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Oxford Architects Partnership

Crow Marsh

Wallingford Rowing Club, Mongewell, Oxfordshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT – PHASE 2

SU 609880

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OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

August 1998

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION – PHASE 2

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SUMMARY

In July 1998, the Oxford Archaeological Unit carried out a second field evaluation at the proposed site of a rowing club development at Mongewell near Wallingford, Oxfordshire on behalf of Oxford Architects Partnership. The previous six-trench evaluation conducted in March 1998 revealed a small number of features including a late Roman or early Saxon sunken-featured building and a ditch of uncertain date. The second phase of evaluation increased the area sampled to approximately 3% of the total area.

During the second evaluation, deposits containing early Neolithic pottery, bone, an antler comb and worked flint were excavated in one of the trenches. A pit containing struck flint of similar date was also excavated. A substantial ditch, containing animal bone and a single struck flint flake, was excavated but could not be securely dated. It is possible, however, that it may date to the same period.

A small gully containing Saxon pottery and a second, poorly defined, feature from which Saxon pottery was retrieved were also excavated. The pottery was of a similar date to that recovered during the first phase of evaluation.

Quarry pits and a ditch, of probable medieval date, were also recorded on the site.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work (Fig. 1)

Between 6th and 13th July 1998, the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) carried out a second stage of field evaluation on the east bank of the River Thames at Mongewell, near Wallingford, Oxfordshire (Fig. 1). The evaluation was conducted on behalf of Oxford Architects Partnership in advance of a planning appeal for the development of a rowing club house, boat store, access roads and car parking. The work was carried out following discussions with the County Archaeological Officer, and following an archaeological desk-top study by the OAU. The investigation was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by the OAU and approved by the County Archaeological Officer. The site lies in a field previously used as pasture and measures just under three hectares in area.

1.2 Geology and topography

The site is located between the Wallingford by-pass and the grounds of Carmel College. The solid geology is Lower Chalk overlain by river terrace gravels. The gravel is covered by alluvial silty clays which occupy a narrow strip adjacent to the Thames eastern bank at 45.5 m OD. These deposits are bounded to the east by a slight escarpment which rises gradually to around 48 m OD. A second area of alluvial deposits, filling a palaeochannel, lies further to the east, bisecting the gravel terrace deposits.

At the time of the evaluation the site was under pasture. The holes and stumps of several mature trees are vestiges of Mongewell Park, which was landscaped in the 18th century and now falls within Carmel College grounds.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

The archaeological and historical background of the site is discussed in detail in the archaeological desktop assessment (OAU 1998a), the results of which are summarised below:

There is considerable evidence for prehistoric activity in the area, including an undated ditch and Neolithic artefact scatter found during an evaluation in advance of the Wallingford by-pass, immediately to the north of the site (OAU 1998a, fig.1; 38). Three Mortlake Ware (later Neolithic) bowls have been dredged from the river nearby (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 6). A late Bronze Age settlement, and associated timberwork found in a palaeochannel, were excavated on a gravel eyot less than 100 m to the west of the site (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 6). Timbers have also been observed in the river channel immediately adjacent to the site (OAU 1998a, fig.1; 42).

Grim's Ditch lies to the north of the site. The dating evidence for the earthwork remains inconclusive but the available evidence suggests that a later prehistoric or possibly very early Roman date is most likely (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 35 and 37).

Of special relevance to the present evaluation is the evidence for activity during the Saxon period. During the first phase of evaluation (OAU 1998b), a sunken featured building was partially excavated and pottery of Early to Middle Saxon date, as well as a bone comb of possible 5th-century date, was recovered. A group of 17 possible Saxon inhumation burials were recorded during an excavation of Grim's Ditch, *c.*1 km

east of the site and three more have been found *c.* 0.7 km east of the site (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 7 and 35). Further burials have been recorded during ploughing *c.* 0.5 km east of the site (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 41).

During the medieval period, the site lay close to the village of Mongewell. The village is thought to have been deserted between *c.* 1350 and *c.* 1450. The site lies *c.* 100 m north of the church (OAU 1998a, fig. 1; 17).

2 EVALUATION AIMS

The aims of the evaluation as stated in the Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) were as follows.

2.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.

2.2 To determine the extent, condition, nature and character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.

2.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features

2.4 To make available the results of the investigation.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Sample size and scope of fieldwork (Fig.2)

The evaluation represents a second phase of investigation in addition to an earlier evaluation of six trenches conducted by the OAU in April 1998 (Fig. 2, Trenches 1-6). Together, the investigations comprise an approximate 3% sample of the development area. The most recent evaluation conducted in July (this report) consisted of six trenches measuring 20 m long and 1.80 m wide, followed by extensions to three of the trenches where potential archaeological deposits were observed. The positioning of the trenches was to some extent determined by the results of the previous evaluation. Trench 9 was located in the area of a proposed balancing pond with the remaining trenches located in areas not previously investigated, but where potentially significant archaeological deposits may have been present.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

In each trench, the overburden was removed by a mechanical excavator (JCB) under close archaeological supervision. The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned at 1:50 and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

The topsoil consisted of a very dark greyish-brown loam varying between 0.20 and 0.25m thick. Below the topsoil was a lighter reddish-brown silty loam also varying between 0.20 and 0.25m thick, representing a medieval or post-medieval plough soil. These overlay silty reddish or greyish brown alluvial layers in some of the trenches. The undisturbed 'natural' deposits comprised the silty and sandy gravels of the river terrace, or orange-brown clayey silts of the palaeochannels. Waterlogged deposits were absent and groundwater was not encountered.

4.2 Distribution of Archaeological Deposits

Significant archaeological deposits were identified in Trenches 9 and 11. Finds retrieved from two deposits within Trench 9 indicate layers associated with early Neolithic occupation. Two Saxon features were also revealed. One was a gully, the other was only partially exposed and remained undefined, although it appeared to be a shallow ditch. A ditch of medieval or later date, and a recent pit were also recorded in Trench 9. Trench 11 contained a large undated ditch, and a pit from which sherds of early Neolithic pottery and frequent worked flints were retrieved. A group of possible pits or tree holes in Trench 7 remain undated. Features of medieval or post-medieval date, probably associated with gravel extraction were recorded in Trench 13. The position of these features on a gravel ridge where extraction would be easier supports this interpretation.

4.3 Presentation of Results

The results of the evaluation are described by trench from the earliest deposits onwards. All the pottery dates noted below are *terminus post quem* dates, and reflect the latest dated pottery found within the context. Following the presentation of the results of the excavation there is a discussion of their significance. An inventory of all contexts is presented in Appendix 6 and detailed reports on finds and environmental evidence in Appendices 1-5

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of deposits

5.1.1 Trench 7 (Figs. 3 & 5)

Trench 7 was orientated north to south in the north-east corner of the site. The earliest deposit observed was layer 703, a light greyish-brown silty sand with frequent chalk flecks, flint fragments and gravel. This layer is probably a Pleistocene deposit. It lay approximately 0.50 m below the existing ground level. Cut into this layer at the southern end of the trench were a number of fairly circular pit-like features. The trench was extended within this area in order to obtain a better overall view in plan of these features. No finds were retrieved from their fills. The largest feature measured 0.90 m in diameter with a depth of 0.30 m. There was a circular depression within the base of the cut, measuring about 0.20 m wide. One of the smaller features was 0.38 m in diameter with a depth of 0.14 m. In both cases the sides were gently sloping, rather than vertical, and did not appear to be post-holes. Within the same area were some more rather irregularly shaped features which, following partial excavation, were interpreted as former root holes.

Sealing these features, and extending throughout the trench, was Layer 702, a reddish-brown silty sand. This layer, roughly 0.16 m in depth, may represent a later alluvial deposit. No features were observed within this deposit. Immediately above this layer was 701, a deposit of greyish-brown sandy-silt about 0.16 m thick. This layer appeared to represent an earlier plough soil of either medieval or post-medieval date, and above this was the modern topsoil approximately 0.20 m in depth.

5.1.2 Trench 8

Trench 8 was orientated north-east to south-west and was situated in the northern part of the site. The earliest layer observed within the trench was Layer 804, a light greyish-brown silty-sand very similar to 703 in Trench 7. A machine excavated sondage was dug in the northern end of the trench to a depth of approximately 1.20 m below the existing ground level. Layer 804 remained unbottomed at a thickness of 0.48 m. No archaeological features were observed within this. The trench was extended within the central western side by an area of about 5 metres square. The purpose of this extension was to investigate Deposit 803, a reddish-brown sandy silt situated immediately above 804 and exposed only within the central and southern end of the trench. No finds were retrieved from 803. The depth of the material was not fully established at 0.14 m deep, but sampling of the deposit suggested that the layer increased in thickness towards the south and in a westerly direction towards the river. This may represent palaeochannel fill.

Overlying Layer 803 was Layer 802 measuring 0.34 m in depth. The deposit consisted of a reddish-brown sandy silt and is likely to represent the latest alluvial layer similar to 702 in Trench 7. Sealing this was Layer 801, representing the medieval or post-medieval plough soil, which was overlain by the modern topsoil 800.

5.1.3 Trench 9 (Figs. 4 & 6)

Trench 9 was located in the north-west area of the site towards the river and slightly beyond the western edge of the gravel ridge which forms the beginning of the gravel terrace approximately 50 m east of the river. Trench 9 was initially excavated in a north-

south direction for a length of 20 m. Archaeological deposits were predominantly located in the southern end of the trench and a 5 metre square extension was added at this end of the trench on its eastern side. From the east side of this 5 m square extension, and running perpendicular to the main trench, a further trench extension was excavated which measured 1.80 m wide and about 17 m long.

The earliest deposit revealed in Trench 9 was the natural gravel (928), which formed a ridge rising to only 0.26m below ground level and situated approximately half way along the eastern extension. To the east the gravel ridge sloped downwards forming the western limit of a former stream or river channel.

One of the earliest alluvial layers observed was 910, a light orangey-brown clay situated to the west of the gravel ridge formed by 928. This deposit was not excavated. Immediately overlying this was 916, a similar clay although more orange in colour. Layer 916 was about 0.12 m deep and was devoid of any finds. Immediately above 916 was 913 (also numbered 909), a layer of light greyish-brown silty clay, 0.24 m thick The eastern end of the layer was cut by a pit, 923, which was almost certainly modern. The western end tapered off before reaching the edge of the trench. The southern edge of 913 was not revealed within the 5 m square extension. From this deposit a number of early Neolithic finds were retrieved including animal bone, worked flint and pottery. Partially overlying this layer was 915, a fairly dark yellowish-greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.26 m in depth and also devoid of finds. This was in turn overlain by another layer, 904, a dark reddish-brown clayey silt approximately 0.20 m in depth. This deposit, like 913, contained Neolithic bone, pottery and worked flint. An edge defining the northern limit of Deposit 904 was observed in the north end of the trench and similarly in the southern end of the trench. To the west 904 continued beyond the trench edge whilst the eastern edge of Layer 904 was truncated by Pit 923. The relationship between the gravel ridge and the alluvial layers nearer the river was also removed by Pit 923.

The earliest deposit observed within the northern end of the trench was 911, a layer of light greyish-brown sandy clay. Cut into this layer was a linear 'V'-shaped gully, 912, orientated north-east to south-west. The gully measured 0.50 m wide and 0.17 m in depth. The fill of this gully (905) was a greyish-brown silty-clay. Flint, early to middle Saxon pottery and bone were retrieved from the fill.

A later alluvial layer 902, consisting of a reddish-brown silty clay covered the length of the northern trench. This layer measured about 0.20 m thick and sealed Gully 912, Deposit 904 and the earlier alluvial deposits.

The remaining features in Trench 9 were situated in the eastern extension to the trench. Adjacent to the east side of the gravel ridge was a large ditch, 922. The western side of this ditch was completely removed by the large pit, 923. The eastern edge of the ditch survived and its construction had truncated the western edge of the gravel ridge. The ditch contained four fills, numbered from the lowest fill upwards as 925, 921, 920 and 918. Some finds, mostly animal bone were retrieved from the fills of this ditch, although pottery of probable 13th-century date came from 920. The remains of this ditch measured approximately 3.0 m wide and 0.70 m deep and it was orientated approximately north to south.

Another possible feature, 931, was located on the western slope of the gravel ridge. This was fairly shallow, linear and orientated north to south with a depth of 0.26 m and a width of 2.14 m. It cut the alluvial layer, 917, to the east and the top of the gravel ridge

to the west. Feature 931 was filled by 919, a reddish-brown clayey silt from which a number of Early/Middle Saxon pottery fragments were retrieved. The western end of the fill overlay a possible post-hole (929) cut into the gravel. This post-hole was 0.34 m wide and although not fully excavated was recorded to a depth of 0.32 m. No finds were retrieved from the fill, 930, which was of a yellowish-brown clayey silt.

In the northern trench, the earlier ploughsoil (901) overlay 902. The equivalent deposit along the eastern trench extension was Layer 924. Here it had a noticeably higher gravel content. It was up to 0.22 m thick, thinning to 0.07 m towards the eastern end of the trench extension, particularly within the area of the gravel ridge. This deposit was in turn overlain by the modern plough soil.

5.1.4 Trench 10

Trench 10, orientated east to west, was positioned approximately half way along the eastern boundary of the site. The earliest deposit was 1003, a silty sand with frequent flint and gravel inclusions located at approximately 0.58 m below the existing ground level. Overlying this natural deposit was layer 1002, a reddish-brown sandy silt measuring 0.20 m in depth. This layer appears to represent a phase of flooding. Immediately above this alluvial layer was the earlier plough soil 1001, and the modern topsoil, 1000, about 0.20 m thick. Tree root holes observed within the natural sand at the base of the trench were the only features identified within Trench 10.

5.1.5 Trench 11 (Figs. 3 & 5)

Trench 11 was orientated north to south and was positioned roughly centrally within the site. At the base of the trench were two natural layers defined by an edge running east to west roughly along the centre of the trench. To the south was an orange clay while to the north the natural changed to a light greyish-brown silty sand with a flint and gravel inclusions. Cut into the orange clay was a small roughly circular pit, 1114, half of which was exposed in the western edge of the trench. The pit measured approximately 0.76 m in diameter and 0.18 m in depth and the sides sloped gently. The pit was filled by two deposits. The lower fill, 1113, was an orangey greyish-brown silty clay, 0.08 m thick. Above this was 1112, a fairly dark greyish-brown silty clay approximately 0.10 m thick. The upper fill contained animal bone, worked flints and some very small fragments of early Neolithic pottery.

At the northern end of the trench was a ditch, 1104. The trench was extended by about 3m to the east to reveal the full width of the ditch. It measured 3.0m wide and 1m deep with gradually sloping sides. The ditch contained seven fills from which a large quantity of animal bone and one piece of flint were retrieved. Charred plant remains were recovered and consisted largely of wood charcoal (Appendix 4). No pottery was found and the ditch was undated.

Sealing the pit and the ditch was deposit 1102, a layer of alluvium consisting of a yellowish-brown sandy silt 0.24 m deep. This in turn was sealed by the earlier plough soil, Layer 1101, and above this was the modern topsoil, 1100.

5.1.6 Trench 12

Trench 12 was orientated east to west and positioned roughly centrally towards the southern edge of the site. A small machine excavated sondage at the western end of the trench revealed the natural gravel, 1204, 1.12 m below the existing ground level. Above

this was Layer 1205, a dark greyish-brown silty clay about 0.18 m thick. The eastern limit of this layer was initially observed within the east end of the trench, but then dipped below an overlying layer, 1203, a light greyish-brown sandy clay, about 0.30 m in depth. Two features were observed cut into this layer. A very shallow linear cut, 1207, orientated north to south, was present within the eastern end of the trench. It measured 0.85 m wide and about 0.05 m in depth and was filled by 1206, a brownish-grey sandy silt. No finds were retrieved from the fill and it was interpreted as a hedgerow line.

The other feature was partially exposed along the centre of the trench. Partial excavation revealed a steep-sided cut continuing down for about 1m and extending beyond the limit of the trench. This feature was filled by 1208, a brown silty clay without finds. Sealing these features was 1202, the probable earlier ploughsoil measuring 0.40 m in depth, which was in turn sealed by the modern top soil, 1201.

5.1.7 Trench 13 (Figs. 4 & 5)

Trench 13, approximately 26m in length, was orientated roughly east to west and positioned within the south-west area of the site. The natural gravel, 1306, was located at the base of the trench, approximately 0.40 m below the existing ground level. Three features were observed cut into the surface of the gravel. Two of the features shared similarities in size and in the nature of their fills. One of these, Cut 1309, a pit-like feature, contained Fill 1305, a greyish-brown silty-clay from which fragments of medieval pottery were retrieved. The pit was partially dug, to a depth of 0.56 m. The other feature, filled by 1304, was not excavated, but was similar to 1305 and post-medieval pottery was retrieved from its surface. The remaining feature located in the eastern end of he trench was identified by Fill 1303. This linear feature was 0.70 m wide and was orientated in a north-south direction. Post-medieval tile was found on the surface. Sealing these features was 1308, an alluvial brown sandy clay measuring 0.38 m thick. Overlying this layer was 1307, a brown silty clay with a depth of 0.17 m which appears to represent another alluvial deposit. Sealing this layer was the earlier plough soil 1302, approximately 0.10 m thick. The modern plough soil was 0.25 m thick.

5.2 Finds

5.2.1 Worked Flint (Appendix 1)

A total of 110 pieces of worked flint and six pieces of unworked flint were recovered from the evaluation, nearly all from prehistoric contexts. Worked flint was recovered from Trenches 9 and 11, with most coming from Layer 904 and Pit Fill 1112. The assemblage is dominated by debitage, with cores also present, as well as a few retouched pieces. The general traits of the flint would suggest that quite a careful reduction strategy was being followed which is generally indicative of the Neolithic.

The relatively high number of blades and blade-like flakes together with the rejuvenation flakes and the range of retouched pieces would perhaps tend to suggest an early to middle Neolithic date for the bulk of the assemblage and this is supported by the associated pottery.

5.2.2 *Earlier Prehistoric pottery* (Appendix 2)

One hundred and seventy five sherds of earlier Neolithic pottery were recovered from contexts 903-4, 909, 913 and 1112. A significant quantity of the earlier Neolithic pottery came from context 904, including 52 rim and body sherds from a single bowl that had probably been crushed *in situ*. Eight refitting bodysherds also came from context 909. Altogether the assemblage is quite fresh indicating *in situ* domestic activity.

A single rim with impressed whipped cord maggot decoration from context 904 probably belongs to the Peterborough tradition of the later Neolithic.

5.2.3 *Iron Age pottery* (Appendix 2)

A single small body sherd from alluvial layer 902 could be of Iron Age date, although, if so, would be in a redeposited context.

5.2.4 *Saxon pottery* (Appendix 3)

A few sherds of Early or Middle Saxon pottery came from contexts 905 (the fill of Ditch 912) and 919 (the fill of Feature 931). These are both likely to be Saxon features, particularly given the location of the Early Saxon sunken-featured building in Trench 1 of the earlier evaluation.

5.2.5 *Medieval pottery* (Appendix 3)

Medieval pottery came from contexts 920 (fill of Ditch 922) and 1305 (fill of Quarry 1309). It is unclear whether the pottery is re-deposited or not, but it is possible that both these features are medieval in date.

5.2.6 *Animal bone* (Appendix 5)

Over 400 fragments of animal bone were recovered, mostly from Early Neolithic contexts. Contexts 904 and 1112 contained particularly large assemblages. However, the bone was very fragmentary and only a relatively small percentage were identified to species. These included cow, pig, sheep/goat, dog and red deer. In addition, Context 904 also contained an antler comb. The comb is probably made from the section of red deer antler where the brow tine joins the main shaft. The antler shaft has been cut to provide nine prongs, all of which are broken. A relatively large number of bone fragments also came from context 918, the top fill of the possible medieval Ditch 922. The only identifiable species was horse.

5.3 Environmental data (Appendix 4)

Four samples were selected for the assessment of environmental indicators. These were the Neolithic occupation layers 904 and 909, a charcoal-rich fill 1108 in the large undated ditch 1104, and the finds-rich upper fill 1112 in the early prehistoric pit 1114.

5.3.1 *Carbonised plant remains and charcoal*

The remains of plants were not rich in any of the samples. Apart from the ditch fill 1108, the bulk of all the flots were made up of modern herbaceous plant roots with small

numbers of modern seeds and insect fragments, indicating that intrusive material may be present.

Most of the charred plant remains recovered were fragments of wood charcoal, too small to identify. This type of wood charcoal was the sole type of plant remains in ditch fill 1108. Pit fill 1112 produced the largest number of plant remains, about 30 identifiable items, mostly grains of corn. Neolithic occupation layers had very sparse charred remains: layer 904 contained a single unidentifiable grain, a piece of chaff, and a small fragment of hazel nut shell, while the earlier layer (909) contained a single unidentifiable grain.

Despite modern contamination, the charred remains are potentially useful in reconstructing the environment and economy of the earlier prehistoric period. Any deeper associated features might be expected to have waterlogged, and hence more important, remains.

5.3.2 Mollusca

Snails were abundant in all the deposits, although burrowing forms of snails were present indicating some potential modern contamination. The undated ditch fill 1108 had a range that indicates a shady grassland habitat. The Neolithic layer richest in snails, and with the lesser amount of intrusive material (Layer 909) was similar, but with a smaller number of grassland types and with types characteristic of stagnant water and also woodland.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

The evaluation was undertaken under reasonable weather and ground conditions and the results are considered to be reasonably reliable.

6.2 Overall interpretation

6.2.1 Summary of Results

Sedimentary sequence

The combined results of the two evaluations have suggested that the river terrace gravels are traversed by two main palaeochannels running north-south. They are represented by areas of alluvial deposits separated by a relatively narrow ridge of gravel (Fig. 2). Possible palaeochannel deposits were also found in Trench 7 (though not in the other trenches on the eastern side of the site) and Figure 2 is likely to be a simplified representation.

Both palaeochannels contained fragile evidence of Neolithic occupation, comprising spreads of sediment with associated settlement debris (Trench 9) to the west of the gravel ridge, and a shallow pit (Trench 11) to the east. The large undated ditch in Trench 11 may also be of this date, although this is uncertain.

The western palaeochannel was truncated by the modern river. There may be earlier relict channel edges between the Neolithic occupation and the river, so that occupation evidence is unlikely to have survived extensively further to the west.

The central paleochannel contained probable early Holocene alluvium which was cut by the Early Neolithic pit in Trench 11. There were also sandier deposits which probably derived from the re-working of terrace sand and gravel.

Later alluvium sealed archaeological features in Trench 11 and also the Neolithic deposits in Trench 9. This alluvium was cut by probable Early or Middle Saxon features in Trench 9 and it is likely that it represents the alluvial horizon of the Iron Age/Roman periods identified elsewhere in the Upper Thames Valley. Post-Saxon flood related sediments also appear to be present. Alluvium was recorded in Trenches 7 and 10 below the ploughsoils.

Early Neolithic occupation

Evidence of occupation belonging principally to the Early Neolithic period was found in Trenches 9 and 11. The character of the Neolithic deposits indicates some form of open domestic settlement consisting of dumps of pottery, flintwork, animal bone and plant remains. The occupation in Trench 9 (Layers 913=909 and 904) was found on the west side of the gravel ridge overlying an orange clay (916) of presumably early Holocene age. The earlier of the occupation layers (913=909) appeared to have been sealed by alluvial deposits 914 and 915, before the second occupation layer, 904, was laid. There is, however, no indication of a chronological difference between the two occupation layers, and it is uncertain whether the more sterile sediments represent alluvial episodes from a nearby channel. Re-deposition of the occupation material in

either layer can be ruled out, since the character of the pottery, including a number of refitting sherds, indicate an *in situ* occupation.

In Trench 11 the Neolithic pit, 1114, was found towards the top of the alluvial sequence, sealed by a later yellowish brown alluvium (1102). The large ditch, 1104, contained no dating evidence. The fact that it was also sealed by the later alluvium does not necessarily indicate that it was a similar date to the pit since the time lapse between periods of alluvial deposition could be considerable. The Saxon gully (912) in Trench 9 was also sealed by alluvium and it is possible that Ditch 1104 was associated with this period of settlement. The environmental and animal bone evidence proved unhelpful in dating the feature.

Overall the nature and extent of the Early Neolithic occupation is difficult to estimate. It may have extended to the north of Trench 9 under the later alluvium, 911. To the south, while probably absent from Trenches 3 and 5, intermittent patches of occupation may survive on the western side of the gravel ridge in this direction. The extent of occupation to the west towards the modern river may largely be determined by the extent of more recent river erosion and man-made disturbances, but it is unlikely to have been far. On the gravel terrace on the eastern side of the site the layers and shallow features charaterizing this occupation are unlikely to have survived more recent ploughing and landscaping, had they ever existed here. Within the hollow of the palaeochannel, archaeological deposits of this date survive in Trench 11. However, no Neolithic deposits were found in Trenches 6 and 8, despite the presence of worked flints in Trench 6, and it is possible that the Early Neolithic occupation was light or absent north of Trench 11.

Early Saxon occupation

The results suggest that the Early Saxon occupation which was identified in Trench 1 of the April 1998 evaluation (OAU 1998b) extended further west towards the river in the Northern part of the site. Early to Middle Saxon pottery came from two shallow features in Trench 9. Feature 912 was a V-shaped gully cutting earlier alluvial deposits, while Feature 931 was wider and on a slightly different alignment. It may have cut, or been associated with a deep post-hole (929) on its western side. It is unclear whether these features are evidence for Saxon structures associated with the possible sunken featured building in Trench 1, or whether they are peripheral boundary features.

The intervening trenches, 6 and 8, were devoid of features or finds. This cannot be taken to indicate that settlement in this area was entirely absent since structures within Early to Middle Saxon settlements are characteristically quite dispersed.

The pit-like features in Trench 7 are thought to be tree root holes rather than post-holes or other features of archaeological significance, although the latter interpretation cannot be entirely ruled out.

Medieval activity

Quarry pits of medieval or post-medival date were found in Trench 13, cut into the gravel ridge which rises close to the ground surface in this area. A large ditch in Trench 9 also produced pottery of medieval date.

6.2.2 *Significance of the Neolithic deposits*

Both the pottery and flintwork suggest an earlier Neolithic date for most of the settlement activity, while the identification of an antler bone comb within the animal bone assemblage from the same deposits suggests that this artefact is likely to be contemporary. The association of potentially good groups of ecofacts with artefacts of this date is still quite rare and the site should be considered as being of at least regional importance. Whilst a few sites in the Upper Thames have produced earlier Neolithic pottery, bone combs have only been found at two of these sites. Excavation of this site is therefore likely to produce other rare objects and clarify its domestic function.

That the site is likely to be an open settlement is partly based on the absence of a contemporaneous ditch, and that most of the material recovered came from occupation layers. At enclosure sites most finds tend to be concentrated either as placed deposits, in dumps or in middens within ditches that are often recut and deliberately backfilled. Furthermore, the pottery from Wallingford is plain, while most assemblages from enclosure sites tend to be decorated. However, the extent of this activity was not fully determined and, given the limits of the evaluation trenches, the presence of a contemporary, but unlocated, ditch cannot be ruled out altogether. In this context, the possibility exists that the large ditch in Trench 11 is contemporary with occupation layers, although has not been demonstrated. Causewayed enclosures often can be several hundreds of metres in diameter and the whole of the evaluated area would fit within the inner ditch of the Abingdon enclosure (Avery 1982).

On balance, then, this site would seem to be an open domestic settlement. This is important, since while the evidence for earlier Neolithic ritual and ceremonial sites is good and reasonably well understood, both within and beyond this region, the complimentary domestic evidence is still quite rare. The site, therefore, presents a rare opportunity to characterise an earlier Neolithic domestic site.

There is still relatively little evidence for earlier Neolithic domestic sites on the Upper Thames gravels, although a number of probably similar sites have now been found in riverine locations in the middle Thames Valley (e.g. Runnymede Bridge, Eton) and as middens preserved beneath long cairns in the Cotswolds (e.g. Ascott-under-Wychwood and Hazleton North). None of the earlier Neolithic sites on the Upper Thames gravels have produced the same density of finds and in relative terms the evaluation has already produced a significant quantity and important collection of earlier Neolithic material. The only substantial excavated earlier Neolithic site in this area that is similarly rich in finds is the Abingdon causewayed enclosure.

6.2.3 *Significance of the Early to Middle Saxon deposits*

Only limited evidence of Saxon exploitation of the site was recovered during the present work. It is not clear whether the features containing Early to Middle Saxon pottery in Trench 9 were peripheral to settlement represented by the sunken featured building discovered during the previous phase of evaluation (OAU 1998b). No further certain structural evidence was discovered in the eastern part of the site, since the features found in Trench 7 probably represent tree throw-holes and root holes.

6.2.4 *Significance of the Medieval deposits*

The quarry pits located in Trench 13 probably represent peripheral activity associated with the medieval village of Mongwell. The ditch in Trench 9 may also be medieval in date, although the pottery may be residual

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Appendix 1

The worked flint

by Philippa Bradley

Introduction

A total of 110 pieces of worked flint and six pieces of burnt unworked flint (71 g) was recovered from the evaluation. The flint was briefly scanned and recorded using a standard set of codes, further details of which may be found in the site archive. Some attributes such as hammer mode, position within reduction sequence, butt type and condition were recorded in order to facilitate the characterisation of the material. The assemblage is summarised in Table 1. Flint was recovered from nine contexts of which only 904 and 1112 produced any quantity (43 and 31 pieces respectively). The flint is summarised by context in Table 2.

Raw materials

The flint is generally fairly heavily corticated and thus the original colour could not be ascertained in most cases. However, where there were fresh breaks or there the colour could be noted a quite wide range was recorded including brown, fawn and grey. Cortex, where present is buff or white and is mostly quite worn. Occasionally iron-staining and calcium carbonate concretion were noted, for example, a core from context 909. The raw material is fairly good quality and may have come from the locality or around Dorchester-on-Thames. The Chilterns to the east would also have provided a source of good quality flint. All of the burnt unworked flint is very heavily calcined.

Assemblage composition

The assemblage is dominated by debitage (Table 1). The flint has generally been quite carefully worked. Both hard and soft hammers were used and there seems to have been some attempt at removing overhangs between knapping episodes. Once platforms became unworkable either removing their top (core tablet) or the working face of the core itself (face/edge rejuvenation flake) rejuvenated them. Some blades and blade-like flakes were recovered (Table 1) and blade scars were recorded on the dorsal faces of some flakes (eg context 902). Additionally some of the cores also have blade or blade-like scars (eg 909). Nine cores and core fragments were recovered (Table 1) of which multi-platform types are most common. A single discoidal core was recovered; these types tend to be more common during the later Neolithic and have been linked with the production of transverse arrowheads (Green 1980, 38). The debitage and the general traits of the flint would suggest that quite a careful reduction strategy was being followed; such strategies are generally indicative of the Neolithic.

Nine retouched pieces were recovered (Table 1) including retouched and serrated flakes, scrapers and a miscellaneous retouched piece with a denticulated edge. The retouched and serrated flakes tend to have been made on flakes or blade-like flakes with straight edges. Occasionally the retouching is minimal and may in fact be the product of use rather than formal secondary working. The serrated flakes are mostly fairly finely worked with one edge retouched; the exception being an example from context 1112 which is more coarsely serrated on both edges. Macroscopic edge gloss was noted on this piece and an example from contexts 903. This gloss indicates use on silica-rich plant materials (Unger-Hamilton 1988). The piece

with a denticulated edge was probably used for piercing. None of these forms are particularly distinctive in terms of dating but are typical of Neolithic and early Bronze Age assemblages of this region.

Discussion

The assemblage is generally in good condition with only a little post-depositional damage being recorded. The flint has been carefully worked, cores have been rejuvenated to prolong their life and platform edges have been abraded between episodes of knapping. The few retouched forms are neat and well made. The retouched element is dominated by minimally retouched flakes and serrated flakes.
Blade-like flakes and flakes with straight edges have been chosen as blanks for these artefacts. The scrapers are again neatly retouched and one has been made on a thin blank (1112). The occurrence of a discoidal core may provide some tentative dating evidence, as these types tend to be more common during the later Neolithic. The relatively high number of blades and blade-like flakes together with the rejuvenation flakes and the range of retouched pieces would perhaps tend to suggest an early to middle Neolithic date for the bulk of the assemblage.

In the locality, Neolithic flintwork has been recovered from excavations at the Grim's Ditch (Bradley in prep a) and a little at the nearby site of Whitecross Farm (Brown and Bradley in prep). The material from Grim's Ditch was very similar in composition to this assemblage and there was little in the way of diagnostic retouched forms (Bradley in prep a), the exceptions being a possible leaf-shaped arrowhead found close to the river and another example from fieldwalking of the Wallingford Bypass route (Bradley in prep a). A large assemblage of worked flint has recently been found in a pit associated with Fengate Ware at Wallingford Lower School (Bradley in prep b). A little flint was recovered from an individual burial from within a ring ditch at Newnham Murren; this burial is believed to be of middle Neolithic date (Moorey 1982, 58). Surface finds from the area include some Neolithic material (Oxford SMR nos 2198, 15523, 15494). Extensive surface surveys undertaken by Robin Holgate and Steve Ford have also recovered some Neolithic flintwork around Wallingford (Case 1982; Ford 1987; Holgate 1988). Further afield, Neolithic assemblages have been recovered from the causewayed enclosure at Abingdon (Avery 1982), the cursus at Drayton (Barclay *et al.* in prep) and various features at Barrow Hills, Radley (Barclay and Halpin forthcoming).

Table 1 Summary flint composition

Flakes	Blades, blade-like flakes etc	Cores	Retouched forms	Totals	Burnt unworked flint
77*	15	9 (4 multi-platform, 3 core fragments, 1 discoidal core, 1 tested nodule)	9 (3 serrated flakes, 3 retouched flakes, 1 miscellaneous retouched piece, 2 end and side scrapers)	110	6 (71 g)

*includes four core rejuvenation flakes (2 tablets 2 face/edge flakes)

Table 2 Summary by context

Context	Flakes	Blades, blade-like flakes etc	Cores	Retouched forms	Totals	Burnt unworked flint
902	10 (inc 1 core tablet)	-	1 multi-platform	1 serrated flake	12	-
903	3	1	-	-	4	-
904	27 (inc 2 CRF face/edge, 1 core tablet)	10	3 (1 multi-platform, 1 core fragment, 1 tested nodule)	3 (2 retouched flakes, 1 misc. retouch)	43	-
905	2	-	2 (1 discoidal, 1 core fragment)	-	4	-
909	7	-	2 (multi-platform)	-	9	2 (12 g)
913	4	-	-	1 (end and side scraper)	5	1 (25 g)
925	1	-	-	-	1	-
1110	1	-	-	-	1	-
1112	22	4	1 (core fragment)	4 (2 serrated flakes, 1 retouched flake, 1 end and side scraper)	31	3 (34 g)
Totals	77	15	9	9	110	6 (71 g)

Appendix 2

The prehistoric pottery

by Alistair Barclay

Introduction

The evaluation produced 177 sherds (539g) of mostly earlier Neolithic pottery. This material can be described as belonging to a Plain Bowl assemblage that would broadly date to 3750-3350 cal BC. Most of this pottery was concentrated in a single layer in Trench 9. The fresh condition, the presence of large sherds and refitting sherds indicate that the assemblage is largely in situ . The only decorated sherd is of later Neolithic date.

Methodology

The material was recorded and quantified by sherd count, weight, fabric group, decoration and form. Table 3 gives a breakdown by period and context of all the material.

Earlier Neolithic

One hundred and seventy five sherds of earlier Neolithic pottery were recovered from Contexts 903-4, 909, 913 and 1112. This material is manufactured from a range of fabrics that includes shell, flint, flint and sand and quartzite. A similar range of fabrics is found at the Abingdon causewayed enclosure (Avery 1982, 35). A single plain sherd manufactured from a quartzite-tempered fabric is unusual, as this fabric tends to be associated with later Neolithic pottery such as Peterborough Ware. However, this does not necessarily mean that it is of a later date.

A significant quantity of the earlier Neolithic pottery came from Context 904 and this includes 52 rim and body sherds from a single bowl that had probably been crushed in situ. The outturned rim and shoulderless form of this vessel as well as the shell-tempered fabric can be paralleled at the Abingdon causewayed enclosure (Avery 1982, fig 19.63 & 67). A second rim is of simple and everted form and can again be paralleled at Abingdon (Avery 1982, fig 19.71). None of this pottery is decorated and the assemblage can be described as Plain Bowl. The remaining contexts only contained body sherds. However, Context 909 contained eight refitting body sherds that formed the side of a single vessel.

Later Neolithic Peterborough Ware

A single rim with impressed whipped cord maggot decoration from Context 904 probably belongs to the Peterborough tradition of the later Neolithic.

Iron Age

A single small body sherd from Context 902 that is manufactured from a fabric containing sand and rare flint could be of Iron Age date.

Discussion

The Wallingford earlier Neolithic assemblage is important as relatively few sites with pottery of this date have been found on the Upper Thames gravels. However, comparable material has been found underneath the adjacent Grim's Ditch earthwork and from a Neolithic ring ditch at Newnham Murren. Other small assemblages are known from a number of sites between Goring and Abingdon. In terms of size, the assemblage from Wallingford is in general much larger than many of those recovered from these sites. The fresh condition and the presence of conjoining sherds and in one case part of a crushed vessel, suggest that the assemblage could represent in situ domestic activity. The overall condition, the number of sherds and range of fabrics could be taken to indicate that the scale of activity could potentially be quite large.

The Peterborough Ware rim is unusual but could belong to either the Ebbsfleet or Mortlake substyles. Peterborough Ware is quite common in this part of the Thames Valley. Similar material was found during the construction of the Grim's Ditch and a number of Mortlake Ware vessels have been dredged from this stretch of the River Thames (Holgate 1988).

Table 3

Context	Earlier Neolithic	Peterborough Ware	Iron Age	Total
902			1, 3g	1, 3g
903	5, 15g			5, 15g
904	138, 418g	1, 13g		139, 431g
909	15, 52g			15, 52g
913	15, 35g			15, 35g
1112	2, 3g			2, 3g
Total	175, 523g	1, 13g	1, 3g.	177, 539g

Appendix 3

The post-Roman pottery

By Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction

The Post-Roman pottery assemblage comprised ten sherds with a total weight of 296 g. Five sherds (278 g) were handmade early or middle Saxon wares, the rest medieval. The occurrence by number and weight of sherds by fabric type per context is shown in Table 4

Early/Middle Saxon

The fabrics are al typical of the handmade early/middle Saxon pottery in the south and east midlands (cf. Blinkhorn in prep) Due to the lack of diagnostic decorated material, it is not possible to date the assemblage other than to broadly within the early/middle Saxon period.

F1: Moderate to dense sub-rounded clear quartz up to 1 mm, with rare ironstone, chaff voids and calcareous material.

F2: Sparse to moderate sub-rounded grey and pink quartz up to 0.5 mm, sparse calcareous material (including ooliths) up to 0.5 mm. Rare fine silver mica.

F3: Moderate to dense chaff voids up to 3 mm, sparse to moderate sub-rounded quartz up to 1 mm, rare calcareous material up to 1 mm.

All the sherds were featureless, apart from a large base sherd from a large jar in context 919.

Medieval

All the fabrics are well-known in the region, and the same fabric classifications have been used as those of the Oxfordshire type-series (Mellor 1994). All the sherds were plain bodysherds, although the Brill/Boarstall sherd from Context 920 was from a glazed jug, and a very small (1 g) green-glazed OXY sherd from Context 1305 had applied scale decoration.

OXAQ: Late Saxon and Medieval East Wiltshire ware.

OXY: Medieval Oxford ware

OXAM: Brill/Boarstall ware: Medieval

Table 4: Post-Roman pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds by fabric type per context

Fabric	F1		F2		F3		OXAQ		OXY		OXAM		TPQ
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
905					2	10							EMS*
919	1	245	2	23									EMS*
920											1	3	13th C?
1305							1	3	3	12			12th C?
Totals	1	245	2	23	2	10	1	3	3	12	1	3	

* EMS = Early/middle Saxon

Appendix 4

Assessment of environmental indicators

By Greg Campbell & Elizabeth Stafford

In order to assess the quality of preservation of the various types of indicators of past environment during its periods of use, four samples were selected: the Neolithic possible occupation horizons 904 and 909, a charcoal-rich fill 1108 in the large un-dated ditch 1104, and the finds-rich upper fill 1112 in the early prehistoric pit 1114. The samples were all 40 litres in size, except for that from 1108 which was 8 litres.

To extract the charred plant remains and to sample the terrestrial snails, each sample was processed by mechanical flotation in a modified Siraf machine, with the sample supported on 0.5 mm mesh and the flot collected on 0.25 mm mesh. Following flotation the mineral residue was wet-sieved through 10, 4 and 2 mm sieves. The coarsest element was sorted for artefacts and animal bones, and finer residues scanned for artefacts. The middle-sized fraction (10-4 mm in size) was sorted and the finest fraction (4-2 mm) retained, if artefacts or other indicators were seen in the scanning.

Animal bones and artefacts were rare in all the samples. Some bones of the larger animals were present. Worked flint was found only in Layer 904 and Fill 1112. Scanning of the two finer mineral fractions from all the samples revealed no bones of small animals, and no small debitage characteristic of working of flint in the vicinity.

The remains of plants, recovered by flotation, were not rich in any of the samples. Apart from the ditch fill 1108, the bulk of all the flots were made up of modern herbaceous plant roots with small numbers of modern seeds and insect fragments, indicating that the soils are still biologically active and intrusive material may be present. Cokified coal fragments (a modern contaminant about the same size as the plant remains) were present in the two Neolithic occupation layers sampled (904 and 909).

Most of the charred (and therefore potentially ancient) plant remains in the flots were fragments of wood charcoal, too small to identify. This type of wood charcoal was the sole type of plant remains in ditch fill 1108. Pit fill 1112 produced the largest number of plant remains, about 30 identifiable items, mostly grains of corn. Neolithic occupation layers had very sparse charred remains: layer 904 contained a single unidentifiable grain, a piece of chaff (a culm node), and a small fragment of hazel nut shell, while the earlier layer (909) contained a single unidentifiable grain. While not worthy of further analysis in themselves, the remains from these layers would not be out of place in an early prehistoric occupation layer, and are present in concentrations broadly typical of such deposits.

Snails were abundant in all the deposits. However, those three flots dominated by modern roots also had burrowing forms of snails, so recent contamination is a possibility. Snails from two of the sampled deposits were scanned to characterise the range of snails present, and as an aid to interpreting the nature of the deposit. The un-dated ditch fill 1108 had a number of catholic forms (*Trichia hispida*, *Cochlicopa* sp., *Cepea* sp.) and a range that indicates a shady grassland habitat (*Carychium* sp., *Vallonia excentrica*, *V. costata*, *Retinella nitidula*, *Vertigo pygmaea*). The Neolithic occupation layer richest in snails, and with the lesser amount of intrusive material (layer 909) was similar, but with a smaller number of grassland types and with types characteristic of stagnant water (*Vlavata cristata, Planorbis carinatus*), and woodland (*Acanthinula aculeata, Discus rotundatus, Lauria cylindracea, Vertigo* sp.).

In conclusion, the samples demonstrate that charred remains, animal bones, and snails are preserved in the early prehistoric deposits in quantities that will allow these materials to be useful in reconstructing the subsistence and land-use during early prehistory. The possible occupation layers also contain subsistence evidence. While no preservation by waterlogging was observed, the river-side setting would argue that preservation by waterlogging of rare but important ecological indicators (pollen, insects, plant tissues, organic artefacts) may occur in some of the deeper deposits and bases of deep features.

Appendix 5

The animal bone

By N Scott

Introduction

A total of 505 bone fragments were recovered. Of this total 15% were identified to species and anatomical part. The bones were scanned for identification but ribs and vertebrae were not identified to species. The quantification of animal bone by species and context is given in Table 5.

The low identification percentage is accounted for in part by the highly fragmentary nature of some of the bone. In general the bone was in a reasonable state of preservation for that recovered from a Neolithic context although some surfaces were abraded. Cow, Pig, horse, red deer and dog bones were all represented. Sheep/goat bones were present but less represented. There were no obvious cut marks or burnt bone.

Table 5 Quantification of animal bone fragments by context and species.

	Cow	Pig	Red Deer	Horse	Sheep / Goat	Dog	Unidentified
902							10
903	1						11
904	20	4	1		7	2	111
905							2
909	5		4				41
913	7						6
918				9			94
919	1						2
1106							6
1107	2						42
1109							17
1110							6
1112			1				86
1202				1		2	3
1208							1
Total	36	4	6	10	7	4	438

In addition to the bones represented in the table above context 904 also contained an antler comb. The comb is probably made from the section of red deer antler where the brow tine joins the main shaft, the tine acting as a handle and there is some slight polishing on the surface. The antler shaft has been cut to provide nine prongs all of which have been broken. It is not possible to distinguish whether the antler was shed. At its widest point around the prongs the comb measures 173mm and 132mm at the greatest length.

Combs similar to this have been found at the Neolithic causewayed enclosure, Abingdon by Leeds. It is thought that they may be associated with skin dressing.

Appendix 6

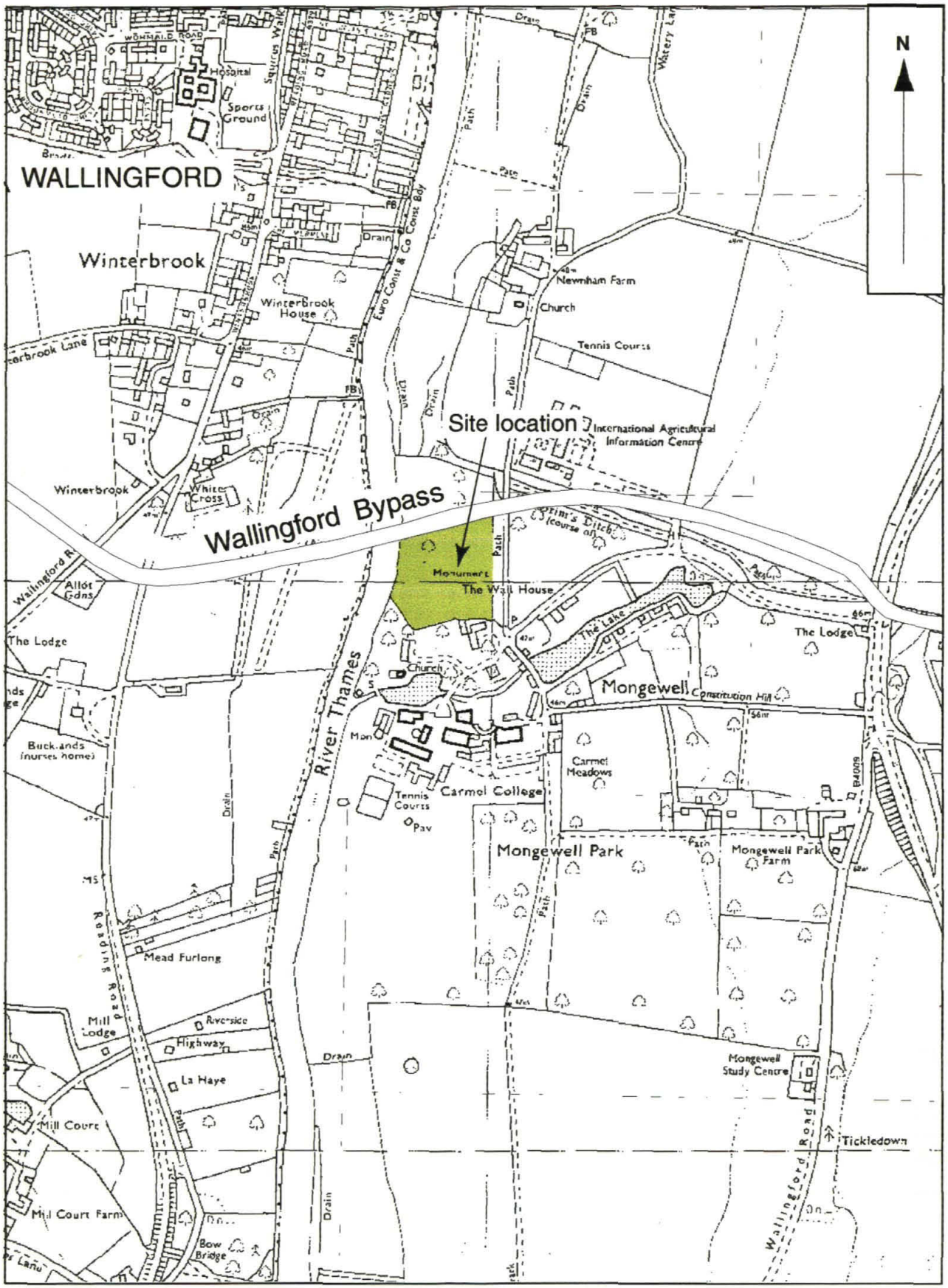
Archaeological context inventory

Trench	Ctxt	Type	width (m)	thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No.	Date
007								
	700	layer		0.20	Topsoil			
	701	layer		0.15	Earlier ploughsoil			
	702	layer		0.15	Alluvium			
	703	layer			Natural subsoil			
	704	Fill		0.20	F/o 705			
	705	cut	0.80	0.30	posthole			
	706	Fill			F/o 707			
	707	Cut	0.40	0.13	F/b 706			
	708	Fill			F/o 709			
	709	Cut	0.90	0.23	F/b 708			
	710	Fill			F/o 711			
	711	Cut	0.70	0.28	F/b 710			
008								
	800	Layer		0.20	Topsoil			
	801	Layer		0.15	Earlier ploughsoil			
	802	Layer		0.30	Earlier ploughsoil			
	803	Layer		0.30	Alluvium			
	804	Layer			Natural subsoil			
009								
	900	Layer		0.25	Topsoil			
	901	Layer		0.25	Earlier ploughsoil			
	902	Layer		0.20	Alluvium	Bone IA Pot? Flint	10 1 12	
	903	layer			Same as 908	Bone Neo. Pot Flint	12 5 4	
	904	Layer		0.20	Former occupation horizon	Bone Neo. Pot Flint	145 139 43	
	905	Fill	0.50	0.17	F/o 912	Bone Sax. Pot	2 2	

Trench	Ctxt	Type	width (m)	thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No.	Date
						Flint	4	
	906	Fill			Modern fill			
	907	Fill			F/o 923			
	908	Layer			Same as 915			
	909	Layer		0.24	Former occupation horizon	Bone Neo. Pot Flint	50 15 9	
	910	Layer			Natural alluvium			
	911	Layer			Natural alluvium			
	912	Cut	0.50	0.17	Gully			
	913	Layer			Same as 909	Bone Neo. Pot Flint	13 15 5	
	914	Layer		0.17	Alluvium			
	915	Layer		0.22	Alluvium			
	916	Layer			Alluvium			
	917	Layer		0.32	Alluvium			
	918	Fill	2.20	0.30	F/o 922			
	919	Fill			F/o	Bone Sax. Pot	3 3	
	920	Fill	2.70	0.24	F/o 922	Med. pot	1	13th cent?
	921	Fill	2.70	0.24	F/o 922			
	922	Cut			Ditch			
	923	Cut			Pit			
	924	Layer		0.22	Earlier ploughsoil. Same as 901			
	925	Fill	0.90	0.14	F/o 923	Flint	1	
	926	Layer		0.10				
	927	Layer			Alluvium			
	928	Layer			Natural gravel			
	929	Cut	0.34		Post hole			
	930	Fill	0.34		F/o 929			
	931	Cut	2.10	0.26	F/b 919			
010								
	1000	Layer		0.20	Topsoil			
	1001	Layer		0.20	Earlier ploughsoil			

Trench	Ctxt	Type	width (m)	thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No.	Date
	1002	Layer		0.15	Alluvium			
	1003	Layer			Natural sand and gravel			
	1004	Fill	1.10 x 0.60	0.06	Tree hole fill			
	1005	Cut		0.06	Tree hole			
	1006	Fill	0.15	0.07	Root hole fill. F/o 1007			
	1007	Cut	0.15	0.07	Root hole			
	1008	Fill	0.20 x 0.15	0.04	Root hole fill. F/o 1009			
	1009	Cut	0.20 x 0.15	0.04	Root hole			
011								
	1100	Layer		0.20	Topsoil			
	1101	Layer		0.22	Earlier ploughsoil			
	1102	Layer		0.20	Alluvium			
	1103	Layer			Natural sandy silt with chalk and flint			
	1104	Cut	3.0	1.08	Ditch			
	1105	Fill		0.10	F/o 1104			
	1106	Fill		0.18	F/o 1104	Bone	6	
	1107	Fill		0.26	F/o 1104	Bone	44	
	1108	Fill		0.05	F/o 1104			
	1109	Fill		0.14	F/o 1104	Bone	17	
	1110	Fill		0.14	F/o 1104	Bone Flint	6 1	
	1111	Fill		0.40	F/o 1104			
	1112	Fill		0.10	F/o 1114	Bone Neo. Pot Flint	87 2 31	
	1113	Fill		0.08	F/o 1114			
	1114	Cut		0.18	Pit			
012								
	1201	Layer		0.24	Topsoil			
	1202	Layer		0.40	Earlier ploughsoil	Bone	6	
	1203	Layer		0.30	Alluvium			
	1204	Layer			Natural gravel			
	1205	Fill		0.18	Palaeo-channel material			
	1206	Fill	0.90	0.05	Hedgerow remains			

Trench	Ctxt	Type	width (m)	thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No.	Date
	1207	Cut	0.90	0.05	Former hedgerow			
	1208	Fill	Unclear	0.40	F/o 1209	Bone	1	
	1209	Cut	Unclear	0.40	Pit ?. not fully exposed			
013								
	1301				Topsoil			
	1302				Earlier ploughsoil			
	1303	Fill	0.30					Post-medieval
	1304	Fill			Pit			Post-medieval
	1305	Fill			F/o 1309	Med. pot	4	12th cent?
	1306	Layer			Natural gravel			
	1307	Layer			Alluvium			
	1308	Layer			Alluvium			
	1309	Fill			Quarry pit ?			



scale 1:10,000

Figure 1: Site location

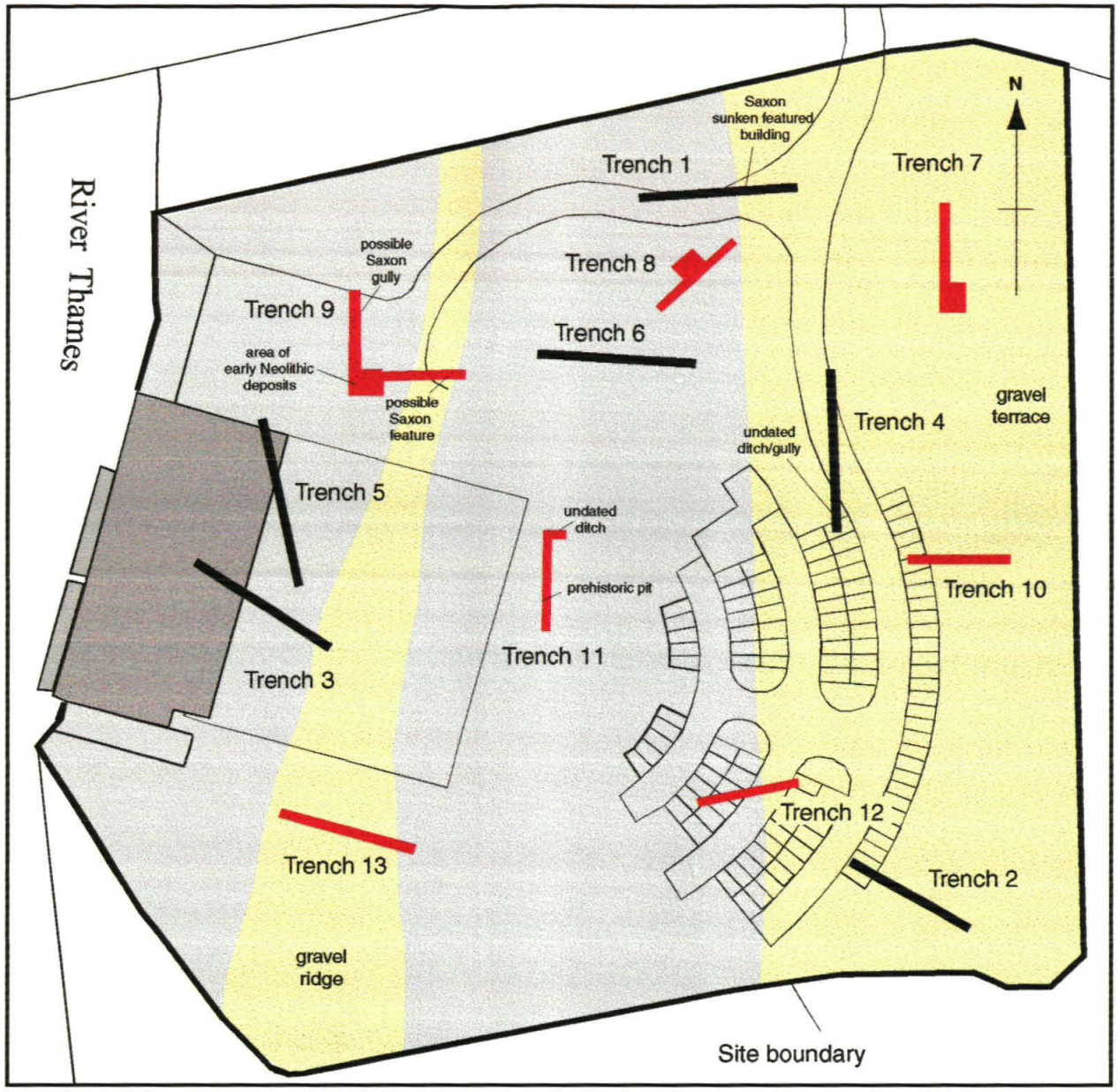


Figure 2: Trench locations

\\lesley\C:\oau\evaluations\WRCHEV2.ai

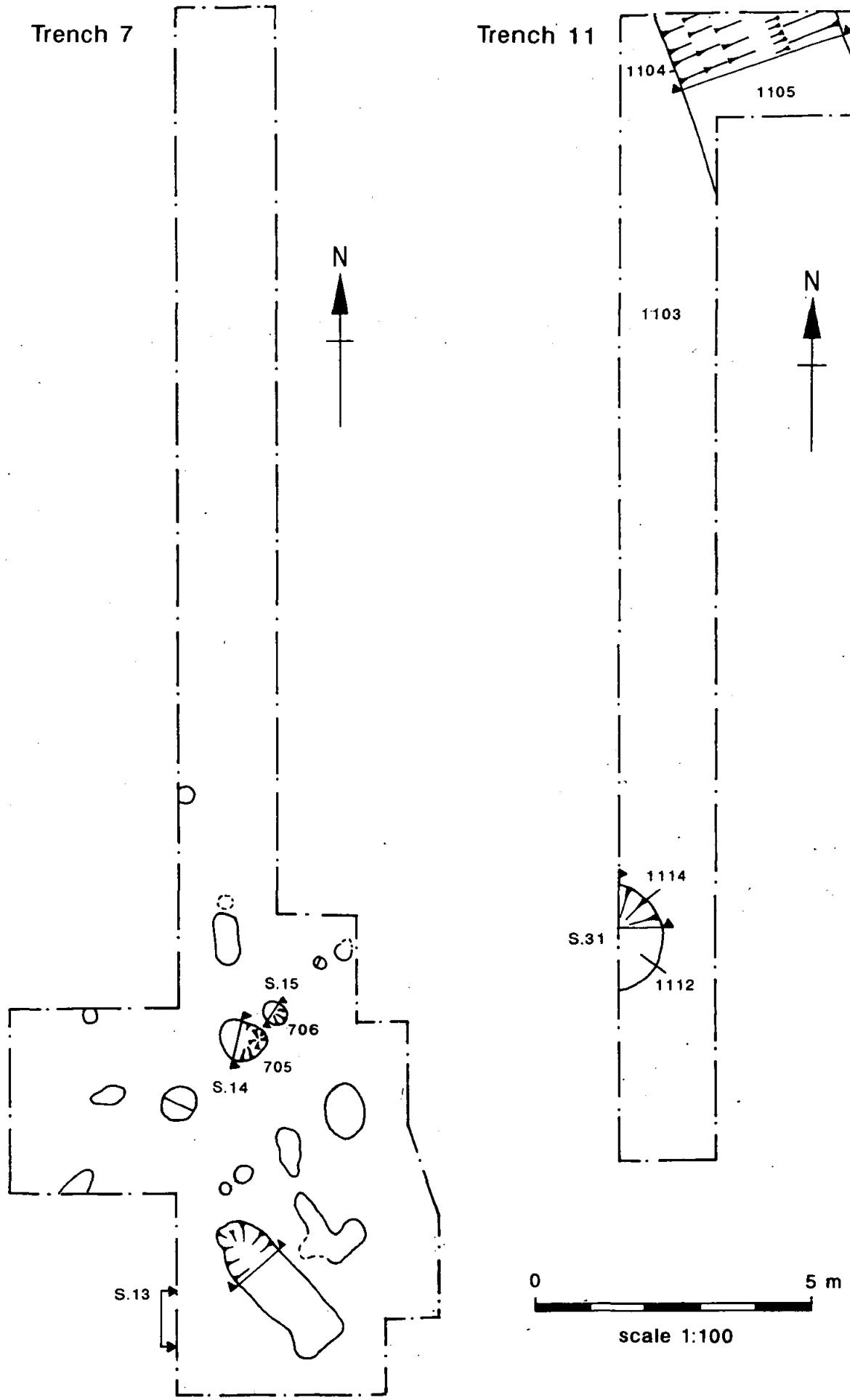
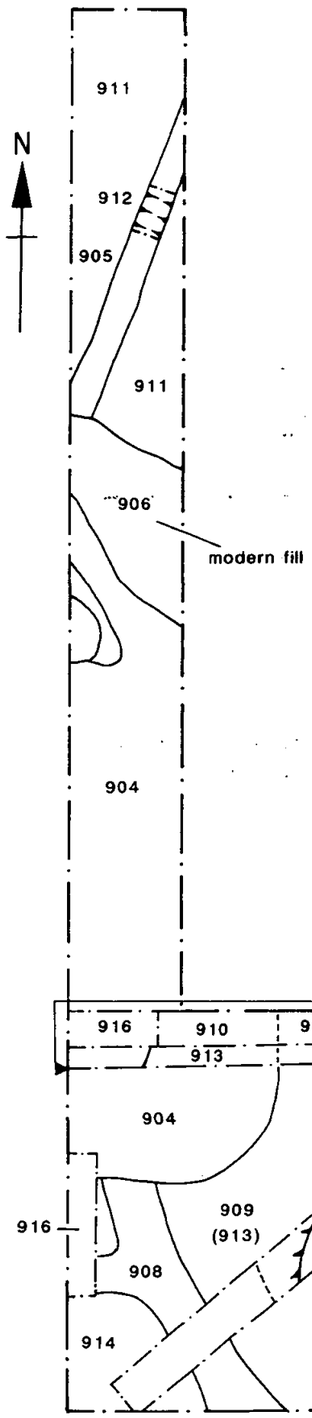
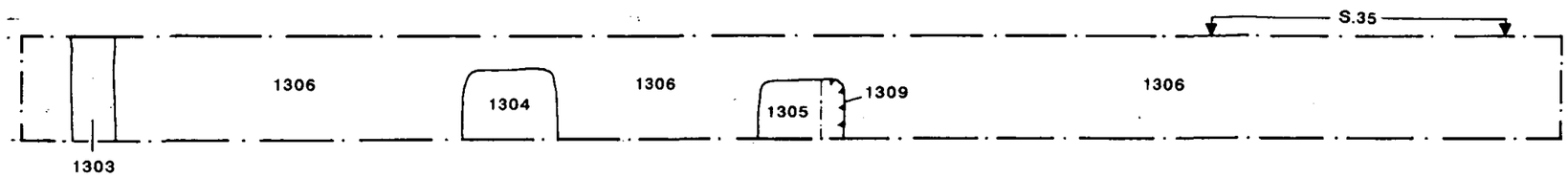

Trench 7
N
S.15
706
705
S.14
S.13
Trench 11
S.26
1104
1105
1103
N
1114
S.31
1112
0
5 m
scale 1:100

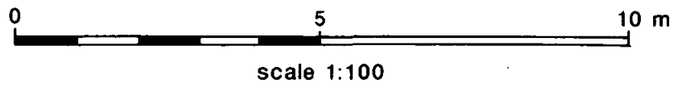
Figure 3

Trench 9



Trench 13





scale 1:100

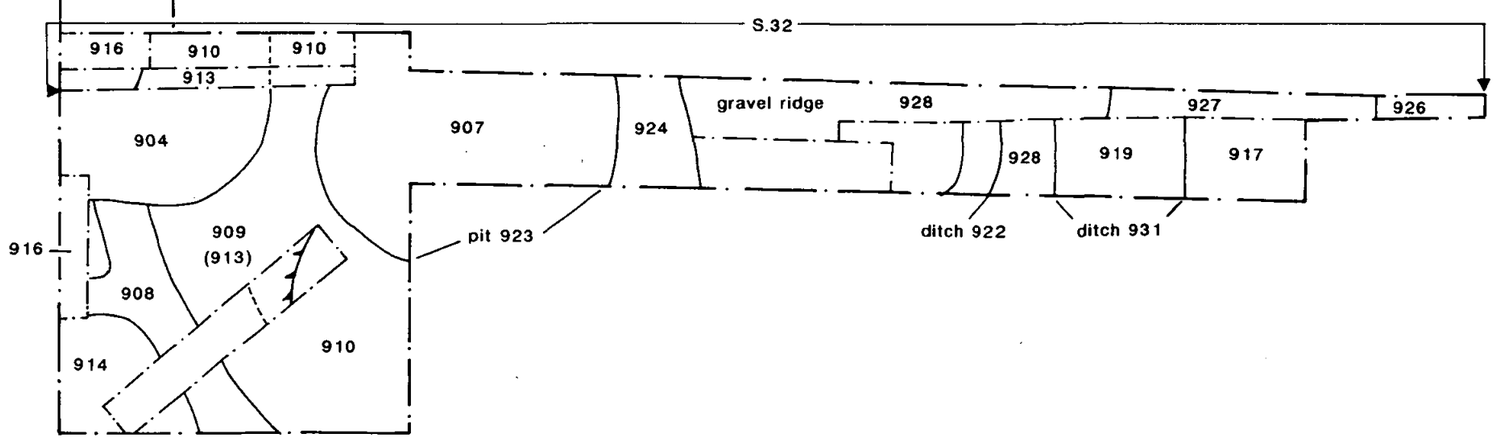
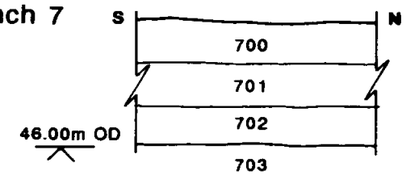


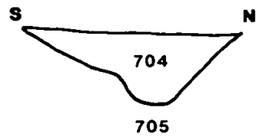
Figure 4

Trench 7

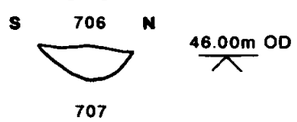
S.13



S.14

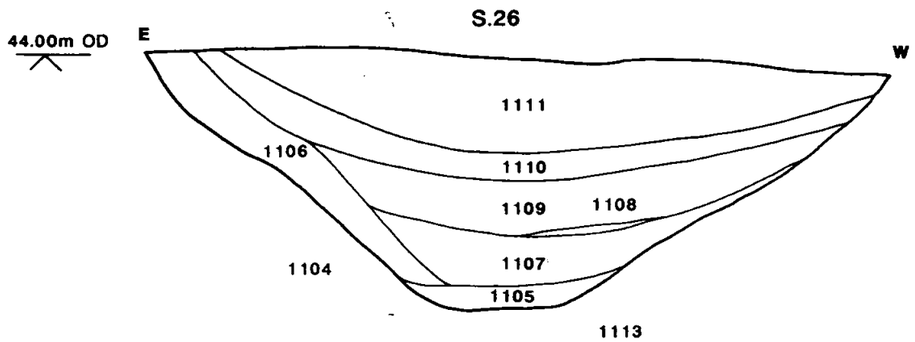


S.15

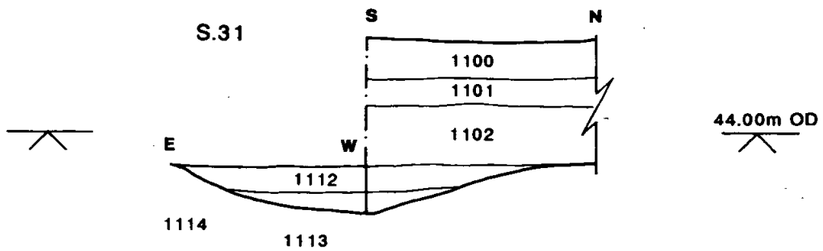


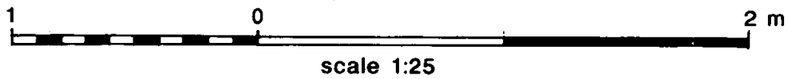
Trench 11

S.26



S.31





scale 1:25

Trench 13

S.35

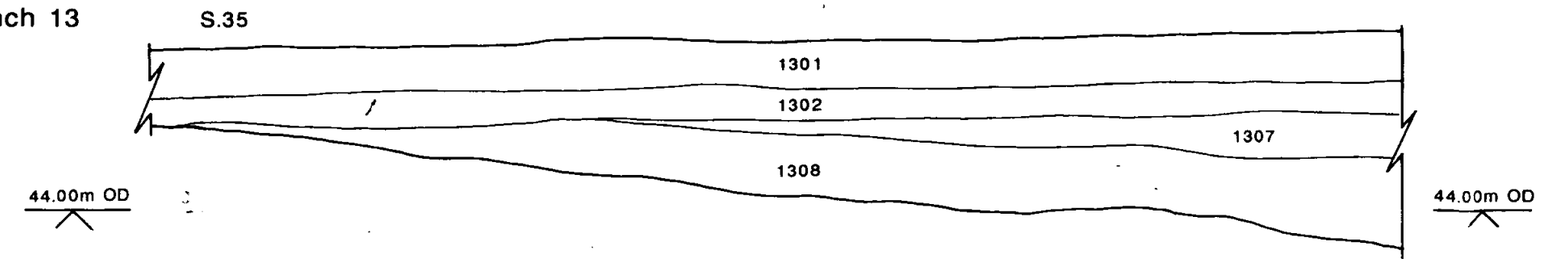


Figure 5

Trench 9 S.32

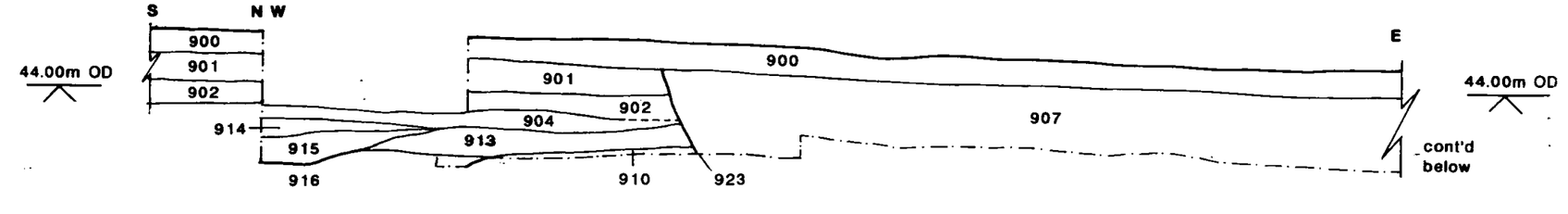


Figure 6

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