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Peripheral Road and Housing Area C2
Blackbird Leys
Oxford

NGR SP 555 020

Archaeological Evaluation Report

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

August 1995

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ABSTRACT

Following a geophysical survey nineteen trenches were dug along the proposed line of the peripheral road and housing area C2. An area of middle Iron Age settlement was found in the area of the peripheral road and housing C2 at the east of the road line. Roman activity was located towards the N of C2 and a stone surfaced trackway of uncertain date was found adjacent to Minchery Farm.

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Oxford City Council in advance of road building and housing construction on the SW side of the existing Blackbird Leys estate. The evaluation was carried out in the light of a brief from the Oxford Archaeological Advisory Service and formed part of a larger programme of work covering the areas in question here and the adjacent housing area D. This stage of the programme was coordinated by the Bartlett-Clark Consultancy. An initial geophysical survey was followed by trial trenching in areas highlighted by the geophysical survey as possibly containing features of archaeological interest. The original number of trenches proposed (14) was increased to 19 in order to define the extent of the middle Iron Age settlement. The overall time scale for the evaluation was extremely condensed and in the event a further phase of fieldwork continued from it without a break. Only the evaluation phase of the project is reported on here.

GEOLOGICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

At its E end the line of the new road runs over the N end of a N-S spur extending from the clay hill to the S of Blackbird Leys. The housing area C2 is on the N slope of this spur and on the flatter clay lands further N, by Northfield Brook. The road line continues W onto sands around Minchery Farm. The site is located on a variety of soil types, from orange sand in the western part, through clayey sands to the N and tenacious grey and grey-buff clays in the SE part of the evaluated area.

The principal archaeological interest of the area is in its association with the major Roman pottery industry. There is limited evidence for prehistoric activity within a 2-3 km radius of Blackbird Leys (eg a stray find of Palaeolithic hand axes (PRN 12905) and a flint arrowhead (PRN 3658) from Rose Hill to the NW and more recent flint finds from just W of the main Oxford to Henley road at Littlemore (PRN 3843)). Closer to the present site the Oxfordshire SMR has two records of 'prehistoric pottery or coins' (presumably the former), from locations just SW of the present area of interest (PRNs 1426 and 1427). There is no further information about these discoveries, and the information derives from old OS record cards. The significance of these finds is therefore uncertain.

The Roman pottery industry was located on a large number of sites spread across an area at least c 18 km from the N (near Woodeaton) to the S (around Dorchester on Thames), but principally concentrated in E and SE Oxford. Of major significance for the distribution of the products of the industry was the main N-S Roman road linking Dorchester on Thames and Alchester. This road passed through the eastern part of the industrial complex and lay only 200 m E of the eastern end of the present project area.

In the context of the present site, component elements of the Oxford industry are

known at Littlemore, Rose Hill, Cowley, Garsington and Sandford, as well as at Blackbird Leys itself. The two last of these are particularly relevant to the present work, lying a little to the N of the area subject to evaluation. At the Blackbird Leys site, centred c SP 553026, three pottery kilns were salvaged in 1961 in advance of housing development (PRN 6143). These kilns were associated with the production of reduced coarse wares, white wares and white ware mortaria. The mortarium types represented were of 2nd-early 3rd century date. Recent work at Windale First School, situated just SE of the 1961 finds and a little to the N of the present site located only small quantities of pottery and an E-W aligned trackway, probably of Roman date. An earlier trackway on a NW-SE alignment was also located. This was possibly of Bronze Age date. At Sandford (centred c SP 4550023) four kilns and associated features were examined in 1879 (PRN 3845; May 1922). Here a wider range of products suggested activity through the Roman period. This area of kiln activity probably extended to the W towards Minchery Farm.

Minchery Farm itself, at the western extremity of the area of concern, is the site of the former Littlemore Priory, founded in the mid 12th century. There are no clear traces of medieval buildings here, the earliest extant structure being of 16th century date, but a fishpond survives to the W of the house.

In recent times parts of the site had been used for sewage disposal related to the nearby Sandford sewage works to the SW. At the E of the new road line dumping and earth moving has taken place in association with housing construction.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

The evaluation trenching was preceded by an extensive geophysical survey, carried out by the Bartlett-Clark Consultancy. The survey is the subject of a separate report (A D H Bartlett Blackbird Leys Development, Oxford, Report on archaeogeophysical survey of Sites C2, D and Peripheral Road, 1995) and is therefore not further described or discussed in detail here.

The initial 14 trenches (Fig 1) were located along the lines of the peripheral road with Trenches 2 and 4-7 within the area of Housing Block C2. Trenches 2 and 4 lay immediately N of the peripheral road towards its E end and Trenches 5-7 further N. The trenches were positioned to examine points where the geophysical survey indicated anomalies suggesting archaeological features. The trenches were machined in spits down to the top of the natural geology and monitored for finds.

The presence of archaeological features in Trenches 3, 4 and 6 made further trenching to define the extent of areas of archaeological activity desirable. These additional trenches were an extension to Trench 6 (not given a new number) and Trenches 15-19 in the vicinity of Trenches 2-4. These additional trenches were machined but no hand excavation of the features revealed was carried out. Sections were hand dug into the features in Trenches 3 and 4 to determine their nature and recover dating evidence. The character of some of these features was unclear within the confines of the trenches.

No environmental samples were taken since the very short time span between the evaluation work and the letting of the main contract precluded processing of such samples in time for the information derived from them to be used to inform further archaeological strategies.

The total surface area investigated by trenching was c 830 square metres. The site code for the evaluation was OXBLC.2 95.

DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

(see also Table of contexts, Appendix 1)

The major findings of the evaluation were an area of dense prehistoric settlement, principally of Iron Age date (Trenches 2-4 and 15-19), Roman features and a concentration of Roman pottery in Trench 6, further concentrations of Roman pottery in Trenches 10 and 11, and a N-S aligned trackway, probably of medieval to post-medieval date, at the western extremity of the site in Trench 14.

Iron Age features (Fig 2)

The main concentration of Iron Age features was initially encountered in Trenches 3 and 4. Additional Trenches 14-19 were then machined in order to define the extent of the settlement but these were only recorded in plan. The settlement covered an area almost 100 m from SW to NE, and at least 50 m from NW to SE. The southern limit of the concentration of features was not revealed and presumably lay S of the line of the peripheral road. Preservation of features was variable. There was evidence for disturbance of the site by 19th century and modern activity, including truncation by ploughing and the insertion of closely spaced land drains. An old ploughsoil which overlay the Iron Age features contained modern finds.

One large Middle Iron Age ditch and several smaller gullies were located in Trenches 3 and 4. These features were characterised by black fills which produced significant quantities of finds. Other features with fills much more like the natural clay subsoil were also seen and excavated, though defining these features within the narrow evaluation trenches was not easy. In Trench 3 three of these features were cross sectioned. From the excavated profiles they were identified as ditches.

Towards the E of Trench 3 a ditch (310) 1.30 m wide and up to 0.40 m deep was aligned roughly N-S while further W a pair of gulleys (305) ran c NNW-SSE. W of these a further small gully (303) with its W terminus in the trench was aligned almost W-E.

The most northerly feature in Trench 4, at right-angles to Trench 3, was a NE-SW aligned ditch (407) up to c 1.50 m wide and 0.40 m deep. All the fills of this ditch contained Iron Age pottery and bone, including much material from a lens (409) on the S side of the feature, its inner side in relation to the concentration of

settlement activity. The lowest fill (408) also contained a flint flake. The fills of 407 were virtually identical to those of the dated prehistoric features in Trench 3. 407 may have cut a WNW-ESE aligned ditch (411) to the S. This feature was not excavated, but the marginal relationship between 407 and 411 may have been disturbed by later activity. S of these features a possible posthole (403) and two further probable gulleys (413 and 415), aligned c E-W, with a possible pit or ditch terminal (405) between them. The fill of this last feature included Roman as well as Iron Age sherds.

Further ditches and gulleys, but very few non-linear features, were seen in the additional Trenches 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. Some of these features were probably the same as some of those seen particularly in Trench 4, but none of the alignments was so close that this could be certain. None of these features was excavated. Context numbers were only assigned to the fills and not to the cuts since these were not examined. Iron Age sherds were recovered from the surfaces of a few of these features, but post-medieval material was also recovered from 1705 and 1708 in Trench 17. Such material could have been intrusive in the tops of prehistoric features, as was perhaps the case with a single very small medieval sherd from 1902, but not all the features need have been prehistoric.

There were generally few intercutting features, though some were observed and the settlement was clearly of more than one phase.

Roman activity (Fig 3)

Trench 6 contained two slight N-S ditches (602 and 604) some 1.30-1.40 m apart. The more westerly of these (604) was also the more substantial, being up to c 1.20 m wide and 0.40 m deep, while 602 was 0.90 m wide and at most 0.22 m deep. 604 appeared to turn to the E within the trench. The upper fills of both ditches contained a few sherds of late Roman date. These fills were sealed directly by the modern ploughsoil/topsoil (600), which produced an assemblage of 35 sherds, mainly of late Roman date, as well as two fragments of post-medieval date. A significant number of these sherds were relatively large and unabraded, implying that they had not been turned over by regular ploughing. They presumably derived from immediately adjacent activity.

Roman finds scatters were present in Trenches 10 and 11, but no features were found associated with these finds. The pottery in Trench 10 came from a layer (1001) of silty clay some 0.20 m thick, lying beneath the modern topsoil and above the natural subsoil. This deposit may have been a Roman dump or ploughsoil. The trenches produced 85 and 10 sherds of Roman pottery respectively. Some of this material consisted of small, abraded sherds. Most if not all were of late Roman (late 3rd-4th century) date.

?Post-medieval trackway (Fig 4)

A stone surfaced trackway (1410) c 5 m wide and aligned roughly N-S was

sectioned in Trench 14 adjacent to Minchery Farm. The surface of the trackway, up to 0.20 m thick, was flanked by two ditches (1402 to the W and 1404 to the E), though it appeared in section that the surface spilled into the upper fill of the western ditch, implying that the ditches predated the surface itself. A single small fragment of oxidised pottery, probably (but not certainly) of Roman date, came from the fill (1405) of the eastern ditch. This fill also produced probably post-medieval tile, an iron nail and a bird bone. The fill of the W ditch (1403) also produced tile either of medieval or post-medieval date. This material probably indicates the date of the use of the trackway. It is most plausibly associated with Minchery Farm, though whether in its monastic phase, or later agricultural phase, or both, cannot be certain.

Trenches 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 contained no features apart from modern field drains or similar, and produced no significant finds.

THE FINDS

Flint

Two flint flakes were recovered, both from fills of component ditches of the Iron Age settlement (408 and 1901). Neither piece was closely datable and they can only be assigned to a wide range from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age.

Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Some 286 sherds of prehistoric and 133 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered. A single small medieval fragment and miscellaneous post-medieval and modern sherds are not reported on here. None of these occurred in stratified contexts. With the exception of a single abraded fragment from Trench 11 all the prehistoric material was from the settlement concentration located in the area of Trenches 3-4 and 15-19. The total weight of the prehistoric material was c 1940 gm, indicating a relatively low average sherd size (less than 7 gm). As a result of this quite high level of fragmentation fabric identification was not easy and there were few sherds which were particularly diagnostic of form. Feature sherds were in any case rare, and no instances of decoration were noted, apart from burnishing on a few pieces.

Fabrics were not analysed in detail, but fell into a number of major groups: sand-tempered, grog or clay pellet-tempered, shell-tempered and limestone-tempered being the principal groups. These inclusion types often occurred in combination. The approximate breakdown of sherds by major inclusion type is as follows:

Grog	2
Quartzite	2
Flint	9
Shell	150
Clay pellets	22
Limestone	20

Sand 68
Uncertain 13

Shell tempering was clearly the most common tradition represented, followed by sand. Sand-tempered sherds tended to be quite small, however, and were not so important as a proportion of the total weight. The sherds of uncertain fabric type were very small fragments.

Only six rims were present. A single rim in a limestone-tempered fabric occurred in context 309. The remaining rims (two in shell-, two in clay pellet- and one in a sand-tempered fabric) were all from a single context, ditch fill 409. All the rims were from simple barrel shaped forms with incurving or very slightly everted rims.

A small number of flint, quartzite and grog-tempered sherds (c 4.5% of the total), from contexts 309 and 406, probably date from the Bronze Age. Flint/quartzite tempering is a common late Bronze Age tradition in the region, though an earlier date might also be possible for some of these sherds, along with the grog-tempered fragments which are perhaps of middle Bronze Age date. Dating of the remaining fabric groups is less straightforward. Shell-tempering is principally an early Iron Age tradition in the Upper Thames Valley, but there is no certain indication that that was the case at Blackbird Leys. There was a complete absence of diagnostic early Iron Age forms such as characteristic angled vessels, and those rim sherds which did occur in shell-tempered fabrics were typologically characteristic of the middle Iron Age, as was the case with all the other rim sherds. This evidence tends to suggest, therefore, that the balance of the material was of middle Iron Age date. There is insufficient evidence to indicate whether there was ceramic continuity from the middle/late Bronze Age material to the middle Iron Age.

Much of the Roman pottery was in relatively poor condition, and the lack of well-preserved surfaces made identification of fabrics very difficult. The approximate breakdown of the material in terms of major ware categories was as follows:

F (fine wares)	8 sherds
OF (possible fine wares)	19 sherds
M (mortaria)	17 sherds
W (white wares)	4 sherds
Q (white slipped wares)	1 sherd
O (oxidised coarse wares)	60 sherds
R (reduced coarse wares)	21 sherds
C (shell-tempered wares)	3 sherds

All categories except the last are likely to have been locally produced, as they are entirely consistent with known products of the Oxford region industry. Only one sherd was obviously 'wasted' (distorted). The relative proportions of the fabrics, however, tend to suggest production rather than domestic material. Reduced coarse wares, poorly represented here, would normally be dominant in the latter. The OF

ware category consists of sherds which were probably of Oxfordshire colour-coated ware (fabric F51), but in which any traces of colour-coat are completely missing. A number of these sherds occurred as characteristic colour-coated forms, however. It is possible that a number of the smaller sherds assigned to the oxidised ware group were also eroded colour-coated sherds, but this cannot be proved. The identifiable fine ware sherds included two pieces with residual lead glazing. These were almost certainly of Roman date and support the recently recorded evidence for such production in the Oxford industry, known principally from Lower Farm, Nuneham Courtenay (Booth et al 1994). Another important aspect of the Oxford industry, also represented at Lower Farm, is the practice of stamping colour-coated bowls with illiterate or semi-literate name stamps. Two such stamps are present in this material. All the major mortarium fabrics were present, although in most cases the surfaces of fabrics M31 (white slipped - Young (1977) fabric WC) and M41 (red slipped - Young fabric C) were completely missing. There was no parchment ware present in this assemblage.

The majority of the material was probably of late Roman date. Most groups contained certain or probable colour-coated wares (dated after AD 240) and the range of forms present (mostly in mortaria and fine wares - rim sherds in oxidised coarse wares were small and often not assignable to form much less date) was generally characteristic of the later 3rd and 4th centuries. A few earlier components such as the lead glazed sherds were present, however.

Roman pottery occurred at a number of discrete locations within the evaluation area. Five sherds were recovered from the area of the Iron Age settlement. The principal groups, however, were from Trench 6 and from Trenches 10 and 11. The Trench 6 assemblage included the lead glazed sherds, fine wares and white and red slipped mortaria, and also a late shell-tempered ware flanged bowl, indicating activity into the second half of the 4th century. The Trench 10 and 11 concentration also contained late fine wares and mortaria. This was the only part of the site to produce white mortarium sherds, and reduced wares were also a little more common here. In these respects this assemblage is similar in character to that from the production site at Sandford. Additional surface finds (not included in the figures above) from the line of the peripheral road in the vicinity of Trenches 10 and 11 included further colour-coated sherds, one a clearly distorted mortarium of Young (1977) type C97.

Despite the relative lack of evidence for conclusive kiln rejects in the form of badly overfired and twisted pieces, it is likely that the groups of pottery from Trenches 6 and 10/11 represent waste material from nearby pottery production sites. The general character of the pottery is quite similar to that from the known production site at Lower Farm, only 2 km distant to the SW, and this similarity extends to the presence at Blackbird Leys of some of the rarer specialist products noted at Lower Farm, particularly glazed wares and name stamped bowls.

DISCUSSION

The evaluation has revealed an Iron Age settlement, possibly with earlier antecedents, and two concentrations of Roman pottery suggestive of pottery production very close at hand, although features consistent with such production were not located within the evaluation trenches.

The prehistoric settlement activity was concentrated in an area c 100 m across from SW to NE. Its approximate boundaries to E, N and W can be estimated, but its extent to the S is unknown. On present evidence the settlement form is unclear but it may include roughly concentric subcircular ditches and gulleys. There were few clear structural remains within the concentration of features, although a few possible postholes were located. The concentration of finds, however, consisting almost entirely of pottery and animal bone, indicates that the site was a domestic settlement. As argued above, the pottery mostly suggests a date in the middle Iron Age, but there are earlier components in the assemblage. These imply that there was at least small scale activity on or close to the site from the middle Bronze Age onwards, but this was not complemented by flint evidence as only two flint fragments, neither closely datable, were recovered. The significance of a possible early Iron Age component in the pottery assemblage is particularly difficult to assess, since diagnostic material of this date was completely lacking, though the most important fabric group is one commonly associated with the early Iron Age in the region. It is possible that Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlement foci lie close by, perhaps to the S outside the development area. Indications of settlement of middle Bronze Age date (reinforced by the occurrence of fragments of a characteristic cylindrical loomweight in the subsequent excavation) are particularly scarce in the region and would be of considerable importance.

Iron Age settlement has been little examined in the immediate vicinity of Oxford. Occupation of this date may have been extensive on the gravel terraces in North Oxford, and a middle Iron Age site has been excavated just S of the city centre at Whitehouse Road (Mudd 1994). This site also lay on gravel. Further S, Iron Age settlement has been examined at Mount Farm, Dorchester on Thames. The location of the present site on a clay subsoil is of some interest, as this is the first Iron Age site to have been identified on such a geology in the eastern part of East Oxford. It is unfortunate that there is no detailed information to complement the brief records of prehistoric finds at two locations c 900 m W and SW of the present site. These may indicate that, as would be expected, the Blackbird Leys Iron Age settlement was part of an extensive, exploited landscape rather than existing in isolation.

As already suggested, the scatters of Roman pottery located in the evaluation may indicate the presence of nearby pottery kilns. The only features associated with the Roman pottery were two parallel ditches in Trench 6. The relevance of such features to pottery production is uncertain, but geophysical survey at Lower Farm showed that many of the pottery kilns there were located in relation to ditched boundaries (Booth et al 1994, 130 and subsequent unpublished survey). The localised nature of the pottery distributions found in the evaluation, and the

evidence from the geophysical survey of housing area D, in which a number of possible kiln-like magnetic anomalies were noted, suggests that Roman pottery production activity in this area may have been much more scattered. This contrasts with the pattern seen at Lower Farm and at the Churchill Hospital (eg Young 1977, 47), but may be more like the apparently more random distribution of kilns observed at Cowley (eg Green 1984, 2). In general, however, there is insufficient evidence for the layout and distribution of features in the Oxford industry production sites to allow the possible range of models of organisation to be determined at present.

The likely kiln products associated with the two main Roman pottery spreads include most of the major wares of the later Roman industry, though parchment ware appeared to be absent and white wares were scarce. Mortaria were concentrated in the more westerly scatter around Trenches 10 and 11, and white ware mortaria were only found here. The importance of name stamped colour-coated vessels has already been mentioned. One such stamp was found in each of the pottery concentrations, giving them more than usual importance. Moreover, the concentration in Trench 6 produced two sherds of lead glazed pottery. This is a very rare product of the industry and any evidence for the scale and extent of its manufacture in the Oxford region must be considered of great importance.

Areas at the eastern end of the peripheral road had been subject to truncation, probably during construction work in relatively recent times, but otherwise the principal damage to archaeological deposits had been caused by agricultural activities; ploughing and draining operations. This has evidently caused some truncation of archaeological deposits. In the area of the Iron Age settlement there was no surviving stratigraphy above the fills of features cut into the subsoil, and some of the cut features were relatively shallow. The date of ploughing activity is unknown. Most of it could have been relatively recent, ie within the last two centuries, but in places an 'old ploughsoil', derived from the underlying geological deposits, was present under the modern topsoil/ploughsoil. The fact that only one very small medieval pottery sherd was recovered may indicate that ploughing of that period was relatively limited in extent, however. Nevertheless the spacing and parallel alignment of some of the features in Trench 17, in the area of the main Iron Age settlement (eg possibly 1703, 1705, 1706 and 1707), is suggestive of the remnants of medieval ridge and furrow, but this cannot be proved.

The top of the archaeological deposits was generally no more than c 0.30 m below the modern ground surface (though within the area of the Iron Age settlement some features were c 0.40 m below ground level). They are thus extremely vulnerable to damage from earth moving operations.

The evaluation methodology was successful in terms of detecting sites, though it is uncertain if small, discrete groups of prehistoric features with fills of similar character to the subsoil would necessarily be identified in evaluation trenches on the clay. The Iron Age settlement site produced sufficiently strong anomalies to allow its detection in the geophysical survey. While the survey did not necessarily define particular linear features the concentration of activity in this area provided

a significant pointer to the presence of the site which was then confirmed by trenching. Elsewhere, magnetic anomalies were generally small scale and where trenches were excavated in close proximity to such anomalies the relative absence of archaeological features indicated that these anomalies were generally not indicative of more extensive archaeological activity. The absence of significant magnetic anomalies does not necessarily indicate the absence of archaeological features, however, since some feature fills may have a poor magnetic response, particularly on the clay geology. Low density activity therefore may not have been readily detected in this area.

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Appendix 1: Table of Contexts

CTX	DESCRIPTION	FINDS	DATE
100	topsoil		
101	blue grey clay natural		
200	topsoil	2 pottery sherds, 1 tooth	Modern
201	blue-grey clay natural		
300	topsoil	1 pottery sherd, Fe frag, slag, slate	Modern
301	blue-grey clay natural		
302	fill of 303	9 pottery sherds, bone fragments	Iron Age
303	ditch cut		
304	fill of 305	12 pottery sherds, bone, burnt stone (numbered 305)	Middle Iron Age, 1 tiny modern fragment ?intrusive
305	cut for ditch		
306	tree throw pit	8 pottery sherds (tiny fragments)	Prehistoric
307	fill of 308		
308	cut for ditch		
309	fill of 310	32 pottery sherds, bone	Middle Iron Age, ?10 sherds Bronze Age
310	cut for ditch		
400	topsoil	6 pottery sherds, 3 tile fragments, slate	Modern, 1 sherd Roman
401	blue-grey clay natural		
402	fill of 407	35 pottery sherds, fired clay, bone	Middle Iron Age
403	cut for gully/posthole		
404	fill of 403		
405	cut for ?pit		
406	fill of 405	16 pottery sherds	?2nd century AD or later, ?3 sherds Bronze Age, 9 Iron Age and 4 Roman
407	cut for ditch		
408	fill of 407	flint flake, 8 pottery sherds	Middle Iron Age

	DESCRIPTION	FINDS	DATE
409	fill of 407	157 pottery sherds, bone	Middle Iron Age
410	fill of 411		
411	ditch/gully unexcavated		
412	fill of 413		
413	ditch/gully unexcavated		
414	fill of 415		
415	ditch/gully unexcavated		
500	topsoil		
501	blue-grey clay natural		
502	cut for feature		
503	fill of 502		
600	topsoil	35 pottery sherds, 3 tile fragments	pottery 3rd-4th century, 2 tile fragments post-medieval
601	brown clay natural		
602	cut for ditch		
603	fill of 602	1 pottery sherd (numbered 602)	Roman
604	cut for ditch		
605	fill of 604	4 pottery sherds	Late 3rd-4th century
700	topsoil		
701	brown clay natural		
800	topsoil		
801	yellow-brown clay natural		
900	topsoil	1 tile fragment, rubber plug	Modern
901	yellow-brown clay natural		
1000	topsoil		
1001	old ploughsoil	85 pottery sherds, 2 tile fragments, fired clay	?Late 3rd-4th century, 1 tile fragment post-medieval
1002	yellow-brown clay natural		
1100	topsoil		

CTX	DESCRIPTION	FINDS	DATE
1101	old ploughsoil?	11 pottery sherds	Late 3rd-4th century (1 fragment prehistoric)
1102	yellow-brown clay natural		
1200	topsoil		
1201	old ploughsoil?		
1202	yellow-brown clay natural		
1300	topsoil		
1301	old ploughsoil?		
1302	brown sand natural		
1400	topsoil		
1401	white sand natural		
1402	cut for ditch		
1403	fill of 1402	4 tile fragments	Post-medieval/modern
1404	cut for ditch		
1405	fill of 1404	1 pottery sherd, 2 tile fragments, Fe nail, bird bone	Post-medieval/modern (pottery sherd Roman)
1406	orange sand natural		
1407	fill of gully unexcavated		
1408	fill of gully unexcavated		
1409	old ploughsoil?		
1410	stone road metalling		
1411	fill of gully unexcavated		
1500	topsoil	5 pottery sherds, 5 tile fragments	Modern
1501	fill of ditch		
1502	fill of ditch		
1503	fill of ditch	1 pottery sherd	Iron Age
1504	fill of ditch		
1600	topsoil		
1601	fill of ditch		
1602	fill of ditch		
1700	topsoil		

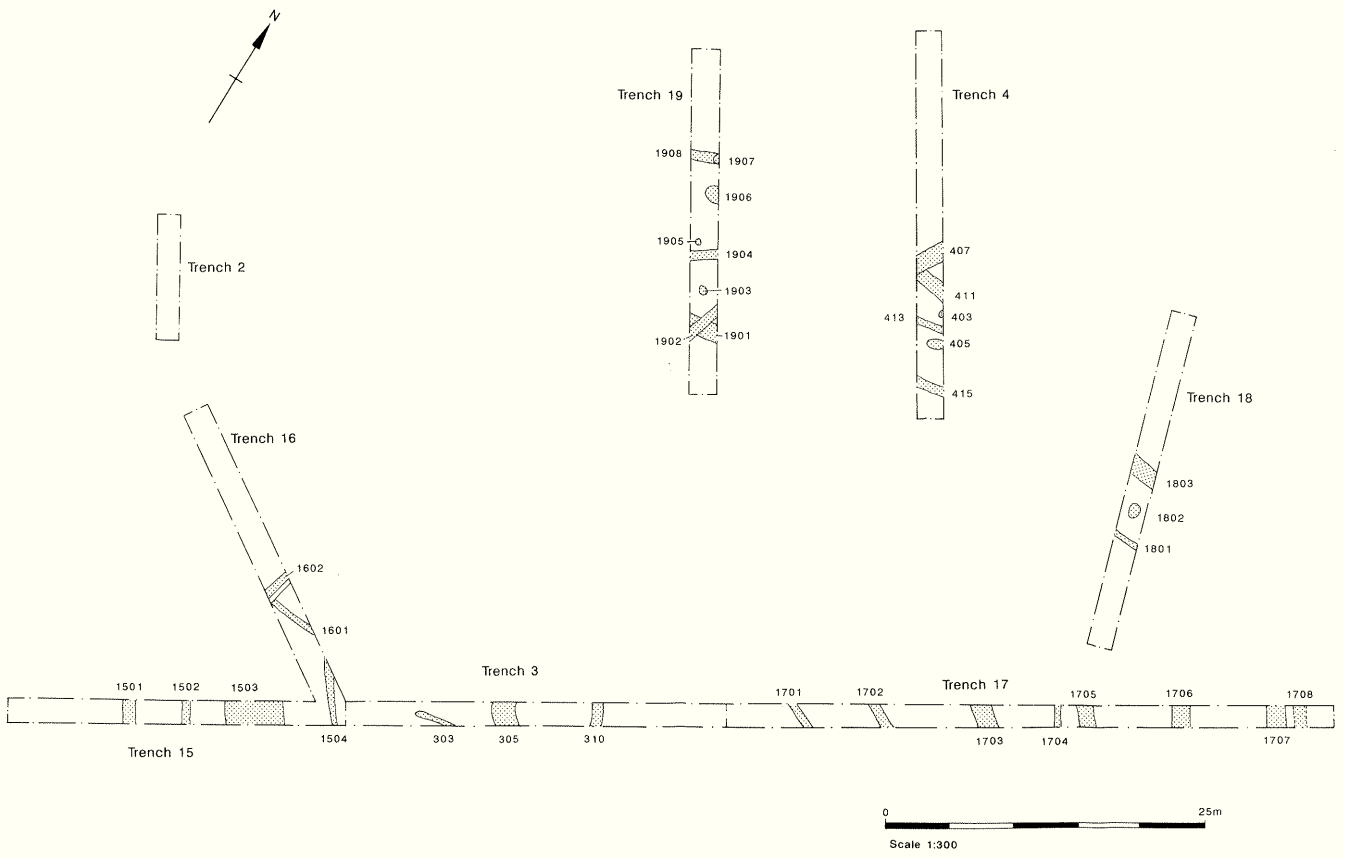


Figure 2

CTX	DESCRIPTION	FINDS	DATE
1701	fill of ditch		
1702	fill of ditch		
1703	fill of ditch		
1704	fill of ditch		
1705	fill of ditch	1 pottery sherd	Post-medieval
1706	fill of ditch		
1707	fill of ditch		
1708	fill of ditch	1 tile fragment	Post-medieval
1800	topsoil		
1801	fill of ditch		
1802	fill of ditch		
1803	fill of ditch		
1900	topsoil		
1901	fill of ditch	flint flake, bone	Uncertain prehistoric
1902	fill of ditch	2 pottery sherds, fired clay, bone	?Prehistoric (1 medieval sherd ?intrusive)
1903	pit fill		
1904	fill of ditch		
1905	fill of posthole		
1906	fill of pit/ditch terminal		
1907	fill of pit	1 pottery sherd	?Iron Age
1908	fill of ditch terminal		

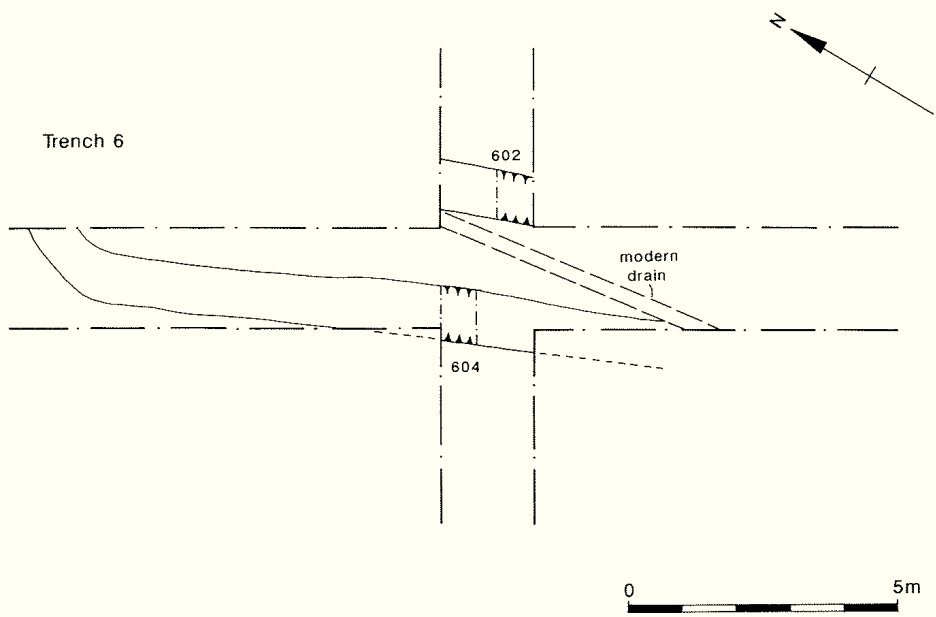
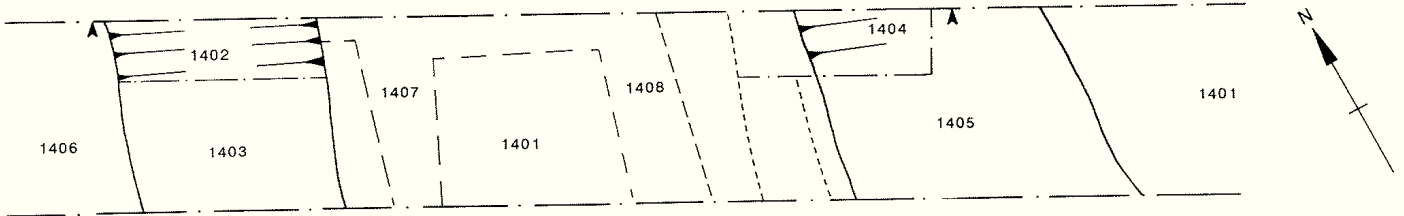


Figure 3

Trench 14

Plan



Section

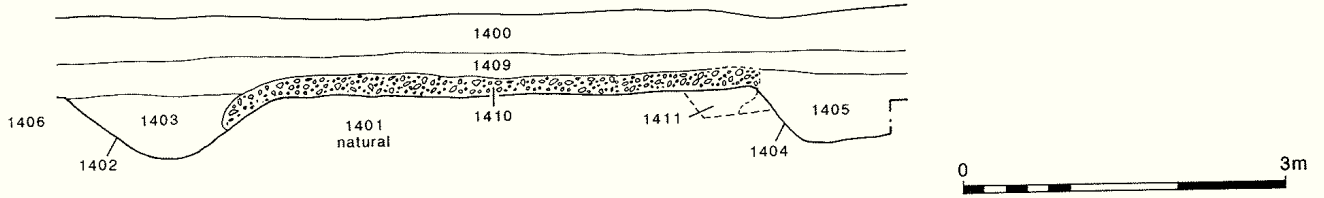


Figure 4



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