Cotswold Archaeology

Catalyst Bicester
Bicester
Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

for
Quod

on behalf of
Albion Land (2013) Ltd.

CA Project: 770893
CA Report: 770893_01

March 2019

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

Catalyst Bicester
Bicester
Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Catalyst Bicester
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NGR:	57550 21000
Type:	Evaluation
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An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February/March 2019 at Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Fifty seven trenches were excavated with archaeological features being recorded in twenty seven. Unfortunately, a very high seasonal water table resulted in flooding within many of the evaluation trenches making hand excavation difficult.

The evidence recorded during the evaluation is indicative of farming, settlement and burial activity located close to the alignment of the Roman road (between Bicester and Towcester), immediately west of site boundary. The evidence for cremations identified within Trench 22, allied to the results of the geophysical survey, suggest that they most likely form part of a discreet cemetery within the environs of the trench.

Prehistoric activity (based on the results of environmental sampling) is indicated within the vicinity of Trench 7, with the possibility that similar activity also took place within the vicinity of Trenches 21 and 23.

The results of the evaluation mirror those recorded at the chicken farm located to the south west, which revealed evidence for extensive Romano-British pits, land reclamation and water management in addition to a metalled road surface. Many of the trenches within the current evaluation, especially to the north and west of the site, also provide evidence for quarrying and water management. These features, along with the high-water table observed within many of the trenches, indicates that drainage and water management have been a significant factor in enabling exploitation of this landscape during the past and up to the present day.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February and March 2019 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Quod on behalf of Albion Land (2013) Ltd. on Land at Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 57550 21000 (see Figure 1).

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken to examine the potential presence of below ground archaeological features. Outline planning consent (with part full consent) is to be sought from Cherwell District Council for an employment and leisure development of the site. Due to the potential for archaeological features a predetermination archaeological field evaluation has been requested by Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, the archaeological advisor to CDC, to provide a suitable level of information on which to establish an appropriate level of mitigation.

1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2018) and approved by Richard Oram. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014).

The site

1.4 The site comprises agricultural land located at Promised Land Farm, within the parish of Chesterton, to the south of Bicester in Oxfordshire. The area covered by the Catalyst Bicester development area is 18.52ha, but the redline boundary includes a chicken farm in the south western corner, the site of which is not suitable for trial trenching. The area of the site has previously been investigated and reported on. The site to be evaluated is divided into three field and measures *c.* 15.13ha.

1.5 The underlying geology within the site is mapped as Kellaways Sand Member, comprising interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Jurassic Period. This is overlain by superficial Quaternary river terrace deposits, and by superficial alluvial deposit, comprising clay, silt, sand and gravel across the remainder of the site (BGS 2019).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in a heritage desk-based assessment (CA 2016a). A geophysical survey has also been undertaken (AS 2018). The following section is summarised from these sources.

Prehistoric (pre-43 AD)

2.2 A Mesolithic flint scatter, comprising worked flints and cores was found approximately 500m to the north-east of the site, with a Neolithic axe recorded, approximately 620m to the north-east.

2.3 Two interrupted ring ditches representing possible Bronze Age barrows are located c. 440m north of site. A further two ring ditches are located approximately 910m to the south-east of the site, which have produced Early Bronze Age pottery.

2.4 Approximately 50m to the north-west of the site an Early Bronze Age barrow and evidence of Late Iron Age settlement with associated field systems have been excavated (WA, 2009).

2.5 Further Iron Age evidence comprises a banjo enclosure and possible hut circles and trackways, located approximately 840m south-west of the site.

2.6 Material spanning the Late Neolithic to Late Iron Age was recorded as part of the excavations outside Roman Alcester, at the crossroads between the A421 and Chesterton Lane approximately 360m south-west of the site.

Roman (AD 43–AD 410)

2.7 Alchester Roman Town is a Scheduled monument, comprising a small town with a defended area of approximately 10.5ha. Several known Roman roads enter Alchester and more are suspected although undiscovered. The southern and eastern boundaries of the site are coincidental with the boundaries of the scheduled area of Alchester Roman Town.

2.8 The settlement probably originated in the early first century AD, with activity lasting until the fourth century. The defences of the Roman Town are almost square in plan, with each of its sides c. 350 yards in length. Originally bounded by a wall-faced rampart and ditch, remains of the ditch are well preserved to the west, where they

still form a field boundary, while the earthwork rampart remains are easily distinguishable on the eastern and western sides. The northern rampart has disappeared as a result of road construction, and the course of the Chesterton Brook to the south has replaced the former ditch.

2.9 Excavations 1km to the north of the current site revealed the extent of the Roman hinterland surrounding the town. Evidence broadly dated to the Roman period included small rectangular enclosures delineated by narrow deep ditches. A number of corn drying kilns were recorded within these enclosures. A single wide shallow ditch was interpreted as a drainage channel, moving water off site to the south-west, towards a tributary of the River Ray suggesting an engineered solution to water management. However, the proximity of water was clearly important for industrial processes on site, the evidence for which included stone lined tanks, a possible sluice and system of water channels. Together with the corn drying kilns these features were interpreted as the remains of a malting and brewing site (WA, 2009).

2.10 Evaluation at the Faccenda Chicken Farm was carried out in 1983 by the Oxford University Department for External Studies (Foreman & Rahtz, 1984). Trenches recorded first century drainage channels, 'part of a wider scheme to utilise the River Ray wetlands associated with the major settlement at Alchester' (Foreman & Rahtz, 1984). Evidence for wood and stone revetment and a fragment of possible sluicegate recovered from a pit, suggested a level of investment in land reclamation and water management. Excavation of pits, some of which contained crop processing waste, was interpreted as further evidence for agricultural activity within the hinterland to the north of Alchester. Second century activity was sealed by a deposit of dredged river sediment approximately 1.2m thick, marking the abandonment of the site.

2.11 An evaluation trench excavated between the current site and the entrance to the Faccenda chicken farm located the metalled surface and underpinning of a north/south aligned Roman road approximately 1.1m below the modern road surface (TVAS 2010). This was interpreted as the original route running between the north gates of Alchester towards Towcester (hereafter Alchester to Towcester Road; Margary, 1973: 163). The surface was sealed by material containing a single residual fragment of first-century pottery and several fragments of second to fourth century pottery, with the interpretation that the metalled surface had fallen out of use

by the late second to third centuries. A second trench adjacent to the northern end of the current site found no trace of a Roman road surface.

2.12 Excavations in the extramural settlement of Roman Alchester (1991) in advance of road construction on the A421 (Oxford Road), immediately to the west, and approximately 30m south-west of the site recorded extensive evidence of Roman, and earlier, activity (Booth et al 2002). The investigations identified evidence for activity dating from the first to second century AD, characterised by ditches on alignments relating to Akeman Street, while a complex system of ditched plots developed later, on each side of the lane running parallel to, and north of, Akeman Street. South of the lane, the earliest structures dated to the mid-second century. North of the lane, plots contained Roman structures of various plan and construction, and the character of this settlement appeared to indicate a predominantly agricultural use. Settlement and agricultural activity appeared to have continued into the post-Roman period. A late Roman cemetery was recorded, alongside a large pottery assemblage, with numerous other finds.

2.13 Archaeological investigations in the area approximately 650m south-west of the site, recorded details of an internal road, alongside evidence of a workshop, granary, an early fort, a tower, gate and water channel. Plans of buildings have also been recorded elsewhere within the Scheduled Monument and during the construction of the railway line, in 1848, sixteen skeletons were recorded approximately 660m to the south of the proposed development site. The remains of a further 28 inhumation burials, along with pottery sherds and demolition material, were located approximately 560m to the south, and a single inhumation, Samian pottery and a cremation burial were uncovered during non-archaeological trenching approximately 260m south of the site.

Early medieval (AD 410–1066) and medieval (1066–1539)

2.14 Bicester is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The earliest account of King's End comes from the record for the Prioress of Markyate, who held a small manor, with eleven villeins holding six virgates between them (Victoria County History 1959; Craig 2009).

2.15 Bicester House, formerly known as Burcester Hall, is located on the site of the former manor-house of the nuns of Markyate. The nuns are suggested to have

leased their estate in 1530, which in 1584 was purchased with the house by John Coker.

2.16 Further evidence of medieval activity within the environs of the site includes evidence of agricultural activity and settlement in the form of miscellaneous findspots, including tokens, pottery and coins, and recorded features such as ditches, pits and postholes, ridge and furrow earthworks, trackways and quarries located immediately to the west of the site, c. 800m to the north, c. 970m to the north-east, c. 310m and 900m to the east, c. 760m to the south-west and 1km to the west, and c. 50m, 70m and 740 to the north-west.

Post-medieval (1539–1800) and modern (1801-present)

2.17 Post-medieval evidence within the wider area largely comprises evidence of agricultural activity and quarrying immediately to the west of the site, and c. 740m to the north-west.

2.18 During this period, the site is likely to have comprised agricultural farmland. The 1793 Enclosure Map for King's End and the Bryant Map of Oxfordshire of 1824 indicate that, during the late 18th century, the site and its surroundings formed part of King's End Inclosure and King's End Mead, and that the former Roman road from Alchester to Towcester ran through the western margins of the site.

2.19 Further evidence of post-medieval activity comprises finds of pottery and demolition material associated with farm buildings, boundary ditches, and demolition material recorded approximately 800m to the north, and 530m to the north-east of the site.

2.20 The Buckinghamshire Railway, located approximately 140m east of the site, was established through the merging of two companies proposing lines from Bletchley to Banbury, and Aylesbury to Oxford. The Bletchley-Banbury section opened in 1850 and the Oxford-Verney Junction on the Bletchley-Banbury line opened a year later. The Banbury line remained a branch-line throughout the late 19th and early 20th century, while the Oxford Line developed into a major cross-county link, until its closure to passengers in 1968. The Banbury line closed to passengers in 1961, although a truncated spur to Buckingham remained open for a further three years. The use of Banbury line for goods traffic ceased in 1963, while the Oxford section remains fully operational.

2.21 Britain's largest military railway system, the Bicester Military Railway, is located approximately 200m to the east of the site, and functions as the primary mode of transport at the Central Ordnance Depot, Bicester. Surveyed prior to construction in August 1942, six passenger platforms were built around the Graven Hill depot, although all except the Graven Hill platform have since been demolished.

2.22 The site underwent only limited alterations during the 20th century, as depicted on the 1900 and 1922 Ordnance Survey maps. By 1952, the A41 (Oxford Road) was constructed and by the late 20th century, the chicken farm to the east, Bicester Village to the north and the sewage works to the north-east, had all been established. Within the wider landscape, Bicester to the north, Chesterton to the east and Wendlebury to the south-west were subject to rapid expansion, with agricultural land remaining to the south, south-west and north-west of the site.

Undated

2.23 Two possible hearths, located approximately 110m to the west of the site, and several small, burnt deposits located approximately 500m to the north-east have been recorded (Network Archaeology 2007).

2.24 Within the wider environs of the site, a series of cropmarks, suggesting possible ring ditches and/or curvilinear ditches are located approximately 410m and 840m to the north of the site, 1km to the north-east and 500m to the north-west.

2.25 Within the south-western corner of the central portion of the site, a linear earthwork, orientated north/south, may possibly represent the line of the Alchester-Towcester Road, with the modern roadway diverted slightly to the west. This earthwork has not been recorded by the RCHME aerial photographic interpretation project (1990). A spread of stone recorded to the east of the modern bridge across the A41 (Oxford Road) may represent a former ford or a road crossing over the brook, although excavations at Faccenda Farm (1983) did not record any evidence of the road in this area. However, excavations at Wendlebury Road, Bicester: Phase 2 excavation (2010), and excavations within the extramural settlement of the Roman Town (Site B: 1991) recorded evidence of this road to the west and south-west of the site. There is a possibility that this linear earthwork represents a Roman ditch, which was either originally located adjacent to the Roman road, or was otherwise utilised for agricultural purposes.

2.26 A number of cropmarks visible on the aerial photographs, to the east of the current site, appear to represent earlier activity, as they do not conform to the alignment of the modern field pattern. Prominent amongst these is a reasonably large, rectilinear enclosure within the central portion of the site, which is aligned west/east. This appears to be associated with a series of smaller enclosures aligned north/south, which is typical of a late Romano-British or medieval nucleated settlement. A number of other linear features crossing the site on a north/south alignment are also not aligned with the modern field system, and could represent former trackways. The enclosure and ditches within the central portion of the site are visible on the Environment Agency Lidar coverage of this area, and have been recorded as part of the RCHME Alchester aerial photography interpretation project.

Recent Works

2.27 In September 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire, adjacent to the current site. The fieldwork was undertaken to inform a forthcoming planning application for the commercial development of the site. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of twenty one trenches.

2.28 The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains within the south-western part of the site. The archaeological remains dated to the Roman period, spanning the 1st to 4th centuries AD, with activity concentrated in the 2nd to 4th centuries AD. An isolated and undated ditch was recorded within the central part of the site and a Roman pit was also recorded within the northern part of the site. The earliest features encountered comprised two ditches containing pottery dating to the 1st to 2nd centuries AD. Overlying these early ditches was a substantial deposit of made-ground identified across approximately one hectare of land at the southern end of the site. This would have raised the local ground level above the seasonal floodplain of the River Ray and the evaluation results suggest that this allowed for the construction of a new road surface during the to the middle second century AD. No definitive structural evidence was identified; however, floor surfaces were recorded along with a possible cereal drying oven/kiln, which appear to indicate small scale roadside settlement during the late 2nd to 3rd-centuries AD. In addition the evaluation also recorded an undated ditch which followed the alignment of the ridge and furrow ploughing identified by the geophysical survey.

2.29 The remains within the south-western part of the site are considered to be of archaeological significance. Remains such as this could be preserved in situ beneath an area designated as car parking. In order to ensure their preservation *in situ* a 'no-dig' zone could be adopted in the south-western corner of the site. Construction within this area could consist of the ground level being raised allowing a suitable buffer to ensure their long-term preservation. The remainder of the site could be the subject of a watching brief. The Master Plan has been amended accordingly, prior to submission. The County Archaeologist will be able to advise on a suitable standard condition to be applied in the area of significance.

Geophysical Survey

2.30 A geophysical survey undertaken in October and November 2018 by Archaeological Surveys Ltd (AS 2018), comprising detailed magnetometry, was carried out over 14ha on land outlined for Phase 2 of the Bicester Gateway (Catalyst Bicester) development. The results indicate the presence of a number of positive linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies that may relate to cut features with archaeological potential in the northern and western parts of the site. Elsewhere, clusters of discrete positive responses have also been located, although it is not possible to determine if these relate to modern anthropogenic features, or if they have archaeological potential or whether they relate to possible natural features. Numerous naturally formed pit-like anomalies can be seen in the centre of the site. Ridge and furrow in the north western part of the site has also been identified, with possible land drainage elsewhere and infilling of former meanders in the watercourse adjacent to the eastern edge of the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable Cherwell District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the

development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 57 trenches (measuring 30m in length by 2m in width) in the locations shown on the attached plan (Figure 2). The eastern end of **Trench 26** was relocated away from overhanging trees. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.

4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and five were sampled and processed. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts and archive will be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGURES 2-9)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively. The following

Trenches 3-6, **8-12**, **16**, **26**, **32**, **36-37**, **42-43**, **45-57** were devoid of archaeological deposits and are summarised only in Appendix A.

Trench 1 (Figures 2 & 3)

5.2 A series of probable quarrying hollows / scoops were identified in **Trench 1; 104, 106, 108**, **111**, **113**, **115** and **117** were evident within the section of the trench, each demonstrating single silty clay rich fills. The largest pit, **104,** measured 3.2m in length by 0.62m in depth. A single sherd of Iron Age / Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill of **104**. Romano-British pottery was also collected from pits **106** and **111**.

Trench 2 (Figures 2 & 4)

5.3 **Trench 2** contained a probable quarry pit, **204** which extended north out of the trench and measured 2.64m in length by 1.80m in width and 0.81m in depth, the silt/clay fill contained two sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Trench 7 (Figures 2 & 5)

5.4 A number of features were recorded spanning **Trench 7**. Pit **706** extended north from the trench and measured 5.76m in length by at least 1.30m in width by 0.38m in depth and contained four undated clay rich fills. Two parallel ditches/gullies spanned the trench (**708** and **710)**, measuring 1.53m and 0.59m in width respectively. The features were excavated and remain undated. A third ditch, **712**, measured 2.40m in width by 0.30m in depth, the clay-silt fill contained seven sherds of prehistoric pottery. The feature cut a shallower gully **722** which measured 0.95m in width by 0.20m in depth.

Trench 13 (Figures 2 & 6)

5.5 Three ditches were recorded spanning **Trench 13**. The undated features **1305**, **1307** and **1309** all broadly match the geophysical anomalies. Ditch **1305** measured 1.04m in width by 0.44m in depth and contained an undated sand/clay fill. The other two features could not be fully excavated due to the high water table.

Trench 14 (Figure 2)

5.6 A single undated ditch was recorded in **Trench 14**, a U-shaped ditch measuring 0.96m in width by at least 0.46m in depth. The base of the feature could not be reached due to the high water table.

Trench 15 (Figure 2)

5.7 An undated ditch was recorded spanning **Trench 15**, **1504** measuring 1.55m in width by 0.50m in depth, the fill consisted of a silt/clay matrix.

Trench 17 (Figure 2)

5.8 Two undated ditches spanned **Trench 17**, neither ditch could be fully excavated due to the high-water table. Ditch **1705** measured 1.8m in width by at least 0.40m in depth, and ditch **1708** measured 1.55m by at least 0.55m. Both features are closely associated with geophysical anomalies and may be a continuation of a field system identified within **Trenches 13** and **14**.

Trench 18 (Figure 2)

5.9 Ditch **1804** which ran on an approximate north – south alignment across **Trench 18** was found to contain two undated silty clay fills. The ditch measured 1.35m in width by 0.31m in depth.

Trench 19 (Figure 2)

5.10 Two possible gullies / hollows were recorded within the cleaned section of **Trench 19**. The two undated U-shaped features, **1905** and **1907** measured 1.50m and 1.36m in width. A sherd of prehistoric pottery was collected from the subsoil.

Trench 20 (Figures 2 & 6)

5.11 A probable boundary ditch **2005** spanned the trench; this undated feature measured 2.12m in width. A possible curvilinear ditch was also recorded, which extended south-east out **Trench 20**. The undated ditch **2007**, which measured at least 7m in length by 0.70m in width remains unexcavated due to localised flooding within the trench.

Trenches 21 - 23 (Figures 2 & 7)

5.12 **Trenches 21** and **23** were inter-connected forming a T-shape, to examine a series of geophysical anomalies. A range of features were identified and these largely corresponded to the identified anomalies. The trenches rapidly flooded but four ditches, three pits and a post hole were identified. Excavation was attempted but halted once the water table rose rapidly. Two sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered from ditch **2307**.

Trench 22 (Figures 2 & 8)

5.13 Four cremation burials and a pit were identified at the northern end of **Trench 22**. The closely associated burials were composed of sub rectangular charcoal-rich pits approximately 0.60m in diameter. The features were recorded only in plan and remain unexcavated, although a small quantity of loose disturbed burnt human bone fragments were collected for confirmation purposes. The identified features which are likely to be of a Romano-British date largely match a series of geophysical anomalies, suggesting the identified cremations form part of larger cemetery. The cremation burials are further discussed in paragraph 7.

Trench 24 (Figure 2)

5.14 Two ditches and a pit were recorded in **Trench 24** which targeted a linear geophysical anomaly which appears to continue west into **Trenches 21** and **23**. The ditches which could not be fully excavated due to localised flooding are likely to converge immediately west of the trench and are composed of **2404** which measured 1.72m in width by at least 0.27m in depth, and **2406** which measured 0.64m in depth by at least 0.24m in depth. Two fragments of prehistoric pottery in addition to a piece of modern CBM were recovered from ditch **2404**.

Trench 25 (Figure 2)

5.15 Two ditches were recorded in **Trench 25**, both remain undated but match the geophysical anomalies. Ditch **2504** measured at least 1.9m in length and 1m wide and contained a silty clay fill, whilst ditch **2506** measured at least 2.2m in length and 2.4m wide with a silty clay fill. Excavation was abandoned due to high water table.

Trench 27 (Figure 2)

5.16 A probable modern drainage ditch **2703** crossed the centre of the trench, this feature on a west – east alignment measured 2.4m in width by at least 2m in length. The ditch corresponds with a geophysical anomaly but was unexcavated due to flooding.

Trench 28 (Figure 2)

5.17 A probable modern drainage ditch **2804** crossed the centre of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment, this feature measured 2.3m in width. The ditch corresponds to a geophysical anomaly which continues into **Trench 27**. Excavation was abandoned due to a high water table.

Trench 30 (Figure 2)

5.18 A probable modern drainage ditch **3003** crossed the north end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The feature measured 1.3m in width and at least 2m in length. The ditch corresponds to a geophysical anomaly which continues north into **Trench 28**, as ditch **2804**, but remains unexcavated due to flooding.

Trench 31 (Figure 2)

5.19 Ditch **3103** which spanned the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment and measured 1.03m in width and at least 1.9m in length, remains unexcavated due to localised flooding within the trench.

Trench 33 (Figure 2)

5.20 **Trench 33** contained a single ditch **3303** which crossed the trench on a north-west/south-east alignment, the ditch measured at least 3m in length and 1m in width. The feature remains unexcavated due to flooding within the trench although three sherds of prehistoric/Romano-British pottery were recovered from the surface of the feature. Modern disturbance in the form of a possible service trench was also noted. This feature which remains undisturbed was also encountered to the west in **Trench 34**.

Trench 34 (Figure 2)

5.21 **Trench 34** contained the continuation of the probable modern service identified within **Trench 33**, which measured 0.6m width. Two ditches were also recorded but these remain unexcavated due to localised flooding. Ditch **3403** ran across the north of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment and measured at least 2m in length by 2.03m in width and ditch **3407** ran on an east – west alignment and measured at least 2m in length by 1.85m in width. Two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the silt/clay fill.

Trench 35 (Figure 2)

5.22 **Trench 35** contained two parallel post-medieval/modern ditches **3504** and **3506** both spanned the trench on a north east–south west alignment. Ditch **3504** measured at least 3.8m in length and 0.7m wide, whilst ditch **3506** measured 2.3m in length and 0.6m in width. Both remain unexcavated due to localised flooding. Quantities of modern broken glass, CBM and animal bone were noted within the features.

Trench 38 (Figure 2)

5.23 Two undated ditches were recorded in **Trench 38**, ditch **3804** appears to be a probable terminus measuring at least 0.75m in length and 0.65min width which extends north-west out of the trench. Ditch **3806** ran in a south-east direction along the southern end of the trench before appearing to turn into the baulk in a north-east direction, this measured at least 10m in length and 0.57m in width. Excavation was abandoned due to high water table.

Trench 39 (Figure 2)

5.24 Three undated postholes (**3905**, **3907** & **3909**) were recorded in the southern end of the trench measuring approximately 0.18m in diameter with each containing a single secondary light brown grey silt/clay fill. Excavation was abandoned due to the high water table.

Trench 40 (Figure 2)

5.25 Ditch **4005** which ran on an approximate north-west/south-east alignment across **Trench 40** contained at least one undated silt/clay fill, excavation was abandoned

due to localised flooding. The ditch measured at least 1.9m in length and 0.66m wide.

Trench 41 (Figure 2)

5.26 **Trench 41** contained a single undated ditch on a north-east/ south-west alignment, the ditch (**4104**) measured 1.9m in length by 0.66m in width. Excavation was abandoned due to the high-water table.

Trench 44 (Figure 2)

5.27 Three probable modern ditches crossed **Trench 44**. Ditch **4406** was recorded on an east – west alignment and measured at least 2m in length and 0.86m wide. Ditches **4404** and **4408** were recorded on a north-west/south-east alignment and measured at least 2m in length and 0.95m and 0.80m respectively. Excavation was suspended due to localised flooding.

Trench 50 (Figures 2 & 9)

5.28 No archaeological features were identified within **Trench 50** although an undated palaeochannel was observed within a sondage excavated at the northern end of the trench. A dark grey peat-like silt/clay **5005** some 0.70m in depth was sealed beneath a deposit of blue grey clay 0.30m in depth. Waterlogged seeds and snail shells recovered from environmental sample <**5**> are indicative of an aquatic environment which would have fluctuated from periods of moving water to dry. This is discussed further in Appendix C.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material recovered from the evaluation is listed in Appendix B and discussed further below. All finds have been recorded directly to an MS Access spreadsheet. Alphanumerical codes have been applied to pottery fabrics and where possible, codes matching the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998) have been used and are given in bold below.

Pottery

6.2 A small assemblage of 35 sherds, weighing a total of 258g, was recovered from 18 deposits. Thirteen sherds (115g) date to the prehistoric period, with the majority being unfeatured bodysherds which makes precise dating difficult. Fabrics present include grog-tempered and fine crushed shell-tempered. A single rimsherd is present within the group, recovered from ditch **712** (fill **713**), in fragmentary condition, but of probable Late Iron Age date.

6.3 Two sherds of grog-tempered pottery, of Late Iron Age to early Roman date, were recovered from quarry pits **104** (fill **105**) and 111 (fill **112**). Roman-dated pottery totals 11 sherds and weighs 115g. The group is in a good condition with a mean sherd weight of 11g and well preserved surfaces. The majority of fabrics comprise coarsewares, such as oxidised examples for which only broad Roman dating can be applied. The grog-tempered fabrics are of mid-1st to 2nd century date. A single sherd of white-slipped flagon fabric was recovered from quarry pit **111** (fill **112**), of probable late 1st to 2nd century date. A beaker rimsherd of Central Gaulish black-slipped ware (**CNG BS**) was recovered from subsoil **4801**, dating from the mid-2nd to early 3rd century AD.

6.4 The remainder of the group comprises a single sherd of probable medieval-dated fabric (recovered from subsoil **3701**) and a small group of post-medieval to modern dating pottery (6 sherds, 80g). Transfer-printed refined white ware, of late 18th to 19th century date was recovered from subsoil **101**, and of similar date, black-glazed earthenware (BGEW) was recovered this deposit and also ditch **2804** (fill **2805**). A single sherd of yellow-glazed earthenware was recovered form subsoil **1801**, of 19th to 20th century date.

Other Finds

6.5 Three items of ceramic building material were recovered from two deposits. Two tile fragments of probable medieval or post-medieval date, were recovered from topsoil deposit **100**. A fragment, retaining no original surfaces to facilitate identification and of uncertain form or date, was recovered from ditch **2404** (fill **2405**).

6.6 A single metal item, an iron nail, was recovered from topsoil deposit **100**. Nails of this form, with square shank and flattened round head, were introduced in the Roman period and continued largely unchanged until industrialisation in the post-medieval period. Consequently they cannot be closely dated.

7. HUMAN REMAINS – CREMATED BONE

7.1 **Trench 22** revealed four associated cremation burials which were left un-excavated. A small quantity of bone had become dislodged from these burials and was collected up together. The mixed nature of the cremated bone has reduced the potential for meaningful analysis. As such it has not been subjected to the standard methods of recording.

7.2 In total there was 129.4g of cremated bone collected. The bone was fairly uniform in size an average 30mm in length for the larger pieces. There was a range of colour from black, through greys to white. This indicates a variable temperature of the pyre which was not sufficient to completely oxidise all the bones. This is quite typical of Roman period cremations, where it was either deemed not necessary to cremate individuals thoroughly, or wood supplies were insufficient.

7.3 Identified bone was cranial, long bone from upper (radius) and lower limb (femur), hand (proximal phalanx) and tooth roots (one is probably third molar). As the bone has not come from one burial the usual weight division by body area is not appropriate, other than to note that there are bones from all areas of the skeleton present and small and large bones have been collected. The bones all appear to be adult, some of the cranial fragments appear to be quite thin and the sutures are sharp and unfused which possibly indicates a younger adult individual.

7.4 This collection of cremated bone confirms that the four deposits observed in **Trench 22** were human cremation burials and are likely Roman in date.

8. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

8.1 A series of five environmental samples (102 litres of soil) were processed from three different evaluation trenches on site; **Trenches 7**, **22**, and **50**. The processing of these samples was done in order to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains across the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic or industrial activity on the site. It was hope that the environmental assemblages might also assist in determining the date of the individual features. Four of these environmental samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (250 micron mesh for the flot, 500 micron mesh for the

residue) and one by wet sieving (250 micron mesh size) (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

8.2 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Appendix C Table 2 for charred material and Table 3 for waterlogged material, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The presence of shells has also been recorded in Table 2. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

*Charred assemblage - **Trench 7** pit **706***

8.3 The upper fill (**707**) contained no charred cereal remains and only a single hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) fragment. A moderate quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm, including roundwood pieces, were also recovered from within fill **707**.

8.4 The lower fill (**721**) contained no charred plant remains and only a moderately low amount of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm.

*Ditch **712***

8.5 The lower fill **713** contained a small number of charred cereal remains, which included hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*)), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain fragments and glume base fragments. Small quantities of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) were also identified during assessment. Large quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recorded and also included fragments of round wood and mature wood. Moderate quantities of terrestrial snail shells were recorded, including the open country species *Vallonia excentrica* and *Pupilla muscorum*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cocholicopa* sp., the shade loving species *Carychium tridentatum* and the marsh species *Sucinea/Oxyloma* sp. Moderate quantities of aquatic snail shells were also recovered from ditch **712** and these included the moving water species *Bithynia* sp., the ditch species *Valvata cristata,* the intermediate species *Radix balthica,* and the amphibious species *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula*. *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula* are species typical of areas subject to seasonal flooding and desiccation. Within fill **713** shards of prehistoric pottery were recovered and noted within the finds report.

8.6 The low levels of charred remains recovered from within trench **7** provide no clear indication of the dating of the pits but does indicate that within the wider vicinity of ditch **712** some domestic activity was taking place. The charred assemblages from the pits could be indicative of windblown/dispersed domestic settlement debris, while that from the ditch may be reflective of dumped settlement waste material.

Trench 22

8.7 Within **Trench 22** some cremation related material was disturbed during excavation and was allocated the context number **2250** as it was unclear as to which of the four cremation related deposits it belonged to. No charred plant remains were recovered from within this disturbed cremation and no charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recovered. Low quantities of terrestrial and aquatic snail shells were recovered.

8.8 As no charred plant remains or charcoal fragments were recovered from within the disturbed cremation related material in **Trench 22**, the sample provides no information on the local funerary practices or the likely date of the deposit. There is also no indication of any other form of settlement activities taking place in the immediate vicinity from these results.

Waterlogged assemblage ***Trench 50***

8.9 Within **Trench 50** a palaeochannel was uncovered and a sample was taken from the lower layer (**5005**). Low quantities of waterlogged seeds were recorded and identified as crowfoot (*Ranunculus subgenus Batrachium*). Low quantities of stem/root fragments greater than 4mm in size were recorded alongside high numbers of stem/root fragments greater than 2mm in size. A low quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size was also recorded within this sample. A large number of snail shells were recovered and included those of the open country species *Vallonia* sp. and *Vertigo* sp., the marsh species *Succinea/Oxyloma* sp., the amphibious species *Anisus leucstoma* and *Galba truncatula*, the intermediate species *Radix balthica* and *Gyraulus crista*, the ditch species *Planorbis planorbis* and *Valvata cristata* and the moving water species *Bithynia* sp. The mollusc assemblage appears to reflect a fluctuating aquatic environment within the palaeochannel, varying from periods of moving water within it to times when it had dried out. The low level of preserved waterlogged seeds within the deposit may be a result of the fluctuations within the waterlogged conditions of this feature. The assemblage recovered from within the waterlogged sample from **Trench 50**

provides no indication of the date of this deposit or whether any settlement or domestic activity was taking place within the vicinity of the feature.

9. ANIMAL BONE

9.1 Animal bone amounting to 43 fragments (434g) was recovered via hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from seven deposits. Artefactual material dating broadly to the Prehistoric and the Romano-British periods was also recovered (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but well preserved enough to make possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus domesticus*) and horse (*Equus callabus*).

Prehistoric

9.2 Twenty-seven fragments (263g) were recovered from deposits **713** and **2314**, the fills of ditches **712** and **2313**. The remains of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were all identified but the recovery was too limited to provide any information other than species identification however, a fragment of cattle pelvis from deposit **713** did display a single cut mark. In addition to the identifiable bone, 14 fragments (7g) of burnt bone were also recovered via soil sample <3>. Although unidentifiable to species, these fragments came from a mixture of species, both mammal and avian, and varied in colour from dark grey to bright white, indicating different intensities of burning (Lyman.1994). The combination of the cut mark and the burnt bone does suggest an origin in the disposal of domestic waste.

Romano-British

9.3 A total of eight fragments (126g were recovered from deposits **205** and **3304**, the fills of pit **204** and ditch **3303**, the only identifiable bone came from deposit **3304**. Cattle, sheep/goat and horse were recovered but quantities too small to provide any information other than species identification. No evidence of butchery was observed.

Undated

9.4 The remaining six fragments (45g) were recovered from deposit **2409**, the fill of posthole **2408** and subsoil layers **1301** and **2401**. Cattle were the only species present, identified from a partial mandible.

10. DISCUSSION

10.1 Adjacent to the western site boundary is the Roman road which ran from Bicester to Towcester. Previous archaeological excavations and observations have identified the site lies within an extensive late prehistoric / Romano-British landscape. The location of the defended Romano-British town of Alcester lies some 360m to the south east of the site and which include a series of extant earthworks. A series of structures, burials and ditches were also recorded south of the site during works associated with the construction of the A421 road.

10.3 The field evaluation has confirmed the presence of a cremation cemetery within **Trench 22** along with a series of associated ditches and discrete features which are likely to be contemporary to a late prehistoric/Romano-British landscape which demonstrates evidence for farming, settlement and burial rites close to the Roman road. The geophysical survey demonstrates the identified cremation burials are likely to be part of a larger cemetery which is located immediately south-west of a series of ditches and discrete features. Environmental sampling suggests there is evidence of settlement activity taking place in the vicinity of **Trench 7** during the prehistoric period. Archaeological and geophysical evidence suggests the presence of settlement activities are also centred around **Trenches 21** and **23**.

10.4 Excavations and a watching brief undertaken immediately to the south of the site (under the current chicken farm) revealed evidence for extensive Romano-British land reclamation and water management (in addition to a series of pits and a metalled road surface). Many of the trenches within the current evaluation, especially to the north and west of the site demonstrate evidence for quarrying and water management. The palaeochannel examined within **Trench 50** illustrates the fluctuating nature of the wetland floodplain.

11. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Chris Ellis and Joe Whelan assisted by Majbritt Bengston, Chris Brown, Jon Dobbie, Katherine Hebbard, Adam Howard, Pawel Jablonski, Georgina Johnston, Craig Jones, Steffan Klemenic, Tim Sperring and Emily Troake. The report was written by Joe Whelan and Emily Troake. The finds

and biological evidence reports were written by Katie Marsden and Sarah respectively. The Human remains were analysed and the report written by Sharon Clough. The illustrations were prepared by Amy Wright. The archive has been compiled by and prepared for deposition by Richard Paxford. The project was managed for CA by Ray Kennedy.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	29.97	2	0.19	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey friable clay silt	29.97	2	0.12	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay sand gravel with sandstone and manganese patches	29.97	2	>0.45	
1	103	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue silty clay friable	29.97	2	>0.47	
1	104	Cut		Quarry Pit	Sub oval with fairly gentle sides to flat base	3.2	N/A	0.62	
1	105	Fill	104	Secondary Fill	Mid red yellow brown silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	3.2	N/A	0.62	
1	106	Cut		Pit	Sub oval with concave sides to flat base on SW-NE alignment	2.01	0.8	0.32	
1	107	Fill	106	Secondary Fill	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with occasional gravel	2.01	0.8	0.32	
1	108	Cut		Ditch	Linear with gentle concave sides to flat base on NE-SW alignment	1.94	1.8	N/A	
1	109	Fill	108	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown friable silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	1.94	1.8	N/A	
1	110	Layer		Alluvium	Mid red yellow brown friable silty clay	29.97	2	N/A	
1	111	Cut		Quarry Pit	Sub oval with steep straight sides to flat base	3.7	N/A	0.39	
1	112	Fill	111	Secondary Fill	Mid red yellow brown silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	3.7	N/A	0.39	
1	113	Cut		Quarry Pit	Sub oval with concave sides to flat base	1.1	N/A	0.42	
1	114	Fill	113	Secondary Fill	Mid red yellow brown silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	1.1	N/A	0.42	
1	115	Cut		Quarry Pit	Sub oval with gentle concave sides to flat base	3.4	N/A	0.52	
1	116	Fill	115	Secondary Fill	Mid red yellow brown silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	3.4	N/A	0.52	
1	117	Cut		Pit	Sub oval with shallow concave sides	>0.62	N/A	>0.49	
1	118	Fill	117	Secondary Fill	Mid red yellow brown silty sandy clay with occasional gravel	>0.62	N/A	>0.49	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.06	2	0.12	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow friable clay silt	30.06	2	0.06	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay silt with common gravel	30.06	2	>0.14	
2	203	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue silty clay friable	30.06	2	>0.24	
2	204	Cut		Pit	Sub oval with convex sides to flat base on SW-NE alignment	2.64	1.8	0.81	
2	205	Fill	204	Secondary Fill	Mid red brown friable sandy silty clay	2.64	1.8	0.81	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.1	2	0.19	

3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Light brown friable clay silt	30.1	2	0.33	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay sand with common gravel	30.1	2	>0.29	
3	303	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue silty clay friable	30.1	2	>0.37	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.1	2	0.2	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	30.1	2	0.21	
4	402	Layer		Natural	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with occasional gravel	30.1	2	>0.18	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.8	1.9	0.15	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable clay silt	30.8	1.9	0.09	
5	502	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey yellow firm silty clay	30.8	1.9	0.57	
5	503	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay sand gravel	30.8	1.9	>0.01	
5	504	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue firm silty clay	30.8	1.9	>0.01	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30	1.9	0.21	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable clay silt	30	1.9	0.17	
6	602	Layer		Alluvium	Mid red brown friable clay silt with occasional manganese mottling	30	1.9	0.22	
6	603	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow brown friable clay silt with occasional manganese mottling	30	1.9	0.42	
6	604	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay sand with common gravel	30	1.9	>0.01	
6	605	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue firm silty clay	30	1.9	>0.42	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable silt turfed	30	2	0.18	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay	30	2	0.26	
7	702	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow brown with manganese mottling compact clay	30	2	0.14	
7	703	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown friable sandy clay	30	2	0.11	
7	704	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow brown friable sandy clay	30	2	0.12	
7	705	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow brown compact sandy clay with rare gravel	30	2	>0.02	
7	706	Cut		Pit	Sub rectangular with convex sides to flat base on NW-SE alignment	5.76	1.3	1	
7	707	Fill	706	Secondary Fill	Light blue grey compact silty clay with manganese mottling and rare charcoal	4.98	1.3	0.38	
7	708	Cut		Ditch	Linear with straight sides to flat base on NE-SW alignment	>1.86	1.53	0.25	
7	709	Fill	708	Secondary Fill	Mid red grey with yellow brown mottling compact sandy clay	>1.86	1.53	0.25	
7	710	Cut		Ditch	Linear with straight sides to concave base on NE-SW alignment	>1.86	0.59	0.18	
7	711	Fill	710	Secondary Fill	Mid light red grey with yellow red mottling compact sandy clay	>1.86	0.59	0.18	
7	712	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping sides slightly concave to a slightly concave base no NE-SW alignment	>2	2.4	0.3	

7	713	Fill	712	Secondary Fill	Dark brown grey compact clay silt with occasional charcoal	>2	2.4	0.3	
7	714	Cut		Pit	Sub circular with steep concave sides to concave base	1.05	>0.35	0.43	
7	715				VOID				
7	716	Fill	706	Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue sandy clay compact	5.66	1.3	0.62	
7	717	Fill	722	Secondary Fill	Dark brown grey clay silt with rare charcoal	>2	0.95	0.2	
7	718	Fill	714	Secondary Fill	Pale grey silty clay compact	0.6	>0.35	0.25	
7	719	Fill	714	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt friable	0.4	N/A	0.1	
7	720	Fill	706	Primary Fill	Mid yellow brown friable sandy clay	1.22	1.3	0.12	
7	721	Fill	706	Primary Fill	Dark yellow brown friable silty clay with common flecks of charcoal	1.34	1.3	0.1	
7	722	Cut		Gully	Linear with gentle sloping sides to flat base on NE-SW alignment	>2	0.95	0.2	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silty clay turfed	29.9	2	0.09	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Dark yellow grey friable silty clay	29.9	2	0.09	
8	802	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey yellow compact silty clay	29.9	2	0.16	
8	803	Layer		Alluvium	Light white grey silty clay with flint and shell, compact	29.9	2	0.26	
8	804	Layer		Alluvium	Mottled red yellow grey brown silty clay with manganese flecks	29.9	2	0.13	
8	805	Layer		Natural	Mottled red yellow grey clay sand with gravel	29.9	2	>0.35	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown friable clay silt turf	30.45	2	0.15	
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown yellow friable clay silt	30.45	2	0.09	
9	902	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow grey compact clay	30.45	2	0.22	
9	903	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey yellow compact clay with flint and shell inclusions	30.45	2	0.08	
9	904	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow grey friable clay	30.45	2	0.18	
9	905	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable silty clay with common gravel	30.45	2	>0.48	
9	906	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue friable grey	30.45	2	>0.41	
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay turf	29.1	2	0.14	
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow friable silty clay	29.1	2	0.24	
10	1002	Layer		Alluvium	Light yellow grey compact clay silt with manganese mottling	29.1	2	0.42	
10	1003	Layer		Natural	Light yellow grey friable sandy clay with light gravel	29.1	2	>0.12	
10	1004	Layer		Natural	Light blue grey compact silty clay	29.1	2	>0.12	
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay turfed	29.9	2	0.18	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow friable silty clay	29.9	2	0.12	
11	1102	Layer		Alluvium	Light brown grey compact silty clay	29.9	2	0.09	
11	1103	Layer		Alluvium	Light yellow grey compact silty clay	29.9	2	0.31	

11	1104	Layer		Natural	Mid grey red yellow clay sand with gravel	29.9	2	>0.41	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silty clay turfed	30.2	2	0.18	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow friable silty clay	30.2	2	0.09	
12	1202	Layer		Alluvium	Light brown grey compact silty clay with rare flint and shell	30.2	2	0.1	
12	1203	Layer		Alluvium	Light blue grey soft clay	30.2	2	0.12	
12	1204	Layer		Natural	Mid brown red yellow clay sand and gravel	30.2	2	>0.56	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.73	1.9	0.2	
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable clay silt	30.73	1.9	0.12	
13	1302	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey blue friable sandy clay with shell inclusions	30.73	1.9	0.1	
13	1303	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow friable clay sand with occasional manganese mottling	30.73	1.9	>0.59	
13	1304	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue firm silty clay	30.73	1.9	>0.59	
13	1305	Cut		Ditch	Linear with convex with irregular sides to concave base on NE-SW alignment	1.92	1.04	0.44	
13	1306	Fill	1305	Secondary Fill	Mid brown grey compact sandy clay with occasional manganese mottling	1.92	1.04	0.44	
13	1307	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep concave sides on NE-SWE alignment - unexcavated base	>2	2.8	>0.38	
13	1308	Fill	1307	Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue brown compact silty clay	>2	2.8	>0.38	
13	1309	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep straight sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	>1.9	2.75	0.32	
13	1310	Fill	1309	Secondary Fill	Mid blue grey firm sandy clay with shell inclusions	>1.9	2.75	0.32	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	30.12	1.9	0.21	
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable silty clay	30.12	1.9	0.34	
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow clay sand with manganese mottling	30.12	1.9	>0.3	
14	1403	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NW-SE alignment - unexcavated	>2	0.96	>0.46	
14	1404	Fill	1403	Secondary Fill	Mid grey yellow brown sandy clay friable	>2	0.96	>0.46	
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	27.2	2	0.2	
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey friable sandy clay	27.2	2	0.42	
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow brown friable sandy clay with gravel	27.2	2	>0.24	
15	1503	Layer		Natural	Light blue grey friable clay with shell and pea gravel inclusions	27.2	2	>0.25	
15	1504	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping sides to concave base on NW-SE alignment	>1.9	1.55	0.52	
15	1505	Fill	1504	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>1.9	1.55	0.52	
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt turfed	27.82	2	0.24	
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown friable clay silt with rare gravel	27.82	2	0.2	

16	1602	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow friable clay sand with occasional gravel	27.82	2	>0.4	
16	1603	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey clay with pea gravel	27.82	2	>0.4	
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt, turfed	27.8	2	0.2	
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with rare gravel	27.8	2	0.11	
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Light yellow red clay sand with bands of sandy gravel	27.8	2	>0.49	
17	1703	Layer		Natural	Light blue grey clay with rare gravel	27.8	2		
17	1704	Layer		Natural	Sandy gravel	27.8	2		
17	1705	Cut		Ditch	Linear with convex moderate sloping sides on E-W alignment - unexcavated base	>1.9	1.8	>0.4	
17	1706	Fill	1705	Secondary Fill	Light brown soft sandy clay with manganese mottling	>1.9	1.8	0.2	
17	1707	Fill	1705	Secondary Fill	Pale grey sandy clay with occasional manganese mottling	>1.9	1.8	>0.2	
17	1708	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	>1.9	1.55	>0.55	
17	1709	Fill	1708	Secondary Fill	Dark grey sandy clay with occasional charcoal	>1.9	1.55	0.18	
17	1710	Fill	1708	Secondary Fill	Pale yellow grey gritty sandy clay with common manganese mottling	>1.9	1.55	0.1	
17	1711	Fill	1708	Primary Fill	Pale grey sandy clay with common manganese mottling	>1.9	1.55	0.27	
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt turfed	28.7	2	0.82	
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey friable sandy silt	28.7	2	0.21	
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Light red yellow friable sandy clay with sandy gravel	28.7	2	>0.38	
18	1803	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey friable clay	28.7	2		
18	1804	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping sides to concave base on NW-SE alignment	>1.9	1.35	0.31	
18	1805	Fill	1804	Secondary Fill	Light yellow brown silty clay with rare manganese mottling	>1.9	1.35	0.17	
18	1806	Fill	1804	Secondary Fill	Pale brown grey red silty clay	>1.9	1.35	>0.14	
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt, turf	31.5	2	0.19	
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable clay silt	31.5	2	0.22	
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow brown sandy gravel	31.5	2	>0.15	
19	1903	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue compact clay	31.5	2	>0.15	
19	1904	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey yellow brown friable clay	31.5	2	0.11	
19	1905	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping sides to a flat but uneven base on N-S alignment	N/A	1.5	0.25	
19	1906	Fill	1905	Secondary Fill	Mid grey red brown	N/A	1.5	0.25	
19	1907	Cut		Pit	Sub oval with steep sides to a concave base	N/A	1.36	>0.41	
19	1908	Fill	1907	Secondary Fill	Mid grey red brown	N/A	1.36	>0.41	
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	28.1	1.9	0.24	
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Light brown grey friable clay silt	28.1	1.9	0.1	

20	2002	Layer		Alluvium	Light grey friable clay silt with rare shell and pea gravel	28.1	1.9	0.6	
20	2003	Layer		Natural	Light red yellow loose sandy silt with sandy gravel patches	28.1	1.9	>0.32	
20	2004	Layer		Natural	Light blue grey clay with rare gravel	28.1	1.9	>0.24	
20	2005	Cut		Ditch	Linear with moderate sloping straight sides on E-W alignment - base not excavated	>1.9	2.12	>0.21	
20	2006	Fill	2005	Secondary Fill	Mid blue grey clay silt with occasional shell	>1.9	2.12	>0.21	
20	2007	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear with concave steep sides on NE-SW alignment - base not excavated	>7	0.7	>0.36	
20	2008	Fill	2007	Secondary Fill	Light yellow grey clay silt	>7	0.7	>0.36	
20	2009	Fill	2005	Secondary Fill	Pale grey pea gravel	>1.9	1	0.09	
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt, turf	28.7	2	0.13	
21	2101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	28.7	2	0.16	
21	2102	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow grey brown compact sandy clay gravel	28.7	2	>0.33	
21	2103	Cut		Ditch	Linear with straight sides to flat bease on NE-SW alignment	>2	0.97	0.34	
21	2104	Fill	2103	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>2	0.97	0.34	
21	2105	Cut		Ditch	Linear with straight sides to tapered base on NE-SW alignment	>1.2	0.75	0.25	
21	2106	Fill	2105	Secondary Fill	Light grey brown compact silty clay	>1.2	0.75	0.25	
21	2107	Cut		Pit	Elongated pit - unexcavated	2.14	0.52	N/A	
21	2108	Fill	2107	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown friavble silty clay and occasional charcoal	2.14	0.52	N/A	
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown loose sandy silt	28	1.9	0.14	
22	2201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable sandy silt	28	1.9	0.15	
22	2202	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey sandy grit	28	1.9	0.15	
22	2203	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow silty sand	28	1.9	>0.18	
22	2204	Burial		Cremation	Sub oval - unexcavated	0.33	0.26	N/A	
22	2205	Fill	2204	Fill of cremation	Dark grey black charcoal rich clay silt	0.33	0.26	N/A	
22	2206	Burial		Cremation	Sub oval - unexcavated	0.74	0.37	N/A	
22	2207	Fill	2206	Fill of cremation	Dark grey black charcoal rich clay silt	0.74	0.37	N/A	
22	2208	Burial		Cremation	Sub oval - unexcavated	0.6	0.53	N/A	
22	2209	Fill	2208	Fill of cremation	Dark grey black charcoal rich clay silt	0.6	0.53	N/A	
22	2210	Burial		Cremation	Sub oval - unexcavated	0.52	0.4	N/A	
22	2211	Fill	2210	Fill of cremation	Dark grey black charcoal rich clay silt	0.52	0.4	N/A	
22	2212	Cut		Pit / Ditch terminus	Linear on E-W alignment - unexcavated	>1	0.52	N/A	
22	2213	Fill	2212	Secondary Fill	Mid grey clay silt	>1	0.52	N/A	
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt, turf	28.9	2	0.19	
23	2301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	28.9	2	0.17	
23	2302	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow grey brown compact sandy clay gravel	28.9	2	>0.1	
23	2303	Cut		Pit / Ditch terminus	Linear on SE-NW alignment - unexcavated	>1.07	0.52	N/A	

23	2304	Fill	2303	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown firm silty clay with rare charcoal	>1.07	0.52	N/A	
23	2305	Cut		Ditch	Linear on E-W alignment - unexcavated	>3.8	0.8	N/A	
23	2306	Fill	2305	Secondary Fill	Light brown grey compact clay silt	>3.8	0.8	N/A	
23	2307	Cut			NW/SE linear gully	>2	0.60	N/A	
23	2308	Fill	2307	Secondary Fill	yellow grey brown sandy clay with gravels	N/A	N/A	N/A	
23	2309	Cut		Pit / Ditch terminus	Elongated oval on SE-NW alignment - unexcavated	>0.66	0.52	N/A	
23	2310	Fill	2309	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown friabvle silty clay common flints	>0.66	0.52	N/A	
23	2311	Cut		Posthole	Suboval - unexcavated	0.4	0.22	N/A	
23	2312	Fill	2311	Secondary Fill	Mid brown grey friable clay sand	0.4	0.22	N/A	
23	2313	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep straight sides to V shaped base on NW-SE alignment	>2	1.7	N/A	
23	2314	Fill	2313	Secondary Fill	Mid brown grey friable clay silt	>2	1.7	N/A	
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	29.9	1.9	0.18	
24	2401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay silt	29.9	1.9	0.12	
24	2402	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown silty clay	29.9	1.9	0.13	
24	2403	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown friable clay sand	29.9	1.9	>0.25	
24	2404	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	>1.9	1.72	>0.27	
24	2405	Fill	2404	Secondary Fill	Light grey brown sine sandy clay	>1.9	1.72	>0.27	
24	2406	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep concave sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	>1.9	0.64	>0.24	
24	2407	Fill	2406	Secondary Fill	Light grey brown with sandy clay	>1.9	0.64	>0.24	
24	2408	Cut		Posthole	Circular with straight near vertical sides to a flat base	0.5	0.47	0.32	
24	2409	Fill	2408	Secondary Fill	Mid grey coarse sandy clay with rare charcoal	0.5	0.47	0.32	
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	28.2	2	0.26	
25	2501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay silt	28.2	2	0.25	
25	2502	Layer		Alluvium	Mid blue grey clay silt	28.2	2	0.2	
25	2503	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow friable sandy silt	28.2	2	>0.07	
25	2504	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	1.9	1	>0.31	
25	2505	Fill	2504	Secondary Fill	Mid brown grey with red yellow mottling firm silty clay	1.9	1	>0.31	
25	2506	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated base	2.2	2.4	>0.31	
25	2507	Fill	2506	Secondary Fill	Mid grey red brown friable silty clay	2.2	2.4	>0.31	
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	25.5	1.9	0.17	
26	2601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay common shell inclusions	25.5	1.9	0.15	
26	2602	Layer		Alluvium	Light brown grey friable clay	25.5	1.9	0.3	

					sand				
26	2603	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown friable clay sand	25.5	1.9	>0.11	
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey black silty sand	30	1.9	0.14	
27	2701	Layer		Alluvium	Light grey sandy silt	30	1.9	0.32	
27	2702	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sandy gravel	30	1.9	>0.21	
27	2703	Cut		Ditch	Linear with gradual concave sides on E-W alignment - unexcavated	>2	2.4	>0.53	Modern
27	2704	Fill	2703	Secondary Fill	Light grey white sandy silt	>2	2.4	>0.53	Modern
27	2705	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown sandy silt	30	1.9	0.2	
28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty clay	30	1.9	0.22	
28	2801	Layer		Subsoil	Pale grey slightly silty clay	30	1.9	0.11	
28	2802	Layer		Alluvium	Light grey clay with common manganese mottling	30	1.9	0.17	
28	2803	Layer		Natural	Pale red yellow brown gritty clay with gravel	30	1.9	>0.18	
28	2804	Cut		Ditch	Linear with shallow concave sides on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>1.9	2.3	>0.28	Modern
28	2805	Fill	2804	Secondary Fill	Pale yellow white soft clay with manganese mottling	>1.9	2.3	>0.28	Modern
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt	30	2	0.16	
29	2901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	30	2	0.1	
29	2902	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey friable silty clay	30	2	0.15	
29	2903	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow grey brown sandy gravel	30	2	>0.16	
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt	28.6	2	0.12	
30	3001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	28.6	2	0.4	
30	3002	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown compact sandy gravel	28.6	2	>0.1	
30	3003	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>2	1.3	>0.5	Modern
30	3004	Fill	3003	Secondary Fill	Pale yellow white soft clay with manganese mottling	>2	1.3	>0.5	Modern
31	3100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt	30	2	0.2	
31	3101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	30	2	0.12	
31	3102	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy gravel	30	2	>0.04	
31	3103	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NW-SE alignment - unexcavated	>1.9	1.03	N/A	
31	3104	Fill	3103	Secondary Fill	Mid blue grey firm silty clay	>1.9	1.03	N/A	
32	3200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable clay silt	30	1.9	0.12	
32	3201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey soft silty clay	30	1.9	0.13	
32	3202	Layer		Natural	Light brown yellow soft silty clay	30	1.9	>0.31	
33	3300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable clay silt	29	1.8	0.2	
33	3301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey soft silty clay	29	1.8	0.17	
33	3302	Layer		Natural	Light brown yellow soft silty clay	29	1.8	>0.13	
33	3303	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear with gentle concave sides on N-S alignment	>3	1	N/A	
33	3304	Fill	3303	Secondary Fill	Mid grey yellow brown compact clay	>3	1	N/A	
34	3400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark Grey brown friable clay silt	29.3	1.9	0.2	
34	3401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow grey soft silty clay	29.3	1.9	0.23	

34	3402	Layer		Natural	Light grey yellow soft sandy clay	29.3	1.9	>0.27	
34	3403	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides on N-S alignment - unexcavated	>2	2.03	>0.16	
34	3404	Fill	3403	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	>2	2.03	>0.16	
34	3405	Cut		Ditch	Modern service - Unexcavated	>2	0.6	N/A	Modern
34	3406	Fill	3405	Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue compact silty clay	>2	0.6	N/A	Modern
34	3407	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NW-SE alignment - unexcavated	>2	1.85	N/A	
34	3408	Fill	3407	Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue brown compact silty clay	>2	1.85	N/A	
35	3500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt	30.5	2	0.14	
35	3501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silt clay	30.5	2	0.11	
35	3502	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown friable clay silt	30.5	2	0.1	
35	3503	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy gravel	30.5	2	>0.21	
35	3504	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>3.8	0.7	N/A	
35	3505	Fill	3504	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>3.8	0.7	N/A	
35	3506	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>2.3	0.6	N/A	
35	3507	Fill	3506	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>2.3	0.6	N/A	
36	3600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	30	1.9	0.17	
36	3601	Layer		Subsoil	Pale yellow brown clay silt	30	1.9	0.14	
36	3602	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey blue friable clay silt with shell inclusions	30	1.9	0.15	
36	3603	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow friable clay sand with gravel	30	1.9	>0.11	
37	3700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown loose silt	30.5	2	0.2	
37	3701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	30.5	2	0.16	
37	3702	Layer		Alluvium	Light to mid grey brown friable clay silt	30.5	2	0.26	
37	3703	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow brown compact clay sandy gravel	30.5	2	>0.11	
37	3704	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue compact clay	30.5	2	>0.11	
38	3800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown loos silt	30	2	0.13	
38	3801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	30	2	0.1	
38	3802	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey friable silty clay	30	2	0.27	
38	3803	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow brown sandy gravel	30	2	>0.15	
38	3804	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>0.75	0.65	N/A	
38	3805	Fill		Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue brown compact silty clay	>0.75	0.65	N/A	
38	3806	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear on E-W alignment - unexcavated	>10	0.57	N/A	
38	3807	Fill		Secondary Fill	Mid grey blue brown compact silty clay	>10	0.57	N/A	
39	3901	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	30	2	0.15	
39	3902	Layer		Subsoil	Dark brown yellow compact silty clay	30	2	0.15	
39	3903	Layer		Alluvium	Light brown grey compact silty clay	30	2	0.19	
39	3904	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown compact sandy clay	30	2	>0.21	

39	3905	Cut		Posthole	Circular cut - unexcavated	0.2	0.19	N/A	
39	3906	Fill	3905	Secondary Fill	Light brown grey silty clay with manganese mottling	0.2	0.19	N/A	
39	3907	Cut		Posthole	Circular cut - unexcavated	0.18	0.19	N/A	
39	3908	Fill	3907	Secondary Fill	Light brown grey silty clay with manganese mottling	0.18	0.19	N/A	
39	3909	Cut		Posthole	Circular cut - unexcavated	0.16	0.17	N/A	
39	3910	Fill	3909	Secondary Fill	Light brown grey silty clay with manganese mottling	0.16	0.17	N/A	
40	4000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silty clay turfed	30	1.9	0.18	
40	4001	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable clay silt	30	1.9	0.13	
40	4002	Layer		Alluvium	Pale blue grey friable clay silt with shell inclusions	30	1.9	0.25	
40	4003	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay sand with occasional gravel	30	1.9	>0.08	
40	4004	Layer		Natural	Mid grey blue silty clay with shell inclusions	30	1.9	>0.08	
40	4005	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NW-SE alignment - unexcavated	>1.9	0.66	N/A	
40	4006	Fill	4005	Secondary Fill	Light blue grey compact silty clay with manganese mottling	>1.9	0.66	N/A	
41	4100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable clay silt	32	1.9	0.13	
41	4101	Layer		Subsoil	Pale brown friable clay silt with shell inclusions	32	1.9	0.11	
41	4102	Layer		Alluvium	Pale blue grey friable clay silt with shell inclusions	32	1.9	0.17	
41	4103	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay sand with occasional gravel	32	1.9	>0.08	
41	4104	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NE-SW alignment - unexcavated	>1.9	0.66	N/A	
41	4105	Fill	4104	Secondary Fill	Mid blue grey firm silty clay	>1.9	0.66	N/A	
42	4200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	27.5	2	0.22	
42	4201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	27.5	2	0.11	
42	4202	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	27.5	2	0.19	
42	4203	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown compact sandy gravel	27.5	2	>0.07	
43	4300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silt	28.5	2	0.19	
43	4301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay	28.5	2	0.22	
43	4302	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow red friable clay sand with occasional gravel	28.5	2	>0.24	
44	4400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silt	29	2	0.21	
44	4401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.1	
44	4402	Layer		Alluvium	Mid yellow grey clay	29	2	0.25	
44	4403	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow friable clay sand with occasional sandy gravel	29	2	>0.05	
44	4404	Cut		Ditch	Linear on NW-SE alignment - unexcavated	>2	0.95	N/A	
44	4405	Fill		Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>2	0.95	N/A	
44	4406	Cut		Ditch	Linear on N-S alignment - unexcavated	>2	0.86	N/A	
44	4407	Fill		Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown compact silty clay	>2	0.86	N/A	

44	4408	Cut		Ditch	Linear with steep sides on N-S alignment - partially excavated	>2	0.8	>0.3	
44	4409	Fill		Secondary Fill	Mid grey compact clay with rare gravel	>2	0.8	>0.3	
45	4500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.2	
45	4501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.16	
45	4502	Layer		Natural	Dark grey brown compact clay with small gravel	29	2	>0.34	
45	4503	Layer		Natural	Light off white compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.34	
46	4600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.2	
46	4601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.18	
46	4602	Layer		Natural	Dark grey brown compact clay with gravel	29	2	>0.26	
46	4603	Layer		Natural	Light white grey compact sandy gravel with yellow brown mottling	29	2	>0.26	
47	4700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	27.5	2	0.14	
47	4701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay with shell inclusions	27.5	2	0.18	
47	4702	Layer		Alluvium	Dark to mid grey brown compact clay	27.5	2	0.18	
47	4703	Layer		Natural	Light white grey compact sandy gravel	27.5	2	>0.1	
48	4800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown friable silt	29	2	0.23	
48	4801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.1	
48	4802	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.18	
48	4803	Layer		Natural	Dark grey brown compact clay	29	2	>0.12	
48	4804	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.12	
49	4900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.14	
49	4901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.13	
49	4902	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.16	
49	4903	Layer		Natural	Light yellow grey white compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.14	
50	5000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.19	
50	5001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.17	
50	5002	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.18	
50	5003	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey compact clay	29	2	>0.72	
50	5004	Layer		Natural	Light grey white compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.72	
50	5005	Layer		Palaeochannel	Dark grey black friable peat	29	2	0.72	
51	5100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.2	
51	5101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.1	
51	5102	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.2	
51	5103	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.23	
51	5104	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey compact clay	29	2	>0.23	
52	5200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	28	2	0.14	
52	5201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	28	2	0.12	
52	5202	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	28	2	0.24	

52	5203	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey compact clay with shell inclusions	28	2	>0.03	
52	5204	Layer		Natural	Mid white grey brown compact sandy gravel	28	2	>0.03	
53	5300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	28.5	2	0.13	
53	5301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	28.5	2	0.17	
53	5302	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	28.5	2	0.27	
53	5303	Layer		Alluvium	Mid blue grey compact clay with patches of brown	28.5	2	0.12	
53	5304	Layer		Natural	Mid white grey brown compact sandy gravel	28.5	2	>0.01	
54	5400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.15	
54	5401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.19	
54	5402	Layer		Alluvium	Mid grey brown friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.33	
54	5403	Layer		Natural	Mid blue grey compact clay	29	2	>0.13	
54	5404	Layer		Natural	Light grey brown compact sandy gravel	29	2	>0.13	
55	5500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	28.5	2	0.17	
55	5501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	28.5	2	0.11	
55	5502	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	28.5	2	0.21	
55	5503	Layer		Natural	Light white yellow compact sandy gravel	28.5	2	>0.29	
55	5504	Layer		Alluvium	Mid blue grey compact clay	28.5	2	0.19	
56	5600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.09	
56	5601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.11	
56	5602	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay	29	2	0.38	
56	5603	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow white compact sandy gravel with mid brown patches	29	2	>0.03	
57	5700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown loose silt	29	2	0.12	
57	5701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown friable silty clay	29	2	0.13	
57	5702	Layer		Alluvium	Mid brown grey friable silty clay with shell inclusions	29	2	0.29	
57	5703	Layer		Natural	Mid grey brown compact sandy gravel with blue grey clay inclusions	29	2	>0.07	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Finds concordance

Context	Class	Description	Fabric Code	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Spot-date
100	CBM	tile		2	105	-
	iron	nail		1	5	
101	modern pottery	Black-glazed base	BGEW	1	51	C18-C19
	Post-medieval pottery	Transfer-print refined white ware	TP RWW	1	1	
105	Iron Age/RB pottery	Grog-tempered	Gt	1	20	IA/RB
107	burnt flint			2	75	RB
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered	RB Gt	1	17	
	stone			1	17	
112	Iron Age/RB pottery	Grog-tempered	Gt	1	14	LC1-C2
	Roman pottery	White-slipped flagon fabric	WS	1	8	
205	Roman pottery	Greyware; worn bodysherds	GW	2	5	RB
711	Uncertain pottery	scraps		2	<1	-
713	Prehistoric pottery	Fine shell-tempered; pinched base and body	Sh	5	56	Pre
	Prehistoric pottery	Grog-tempered; bead rim / body	Gt	2	34	
	stone	half cobble		1	115	
1301	coal			1	5	
1302	Roman pottery	oxidised, slightly micaceous	OXID	1	5	RB
1801	modern pottery	Yellow-ware	YEL	1	5	C19-C20
1901	prehistoric pottery	Grog-tempered	Gt	1	3	Pre
2308	Prehistoric pottery	Fine shell-tempered bodysherd	Sh	1	7	Pre
	Prehistoric pottery	Fine shell-tempered; body	Sh	1	7	Pre
2405	CBM	frag.		1	77	
	Prehistoric pottery	Fragmentary grog-tempered	Gt	2	4	Pre
2805	modern pottery	black-glazed rimsherds	BGEW	3	23	C18-C19
3304	Prehistoric pottery	Vesicular fabric	VES	1	4	RB
	Roman pottery	Oxidised	OXID	2	1	
3408	Roman pottery	Oxidised; poss. jar rim	OXID	1	10	RB
	Roman pottery	buff with clay pellets?	BUFF	1	7	
	shell	1 left piece		1	20	
3701	?medieval pottery	buff-coloured, very quartz-rich bodysherd	Med1	1	13	?med
4801	Roman pottery	Beaker	**CNG BS**	1	4	MC2-EC3

*Codes in **bold** equate to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998)

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
Prehistoric											
712	713	4	2	1		4			14	25	226
2313	2314	2								2	37
Subtotal		**6**	**2**	**1**		**4**			**14**	**27**	**263**
Roman											
204	205						1			1	8
3303	3304	2	3		1	1				7	118
Subtotal		**2**	**3**		**1**	**1**	**1**			**8**	**126**
Undated											
	1301						1			1	38
	2401	1								1	4
2408	2409							6		6	3
Subtotal		**1**					**1**	**6**		**8**	**45**
Total		**9**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**5**	**2**	**6**	**14**	**43**	
Weight		**264**	**48**	**10**	**10**	**46**	**46**	**3**	**7**	**434**	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; EQ = horse; LM = cattle size mammal; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = unidentifiable burnt bone from bulk soil samples

Table 2 Assessment table of the charred remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 7													
Pit	707	1	40	0	5	20	-	-	-	*	*Corylus avellana* shell frag	**/**	-
Pit	721	2	20	0	5	20	-	-	-	-	-	*/**	-
Ditch	713	3	40	0	50	50	**	*	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume base frags	**	*Bromus*	**/****	Moll-t (***), Moll-f (***)
Trench 22													
Disturbed Cremation	2250	4	10	0	2	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moll-t (*), Moll-f (*)

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items**** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items: Moll-t = land snails, Moll-f = aquatic snails

Table 3 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Area		Trench 50
Phase		undated
Feature		Paleochannel
Context		5005
Sample		5
Processed vol (L)		2
Waterlogged material		
Ranunculus sub genus Batrachium	crowfoot	+
stem/root frags > 4mm		+
stem/root frags > 2mm		+++
Charred material		
Charcoal 4/2mm		-/+
Shells		
Open country species		
Vallonia sp.		+
Vertigo sp.		+
Marsh species		
Succinea/Oxyloma sp.		+
Amphibious species		
Anisus leucostoma		+
Galba truncatula		+
Intermediate species		
Radix balthica		+

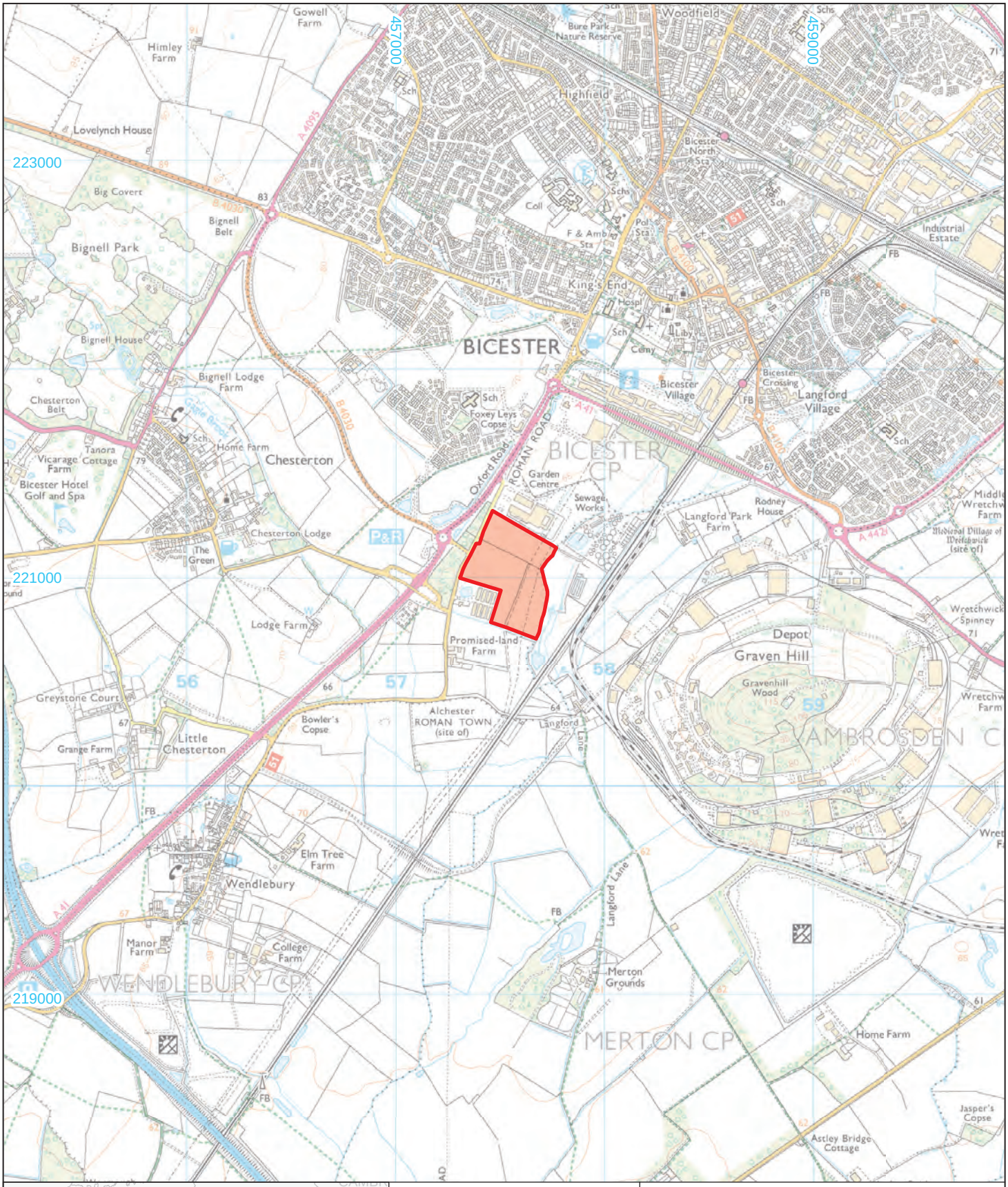
Gyraulus crista		+
Ditch species		
Planorbis planorbis		+
Valvata cristata		+
Moving water		
Bithynia sp.		+

Key: + = 1–49 items; ++ = 50–100 items; +++ = >100 items

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February/March 2019 at Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Fifty seven trenches were excavated with archaeological features being recorded in twenty seven. Unfortunately a very high seasonal water table resulted in localised flooding within many of the evaluation trenches making hand excavation difficult. The evaluation revealed evidence of a cremation cemetery within Trench 22, along with a series of associated ditches and discrete features which are likely to be contemporary to a late prehistoric / Romano-British landscape which demonstrates evidence for farming, settlement and burial rites close to the Roman road on the western site boundary of the site which ran from Bicester to Towcester. The presence of the cementation cemetery within the site, allied to the results of the previous geophysical survey indicates that it is likely that the limited number of cremations identified within Trench 22 is part of a larger cremation cemetery in the vicinity of the trench. Prehistoric activity is likely to have taken place within the vicinity of Trench 7 based on the results of environmental sampling, with the possibility that similar activity took place in the vicinity of trenches 21 and 23. The results of the evaluation are similar to those from within the chicken farm to the south west of the site which revealed evidence for extensive Romano-British pits land reclamation and water management (in addition to a series of pits and a metalled road surface). Many of the trenches within the current evaluation, especially to the north and west of the site demonstrate evidence for quarrying and water management. These features, along with the high water table observed within many of the trenches, indicates drainage and water management on the site would have historically been a significant factor in utilising the site.
Project dates	18 Feb – 8 March 2019
Project type	Field evaluation
Previous work	Geophysical survey – Archaeological Surveys Ltd. 2018
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 2PA
Study area (M^2/ha)	18.52 ha
Site co-ordinates	57550 21000

PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	OCC	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ray Kennedy	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
MONUMENT TYPE	Cremation cemetery, ditches, pits	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service	ceramics, animal bone
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Context sheets, registers
Digital	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 *Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **Ref 770893_01**		



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0 1km

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PROJECT TITLE

Bicester Gateway Phase 2, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 2PA

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770893**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	

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PROJECT TITLE

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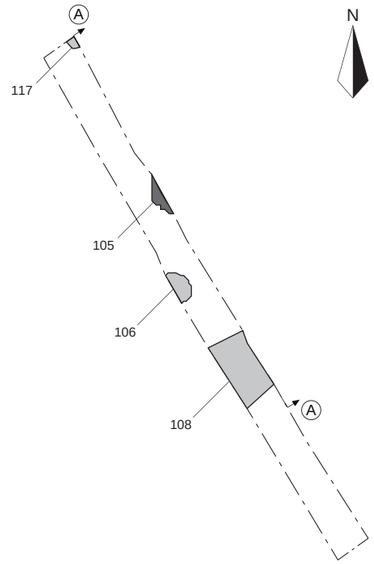
FIGURE TITLE

Trench plan and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	AW	PROJECT NO.	770893	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	12.03.19	2
APPROVED BY	RK	SCALE@A3	1:2500	



Trench 1, plan

0 1:300 15m

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)

A A Section location

Trench 1, looking south-east (1m scales)

Section AA, looking north-east (2m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

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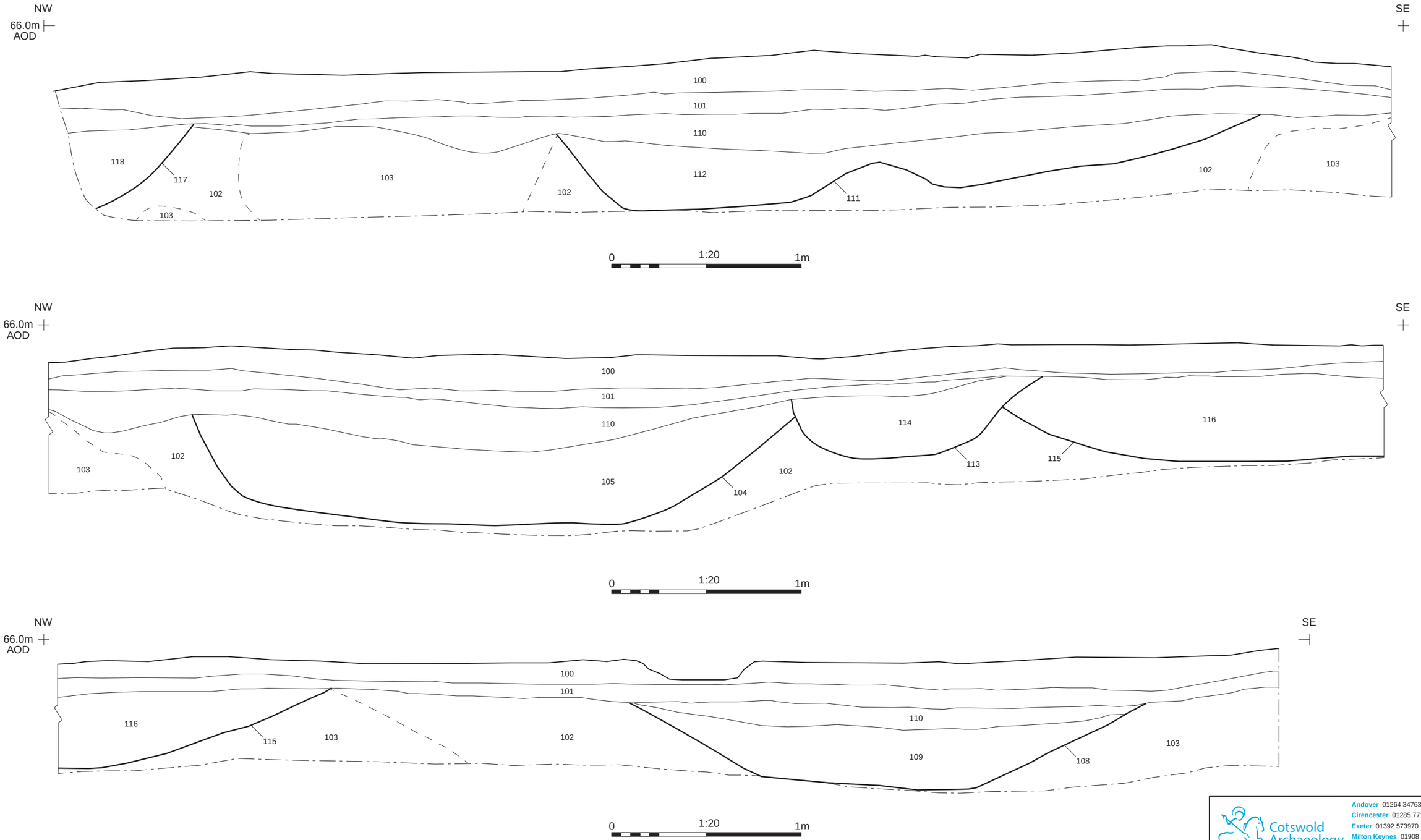
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 1: plan and photographs

DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770893**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**3**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:300**	

Section AA



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PROJECT TITLE

Bicester Gateway Phase 2, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 2PA

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 1: section

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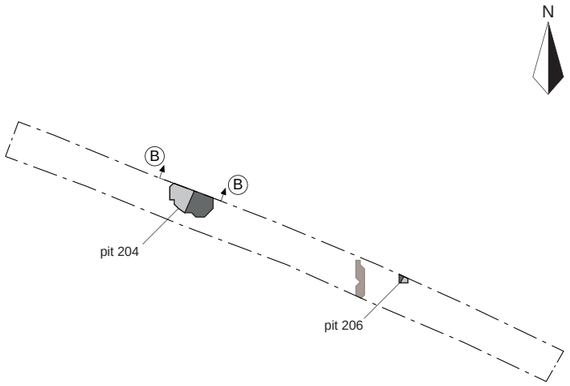
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Trench 2, plan

0 1:300 15m

Section BB

0 1:20 1m

Trench 2, looking south-east (1m scales)

Pit 204, looking north-east (1m and 2m scales)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)

Tree throw

Section location

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PROJECT TITLE

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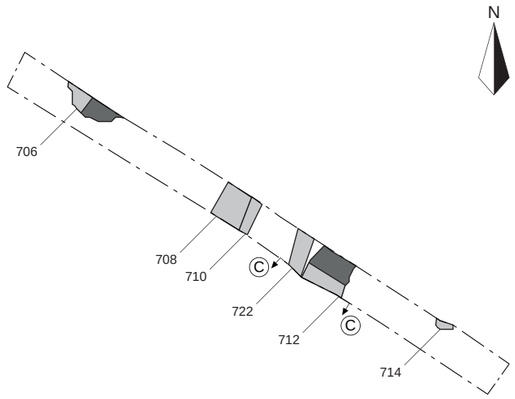
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 2: plan, section and photographs

DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770893**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:300; 1:20**	



Trench 7, plan

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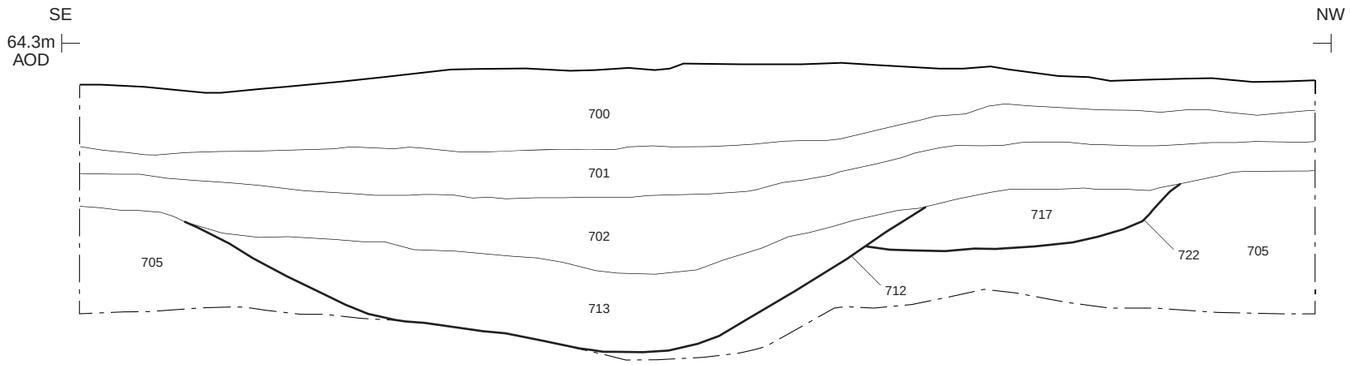
Section CC



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Trench 7, looking north-west (1m scales)

Section of ditches 712 and 722, looking south-west (2m scale)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)

Section location

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: plan, section and photographs

DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770893**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**6**
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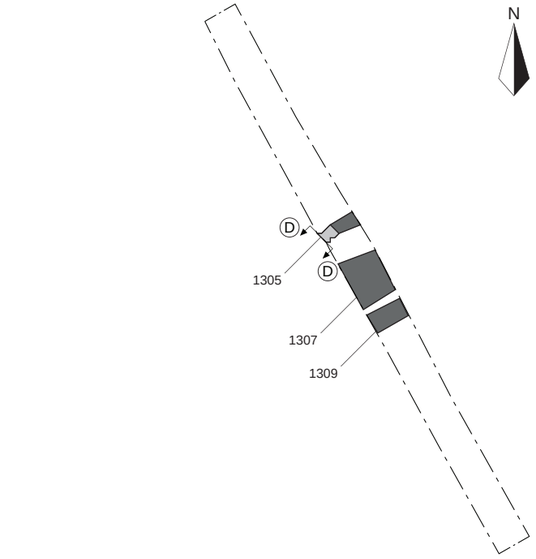

Trench 13, plan

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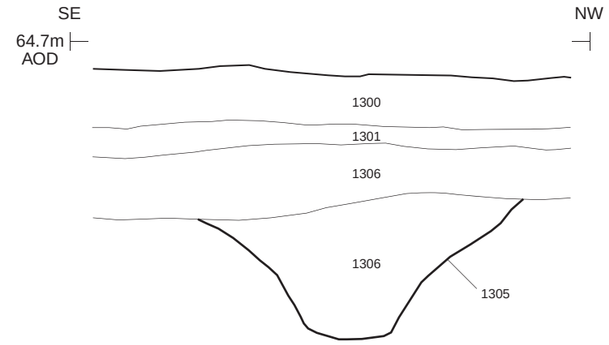
Section DD



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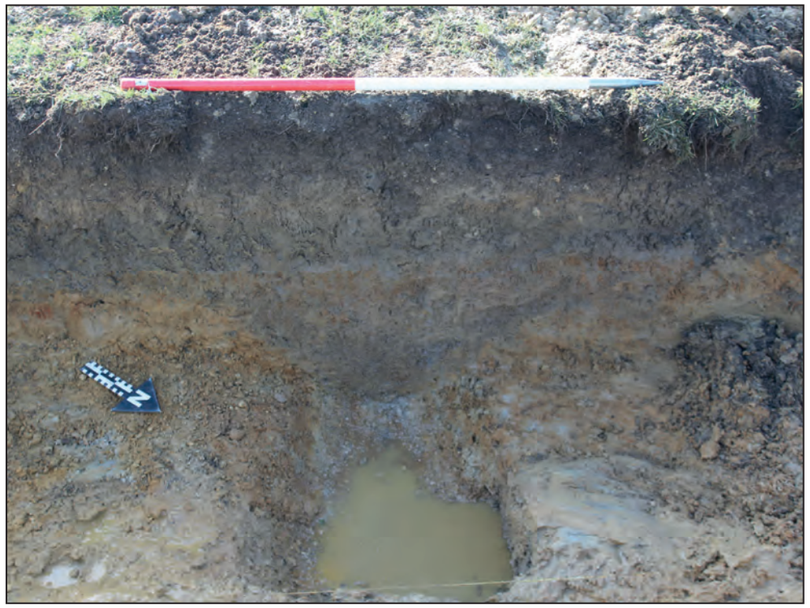
Trench 13, looking north-west (1m scales)



Section of ditch 1305, looking south-west (1m scale)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)

Section location

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 13: plan, section and photographs

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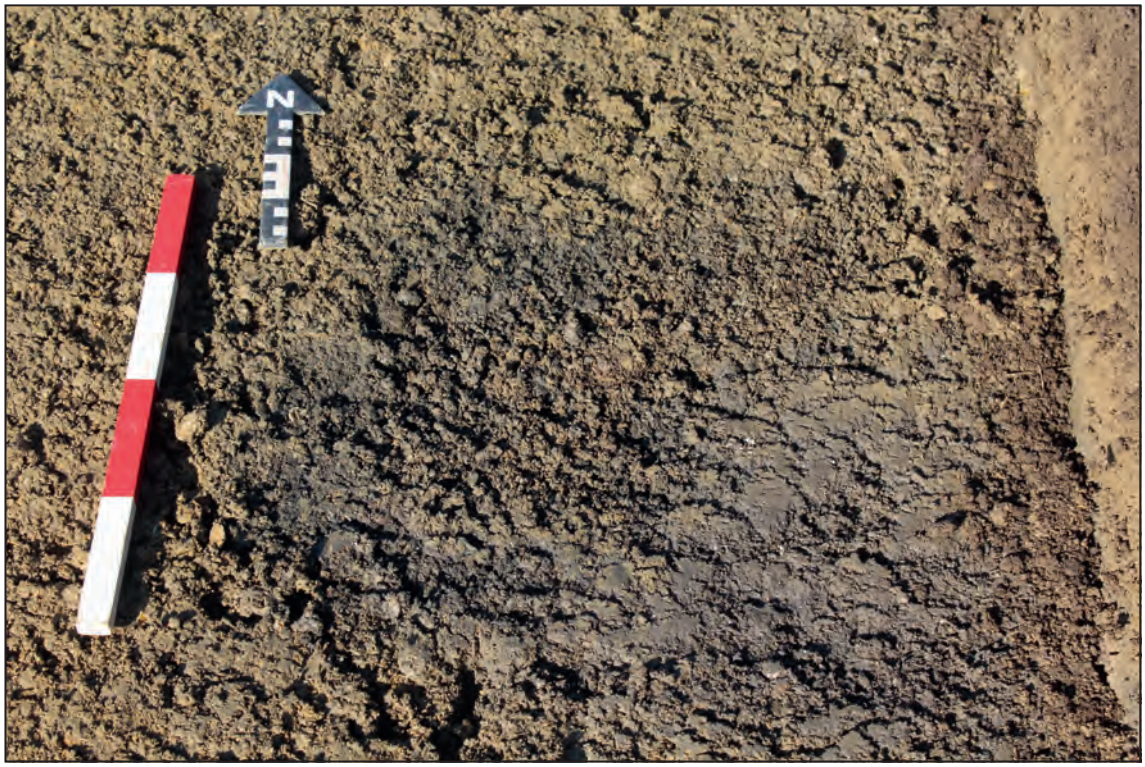
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:300; 1:20**	



Cremation 2210, looking north (0.4m scale)

Cremation 2206, looking north (0.4m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

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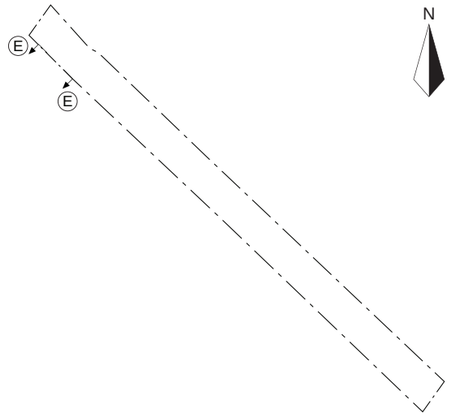
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 22 survey results: photographs

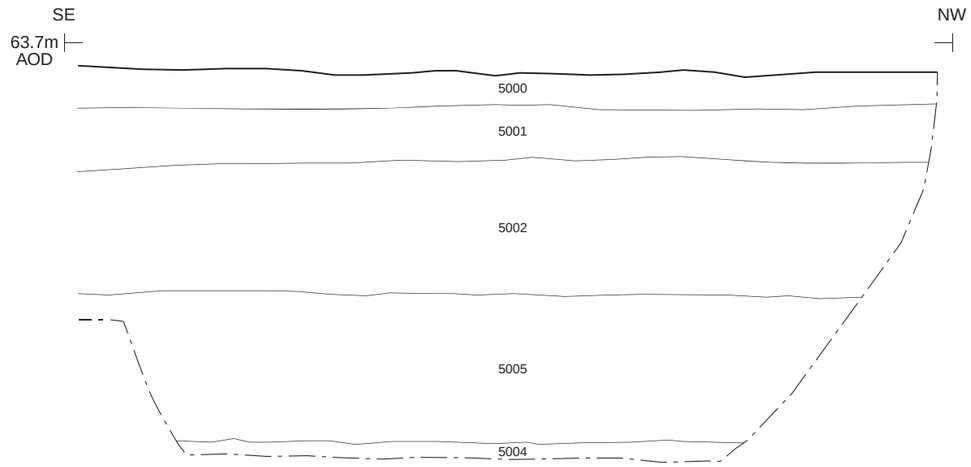
DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770893**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**8**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Trench 50, plan

0 1:300 15m

Section EE



0 1:20 1m

Trench 50, looking south-east (1m scales)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)

Section location

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 50: plan, section and photograph

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**12.03.19**	**9**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:300; 1:20**	

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