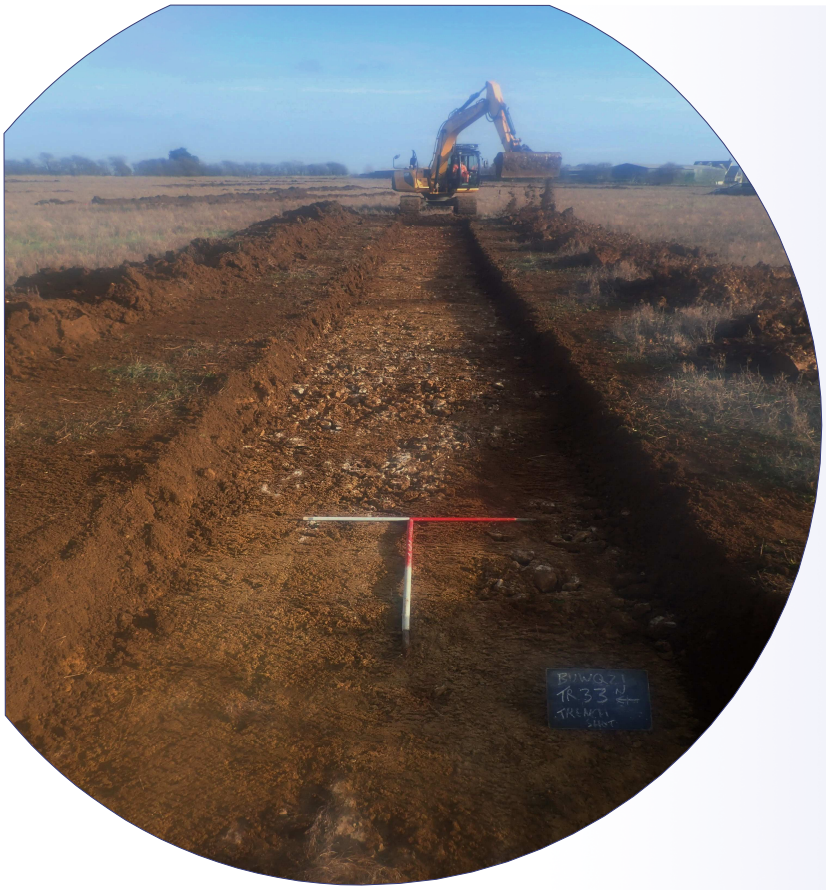

Whitehill Quarry, Burford Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

February 2022

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Whitehill Quarry, Burford, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by George Gurney

With contributions from Sharon Cook, Richard Palmer and illustrations by Matt Bradley

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Summary

In November 2021, Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Landgage Heritage Limited the on behalf of Smiths Bletchington to undertake a trial-trench evaluation at a proposed quarry extension on Land off Whitehill Quarry, Burford, Oxfordshire. The fieldwork was undertaken over the course of two weeks, consisting of 61 trenches covering a c.10.25-hectare site, representing a 2% sample of the proposed development area. The trenches were designed to provide good coverage of the site and test the validity of the geophysical survey.

The evaluation identified two areas of archaeological interest, whilst the remaining areas and geophysical features were found to be of natural origin or related to later agricultural activity. The most significant archaeological remains identified were a potential ring gully within Trench 35. The feature spans about 27m in diameter with enclosure ditches about 1.2m in width. The shallow depth of the gully ditches at just over 0.5m and the lack of any clear evidence of any surviving bank material or central burial remains suggests that the feature has been significantly truncated by modern ploughing. Although undated, the nature of its ditch fills, its circular form, its environmental evidence, and landscape setting, would support its interpretation as a potential prehistoric barrow.

Two undated shallow pits were also identified in Trench 19 and produced burnt deposits and charred cereal grains, which could be related to prehistoric or later activity. These potential rubbish or storage pits indicate nearby transient activity, but perhaps away from areas of settlement.

Despite the site being located adjacent to the major Roman road of Akeman Street, which runs along its eastern boundary, and close to the remains of a Roman stone building identified at the nearby solar farm, no Roman-period activity was identified during the evaluation. The geophysical features that looked promising on the previous survey and pointed to evidence of enclosures, trackways and field systems, were found to correspond to geological variations or areas of natural disturbance within the trenches.

Evidence of later activity in the form of late 17th-18th century pits are likely to relate to agriculture activity. The remains of former field boundaries and perhaps hedgerows were also identified within Trenches 49 and 51.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank William Bedford, of Landgage Heritage Limited, for commissioning this project on behalf of Smiths Bletchington Group. 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 Carl Champness. The fieldwork was directed by George Gurney who was supported by James Cross, Paul Murray, Kayleigh Hamilton and Jana Smirinova. Survey and digitising were carried out by Marjaana Kohtamaki. Thanks are also extended to the team of OA staff who prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by Landgage Heritage on behalf of Smiths Bletchington to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a proposed quarry extension at Whitehill Quarry, near Burford, Oxfordshire. A programme of 61 trial trenches was undertaken to provide good coverage of the site and investigate potential archaeological features identified in the previous geophysical and LiDAR surveys.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform a forthcoming planning application for the development of the site. Although the local planning authority has not set a brief for the work, discussions between William Bedford, Landgage Heritage, and Richard Oram, Lead Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), established the scope of work required. This document outlines the results of the archaeological evaluation works.

1.1.3 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with local and national planning policies and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Guidance (CIfA 2014) and OCC guidance documents (OCC 2022).

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies to the south-east of Burford, Oxfordshire, within the county parish of Shilton (NGR SP 2693 1023; Fig 1).

1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of one field with an area of 16.9 hectares. The field is currently in agricultural use and is partially delineated by hedgerows and partially by drainage ditches. The site is bounded on all sides by agricultural fields. Immediately to the north is Whitehill Quarry and immediately to the south is a solar farm.

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as limestone and mudstone of the Forest Marble Formation, the Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 166 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period (BGS Online 2021). There are no superficial deposits recorded.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 Landgage Heritage are preparing a heritage desk-based assessment to inform the forthcoming planning application. The following summary has been compiled to place these works in context. The below is informed by a review of Historic Environment Record and National Heritage List for England dataset.

1.3.2 No previous archaeological investigations have been conducted within the site boundary. A watching brief and limited phase of excavation on the site of a solar farm, directly to the south of the site was undertaken by John Moore Heritage Services in 2015 (JMHS 2015). The investigations recorded archaeological features of late Iron Age and middle Roman date, along with residual flint artefacts of early prehistoric date. Three late Iron Age-early Roman ditches defining small enclosures were recorded,

along with a small oven or hearth and a rectangular post-built structure. A building with probable stone foundations of middle Roman date was also recorded. This was interpreted as a house or farm building. Metal detecting on the site recovered finds of a domestic nature, including brooches, tweezers, a stylus, a stone pestle and pins along with iron nails and tools. Another evaluation undertaken by JMHS in 2002 to the south-east of the solar farm recorded evidence of ploughed-out medieval ridge-and-furrow cultivation (JMHS 2002).

Prehistoric period (10,000 BC – AD 43)

1.3.3 Fieldwalking was undertaken either side of the A40 by Cotswold Archaeological Trust in 1993 as part of the Witney Bypass to Sturt Farm Improvement. A lithic scatter of late prehistoric date (HER ref. 15559) was identified to the north of the A40 to the west of Sturt Bridge and included cores, flakes and simple tools. Another scatter (HER ref. 15558) consisted of working debris and a fragment of a serrated blade of possible Neolithic date.

1.3.4 A findspot (HER ref. 5571) of Neolithic artefacts was identified near Asthall Barrow (see below) consisting of Neolithic pottery, a flint knife and arrowhead and animal bone.

Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)

1.3.5 The Roman roadside settlement at Asthall (HER ref. 2255) is located c. 2.5km to the north-east of the site. The Roman road of Akeman Street runs through Asthall and along the south-eastern site boundary towards the Roman town of Cirencester. A Roman cemetery (HER ref. 1485) was excavated in 1893-4 and again in 1935, adjacent to the line of the Roman road, c. 250m to the north-east of the site. The cemetery consisted of 12 or 13 inhumation burials, along with Roman coins. More burials (the HER does not specify the number) were excavated in 1935. A possible Roman milestone is also recorded in the HER (ref. 26322) within 1km of the site, although its exact location is not clear. A Roman bathhouse has been recorded underneath the extant St Oswald's church, c. 2.75km to the north of the site (Scheduled Monument list entry number: 102970).

Saxon and Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1533)

1.3.6 Asthall Barrow (Scheduled Monument list entry number: 1008414) is an Anglo-Saxon mound located c. 2km south-east of the site. Cremated remains were found associated with the monument (Leeds 1924).

1.3.7 Cropmarks of two possible enclosures (Monument number 332393) have been identified on aerial photographs c. 700m to the north-west of the site; their date is unknown.

1.3.8 A deserted medieval settlement is located to the east of Widford, c. 1.25km to the north of the site (Scheduled Monument list entry number: 102970). The site lies within the historic parish of Shilton, with Holy Rood Church located c. 1.6km to the south of the site, which has its origins in the 12th century.

1.3.9 Shilton was a medieval manor endowed to Beaulieu Abbey in the early 13th century and was retained until 1538 when it was surrendered to the Crown in the dissolution

of the monasteries (VCH, 1907). The extant 17th century manor house at Shilton is Grade II listed (List entry number: 1266168).

Post-Medieval/Modern (AD 1533 - Present)

1.3.10 Post-medieval quarrying is recorded at Stonelands (HER ref 778) and a Grade II listed farmhouse of 18th century date is located at Stonelands farm (list entry number: 12225803). At Whitehill Farm there is a Grade II listed barn of early 19th century date.

1.4 Geophysical survey

1.4.1 A geophysical survey of the site was carried out (Magnitude Surveys 2021) and the results can be seen on Figure 2, combined with the trench layout. The survey identified a sub-square enclosure and possible internal features close to the south-eastern site boundary and possible enclosure ditches. The date of many of these features are not known, but their proximity to the Roman road may mean they are of Roman date.

1.4.2 A group of discrete round and short linear anomalies have been identified in the southern corner of the site and these produced a strong signal, differentiating them from variations in the underlying natural but their layout is not sufficiently distinctive to suggest a function or date. Their slightly zig-zag form, however, is reminiscent of magnetic anomalies associated with the remains of WWI practice trenches and this is a possible function.

1.4.3 Former field boundaries known from historical mapping have also been detected, as have modern plough furrows across the site. A possible area of historical quarrying has been highlighted within a zone of natural background variation in the northern corner of the site.

1.5 LiDAR survey

1.5.1 The LiDAR analysis identified a number of historic field boundaries within the site (Landgage 2021). These were also detected by the geophysical survey, but the lidar analysis shows them more clearly.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive.

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.

x. To ground-truth the results of the geophysical and lidar surveys, including targeting potential archaeological features and areas suggested to be devoid of archaeological remains.

2.1.2 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).

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The works comprised the excavation of 61 trenches measuring 30m by 1.8m. These were distributed across the site to provide a 2% sample of the site, with a further 2% contingency sample available if areas of archaeological interest were identified (Fig. 2). The trenches were positioned to assess the reliability of the results of the geophysical and lidar surveys. The contingency trenches were not used in consultation with OCC Archaeologist based on the limited archaeological remains identified within the trenches.

2.2.2 Each trench was excavated with a mechanical excavator fitted with an appropriate toothless bucket under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was stored on the sides of the trenches, far enough away to maintain the safety of each trench according to its depth. Machining extended to the first archaeological horizon, or in its

absence natural geology. Once archaeological deposits or variations were identified these were excavated and recorded or tested and deemed to be geological variations.

2.2.3 Recording and investigations of features were undertaken as outlined within the project's written scheme of investigation (OA 2021).

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 features and anomalies that were investigated. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence and natural geology in the trenches were very changeable across the site. The natural geology varied from firm light reddish/yellowish sandy clay to silty sands with frequent large limestone inclusions and was overlain by a ploughsoil of greyish-brown sandy loam. The natural geology was encountered at depths of between 0.24m and 0.32m across the site.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained relatively dry throughout. Archaeological or natural features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Many of the geophysical features corresponded with variations within areas of natural geology or natural disturbance. Only Trenches 19 and 35 produced remains of archaeological interest, in the form of two undated pits and a potential ring gully. Neither produced any dating evidence but are interpreted as being prehistoric in origin. The other features identified were either post-medieval pits or ditches that aligned with modern field boundaries.

3.4 Trenches 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 (Figure 2)

3.4.1 These trenches were targeted on geophysical features thought to be of potential archaeological features, interpreted as curvilinear, enclosure and trackway ditches. No archaeological features were identified within any of these trenches, which were found to correspond with variations in the natural geology and limestone beds. Much of this bedding appeared linear in nature and would help to explain the linear archaeological features identified with the geophysical survey.

3.5 Trench 19 (Figures 2 and 5; Plates 1 and 2)

3.5.1 Two undated shallow pits were identified within Trench 19 associated with an anomaly identified on the geophysical survey; both had been backfilled with burnt material. Pit 1902 was 0.20 in diameter and 0.12m in depth (Fig. 5, section 1900). It was filled with a dark greyish silty sand (1903) that contained frequent sub-rounded burnt stone. Pit 1904 was larger in diameter, 1.2m wide, and 0.12m deep (Fig. 5, section 1901). It was filled with a similar dark greyish sandy silt (1905) with frequent burnt and unburnt stone. Both were relatively shallow and were most likely truncated by modern ploughing.

3.5.2 No finds were recovered from either pit, but the sampling of pit 1904, produced fragments of charred cereal grains and charcoal. No signs of any *in-situ* burning were identified within the pits and these deposits have been interpreted as representing rubbish or storage pits. Dating of these features in the absence of radiocarbon dating is difficult, but they are close to the potential ring ditch and may be related in activity or are perhaps later prehistoric.

3.6 Trench 35 – Barrow ditch (Figures 3–4; Plates 3 and 4)

3.6.1 Trench 35 was a double 'T' shaped trench targeted on a sub-circular enclosure identified on the geophysical survey. Both trenches were able to confirm the presence of the enclosure ditches (Figs 4 and 5), which appeared to represent a potential ring gully. No clear evidence of any internal bank or burial remains were found to have survived within the trench.

3.6.2 Ditch sections 3505 and 3509 were 1.28m wide and 0.55m in depth. They were filled with sterile primary loose sandy silts (3510 and 3506) and then secondary, browner silty fills (3511 and 3508). The ditch had a 'U'-shaped profile with gradual sloping sides and a flat base. No finds were recovered from its fills, but snail shells were clearly preserved within the ditch. The ditch was overlain by feature cut (3512) and deposit (3513), which might be the redeposited remains of potential bank material but may also represent a cut feature. It was not possible to identify the nature of the deposit within the confines of the trench.

3.6.3 The north section of gully ditch 3502 (Figure 4) was 1.10m wide and 0.60m deep. This was filled with a similar primary silt 3503 and secondary fill 3504. Again, no finds were recovered from its fills, but snail shells were observed within the ditch. A series of incremental samples were taken through the ditch fills to assess their palaeoenvironmental potential. The snail assemblage recovered from the ditch indicated an initial open landscape around the potential monument followed by increasing shrub and tree encroachment as the ditch began to silt-up.

3.7 Trenches 49 and 51 (Figure 5; Plates 5 and 6)

3.7.1 These trenches were targeted on a linear feature identified with the geophysical survey, which appeared to be aligned with the modern field boundaries. Section 5100 (Figure 5) was dug through the suspected field boundary to confirm its nature. Ditch 5105 was 3.75m wide and 0.80m deep. A series of modern mid- and dark brown silts (5106, 5107 and 5108) filled the ditch. No dating evidence was recovered from its fills, but its organic nature and signs of modern rooting would suggest it formed part of a previous field boundary. Evidence of modern rooting (deposit 5104) would suggest that a possible hedgerow once occupied the southern edge of the ditch. Areas of geological and natural variations (5102 and 5103) were also recorded in the base of the ditch.

3.8 Trenches 53-68 (Figure 2)

3.8.1 These trenches were excavated in the southern half of the field and were targeted on potential archaeological features identified within the geophysical survey. A post-medieval pit (5402) was identified within Trench 54, which was sub-oval in shape. The

pit was 1.55m by 3.07m and 0.58m in depth. Its single light greyish brown fill (5403) produced two fragments of clay pipe and lots of sub-rounded stone inclusions. A second undated sub-oval pit (5302) was also investigated close by within Trench 53. The pit was filled with a similar light greyish brown silt fill (5303) but this only produced small flecks of charcoal.

3.8.2 Variations in the natural geology was investigated within Trench 56, which corresponded with a potential archaeological feature identified within the geophysical survey. A tree-throw hole 5704 was also identified and investigated within Trench 57.

3.9 Finds and Environmental summary

3.9.1 Only a handful of finds were recovered from the evaluation, and these were not of a significant archaeological nature. Two fragments of late 17th to 18th century clay pipe (5kg) were recovered from pit fill 5403, along with a fragment of vitrified sandstone. The full finds and environmental specialist reports can be found in appendices B and C, which are briefly summarised below.

3.9.2 Five samples were taken during the evaluation from the barrow ditch fills in Trench 35 and a pit fill in Trench 19. Sample 1, from the fill of ditch 3502 (Trench 35) and sample 5 from the fill of pit 1904 in Trench 19 were both taken for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR), bones and artefacts, while samples 2, 3 and 4 were taken incrementally through the fills of ring ditch 3509 in Trench 35, which was part of a possible round barrow, primarily to recover molluscs (snails).

3.9.3 The samples produced almost no charred plant material, except rare charcoal fragments that were not suitable for species identification. Fragments of cereal grain were recovered from pit 1904 were also not suitable for further identification due to the degree of damage. Rare fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) from ditch 3502 are small and may in fact be too small to permit radiocarbon dating.

3.9.4 Most of the identified mollusc species from the ditch are catholic in nature though with a preference for moist shady habitats such as those available in a barrow ditch. A couple of species, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vallonia sp*. which are particularly found in the base of the ring ditch are more inclined to open calcareous environments which may give an indication of the nature of the surrounding landscape when the feature was dug. There is, however, a notable increase not just in the numbers of snails but also in the proportion of Zonitids, including *Carychium tridentatum* and *Discus rotundatus* in sample 3 from 10-20cm. These snails favour shady places and are often found in leaf litter, which may indicate the presence of some open woodland nearby by the time the ditch had partially filled in.

3.9.5 In general, where situated on calcareous ground, barrows offer good potential for the recovery of mollusc assemblages with the surrounding ditch providing a record of the environment immediately around the feature during the period of gradual infilling following construction, and the pre-construction landscape being sealed under the barrow itself associated with any surviving buried soils.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good. Features were easily identifiable against the natural geology. All the trenches were dug at their proposed locations and therefore provided both good coverage of the site and suitable investigation of the geophysical features.

4.1.2 The evaluation successfully tested the veracity of the geophysical survey and any features identified were tested to assess their archaeological potential. Although the majority of geophysical features were found to be associated with geological variations or natural disturbance, a small number of archaeological features were identified during the course of the evaluation works.

4.2 Interpretation and conclusions

4.2.1 The most significant archaeological feature identified on the site is the potential prehistoric barrow/sub-circular enclosure identified within Trench 35. The potential barrow has a diameter of 27m, and the barrow's ditch measures an average of 1.2m in width. The shallow depth of these ditches and lack of any internal remains suggests that it has been significantly truncated by modern ploughing. Although undated, the sterile natural of its fill, its environmental evidence and landscape setting, are all consistent with other barrows within the region. No evidence of internal burials or deposits were identified and only the barrow ditch appears to survive.

4.2.2 The two pits identified within Trench 19 that produced the burnt deposits and charred cereal grains may also be related to prehistoric or later activity. The precise function of these pits is unclear, though their size and profile may hint at their purpose. They potentially represent rubbish or storage pits and indicate nearby perhaps transient activity within the wider area. No direct evidence indicative of settlement was evident within the evaluation trenches and the focus of this activity may have been located beyond the development site.

4.2.3 Despite the site being located close to Roman Road, which runs along its eastern boundary, and close to Roman buildings identified at the adjacent solar farm, no Roman activity was identified during the evaluation. The geophysical features that hinted at evidence of enclosures, trackways or field systems were found to correspond to natural geological variations or natural disturbance within the trenches. Evidence of later activity in the form of late 17th-18th pits most likely related to agriculture activity. The remains of former field boundaries and perhaps hedgerows were also identified within Trenches 49 and 51.

4.2.4 Based on the results of the evaluation, two potential areas of archaeological potential were identified, whilst the remaining areas and geophysical features were found to be of natural origin or related to later agricultural activity.

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APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Depth (m)	0.3
Context No	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer		2	0.3	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
101	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 2

General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Depth (m)	0.3
Context	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Layer		2	0.3	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
201	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 3

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a geology of silty sand with frequent stone						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Depth (m)	0.26
Context	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		

301	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent stone.		

Trench 4

General description					Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent stone.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.3
Context	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Layer		2	0.3	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
401	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent stone.		

Trench 5

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of clayey chalk and sandy silt					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
501	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, clayey chalk, firm		

Trench 6

General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent limestone	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.9
	Avg. depth (m)	0.32

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
600	Layer			0.32	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
601	Layer				Natural. Light-mid reddish and yellowish brown clayey silt/ limestone		

Trench 7

General description					Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.25
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
700	Layer			0.25	Topsoil. Mid greyish brown clayey silt		
701	Layer				Natural. Light-mid reddish brown clayey silt/ limestone		

Trench 8

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of stoney silty sand.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey , silty loam, friable		
801	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, silty sand with frequent stone, soft		

Trench 9

General description	Orientation	NW-SE

Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy chalk					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
901	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy chalk, firm		

Trench 10

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1001	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 11

General description					Orientation		
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent stone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.24
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1100	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1101	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, sandy silt with frequent stone, soft		

Trench 12

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent stone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.24
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1200	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1201	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand with frequent stone, soft		

Trench 13

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.25
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1300	Layer		2	0.25	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1301	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm, frequent limestone		

Trench 14

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

1400	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1401	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 15

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.3
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1501	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 16

General description					Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1600	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.		
1601	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft, frequent stone.		

Trench 17

General description	Orientation	NW-SE
Trench h consists of a topsoil overlying a natural if sandy silt	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	2

					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1700	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1701	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft		

Trench 18

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1800	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1801	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft, frequent stone		

Trench 19

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1900	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
1901	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brow, sandy clay, firm		
1902	Cut		0.15	0.12	Posthole. Small post hole filled with burnt material.		

1903	Fill	1902	0.15	0.12	Deliberate Backfill. Dark brownish, sandy silt with frequent charcoal and burnt stone		
1904	Cut		0.55	0.12	Pit. Small square pit, filled by burnt material		
1905	Fill		0.55	0.12	Deliberate Backfill. Dark brownish grey, silty sand, soft with frequent charcoal and burnt stone.		

Trench 20

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.25
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2001	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent stone.		

Trench 21

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2100	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey silty loam, friable		
2101	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 22

General description					Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2200	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2201	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft. Frequent limestone		

Trench 23

General description					Orientation		E-w
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2300	Layer		20	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2301	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent limestone		

Trench 24

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.32
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2400	Layer		2	0.3	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		

2401	Layer		3		Natural. Light reddish brown, silty sand, soft		

Trench 25

General description					Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2500	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2501	Layer		2		Natural. I'd reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent limestone		

Trench 26

General description					Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2600	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2601	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand,soft frequent limestone		

Trench 27

General description	Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand and frequent limestone	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	2

					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2700	Layer		2	0.28	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2701	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft. Frequent limestone		

Trench 28

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2800	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
2801	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 29

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.24
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2900	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, sandy silt, friable		
2901	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, silty sand with frequent limestone, soft		

Trench 30

General description	Orientation	NW-SE

Trench consist of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay							
					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.3
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3000	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3001	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brow, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 31

General description					Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent stone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3100	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3101	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft		

Trench 32

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a geology of sandy clay.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.22
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3200	Layer		2	0.22	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam friable		

3201	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 33

General description					Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.					Length (m)		
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3300	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3301	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 34

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.22
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3400	Layer		2	0.22	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3401	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent limestone		

Trench 35

General description	Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent stone.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	2

					Avg. depth (m)		0.22
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3500	Layer		2	0.22	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3501	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, sandy silt, soft		
3502	Cut		1.10	0.60	Ditch		
3503	Fill	3502		0.20	Primary Fill		
3504	Fill	3502		0.40	Secondary Fill		
3505	Cut		1.20	0.55	Ring Ditch		
3506	Fill	3505			Primary Fill. Bank slippage		
3507	Fill	3505			Secondary Fill		
3508	Fill	3505			Secondary Fill. Secondary sedimentation		
3509	Cut		1.20	0.60	Ring Ditch		
3510	Fill	3509			Primary Fill		
3511	Fill	3509			Secondary Fill		
3512	Layer				single silty fill, only minimally in trench so full extent/feature type unsure		
3513	Layer	3512			Sterile silty fill		
3514	Layer				Subsoil. Subsoil		

Trench 36

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.2
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

3600	Layer		2	0.2	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3601	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent limestone		
3602	Void						

Trench 37

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of silty sand with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3700	Layer		2	0.26	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
3701	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent limestone		

Trench 38

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.26
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3800	Layer			0.26	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
3801	Layer				Natural. Light yellowish brown silty clay		

Trench 39

General description	Orientation	N-S

Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.27
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3900	Layer			0.27	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
3901	Layer				Natural. Light yellowish brown silty clay		

Trench 40

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.42
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4000	Layer			0.2	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4001	Layer			0.22	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown clayey silt		
4002	Layer				Natural. Light-mid reddish brown sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 41

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.34
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

4100	Layer			0.28	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4101	Layer			0.12	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown silty clay		
4102	Layer				Natural. Light-mid reddish brown sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 42

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.27
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4200	Layer			0.27	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4201	Layer				Natural. Light yellowish brown sandy clay		

Trench 43

General description					Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.33
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4300	Layer			0.22	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4301	Layer				Natural. Light yellowish brown sandy clay		

Trench 44

General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.9
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4400	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay		
4401	Layer				Natural. Light yellowish brown silty clay		

Trench 45

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.9
						Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4500	Layer			0.32	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4501	Layer				Natural. Light-mid yellowish brown sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 46

General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.9
						Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4600	Layer			0.24	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay		

4601	Layer			0.29	Subsoil. Mud reddish brown silty clay		
4602	Layer				Natural. Ligjt yellowish brown silty clay		

Trench 47

General description					Orientation		NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.36
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4700	Layer			0.36	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4701	Layer				Natural. Light-mid yellowish brown sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 48

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy silt with frequent limestone					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4800	Layer			0.28	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
4801	Layer				Natural. Light-mid yellowish brown sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 49

General description	Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	2

					Avg. depth (m)		0.24
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4900	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.		
4901	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, soft		

Trench 50

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.32
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5000	Layer		2	0.32	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey silty loam, friable		
5001	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, soft.		

Trench 51

General description					Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.25
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5100	Layer		2	0.25	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
5101	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, soft.		
5102	Cut		4-5	1.3	Tree-Throw hole		
5103	Fill	5102			Deliberate Backfill		

5104	Fill	5102			Deliberate Backfill		
5105	Cut		3.30	0.80	Ditch		
5106	Fill	5105		0.4	Primary Fill		
5107	Fill	5105		0.08	Secondary Fill		
5108	Fill	5105		0.32	Tertiary Fill		
5109	Fill	5102			Deliberate Backfill		

Trench 52

General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.				Length (m)		30
				Width (m)		2
				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5200	Layer		2	0.34	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
5201	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, soft		

Trench 53

General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.				Length (m)		30
				Width (m)		2
				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5300	Layer		2	0.24	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.		
5301	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		
5302	Cut		1.61	0.2	Pit. Small pit, purpose unknown. 1.61m X 0.2m X >1m		

5303	Fill	5302	1.61	0.2	Secondary Fill. Mid yellowish brown, sandy silt, soft. No finds		

Trench 54

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of stoney sandy silt.					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		2
					Avg. depth (m)		0.22
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5400	Layer		2	0.22	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.		
5401	Layer		2		Natural. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft, frequent stones.		
5402	Cut		1.55-3.07	0.58	Pit. Cut of post medieval pit of unknown function		
5403	Fill	5402	1.55-3.07	0.58	Secondary Fill. Secondary full of post med pit, ceramic pipe piece with stamp, light greyish brown with bedrock		

Trench 55

General description					Orientation		NW-SE
					Length (m)		30
					Width (m)		1.9
					Avg. depth (m)		0.28
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5500	Layer			0.28	Topsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown clayey silt		
5501	Layer				Natural. Light-mid yellowish and reddish sandy clay/ limestone		

Trench 56

General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural stoney, sandy silt						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.34
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5600	Layer		2	0.34	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
5601	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, sandy silt, soft. Frequent stones.		
5602	Layer		2.3	0.31	Natural. 0.3m X > 2.3m X >1m. Change in my natural geology, linear edge made it look like ditch. Light grey brown, sandy silt, no finds.		

Trench 57

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.						Length (m)	20
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5700	Layer		2	0.32	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.		
5701	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, soft.		
5702	Cut		1.55	0.8	Tree Throw hole. 1.12m n/s 1.55m w/e in section X 0.8m X >1m. Irregular shape and profile. Natural formation		
5703	Fill	5702	1.55	0.8	Secondary Fill. Light greyish brown clayey silt, loose, secondary siltation. Redeposited bedrock. No finds		

Trench 58

General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of sandy clay.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.34
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5800	Layer		2	0.34	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, soft		
5801	Layer		2		Natural. Light yellowish brown, sandy clay, firm		

Trench 59

General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of stoney, sandy silt.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5900	Layer		1.8	0.4	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		
5901	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, sandy silt, soft. Frequent stone.		

Trench 60

General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of stoney, sandy silt.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
6000	Layer		2	0.38	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable		

6001	Layer		2		Natural. Light reddish brown, sandy silt, soft.		

APPENDIX B FINDS SUMMARY

B.1 Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Context	Description
5403	A small fragment of heavily degraded fine sandstone, with slightly vitreous deposit on one side. 3g

B.1.1 Having been recorded the stone may be discarded.

B.2 Clay tobacco pipe

By John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

B.2.1 Two pieces of clay pipe weighing 5g were recovered from a single context. These are described in some detail below.

Description

B.2.2 Context (5403) Spot-date: c 1770-1800. Description: 2 pieces (weight 5g). A rim and a heel/spur fragment very probably from the same pipe bowl and comprising a near-profile in fresh condition. The bowl form appears to be a close match with bowl type AO27 (c 1780-1830) in Atkinson and Oswald's (1969) London pipes typology. Like the latter it has a narrow cylindrical heel, or a flat-based spur, of squared profile when seen from the side. More recent research shows this bowl form can have a date-range as wide as c 1770-1845. On either side of the heel/spur are the maker's initials 'B/A' in large relief letters and on the internal base 'floor' is a cross-shaped stamp or mark in relief - a feature typical of some pipes of the later 18th and early 19th centuries. The rim fragment is knife-cut and shows traces of burnishing. Only a trace of the stem survives.

B.2.3 The 'B/A' initials on the heel/spur can very probably be identified with the pipemaker Ben Abbott of Ramsden, who was apprenticed in 1758 (Oswald 1975, 189; 1984, 262). Ramsden is in west Oxfordshire, near Leafield, and only c 10km east of Burford. Finstock, another village known for its pipemaking industry, lies immediately north of Ramsden. The stems of Abbott's pipes often have another mark containing his name impressed within a small square frame on the upper side of the stem - in the style of Broseley (Shropshire) and Wiltshire pipes (Oswald 1984, Fig. 54.25b). Abbott (and possibly his son) may have had a production period of several decades and more than one type of stem-mark is known from recent excavations in Oxford (eg Trinity College: site code OXTC 18/19). On balance therefore the bowl here probably dates within c 1770-1800.

Recommendations regarding the conservation, discard and retention of material

B.2.4 The pipe is of some importance to local clay pipe studies and should be retained.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

C.1 Environmental samples

By Sharon Cook (Charred Remains) and Richard Palmer (Molluscs)

Introduction

C.1.1 Five samples were taken during the evaluation. The samples were taken from ditch fills in Trench 35 and a pit fill in Trench 19.

C.1.2 Sample 1, from the fill of ditch 3502 (Trench 35) and sample 5 from the fill of pit 1904 in Trench 19 were both taken for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR), bones and artefacts, while samples 2, 3 and 4 were taken incrementally through the fills of ring ditch 3509 in Trench 35, which was part of a possible round barrow, primarily to recover molluscs (snails).

Method

C.1.3 The bulk samples taken for the recovery of charred plant remains were processed in their entirety using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine to 250µm (flot) and 500µm mesh (residue) and air dried. The dried residue fractions were sorted by eye and scanned with a magnet for recovery of hammerscale. All bones and artefacts were removed and passed to the relevant specialists. The flot material was scanned using a low power (x10-x40) binocular microscope. Classification and nomenclature of plant material follows Stace (2010).

C.1.4 For the mollusc samples, standard 2L incremental samples were taken from the following depths: 0-10cm, 10-20cm and 20-30cm. The sediment is described as a 7.5YR 4/4 brown sandy silt loam with frequent subangular limestone.

C.1.5 The mollusc samples were processed in their entirety via hand flotation. Snail flot and residue components were both collected in 500µm meshes and dried in a heated room. The flot was examined under a low power (x10-x40) binocular microscope to allow extraction, broad sorting and quantification of the snails by species. The residues were examined by eye to determine effectiveness of flotation and check for any specimens that failed to float.

C.1.6 Identifications were carried out by comparison to reference images and with use of Kerney and Cameron (1979). All molluscan identifications are currently provisional; nomenclature follows Cameron (2008).

Results

C.1.7 A summary of the samples is presented in Table 1 and the result of the assessment is presented in Table 2. A preliminary quantification of molluscs species by sample is presented in Table 3 although the *Cecilioides acicula* present were not quantified since this snail is a burrowing species that is likely to be intrusive.

Charred Remains

C.1.8 The samples produced almost no charred plant material, rare charcoal fragments are <4mm in greatest dimension and most are <2mm and not suitable for species identification. Fragments of cereal grain in sample 5 are also not suitable for further identification due to the degree of damage. Rare fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) in sample 1 from ditch 3502 are small and may in fact be too small to permit radiocarbon dating.

Molluscs

C.1.9 All samples include land snails although sample 5 from pit 1904 contains a smaller quantity and has a less diverse assemblage.

C.1.10 The incremental sample produced tiny flots of only 1-2ml. All identified species are terrestrial and there appears to be only slight variation in species representation across the samples. *Carychium tridentatum* is the dominant species in samples 2 and 3 and *Vallonia* sp. is dominant in sample 4. There are moderate numbers of *Discus rotundatus*, *Vitrea* sp., *Aegopinella* sp. and *Trochulus hispidus* as well as a small number of other species, represented by only a handful of specimens.

C.1.11 Only broken fragments of mollusc shell were seen in the residues, none of which are identifiable barring a couple of fragments with the surface patterning similar to *Pomatias elegans*.

C.1.12 The presence of modern *Cecilioides acicula* indicates that some bioturbation has taken place, as does the presence of occasional uncharred wild plant seeds.

Discussion and Conclusion

C.1.13 The samples generally contain little identifiable charred plant material which reflects the lack of settlement related activity on the site. Barrows are usually situated away from domestic settlements and as such rarely contain the debris that is common in these areas.

C.1.14 Most of the identified mollusc species are catholic in nature though with a preference for moist shady habitats such as those available in a barrow ditch. A couple of species, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vallonia* sp. which are particularly found in the base of the ring ditch are more inclined to open calcareous environments which may give an indication of the nature of the surrounding landscape when the feature was dug. There is, however, a notable increase not just in the numbers of snails but also in the proportion of Zonitids including *Carychium tridentatum* and *Discus rotundatus* in sample 3 from 10-20cm. These snails favour shady places and are often found in leaf litter, which may indicate the presence of some open woodland nearby by the time the ditch had partially fill in.

C.1.15 In general, where situated on calcareous ground, barrows offer good potential for the recovery of mollusc assemblages with the surrounding ditch providing a record of the environment immediately around the feature during the period of gradual infilling following construction and the pre-construction landscape being sealed under the

barrow itself. This buried soil can offer a snapshot of the environment at the time of construction and where it survives would always be a priority for sampling.

C.1.16 Elsewhere across the site, where calcareous soils are present mollusc shells clearly survive and this should be considered if any further excavations take place. Where samples are taken specifically for mollusc recovery the results of this evaluation indicate that samples would need to be a minimum of 2L to provide interpretable assemblages and finer resolution sampling may, in some circumstances, be warranted.

Recommendations for retention / dispersal

C.1.17 While the samples have proved to be relatively poor in identifiable plant remains the flots warrant retention until all works on site are complete. If further investigations are carried out on the site it is recommended that flots 1-4 be considered for molluscan analysis as a part of any report.

C.1.18 It is recommended that these flots are retained for deposition.

Sample No	Context No	Depth (BGL)	Trench No	Feature Type	Soil Description
1	3503		35	Ditch	7.5YR 4/4 brown sandy silt loam with frequent subangular limestone
2	3511	0-10cm	35	Ring Ditch	7.5YR 4/4 brown sandy silt loam with frequent subangular limestone
3	3511	10-20cm	35	Ring Ditch	7.5YR 4/4 brown sandy silt loam with frequent subangular limestone
4	3511	20-30cm	35	Ring Ditch	7.5YR 4/4 brown sandy silt loam with frequent subangular limestone
5	1905		19	Pit	10YR 5/8 yellowish brown silty clay

Table 1: The Samples.

Sample No	Context No	Sample Vol (L)	Flot Vol (ml)	Date	Charcoal (>2mm)	Grain	Chaff	Seeds	Molluscs	Other	Notes
1	3503	40	20						+++ +	+	Volume mainly fine modern roots. Rare fragments of charcoal <2mm. Rare small fragments of hazelnut shell. Snails common, > 5 species represented including *Discus rotundatus*, *Pupilla* sp., *Carychium* cf *tridentatum*, *Cochlicopa* cf *lubricella*, *Vallonia* sp. and *Euconulus* sp. Also *Cecilioides acicula*.
2	3511	2	2		+				+++		Charcoal small, all <4mm. Snails common, >5 species represented including *Pupilla* sp., *Carychium* cf

Sample No	Context No	Sample Vol (L)	Flot Vol (ml)	Date	Charcoal (>2mm)	Grain	Chaff	Seeds	Molluscs	Other	Notes
											tridentatum and *Euconulus* sp. Also *Cecilioides acicula*.
3	3511	2	3						+++ ++		Rare fragments of charcoal <2mm. Volume almost entirely snails, >5 species represented including *Discus rotundatus*, *Pupilla* sp., *Carychium* cf *tridentatum*, *Cochlicopa* cf *lubricella*, *Vallonia* sp and *Euconulus* sp. Also *Cecilioides acicula*.
4	3511	2	1		+				+++		Charcoal small, all <4mm. Snails common, >5 species represented including *Pupilla* sp., *Carychium* cf *tridentatum* and *Vallonia* sp. Also *Cecilioides acicula*.
5	1905	40	10		++	+			++		Volume mainly fine modern roots. Charcoal small, all <4mm. Two fragments of unidentifiable cereal grain. Occasional snails including *Discus rotundatus* and *Vallonia* sp. Also *Cecilioides acicula*.
Key: + 1-4, ++ 5-24, +++ 25-49, ++++ 50-99, +++++ 100+											

Table 2: The Flots.

Sample	2	3	4
Context	3511	3511	3511
Depth	0-10cm	10-20cm	20-30cm
Species			
Pupilla muscorum	1	2	2
Vallonia sp.		14	25
Aegopinella sp.	5	10	9
Carychium tridentatum	22	140	11
Cochlicopa sp.		4	1
Discus rotundatus	7	8	1
Euconulus sp.	2		1
Oxychilus sp.		5	1
Trochulus hispidus	1	9	1
Vitrea sp.	2	25	19

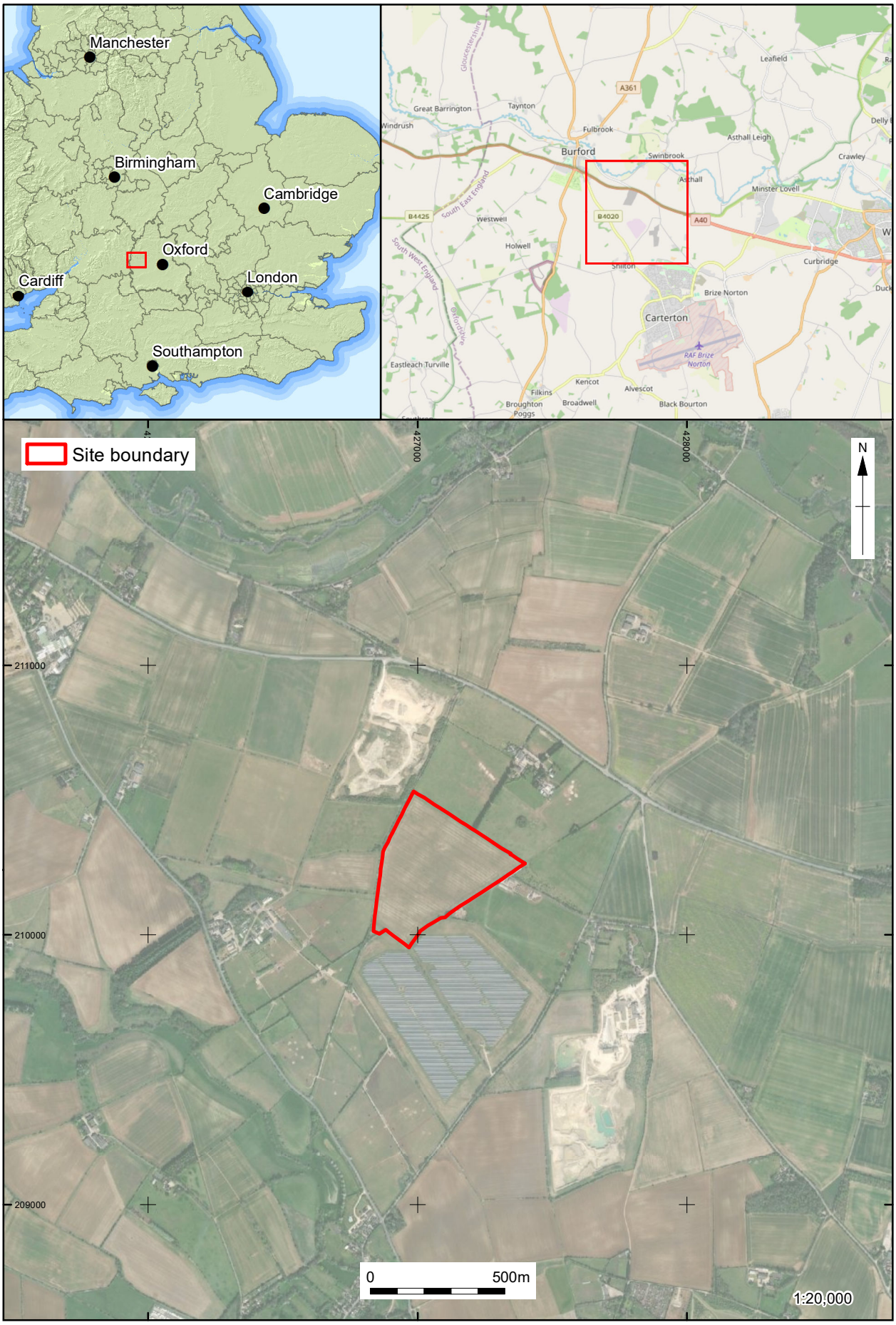
Table 3: Snail flots.

APPENDIX D SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Land off Blidworth Lane, Burford
Site code:	BUWQ21
Grid Reference	SP 2693 1023
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	November 2021 (2 weeks)
Area of Site	c.10.25
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire County Museum Service in due course, under the following accession number: 2021.103
Summary of Results:	In November 2021, Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Landgage Heritage Limited the on behalf of Smiths Bletchington to undertake a trial-trench evaluation at a proposed quarry extension on Land off Whitehill Quarry, Burford, Oxfordshire. The fieldwork was undertaken over the course of two weeks, consisting of 61 trenches covering a c.10.25-hectare site, representing a 2% sample of the proposed development area. The trenches were designed to provide good coverage of the site and test the validity of the geophysical survey. The evaluation identified two areas of archaeological interest, whilst the remaining areas and geophysical features were found to be of natural origin or related to later agricultural activity. The most significant archaeological remains identified were a potential ring gully within Trench 35. The feature spans about 27m in diameter with enclosure ditches about 1.2m in width. The shallow depth of the gully ditches at just over 0.5m and the lack of any clear evidence of any surviving bank material or central burial remains suggests that the feature has been significantly truncated by modern ploughing. Although undated, the nature of its ditch fills, its circular form, its environmental evidence, and landscape setting, would support its interpretation as a potential prehistoric barrow. Two undated shallow pits were also identified in Trench 19 and produced burnt deposits and charred cereal grains, which could be related to prehistoric or later activity. These potential rubbish or storage pits indicate nearby transient activity, but perhaps away from areas of settlement. Despite the site being located adjacent to the major Roman road of Akeman Street, which runs along its eastern boundary, and close to the remains of a Roman stone building identified at the nearby solar farm, no Roman-period activity was identified during the evaluation. The geophysical features that looked promising on the previous survey and pointed to evidence of enclosures, trackways and field systems, were found to correspond to

geological variations or areas of natural disturbance within the trenches.

Evidence of later activity in the form of late 17th-18th century pits are likely to relate to agriculture activity. The remains of former field boundaries and perhaps hedgerows were also identified within Trenches 49 and 51.



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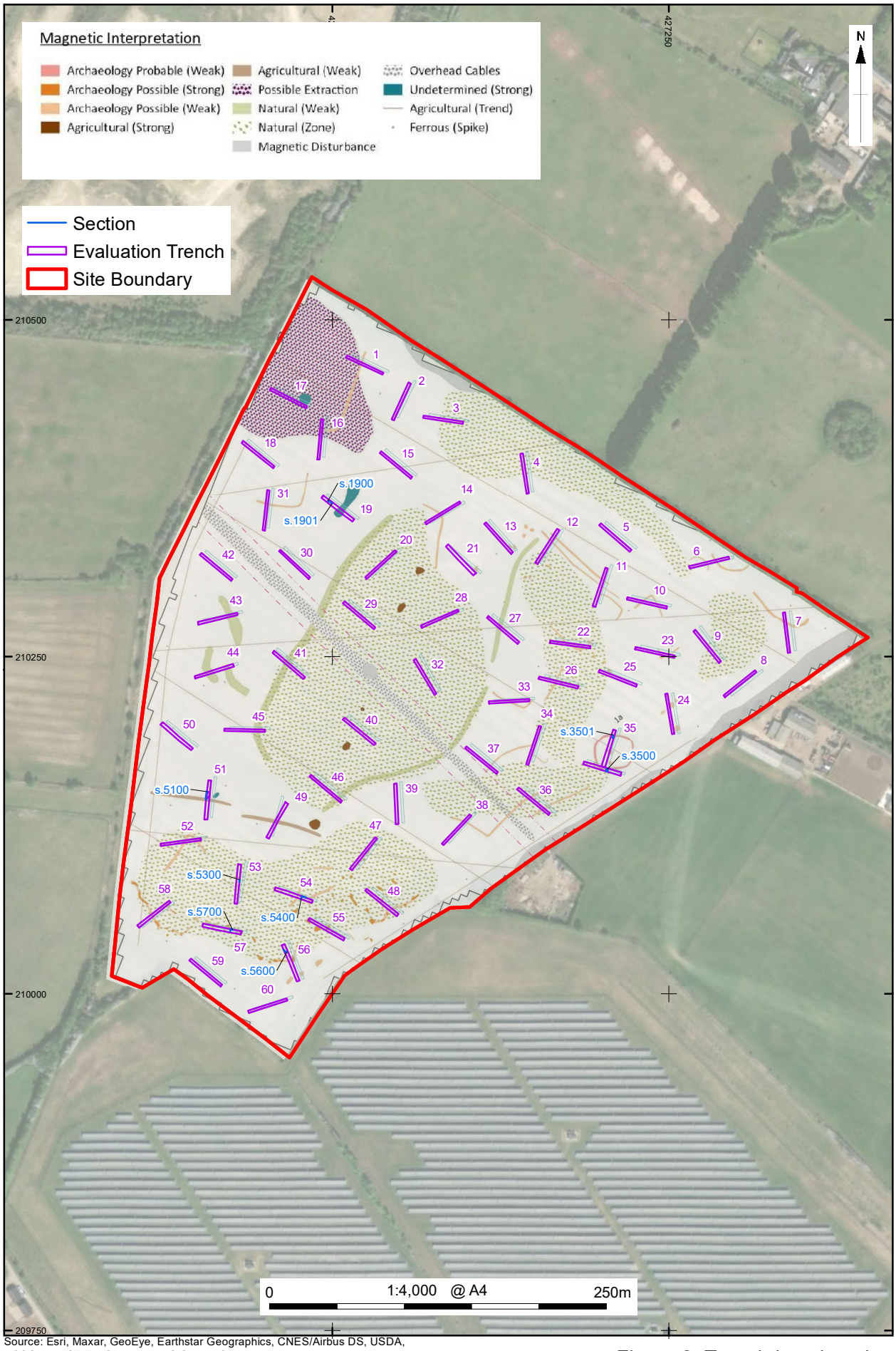
© OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,

Figure 1: Site location



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

Geophysical data supplied by client

Figure 2: Trench location plan with geophysics and sections

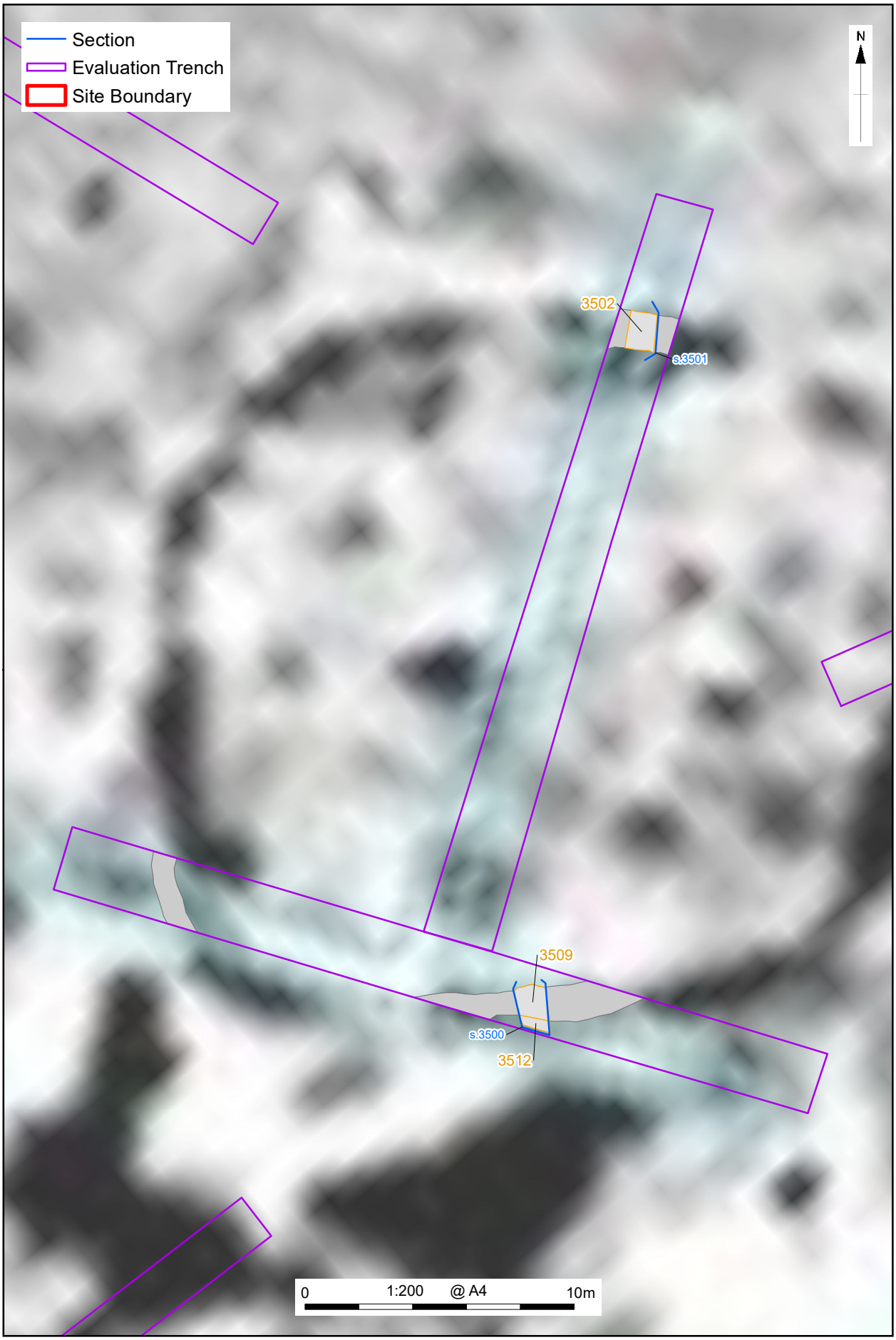

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Figure 3: Plan, sections and geophysics of Trench 35 (Barrow ditch)

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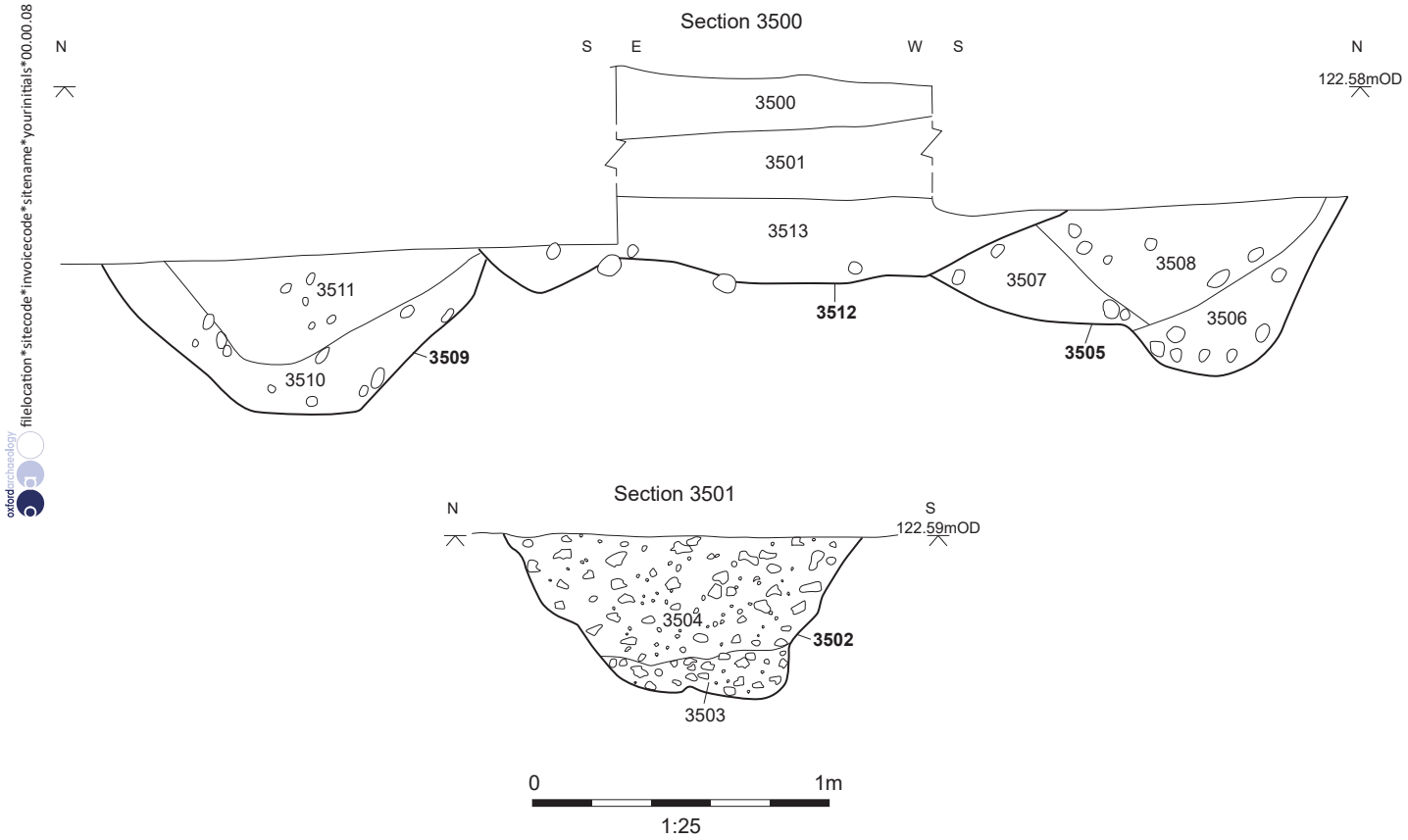

Figure 4: Sections 3500 and 3501

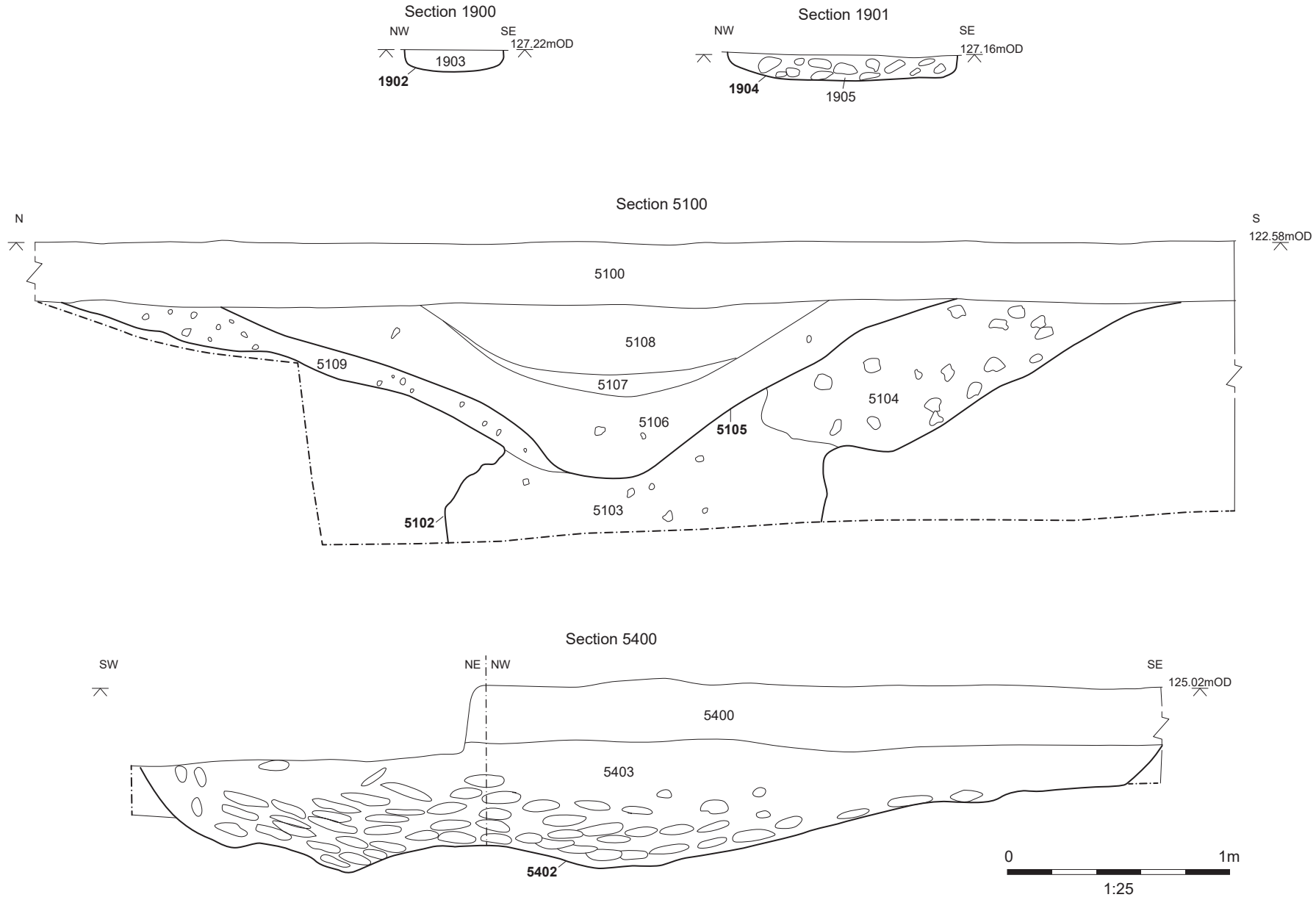

Figure 5: Sections 1900, 1901, 5100 and 5400

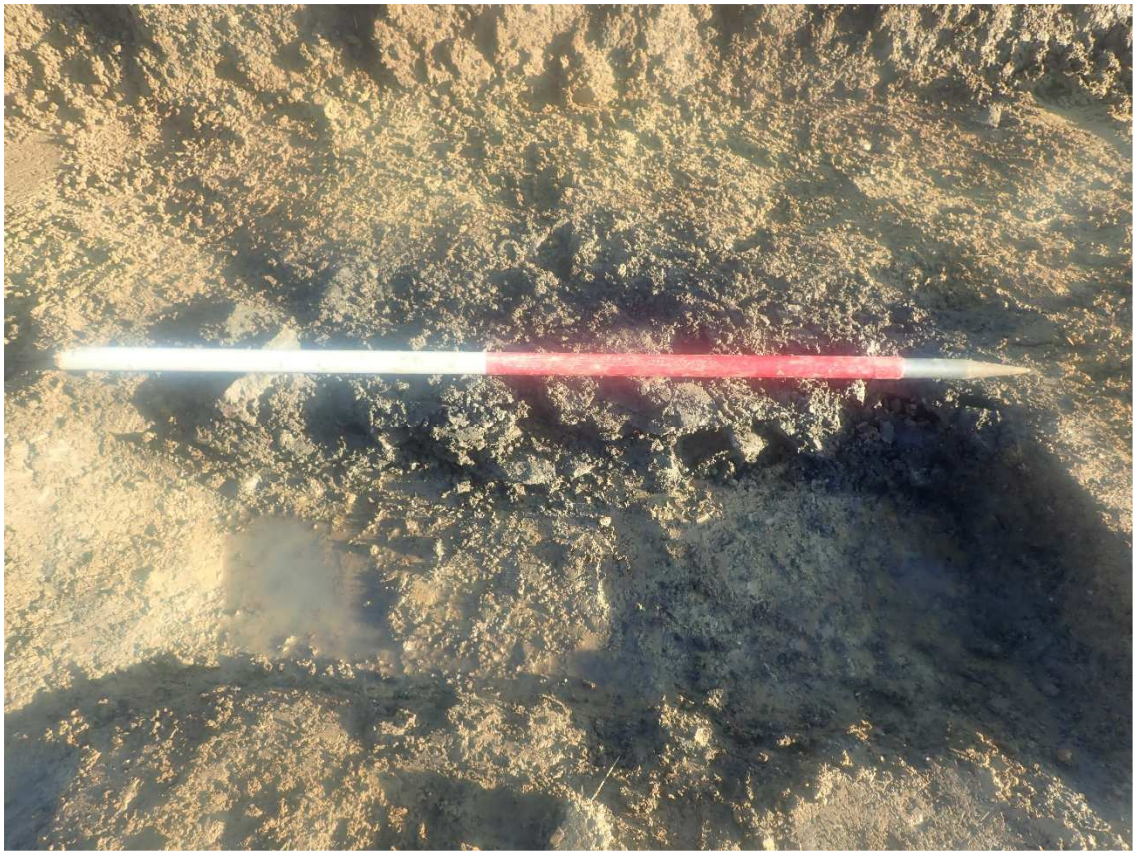

Plate 1: Pit 1904 Looking northeast (1m scale)

Plate 2: Pit 1902 looking northeast (0.20m scale)

Plate 3: Gully ditch 3502 looking northwest (0.5m scale)

Plate 4: Section 3501 through gully ditch 3502 looking east (1m scale)

Plate 5: Trench 33 looking west (2x 1m scales)

Plate 6: Trench 41 looking northwest (2x 1m scales)

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