



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

MEADOW BARN. MERTON ROAD,

AMBROSDEN,

OXFORDSHIRE

NGR : SP 6015 1927

MAY 2019

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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological evaluation at Meadow Barn, Merton Road, Ambrosden, Oxfordshire. The evaluation identified an undated linear ditch containing animal bone, a pit containing post-medieval material and what was either a large pit or several intercutting pits containing a mixture of material which included medieval pottery but also later brick and glass.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The site is located to the north of Jaspers Road and south and west of the railway line, Ambrosden (SP 6015 1927) (Fig.1). The site is currently in agricultural use. The site is situated at approximately 60 metres OD and the underlying geology is shown as Cornbrash.

1.2 Planning Background

Planning consent has been granted from Cherwell District Council for the erection of two new detached dwellings with associated detached garages on land at Meadow Barn, Merton Road, Ambrosden, Bicester, OX25 2LZ (18/01076/F). Due to the potential of the site to contain archaeological remains two conditions were attached. Condition 7 stated that:

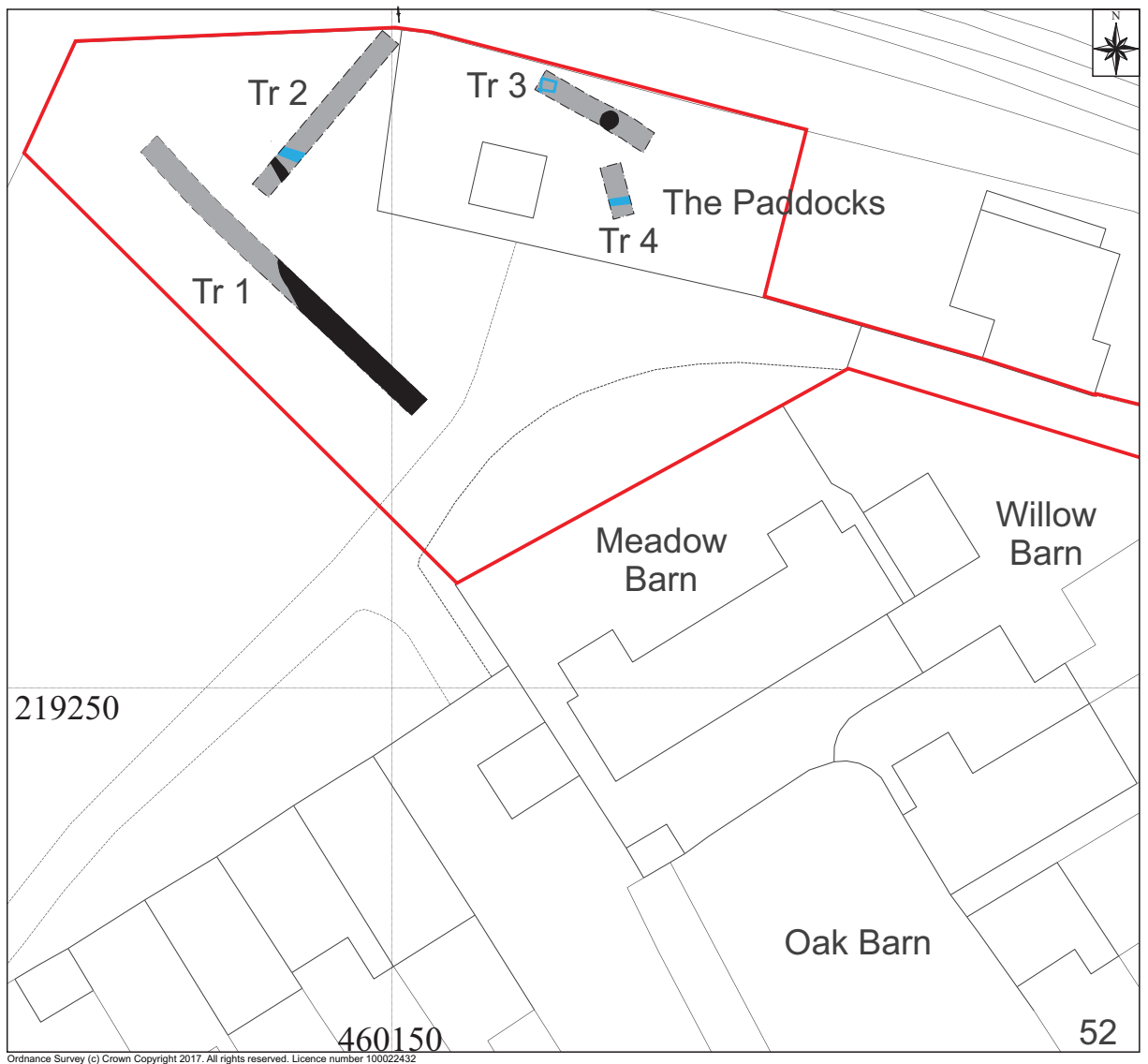
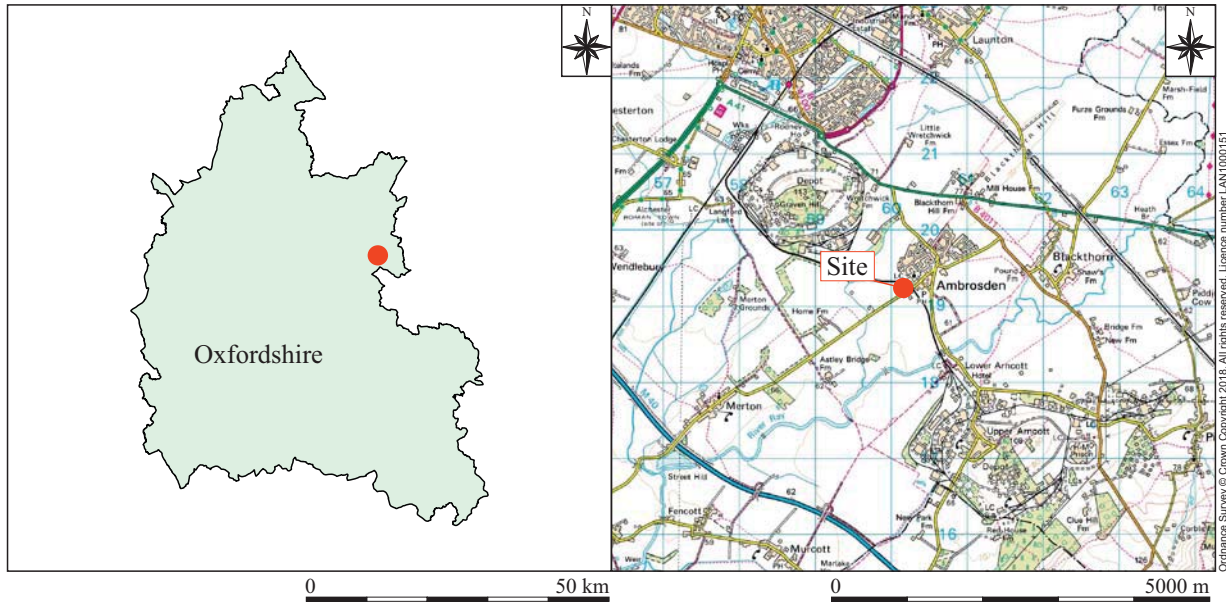
Prior to any demolition and the commencement of the development a professional archaeological organisation acceptable to the Local Planning Authority shall prepare an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation, relating to the application site area, which shall first have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard the recording of archaeological matters within the site in accordance with the NPPF (2012).

Condition 8 stated that:

Following the approval of the Written Scheme of Investigation referred to in condition 7, and prior to any demolition on the site and the commencement of the development (other than in accordance with the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation), a staged programme of archaeological evaluation and mitigation shall be carried out by the commissioned archaeological organisation in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. The programme of work shall include all processing, research and analysis necessary to produce an accessible and useable archive and a full report for publication which shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard the identification, recording, analysis and archiving of heritage assets before they are lost and to advance understanding of the heritage assets in their wider context through publication and dissemination of the evidence in accordance with the NPPF (2012).



Key Site boundary Evaluation trenches
 Archaeological features Modern Features

Figure 1: Site location

1.3 Archaeological Background

The area concerned lies within an area of some archaeological interest located 180m to the north-west of the site of a medieval Manor House (PRN 5657); a substantial building which returned 13 hearths in 1665, during the ownership of Francis Mildmay, and was still extant when a new house was built to the north in 1673. The exact location of the manor house is unknown and it is therefore considered possible that aspects of this Manor could be disturbed by this development. The site of a second large house, Ambrosden Hall, is located 110m north of the proposal site. This Hall was constructed after 1673 and pulled down in 1768.

The site is also located 120m south of a series of undated features that were recorded, along with Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools, during a pipeline excavation (PRN 16825).

Recent archaeological work 650m to the north-west of the site has recorded a series of Iron Age roundhouses and Roman and Saxon ditches (PRN 27985).

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To undertake Stage 1 archaeological evaluation of the site as a first stage of a programme of archaeological work.
- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site and the depth of soil deposits that overlie these remains.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the degree of complexity of any horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
- To determine the impact of the proposed development on any remains present.

In particular

- To determine whether any remains relating to the medieval Manor are present on the site.

To determine whether any remains relating to earlier periods are present on the site.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (JMHS 2019) agreed with Oxfordshire County Archaeological

Services (OCAS) and subsequently Cherwell District Council. The Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation detailed the overarching scope and methodology to satisfy Condition 7. It provided for the implementation of a programme of archaeological works that would comprise of an initial stage of trial trenching (Stage 1) and any subsequent detailed excavation and/or archaeological monitoring and recording (Stage 2), and the reporting of these results, as appropriate, to ensure the satisfactory discharge of Condition 8. This report records the results of Stage 1, trial trenching.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).

3.2 Methodology

The evaluation was to be carried out by way of the excavation of 60m of evaluation trenching; each trench being 1.65m wide. The initial trench layout was to for two 30m trenches; however, due to obstructions on the ground the trenching was split into four trenches. The four trenches were located across the footprints of the proposed dwellings. Trench 1 was 28.5m in length, Trench 2 was 15m in length, Trench 3 was 10m in length and Trench 4 was 5m long. Each trench was excavated down to the highest archaeological horizon or the natural geology.

Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was also produced.

4 RESULTS (Figures 2 and 3)

Trench 1 (Figure 2, Plan 1.01, Sections 1.01, 1.03-1.04; Plate 1)

Trench 1 was excavated down to the natural cornbrash geology which was a reddish and yellowish brown silty clay with very dominant presence of limestone (1/05) (Fig. 2, Section 1.01). Deposited above this in the north-west half of the trench was a compact deposit of mid-brownish orange silty loam subsoil with frequent small stone inclusions (1/02). The deposit was 0.14m thick and appeared to be absent from the south-east of the trench where it had been possibly removed by later activity. At 12.2m to the south-east of the trench was what was identified as either a large pit or several intercutting pits, 1/06 (Fig. 2, Plan 1.01, Section 1.03). The edge of the feature was only identified in the north-west because the extent of the feature extended beyond the limits of the excavation in all other directions. The pit cut had shallow slightly concave sides and curving edge towards the north-west, 1/06 (Fig. 2, Section 1.03: Plate 1). The fill was a mid to dark greyish brown silty loam with frequent sub-angular stone inclusions (1/04). Fragments of brick, glass and pottery were recovered from the fill. Pit 1/07 was the number allocated to the far south-east end the area of disturbed ground that appeared to be continuous with cut 1/06. The pits may have been one continuous large pit or they may have both been part of several intercutting pits. It was not possible to identify the edges of the pit as they continued beyond the limits of excavation, however the excavation identified the pit as being 0.7m in depth at this point. The original excavation of the pit had cut through the natural deposits (1/05) onto a bluish grey clay and limestone (1/09). The fill of Pit 1/07 was a dark

bluish grey and brown clay loam (1/08) (Fig. 2, Section 1.04). The fill contained rare fragments of limestone and occasional bricks and rare bone fragments. Overlying the area of this large pit or pits and extending for 7.2m towards the north-west in section was a deposit of light yellow and brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions (1/03). The deposit was 0.58m thick and contained frequent brick inclusions. This may have been dumped material relating to the construction of the nearby houses or it may have been an earlier made ground deposit. The highest deposit was a 0.34m to 0.44m thick topsoil deposit of dark grey orange brown silty loam with moderate stone inclusions (1/01). Part of this deposit was overlying the made ground and it may have been later deposit. It was, however, not clearly distinguishable from the topsoil overlying the subsoil deposits in the south-west half of the trench.

Trench 2 (Figure 2, Plan 2.01, Sections 2.01 to 2.04)

The lowest deposit identified in Trench 2 was an orange-brown silty clay with dominant limestone (2/03) and this was identified as the natural geology (Fig. 2, Section 2.01). Cutting the natural geology towards the south-west of the trench was a ditch, 2/05 (Figure 2, Plan 2.01, Sections 3.03 to 2.04). The ditch was recorded as 0.55m and 0.67m wide but had been truncated slightly in plan during machining and may have been closer to 0.85m wide. The ditch was 0.28m deep with concave sides and a rounded base and extended for greater than 1.7m in a NNW to SSE direction. The fill of the ditch was a single deposit of mid-reddish brown silty loam with moderate to frequent limestone inclusions (2/06). The fill contained fragments of animal bone but no other finds. Overlying the natural towards the north-west of the trench was a 0.32m thick deposit of mid to light greyish brown, silty loam (2/02) (Fig. 2, Section 2.01). The deposit contained frequent limestone inclusions and was identified as a made-ground deposit. The made ground deposit did not appear to extend further than approximately 7m to the south-west at which point the remains of a relict subsoil were identified (2/04) (Fig. 2, Section 2.02). The subsoil was 0.1m thick and consisted of a mid to dark reddish grey-brown silty loam with moderate limestone inclusions. The deposit was diffuse and was only observed extending for approximately 1.7m. It was not clear if Ditch 2/05 had cut through the subsoil or if the deposit was absent from this part of the trench. Overlying these deposits was the lower topsoil (2/07) which was 0.2m thick deposit which was not visible across the whole of the trench. This deposit had been cut by a service pipe trench which had been backfilled with a sooty black fill. The uppermost deposit was the upper topsoil (2/01) this was a 0.2m thick mid-greyish brown deposit containing moderate inclusions of small to medium angular limestone.

Trench 3 (Figure 3, Plan 3.01, Sections 3.01 to 3.02; Plate 2)

Trench 3 was excavated down to the natural geology which was a reddish brown silty clay with a dominant presence of limestone (3/03) (Fig. 3, Section 3.01). This deposit was identified as the natural cornbrash geology found across the site. Overlying the geology was a 0.18m thick deposit of mid reddish brown subsoil (3/02). A sub-rounded pit was observed cutting the subsoil, 3/05. The pit had a flattish base and uneven, slightly convex sides. It was 0.27m deep and 1.25m wide. The length of the pit was approximately 1.3m although a small part of the southerly end of the pit extended beyond the southerly baulk of the trench. The pit was filled by a single fill of mid-greyish brown silty loam (3/04) (Fig. 3 Section 3.02: Plate 2). The deposit contained moderate inclusions of small angular limestone and frequent very fine

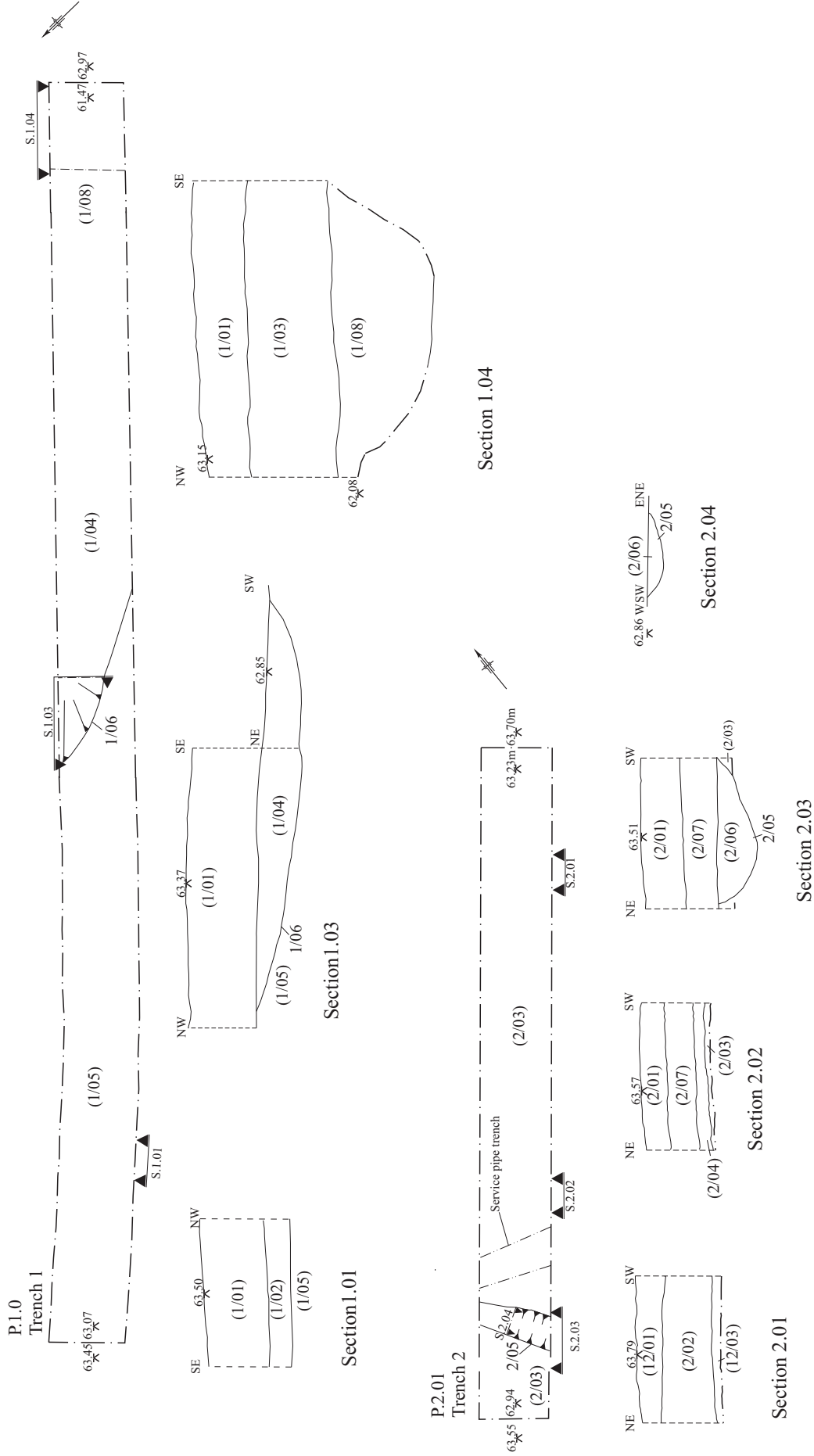


Figure 2: Trenches 1-2 and sections

roots. The deposit also contained pottery, tile and a fragment of coke. At the far WNW of the trench was a brick soakaway with a plastic drainage pipe running into it. The uppermost deposit was a 0.3m thick garden soil (3/01).

Trench 4 (Figure 3, Plan 4.01, Section 4.01)

Trench 4 was located near to Trench 3 in the garden area of the site. The lowest deposit was the natural cornbrash geology (4/03). Deposited above this was a 0.2m thick mid-reddish brown silty loam subsoil (4/02). A service pipe trench was recorded running across the area of the trench. This contained a blackened sooty fill and was the same as the service pipe trench identified in Trench 2. Plastic water pipes were



Plate 1. Section 1.3, Pit 1/06. South-East View



Plate 2. Section 3.02, Pit 3/05. North-West View

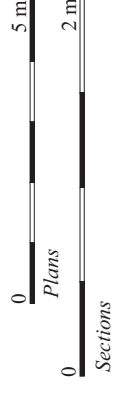
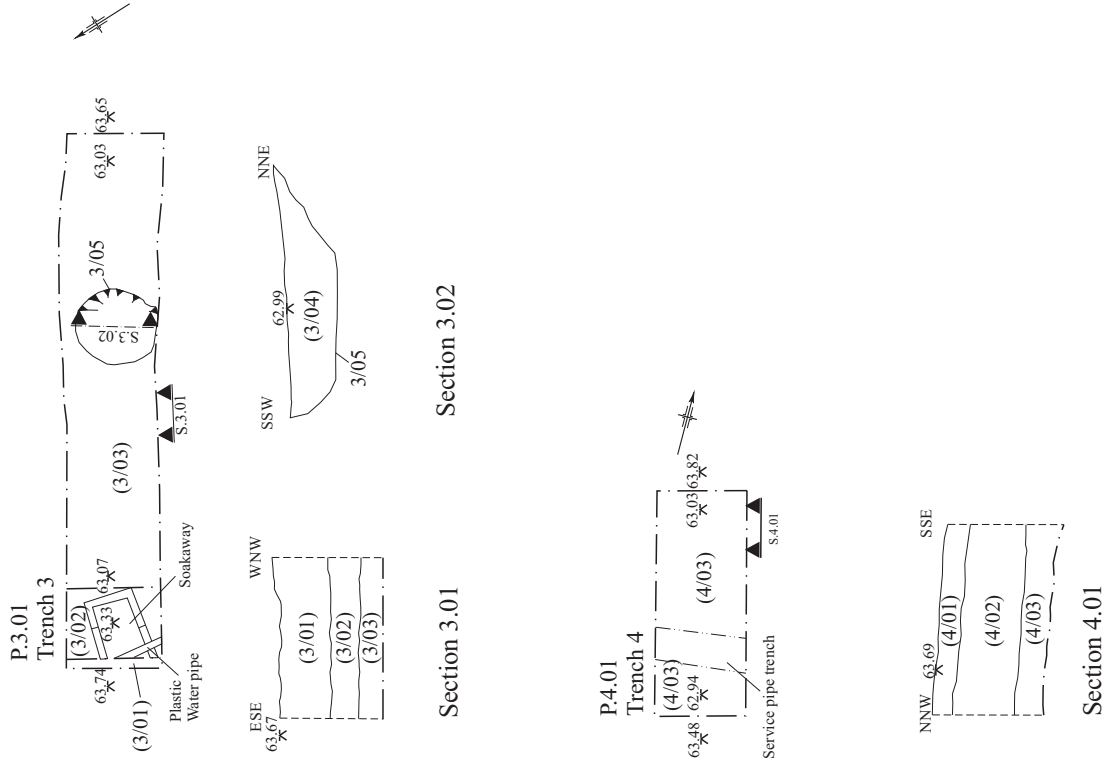


Figure 3: Trenches 3-4 and sections

also identified in the southerly end of the trench that were servicing the current welfare facilities on site. The uppermost deposit was a 0.26m thick deposit of topsoil (4/01).

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 7 sherds with a total weight of 124g. It is all medieval or later, and was recorded using the conventions of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1994), as follows:

OXY: Medieval Oxford Ware, AD1075–1350. 2 sherds, 32g.
OXAM: Brill/Boarstall Ware, AD1200 – 1600. 1 sherd, 15g.
OBX: Late Brill/Boarstall Ware, 15th – 17th century. 4 sherds, 77g.

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

The sherds of OXY are from the base of a jar, and the fragment of OXAM is from a glazed jug. They are typical products of the traditions. The rest of the assemblage is plain bodysherds from large, unglazed vessels with one or two splashes of glaze. They may be fragments of Brill plant-pots, which were made until the early 20th century.

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

Tr	Cntxt	OXY		OXAM		OBX		Date
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	4	2	32	1	15			13thC
2	1					2	71	PMED
3	4					2	6	PMED
	Total	2	32	1	15	4	77	

5.2 Animal Bone by Simona Denis

19 animal bone fragments, weighing 274.2g in total, were recovered during the archaeological work. The state of preservation of the material is generally fair, although extremely fragmentary; none of the items recovered was complete.

Table 2: Animal bone occurrence by context and type

Context	Taxon	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Marks	Comments
1/04	Cow	Proximal radius	9	202		Conjoining
	Large mammal	Undetermined long bone cortex	1	16	?Slice	
	Mammal	Undetermined cortex	1	0.3		
1/08	?Sheep/Goat	Mandible	1	8.7	?Slice	
2/06	?Sheep/Goat	Scapula	5	34	Chop	Conjoining
3/04	?Horse	Molar	1	12.6		
	Mammal	Undetermined cortex	1	0.6		
Total			19	274.2		

16 of the remains were identified on the basis of the observation of Genus-specific characteristics. One additional item was attributed to a 'large mammal' (usually comprising cattle and horse) of undetermined species (O'Connor 2003) exclusively on the basis of the size range of the fragments. The two remaining fragments were too small to retain any diagnostic feature, and were therefore generically attributed to 'mammal'.

Due to the variable sizes and robustness of animal bones taphonomic factors may favour preservation of certain species, resulting in the under-representation of other, smaller animals (Kasumally 2002).

Sheep/Goat was the most represented *taxa*, with six fragments representing one mandible and one scapula. Cow and horse were equally represented by a proximal radius and one molar respectively.

Butchering evidence was recorded on three of the bone fragments. A single chop mark was noted on the ovine scapula recovered from deposit (2/06), the single fill of ditch 2/05, while multiple possible slice marks were observed on the sheep/goat mandible found in (1/08), the fill of pit 1/07, and on the large mammal cortex collected from the fill of pit 1/06.

Animal bone fragments recovered from post-medieval deposits, with no butchering marks or noticeable features are not recommended for retention.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material by *Simona Denis*

A small assemblage of 12 ceramic building material fragments, of a combined weight of 810.6g, was hand-collected during the excavations. Although extremely fragmentary, the state of preservation of the material was good and allowed the identification of the type for the vast majority (over 83%) of the fragments.

Table 2: Ceramic building material occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Comments	Date Range
1/04	Roof tile	1	34.1		Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Brick	1	192	Thickness: 46mm	?Late Medieval
	Undetermined	1	13.1		Undetermined
1/08	Brick	3	74		Undetermined
		1	282	Thickness: 50mm	?Post-Medieval
2/01	Peg tile	1	82.4	Partial circular peg hole	Medieval to Post-Medieval
2/02	Brick	2	76		Undetermined
3/04	Roof tile	1	53.3		Medieval to Post-

					Medieval
	Undetermined	1	3.7		Undetermined
	Total	12	810.6		

58% of the assemblage was composed of 7 brick fragments, tentatively dated to the Medieval or Post-Medieval period. None of the objects was complete; thickness represented the only complete dimension preserved in 2 of the examples.

Traces of mortar were observed on the largest fragments recovered from deposit (1/08), the single fill of pit 1/07, and deposit (2/02), a layer of made-up ground.

Three of the items identified as originating from roof tiles; of these, one example collected from topsoil (2/01) preserved a partial circular peg hole, and was therefore identified a peg tile.

Roof tiles are almost totally functional and their characteristics change very little over time; also, good quality roof tiles were often reused. Hand-made peg tiles were also commonly used until the 19th century, when machine-made tiles became popular. Consequently, the potential for dating evidence of plain roof tiles remains limited, and only a broad date from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval period can be suggested.

The original function of the remaining two items, found in deposits (1/04) and (3/04), rests undetermined due to the extremely small size of the fragments and the lack of any diagnostic feature.

It is not recommended to retain the fragmentary brick and plain tile examples due to their very limited potential for further analysis.

5.4 Glass by Simona Denis

A very limited quantity of eight glass fragments, of a combined weight of 246.7g, was recovered from two deposits. The material was in a poor state of preservation, fragmentary and affected by iridescence.

Table 4: Glass occurrence by context and type

Context	Colour	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Type	Comments	Date Range
1/04	Olive green	5	17.1	Vessel	Conjoining	Post-Medieval
		1	3.4	Vessel	Iridescence	
2/01	Olive green	1	222	Onion or Mallet bottle	Dome-shaped push-up base. Iridescence	18 th -19 th C
	Undetermined	1	4.2	Vessel	Iridescence	Post-Medieval
Total		8	246.7			

All of the items were positively identified as Post-Medieval vessels or bottles. The fragments from deposit (1/04) presented small bubbles and straw marks, probably indicating a late Post-Medieval manufacturing date. The largest fragment, collected

from topsoil (2/01), was the dome-shaped push-up base of a wine bottle of the onion or mallet type, dated to the 18th-19th century.

It is not recommended to retain the glass fragments due to their poor state of preservation, incompleteness, and very limited potential for further analysis.

5.5 Other Finds *by Simona Denis*

Stone

Two fragments of limestone, of a combined weight of 1263.2g, were recovered from two different deposits.

The item collected from (1/04), the single fill of pit 1/06, was a roughly squared fragment measuring 130x88x67mm and weighing 1210g. One of the faces was squared, and one tool mark was observed on the opposite face. The stone was probably roughly worked to be inserted in a wall or structure. The smaller fragment, weighing 53.2g and measuring 50mm in length, was recovered from deposit (2/02), a layer of made-up ground. No marks were observed on the item.

It is not recommended to retain the limestone fragments, due to their limited potential for further analysis.

Coke

A single fragment of coke, weighing 0.7g, was found during the archaeological works. Derived from coal, coke is a fuel with high carbon content used in Britain from the Late Medieval period. The material was recovered from deposit (3/04), the single fill of pit 3/05.

The coke fragment is not recommended for retention due to its very limited potential for further analysis.

6 DISCUSSION

The earliest finds recovered from the site were three fragments of medieval pottery recovered from a pit in Trench 1. This was recovered from the northerly part of a fill of what was either one large pit or several intercutting pits. The excavation also recovered a brick which was possibly late medieval and a tile that may have been medieval or post-medieval. However the glass recovered from the same fill would date the deposit to the post-medieval and so it is likely that the earlier material is residual. At the south-east end of the trench part of the fill of this large pit was excavated but only brick of possible post-medieval date and a few fragments of animal bone were recovered. It is possible that the large pit or intercutting pits were related to quarrying on the site.

The ditch identified in Trench 2 was undated, although animal bone was recovered from the fill.

A further smaller pit was identified in Trench 3 which contained a fragment of coke and post-medieval pottery that may have been fragments of Brill plant-pots which were still produced into the 20th century. The pit had fill which appeared to have a

good amount of humus and fine rooting and may have been horticultural or agricultural in origin.

No archaeological finds or features that could be dated to before the medieval period were recovered from the site.

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief
Written scheme of investigation
The project report
The primary site record

Physical record

Finds

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to the Oxfordshire County Museums Service with accession number OXCMS: 2019.40

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Context	Type	Description	Depth/thickness	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1								
1/01	Deposit	Loose/friable, dark orange brown silty loam with moderate inclusions of small sub-angular limestone	0.34m-0.44m	>1.65m	>28m	None	Topsoil, disturbed towards south-east and may be several deposits which were undifferentiated	Modern
1/02	Deposit	Compact mid-brownish orange silty loam with frequent inclusions of small sub angular limestone	0.14m	>1.65m	>15.5m	None	Subsoil That was not present in the whole of the trench disappearing towards the south east where it had probably been removed by digging activity, perhaps quarrying	Undated
1/03	Deposit	Friable light yellow grey brown, silty clay with frequent sub-angular medium sized stone inclusions and frequent fragments of ceramic brick or tile	0.58m	>1.65m	>7.2m	Brick fragments (not recovered)	Made ground of dumped material possibly deposited during the construction of or following the construction of nearby houses	? Post-medieval
1/04	Deposit	Friable, dark brown silty loam with frequent inclusions of sub-angular stone	0.3m	>1.65m	>1.6m- >12.2m	Pottery, bone, glass, ceramic brick and tile	Fill of a pit 1/06 which looked to be part of a large quarry pit or several smaller intercutting ones.	Post-medieval
1/05	Deposit	Reddish brown silty clay with frequent limestone inclusions	>0.05m	>1.65m	>28m	-	Natural- Cornbrash Formation - Limestone.	Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period.
1/06	Cut	Rounded cut with a shallow break of slope and concave sides.	0.3m	>1.65m	>1.6m- >12.2m	-	Cut of a pit which looked to be part of a large quarry pit or several smaller intercutting ones. Filled by 1/06. May be the same as cut 1/07	Post-medieval
1/07	Cut	Cut of possible pit with unknown edges, possibly rounded.	0.7m	>1.65m	>1.85m- >10.75	-	Cut of a pit which extended beyond the limits of exaction in three directions. Looked to be part of a large quarry pit or several smaller intercutting ones. Filled by 1/08. May be the same as cut 1/06	Post-medieval
1/08	Deposit	Dark bluish grey silty clay loam with rare limestone fragments and occasional brick fragments	0.7m	>1.65m	>1.85m- >10.75	Brick, bone	Fill of a pit 1/07 which looked to be part of a large quarry pit or several smaller intercutting ones.	Post-medieval

1/09	Deposit	bluish grey clay and limestone	>0.05m	>1.65m	>1.85m-	-	Lower Natural - Cornbrash Formation - Limestone.	Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period.
Trench 2								
2/01	Deposit	Friable mid-greyish brown silty loam with moderate inclusions of small angular limestone	0.22m	>1.65m	>15m	Pottery, glass, ceramic tile	Topsoil	Modern
2/02	Deposit	Friable, mid to light greyish brown, silty loam with frequent stone inclusions	0.32	>1.65m	>7m	brick	Made ground deposit	Undated
2/03	Deposit	Orange brown silty clay with dominant limestone	>0.06m	>1.65m	>15m	None	Natural- Cornbrash Formation - Limestone.	Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period.
2/04	Deposit	Mid to dark reddish grey-brown silty loam with moderate limestone inclusions.	>0.10m	>1.65m	>7m	None	Subsoil	Undated
2/05	Cut	Linear cut with concave sides and a rounded base	0.28m	0.55m-0.85m	>1.7m	-	Linear ditch filled by 2/06	Undated
2/06	Deposit	Mid-reddish brown silty loam with moderate to frequent limestone inclusions	0.28m	0.55m-0.85m	>1.7m	Bone	Single fill of ditch 2/05	Undated
2/07	Deposit	Friable mid-greyish silty loam with moderate inclusions of small angular limestone	0.2m	>1.65m	>7m		Lower topsoil	Undated
Trench 3								
3/01	Deposit	Friable, mid to dark grey brown, slightly reddish silty loam with rare small angular limestone	0.3m	>1.65m	>9m	None	Topsoil	Modern
3/02	Deposit	Friable, mid-reddish brown silty loam with moderate to frequent, small to medium angular limestone	0.15m-0.18m	>1.65m	>9m	None	Subsoil	Undated
3/03	Deposit	Compact mid-dark reddish brown silty clay and dominant limestone	>0.12m	>1.65m	>7.5m	-	Natural- Cornbrash Formation - Limestone.	Sedimentary Bedrock formed

												approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period.
3/04	Deposit	Friable mid-grey brown with moderate inclusions of small to medium sized angular limestone	0.27m	1.25m	>1.3m	Pottery, ceramic tile, bone, coke	Fill of pit 3/05					Post-medieval
3/05	Cut	Sub-rounded cut with flattish base and uneven, slightly convex sides	0.27m	1.25m	>1.3m	-	Cut of sub rounded pit filled by 3/04					Post-medieval
Trench 4												
4/01	Deposit	Friable mid greyish brown silty loam with rare inclusions of limestone and frequent rooting	0.26m	>1.65m	>5m	None	Topsoil					Modern
4/02	Deposit	Friable mid-reddish brown silty loam with moderate inclusions of limestone	0.2m	>1.65m	>5m	None	Subsoil					Undated
4/03	Deposit	Mid-reddish brown silty cay with frequent limestone	>0.16m	>1.65m	>5m	-	Natural- Cornbrash Formation - Limestone.					Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 164 to 168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period.

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Project details

Project name	Merton Road, Ambrosden, Oxfordshire
Short description of the project	John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological evaluation at Meadow Barn, Merton Road, Ambrosden, Oxfordshire. The evaluation identified an undated linear ditch containing bone, a pit containing post medieval material and what was either a large pit or several intercutting pits containing a mixture of material which included medieval pottery but also later brick and glass.
Project dates	Start: 30-04-2019 End: 30-04-2019
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	AMMR19 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	4073 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	PITS Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Uncertain
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development	Housing estate

type

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the
planning
process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England

Site location OXFORDSHIRE CHERWELL AMBROSDEN Meadow Barn, Merton Road, Ambrosden,
Oxfordshire

Postcode OX25 2LZ

Study area 0 Square metres

Site
coordinates SP 60150 19270 51.868318388906 -1.126292406575 51 52 05 N 001 07 34 W Point

Lat/Long
Datum Unknown

Height OD /
Depth Min: 62.08m Max: 63.82m

Entered by Gavin Davis (admin@jmheritageservices.co.uk)

Entered on 10 May 2019

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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