Wessex Archaeology

Anton Laundry, Shepherds Spring Lane Andover, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Ref: 72300.02

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ANTON LAUNDRY,
SHEPHERDS SPRING LANE, ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:
Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants

On Behalf of
Gemcroft Ltd
The Cavendish Centre
Winnall Manor Close
Winchester
SO23 0LB

by
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants on behalf of Gemcroft Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of the former Anton Laundry, situated at the corner of Shepherds Spring Lane and Marlborough Street, Andover, Hampshire (NGR 436385 145923).

Three trial trenches were excavated between the upstanding buildings in the yard areas of the site. The earliest deposits in all of the trenches were waterlogged marsh clays consistent with the location of the site within marshland adjacent to the River Anton.

Evidence of post medieval land reclamation and consolidation of the area was present in the form of a sequence of levelling / make-up layers capping the marsh clay in all of the trenches.

In Trench 1 a mound of clay had been built up, into which timber lined tanning pits had been constructed. Other evidence of the tanning industry was recovered in the form of cattle bones, horn cores and scraps of leather.

Trench 2 revealed made-ground deposits which had been built-up from the south-east. Remains of a revetment against the marshland were also recorded within the trench. The revetment was constructed from timber stakes and is thought to be contemporary with the tanning activity recorded on the Site.

Evidence of tanning was also recovered from Trench 3 (dumped horn cores and leather waste) which was overlain by substantial made ground deposits.

The archaeological evidence confirms the land use as indicated by the 1850 Tithe survey and other historical mapping which suggest that this area of the town was a focus for tanning activity from at least the mid 19th century.

The archaeological resource has local significance and has the potential to provide further information about the tanning industry in Andover during the mid-late 19th century. However, given the probable small scale of the tanning works on the Site this potential is limited.

In terms of the threat to the archaeology from the proposed development, the tanning pits and associated deposits/features will be impacted, dependant upon the formation depths, by below ground works.

Any further archaeological works that may be required on the Site would have the potential to clarify the date and whether or not there are different phases to the tanning activity on the Site.

The archaeological evaluation works were carried out from 17th to the 19th August 2009.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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The fieldwork was undertaken by Jon Milward assisted by Ruth Panes. Finds analysis was provided by Lorraine Mepham and illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The environmental sample was processed by Marta Perez-Fernandez and was assessed by Dr Chris J. Stevens. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants on behalf of Gemcroft Limited who intend to develop the Site (the details of the scheme were unavailable on writing this report). The results are intended to provide assistance to the Historic Environment Service of Hampshire County Council in discharging a condition of planning permission and conservation area consent granted by *Test Valley Borough Council* (The Local Planning Authority). The evaluation was designed to identify the nature, extent and potential of archaeological deposits within the site, so that the planning authorities can discharge the condition or specify a targeted and controlled programme of pre-construction mitigation works.

1.1.2 Prior to the commencement of fieldwork a Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared (Heaton 2009), submitted to and approved by Hampshire County Council Planning Department.

1.2 The Site, location and geology

1.2.1 The Site occupies a 0.27 ha area of land at the junction between Shepherds Spring Lane and Marlborough Street in Andover, Hampshire (NGR 436385 145923) (**Figure 1**) (hereafter the Site). At the time of the evaluation it comprised yard/car park space amongst upstanding 18th – 20th century buildings that were formerly the premises of the Anton Laundry.

1.2.2 Local geology comprises Upper Chalk beneath River and Valley gravel (BGS, 1975, Sheet 283).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical background

1.3.1 The Site is located at the north end of the historic core of Andover which is primarily of Anglo-Saxon origin (Hopkins 2004). Andover existed as a small nucleated settlement with a Benedictine Abbey throughout the medieval period with an economy based upon agriculture.

1.3.2 The development of a cloth production Industry from the early 17th century increased the size and prosperity of the town. This industry continued to grow into the post medieval period and particularly benefited from the introduction of rail links to the town.

1.3.3 For a period from at least the mid 19th century, as demonstrated by 1850 Tithe survey, parts of the Site were defined as a tan yard and barns. This activity also appears on the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1887.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1.1 Three trenches (**Figure 1**) were excavated using a JCB with a toothless bucket under constant supervision by an archaeologist. In line with Health and Safety requirements the trenches did not exceed 1.2m in depth unless investigative sondages were required, in which case records were made from the edge of the trench and the sondages were rapidly backfilled in consultation with the Client and LPA Advisor.

2.1.2 Deposits were cleaned by hand where necessary and recorded using Wessex Archaeologies pro forma recording system. This included the production of a full photographic record comprising both digital and monochrome negative photography.

2.1.3 The trenches were tied into the Ordnance Survey national grid using GPS survey equipment, or where this was not possible they were surveyed using tapes by triangulating from fixed points as shown on OS mapping and converted to a digital format later.

2.1.4 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 17th and 19th August 2009.

3 AIM

3.1.1 The aim of the evaluation was to confirm the presence of archaeological deposits on the Site and if present, to provide information on their date, character and extent.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Stratigraphic

4.1.1 Detailed trench data and contextual information is available in the Appendix; Table 1.

4.1.2 The three trenches were all situated within areas of the Site previously used for car parking and yard space (**Figure 1**). All deposits were therefore sealed below asphalt and hardcore make-up between 0.2m (Trench 2) and 0.45m (Trench 3) thick. Archaeological deposits were encountered in all three trenches beneath modern overburden and made ground layers which had been built up to consolidate marsh deposits and level the Site.

4.2 Trench 1

4.2.1 Situated on the south west side of the Site, Trench 1 provided the most coherent evidence for tanning activity on the Site as recorded during the archaeological evaluation works. The remains of up to five tanning pits were recorded within the trench (**Figure 2**).

4.2.2 In the south western area of Trench 1 (**Figure 2**) river gravels were encountered, within a test sondage, at a depth of 1.25m (**deposit 107**). Above the gravel was a mid greenish grey colluvial marsh clay (**106**). This was 0.3m deep and was capped by a waterlogged deposit of preserved plant matter up to 0.2m deep (**105**). Above the organic layer and immediately beneath the car-park make-up which was 0.35m thick were two

make-up layers (**103** and **104**). These were mid yellowish brown sandy gravel with building debris and chalk (**103**) and a dark grey silty clay (**104**) with inclusions of chalk and fragments of Ceramic Building Material (CBM).

4.2.3 The remains of tanning pit **113** were only partially exposed within the trench due to truncation by modern disturbance but the pit was almost certainly contemporary and associated with a further four rectangular tanning pits visible at the north-east end of the trench (**Figure 2**). The eastern edge of pit **113** was cut into a make-up deposit of mid yellowish brown silty clay (**111**). A wooden revetment, preserved in waterlogged conditions, had been built against **111** using oak planks laid vertically and fastened in place using stakes (**Timber lining 114, Figure 2**, **Plate 1**). The interior of pit **113** was filled with a deliberately deposited mid grey silty clay (**112**) containing fragments of modern CBM, and a small amount of cattle bone.

4.2.4 Make-up deposit **111** occupied the eastern third of Trench 1 from the eastern edge of pit **113** and was encountered directly below the current yard surface make-up at a depth of 0.35m.

4.2.5 Also cut through make-up deposit **111** were four rectangular tanning pits (**117**, **120**, **123** and **126**). These were aligned with pit **113** and spaced equidistantly 0.18m apart (**Figure 2**, **Plate 2**).

4.2.6 Tanning pit **117** was 1.85m long x 1.05m wide. The other three associated pits were not fully exposed but are likely to have performed a similar function and are likely to be of a similar size. Tanning pit **123** was 0.75m deep, and this is also likely to be similar within the remaining unexcavated pits.

4.2.7 The four tanning pits were all lined with timber which had been preserved in waterlogged conditions below 57.95m above Ordnance Datum (maOD). The lining comprised oak planks, each measuring on average 0.22m wide and 0.03m deep. These were laid vertically around the sides and flat across the base of the pit aligned north east to south west.

4.2.8 The deposits recorded within the pits suggested that they were deliberately backfilled. Pit **117** was backfilled with iron slag material (**115**) and the others were backfilled with mixed silty clay deposits which included chalk and occasional fragments of modern CBM.

4.2.9 Typologically the pits are all consistent with features identified on other similar sites as tanning pits (WA 2008). This is corroborated by the cartographic evidence which indicates that the Site was historically utilised as a tannery. Although artefactually undated, the timber linings of the pits did not show any evidence of hand tool marks, this is suggestive of mass produced modern factory manufacture. Therefore the tanning pits are likely to date to the latter end of the 19th century which supports the mapping evidence and the date of the artefactual evidence observed elsewhere on the Site.

4.3 Trench 2

4.3.1 Trench 2, situated to the north of the Site (**Figure 1**), recorded evidence of land reclamation and consolidation which is likely to have been associated with the construction of the tannery. Although waste from the tanning industry in the form of leather off cuts and horn cores was recovered from deposits within this trench no specific structures were identified.

4.3.2 River gravel was exposed at the base of Trench 2 (**Figure 3**) at its northern end and towards the centre of the trench (**207**, **Figure 3**). In both locations it was consistently 1.55m below the ground surface. Above the gravel a 0.26m deep deposit of colluvial grey silty marsh clay with rare fragments of medieval CBM was recorded (**206**). Above this was an intermittent band of waterlogged organic material which contained off-cuts of leather (**215**).

4.3.3 Above the organic horizon (**215**) at between 57.25maOD and 57.6m aOD were multiple phases of dumped made ground deposits. These had been built-up against each other from the south east and represent land reclamation and consolidation of the marshland on the southern side of the River Anton. These deposits were all locally derived clays varying from a mid brown colour to a grey colour. The grey deposits (**211** and **213**) contained chalk and fragments of CBM whereas the brown clays (**205**, **210**, **212** and **216**) (**Figure 3**) were artefactually sterile.

4.3.4 At some stage a formal boundary between the dry lands to the south and the marsh land to the north was constructed (**208**). This was built using large oak stakes around 1m in length and 0.25m in diameter (**Figure 3**, **Plate 3**). A north-east to south-west aligned group of four of these posts was preserved in waterlogged conditions 0.9m below the ground surface. Around the posts in a colluvial clay silt equivalent to **206** (**209**) a large number of cattle bones, predominantly horn cores, were observed but not retained. These appeared to have been deposited immediately in front of the revetment but this could not be investigated due to Health and Safety constraints.

4.3.5 Above the revetment **208** further made ground deposits occurred above a depth of 57.6maOD. This included a dump of natural chalk (**203**) and a soil horizon (**202**) from which 19th/20th century pottery was recovered.

4.4 Trench 3

4.4.1 Trench 3 revealed a similar sequence to Trench 2 and whilst no coherent tannery remains could be discerned, horn cores, cattle bones and possible walkways constructed of oak planking suggest that this area of the Site was also part of the tannery complex. However, modern disturbance in this trench, as in Trench 2, has masked / destroyed any structural remains which may have been present.

4.4.2 In Trench 3 (**Figure 4**) river gravel was exposed at the southern end at a depth of 1.65m from the current ground surface (**deposit 304**, **Figure 4; Plate 4**).

4.4.3 Overlying gravel **304** was marsh clay (**303**), comprising a mid grey brown clay silt with some preserved plant matter, leather off cuts, a partial shoe and numerous cattle ribs and horn cores. At its deepest this deposit was 0.5m thick (**Figure 4; Plate 4**). A layer of preserved plant matter, also including cattle bone lay on top of **303** (**305**).

4.4.4 At the north-west end of Trench 3, overlying marsh clay **306** (equivalent to **303**), two oak planks were observed (**307**). These were only partially visible in the trench and it could not be confirmed whether they were part of an *in situ* structure (**Figure 4; Plate 5**).

5 FINDS

5.1.1 A very small quantity of finds was recovered during the evaluation, from all three trenches; the presence of further artefactual material (including tannery waste such as horn cores) and modern ceramic building material (CBM) was noted on site but these were not retained, as specified by the WSI (Heaton 2009).

5.1.2 **Appendix; Table 2** presents the quantification of the retained finds by material type and by context. Apart from four sherds of pottery from a stoneware jar from layer **202** and a complete glass inkwell from made ground **104**, all of 19th or 20th century date, none of the finds are closely dateable, although the CBM recovered can be identified as medieval roof tile fragments (clay layers **206** and **303**) and post-medieval brick (waterlogged layer **105** and layer **303**).

5.1.3 Other finds comprise animal bone (including a cattle metapodial from layer **303**); some burnt, unworked flint (possibly of prehistoric date, but incorporated into yard surface **308**); a leather shoe sole and heel from layer **303** and some leather offcuts and waste fragments from layer **215**; and a small piece of wood, not obviously worked.

5.1.4 The artefact assemblage, although small is typical of this type of site. For example a small mainly residual artefact assemblage was recovered from the Southwark tannery excavation (McKinley 2006).

6 ENVIRONMENTAL

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A single bulk sample was taken from layer **305** in the area of the tannery and processed for the recovery and assessment of waterlogged plant remains and other environmental matter.

6.2 Waterlogged plant remains

6.2.1 Context 305 was noted to be waterlogged in the field and a sample of 1 litre was processed for the recovery of waterlogged remains. Laboratory flotation was undertaken with the flot retained on a 0.25mm mesh and residues on a 0.5mm mesh. The residue and flot was stored in sealed containers with water. The larger fraction (>5.6mm) was sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were visually inspected under a x10 to x40 stereo-binocular microscope to determine if waterlogged material occurred. Where

waterlogged material was present, preliminary identifications of dominant taxa, were conducted and are presented below using the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

6.2.2 The processing produced around 700ml of flot. The sample was dominated by remains of wood, with split "chips" highly prevalent. There were fragments of bark including those resembling that of alder, birch, cherry type, and twigs. It is probable that several different wood species are present in the sample.

6.2.3 The sample also comprised of large numbers of fragments of compressed, homogenised straw and stem material as well as frequent hairs and/or bristles, and occasional fragments of possible lime. These fragments may be of dung or animal stable/pen waste, although no vivianite was seen.

6.2.4 The flot also included occasional waterlogged seeds of thistle (*Cirsium* sp.), hairy buttercup (*Ranunculus sardous*), spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*) and dock (*Rumex* sp.), as well as a very small amount of wood charcoal although no charred plant remains were observed.

6.2.5 The sample, although not coming directly from a tanning pit, can be related to the tanning industry in general. It seems probable that many of the wood remains are related to waste either having been used in tanning or destined for use. The sample demonstrates a reasonable wide number of sources for this wood including, collected bark, twigs and wood "chips" assumed to be from a local timber industry.

6.2.6 The remains of hair can be common finds from tanning pits themselves. They are often removed by an application of lime, of which some remnants may have survived, although it is probable much had dissolved away. Hair is also removed through the burning of straw. However, none of the straw seen showed any indication of burning. Rather it seems more probable that the straw represents remains of "flooring" or material put down to soak up some of the wetness.

6.2.7 The seeds are all from species that would have grown adjacent to the Site and include several of wetlands, as well as a few of general wasteland.

6.2.8 The environmental assemblage although interesting in its own right, is typical of this kind of site, and is mirrored by remains from the Southwark tannery excavation (McKinley 2006).

7 CONCLUSION

7.1.1 The earliest deposits recorded in all three of the evaluation trenches were river gravels and marshland deposits. This suggests the Site was situated on peripheral marshland adjacent to the River Anton, the present course of which defined the northern boundary of the Site, up to as late as the mid 19th century, considered to be the date for which this area was used as a tannery. A good water supply was essential for all parts of the tannery process (Raistrick 1973, 100; Stanier 2006, 92). It was not uncommon for tanneries to be developed in the post-medieval period on marginal marshland areas. (See for example, Ponsford (ed.) 1991, 163 – Morocco Street, Southwark). The earliest artefacual evidence recovered from the

marsh deposits in trenches 2 and 3 (**206** and **303**) was fragments of medieval roof tile. This is not considered unusual due to the proximity of the Site to the historic core of Andover.

7.1.2 Consolidation and reclamation of parts the marshland and the use of part of the Site as a tanning yard appears to have occurred around the mid19th century. This conforms with cartographic evidence (Tithe survey of 1850) which specifically indicates the use of this area as a tanning yard.

7.1.3 In Trench 1, a western boundary to the tanning area is defined by a mound of redeposited clay (**111**) within which up to five tanning pits were recorded in a linear alignment. These were typologically very similar to 19th century tanning pits recorded at Sedlescombe, East Sussex (WA 2008) which were also in a grid arrangement around a plank width apart. These had also been decommissioned by backfilling in a similar manner.

7.1.4 A potential northern boundary to the tanning area was recorded in Trench 2 where a formal boundary to the marshland was created by the construction of a timber revetment (**208**). As tanning waste was found in association with the revetment (horn cores) and within organic matter at the surface of the marsh clay behind it (leather off cuts from **215**) it is reasonable to assume the revetment was contemporary with tanning evidence elsewhere on the Site.

7.1.5 During the tannery phase of the Site, the area around Trench 3 was not built up and was preserved as marshland. This was probably manipulated to supply clean water to the facility. Some waste from the tanning process (cattle bones and leather scraps) made its way into the marsh deposits in the southern end of the trench suggesting this area was adjacent to tanning activity. A wooden structure in the north end of the trench may have been a walkway across wet ground.

7.1.6 The made ground deposits recorded in all of the trenches appear to have been rapidly deposited large dumps of soil or locally derived clay and chalk containing modern pottery and glass and nondescript CBM fragments. These were laid down after the tannery had been decommissioned and are consistent with modern pre-construction landscaping and levelling.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1.1 The evaluation has defined and provided information on the spatial distribution of the archaeology on this Site. It has been demonstrated that a grid array of 19th century tanning tanks occurs in the area around the east end of Trench 1; that Trench 3 was preserved as marshland but likely on the periphery of tanning activity and that steps were made to drain and consolidate the area around Trench 2, presumably to create a drier working area in the same period.

8.1.2 Evidence for post-Roman tanning in England dates from the late Saxon period onwards (Shaw, 1996, 112), and includes rectangular plank-lined pits of 10th to 11th century date from Middle Brook Street, Winchester (Keen, 1985, 765). Documentary records suggest that tanning was practiced in Andover by the sixteenth century (Spaul, 1977 135). Three 18th century tannery sites discussed by Shaw (1996, 114) show that there could be some

variation in the features within such sites. In Exeter, circular barrel-lined pits were used, whereas 'in Brook Street North, Lewes a dump of cattle horn cores was cut though by a series of rectangular pits, circular barrel lined pits and sluices or drains'. At Walmgate (York), 13 rectangular pits and one circular pit all had timber linings. In general terms, and in nearby Wiltshire specifically, from the mid 19th century onwards, tanneries became larger works which were concentrated at fewer sites (Stanier 2006, 92), although some smaller-scale works presumably continued in business for longer than others. For a large commercial tannery, many pits or vats were needed (Raistrick, 1973, 100).

8.1.3 A parallel for the Site in general is the tannery at Long Lane, Southwark which had a poorly dated post medieval rectangular grid system of tanning pits, drains and round wooden stake revetments superseding an earlier phase of tanning activity with circular pits dating from the end of the 17th century (McKinley 2006, 91).

8.1.4 A typical tanning yard would be well zoned with areas used for specific tasks involved in the processing of animal skin to make leather. The evaluation revealed the location of a grid of timber lined tanning pits, but the location of preparation, curing and working areas remains unknown. The evidence from the evaluation seems to suggest a single phase of mid-late 19th century date. The features recorded in the evaluation trenches suggest a single phase of tanning on a small scale however, earlier phases of tanning activity may have been present on the Site which could not be identified within the limitations of the evaluation. It is possible that any earlier features that may have been present were completely removed / superseded by this phase of activity.

8.1.5 Tannery Sites from elsewhere have been published, and (with limited variations) appear to conform to similar types and technologies. Shaw (1996 120), considered the priorities for the archaeological study of the tanning process, and suggested that the priority should be the excavation of a well preserved medieval tannery, so that the evolution of the technologies employed in the post-medieval period could be traced. The industrial development of Andover is well documented and specifically the presence of a mid – late 19th century tanning yard on this Site is known through historic mapping and confirmed by the evaluation. After assessing the results of the evaluation, the archaeology on this Site, although potentially well preserved due to the waterlogged conditions, is considered to be of local significance.

8.1.6 In terms of threat to the archaeology from development the tanning pits in and presumably around the eastern end of Trench 1 at 58.2maOD will be impacted upon by groundworks deeper than 0.35m. In trenches 2 and 3 the 19th century tannery horizon occurs at 57.3maOD and 57.17maOD respectively. This is sealed by 1.2m of overburden in Trench 2 and 1.4m of overburden in Trench 3.

8.1.7 Any further investigation of the Site would aim to locate areas of activity, clarify the date of the pits identified in evaluation Trench 1 and discern whether or not there are different phases to the tanning activity on the Site.

9 ARCHIVE

9.1.1 The archive is currently at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code 72300. The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in 'M*anagement of Research Projects in the Historic Environment'* (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990)*. On completion of the project to publication level the complete archive will be deposited with a repository to be agreed with Hampshire County Council it is anticipated that subject to agreement the repository will be Hampshire County Museums Service.

9.1.2 Given the small quantity of finds (see above, **Section 5**), their predominantly post-medieval date range, and the unstable nature of some (leather), retention for long-term curation is not recommended. Subject to the agreement of the receiving Museum, all finds will be discarded prior to archive deposition.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

10.1.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.

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12 APPENDIX

Table 1: Trench Summaries

Trench 1			
Length (m): 16.7	**Width (m):** 1.6	**Max depth (m):** 1.25	**Height (m aOD)** 58.55

Context	**Description**	**Depth below ground surface (m)**
101	Asphalt yard surface.	0 – 0.1
102	Type 1 hardcore. Part of yard surface make-up.	0.1 – 0.35
103	Made Ground. Mid yellowish brown sandy gravel with frequent building debris (CBM, flint/chalk rubble).	0.35 – 0.55
104	Made Ground. Dark grey silty clay with abundant chalk inclusions (<7cm) and common fragments of CBM.	0.55 – 0.75
105	Rich dark brown waterlogged organic deposit. Abrupt, irregular transition into 106 below.	0.75 – 0.95
106	Marsh clay. Mid greenish grey silty clay with rare chalk inclusions (<3cm) and pockets of preserved organic material.	0.95 – 1.25
107	Gravel. Comprises small sub rounded and sub angular flint pebbles in a dark brown silt matrix.	>1.25
108	Fill of drain cut 110. Comprises modern CBM and chalk building rubble.	0.35 – 1
109	Drain. Constructed of ceramic blocks formed to create a central channel when laid on top of each other.	0.6 – 1
110	Cut for modern drain.	0.35 -1
111	Made ground. Mid yellowish brown silty clay.	0.35 - >0.6
112	Fill of tanning pit 113. Comprises deliberately deposited mid grey silty clay with sparse small fragments of flint and rare fragments of modern CBM.	0.35 - >1.2
113	Cut of tanning pit. Vertical sides. 2.2m long x >1.5m wide.	0.35 - >1.2
114	Timber lining of tanning pit 113. Comprises horizontally laid oak planks (0.22m wide x 0.05m deep) secured with a stake. Timber only preserved in waterlogged conditions from 0.6m below ground surface.	0.6 - >1.2
115	Fill of tanning pit 117. Deliberate deposit comprising fine-medium sized pieces of slag.	0.35 - >0.56
116	Timber lining of tanning pit 117. Comprises horizontally laid oak planks 0.03m wide.	0 - >0.58
117	Cut of tanning pit. Rectangular in plan 1.85m in length x 1.05m wide.	0.35 - >0.58
118	Fill of tanning pit 120. Deliberate deposit comprising mottled mid yellowish brown and mid grey silty clay. Contains sparse small fragments of chalk.	0.35 - >0.6
119	Timber lining of tanning pit 120. Comprises horizontally laid timber planks 0.03m wide. Timber only preserved in waterlogged conditions from 0.6m below ground surface.	>0.6
120	Cut of tanning pit. Rectangular in plan. 1.05m wide x	0.35 - >0.6

	>1.75m long.	
121	Fill of tanning pit 123. Comprises deliberately deposited light – mid grey brown silty clay with moderate small pieces of chalk and sparse small fragments of charcoal and CBM.	0.35 – >0.6
122	Timber lining of tanning pit 123. Sides constructed of horizontally laid oak planks 0.03m deep x o.22m wide. Base constructed of 0.22m wide oak planks laid perpendicular to long sides of the pit. Timber only preserved in waterlogged conditions from 0.6m below ground surface.	0.35 – 1.1
123	Cut of tanning pit. Rectangular in plan with vertical sides and a flat base in profile. 1.1m wide x >1.5m long. Connected to the north west corner of tanning pit 126 by a 0.25m wide channel off its north east corner.	0.35 – 1.1
124	Fill of tanning pit 126. Comprises deliberately deposited light – mid grey brown silty clay with moderate small pieces of chalk and sparse small fragments of charcoal and CBM.	0.35 - >0.5
125	Lining of tanning pit 126. Comprises band of mid brown silt clay representing decomposed timber.	0.35 - >0.5
126	Cut of tanning pit. Only partially exposed: 0.9m wide x 1.1m long. Connected to the north east corner of tanning pit 123 by a 0.25m wide channel off its north west corner.	0.35 - >0.5

Trench 2			
Length: 17.8	**Width:** 1.6	**Max depth:** 1.55	**Height (m aOD):** 58.50

Context	**Description**	**Depth below ground surface (m)**
200	Asphalt car park surface.	0 – 0.1
201	Type 1 hardcore. Part of yard surface make-up.	0.1 – 0.2
202		0.2 – 0.4
203	Redeposited natural chalk.	0.4 – 0.85
204	Soil. Dark brown clay silt with sparse small chalk fragments and some pottery and CBM.	0.85 – 0.9
205	Mottled orangey grey clay. Some CBM present.	0.9 – 1.28
206	Marsh clay. Grey alluvially deposited clay with CBM present in rare quantities.	1.28 – 1.55
207	Gravel. Small scale sub-rounded/angular flints (<50mm)	>1.55
208	Timber revetment. Comprises three 1m long 0.25m diameter oak stakes. Used to formalise edge of watercourse now which now exists 10m to the north.	0.85 – 1.85
209	Made ground. Comprises mid grey clay silt with sparse chalk flecks. Contains cattle horn cores.	0.95 – 1.55
210	Made ground. Comprises mid brown clay silt.	0.85 - >0.95
211	Made ground. Mix of chalk/light grey clay and greenish brown clay.	0.85 - >1.3

212	Made ground. Mid brown clay silt.	0.85 - >1.3
213	Made ground. Mix of chalk and grey clay with some CBM inclusions.	0.85 - >1.3
214	Made ground. Greenish grey clay with patches of dark organic material.	0.85 - >1.3
215	Organic material in a dark brown silt matrix. Some leather off-cuts retrieved from this deposit.	1.2 – 1.25

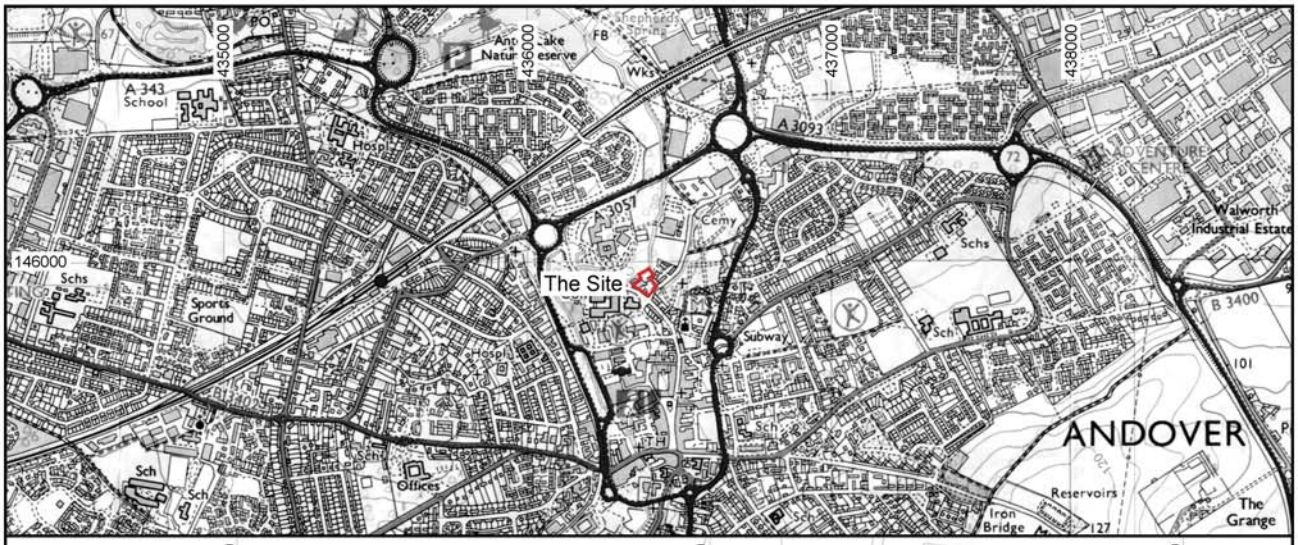
Trench 3			
Length: 19.5	**Width:** 1.8	**Max depth:** 1.8	**Height (m aOD):** 58.57

Context	**Description**	**Depth below ground surface (m)**
301	Asphalt car park surface.	0 – 0.15
302	Made ground. Mainly chalk with lenses of mid grey silty clay with sparse angular/sub angular flint (<90mm). Modern CBM fragments also present.	0.55 – 1.3
303	Marsh clay. Mid brown clay silt with very rare angular/sub angular flint (<30mm) with sparse organic material. Contains cattle bones (horn cores and ribs and leather off cuts/shoe fragments). Equivalent to 306.	1.3 – 1.8
304	Gravel. Small scale sub-rounded/angular flints (<80mm) Some bone, preserved organics present at surface of deposit	>1.8
305	Organic material in a dark brown silt matrix. Some cattle bone present in this deposit.	1.25 – 1.4
306	Marsh clay. Mid grey clay silt with rare sub angular flints. Equivalent to 303.	>1.4
307	Oak planks. Located on surface of 306. >1.2m in length x 0.3m wide. Possibly part of a structure associated with tannery activity.	1.4
308	Type 1 hardcore. Part of yard surface make-up.	0.15 – 0.55

Table 2: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

CBM = ceramic building material

Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	CBM	Glass	Leather	Pottery	Wood
104				1/78			
105			1/36				
112	1/60						1/10
202						4/331	
206			4/121				
215					4/60		
303	1/263		4/828		3/331		
308		3/115					
TOTAL	**2/323**	**3/115**	**9/985**	**1/78**	**7/391**	**4/331**	**1/10**



The Site

Evalution trench

Date:	01/09/09	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:25000 & 1:800	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:PROJECTS\72300\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\09_08\72300_eval.dwg		

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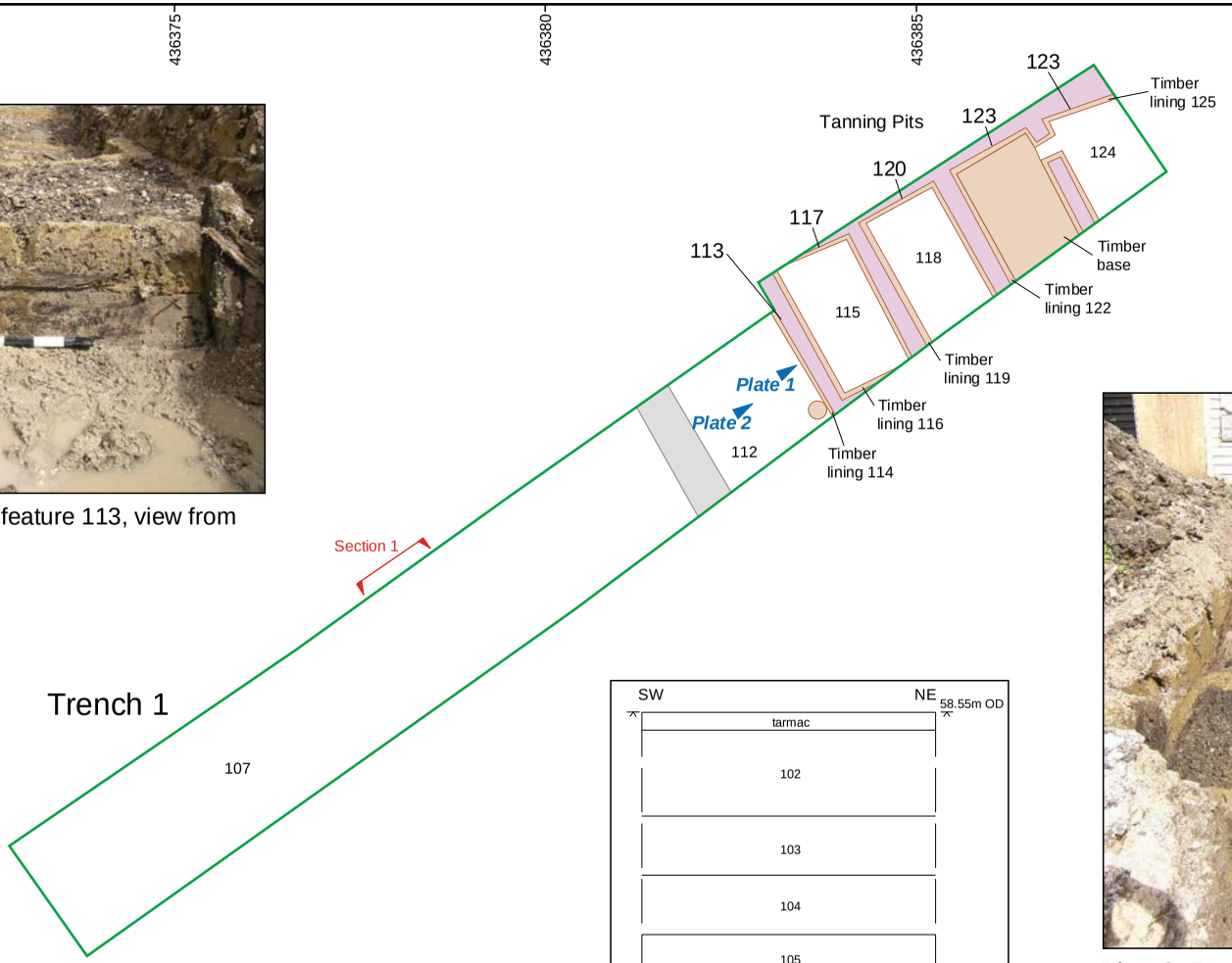
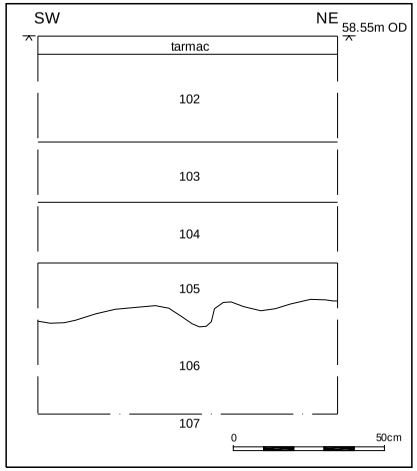
Site and trench location

Figure 1

Plate 1: Timber lining of feature 113, view from south-west (scale 0.5m)





Section 1: South east facing trench section

Plate 2: Tanning pits, view from south-west (scale 2m)

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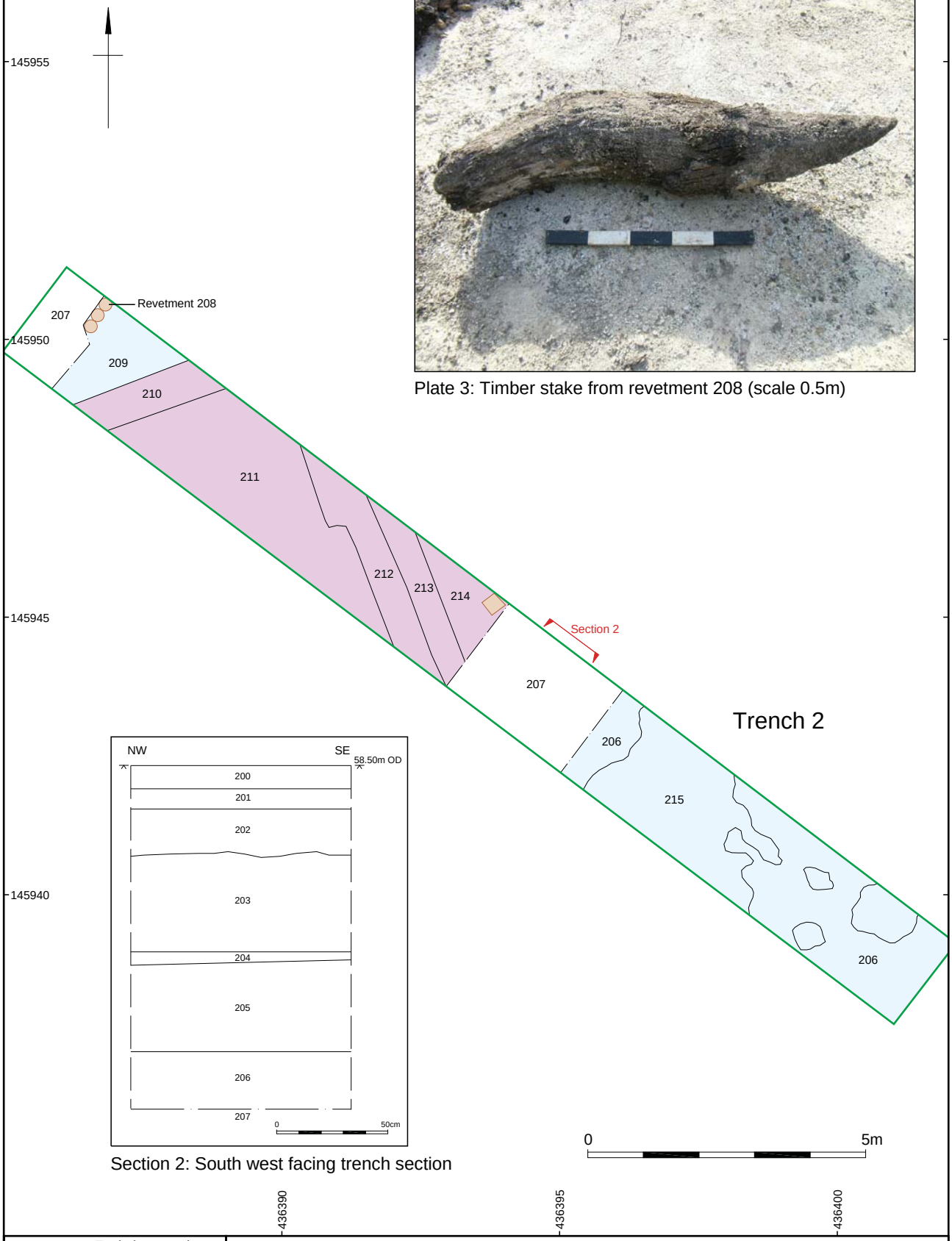
Evalution trench
Wood
Made ground
Modern
Plate direction

Date:	23/09/09	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan @ 1:100; Section @ 1:25	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:PROJECTS\72300\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\09_08\72300_eval.dwg		

Trench 1: plan and photographs

Figure 2

Plate 3: Timber stake from revetment 208 (scale 0.5m)



Section 2: South west facing trench section

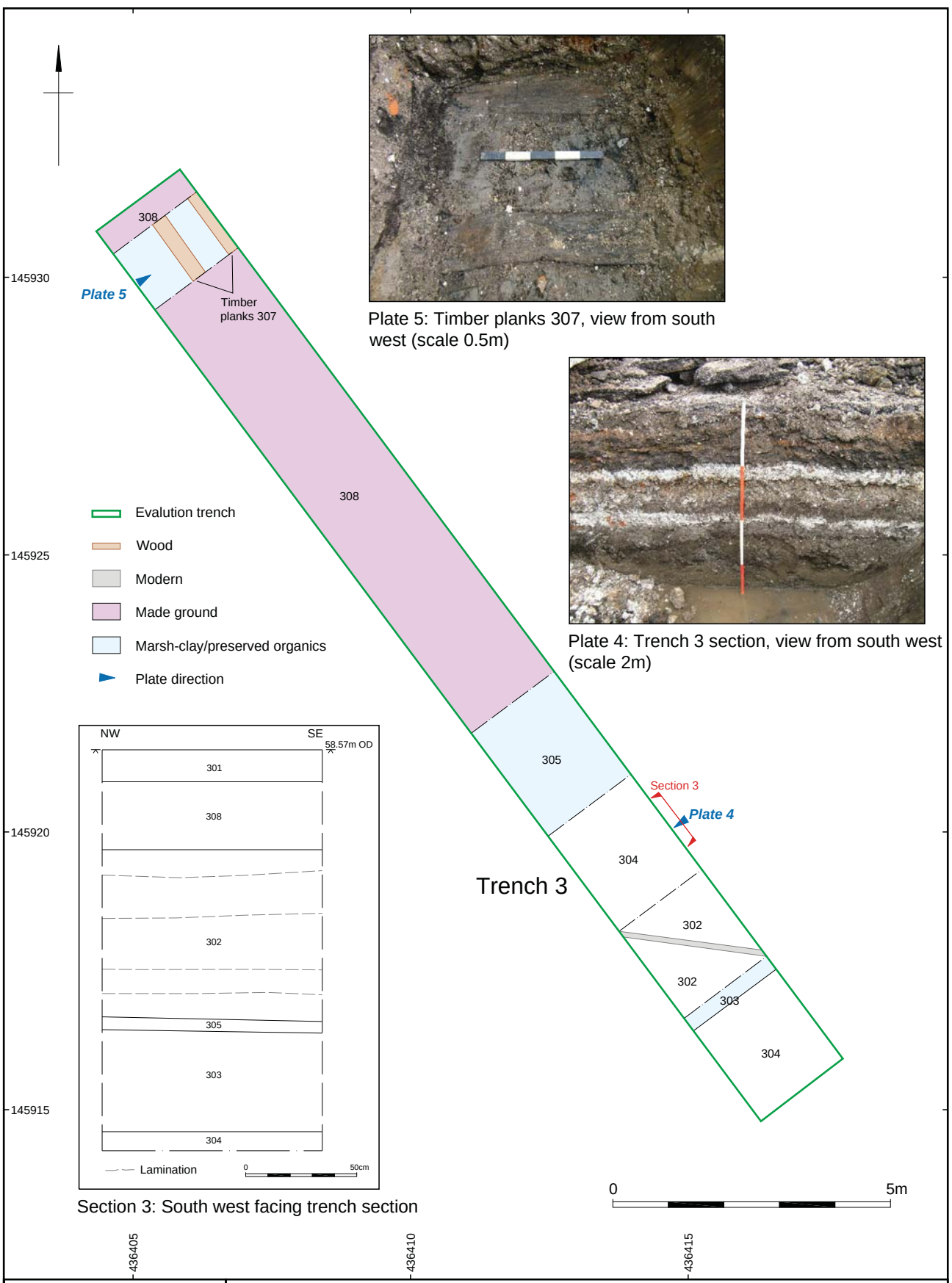
Date:	01/09/09	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan @ 1:100; Section @ 1:25	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:PROJECTS\72300\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\09_08\72300_eval.dwg		

Trench 2: plan and photograph

Figure 3

Plate 5: Timber planks 307, view from south west (scale 0.5m)

Plate 4: Trench 3 section, view from south west (scale 2m)



Section 3: South west facing trench section

Date:	01/09/09	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan @ 1:100; Section @ 1:25	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:PROJECTS\72300\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\09_08\72300_eval.dwg		

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Trench 3: plan and photographs

Figure 4

WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.
Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk
Maidstone Office: The Malthouse, The Oast, Weavering Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5JN.
Tel: 01622 739381 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk