



## Coberley Villa Coberley, Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



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# **Coberley Villa, Gloucestershire**

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# Coberley Villa, Gloucestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to carry out archaeological recording and post-excavation analysis on an evaluation at Coberley Villa in Gloucestershire (centred on NGR 396750 215200) as part of the 'Time Team' television series.

Eleven trenches were excavated to investigate the extent, character and condition of the Coberley villa remains. The trenches targeted a mosaic pavement discovered by metal detectorists in 2003 and structural remains indicated by geophysical surveying to exist in the vicinity of the mosaic.

The remains of a demolished villa were recorded which appeared to have been H-shaped in plan. The evidence suggests that the north and south wings were possibly later additions to an original structure. The mosaic pavement appeared to be within a *triclinium*. The central panel had been removed, possibly evidence of Christian iconoclastic destruction.

Dating evidence from the Site suggests that the villa was constructed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD; the mosaic is dated on stylistic grounds to the late 2<sup>nd</sup> to early 3<sup>rd</sup> century. There is no firm evidence for the abandonment of the villa, but the presence of a little 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and several mid to late 4<sup>th</sup> century coins, indicates use of the Site well into the late Roman period, although all this evidence comes from post-demolition contexts.

Geophysics also located evidence of industrial activity on the Site. One of the geophysical anomalies was excavated and transpired to be a partly demolished kiln, the stone-built, subterranean element of which was still preserved *in situ*. The kiln was probably producing roof tile for the villa construction.

# **Coberley Villa, Gloucestershire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

### **Acknowledgements**

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Melinda Corkery (Production Manager), Jim Mower (Assistant Producer), Jon Willers (Researcher) and Jenny James (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The excavation strategy was conducted by Neil Holbrook and undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Brigid Gallagher, Ian Powlesland, Matt Williams, Raksha Dave and Tracy Smith, assisted by Paul Nichols, Richard Macpherson Barrett, Ed Stratford, Briege Williams and Nick Witchel of Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. They were aided by local metal detectorists David Hutton and Don Sherratt.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Fiona Chester and Mark Harrison of GSB Prospection Ltd. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman (University of Birmingham). The excavation strategy was devised by Neil Holbrook (Cotswold Archeology). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Jon Milward, and on-site finds processing was carried out by Laura Catlin, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Jon Milward with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mephram (finds), Nicholas Cooke (coins), Jessica Grimm (animal bone) and Chris Stevens (palaeoenvironmental assessment). The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram.

The work benefited from on-site discussion with Roman pottery specialist Mark Corney, Roman mosaic specialist Anthony Beeson, Roman specialist Guy de la Bédoyère and Gloucestershire County Archaeologist Jan Wills.

The site is owned by Mr Tim Unwin who must be thanked for his hospitality and cooperation during the fieldwork.

# Coberley Villa, Gloucestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd on behalf of Channel 4's 'Time Team' to participate in an archaeological evaluation at Coberley Villa in Gloucestershire (centred on NGR 396750 215200). Metal detectorists had uncovered a Roman mosaic on the site in 2003, and the current programme of works was designed to investigate the site further, and to ascertain its extent, date range and condition. This report presents an assessment of the results of the evaluation.

#### 1.2 Site Description

1.2.1 The 'Site' investigated during this project is within a field referred to in the 1839 Tithe Map and Apportionment as 'Whitelands'. This field is bounded to the east by the A435 Colesbourne to Cheltenham Road and to the south by a lane leading to Cowley Village (**Figure 1**). The western boundary is a steep wooded bank that runs down towards the River Churn. The field is enclosed on the north side by hedging and a narrow gorge fed by a spring. A further spring is present in the north-west corner of the field. A broad dry valley in the south-west corner of the field opens to the west. On the spur between the gorge and the dry valley is a plateau *c.* 60m by 60m (Noel 2004, 2). Previous work strongly suggests this to be the site of a Roman villa.

1.2.2 The Site is at a height of approximately 190m aOD. The underlying geology is at the junction between sandy mudstone and fine grained Oolitic sandstone (British Geological Survey, Sheet 235).

#### 1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 The Site lies approximately 2.5km north-east of Ermine Street, connecting the colonia of *Glevum* (Gloucester) and the civitas capital of *Corinium* (Cirencester).

1.3.2 The Site was first recorded by the RCHME in 1976 (RCHME 1976, 34). This notes traces of platforms covered with rubble, flue and roof tile, tesserae, samian ware, mortaria and painted plaster, extending over an area *c.* 200m east to west by 70m north to south above the River Churn.

1.3.3 The discovery of artefacts in this area by Roger Box during the 1970s and 1980s has also been documented. Finds from these investigations include stamped tiles, as well as brooches and other small finds including coins from the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD (Mullin 2006, 4).

- 1.3.4 In 1999 during dredging of the River Churn below the Site part of a human skull was found, along with Roman ceramic building material and blocks of limestone (Gloucs SMR entry 6708).
- 1.3.5 An amateur metal detector survey of the Whitelands field was undertaken during September 2002. The catalogued finds included 16 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century AD coins, three Roman brooches, two bronze pins and numerous other metal objects (Sherratt and Hutton 2003).
- 1.3.6 It was the same metal detectorists who succeeded in locating part of a geometric mosaic in the field in 2003, instigating recording and the production of a report on the find by Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service, commissioned by English Heritage (Mullin 2006).
- 1.3.7 Further to this work a geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Geoquest Associates in 2004. This produced the first evidence for the layout of the site and suggested a three-aisled or winged corridor building with wings extending east and an apsidal extension on its western side. The survey also identified burnt material and large quantities of rubble in the area and evidence for an approaching road (Noel 2004).
- 1.3.8 The site has since been protected under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme and is preserved under pasture.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Videotext Communications (2007), providing full details of the circumstances and methods of the project, as summarised here.
- 2.1.2 The primary aim of the evaluation was to define and interpret the extent of the subsurface archaeological remains that had been identified on the site by previous geophysical surveying (including anomalies interpreted as structural elements, areas of industrial activity, roads and boundary ditches), and to assess their condition, character and date range. Of particular interest was the mosaic uncovered in 2003, which was to be further investigated.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Topographical Survey**

- 3.1.1 Topographical surveying was undertaken by Dr Henry Chapman of Birmingham University. It was conducted and tied into the National Grid/Ordnance Datum using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. The results are presented in **Figure 2**.



## 3.2 Geophysical Survey

- 3.2.1 Geophysical surveying was undertaken by GSB Prospection Ltd using a combination of magnetic (Bartington Grad 601-2 fluxgate gradiometer) and resistance surveying techniques (Geoscan RM15 resistance meter) (see **Figure 1**).
- 3.2.2 The primary aim of the survey was to relocate anomalies that were discovered during the previous geophysical survey (Noel 2004), so that trenches could be accurately located.

## 3.3 Excavation and Recording

- 3.3.1 Eleven trenches were excavated on the Site (see **Figure 1**). With the exception of the trench containing the mosaic (Trench 1), which was opened by hand, these were all opened by mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed to the top of the archaeological deposits or natural geology, whichever was encountered first. Archaeological deposits were cleaned and further excavated by-hand.
- 3.3.2 All spoil heaps were scanned by by experienced metal detectorists. This resulted in the retrieval of a small assemblage of metal objects.
- 3.3.3 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.
- 3.3.4 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.
- 3.3.5 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated soil.
- 3.3.6 A unique Site code (COB 07) was issued prior to the commencement of works. The evaluation was undertaken between 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2007. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The full geophysical report (GSB 2007) is retained in the archive; the results are summarised below and presented on **Figure 3**. A summary of the excavated trenches is presented in **Appendix 1**.

### 4.2 Geophysical Survey

4.2.1 The magnetic survey (**Figure 3a**) confirmed the findings from the previous geophysical survey and pinpointed the results on the ground. This technique also indicated the presence of a kiln that was subsequently partially excavated.

4.2.2 The resistance results (**Figure 3b**) also confirmed the footprint of the building but failed to provide a clear picture of the wall lines due to robbing, the spread of rubble and the localised outcropping of the bedrock.

### 4.3 Archaeological Evaluation

#### *Trench 1 (Figures 4 & 5)*

4.3.1 This trench expanded upon the area of mosaic uncovered and recorded in 2003, located towards the western edge of the plateau. After the previously recorded area of the mosaic was located and re-exposed, the trench was expanded in four directions to reveal more of the pavement surface and to define the size of the room it was within.

4.3.2 Trench 1 covered approximately 20m<sup>2</sup> of the interior of a single room, defined the positions of three of the perimeter walls and exposed part of a room or corridor to the north. The walls had all been robbed during antiquity so no *in situ* stone was present at the pavement level. The original positions of the walls are now defined by robber trenches.

4.3.3 The earliest deposits in this trench were observed in an intervention through the robber trench that now defines the southern boundary of the room (104) (**Figure 4, section B**). On top of the natural strata was a deposit of redeposited natural clay (110) containing fragments of ceramic building material. This lay below another clay layer (109) that also contained fragments of ceramic building material as well as a moderate amount of crushed limestone. Both of these layers appear to be pre-construction levelling deposits and provided a level surface for the mosaic bedding layer (102). This comprised a spread of *opus signinum* (**Figure 4, sections B & C**). No dating evidence was recovered from any of these layers.

4.3.4 The mosaic pavement (101) was laid upon the *opus signinum*, at a depth averaging 0.34m below the current ground surface. Long scars through the pavement had undoubtedly been caused by modern ploughing, but areas of much older damage also existed.

- 4.3.5 The mosaic was constructed of *tesserae* made from blue-grey lias limestone, yellow ochre, buff and white limestone and red ceramic tiles (**Figure 5, Plates 1-4**). A red border 0.75m wide surrounded an arrangement of nine square panels laid out in a three by three square. The central panel had been heavily damaged in antiquity, along with the north-eastern panel, which had been completely removed. It has been suggested that this may be a sign of the iconoclastic destruction of pagan symbology by Christians (A. Beeson pers. comm.). The south-eastern panel was not exposed in the trench. Between the damaged areas it was possible to discern the patterns in the other panels. These included an eight-petalled flower in a guilloche medallion in the north-west panel (**Figure 5, Plate 1**), a large flower in the south west panel, a Gordian knot in the central southern panel (**Plate 4**), cantharis vessels in the east and west central panels (**Plate 3 and Front Cover**) and a flower in the northernmost central panel.
- 4.3.6 Another mosaic, in an adjacent room or corridor to the north of mosaic (101), was recorded beyond the north side of robber trench (114). Only part of a perimeter border was uncovered (113), constructed of blue-grey rather than red tesserae (**Figures 3 & 4**).
- 4.3.7 The only archaeological deposits post-dating the mosaic floor represented robber and demolition activities. The stone in all of the walls had been removed with the exception of the very base of the foundation in cut (111). This remnant of the original structure comprised limestone pieces loosely cemented together with lime mortar (112).
- 4.3.8 Overlying robber trench 114 and partially overlying both mosaic surfaces was a thin deposit of decomposed mortar and wall plaster (103), which produced a late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD coin. This deposit was stratigraphically contemporaneous with a pile of broken limestone roof tiles (108) dumped in the former position of the north eastern panel of mosaic (101).
- 4.3.9 Overlying both deposits (103) and (108) was a limestone-rich deposit (106) containing abundant large fragments of limestone, some clearly being roof tiles (from surviving peg holes). This layer (over the newly uncovered part of the mosaic) seems to have provided protection to the pavement from agricultural damage as preservation was far better beneath (106).
- 4.3.10 Dating evidence from Trench 1 derived entirely from post-demolition deposits, and included 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century coins. The quantities of material, however, were very small (30 pottery sherds and eight coins).

*Trench 2 (Figure 6)*

- 4.3.11 This trench targeted a large amorphous geophysical anomaly and a pair of north-south orientated linear anomalies suspected to be walls. Evidence for walls and a large pit were subsequently discovered in the trench, matching the geophysical results.
- 4.3.12 The trench spanned part of a room, a semi-exterior corridor and an external area. As in Trench 1, the earliest stratigraphic deposit in this trench is

considered to be a redeposited natural pre-construction levelling layer (218), which contained four small, undiagnostic Romano-British pottery sherds. One of the wall foundations in the trench ((216) in cut (220)) was cut directly through this layer (**Figure 6, Section A, Plate 5**). It cannot be established whether an above-ground wall ever existed on top of this foundation or whether it supported a wooden frame. The latter theory would account for the presence of a post-hole (202) sunk into the foundation and which seemed to be a deliberate part of the construction. This post-hole is interpreted as having supported a vertical wooden post. Between this wall and another located parallel to it to the east (represented by robber cut (212)) was a stone surface (217) constructed of compacted, relatively well sorted fragments of limestone. This was interpreted as a semi-exterior corridor surface within a wooden-framed colonnade or portico which ran along the west side of a north – south orientated range of the villa.

- 4.3.13 The wall on the eastern side of the stone surface (217) is considered to have been a main structural wall. This is on the same extrapolated alignment as the wall represented by the robber cut (115) in Trench 1 (see **Figure 3**). As with the southernmost wall in Trench 1, this had also been robbed out to almost the base of the foundation trench, and all that remained *in situ* were some large pieces of limestone loosely bonded with lime mortar (214). To the east of foundation (214) was a sequence of floor surfaces. The initial compacted lime mortar surface (210) seems to have become uneven and a crude levelling deposit of crushed limestone with lime mortar was placed upon it (209). A replacement surface of compact mortar and crushed limestone (211) was then laid over the top of (209).
- 4.3.14 The area to the west of foundation (216) is considered to have been external. This area was excavated down to a silty clay layer mixed with fragments of limestone (222). Truncating this layer were two features, the larger of which (219) had produced the geophysical anomaly. This feature was a substantial but shallower pit not fully defined in plan within the boundaries of the trench. The fill of this pit (207) also covered layer (222) and lay beneath the demolition deposits that extended all the way up to wall (216). Layer (207) was a silty clay, and was believed to have been a garden soil outside the villa. It contained a moderate amount of large, well-sorted limestone fragments probably derived from demolition, ceramic building material and 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery.
- 4.3.15 The other feature in this area was a small sub-rectangular pit (205). The function of this feature is not clear. It was not a refuse pit and seems more likely to have provided a socket for a garden ornament or a piece of apparatus. It also produced 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery, and one 4<sup>th</sup> century coin.
- 4.3.16 Three successive demolition deposits were recorded in this trench (**Figure 5, Section A**). Two successive dumps of material, (208) followed by (215), occurred after the masonry from the wall foundation (214) had been removed and the void filled by (213). Both contained limestone fragments, and (208) also contained ceramic roof tile fragments.

- 4.3.17 Above these deposits was a soil rich in demolition debris (201). This was thickest in the western area of the trench and spread eastwards to partially cover (215). It yielded six coins of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century date, and the largest group of pottery recovered from the Site (260 sherds), which was chronologically mixed, ranging in date from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century.

*Trench 3 (Figure 7)*

- 4.3.18 This trench was located over a substantial east-west orientated geophysical anomaly, revealed on excavation to be a ditch (303). An intervention was dug through this feature, which was just over 2m wide (**Figure 7, Section A**). Two fills were present, the initial fill (304) being rapidly deposited and probably mainly derived from the initial upcast. The more substantial, upper fill (302) was characteristic of slower formation with anthropogenic material incorporated in its make-up. This included a moderate amount of ceramic building material and limestone fragments with some bone and pottery (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century AD).
- 4.3.19 When ditch (303) had fully filled it was built over by a curvilinear wall (307) which is interpreted as the apsidal eastern end to a southern wing of the Roman villa building. There is certainly a suggestion of alignment with the east-west orientated walls in Trench 1, and this is corroborated by the geophysical survey (see **Figure 3**).
- 4.3.20 A short stretch of wall foundation (307) was preserved either side of robber trenches (308/310). This stretch of wall/foundation was faced with large pieces of limestone, with a rubble core bonded with lime mortar; the construction mirrors that of wall (216) in Trench 2.
- 4.3.21 A post-demolition deposit (301) covered all of the archaeological features within this trench.

*Trench 4 (Figure 8)*

- 4.3.22 This trench was excavated to investigate a substantial ditch indicated by the geophysical survey. The ditch was duly revealed below the topsoil (400) and a layer of hill-wash (401). An initial cut (404) was superseded by a narrower re-cut (402) of the same depth after it had silted up. The fill of the re-cut reflected another slow silting event; pottery from this layer dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.

*Trench 5 (Figure 9)*

- 4.3.23 Trench 5 investigated a large anomaly revealed by the magnetometer survey, and highlighted as a site of possible industrial activity (see **Figure 3**).
- 4.3.24 After the trench was opened it quickly became apparent that this was the location of a kiln (**Figure 9, Plate 9**). The kiln structure (506) had been built in a cut (508) in the south-facing slope towards the head of the dry valley. The structure comprised two parallel walls forming a flue, surviving to a lower level at the southern, unenclosed end, which would have been where the flue arch lay, with the stoke pit to the south (only partially revealed within the trench) (**Plate 10**). The flue walls at the southern end were made mainly of large, flat pieces of limestone laid in level courses and bonded with

lime mortar. The heat from the furnace had blackened and partly vitrified the stone on either side of the flue. At the northern end the flue walls comprised largely ceramic building material, mainly roof and box tiles, bonded with mortar. A sloping stack of *tegula* roof tiles was placed at the base at the north end to direct heat into the firing chamber, which would have been supported above the flue.

- 4.3.25 At the entrance to the flue, either side of the flue arch, was a burnt deposit (502/503) of ash and charcoal (mainly hawthorn) from the last firing episode before the demolition of the kiln. The flue of the kiln had been filled with a mixture of mainly burnt clay and ceramic building rubble mixed with limestone and brown silty clay (501). This was an apparent deliberate backfill and derived from demolition of the above-ground superstructure of the kiln. Only one pottery sherd came from the kiln backfill, of undiagnostic Black Burnished ware (BB1).
- 4.3.26 Either side of the kiln structure was a pair of associated features (511) and (513). These mirrored each other in position in relation to the kiln and, although only partly exposed, appeared to be post-holes with limestone packing. These are likely to have been part of a sub-rectangular arrangement of post-holes associated with a structure that surrounded and covered the kiln (cf Soffe *et al.* 1989, fig. 14).
- 4.3.27 The actual products of the kiln were difficult to establish. The backfill (501) yielded a small collection of varying tile types, including *tegula* and box flue, as well as two small ‘waster’ groups of fragments fused together through overfiring. These fragments are of unknown overall form, although the thickness would suggest tile such as *tegula* rather than brick. Also present was one incomplete piece of an unusual, moulded form, which is a rectangular brick with one long face moulded into rounded curves. This, however, is the only example of such a form from the site, and is not obviously a ‘waster’. On the whole, the evidence suggests that the kiln was producing ceramic tile for the villa construction, although this does not rule out the production of unusual, non-standard forms as well.

*Trench 6 (Figure 10)*

- 4.3.28 Trench 6 was excavated over a linear geophysical high resistance anomaly thought to be a wall and possibly part of the westernmost range of the villa building (see **Figure 3**).
- 4.3.29 No wall was present in the trench, but a natural outcrop of limestone (606) beneath the topsoil (600) and very thin subsoil (604) was responsible for the high resistance geophysical reading.
- 4.3.30 There was, however, a ditch (602) in this trench, aligned north–south and corresponding to a low-resistance linear geophysical anomaly. This ditch is parallel to the natural escarpment that defines the westernmost range of the villa platform and probably served a dual function for drainage and as a perimeter boundary to the villa grounds. Animal bone and ceramic building material were recovered in small quantities from the fill, but nothing that allows close dating evidence came from this or from elsewhere in the trench.

*Trench 7 (Figure 11)*

- 4.3.31 This trench was on the northern edge of the plateau and was placed over the alignment of two walls detected by geophysics (see **Figure 3**). These both had an east – west orientation at right angles to the walls of the wing recorded in Trenches 1 and 2.
- 4.3.32 The northernmost of the two walls (706) had been built in a cut (705) in the natural clay, while the foundation trench (704) to the south cut layer (707) which perhaps formed a levelling deposit between the two walls.
- 4.3.33 Wall foundation (706) was similar to (216) in Trench 2, which also had limestone facing blocks either side of a rubble core. It is considered likely that this wall foundation performed a similar function to (216) by supporting a wooden superstructure, creating a covered walkway just over 3m wide running along the exterior of the main building. Cut (702) was the robber trench associated with wall (706).
- 4.3.34 Wall foundation (704) was well preserved and had not been robbed out below the ground surface. It consisted of large limestone blocks laid in a herringbone fashion over a lower, unbonded rubble core. The area to the south of foundation (704) was considered to lie within the interior of the villa. Here a compact spread of lime mortar with crushed limestone (708) was found that was identical to the floor deposits in trench 2.
- 4.3.35 The structural remains in the trench were sealed by demolition material mixed with soil (701). Amongst the stone and ceramic building material was painted wall plaster.
- 4.3.36 The only dating evidence from this trench comprised nine sherds of pottery from the topsoil, including a 4<sup>th</sup> century shelly ware.

*Trench 8 (Figure 12)*

- 4.3.37 This trench was located 15m to the east of Trench 7, also on the northern plateau edge. The sequence of deposits in this trench was, however, very different.
- 4.3.38 Natural clay (804) was exposed at the north end of the trench, at a depth of 0.2m, below a thin layer of redeposited natural (807), which was in turn lay directly below the topsoil. Towards the southern end of the trench at the same level, but at this point 0.8m below the ground surface, the earliest deposit was a thick layer consisting of loose sand and gravel (806), which contained very large pieces of limestone, some of which looked as though they had been roughly shaped. This deposit could be evidence of limestone quarrying, probably contemporary with the initial construction of the building platform. Alternatively, and perhaps more probably, the quarry pit could be later; dumps of *opus signinum* (809) and lime mortar (805) were detected at the bottom of the excavated sequence, although the base of the pit itself was not reached. The overlying rubble layer (808) could represent the heavily disturbed remains of the north wall of the villa, as the projected wall line runs right through the trench at this point.

- 4.3.39 Three major dumping episodes (801), (802) and (803) succeeded the rubble deposit (808). These all contained ceramic and stone building rubble in varying quantities.
- 4.3.40 Five undiagnostic sherds of Romano-British pottery from the topsoil constituted the only dating evidence from this trench.

*Trench 9 (Figure 13)*

- 4.3.41 Trench 9 was opened in a very wet area adjacent to an active spring on the north-facing slope just below the villa platform. On top of the natural clay was a clay layer (904) containing large sandstone blocks and a small amount of ceramic building material (**Figure 13, Plate 12**). This was formed into a small bank that had allowed water to pool slightly to the north, represented by the formation of a bluish-grey clay (903) indicative of standing water. No other archaeological features or deposits were encountered in this trench. Two 4<sup>th</sup> century coins were recovered, one from the topsoil and one from an underlying colluvial layer (902)

*Trench 10 (Figure 13)*

- 4.3.42 This trench was situated on the line of a geophysical anomaly assumed to be a ditch. A ditch (1003) was present at the north end but its width was not fully exposed within the trench. Animal bone and ceramic building material was present on the surface of the upper ditch fill (1004), but was not collected.

*Trench 11 (Figure 13)*

- 4.3.43 Trench 11 was situated down-slope from the kiln in trench 5. Under a thin topsoil (1101) and colluvial build-up (1102), a silty clay layer (1103) was revealed which contained abundant fragments of ceramic building material and sandstone (**Figure 13, Plate 14**). This material probably derived from the demolished kiln (506), washed down the slope.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered from ten of the 11 evaluation trenches excavated. No finds were recovered from Trench 10, and only Trenches 1-3 produced finds in any significant quantity. The assemblage is almost entirely of Romano-British date, with a just one post-medieval item.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type and by date, and totals are presented in **Table 1**. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned, in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, coins). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.



## 5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the Site. With the exception of a single post-medieval sherd (a redware from topsoil context (106)), the assemblage is entirely of Romano-British date. The condition ranges from fair to good; sherds from topsoil contexts show a higher degree of surface and edge abrasion, consistent with their provenance, and sherds from better stratified contexts are correspondingly better preserved, with surface treatments intact.

5.2.2 The pottery has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type; as well as known types (e.g. Black Burnished ware), some coarsewares have been grouped under generic types (e.g. greywares, oxidised wares). Totals are given in **Table 2**.

### *Imported finewares and amphorae*

5.2.3 There are a few imported wares, primarily represented by samian (15 sherds). Vessel forms identified include forms 18/31 platters, and 27 and 33 cups, providing a date range of later 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. There are no decorated forms, and one form 27 cup has been repaired with a lead rivet (layer 207).

5.2.4 Other imports include three colour-coated sherds which have been tentatively identified as Central Gaulish, and one black-slipped ware, also Central Gaulish, all from layer 201.

5.2.5 Two sherds of Spanish Dressel 20 amphorae conclude the list of imports; these came from layers (201) and (207).

### *British finewares*

5.2.6 This category includes colour-coated wares from the Nene Valley and Oxfordshire production centres, of which the former can be virtually indistinguishable in hand specimen from the Central Gaulish colour-coated wares (see above). Two small colour-coated sherds have not at this stage been assigned to type; they could be either Nene Valley or imported types (topsoil in Trenches 1 and 3 respectively). While the Nene Valley wares have a date range of 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD onwards, the Oxfordshire wares are slightly later in date, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century AD, although the Oxfordshire whiteware mortaria (layers 201 and 207) are more likely to be of early Roman date. One other mortarium type, originating from south Wales, was identified as a single sherd from layer (201), in a dense, sandy fabric with large white grits. Also present in layer (201) was a single sherd of a rouletted glazed ware vessel, probably a small beaker.

### *Coarsewares*

5.2.7 Four main coarseware types are represented, of which two are of known source area: Black Burnished ware (BB1), and Severn Valley (oxidised) ware. The former originates from south Dorset, although it is possible that some south-western BB1 sherds are also present here. Vessel forms are in a restricted range and mostly comprise everted rim jars, straight-sided 'dog dishes' and flanged bowls, with a date range of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, with just

two dropped flange bowls (backfill layer 100, trench 2 topsoil) to extend the date range into the 4<sup>th</sup> century.

- 5.2.8 Severn Valley ware is likely to have a similar mid Roman date (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> century); vessel forms include wide-mouthed, everted rim jars, hemispherical bowls and tankards. Further Severn Valley wares are likely to be present amongst the greywares, and similar forms are in evidence here (jars and tankards). Other greywares and oxidised wares could come from a variety of local and/or regional sources, including Oxfordshire and the south-west.
- 5.2.9 Other coarseware types comprise grog-tempered wares, probably of local manufacture, used generally for thick-walled storage jars; and shelly wares, a well known and widely distributed late Roman type from the Midlands, found here in typical 4<sup>th</sup> century hooked rim jar forms (layer 201, Trench 7 topsoil).

#### *Conclusions*

- 5.2.10 The range of wares and vessel forms is sufficient to demonstrate a date range from later 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, but with no demonstrable evidence for pre-Flavian activity on the Site, and with a focus of activity in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD, tailing off thereafter. The wares present show an expected, although somewhat restricted range of sources of supply, with local wares (Severn Valley types) augmented by coarsewares from south Dorset, the Midlands and possibly the south-west, mortaria from south Wales and Oxfordshire, finewares from the Nene Valley and Oxfordshire, and further finewares and amphorae from the continent.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)**

- 5.3.1 A relatively small quantity of CBM was recovered (some selectivity in recovery was employed on the Site, particularly from large-scale demolition and rubble layers). This included one group from the fill of kiln (502).
- 5.3.2 The CBM has been quantified by type (*tegula*, box flue, etc), and totals are given in **Table 3**. The condition of much of the material, however, has rendered classification by type impossible; miscellaneous fragments (small, abraded pieces with one or no surviving surfaces) make up just under half of the total number. Flat fragments (with two surviving surfaces) could derive from various tile types; one carries two dog paw prints.
- 5.3.3 Of particular interest within the villa complex was the exposure of the well-preserved mosaic in Trench 1; this was made up of a combination of ceramic and stone tesserae (see **Front Cover** and **Figure 5**), but no tesserae were lifted. The ceramic tesserae that were recovered (26 from Trench 1 topsoil, probably originating from the mosaic; and two from layer (204)) were of slightly larger size than the stone tesserae (see below); some were clearly cut from combed box flue tiles.
- 5.3.4 Other identifiable types include *tegula* and *imbrex* roof tile, here present in roughly equal quantities. Box flue tiles are identifiable by combed surfaces;

there are no roller-stamped examples here, such as have been found on other sites in Gloucestershire.

- 5.3.5 There are a few bricks, identified through thickness, but none with surviving dimensions to enable attribution to specific brick types.
- 5.3.6 Two of the bricks (one with a finger-smearred ‘signature’) came from the fill of kiln (502), along with two rather amorphous pieces of what may merely be fired clay. Also recovered were some *tegulae*, box flue and flat tiles, two lumps of tile fragments fused together by vitrification, and an incomplete example of an unusual moulded brick type with one ‘wavy’ edge. The kiln was partly built of roof (*tegula*) and box flue tiles (see **Figure 9**).

#### **5.4 Wall Plaster and Opus Signinum**

- 5.4.1 Other building material is represented by fragments of wall plaster from Trenches 1, 2, 7 and 8, and one piece of *opus signinum* from Trench 2. The plaster includes both monochrome (red, white) and polychrome examples (blue/green, white with blue and red stripes). None of the pieces is of any size, however, and quantities are far too small to enable reconstruction of overall designs. None was found *in situ*, instead deriving entirely from topsoil or rubble/demolition deposits.
- 5.4.2 *Opus signinum* was used for lining floors, walls and water storage features (e.g. baths, tanks); it was used here as bedding for the mosaic in Trench 1 (although none was lifted from this deposit).

#### **5.5 Stone**

- 5.5.1 The stone also constitutes building material, consisting largely of fragments of sandstone (micaceous and ferruginous, from the Pennant deposits) and limestone roof tiles, and blue-grey Lias tesserae (the latter around 10mm square). Blue-grey tesserae were observed to form part of the mosaics in Trench 1, although loose examples came from Trenches 2 and 3 as well as Trench 1.
- 5.5.2 There are also pieces of oolitic limestone, at least one of which appears to be part of a block, with one worked face (robber trench 104). Two other more irregular oolitic fragments came from the fill of kiln (502), where they may have formed part of the structure.

#### **5.6 Coins**

- 5.6.1 Eighteen copper alloy coins were recovered. All of these are Roman coins, predominantly of the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. In general the coins are in poor condition, with many showing signs of corrosion. A number also show signs of pre-depositional wear.
- 5.6.2 Only one of the coins from the site could not be closely dated (Object 16). This small copper alloy coin was rendered illegible by corrosion. Its size, however, suggests that it is a *nummus* of the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, possibly a copy of an ‘official’ issue.

- 5.6.3 The earliest well-dated coins from the Site are a group of eight radiate *antoniniani* of the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Four of these are thought likely to be copies or probable copies. These are contemporary copies of ‘official’ coinage, possibly struck to compensate for gaps in supply of coinage to Britain and to supply sufficient small change for the provinces needs. It is unclear whether these copies were officially sanctioned, if at all, but they are not uncommon as site finds, and seem to have circulated in the same fashion as officially struck coins.
- 5.6.4 The remaining nine coins all date to the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and comprise five coins of the House of Constantine, one of Magnentius and three of the House of Valentinian. These represent the dominant periods of coin loss in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and suggest that the Site continued in use throughout much of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. The presence of the worn Valentinianic coins in the assemblage indicates that the site probably remained in use into the late 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- 5.6.5 Eight coins were recovered from Trench 1. One of these, an *antoninianus* of Victorinus, was recovered from the backfill of the 2003 excavation. Another *antoninianus* was recovered from layer (103), probably a demolition deposit. The remaining coins, comprising five *antoniniani* of the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century and a *nummus* of Magnentius were recovered from layer (107), which overlay the mosaic floor. This presumably also represents a post-demolition or abandonment deposit. The coins from this trench form an interesting group, with the vast majority dated to the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, many of which were associated with abandonment or robbing deposits. The anomalous coin amongst those found is the coin of Magnentius, minted between AD 350 and 353.
- 5.6.6 Seven coins were recovered from trench 2, targeted on another part of the structural complex. Six of these were recovered from layer (201), a mixed deposit containing demolition material. These are dominated by issues of the House of Constantine, struck between AD 330 and 345, although a single *antoninianus* of Tetricus I (AD 270 – 273) and a *nummus* of the House of Valentinian (AD 364 – 378) are also present. The only other coin from this trench is a *nummus* of the House of Constantine, struck between AD 330 and 345, recovered from the fill of small sub-rectangular feature (205).
- 5.6.7 The single coin recovered unstratified from trench 3 is likely to date to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD (topsoil).
- 5.6.8 Two coins were recovered unstratified from Trench 9, a *nummus* of Gratian (layer 901) and a *nummus* of the House of Constantine (layer 902).
- 5.6.9 The small assemblage of coins from the Site indicate that there was activity here during the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, despite the majority being recovered from unstratified and demolition contexts. There are no coins that might point to earlier activity on the Site (in contrast to the pottery evidence: see above). While there is no clear evidence for the date of abandonment of the site, the number of worn Valentinianic coins recovered points to the continued use of the Site well into the late 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.

## 5.7 Metalwork

- 5.7.1 As well as coins, metalwork comprises objects of copper alloy, iron and lead. Copper alloy items comprise two pins (one with a cylindrical, one with a globular head; layer 201 and Trench 3 topsoil respectively), a bow brooch (Trench 3 topsoil), a decorative mount (layer 201), a folded strip with rivet holes (Trench 3 topsoil), and an unidentified object (layer 107).
- 5.7.2 The ironwork consists largely of nails and other structural items; there are also six hobnails, presumed to be from footwear (all from topsoil contexts); no other objects were identified. All the iron is in very corroded condition.
- 5.7.3 Most of the lead comprises waste fragments; there is also one rectangular sheet fragment with rivet holes (layer 201).

## 5.8 Animal Bone

- 5.8.1 The faunal assemblage consists of 138 hand-collected mammal bone fragments. Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion, and therefore specimen counts (NISP) given here differ from the absolute raw fragment counts in **Table 1**.
- 5.8.2 The overall condition of the bone is fair with some contexts in poor condition. Some bones showed signs of root etching. Approximately 7% of the bones showed signs of gnawing, and canid scavenging might thus have been a biasing factor. Six small bone fragments showed signs of burning. At 14%, the number of loose teeth is quite high and probably indicates that at least some of the contexts have been reworked.
- 5.8.3 The identified remains consists of cattle (n=38), sheep/goat (41), pig (6) and horse (3). Of these, 22 could be aged and 15 measured. The remains of cattle, horse and sheep/goat are of skeletally mature animals. A cattle scapula shows a chop mark on the *spina* typical of meat stripping. Sheep was positively identified. Layer (103) contained the complete metacarpus of sheep which permitted the calculation of a withers height of c.64 cm (Teichert 1975). This is a normal value for sheep in the Roman period.
- 5.8.4 Of note is the mandible of a neonate pig in layer (107). It is known that suckling pigs were a characteristic of Roman cuisine. Furthermore, the fill of kiln (502) contained parts of cattle and horse pelvis. They derived from large, robust animals and had pronounced muscle attachments. These bones probably belonged to steer/oxen and stallion.

## 5.9 Other Finds

- 5.9.1 Other finds comprise very small quantities of clay tobacco pipe (one stem), undiagnostic fired clay, ironworking slag, and marine shell (oyster).

## **5.10 Potential**

- 5.10.1 The evaluation produced a small finds assemblage in which the only material types to occur in any quantity were pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone, and not even these categories are represented by sufficient quantities to render further analysis worthwhile. All material types have been recorded in sufficient detail to provide a minimum archive record, which could be assimilated into the results of any further research on the Site.

## **6 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **6.1 Introduction**

- 6.1.1 Two samples were examined, both from the kiln in Trench 5 (506/508). The samples were processed for the recovery of charred plant remains, charcoals and other palaeoenvironmental material.
- 6.1.2 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 4**) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).
- 6.1.3 The samples came from well sealed contexts which were free of roots and modern seeds. The charred material was generally very well preserved.

### **6.2 Charred Plant Remains and Charcoal**

- 6.2.1 Only the sample from burnt deposit (502) produced any charred plant remains, while that from the flue itself (503), contained only a few fragments of wood charcoal. The sample from (502) had only a few cereal remains, including a grain of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) and some glume bases.
- 6.2.2 The dominant remains in this sample were fruits and thorns of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), as well as a single seed of bramble (*Rubus* sp.). The sample also contained a number of seeds of dock (*Rumex* sp.), and single seeds of clover (*Trifolium* sp.), medick (*Medicago* sp.), sedge (*Carex* sp.), and possibly heath grass (*Danthonia decumbens*).
- 6.2.3 Wood charcoal was also relatively frequent within this same sample, in particular round wood, twigs and branch wood, some of which are certainly likely to be of hawthorn. Several larger charcoal fragments that could clearly be seen to be ring-porous are probably of oak (*Quercus* sp.).

### **6.3 Land Molluscs**

- 6.3.1 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Kerney (1999).

- 6.3.2 Both flots contained shells of land snails, although relatively few were recovered from the flue (503). The main species represented were of intermediate and shaded conditions. Relating to the former were shells of *Cochlicopa* spp., to the latter those of *Discus rotundatus*, *Carychium* sp. and *Aegopinella* sp. Several shells of open country species were also present including *Vallonia* sp., *Vertigo* sp. and *Helicella itala*.

## 6.4 Summary

- 6.4.1 The remains of hawthorn and bramble are certainly likely to come from the use of hawthorn shrub for fuel within the kiln. The remains of cereals probably represent chance incorporations derived from the waste from local domestic activities conducted on the site. Spelt wheat is the dominant crop both at towns and other villas known within this part of the West Country, for example Turkdean (Holbrook 2004), Tewkesbury (Stevens 2004), Truckle Hill (Wessex Archaeology 2008), Withington (Wessex Archaeology 2006) and Frocester (Clarke 1970, 1971; Jones 2000; Price 2000, 257-8).

## 6.5 Potential

- 6.5.1 The charred plant remains have the potential to examine both the fuel and the crops grown upon the site. Such potential is limited by the low number of cereal remains, and all the identifications of species have been conducted during the assessment.
- 6.5.2 The charcoal from deposit (502) has the potential to examine the selection and collection of wood for fuel for the kiln, as well as providing information on the broad nature and composition of woodland resources within the local environment. Such analysis may also reveal any possible woodland management practices. Given the high presence of hawthorn macrofossils, such potential may be limited.
- 6.5.3 The molluscs have the potential to examine the immediate environment of the kiln. However, as no specific samples were taken for molluscan remains and that only a single context is available such potential is limited.

## 7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1.1 The evaluation has made an important contribution to understanding the extent, character and condition of the Roman remains at Coberley. It has shown that despite demolition and subsequent agricultural activity on the Site, substantial remains of a villa still exist below ground. Finds evidence has demonstrated that activity on the Site spanned the Roman period, although apparently focusing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD, and with no pre-Flavian evidence.
- 7.1.2 The site lies approximately 2.5km to the north-east of Ermine Street, roughly midway between the *civitas* capital of *Corinium* (Cirencester) and the *colonia* of *Glevum* (Gloucester). It is one of a number of villas known across the Cotswolds – others include Great Witcombe, 5km to the west of

Coberley; Chedworth, 9.5km to the east; and Colesbourne (also known as Combend), 3km to the south-east. The situation of the Coberley villa is similar to others in the area, occupying a plateau overlooking a river valley, close to two springs.

#### *Extent*

- 7.1.3 The extent of the villa building is now known with reasonable certainty, confirming the results of the previous geophysical survey of the site (Noel 2004). This is believed to have been an 'H' shape, occupying a partly artificial plateau between the two valleys on the western side of the Site. Evidence of industrial activity in the form of tile production was found, in what appears to have been the south-east corner of the villa complex which extended to the east of the villa building itself.

#### *Date sequence/function*

- 7.1.4 In similar fashion to other villas of the Cotswolds, the Coberley villa probably evolved through a series of modifications and extensions before it finally went out of use. Dating of the remains is provided by artefactual evidence, analysis of the mosaic and stratigraphically through relationships between features and deposits.

- 7.1.5 Initial dating of the mosaic was made by David Neal (in Mullin 2006). Taking into account the design and technical features, Neal draws parallels with an example from Verulamium to arrive at a late 2<sup>nd</sup> to early 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD date. Comparisons have also been drawn with the mosaic at Great Witcombe, of similar date (A. Beeson, pers. comm.). The mosaic is considered to have been within a *triclinium*. The original view to the east from this room would, however, have been obscured by the addition of the southern wing.

- 7.1.6 The southern wing, which was probably mirrored by a northern wing, is believed to have been an addition to the original structure, turning a simple corridor structure into a winged villa, partly because of the stratigraphic relationship recorded in Trench 3, where the apsidal wall cut a substantial ditch, indicative of an earlier phase. The northern wing was constructed upon made-ground which includes a backfilled depression in the north plateau edge.

- 7.1.7 The kiln in trench 5 is thought to have been used for the on-site production of tile (and possibly also brick), specifically for the Coberley villa. The recovery of a single piece of moulded brick raises the possibility that other, more unusual ceramic forms were also made here.

- 7.1.8 There is no clear evidence for the date of abandonment of the site, but the presence of a little 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery, and several mid to late 4<sup>th</sup> century coins, indicates continued use of the Site well into the late Roman period, although all this evidence comes from post-demolition contexts.

#### *Character/condition*

- 7.1.9 The preservation of the Roman archaeology was generally very good. Although part of the mosaic has been damaged in modern times by



ploughing, other areas are better preserved. The partially exposed mosaic to the north of that in what was probably the *triclinium* was slightly deeper below the present ground surface and appeared to be in excellent condition.

- 7.1.10 The major structural elements including floors and walls are generally sealed below considerable demolition debris and overlying soils. The foundations of the villa are either preserved *in situ* or are represented by robber trenches.
- 7.1.11 The lower parts of the kiln survived in excellent condition. The stone flue was filled by material from the above ground superstructure, demolished after it was no longer of use. Geophysical evidence strongly suggests that two more sites of industrial activity exist in the southern valley.

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1.1 Given the above assessment of the results of the evaluation, no further analysis of the structural evidence, finds or environmental data is considered to be necessary. A report on the evaluation will be submitted to the Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record, and it is recommended that a short summary of the results is submitted to the *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in the county.

## **9 ARCHIVE**

- 9.1.1 The excavated finds and archive, including plans, photographs and written records are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 65311 and site code COB 07. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with the Corinium Museum, Cirencester.

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**Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

<b>Material</b>	<b>Tr 1</b>	<b>Tr 2</b>	<b>Tr 3</b>	<b>Tr 4</b>	<b>Tr 5</b>	<b>Tr 6</b>	<b>Tr 7</b>	<b>Tr 8</b>	<b>Tr 9</b>	<b>Tr 11</b>	<b>Total</b>
Pottery	31/259	396/3722	78/520	10/105	1/9	-	8/64	5/27	-	-	529/4706
	30/252	396/3722	78/520	10/105	1/9	-	8/64	5/27	-	-	528/4699
	1/7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/7
Ceramic Building Material	36/2343	119/6829	67/977	-	19/14,903	9/492	22/1518	-	-	4/143	276/29,005
Opus Signinum	-	1/45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/45
Wall Plaster	26/471	1/62	-	-	-	-	18/377	20/318	-	-	65/1228
Fired Clay	1/1	8/47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9/48
Clay Pipe	-	-	1/3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/3
Stone	36/2334	5/167	2/18	-	2/3724	1/43	1/16	2/35	-	-	49/6337
Glass	2/2	24/52	2/3	-	-	-	1/1	-	-	-	29/58
Slag	-	3/29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3/29
Metalwork	100	117	11	-	-	-	7	1	2	-	238
	9	9	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	25
	91	81	6	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	184
Animal Bone	39/426	74/940	30/301	9/100	5/376	1/110	5/60	-	-	-	163/2313
Shell	1/15	15/378	5/12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21/405

**Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type**

<b>Ware</b>	<b>No. Sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Amphora	2	220
Black Burnished ware	192	1502
Central Gaulish black-slipped ware	1	5
Central Gaulish colour coat	3	21
Glazed ware	1	1
Greywares	216	1731
Grog-tempered wares	11	223
Misc. colour coat	2	6
Nene Valley colour coat	4	27
Oxidised wares	20	110
Oxon colour coated mortaria	1	24
Oxon colour coated ware	1	5
Oxon whiteware mortaria	3	218
S Wales mortaria	1	40
Samian	15	122
Severn Valley ware	47	530
Shelly ware	8	49
Post-medieval redware	1	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>4841</b>

**Table 3: CBM totals by type**

<b>CBM type</b>	<b>Number</b>
Box flue	31
Brick	7
Fired clay?	2
Flat tile	52
Imbrex	10
Miscellaneous frags.	132
Moulded brick	1
Tegula	14
Tessera	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>277</b>

**Table 4: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal**

Feature type/no	Context	Sample	size litres	Flot					Notes	Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
				flot size ml %roots	Grain	Chaff	Charred other				
<b>Trench 5 Brick/Tile Kiln 506</b>											
Entrance to Flue in stoke pit	502	1	10	370 <sup>2</sup>	C	C	A*	20+ Crataegus monogyna & thorns (A**); 3x Triticum spelta grain; 3x T. spelta gb; 15+ Rumex; cf. 1x Danthonia; 1x Rubus; 1x Trifolium; 1x P. aviculare; 1x Medicago lupulina; 1x Carex (min)	120/100ml	Moll-t (A*)	
Flue	503	2	10	60 <sup>8</sup>	-	-	-	-	0.2/2 ml	Moll-t (B)	

KEY: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30- 99, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items.

## APPENDIX 1: Catalogue of trench descriptions

TRENCH 1		NGR: 396692 215176
Dimensions (m): 8.4 x 7.4 m		Ground Level: 190.2m OD
Context No.	Description	Depth (m)
100	Backfill of 2003 excavation. This comprised mostly sieved topsoil (106) with limestone and CBM derived from demolition deposit (107).	0 – 0.2
101	Mosaic surface. Constructed of white and blue limestone and CBM <i>tesserae</i> averaging 0.015m <sup>3</sup> in size and bonded with lime mortar. This was bedded on a layer of <i>opus signinum</i> (102) and was overlain by demolition deposits (107, 108).	0.34 – 0.36
102	<i>Opus signinum</i> bedding for mosaics (101/113). This a compact pinkish layer composed of lime mortar mixed with fine crushed CBM. This was laid directly on top of pre-construction levelling deposit (109).	0.36 – 0.38
103	Yellowish brown friable deposit of decomposed mortar and wall plaster. This partially overlay mosaics (101) and (113) and was also within robber cut (114).	0.2 – >0.4
104	Robber cut above wall foundation (112). This followed profile and alignment of original foundation cut (111). Filled with (105).	0.25 – 0.6
105	Backfill of robber trench (104). Comprised of mid-brown clay silt with components of small – medium sized limestone frags with CBM and mortar demolition debris.	0.25 – 0.6
106	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprised mid-grey brown clay silt with well sorted common pea sized limestone fragments and a moderate concentration of large sub-angular limestone fragments.	0 – 0.2
107	Limestone rich deposit, mainly abundant large subangular fragments mixed with flat roof tile type. This within a mid grey-brown clay silt matrix. Deposit partially overlay mosaic (101).	0.2 – 0.4
108	Pile of broken limestone roof tiles up to 0.35m in size associated with large lumps of degraded mortar. This deposit was situated below layer (107) within a damaged area of mosaic (101).	0.24 – 0.38
109	Local pre-construction deposit beneath <i>opus signinum</i> layer 102. Components included a moderate amount of small – medium sized limestone fragments with rare small fragments of CBM.	0.25 – 0.4
110	Re-deposited locally sourced natural pinkish brown silty clay with a moderate amount of large sized limestone fragments and rare medium sized fragments of CBM. This beneath deposited immediately prior to (109) during landscaping of site and construction of building platform.	0.4 – 0.68
111	Foundation cut for wall foundation (112). This orientated E-W parallel with top of southern slope of construction platform and truncates pre-construction deposits (109) and (110).	<0.6 – 0.8
112	Remnants of wall foundation representing the southernmost range of the building. This would have enclosed the room with mosaic (101) and probably joined up with wall (307) to the east. Foundation mostly robbed out by cut (104) but still partially exists in base of original foundation cut (111). This comprises well sorted medium – large sized limestone chunks loosely adhered with lime mortar.	0.6 – 0.8
113	Partially exposed mosaic surface within adjacent room to mosaic (101). This of similar construction, with blue limestone tesserae averaging 0.015m <sup>3</sup> in size bonded with lime mortar and bedded upon <i>opus signinum</i> (102).	0.36 – 0.38
114	Unexcavated robber or foundation cut for E-W wall dividing mosaics (101) and (113). Parallel to wall foundation (111), (112). Filled at surface with (103).	>0.33

115	Robber cut at western extent of mosaic (101). Aligned N-S, perpendicular to (114), and (104/111).	>0.27
116	Unexcavated fill of (115) at surface. Comprised mid grey-brown clay silt with abundant well sorted medium sized chunks of limestone.	>0.27

<b>TRENCH 2</b>		NGR: 396686 215193
<b>Dimensions (m):</b> 12.85 x 4.8 m		<b>Ground Level:</b> 159.85 OD
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
200	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprises dark grey- brown clay silt with a moderate concentration of pea-small scale limestone fragments and occasional small fragments of sub-angular limestone and pottery.	0 – 0.23
201	Soil mixed with disturbed demolition material. Comprises mid grey-brown clay silt with common poorly sorted small – large scale sub-angular limestone fragments and a moderate amount of small – large CBM fragments. This mainly covers deposits considered as being exterior to the structural remains in this trench.	0.23 – 0.4
202	Feature directly on top of wall (216). This was oval in plan and was slightly wider than the extant foundation. The sides were near vertical with an irregular base well within the foundation core.	0.46 – 0.81
203	Single fill of feature (202). Comprises homogenous dark brown clay silt with a sparse amount of pottery and CBM.	0.46 – 0.81
204	As (201) but overlying the interior deposits.	0.23 – 0.35
205	Small feature cutting natural layer (222). This is sub-rectangular in plan with a steep southern edge and more gradually sloping northern and eastern edges to a narrow concave base.	0.4 – 0.65
206	Single fill of (205). Comprises homogenous dark grey-brown clay silt with components including a moderate amount of small sub-angular limestone fragments and a sparse amount of small scale pottery and CBM.	0.4 – 0.65
207	Spread of material beneath demolition deposit (201), which fills but exists beyond the surface boundaries of depression (219). This comprises dark grey brown silt clay with a moderate amount of well sorted large limestone fragments mainly present towards the top of the deposit and mixed with a sparse amount of CBM and pottery.	0.4 – 0.9
208	Demolition material overlying floor surface (213) and the backfilled robber trench (212). Comprises light grey-brown clay silt with common well sorted small – medium sub angular limestone fragments with a moderate amount of large roof tile fragments, CBM and degraded chunks of lime-mortar.	0.18 – 0.43
209	Levelling/bedding layer for floor layer (211) that overlies original floor (210). This is a compact and cohesive deposit of lime mortar mixed with crushed limestone.	0.34 – 0.52
210	Initial floor layer of room to east of wall represented by (221/214). This is an uneven off white layer of compacted lime mortar eventually covered by (209) and replaced by (211).	>0.53
211	Replacement floor of room to east of wall (221/214), overlying bedding layer (209). This is a white compact and cohesive layer of lime mortar mixed with fine crushed limestone.	0.32 – 0.34
212	Robber trench above wall foundation (214). This follows alignment of, although is probably slightly wider than original foundation cut (221).	0.4 – 1.03



213	Backfill of robber trench (212). This comprises friable yellowish grey-brown silt with common various sized pieces of degraded mortar and common poorly sorted sub-angular limestone fragments.	0.4 – 1.03
214	Remnants of wall foundation within cut (221) and below robber cut (212). The foundation is comprised of large well sorted pieces of limestone loosely adhered with lime mortar.	>1.03
215	Demolition deposit, partially overlying (208) and stone surface (217). Comprises mid grey-brown clay silt with a moderate amount of small – medium sized sub-angular pieces of limestone.	0.18 – 0.5
216	Wall foundation within cut (218). Highest surviving course was flat and at ground level. This was faced either side with large pieces of limestone with a core of smaller fragments of limestone all adhered with lime mortar.	0.48 – 0.81
217	Possible exterior / semi-exterior surface on top of pre-construction layer (218). Compact and relatively flat deposit of well sorted small and medium sized pieces of limestone mixed with mid grey-brown clay silt.	0.53 – 0.64
218	Pre-construction levelling deposit. Layer is pinkish-brown clay with poorly sorted small pieces of limestone and a small amount of pottery.	>0.64
219	Large irregularly shaped pit or depression. Feature has a shallow concave profile with gradually sloping sides. This feature was responsible for a large geophysical anomaly which was targeted by the trench.	0.4 – 0.8
220	Foundation cut containing wall foundation (216). This is orientated N-S and is parallel with wall foundation (214), to the east.	0.48 – 0.81
221	Foundation cut for foundation (214). This is orientated N-S on the same alignment as wall foundation (216), to the west.	>1.03
222	Natural geological layer. Consists of a mottled orangey brown silty clay matrix with common small angular limestone fragments. This has intermittent surface patches of medium sized pieces of sandstone which may be remnant of a continuation of surface (217).	>0.4

<b>TRENCH 3</b>		<b>NGR: 396727 396722</b>
<b>Dimensions (m): 7 x 6.4 m</b>		<b>Ground Level: 191 OD</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
300	Agriculturally formed topsoil. Comprises dark grey- brown clay silt with a moderate concentration of pea-small scale limestone fragments and occasional small fragments of sub-angular limestone and pottery.	0 – 0.21
301	Demolition material mixed with soil beneath topsoil (300). Comprises a light – mid grey-brown silty clay matrix with rubble consisting of common small – large angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, a moderate amount of small – large CBM fragments and a sparse amount of charcoal.	0.21 – 0.37
302	Final fill of ditch (303). Comprises a light grey-brown silty clay containing a moderate amount of small – large angular and sub-angular pieces of limestone and a moderate amount of CBM fragments with rare quantities of charcoal, bone and pottery. This deposit likely used as levelling agent immediately predating construction of wall (306/307).	0.37 – 0.6
303	Large straight, parallel sided ditch orientated E-W and represented by a geophysical anomaly. Profile has a steep north side and a more gradual south side with a wide slightly concave base. The ditch has two fills; (304) and (302) and cuts natural clay (305).	0.37 – 0.91

304	Lower fill of ditch (303). Comprises a mottled orangey-brown / grey-brown clay with a sparse amount of small-large angular flints. This is re-deposited natural, partly primary initial fill derived from upcast and partly excavation overcut.	0.6 – 0.91
305	Orangey-brown natural clay with a sparse amount of small-large flints and pieces of subangular limestone.	0.26 – >0.91
306	Cut for wall foundation (307). This is curvilinear within the trench, entering from the west and then orientating towards the north.	>0.23
307	Wall foundation within cut (306). This would have enclosed an apsidal room which would have been the easternmost range of the building. This has been truncated after 3.6m by robber trenches (308) and (310). At the surface this is constructed of large pieces of limestone with a rubble core adhered with lime mortar.	>0.23
308	Section of robber trench that truncates wall (307). This follows the original curvilinear alignment of foundation cut (306) but is slightly wider in some areas.	>0.23
309	Unexcavated backfill of robber trench (308). This is a mixed deposit of light grey – brown to medium grey brown silty clay with common small – large angular and sub-angular fragments of limestone with a moderate amount of small – large CBM fragments and a sparse amount of charcoal.	>0.23
310	Section of robber trench that truncates wall (307). This follows the original curvilinear alignment of foundation cut (306) but is slightly wider in some areas.	>0.23
311	Unexcavated backfill of robber trench (310). This is a mixed deposit of light grey – brown to medium grey brown silty clay with common small – large angular and sub-angular fragments of limestone with a moderate amount of small – large CBM fragments and a sparse amount of charcoal.	>0.23
312	Section of robber trench that truncates wall (307). This follows the original curvilinear alignment of foundation cut (306) but is slightly wider in some areas.	>0.23
313	Backfill of robber trench (308). This is a mixed deposit of light grey – brown to medium grey brown silty clay with common small – large angular and sub-angular fragments of limestone with a moderate amount of small – large CBM fragments and a sparse amount of charcoal.	>0.23

<b>TRENCH 4</b>		<b>NGR: 396811 215123</b>
<b>Dimensions (m): 5.7 x 1.5 m</b>		<b>Ground Level: 190.5 OD</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
400	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprises a light-mid brown silty loam with common poorly sorted sub-angular fragments of limestone up to 0.06m.	0 – 0.25
401	Colluvium. Comprises mid orangey-brown clay with common poorly sorted angular and sub-angular limestone fragments up to 0.11m in size.	0.25 – 0.4
402	Re-cut of ditch (404), cut after formation of deposit (405) within original ditch. Respects original N-S alignment. This has steep flat sides with a wide slightly concave base. This contains a single fill (403).	0.4 – 1.2
403	Single fill of ditch (402). Comprises light-mid yellowish brown silty clay with common medium sized sub-angular limestone fragments and common fragments of CBM with occasional pieces of pottery.	0.4 – 1.2

404	Ditch cut. Straight and parallel sided. Ditch has moderately sloping slightly uneven sides and a wide slightly concave base shared with re-cut (402). This contains a single fill (405).	0.4 – 1.2
405	Single fill of ditch (404). This comprises light yellowish brown silty clay with occasional small – medium sized limestone pieces and occasional pieces of tile.	0.4 – 1.2

<b>TRENCH 5</b>		<b>NGR: 396796 215127</b>
<b>Dimensions: 8.4 x 7.7 m</b>		<b>Ground Level: 190.8 OD</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
500	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprises mid grey-brown clay silt.	0 – 0.2
501	Fill of kiln structure (502). This comprised a pinkish brown silty clay matrix with abundant poorly sorted brick and tile rubble, a moderate amount of medium – large sized pieces of limestone and abundant fragments of burnt clay. This is mostly derived from the demolition of the kiln.	0.2 – 0.92
502	Burnt deposit at entrance to flue of kiln (508). This mottled grey/black clay silt deposit is the ash and charcoal from the last firing episode conducted before demolition of the kiln.	>1.0
503	Burnt deposit within intervention through flue of kiln (508) (Same as 502). Mottled grey/black clay silt comprised of ash and small fragments of charcoal.	>0.92
506	Subterranean remains of kiln structure within cut (508). The structure comprises two parallel walls, lower at the southern unenclosed end that would have been the opening. Construction is of large, wide and flat pieces of limestone laid in flat courses and bonded with lime mortar. The heat from the furnace has blackened and partially vitrified the stone on either side of the flue. The northern end is enclosed with a structure built of CBM, mainly roof and box flue tiles are adhered together with lime mortar. A sloping stack of <i>tegula</i> tiles was placed at the base to direct heat into the firing chamber which would have been above the flue.	0.2 - >0.92
507	Natural clay probably sourced within the immediate and vicinity used as packing between the kiln structure (506) and the cut (508). This is particularly obvious at the north end around the ceramic part of the structure. Through direct exposure to heat from the kiln this has partly fired and turned red from the original yellowish-brown colour of the natural clay.	0.2 – >0.92
508	Cut for kiln (506). This is a stone and CBM built structure cut into and perpendicular to the natural clay slope (515) of the south facing side of an E-W orientated dry valley.	0.2 – >0.92
509	Unexcavated fill of partially exposed feature (511). This deposit is central within the feature and surrounded by the stony packing; (510). The deposit is mid grey-brown silty clay with no coarse components.	>0.2
510	Unexcavated fill of partially exposed feature (511). This surrounds the central context (509) and comprises a mid brown silt clay matrix with abundant small and medium sized limestone fragments.	>0.2
511	Cut for unexcavated feature on east side of kiln (506). This is rounded in plan although is only partially exposed within the trench. This is mirrored on the west side of the kiln by feature (513).	>0.2
512	Unexcavated fill of partially exposed feature (513). This is a mid grey-brown silt clay matrix with abundant small-medium sized stone pieces.	>0.2

513	Cut for unexcavated feature on east side of kiln (506). This is rounded in plan although is only partially exposed within the trench. This is mirrored on the east side of the kiln by feature (511).	>0.2
514	Deposit located at entrance to the kiln flue (506) beneath and surrounding the ash and charcoal deposit (502). This is yellowish brown naturally derived clay mixed with abundant fragments of CBM and debris from the firing of the kiln.	>0.75
515	Natural clay. Yellowish-brown in colour.	0.2 - >0.92

<b>TRENCH 6</b>		<b>NGR: 396649 215202</b>
<b>Dimensions:</b> 15.1 x 1.8 m		<b>Ground Level:</b> 199 OD
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
600	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprises grey-brown clay silt with occasional small sub-angular limestone fragments.	0 – 0.18
601	Black deposit consisting of charcoal mixed with silt with rare fragments of burnt bone. This was encountered towards the top of the topsoil and must have been a modern intrusion filled with fire waste.	0.1 – 0.22
602	Dich cut. Straight and parallel sided and orientated N-S. This is located on the western edge of the plateau occupied by the Roman building. The feature has slightly concave fairly steep sides with a wide slightly concave base.	c.0.3 – 0.78
603	Single fill of ditch (602). Comprises quickly deposited, friable, mid orangey-brown silty clay with a moderate amount of large pieces of limestone. This also contained rare Romano-British CBM.	c.0.3 – 0.78
604	Sub-soil. Thin transitional layer between the topsoil (600) and the geological natural (606). This comprises orangey-brown clay silt with a moderate quantity of small-large pieces of limestone, and occasional intrusive pieces of CBM towards the surface.	0.18 – 0.36
606	Geological natural. Outcopping of weathered limestone bedrock with orangey-brown silty clay mixed with small-large fragments of limestone.	0.36+

<b>TRENCH 7</b>		<b>NGR: 396661 215227</b>
<b>Dimensions:</b> 8.1 x 1.8 m		<b>Ground Level:</b> 187.09 OD
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
700	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Composed of mid grey-brown friable clay silt.	0 – 0.25
701	Spread of demolition material at southern end of trench, truncated by feature (702). This is a yellowish brown silt and rubble mix deposited over the demolished wall (707). The deposit contains common pieces of painted wall plaster, and fragments of CBM with angular and sub angular small-medium sized pieces of limestone.	0.25 – 0.5
702	Large but shallow feature truncating deposit (701) and remnants of wall foundation (706). This has gradual sloping sides and an uneven concave profile.	0.25 – 0.47
703	Single fill of feature (702). This is a loose mid-dark brown clay silt containing a moderate amount of CBM.	0.25 – 0.47
704	Partially excavated wall foundation within cut (709). On the surface this is constructed with large limestone blocks up to 0.18m <sup>3</sup> lain in a herringbone pitched fashion with a lower, unbonded rubble core. This is butted on the south side by the mortar surface (708) and is parallel with wall (706), located to the north.	0.38 – >0.63

705	Cut for foundation (706). This is straight and parallel-sided, orientated on an E-W alignment at the top of the slope running down from the northern edge of the plateau.	0.27 – 0.75
706	Remnant wall foundation within cut (705). This is of limestone construction with large facing blocks up to 0.22m <sup>3</sup> either side of a 0.35m wide core of unmortared rubble. This is parallel to wall (704), located to the south.	0.27 – 0.75
707	Made ground deposit of firm orangey brown naturally derived clay with sparse inclusions of CBM. This was truncated by foundation cut (709) and probably (705) as well. (This cannot be proven as relationship is obscured by intrusion (702)).	0.4 – 0.6
708	Possible mortar floor layer. This is a compact and cohesive spread of lime mortar with crushed limestone abutting and to the south of wall (704).	0.5+
709	Cut for wall foundation (704). This is straight and parallel sided with an E-W orientation located at the top of the slope running down from the northern edge of the plateau.	0.38 – >0.63
710	This is an undisturbed natural deposit of orangey-brown silt clay with common well sorted small and medium sized sub-angular fragments of limestone.	>0.1

<b>TRENCH 8</b>		<b>NGR:</b> 396679 215228
<b>Dimensions:</b> 10.7 x 1.9 m		<b>Ground Level:</b> 188.7 OD
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
800	Agriculturally derived topsoil. This comprises dark grey clay silt.	0 – 0.25
801	Demolition rubble comprised of mid-brown silt clay with patches of light mortar rich rubble amongst large-scale abundant pieces of sub-angular and angular limestone. This is mixed with common pieces of small – medium sized fragments of mortar and plaster and sparse up to 0.1m sized pieces of painted plaster (green and dark red paint).	0.25 – 0.68
802	Demolition rubble, similar to (801) although lighter with more sand and gravel in make-up. This is grey – yellow sandy silt with common pieces of broken CBM (mainly roof with some flue and floor tile). This was mixed with 50-60% small-medium sub-angular pieces of limestone and 10-20% large sub-angular pieces and blocks.	0.33 – 0.65
803	Demolition material partially overlain by (801). This comprises a mid brown clay silt matrix mixed with rubble; abundant, fragmented, small-medium sized, sub-angular pieces of limestone mixed with sparse various sized fragments of CBM.	>0.25
804	Undisturbed natural clay. This is orangey-brown in colour with common small limestone inclusions. This is only present in extreme north end of trench beyond the extent of the demolition dumps.	0.24 – 0.34
805	Irregularly shaped dump of lime mortar. Compact and concreted with sparse inclusions of fine crushed CBM. Unable to ascertain whether this was deposited prior to or during the deposition of (806). This probably represents a dump of excess material deposited at the same time as (809), during the construction or modification of the structure to the west.	0.65 – 0.82
806	Deposit existing beneath later dumps of demolition material and structural waste. This is buff yellow coloured loose sand and gravel containing sparse very large pieces of limestone. Some of these looked as if they were roughly cut into structural blocks.	0.8 – 1.15

807	Natural clay (804) contaminated with structural waste; sparse small fragments of limestone and common fragments of CBM, mainly roof tiles.	0.13 – 0.53
808	Dump of demolition material. Comprises a heterogenous mix of loose, closely packed small scale limestone rubble and a moderate quantity of large roughly cut limestone blocks.	0.46 – 0.75
809	Dump of <i>opus signinum</i> lime mortar mixed with crushed fragments of CBM. This is irregular in shape and probably represents a dump of excess material deposited at the same time as (805), during the construction or modification of the structure to the west.	0.17 – 0.2

<b>TRENCH 9</b>		<b>NGR:</b> 396650 215263
<b>Dimensions:</b> 6.4 x 1.5 m		<b>Ground Level:</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
901	Thin topsoil and turf line.	0 – 0.05
902	Colluvially derived mid-brown silty clay with rare small-medium sized sandstone fragments.	0.5 – 0.33
903	Bluish-grey clay, indicative of standing water which has allowed for deposition of organic material and silt. This slightly overlies (904).	0.33 – 0.65
904	Mottled yellow clay with a moderate amount of large sandstone blocks with occasional fragments of CBM. This is partially overlain by (903).	0.33 – 0.65
905	Sterile cohesive and compacted natural clay. Yellowish brown in colour.	>0.65

<b>TRENCH 10</b>		<b>NGR:</b> 396800 215138
<b>Dimensions:</b> 4.5 x 1.5 m		<b>Ground Level:</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
1001	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprised mid grey-brown silty loam with a moderate amount of small – medium sized fragments of limestone with rare small-large fragments of Romano-British CBM.	0 – 0.2
1002	Undisturbed natural clay. Yellowish brown in colour.	>0.2
1003	Only partially exposed unexcavated ditch. This seems to orientated E-W along the top of the south facing dry valley slope.	0.2 - >0.38
1004	Final fill of (1003). Comprises grey brown compact and cohesive silty clay. This contains rare bone, CBM and charcoal fragments.	0.2 - >0.38

<b>TRENCH 11</b>		<b>NGR:</b> 396830 215114
<b>Dimensions:</b> 6.4 x 1.5 m		<b>Ground Level:</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
1101	Agriculturally derived topsoil. Comprised mid grey-brown silty loam with a moderate amount of small – medium sized fragments of limestone with rare small-large fragments of Romano-British CBM.	0 – 0.1
1102	Colluvially derived sub-soil. Comprised mid grey-brown silt with rare small fragments of sandstone and CBM.	0.1 – 0.3

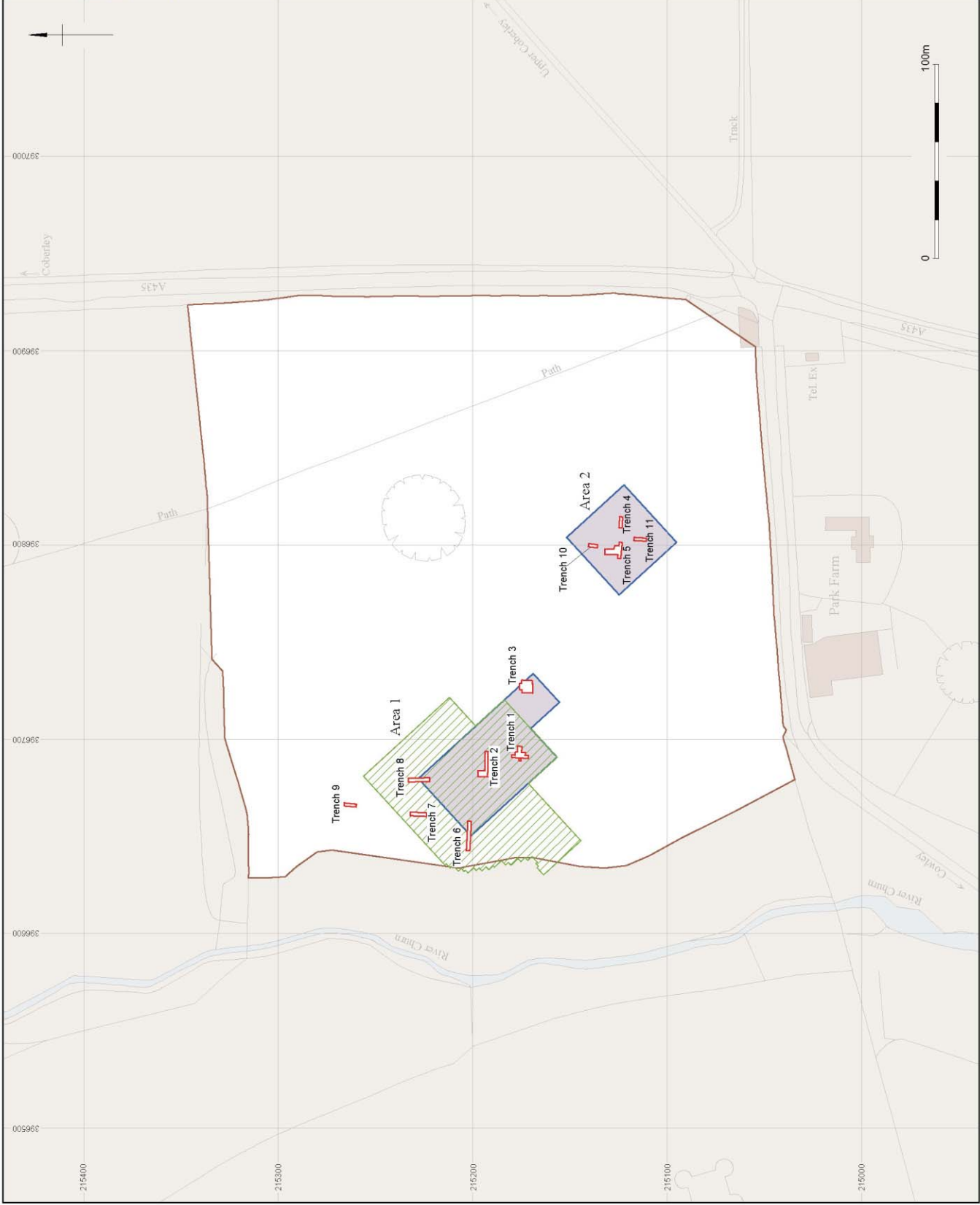
1103	Mid grey-brown silty clay with with abundant small – medium sized CBM fragments, a moderate amount of small – medium sized fragments of sandstone and rare fragments of pottery.	>0.3
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- Site boundary
- Trench
- Area of Resistivity Survey
- Area of Magnetometry
- Standing building
- Water

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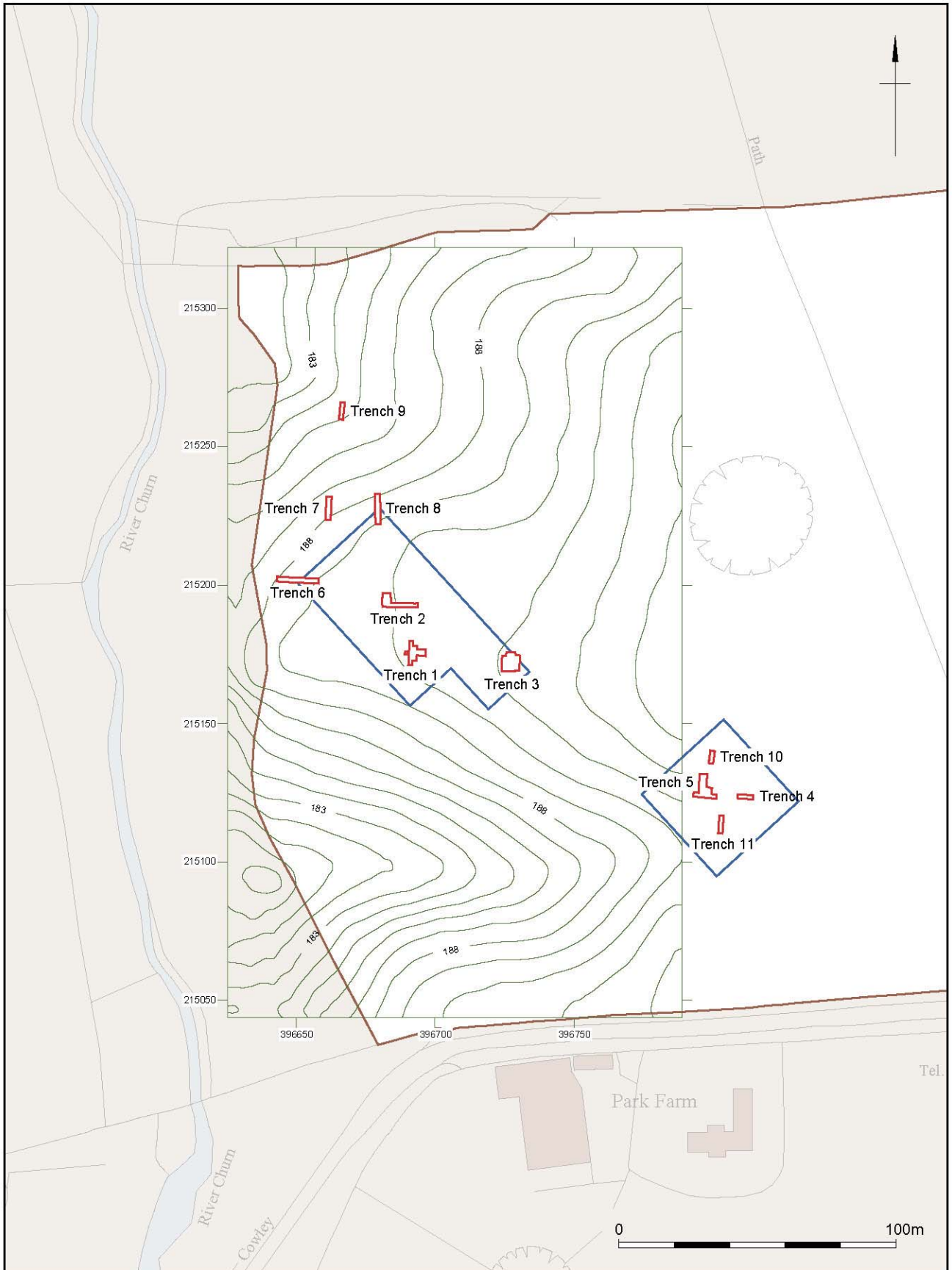
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Site location plan

Figure 1





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Topographic survey results

Figure 2



**A. Magnetometry**

**B. Resistivity Survey Results**

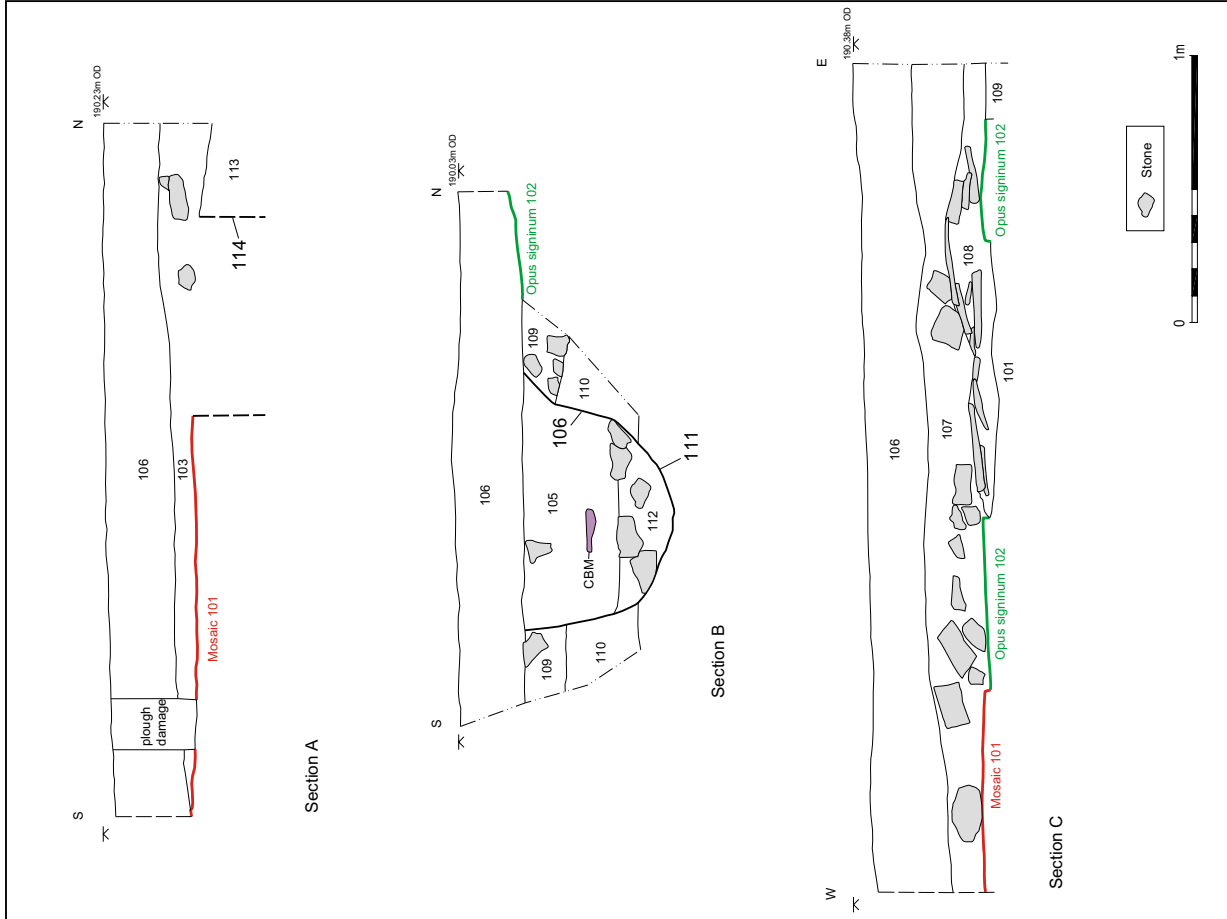


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Magnetometry survey and resistance survey results

Figure 3



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Trench

Trench 1 Figure 4



Plate 1: Mosaic detail (scale = 1m)

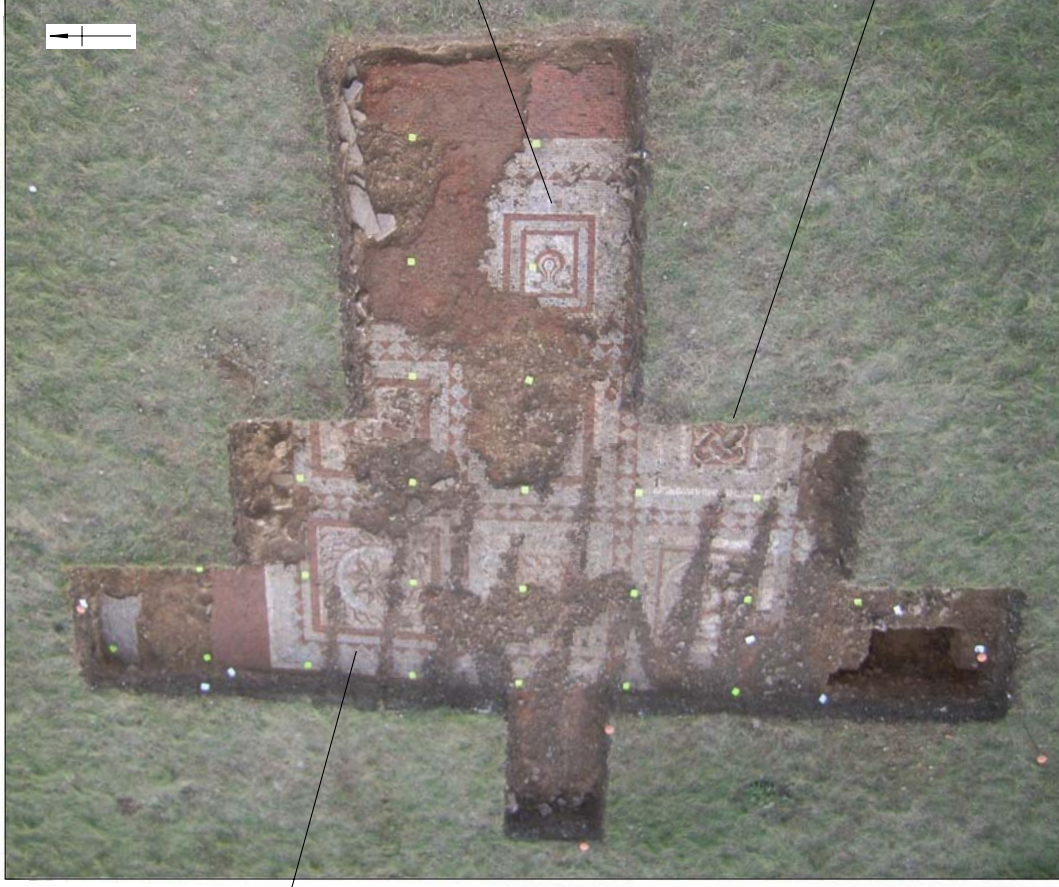


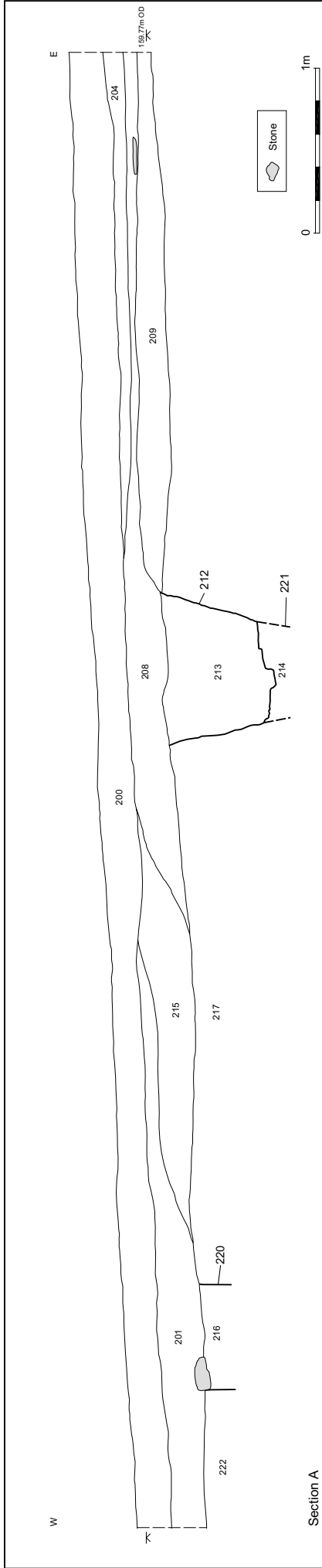
Plate 2: Overall aerial view of mosaic



Plate 3: Mosaic detail (scale = 1m)



Plate 4: Mosaic detail (scale = 1m)



Section A

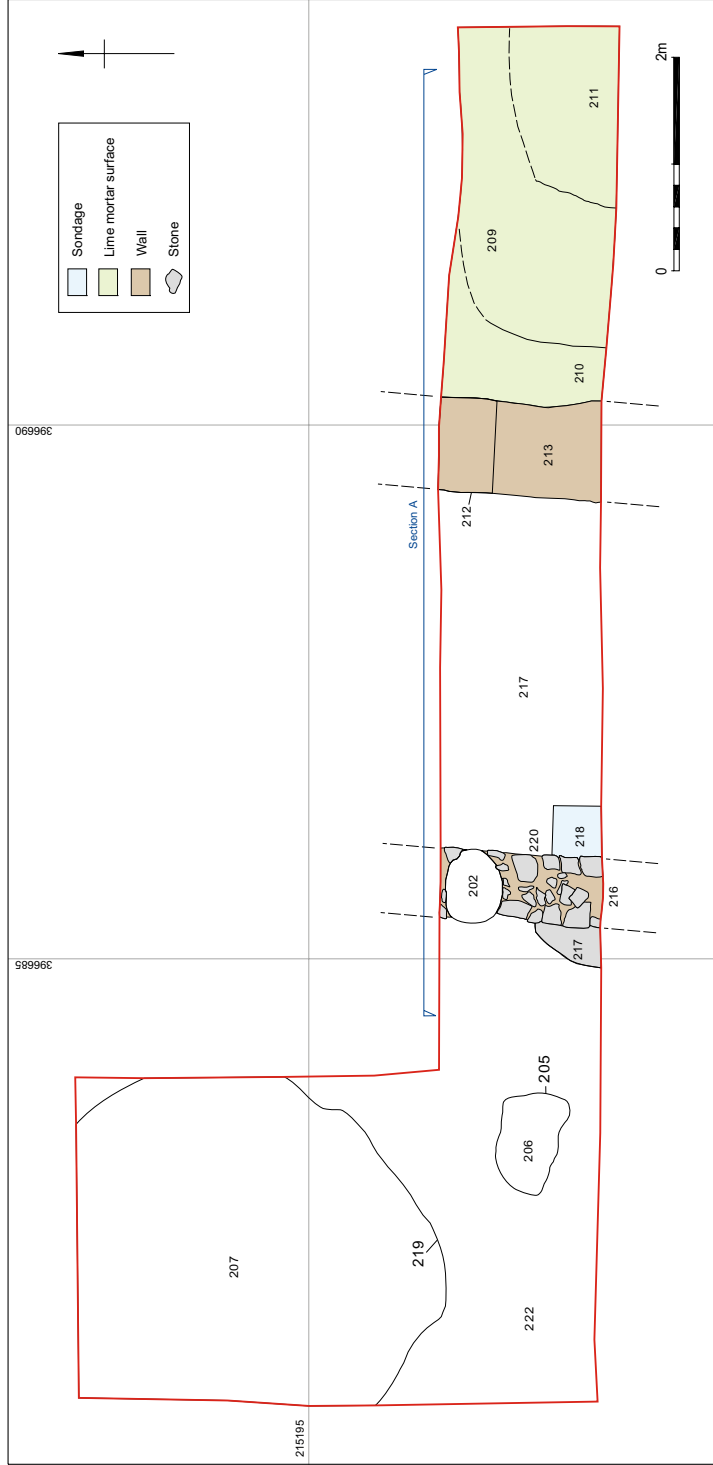


Plate 5: View of Wall 220, from the east

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	Trench		

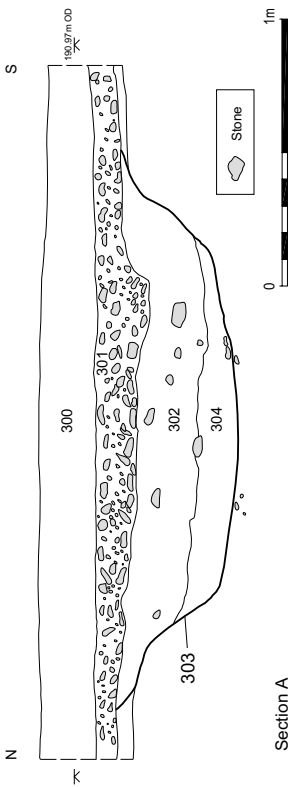
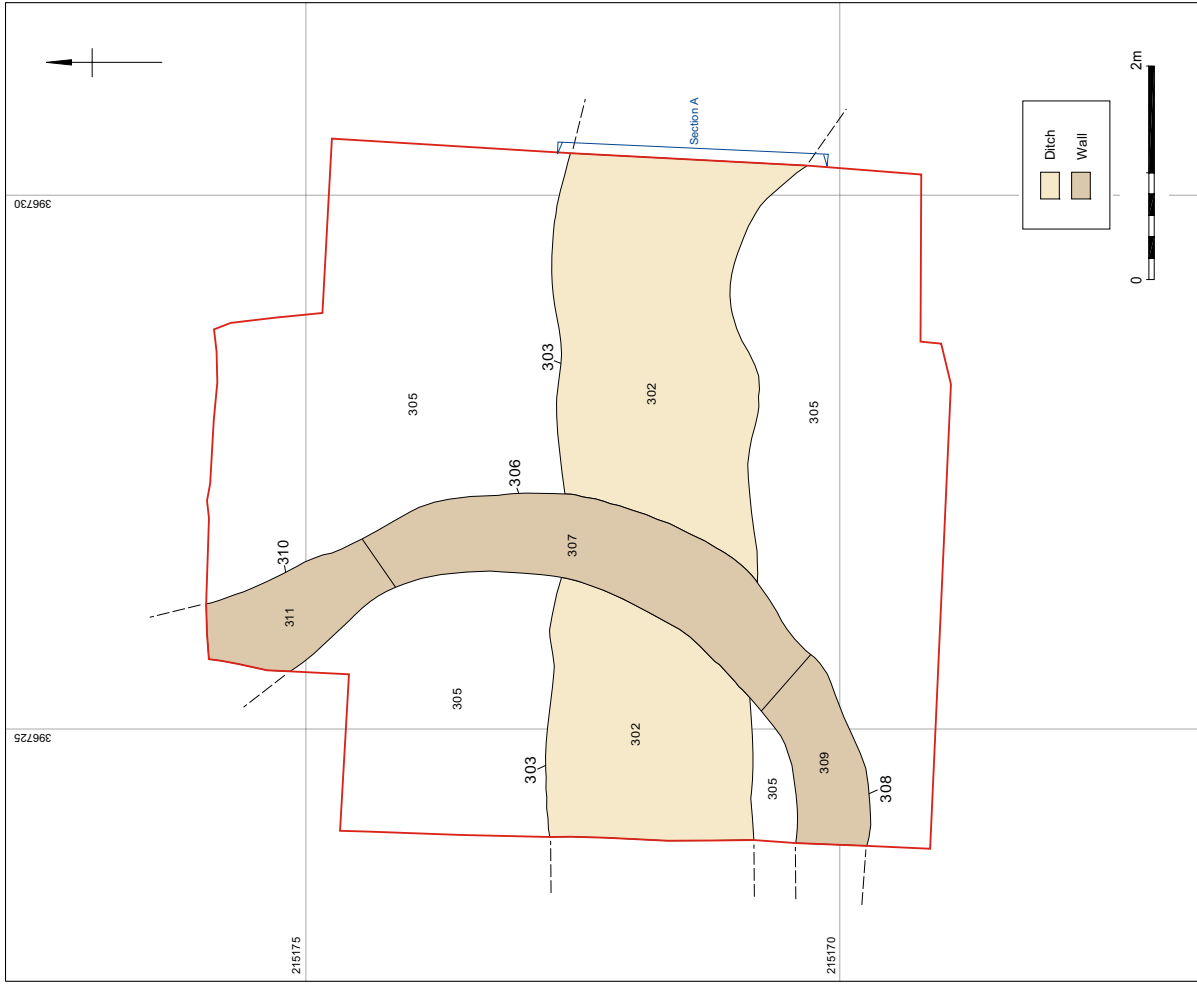


Plate 6: Wall 307 and robber trenches 308 and 310 (scale = 2m)



Plate 7: Ditch 303, west-facing section (scales = 1m and 2m)

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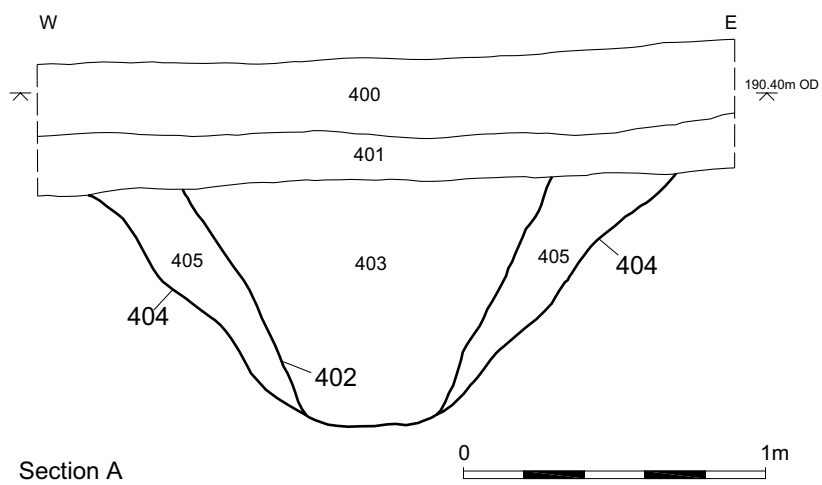
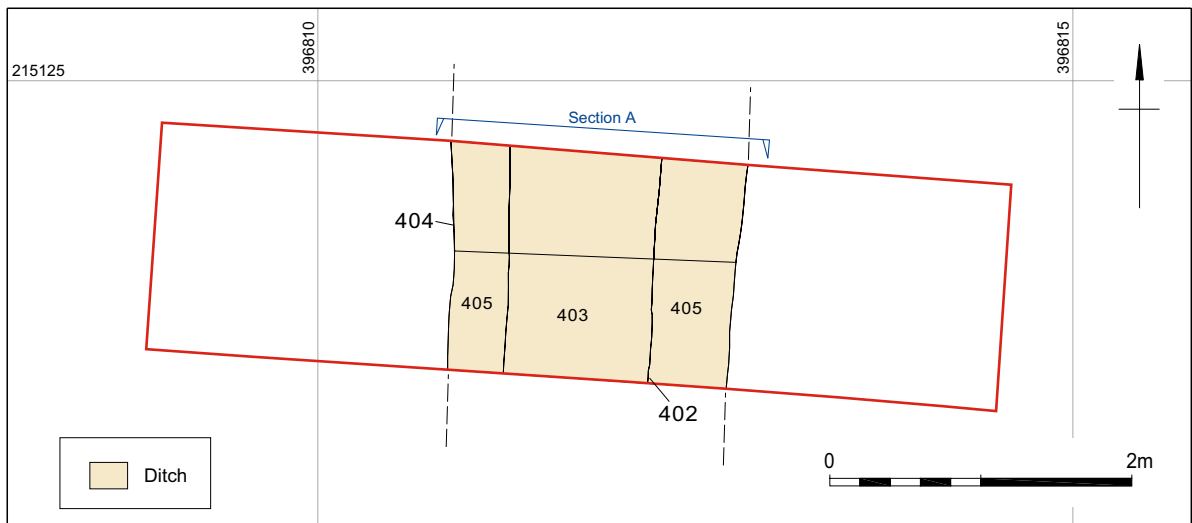


Plate 8: Ditch 402, south-facing section (scale = 2m)

Trench

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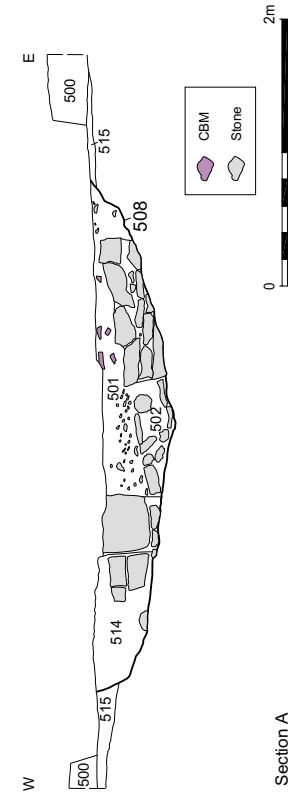
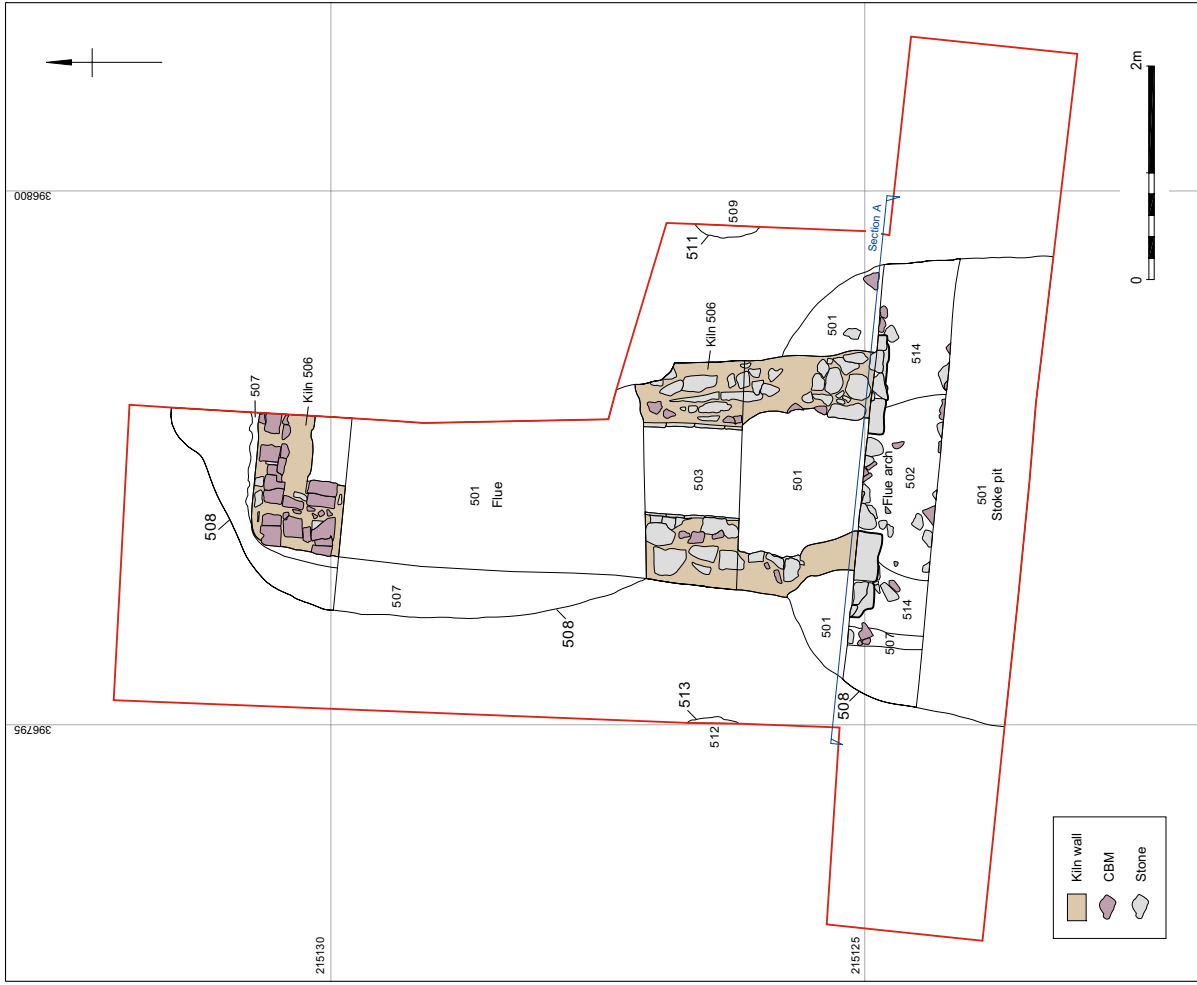


Plate 9: Kiln 506 from the south (scales = 0.5m and 2m)



Plate 10: Kiln flue from the west (scales = 0.5m and 1m)

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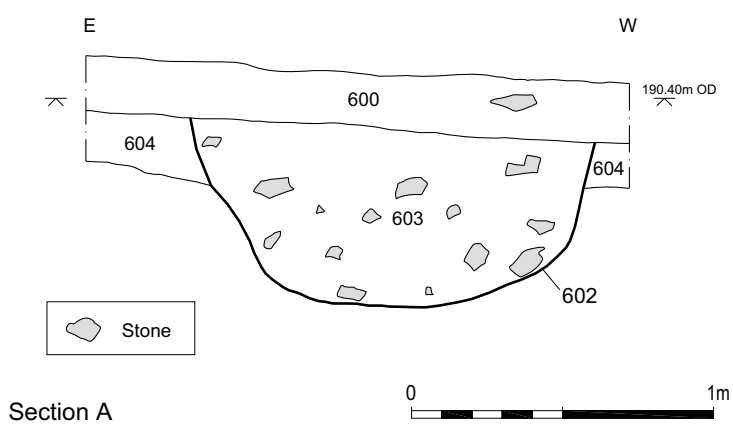
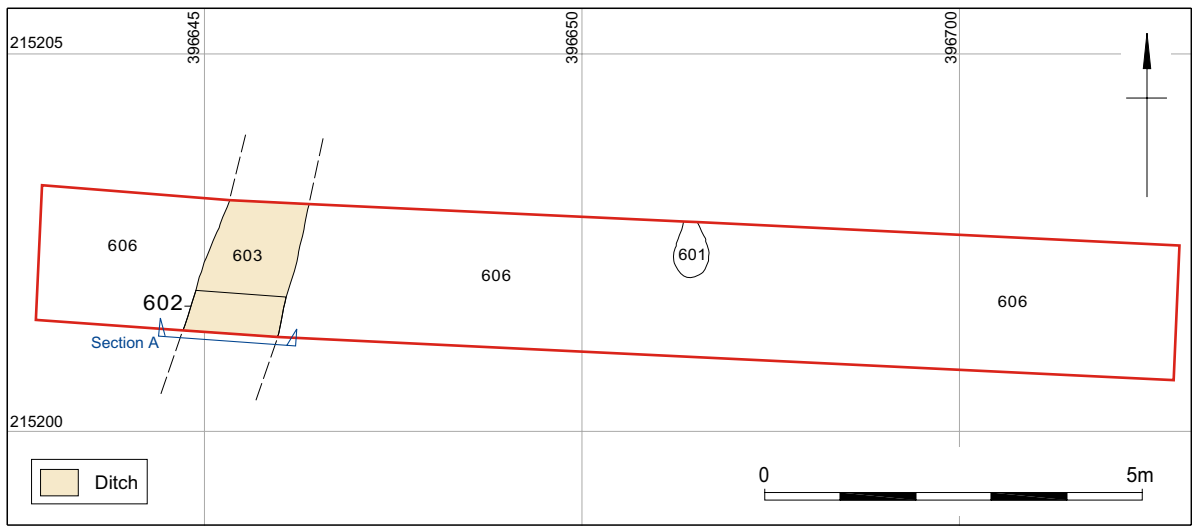
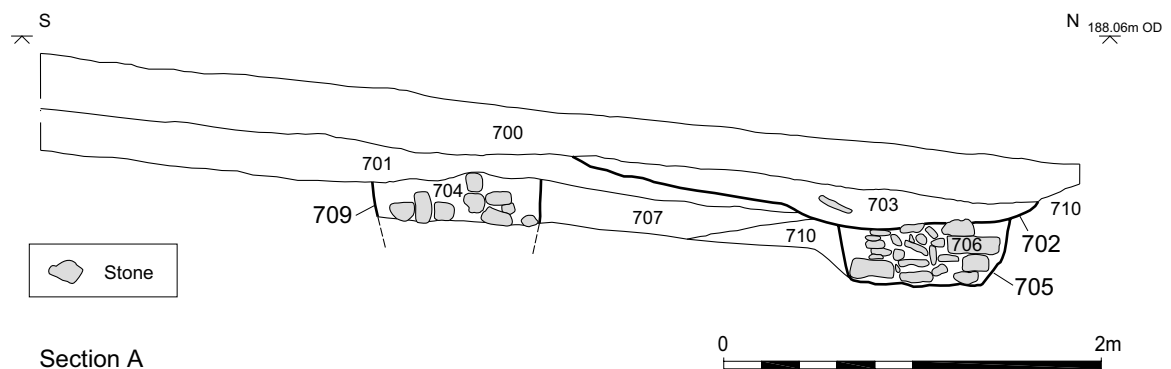
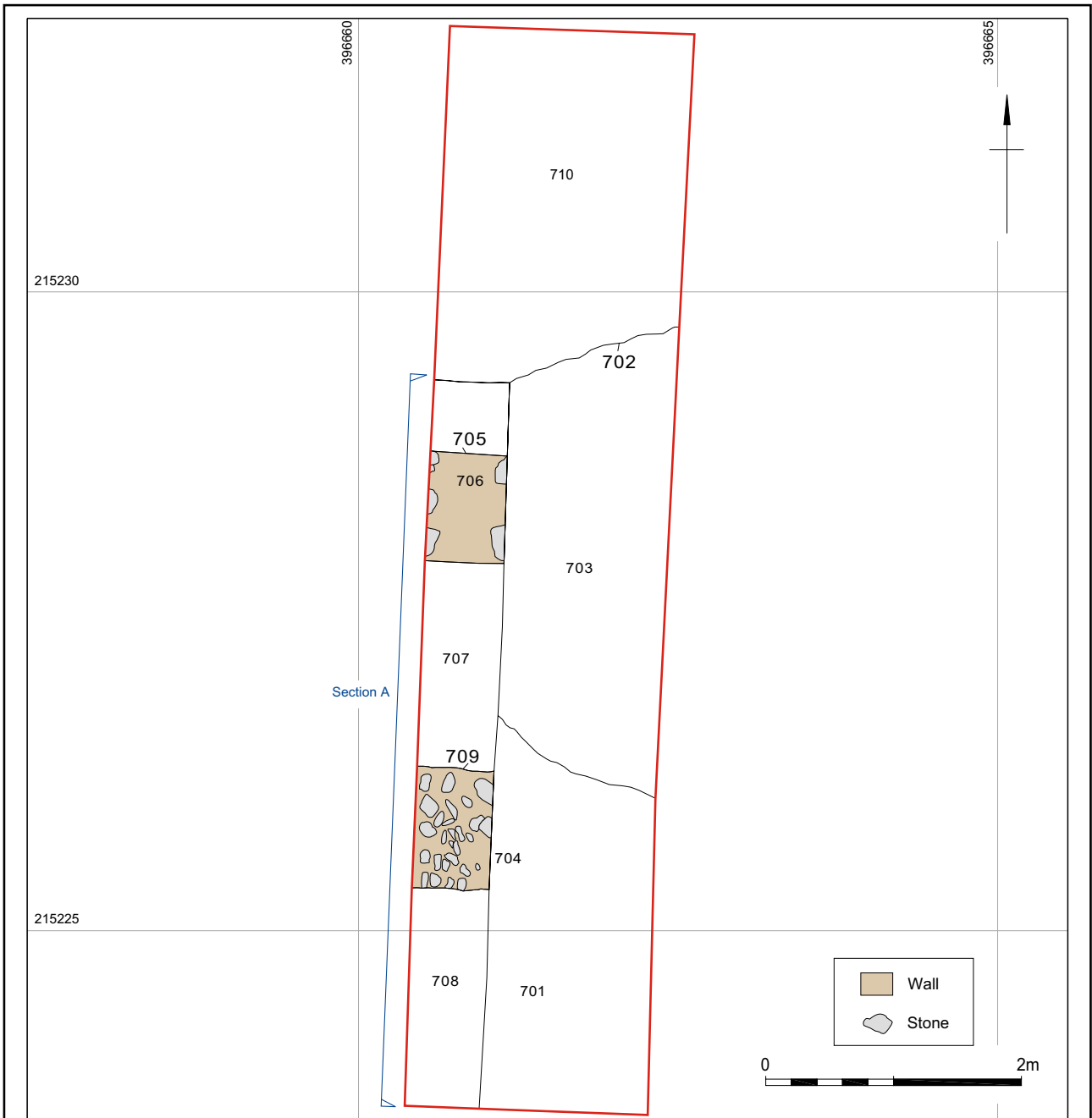


Plate 11: Ditch 602, north-facing section (scale = 1m)

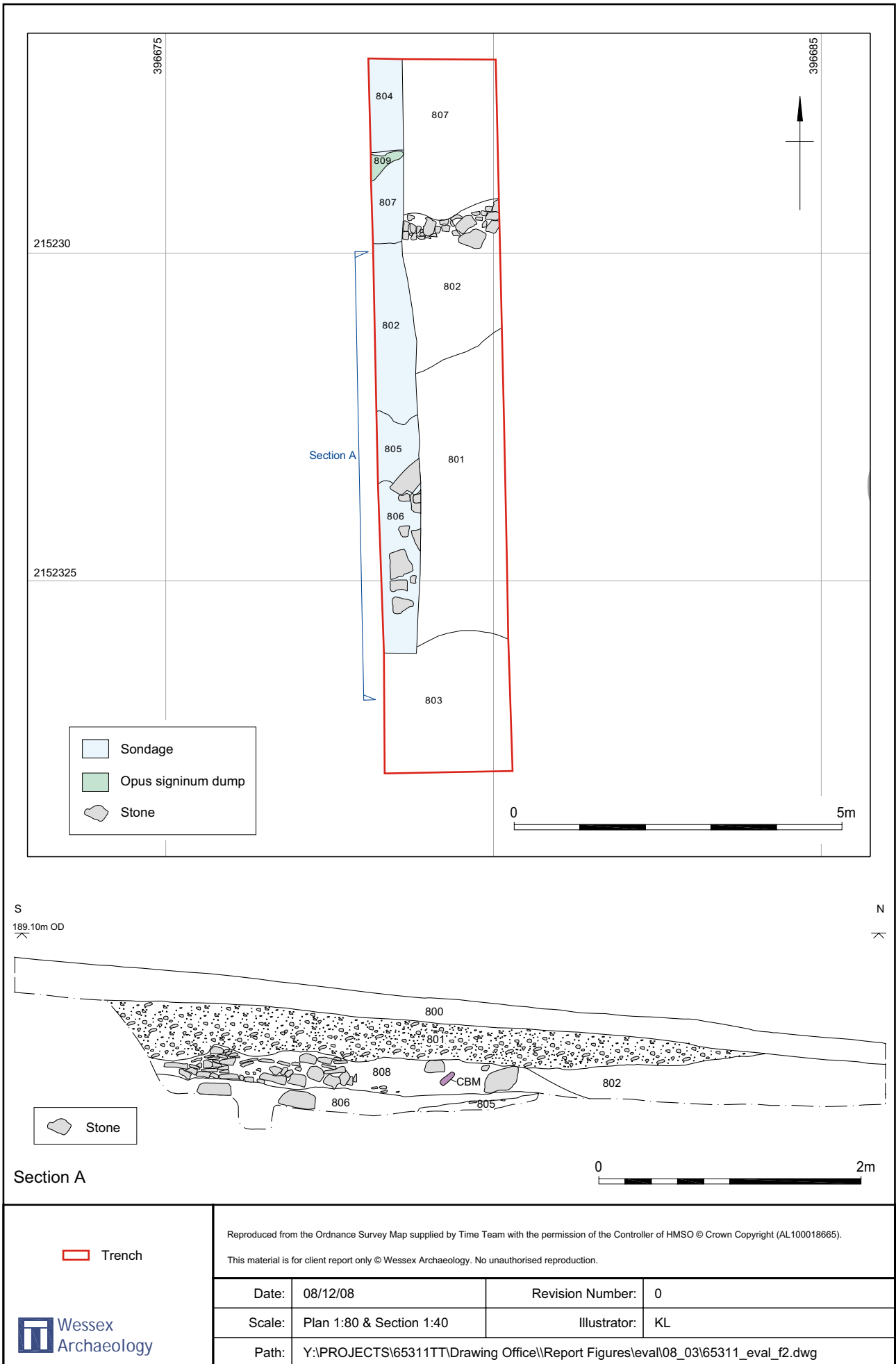
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	Trench			Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Map supplied by Time Team with the permission of the Controller of HMSO © Crown Copyright (AL100018665). This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.		
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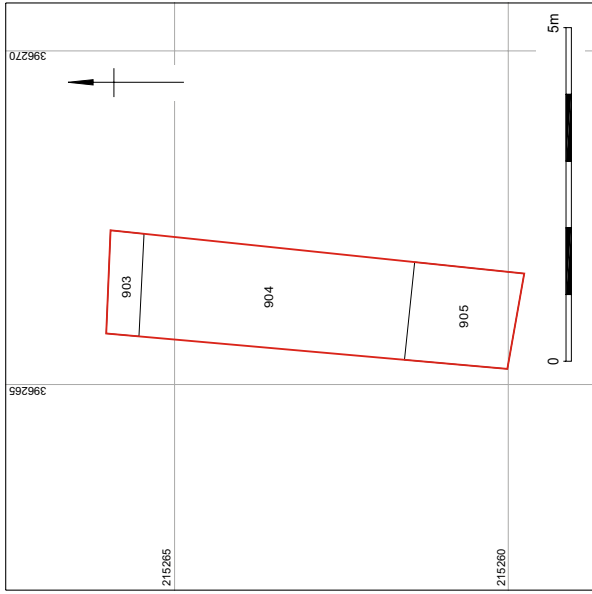
Trench 7

Figure 11



Trench 8

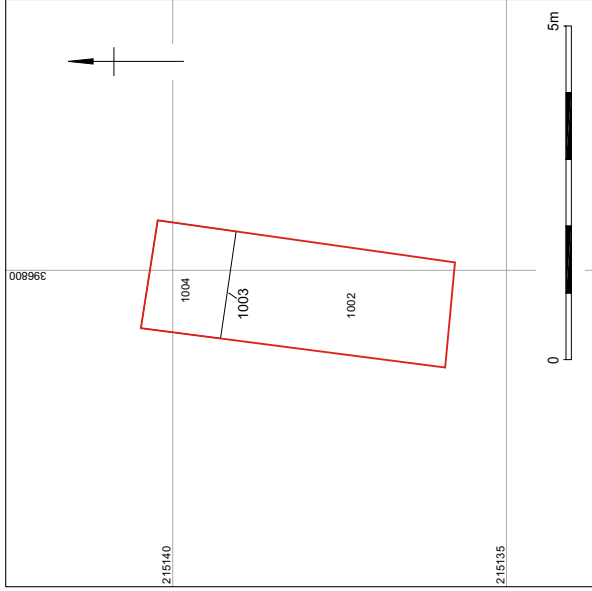
Figure 12



Trench 9



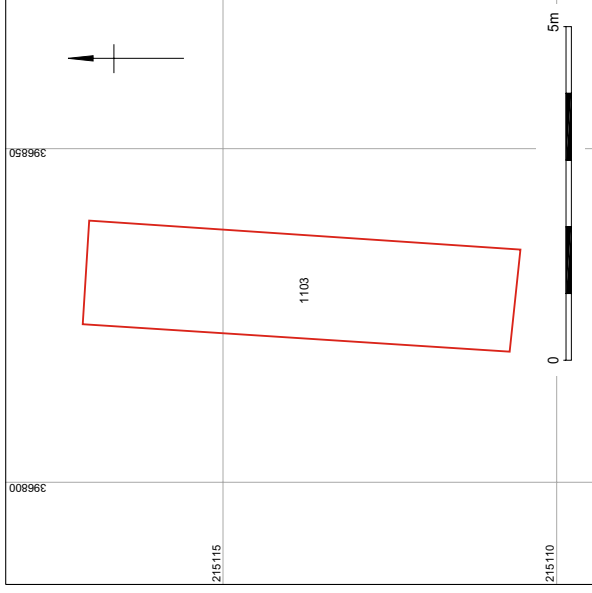
Plate 12: Trench 9, east-facing section at north end (scale = 2m)



Trench 10



Plate 13: Trench 10, from the south (scales = 1m and 2m)



Trench 11



Plate 14: Trench 11, from the south (scale = 1m and 2m)



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