

Bargates, Whitchurch, Shropshire
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Report prepared for North Cheshire Housing Association

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Contracting Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (hereafter CPAT) was invited by North Cheshire Housing Association to submit a quotation and specification (see Appendix 3) for an archaeological evaluation at Bargates, Whitchurch, Shropshire, which was accepted on 11th March 1996.
- 1.2 The proposed residential development (Planning Application No: NS95/0861) involved an area of open ground on the west side of the B5398 Bargates road (SJ544409) on the northern edge of the town (fig. 1). The area is regarded as being of archaeological significance, lying between an area of Roman occupation to the south-west and a possible Roman cemetery to the north-east. Accordingly, an archaeological evaluation was deemed necessary and a Brief was prepared by the Head of Archaeology, Shropshire County Council, in February 1996, which detailed the works required.
- 1.3 The Brief specified two elements to the evaluation: a Documentary Research, consisting of all relevant documentary sources, including cartographic and aerial photographic sources; sample Excavation, consisting of a number of trenches, the location and extent of which were to be agreed in advance.
- 1.4 The Specification for the evaluation was approved by the Head of Archaeology, and the excavation was conducted between 29th April and 10th May 1996, after the completion of the Documentary Research. This report was prepared immediately thereafter.

2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

- 2.1 The site (fig. 2) is currently an area of waste ground bounded to the north-east by Bargates, with residential development to the south-east and south-west, the latter served by an access road cutting across the site. Much of the area slopes gently to the west, with a steep slope rising to the north-western corner.
- 2.2 The geology of the area consists largely of glacial drift over Carboniferous limestone. The soils are free draining fine loams overlying fluvioglacial and river terrace deposits (Rudeforth *et al.* 1984, 247).

3 DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

- 3.1 The aim of the Documentary Research, as defined in the Brief para 3.2, was to provide a basis for
 - (a) compiling an outline history and land use of the development area
 - (b) to locate any previously unrecorded archaeological features
 - (c) to elucidate all archaeological and historic landscape features and buildings.
- 3.2 The study involved the examination of the Shropshire County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), held by Shropshire County Council, Shrewsbury; primary and secondary sources held by the Shropshire Records and Research Centre, Shrewsbury; and aerial photographs held by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Welshpool.
- 3.3 No archaeological sites are recorded in the County SMR within the boundaries of the development site. However, it is evident that Whitchurch was a place of some importance in the Roman and Medieval periods and much material dating to these periods has been

recovered from the town, as well as some evidence for prehistoric occupation. The following sections outline the history of the area by period.

Prehistoric

- 3.4 Prehistoric evidence from Whitchurch is limited to stray finds from Roman and later contexts recovered during excavations (Buteux 1995, 5). It seems likely that the high levels of later occupation would have mitigated against the preservation and recognition of direct evidence of occupation prior to the Roman period. No finds of this period have been recovered from the development site.

Roman (fig. 3)

- 3.5 The Roman occupation of Whitchurch (*Mediolanum*) is thought to have commenced with the establishment of a military site on the road between Chester and Wroxeter prior to AD 70, consisting of two phases, and which seems to have been abandoned by c. AD 100. From the late 1st century a civilian settlement was established, occupying the area of the fort and spreading along the road to the south (Buteux 1996, 6-7). The town defences consisted of a 9m wide clay rampart with an outer ditch, constructed c. AD 170 (SA 5868).
- 3.6 The development site lies to the west of the Roman road (SA 66) from Chester which followed the approximate line of High St and Bargates. At the northern end of Bargates the discovery of undated inhumation burials (SA 5918) during the 1970s, has suggested the presence of a Roman cemetery (Buteux 1996, 8). However, an evaluation in this area produced no evidence of Roman activity (SA 5812, Gifford and Partners 1992).
- 3.7 Further evidence for Roman occupation in the area was recovered during the construction of the housing estate called "Roman Way" in 1980; despite very limited archaeological input this revealed traces of a large building and an industrial site (SA 2718) and third century finds were later reported by the new residents. In the same area a small excavation revealed further buildings and a cremation site (SA 5831). Excavations at the Queen's Head, Yardington (SA 5826) uncovered kilns and evidence of lead working (Griffiths 1979).
- 3.8 The evidence to date would suggest that the development site lies on the periphery of the Roman occupation in Whitchurch.

Dark Age

- 3.9 The dedication of the church to the Saxon saint St Alkmund, to which Duggan (1935, 54) ascribes a date of A.D.912, suggests that there may have been occupation of the town following the Roman period. However, definite evidence relating to the occupation of the town between the Roman and Medieval periods does not appear to have been recognised.

Medieval (fig. 4)

- 3.10 The early Medieval occupation of Whitchurch appears to have been associated with the construction of the castle (now lost) and a church in the 11th century (Buteux 1996, 9 and 11). It is thought that the town defences and burgage plots fronting onto High St were laid out in the middle of the 12th century, and that the town expanded with the construction of the planned suburb of Newtown in the 14th century (Buteux 1996, 12).
- 3.11 No evidence of medieval occupation has been recognised on the development site area, which may therefore have been on the periphery or just beyond the limits of the medieval town. However, archaeological excavations behind 46 Bargates (SA 5834), to the south-east, revealed a small number of truncated medieval features (Newton 1989), suggesting the possibility that occupation of this may extend towards the development site.

Post Medieval

- 3.12 Whitchurch appears to have continued its expansion in the post medieval period; Buteux (1996, 9) notes that there was an increased pressure on land in the town in the later 16th century resulting in boundary disputes. High levels of post medieval occupation in Whitchurch are demonstrated by the survival of fifty buildings, including the present church of St Alkmund's, dating from the 16th to the 18th centuries (Buteux 1996, 14). In addition, much evidence of occupation dating to this period has been recovered during archaeological excavations in the town.
- 3.13 The earliest cartographic source which provides evidence relating to the development site is a map of c. 1750 (SRRC 2292/2), this shows a stream called the River Elf running parallel and to the north of Sherramill Lane (Sherrymill Hill). No structures are depicted in the development site area, but it is possible that the map was not intended to cover it.
- 3.14 The next cartographic sources for the site are two maps depicting the town in 1761 (SRRC Bridgewater 212/472, and SRRC 399/1 which is a copy of a different map of that date). There is a notable difference between the two maps as a building fronting Bargates and immediately to the east of the development site on SRRC 399/1 (fig. 5) is not depicted on SRRC Bridgewater 212/472, although in both cases there are no structures depicted in the development site area itself. One feature which is depicted in the area on SRRC 399/1 is the course of a stream (probably the River Elf, noted above), which crosses the area from north-north-east to south-south-west. The line of the stream crosses the location of two structures outside the development site area and may be the "...brook which runs under what is called the Lock-up house" in 1760, quoted from a source of 1813 by Buteux (1995, 10). It would appear that in 1760-61 the stream was running underground and had been culverted; this culvert is still in use and can be seen in a field to the north of London Road, north-east of the development site.
- 3.15 The remaining 18th century source for the development site area is a map of Whitchurch township dated c. 1795 (SRRC 399/2 - fig 6). The building, noted in the previous paragraph, which fronted onto Bargates immediately to the east of the development site is depicted as having extended into the development site area on this map, although it was produced at an approximate scale of 1:6700 and is consequently not particularly detailed. A building which fronted onto Bargates near its junction with Chester St appears to have been replaced by a row of houses which abutted, but did not encroach upon, the northern corner of the development site area.
- 3.16 The Tithe map of 1839 (Apportionment dated 1841) is not particularly informative regarding the development site which is recorded as a field and plantation. No buildings are depicted in the site area.
- 3.17 A plan of Whitchurch drawn in 1859 (SRRC Bridgewater 380/34 Bundle 489) depicts a building in the easternmost part of the development site area fronting onto Bargates. This building may be the same as that depicted on the map of c. 1795 (fig. 4), referred to above, but the Tithe map suggests that it was a different structure.
- 3.18 The first edition (surveyed 1879), second edition (revised 1899), and third edition (revised 1924) Ordnance Survey maps at scales of 1:500 and 1:2500 (figs 7-9), demonstrate that there were no structures occupying the development site in the later 19th and early 20th century. From a visual examination of the area undertaken as part of this study, it appears that this was the case throughout the remainder of the 20th century. The visual examination also revealed information on the nature of the stream culvert under the site, which would appear to take the form of an arched brick tunnel, it further suggests that the material covering the culvert may be in the order of 3m thick at the northern end of the development site, diminishing by 1.5m at the southern end of the site.

- 3.19 The study appears to show that the development site area has been little used in relation to the town in general. Until the River Elf was culverted, probably in the earlier part of the 18th century, the site would probably have sloped fairly steeply from the west and east down to the stream. The River Elf was most probably forded to the north of the site by the pre-18th century Bargates and the Roman road to Chester (SA 66), it therefore seems possible that the thickness of the covering material may have preserved evidence relating to these former roads, although this is likely to lie outside the development area.
- 3.20 Following the culverting of the stream, the land would have become available for development, but it appears that this was never carried out to any significant degree on the south-west side of Bargates. The only buildings which occupied the development site appear to have been those depicted on maps dated c. 1795 and 1859, situated at the extreme eastern end on the development site area.

4 EXCAVATION

- 4.1 Following agreement with the Head of Archaeology, it was initially decided that three trenches (A-C) were to be excavated in the area to the north-west of the access road. A proposed fourth trench in the north-west corner of the site was deemed inappropriate due to the topography. However, at a late stage it was discovered that the area south-east of this road was also to be included, with the result that a further two trenches (D-E) were added to the scheme of works.

- 4.2 Each trench was initially excavated by machine, removing modern and post medieval overburden. Subsequent excavation and cleaning was undertaken by hand. A full written, drawn and photographic record was maintained throughout (see Appendix 1). Numbers in brackets refer to context numbers identified in the relevant illustrations.

Trench A (21 x 1.5m and 4 x 1.5m, fig. 11)

- 4.3 Trench A was located along the Bargates street frontage with the aim of identifying any evidence for structures or other occupation along the frontage, as well as the location of the culverted stream. A machine was used excavate the trench to a depth of up to 1.50m, consisting of the removal of a series of layers containing post medieval and modern finds. The trench was then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section.
- 4.4 At the base of the trench a layer of sandy silt (05) extended throughout the trench, apparently consisting of fluvial deposits. Within this a thin gravel lens produced two sherds of medieval pottery, and two sherds of 16th- or 17th-century pottery. Augering in the base of the trench revealed a succession of sandy deposits interspersed with thin lenses of clay extending to at least 4.75m below ground level (see Appendix 1). Several of these deposits contained fragments of charcoal and some contained twigs and plan material.
- 4.5 Two features, the culverted stream (35) and a pipe trench (12), were identified cutting into the base of the trench. The culvert was visible as a linear feature 3.80m wide cutting across the trench at a slight angle, and filled with grey silty clay (11). A slate covered inspection chamber for the culvert (10) extended into the baulk. The culvert had evidently been cut from the top of layer (05), indicating the ground level at that period, and then sealed beneath a layer of topsoil (04). This layer was subsequently buried by a series of layers containing post medieval artefacts (01, 02, 03), indicating deliberate levelling of the area.

Trench B (25.3 X 1.5m, fig. 12)

- 4.6 Trench B was positioned with the intention of investigating the course of the culverted stream and any likely environmental deposits, as well as the original ground profile. A

machine was used excavate the trench to a depth of up to 1.4m, consisting of the removal of a series of layers containing post medieval and modern finds. The trench was then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section.

- 4.7 As with Trench A, the removal of a series of modern and post medieval layers revealed a sandy layer (25), apparently the result of fluvial deposition. The culvert (34), at this point 3.60m wide, was visible cutting through this layer at the south-east end of the trench. It was sealed beneath a layer of sandy loam (24), up to 0.40m thick, similar to 04 in Trench A. Above this layer were three layers (18, 20, 21) suggesting a similar sequence of levelling as identified previously.
- 4.8 At the north-western end of the trench a ceramic field drain (29) had been cut through layer 24 and sealed by layer 21. The only other feature visible in the section was a pit (32) 1.2m across and 0.85m deep, cut through layers 20, 21 and 24, and sealed by the modern topsoil (18).
- 4.9 On the south-east edge of the trench a rough brick path or floor (31) was identified immediately beneath the modern topsoil.

Trench C (10 X 1.5, fig. 13)

- 4.10 Trench C was located to further investigate the culverted stream and its environs. The trench was mechanically excavated to a depth of up to 1.25m, consisting of the removal of a series of layers containing post medieval and modern finds. The trench was then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section.
- 4.11 A similar sequence of stratigraphy was identified to that in Trenches A and B, consisting of a series of modern and post medieval deposits (36, 37) sealing a buried soil (39). Again, the culvert (47), at this point 2.30m wide, was identified cutting into a sandy fluvial deposits (41, 45, 46), and filled by grey sandy clay (43). This was sealed beneath a layer of brown loose sand (40) and a layer of sandy silt (42).

Trench D (5.5 x 1.5m, fig. 14)

- 4.12 A machine was used excavate the trench to a depth of up to 1.40m. The trench was then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section.
- 4.13 At the north-west end of the trench the lower stratigraphy dipped, possibly indicating the presence of a feature. A thin layer of light brown compact clay (52) up to 0.25m thick, which lay above the natural sand, was sealed at the north-west end by a layer of dark grey-brown loam (53), and a thin layer of sandy loam (51). The former contained two sherds of medieval pottery.
- 4.14 These layers were sealed by a thick layer of pale brown sandy loam (50) beneath a layer of brown-grey loose sandy loam (49), both containing post medieval finds. This may indicate deliberate levelling of the area.
- 4.15 In the south-east corner of the trench a pit (63) had been cut through layer 52 and into the natural sand. The pit, which was at least 1.00m across and up to 0.80m deep, had a basal fill of grey silty sand (61), beneath a layer of compact sandy loam (59), which contained pottery of likely 17th or 18th century date and a small quantity of burnt daub.

Trench E (4.5 x 1.5m, fig. 15)

- 4.16 A machine was used excavate the trench to a depth of up to 1.25m, consisting of the removal of a series of layers containing post medieval and modern finds. The trench was then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan and section.

- 4.17 The section revealed only four layers, consisting sequentially of the following: a layer of brown firm clay (67) up to 0.52m thick at the base; a layer of grey-brown silty clay up to 0.40m thick (66); a layer of orange-brown sandy silt up to 0.21m thick (65); modern topsoil (64), up to 0.40m thick.
- 4.18 No features were identified in the base of the trench or in any of the sections, although two sherds of medieval pottery and one of possible Roman date were recovered from layer 66.

The Finds

- 4.19 The excavations recovered a small assemblage of finds ranging in date from possibly Roman up to the early 19th century. A full list is presented in Appendix 2.
- 4.20 A small footing from a vessel in a red sandy fabric was recovered from Trench E layer 66. The form and fabric suggest that this may well be Roman.
- 4.21 A total of seven sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from trenches A, D and E. Of these, five were from glazed jugs and two from cooking pots.
- 4.22 Post medieval finds included 22 sherds of pottery ranging in date from the 16th to the early 19th centuries.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The Documentary Research revealed little direct evidence for occupation within the development area, with the exception of a building shown on a map of c. 1795 (fig. 6). However, evidence from the surrounding area suggested that the site might contain evidence for Roman and possibly Medieval occupation. The Roman occupation was considered to be of particular significance due to the close proximity of the likely cemetery at the northern end of Bargates and the position of the site along the western side of the road leading into Whitchurch from Chester.
- 5.2 The evidence provided from the five excavation trenches has enabled some interpretation of the history of the site. Trenches A-C revealed a fairly consistent stratigraphy indicating that the area had been subject to a natural deposition of sandy fluvial deposits, presumably associated with the River Elf, possibly occurring over a considerable time period. These deposits were identified in the base of all three trenches, and included some fragments of medieval and post medieval pottery, indicating that this process of deposition continued until the 18th century. Augering in the base of the Trench A indicated that these deposits extended for at least 4.75m below the present ground surface.
- 5.3 Sometime during the mid 18th century this process was brought to an end by the culverting of the stream, which involved cutting a wide trench through the fluvial deposits to construct a brick-lined culvert. This was then backfilled and the area apparently left open for some time, during which a layer of topsoil developed (04, 24, 40). At a later date the area appears to have been deliberately levelled by the deposition of up to 0.75m of material presumably imported onto the site from an unknown source. The only structural evidence of occupation identified within Trenches A-C consisted of a brick path, or possibly a floor (31) identified at the south-east end of Trench B.
- 5.4 The two trenches (D and E) excavated in the south-eastern corner of the site to some extent reflected a similar situation whereby the ground level had apparently been levelled, possibly during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

- 5.5 The only evidence for any occupation within any of the trenches came from Trench D, which contained some medieval pottery from a layer towards the base of the trench and a pit or ditch of post medieval date.
- 5.6 In general, therefore, the evidence from the excavations would suggest that the majority of the site may have been open ground on either side of the River Elf until the mid 18th century. During this time water-born deposits, presumably resulting from flooding, gradually raised the ground level surrounding the river. These deposits contained some evidence of human activity in the form of sherds of pottery, which may have originated further upstream to the north-east. Following the culverting of the river in the mid 18th century, the area was then left open, possibly as cultivated fields, for an unknown period before being levelled by the deposition of material presumably imported from elsewhere. The excavations produced no direct evidence of Roman occupation although one sherd of likely Roman date was recovered from Trench E. There was no structural evidence associated with medieval occupation, although the presence of medieval pottery in the lower layers in Trench D could be an indication of occupation within the vicinity.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1 The writer would like to thank the staff of the following organisations for their help and assistance: Shropshire County Sites and Monuments Record, Shirehall, Shrewsbury; Shropshire Records and Research Centre (SRRC), Shrewsbury; Regional Sites and Monuments Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Welshpool.

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8 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

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- 1761, A Map of the Manor of Whitchurch by G. Grey of Lancaster (SRRC Bridgewater 212/472)
- 1761, Plan of the Town of Whitchurch taken from a map dated 1761 (SRRC 399/1)

c.1795, Whitchurch Township (SRRRC 399/2)

1839, Whitchurch Township Tithe Map

1859, Plan of the Town of Whitchurch and Environs (SRRRC Bridgewater 380/34 Bundle 489)

1879 (survey), Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:500 map: Shropshire 1.16.24

1879 (survey), Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:500 map: Shropshire 7.4.4

1879 (survey), Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 1.16

1879 (survey), Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 7.4

1899 (revision), Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 1.16

1899 (revision), Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 7.4

1924 (revision), Ordnance Survey Third Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 1.16

1924 (revision), Ordnance Survey Third Edition 1:2500 map: Shropshire 7.4

9 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

a) Colour Slide

CPAT 92-C-0756

CPAT 92-C-0757

CPAT 92-C-0758

CPAT 92-C-0759

b) Black and White Print

CPAT 92-MB-0439

CPAT 92-MB-0440

CPAT 92-MB-0487

CPAT 92-MB-0488

CPAT 92-MB-0489

Appendix 1**Auger Data from Trench A**

Depth (m)	
1.50	Base of trench
1.50-2.10	Orange-brown sand, small stones
2.10-2.23	Brown sandy clay
2.23-2.25	Pale orange sand
2.25-2.35	Grey clay
2.35-2.50	Coarse grey sand
2.50-2.73	Grey sand
2.73-2.76	Grey clay
2.76-2.89	Fine grey sand, plant material
2.89-2.92	Grey clay
2.92-3.09	Mixed pale orange and grey sand
3.09-3.76	Brown clayey sand, charcoal flecks
3.76-3.82	Dark grey sandy clay, twig and rush frags
3.82-4.07	Reddish-brown sand, charcoal flecks
4.07-4.27	Reddish sand
4.27-4.46	Reddish-brown stiff clay
4.46-4.49	Orange-red sand
4.49-4.75	Reddish-brown stiff clay

Appendix 2

SITE ARCHIVE

Site Records

67 context record forms
5 A1 drawings
EDM Survey location

1 Black and White film, contacts and archive prints
1 colour slide film
Photographic catalogue

Finds

Trench A

02 1 sherd stoneware
3 sherds Cream Ware
3 sherds Coal Measures Ware
1 sherd Mottled Ware c. 1690-1760

05 1 sherd medieval green glazed jug
1 sherds medieval cooking pot
1 sherd Midland Purple
1 sherd post medieval pottery
1 natural flint
1 frag animal bone
1 frag slag

Trench C

37 1 sherd Midland Purple
1 sherd Mottled Ware 1690-1760
2 sherds Slipware
4 sherds Coal Measures Buff Ware 17th-18th century
1 sherd Coal Measures Red Ware

Trench D

49 1 sherd medieval glazed jug handle stub

53 1 sherd medieval glazed jug
1 sherd medieval cooking pot

59 1 sherd Slipware
1 sherd post medieval pot
13 frags burnt daub
7 frags brick/tile
2 frags animal bone
1 frag slag

Trench E

66 1 sherd ?Roman footing
2 sherds medieval glazed jug
1 droplet slag

Appendix 3

Archaeological Evaluation at Bargates, Whitchurch, Shropshire

SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION BY CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed development of a block of rough ground at SJ544409 involves the construction of social housing.
- 1.2 This area lies on the W side of Bargates and on the N edge of the centre of Whitchurch. The area of the development is regarded as being archaeologically sensitive lying between an area containing Roman buildings associated with industrial activity to the SW and a possible Roman cemetery to the NE. It also lies to the W of Bargates which is on the line of the Roman Road running N from Whitchurch.
- 1.3 The Archaeology Section of Shropshire County Council (hereafter SCC) in their capacity as archaeological curators for the county have determined that a field evaluation is necessary to assess the implications of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Accordingly a brief (unnumbered, dated February 1996) has been prepared by SCC Archaeology Section which describes the scheme of archaeological works required.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:
 - 2.1.1 to reveal by means of a combination of desk-based assessment and evaluation trenches, the nature, condition, significance and, where possible, the chronology of the archaeology within the area of the proposed development in so far as these aims are possible;
 - 2.1.2 to record any archaeology revealed in the evaluation trenches;
 - 2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the field evaluation and incorporating sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the area affected by the proposed development;
 - 2.1.4 to identify and recommendations options for the management of the archaeological resource, including any further provision for that resource where it is considered necessary.

3 Methods

- 3.1 Stage one of the evaluation will involve the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary records relating to this part of the town, including documentary and cartographic sources. Archives and repositories will include the County Sites and

Monuments Record, the County Records and Research Centre and the air photographic archive of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

- 3.2 Stage two will take the form of three excavation trenches, each 20m long by 1.5m wide (subject to agreement with SCC Archaeology Section). Where required these will be taken to a maximum depth of 1.2m below the existing ground surface. Consultation with the client and the curator will be necessary before this depth is exceeded.
- 3.3 The evaluation will be undertaken using standard evaluation procedures:
 - 3.3.1 removal of modern overburden by machine;
 - 3.3.2 evaluation of the archaeological deposits by hand trowelling to establish their importance and integrity, but avoiding any unnecessary disturbance of the deposits. All features encountered will be examined as fully as appropriate to fulfil the requirements of the evaluation and within the constraints imposed by time and safety considerations.
 - 3.3.3 all archaeological contexts recorded using the standard numbered context system employed by CPAT. All significant contexts to be planned and/or drawn in section at appropriate scales (as defined in the Evaluation Brief), and photographed in monochrome and colour. All drawn records will be related to control points depicted on modern maps.
 - 3.3.4 all archaeological artefacts and environmental samples recorded and processed in a manner appropriate to the material involved. Those requiring conservation or other specialist treatment will be stored in a stable environment until such times as they can be examined by a specialist. All finds, except those deemed to be Treasure Trove, are the property of the landowner. It is anticipated that they will be donated to the appropriate local or regional museum, subject to agreement being reached with the landowner and the museum curator.
- 3.4 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Evaluation Brief (section 3.8). This will be in A4 format and contain conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Historic Background; Excavation; Conclusions and Recommendations and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds.
- 3.5 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991).

4 Resources and Programming

- 4.1 The evaluation will be undertaken by a small team of 2 skilled archaeologists under the direct supervision of an experienced field archaeologist, who will also be responsible for undertaking the desk-based assessment. Overall supervision will be by Dr A Gibson, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 4.2 All report preparation will be completed by the same field archaeologist who conducted the evaluation.
- 4.3 It is anticipated that the assessment and evaluation will take no more than 10 days in all and that the subsequent report would be prepared immediately thereafter, dependent on

the client's instructions and the arrangement of a suitable timetable. The date of commencement, at the time of writing, has yet to be agreed with the client, and will be dependent on the state of the site and negotiated access. The archaeological curator will be informed of the detailed timetable and staffing levels when agreement has been reached with the client.

- 4.4 Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 4.5 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance.

A.M. Gibson
28th February 1996

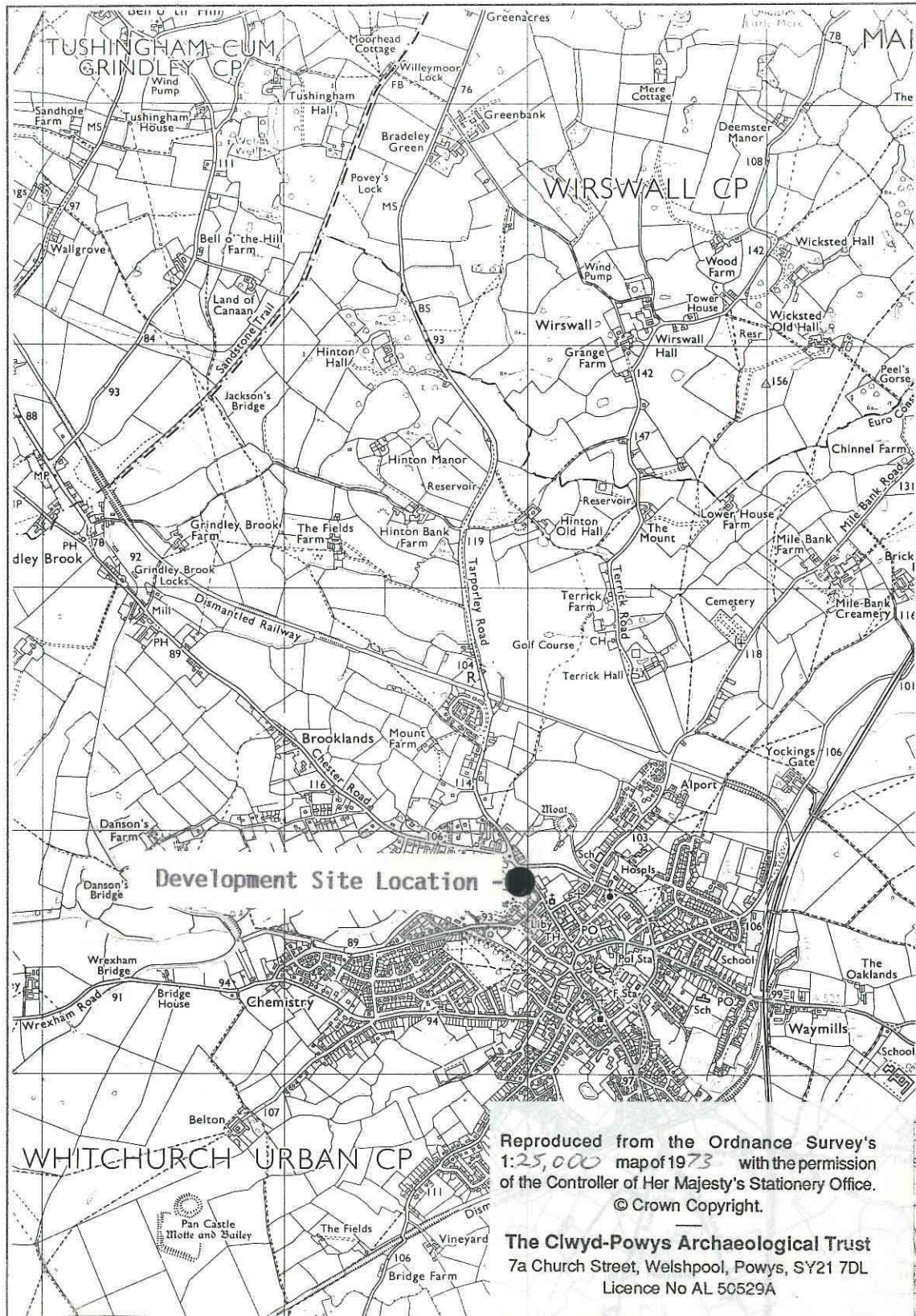


Fig. 1 Location 1:25,000

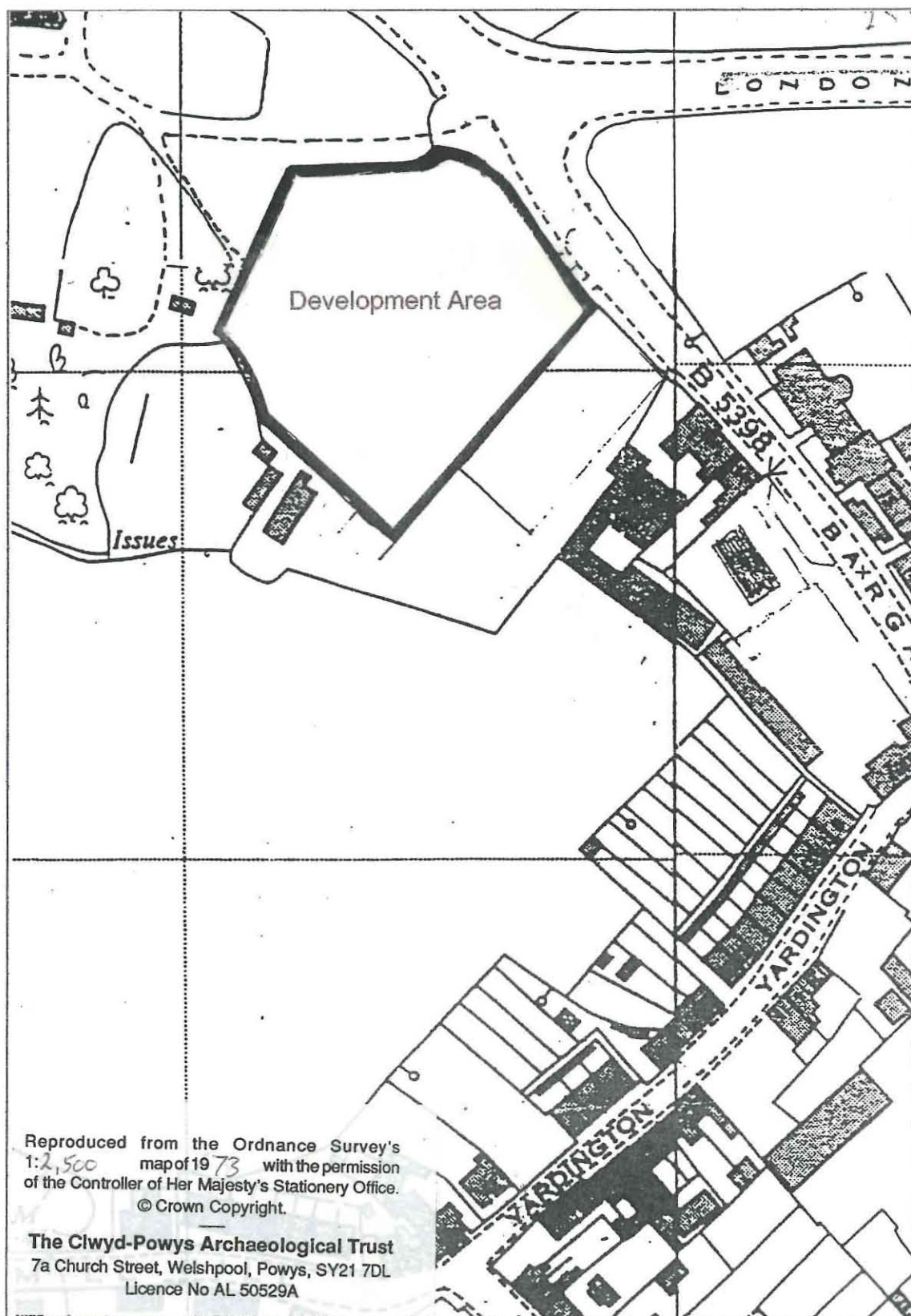


Fig. 2 Development Area 1:1,250

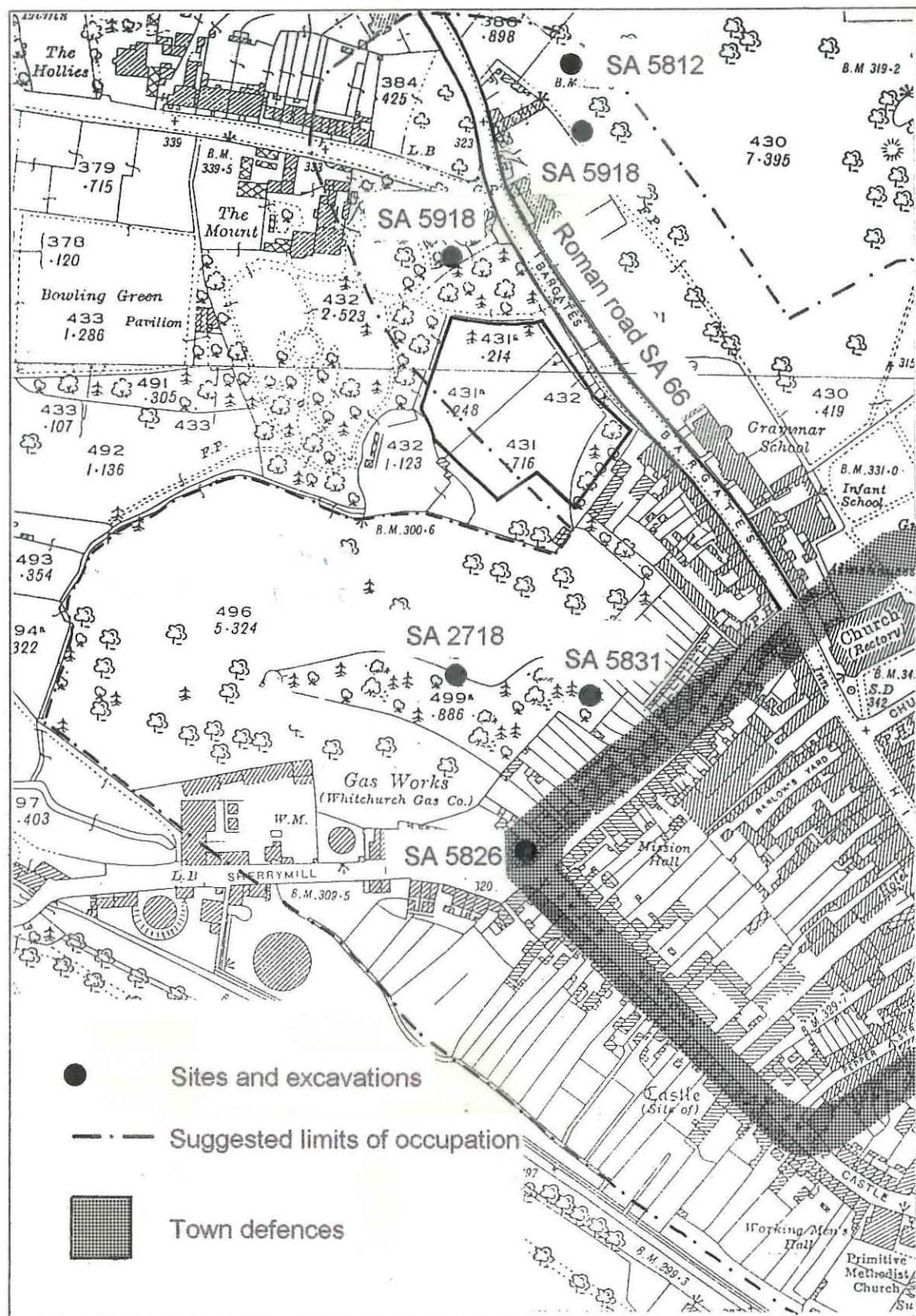


Fig. 3 Roman occupation (after Buteux 1996) 1:2,500

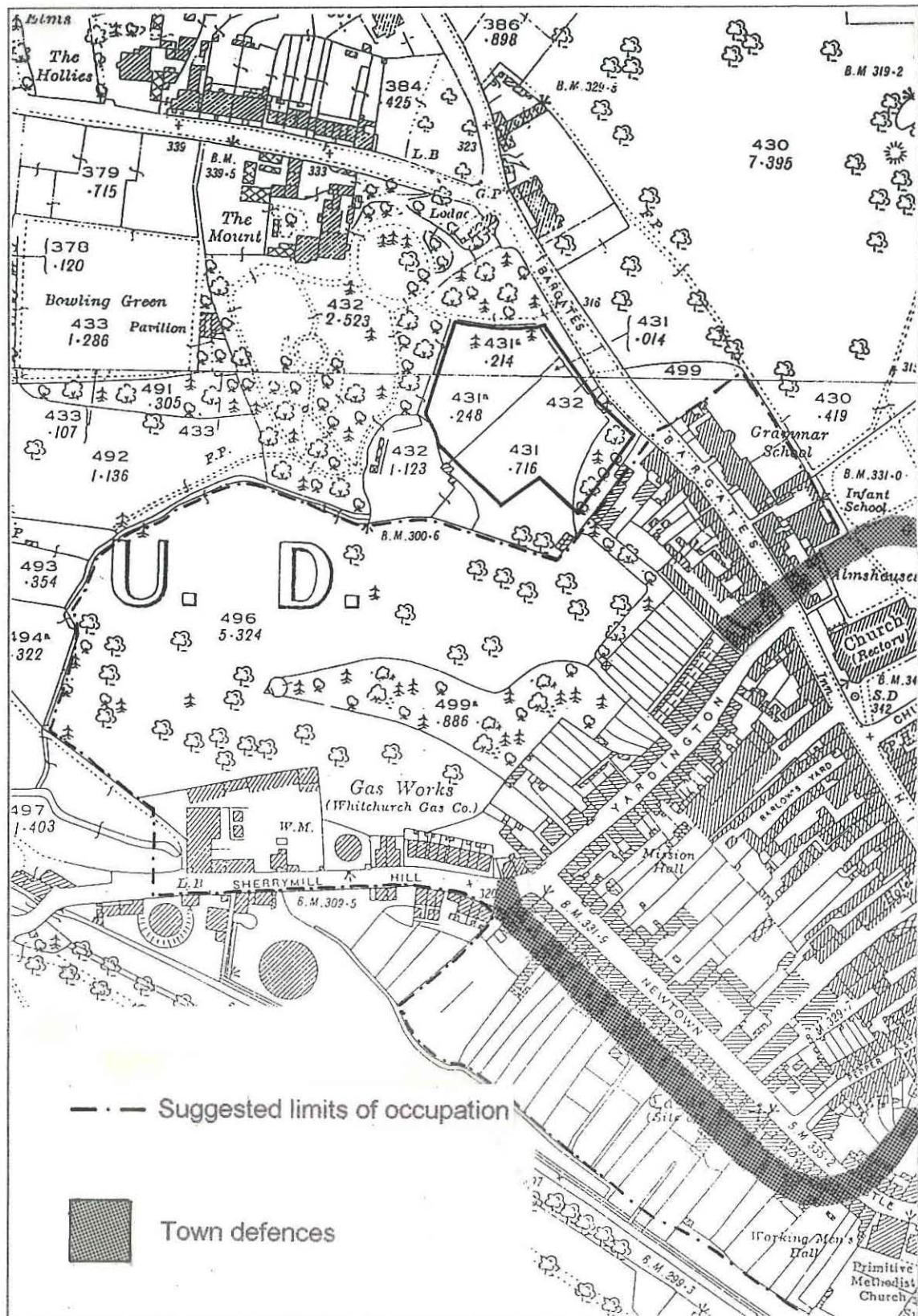


Fig. 4 Medieval occupation (after Buteux 1996) 1:2,500

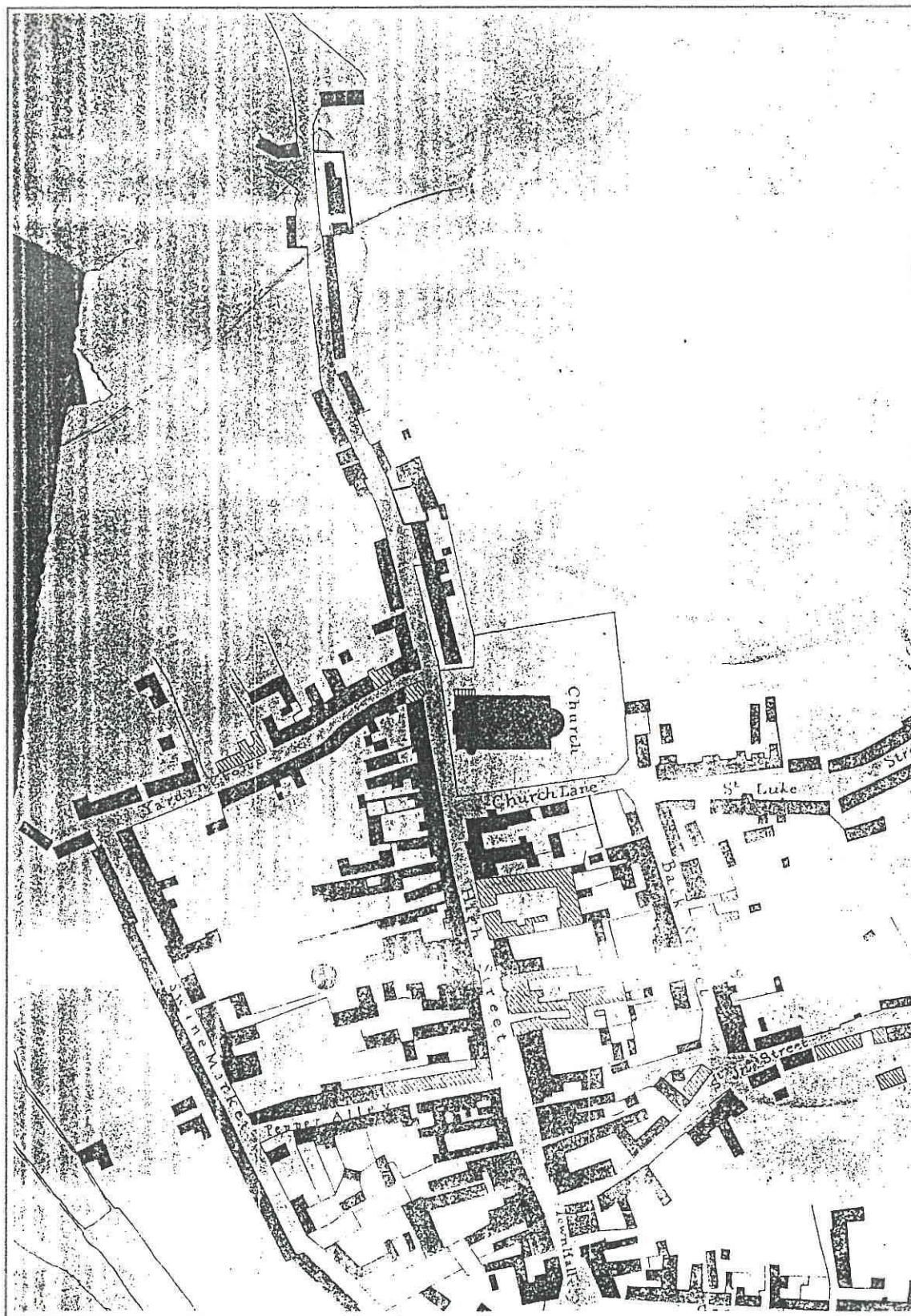


Fig. 5 Plan of Whitchurch 1761 (SRRS 399/1), 1:2,500

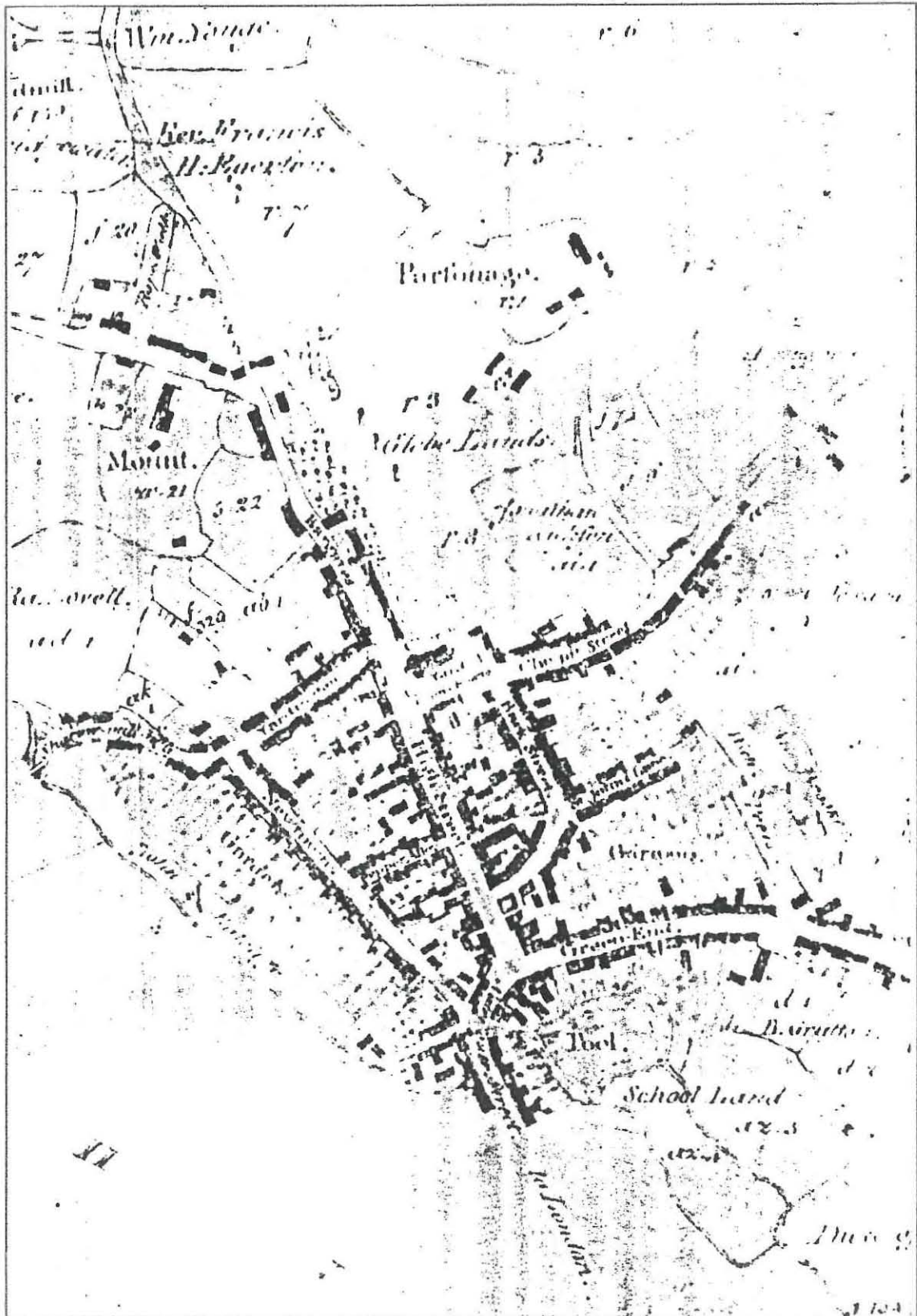


Fig. 6 Plan of Whitchurch c. 1795(SRRC 399/2), 1:5,000

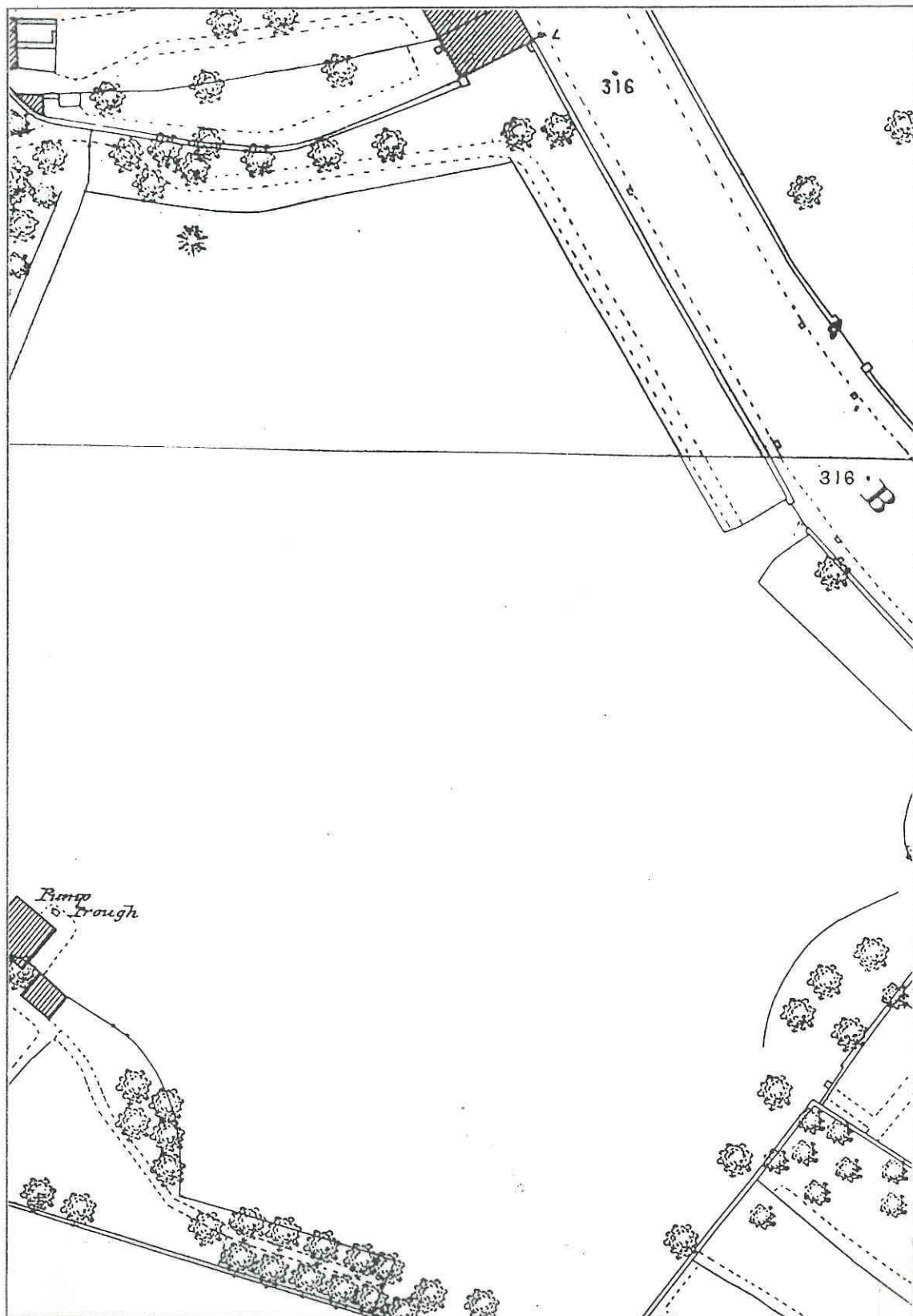


Fig. 7 Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1879 1:500 (Shropshire 1.16.24 and 7.4.4)

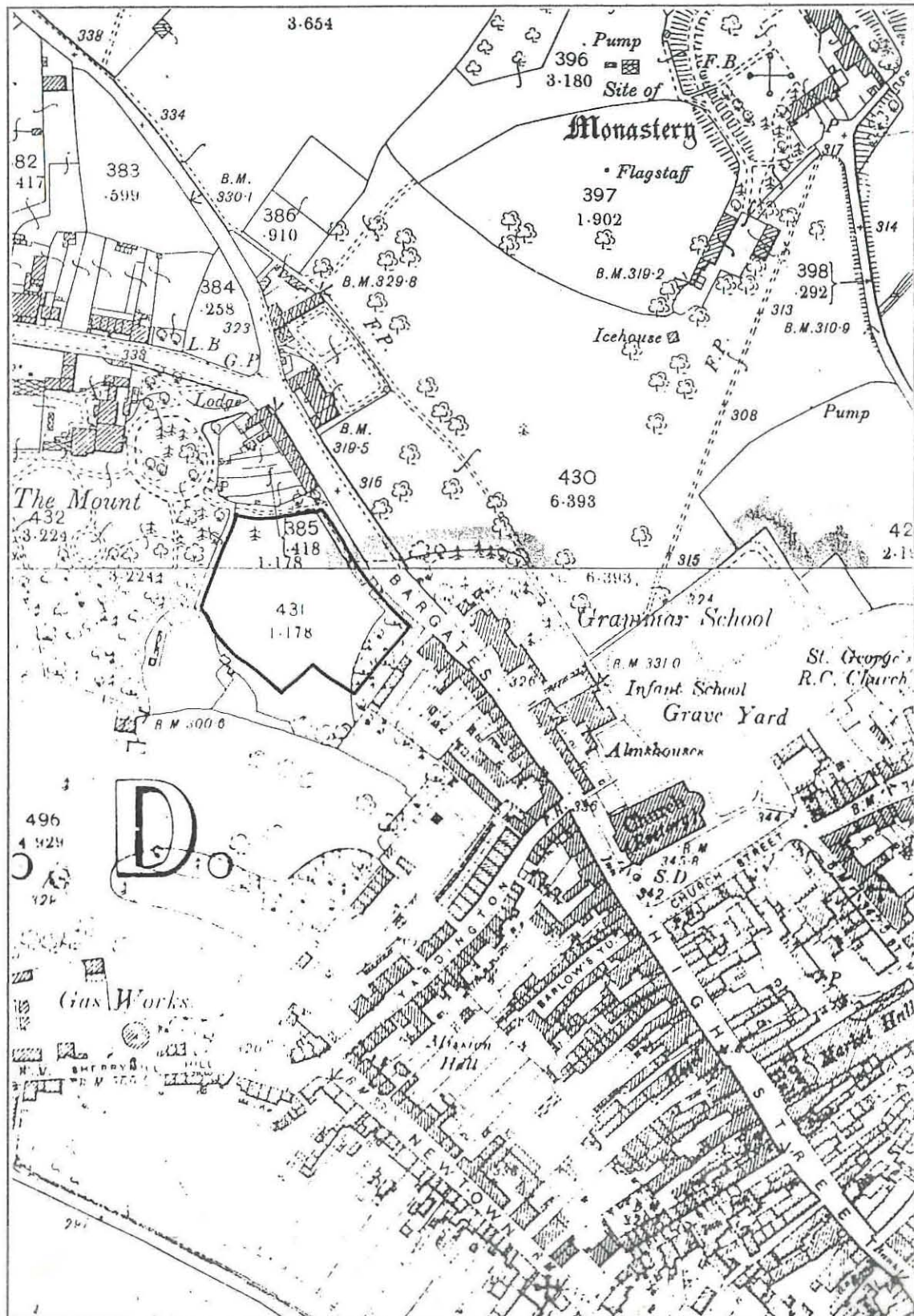


Fig. 8 Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 1899 1:2,500 (Shropshire 1.16 and 7.4)

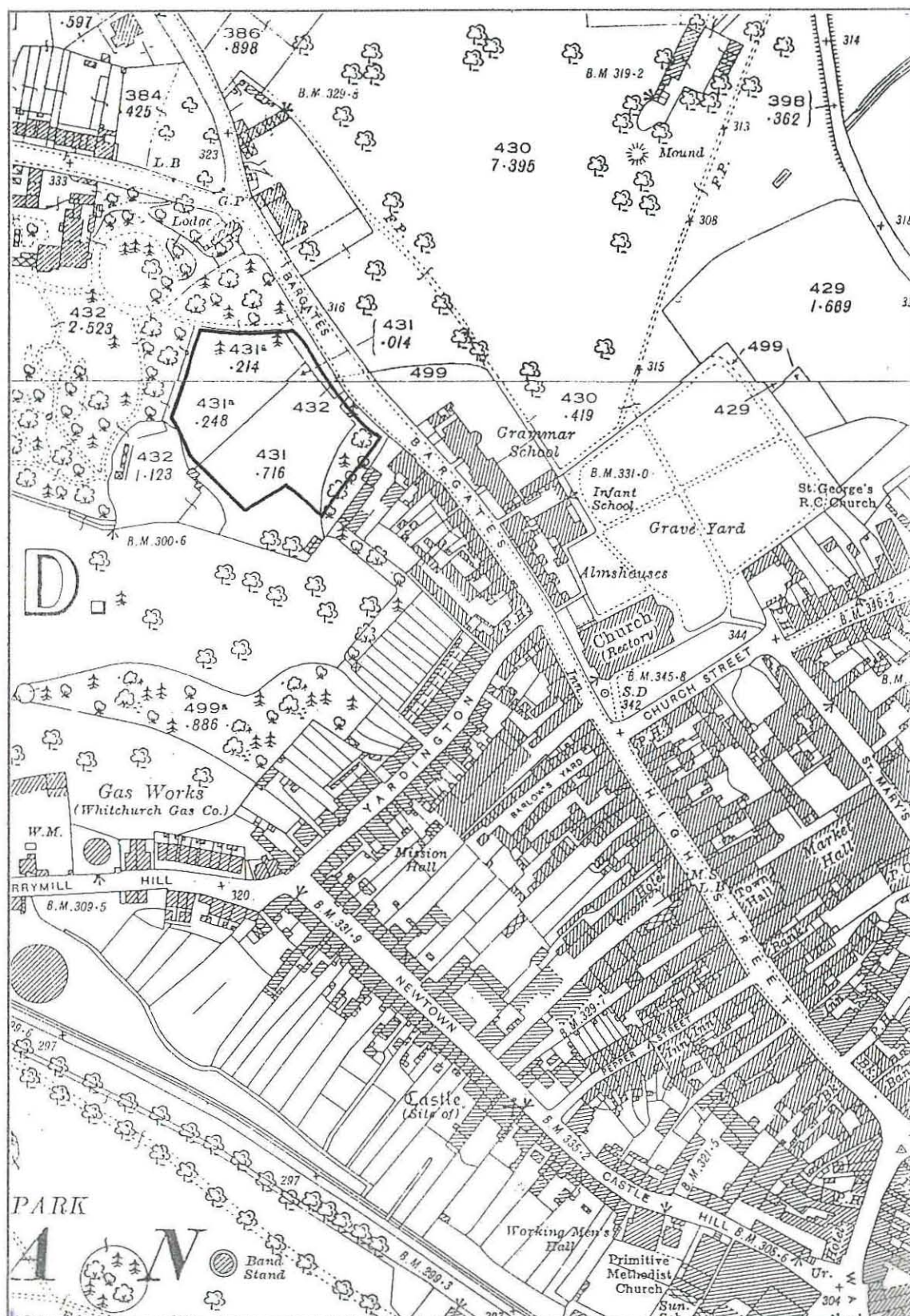


Fig. 9 Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition 1924 1:2,500 (Shropshire 1.16 and 7.4)

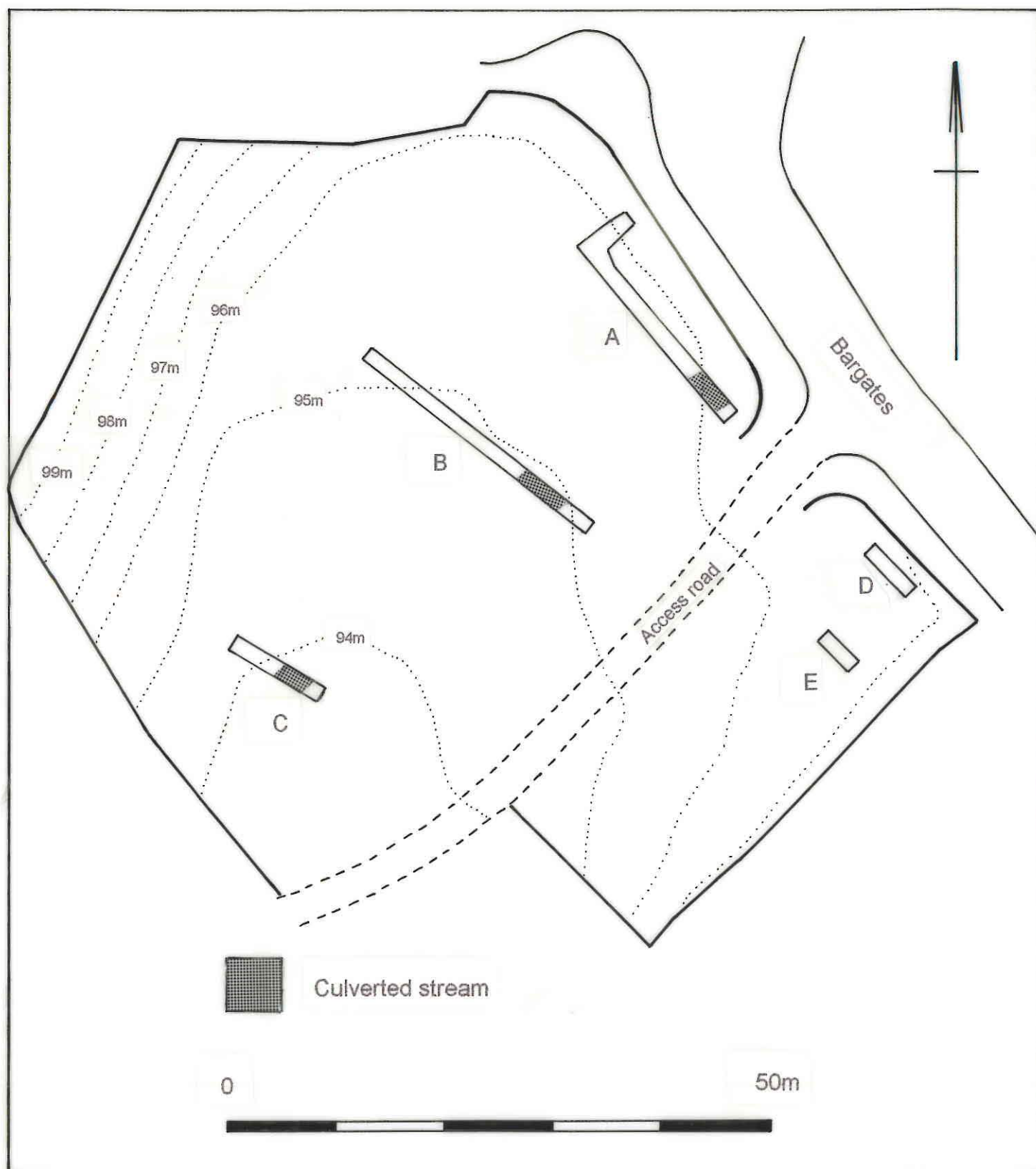


Fig. 10 Trench location 1:500

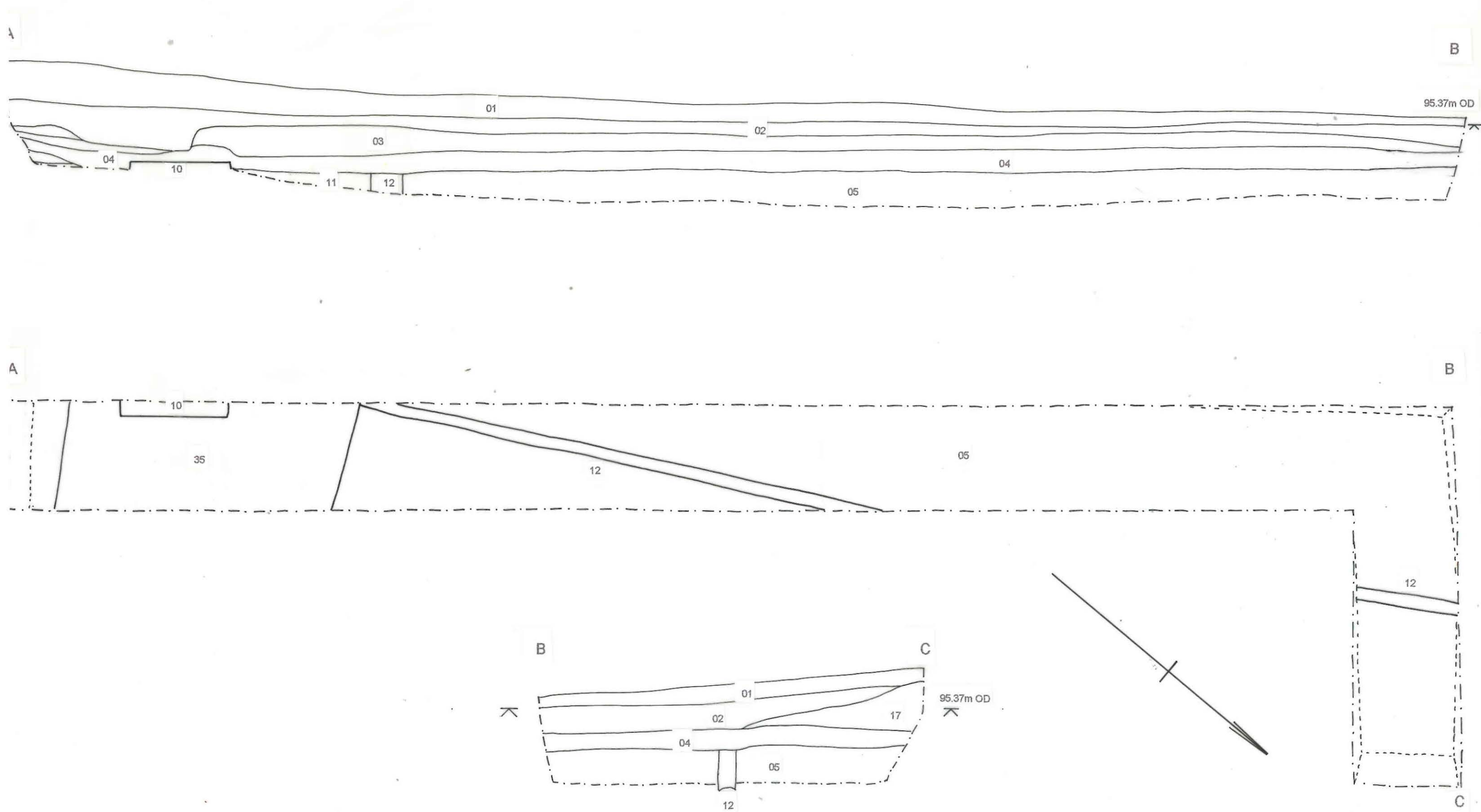


Fig. 11 Trench A 1:50

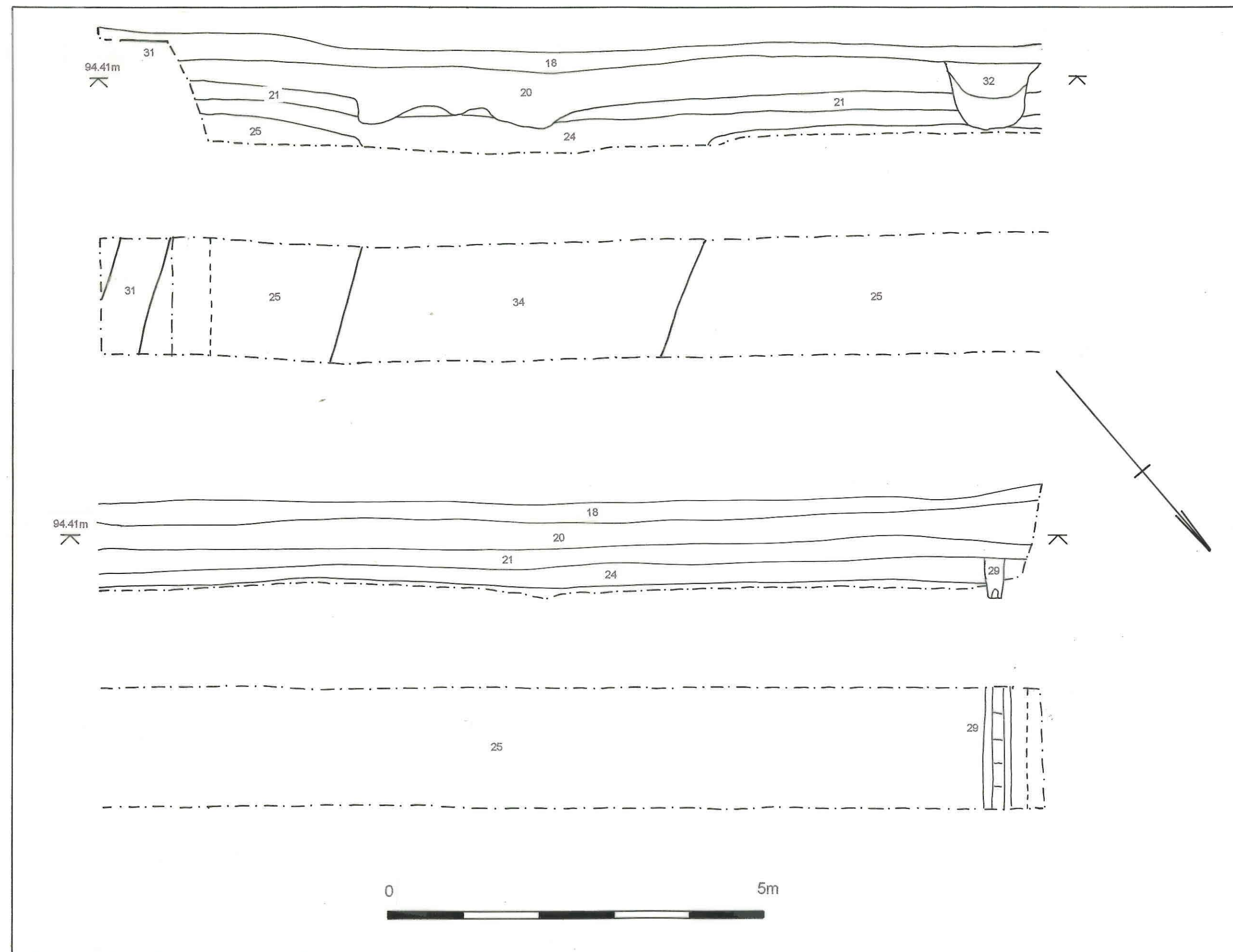


Fig. 12 Trench B 1:50

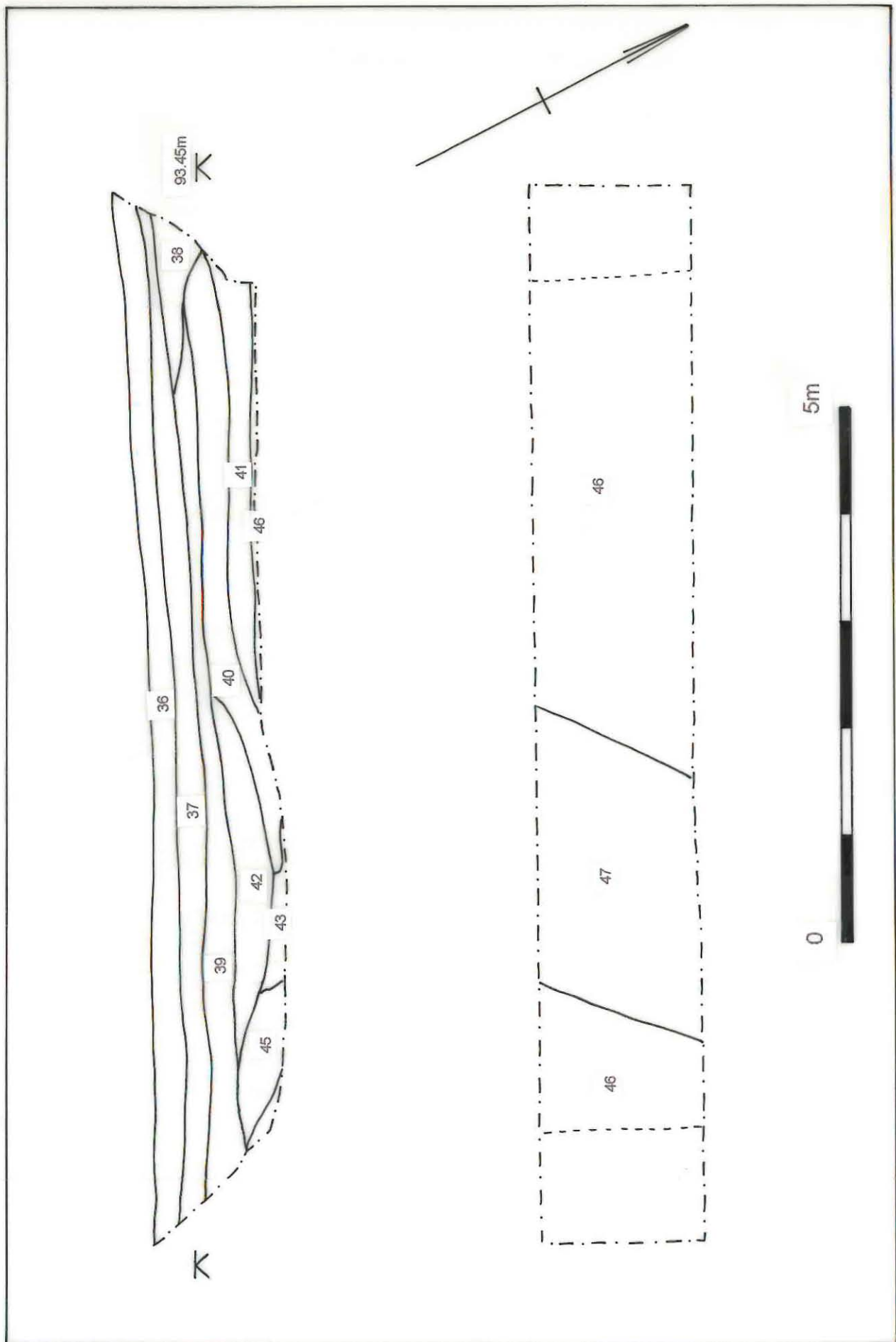


Fig. 13 Trench C 1:50

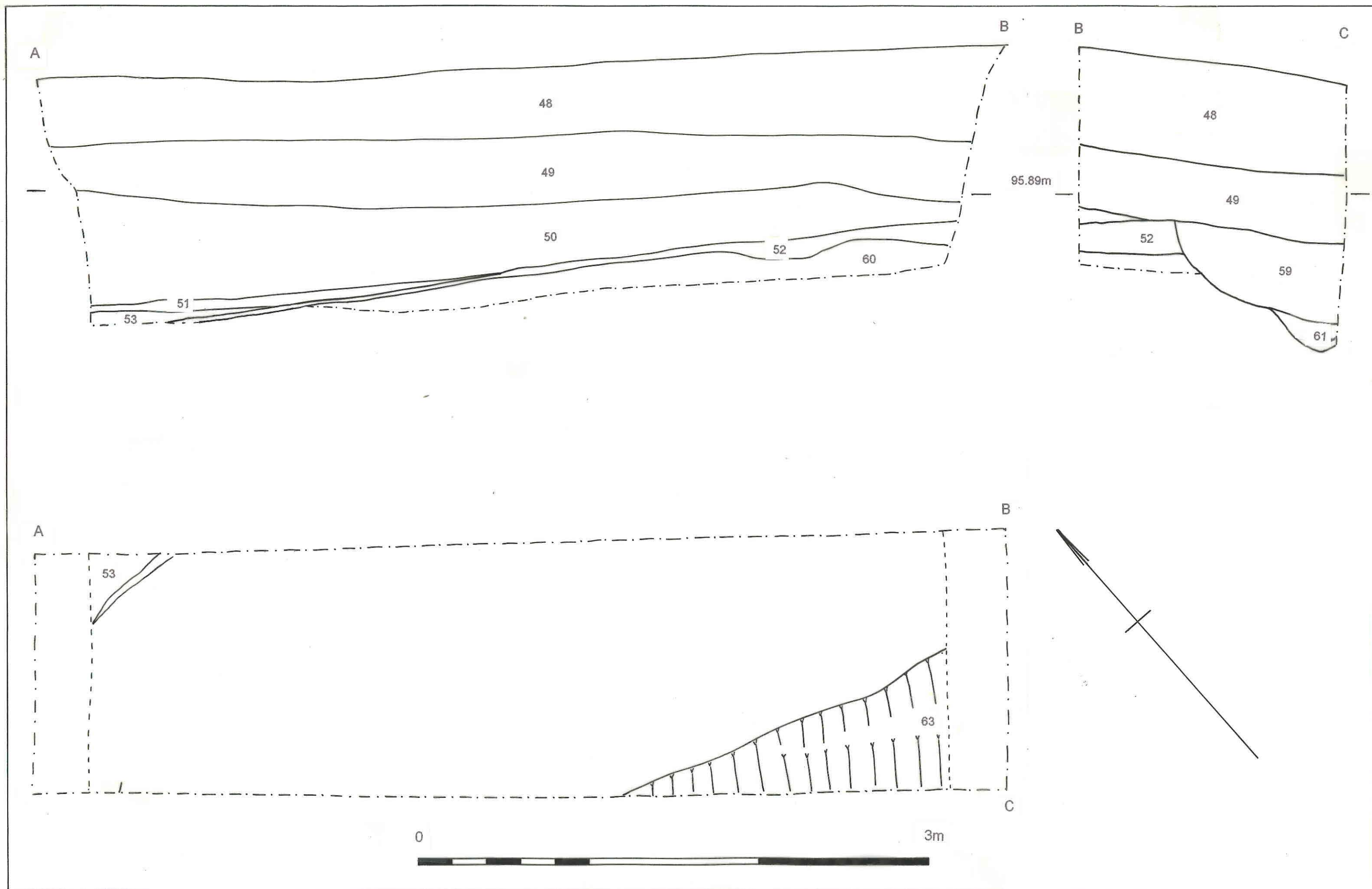


Fig. 14 Trench D 1:20

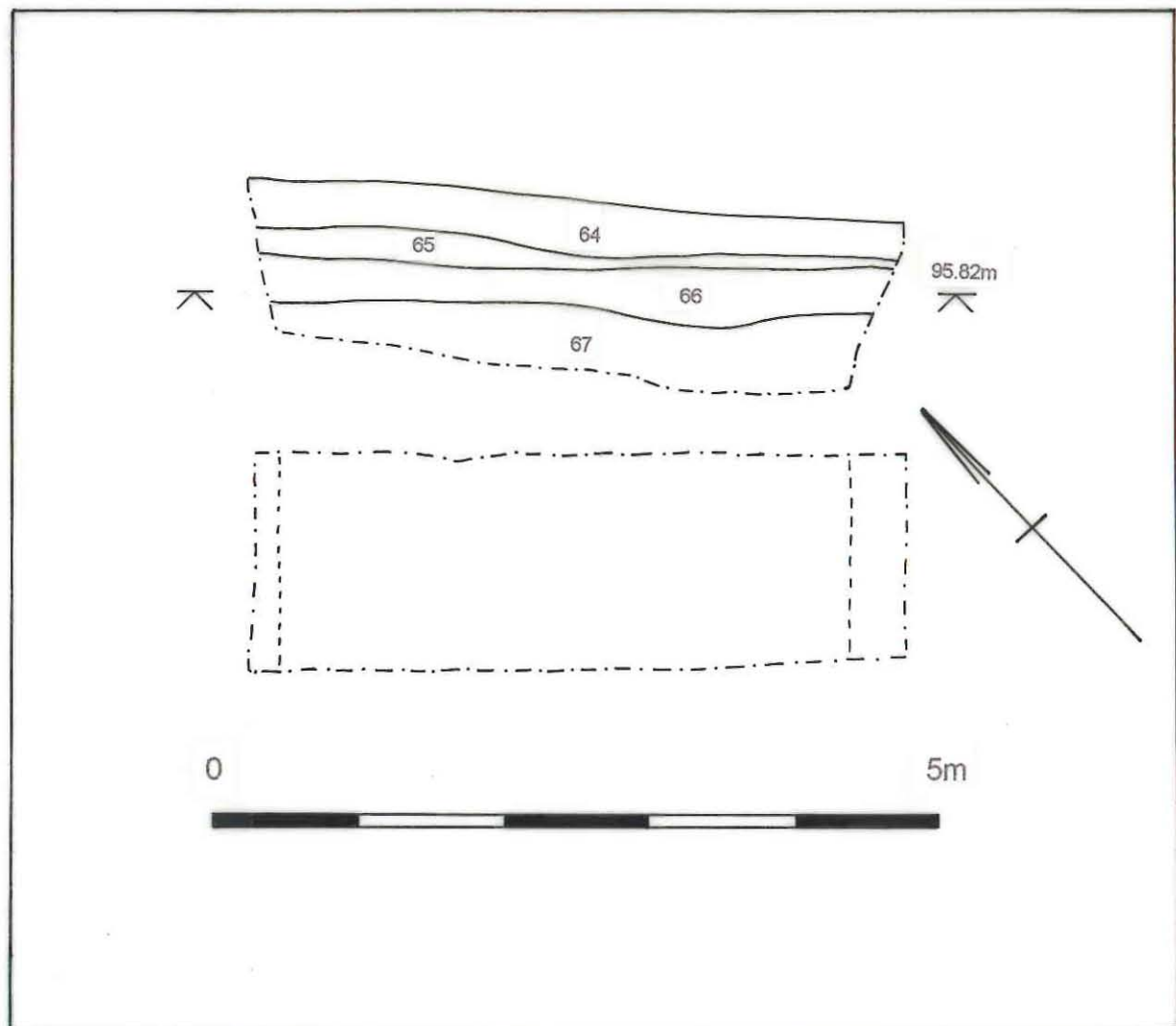


Fig. 15 Trench E 1:50