

MILL END LANE,
BLAKENEY, GLOS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT

BY

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

FOR

DAVID MACLEAN HOMES (SOUTHERN) LTD

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1. CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE EXCAVATION

1.1 *Introduction*

- 1.1.1 In July 1997 Cotswold Archaeological Trust (CAT) was commissioned by David Maclean Homes (Southern) Ltd to excavate a site adjacent to Mill End Lane, Blakeney, Glos., in advance of residential development (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The excavation followed an earlier field evaluation in February 1997 which had identified Romano-British metal-working deposits within the southern part of development area (Barber 1997). As these remains were vulnerable to damage from the construction of three house plots of the new development, an archaeological excavation was required as a condition of planning permission by Forest of Dean District Council.
- 1.1.3 This document is intended as a summary statement on the results of fieldwork and an assessment of the material recovered. It details the programme of post-excavation analysis which will bring the fieldwork to publication.

1.2 *Location*

- 1.2.1 The 0.14ha excavation area lies within the southern part of Blakeney, immediately west of Mill End Lane which links the village with Etloe.
- 1.2.2 The site was under pasture at the time of the excavation, and lies on a north-east facing slope which drains to the Bideford Brook. The ground slopes steeply, dropping from approximately 30m at the south-western edge of the site to approximately 20m OD alongside Mill End Lane.
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology across the excavation area consisted of red marl/clay.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 No prehistoric occupation has been identified from the site vicinity, although activity in the locality is alluded to from chance finds of worked flint (Johns 1993). Later prehistoric exploitation of the local iron ore, rich in metallic content and close to the surface, is likely to have occurred across the Forest of Dean.
- 1.3.2 Romano-British occupation at Blakeney is recorded from a number of observations in the vicinity of the excavation. At Legg House, 140m north-east of the study area, the remains of a high-quality Roman building occupied between *c* AD 75-150 has been uncovered by Dean Archaeology Group (Rawes 1991, 1993; Walters 1991, 1992). First-century pottery has also been recovered at Mill End, immediately alongside the study area, suggesting an early focus of occupation immediately east of the line of a putative Roman road (Rawes 1987; Sindrey 1990; Johns 1993). Third to fourth-century pottery and evidence of metal-working was recovered during the field evaluation.
- 1.3.3 No Anglo-Saxon occupation is known from Blakeney. The medieval and later development of the village as a trade centre was reflected in the presence of several mills, one of which lay at Mill End (Herbert 1996). The excavation area itself is known to have been under pasture in the nineteenth century and subsequently under allotment cultivation.

1.4 Excavation objectives

- 1.4.1 A brief for archaeological recording was issued by the Archaeology Section, Gloucestershire County Council (Parry 1997). The academic objectives as detailed within the subsequent project design (CAT 1997) were; -
- i) to ensure that a full and detailed record of the archaeology of the site was compiled, preserving by record areas of archaeological deposits affected by development.

- ii) to elucidate the form, function and status of the activity on site and to establish its chronology and phasing.

 - iii) to provide information on the date and character of the site and to compile data which would form the basis of a detailed report for publication.
- 1.4.2 In particular the excavation sought to examine part of a Roman iron-working site under controlled conditions. High priority was given to the recording and interpretation of Roman industrial remains, and to the collection of samples for metallurgical analysis, which might elucidate the processes being carried out. Where possible, given the limited scale of fieldwork, results would be integrated with existing archaeological knowledge to set the site in its local context.

2. EXCAVATION RESULTS

2.1 *Introduction*

- 2.1.1 The machine removal of a modern allotment soil (1001) across the excavation area, and an underlying colluvial horizon (1002), revealed a series of archaeological features. These were first recognisable at the level of the red marl substrate (1028) within the eastern half of the excavation area. Within the western part of the site however an area of pre-Roman colluvial subsoil (1107) was noted, lying within a natural depression in the marl substrate, through which several archaeological features were cut (Fig. 2).
- 2.1.2 Following hand-cleaning a representative selection of features was sampled, dating from the late second/early third to late fourth centuries AD. Closer dating of features was precluded by the paucity of stratigraphic relationships

and the conservative typology of the pottery represented. Three phases of late Roman activity were identified.

2.2 *Period 1 (Prehistoric)*

2.2.1 No features of prehistoric date were encountered within the excavation. Prehistoric activity in the general vicinity is alluded to by the recovery of two residual worked flints (one unstratified, the other from colluvial deposit (1002)). The retouched concave scraper and knife are undiagnostic in terms of dating, although a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date appears likely.

2.3 *Period 2 (Romano-British: late second/early third to late fourth centuries AD)*

Phase 1

2.3.1 The earliest definable features within the excavation area were ditch [1125], recut as [1019], and ditches [1013] and [1071]. Ditch [1019] was up to 1.95m wide and 0.65m deep, with a gently V-shaped shaped profile. It turned northwards before ending in a 0.2m deep terminal. Ditch [1013] was traced for a distance of 27m before stopping approximately 9m north of the terminal of ditch [1019]. Ditch [1013] was at least 0.7m in width and 0.3m deep, with a gentle U-shaped profile. Approximately 5m north of ditch [1013] a third, broadly parallel, ditch [1071] was up to 1.7m in width and 0.7m deep, with a V-shaped profile.

2.3.2 The function of the three ditches is uncertain from the small area exposed, although they may have demarcated a series of narrow enclosures. The presence of charcoal and slag within their primary fills suggested they were associated with metal-working activity in the vicinity, perhaps defining working areas as well as carrying surface water run-off from the slope above away from the focus of industrial activity.

- 2.3.3 In the area to the north of ditch [1013] was a slab-lined, circular, ?oven-base [1100], together with an associated cobbled-surface (1094). Other features included a charcoal spread (1096) within a shallow cut [1095]; an isolated stone-packed posthole [1097]; a charcoal-rich metalworking waste-pit [1116], and three further ?waste pits [1120], [1104], and [1118].
- 2.3.4 Ditches [1019], [1013] and [1071] contained loam-soil accumulations yielding both domestic refuse and industrial waste (burnt clay, charcoal and iron slag). A charcoal-rich silt-loam (1006) masked all features immediately north of ditch [1013]. This appeared to represent a downslope accumulation of material washed out, under heavy rainfall, from silting ditch [1013].

Phase 2

- 2.3.5 A second phase of activity on the site was represented by the cutting of a new ditch [1016] eastwards from the silted terminal of earlier ditch [1013]. The ditch, approximately 1.6m wide and 0.60m deep, had a gentle V-shaped profile. Silts had begun accumulating within ditch [1016] prior to a phase 3 ditch [1003] being dug to join with it.

Phase 3

- 2.3.6 Draining downslope to the north-western terminal of ditch [1016] and cutting across the fill (1014) of earlier ditch [1013], a further ditch [1003] was noted. It was 0.95m wide and 0.30m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The ditch, which incorporated a 7.5m long stone-lined culvert, was associated with activity on the hillside above.
- 2.3.7 At the eastern end of the site ditch [1065], approximately 2.6m wide and 0.25m deep with a wide gentle V-shaped profile, cut earlier ditch [1016].
- 2.3.8 Within a 14m x 7m terrace cut into the natural marl (1028) and pre-Roman colluvium (1107) a central area of degraded sandstone slabbing (1086) was

noted, approximately 2.5m x 3m in size. This hardstanding was bordered by a kerb of pitched stones set within a narrow slot. Fragmentary sandstone and redeposited iron-slag formed areas of hardstanding (1035), (1034) and (1058) around the main platform (1086). No postholes or padstones were encountered to indicate whether these surfaces had ever been covered.

- 2.3.9 Sealing the earlier charcoal accumulation (1006) to the north of ditch [1013] was a spread of degraded sub-angular sandstone cobbling. Its position, close to the culverted section of ditch [1003], suggests that this formed part of a metalled track. Isolated rubble noted further to the north-west suggests that the metalling was originally more extensive than is now preserved.
- 2.3.10 Adjacent to the hard standing were two charcoal-rich waste pits [1069] and [1092], and a hearth [1008] approximately 4m downslope which was cut into the silted fill of ditch [1013].
- 2.3.11 The southern side of the hearth consisted of a fire-scorched slab-lined channel [1008] linked to a rectangular chamber [1044] lined with clay (1043) which supported a series of vertically set slabs (1042). The chamber contained a charcoal-rich primary fill (1041). Adjoining the chamber [1044] on its eastern side was a second slab-lined channel [1020].
- 2.3.12 Some 2.5m downslope of hardstanding (1086) was a small irregularly shaped pit [1029], cut through the underlying colluvium. Two circular iron rings were exposed at the top of the feature, in association with nine coins dateable to the period *c.337-40*. Initially viewed as a coin hoard, within two iron vessels, subsequent analysis has revealed only two iron bands and no further coins. The two metal rings may actually represent hoops from the axle of a cart, but the reason for their deposition with the coins is unclear.
- 2.3.13 Approximately 0.30-0.50m of colluvial soil (1002) sealed all Roman features across the site, overlain by 0.10-0.20m of allotment soil (1001).

3. SITE ARCHIVE, FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

3.1 Paper Archive

3.1.1 The stratigraphic archive for the site consists of the following elements:

Context sheets: 125 (contexts 1001-1125)

Plans: 10

Sections: 25

B&W photos: 168

Colour slides: 144

3.1.2 A site matrix has been compiled and phased. Following the completion of the excavation an ordered, indexed and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with Appendix 3 of *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 2nd edition).

3.1.3 **Further analysis:** A narrative stratigraphic account will be prepared which describes, interprets and discusses the excavated evidence.

3.2 The Finds

3.2.1 All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned, quantified and catalogued. The following section summarises the results of the preliminary assessment of the artefacts and proposes requirements for further work.

The Pottery, by J.R. Timby

3.2.2 A small assemblage of pottery (1064 sherds, 18.8kg) was recovered. All of

the sherds date to the later Roman period (third–fourth centuries AD) except for one sherd of a medieval jug dated to the thirteenth-fourteenth centuries. The assemblage was divided into fabric types using the Gloucester City Excavation Unit codes and quantified by sherd count and weight.

- 3.2.3 The assemblage is relatively limited in composition, but is very typical of the later Roman period. The occupation span appears to be from the later second/early third century through to the later fourth century AD. The main wares present include products of the large regional industries, notably Severn Valley wares, Dorset black-burnished wares, Oxfordshire colour-coated wares and mortaria and micaceous greywares. Only one context (1024) produced sherds of late Roman shelly-ware, indicating occupation into the last quarter of the fourth century AD. Other wares include Midlands grog-tempered storage jar and samian. Some sherds of the latter showed evidence of repair using iron or lead rivets.
- 3.2.4 **Further analysis:** Since there is little material of this date published from the Forest of Dean, a summary report will be written for publication, including descriptions of the pottery and a table listing fabric types and percentages. Any particularly interesting sherds will be drawn.

Slag, by C. Salter

- 3.2.5 Over 424kg of slag was recovered, the majority from a single context (1035, see Table 1). It was hoped when the concentration of slag was found that it might have represented a dump around a short-lived iron smelting site. Unfortunately, no furnace was found.

Table 1. Weight of slag by context

Context	Date Range	Weight in
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		grammes
902	late 3rd-4th	5440
903	late 3rd-4th	2810
905	3rd	305
912	3rd-4th	440
1002	240-400	11564
1003	3rd-4th	28
1005	3rd-4th	26160
1006	240-400	7122
1014	240-400	5550
1015	3rd-4th	405
1022	3rd-4th	205
1024	360-400+	150
1025	240-400	15
1026	3rd-4th	130
1035	240-400	355345
1038	240-400	30
1041	240-400	148
1046	240-400	50
1051	240-400	450
1055	late 3rd-4th	60
1058	240-400	1015
1059	240-400	355
1066	240-400	165
1083	240-400	180
1086	240-400	3375
1088	late 3rd-4th	2760
1110	270-400+	60

3.2.6 Although the detailed work on the slag is not yet finished, it is clear that the material is almost exclusively associated with iron-smelting of the late third

or fourth centuries. The vast majority of the material is tap-slag or furnace-slag, with some clay furnace lining material and some sandstone. Thus this debris seems to represent only the very first stage of the iron smelting process in which the ore was smelted to a mixed mass of slag and metal called a bloom. To produce a useable metal, the bloom would have undergone a subsequent high temperature forging stage (bloom-smithing) in which the majority of slag was expelled from the bloom and the individual pieces of iron were consolidated.

- 3.2.7 The majority of the material found was either smelting slag tapped out of the furnace to solidify as the characteristic ropey tap-slag, or the more massive lumps of slag that remained in the furnace below the bloom. No definite evidence for the subsequent processes in which the bloom is worked up into useable metal was recovered. There were no smithing hearth bottoms found, nor was there any significant quantity of hammer-scale, even though the residue from slag washing was kept and checked for its presence.
- 3.2.8 The initial examination of the slag on site suggested that the proportion of slag that cooled within the furnace (furnace-slag) to that which was tapped out (tap-slag) was greater than at many Roman smelting sites. Unfortunately, the tap-slag to furnace-slag ratio is not a statistic that has often been recorded in published reports of iron smelting sites of this period. In fact, smelting slags are rarely differentiated. Only Fulford and Allen (1992) noted the presence of these two different types of smelting slag, but although it is clear that they measured the ratio, they unfortunately did not publish it. Thus the observation that there seems to be a greater proportion of furnace or massive slag to tap-slag is simply an impression based on general observations over a number of sites, rather than on hard statistics at this stage.
- 3.2.9 Most pieces of furnace slag have preserved a number of fuel impressions. These were typically of round wood charcoal of relatively small diameter (15-25mm). There were relatively few impressions of flat surfaces from split wood. This would suggest that the smelters were either using top wood or short rotation coppiced wood to make their charcoal. This is in line with

Fulford and Allen's (1992) observations of the charcoal at The Chesters, where it was found that the wood had been cut in the autumn and winter period, allowed to dry, then burnt to charcoal. This is in contrast to the practice in the East Midlands (Cowgill, *pers. com.*, and the author's observations of smelting sites in the Claxby area) where larger diameter wood or charcoal was split to obtain a suitable size for smelting.

- 3.2.10 The slag itself also retained some information about the way in which the furnace was run. A few pieces of slag that had frozen in the tap-slagging channel were recovered. These showed that the tap-slagging channel was 40-50mm wide. The presence of narrower channels on the base of the run suggest that one or more obstructions of the tapping channel had been cleared by ramming a rod of 15-20mm diameter through the base of the tapping arch.
- 3.2.11 The only other sort of metallurgical material recovered in quantity was furnace lining. This was either sandy clay or sandstone. In some cases the furnace lining surface had fused and begun to flow. Given the rich nature of the ores used in the Forest of Dean, it is likely that fusion of the hearth-lining is necessary to reduce the melting point of the slag sufficiently for freely-flowing tap-slags to form.
- 3.2.12 **Further analysis:** The slag will be discussed in the context of the Romano-British metal-working industry in the Forest of Dean, with particular comparison made with the excavated evidence from Chesters Villa. Consideration will be given to what the evidence from both these sites can tell us about the organisation of iron-smelting in the region.

*Coin*s, by P. Guest

- 3.2.13 Ten coins were recovered during the excavation. Nine Roman coins were found together within pit [1029]. These date from between the last quarter of the third and the end of the fourth centuries AD. One medieval penny was also found.

3.2.14 **Further analysis:** Six of the coins require cleaning. The coins will all be fully identified where possible. A brief analysis of the coins using comparative British material will discuss the group in greater detail.

Metalwork, by E. Harrison

3.2.15 A small number of metal objects were recovered. These include a lead fragment, one copper-alloy object, 20 iron nails and five other iron object fragments. Two iron hoops, possibly from the axle of a cart, were found in association with the coin group in pit [1029].

3.2.16 **Further analysis:** The material will be x-rayed. A full catalogue record will be compiled, describing and where possible identifying all objects. Selected items will be drawn.

Worked Stone, by F. Roe

3.2.17 Four rotary quern fragments and three other worked pieces of stone were recovered. The querns were made from Upper Old Red Sandstone, one (1040, sf 9) of quartz conglomerate and the other three (910, sf 1; 1059, sf 10; 1105, sf 14) of sandstone. The stone could have been obtained from high ground to the north west of the site, only some 2.5km distant.

3.2.18 Three of the querns have grooved grinding surfaces. The grooving is somewhat idiosyncratic, having been carried out without too much regard to the conventional manner of arrangement, which on Roman querns usually consisted of grooves in neat segments. The grooving on the quern from (1059) is particularly crude. These three querns do however conform to the Roman disc type, being more or less flat and of no great thickness. The fourth quern fragment, a lower stone (1040) is unevenly shaped, suggesting that it may have been made from a loose boulder. It is altogether thicker, so that the shape is more reminiscent of Iron Age varieties of rotary quern.

- 3.2.19 The site lies on the Lower Old Red Sandstone Brownstones, and this dark red sandstone was used for the other three worked pieces. These consist of an unstratified rubber fragment (Tr. 9), a possible crude mortar fragment (1105) and another potentially worked piece (1002). These seem to represent the casual use of stone available on or around the site for items other than querns.
- 3.2.20 **Further analysis:** A full catalogue record will be compiled and the rotary querns illustrated

Building material, by E. Harrison

- 3.2.21 Tile was recovered from two contexts, (1002) and (1065). A simple catalogue record has been compiled.
- 3.2.22 **Further analysis:** none required.

Coal, by E. Harrison

- 3.2.23 Coal was recovered from three contexts, (1005) (1027) and (1048). A simple catalogue record has been compiled.
- 3.2.24 **Further analysis:** none required.

Glass, by E. Harrison

- 3.2.25 One small sherd of glass was recovered from pit [1065]. A simple catalogue record has been compiled.

- 3.2.26 **Further analysis:** none required.

Flint, by G. Walker

- 3.2.27 Two struck flints were uncovered (one unstratified, one from (1002)). The material has been identified and described.

3.2.28 **Further analysis:** none required.

Environmental Samples, by K. Wilkinson

3.2.29 During excavations at Blakeney a total of 24 bulk samples each of 10 litre volume (sensu Cotswold Archaeological Trust Technical Manual 2 - *The Taking of Samples for Palaeoenvironmental and Palaeoeconomic Analysis*) were collected by the site staff. The samples were taken opportunistically from features that appeared rich in charred material with the aim of recovering biological material to address questions concerning the nature of past subsistence activity. Given the use to which the site was put in the Roman period (i.e. iron-working), and the location of the site (in the Forest of Dean) it was also of interest to determine what species of trees were used as fuel in the smelting process.

3.2.30 For the purposes of this study, eight of the samples were processed. Processing was carried out using the flotation technique using mesh sizes of 500µm and 1mm for the flot and residue respectively. Both flots and residues were air dried and then were sorted. During study of both flots and residues semi-quantitative assessment was made of the relative importance of each category of biological remain, the results of which are detailed in Table 2 below.

Sample	1	3	4	7	8	12	16	23
Context	1041	1035	1022	1063	1115	1102	1050	1070
Context type	Hearth	Slag spread	Channel fill	Ditch fill	Charcoal spread	Hearth	Ditch fill	Pit fill
Charred cereal grains	*				*	*	*	
Charred weed seeds		*	*			*		
Wood charcoal >4mm	*****	**	**	***	****	*	**	*****
Modern weed seeds	*					*		
Modern roots	*	*	**	*	*	*	*	*
Small mammal bone	**		*		*		*	
Metalworking debris			*	*	*	*	*	
Artefacts			*	*				

Table 2. Biological and artefactual remains recovered from Blakeney

Key: * 1-10 ** 10-50 *** 50-100 **** 100-200 ***** 200+

3.2.31 Most of the biological remains recovered from the samples consisted of wood charcoal. In most cases the charcoal was highly fragmented, but in samples 1 and 16 the pieces recovered were complete sections of large twigs up to 20mm in diameter. It is likely that the fires caused charring in these two cases did not burn to such high temperatures as in the remaining samples. Indeed, in samples 1 and 16 the non-twig charcoal was extremely well preserved, it being possible to see clearly both the ring and the ray structure of the wood.

3.2.32 Charred cereal grains were recovered from several of the samples, but in such low numbers as to suggest that the remains formed part of a general spread across the site. Indeed the fact the cereal remains were poorly preserved may indicate that they have been reworked and were not part of the assemblage as originally deposited. Charred weed seeds were also found in some of the samples and probably entered the sampled features in much the same way as suggested for the charred cereal grains. One of the “charred weed seeds” in samples 12 is of *Rubus* sp. (blackberry, raspberry etc). This may indicate something of the diet at the time the sampled deposit accumulated, but may also have been growing in local woodland or in hedgerows bordering fields.

3.2.33 Bones were recovered in low numbers from some of the samples and mostly consisted of small mammal remains which have either been reworked, or entered the sampled features when alive and subsequently died *in situ*. Artefactual remains relating to metal-working activity were also found in a number of the samples, but in such low quantities as to suggest that they are present as a general spread across the site.

3.2.34 The biological remains recovered from Blakeney are mostly bi-products of fire. Based on the information available it is not certain if the features sampled containing burnt material were associated with metal-working activity or were simple domestic hearths. Whichever is the case, the wood

charcoal in particular is of high potential interest for the information it can provide concerning the contemporary woodland. Little is known of the composition of the Forest of Dean in terms of tree species for any period prior to the middle ages, and therefore any new data - even if from wood charcoal which may be a rather biased record - would be valuable. If the charcoal is in some way associated with metal-working activity, it is probable that the species of tree burnt in the furnaces used to extract iron from its ore would have been selected for its long and high temperature burning properties. However, if the remains were from domestic hearths it is perhaps more likely that the contemporary population would have exploited any local wood source. Therefore, detailed interpretation of the stratigraphic archive is needed to make possible associations with either industrial or domestic activity clearer prior to further analysis.

3.2.35 Besides providing information on the floristic composition of the local woodland, and perhaps also indicating which species were selected for by the contemporary human population, the charcoal remains from samples 1 and 16 at least may provide data on woodland management strategies, i.e. whether pollarding or coppicing was practised.

3.2.36 Other classes of bio-remains would appear to be part of a general scatter across the site and in view of their uncertain provenance and taphonomy are of limited palaeoenvironmental significance.

3.2.37 **Further analysis:** It is recommended that the wood charcoal >4mm is submitted for analysis to an appropriate specialist for detailed analysis. From the samples that have been assessed, those that should be submitted are samples 1, 8, 16 and 23, although it will also be necessary to process all remaining samples held from the site to see if these contain similar quantities (and quality) of material. The charcoal analysis will identify the taxa present, and quantify their relative abundance. The choice of tree part, and the implications this has for woodland management and seasonal collection will be discussed. Comparison will be made with Figueiral's analysis of the charcoal samples from The Chesters.

3.2.38 No further analysis of the other classes of bio-remain is necessary.

4. STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

- 4.1 This small excavation lies on the edge of the Roman settlement at Blakeney, which is very poorly understood. The first priority of the report will be to place the results within the context of previous work. The work by Dean Archaeology Group at Legg House on the opposite side of the Bideford Brook has found a stone-built Roman building dating to the period c. 75-150. A little to the east of this Bigland's account of 1786 strongly suggests the presence of a Roman bath-house. The interpretation of this complex is open to question, but significantly the evidence revealed in the current excavation (exclusively third-fourth century) dates to the period after the demolition of that building. This is therefore the first evidence for late Roman occupation in Blakeney, and it would appear that the Mill End Lane excavation has examined the very periphery of the site which is presumably concentrated along the south bank of the Bideford Brook.
- 4.2 By virtue of the small area exposed it is difficult to make many meaningful deductions on the spatial organisation of the site. Rather the importance of the excavation lies primarily with the recovery of well-dated metallurgical samples, and their association with excavated features such as the hearth. The analysis of these slags will be of value and importance to the technological understanding of Romano-British iron-working in the Forest of Dean. Comparison with the metallurgical features and samples from The Chesters, Woolaston (Fulford and Allen 1992) will be particularly valuable.
- 4.3 Study of the Romano-British iron-working industry in the Forest of Dean is still in its infancy, especially from a technological viewpoint. It may prove difficult to draw too many conclusions from the excavation at Mill End Lane, but by placing the results on record it will provide base-line data to which future excavation and research can both refer and develop.

5. PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING

- 5.1 As the excavation results are clearly of local and regional importance an illustrated article will be published within a regional learned journal, anticipated to be the *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*. The report is anticipated to be in the order of 25 pages long.
- 5.2 Synopsis of proposed report

*A Roman Metal-Working Site at Mill End Lane, Blakeney.
Excavations in 1997.*

By Alistair Barber and Neil Holbrook

Abstract

Summary Introduction

Project background and archaeological background

Excavation Results

Metal-working Debris

Finds

Coins, Metalwork, Pottery, Worked Stone

Environmental Samples

Analysis of charcoal samples

Discussion

- 5.3 The report will contain the following illustrations:

Fig. 1 Site location

Fig. 2 General multi-phase plan of excavation

Fig. 3 Interpretative phase plans

Fig. 4 Detailed plan of hearth structure

Fig. 5 Illustrative sections

Fig. 6 Pottery illustrations

Fig. 7 Metalwork/worked stone illustrations

6. PROJECT TEAM

- 6.1 The post-excavation and publication programme will be under the management of Neil Holbrook (Archaeological Director) who will co-ordinate the work of the following CAT personnel:

Alistair Barber (Project Officer): basic post-excavation tasks, draft report preparation and archive.

Emma Harrison (Finds Officer): processing of metallurgical samples, finds processing and recording, and deposition of the site archive with Dean Heritage Museum.

Peter Moore (Senior Illustrator): production of all plans, sections and artefact drawings for publication.

- 6.2 The Archaeological Director will also manage contributions by the following external consultants:

Chris Salter, Research Laboratory for Archaeology and History of Art, Oxford:	Slag
Fiona Roe (consultant):	Worked stone
Jane Timby (consultant):	Ceramics
Peter Guest (consultant):	Coins
Rowena Gale (consultant):	Charcoal

- 6.3 The final publication report will be edited and refereed internally by CAT.
- 6.4 Arrangements will be made to deposit the site archive and finds with Dean Heritage Museum, subject to agreement with the legal landowner.

7. TIMETABLE

- 7.1 It is anticipated that the report will be complete and refereed within 12 months of receipt of written approval of the post-excavation programme. Publication within *the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* is likely to be in the year 2001.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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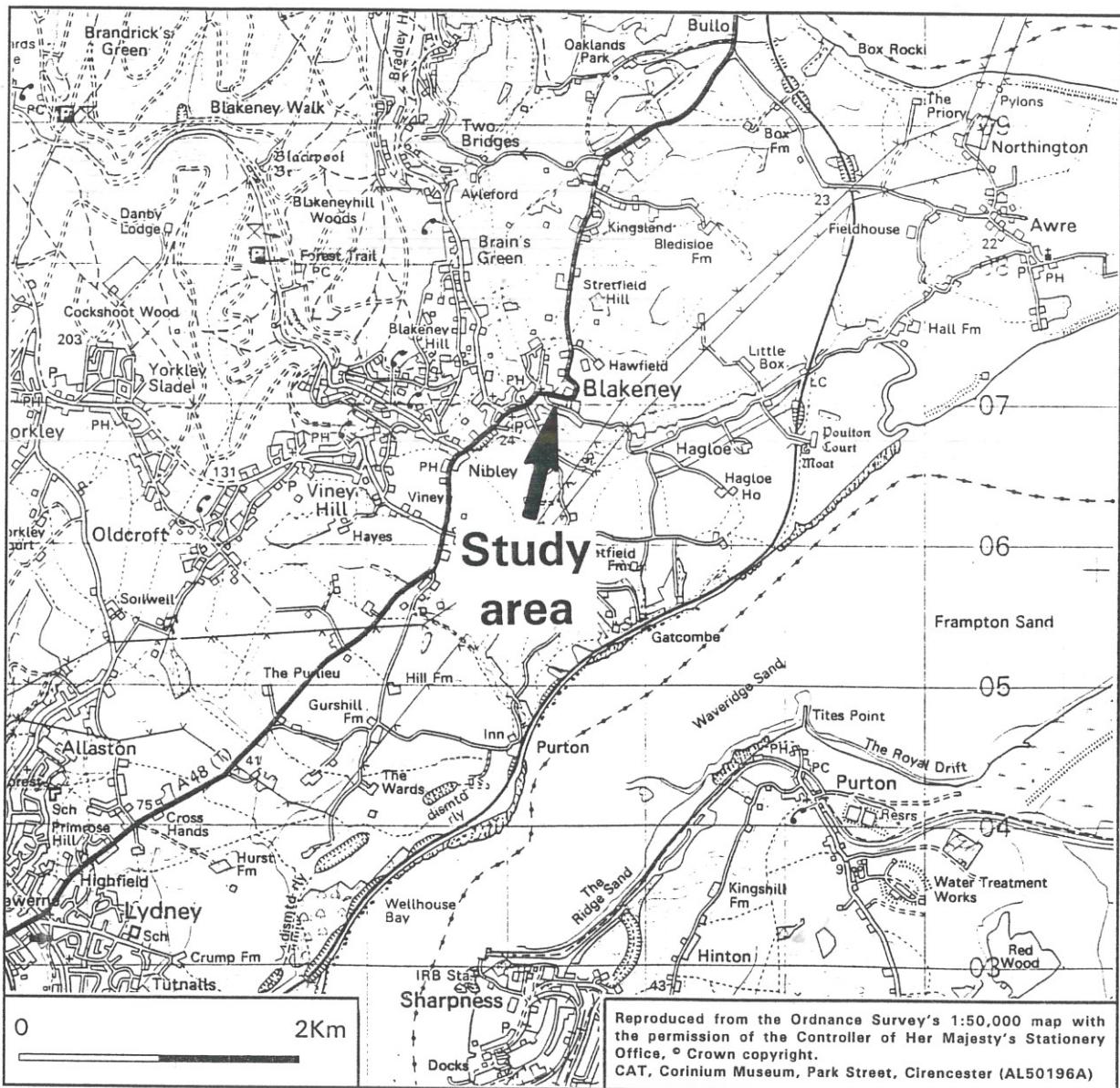
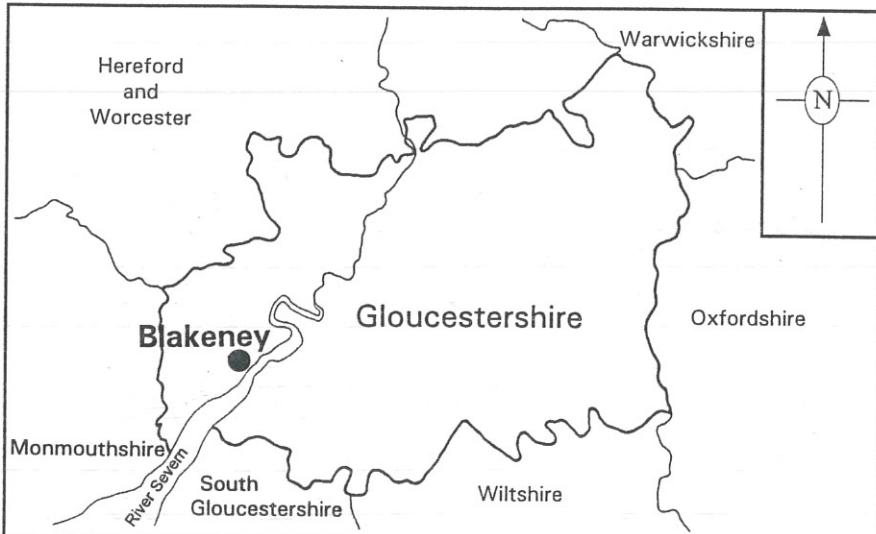


Fig. 1 Location plan

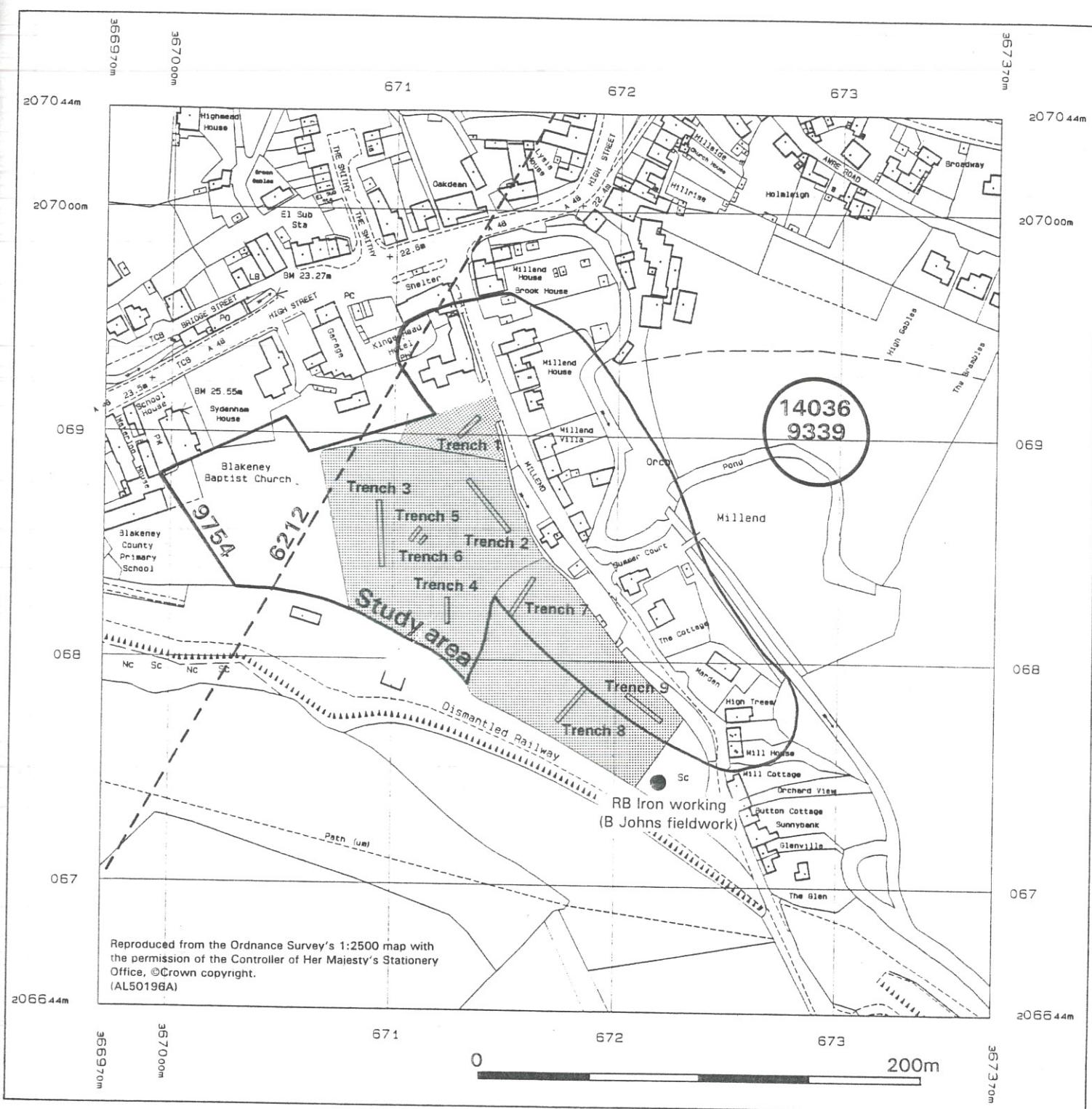
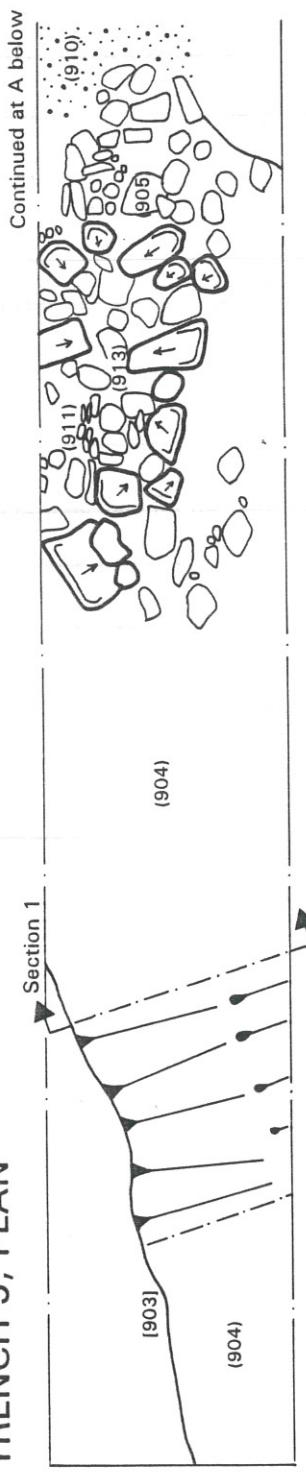


Fig. 2 The study area and Gloucestershire SMR information

TRENCH 9, PLAN



Continued at A below

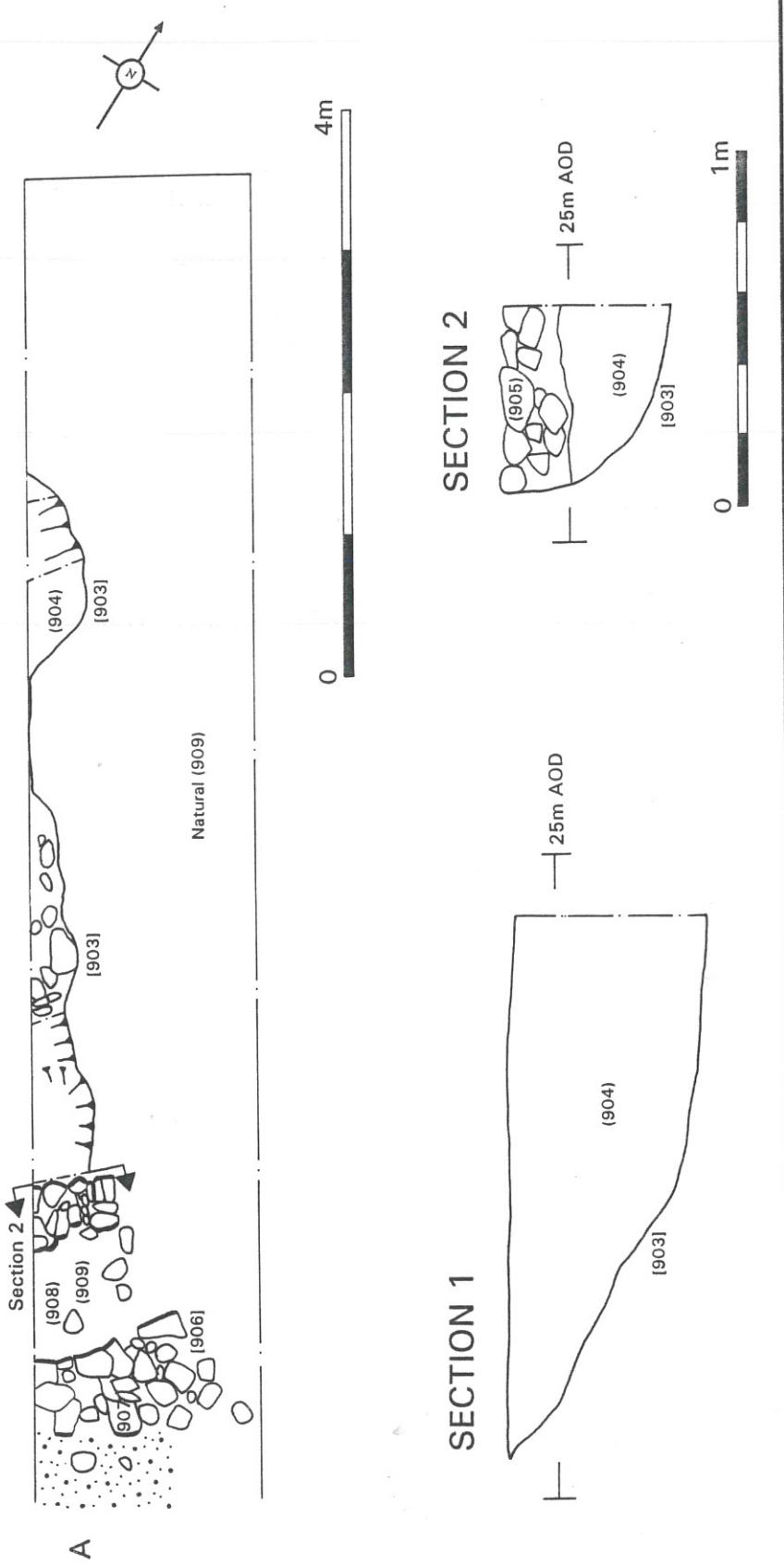


Fig. 3 Trench 9, plan and sections