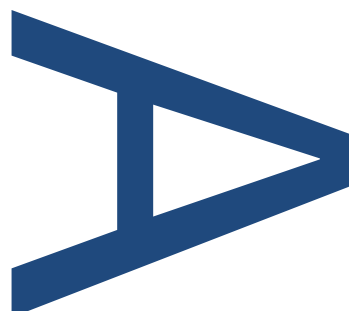


**LAND ADJACENT TO OLD SCHOOL
HOUSE, FARRIERS CLOSE,
FRINGFORD, OXFORDSHIRE,
OX27 8DD**



An Archaeological Evaluation



| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Planning reference</i> | N/A | | |
| <i>Local planning authority</i> | Cherwell District Council | | |
| <i>PCA report no.</i> | R14800 | <i>Site Code</i> | ORLF21 |
| <i>PCA project no</i> | K7543 | <i>Date</i> | January 2022 |

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

www.pre-construct.com

| Project Information | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Site name | Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD |
| Project type | Evaluation |
| Site address | Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD |
| NGR | SP 60373 28919 |
| Local planning authority | Cherwell District Council |
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| Commissioning client | Abrams Archaeology on behalf of Sorbon Estates |
| Project dates | November 2021 |
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| PCA Information | | | |
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD. The work was conducted on 30th November 2021.
- 1.2 Planning permission has been sought in September 2010 for the erection of a new three bed-roomed dwelling (10/01220/F) and again in May 2021 for a new 4 bed-roomed dwelling. Due to the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to be present on the site a pre-determination archaeological field evaluation was requested, and a relevant report should accompany the new planning application.
- 1.3 One evaluation trench was proposed to be excavated on the site. As the existing protected trees prevented excavation of the trench in full length, an additional Trench 2 to the north of Trench 1 was excavated to investigate appropriate proportion of the site.
- 1.4 During the evaluation, the natural geology was composed of a compact, greyish mid-orange clayey sand, recorded at 104.32mOD, c. 0.68m below ground level.
- 1.5 A single pit was revealed, and it may have dated to late 18th to early 19th century, based on pottery recovered from the feature.
- 1.6 A short section of a north-east to south-west orientated wall was also recorded. It was built of a combination of fragmentary sandstone and brick and was interpreted as having been a foundation structure. The masonry was dated to late 18th century to 19th century.
- 1.7 The modern land surface was composed of sub- and topsoil and was recorded at a height of 105m OD.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) undertook an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD (Figure 1). The work was carried out in November 2021. The site is centred at NGR SP 60373 28919
- 2.2 A brief for an archaeological evaluation on the site was issued by Oxford County Archaeological Services (OCAS), which outlined their requirements for archaeological work (OCAS 2021). The brief also provided planning background for the development.
- 2.3 The work was undertaken in advance of new planning application as requested by OCAS.
- 2.4 The evaluation comprised excavation of one trial trench with additional trench also excavated to compensate for limitations of available space on the site preventing full excavation of the proposed trench.
- 2.5 The work was supervised by Dominic McAtominey, and the project was managed by Zbigniew Pozorski, both of PCA. The work was commissioned by Abrams Archaeology on behalf of Sorbon Estates and was monitored by Richard Oram of the Oxford County Archaeology Service.
- 2.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:
- *Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation* (PCA 2021)
 - *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation: Land Adjacent Old School House Farriers Close, Fringford* (OCAS 2021)
 - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE Historic England 2015)
 - *'Standard and guidance for an archaeological evaluation'* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists CIfA 2020).
- 2.7 The completed archive, comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the relevant receiving house, identified by the unique site code ORLF21.

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Planning permission was sought in September 2010 for the erection of a new three bedroomed dwelling (10/01220/F) and in May 2021 for a new 4 bedroomed dwelling. Due to the potential for below ground archaeological deposits to be present on the site a pre-determination archaeological field evaluation was requested. This was not undertaken and as a result formed one of the reasons for the refusal of the application at two separate appeals. A field evaluation report is required for any new application in line with the NPPF and Local Plan policy.
- 3.2 A brief for an archaeological evaluation on the site was issued by Oxford County Archaeological Services (OCAS), outlining their requirements for archaeological work (OCAS 2021). The brief also provided the planning background for the development.
- 3.3 A relevant written scheme of investigation (specification; WSI) was subsequently prepared (PCA 2021) and approved by OCAS before its submission to Cherwell District Council.

4 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Geology

4.1.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS Online) illustrates that the bedrock geology of the site to comprise the Kellaways Formation (sandstone, siltstone and mudstone), sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 164 to 166 million years ago in the Jurassic Period (Hawkins 2021:5).

4.1.2 The bedrock geology is overlain by a drift geology composed of Glaciofluvial Deposits, mid Pleistocene (sand and gravel), superficial deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (Hawkins 2021:5).

4.2 Topography

4.2.1 The site lies at approximately 105m above Ordnance Datum (OD) and is currently undeveloped grass and trees. The Claydon Brook meanders approximately 300m to the north of the site (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2021:5).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

5.1 A Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was produced for the site (Abrams 2021) from which a summary was prepared in the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2021), and it is reproduced below.

5.2 Prehistoric

5.2.1 Archaeological excavations by the Oxford Archaeological Unit (now Oxford Archaeology) at Crosslands, to the east of the site (Moore & Parkinson 1993; Mudd 1993; Mudd 1994), and at The Paddock, Rectory Road, closer to the north-east (Hardy 1994; Blinkhorn et al. 2000), revealed a complex and long-lived late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement continuing into the 4th century AD (PRN 15925).

5.3 Roman

5.3.1 The Roman occupation was recorded close to the north-east of the site (Blinkhorn et al. 2000) and it comprised a paddock or field boundaries, and a possible trackway defined by later gullies. There was also indication of some structures to have existed nearby. A Roman cremation burial was also found.

5.3.2 A Watching Brief carried out in The Close, Church Lane, to the north-east by John Moore Heritage Services did not find any continuation of this settlement (Gray Jones 2002).

5.4 Saxon

5.4.1 The name Fringford suggests that this was also an early Saxon settlement based upon a ford across the Fringford brook. By 1086 there were two estates. One had land for 8 ploughs and was worth £8 as it had been before the Conquest. There were 2 plough-teams and 4 serfs on the demesne and 18 villeins (villani), and 8 bordars shared 6 plough-teams. Two mills rendered 10s. The smaller estate consisted entirely of demesne land; it had 1 plough-land and 1 plough-team with 3 bordars at work on it. Its value had increased from 30s. to 40s. There were thus 33 recorded male workers (British History Online, accessed October 2021).

5.4.2 After the Conquest the two Saxon settlements at Fringford, assessed at 10½ hides in all, were granted to Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, and were held of him in 1086 by his retainer Wadard. When Odo was exiled many of his fees were redistributed by William II and were henceforth held by the service of doing castle guard at Dover (British History Online, accessed October 2021).

5.4.3 The excavations to the east of the site also revealed late Saxon occupation of 11th century date, continuing through the 12th and into the 13th century, when timber buildings were replaced by masonry buildings.

5.5 Medieval

5.5.1 Works to the north-east, east and south of the site (Blinkhorn et al. 2000) revealed medieval occupation in various forms. The complex archaeological remains dating on the multiphase site to the east included medieval features dated to 10th – 11th centuries onwards. The early medieval element consisted of field boundaries which are close to the alignments of major of major late Roman ditches, suggesting a continuity of use. There was clear evidence of the survival of these boundaries into the 19th century. The remains also included the droveway, enclosures and pits.

5.5.2 The mid-13th century building was also recorded in the area to the east of the site and it contained two phases of cobbled stone floor and associated yard surface. These continued in use until the 14th century, when the site was largely abandoned.

5.5.3 It is understood that the current site is located in a peripheral area of the above settlement characterised by field boundaries as those found close to the north-east although structural elements may also be present.

5.5.4 An Archaeological Watching Brief carried out in 1996 at the north-east end of the village, on the site of Fringford Manor (PRN 1126) opposite St Michael's Church, revealed evidence of a medieval moated site with an associated boundary and fishpond (OAU 1996).

5.6 Post-medieval

5.6.1 The 17th century village was of a medium size for the Ploughley Hundred, as it had been in the Middle Ages. It had 35 and 24 houses listed for the hearth taxes of 1662 and 1665. There was no large manor-house, but a good Rectory, two more than usually large farmhouses with six and five hearths apiece, and two farm-houses with four hearths each (British History Online, accessed October 2021).

5.7 An archaeological Watching Brief at land south-east of Glebe Court did not find any evidence of archaeological activity other than the furrows of former cultivation (Sims 2008).

5.8 Cartographic evidence from at least the 1880s (National Library of Scotland Maps online, accessed October 2021) illustrate that the site was open and undeveloped, on the southern side of Rectory Lane, until the present day. Based on this evidence little previous impacts are likely to have occurred on the site.

6 METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the methodology outlined in the WSI for the site (PCA 2021), which is summarised below.
- 6.2 The broad aims of the evaluation were to identify, excavate and record the location, extent, date, character and state of preservation of any archaeological remains on the site which are likely to be threatened by the proposed development, and to identify their significance in a local, regional and national context, as appropriate, with reference to regional research agendas.
- 6.3 The excavation consisted of a single trench measuring 1.8m wide by 15m in length oriented north-east to south-west; however, the numerous trees with Tree Protection Orders issued prevented the full excavation of the trench. As a mitigation measure, and by suggestion of Mr Richard Oram of OCAS, additional smaller Trench 2 was excavated to the north of Trench 1, to compensate and investigate appropriate sample of the site area (Figure 2).
- 6.4 The ground reduction process was undertaken by mechanical excavator under the supervision of the PCA Supervisor. The ground was reduced in horizontal spits of 100mm. Once the archaeological/geological horizon was reached it was cleaned by hand. Representative sections were hand-excavated and drawn, and the base of the trench cleaned in order to define any archaeological layers or features. Where these were identified, localised excavation took place in an attempt to characterise the features and recover dating evidence.
- 6.5 All features and deposits were recorded using Geomax GPS equipment. Sections were drawn by hand at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 for each trench. Where possible, artefacts were recovered for specialist dating. All archaeological deposits were recorded on *pro forma* context sheets and a full photographic record was compiled.
- 6.6 The recording system adopted during the investigations was fully compatible with those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, now presented within PCA's Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009, updated 2018). The site archive was organised to be compatible with other archaeological archives produced within Oxfordshire.
- 6.7 The completed archive produced during the evaluation, comprising written, drawn and photographic records, will eventually be deposited with the local depositary under the site code ORLF21.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1: Natural

7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered was the natural geology, which was composed of a compact, greyish mid-orange clayey sand, recorded at 104.32mOD, c. 0.68m BGL (below ground level).

7.2 Phase 2: Post Medieval (late 18th to 19th Century)

7.2.1 That natural had been cut by a pit [107] which was sub oval in plan possessing gradual sides and a slightly concave base. It measured 0.64m along the long axis by 0.14m deep (Plates 1 & 2). The pit had two fills; the basal fill [106] contained fragments of pottery, shards of glass and animal bone whilst the upper fill [105] contained fragmentary ceramic building material (CBM) and metal. A sherd of creamware pottery giving a date of manufacture between 1765 and 1830 (Jarrett 2021 Appendix 5) but the glass was broadly dated to mid-18th to 19th century. The late 18th to early 19th century date of the feature will remain tentative as the pottery may have been residual in a later 19th century context.



Plate 1: Trench 1, view to north-east, scale 0.50m. Pit [107] in foreground.



Plate 2: Trench 1, view to north-east, scale 0.50m. Pit [107].

7.2.2 Wall foundation [110] was oriented north-east to south-west, it measured 2.94m in length by 0.25m wide and had been constructed within a shallow construction cut [109] only 0.10m deep and subsequently backfilled by a sandy silt [108] (Plate 3). The wall had been built from a combination of limestone blocks and brick and was interpreted as having been the foundation of a wall for a possible outbuilding. The fragment of brick, which was recovered from the construction cut backfill, along with two sherds of redware, gave a late 18th to 19th century date (Jarrett, Valcarcel 2021, Appendices 3 & 5).



Plate 3: Trench 1, view to south-east, scale 2m. Wall foundation [110]

7.3 **Phase 3: Modern**

- 7.3.1 The modern land surface was composed of sub and top-soils and was recorded at a height of 105m OD.

8 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

8.1 General Aims and Objectives

8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation located two features dating to the post-medieval period.

8.1.2 The written scheme of investigation (PCA 2021) highlighted a set of general aims and objectives of the evaluation:

To establish the presence or absence of evidence relating to prehistoric activity or occupation of the site.

8.1.3 No archaeological remains or deposits relating to the prehistoric period were identified or recorded.

To establish the presence or absence of evidence relating to the complex, late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement, continually in use until the 4th century, recorded in close proximity to the site.

8.1.4 No archaeological remains or deposits relating to the Iron Age or Romano-British periods were identified or recorded.

To establish the presence or absence of Roman cremation burials, also recorded in the close proximity to the site within the late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement site.

8.1.5 No archaeological remains or deposits of the Roman date were identified or recorded.

To establish the presence or absence of Saxon remains associated with the postulated Saxon origins of the village of Fringford.

8.1.6 No archaeological remains or deposits relating to the Saxon period were found.

To establish the presence or absence of medieval remains associated with the medieval village of Fringford, notably structural remains such as those previously recorded within close proximity to the site.

8.1.7 No archaeological remains or deposits relating to the medieval period were identified or recorded.

To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval remains associated with the village of Fringford.

8.1.8 The trench exposed a small pit [107] and a short section of wall foundation [110] which may have been a part of the northern side of the rectangular north-west/south-east orientated building, and it may relate to anomalies found in 1997 during the geophysical survey of the wider area of Fringford, and which appear to be perpendicular to the revealed foundation.

To establish any past post-depositional impacts on the site.

Horizontal truncation appeared to be only that of re-landscaping and levelling.

9 CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The natural geology, composed of compact, greyish mid-orange clayey sand was as expected.
- 9.2 Prior to the evaluation taking place, the relatively benign conditions on this site were recognised (Section 8.4.3, Abrams 2021). The likely depth (200-350mm) at which archaeological deposits may appear was also noted (Section 8.4.4, Abrams 2021). The evaluation provided an opportunity to test these predictions and Plates 1 and 3 (this document) demonstrate the predictions were well founded. The soils were shallow and yet the potential to preserve cut archaeological features existed. This was to be expected given the various investigations to the immediate south and east (EOX78, EOX79, EOX2525) which also removed between 200mm and 350mm of overburden.
- 9.3 The proximity of this site to those investigations was a primary reason for this evaluation being needed. The results of this evaluation are clear. The remains found to the south and east, which are described in various reports (most notably Blinkhorn, P, Bloor, C and Thomason, D. 2000. Excavations at The Paddock, Rectory Lane, Fringford 1997) do not continue into the evaluation area.
- 9.4 The pit [107] appeared to be a refuse pit which included domestic waste including CBM, corroded iron wire, fragments of animal bone (sheep/goat), pottery sherds (of cream and red wares) and fragments of glass. Of the glass sherds, one was derived from an olive-green cylindrical wine bottle (Jarrett 2021 Appendix 6).
- 9.5 The map regression exercise did not pre-date the 19th century, but the documentary evidence suggested that the immediate area was open fields. The Ordnance Survey County Series Maps dated 1880 onwards show the site as a separate, fenced off area containing several trees suggestive of a small paddock. It is located on the south side of Rectory Lane directly opposite a large building depicted on the map and now known as Pringle Cottage. No indication of the building found during the evaluation can be seen on historic maps. However, the possibility of post-medieval structural remains was noted in the desk-based assessment (Section 9.1.4). Not all structures are necessarily mapped as some are small/temporary in nature. The remains recorded here are datable by the material from which they are built (in the case of the small, stretch of possible wall) and by artefactual material associated with them in the case of the shallow pit and the possible wall. On the basis of this, it is suggested the wall and pit may be of the late 18th to early 19th century date and possibly associated with an agricultural outbuilding within a paddock.
- 9.6 Upon approval of this report and with confirmation that this project is complete the archive identified with the unique site code ORLF21, will be deposited with the relative institution.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Sorbon Estates Homes for commissioning the work, Mr Richard Oram of Oxford County Archaeological Services for monitoring the archaeological and Mr Joe Abrams of Abrams Archaeology for his support and management.
- 10.2 The author would also like to thank Zbigniew Pozorski of Pre-Construct Archaeology for managing the project and editing this report and Diana Valk for the illustrations, as well as Chris Jarrett, Amparo Valcarcel

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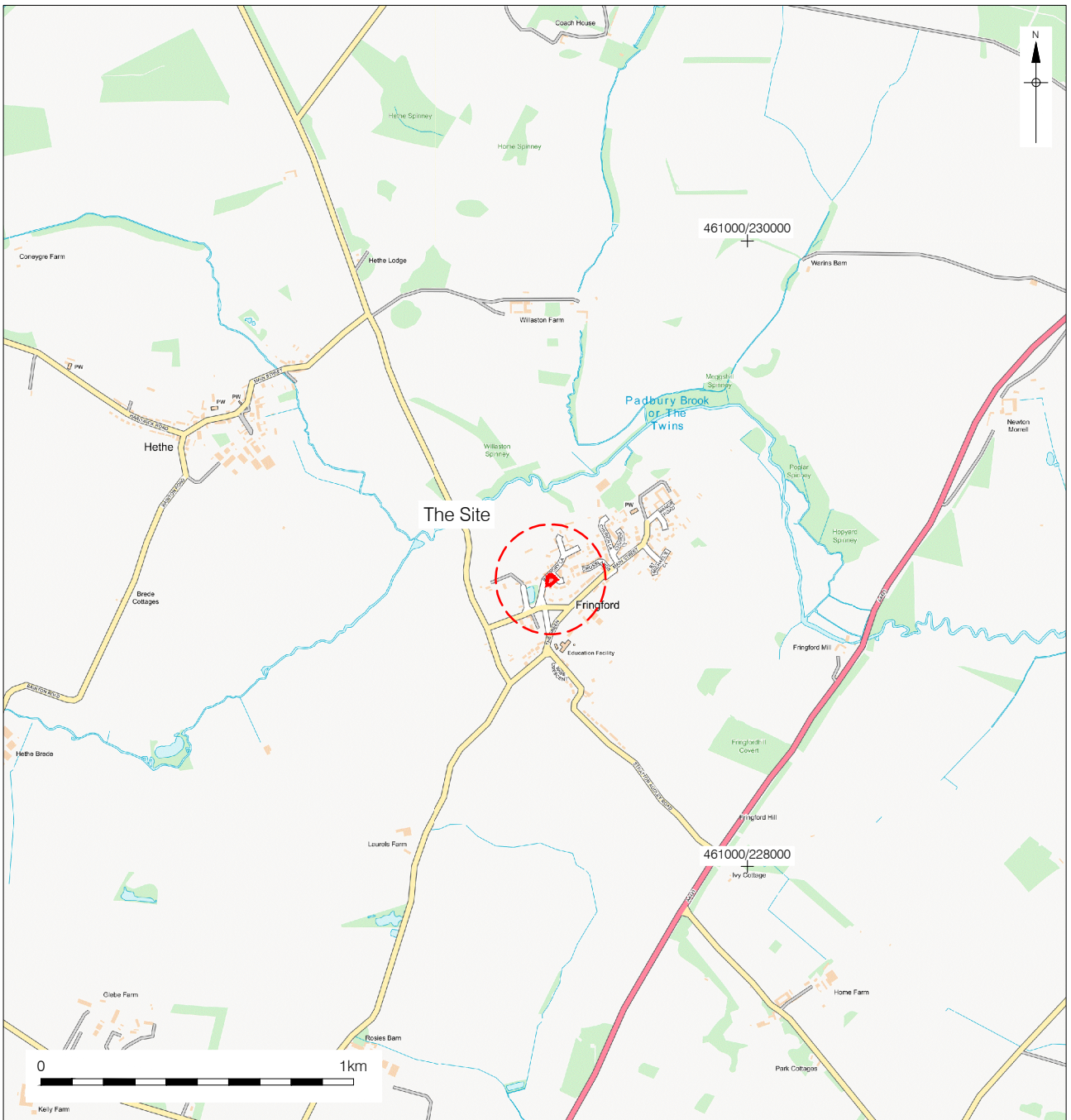
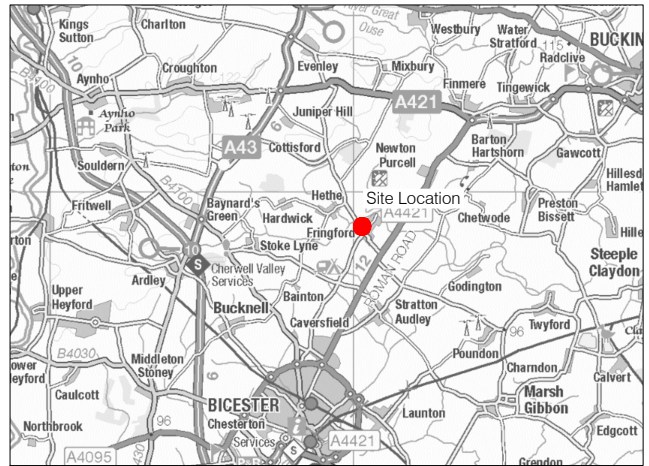
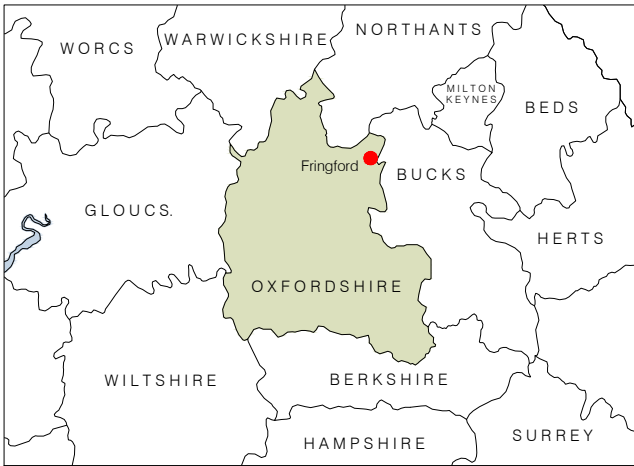
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Online Resources

British Geological Survey (Geology Viewer online)

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

[Accessed 04 01 2022]





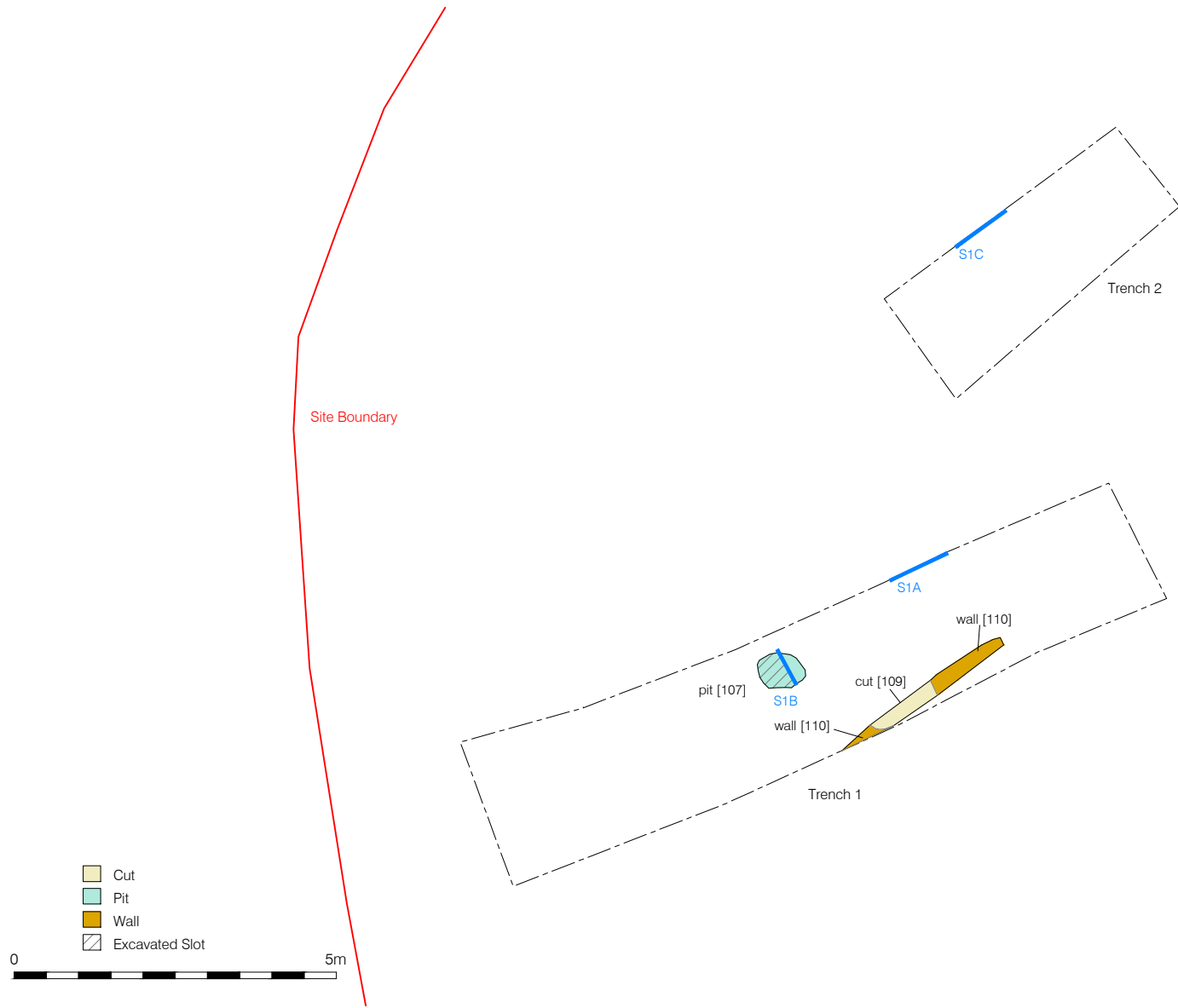
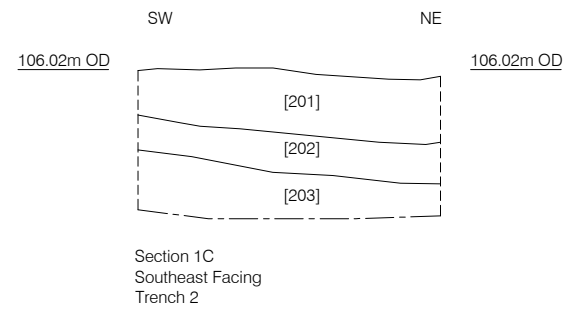
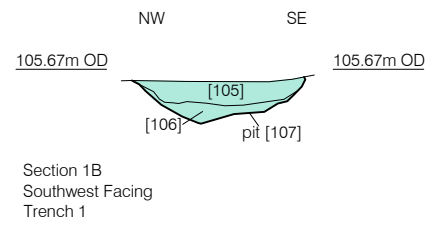
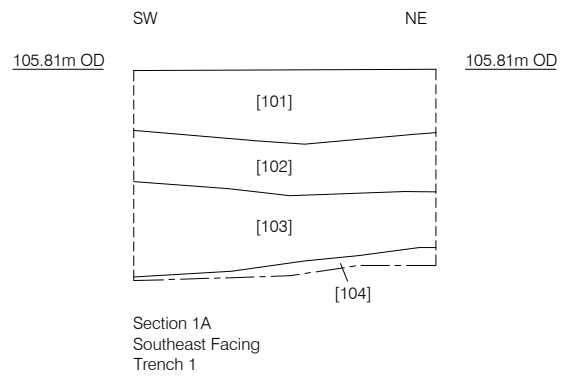


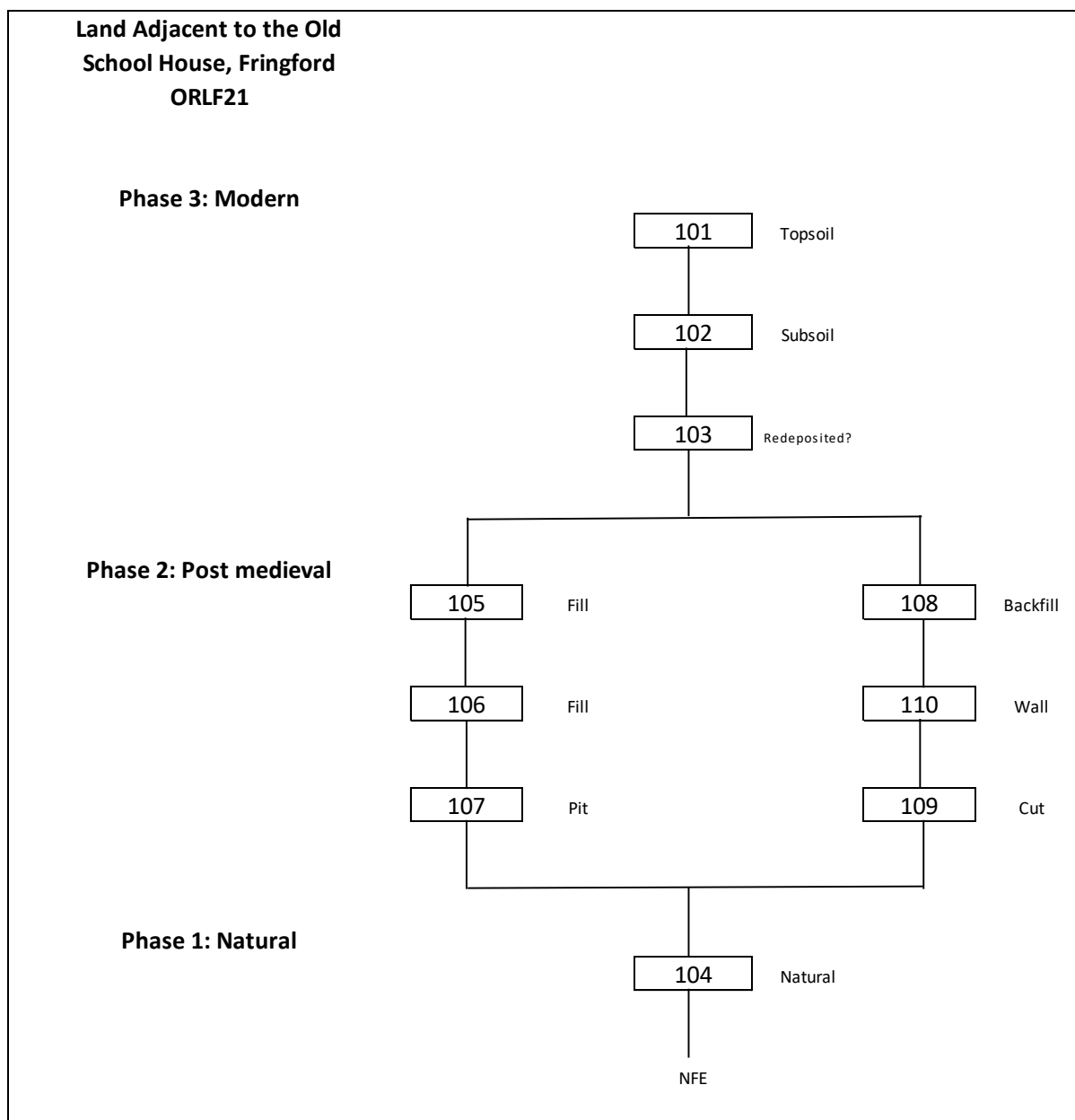
Figure 3
 Trench Plan
 1:100 at A4



APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

| Context Index | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|---------|--|---|------------|-----------|----------------------|------------------|----------------|-------|
| Context | Type | Fill of | Description | Interpretation | Length (m) | Width (m) | Depth/ Thickness (m) | Levels m OD high | Level m OD low | Phase |
| 101 | Layer | - | Dark brown brown clayey sand | Topsoil | - | - | 0.24 | - | - | 3 |
| 102 | Layer | - | Greyish mid brown clayey sand | Subsoil | - | - | 0.17 | - | - | 3 |
| 103 | Layer | - | Greyish mid brown clayey sand with flecks of sandstone | Made ground | - | - | 0.18 | - | - | 2 |
| 104 | Layer | - | Compact greyish mid orange clayey sand | Natural | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 105 | Fill | 107 | Friable dark brownish black charcoal and clayey sand | Secondary fill of pit [107] | 0.64 | 0.42 | 0.07 | - | - | 2 |
| 106 | Fill | 107 | Firm, orangey mid brown sandy clay | Primary fill of pit [107] | 0.64 | 0.42 | 0.07 | - | - | 2 |
| 107 | Cut | - | Sub oval in plan with gradual (if irregular) sides and concave base. | Domestic rubbish pit | 0.64 | 0.42 | 0.14 | - | - | 2 |
| 108 | Fill | 109 | Loose greyish light brown sandy silt | Backfill over wall [110] in construction cut [109]. | 2.94 | 0.05 | 0.05 | - | - | 2 |
| 109 | Cut | - | Linear in plan with vertical sides and flat base | Construction cut for wall [110] | 2.94 | 0.25 | 0.05 | - | - | 2 |
| 110 | Masonry | 109 | Blocks of unfinished sandstone | Foundation layer | 2.94 | 0.25 | 0.10 | - | - | 2 |

APPENDIX 2: MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Amparo Valcarcel

The archaeological watching brief at land at adjacent to Old School House, Fringford, Oxfordshire produced four ceramic building material fragments weighting 3617g. The CBM was quantified by fragment count and weight; all extant dimensions were measure and the fabric was examined at x20 magnification.

The ceramic building material consists in three brick fragments made of local fabrics. FRING1 is a light-yellow sandy fabric, with frequent yellow silty bands, round yellow and red clay pellets, and quartz. Fragment from [110] is thin (50mm), well-made and have smooth surfaces indicating an AD1750-1900 date. The fragment from [105], made of fabric FRING2 (sandy red fabric, frequent angular pebbles and flint, quartz, occasion red iron oxide inclusions) is too small to provide an accurate date.

A single Ragstone rubble was found in context [110]. The item has no mortar attached, although probably came from a structure.

The material probably represents demolition debris from a building nearby, showing the late post-medieval development in this area. No further work is recommended.

BUILDING MATERIALS SPOT DATES

| Context | Fabric | Form | Size | Date range of material | | Latest dated material | | Spot date | Mortar |
|---------|-------------------|---|------|------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|-----------|-----------|
| 105 | FRING1; FRING2 | Post-medieval bricks | 2 | 1450 | 1900 | 1450 | 1900 | 1450-1900 | No mortar |
| 110 | FRING1:3105 | Post-medieval brick; Kentish ragstone rubble | 2 | 50 | 1900 | 1450 | 1900 | 1750-1900 | No mortar |

APPENDIX 4: ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

By Karen Deighton

Introduction

A small quantity of animal bone was collected from 2 contexts during evaluation.

Method

Material was analysed using standard zooarchaeological methods (see references) and recorded onto an access database.

Condition of bone

Fragmentation was heavy with all bone 25% or less complete. Bone surface condition was reasonable with only a small amount of erosion noticed. No evidence of canid gnawing, or butchery was observed.

The taxa present.

Table1: The taxa present by context (fragment count)

| Context | 106 | 108 | Total |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Pig | | 1 | 1 |
| Sheep/goat size | 3 | | 3 |
| Total | 3 | 1 | 4 |

Potential significance and Recommendations

The potential and significance of the assemblage is severely limited due to its and small size. No further work is recommended on the current assemblage. Should further work take place at the site any bone should be collected, and the situation reviewed.

References

- Binford, L. 1981 Bones ancient man and modern myths. New York: Academy Press
Schmid, E 1972 Atlas of animal bones London: Elsevier press

APPENDIX 5: POTTERY ASSESSMENT

By Chris Jarrett

A total of three sherds (7g) of post-medieval pottery was recovered solely by hand from the archaeological work and was found in two contexts. Context [106] produced a single sherd of creamware from an unidentified form with a handle scar. Creamware is dated c. 1740–1830, but this example has a developed glaze post-dating c. 1765. Context [108] produced two redware sherds from different vessels. One vessel survives as the rim sherd (1g) of a probable Brill post-medieval redware vessel with an internal and external brown glaze dated c. 1625–1900 and the second sherd (2g) is a non-diagnostic fragment with an internal glaze made in a sandy post-medieval redware from an unidentified source and is broadly dated c. 1550–1900.

The pottery is of no significance because of its fragmentary nature with little meaning. The finds do have the potential to date the contexts they were found in. There are no recommendations for further work on the pottery, which can be discarded.

APPENDIX 6: GLASS ASSESSMENT

Chris Jarrett

A total of two fragments (20g) of glass was recovered by the hand from the archaeological work and was found in context [106]. The glass is in a fragmentary state and dates solely to the post-medieval period. The glass is comprised of a small fragment of green-tinted window glass, 1.5mm thick and of a probable 18th -19th century date and a naturally weathered wall fragment (18g) from a pale olive-green cylindrical wine bottle of an uncertain manufacturing technique and dated c. 1740–1900.

The glass has no significance as the finds are fragmentary with little meaning. The only potential of the glass is to broadly date the context it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work on the glass, which can be discarded.

APPENDIX 7: METAL FINDS ASSESSMENT

By Marit Gaimster

Only one metal find was recovered from the excavations, in the form of four heavily corroded lengths of iron wire from Context [105]. They are catalogued in the table below. No pottery date was available for these pieces, but the context produced a small fragment of brick dating from c 1450–1900. Post-medieval pottery and glass was recovered from other contexts on site, suggesting the iron wire would be of a similar date.

No further work is recommended for the iron wire which, having been catalogued, may now be discarded.

Catalogue

| context | description | pot date | recommendations |
|---------|---|----------|-----------------|
| 105 | Iron wire; heavily corroded; four cut lengths; gauge 3mm; L 40–65mm | n/a | discard |

ORLF21: metal finds

Summary for preconst1-503662

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| OASIS ID (UID) | preconst1-503662 |
| Project Name | Archaeological Evaluation at Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD |
| Activity type | Archaeological Intervention |
| Project Identifier(s) | Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD |
| Planning Id | |
| Reason For Investigation | Planning: Pre application |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd |
| Project Dates | 30-Nov-2021 - 30-Nov-2021 |
| Location | Land Adjacent to Old School House, Farriers Close, Fringford, Oxfordshire, OX27 8DD NGR : SP 60373 28919 LL : 51.9554903783612, -1.12287259357902 12 Fig : 460373,228919 |
| Administrative Areas | Country : England County : Oxfordshire District : Cherwell Parish : Fringford |
| Project Methodology | One evaluation trench was proposed to be excavated on the site. As the existing protected trees prevented excavation of the trench in full length, an additional Trench 2 to the north of Trench 1 was excavated to investigate appropriate proportion of the site. |
| Project Results | A single pit was revealed, and it may have dated to late 18th to early 19th century, based on pottery recovered from the feature. A short section of a north-east to south-west orientated wall was also recorded. It was built of a combination of fragmentary sandstone and brick and was interpreted as having been a foundation structure. The masonry was dated to late 18th century to 19th century. |
| Keywords | |
| HER | Oxfordshire HER - unRev - STANDARD |
| HER Identifiers | |
| Archives | Physical Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Ashmolean Museum |

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