

CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY – CIA3 (NWT10)

Report of Limited excavations of a Roman temple at Nine Wells, Whittlesford in 2010

1 Introduction

The following data relates to the excavation that took place during August and September 2010 on the site of the Roman Temple adjacent to those that took place in 2009.

The plan for 2010 was to attempt to locate the boundary wall of the temple.

2 The trenches

2.1 Trench T15 (was Trench 1)

2.1.1 Location, size and depth

55cm width down to 80cm depth +35cm width to 40 cm depth.

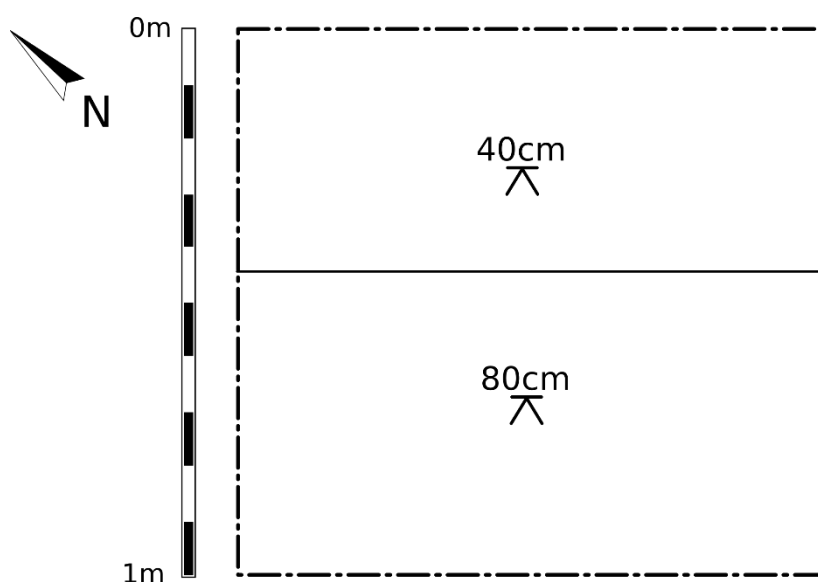


Figure 1 - Plan of trench T15

2.1.2 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
70	0-43cm	1	11				5			
71	40-60cm			360			1 grey			
71	40-60cm			140			2 red			
72	2			280			3 red	2+X		
Total	Total	1	11	894			11	2+X		

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
CT63	0-43cm	Snail	5	
CT64	40-60cm	Flue Tile	1	140g
CT64	40-60cm	Part flint arrow shaped	1	
CT65	2	Roof Tile	1	560g
CT65	2	Stone Roof Tile	1	620g
CT65	2	Lead	1	30g

2.2 Trench T16 (was Trench 2)

2.2.1 Description of excavation

A wall foundation trench was found. Further excavation a couple of cms to the south east end of this “foundation”, it disappeared. A plastic bag found (not one of ours), the conclusion being that this was a remnant of modern plough furrow bottom.

2.2.2 Location, size and depth

North quarter down to 70cm depth. 30cm width x 110cm to 100cm depth, NB wall top at 70cm depth.

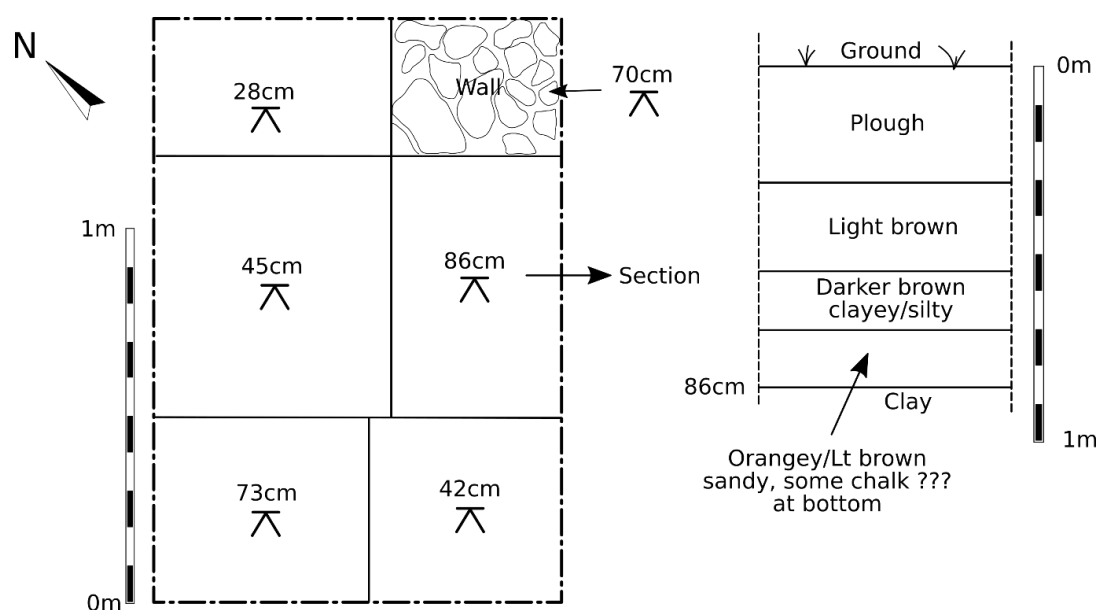


Figure 2 - Trench T16 during excavations

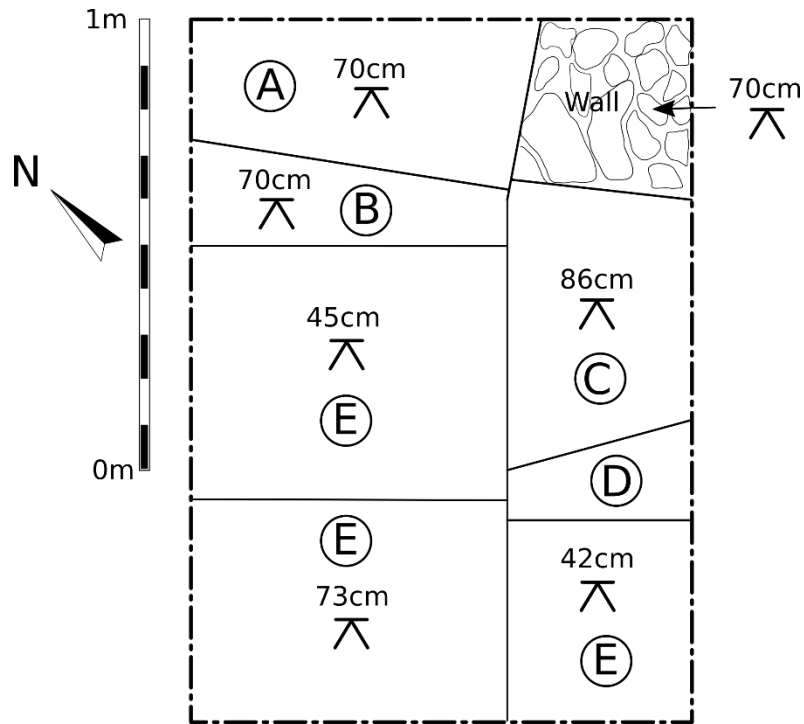


Figure 3 - Trench T16 as at the end of excavations

- A – Orangey and dark brown mix
- B – Dark brown
- C – Orangey and dark brown flecks
- D – Dark Clayey
- E – No further excavation. See previous diagram - Figure 2

2.2.3 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
73	1	2	15	160	1					
75	50cm	1	30							
76	To 70cm	2	28	828	1		2 red			
77	76cm						1 red			
78	To 86cm			172						
	Total	5	73	1160	2		3			

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
73	1	Flint	2	
74	40+ cm	Flue tile	1	150g
76	To 70cm	Flint, white patina.	1	

2.3 Trench T17 (was Trench 3)

2.3.1 Description of excavation

Apart from the finds, there are no records of what was excavated for this trench

2.3.2 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
79	1	1	10	140						
80	2			670	1			5	520	
80	2							X	80	
80	2	1	<1				25 Or 19 Gr			
80	2						4 R/Blk 1 Red			
80	2			1234	4		1 red	X	10	72
81	No rec					1W+1R				
	Total	2	10	2044	5		50	5+X	610	72

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
80	2	Stone tile	1	620g
80	2	Flue tile	1	28g
80	2	Flint, chisel shape	1	

2.4 Trench T18 (was Trench T4)

2.4.1 Location, size and depth

Tr 4 30 x 100cm down to 60cm depth, 70 x 50cm to 65cm depth, 70 x 50cm to 50cm depth

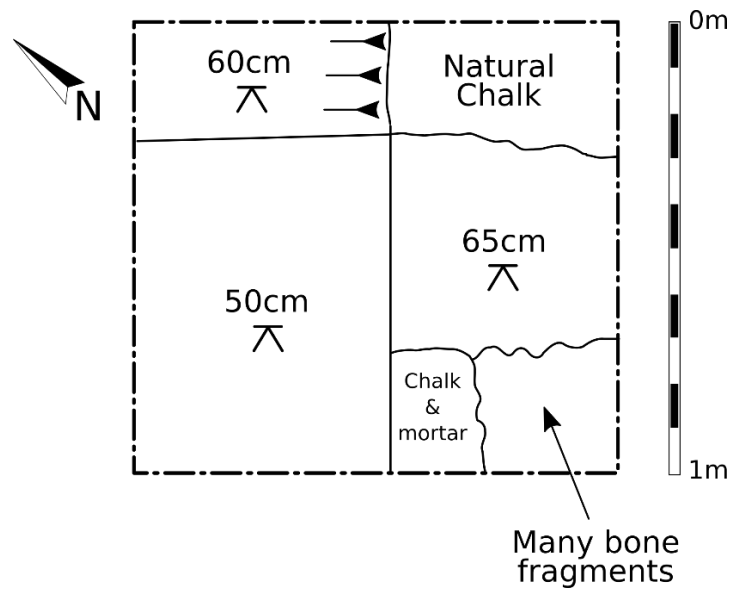


Figure 4 – Trench T18

2.4.2 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
82	0-45		15	345		1r+w				
83	2	1	2	58	1		1 grey	X	81	
83	2							X	77	
84	3							X	80	
85	3 (45-65cm)			334		1 W				92
86	46-54cm			234				X	7	239
87	Unstratified	1	8	60				X	51	
87	Unstratified			36				5	161	
87	Unstratified					4				
	Total	2	25	1067	1			5+X	457	331

Note: 1 off 'No record' pot is NVCC

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
82	0-45cm	Stone tile	1	591g
82	0-45cm	Charcoal	1	
83	2	Roof tile	1	443g
83	2	Snail	7	
83	2	Nail	1	
85	3 (45-65cm)	Tusk	1	
85	3 (45-65cm)	Snail	1	

86	46-54cm	Flue tile	1	46g
87	Unstratified	Flue tile	1	9
87	Unstratified	Snail	13	

2.5 Trench T19 (was Trench 5)

2.5.1 Location, size and depth

Tr 19 Top of wall at 28cm depth, base of wall at 48cm depth, Sondage of 72cm depth to North below wall foundation.

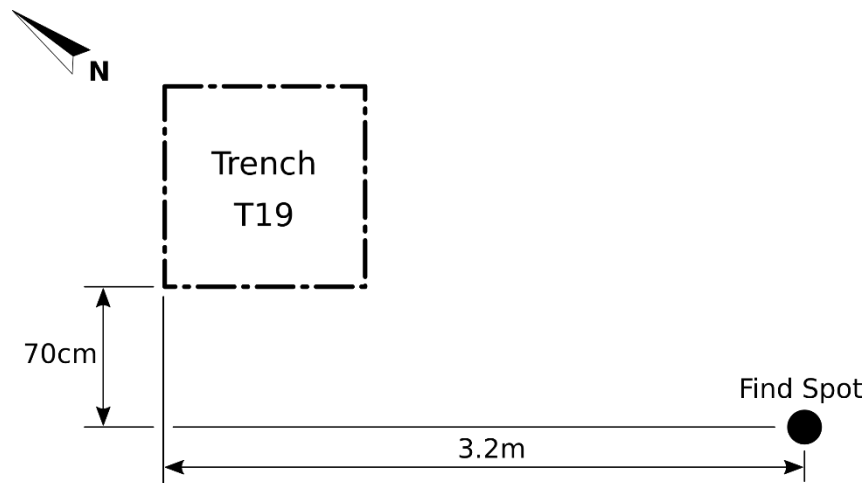
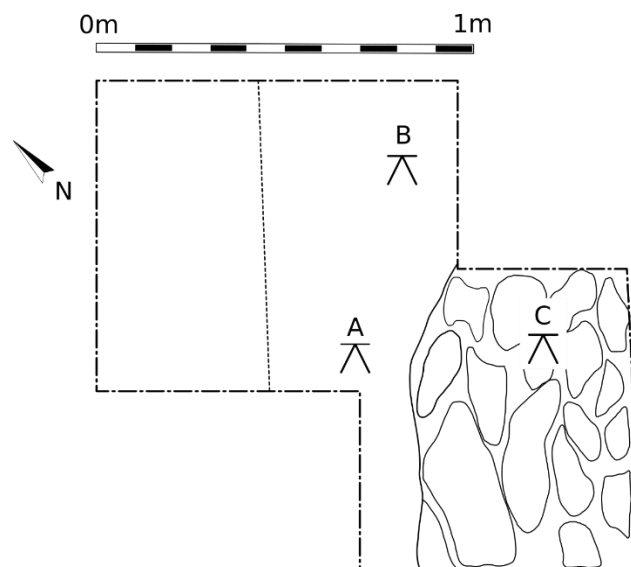


Figure 5 - Location of surface find Black Samian with respect to trench T19

2.5.2 Description of excavation

Trench T19 revealed the boundary of a flint foundation

The west corner was extended Trench T19 to check if single line of flints coming off wall foundation continued towards Trench T16. This was found to be the case



A = 48cm (Base of wall, sandy level)
 B = 72cm (Sondage to below foundation)
 C = 28cm (Top of wall)

Figure 6 – Trench T19

2.5.3 Location, size and depth

Top of wall at 28cm depth, base of wall at 48cm depth, Sondage of 72cm depth to North below wall foundation.

2.5.4 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
88	1	2	14	745	5		2 red 1 grey			106
88	1	10	83							
88	1	4	23							
89	1 above wall			42			1 red			
90	2			227	10		1 grey			50
90	2			227	10		1 grey			50
91	To 70cm	2	16	378			1 red	X	5	
92	Sondage	5	50	384	2					
94	Unstratified			447			2 red			22
	Total	23	186	2223	17		8	X	5	72

Note:

- Level 1 - 10 of pot are grey inc. 1 base and rim
- Level 1 - 3 pot buff (22g) and 1 Samian
- Sondage – 2 off pot buff (8g) + 3 black inc. 1 rim (42g)

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
88	1	Possible flint core	1	
89	2	Snail	2	
92	Sondage	Nail	1	

2.6 Trench T20 (was Trench 7)

2.6.1 Description of excavation

Excavated to the depths shown, but very few finds.

2.6.2 Location, size and depth

35 x 55cm down to 100cm, 65 x 55cm to 75cm depth, 45 x 100cm to 48cm depth.

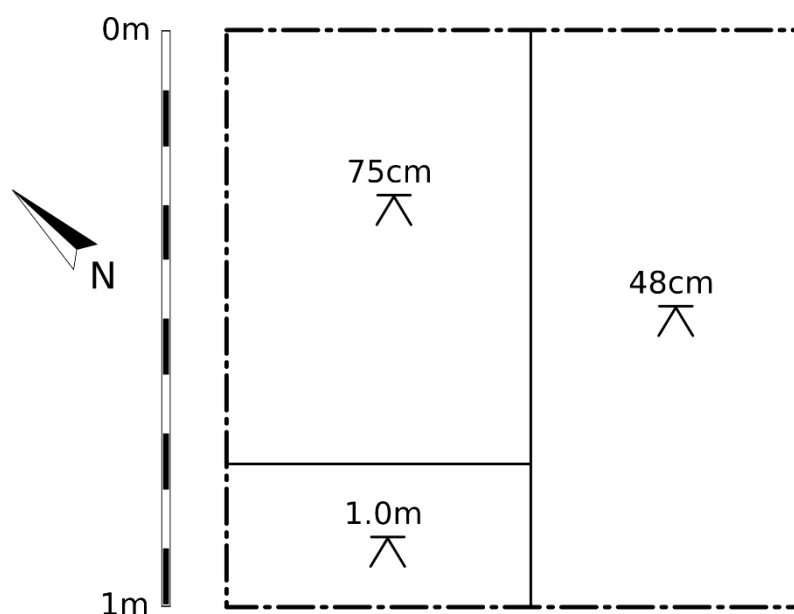


Figure 7 – Trench T20

2.6.3 Finds

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
95	0-48cm			140						

2.7 Trench T21 (was Trench 8)

2.7.1 Description of excavation

This trench was not completely excavated.

A small sondage was dug as no finds were appearing, however this revealed only a few pieces of pottery and CBM and the trench was closed down.

2.7.2 Location, size and depth

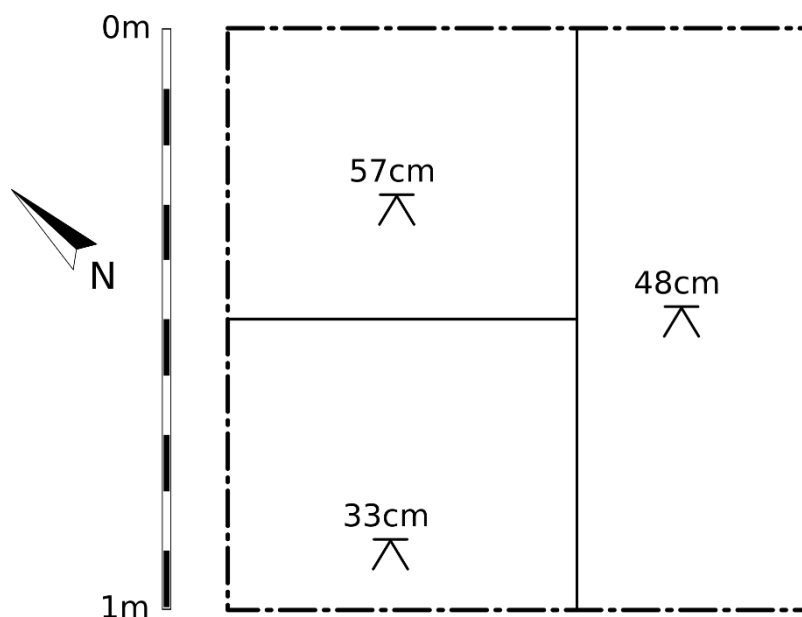


Figure 8 – Trench T21

2.8 Unrecorded finds

These finds are from an unrecorded location within the trench

Common finds

Context	Original context	Pot		CBM	Oyster	Plaster	Tess	Bone		Mortar
		Qty	Wt	Wt	Qty	Qty & Colour	Qty	Qty	Wt	Wt
98	To 57cm	4		2002				X	17	253

Note: Pot inc. 1 buff, 1 black rim

Other finds

Context	Original context	Type	Qty.	Wt.
98	To 57cm	Snail	4	
98	To 57cm	Nail	2	

3 Summary and conclusions

Unfortunately, due to circumstances, this report will remain incomplete due to the fact that records have been lost post excavation, people involved have moved away and the time delay in its writing.

However, it can be seen that a wall was found in the corner of trenches T2 and T5