



Land at the Grange Rothley Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



July 2006

**Client: John Samuels
Archaeological Consultants**

Issue N^o: 2
OA Job N^o: 2890
Planning Ref N^o: P/05/1550/2
NGR: SK 5867 1273

The Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

CONTENTS

Summary	2
1 Introduction	2
1.1 Scope of work.....	2
1.2 Location, geology and topography	2
1.3 Archaeological and historical background	2
2 Evaluation Aims	3
3 Evaluation Methodology	3
3.1 Scope of fieldwork	3
3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording	4
3.3 Finds	4
3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence	4
3.5 Presentation of results.....	4
4 Results: General.....	4
4.1 Soils and ground conditions	4
4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits	5
5 Results: Descriptions	5
5.1 Description of deposits	5
5.2 Finds	9
6 Discussion and Interpretation	11
6.1 Reliability of field investigation	11
6.2 Overall interpretation.....	11
Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory.....	13
Appendix 2 Bibliography and References.....	16
Appendix 3 Summary of Site Details.....	16

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1 Site location
Fig. 2 Site plan including trench locations
Fig. 3 Trench 7 plan
Fig. 4 Trench 8 plan
Fig. 5 Trench 9 plan
Fig. 6 Section of layer 819
Fig. 7 Trenches 8 and 9 sections

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1 Trench 8
Plate 2 Trench 9
Plate 3 Pathway 904
Plate 4 Layer 819
Plate 5 Grave 913

SUMMARY

Between the 26th and 28th of June 2006, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at the Grange Rothley, Leicestershire (NGR: SK 5867 1273) on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC). The evaluation was a continuation of one previously undertaken by OA during September 2005, the results of which are included in this report. A Christian cemetery, of unknown date, was located in the south-western corner of the development area. There was also evidence for the use of some of the land as permanent pasture or flood meadows. Fragments of later Roman pottery and CBM were recovered from Trench 8, suggesting the presence of nearby settlement activity. No evidence was encountered for the extent of the medieval village of Rothley.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Between 26th and 28th June 2006, OA carried out a field evaluation at the Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire (NGR: SK 5867 1273) on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC), in respect of a planning application for the construction of apartments and the conversion of the Grange to residential use (Planning Application No. P/05/1550/2). This was a continuation of an evaluation carried out by OA between the 5th and 7th of September 2005.

1.1.2 The work was carried out in accordance with “A Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at the Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire” issued by the client (JSAC 1228/05/01a).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

1.2.1 The development site is situated to the east of Fowke Street, Rothley, 6.4 km north of Leicester (Fig. 1) and occupies an area of approximately 1.8 hectares.

1.2.2 The site lies at an average height of 48 m above OD and slopes gently down to the north and east towards Rothley Brook, which forms the eastern boundary of the site. The underlying soils are loams over clay soils of the Dunnington Heath association, overlying clay subsoils and Permo-Triassic mudstones (SSEW 1983).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the site had been undertaken (JSAC/1228/04/02) prior to the evaluation, the results of which are presented below.

1.3.2 There is evidence of activity from the prehistoric period from a light scatter of Neolithic flint noted from approximately 400 m east of the site, and a large Bronze Age ring ditch and a rectilinear enclosure that may date from the Iron Age has been identified from cropmarks approximately 400 m to the south of the site. The findspot

of a Roman coin is recorded approximately 50 m west of the site and the site of a Roman villa is known about 2 km to the west, at a location that has also produced evidence of an Anglo-Saxon burial.

- 1.3.3 Rothley is recorded as a substantial settlement by 1086, when it had a population of 29 villagers, 18 smallholders and a priest. This may suggest that the village possessed a church, and a late Saxon cross stands in the churchyard. The Knights Templar possessed land at Rothley by 1203, and it is likely that their preceptory and chapel were built, to the west of the village, soon after Henry III granted them the manor in 1231. They remained in their possession until 1308, after which the Crown granted Rothley to the Knights Hospitallers, who retained it for the remainder of the medieval period. The extent of the medieval village has been deduced, and it is considered that it encompassed approximately half of the proposed development site.
- 1.3.4 A 1782 plan of Rothley shows the Grange with a range of outbuildings to the north, and extensive grounds to the east, stretching down to Rothley brook, which formed a large meander. The First Edition 1" Ordnance Survey map of 1835 shows that by that date, a channel had been made through the Rothley Brook meander. Further extensions and outbuildings had been built since and the Grange has been used as office accommodation since 1950.
- 1.3.5 In summary, the assessment identified that the south-western half of the site lies within the deduced extent of the medieval village, and may contain late Saxon and/or medieval remains.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1.1 The aims of the investigation were:

- To locate, identify and assess the state of preservation of any potential archaeological remains.
- To provide further information on the development of Rothley and the historic character of the development site.
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological features and deposits encountered.
- To place these remains within their local, regional and national context.
- To define the limits and assess the character of the cemetery located in the south-western corner of the site.
- To provide a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the local SMR.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

3.1.1 The evaluation was to have consisted of 7 trenches measuring between 10 m and 30 m in length by 1.5 m in width (Fig. 2), forming a 5 % sample of the part of the site considered to have a potential for late Saxon and/or medieval remains.

3.1.2 However, in September 2005, the presence of Pink Waxcap Fungi (a protected species) on the site meant that only trenches 1, 2, 5 and 7 were opened, an area of 105 m², forming an approximate 2.5 % sample. The area surrounding trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6 was proposed for flood compensation works, which are no longer a requirement of the development and, therefore, will not be effected by the development.

3.1.3 In June 2006, a further two trenches (8 and 9), (Fig. 2), (Plates 1 and 2), were opened within the south-western part of the site in order to identify the nature and extent of the burials seen in the initial phase of evaluation. These trenches measured 24.5 m by 1.7 m and 10 m by 1.7 m respectively.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

3.2.1 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a mechanical excavator (JCB) fitted with a toothless bucket. Excavation proceeded to the top of the natural geology or to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first.

3.2.2 The trenches were cleaned by hand and any revealed features (where possible) were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. The trenches and archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:50 and sections of excavated features and sample sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All features, sections and trenches were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OA Field Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

3.3 Finds

3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

3.4.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the evaluation.

3.5 Presentation of results

3.5.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below trench by trench followed by an overall discussion.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

4.1.1 All the trenches came down onto natural deposits, which varied from natural clays (Trenches 5, 7 and 9), natural silty sand (Trench 1), and gravels (Trench 2). Ground water was not encountered in any of the trenches.

4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

4.2.1 All the significant archaeological deposits were confined to trenches 7, 8 and 9, located to the south of the development site, with only minor archaeology encountered within the northern trenches.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of deposits

Trench 1

5.1.1 This trench measured 10 m long by 1.63 m wide. The underlying natural, a dark reddish orange silty sand with blue-grey mottling (104), was encountered at a depth of 1.14 m below ground level. At the south-eastern end of the trench this layer was cut by a 0.7 m wide by 0.14 m deep linear feature running north-south diagonally across the trench (107). This feature had steeply sloping sides with a flat base and probably represents a boundary ditch. This was filled by a dark grey-brown sandy silt (108), a silting deposit.

5.1.2 This feature was sealed by a 0.5 m thick layer of light orange sandy clay (103), a probable layer of alluvium. Cut into the top of this layer was the north-eastern edge of a (probably), circular feature measuring 1.7 m diameter by 0.4 m deep (105), (Fig. 4, section 102). This was filled by a very dark brown sandy silt (106), that contained burnt material and produced post-medieval transfer printed pottery, suggesting that this feature may have been a rubbish pit. Overlying this feature and layer 103 was a 0.5 m thick layer of dark orange sandy clay (102), a layer of alluvium. This was overlaid with a 0.6 m deep layer of hardcore (101), topped with the current tarmac car park surface.

Trench 2

5.1.3 This trench measured 10 m long by 1.6 m wide. The natural, an orange gravel within a clay matrix (204), was encountered at a depth of 1.3 m below the current ground level. This was overlaid by a 0.2 m deep layer of mid brown clay (203), a layer of alluvium. Overlying this was a 0.7 m thick layer of dark brown silty clay (202), a later alluvial deposit. This was sealed by a 0.6 m deep layer of modern hardcore (201), which supported a modern tarmac surface.

Trench 5

5.1.4 This trench was originally intended to be 29 m in length by 1.6 m wide, however the presence of a substantial concrete block and the stoppage of the site by the presence of the Pink Waxcap Fungi meant that this trench was reduced to 6 m in length.

- 5.1.5 The underlying natural, a dark orange clay sand (502), was encountered at a depth of 0.7 m below ground level. Running in from the northern end of the trench was the corner of a straight edged rectangular feature (507). This was filled by a mid brown silty sand (508). Also cut into the natural was a circular feature (505), approximately 0.4 m in diameter. This was filled by a mid brown sandy silt (506), which contained a small fragment of brick and a fragment of slag. Towards the southern end of the trench a rectangular feature (503), measuring 1.35 m by 0.46 m could be seen cut into the surface of 502. This was filled by a dark brown silty clay (504), which produced a fragment of brick with attached lime mortar.
- 5.1.6 Due to the stoppage of the site these features remained unexcavated. They were sealed by a 0.7 m thick layer of mid brown clay loam (501), the present day topsoil.

Trench 7

- 5.1.7 This trench measured 30 m long by 1.6 m wide (Fig. 3).
- 5.1.8 The underlying natural, a reddish brown clay, mottled with blue grey clay (703), was encountered at a depth of 0.65 m below the current ground level. At the western end of the trench a 1.1 m wide linear feature (722), could be observed running north-south across the trench. This was filled by a mid brown silty sand (723), which produced a large fragment of undated brick. This feature may represent a boundary ditch. Running in from the southern baulk of the trench was a circular feature 0.6 m in diameter (720). This was filled by a dark brown silty sand (721), and is interpreted as a small pit. To the east of (721), was a circular feature (718), 0.5 m diameter and filled by a mid brown sandy silt (719). This feature has been interpreted as a posthole.
- 5.1.9 Towards the centre of the trench, a rectangular feature (716), measuring 0.9 m by 0.5 m could be seen cut into the surface of the natural (703). This was filled with a mid brown silty sand (717). Long bones and the back of a skull could be seen on the surface of this deposit suggesting that the feature was a human inhumation, while its east-west alignment suggests a Christian burial.
- 5.1.10 In the centre of the trench a rectangular feature measuring 1.5 m by 0.65 m (714), could be observed lying on the same east-west alignment. Filling this cut was a mid brown silty sand (715). The presence of long bones visible on the surface of this deposit suggests that it also is a human burial.
- 5.1.11 Cutting the south-east corner of this inhumation, was a 2m long by 0.6 m wide feature (712), running along the southern baulk of the trench. This was filled by a mid brown silty sand (713), which also displayed long bones.
- 5.1.12 To the east of this grave was an elliptical cut (710), measuring 0.5 m long by 0.35 m wide. This was filled by a reddish brown sandy silt (711). This feature may represent a small pit or posthole. East of the centre of the trench, a rectangular feature (708), measuring 0.9 m by 0.45 m and aligned south-west to north-east, could be seen cut into the surface of the natural clay. This was filled with a mid brown sandy silt (709).

Although no bones were visible and the alignment is slightly awry, this may represent a juvenile inhumation.

- 5.1.13 At the eastern end of the trench a corner of a rectangular feature (706), was observed running in from the northern baulk of the trench. Filling this was a mid brown sandy silt (707). Its alignment and shape suggests that this also is a grave cut. At the eastern extent of the trench a rectangular cut (704), measuring 2.15 m long and 0.52 m could be observed cut into the surface of the natural. This east-west aligned feature was filled with a mid brown silty sand (705). The shape and alignment of this feature also suggested an inhumation.
- 5.1.14 Sealing all these features was an overall layer of reddish brown silty clay (702), 0.25 m thick, a layer of earlier worked soil. This was overlaid by a 0.4 m deep layer of dark brown clay loam (701), the present day topsoil and turf.
- 5.1.15 Although all features were cleaned and recorded no further excavation of the graves was undertaken, however, a fragment of cranium was recovered from the spoil and was retained for analysis (See human bone report within section 5, finds).

Trench 8

- 5.1.16 This trench measured 27.5 m long by 1.7 m wide (Fig. 4), (Plate 1), and was aligned north-south. The natural, a reddish brown mottled sandy clay (802), was encountered in patches throughout the trench at a maximum depth of 0.4 m below the current ground level. This was overlaid by a 0.25 m thick layer of light to mid brown silty sand (801). Fragments of roman pottery, dated to the later Roman period, and tegulae were recovered from this context although it is possible that they came from layer 819. Layer 819 (Fig. 6), (Plate 4), was 0.24 m thick deposit of dark grey clayey silt overlying the natural (802), and sealed by the subsoil (801). It had a maximum width of 3.14 m, but the full extent could not be ascertained since it continued into the baulk. A fragment of probable tegula and a fragment of roman brick were recovered from this layer (See the Roman pottery and ceramic building material report within section 5, finds). No cut was visible, which suggests that this may be a rubbish or demolition layer.
- 5.1.17 The northern half of the trench contained a number of features (Fig. 4), all cut into the subsoil (801). A rectangular cut (807), 0.62 m wide and 0.18 m deep, was observed running in from the northern baulk of the trench. This was filled with a dark greyish brown silty sand (808). An oval cut (809), 0.38 m long by 0.25 m wide, with a depth of 0.18 m was located next to the eastern edge of the trench. This was filled with a dark greyish brown silty sand (810), and is interpreted as a post-hole associated with the post-medieval Grange gardens. Approximately 1.6 m south of 809 was another oval cut (811), measuring 0.4 m by 0.28 m, with a depth of 0.14 m. Filling this was a dark greyish brown silty loam (812). This feature is also interpreted as a post-hole associated with the Grange gardens. A further 1.7 m south of this feature was cut 813. This was an oval cut measuring 0.3 m by 0.26 m, with a depth of 0.28 m, filled with a mid brownish grey silty sand (814). It was interpreted as a post-hole associated with the post-medieval Grange

gardens. A sub-circular cut (815), measuring 0.56 by 0.4 m, with a depth of 0.42 m was located approximately 0.3 m south of feature 813. This was filled with a dark brown silty sand, and is interpreted as a small pit or large post-hole. A possible circular cut (817), was located running out of the western baulk of the trench. It measured 0.12 m by 0.48 m, with a depth of 0.27 m, and was filled with dark greyish brown silty sand. Due to the size of the visible part of this feature it was interpreted as a post-hole.

- 5.1.18 Towards the southern end of this trench two rectangular features (803 and 806), cut into the subsoil (801), were uncovered running out of the eastern baulk, and aligned east-west. These features were approximately 0.5 m apart and measured 0.7 m by 0.44 m, and 0.7 m by 0.45 m respectively. Both were filled with a mid greyish brown sandy silt (804 and 805 respectively), and bone fragments were visible on the surface. The presence of bone fragments, and their alignment, suggest that these features are both inhumations.
- 5.1.19 Sealing all these features was a 0.38 m thick layer of dark brown silty loam (800), the present day topsoil and turf (Fig. 7).

Trench 9

- 5.1.20 This trench measured 10 m long by 1.7 m wide (Fig. 5), (Plate 2), and was aligned east-west. The natural, a mottled greyish white and reddish brown sandy clay (902), was encountered in small patches within the western half of the trench, at a maximum depth of 0.45 m below the current ground level. This was overlaid by a 0.15 m thick layer of dark reddish brown silty clay (901). At the eastern end of the trench two concentrations of bone were uncovered, aligned east-west, and located approximately 0.15 m apart. The bones were within a mid brown sandy silt (903 and 907 respectively). The edges of both these features were unclear, but the presence of bone within both of the fills suggest that these are inhumations. Partially overlying these inhumations was a north-south aligned pathway (904), (Plate 3), measuring 1.5 m wide. The pathway was slate lined and consisted of a 0.3 m wide, silt and rubble drain running along each side, with a 0.9 m wide reddish brown compact gravel pathway in-between. No dating evidence was recovered from the pathway, but the presence of further inhumations underneath, and only a 0.02 m thick layer of topsoil (900), covering the pathway suggests that it is post medieval and associated with the Grange.
- 5.1.21 To the west of the pathway was another concentration of bone within a mid brown sandy silt (908). No cut was visible, since the fill was very similar to the surrounding subsoil (901). Although no cut was visible, this feature is interpreted as an inhumation, due to the presence of bone and its proximity to other inhumations.
- 5.1.22 A semicircular cut, measuring 0.55 m by 0.65 m (909), was observed running in from the southern baulk of the trench. This was filled with a mid-dark brown clayey silt (910), which contained human bone. The shape of this feature was impossible to ascertain since it was only partially uncovered. This feature is interpreted as an inhumation.
- 5.1.23 Two rectangular cuts (911 and 913), aligned east-west, were observed running in from the western baulk of the trench. Cut 911 was partially covered by the southern

and eastern baulk, and measured 1.9 m by 0.36 m. It was filled with a mid-dark brown clayey loam (912). Approximately 0.2 m to the north was cut 913 (Plate 5), the edges of which were unclear but measured at least 2.1 m by 0.9 m. This feature continued into the western and northern baulk, and was filled with a mid-dark brown clayey loam (914). Human bone was visible within the fill of both of these features, suggesting that they are both inhumations.

5.1.24 It is possible that there are more inhumations located within this trench, which were not visible due to the similarity between the fills and the subsoil (Fig. 5). Excavation was not undertaken since the evaluation called for the preservation of all graves in-situ.

5.1.25 All the inhumations were cut into the subsoil (901), and sealed by a 0.25 m thick layer of dark brown clayey loam (900), the modern day topsoil and turf (Fig. 7).

5.2 Finds

General: Trenches 1-7

5.2.1 Fragments of brick and tile were recovered from six contexts, however they were insufficient for any meaningful analysis, as was the small fragment of slag recovered from one context. The only pottery recovered was from a post-medieval context.

General: Trenches 8 and 9

5.2.2 Features 807 (See post-Medieval pottery report within section 5, finds), 809, 813, 815 all contained post-medieval finds, suggesting that these features were associated with the post-medieval Grange garden.

5.2.3 Fragments of Roman pottery and CBM were uncovered from the subsoil (801), and from layer 819 (See the Roman pottery and ceramic building material report within section 5, finds). The large size of the fragments, and the fact that they are in very good condition indicates that they have not been extensively re-deposited.

5.2.4 A single flint core was recovered from the subsoil. The core had small bladelet removals which suggest a late Mesolithic to early Neolithic date. No finds were recovered from trench 9.

Human Bone from the Grange, Rothley

by Ceridwen Boston (OA)

5.2.5 A single fragment of human skull (724) was recovered from an unstratified context within Trench 7. In view its close vicinity to the graves revealed within the trench, it is probable that this bone originated from one such feature. The fresh breaks on the

bone suggest that this disturbance was of recent date, possibly during mechanical excavation of the trench.

- 5.2.6 The fragment (measuring 80.1 mm x 49.2 mm) was the posterior and central portion of a right parietal bone of the cranial vault, which included the sagittal and lamdoid sutures. Bone preservation was fair, with relatively little demineralisation of the bone matrix, but with some flaking of the outer table on the ectocranial surface. The skull fragment was part of an adult. The cranial sutures were unfused on the ectocranial surface, indicating an age less than 40 years (Meindl and Lovejoy 1985). However, the endocranial sutures appeared to be in the process of fusion, suggesting an adult, aged 30+ years (Krogman and Iscan 1986). Hence, the individual was aged 30 - 40 years. The bone was not sexually diagnostic.

The post-Roman pottery

by John Cotter (OA)

- 5.2.7 A single sherd of post-medieval pottery weighing 9g was recovered from context 807. This is most likely to be of 19th-century date. It comes from the rim of a mass-produced 'yellowware' dish, possibly a large sub-rectangular oven dish or bread pan. Yellowware is a dense buttery-coloured clear glazed earthenware produced at many potteries in the Midlands from the late 18th century until around the time of the Second World War. Large dishes as the one here were particularly common in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Roman pottery and ceramic building material

by Paul Booth (OA)

- 5.2.8 Three sherds (53 g) of Roman pottery were recovered from context 801. All are in well-fired sandy reduced coarse ware fabrics, presumably of relatively local origin. Two of the sherds are everted rims from jars and the third sherd is a shoulder fragment with burnished lattice decoration. The vessel forms are not closely datable, but are unlikely to be earlier than the mid-late 2nd century AD and could date to any time within the later Roman period.
- 5.2.9 Three fragments of ceramic building material (616 g) also came from context 801. These were from two separate tegulae, one represented by two joining flange fragments. Two further ceramic building material fragments (605 g) came from context 819. One of these was probably also from a tegula (26 mm thick) while the other, 38-40 mm in thickness, was from a brick, but the form is uncertain in the absence of any other complete dimensions.

5.2.10 All the Roman material is in fairly fresh condition and the fragments are reasonably large. This suggests that the material has not been extensively redeposited and relates to settlement activity in the near vicinity.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

6.1.1 The conditions in the field were fine and dry. There was relatively little intrusion by modern features such as services and land drains.

6.1.2 All trenches were excavated to full depth with a good sample of features excavated and recorded.

6.1.3 Trenches 3, 4, 6 and most of 5 were not excavated. This part of the site is, therefore, unevaluated and in particular the extent of the cemetery seen to the south cannot be confidently estimated (although see below).

6.2 Overall interpretation

6.2.1 There is evidence for the substantial deposition of alluvial material throughout the site, particularly towards the northern, lower, extent of the development area. This evidence of flooding would suggest that any occupation would have been concentrated in the marginally higher ground towards the south-west corner of the site.

6.2.2 The north-south aligned boundary ditch observed within Trench 1 suggests that the area has been divided up in the past, however the lack of dating evidence makes it impossible to assign a period to this feature. The lack of significant archaeological deposits within Trenches 1, 2 and any deposits predating the post-medieval deposits within Trench 5 suggests that the central area of the site may have been utilised as permanent pasture or water meadows in the past with no evidence for occupation.

6.2.3 The number of inhumations encountered within Trenches 7, 8 and 9, (up to 13), suggest the presence of a substantial cemetery within this area. The general east-west alignment of the grave cuts would also suggest that they were Christian in origin, although no dating evidence was recovered from any of the inhumations. Ditch 722 which was located running north-south in Trench 7 was not visible within Trench 9, which suggests that it is an earlier feature which has been obscured by the later inhumations. The northern extent of the graveyard seems to be roughly in line with the edge of the present day Grange buildings. The eastern and western extents were not identified in this evaluation.

6.2.4 The large number of inhumations located throughout Trench 9 suggest that they continue into the present churchyard within Rothley, which is located directly to the

south of the site. It is likely that this cemetery was originally part of this churchyard, but whose existence had been forgotten by the time the Grange was built in the seventeenth hundreds. It is also possible that the cemetery's existence was known but the owners of the Grange were still able to purchase the land from the church to form part of their garden.

- 6.2.5 The Roman tegula and brick fragment found within layer 819 in Trench 8, suggest that this is a demolition layer associated with a Roman building. The large number of late Roman pottery and CBM fragments uncovered within the subsoil (801), also suggest that the area was settled during the later Roman period. The findspot of a Roman coin, recorded approximately 50 m west of the site and the site of a Roman villa, about 2 km to the west, show that the area surrounding the site was indeed in use during the Roman period. No definitive evidence of any structures relating to this period were uncovered during the evaluation.
- 6.2.6 The single flint core found within the subsoil (801), of Trench 8, suggests that the area was in use during the prehistoric period, which is backed up by the presence of a light scatter of Neolithic flint approximately 400 m east of the site.
- 6.2.7 No evidence for the extent of the medieval village of Rothley was encountered during the course of the evaluation or for previous structures relating to the Grange.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i> Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
1							
	101	Layer	-	0.6	Modern hardcore base	Brick	C20th
	102	Layer	-	0.5	Alluvial deposit	-	-
	103	Layer	-	0.5	Alluvial deposit	-	-
	104	Layer	-	> 0.1	Natural clay	-	-
	105	Cut	2.9	0.38	Probable rubbish pit	-	C19th
	106	Fill	2.9	0.38	Backfill of 105	Pottery	C19th
	107	Cut	0.66	0.14	Boundary ditch	-	-
	108	Fill	0.66	0.14	Fill of 107	-	-
2							
	201	Layer	-	0.6	Made ground	Brick	C20th
	202	Layer	-	0.7	Alluvial deposit	-	-
	203	Layer	-	0.2	Natural clay	-	-
	204	Layer	-	> 0.1	Natural gravel	-	-
5							
	501	layer	-	0.77	Topsoil and turf	-	-
	502	Layer	-	> 0.1	Natural clay sand	-	-
	503	Cut	0.46	-	Modern feature	-	C19th ?
	504	Fill	0.46	-	Backfill of 503	Tile	C19th ?
	505	Cut	0.4	-	Small pit / posthole	-	C20th
	506	Fill	0.4	-	Fill of 505	Tile, tarmac	C20th
	507	Cut	> 0.7	-	Probable rectangular pit	-	-
	508	Fill	> 0.7	-	Backfill of 507	-	-
7							
	701	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil and turf	-	C20th
	702	Layer	-	0.22	Alluvial deposit	-	-
	703	Layer	-	> 0.1	Natural clay	-	-
	704	Cut	0.52	-	Grave cut	-	-
	705	Fill	0.52	-	Fill of 704	Human	-

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Depth. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
7							
	706	Cut	> 0.3	-	Grave cut	-	-
	707	Fill	> 0.3	-	Fill of 706	Human bone	-
	708	Cut	0.4	-	Grave cut	-	-
	709	Fill	0.4	-	Fill of 708	Human bone	-
	710	Cut	0.5	-	Small pit	-	-
	711	Fill	0.5	-	Fill of 710	-	-
	712	Cut	0.6	-	Grave cut	-	-
	713	Fill	0.6	-	Fill of 712	Human bone	-
	714	Cut	0.65	-	Grave cut	-	-
	715	Fill	0.65	-	Fill of 714	Human bone	-
	716	Cut	0.5	-	Grave cut	-	-
	717	Fill	0.5	-	Fill of 716	Human bone	-
	718	Cut	0.45	-	Small pit/ post hole	-	-
	719	Fill	0.45	-	Fill of 718	-	-
	720	Cut	0.6	-	Small pit	-	-
	721	Fill	0.6	-	Fill of 720	Animal bone	-
	722	Cut	1.5	-	Possible boundary ditch	-	-
	723	Fill	1.5	-	Fill of 722	Tile, human bone	-
8							
	800	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	C20th
	801	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	Pot, CBM, Flint, Bone	-
	802	Layer	-	-	Natural sandy clay	-	-
	803	Cut	0.44	-	Grave cut	-	-
	804	Fill	0.44	-	Fill of 803	Human	-

						bone	
	805	Fill	0.5	-	Fill of 806	Human bone	-
	806	Cut	0.5	-	Grave cut	-	-
	807	Cut	0.62	0.18	Poss. pit	-	C20th
	808	Fill	0.62	0.18	Fill of 808	Pot	C20th
	809	Cut	0.38	0.18	Post-hole	-	C20th
	810	Fill	0.38	0.18	Fill of 809	Fe	C20th
	811	Cut	0.4	0.14	Post-hole	-	C20th?
	812	Fill	0.4	0.14	Fill of 811	-	C20th?
	813	Cut	0.3	0.28	Post-hole	-	C20th
	814	Fill	0.3	0.28	Fill of 813	Fe	C20th
	815	Cut	0.56	0.42	Post-hole / Pit	-	C20th
	816	Fill	0.56	0.42	Fill of 815	Fe, CBM	C20th
	817	Cut	0.48	0.27	Post-hole	-	C20th?
	818	Fill	0.48	0.27	Fill of 817	-	C20th?
	819	Layer	3.14	0.24	Poss. demolition layer	CBM	Roman?
9							
	900	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	C20th
	901	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
	902	Layer	-	-	Natural sandy clay	-	-
	903	Fill	0.5	-	Fill of 905	Human bone	-
	904	Structure	1.4	0.3	Pathway	-	C19th
	905	Cut	0.5	-	Grave cut	-	-
	906	Fill	1.4	0.3	Fill of 904	-	C19th
	907	Fill	0.4	-	Fill of grave	Human bone	-
	908	Fill	0.6	-	Fill of grave	Human bone	-
	909	Cut	0.65	-	Grave cut	-	-
	910	Fill	0.65	-	Fill of 909	Human bone	-
	911	Cut	0.36	-	Grave cut	-	-
	912	Fill	0.36	-	Fill of 911	Human bone	-

	913	Cut	0.9	-	Grave cut	-	-
	914	Fill	0.9	-	Fill of 913	Human bone	-

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

JSAC 1228/04/02, 2004 *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of land at the Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire*

JSAC 1228/05/01a, 2005 *A specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at the Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire*

OAU, 1992 *Field Manual* (ed. D. Wilkinson)

Krogman, W M and Iscan, M Y 1986 *The human skeleton in forensic medicine*, 2nd edition, Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Illinois

Meindl, R S and Lovejoy, C O 1985, Ectocranial suture closure: a revised method for the determination of skeletal age at death based on the latero-anterior sutures, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 68, 57-66

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: The Grange, Rothley, Leicestershire

Site code: X.A174.2005

Grid reference: SK 5867 1273

Type of evaluation: Machine excavation of 9 trenches (Reduced to 6 due to the presence of a protected fungi)

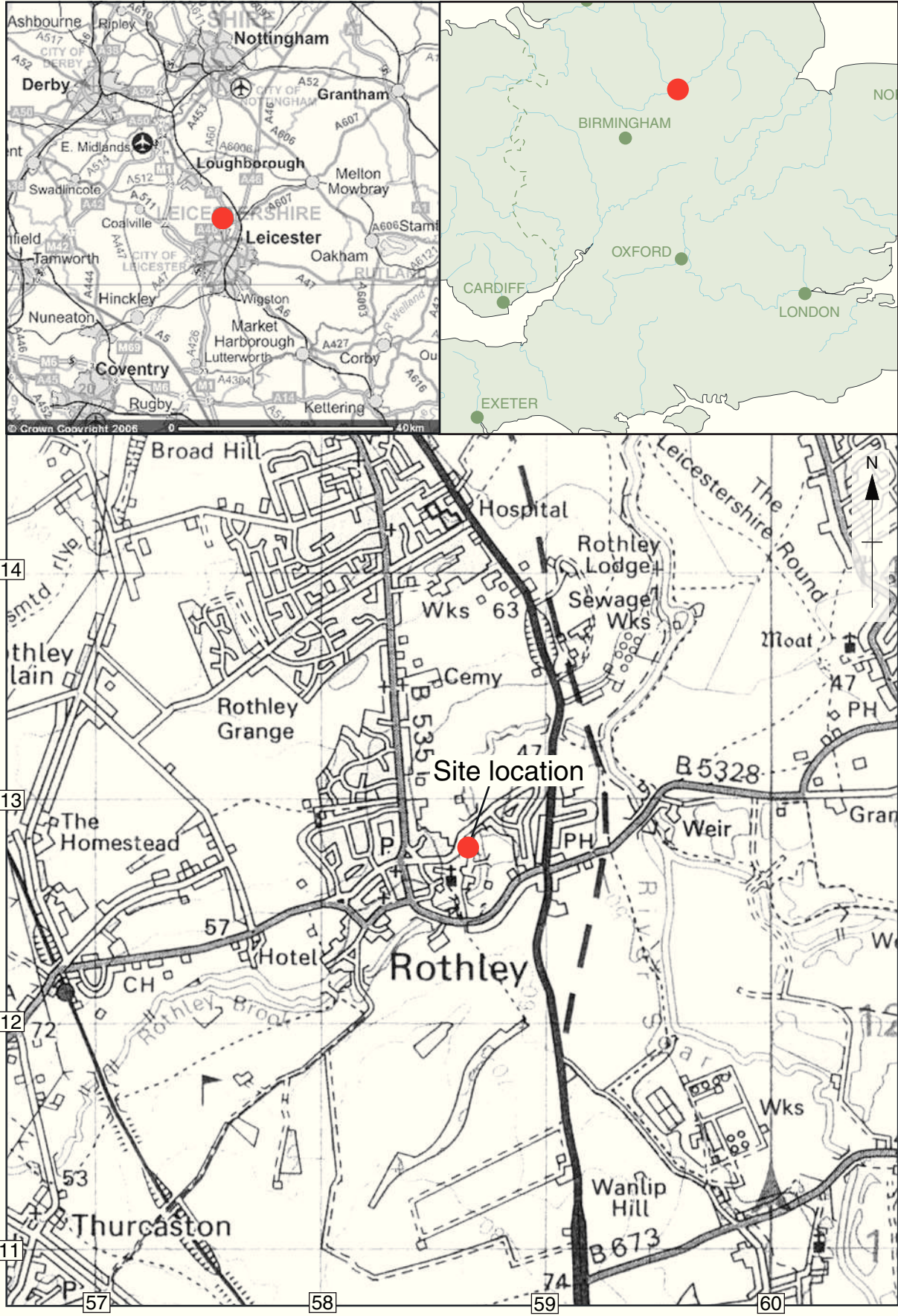
Date and duration of project: 5th to 7th September 2005 and 26th to 28th June 2006

Area of site: 1.8 hectares

Summary of results: Two boundary ditches were observed together with evidence of the continuation of the Rothley cemetery. Fragments of late Roman pottery and tile suggest settlement activity in the close vicinity.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Leicestershire County Museums Service in due course, under the following accession number: XA.174.2005

Server: gort.thru.z_f_codes*ROTHGREY*Land at the Grange, Rothley*AH*And GS*06.07.06



Scale 1:25,000

Reproduced from the Landranger 1:50,000 scale by permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office
© Crown Copyright 1991. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 10005569

Figure 1: Site location

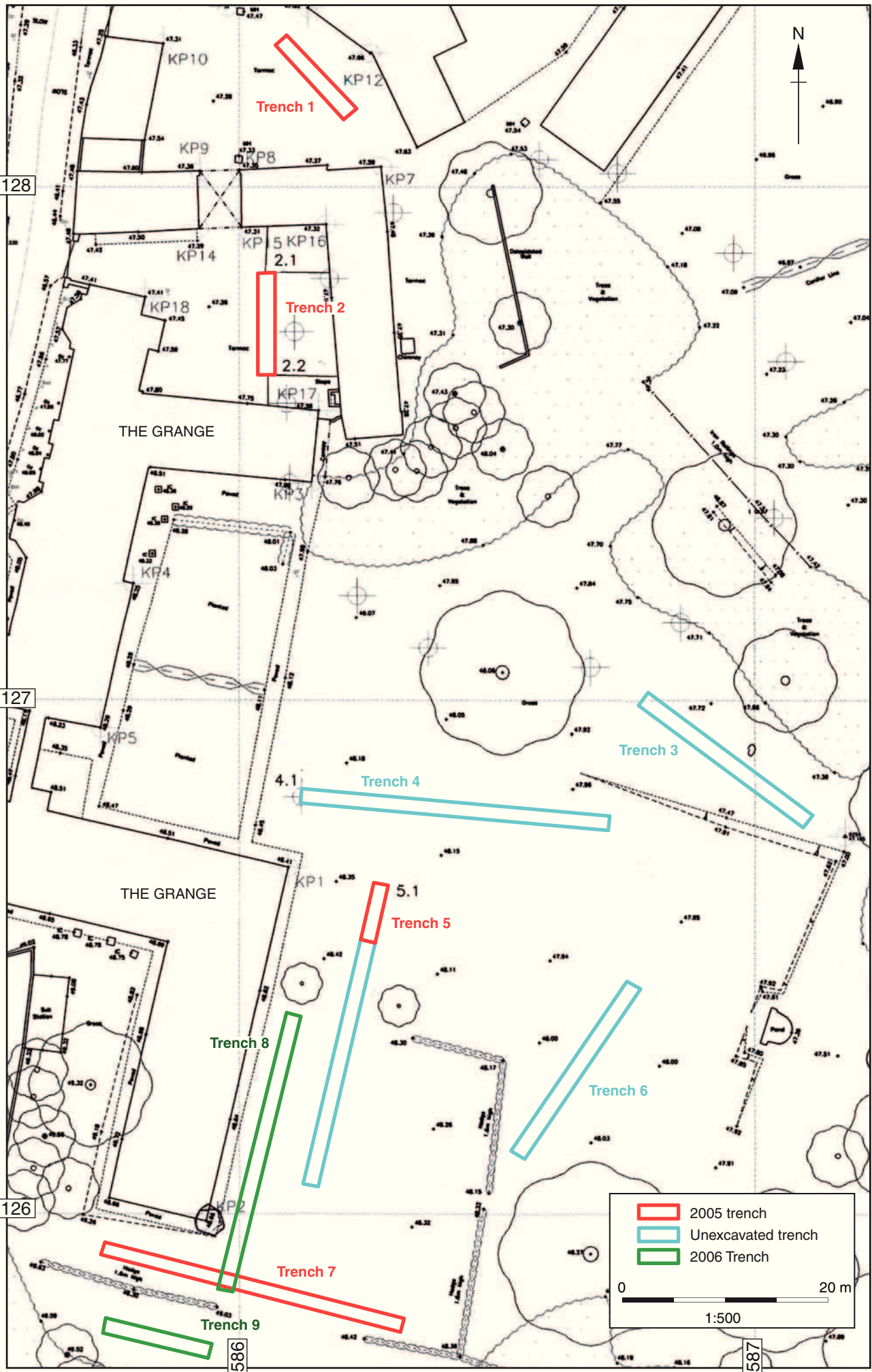


Figure 2 : Site plan showing trench locations

Plan 701

Trench 7

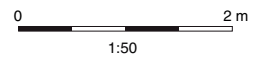
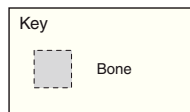
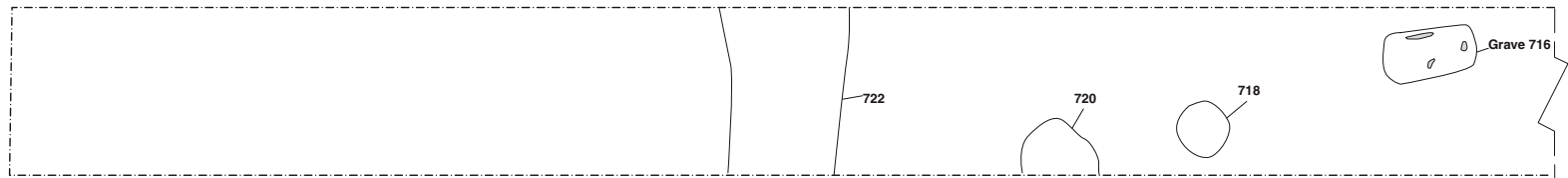
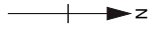


Figure 3 : Trench 7, plan



Plan 801
Trench 8

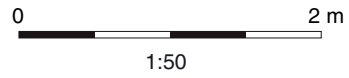
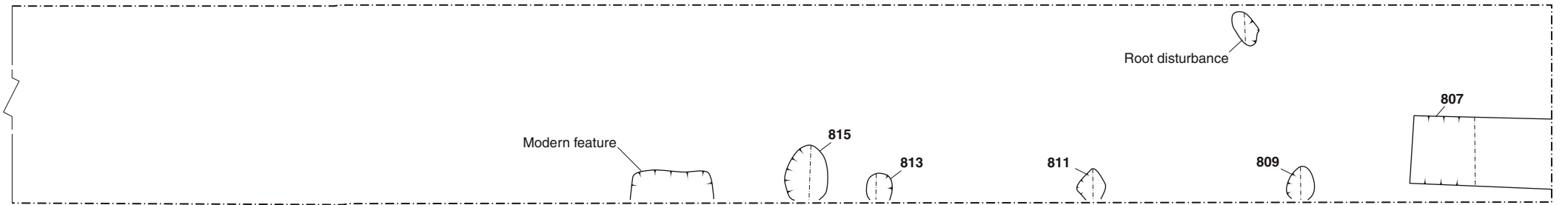
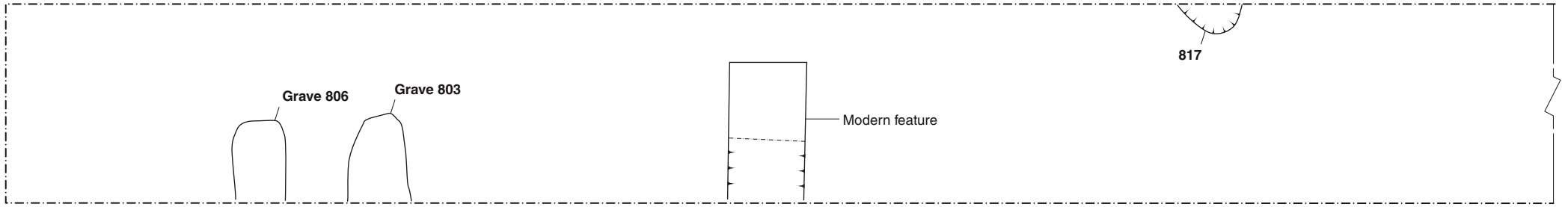


Figure 4: Trench 8, plan

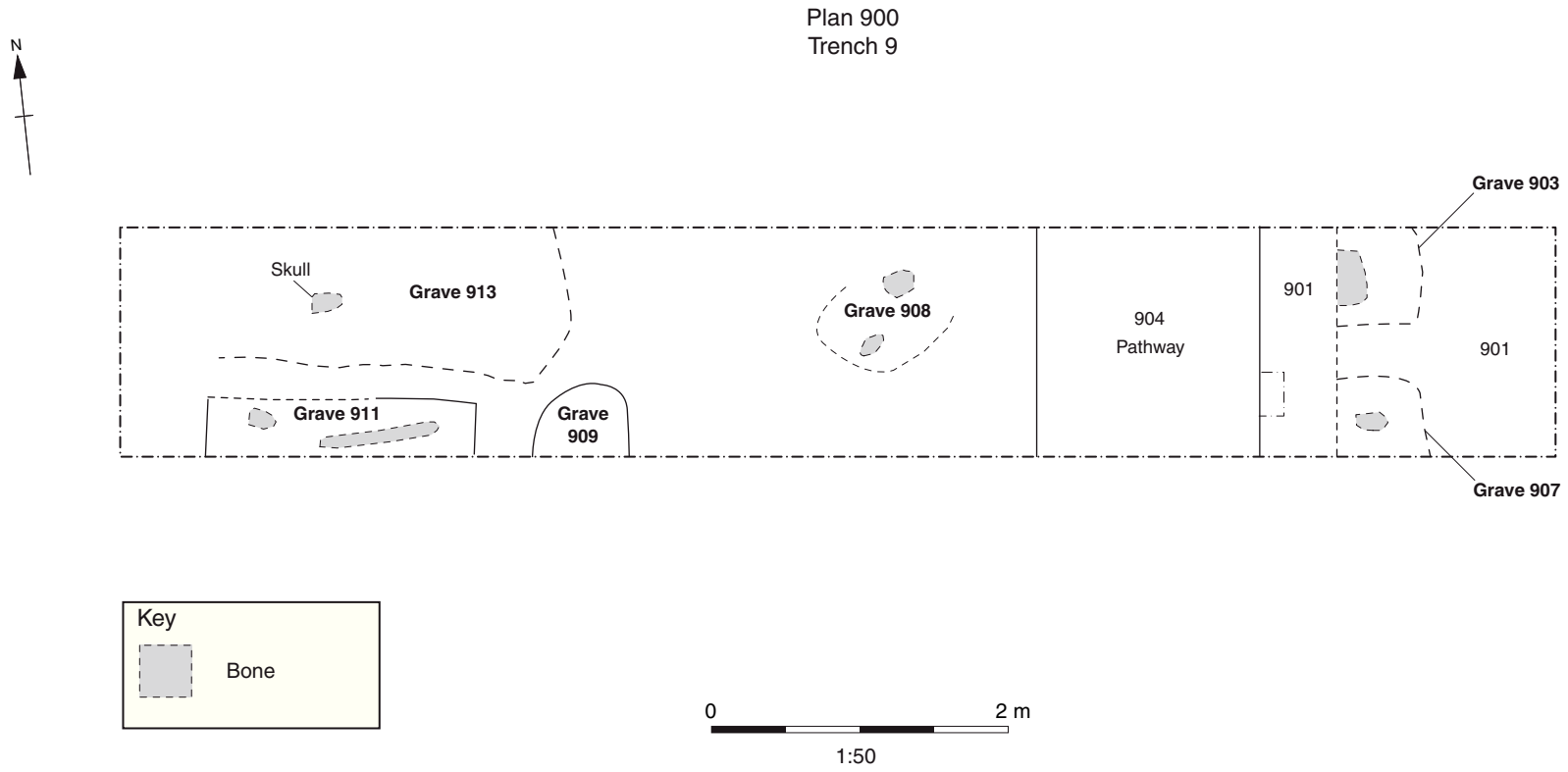


Figure 5: Trench 9, plan

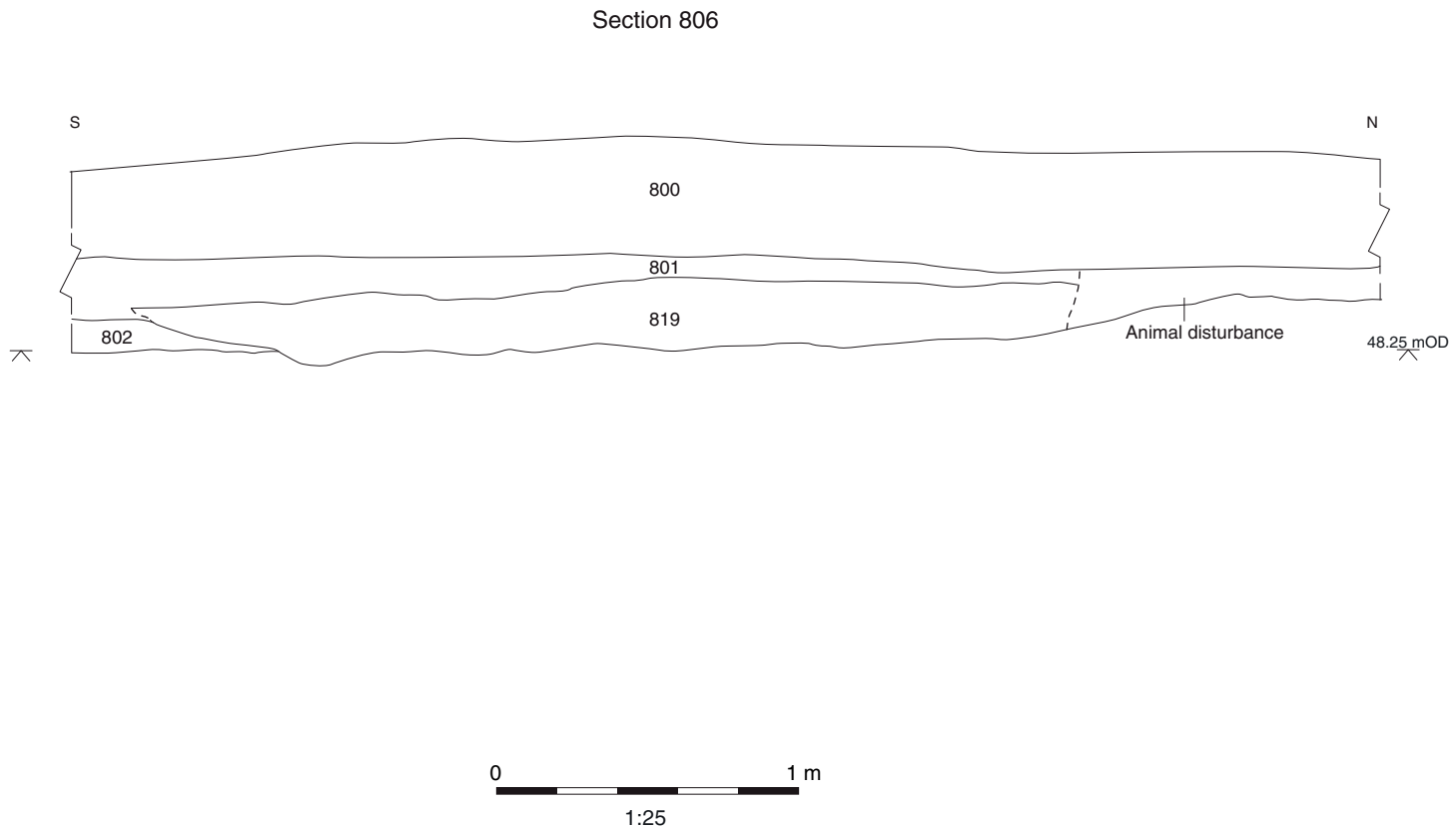
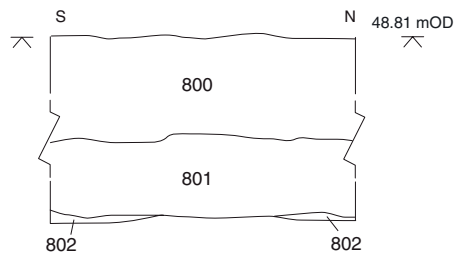


Figure 6: Section of layer 819



Section 807



Section 900

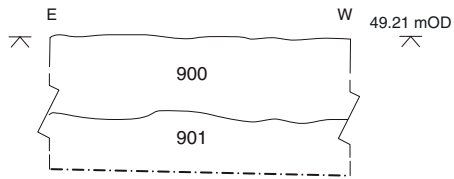


Figure 7: Trenches 8 and 9 sections



Plate 1: Trench 8



Plate 2: Trench 9



Plate 3: Pathway 904



Plate 4: Layer 819



Plate 5: Grave 913



Oxford Archaeology

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

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



Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 848666
f: (0044) 01524 848606
e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

Oxford Archaeological Unit is a Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597 and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627

Registered Office:

Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES