

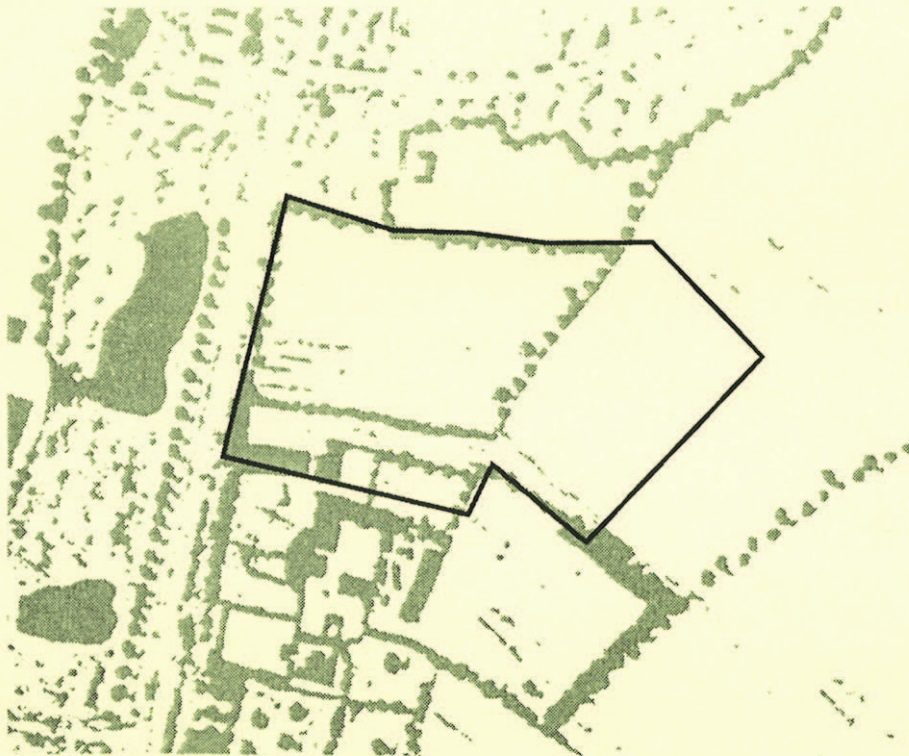
University of Reading

Haslams

University of Reading, Former Applied Research Centre

Shinfield, Reading

Archaeological Field Evaluation 1999



Oxford Archaeological Unit

December 1999

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University of Reading, Former Applied Research Centre Archaeological Field Evaluation 1999

Summary

The Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out a geophysical survey and an archaeological field evaluation of a proposed development site on the Applied Research Station, Shinfield south of Reading on behalf University of Reading. The development site includes the remains of the medieval manor house of Shinfield, and a frontage onto former Shinfield Green with potentially the remains of medieval village settlement. In the event archaeologically features or deposits of only local significance were located, three post medieval ditches close to the modern Shinfield Road in the south-west corner of the site. Evidence of recent topsoil stripping and levelling for landscaping was identified to the west and the south of the proposed development site. To the north-east of the proposed development site an old plough soil, possibly medieval, was located.

1 Introduction

1.1

Between the 29th November and 3rd December 1999 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) undertook a field evaluation on the proposed development site at the Applied Research Station, Shinfield south of Reading. (Fig. 1) (grid ref SU 733 692). The work was undertaken on behalf of Reading University in respect of planning permission for development (Ref 99/69917/F).

1.2

A planning application has been submitted to Wokingham District Council for the construction of an office building, car park and associated landscaping on the site of the former Applied Research Station, on the east side of Shinfield Road, Shinfield. A programme of archaeological investigation consisting of geophysical survey and evaluation trenching was required to enable Wokingham District Council to make an informed and reasonable decision on the application, in line with PPG16.

1.2

A Brief was provided by Babbie Public Services on behalf of Wokingham District Council. An approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailed how the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) would satisfy the terms of the Brief.

2 Archaeological and historical background

2.1

The site contains the remains of Shinfield Manor, the moat of which survives as a pond lying to the west of Duckett's Cottages. The remainder of the moat was backfilled in 1759 and a second manor house was built to the west 33 years later by Alexander Cobham. This house was itself demolished in 1802. Earthworks forming the remains of a walled garden associated with the second house are located to the south of the application area.

2.2

Of nine manors in Shinfield parish listed in the Victoria History of Berkshire (1923, 261) the manor linked with the Cobham family (see above) appears the most likely to be the Domesday manor of Shinfield, logically therefore a significant element of the medieval parish. The M4 Motorway now separates it from the 12th-century church and the modern village 1 km to the south, and it lies at the edge of a spindle shaped

area of common described as Shinfield Green on the Estate Map of 1756, which could reasonably be the village green of a separate village centre. The implication is that Shinfield has a complex manorial layout: perhaps a village which has moved to join its remote church; perhaps a manorial centre remote from its village; or a bi-focal manor. The green by 1914 is 'common, .. now built over by villas', the Reading road being an 'avenue' and a 'picturesque highway of elms and oaks' (VCH 3), which is already evoked on the estate map of 1756 (Fig. 2 green tone).

- 2.3 In 1756 the moated site is shown surrounded on three sides by enclosures, and it is within certain of these enclosures that the present fieldwork was carried out. At this point the enclosures encroach more closely on the broad spindle-shape of the green than elsewhere, and it was therefore reasonable to anticipate the remains of any lost village or hamlet at this point, close to the manor house on which it may have depended. The manor house site itself is set back from the green, flanked by two drains which must have fed its moats, and located to have a view to the north east down a valley looking towards the Loddon and the Thames.
- 2.4 In 1989 Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out a trenched evaluation (OAU 1989) on the site which revealed deposits containing 13th-15th century pottery, as well as a dump of building material dating to the 17th century or later. These deposits are thought to be associated with the first and second manor house respectively. A recent investigation to the immediate north of the application site, on a site which included an enclosure and part of the green, revealed no archaeological deposits (pers. comm. R Bourne).
- 2.5 Topographically the ground slopes from 77 m OD at Shinfield Road to 63.70 m OD in the north east of the proposed development. The site is c. 3.2 ha and is currently derelict and overgrown. The underlying geology is London Clay with a capping of plateau gravel in the higher western part of the site.
- 2.6 A magnetometer and resistivity survey was carried out in advance of the trenching in order to refine the layout (see Appendix 2 *Archaeo-geophysical survey*). As required by the Brief, the survey zone excluded certain areas most disturbed by recent research usage, but included areas close to the manor house which were evaluated by trenching in 1989. For operational reasons the survey excluded wooded areas within these zones, and areas of demolition debris.

3 Evaluation aims

- 3.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.
- 3.2 To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present, with particular reference to the manor house and any village settlement associated with it.
- 3.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- 3.4 To make available the results of the investigation.

4 Evaluation methodology

4.1 Sample size and scope of fieldwork

The field evaluation comprised nine trenches within the proposed development area (Fig. 3). One trench measured 20 m x 1.60 m, seven trenches measured 30 m x 1.60 m and one measured 50 m x 1.60 m long. The trenches represented a 1% sample of the proposed development area (see below 7.1 for overall sample).

4.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

The trenches were excavated by a JCB equipped with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision, and the excavated spoil was closely monitored for archaeological finds. The trenches were hand-cleaned and recorded in plan and sections of excavated features were drawn. A colour and black and white photographic record was made. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

4.3 Finds

Finds were recovered by hand sorting. Machine excavated spoil was monitored for finds. Post-medieval pottery of 18th/19th century date from Trenches 7, 11 and 12, (deposits 700, 1106, 1109, 1201 and 1208) and a sample of dumped bricks (1105) were retrieved.

4.4 Environmental data

No paleo-ecologically significant deposits were located, and therefore no environmental samples were taken.

5 Results: general

5.1 Soil and ground conditions

The general soil type was mid-brown silt clay. The underlying geology was a yellowish brown clay with patches of coarse sand and angular flint gravel.

5.2 Distribution of features

Archaeological features were located to the south west corner of the site within Trenches 11 and 12. Evidence of plough soil was noted to the east in Trenches 6 - 9, and redeposited material was seen in Trenches 13 and 14. In Trench 10 extreme disturbance from building and landscaping was located to the north of the site.

5.3 Presentation of results

The sequence of deposits in each trench is described. The plans of Trench 11 and 12 are illustrated together with two sections from each. Sample sections only of Trenches 6, 9, 13 and 14 are illustrated; in absence of cut features and structures (other than a small number of features of recent date), the remaining trench plans are uninformative. Context details are given in the Context inventory (Appendix 1).

6 Results: descriptions

6.1 Description of deposits

6.1.1 Trench 6 (Fig. 8, Section 8)

This trench was located close to the northern edge of the site. Its orientation was approximately east-west. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish brown clay 602, was located at a depth of 0.60 m below the present surface (67.40 m OD) and was overlain by a plough soil with chalk flecks layer (601). This was in turn sealed by topsoil (600). There was no archaeological evidence of the boundary shown on the Estate Map of 1756 (Fig. 2, green tone) or of a drain from the manor house moat.

6.1.2 Trench 7 (Fig. 3)

This trench was located directly to the east of the site on an easterly slope. It was also located in an area where a magnetometer and resistivity survey was undertaken. Its orientation was north-south. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay (702), was located at a depth of 0.46 m below the present surface (65.82 m OD) and was overlain by a weathered sub soil/ plough soil with chalk flecks (701). This was in turn sealed by topsoil (700) which contained one fragment of tile.

6.1.3 Trench 8 (Fig. 3)

This trench was located to the east of the site on an easterly slope. Its orientation was east-west. The underlying geology, which was an orange brown clay (802), was located at a depth of 0.36 m below the present surface (69.22 m OD) and was overlain by a weathered sub soil/ plough soil with chalk flecks (801). This was in turn sealed by topsoil (800). No artifacts or archaeological features were revealed.

6.1.4 Trench 9 (Fig. 8, Section 1)

This trench was located to the south-east corner of the site and south of the moated site. Its orientation was north-south. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay 902, was located at a depth of 0.44 m below the present surface (67.94 m OD) and was overlain by a plough soil with chalk flecks (901). This in turn was sealed by topsoil (900). No artifacts or archaeological features were revealed.

6.1.5 Trench 10 (Fig. 3)

This trench was located to the north of site. Its orientation was approximately east-west. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay 1007, was located at a depth of 0.40 m below the present surface (73.50 m OD) and was overlain by a sub soil (1001). This layer (1001) is just visible at either end of the trench but has been truncated by a series of contexts (1002, 1003, 1006 and 1007) of modern events for services and building foundation bases for the Research Station. A tree bowl (1004) was located to the western end of this trench and was seen cutting from the present surface. No artifacts or archaeological features were revealed.

6.1.6 Trench 11 (Plan Fig. 4, Sections Fig. 5)

This trench was located to the north-west of the site and aligned parallel to Shinfield Road. Its orientation was approximately north-south. The trench was dug in two parts due to a line of trees to the north. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay with patches of flint gravel (1103 and 1102 respectively) was located at a depth of 0.44 m below present surface (75.40 m OD) and was overlain

by a sub soil (1101). Regularly spaced land drains were located throughout the length of the trench. A ditch (1110) filled by (1109), aligned east-west was located to the south of the trench was sealed by the sub soil (1101) and cut the natural (1103). This in turn was truncated by a modern pipe trench (1108) that contained fills (1111,1106 and 1107). Top soil (1100) sealed its upper fill (1111) and the sub soil (1101) generally.

6.1.7 Trench 12 (Plan Fig. 6, Sections Fig. 7)

This trench was located in the south-west corner of the investigation area and aligned at a right angle to Shinfield Road. Its orientation was approximately east-west. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay (1202) with patches of flint gravel (1203), was located at a depth of 0.44 m below present surface (76.33 m OD) and was overlain by topsoil (1200). Two ditches were identified to the far west of the trench and were cutting the natural (1202). They were aligned north-south running parallel to Shinfield Road, centred 4 m (1207) and 7 m (1206) from the modern road boundary. The western ditch (1207) contained an upper deposit (1201) and a primary deposit (1208); pottery dated to the 19th century was retrieved. Ditch 1206 contained two similar fills, (1204 above 205); no finds were retrieved. Both ditches were sealed by topsoil (1200).

6.1.8 Trench 13 (Fig. 8, Section 21)

This trench was located immediately north of the moated site and pond, also north of 1989 evaluation Trench 1 where archaeological features were located. Its orientation was approximately north-south. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish brown clay (1305), was located at a depth of 0.94 m (below present surface) at the north end of the trench and 0.47 m at the south (72.23 m OD and 72.40 m respectively), and was overlain by sub soil/ plough soil (1304). This sub soil layer, which contained chalk flecks, was only visible to the south end of the trench and had been truncated in the middle of the trench. It was capped by topsoil (1303), which in turn was truncated by a series of dump and levelling material (1302, 1301, 1306) consisting of a mix of redeposited clay, topsoil and modern building material. These layers were in turn sealed by a turf/topsoil layer (1300).

6.1.9 Trench 14 (Fig. 8, Section 20)

This trench was located to the west of the site close to Trenches 11 and 12. The trench was machined in two parts 21 m and 6 m with a gap due to a concrete base. Its orientation was approximately east-west. The underlying geology, which was a yellowish orange clay (1403 and 1404), was located at a depth of 0.38 m to the west of the trench and 0.56 m to the east of the trench below present surface (75.00 m OD and 75.69 m OD). It was overlain by a redeposit material (1402) consisting of a mix of sub soil, natural, hardcore and building debris. This dump and levelling material for landscaping was overlain by a modern sub soil (1401) and in turn this was capped by topsoil (1400).

6.2 Finds and Environmental data

The only finds were pottery sherds of 19th-20th century date retrieved from two ditches in trenches 11 and 12. Brick was also recovered from a ditch in trench 12 and dated to the 18th-19th century.

No significant palaeo-ecological deposits were located and as a consequence no environmental samples were taken.

7 Discussion and interpretation

7.1 Reliability of field investigation

The evaluation investigated 1% of the area of the site, which with the 1989 trenching took the total sampled area of the proposed development to 2%. The trenches were positioned to investigate area left untouched by the last evaluation in 1989, and provided acceptable level of coverage of the site. The indication that significant finds are concentrated in the known area of the manor house is therefore reasonably reliable.

7.2 Summary of results and overall interpretation

Archaeologically deposits and features of local significance were revealed in several of the evaluation trenches. In Trenches 6, 7, 8 and 9 similar layers were revealed of natural clay overlain by a sub soil/plough soil and sealed by topsoil. In Trench 10 the natural clay and sub soil had been extremely disturbed by modern building activity, presumably arising from the research centre. In Trenches 5 and 11, running parallel to Shinfield Road to the west of the site, the sub soil had not been disturbed in this way; thus a ditch (1110) was located at its south end, running parallel to the access track-way, probably associated with it. Closer to the Shinfield Road, the two ditches in Trench 12 (1206 and 1207) suggest road side ditches, although at a distance of 4 m and 7 m from the modern road boundary they may instead demarcate a hedge-bank of a small enclosure depicted in 1756 (see Fig. 2). Trenches 13 and 14 were in ground heavily truncated by landscaping or other operational functions, and yielded nothing of significance.

Because of the generally low density of features there is no means of confirming whether the geophysical plot is showing a genuinely negative archaeological result, or whether, as the contractor comments, this result could arise from the unresponsiveness of the London Clay subsoil. The latter is perhaps the more likely explanation, given the absence of significant archaeological results in the accessible part of the moated area (Area D), which is in itself disappointing from the viewpoint of future management and conservation of this historic site.

On a wider scale, it is unclear if the evidence of ploughing on the sloping ground was necessarily ancient. Elsewhere in the parish, field-walking has recovered many medieval finds which are attributed to manuring (OAU 1997, 3), but here in the manor house outer enclosures very little has been recovered. Chalky fragments visible in the plough soil are probably indicators of agricultural liming, but this could easily relate to the activities of the University's agricultural research centre, which was already established by 1914 (VCH 3). The ditches flanking the access drive and the Shinfield Road (1110, 1206 and 1207, Trenches 11 and 12), and the landscaping deposits, all contain 19th-century finds, but in the case of the road-side ditches these could represent older ditches subsequently cleared out.

In conclusion therefore, the present sample would suggest that any village settlement associated with the manor house site at Shinfield Green must be located to the south of the house, or conceivably on flatter and more habitable plateau gravel sites on the opposite (west) side of the main road.

Bibliography

- OAU 1989 *An Archaeological Assessment at Shinfield Road, Reading, Berks, March 1989*
- OAU 1992 *OAU fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).
- OAU 1997 *Shinfield, Reading University Development: Desktop cultural heritage assessment*
- VCH 3 (1923) *Victoria History of the County of Berkshire, Vol 3* (Compiled by 1914 but publication delayed)



Figure 1 Site Location

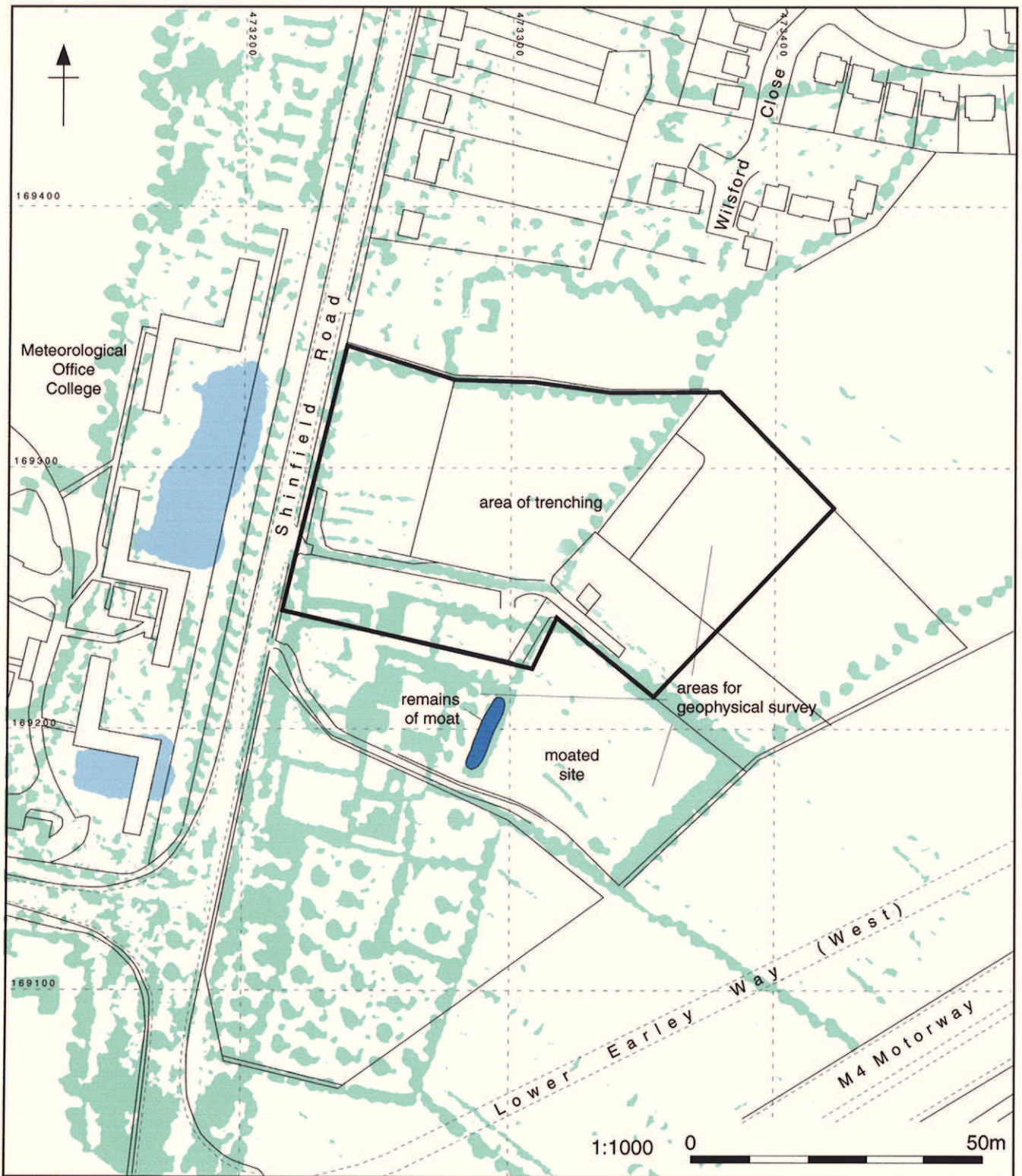


Figure 2. Area of trenching

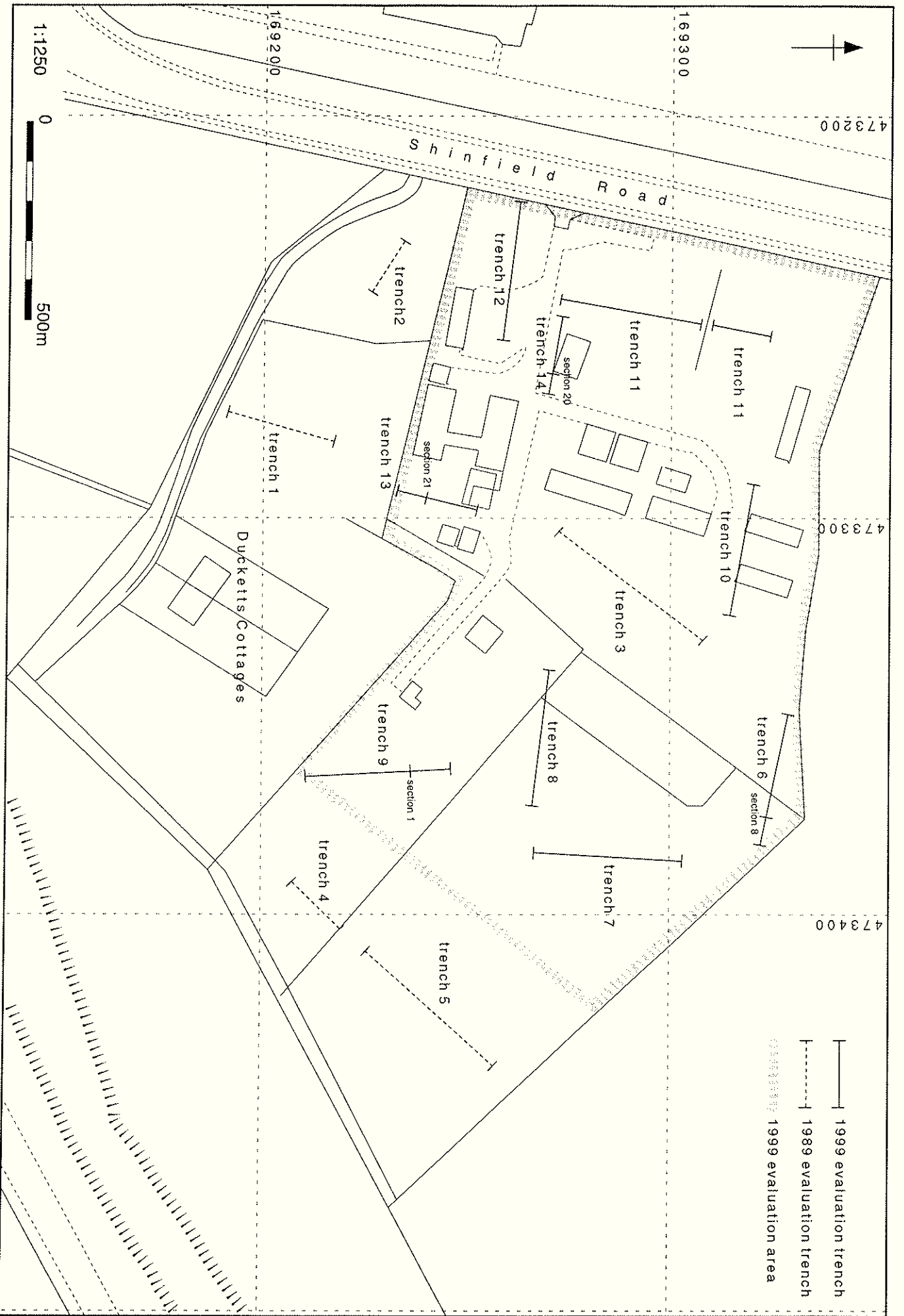


Figure 3 Trench Location

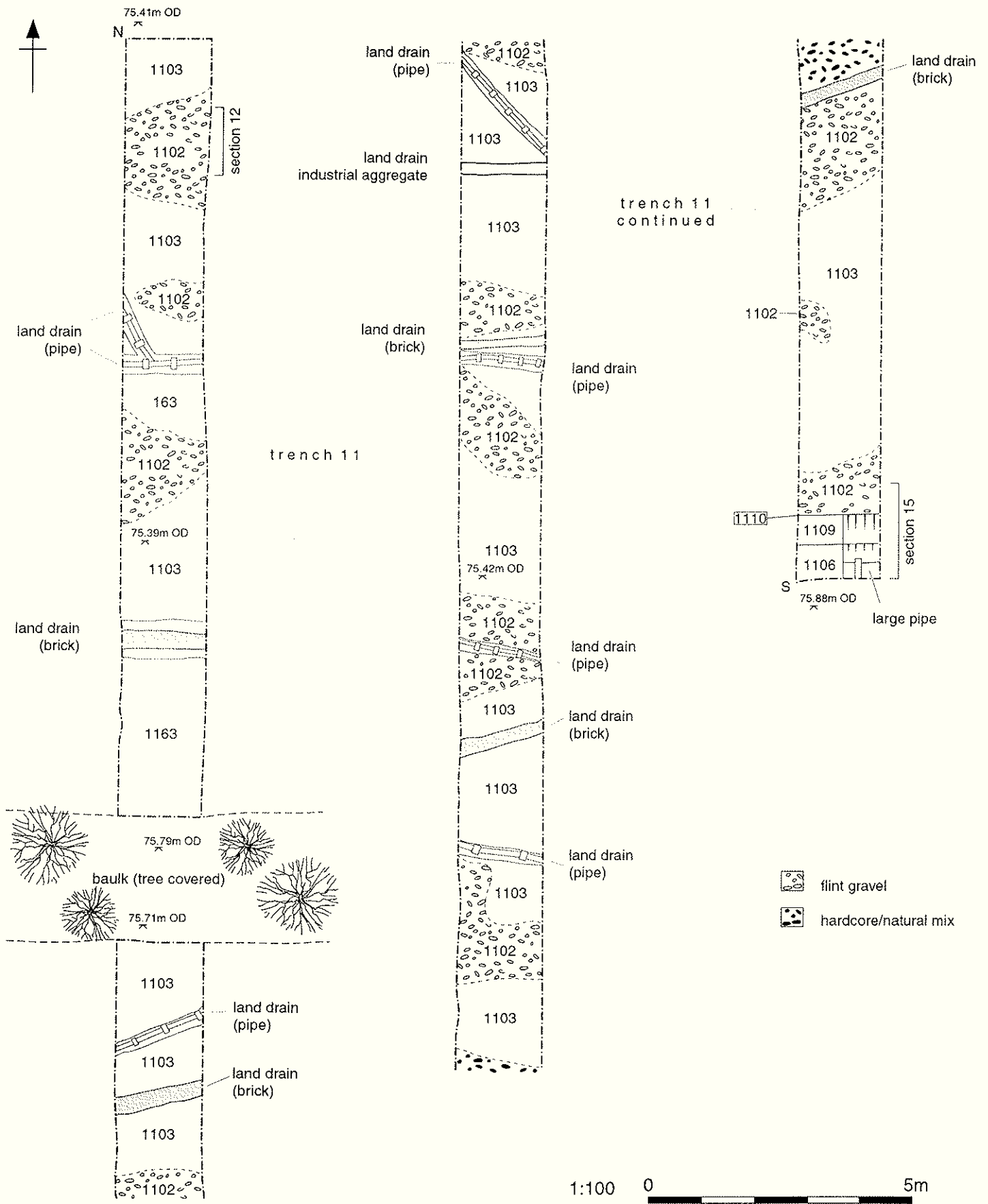


Figure 4 Plan of trench 11

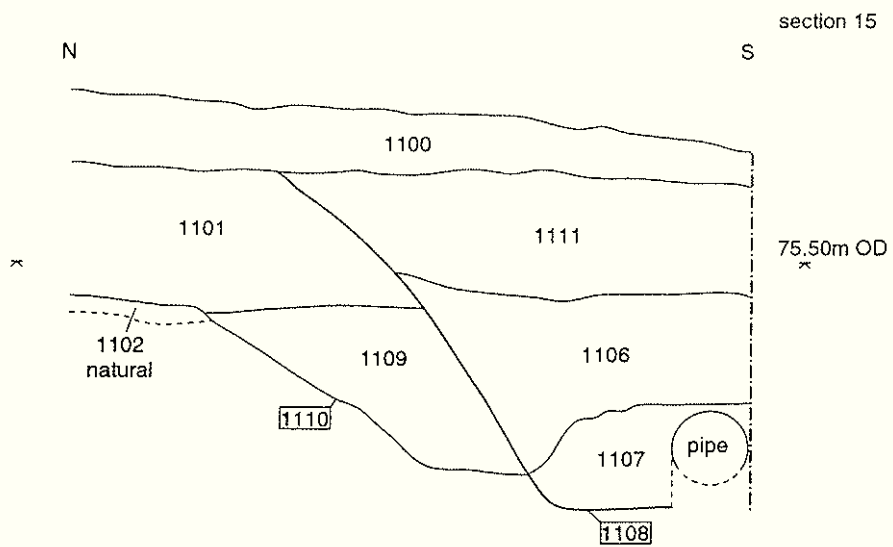
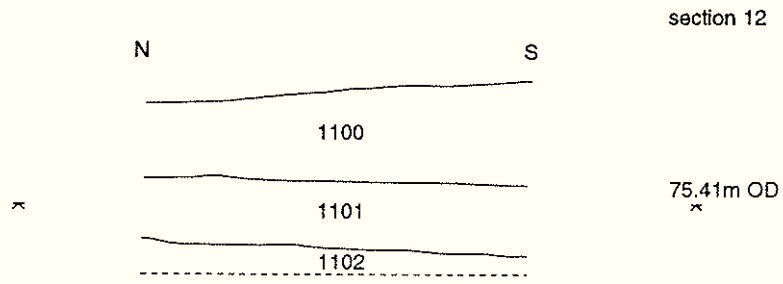


Figure 5 Section 12 and section 15, trench 11

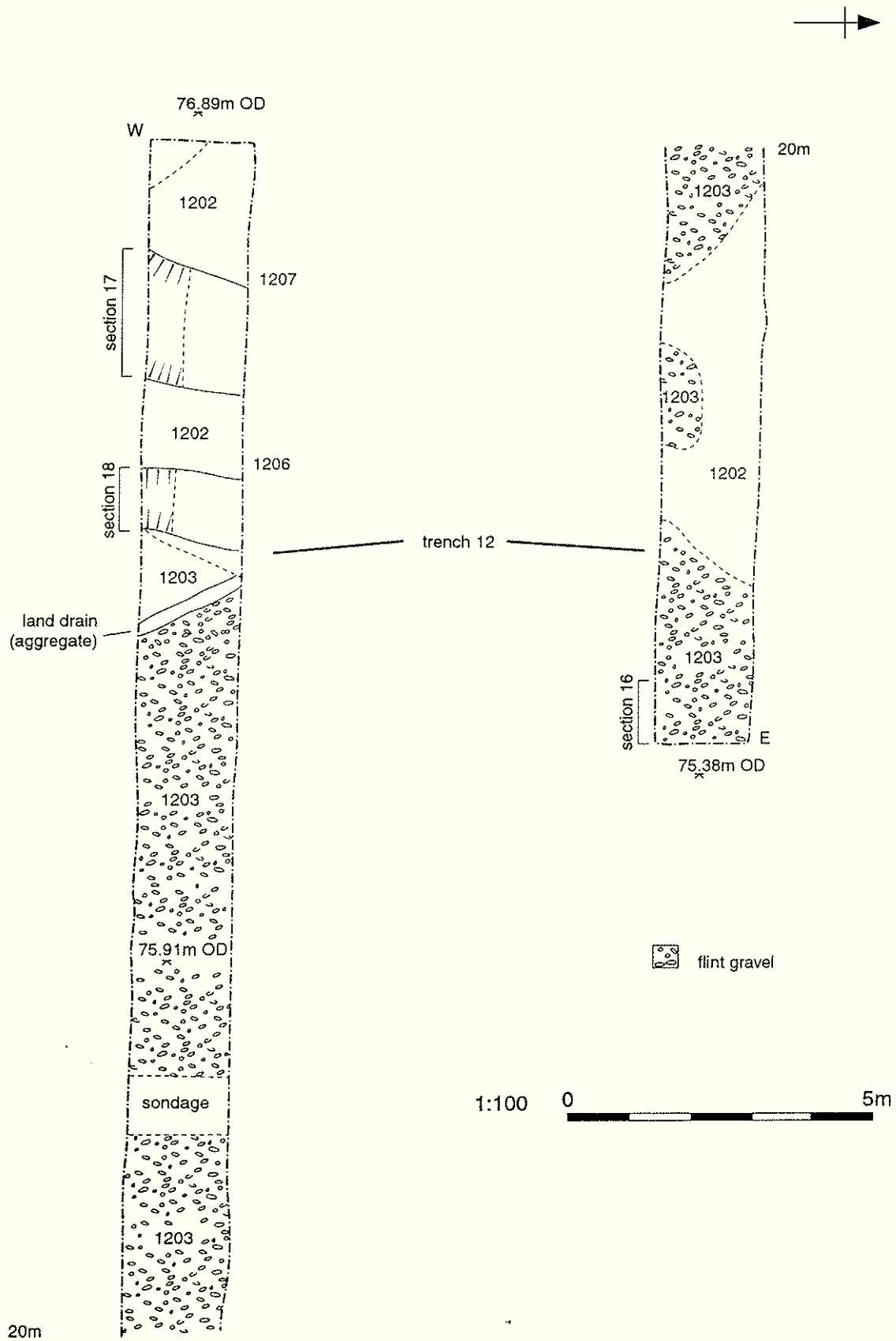
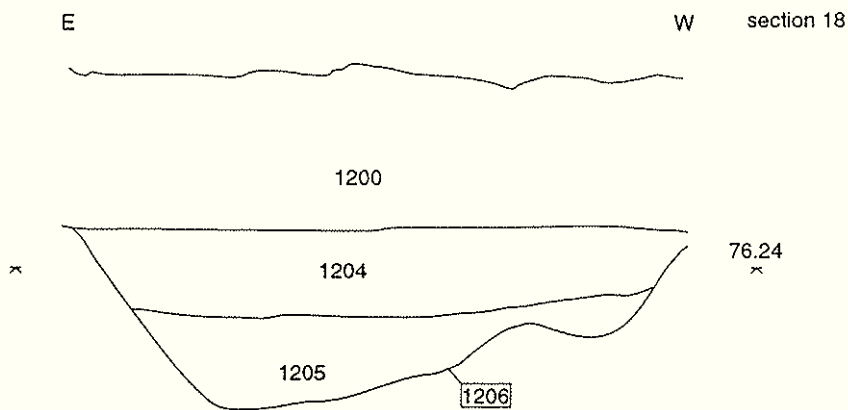
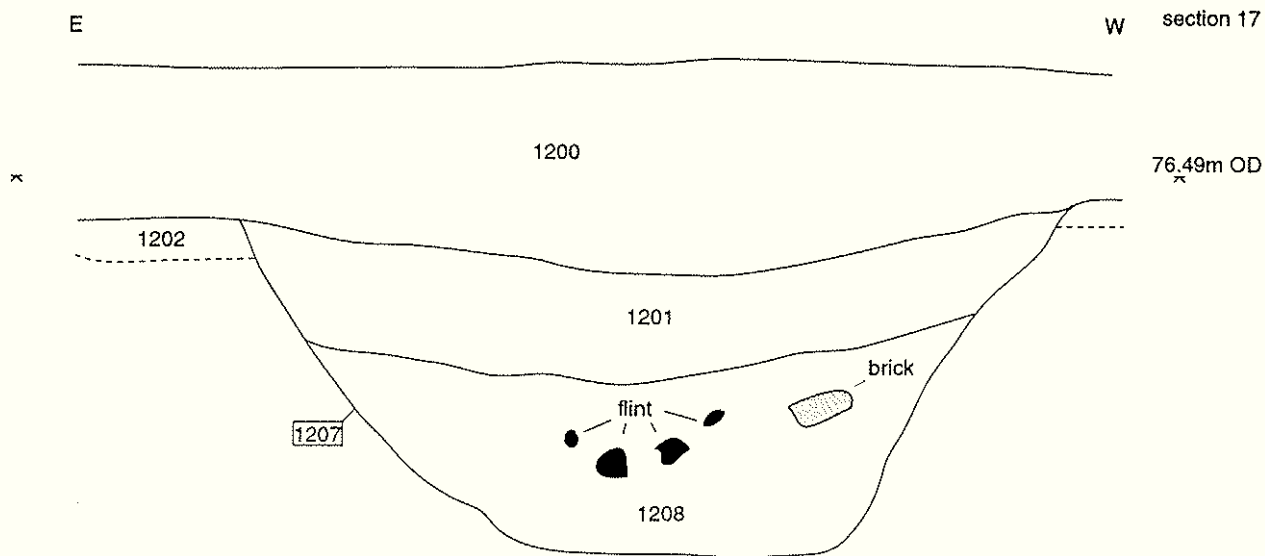
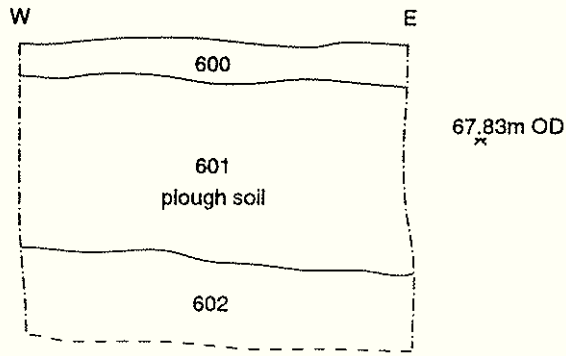


Figure 6 Plan of trench 12

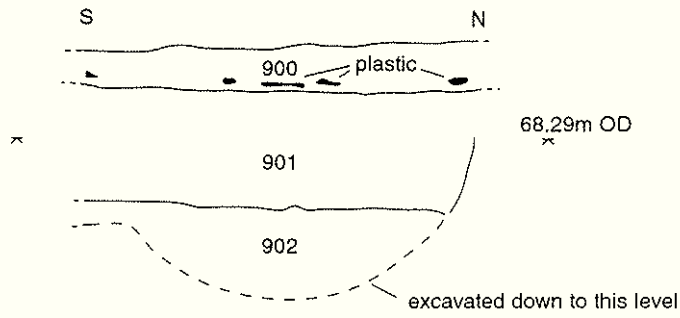


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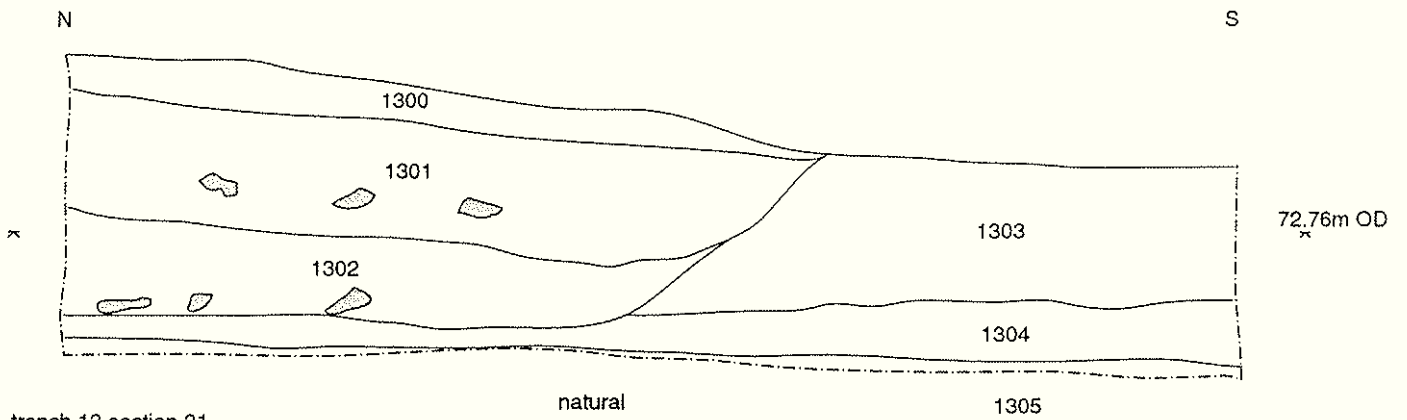
Figure 7 Section 17 and section 18 from trench 12



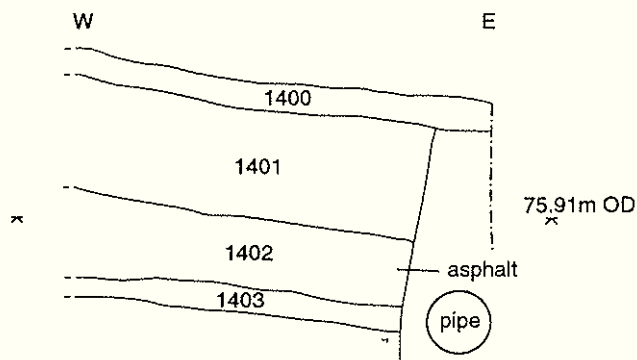
trench 6 section 8



trench 9 section 1



trench 13 section 21



trench 14 section 20



Figure 8 Sections

Appendix 1: Field evaluation-Context inventory

Trench	Context	Type	Width	Thick	Comment	finds	No	Period
6								
	600	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	No		
	601	Layer	-	0.40	Subsoil	No		
	602	Layer	-	0.20	Nat at west of Tr	No		
	603	Layer	-	-	Nat at east of Tr	No		
	604	Layer	-		Same as 602	No		
7								
	700	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	tile	1	
	701	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	No		
	702	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	703	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
8								
	800	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	No		
	801	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	No		
	802	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	803	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
9								
	900	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	No		
	901	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	No		
	902	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	903	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
10								
	1000	Layer	-	0.50	Topsoil	No		
	1001	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	No		
	1002	Structure	-	0,08	Concrete base and hardcore	No		
	1003	Wall	-	0.08	Wall at east of trench	No		
	1004	Cut	0.50	0.47	Tree bowl	No		
	1005	Fill	-	0.47	Fill of tree bowl	No		
	1006	Fill	-	0.65	Fill of land drain	No		
	1007	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1008	Cut	-	0.65	Land drain	No		
11								
	1100	Layer	-	0.30	topsoil	No		
	1101	Layer	-	0.29	Redeposit subsoil	No		
	1102	Layer	-	0.25	Patches of hardcore	No		
	1103	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1104	Cut	0.26	0.26	Cut for land drain	No		
	1105	Fill	0.26	0.26	Fill to land drain	CBM	2	
	1106	Fill	-	0.46	Fill to modern pipe trench	CBM	1	
	1107	Fill	-	0.24	Fill to modern pipe trench	No		
	1108	Cut	1.20	0.86	Modern pipe trench cut	No		
	1109	Fill	0.90	0.48	Fill to ditch 1110	Pot	1	PM
	1110	Cut	0.90	0.48	Ditch cut, filled by 1109			
	1111	Fill		0.32	Fill to 1108	No		
12								
	1200	Layer	-	0.56	Topsoil	No		
	1201	Fill	-	0.30	Upper fill to 1207	Pot	1	PM
	1202	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1203	Layer	-	-	Disturbed natural	No		

	1204	Fill	-	0.22	Upper fill to 1206	No		
	1205	Fill	-	0.24	Primary fill to 1206	No		
	1206	Cut	1.40	0.47	Ditch filled by 1201-08			
	1207	Cut	2.15	0.76	Ditch filled by 1204-05			
	1208	Fill	-	0.48	Primary fill to 1207	Pot	2	PM
13								
	1300	Layer	-	0.18	Redeposit topsoil/turf	No		
	1301	Layer	-	0.32	Levelling material	No		
	1302	Layer	-	0.25	Dump / levelling material	No		
	1303	Layer	-	0.38	Original topsoil	No		
	1304	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil, plough soil	No		
	1305	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1306	Layer	-	0.34	Levelling material	No		
14								
	1400	Layer	-	0.11	Topsoil	No		
	1401	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	No		
	1402	Layer	-	0.21	Redeposit material	No		
	1403	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1404	Layer	-	-	Natural	No		
	1405	Layer	-	0.42	Mix subsoil & natural	No		
	1406	Cut	0.40	0.42	Pipe trench			

**APPLIED RESEARCH STATION
SHINFIELD, BERKSHIRE**

**Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey
1999**

A.D.H. Bartlett

Surveyed by:

Bartlett-Clark Consultancy

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for:

**Oxford Archaeological Unit
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Oxford OX2 0ES**

and:

Babtie Group

on behalf of:

Wokingham District Council

**Applied Research Station, Shinfield Road,
Shinfield, Berkshire**

Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey, 1999

Introduction

This survey at the site of the former Applied Research Station, Shinfield near Reading, was carried out as part of an archaeological evaluation of the site which is being undertaken by the Oxford Archaeological Unit on behalf of the Babbie Group and Wokingham District Council.

The site, which is located in Shinfield Road at NGR SU 733692, may contain remains of the medieval Shinfield Manor. It is noted in the project brief (as prepared by Babbie Group, July 1999) that the pond to the west of Duckett's Cottages represents a surviving remnant of the moat enclosing the manorial site. Much of the remainder of the moat was infilled by 1702, and a second manor house stood to the west of the moated site from 1759 to 1802. There are also earthwork remains to the south of the present application area. These may represent the site of a landscaped garden, but remains of the medieval village of Shinfield could also be present in the vicinity.

A previous evaluation by OAU in 1989 found deposits of medieval pottery which are likely to be associated with the original manor house, and there was also 17th C brick and tile to the west of the moated site.

Survey Procedure

The methods used for this project were magnetometer and resistivity surveying. An area amounting to some 2.5 ha was initially proposed for investigation, but much of the site was found to be densely overgrown or obstructed by the demolished remains of the research station buildings. Coverage was therefore limited to four sample areas (labelled A – D on the enclosed plans), which were each surveyed by both techniques. Masonry and other intact structural remains are most likely to be detected by the resistivity survey. The magnetometer survey may detect ditches, pits and other silted or earth-filled features, although ditches or pits lacking magnetically enhanced material in their fill may be difficult to detect on a geology of London Clay. The magnetometer should, however, respond to debris such as deposits of brick or tile, and may also locate pipes or other non-archaeological disturbances which need to be taken into account when interpreting the resistivity survey.

Magnetometer readings were recorded across the areas as shown at 0.25m intervals along transects 1m apart using Geoscan fluxgate magnetometers. Treatments applied to the magnetometer data as shown on plan 3 include the truncation of high readings and correction for irregularities in line spacing caused by variations in the instrument zero setting, together with slight numerical smoothing. The approximate extent of some of the more conspicuous magnetic disturbances is indicated by cross hatching on the 1:625 scale plots reproduced on plan 3, and these features are also indicated on plan 1.

The resistivity plots (plan 2) are based on readings recorded at 1m intervals using a Geoscan RM15 meter with twin probe configuration and 0.5m mobile probe spacing. The remote probes were placed at sufficiently wide separation (10m +) to give readings of constant minimum value, and so minimise discontinuities between sections of the survey. The plots show the initial data and the results after processing with a high pass filter (cut-off radius 4m). The filter removes background variations and allows localised features, which could include any structural remains which are present, to be seen against a uniform background. Some of the more clearly defined resistivity anomalies are outlined on the plots, and reproduced together with the magnetometer findings to permit comparison of the results on the 1:1000 scale location plan (plan 1). The features included in this summary plan are not necessarily archaeologically significant.

Results

Area A

This survey block occupies a strip of open ground between the remains of demolished buildings to the west and dense undergrowth which lies between areas A and B to the east.

The magnetometer plots show strong non-archaeological disturbances including one or perhaps two pipes, and an area of strong interference towards the south of the survey block. This may be caused by buried iron and other superficial debris associated with the nearby demolished buildings.

The resistivity survey does not show any particular activity in this area. There is a negative linear anomaly which lies parallel to a pipe seen in the magnetometer survey, and may be an additional non-ferrous pipe or trench. There are other less regular disturbances, but no clearly defined rectilinear outlines of a kind which might indicate the presence of wall footings are visible in either the initial or filtered plots. This lack of positive results is consistent with the findings from a trench dug here during the 1989 evaluation, which did not indicate any archaeological features.

Area B

The magnetometer survey here is quieter than elsewhere, and is largely free of large scale modern disturbances. There are some individual strong magnetic anomalies caused by buried iron, and small background variations. A medieval settlement on clay soil would not necessarily produce strong magnetic anomalies, but it is probable in the context of this survey that small variations in magnetic response as seen in area B are caused by scattered pieces of modern debris.

The resistivity survey shows a band of high readings against a generally quiet background. An anomaly of this size is seen more clearly in the unfiltered than the filtered plot. This feature was tested during trenching carried out by OAU immediately following the survey, and was found to be a natural band of silty clay subsoil. This gave high readings in comparison with the surrounding yellow clay.

Area C

The magnetic disturbances here include a pipe, but there are also smaller anomalies as outlined. These could have various possible causes, but would not be inconsistent with the presence of brick and tile deposits as reported in this part of the site in the 1989 trenching.

The resistivity survey also shows strong but irregular variations. The lack of any rectilinear features suggests these could perhaps in part be natural as seen in area B.

Area D

A pipe crosses the area and there is other interference from modern iron, but the background to the magnetometer plot appears quiet. The resistivity survey again shows only irregular disturbances of possibly natural origin.

Conclusions

The survey has not identified any intact structural features or wall footings which would indicate that remains of the medieval manor house survive within the areas surveyed. There are disturbances of both natural and modern origin, but elsewhere the plots are comparatively quiet and provide no clear positive evidence for the presence of archaeological remains, with the possible exception of the uncertain findings from area C. The survey findings alone cannot fully exclude the possible

presence of archaeological features, which could in places be obscured by other disturbances, but the largely negative findings are consistent with the evidence from the trial trenching carried out both recently and in 1989.

Report by:

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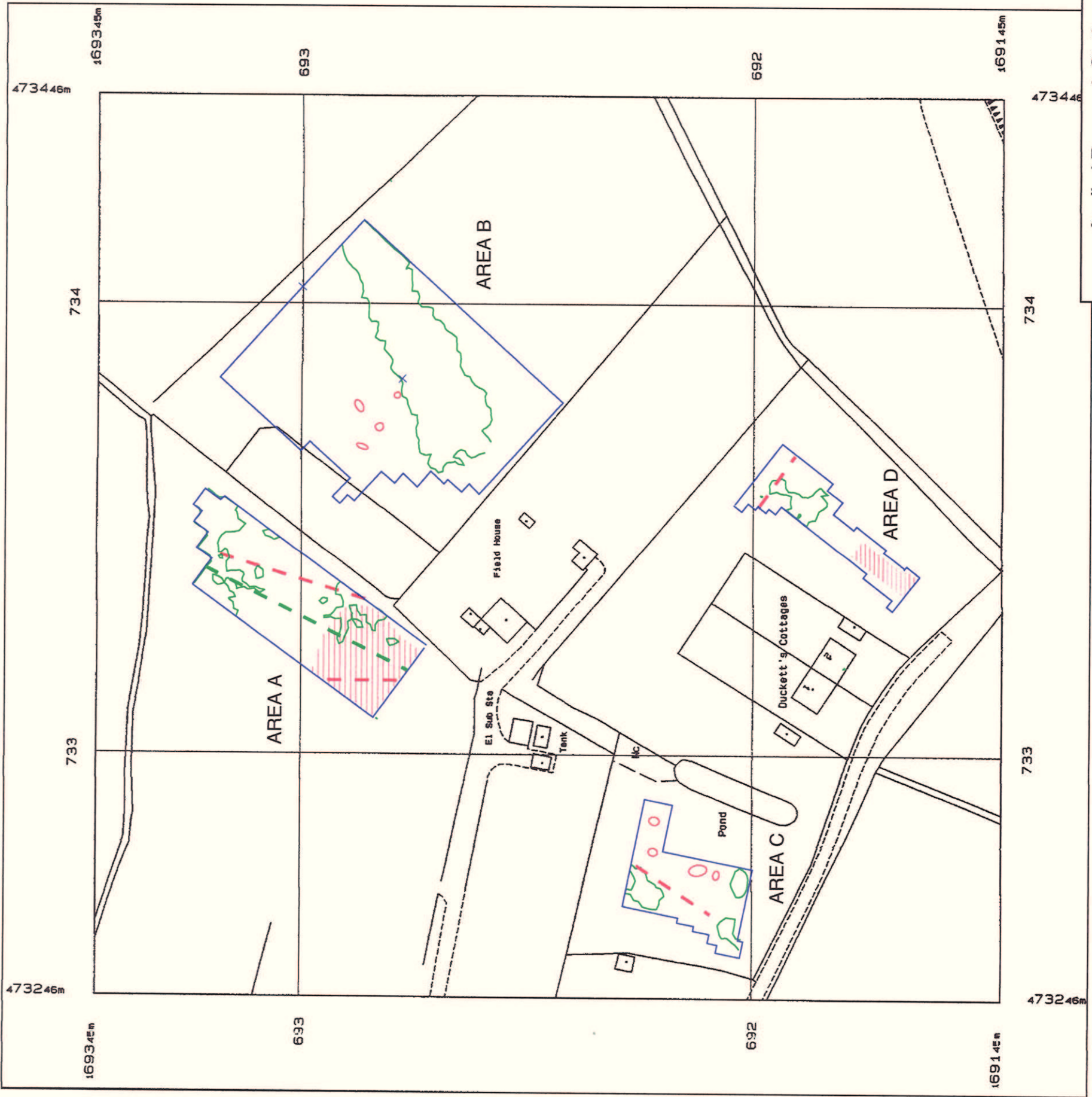
25 Estate Yard
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North Leigh
Oxfordshire OX8 6PS

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14 December 1999

T. Pearce and J. Cox assisted with the fieldwork for this survey.

Based upon the OS 1:1250 map with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. Licence No. AL51719A0001.



-  magnetic anomalies
-  magnetically disturbed area
-  pipes
-  resistivity anomalies
-  negative resistivity anomaly



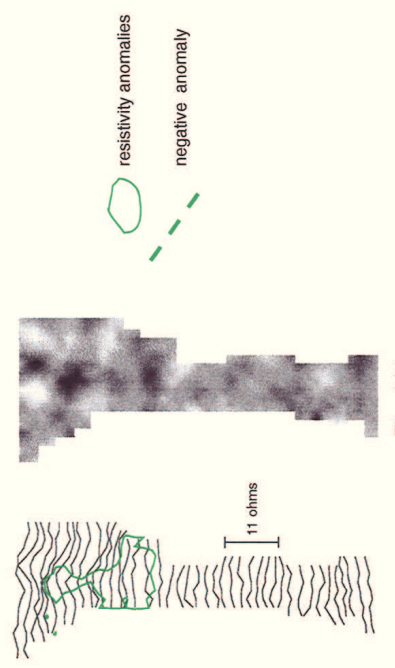
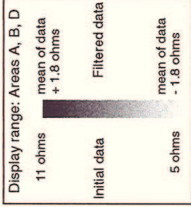
Applied Research Station, Shinfield Geophysical Survey 1999		Scale 1:1000
Plan 1: Location of Survey (with summary of findings)		Plan No. 1



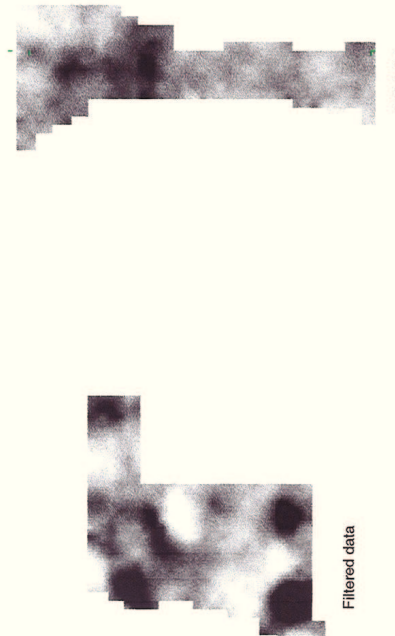
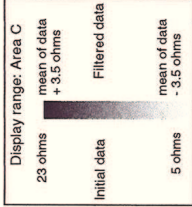
AREA A

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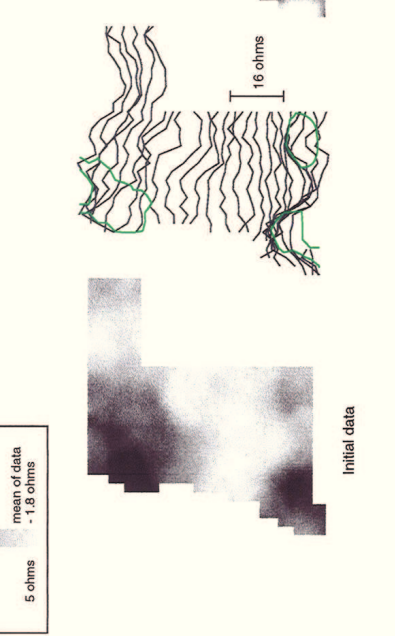
Filtered data



AREA B



AREA C



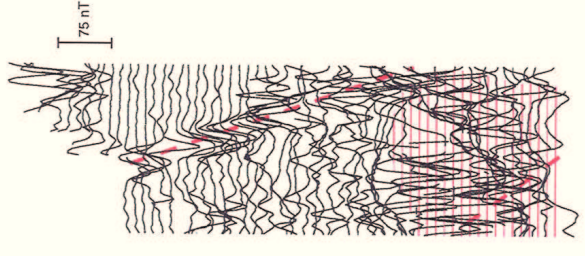
AREA D

resistivity anomalies
negative anomaly

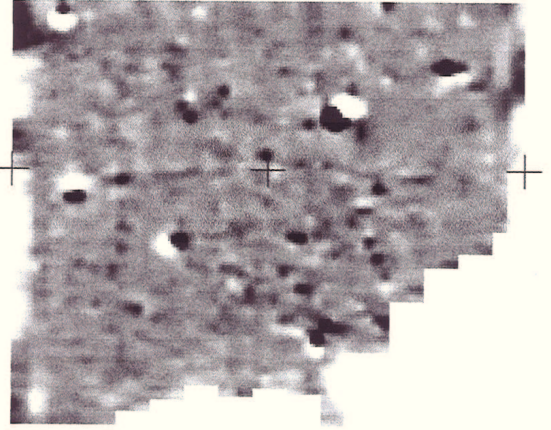
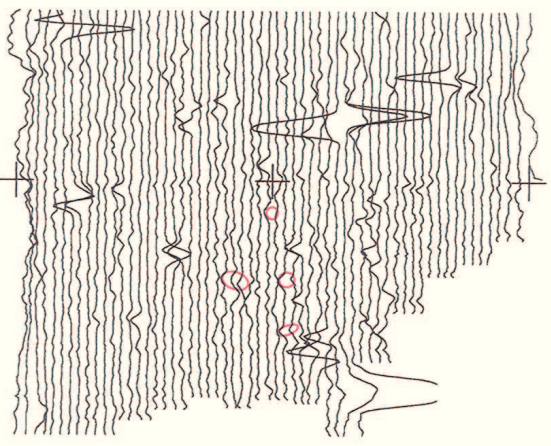
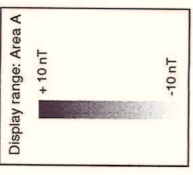


Scale 1:625

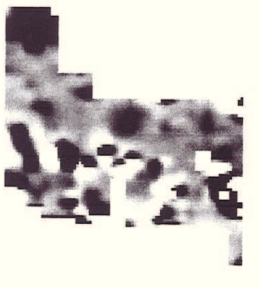
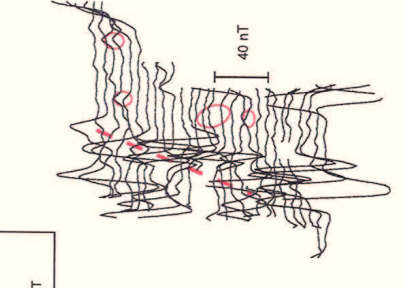
Applied Research Station, Shinfield
Geophysical Survey, 1999



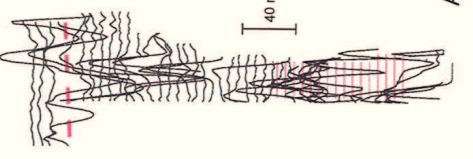
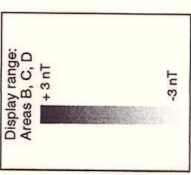
AREA A



AREA B



AREA C



AREA D

magnetic anomalies
 magnetically disturbed area
 pipes



Scale
 1:625

Applied Research Station, Shinfield
 Geophysical Survey 1999