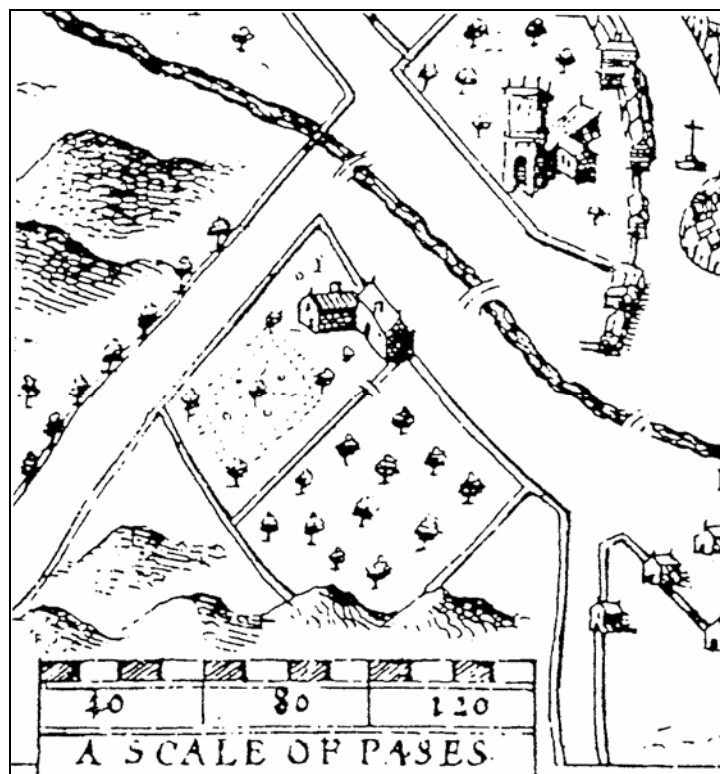

AFON ADDA REFURBISHMENT DEANERY CAR PARK, BANGOR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

GAT Project no. G1876

Report No. 669



Prepared for the Environment Agency
March 2007

By G..H. Smith and R.E. Evans



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Cover: Part of Speed's map of Bangor, 1610, showing the cathedral, bishop's palace and possible deanery

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SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in advance of proposed construction of a new river culvert through the yard and car park of the Deanery, Bangor, adjacent to the cathedral. The work was requested by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) because the area of the construction lies close to the Deanery and cathedral, both of which have medieval origins and in the vicinity of which numerous finds, including burials, artefacts and structures have previously been made, demonstrating the intensity of early activity in the area. Two trenches were excavated. That to the north showed only shallow deposits and 18th to 19th century features. That to the south showed a considerable complexity of 18th to 19th C structures and survival of deeper stratigraphy, which was not excavated. A corner of a building of possibly medieval origin was revealed, of which more should survive beneath the street pavement to the south, which was once part of the Deanery.

1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust was asked by the Environment Agency to carry out an archaeological evaluation in advance of construction of a new river culvert through the yard and car park of the Deanery, Bangor, adjacent to the cathedral (NGR SH58027203). The evaluation was requested by and monitored by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) as part of the planning development control process. The work was part of a larger scheme refurbishing the culverted route of the Afon Adda and constructing flood control measures. The area around the cathedral was the focus of settlement in the medieval period and documentary evidence, chance finds and excavations have demonstrated long and intensive activity there (Fig. 1) (Longley 1995). The grounds of the Deanery, at the south-west of the cathedral, have remained private and never examined archaeologically but have potential for the survival of medieval features.

The area affected comprises an easement about 80m long by 2m wide on a gentle north-facing slope immediately south-east of the former line of the River Adda, which presently runs in a culvert just north-west of the Deanery grounds (Fig. 1). The area includes a car park to the north, used by the diocesan and cathedral staff and a yard to the south used as access to the car park and for parking for the Deanery and Canonry.

Acknowledgements: GAT is grateful to the Dean of Bangor and to Martin Brown of Bangor Cathedral for access and to Gareth Evens of the Environment Agency and Nigel Purchase of May Gurney for assistance.

2 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN

The work was carried out in accordance with a design agreed with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and the Environment Agency archaeologist, Ed Wilson (Appendix 1). This comprised excavation of two trenches, covering the major part of the proposed easement, with the aim of identifying any archaeological features that might be present and the presence of deeper stratigraphy.

The project design conformed to the specifications of the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 1999) and the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1995, rev. 1999).

3 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

The evaluation was carried out from Monday 19th February to Friday 2nd March 2007.

The work comprised the excavation of two trenches, one 43m long, the other 19m long, by c. 2.2m wide (Fig. 2). The position of part of the longer trench was revised after excavation and had to be re-cut extending the excavation area and adding further to the work.

The trenches were cut by a four-wheeled excavator, using a straight-edged bucket on a back actor which removed all recent or superficial layers. This was followed by hand cleaning, investigation and recording.

All features were recorded in plan and a one complete longitudinal section was recorded for each trench. The trench depths are described in relation to depth below the modern car park surface although the drawings were levelled in to Ordnance datum, the levels recorded in the archive.

The archive is held by GAT under the project number **G1876**.

4.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric and Roman Period

The present city of Bangor lies in a narrow valley, which is a product of the deeper geological topography, rather than created by the small river, the Afon Adda, that flows through it. The river is known for frequent flooding (the name Adda is thought to be derived from the name *Tarannon* derived from the Celtic *Trisantona* meaning 'the trespasser', i.e. the river that overflows its banks (Roberts, c. 1990). The valley floor itself, then, the centre of the modern settlement, would not have been favoured for settlement in the prehistoric period. However, there is evidence of considerable activity, from the Neolithic through to the Romano-British period on the slightly higher ground close to Bangor at Llandegai, 2km to the south-east. In Bangor itself, excavations on the site of the Bishop's Palace (Smith 2005) and near to Dean Street (Smith 2007) have shown that there are deposits of peat, with woody remains and estuarine clay in the floor of the Adda valley, showing that at some point in the prehistoric period the river formed an estuary and as such may have provided a sheltered and useful access for small boats. Direct evidence of early activity, however, is so far slight and comes from the higher ground adjoining the valley. A flint dagger of Early Bronze Age type was found at Penrhosgarnedd, to the south-west and an Early Bronze Age burial urn on the slopes of the hill to the west. A little further to the west has also been found a 'burnt mound' a type of Bronze Age cooking place. The only prehistoric evidence from the valley floor itself is a hoard of Bronze Age axes, found in the mid-19th century in the area of the present St David's Retail Park. There is no evidence of any activity in Bangor in the Roman period. The nearest road, between the forts of Caerhun in the Conwy Valley and Segontium at Caernarfon, passed about 3km to the south-east. The small hill at the north-west side of Bangor, above Garth, and known as 'Roman Camp' is believed to be the site of a medieval fortification (Soulsby 1983, 76).

The medieval origins of Bangor

Bangor as a settlement has its origins in the ecclesiastical community founded around the middle of the 6th century AD by Deiniol, reputed to be a descendant of the royal family of Rheged, the ancient British kingdom around the Solway Firth (Roberts 1994, 20). The site of Bangor had no previous historic significance because it was not a strategic location for communication or defence. The community established in the 6th century occupied a small enclosed valley with a stream, the Afon Adda, and this land was probably a gift of Maelgwn, the ruler of Gwynedd. The earliest settlement would have been monastic and there is a note in the Irish Annals of the sack of the monastery in AD 634. This original settlement would have been focussed on a chapel within an enclosure, from which the city takes its name – Bangor, meaning 'Wattle fence', and other settlements have derived their name similarly at Bangor-on-Dee, Cheshire and Bangor, Co. Down, Northern Ireland. White (1984) and Longley (1994) have argued that this early enclosure may have been the same as the oval area that adjoins the area of the Deanery (Fig. 1), that was still the focus of the city as recorded by Speed in his map of the city in

1610 (Fig. 3). However, it is recorded that Edward 1 erected some city defences in 1283-4 and these may have had some effect on the subsequent development of the city plan (*Annales Cambriae*, 108). None the less, excavations in this same area, north of the High Street and east of the cathedral between 1981-9 (Longley 1995), in advance of construction of the Deiniol shopping centre, identified several early boundaries, the earliest a curvilinear 'slot' dated to between the 6th to 8th centuries AD (*ibid* 56) just east of the cathedral. Numerous early graves were also recorded further east, some of which predated a rectilinear boundary ditch dated to around the mid 10th century (*ibid* 65). Other burials have been found closer to the Deanery, at the south-west side of the cathedral, during a previous road widening scheme (GAT 1996).

There is good evidence then that the area was a centre of ecclesiastical activity prior to the establishment of the present cathedral in the early 12th century by Bishop David, who was consecrated in 1120 (Carr 1994, 28). Some pre-12th century buildings are recorded as having survived until at least the late 13th century before falling into decay (Soulsby 1983, 76). It had previously been thought that the early monastic community was located on the north side of the Afon Adda, on the terrace at the foot of the slopes below the main university building (RCAHMW 1960, Fig. 17), where buildings and burials had been found in 1924 (Hughes 1924). Excavations were carried out prior to the construction of the university students' union building and on the hillside close to the 1924 discoveries (Alcock 1964) and prior to the construction of the theatre (White 1971) but no medieval remains, or other burials were found. It has been suggested therefore that the principal monastic community must have been on the south side of the Adda Valley, in the vicinity of the present cathedral and that the remains found in 1924 were those of a subsidiary parish church, Llanfair Garth Brannan, mentioned in 1291.

There were other ecclesiastical buildings in the valley, including another chapel, Capel Gorfyw, a friary and several houses for the clergy such as the dean, canons and vicars choral, which were clustered around the cathedral where the High Street is now. Areas of land and probably houses were also held by the Archdeacons of Bangor, Anglesey and Merioneth.

The secular settlement of Bangor was subsidiary to the ecclesiastical, both in terms of function and importance, and probably had its origins in the employment deriving from the services required by the ecclesiastical community. The houses of the city in fact developed on the fringes of the ecclesiastical community because the majority of the land around the cathedral belonged to one or other of the diocesan incumbents. Never the less, there were 53 burgesses or tenants named in a survey of the Bishop's lands in Bangor of 1306, although eleven of these were clerics (Carr 1994, 29).

Bangor was not a centre of secular authority, although a motte was built in the late 11th century, possibly on the Aethwy ridge north of the present city and above Garth (Soulsby 1983, 76). Even so the city suffered during many hostilities, probably because of the varying loyalties of the bishop. It flourished under the Welsh princes but was burned by King John in 1211. It was later damaged during Edward's campaign, possibly by the Welsh because the bishop had supported the English. It was attacked by Glyndwr in 1402 and 'the cathedral had been partly destroyed and probably the houses of the cathedral clergy had been laid waste' (Pryce 1923). The cathedral was supposed to have remained in ruins for nearly 90 years until the end of the fifteenth century when restoration was begun as also at the Bishop's Palace and the same may be true of the Deanery.

An early 18th century description of the city described Bangor as '...one long street and two small ones, and has sixty eight houses, besides the Bishop's Palace and Deanery, most of which are slated.' (Browne Willis 1721, 40). Bangor developed rapidly during the 19th century and new works were undertaken on the cathedral, Bishop's Palace and Deanery.

The Deans and Deanery

The present Deanery is largely 19th century but incorporates a smaller building erected by Dean Humphrey Humphreys about 1685 (RCAHMW 1960, 15). This earlier Deanery is that shown on maps of 1834 (Fig. 5), 1841 (Fig. 6) and 1854 (Fig. 7). In 1834 the Deanery was smaller than at present and its grounds were dominated by a large circular coach driveway at the front (north) side of the house, with coaches approaching through the grand Bishop's gate erected by Bishop Majendie in 1810, which still survives as the entrance to the Bible Garden. The gardens were extended and altered to a more formal, rectilinear design of beds and paths by the time of the 1854 map (Fig. 7). The house itself was extended and modified to its present form in 1863 (Clarke 1969, 93) and the gardens altered again to a

more naturalistic (and easily manageable) layout of shrubbery and trees, seen on the first large scale Ordnance map of 1889 (Fig. 8). The yard and outbuildings were completely rebuilt at this time to provide a new coach-house/stable further to the west allowing a new entrance from the street to be built and coach access directly from the yard up the slope to the front of the house. The Deanery house was divided into two to incorporate a new canonry in 1956 after the earlier canonry became the museum and art gallery. The interior and cellar have not been studied to see if any remnants of Humphreys' building still survive or are visible.

Bishop Humphreys' Deanery replaced an earlier one, which had fallen into disrepair (Clarke 1969, 93). There was certainly, therefore, a Deanery before Humphreys' but we do not know whether he built on the exact site of the earlier building, near it or even within the same piece of land. The Dean was the head of the cathedral Chapter of the Diocese, which covered the whole of north-west Wales, and acting manager of the cathedral Chapter and its staff, because most Bishops were not resident. His role would be reflected in the style and location of his house and the situation of the present Deanery, close to the cathedral and Bishop's Palace but separate from the rest of the ecclesiastical staff, was appropriate for his role.

The earliest Deans are unknown but there were Deans recorded by name from 1162 (Clarke 1969, 40) and a residence would always have been required. Recent archaeological work at the Bishop's Palace indicates its origins possibly as early as the 12th century (Smith 2005) although the documentary evidence goes back only to the 15th century. A similar early origin is likely at the Deanery although any early building may not have had continuity of survival because of damage during times of unrest and breaks in the line of Deans due to political interference in the 16th and 17th centuries (Clarke 1969, 43-5) apart from the rebuilding by Humphreys.

The Afon Adda ran through the Deanery gardens in the later 19th century (Fig. 8) but this was a canalised route, presumably designed as a formal garden feature. Prior to the Deanery reconstruction in 1863 the river followed its natural route in a meander to the north where there was a bridge at the bottom of Glanrafon. This is shown on Speed's map of 1610 (Fig. 3) and Leigh's map of 1768 (Fig. 4). Both maps indicate that there were buildings along the east side of Glanrafon, between the cathedral and the bridge, that is, in the triangle of land occupied by the Deanery. We know that Humphreys' Deanery was there at the time of Leigh's map but the representation of buildings was schematic, other than those belonging to Penrhyn estate, for which it was produced. Speed's map is the most detailed and shows at least two buildings south-west of the cathedral, one of which may be the Deanery that existed prior to Humphreys' rebuilding.

There is a tradition in Bangor that a house on the High Street, at the north corner of the junction with Lon Pobty was the Dean's house in 1450, and the house where Owain Glyndwr met to conspire against Henry V. The original house, known as Plas Alcock, became an inn around 1810 called The Bluebell but was demolished in 1880 to be replaced by the City Hotel (Cowell 1997, 26). This is the building that stands there now and is brick-built but has an unusual, decorative stone chimney of medieval style that has been re-erected from an earlier building, very likely the earlier one on the same site (RCAHMW 1960, 16) However, this building was more certainly the house of the Archdeacon of Bangor not the Dean (Clarke 1969, 93).

5.0 EVALUATION RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figs 10-13)

This trench was *c.* 43m long and situated at the foot of the lower hill slope on which the Deanery and cathedral are built (Fig. 2). It was therefore on the edge of the valley floor of the Afon Adda, but rose up the slope towards the west end where it cut partly into the valley slope.

This area, now a car park was previously part of the garden of the Deanery in the 20th century. A humic garden soil was found immediately below the surface of the car park over the entire trench. At this level, at the east end was found a narrow, roughly-laid dry stone-built curving wall and at its side a gravel surface. The wall was the border of a garden bed with a gravel path beside it (Fig. 10).

At the south end removal of most of the former garden soil revealed the subsoil surface at a depth of 0.60m. The subsoil was yellow-brown stony fluvio-glacial silty clay till. Cut into the subsoil was a linear feature [3], a small ditch with steep sloping sides and a rounded base, oriented south-east to north-west, directly up and down slope (Fig. 10).

At this point in the work the line of the proposed pipe easement was moved to the west and the trench was re-cut on the new alignment, creating a larger excavation area and revealing further features.

Removal of the remainder of the former garden soil revealed several features (Fig. 11). One of these was a stone-lined drain [10], which had drained into a large rectangular, shale-filled soak away pit [8], 4m long. The pit was not excavated but the drain was constructed of shale slabs with two set on edge in a vee, with another set horizontally as a capping. The alignment of the drain suggested that it originated from the Deanery house and that the pit was designed to collect foul water to avoid it entering the nearby river.

This drain and pit appeared to be a replacement for similar features further to the south where there had been another pit [14] and similarly oriented drain [15]. This drain had no stone lining or capping, which had perhaps been robbed to construct the new drain [10].

The type of construction of drain [10] indicates a date before about 1850 and possibly before 1800, after which a neatly constructed slate-built culvert could be expected. This accords with early city plans, which show that the drains and soak-away pits were positioned to respect the boundaries of the Deanery grounds as they were in 1834 (Fig. 5) rather than as they had become in 1854 (Fig. 7).

To the west of drain [15] were the slight remnants of a previously demolished wall [6], oriented north-west to south-east, originally continuing beyond the limits of the trench. The wall was 0.72m wide and lime mortared. Its position and alignment matches with a boundary of the Deanery grounds in 1834 (Fig. 5).

Both the drain [15] and wall [6] were constructed over the line of the small ditch [3], which is therefore the earliest feature found. Its fill produced one thick irregular piece of bottle glass, which is probably part of the base of flask-type wine bottle of 18th century date and shows that the ditch's use was of that period. It seems to have been an open drainage ditch and its position suggests that there was a building or yard that needed a drain, somewhere close by to the east at that time, and part of an earlier and different layout to that seen on the map of 1834 layout. However, it could have just linked with a pattern of ditches draining the gardens.

At the south end of Trench 1 subsoil was revealed immediately below the recent garden soil. At the west edge of the trench was a large, rather irregular-edged linear feature [20]. This proved to be a deep terrace cut into the hill slope and largely filled with dark, friable loam, similar to garden soil. Comparison with the layout of the Deanery grounds shown on the map of 1834 identifies it as an artificial terrace between the upper coach drive and a lower yard area. The terrace was still shown as a remnant feature on the map of 1889 (Fig. 8) and the area it bounded was essentially the basis for the present car park.

Pit [8] at the east end of the trench was cut into a deeper friable dark loam, representing an earlier topsoil. This was removed and proved to be a deep horizon lying over a gentle natural slope in the subsoil (Section, Fig. 11). This was probably a deliberate topsoil dump to level up the area of the Deanery garden behind the wall of the Bishop's Walk at the north edge of the garden.

Trench 2 (Figs 14-21)

Trench 2 was 19m long and cut through the Deanery yard alongside Glanrafon Street (Fig. 2). The yard presently contains a 20th century garage block with concrete forecourt, while the remainder has a tarmac surface.

Phase 4 20th century

Removal of the modern yard surfaces revealed a deep layer of made-ground consisting of mixed demolition debris and soil. That at the north (25) and south (70) of the trench was of later 20th century date but an area in the centre of the trench was chiefly dark topsoil with many broken roofing slates

(37) and this probably derives from an earlier renovation phase of the Deanery. The garage was constructed in the 1930's.

Phase 3 Late 19th century- c. 1930

Layer (37) overlay a deep humic old topsoil layer (38). This lay within the area of a small enclosure belonging to the Deanery garden area as it was shown on the 1889 to 1914 Ordnance Survey maps (Figs 8-9). This soil layer butted onto a length of east-west oriented narrow wall [50], which lay parallel to a similar wall [51], 2m to the west (Figs 14 & 16). These 2 walls are identifiable on the 1889 to 1914 maps forming a small yard adjoining a small square building. This is probably to be identified as the Dean's pig sty with yard and paddock. They did not appear on the 1854 map and so were probably constructed as part of the 1863 renovations.

To the west of walls [50] and [51] had been a sloping, neatly cobbled yard [53] of which only a small part survived lower down slope because much of it had been destroyed during insertion of a modern piped drainage system [55] (Figs 16 & 20).

The cobbled yard belonged with a former building at the west of the yard represented by a small length of wall [52] (Figs 17 & 21). This was the east wall of a long building, 16m by 6m, parallel to Glanrafon Street and erected as part of the 1863 renovations, seen first on the 1889 map and probably a coach-house and stables. This building survived until the 1930's when the pigsty and yard described above were demolished to make way for the present garage. Most of the wall line within the trench had been destroyed during insertion of a 20th century pipe drain. The drain had probably been inserted at the same time that the former coach-house was demolished and had made use of a doorway of the building, indicated by a slate drain channel in the cobbled yard (Fig. 16). The remainder of the building lay further to the west and if it survives now lies under the pavement beyond the Deanery wall, because the street was widened sometime before 1980 and the Deanery wall was rebuilt further to the north, where it is now.

The small area of the wall of the building exposed was of brick and stone to the north (Section, Fig. 16), but of substantial limestone blocks to the south (Section, Fig. 17). The better-built part of the wall was close to the corner of the building and the difference in construction suggests an earlier date than 19th century. This was confirmed by further excavation, which showed that east wall of the building had re-used the west wall of an earlier building, which lay further to the east, recorded in 1834 and 1854 and had been demolished during the 1863 renovations to improve access to the yard.

Phase 2 Mid 19thC and 18th Century

The walls [50] and [51] of the probable pig sty had been built over the remains of an earlier, demolished wall [48] on an approximately north-south orientation (Fig. 16). The footings of this were of sizeable limestone blocks set with lime mortar. At the south of the trench, beneath the cobbled yard, the footings of the wall survived and were of one build with the footings of the coach-house/stables which it met at its east corner.

The wall had originally continued through and beyond the north end of the trench although there it was completely robbed-out, but marked by a linear spread of mortar debris. It was robbed out here because it lay within what became a garden or pig yard after the construction of the pig sty about 1863. Here the wall had been associated with a series of stone and slate-lined drains (Figs 15 & 18). Two [45] and [46] lay on its east, uphill, side had been largely destroyed by later construction. Drain [46] collected water from the east, uphill side of wall [48] and drained into a larger lower drain or culvert [43]. This had been below the line of the former wall and continued beyond the trench to the north (Fig. 19).

Wall [48] can be identified on the Woods 1834 map as the west boundary of the Deanery grounds at that time although Woods map does not fit exactly with the modern map (Fig. 5). There was a long narrow outbuilding along the east side of the wall, possibly a stable, but no trace of any flooring of this was found during the excavation and it may have been simply an earth-floored lean-to shed. By 1854 the Deanery grounds had been extended to the west although wall [48] still survived within it. The Afon Adda had been canalised to run through the gardens, which were now reorganised in series of formal beds (Fig. 7).

Phase 1 Pre-18th C

The date of wall [48] is uncertain but it was in existence in 1834 and its substantial stone construction suggests it may belong with the new Deanery constructed by Dean Humphreys in 1680-9.

It was, however, not very substantially founded and its footings did not lie on the subsoil but on a dark, humic soil (42) that was distinctive because of the presence of a scatter of charcoal fragments. This soil was only exposed in the north part of the trench on both sides of the line of wall [48] (Fig. 15). This layer was not excavated further so no secure artefactual dating evidence was obtained from it. The surface of the soil lay at a considerable depth, 1.25m at the west of the trench but this is somewhat misleading because more recent layers were deliberately built up to terrace the yard surface.

Excavation of the former humic soil within the small possible pigsty yard between walls [50] and [51] revealed a similar layer to [42] and a small trial hole was dug to test its depth (Fig. 16). This continued to a depth of 0.70m below the 19th century yard, 1.80m below the modern yard surface. There was no certain evidence of any intervening floor surfaces before the base, which appeared to be stony glacial till, although exposed in only a very small area.

At the south end of the trench the modern pipe trench through wall [52] was partly emptied to below the level of the footings of the wall. The footings of the wall were built on orange-brown clay at a depth of 1.75m below the modern yard surface and its depth matches with the depth of the probable subsoil found in the trial pit further to the north. Some depth of deposits thus survives in this area, where medieval buildings might have been, as indicated by Speed's map.

6.0 DISCUSSION

The excavations in Trench 1 at the north, were conclusive in that most of the area was excavated to the subsoil surface so all features that were present were identified. Those recorded were all shown to be post-medieval relating to the boundaries, garden features and drains belonging to the Deanery in the 18th and 19th centuries. The soil levels in this area have been truncated because the area has been extensively landscaped during successive changes to the layout of the Deanery gardens, and more recently for the present car park, however, no additional features are likely to be found there.

The excavations in Trench 2 encountered greater complexity of features relating to the yards and outbuildings of the Deanery in the 18th and 19th century and some depth of earlier, but unexplored stratigraphy. At the south, excavation was stopped at the level of the late 19th century cobbled yard and earlier yard surfaces or other horizons must lie below.

The earliest structural features encountered were the boundary wall of the early Deanery, perhaps dating to the late 17th century, and the footings of an outbuilding, possibly a coach-house and stable. A buried soil layer was also found that predated the boundary wall and was shown to be of about a further 0.70m in depth.

The earlier outbuilding, of which only the extreme corner was found, is the most interesting feature, shown on the 1834 and 1854 maps before the rebuilding of the Deanery. It lay alongside and parallel to Glanrafon Street and so on the slope in contrast to the Deanery, which was built along the contour, respecting the west side of the cathedral yard. It was similar in size to the later outbuilding, built in 1863, which so probably directly replaced it in function. However, Speed's map of 1610 and Leigh's map of 1768 show buildings along the north side of Glanrafon below the cathedral yard. Speed's is the most detailed showing no building where the present Deanery is but at least two buildings alongside Glanrafon, one possibly with a rear wing (Fig. 22) and it is possible that these, or parts of them, survived as the two outbuildings seen on the 1834 and 1854 maps. The long narrow building must have been completely removed to make way for the 1863 house extension. The larger outbuilding was of a substantial size, c. 11m by 7m (36ft by 21ft) and this is not far short of the size of the earliest part of the Bangor Bishop's Palace, the hall, which was c. 15m by 8m (49ft by 26ft). There is a possibility that this was part of the early Deanery that was replaced by Dean Humphreys about 1680, i.e. after Speed produced his map. If it had a rear wing remains of it probably survive beneath the rear yard of the Deanery. However, the outbuilding is possibly shown on an engraving of 1740, which shows it as a low building, not a hall (Fig. 23). Nevertheless, the early Deanery, described as 'in sufficient repair' in 1623 was 'ruinous' in 1649 (Clarke 1969, 93), after Deans and Chapters were abolished by the Parliamentarians and then, the Restoration, the two succeeding Deans had lived elsewhere (*ibid*, 45-6),

before Dean Humphreys began to rebuild the house. A former hall could therefore have been rebuilt as a lower outbuilding. The former Deanery boundary wall [48] joined the outbuilding at an angle suggesting it was an addition to an original layout. The angle was required to allow space for access to a rear yard area around the slight hill promontory on which the main Deanery garden lay.

Conclusions

No evidence of activity earlier than possibly 18th century was found in Trench 1 and no further work would be productive there.

No artefactual evidence of activity earlier than 18th C was collected in trench 2 but none of the buried old land surface (42) was excavated and this was shown to have been in existence when the earlier Deanery boundary wall was constructed.

The corner of the early outbuilding alongside Glanrafon is potentially a medieval structure. Only a small part of it adjoins the proposed pipe trench, which could be moved slightly to miss it. However, the trench would still cut through any contemporary adjoining external horizons and so there is a possibility of producing dating evidence for the pre-1680 and therefore possibly medieval Deanery. Unfortunately part of the relevant area has been destroyed by a 20th century pipe trench. The greater part of the relevant area lies outside the present Deanery wall, beneath the pavement of Glanrafon Street, formerly part of the Deanery grounds, and this is will also be affected by the new pipe trench.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The excavations have shown that soil horizons, certainly earlier than 1834, and possibly earlier than 1680, survive in Trench 2 and these may contain at least artefactual evidence of pre-18th century activity.

7.2 Documentary evidence shows that there were once buildings, including possibly the pre-1680 Deanery alongside Glanrafon Street. Further excavation of these horizons, including the area of the easement under the pavement alongside Glanrafon, before destruction seems justifiable.

7.3 The final pipe trench should be excavated with care to avoid damage to the corner of the former Deanery building found at the east edge of trench 2.

7.4 The trench across Glanrafon Street will cut new ground and may reveal earlier surfaces of the road and of the natural line of the Afon Adda and this work could be accompanied by a watching brief.

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APPENDIX 1

AFON ADDA REFURBISHMENT (G1876)

PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

16 February, 2007

1. INTRODUCTION

This project design details the archaeological evaluation to be undertaken in advance of new culverting of the Afon Adda within the Deanery car park at Bangor. The design has been requested by the Environment Agency, and has been drawn up by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. The location of the proposed evaluation is indicated on Drawing No WNADDS/080/430 dated Feb 2007, and provided by Halcrow on behalf of the Environment Agency.

2. BACKGROUND

Bangor as a settlement has its origins in the ecclesiastical community founded around the middle of the 6th century AD by Deiniol. Evidence from earlier excavations would suggest the community was established on the south bank of the Afon Adda, under the site of the present cathedral, and within the enclosures indicated on Speed's map of 1610. A new cathedral was built in the 12th century, and this was subsequently rebuilt in the 14th century and again in the 16th century. The proposed culvert lies parallel to the earlier course of the Afon Adda, and some 35m east of the existing culvert. This would place it close to the boundary of the cathedral enclosure, and therefore provide some potential for the location of the earlier monastic *vallum*. It is not possible to locate the area on Speed's map with any degree of precision, but the proposed trenches would appear to lie on or just north of the boundary of the cathedral precinct, and between it and the river. No buildings are indicated here. On John Wood's map of 1834 the area lies within the Deanery garden. The Deanery was rebuilt in the 17th century, and again in the 19th century, when the earlier work was partially retained. The location of the Deanery adjacent to the cathedral would suggest that the 17th century rebuilding took place on the site of an earlier structure. It is possible that there are buried soil horizons and possibly waterlogged deposits with material that may date from the Early Medieval period.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 Trial trenching

The excavations will conform to the guidelines specified in IFA Standards and Guidance: Field Evaluation (1994, rev. 1999), where field evaluation is defined as "a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artifacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate".

If archaeological remains or deposits are found, then a decision based on the nature and status of the findings will determine the next phase of the project.

This phase of the work will involve the excavation of two or more trenches each 1.8m wide, and a total length of approximately 60m. The exact layout will be partially dependant upon the presence of trees and underground services. The proposed location is shown on the attached drawing.

The work will be undertaken according to the following specification.

For the machine excavated trenches an appropriate machine will be used. This will normally be a JCB 3CX type excavator or a 360° tracked excavator with a 1.5m or 1.8m wide toothless bucket. All machining will be undertaken under direct archaeological supervision.

All undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon, in successive, level spits. Following machine clearance, all faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned using hand tools. All investigation of archaeological levels will be by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section. Spoil heaps will be monitored to recover artifacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artifacts. Modern artifacts will be noted but not retained.

Within significant archaeological levels a minimum number of features required to meet the aims will be hand excavated. Occasional pits and postholes will be subject to a 50% sample by volume. Complex clusters of pits will be sampled more selectively. Linear features will be sectioned as appropriate. Features not suited to excavation within narrow trenches will not be sampled. No archaeological deposits will be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. It is not necessarily the intention that all trial trenches will be fully excavated to natural stratigraphy, but the depth of archaeological deposits across the site will be assessed. The stratigraphy of all evaluation trenches will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

4.3 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving

The level of post-excavation analysis and reporting for the purposes of the evaluation will be sufficient to establish the character, scale, date-range, artefactual and palaeo-environmental potential and overall significance of the remains.

The level of artifact analysis will be sufficient to establish date ranges of archaeological deposits, a general assessment of the types of pottery and other artifacts to assist in characterizing the archaeology, and to establish the potential for all categories of artifacts should further archaeological work be necessary.

Palaeo-environmental samples, if appropriate, will be processed and scanned to establish the site's potential for yielding valuable information of this type. The scanning will be performed by specialists with appropriate experience of assessing the significance and potential of such material on the basis of limited analysis. Samples will be retained for possible future detailed analysis.

The significance of any archaeology will be judged by general reference to the non-statutory criteria for scheduled monuments. The report on the evaluation will provide an assessment of the impact of the scheme and an outline of mitigation measures proposed. The findings will be discussed with the Development Control archaeologist.

Following the completion of the field work, the data will be processed, final illustrations will be compiled and a report will be produced which will detail and synthesize the results. Survey drawings and a sample of relevant photographs will be used to illustrate the reports.

The report will include:

a) details of the agreed project design b) a scale plan showing the route and location of the sites c) the results of any geophysical surveys d) plans and sections of all trial excavations e) survey results, including plans and elevations of relevant structures f) detailed survey results of relevant structures, g) other illustrations as appropriate i) a bibliography of all sources consulted

4.8 Archive

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labeled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Sites and Monuments Record) within six months of the completion of the project. All digital data will be written to CD-ROM and stored with the paper archive.

5. STAFF

The project will be supervised by Andrew Davidson, Principal Archaeologist at the Trust, who has worked in various aspects of British archaeology for 18 years, and who has been responsible for managing all contract work at the Trust for the past five years, including archaeological programmes for major road contracts, pipeline construction and new development sites. The work will be undertaken by George Smith and an experienced archaeological assistant. (Full cv's are available upon request).

6. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The principal contractors (Halcrow) will be responsible for on-site Health and Safety. All GAT staff will be inducted onto site, and any risks and hazards will be indicated prior to the start of work. All staff will be issued with required personal safety equipment, including high visibility jacket, steel toe-capped boots and hard hat.

7. INSURANCE

The Trust holds public liability insurance with an indemnity limit of £2,500,000 through Russell, Scanlon Limited Insurance Brokers, Wellington Circus, Nottingham NG1 5AJ (policy 01 1017386 COM), and Professional Indemnity Insurance for £2,000,000 per claim (policy No. 59A/SA11818791).

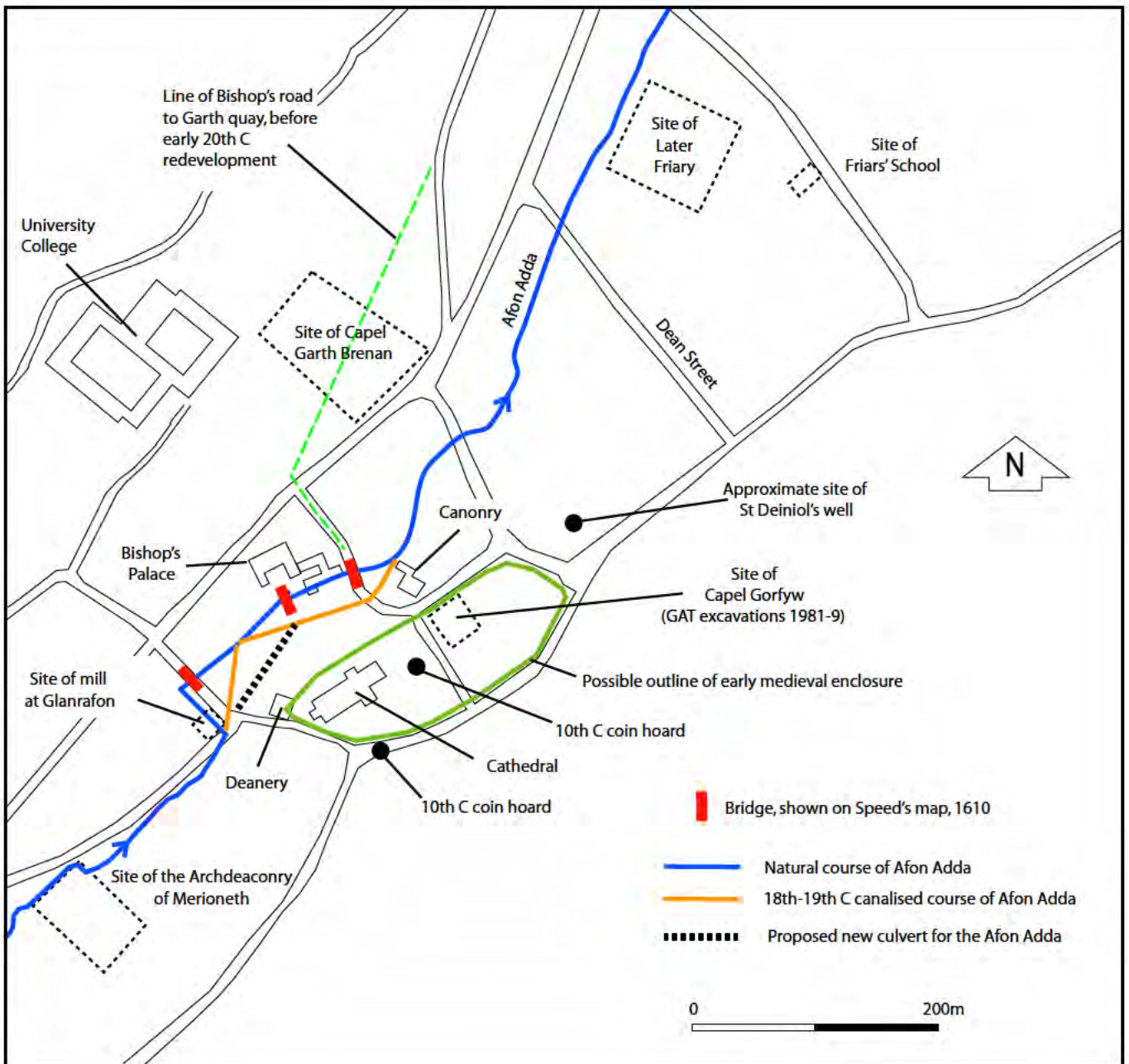


Fig. 1 Deanery Car Park Evaluation.
 Location of the proposed new culvert for the Afon Adda in relation to historical features and finds in Bangor

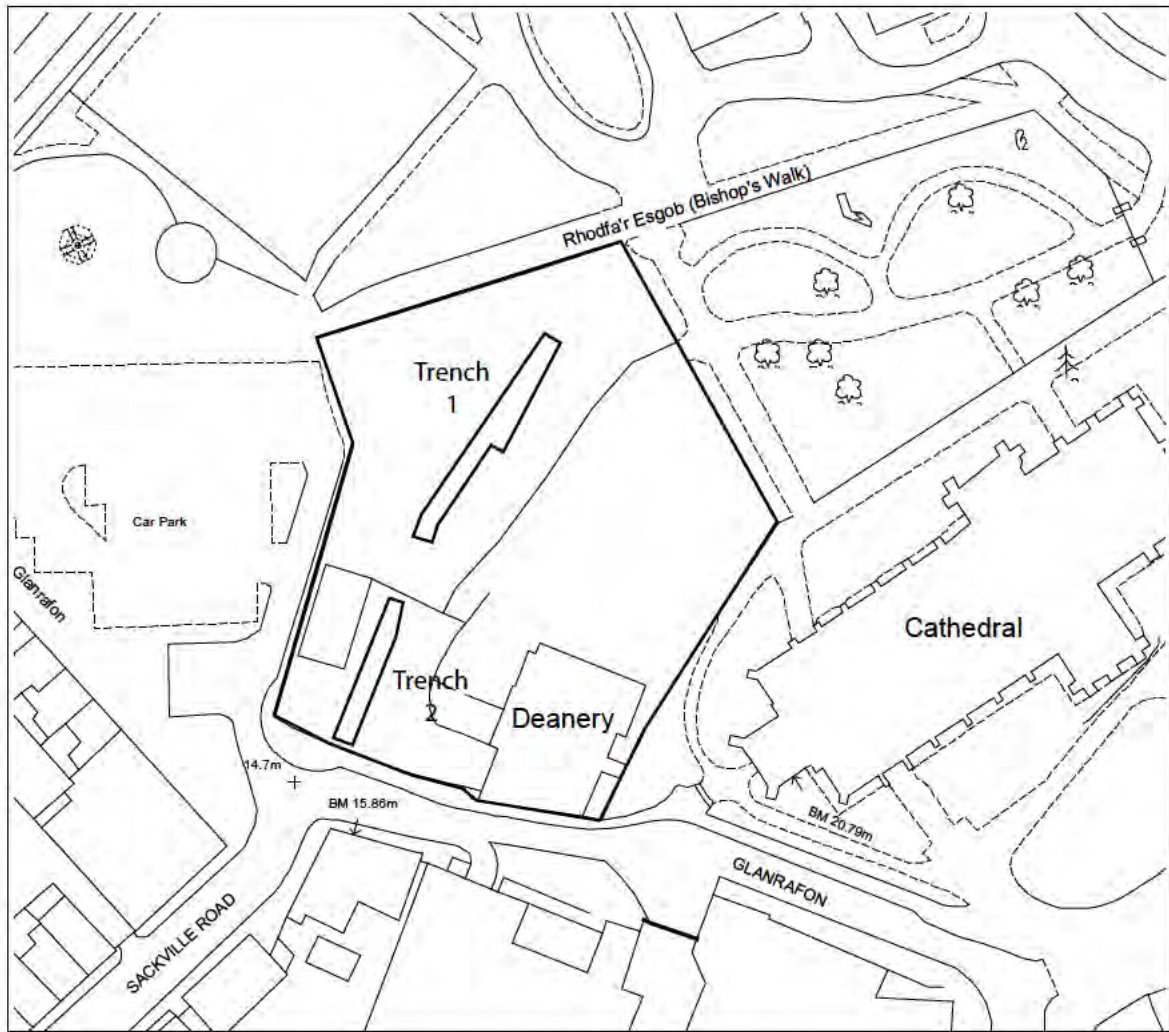


Fig. 2 Location of the evaluation trenches. Scale 1:500

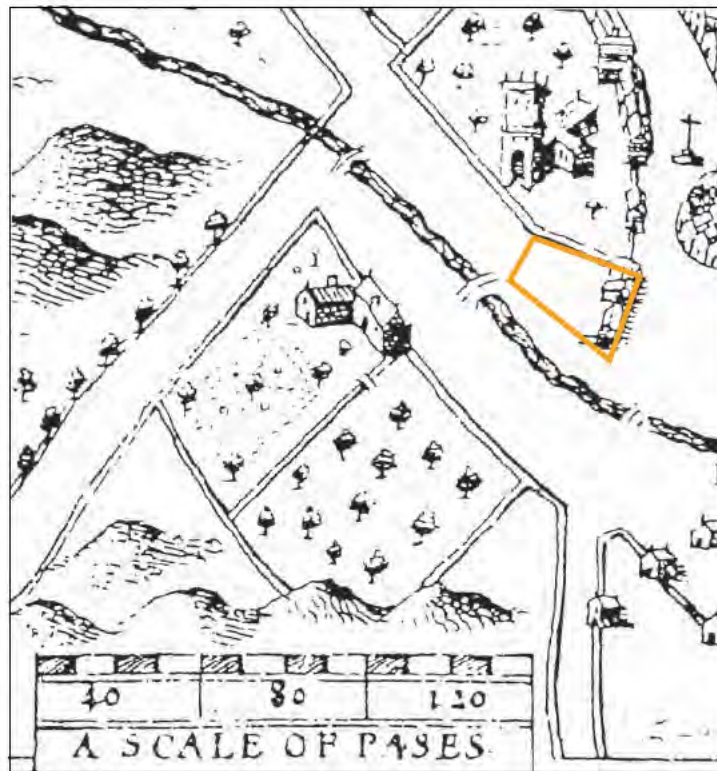


Fig. 3 Map of Bangor by John Speed 1610.
Approximate area of 2007 evaluation shown in orange outline



Fig. 4 Part of a Map of Bangor by Leigh for the Penrhyn Estate, 1768.
Approximate area of 2007 evaluation shown in orange outline

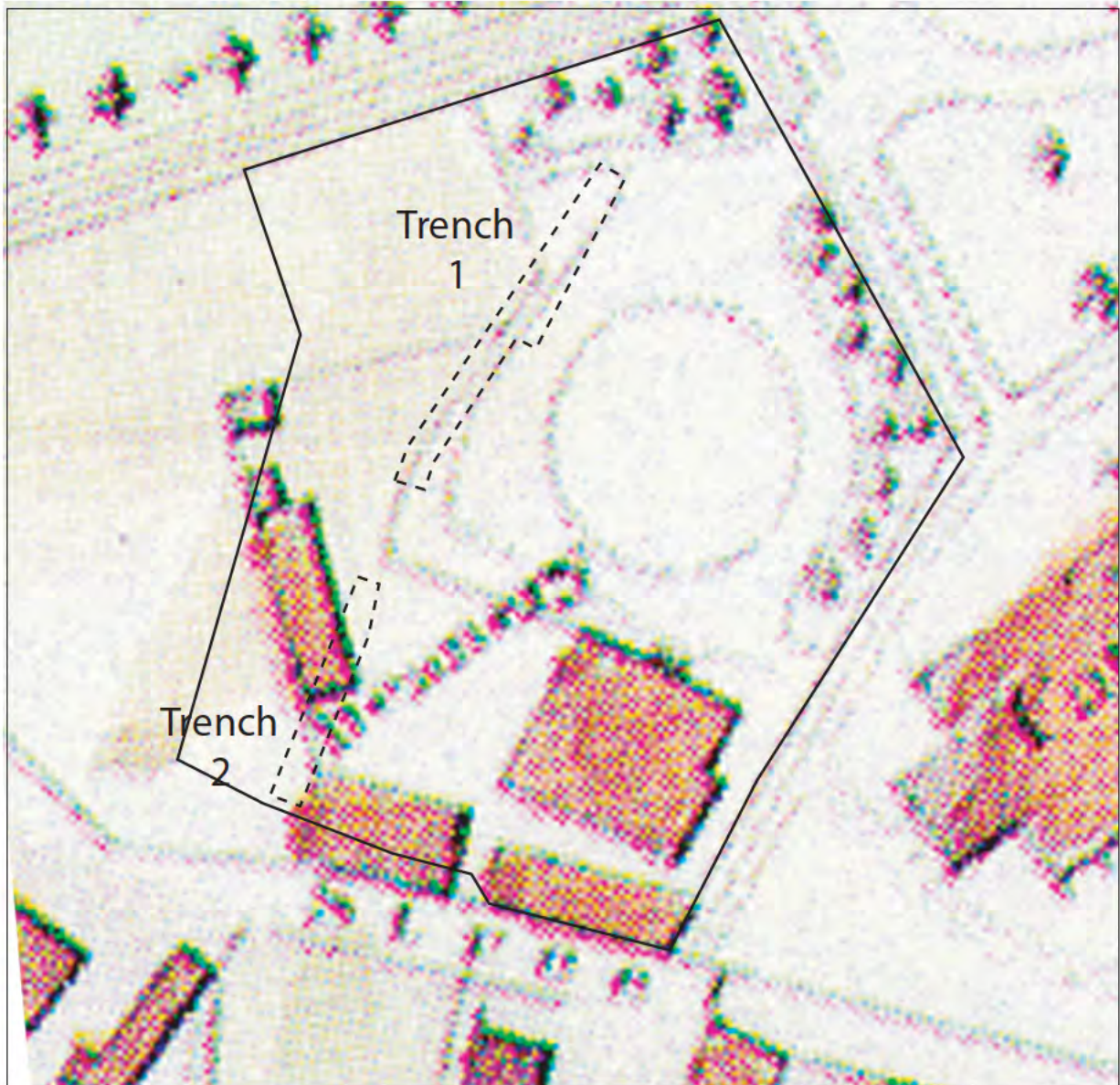


Fig. 5 Part of a map of Bangor by John Wood, 1834.

Present Deanery boundary shown in black line.

2007 evaluation trenches shown in black broken line.

(Note: the 1834 map is less accurate than the 2007 mapping evidence and its position is based on a best fit. The buildings along Glanrafon Street overlap the present boundary because the street has been widened)



Fig. 6 Part of a map of Bangor produced for the Tithe Apportionment Survey, 1841, (with added annotation)

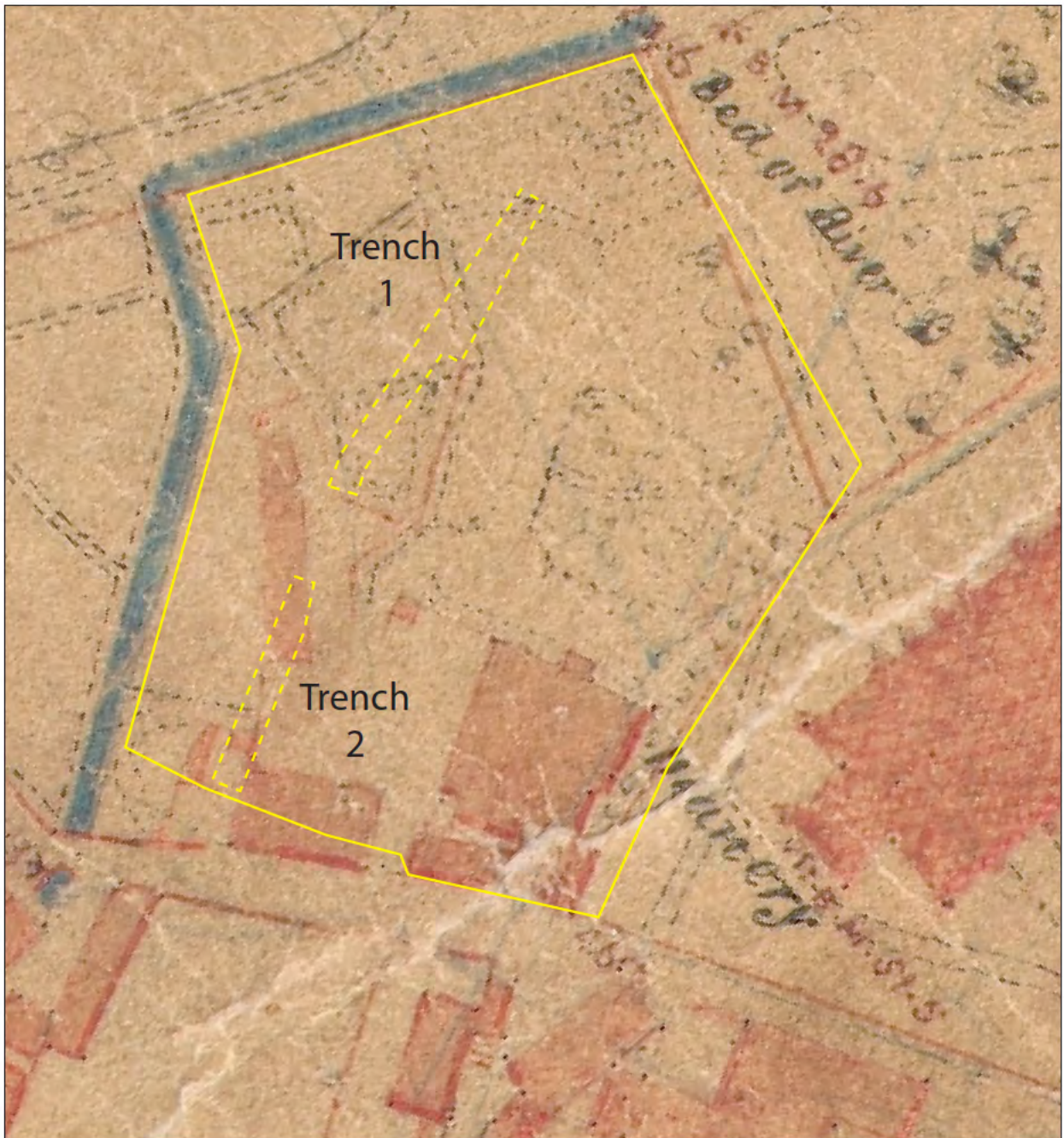


Fig. 7 Part of a map of Bangor of 1854.
Present Deanery boundary shown in yellow line.
2007 evaluation trenches shown in yellow broken line.
(Note: the 1854 map is less accurate than the 2007 mapping evidence and its position is based on a best fit)

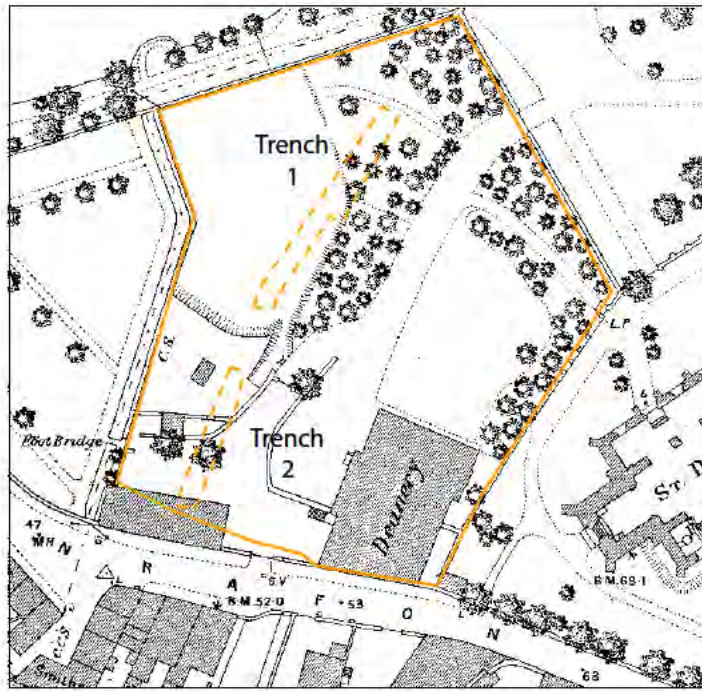


Fig. 8 Part of the Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of Bangor, 1889.
 Present Deanery boundary shown in orange line.
 2007 evaluation trenches shown in orange broken line.

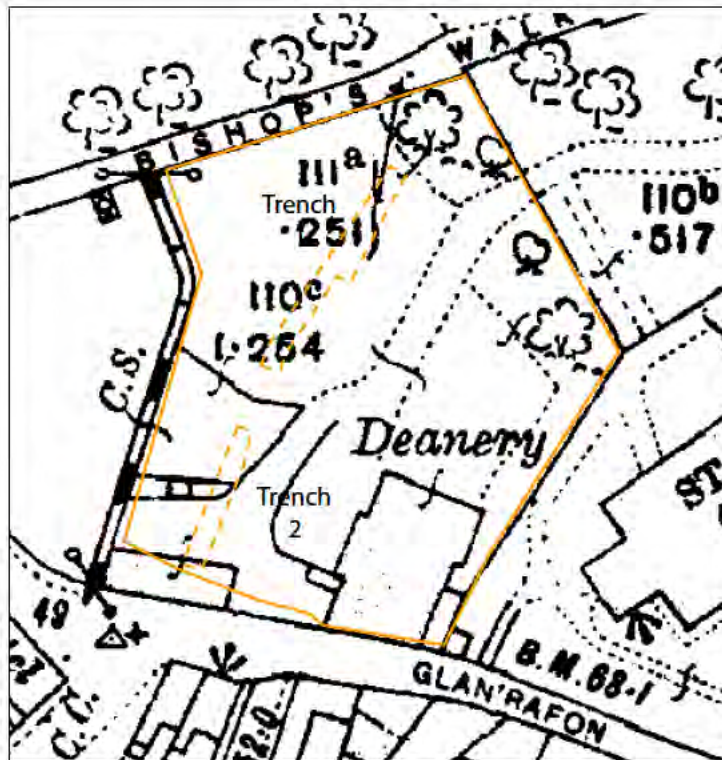


Fig. 9 Part of the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map of Bangor, 1914.
 Present Deanery boundary shown in orange line.
 2007 evaluation trenches shown in orange broken line.

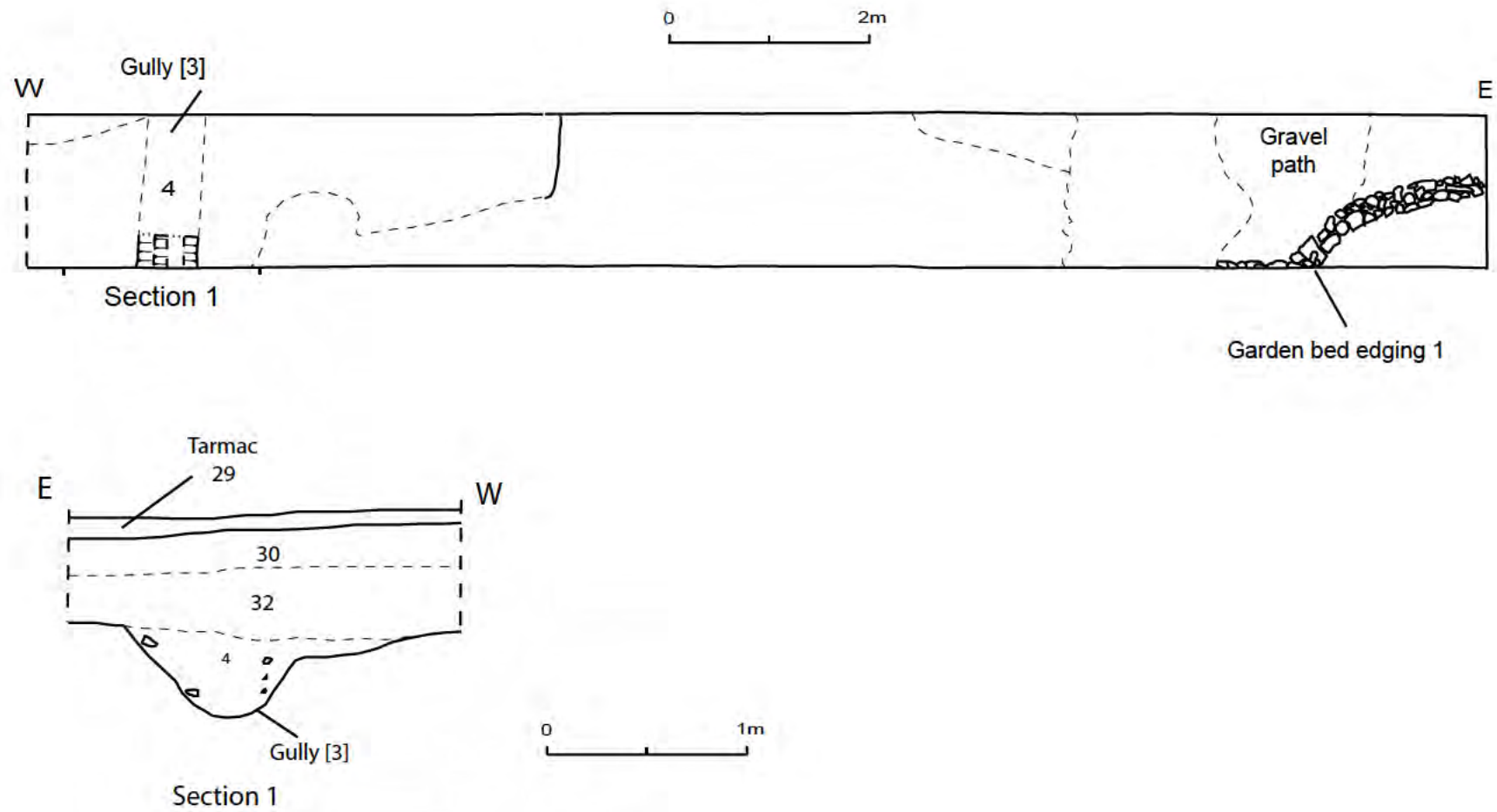


Fig. 10 Trench 1 north end. Plan at upper level, scale 1:80.
Section of gully 3, scale 1:40

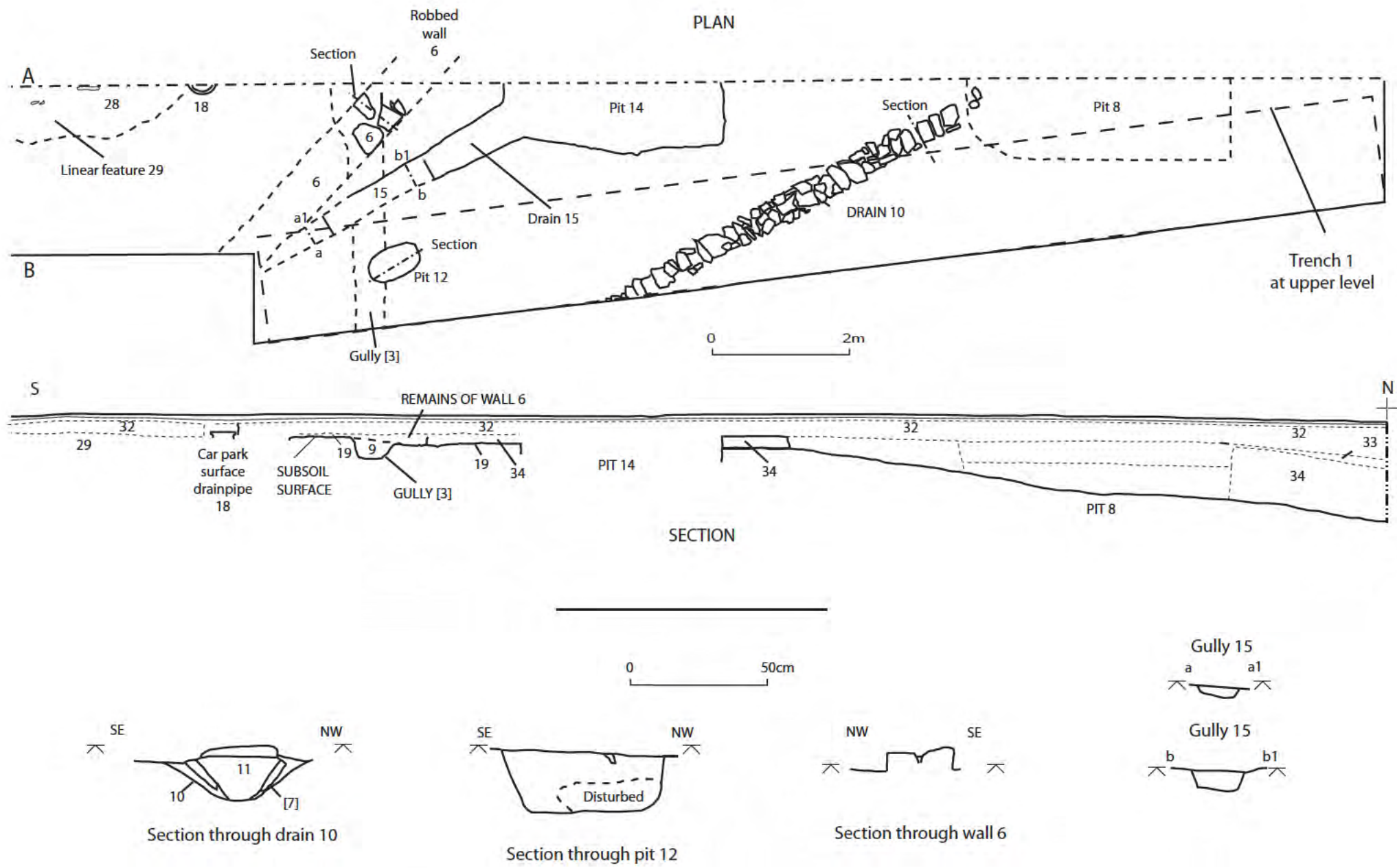


Fig. 11: Trench 1, Plan and section , at lower level, at top of subsoil. Scale 1:80. Sections of features, scale 1:20

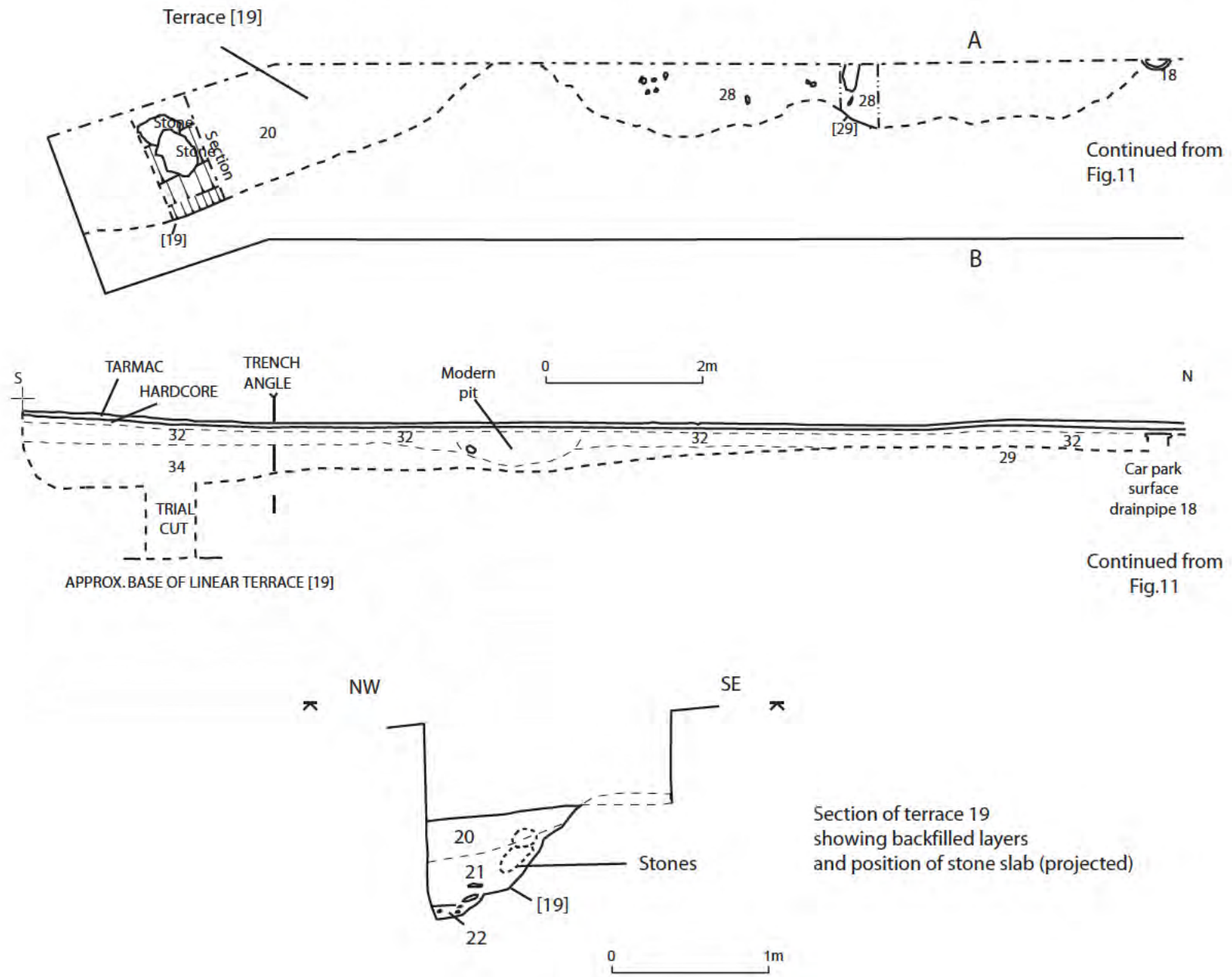


Fig. 12 Trench 1, West end, Plan and section, scale 1:80. Section across terrace 19, scale 1:20



Fig. 13 Trench 2. General view, excavated to the subsoil surface. From the south. Cut through terrace 19 in foreground. Scale with 50cm divisions.



Fig. 14 Trench 1. Top of gravel surface 56 in foreground. Walls [50] and [51], behind. Wall [48] on right. From the south. Scale with 50cm divisions.

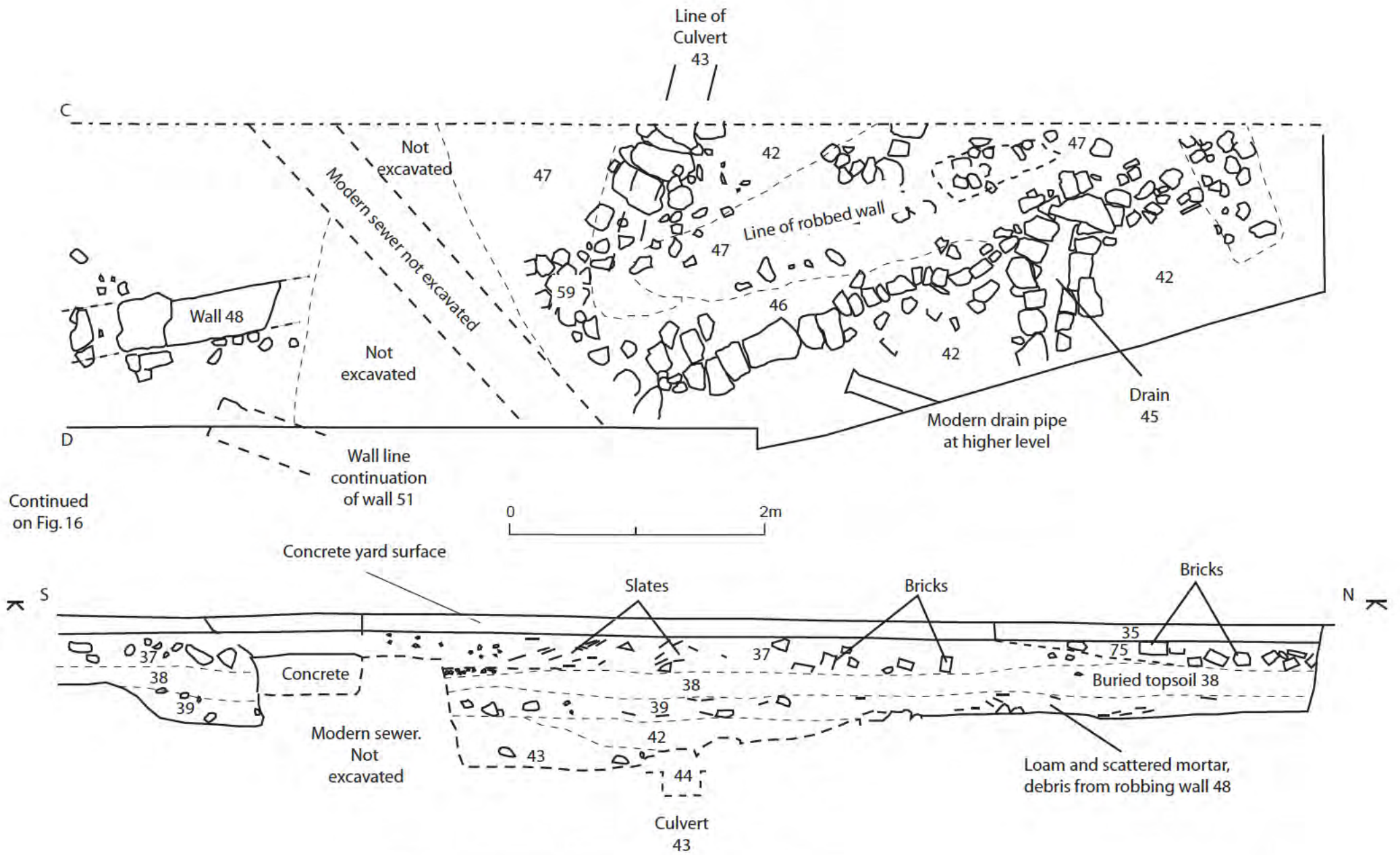


Fig. 15 Trench 2, north end. Plan and section. Scale 1:40

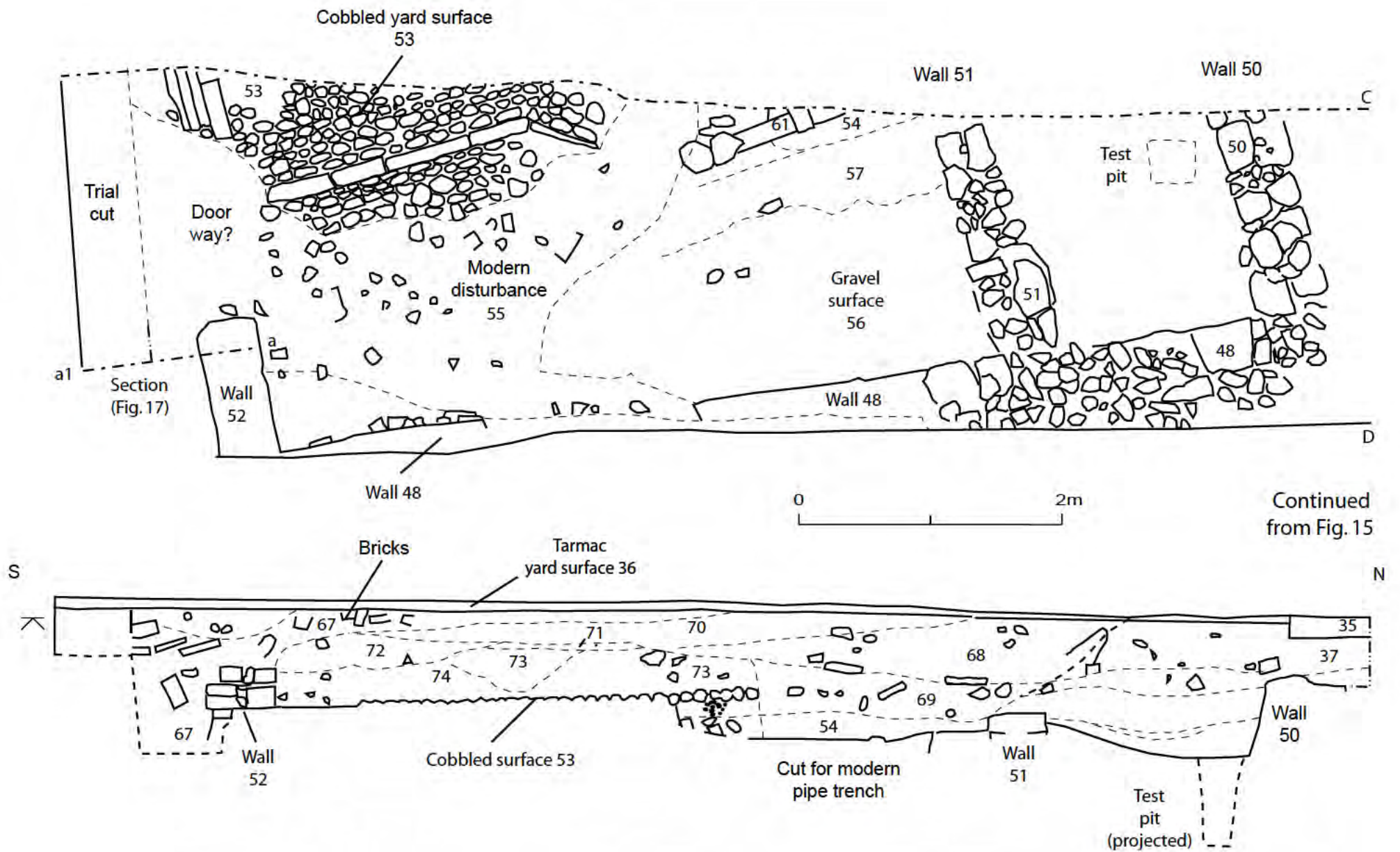
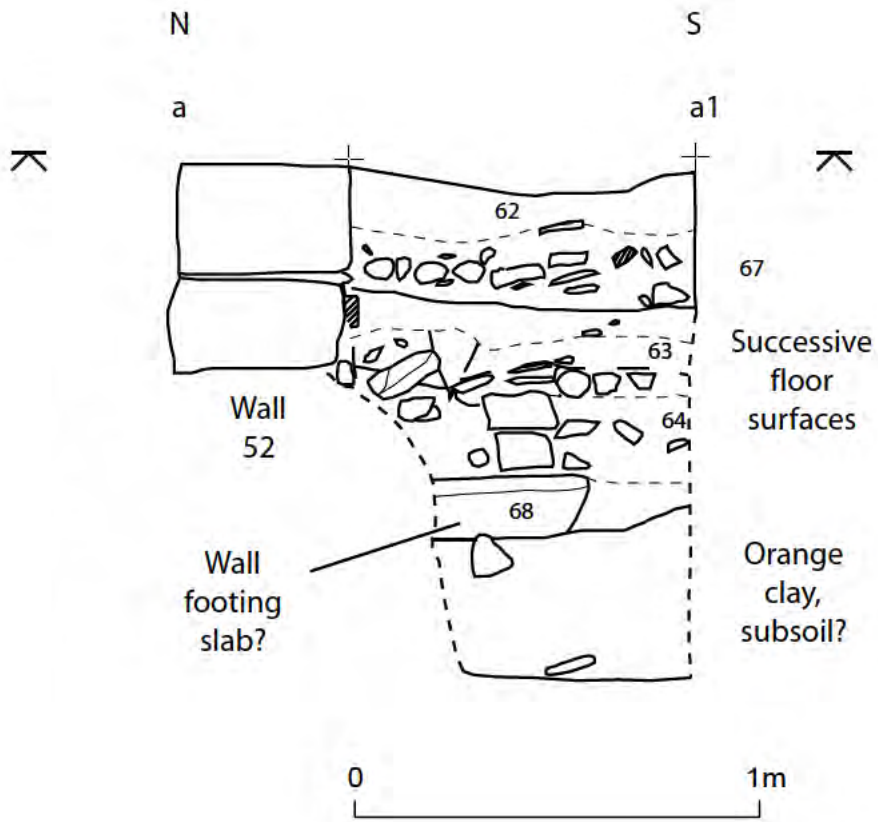


Fig. 16 Trench 2, south end. Plan and section. Scale 1:40



G1876 Fig. 17 Section through coach-house wall and floors at edge of modern pipe trench at south end of Trench 2. Scale 1:20



Fig. 18. Trench 2 Line of robbed-out wall 48 over culvert 43.
From the east. Scale with 50cm divisions



Fig. 19. Trench 2 Culvert 43 exposed beneath line of robbed-out wall 48.
From the east. Scales with 50cm divisions



Fig. 20. Trench 2 Cobbled yard surface 53. Coach-house wall 52 in foreground.
From the south. Scales with 50cm divisions



Fig. 21. Trench 2 . Section through modern pipe trench at south end of trench
showing depth of deposits inside coach-house (See section, Fig. 17).
From the west. Scale with 50cm divisions

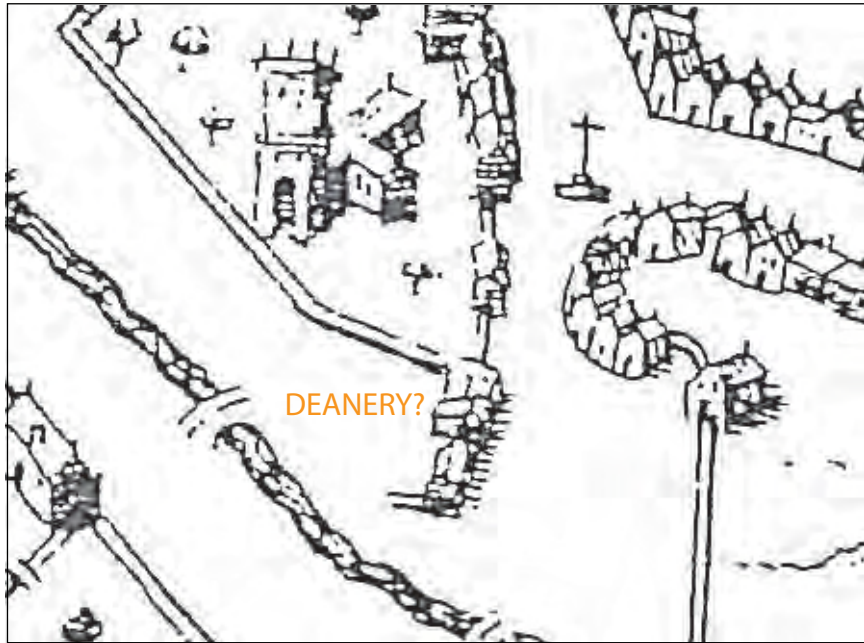


Fig. 22. Detail from Speed's map of Bangor, 1610, showing the buildings south-west of the cathedral, in the area of the later Deanery and showing the possible early Deanery.



Fig. 23 Part of a view of Bangor, from the south-east, by J. Lewis, 1740, showing the Deanery buildings (to the left of the cathedral) and the Bishop's Palace behind.



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