

**Land at Bicester Gateway  
Bicester  
Oxfordshire**

*Archaeological Evaluation*



*for:*  
Bloombridge Development  
Partners

CA Project: MK0480  
CA Report: MK0480\_1

January 2024



# Land at Bicester Gateway Bicester Oxfordshire

## *Archaeological Evaluation*

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	05-09-2023	Matt Nichol	Derek Evans	For LPA comment	–	Rob Sutton
B	17.01.2024	Keighley Wasenczuk	Niomi Edwards	Edits	Curator edits	Richard Greatorex

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Land at Bicester Gateway
<b>Location:</b>	Bicester, Oxfordshire
<b>NGR:</b>	457310 221130
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	21–24 June 2022
<b>Planning reference:</b>	Cherwell District Council 16/02586/OUT
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with the Oxfordshire Museum Service and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Site Code:</b>	BGTR 22

In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology, carried out a second phase of archaeological evaluation of land at Bicester Gateway 1B, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Three trenches were excavated. These trenches were to cover an area previously unavailable, in the south-east corner of the site, where the densest archaeological potential is anticipated.

The evaluation recorded numerous ditches and pits, with associated artefact material dated across the whole of the Roman period, although some of the features currently remain undated.

The functions of these features are uncertain. It is possible that at least some of the ditches represent boundary or drainage features. Some of the pits may represent quarrying activity for gravel/pea-grit to be used as bedding for the Roman Road identified in the Phase 1 trenching (2016) and during the excavations at the Bicester Catalyst and Chicken Farm Sites; others may be associated with waste disposal.

The evaluation results provide further evidence for intensive Roman activity close to the crossroads of two Roman roads Towcester to Alchester and Akeman Street (Gloucestershire to Hertfordshire), similar to that recently recorded on the Bicester Catalyst and Bicester Chicken Farm sites which lie to the east of the Towcester to Alchester Roman road and north of Akeman Street.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire (centred at NGR: 457310 221130; Figure 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Bloombridge Development Partners.
- 1.2. Cherwell District Council has granted outline planning permission for commercial development of the site (planning ref: 6/02586/OUT). Condition 19 of this planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved WSI.
- 1.3. The scope of this evaluation was defined by Richard Oram (Lead Archaeologist, Oxfordshire County Council). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by Richard Oram.
- 1.4. Specifically, the work was targeted to providing further information on the potential extent of Roman period buried remains within the south and south-eastern parts of the site. Thus, the work sought to supplement (test gaps) the understanding garnered from earlier phases of archaeological work. The information was intended to allow for possible modification / refinements to the archaeological mitigation strategy (i.e., preservation in situ vs archaeological excavation).
- 1.5. The evaluation was also in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.6. The site is approximately 2.6ha in extent. It currently comprises an area of land, a single field, located between Wendlebury Road to the east and the A41 (Oxford Road) to the west (Figure 1). The site is relatively flat with ground level lying at around c. 66m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.7. The underlying geology within the site is mapped as Kellaways Sand Member, comprising interbedded sandstone and siltstone of the Jurassic Period. This is overlain in the west of the site by superficial Quaternary river terrace deposits, and in

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the remainder of the site by superficial Quaternary alluvial deposits, comprising clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS 2022).

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

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

2.2. More recently an archaeological excavation has also been undertaken at the Faccenda Chicken Farm and Catalyst Bicester sites, adjacent to the Bicester Gateway site, between 2020-2022 (CA 2023).

### **Archaeological excavations – Catalyst Bicester**

2.3. A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology at Catalyst Bicester, Bicester, Oxfordshire between October 2020 and August 2021.

2.4. Excavation revealed finds and features spanning from the Mesolithic to post-medieval period. Earlier prehistoric finds were limited to small quantities of unstratified flint with only a single pit of possible Neolithic date identified in the Catalyst Bicester site.

2.5. The Catalyst Bicester site contained an Early/Middle Iron Age linear settlement with houses and other structures, which extended south into the Chicken Farm site; that also contained an isolated four-post structure. This arrangement of boundaries was partly reworked during the transition into the Roman period. A Roman rectilinear field system was laid out across the entire site. This continued in use, with adaptations, until at least the 4th century AD and perhaps beyond. Ditches and other features associated with two Roman roads running along the western and southern sides of the sites were identified. There were numerous re-cuts and reestablishments of the roadside ditches throughout the Roman period, continuing into the medieval period.

2.6. A 1st century AD roundhouse within the Chicken Farm site was succeeded by a 2nd to 4th century AD stone-built roundhouse. A stone-built possible shrine (associated with two stone altars) dating to the 3rd to 4th century AD was built over the infilled roadside ditches. A nearby stone-lined well of comparable date contained preserved

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organic remains, including leather footwear. Other features included waterholes and pits.

- 2.7. A total of 69 un-urned cremation burials and two inhumations were identified within the Catalyst Bicester site with a further nine cremation burials and six inhumations from the Chicken Farm site. These are broadly dated to the Iron Age/Romano-British period, and include a notable number of bustum, bier or casket burials.

#### **Archaeological excavations – Former Faccenda Chicken Farm**

- 2.8. A programme of archaeological investigation (of land) at the Former Faccenda Chicken Farm, Bicester, Oxfordshire, was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2021 to March 2022.
- 2.9. Archaeology recorded at the site dates from the Late Iron Age to the medieval/post-medieval periods. Earlier prehistoric finds were limited to small quantities of unstratified flint.
- 2.10. Late Iron Age activity was characterised by the presence of a series of linear ditches associated with a late prehistoric ladder ditch system, which for the most part, extended north-eastwards into the Bicester Catalyst Site.
- 2.11. A total of four structures were recorded and include: a short-lived 1st century AD roundhouse gully; a 2nd to 4th century AD exceptionally preserved, stone-built roundhouse constructed in the earlier building's footprint; a 3rd to 4th century AD stone-built possible roadside shrine; and a well.
- 2.12. A series of probable Roman period burials are of particular significance. These consisted of both inhumation and cremation burials, including a bustum burial.
- 2.13. In addition, a substantial metalwork (including brooches and coins) assemblage was retrieved from features and the overburden by metal detection, mapped and recorded.

#### **Prehistoric (pre-43 AD)**

- 2.14. A Mesolithic flint scatter has been found approximately 500m north-east of the application site. A Neolithic flint axe findspot is recorded approximately 620m north-east of the application site.



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- 2.15. An Early Bronze Age barrow has been excavated approximately 50m north-west of the application site. Further Bronze Age barrows have been recorded c. 440m north and c. 910m south-east of the application site.
- 2.16. Late Iron Age settlement and associated field systems have been recorded approximately 50m north-west of the application site. An Iron Age banjo enclosure, possible hut circles and trackways are located approximately 840m south-west of the application site.
- 2.17. Activity dating from the late Neolithic to the late Iron Age was recorded during excavations outside of Roman Alcester, at the crossroads between the A421 and Chesterton Lane, approximately 360m south-west of the application site.

#### **Roman (AD 43–AD 410)**

- 2.18. Alcester Roman Town, a Scheduled Monument (Alcester Roman site; National Heritage List for England entry number: 1006365), lies to south of the site. It was a small Roman town with a defended area of approximately 10.5ha. It probably originated in the early 1st century AD, with activity lasting until the 4th century AD.
- 2.19. Several Roman roads entered Alcester. Historic cartographic sources show that Roman Akeman Street (the road from Alcester to Towcester) ran along, or possibly within, the western edge of the site. A north/south aligned linear earthwork in the south-western part of the site may possibly represent the former line of this road, or a Roman ditch adjacent to the road.
- 2.20. The previous evaluation (CA 2016b) identified a concentration of archaeological remains within the south-eastern part of the site. These remains dated to the 1st–4th centuries AD, with activity concentrated in the 2nd–4th centuries AD (CA 2016b). The earliest features encountered comprised two ditches containing pottery dating to the 1st–2nd centuries AD. A substantial deposit of made ground overlay these ditches at the southern end of the site. A road had been constructed on this made ground in the mid-2nd century AD. Floor surfaces and a possible cereal drying oven/kiln were also recorded.
- 2.21. A number of cropmarks have been noted within the central part of the application site. These include a large rectilinear enclosure and a series of possibly associated smaller enclosures, perhaps representing a late Roman nucleated settlement.

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2.22. Archaeological excavations in advance of the construction on the A421 (Oxford Road), to the immediate west and south-west of the site, recorded extensive evidence of Roman activity, including a complex system of ditched plots and lanes running parallel to Roman Akeman Street. The settlement appears to have been of predominantly agricultural character. A late Roman cemetery was also recorded. Further Roman burials have been uncovered approximately 260m, 560m and 660m south of the site.

2.23. Archaeological investigations approximately 650m south-west of the site recorded further Roman features, including a fort, a tower, a road, a workshop and a granary.

#### **Early medieval (AD410–1066) and medieval (1066–1539)**

2.24. Bicester was recorded in the Domesday Survey (1086). The site is likely to have lain within the agricultural hinterland to the early medieval and medieval town. The previous geophysical survey (PCG 2016) and evaluation (CA 2016b) recorded evidence for medieval ridge and furrow agriculture within the site.

#### **Post-medieval (1540–1800) and modern (1800–present)**

2.25. The site is likely to have continued in agricultural use during the post-medieval and modern periods. Cartographic sources from the late 18th and 19th centuries depict the site as agricultural fields.

2.26. The Buckinghamshire Railway, located approximately 150m east of the site, opened in 1850. Britain's largest military railway system, the Bicester Military Railway, is located approximately 200m east of the site.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable Cherwell District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DLUHC 2023).

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3.2. The results and discussion detailed in this report should be read in conjunction with the report for the earlier evaluation on the site (CA 2016b).

## 4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of three trenches (Figure 2):

- **Trench 1** was 25m long, oriented north-east/south-west;
- **Trench 2** was T-shaped, and measured 22m in length north-west/south-east and 15m in length north-east/south-west;
- **Trench 3** was also T-shaped, and measured 17m in length north-east/south-west and 8m in length north-west/south-east.

4.2. All trenches were c. 1.8m wide.

4.3. The trench plan was amended from that specified in the WSI (CA 2022) in response to site constraints (modern earthworks, extensive overgrowth, live services and a public right of way).

4.4. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.

4.5. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. Records were maintained in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.6. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

4.7. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.8. CA will make arrangements with the Oxfordshire Museum Service for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared

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and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).

- 4.9. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.

- 5.2. In the following text, features marked (U) were not excavated.

### Trench 1 (Figures 3–6, 9 and 10)

- 5.3. Natural geological substrate **103** was revealed in a machine-excavated sondage at a depth of 0.9m below present ground level (bpgl). It was sealed by silty sand layer **102**, which measured up to 0.3m in thickness. Layer **102** was covered in turn by 0.3m of subsoil **101**, which was itself covered by 0.3m of modern topsoil **100**.
- 5.4. **Trench 1** contained nine archaeological features. These were all cut into layer **102** and sealed by subsoil **101**.
- 5.5. North-east/south-west aligned ditch terminus **104** was located in the south-western end of the trench. It was 0.56m wide and 0.15m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (**105**), from which Roman pottery was recovered.
- 5.6. East/west aligned ditch **106** was 0.52m wide and 0.2m deep, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base. Roman pottery was recovered from its single fill (**107**).
- 5.7. East/west aligned ditch **111** (U) was 1.4m wide. It was truncated along its northern edge by ditch **113** (U), which was 1.5m wide. Two fragments of industrial waste and a Roman coin were recovered from the upper surface of fill **114** (ditch **113**).

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- 5.8. Pit **119** was irregular in plan, with an uneven base. It measured up to 2.6m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. It contained a single fill (**120**), from which Roman pottery and a single sherd of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered.
- 5.9. Pit/posthole **108** was broadly oval in plan, with relatively steep sides and a flat base. It measured 0.52m in diameter and 0.11m in depth. It contained two undated fills: a basal limestone deposit (**109**) and a silty upper fill (**110**).
- 5.10. Pit **117** was broadly oval in plan, with a flat base. It measured up to 0.49m in diameter and 0.14m in depth. It contained two undated fills (**125** and **118**).
- 5.11. Pit **119** was cut by pit **121**, which was broadly oval in plan. Pit **121** measured 1.05m in diameter and 0.09m in depth. It contained a single undated charcoal-rich fill (**122**).
- 5.12. Pit or ditch terminus **123** was 0.65m wide and 0.1m deep. It contained a single undated fill (**124**).
- 5.13. A stone-filled land drain was present within the centre of **Trench 1**.

#### **Trench 2 (Figures. 7, 9 and 10)**

- 5.14. Natural geological substrate **203** was exposed 1m bpgl. It was sealed by 0.4m of subsoil **202**, which was covered in turn by 0.3m of buried topsoil **201**. The trench was sealed by 0.3m of modern made ground (compacted silty clay **200**).
- 5.15. **Trench 2** contained eleven archaeological features, all of which were cut into the natural substrate and sealed by subsoil **202**.
- 5.16. Ditch or pit **204** (U) was partially exposed within the south-western end of the trench. Roman pottery and CBM was recovered from the upper surface of fill **205**.
- 5.17. Posthole **218** (U) was circular in plan and measured approximately 0.17m in diameter.
- 5.18. North/south aligned ditch **212** (U) was 1m wide. It was cut by ditches **210** and **214** (see below).
- 5.19. North/south aligned ditch **210** (U) was 0.65m wide. It was cut across by ditch **208**.
- 5.20. North-west south-east aligned ditch **208** (U) was 1.3m wide. Roman pottery was recovered from the upper surface of fill **209**.

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- 5.21. Curved ditch **216** (U) was 0.85m wide. It was cut by ditch **214**.
- 5.22. North-south aligned ditch **214** (U) was 1.55m wide. Roman pottery, two coins (RA.407 and RA.408) were recovered from the upper surface of fill **215**.
- 5.23. Ditch **206** (U) was an inverted L-shape in plan. Its north/south arm was 1.75m wide; its east/west arm was 3.4m wide. A Roman coin and pottery were recovered from the upper surface of fill **207**. The continuation of ditch 206's north/south arm was probably represented by ditch **220** (U), which was cut by later ditch **224** (see below).
- 5.24. Possible ditch or pit **222** (U) was over 0.8m in width. It was cut by ditch **224**.
- 5.25. Ditch **224** (U) was broadly L-shaped in plan. A Roman coin (RA.406) was recovered from the upper surface of fill **225**.

### Trench 3 (Figures 8–10)

- 5.26. Natural geological substrate **303** was exposed 1m bpgl. It was covered by 0.3m of subsoil **302**, which was overlain in turn by 0.2m of buried topsoil **301**. The trench was sealed by 0.5m of modern made ground (compacted silty clay **300**).
- 5.27. **Trench 3** contained nine archaeological features, all of which were cut into the natural substrate and sealed by subsoil **302**.
- 5.28. Pit **304** (U) was present in the south-western arm of the trench. Three Roman coins (RA.402, RA.403 and RA.404) were recovered from the upper surface of fill **305**. Pit **304** was cut by pit **306** (U).
- 5.29. Four sub-square pits (all U) were present in **Trench 3**. Pits **306**, **308** and **316** all measured 2m–2.5m in length; pit **310** was c. 1.5m in length. Pit **306** truncated pit **304**.
- 5.30. Feature **312** (U) was partially exposed in the south-eastern end of the trench. It is unclear if this feature represented a ditch or a pit.
- 5.31. Pit **314** (U) was irregular in plan. A single Roman coin (RA.405) was recovered from the upper surface of fill **315**.
- 5.32. Pit/posthole **318** (U) was circular in plan and measured 0.6m in diameter.
- 5.33. Feature **320** was partially exposed in the north-eastern end of the trench. It was unclear if this feature represented a ditch or a pit.

## 6. THE FINDS

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
CBM	Roman	9	1138
Glass	Post-medieval	1	3
Industrial Waste	Copper Alloy	3	44
Pottery	Roman	82	1633
Metal	Copper Alloy Coin	16	83

Table 1: Finds summary

- 6.1. Artefactual material, comprising ceramic building material, glass, industrial waste and pottery was recovered by hand from 13 deposits. An additional pottery sherd was also found during the processing of soil samples. The artefacts have been recorded by deposit and sherd count, weight, and morphological characteristics according to each find category. The recording undertaken is in accordance with the *CIfA Finds Toolkit* (CIfA 2022). A finds concordance is presented in Appendix B.

### Ceramic building material (CBM)

- 6.2. A total of nine sherds, weighing 1,138g, were hand-recovered from four deposits, including the fills of pits and ditches and a subsoil layer. They are all in a hard, sandy orange fabric and are abraded. The majority resemble Roman tile fragments at 20mm–26mm thick. A single fragment (162g) from subsoil layer **101 (Trench 1)** is identifiable as the flange from a tegula (roof tile).

### Glass

- 6.3. A single sherd of post-medieval window glass (3g) was recovered from topsoil layer **100 (Trench 1)**.

### Industrial waste

- 6.4. Three pieces of industrial waste were recovered from ditch **113** (fill **114**; **Trench 1**) and topsoil layer **100 (Trench 1)**. All consisted of irregular lumps of copper alloy, probably representing casting waste.

### Pottery

- 6.5. A total of 82 sherds weighing 1,633g was hand recovered from 12 deposits. The pottery dates to the Roman period. The assemblage is moderately well broken-up; surface survival tends to be good, however, with minimal abrasion recorded. Fabric codes used for recording are defined in Appendix B (Table B2). Where appropriate, codes relate to the type series created for the region by Oxfordshire Archaeology

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(summarized in Booth 2018, 269–74) and the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

6.6. The majority of the assemblage is made up of local coarsewares, with greywares dominating (39 sherds, 474g) in fabrics characteristic of Oxfordshire manufacture (R10, R20, R20a, R96), together with a ‘Belgic’ type grog-tempered type (E80, 21 sherds, 723g) of 1st to early 2nd century AD dating. Also present was Pink Grog-tempered ware (O81), a type manufactured at Stowe, Bucks, and common at sites in the region across the later 2nd to 4th centuries AD. Among the greywares, identifiable vessel forms mostly comprised jars (three vessels), with one fragment of a second century poppyhead beaker equivalent to Young’s Type R34 (1977, 217–8) present in subsoil layer **202 (Trench 2)**. Barbotine dot panelled decoration was present, probably from a second poppyhead type beaker, from topsoil **100 (Trench 1)**. Much of the remaining assemblage consists of local coarsewares (O20, O81).

6.7. A small number of fine and specialist wares were recovered. Sherds of local whiteware fabric (W10), possibly from flagons, were recovered from ditch **214 (fill 215; Trench 2)** and subsoil **202 (Trench 2)**. Also recovered from the subsoil were two sherds of colour coated ware: one (3g) a beaker sherd in a local fabric (F59/60) and the other (31g) from a conical flanged bowl of 4th century type in Lower Nene Valley Colour-coated ware (F52). Gaulish Samian amounts to four sherds (46g), with two forms recovered from subsoil **202 (Trench 2)** identifiable as a Curle 15 and a Dr. 37 decorated bowl. Both were of Central Gaulish manufacture (Lezoux, S30), with the Curle 15 probably dating c. AD 120–150 and the Dr. 37 c. AD 120–200 (Webster 1996). A second sherd from a Dr. 37 bowl was recorded in ditch **224 (fill 225; Trench 2)**; this is in a South Gaulish fabric (La Graufesenque, S20) and dates c. AD 70–110 (ibid.). Body sherds of Baetican amphora (A11), a type common from the mid-1st to 3rd centuries AD, was recovered from topsoil layer **201**, subsoil layer **202** and ditch **206 (fill 207) (all Trench 2)**.

### Coins

6.8. A total of 15 coins were recovered (Appendix B, Table B3). All were of copper alloy and are Roman in date. Their condition is poor, with a number corroded or otherwise so heavily worn that close dating was not possible for eight coins. The coins were recovered using a metal detector. The earliest (RA.410, from topsoil **201; Trench 2**), is a Trajan of c. AD 97–117. Dupondius-sized coins and a sestertius were recorded from deposits **201 (Trench 1)**, **225 (Trench 2)** and **315 (Trench 3)**; these are broadly



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datable in the later 1st to earlier 3rd centuries. As is common for the great majority of Romano-British coin groups, the remaining coins are all issues of the late empire, plausibly all dating to the 4th century AD. Where identifiable, most are *nummi* of the House of Constantine, dating to the first half of the 4th century AD. The latest, from deposit **215** (fill of ditch **214**; **Trench 2**) is a *Valentinianic nummus* of c. AD 364–378.

### Summary

- 6.9. A small artefact assemblage was recovered during the evaluation. Pottery was the dominant find, with all sherds dating to the Roman period. The Roman pottery is comparable in its range to previously recorded assemblages in the area. It draws mainly from local coarsewares, including greywares and grog tempered fabrics, but also includes imported samian and amphora types. The pottery assemblage includes material dating both to the earlier Roman (later 1st to 2nd centuries AD) and later Roman periods (later 3rd to 4th centuries AD). Most of the identifiable pottery forms are jars and bowls, almost certainly relating to domestic activity in the area. A broadly similar date range is evidenced from the Roman coins recovered during the evaluation, with these spanning the early 2nd century AS to the late 4th century AD.
- 6.10. The small quantities of copper alloy working casting waste may indicate some industrial activity, although the nature and scale of this activity are unclear.

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1. Three bulk samples (40 litres of soil) were taken from the fills of three features in **Trench 1**. The samples were taken to evaluate the preservation of paleoenvironmental remains, and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (using a 0.25mm mesh for the flot and a 0.5mm mesh for the residue) (*CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*).
- 7.2. The size of the flots varied between very small and large. Each of the flots contained varying proportions of fibrous root material. Charcoal pieces were present in all of the flots; however, they were mostly poorly preserved, comminuted and iron impregnated. No charred plant remains were present in any of the flots.

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- 7.3. Each of the flots contained a moderate to large quantity of mollusc shells. Preliminary identifications of molluscs are noted in Appendix C. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences accord to Kerney (1999).
- 7.4. Sample 501 was recovered from context **110**, the upper of two fills of undated posthole **108**. The flot of this sample contained a moderate amount of charcoal and a large quantity of molluscs. The majority of the molluscs present were freshwater species. These included the moving water species *Bithynia sp.*, the ditch species *Planorbis planorbis*, the aquatic intermediate species *Pisidium sp.* and *Gyraulus crista*, and the amphibious species *Anisus leucostoma*. A moderate number of the molluscs in this flot were terrestrial intermediate species (*Cepaea sp.* and *Cochlicopa sp.*) and marsh species (*Succinea/Oxyloma sp.*).
- 7.5. Sample 502 was recovered from context **122**, the upper of two fills of undated pit **121**. The flot from this sample contained a very high volume of charcoal along with a small number of molluscs. The aquatic species included those of the moving water species *Bithynia sp.* There were a wider variety of terrestrial molluscs present in this flot than in sample 501. For instance, the open country species *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vertigo sp.*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa sp.*, and the shade loving *Oxychilus cellarius*.
- 7.6. Sample 503 was recovered from context **118**, the upper of two fills of undated pit **117**. The flot from this sample contained a few small pieces of charcoal and a small number of molluscs. These included the amphibious species *Anisus leucostoma*, the open country species *Vallonia sp.* and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*.

### Summary

- 7.7. The charcoal pieces recovered from sample 502 of undated pit **121** appear to represent a deliberate deposit of settlement waste, which suggests that there was settlement activity in the vicinity of **Trench 1**. The absence of industrial waste may suggest that the material represents domestic hearth waste, but there were no plant remains to help confirm this. There was no evidence from these assemblages for any specific domestic activities such as crop processing or food preparation taking place in the immediate vicinity. The charcoal pieces present in the flots of 501 and 503, in contrast, appear to be abraded windblown/dispersed waste. There is no paleoenvironmental material present in any of the flots that can assist with the dating of these features.

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- 7.8. The mollusc assemblages appear to be indicative of a well-established open landscape with some areas of longer damp grass in the immediate vicinity of **Trench 1**. The presence of the aquatic species suggests that this area was subject to seasonal flooding and desiccation, with possibly some more permanent standing water in the area near posthole **108**.

#### Animal bone

- 7.9. Animal bone amounting to 12 fragments (539g) was recovered from five deposits, dating broadly to the Roman period (Appendix C, Table C2). The bone was fragmentary but was preserved enough to identify a limited amount of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) bone, none of which displayed any damage indicative of butchery practice.
- 7.10. The low recovery of animal remains, combined with the lack of butchery evidence, severely limits what can be said in terms of site economy and animal husbandry. However, each of the species identified was a commonly exploited animal, so their inclusion in an assemblage of this period is to be expected.

#### Marine shells

- 7.11. Marine mollusc remains were recovered from Tr2.
- 7.12. Subsoil layer **202** contained one right valve (14g) of native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*). The preservation was good, with the shell surviving almost completely intact. This shell shows possible evidence of human-made V-shaped notches on the ventral margins.
- 7.13. Fill **205** of undated pit **204** contained one left valve (10g) and one right valve (10g) of native oyster. The material was poorly preserved, with both shells remaining only partially intact.
- 7.14. The marine shells recovered from the site were those of edible species, which provides some small indication that marine shell augmented the local diet.

## 8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. Each of the three evaluation trenches contained numerous ditches and pits. Associated artefactual material dated across the Roman period (AD 43–AD 410), although many of the features were undated. Where excavated, the features were found to be generally shallow, presumably due to truncation caused by post-medieval/modern ploughing.

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- 8.2. The functions of these features are uncertain. Most of the pottery sherds recovered during the evaluation came from jars and bowls, and almost certainly relate to Roman domestic activity in the area. It is possible that at least some of the ditches represent boundary or drainage features. Some of the pits, including the large sub-square pits in **Trench 3**, may represent quarrying activity for the extraction of gravel and pea-grit to be used as bedding for the Roman roads immediately to the east and south of the site. Other pits may be associated with waste disposal; undated pit **121 (Trench 1)** contained a large amount of charcoal, potentially representing a deliberate deposit of domestic hearth waste.
- 8.3. There was limited correspondence with the geophysical survey results (PCG 2016). Most of the features exposed in the trenches had not been detected by the survey.
- 8.4. The evaluation results provide further evidence for intensive Roman activity at the site, as recorded by the previous evaluation (CA 2016b).
- 8.5. The proximity of this site to the excavations at the Catalyst Bicester and the Former Faccenda Chicken Farm sites, underlines the similarity of the feature types and dating recorded across the three sites. Mitigation works are likely to confirm the importance of this crossroads within the communication network of early and late Roman Britain.

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## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Matt Nichol, assisted by Nathan Giles and Ben Wooster. This report was written by Matt Nichol. The finds report was written by Claire Collier-Jones. The biological evidence report was written by Charlotte Molloy and Sarah Wyles, with contributions from Andy Clarke (animal bone) and Tom Brown (marine shells). The report illustrations were prepared by Krissy Moore. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Richard Paxford. The project was managed for CA by Rob Sutton.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, heavily rooted			0.3	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay			0.3	
1	102	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brownish orange silty sand			0.3	
1	103	Layer		Natural Geology	Light grey silty gravel				
1	104	Cut		Ditch Terminus	Linear in plan, steep sides, flat base	1.7	0.56	0.15	
1	105	Fill	104	Fill of Ditch Terminus	Mid orangey grey clayey silt	1.7	0.56	0.15	RB
1	106	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan, concave sides, flat base	3	0.52	0.2	
1	107	Fill	106	Fill of Ditch	Light yellowish grey clayey sand	3	0.52	0.2	C1-EC2
1	108	Cut		Pit / Posthole	Circular in plan, concave sides, flat base	0.62	0.56	0.11	
1	109	Fill	108	1st fill of Pit / Posthole	Light greyish blue silty clay, including large limestones	0.52	0.23	0.04	
1	110	Fill	108	2nd fill of Pit / Posthole	Light blueish grey silty clay	0.52	0.23	0.07	
1	111	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan	3	1.4	U	
1	112	Fill	112	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish brown silt clay	3	1.4	U	
1	113	Cut		Ditch Re-cut	Linear in plan	3	1.5	U	
1	114	Fill	113	Fill of Ditch Re-cut	Dark greyish blue silty clay	3	1.5	U	LC3-C4?
1	117	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan, concave sides, flat base	0.45	0.49	0.14	
1	118	Fill	117	2nd fill of Pit	Mid yellowish grey silty clay with charcoal	0.45	0.49	0.14	
1	119	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan, gradual sides, uneven base	1.65	2.6	0.2	
1	120	Fill	119	Fill of Pit	Light yellow grey silty sand, with limestone and charcoal	1.65	2.6	0.2	LC2-C4
1	121	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan, gradual sides, flat base	1.05	0.93	0.09	
1	122	Fill	121	Fill of Pit	Mid orangey grey black silty clay with charcoal	1.05	0.93	0.09	C2
1	123	Cut		Pit /Ditch Terminus	Linear in plan, shallow sides, flat base	1.4	0.65	0.1	
1	124	Fill	123	Fill of Pit /Ditch Terminus	Mid brownish grey clayey silt	1.4	0.65	0.1	
1	125	Fill	117	1st fill of Pit	Mid reddish yellow silty clay with charcoal	0.45	0.13	0.02	
2	200	Layer		Made Ground	Mid greyish brownish orange silty clay			0.3	
2	201	Layer		Buried Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.3	
2	202	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey silty clay			0.4	
2	203	Layer		Natural Geology	Mid greyish orange gravel				
2	204	Cut		Pit / Ditch	Linear in plan	2	0.5	U	
2	205	Fill	204	Fill of Pit / Ditch	Mid brownish grey clayey silt	2	0.5	U	LC2-C4
2	206	Cut		Ditch	L-shaped and linear in plan	10	3.4	U	
2	207	Fill	206	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish grey silty clay	10	3.4	U	C4

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2	208	Cut		Ditch / Pit	Linear in plan with a possible pit	2	2.1	U	
2	209	Fill	208	Fill of Ditch / Pit	Mid blueish grey silty clay with charcoal	2	2.1	U	RB
2	210	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan	5	0.65	U	
2	211	Fill	210	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish grey silty clay	5	0.65	U	
2	212	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan	3.4	1	U	
2	213	Fill	212	Fill of Ditch	Light yellowish grey silty clay	3.4	1	U	
2	214	Cut		Ditch Re-cut	Linear in plan	2	1.55	U	
2	215	Fill	214	Fill of Ditch Re-cut	Mid blueish grey silty clay with charcoal	2	1.55	U	C4
2	216	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear in plan	2	0.85	U	
2	217	Fill	216	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish grey silty clay	2	0.85	U	
2	218	Cut		Posthole	Circular in plan	0.24	0.17	U	
2	219	Fill	218	Fill of Posthole	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.24	0.17	U	
2	220	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan	2.7	2	U	
2	221	Fill	220	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish grey clayey sand	2.7	2	U	
2	222	Cut		Ditch / Pit	Extent unknown, cut by Ditch 224	3.1	0.8	U	
2	223	Fill	222	Fill of Ditch / Pit	Mid yellowish grey sandy clay	3.1	0.8	U	
2	224	Cut		Ditch	L-shaped linear in plan	5	2	U	
2	225	Fill	224	Fill of Ditch	Mid greyish blue silty clay with charcoal	5	2	U	C2
3	300	Layer		Made Ground	Mid greyish orangey brown silty clay			0.5	
3	301	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay			0.2	
3	302	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown silty clay			0.3	
3	303	Layer		Natural Geology	Mid greyish orange sandy silty gravel				
3	304	Cut		Quarry Pit	Irregular in plan	5	2	U	
3	305	Fill	304	Fill of Quarry Pit	Mid greyish orangey brown silty clay	5	2	U	LC3-C4
3	306	Cut		Pit	Sub-square in plan with rounded corners	2.5	2.5	U	
3	307	Fill	306	Fill of Pit	Mid greyish brown silty clay	2.5	2.5	U	
3	308	Cut		Pit	Square in plan with rounded corners	2.5	2.4	U	
3	309	Fill	308	Fill of Pit	Dark greyish brown silty clay	2.5	2.4	U	
3	310	Cut		Pit	Sub-square in plan with rounded corners	1.5	1.4	U	
3	311	Fill	310	Fill of Pit	Dark greyish brown silty clay	1.5	1.49	U	
3	312	Cut		Ditch / Pit	Linear in plan	2	0.7	U	
3	313	Fill	312	Fill of Ditch / Pit	Dark brownish grey silty clay	2	0.7	U	
3	314	Cut		Pit	Oval in plan	2.1	2.3	U	
3	315	Fill	314	Fill of Pit	Mid orangey greyish brown silty clay	2.1	2.3	U	LC1-C2
3	316	Cut		Pit	Sub-square in plan with rounded corners	2	2.3	U	
3	317	Fill	316	Fill of Pit	Mid greyish brown silty clay	2	2.3	U	
3	318	Cut		Pit / Posthole	Circular in plan		0.6	U	



Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3	319	Fill	318	Fill of Pit / Posthole	Mid greyish brown silty clay		0.6	U	
3	320	Cut		Ditch / Pit	Linear in plan	2.2	1	U	
3	321	Fill	320	Fill of Ditch / Pit	Light grey silty clay	2.2	1	U	

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Material	fabric	Comments	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
100	Roman Pottery	R10	One sherd with barbotine dot decoration	5	25	PM
	Glass		Window	1	3	
	Industrial Waste		Ra. 417, 418 Copper Alloy waste	2	19	
101	Roman Pottery	E80	Tegula x1, roof tile x2	2	146	C1-EC2
	CBM	Orange, hard, sandy		3	770	
105	Roman Pottery	R10		2	11	RB
107	Roman Pottery	E80	Fine grog tempered	1	11	C1-EC2
114	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 416.	1	2	LC3-C4?
	Industrial Waste		Ra. 414, 415 Copper Alloy waste	2	30	
120	Roman Pottery	R10	Two everted rim jars	3	13	LC2-C4
	Roman Pottery	O81	Brick	1	66	
	CBM	Orange, hard, sandy		1	134	
122, sample 502	Roman Pottery	R10		1	4	C2
201	Roman Pottery	A11	Coin Ra. 410 Coin Ra. 411 Coin Ra. 412	1	53	C4
	Roman Pottery	R10		1	6	
	Copper Alloy			1	11	
	Copper Alloy			1	1	
	Copper Alloy			1	22	
202	Roman Pottery	R10	1x poppyhead beaker, Type R34, 1x squared undercut rim jar	15	253	C4
	Roman Pottery	R20	Curle 15 dish Dr. 37 decorated bowl conical flanged bowl	2	50	
	Roman Pottery	S30		1	3	
	Roman Pottery	S30		1	15	
	Roman Pottery	F52		1	31	
	Roman Pottery	F59/60		1	3	
	Roman Pottery	W10		1	23	
	Roman Pottery	A11		1	87	
	Roman Pottery	E80		10	258	
	Roman Pottery	O20		3	15	
	Roman Pottery	R20a		1	19	
	Copper Alloy			1	1	
	205	Roman Pottery		O81	Roof tile	
CBM		Orange, hard, sandy	3	118		
207	Roman Pottery	O81	Coin Ra. 413	1	61	C4
	Roman Pottery	E80		1	96	
	Roman Pottery	S		1	12	
	Roman Pottery	R20		2	24	
	Roman Pottery	R10		1	10	
	Roman Pottery	A11		6	25	
	Copper Alloy			1	1	
209	Roman Pottery	R10		2	21	RB
215	Roman Pottery	W10	Roof tile	1	4	C4
	CBM	Orange, hard, sandy		1	116	
	Copper Alloy			1	1	
225	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 407. Coin Ra. 408.	1	1	
	Copper Alloy			1	1	
225	Roman Pottery	R10	Medium mouth, necked jar	1	21	C2
	Roman Pottery	S20	Dr. 37 bowl	1	16	
	Roman Pottery	E80		7	212	
	Roman Pottery	R96		3	18	
	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 406.	1	10	
301	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 400.	1	7	C4
	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 401.	1	2	
305	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 402.	1	2	LC3-C4
	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 403.	1	3	
	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 404.	1	1	
315	Copper Alloy		Coin Ra. 405.	1	9	LC1-C2

Table B1: Finds concordance

Period	Fabric	NRFRC code*	Description	Count	Wt (g)
Roman	A11	<b>BAT AM</b>	Dressel 20 Baetican amphorae	8	165
	E80	<b>SOB GT</b>	Grog-tempered 'Belgic type'	21	723
	F52	<b>LNV CC</b>	Nene Valley colour-coated ware	1	31
	F59/60	-	Local colour coated ware	1	3
	O20	-	Sandy oxidised coarse ware	3	15
	O81	<b>PNK GT</b>	Pink grogged ware	3	148
	R10	-	Fine reduced coarse ware	31	364
	R20	-	Sandy reduced coarse ware	4	74
	R20a	-	R20 variant with limestone	1	19
	R96	-	Grey with moderate grog and occasional organic and rounded limestone inclusions	3	18
	S	-	Samian ware unspecified	1	12
	S20	<b>LGF SA</b>	South Gaulish samian ware	1	16
	S30	<b>LEZ SA2</b>	Central Gaulish samian ware	2	18
	W10	<b>OXF WH</b>	fine white ware	2	27
<b>Total</b>				<b>82</b>	<b>1633</b>

Table B2: Pottery summary quantification by fabric

\* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes (Tomber and Dore 1998)

RA number	Context	Description
400	301	Copper alloy. Corroded and illeg. Nummus? AE1 (22mm). Late C3-C4?
401	301	Copper alloy. Corroded and illeg. AE3 (17mm). Nummus copy? C4
402	305	Copper alloy. Fragment; corroded and illeg. Nummus or radiate AE2 (19mm). Late C3-C4?
403	305	Copper alloy nummus AE3. Crispus AD 318-324. Rev. BAETA TRANQUILITAS; Altar with VOT/IS/XX. MM. Lyons (PLG). Some details unclear
404	305	Copper alloy. Fragment; corroded and illeg. AE4 (11mm). Nummus or radiate copy? Late C3-C4?
405	315	Copper alloy as or dupondius. Prob. LC1-C2. Very worn and illeg. Standing figure on reverse
406	225	Copper alloy as or dupondius. Prob. LC1-C2. Very worn and illeg. Standing figure on reverse
407	215	Copper alloy nummus. House of Valentinian AD 364-378. Rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM; Emperor with standard, dragging captive. Details unclear
408	215	Copper alloy nummus AE4. House of Constantine AD 347-348. Rev. VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN; Victories with wreaths. Details unclear
409	202	Copper alloy nummus AE4. House of Constantine AD 335-340. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS; Soldiers/1 standard. Details unclear
410	201	Copper alloy as. Trajan AD 97-117. Reverse: Victory advancing left holding palm and shield; TRPOT] and SC across fields. Worn and details unclear
411	201	Copper alloy nummus AE4. House of Constantine AD 335-340. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS; Soldiers/1 standard. Details unclear
412	201	Copper alloy Sestertius. MC1-C2. Very worn and illeg
413	207	Copper alloy nummus AE4. Constans AD 347-348. Rev. VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN; Victories with wreaths. MM. Trier (E/TRJ). Some details unclear
416	114	Copper alloy. Corroded and illeg. Nummus or radiate? AE3 (17mm). Late C3-C4?

Table B3: Coin list

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Notes
<b>Trench 1</b>											
<b>Undated posthole</b>											
108	110	501	10	35	30	-	-	-	-/***	moll-t (***) moll-a (*****)	<i>Cepaea</i> sp. (*); <i>Bithynia</i> sp. (***); <i>Succinea/Oxyloma</i> sp. (**); <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp. (*); <i>Planorbis planorbis</i> (**); <i>Pisidium</i> sp. (**); <i>Anisus leucostoma</i> (****); <i>Gyraulus crista</i> (*)
<b>Undated pit</b>											
121	122	502	20	435	1	-	-	-	*****/*****	moll-t (**) moll-a (**) brnt bn (*)	<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp. (*); <i>Bithynia</i> sp. (*); <i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (*); <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (*); <i>Vertigo</i> sp. (*); <i>Oxychilus cellarius</i> (*)
<b>Undated pit</b>											
117	118	503	10	15	70	-	-	-	*/**	moll-t (*) moll-a (**)	<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> (*); <i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (*); <i>Vallonia</i> sp. (*)

Table C1: Assessment of the paleoenvironmental remains

Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 5–19 items; \*\*\* = 20–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items, moll-t = terrestrial snails, moll-a = aquatic snails, brnt bn = burnt bone

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	CERV	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Romano-British</b>								
	101				1		1	118
104	105	1				1	2	7
119	120						4	16
	202	2	2				4	392
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>533</b>
<b>Undated</b>								
	100					1	1	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>377</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>539</b>	

Table C2: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context

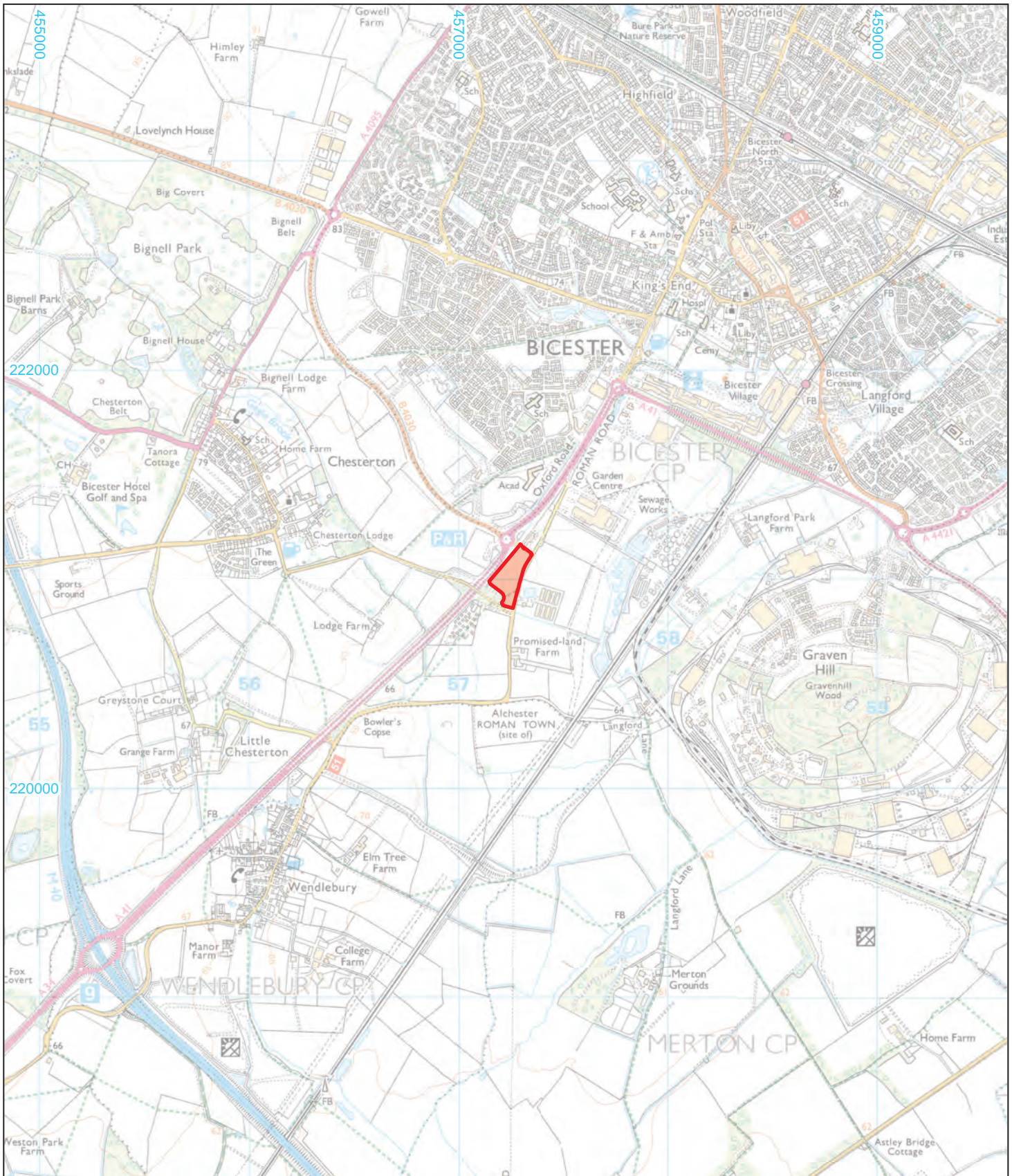
BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; CERV = Red deer; MM = medium size mammal; Ind = Indeterminate

Trench	Feature	Cut	Context	Oyster left valve	Oyster right valve	Oyster MNI	Total (MNI)
2	Layer		202	0	1	1	1
2	Pit	204	205	1	1	1	1
						<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

Table C3: Marine shell by context

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire	
Short description	<p>In June 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Three trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation recorded numerous ditches and pits. Associated artefactual material dated across the Roman period, although many of the features were undated.</p> <p>The functions of these features are uncertain. It is possible that at least some of the ditches represent boundary or drainage features. Some of the pits may represent quarrying activity. Other pits may be associated with waste disposal.</p> <p>The evaluation results provide further evidence for intensive Roman activity at the site, as recorded by previous archaeological works in the area.</p>	
Project dates	21–24 June 2022	
Project type	Trial trench evaluation	
Previous work	Heritage desk-based assessment (Cotswold Archaeology 2016) Geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2016) Trial trench evaluation (Cotswold Archaeology 2016)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site location	Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire	
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	5ha	
Site co-ordinates	457310 221130	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Rob Sutton	
Project Supervisor	Matt Nichol	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	Roman ditches and pits	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	<b>Intended final location of archive</b>	<b>Content</b>
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Ceramics, animal bone
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Site recording forms
Digital	Archaeology Data Service (ADS)	Digital photos, survey data
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2022 <i>Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation CA typescript report MK0480_1</i>		



 Site boundary



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Ordnance Survey 0100031673

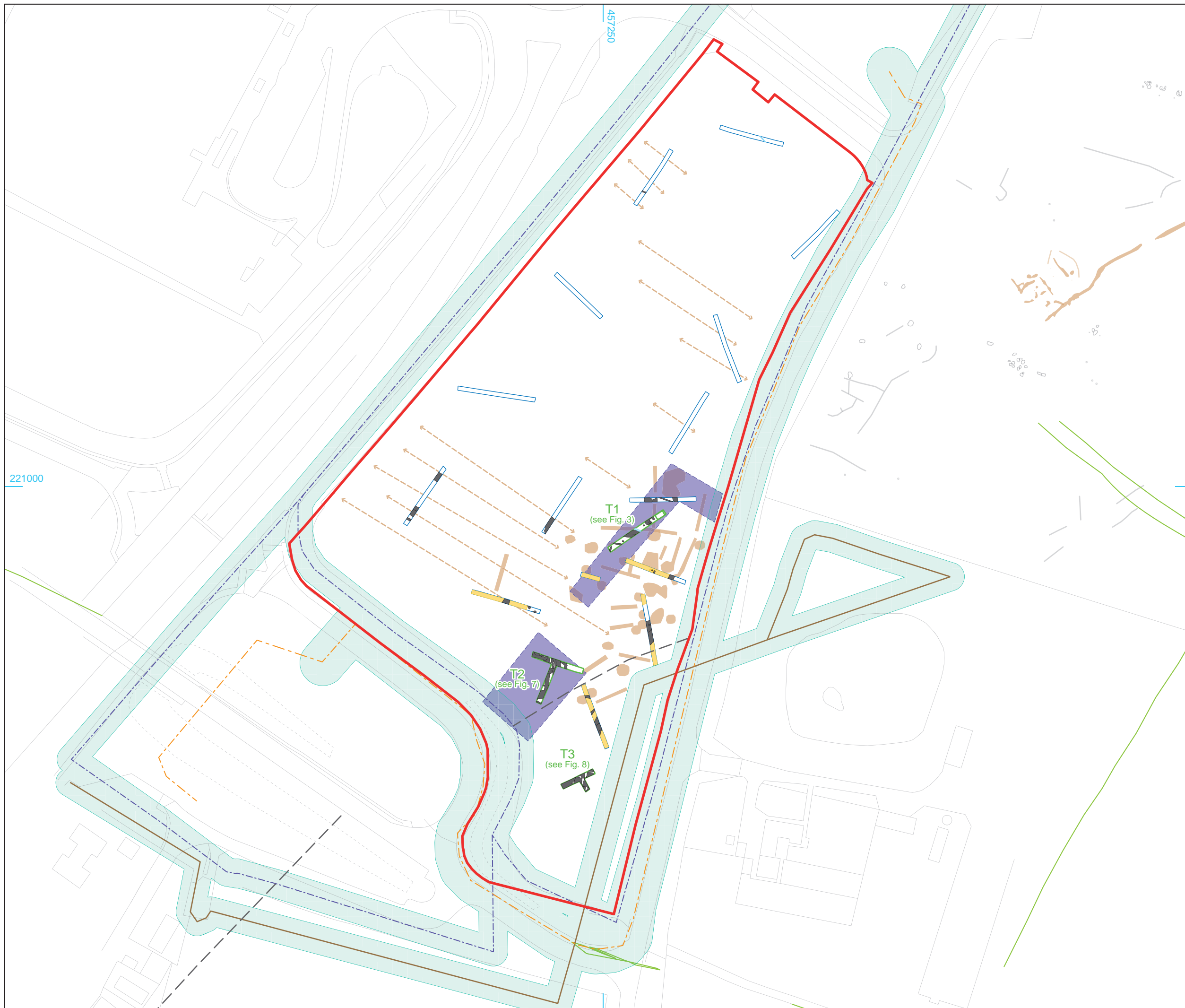


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester,  
Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>KM</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>MK0480</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>DJB</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	<b>MN</b>	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	<b>1:25,000</b>	



- Site boundary
  - Evaluation trench
  - Potential extended construction footprint
  - Previous evaluation trench
  - Archaeological feature
  - Deposit
  - Field drain
  - Crop marks (NMP data)
- Utilities**
- Electricity (SSEN)
  - Foul (Thames Water)
  - Telecoms (T)
  - Safety buffer (5m)
  - Public right of way

**Geophysical Survey  
(PCG 2016 and AS 2018)**

- Archaeology
- Uncertain
- Ridge and furrow



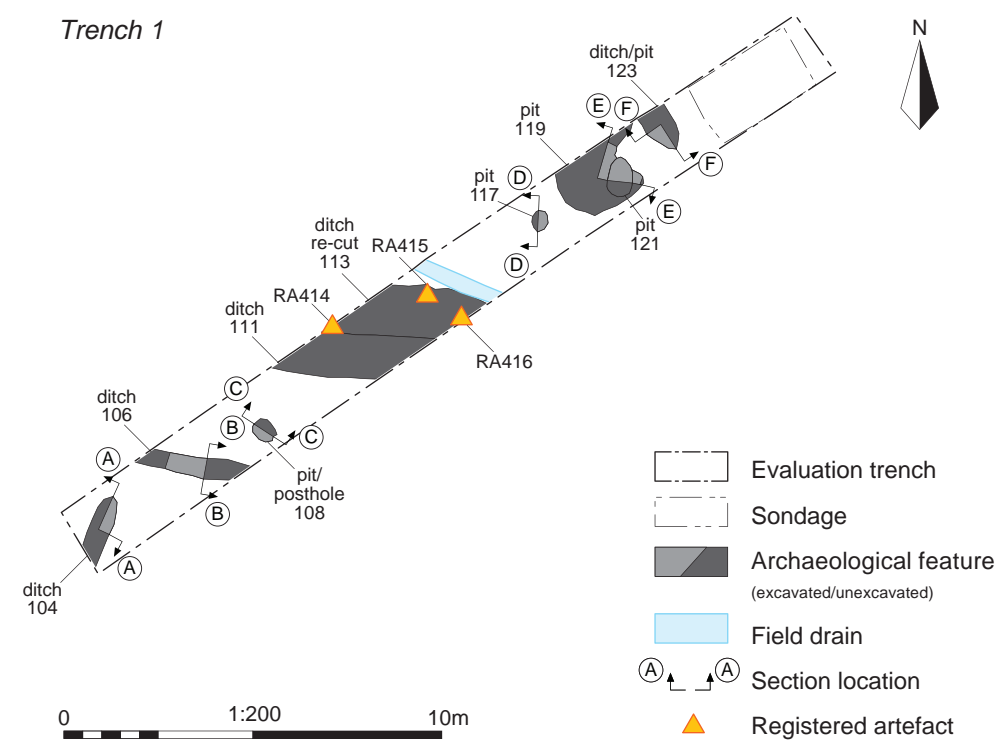
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
Trench location plan showing archaeological features, cropmarks and geophysical survey results

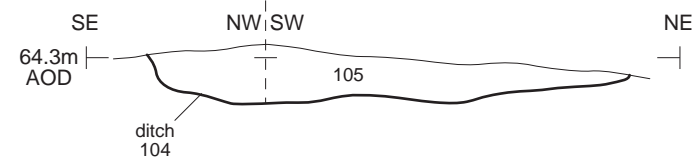
<small>DRAWN BY</small> KM	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0480	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 04/07/2022	<b>2</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> MN	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:1250	



Trench 1, looking north-east (scale 1m)

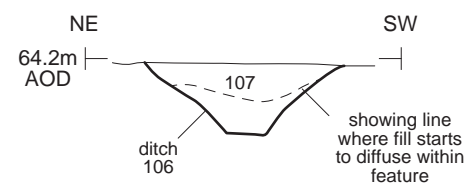


Section AA



Ditch 104, looking south-west (scales 0.2m and 0.5m)

Section BB



Ditch 106, looking north-east (scale 0.5m)

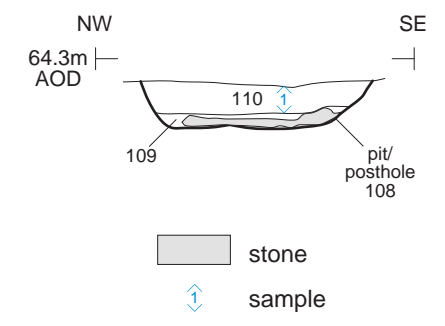

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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 1: sections and photographs**

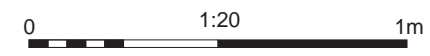
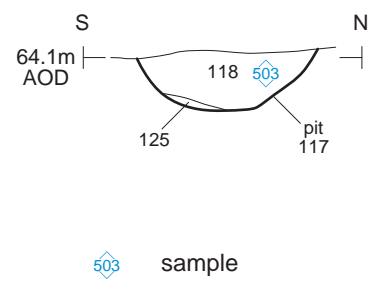
DRAWN BY	<b>KM</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>MK0480</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>4</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>MN</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:20</b>	

Section CC



Pit/posthole 108, looking north-east (scale 0.5m)

Section DD



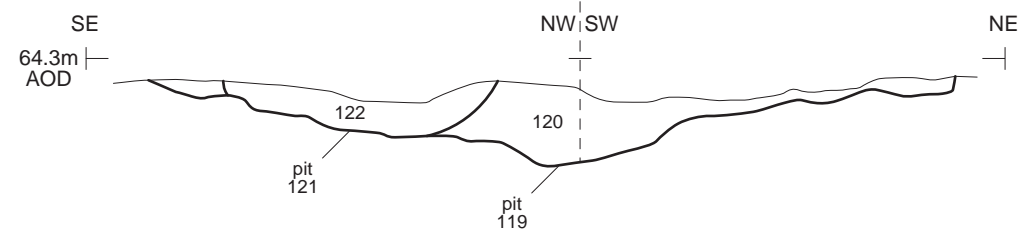
Pit 117, looking west (scale 0.5m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire**  
 FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 1: sections and photographs**

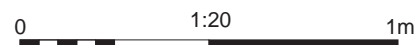
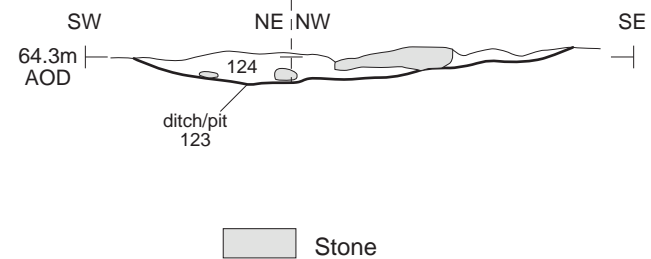
DRAWN BY	<b>KM</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>MK0480</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>5</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>MN</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:20</b>	

Section EE



Pits 119 and 121, looking south (scale 0.5m)

Section FF



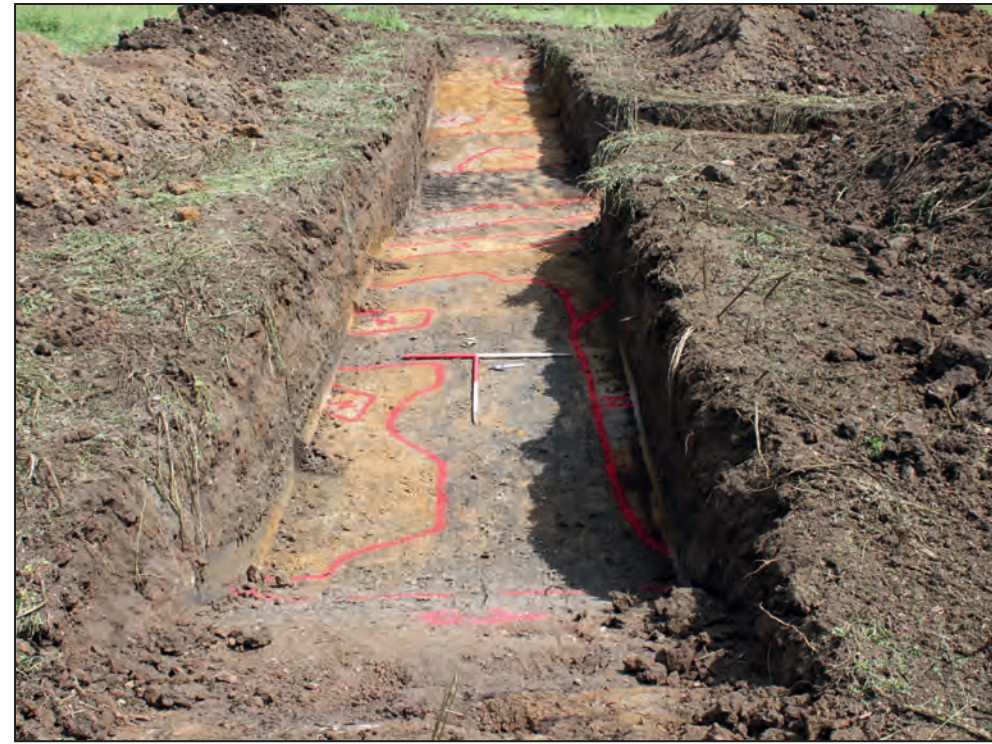
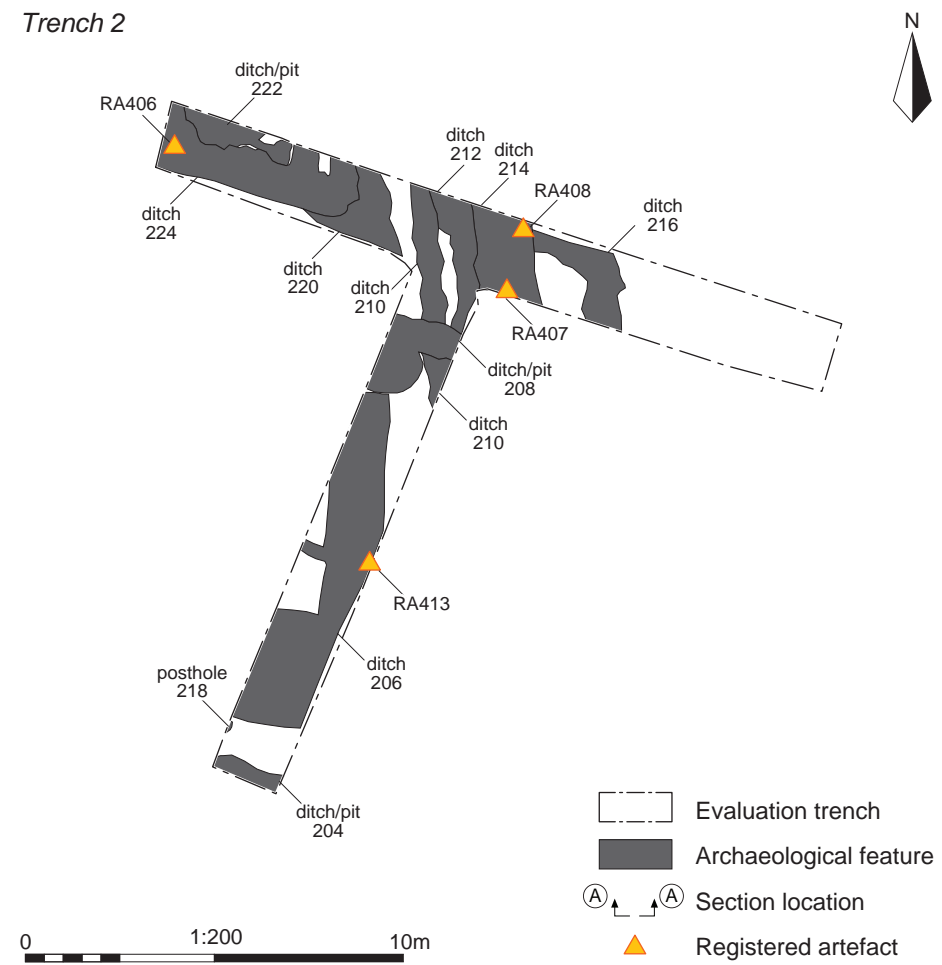
Ditch/pit 123, looking north-west (scale 0.2m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 1: sections and photographs**

DRAWN BY	<b>KM</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>MK0480</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>6</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>MN</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:20</b>	



Trench 2, looking east (scales 1m)



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

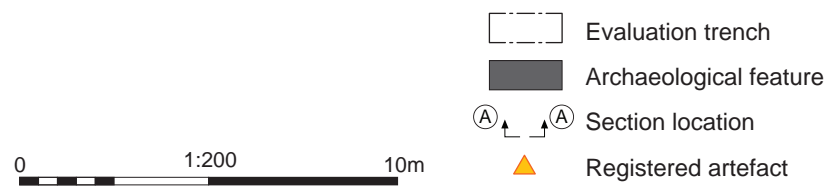
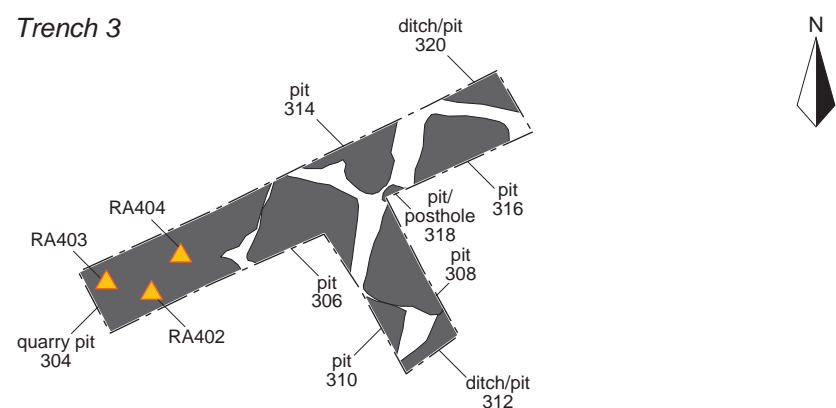

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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 2: plan and photographs**

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CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>7</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>MN</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:200</b>	

Trench 3



Trench 3, looking north-east (scales 1m)



Trench 3, looking north-west (scales 1m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 3: plan and photographs**

DRAWN BY	<b>KM</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>MK0480</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>04/07/2022</b>	<b>8</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>MN</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:200</b>	



Trench 1, looking west (scale 1m)



Trench 2, looking west (scale 1m)



Trench 3, looking north-west (scale 1m)


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
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 Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trenches 1, 2 & 3: trench depths**

<small>DRAWN BY</small> KM	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0480	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 04/07/2022	<b>9</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> MN	<small>SCALE</small> @A3 NA	



General site view, towards trenches 1 and 2, looking north



General site view, towards trench 3, looking south



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**PROJECT TITLE**

Land at Bicester Gateway, Bicester,  
Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**

Trenches 1, 2 & 3: general views

DRAWN BY **KM** PROJECT NO. **MK0480**  
 CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **04/07/2022**  
 APPROVED BY **MN** SCALE@A4 **NA**

**FIGURE NO.**

**10**

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