

Gifford and Partners

MSA M40/A355 Burtley Woods, Buckinghamshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR SU 952 887

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July 2000

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SUMMARY

In June 2000 the OAU carried out a field evaluation at Burtley Woods, Buckinghamshire on behalf of Gifford and Partners. The evaluation consisted of a geophysical survey supplemented by shovel test-pitting across the site and fieldwalking within a ploughed field in the south-west corner. Overall there was little indication of archaeological activity and the results from the test pitting were largely negative. No features were identified and the distribution of recovered finds appears to indicate only occasional low level post-medieval activity within the evaluation area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In June 2000 the OAU carried out a field evaluation at Burtley Woods, Buckinghamshire on behalf of Gifford and Partners. The site is situated east of the A 335 immediately south of its junction with the M 40 motorway. The evaluation covered an area of approximately 11 hectares and comprised a geophysical survey, field-walking and a shovel test-pit sampling investigation.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site forms part of Burtley Woods and comprises a mixed plot of mostly deciduous open woodland and coniferous plantations, a ploughed field (to the south-west), paddocks (at the north of the area), and a timber yard with light industrial units (to the north-west). The topography is gently undulating with a general slope to the south at the southern end of the site. The geology is glacial sands and gravels overlying Reading Beds.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 A desk-based research of the site has been carried out by Gifford and Partners (see Gifford document B1908A.R01RevA) and is summarised below.
- 1.3.2 There are eight sites within a 1km radius of the site recorded on the county SMR. Two are of prehistoric date and the other six are medieval, including Scheduled Monument No 27198 (Bower Wood Fish Pond/Moat), which lies just 30m to the south-east of the site. In addition, a Roman kiln is recorded at Hedgerley (to the south-east) and Roman roads are thought to have run close to the site. During a previous site visit a struck flint tool (a scraper) was observed in the ploughed field on the west side of the site. Map regression has shown that only the eastern half of the site has been continuously woodland since 1761. The pond in the south-east part of the site is visible on the 1846 tithe map and subsequent OS surveys. The existing A 355, which borders the west of the site, lies to the west of the original road.

- 1.3.3 There are no known remains on the site. However, lack of development and the fact that the wood is not open to the public will have limited the likelihood of chance discovery.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

- 2.1.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area through geophysical survey, fieldwalking and shovel test-pitting.
- 2.1.2 To specifically target the environs of a Scheduled fish pond/moat to the south east and the possible Roman road which borders the north of the site. Any significant anomalies detected by the geophysical survey were also to be investigated.
- 2.1.3 To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- 2.1.4 To identify areas of land where geological or recent deposits or modern features could be masking the detection of geophysical anomalies.
- 2.1.5 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- 2.1.6 To make available the results of the investigation

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The evaluation consisted of shovel test-pitting, fieldwalking and a geophysical survey. The results of the geophysical survey are presented in a separate report (Bartlett July 2000).
- 3.1.2 The shovel test-pitting consisted of the excavation of 95 hand dug pits on a 50 m or 25 m grid across the site (Fig 2). Fieldwalking was undertaken across a ploughed field within the south-west of the site and consisted of two transects, A and B, measuring 91 m and 120 m long respectively, and placed 20 m apart.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

Shovel test pitting

- 3.2.1 A site grid was laid out by an experienced surveyor. The shovel test-pit evaluation was carried out on a 50m grid with additional test pitting on a 25 m grid within paddocks at the north of the site and adjacent to a scheduled moated pond to the south-east. Test-pit 88 was specifically targeted on a low earth bank adjacent to an east-west trackway and drainage ditch (Fig 2). A total of 95 test-pits were excavated.
- 3.2.2 Shovel test-pits measured approximately 0.3 m square and were hand excavated to penetrate the underlying natural geology by 0.1 m. The loose spoil was carefully

sorted for finds and all test-pits were recorded stratigraphically. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

Field-walking

- 3.2.3 Fieldwalking was undertaken along two parallel transects (A and B) within a ploughed field to the south-west of the site. The transects were laid out by survey on an approximate north-south alignment and measured 91 m and 120 m long. They were placed 20 m apart (Fig. 2).
- 3.2.4 Collection units were 20 m long and 2 m wide along each transect. Proforma sheets were used to record ground conditions along each transect.

3.3 Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified within the evaluation.

3.4 Presentation of Results

- 3.4.1 The shovel test pitting is described for three separate areas of the evaluation; the northern paddocks, the south-eastern edge of the site adjacent to the fish pond/moat and the central and western woods. Within each of these areas general test pitting results are given, followed by more detailed description of any notable test-pits. This is followed by the field-walking results. Further details of the results of the fieldwalking and test-pitting are also given in Appendices 1 and 2.
- 3.4.2 The shovel test-pitting and fieldwalking results are followed by descriptions of the finds and an interpretation and discussion of the results

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 4.1.1 The site is located on glacial sands. The underlying natural geology was found to be an orange to pale yellow-brown fine sandy silt. Ground conditions were generally dry.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of shovel test-pits

The northern paddocks

- 5.1.1 A total of 25 shovel test pits were excavated on a 25 m grid pattern within the northern paddocks.
- 5.1.2 The stratigraphic sequence was similar within all of these test pits and consisted of a orange-brown to grey brown fine sandy silt undisturbed natural geology with a poorly defined upper interface of partially mixed natural geology beneath the present topsoil and turf. The level of the underlying natural geology varied between 0.23 to up to

0.38 m beneath the present ground level. No features or significant deposits were identified and the depth of over-burden appeared fairly consistent across the paddocks area.

- 5.1.3 Finds were recovered from Test-pits 1, 3, 4, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16, 23 and 24. The majority of the finds (42 pieces) were of ceramic building material (CBM) and post-medieval pottery (8 sherds). 15 pieces of CBM, a fragment of modern glass and a single iron nail were also recovered, from Test-pit 1. It seems likely that the finds recovered here were associated with localised disturbance around the paddocks entrance which is immediately adjacent to this test-pit. Elsewhere finds appeared evenly distributed (Fig. 2 and Appendix 1).

The south-eastern woods

- 5.1.4 A total of 18 shovel test-pits were excavated on a 25 m grid in the south-eastern corner of the site to identify any activity associated with the Scheduled fish pond/moat to the south-east. A separate test-pit (Test-pit 88) was dug to investigate a low bank just to the north of a east-west aligned trackway to the north of Test-pit 30.
- 5.1.5 A probable former trackway and shallow ditch, both aligned east-west were noted just to the north of Test-pits 88, 37 and 46.
- 5.1.6 The stratigraphic sequence within the test-pits in this area was very consistent. The underlying natural geology varied from a pale yellow-brown sandy silt to yellow-grey fine sandy silt and was overlain by an interface of mixed or disturbed natural geology which was up to 0.2 m thick. This interface was poorly defined within some test-pits but was universally overlain by a very shallow topsoil containing a very high proportion of leaf mould, which was typically between 0.05 and 0.12 m thick.
- 5.1.7 The only finds recovered were 11 fragments of CBM from Test-pits 30, 32, 88, 90, and 98. Of these, 7 fragments were recovered from Test-pits 30 and 88, described below. Overall the number of finds recovered was very low and did not indicate any significant activity.
- 5.1.8 Test-pit 30 was sited immediately adjacent to a east-west trackway that is still in use. This was the only test-pit excavated through a water-logged and rutted area and is thereby atypical of the site. Six fragments of CBM was recovered from the topsoil of this test-pit.
- 5.1.9 Test-pit 88 was placed to the north of Test-pit 30 and was sited to investigate a low bank. This test-pit produced a single fragment of CBM from its topsoil and revealed a 0.35 m thick bank of re-deposited sandy silt above the undisturbed natural geology. No finds were recovered from this bank deposit.
- 5.1.10 Apart from the ditch and bank, no features or significant deposits were seen in this area.

The central and western woods

- 5.1.11 A total of 52 test-pits were located within the area of the central and western woods. The majority of these test-pits were placed on a 50 m grid pattern with some additional test-pits placed at 25 m intervals as appropriate.
- 5.1.12 Generally the stratigraphic sequence was consistent with that found elsewhere on site, with a shallow interface of slightly disturbed natural geology between clean yellow-brown sandy silt and the overlying topsoil/ leaf mould. Typically the upper interface of disturbed natural geology was up to 0.16 m thick and was overlain by between 0.06-0.26 m of topsoil or leaf mould. There was some variation towards the north where the topsoil was thicker and typically measured up to 0.35 m.
- 5.1.13 Test pit 82, which was located adjacent to the timber yard, revealed up to 0.5 m of heavily root disturbed 'topsoil' above a pale brown-grey sandy silt natural geology. A total of 7 fragments of CBM and 6 sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from this test-pit. The proximity of this test-pit to the timber-yard suggests that the depth of the overburden here is a result of modern activity.
- 5.1.14 Test pit 69, at the extreme north-west of the site, also revealed a 0.16 m thick deposit of compact silty loam with tarmac fragments. This deposit is almost certainly associated with the construction of the present A 355 to the west, or the former road here (see sect. 1.3.2. above).
- 5.1.15 A total of 26 fragments of CBM, 4 sherds of post-medieval pottery, 1 struck flint and 1 clay pipe stem were recovered across this area. During the evaluation the distribution of recovered finds appeared fairly even, although Figure 2 shows a low concentration around an extant east-west trackway. A total of 14 fragments of CBM were recovered from Test-pits 37, 38, 48, 53, 54, 63 and 64, together with two sherds of post-medieval pottery from Test-pit 64 and a fragment of clay pipe from Test-pit 62. This indicates a certain amount of post-medieval activity around and /or associated with the trackway.

5.2 Field-walking survey

- 5.2.1 A field-walking survey was undertaken across a ploughed field within the south-west corner of the site. The survey involved two transects, A and B, measuring 91 m and 120 m long respectively, and placed 20 m apart. The results are presented in Appendix 2.
- 5.2.2 The results of the fieldwalking reflects the general pattern of finds distribution elsewhere. A total of 37 fragments of CBM, 11 sherds of post-medieval pottery, 2 pieces of struck flint, 1 sherd of bottle glass and a single iron object (probably part of a file) were recovered.
- 5.2.3 Generally there seems to be little evidence of any concentrations within the field surveyed and most if not all of the finds, apart from the flints, are post-medieval.

5.3 Finds

The Pottery

- 5.3.1 A total of 27 pottery sherds were recovered during shovel test-pitting and a further 11 sherds were collected during the fieldwalking survey. These are all post-medieval, predominantly earthenwares and stonewares, with no medieval or earlier fabrics. See Appendix 3 for further detail

Lithics

- 5.3.2 Only three pieces of struck flint were recovered during the evaluation.
- 5.3.3 A possible core was recovered from Test-pit 78 within the south western corner of the site. Two flints were also recovered during the fieldwalking. One was a retouched flake whilst the other appears to be of recent origin and is probably plough-struck.
- 5.3.4 During a previous site visit by OAU staff a separate retouched flake/scrapper was also recovered from the fieldwalking area.
- 5.3.5 The four pieces of worked flint recovered were all from the south-western corner of the site but do not suggest significant prehistoric activity.

Ceramic building materials

- 5.3.6 A total of 37 fragments of tile were recovered during fieldwalking and a further 79 fragments were recovered during the shovel test pit evaluation.
- 5.3.7 The assemblage of CBM found during fieldwalking is generally in a poor and heavily abraded condition and, as a result, cannot be closely dated. The majority of the fragments are likely to be roof tile, of late medieval or post-medieval date. Two larger and thicker pieces had smoothed cut sides and even surfaces indicating that they were paving tiles and probably of late post-medieval date.
- 5.3.8 The CBM recovered from the test pitting was very fragmentary and in poor condition. The material is largely un-diagnostic but is likely to be a mixture of roof tile and brick which could date from the medieval period onwards.

Other finds

- 5.3.9 The other finds consisted of sherds of modern glass, a single iron nail, a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem, clinker and coal. The only other find of interest was part of an iron file used for metal working which was found during fieldwalking. This is unlikely to predate the post-medieval period.

Discussion And Interpretation

5.4 Reliability of field investigation

- 5.4.1 Overall the test-pits and fieldwalking results confirmed the largely negative results of the geophysical survey (Bartlett July 2000).

5.5 Overall Interpretation

- 5.5.1 The shovel test-pit survey demonstrated a simple stratigraphical sequence of topsoil or leaf-mould over natural sandy silts with a thin slightly mixed interface between the two. No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered. With the exception of three worked flints recovered from the south-west of the site all of the recovered finds appear to be post-medieval and seem to represent a low level of background activity only.

5.6 Summary of results

- 5.6.1 The generally negative results of the fieldwalking, test-pitting and geophysical survey demonstrated a very low level of archaeological activity in the evaluation area. Many of the finds were likely to have been redeposited and, with the exception of the worked flint, the datable finds were all post-medieval.

5.7 Bibliography

Bartlett-Clarke Consultancy July 2000: Burtley Woods, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire - Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey.

Gifford and Partners - Gifford document B1908A.R01RevA

Wilkinson, D (ed) 1992 *Oxford Archaeological Unit Field Manual*, (First edition, August 1992)

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 1					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.13	Pottery, CBM, glass, Nail	Post-med
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.1	CBM	
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 2					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.04		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.24		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 3					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.18	CBM	
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 4					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.04	CBM	
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.24		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 5					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.07		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.17		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 6					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.04		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.16		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 7					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.22	CBM, burnt stone	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 8					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.17		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 9					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.03		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.15		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 10					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.12		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 11					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.16		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 12					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.15	Pottery, CBM	Post-med
3	Layer	Natural geology			

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 13					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.25	CBM	Post-med
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 14					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.2		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.1		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 15					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.08	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 16					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.24	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 17					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.23		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 18					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 19					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.27		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 20					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.19		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 21					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.38		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 22					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 23					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.24	Glass, Coal	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.12		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 24					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.2	Pottery, CBM	Post-med
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.05		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 25					
1	Layer	Leaf mould	0.1		
2	Layer	Topsoil	0.27		
3	Layer	Natural geology			

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 26					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.02	Pottery	Post-med
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.16		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 27					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.15		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 28					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 29					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.07		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 30					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	Pottery, CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 31					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.11		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.14	Pottery	
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 32					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.12	CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.19		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 33					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.08		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 34					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.16		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 35					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 36					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 37					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08	CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 38					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.11	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 39					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.15		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.08		
3	Layer	Natural geology			

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 40					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.28		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 41					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.18		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.03		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 42					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.22		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 43					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.03		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 44					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 45					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.04		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 46					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.27		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 47					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.09		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 48					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.2		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 49					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 50 Not excavated					
Test pit 51					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Subsoil	0.04		
3	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.27		
4	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 52					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 53					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.3	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 54					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 55	Not excavated				
Test pit 56	Not excavated				
Test pit 57					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	Pottery, CBM	Post-med
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 58					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.35		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 59					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.25		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 60					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 61					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.07		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 62					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.15		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.15	Clay pipe	Post-med
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 63					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 64					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2	Pottery, CBM	Post-med
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 65	Not excavated				
Test pit 66					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.22	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 67					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.08		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 68					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.03		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 69					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.16		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 70					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.2		
2	Layer	Natural geology			

Test pit no. / Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 71					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.35		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 72					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 73					
1	Layer	Leaf mould	0.06		
2	Layer	Topsoil	0.04		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 74					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 75					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.06		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 76					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.12		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 77					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.05		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 78					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.07	CBM, flint	Post-med?
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 79					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 80					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 81					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 82					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.5	Pottery, CBM	Post-med
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 83					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.26		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 84					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.3		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 85					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
Test pit 86					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.17		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 87					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 88					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.15	CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.35		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 89					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 90					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.11	CBM	Post-med?
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface			
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 91					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 92					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.19		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 93					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 94					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.05		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 95					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.2		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 96					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.1		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.15		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 97					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.1		
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 98					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.05		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.15	CBM	Post-med?
3	Layer	Natural geology			
Test pit 99					
1	Layer	Topsoil	0.08		
2	Layer	subsoil/ interface	0.1		
3	Layer	Natural geology			

APPENDIX 2 FIELDWALKING RESULTS

	Type and number of finds recovered	Date
Transect A		
0-20	1 brick, 2 CBM, 5 pottery	Post-medieval
20-40	2 CBM, 1 flint, 1 pottery	Post-medieval/ ?
40-60	1 CBM, 3 pottery	Post-medieval
60-80	1 CBM	Post-medieval ?
80-91	3 CBM, 1 pottery	Post-medieval
Transect B		
0-20	4 CBM, 1 glass	Post-medieval
20-40	4 CBM	Post-medieval
40-60	6 CBM, 1 flint, 1 Iron object	Post-medieval/ ?
60-80	5 CBM, 1 pottery	Post-medieval
80-100	2 CBM	Post-medieval?
100-120	6 CBM	Post-medieval

APPENDIX 3 POTTERY BY PAUL BLINKHORN

The pottery assemblage comprised 38 sherds with a total weight of 312 g. A total of 11 sherds (155 g) were recovered by the fieldwalking phase of the project, the rest from the test pits. All the material was post-medieval in date, with the majority comprising 19th century types. Some of the material may be as early as the 16th century, but the small size of the assemblage makes it impossible to be certain of this, and it is equally likely to be as late as the rest of the material.

Fabrics

The assemblage comprised a range of post-medieval wares which are well-known in the county. Consequently, where appropriate, the pottery coding system of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series was used (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat et al. 1994), as follows:

Red Earthenware (MK **TLMS12**). 16th – 19th century.

Staffordshire Red Stoneware (MK **PM58**). Late 17th – early 18th century.

White Earthenware (MK **PM25**). Late 18th – 19th century

The following 19th century wares are not covered by the above type-series:

Yellow Ware. White, slightly sandy earthenware with a thick, glossy lemon glaze, 1785-1830.

Late English Stonewares. Hard, grey stoneware fabric, often with a ferruginous wash. Commonly used for ink-pots, seltzer bottles etc. c 1750+.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Fieldwalking pottery: occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per fabric type per transect and stint

Trans	Stint	TLMS12		Yellow ware		English Stoneware		PM25		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
A	0-20	1	54	1	29	1	24	2	8	16th - 19th C
A	20-40							1	3	19thC
A	40-60	1	9					2	7	16th - 19th C
B	60-80	1	17							16th - 19th C
A	80-91							1	4	19thC.
	Total	3	80	1	29	1	24	6	22	

Table 2: Test-pit pottery: occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per fabric type per context

TP	Context	TLMS12		PM58		English Stoneware		PM25		Date
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	1	2	5					1	3	19thC?
12	2	4	15							16thC?
24	1	1	2							16thC?
26	2			4	76			3	45	19thC?
30	1	1	8							16thC?
31	2							1	2	19thC?
57	1	2	27							16thC?
64	2	2	40							16thC?
82	1					6	193			19thC?
	Total	12	97	4	76	6	193	5	50	

Chronology

The majority of the pottery from this project is of 19th century date. It is possible that some of the material, specifically the Red Earthenwares, may be as early as the 16th century, but such 'country pottery' was produced in some areas until the 19th or even the early 20th century, and thus the given dating must be regarded as a *terminus post quem* rather than absolute.

Bibliography

Mynard, DC and Zeepvat RJ, 1992 *Great Linford* Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser 3

Zeepvat, RJ, Roberts, JS and King, NA, 1994 *Caldecotte, Milton Keynes. Excavation and Fieldwork 1966-91* Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser 4

APPENDIX 4 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**Site name:** MSA M40/ A355 Burtley Woods**Site code:** M40 BW 00**Grid reference:** SU 952 887**Type of evaluation:** Shovel test pitting and fieldwalking**Date and duration of project:** June /July 2000, over a period of two weeks**Area of site:** 11 hectares**Summary of results:** A very low level of post-medieval activity (finds) only. No features or significant deposits found.**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OAU, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES.



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Figure 1: Site location

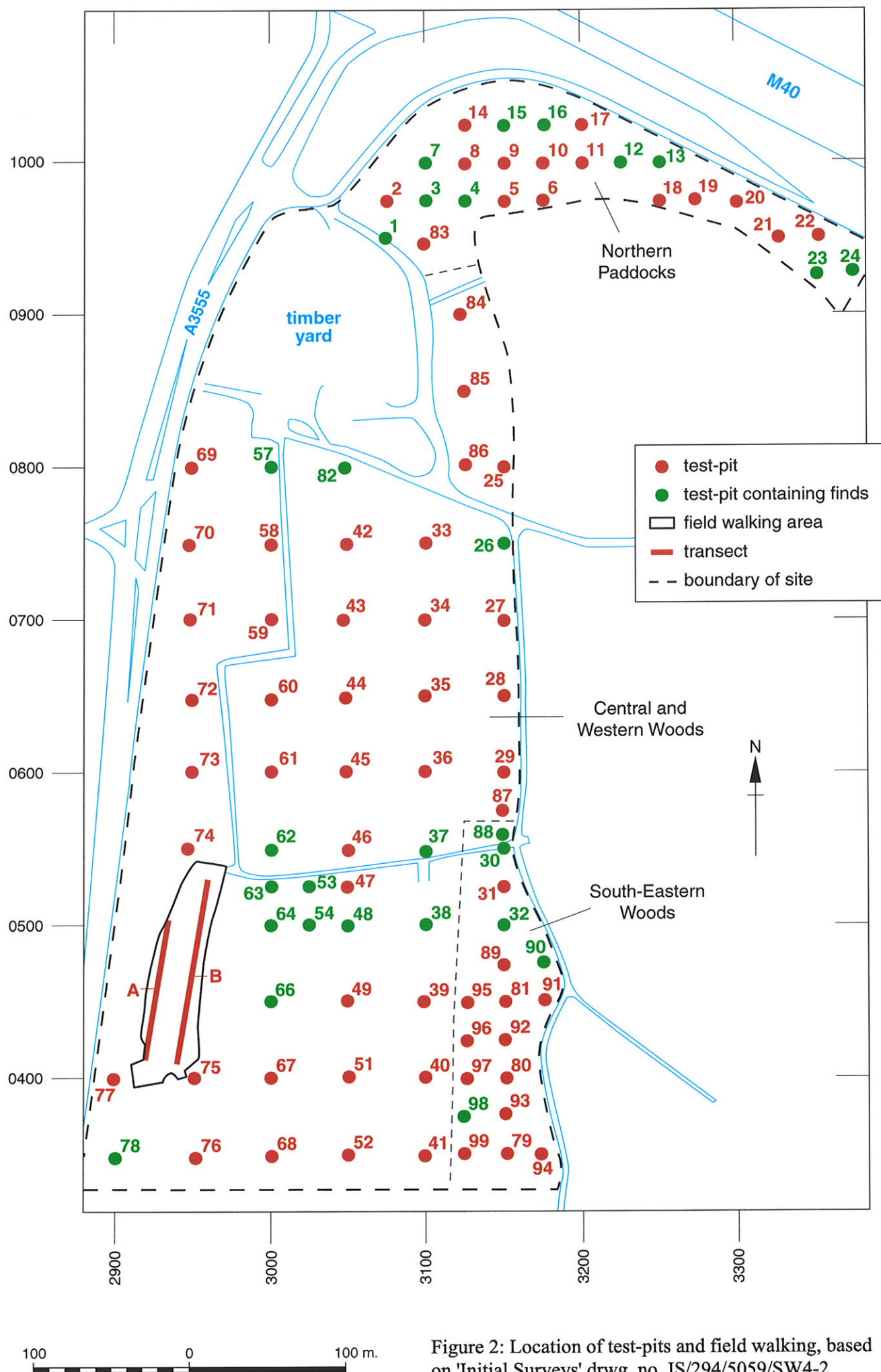


Figure 2: Location of test-pits and field walking, based on 'Initial Surveys' drwg. no. IS/294/5059/SW4-2



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