



Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

March 2017

Client: Miller Homes

Issue No: 1

OA Reference No: 6557

NGR: SU 604 886



Client Name: CgMs Consulting Ltd / Miller Homes
Client Ref No.:
Document Title: Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire
Document Type: Evaluation Report
Report No.: V1
Grid Reference: SU 604 886
Planning Reference: N/A
Site Code: WARR 16
Invoice Code: WARR EV
Receiving Body: Oxfordshire Museums Service
Accession No.: OXCMS.2016.192

OA Document File Location: X:\w\Winterbrook_Wallingford\002Reports\WARR16_current
OA Graphics File Location: \\samba\invoice codes r thru z\W_codes\WARREV

Issue No: 1
Date: March 2017
Prepared by: Vix Hughes ACIfA (Project Officer)
Checked by: Carl Champness ACIfA (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by: Edward Biddulph (Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by: David Score (Head of Fieldwork)
Signature:



.....

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SG

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD

t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com

Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627



Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Vix Hughes

*With contributions from Edward Biddulph, John Cotter,
Michael Donnelly, Ian R Scott, Lee G Broderick and
illustrations by Charles Rousseaux and Matt Bradley*

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1	Scope of work	1
1.2	Location, geology and topography	1
1.3	Archaeological and historical background	1
1.4	Previous archaeological investigations	1
2	EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	3
2.1	Aims.....	3
2.2	Specific aims and objectives.....	3
2.3	Methodology	3
3	RESULTS	5
3.1	Introduction and presentation of results.....	5
3.2	General soils and ground conditions	5
3.3	General distribution of archaeological deposits.....	5
3.4	Trenches in Field 1	5
3.5	Trenches in Field 2	7
3.6	Trenches in Field 3	7
3.7	Finds summary.....	8
4	DISCUSSION	9
4.1	Reliability of field investigation.....	9
4.2	Evaluation objectives and results	9
4.3	Interpretation	10
4.4	Significance.....	10
APPENDIX A	TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY	12
APPENDIX B	FINDS REPORTS.....	21

B.1	Prehistoric pottery	21
B.2	Post-Roman pottery	22
B.3	Clay tobacco pipe	23
B.4	Ceramic building material (CBM)	23
B.5	Flint	24
B.6	Metal	25
B.7	Animal Bone	25
APPENDIX C	BIBLIOGRAPHY	27
APPENDIX D	SITE SUMMARY DETAILS	29

List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location
Fig. 2 Trench locations
Fig. 3 Plan showing the identified archaeological features from both the 2009 and 2016 evaluations overlain onto the geophysical survey results
Fig. 4 Plan of archaeological features in Field 1, Trenches 9-15
Fig. 5 Sections of features in Trench 10, 1003, 1006, 1009, 1010, 1011 and 1013
Fig. 6 Sections of features in Trench 13, 1304 and 1305; Trench 15, 1503, 1505, 1507 and 1511; and Trench 22, 2204
Fig. 7 Plan of archaeological features in Field 3, Trenches 21 and 22

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Field 1 Trench 11 representative section, looking south
Plate 2 Field 2 Trench 17 representative section, looking north-east
Plate 3 Field 1 general view, looking north-west
Plate 4 Trench 10, ditch 1003, looking west
Plate 5 Trench 10, features 1009 and 1010, looking south-east
Plate 6 Trench 10, features 1011 and 1013, looking north-west
Plate 7 Trench 10, feature 1016, looking north-west
Plate 8 Trench 10, pit 1006, looking south-east
Plate 9 Trench 11, unexcavated ditch 1104, looking south-east
Plate 10 Trench 12, posthole 1204, looking east
Plate 11 Trench 12, posthole 1206, looking east
Plate 12 Trench 12, posthole 1208, looking south-west
Plate 13 Trench 12, posthole 1210, looking east
Plate 14 Trench 13 plan view, looking west
Plate 15 Trench 13 working shot, looking west
Plate 16 Trench 15 plan view, looking north
Plate 17 Trench 15, features 1503, 505 and 1507, looking south
Plate 18 Trench 15, features 1509 and 1511, looking south
Plate 19 Trench 16, feature 1604, looking north
Plate 20 Trench 21, feature 2004, looking north-east
Plate 21 Field 3 general view, looking north-west
Plate 22 Trench 21, ditch 2104, looking south-west
Plate 23 Trench 22, ditch 2204, looking south-west

Summary

In January 2017 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of Miller Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land to the West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxford. The site is a proposed new housing development, centred on NGR SU 604 886 and lying at c. 46m OD.

The works involved the excavation of 14 trenches 30m in length, and were designed to supplement a previous evaluation carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2009 (Trenches 1-8). The 2017 trenches (numbered 9-22) aimed to better define and characterize a phase of Iron Age activity identified at the site.

The results of the evaluation helped to further confirm and define the presence of a middle Iron Age settlement in the northern part of the site. Ditches in Trenches 10, 13 and 15 were confirmed by the presence of artefacts as being of Iron Age date. The features were all ditches and appear to form part of the enclosed middle Iron Age settlement.

A medieval pit, 1006, and probable linear feature, 1009, was also discovered in Trench 10. Both these features date to the 11-12th centuries and indicate early medieval activity within the site. Wallingford and the surrounding areas have known Anglo-Saxon settlement occupation of some significance, as demonstrated by the defensive features and cemetery within Wallingford itself.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank CgMs Consulting Ltd and Miller Homes for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to the Planning Archaeologist, Richard Oram, who monitored the work on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council for his advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Carl Champness. The fieldwork was directed by Vix Hughes, who was supported by Diana Chard and Isobel Bentley. Surveying was carried out by Vix Hughes and Diana Chard with digitizing by Matt Bradley. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff who cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Geraldine Crann, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of Wates Developments to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land to the West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxford, for a proposed new housing development. Fourteen trenches were excavated to compliment the eight already previously excavated at the site by Wessex Archaeology in 2009.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in advance of submission of a Planning Application. Although the Local Planning Authority did not set a brief for the work, discussions with Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) established the scope of work required.
- 1.1.3 This document outlines how OA implemented those requirements in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (OA 2016). All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *'Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation'* (revised 2015) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on land west of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxford. It lies on fairly even ground centred on NGR SU 604 886 at c. 46m OD. The area of proposed development currently consists of grassland and pasture. The site is bounded to the north by Bradford's Brook, and to the west by open fields. Winterbrook Lane is to the south and Reading Road to the east, both of which have residential developments (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The underlying geology of the area is Glauconitic Marl Member. This sandstone, glauconitic bedrock is overlain by superficial sand and gravel deposits of the Northmoor Sand and Gravel Member (British Geological Survey).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail in CgMs Consulting's Desk Based Assessment (CgMs, 2015), and will not be reproduced here.
- 1.3.2 The desk based assessment concluded that the site contains middle Iron Age and early medieval archaeological features, has a moderate to high potential for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, and a low potential for Palaeolithic, Roman and post-medieval activity.

1.4 Previous archaeological investigations

- 1.4.1 In late 2008, a detailed gradiometer geophysical survey was undertaken on the site by Wessex Archaeology (HER Ref EOX26 24; SU 6044 8861) (Wessex Archaeology 2008, Appendix 3). This geophysical survey revealed several anomalies including two circular features and two linear features, identified as probable prehistoric archaeology.

- 1.4.2 A subsequent archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in 2009, comprising eight trial trenches targeted on the geophysical anomalies (Wessex Archaeology 2009). This comprised eight trenches, six measuring 30m in length and two measuring 20m in length. The results of the evaluation are summarised below.
- 1.4.3 A single worked flint flake of a possible Neolithic date and a possible middle to late Bronze Age ditch which were found in the north-west of the site (Wessex Archaeology 2009, iii). Middle Iron Age features included postholes, pits, two roundhouse foundations and a possible roundhouse drip gully. The density of these features strongly suggests the presence of a middle Iron Age settlement in the northern field of the site. The spatial relationships, morphology and fill characteristics of the parallel ditches to the south of the northern field indicates the settlement was almost certainly enclosed (Wessex Archaeology 2009, iii). In the north-west of the site, a large area (c. 9m in extent) containing archaeology dating to the 10th-13th centuries was recorded. It also contained residual early Saxon pottery dating to the 5th-8th centuries) (Wessex Archaeology 2009, iii).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation were:

- i. To determine the presence or absence of any surviving archaeological remains
- ii. To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains.
- iii. To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means.
- iv. To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
- v. To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy.
- vi. To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape.
- vii. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive.
- viii. To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.
- ix. To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

2.2 Specific aims and objectives

2.2.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- x. To investigate further areas of the site not covered in the 2009 evaluation as a means of furthering our knowledge of the archaeology of the site.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The works involved the excavation of 14 trenches on the site of the proposed development. The trenches were 30m in length and were designed to fill in any gaps not covered by the previous evaluation (Trenches 1-8). The 2016 trenches were numbered 9-22 (Fig. 2).

2.3.2 Each trench was excavated using a JCB excavator fitted with a toothless bucket under constant direct supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Spoil was stored adjacent to the trench edges.

2.3.3 Machining continued in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, depending upon which was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand.

2.3.4 The exposed deposits were sufficiently cleaned to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type, for example pits, postholes, and ditches, was excavated and recorded. Excavation was sufficient to resolve the principal aims of the evaluation.

2.3.5 Features in all trenches containing potential remains of archaeological origin were investigated, except in the instance of Trench 11 where discussions with Richard Oram

agreed that the feature was a continuation of one previously seen in the 2009 evaluation.

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 the trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits are listed in Appendix A. Specialist reports can be found in Appendix B.
- 3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated. For example, pit 1006 is a feature within Trench 10, while ditch 2204 is a feature within Trench 22.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform (Plates 1 and 2). The natural geology varied, with orangey brownish grey clayey silts predominant in the northern Field 1, gravel deposits in parts of Field 2, and brownish orange sandy silts in Field 3 to the south. The natural was overlain by a slightly variable brownish grey clayey silt subsoil, which in turn was overlain by a dark brown clayey silt topsoil.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 The 14 trenches were excavated across three fields (Fig. 3): Field 1 to the north (Trenches 9-15), Field 2 (Trenches 16-20) and Field 3 to the south (Trenches 21 and 22).
- 3.3.2 Archaeological features were present in seven of the 14 trenches. These were Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 21 and 22.

3.4 Trenches in Field 1

- 3.4.1 Field 1 lay to the north and was a flat field under grazing pastureland (Plate 3). Trenches 9-15 were located in this field. Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15 had features of archaeological origin.

Trench 10 (Figs 4 and 5)

- 3.4.2 Trench 10 contained four linear features (1003, 1009, 1011 and 1016), two pits (1006 and 1013), and an irregular feature, 1010 (Fig. 4).
- 3.4.3 The northernmost ditch 1003 was east-west aligned, nearly 2m wide and contained two fills (Fig. 5, section 1000; Plate 4). Fill 1005 was at the base and 1004 above. Both fills were paler than the other fills seen within features in Trench 10. The upper fill, 1004, contained 16 sherds of early Iron Age pottery. The feature corresponded to a feature noted on the geophysical survey.
- 3.4.4 Towards the southern end was a somewhat irregular feature, 1010 (Plate 5). This contained a single fill, 1018, and was cut by the probable ditch 1009 (Fig. 5 section 1003).

- 3.4.5 Feature 1009 was interpreted as a ditch as it corresponded to a similarly aligned anomaly on the geophysical survey (Plate 5). The feature was 2.4m wide and contained a single dark hued fill, 1015. This contained a probable iron flesh hook, most likely of medieval date, and two small sherds of residual Iron Age pottery.
- 3.4.6 Feature 1011 was a narrow linear ditch, aligned east-west and containing a single fill, 1012. There was no stratigraphic relationship with pit 1013 (Figs. 4 and 5, section 1005; Plate 6).
- 3.4.7 A similar but much shallower feature, 1016, was seen to the south (Plate 7). It was aligned northwest-southeast and its single fill, 1017, contained no artefactual material. The feature was well defined in plan, despite being shallow, and was interpreted as an archaeological feature rather than the result of rooting.
- 3.4.8 Pit 1006 was approximately 2.2m in diameter, rounded in plan with a slightly stepped profile (Fig. 5, section 1001). The lower fill, 1008, contained a medieval barrel padlock key and two small sherds of residual later prehistoric pottery. The upper fill, 1007, contained six sherds of medieval pottery dated to 1050-1150. The feature corresponded to one of the discrete anomalies on the geophysical survey.
- 3.4.9 Pit 1013 was rounded and had a U-shaped profile (Fig. 5, section 1005). The single fill 1014 was softer and more of a brown hue than most of the other features within Trench 10.

Trench 11 (Fig. 4)

- 3.4.10 Trench contained a large ditch 1104 and a smaller possible ditch 1106. Neither of these features were excavated (Plate 9).
- 3.4.11 Ditch 1104 was on a northeast-southwest alignment and was a continuation of the ditch 203, dated to the middle Iron Age, seen previously in Trench 2 (Wessex Archaeology 2009, 5).

Trench 12 (Fig. 4)

- 3.4.12 Trench 12 contained four probable postholes, 1204, 1206, 1208 and 1210 (Plates 10-13). Neither their form nor fills were similar, and they were probably not associated despite being clustered in a discrete area. There were no preserved post-pipes and each had a single fill. No artefactual material was recovered.

Trench 13 (Figs 4 and 6)

- 3.4.13 Trench 13 contained two linear ditches, 1304 and 1305, set 2.4m apart, alongside an unexcavated amorphous feature, 1309 (Plate 14).
- 3.4.14 Ditch 1304 was aligned northwest-southeast. It was steep sided and had a flat base. The ditch was filled by 1306 and was 2.4m west of ditch 1305 (Fig. 6, section 1301; Plate 15).
- 3.4.15 Ditch 1305 was parallel to 1304 and was the deeper of the two ditches. It had a more concave U-shaped profile than 1304 (Fig. 6, section 1302). The single fill, 1307, was a

similar mid-brownish grey silty clay as 1306, and contained a probable Mesolithic bladelet and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

- 3.4.16 Feature 1309 had a browner fill and contained potentially articulated bones of a large mammal. The feature was recorded in plan, covered and left *in-situ*.

Trench 15 (Figs. 4 and 6)

- 3.4.17 Trench 15 contained at least five linear features aligned northeast-southwest, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509 and 1511 (Plate 16).

- 3.4.18 Two probable linear ditches, 1503 and 1507, were found in the central part of the trench. These extended east and west beyond the trench limits (Plate 17). Ditch 1503 was located to the east and had a slightly darker sandier fill, 1504, containing a late Neolithic-early Bronze Age flint tool fragment (Fig.6, section 1500). Ditch 1507 had a single fill 1508 and was to the west.

- 3.4.19 Cutting both of these features was a third linear feature, 1505. This probable ditch had a single fill, 1506. This was slightly more orange in colour compared to the fills of the earlier features and contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

- 3.4.20 To the south were two similarly aligned features, 1509 and 1511 (Plate 18). No stratigraphic relationships were established between them. Both ditches were shallow, and 1509 was located to the east of 1511. Each had a single mid grey fill (Fig. 6, section 1500). Fill 1510 (of 1509) contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

3.5 Trenches in Field 2

- 3.5.1 Field 2 was flat and under rough grass. Trenches 16-20 were located in this field. None of the trenches had features of archaeological origin. Features were investigated and recorded in Trenches 16, 18 and 20. They were found to be the result of variations in the underlying geological drift deposits, root hollows, and animal burrows (Plates 19 and 20).

- 3.5.2 Finds of post-medieval date were retrieved from the topsoil / subsoil of Trenches 16, 18 and 20.

3.6 Trenches in Field 3

- 3.6.1 Field 3 lay to the south and was also flat and under rough grass. Trenches 21 and 22 were located in this field (Plate 20). Both trenches contained features of archaeological and natural origin.

Trench 21 (Figs 6 and 7)

- 3.6.2 Trench 21 contained a single linear ditch, 2104, and three features of natural origin, 2106, 2108 and 2110. These features were root hollows and the result of variations in the underlying geological drift deposits .

- 3.6.3 Ditch 2104 was aligned northeast-southwest. This continued to the south and was recorded in Trench 22 as ditch 2204 (Plate 22). The ditch was cut part way through the formation of the subsoil, 2101. The single fill, 2103, did not produce any artefactual material.

Trench 22 (Fig. 7)

- 3.6.4 Trench 22 contained a single linear ditch, 2204. A feature of natural origin, 2206, was also investigated.
- 3.6.5 Ditch 2204 was aligned northeast-southwest. This continued to the north and was recorded as ditch 2104 in Trench 21 (Plate 23). The ditch was cut part way through the formation of the subsoil, 2201. The single fill, 2203, did not produce any artefactual material.

3.7 Finds summary

- 3.7.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the evaluation and included a range of pottery, ceramic building material, metal, flint and bone.

Prehistoric Pottery

- 3.7.2 A total of 23 sherds of pottery, weighing 136g, were recovered from six contexts. All the pottery could be broadly contemporaneous, with all sherds being potentially of Iron Age date. A sherd from 1506 had interior residues that indicates the vessel was used for cooking, suggesting a good level of preservation.

Post-Roman Pottery

- 3.7.3 A total of 22 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 335g, were recovered from eight contexts. Only one of these was a feature, the rest were from the topsoil. Context 1007 produced a small discrete assemblage of Saxo-Norman pottery dating to c1050-1150.

Ceramic Building Material

- 3.7.4 A total of 22 pieces of CBM weighing 1.215kg were recovered from ten contexts. It mostly comprises worn fragments of local orange-buff peg tiles dating approximately from the 17th to the 19th century, as well as two pieces of machine-made red roof tile and worn pieces of post-medieval brick.

Metal

- 3.7.5 Two iron objects were discovered from two different contexts, 1008 and 1015. These were both pit fills in Trench 10. At least one of these objects is medieval in date.

Flint

- 3.7.6 A small assemblage of three struck flints were recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage comprises one invasive tool fragment, a single bladelet, and a piece of burnt irregular waste from 1015. The bladelet from 1306 is quite typical of the regular examples struck from opposed platform cores that typify Mesolithic assemblages, although could also date to the early Neolithic. The intrusive tool fragment found in 1505 is very unusual and could be part of a broken knife of later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The trenches were excavated in good dry conditions throughout the evaluation. However, the low winter sunlight meant that some of the deposits and features were difficult to identify.
- 4.1.2 There was a good correspondence of archaeological features to geophysical anomalies. The geophysical survey and archaeological trenching are believed to provide a generally accurate representation of the archaeological potential of the overall site.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The 2016 OA evaluation confirmed the presence of archaeological remains (Fig. 3). A better understanding of the site can be achieved when the results are considered alongside the 2009 evaluation.
- 4.2.2 Archaeological remains were confined to the northern area of Field 1, occupying approximately 100m east-west by 118m north-south. A single feature was seen in Field 3 to the south.
- 4.2.3 Trenches 10, 13 and 15 in Field 1 uncovered archaeological remains dating to the Iron Age, and features dating to the 11-12th century were discovered in Trench 10. Phasing was determined through artefactual means, primarily dating features by associated pottery
- 4.2.4 The remains consisted of negative cut features such as ditches and pits. These varied in depth due to their original form and as a result of differential survival. Most of the deposits had relatively diffuse boundaries as a result of post-depositional processes.
- 4.2.5 The degree of the complexity of the surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy was moderate. Intercutting features of different functions and origins were present, but the results were consistent with a site of rural rather than urban character.
- 4.2.6 The fieldwork undertaken adds to an emerging picture of Wallingford in the later prehistoric period. Investigations to the west of the site have uncovered evidence of Bronze Age funerary remains and early Iron Age settlement. The present evaluation shows the presence of middle Iron Age activity at the site. The evaluation may imply that locations close to rivers with the area were favoured for settlement.
- 4.2.7 Due to the small size of the assemblage, it is difficult to determine the implications of the remains in terms of the economy, status, utility and social activity at the site. It would be more productive to consider the issues with further fuller excavation work. Such elements could build towards understanding the variations in the socio-economic basis of settlement across the region (Lambrick 2014, 151: 10.5.9)
- 4.2.8 The evaluation has shown that a range of material types survive on the site, including Iron Age pottery, medieval pottery, flintwork, metal and animal bone. Although the quantity was small this may reflect the limited excavation work carried out. The quality

of the finds demonstrates that there is good evidence for the activities on site to be understood in both the Iron Age and medieval periods.

4.2.9 Further investigation of areas of the site not covered in the 2009 evaluation has confirmed that the main focus of archaeological remains is in the northern Field 1 and that the western part Trenches 9 and 14 may be beyond the occupied area. It also showed that there may be archaeological features of unknown date in Field 3, though of low density and complexity.

4.2.10 There remains a high potential that Iron Age and medieval archaeological remains are present on the site.

4.3 Interpretation

Iron Age

4.3.1 Features in Trenches 10, 13 and 15 were confirmed by the presence of artefacts as being of Iron Age date. The features were all ditches and form part of a middle Iron Age settlement at the site. The characteristics of the parallel ditches in the south of the field, seen in 2009, may be complimented by the ditch 1003 to the north and may suggest that settlement activity was enclosed at some point during its use.

Medieval

4.3.2 There were two features in Trench 10 that were dated to the early 11-12th century. This comprised a pit, 1006, and a probable linear feature, 1009.

4.3.3 Wallingford and the surrounding areas has known Anglo-Saxon settlement occupation of some significance. This is demonstrated by numerous findspots, minted coins, defensive features and cemetery within Wallingford itself.

Post-medieval

4.3.4 The rounded features seen intermittently in Field 2 were the probable remains of infilled root hollows from mature trees. There are a few trees still standing and these are the surviving evidence that the field was used as a tree plantation, shown by cartographic sources dating between 1851 and 1899 (CgMs 2015, Figs 4 and 6).

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 In general, the 2016 evaluation results corresponded to the earlier geophysical survey results (Wessex Archaeology 2008), and complemented the 2009 evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2009). The only variations were the detection of linear features in Trenches 13 and 15 that were not evident from the geophysical survey. This shows that while geophysics is reliable, it often cannot demonstrate the complexity of the archaeology nor detect more ephemeral features.

4.4.2 Both evaluations showed that most features were filled with mid greyish brown silts contained relatively common and unabraded artefacts such as Iron Age pottery and animal bone.

- 4.4.3 The combined results of the evaluations indicate a density of features, including ditches, pits, possible postholes belonging to post-built structures, and two roundhouse foundation trenches. This confirms the presence of a middle Iron Age settlement in the northern part of the site. Further understanding roundhouses of the period has been identified as part of the research agenda (Lambrick 2014, 151 10.7.1).
- 4.4.4 Archaeological remains revealed by the evaluation are of local and regional significance and confirm the suggestion (CgMs 2015, 15; TVAS 2009) that the site is reasonably typical of other sites in the Upper Thames Valley landscape in the Iron Age.
- 4.4.5 The evaluation suggests the presence of a moderate assemblage of material that could be put towards further understanding the Iron Age in the region (Lambrick 2014, 149: 10.3.3). Any further works would also contribute to this.
- 4.4.6 The small number of worked flints recovered shows general background activity of the earlier prehistoric period recorded in many river valley locations. There is known evidence for Bronze Age funerary activity nearby, as well as early Iron Age settlement to the north, and further Iron Age occupation to the west. These indicate that the area was the focus of moderately intense activity through the later prehistoric period.
- 4.4.7 In the north-west part of the site an area of early medieval pitting and artefactual remains indicate possible domestic activity in the vicinity, although no structural elements were uncovered. Excavations might have uncovered the periphery of a site to the north. Without a fuller understanding of the site it is unclear how the evidence adds to the wider research goals (Munby 2014).

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Field 1

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer	1.6	0.32	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1850-1900
901	Layer	1.6	0.25	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey clayey silt	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained four linear features, 1003, 1009, 1011 and 1016, two pits, 1006 and 1013, and an irregular feature, 1010. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut into the natural.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer	1.6	0.17	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1780-1900
1001	Layer	1.6	0.35	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey clayey silt, graded to greyish orange at S end	-	-
1003	Cut	1.95	0.55	Ditch: E-W aligned, broad U-shaped, filled by 1005 and 1004		
1004	Fill	1.95	0.54	Ditch: fill of 1003, pale greenish grey clayey sand, above 1005	Pottery	Early Iron Age
1005	Fill	1.1	0.31	Ditch: fill of 1003, pale greyish green coarse clayey sand, frequent small stones, below 1004		
1006	Cut	2.2	0.74	Pit: stepped U-shaped profile, filled by 1008 and 1007		

1007	Fill	2.2	0.49	Pit: fill of 1006, mid greyish brown clayey sand, frequent small stones, above 1008	Pottery	1050-1150
1008	Fill	1.35	0.35	Pit: fill of 1006, pale greenish grey sandy clay, occ small stones, below 1007	Pottery Fe object	Bronze – Iron Age Medieval
1009	Cut	2.4	0.45	Ditch: E-W aligned, broad straight sided, flat base profile, filled by 1015		
1010	Cut	0.75	0.26	Uncertain: irregular feature in plan, V-shaped profile with flat base, filled by 1018		
1011	Cut	0.29	0.11	Ditch: E-W aligned, V-shaped profile, filled by 1012		
1012	Fill	0.29	0.11	Ditch, fill of 1011, mid orangey grey coarse sand	Stone (burnt unworked flint)	
1013	Cut	1.2	0.27	Pit: U-shaped profile, filled by 1014		
1014	Fill	1.2	0.27	Pit: fill of 1013, dark brown clayey sand, occ burnt stone	Stone (burnt unworked flint)	
1015	Fill	2.4	0.45	Ditch: fill of 1009, mid greyish brown clayey sand, occ burnt stones	Pottery Fe object Flint (poss worked)	Iron Age Medieval
1016	Cut	0.2	0.02	Uncertain Linear: NW-SE aligned, shallow profile, filled by 1017		
1017	Fill	0.2	0.02	Uncertain Linear: fill of 1016, mid greyish brown silty sand		
1018	Fill	0.75	0.26	Uncertain: fill of 1010, mid greyish brown clayey sand		

Trench 11						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a large ditch, 1104, and a smaller possible ditch, 1106. These were not excavated. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut into the natural.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1100	Layer	1.6	0.33	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-

1101	Layer	1.6	0.25	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey silt to pale brown clayey silt	-	-
1103	Fill	3.6	unexc	Ditch: fill of 1104, mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1104	Cut	3.6	unexc	Ditch: NE-SW aligned	-	-
1105	Fill	0.46	unexc	Ditch: fill of 1106, mid greyish brown silt	-	-
1106	Cut	0.46	unexc	Ditch: NW-SE aligned	-	-

Trench 12

General description

Trench contained four probable postholes, 1204, 1206, 1208 and 1210.

Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.

Archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut into the natural.

Orientation

NW-SE

Length (m)

30.5

Width (m)

1.6

Avg. depth (m)

0.58

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1200	Layer	1.6	0.33	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1550-1700
1201	Layer	1.6	0.22	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey to orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1203	Fill	0.25	0.06	Posthole: fill of 1204, dark grey silt		
1204	Cut	0.25	0.06	Posthole: sub-rectangular in plan, shallow, filled by 1203		
1205	Fill	0.2	0.04	Posthole: fill of 1206, mid grey silt		
1206	Cut	0.2	0.04	Posthole: circular in plan, shallow, filled by 1205		
1207	Fill	0.34	0.17	Posthole: fill of 1208, mid clayey grey silt		
1208	Cut	0.34	0.17	Posthole: sub-square in plan, steep sided, flat base, filled by 1207		
1209	Fill	0.32	0.12	Posthole: fill of 1210, dark grey clayey silt		
1210	Cut	0.32	0.12	Posthole: sub-rectangular in plan, steep irregular sided, concave base, filled by 1209		

Trench 13

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained two parallel linear ditches, 1304 and 1305, and an unexcavated amorphous feature, 1309. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut into the natural.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1300	Layer	1.6	0.31	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
1301	Layer	1.6	0.11-0.22	Subsoil: mid brownish grey clayey silt	-	-
1302	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale brownish grey silty clay	-	-
1303	Layer	1.6	0.2-0.35	Subsoil: mid greyish brown clayey silt		
1304	Cut	0.72	0.17	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided flat based, filled by 1306, W of 1305		
1305	Cut	0.83	0.31	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided, slightly irregular U-shaped, filled by 1307, E of 1306		
1306	Fill	0.72	0.17	Ditch: fill of 1304, mid brownish grey silty clay		
1307	Fill	0.83	0.31	Ditch: fill of 1305, mid brownish grey silty clay	Pottery	Bronze – Iron Age
1308	Fill	0.76	unexc	Uncertain: fill of 1309, mid brownish grey silty clay		
1309	Cut	0.76	unexc	Uncertain: unexc		

Trench 14						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.75
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1400	Layer	1.6	0.35	Topsoil: dark brown clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
1401	Layer	1.6	0.36	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1402	Layer	1.6	0.15	Subsoil: mid brownish grey clayey silt		
1403	Layer	1.6	-	Natural: mid greyish brown clayey silt		
1404	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained five linear features, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509 and 1511. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut into the natural.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Layer	1.6	0.27	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
1501	Layer	1.6	0.33-0.41	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey to pale orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1503	Cut	0.66	0.43	Ditch: NE-SW aligned, steep sided, -shaped, filled by 1504,		
1504	Fill	0.66	0.43	Ditch: fill of 1503, mid greyish brown silty sand		
1505	Cut	0.77	0.16	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided, U-shaped, filled by 1506		
1506	Fill	0.77	0.16	Ditch: fill of 1505, mid orangey brown silty clay	Pottery	Iron Age
1507	Cut	0.26	0.14	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided, filled by 1508		
1508	Fill	0.26	0.14	Ditch: fill of 1507, mid greyish brown silty clay		
1509	Cut	0.32	0.24	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided, filled by 1510		
1510	Fill	0.32	0.24	Ditch: fill of 1509, mid greyish brown silty clay	Pottery	Iron Age
1511	Cut	0.32	0.08	Ditch: NW-SE aligned, steep sided, U-shaped, filled by 1512		
1512	Fill	0.32	0.08	Ditch: fill of 1511, mid greyish brown silty clay		

Field 2

Trench 16			
General description		Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. A single feature of natural origin, 1604 was investigated. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.		Length (m)	30
		Width (m)	1.6
		Avg. depth (m)	0.68

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1600	Layer	1.6	0.28	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery Clay pipe	1840-1900 Late 18-19th
1601	Layer	1.6	0.2-0.38	Subsoil: pale brown clayey silt	-	-
1602	Layer	-	-	Natural: pale grey sandy silt	-	-
1603	Fill	1.2	0.25	Natural Feature: fill of 1604 mid grey clayey silt	-	-
1604	Interface	1.2	0.25	Natural Feature: irregular, amorphous, uneven base, filled by 1603	-	-
1605	Layer	-	-	Natural: S end only, mid greyish brown gravelly silt	-	-

Trench 17

General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of gravelly silt.				Length (m)	30	
				Width (m)	1.6	
				Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1700	Layer	1.6	0.35	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
1701	Layer	1.6	0.45	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1702	Layer	-	-	Natural: N end only, pale grey silt	-	-
1703	Layer	-	-	Natural: mid greyish brown gravelly silt	-	-

Trench 18

General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Two features of natural origin, 1804 and 1806 were investigated. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of gravelly silt. .				Length (m)	30	
				Width (m)	1.6	
				Avg. depth (m)	0.7-1.0	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1800	Layer	1.6	0.3	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1800-1925
1801	Layer	1.6	0.35-0.65	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Natural:	-	-

1803	Fill	0.4	0.12	Natural Feature: fill of 1804 mid grey clayey silt		
1804	Interface	0.4	0.12	Natural Feature: circular, gentle U-shaped profile filled by 1803		
1805	Fill	1	0.22	Natural Feature: fill of 1806 mid grey clayey silt		
1806	Interface	1	0.22	Natural Feature: gentle U-shaped profile filled by 1805		

Trench 19

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Several features consistent with animal burrows were seen in plan. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of gravelly silt.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1900	Layer	1.6	0.32	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
1901	Layer	1.6	0.24	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural: mid brownish orange gravelly silt	-	-

Trench 20

General description					Orientation	
Trench devoid of archaeology. A single feature of natural origin, 2004, was investigated. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Layer			Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1800-1925
2001	Layer			Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
2002	Layer			Natural:	-	-
2003	Fill	0.55	0.12	Natural Feature: fill of 2004 mid grey clayey silt		
2004	Interface	0.55	0.12	Natural Feature: irregular oval, gentle U-shaped profile, filled by 2003		

Field 3

Trench 21

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained a single linear ditch, 2104, and three features of natural origin investigated, 2106, 2108 and 2110. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were cut part way through the formation of the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2100	Layer	1.6	0.32	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	Pottery	1850-1900
2101	Layer	1.6	0.29-0.46	Subsoil: mid orangey brown clayey silt	-	-
2102	Layer	-	-	Natural:	-	-
2103	Fill	0.55	0.21	Ditch: fill of 2104, mid grey silty sand		
2104	Cut	0.55	0.21	Ditch: NE-SW aligned, moderate U-shaped profile, filled 2103		
2105	Fill	0.4	0.13	Natural Feature: fill of 2106, dark grey sandy silt, roots		
2106	Interface	0.4	0.13	Natural Feature: circular, gentle U-shaped profile, filled by 2105		
2107	Fill	0.55	0.23	Natural Feature: fill of 2108, dark grey sandy silt		
2108	Interface	0.55	0.23	Natural Feature: elongated-oval, gentle U-shaped profile, filled by 2107		
2109	Fill	0.8	0.3	Natural Feature: fill within 2110, mid grey clayey silt		
2110	Interface	0.8	0.3	Natural Feature: irregular linear, irregular part profile, filled by 2109		

Trench 22						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single linear ditch, 2204, and a feature of natural origin was investigated, 2206. Stratigraphy consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clayey silt. Archaeological features were cut part way through the formation of the subsoil.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.6
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

2200	Layer	1.6	0.3	Topsoil: dark brownish grey clayey silt, 1% small stones	-	-
2201	Layer	1.6	0.35	Subsoil: mid brown clayey silt	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural: mid brown gravelly silt	-	-
2203	Fill	0.42-0.6	0.11-0.21	Ditch: fill of 2204, mid grey sandy silt		
2204	Cut	0.42-0.6	0.11-0.21	Ditch: NE-SW aligned, moderate U-shaped profile, filled 2203		
2205	Fill	0.7	0.05	Natural Feature: fill within 2206, dark grey sandy silt		
2206	Interface	1.5	0.17	Natural Feature: irregular, irregular part profile, filled by 2205 and 2207		
2207	Fill	1.5	0.11	Natural Feature: fill within 2206, mid brown clayey silt	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Prehistoric pottery

By Edward Biddulph

- B.1.1 A total of 23 sherds of prehistoric pottery, weighing 136g, were recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage was scanned to broadly characterise the fabrics and any evidence for form and use, and to provide spot-dates.
- B.1.2 All the pottery could be broadly contemporaneous, with all sherds being potentially of Iron Age date. However, some of the material may be earlier. A very coarse quartz-tempered sherd from context 1008 may be of Bronze Age date, and a flint-tempered sherd from 1307, without fine sand-tempered pottery accompanying it (as in 1015), may also have been deposited in the Bronze Age. The fine sand-tempered pottery itself is likely to be of early-mid Iron Age date, perhaps with the emphasis on the later end of this range. On the whole, however, the assemblage is consistent with an earlier Iron Age date range.
- B.1.3 Two contexts contained pottery of particular note. The pottery from 1506, had interior residues that pointed to its being used for cooking, presumably as a jar or bowl. The thickened basal sherd and related pottery from 1004 was reminiscent of briquetage, coarse pottery associated with the production of salt, but without more of the vessel, identification as briquetage must be viewed with caution.
- B.1.4 The pottery was recovered from Trenches 10, 13 and 15. Trench 10 contained the most pottery, though much of this came from a single deposit (ditch fill 1004). Some of the pottery was recovered with medieval objects (ditch fills 1008 and 1015) and must be residual.

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot-date
1004	16	66	Body sherds with corky appearance. 7x sherds in sand-tempered fabric with organic and argillaceous inclusions, orange brown fabric; 9x sherds in coarse fabric with sand, organic, argillaceous and chalk inclusions, dark grey fabric, patchy buff/dark brown surfaces, one sherd, thicker than the others, may have broken at the junction with the base	EIA
1008	2	11	Body sherds, 1x dark grey/black fabric with coarse angular quartz inclusions up to 8mm across and smaller sand grains, 1x dark grey fabric with red-brown surfaces, sand and ?iron-rich inclusions	BA/IA
1015	2	19	Body sherds, 1x flint-tempered, 1x fine sand-tempered; both dark-brown/black fabrics.	IA
1307	1	27	Base sherd in flint-tempered black fabric, with additional sand and argillaceous inclusions	BA/IA
1506	1	10	Body sherd in organic and argillaceous fabric, dark grey fabric and interior surface, red-buff	IA

			exterior surface; burnt residue and limescale-type deposit on interior surface	
1510	1	3	Body sherd in sand-tempered black fabric with occasional clay pellets or grog	IA
Totals	23	136		

B.2 Post-Roman pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction and Methodology

- B.2.1 A total 22 sherds (335g) of post-Roman pottery were recovered. This comprises some medieval pottery and a larger quantity of 'Victorian' pottery.
- B.2.2 All the pottery (of whatever period) was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.). Fabric codes referred to for the medieval wares are those of the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994) whereas post-medieval pottery fabric codes are those of the Museum of London (MOLA 2014). The range of pottery is described in some detail in the spreadsheet and therefore only summarised below.

Date and nature of the assemblage

- B.2.3 The assemblage is mostly in a very fragmentary condition with no complete profiles present. However, some of the medieval and post-medieval sherds are fairly fresh and occasionally fairly large. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented and all typical of the wares commonly found this part of Oxfordshire. Context (1007) produced a small discrete assemblage of 6 sherds (32g) of Saxo-Norman pottery dating to c 1050-1150. This included a single fresh body sherd of a yellow-glazed Stamford ware pitcher produced at Stamford (Lincs.). This type also occurs in Wallingford and Oxford but is not very common from either. The other sherds in this context appear to be local coarsewares typical of south Oxfordshire and Berkshire (OXAG, OXBF) and broadly contemporary with the Stamford ware sherd. Though small, this assemblage of Saxo-Norman pottery is significant as it suggests that other settlement evidence of this date remains to be discovered in the general area of the present evaluation.
- B.2.4 There is a single body sherd of German Frechen stoneware from Context (1200) dating to c 1550-1700. All the remaining pottery appears to be 'Victorian' and mainly dating after c. 1850, and possibly into the early 20th century. These comprise commonplace Staffordshire refined whitewares including transfer-printed tablewares (TPW) and

plain white chamberpots and bowls (REFW). Four sherds of local red earthenware (PMR) are also present including glazed bowls and unglazed flowerpots.

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
900	c1850-1900	3	103	2x probable chamberpot rims (diams 190mm & 210mm) in vitreous white earthenware (REFW), probably c1850+. 1x dish rim in transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) with green leaf decoration, c1840+
1000	c1780-1900	2	88	Post-medieval red earthenware (PMR). Flat bases from 2 separate very large bowls or pancheons with internal orange-brown glaze (possibly Nettlebed products?)
1007	c1050-1150?	6	32	1x fresh body sherd (7g) probably Stamford ware yellow-glazed pitcher (OXZ), good quality glossy glaze ext, fine off-white fabric. 1x Ashampstead-type ware (OXAG) coarse grey sandy earlier fabric - everted cooking pot rim with thickened/flattened top. 1x bo poss from finer OXAG cspot with v micaceous fabric on int surface, heavily sooted ext, appears wheel-thrown/turned; otherwise a SE Oxon or Hampshire fabric? 3x bos (1 vess) in v coarsely flint-tempered Kennet Valley A ware (OXBF, c900-1250).
1200	c1550-1700	1	9	Body sherd Frechen stoneware. Possibly Bellarmine
1600	c1840-1900	1	15	TPW dish rim. Watery-blue floral dec.
1800	c1800-1925	1	13	Bo South Yorks-type brown kitchenware (SUND) with int white slip. Flat basal sherd.
2000	c1800-1925	1	11	Bo South Yorks-type brown kitchenware (SUND) with int white slip. Probably from storage jar with scar of arched lug handle
2100	c1850-1900	7	64	1x bo TPW large jar/vase with fluted ext surface and trace of 'flow blue' transfer dec. 4x plain white REFW incl moulded undulating rim with moulded floral pattern on inside/top of rim - possibly from a large washbasin or bowl? The others from the footring of dishes/bowls. 2x PMR flowerpot rims from 2 vessels.
Totals		22	335	

B.3 Clay tobacco pipe

By John Cotter

Results

B.3.1 A single fragment clay pipe weighing 4g was recovered from context 1600. The fragment dates to the late 18th to 19th century. It is a stem fragment, fairly worn and stained, slender and with a narrow stem bore diameter of c. 1.75mm.

B.4 Ceramic building material (CBM)

By John Cotter

Results

B.4.1 A total of 22 pieces of CBM weighing 1.215kg were recovered from ten contexts. This was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage in a similar way to the pottery (see elsewhere) and the data recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. As usual, the dating of broken fragments of ceramic building material is an imprecise art and spot-dates derived from them are necessarily broad. The assemblage, which is mostly very fragmentary and worn, is described in some detail in the spreadsheet and summarised only briefly here as there is little of note. All of it is post-medieval. It mostly comprises worn fragments of local orange-buff peg tiles dating approximately from the 17th to the 19th century. There are also at least two pieces of machine-made red roof tile dating to the late 19th or 20th century. Two very worn pieces of post-medieval brick were also noted.

B.5 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction and methodology

- B.5.1 A small assemblage of three struck flints was recovered from this evaluation. The assemblage comprises one invasive tool fragment, a single bladelet and a piece of burnt irregular waste. Additionally, three pieces of burnt unworked flint was also recovered weighing 41g.
- B.5.2 Although very small, two of the three flints from the assemblage are of note. The bladelet is quite typical of the regular examples struck from opposed platform cores that typify Mesolithic assemblages. However, an early Neolithic date cannot be ruled out. The invasive tool fragment is very unusual in form with all over retouch and a triangular cross section on a very curved piece becoming rapidly thicker towards its surviving proximal end. It does not look like any arrowhead fragment although it could be a thick and broad tang from a British oblique arrowhead. It could also be a fabricator or sickle fragment but is actually too fine for the former and too thick for the latter. Perhaps the most likely explanation is that it is from a broken knife of broad plano-convex form, although one that is distinctly sickle-shaped in plan and with all over retouch rather than just limited to the dorsal surface. It is very likely to be of later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date.
- B.5.3 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (eg Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan *et al.* 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

Context	Type	Sub-type	Description	Date
1012	burnt unworked	-	-	-
1014	burnt unworked	-	-	-
1014	burnt unworked	-	-	-
1015	Irregular waste	-	Possibly also unworked but could be a burnt fragment of a struck flint	-
1306	bladelet	inner	Fine regular inner bladelet struck from an opposed platform core	EPH
1504	invasive tool	fragment	Fragment from an invasive tool probably a knife, date most likely later Neolithic to early Bronze Age	L Neo-EBA

B.6 Metal

By Ian R Scott

- B.6.1 Two iron objects were discovered from two different contexts, 1008 and 1015, both pit fills in Trench 10. The flesh hook could be medieval in date, and the key is certainly medieval.
- B.6.2 Context 1008 contained a barrel padlock key, with slightly flattened suspension loop at one end and flat pierced bit at the other end. Medieval. Fe. L: 190mm.
- B.6.3 Context 1015 contained a possible flesh hook. A forked fitting with the arms forming the fork slightly curved bent towards the outer end suggesting they may have been hooked. The stem or tang is thicker and apparently bent or hammered over at the end. Fe. L: 100mm; W: 69mm.

B.7 Animal Bone

By Lee G Broderick

Introduction

- B.7.1 A total of 31 animal bones were recovered from the site, mostly associated with contexts dated to prehistory, with a smaller fraction dated to the period c. 1050-1150. All of the material was hand-collected.
- B.7.2 The specimens were generally in moderate condition although it varied greatly. The most common species represented were domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) followed by caprines (sheep – *Ovis aries* and goats – *Capra hircus*), with pig (*Sus ferus domesticus*) and horse (*Equus caballus*) also being present in the prehistoric period. As such, all of the principal domesticated animals were present on the site at this time. Horse and caprine were also present in the early medieval phase. A total of six of the post-cranial elements recovered from all species were fused epiphysially, providing limited opportunity for ascertaining age at death. Two of the domestic cattle specimens showed signs of having been gnawed by canids, so it is probably that dogs were also present on the site.

Context	Number of fragments
1004	6
1007	5
1015	8
1303	1
1307	1
1309	5
1510	2
Total	28

APPENDIX C BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen, T, Barclay, A, Cromarty, A, M, Anderson-Whymark, H, Parker, A, Robinson, M, and Jones, G, 2013 *Opening the Wood, Making the Land; The Archaeology of a Middle Thames Landscape, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age*, Vol 1, Oxford: Oxford Archaeology Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 38

Bamford, H, 1985 *Briar Hill: excavation 1974-1978*, Northampton: Northampton Development Corporation. Archaeological Monograph 3

Bradley, P, 1999 The worked flint, in *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire* (eds A Barclay and C Halpin), Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 11, 211-227

British Geology Survey, Online Geology of Britain Viewer
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>

CgMs, 2015 *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire*, Unpublished client report (January 2015)

CgMs Consulting Limited, 2008 *Archaeological Desk-Based assessment: Winterbrook Lane, Wallingford, Oxfordshire*, Unpublished client report (September 2008)

CgMs Consulting Limited, 2009, *Specification for an archaeological evaluation: Land North of Winterbrook Lane, Wallingford, Oxfordshire*, Unpublished written scheme of investigation (January 2009)

Cromarty, A M , Barclay, A, Lambrick, G, and Robinson, M, 2006, *Late Bronze Age Ritual and Habitation on a Thames Eyot at Whitecross Farm, Wallingford. The Archaeology of the Wallingford Bypass, 1986-92*, Oxford: Oxford Archaeology Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 22

Foundations Archaeology, 2003 *Land North of Winterbrook Lane, Wallingford, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation*, Unpublished client report

Harding, P, 1990 The worked flint, in *The Stonehenge environs project*, (ed J C Richards) London: English Heritage

Healy, F, 1988 *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hil, North Elmham, Part VI: Occupation during the seventh to second millennia BC*, Chelmsford: East Anglian Archaeological Reports 38

Hey, G and Hind, J (eds) 2014 *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas*, Oxford: Oxford Wessex Monograph No. 6

Inizan, M-L, Reduron-Ballinger, M, Roche, H and Tixier, J, 1999 Technology and terminology of knapped stone, *Cercle de Recherches et d'Etudes Préhistoriques*, CNRS, Nanterre

Lambrick, G, 2014 The Later Bronze Age and Iron Age: Research Agenda in Hey and Hill, 149-153

Moorey, P, 1997 A Neolithic ring ditch and Iron Age enclosure at Newnham Murren nr Wallingford GSB, Winterbrook, Wallingford.

Mellor, M., 1994, 'A synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford region', *Oxoniensia* 59, 17-217

MoLA 2014 Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes (<http://www.mola.org.uk/resources/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>)

Munby, J, 2014 The Later Medieval Period: Research Agenda, in Hey and Hill, 255-260

Onhuma, K and Bergman, C A, 1982 Experimental studies in the determination of flake mode, *Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology London* **19**, 161-171

OA 2016, *Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation*, Unpublished client report (October 2016). Oxford Archaeology

Poole, C, 1984 The structural use of daub, clay and timber in *Danebury: An Iron Age Hillfort in Hampshire. Vol. 1: The excavations 1969-1978: the site* (ed B Cunliffe) , Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Res. Rep. 52, 110-23.

Saville, A, 1980 On the measurement of struck flakes and flake tools, *Lithics* **1**, 16-20

TVAS 2009 *Land at Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*, Unpublished client report (July 2009)

Wessex Archaeology, 2008, *Winterbrook Lane, Wallingford, Oxfordshire: Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report*. Unpublished client report 70780.01 (December 2008)

Wessex Archaeology, 2009, *Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford: Archaeological Evaluation Report*, Unpublished client report 70781.03 (January 2009)

APPENDIX D**SITE SUMMARY DETAILS**

Site name:	Land West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxfordshire
Site code:	WARR 16
Grid Reference	SU 604 886
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	19-26 th January 2017
Summary of Results:	Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Limited on behalf of Wates Developments to undertake an archaeological evaluation of Land to the West of Reading Road, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Oxford, for a proposed new housing development, at NGR: SU 604 886 at c.46m OD. The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in advance of submission of a Planning Application.

The works involved the excavation of 14 trenches on the site of the proposed development. The trenches were 30m in length and were designed to fill in any gaps not covered by the previous evaluation that was carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2009 (Trenches 1-8). The 2016 trenches were numbered 9-22. The work was carried out between 19-26th January 2017.

The works involved the excavation of 14 trenches on the site of the proposed development. The trenches were 30m in length and were designed to fill in any gaps not covered by the previous evaluation that was carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2009 (Trenches 1-8). The 2016 trenches were numbered 9-22. The work was carried out between 19-26th January 2017.

Features in Trenches 10, 13 and 15 were confirmed, by the presence of artefacts, as being of Iron Age date. The features were all ditches and form part of the Middle Iron Age settlement at the site. The characteristics of the parallel ditches in the south of the field, seen in 2009, may be complimented by the ditch 1003 to the north and may suggest the settlement activity was enclosed at some point during its use.

There were two features in Trench 10 which were dated to the early, 11-12th century, part of the medieval period. One was certainly a pit 1006, while the other was more linear in form 1009.

Wallingford and the surrounding areas has known Anglo-Saxon settlement occupation of some significance, as demonstrated by the findspots, minted coins, defensive features and cemetery within Wallingford itself.

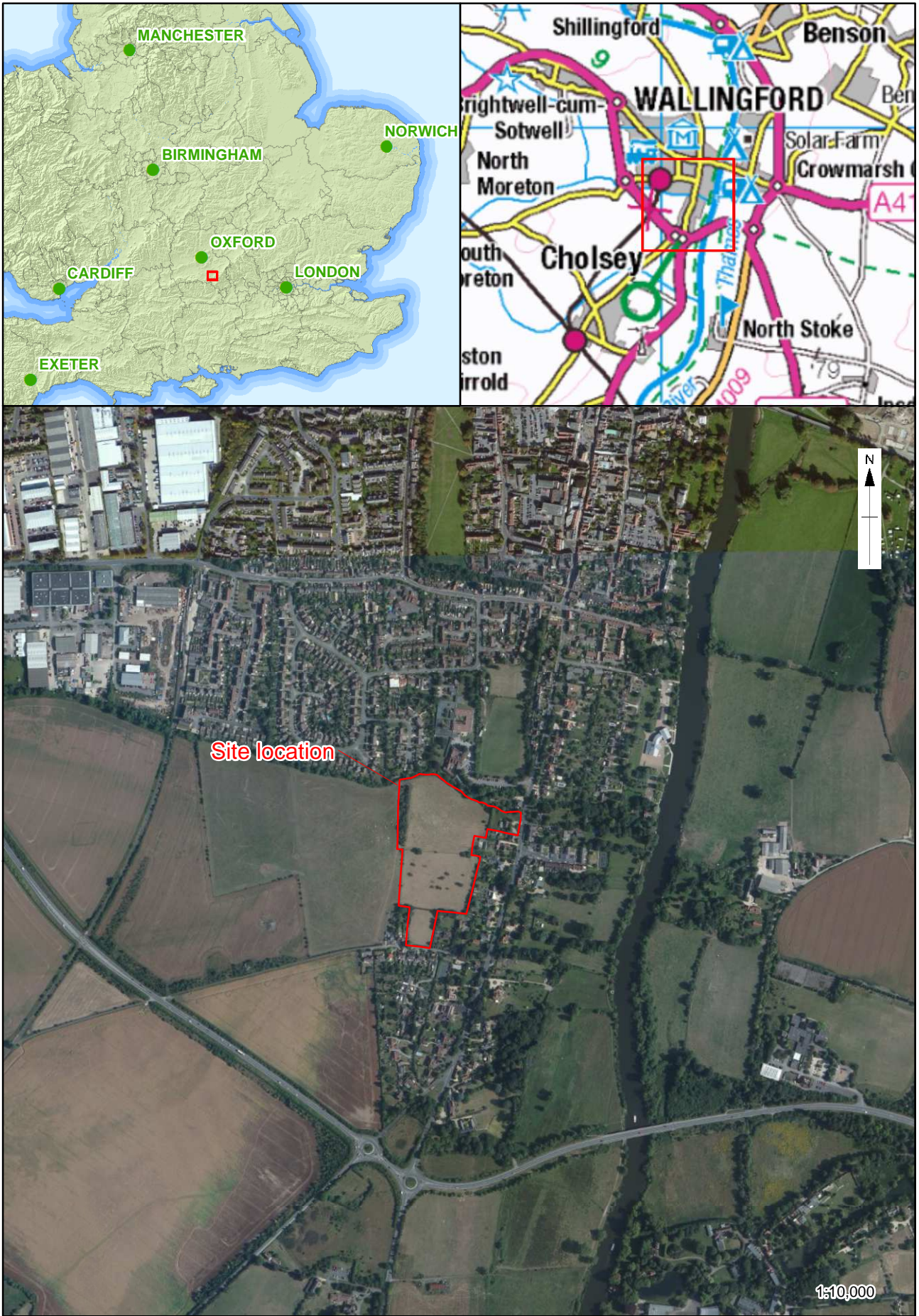
The rounded features seen intermittently in Field 2 were the probable remains of infilled root hollows resulting from the mature trees. There are a few trees still standing and these are the surviving evidence of the use of the field as a tree plantation, according to the cartographic sources between 1851 and 1899.

Area of Site

Site = 40650m² Trenches = 672m²

Location of archive:

The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS.2016.192.

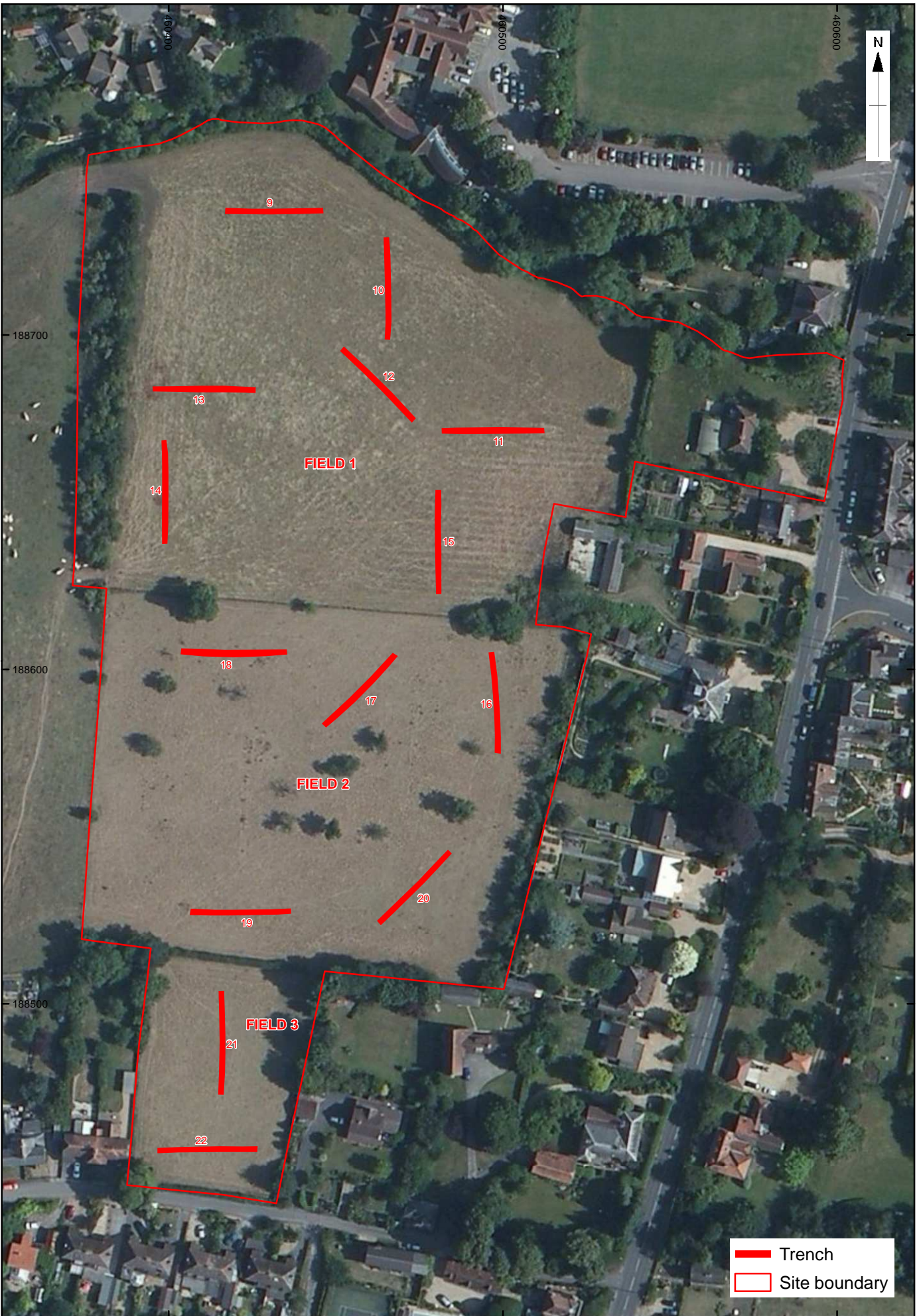


X:\w\Winterbrook_Wallingford\010Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\WARR16_Winterbrook_Wallingford_Figure 1_2017-02-14.mxd matt.bradley 14/02/2017

Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and database right 2016
 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,

Figure 1: Site location

X:\w\Winterbrook_Wallingford\010\Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\WARR16_Winterbrook_Wallingford_Figure 2_2017-02-10.mxd matt.bradley 10/02/2017



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Figure 2: Trench Locations

0 1:1,500 @ A4 100 m

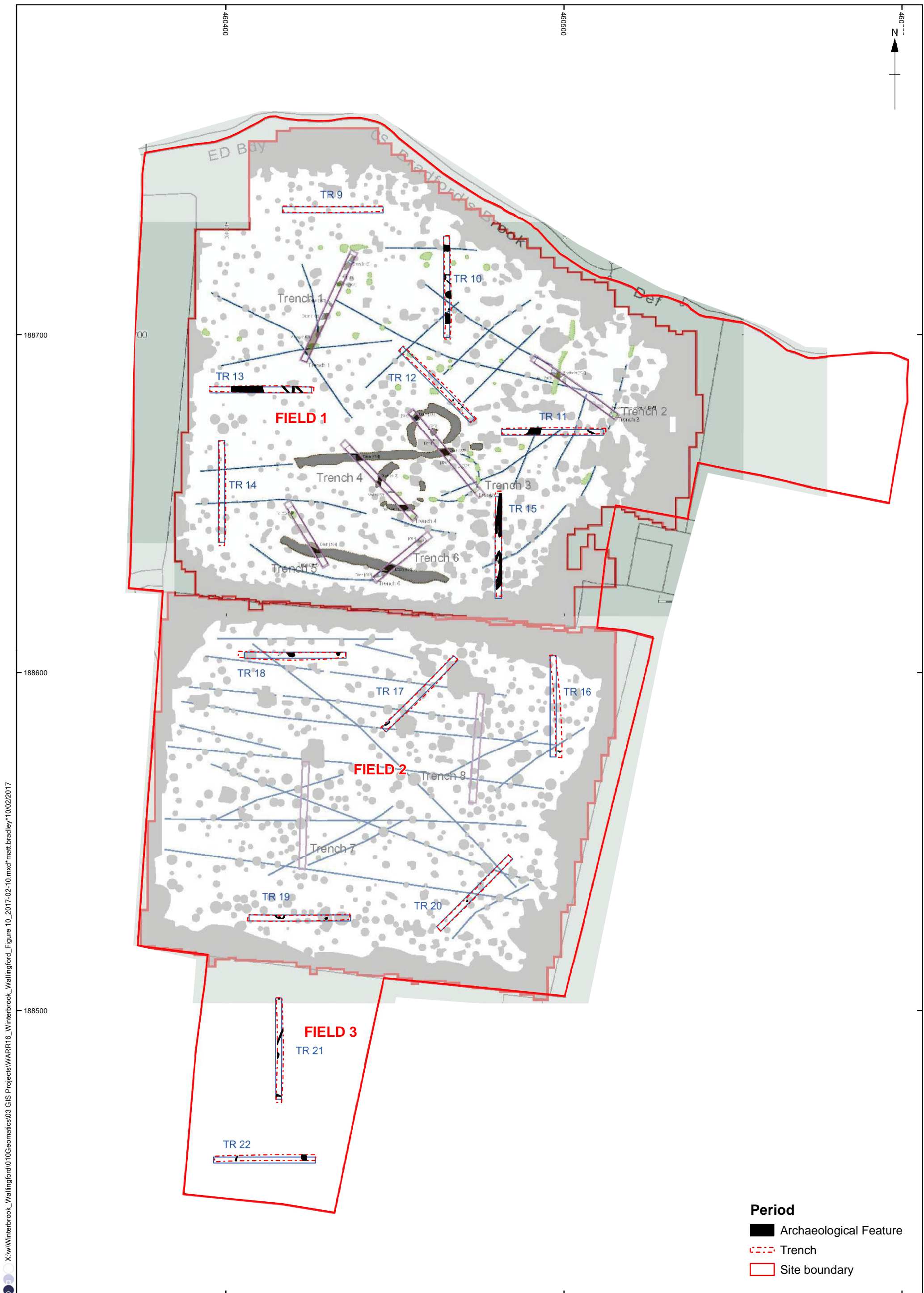
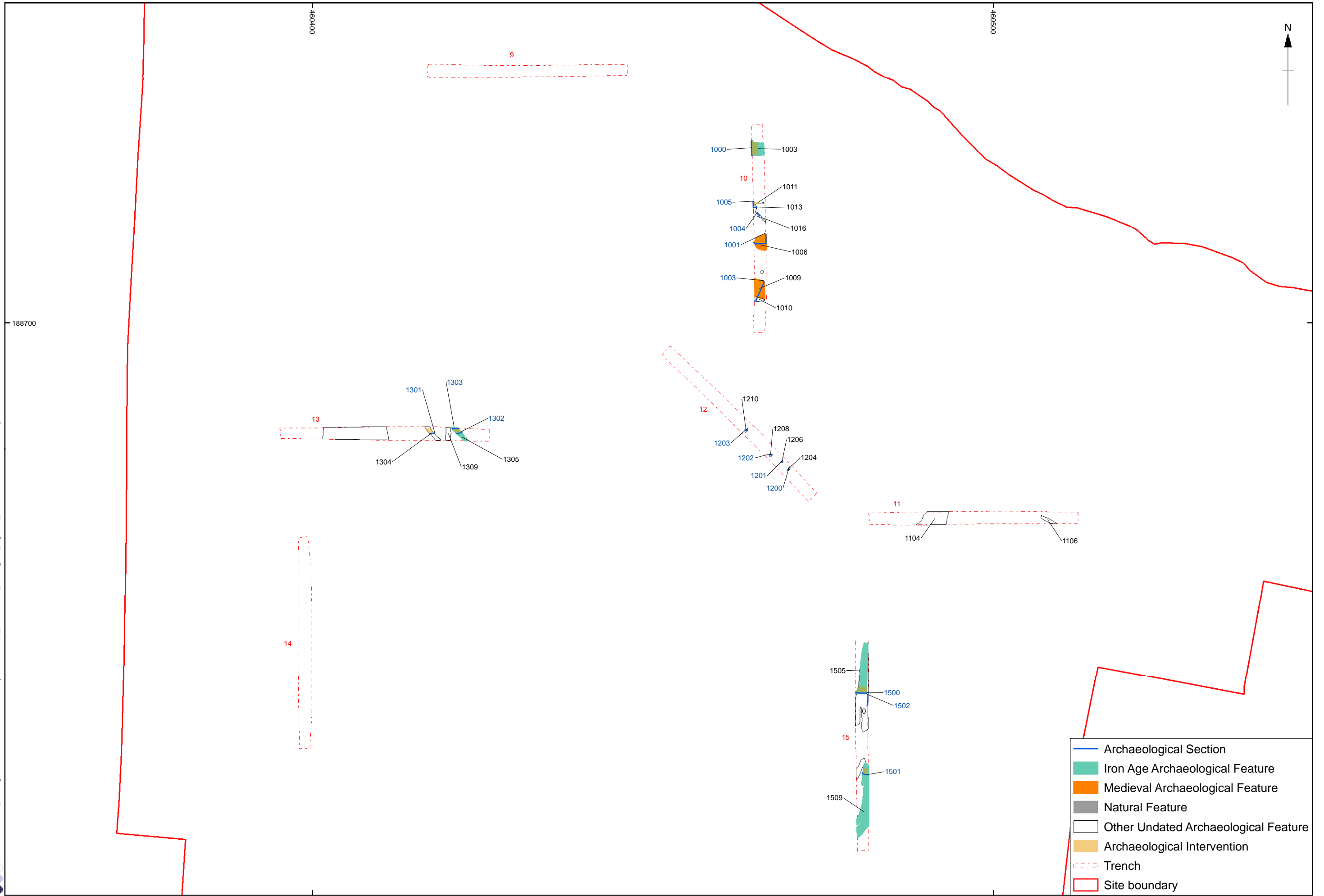


Figure 3: Plan showing the identified archaeological features from both the 2009 and 2016 evaluations overlain on the geophysical survey results



- Archaeological Section
- Iron Age Archaeological Feature
- Medieval Archaeological Feature
- Natural Feature
- Other Undated Archaeological Feature
- Archaeological Intervention
- - - Trench
- Site boundary

0 1:500 @ A3 25 m

Figure 4: Plan of the archaeological features in Field 1, Trenches 9-15

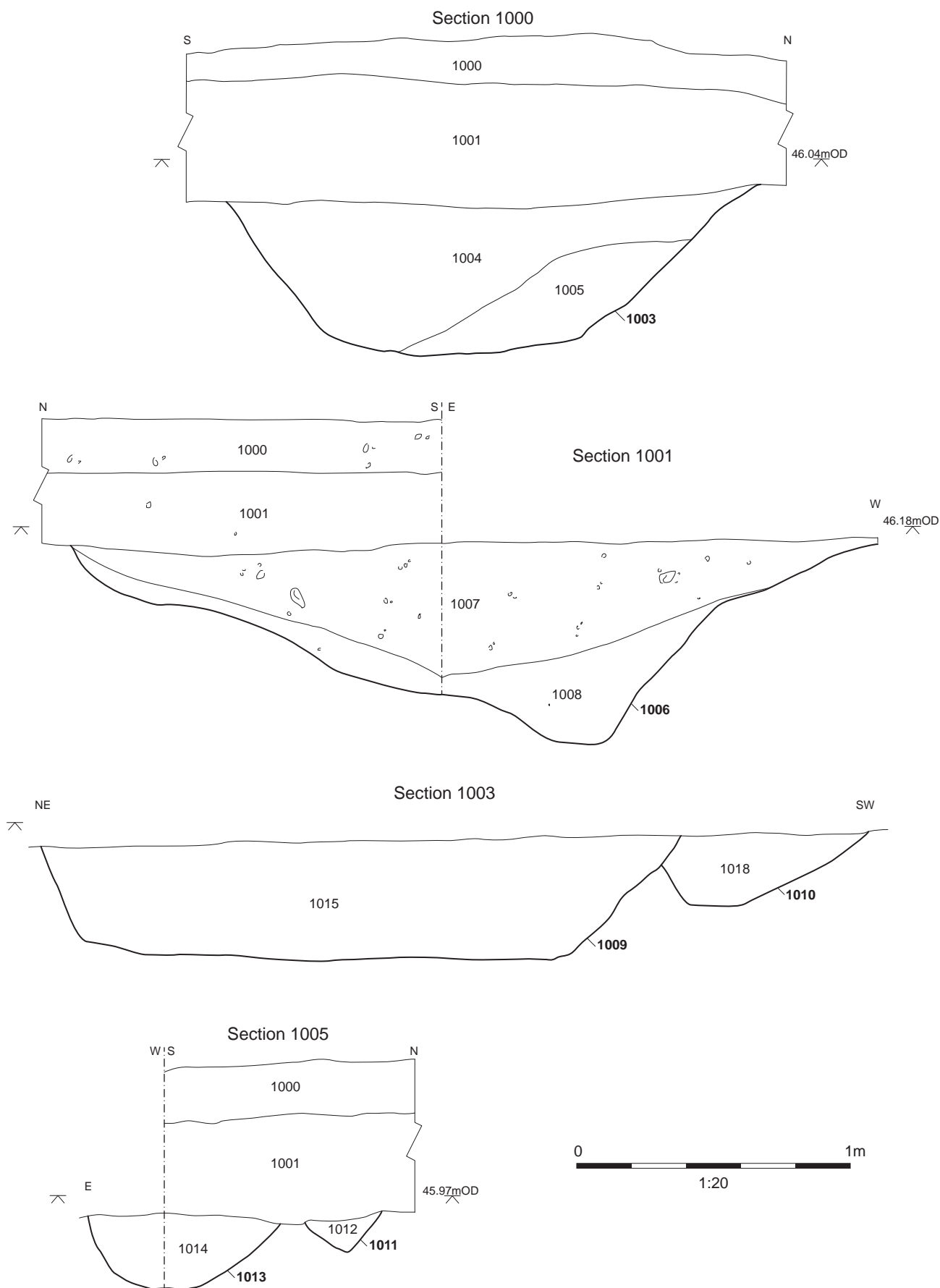


Figure 1 : Trench 10 Sections of features 1003, 1006, 1009, 1010, 1011 and 1013

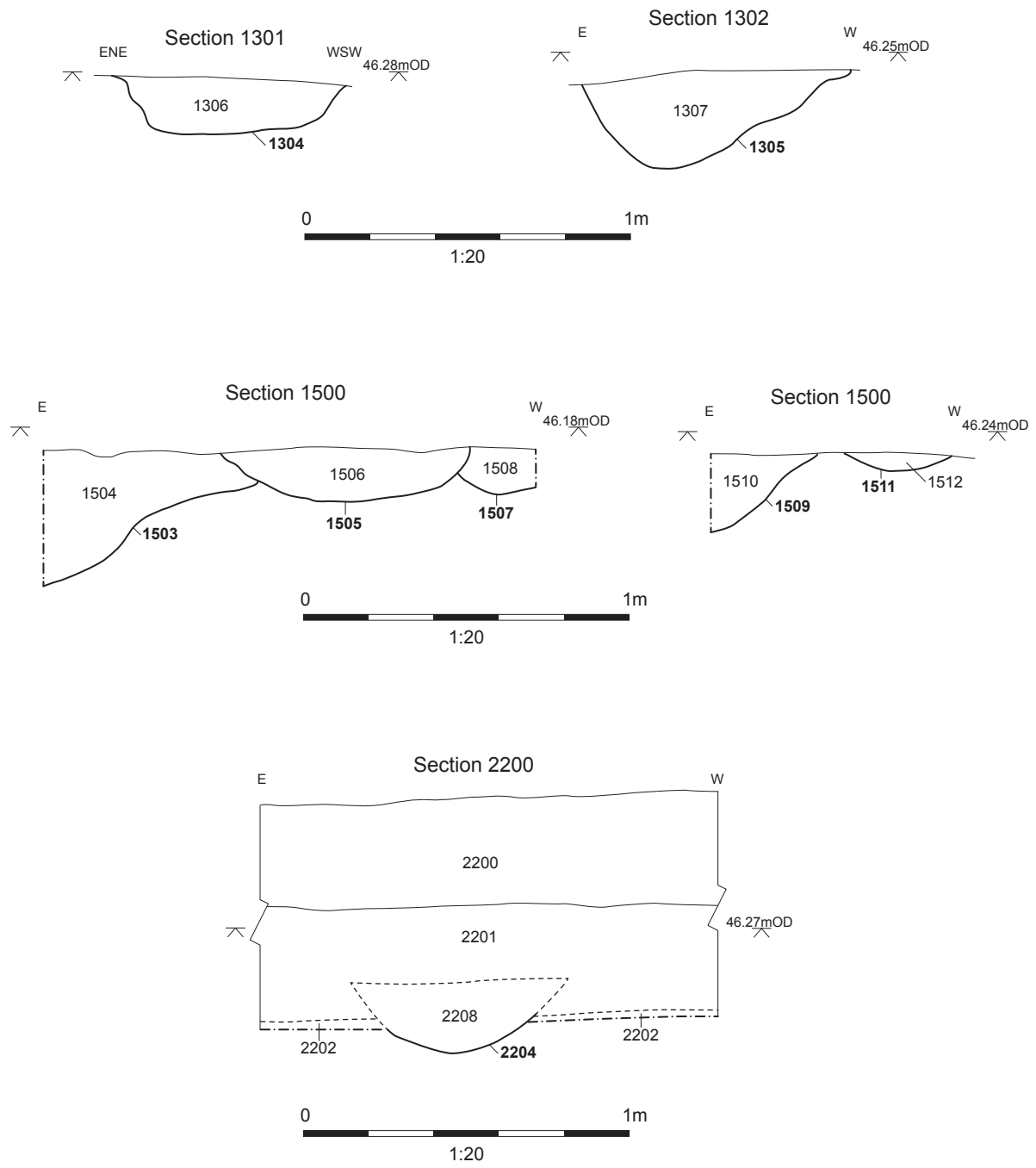


Figure 6: Sections of features in Trench 13, 1304 and 1305; Trench 15, 1503, 1505, 1507 and 1511; and Trench 22, 2204

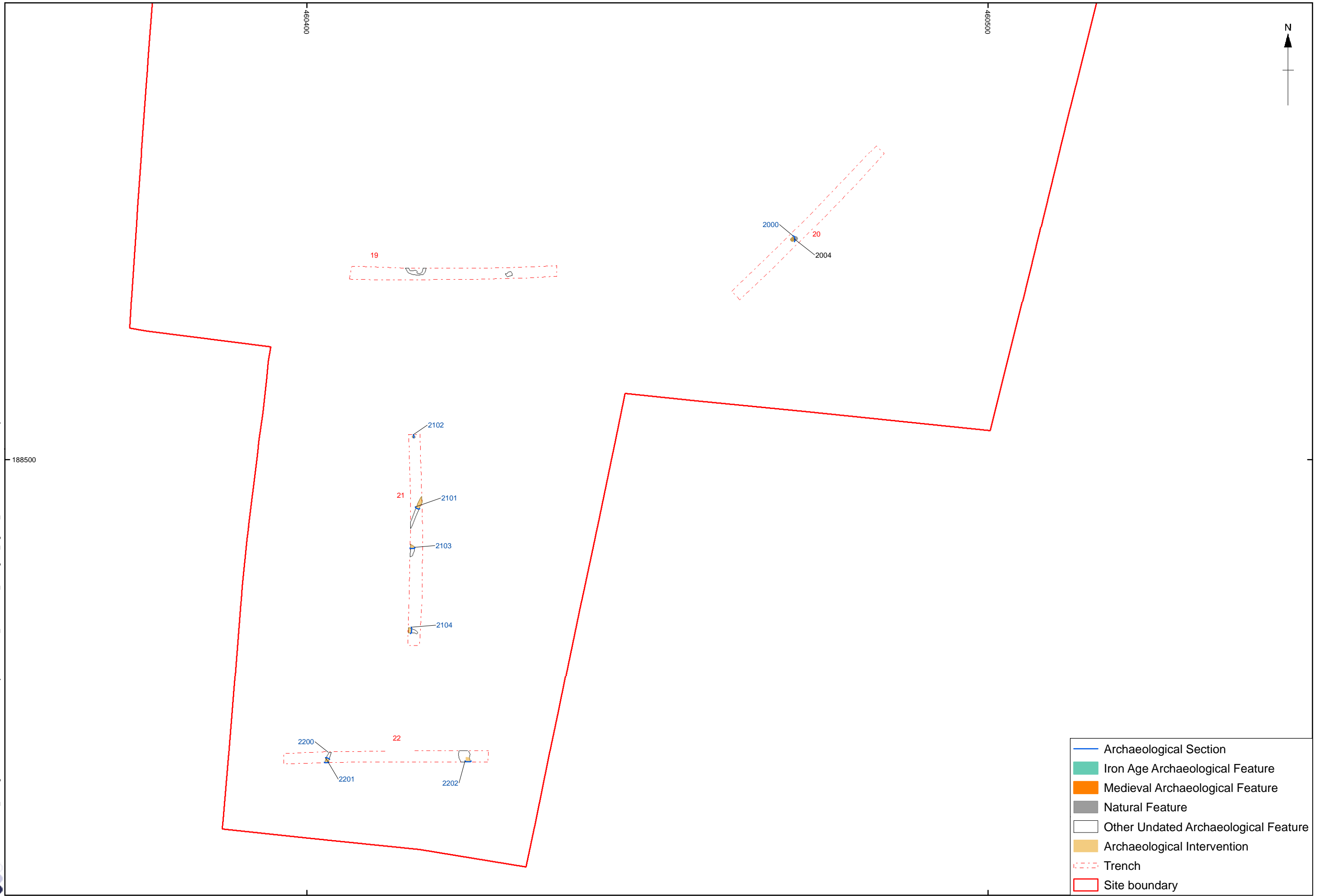


Figure 7: Plan of the archaeological features in Field 3, Trenches 21 and 22



Plate 1: Field 1 Trench 11 representative section, looking south



Plate 2: Field 2 Trench 17 representative section, looking north-east



Plate 3: Field 1 general view, looking north-west



Plate 4: Trench 10, ditch 1003, looking west



Plate 5: Trench 10, features 1009 and 1010, looking south-east



Plate 6: Trench 10, features 1011 and 1013, looking north-west



Plate 7: Trench 10, feature 1016, looking north-west



Plate 8: Trench 10, pit 1006, looking south-east



Plate 9: Trench 11, unexcavated ditch 1104, looking south-east



Plate 10: Trench 12, posthole 1204, looking east



Plate 11: Trench 12, posthole 1206, looking east



Plate 12: Trench 12, posthole 1208,
looking south-west



Plate 13: Trench 12, posthole 1210, looking east



Plate 14: Trench 13 plan view, looking west



Plate 15: Trench 13 working shot, looking west



Plate 16: Trench 15 plan view, looking north



Plate 17: Trench 15 feature 1503, 505 and 1507, looking south



Plate 18: Trench 15 features 1509 and 1511, looking south



Plate 19: Trench 16 feature 1604, looking north



Plate 20: Trench 21 feature 2004,
looking north-east



Plate 21: Field 3 general view, looking north-west



Plate 22: Trench 21 ditch 2104,
looking south-west



Plate 23: Trench 22 ditch 2204,
looking south-west



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCifA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*