

Market Square, Dover, Kent

Assessment report on archaeological excavations, August–September 2021

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Excavations in Dover Market Square, August–September 2021: assessment report

1. Summary

1.1 Archaeological excavations were carried out over a seventeen-day period in Dover's Market Square between the 13 August and 9 September 2021. Previous evaluation trenching had established the existence of some significant archaeological remains here, with damage of the area caused by modern service trenching rather less extensive than anticipated. Undisturbed archaeological deposits, including a sequence of early marketplace metallings and mortared stone foundations relating to the lost seventeenth century Guildhall/Market Hall, were located. The excavations attracted a considerable amount of public interest.

1.2 The excavations were conducted across two separate areas (Areas 1 and 2) positioned about 7.00m apart. Area 1 lay immediately to the south-east of the disused ornamental fountain erected in the 1980s. Area 2 lay immediately to the north-west of the fountain. The most significant discoveries were made in Area 1. Together, these investigations represent the first detailed archaeological excavations ever to occur within the Market Square itself, but the full archaeological sequence here could not be examined. Roman levels were not reached and, in particular, no traces of the late Roman Shore Fort thought to run in this area, were revealed.

1.3 The quantity of finds recovered from the excavations was relatively small. Limited assemblages of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, roofing tile, mathematical tile, blue-grey roofing slate, animal bone and marine shell were recovered. Amongst the pottery, twenty-two sherds of thirteenth century sandy ware recovered from between early metalled surfaces in Area 1 are perhaps the most important for dating purposes. The mathematical tiles discovered are of some interest in that it is recorded that the Guildhall building was clad with such tiles during the mid-eighteenth century.

1.4 The results of the excavations are worthy of publication, but full assessment of the information recovered is best done after the additional evidence collected during the subsequent site watching brief has been fully assessed (on-going).

2. Introduction

2.1 Following earlier desk-based study (Parfitt 2020) and evaluation trenching undertaken in June 2021 (Parfitt 2021a), Canterbury Archaeological Trust was commissioned by Dover District Council to conduct formal excavations in the central part of the Market Square at Dover (NGR 63195 14142, centred; Figs 1 & 17), ahead of planned new building work (Parfitt 2021b). The present report should be read in conjunction with the previous desk-based study which provides much additional archaeological detail for the area (Parfitt 2020).

2.2 The Market Square in Dover occupies an almost level piece of ground standing at a present elevation of between 5.60 and 5.75m above Ordnance Datum. It is considered to possess a high to very high archaeological potential, the area having lain at the epicentre of the historic settlement since the late Roman period, even if its use as a formal marketplace did not occur until more recent times (Parfitt 2020).

2.3 The previous evaluation trenching established the existence of some significant archaeological remains here, with damage of the area caused by modern service trenching rather less extensive than had been anticipated. Undisturbed archaeological deposits, including a sequence of earlier

marketplace metallings and mortared stone foundations relating to the lost seventeenth century Guildhall/Market Hall, were located.

2.4 The main excavations were conducted across two separate areas (Areas 1 and 2) positioned about 7.00m apart (Figs 1–4 & 59). Area 1 lay immediately to the south-east of the disused ornamental fountain first erected in the 1980s (Figs 1, 2, 18 & 40). Area 2 lay immediately to the north-west of the fountain (Figs 1, 3 & 39). The most significant discoveries were made in Area 1. Together, these investigations represent the first detailed archaeological excavations ever to occur within the Market Square itself, but the full archaeological sequence here could not be examined. Roman levels were not reached, and in particular, no traces of the late Roman Shore Fort were revealed.

2.5 The excavations were carried out over a seventeen-day period between the 13 August and 9 September 2021. Being located in the centre of the busy town, the excavations attracted a considerable amount of public interest, with more than one hundred passers-by stopping to ask for information additional to that provided on the notice boards placed around the periphery of the excavation area.

3. Planning background and nature of development

3.1 The aim of the new Dover Market Square enhancement project is to attract more people to visit and shop in Dover by making the Market Square more welcoming for local residents and creating a focal point for visitors to the town centre.

3.2 The overriding concept is the creation of a paved space that provides the flexibility for events to be held, adding to the attractions that Dover town centre has to offer. Key features will be:

- A paved space for performance where pedestrians can gather and interact, socialise and take in the views out of the Square. To make the square feel safe, part of the area has been raised onto a platform to enable the public to sit comfortably above the traffic of Cannon Street and King Street and take on the views around the square.
- A water feature located in the centre of the square to provide an ornamental feature that enlivens the space, but also creates a focus for children to play and families to congregate. The water feature will act as a wayfinder that will be unique and recognisable to Dover.
- Increased opportunities to sit, with the introduction of more seats and terraced areas, where people can congregate. Around the Square pedestrian footways are to be widened next to the buildings to enable open air dining associated with the many businesses, cafes and pubs.
- On the eastern side of the square a line of planting will be added to introduce greening to the Market Square area. This will provide some shelter and importantly, a variety of colour and textures throughout the year.

4. Historical background to the Market Square (based on Parfitt 2020)

4.1 A previous desk-based study has provided a detailed account of the known archaeology and history of the Market Square area (Parfitt 2020). The main points are summarised below, but the previous report should be consulted for further information.

4.2 The present-day Market Square does not appear to be an early feature of the medieval town but the product of subsequent and developmental evolution (Figs 19–21). Its origins would seem to lie in the annual fair of St Martin, assumed to have originally been held within the open grounds of the churchyard of St Martin-le-Grand on the saint's feast day, 11 November (Figs 5, 19, 21–23). Traditionally, this fair included three market days (Hasted 1800, 516; Horsley c.1902).

4.3 Dover's Market Place or Market Square apparently came more formally into being in 1480 when a new market cross was erected here. The town council decreed that in future the market for local produce and livestock, as well as St Martin's Fair, should be held in this vicinity (Bavington Jones 1907). Sixteenth century maps (Figs 20 & 21) indicate that the market cross consisted of a small square building with a roof surmounted by a cross. This structure became a focal point where townsfolk regularly met.

4.4 In 1606 the town council ordered that a new court hall should be erected close to where the old market cross had stood. This was completed by 1607, occupying the southern side of Dover's Market Square until its demolition in 1861 (Figs 4, 24–33). In written accounts it is variously described as the *Court Hall*, the *Market Hall* or the *Guildhall* (generally used in this report). For a time during the early nineteenth century the building housed Dover's museum. William Batcheller in his *New Dover Guide*, 1845 (sixth ed.) provides a brief description of the structure:

The Museum – This edifice is erected on pillars over the butter market. It was the Town-hall till the year 1835; when a new hall, sessions-house, and gaol were constructed in a part of the Maison Dieu church. The present building was erected on the site of a more ancient one, called the Cross, which in an old plan of the town, has the appearance of a mean edifice, with a cross on it. The grotesque figures on the pillars that support the superstructure, bespeak the high antiquity even of the present building; but the sides are now covered with mathematical tiles, and adorned with large Venetian windows, which give it a modern appearance. It was given by the corporation for the purpose of forming a museum and is now fitted up under the management of a committee. The collection is already become very respectable (Batcheller 1845, 159).

4.5 According to Horsley (c.1902, 11–12) some of the materials required for the construction of the new guildhall were taken from the abandoned church of St Martin-le-Grand nearby, but 'it was built chiefly of wood.... The Hall was raised on pillars and corbels of wood which were curiously carved by a Dover man named Weeks.' At least one of these carvings is still in the Dover Museum collection (Fig. 32).

4.6 The Guildhall building is clearly shown on Eldred's map of the town dated c. 1641 (labelled as 'The Market House'; Fig. 24), together with another seventeenth century plan of the area. The building then consisted of a large room on the upper floor, used for council meetings and as a court room, raised on wooden pillars to provide a place for a covered market at street level, where meat, butter and vegetable markets were held (Horsley c.1902; Figs 30 & 31).

4.7 Regular alterations and additions occurred to the Guildhall and its general development can be traced through a series of early maps and drawings (Parfitt 2020; Figs 4, 24–33). During the mid-

eighteenth century it was clad with mathematical tiles (frequently employed to give the impression of a timber building being made from more fashionable brick). Additional pillars to support the building were also inserted at some stage (Horsley c.1902).

4.8 The earliest depiction of the building is that on Eldred's map of 1641 (Fig. 24). This shows the raised hall standing on a series of columns accessed by a flight of steps from the south side. Foucquet's town map of 1737 (Fig. 4) shows an L-shaped building with the same flight of steps on the south side. By the time John Rennie's map was prepared in 1805 a sizable extension had been added at the south-east corner of the building (Fig. 4). A further, eastern extension to the structure was added subsequently. This was provided with a bowed (east) front and appears on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1861 as the *Fish Market* adjoining the *Guildhall* (Figs 4, 28 & 29). Approval for this Fish Market/Shambles extension was given in 1825 (Jon Iveson *pers comm*) and the structure would appear to have extended across the site of earlier buildings that previously stood in this area.

4.9 The Guildhall was used by the town Council until 1836, after which a town Museum was established on the upper floor (see above). The museum remained there until 1848 when it moved to its present location nearby, above the new covered market (Figs 4, 28 & 29). The old guildhall complex was eventually demolished in 1861, in order to allow expansion of the marketplace (Fig. 4). The late sixteenth century guildhall at Faversham represents a broadly comparable structure still surviving in an east Kent town (Figs 34 & 35).

4.10 According to the Dover Board of Health map dated 1851, the Market Square pump, delivering fresh water to the local townsfolk, was located at the north-eastern corner of the building (Figs 4, 28 & 33). This apparently drew water from a well below. The pump was replaced with a drinking fountain on the same site in 1859:

'Drinking Fountains for Dover

An experimental drinking fountain has been erected in the Market Place at Dover, on the site of that venerable local institution, the market pump. The fountain is more remarkable for its utility than for the beauty of its design as an architectural ornament; and in this respect reflects creditably upon the economical tendencies of the Council. It is of polished red granite and is supplied with a drinking cup on each side. Water is obtained by pressing a valve. It is in the contemplation of our local authorities to erect other fountains of the same description, should this be found to answer its purpose.' *Dover Express* – Saturday 21 May 1859

The fountain did not last long because in 1866 it, together with the one at Ladywell, was found to be unfit to provide drinking water and was closed.

4.11 The Market Square was last entirely re-paved during 1988–89. No formal archaeological work was undertaken in conjunction with this work, but a casual watch was maintained by Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit (KARU). A record photograph taken at the time and now held by Dover Museum shows that traces of the east wall of the old Guildhall structure had been revealed during this work, whilst George Victor reports that a significant number of human skeletons had been noted by KARU (Victor 1989, 130).

4.12 Positioning the site of the old Guildhall on a modern town map is not readily achieved (Fig. 4). Map regression clearly demonstrates regular changes in local building lines and street frontages, not least those associated with the widening of King Street in the 1820s and the extensive post-War, 1950s, rebuilding of many structures around the Market Square itself. One of the few constants is

the (new) Market Hall building, now Dover Museum, first opened in 1849, but no earlier structures remain in the area so that previous arrangements are not now apparent on the ground. Fortunately, at least two accurately drawn, large scale mid-nineteenth century plans record the positions of the old and new Market Halls in relation to each other (Fig. 4).

5. Aims of the work

5.1 The aim of the excavations in 2021 was to follow up on the previous evaluation and expose more of the upper archaeological sequence established as being present in the area. The full archaeological sequence, here several metres thick, would not be examined as most of this lay below the formation level of the new construction work. Instead, the excavations were focussed on the highest archaeological levels, which included foundations of the seventeenth century Guildhall and metalled surfaces relating to the old marketplace.

5.2 Based on the previous investigations, a broad set of research questions for the area was set out prior to the start of the main excavation project. Specific questions posed were:

- Can any trace of the line of the lost east wall of the Roman Shore fort be located?
- Are any other Roman deposits or structures present within the levels being excavated?
- Are any graves associated with St Martin-le-Grand church present within the excavation area?
- Are any structural remains of St Martin's church present within the excavation area?
- Are any structural remains of St Peter's church present within the excavation area?
- When was the area first metalled as a marketplace? How thick are the metalling deposits?
- Can any useful dating evidence be recovered from the metalling layers? How much refuse was deposited on the metalled surfaces?
- Can any traces of the Guildhall foundations be located and examined? Is there any structural phasing to these remains?

The excavations conducted provided some information relating to most of these topics.

6. Methodology

6.1 The KCC approved specification for the excavations required the investigation of two areas, each about 6 metres square. Modern overburden was cleared under close archaeological supervision using an 8-tonne tracked excavator with a 360-degree slew, provided by the Principal Contractor, FM Conway Ltd (Fig. 36). This was followed by more detailed hand-excavation conducted by field staff from Canterbury Archaeological Trust (Figs 38–41).

6.2 The machine was used to remove all the modern paving, concrete, abandoned services, and general overburden to a depth of around 0.60m, at which level significant undisturbed stratified deposits and structural remains began to emerge.

6.3 Field archive

The information recovered during the main excavations was documented in accordance with the conventions set out in Canterbury Archaeological Trust's *Site Recording Manual*. Supplementing the records previously generated by the evaluation work, details of excavated deposits and structures were noted on standardised context recording sheets, with 125 individual contexts described in all. Most of these contexts appear on at least one of the nine measured section drawings prepared, with some 440 digital photographs providing further information. Site planning was undertaken using GPS equipment and total station theodolite, supplemented by detailed, hand-drawn measured plans and sketches.

6.4 All the field records have been checked and indexed. They are currently held by CAT (Dover Office) but will shortly be transferred to Dover Museum, together with the finds assemblage recovered (see below).

7. The excavations

7.1 Immediately prior to the main excavations commencing, observation was maintained as the old ornamental fountain, positioned between the two archaeological trenches, was removed (Fig. 36). Built during the 1980s, the fountain base was found to be of substantial construction with a solid foundation of reinforced concrete, some 0.35m thick. This rested on a reinforced concrete sub-base a further 0.30–0.40m in thickness that overlay a levelling layer of 'Type 1' hardcore, between 0.10–0.15m thick.

7.2 The entire construction was set into a circular pit about 6.00m in diameter and 1.00m deep, its base lying at about 4.70m above OD. Any archaeology above this level had clearly been destroyed during the 1980s work but the sides of the excavation showed undisturbed deposits – mostly road metallings and associated make up layers – reaching almost to present pavement level.

7.3 Traces of stratified archaeological deposits and masonry relating to the Guildhall survived directly below the fountain base (Fig. 37) and provided an early indication of the character of the remains likely to be exposed in the main excavations following. A well-defined surface of early pebble metalling was revealed at about 4.70m OD (detailed below).

8. Period 1, Earliest deposits

8.1 In both Area 1 and Area 2, the earliest deposits revealed were only exposed in small trial pits cut through the base of the main excavations.

Area 1

8.2 In Area 1 the earliest soil deposit reached was revealed in a small sondage cut inside the north-east corner of the Guildhall foundations. It consisted of a very dark grey clay loam with small flint pebbles and chalk pieces (Fig. 13, Section 10, Context 158). Its surface lay at 4.16m OD but it produced no datable finds. A medieval, or conceivably late Anglo-Saxon date, seems possible on general grounds. The deposit was overlain by a layer of dark soil containing fragments of human bone (Context 157, see further below).

Area 2

8.3 In Area 2, below the earliest metalling (Context 217), a soil deposit (Fig. 15, Section 4, Context 230) was revealed in the base of a sondage, at a depth of about 1.60m below pavement level (c.

4.15m OD). It consisted of a dark grey-brown silty clay containing moderate amounts of small flints, charcoal specks and burnt red clay fragments (probably burnt daub). The layer was not excavated and there were no datable finds. A medieval or earlier date may be inferred.

8.4 Gully, F. 231

In the sondage, the top of Context 230 was found to be cut by a shallow gully, possibly representing a length of beam slot (Fig. 15, Section 4, F. 231). This was aligned north-west by south-east and was only traced for a distance of about 0.50m. It was 0.47m wide and 0.14m deep, with steep sides and a flattish base. The filling consisted of a deposit of compact dark grey-brown silty clay containing patches of unburnt yellow-buff clay and pieces of burnt orange-red daub (Fig. 15, Section 4, Context 228; Fig. 42). A few fragments of animal bone and oyster shell also came from this, but there was no datable material and the full significance of this feature remains unclear.

8.5 Flint surfacing, Context 227

Immediately north-east of F. 231, a small patch of flint surfacing was revealed in the same sondage (Fig. 15, Section 4, Context 227; Fig. 42). This did not appear to be related to the main sequence of marketplace metallings revealed above and it seems more likely that it was broadly contemporary with the adjacent (?) beam slot (F. 231, see above). Mixed in with the flints forming this surface were also small fragments of burnt daub and charcoal but there was no closely datable material. The layer was not excavated.

8.6 Both the infilled ?beam slot and the adjacent flint surfacing were sealed by a thin layer of dark grey-brown silty clay containing frequent charcoal specks, small flint pebbles and occasional burnt red clay specks (Fig. 15, Section 4, Context 229). Excavation showed that this layer was about 0.05m thick. It produced a single sherd of pottery, and occasional fragments of animal bone, small daub pieces and oyster shell. The potsherd may be broadly dated to the medieval period but is not closely datable.

8.7 Context 229 served as a bedding layer for what is interpreted as the primary marketplace metalling located in Area 2 (Context 217, see below), although whether it was deliberately laid as bedding or simply a pre-existing dump layer already present was not clear from the small area examined.

9. Period 2, Medieval cemetery soils and grave F. 124 in Area 1

9.1 Writing at the start of the twentieth century, Mary Horsley (c. 1902, 3) records that:

‘Human remains have been found in all parts of the Market-Place, for St Peter’s Church and churchyard occupied the space now covered with houses on the north side of the Market-Place, and the churchyard of St Martin’s reached to the *Fountain Inn* on the south.’

Further human remains have also been unearthed in more recent years and on this evidence the likelihood of additional bones being revealed during the 2021 excavation work seemed high.

9.2 In Area 1, two sondages dug below the earliest metallings of the marketplace revealed dark soil deposits containing disarticulated pieces of human bone buried at depths of between 1.10 and 1.40m below present ground level (Contexts 157 and 168). In the central part of the excavation Context 157 was found to have been cut by a definite east–west aligned grave (F. 124) containing some undisturbed human bone. This burial was not fully exposed (Fig. 13, Section 10; Fig. 43) and it had subsequently been partially cut away by pier base 146 of the Guildhall structure (see below).

9.3 Lying directly east of the east end of the church, there seems no doubt that all the human bones located in Area 1 derive from the former churchyard of St Martin-le-Grand (Fig. 5). No trace of any such human bones was noted in Area 2, suggesting that this locality lay outside the graveyards of both St Peter's and St Martin's churches (Fig. 5). Most probably, the two cemetery areas were always separated by a busy thoroughfare which must have linked medieval Canon Street and King Street.

9.4 *Grave F. 124, Area 1 (Figs 5, 13 & 43)*

As recorded in Area 1, grave F. 124 appeared to be roughly rectangular in shape. It was about 0.70m in width, at least 0.75m in length and 0.28m deep, with very steep sides and slightly dished base (Fig. 13, Section 10). The general filling consisted of a dark grey clay loam with flint pebbles and small chalk pieces (Context 123). On the base of the grave the *in situ* leg and foot bones of an adult sized skeleton were revealed (Fig. 43). The bottom of the grave lay just over 1.50m below present ground level, at 4.09m OD. The bones were left *in situ* and carefully reburied.

9.5 The discovery is of some importance in providing a precise fixed point for the eastward extent of the St Martin's burial area (Fig. 5). It seems possible that the east wall of the late Roman Shore fort formed the original eastern boundary of the cemetery area here, but no trace of this fort wall was located during the excavation and its precise line remains uncertain.

9.6 Both the general soil deposits containing disturbed human bone (157 & 168) could, themselves, also have represented the backfilling of later graves that had been cut through earlier burials. If so, no undisturbed interments were revealed in the small excavations undertaken. Alternatively, these deposits might represent general 'cemetery soils' such as are frequently encountered in medieval and early post-medieval burials grounds, where the continual interment of bodies led to the formation of layers of thoroughly turned over soil containing disturbed fragments of human bone.

9.7 *Previous recent finds of human bone in the Market Square (Fig. 5)*

Some 6.50m west of the western edge of Area 1, excavations for a new lamp standard in November 1995 revealed similar cemetery soils. The excavated pit here was about 1 metre square and was taken to a depth of 1.32m (Fig. 5). Sealed below a thin crushed mortar deposit that probably represented marketplace surfacing, at a depth of about 0.70m, two successive layers of grey clay loam contained a quantity of semi-articulated human bone. The bones recorded were mostly contained within the lower layer, which began at a depth of about 0.95m below present ground level (CAT Dover archives; Parfitt 2020; Kent HER ref. TR34 SW1770). No useful dating evidence was recovered.

9.8 Previously, in 1988, traces of a significant number of human skeletons had been noted by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit when the fountain was first constructed and the market square was being repaved, but few details could be recorded (Victor 1989, 130).

10. Period 3, Early marketplace metallings, pre-dating the Guildhall

10.1 Sealing the grave and cemetery soils, a continuous sequence of metallated surfaces, interleaved with make-up layers were recorded in both Areas 1 and 2. Ranging in date from late medieval times to the nineteenth century, these were generally composed of varying mixtures of dark soil, sand and beach shingle. They totalled around one metre in overall thickness, although they had been cut through by various service trenches over the years. The earliest surfaces were buried at depths of 1.00 – 1.50m below modern pavement level, at ODs of between 4.30 and 4.89m (see Table 1). In Area 1, at least six successive surfaces could be demonstrated to pre-date the construction of the Guildhall.

The latest surfaces observed were of tarmac and asphalt and must date to the late nineteenth- and twentieth centuries.

10.2 As originally laid, the earlier metallings seem to have mostly comprised localised patches of material rather than continuous deposits (Figs 3 & 6). The overall impression gained on site was that many of these surfaces dipped gently down to the east, following the natural fall of the ground towards the river. Such details, together with the damage caused by subsequent intrusions, however, made it difficult to equate the various surfaces revealed across different parts of the excavated areas. Datable finds were sparse and a general absence of domestic rubbish within the metallated layers seems to imply that the entire area was carefully cleared of such debris on a regular basis.

10.3 In Area 1 the remains of the Guildhall building erected in 1605 provided a useful fixed reference point in sequencing the metallated surfaces, with the various surfaces being assignable to either pre- or post-Guildhall construction (Fig. 54). Such relative dating could not be readily transferred to the surfaces located in Area 2.

10.4 Resting directly over cemetery soils 157, 167 and grave F. 124, metallated surfaces 102 and 156 in Area 1 appeared to be the primary metallating layers in the exposed sequence (Fig. 13, Section 10; Table 1). Nearby, surface 173 (Fig. 14, Section 11) was also early in the recorded sequence but whether it was a primary metallating layer was not ascertained. Significantly, a soil makeup layer resting over it (Section 11, Context 172), produced twenty-two potsherds dated c. AD 1250–1350.

10.5 Cut by Guildhall pier base 101/142, primary metallating 102 was sealed by two later ones (143 & 100). Surface 100 may equate with surface 161 located further to the east (Fig. 6). Metallating 161, itself, appeared to be partially retained by a greensand kerb stone along the eastern side (162) but it sealed to two earlier metallatings extending further to the east (163 over 173; Fig. 6 & Fig. 14, Section 11).

10.6 Above surface 173 (see above), later metallating 163 was covered by a thin layer of sandy loam, perhaps representing a general levelling deposit (Fig. 14, Section 11, Context 166). This contained some occupation material and building debris, including animal bone, marine shell, fragments of roofing slate, peg-tile, a piece of glazed floor tile and a single medieval potsherd of somewhat indeterminate date.

AREA 1, East side	AREA 1, South side	AREA 1, Cut by Guildhall wall 115	AREA 1, Cut by Guildhall pier 146	AREA 1, Cut by Guildhall pier 101/142	AREA 2
			138 (4.89m OD)		
				100 (4.88m OD)	
				143 (4.71m OD)	
		167 (4.62m OD)	161 (4.65m OD)		
160 (4.58m OD)				102 (4.60m OD)	
			163 (4.48m OD)	168 (cemetery soil)	
	156 (4.43m OD)				
	F. 124 (grave)		173 (4.33m OD)		
					217 (4.30m OD)
					230 (soil)

Table 1 Relative heights of early metallated surfaces in Areas 1 and 2, with representative ODs

10.7 On the south side, metallating 167 (Fig. 6), cut by the footings of Guildhall wall 115, appeared to be relatively early in the sequence. Composed of dark grey gritty loam with very frequent small flint

pebbles and crushed chalk, it exhibited a particularly well-formed surface, standing at around 4.62m OD. Only a small area was exposed and most of the deposits above it had been removed by a modern pipe trench (F. 111).

10.8 Latest pre-Guildhall metalling, 138 (Figs 7, 12, 44 & 54)

In the central part of Area 1, surface 138 appeared to be latest in the sequence of pre-Guildhall metallings (Figs 7, 12 & 44). Heavily cut about by later features, this surface survived across an area measuring about 3.60m (E–W) by 2.00m (N–S). It was cut by Guildhall pier base 146 and also perhaps 152, whilst Wall 116 of the Phase 2 Guildhall works appeared to be built directly off its surface (Fig. 12, Section 8). In terms of composition, the layer consisted of a very frequent large flint cobbles and large rounded greensand lumps with smaller pebbles between, all set into a compact dark grey sandy loam. On the eastern side, this layer was partially bedded on a thin levelling layer of mottled olive-yellow sand (Fig. 14, Section 11, Context 122). The make-up of the metalling itself produced a small collection of finds, including fragments of peg-tile, red brick, animal bone and a sherd of residual Roman pottery.

10.9 Area 2

The earliest metallated surface revealed in Area 2 was Context 217, a small area of which was exposed in a sondage on the east side, at a depth of about 1.33m below present pavement level (at 4.30m OD). It consisted of a 0.05–0.10m thick deposit of dirty sand and beach shingle exhibiting a well-defined trodden surface (Figs 3, 15 & 16, Sections 4 & 13; Fig. 46). Its make-up produced a single potsherd, but this is of later post-medieval date and clearly intrusive.

10.10 Conclusions on early marketplace metallings

In general, the early metallings exposed (Figs 3 and 6) seem to have mostly comprised localised patches of material rather than continuous deposits. The overall impression gained was that many of these surfaces dipped gently down to the east. Such details, together with the damage caused by subsequent intrusions, made it very difficult to equate the various surfaces revealed across the excavated areas. Resting directly over cemetery soil layers 157, 168 and grave F. 124, metallated surfaces 102 and 156 appeared to be the primary ones in the exposed sequence within Area 1 (Fig. 6). A little further north-east in the same Area, surface 173 was also early in the sequence but whether it was a primary metalling layer was not ascertained.

10.11 Datable finds were sparse, and a general absence of domestic rubbish incorporated into or lying upon, these metallated layers implies that the entire area was carefully cleared of such debris on a regular basis. However, a soil make-up layer (Context 172) located between metallated surfaces 163 and 173 (Section 11) produced some twenty sherds of glazed medieval pottery, dated to c. AD 1250–1350. This provides some important dating evidence for the sequence of metallings within Area 1 and clearly indicates a medieval date for them. A collection of marine shells found lying on surface 163 may have been deliberately dumped (Context 166).

11. Period 4, Guildhall remains

11.1 Portions of substantial masonry located in Area 1 were readily identifiable as being parts of the former Guildhall building erected in 1606 (Figs 4, 8, 9, 40 & 54). The exposed remains appeared to constitute the north-eastern corner of a larger structure extending away to the south and west (Fig. 4). At least two successive phases of development appeared to be resented by the masonry (Phase 1 & Phase 2, see below).

11.2 Assigned to Phase 1 are three large pier bases (Fig. 8, Piers 101/142, 152 & 146), each of which probably originally supported a timber column along the northern side of the building. Substantial

Pier 146 appeared to represent the base for the north-east corner post of the structure but subsequently this was covered by masonry footings, Walls 115 and 116, which have been assigned to Phase 2 of the Guildhall structure (Fig. 9).

Phase 1 structural remains

11.3 Pier base 101/142

11.3.1 This pier was partially exposed at the extreme western end of Area 1, cut through by the base of the modern fountain (Figs 8, 9 & 48). The full dimensions could not be determined but it seemed to be about 1.32m (E–W) by at least 0.80 m (N–S).

11.3.2 Set into a square construction pit (F. 141) at least 0.33m deep and cut through earlier metallurgy deposits (Fig. 45, see above), at the centre of the base lay a very large, dressed stone of hard grey shelly sandstone/limestone. This was 0.88m across and 0.13m thick. Its surface stood at 4.78m OD and no doubt the block originally served as the central pad-stone for the timber column above.

11.3.3 The central pad-stone (Context 140) was surrounded in the construction pit by an outer base of large, mortared flint nodules, flint cobbles and greensand lumps, all set in a pale grey lime mortar containing moderate quantities of chalk/lime grits and moderate amounts of small brown flint pebbles 101/142). Two small fragments of Roman brick/tile had also been incorporated.

11.4 Pier base 152

11.4.1 The truncated base of this pier (Figs 8, 9 & 49) survived below the bottom of modern pipe trench F. 111, about 2.00m east of pier 101/142. It was set directly into a sub-rectangular construction pit that was only slightly larger than the base itself (F. 169).

11.4.2 The pier base measured about 1.17 (N–S) by 1.06m (E–W) and as surviving, was at least 0.15m deep. It comprised a central greensand base slab about 0.45m across, surrounded by two courses (minimum) of large, rounded flint nodules and greensand lumps, all set in a soft pale grey mortar containing moderate quantities of chalk/lime grit and occasional charcoal specks.

11.4.3 As with pier 101/142, the central slab most probably served as the padstone for the timber column above. Its surface lay at 4.48m, about 0.30m lower than that of 101/142.

11.5 Pier base 146

11.5.1 This lay some 1.50m east of pier 152, at the north-eastern corner of the Guildhall structure, as defined by later wall foundations 115 and 116 (Figs 8, 13, 50–53). There are hints that this pier base may not have been precisely contemporary with the other two recorded (see further below).

11.5.2 Apparently cutting in from the top of cobble metallurgy layer 138 (see above), the full dimensions of the pier base were not established until the two subsequent walls were removed at the end of the excavation. Once cleared, it became apparent that the pier was rectangular in plan, built directly into a construction pit (F. 159) of the same size, to produce a base with a fairly rough outline.

11.5.3 Clipped by pipe trench F. 114 along the south side, the overall dimensions of pier 146 were about 1.56m (E–W) by 1.12m (N–S). The base was up 0.75m thick and its surviving surface lay at

4.85m OD. Unlike the other two piers, no large central padstone for the column above was apparent anywhere in this base.

11.5.4 The pier base was constructed from roughly coursed layers of rounded flint nodules (70%), greensand lumps, occasional chalk blocks and tufa blocks, all set in a loose cream-white gritty mortar containing frequent small brown flint grits, some pebbles and moderate amounts of small chalk/lime fragments. This mortar is somewhat different in character to that used in the other two piers, which is perhaps significant.

11.5.5 Although reduced by subsequent machine work (Figs 52 & 53) the bottom of the pier should survive below the formation level of the building work.

11.6 Discussion of the pier bases

11.6.1 The three pier bases discovered (Fig. 8) do not seem to neatly hold together as a single group of contemporary features, with probable corner pier 146 standing out as being somewhat different to the other two. In addition to being slightly larger and deeper than bases 101/142 and 152, the top of pier 146 also stood higher than the other two, employed a different mortar type and lacked any large central padstone (Figs 52 & 53).

11.6.2 Although some of the constructional differences noted might reflect the fact that this base related to a corner rather than an interval pier, the observed variations may be significant and could imply that this pier base is not of the same date as the others (see further in Discussion).

Phase 2 remains

11.7 Two continuous wall foundations joining at a right-angle (Fig. 9, Walls 115 and 116) ran across the top of Phase 1 pier base 146. These are clearly of a later date and must relate to a significant alteration to the Guildhall structure at some stage.

11.8 The East wall, 115

11.8.1 Aligned roughly north–south, the east foundation of the Guildhall was traced for a distance of about 3.75m from the north-east corner, continuing beyond the excavation limit to the south (Fig. 9). The walling within the excavation had been severely damaged by two modern pipe trenches (Fs 111 & 114), of which F. 114 had been tunneled through the structure (Figs 2 & 50).

11.8.2 The full thickness of the wall was preserved at only two points, where it was between 0.90m and 1.11m across, including a low-level offset 0.10 – 0.23m wide. The wall survived to a height of between 0.30 and 0.85m (min.) and in the south face of the excavation reached to within 0.50m of the modern pavement. The deepest part of the foundation was in the southern section; the base here was not reached but it was below 4.80m OD. Further north, it rose up, over the top of earlier pier base 146 (see above).

11.8.3 The surviving wall was constructed from ten–eleven courses of greensand lumps, flint nodules and flint cobbles, with occasional chalk lumps and tufa lumps, all set in a pale grey-white lime mortar containing frequent quantities of chalk/lime grits, occasional small, rounded brown flint grits. In the deeper southern section, the lowest courses were only poorly mortared and seemed to constitute a sub-foundation.

11.9 *The North Wall, 116*

11.9.1 Aligned roughly east–west, the north foundation of the Guildhall was traced for about 2.75m from the north-east corner (Fig. 9), after which it been completely destroyed by subsequent service trenches (Fs 111 & 114) and the cut for the 1980s fountain. Nor did the full width of the wall survive and it was apparent that most of the south face and core had been removed by some ill-defined cut, seemingly additional to Fs 111 and 114. The junction with Wall 115 had been further damaged by another pipe trench, F. 145 (Figs 12 & 54).

11.9.2 The full thickness of the wall was preserved only at its junction with Wall 115, where it was 1.28m across (Fig. 9). It seems possible that this substantial width may have originally been reduced further out from the corner, but nothing survived to confirm the point, with the maximum width remaining at the western end being just 0.55m.

11.9.3 In detail, the surviving wall was of very similar construction to adjoining Wall 115, composed of three courses of greensand lumps, flint nodules and flint cobbles, with occasional chalk lumps and tufa lumps, all set in a pale grey-white lime mortar containing frequent quantities of chalk/lime grits, moderate amounts of small, rounded brown flint grits and very occasional charcoal specks. A few small fragments of peg-tile had also been incorporated but of more interest were two pieces of round wood (at least 30mm dia.) found encased within the mortar. These were fairly well preserved, being impregnated with the lime from the mortar and perhaps represented the original builders' marker- or levelling pegs.

11.9.4 The wall survived to height of between 0.25 and 0.50m and at the eastern end ran over the top of earlier pier base, 146 to connect with Wall 115 (Fig. 12). There was no clear distinction between wall and foundation and no associated foundation trench could be identified. As seen on site, the wall appeared to have been built directly off the surface of cobble metalling layer 138. Externally, at one point along the base on the northern side a mortar fillet, some 0.12m thick (Context 150) seemed to represent builders' mortar droppings associated with the original construction of the wall. This mortar deposit also lay on the surface of metalling 138 again implying that this cobbling was exposed when the wall was built (Fig. 54).

11.10 *Discussion of Phase 2 walls*

11.10.1 Oversailing the top pier base 146 assigned to Phase 1 (see above), wall foundations 115 and 116 are clearly indicative of some major changes later made to this part of the Guildhall structure. Joining at a right-angle, their general construction is similar, and they appear to be contemporary, whilst their substantial stone construction indicates that they were intended to support a considerable load and that they extended for some distance above the ground surface.

11.10.2 The implication would seem to be that at the north-east corner, an originally open east side of the building, together with part of its north side had subsequently been fully enclosed by masonry walls. Such a conclusion would seem to be confirmed by a mid-nineteenth century picture of the town pump (Fig. 33), located adjacent to the north-east corner of the Guildhall on the east. Here, this part of the building is shown as being built of solid masonry walling, pierced by a single, round-headed archway. Four of the columns along the north wall beyond may be seen through this archway.

11.10.3 Earlier pictures of the Guildhall dated 1788, 1822 and 1835, however, all show the north elevation of the building as having an entirely open side at ground level with the upper hall supported by five evenly spaced columns (Fig. 25–27). This might suggest that the excavated walls

were relatively late in date, but the general style of their construction and the mortar type employed does not really support such a view.

Phase 3 remains

11.11 Brick structure 151

11.11.1 At some later date, a small brick structure (151) had been butted onto the outside face of Wall 116, close to its junction with Wall 115 (Figs 9, 54 & 55). The function of this structure was not entirely clear, but it apparently represented a minor addition made to the main building sometime prior to its demolition in 1861.

11.11.2 Subsequently cut away on its eastern side by a later service trench (F. 145), as seen in the excavation, structure 151 consisted of a rectangular brick base measuring at least 0.66m (E–W) by 0.35m (N–S), some 0.20m thick (2 courses; Fig. 55). This was set into a construction pit (F. 170) that had cut the mortar construction fillet (Context 150) associated with the original building of Wall 116 (see above; Fig. 54).

11.11.3 The main brick base was surmounted by a smaller upper pier or buttress, measuring 0.31m (E–W, min.) by 0.18m (N–S) and standing to a height of 0.20m (three courses). From what remained, this appeared to be solid and butted directly against the face of Wall 116.

11.11.4 The five courses of bricks forming the structure were all set in a soft cream-white sandy mortar containing moderate quantities of chalk/lime grits and occasional rounded flint grits. The bricks, themselves, were all unfrogged reds and consisted mostly of broken half and three-quarter fragments rather than complete bricks. One or two pieces of probable ‘Dutch’ brick had been included in the construction but there was no clear dating; on general grounds a broad, eighteenth century may be tentatively suggested.

11.11.5 Sometime after its construction but before the cutting of service trench F. 145, a small, localized dump of broken mathematical tile was deposited against the northern face of the upper pier (Context 104). This deposit was about 0.12m thick, and fairly certainly is derived from the demolition of the Guildhall building, which is known to have been clad with such tiles (see above). A copper nail recovered from the same deposit was quite possibly originally used to affix the tiles.

11.11.6 Although damaged along one side, the surviving remains of structure 151 appeared to represent almost its full extent, implying that it represented no more than some minor addition, rather than part of a larger extension. An engraving of the Guildhall building dated 1835 (but not earlier illustrations) shows a rainwater downpipe on the wall at this location (Fig. 27) and it seems just possible that structure 151 represents the base of this. If so, the upper part of the surviving brick structure appeared to be solid rather than forming a lined catch pit and no waste pipe extending away from it was evident in the excavation. This, together with the fairly substantial construction may argue against such an interpretation; perhaps this base formed some sort of external reinforcing buttress.

12. Period 5, Post-Guildhall metallings and services

12.1 A somewhat patchy sequence of post-Guildhall construction metallated surfaces, interleaved with make-up layers, was recorded. Many of these surfaces, like their predecessors, were composed of consolidated beach shingle in sandy soil. Bavington Jones (1907) notes that in the late eighteenth- and early nineteenth century, the Dover Paving Commissioners were empowered to take stones and

shingle from the beach for paving in the town. The latest surfaces identified in the excavation, however, were of asphalt, with traces of the immediately pre-1980s tarmac noted at several points.

12.2 Cutting into various eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century metalled surfaces in Area 2, three post-holes (Fs 236, 239 & 250) and a stake hole (F. 248) were recorded (Figs 3, 16 & 47). These perhaps relate to temporary market stalls, animal pens or pieces of street furniture that once occurred in this area.

A whole series of nineteenth- and twentieth century services, several still live, had cut through the higher metallings, causing a significant amount of damage (Figs 2, 3, 40 & 41, etc.). The most extensive service runs were exposed in Area 1, south-east of the of the old fountain site, where three major trenches were located (Fig. 2, Fs 107, 111 & 114).

12.3 According to Miss Horsley (c. 1902, 5), the marketplace was one of the first parts of the town to be lit with gas. This was provided by the Dovor (*sic*) Gas Light Company from its Trevanion Street works below Castle Hill, established in 1822. During the excavations several shallow trenches containing highly corroded and long disused iron pipes were located. It seems likely that at least some of these were connected with the early gas supply to the area, whilst a larger, modern gas main of yellow plastic and still live, curtailed work in the south-eastern corner of Area 1.

12.4 Brick barrel-vaulted drain culvert, F. 107

12.4.1 Following its discovery in a small sondage during the evaluation trenching (Parfitt 2021, F. 40), an intact barrel-vaulted drain culvert (Context 105) buried at a depth of just over 1.00m below pavement level and now disused, was traced for distance of about 5.0m across Area 1. Set within a vertical-sided trench (F. 107), it was aligned roughly north-west by south-east. The line extended below the former fountain base, with the continuation located in Area 2, giving an overall recorded length of at least 15 metres.

12.4.2 The drain was around 0.55m in diameter, constructed of yellow stock bricks set in a hard dark grey gritty mortar containing occasional chalk and coal specks. The construction trench was cut through a series of earlier metallings and associated make-up layers.

12.4.3 In Area 2, the continuation of the same drain was revealed in the south-western corner of the excavation (Context 219). Here it was abutted by an inspection chamber of red brick and capped over with large stone slabs (Context 240), clearly added at a later date, but still at a time when the drain was in regular use (Figs 3 & 58).

12.4.4 The inspection chamber was rectangular in shape with internal dimensions of 1.30m (NE–SW) by 0.60m (NW–SE) but was not fully excavated. It had been partially exposed during the preceding evaluation, when it was incorrectly interpreted as a drain culvert (Parfitt 2021, 6.2).

12.4.5 Although there was no firm dating evidence, the general construction and stratigraphic position of this drain suggests that it was constructed sometime during the nineteenth century.

12.5 Brick base with piers (Context 119) (Figs 9, 10 & 57)

12.5.1 In Area 1 a substantial stepped brick base (Fig. 9, Context 119) was located immediately east of the north-east corner of the Guildhall foundation. Butted against the Guildhall footing and set in a broad construction pit (F. 121), this base was largely intact but had been clipped by a later pipe trench along the southern side (F. 114).

12.5.2 The base was rectangular in shape and measured a minimum of 0.64m (N–S) by 0.54m (E–W). It was 0.23m in height and supported two smaller piers set on the north and south sides, some 0.14m apart (Figs 10 & 57). The base, itself was constructed from three courses of frogged yellow stock bricks set in a hard light grey sandy mortar and was clearly of nineteenth century date.

12.5.3 The two smaller piers, set on top of the base, were also of mortared yellow stock brick and were clearly contemporary with the main base. They were each three courses high (0.23m). The south pier was 0.23m square, whilst the north pier measured 0.23m (E–W) by 0.18m (N–S). There was no clear indication as to what these piers originally supported and rough mortar on their tops suggested that they had been truncated in height.

12.5.4 *Discussion of 119*

The 1851 Board of Health map (Fig. 28) marks a water pump at precisely the spot occupied by brick base 119 and on this evidence, it seems highly likely that the base, with its two piers, represents the foundation to this once important local amenity (Fig. 33). If the excavated structure does represent the foundation of the pump, there was no evidence of any well below to supply the water, as was originally anticipated. The base rested upon undisturbed stratified deposits without any evidence of an intake pipe at the levels surviving (Fig. 10, Section 5).

12.6 Brick culvert capped with stone slabs (Context 108) (Figs 9, 11 & 56)

12.6.1 A short distance to the south of brick base 119 was a brick lined drainage culvert capped with large York stone slabs (Context 108). If it is accepted that the nearby base supported the Market pump, this culvert quite possibly constituted an overflow channel taking wastewater away from that pump. Unfortunately, the relationship between the two structures had been destroyed by later pipe trench F. 114, so that the point cannot be certain.

12.6.2 The culvert survived for only a short length, about 1.68m, being cut away at either end by later pipe trenches (Fs 114 and 111). Where undamaged, the structure consisted of a vertical sided brick lined channel with a rounded base, capped over by large stone slabs about 0.05m thick. Internally, the culvert measured 0.26m wide and 0.25m high (Fig. 11, Section 7). The base of the channel lay at about 4.90m OD.

12.6.3 In terms of construction, the culvert was built from frogged yellow stock bricks (with occasional reds) set in a grey gritty mortar containing moderate quantities of chalk/lime and coal specks (Fig. 56). From the general construction, it may be suggested that this culvert was broadly contemporary with base 119.

13. Finds (Figs 60 & 61; Tables 2 & 3)

13.1 The quantity of material recovered from the excavations was relatively small. Limited assemblages of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, roofing tile, mathematical tile, blue-grey roofing slate, animal bone and marine shell were recovered, together with a small collection of residual Roman finds. This material has been processed and catalogued according to standard Canterbury Archaeological Trust procedures. The material will be transferred to Dover Museum in due course. Short notes on the main types of material collected appear below.

13.2 Metalwork

13.2.1 Copper alloy

Six copper alloy objects were recovered. Three of these are copper nails (SFs 3–5), all perhaps representing fixings that once held the mathematical tile cladding of the Guildhall in place. The other three items are small, corroded discs (SFs 2, 6 & 11). Limited investigative cleaning established that each of these represented a button rather than a coin or token.

13.2.2 Iron

There are eight heavily corroded pieces of iron which all probably represent the remains of iron nails. Four of these came from Context 117, a mixed soil layer in Area 1, where the longest is a probable nail shaft 65mm in length (SF 7).

13.3 Pottery (Tables 2 & 3)

13.3.1 The excavations produced a total of just 89 sherds of pottery (421g), spread throughout nineteen separate contexts within Areas 1 and 2 (Table 2). Much of this material is post-medieval in date, with some medieval sherds and a few Roman pieces (Table 3). There are no major groups, and all the material appears to be residual to some degree. Just over a third of the assemblage is unstratified. Twenty-two sherds of medieval ware recovered stratified between early metalled surfaces in Area 1 (Context 172) are perhaps the most important for dating purposes.

13.3.2 Almost half the assemblage comprises glazed chinawares (42 sherds), much of it blue and white decorated in general nineteenth century ‘willow pattern’ style. There are also five sherds of stoneware. One unstratified piece from Area 2 (Context 200) is recognisable as a rim fragment from a sixteenth- or seventeenth century Bellarmine jug. An unstratified handle fragment from Area 1 might be from a similar vessel but the other pieces appear to be nineteenth century.

13.3.3 There are three sherds of tin-glazed earthenware (‘Delft ware’), two of which are unstratified (Context 103). A small rim sherd comes from a levelling layer in Area 2 (Context 209) and implies a sixteenth or seventeenth century date for this deposit.

13.3.4 There are thirty pieces of medieval sandy ware, although three are unstratified. The largest group of stratified material came from soil make-up layer Context 172, between early metalling deposits in Area 1. This deposit produced twenty-two sherds from a sparsely glazed medieval jug of Canterbury Tyler Hill ware, datable to c. AD 1250–1350 (with an emphasis towards the earlier fourteenth century; Luke Barber *pers com.*). The material provides some important dating evidence for the sequence of metallings within Area 1 and suggests that the earliest surfaces were in place by c.1300, if not earlier. An overlying deposit (Context 164) produced four more medieval sherds, one or two of which appear to be from the same vessel as those in Context 172.

	China/ porcelain	Stoneware	Earthenware (tin glazed)	Earthenware (red-brown)	Medieval sandy ware	Roman/prob. Roman	Total
Area 1	25	4	2	2	28	6	67
Area 2	17	1	1	1	2	0	22
Total	42	5	3	3	30	6	89

Table 2 Breakdown of pottery by fabric

13.3.5 In Area 2, a levelling deposit of sandy beach shingle (Context 214) produced a single sherd of heavily water-rolled medieval pottery. This had clearly been scooped up from the foreshore with the other material, having probably been in the sea for some time. Similar water-rolled sherds were

recovered from the Townwall Street excavations and clearly imply that medieval domestic rubbish was being regularly dumped into the sea (Parfitt *et al* 2006, 407), with some material subsequently becoming incorporated in the make-up of the beach.

13.3.6 Half a dozen sherds, all from Area 1, are certainly or probably Roman in date. Given the general location of the site (see above) this is unsurprising. Identifiable wares include a large wall sherd of red colour-coated Oxfordshire-type ware (Context 118) and two pieces of dark grey-black colour-coated beaker, perhaps of Nene Valley or New Forest ware (Contexts 118 & 138). A tiny fragment from early metalling layer 100 in Area 1 appears to be burnt samian ware.

13.4 Vessel glass

13.4.1 Seven pieces of vessel glass were recovered from the excavations (70g), all from Area 1. Five of these are unstratified (Context 103), with another from a general mixed soil layer covering the stratified sequence (Context 117) and one from the filling of modern pipe trench F. 114 (Context 113). Three pieces are plain featureless fragments of dark olive-green bottle glass broadly datable to the eighteenth or nineteenth century, whilst three more plain fragments of pale green–white glass probably fall within a similar date-range.

13.4.2 The only featured fragment consists of the rim and neck of a small medicine bottle from Context 103, in clear pale blue-green glass. This has a simple flanged lip and is probably datable to the nineteenth century.

13.5 Clay tobacco pipe

13.5.1 Thirty-eight fragments of clay tobacco pipe (86g) were recovered from eleven different contexts during the excavation of Areas 1 and 2; most came from Area 1. The fragments mainly comprise small pieces of broken stem, ranging in length between 15 and 75mm. Amongst them are three or four fragments whose overall thickness and wide bore diameter suggest that they are relatively early, probably seventeenth century, but the remainder are likely to be later.

13.5.2 Three stem fragments include the spur and the start of the bowl. All the spurs appear to bear maker's initials or marks but not all are clearly legible. One 47mm long stem fragment (unstratified Area 1, Context 103), with attached spur and the start of the bowl has a raised acorn and oakleaf design, with the name Hambro[ok] incorporated into it. Initials on the spur are less clear but are more probably symbols rather than letters. The Hambrooks were a well-known Dover pipe-making family, active from 1780 to 1881. The decoration on the stem would suggest a nineteenth century date for this piece. A second marked spur from Context 103 is completely illegible, whilst a marked spur from Context 222 appears to read B S.

13.5.3 There is just one complete pipe bowl in the assemblage, from Area 2 (Context 222; SF 1), with another about half complete from Area 1 (Context 113). The complete bowl is about 20mm in diameter, 40mm high and weighs 10 grams. Stylistically, the form would seem to be later eighteenth- to nineteenth century in date. The spur is marked H B which could be Hatton Brown, pipe-maker in Dover from 1829. The broken bowl appears to be of broadly eighteenth-century type. The spur carries the maker's initials but only the right-hand letter is legible – 'B'. Conceivably, this was B Boswell, a pipe-maker working in Dover in 1752 (Boyden 2015).

13.5.4 Although of limited research value in their own right, the small assemblage of pipes from the 2021 excavations add to the growing corpus of such material now available from Dover. It is to be hoped that the present material can one day contribute to a more general study of the clay tobacco

pipes from the whole town, but at this stage no further study of the present material seems warranted.

13.6 Glazed floor tile

Three small pieces of thick glazed tile from Area 1 seem to represent floor tile rather than roof tile (see below). All the pieces consist of a coarse sandy medieval fabric with orange surfaces and a grey core. Traces of thin orange-brown glaze occur on one side. The pieces are all likely to derive from a single tile between 14 and 17mm in thickness.

13.7 Mathematical tile (Figs 60 & 61)

13.7.1 Vertically hung, mathematical tiles (or 'brick' tiles) were cleverly designed to imitate brickwork. Their exposed lower, brick-shaped section, was thicker than the upper section which would slide under the overlapping tile above and so be hidden, leaving apparent rows of bricks visible. The tiles were held in place by nails through the upper section, driven into laths of wood behind.

13.7.2 Two small deposits of fragmentary mathematical tile were found at the north-eastern corner of the old Guildhall in Area 1. One of these deposits was excavated during the evaluation works (Parfitt 2021, Context 57; Figs 60 & 61) but the second (Context 104) lay about 1.00m further west and was not revealed until the main excavation was undertaken (Context 104; 21 pieces). This deposit abutted brick structure 151 on its northern side (see above, Phase 3). Further tile fragments of this type were collected as unstratified material scattered across Area 1 (14 pieces).

13.7.3 In addition to the two incomplete pieces retained from the evaluation (Fig. 60), a total of thirty-five fragments of mathematical tile were collected from Area 1 of main excavations (3.24kg). These are all broken pieces, with no complete specimens or conjoining fragments. Inspection shows that all the pieces recovered are of the same form and fabric, and probably of the same dimensions, although lack of any complete specimens prevents this latter point from being confirmed. Most of the fragments recovered show traces of at least one original edge, with the area of breakage often occurring at the junction of the upper and lower sections where the thickness of the tile reduces by half.

13.7.4 The exposed lower portion of each tile, imitating the individual brick face, measured 64mm high and at least 156mm long. The upper portion of the tile was at least 88mm high with a nail hole set about 60mm above the junction with the lower portion. Ten examples of nail hole were recorded. These were generally sub-circular in shape, 8–10mm across. One has the remains of an iron nail *in situ* and another has traces of green copper corrosion around it, implying the use of copper nails to secure some tiles. Two loose 50mm long, square-sectioned copper nails also recovered from Context 104 seem to confirm this point (see above).

13.7.5 In detail, the fabric of all the mathematical tiles consists of a hard pale yellow-cream fine sandy fabric, sometimes with a pinkish core. The exposed faces (preserved on 18 fragments) invariably show a grey weathered/discoloured surface, in contrast to the fresh creamy colours of the originally hidden upper portions. Traces of white mortar 'pointing' still surviving along the edges of one of the pieces recovered from the evaluation was readily apparent (Figs 60 & 61), but there are no similar occurrences in the material subsequently collected.

13.7.6 Mathematical tiles were used extensively on buildings across South-East England, particularly in Kent and Sussex, throughout the eighteenth- and early nineteenth-centuries (Exwood 1987). It is

specifically recorded that such tiles were hung on the outside of the Guildhall at Dover during the eighteenth century (see above).

13.7.7 Although of no very special architectural significance *per se*, such tiles are not commonly seen in the buildings of old Dover, and the specific association of the present specimens with the remains of Dover's Guildhall, where it is recorded that they were once employed, makes this particular assemblage of more interest locally.

13.7.8 When first hung on Dover's Guildhall these tiles must have given it a distinctive yellowish hue but weathering over time seems to have altered this colour to a somewhat more drab, dirty grey. In relation to the quantity of mathematical tiles that must have originally been attached to the Guildhall building, the amount recovered from the excavations is very small. This suggests that many others had been removed from the site during the demolition process, perhaps for re-use elsewhere.

13.8 Clay roofing tile

13.8.1 A total of ninety-two pieces of clay roofing tile was recovered during the excavations (4.53kg), scattered across fourteen separate contexts in Areas 1 and 2. The largest number of pieces came from a general soil layer in Area 1 (Context 117, 38 fragments), with two broken fragments built into the wall of the Guildhall itself (Context 116).

13.8.2 All the material seems to represent broken peg-tile of well-known type but the assemblage is somewhat fragmentary with no complete specimens. The tile fabrics are generally hard; most pieces are orange-red in colour, with a few over-fired fragments having darker surfaces and grey cores.

13.8.3 Nine fragments preserve peg/nail holes. These are generally sub-square in shape, between 8 and 15mm across. Around half the pieces show traces of adhering white mortar on their underside. A post-medieval date for much of the material is suggested by the stratigraphic sequence but the pieces from Contexts 163, 166, 214, 215 and 246 are more likely to belong to the later medieval period.

13.9 Roman tile and brick

13.9.1 A total of fifteen pieces of tile and brick recovered from the excavations, mostly in Area 1, are Roman (2.32kg). All are fragmentary with no complete specimens represented. None carry the familiar CLBR stamp of the *Classis Britannica*, of which around 1000 examples have now been found in Dover. Most pieces are in hard orange-red sandy fabrics but two lighter-coloured fragments showing streaks, lenses and swirls of creamy white clay are probably examples of the quite distinctive *Classis Britannica* Fabric 2 tiles, produced from the Fairlight clays of the Wealden district (Peacock 1977).

13.9.2 Less than half the fragments are identifiable to type: *imbrex*, 5 pieces; *tegula*, 2 fragments (one with cut-away partially surviving). One of the pieces identified as *imbrex* is very heavily water-rolled and must have spent a considerable period on the foreshore before being transported to the site amongst beach material brought in as levelling (Context 214; this layer also produced a piece of water-worn medieval pottery, see above). The remaining eight pieces are uncertain. A crisscross scored tile in probable *Classis Britannica* Fabric 2 seems too thick to represent part of a box flue tile.

13.9.3 As with the Roman pottery found, the occurrence of Roman brick and tile fragments in this area of Dover is to be expected (see above). Traces of apparently post-medieval mortar adhering to a couple of the fragments implies that they had been re-used in subsequent structures.

13.10 *Blue-grey roofing slate*

13.10.1 Twenty-three pieces of blue-grey (non-Welsh) roofing slate (1153g) came from eight separate contexts, mostly in Area 2. There are no complete specimens. The largest fragments, from Context 232 and 237, measure 105 x 92mm and 110 x 85mm, respectively. Thicknesses range between 5 and 10mm. Most pieces are featureless, but four or five fragments retain portions of at least one original edge. A piece from Context 214 has an original square nail hole, 9mm across.

13.10.2 All the slate recovered from the excavations is likely to derive from south-west England or possibly Belgium, rather than North Wales, and be of later medieval date. Such material is not uncommon in Dover, with medieval roofing slates first reaching the town in the thirteenth century (Rix and Dunning 1955, 152–3). It is clear that the present material has been brought in from elsewhere, along with other demolition rubble, as make-up and levelling material. Thick mortar adhering to several pieces readily confirms the re-used nature of this broken slate.

13.11 *Other building material*

13.11.1 *Burnt daub*

Four pieces of burnt daub came for the filling (Context 228) of possible beam slot, F. 231 in Area 2. All consist of an orange-brown silty clay containing sparse to moderate chalk grits. The largest daub fragment is 50mm in thickness with one smoothed outer face and traces of a rounded wattle mark opposite. Two of the smaller pieces also exhibit traces of a flat outer face.

13.11.2 *Brick*

Two fragments of brick were retained from the excavations. A small, shapeless, nondescript fragment (44g) from Context 163 in Area 1 cannot be assigned to any specific date. A larger piece of early brick came from Context 237 in Area 2. This is of a hard, pale yellow fabric with dimensions of:

L = 145mm (min.)

W = 95mm (min.)

Th = 47mm

This piece is likely to be of late medieval date, and if not an import, was quite possibly made at Sandwich.

13.11.3 *Plaster*

A single piece of plaster was recovered from Context 157 in Area 1. This consists of a fragment (72g) of coarse white plaster with flint pebbles, some 26mm thick. It is surfaced with a 1mm thick layer of dark maroon plaster, probably waterproofing. There is some impression that the fragment may have been scorched and slightly discoloured. With little doubt this plaster is Roman, derived from some masonry building in the vicinity.

13.11.4 *Carved stone*

Context 215 in Area 2 produced a single piece of carved stone. This is of Caen stone, with a shaped triangular cross-section. It clearly represents part of a larger architectural fragment and its face exhibits one carefully tooled rounded corner. There seems little doubt that this piece is derived from some nearby medieval stone building, with either St Peter's or St Martin's church the most obvious possibilities.

13.12 *Animal bone*

13.12.1 A total of sixty-five pieces of animal bone (593g) was recovered, mostly in small amounts from twelve contexts scattered across Areas 1 and 2. The bulk of the material came from Area 1, where rough metalling layer 138 incorporated almost half the total assemblage within its make-up.

13.12.2 The collection is somewhat mixed and comminuted, which seems largely consistent with scattered and casually derived debris rather than specifically dumped waste brought straight from meat processing areas. Identifiable pieces include a dog jaw, a cattle metacarpal, and a piece of sawn (?) antler, together with several rib fragments. At least five pieces show traces of butchery and knife-cut marks. No fish bones were identified.

13.12.3 The potential of this small assemblage to provide any useful information concerning meat sales and consumption in Dover's marketplace seems minimal. Most of the material is likely to represent butchery and kitchen waste derived from elsewhere in the town and the collection overall appears too fragmentary and imprecisely dated to be directly relevant to any considerations concerning activities at the market itself.

13.13 *Marine shell*

13.13.1 Thirty-two marine shells were retained from six separate contexts within the excavations (448g). The bulk are oyster shells, with occasional specimens of whelk (2), cockle (1) and limpet (2). The largest collection of oyster shell (n=24) came from Context 166 in Area 1. This deposit appears to incorporate occupation debris spread across the surface of metalling layer 163. Fragmentary mussel shell was noted in the same layer but could not be salvaged.

13.13.2 The shells found in layer 166 could represent discarded waste from some nearby late medieval market stall selling oysters and mussels. In contrast, the material from the remaining contexts would seem to represent nothing more than casual stray pieces occurring in a densely occupied part of the old town.

14. Interpretation of the excavated remains

14.1 The present programme of archaeological investigations undertaken in the centre of Dover's Market Square represent the only formal excavations ever to have taken place in this important locality within the historic town (Fig. 19). Although the full sequence of stratified deposits here could not be investigated, the work undertaken has provided important information concerning activity in the area during the late medieval and post-medieval periods. No Roman levels were reached.

14.2 The discovery of mortared stone piers and foundations relating to the lost early seventeenth century Guildhall (Fig. 8) is of some considerable interest and helps to physically locate this lost structure within the modern townscape. The cartographic, documentary and archaeological evidence now all seem to confirm that this large building went through several stages of expansion and development (Fig. 4).

14.3 The pre-Guildhall metalling surfaces recorded suggest that the marketplace had been metalling over well before the early seventeenth century (Fig. 6), whilst the undisturbed grave located below the metallings confirms the long-held idea that the present market square was developed from part of the old graveyard of St Martin-le-Grand church (Fig. 5).

14.4 Pre-Guildhall activity: from graveyard to marketplace

14.4.1 The date at which the eastern part of the cemetery of St Martin's church was paved over to create what continues to be the town's marketplace must remain uncertain. Maps of the sixteenth century suggest that the process had been completed by then. On the present, somewhat limited archaeological evidence, it may be suggested that the area was surfaced by the fourteenth century, but further research is required.

14.4.2 The former churchyard of St Martin-le-Grand

The overall limits of the eastern cemetery area of St Martin le Grand are not entirely certain and its boundary is not known in any detail. That it extended below parts of what is today the Market Square is indicated by previous discoveries of human remains made here, notably in the south-western quarter of the Square, as previously recorded by Mary Horsley (c. 1902, 3); George Victor (1989, 130) and Parfitt (2020, see above).

14.4.3 It seems possible that the east wall of the late Roman Shore fort formed the eastern boundary of the cemetery area (Fig. 5) but no trace of this structure was located during the excavation and its precise line remains uncertain.

14.4.4 The grave containing *in situ* bones located during 2021 in the central part of Area 1 (F. 124) is of some significance as providing a precise fixed point for the extent of the burial area. The skeleton itself would seem to have lain some 19 metres east of the east end St Martin's church (Fig. 5).

14.4.5 Work in Area 2 failed to reveal any further burials, nothing of the lost medieval church of St Peter's nor the northern frontage to the old marketplace, suggesting that this frontage lay further to the north. What was exposed in Area 2 was a sequence of metalled surfaces which must fall on the line of the early thoroughfare which skirted the northern edge of the marketplace to connect with Cannon Street, Church Street and King Street (and after 1837, Castle Street).

14.4.6 Early marketplace metalling

Sealing the grave and cemetery soils, a continuous sequence of metalled surfaces, interleaved with make-up layers were recorded in both Areas 1 and 2. These ranged in date from late medieval times through to the nineteenth century and totalled around one metre in overall thickness. The earliest surfaces were buried at depths of 1.00 – 1.50m below modern pavement level, with, at least six successive surfaces in Area 1 pre-dating the construction of the Guildhall (Fig. 6). The earliest metallings seemed to comprise localised patches of material rather than continuous deposits. Datable material was sparse and a general absence of domestic rubbish within the metalled layers seems to imply that the entire area was cleared of such debris on a regular basis. What evidence there is, suggests that the area had been metalled by the fourteenth century, if not earlier.

14.5 The exposed Guildhall remains

14.5.1 Prior to the present excavations, positioning the site of the old Guildhall on a modern town map was not readily achieved. Map regression studies clearly showed regular changes in local building lines and street frontages, not least those associated with the widening of King Street in the 1820s and the extensive 1950s rebuilding of many structures around the Market Square.

14.5.2 One of the few constants is the (new) Market Hall building, now Dover Museum, first opened in 1849, but no earlier structures remain in the area so that previous arrangements are not now apparent on the ground. Fortunately, at least two accurately drawn, large scale mid-nineteenth

century plans record the positions of the old Guildhall/Market hall and the new Market Hall in relation to each other, so allowing them to be plotted out (Fig. 4).

14.5.3 From this mapping exercise it is readily apparent that the building remains exposed in Area 1 can be equated with the remains of the original seventeenth century Guildhall, representing only the north-eastern part of what was a rather larger structure, extending away to the south and west. What was exposed in the excavation had been quite badly cut about by subsequent service trenches and the base of the ornamental fountain, all undertaken after the old Guildhall had been demolished.

14.5.4 The general development of the Guildhall building can be traced through a series of early maps and drawings (Parfitt 2020; Figs 4, 24–29). In its final form the structure covered an area with maximum dimensions of about 21 (N–S) by 24m (E–W) and included a projecting fish market on its eastern side. The cartographic, documentary and archaeological evidence all confirm that the building went through several stages of expansion and development (see above). The eastern fish market extension would appear to have extended across the site of earlier buildings that previously occupied the area (Parfitt 2009).

14.5.5 The earliest available ground plan of the Guildhall building is that shown on Foucquet's small scale town map of 1737 (Fig. 4). This portrays an L-shaped structure, measuring around 13m (E–W) by 13m (N–S). John Rennie's subsequent map of 1805 indicates that a sizable extension had been added at the south-east corner of the building by the early nineteenth century, although the north elevation of the building and its north-eastern corner, located in the excavation, appear to remain unchanged throughout.

14.5.6 Pictures of the Guildhall dated 1788 and 1822 both show the north elevation of the building as having an open side at ground level with the upper hall supported by five evenly spaced columns. In contrast, the nineteenth century view of the town pump located adjacent to the east wall of the Guildhall (see below) show this side of the structure as being at least partially built of solid masonry walling, pierced by a single, round-headed archway (Fig. 33).

14.6 The Marketplace pump

14.6.1 According to the Dover Board of Health map dated 1851, the Market Square pump, delivering fresh water to the local townsfolk, was located at the north-eastern corner of the of Market Hall building (Figs 28 & 33). This apparently drew water from a nearby well. The pump was replaced with a drinking fountain on the same site in 1859 but this was closed soon after (see above).

14.6.2 It seems highly likely that the excavated brick base, 119, represents the foundation of the town pump, or perhaps the replacement drinking fountain. There was no evidence of any well directly below to supply the water. The base rested upon undisturbed stratified deposits without any evidence of an underlying well or intake pipe at the levels surviving. An adjacent stone capped drain culvert, 108 could, however, represent an overflow taking the waste water away.

15. Conclusions

15.1 It is unfortunate that more of the Guildhall building was not exposed. From the damaged remnants which were revealed it is difficult to fully understand the structural details. Sufficient evidence does seem to have been seen to indicate that more than one phase of development is involved, even if the details remain unclear.

15.2 It seems likely that the complete Guildhall structure had a fairly complex development over its two-hundred-and-fifty-year history. Indeed, the available documentary evidence hints at this, but it is difficult to see this fully reflected in the exposed archaeological remains.

16. Further analysis and publication

16.1 The formal excavations undertaken in the Market Square at Dover during August and September 2021 were later supplemented by a watching brief, which extended across a larger area and continued into King Street. Further significant archaeological remains were recorded during the course of these investigations.

16.2 In the light of the subsequent discoveries made, proposals for analysis and publication of the information recorded during the main excavations may be most sensibly held over until the watching brief evidence has been assessed in detail as well. After completion of that work, proposals will be set out for a combined analysis, taking in all the archaeological evidence recorded during the new construction programme.

16.3 In the meantime, the present report will be added to the CAT on-line report library.

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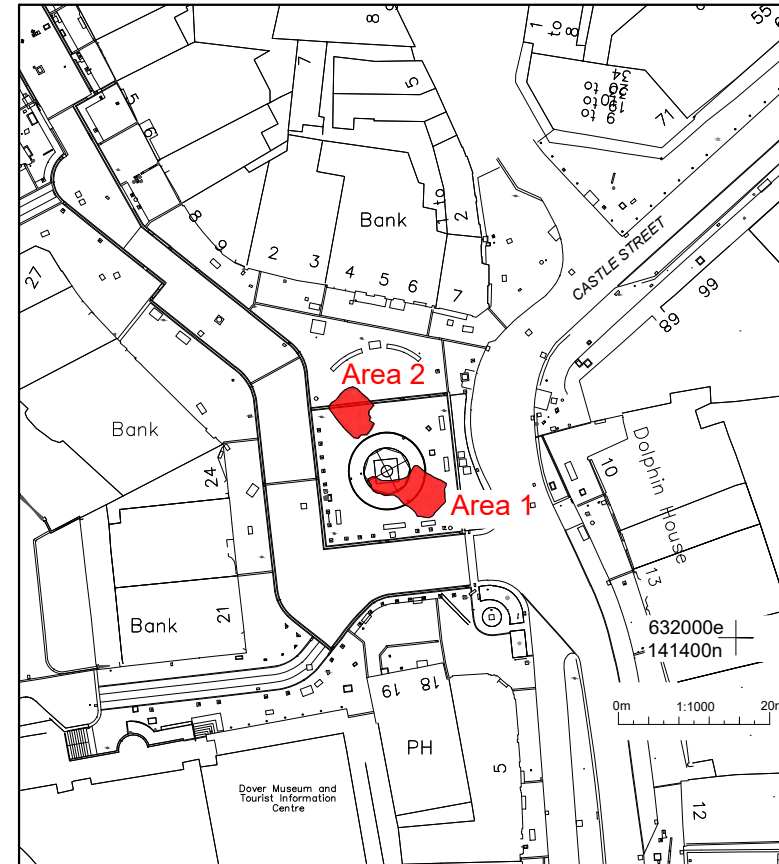
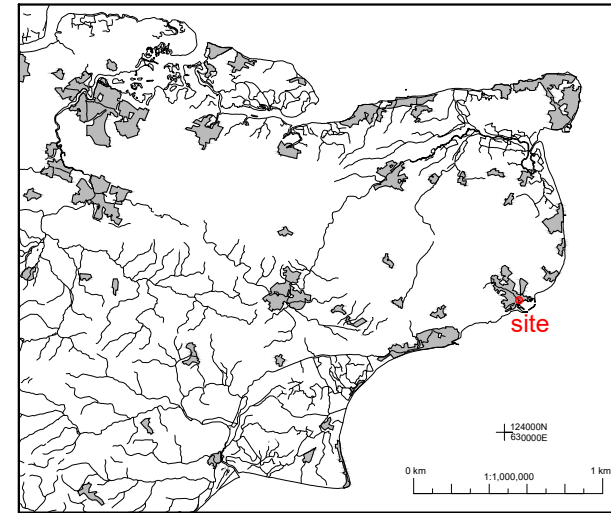
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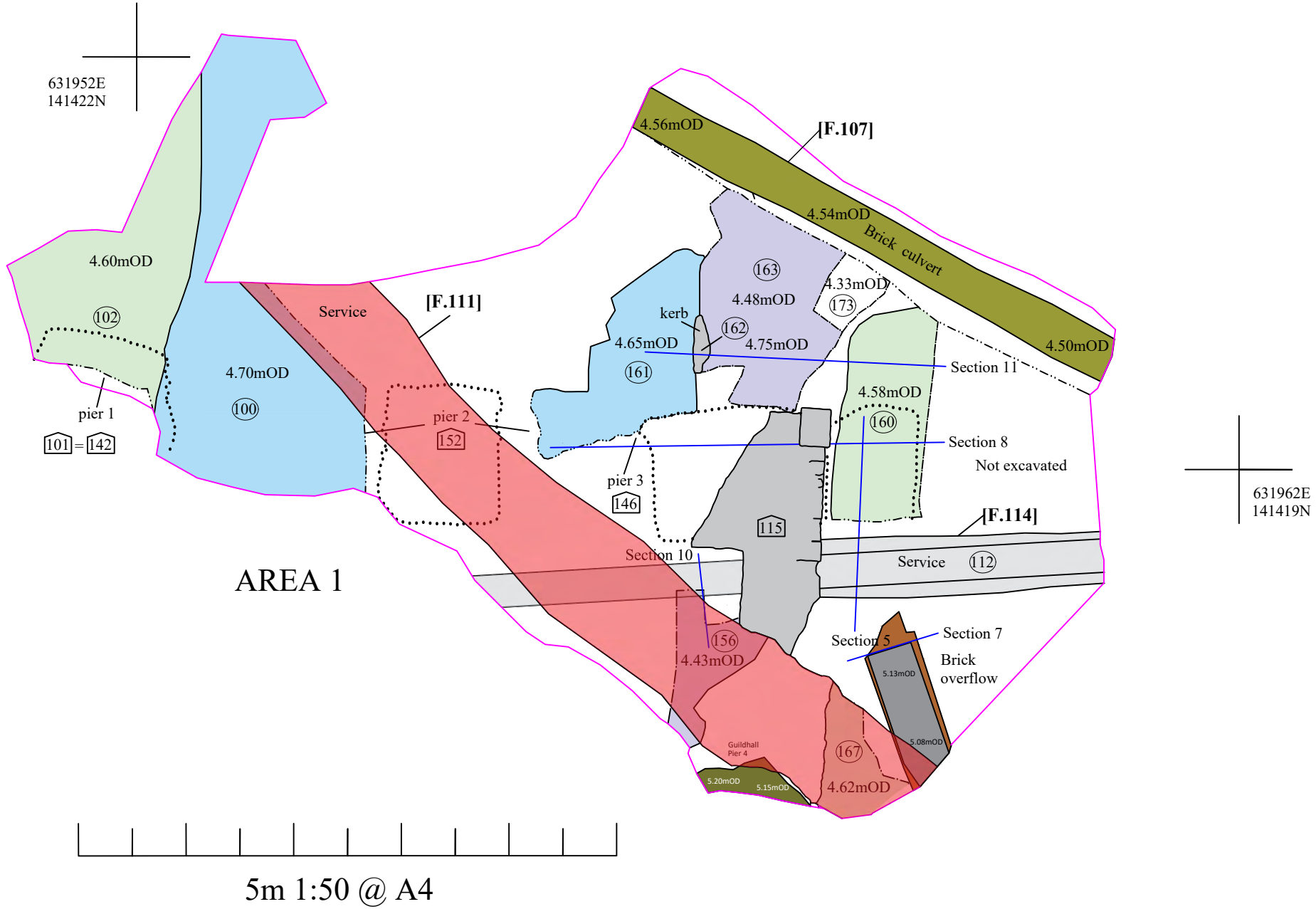
FIG 1



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Fig 1 General location maps showing investigated areas (Based on Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, ©Crown Copyright Licence No. AL100021009)

Figure 2



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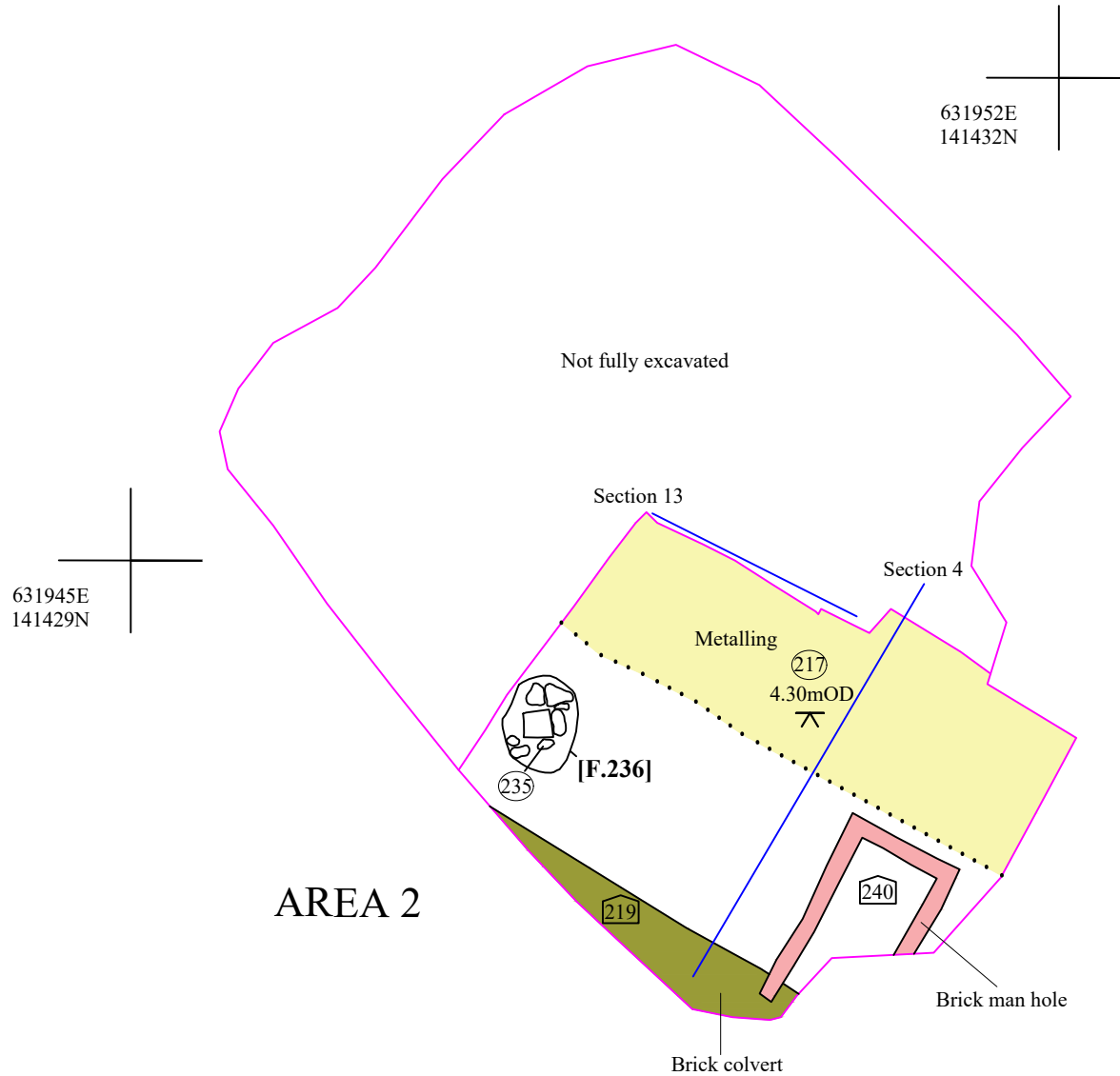
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Fig 2 General plan of Area 1 showing recorded archaeology and section lines

Figure 3



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Fig 3 General plan of Area 2 showing recorded archaeology and section lines



Figure 4

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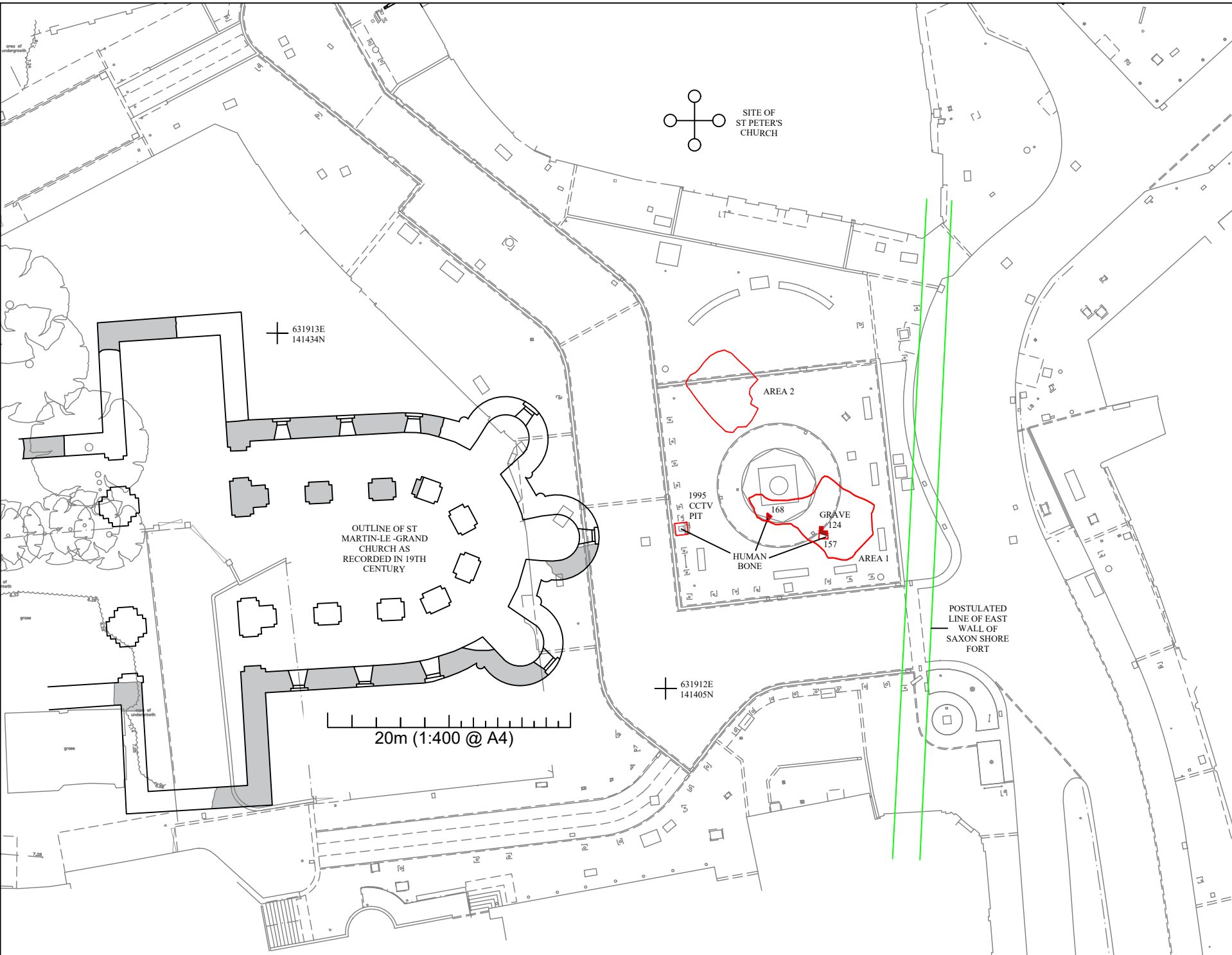
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DMS21_Historic-Alignment_150822 Fig 4.dwg

Fig 4 The 2021 excavations in relation to demolished Guildhall as shown on historic maps

Figure 5



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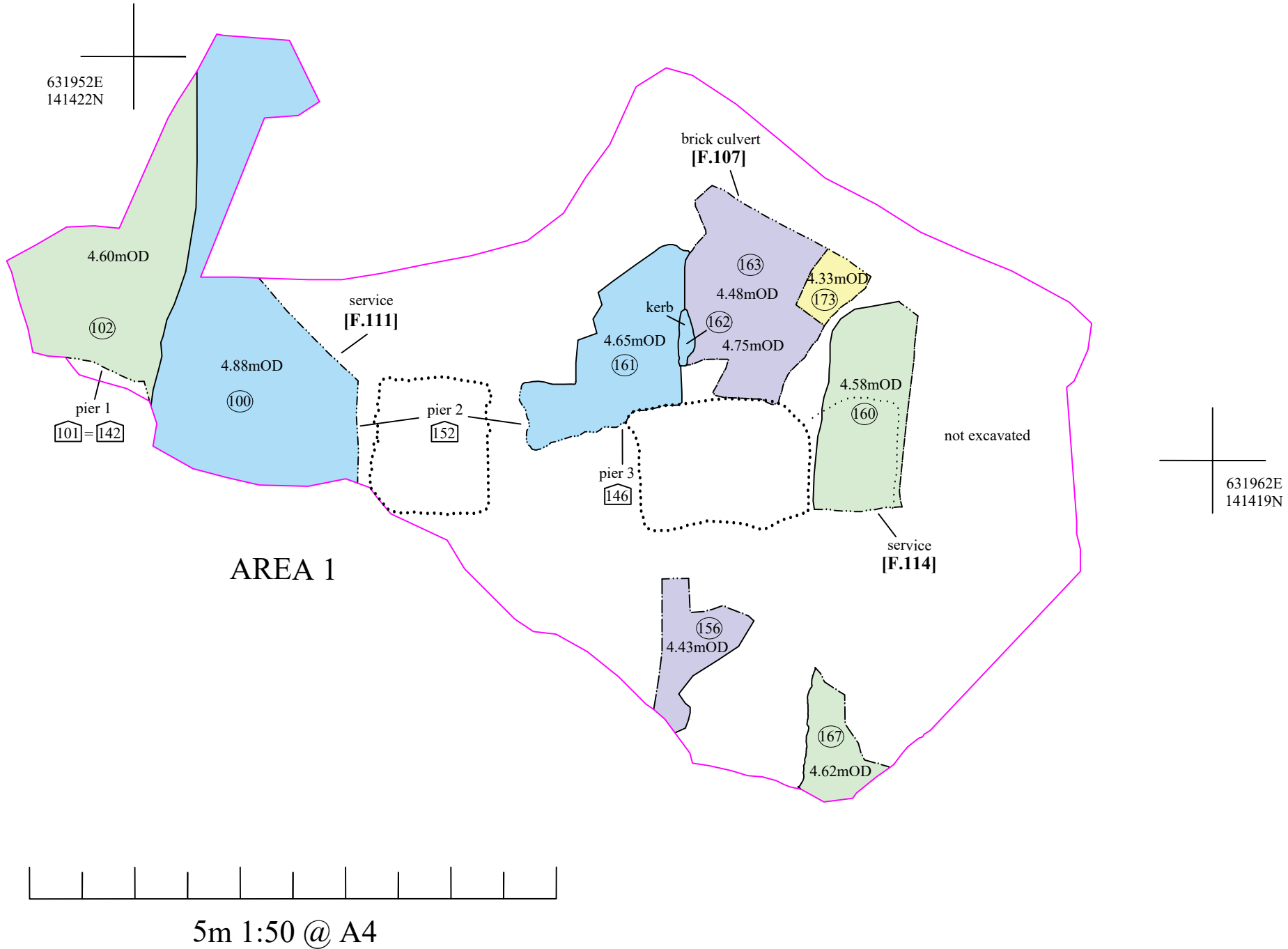
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DRMSex21_Churchyard Fig 5.dwg

Fig 5 General plan showing location of human bone finds in relation to St Martin-le-Grand church and postulated line of late Roman Shore fort wall

Figure 6



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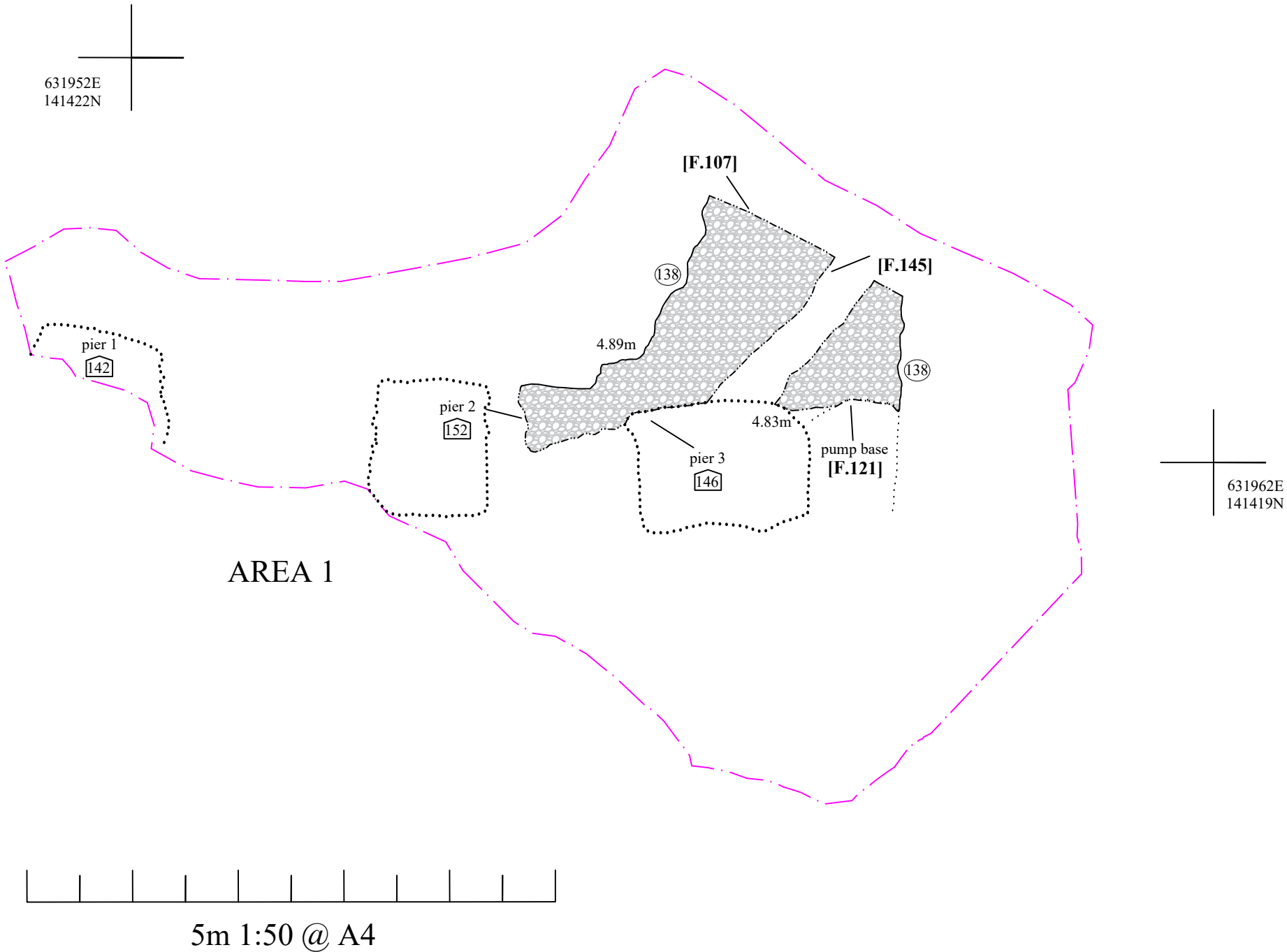
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DRMSex21_Metalling.dwg Fig 6.dwg

Fig 6 Plan of Area 1 showing extent of early metallised surfaces.

Figure 7



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Market Square, Dover

PROJECT CODE
DRMS-EX-2021

SITE ADDRESS
Market Square
Dover

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DATE 28/09/2021	LAST REVISION 30/09/2021
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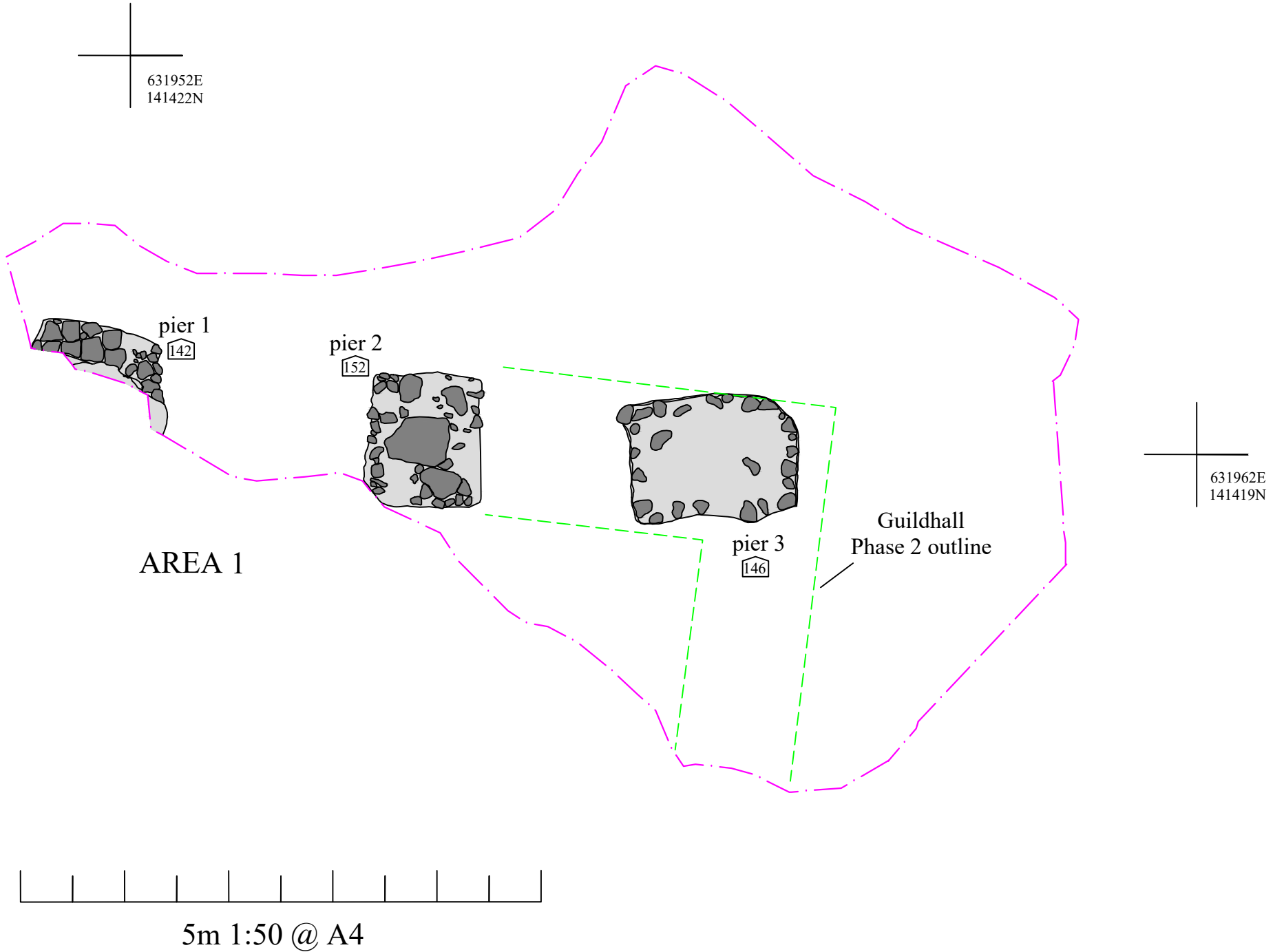
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DRMSex21_Metalling_C138 G.dwg

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Fig 7 Plan of Area 1 showing extent of pre-Guildhall metal surface 138.

Figure 8



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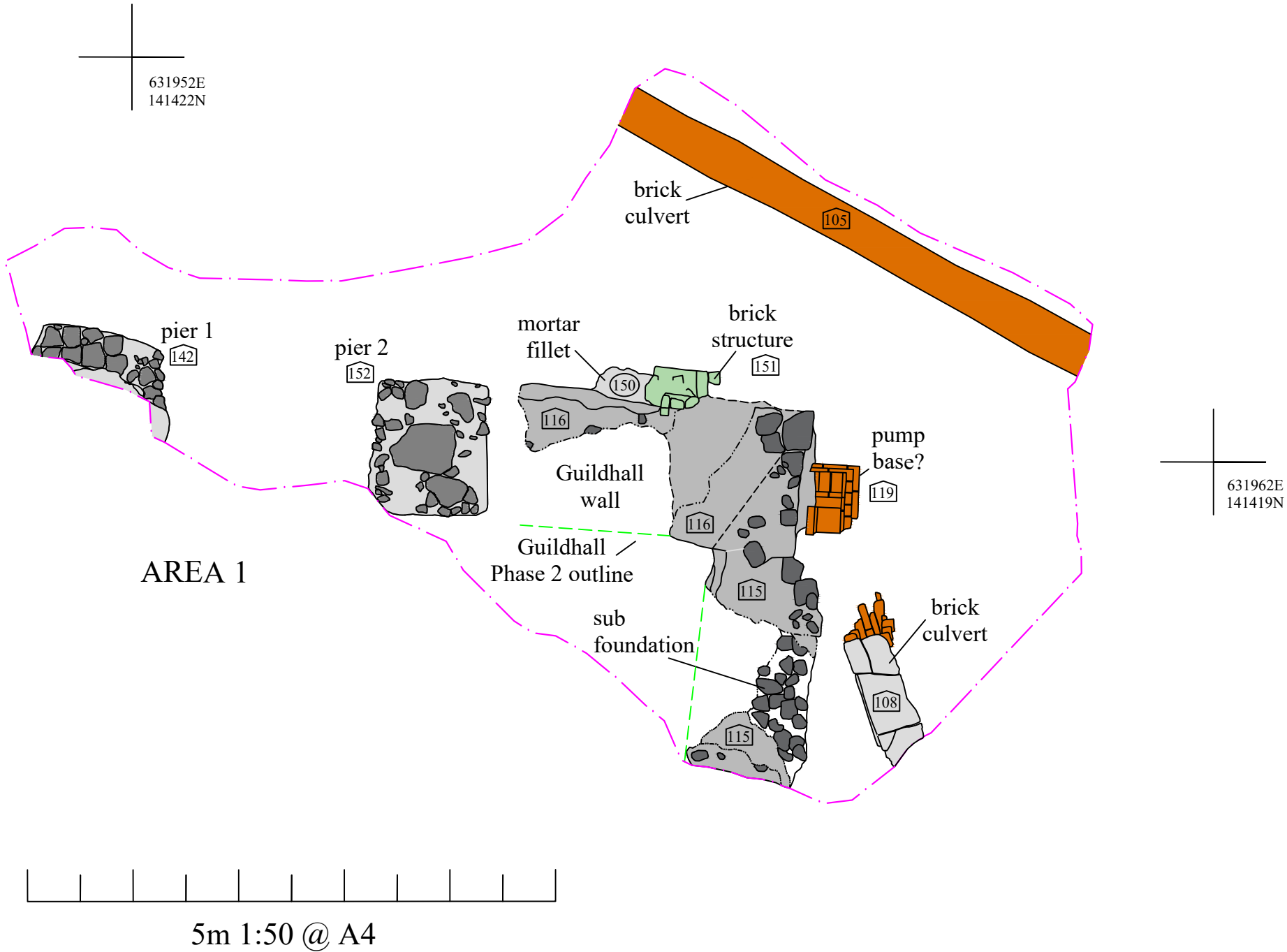
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Fig 8 Plan of Area 1 showing pier bases relating to the Guildhall (Phase 1)

Figure 9

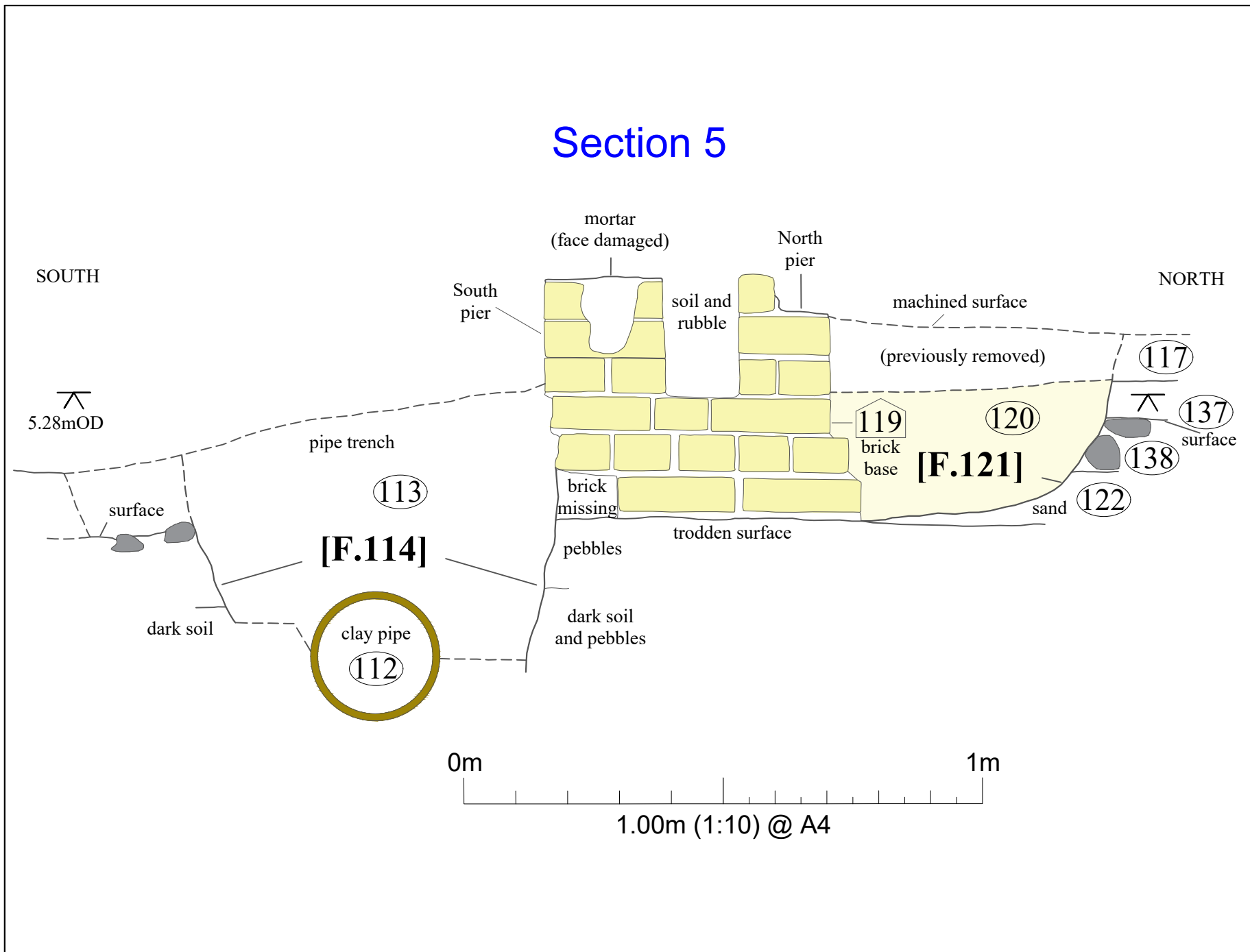



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DRMSex21_Upper_Structures Fig 9.dwg	

Fig 9 Plan of Area 1 showing Walls 115 and 116 relating to the Guildhall (Phase 2) and added structures 151 and 119

Figure 10





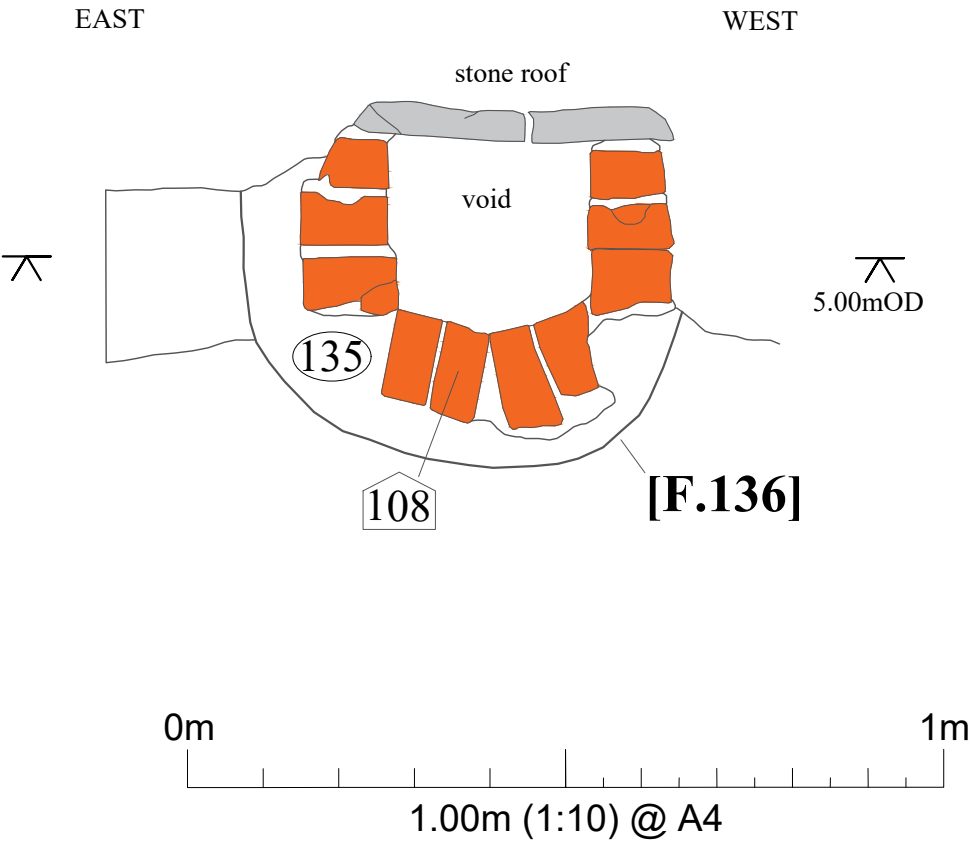
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Figure 10 Area 1, Section across brick base 119 (Section No. 5)

Figure 11

Section 7



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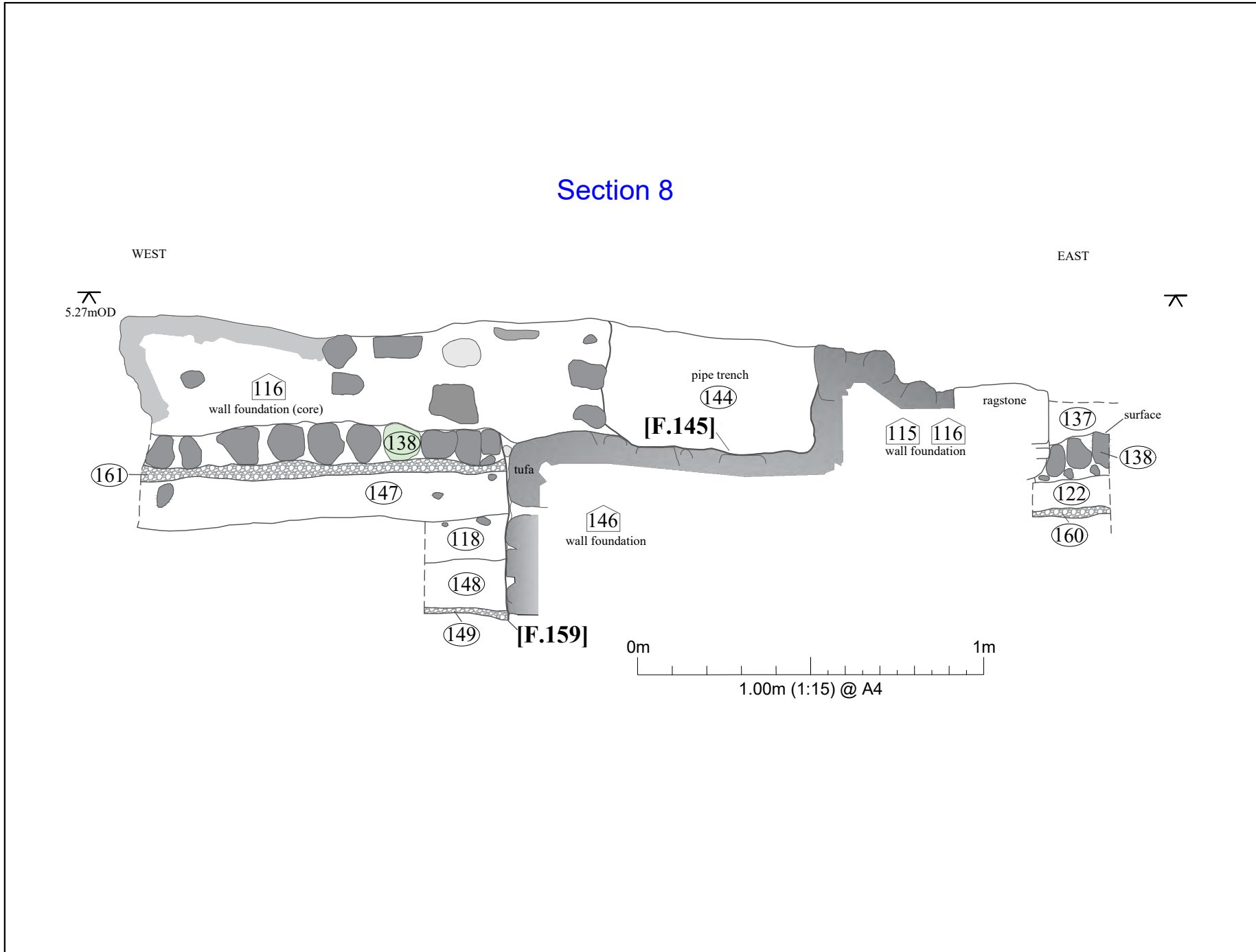
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DMS21_Sections 4-13.dwg

Figure 11 Area 1, Section across brick culvert 108 (Section No. 7)

Figure 12





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REF/DRG NO. DMS21_Sections 4-13.dwg	

Figure 12 Area 1, Section across Guildhall foundations and adjacent metallurgy (Section No. 8)

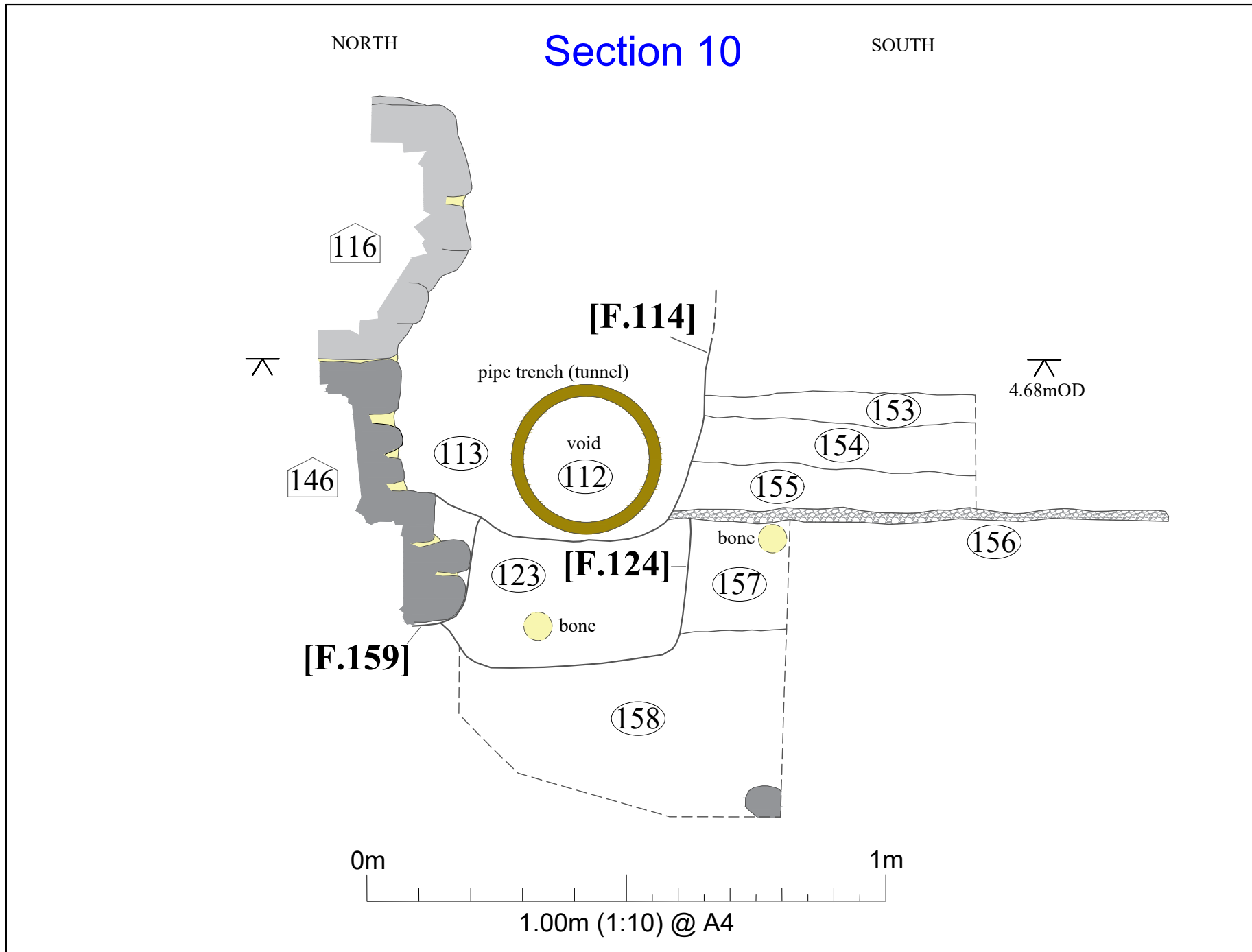



Figure 13



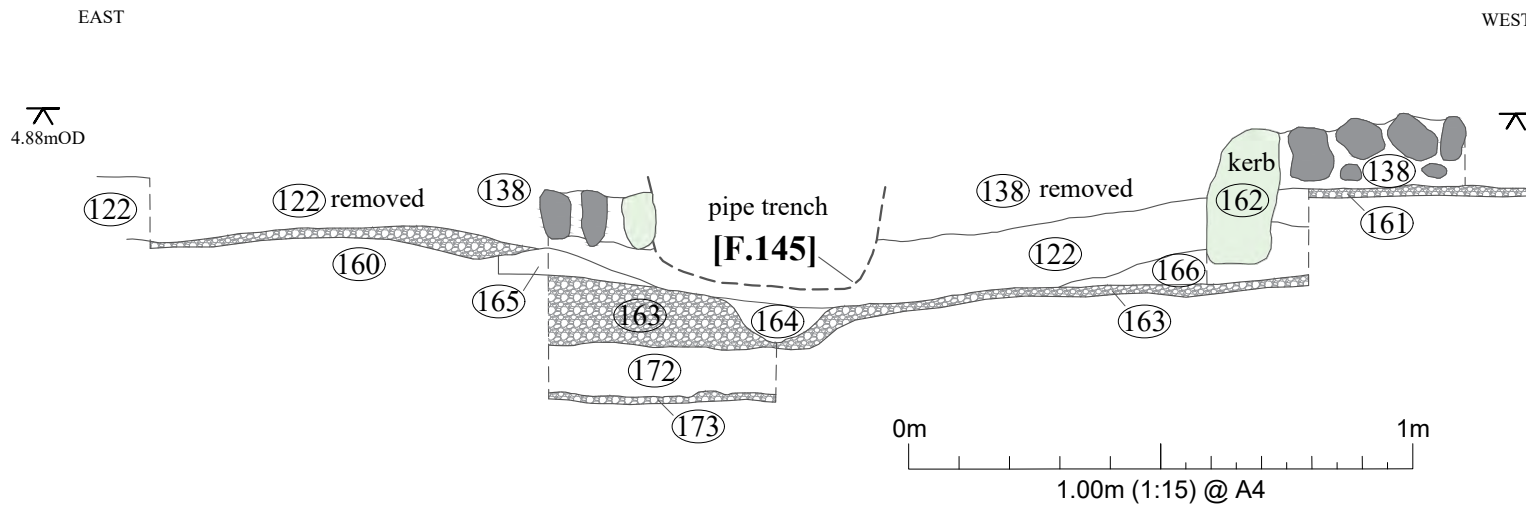
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Figure 13 Area 1, Section across Guildhall foundations, adjacent metalling and other features (Section No. 10)

Figure 14

Section 11



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Figure 14 Area 1, Section across early metallings (Section No. 11)

Figure 15

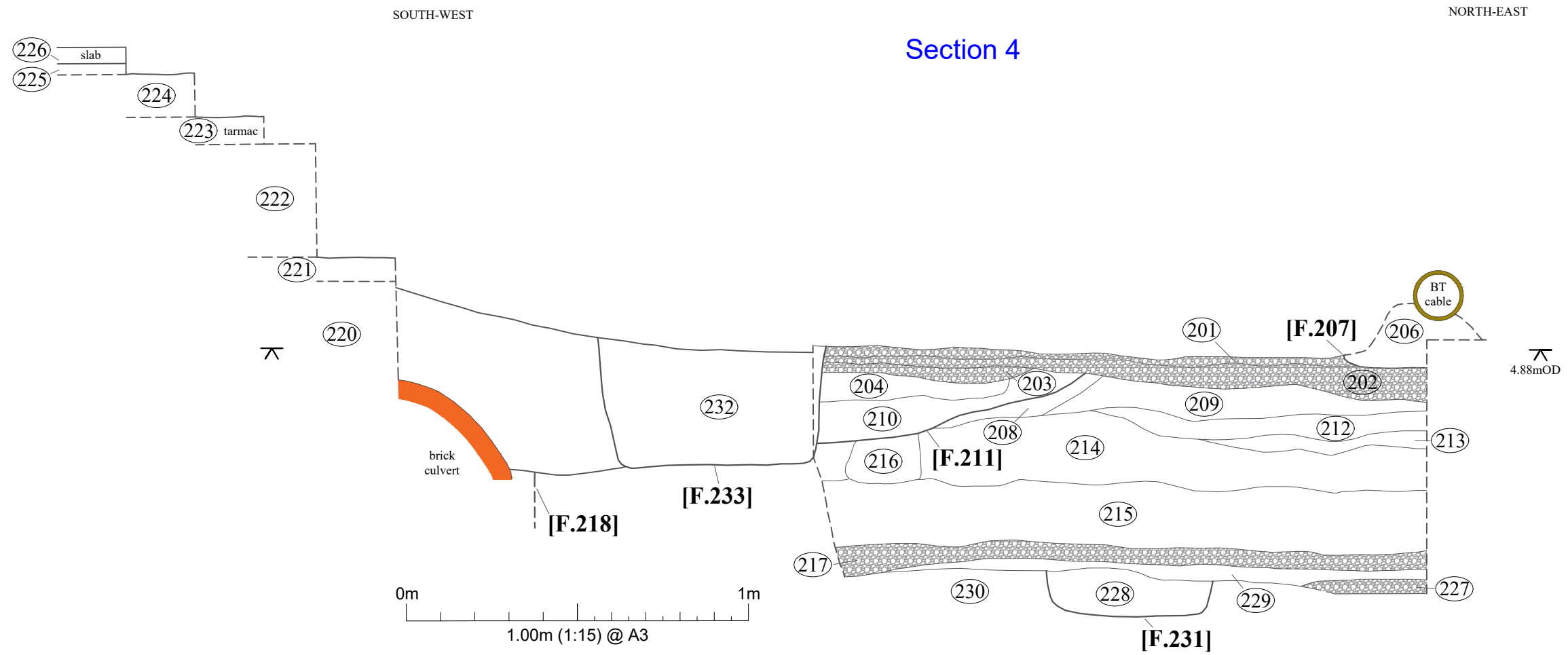


Figure 15 Area 2, Section across exposed metalling, other features and deposits (Section No. 4)



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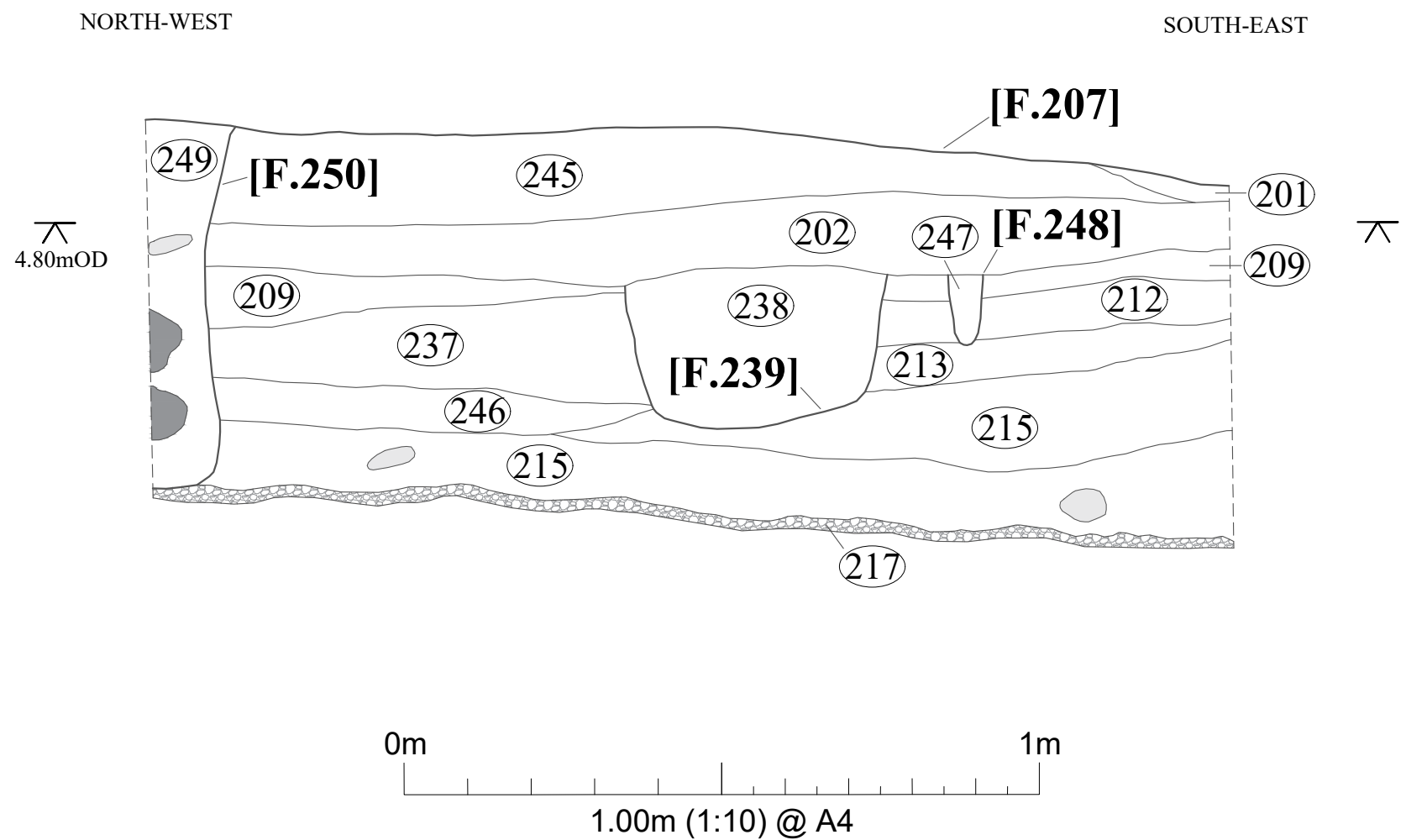
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Figure 16

Section 13



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Figure 16 Area 2, Section across exposed metalling, other features and deposits (Section No. 13)



Fig. 17 Aerial view of Dover Market Square and surrounding area, looking north



Fig. 18 The working fountain in the Market Square during the 1990s, looking north

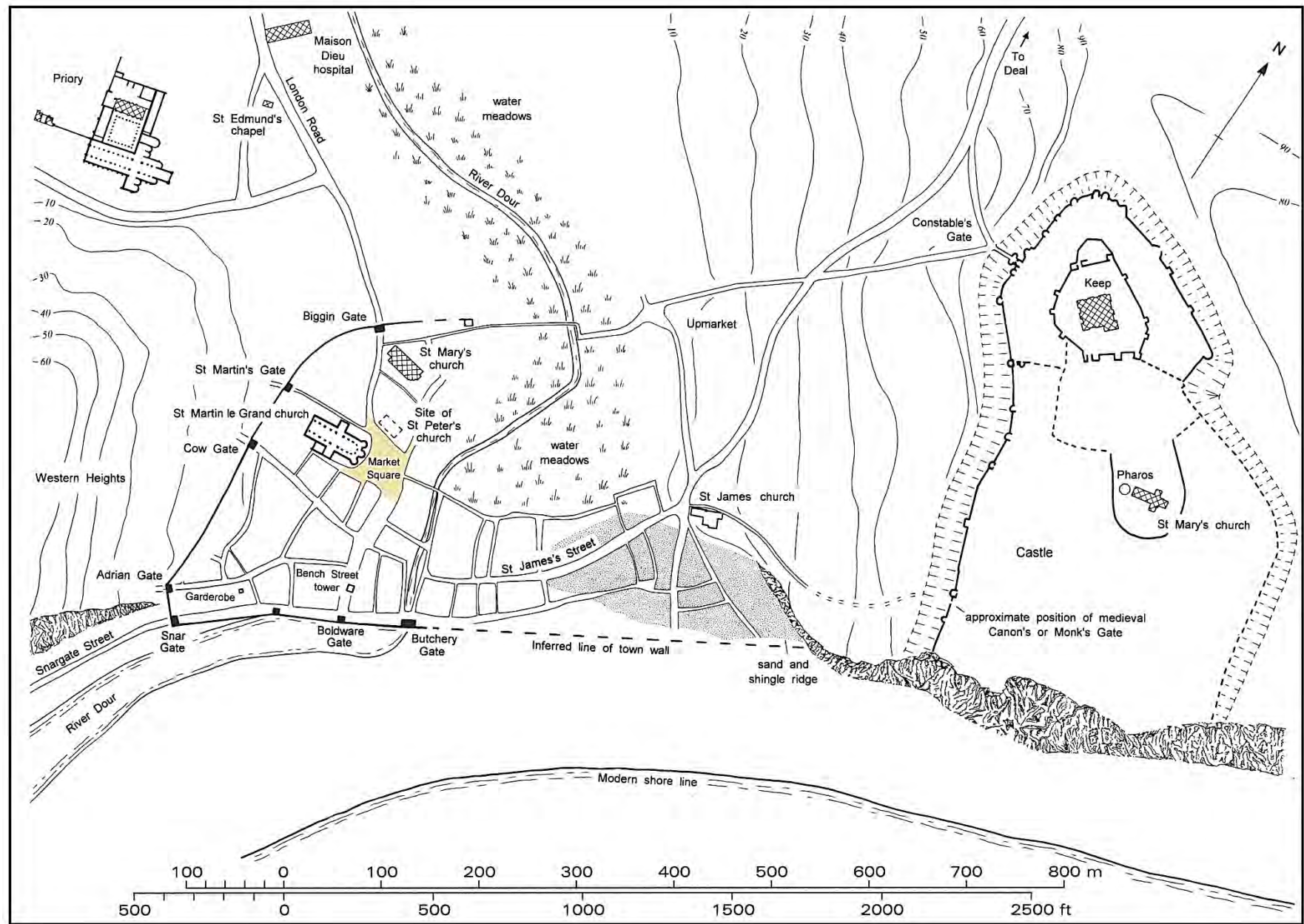


Fig. 19 Outline map of medieval Dover showing position of the Market Square in relation to churches, town wall and Dover Castle (based on Parfitt *et al* 2006, fig. 3)



Fig. 20 Extract from a map of Dover haven by Thomas Digges, 1581 (ref. ADD 11815A) showing St Mary's church, St Peter's church and the market cross

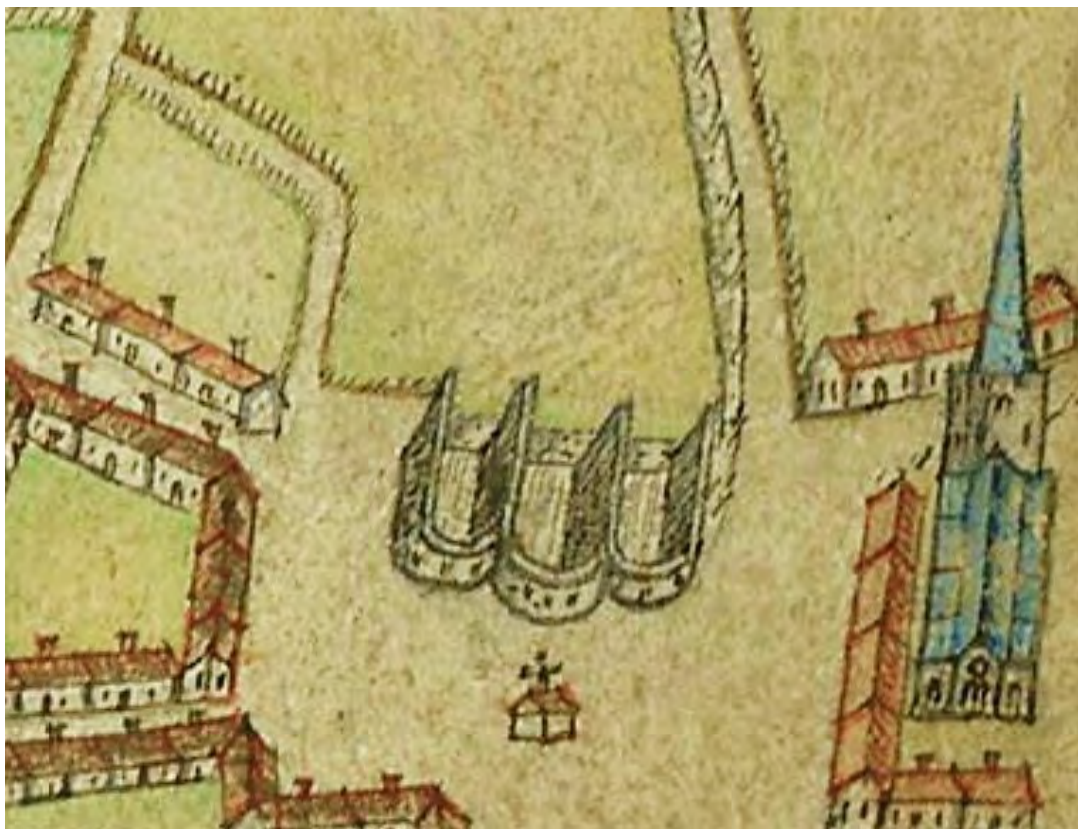


Fig. 21 Extract from a map of Dover haven probably by Thomas Digges, 1595 (Cott. Aug. I.i.46) showing St Peter's church (on right), the ruined east end of St Martin's and the market cross

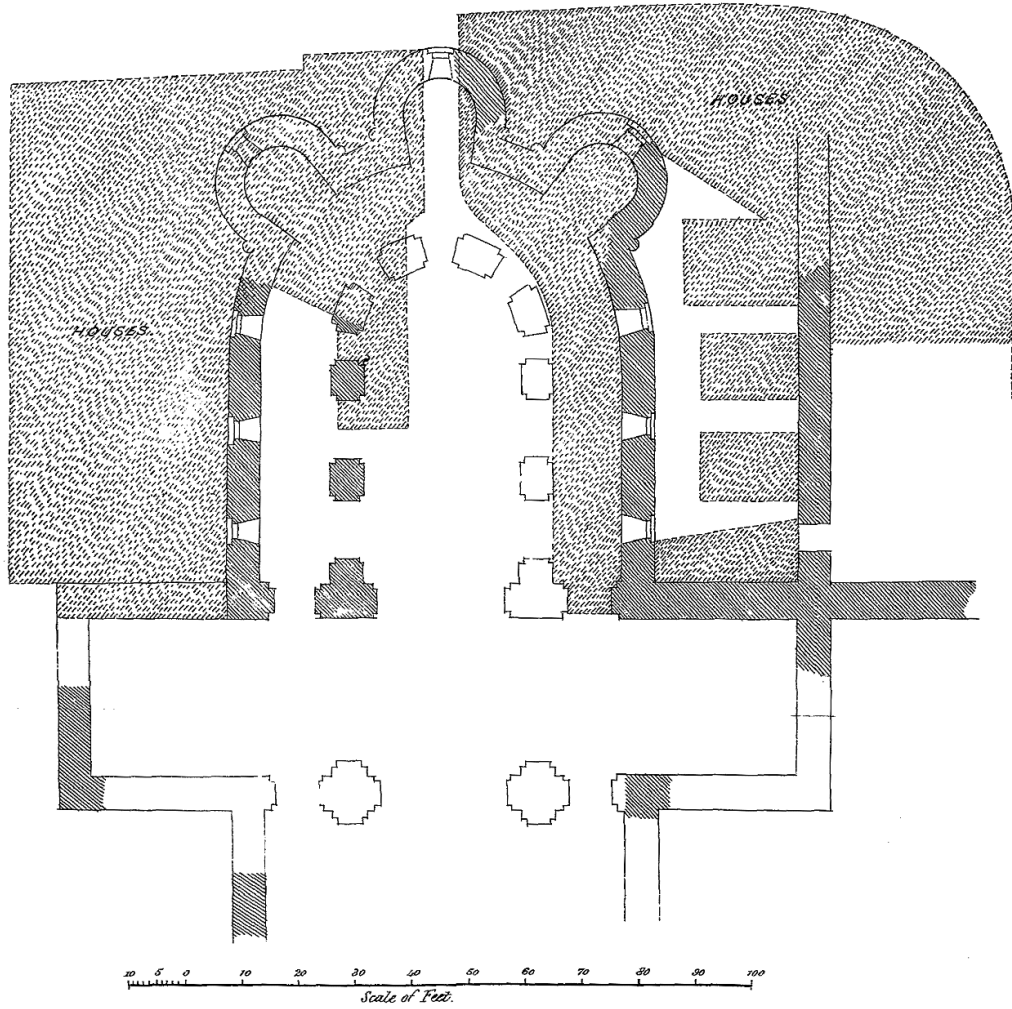


Fig.22 Plan of the eastern end of St Martin-le-Grand (from Plumptre 1861)



Fig. 23 Eighteenth century engraving showing the ruins of St Martin's 'divested of the buildings added since the suppression of it'



Fig. 24 Extract from William Eldred's town map dated 1641 (ref. WAT/L/45), showing St Martin's churchyard, the Market house and St Mary's church

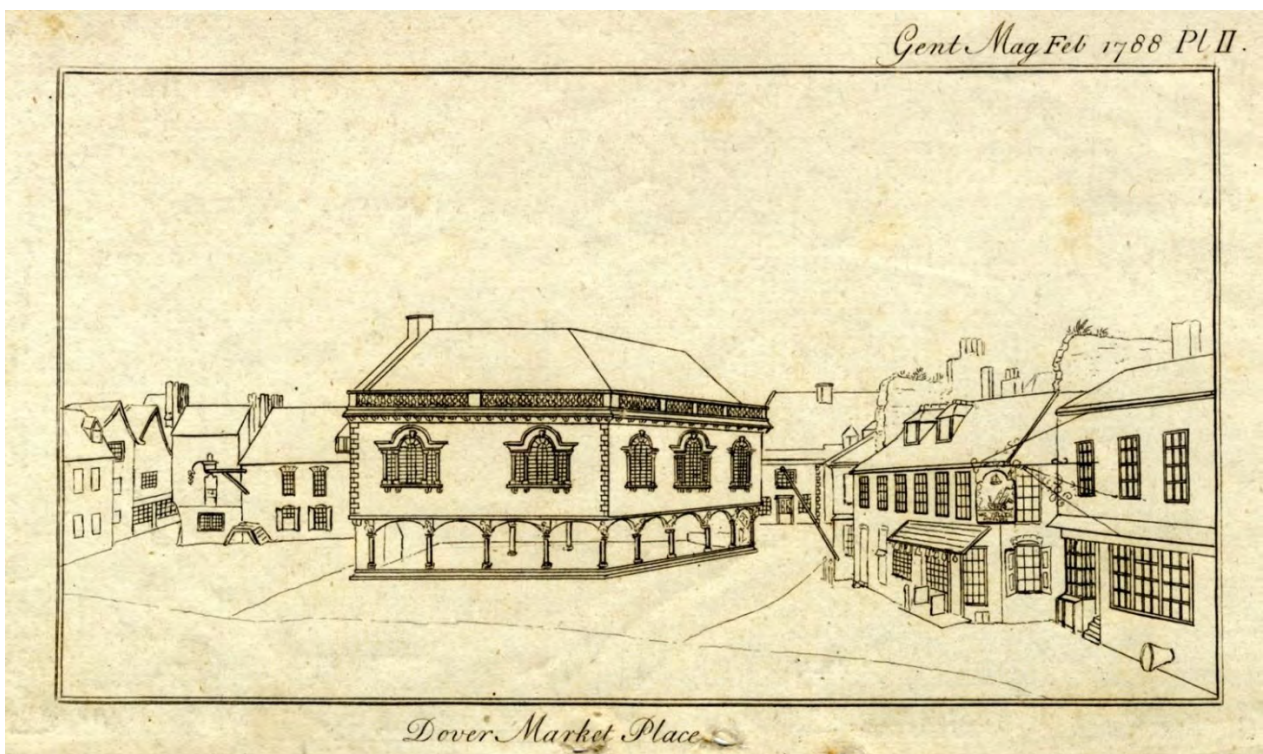


Fig. 25 Drawing of the Guildhall dated 1788 (note standing ruins of St Martin's church behind buildings on the right)



Fig. 26 Painting of the Guildhall dated 1822, looking across the marketplace from the north (source: *Dover Museum*)



Fig. 27 Engraving of the Guildhall from the north published in 1835 (source: *Dover Museum*)

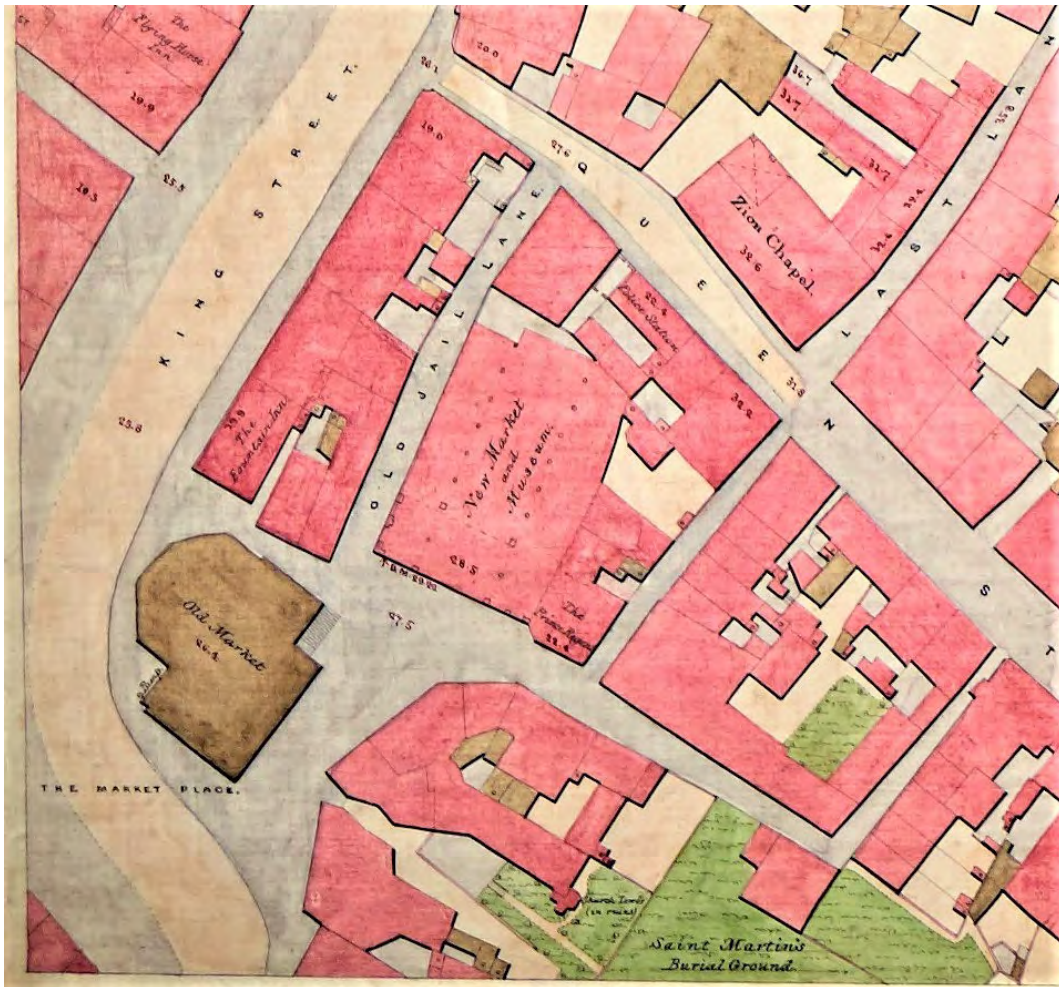


Fig. 28 Extract from the Borough of Dover Board of Health map dated 1851, showing the old Market/Guildhall and the new Market and Museum (source, Dover Museum)

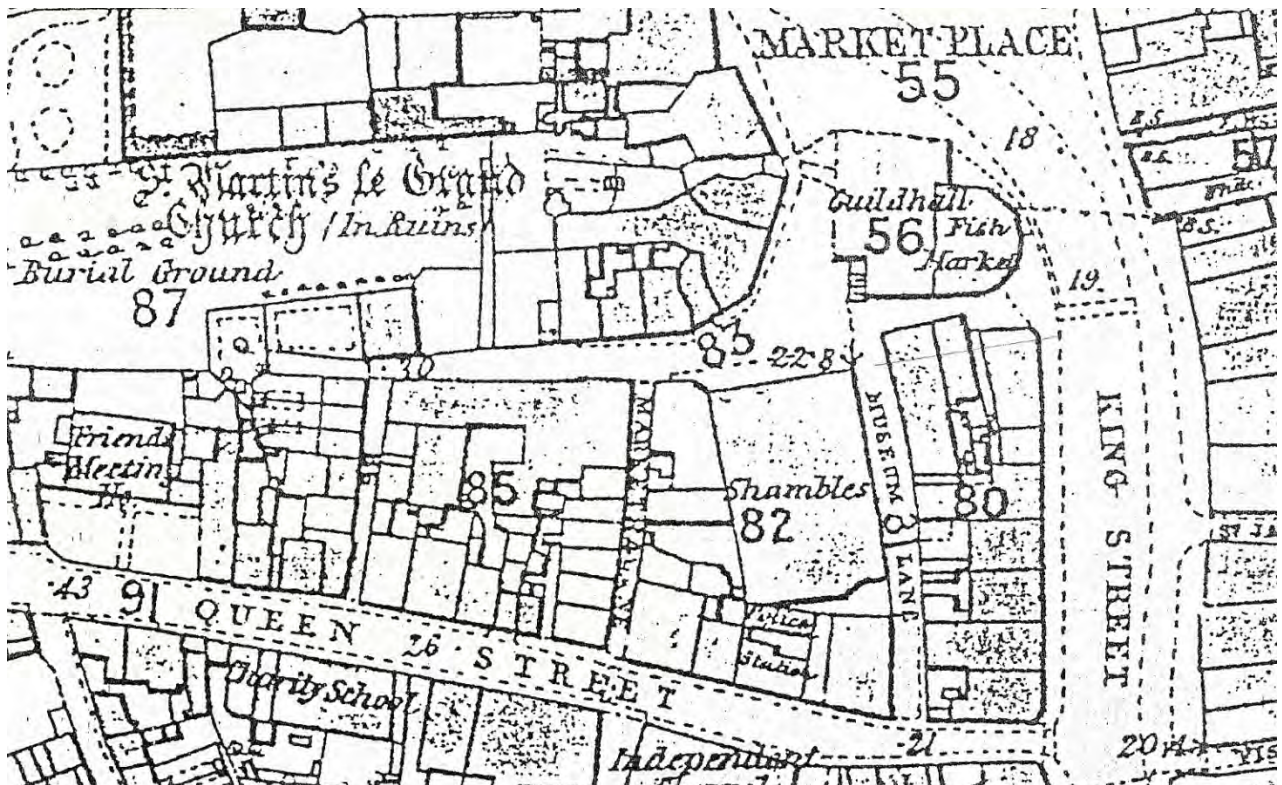


Fig. 29 Extract from Ordnance Survey map, 1861, showing the Guildhall with Fish Market and St Martin's burial ground



Fig. 30 General view of the market held under the Guildhall, (source: *Dover Museum*)



Fig. 31 Market day under the Guildhall looking north-east along Castle Street, sometime between 1837 and 1860 (source: *Dover Museum*)



Fig. 32 Carved wooden figure salvaged from the Guildhall prior to demolition in 1861, now in Dover Museum



Fig. 33 Nineteenth century picture of the Market pump by the Guildhall (source: Dover Museum)



Fig. 34 Faversham Guildhall, built in 1574, survives as a comparable structure to Dover



Fig. 35 Present-day market below Faversham Guildhall



Fig. 36 Machine removal of the 1980s fountain, looking west



Fig. 37 Early market place metalling preserved below base of removed fountain, looking south



Fig. 38 General view of excavations in Area 1, looking south-west



Fig. 39 General view of excavations in Area 2, looking north-west



Fig. 40 General view of Area 1, looking south-east, showing exposed foundations of Guildhall



Fig. 41 General view of Area 2, looking north-east, showing exposed early metallurgy



Fig. 42 Early gully F. 231 and adjacent pebble surfacing 227 revealed below metalling in Area 2, looking north-west. Scale, 1metre



Fig. 43 Grave F. 124 in Area 1, showing *in situ* leg bones, looking east. Scale 50cm



Fig. 44 Pre-Guildhall cobbled surface 138 exposed in Area 1, looking east. Scale, 1m



Fig. 45 Metallised surfaces 100 and 102 cut by Guildhall pier base 101/142, Area 1, looking west. Scale, 1m



Fig. 46 Detail of early metallised surface 217 exposed in Area 2, looking north-west. Scale, 1m



Fig. 47 Post-hole F. 236 cutting metallised surface 243 in Area 2, looking north. Scale, 1m



Fig. 48 Masonry pier 101/142 cut by concrete of modern fountain base, looking south. Scale, 50cm



Fig. 49 Masonry pier 152 as truncated by pipe trench, F. 111, looking south. Scale 50cm



Fig. 50 Early pier base 146 sealed below Guildhall wall foundation 115, looking east. Scale, 50cm



Fig. 51 Early pier base 146 sealed below Guildhall wall foundation 115, looking south. Scale, 50cm



Fig. 52 Early pier base 146 after machine reduction, looking west. Piers 152 and 101/142 in background. Scale, 50cm



Fig. 53 Detail of early pier base 146 after machine reduction, looking south. Scale, 50cm

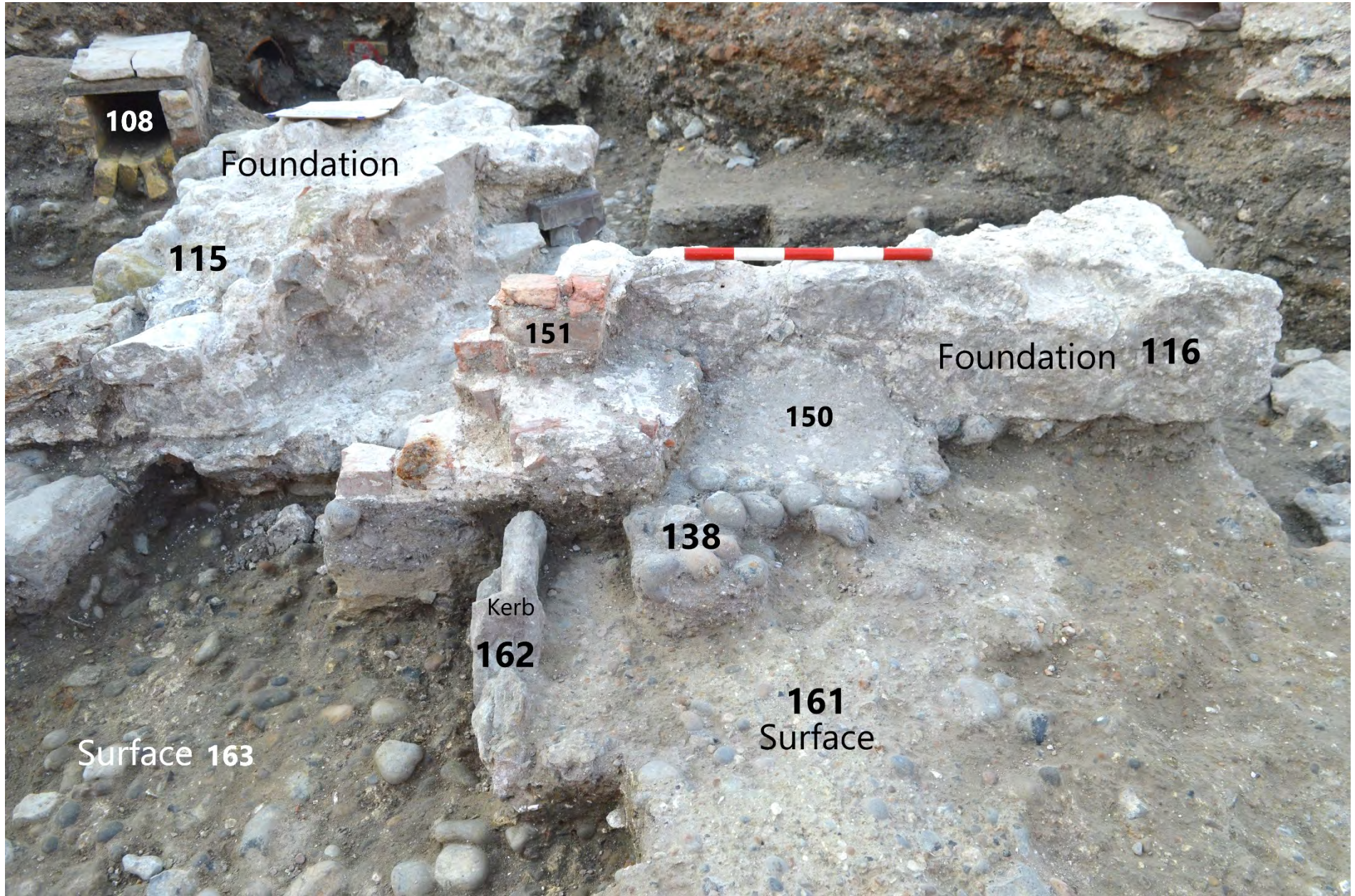


Fig. 54 General view of north-east corner of Guildhall (Area 1) and earlier metallised surfaces below, looking south. Scale, 50cm



Fig. 55 Brick base 151 abutting north side of Guildhall wall (116), looking west. Scale, 20cm



Fig. 56 Nineteenth century brick culvert 108 in Area 1, looking south; possible overflow to the town pump



Fig. 57 Brick base 119 abutting Guildhall foundation in Area 1; possible nineteenth century pump base, looking west.
Scales, 50cm and 1 metre



Fig. 58 Nineteenth century brick drain 219 with added side inspection chamber 240, Area 2, looking south-west.
Scales, 50cm and 1 metre



Fig. 59 Aerial view of the excavations with foundations of the Guildhall noted (Contexts 101/142, 152, 116 & 115)
(image by Cloudcam UAV)



Fig. 60 Fragments of mathematical tile recovered from evaluation trenching, Area 1. Scale in mm



Fig. 61 Mathematical tiles refitted. Note thin layer of white mortar 'pointing' between. Scale in mm

TABLE 4

Kent County Council HER summary form

Site Name: Dover Market Square		
Site Address: The old fountain site, Market Square, Dover, Kent		
<p>Summary: Excavations were conducted across two separate areas (Areas 1 and 2) positioned about 7.00m apart. Area 1 lay immediately to the south-east of a disused ornamental fountain. Area 2 lay immediately to the north-west of this fountain. The most significant discoveries were made in Area 1. Undisturbed archaeological deposits, including a sequence of early marketplace metallings and mortared stone foundations relating to the lost seventeenth century Guildhall/Market Hall, were located, although Roman levels were not reached. The quantity of finds discovered in the excavations was relatively small. Limited assemblages of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, roofing tile, mathematical tile, blue-grey roofing slate, animal bone and marine shell were recovered.</p>		
District/Unitary: Dover	Parish: Dover	
Period(s): Medieval and post-medieval		
NGR (centre of site: 8 figures): NGR 63195 14142, centred (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)		
Type of Archaeological work (delete):		
Evaluation	Watching Brief	Field Walking
Documentary study	Building recording	Earthwork survey
Excavation	Geophysical survey	Field survey
Geoarchaeological investigation		
Date of recording: August and September 2021		
Unit undertaking recording: Canterbury Archaeological Trust		
Geology: River gravel (not seen)		
Title and Author of accompanying report: <i>Market Square, Dover, Kent. Assessment report on archaeological excavations, August–September, 2021</i> by Keith Parfitt		
<p>Summary of fieldwork results: (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) The earliest levels were soil deposits, the upper ones containing fragments of human bone and an undisturbed medieval grave relating to St Martin le Grand church. These deposits were sealed by a continuous sequence of metallated surfaces, interleaved with make-up layers, representing late medieval and post-medieval marketplace metallings. The earliest ones had been cut through by mortared stone foundations relating to the lost seventeenth century Guildhall/Market Hall, demolished in 1861. At least six successive surfaces could be demonstrated to pre-date the construction of the Guildhall, the earliest perhaps fourteenth century.</p>		
Location of archive/finds: Canterbury Archaeological Trust		
Contact at Unit: Keith Parfitt	Date: 24.08.22	