Wessex Archaeology

Roxburgh, Floors Castle Estate Kelso, Scotland

An Archaeological Evaluation and an Assessment of the Results

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OLD ROXBURGH, FLOORS CASTLE ESTATE, KELSO, SCOTLAND

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS

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Summary

In June 2003 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's Time Team at the site of the medieval burgh of Roxburgh, Scottish Borders, centred on grid reference NT 720 340. Time Team's project design suggested that Roxburgh is the only complete deserted medieval town in Europe. It is a site of considerable importance and a Scheduled Monument (No. 4282). The evaluation comprised a geophysical survey and six trial trenches located across the site, totalling no more than 250 square metres.

The archaeological evaluation was successful in achieving the aims and objectives of the project. The geophysical survey indicated that ploughing had disturbed the southern areas of the burgh. The ploughing had masked geophysical responses from underlying archaeological features, except for the likely positions of former streets and the defensive ditch to the east of the burgh. The geophysical survey indicated significantly less disturbed archaeological deposits in the west and north of the burgh, including possible structures and buildings.

Trench 1 intercepted the eastern defences of the burgh, which comprised a wide, shallow ditch, with a gravel and clay bank to the west. Within the defences, the geophysical survey suggested a gridded street plan at least in the south of the burgh. Sections of streets, one with a roadside ditch, were recorded in two trenches. The remains of two buildings, one post built and one on stone foundations, were recorded, fronting on to streets. In trench 3 a particularly well-preserved sequence of surfaces and deposits, representing several phases of activity, was recorded and indicates the significant differential survival of stratified deposits between ploughed and unploughed areas of the settlement.

A modest assemblage of medieval finds, including mostly pottery and animal bone, was recovered, along with food remains such as oyster shells, hazelnuts, and grains of oats, hulled barley, wheat and rye.

No structural evidence for the churches of the Holy Sepulchre or St James' were recorded. A carved key stone in trench 4 may have derived from an ecclesiastical building, otherwise the presence of sarcophagi and graves suggested that trenches 4 and 6 were located in the grave yard of St James' church.

Time Team's evaluation has produced significant new information on one of Scotland's most important medieval sites. This information will be made available to the wider archaeological and academic community through the publication of a shorter contribution to the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.*

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Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications. The extensive collaboration in granting access to the site and support during the project by the Duke of Roxburghe and Suzanne Urquart, Floors Estate representative, and Oliver Stark, tenant farmer, is especially acknowledged. Thanks are also extended to Peter Yeoman, Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Dr Richard Fawcett, both of Historic Scotland, who visited the site and monitored the progress of the work.

The geophysical survey was conducted by John Gater with staff from GSB Prospection, and survey by Henry Chapman, University of Hull. Evaluation strategy was conducted by Professor Mick Aston (Bristol University), site recording was co-ordinated by Phil Harding, assisted by Steve Thompson of Wessex Archaeology. The evaluation was undertaken by Time Team's retained excavators with help from members of Headland Archaeology. The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment undertaken by Wessex Archaeology including management (Roland J C Smith), report (Phil Harding), finds (Lorraine Mepham), animal bone (Stephanie Knight), environmental processing (Hayley Clark and Sarah F Wyles), plant remains (Chris Stevens and Michael J Allen) and illustrations (Mark Roughley).

The progress and successful completion of the work also benefited from discussion with specialists on the history and archaeology of Roxburgh, notably Dr Colin Martin, Alastair Moffat, Dr Richard Oram, Dr John Dent and Derek Hall.

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1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Videotext Communications was commissioned by Channel 4 to carry out an archaeological evaluation as part of the Time Team television series on the site of the medieval burgh of Old Roxburgh, The Scottish Borders (centred on NT 720 340) (**Figure 1**). The site is a Scheduled Monument (Number 4282).

1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in June 2003 following the granting of scheduled monument consent by Historic Scotland in May 2003 (ref: AMH/4282/1/1). This report sets out the results of the archaeological project, assesses the significance of the results and puts forward recommendations for further analysis and publication of the results in accordance with the requirements of the scheduled monument consent.

1.2 Description of the site

1.2.1 The site of Old Roxburgh is centred at Grid Reference NT 720 340 (**Figure 1**). The archaeological background to the site is set out in the project design for the evaluation, which formed the basis of the application for scheduled monument consent (Videotext Communications 2003).

1.2.2 The project design states that:

> *'The area of investigation consists of a large, sub triangular field approximately 800m-east west, by 600m-north south. It lies within land of the Floors Castle Estate, owned by the Duke and Duchess of Roxburgh. The modern Castle, which was built between 1682 and 1740 and is the largest occupied house in Scotland, lies to the north of the River Tweed, one mile north-west of Kelso.*
>
> *The site of the medieval burgh lies on an oval plot of land formed by two opposing bends in the Rivers Teviot and Tweed immediately west of their confluence. The ruined Royal castle lies on a steeply defended prominence on a neck of land at the west end of the site and over looks the 'old burgh', which lay on the south bank of the Tweed.*
>
> *The castle is separated from the site of the 'new burgh' by the narrow stretch of land formed by the confluence of the rivers Teviot and Tweed, which bound the site on both sides.*

The main focus of the 'new burgh' lies east of the Castle. This area occupies a spur of land crested by Kay Brae at 52 m OD, which falls away to the Rivers Tweed and Teviot at approximately 34 m OD.

Reference to the town of Roxburgh first appears on a charter of Selkirk Abbey, granted around 1113 by Earl David, later King David I. The town was probably flourishing at this time, although probably of recent foundation. It is not known exactly when the expansion to the 'new burgh' took place, but it is generally thought to have taken place before the mid 12th century. The town was defended on the east side by an earthen bank and ditch to which a later stone façade was thought to have been added. The bank and ditch is still visible as an earthwork.

Roxburgh attained a status comparable to that of Edinburgh, Stirling and Berwick in the 12th and 13th centuries with four churches, a royal mint and international trade based on wool. The four great abbeys of Kelso, Dryburgh, Melrose and Jedburgh all owned property in or received revenue from the borough.

The town was burnt in 1207, 1216 and 1243 and its decline accelerated from the late 13th century. It was ceded to Edward III in 1334 and remained in English control until 1460. The date of the town's abandonment is unknown, but rent records of 1501 suggest an already deserted settlement.

The site of the former medieval burgh is currently under pasture occupied only by a point-to-point track. No visible remains of the town of Roxburgh survive (apart from the earthen bank and ditch defences), although good documentary sources identify a number of buildings, whose positions can be estimated with some accuracy. It has been suggested that this is the only complete deserted medieval town in Europe, and is therefore of considerable international importance.'

1.2.3 The soils of the area come from the Hobkirk association (296) and consist of brown forest soils from a parent of sandstones and marls of Upper Old Red Sandstone age (Soils of Scotland Sheet 7, South East Scotland. Soil Survey of Scotland 1982).

1.3 Previous archaeological work

1.3.1 No previous archaeological excavations have taken place on the burgh of Old Roxburgh, although a geophysical survey was undertaken by the University of Bradford in 1980-1. This demonstrated that the site was suitable for geophysical survey.

1.3.2 A comprehensive dossier of early maps, documents and aerial photographs has been used to reconstruct a tentative morphology of the town. Aerial photographs taken by Dr K St. Joseph in the 1940s and others taken more recently by Dr Colin Martin, St. Andrews University, show a number of features that reflect a possible street pattern. These sources also hinted at the likely locations of the churches of St Peters', part of the Roxburgh house of Greyfriars, and St James', dedicated as early as 1134 (RCAHMS 1956, 252) (**Figure 1**). A third church, that of the Holy Sepulchre, was probably

contemporary with St James' although only comes on record in 1329 (RCAHMS 1956, 252).

1.3.3 The site of the burgh was believed to have been unploughed throughout the last 200 years and was undeveloped. The project, therefore, represented an unrivalled opportunity to evaluate potentially significantly undamaged archaeological remains of an urban site, which were likely to be in pristine condition.

2 METHODS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled and provided by Videotext Communications (Videotext Communications 2003). This formed the basis of the scheduled monument consent and all fieldwork was, therefore, undertaken in strict accordance with the project design, the details of which are summarised below. The evaluation took the form of a geophysical survey and trial trenching.

2.2 Aims and objectives

2.2.1 The evaluation provided an opportunity to ascertain the date, character, extent, layout, and degree of preservation of the archaeological remains at Old Roxburgh. It also offered the chance to recover archaeological data to supplement the documentary sources, maps and aerial photographs of the site.

2.2.2 The work, by providing a condition survey of those areas of the site investigated, would also form an important resource to provide for its future management and interpretation.

2.3 Research questions

2.3.1 In accordance with the project design, the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching on the site (**Figure 1**) took place within five zones to examine:

1. the eastern defences of the site (Trench 1)
2. the area of Kay Brae, a high point and probable site of early occupation (Trench 5)
3. an area of the site where aerial photographs suggest a street frontage, house, garden and associated rigs (Trench 2).
4. the possible location of the church of the Holy Sepulchre (Trench 3)
5. the possible location of the church of St James' (Trenches 4 and 6).

2.4 Strategy

2.4.1 The geophysical survey, comprising both magnetometry and resistivity, was to provide data to assist in achieving the research aims of the project and also to

assist in establishing the most appropriate location of the trial trenches. The geophysical survey was therefore undertaken in three areas (**Figure 1**) that covered the five zones set out in the project design. These included areas where crop marks had been noted on aerial photographs.

2.3.2 The results of the geophysical survey were used to establish the precise location of trial trenches, which were positioned to address the research aims of the project. In accordance with the project design and the scheduled monument consent, trial trenching was limited to a maximum total area of 250 square metres. This was achieved within six trial trenches (**Figure 1**). Final decisions on the precise locations of each trench was agreed in the field by Peter Yeoman, Area Inspector Historic Scotland, Dr John Dent, Scottish Borders Local Authority Archaeologist, Dr Colin Martin, University of St. Andrews, and Professor Mick Aston, Time Team.

2.5 Fieldwork methods

2.3.1 Six machine-excavated trenches of varying lengths were dug (**Figure 1**). The reason for the location of each trench is set out with the results below.

2.3.2 The trenches were excavated using a wheeled JCB mechanical digger and backhoe fitted with a toothless ditching bucket 2 m wide. A tracked mini-digger with a bucket 1 m wide was also used for the removal of topsoil. All machine work was undertaken with constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological deposits, or where natural deposits were encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits were excavated. No trenches were excavated beyond a depth at which it was considered safe to enter, in accordance with accepted safety procedures.

2.3.3 A sufficient sample, but not exceeding 50% of any negative feature as stipulated in the scheduled monument consent, of all deposits was examined by excavation to allow the resolution of the principal questions outlined in the aims and objectives above.

2.3.4 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 1:20 and sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to Ordnance Survey datum and a photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained.

2.3.5 The work was carried out over 3rd-5th June, 2003. All spoil was metal detected by an approved operator.

2.3.6 On the completion of the work to the satisfaction of Messrs Yeoman, Dent, Martin and Aston, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated spoil from the trenches. All artefacts and environmental samples were transported to the

offices of Wessex Archaeology where they were processed and assessed for this report.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This section sets out the results of the fieldwork and is prepared in accordance with the scheduled monument consent, which requires the preparation of a 'data structure report'. The appendices of this report include the supporting lists required of a data structure report, including:

- Appendix 1: Site context summary
- Appendix 2: Graphics summary
- Appendix 3: Photographic summary
- Appendix 4: Small finds, including context numbers
- Appendix 5: All finds by context

3.1.2 Information on the finds assemblage and the environmental samples are included in this report below. Data above and beyond that presented in this report and the supporting appendices is held in the project archive, and includes a full geophysical survey report (GSB 2003).

3.2 Geophysical survey

3.2.1 A total of 3.6 ha was subjected to detailed magnetometer survey in Areas 1 and 2, with 0.3 ha examined by resistance in Areas 2 and 3 (**Figure 1**).

3.2.2 Area 1 was the largest survey area and extended east to west across the south part of the burgh. The results were dominated by ploughing trends that were aligned both north to south and east to west and which generally masked any discrete archaeological features (**Figure 2**). This was thought to result from magnetic material from underlying occupation deposits being brought to the surface by ploughing. However it was thought possible that a series of bands, which were magnetically quiet and formed a generally rectilinear pattern, may coincide with a former planned, gridded street pattern. A band of response on the east of Area 1 corresponded to the line of the eastern defences (**Figure 2**).

3.2.3 To the west of Area 1, where no ploughing was present, a number of possible pits, street alignments and ditches was observed.

3.2.4 Area 2 was placed on the higher ground of Kay Brae (**Figure 2**). This area produced a series of strong, rectilinear magnetic anomalies that were suggestive of structural remains. These results suggested the presence of burnt timber slots, igneous or burnt stone building foundations or former pens and paddocks. There were also a number of pit-type anomalies, which suggested occupation activity on this higher ground. A small area of resistance survey was unable to clarify the results of the magnetic survey. Trench 5 was dug in

the area but was unable to provide conclusive evidence for domestic occupation.

3.2.5 Area 3 comprised a resistance survey over the presumed site of St James' Church (**Figure 1**). The results showed areas of high resistance that were believed to reflect localised earthworks, but were unable to detect any of the stone sarcophagi that were exposed subsequently in trench 4. A low resistance anomaly in the south of Area 3 was thought likely to be associated with a hollow way (S. Ainsworth *pers. comm.*), while responses in the north-west could represent a drain.

3.3 Archaeological evaluation

3.3.1 From a fairly early stage in the evaluation it became apparent that, contrary to belief, large areas of the site had undergone extensive ploughing. This activity was corroborated by the results of the magnetometer survey and in a previously unseen map of the area that was compiled in the 19th century and which is housed at Floors Castle. There were also verbal reports that ploughing had also taken place during World War 1. This ploughing had seriously lowered and blurred the definition of any earthworks. The absence of demolition and occupation levels suggested that it is likely to have penetrated to the natural subsoil in many places, restricting the stratified archaeology to the fills of features that were cut into the natural deposits. Elsewhere a veneer of deposit, which is indistinguishable from the plough soil, may survive intact, although it was impossible to identify. It had also had a profound effect on the effectiveness of the geophysical survey.

3.3.2 Archaeological features were overlain by an established turf in a mid grey-brown sandy topsoil that averaged 0.15 m thick, with pebbles from the underlying gravel. The soil profile was moderately well sorted indicating that a prolonged period had elapsed from the last, most recent phase of ploughing. The underlying subsoil was typically mid grey brown sandy material with mixed pebbles derived from the river gravels. Most features were filled with dark brown or grey-brown silts and sands derived from the matrix of the parent fluvial gravels. The natural gravels in trench 1 contained a higher proportion of clay matrix, which was reflected in the composition of individual layers.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 This trench, which measured 22 m long and 1.8 m wide, was dug across the eastern defences of the burgh in accordance with the requirements of the project design (**Figure 3**). The location of the defences and therefore of trench 1 was established from the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**), although this does not entirely correspond with the recorded earthwork defences. Most of the excavation was undertaken by machine, however small areas of hand excavation were undertaken to resolve the intersection of the bank and ditch of the defences. The trench was widened to 4 m at its east end to provide a total

excavated area of 57 square metres. The trench sides were stepped to allow access to the base of the ditch.

3.4.2 The turf and top soil horizon (101) directly overlay a plough soil comprising pebbly, light grey brown, silty clay (113). This silty clay was generally 0.20 m thick, but thickened to 0.65 m within the upper fill of the ditch of the defences and was responsible for reducing the contour of this earthwork.

3.4.3 The ditch (118) measured approximately 9.5 m across and was 2.65 m deep from the existing ground surface. It had gently sloping sides and slightly rounded base and was cut into the grey-green natural shales of the bedrock.

3.4.4 The lowest fill (117) of the ditch comprised an homogeneous pebbly deposit, 1.25 m thick, in a mid grey brown matrix. The deposit displayed all the characteristics of the result of natural silting, including large stones that had sorted to the central part of the ditch. Episodes of water logging or low energy silting were evident by thin lenses of clay within the deposit. There was nothing to indicate that the material was specifically derived from the bank. Fill (117) produced two sherds of medieval pottery and a fragment of roof tile.

3.4.5 The overlying secondary silts (116) comprised mid red brown silty clay with a reduced frequency of pebbles and indicated a reduced rate of silting. This material was overlain by a deposit of more stoney material (115), which may represent the collapse of the bank, possibly associated with ploughing. There was no particular accumulation of this layer towards the edge of the ditch closest to the bank. However the overlying silts (114) included a patch of charcoal (102), which was concentrated immediately east of the bank and could be traced as a diffuse spread towards the centre of the ditch. This deposit was associated with an area of fire reddened clay around a post hole (111) at the front edge of the bank. Four squared stone blocks were recovered from layer (114) but they were not *in situ*. They may have derived from a stone façade to the bank.

3.4.6 The fills of the ditch suggested it silted naturally. There were very few finds and no evidence that the ditch had been used for refuse disposal or to indicate the deliberate demolition of the defences. It seems most likely that the ditch was cleaned out regularly.

3.4.7 The section through the bank revealed that it sealed a layer of pale grey green sand (119), 0.16 m thick, which may represent the old ground surface. The bank was constructed of a series of gravel layers (120-123), which were retained by a revetment of mid yellow brown silty clay (106, 110) approximately 2.4 m across. The clay revetment was presumably to stop the gravel bank from eroding into the defensive ditch.

3.4.8 A pair of post holes (109 and 111), 4 m apart, suggested that the clay revetment may have been supported by timbers at a later stage of its existence. Post hole (109) was 0.36 m in diameter and 0.46 m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. A post pipe (107) was well defined, 0.21 m in diameter and

filled with loose clay, suggesting that the post had rotted *in situ*. The post pipe contained three small sherds of post-medieval pottery. This may be intrusive or the post hole is part of a later fence line, set out along the crest of the former defences. Post hole (111) was 0.27 m in diameter, 0.15 m deep and was defined by a zone of fire reddened clay, although there was nothing to indicate that the post had been burnt *in situ*. It is most likely that this post relates to a patch of charcoal (102), which was found immediately east of the post hole and which overlay the secondary ditch fills.

3.5 Trench 2

3.5.1 This trench was excavated to sample the layout of tenements adjacent to a street, identified by geophysical survey, in the centre of the burgh (**Figure 2**). The results were intended to provide some indication of the date at which that part of the burgh was first occupied and later abandoned, to assess its lay out, land use, economy and the status of any structures and to establish the condition of any archaeological remains.

3.5.2 The area was initially examined by investigating a linear feature, thought to be a road side ditch, that was visible on aerial photographs. The initial results indicated that other intercutting features were present. The trench was subsequently enlarged to cover an area of 59 square metres, including a strip 4 m wide that extended back from the street frontage in an attempt to examine the depth of a tenement block (**Figure 4**).

3.5.3 The results of the evaluation identified two provisional phases of activity adjacent to a street. The two phases will be refined as more accurate dating becomes available from pottery analysis. The phasing is derived from a limited number of intercutting shallow features. There were also a number of discrete features.

Phase 1

3.5.4 The area of the road was evident as an area of natural gravel at the east edge of the trench, in which there were no archaeological features (**Figure 4**). The street surface had been completely removed by ploughing. The edge of the road was defined by a ditch (218), which had been cut through by later pits, however a fragment that had not been truncated showed that it measured 1.3 m wide and 0.6 m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base. It had apparently silted naturally (217) and contained no finds, which was notable considering its position within the burgh.

3.5.5 A second linear feature (220), which is likely to represent a tenement boundary or frontage, ran parallel to and approximately 1.2 m west of the roadside ditch. It measured 0.66 m wide and 0.26 m deep with well cut vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (219) included a number of large pebbles, which were distributed down the west edge of the feature. They were also visible on the surface and are likely to represent packing for timber posts or a beam.

3.5.6 A poorly cut, irregular feature (222) 2.3 m long, 0.9 m wide and 0.2 m deep with gently sloping sides and rounded base, ran perpendicular from the tenement frontage and was probably related. The east end of the feature contained a large red sandstone block. The general alignment of this boundary was continued by a pair of shallow scoops (230 and 232), which may have been post holes, approximately 3.5 m beyond the west terminus of feature (222). These post holes averaged 0.3 m in diameter and 0.10 m deep.

3.5.7 A second poorly cut feature (214), with a well-cut post-hole (212) at the north end and with broadly the same alignment as the street frontage, was identified approximately 4.5 m west of ditch (220). The south end of the feature (214), which measured 1.4 m long, 0.6 m wide and 0.16 m deep appeared in plan to comprise three interconnecting post holes, although this was not confirmed in section. Post hole (212) was 0.45 m in diameter and 0.32 m deep with steep sides and rounded base.

3.5.8 These features were thought to represent an initial phase of activity in the burgh characterised by the division of the land into tenements with insubstantial buildings of timber post or timber framed construction. It was not possible to identify firmly the ground plan or full extent of any structure, or to be certain whether these buildings fronted immediately onto the street, as represented by ditch (220) or were set back from the road as represented by feature (214) and post hole (212). The rear of the tenement as exposed in the evaluation trench revealed no evidence of structures or refuse pits.

Phase 2

3.5.9 The second phase of activity in trench 2 was represented by a series of pits, including two, (207 and 209) that cut the now infilled road side ditch (218). The other pits were dug to the west of ditch (218) suggesting that while the roadside ditch was redundant, the road remained in use.

3.5.10 Pit (207) measured 2.2 m in diameter and was excavated to a layer of charcoal-rich ashy sand (206). This deposit was sampled for environmental material before excavation was terminated. Pit (209) was approximately 2 m in diameter and was 0.75 m deep with steep sloping sides and a rounded base. The lowest fill (236) comprised a layer of domestic refuse, which lay on the base of the pit and was sealed by weathered gravel (238) from the ditch edges. The main fill (208) was also characterised by ashy silt with clear tip lines. Episodes of gravel infill (237), which may have derived from the road, were interspersed with this fill. It is unclear whether pits (207) and (209) were contemporary. The similarities in their fills suggested some form of related burning activity.

3.5.11 Other pits lay to the west of the road and included a circular, stone-lined pit (225), which cut post hole (212). Pit (225) also cut a shallow soil layer (210) which sealed features (212), (214) and (216). This soil layer may represent an old ground surface. Pit (225) measured 1.3 m in diameter, was 0.5 m deep and was lined with vertical, roughly hewn stone blocks (234), approximately 0.4 m

square and 0.20 m thick. Pebbles were wedged in the gaps between individual blocks. The pit is of uncertain function but appeared to have been manufactured with a considerable degree of care. A layer of refuse (224), including charcoal was found on the base. The upper fill (223) included sherds of glazed jug, most of which were of a similar small size.

3.5.12 Three other sub circular refuse pits (227, 216 and 228) approximately 1 m across were also excavated. These pits were generally shallow, ranging from 0.10-0.28 m deep with shallow sloping sides and rounded profiles. They were filled (226, 215 and 229) with brown silty sand, fragments of bone and pottery, including, as described by the excavator, an 'articulated' deposit of animal bone in pit (227).

3.5.13 In general the level of activity within what was a main street of the burgh may be considered to be quite low. There is no evidence for buildings with substantial foundations. The provisional phasing of this part of the burgh suggests that a period of timber buildings was replaced by one of open yards with pits, some of which may be craft related. There were no archaeological features in the west of the trench, which may imply that buildings once stood there for which there no structural evidence now survives.

3.6 Trench 3

3.6.1 This trench, which measured 12 m east to west and 1 m wide, was dug to evaluate the archaeological deposits, the date, phases of occupation and condition of remains in an area undisturbed by ploughing, alongside a possible street close to the possible site of the church of the Holy Sepulchre (**Figure 2**).

3.6.2 The evaluation indicated that the street was laid out on the course of a ditch (**Figure 5**). Only the west edge of this feature (308) was exposed in a machine-dug slot, which was sufficient to reveal a representative sample of the ditch stratification. The ditch profile was dug with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base that lay 1.15 m below the natural bedrock surface. The projected profile suggested that the ditch was likely to have been at least 4 m across. The primary fills (318 and 307) comprised dark grey brown silt and successive layers of clean yellow sand (306) and dark silt (317) indicated that the ditch had silted naturally. There was nothing to indicate differential silting that may have indicated the presence of a bank.

3.6.3 The fills of the partially silted ditch were sealed by a broad spread of cobbles (305), up to 0.17 m across, in a grey brown silt matrix. This surface, which was 0.10 m thick and probably represented the first road surface, extended from beyond the west end of the trench across the ditch, a distance of over 5 m. It seems likely that it had subsided so as to fill ditch (308).

3.6.4 The road was itself sealed by a deposit of dark grey brown silt (304), 0.30 m thick, which contained large quantities of pottery, including fine wares. This may represent a period when the street went into decline.

3.6.5 The final phase of evidence indicates that the street was re-established. A second cobbled gravel surface (303), averaging 0.05 m thick, suggesting refurbishment of the street, was laid. It slumped into the top of ditch (308) and appeared to terminate or dip below the edge of an irregular paved surface (309). Surface (309) comprised a series of smooth paving stones, approximately 0.40 m across and large river cobbles, which appeared to adjoin the street. It abutted a similar surface made of rounded cobbles (310).

3.6.6 The front wall of a stone building (314 and 315), of which part of the facing remained intact, fronted onto the street in the east of the trench. It was separated from the cobbled surface by a narrow drain (319), 0.16 m wide, that was filled with silt. The wall foundation (314) measured approximately 1.5 m wide and 0.30 m deep and was filled with angular stones, 0.40-0.60 m across, and river cobbles (315). A compacted gravel floor (313), 0.07 m thick, which was covered by demolition rubble (312), was present inside the building. It is uncertain whether the fill of the foundation trench represented wall foundation or was the debris after the wall was robbed for stone. The foundation trench appeared to cut through the floor suggesting that it may have been the latter despite the absence of any mortar. A fragment of the core of a mortared internal wall (316), which was built on the floor, was traced extending east from the front wall.

3.6.7 The narrowness of this trench made it difficult to clarify some of the archaeological detail, however the results demonstrated that relatively deeply stratified deposits with large quantities of archaeological material are preserved in that part of the site. The provisional dating of the pottery suggests that this part of the burgh continued in use beyond that seen in trench 2. The presence of stone built foundations also suggests that the later buildings were of more substantial construction and probably of higher status. It is uncertain whether wooden structures preceded those of stone.

3.7 Trench 4

3.7.1 An attempt was made to locate and trace the position of St James' Church in the north of the burgh. Following the results of the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**) a trench approximately 4.5 m north to south and 4 m east to west was opened by machine. The trench revealed two stone built sarcophagi, with a possible two more to the north and west (**Figure 6**). They lay in an undifferentiated deposit of light brown silt/sand (401) of uncertain depth, which contained a fragment of a highly carved arch keystone representing the Tree of Life (see Cover photograph).

3.7.2 Sarcophagus (404) measured 3.2 m long and 1.60 m wide. It comprised a course of well-tooled ashlar blocks, up to 0.60 m long and 0.26 m thick that were laid with creamy-grey granular mortar (403). They sat on a foundation course of similar stone 0.06 m thick. The core of the monument was filled with rubble (406).

3.7.3 Sarcophagus (411) was not completely exposed but is likely to have been of similar dimensions and construction, comprising one course of ashlar blocks with a rubble infill (409).

3.7.4 Additional sarcophagi (405 and 412), one with a rubble core infill, lay to the north and west of (404). Neither was completely exposed.

3.7.5 The narrow space between monuments (404) and (411) was filled with a rectangular grave slab (407). It measured 1.7 m long and 0.46 m wide with bevelled edges and lay on a single course of faced and bevelled stones (408) that were butted together. The fill (410) was indistinguishable from the main trench fill and contained fragments of degraded bone, which were collected as a sample. There is nothing to indicate that they represent the inhumation.

3.7.6 The trench failed to locate the church of St. James but did reveal remains of some of the high status graves that were interred there. None of these graves were excavated.

3.8 Trench 5

3.8.1 A number of anomalies were identified in the results of the geophysical survey (**Figure 2**, Area 2) across Kay Brae, an area of the burgh specifically mentioned in the research design for evaluation. A trench 3 m long and 2 m wide was opened on the crest of the hill to characterise and date the nature of the archaeological remains, which were responsible for the geophysical results.

3.8.2 This small trench identified a boulder alignment (503), which probably represents the remains of a poorly preserved structure (**Plate 1**). It included boulders up to 0.4 m across, it was aligned north-west to south-east and measured up to 1 m wide. A spread of smaller stones, up to 0.20 m across, was located to the south-west and included a group that may form part of a second alignment extending to the south-west.

3.8.3 There were no traces of a foundation trench and nothing to indicate conclusively whether the structure formed part of the settlement complex of the burgh or was related to a field system.

3.9 Trench 6

3.9.1 A small machine-dug test pit, 2 m north-south and 1 m east-west, was dug in the south edge of a low mound, east of trench 4, which was thought might represent demolition rubble overlying the foundations of St James' Church (**Figure 1**). The precise location of the evaluation trench was determined by the results of the geophysical survey and by the wish to characterise the composition of the mound.

3.9.2 The trench was excavated to 1.2 m deep at which point two human skulls were exposed in the north section (**Plate 2**). The most easterly burial appeared to be

complete, although it was not exposed, and had disturbed the burial to the west. Part of a possible grave slab with tooled bevelled edges was also exposed in the west section, 0.42 m below the ground surface.

3.9.3 It was concluded that the trench had been placed in the graveyard. Excavation therefore ceased and the trench was backfilled.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Finds were recovered from four of the six trenches excavated; no finds were recovered from trenches 5 or 6, and relatively little material came from trench 1. All finds have been cleaned (with the exception of the metalwork) and have been quantified by material type within each context. Quantified data form the primary finds archive for the site and these data are summarised by trench in **Table 1**.

4.1.2 Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been very briefly scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. All finds data are currently held on an Excel spreadsheet.

4.1.3 This section presents a brief overview of the finds assemblage. The assemblage is largely of medieval date, with a smaller amount of post-medieval material.

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

Material type	Tr. 1	Tr. 2	Tr. 3	Tr. 4	TOTAL
Pottery	12/50	253/2742	163/1693	36/333	**464/4818**
Medieval	*5/33*	*244/2594*	*146/1586*	*34/330*	***429/4543***
Post-Medieval	*7/17*	*9/148*	*17/107*	*2/3*	***35/275***
Ceramic Building Material	2/92	-	3/330	9/356	**14/778**
Clay Pipe	-	1/1	-	12/39	**13/40**
Stone	1/39	1/30	4/1528	1/26100	**7/27,697**
Worked Flint	-	1/7	-	-	**1/7**
Glass	-	-	2/70	9/371	**11/441**
Slag	(341g)	-	-	-	**(341g)**
Metal	27	38	24	16	**105**
Copper Alloy	*-*	*1*	*2*	*1*	***4***
Iron	*27*	*30*	*20*	*15*	***92***
Lead	*-*	*7*	*2*	*-*	***9***
Human Bone	-	-		23/37	**23/37**
Shell	-	-	21/469	-	**21/469**

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 At this stage, no attempt has been made to identify specific ware types amongst the pottery assemblage – it has merely been quantified by broad date

range as 'medieval' or 'post-medieval'. It is apparent, however, from the brief visual scan, that the medieval assemblage is dominated by White Gritty wares of 13th or 14th century date, although other sandy wares, some possibly later medieval, are also present; some of the latter may include regional imports from Scarborough. There is a relatively high proportion of glazed and decorated wares, including a fine example of an anthropomorphic jug. The largest groups of medieval pottery came from trench 2, particularly pits (207) and (225) and trench 3 (mostly from topsoil).

4.3 Ceramic building material

4.3.1 Most of this small group appears to be of post-medieval date, although a few small, undiagnostic fragments could be earlier, as could nine small, glazed, floor tile fragments from topsoil in trench 4.

4.4 Metalwork

4.4.1 This includes objects of iron, copper alloy and lead. The ironwork consists mainly of nails and other probable structural items. Also identifiable are two horseshoes, both from trench 2, respectively unstratified, and from the old ground surface (210); both are of medieval 'wavy-edged' type with rectangular nail holes, dated mid 12th to 14th century (Clarke 1995, type 2B). A boot-heel and part of a socketed tool came from topsoil in trench 1, and a shears blade from topsoil in trench 4.

4.4.2 Copper alloy objects comprise a complete needle (topsoil in trench 3), a strapend (silt layer (304) in trench 3, and two late 17th century tokens (topsoil in trench 4).

4.4.3 Lead objects comprise two musket balls (unstratified in trench 2, and silt layer (304)), a probable weight (topsoil in trench 3), and three pieces of waste (pit (225), and unstratified in trench 2).

4.5 Architectural fragment

4.5.1 An architectural fragment (arch keystone) carved with the 'Tree of Life' (see Cover photograph) was found in layer (401) in trench 4, a trench dug in an attempt to locate the site of the former church of St James'. The fragment is in a fine-grained, micaceous sandstone, and is partially abraded – such a high quality piece of stonework could well have derived from the church building.

4.6 Other finds

4.5.1 These comprise slag (one small group from a charcoal patch in trench 1), vessel glass (all post-medieval, mostly from topsoil in trench 4), clay pipe (including one bowl of mid 17th century type from trench 4), one worked flint flake (pit 227 in trench 2), and a small quantity of oyster shell (all from trench 3) which includes both left and right valves, in other words, both preparation and consumption waste.

4.7 Human bone

4.7.1 Fragments of human bone, representing the disturbed remains of three separate individuals, were recovered from the topsoil in trench 4. These comprise skull, foot and rib fragments from an adult; a neonatal rib and radius fragment; and tibia and vertebra fragments from an older infant or young juvenile.

4.8 Animal bone

4.8.1 569 fragments of animal bone were recovered, of which 254 (45%) were from the topsoil. The bone from the topsoil included fragments of cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse, dog and bird. It is in poor to fair condition, and is not discussed further.

4.8.2 315 fragments were recovered from subsoil layers or fills which are likely to be medieval. 56% of these bones were in poor condition and the remainder in poor to fair condition. This was mainly due to surface flaking, and in many cases the surface was completely absent, probably reducing the number of identified butchery marks and incidence of gnawing (3%).

4.8.3 39% of bones could be identified to species, a relatively low proportion that is probably also due to the poor condition of the bone. Of the identified bones, the main domesticates were best represented (**Table 2**); cattle were the most common followed by sheep then pig, although cattle may be over-represented due to their larger size.

Table 2: Species proportions and number of unidentified fragments.

Species	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Dog	Bird	Deer	Hare	Unidentified	Total
Number of fragments	67	47	6	1	1	1	1	191	315
Percentage	54	38	5	1	1	1	1		

4.8.4 Bones from other species were found in pit (227) (dog and hare) and silt layer (304) (bird), and are probably chance inclusions since they are found singly and are of different elements. These animals may have been exploited for their meat or skins, or may have died naturally. A piece of ?red deer antler that had been sawn was found in pit (209) and is probably an off-cut from antler working. As no other deer bone was found, this antler may have been shed and collected rather than from a deliberately killed individual. No other industrial or specialised activity in the form of selection of particular bone elements or saw marks was noted.

4.8.5 In addition, fish bones were noted within soil samples taken from pits 207, 209 and 225 in trench 2, but have not at this stage been extracted or quantified.

4.8.6 53 bones (17%) could provide age and/or sexing information, and 20 (6%) could be measured to indicate the size of animals. One possible pathological

condition was noted on a cattle rib that had additional bone growth and high bone porosity at the articulation with the vertebra.

4.8.7 Butchery marks were frequently noted, found on 53 bones (9%), and include chops, cuts and fractures. A deposit in pit (227) described by the excavator as 'articulated cattle vertebrae' may be the remains of a meat joint; one fragmented vertebra and rib may have been in articulation, although the rib appears to have been from a larger animal than the vertebra. Clarification should be possible with further analysis. Burnt bones were less common (6%) but might provide some evidence of consumption practice: one cattle metacarpal had been broken when fresh then scorched, perhaps to assist in the extraction of marrow.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

5.1 Samples were taken to assess the presence and preservation of microscopic palaeo-environmental material, and determine the potential of these assemblages to help understand events and activities on site.

5.2 Five bulk soil samples of between 2 and 20 litres were taken from a range of deposits and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. The bulk samples were all of medieval date. One came from a post hole, another from a patch of charcoal and three from pit fills.

5.3 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods. The residues were unsorted by Wessex Archaeology but were not discarded as some fishbone may be present within them. They were retained and will be deposited with the finds and archive with the National Museum of Scotland.

5.4 The flots were scanned under a x10 - x30 stereo-binocular microscope and presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 3**). The flots ranged between 5 to 160 millilitres in size. Roots were generally low in the flots, modern seeds were also infrequent. Several seeds of *Veronica hederafloia* were present. Although seeds of this species often appear to resemble charred seeds several were tested and found to be modern.

5.5 Charred material occurred within all the samples and was in most cases well preserved, enabling identification to species level in several cases. The samples from the post hole (111) and the patch of charcoal (102) in trench 1 were smaller in size and they were poorer in the quantity of remains than those from pits. By far the most common component was grains of oat (*Avena* sp.). Distinguishing the cultivated from the wild variety is difficult unless floret bases are present. The only grain from the patch of charcoal (102) in trench 1 was still within its spikelet complete with floret base. Although the base of the floret was slightly eroded it appeared to have a straight breakage, characteristic of the cultivated variety rather than the 'horseshoe' shape characteristic of the wild. The large size of many of the grains within the other samples would also tend to indicate that most are of the cultivated rather than

wild variety. Some were notably smaller though and could therefore represent the wild type.

5.6 The second commonest cereal grain other than oats was that of hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare sensu lato*). Only two free-threshing wheat grains (*Triticum aestivum sensu lato*) were recovered from post hole (111). While rye (*Secale cereale*) was represented by a single possible grain from charcoal patch (102) and a rachis fragment from pit (225).

5.7 The other common component was hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*), which was present in all but one of the samples. Seeds of wild species, most probably of weeds, were relatively scarce in most samples. They were, however, well represented in pits (207) and (209). The most common species was dock (*Rumex crispus*), although seeds of vetch (*Vicia* sp.), corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*), and capsules of runch (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) were also present.

5.8 Several of the samples were noted to contain stems characteristic of roots from wood shrubs or herbs although none were identified. A single small tuber, possibly of grass or buttercup, was also present.

5.9 The charred remains would seem to come from domestic activities involving the preparation of food and so have a potential to reveal something of the arable and domestic economy of medieval Scotland at this time.

5.10 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 3**. Where larger pieces of charcoal were recovered it was very characteristically oak, being ring-porous. Several fragments of charcoal appear to come from the roots of wood shrubs, showing high degrees of twisting and bending not normally associated with twigs.

5.11 Small mammal bones were absent. However many charred and uncharred fragments of large mammal bone were present. In addition fish bones were recovered from several features. These were mainly vertebrae, although other parts were seen, including a jaw from pit (207).

5.12 A few other sites lying within the broader regional vicinity of Roxburgh from Perthshire, Edinburgh (Fairweather 1988, 1989) and Berwick upon Tweed (Donaldson 1982) have shown samples dominated by mainly oats and barley with also common finds of hazelnut. Records of cultivated oats in Scotland all fall in the last 2,500 years, and most in the last 1500 (Dixon and Dixon 2000). The crop is preferred because it can withstand cooler climates and the poorer impoverished soils, something that barley and rye are also favoured for. The possible presence of the latter is of some interest as it is relatively unknown from medieval Scotland although it was recovered from medieval Perth in small quantities (Dixon and Dixon 2000).

5.13 Medieval historic records indicate only small-scale cultivation of rye in central Scotland during the 14th century (Duncan 1975). While small-scale wheat

cultivation is recorded, they state that oats and bere (barley) are the commonest crops during medieval times.

Table 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

				Flot								
Feature type no	Context	Sample	size litres	flot size ml	Grain	Chaff	Other Charred	Notes	Charcoal ≥5.6mm	Other	Residue ≥5.6mm	analysis
Trench 1												
Posthole 111	112	101	8	25 $^{5\%}$	B	-	C	Oak. 2x f-t wheat grain, 3x barley, 6 oats (large). 1 fg hazelnut. *Phleum* sp. *Chenopodium* sp.	C			-
Patch of charcoal	102	102	2	5 $^{15\%}$	C	C	-	Oat grain with floret base cultivated type (straight) 1 x cf. Rye. 1 x culm. *Centaurea* sp.	-			
Trench 2												
Pit 225	224	201	10	125 $^{15\%}$	A **	C	A*	Oak. Lots of Oats. (large) few barley. 1 hazelnut frg. One culm node. *Brassica*, cf. Rye rachis. Seed indet. vetch.	B	Bone frags fish x 21		P
Pit 207	206	202	20	160 $^{15\%}$	A	-	A*	Hazelnut frg several., probable shrub roots. 7 x *Avena* sp. *Vicia* sp. *Raphanus raphanistrum Atriplex* sp. *Spergula* sp.	B	burnt bone frgs. fish bones (A)		P
Pit 209	236	203	10	60 $^{5\%}$	A *	-	A	Oats. *Rhaphanus* capsule, grains, hulled barley tail grain, bits of root fragments. Indet. Tuber with morphology. *Avena* sp. *Rumex cripsus*.	C	burnt bone fish bone		P

KEY: A** = 100-500, A* = 30-100 items, A = 10-30 items, B = 10 - 6 items, C = 1-5 items. Analysis P – plant remains
NOTE: flot is total, but flot in superscript = ml of rooty material.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in meeting the aims and objectives of the project and has produced significant results for this scheduled monument and most important of medieval sites in Scotland.

6.2 While the evaluation trenching, as required by the scheduled monument consent, only investigated less than 1% of the area of the medieval burgh, the geophysical survey enhances the results significantly and enables a wider consideration of the nature, character and condition of the archaeological deposits within the scheduled monument. This discussion does not attempt to place the archaeological results within the wider context of medieval urban settlement in Scotland as this is best undertaken by others and forms part of the recommendations for further work set out below. However statements on the nature, character and condition of the monument can be made as follows.

6.3 The geophysical survey has indicated that ploughing, despite the previous assumption that no such ploughing has taken place at least within the last 200

years, has disturbed the southern areas of the burgh. The ploughing has created strong linear anomalies that mask any underlying archaeological features, except for those resulting from the position of former streets and the defensive ditch to the east of the burgh. The presence of the streets and defensive ditch were corroborated by evaluation in trenches 1 and 2.

6.4 The pattern of ploughing appears to run parallel or perpendicular to the direction of the street alignments (**Figure 2**), suggesting that the location of the streets was taken account of when the ploughing took place. This merits further consideration and explanation.

6.5 The geophysical survey indicates an abrupt end to this pattern of ploughing in the west of the burgh, while the survey results in the north also indicate good survival of buried deposits (**Figure 2**).

6.6 The results of the geophysical survey were particularly informative and demonstrate the archaeological value of this technique at Roxburgh. The widening of the survey areas to include unsurveyed portions of the site and to link previously surveyed areas would be desirable in the future.

6.7 As proposed in the project design, trench 1 intercepted the eastern defences of the burgh, the ditch of which was apparent as a geophysical anomaly and topographic feature. The defences comprised a large ditch, sufficiently wide, but surely not deep enough, to have acted as a defence, with a gravel bank to the west, revetted by a clay bank to deter the gravel bank from eroding into the ditch. Some greater complexity to this earthwork was suggested by the presence of post holes and four residual stone blocks from the upper fill of the ditch. A ditch at least 4 m wide was stratigraphically an early feature in trench 3 in the west of the burgh but its function is unknown.

6.8 Within the defences, the geophysical survey suggested a gridded street plan at least in the south of the burgh. Sections of streets were recorded in trenches 2 and 3. In trench 2 the street survived as no more than the surface of the natural gravel, any metalling presumably having been removed by ploughing. In trench 3 the street comprised cobbled surfaces. A roadside ditch was recorded in trench 2 and the geophysical survey suggests similar features for other streets within the burgh.

6.9 In trenches 2 and 3 buildings fronted on to the streets. In trench 2 the building was of post and beam construction and probably set back a short distance from the street, while in trench 3 the building was set on stone foundations and fronted immediately onto the street, separated only by a narrow drain. A gravel floor survived within the building in trench 3. No such surfaces survived in trench 2, reflecting the slighter timber building, and the likely damage from ploughing. No stratification above bedrock survived within trench 2, apart from an area of possible old ground surface, whereas a well-preserved sequence of surfaces and deposits, representing several phases of activity, occurred in trench 3 and reflects the differential survival of deposits between ploughed and unploughed areas of the site. A possible wall of simple

construction and unknown function was recorded in trench 5 and corresponds to a possible structure recorded by geophysical survey. Despite the quality of the geophysical survey data, the limited area excavated did not suggest, however, the survival of complex stratigraphy in this area of the site.

6.10 The evaluation trenches produced a modest assemblage of medieval finds, including domestic material (pottery and vessel glass), structural material (floor tiles, nails), tools (socketed tool and shears blade) and dress items (needle and strapend). Food remains were also recovered in the form of oyster shells, animal bone (particularly cattle, sheep/goat and fish remains), hazelnut shells and grains of oats, hulled barley, wheat and rye. One sawn piece of antler may represent an off-cut from antler working. Small pieces of slag and lead waste may attest to modest metalworking activities.

6.11 No structural evidence for the churches of the Holy Sepulchre or St James' were recorded in trenches 3, 4 and 6. A carved key stone in trench 4 may have derived from an ecclesiastical building, otherwise the presence of sarcophagi and graves suggested that trenches 4 and 6 were located in the grave yard of St James' church. The geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies that might indicate the precise location of the church.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

7.1 Time Team's evaluation at Old Roxburgh has produced significant new information on one of Scotland's most important medieval sites. This information should be made available to the wider archaeological and academic community through the publication of a shorter contribution to the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.* The following recommendations are proposed for the publication of the site, finds and environmental data.

7.2 The site data should be condensed from this assessment and data structure report. The publication should provide a background to the project, a summary of the principal findings and a consideration of these against the wider evidence for the burgh and for medieval settlement in the region. This aspect of the publication should be undertaken by an appropriate authority in the archaeology of the Roxburgh region (such as Dr Colin Martin). Plans, sections and photographs may provide illustrative accompaniment to the text as appropriate.

7.3 The finds assemblage is relatively small. Only two material types, animal bone and pottery, are represented in any quantity, and both are fragmentary and not particularly well preserved. Useful dating information, however, as well as information on sources of supply, can be provided by the small pottery assemblage, which certainly warrants further analysis, as does the animal bone.

7.4 The proportion of bones that can provide age and size information, as well as indicate butchery and consumption practice, is high. The presence of fish bones is also of interest. Although only a few were recovered, most of the more detailed records for medieval Scotland come from higher status settlements. This does have the potential to provide information on the wider range of resources used (e.g. riverine freshwater or marine fish), and so further characterise the economy of the more average Scottish medieval town dweller.

7.5 Apart from these two categories, little amongst the finds assemblage has the potential to characterise activity within the medieval town. Further analysis of other material types, therefore, is not proposed, although more detailed comment could be made on certain objects of intrinsic interest (for example, the carved architectural fragment).

7.6 The pottery assemblage will be subjected to detailed fabric and form analysis, with reference to local and regional type series. Discussion of the assemblage will focus on the ceramic sequence (and its chronological implications for the site), sources of supply, and any conclusions which can be drawn on the status of the site. A small selection of vessel forms will be illustrated. The material will be analysed by a recognised authority in the archaeology of the region and period (in this case Derek Hall is proposed).

7.7 For the faunal assemblage, a short report with additional information including kill patterns, bone element representation, animal size and butchery/consumption patterns is recommended to indicate the nature of animal husbandry and identify any other activities. The results can then be integrated into the existing corpus of knowledge (*e.g.* Grove 1998; Tabraham 1984). The fish bones from soil sample residues from pits 207, 209 and 225 should be extracted and examined.

7.8 The architectural fragment will be submitted for detailed specialist comment on its likely date, stone type and significance. The fragment will be drawn and/or photographed for publication.

7.9 Other material types will not be analysed further, but information gathered as part of this assessment stage may be used in the publication report.

7.10 There are few conservation requirements for long-term storage. The metal objects (apart from the lead) have been X-radiographed as a basic record, and to aid identification, and have been stabilised in the short term by storage in an airtight container with a drying agent (silica gel). The iron objects are not considered to be of sufficient intrinsic interest to warrant further conservation treatment, but the copper alloy objects are recommended for investigative cleaning.

7.11 The charred plant remains assemblage is of some interest and has some potential to corroborate contextual evidence as well as information on the arable economy, local environment and food remains. Most of the charcoal was fairly characteristic of oak. Unless the charcoal specifically relates to the

burning of structures, more specific identification has little potential. The common occurrence of the woody root stems of small shrubs is of some interest, although the reason for their presence in the samples is unclear. It is possible they represent an alternative source of fuel to oak.

7.12 The three plant remains samples from pits will be analysed to characterise the economy of the site. No further analysis of the other samples is proposed. Other information from this assessment, especially the presence of cultivated oats, should be included within the publication report.

7.13 Copies of this report will be submitted to Historic Scotland, the National Monuments Record of Scotland, the Scottish Borders Sites and Monuments Record and the Council for Scottish Archaeology. A brief summary of this report has been submitted to *Discoveries and Excavations in Scotland 2003*.

8 THE ARCHIVE

8.1 The archive, which includes all artefacts, written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken, is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the site code ROX 03 and Wessex Archaeology project code 52568. Appendix 4: small finds, including context numbers, will be submitted to Peter Yeoman, Historic Scotland, for submission to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer. It will form the basis for the declaring of finds as Treasure Trove, or for transfer of ownership of finds to the Secretary of State for Scotland, as part of the process of transferring ownership to the appropriate registered museum. The paper archive is contained in a lever arch file. It includes:

Document	**Size**	**No. Pages**
Project Design	A4	9
Scheduled Monument Consent	A4	3
Assessment/Data Structure Report	A4 A3	38 6
Geophysical survey report	A4 A3	17 7
Context index	A4	8
Context records	A4	99
Trial trench record	A4	1
Graphics register	A4	4
Drawing sheets	A1 A3 A4	7 2 18
Photographic register	A4	6
Levels register	A4	2
GPS data	A4	6
Colour transparencies	-	84
Monochrome photographs	A4 contact sheets Plus negatives	3
Environmental assessment data	A4	6
Animal bone assessment data	A4	2
Finds assessment data	A4	7
Miscellaneous background data	A4	15

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Appendix 1: Site context summary

Context	Trench	Summary description
101	1	Turf/topsoil
102	1	Patch of charcoal
103	1	Gravel layer in west of trench, same as 104?
104	1	Gravel layer, part of bank
105	1	Silty clay layer in west of trench, part of bank?
106	1	Silty clay layer, bank revetment, below 110
107	1	Post pipe in post hole 109
108	1	Fill of post hole 109
109	1	Post hole
110	1	Silty clay layer, bank revetment
111	1	Post hole
112	1	Fill of post hole 111
113	1	Ploughsoil
114	1	Fourth fill of ditch 118
115	1	Third fill of ditch 118
116	1	Second fill of ditch 118
117	1	Lowest fill of ditch 118
118	1	Defensive ditch
119	1	Old ground surface?
120	1	Gravel layer, part of bank
121	1	Gravel layer, part of bank, below 120
122	1	Gravel layer, part of bank, below 121
123	1	Gravel layer, part of bank, below 122
200	2	Number for unstratified finds
201	2	Topsoil
202	2	Layer of cobbles
203	2	Fill of 204
204	2	?pit
205	2	Upper fill of pit 207
206	2	Bottom fill of pit 207
207	2	Pit
208	2	Fill of pit 209
209	2	Pit
210	2	Layer, old ground surface?
211	2	Fill of post hole 212
212	2	Post hole
213	2	Fill of feature 214
214	2	Shallow feature. Beam slot?
215	2	Fill of pit 216
216	2	Pit
217	2	Fill of ditch 218
218	2	Roadside ditch
219	2	Fill of ditch 220
220	2	Ditch
221	2	Fill of feature 222
222	2	Irregular feature
223	2	Upper fill of pit 225
224	2	Bottom fill of pit 225
225	2	Stone-lined pit
226	2	Fill of pit 227
227	2	Pit
228	2	Pit

229	2	Fill of pit 228
230	2	Shallow scoop. Post hole?
231	2	Fill of scoop 231
232	2	Shallow scoop. Post hole?
233	2	Fill of scoop 232
234	2	Stone lining of pit 225
235	2	Sand and gravel 'bedrock'
236	2	Bottom fill of pit 209
237	2	Gravel fill of pit 209
238	2	Gravel fill of pit 209
239	2	Upper fill of pit 209
301	3	Topsoil
302	3	Subsoil
303	3	Cobbled surface, re-metalling of 305?
304	3	Silt layer above cobbled surface 305
305	3	Cobbled surface, road?
306	3	Sand fill of ditch 308
307	3	Lowest fill of ditch 308
308	3	Ditch
309	3	Paved surface
310	3	Cobbled surface
311	3	Fill of gully or drain 319
312	3	Demolition rubble
313	3	Gravel floor
314	3	Cut for foundation trench
315	3	Fill of foundation trench 314
316	3	Wall
317	3	Silt fill of ditch 308
318	3	Lowest fill of ditch 308
319	3	Gully or drain
400	4	Topsoil
401	4	Subsoil
402	4	Rubble core of 405
403	4	Mortar
404	4	Sarcophagus
405	4	Sarcophagus
406	4	Rubble core of 404
407	4	Grave slab
408	4	Stone-lined grave
409	4	Rubble core of 409
410	4	Fill of 408
411	4	Sarcophagus
412	4	Sarcophagus
413	4	Grave cut
501	5	Topsoil
502	5	Subsoil
503	5	Rubble wall
601	6	Topsoil
602	6	Subsoil
603	6	Grave cut
604	6	Skull in grave 603 (left in situ)
605	6	Fill of grave 603
606	6	Grave cut
607	6	Skull in grave 606 (left in situ)
608	6	Fill of grave 606

Appendix 2: Graphics summary

Drawing No.	Sheet Size	Trench	Scale	Brief Description
101	A4	1	1:20	Plan of west end of trench
102	A4	1	1:10	Section of post hole 109
103	A4	1	1:10	South-east facing trench section, east end
104	A4	1	1:20	Section of post hole 111
105	A4	1	1:20	South-east facing trench section, west end
106	A4	1	1:20	Plan of east end of trench
201	A4	2	1:10	Section of pit 209
202	A4	2	1:10	Section of ditch 218
203	A4	2	1:10	Section of pit 216
204	A4	2	1:20	Post-excavation plan of feature 222
205	A4	2	1:20	Section of ditch 220 and feature 222
206	A4	2	1:20	Section of pit 227
207	A4	2	1:10	Part section of pit 207
208	A1	2	1:20	Section of pit 225, post hole 212 and feature 214
209	A4	2	1:10	Sections of post holes or scoops 230 and 232
210	A4	2	1:10	Section of pit 228
211	A1	2	1:20	Post-excavation plan of west end of trench
212	A1	2	1:20	Post-excavation plan of east end of trench
213	A1	2	1:20	Pre-excavation trench plan
301	A1	3	1:20	Overall trench plan
302	A1	3	1:10	Section of ditch 308
303	A4	3	1:20	Plan of east end of trench as part excavated
401	A3	4	1:20	Pre-excavation trench plan
402	A4	4	1:20	Trench plan on removal of grave slab 407
403	A4	4	1:20	Trench plan on part removal of grave 410
404	A3	4	1:10	Section of part-excavated east face of sarcophagi 404 and 411 and grave slab 407
501	A1	5	1:20	Overall trench plan

Appendix 3: Photographic summary

Colour Transp'y Number	Trench	Image	Duplicated in monochrome
1	1	Charcoal patch 102	√
2	1	Charcoal patch 102	
3	1	Charcoal patch 102	
4	1	Post hole 111	√
5	1	Post hole 111	√
6	1	Post hole 109	√
7	1	Post hole 109	√
8	1	Ditch 118	√
9	1	Ditch 118	√
10	1	Ditch 118	√
11	1	Old ground surface?	
12	1	Old ground surface?	
13	1	Old ground surface?	
14	1	Ditch 118	√
15	1	Ditch 118	√
16	1	Ditch 118	√
17	2	Pre-excavation view of east of trench 2	√
18	2	Pre-excavation view of east of trench 2	√
19	2	Pre-excavation view of east of trench 2	√
20	2	Pre-excavation view of west of trench 2	√
21	2	Pre-excavation view of west of trench 2	√
22	2	Pre-excavation view of west of trench 2	√
23	2	Ditch 218	√
24	2	Ditch 218	
25	1	General view of north of trench 1	
26	1	General view of north of trench 1	
27	1	General view of north of trench 1	
28	2	Pit 216	√
29	2	Pit 216	√
30	2	Pit 209	
31	2	Pit 209	
32	2	Pit 225	√
33	2	Pit 225	√
34	2	Post hole 212 and ?beam slot 214	√
35	2	Post hole 212 and ?beam slot 214	√
36	3	Ditch 308	
37	3	Ditch 308	
38	3	Ditch 308	
39	3	Foundation trench 314 and wall 316	√
40	3	Foundation trench 314 and wall 316	√
41	3	Foundation trench 314 and wall 316	√
42	3	General post-excavation view of trench 3	√
43	3	General post-excavation view of trench 3	√
44	3	General post-excavation view of trench 3	√
45	3	General post-excavation view of trench 3	√
46	2	Working shots of trench 2	√
47	2	Working shots of trench 2	√
48	2	Working shots of trench 2	√
49	2	Ditch 218	√
50	2	Ditch 218	√

51	5	Post-excavation view of trench 5	√
52	5	Post-excavation view of trench 5	√
53	5	Post-excavation view of trench 5	√
54	2	?Post holes 230 and 232	√
55	2	?Post holes 230 and 232	√
56	2	Pit 228	√
57	2	Pit 228	√
58	2	Pit 227	√
59	2	Pit 227	√
60	2	Pit 207	√
61	2	Pit 207	√
62	2	Irregular feature 222	
63	2	Irregular feature 222	
64	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
65	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
66	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
67	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
68	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
69	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
70	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
71	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
72	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
73	4	General views and working shots of trench 4	√
74	4	Grave 408 after removal of grave slab 407	√
75	4	Grave 408 after removal of grave slab 407	√
76	6	North section of trench 6 showing two skulls	√
77	6	North section of trench 6 showing two skulls	√
78	4	Grave 408 after replacement of grave slab 407	
79	4	Backfilling in progress in trench 4	
80	-	General site shots and packing up	
81	-	General site shots and packing up	
82	-	General site shots and packing up	
83	-	General site shots and packing up	
84	-	General site shots and packing up	

Appendix 4: Small finds by context

Further description of the finds assemblage and of certain objects is contained in Section 4 above.

Obj No	Context	Material Type	No.	ID	X-Ray
1	301	cu alloy	1	needle	9436
2	407	cu alloy	1	Token: farthing, late C17	9436
3	407	cu alloy	1	Token; farthing or penny, Charles II, late C17	9436
4	304	cu alloy	1	buckle	9436
5	101	iron	1	socket	9444
6	101	iron	1	boot-heel	9444
7	101	iron	1	?staple	9444
8	200	iron	1	small ring	9443
9	210	iron	1	horseshoe	9446
10	223	iron	1	U-staple	9446
11	400	iron	1	?shears blade	9448
12	tr 2 U/S	iron	1	horseshoe	9443
13	301	lead	1	Perforated disc - weight?	-
14	101	stone	1	?whetstone fragment	-
15	401	stone	1	Architectural fragment: carved keystone	-

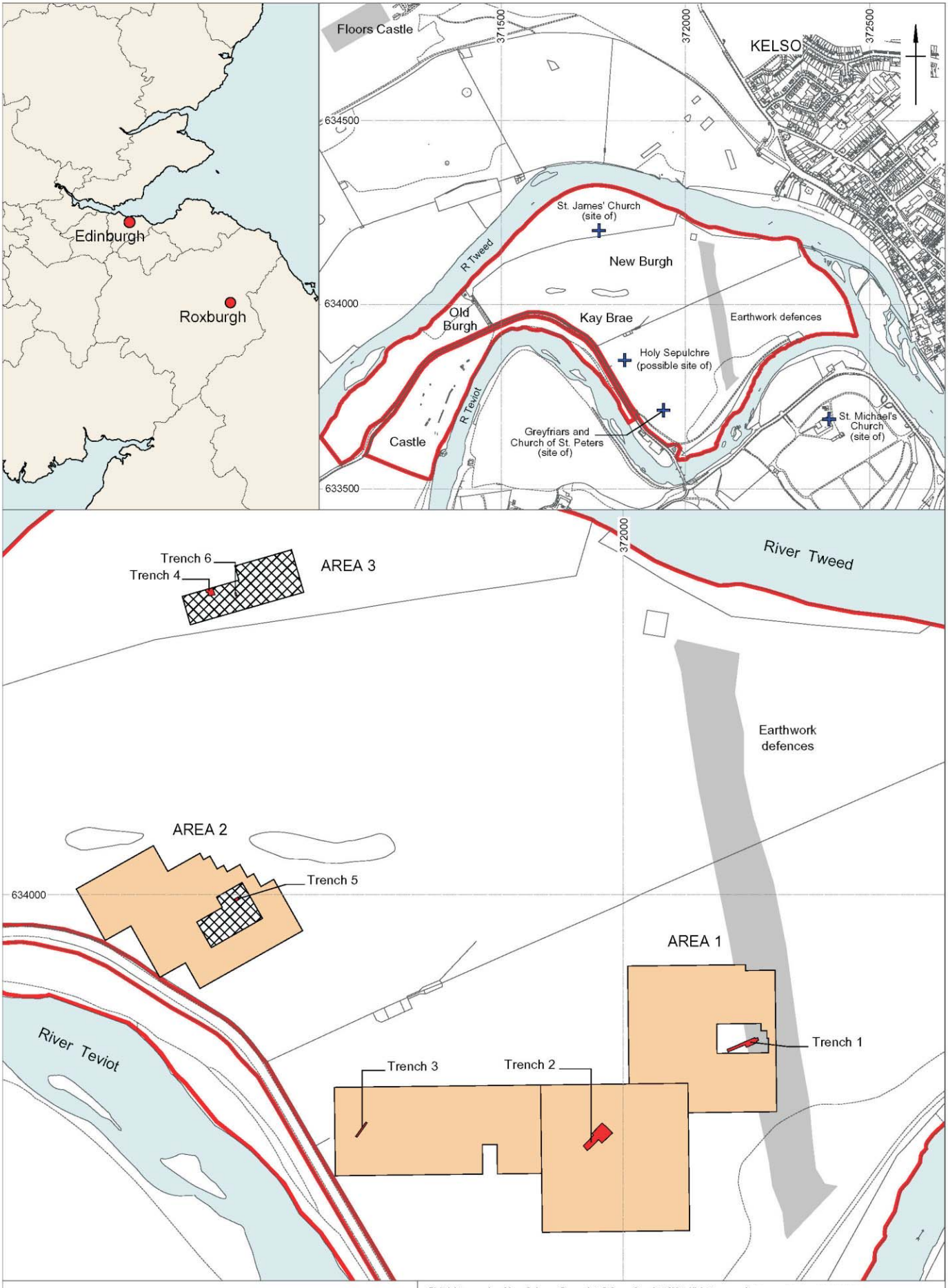
Appendix 5: All finds by context

NB In this Appendix animal bone is total number of pieces and does not include recent/modern fractures that are counted as one fragment as in Table 2.

Tr	Context	Description	Material type	No.	Wt.	Comments
1	101	topsoil	Animal bone	1	6	
1	101	topsoil	iron	26	380	20 nails; socket (ON 5); boot-heel (ON 6); ?staple (ON 7); 3 unid. (X9444)
1	101	topsoil	Post-med pottery	4	13	
1	101	topsoil	stone	1	39	?whetstone fragment (ON 14)
1	102	charcoal patch	slag		341	sample 102
1	108	Post hole 109	CBM	1	6	undiagnostic
1	108	Post hole 109	Post-med pottery	3	4	
1	112	Post hole 111	Animal bone	3	1	sample 101; burnt
1	117	Ditch 118	CBM	1	86	undiagnostic tile
1	117	Ditch 118	Medieval pottery	2	15	
1	unstrat	Unstrat	iron	1	45	nail (X9443)
1	unstrat	Unstrat	Medieval pottery	3	18	
2	200	Unstrat	Animal bone	41	476	
2	200	Unstrat	iron	5	30	3 nails; cleat/bent nail; small ring (ON 8) (X9443)
2	200	Unstrat	lead	1	9	waste
2	200	Unstrat	Medieval pottery	55	644	
2	200	Unstrat	Post-med pottery	4	83	
2	201	Topsoil	Medieval pottery	1	67	
2	205	Pit 207	Animal bone	56	403	
2	205	Pit 207	iron	1	17	?bar/nail (X9443)
2	205	Pit 207	Medieval pottery	52	457	
2	206	Pit 207	Animal bone	24	13	sample 202; 2 burnt
2	206	Pit 207	Medieval pottery	1	2	sample 202
2	208	Pit 209	Animal bone	34	357	
2	208	Pit 209	Medieval pottery	18	194	
2	208	Pit 209	stone	1	30	slate
2	210	OGS	Animal bone	4	4	
2	210	OGS	iron	1	726	horseshoe (ON 9) (X9446)
2	210	OGS	Medieval pottery	2	3	
2	211	Post hole 212	Animal bone	5	17	
2	211	Post hole 212	Medieval pottery	4	10	

2	215	Pit 216	Medieval pottery	1	12	
2	219	Ditch 220	Animal bone	10	67	
2	223	Pit 225	Animal bone	26	148	
2	223	Pit 225	iron	11	187	6 nails; ?U-staple (ON 10); 4 unid. (X9446)
2	223	Pit 225	lead	1	4	waste
2	223	Pit 225	Medieval pottery	45	549	
2	224	Pit 225	Animal bone	1	1	
2	224	Pit 225	Animal bone	15	13	sample 201; 8 burnt
2	224	Pit 225	iron	1	10	sample 201; nail
2	224	Pit 225	lead	5	39	sample 201; waste
2	224	Pit 225	Medieval pottery	2	7	
2	226	Pit 227	Animal bone	81	260	
2	226	Pit 227	Medieval pottery	15	139	
2	226	Pit 227	Worked flint	1	7	flake
2	229	Pit 228	Medieval pottery	1	8	
2	236	Pit 209	Animal bone	22	18	sample 203; 2 burnt
2	236	Pit 209	Medieval pottery	2	45	sample 203
2	unstrat	Unstrat	Animal bone	18	149	
2	unstrat	Unstrat	Clay pipe	1	1	plain stem
2	unstrat	Unstrat	iron	10	256	horseshoe (ON 12); 8 nails; bar/strip (X9443)
2	unstrat	Unstrat	lead	1	15	?musket ball
2	unstrat	Unstrat	Medieval pottery	45	457	
2	unstrat	Unstrat	Post-med pottery	5	65	
3	300	Unstrat	Animal bone	18	312	
3	300	Unstrat	CBM	2	318	post-med tile
3	300	Unstrat	iron	8	95	5 nails; 2 sheet frags; plate frag (X9447)
3	300	Unstrat	Medieval pottery	28	259	
3	300	Unstrat	Post-med pottery	3	14	
3	301	Topsoil	Animal bone	182	2090	
3	301	Topsoil	CBM	1	12	undiagnostic tile
3	301	Topsoil	Cu alloy	1	1	ON 1 (needle)
3	301	Topsoil	glass	2	70	post-med bottle
3	301	Topsoil	iron	5	16	nails (X9447)
3	301	Topsoil	lead	1	20	perforated disc - weight? (ON 13)
3	301	Topsoil	Medieval pottery	66	634	
3	301	Topsoil	Post-med pottery	14	93	
3	301	Topsoil	shell	9	204	oyster (3L + 4R valves)
3	301	Topsoil	stone	4	1528	1 small micaceous frag
3	302	Subsoil	Animal bone	37	507	

3	302	Subsoil	iron	2	339	sheet frag (with rivets?); large tapering bar (X9447)
3	302	Subsoil	Medieval pottery	10	141	
3	302	Subsoil	shell	1	20	oyster (L valve)
3	304	Silt layer	Animal bone	36	1065	
3	304	Silt layer	Cu alloy	1	2	ON 4 (strapend)
3	304	Silt layer	iron	5	212	3 ?nails; cleat/bent nail; plate frag; 1 unid. (X9445)
3	304	Silt layer	lead	1	14	musket ball
3	304	Silt layer	Medieval pottery	37	505	
3	304	Silt layer	shell	11	245	oyster (5L + 5R valves)
3	307	Ditch 308	Medieval pottery	1	27	
3	313	Floor	Animal bone	1	20	
3	313	Floor	Medieval pottery	4	20	
4	400	Topsoil	Animal bone	46	168	
4	400	Topsoil	CBM	9	356	glazed floor tile
4	400	Topsoil	Clay pipe	12	39	11 plain stems; 1 bowl (heel stamp, plus initials W/B on sides)
4	400	Topsoil	Cu alloy	1	1	ONs 2 & 3 (tokens)
4	400	Topsoil	glass	9	371	post-med bottle/jar
4	400	Topsoil	Human bone	23	37	3 individuals: adult (skull, foot, rib); neonate (skull, rib, radius); older infant/young juv (tibia, vertebra)
4	400	Topsoil	iron	18	264	?shears blade (ON 11); 10 nails; strip; tapering bar; 5 unid. (X9448)
4	400	Topsoil	Medieval pottery	34	330	
4	400	Topsoil	Post-med pottery	2	3	
4	401	Subsoil	stone	1	26100	architectural frag (ON 15)
4	410	?grave fill	Animal bone	3	2	



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Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

Location map

Figure 1

Mapping supplied by Time Team. Licence number AL 100018665.
Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospection Ltd

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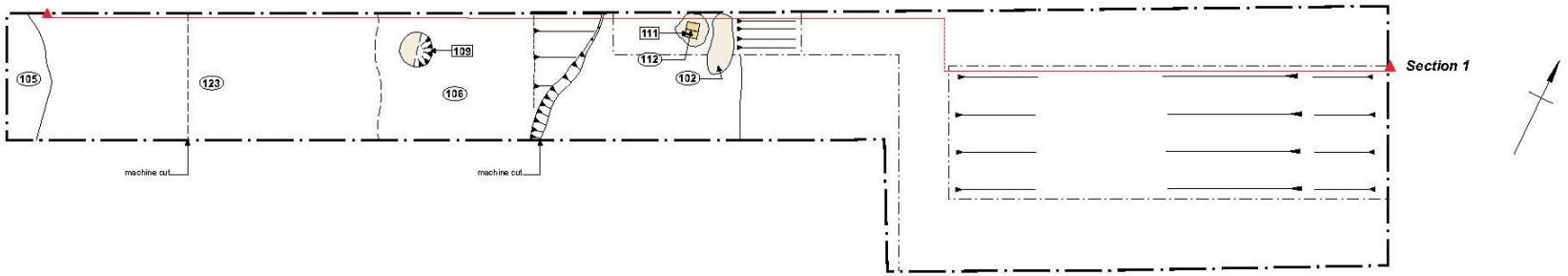
Geophysical results and Trenches 1-3 and 5

Figure 2

TRENCH 1



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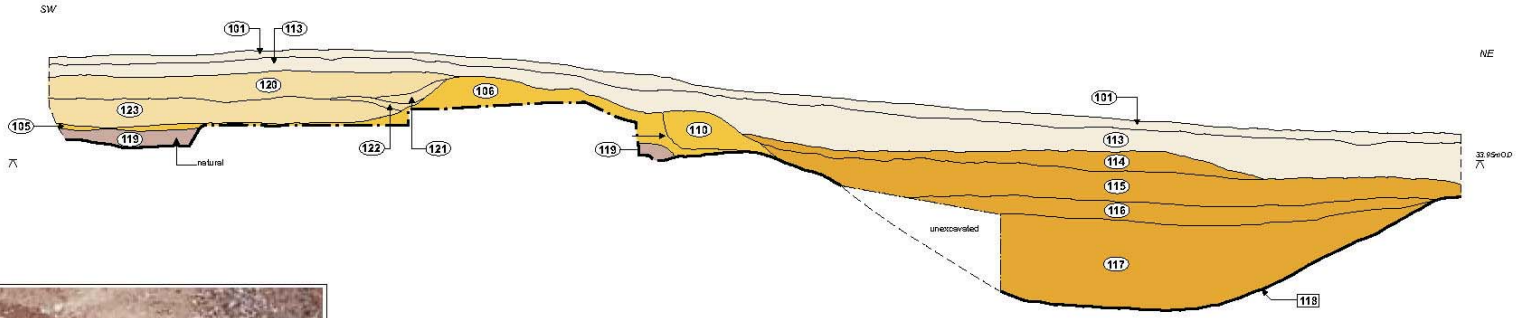

South-west facing section of ditch (118). Scales: 2x1m

0 5m

Scale for plan and sections 1:75

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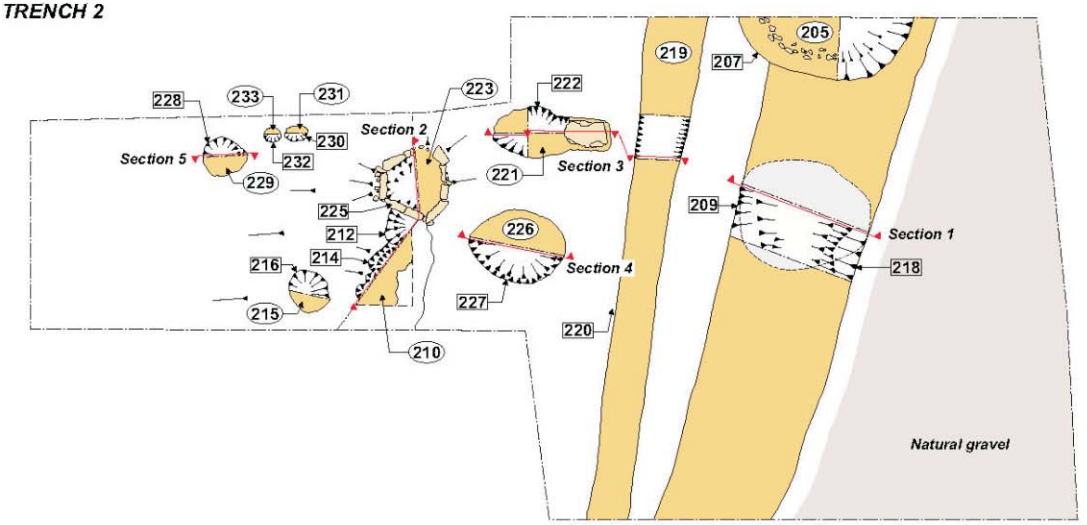
Trench 1 plan and sections

Figure 3

East end of Trench 2 with roadside ditch 218 in the centre with gravel 'street' to the left. Looking south. Scales: 2x1m.

General view of west end of Trench 2. Looking north-east. Scales: 2x1m

TRENCH 2



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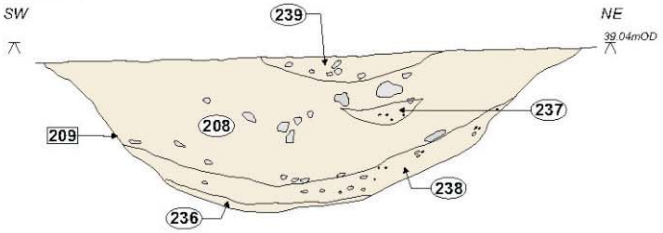

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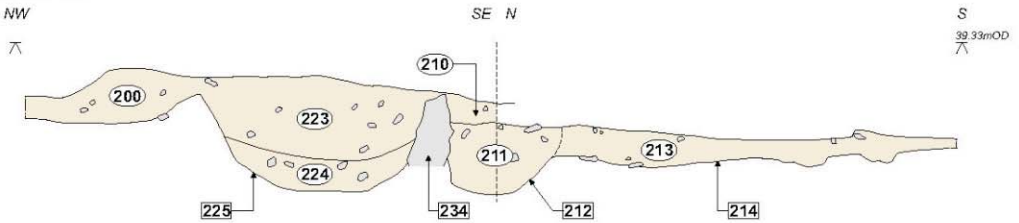

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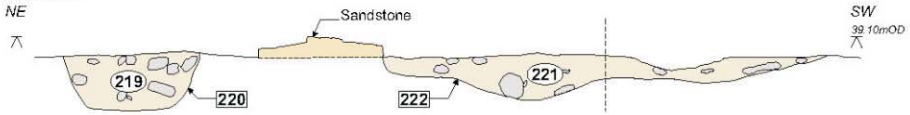

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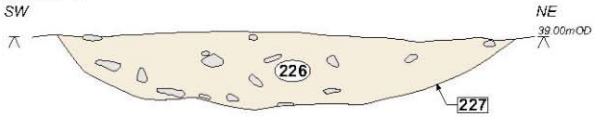

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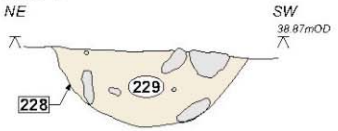

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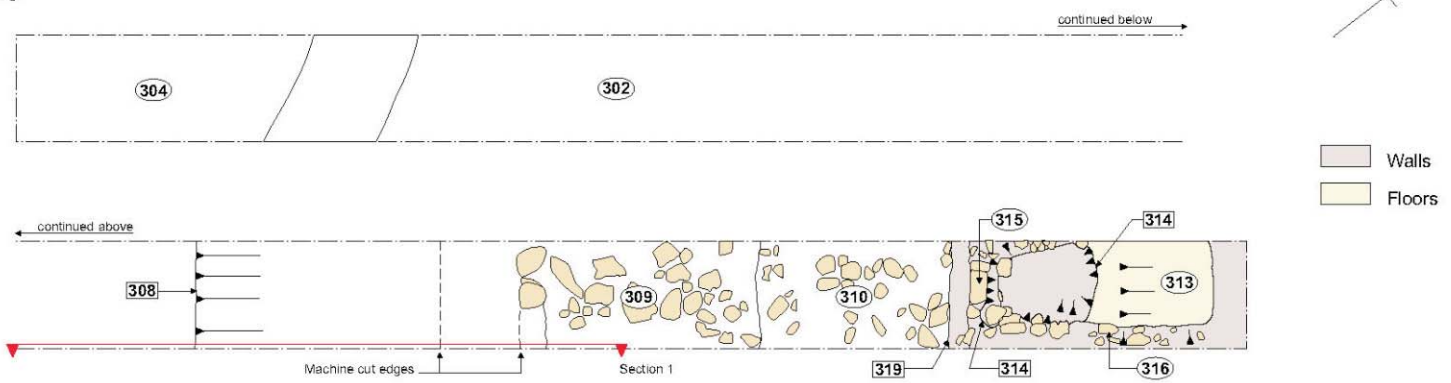
Trench 2 plan and sections

Figure 4

Trench 3 looking south-west.
The 0.5m scale lies on gravel floor 313

TRENCH 3



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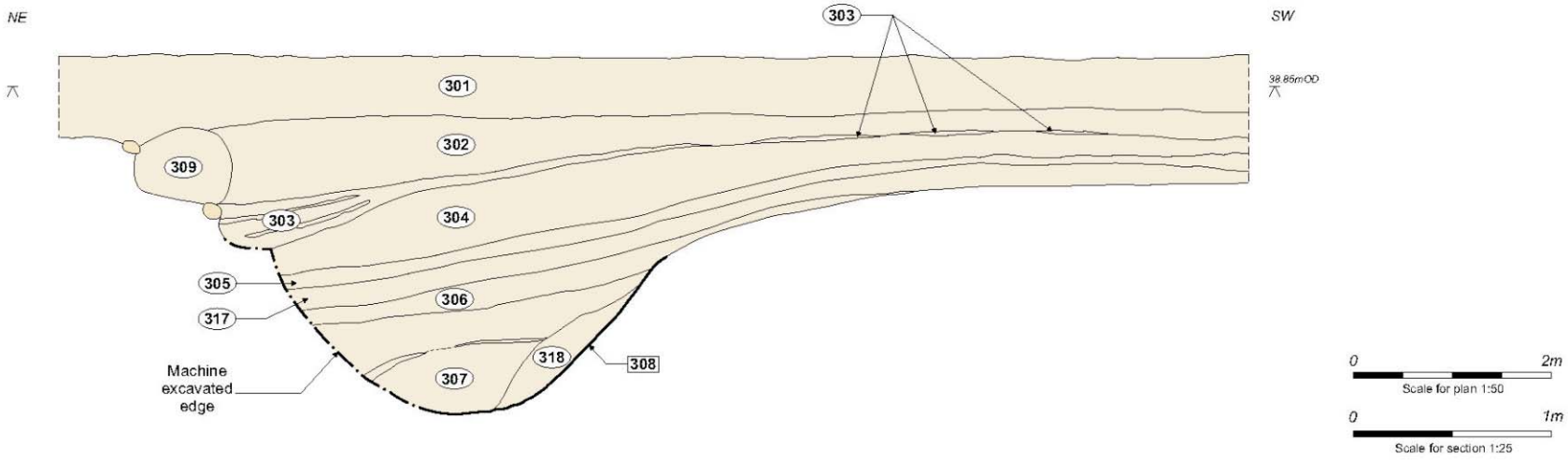

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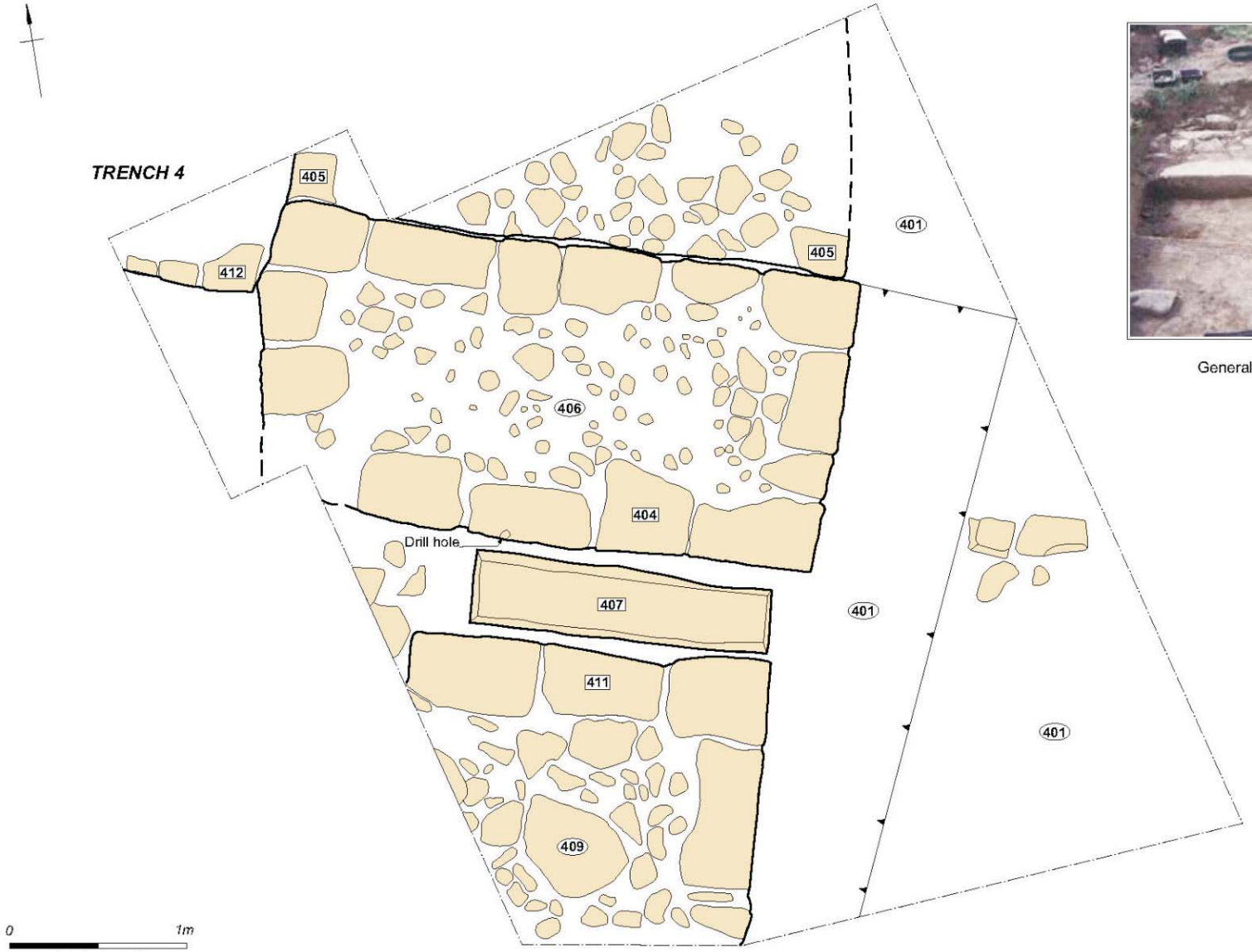
Trench 3 plan and sections

Figure 5



General view of Trench 4 looking west. Scale: 1m

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Plan of Trench 4

Figure 6

Plate 1: Trench 5 looking south-east with boulder alignment (503).
Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 2: North section of Trench 6 with two human skulls from two graves, left in situ.
Scale: 0.5m.

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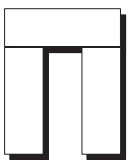

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