

Canterbury Cathedral International Study Centre Wall

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CONTENTS

List of figures	iii
List of plates.....	iii
Abstract	iv
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Location, topography and geology.....	1
3. Objectives.....	1
4. Proposed scheme.....	2
5. Methodology	2
6. Archaeological background	3
7. Evaluation results	5
Pit 1	5
Pit 2	7
Pit 3	8
8. Finds.....	9
9. Site archive.....	9
10. Summary of the archaeological results	10
11. Confidence assessment.....	11
12. Overview of the significant remains	11
13. Conclusions and impact assessment.....	12
14. Acknowledgments.....	13
15. Bibliography.....	13

LIST OF FIGURES

- Fig. 1 Site location plan.
- Fig. 2 Location of International Study Centre Pits 1–3.
- Fig. 3 Approximate location of the International Study Centre pits within the medieval monastic precincts (underlying image Sparks 2007, Plan 7).
- Fig. 4 Plan of remains in Pit 1.
- Fig. 5 Sections of remains in Pit 1.
- Fig. 6 Plan of remains in Pit 2.
- Fig. 7 Sections of remains in Pit 2.
- Fig. 8 Plan of remains in Pit 3.
- Fig. 9 Sections of remains in Pit 3.
- Fig. 10 An extract from Doidge's plan *c* 1752, showing the approximate position of Pits 1 and 2.
- Fig. 11 Extract from Willis' plan *c* 1868, showing the approximate location of Pits 1 and 2.
- Fig. 12 An extract from the Ordnance Survey plan 1874, showing the approximate position of Pits 1, 2 and 3. Note the South Precincts boundary wall is now formed by a continuous curving length of wall – that which stood in its entirety until construction of the ISC.

LIST OF PLATES

- Plate 1 The three evaluation pits cut beside the International Study Centre, looking south. Pit 1 to the west (right), Pit 2 in the centre and Pit 3 to the east (left).
- Plate 2 Pit 1 looking north. Wall (104) is in the foreground, wall (98) to the top abutted on its southern side by clay floor (96). Scale 0.5m.
- Plate 3 Pit 1 looking south, showing detail of wall (104). Scale 0.5m.
- Plate 4 Yard surface (59), cut by later service trench [61] in the foreground, looking south. Scale 0.5m.
- Plate 5 Wall (56) at the northern end of Pit 2, looking north. Scale 1m.
- Plate 6 Boundary wall (55), looking south. Scale 1m.
- Plate 7 Boundary wall (55) lying below concrete kerb (50), looking south. Scale 0.5m.
- Plate 8 Detail of yard surface (80), looking north. Scale 0.5m.
- Plate 9 Pit 3 looking south, with yard surface (80) in the foreground. Scale 0.5m.

ABSTRACT

Between 22 June and 12 July 2016, Canterbury Archaeological Trust undertook an archaeological evaluation within the South Precincts of Canterbury Cathedral, on the northern side of the International Study Centre. The work was commissioned by the Dean and Chapter following proposals to construct a new wall, running close to the line of an earlier wall which had stood prior to construction of the centre. The site lies within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Christ Church Priory (Scheduled Monument No. KE 335) and within ground of high archaeological potential.

The archaeological evaluation work comprised the cutting of three pits straddling the line of earlier wall foundations. The work was undertaken according to a Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by Canterbury Archaeological Trust, written 29 March 2016 and subsequently submitted to and approved by Historic England.

Archaeological remains were revealed in each of the evaluation pits. A lower soil in Pit 2 could have been the top of a cemetery soil. Overlying yards probably formed parts of the surfaces which are known to have lain within the South Precincts from at least the end of the eighteenth century, not least providing hard standing for fairs held in the grounds, and for the parading and exercising of soldiers.

In Pit 1, a later structure was represented by a length of wall and a clay floor. The wall may have formed part of that depicted on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century maps, bordering properties on the south side of the South Precincts. The clay floor perhaps lay within a short-lived structure or outbuilding abutting the wall.

A brick wall of probable nineteenth-century date was seen in Pit 2. It does not appear on contemporary maps, so was perhaps either short-lived or part of a below-ground structure such as a drain.

Remains of the nineteenth-century boundary wall which stood until construction of the ISC in c 2000 were identified in Pits 1 and 2.

The evaluation work has demonstrated that archaeological remains survive within the PDA which are likely to be impacted by future development work.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between 22 June and 12 July 2016, Canterbury Archaeological Trust undertook an archaeological evaluation within the South Precincts of Canterbury Cathedral, on the northern side of the International Study Centre (ISC). The work was commissioned and funded by the Dean and Chapter following proposals to construct a new wall.
- 1.2 The new wall is to run along the approximate alignment of an earlier wall, which stood prior to the construction of the ISC in c 2000. The new wall cannot run entirely along the old wall line, however, since that is now partly obscured by the ISC. Space in front (north) of the replacement wall is proposed for planting and seats. The area to the rear (south) is to be planted to form a small walled garden.
- 1.3 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken to assess the archaeological resource in the proposed areas of ground disturbance, and to determine the width, depth and nature of the existing wall foundations and adjacent ground. The archaeological works were designed to inform the scope of any further archaeological mitigation which might be required prior to groundworks associated with the scheme.

2. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 Canterbury Cathedral lies within the north-eastern quadrant of the walled city of Canterbury (Fig. 1). The South Precincts lie to the south of the cathedral church, covering an area which extends from Christ Church Gate, to the south-west, to ground lying to the east of the cathedral's east end. The International Study Centre (ISC) lies on the southern side of the South Precincts. The new wall line is located on the north side of the ISC (centred at 615078 157868; Fig. 2). The ground which it will cross currently forms the southern periphery of a tarmac roadway and a gravel bed further south, skirting the ISC, supporting planted pots.
- 2.2 The ground lies within the Cathedral Conservation Area and forms part of the UNESCO World Heritage site encompassing Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey and St Martin's Church (reference 496). The South Precincts form part of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Christ Church Priory (Scheduled Monument No. KE 335).
- 2.3 The underlying geology of the South Precincts comprises a superficial Head deposit of clay and silt (brickearth) overlying Second Terrace river gravels (Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales), Canterbury Sheet 289).

3. OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The principal objectives of the archaeological investigations, as described in a Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to and approved by Historic England, were:
 - i. To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development areas.
 - ii. To ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, and, if possible, the character, date and quality of any buried archaeological remains by limited sample excavation.

- iii. To determine the state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource if present.
 - iv. To determine the width, depth and nature of the existing wall foundations and the adjacent ground.
- 3.2 It was noted that the opportunity would also be taken during the course of the investigation to place and assess any archaeology revealed within the context of other archaeological investigations in the immediate area and within the setting of the historic urban landscape.
- 3.3 It was envisaged that assessment of the results will provide guidance on what mitigation measures would be appropriate during subsequent phases of development work.
- 4. PROPOSED SCHEME
- 4.1 The development proposal involves the construction of a 2.2m high flint and ragstone wall, running for a length of *c* 25m along the northern side of the ISC, as shown on Fig. 2. The wall is to follow the approximate alignment of a previous wall standing until construction of the ISC. The replacement wall cannot stand directly upon the old wall line, however, since this lies partly obscured by the ISC.
- 4.2 On the northern side of the replacement wall, the proposals are to include the laying of York Stone paving, the addition of benches and, between the wall and the benches, the formation of a new planted bed. Ground on the southern side of the wall is to be planted to form a small walled garden for the ISC.
- 4.3 The evaluation work comprised the cutting of three pits along the line of the earlier wall foundations (Fig. 2). All were designed to determine the nature of the archaeological resource and the width, depth and nature of the existing wall foundations and adjacent ground. If encountered, the earlier wall foundations were to be assessed for re-use, minimising further archaeological impacts. If the wall foundations were not located, then the evaluation pits would help to evaluate what new foundations might be required.
- 4.4 If natural strata were revealed during evaluation work, some limited boreholing and soil sampling might have been undertaken to establish their properties and characteristics. However, no natural strata were exposed.
- 5. METHODOLOGY
- 5.1 All archaeological work was undertaken according to the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Canterbury Archaeological Trust in March 2016 and submitted to Historic England. It was carried out in accordance with the accepted professional standards set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation* (2014). Canterbury Archaeological Trust is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and conforms to their by-laws, standards and policy statements.

- 5.2 The work was monitored by Paul Roberts, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Kent, Sussex and Surrey, Historic England.
- 5.3 The evaluation comprised the cutting of three evaluation pits (ISC Pits 1–3; Fig. 2). Each pit was excavated by hand by an archaeologist from Canterbury Archaeological Trust.
- 5.4 Pit 1 was cut immediately to the north-west of the ISC, into the tarmac surface of the adjacent roadway. It was rectangular in plan, aligned north-east to south-west, and was 1.65m long, 1m wide and up to 0.80m deep.
- 5.5 Pit 2 was cut straddling the gravelled area bordering the north side of the ISC and the tarmac roadway to the north. It was rectangular in plan, aligned north-east to south-west, and was 3.84m long, 1m wide and up to 0.75m deep. The southern end of the pit was abandoned when it was found to be covered by a depth of concrete, reducing the area investigated to a pit up to 2.4m long and 1m wide.
- 5.6 Pit 3 was located to the east of Pit 2, also straddling the gravelled area and the tarmac roadway north of the ISC. It was rectangular in plan, aligned north-west to south-east, and was up to 2.64m long, 1.02m wide and 0.75m deep. The southern end of the pit was abandoned when it was found to be covered by a depth of concrete, reducing the area investigated to a pit up to 1.86m long and 1.02m wide.
- 5.7 Archaeological recording of the evaluation pits was undertaken by an archaeologist from Canterbury Archaeological Trust. Measured plan and section drawings were compiled and a photographic record was maintained using digital format. The complete archive relating to the excavation is currently held by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at 92a Broad Street, Canterbury, CT1 2LU.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Following proposals in 2009 by the Dean and Chapter to landscape the South Precincts of Canterbury Cathedral, a comprehensive study of the area was undertaken, culminating in the production of an archaeological desk-based assessment (Hicks and Seary 2009). The work is available for consultation so the results are not replicated here, although detail pertinent to the current scheme is summarised below.
- 6.2 Roman remains have been discovered during archaeological investigations within the South Precincts and the immediate vicinity. Excavation below the cathedral church nave revealed the line of a north-east to south-west aligned road and a number of associated buildings (Blockley *et al* 1997, 9–11). Work in the precincts beside the south-west transept uncovered the remains of a substantial masonry building of possible late first-century AD date, as well as a metalled street (Hicks 2012).
- 6.3 The South Precincts have been used as a place for burial probably since at least the mid eighth century AD. A wall, shown on the Waterworks Drawing of c 1165, divided the inner and outer cemeteries, extending southwards from the south-west buttress of St Anselm's chapel to a point just east of the campanile. It contained a gate, removed in the nineteenth century to stand in the wall of the Memorial Garden. The outer cemetery, to the west, was used for the burial of lay persons whilst the inner, to the east, is thought to have primarily been for monastic use. The proposed

works are therefore sited within the area of the lay cemetery (Fig. 3). Burials have been uncovered during various episodes of work in the South Precincts. Twelve burials dated to the Anglo-Saxon period and a further sixteen post-dating the construction of the Norman church, together with a charnel pit, were revealed as part of the works associated with the south-west transept (Hicks 2012). Drainage works beside the south-east transept uncovered skeletal remains lying just 0.30m below existing ground surface whilst further south, during archaeological works associated with the installation of rising water mains, *in situ* skeletons were observed at a depth of 0.70m below existing ground surface together with masonry remains which might have formed part of a grave lining (Hicks 2011a; Hicks 2011b, 9). Soils revealed at the base of trenches cut within the access road towards the south of the South Precincts, lying at a depth of c 0.60m below ground surface, might have been cemetery soils (Hicks 2011b, 10).

- 6.4 The lay cemetery remained in use for many centuries, perhaps until the first quarter of the seventeenth century and then, after a gap of around 40 years, saw perhaps intermittent use until at least as late as 1806. Associated with the burials would have been grave markers and tombs. Centuries of burial evidently caused the ground level to rise, Gostling in 1774 noting that '*At the entrance into the church, in this cross isle usually called the south door, six steps show how much the ground has been raised here from time to time*' (49).
- 6.5 Surviving below ground, running east–west across the South Precincts, is the brick drain of Prior Goldstone II (1495–1517), uncovered during a number of archaeological investigations (eg Rady 1990; Jarman 2009, Hicks 2012, Hicks 2013). The drain formed an extension to the large drain shown on the 1165 Waterworks Drawing, which led water from the north side of the church and cloisters. Other known structural remains lying below ground within the area of the South Precincts include the Brenchley Chantry, constructed in 1447, positioned between the third and fourth buttresses (from the east) of the cathedral nave. These structural features lie outside the development area but other as yet unknown remains could survive within it. Work on the western end of the Prior Goldstone drain in 2012–2013 uncovered two lengths of masonry pre-dating the drain, at a depth of 0.54m (Hicks 2013, 13), whilst a large east–west aligned wall foundation, of early medieval date, was revealed during excavation work further east beside St Gabriel's Chapel (Hicks and Seary 2009, 57).
- 6.6 Sometime during the post-medieval/early modern period, and certainly by the end of the eighteenth century, extensive landscaping of the South Precincts had occurred. Parts of the churchyard were covered with gravel, probably to accommodate the fairs which were held here, including the Michaelmas Fair. Hasted, writing in 1801, notes that all traces of monuments in the churchyard were gone, the area '*now being a plain surface covered with gravel ... undisturbed by burials for a great number of years past*'. The landscaping would have had the effect of bringing underlying remains closer to the surface. This was demonstrated during excavations at St Gabriel's Chapel, where burials were revealed at shallow depth, one only 0.25m below the ground surface (at 10.32m OD) (Rady 1990, 80–105).
- 6.7 During the nineteenth century, a grassy lawn was established to the south of the cathedral. South of the grassed area lay roads and pathways providing access around the precincts. Archaeological investigations along the line of the southern access road in 2011 exposed sequences of external surfaces, together with levelling and

occupation deposits, which were probably associated with these roads and paths (Hicks 2011b, 10).

- 6.8 By 1813, the nave was enclosed by railings set upon a low brick wall. They were taken down in the 1860s, probably when the lawn in front of the nave was enlarged, '*supplanting the original rectilinear edge with one more sinuous*' (Hicks and Seary 2009, 40).
- 6.9 Towards the end of the nineteenth century, a boundary wall was erected on the southern side of the South Precincts, bounding the roadway from buildings and gardens to the south. The wall is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1874. It was a length of this wall that was demolished prior to the construction of the ISC and is destined for reinstatement.
- 6.10 The precinct roads were re-surfaced in the early decades of the twentieth century, specific programmes of work being recorded in 1912 and again in 1916, the latter associated with altering the drains to carry away surface water. The roads were re-laid again, this time with tarmac, after the Second World War.

7. EVALUATION RESULTS

Pit 1

(Figs 4 and 5, Plates 2 and 3)

- 7.1 The earliest deposit in Pit 1 comprised a layer of metalling formed of small-medium flints (116), probably forming an external surface¹. Its depth and full nature remain unknown because it was only observed at the base of later intercutting features [109] and [115]. Overlying the flint surface, and also only seen towards the base of the later features, was a deposit of dark grey-brown silty clay (107) containing occasional brick fragments, visible up to 0.04m thick and thought to have been an occupation layer.
- 7.2 Above (107) was a layer of light brown redeposited silty clay (105) containing common fragments of wall plaster, visible in plan and section towards the southern end of the evaluation pit. Up to 0.16m thick, the deposit may have been formed by nearby demolition activity and been levelled to form a suitable horizon for subsequent occupation.
- 7.3 At the northern end of Pit 1, potentially overlying deposit (105) though not proved by excavation, was a wall (98), aligned north-west to south-east and constructed of re-used brick, Ragstone and occasional Caen stone fragments, many with earlier mortar still adhering to their sides. The wall was largely only seen in plan, so its depth is unknown.
- 7.4 Abutting the southern side of wall (98) was a floor (96) formed of compact light orange-brown clay with a smooth, level upper surface. The floor was largely observed in plan, confined to a strip along the northern side of the evaluation pit, but in the sides of later intercutting features it was seen to have a thickness of up to 0.07m.

¹ Heights OD of the features and deposits mentioned in the text are recorded on the relevant plan and section drawings.

- 7.5 Cutting clay floor (96) was a post-hole [111], formed by a sub-circular cut up to 0.21m deep, with straight steeply angled sides which curved in to a flat base. The post-hole was filled by dark brown silty clay (110) containing flint and mortar.
- 7.6 Overlying post-hole [111] was a deposit of dark grey-brown silty clay (93) containing patches of light orange-brown clay and fragments of plaster, brick and small charcoal flecks. The deposit was recorded in section, sealing earlier floor (96) and covering wall (98), and was up to 0.15m thick. It was probably broadly equivalent to deposits (108) and (109) visible in the northern section edge. Here, deposit (109), a dark grey-brown silty clay containing flint and fragments of mortar and plaster, up to 0.12m thick, was overlain by a deposit of dark brown silty clay (108), up to 0.13m thick, containing yellow mortar lumps and occasional plaster fragments. Deposits (93), (108) and (109) are thought to have represented soils which formed after the demolition of the earlier structure containing clay floor (96), the inclusions of mortar and plaster possibly deriving from the demolished structure.
- 7.7 Cutting deposit (93) was a north-west to south-east aligned feature, only observed in the evaluation pit edges to the west, east and south. The cut [100], up to 0.24m deep, had a steeply angled side to the north which curved in to a flat base. It was filled by mixed light orange-brown clay and dark brown silty clay (99) containing common small lumps of white plaster. Cut [100] might have been a robber feature, removing a wall or timber which once ran across the line of the evaluation pit.
- 7.8 Fill (99) was overlain by a 0.09m thick deposit of dark brown silty clay (92) containing brick and mortar fragments, only recorded in the western and northern section edges, and cut by a post-hole [120] on the eastern side of the pit. The post-hole cut [120] was semi-circular in plan, extending beyond the pit edge to the east, and had moderately angled undulating sides which curved in to form a flat base at a depth of 0.36m. The post-hole fill (119) comprised dark brown silty clay containing patches of orange-brown clay and small flints.
- 7.9 Overlying post-hole fill (119) and deposit (92) was a layer of dark brown silty clay (94), up to 0.21m thick, containing patches of orange-brown clay and fragments of brick, flint and chalk, together with three pieces of seventeenth-/eighteenth-century pottery, medieval/post-medieval brick and tile, animal bone, window glass and two iron nails. The deposit covered the entire area of the evaluation pit except where it was cut by later features. It probably represented an external soil.
- 7.10 Cutting deposit (94) was the construction cut [103] for a boundary wall (104) which stood prior to the construction of the ISC, formed by a single depth of Caen stone blocks bonded with pale yellow-brown mortar, capped by a single depth of red bricks lying inset from the wall face. The wall had a total height of 0.25m. Backfilling the gap between the construction cut and the wall face was a deposit of dark grey-brown silty clay (102).
- 7.11 The upper level of Pit 1 comprised modern features and layers. Cutting deposit (94) was a feature observed only in the eastern edge of the evaluation pit. It may have been a post-hole. The cut [113], up to 0.25m deep and with moderately angled sides and a rounded base, was filled with compact dark grey clay (112) containing brick and mortar fragments. Overlying feature [113] was a layer of compact gravel and crushed

brick (91), up to 0.10m thick, cut by a feature [117], up to 0.28m deep, backfilled with crushed concrete (106). A modern service trench (cut [121], fill (118)) cut the extreme north-east corner of the pit and the cut for a modern post (cut [115], fill (114)), associated with hoarding which was erected during construction of the ISC, cut the south-eastern corner of the pit.

- 7.12 Pit 1 was capped by a modern tarmac surface (90).

Pit 2

(Figs 6 and 7, Plates 4–7)

- 7.13 The earliest deposit in Pit 2 comprised mid to dark brown silty clay (64) containing occasional brick fragments, oyster shell and charcoal flecks, only visible in section at the northern end of the evaluation pit, in the side of a later feature. Deposit (64), probably an external soil, was observed with a thickness of up to 0.17m.
- 7.14 Overlying deposit (64) was a yard surface (59) formed of Caen stone, flint, brick and peg tile fragments, rare oyster shell and animal bone lying within a sparse dark brown silty clay matrix. The deposit was observed in plan towards the northern end of the evaluation pit, and was quite compact, up to 0.14m thick, with a fairly level surface. Lying above the yard surface, covering the same extent in plan, was a probable occupation deposit of dark brown silty clay (58), up to 0.10m thick, flecked with oyster shell and charcoal, and containing four fragments of thirteenth-/fourteenth-century pottery, pieces of medieval/post-medieval brick and tile, and animal bone.
- 7.15 Lying over (58) was a deposit of dark brown silty clay (57) containing common fragments of brick, Caen stone and flint, up to 0.16m thick. The deposit was revealed in plan covering broadly the same extent as deposits (58) and (59), and may have been an external soil.
- 7.16 Perhaps originally cutting into deposit (57) was a length of wall (56) visible at the far northern end of the evaluation pit, aligned north-west to south-east and extending below the northern section edge. It was constructed of coursed soft red brick, and occasional blocks of Caen stone and ragstone, bonded with grey mortar flecked throughout with charcoal and chalk. The nature of the mortar suggests that the wall is of nineteenth-century date. It stood to a height of four courses (0.34m).
- 7.17 Set into deposit (57) further south was another wall (55), aligned east–west, crossing the centre of the evaluation pit. It formed the remains of the boundary wall which stood before construction of the ISC, and was constructed of re-used Caen stone blocks and occasional brick fragments bonded with pale yellow-brown mortar. The wall had a total height of up to 0.20m. Part of the wall was obscured by a later kerb line which was left *in situ*.
- 7.18 The remains overlying and abutting walls (55) and (56) were modern in date. An electricity service trench (cut [61], fill (60)), aligned north-west to south-east, cut down the southern side of wall (56) and through the northern side of deposit (57). It was partly emptied, to a depth of 0.41m. A kerb set in concrete (50) and wooden shuttering bedded in concrete (not numbered) crossed the centre of the evaluation pit in an east–west direction, the shuttering bounding concrete scree to the south (not numbered). Capping the pit to the north were beddings of crushed concrete ((53) and

(54)) covered by tarmac (52), whilst to the south the concrete scree was covered by gravel (not numbered).

Pit 3

(Figs 8 and 9, Plates 8 and 9)

- 7.19 The earliest deposit in Pit 3 comprised a yard surface (80) formed of flint, Caen stone and peg tile fragments, mortar lumps, oyster shell and rare animal bone lying within a sparse dark brown silty clay matrix. The deposit was observed in plan at the northern end of the pit and in the side of a later service trench, where it was seen to have a thickness of up to 0.16m.
- 7.20 Overlying yard (80) on the western side of the evaluation pit, towards the north, was a further probable yard surface (79), comprising flint gravel lying within a grey silty sandy clay matrix up to 0.09m thick. Deposit (79) was overlain on its eastern side by a deposit of dark brown sandy silty clay (81) containing Caen stone, chalk and peg tile fragments and occasional small flints, up to 0.17m thick, which may have been an occupation deposit which formed upon the underlying yard surfaces.
- 7.21 Deposit (81) was overlain by a layer of dark brown sandy clay and sand (78), up to 0.14m thick, containing two fragments of fifteenth-century pottery and pieces of post-medieval bottle glass, sealed by a deposit of yellow-brown sand, flint and brick fragments (77), up to 0.06m thick, which was in turn sealed by a deposit of orange-brown silty clay and gravel (76) up to 0.12m thick. All were observed in section lying towards the northern end of the evaluation pit. A lens of dark brown silty clay (83), up to 0.22m thick, containing Caen stone, brick and tile fragments and small flints, was observed in section in the north-eastern side of the pit. These deposits are thought to have been levelling horizons, preparing the ground for subsequent occupation.
- 7.22 The remains overlying deposits (76) and (83) were modern in date. Both deposits were cut by an east–west aligned electricity service trench (cut [82], fills (72), (73), (74) and (75)), excavated to a depth of 0.62m but not bottomed. Overlying the service trench backfill was a line of kerb stones set in concrete (71), abutted to the north by a tarmac surface (70) and to the south by gravel resting upon a concrete scree (not numbered).

8. FINDS

8.1 Table 1, below, presents the finds recovered by hand excavation during evaluation work.

Pit	Context	Item	Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
1	94	Pottery	Seventeenth/eighteenth century	3	7
1	94	Tile	Medieval / Post-medieval	4	232
1	94	Brick	Medieval / Post-medieval	1	19
1	94	Mortar		1	1
1	94	Animal bone		4	46
1	94	Window glass		1	4
1	94	Iron nails		2	6
2	58	Pottery	Thirteenth/fourteenth century	4	71
2	58	Tile	Medieval / Post-medieval	1	4
2	58	Brick	Medieval / Post-medieval	2	380
2	58	Animal bone		7	176
3	78	Pottery	Fifteenth century	2	12
3	78	Bottle glass	Post-medieval	1	27

Table 1: Finds recovered from Pits 1–3.

8.2 A summary of the finds recovered by hand excavation is as follows:

Pottery (Medieval/Post-medieval)	9 fragments	(90g)
Tile (Medieval/Post-medieval)	5 fragments	(236g)
Brick (Medieval/Post-medieval)	3 fragments	(399g)
Animal bone	11 fragments	(222g)
Bottle glass	1 fragment	(27g)
Window glass	1 fragment	(4g)
Mortar	1 fragment	(1g)
Iron nails	2 fragments	(6g)

8.3 Pottery of thirteenth-/fourteenth-century date was recovered from Pit 2 deposit (58), a probable occupation deposit overlying yard surface (59). The yard surface is thought to have been a post-Dissolution horizon, so the pottery was probably residual. Fifteenth-century pottery, also residual, was retrieved from Pit 3 deposit (78), a layer of clay and sand also containing post-medieval bottle glass. Seventeenth-/eighteenth-century pottery came from Pit 1 deposit (94), a probable external soil.

9. SITE ARCHIVE

9.1 The project archive, comprising site records and recovered cultural material, is presently held in the offices of Canterbury Archaeological Trust (92a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2LU). All site record sheets and drawings have been scanned and the digital images stored in the relevant project folders, under the project code EV CC-ISC-EV16. Finds information has been entered onto the Integrated

Archaeological Database (IADB), a secure password protected online resource available at <http://www.iadb.co.uk/cat>.

- 9.2 The project archive conforms to the *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (UKIC 1990), *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992) and the *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections: guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (The Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993). No special storage or conservation issues have been identified.
- 9.3 Deposition of the final archive, which will be fully catalogued and stored in standard archival materials, will be arranged in consultation with Canterbury Museums.
10. SUMMARY OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS
- 10.1 Archaeological remains were revealed in each of the evaluation pits.
- 10.2 In Pit 1, an early flint metallated yard surface (116) was revealed at the base of later features, at a depth of 0.80m below present ground surface (11.16m OD). It was overlain by a probable occupation deposit (107) which may have accumulated during use of the underlying surface. The yard probably formed part of a broad expanse of metallings which is thought to have covered parts of the South Precincts during the post-medieval and early modern periods.
- 10.3 An episode of demolition/levelling subsequently occurred, represented by overlying deposit (105), before a structure was built, represented by wall (98) and abutting clay floor (96). The top of wall (98) lay at a maximum depth of 0.31m below ground level (11.51m OD), whilst the surface of the clay floor lay at a depth of 0.47m below (11.36m OD). The floor was cut by a single post-hole [111] which could have formed the setting for an associated feature. Post-Dissolution maps of the cathedral and its precincts provide no indication of an occupied structure within the area of Pit 1, although a wall in the general area is depicted on maps of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century date, bounding the South Precincts from properties to the south (eg Doidge 1752; Willis 1868; Figs 10 and 11). Wall (98) identified in Pit 1 could have formed a part of this boundary wall, clay floor (96) perhaps lying within a short-lived temporary structure or outbuilding attached to its inner, southern, side.
- 10.4 Once the structure represented by floor (96) and wall (98) went out of use, a sequence of soils formed above ((93), (108), (109)), probably within an open area of the precincts. A linear feature [100] cutting these deposits could have formed an early boundary.
- 10.5 After the linear feature had been infilled, the ground appears to have returned to forming part of an external area, in which soils formed ((92) and (94)) and a post-hole was cut [120], before a boundary wall (104) was erected; this was the boundary wall which stood until immediately prior to the construction of the ISC and is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1874 (Fig. 12). The surviving surface of the wall lay, at its shallowest, at a depth of 0.08m below current ground level (11.82m OD).
- 10.6 The upper levels of Pit 1 comprised modern features and deposits.

- 10.7 In Pit 2, the earliest deposit identified was a dark brown external soil layer (64). The deposit, lying 0.66m below the current ground surface (11.28m OD), could potentially have formed the upper level of the cemetery horizon.
- 10.8 Overlying the soil was a metalled yard surface (59), similar in nature to that uncovered at the base of Pit 3 (80). The surface of that in Pit 2 lay at a depth of 0.56m below current ground level (11.39m OD). Like the metalling in Pit 1, the yard probably formed part of a sequence of surfaces which once covered broad areas of the South Precincts during the post-medieval and early modern periods.
- 10.9 Soil (57) overlay the metalling in Pit 2, before a brick wall (56) was constructed, lying at the northern end of the pit. The top of the wall lay 0.18m below ground level (11.76m OD). The bricks were bonded with grey mortar flecked with charcoal and chalk, probably of nineteenth-century date. Nineteenth-century maps of the South Precincts do not depict a wall in this location (Figs 10 and 11), so the structure was perhaps either short-lived or might have formed the southern edge of a below-ground feature such as a drain.
- 10.10 The nineteenth-century boundary wall depicted on the OS map of 1874 was identified at the southern end of Pit 2 (55), at its highest lying at a depth of 0.24m below current ground level (11.72m OD).
- 10.11 The remains in Pit 2 overlying walls (55) and (56) were modern in date.
- 10.12 As noted above, a metalled yard surface (80) was identified in Pit 3, similar to that uncovered in Pit 2 (59). The surface lay at a depth of 0.48m below current ground level (11.47m OD). It was overlain by a further probable yard surface (79), of flint gravel, probably representing repair or replacement of the underlying horizon. The surface of (79) lay at a depth of 0.41m below current ground level (11.53m OD). An occupation deposit (81) had formed upon the surfaces of these yards, subsequently overlain by a sequence of levelling horizons ((76), (77), (78), (83)).
- 10.13 The upper levels of Pit 3 comprised modern features and deposits.

11. CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 The archaeological evaluation was conducted under good weather conditions.
- 11.2 The position of mains services and the presence of thick concrete scree surrounding the northern side of the ISC, supporting its gravel skirt, limited the size and position of the pits, but this is not considered to have unduly impacted upon the results of the evaluation. In particular, the most constrained and consequently the smallest pit, Pit 1, bordered on all sides by live service runs, contained the more extensive range of archaeological features and deposits.

12. OVERVIEW OF THE SIGNIFICANT REMAINS

- 12.1 Archaeological remains were revealed in each of the three pits. A lower soil in Pit 2 (64) could have been the top of a cemetery soil, though this was not proved by evaluation.

- 12.2 Yard horizons ((59), (79), (80), (116)) in each of the pits probably formed parts of the surfaces which are known to have lain in the South Precincts from at least the end of the eighteenth century, as described by Hasted and others. The yards would have provided hard standing for fairs, held in the cathedral grounds since the medieval period. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the precincts are known to have been used as a parade and exercise ground for soldiers, despite the inconvenience it was said to have caused and the consequent disapproval of the Dean and Chapter (Hicks and Seary 2009, 31).
- 12.3 A structure was identified in Pit 1, represented by a length of north-west to south-east aligned wall (98) and a clay floor (96) abutting to the south. The wall could potentially have been that depicted on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century plans, bordering properties on the south side of the South Precincts. The clay floor perhaps lay within a short-lived structure or outbuilding abutting the wall.
- 12.4 A brick wall (56) of probable nineteenth-century date was identified at the northern end of Pit 2. The feature does not appear on contemporary maps, so was perhaps either short-lived or formed part of a below ground structure such as a drain.
- 12.5 Remains of the nineteenth-century boundary wall which stood until construction of the ISC were identified in Pits 1 and 2 ((104) and (55) respectively).
13. CONCLUSIONS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- 13.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the hand cutting of three pits across the approximate line of an earlier boundary wall, demolished prior to construction of the ISC. The pits were cut to the top of significant archaeology. The remains revealed were cleaned and recorded.
- 13.2 The evaluation work has demonstrated that archaeological remains survive within the study area.
- 13.3 In Pit 1, the surface of the nineteenth-century boundary wall (104) lay at a height of 11.82m OD. The top of wall (98) lay at 11.51m OD and the clay floor at 11.36m OD.
- 13.4 In Pit 2, the surface of the nineteenth-century boundary wall (55) lay at a height of 11.72m OD. The top of wall (56) lay at 11.76m OD and yard (59) at 11.39m OD.
- 13.5 In Pit 3, the surface of yard (79) lay at 11.53m OD and that of yard (80) at 11.47m OD.
- 13.6 Archaeological remains therefore lie at shallow depth, in places only c 0.13m below current ground surface and directly below modern deposits. There was no evidence to suggest, however, that any of the remains dated earlier than the post-medieval/early modern period, perhaps predominantly being of eighteenth-century date or later.
- 13.7 The results of the evaluation suggest that groundworks associated with construction of a new length of wall will impact upon the archaeological resource.

14. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 14.1 Thanks are extended to the Dean and Chapter for funding the work and to Phil Mayne for undertaking the fieldwork.

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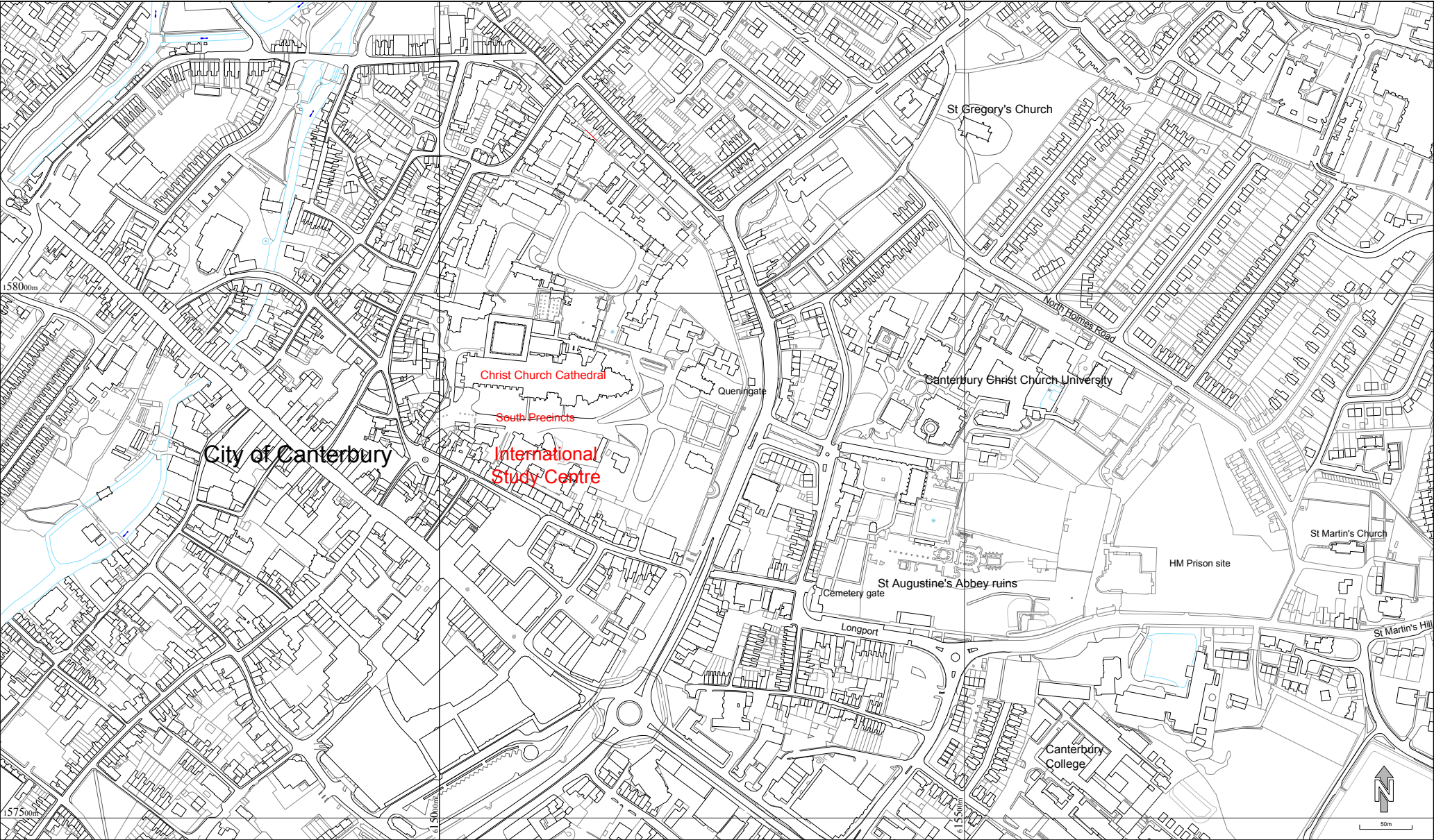
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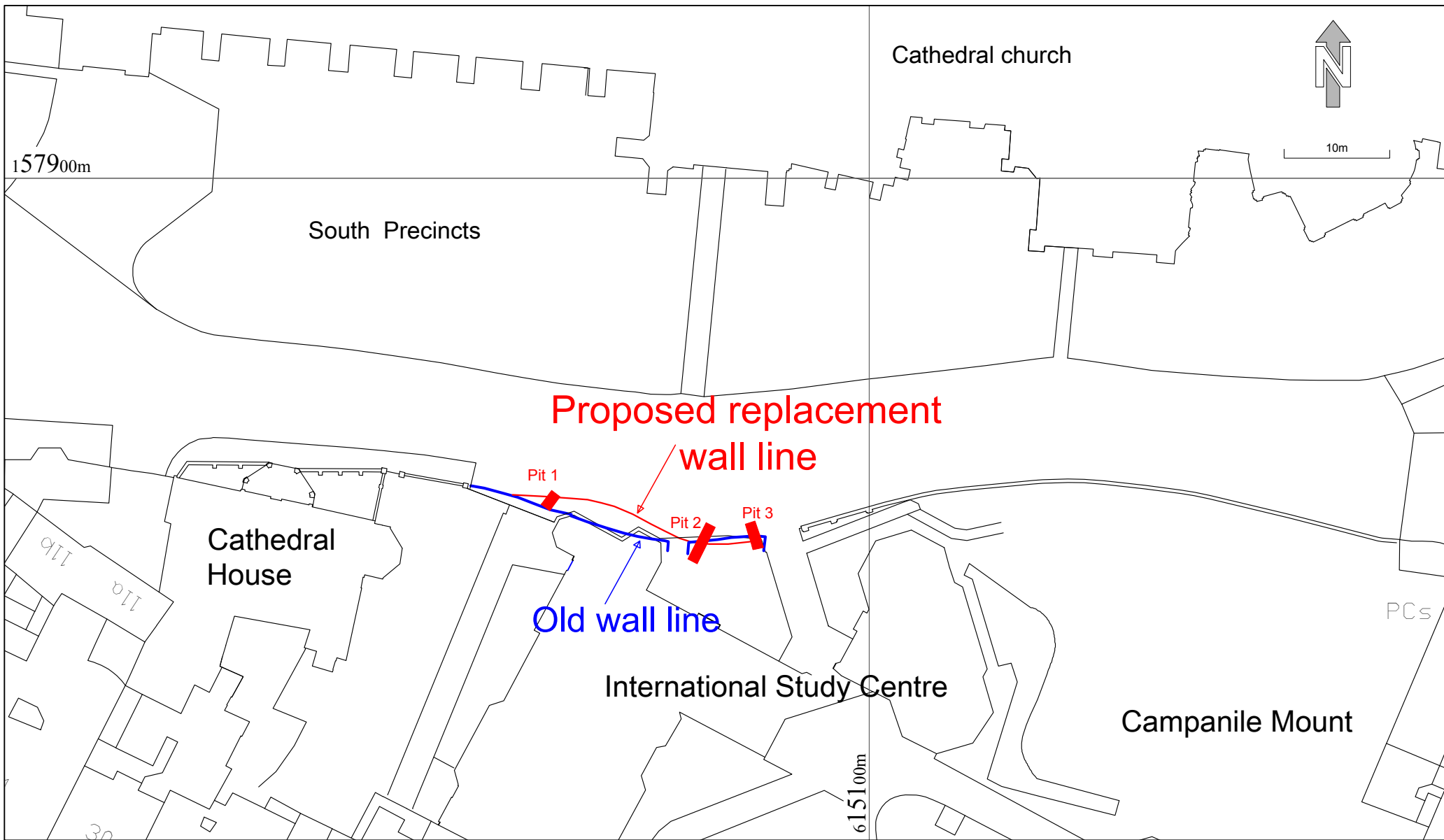
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Figure 1. Location of Canterbury Cathedral and the International Study Centre.

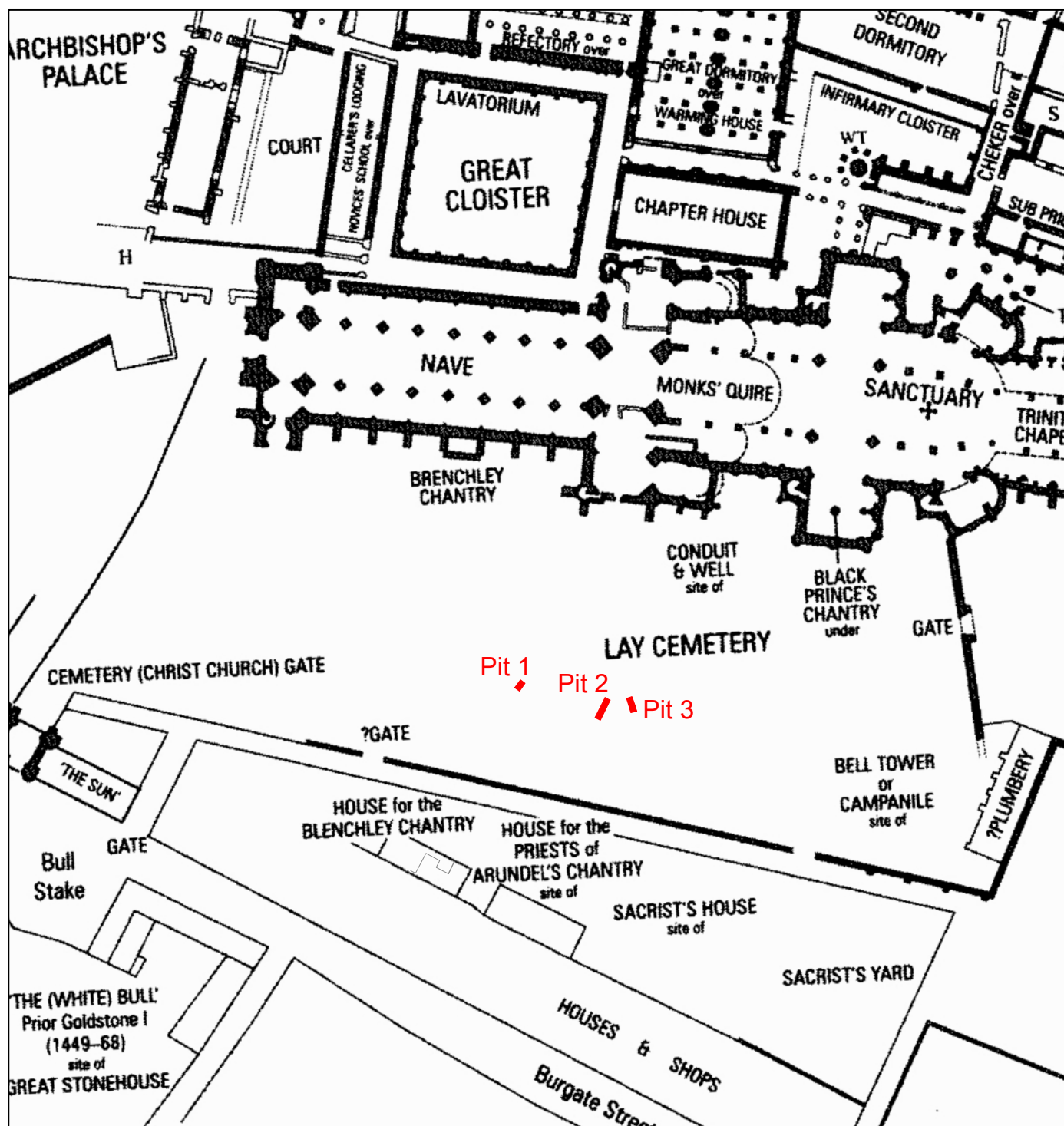
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Figure 2. Location of International Study Centre Pits 1-3.


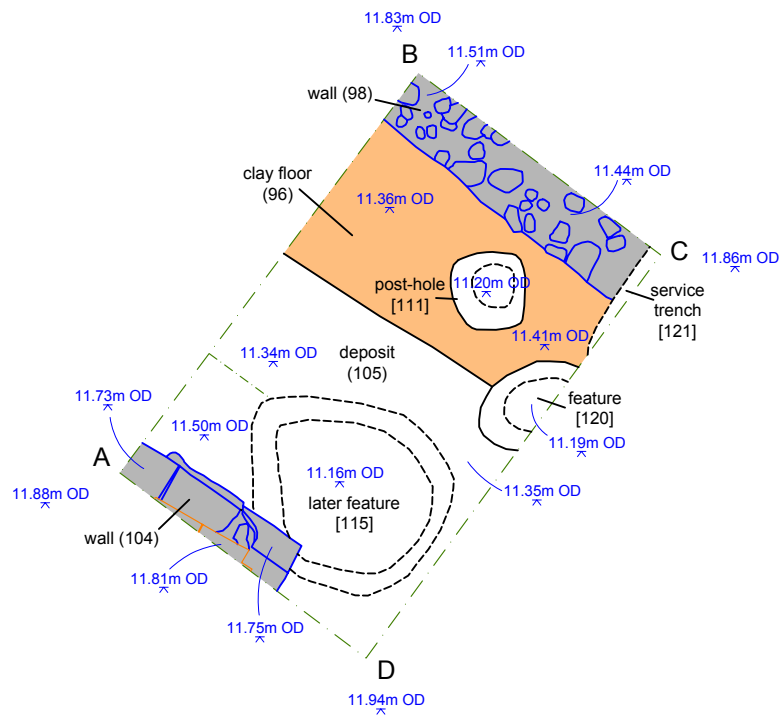


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Figure 3. Approximate location of the International Study Centre pits within the medieval monastic precincts (underlying image Sparks 2007, Plan 7).

ISC Pit 1

615069E
157871N

615069E
157868N




1m

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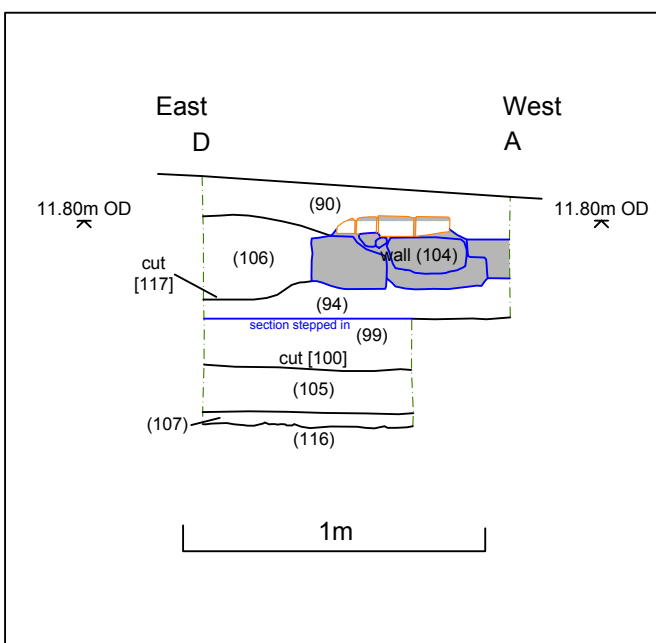
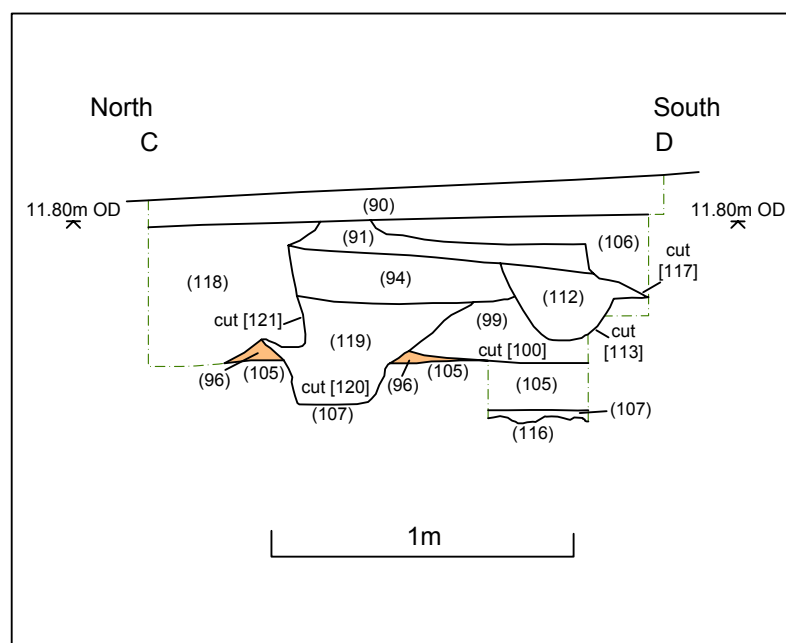
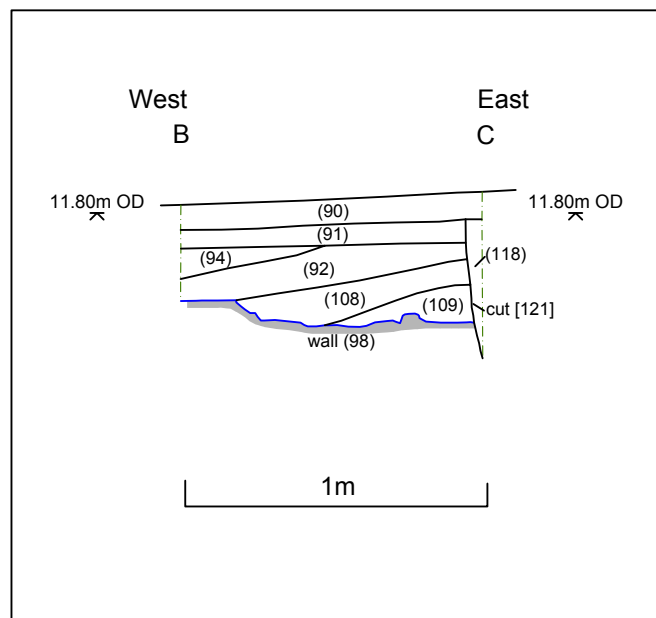
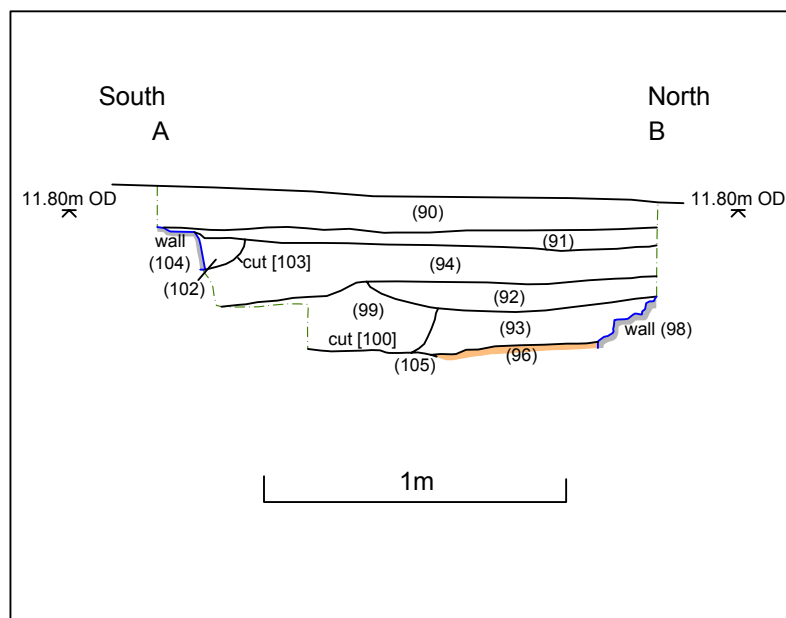
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Figure 4. Plan of remains in Pit 1.



(c)

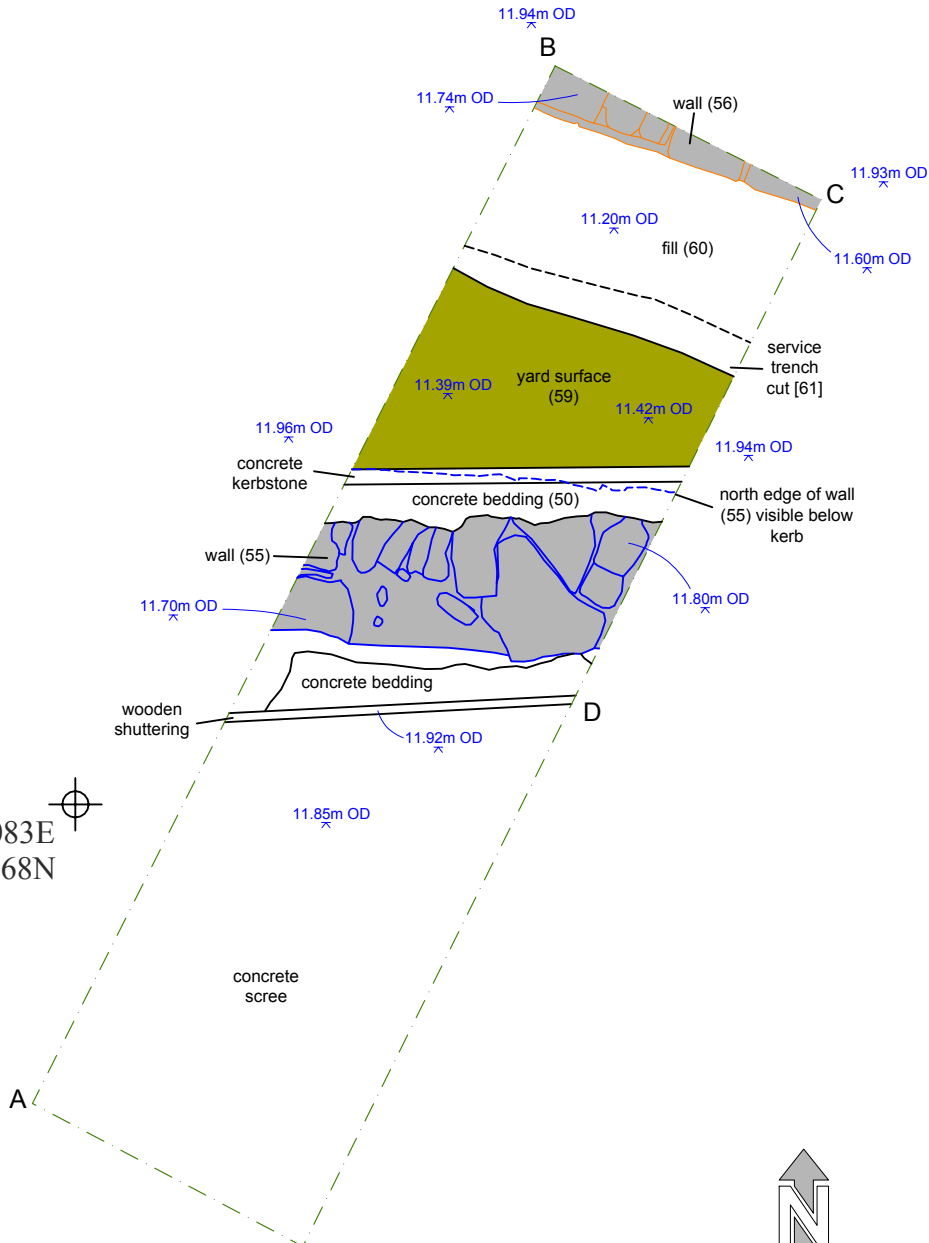
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	International Study Centre	DRAWN BY	SCALE(S)
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Figure 5. Sections of remains in Pit 1.

ISC Pit 2

615083E
157865N



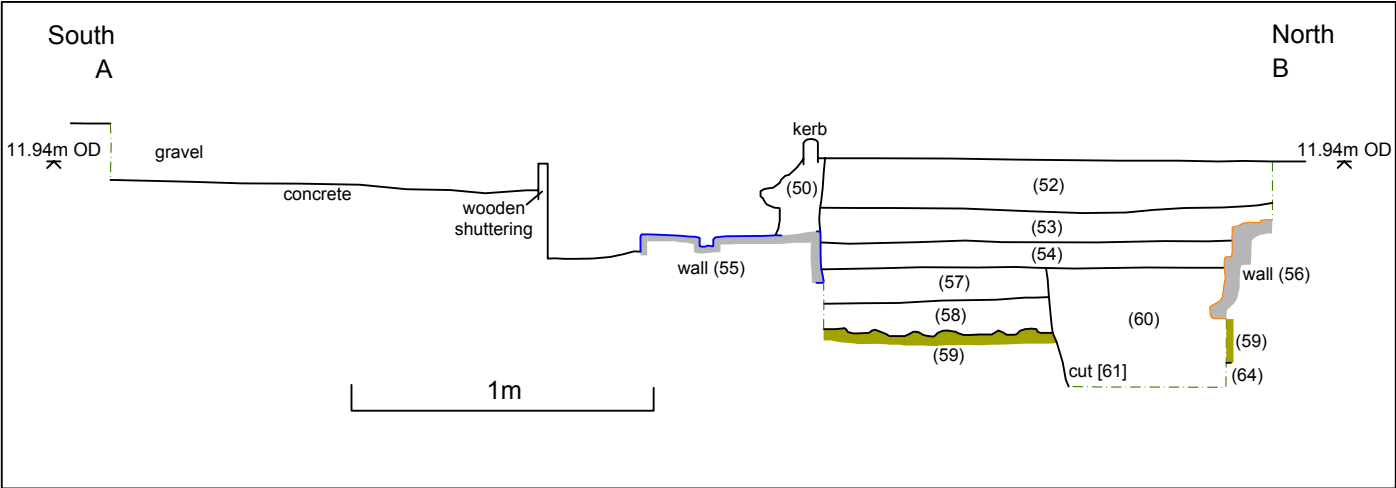
615083E
157868N



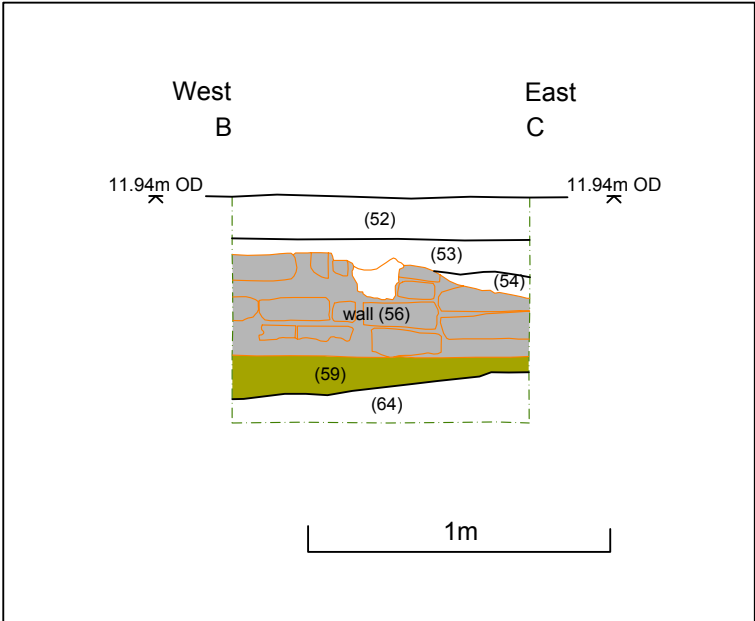
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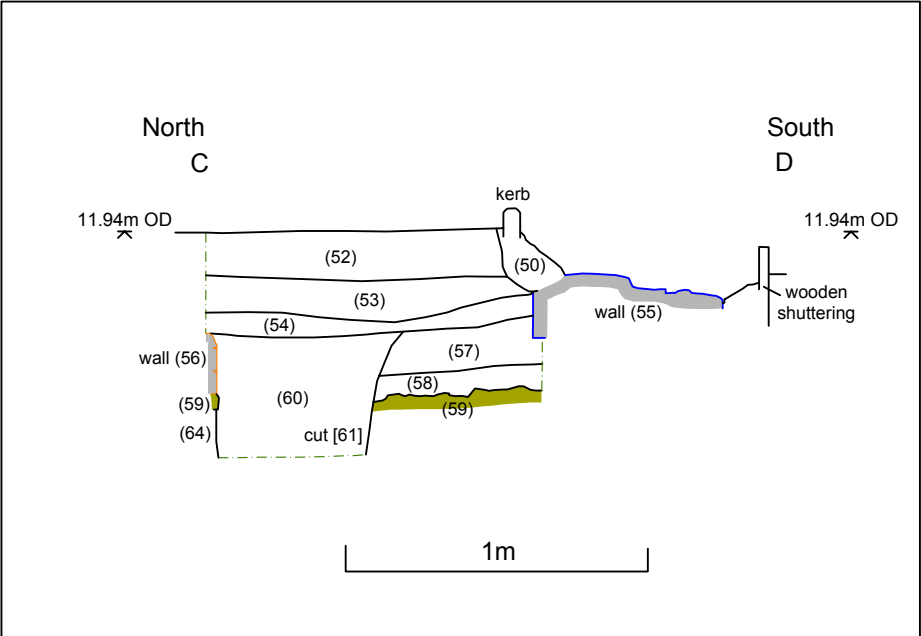
Figure 6. Plan of remains in Pit 2.



(a)



(b)



(c)

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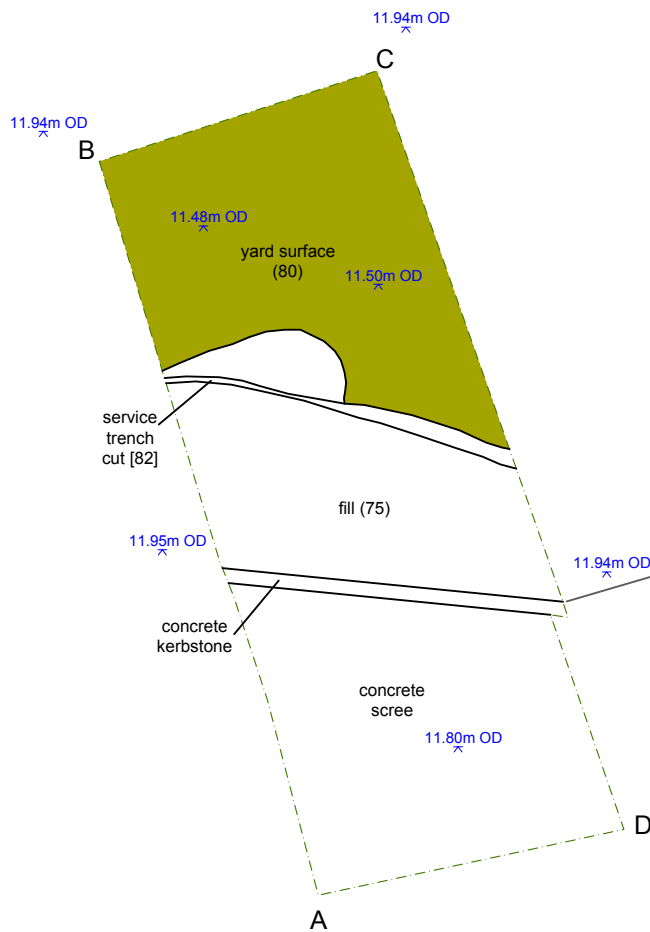
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Figure 7. Sections of remains in Pit 2.

ISC Pit 3

615088E
157868N



615088E
157864N



1m

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Figure 8. Plan of remains in Pit 3.

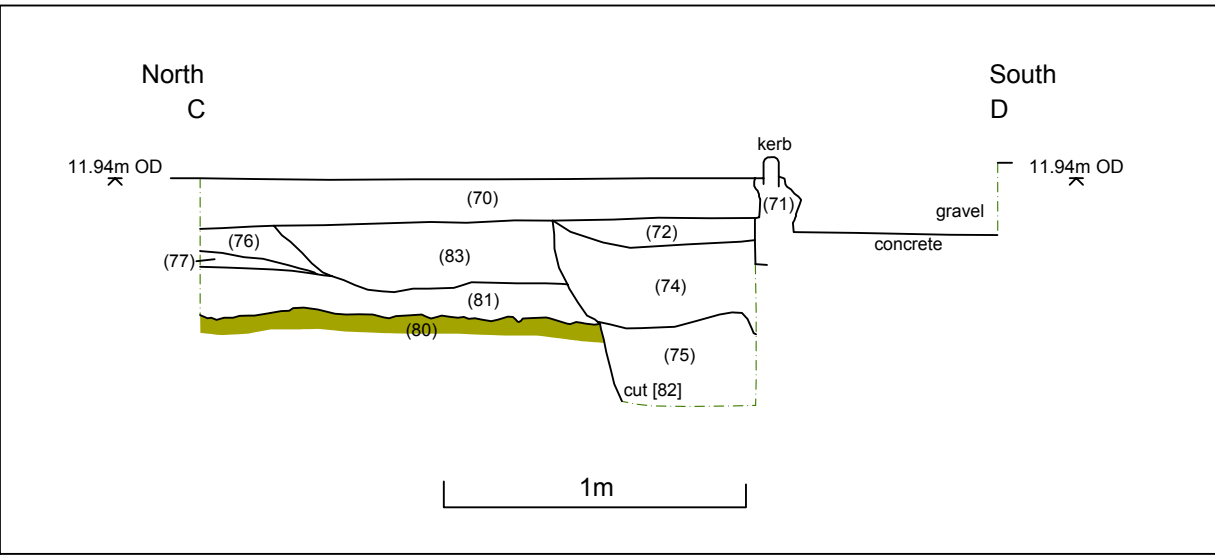
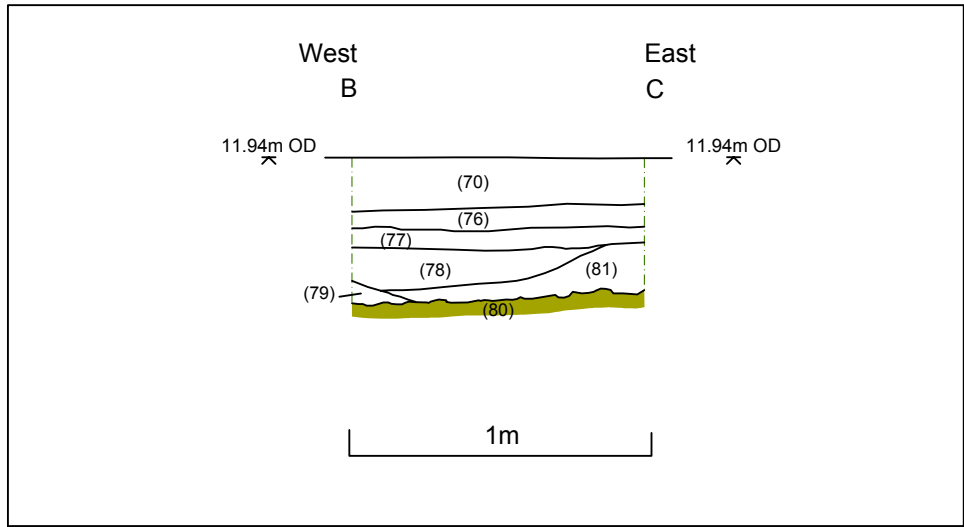
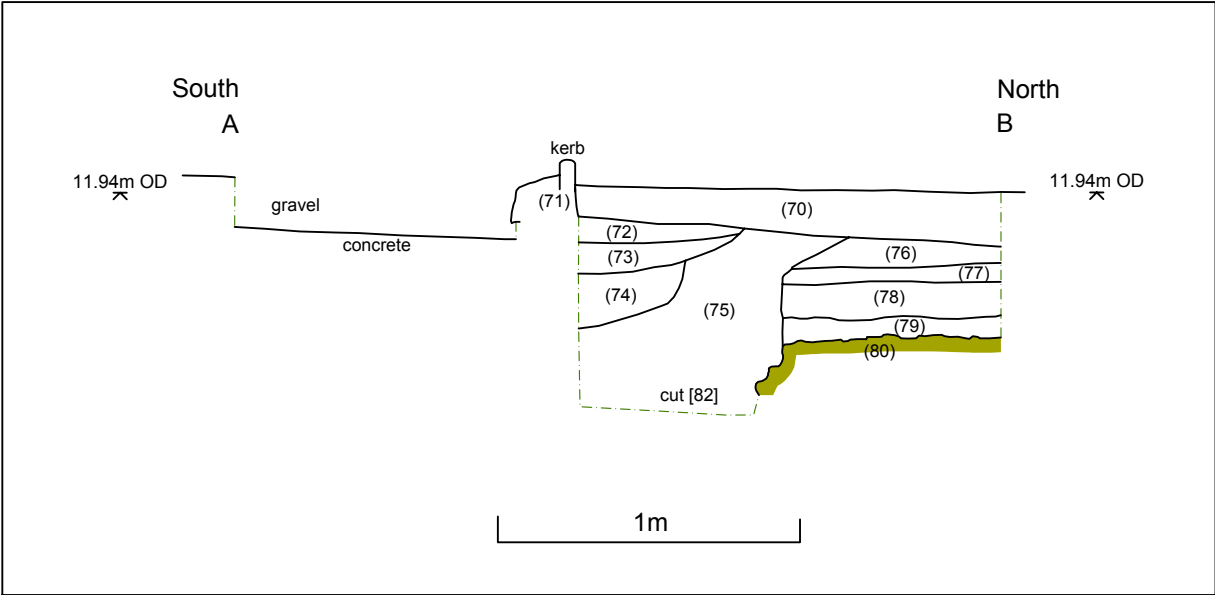


Figure 9. Sections of remains in Pit 3.

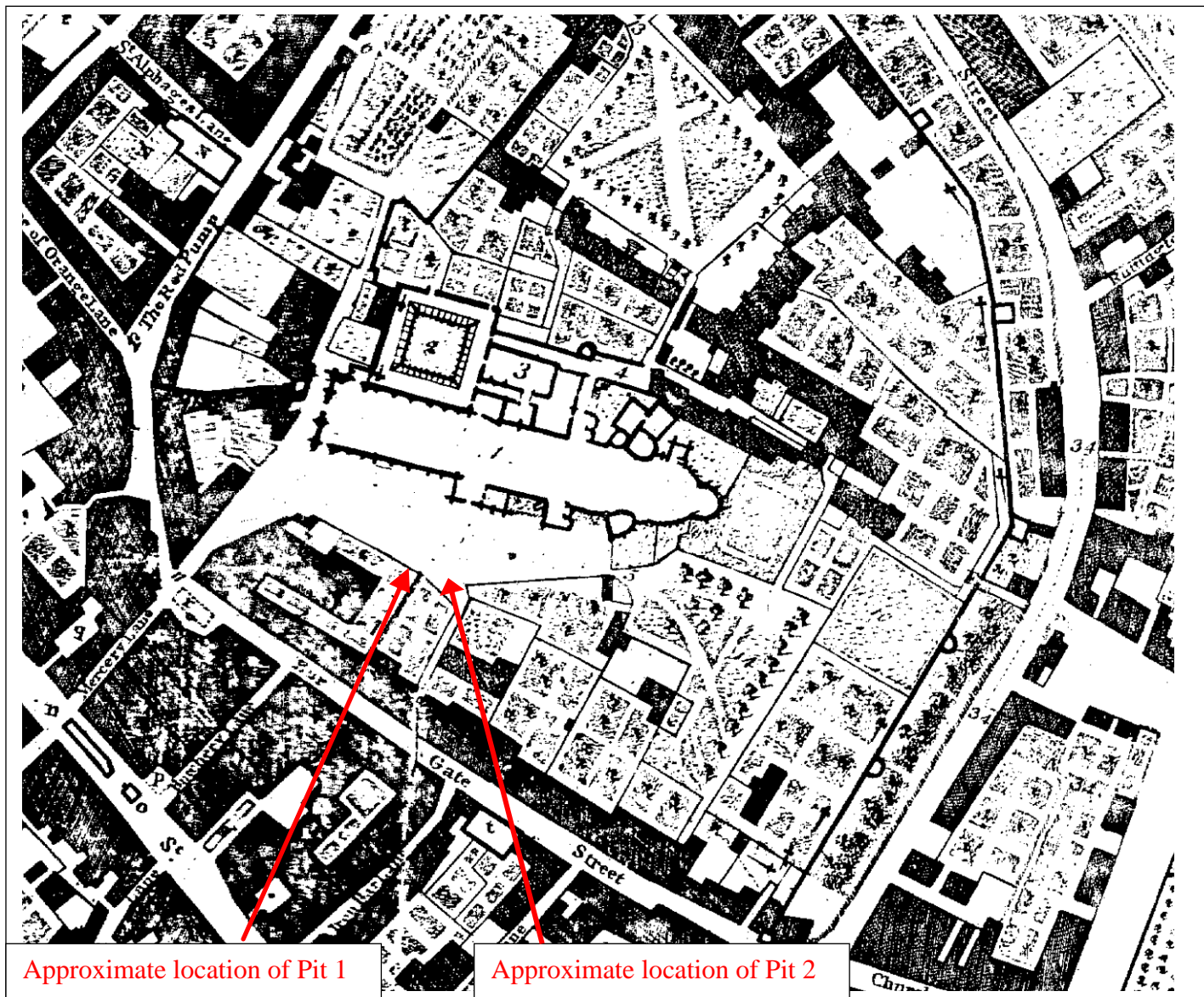


Figure 10. An extract from Doidge's plan c 1752, showing the approximate position of Pits 1 and 2.

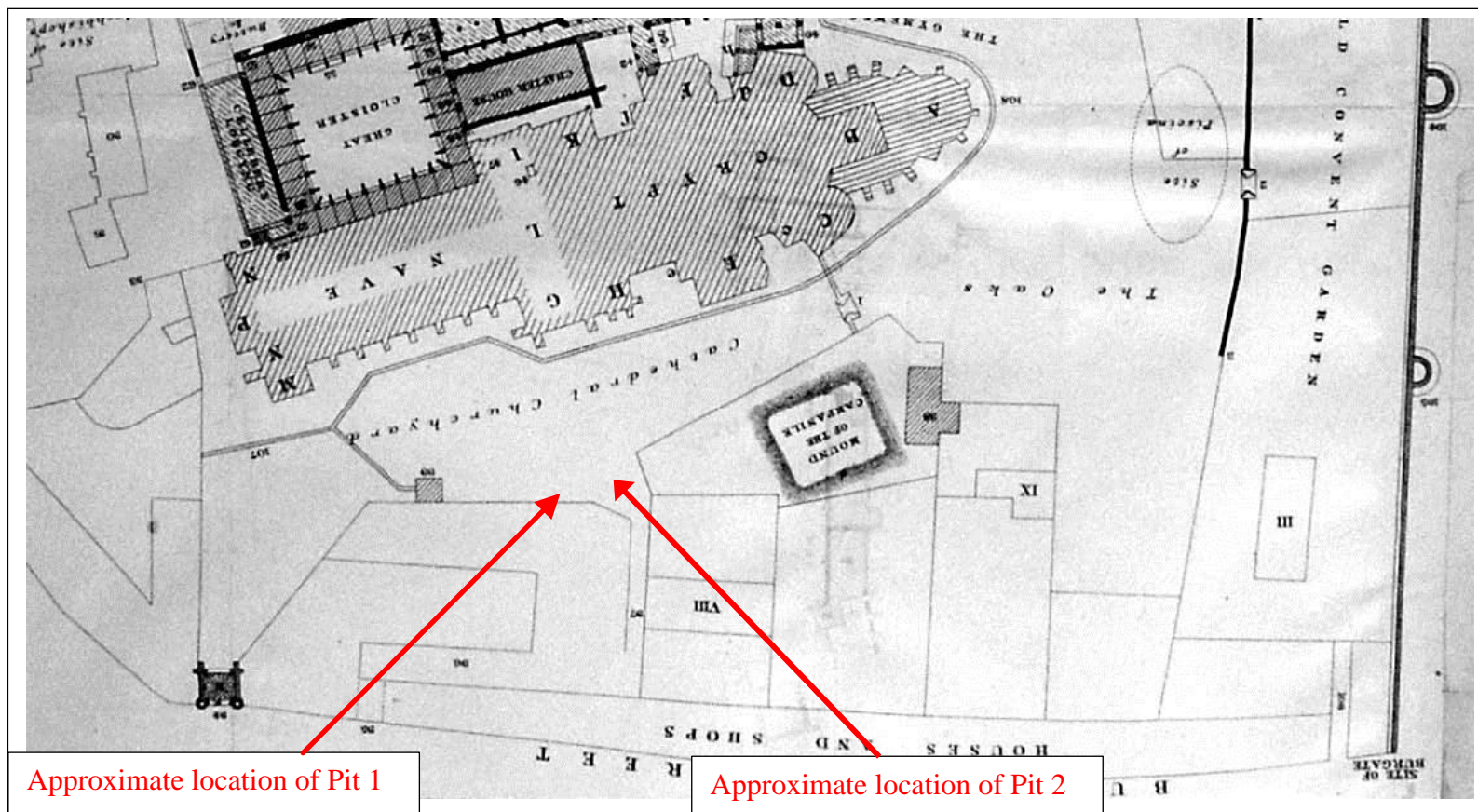


Figure 11. Extract from Willis' plan c 1868, showing the approximate location of Pits 1 and 2.



Plate 1. The three evaluation pits cut beside the International Study Centre, looking south. Pit 1 to the west (right), Pit 2 in the centre and Pit 3 to the east (left).



Plate 2. Pit 1 looking north. Wall (104) is in the foreground, wall (98) to the top abutted on its southern side by clay floor (96). Scale 0.5m.



Plate 3. Pit 1 looking south, showing detail of wall (104). Scale 0.5m.



Plate 4. Yard surface (59), cut by later service trench [61] in the foreground, looking south. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 5. Wall (56) at the northern end of Pit 2, looking north. Scale 1m.



Plate 6. Boundary wall (55), looking south. Scale 1m.



Plate 7. Boundary wall (55) lying below concrete kerb (50), looking south. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 8. Detail of yard surface (80), looking north. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 9. Pit 3 looking south, with yard surface (80) in the foreground. Scale 0.5m.