Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd

GCHQ Benhall Site, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SO 914 224

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

August 1999

Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd.

GCHQ Benhall Site, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SO 914 224

Prepared by:	BRYAN MATTHEWS
Date:	30 7 1999
Checked by:	
Date:	2ND AUGUST 1999
Approved by:	R. Milham HEAD OF FIELDWORK
Date:	2/8/1999

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

August 1999

GCHQ Benhall site, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LIST OF CONTENTS

List of Figures

SUMMARY

The Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out a field evaluation immediately west of the existing Benhall site of GCHQ on behalf of Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd. The evaluation revealed an almost complete absence of archaeological activity. A single undated shallow linear feature was located to the north of the site. Several post-mediaeval disturbances associated with farming or with the construction of radio masts in the presnt century were also identified within the evaluation area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

In June 1999 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) carried out a field evaluation at land immediately west of the present Benhall (Cheltenham) site of GCHQ, on behalf of Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd. This evaluation is in respect of a brief set by and a WSI agreed with the Senior Archaeological Officer at Gloucester County Council in advance of major development work. The development site is *c* 15 hectares in area.

1.2 Geology and topography

The site lies on lies on Lower Lias clays on the western edge of Cheltenham and is situated on land immediately to the west of the present grounds of GCHQ (Fig. 1). The evaluation covered an area of land that comprises seven fields on ground that generally slopes down from the north-east towards the south-west. Two of these fields are separated from the main body of the site by an access road from the western entrance of GCHQ to Fiddlers Green Lane. The southern-most of these fields appears to have been landscaped and contains a small culverted brook.

An extensive pattern of former ridge and furrow field systems is still in evidence over much of the evaluation area.

The present land use is permanent agricultural grassland, which had been recently cut for silage at the time of the evaluation

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 No sites of archaeological importance were identified within or immediately adjacent to the proposed development area at Benhall prior to the evaluation work. An initial archaeological study of the area was carried out by RPS Clouston in response to a commission from GCHQ Cheltenham, the results of which were reported upon in April 1998 (RPS Clouston 1998)

1.3.2 Subsequently the OAU was commissioned to carry out a survey of the aerial photographic evidence for the site to assess the nature and significance any cropmarks within the site and its immediate environs. This work was completed in January 1999 (OAU 1999). The survey identified medieval open fields, in the form of traces of ridge and furrow, but no other features of likely archaeological origin were seen.

1.3.3 A magnetometer survey of the site was then carried out by the Bartlett-Clark Consultancy for OAU on behalf of Scott Wilson at the request of Gloucestershire Couty Council. This work was completed in April 1999 (Bartlett 1999). Again there were few clear indications of archaeological features apart from the ridge and furrow, evidence for which was present across most of the survey area. Traces of recent use of the site were evident in the locations of probable anchorage points for masts and stays.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1 To determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains within the area of the evaluation.

2.2 To determine the presence and potential of environmental and economic indicators preserved in any archaeological features or deposits.

2.3 To establish the local, regional, national and international importance of such remains, and the potential for further archaeological fieldwork to fulfil local, regional and national research objectives.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Sample size and scope of fieldwork

The evaluation was based upon a 2% sample of the development area, and consisted of 56 trenches measuring 30 m long and 1.8 m wide (Fig. 2). The location of the trenches largely followed a random pattern, but with deliberate avoidance of known services, likely modern features or heavily disturbed areas identified in the geophysical survey, and modern field boundaries.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

The overburden was removed by two 360° mechanical excavators under close archaeological supervision. The trenches were cleaned by hand as appropriate and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson 1992).

3.3 Finds

Machining and resultant spoil heaps were closely monitored for finds. Finds that were obviously modern were noted but otherwise not recovered from the overlying topsoil and subsoil.

3.4 Environmental data

No environmental samples were taken due to the almost complete absence of archaeological features, finds or waterlogged or similar deposits which might have had potential to contain environmental remains.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

The general soil type was a tenacious clay. Ground conditions were generally dry with very localised standing water within a few trenches. No waterlogged materials or deposits were evident.

4.2 Distribution of Archaeological Deposits

The majority of excavated trenches were empty of significant archaeology with only two trenches containing features of archaeological note. These were Trench 37, towards the centre of the site, which partially revealed a large modern probable stone dump, and Trench 4, at the north of the site, which contained a single, undated, linear feature (Figs 2 and 3).

4.3 Presentation of Results

The results are first described in a general stratigraphic sequence, followed by a description of the archaeological sequence where appropriate. This is followed by a short discussion and interpretation of the results.

A summary of all contexts and finds is presented in the archaeological context inventory (Appendix 1)

5 RESULTS

5.1 The general stratigraphic sequence

Natural blue grey to brownish grey lias clay was revealed within all of the evaluation trenches with some notable localised variation. An irregular pattern of orange and grey clays appeared within several trenches. This pattern of mixed naturals was particularly apparent within Trenches 2 and 19 and was investigated to reveal a very irregular interface between these differing clays. Several small intermittent patches of sandy gravels were found within Trenches 14, 15 and 16 on high ground at the extreme east of the site. These gravel patches were also of irregular shape and found to partially underlie the surrounding clays.

Throughout the site, a thick, yellow-brown clay subsoil sealed 'features' and an extensive network of field-drains that cut the underlying clays. Neither the cuts of these features nor the cuts from the insertion of the field-drainage system were apparent within the uniform subsoil above. The only finds recovered from the subsoil were post-medieval in date and these probably resulted from localised disturbances within the subsoil, the edges of which are no longer apparent.

The depth of the subsoil varied from between 0.3 m on higher ground to a maximum of 1.3 m at the foot of sloping ground to the south of the site.

The subsoil was covered by a brown silty clay topsoil that was typically 0.2 m thick except within a small separate plot of land to the south of the site. Here the topsoil was up to 0.5 m thick in an area that has previously been landscaped.

5.2 The archaeological sequence

5.2.1 The ridge and furrow field system

Patterns of ridge and furrow field works are still very evident across most of the evaluated area. The general alignment of these field patterns ran NNE-SSW or WNW-ESE. Ridge and furrow is absent within a separate small plot of lane at the southern corner of the site which appears to have been landscaped. Typically the ridge and furrow was spaced with ridges approximately 5 m apart and with the furrows 0.2 m deep.

Across the site the subsoil beneath the surface pattern of ridge and furrow consisted of a uniform yellow brown clay which typically varied from between 0.3 m to 0.8 m in depth. This subsoil represents both the former cultivation levels of the ridge and furrow and possible earlier cultivation levels or buried soils, which are no longer apparent. The subsoil appeared to seal both the underlying natural and identified features, some of which were obviously of modern origin. The only finds noted within the subsoil were of modern pottery and glass from immediately above these modern features. Since ridge and furrow field patterns date from the beginning of the medieval period, or possibly earlier, up until the 18th century, it is assumed that the insertion cuts of post-medieval features are simply no longer visible against the clay subsoil through which they must have been cut. Equally, the cuts for fairly modern field drains are also invisible.

5.2.2 Undated features

A single, shallow, linear feature, 404, was located within Trench 4 (Fig. 3). This feature cut the underlying blue-grey natural clay and was aligned WNW-ESE across the trench. This cut was only 0.12 m deep and 0.7 m wide, with gently concave sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill consisted of a yellowish brown to brownish yellow tenacious clay, 403, containing occasional unworked sub-angular flints. Despite careful excavation this context produced no finds and the feature is therefore undated.

5.2.3 Post-medieval features

Trench 37 partially revealed a very large stone filled pit, 3707, cutting the underlying natural clay and apparently sealed by up to 0.5 m of subsoil. This feature measured at least 1.6 m wide by 0.75 m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Its upper fill, 3704, contained several sherds of white glazed pottery of 19th or 20th century date. This fill, a reddish grey clay up to 0.45 m thick, overlay what appeared to be a mixed stone dump containing several sub-angular limestone blocks.

Other located features comprised a modern cable base plate and associated localised disturbance within Trench 11 and a brick and concrete possible soakaway cutting from beneath the present topsoil within Trench 10.

Trench 54 was located in an area of probable modern landscaping and revealed a buried topsoil horizon adjacent to a small culverted brook just to the north of this trench. This buried horizon

lay 0.95 m beneath the present ground surface and was covered by made ground containing obvious modern levelling material.

6 FINDS

One context, fill 3704 of a very large pit (3707) in Trench 37, contained 4 sherds of 19th or 20th century pottery and a single fragment of glass. No finds pre-dating the 19th century were recovered from the site. Scarce finds of this date were noted within the topsoil or subsoil but were not retained.

7 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

7.1 Reliability of field investigation

Throughout the evaluation conditions were good and it is unlikely that any archaeological features were unobserved. A general scarcity of finds across the site confirms an absence of archaeological activity. Some finds were noted within the subsoil overlying post-medieval features. Such finds are likely to have derived from these features but it is assumed that the cuts and upper fills of the features are no longer visible within the subsoil as a consequence of the general character of the soils on the site.

The dating from the fill 3704 of pit 3707 is secure, with post-medieval pottery and glass clearly located within its fill.

7.2 Overall interpretation

7.2.1 Summary of Results

An extensive pattern of ridge and furrow field systems was apparent across most of the site. This indicates agricultural activity which can be dated within the medieval or early post-medieval periods.

A single undated linear feature was found in Trench 4, close to the northern boundary of the site. This feature was only 0.7 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It contained no dating evidence and is therefore difficult to interpret. It may be the truncated base of a larger ditch or equally it may be the result of post-medieval intrusions as found elsewhere within the site.

A large stone-filled pit found in Trench 37 is securely dated by the presence of 19th or 20th-century pottery within its fills. This feature may be associated with the insertion of nearby land drains and possibly represents deliberate dumping of stone hardcore within an area of soft ground.

Within Trench 54, at the south of the site, recently buried topsoil was overlain by obviously modern made-ground, showing that the area had been recently landscaped. Modern disturbances associated with the installation of radio masts and stays were also encountered in Trenches 10 and 11, towards the north-east of the site.

7.2.2 Significance

The results of this evaluation indicate that this site is of low archaeological significance.

Bibliography and references

Bartlett, A D H, 1999 *GCHQ, Benhall, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire: Report on Archaeogeophysical Survey 1999,* Bartlett-Clark Consultancy report

OAU 1999 *Proposed Redevelopment at GCHQ Benhall Site (Cheltenham): Aerial Photographic Survey*, Oxford Archaeological Unit report for Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick

RPS Clouston 1999 *Land at Oakley and Benhall Sites, GCHQ Cheltenham: An Archaeological Desk Based Study*, RPS Clouston unpublished report

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

Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory: CHBEN 99: GCHQ, Benhall, Cheltenham

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Sampled?	Date
1	Deposit	Topsoil				None	N	
2	Deposit	Subsoil				None	N	
Trench 1								
100	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
101	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.55			None	N	
102	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 2								
201	Deposit	Topsoil	0.15-0.22			None	N	
202	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.6			None	N	
203	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
204	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 3								
301	Deposit	Topsoil	0.15			None	N	
302	Deposit	Subsoil	0.35-0.4			None	N	
303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 4								
400	Deposit	Topsoil	0.15			None	N	
401	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5			None	N	
402	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
403	Fill	Fill of 404	0.12			None	N	
404	Cut	Linear feature	0.12	0.7	3.5	None	N	
Trench 5								
501	Deposit	Topsoil	0.19			None	N	
502	Deposit	Subsoil	0.43-0.5			None	N	
503	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 6								
601	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
602	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.55			None	N	
603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
604	Deposit	Natural		1.2	1.1	None	N	
605	Deposit	Gravel		0.45	0.3	None	N	
Trench 7								
701	Deposit	Topsoil	0.18			None	N	
702	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5-0.6			None	N	
703	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 8								
801	Deposit	Topsoil	0.17			None	N	
802	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5-0.55			None	N	
803	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 9								
901	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
902	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4-0.65			None	N	
903	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 10								
1001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
1002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5-0.7			None	N	
1003	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1004	Fill	Fill of 1005	>0.60	1	1	None	N	Modern
1005	Cut	Modern	>0.60	1	1	None	N	Modern
Trench 11								
1101	Deposit	Topsoil	0.17			None	N	
1102	Deposit	Subsoil	0.48-0.64			None	N	
1103	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1104	Fill	Fill of 1105	>0.6	1.6	1.6	None	N	
1105	Cut	Modern	>0.6	1.6	1.6	None	N	

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Sampled?	Date
Trench 12								
1201	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
1202	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4			None	N	
1203	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 13								
1301	Deposit	Topsoil	0.22			None	N	
1302	Deposit	Subsoil	0.28-0.44			None	N	
1303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 14								
1401	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
1402	Deposit	Subsoil	0.35-0.41			None	N	
1403	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1404	Deposit	Gravel		1.3	0.8	None	N	
1405	Deposit	Gravel		0.95	0.4	None	N	
Trench 15								
1501	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2	0.7		None	N	
1502	Deposit	Subsoil	0.3-0.4	1.7		None	N	
1503	Deposit	Natural		0.9		None	N	
1504	Deposit	Gravel			1.1	None	N	
1505	Deposit	Gravel			0.5	None	N	
1506	Deposit	Gravel			0.5	None	N	
Trench 16								
1601	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
1602	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4			None	N	
1603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1604	Deposit	Gravel		0.9	0.5	None	N	
1605	Deposit	Gravel		0.7	0.4	None	N	
1606	Deposit	Gravel		0.5	0.3	None	N	
1607	Deposit	Gravel		1	0.2	None	N	
1608	Deposit	Gravel		1.4	0.6	None	N	
1609	Deposit	Gravel		1.4	0.8	None	N	
Trench 17								
1701	Deposit	Topsoil	0.16			None	N	
1702	Deposit	Subsoil	0.27-0.36			None	N	
1703	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1704	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1705	Fill	Fill of 1706				None	N	
1706	Cut	Land drain		1.3		None	N	
Trench 18								
1801	Deposit	Topsoil	0.18			None	N	
1802	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5			None	N	
1803	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1804	Deposit	Natural		1.5		None	N	
1805	Deposit	Natural			5	None	N	
1806	Deposit	Natural		2		None	N	
Trench 19								
1901	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
1902	Deposit	Subsoil	0.6-o.8			None	N	
1903	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
1904	Deposit	Treeboles				None	N	
Trench 20								
2001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.64-0.7			None	N	
2003	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
2004	Deposit	Modern		1.5		None	N	
Trench 21								
2101	Deposit	Topsoil	0.18			None	N	
2102	Deposit	Subsoil	0.63			None	N	
2103	Deposit	Natural				None	N	

2104	Deposit	Modern		1.7		None	No	
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Sampled?	Date
Trench 22								
2201	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2202	Deposit	Subsoil	0.56-0.62			None	N	
2203	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 23								
2301	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2302	Deposit	Subsoil	0.35-0.50			None	N	
2303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
2304	Deposit	Natural		2		None	N	
Trench 24								
2401	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2402	Deposit	Subsoil	0.54-0.64			None	N	
2403	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench25								
2501	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2502	Deposit	Subsoil	0.7-0.78			None	N	
2503	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 26								
2601	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2602	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4			None	N	
2603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 27								
2701	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2702	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5-0.62			None	N	
2703	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 28								
2801	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2802	Deposit	Subsoil	0.39-0.52			None	N	
2803	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench29								
2901	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
2902	Deposit	Subsoil	0.47-0.52			None	N	
2903	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 30								
3001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.16-0.2			None	N	
3002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.48			None	N	
3003	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 31								
3101	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
3102	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.5			None	N	
3103	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 32								
3201	Deposit	Topsoil	0.17-0.2			None	N	
3202	Deposit	Subsoil	0.44-0.58			None	N	
3203	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 33								
3301	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
3302	Deposit	Subsoil	0.43-0.58			None	N	
3303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 34								
3401	Deposit	Topsoil	0.16-0.19			None	N	
3402	Deposit	Subsoil	0.36-0.41			None	N	
3403	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 35								
3501	Deposit	Topsoil	0.16-0.19			None	N	
3502	Deposit	Subsoil	0.35-0.41			None	N	
3503	Deposit	Natural				None	N	

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Sampled?	Date
Trench 36								
3601	Deposit	Topsoil	0.18			None	N	
3602	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4			None	N	
3603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 37								
3701	Deposit	Topsoil	0.17-0.2			None	N	
3702	Deposit	Subsoil	0.46-0.5			None	N	
3703	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
3704	Fill	Fill of 3707	0.45			Pottery	N	Modern
3705	Fill	Fill of 3707	0.2			None	N	
3706	Fill	Fill of 3707	0.5			None	N	
3707	Cut	Modern		1.4	0.75	None	N	
Trench 38								
3801	Deposit	Topsoil	0.19			None	N	
3802	Deposit	Subsoil	0.3-0.44			None	N	
3803	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 39								
3901	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
3902	Deposit	Subsoil	0.44			None	N	
3903	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 40								
4001	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4002	Deposit	Subsoil	0.25-0.46			None	N	
4003	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 41								
4101	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4102	Deposit	Subsoil	0.41-0.64			None	N	
4103	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 42								
4201	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4202	Deposit	Subsoil	0.75			None	N	
4203	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 43								
4301	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4302	Deposit	Subsoil	0.78-1.2			None	N	
4303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4304	Deposit	Natural		10		None	N	
4305	Deposit	Natural		2		None	N	
Trench 44								
4401	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4402	Deposit	Subsoil	0.54-0.62			None	N	
4403	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4404	Deposit	Natural		1.7	1.6	None	N	
4405	Deposit	Natural		2.3		None	N	
4406	Fill	Fill of 4407				None	N	
4407	Cut	Modern		0.65		None	N	
Trench 45								
4501	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4502	Deposit	Subsoil				None	N	
4503	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 46								
4601	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4602	Deposit	Subsoil	0.4-0.64			None	N	
4603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	

Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Finds	Sampled?	Date
Trench 47								
4701	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4702	Deposit	Subsoil	0.44			None	N	
4703	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4704	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4705	Deposit	Natural		1.2		None	N	
Trench 48								
4801	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4802	Deposit	Subsoil	0.45-0.58			None	N	
4803	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4804	Deposit	Natural		2		None	N	
Trench 49								
4900	Deposit	Topsoil	0.2			None	N	
4901	Deposit	Subsoil	0.5			None	N	
4902	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
4903	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 50								
5000	Deposit	Topsoil	0.3			None	N	
5001	Deposit	Subsoil	0.7			None	N	
5002	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5003	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 51								
5101	Deposit	Topsoil	0.3			None	N	
5102	Deposit	Subsoil	0.7			None	N	
5103	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 52								
5200	Deposit	Topsoil	0.25			None	N	
5201	Deposit	Subsoil	0.3-0.5			None	N	
5202	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 53								
5300	Deposit	Topsoil	0.4			None	N	
5301	Deposit	Subsoil	0.6			None	N	
5302	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5303	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5304	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 54								
5400	Deposit	Topsoil	0.05-0.5			None	N	
5401	Deposit	Made-ground	1			None	N	
5402	Deposit	Buried topsoil				None	N	
5403	Deposit	Subsoil	0.6			None	N	
5404	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 55								
5500	Deposit	Topsoil	0.3			None	N	
5501	Deposit	Subsoil	0.6			None	N	
5502	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5503	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
Trench 56								
5600	Deposit	Topsoil	0.3			None	N	
5601	Deposit	Subsoil	0.6			None	N	
5602	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5603	Deposit	Natural				None	N	
5604	Deposit	Natural				None	N	

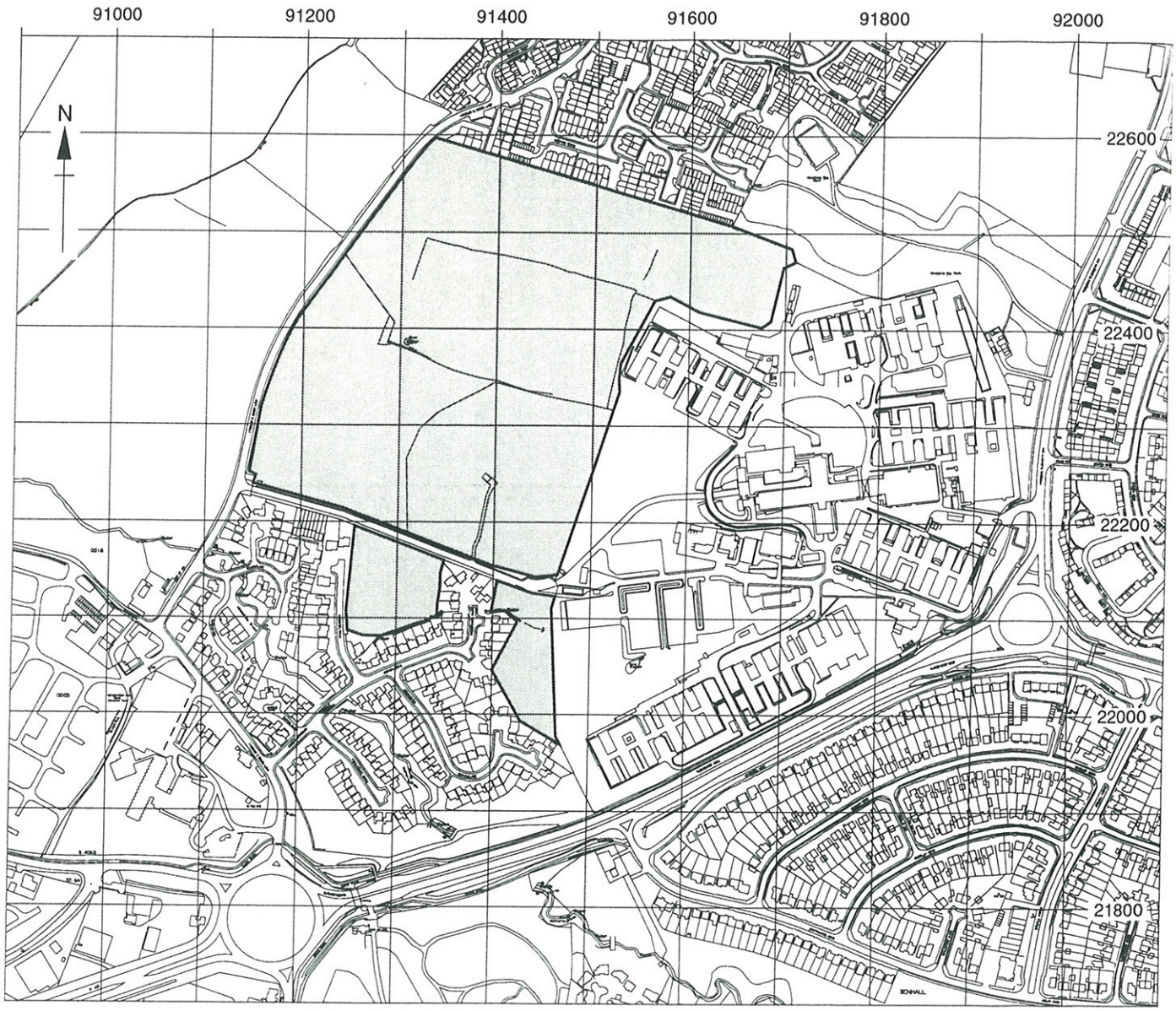

figure 1: site location, GCHQ, Benhall, Cheltenham

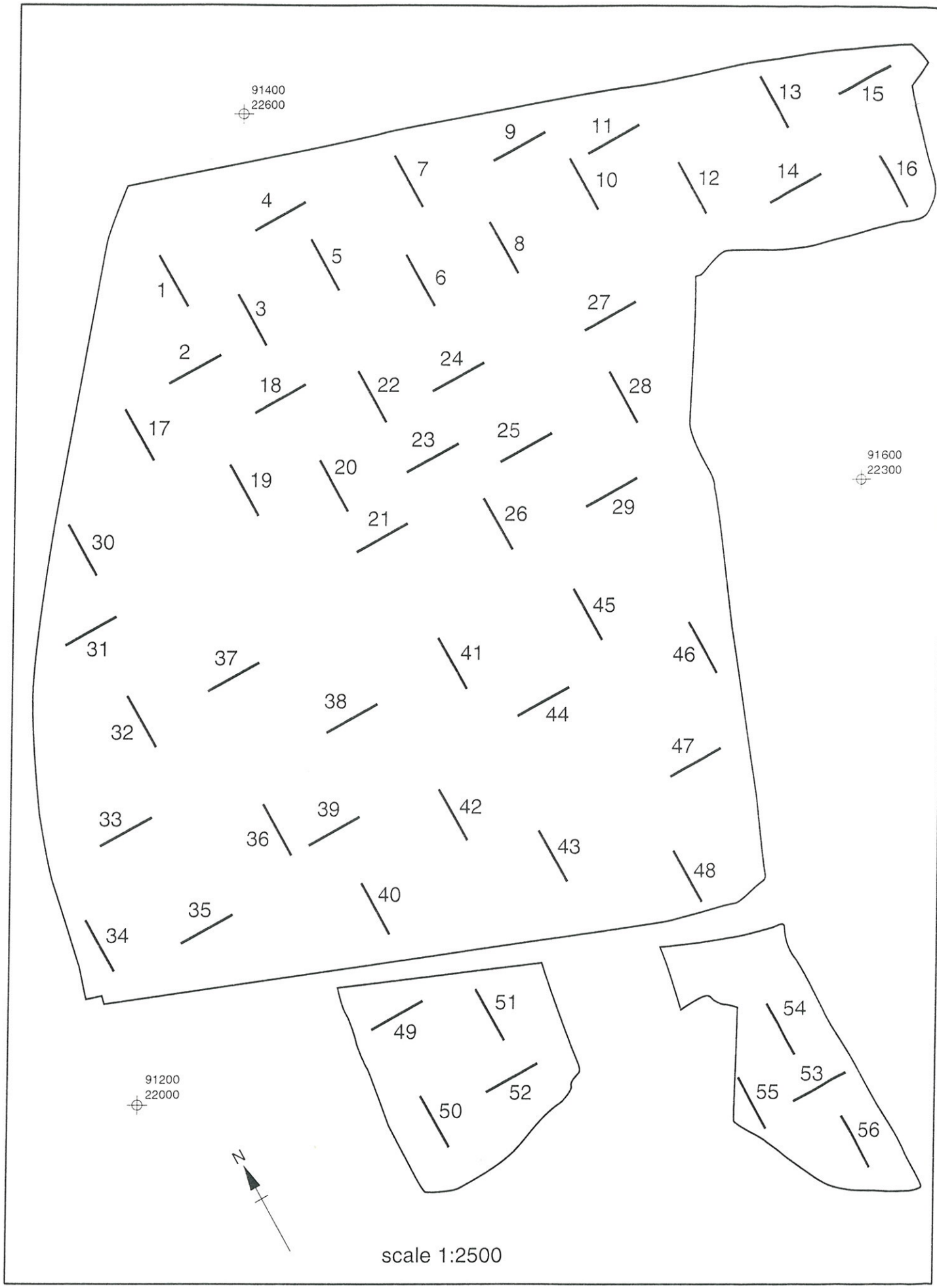

figure 2: trench locations

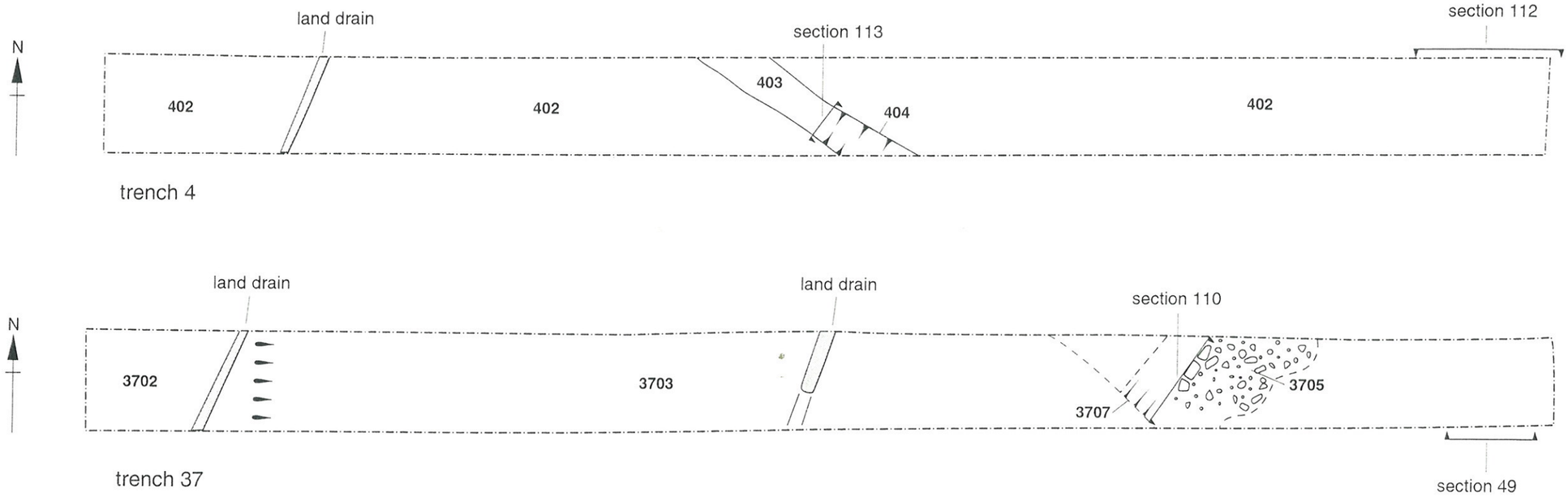

figure 3: trench plans

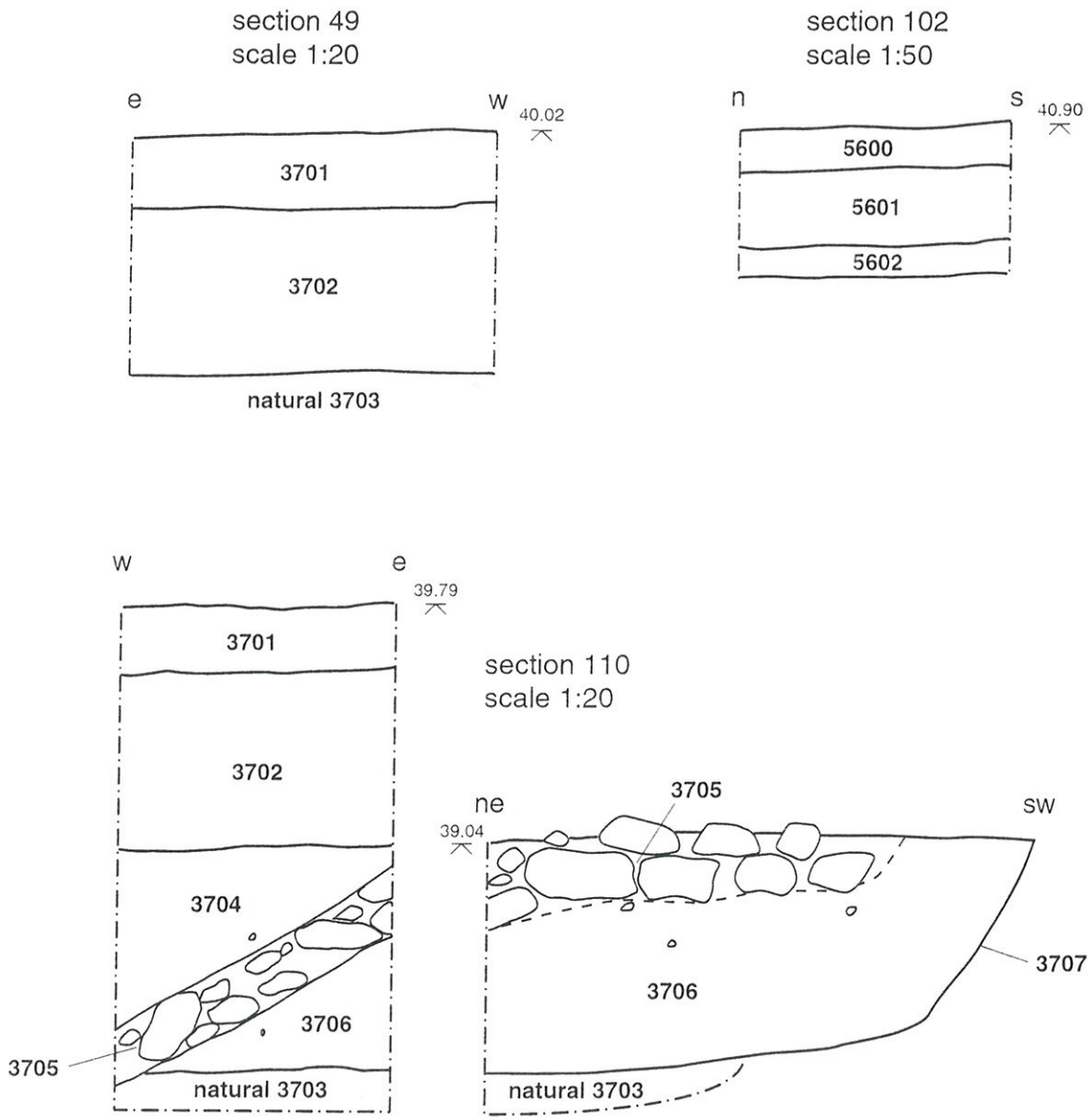

figure 4: sections

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES
Tel: 01865 263800 Fax: 01865 793496
email: postmaster@oau-oxford.demon.co.uk

Director and Chief Executive: David Jennings B.A., M.I.F.A. Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited.
Private Limited Company Number: 1618597 Registered Charity Number: 285627.
Registered Office: Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES