Post Excavation Assessment

TSC Oakhanger Hampshire

Draft Post Excavation Assessment

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DEFENCE ESTATES

TCS OAKHANGER, HAMPSHIRE

POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT

NGR SU 766 357

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1 SUMMARY

In August 2006 Oxford Archaeology excavated a 0.04 hectare area in advance of the erection of an antennae and the installation of supporting infrastructure within TCS Oakhanger, Hampshire.

The work revealed evidence for Mesolithic use of the immediate vicinity in the form of redeposited flint tools. Later prehistoric use of the site was suggested by worked flint and pottery ranging in date from late Bronze Age to Iron Age. These sherds were recovered from three parallel ditches/gullies aligned N-S across the site. A small amount of medieval pottery was also recovered from one of these features, where a possible re-cut was noted although this was not clear. None of these features can be securely dated as the pottery was of a small quantity and abraded and may well have been residual.

Thirteen postholes were revealed, some of which formed a linear alignment, perhaps once a fence-line. The fence line appears to have post-dated the ditches. Only one posthole contained pottery, which was of Iron Age date. This was accompanied by a small amount of metalworking debris.

Several plough scars were identified but remain undated.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 Proposals by the Defence Estates (DE) to erect a services structure and install supporting infrastructure within TCS Oakhanger (also known as RAF Oakhanger) (the 'Site'), lead to a programme of archaeological work undertaken by Oxford Archaeology during August 2006.

2.1.2 The archaeological work was undertaken to the requirements of a brief by Martin Brown Environmental Advisor (Archaeology) at the DE and in accordance with the subsequent Written Scheme of Investigation. Due to the scale of the development it was agreed that a Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) excavation would be the most appropriate strategy followed by a watching brief during the excavation of service trenches.

2.2 Location and geology

2.2.1 The site is located on the west side of village of Oakhanger, Hampshire (SU 766 357), approximately 2 Km west of the small town of Borden (Figure 1).

2.2.2 The site is situated on levelled ground, which lies at *c*. 85 m aOD, and was formally used as a sports field. The site is *c.* 0.04 ha in extent and the development area is 0.03 ha.

2.2.3 The solid geology comprises Lower Cretaceous upper greensand and gault clay (British Geological Survey, Sheet 300).

2.3 Archaeological and historical background

2.3.1 The site has not been subject to a desk-based assessment (DBA) or prior evaluation.

2.3.2 The site of the proposed structure lies within an archaeologically sensitive area. Consultation of the Hampshire Sites and Monuments Record and the Archaeological and Historical Building Resource (AHBR) has demonstrated the archaeological potential of the area. While no archaeological remains are listed within the boundaries of the site, a significant number are listed in the immediate vicinity.

Mesolithic

2.3.3 Sites include a number of Mesolithic encampments and scatters of flints. All these sites are over 1 km to the east and north of site, at Whitehill (AHBR 17187-17192) Selbourne (AHBR 17194-17203) and Kingsley (AHBR 17232-17233)

Bronze Age

2.3.4 Bronze Age barrows are recorded at Whitehill (AHBR 17207-17215 and 17228) and at Kingsley (AHBR 17232, 17296, 17298).

Iron Age

2.3.5 Iron Age activity is recorded at Selbourne (AHBR 17240) and Kingsley (AHBR 39427) where pottery has been recovered. Other sites in Worldham, Kingsley and Selbourne have produced flints that may be of Iron Age date.

Roman

2.3.6 At Kingsley, Romano-British pottery has been recovered (AHBR 17261, 17267, 17254 and 17290) as well as building material (AHBR 17178).

2.3.7 The line of the Roman road between Silchester and Chichester is thought to cross the RAF base through the NE corner of the overall ‘site boundary’ and is known at Worldham (AHBR 29776)

2.3.8 The Alice Holt pottery sites are also located nearby and possible outliers of this Roman industry may be found in the Oakhanger area.

Medieval

2.3.9 Pottery relating to Medieval settlement or manuring is recorded at Oakhanger (AHBR 17242, 36993 and 36999). A Medieval chapel is thought to exist at Chapel Farm (AHBR 17283).

Post-medieval

2.3.10 No post medieval evidence exists for the site although there may be previous development of the site relating to its us as an RAF base.

2.4 Excavation methodology

2.4.1 The excavation and recording methodology was undertaken in accordance to that outlined in the WSI.

2.4.2 The excavation comprised of a single 'banjo' shaped trench *c*. 35m in diameter located on the footprint of the proposed installation.

2.4.3 The topsoil and subsoil was removed sequentially under constant archaeological supervision utilising a 12 tonne 360^{o} excavator and a dumper. During soil stripping all finds recovered were allocated to a 10m grid square, previously set out. Mechanical excavation ceased at the first archaeological horizon comprising natural, cut by a number of features.

2.4.4 Prior to excavation, and after initial cleaning, all features were planned at 1:100. A 10% sample excavation of all linear features was achieved by means a series of 1m wide hand-excavated slots. A 50% sample excavation was achieved for all other archaeological features. Additionally, unexcavated lengths of the linear features were subject to rapid mattock testing in attempt to retrieve dating and other evidence

2.4.5 All archaeological features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with established OA practices as detailed in the OA Fieldwork Manual (OAU 1992).

2.4.6 Colour transparency and black-and-white negative photographs were taken of all significant archaeological features. Due to security restrictions imposed, there is no digital photographic record or photographs showing the general setting of the site.

2.4.7 All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts in addition to those obtained during soil stripping. Additionally, unexcavated lengths of the linear features were subject to rapid mattock testing in attempt to retrieve dating and other evidence.

2.4.8 Bulk samples (40L or 100% of deposit) were taken for wet sieving for deposits that had potential for the recovery of eco-factual and palaeo-

environmental evidence. A program for on-site dry sieving with a 5 mm sieve of deposits for artefacts was deemed to have little potential and was not implemented.

2.4.9 All drawings were referenced to a nominated site datum (10m).

3 QUANTIFICATION OF THE ARCHIVE

3.1 Stratigraphic

Table 1: Quantification of the archive

Record type	Quantification
Context records	81
Plans A1	1
Plans A4	19
Sections A4	19
Black and white films	2
Colour films	2
Register sheets	14

3.2 Artefactual

3.2.1 Summaries of the assessments are presented below. Full results can be found in the Appendices.

Pottery

3.2.2 A total of 22 sherds of pottery (56g) was recovered. Nineteen sherds belong to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to Late Iron Age periods and a single sherd each of medieval and post-medieval pottery were also present. The assemblage was in highly fragmentary and abraded condition and a significant element (6 sherds) was unstratified, recovered during cleaning following machine-stripping. The remaining 17 sherds came from the fills of ditches and a posthole. No decoration was extant and surface treatment was difficult to discern due to fragmentation and abrasion.

Flint

3.2.3 A total of 68 flints and 32 pieces/145g of burnt unworked flint was recovered from the excavations. The assemblage recovered comprises flintwork dating

from two distinct periods, the Mesolithic and late Neolithic/Bronze. The Mesolithic assemblage consists of a microlith, a micro-burin and possibly five flakes and blades. The later assemblage consists of flakes struck using little or no platform preparation including a retouched end scraper and broad pointed awl on a flake.

Fired clay

3.2.4 Two fragments (3g) of conjoining fired clay were recovered. This was prehistoric or Romano-British in date.

Glass

3.2.5 One fragment of annular glass bead was recovered from context 158. This was of indeterminate date.

Copper Alloy

3.2.6 A Copper Alloy button was recovered from the subsoil (101). This was probably post medieval in date.

Slag

3.2.7 One fragment of slag was recovered from the topsoil

3.3 Environmental

3.3.1 A total of seven bulk samples were taken and processed by flotation with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh. The presence of modern weeds, coal and some plastic is likely to indicate some degree of bioturbation or intrusion in the deposits.

Plant remains

3.3.2 No charred grain was found, but sample 2 (Posthole 119) contained the occasional remains of charred spikelets. The other charred material found included seeds of *Montia fontana* (blinks) and *Veronica hederifolia* (ivy leaved speedwell) in samples 1, 5 and 6 (Postholes 111, 119, 122). The first one is a native of damp places, while the second is typically found in cultivated and waste ground, hedgerows and banks.

Wood charcoal

3.3.3 Wood charcoal was present in all samples, but the majority of fragments were unidentifiable.

4 STRATIGRAPHIC SUMMARY

4.1 General

4.1.1 The archaeological features principally comprised six linear features that ran parallel in an approximate E-W direction along the southern side of the excavated area. There were also 13 postholes, a possible plough-scar and a probable tree-throw hole.

4.1.2 All features were sealed by a subsoil (101) comprising a 0.30m thick, firm orange-brown sandy loam with bioturbation. This may represent an intact plough-soil prior to the construction of the RAF base. It contained sherds of late 16 - 17th century pottery and a scatter of struck flint including a Late Neolithic or Bronze Age broad pointed awl.

4.1.3 The natural (102) comprised sandy silt with patches of mottled yellow-orange sand and pale yellowish grey silt. There was a slight slope away from east to west.

4.2 The Linear Features

4.2.1 The linear features comprised three small ditches or gullies (Groups 103, 105, 107) flanked by shallow scars (Groups 177, 179, 180). Ditches 105 and 107 overlay an irregular 'natural' feature (110), probably a tree-throw hole.

Feature 103

4.2.2 The easternmost gully was sectioned in four places (140, 144, 149, 151) and continued uninterrupted across the site. Concave in profile, it varied in width from 0.55-1.12m and 0.19-0.44m in depth. It was filled with redeposited natural sand, probably a result of weathering. An upper fill (possibly a re-cut) was apparent in (144) and (151) comprising soil similar to the subsoil (102). The excavated sections produced 12 sherds of pottery including late Bronze Age-early Iron Age sherds, mid-late Iron Age sherds and 3 sherds of medieval (11th -14th century) pottery.

Feature 105

4.2.3 Situated 3.5-4.5m to the east of ditch 103 and approximately parallel, gully 105 was somewhat smaller. Four excavated sections (156, 162, 168, 175)

revealed that its width varied from 0.40 – 0.88m. Concave in profile, its depth varied from 0.27-0.33m, although at its easternmost section its was only 0.08m deep, probably as a result of truncation by later ploughing. It was filled with mottled redeposited natural sand, probably a result of weathering. Two sherds of late Bronze-early Iron Age pottery was recovered, as well as fragments of fired clay and part of an annular glass bead of indeterminate date.

Feature 107

4.2.4 The westernmost gully was situated approximately parallel and 1.0-1.5m from gully 105. It was discontinuous to the west and north and was sectioned in three places (158, 166, 173). It varied in width from 0.44–0.67m with a somewhat irregular concave profile and a depth varying between 0.14m and 0.30m. It was filled with re-deposited natural and contained 2 sherds of late Bronze age to early Iron Age pottery.

Features 160, 177, 179

4.2.5 A series of discontinuous and very shallow (<0.08m deep) scars that ran parallel to ditches 103, 105 and 107. Feature 177 cut into the east end of ditch 103, implying they were later in date. Their fills were similar to the subsoil (101) implying that they were plough scars. There was no dating evidence recovered from any of these features.

4.3 Postholes

4.3.1 There was scatter of small 13 circular post/stake holes of which five (138, 115, 117, 119, 129) appear form NW-SE alignment, at approximately 45^{o} to the alignment of the linear features. Also, posthole 138, which apparently cut ditch 103 suggests this alignment post-dates these linear features. A sixth posthole (123) formed a approximate right-angle to the NE end of the alignment suggesting it may also be related. Several of the posthole were re-cut implying longevity, perhaps a fenced enclosure. Posthole 119 contained hammerscale and a sherd of mid to late Iron Age pottery.

4.4 Other features

4.4.1 Aligned at right angles to north of the posthole alignment was a probable plough scar (126) implying that they were broadly contemporary although no dating evidence was found.

5 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.1 Stratigraphic

5.1.1 Unfortunately the dating of the ditches is unclear from the finds (which could be residual). Their perpendicular alignment to the Roman road suggests a Roman or later date (even as late as medieval). One possibility is that the ditches flanked a trackway running off from the road. The parallel 'plough scars' could in this instance be wheel ruts.

5.1.2 The possible fence(s), apparently post-dating the ditches imply a later or possibly even post-medieval date (notwithstanding the pottery evidence).

5.1.3 The insubstantial nature of the evidence does not provide potential for further work. Despite this a short summary should be included in the *Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society* journal.

5.2 Artefactual

Pottery

5.2.1 The pottery assemblage indicates only that there was activity at an unspecified level at the site during the later prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. Due to the small size of the assemblage and the fragmentary condition of individual sherds the potential for obtaining further information is extremely low and no further analysis is recommended. The information contained within this assessment could, however, be integrated or summarised for reporting purposes. Because of the likelihood of residuality, specific features should not be assigned a firm date on the basis of the pottery in the absence of additional artefactual or stratigraphic evidence

Flint

5.2.2 The flint assemblage has little potential to address any research aims, as it is disturbed, of mixed date and extremely limited in size. The assemblage is, however, indicative of some Mesolithic activity in the area. This perhaps includes flint knapping, the manufacture of microliths and maintenance of toolkits. The scatter may be considered to represent a period of brief activity in landscape with considerable evidence for occupation in the Mesolithic. The later Neolithic/Bronze Age activity is less informative, due to a lack of chronological refinement, but indicates a continued presence in the landscape.

Fired clay

5.2.3 No further work is recommended.

Glass

5.2.4 The single piece of glass bead is of indeterminate date and no further work is recommended

5.3 Environmental

Plant remains

5.3.1 No further work is recommended.

Wood charcoal

5.3.2 No further work is recommended.

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APPENDIX 1: THE POTTERY

Lisa Brown

Introduction

A total of 22 sherds of pottery (56 g) was recovered from the excavations at Oakhanger. Additionally, two conjoining fragments (3 g) of fired clay were identified. Nineteen sherds belong to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to Late Iron Age periods and a single sherd each of medieval and post-medieval pottery were also present. Details are provided in Table 1 . The assemblage was in highly fragmentary and abraded condition and a significant element (6 sherds) was unstratified, recovered during cleaning following machine-stripping. The remaining 17 sherds came from the fills of ditches and a posthole. No decoration was extant and surface treatment was difficult to discern due to fragmentation and abrasion.

Table 2: The pottery

CXT	Description	No sherds	Wt (g)	Date/Comments
101	Post-med brown glazed	1	2	Late 16th-17th
104	Rounded quartz sand common + glauconite/ dk grey	1	1	MIA-LIA
106 (B)	Sand with sparse silver mica and moderate white angular flint <2mm + rare dark brown ferrous inclusions / oxidised surfaces	2 joining	15	LBA/EIA
120 <1>	Fine glauconitic sandy / dk grey	1	1	MIA-LIA
141	Out-turning rim in Fabric as 104 (from same vess?)	2 joining	5	MIA-LIA
145 <6>	Fine glauconitic sand + common angular wht flint <2mm - dk grey	1	1	LBA/EIA
145 (A)	Fine sand + glauconite + rare/sparse angular wht flint <2mm + rare dark brown ferrous inclusions / oxidised surfaces - Resembles 106 but finer	5 joining	11	LBA/EIA
145 (B)	Coarse sand + rare flint	1	1	Medieval 11th-14th
150 (A)	Fine silty micaceous clay + angular wht flint <3 mm	1	2	LBA/EIA
150 (B)	Coarse sand + rare flint	1	2	Medieval 11th-14th
152 <5>	Coarse sand + rare flint	1	1	Medieval 11th-14th
152 <5>	Fine glauconitic clay + rare angular wht flint <2mm	1 crumb	<1	LBA/EIA?
159 (A)	Fabric as 145 (A)	1	4	LBA/EIA
159 (B)	Fine micaceous sandy clay with ill-assorted calcined flint up to 6mm / grey	1	2	LBA/EIA
180 (A)	Fabric as 106 (B)	2 joining	6	LBA/EIA
TOTAL		**22**	**56**	

106 (A)	Fired clay	2 joining	3	Preh - Roman

Table 1: Pottery description and quantification

Late Bronze Age /Early Iron Age

Fourteen sherds representing eight vessels probably date to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age, although in the case of some of the smaller sherds the date is uncertain. All sherds in this group are tempered with angular white flint, with some the following variations in fabric :

fine silty, compact micaceous clay with flint pieces below 3 mm (context 150)

fine glauconitic sandy clay with flint pieces <2 mm (contexts 106, 145, 152, 159, 180)

fine micaceous sandy clay with large pieces of calcined flint up to 6 mm (context 159)

The fabrics reflect the underlying geology of Gault clay and clay-with-flints capping Upper Chalk deposits and the vessels may have been produced at or near the site. No sherds diagnostic of form were recovered.

Middle Iron Age - Late Iron Age

Four sherds representing two or three vessels in glauconitic sandy ware are best placed in the middle to late Iron Age. The clay could have been procured locally as the underlaying Gault clays are glauconitic. During the later part of the middle Iron Age in Hampshire and elsewhere in south central England sandy wares replaced flint-tempered wares to a great extent, and this trend may be reflected here. A fragment of a jar or bowl with a short everted rim and (probably) globular body was recovered from context 141.

Medieval and Post-medieval

Two small sherds from contexts 145 and 150 are from medieval cooking pots dating to between the 11th and 14th centuries. The fabric is of a type common in Winchester and Southampton. A brown glazed sherd from context 101 probably dates to the late 16th or 17th century.

Potential and Recommendations

The pottery assemblage indicates only that there was activity at an unspecified level at the site during the later prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. Due to the small size of the assemblage and the fragmentary condition of individual sherds the potential for obtaining further information is extremely low and no further analysis is recommended. The information contained within this assessment could, however, be integrated or summarised for reporting purposes. Because of the likelihood of residuality, specific features should not be assigned a firm date on the basis of the pottery in the absence of additional artefactual or stratigraphic evidence

APPENDIX 2: THE FLINT AND BURNT UNWORKED FLINT

By Hugo Lamdin-Whymark

Introduction

A total of 68 flints and 32 pieces/145 g of burnt unworked flint was recovered from the excavations. The flint assemblage includes material dating from the late Mesolithic and late Neolithic/Bronze Age. The assemblage is shown by context in Table 1.

Methodology

The artefacts were catalogued according to broad artefact/debitage type, general condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-7; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999, 211-277) and dating was attempted where possible. Unworked burnt flint was quantified by weight and number. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. A printout of the catalogue will be deposited with the archive; where possible a digital copy will be deposited.

Table 3: The flint

	Context																
CATEGORY TYPE	100	101	102	104	106	108	109	112	121	131	141	145	152	155	159	161	Grand Total
Flake	2	3	1	10	2		1	1			5		3	1			29
Blade	2																2
Blade-like		1											1				2
Irregular waste							1	1		1				2			5
Chip								1									1
Sieved Chips 10-4mm											2	6	5		8		21
Micro burin													1				1
Tested nodule/bashed lump													1				1
Single platform flake core				1													1
Microlith													1				1
End scraper			1														1
Awl		1															1
Misc retouch													1				1
Hammerstone																1	1
Grand total	4	5	2	11	2		2	3		1	7	6	13	3	8	1	68

Burnt unworked flint no./wt. (g)						1/88			1/1			5/4	9/6	6/7	1/31	9/8		32/145
No. burnt (exc. chips) (%)	1													2				3 (4.4)
No. broken (exc. chips) (%)	1	1		5	1									3			1	12 (17.6)

Provenance

The flintwork and burnt unworked flint was recovered from 16 contexts, including Iron Age and later ditches, disturbed spreads and topsoil. None of the struck flint was recovered from contemporary contexts, but the small quantities of burnt unworked flint are quite plausibly contemporary with the Iron Age archaeology.

Raw material and condition

The raw material was a beige to honey coloured flint with a heavily bleached and abraded cortex. A large number of flakes exhibited some surface cortex suggesting the raw material generally consisted of small nodules. This raw material is characteristic of chalk-derived flint present as a lightly scattered drift deposit on the Greensand in the Weald and would have been locally available. The microlith is manufactured on a reddish-orange flint notably different from the other raw material, suggesting the source may not be local.

The condition of the flint assemblage was relatively poor with the majority of flints exhibiting post-depositional edge damage; some were also rolled. The condition suggests that the flints are not *in situ* and have been subject to some movement, although they are not necessarily far from their original location of deposition. The majority of flints were not corticated, but a few exhibited a light white to bluish surface cortication. A clear example of re-use is demonstrated by uncorticated flake retouched to form an end scraper on a white corticated flake.

Storage and curation

The majority of the struck flints are bagged individually; the burnt unworked flint is bagged by context. The flintwork is adequately boxed and bagged for long-term storage and curation.

The assemblage

The assemblage recovered from TCS Oakhanger comprises flintwork dating from two distinct periods, the Mesolithic and late Neolithic/Bronze. These groups are considered separately below.

Mesolithic

The Mesolithic assemblage consists of a microlith, a micro-burin and possibly five flakes and blades. The microlith is not readily classifiable using either Jacobi's 1978 or Clark's 1934 classification, but as a rod-like backed bladelet form, it most probably dates from the late Mesolithic. The blades and flakes are clearly product of blade-based industry, with care exercised in platform-edge preparation and reduction, as such as broad Mesolithic date is proposed as it is not possible to directly relate the flints to the microlith.

Late Neolithic/ Bronze Age

The remainder of the assemblage consists of flakes struck using little or no platform

preparation, which appear to belong to flake-based industry; numerous chips recovered from sieving were also present. An abruptly retouched end scraper and broad pointed awl on a flake also appear to belong to this industry. A small flint, classified as miscellaneous retouch, may represent a broken tool with bifacial retouch, such as a knife, but is not readily classifiable. As the assemblage is limited and diagnostic artefacts are absent a broad late Neolithic or Bronze Age date is suggested; the chips may belong to either period considered.

Potential

The flint assemblage recovered from TCS Oakhanger has little potential to address any research aims, as it is disturbed, of mixed date and extremely limited in size. The assemblage is, however, indicative of some Mesolithic activity in the area. This perhaps includes flint knapping, the manufacture of microliths and maintenance of toolkits. The scatter may be considered to represent a period of brief activity in landscape with considerable evidence for occupation in the Mesolithic. The later Neolithic/Bronze Age activity is less informative, due to a lack of chronological refinement, but indicates a continued presence in the landscape.

Recommendations

No further work is recommended on the assemblage, but this report should be edited for inclusion in any publication note.

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APPENDIX 3: THE GLASS FINDS

By Tim Haines

Introduction

A single piece of glass was recovered during the excavation. The glass assemblage include approximately half of a dark blue transparent glass bead of indeterminate date. The bead was 8 mm diameter with a central hole of 3 mm diameter. The bead was of variable thickness ranging between 2 and 3 mm.

The variable thickness of the bead probably demonstrates uneven winding around the mandrel during production.

It is recommended that no further work is undertaken.

APPENDIX 4: ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC EVIDENCE FROM THE SOIL SAMPLES

By Marta Pérez

Methodology

Seven bulk samples, of between 10 and 40 litres in volume, were taken for the recovery of charred plant remains, bones and artefacts. The samples were taken from a range of archaeological features including a linear feature, a posthole, a stakehole and a post pipe, all provisionally dated to the Middle or Late Iron Age. The seven bulk samples were processed by flotation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh. After air-drying the flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at x 10 and x20 magnification with the residues sorted by hand.

Results

The flots ranged in size from less than 5ml to 20ml. Wood charcoal was present in all seven samples, but the majority of fragments were unidentifiable, with a diameter of less than 2 mm. No charred grain was found, but sample 2 contained the occasional remains of charred spikelets. The other charred material found included seeds of *Montia fontana* (blinks) and *Veronica hederifolia* (ivy leaved speedwell) in samples 1, 5 and 6. The first one is a native of damp places , while the second is typically found in cultivated and waste ground, hedgerows and banks.

Snails were absent of all the flots, but the presence of modern weeds, coal and some plastic is likely to indicate some degree of bioturbation or intrusion in the deposits.

Insect carcasses were found in samples 1, 2 and 7.

Residues

All the samples contained fragments of pottery; fired clay and flint (burnt and unburned). Hammerscale and small bone fragments were present in sample 2.

Discussion and recommendations

The results of the assessment indicate that the sampled pit, ditches and linear feature contained some discarded refuse of domestic origin (fuel wood and pottery) and sample 2 contained limited evidence of metalworking (hammerscale). With the exception of a couple of fragments, the charcoal was generally too comminuted for identification and since other ecofacts were similarly scarce, no further work is recommended on these samples.

Table 4: Information from CPR Flots

Sample	Context	Type of Context	Charcoal	Grain/chaff	Notes
1	120	Post pipe fill	++ Wood (<2mm)		Very contaminated with modern grass and weeds. Modern insect carcasses. Charred seeds from *Montia fontana* (Blinks)
2	121	Post hole fill	+++ Wood + Coal	Frag of spikelets +	Some contamination with modern grass. Insect carcasses. Fragments of bone. Hammerscale +. *Chenopodium* sp. seeds+
3	135	Stakehole fill	+++ Wood (majority <2mm)		Some contamination from modern grass and seeds
4	141	Linear	+++ Wood (<2mm) + Coal		Some contamination with grass and sand. Plastic. Burnt clay +.
5	152	Linear	+++ Wood (<2mm)		Some contamination with modern grass and seeds. Charred *Veronica hederifolia* (Ivy leaved speedwell) ++
6	145	Linear	++ Wood (>2mm)		Very contaminated. Charred seeds of *Veronica hederifolia* + and *Montia fontana* +
7	159	Linear	+++ Wood (>2mm)		Very contaminated with modern grass and weeds. Insect carcasses.

+ = present (up to 5 items), ++ = frequent (5-25), +++ = common (25-100), ++++= abundant (>100)

APPENDIX 4: CONTEXT INFORMATION

Table 5: Table of contexts

Context	Type	Extent (m)	Depth (m)	Cut No	Group No	Plan No	Section No	Film No	Sample No	Burnt Flint	Copper Alloy	Fired Clay	Flint	Glass	Pottery	Slag	Comments
100	Layer		0.3				13	F2/8-10					6			1	Topsoil
101	Layer		0.3				13	F2/8-10			1		5		1		Subsoil (Ploughsoil?)
102	Layer					1	11						2				Natural sand
103	Group					1											N-S Ditch
105	Group					1											N-S Ditch
107	Group					1											N-S Ditch
109	Fill	2.4/2.0	0.27	110		1,17	16	F2/17-19					2				Fill of ?tree throw
110	Cut	2.4/2.0	0.27			1,17	16	F2/17-19									Tree Throw?
111	Cut	0.37/0.24	0.15			1,3	1	F1/1-3									Posthole
112	Fill	0.37/0.24	0.15	111		1,3	1	F1/1-3					2				Fill of Posthole
113	Cut	0.3/0.3	0.16			1,4	2	F1/4-6									Posthole
114	Fill	0.3/0.3	0.16	113		1,4	2	F1/4-6									Fill of Posthole
115	Cut	0.11/0.11	0.08			5	3	F1/7-9									Stakehole
116	Fill	0.11/0.11	0.08	115		5	3	F1/7-9									Fill of Stakehole
117	Cut	0.18/0.18	0.09			1,6	4	F1/10-12									Posthole
118	Fill	0.18/0.18	0.09	117		1,6	4	F1/10-12									Fill of Posthole

Context	Type	Extent (m)	Depth (m)	Cut No	Group No	Plan No	Section No	Film No	Sample No	Burnt Flint	Copper Alloy	Fired Clay	Flint	Glass	Pottery	Slag	Comments
119	Cut	0.40/0.35	0.27			1,7	5	F1/13-15									Posthole
120	Fill	0.27/0.27	0.15	119		1,7	5	F1/13-15	1						1		Post Pipe
121	Fill	0.40/0.35	0.26	119		1,7	5	F1/13-15	2	2		5	1				Fill of Posthole
122	Cut	0.26/0.26	0.17			1,8	6	F1/16-18									Posthole
123	Cut	0.24/0.20	0.08			1,8	6	F1/16-18									Posthole
124	Fill	0.26/0.26	0.17	122		1,8	6	F1/16-18									Fill of Posthole
125	Fill	0.24/0.20	0.08	123		1,8	6	F1/16-18									Fill of Posthole
126	Cut	>3.9/0.24	0.07			1,9	7	F1/19-21									Plough Scar?
127	Fill	>3.9/0.24	0.07	126		1,9	7	F1/19-21									Fill of ?plough Scar
128	Cut	0.52/0.30	0.4			1,10	8,9	F1/22-24,25-27									Posthole?
129	Cut	0.30/0.30	0.25			1,10	9	F1/22-24,25-27									Posthole
130	Cut	0.08/0.20	0.18			1,10	8	F1/22-24,25-27									Posthole
131	Fill	0.52/0.30	0.4	128		1,10	8,9	F1/22-24,25-27					1				Fill of Posthole
132	Fill	0.30/0.30	0.25	129		1,10	9	F1/22-24,25-27									Fill of Posthole
133	Fill	0.08/0.20	0.18	130		1,10	8	F1/22-24,25-27									Fill of Posthole

Context	Type	Extent (m)	Depth (m)	Cut No	Group No	Plan No	Section No	Film No	Sample No	Burnt Flint	Copper Alloy	Fired Clay	Flint	Glass	Pottery	Slag	Comments
134	Cut	0.045/0.045	0.16			1,11	10	F1/28-30									Stakehole
135	Fill	0.045/0.045	0.16	134		1,11	10	F1/28-30	3			1					Fill of Stakehole
136	Cut	0.30/0.28	0.2			1,12	11	F2/2-4									Posthole
137	Fill	0.30/0.28	0.2	136		1,12	11	F2/2-4				1					Fill of Posthole
138	Cut	0.18/0.18	0.09			1,12	11	F2/2-4									Posthole
139	Fill	0.18/0.18	0.09	138		1,12	11	F2/2-4									Fill of Posthole
160	Cut	0.70/0.72	0.06			1,18	17	F2/20-22									Plough Scar?
161	Fill	0.70/0.72	0.06	160		1,18	17	F2/20-22					1				Fill of ?Plough Scar
177	Group																N-S Ditch
178	Find Ref			177													Finds recovered during machining/cleaning
179	Group																Plough Scar
180	Find Ref			179											2		Finds recovered during machining/cleaning
104	Find Ref				103								11		1		Finds recovered during machining/cleaning
140	Cut	0.67	0.32		103	1,13	12	F2/5-7									1m Ditch Slot
141	Fill	0.67	0.32	140	103	1,13	12	F2/5-7	4	5		1	11		2		Ditch Fill
144	Cut	1.12	0.44		103	1,14	13	F2/8-10									1m Ditch Slot
145	Fill	0.79	0.3	144	103	1,14	13	F2/8-10	6	9			9		7		Ditch Fill

Context	Type	Extent (m)	Depth (m)	Cut No	Group No	Plan No	Section No	Film No	Sample No	Burnt Flint	Copper Alloy	Fired Clay	Flint	Glass	Pottery	Slag	Comments
146	Fill	1.12	0.44	144	103	1,14	13	F2/8-10									Ditch Fill
149	Cut	0.55	0.19		103	1,15	14	F2/11-13									1m Ditch Slot
150	Fill	0.55	0.19	149	103	1,15	14	F2/11-13							1		Ditch Fill
151	Cut	0.94	0.36		103	1,15	16	F2/14-16									1m Ditch Slot
152	Fill	0.94	0.23	151	103	1,15	16	F2/14-16	5	5			15		2		Ditch Fill
153	Fill	0.56	0.14	151	103	1,15	16	F2/14-16					8				Ditch Fill
106	Find Ref				105							2	2		2		Finds recovered during machining/cleaning
156	Cut	0.49	0.32		105	1,17	16	F2/17-19						1			1m Ditch Slot
157	Fill	0.49	0.32	156	105	1,17	16	F2/17-19									Ditch Fill
162	Cut	0.4	0.08		105	1,18	17	F2/20-22									1m Ditch Slot
163	Fill	0.4	0.08	162	105	1,18	17	F2/20-22									Ditch Fill
168	Cut	0.43	0.33		105	1,19	18	F2/23-25									1m Ditch Slot
169	Fill	0.32	0.1	168	105	1,19	18	F2/23-25									Ditch Fill
170	Fill	0.43	0.22	168	105	1,19	18	F2/23-25									Ditch Fill
175	Cut	0.88	0.27		105	1,20	19	F2/26-28									1m Ditch Slot
176	Fill	0.88	0.27	175	105	1,20	19	F2/26-28									Ditch Fill
108	Find Ref				107								2				Finds recovered during machining/cleaning

Context	Type	Extent (m)	Depth (m)	Cut No	Group No	Plan No	Section No	Film No	Sample No	Burnt Flint	Copper Alloy	Fired Clay	Flint	Glass	Pottery	Slag	Comments
158	Cut	0.67	0.3		107	1,17	16	F2/17-19									1m Ditch Slot
159	Fill	0.67	0.3	158	107	1,17	16	F2/17-19	7	9					2		Ditch Fill
166	Cut	0.52	0.18		107	1,18	17	F2/20-22									1m Ditch Slot
167	Fill	0.52	0.18	166	107	1,18	17	F2/20-22									Ditch Fill
173	Cut	0.44	0.14		107	1,19	18	F2/23-25									0.89m Ditch Slot
174	Fill	0.44	0.14	173	107	1,19	18	F2/23-25									Ditch Fill
142	Cut	0.21	0.06		177	1,14	13	F2/8-10									1m Ditch Slot
143	Fill	0.21	0.06	142	177	1,14	13	F2/8-10									Ditch Fill
147	Cut	0.2	0.06		177	1,15	14	F2/11-13									1m ?Plough Scar Slot
148	Fill	0.2	0.06	147	177	1,15	14	F2/11-13									Fill of ?plough Scar
154	Cut	0.39	0.19		177	1,16	15	F2/14-16									1m Ditch Slot
155	Fill	0.39	0.19	154	177	1,16	15	F2/14-16					4				Ditch Fill
164	Cut	0.4	0.04		179	1,18	17	F2/20-22									Plough Scar? (1m slot)
171	Cut	0.21	0.08		179	1,19	18	F2/23-25									Plough Furrow?
165	Fill	0.4	0.04	164	180	1,18	17	F2/20-22									Fill of ?Plough Scar
172	Fill	0.21	0.08	171	180	1,19	18	F2/23-25									Fill of ?Plough Furrow

Figure 1: Site location

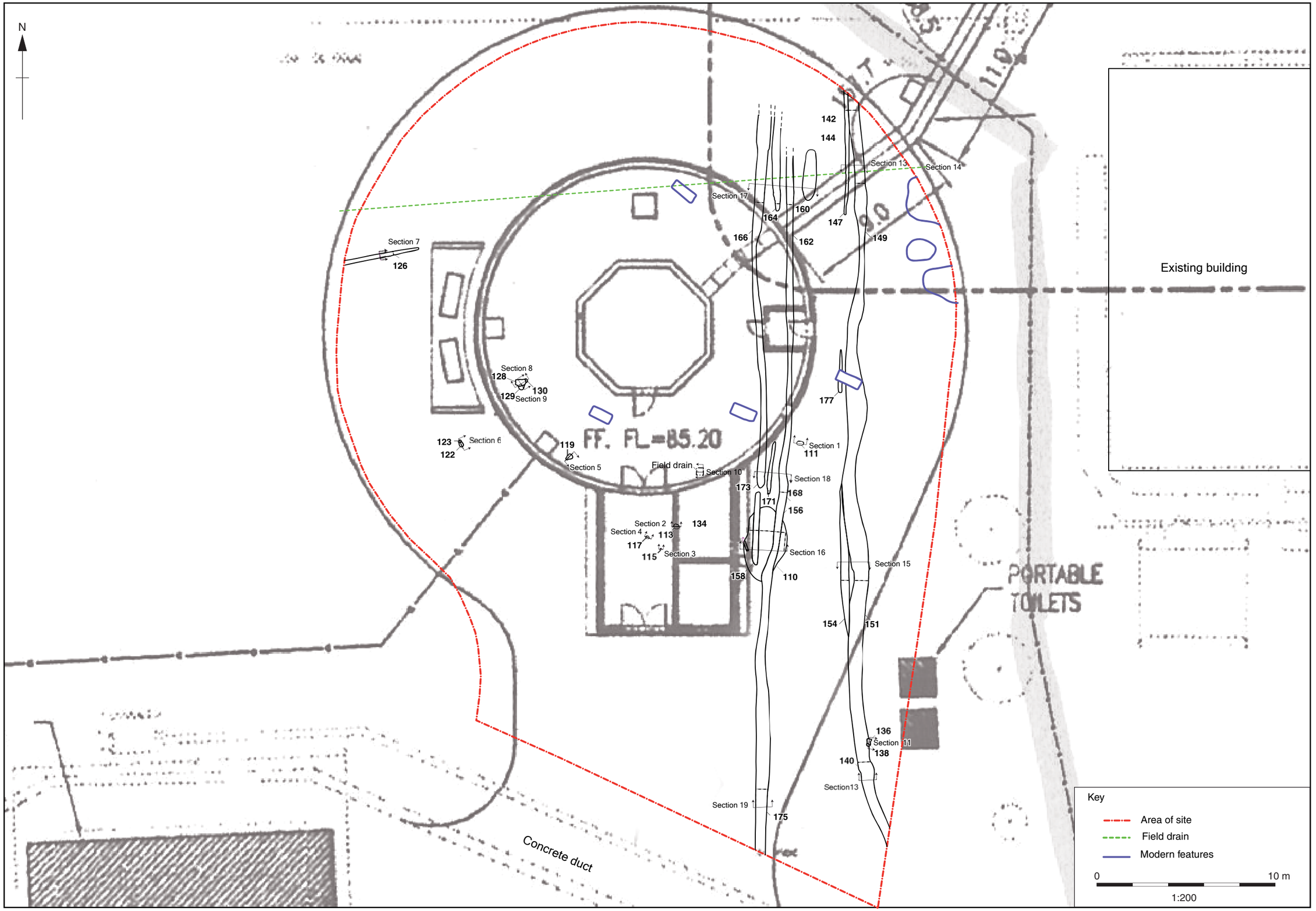

Figure 2: Plan of all features

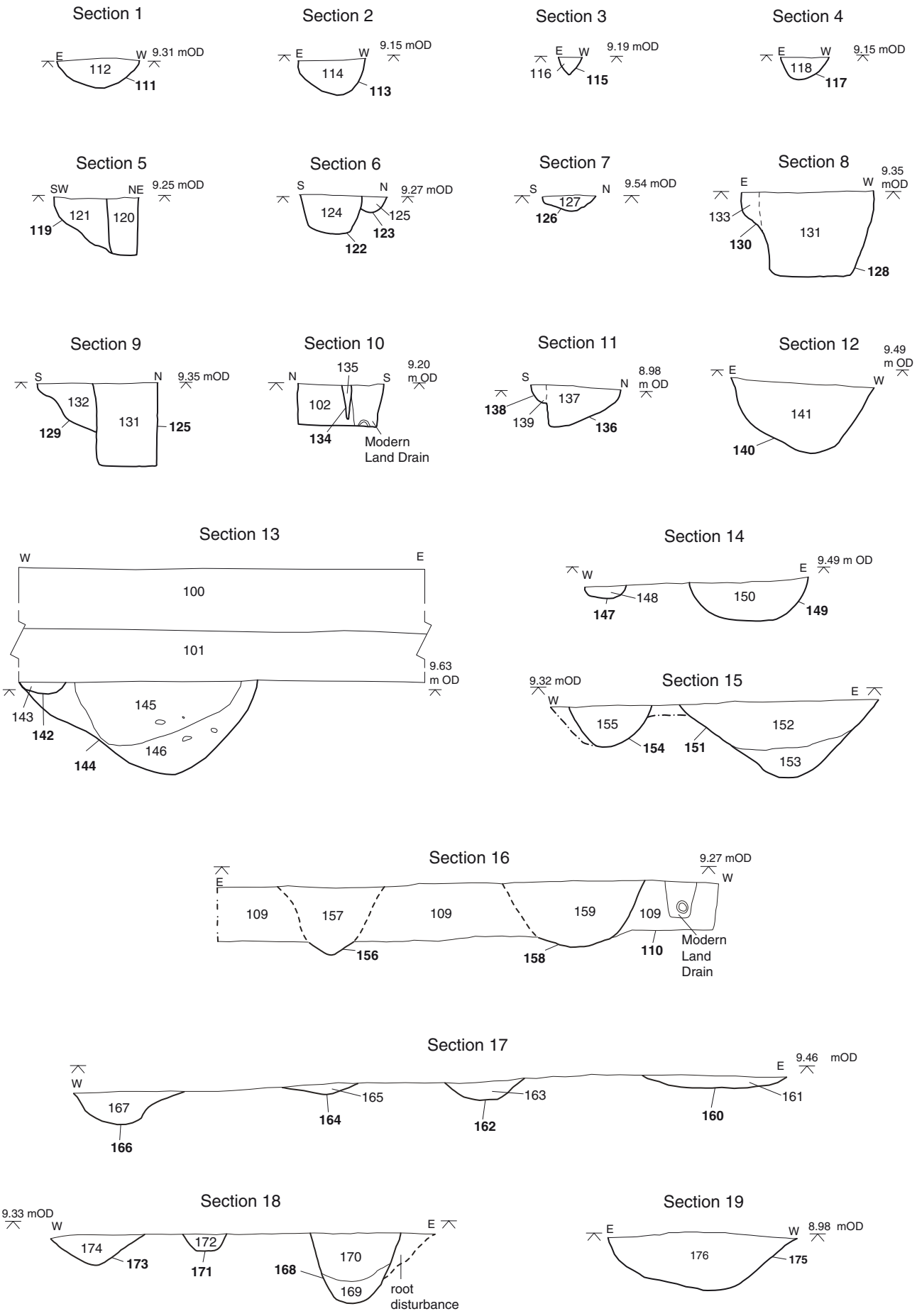

Figure 3: Sections 1-19

Oxford Archaeology

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.thehumanjourney.net

Oxford Archaeology North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606
e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.thehumanjourney.net

Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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Registered Office:
Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES