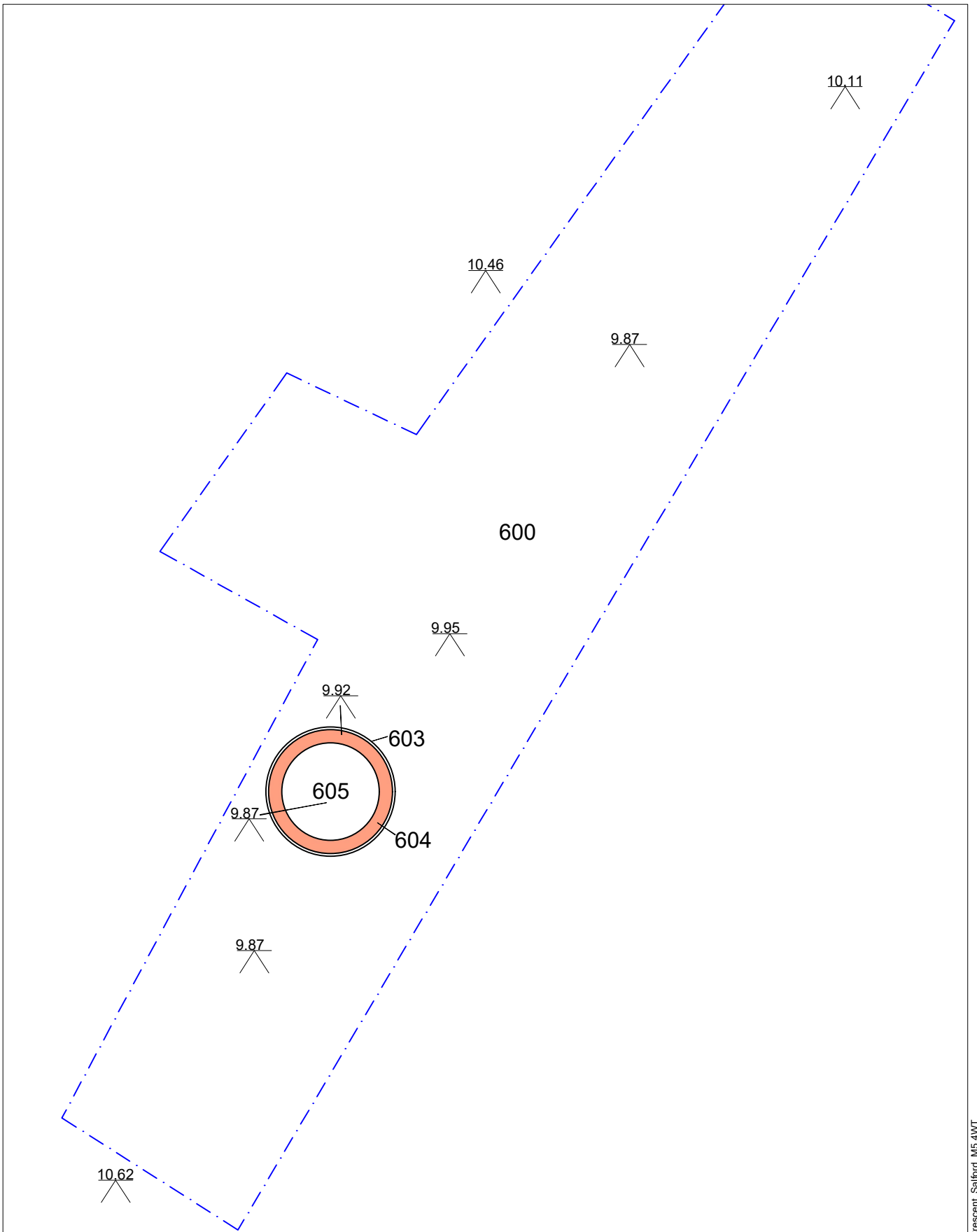


Figure 7:  
Plan of Trench 6

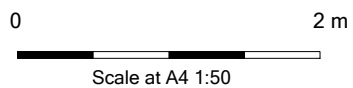


Key:

- Brick Well
- Limit of Excavation



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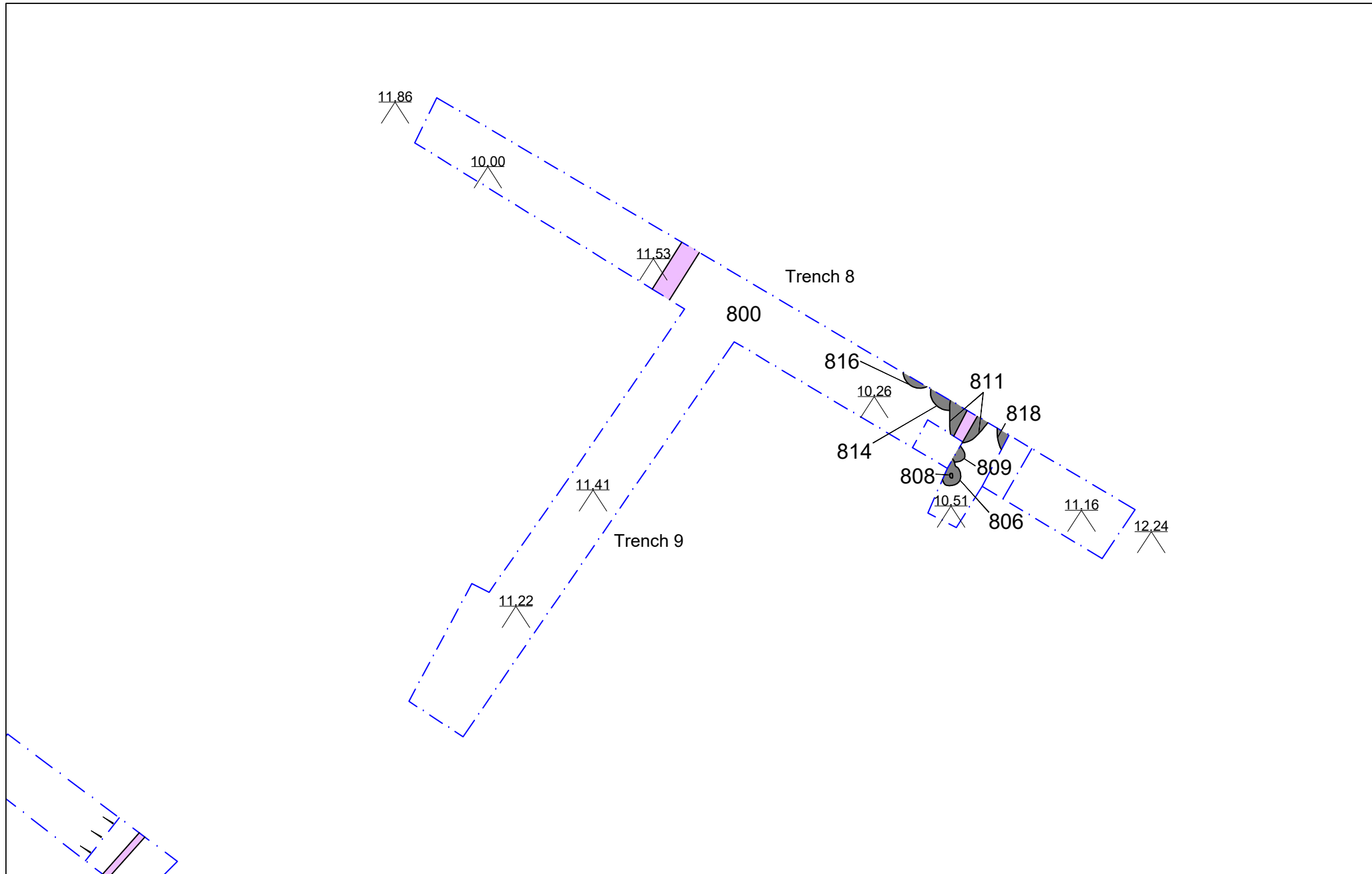


Figure 9:  
Plan of Trenches 8 and 9



- Key:
- Feature
  - Drain
  - Limit of Excavation

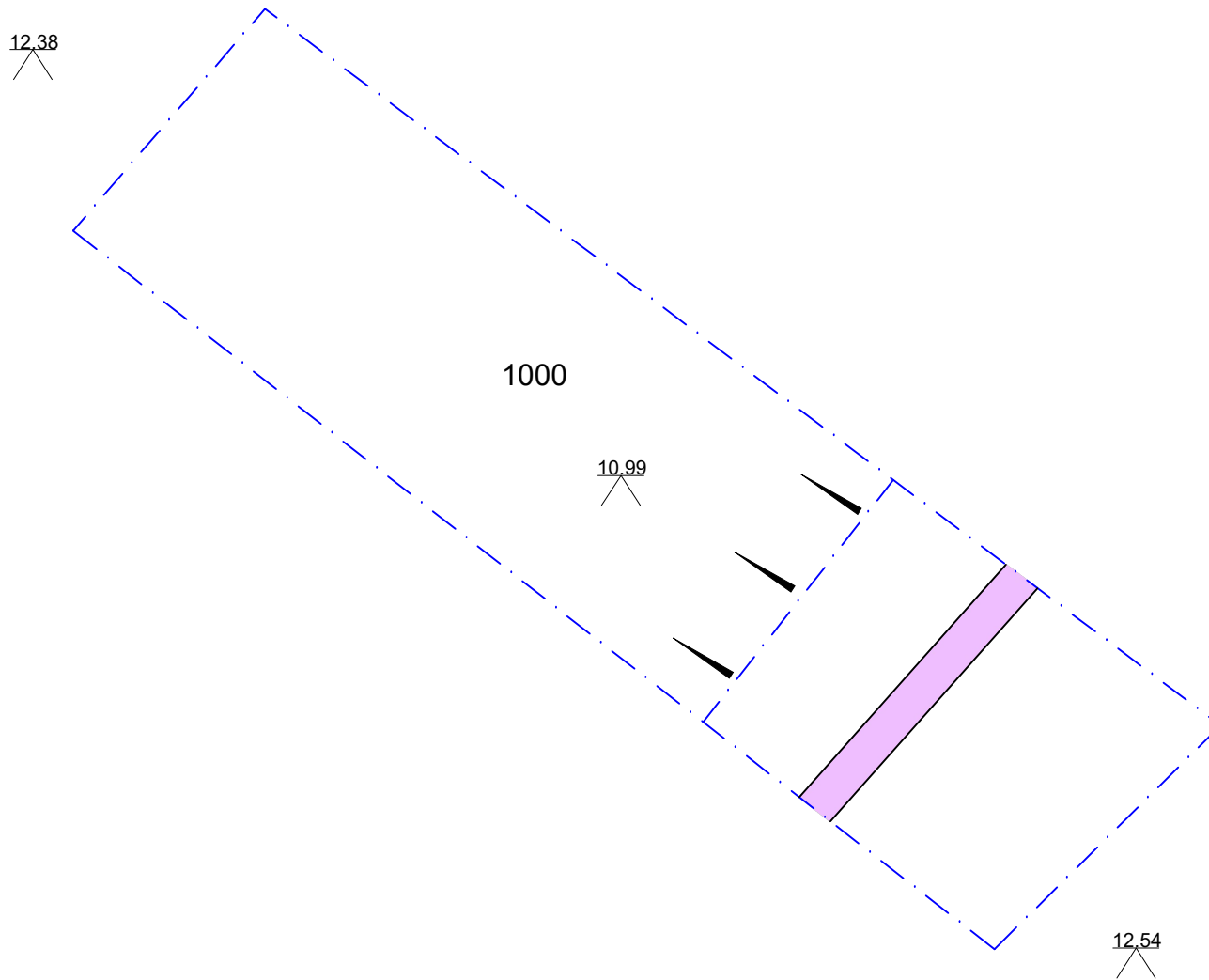
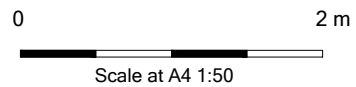


Figure 10:  
Plan of Trench 10



Key:

- Drain
- Limit of Excavation



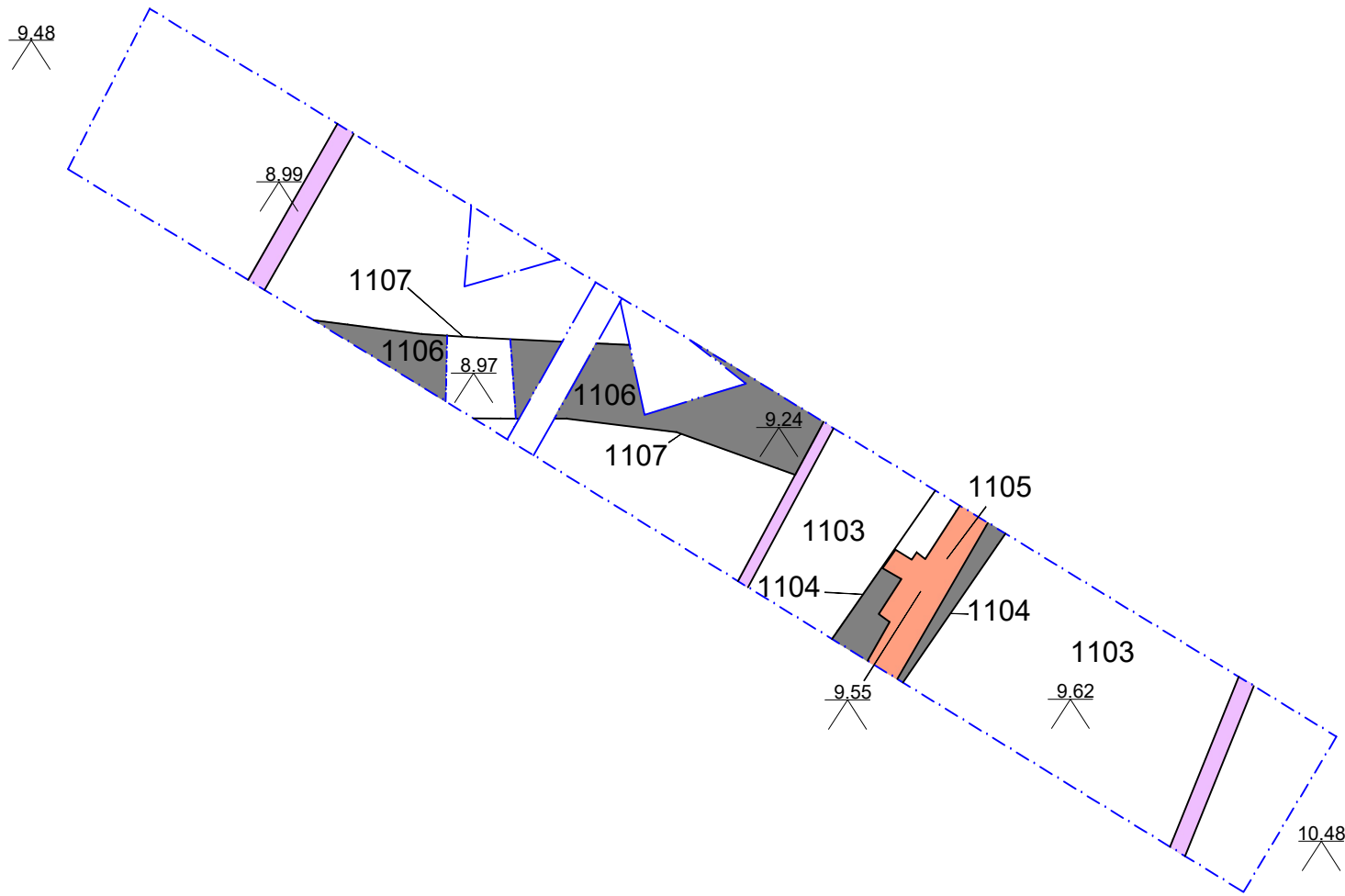
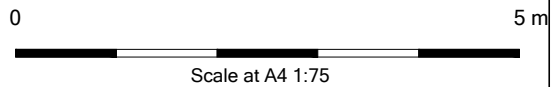







Figure 11:  
Plan of Trench 11



Key:

	Brick Wall		Truncation
	Feature		Limit of Excavation
	Drain		



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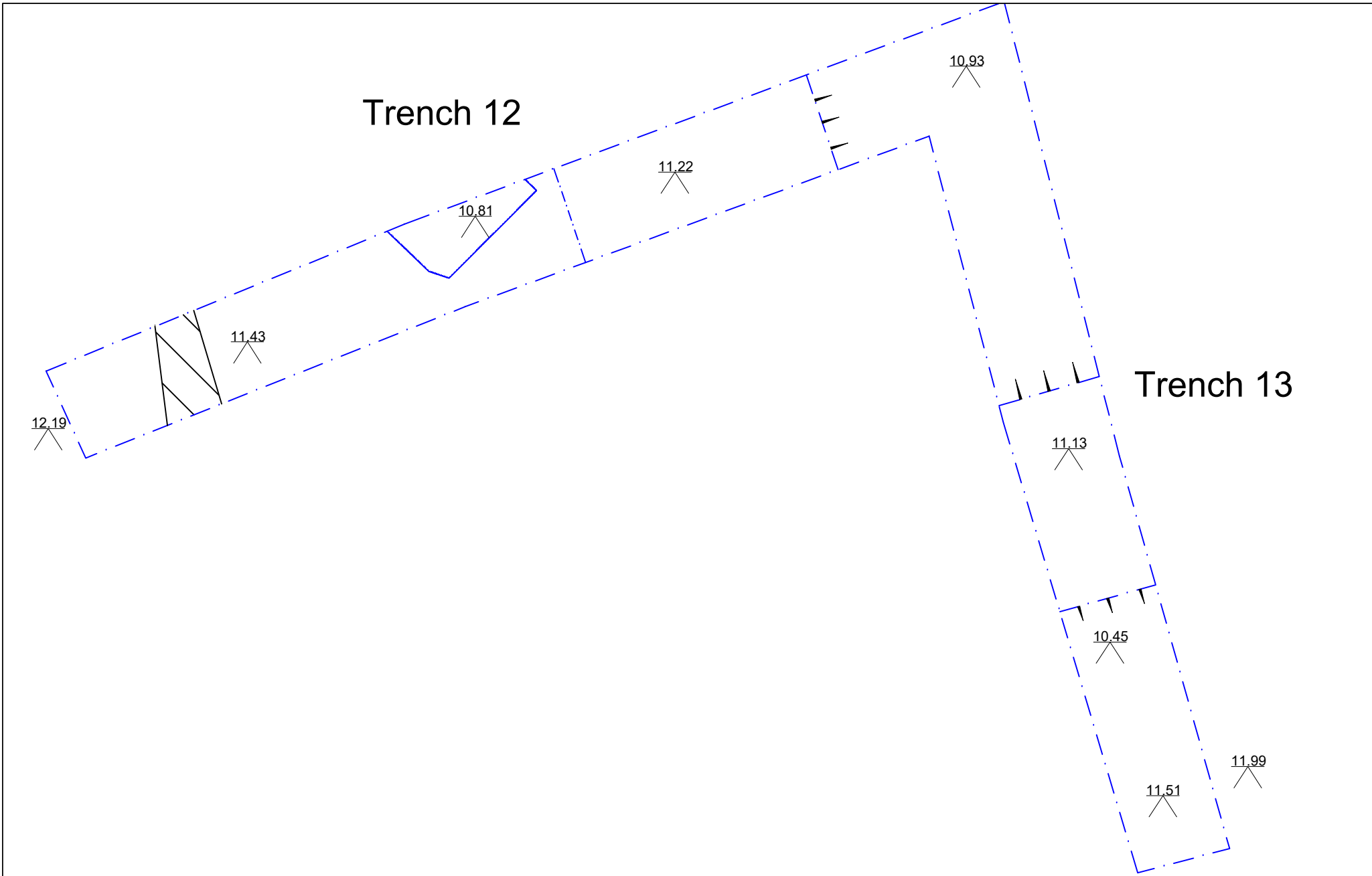



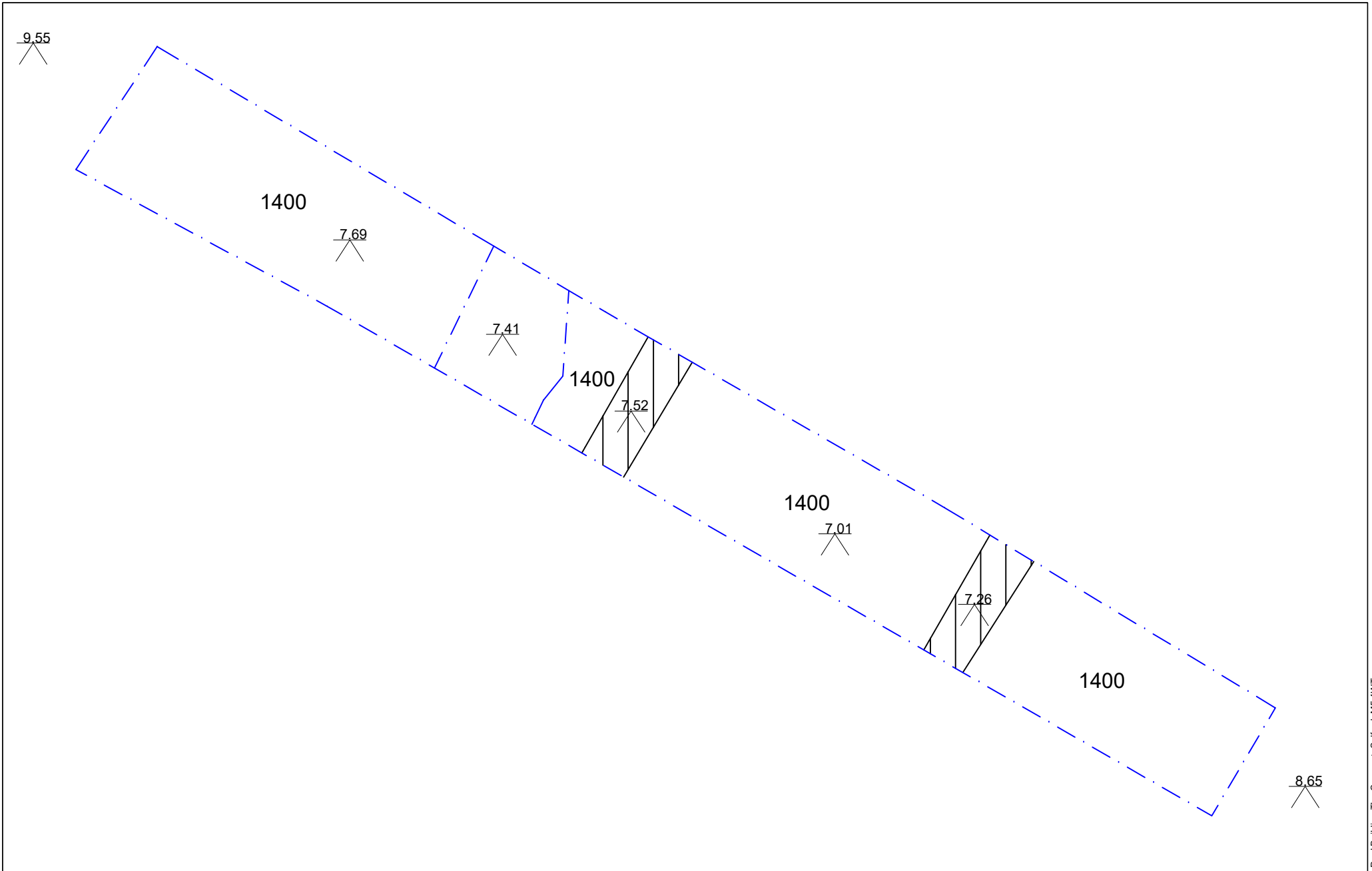


Figure 12:  
Plan of Trenches 12 and 13



- Key:
-  Concrete
  -  Truncation
  -  Limit of Excavation





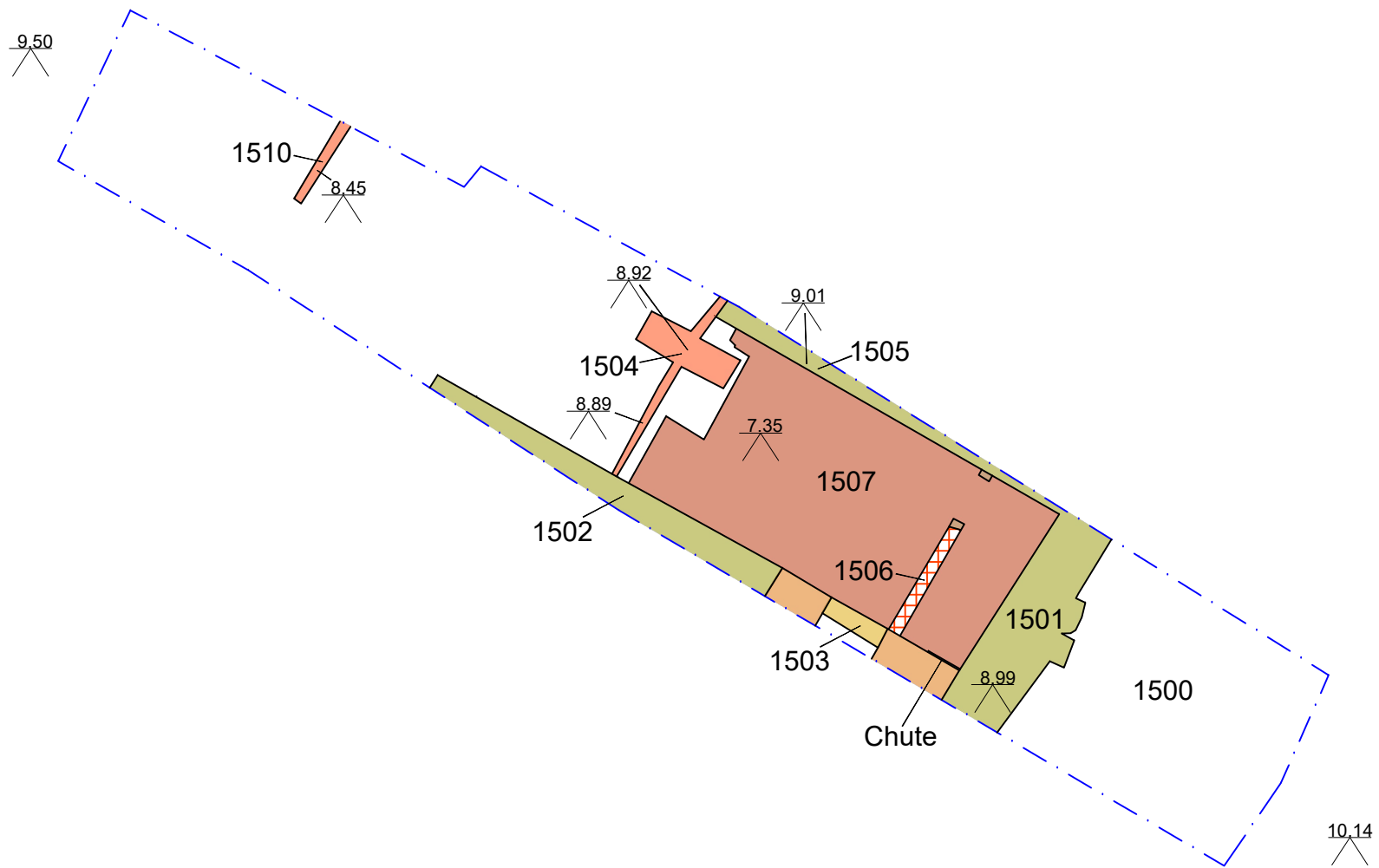
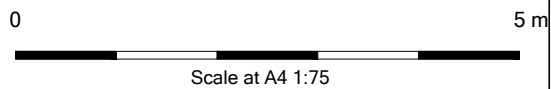


Figure 14:  
Plan of Trench 15



Key:	
	Brick Wall
	Stone Wall
	Brick Surface
	Brick
	Fire Brick
	Removed Brick Wall
	Limit of Excavation



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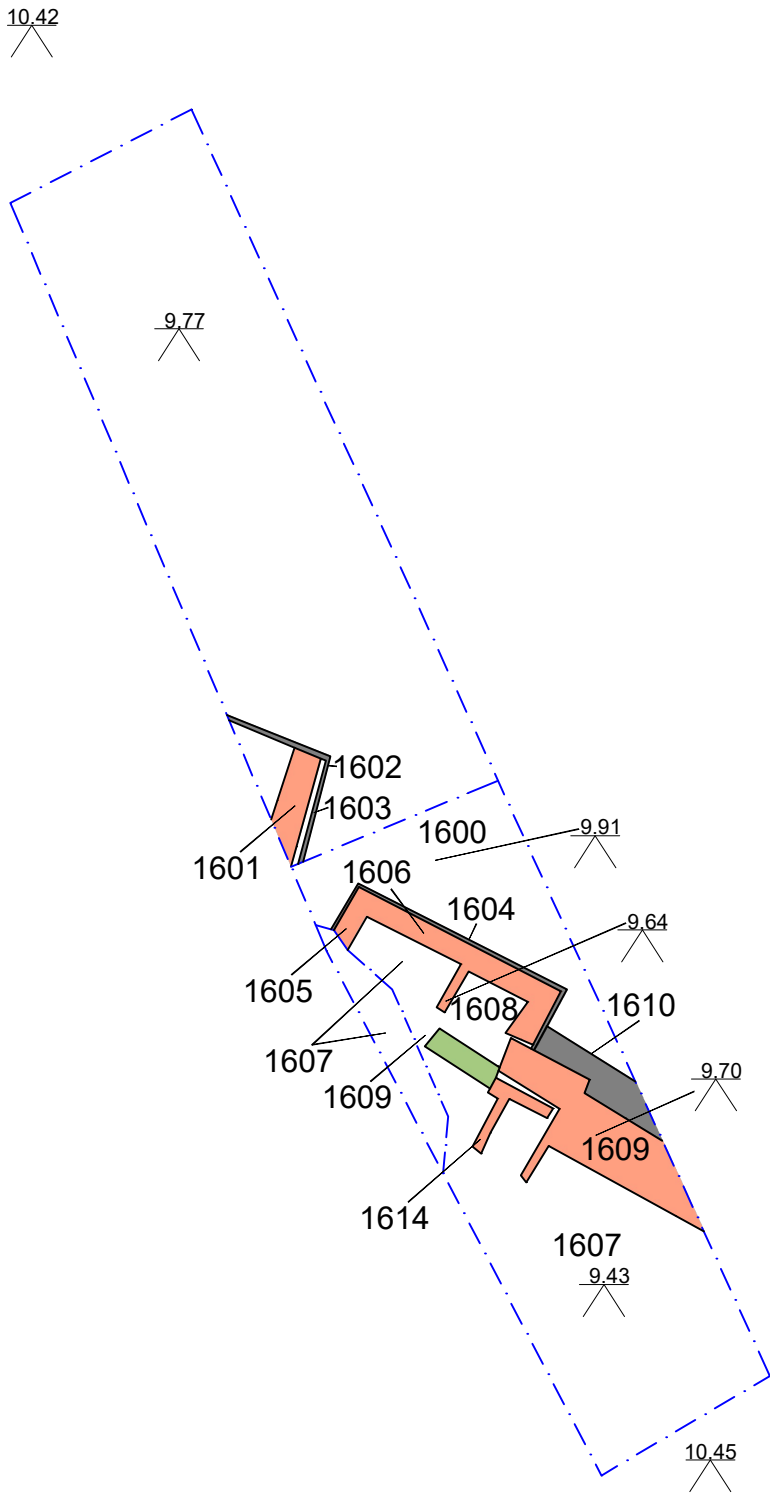


Figure 15:  
Plan of Trench 16

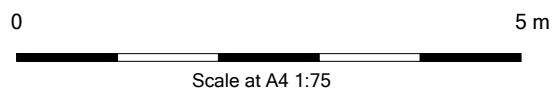


Key:

- Brick Wall
- Feature
- Stone
- Limit of Excavation



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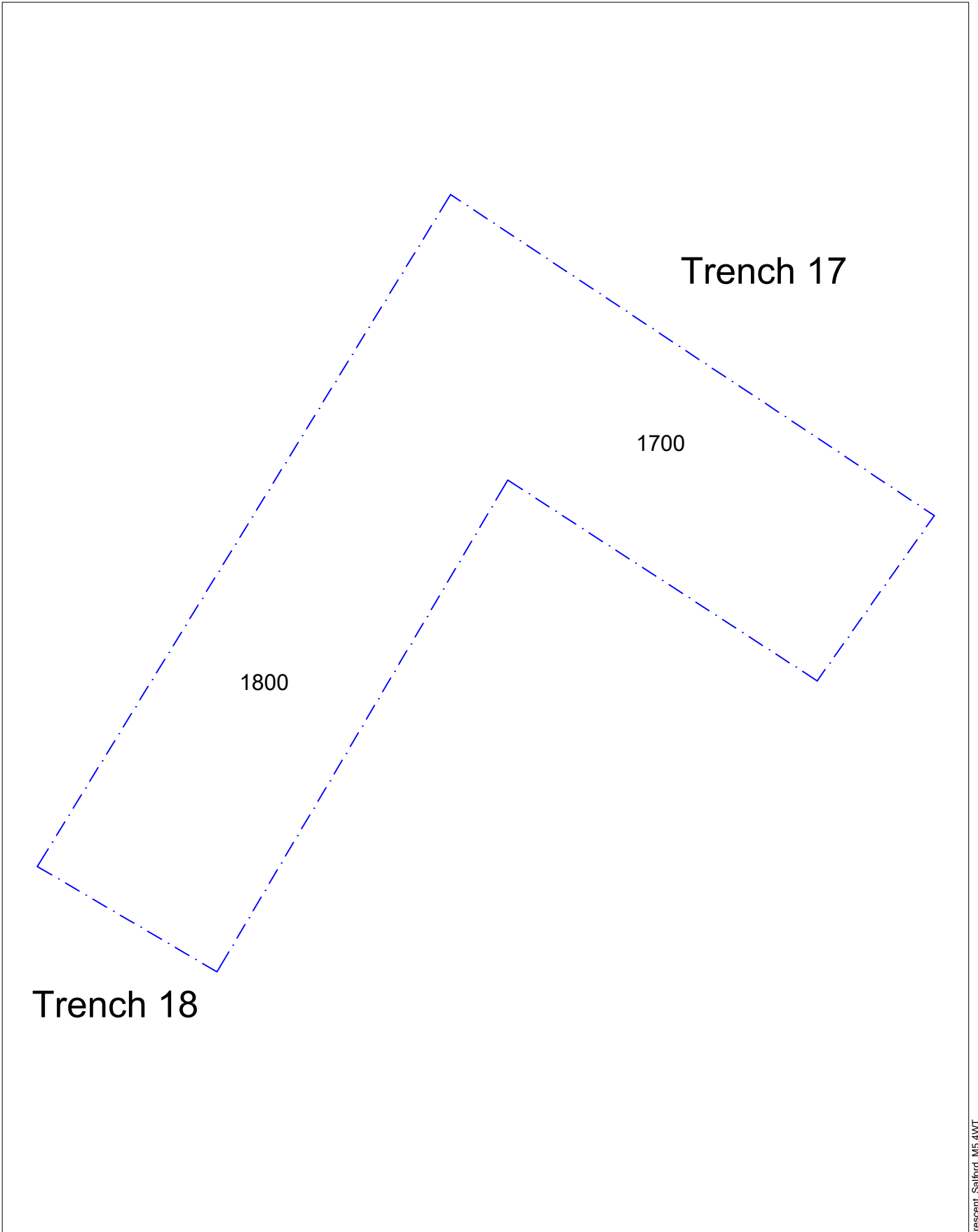



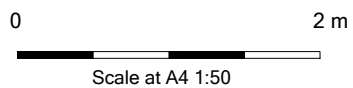
Figure 16:  
Plan of Trenches 17 and 18



Key:  
 Limit of Excavation



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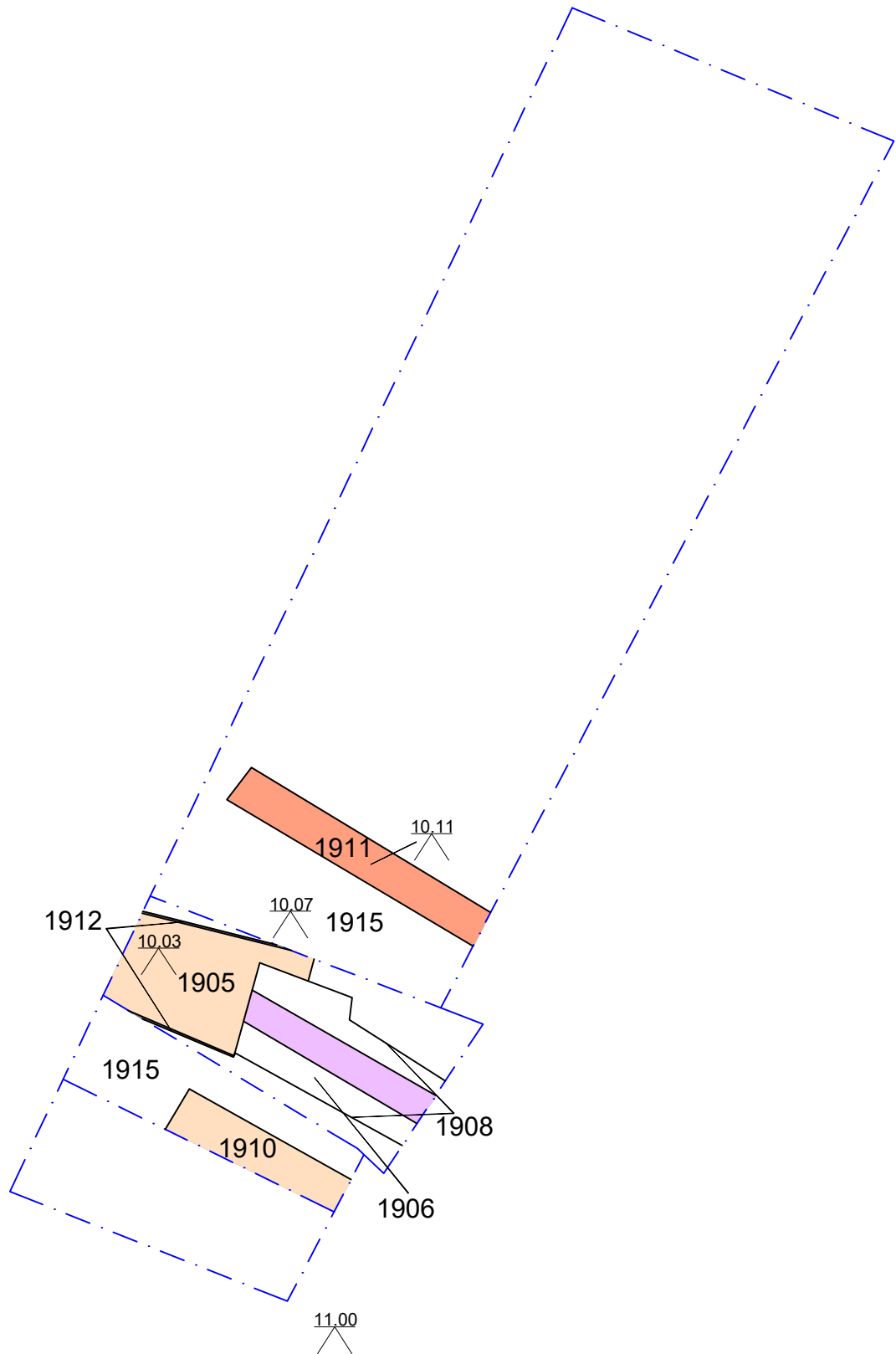







Figure 17:  
Plan of Trench 19

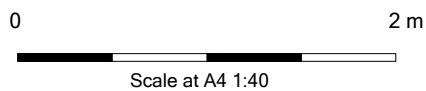


Key:

-  Brick Drain
-  Drain
-  Brick Wall
-  Feature
-  Limit of Excavation



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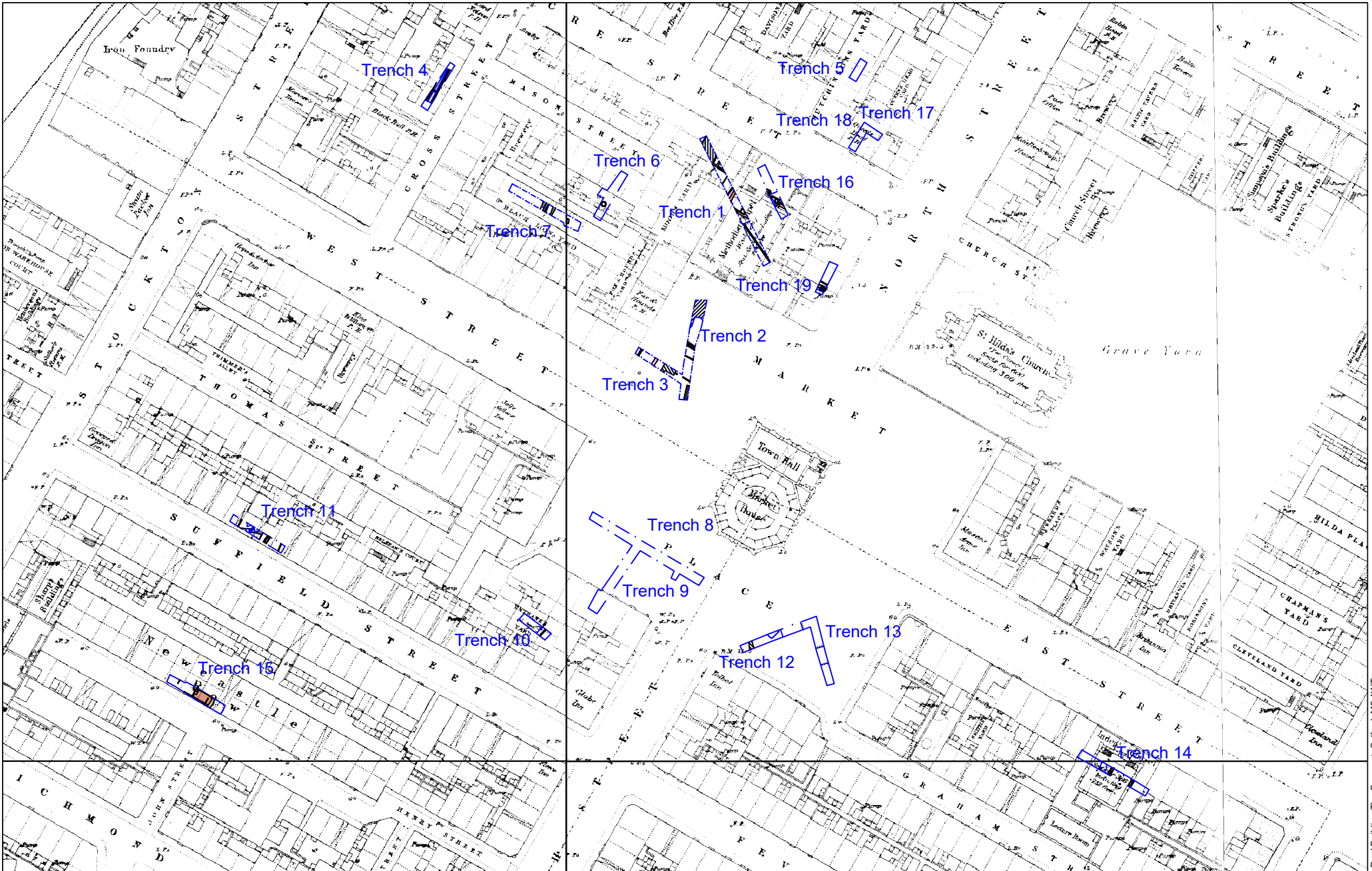
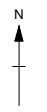


Figure 18:  
 Excavated Remains Superimposed onto the 1:1056 Town Plan of 1858  
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Key:

	Brick Wall		Fire Brick		Concrete
	Brick Floor		Drain		Stone
	Stone Wall		Feature		Limit of Excavation