

Land to the north of Kettering Northamptonshire



Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report



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NGR SP 861 811

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

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SUMMARY

In July 2004, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological field evaluation and watching briefs on land to the north of Kettering, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 861 811) for John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, on behalf of Manly Project Services.

Much of the evaluation work was sited to target the results of a geophysical survey, which had identified a number of potential archaeological features. These included an area of possible pits, a possible field system and an enclosure with an inner circular feature. The evaluation demonstrated that the features recognised in the geophysical survey, where they were present within the trenches, were either geological in origin or were the result of natural drainage within the site. Seven sherds (19 g) of Iron Age pottery were retrieved from the subsoil within Trench 13, which was sited to test a possible enclosure, but these were not associated with any feature, whether archaeological or geological, or with any geophysical anomaly. Worked flint was recovered from the subsoil of three of the trenches.

The watching briefs were carried out on the haul road and a new balancing pond. The haul road revealed no features and the balancing pond only modern, agricultural features. A number of pieces of worked flint were retrieved from the subsoil on both areas, including a barbed and tanged arrowhead from the subsoil of the balancing pond.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In July 2004, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation and watching brief on land to the north of Kettering, Northamptonshire on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC) in respect of a planning application for business development (Planning ref: KE/02/0943). John Samuels Archaeological Consultants were acting on behalf of Manly Project Services.
- 1.1.2 The development site is situated on land off Glendon Road, to the north of Kettering, centred on NGR SP 861 811. It is bounded by Glendon Lodge to the north, a railway and the A43 trunk road to the west and east respectively, and Slade Brook to the south. The area of the site is approximately 67.5 hectares, at an altitude of 75m OD to the south and 110m OD to the north.
- 1.1.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment (JSAC1113/03/02) confirmed that much of the site has been quarried for ironstone, leaving an area of 18.5 ha. unquarried and therefore with potential for archaeological remains. Much of this unquarried area was the subject of a geophysical survey (GSB, Geophysical Survey Report 2004/32) in May 2004 (Fig 2).
- 1.1.4 Specifications for both an archaeological evaluation and a watching brief during the construction of a balancing pond were produced by JSAC (JSAC 1113/04/01a and JSAC 1113/04/02), on behalf of Manly Project Services Ltd. These were approved by the Historic Environment Team of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC). The watching brief specification was varied, by means of a letter to Kettering Borough Council and the Historic Environment Team, to include the construction of a haul road.
- 1.1.5 It was agreed that an archaeological evaluation would take place across much of the site, consisting of the machine excavation of 28 trenches of various lengths (Fig. 2). The majority of these were located to target geophysical anomalies with three trenches located to test blank areas. Extensions to trenches 13 and 14 (Fig. 2) were agreed on site by Simon Mortimer of JSAC and Myk Flitcroft of NCC.
- 1.1.6 The construction of a 4 hectare balancing pond at the southern extent of the proposed development area was subject to a watching brief, as was a haul road through the site (Figures 2 & 3). The haul road was sited so as to avoid the majority of the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies within the parishes of Rushton and Weekley, rising from a height of 75m OD at Slade Brook in the south to 110m OD at Glendon Road in the north. The soils are the generally well drained but locally waterlogged ferruginous soils of the

Banbury association, overlying Jurassic and Cretaceous ironstone. When the project commenced on 5 July 2004 the area was mainly in agricultural use, both arable and pasture.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the evaluation has been the subject of a separate desk study, the results of which are summarised below (JSAC 1113/03/02).
- 1.3.2 A flint-working site is recorded immediately to the south of the southern boundary of the development site. Quantities of Bronze Age material, including a miniature bipartite vessel have been found during ironstone quarrying, either on, or in the vicinity of the site. Excavations prior to ironstone working south-east of Weekley Hall Wood, c1km to the east of the site, have revealed evidence for Iron Age settlement. Similar evidence has also been recovered from quarries in Geddington, to the north-east of the site.
- 1.3.3 A large, c 22-25 hectare, unwallled Roman settlement occupied much of the northern part of Kettering, extending into the parishes of Weekley and Geddington. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments describes the area of Kettering, Geddington and Weekley as 'apparently semi-urbanised or at least densely occupied' during the Roman period. Remains indicative of Roman settlement were also recovered during construction of the railway line in 1854, at Glendon, approximately 400m from the north-western site boundary.
- 1.3.4 Although an early Saxon cemetery is located immediately to the south of the area of Roman settlement at Kettering there is little evidence for activity of this date within the vicinity of the site. The Domesday Book (1086) records that Kettering was held by the Abbey of Peterborough and comprised 10 hides, land for 16 ploughs and meadow, woodland and two mills. There were thirty-one villagers and a female slave. Kettering was granted a weekly market in 1227. A three field open system was in operation in 1341 and prior to enclosure there were three open fields, with an area of older enclosure to the west and a common to the north.
- 1.3.5 Speed's map of 1610 shows Kettering and Weekley, but not Glendon, where only the hall and a few houses remained at this time. The present Glendon Hall dates to the early 17th century, with 18th-century additions.
- 1.3.6 Northamptonshire experienced substantial urban growth during the 19th century, which is reflected in the growth of Kettering. By the end of the 18th century Kettering had become a modest centre for textile manufacture but in the succeeding century shoe manufacture and the extraction of iron ore became increasingly important. Large scale ironstone extraction began after the opening of the Midland Railway line in 1857 and by 1873 the area was contributing nearly 10% of total British production. The areas of working immediately to the south of Glendon Road were restored by about 1917. No railways or tramways remain within the site.

1.3.7 The geophysical survey (GSB, Geophysical Survey Report 2004/32), which covered 15 hectares of the site, produced results which were summarised as follows :

‘Detailed survey revealed a small circular enclosure within a large square enclosure in the centre of the study area; strong responses in this area may indicate cultivation and industrial activity associated with this site. At the southern end of the site three groups of very strong responses may also indicate industrial activity, however it is equally possible that they represent outcropping geology. At the northern end of the site a scatter of pit type anomalies may be archaeological in origin.’

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1.1 The aims of the watching brief and evaluation trenches were:

- to determine the presence or otherwise of buried remains of archaeological interest within the development area;
- to define their character, extent, date, quality and preservation which will allow an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate and the Local Planning Authority to make an informed decision regarding its suitability for development;
- to preserve by record any significant archaeological remains within the development area and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.
- With specific relation to the evaluation works, the primary aim of the fieldwork was to determine the reliability of the geophysical survey as an indicator of the site’s archaeological potential. The trenches were targeted to establish the nature of individual geophysical anomalies and also to test blank areas.

3 EVALUATION & WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

Watching Brief

- 3.1.1 A watching brief was carried out on a haul road, approximately 15 m wide, from Glendon Road to the balancing pond (Fig. 2). This involved monitoring the stripping of top and subsoil along the length of the road. In practice, much of the area was only stripped of part of the topsoil.
- 3.1.2 A watching brief was also carried out on a 4 hectare area during the construction of a balancing pond at the southern extent of the site (Fig. 3). This involved monitoring the removal of top and subsoil across the whole of the balancing pond area.

Evaluation

3.1.3 This involved the machine excavation of twenty-eight trenches, of varying lengths, totalling 1120m by 1.8m (Fig. 2). These trenches targeted the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey as well as sampling areas not covered by the survey.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

Watching Brief

3.2.1 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 3.0 m wide toothless bucket.

3.2.2 In the case of the haul road, excavation consisted of the removal of part or all of the topsoil and did not reach archaeological or natural horizons.

3.2.3 Excavations on the balancing pond involved the stripping of topsoil, and subsoil across the area and then, in parts, the removal of part of the natural deposits. Where archaeological deposits were encountered, machining ceased whilst these were excavated and recorded, and then continued.

Evaluation

3.2.4 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8 m wide toothless grading bucket. Excavation proceeded to the top of the natural geology or to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first.

3.2.5 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and where possible to retrieve dating evidence. All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. The trenches were planned at a scale of 1:100. Section drawings of features and sample sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All features, sections and trenches were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in OA's *Fieldwork Manual* (OAU 1992).

3.2.6 Trenches 13 and 14 had been sited to sample the square 'enclosure' and the circular internal feature identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). Although some geological banding within the trench correlated with the position of some of the geophysical results, there was no overall correlation. The trench was left open to weather, rigorously cleaned and sondages were excavated to ensure that nothing had been overlooked, but no archaeology was present within the trench. In addition, in order to ensure that the features were not present as archaeology within the adjoining area, and in an attempt to clarify their nature, the trenches were extended. This decision was taken after discussions between Simon Mortimer of JSAC and Myk Flitcroft of NCC.

3.2.7 Trench 13 was extended 2.5 m northwards near its eastern end, and a 30 m north-south extension was added at right angles (Figs.3 and 5). Trench 14 was extended southwards by 4 m near its eastern end.

3.3 Finds

3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of obvious modern origin within the ploughsoil were evaluated on site, but not retained. All the finds recovered from the archaeological features were retained.

4 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

4.1 General

4.1.1 A general description of the soils, ground conditions, stratigraphic sequence and distribution of archaeological deposits is given below. Trenches containing no archaeology have only a basic description. Trenches containing features are described in detail.

4.1.2 The trench descriptions are followed by a summary and discussion of the results.

4.1.3 A table detailing individual contexts is given in Appendix 1.

4.2 Soils and ground conditions

4.2.1 The site generally slopes gently downhill from the Glendon Road in the north to Slade Brook at the southern extent of the site. Within this general trend there are also two dry valleys forming hollows in the landscape, aligned north to south. These are most pronounced in the area of Trenches 9 and 19.

4.2.2 The balancing pond was excavated to the level of and, in some areas, was dug into natural geology. This comprised ironstone deposits at the northern (upper) end of the pond area and mid reddish brown colluvial clay in the lower (southern) area adjacent to the brook. This was overlain by a thin subsoil in some area and then a ploughsoil.

4.2.3 The haul road was not excavated to the natural geology, but consisted of the removal of most of the ploughsoil.

4.2.4 All the evaluation trenches were excavated to natural geology, represented by either ironstone or clays. The natural geology tended to be overlain directly by either topsoil or ploughsoil, both of a fine silty loam, and this was the case in the majority of trenches (see 5.1.1 below). Subsoil, which survived only in Trenches 6, 9, 10, 13, 22 and 23, was thin and appears to be restricted to areas of lower ground. The subsoil was a light, sandy silty clay with ironstone fragment inclusions.

4.2.5 Colluvium was present in only two trenches. Overlain by the ploughsoil, it sealed the alluvial fills of the palaeochannels in Trenches 9 and 19. Where colluvium or alluvial

fills of palaeochannels were encountered, sondages were dug in order to determine whether they sealed earlier historic soil horizons. Ground water was only encountered within the sondages excavated at the eastern ends of Trenches 9 and 19.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Watching Brief

Haul Road

5.1.1 The stripping of the haul road (Fig. 2) consisted of the removal of some, but not all of the top and subsoils along its length. This meant that the natural substrate was not revealed and no archaeological features were identified. A total of 33 worked flints, including one microlith, which is probably of early Mesolithic date, were recovered from the top and subsoil of the haul road. The rest were dated to the later prehistoric period on technological grounds. There were no concentrations of the flint, which was distributed throughout the length of the haul road.

Balancing Pond

5.1.2 The stripping of the balancing pond (Fig. 3) revealed a number of modern field drains. The articulated skeleton of a large, juvenile sheep was also recovered from within a shallow cut (008); the preservation of the bone implies a modern date. Excavation of the northern side of the balancing pond revealed an ironstone natural (009), whereas the southern area had a thick colluvial layer (024).

5.1.3 A total of 53 worked flints were recovered from the area of the balancing pond, with all but one, a core found in the top of a natural palaeochannel, being found in the subsoil. This assemblage included a barbed and tanged arrowhead, dated to the early Bronze Age. The rest was dated to the later prehistoric period on technological grounds.

5.2 Trench Descriptions

Trenches 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26 and 28

5.2.1 Trenches 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26 and 28 (Fig. 2) did not contain any features or deposits of archaeological significance and have not been described in detail. An overview of the stratigraphy can be seen above (4.2.1). Worked flint was recovered from the subsoils in trenches 6 and 11.

Trench 4 (Fig. 4)

5.2.2 Trench 4 was oriented WNW-ESE and was sited to test a geophysical anomaly which was thought to be natural in origin. It measured 30m by 1.8m and was excavated to a depth of 0.3 m (c96.36 m OD) to natural ironstone (401). This was overlain by a ploughsoil (400). In the trench base, on the southern side of the trench, was an ill-

defined circular feature (402) which was excavated up to the southern baulk. This feature was up to 0.8m wide by 0.2m deep and appeared to be a tree bole. No finds were recovered from its fill (403).

Trench 7

5.2.3 Trench 7 was oriented WNW-ESE and was sited to test a mostly blank area on the geophysical survey, adjacent to an area of possible pitting. It measured 20 m by 1.8 m and was positioned at right angles to Trench 8. It was excavated to a depth of 0.3 m (c 92.83 m OD) to natural ironstone (701), which was overlain by a ploughsoil (700). In its base was a shallow, clay filled linear (702) running NE-SW. It was 0.4 m wide by 0.24 m deep. The south-eastern edge was close to vertical, , whilst the northwestern sloped at around 45 degrees. It had a flat bottom. The regularity of the cut suggests that it is associated with modern farming techniques such as drainage.

Trenches 9 and 19

5.2.4 Although spatially disparate Trenches 9 and 19 can be grouped together due to their similar topography and stratigraphy. Trench 9 was situated on the western part of the site and orientated WNW-ESE. It was sited to test a number of ferrous anomalies and a large possible pit identified by the geophysical survey. It measured 50 m by 1.8 m. Natural clay was reached at the western end at 0.35 m (82.48 m OD), which was overlain by ploughsoil (901). Trench 19 was sited more centrally in the site, aligned WNW-ESE, and was positioned to test the southern end of a large area of potential archaeology shown on the geophysical survey, which may have represented part of a field system or settlement. It measured 30 m by 1.8 m. Natural ironstone was reached in the western end at 0.35 m (87.07 m OD) and was overlain by ploughsoil (1900).

5.2.5 Palaeochannels (908) and (1906) were present at the eastern end of their respective trenches, reflecting the dry valleys visible in the topography of the site. In Trench 9, a palaeochannel (908) was filled with deposits (907), (906) and (903) and was sealed by colluvial layer (902). This palaeochannel had cut into the clay natural (909). In Trench 19, a palaeochannel (1906) was filled with (1902), it was sealed by colluvial layer (1905), and had cut into the ironstone natural (1901). An undated flint core was discovered in colluvium (1905).

Trenches 13 and 14

5.2.6 Trenches 13 and 14 were located in the centre of the study area, aligned E-W and WNW-ESE respectively, to investigate a small circular enclosure within a large square enclosure, which was revealed in the geophysical survey. Natural ironstone was revealed at a depth of c. 0.3 m (93.11 m OD and 91.93 m OD respectively). In Trench 13 (Fig. 5), this was overlain by a subsoil (1301), 0.1m in depth, and a ploughsoil (1300). In Trench 14, the natural was directly overlaid by a ploughsoil (1401).

5.2.7 The geophysical anomalies, where they were visible in the trench, were found to be geological in nature, although there was only a slight correlation with the geological banding present. The banding consisted of natural silt bands (1302), (1303) and (1403) within the ironstone geology, (1306) and (1402) respectively. Also within Trench 13 was an animal burrow (1304). No archaeological features were present. As discussed above (3.2.4), both trenches were extended after discussions with Myk Flitcroft of Northamptonshire County Council and Simon Mortimer of JSAC. This was to allow the further investigation of the features shown on the geophysical results. (Fig. 2). Seven sherds (19g) of Iron Age pottery, relating to one vessel, were found within the subsoil (1301) of this trench during machining. They were recovered from the western end of the trench and were not associated, archaeologically or spatially, with any archaeological feature or with any of the geological banding or geophysical results. A piece of worked flint was also recovered from the subsoil.

Trenches 17, 24, 25 and 27

5.2.8 North-east – south-west aligned trenches 17, 24, 25 and 27 were located on the eastern side of the site and were intended to target a SE-NW running linear picked up in the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). All were excavated to natural ironstone at a depth of around 0.3 m (90.55 m, 93.79 m, 93.28 m and 91.82 m OD respectively). In all these trenches, the natural was directly overlain by the topsoil.

5.2.9 The linear identified in the geophysical results was revealed in the base of these trenches as (1702), (2402), (2502) and (2702). The width, depth and profile of this feature varied throughout its revealed length, although it generally deepened downslope. At the north-western end, in trench 24, it was 0.66m wide by 0.07m deep. In trench 25, it was 0.96m wide by 0.27m deep and in trench 27 it was 0.85m wide and 0.28m deep. Where it was exposed within trench 17, it was 1.06m wide and 0.24m deep. This linear is possibly a drainage ditch, but is not conclusively archaeological in nature and the variations in width and depth imply that it may be a natural drainage channel.

5.3 **Finds**

5.3.1 No finds were recovered from the features encountered. The present day ploughsoils and subsoils yielded the most finds, even excluding the modern finds. Modern finds were recorded and discarded. Finds retained comprised flint flakes, worked flint and a small amount of pottery of Iron Age to post-medieval date.

5.3.2 A total of 104 pieces of worked flint were recovered from the watching brief and evaluation at Kettering (Appendix 4). Although the material was recovered from eight contexts, all but one of these contexts (1905) represent either the plough or subsoil, with half of the pieces being recovered from context 6, the subsoil on the balancing pond part of the site. Context (1905) is the top layer of a natural palaeochannel. Chronologically diagnostic pieces include a microlith, probably of

early Mesolithic date, and a barbed and tanged arrowhead which is early Bronze Age in date. The rest of the flint can be broadly dated to the later Prehistoric period on technological grounds. The material is not associated with any archaeological features and therefore suggests low density background activity stretching from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age.

- 5.3.3 Thirteen sherds of pottery which were not of modern date were retrieved across the site (Appendix 5). Seven sherds of Iron Age pottery came from the subsoil of Trench 13. The medieval and later pottery all came from top and subsoils across the site.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 Conditions in the field were dry. There was little intrusion by modern features such as services and land drains. The percentage sample, distribution and positioning of the evaluation trenches over anomalies produced by the geophysical survey and blank areas of the site has given a good understanding of the overall archaeological potential of the site.
- 6.1.2 Due to the construction method for the haul road, little extra information of the archaeological potential of that part the site could be gained, as the natural substrate was not revealed.

6.2 Overall interpretation

- 6.2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the area highlighted the potential for both Prehistoric and Romano-British remains to be present on the site. This potential was supported by the geophysical survey, which showed two features which were described as archaeology and a large number of other features described as possible archaeology. These features appeared to be of a type that would be representative of remains of the Prehistoric or Romano-British period.
- 6.2.2 The site has a complex geological matrix with fluvio-glacial features and deposits present within the study area. Due to the nature of the topography, with the landscape sloping down towards the brook on the southern edge of the site, there are also a number of natural drainage features.
- 6.2.3 The evaluation has shown that there is a weak correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the evidence exposed within the trenches. The anomalies interpreted as archaeology in the geophysical survey proved to be geological features and the anomalies interpreted as either natural or archaeology were often not visible in the trenches. Trenches 13 and 14, which were sited to test the most

archaeologically coherent results of the geophysical survey were, following discussions between Myk Fliteroft of NCC and Simon Mortimer of JSAC, extensively examined and substantially extended in order to test those results. Some of the anomalies recognised by the geophysical survey were present as geological banding, but not all.

- 6.2.4 The watching brief on the haul road revealed no archaeological features.
- 6.2.5 The watching brief on the balancing pond uncovered no features of archaeological significance. Features encountered consisted of a number of modern drainage ditches and a large, juvenile sheep of modern date, which had been placed in a shallow cut.
- 6.2.6 The evaluation similarly shows little or no features of archaeological significance. A pit or possible tree bole in Trench 4 yielded no datable material. The linear running through Trenches 17, 24, 25, 27 also yielded no dating evidence and is possibly a natural drainage feature
- 6.2.7 The absence of a subsoil across most of the site, and the mostly uniform depth of the topsoil, implies that the agricultural regime has included a process of subsoiling to a depth of around 0.30 m, which is the average depth of the ironstone natural across the site. There appears to be little or no colluviation on the site.
- 6.2.8 The flint artefacts and Iron Age sherds that were recovered during the course of the project suggest some low-level activity in the study area in the Prehistoric periods.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench No	CXT No	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date	Type
Haul Road							
	001	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	Pot, Bone, CBM	Modern	Layer
	002	-	>0.05	Subsoil	-	-	Layer
	003	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	Pot, Flint, CBM	Modern	Layer
	004	-	>0.05	Subsoil	-	-	Layer
Balancing Pond							
	005	-	0.3	Topsoil	Flint	Modern	Layer
	006	-	0.1	Subsoil	Flint	-	Layer
	007	-	0.2	Fill of (008)	-	-	Fill
	008	1x0.6	0.2	Pit	-	-	Cut
	009	-	>0.3	Natural Ironstone	-	-	Layer
	010	-	-	Animal Skeleton	Bone	-	Fill
	011	-	0.26	Fill of (012)	CBM	C20th	Fill
	012	0.95	0.26	Ditch	-	C20th	Cut
	013	-	0.2	Fill of (014)	-	-	Fill
	014	0.65	0.2	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	015	-	0.18	Fill of (016)	-	-	Fill
	016	0.7	0.18	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	017	-	0.15	Fill of (019)	Pot, Nail, CBM	C20th	Fill
	018	-	0.3	Fill of (019)	-	-	Fill
	019	1.6	0.4	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	020	-	0.15	Fill of (020)	-	-	Fill
	021	0.8	0.15	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	022	-	0.2	Fill of (023)	-	-	Fill
	023	0.7	0.2	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	024	-	-	Colluvium	-	-	Layer
1							
	100	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	101	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
2							
	200	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	201	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
3							
	300	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	301	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer

4							
	400	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	Pot	Post-Med.	Layer
	401	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
	402	0.85	0.2	Tree bole	-	-	Cut
	403	-	0.2	Fill of (402)	-	-	Fill
5							
	500	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	501	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
6							
	601	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	602	-	0.16	Subsoil	Flint	-	Layer
	603	-	>0.18	Natural	-	-	Layer
7							
	700	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	701	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
	702	0.4	0.24	Agricultural Scar	-	?Modern	Cut
	703	-	0.24	Fill of (702)	-	-	Fill
8							
	800	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	801	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
9							
	901	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	902	-	0.15	Subsoil	Tile	-	Layer
	903	-	0.3	Fill of (908)	-	-	Fill
	904	-	0.45	Colluvium	-	-	Layer
	905	-	-	Natural	-	-	Layer
	906	-	0.25	Fill of (908)	-	-	Fill
	907	-	0.16	Fill of (908)	-	-	Fill
	908	30	0.7	Palaeochannel	-	-	Cut
10							
	1001	-	0.2	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1002	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-	Layer
	1003	-	0.4	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	1004	-	0.36	Clay Natural	-	-	Layer
	1005	-	-	Clay Natural	-	-	Layer
11							
	1100	-	0.36	Ploughsoil	Flint	-	Layer
	1101	-	>0.05	Natural Ironstone	-	-	Layer
12							
	1200	-	0.28	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1201	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
13							
	1300	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	Flint	-	Layer
	1301	-	0.1	Subsoil	Pot, Flint	-	Layer
	1302	0.5	0.15	Natural Anomaly	-	-	Layer
	1303	3.5	>0.25	Natural	-	-	Layer

				Anomaly			
	1304	0.25	0.2	Animal Burrow	-	-	Cut
	1305	-	0.2	Fill of (1304)	-	-	Fill
	1306	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
14							
	1401	-	0.26	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1402	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	1403	-	-	Silt/Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
15							
	1500	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	1501	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
16							
	1600	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1601	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
17							
	1700	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	1701	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	1702	1.06	0.24	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	1703	-	0.24	Fill of (1702)	-	-	Fill
18							
	1800	-	0.24	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1801	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
19							
	1900	-	0.4	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	1901	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	1902	-	0.28	Fill of (1906)	-	-	Fill
	1903	0.36	0.12	Field Drain	-	-	Cut
	1904	-	0.12	Drain Fill	-	-	Fill
	1905	-	0.34	Colluvium	Flint	-	Layer
	1906	3.0	0.28	Palaeochannel	-	-	Cut
20							
	2000	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	2001	-	0.5	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	2002	-	>0.24	Clay/Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
21							
	2100	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	2101	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
22							
	2200	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	2201	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-	Layer

	2202	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
23							
	2300	-	0.28	Topsoil	Pot	C20th	Layer
	2301	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-	Layer
	2302	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
24							
	2400	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	2401	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	2402	0.66	0.07	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	2403	-	0.07	Fill of (2402)	-	-	Fill
25							
	2500	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	2501	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	2502	1.0	0.36	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	2503	-	0.36	Fill of (2502)	-	-	Fill
26							
	2600	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	2601	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
27							
	2700	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-	Layer
	2701	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer
	2702	0.75	0.2	Ditch	-	-	Cut
	2703	-	0.2	Fill of (2702)	-	-	Fill
28							
	2800	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-	-	Layer
	2801	-	-	Ironstone Natural	-	-	Layer

APPENDIX 2 FLINT REPORT**The Flint***By Rebecca Devaney***Introduction**

A total of 104 pieces of worked flint were recovered from the watching brief and evaluation at Kettering (Table 1). The material was spread between eight contexts, with half of the pieces being recovered from context 6, the subsoil on the balancing pond part of the site. Chronologically diagnostic pieces include a microlith, probably of early Mesolithic date, and a barbed and tanged arrowhead which is early Bronze Age in date. The rest of the flint can be broadly dated to the later Prehistoric period on technological grounds.

Table 1. Summary of flint

Category	Context								Total
	1	3	5	6	601	1100	1301	1905	
Flake	19	2		34		12	2	1	70
Blade				4					4
Blade-like flake	1			3					4
Bladelet				1					1
Chip	2								2
Irregular waste	7			8		1	1		17
Rejuvenation flake			1						1
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1			1					2
Microlith	1								1
Side scraper					1				1
Barbed and tanged arrowhead				1					1
Total	31	2	1	52	1	13	3	1	104

Methodology

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 and technological characteristics were also noted. Where possible dating was attempted. The data was entered into an MS Access database.

Raw material

All the pieces of an identifiable raw material are gravel flint. The cortex is generally thin and abraded and the flint appears to be of a poor knapping quality with many thermal flaws being noted. It is likely that the material is locally derived, perhaps coming from river gravel deposits. The assemblage is composed of fairly small pieces of flint which possibly suggests the exploitation of small nodules.

Condition

The condition of the flint is varied. A total of 27 pieces are in a fresh condition, 60 pieces exhibit slight post-depositional damage and just 17 pieces exhibit moderate post-depositional damage. The damage is most frequently seen on vulnerable unretouched edges and implies the occurrence of post-depositional disturbance. The amount of surface alteration is also varied with 15, 8 and 18 pieces showing light, moderate and heavy cortication respectively. Some pieces show evidence of having been worked before and after cortication has taken place. This suggests the re-use of material, a characteristic sometimes associated with later Prehistoric flint working (Young and Humphrey 1999:233). However, the majority of pieces, 63 in total, exhibit no surface alteration. A total of 36 pieces are broken and six are burnt.

Technology and dating

Unretouched debitage dominates the assemblage with 99 pieces (*Table 1*). In general, the material is technologically poor. There are few clearly defined striking platforms and platform edge abrasion was only seen on one piece. Many pieces have pronounced ripples on the ventral surface which is associated with hard hammer manufacture. These characteristics suggest a later Prehistoric date. The rejuvenation flake removes a partly cortical platform with a couple of hinged terminations and truncates a series of blade-like removals along the right edge. The low proportion of blades (11% excluding chips and irregular waste) suggests a later Neolithic or Bronze Age date for the majority of the material (Ford 1987:79, table 2).

The two unclassifiable/fragmentary cores are small, irregular and minimally worked. Each weighs just 12 g and has a range of negative removals. It is possible that they are the broken remains of larger cores. They are chronologically undiagnostic, but are not out of place with the rest of the later Prehistoric assemblage.

Just three tools are present. The microlith is probably an early Mesolithic form, with the bulb removed by the microburin technique and a distal snap. It cannot be assigned to one of Jacobi's categories, but is similar to 3c and 4 (Jacobi 1978:16, fig. 6). The side scraper is made on an old flake, both surfaces and the broken distal end being corticated but not the retouched edge. Fairly abrupt, direct retouch is continuous along the right edge. The piece is chronologically undiagnostic. The barbed and tanged arrowhead is quite small in size, measuring 25 mm long and 17 mm wide. It is finely worked with bifacial, invasive retouch. One of the barbs is broken, however there does not appear to be any damage to the point or edges, possibly suggesting that it has not been used as a projectile. Barbed and tanged arrowheads are early Bronze Age in date (Green 1984:19).

Discussion and potential

The flint from Kettering covers a lengthy time range, the earliest chronologically diagnostic piece being the early Mesolithic microlith and the latest the barbed and tanged arrowhead. The rest of the material can be broadly dated to the later Prehistoric period. This date is based on the poor technological characteristics of the assemblage. The material is not associated with any specific features and therefore suggests low-density background activity stretching from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age and possibly into the Iron age.

APPENDIX 3 POTTERY REPORT

*Pottery from Kettering Business Park, Northants (Site KEKBP04)**Paul Blinkhorn*

The pottery assemblage comprised 13 sherds with a total weight of 61g. The entire assemblage was medieval or later, with the exception of seven small sherds of Iron Age material, all from the same context.

The post-Roman pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Northamptonshire County Ceramic Type-Series (CTS), as follows:

- F320: Lyveden/Stanion 'B' ware, AD1225-1400. 2 sherds, 9g.
 F329: Potterspury ware, AD1250-1600. 1 sherd, 4g.
 F415: Creamware, mid 18th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 4g.
 F426: Iron-Glazed Earthenware, late 17th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 21g.
 F1000: Miscellaneous 19th/20th century wares. 1 sherd, 4g.

The Iron Age pottery (7 sherds, 19g) had a fabric comprised sparse grog and iron ore up to 1mm, with sparse voids which are likely to have been leached shell or shelly limestone. All the sherds appear to be from the same vessel. It is impossible to date other than to within the broad period.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Context	IA		F320		F329		F426		F415		F1000		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
3					1	4	1	21					L17thC
17									1	4			M18thC ?
400			2	9									13thC?
1301	7	19											IA
2300											1	4	19thC
Total	7	19	2	9	1	4	1	21	1	4	1	4	

APPENDIX 4 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 5 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**Site name:** Land to the north of Kettering, Northamptonshire**Site code:** KEKBP 04**Type of evaluation:** Twenty eight trial trenches (ranging from 80 m x 1.8 m to 20 m x 1.8 m). Watching Brief.**Date and duration of project:** 5 June 2004; 12 days**Area of site:** 22.5 ha**Summary of results:** No features or deposits of archaeological interest or significance were identified during the evaluation. Ploughsoil sealed the subsoil overlying areas of colluvium which overlay natural ironstone and clays.**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with an appropriate Museum in due course.



Plan 4

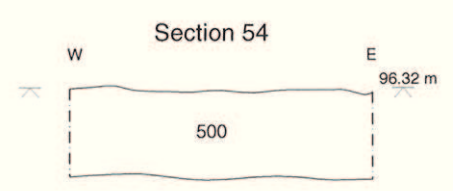
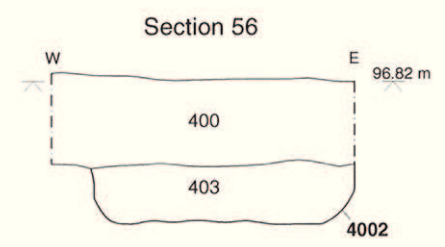
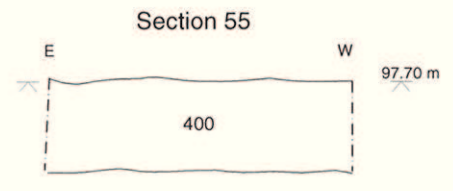
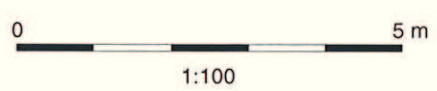
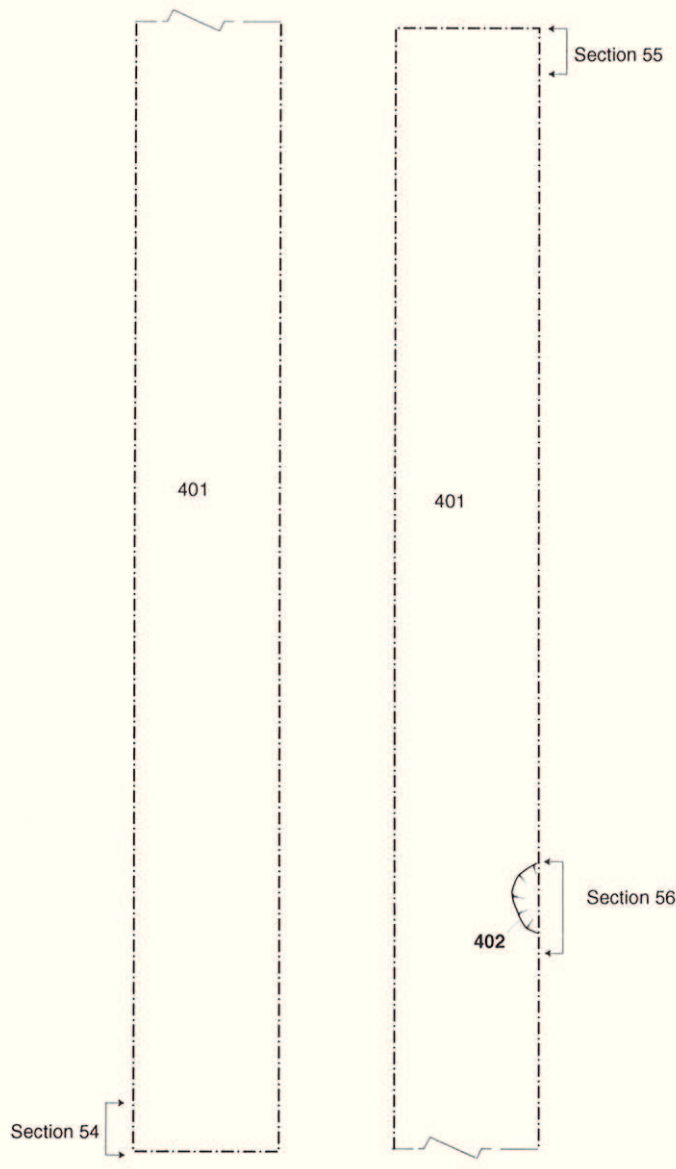


Figure 4: Plan and sections of Trench 4



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