



C261 ARCHAEOLOGY EARLY EAST
Interim Statement
Archaeological Evaluation
Eleanor Street Shaft XTJ13

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Contents

1 Introduction	3
2 Site Methodology and fieldwork objectives	3
2.1 Evaluation methodology and sampling method	3
3 Provisional Results	4
3.1 Temporary Shaft Evaluation Trench.....	4
4 Summary and conclusions (<i>provisional</i>)	6
4.1 Summary of Fieldwork Results.....	6
4.2 <i>Provisional</i> conclusions for future work:	6
Future Deliverables	7
Annex 1 – Location Plan	8

Figures

(in Annex 1 at back of document)

Fig 1 Location of Evaluation trench

Fig 2 Plan of archaeological features in Trench

Fig 3 East Facing section in Trench



1 Introduction

This Interim Report covers the archaeological evaluation carried out at the location of the future Crossrail Eleanor Street Temporary Shaft (preliminary to the main Ventilation Shaft at Eleanor Street by the C261 Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA).

All fieldwork was conducted between 04/03/13 to 08/03/13, directed by MOLA Senior Archaeologist [REDACTED], and included:

- **Archaeological field evaluation**, Eleanor Street Temporary Shaft (1 Trial Trench).

The event code (sitecode) is XTJ13.

This document is an interim statement of the results of the fieldwork completed at Eleanor Street. A further evaluation trench will be put in across the main Ventilation Shaft at a later date (TBC). More extensive background, results, and conclusions will be included in the Fieldwork Report which will be submitted within six weeks of the end of fieldwork (Crossrail, *Archaeology, Specification for Evaluation & Mitigation (including Watching Brief, Doc. No. CR-PN-LWS-EN-SP-00001, v. 0.3, 26.06.09)*).

The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with:

- The Crossrail **Generic Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeology Generic Written Scheme of Investigation**, Doc No. CR-PN-LWS-EN-SY-00001, 2009.

A Crossrail **Site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation (SS-WSI): Eleanor Street Ventilation Shaft, Site-specific Written Scheme of Investigation**, Doc. No. C360-XRL-T1-XWI-CRG03-50001.

- An **Archaeological method Statement** MOLA, *C261 Archaeology Early East, Method Statement Archaeological Evaluation, Eleanor Street Shaft (XTJ13)* Document Number: **C261-MLA-X-GMS-CR094_WS110-50001**, version 1

2 Site Methodology and fieldwork objectives

2.1 Evaluation methodology and sampling method

Modern overburden was removed by the Principal Contractor by machine under archaeological supervision by a MOLA Senior Archaeologist. The top 750mm consisted of 19th-century brick concrete and mortar building remains. Below this level soft deposits were encountered. The sides of the trench were benched to allow safe excavation to 1.5m below ground level. The sides of the trench were hand cleaned and the soil at the base hand dug to 1.6m below ground level and a slot dug in the base of the trench to a maximum depth of 2m, where natural gravel was encountered.

The trench was photographed, recorded in plan and section. It was surveyed in by the principal contractor. Levels were taken from the contractor's control point (temporary Bench Mark) outside the site

3 Provisional Results

See Fig 1 for locations

3.1 Temporary Shaft Evaluation Trench



Temporary Shaft Evaluation Trench, looking north

Temporary Shaft Evaluation Trench	
Location	Off Rounston road
Dimensions	10m x 2m x 2m deep.
LSG coordinates	87773.00 37075.65
OS National grid coordinates	537402.288,182500.609
Modern Ground Level/top of the slab	110.2m ATD
Modern subsurface deposits	Modern crushed concrete and brick over 19 th -c building remains
Level of base of archaeological deposits observed and/or base of trench	108.28m ATD
Natural observed (truncated/not truncated ?)	.Gravel [1] (slopes 108.73m – 108.28m ATD) Not Truncated

Extent of modern truncation	<0.5m
Archaeological remains	Dating Evidence, Finds, and Samples
Reworked brickearth [2] above a buried soil [3]	1700–70 from tobacco pipe in [2], pottery and brick also (see below)
Interpretation and summary	
The results conform to historic maps which show the area being converted from agriculture and market-oriented grazing, to horticulture in the 18 th century. This appears to have included reworking deposits to the top of natural terrace gravel, thereby removing or destroying evidence of earlier archaeological remains. Building remains of the 19 th century were also exposed, however the nature of these remains indicate nothing that would warrant further archaeological investigation	

Note on pottery and clay pipe from XTJ13



Two sherds of pottery and one clay pipe bowl were recorded from context [2]. The pottery consists of one jug handle and a single body sherd, glazed inside and out, from an unidentified form in London-area post-medieval redware (PMR). The fabric is broadly dated to c 1580 to 1800 for this particular context, with further refinement impossible in the absence of any other fabrics or diagnostic features. However, a date of c 1700–70 has been assigned to the context on the basis of a single clay pipe bowl of type AO25. The pipe is undecorated and the heel is missing so it is unknown whether or not it was originally marked.

Summary Note on Building Materials from XTJ13



Two fragments of ceramic roofing tile were recovered from context [2]. These have been recorded and the information added to the Oracle database.

One fragment is a peg tile of 1480-1800 date, whilst the other is part of a pantile. The pantile is possibly of Dutch origin and probably dates to the mid 17th–18th century. This would fit in with the date of the clay pipes (1700–1770) and the pottery (1580–1800) from the same context.



4 Summary and conclusions (*provisional*)

4.1 Summary of Fieldwork Results

- Natural Gravels remain relatively undisturbed and there are no remains of quarries
- Natural Brickearth has been completely reworked, the last occasion in the 18th century
- No prehistoric, Roman or medieval remains, stray, residual finds, were observed
- Reworked brickearth and soil formation in the 18th century are consistent with the historical record and maps in the area showing horticulture in the 18th century. The depth of these activities will have masked any earlier landscape evidence
- 19th-century building remains and the lives of their occupants are documented on historic maps and census returns.

4.2 *Provisional conclusions for future work:*

The Crossrail design archaeologist and Project Archaeologist will determine what further archaeological works are required to mitigate the impact of the Crossrail works.

The evaluation has determined that the earliest remains on the Temporary Shaft area of the Eleanor Street worksite, were those of an 18th-century reworked brickearth and soil, consistent with horticultural activity. No earlier remains were found, even as residual finds. It is considered that documentary evidence, census returns and maps are more fruitful for research of the 19th century (and later) in this area than further archaeological research.

This work will provide a baseline to compare with an evaluation trench on the main Ventilation Shaft, yet to be excavated.



Future Deliverables

The remaining deliverables for the site, and their delivery dates as specified by *Crossrail, Archaeology, Specification for Evaluation & Mitigation (including Watching Brief, Doc. No. CR-PN-LWS-EN-SP-00001, v. 0.3, 26.06.09*, are:

- An evaluation trench to be excavated on the main Ventilation Shaft
- Summary Report

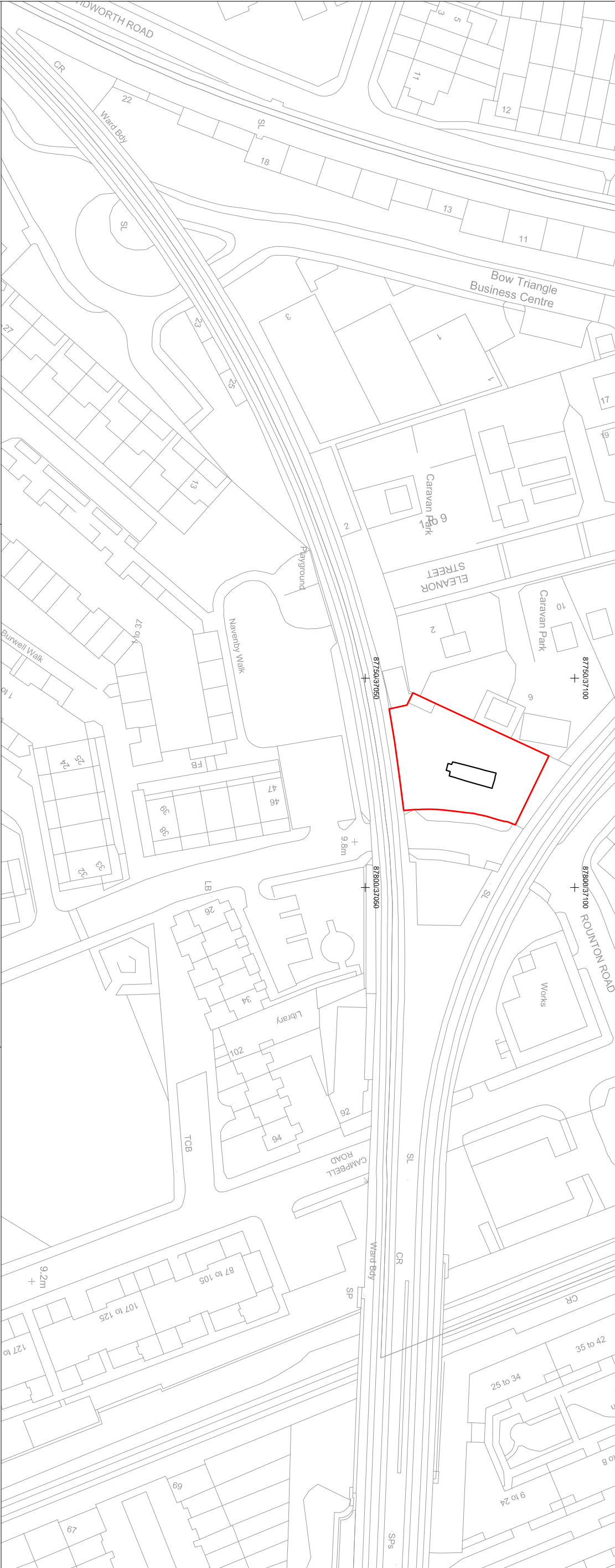
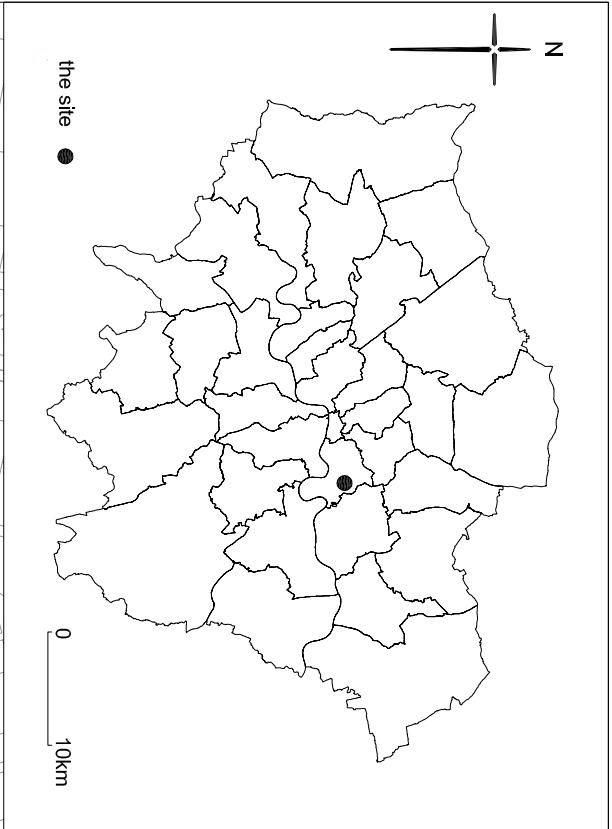





Fig 1 Location of site

 Evaluation trench
 Site outline

0  50m
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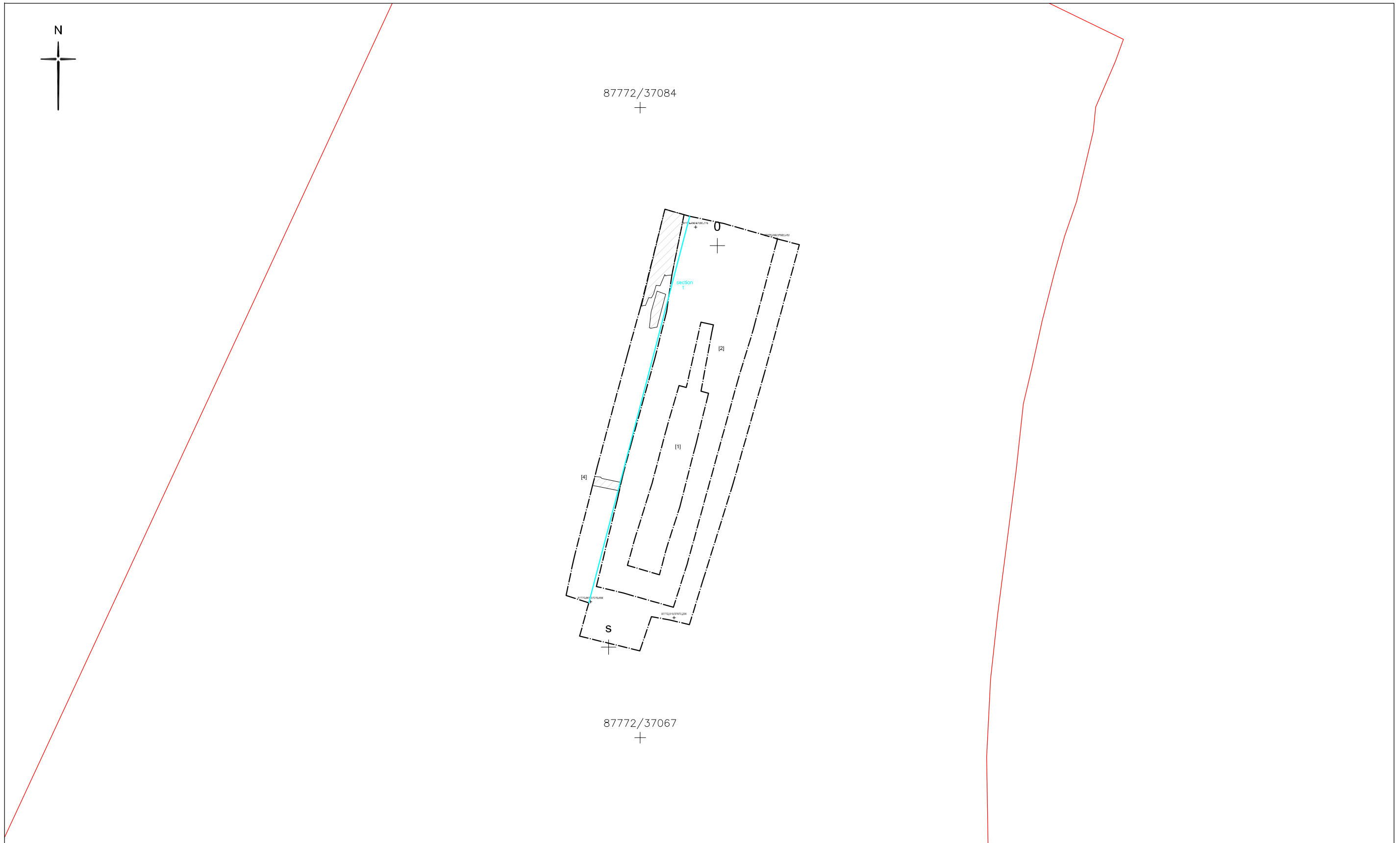


Fig 2 Plan of archaeological features in Trench 1

- Site outline
- Trench edge
- Masonry wall
- [11] Archaeological features
- Section line

1:100 @ A3

0 5m

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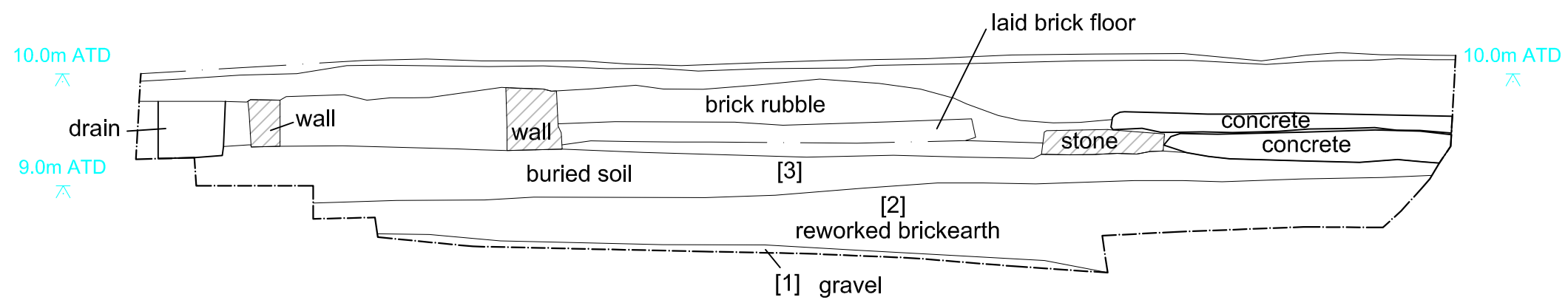






Fig 3 East facing section of trench

-  Trench edge
-  Masonry wall
-  [11] Archaeological features

1:50 @ A3
 0  2.5m

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