Slade End Farm
Wallingford

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Slade End Farm, Wallingford

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

In October 2010 Oxford Archaeology undertook a trench evaluation of land at Slade End Farm, Wallingford on behalf of PRUPIM. The evaluation confirmed the presence of Iron Age activity possibly relating to settlement in the southern area of the site with a particular concentration in the south eastern corner. A number of ditches which had been re-cut and appear to relate to enclosures noted from aerial photographs were recorded in association with pits and postholes.

A curvilinear ditch which terminated in Trench 36 and two parallel ditches relating to a track way recorded in Trench 49 produced Bronze Age pottery and indicate Bronze Age activity in the general area.

The presence of a partial skeleton which had been truncated by ploughing and three flint flakes in Trench 7, in the north-west area of the site is an isolated discovery and does not appear to relate to any of the found features in the area. The flint dates to the early Neolithic but cannot be firmly associated with the skeleton although it is probable that the burial is prehistoric.

The low level of features found in the middle and northern areas of the site indicate a generally low level of activity in these areas. These features contained virtually no artefactual material and are mostly undated.

A complete absence of Roman finds indicates that Roman settlement found in previous excavations to the south-west of this investigation does not appear to extend into this area.

Modern disturbance around a demolished barn was found near to the centre of the site and modern gravel quarry pits investigated in the northern corner.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 The Site is centred on NGR SU 594 899 and is situated to the west of Wallingford and to the east of the A4130 (Figure 1). It is bounded by Wantage Road and Queen's Avenue to the north, Chilton Cresent and Fir Tree Avenue to the east, and playing fields to the south. The southern half of the Site lies in the Parish of Brightwell cum Sotwell, whilst the northern half lies in the Parish of Wallingford. It is situated in the County of Oxfordshire, and under the administration of South Oxfordshire District Council.

1.1.2 The Site occupies c 31.5 hectares and presently consists of farmland, with one current extant structure, Fir Tree Cottage. At present the land, with the exception of the small garden around Fir Tree Cottage, is all utilised for arable cultivation.

1.1.3 The Site is currently proposed for development and Oxford Archaeology (OA) were instructed by PRUPIM to undertake a trench evaluation in order to inform the Planning Authority in advance of the submission of a planning application. A total of 63 trenches measuring 50 m long x 2 m wide were excavated to provide a 2% sample of the area. The trenches were located to provide good overall coverage and were also adjusted to specifically target potential features highlighted by geophysical survey (Figure 2).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The Site lies on Valley Gravel (BGS Sheet 254, Solid and Drift 1:50,000). The ground level of the Site slopes gently from 56m OD at the north by Wantage Road to 47m OD on St John's Road to the south of the Site.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail in the Slade End Farm, Desk Based Assessment (OA 2007), and is not reproduced here.

1.3.2 Richard Oram, the Country Archaeologist for South Oxfordshire, has highlighted more recent fieldwork carried out 200m SE of the Site. This has identified a small Roman settlement which may be part of a larger area of potential Iron Age and Roman settlement and field system which was identified from crop marks immediately to the SW of the Site.

1.3.3 A geophysical survey carried out by the Bartlett – Clark Consultancy in November 2009 (Bartlett 2009) confirmed the presence of potential features noted from aerial photographs in the southern area of the Site and recorded a double ditched track way as well as a number of other anomalies which may represent isolated archaeological remains. The results of this survey are illustrated on the trench plan for this evaluation (Figure 2).

2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology

2.1 General aims

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains in the proposal area and to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- To establish the need for any onward mitigation strategy.
- To make available the results of the investigation.

2.2 Specific aims

- To investigate and qualify the anomalies and potential archaeological features identified in the geophysical survey of the site including the enclosures and associated features to the south thought to be of potential Iron Age or Roman origin.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The evaluation was carried out to the methodology outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for this project (OA 2010).

2.3.2 Trenches were laid out using a Global Positioning System. No alterations to the trench layout proposed in the WSI were necessary.

2.3.3 The overburden was stripped under archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. Machine excavation continued until either archaeological deposits or the natural geology was encountered.

2.3.4 The trenches were then hand cleaned as necessary to distinguish potential features.

2.3.5 All archaeological features were then excavated by hand.

2.3.6 Discrete features were half sectioned, while a sufficient proportion of each linear feature was excavated to characterise and date the feature.

2.3.7 Modern finds were noted but not retained, otherwise finds were bagged by individual context number.

2.3.8 Samples were taken from datable deposits in order to assess the potential for the preservation of organic remains. No waterlogged deposits were encountered on this site.

2.3.9 All recording followed procedures detailed in the OA Fieldwork Manual (OA 1992).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 A general description of soils encountered and ground conditions is given.

3.1.2 The general distribution of archaeological features is described. A plot of features is shown on Figure 2.

3.1.3 A summary of the results is given according to groups of trenches and area (for example Trenches 1 – 23, in the northern fields). Empty trenches are identified but not otherwise described. Detailed descriptions of individual trenches and contexts are given in the trench description and context inventory tables in Appendix A. Additional illustrations are presented on Figures 3 – 6.

3.1.4 A summary of the finds and ecofactual evidence is given, together with a statement of the reliability of the investigation and an assessment of the results in relation to the overall aims of the investigation. Full specialist reports on the finds and environmental evidence are contained in Appendices B and C.

3.1.5 A discussion of the results and assessment of their significance is given.

3.2 General soil and ground conditions

3.2.1 The topsoil overlay an orange-brown silty loam subsoil, or, where this was absent, the underlying natural. The subsoil varied from being largely absent to having a maximum thickness of 0.53m, but was typically between 0.1 – 0.15m thick. There was no readily discernible pattern to these variations, and depths were found to vary on a trench-by-trench basis.

3.2.2 The underlying natural was also found to vary. It typically consisted of mixed orange brown sandy gravels or pale brown to orange-brown silty loam. On lower ground along the southern edge of the site, the natural was generally more sandy.

3.2.3 The weather was fair, with only occasional rain. Underlying ground conditions were good and at no point was the underlying water-table or other localised flooding encountered.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Of the 63 trenches excavated a total of 34 were empty. The remaining 29 trenches revealed a generally low density of archaeological deposits with an increase in concentration to the south of the Site. The middle and northern areas of the site revealed only sparse archaeological features (Figure 2).

3.4 Trenches 1 – 23 (northern fields)

3.4.1 In the northern fields the overall density of archaeological features was low and consisted mostly of shallow undated ditches, pits and postholes, which appear to form no overall pattern.

3.4.2 Trenches 2 - 6, 8, 10 - 13, 15, 17, 20 - 23 were empty.

3.4.3 Trench 1 was targeted on a large depression in the northern corner of the site and revealed extensive modern quarrying here, which contained extensive modern brick and metalwork debris in its upper fills.

3.4.4 A number of shallow ditches or furrow marks were found in Trenches 14, 16 and 18 and a possible NNE-SSW fence line investigated in the western end of Trench 7. These features were all undated.

3.4.5 A medium sized pit and an adjacent posthole were found in the middle of Trench 19 and a single isolated posthole was located in the northern end of Trench 9.

3.4.6 No finds were recovered from any of these features and finds were generally very scarce across this area.

3.4.7 The partial remains of a human skeleton were recovered from the interface between the subsoil and the underlying natural in Trench 7. The bone recovered consisted primarily of arm and leg bones, with a partial fragment of pelvis and an anklebone, with a few other small fragments. The area was cleaned carefully but no corresponding grave cut was found although a shallow ditch and three postholes were identified and excavated in the western end of the trench. These features are undated and thought to be a probable fence line which was unlikely to be associated with the skeletal remains. The partial nature of the skeleton indicates that it had been heavily truncated, probably by ploughing. Three struck flints, thought to date to the early neolithic, were also recovered from the subsoil in the same area as the recovered bone. It is unclear whether they were related to the skeletal remains but given the general lack of finds elsewhere in this area there may be some association.

3.5 Trenches 24 - 45 (middle of site)

3.5.1 The overall density of features in the middle of the site was low.

3.5.2 Trenches 24 - 28, 30, 34, 35, 37, 39, 41 - 43 were empty.

3.5.3 One of the earliest features on the site is likely to be a curvilinear ditch which was seen to terminate in Trench 36 and produced 16 sherds of middle Bronze Age pottery from its upper fill (Figure 6, Section 3601).

3.5.4 A single NNW-SSE ditch was found in Trench 45 and this may relate to two parallel NNE-SSW ditches in the northern end of adjacent Trench 44. A probable ditch terminus was also found in the southern end of Trench 44 (Figure 3). These features were undated.

3.5.5 A NE-SW ditch which had been re-cut was found in Trench 38 and appears to correspond to a linear shown on the geophysical survey. No finds were recovered.

3.5.6 A number of shallow NNE-SSW or N-S linears were found in Trenches 29, 31, and 40. Typically these were up to 0.2 m deep with somewhat irregular sides and produced no finds. It is thought that at least some of these are the result of slightly deeper ploughing. A pattern of ridge and furrow cultivation is indicated by the geophysical survey.

3.5.7 Trenches 32 and 33 were targeted on a former, demolished barn and revealed modern deposits, services and a modern well.

3.6 Trenches 46 – 63 (southern trenches)

3.6.1 Trenches 50 - 52, 56, and 57 were empty.

3.6.2 Concentrations of archaeological activity were found in Trenches 46 and 47 and in the area of Trenches 59 - 62.

3.6.3 A total of 7 NW-ES to WSW-ENE orientated ditches were seem in Trenches 46 and 47, together with a possible waterhole or large irregular pit at the south end of Trench 47 (Figure 4). Finds indicate an Iron Age date for these features.

3.6.4 Two shallow E-W ditches in Trench 49 relate to a probable trackway as indicated by the geophysical survey results (Ditches 4903 and 4906, Figure 6, Sections 4900 and 4902). The fill of one of these produced 8 sherds of flint-tempered Bronze Age pottery.

3.6.5 Trench 61 revealed a number of features (Figure 5). The largest of these was a main N-S ditch in the middle of the trench, which was cut through a sequence of probable colluvial layers and had been re-cut at least twice. Another separate NNW-SSE ditch runs across the east of this trench. A pit and four postholes were also found, although these formed no discernible pattern in the trench. Finds indicate a middle Iron Age date for these features.

3.6.6 Further significant ditches also exhibiting evidence of re-cutting were recorded in Trenches 59, 60 and 62, all on an E-W alignment. These ditches correlate with anomalies in the geophysical survey results. The fills produced Iron Age pottery. A number of pits and postholes were also noted particularly in Trench 62.

3.6.7 Elsewhere scattered linears and occasional pits were found in Trenches 48, 53 - 55, 58 and 63, the most notable of these being a medium sized pit in the SW end of Trench 48, the fills of which produced Iron Age pottery (Figure 6, Section 4801).

3.7 Finds summary

3.7.1 Relatively modest quantities of finds were recovered and this was particularly noticeable in the middle and north of the site. No pottery was recovered from trenches in the northern fields.

3.7.2 The majority of the pottery dates to the Iron Age, with only small quantities of Bronze Age material, most of which came from the upper fill of a ditch terminus in Trench 36 and a ditch forming part of a track way in Trench 49. It is of particular note that there was a complete absence of Roman material.

3.7.3 Small quantities of animal bone were recovered, mostly from features dated by pottery to the Iron Age and species represent the most common mammals of the time (i.e. cattle, goats and sheep).

3.7.4 The partial remains of a human skeleton were recovered from Trench 7. These consisted mostly of arm and leg bones together with a few fragments of pelvis, a single rib, a finger metacarpal and heel bone. Although the burial was clearly truncated the bone was however in good condition.

3.7.5 A total of 11 flints were recovered. Of these three were from a single context (701), the subsoil in Trench 7 and possibly date to the early Neolithic. They were recovered from the same area as the skeletal remains and may therefore be associated.

3.7.6 As to the rest of the recovered flint, one flake came from the disturbed topsoil of Trench 32, which was targeted on a demolished modern barn, and must be considered residual. Other pieces were relatively small and in poor condition. These are broadly classified as prehistoric.

3.8 Environmental summary

3.8.1 Four samples were taken from features in Trenches 36, 48 and 61. These demonstrated that there is a good potential for the recovery of charred plant remains, which would relate directly to the prehistoric economy of the area. The preservation of bone was also generally good. Molluscs were notably absent suggesting that they are unlikely to survive in the soils encountered.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 Conditions were generally good during the evaluation and the trenches provide good overall coverage of the site area. Trench locations were also targeted to investigate specific anomalies recorded in the geophysical survey of the area.

4.1.2 Trenches were machined sufficiently to define the underlying natural without unduly truncating the archaeological features. All of the archaeological features were investigated, although modern features were recorded but not fully excavated.

4.1.3 It is thought that there has been a degree of truncation across the area, particularly in the middle and north of the site. The absence of subsoil in a few of the trenches and the general shallowness of the found features suggests that deep ploughing had probably removed at least some of the archaeological remains. It is also possible that some of the shallower linears investigated may have been the result of past ridge and furrow cultivation on the site particularly those on a NNE-SSW alignment.

4.1.4 However, the results of the evaluation are thought to be a reliable indication of the type, density and distribution of surviving archaeological remains on the site.

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 establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains in the proposal area and to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present. The evaluation has determined the general distribution, character, condition, nature and quality of the archaeological remains present and indicates a degree of truncation across the site. Finds were scarce in the middle and north of the site, but indicate that the main features to the south were of Iron Age date.

4.2.3 To investigate and qualify the anomalies and potential archaeological features identified in the geophysical survey of the site including the enclosures and associated features to the south thought to be of potential Iron Age or Roman origin. The results of the trench evaluation showed a generally good correlation with the geophysical survey. Trenches targeted on plotted anomalies did reveal an area of more concentrated activity in the southern area of the site, the presence of ditches which probably relate to the enclosures noted from aerial photographs and a probable track way in Trench 49. A number of further linear anomalies were proven to be real archaeological features but other more ephemeral readings, particularly in the northern part of the site were found not to correspond with below ground features. The enclosures illustrated by the plot of crop marks in the south-east of the site were not in the projected locations but allowing for inaccuracies in applying aerial photographic data these features could be represented by the ditches recorded in the surrounding trenches. Finds indicate that the main features in the south of the site do date to the Iron Age and an absence of Roman material suggests that Roman settlement does not extend into this area.

4.2.4 *To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.* Samples show that conditions are suitable for the preservation of charred plant remains (CPR) and bone and that deeper features may have considerable

potential for the recovery of CPR. No molluscs were observed in any of the samples, suggesting that they are unlikely to survive in these sediments.

4.2.5 *To establish the need for any onward mitigation strategy.* The evaluation identified some areas of increased archaeological potential whilst elsewhere on the site the concentration of features and finds was relatively scarce. The evaluation results combined with the geophysical survey should allow any further mitigation strategy to be determined.

4.2.6 *To make available the results of the investigation*. This report details the results.

4.3 Discussion

4.3.1 The trench evaluation results show that while a significant proportion of the site produced only sparse archaeological features the southernmost area does contain a concentration of Iron Age activity. In the light of the geophysical survey and trenching evidence the location of two enclosures postulated from crop marks could now be moved slightly to the south and west and would then seem to be a good match for the physical results. Pottery points to a mainly middle Iron Age date for the activity although some possibly early Iron Age material may tentatively indicate that the eastern of the two enclosures may be the earlier of the two. The main ditches have been re-cut a number of times so the activity here was presumably sustained for some time. Pottery is most prevalent in the most recent re-cuts of the ditches but even here the quantity is not particularly high so whether the activity in this specific location relates directly to settlement or to farming and stock management is not clear. These features would appear to be the northern limit of more concerted evidence noted on other sites to the south-west.

4.3.2 Roman evidence is notable by its absence and the continued use of areas of Iron Age activity into the Roman period seen elsewhere in the general area does not appear to have happened in this location. The record of possible colluvial deposits in the southern area of the site, particularly as their deposition seems to be contemporaneous with the use of the site, may go some way to explain this although the interpretation of such deposits if difficult in the limited extents of the evaluation trenches.

4.3.3 There is also evidence for Bronze Age activity at the site with a ditch terminus in the central area and a track way delineated by parallel ditches yielding Bronze Age pottery. A number of further residual sherds were also retrieved from Iron Age features. It is probable that some of the undated features on the site relate to a low level of farming activity in both the Bronze and Iron Ages although some seem likely to be of much more recent origin.

4.3.4 The geophysical survey results correlate fairly well with the evidence found in the trenches although many of the smaller anomalies did not turn out to be archaeological features. What seems clear from the variations in subsoil, the disturbed burial in Trench 7 and the 'patchy' nature of some of the features (the track way was firmly identified in Trench 49 but could not be seen in Trench 43) is that there has been a certain amount of truncation of the archaeological horizon across the site.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 1							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.66
General description							
A very large series of quarry cuts seen in this trench, corresponding with a general depression in the surrounding ground level. The quarry's upper fills contained much modern debris, including dumped brick and metal. The quarrying was deeper towards the north, with evidence of redeposited soils here. A 1.8 m. deep sondage machined in the northern end of the trench revealed loose fills to beyond this depth.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
100	Layer		0.32	Topsoil			
101	Layer		0.34	Disturbed subsoil			Modern
102				Context not used			
103	Layer			Natural			
104	Cut	30	0.5-1.8+	Quarry			
105	Fill		0.5-1.8+	Layered modern backfill		Brick, metal	Modern

Trench 2							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
200	Layer		0.4	Topsoil			
201	Layer		0.3	Subsoil			
202	Layer			Natural			

Trench 3							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.37
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
300	Layer		0.2	Topsoil			
301	Layer		0.17	Subsoil			
302	Layer			Natural			

Trench 4							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6-0.78
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
400	Layer		0.33-0.55	Topsoil		
401	Layer		0.27	Subsoil		
402	Layer			Natural		

Trench 5							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.49
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
500	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
501	Layer		0.19	Subsoil		
502	Layer			Natural		

Trench 6							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.32
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
600	Layer		0.19	Topsoil		
601	Layer		0.13	Subsoil		
602	Layer			Natural		

Trench 7							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3

General description

A relatively shallow trench. The long-bones and other partial survivals of a human skeleton were recovered but despite close inspection no related cut was found. It is thought that these are the remains of a previously truncated skeleton that may have been at the interface of the subsoil and the underlying sandy gravel natural. Three struck flints were also recovered from the subsoil in the same area and these are thought to date to the early Neolithic.
A somewhat irregular NE-SW linear was excavated in the western end of the trench. This may have been part of a fenceline as it had two or possibly three postholes in its base. A shallow and irregular probable root disturbance (704) was investigated in the extreme west of the trench. Apart from the recovered human bone and flint, no other finds were found.

Contexts

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
700	Layer		0.2	Topsoil		
701	Layer		Up to 0.16	Subsoil	Skeletal remains Flint blades	Early Neolithic?
702	Layer			Natural		
703	Fill		0.17	Fill of 704		
704	Cut	0.52 dia.	0.17	Possible posthole or root-disturbance?		
705	Fill		0.22	Fill of 706		
706	Cut	0.2	0.22	NE-SW linear		
707	Skeleton			Partial skeletal remains		
708	Cut	0.28 dia.	0.4	Posthole		
709	Fill		0.4	Fill of 708		
710	Cut	0.25	0.2	Posthole		
711	Fill		0.2	Fill of 710		
712	Cut		0.2	Possible Posthole		
713	Fill		0.2	Fill of 712		

Trench 8							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.8

General description

Empty trench. The subsoil relatively thick here - possibly because of levelling for the adjacent footpath?

Contexts

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
801	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
802	Layer		0.5-0.6	Subsoil		
803	Layer			Natural		

Trench 9							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.39
General description							
A single possible posthole (903) was excavated in the north of the trench. A smaller, irregular disturbance was also investigated in the middle of the trench and is thought to be a natural feature, such as root disturbance. No finds were recovered.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
900	Layer		0.34	Topsoil		
901	Layer		Absent	Subsoil		
902	Layer			Natural		
903	Cut	0.54 dia.	0.18	Posthole		
904	Fill		0.18	Fill of 903		
905	Cut		0.3	Irregular feature		
906	Fill		0.3	Fill of 905		

Trench 10							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.42
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1000	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
1001	Layer		0.12	Subsoil		
1002	Layer			Natural		

Trench 11							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1101	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
1102	Layer		0.3-0.5	Subsoil		
1103	Layer			Natural		

Trench 12							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.49
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1200	Layer		0.29	Topsoil			
1201	Layer		0.2	Subsoil			
1202	Layer			Natural			

Trench 13							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1300	Layer		0.27	Topsoil			
1301	Layer		0.1	Subsoil			
1302	Layer			Natural			

Trench 14							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.33
General description							
A shallow linear (1403) was investigated in the north of the trench. No finds were recovered.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1400	Layer		0.29	Topsoil			
1401	Layer		0.04	Subsoil			
1402	Layer			Natural			
1403	Cut	0.68	0.12	NW-SE linear			
1404	Fill		0.12	Fill of 1403			

Trench 15							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1500	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
1501	Layer		0.06	Subsoil			
1502	Layer			Natural			

Trench 16							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.42
General description							
Two undated shallow NE-SW linears were found in the west of the trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1600	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
1601	layer		0.12	Subsoil			
1602	Layer			Natural			
1603	Cut	0.82	0.3	NE-SW ditch			
1604	Fill		0.3	Fill of 1603			
1605	Cut	0.45	0.09	NE-SW ditch			
1606	Fill		0.09	Fill of 1605			

Trench 17							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1700	Layer		0.28	Topsoil			
1701	Layer		0.2	Subsoil			
1702	Layer			Natural			

Trench 18							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
General description							
Two rather ephemeral shallow ditches excavated in the eastern and western ends of trench. These had poorly defined edges and produced no finds.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1800	Layer		0.24	Topsoil			
1801	Layer		0.06	Subsoil			
1802	Layer			Natural			
1803	Cut	0.67	0.14	NE-SW ditch			
1804	Fill		0.14	Fill of 1803			
1805	Cut	0.64	0.18	NW-SE ditch			
1806	Fill		0.18	Fill of 1805			

Trench 19							
Orientation	NE - SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
General description							
A medium sized pit and adjacent posthole were excavated in the middle of the trench, together with an irregularly shaped feature to the north. This latter is thought to be a natural feature. No finds.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
1900	Layer		0.24	Topsoil			
1901	Layer		0.06	Subsoil			
1902	Layer			Natural			
1903	Cut	0.94	0.6	Pit			
1904	Fill		0.5	Upper fill of 1903			
1905	Fill		0.1	Primary fill of 1903			
1906	Cut	0.24 dia.	0.18	Posthole			
1907	Fill		0.1	Secondary fill of 1906			
1908	Fill		0.08	Primary fill of 1906			
1909	Cut	1.8	0.45	Irregular -natural feature?			
1910	Fill		0.45	Fill of 1909			

Trench 20							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2000	Layer		0.32	Topsoil			
2001	Layer		0.15-0.25	Subsoil			
2002	Layer			Natural			

Trench 21							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2100	Layer		0.34	Topsoil			
2101	Layer		0.17-0.69	Subsoil			
2102	Layer			Natural			

Trench 22							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52-0.76
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2200	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
2201	Layer		0.22-0.44	Subsoil			
2202	Layer			Natural			

Trench 23							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2300	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
2301	Layer		0.2	Subsoil			
2302	Layer			Natural			

Trench 24							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2400	Layer		0.2	Topsoil			
2401	Layer		0.2	Subsoil			
2402	Layer			Natural			

Trench 25							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2501	Layer		0.28	Topsoil			
2502	Layer		0.05	Subsoil			
2503	Layer			Natural			

Trench 26							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2801	Layer		0.25	Topsoil			
2802	Layer		< 0.1	Subsoil			
2803	Layer			Natural			

Trench 27							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
2701	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
2702	Layer		0.1	Subsoil			
2703	Layer			Natural			

Trench 28							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2801	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
2802	Layer		0.1	Subsoil		
2803	Layer			Natural		

Trench 29							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
General description							
Two adjacent shallow linears excavated in the eastern end of the trench. No finds were recovered.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2900	Layer		0.35	Topsoil		
2901	Layer		0.34	Subsoil		
2902	Layer			Natural		
2903	Cut	0.44	0.12	NNE-SSW ditch or gully		
2904	Fill		0.12	Fill of 2903		
2905	Cut	0.6	0.14	NNE-SSW shallow ditch		
2906	Fill		0.14	Fill of 2905		

Trench 30							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3001	Layer		0.25	Topsoil		
3002	Layer		0.2	Subsoil		
3003	Layer			natural		

Trench 31							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.34
General description							
A single shallow N-S ditch was investigated in the western end of the trench. This may have been the result of deep ploughing, as its fill was very similar to the overlying subsoil. No finds were recovered.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
3100	Layer		0.3	Topsoil			
3101	Layer		0.04	Subsoil			
3102	Layer			Natural			
3103	Cut	0.66	0.08	Shallow N-S ditch			
3104	Fill		0.08	Fill of 3103			

Trench 32							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	Up to 0.45
General description							
The northern end of the trench contained two modern service trenches (3203, 3206) and spreads of modern brick and tile debris.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
3200	Layer		0.3	Topsoil	Brick, flint, concrete, metal debris	Modern	
3201	Layer		0.15	Subsoil			
3202	Layer			Natural			
3203	Cut	1.04	0.08	Modern service ditch			
3204	Fill		0.08	Fill of 3203	Drainpipe	Modern	
3205	Deposit		Unexc.	Spread of modern material	Brick, tile	Modern	
3206	Cut		Unexc.	Modern NE-SW ditch			
3207	Fill		Unexc.	Fill of 3206	Brick, cement	Modern	

Trench 33							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	Up to 0.8m
General description							
The western end of the trench revealed a buried spread of topsoil and modern deposits with defunct services of demolished barn. A modern well of breeze block construction was also found sealed by the present topsoil.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3301	Layer		0.3	Topsoil	Brick, concrete, metal debris	Modern
3302	Layer		0.3	Redeposited chalky silt		Modern
3303	Layer		0.15	Buried topsoil spread		
3304	Layer		0.1	Modern deposit + services		Modern
3305	Layer			Natural		
3306	Cut			Construction cut for well		Modern
3307	Fill		Unexc.	Fill of well 3308		Modern
3308	Structure	1.4 dia.	Unexc.	Breeze-block well structure		Modern

Trench 34							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3401	Layer		0.25	Topsoil		
3402	Layer		0.1-0.15	Subsoil		
3403	Layer			Natural		

Trench 35							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45 – 0.7
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3501	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
3502	Layer		0.25-0.4	Subsoil		
3503	Layer			Natural		

Trench 36							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52
Illustration of Ditch 3603; Figure 6, Section 3601							
General description							
The trench contained a single curvilinear ditch (3603) which entered from the NE and terminated. It contained a dark upper fill (3604) which contained 16 sherds of middle Bronze Age pottery.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**Finds /Samples**	**date**
3600	Layer		0.26	Topsoil		
3601	Layer		0.26	Subsoil		
3602	Layer			Natural		
3603	Cut	0.59	0.26	NE-SW curvilinear ditch terminus		
3604	Fill		0.14	Secondary fill of 3603	Pottery, burnt flint Sample <2>	MBA.
3605	Fill		0.12	Primary fill of 3603		

Trench 37							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
3701	Layer		0.25	Topsoil		
3702	Layer		0.1	Subsoil		
3703	Layer			Natural		

Trench 38							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.25
General description							
A NE-SW ditch in the middle of the trench which has been re-cut. Appears to match the linear anomaly shown by the geophysical survey.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3801	Layer		0.25	Topsoil		
3802	Layer			Natural		
3803				Context not used		
3804	Cut	0.7	0.35	Re-cut of NE-SW ditch 3806		
3805	Fill		0.35	Fill of 3804		
3806	Cut	0.85	0.3	NE-SW ditch		
3807	Fill		0.08	Upper fill of 3806		
3808	Fill		0.22	Primary fill of 3806		

Trench 39							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3900	Layer		0.36	Topsoil		
3901	Layer		0.36	Subsoil		
3902	Layer			Natural		

Trench 40							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.65
General description							
Two very shallow NNE-SSW adjacent and parallel linears were investigated in the middle of the trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4001	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
4002	Layer		0.35	Subsoil		
4003	Layer			Natural		
4004	Cut	0.45	0.03	Shallow NNE-SSW linear		
4005	Fill		0.03	Fill of 4004		
4006	Cut	0.3	0.03	Shallow NNE-SSW linear		
4007	Fill		0.03	Fill of 4006		

Trench 41							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.56
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4100	Layer		0.33	Topsoil		
4101	Layer		0.24	Subsoil		
4102	Layer			Natural		

Trench 42							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.75
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4200	Layer		0.22	Topsoil		
4201	Layer		0.53	Subsoil		
4202	Layer			Natural		
4203	Cut	1.6	0.2	Irregular- natural feature		
4204	Fill		0.2	Fill of 4203		

Trench 43							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
General description							
Empty trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4300	Layer		0.28	Topsoil		
4301	Layer		0.42	Subsoil		
4302	Layer			Natural		

Trench 44							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.54
Illustration; Figure 3							
General description							
Two NE-SW ditches (4404, 4406) were found in the northern end of the trench. A probable ditch terminus (4410) was also investigated in the south of the trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4400	Layer		0.34	Topsoil		
4401	Layer		0.2	Subsoil		
4402	Layer			Natural		
4403	Cut	0.37	0.1	N-S probable field-drain		
4404	Cut	0.76	0.27	NE-SW ditch		
4405	Fill		0.27	Fill of 4404		
4406	Cut	0.97	0.27	NE-SW ditch		
4407	Fill		0.27	Fill of 4406		
4408	Cut	0.92	0.18	Probable tree-bole		
4409	Fill		0.18	Fill of 4408	Flint	
4410	Cut	1.6	1	NW-SE ditch terminus		
4411	Fill		1	Fill of 4410	Flint	
4412	Fill		0.1	Fill of 4403		

Trench 45							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
General description							
A single undated N-S ditch was revealed in the western half of the trench.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4500	Layer		0.27	Topsoil		
4501	Layer		0.21	Subsoil		
4502	Layer			Natural		
4503	Cut	1.07	0.28	N-S ditch		
4504	Fill		0.28	Fill of 4503		

Trench 46							
Orientation	NNE-SSW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
Illustration; Figure 4							
General description							
Three ESE-WNW ditches were found in the southern half of the trench. Pottery recovered indicates an Iron Age date for these features.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4600	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
4601	Layer		0.15	Subsoil		
4602	Layer			Natural		
4603	Cut	1.32	0.35	ESE-WNW ditch		
4604	Fill		0.35	Fill of 4603	Pottery	MIA?
4605	Cut	0.7	0.22	ESE-WNW ditch		
4606	Fill		0.22	Fill of 4605		
4607	Cut	1.99	0.32	ESE-WNW ditch		
4608	Fill		0.32	Fill of 4607	Pot, bone	MIA

Trench 47							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
Illustration; Figure 4							
General description							
The trench revealed a relatively broad curvilinear ditch (4703) in the north of the trench, two narrower parallel and adjacent ditches (4707, 4709) in the middle of the trench and a narrow ditch terminus (4711) close to a probable waterhole pit (4713) to the south. Small quantities of Iron Age pot were recovered from the fill of ditch 4709.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4700	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
4701	Layer		0.15	Subsoil		
4702	Layer			Natural		
4703	Cut	2	0.8	ENE-WSW curvilinear ditch		
4704	Fill		0.36	Fill of 4703		
4705	Fill		0.23	Fill of 4703		
4706	Fill		0.22	Fill of 4703	Bone	
4707	Cut	0.6	0.2	SE-NW Ditch		
4708	Fill		0.2	Fill of 4707		
4709	Cut	0.38	0.18	SE-NW ditch		
4710	Fill		0.18	Fill of 4709	Pottery	MIA
4711	Cut	0.47	0.16	Ditch terminus		

4712	Fill		0.16	Fill of 4711		
4713	Cut	1.6	0.72	Pit or possible water-hole		
4714	Fill		0.35	Fill of 4713		
4715	Fill		0.2	Fill of 4713		
4716	Fill		0.21	Fill of 4713		

Trench 48							
Orientation	SW-NE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
Illustration of Pit 4804; Figure 6, Section 4801							
General description							
An Iron Age pit was excavated in the south-western end of the trench. A short linear was aligned NW-SE near to middle of the trench. This was undated.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**Finds, Samples**	**date**
4801	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
4802	Layer		0.2-0.25	Subsoil		
4803	Layer			Natural		
4804	Cut	1.3 dia.	0.45	Pit		
4805	Fill		0.4	Upper fill of 4804	Pot, bone, flint	EIA-MIA
4806	Fill		0.05	Primary fill of 4804	Pot, bone, flint, Sample <1>	EIA
4807	Fill		0.35	Fill of 4808		
4808	Cut	0.7	0.35	NW-SE linear		

Trench 49							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.72
Illustrations of Ditch 4903 and Ditch 4906; Figure 6, Sections 4900 and 4902							
General description							
Two parallel ditches, 5 m apart, which appear to correspond to features noted in the geophysical survey and are interpreted as a probable track way. Bronze Age pottery retrieved from the fill of one of them would indicate a BA date.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
4900	Layer		0.27	Topsoil		
4901	Layer		0.45	Subsoil		
4902	Layer			Natural		
4903	Cut	1.32	0.36	E-W ditch		
4904	Fill		0.21	Fill of 4903	Pottery	MBA or LBA

4905	Fill		0.02	Fill of 4903		
4906	Cut	1.48	0.2	E-W ditch		
4907	Fill		0.2	Fill of 4906		

Trench 50							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.74
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
5000	Layer		0.34	Topsoil			
5001	Layer		0.4	Subsoil			
5002	Layer			Natural			

Trench 51							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.36
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
5100	Layer		0.28	Topsoil			
5101	Layer		0.08	Subsoil			
5102	Layer			Natural			

Trench 52							
Orientation	NE-SW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.86
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
5300	Layer		0.38	Topsoil			
5301	Layer		0.48	Subsoil			
5302	Layer			Natural			

Trench 53							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.42
General description							
The trench revealed a NW-SE aligned ditch in the northern end of the trench and a shallow curvilinear feature that terminated near the middle of the trench. Both features are undated.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
5300	Layer		0.26	Topsoil			
5301	Layer		0.16	Subsoil			
5302	Layer			Natural			
5303	Cut	0.52	0.16	Curved ditch terminus			
5304	Fill		0.16	Fill of 5303			
5305	Cut	0.86	0.26	NW-SE ditch			
5306	Fill		0.26	Fill of 5305			

Trench 54							
Orientation	NW-SE	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.38
General description							
The trench revealed a single N-S aligned ditch, which produced small quantities of Iron Age pottery.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**	
5401	Layer		0.2	Topsoil			
5402	Layer		0.15	Subsoil			
5403	Layer			Natural			
5404	Cut	1.2	0.6	N-S ditch			
5405	Fill		0.36	Fill of 5404			
5406	Fill		0.1	Fill of 5404			
5407	Fill		0.2	Fill of 5404	Pottery	MIA?	
5408	Fill		0.08	Fill of 5404			

Trench 55							
Orientation	NNE-SSW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.56
General description							
A single shallow pit or natural feature (5503) was investigated in the south of this trench. No finds were recovered. The only other feature of note was a narrow and shallow E-W aligned linear (5505). This was thought to be a possible land-drain.							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5500	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
5501	Layer		0.22	Subsoil		
5502	Layer			Natural		
5503	Cut	0.7	0.18	Pit		
5504	Fill		0.18	Fill of 5903		
5505	Cut	0.2	0.28	Gully/ drain		Modern?
5506	Fill		0.28	Fill of 5905		

Trench 56							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.44
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5600	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
5601	Layer		0.14	Subsoil		
5602	Layer			Natural		

Trench 57							
Orientation	E-W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.33
General description							
Empty trench							
Contexts							

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5700	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
5701	Layer		0.03	Subsoil		
5702	Layer			Natural		

Trench 58							
Orientation	ESE-WNW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5

General description

Four modern ceramic land-drains ran N-S across the trench. One of these was a plain ceramic design, while the other three had flint nodules covering the ceramic drain. A partly revealed shallow pit (5803) and possible shallow ditch terminus (5805) were sectioned but produced no finds.

Contexts

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5800	Layer		0.3	Topsoil		
5801	Layer		0.1	Subsoil		
5802	Layer			Natural		
5803	Cut	0.85	0.24	Pit		
5804	Fill		0.24	Fill of 5803		
5805	Cut	1.1	0.2	Possible ditch terminus		
5806	Fill		0.16	Secondary fill of 5805		
5807	Fill		0.1	Primary fill of 5805		
5808	Structure	0.3	Over 0.2	Modern flint covered land-drain		
5809	Structure	0.3	Over 0.2	Modern flint covered land-drain		
5810	Structure	0.3	-	Ceramic land-drain		
5811	Structure	0.3	-	Modern flint covered land-drain		

Trench 59							
Orientation	NNE-SSW	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52

General description

The trench revealed a ditch alignment which consisted of an E-W ditch (5903 = 5907) which had been re-cut at least once (5905) or twice if 5903 and 5907 represent separate events, this relationship was not clear. This feature was indicated by geophysical survey and also probably relates to the crop mark enclosure noted from aerial photographs. A ditch or gully (5909 = 5913) was recorded associated with this alignment but curving away to the south. A further short section of ditch or gully was recorded at the southern end of the trench (5911) and may be part of the same feature. Iron Age pottery was retrieved from the main ditch alignment.

Contexts

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
5900	Layer		0.4	Topsoil		
5901	Layer		0.18	Lower subsoil		
5902	Layer			Natural		
5903	Cut	1.35	0.6	E-W ditch		
5904	Fill		0.6	Fill of 5903	Pottery	MIA
5905	Cut	1.15	0.55	Re-cut of E-W ditch 5903		

5906	Fill		0.55	Fill of 5905		
5907	Cut	1.7	0.4	E-W ditch = 5903?		
5908	Fill		0.4	Fill of 5907	Pot, bone	MIA?
5909	Cut	0.94	0.46	Curving ditch or gully		
5910	Fill		0.46	Fill of 5909		
5911	Cut	0.25	0.38	Curving ditch or gully		
5912	Fill		0.38	Fill of 5911		
5913	Cut	0.17	0.1	Curving ditch or gully = 5909		
5914	Fill		0.1	Fill of 5913		
5915	Layer		0.1	Upper subsoil		

Trench 60							
Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.56

General description

The trench revealed a ditch alignment which consisted of an E-W ditch (6005 = 6007) which had been re-cut at least once (6009) or twice if 6005 and 6007 represent separate events, this relationship was not clear. This feature was indicated by geophysical survey and also probably relates to the crop mark enclosure noted from aerial photographs. It appears to be a continuation of ditch 5903 from Trench 59 and was not fully excavated. Iron Age pottery was retrieved from its fills. A small pit (6003) was also recorded in the northern half of the trench and produced Bronze Age pottery although this could be residual given the proximity of Iron Age features.

Contexts

Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**	**finds**	**date**
6000	Layer		0.4	Topsoil		
6001	Layer		0.18	Subsoil		
6002	Layer			Natural		
6003	Cut	0.56x 0.53	0.14	Small pit		
6004	Fill		0.14	Fill of 6003	Pottery, flint	MBA?
6005	Cut	Up to 5.15	Not full exc	E-W ditch		
6006	Fill		Not full exc	Fill of 6005		
6007	Cut	Up to 5.15	Not full exc	E-W ditch = 6005?		
6008	Fill		Not full exc	Fill of 6007	Pottery	MIA?
6009	Cut	2.85	Not full exc	Re-cut of E-W ditch 6005		
6010	Fill		Not full exc	Fill of 6009	Pottery	MIA?
6011	Fill		Not full exc	Fill of 6009		

Trench 61

Orientation	E-W	Length (m)	50	Width (m)	2	Avg. depth (m)	0.4

Illustration; Figure 5, Plan, Sections 6100, 6101, 6102, 6103, 6105

General description

This trench contained a significant collection of ditches and re-cuts on a N-S alignment. Ditch 6140 was re-cut by Ditch 6108 then Ditch 6107 providing the most substantial line but a further 4 ditches (6110, 6111, 6112 and 6137) were recorded adjacent to this to the east and seem to re-affirm the same boundary. A section of E-W orientated ditch (6138) was also noted in this area of the trench and may be related to Ditch 6112 in forming some small enclosure or stock pen relating to the adjacent boundary? A further NW-SE ditch (6128) was noted to the east of the main alignment. Four postholes (6103, 6104, 6105 and 6106) appear to be associated with the ditches but further interpretation is not possible given the confines of the trench. A pit (6125) was excavated at the western end of the trench. The ditches appear to match anomalies noted in the geophysics survey and probably relate to the enclosures recorded as cropmarks (the original location of which can probably now be revised). Iron Age pottery was retrieved from the latest phase of the main ditch and two of the postholes. There also appear to be layers of possible colluvium (?) in this trench through which most of the features are cut, however it is possible that the deposition of some of the latter layers may be contemporaneous with the sites use as they seem to seal some of the features.

Contexts

cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	Finds, Samples	date
6100	Layer		0.25	Topsoil		
6101	layer		0.2	Subsoil		
6102	layer			Natural		
6103	Cut	0.3 dia.	0.5	Posthole		
6104	Cut	0.56 dia.	0.24	Posthole		
6105	Cut	0.42 dia.	0.32	Posthole		
6106	Cut	0.39 dia.	0.41	Posthole		
6107	Cut	2.3	0.78	2nd re-cut of ditch 6140		
6108	Cut	1.5	0.76	1st re-cut of ditch 6140		
6109	-	-	-	Not used		
6110	Cut	1.3	0.58	N-S ditch terminus		
6111	Cut	1.14	0.26	N-S ditch		
6112	Cut	0.5	0.2	N-S gully/ditch		
6113	Fill		0.34	Fill of 6103	Pot, bone	MIA
6114	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6103		
6115	Fill		0.24	Fill of 6104		
6116	Fill		0.24	Fill of 6104		
6117	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6104		
6118	Fill		0.08	Fill of 6105	Pot	MIA?
6119	Fill		0.19	Fill of 6105		
6120	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6105		
6121	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6106	Bone	
6122	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6106		

6123	Fill		0.38	Fill of 6106		
6124	Fill		0.3	Fill of 6106		
6125	Cut	1.02	0.41	Pit		
6126	Fill		0.41	Fill of 6125	Sample <3> Bone	
6127	Fill		0.38	Fill of 6125		
6128	Cut	1.06	0.4	NW-SE ditch		
6129	Fill		0.32	Fill of 6128		
6130	Fill		0.08	Fill of 6128		
6131	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6112		
6132	Fill		0.26	Fill of 6111		
6133	Layer		0.18	Layer		
6134	Layer		0.12	Layer		
6135	Layer		0.1	Layer		
6136	Fill		0.24	Fill of 6137		
6137	Cut	0.72	0.24	N-S ditch		
6138	Cut	0.5	Unexc.	E-W ditch		
6139	Fill	0.5	-	Fill of 6138		
6140	Cut	1.2	0.6	N-S ditch		
6141	Fill		0.18	Fill of 6110		
6142	Fill		0.22	Fill of 6110		
6143	Fill		0.18	Fill of 6110		
6144	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6110		
6145	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6110		
6146	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6107	Pot, bone' Sample <4>	MIA
6147	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6107	Bone	
6148	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6107	Pottery	MIA
6149	Fill		0.24	Fill of 6107		
6150	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6107		
6151	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6107	Pottery	MIA
6152	Fill		0.16	Fill of 6107		
6153	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6107		
6154	Layer		0.2	Possible colluvial layer		
6155	Fill		0.3	Fill of 6108		
6156	Fill		0.2	Fill of 6108		
6157	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6108		
6158	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6108		
6159	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6108		

6160	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6140		
6161	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6140		
6162	Fill		0.16	Fill of 6140		
6163	Fill		0.06	Fill of 6140		
6164	Fill		0.06	Fill of 6140		
6165	Fill		0.16	Fill of 6140		
6166	Fill		0.12	Fill of 6140		
6167	Fill		0.1	Fill of 6108		

Trench 62

Orientation	N-S	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6

General description

The trench revealed a ditch alignment which consisted of a main E-W ditch (6210) which had been re-cut 2 or 3 times depending on the relationship of cuts 6208 and 6212 which may be the same, final re-cut 6214 made the relationship unclear. This feature was indicated by geophysical survey and also probably relates to one of the crop mark enclosures noted from aerial photographs. A small pit (6206) and 3 postholes (6204, 6216 and 6218) were also recorded in the trench. The ditch alignment and one of the postholes produced Iron Age pottery.

Contexts

Cxt no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
6200	Layer		0.35	Topsoil		
6201	Layer		0.08-0.20	Subsoil		
6202	Layer		0.15	Subsoil		
6203	Layer			Natural		
6204	Cut	0.6	0.24	Probable posthole		
6205	Fill		0.24	Fill of 6204	Pottery	EIA-MIA
6206	Cut	2.05	0.28	Shallow possible pit		
6207	Fill		0.28	Fill of 6206		
6208	Cut	1	0.37	Re-cut of E-W ditch 6210		
6209	Fill		0.37	Fill of 6208	Pottery	MIA?
6210	Cut	0.8	0.4	E-W ditch		
6211	Fill		0.4	Fill of 6210	Pottery	EIA
6212	Cut	1.4	0.35	Re-cut of E-W ditch 6210		
6213	Fill		0.35	Fill of 6212	Pottery	MIA?
6214	Cut	2.4	0.74	Re-cut of E-W ditch 6210		
6215	Fill		0.74	Fill of 6214	Pottery	EIA-MIA
6216	Cut	0.3	0.23	Posthole		
6217	Fill		0.23	Fill of 6216		
6218	Cut	0.28	0.28	Posthole		
6219	Fill		0.28	Fill of 6218		

Trench 63

Orientation	E - W	**Length (m)**	50	**Width (m)**	2	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
General description							
The trench revealed a shallow ditch (6303) and probable ditch terminus (6305) both aligned NW-SE. No finds were recovered.							
Contexts							
Cxt no	**type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**comment**		**finds**	**date**
6300	Layer		0.34	Topsoil			
6301	Layer		0.14	Subsoil			
6302	Layer			Natural			
6303	Cut	0.85	0.16	ditch			
6304	Fill		0.16	Fill of 6303			
6305	Cut	0.34	0.08	Probable shallow ditch terminus			
6306	Fill		0.08	Fill of 6305			

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Paul Booth

Introduction

B.1.1 The evaluation produced 154 sherds (1900 g) of pottery ranging in date from the middle Bronze Age to the middle Iron Age. The pottery was scanned quite rapidly and quantified by period for each context group (Table 1). Fabrics were not recorded in detail, but the principal inclusion type of each sherd was recorded and in some cases subsidiary inclusion types were also noted where these appeared to be significant. Rims and other feature sherds were recorded. Codes were as set out in the standard OA recording system for later prehistoric and Roman pottery (Booth 2008). An assessment of the ceramic date of each context group is also presented in Table 1.

B.1.2 The pottery was in good to moderate condition. Sherd size was very variable; the mean sherd weight of the Bronze Age material (17.7 g) was quite high, while that of the Iron Age pottery (11.3 g) was fairly average. Surface condition was also variable; the sherds in context 4608, in particular, appeared to be quite worn, but they were not particularly well-fired and it is possible that this, rather than extensive redeposition, contributed to their condition. The surfaces of most other sherds were in reasonable condition regardless of their size. Burnish was preserved in some cases, but not in all where it is likely to have been present originally.

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context by period (no. sherds/weight g)

Context	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Comment	Context date
3604	16/392		all flint-tempered, includes Globular Urn fragments	MBA
4604		1/4	sand-tempered	MIA?
4608		36/240	sand-tempered, all one vessel, but no feature sherds	MIA
4710		1/29	sand-tempered	MIA
4805		5/124	sand-tempered; one small rim clay pellet/sand-tempered	E-MIA
4806		7/301	sand-tempered (1 upright rim with slight internal hook); one base clay pellet/organic/sand-tempered	EIA
4907	8/17		flint-tempered	MBA or LBA
5407		3/14	sand-tempered	MIA?
5904		2/36	sand-tempered	MIA
5908		1/7	sand-tempered	MIA?
6004	1/34		grog and sand-tempered, upright rim with very slight	MBA?

			shoulder, ?horizontal rows of slight impressions, worn and perhaps redeposited	
6008		1/6	sand-tempered	MIA?
6010		2/19	sand-tempered	MIA?
6113		9/53	sand-tempered; two fine sherds glauconitic	MIA
6118		1/5	sand-tempered	MIA?
6146		23/160	sand-tempered	MIA
6148		5/51	sand-tempered; one clay pellet/sand-tempered	MIA
6151		1/43	sand-tempered, jar with very slightly outsloping rim	MIA
6205		1/2	sand-tempered	E-MIA
6207		2/9	clay pellet/organic/sand-tempered	E-MIA
6209		2/25	clay pellet/organic/sand-tempered	MIA?
6211		4/48	sand-tempered, one shoulder sherd with fingertip impression below oblique incised lines	EIA
6213		1/24	sand-tempered	MIA?
6215		23/252	sand-tempered, one jar rim with slightly rounded shoulder	E-MIA
TOTAL	25/443	129/1457		

Fabrics, forms and chronology

Bronze Age

B.1.3 All the pottery assigned to this period was in flint-tempered fabrics, with the exception of a single sherd from context 6004. This was in a grog and sand-tempered fabric, apparently from a very slack-shouldered and upright-rimmed vessel, perhaps with horizontal rows of very faint impressions on the neck and just below the shoulder. A middle Bronze Age date seems likely for this vessel. Flint-tempered sherds from context 4904 could be of either middle or late Bronze Age date, but the group from 3604 was certainly of middle Bronze Age date. This included sherds in flint-tempered fabrics of varying coarseness, representing at least four (and possibly more) vessels. Rim sherds and a large base angle of a Globular Urn were the most distinctive elements here - and it is possible that these were from two different vessels. Local comparanda are seen for example at Appleford (Barclay 2009, 59-64 with discussion of parallels) but the present pieces are undecorated.

Iron Age

B.1.4 The Iron Age assemblage is dominated by sherds in sand-tempered fabrics. In some cases these are combined with other significant inclusions (such as clay pellets/iron oxides, probable Malmstone fragments and organic material). Occasionally the secondary inclusions are dominant, as in a few cases where the ?clay pellets are the most important inclusion type. Shell-tempered fabrics are conspicuous by their absence. This tradition is particularly characteristic of the early Iron Age in the Upper Thames Valley and its absence may mean that the majority of the Iron Age pottery present is of middle Iron Age date. There is a shortage of diagnostic rim sherds (only four in total of Iron Age date) and of other feature sherds and decorated pieces which would allow this to be concluded more decisively, but where distinctively early Iron Age characteristics are observed (as for example on a decorated sherd in context 6211 or an upright rim in context 4806) the relevant sherds are sand-tempered. The present site may be located far enough down the Thames Valley for the shell-tempered tradition, which is best established in the upper part of the valley beyond Oxford, to be of little significance here. If the dominant local early Iron Age tempering tradition involved the use of sand, distinguishing between early and middle Iron Age date on the basis of fabric alone will be very difficult. Nevertheless it is apparent that both early and middle Iron Age pottery is present in the present assemblage. The complete lack of later Iron Age and Roman pottery is notable.

B.2 Human Remains

By Sharon Clough

B.2.1 Skeleton 707 comprising the middle and lower half of an individual was recovered. These were the remains of an adult female aged 35-45 years. The bone surface was grade 1 (McKinley 2004) and the fragmentation medium. The femur measurement gave a height of 152.6 cm (Trotter 1970). The left ulna had a healed fracture to the proximal shaft which was completely healed and aligned straight.

B.2.2 Description Skeleton 707: Rib fragment. Left distal 1/2 humerus. Left proximal ulna and fragment of radius. Right distal 2/3s shaft radius. Right 1st metacarpal. Pelvis left part acetabulum and part auricular surface and ilium. Right pelvis fragment. Left femur shaft, right femur complete. Left tibia shaft, right tibia complete except distal end. Left fibula shaft and right lower 2/3 shaft. Right calcaneus.

B.3 Animal Bones

By Lena Strid

B.3.1 A total of 40 animal bones were recovered from this site (See Table 1, below). The features are mostly dated to the Iron Age, although some Bronze Age pottery sherds were also recovered. The majority of the bones were in a good condition, with little surface erosion. No bones were burnt. Gnaw marks from dogs were recorded on four fragments.

B.3.2 The species present comprise the most common domestic mammals of the time. As expected for a small Iron Age assemblage in the Upper Thames Valley (cf Ingrem 2007), cattle and sheep/goat dominate the assemblage. One fused distal cattle humerus and one fused cattle pelvis (acetabulum), belonged to animal/s of over 1 and 1.5 years of age respectively. One proximal cattle tibia was unfused, indicating that the animal was less than 3.5 years old at death (Habermehl 1975, 104-105). One cattle

metacarpal was very small, probably belonging to a juvenile animal. Two sheep/goat mandibles suggest an age at death of 1-3 years and 4-6 years (Table 2).

B.3.3 Two diagonal cut marks were recorded mid-shaft on a cattle humerus, suggesting filleting.

B.3.4 I recommend that this assemblage should be considered alongside any other bones retrieved from the site, should it proceed to full excavation.

Table 1. Bone assemblage from Wallingford, Slade End Farm.

	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Horse	Dog	Medium mammal	Large mammal	Indeterminate
Mandible		3						
Loose teeth	1	1		1				
Humerus	2				1			
Metacarpal	1	1	1		1			
Pelvis	1							
Tibia	1							
Metatarsal	1							
Rib						1	1	
Longbone						3	2	
Indeterminate							1	16
TOTAL	**7**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**4**	**4**	**16**

Table 2. Tooth wear stages of sheep/goat mandibles, with estimated age according to Payne (1973).

	dp4	M1	M2	M3	MWS	Estimated age
Sheep/goat	g	d			22-30	1-3 years
Sheep/goat		k	g	g	39	4-6 years

B.4 Flint

by Geraldine Crann.

B.4.1 A total of 11 flints were recovered from 7 contexts.

Context	Description	Date
701	Blade with cortex present on left distal/medial edge, dorsal butt abrasion scars, on pale grey mottled flint, 7g.	Possibly early Neolithic.
701	Tertiary blade-like flake, on pale grey mottled flint, usewear striations and edge-damage along left edge, dorsal butt abrasion scars. End damaged in antiquity, possibly as a result of use as a borer, 5g.	Possibly early Neolithic.
701	Blade on pale grey mottled flint, usewear striations along right edge. Notched/damaged at distal end, 4g.	Possibly early Neolithic.
3200	Large primary flake, 50% cortex dorsal distal end , ventral surface removed with thermal fracture. Small abraded notch and possible usewear on non-cortical edge, on pale grey mottled flint 63g.	Possibly Bronze Age.
4409	Tertiary flake fragment, both lateral margins absent, on mid-grey mottled flint, 4g.	
4411	Blade with overshoot termination, on mid-grey	

	mottled flint, 5g	
4805	Large abraded chunk, 5-10% cortex, possible core-trimming element, dark-brown flint,24g	
4806	Abraded chunk, with accidental edge damage, on grey mottled flint, 7g.	
4806	Abraded chunk on dark grey flint, 7g.	
6004	Waste flake, 60% cortex, on grey flint, 2g.	
6004	Small waste flake, mottled grey flint, 2g.	

Discussion

B.4.2 All the flint recovered during excavation can be classified as undatable prehistoric with the exception of that from contexts 701 and 3200. The flint from context 701 is likely to be early Neolithic, with soft-hammer abrasion scars on the dorsal butts of two pieces and the third piece being on the same raw material. The large flake from context 3200 is likely to be Bronze age in date. The flakes from all other contexts are relatively small, generally accepted as an indication that they are earlier rather than later prehistoric. The chunks from Trench 48, contexts 4805 and 4806, are very abraded.

B.4.3 The small quantities of worked flint recovered limits further interpretation. The assemblage is generally of low potential and requires no further work.

B.5 Stone

by Geraldine Crann.

B.5.1 One fragment of fractured quartz pebble, weighing 14g, was recovered from context 4608 on the site.

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

C.1 Environmental Report

by Julia Meen

Introduction

C.1.1 Four bulk soil samples were taken for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR) and artefacts. Sample <1> (4806) was taken from Trench 48, from the secondary fill of a pit containing Iron Age pottery, and noted in the field to contain occasional charcoal. Sample <2> (3604) was taken from the top fill of the terminus of an isolated curvilinear ditch containing Bronze Age pottery. Lower fills in this feature appeared sterile. Samples <3> and <4> were both taken from Trench 61, centred on the focus of settlement activity at the site. Sample <3> was taken from context (6126), the secondary fill of a pit (undated but probably Iron Age by association with surrounding features); sample <4> was from context (6146), an upper fill of a ditch recut, noted in the field to contain Iron Age pottery.

C.1.2 Sampling was undertaken to:

C.1.3 Record the range of soils and sediments on site.

C.1.4 Determine whether ecofacts and environmental evidence (such as plant remains, animal bone, human bone and molluscs) are present.

C.1.5 Determine the quality, range, state and method of preservation of any ecofactual evidence.

C.1.6 Recover and identify any small artefacts.

C.1.7 Make further recommendations about sampling for future excavations at the site.

Methodology

C.1.8 Samples were processed for the recovery of CPR by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue sieved to 500µm, and both were dried in a heated room, after which the residue was sorted by eye for artefacts and ecofactual remains. The flot was scanned for charred plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification. Identifications were made without reference to Oxford Archaeology's reference collection and therefore, should all be seen as provisional. Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (1997).

Results

Sediment

C.1.9 Sample <1> was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt loam, containing approximately 35% angular stones greater than 10mm in size, and 30% mid-yellow coarse sand. Sample <2> was an olive brown sandy clay loam, including approximately 10% gravel greater than 10mm in size, and with 15% black sandy silt loam mixed in. Sample <3> was a dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam with 30% dark brown sandy clay loam and a small number of angular stones greater than 10mm in size. Sample <4> was an olive brown sandy clay loam with inclusions of approximately 1% angular stone greater than 10mm in size. In each case, 40L was processed for the recovery of CPR and artefacts.

Bones and artefacts

C.1.10 Finds from the samples are detailed in Table 2.

C.1.11 Sample <1> contained a small quantity of undifferentiated animal bone, plus frequent small mammal/small bird bone. Two pieces of stone with evidence of burning were retrieved from the greater than 10mm fraction. A single item of glass was also found, although this may have been a modern contaminant.

C.1.12 Sample <2> contained a very small quantity of pottery and burnt flint.

C.1.13 Sample <3> contained a single fragment of undifferentiated bone.

C.1.14 Sample <4> contained a moderate quantity of undifferentiated animal bone as well as occasional micro mammal bone. A small quantity of pottery was also recovered from this sample.

Plant Remains

C.1.15 Table 1 summarises the assessment results for charred plant remains (CPR) from each sample.

C.1.16 Sample <1> contained abundant modern root. Charcoal was fairly common, with a moderate number of items greater than 4mm in size. A small quantity of cereal grains were present, with varying degrees of preservation shown and with many fragmented or indeterminate; where identifiable, they appeared to be a fairly equal mixture of *Triticum* sp. (wheat) and *Hordeum* sp. (oat). Three fragments of glume base were also observed. Very few wild seeds were present, mostly *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot), as well as one example of one other species. One small mammal bone was observed, but no molluscs were present. CPR potential was assessed as “fair” for this sample

C.1.17 Sample <2> also contained abundant modern root. Charcoal was common, including a large proportion of items greater than 4mm in size. Cereal grains were also common, although many were not well preserved; most were indeterminate *Triticum* sp. (wheat), plus one example cf. *Avena* sp. (oat). A small number of glume base fragments were present, mostly indeterminate, although one cf. *Triticum spelta* (spelt wheat) was observed. Occasional weed seeds were present, with at least six different species represented, including one example *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot) and one medium wild grass. No molluscs were present.

C.1.18 Sample <3> was predominately composed of modern root. Occasional items charcoal were present, but mostly these were of small size. One seed c.f. *Veronica hederifolia* (Ivy-Leaved speedwell) was present. No cereal grain, chaff, bone or molluscs were observed.

C.1.19 Sample <4> was again dominated by modern root. Occasional charcoal was present, although mostly highly fragmented. Fewer than ten examples of cereal grain were observed and all of these were indeterminate through poor preservation or fragmentation. Ten glume base fragments were present. Three weed seeds were noted, although again these were poorly preserved, and included one example of *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot). One small mammal bone was present; no molluscs were observed.

Discussion and recommendations

C.1.20 The presence of charred plant remains in all of the four samples taken across the three trenches across the site demonstrate that the environment is suitable for the preservation of CPR and suggests that deeper features may have considerable

potential for the recovery of charred plant remains which would relate directly to the prehistoric economy of this area. In particular, sample <2>, which was taken from the Bronze Age ditch, showed good preservation and produced a flot of sufficient quantity such as it is likely to be of good interpretable value. The presence of a glume base provisionally identified as *Triticum spelta* (spelt wheat) may prove to be significant: Only a handful of instances of spelt wheat have previously been proven from features of this date in Britain. Alternatively, its presence could suggest that the Bronze Age ditch has been contaminated by a later feature.

C.1.21 Both samples from Trench 61 were assessed as being poor for charred plant material, although it is not clear whether this is due to unfavourable conditions for preservation or whether charred remains were simply not present in any quantity. Sample <3> produced a single example of *Veronica hederifolia* (ivy-leaved speedwell), a common species found in many habitats including cultivated and waste ground, as well as woodlands, walls and banks (Stace 1997). This however may well be a modern contaminant as modern seeds of this species are very dark in colour.

C.1.22 Bone was recovered from several of the samples, showing that conditions are suitable for its preservation; however no molluscs were observed in any of the samples, suggesting that they are unlikely to survive in these sediments and that series sampling for snails would probably not be worthwhile at this site.

C.1.23 If further excavations are carried out, standard 30-40L bulk samples and specialist samples for waterlogged plant remains and pollen (if appropriate) should be taken from a range of potentially datable features across the site in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (eg. OA 2005 and English Heritage 2002).

Table 1: Assessment of charred and waterlogged plant remains from Slade End Farm, Wallingford, WASEF09

Sample No	Context No	Feature Type	Sample Volume (L.)	Date/ Phase	Flot vol (ml)	Grain	chaff	weeds	other CPR	Animal Bone	Charcoal	Molluscs	Comments on CPR	CPR/ WPR Potential
1	4806	Pit	40	Iron Age	100	++	+	+		+	+++		C. 50% of flot scanned. Abundant modern root present. Charcoal fairly common, with a moderate number of items greater than 4mm in size. Small quantity of cereal grains present, with varying degrees of preservation and with many fragmented or indeterminate; where identifiable they seem to be a fairly equal mixture of *Triticum* sp. (wheat) and *Hordeum* sp. (oat). Three fragments of glume base were observed. Rare wild seeds present, mostly *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot) plus one example of one other species. One small mammal bone was observed, no molluscs were present.	FAIR
2	3604	Ditch	40	Bronze Age	150	+++	++	++			+++		c. 10% of flot scanned. Abundant modern root present. Charcoal was common, including a large proportion of items greater than 4mm in size. Cereal grains were also common, although many were not well preserved; most were indeterminate *Triticum* sp. (wheat), plus one example cf. *Avena* sp. (oat). A small number of glume base fragments were present, mostly indeterminate, although one cf. *Triticum spelta* (spelt wheat). Occasional weed seeds were present, with at least six different species represented, including one example *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot) and one medium wild grass. No molluscs present.	GOOD
3	6126	Pit	40	Iron Age (?)	150			+			++		c. 50% of flot scanned. Predominately composed of modern root. Occasional charcoal, but mostly of small size. One seed c.f. *Veronica hederifolia* (Ivy-Leaved Speedwell) - possible modern contaminant. No cereal grain, chaff, bone or molluscs observed.	POOR
4	6146	Ditch	40	Iron Age	100	++	++	+		+	++		c. 50% of flot scanned. Flot dominated by modern root. Occasional charcoal present, although mostly highly fragmented. Fewer than ten examples of cereal grain were observed, and all of these were indeterminate through poor preservation or fragmentation. Ten glume base fragments were present. Three weed seeds were present, although again poorly preserved, and including one example *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot). One small mammal bone was present; no molluscs were observed.	POOR

Table 2 : Finds from environmental samples for Slade End Farm, Wallingford, WASEF09

Sample	Bone	Micro Mammal/Small Bird Bone	Pottery	Burnt Flint/Stone	Glass
1	++	+++	++	+	+ (modern?)
2			+	+	
3	+				
4	+++	++	++		

APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Slade End Farm, Wallingford

Site code: WASEF 09

Grid reference: Centred on NGR SU 594 899

Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: Three weeks from 4th -22nd October 2010

Area of site: 31.5 hectares

Summary of results: The evaluation confirmed the presence of Iron Age activity possibly relating to settlement in the southern area of the site with a particular concentration in the south eastern corner. A number of ditches which had been re-cut and appear to relate to enclosures noted from aerial photographs were recorded in association with pits and postholes.

A curvilinear ditch which terminated in Trench 36 and two parallel ditches relating to a track way recorded in Trench 49 produced Bronze Age pottery and indicate Bronze Age activity in the general area.

The presence of a partial skeleton which had been truncated by ploughing and three flint flakes in Trench 7, in the north-west area of the site is an isolated discovery and does not appear to relate to any of the found features in the area. The flint dates to the early Neolithic but cannot be firmly associated with the skeleton although it is probable that the burial is prehistoric.

The low level of features found in the middle and northern areas of the site indicate a generally low level of activity in these areas. These features contained virtually no artefactual material and are mostly undated.

A complete absence of Roman finds indicates that Roman settlement found in previous excavations to the south-west of this investigation does not appear to extend into this area.

Modern disturbance around a demolished barn was found near to the centre of the site and modern gravel quarry pits investigated in the northern corner.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service in due course.

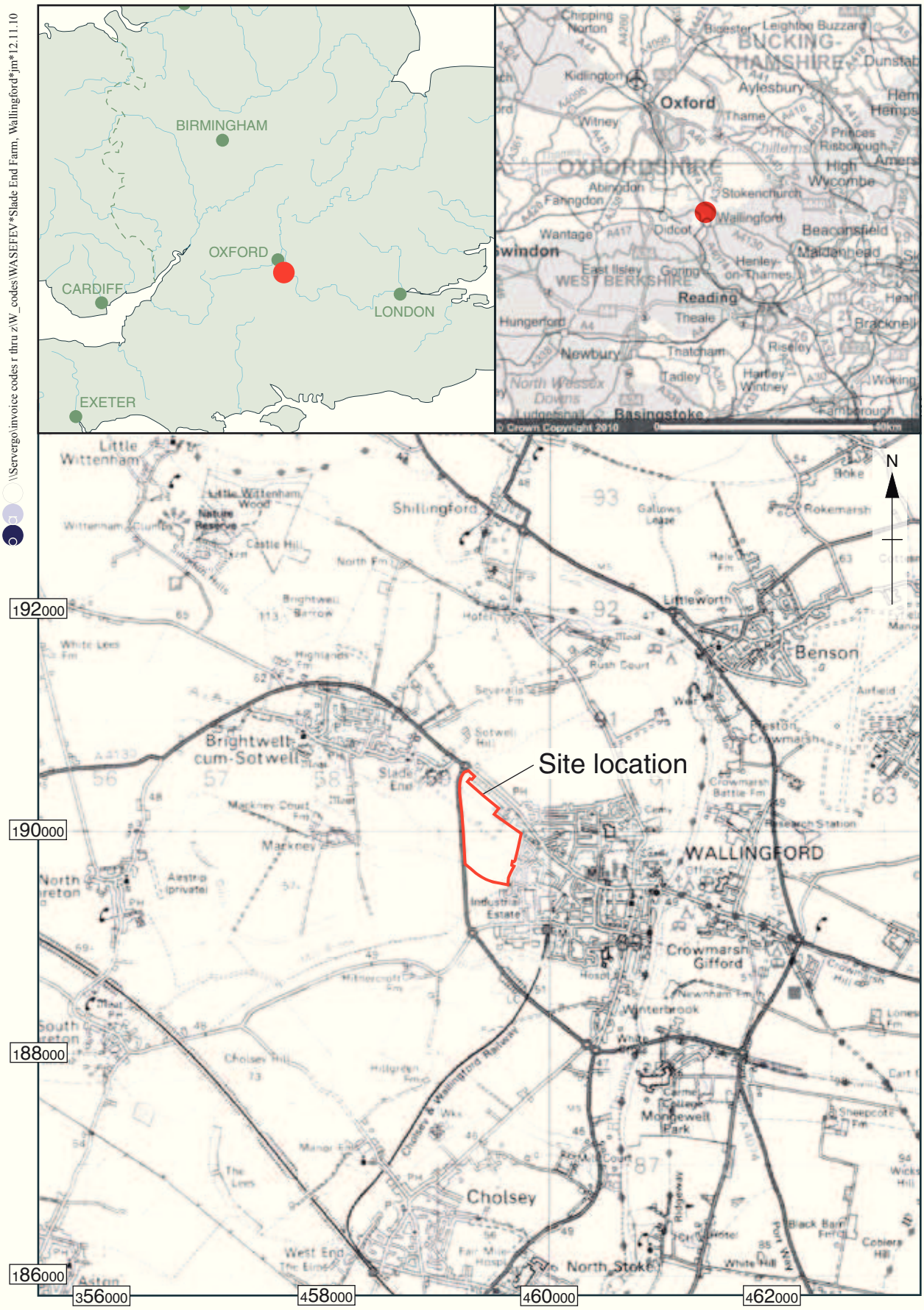

Figure 1: Site location

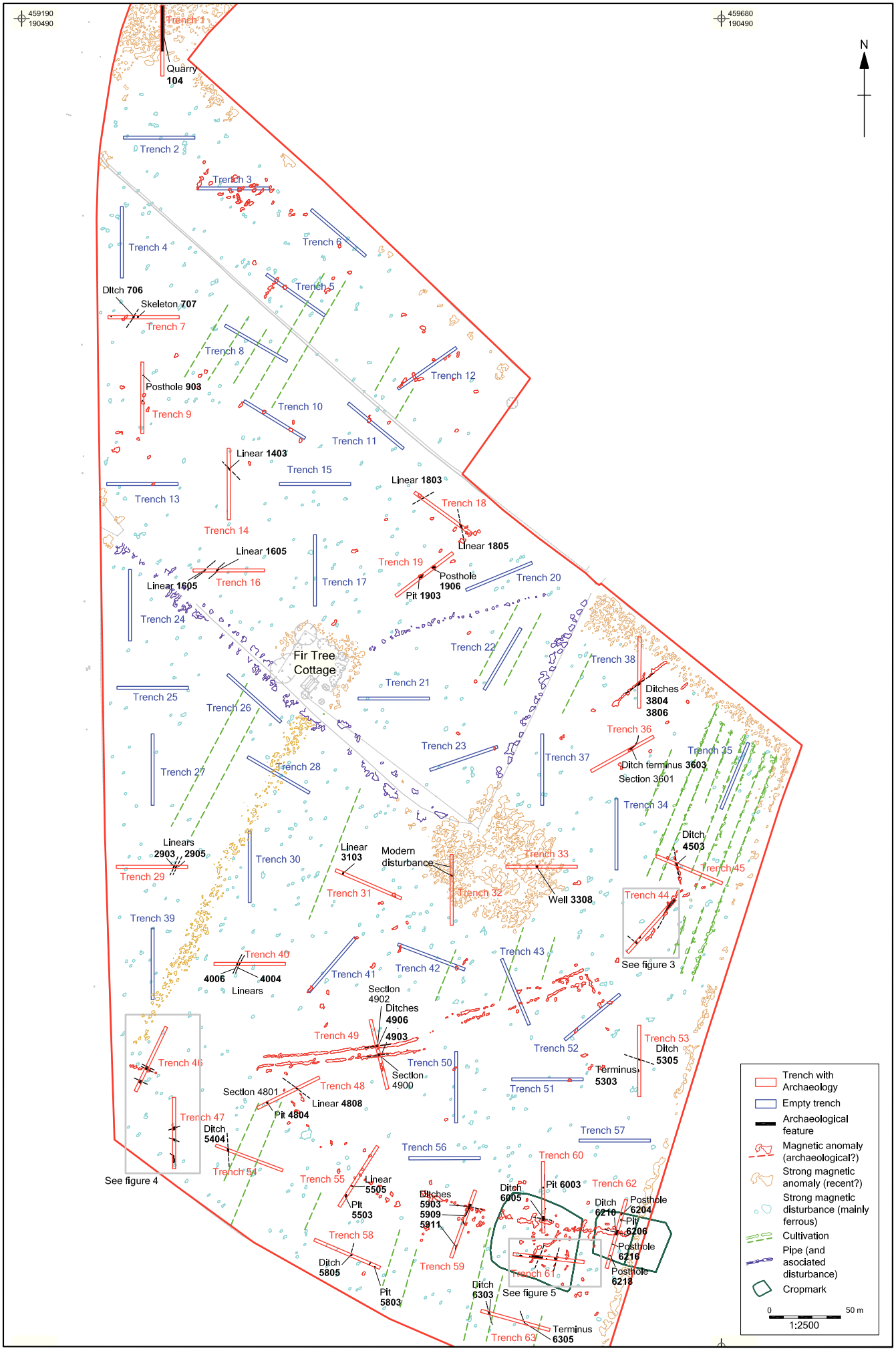

Figure 2: Trench location plan showing magnetometer survey results and a plot of found features

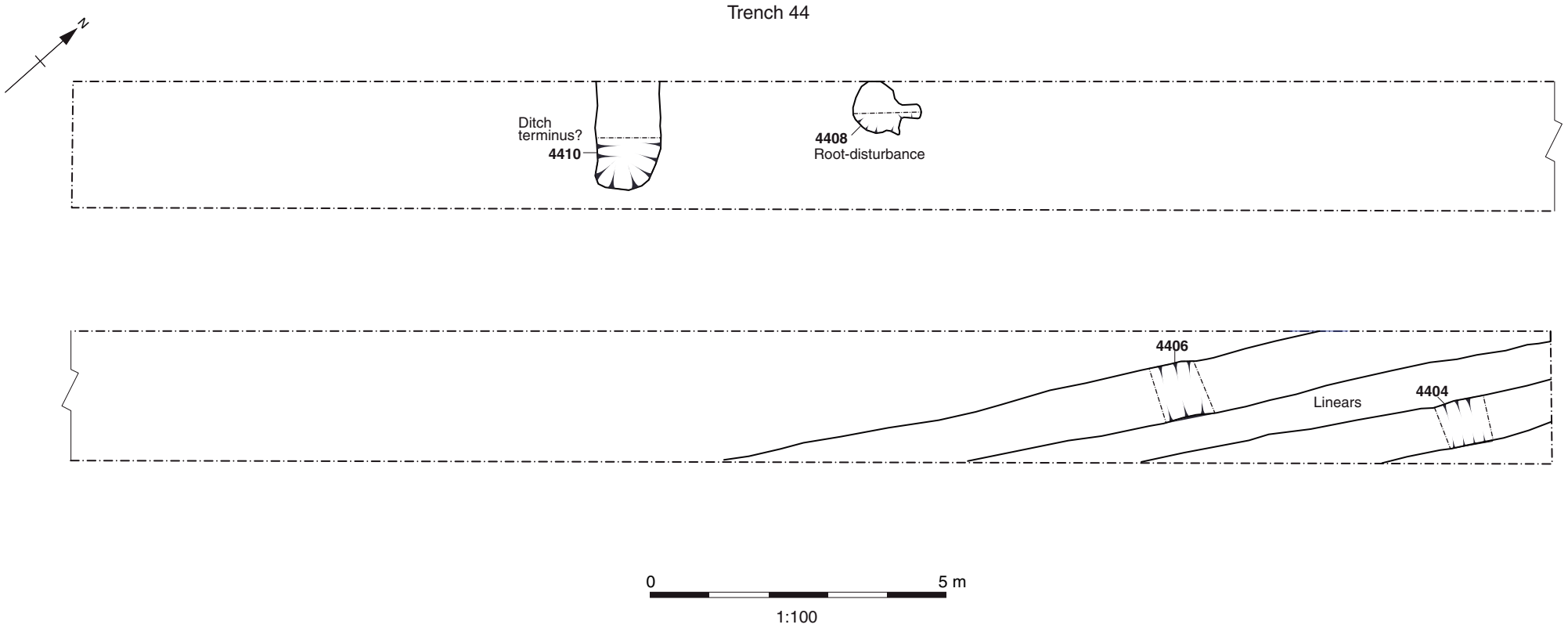

Figure 3: Plan of Trench 44

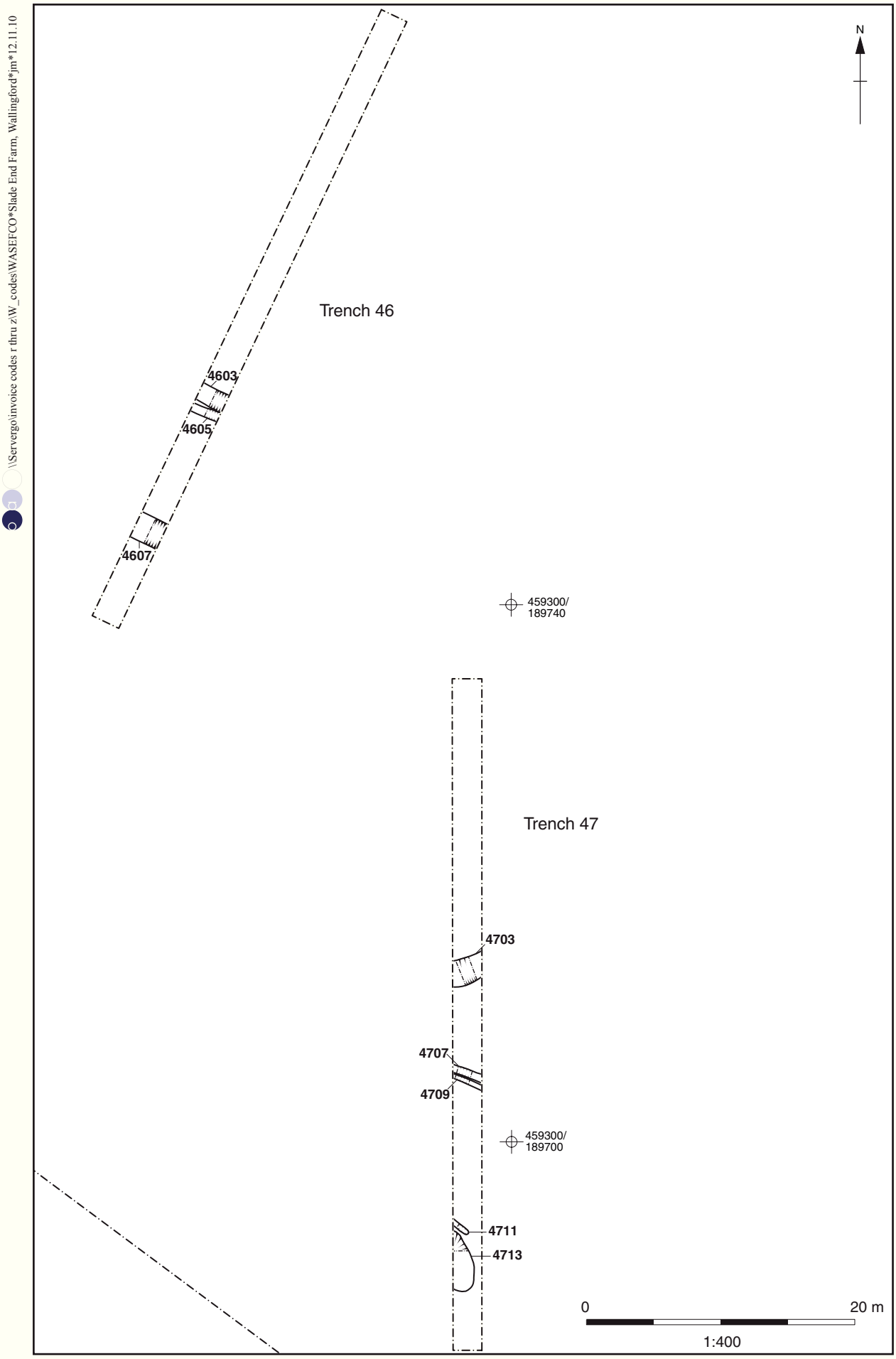

Figure 4: Plan of Trenches 46 and 47

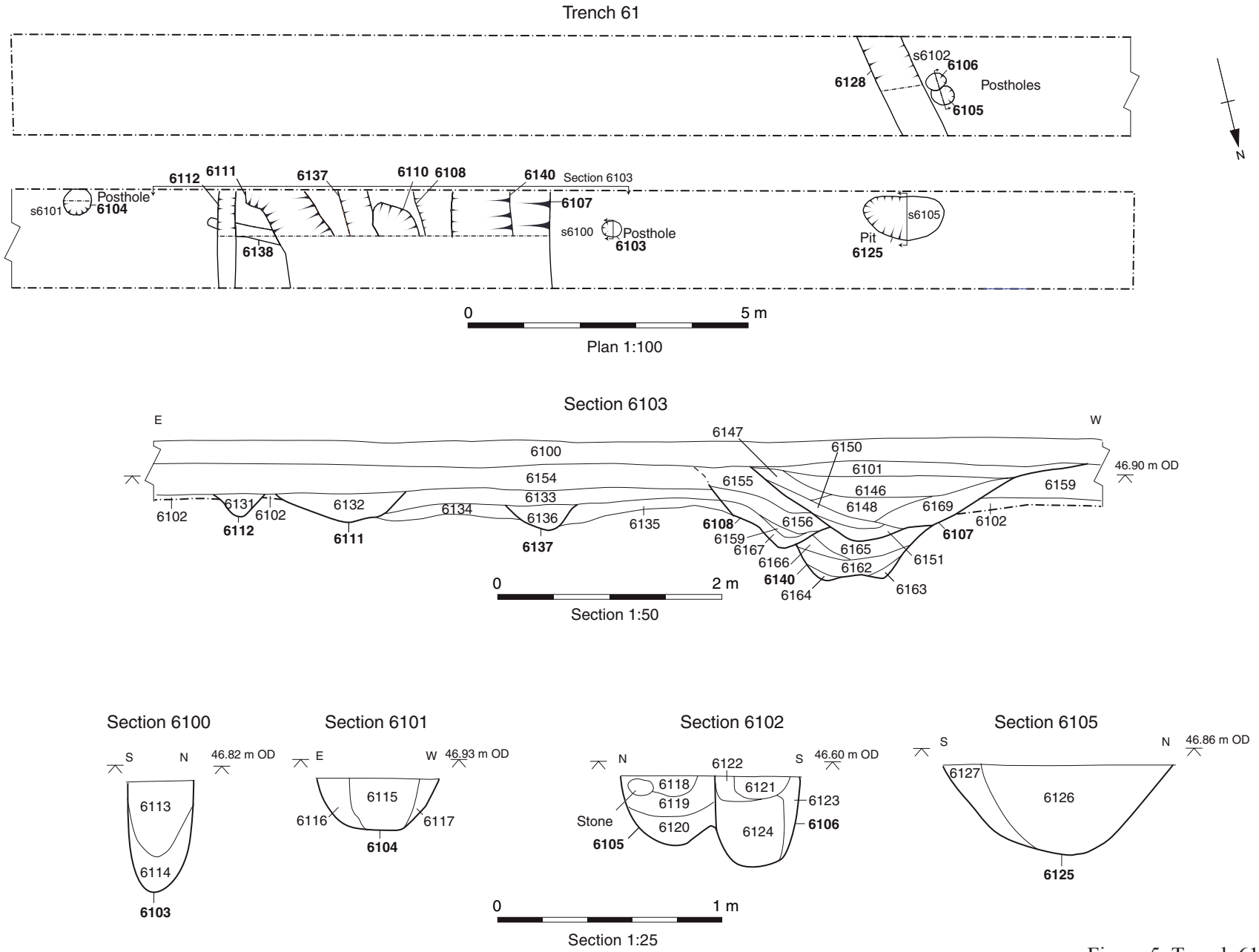

Figure 5: Trench 61, plan and sections

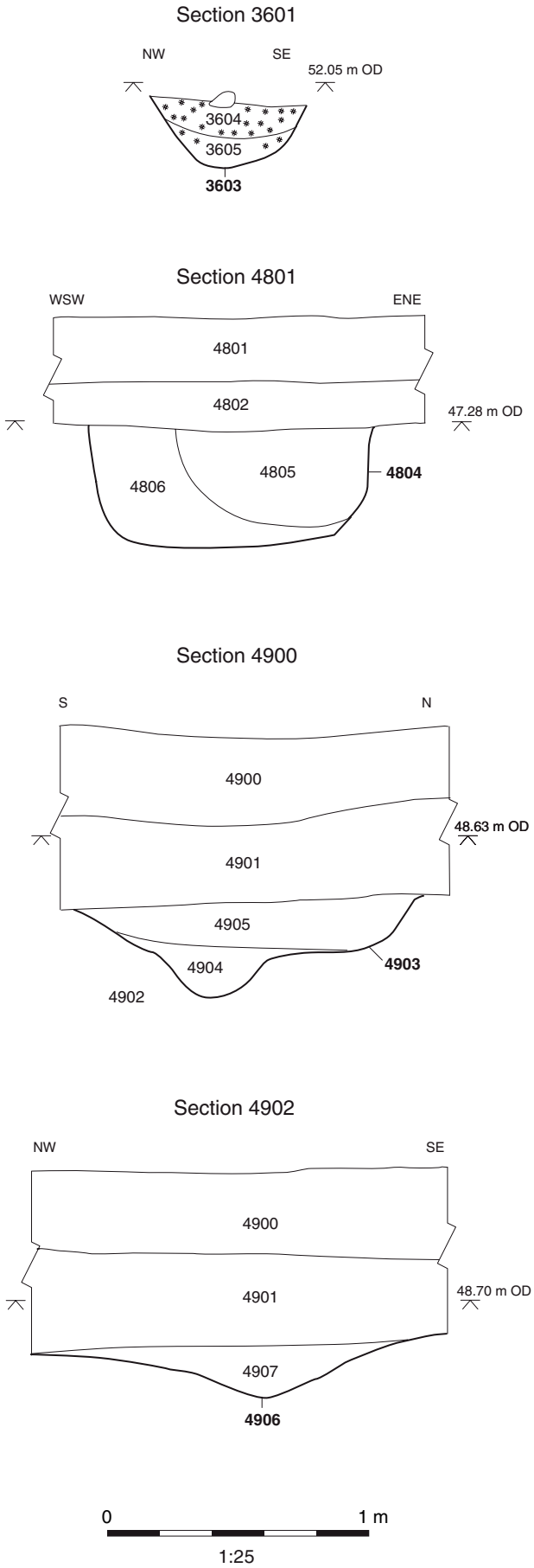

Figure 6: Other sections

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