White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

December 2017

Client: Radley College/Orion Heritage

Issue No: 2
OA Reference No:
NGR: SU 5200 9900

oxfordarchaeology
south south south

Client Name:	Radley College/Orion Heritage
Document Title:	White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire
Document Type:	Evaluation Report
Grid Reference:	NGR SU 5200 9900
Planning Reference:	n/a
Site Code:	RAWL17
Invoice Code:	RAWLEV
Receiving Body:	Oxfordshire County Museums Service
Accession No.:	OXCMS:2017.144
OA Document File Location:	X:\r\Radley_Whites_Lane_Oxon_EV\002Reports
OA Graphics File Location:	\\SAMBA\invoice codes r thru z\R_codes\RAWLEV\
Issue No:	v.2
Date:	December 2017
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White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

During September 2017 Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on land adjacent to White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire. Trench 20 was excavated in a second phase of work in November 2017. The evaluation trenches revealed prehistoric features in the south-eastern part of the site, where geophysical survey had recorded a dense spread of anomalies. Two postholes contained possible Neolithic pottery. Several other features were dated to the Iron Age, including ditches forming three sides of an enclosure visible in the geophysical survey. Within the area of this potential enclosure were a number of pits and postholes, many yielding pottery sherds, fired clay and animal bone fragments, suggesting domestic activity. A single piece of slag may indicate ironworking. This activity represents the continuation of an Iron Age settlement previously recorded immediately to the south. Later activity within the evaluation site was represented by plough furrows and a modern field boundary.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Radley College for commissioning this project. Will Bedford of Orion Heritage acted as archaeological consultant. Thanks are also extended to Hugh Coddington, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, who monitored the work on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council, for his advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stuart Foreman. The fieldwork was directed by Rachael Daniel, who was supported by Granville Laws, Mike Sims, Diana Chard, Emma Powell and Ben Slader. Survey and digitising was carried out by Aidan Farnan. Vix Hughes supervised Trench 20. Thanks is also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds and animal bone under the management of Leigh Allen and Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicky Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Orion Heritage, on behalf of Radley College, to undertake a 20 trench evaluation of the site of a proposed residential development on land adjacent to White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire. The site has previously been the subject of a desk-based assessment (DBA), as part of a wider development known as Land at North and North-West Radley (OA 2015). For the purposes of the DBA, the wider development area was sub-divided into 14 sub-areas (A-N), of which only Areas H, J, K and L are included in the current application (OA 2015, fig. 2).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the planning authority in advance of submission of a planning application. Although the local planning authority has not set a brief for the work, discussions with Hugh Coddington, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), established the scope of work required. Its methodology was subsequently detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and approved by Hugh Coddington prior to the start of works (OA 2017).

1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with local and national planning policies. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) sets out the Government's planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment (Policies 12.128 and 12.129). The Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC) has recently published a new local plan (VWHDC 2016). Core Policy 39, 'The Historic Environment', outlines key objectives for heritage conservation and enhancement in the district.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site (NGR SU 5200 9900) is located between White's Lane and Church Road, Radley, Oxfordshire (Fig. 1). It is within the historic parish of Radley, which was part of the County of Berkshire until the county boundary alterations in the 1970s, when it became part of Oxfordshire. It is within the administrative area of Vale of White Horse District Council.

1.2.2 The site covers an area of *c* 10.8ha, comprising arable land (DBA Areas J and K), residential property and an enclosed paddock near Church Road (Area H), and a former quarry (Area L). The last is excluded from the evaluation as any archaeology present has been removed by the quarrying.

1.2.3 The site is located on solid bedrock geology comprising the Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation. Drift geology, which includes the Summertown-Radley Sand and Gravel, overlies the south-western field. In the north-eastern part of the Site (Areas H and J) the topsoil directly overlies the bedrock clay geology. The approximate areas with and without a gravel drift geology, as recorded by the British Geological Survey, are mapped on figure 3c of the DBA (Area K), although this is only a guide (British Geological Survey 2017). The site slopes gently from the north to south and lies at *c* 60-65m OD.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the wider North and North-West Radley development has been described in detail in the DBA (OA 2015), and will not be reproduced here. The following summary information refers to site areas and OA reference numbers used in the DBA.

1.3.2 The site lies within an area of known high archaeological potential. The south-western corner of the site (DBA Area M) and the area immediately to its south contains an extensive complex of archaeological cropmarks. These cropmarks were noted on the ground in the early 20th century and have been plotted from the air by both English Heritage (during the NMP) in the 1980s and by Benson and Miles (1974) in their survey of the cropmarks of the Upper Thames Gravels. Aerial photographs of the site and study area taken for the DBA have added further cropmarks (see OA 2015, fig. 3c). A recent geophysical survey of the evaluation site revealed traces of a probable ditched enclosure and associated features in the southern field (Area K), which may be evidence for ancient settlement in the south-eastern corner of the site (Bartlett-Clark Consultancy 2016).

1.3.3 The NMR and HER record four known archaeological sites and findspots within the site, and others in the immediately surrounding area. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Oxford Archaeological Society carried out excavations in Area L (OA 33), the former quarry within the southern edge of the evaluation site. They uncovered several ditches containing numerous sherds of Iron Age pottery (Leeds 1931, 401). Further works were carried out in 1935, when a number of Iron Age pits were recorded, along with three linear features. A sherd of potentially Neolithic pottery was also recovered along with two Neolithic flints (Leeds 1935, 39). There have been three recorded findspots of Neolithic-Bronze Age flints (OA 63, 72 and 76).

1.3.4 There are two scheduled monuments located to the south of the site. Settlement sites north of Wick Hall (SM OX240), located 200m to the south-west of the evaluation site, incorporates an area of known human activity spanning the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods. Numerous archaeological investigations within the area have recorded nationally significant archaeological remains of these periods (OA 44, 45 and 46).

1.3.5 An area of densely packed cropmarks located 200m south-west of the evaluation site (settlement site East of Goose Acre Farm) is thought to be the remains of an Iron Age settlement and is also a Scheduled Monument (SM OX241).

1.3.6 The north-eastern end of the evaluation area (Areas H and J) lies in close proximity to the historic centre of Radley. This includes four Grade II* listed buildings, the medieval Church of St James (OA 13), two 18th-century halls (OA 7 and 29), and the 19th-century chapel at Radley College (OA 10).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
iii. To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development.
iv. To assess the impact of previous land-use on the site.
v. To assess the vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains.
vi. To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed.
vii. To assess the potential of the evidence recovered to contribute to regional research objectives defined in the Solent-Thames Regional Research Framework (Hey and Hind 2014).
viii. To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains.
ix. To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum, and to provide information for accession to the Oxfordshire HER.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 A total of 20 trenches was excavated, 19 measured 30m by 1.9m, using a 14-tonne 360 tracked mechanical excavator, and Trench 20 which measured 20m by 1.5m was excavated by a 3-tonne 360 tracked mechanical excavator. The trenches were set out at locations agreed with the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, Hugh Coddington, and were all opened to their full length. This represented a 2% sample of the site. The trenches were targeted on anomalies from the geophysical survey, and also to test blank areas.

2.2.2 The trenches were machined under close archaeological supervision to the top of the archaeological horizon or the sterile geological horizon, whichever was the highest. The topsoil and any buried ploughsoil (subsoil) were removed in regular spits and spoil was stored at a safe distance from the trench edges.

2.2.3 A site monitoring visit from the Planning Archaeologist took place once all the trenches were open to allow excavation sampling strategies to be agreed.

2.2.4 Where archaeological deposits were identified, a sample of the revealed features was hand excavated. Finds were retrieved and the features were recorded in line with the standards set out in the WSI.

2.2.5 On completion of the excavation and recording of the trenches, they were backfilled with the arisings in the reverse order of their excavation, and compacted using a mechanical excavator.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and descriptions of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds reports are presented in Appendix B and the animal bone report in Appendix C. No environmental samples were taken. All figures and plates are located at the end of the document.

3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated, e.g. pit 102 is a feature within Trench 1, while ditch 304 is a feature within Trench 3.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence in all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of silty clay with areas of gravel was overlain by an orange-brown silty clay buried ploughsoil (subsoil), ranging from 0.1-0.69m in depth. This was in turn overlain by a topsoil/ploughsoil of mid-dark grey-brown friable silt which ranged from 0.09-0.48m in depth.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology. All features were sealed by the buried ploughsoil.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were concentrated in the south-eastern part of site, in Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5. This strongly corresponds to the plot of anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). Several modern features were encountered in the northern part of the site (Trenches 14, 15 and 20).

3.4 Trench 1 (Figs 4–5; Plates 1–5)

3.4.1 The trench contained six linear ditches: 104, 106, 111, 117, 121 and 123. At the eastern end of the trench, intercutting ditches 106 and 104 ran north to south, each with shallow sloping sides and a concave base, and both contained potential Iron Age pottery. Ditch 111 was oriented north-east to south-west and was truncated by both ditch 117 and pit 114, and had a shallow sides and flattish base. It contained no dating evidence. In the mid-section of the trench, the largest ditch (117) measured 1.65m across and 0.68m in depth. It ran north to south, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base, and contained two fills, each producing Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A fired clay disc or oven plate of Iron Age character was also recovered from ditch 117. Shallow ditch terminus 121 appeared to run north to south and had shallow concave sides and a flat base. At the western end of the trench, shallow ditch 123 also ran north to south, its shallow and narrow profile suggesting that was likely to be a land drain. It contained Iron Age pottery and animal bone.

3.4.2 Two shallow pits and two postholes were also excavated, both of which contained Iron Age pottery and animal bone. Pit 109 was sub-circular in plan and had steeply sloping

sides and a flattish base. Pit 114 was truncated by ditch 111 and had shallow sloping sides and a concave base. Postholes 125 and 127 were sub-circular in plan, with concave sloping sides and concave bases, the latter of which contained Iron Age pottery.

3.4.3 Adjacent to ditch 123, two plough furrows (running north to south) were investigated but not recorded in detail.

3.5 Trench 3 (Figs 4 and 6; Plates 6–7)

3.5.1 This trench contained two intercutting linear features, 308 and 310, running east to west. Each had sloping irregular sides and a concave base and contained Iron Age pottery. These correspond on the geophysical survey to the suspected Iron Age enclosure ditches. To the north of these were two shallow intercutting but undated pits, 312 and 314, each with concave sloping sides and flattish bases.

3.5.2 At the southern end of the trench, two postholes and a pit were excavated. Posthole 306 was circular in plan with concave sloping sides and a flat base and contained three undiagnostic but fresh flint flakes and a fragment of possible oven/hearth furniture together with a piece of iron slag. Shallow pit 302 cut steep-sided, flat-based posthole 304. The pit contained Iron Age pottery.

3.6 Trench 4 (Figs 4 and 6)

3.6.1 This trench contained a large ditch or pit cluster, which was made up of four intercutting features (410, 414, 408 and 412). These features had flat bases and sloping sides. Features 410 and 412 were steeply sloped, while 414 and 408 were shallow, although they may have been heavily truncated by later pit cuts.

3.6.2 Three sub-rounded postholes (402, 404 and 406) were also revealed, two of which 402 and 404, contained possible Neolithic pottery. Postholes 404 and 406 were also intercutting, and all three had concave sides and bases.

3.7 Trench 5 (Figs 4 and 6; Plate 8)

3.7.1 This trench contained large ditch 502 that ran east-north-east to west-south-west. It had irregular sloping sides and a concave base and measured 1.7m in width and 0.50m in depth. This feature corresponds to the linear anomaly on the geophysical survey, which may be part of the potential Iron Age enclosure ditch. However, no finds were recovered from it.

3.8 Trench 11 (Fig. 3)

3.8.1 This trench contained a pair of furrows which run north-east to south-west (1105 and 1107). These had shallow sloping sides and a flat base, and were likely to have been heavily truncated by ploughing.

3.8.2 A shallow circular pit, 1103, was revealed to the east of the plough furrows but contained no finds.

3.9 Trench 14 (Fig. 2)

3.9.1 This trench contained a modern ditch (1401) that ran NNW to SSE, which was explored but not fully excavated or recorded in detail. It could have been a modern field boundary, as it contained modern glass, wood and metal objects.

3.10 Trench 15 (Fig. 2)

3.10.1 This trench contained a modern feature which was explored but not fully excavated or recorded, which appeared to run north-east to south-west. It was filled with broken modern bricks and was likely to have been a deposit from nearby housebuilding.

3.11 Trench 20 (Fig. 2)

3.11.1 This trench contained two modern features which were investigated. There was a shallow linear feature interpreted as a probable wheel rut, aligned NW-SE (2003). It contained fragments of post-medieval ceramics, within the single fill (2002). At the SE end of the trench was a pit (2005) that extended beyond the confines of the trench. The fill (2004) contained pottery, clay pipe and brick/tile fragments of post-medieval date.

3.12 Finds summary

3.12.1 A total of 66 sherds of prehistoric pottery weighing 647g was recovered from 14 contexts. Most of the pottery is of Iron Age character though pottery from two of the postholes could be Neolithic in date.

3.12.2 Two sherds of post-medieval pottery (19th century) were recovered from two contexts in Trench 20.

3.12.3 A total of 83 animal bones were recovered, mostly from contexts dated to the Iron Age. The assemblage was in a moderate condition. Identified species comprised cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse and dog.

3.12.4 There were four undiagnostic flint flakes, three of which were recovered from a single posthole.

3.12.5 A small assemblage of fired clay (28 fragments, 335g) was recovered from six contexts. The diagnostic material included a possible piece of oven/hearth furniture and a disc or oven plate fragment of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

3.12.6 Other finds comprised a possible stone rubber, a piece of iron slag, a wine/beer bottle, clay pipe and two fragments of post-medieval roofing tile.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken during generally fair weather conditions, with one day of heavy rain. The site was well-drained and no flooding occurred in the trenches. The revealed features were generally easy to identify against the underlying natural deposits. The geophysical survey results proved to be fairly accurate, as where densities of anomalies were plotted these were generally also present within the trenches. A representative sample of the revealed features were hand excavated and datable material (in the form of pottery sherds) was recovered from several pits and ditches.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The locations, extent, date and character of the archaeological remains were evaluated and their relative depths recorded to provide an indication of their vulnerability to future development. The veracity of the geophysical survey results was tested and the potential of the site to retain archaeological artefacts was also tested. The results of the evaluation will be disseminated through this report, which will in due course be uploaded to the OA Library for public access (https://library.thehumanjourney.net/).

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The evaluation trenches revealed prehistoric features in the south-eastern part of the site (Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5), where the geophysical survey had recorded a dense zone of anomalies. Two postholes in Trench 4 contained possible Neolithic pottery. Several other features are dated to the Iron Age, with the pottery suggesting a focus on the 5th to 4th centuries BC (see Brown below). Ditches in Trenches 1, 3 and 5 appear to form a rectangular enclosure, of which three 'sides' are apparent on the geophysical survey results (see Fig. 2). Two parallel sides are oriented north-east to south-west, while the other visible side is oriented east-south-east to west-north-west. Within the area of this potential enclosure were a number of pits and postholes, many yielding pottery sherds, fired clay and animal bone fragments, suggesting domestic activity. A single piece of slag may indicate ironworking.

4.3.2 This Iron Age activity represents the continuation of the settlement known immediately to the south of the evaluation site, where earlier excavations had revealed Iron Age ditches and pits (Leeds 1931; 1935). Significantly, these earlier excavations also revealed hints of Neolithic activity comprising two worked flints accompanying a sherd of Neolithic pottery (Leeds 1935, 38-9). Cropmarks in the wider area to the south, south-east and south-west of the site indicate enclosure ditches and trackways, which could also be associated with later prehistoric settlement.

4.3.3 Later phases of activity within the evaluation site are represented by the plough furrows in Trench 11, the modern field boundary in Trench 14 and the brick dump in Trench 15.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The Iron Age and possible Neolithic occupation evidence in the south-eastern part of the site is significant, and has the potential to contribute to understanding of prehistoric settlement in the Upper Thames Valley. The significance of the remains is enhanced by the fact they form the continuation of the settlement reported on by Leeds (1931; 1935). Any future development of the site will need to take this into account, potentially through a programme of detailed intrusive archaeological investigation and publication. The post-medieval/modern remains identified in the evaluation are of negligible significance.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a possible corner of a rectilinear enclosure, a possibly associated ditch terminus. There were also later boundary ditches, two pits and two postholes. Two plough furrows were also excavated but not recorded in detail. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Compact yellow/ brown clayey sand with gravel patches.	-	-
103	Fill	0.8	0.18	Ditch fill, friable dark greyish brown silty loam.	Pottery, animal bone.	-
104	Cut	0.8	0.18	NW-SE aligned parallel sided linear, shallow sloping sides and concave base.	-	-
105	Fill	0.85	0.32	Semi-compacted light greyish brown clayey loam.	Pottery.	-
106	Cut	0.85	0.32	SE-NW aligned parallel sided linear, steep sloping sides concave base.	-	-
107	Fill	0.6	0.25	Friable dark grey silty loam, occasional charcoal flecks.	Pottery, animal bone.	-
108	Fill	0.6	0.15	Friable yellowish grey brown sandy silt, occasional charcoal flecks.	-	-
109	Cut	0.6	0.4	Sub-circular pit, nearly vertical sides and flat base.	-	-
110	Fill	1.1	0.22	Friable dark greyish brown silty loam, occasional charcoal flecks.	Animal bone.	-
111	Cut	1.1	0.22	SW-NE aligned parallel sided linear with shallow sides and a concave base.	-	-
112	Fill	1.2	0.12	Friable dark grey silty loam, with occasional charcoal flecks.	Pottery, animal Bone.	-
113	Fill	1.2	0.15	Friable yellowish grey brown clayey/silty loam. Infrequent coarse sand and gravel.	Pottery, animal bone.	
114	Cut	1.2	0.27	Sub-circular pit, very steeply sided with a flat base.	-	-

115	Fill	1.65	0.38	Friable dark greyish brown silty loam, occasional small gravels.	Pottery, stone and animal bone.	-
116	Fill	1.65	0.3	Compacted light yellowish brown clayey silt, frequent small gravel.	Pottery, animal bone and flint.	-
117	Cut	1.65	0.68	N-S aligned parallel sided linear, steep sloping sides and concave base.	-	-
118	Fill	1.1	0.38	Friable dark greyish brown silty loam. Occasional charcoal flecks.	Pottery, animal bone.	-
119	Cut	1.1	0.38	NE-SW aligned parallel sided linear with steeply sloping sides and a concave base.	-	-
120	Fill	0.7	0.23	Friable dark reddish grey silty loam with occasional gravels.	-	-
121	Cut	0.7	0.23	Terminus of a NE-SW aligned linear with a semi-circular end. Shallow sides with a concave base.	-	-
122	Fill	0.6	0.3	Friable dark brown silty loam with occasional gravels.	Pottery, animal bone.	
123	Cut	0.6	0.3	N-S aligned parallel sided linear with steep sides and a concave base.	-	-
124	Fill	0.3	0.16	Friable dark brown silty loam with occasional gravel and charcoal flecks.	-	-
125	Cut	0.3	0.16	Sub-circular posthole, steep sided with a vertically sided base.	-	-
126	Fill	0.55	0.17	Friable dark greyish brown silty loam with occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks.	Pottery.	-
127	Cut	0.55	0.17	Sub-circular posthole with shallow sides and a concave base.	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-

201	Layer	-	0.33	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural. Reddish brown silt at northern end, pale greyish brown gravel at southern end.	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained several postholes, two have been excavated and recorded. One linear ditch excavated and recorded along with one possible pit cluster. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
302	Cut	0.37	0.05	Sub-circular pit/posthole with shallow sides and a flat base.	-	-
303	Fill	0.37	0.05	Moderate dark greyish brown silty clay.	Pottery.	-
304	Cut	0.22	0.21	Circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base.	-	-
305	Fill	0.22	0.21	Soft mid greyish yellow clayey sand.	-	-
306	Cut	0.27	0.11	Circular posthole with moderate sides and a flat base.	-	-
307	Fill	0.27	0.11	Moderate dark brownish grey silty clay.	Flint, fired clay, slag.	-
308	Cut	1.9	0.5	E-W oriented linear with concave irregular sides and a flattish base.	-	-
309	Fill	1.9	0.5	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt, infrequent small stones.	Pottery.	-
310	Cut	0.84	0.51	E-W oriented linear with concave irregular sloping sides and concave base.	-	-
311	Fill	0.84	0.51	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks.	Pottery.	-
312	Cut	0.87	0.2	Sub oval pit with concave sloping sides and a concave base.	-	-
313	Fill	0.87	0.2	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with infrequent small stones.	-	-

314	Cut	0.24	0.7	Sub oval pit with a concave base and concave sloping sides.	-	-
315	Fill	0.24	0.7	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay.	-	-
316	Layer	-	-	Natural. Pale yellowish grey clayey silt, moderate compaction.	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained five postholes and one pit/pit cluster. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.43
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
400	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
402	Cut	0.36	0.11	Sub circular posthole with concave sloping sides and a concave base.	-	-
403	Fill	0.36	0.11	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay with infrequent stones.	Pottery.	-
404	Cut	0.32	0.26	Sub circular posthole with steep concave sides and a narrow concave base.	-	-
405	Fill	0.32	0.26	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	Pottery.	-
406	Cut	0.32	0.16	Sub circular posthole with concave sloping sides and concave base.	-	-
407	Fill	0.32	0.16	Firm dark greyish brown silty clay	-	-
408	Cut	0.25	0.05	Circular posthole with moderate sides and a flat base.	-	-
409	Fill	0.25	0.05	Soft greyish yellow clayey sand.	-	-
410	Cut	0.6	0.25	Steep sided pit with a flat base.	-	-
411	Fill	0.6	0.25	Compacted brownish orange sandy clay.	Animal bone.	-
412	Cut	0.25	0.24	Moderate sided pit with a flat base.	-	-
413	Fill	0.25	0.24	Compacted light whitish brown silty clay.	-	-
414	Cut	1.15	0.2	E-W oriented ditch with moderate sides and a flat base.	-	-

415	Fill	1.15	0.2	Soft dark brown silty clay.	Animal bone.	-
416	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid reddish brown silty clay with gravelly patches.	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained small pit/posthole like features and a single large linear which was excavated and recorded. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.9
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.69	Subsoil	-	-
502	Cut	1.7	0.5	N-S oriented linear with sloping irregular sides and a concave base.	-	-
503	fill	1.7	0.5	Very firm dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.	-	-
504	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid reddish brown silty clay with patches of gravel and clay.	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
600	Layer	-	0.09	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid reddish brown silt with frequent gravelly inclusions.	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
700	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid-light reddish brown silty clay with pale patches.	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
800	Layer	-	0.09	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural. Pale yellowish silt with some gravel patches.	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.23
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
900	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid yellowish brown clayey gravel with occasional brownish patches.	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.32	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid reddish brown silty clay with gravel patches.	-	-

Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two parallel linear features and one small pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1100	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-

1102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid brown yellowish sandy silt.	-	-
1103	Cut	0.49	0.09	Small pit cut	-	-
1104	Fill	0.49	0.09	Dark brown clayey silt.	-	-
1105	Cut	0.91	0.08	Furrow cut.	-	-
1106	Fill	0.91	0.08	Dark brown/ red clayey silt.	-	-
1107	Cut	0.85	0.09	Furrow cut.	-	-
1108	Fill	0.85	0.09	Dark brown/ red clayey silt.	Animal bone	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	0.5
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1200	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural. Firm, pale yellowish brown friable silt with brown gravel patches.	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
1302	Layer	-	-	Natural. Light reddish brown silty clay, patches of gravelly clay.	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	ENE-WSW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.25
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1400	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil/Ploughsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	1.5	-	Modern feature containing modern metal, wood, glass and CBM. Filled with a soft mixed topsoil. Feature	-	-

				explored but not recorded in detail.		
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural. Pale brownish yellow silty clay, frequent stony patches. Occasional bluish-grey blobs.	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	ENE-WSW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Modern brick dump was explored but not fully excavated or recorded in detail. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1500	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	-	Natural. Firm pale/creamy yellowish brown sandy clay. Small sub-rounded chert.	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.39
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1600	Layer	-	0.39	Topsoil	-	-
1601	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid orangey brown gravel, patches of lighter silt and clay.	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1700	Layer	-	0.48	Topsoil	-	-
1701	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid greyish-brown gravelly clay, patches of lighter discoloration.	-	-

Trench 18		
General description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.	**Length (m)**	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.42

Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1800	Layer	-	0.42	Topsoil	-	-
1801	Layer	-	-	Natural. Mid greyish brown gravelly clay with occasional stony inclusions.	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.41
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.41	Topsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural. Pale grey gravelly clay with brownish orange patches. Stony inclusions are frequent and varied.	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two modern features a probable wheel rut, aligned NW-SE (2003) and a pit (2005) at the SE end that extended beyond the confines of the trench. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	20
					Width (m)	1.5
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2000	Layer	-	0.41	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	-	Natural. Pale grey gravelly clay with brownish orange patches. Stony inclusions are frequent and varied.	-	-
2002	Fill	0.48	0.04	Linear feature: friable dark grey clayey silt	Pottery, CBM	Post-medieval
2003	Cut	0.48	0.04	Linear feature: NW-SE aligned, very shallow U-shaped profile	-	-
2004	Fill	>1.5	>0.25.	Pit: firm, mid grey silty clay	Pottery, clay pipe, CBM, glass	Post-medieval
2005	Cut	>1.5	>0.25	Pit: full extent not seen	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By *Lisa Brown*

Introduction

B.1.1 A total of 66 sherds of prehistoric pottery weighing 647g was recovered from 14 contexts belonging to three pits (109, 114, 312), three postholes (127, 402, 404), and six ditches (104, 106, 117, 119, 123, 308).

B.1.2 Most of the pottery is of Iron Age character, and the pits and ditches appear on current evidence to be associated with an Iron Age settlement, as may be posthole 127. A few highly leached shell-tempered sherds from postholes 404 and 406 in Trench 4 are sufficiently dissimilar (leaching apart) to the Iron Age shelly wares that they may be Neolithic.

B.1.3 The condition of the assemblage is poor to reasonable overall, with high and moderate abrasion registered for sherds in roughly equal proportions. Fragmentation is high, with an average sherd weight (ASW) of under 10g. The fresh condition of a collection of fragments from pit 114 could reflect deliberate selection for deposition.

Fabrics and Forms

B.1.4 Ten fabrics within two ware groups have been identified at this stage with the use of a 10x and 20x hand lens and a binocular microscope. Fabrics have been divided into ware groups Q and S on the basis of dominant fabric type in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). Some fabrics are represented by only a single, or very few, sherds (see below). The dominant ware group is shell-tempered, but the total collection is too small for this observation to be particularly significant. The co-occurrence of the two ware groups in most features suggests that these fabrics were contemporary.

Q Predominantly Quartz sand and quartzite

Q1 Fine glauconitic sand with rare inclusions of finely crushed shell. 15 sherds/237g

Q2 Medium quartz sand with translucent quartzite and rare small inclusions of burnt flint. 7 sherds/11g

Q3 As Q2, but finer sandy clay. 1 sherd/5g

Q4 Moderately coarse quartz sand with translucent quartzite and rare pieces of small weathered flint and limestone. 1 sherd/10g

Q5 Fine glauconitic sand, no other visible inclusions. 2 sherds/15g

SH Predominantly fossil shell

SH1 Fine slightly micaceous glauconitic sandy clay with sparse to moderate quantities of crushed fossil shell and powdery sparse red oxides. 11 sherds/105g

SH2 Fine slightly micaceous glauconitic sandy clay with moderate abundance of ill-assorted coarse fossil shell. 23 sherds/92g

SH3 Fine slightly micaceous glauconitic sandy clay with very coarse ill-assorted fossil shell and red powdery oxides. Some sherds possibly Neolithic. 4 sherds/92g

SH4 Moderate finely crushed fossil shell and red oxides in glauconitic sand - shellier version of SH1. 1 sherd/14g

SH5 Very coarse leached shell in fine micaceous sandy clay, with distinctive, hard, rounded ferrous oxide pellets which give the surfaces a 'spotted' appearance. Possibly Neolithic. 1 sherd/23g

B.1.5 Upper Greensand beds outcropping a short distance from the site may have provided glauconitic clays, and fossil shell inclusions could have derived from the local Kimmeridge Clay Formation on which the site is located. Potting clay resources were, therefore, procurable relatively locally to the settlement. Descriptions of the pottery fabrics observed in his Radley assemblage by E T Leeds (1931, 400) correspond well with the material: *"…all classes of textures…carefully mixed paste; distinctly sandy wares; others with more or less finely triturated shell-grit; coarse rather gritty wares, some so rough as to give the feel of elephant hide; and finally wares so poor in character that they must have been worked up from almost any clay that came to hand…"*

B.1.6 Despite the highly fragmented nature of the collection, it was possible to identify a range of jar and bowl forms. The collection from pit 114 was most productive, yielding conjoining sherds deposited close to the base of a large jar of uncertain form in sandy fabric Q1. The pit also yielded a fragment of a jar with upright rim and rounded shoulder in fabric SH, and another jar in SH1 with a simple flattened rim is paralleled by a form described by Leeds as *"typical flat Radley rim"* (1935, plate VII 5a and c). A burnished carinated bowl fragment in fabric Q5 from posthole 127 resembles Leeds' descriptions of *'strongly carinated'* sherds (1931, 403; fig. 2a, nos 15, 23, 24, 37). A second burnished bowl fragment of indeterminate shape in fabric Q1 was recovered from the fill of ditch 308.

B.1.7 Leeds also describes forms present in his larger Radley assemblage that were not found in the evaluation, probably due to the restricted size of the assemblage. These include a jar with a rounded body and a lug handle, a jar with finger-tipping on the shoulder, and a jar with an inwardly expanded rim which could serve as a lid seating.

Chronology and affinities

B.1.8 The presence of possible Neolithic sherds from Trench 4 contexts would be consistent with Leeds' (1935, 39) description of pottery he compares with "Abingdon specimens". It would also reflect the well-documented Neolithic activity in the wider area around the site, which includes the Abingdon causewayed enclosure and a Neolithic barrow,

double-ditched ovoid enclosure and causewayed ring ditch (see OA 2015). However, the evaluation sherds are plain body fragments, and are distinguished from the Iron Age pottery only in their poor condition and slight differences in fabric and treatment, so their identification is currently insecure.

B.1.9 At Yarnton Iron Age carinated bowls and slack jars are dated to the early Iron Age (Booth et al. 2011, 345-99), and at Gravelly Guy broad affinities are seen within the EIAI and EIAII assemblages (Duncan et al. 2004, 259–302). Pottery groups from pits dated to 550–300 BC at Farmoor (Lambrick and Robinson 1979) and to 500–300 cal BC at Castle Hill (Allen et al. 2010) include similar forms. An Iron Age assemblage from Alfred's Castle, Oxon on the Ridgeway c 30km south-west of Radley includes elements comparable to the combined Radley assemblages, including carinated bowls, slack jars, expanded rims and finger-tipped vessels (Brown 2013, 84-95). A programme of radiocarbon dating placed the associated activity there within the 4th–3rd centuries BC, although stylistically some vessels resemble types dated to as early as the 6th–5th centuries BC in central southern Britain generally. There appears to have been a degree of conservatism in pottery production in the Oxfordshire/Berkshire region, with finger-impressed and carinated forms enduring into the early part of the middle Iron Age. It is reasonable to offer a broad date of 5th to 4th centuries BC, or even slightly later, for the currency of the Radley ceramic assemblages. However, it must be noted that the collection of sherds from the evaluation is too small to offer even this level of precision in site dating.

B.2 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

B.2.1 The evaluation produced a very small assemblage of four pieces of flint. These consisted of four flakes including one with signs of use. Unfortunately, the flakes are undiagnostic.

B.2.2 The flints were recovered from two trenches (1 and 3) in the south-east corner of the evaluation area. Context 116 (fill of ditch 117) yielded one utilised flake while context 307 (fill of posthole 306) contained three flakes. The flints were all very fresh and unpatinated/corticated suggesting that they are either contemporary with the contexts they were recovered from or that they have not moved far.

B.2.3 The area is well known for its prehistoric archaeology and has numerous finds spots of flint recorded as well as larger assemblages from excavations (OA 2015). The presence of flint here is unsurprising and the probability remains that more intensive flint-related activity will be encountered during any further works.

Methodology

B.2.4 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued

directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan et al. 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

Table 1: Worked flint

Context	Type	Sub-type	Notes	Date
116	Flake	Misc trimming	Utilised quite regular flake with serrations/denticulations along its right side	
307	Flake x 3	Inner x 2 & side trimming	Three small and often squat flakes, all very fresh	

B.3 Ceramic Building Material

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction

B.3.1 Seven fragments of ceramic building material (323g) were recovered from three contexts. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and the material is simply described below.

B.3.2 Two fragments (95g) of flat roof tile were recovered from context 100 (topsoil in Trench 1). These are probably fragments of peg tile, though no peg holes survive. They have an even regular finish with flat surfaces and rough sanded bases and edges coated with medium-coarse moulding sand. One is a broken corner fragment with two edges surviving, the other a central body sherd. Both measure 15-16mm thick. They are made in a red sandy fabric containing medium-coarse quartz sand and red ferruginous clay pellets up to 6mm. The corner fragment has cream marly streaks and pellets, indicating a broad affinity to Oxford fabric group IV, whilst the other is closer to Oxford fabric IIIB. Both are probably of post-medieval date.

B.3.3 A single fragment of tile (47g) was recovered from context 2002. The surviving piece is 62mm long and 20mm thick. This is in a smooth orange-buff fabric with very coarse inclusions or platelets of ironstone or ferruginous clay pellets and a few streaks of cream marly clay. The fragment shows some curvature and has smoothed surfaces. It is very likely to be from a land drain of 19th- or 20th-century date.

B.3.4 Context 2004 produced four pieces of CBM (181g). Three of these are from the same orange-red flat roof tile or peg tile (98g) which survives as two edge fragments (13mm thick) and a body sherd. This has a smooth light orange fabric with some coarse lumps

and streaks of paler cream marly clay. The smooth fabric and neatness of manufacture suggest a 19th or 20th century date. The other item is a very abraded fragment of brick (83g) which preserves traces of its upper and lower surfaces - giving a thickness of 70mm. The brick is in a very coarse orange-brown fabric with a dark grey core and the fabric contains coarse inclusions of clinker. These characteristics indicate a 19th- or early 20th-century date

B.4 Fired Clay

By Cynthia Poole

B.4.1 Fired clay amounting to 28 fragments (335g) was recovered from six contexts and is recorded in Table 2. The assemblage comprises a mix of fired clay and fragments of burnt natural sediment, probably the subsoil or top of natural or possibly weathered burnt stone. No item is diagnostic though certain forms are suggested by the surviving features.

B.4.2 The flat slab from context 115 is probably part of a disc or oven plate of a type commonly found in the area around Oxford with numerous examples found in the local area at Didcot and Sutton Courtenay. The thickness suggests it is one of the larger examples and the burning on one face is typical. The portable discs or plates are generally of late Iron Age or Roman date, though other types of oven plate usually constructed as an integral element of an oven structure also existed earlier in the Iron Age. Early-middle Iron Age varieties cannot be excluded in view of the limited evidence. The small scrap with remnants of a burnt blackened surface may derive from a similar object, though oven or hearth floor would be equally valid interpretations.

B.4.3 The large block from context 307 is probably part of a portable item of oven or hearth furniture. The surviving surface is quite roughly finished and most akin to some cruder examples of triangular perforated brick. There is also a small area of concave surface in the core which could be part of a perforation, though too little is preserved to be certain of this. Triangular perforated bricks are a typical component of Iron Age fired clay assemblages, but continued to be produced and used during the early Roman period.

B.4.4 Amorphous burnt material recovered from contexts 113 and 405 appears to be lumps of burnt reddened sandy gritty sediment, possibly just lumps of burnt natural or subsoil. This is likely to be natural sediment surrounding an oven or a hearth and burnt in situ, but subsequently disturbed and redeposited. Although some pieces had a flattish surface there was no evidence of deliberate shaping or preparation of the material.

B.4.5 Although the preservation is poor and evidence is limited, the general character of the fired clay is consistent with Iron Age or possibly Roman activity, though the associated pottery suggests early-middle Iron Age is the main period represented. The burnt material from context 405, possibly indicative of a hearth or fire pit, may be associated with Neolithic pottery. The other fired clay and burnt sediment probably derived from domestic oven or hearth structures or the adjacent sediments.

B.4.6 The fired clay is likely to derive from simple domestic ovens or hearths used for cooking or food processing. In earlier excavations at Radley, Leeds (1935, 38-9) noted *"One pit produced a thick mass of clay burnt to a bright red colour and crushed down upon the floor. It gave the impression of oven rather than house daub. With it a large jar with flat plain rim".*

Table 2: Record of the fired clay assemblage

Context	Nos	Weight (g)	Form	Fabric	Dimensions	Description
107	5	4	Indeterminate	Black smooth clay with freq voids from chaff inclusions	11mm th; 10-20mm L	Small amorphous fragments. Possible rough flat surface, but may be sheared along plane formed by chaff
113	10	57	Indeterminate	Red; high density of coarse quartz sand and large shell and fossil fragments up to 9mm and rounded pebbles 3-6mm	15-20mm th, up to 42mm long	Possibly burnt stone or natural sediment rather than fired clay. Rough flat surface, but no evidence of deliberate shaping.
115	1	81	Plate	Dark reddish brown high density of coarse white quartz sand & a scatter of red rounded ferruginous grits 1-5mm	32mm th; >60mm L	Flat slab with roughly moulded flat surfaces, one of which was burnt dark grey. Possibly polygonal plate or circular disc of LIA-Roman type, but could be oven plate of earlier Iron Age type.
307	1	95	Oven/Hearth furniture?	Smooth soapy clay containing frequent medium and coarse quartz sand and a sparse scatter of	>41mm th; >57mm L	Broken block with roughly moulded uneven lumpy surface. No other features are present, but the pattern of firing resulting in pinkish brown surface and margins and dark grey core suggest this is an item of oven

				red ferruginous grits and angular white flint grits 1-2mm.		furniture, possibly a triangular perforated brick based purely on surface finish and a slight concave area in the core which could be the remains of a perforation c 19mm dia.
307	1	7	Indeterminate	Mottled dark and light reddish orange with cream streaks and flecks; frequent rounded medium-coarse quartz sand.	>21mm th; >27mm L	Irregular broken fragment, very worn, possibly with part of even slightly concave moulded surface.
405	9	90	Indeterminate	Red – black high density coarse quartz sand and grit and small flint grits 2-7mm	10-28mm th; 15-41mm long	This looks more like burnt sediment or subsoil. There are some rough flat, undulating or concave surfaces which may be deliberately shaped. Possibly remnants of oven or hearth structure.
413	1	1	Indeterminate	Red sandy fabric with occasional cream streak	>13mm	Small broken scrap with tiny area of burnt blackened surface.
Total	**28**	**335**				

B.5 Post-Medieval Pottery

By John Cotter

B.5.1 Two sherds of post-medieval pottery (29g) were recovered from two contexts. These are simply described and dated below.

B.5.2 Context 2002 produced a single sherd (26g). This is a body sherd in transfer-printed whiteware (Fabric code TPW) with part of a blue-grey floral transfer printed design. The sherd is quite thick and flattish suggesting it probably comes from the base of a large dish or plate. It probably dates to the second half of the 19th century.

B.5.3 Context 2004 produced a single sherd (3g). This is a body sherd in Developed Creamware (Fabric code CREA DEV) dating from the period c 1760-1830. It is tightly curved and possibly from the wall of a dish or bowl.

B.6 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By John Cotter

B.6.1 Context 2004 produced a single piece of clay pipe stem (7g). This survives to a length of 77mm and is in a fresh condition. The exterior shows linear smoothing strokes and the piece has a stem bore diameter of 2mm. A late 18th- or 19th-century date is likely.

B.7 Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Introduction

B.7.1 A total of three pieces of stone were retained and submitted for analysis. These were examined by eye for evidence of working. One of these is a slice through a sandstone cobble (115, upper fill of Iron Age ditch 117), which is worn on one side and may have been used as a rubber. The other two are unworked and can now be discarded.

B.8 Slag

By Ian Scott

B.8.1 A single piece of slag (weight 392g) was recovered from context 307 (fill of posthole 306). Probably iron slag, it is not readily diagnostic to slag type.

B.9 Glass

By Ian Scott

B.9.1 The only glass comprises sherds from a single wine or beer bottle of mid to late 19th-century date in very dark green glass.

B.9.2 Context 2004: Wine or beer bottle in very dark green glass. It comprises most of the base and ten sherds and some slivers, from the body of the bottle. The bottle was made in three-piece mould with separate base plate. The bottle has an indented base with a tiny mamelon at its centre and possible impressed 'O' to one side. Mid to late 19th-century. Base D: 78mm.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Lee G. Broderick

C.1.1 A total of 83 animal bones were recovered, mostly from contexts dated to the Iron Age on the basis of associated ceramic finds. A single animal bone from the post-medieval context 2004 is an ulna from a large domestic fowl. The assemblage was in moderate condition with no significant difference between dated and undated material (Graph 1). All of the material was recovered by hand.

C.1.2 Each of the principal domesticates were present, with caprines (sheep Ovis aries or goat Capra hircus) bring most common, followed by domestic cattle (Bos taurus taurus) and then pig (Sus ferus domesticus) (Table 3). Four of these specimens had been gnawed by canids, probably dogs (Canis familiaris), of which a tooth was recovered from the early Iron Age component. A horse (Equus caballus) tibia was also recovered from the early-middle Iron Age component.

C.1.3 Butchery marks recorded were restricted to cutmarks on the lateral side of a medium mammal rib and an oblique cutmark on the cranial side of a domestic cattle metacarpal shaft (which had also been gnawed by canids). The former is consistent with kitchen or table waste while the latter is likely from skinning and raises the possibility that some processing of hides was taking place on or near the site. A domestic cattle metatarsal has exostoses at the proximal end, which would be consistent with an extended period of excessive impact on the joint, such as would be produced by use as a draught or plough animal.

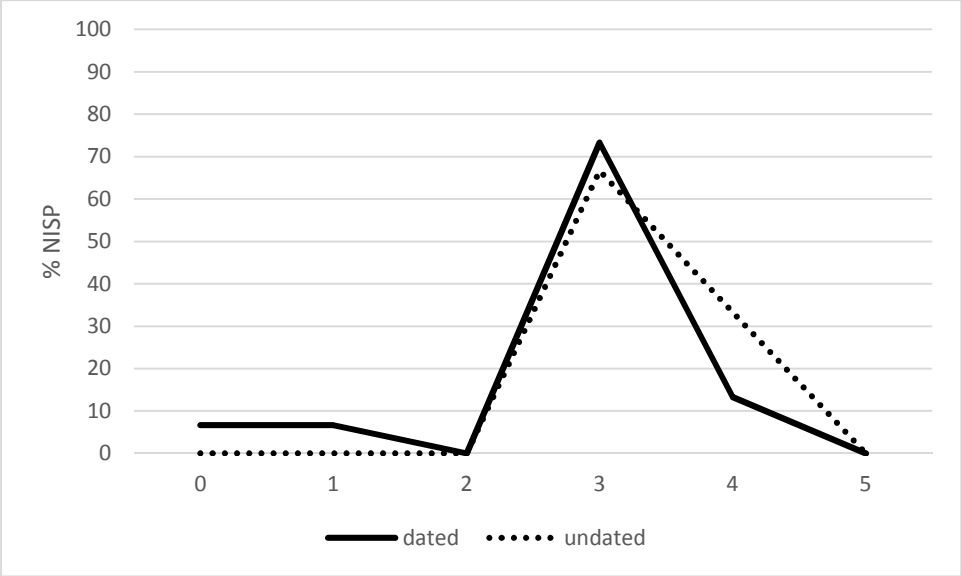
C.1.4 Ageing data was limited but the latest fusing epiphyses of domestic cattle (proximal humerus and distal femur) were unfused and it was possible to get a mandible wear stage from one of each of the three principal domesticates. These suggest an age at death of just over three years for the caprine, between six and ten years for the domestic cattle and the pig (a male) around its second winter.

Table 3: Total NISP (Number of Identified SPecimens) and NSP (Number of SPecimens) figures per period from the Site

	EIA	EIA-MIA	Undated
domestic cattle	**3**	**3**	**1**
caprine	**4**	**4**	**2**
pig	**1**	**1**	**1**
horse		**1**	
dog	**1**		
medium mammal	6	2	
large mammal	7	5	4
Total NISP	22	16	8
Total NSP	38	16	28

Table 4: Non-species data recorded for specimens from the Site

	Butchery marks	Pathologies	Gnawed	Ageing data	Biometric data
domestic cattle	1	1	2	5	1
caprine			1	2	
pig				1	
horse				1	1
medium mammal	1				
large mammal			1		
Total	2	1	4	9	2



Graph 1: Condition of identified specimens (following Lyman (1996))

Table 5: NSP and total mass per context.

Context	NSP	Mass (g)
105	2	15
107	3	5
110	4	78
113	6	652
115	8	221
116	6	137
118	4	45
122	1	80
307	24	66
413	1	5
415	4	31
1106	19	4
2004	1	6

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APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire
Site code:	RAWL17
Grid reference:	NGR SU 5200 9900
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	September 2017 and 1 day November 2017
Area of site:	10.8ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire County Museums Service in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS:2017.144.
Summary of results:	During September 2017 Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on land adjacent to White's Lane, Radley, Oxfordshire. The evaluation trenches revealed prehistoric features in the south-eastern part of the site, where geophysical survey had recorded a dense spread of anomalies. Two postholes contained possible Neolithic pottery. Several other features were dated to the Iron Age, including ditches forming three sides of an enclosure visible in the geophysical survey. Within the area of this potential enclosure were a number of pits and postholes, many yielding pottery sherds, fired clay and animal bone fragments, suggesting domestic activity. A single piece of slag may indicate ironworking. This activity represents the continuation of an Iron Age settlement previously recorded immediately to the south. Later activity within the evaluation site was represented by plough furrows and a modern field boundary.

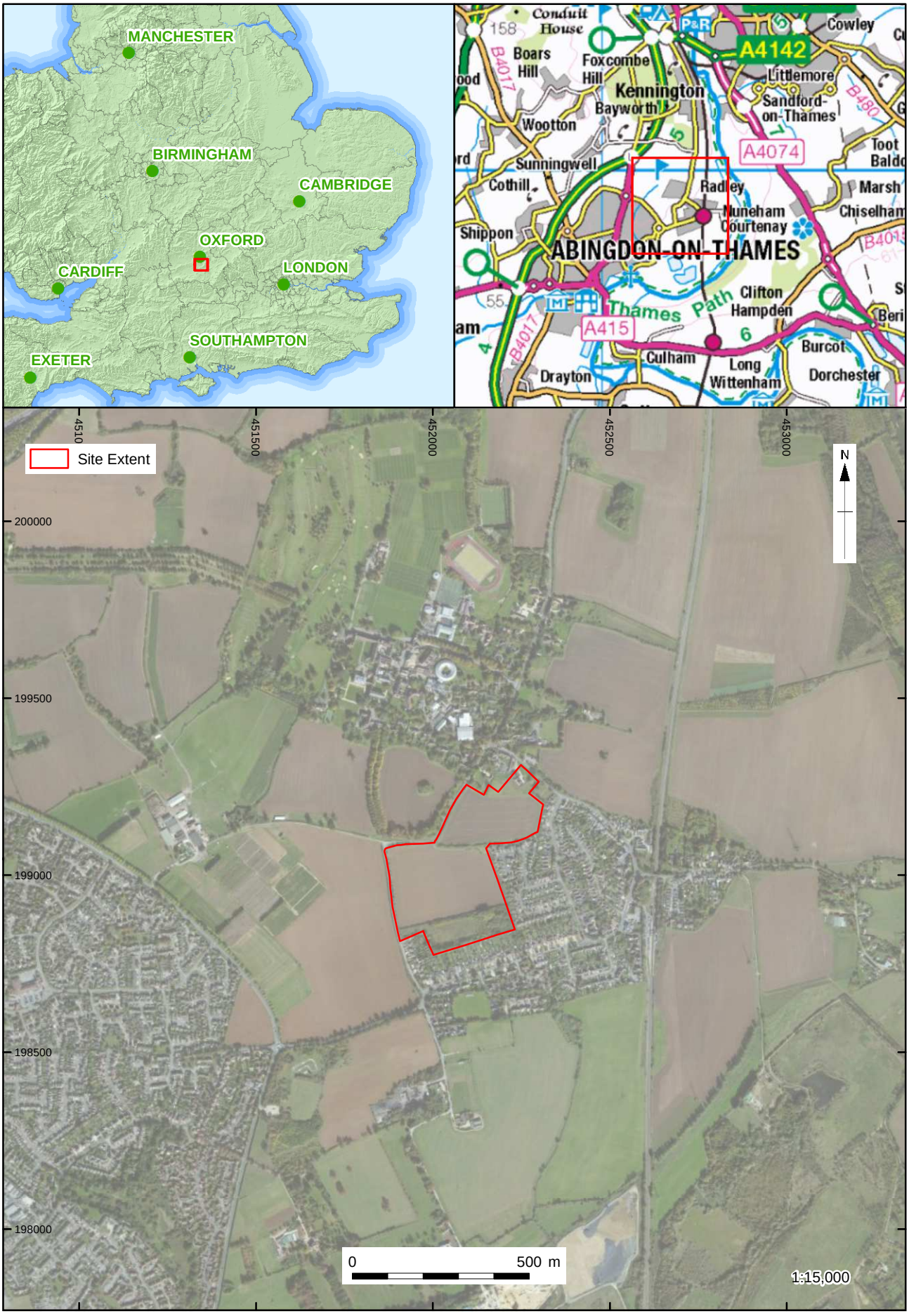

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Figure 1: Site location

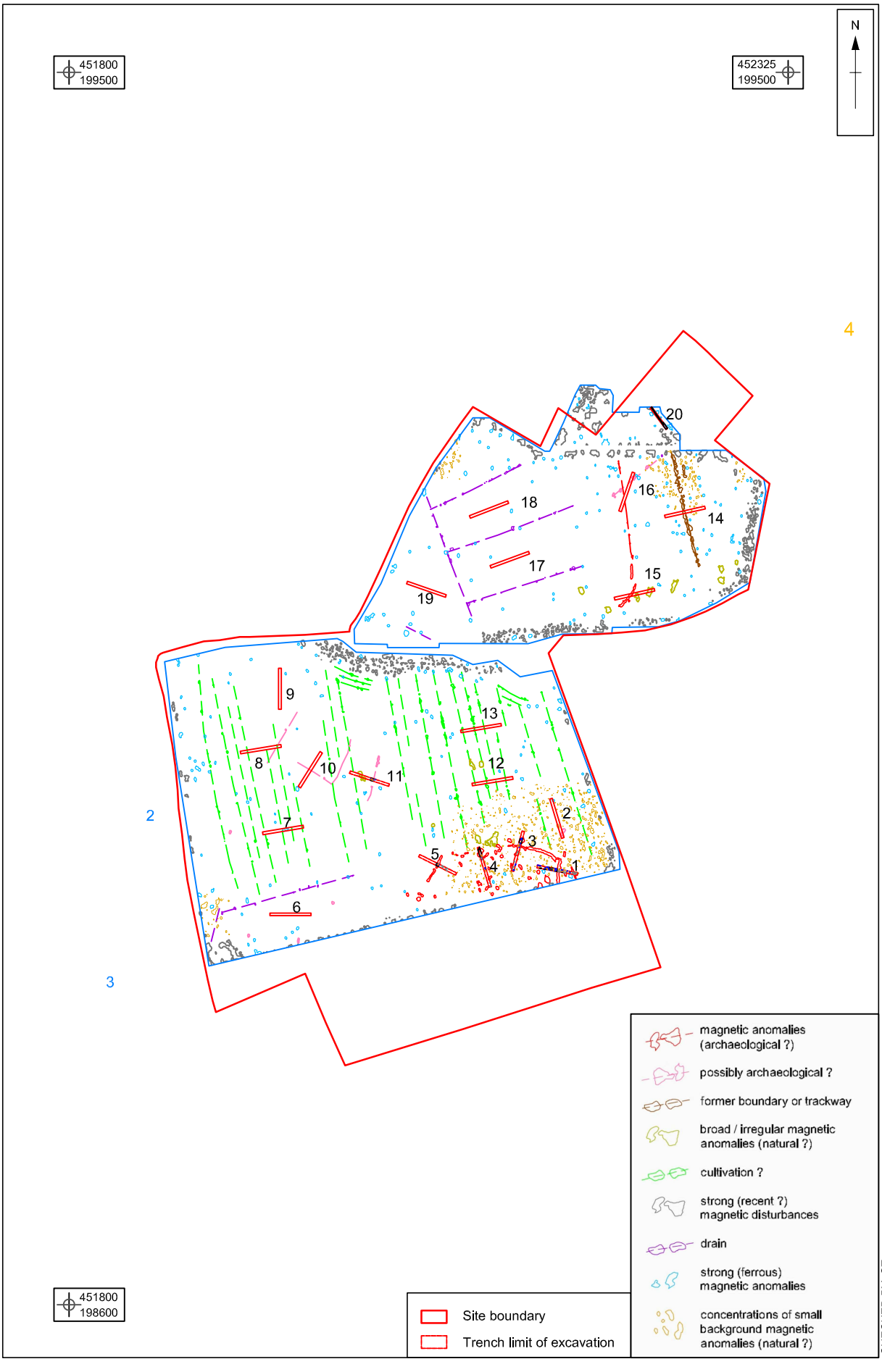

Figure 2: Trench location and geophysical survey

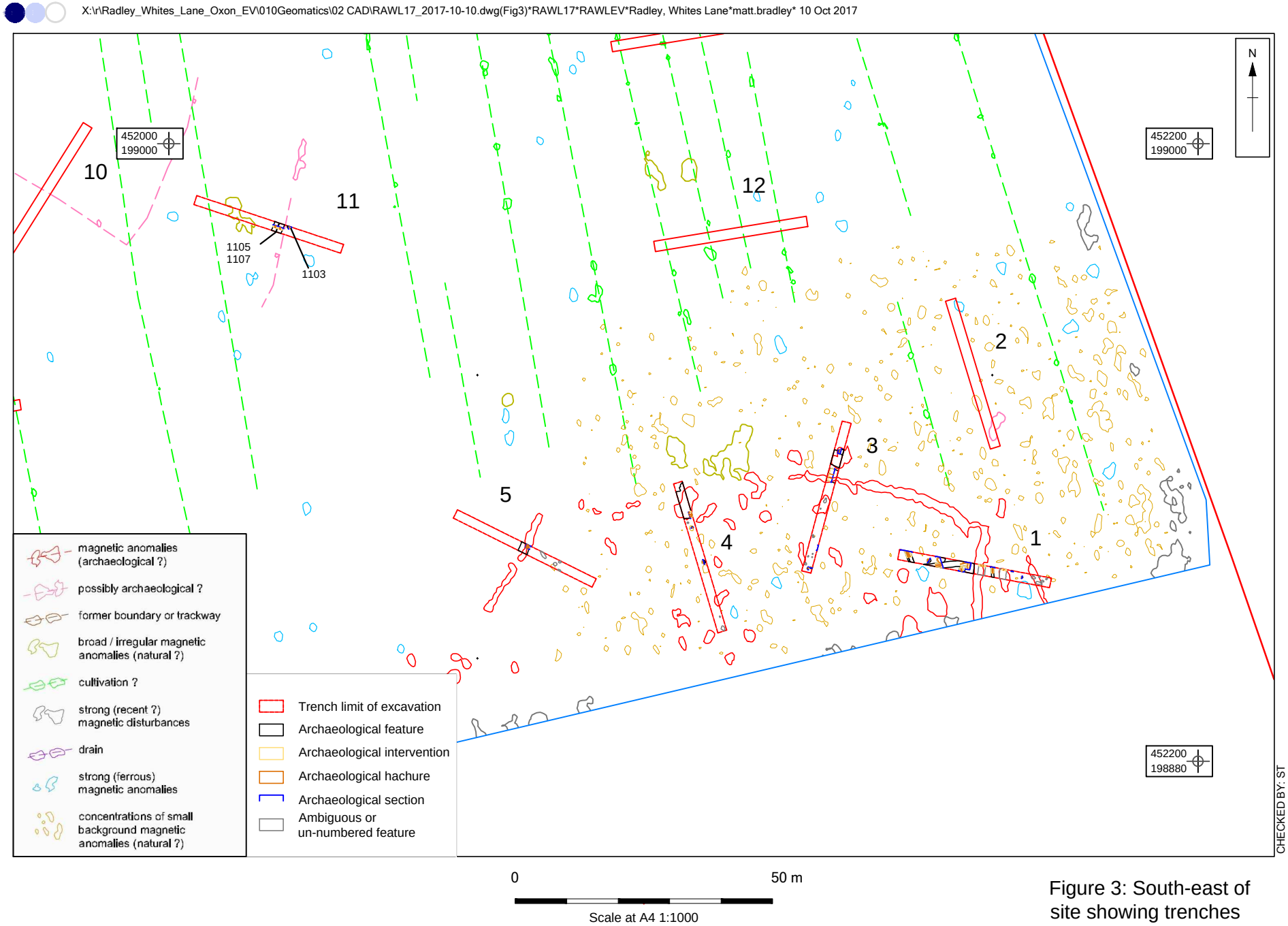

Figure 3: South-east of site showing trenches

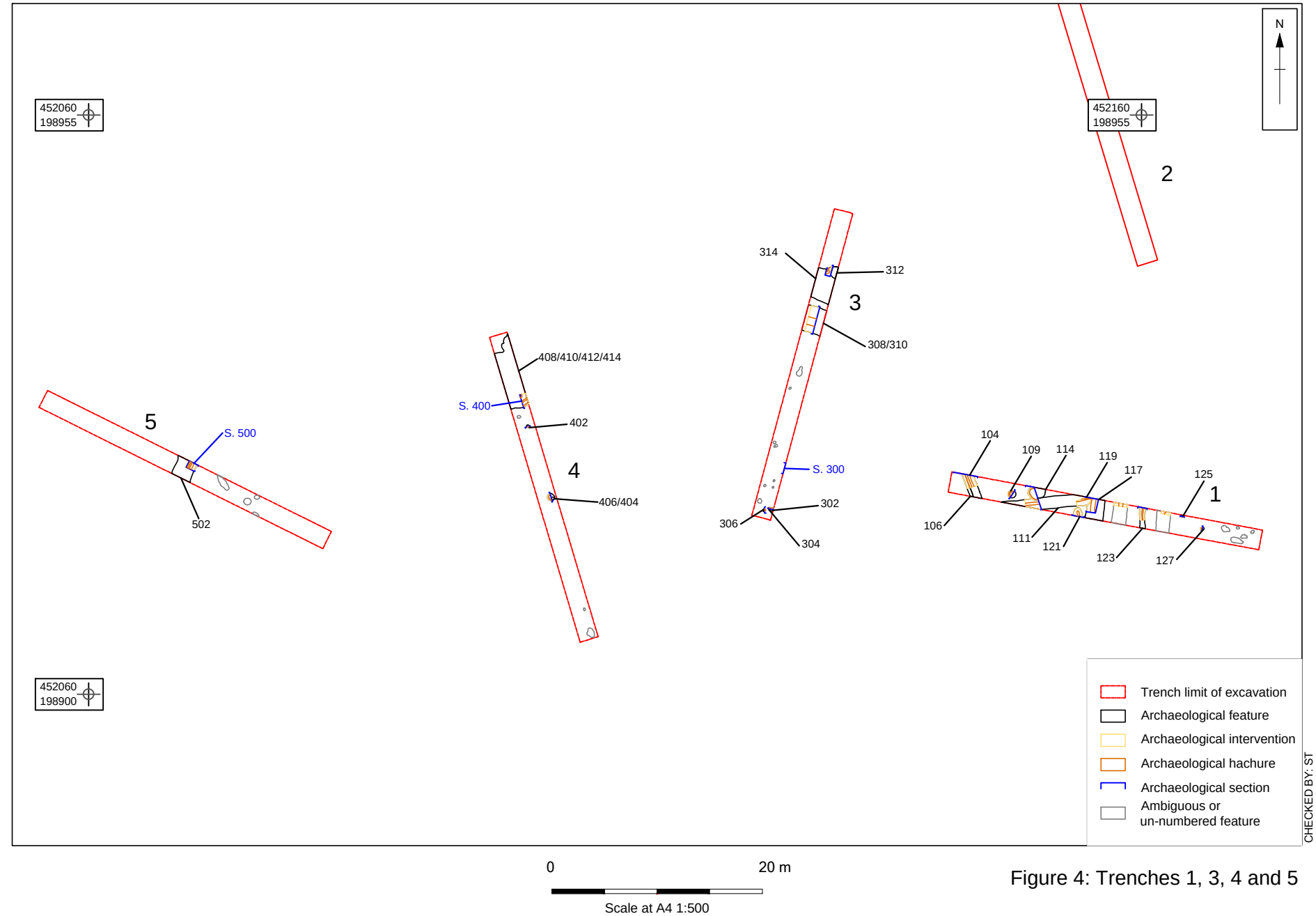

Figure 4: Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 5

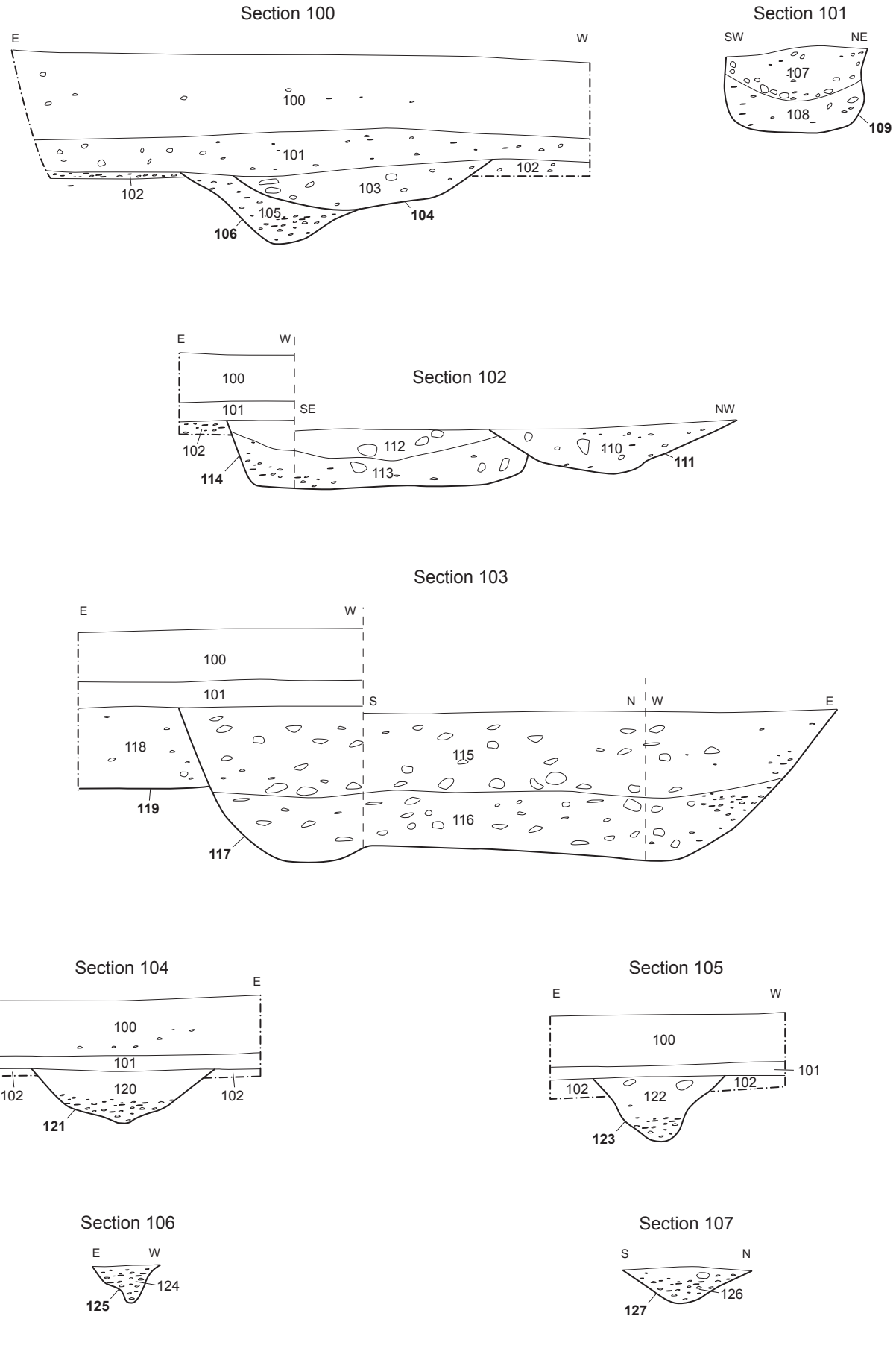

Figure 5: Sections from Trench 1

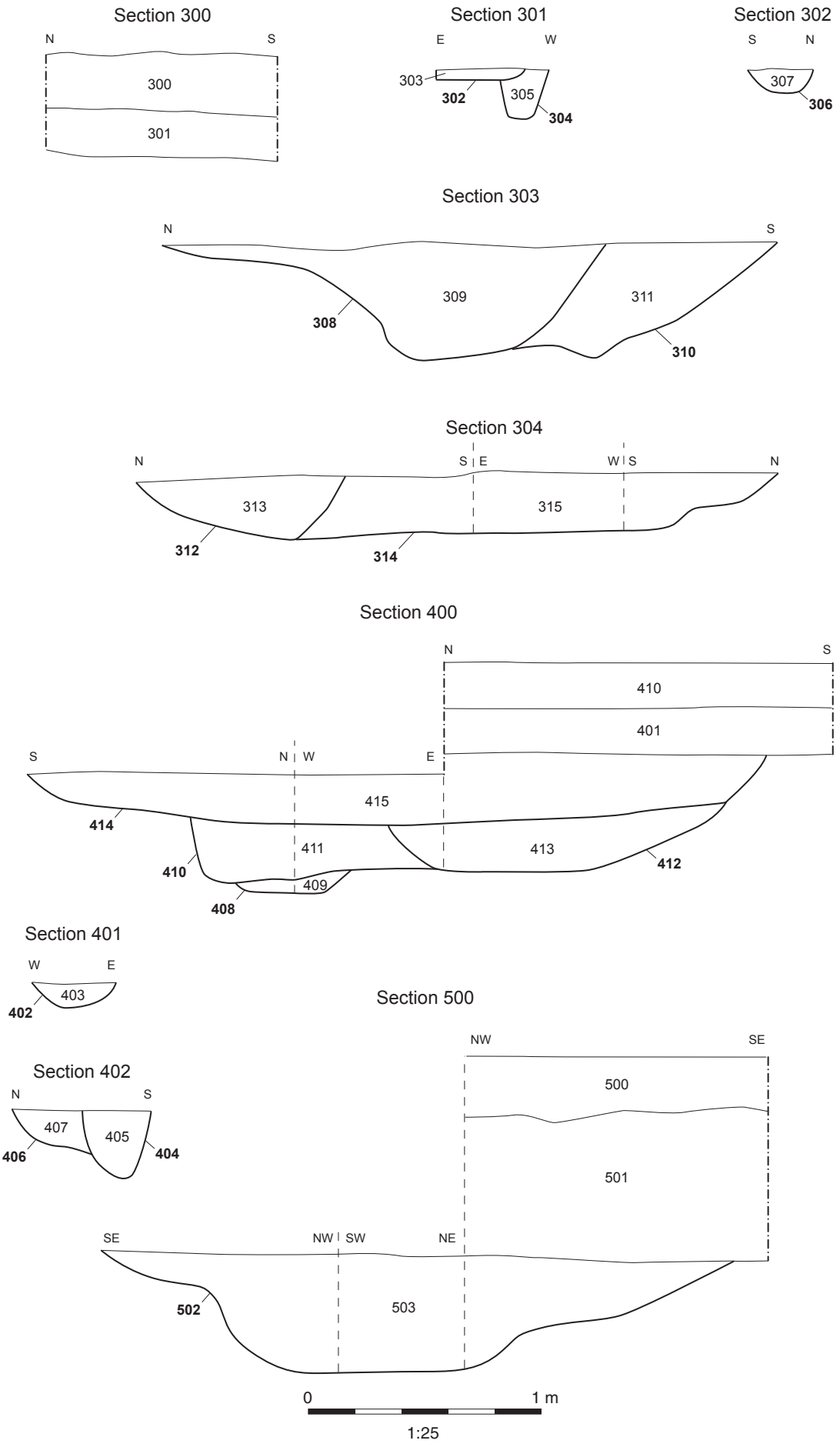

Figure 6: Sections from Trenches 3, 4 and 5

Plate 1: Ditches 104 and 106, view S

Plate 2: Pit 109, view NW

Plate 3: Ditches 117 and 119, view S

Plate 4: Ditch 123, view S

Plate 5: Trench 1, view W

Plate 6: Ditches 308 and 310, view SE

Plate 7: Ditch 312 and pit 314, view S

Plate 8: Ditch 502, view NE

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