

# Hardwick Hill Cemetery Expansion, Banbury Archaeological Evaluation Report

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## Hardwick Hill Cemetery Expansion, Banbury

# **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

# Written by Adam Fellingham

With contributions from Edward Biddulph, John Cotter, Geraldine Crann, Richard Palmer and Cynthia Poole. Illustrations by Caroline Souday and Charles Rousseaux.

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## **Summary**

Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Cemetery Development Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed extension of Hardwick Hill Cemetery, Banbury.

The evaluation tested the veracity of a geophysical survey which identified anomalies interpreted as possible archaeological features within the proposed development area. The geophysical survey was successful in identifying archaeological features revealed in the eastern field (Trench 16) but proved less accurate within the western field (Trenches 1-12), possibly as the result of differences in the underlying geology with the bedrock encountered at notably shallower depths.

The evaluation uncovered a series of ditches, pits, and postholes. A pit containing two flint blades and abundant charred hazelnut shells may be of early prehistoric date (Mesolithic to early Bronze Age). Other activity dates to the late Iron Age to early Roman period. This includes a probable double-ditched trackway running on an approximate N–S alignment in the eastern part of the site. The ditches of the trackway had been repeatedly recut, and the first phase of the eastern ditch produced pottery dated to 50 BC–AD 100.

Three ditches on varying alignments were present in the western part of the site, one of which yielded pottery dated to the early Roman period. In the centre of the site a large pit was found that contained pottery dated to 50 BC—AD 100 and may have been a waterhole or quarry. Together, this evidence suggests that much of the site was encompassed by a late Iron Age to early Roman field system or a complex of settlement enclosures located on the drier ground, with a commanding view of the surrounding valley to the west. Multiple parallel post-medieval furrows crossed the site from east to west, completely truncating any earlier features that they intersected.



# **Acknowledgements**

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Cemetery Development Services Ltd for commissioning this project. Thanks, are also extended to Richard Oram, who monitored the work on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Ben Ford, MCIFA (Senior Project Manager). The fieldwork was directed by Adam Fellingham (Supervisor), who was supported by Robin Bashford. Survey and digitising were carried out by Caroline Souday and Charles Rousseaux. Thanks, are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicola Scott.



### 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Cemetery Development Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed extension of Hardwick Hill Cemetery.
- 1.1.2 Planning consent has been granted from Cherwell District Council for the use of the area as an extension to Banbury Cemetery (18/02030/F). A design brief for the evaluation was produced by Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, who defined the scope of work (OCC 2019). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced (OA 2020) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for the work necessary to inform the planning process. This report outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

## 1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The 2.9ha site lies 3km north of Banbury in Oxfordshire (Fig. 1). It is bounded by the A423 to the east, Banbury Crematorium, and cemetery to the south and farmland to the west and north.
- 1.2.2 The site lies 115–120m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) on the south-western edge of a wide north-south aligned ridge of higher ground, overlooking the broad valley of the Hanwell Brook *c* 420m west of the site, which flows southwards to join the River Cherwell *c* 1km to the south.
- 1.2.3 The area of proposed development currently consists of generally flat grassland fields, with a gentle slope down to the southwest. Diminished ridge-and-furrow earthworks are visible over a significant area of the site.
- 1.2.4 The underlying geology consists of Dyrham formation interbedded siltstone and mudstone. Charmouth Mudstone Formation can be found to the immediate west of the site. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2021).

## 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been discussed in detail in the WSI (OA 2020) and will be referred to in the discussion but not reproduced here.



#### 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The programme of archaeological investigation was conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by the *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas* (Hey and Hind 2014).
- 2.1.1 The general project aims, and objectives were:
  - to determine the nature and extent of any remains present within the trenches using sample excavation;
  - to determine the date or date range of any remains by means of artefactual or other evidence, such as scientific dating;
  - to determine the nature and state of preservation of any ecofactual remains; and
  - to produce a client report, and/or publish in a local journal, significant archaeological remains.

## 2.2 Specific aims and objectives

- 2.2.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:
  - to test the reliability of the results of the geophysical survey via several trenches in geophysically blank areas across the site, plus trenches targeted on anomalies of uncertain origin.
  - to gain information about the archaeological resource (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation, quality and significance); and
  - if archaeological remains are identified, to provide data that can be used to inform the preparation of a strategy to mitigate the impact of development.

## 2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 Sixteen trenches were laid out across the site at the positions shown in the WSI by an Archaeological Surveyor using a GPS. However, due to various constraints within the site, Trenches 1, 13 and 14 were moved, with their as-excavated locations shown on Figure 2. It should be noted that Trenches 1, 13 and 14 remained as near as possible to their original positions as shown in the WSI.
- 2.3.2 The trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket in maximum 0.2m-thick spits under constant supervision by an experienced archaeologist. The size of the trenches varied depending on location within the field and their final excavated positions are shown on Figure 2.
- 2.3.3 All topsoil, subsoil, colluvial deposits and extant agricultural ridge deposits were removed in spits under the supervision of a trained archaeologist down to the first significant archaeological horizon or to the top of the natural geology depending on which was encountered first.
- 2.3.4 All archaeological features and deposits that were present were surveyed by an archaeological surveyor to provide an accurate plan, and a representative selection of



- these were hand excavated to establish their nature, extent, date, complexity, state of preservation and horizontal and vertical limits within the trench.
- 2.3.5 The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded, with at least one representative section of the stratigraphic sequence recorded for each trench.
- 2.3.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded to standards in line with current best practice. The work included the recording of cuts and deposits in plan using GPS and hand-drawn sections of appropriate deposits and features (at 1:20 or 1:10 as appropriate). A photographic record was made for each trench and excavated feature.
- 2.3.7 A range of 40L bulk samples were also collected from archaeological features, primarily for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoal.
- 2.3.8 Recovered artefacts were recorded and bagged by individual context.



## 3 RESULTS

## 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B. Environmental data and reports can be found in Appendix C.

## 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of clay and ironstone was overlain by either a colluvial deposit (0.10–0.20m thick) to the west or a post-medieval plough soil (0.20–0.65m thick) in the east. This was in turn overlain by topsoil and turf which was 0.15–0.40m thick.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally poor, and the site remained very wet throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

## 3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in 10 of the 16 trenches (1-4, 9 and 12-16, Fig. 2). The archaeological features encountered within the western field (Trenches 1-4, 9 and 12) consisted of pits, postholes, and probable agricultural ditches, as well as a quarry pit, with the eastern field (Trenches 13-16) containing a ditched routeway and agricultural ditches.
- 3.3.2 The other trenches (5-8 and 11) contained post-medieval furrows (see 3.7 for details of excavated post-medieval furrows), land drains and geological features, with a single trench (10) containing no archaeology. Trenches 5-8, 10 and 11 will not be discussed further.

## **3.4** Trench **1** (Figs 3 and 6, Plate 1)

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (100) cut by a single pit and four postholes. Two postholes (105 and 111) were hand excavated and measured 0.18–0.28m wide and 0.16–0.18m deep. Both contained single fills (106 and 112) comprising a mid-brownish grey silty clay. Two further postholes (107 and 109) were not excavated. The single pit (103) was 0.66m wide and 0.30m deep with relatively steep sides and a concave base. This contained a single fill (104) consisting of a mid-reddish brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of charcoal. An environmental sample from fill 104 produced some fragments of fired clay and charcoal.
- 3.4.2 The postholes and pit were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay colluvial deposit (101) which was in turn overlain by topsoil (102).

#### **3.5** Trench **2** (Figs 3 and 6, Plate 2)

3.5.1 Trench 2 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (200) cut by ditch 203. This was orientated NE-SW and measured 0.70m wide and 0.38m deep with a V-shape profile.



- It contained a single fill (204) which consisted of a moderately firm mid-greyish brown silty clay and contained no artefacts.
- 3.5.2 Fill 204 was overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay colluvial deposit (201) which was in turn overlain by topsoil (202).

## **3.6** Trench **3** (Figs 3 and 6, Plates 3-4)

- 3.6.1 Trench 3 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (300) cut by four postholes, two pits and a NW-SE ditch. The two easternmost postholes were hand excavated with the earliest in the sequence being 302, which measured 0.35m wide and 0.12m deep. This contained a single fill (303) which appeared as a mid-greyish brown silty clay. This was cut by posthole 304, which measured 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep. Posthole 304 contained a single fill comprising a mid-greyish brown silty clay.
- 3.6.2 Posthole 314 located at the western end of the trench measured 0.40m wide and 0.12m deep. This contained a single fill of mid-greyish brown silty clay. This was truncated by the NW-SE ditch (308), which had relatively steep sides and a concave base and measured 0.45m wide and 0.25m deep. This contained a single fill (309) which was a mid-greyish brown silty clay containing pottery dating from AD 43-240.
- A.1.1 Pit 310 measured at least 0.50m wide and 0.40m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. The lowest fill (311) was a mid-yellowish-brown clay within occasional ironstone inclusions. This was overlain by fill 312, which was a charcoal-rich deposit and was 0.05m thick. Fill 312 was overlain by fill 313, a mid-greyish brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks. An environmental sample from pit 310 produced several damaged and indeterminate cereal grain fragments, and hazelnut shells were also present. Flint was also recovered from this sample, from fills 312 and 313, and most likely represents knapping debitage.
- 3.6.3 All archaeological features encountered within the trench were overlain by topsoil (301).

## **3.7** Trench 4 (Fig. 3)

- 3.7.1 Trench 4 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (400) cut by a single archaeological feature (ditch 404). This was orientated NW-SE with sloping sides and a flat base and measured 1.44m wide by 0.20m deep. It contained a single fill (405) consisting of a soft mid-brownish grey silty clay which did not yield any material culture. Fill 405 was truncated by a post-medieval furrow (406) which measured 1.38m wide and 0.34m deep. This contained a single fill (407) comprising a mid-greyish brown sandy clay.
- 3.7.2 The only other feature within the trench was another post-medieval furrow (402), which measured 1.40m wide and 0.32m deep with a relatively flat base. This contained a single fill (403), which was a mid-greyish brown sandy clay and was truncated by a land drain. All fills were overlain by topsoil (401).

## **3.8** Trench **9** (Figs 4 and 7, Plate 5)

3.8.1 Trench 9 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (906) cut by a single pit (907) measuring 4.73m wide and over 0.80m deep. Excavation of this feature ceased at 1m



bgl due to continual ingress of water. It contained four fills (908-911). The lowest fill (908) was >0.20m thick. This was a moderately firm mid-reddish brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of ironstone and contained pottery dating from 50 BC–AD 100. This was overlain by fill 909, which was 0.34m thick and comprised a mix of midgreyish brown silty clay and mid-reddish brown sandy silt, 0.38m thick. This was in turn overlain by fill 910, a mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional ironstone inclusions. Fill 910 was overlain by fill 911 which was 0.18m thick. This was a moderately firm midreddish brown sandy silt with moderate inclusions of ironstone and contained pottery dating from 50 BC–AD100.

3.8.2 Fill 911 was overlain by a post-medieval plough soil (901), which was in turn overlain by topsoil (900).

## **3.9** Trench **12** (Figs 4 and 7, Plate 6)

- 3.9.1 Trench 12 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (1206) cut by two NW-SE aligned ditches (1203 and 1205). The northernmost ditch, 1203, measured 0.30m wide and 0.06m deep with shallow sides and a concave base. This contained a single fill (1202), which was a soft mid-brownish grey clay with occasional inclusions of ironstone. The northernmost ditch (1205), measured 0.50m wide and 0.16m deep with shallow sides and a concave base. This contained a single fill (1204), which was a soft mid-brownish grey clay with occasional inclusions of ironstone.
- 3.9.2 Both fills 1202 and 1204 were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay post-medieval plough soil (1201), which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1200).

## **3.10** Trench **13** (Figs 5 and 8)

- 3.10.1 Trench 13 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (1306) cut by three postholes and an unexcavated NNE-SSW ditch (1303) which was also revealed to the south in Trenches 14 and 16. All three postholes (1305, 1308 and 1310) were steep sided with concave bases and measured between 0.12m and 0.36m wide and between 0.12m and 0.16m deep. Both fill 1304 (posthole 1305) and fill 1309 (posthole 1310) were sampled as they contained frequent inclusions of charcoal. The environmental samples produced no artefacts but did yield charred plant remains including hazelnut shell, possible legume, bedstraw, and dock seed.
- 3.10.2 All fills were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay post-medieval plough soil, (1301) which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1300).

## **3.11 Trench 14** (Figs 5 and 8, Plate 7)

- 3.11.1 Trench 14 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay natural (1416), which was cut by three plough scars, two NW-SE ditches and two NE-SW ditches. Due to the very wet ground interventions were placed where ground conditions allowed.
- 3.11.2 Ditch 1407 measured 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. This contained a single fill (1406) which consisted of a moderately firm mid-yellowish grey silty clay. Ditch 1409 had a relatively flat base and measured 0.82m wide by 0.14m deep. It contained a single fill (1408) comprising a moderately firm mid-yellowish grey silty clay and produced no finds.



- 3.11.3 Plough scar 1411 measured 0.36m wide and 0.10m deep with moderately steep sides and a concave base. This contained a single fill (1410), which was a mid-greyish brown silty clay.
- 3.11.4 All features recorded within the trench were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay post-medieval plough soil (1401), which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1400).

## **3.12** Trench **15** (Figs 5 and 8)

3.12.1 Trench 15 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay and ironstone natural (1508) cut by three N-S ditches (1503, 1505 and 1507). Due to continual flooding of the trench these features were not excavated. However, they ditches continued south into Trench 16, where the full sequence of each ditch was investigated. All the ditches were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay post-medieval plough soil (1501), which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1500).

## **3.13 Trench 16** (Figs 5 and 8, Plate 8-9)

- 3.13.1 Trench 16 contained a mid-orangish yellow clay and ironstone natural (1606). At the eastern end of the trench the natural was truncated by a series of three intercutting NNE-SSW ditches. The earliest ditch encountered within this sequence was 1609, which measured 1m wide and 0.40m deep with steep sides and a near-flat base. This contained a single fill (1610), which comprised a mid-reddish brown sandy silt and contained pottery dating from 50 BC-AD 100. This was truncated by ditch 1611, which had gentle sloping sides with a concave base and measured 1.90m wide and 0.25m deep. This contained a single fill (1612), which was a mid-reddish brown sandy silt with occasional ironstone. This was truncated by the final ditch in the sequence (1605). Ditch 1605 measured 2.60m wide and 0.60m deep and was steep sided with a concave base. It contained a single fill (1604), consisting of a mid-brownish grey silty clay.
- 3.13.2 The natural (1606) within the western area of the trench was truncated by two intercutting ditches (1603 and 1608) which continue north into Trenches 13 and 14. The earliest ditch encountered (1603) had steep sides and a concave base. This measured 1.20m wide and 0.40m deep. Ditch 1603 contained a single fill (1602) which was a mid-reddish brown sandy silt. Ditch 1603 was truncated by ditch 1608, which measured 1.80m wide and 0.25m deep with gentle sloping sides and a flat base. This contained a single fill (1607), comprising a mid-reddish brown sandy silt with occasional ironstone.
- 3.13.3 All five ditches were overlain by a mid-orangish brown sandy clay post-medieval plough soil, 1601, which was in turn overlain by topsoil (1600).



#### 4 DISCUSSION

## 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The even distribution of trenches, incorporating the targeting of geophysical anomalies, covered an appropriate sample of the development area. Within the trenches archaeological features of all sizes and types were clear. During the course of the evaluation the ground conditions were very wet, with only a few trenches (1-3) holding less ground water than others.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation has shown that archaeological features dating from the late Iron Age and Roman periods survive within the site. However, these have been completely removed where post-medieval furrows cross the site, the surviving archaeological remains being preserved under the ridges.

## 4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 All aims and objectives of the evaluation work, as set out in the WSI (OA 2020), have been comprehensively addressed by the fieldwork programme and the post-fieldwork studies.
- 4.2.2 The evaluation tested the veracity of the previous geophysical survey and identified the presence of possible archaeological features, and the extent of these. However, the possible archaeological features identified from the geophysical survey within the western field (Trenches 1-12) proved to be, in part, inaccurate and could be the result of the differing underlying geology of clay and ironstone.
- 4.2.3 The date of the investigated archaeological features has been established through means of recovered artefacts, where these were present. The condition and state of preservation of the revealed remains has been assessed, as has the site's potential to preserve environmental remains.

## 4.3 Interpretation and discussion

#### Early prehistoric

4.3.1 Environmental samples from pit 310 in Trench 3 produced two flint blades and abundant charred hazelnut shells. This pit thus potentially dates to the early prehistoric period (Mesolithic, Neolithic or early Bronze Age). It is not clear whether pit 310 was an isolated feature or formed part of a more extensive prehistoric settlement area, though a further pit and four postholes from the same trench are undated. Numerous Neolithic pits — many associated with middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware — were found during previous excavations for the Banbury Flood Alleviation Scheme, c 1km south-east of the site (Simmonds 2014). The charred hazelnut shells from pit 310 are suitable for radiocarbon dating.

#### Late Iron Age to early Roman period

4.3.2 Trenches 13 to 16 in the eastern part of the site contained evidence for two sets of intercutting and parallel N–S orientated ditches, set *c* 15m apart between the inside edges of the two ditches. It is possible that the ditches flanked a wide trackway or



droveway. Throughout the course of the evaluation these trenches remained heavily flooded due to the continual ingress of ground water, and the ditches were only fully investigated within Trench 16. Within this trench, the eastern side of the trackway was formed of three successive intercutting ditches, the earliest of which contained pottery dated to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (50 BC–AD 100). In Trench 13, a group of three undated postholes was found immediately to the west of the western side of the trackway. Environmental samples from two of these produced small amounts of charcoal and charred weed seeds. In Trench 14, a pair of undated, closely spaced ditches (1407 and 1409) appear to have branched off from the western side of the trackway on a NW-SE alignment. These may have continued in Trench 12 as ditches 1203 and 1205 and could represent a field boundary attached to the trackway.

- 4.3.3 Three ditches on varying alignments were encountered in the western part of the site, in Trenches 2–4. Of these, ditch 308 in Trench 3 contained pottery dated to the early Roman period (AD 43–240). No other features in the western part of the site can be dated to this period, though undated postholes potentially indicating structural elements (perhaps roundhouses or fence lines) and pits present in Trenches 1 and 3 could represent associated dispersed settlement activity from these periods on drier ground, with a commanding view of the surrounding valley to the west. Pit 103 and posthole 314 contained fragments of fired clay.
- 4.3.4 In the central part of the site, pit 907 in Trench 9 was a large feature that could represent a waterhole, or possibly a quarry for ironstone. Pottery dating to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (50 BC–AD 100) was recovered from two of its fills.
- 4.3.5 The evidence suggests that much of the site was encompassed by a late Iron Age to early Roman field system, or a complex of settlement enclosures associated with low-intensity occupation. The putative trackway or droveway could suggest that livestock management was important. The site adds to a picture of settlement and agricultural land use during the later Iron Age and Roman period within the local area. There is evidence for Roman occupation at Hardwick Farm, c 500m south-east of the site, and a multi-phase field system at Little Bourton, c 370m north of the site (OA 2020). The Banbury Flood Alleviation Scheme excavations, c 1km south-east of the site, uncovered a late Iron Age enclosure and a Romano-British settlement occupied from the 1st to 3rd centuries AD (Simmonds 2014).

#### 4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 Though the possible early prehistoric evidence from the evaluation was limited to a single feature, it is typical for settlement sites of this period to produce a sparse signature in evaluation trenching. Sites of this period with preserved features are not common, and thus if further early prehistoric features are present on the site and can be dated more closely by means of associated artefacts or radiocarbon dating, this could potentially be of regional significance.
- 4.4.2 The late Iron Age to Roman features are likely to relate to a field system or a complex of settlement enclosures, with an associated waterhole or quarry pit. These features have the potential to contribute to understanding of the development of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and agriculture in the Banbury area, in conjunction with



the evidence from other sites such as the ongoing excavations at Drayton Lodge a few kilometres to the west.

4.4.3 The presence of post-medieval ridge and furrows is of low significance.



# APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1										
General o	descriptio	n	Orientation	NW-SE						
Trench 1	contained	l 4 postho	oles and a	a pit, of which 2 postholes and	Length (m)	19.50				
the pit w	ere excav	ated and	d produc	ed no finds. The pit was also	Width (m)	2.20				
sampled	due to ev	idence fo	r contain	ing burnt material	Avg. depth (m)	0.55				
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date				
No.		(m)	(m)							
100	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-				
101	Layer	-	0.20	Colluvium	-	-				
102	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil and turf	-	-				
103	Cut	0.66	0.30	Pit	-	-				
104	Fill	0.66	0.30	Fill of 103	Fired Clay	-				
105	Cut	0.28	0.18	Posthole	-	-				
106	Fill	0.28	0.18	Fill of 105	-	-				
107	Cut	0.40	-	Unexcavated posthole	-	-				
108	Fill	0.40	-	Fill of 107	-	-				
109	Cut	0.20	-	Unexcavated posthole	-	-				
110	Fill	0.20	-	-						
111	Cut	0.18	0.16	Posthole	-	-				
112	Fill	0.18	0.16	Fill of 111	-	-				

Trench 2											
General o	descriptio	n		Orientation	E-W						
Trench 2	contained	a single	ditch and	I the slot produced no finds	Length (m)	10.5					
					Width (m)	2.20					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.25					
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date					
No.		(m)	(m)								
200	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-					
201	Layer	-	0.10	Colluvium	-	-					
202	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil and turf	-	-					
203	Cut	0.70	0.38	Ditch	-	-					
204	Fill	0.70	0.38	Fill of 203	-	-					

Trench 3	Trench 3											
General o	description	n	Orientation	ENE-								
				WSW								
Trench 3	contained	d 4 postl	pits and a ditch, of which 2	Length (m)	30.80							
postholes	s, a pit and	d the dito	ch were e	excavated and produced two	Width (m)	2.20						
pieces of	pottery. T	he pit wa	s also sar	npled due to high quantity of	Avg. depth (m)	0.30						
charcoal												
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date						
No.		(m)	(m)									
300	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-						
301	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil and turf	-	-						
302	Cut	0.35	0.12	Posthole	-	-						



303	Fill	0.35	0.12	Fill of 302	-	-
304	Cut	0.30	0.20	Posthole	-	-
305	Fill	0.30	0.20	Fill of 304	-	-
306	Cut	0.60	-	Unexcavated pit	-	-
307	Fill	0.60	-	Fill of 306	-	-
308	Cut	0.45	0.25	Ditch	-	-
309	Fill	0.45	0.25	Fill of308	Pot	43-
						240AD
310	Cut	0.50+	0.40	Pit	-	-
311	Fill	0.40+	0.02	Fill of 310	-	-
312	Fill	0.40+	0.05	Fill of 310	Flint	-
313	Fill	0.04+	0.30	Fill of 310	Flint	-
314	Cut	0.40	0.12	Posthole	-	-
315	Fill	0.40	0.12	Fill of 314	Fired Clay	-
316	Cut	0.30	-	Unexcavated posthole	-	-
317	Fill	0.30	-	Fill of 316	-	-

Trench 4											
General o	description	n	Orientation	ESE-							
						WNW					
Trench 4	contained	two furr	ows cont	aining land drains and a ditch	Length (m)	20					
all had slo	ots of whic	ch no find	ls were p	roduced	Width (m)	2.20					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30					
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date					
No.		(m)	(m)								
400	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-					
401	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil and turf	-	-					
402	Cut	1.40	0.32	Furrow	-	-					
403	Fill	1.40	0.32	Fill of 402	-	-					
404	Cut	1.40	0.20	Ditch	-	-					
405	Fill	1.40	0.20	Fill of 404	-	-					
406	Cut	1.38	0.34	Furrow	-	-					
407	Fill	1.38	0.34	Fill of 406	-	-					

Trench 5											
General o	description	n	Orientation	NE-SW							
Trench 5	contained	l one furr	ow with	a land drain and a geological	Length (m)	30					
feature. N	No finds				Width (m)	2.20					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30					
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date					
No.		(m)	(m)								
500	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-					
501	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil and turf	-	-					
502	Cut	1.40	0.32	Furrow	-	-					
503	Fill	1.40	0.32	Fill of 502	-	-					
504	Layer	-	-	Geological variation	-	-					

## Trench 6



General o	descriptio	n	Orientation	NNE-SSW		
Trench 6	containe	d two fu	Length (m)	35		
alignmen	t and spac	ing as th	e furrows	present within the site	Width (m)	2.20
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
600	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil and turf	-	-
602	Cut	2.40	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-
603	Fill	2.40	-	Fill of 602	-	-
604	Cut	0.40	-	Land drain	-	-
605	Fill	0.40	-	Fill of 604	-	-
606	Cut	1.80	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-
607	Fill	1.80	-	Fill of 606	-	-

Trench 7										
General o	description	n	Orientation	NE/SW,						
						NW/SE				
Trench 7	containe	d two fu	ırrows a	nd 3 tree-throw holes, one	Length (m)	30				
furrow w	as tested	and conf	tained a	land drain within it and two	Width (m)	2.20				
tree-thro	w holes w	ere teste	d. No fin	ds	Avg. depth (m)	0.30				
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date				
No.		(m)	(m)							
700	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-				
701	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil and turf	-	-				
702	-	-	-	Geological variation	-	-				
703	-	-	-	Geological variation	-	-				
704	Cut	1.40	0.40	Furrow	-	-				
705	Fill	1.40	0.40	Fill of 704	Pot	Early				
						17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>				
						century				
706	Cut	1.40	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-				
707	Fill	1.80	-	Fill of 706	-	-				

Trench 8									
General o	description	n	Orientation	E-W					
Trench 8	containe	ed three	Length (m)	30					
alignmen	t and spac	ing as th	e furrows	s present within the site. The	Width (m)	2.20			
central fu	irrow was	test as t	his is the	same location as a possible	Avg. depth (m)	0.40			
ditch, this	was a fur	row cut l	oy a land	drain					
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
800	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil and turf	-	-			
801	Cut	1.40	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-			
802	Fill	1.80	-	Fill of 801	-	-			
803	Cut	1.40	0.40	Furrow	-	-			
804	Fill	1.40	0.40	Fill of 803	-	-			
805	Cut	1.80	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-			



806	Fill	1.80	-	Fill of 805	-	-
807	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9								
General o	descriptio	n			Orientation	E-W		
Trench 9	containe	d a large	excavated slot produced 3	Length (m)	21.50			
pieces of	pottery		Width (m)	2.20				
			Avg. depth (m)	0.30				
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
900	Layer	-	0.10	Topsoil and turf	-	-		
901	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil/plough soil	-	-		
902	-	-	-	Void	-	-		
903	-	-	-	Void	-	-		
904	-	-	-	Void	-	-		
905	Cut	-	-	Possible recut? Or interface	-	-		
906	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		
907	Cut	4.73	0.80+	Pit	-	-		
908	Fill	2.30+	0.20+	Fill of 907	Pot	50 BC-		
						43/100AD		
909	Fill	0.70+	0.34	Fill of 907	-	-		
910	Fill	0.90+	0.38	Fill of 907	-	-		
911	Fill	1.70+	0.18	Fill of 907	Pot	50 BC- 43/100AD		

Trench 10	Trench 10									
General o	description	n		Orientation	E-W					
Trench 10	devoid o	f archaec		Length (m)	11					
				Width (m)	2.20					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30				
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date				
No.		(m)	(m)							
1000	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil and turf	-	-				
1001	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil/plough soil	-	-				
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-				

Trench 11									
General o	description	n	Orientation	E-W					
Trench 11	L containe	Length (m)	20						
the field t	to the east	t			Width (m)	2.20			
				Avg. depth (m)	0.30				
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
1100	Layer	-	0.10	Topsoil and turf	-	-			
1101	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil/plough soil	-	-			
1102	Cut	1.80+	-	Unexcavated furrow	-	-			
1103	Fill	1.80+	-	Fill of 1102	-	-			



_							
	1104	Lavor			Natural		
	1104	Layer	-	-	Naturai	<del>-</del>	

Trench 12	Trench 12									
General o	description	n	Orientation	E-W						
Trench 12	2 containe	ed two d	Length (m)	10.50						
and prod	uced no fi	nds		Width (m)	2.20					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30				
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date				
No.		(m)	(m)							
1200	Layer	-	0.10	Topsoil and turf	-	-				
1201	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil/plough soil	-	-				
1202	Fill	0.30	0.06	Fill of 1203	-	-				
1203	Cut	0.30	0.06	Ditch	-	-				
1204	Fill	0.50	0.16	Fill of 1205	-	-				
1205	Cut	0.50	0.16	Ditch	-	-				
1206	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-				

Trench 13								
General o	description	n			Orientation	ENE-		
				WSW				
Trench 13	3 containe	d two po	Length (m)	20				
eastern li	mits of the	e trench t	he ditch	from Tr16 was just visible. All	Width (m)	2.20		
postholes	excavate	d and tw	o were s	ampled due to high quantity	Avg. depth (m)	0.60		
of charco	al							
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1300	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil and turf	-	-		
1301	Layer	-	0.45	Ridge and furrow deposit	-	-		
1302	Fill	2.50+	-	Fill of 1303	-	-		
1303	Cut	2.50+	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-		
1304	Fill	0.36	0.16	Fill of 1305	-	-		
1305	Cut	0.36	0.16	Posthole	-	-		
1306	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		
1307	Fill	0.30	0.05	Fill of 1308	-	-		
1308	Cut	0.30	0.05	Posthole?	-	-		
1309	Fill	0.12	0.12	Fill of 1310	-	-		
1310	Cut	0.12	0.12	Posthole	-	-		

Trench 14									
General o	description	n	Orientation	ENE-					
				WSW					
Trench 14	1 containe	d three p	Length (m)	17					
of which v	was test) f	our ditch	centre/eastern area with two	Width (m)	2				
hand exca	avated wh	ere grou	ndwater	permitted	Avg. depth (m)	0.82			
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
1400	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil and turf	-	-			
1401	Layer	-	0.62	Ridge and furrow deposit	-	-			



1402	Fill	1	-	Fill of 4303	-	-
1403	Cut	1	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-
1404	Fill	2.10	-	Fill of 1405	-	-
1405	Cut	2.10	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-
1406	Fill	0.80	0.30	Fill of 1407	-	-
1407	Cut	0.80	0.30	Ditch	-	-
1408	Fill	0.82	0.14	Fill of 1409	-	-
1409	Cut	0.82	0.14	Ditch	-	-
1410	Fill	0.36	0.10	Fill of 1411	-	-
1411	Cut	0.36	0.10	Plough scar	-	-
1412	Fill	0.26	-	Fill of 1413	-	-
1413	Cut	0.26	-	Unexcavated Plough scar	-	-
1414	Fill	0.44	-	Fill of 1415	-	-
1415	Cut	0.44	-	Unexcavated Plough scar	-	-
1416	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15								
General o	description	n	Orientation	E-W				
Trench 15	5 containe	d two dit	Length (m)	12				
Tr16 floo	ded withir	n the sam	e day it v	vas opened	Width (m)	2.20		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.80		
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1500	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil and turf	-	-		
1501	Layer	-	0.65	Ridge and furrow deposit	-	-		
1502	Fill	0.55	-	Fill of 1503	-	-		
1503	Cut	0.55	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-		
1504	Fill	0.40	-	Fill of 1505	-	-		
1505	Cut	0.40	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-		
1506	Fill	0.67	-	Fill of 1507	-	-		
1507	Cut	0.67	-	Unexcavated Ditch	-	-		
1508	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		

Trench 16								
General o	descriptio	n	Orientation	ENE-WSW				
Trench 16	6 containe	ed two di	Length (m)	30.50				
these tw	o alignme	ents com	prise tw	o intercutting ditches (The	Width (m)	2.20		
eastern d	itches are	seen in T	r15 and 1	the western ditches are seen	Avg. depth (m)	0.63		
in Tr13-14	4) 1 piece	of potter	y from th	ne eastern slot				
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1600	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil and turf	-	-		
1601	Layer	-	0.63	Ridge and furrow deposit	-	-		
1602	Fill	1.20	0.40	Fill of 1603	-	-		
1603	Cut	1.20	0.40	Ditch	-	-		
1604	Fill	2.60	0.60	Fill of 1605	-	-		
1605	Cut	2.60	0.60	Ditch	-	-		
1606	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		

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1607	Fill	1.80	0.25	Fill of 1608 -		-
1608	Cut	1.80	0.25	Ditch	-	-
1609	Cut	1	0.40	Ditch	-	-
1610	Fill	1	0.40	Fill of 1609	Pot	50 BC-
						43/100AD
1611	Cut	1.90	0.25	Ditch	-	-
1612	Fill	1.90	0.25	Fill of 1611	-	-

1



#### APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

## **B.1** Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

By Edward Biddulph

#### Introduction

- B.1.1 Ten sherds of late Iron Age and Roman pottery were recovered from the site (Table 1). The following fabrics were noted:
  - E80 Grog-tempered ware
  - E810 Grog-and-sand-tempered ware
  - R30 Medium sandy reduced ware
  - S Indeterminate samian ware
- B.1.2 The small assemblage comprised body sherds only. No rims were present, but a relatively large sherd in fabric R30 in context 309 is likely to be from a jar, and the shoulder of a jar or bowl was recorded in fabric E810 from context 908.

Context	No.	Weight	Description	Date
	sherds	(g)		
309	3	74	Body sherds, fabrics E80, R30, S	AD 43-240
908	2	8	Body sherds (part of shoulder from	50 BC-AD 43/100
			hand-formed jar or bowl), fabric	
			E810. Red-brown exterior surface,	
			dark grey interior surface.	
911	1	10	Body sherd, fabric E810. Hand-	50 BC-AD 43/100
			formed vessel. Red-brown exterior	
			surface, dark grey interior surface.	
1609	4	7	Body sherds, fabric E80, dark grey	50 BC-AD 43/100
			surfaces	
Total	10	99		_

Table 1: Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

- B.1.3 The groups from contexts 908, 911 (both fills of pit 907) and 1609 (a ditch cut) comprise grog-tempered fabrics that broadly date to the late Iron Age or early Roman period (c 50 BC-AD 100). The sherds are thick-walled and are from hand-formed vessels (and indeed have something of a middle Iron Age appearance about them), suggesting that they are pre-conquest.
- B.1.4 The presence of samian and reduced ware in context 309 (fill of ditch 308) dates deposition of the group to the Roman period or later. A small sherd of grog-tempered ware was present, hinting at an early Roman date for the group, but the samian a chip only could not be certainly identified as South Gaulish (which carries a 1st-century date) and seems more likely to be Central Gaulish samian ware, which typically dates to the 2nd century AD.
- B.1.5 With a mean sherd weight of 10g, the condition of the assemblage was generally poor. The grog-tempered sherds were uniformly small and had rounded edges, suggestive of a process of fragmentation and abrasion through multiple episodes of redeposition,



and it is possible that the sherds are residual. However, apart from the sherd from context 309, it is worth noting that the material was recovered from Trench 9 and neighbouring Trench 16, hinting at a focus of Iron Age activity towards the eastern part of the site.

B.1.6 The body sherd in R30 is the largest sherd, weighing 71g, and may not have been deposited too far away from areas of use or initial discard, possibly within or close to the southern part of the site where Trench 3 was located.

## **B.2** Post-medieval pottery

By John Cotter and Cynthia Poole

B.2.1 A single body sherd (47g) of post-medieval date was found in the fill (705) of furrow 704. The sherd is from a fairly thick walled, steep sided vessel and has shallow horizontal corrugations on both inner and outer surfaces. The internal surface is evenly coated with a dark brown/black glaze. It is relatively fresh and is made in a hard red fine sandy fabric with scattered quartz and iron oxide sand (BLACK). This is a Staffordshire 'blackware' dating to the late 17th-early 19th century.

#### B.3 Flint

#### By Geraldine Crann

Context	Sample	Description	Date
312	1	1 pale brown translucent flint blade fragment, 1g	-
313	2	2 pale brown translucent flints, 1 bladelet, I chip, 2g	-

B.3.1 The small size of the flint assemblage, three pieces recovered from environmental samples one and two, limits interpretation of the material. However, given all the raw material is the same and from adjacent fills of a pit it is likely that the assemblage is knapping debitage that attests to a human presence during the prehistoric period. The flints should be retained and should be fully integrated into any future analysis arising from further archaeological investigation on the site.

#### B.4 Fired clay

By Cynthia Poole

B.4.1 Three fragments of fired clay weighing 40g were recovered from Trenches 1 and 3 and have been recorded in the table below. None of the pieces can be dated.



- B.4.2 All pieces are made in the same smooth silty micaceous clay containing diffuse clay pellets. The fired has probably utilised the local silty micaceous mudstone of the Dyrham Formation (BGS) on which the site lies.
- B.4.3 The function of the fragments cannot be determined with any degree of certainty. The pieces from pit 103 have a flat surface curving to an edge, suggesting they may be fragments of a portable item such as a triangular brick. The fragment from posthole 314 is worn and largely amorphous, but appears to have a concave groove running across it, possibly a wattle suggesting a structural origin from an oven or crop drier, though an alternative interpretation might be a perforation through a triangular brick.
- B.4.4 What little information can be gleaned from the fired clay may point to an Iron Age or early Roman date for some form of domestic activity.

Context	Nos	Wt g	Fabric	Form	Description
104 <3> Pit 103	2	28	Pinkish brown mottled fine silty micaceous clay containing rounded 'groggy' clay pellets	Furniture? Triangular perforated brick?	Flat fairly even moulded surface, curving down to an edge on one piece. >15mm th x >50mm long
315 Posthole 314	1	12	Red and grey mottled fine silty micaceous groggy clay	Structural?	One surface forming a concave groove c 16mm dia possibly a wattle impression. >20mm th.

Table 1: Record of fired clay assemblage

#### **Recommendations**

B.4.5 The assemblage is small, has no intrinsic interest and limited further research potential. It may therefore be discarded if desired at completion of the project.



#### APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

## **C.1** Environmental samples

By Richard Palmer

#### Introduction

C.1.1 Five bulk samples were taken for the retrieval and assessment of ecofacts and the recovery of artefacts.

#### Method

C.1.2 The samples were processed in their entirety at Oxford Archaeology using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine. The flots were collected in a 250µm mesh and residues in a 500µm mesh and dried. The residue fractions were sorted by eye and with the aid of a magnet while the flot material was sorted using a low power (x10) binocular microscope to extract cereal grains and chaff, smaller seeds and other quantifiable remains.

#### Results

C.1.3 A summary of the bulk sample and flot assessment data is presented in Table 1 with flot data presented using semi-quantitative abundance scores.

Sample no.	Context no.	Trench	Feature/Deposit	Date	Sample vol. (L)	Flot vol. (ml)	Charcoal >2mm	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other Charred	Molluscs	Notes
1	312	3	310		8	100	++++	+			+++		10YR 5/4 silty clay loam. Charcoal identifications: Maloideae x2 cf Maloideae x1 Corylus x1
2	313	3	310		9	30	++				+++		10 YR 5/6 silty clay loam.
3	104	1	103		16	20	++						10YR 4/6 silty clay loam.
4	1309	13	1310		1.5	10	++			+	+		10YR 5/4 silty clay loam.
5	1304	13	1305		9	100	++++			+	+	++	10YR 5/4 silty clay loam. Charcoal identifications: <i>Quercus</i> x5

Key: +=present (up to 5 items), ++=frequent (5-25), +++=common (25-100), ++++=abundant (100+). Other Charred category covers legumes and nutshell.

Table 1: Assessment of bulk sample flots.



#### Trench 1

C.1.4 Sample 3 from fill 104 of pit 103 produced a limited flot consisting of a small number of charcoal fragments <4mm in greatest dimension. Some fragments of fired clay were recovered from the residue.

#### Trench 3

- C.1.5 Sample 1 from fill 312 of pit 310 produced a large flot. Charcoal and hazel nutshell fragments (*Corylus avellana*) are the abundant component of the flot. Charcoal consists mainly of diffuse porous fragments with several belonging to the hawthorn/apple family, Maloideae, with hazel (*Corylus*) also being identified. Several damaged and indeterminate cereal grain fragments are also present. Flint was recovered from the residue.
- C.1.6 Sample 2 from fill 313 of pit 310 produced a modest flot similar in composition to that of sample 1. The quantity of recovered charcoal is smaller but numerous fragments of hazel nutshell are still present. Flint was recovered from the residue.

#### Trench 13

- C.1.7 Sample 4 from fill 1309 of posthole 1310 produced a small flot. In addition to a small quantity of charcoal, a possible charred legume and charred bedstraw seeds (*Galium* sp.) were recovered. The residue produced no artefacts.
- C.1.8 Sample 5 from fill 1304 of posthole 1305 produced a large flot. The recovered assemblage includes charred seeds of bedstraw and dock (*Rumex* sp.) and fragments of hazel nutshell. A half of a <2mm legume was also identified. The charcoal includes ring porous type, including oak (*Quercus* sp.) and a roundwood fragment is also present. The small number of molluscs recovered are mostly *Vallonia* sp. No artefacts were recovered from the residue.

#### Discussion

C.1.9 In general, there is good potential for the recovery of charred material on site. None of the samples have produced datable finds but there is charcoal from short lived species in sample 1 from pit 310 so that, as well as hazel nutshell, offers potential for radiocarbon dating. The charcoal from sample 5, posthole 1305, could be further identified to determine if more species are present and radiocarbon dating of roundwood would be possible.

## Recommendations for retention/dispersal

C.1.10 The flots warrant retention until all works on site are complete although it is not expected that further work will be required on the flots as part of the evaluation phase.



#### APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

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#### APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name: Hardwick Hill Cemetery Expansion, Banbury

Site code: BAHHC20

Grid Reference SP 45470 43486

Type: Evaluation

Date and duration:

January 2021 (2 weeks)

Area of Site

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead,

Oxford, OX2 OES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire County Museum services in due course, under the following

accession number: OXCMS: 2020.66

Summary of Results: Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Cemetery

Development Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed

extension of Hardwick Hill Cemetery, Banbury.

The evaluation tested the veracity of a geophysical survey which identified anomalies interpreted as possible archaeological features within the proposed development area. The geophysical survey was successful in identifying archaeological features revealed in the eastern field (Trench 16) but proved less accurate within the western field (Trenches 1-12), possibly as the result of differences in the underlying geology with the bedrock encountered at notably shallower depths.

The evaluation uncovered a series of ditches, pits, and postholes. A pit containing two flint blades and abundant charred hazelnut shells may be of early prehistoric date (Mesolithic to early Bronze Age). Other activity dates to the late Iron Age to early Roman period. This includes a probable double-ditched trackway running on an approximate N–S alignment in the eastern part of the site. The ditches of the trackway had been repeatedly recut, and the first phase of the eastern ditch produced pottery dated to 50 BC–AD 100.

Three ditches on varying alignments were present in the western part of the site, one of which yielded pottery dated to the early Roman period. In the centre of the site a large pit was found that contained pottery dated to 50 BC–AD 100 and may have been a waterhole or quarry. Together, this evidence suggests that much of the site was encompassed by a late Iron Age to early



Roman field system or a complex of settlement enclosures located on the drier ground, with a commanding view of the surrounding valley to the west. Multiple parallel post-medieval furrows crossed the site from east to west, completely truncating any earlier features that they intersected.

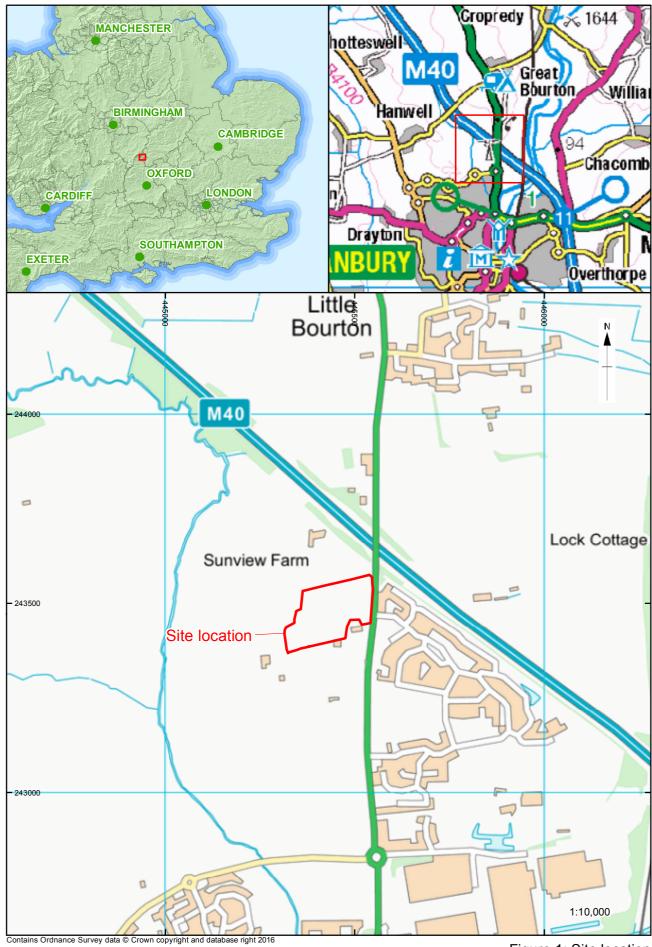
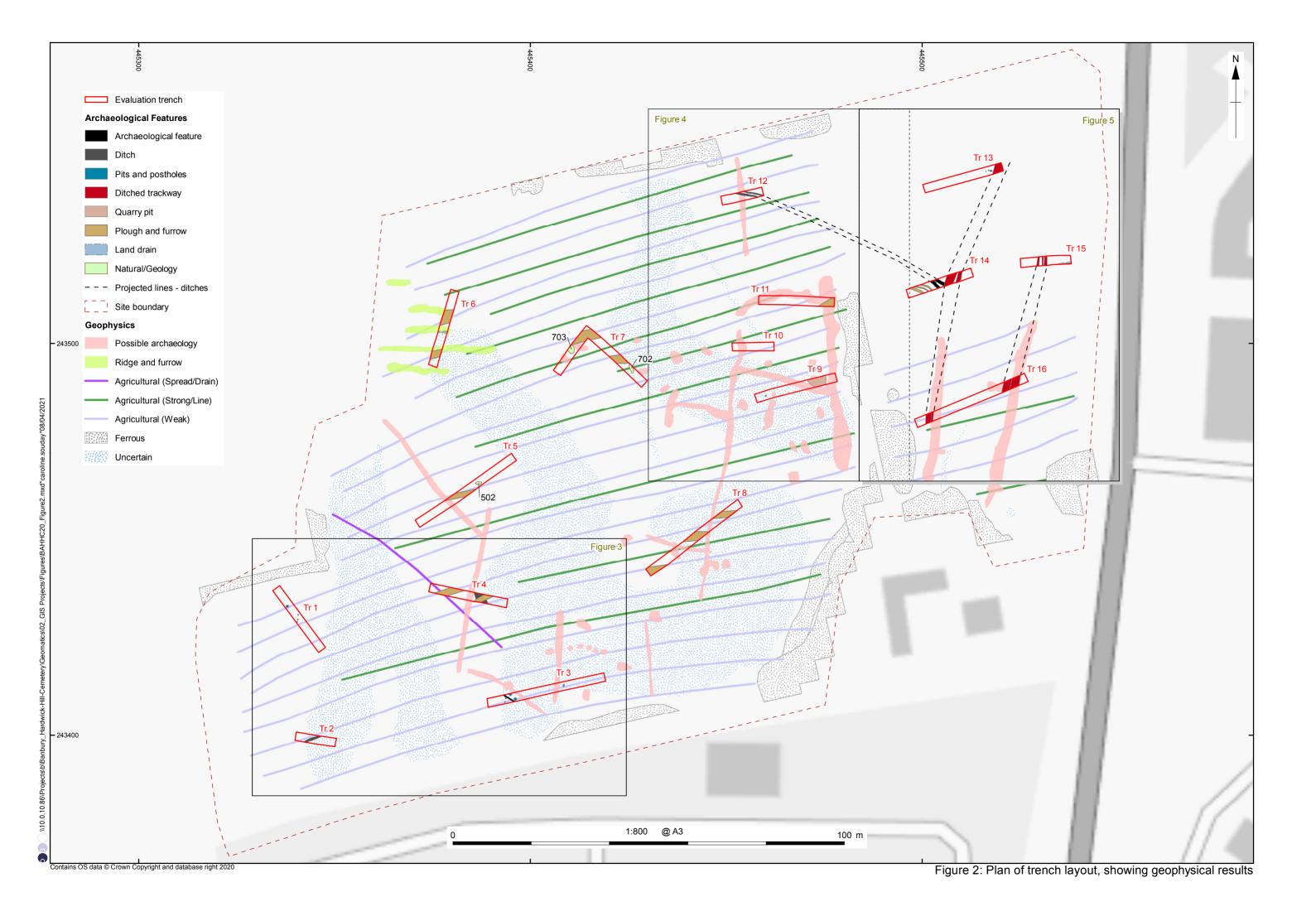
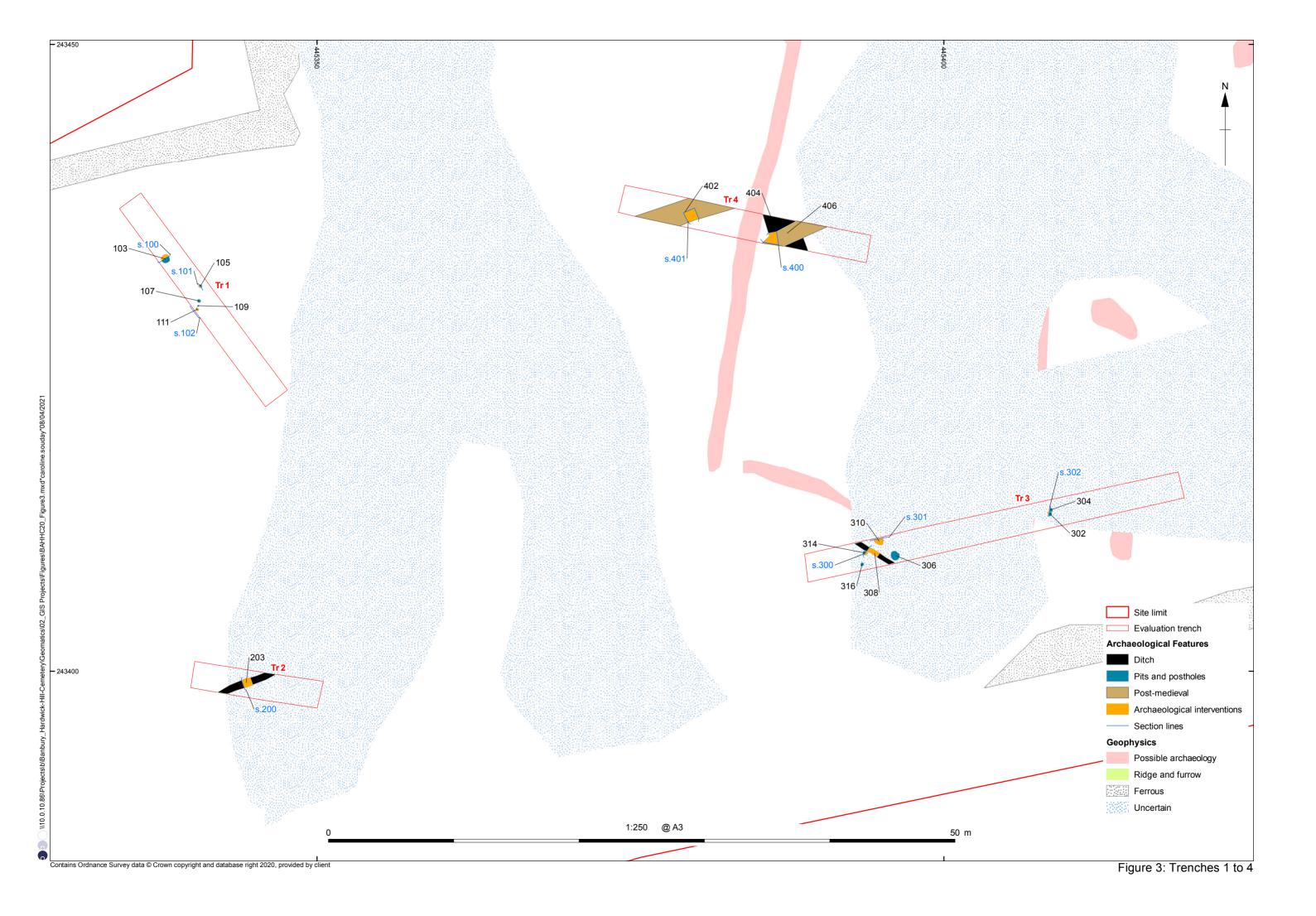
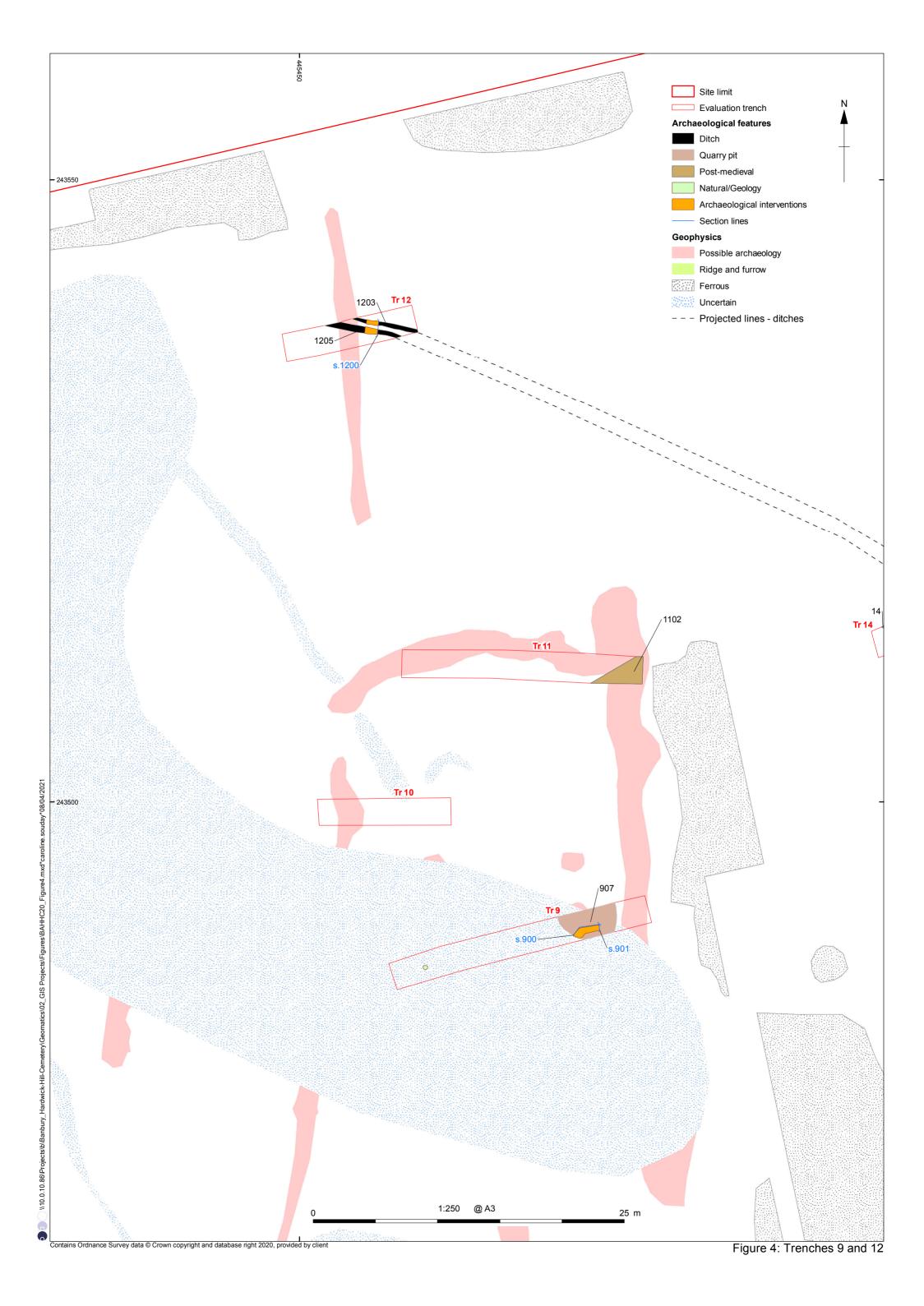
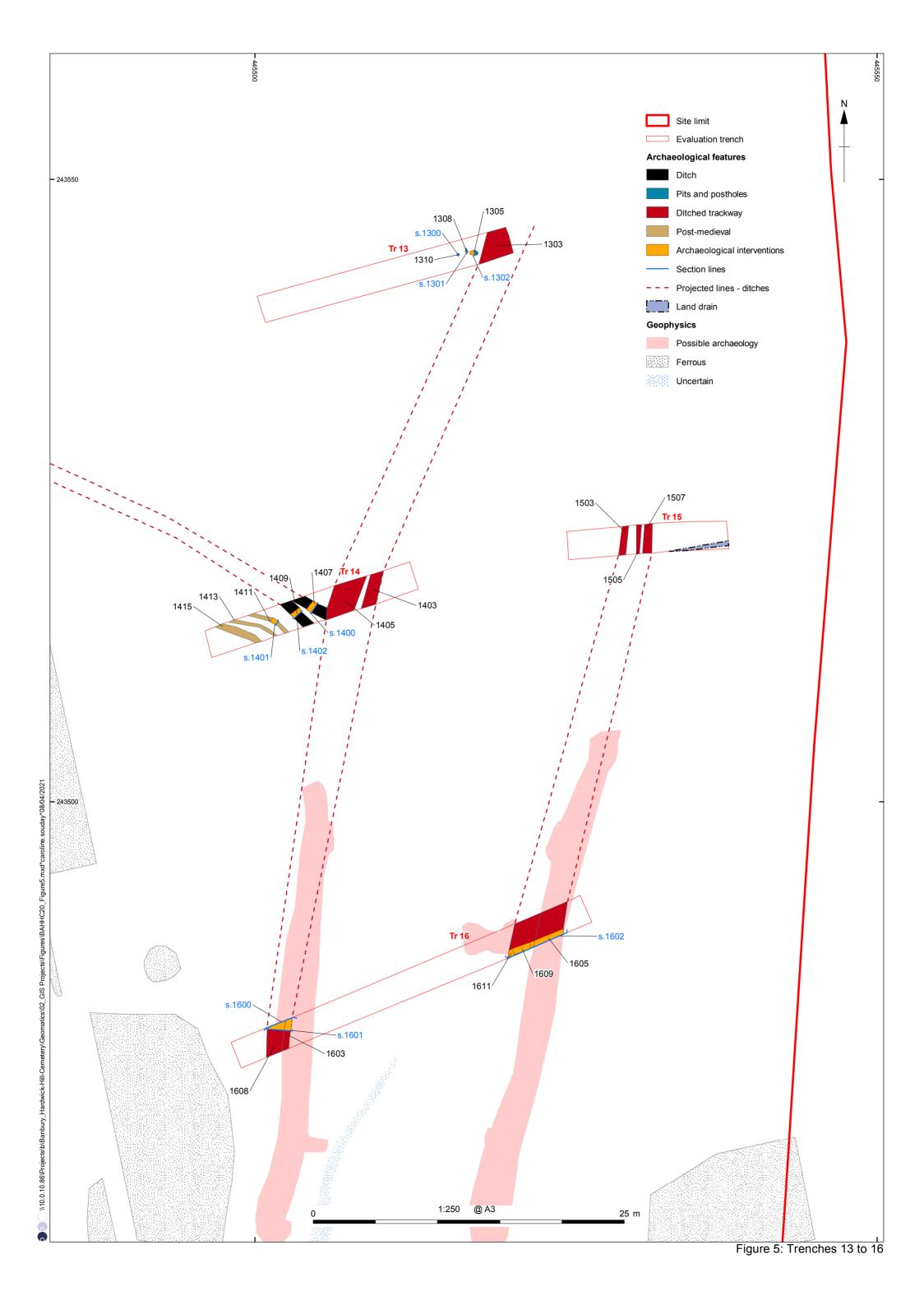


Figure 1: Site location









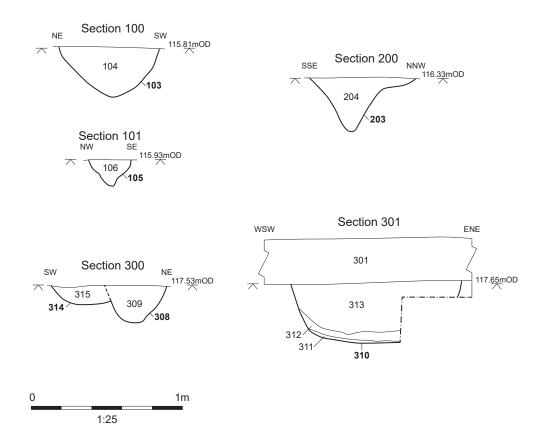


Figure 6: Trenches 1, 2 and 3 sections

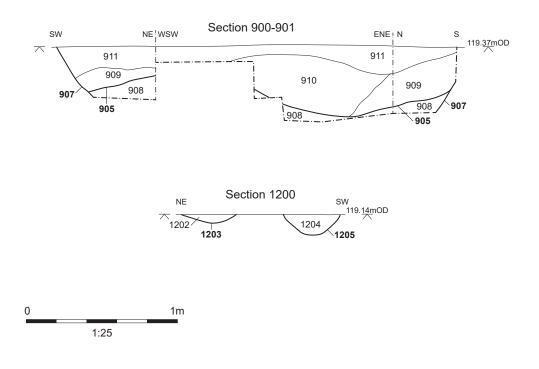
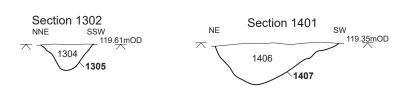
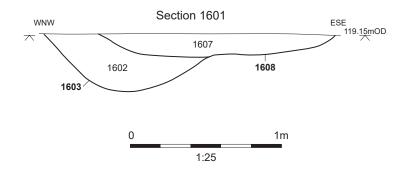


Figure 7: Trenches 9 and 12 sections





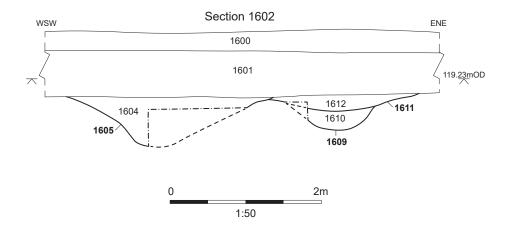


Figure 8: Trenches 13, 14 and 16 sections



Plate 1: Trench 1, showing pit 103, Section 100, looking south-east



Plate 2: Trench 2, showing ditch 203, Section 200, looking south-west



Plate 3: Trench 3, showing pit 301, Section 301, looking north



Plate 4: Trench 3, showing posthole 314 (left) and ditch 308 (right), Section 300, looking north-west



Plate 5: Trench 9, showing pit 907, Sections 900 and 901, looking south-east



Plate 6: Trench 12, showing ditch 1203 (left) and ditch 1205 (right), Section 1200, looking east



Plate 7: Trench 14, showing ditch 1407 (left) and ditch 1409 (right), Sections 1400 and 1402, looking south-east



Plate 8: Trench 16, showing ditch 1608 (left) and ditch 1603 (right) , Section 1600, looking north



Plate 9: Trench 16, showing ditch 1605 (left) and ditch 1611 (right), Section 1602, looking south





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