

*Finmere*

*dup*

OXFORDSHIRE

---

FINMERE TOWN FARM

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



Oxford Archaeological Unit

*1992*



# Finmere Town Farm, Oxfordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

### Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by the Oxford Archaeological Unit on behalf of Mr Boyd of Town Farm, in advance of a planning application (CH 139/92) to build dwellings.

### Summary

During the evaluation no archaeological features or deposits were located. One modern ditch was located in (trench 4). This contained pieces of bottle, metal and sherds of post medieval pottery.

### Archaeological Background

The site lies in the north - west part of Finmere village and c.600m from the line of the Roman Road to the SW. Archaeological records indicate a site of a Roman building approximately 0.40km to the south east (PRN 2783), and to the south a possible ring ditch cropmark (PRN 13,631) at a similar distance away.

### Strategy

A total of four trenches, each one 1.60m x 20m, comprising a 2% sample of 0.87 hectares was machine excavated down to natural.

### Results

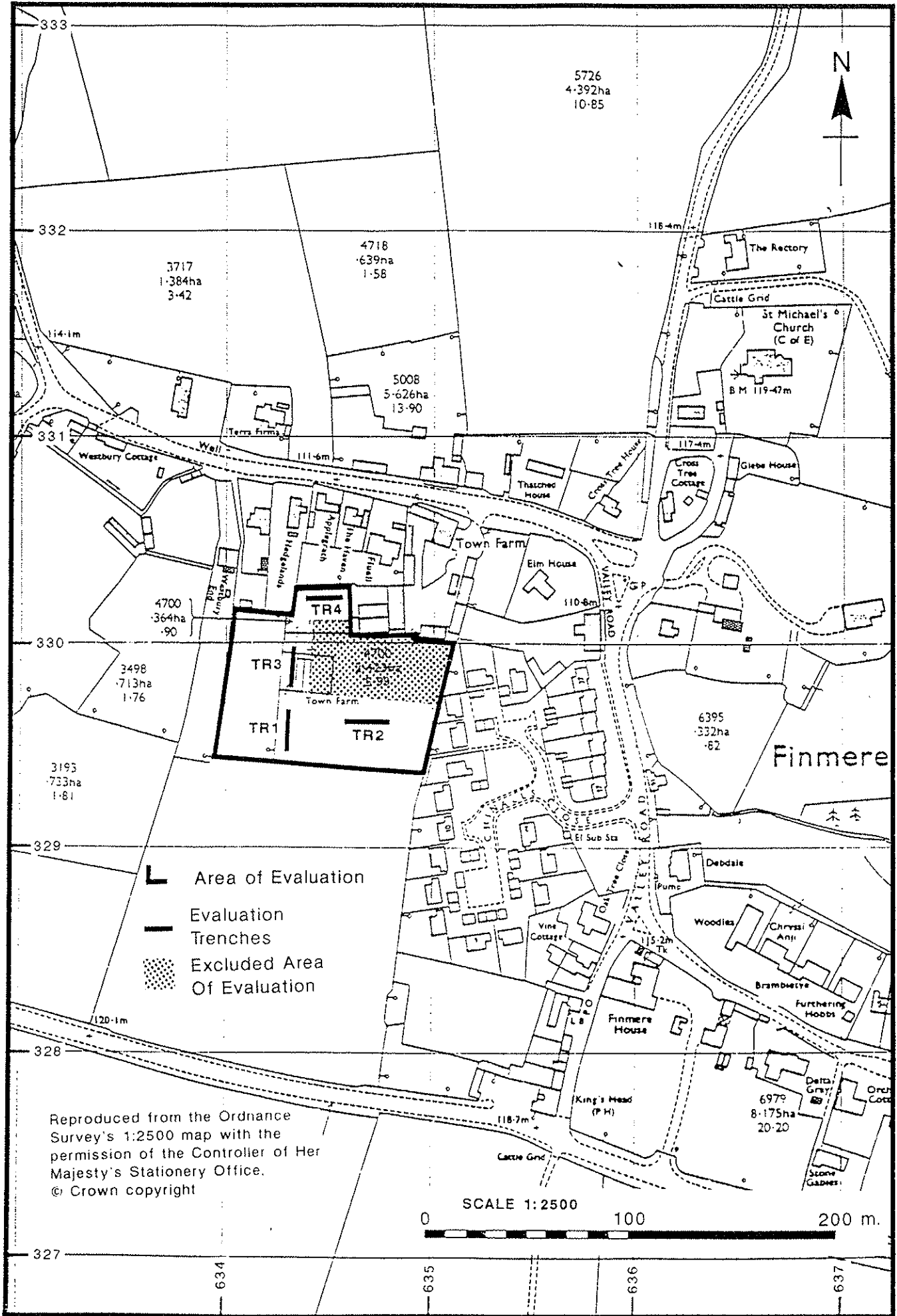
In all trenches the topsoil was a mid brown/grey silt loam, which overlaid a light brown/orange silty sand subsoil varying between 0.10 - 0.17m in depth. The natural was an orange brown silty sand which overlays a coarse gravel. The soil profiles showed no evidence for ploughing at any stage.

#### Trench 4

A modern ditch was identified, orientated east/west running obliquely along trench 4. The fill of the modern ditch contained bottles, glass, metal brick and sherds of post medieval pottery. The finds were not retained.

## **Conclusion**

The lack of archaeological features, deposits and topsoil artefacts suggests that the application area was not used for settlement purposes and that the area was probably not used for arable agriculture in the Roman period. Although a 2% sample is not guaranteed to locate low concentrations of discrete features, the complete absence of occupation debris from the topsoil would indicate that the results of the evaluation are representative of the area as a whole.



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's 1:2500 map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.  
 © Crown copyright

SCALE 1:2500  
 0 100 200 m.

- Area of Evaluation
- Evaluation Trenches
- Excluded Area Of Evaluation

333  
 332  
 331  
 330  
 329  
 328  
 327

5726  
 4.392ha  
 10-85

4718  
 .639ha  
 1-58

5008  
 5.626ha  
 13-90

3717  
 1.384ha  
 3-42

4700  
 .364ha  
 .90

3498  
 .713ha  
 1-76

3193  
 .733ha  
 1-81

6395  
 .332ha  
 .82

6979  
 8.175ha  
 20-20

The Rectory  
 Cattle Grnd  
 St Michael's Church (C of E)  
 B M 119-47m

Westbury Cottage  
 Well  
 Town Farm  
 Elm House  
 Thatched House  
 Cross Tree Cottage  
 Glebe House

TR4  
 TR3  
 TR1  
 TR2

Finmere

VALLEY ROAD

King's Head (P.H.)  
 Finmere House  
 Debdale  
 Pump  
 Woodies  
 Chrissy's Anti  
 Bramblecote  
 Furthering Hobbs  
 Delta Grnd  
 Ornd Cott  
 Stone Gables

114-1m  
 111-6m  
 117-4m  
 110-6m  
 118-7m  
 120-1m

634  
 635  
 636  
 637