

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at the Old Brewery Business Centre, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent



NGR: 14775 57773

Site Code: BREW/EV/19

(Planning Application: CA/16/00222/FUL)

SWAT Archaeology

The Office, School Farm Oast

Graveney Road Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP

Email: info@swatarchaeology.co.uk

Tel.: 01795 532548 and 07885 700112

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AP1. Aerial photograph of site (9/4/2017) Google Earth

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1. Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at the former Old Brewery Business Centre, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury in Kent. A Planning Application (CA/16/00222) to develop this site for the demolition of the rear extension to 75 Stour Street, Canterbury together with internal alterations, change of use and construction of 2 new buildings within the courtyard to form 5 new residential dwellings was submitted to Canterbury City Council, whereby the Council requested that an Archaeological works be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Specification A and CCC Manual Part B dated 12/03/2019) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The results of the excavation of two evaluation trenches revealed that no archaeological features were present within the trenches. In both trenches a simple sequence of made ground overlaying 19th century soil with 19th century potsherds, brick and tile fragments retrieved. The Archaeological Evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Archaeological Specification.

2. Introduction

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by the landowners to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT 2019) and in discussion with Rosanne Cummings, Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The evaluation was carried out on the 30th March 2019.

3. Site Description and Topography

The proposed development area (PDA) is roughly rectangular parcel of land, the PDA currently comprises buildings and a car park within an area of approximately 684m² (the fullest extents of the area being approximately 38m by 18m). Situated within the heart of the city of Canterbury, the PDA lies 150m south-east of the High Street and is bounded by Stour Street to the west, Hawk's Lane to the south and further building to the north and east.

3.3. The PDA is located in an area of known archaeological activity. The Archaeological Desk-based Assessment has been written by Canterbury Archaeological Trust and included as Appendix 2 in the Archaeological Specification (SWAT 2019).

4. Planning Background

Planning permission has been obtained with the following Conditions (3 &4):

(3) Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved an archaeological desk-based assessment, undertaken to determine the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment and to establish the impact of the development on the historic environment, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

REASON: *To ensure that the archaeological history of the site is recorded in accordance with policy BE16 of the Canterbury District Local Plan 2006, policy HE11 of the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2014 and the National Planning Policy Framework.*

(4) Prior to commencement of the development hereby approved, details of foundations designs and any other proposals involving below ground excavation shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

REASON: *To ensure that due regard is had to the preservation in situ of important archaeological remains in accordance with policy BE16 of the Canterbury District Local Plan*

2006, policy HE11 of the Canterbury District Local Plan Publication Draft 2014 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

The results from this evaluation will be used to inform CCC Archaeology and Heritage and Canterbury City Council of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

5. Archaeological and Historical Background

The site is located in an area of archaeological activity and a search of CCC Urban Archaeological Database as well as a list of reports of archaeological investigations not yet included in the HER was undertaken by Canterbury Archaeological Trust and included in the CAT Archaeological Desk Based Assessments which are published in the Archaeological Specification (SWAT 2019) as Appendix 2.

6. Aims and Objectives

According to the SWAT Archaeological Specification, the aims and objectives for the archaeological work were to ensure that:

The principle objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish the presence or otherwise of any elements of the archaeological resource, both artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest across the area of the development.

To ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit if possible, character, date and quality of any such archaeological remains by limited sample excavation.

To determine the state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource if present and to assess the past impacts on the site and pay particular attention to the character, height/depth below ground level, condition, date and significance of any archaeological deposits.

The opportunity will also be taken during the course of the evaluation to place and assess any archaeology revealed within the context of other recent archaeological investigations in the immediate area and within the setting of the local landscape and topography.

Should archaeological remains be found, further archaeological excavation may be required. This work will be covered by a separate specification and not form part of the present evaluation.

7. Methodology

The Archaeological Specification called for an evaluation by trial trenching comprising a first phase of two trenches 1.50m long and 2.00m wide within the area of the proposed development and in addition the trenches for drainage runs for the development were also excavated under archaeological supervision (Plate 5). A 1.5 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a flat-bladed ditching bucket was used to remove the demolition material and subsoil to expose the natural geology. All archaeological and drainage work was carried out in accordance with the specification. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with CCC, SWAT and ClfA standards and guidance.

8. Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was available during the course of the evaluation.

9. Results

The evaluation and drainage runs has identified no archaeological features within the two trenches and drainage runs (Figures 1-3 and Plates 2-5 and Appendix 1).

10. Discussion

With a number of archaeological sites known in the vicinity of the PDA it was expected that the evaluation may produce evidence of archaeological activity. But there was none. The site has been used as a yard. Both trenches showed a typical sequence of top cover and 19th century subsoil.

11. Finds

No finds were retained as all pottery/building material are 19th century or later.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprised of demolition/topsoil **(101)** sealing the subsoil **(102)**. Therefore, this evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives as set out in the planning condition and the Archaeological Specification.

13. Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank the client for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Rosanne Cummings Archaeological Heritage Officer, Canterbury City Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Tim Allen MCIfA and the report written by Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

14. References

Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists (CIfA), Rev (2017). *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

SWAT Archaeology (2019) *Site Specific Requirements: Land at the former Rogers Garage, 36 High Street, Bridge, Kent*

SWAT Archaeology (2018) Archaeological Desk Based Assessment in Advance of the Planning Application The Old Garage, High Street, Bridge, Kent

KCC and Historic England HER data 2018

HER Summary Form

Site Name: Land at the Old Brewery Centre, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent

SWAT Site Code: BREW/EV/19

Site Address: As above

Summary:

Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out Archaeological Evaluation on the development site above. The site has planning permission for a residential housing whereby Canterbury City Council Heritage and Conservation requested that Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

The Archaeological Monitoring consisted of an Archaeological Evaluation and start of build with drainage runs which revealed no archaeology.

District/Unitary: Canterbury City Council

Period(s):

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 147755 57773

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: March 2019

Unit undertaking recording: Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT. Archaeology)

Geology: Underlying geology is Head Deposits of Clay and Silt

Title and author of accompanying report: Wilkinson P. (2019) Archaeological Evaluation of Land at the Old Brewery Business Centre, 75 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent

Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate)

No archaeology found

Location of archive/finds: SWAT. Archaeology. Graveney Rd, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8UP

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Appendix 1

Trench table

Trench 1		Dimensions: 1.2m x 1.2m Depth: 0.9m Trench alignment: E-W Ground level: 10.27m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
101	Paving	Modern concrete pinkish blocks	0.00-0.06
101A	Paving	Cast concrete	0.00-0.06
102	Bedding for (101)	Yellow sand bedding for (101)	0.06-0.13
103	Bedding for (101)	Compacted sandstone (light greenish grey) cobbles	0.13-0.23
104	Garden soil Layer	Mid compaction, dark brown loam with 19 th C. pottery sherds, brick and tile fragments.	0.23-0.9+
105	Building wall foundation - corner support	Bricks bonded with mortar above (106)	0-0.31
106	Building wall foundation - corner support	Stone disc	0.31-0.43
107	Brick wall - Foundation	13 courses exposed – English bond, red bricks (59mm by 223mm), bonded with lime mortar	0-0.9+

Trench 2		Dimensions: 1.2m x 2m Depth: 0.87m Trench alignment: E-W Ground level: 10.35m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
201	Paving	Cast concrete	0.00-0.45
202	Backfill of foundation trench [203]	Hardcore mixed with black earth, plastic sheet at the bottom	0.45-0.82
203	Cut of foundation trench	NW – SE aligned trench for present-day building. There is also NE-SW aligned trench for another building	0.45-0.82
204	Garden soil Layer	Mid compaction, dark brown loam with 19 th C. pottery sherds, brick and tile fragments.	0.45-0.87+

Trench 3		Dimensions: 10m x 0.5m Depth: 0.6m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level: 10.35m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
301	Paving	Concrete paving blocks or concrete elsewhere	0.00-0.06
302	Bedding	Sand bedding for (301)	0.06-0.13
303	Bedding	Compacted sandstone (light greenish grey) cobbles	0.13-0.23
304	Modern leveling layer	Firm compaction, dark brown silty clay with freq. red bricks and tile fragments, occ. mortar	0.23-0.6+

Trench 4 Garage trench	Dimensions: 1m x 0.8m Depth: 0.35m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level: 10.35m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
401	Paving	Concrete paving blocks or concrete elsewhere	0.00-0.06
402	Bedding	Sand bedding for (4301)	0.06-0.13
403	Bedding	Compacted sandstone (light greenish grey) cobbles	0.13-0.23
404	Modern leveling layer	Firm compaction, dark brown silty clay with freq. red bricks and tile fragments, occ. mortar	0.23-0.35+

Plates



Plate 1: Looking south-east at Trench 1 prior excavation



Plate 2: Looking south-east at Trench 1



Plate 3: Looking north-east at Trench 2 prior excavation

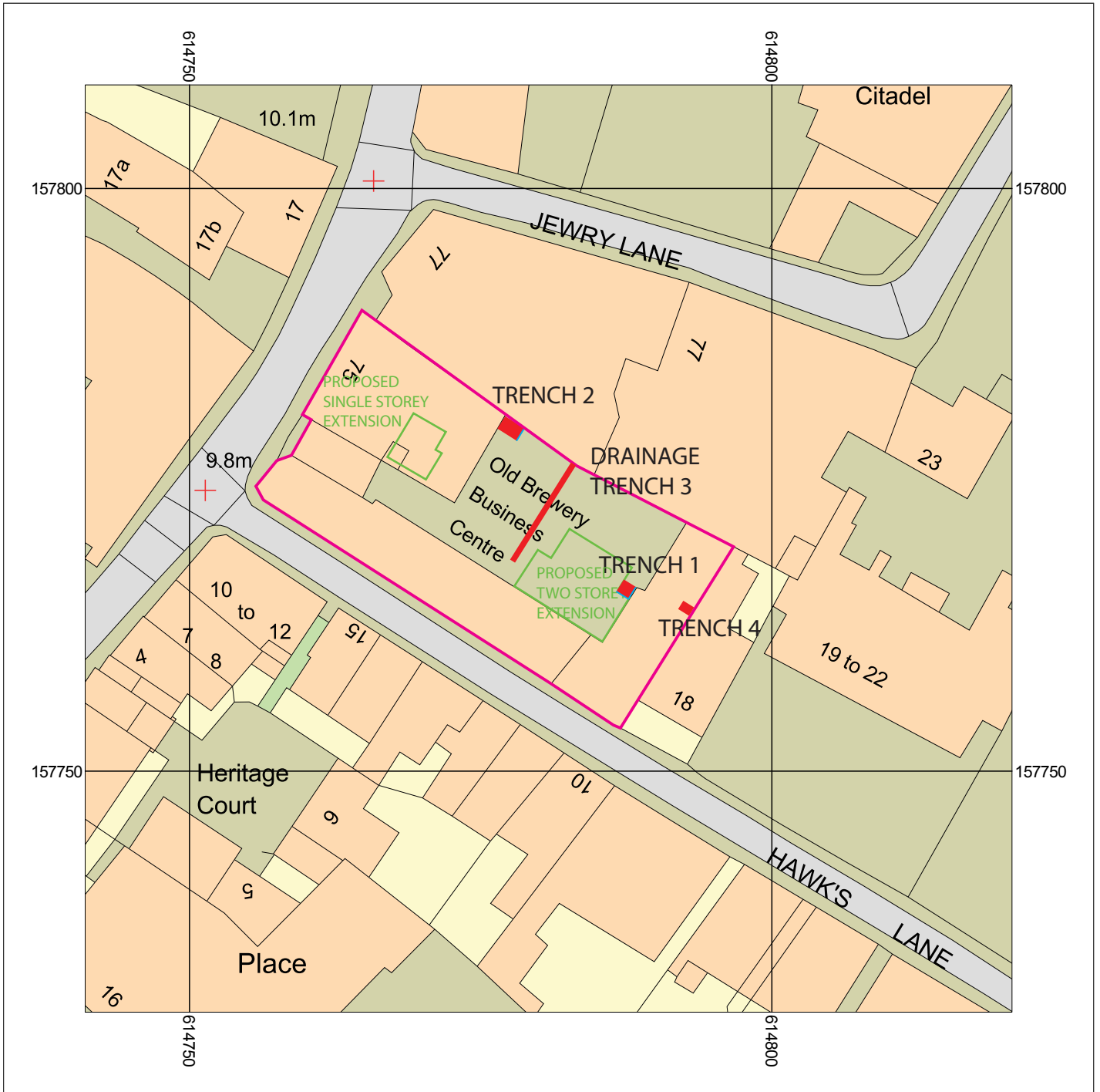


Plate 4: Looking north at Trench 2



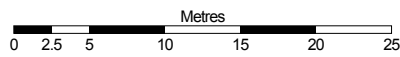
Plate 5: Looking north-east at drainage Trench 3

OS Plan Colour



KEY:

- Site outline
- Proposed building outline
- Trench
- Section



Scale: 1:500

Figure 2: Trench location plan in relation to OS map

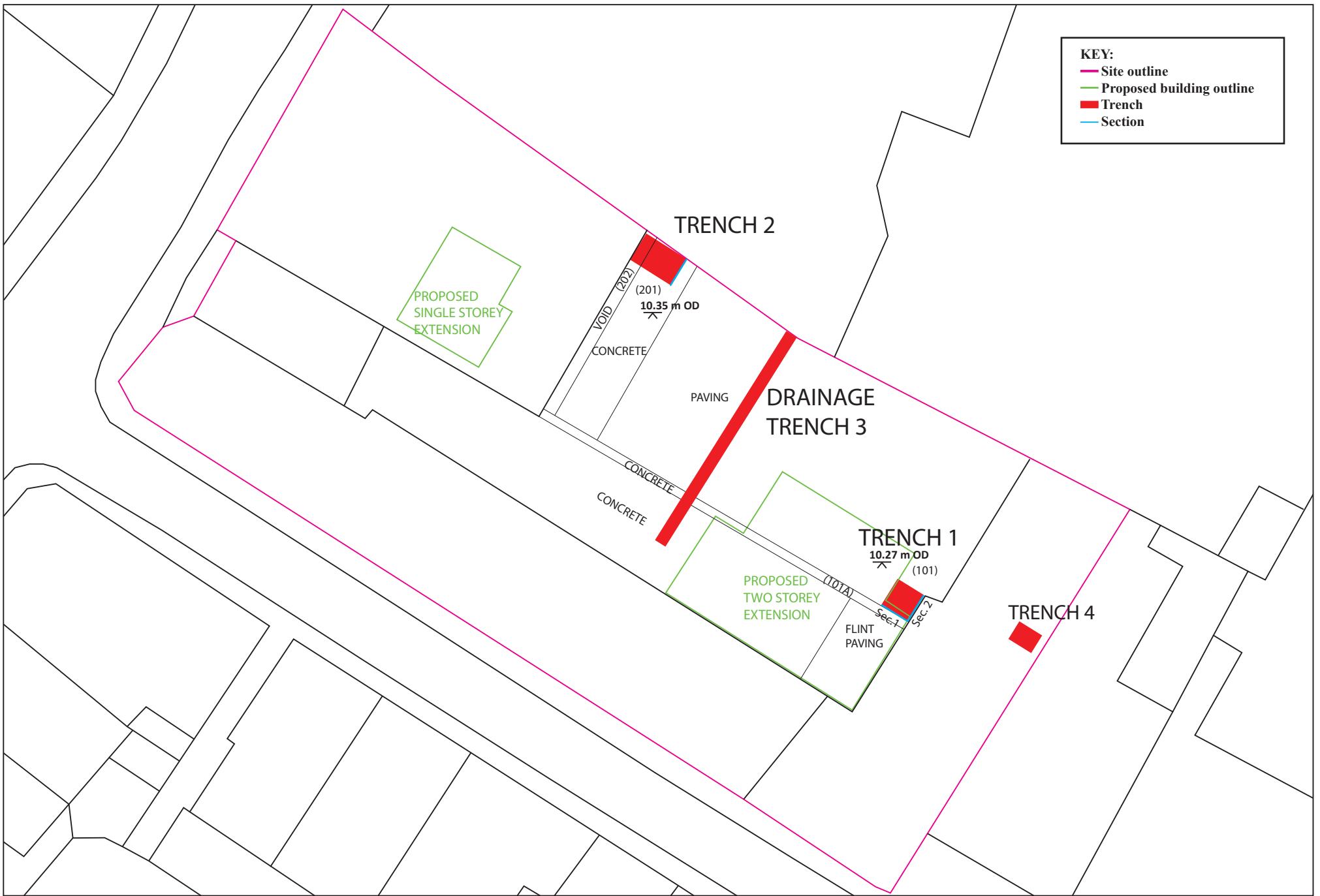


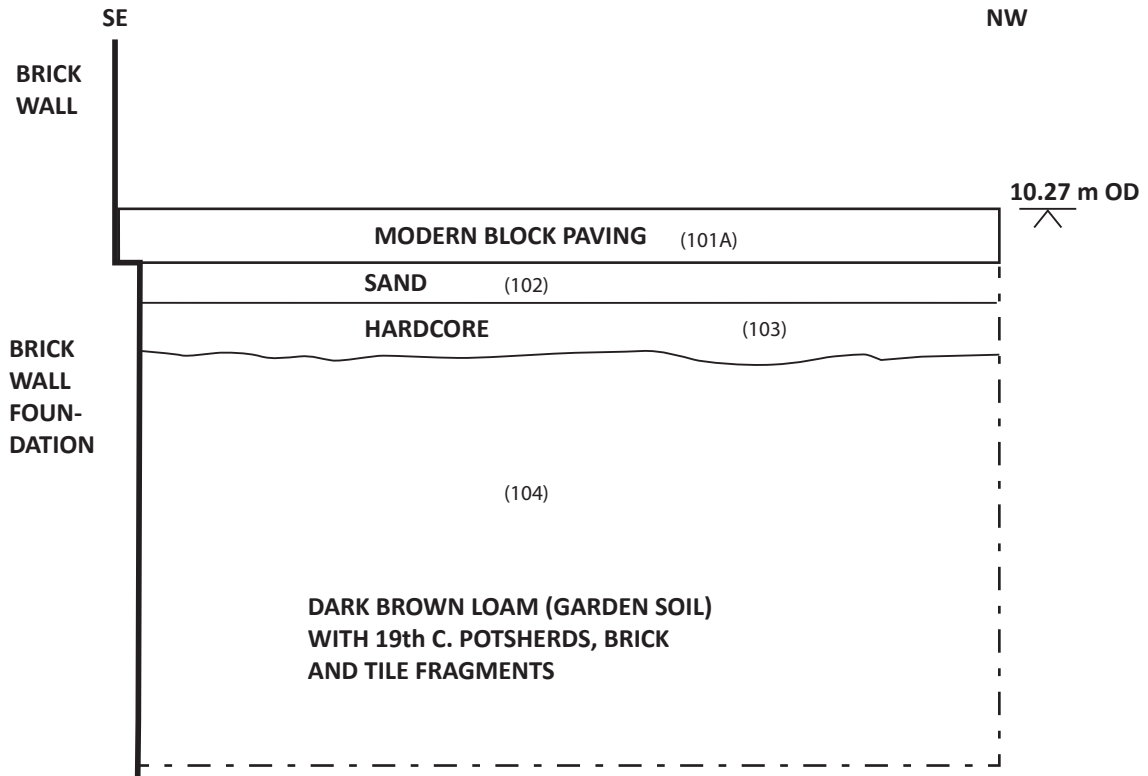
Figure 3: Trench location plan

Scale: 1:200 Metres



Figure 4: Trench location plan in relation to the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition (1874)

Trench 1 - Section 1



Trench 1 - Section 2

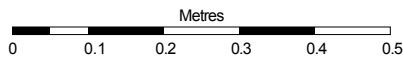
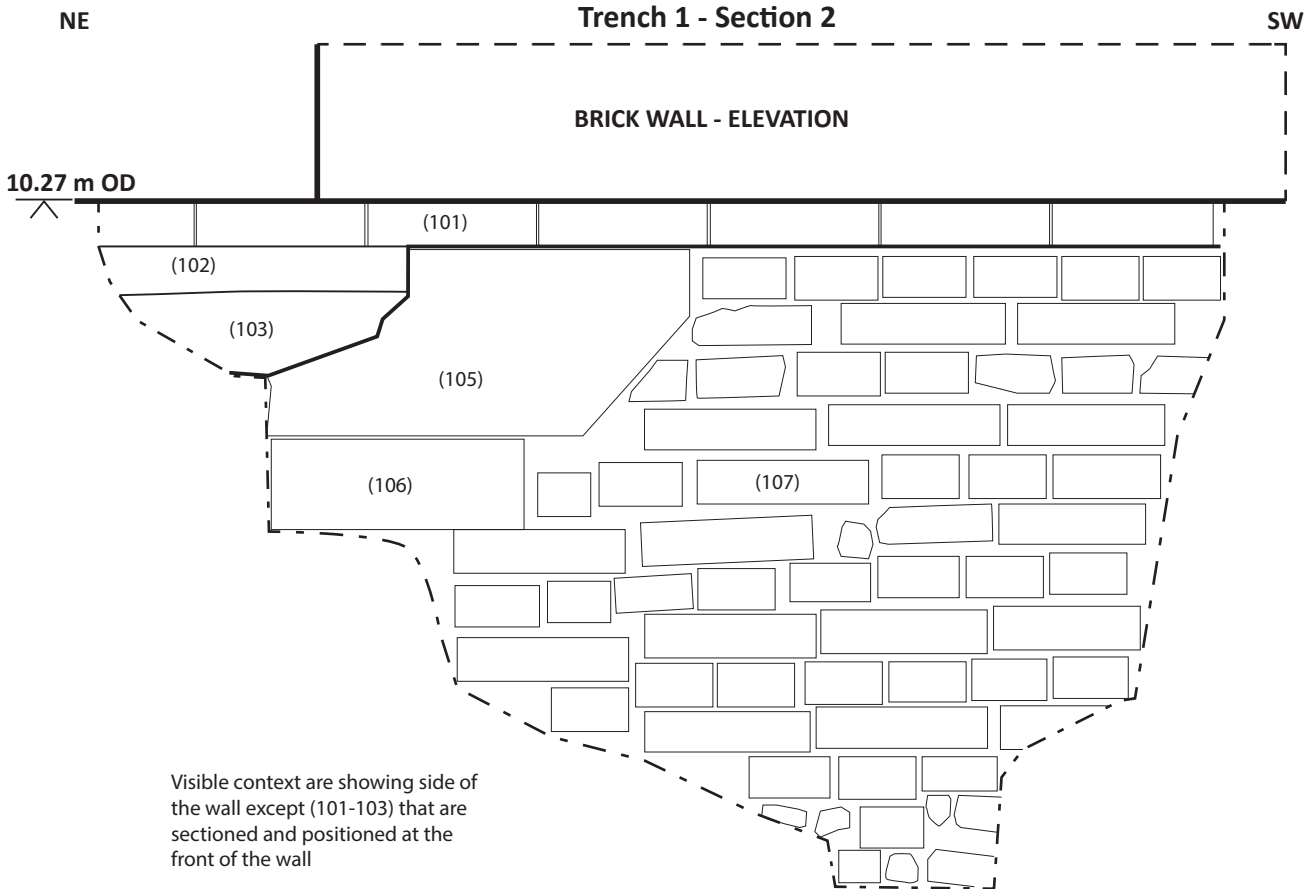


Figure 5: Sections of Trench 1; scale 1:10

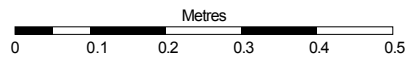
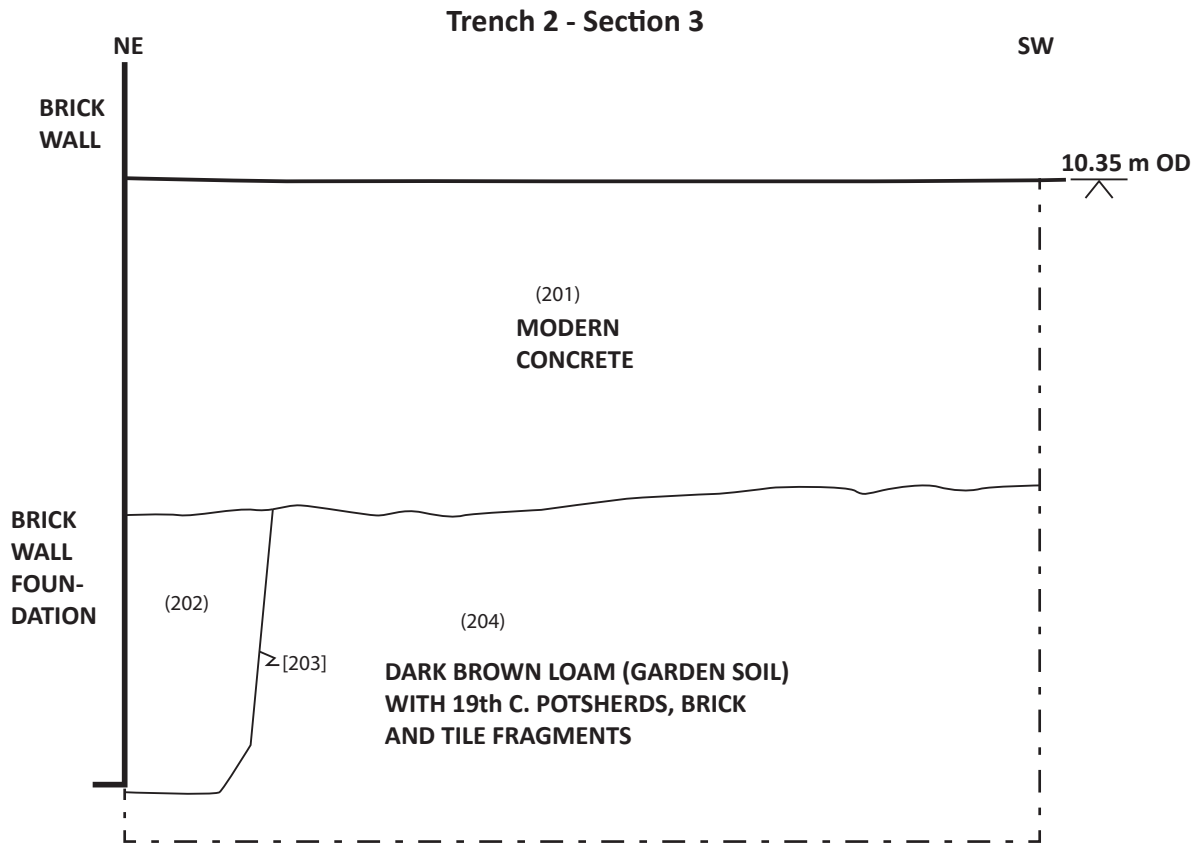


Figure 6: Section of Trench 2; scale 1:10