

Land at Brooklands Milton Keynes Phase 1 - Remaining trenches



Addendum Report



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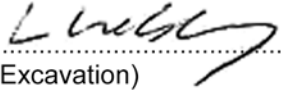
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Land at Brooklands, Milton Keynes, Phase 1 - Remaining Trenches

Addendum Report

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with contributions from Edward Biddulph, David Mullin, Rebecca Nicholson, Rachel Scales, Daniel Stansbie, Lena Strid and illustrated by Georgina Slater and Amy Hemingway

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Summary

During February and March of 2008, evaluation trenches previously inaccessible during the Phase 1 trenching works were completed (Trenches 57-62 and 87-101), at Brooklands, Milton Keynes. In February, ten of the trenches (87, 92 and 94-101), which had been mechanically excavated but not recorded were examined for the presence of archaeological deposits, recorded and backfilled. In March the remaining trenches were excavated and recorded (Trenches 57-62, 88-91 and 93), with the exception of Trench 60, which was not excavated due to the presence of a newt pond.

The trenches were excavated in two fields, which are defined as: Field A, located to the north of Broughton Grounds Lane (containing Trenches 57–62); and Field B, located to the south of the lane (containing Trenches 87–101).

The trenches in Field A uncovered evidence of medieval and 13th to 14th century activity in the form of linear features, pits and post-holes. The highest concentration of features was found in Trench 57, which may be associated with the activity found in Trenches 44, 55 and 63, from the previous evaluation works.

The group of trenches in Field B found some evidence of Romano-British activity in the form of a series of linear features. The highest concentration of features were found in Trenches 91 and 93, which are probably associated with the Romano-British settlement found to the south in the Broughton Manor Farm excavation.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 During the original stage of Phase 1 trenching works carried out during September and October of 2007, 21 trenches were inaccessible due to access restrictions. OA returned to Brooklands (NGR: SP 907 397) to complete the Phase 1 evaluation works in February and March of 2008, once the initial results had been reported on; this report is therefore an addendum to the previously issued report (OA 2008).
- 1.1.2 The 21 trenches were split over two fields (see Fig. 2). Trenches 57–62 were located in Field A (located to the north of Broughton Grounds Lane), and Trenches 87–101 in Field B (located to the south of Broughton Grounds Lane).
- 1.1.3 All trenches were completed with the exception of trenches 58 and 60. Trench 60 was not excavated due to the presence of a newt pond and overhead power cables. Trench 58 was mechanically opened but the features were not excavated (they were photographed and recorded in plan) due to confusion over land ownership.

1.2 Acknowledgements

- 1.2.1 OA would like to thank Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting for facilitating the works and Nick Crank of Milton Keynes City Council for his advice. OA would also like to acknowledge Brian Dean and Kate Wheaton who ran the fieldwork and Abigail Brown, Matthew Morgan, Matt Williams and Mark Woodley who worked on the site.



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The relevant detailed objectives of the evaluation were as follows (OA 2007):

- (i) To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
- (ii) To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
- (iii) To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains.
- (iv) To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains
- (v) To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
- (vi) To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present.
- (vii) To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.
- (viii) To check the validity of earlier surveys, in particular the geophysics.

2.1.2 An additional objective has been added since the first stage of Phase 1 trenching:

- (ix) To determine the extent of the late Saxon/early medieval focus found during the main Phase 1 trenching works.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The methodology outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for this project (OA 2007) was closely followed on site with no modifications. Excavation strategy was discussed with Rob Bourn and Nick Crank, to ensure the on-site aims and objectives set out in the WSI were suitably met.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results presented in the main text of this report provide a detailed overview of the findings of the evaluation works. A comprehensive listing of individual trench descriptions and related context data can also be found in Appendix A.
- 3.1.2 A decimal numbering system was employed to ensure that contexts (individual archaeological records of features and deposits) recorded during the evaluation did not coincide with those recorded during the excavation phase within Area 1, as both these projects were allocated the same site code. Hence all context numbers were trench specific with the trench number being followed by a double zero and the specific context following a decimal point (e.g. The first context used for Trench 1 would be 100.000).
- 3.1.3 All recovered finds and samples are recorded in the specialist reports in Appendices B and C, with a summary also provided in the detailed trench descriptions (see Appendix A). The trench descriptions also contain the dimensions of both the trenches and the features within showing the depths of the deposits and, where appropriate, the relevant dating.

3.2 Soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 As has been noted in the wider evaluation area, the geology of the site is variable. Field A is located on sand and gravel river terracing with small, occasional patches of boulder clay, while Field B is located on boulder clays with occasional patches of sand and gravel.
- 3.2.2 The majority of the site remained dry throughout most of the works. Limited flooding of features was only encountered in Trenches 88 and 93.

3.3 Distribution of archaeological deposits

General

- 3.3.1 Two main concentrations of activity were located in the evaluation, a medieval focus in Field A and a Romano-British focus in Field B.
- 3.3.2 The focus of activity in Field A centred around Trenches 57, 58 and 59 (see Fig. 3). This focus seems to date to the 13th–14th century AD. Large modern features were also observed in Trenches 61 and 62.
- 3.3.3 The focus of activity in Field B centred around Trenches 91, 93 and 96 (see Fig. 4). This focus dates to the early Romano-British period (1st–2nd century AD). There is very little activity beyond this focus within Field B.
- 3.3.4 These two foci of activity are discussed in greater detail below.

Features discovered in trenches in Field A – Trenches 57, 58, and 59

General

- 3.3.5 The features found in this field suggest that there is a focus of potential medieval settlement activity dating to the 13th–14th century AD, potentially centred around Trenches 57, 58 and 59. No features were observed in Trench 61, although Trench 62

did contain a single undated pit which, due to its position, may be associated with the 12th-13th century AD activity in Trenches 63 and 55 from the previous works.

- 3.3.6 The 13th-14th century AD focus is described as distinct from the 12th-13th century AD focus, and this is also reflected in the illustrations. However, the finds assemblage from Trenches 57, 58 and 59 is small and the features could easily be part of the same activity as that in the area defined as the 12th-13th century AD focus. The two foci have been kept separate as there is currently no direct evidence linking the two, although it is accepted that this may change when further works are undertaken.

Trench 57

- 3.3.7 Trench 57 contained several features, which were concentrated in the north-western half of the trench (see Fig. 5). Two ditches, four pits and one smaller, square pit were revealed.
- 3.3.8 The easternmost feature in the trench was ditch [5700.004], which was quite substantial (1.12 m wide by 0.41 m deep). The ditch contained medieval pottery and may represent a boundary for the activity to the north-west, discussed further below.
- 3.3.9 To the west of ditch [5700.004], there was a concentration of features, consisting of four large pits, a ditch and another, smaller pit. The ditch, [5700.010], appeared quite substantial in plan (approximately 1.25 m wide), but remained un-excavated. The four large pits, [5700.006], [5700.008], [5700.012] and [5700.018], measured between 1.5 m and 0.8 m in diameter. Pit [5700.012] was excavated, and was found to contain worked flint and medieval pottery. The smaller square pit [5700.014] was also excavated, and was found to contain the skeletal remains of up to four lambs and two sherds of 13th/14th century pottery.

Trench 58

- 3.3.10 Trench 58 contained four post holes and three ditches (see Fig. 6). None of the features were excavated (see section 1.1.3, above), but ditch [5800.011] appeared substantial enough in plan (0.8 m wide) to be a boundary ditch. Another ditch [5800.013] and one post hole [5800.017] contained surface finds in their upper fills which appeared medieval or post-medieval in date, but this could not be verified by a finds specialist.

Trench 59

- 3.3.11 Trench 59 contained two ditches, one ditch terminus, and one small post hole (see Fig. 7). The E-W oriented ditch, [5900.010] was substantial enough (1.11 m by 0.42 m) to be interpreted as a field boundary or enclosure ditch. Its size and alignment suggests an association with ditch [5800.012], although this is difficult to verify as the features in Trench 58 could not be excavated.
- 3.3.12 The alignment of the ditch terminus [5900.004] suggests that it is the same feature as [5700.004], which would imply a medieval date. The post hole, [5900.012], was found in the southern end of the trench away from the other features.

Trench 62

- 3.3.13 Trench 62 had a single pit feature measuring approximately 1.25 m in diameter. This feature is some distance from the concentration described above (120 m), and is much nearer the 12th-13th century AD focus, which was postulated in the report for the previous works (see Fig. 3)(OA 2008).



Features discovered in trenches in Field B – Trenches 88, 91, 93 and 96

General

- 3.3.14 A high density of features was discovered in the southernmost part of this field, primarily in Trench 91, and to a lesser extent in Trenches 93 and 96. These features may form the northern boundary for the Romano-British settlement found during the Broughton Manor Farm excavations, south of the A5130 (CgMs 2007b).
- 3.3.15 Trench 88 contained a single ditch, which does not seem to be associated with the Romano-British activity outlined above (see section 3.3.21 below). Field B also contained an undated post hole in Trench 89 and a small undated gully in Trench 95, which are described in Appendix A.

Trench 91

- 3.3.16 Trench 91 contained the highest density of features discovered within Field B. It contained six ditches, two potential ditch termini and two pits (see Fig. 8).
- 3.3.17 Pottery recovered from the fills of two of the ditches, [9100.004] and [9100.019], are of Romano-British date (1st - 2nd century AD).
- 3.3.18 Another ditch, [9100.011], contained the semi-articulated skeletal remains of a horse in the upper fill (9100.010). The presence of this burial may indicate that the settlement activity found in the Broughton Manor Farm excavation to the south, extends into Field B (see Appendix B, section B.2.5 below for a more detailed description of this burial).

Trench 93

- 3.3.19 Trench 93 contained two shallow ditches [9300.004] and [9300.006] (see Fig. 9), which produced no dating evidence.

Trench 96

- 3.3.20 Trench 96 represents the easternmost boundary of activity discovered in this area, and contained one ditch (see Fig. 10). This NE-SW aligned ditch [9600.003] was substantial enough to be interpreted as a boundary ditch (1.2 m wide by 0.42 m deep). Pottery recovered from the feature is of a Romano-British date.

Trench 88

- 3.3.21 Trench 88 lies outside of the main concentration of features discovered in Field B, and the single feature discovered in it lies 100 m away from the nearest feature within the identified focus. The linear feature is shallow and highly irregular, which contained worked flints dating to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic period.

3.4 Distribution of finds

- 3.4.1 Overall there was a very low rate for the recovery of finds across the site. Concentrations of all finds types were found to correlate to either the medieval focus in Field A, or to the Romano-British focus in Field B
- 3.4.2 A brief summary of the finds of the evaluation is presented below. Detailed specialist reports on all of the finds can be found in Appendices B and C at the back of this report.

Pottery

- 3.4.3 There was a noticeable paucity of pottery across the evaluation area, and what pottery was recovered was concentrated in the foci identified. A total of 54 sherds, weighing 283 g, were recovered of which 82% came from the Romano-British activity in Trenches 91 and 96, with the rest coming from the medieval activity in Trench 57.



Animal Bone

- 3.4.4 A total of 318 animal bones were recovered. These consisted of bones from the horse burial in Trench 91, and lamb bones from a medieval pit in Trench 57.

Other finds

- 3.4.5 Small quantities of flint and were recovered from Trenches 57 and 88, dated to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic period. Two pieces of iron were also recovered; a possible Roman nail from Trench 91 and an amorphous fragment from Trench 57.

Environmental material

- 3.4.6 Two bulk soil samples were collected from Trench 91. The results were consistent with the samples taken from the wider area in the earlier stage of evaluation works. The samples did not contain sufficient material to be of interpretive value.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 Overall, the results of the evaluation were reliable, particularly in demonstrating the broader layout of the archaeological remains. However, there is always a possibility that isolated features may survive between the trenches (Hey & Lacey 2001).
- 4.1.2 There is also a degree of truncation across the evaluation area. The trend across the whole area was for markedly shallow features, which suggests a high level of truncation resulting from continued ploughing over most of the site. This will have also had an affect on the presence and recovery of artefactual evidence.
- 4.1.3 Modern truncation was evident in Trenches 61 and 62. Where observed this truncation was a minimum of 1 m deep and completely removed all archaeological deposits. An area of truncation has been extrapolated (see Fig. 3), based partially on the results of the trenches and on anecdotal evidence provided on site by the previous land owner.
- 4.1.4 Beyond this the only modern interference observed was in the form of occasional drainage pipes, which rarely impacted upon the archaeological deposits.
- 4.1.5 Field B also had a newt pond, which prevented Trench 60 from being excavated, as well as an overhead power line, which compromised the distribution of the trenches in that area. As a result the relationship between the 12th-13th century and the 13th-14th century foci is unclear at present.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The results of the evaluation are summarised below in relation to the objectives set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 4.2.2 *To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present:* The evaluation found two additional foci of archaeological activity to what was found during the initial Phase 1 trenching works. One may be the northern boundary of the Romano-British settlement at Broughton Manor Farm (south of Field B). The other is a 13th-14th century focus, whose association with the medieval activity discovered in the earlier evaluation works is not yet clear.
- 4.2.3 *To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence:* Remains from the trenches in Field B contained 1st -2nd century AD pottery. Remains from the foci in Field A contained a group of 13th to 14th



century pottery. The rest of the datable features were of post-medieval date, and there were also a small number of undated features.

- 4.2.4 *To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains:* The extent of significant remains has been relatively well defined by the results of the evaluation and are best seen illustrated in Figures 2-4.
- 4.2.5 *To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains:* While most of the features were truncated due to ploughing, below this horizon the remains discovered were relatively well preserved, with uncertain dates being caused by the paucity of finds rather than abrasion.
- 4.2.6 *To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present:* Due to the truncation by ploughing discussed above, the site does not appear to retain much vertical stratigraphy and features uncovered were easily discerned in plan.
- 4.2.7 *To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present:* The quantity and range of finds is relatively limited. Beyond the Roman and medieval pottery and iron finds, and the horse burial in Trench 91 (discussed in section 3.4 and in Appendix B), only two flints were recovered from the rest of the evaluation area.
- 4.2.8 *To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present:* Limited potential for environmental remains was identified during the works.
- 4.2.9 *To check the validity of earlier surveys, in particular the geophysics:* None of the geophysical survey areas directly correlated to evaluation areas during this stage of the Phase 1 trenching works.
- 4.2.10 *To determine the extent of the late Saxon/early medieval focus found during the main Phase 1 trenching works:* This stage of trenching discovered additional medieval activity in the vicinity of that found during the initial trenching. Nonetheless, the nature of the relationship between these foci (the potential Saxon/early medieval activity in Trench 44, the 12th-13th century and the 13th-14th century) is currently unknown.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 The evaluation identified two foci of archaeological interest, one in Field A and the other in Field B (see Fig. 2).

Romano-British activity in Field B

- 4.3.2 The activity found in the Roman focus seems to represent the northern periphery of the Romano-British settlement excavated at Broughton Manor Farm, to the south. The definition of this focus as a northern boundary is relatively certain, as the settlement activity in the Broughton Manor Farm excavation is known to continue up to the A5130 (CgMs 2007), and the density of features drops dramatically elsewhere in the field.
- 4.3.3 The discovery of a partially articulated horse burial in Trench 91 supports this interpretation and may also highlight the potential for additional human burials nearby (see Appendix B, section B.2.3 and B.2.5).
- 4.3.4 There is also a small irregular gully in Trench 88, well outside of the Roman focus. The gully contained worked flints dated to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic. However, this

date cannot be ascribed to the feature with much certainty as there were no other features nearby to correlate the date with and the gully itself was very ephemeral.

- 4.3.5 Moreover, there is evidence of residual early prehistoric flint elsewhere in this evaluation, in Trench 57 (see Appendix B).

Medieval activity in Field A

- 4.3.6 The initial evaluation works identified two distinct foci of medieval activity, a potentially Saxon/early medieval focus found in Trench 44 and a 12th and 13th century focus in Trenches 55 and 63. Both of these foci had evidence of settlement activity (OA 2008), but the relationship between the two was not clear from the initial trenching.
- 4.3.7 This stage of works found another focus of medieval activity, which seems spatially separate and had a slightly later date (13th to 14th century), although this is based on very little material. Moreover, due to the issues outlined above (in section 4.1.5), the relationship between the 12th to 13th century focus and the 13th to 14th century focus is also unclear (see Fig. 2 for a visual overview of the above).
- 4.3.8 While it is clear that there is a medieval domestic focus in this field and to the north, it is not yet clear whether what has been found is a larger focus dating from the 12th to the 14th centuries with a residual Saxon presence, or a series of smaller foci of activity which have shifted across the landscape.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The Roman focus is associated with a highly significant settlement to the south, and may be able to contribute considerably to the understanding of that site. As such, this focus may be very important, particularly if the presence of the horse burial does indicate further, human, burials nearby.
- 4.4.2 The medieval activity in Field A has shown a more widespread level of activity than previously expected. The significance of this activity is still difficult to gauge as the exact nature of the domestic focus is currently unknown, as is its relationship to medieval Broughton.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Trench 57 | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NW-SE |
| Trench contained three N-S orientated ditches and five pits. Ditch [5700.004] contained medieval pottery. Pit [5700.012] contained three small flint flakes and one medieval pot sherd. Pit [5700.014] contained the remains of up to four semi articulated lambs, two sherds of medieval pottery and an iron nail. Natural was a light orange-brown clay sand. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.60 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 5700.001 | Layer | - | 0.4 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 5700.002 | Layer | - | 0.2 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 5700.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 5700.004 | Cut | 1.12 | 0.41 | Cut for ditch | - | medieval |
| 5700.005 | Fill | 1.12 | 0.41 | Single fill of ditch | Pot | medieval |
| 5700.006 | Cut | 1.5 | - | Cut for pit | - | - |
| 5700.007 | Fill | 1.5 | - | Fill of pit | - | - |
| 5700.008 | Cut | 1.5 | - | Cut for pit | - | - |
| 5700.009 | Fill | 1.5 | - | Fill of pit | - | - |
| 5700.010 | Cut | 1.25 | - | Cut for N-S ditch | - | - |
| 5700.011 | Fill | 1.25 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 5700.012 | Cut | 1.35 | 0.76 | Cut for pit | - | - |
| 5700.013 | Fill | 1.35 | 0.76 | Single fill of pit | Pot/Flint | medieval |
| 5700.014 | Cut | 0.26 | 0.14 | Cut for rectangular pit | - | - |
| 5700.015 | Fill | 0.26 | 0.14 | Single fill of rectangular pit | Pot/Bone/Fe | 13 th -14 th century |
| 5700.016 | Cut | 0.8 | - | Cut for pit | - | - |
| 5700.017 | Fill | 0.8 | - | Fill of pit | - | - |
| 5700.018 | Cut | >1.25 | - | Cut for pit | - | - |
| 5700.019 | Fill | >1.25 | - | Fill of pit | - | - |
| Trench 58 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | W-E |
| Trench contained four post holes, and three ditches, none of which were excavated. Surface finds were observed, but not collected. Natural was an orange sand with flint inclusions. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.70 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 5800.001 | Layer | - | 0.4 | Topsoil | - | - |



| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 5800.002 | Layer | - | 0.3 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 5800.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 5800.004 | Fill | 0.3 | - | Fill of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.005 | Cut | 0.3 | - | Cut of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.006 | Fill | 0.3 | - | Fill of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.007 | Cut | 0.3 | - | Cut of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.008 | Fill | 0.3 | - | Fill of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.009 | Cut | 0.3 | - | Cut of post hole | - | - |
| 5800.010 | Fill | 0.8 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 5800.011 | Cut | 0.8 | - | Cut of N-S ditch | - | - |
| 5800.012 | Fill | 0.5 | - | Fill of ditch | - | Med/Post medieval? |
| 5800.013 | Cut | 0.5 | - | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | Med/Post medieval? |
| 5800.014 | Fill | 1.0 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 5800.015 | Cut | 1.0 | - | Cut for NNE-SSW ditch | - | - |
| 5800.016 | Fill | 0.4 | - | Fill of post hole | - | Med/Post medieval? |
| 5800.017 | Cut | 0.4 | - | Cut for square post hole | - | Med/Post medieval? |
| Trench 59 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | N-S |
| Trench contained two post holes and three variously aligned ditches. One E-W aligned ditch [5900.010] and one post hole [5900.012] were excavated. Natural was an orange-brown clay sand with flint inclusions | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.70 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 5900.001 | Layer | - | 0.37 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 5900.002 | Layer | - | 0.33 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 5900.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 5900.004 | Cut | >1.0 | - | Cut for N-S ditch terminus | - | - |
| 5900.005 | Fill | >1.0 | - | Fill of terminus | - | - |
| 5900.006 | Cut | 1.3 | - | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 5900.007 | Fill | 1.3 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 5900.008 | Cut | 0.25 | - | Cut for post hole | - | - |
| 5900.009 | Fill | 0.25 | - | Fill of post hole | - | - |
| 5900.010 | Cut | 1.11 | 0.42 | Cut for E-W ditch | - | - |
| 5900.011 | Fill | 1.11 | 0.42 | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 5900.012 | Cut | 0.15 | 0.12 | Cut for post hole | - | - |
| 5900.013 | Fill | 0.15 | 0.12 | Fill of post hole | - | - |



| Trench 61 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | N-S | |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was a dark orange-brown sand with flint inclusions | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.82 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 6100.001 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 6100.002 | Layer | - | 0.56 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 6100.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| Trench 62 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | E-W | |
| Trench contained one possible N-S aligned ditch terminus/large pit. The western end of the trench was heavily truncated by a modern feature. Natural was an orange-brown sand with flint inclusions | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.47 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 6200.001 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 6200.002 | Layer | - | 0.56 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 6200.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 6200.004 | Cut | 3.0 | 0.68 | Cut for N-S ditch terminus/pit | - | - |
| 6200.005 | Fill | 3.0 | 0.68 | Fill of terminus/pit | - | - |
| Trench 87 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | N-S | |
| Trench contained a single ditch [8700.001], which was oriented NW-SE. It had a rounded base with moderate to steep and slightly concave sides. Most probably represents a drainage ditch. Natural was a light orange-brown sandy clay with flint inclusions. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.30 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.30 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 38.70 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 8700.000 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 8700.001 | Cut | 0.60 | 0.20 | Cut of ditch | - | - |
| 8700.002 | Fill | 0.60 | 0.20 | Single fill of ditch | - | - |
| 8700.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |



| Trench 88 | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| General description | | | | | Orientation | E-W |
| Trench contained a single, irregular linear feature [8800.004], which contained some worked flint. These are likely residual as no other early features were found during the works. Natural was a light reddish-brown sandy clay with flint inclusions. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.57 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 8800.001 | Layer | - | 0.33 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 8800.002 | Layer | - | 0.54 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 8800.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 8800.004 | Cut | 0.5 | 0.11 | Cut of ditch | - | - |
| 8800.005 | Fill | 0.5 | 0.11 | Single fill of ditch | Flint | late Mesolithic/early Neolithic |
| Trench 89 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | E-W |
| Trench contained a single post hole. Natural was an orange-brown sandy gravel | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.62 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 8900.001 | Layer | - | 0.24 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 8900.002 | Layer | - | 0.62 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 8900.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 8900.004 | Cut | 0.27 | 0.15 | Cut of post hole | - | - |
| 8900.005 | Fill | 0.27 | 0.15 | Single fill of post hole | - | - |
| Trench 90 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | N-S |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was an orange sandy silt with flint inclusions. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9000.001 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9000.002 | Layer | - | 0.5 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9000.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |



| Trench 91 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | E-W | |
| Trench contained eight ditches (six of which were orientated NE-SW, and two NW-SE), three pits and one post hole. Three ditches, [9100.004], [9100.008] and [9100.019] were excavated, and all had moderate sloping sides with a concave base. Finds from these are of Romano British date. One pit was also excavated [9100.013], and was found to be very shallow sided. Post hole [9100.025] was also excavated, and had steep sides but was shallow. Natural was an orange-brown sandy gravel with clay patches. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.47 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9100.001 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9100.002 | Layer | - | 0.5 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9100.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 9100.004 | Cut | 0.3 | 0.16 | Cut of NE-SW ditch terminus | - | - |
| 9100.005 | Fill | 0.3 | 0.16 | Single fill of NE-SW ditch terminus | Pot/Fe nail | AD43-120 |
| 9100.006 | Cut | 1.0 | - | Cut of NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.007 | Fill | 1.0 | - | Fill of NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.008 | Cut | 0.38 | 0.32 | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.009 | Fill | 0.38 | 0.15 | Lower NE-SW fill of ditch | - | - |
| 9100.010 | Fill | 0.38 | 0.17 | Upper fill of NE-SW ditch | Bone/pot | Undated |
| 9100.011 | Cut | 0.52 | - | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.012 | Fill | 0.52 | - | Fill of NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.013 | Cut | 1.0 | - | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.014 | Fill | 1.0 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 9100.015 | Cut | 1.25 | - | Cut for large pit | - | - |
| 9100.016 | Fill | 1.25 | - | Fill of large pit | - | - |
| 9100.017 | Cut | >1.2 | 0.15 | Cut for large pit | - | - |
| 9100.018 | Fill | >1.2 | 0.15 | Fill of large pit | - | - |
| 9100.019 | Cut | 0.22 | | Cut for ditch terminus | - | - |
| 9100.020 | Fill | 0.22 | | Single fill of ditch terminus | Pot | AD43-200 |
| 9100.021 | Cut | 0.5 | - | Cut for NW-SE ditch | - | - |
| 9100.022 | Fill | 0.5 | - | Fill of NW-SE ditch | - | - |
| 9100.023 | Cut | 1.35 | - | Cut for NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.024 | Fill | 1.35 | - | Fill of NE-SW ditch | - | - |
| 9100.025 | Cut | 0.3 | 0.1 | Cut for post hole | - | - |
| 9100.026 | Fill | 0.3 | 0.1 | Single fill of post hole | - | - |



| Trench 92 | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | N-S | |
| Trench contained a single gully [9200.002] oriented NNE-SSW. The gully was shallow with concave sides and a slightly rounded base. Feature most probably used for drainage. Natural was a mix of light orange sandy clay and light grey-blue clay with flint and gravel inclusions. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.26 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.10 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 38.70 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9200.000 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9200.001 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 9200.002 | Cut | 0.34 | 0.20 | Cut of gully | - | - |
| 9200.003 | Fill | 0.34 | 0.20 | Single fill of gully | - | - |
| Trench 93 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | E-W | |
| Trench contained three ditch features, two oriented N-S [9300.006] and [9300.008], and one oriented WSW-ENE [9300.004]. They most probably represent drainage systems. Natural was orange-brown sandy gravel with clay patches. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.0 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 40.0 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9300.001 | Layer | - | 0.24 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9300.002 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9300.003 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 9300.004 | Cut | 0.5 | - | Cut for WSW-ENE ditch | - | - |
| 9300.005 | Fill | 0.5 | - | Fill of ditch | - | - |
| 9300.006 | Cut | 0.65 | - | Cut of N-S gully | - | - |
| 9300.007 | Fill | 0.65 | - | Fill of gully | - | - |
| 9300.008 | Cut | 0.7 | 0.14 | Cut for N-S ditch | - | - |
| 9300.009 | Fill | 0.7 | 0.14 | Single fill of ditch | - | - |
| Trench 94 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | N-S | |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was a variable orange sand. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.45 | |
| | | | | Width (m) | 2.10 | |
| | | | | Length (m) | 38.10 | |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9400.000 | Layer | - | 0.25 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9400.001 | Layer | - | 0.20 | Subsoil | - | - |



| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 9400.002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| Trench 95 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | N-S |
| Trench contained a single gully [9500.003] oriented E-W. The gully had slightly concave sides leading to a rounded base. Most probably represents a drainage gully. Natural was a light orange sandy clay with patches of grey-blue clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.34 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.10 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 39.10 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9500.000 | Layer | - | 0.25 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9500.001 | Layer | - | 0.10 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9500.002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 9500.003 | Cut | 0.68 | 0.30 | Cut of gully | - | - |
| 9500.004 | Fill | 0.68 | 0.30 | Single fill of gully | - | - |
| Trench 96 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | NE-SW |
| Trench contained a single ditch [9600.003] oriented NNE-SSW. The ditch had steep sloping sides leading to a flat base forming a roughly V-shaped profile. Most probably represents a boundary ditch. Subsoil was only present towards the SW end of the trench. Natural was mixed with areas of orange sand and light grey-blue clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.49 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.10 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 38.60 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9600.000 | Layer | - | 0.29 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9600.001 | Layer | - | 0.20 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9600.002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| 9600.003 | Cut | 1.20 | 0.42 | Cut of ditch | - | - |
| 9600.004 | Fill | 1.20 | 0.42 | Single fill of ditch | Pot | AD150-350 |
| Trench 97 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | | Orientation | N-S |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was a mixture of orange sand and grey-blue clay. | | | | | Avg. depth (m) | 0.32 |
| | | | | | Width (m) | 2.10 |
| | | | | | Length (m) | 38.70 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9700.000 | Layer | - | 0.20 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9700.001 | Layer | - | 0.12 | Subsoil | - | - |
| 9700.002 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |



| Trench 98 | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| General description | | | | Orientation | | NE-SW |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was an orange-brown sandy clay with flint inclusions. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.29 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2.30 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 38 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9800.000 | Layer | - | 0.29 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9800.001 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| Trench 99 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | | N-S |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was an orange-brown sandy clay with flint inclusions. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.30 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2.30 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 39 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 9900.000 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 9900.001 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| Trench 100 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | | N-S |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was a light orange-brown sandy clay. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.26 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2.30 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 38 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 10000.000 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 10000.000 | Layer | - | - | Natural | - | - |
| Trench 101 | | | | | | |
| General description | | | | Orientation | | E-W |
| Trench was devoid of archaeology. Natural was a light orange-brown sandy clay. | | | | Avg. depth (m) | | 0.35 |
| | | | | Width (m) | | 2.30 |
| | | | | Length (m) | | 39 |
| Contexts | | | | | | |
| context no | type | Width (m) | Depth (m) | comment | finds | date |
| 10100.000 | Layer | - | 0.35 | Topsoil | - | - |
| 10100.000 | Layer | - | - | Subsoil | - | - |



APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery report

By Daniel Stansbie and John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

- B.1.1 A total of 54 sherds, weighing 283 g were recovered during the second phase of the evaluation. This material was rapidly scanned to determine context-group dates and to assess the character of the pottery. Where necessary the pottery was examined under a binocular microscope at x20 magnification to aid in identification of the fabric. A note was made of the most diagnostic pottery.

Condition

- B.1.2 The pottery is in relatively good condition, with some large unabraded sherds with well preserved surfaces.

Description

- B.1.3 The assemblage is dominated by material of early Roman date (c AD43-200), with body sherds of shelly fabric (C10), medium sandy grey ware (R30), a body sherd of black-burnished ware (B10), pink-grogged ware (O81), white-slipped oxidised ware (Q20) and South-Gaulish samian ware (S20). There are also three jars in shelly fabric (C10). In addition there are seven body sherds of medieval date, including two that can be dated to the 13th-14th century.

Potential

- B.1.4 The assemblage is small and has little potential for further study. However, the presence of groups of early Roman pottery suggests settlement activity nearby. The medieval material is relatively fresh and may also indicate the presence of a settlement.

Table B1. Pottery

| Context | Sherd No | Weight (g) | Comments | Spot Date |
|----------|----------|------------|--|--|
| 5700.005 | 3 | 33 | medieval | medieval |
| 5700.013 | 2 | 10 | medieval body sherds | medieval |
| 5700.015 | 2 | 14 | Medieval body sherds | 13 th -14 th Centuries |
| 9100.005 | 15 | 66 | C10 shell-tempered fabrics (1 lid-seated jar), R30 medium sandy grey ware, B10 black-burnished ware (BB1) O81 pink-grogged ware, S20 south Gaulish samian ware | AD 43-120 |



| Context | Sherd No | Weight (g) | Comments | Spot Date |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|------------------|
| 9100.010 | 1 | 1 | Misc | Undated |
| 9100.020 | 5 | 9 | C10 shelly fabric, O20 oxidised ware, E80 grog-tempered ware | AD 43-120 |
| 9100.020 | 25 | 111 | C10 shelly fabrics, O20 oxidised fabrics (2 jars), Q20 oxidised white slipped ware | AD43-200 |
| 9600.004 | 2 | 39 | O81 pink-grogged ware body sherds | AD150-350 |
| Totals | 55 | 283 | | |



B.2 Animal bone report

By Lena Strid

Introduction

B.2.1 In total, 218 animal bones were recovered from the evaluation. They derived from two contexts: an upper fill (9100.010) of a Romano-British ditch and a pit fill (5700.015), of medieval date (see table B.1, above). All bones were in a good condition, and there were no traces of gnawing or burning.

Romano-British

B.2.2 The Romano-British ditch fill contained 154 bones from a partially articulated horse. Bones from the limbs and torso were present, whereas the skull and upper hind legs were missing. As all bones (including the late-fusing vertebrae) were fused, the horse must have been over 5 years old at death. A comparison of measurements from other Romano-British horses (ABMAP database) show that the Brooklands horse is within the size range for metacarpal and radius, albeit in the upper range. Cut marks on the phalanges indicate that the horse hide had been recovered for later utilisation. The absence of other cut marks and gnaw marks suggest that the horse flesh was not utilised for dog food, nor were dogs or other carnivores/omnivores able to get access to the carcass after deposition. The tarsals and three phalanges displayed exostoses typical of muscle strains, indicating the horse had been used for traction or similar work.

Medieval

B.2.3 The medieval pit fill contained 164 bones from a minimum number of four lambs. Bones from the skull and mandible are far more frequent than bones from the torso and the limbs. It is not clear whether this is the result of differential preservation or the deposition of partial carcasses. All dp4 teeth are unworn, indicating that the lambs died at a very young age, possibly even at birth. Butchering marks were absent, although the relative scarcity of meat-rich body parts makes it difficult to be certain whether or not these lambs were consumed.

Discussion

B.2.4 It is difficult to ascertain the full significance of this bone assemblage due to its small size. The apparent horse burial is, however, of interest. Articulating horse remains are relatively rare in the UK, although more common elsewhere in Europe (Levine *et al.* 2002), but several examples have been discovered in Romano-British contexts often associated with human burials. Examples where no human burial was involved include Latton Lands, Gloucestershire (Poole forthcoming) and Icklingham, Suffolk (Levine *et al.* 2002). In both cases it is unclear whether the remains represent "ritual" activity or carcass disposal. At Latton Lands, the articulated horse remains were present alongside other articulated animals deliberately placed in pits, suggesting these were "special deposits". In the Iron Age, deliberate burial of larger species including cattle and horse are more commonly found as articulated units or skulls rather than as whole animals (Wait 1985, 134-7).

B.2.5 It is recommended that this assemblage should be further considered should the site proceed to full excavation.

Table B.2. Bone assemblage from context 5700.015.

| Sheep bone type | Quantity |
|-----------------|----------|
| Skull fragments | 95 |



| Sheep bone type | Quantity |
|-------------------|------------|
| Mandible | 7 |
| Loose teeth | 18 |
| Atlas | 1 |
| Axis | 1 |
| Vertebra | 9 |
| Rib | 1 |
| Scapula | 2 |
| Humerus | 1 |
| Radius | 2 |
| Ulna | 1 |
| Carpal bones | 6 |
| Metacarpal | 3 |
| Metatarsal | 2 |
| Phalanx 1 | 8 |
| Phalanx 2 | 5 |
| Long bone | 2 |
| Total | 164 |
| Weight (g) | 120 |

Table B.3. Bone assemblage from context 9100.010.

| Horse bone type | Quantity |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Vertebra | 24 |
| Rib | 21 |
| Scapula | 2 |
| Humerus | 1 |
| Radius | 1 |
| Ulna | 1 |
| Metacarpal | 2 |
| Lateral metacarpal | 1 |
| Pelvis | 1 |
| Tibia | 2 |
| Calcaneus | 1 |
| Astragalus | 2 |
| Tarsal bones | 5 |
| Metatarsal | 2 |
| Lateral metatarsal | 1 |
| Phalanx 1 | 3 |
| Phalanx 2 | 1 |
| Phalanx 3 | 2 |
| Long bone | 16 |
| Indeterminate lateral metapodial | 2 |
| Indeterminate carpal/tarsal | 1 |
| Indeterminate | 6 |
| TOTAL | 154 |
| Weight (g) | 3344 |

Table B.4. Measurements (mm).

| Species | Bone | n | Bd | SD | BFd |
|---------|------------|---|------|------|------|
| Horse | Metacarpal | 1 | 50.6 | 32.0 | |
| Horse | Radius | 1 | 81.3 | | 65.8 |

Table B.5. Comparisons of horse measurements between BRBR07 and the ABMAP database (Early Roman-Late Roman).

| Site | Bone | Measurement | n | Mean | Min | Max |
|------------|------------|-------------|----|------|------|------|
| Brooklands | Metacarpal | Bd | 1 | 50.6 | | |
| ABMAP | | | 23 | 46.4 | 28.0 | 65.7 |
| Brooklands | Radius | Bd | 1 | 81.3 | | |
| ABMAP | | | 22 | 69.9 | 61.7 | 87.0 |

Table B.6. Number of bones and weight per context.

| Context | Species | No. of bones (refitted) | Sum of weight (g) |
|----------|---------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 5700.015 | Sheep | 164 | 120 |
| 9100.010 | Horse | 154 | 3344 |

B.3 Flint report

By David Mullin

Introduction

B.3.1 A total of 4 flints were recovered from 3 stratified contexts, but all appear to be residual.

Methods

B.3.2 The flint was catalogued according to a broad debitage, core or tool type. Information about burning and breaks was recorded and where identifiable raw material type was also noted. Where possible dating was attempted.

Cores

B.3.3 Cores were classified according to the number and position of their platforms, following Clark (1960), and core maintenance pieces were classified to the following criteria. Core rejuvenation flakes are pieces representing the removal of the top or bottom of a core in order to improve the flaking angle of the platform. Core trimming flakes are flakes which remove a substantial part of a core in order to aid working by removing an imperfection in the core, a miss-hit or other impediment to flaking. The nature of any remnant flake scars on the dorsal surface of core trimming flakes was noted.

Flakes

B.3.4 Flakes were classified following Saville (1990, 155), which allows an identification of the stage in the core reduction process to which the flake belongs. Terminations such as hinge fractures were noted. Chips are defined as pieces measuring less than 10mm by 10mm. Flakes having a proportions length to breadth ratio of greater than 2:1 were classified as blade-like, those with a greater length to breadth ratio being classified as blades. Mid-sections of blades with no bulb of percussion were classified as blade shatter (Andrefsky 1998, 81-3).

B.3.5 Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (Bamford 1985; Healy 1988; Bradley 1999; Butler 2005).

B.3.6 No attempt was made at refitting or use-wear analysis.



Results

Condition

- B.3.7 The flint is generally in a good condition: the assemblage is relatively fresh and unrolled.

Raw materials

- B.3.8 The raw materials exploited at the site consist of dark brown flint of reasonable flaking quality, possibly derived from a local gravel source

Technology and Dating

- B.3.9 The material recovered from the excavations consists of waste flakes from the latter stages of the reduction sequence. This material is not highly diagnostic, but the narrowness of the blade and the facets on the core trimming flake suggest a late Mesolithic/early Neolithic date.

Discussion

- B.3.10 The assemblage from the site appears to be residual within later features and the small quantities recovered limits the interpretation of the material beyond illustrating a human presence in the local area during the earlier prehistoric period.

Recommendations

- B.3.11 The assemblage is generally of low potential and requires no further work.

Table B.7. Flint

| Context No. | Description | Raw Material |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| 5700.113 | Broken tertiary flake | dark brown flint |
| 5700.113 | Distal end of narrow blade, subsequent utilisation along both lateral margins | dark brown flint |
| 5700.113 | core trimming flake from narrow blade core with subsequent retouch along one lateral margin | dark brown flint |
| 8800.005 | core trimming flake from narrow blade core | dark brown flint |

B.4 Iron objects report

By Edward Biddulph

- B.4.1 Two iron objects were recovered from the evaluation; both were highly corroded:
- (i) A square-headed nail of possible Roman date was recovered from context 9100.005.
 - (ii) Context 5700.015 contained an amorphous iron fragment that could not be closely dated.



APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Brooklands Phase 1 Evaluation - Environmental samples

by Rachel Scales and Rebecca Nicholson

Introduction

C.1.1 Two bulk soil samples were collected for charred plant remains (CPR) and the recovery of bones and artefacts from secure ditch fills dating to the Romano-British period. Both samples were taken from Trench 91 which had the highest concentration of archaeological features. This activity is thought to be associated with the Romano-British settlement found to the south of the site in the Broughton Manor Farm excavation. Prior to the evaluation works the site had been used for arable farming.

C.1.2 Sampling was undertaken specifically to:

- (i) Characterise (a) the nature of soils and sediments and (b) the assemblages of biological material.
- (ii) Identify the range of soils and sediments, as well as the range, quality, method of preservation and concentration of preserved plant and animal remains.
- (iii) Assess the archaeological (and historical) relevance and importance of the biological material and sediments.
- (iv) Recommend any suitable further work required on the material recovered by the evaluation excavation
- (v) Make further recommendations about sampling for future excavations at the site.

Method

C.1.3 The volume of each bulk soil sample collected was 40L. These were processed by water flotation using a modified Siraf tank, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue (the material which does not float) sieved to 500µm. Flots and heavy residues were dried in a heated room at approximately 30°C, following which the residues were sorted by eye for artefacts and biological remains.

C.1.4 A portion of the flots were scanned for charred plant remains using a low-power binocular microscope at x15 magnification. Identifications were made without comparison to the Oxford Archaeology's reference collection and, therefore, should all be seen as provisional. Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (1997).

Results

General

C.1.5 Both samples comprised sandy clay with gravel. No evidence of anaerobic preservation was observed.

The Residues

C.1.6 The samples were generally quite sandy and produced large gravelly heavy residues. The heavy residues from the samples were sorted for small bones and artefacts and small quantities of CPR were also noted. Animal bone, pottery, burnt clay, slag, and burnt flint were also recovered (Table C.2). Sample 33 (9100.010) contained a large number of bones associated with a partially articulated horse skeleton found in this feature. It also contained small quantities of pottery, burnt flint and slag. Sample 34



(9100.020) contained several pieces of pottery, animal bone (some burnt), burnt clay and burnt flint (Table C.2). Bone associated with the horse skeleton in sample <33> was well preserved. In contrast, only a few poorly preserved fragments were retrieved from <34>.

Table C.1. Number of finds recovered from the heavy residues.

| Sample Number | Context Number | Pottery | Burnt Clay | Bone | Charred Plant Remains | Burnt Flint | Slag |
|---------------|----------------|---------|------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|------|
| 33 | 9100.010 | <5 | - | >100 | <5 | <5 | <5 |
| 34 | 9100.020 | <25 | <25 | <25 | <5 | <25 | - |

The Flots

- C.1.7 Table C.3 summarises the assessment results for the flots recovered from the two samples. Both samples produced a flot containing a small quantity of charred plant material.
- C.1.8 In general the charred plant remains (e.g. weed seeds, cereal grains, etc.) were very limited. Both flots consisted largely of modern plant material including roots, straw and weed seeds. Charcoal was present in the samples, however it was typically very small-sized (<2 mm) and poorly preserved.
- C.1.9 In sample 33 (9100.010) some fungal spores and a small number of gallium (*Gallium* sp(p).) seeds were observed. Sample 34 (9100.020) contained a few examples of poorly preserved free-threshing bread wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains and chaff. Weed seeds such as dock (*Rumex* sp(p).), gallium (*Gallium* sp(p).) and small grass (Poaceae) seeds were also noted.

Table C.2. Summary of flots

| Sample Number | Context Number | Feature Type | Sample Volume (litres) | Flot Volume (ml) | Grain | Chaff | Weeds | Charcoal | Comments on CPR | CPR potential | Full Analysis |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--|---------------|---------------|
| 33 | 9100.010 | Ditch | 40 | 20- | - | - | + | + | Modern chaff and plant material observed. Charcoal was present, but it was small (<2mm) and poorly preserved. A number of small fungal spores and gallium (<i>Gallium</i> spp.) seeds were noted. | C | No |
| 34 | 9100.020 | Ditch | 40 | 30 | + | + | + | ++ | Modern chaff and plant material observed. Charcoal was present, but much of it was small (<2mm) and poorly preserved. Overall the preservation of the seeds was poor. A few poorly preserved free threshing bread wheat (<i>Triticum</i> sp.) grains and chaff were noted. Weed / wild taxa observed include dock (<i>Rumex</i> spp.), gallium (<i>Gallium</i> spp.) and small grass (Pozceae) seeds. | C | No |

* In all cases 100% of the flot was assessed.

Key: + = < 10 items, ++ = 10 – 50 items, +++ = 50 – 100 items, ++++ > 100 items. CPR Potential scores: A** = extremely rich sample with > 1000 identifications, A* = rich sample with > 500 identifications, A = rich sample with 300 – 500 items, B = sample with between 100 to 300 identifiable items, usually closer to 100 and C = sample with < 50 items.



Discussion

Bones and Artefacts

- C.1.10 The processing of these two bulk soil samples has yielded only a small quantity of finds. While the samples were not 'finds rich', the presence of the horse skeleton and pottery suggest that there may have been a settlement nearby.

Charred Plant Remains -comparison with other sites in the region and potential

- C.1.11 Four sites from the Roman period with published plant macro fossil assemblages can be found within the Milton Keynes area itself [Heelands and Windmill Hill, Milton Keynes (Jones 1987); Pennyland, Milton Keynes (Jones 1993); Three Locks Golf Course, Milton Keynes (Allen & Wyles 1991; Letts 2000)]. One further site within a 15 mile radius of Brooklands can be found in Bedfordshire [Norse Road, Bedford. (Scaife & Allen 2001)]. Numerous Roman sites within a 50 mile radius of Brooklands have published plant macro fossil assemblages, in both Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire.

Recommendations

- C.1.12 These two samples have demonstrated that charred plant remains and bones are preserved on site, but the potential for palaeoenvironmental indicators (waterlogged plant remains, insects, pollen and molluscs) appears to be low.
- C.1.13 The preservation and abundance of biological materials within these two samples is similar to that recorded from the previous evaluation (Scales 2007). The charred plant remains in most of the flots assessed so far from Brooklands bulk soil samples have generally also provided only small quantities of CPR (usually well below <50 identifiable items) and a limited range of taxa. Van der Veen and Fieller (1982) have strongly argued that assemblages of <100 identifications are unlikely to be of interpretable value, and given the number of available reports on Roman plant remains from sites in the vicinity, it is recommended that these two particular flots should not be analysed further. It is, however, clear that charred plant remains and bone are preserved at Brooklands, and the abundance of remains seems likely to relate to aspects of deposition rather than survival. Occasional features with significant assemblages of CPR have been recovered from the previous phases of work at the site, so it is recommended that the current policy of taking 40L bulk samples from secure and potentially datable features is continued, with an emphasis on pits and features likely to be associated with settlement.
- C.1.14 Although waterlogged features were not encountered during this evaluation, should any be found during subsequent excavations in the area, then specialist sampling advice should be sought.



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APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Land at Brooklands, Milton Keynes, Phase 1

Site code: BRBR07

Grid reference: SP 907 397

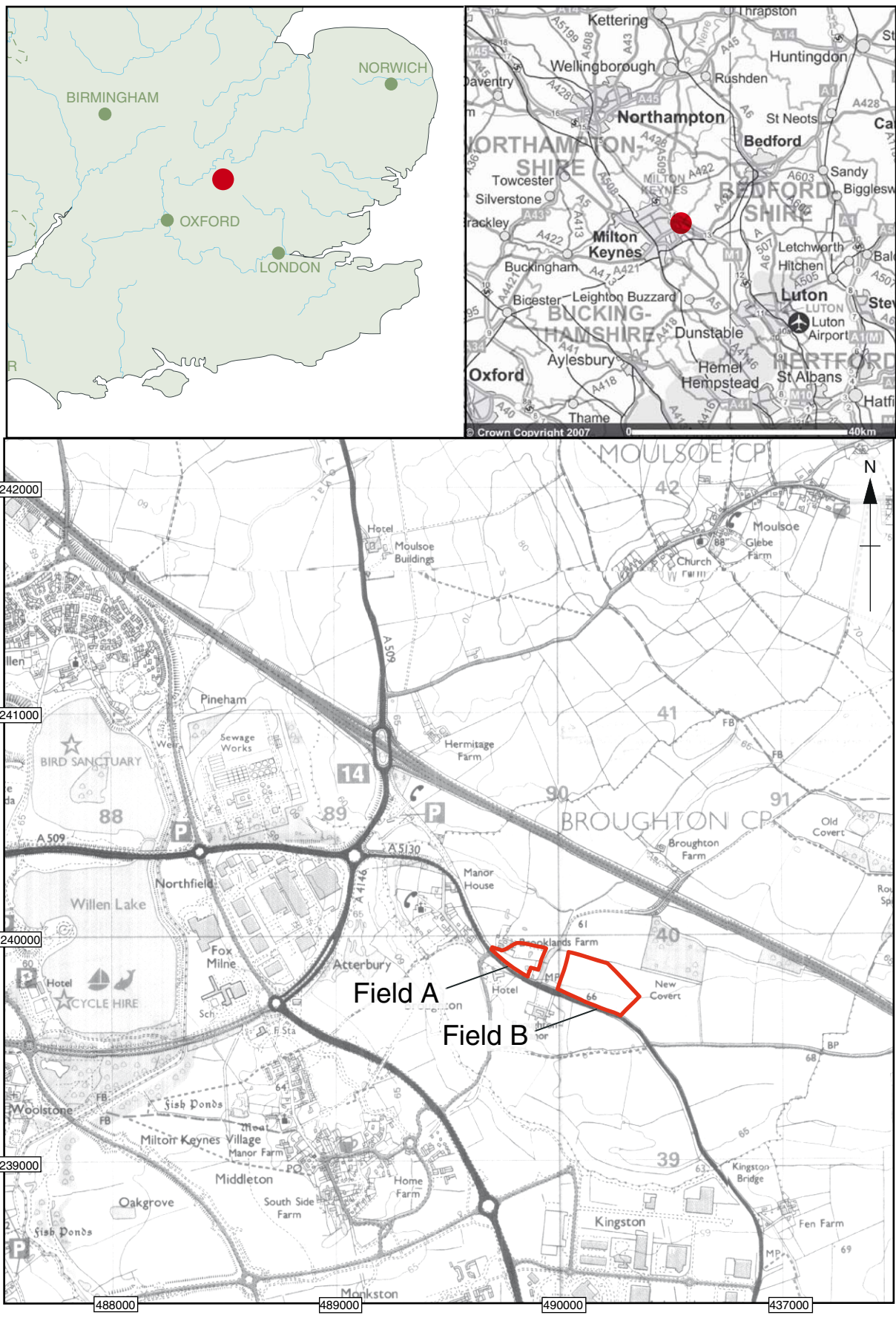
Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: Fieldwork occurred between the 9th and 14th of March 2008

Area of site: 48.8 ha

Summary of results: A total of 20 trenches, remaining from the previous Phase 1 works, were excavated and recorded across the area at the southern end of the Phase 1 area. The evaluation identified additional medieval activity near to that discovered during the previous evaluation, although it is not yet known whether these are part of the same activity. The evaluation also identified a continuation of the Romano British activity area identified in the Broughton Manor Farm excavation to the south.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Buckinghamshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: AYBCM:2007.113



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Figure 1: Site location map



Figure 2: Phase 1 trench plan showing fields A and B



Figure 3: Trenches in Field A

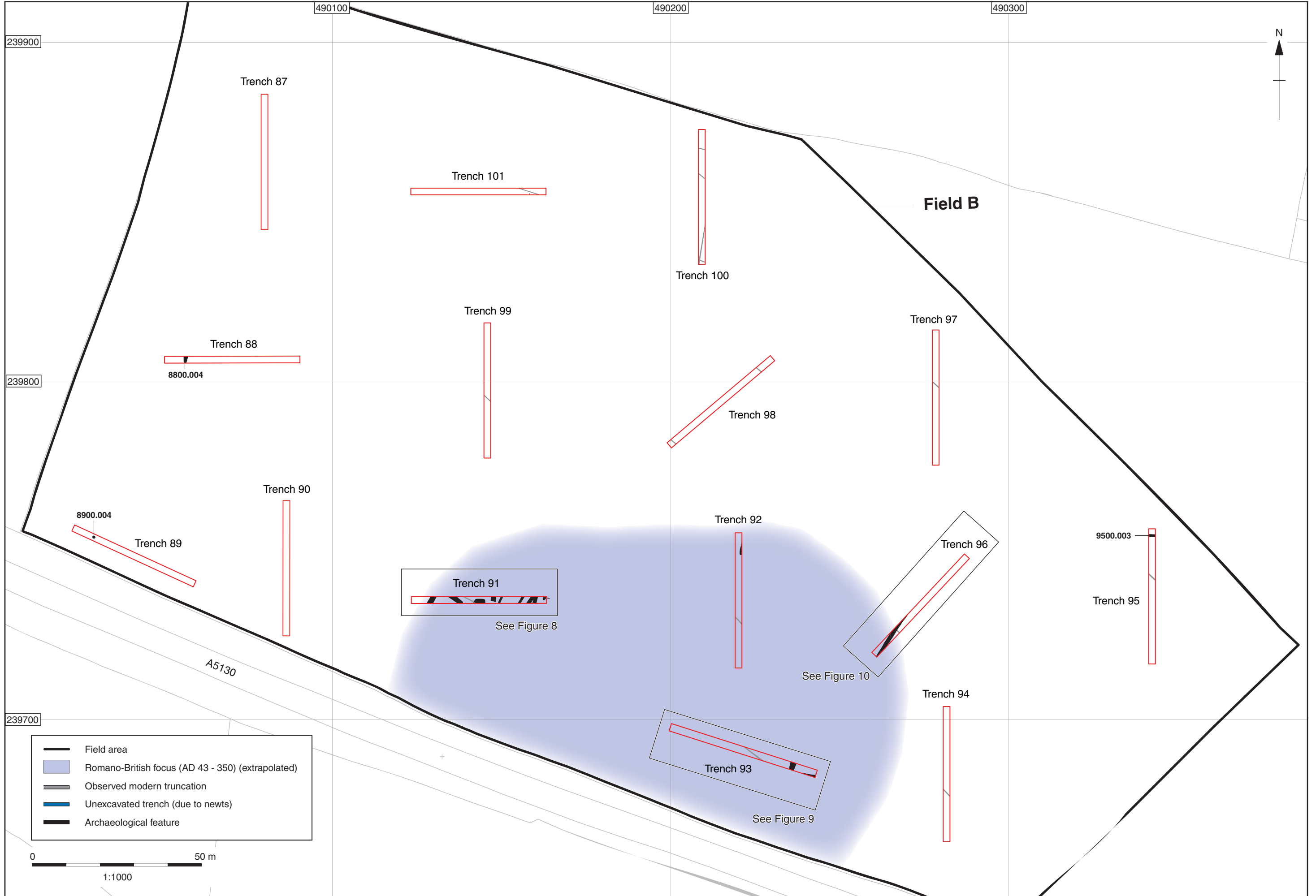


Figure 4: Trenches in Field B

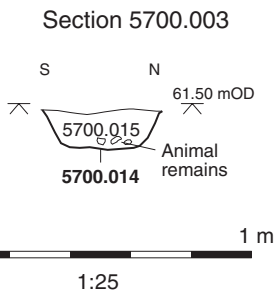
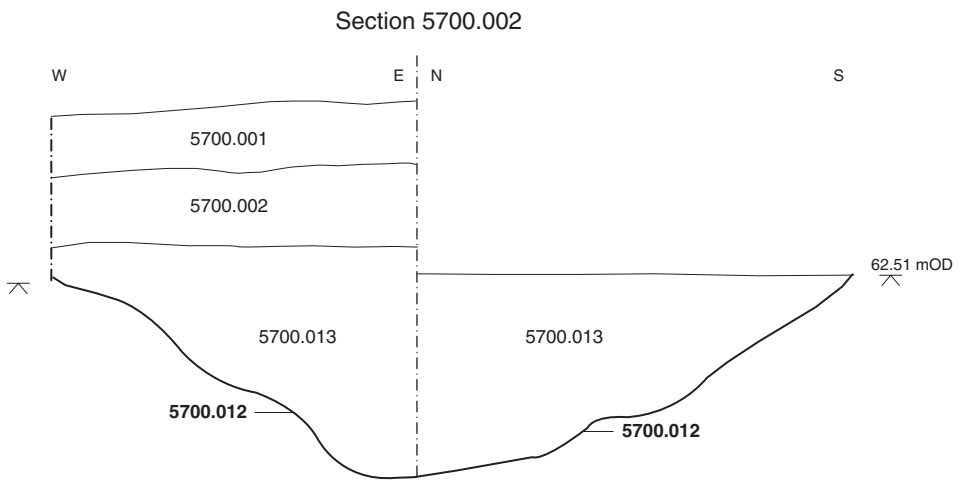
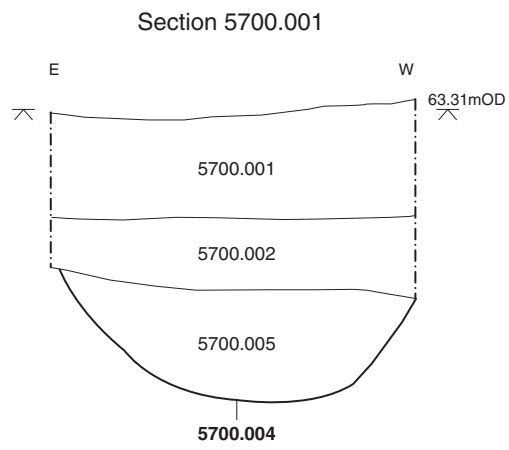
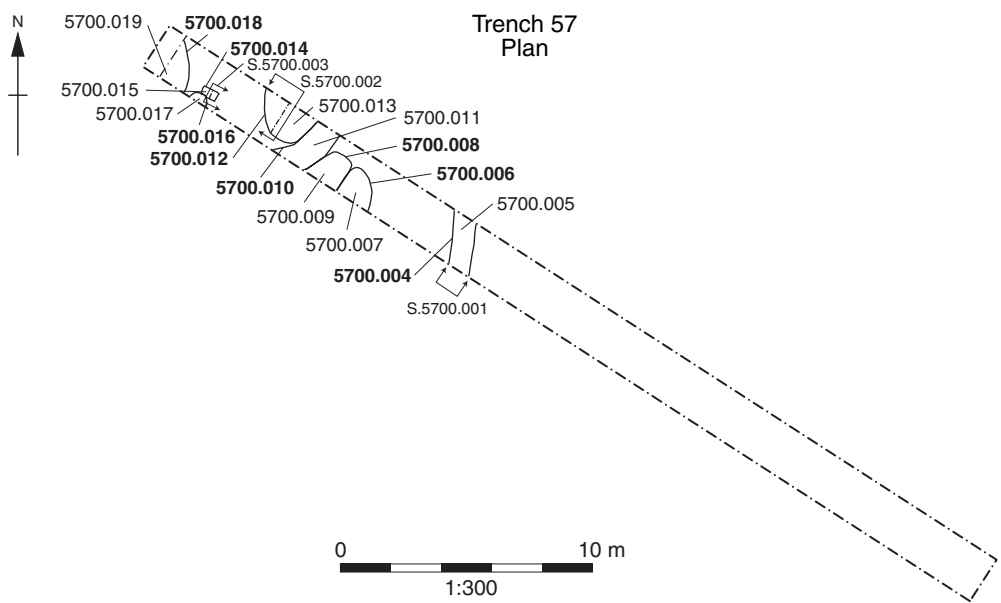


Figure 5: Trench 57, plan and sections

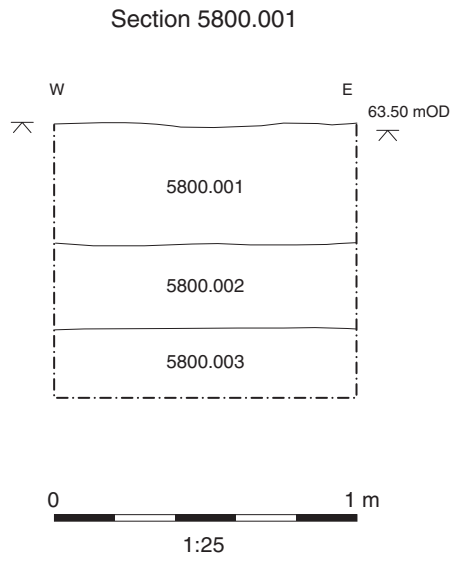
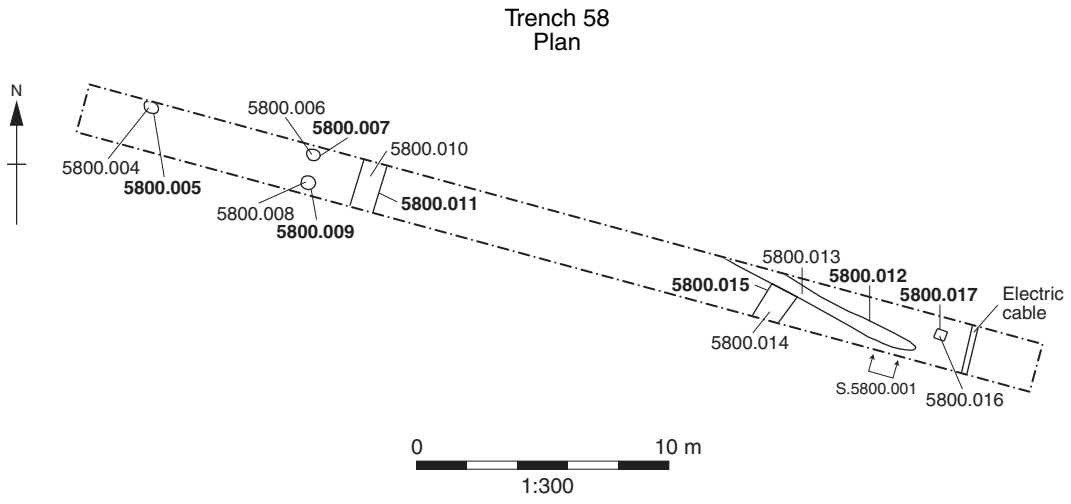


Figure 6: Trench 58, plan and section

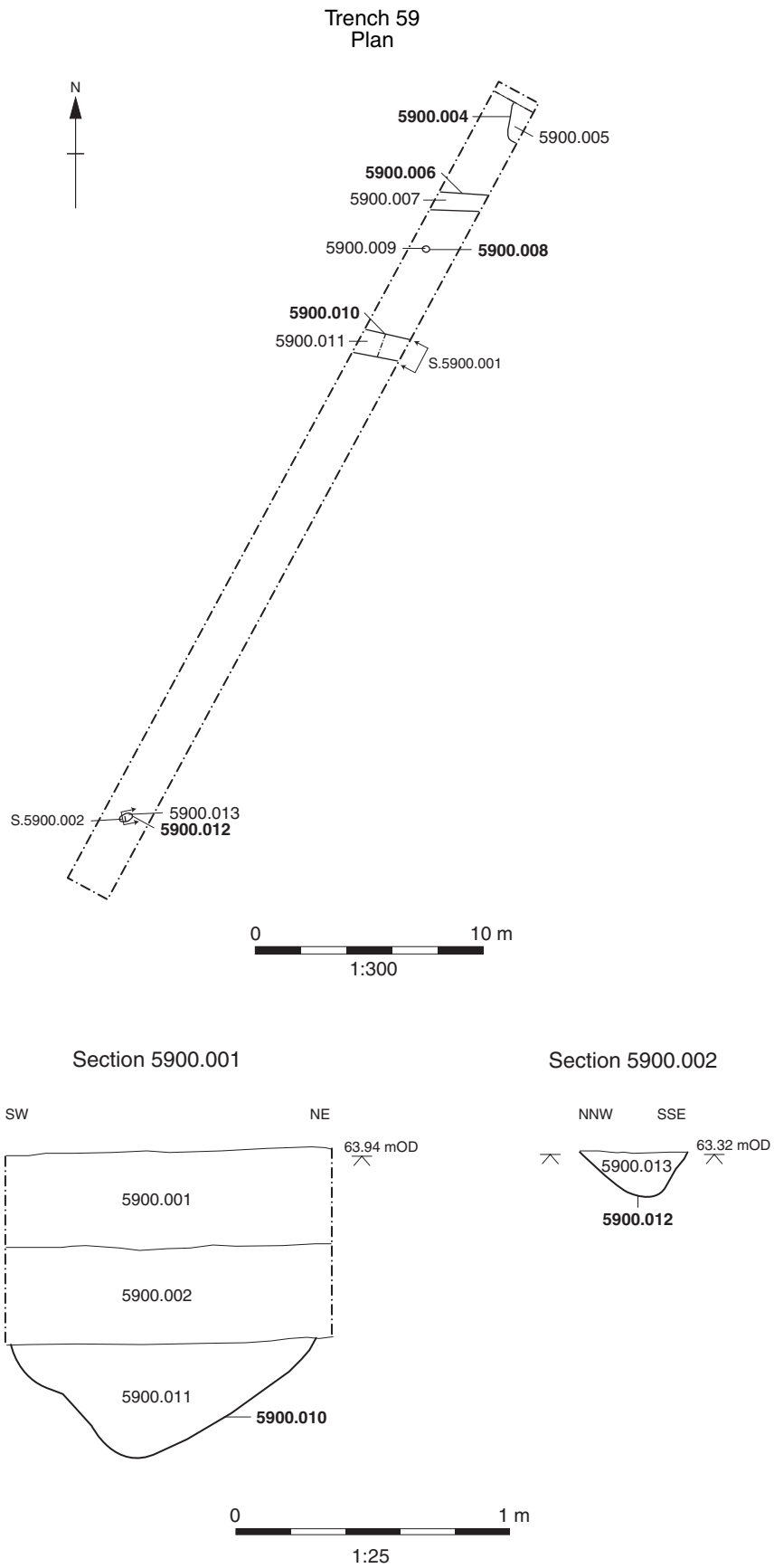


Figure 7: Trench 59, plan and sections

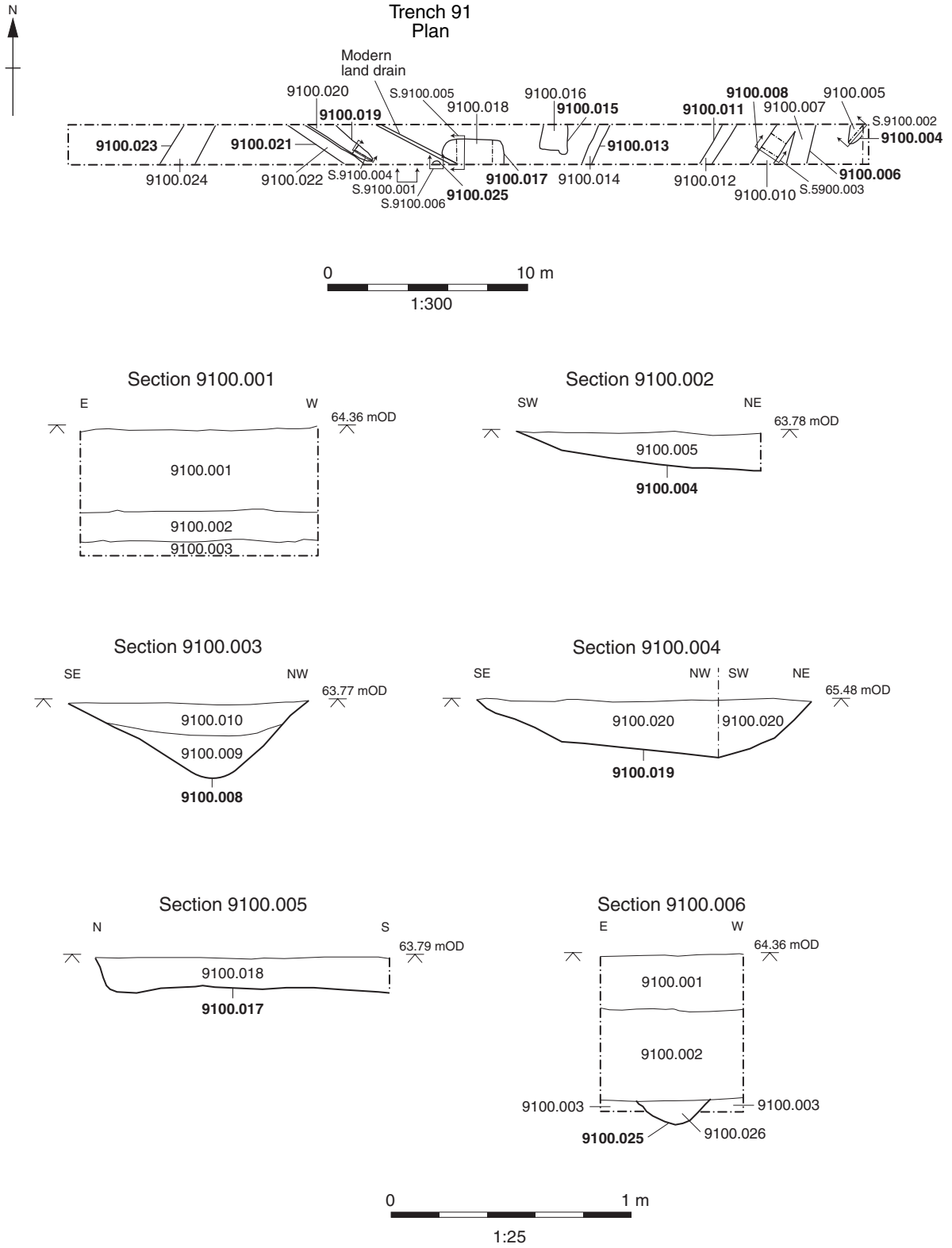


Figure 8: Trench 91, plan and sections

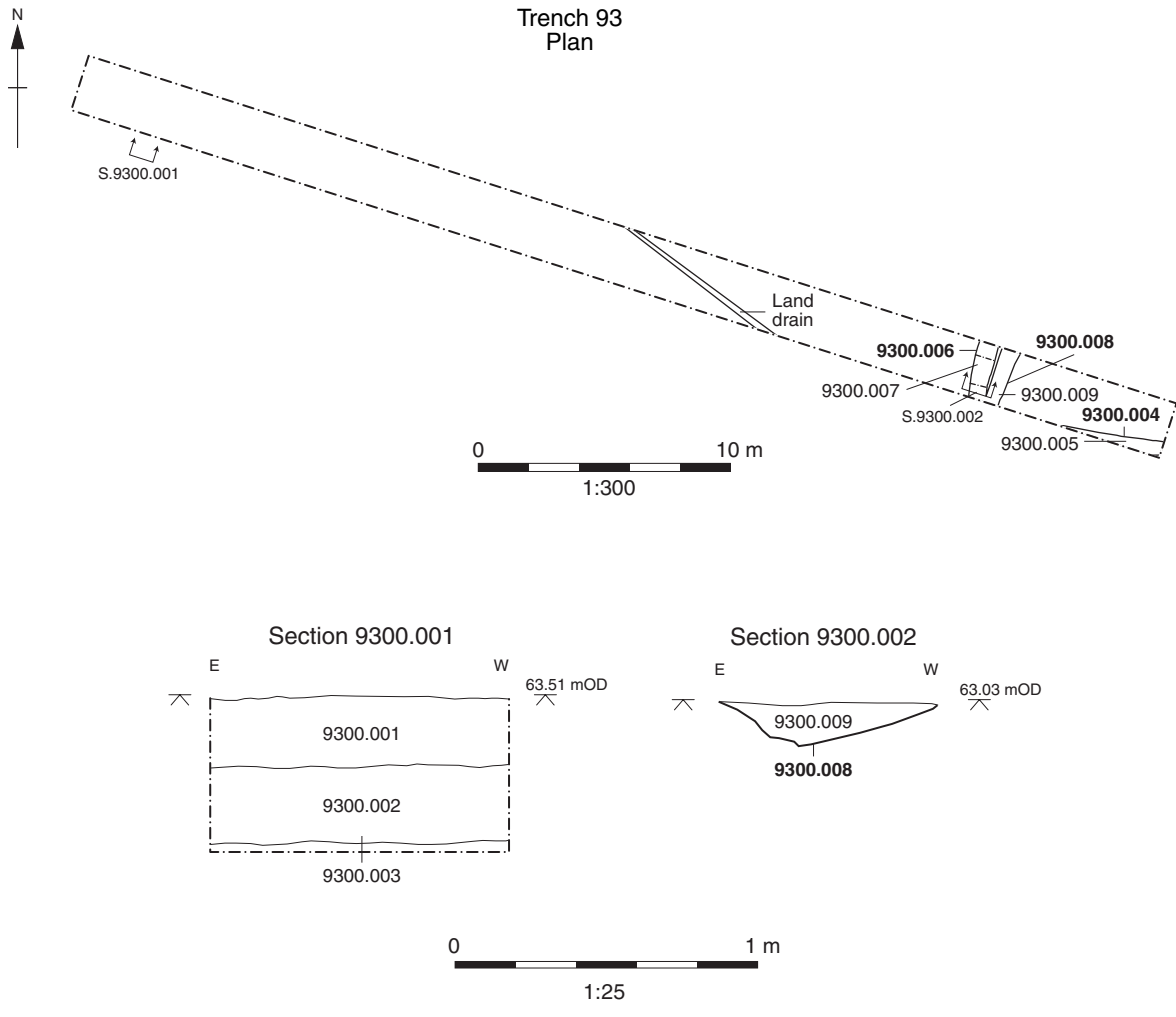


Figure 9: Trench 93, plan and sections

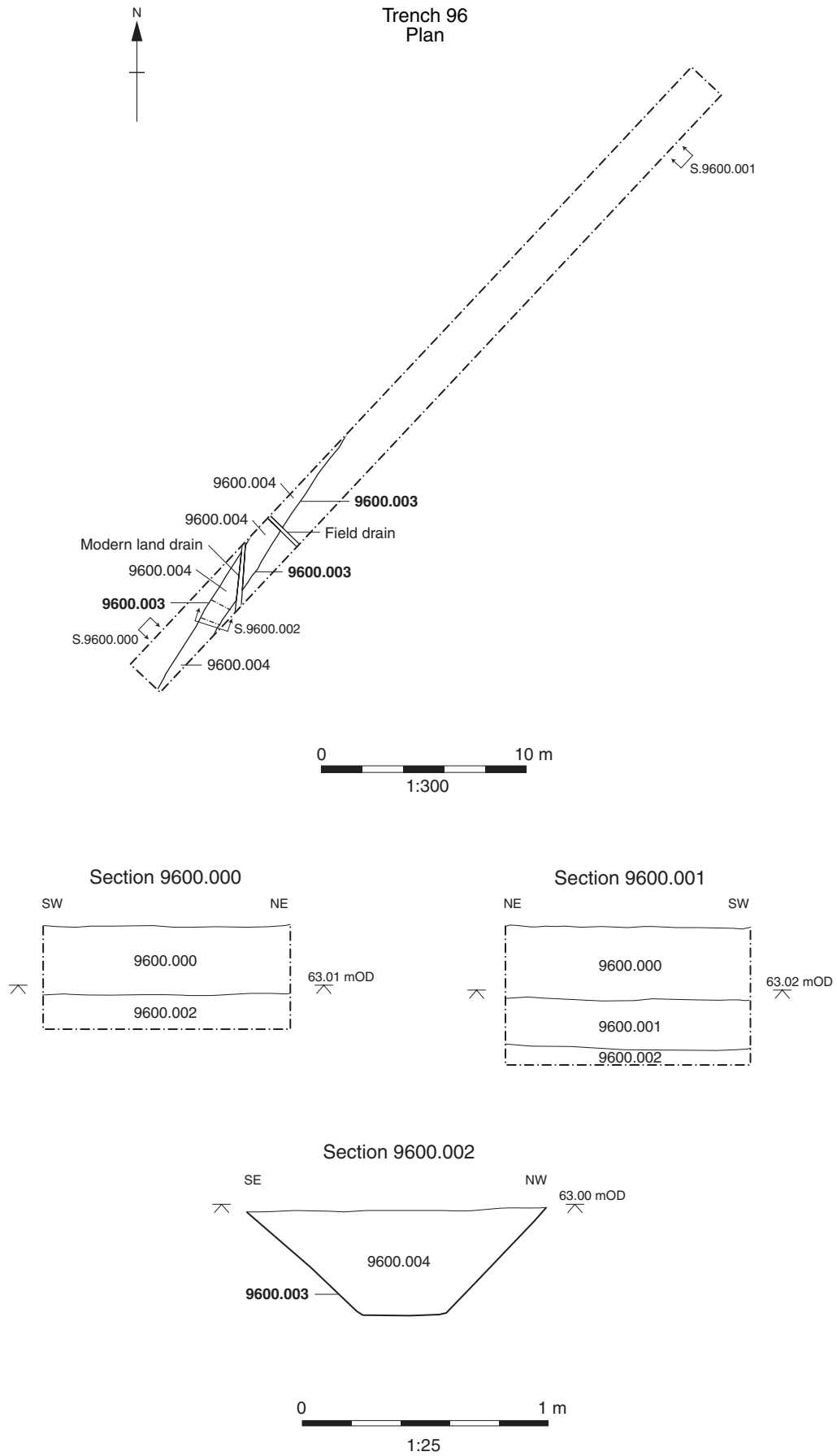


Figure 10: Trench 96, plan and sections



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