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## **SUMMARY**

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Lower Mill Estate</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire
<b>NGR:</b>	SU 4025 1940
<b>Type:</b>	Excavation
<b>Date:</b>	Summer 2001

During April to July 2001 Cotswold Archaeology, (CA, formerly Cotswold Archaeological Trust (CAT)) carried out an archaeological excavation at Lower Mill Farm, Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire at the request of Conservation Builders Ltd (Fig. 1). This was as a direct result of the identification of archaeological deposits in the northern half of the evaluation area previously undertaken by Cotswold Archaeological Trust in September 2000, and in response to a subsequent archaeological brief prepared by the Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC 1999).

A desk-based assessment was undertaken by CAT (Morton 1997). Evidence of Paleolithic occupation in the vicinity of the study area was revealed, and nearby Neolithic and Bronze Age activity. Major settlement and exploitation of the landscape occurred during the Iron Age and Romano-British periods, attested to by a series of cropmarks and excavations preceding gravel quarrying. Anglo-Saxon settlement took place at nearby Somerford Keynes, and there is evidence for early medieval field systems from within the study area. Extensive gravel quarrying in modern times has removed much of the archaeological record on the site.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in September 2000 (CAT 2000), consisting of 12 trenches. The northern half of the study area was found to contain archaeological deposits (Fig. 2). However, any deposits in the southern half are likely to have been destroyed by the construction of an embankment around a former gravel quarry now filled by Somerford Lagoon.

Two trenches produced evidence of Romano-British activity in the form of shallow pits, gullies and ditches. The presence of roof tile fragments suggested the presence of a Romano-British building, possibly of some status, either within or in the vicinity of the study area. Archaeological features were identified in four other trenches, although no dateable artefacts were observed. Two possible palaeochannels and two post-medieval ditches were also found.

Subsequent excavation revealed that the principal archaeological elements comprised a two-phase Roman ditch system in the eastern half of the site, a medieval ditch system towards the western end of the site, and post-medieval activity represented by a series of re-cut ditches (appearing to drain into the extant mill race) together with an associated later hedgeline bisecting the site. An area of probable medieval/post-medieval metalling or consolidation was recorded towards the eastern end of the site, cut by a later ditch. In addition, a series of large, artefact-rich, post-medieval quarry pits were identified at the eastern extent of the site.

There were two palaeochannels in the eastern half of the site and numerous alluvial pools across the whole site. In addition, numerous anomalous features were prevalent across the site, mostly undated and probably only representing tree-boles. Several of the more regularly-shaped of these features were tentatively recorded as pits.

This document presents a quantification and assessment of the evidence recovered during the project. It considers the evidence collectively in its local, regional, and national context, and presents an updated project design for a programme of post-excavation analysis to bring the results to appropriate publication.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April 2001 Cotswold Archaeology (CA; then Cotswold Archaeological Trust, (CAT)) was commissioned by Conservation Builders Ltd to carry out an archaeological excavation of approximately 1.4ha of land at Lower Mill Farm, Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire, centred on NGR SU 4025 1940 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The excavation was carried out over a four-month period between April and July 2001 and complied with the project design (CAT 2001). This was in response to archaeological condition 11 imposed on outline planning permission CT/64441/J, granted on the above site, and the archaeological brief prepared by Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC 1999).
- 1.3 Previous work undertaken by CA comprised a desk-based assessment (Morton 1997) and a field evaluation (CAT 2000).
- 1.4 The excavation area is situated to the east of Lower Mill Farm and comprises a long narrow tract of land located between two watercourses. It is bounded to the north by the River Thames and to the south by a leat associated with the mill after which the site is named (Fig. 2). These courses converge at the eastern end of the site. The site's position between the two watercourses had a direct bearing on the nature of many of the deposits encountered during the excavation (see below). Prior to excavation the land comprised a field under pasture.
- 1.5 The site of the excavation is relatively flat at approximately 87m AOD. The underlying geology comprises of First Terrace river gravels (BGS 1974) and is a landscape that has been much exploited for gravel.

### ***Archaeological Background***

- 1.6 In October 1997, CAT carried out an archaeological assessment on behalf of Parkroof Ltd on land at Lower Mill Farm, Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire. The purpose of which was to establish the likely extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits. The assessment had established the presence of Palaeolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age activity within the vicinity. Major settlement and exploitation of the local landscape appears to have first occurred during the Iron Age, and continued into the Roman period. Remains from these periods have been

excavated to the north-east and comprised a large aisled building and a Roman road junction, together with important artefactual evidence in the form of an altar stone and military metalwork (Miles *et al.* 1987a; *idem* 1987b). Cropmark evidence to the south of the site suggests the existence of a field system, a further settlement and a possible trackway (Morton 1997). There is also evidence of an Anglo-Saxon settlement at nearby Somerford Keynes and for early medieval field systems in the vicinity.

- 1.7 A subsequent evaluation was undertaken in July 2000 for Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Co. Ltd on behalf of Lower Mill Estate in which evidence of Romano-British activity was discovered to the north of the mill race, in the form of shallow pits, gullies and ditches. There was also evidence for two possible palaeochannels and two post-medieval ditches (Figs 1 and 2).

## **2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The aims and objectives of the excavation were to:

- Ensure that a full and detailed archaeological record of the site was compiled;
- To elucidate the chronology and phasing of the archaeological remains;
- To establish the form, function, character and status of the activity on the site thus represented;
- To further enhance our knowledge and understanding of activity of this type;
- Publish in the appropriate media.

## **3. METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The evaluation comprised twelve trenches excavated across the study area (Fig. 2). Trenches 1 to 8 were between 10m and 25m long and were excavated by a mechanical excavator using a toothless 1.5m wide ditching bucket under archaeological supervision.
- 3.2 Trenches 9 to 11 varied in length between 3.5m and 7m but further excavation of these trenches, which were sited on the embankment of Somerford Lagoon, was abandoned with the agreement of Charles Parry, after the trench depths exceeded

safe working limits. However, it was also clearly established that a reduction in the level of the original ground surface here during gravel quarrying had almost certainly led to the destruction of any archaeological deposits.

- 3.3 Trenches 1 to 8 were excavated by machine onto the level of the natural gravels at which point excavation and recording continued by hand in accordance with the CAT Technical Manual 1: *Site Recording Manual* (1996).
- 3.4 Archaeological excavation was carried out by CAT in the area to the north of the mill race and was limited to the area of development (Fig. 2), bounded by statutory constraints to the north (protected hedgebank) and south (proximity to the mill race). Pits were 50% sampled; linears (ditches/gullies, paths/tracks) were 20% sampled, whilst activities relating to burial/cremation and domestic/industrial activity were 100% sampled. The excavation covered an area of approximately 1.4ha and complied with the project design for an archaeological excavation (CAT 2001) and the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavations* (IFA 1999) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991). A full written, drawn and photographic record was made in accordance with CAT Technical Manual 1: *Site Recording Manual* (1996). Deposits were assessed on site for their environmental potential and sampled as appropriate, in accordance with CAT Technical Manual 2: *The Taking for Samples for Palaeoenvironmental and Palaeoeconomic Analysis from Archaeological Sites* (1994). Artefacts were processed and analysed in accordance with CAT Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).
- 3.5 For ease of description features have been allocated generic code letters, for example ditches A to Q.
- 3.6 Subject to the landowner's consent the artefacts from the excavation will be deposited along with the site archive at Corinium Museum.

## 4. RESULTS

### *Fieldwork summary (Fig. 2)*

- 4.1 The evaluation concluded that the northern half of the study area contained archaeological deposits (Fig. 2), but that any deposits in the southern half had been destroyed by the construction of an embankment around a former gravel quarry now filled by Somerford Lagoon.
- 4.2 Two trenches produced evidence of Romano-British activity in the form of shallow pits, gullies and ditches. The presence of roof tile fragments suggested the presence of a Romano-British building, possibly of some status, either within or in the vicinity of the site. Archaeological features were identified in four other trenches, although no dateable artefacts were observed. Two possible palaeochannels and two post-medieval ditches were also found. On the basis of these findings, preservation by record (i.e. excavation), followed.
- 4.3 During the excavation of the northern part of the study area archaeological deposits were identified throughout the site (Fig. 3). These comprised a range of features. There were some features devoid of dating evidence which have not been ascribed to any provisional period, but on the basis of spot-dating, stratigraphy, form and association, most features have been assigned to one of four provisional periods:

Period 1: Roman

Period 2: Medieval

Period 3: Post-medieval

Period 4: Modern

- 4.4 Brief summaries of the fieldwork results and artefactual evidence are given for each period below. More detailed artefactual information is provided in Appendices 1 to 7.

#### *Period 1: Roman*

- 4.5 A shallow, irregular palaeochannel (A) was revealed in the north-west corner of the site, from which a small quantity of Roman pottery, of probable 2nd to 3rd century date, was recovered. Nearby, an alignment of three pits (T) was identified, which may have continued beyond the limit of excavation. Further east, a wide but shallow palaeochannel (B) was revealed along with a short length of gully (P) which may



have drained into the palaeochannel B, or have taken water from it. Neither feature produced dating evidence.

- 4.6 Approximately 15m to the east were a series of three ditches (F), running north-east/south-west, representing the original feature and two phases of recutting. These crossed the site and turned westwards at their southernmost visible extent. A small number of pottery sherds of 2nd to 3rd century date, as well as fragments of animal bone were recovered from these ditches. A little to the east was an isolated, small, heavily truncated pit (Y), which produced a single sherd of Roman pottery.
- 4.7 In the centre of the site several irregular pools of alluvium were revealed, including pool Z. This contained fragments of brick or tile of probable Roman date. It was from evaluation trench 7, located over this area, that a *tegula* fragment, a possible box tile and three other tile fragments were recovered, as was, a single sherd of late 1st or 2nd-century AD samian pottery.
- 4.8 A 75m length of straight ditch (L) was revealed in the eastern part of the site, running north-west/south-east to alluvium pool EE. A small number of pottery sherds and fragments of brick or tile dated to the Roman period were recovered. At its north-western end, the ditch appeared to run (and possibly drain) into this extensive area of alluvium, whilst to the south-east it was truncated by post-medieval quarrying activity (S). Residual Roman material was also found in post-medieval ditches H and J.

#### *Period 2: Medieval*

- 4.9 Medieval activity was limited to a single shallow pit identified towards the south-western corner of the site, although dating of this feature is tentative, and based on the retrieval of a single sherd of pottery. Elsewhere, residual medieval material was recovered from post-medieval ditches E, H and J, as well as from the alluvial deposit AA, which contained material of post-medieval date. During the evaluation a single sherd of Minety ware was recovered from the topsoil in trench 3.

#### *Period 3: Post-medieval*

- 4.10 Post-medieval activity was identified throughout the site, represented mainly by a series of ditches evidently forming a field system. A number of the ditches (BB, E, J and N) were aligned approximately north-east/south-west, with further ditches (C, D, H and M) adjoining them on perpendicular alignments, north-west/south-east. Ditches C, E, H, J and N all contained small quantities of post-medieval pottery, often

alongside earlier residual Roman and medieval material. Towards the eastern end of the site, Ditch N clearly cut through an area of dumped rubble ®. This possibly represents a rough surface or consolidation of an area prone to waterlogging. Finds from overlying layers dated to the 17th to 18th centuries. It is possible that the curved wall bowl identified from trench 3 during the evaluation is from ditch D, identified during the excavation. This sherd of glazed red earthen ware is of 16th century date.

- 4.11 A single pit (X) dated to this period was identified immediately to the east of Roman ditch group (F). This contained a fragment of burnt animal bone, as well as a clay pipe stem.
- 4.12 The alluvial deposit AA, identified along the southern limit of excavation in the eastern part of the site produced medieval and post-medieval finds including a horseshoe and a copper alloy ring. It is likely that this deposit is associated with flooding of the mill leat. An area of quarrying (S) was identified, extending across the trench at the eastern end of the site. One of the quarry pits was excavated to a depth of 0.75m where excavation ceased due to waterlogging, however it was apparent that the pit had been intentionally backfilled, mainly with a highly organic deposit, possibly associated with dredging of the adjacent mill race. This deposit was rich in artefactual material, including sizeable timbers of post-medieval date.

#### *Period 4: Modern*

- 4.13 Ditch CC was revealed along the eastern edge of the Roman ditch series (F). The uppermost fill was highly organic. The feature itself would appear to represent a ditch associated with a former hedgeline, as the fill contained many roots. As it was perpendicular to ditch G it is likely to be part of this probable field boundary system.

#### *Undated features*

- 4.14 Several features across the site were found to be devoid of any dating evidence. A number of these were relatively irregular in shape and consequently interpreted as representing tree or other plant root-boles. Others appeared to represent the truncated bases of more regularly-shaped pits or postholes, such as those in groups V and W, towards the western periphery of the site. A further small length of gully (DD) was identified cutting the westernmost of Roman ditch group F. Extending into the site from the southern limit of excavation, a few metres to the east of ditch group F was shallow ditch Q.

**Stratigraphic record: factual data**

- 4.15 Following the completion of the excavation an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with the specification presented in MAP2 (1991). A database of all contextual and artefactual evidence and site matrices was also compiled and cross-referenced to spot-dating. The archive comprises the following records:

Site Code	LMF 00 Evaluation	LMF 01 Excavation
Context sheets	100	335
Drawings (plans 1:50)	8	1
Drawings (sections 1:10 and 1:20)	-	104
Black & White contact sheets	3	9
Black & White Films	3	9
Colour Slides Films	3	9
Level sheets	3	5
Matrices	1	4

- 4.16 The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was good, with archaeological remains having survived as negative features. There is very little truncation by later cut features. The majority of features have been assigned a preliminary phase based on spot-dating, stratigraphy, form and association.

**Stratigraphic record: statement of potential**

- 4.17 Secure stratigraphic sequence is essential in elucidating the form, purpose, date, organisation and development of the various phases of activity represented. This can be achieved through the detailed analysis of the sequence and further integration of the artefactual dating evidence. The refined dating sequence will then serve as the spatial and temporal framework within which other artefactual and biological evidence is understood. Synthesis should include the integration of the stratigraphic data arising from the 2000 field evaluation.
- 4.18 The stratigraphic record also offers information on the construction, form, organisation, use, development, disuse, and ultimate disappearance from the visible landscape of the various features and structures as recorded during excavation. By analysing these elements, a view of the changing nature and character of the site can be established.

- 4.19 The artefactual assemblages, in particular the Roman and post-medieval material will help in further refining the stratigraphic sequence. Assimilation of the dating evidence contained within the artefactual and ecofactual datasets into the stratigraphic record will assist in determining a chronological phasing for this framework. This is required to the interpretation of the site and of data arising from further analysis.

#### ***Artefactual record: factual data***

- 4.20 All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued by context. All metalwork has been x-rayed and stabilised where appropriate.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Roman	23	360
	Medieval	4	23
	Post-medieval/modern	10	12907
	Ashton Keynes	305	1373
	<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>14643</b>
Stone	Roof tile	1	
CBM	Brick/tile	43	3840
Clay pipe	Stem fragments	13	
Metals	Copper alloy	1	
	Iron	15	

#### *The Pottery*

- 4.21 A total of 342 sherds of pottery (14.64kg) were recovered. The pottery ranges in date from the earlier Roman to the medieval and post-medieval periods. Over 90% of the post-medieval pottery most likely dates to the later 17th to early 18th centuries. Of note are large quantities of material from the local Ashton Keynes kilns, including a number of probable 'seconds'. Despite the regional importance of the type from the 16th to the 18th centuries, Ashton Keynes products have received little in the way of archaeological attention, with only a few groups published, chiefly from Cirencester and Gloucester (Ireland 1998 and Vince 1983). This group is relatively well dated through association with clay pipe and other ceramics and includes forms hitherto unseen in the fabric.

#### *Ceramic Building Material*

- 4.22 Forty-three fragments (3840g) of ceramic building material, dating to the Roman and later medieval/post-medieval periods were recovered. Identifiable Roman material includes single examples of *imbrex*, *tegula* and (combed) box forms. Additionally a number of plain fragments have been identified as Roman brick on the basis of fabric

and thickness. This level of material is consistent with the quantities recovered from evaluation trench 7.

#### *Clay Pipe*

- 4.23 Thirteen fragments of clay pipe, all stems, were recovered and are broadly datable to the post-medieval period. A fragment bearing a makers stamp, dates to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries and was recovered from the quarrying in area S.

#### *Vessel Glass*

- 4.24 Fragments from a single bowl or drinking vessel with corrugated walls were recovered from deposits 2291 and 2292, associated with quarrying S (Fig. 3). A post-medieval date is likely for this vessel.

#### *Worked Stone*

- 4.25 A single, near complete, limestone roofing tile of medieval or later form with single nail/peg hole was recovered from deposit 2193 in ditch CC, the later recut of ditches F.

#### *Metal Artefacts*

- 4.26 Sixteen metal items, all but one of iron, were recovered including nails, a knife and a reaping hook. With the possible exception of a (? Medieval) reaping hook, all of the metal artefacts date to the post-medieval period. A knife, from deposit 2292, quarrying S is noteworthy for the preservation of its wooden handle.

#### ***Artefactual record: statement of potential***

- 4.27 The small Roman and medieval assemblages, though useful as dating evidence, are unexceptional intrinsically and warrant no further analysis or illustration. Of more local and regional significance is the post-medieval group, particularly Ashton Keynes type glazed earthenwares. Little work has been published on ceramics of this type and this assemblage provides an opportunity for more detailed study and interpretation. This will provide an excellent chance to further enhance our knowledge and understanding of ceramics of this date, as well as provide information that will refine the stratigraphic sequence.

- 4.28 It is therefore recommended that a full publication text be produced, with discussion directed primarily at the Ashton Keynes pottery. In addition it is recommended that 15-20 vessels be drawn and an archive database should be completed.
- 4.29 The metal artefacts are for the most part unexceptional and will require little further work as both derive from the quarrying area S and are likely to be redeposited. A summary statement should be prepared for publication. No further work is recommended as these items will not enhance our understanding and interpretation of the site.
- 4.30 The vessel glass from the quarrying area S will also require little in the way of further detailed work and analysis, as the potential of this material, to help in the overall interpretation of the site is low. No further work is recommended.
- 4.31 Other artefacts categories, including ceramic building material, clay pipe and worked stone have low potential for further analysis and no additional work is proposed apart from being noted in the publication. Catalogues of these artefact categories will otherwise form part of the site archive.

***Biological record: factual data***

*Animal Bone*

- 4.32 A total of 354 animal bone fragments, weighing 4.3kg, were recovered. Of this material, a minority (130 fragments weighing 2.7kg) can be related to an archaeological period through association with datable ceramics. The bulk of the dated animal bone relates to the post-medieval period (73.5% by count). Very small quantities are datable to the Roman period (26.5% by count) and no material from medieval features was recovered. Overall bone survival was generally good although the material was largely small and fragmentary with not much identifiable to species. However, cow, horse, pig and sheep/goat were all represented, with horse bones particularly prevalent.
- 4.33 No samples were taken as no deposits of palaeoenvironmental or palaeoeconomic potential were recognised. In addition, the high water table, which frequently led to waterlogging on site, compromised sampling integrity and increased the possibility of contamination.

### ***Biological record: statement of potential***

- 4.34 The animal bone assemblage is considered to be insufficiently large or informative to merit further full analysis. The number of specimens from which more detailed significant information can be obtained is inadequate for any meaningful discussion of animal husbandry. A summary of basic information such as species ratios could be provided from the assessment data for inclusion in any future publication.

## **5. STORAGE AND CURATION**

- 5.1 All artefacts, including the pottery, ceramic building material, fired clay, worked flint, and bone require no further treatment for their long-term storage. Such material is stored by context in plastic bags within acid-free, brass wire-stitched cardboard boxes. Metal artefacts have been assessed and stabilised by a specialist conservator and are currently stored in sealed, plastic boxes with humidity controlled indicators, in accordance with the guidelines of the Society for Museum Archaeologists (1993). Suitable arrangements will be made for transfer of the site archives to Corinium Museum.

## **6. UPDATED AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 6.1 The excavation achieved the aims outlined in the project design (CAT 2000, para 3). In order to appropriately publish the site, the following updated objectives have been set out:
- To establish a secure stratigraphic sequence for the site, so that the maximum information regarding the form, function, organisation, and development of the site can be understood, at both a local and regional level;
  - Through examination of the artefactual evidence, in conjunction with the stratigraphic record, interrogate the datasets for any evidence regarding the nature and economy of the site;

- Briefly comment on the nature of the site in relation to local and regional sites of a similar date, and how the site enhances our understanding of local and regional activity during the periods represented;
- Given the local and regional significance of the Ashton Keynes type glazed earthenware, an alternative detailed publication, in *Post Medieval Archaeology* is required.

## 7. PUBLICATION

7.1 The results of the excavation merit a brief publication. It is therefore proposed that publication be achieved as brief article in the *Transactions of Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Journal (TB&GAS)* with a more detailed article submitted to *Post Medieval Archaeology* for dissemination of the ceramic findings.

7.2 Synopsis of proposed TB&GAS report:

### **Lower Mill Estate, Somerford Keynes, Gloucestershire: Excavations in 2001**

by

Mark Brett and Annette Hancocks

#### **Introduction**

Project and archaeological background, topography, geology 200 words

#### **Excavation Results**

Including artefacts as appropriate 500 words

#### **Discussion**

250 words

#### **Conclusions**

100 words

#### **Acknowledgements**

50 words



**Bibliography** 100 words

**1200 words**  
**(c. 1.5 A4 pages)**

**Illustrations:**

Location of site 0.5 page

Lower Mill Farm excavation 1 page

**1.5 pages**

**TOTAL PUBLICATION ESTIMATE: 3 pages TB&GAS in notes**

7.3 Synopsis of proposed Post Medieval Archaeology report:

**An Assemblage of Ashton Keynes type glazed earthenware**

by

E.R. McSloy and Annette Hancocks

**Introduction**

Including summary of excavation 500 words

**Pottery report**

Including illustrations 1500 words

**Discussion**

250 words

**Conclusions**

100 words

**Acknowledgements**

50 words

**Bibliography**

100 words

**2500 words**  
**(c. 6.5 A4 pages)**

**Illustrations:**

Location of site 0.5 page

Pottery illustrations 2 page

**2.5 pages**

**TOTAL PUBLICATION ESTIMATE: 9 pages Post Medieval Archaeology**

**8. PROJECT TEAM**

8.1 The post-excavation and publication programme will be under the management of **Annette Hancocks MIFA** (Post-excavation Manager: PXM), who will co-ordinate the work of the following personnel:

**Mark Brett** (Assistant Project Officer: APO):

Site survey, post-excavation phasing, draft report preparation, research and archive.

**Ed McSloy MIFA** (Finds Officer: FO):

Integration of specialist work as appropriate.

**Peter Moore** (Senior Illustrator: SI)

Production of artwork.

8.2 The final publication reports will be edited and refereed internally by CA senior project management and externally by Professor Tim Darvill, Bournemouth University and an academic referee associated with Post Medieval Archaeology (John Allan).

**9. TASK LIST**

9.1 TRANSACTIONS OF BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

TASK	PERSONNEL	DURATION
Project Management	PXM	1 day
Summary text	APO	1 day
	FO	1 day
Preparation of 2 figs	SI	0.5 day

## 9.2 POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY

<b>TASK</b>	<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<b>DURATION</b>
<b>Project Management</b>	PXM	2 days
<b>Stratigraphic Analysis</b>		
Final phasing	APO	4 days
	FO	0.5 day
<b>Research, comparanda</b>		
	APO	1 day
<b>Pottery analysis</b>		
Completion of archive database	FO	1 day
Report writing (pottery)	FO	1.5 days
Finds illustration (20)	SI	3 days
<b>Summary overview of other finds contributions</b>		
Other find report summaries	FO	0.5 day
<b>Preparation of draft publication report</b>		
Abstract and introduction	APO	1 day
Preparation of Figure 1	SI	0.5 day
Excavation results	APO	2 days
Discussion, conclusions	APO	2 days
Acknowledgements, bibliography	APO	1 day
Comment	PXM	2 days
<b>Editing</b>		
Editing	PXM	1 day
Amendments	APO	1 day
Final edit	HP	1 day
<b>SUBMISSION OF PUBLICATION TEXT</b>		
Proof reading/camera ready copy	PXM	1 day
<b>Archive</b>		
Research archive completion	APO	1 day
	FO	0.5 day
Microfilm		FEE
Deposition		FEE
Publication		FEE

## **10. TIMETABLE**

- 10.1 CA will produce a publication draft within one year of approval of the updated publication project design.

## 11. BUDGET

- 11.1 The following allocation of resources is proposed. All figures are exclusive of VAT. This quote assumes the publication work will be commissioned by March 2004.

Staff costs:

CA Grade	Person	Per day	Days	Total
Head of Publications	Martin Watts	326	1	£326
Post-Excavation Manager	Annette Hancocks	266	7	£1,862
Assistant Project Officer	Mark Brett	183	14	£2562
Finds Officer	Ed McSloy	198	5.5	£1089
Senior Illustrator	Peter Moore	189	4.5	£850.50
<b>Total Project Salary:</b>			<b>32</b>	<b>£6,689.50</b>

Non-Staff Internal Costs:

Transport	£70
NMR microfilm copy:	£50
Archive deposition:	£120
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£240</b>

External Costs:

Specialism	Person	Per day	Days	Total
Publication	TB&GAS (summary note)	£35/page	3	£105
Publication	Post-Medieval Archaeology	£35/page	9.5	£332.50
<b>Total:</b>				<b>£437.50</b>

**Gross Total for Project:**

**£7,367**

## 12. REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX 1: THE POTTERY BY E.R. MCSLOY

Archaeological work at Lower Mill Estate resulted in the recovery of 342 sherds of pottery weighing 14.643kg. The condition of the pottery is variable although significant abrasion is restricted to some Roman and Medieval sherds. Average sherd weight is very high at 42.8g. Such a high value is largely an effect of the large Post-medieval group from deposit 2292 in quarrying area S, which included a number of substantially complete vessels.

The pottery was examined by context and sorted into fabric types based on visible mineral or other inclusion type (Table 1). Fabric types have, where possible, been matched to the Cirencester fabric type series. Quantification is according to sherd count and weight per fabric and with note made of form where identifiable and such attributes as decoration or visible organic residues.

### **Roman**

Twenty-three sherds of Roman pottery were recovered, equivalent to 6.7% of the total according to sherd count. Some of the Roman pottery is clearly residual, occurring together with post-medieval material. In all instances the Roman pottery occurs as small numbers of sherds per context.

The pottery types present and the absence of others hint at an earlier Roman (perhaps 2nd to early 3rd century) focus. The bulk of the Roman pottery consists of probable local (North Wilts) grey and oxidised wares (Table 1). Identifiable forms in this fabric are rare, restricted to single instances of lid, narrow-necked jar and everted-rim jar. Traded wares are present in the form of four sherds of (Central Gaulish?) samian, a sherd of southern Spanish amphora and a sherd of Dorset Black-Burnished ware. Samian forms present comprise a beaded-rim dish, probably a Drag. 31 and a cup form Drag. 33. Both are forms most common in the second half of the 2nd century AD.

### **Medieval**

Four sherds (23g) of medieval pottery, all consisting of non form-diagnostic body sherds, were recovered (Table 1). All pieces are identifiable with commonly occurring local types, broadly dateable to the 11th to 15th centuries.

### **Post-Medieval/Modern Pottery**

Some 315 sherds (14.26Kg) of post-medieval or Modern pottery were recovered, equivalent to 92.1% of the total. The bulk of this material dates to the 17th and 18th centuries with a small 19th-century component. The bulk of the post-medieval pottery can be ascribed to local sources. Continental imports are poorly represented with only a few sherds of German Frechen and Westerwald stoneware types dating to the 16th to 17th and late 17th or early 18th centuries respectively.

A single pottery type, Ashton Keynes type glazed earthenware, dominates the post-medieval assemblage. The kilns at Ashton Keynes, which lies only 5km to the north-west of Somerford Keynes, are believed to have begun operating in the 16th century and continued until the second half of the 18th (Vince 1983, 132). The product range of the Ashton Keynes potters would appear to be fairly conservative, typically consisting of utilitarian forms such as conical bowls and everted-rim jars.

Of particular note is material from quarrying area S, deposit 2292, which contains a large number of Ashton Keynes type vessels, some of which are substantially complete. Sherds from three vessels were identified which almost certainly represent 'seconds' misfired or otherwise faulted vessels which, could only have been distributed locally. Represented forms are fairly typical of the ware type as a whole, with 'complex-rimmed' conical bowls and curving-walled bowls prominent, and other forms including cooking pots, tankards and jugs present in small numbers. Most unusual is an example of a 'chicken feeder' – a shallow open vessel with internal concentric ridges. The lack of published groups and the apparent conservatism of the product range make dating of this group problematical. The use of green-firing glazes in the group probably indicates a pre-18th century dating (Ireland 1998, 108). Non-local pottery is restricted to sherds of a Frechen type stoneware drinking jug, of probable mid-16th to mid 17th century date. Perhaps most significantly the overlying deposit 2291 in quarrying area S, contained pottery and clay pipe of late 17th to early 18th century date.

### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

Potential for further analysis of the pottery is limited by the restricted size of the assemblage. The small Roman and medieval assemblages, though useful as dating evidence, are unexceptional intrinsically and warrant no further analysis or illustration. Of greater interest is the post-medieval material, particularly Ashton Keynes type glazed earthenwares. Despite the regional importance of the type from the 16th to the 18th centuries, Ashton Keynes products have received little in the way of archaeological attention, with only a few groups published, chiefly from Cirencester and Gloucester (Ireland 1998 and Vince 1983). The group from quarrying area S, deposit 2292 is relatively well dated through association with clay pipe and other ceramics and includes forms hitherto unseen in the fabric. It is recommended that a full publication text be produced, with discussion directed primarily



at the Ashton Keynes type pottery. In addition it is recommended that 15-20 vessels be drawn and an archive database should be completed.

- Full quantification of pottery and construction of database 1 day
- Report writing 1.5 days
- Illustration of 20 vessels 3 days

**Total: 2.5 days (FO)  
3 days (SI)**

Pottery Type	Cirencester fabric	Count	Weight
<i>Roman</i>			
North Wilts greyware/oxidised	98	17	209g
Samian	-	4	18g
Southern spanish amphora (Dres. 20 type)	40	1	132g
Dorset Black-burnished ware	74	1	2g
<i>Medieval</i>			
Cotswold oolitic	F202	4	24g
Minety type	F200	1	8g
<i>Post-medieval/modern</i>			
Ashton Keynes glazed earthenware	F201	305	1373g
Porcelain?	F218	3	14g
Frechen stoneware	F216	3	63g
Westerwald stoneware	F217	1	9g
Staffs? salt-glazed stoneware	F215	1	5g
Staffordshire combed slipware	F213	1	41g
Black-glazed (Staffs/midlands)	F238	1	10g

Table 1: Pottery fabrics

## APPENDIX 2: THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL BY E.R. MCSLOY

Forty-three fragments (3840g) of ceramic building material, including ceramic fired or burnt clay, were recovered. Identifiable Roman material includes single examples of *imbrex*, *tegula* and (combed) box forms. Additionally a number of plain fragments have been identified as Roman brick on the basis of fabric and thickness. Most fragments are characterised by a hard, slightly sandy fabric, fired to orange throughout or with a bluish grey core. Certain fragments including box flue tile from ditch H, deposit 2215 occur in a softer pale orange inclusionless fabric.

Post-Roman ceramic building material consists of flat and curving roof tile fragments. A single hard sandy fabric was identified, fired to orange or orange/brown. All fragments probably date to the late medieval or post-medieval period. Flat and curving (ridge?) tile fragments of 17th century date were recovered from quarrying area S, deposit 2292 included a clear glaze and can probably be sourced to the Ashton Keynes kilns.

### Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication

Potential for further analysis is considered very low. No further work is recommended.

### **APPENDIX 3: THE CLAY TOBACCO PIPE BY E.R. MCSLOY**

Fragments of clay tobacco pipes were recovered from four contexts. No forms could be identified although two stem fragments from deposit 2291, in quarry area S, bore the stamp 'ED HIG GINS'. Similar stamps, identifying the maker Ed (ward?) Higgins is known from Cirencester and Salisbury implying a move from one town to the other or twin pipeworks (Atkinson 1980, 69). Higgins' pipes are believed to date from the late 17th century to about 1710.

#### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

Potential for further analysis is considered low. No further work is recommended.

### **APPENDIX 4: THE VESSEL GLASS BY E.R. MCSLOY**

Fragments from a single bowl or drinking vessel with corrugated walls were recovered from deposits 2291 and 2292, relating to quarrying area S. The vessel glass is thin-walled, slightly green-tinged with a few small bubbles visible. This vessel may be an imported piece, possibly Venetian. A 17th or 18th century date is likely.

#### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

Potential for further analysis is considered low. No further work is recommended.

### **APPENDIX 5: WORKED STONE BY E.R. MCSLOY**

A single, near complete, limestone roofing tile of medieval or later form with single nail/peg hole was recovered from deposit 2193, quarrying area S.

#### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

Potential for further analysis is considered low. No further work is recommended.

### **APPENDIX 6: THE METAL ARTEFACTS BY E.R. MCSLOY**

Twenty-three items of iron and a single copper alloy object were recovered. All metal objects were sent for preliminary assessment by specialist conservator (Esther Cameron, Institute of Archaeology, Oxford). Treatment was restricted to stabilisation and radiography to clarify constructional details.

The metalwork is for the most part unremarkable, comprising mainly nails, together with a fragmentary horseshoe, two buckles and various straight or curving flat-sectioned fragments which probably represent binding strips. X-radiography revealed rivet holes on the horseshoe fragment from Alluvium AA, deposit 2263 and binding strips from ditch N, deposit 2306 and quarry area S, deposit 2288.

All items are dateable to the post-medieval period, mainly through association with other material types (pottery). A single possible exception is a probable socketed reaping hook from quarry area S, deposit 2291, the form of which resembles medieval examples (Goodhall 1981, F67-69).

The horseshoe is of a form common after the 14th century, characterised by large size and tapering, rectangular nail holes. Two horseshoe nails, which remain in situ, are also of typical post-medieval form with rectangular heads. Other nails comprise forged, square-sectioned types with (where present) flattened round heads. The buckles, each from quarry area S, deposit 2292, are both simple, single loop types of rectangular and oval form. Neither is closely dateable by form. A knife from the same deposit is notable for the preservation of its wooden handle. The form of the knife is particularly the integral 'bolster' between the blade and handle suggests a post-medieval dating. A 17th century date is indicated by associated ceramics.

### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

Potential for further analysis is considered low. No further work is recommended.

### **APPENDIX 7: THE ANIMAL BONE BY ALISTAIR BARBER**

The animal bone assemblage from Lower Mill Estate was quantified and subjected to basic scanning to identify broad species representation, anatomical identification and the presence of butchery marks.

A total of 354 animal bone fragments, weighing 4.3kg, were recovered from the site. Of this material, a minority (130 fragments weighing 2.7kg) can be related to archaeological period through association with dateable ceramics. The bulk of the 'dated' animal bone relates to the post-medieval period (73.5% by count) with very small quantities recovered from deposits dateable to the Roman period (26.5% by count) and no material from medieval features. In terms of anatomical representation teeth and mandible fragments were well represented along with vertebrae, phalanges and metacarpals. This suggests that non-meat joints were being disposed of on site, although some rib and long bone fragments showed evidence of butchery, carrying chop or knife marks.

Overall bone survival was generally good with little unidentifiable to species, although the material was largely small and fragmentary. A very small quantity of diagnostic bone fragments was recovered from Roman deposits. Cattle bones are most commonly represented together with sheep/goat, and horse. Cow, pig and sheep/goat and (particularly prevalent) horse were represented in post-medieval and undated contexts.

### **Statement of potential and requirements for further analysis and publication**

The animal bone assemblage is considered to be insufficiently large or informative to merit further full analysis. The number of specimens from which more detailed significant information can be obtained is inadequate for any meaningful discussion of animal husbandry. Potential for further analysis is considered low. No further work is recommended.

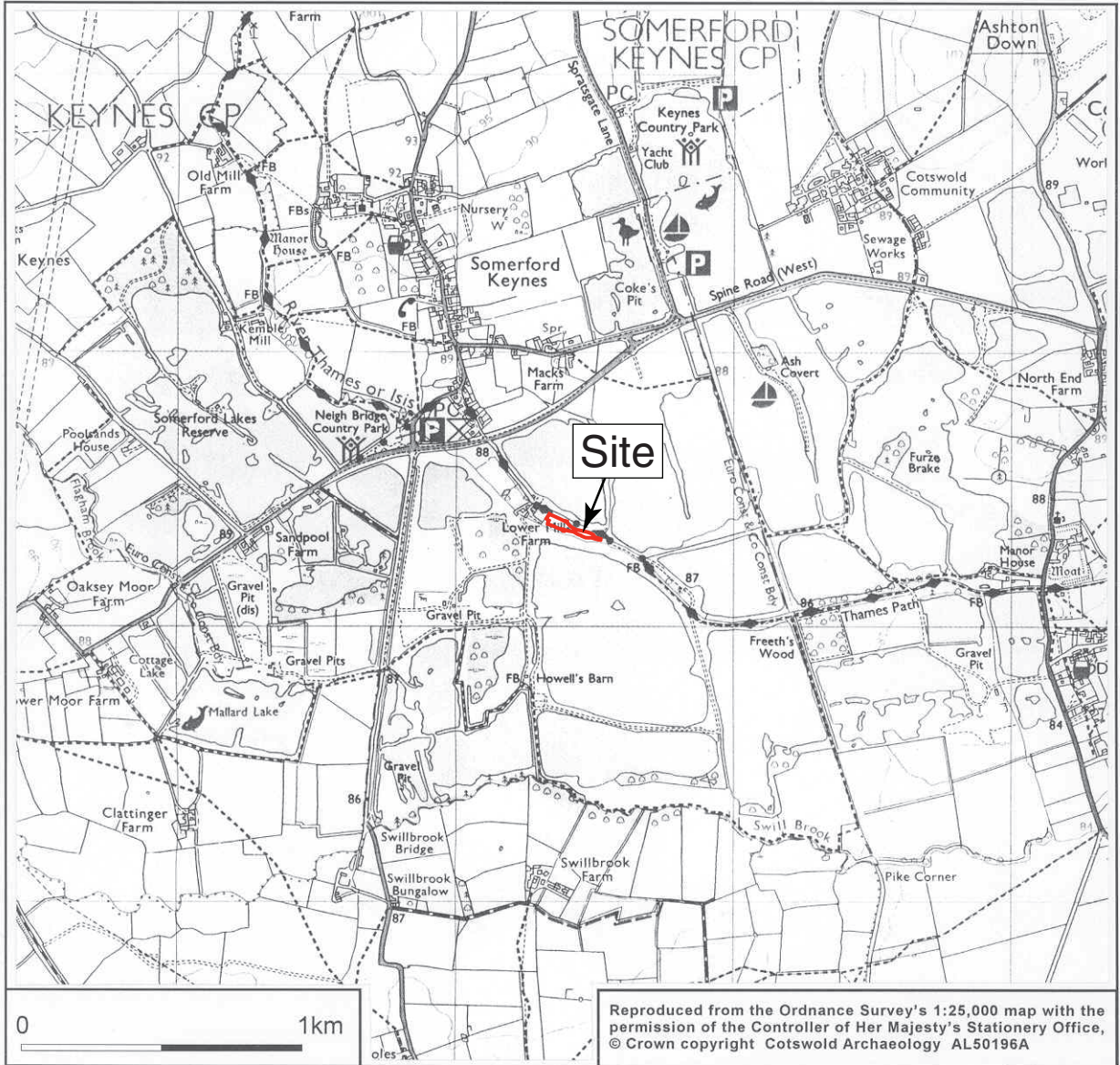
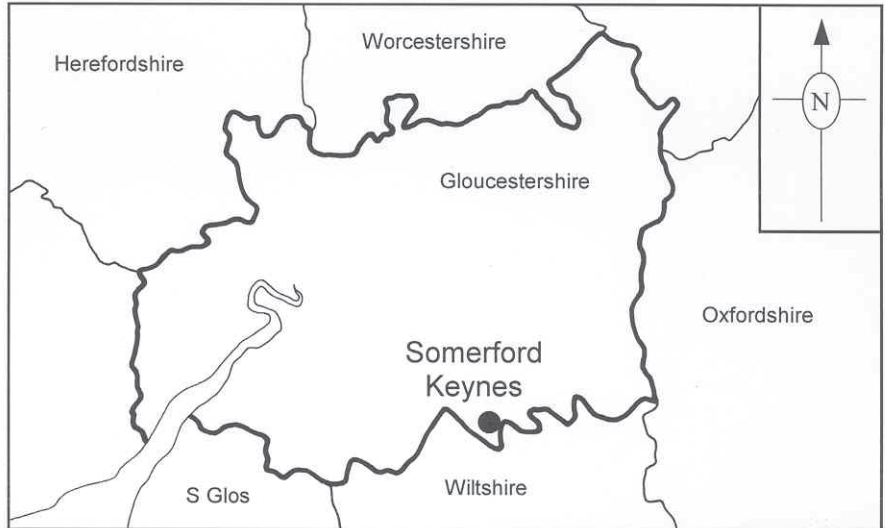
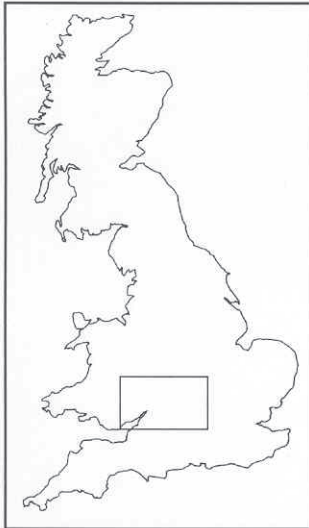


Fig. 1 Site location plan

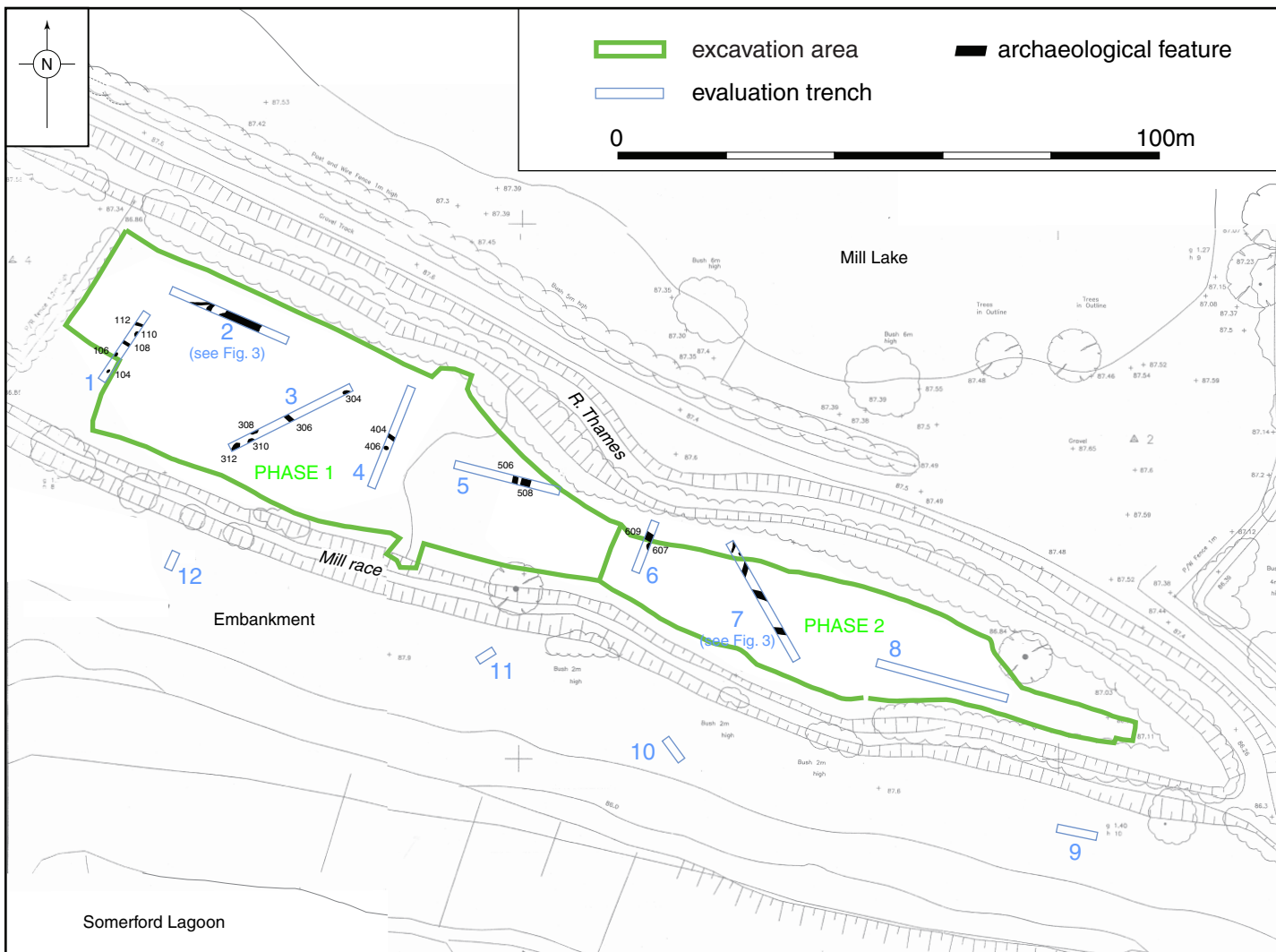


Fig. 2 The site, showing evaluation trenches and excavation areas (1:1250)

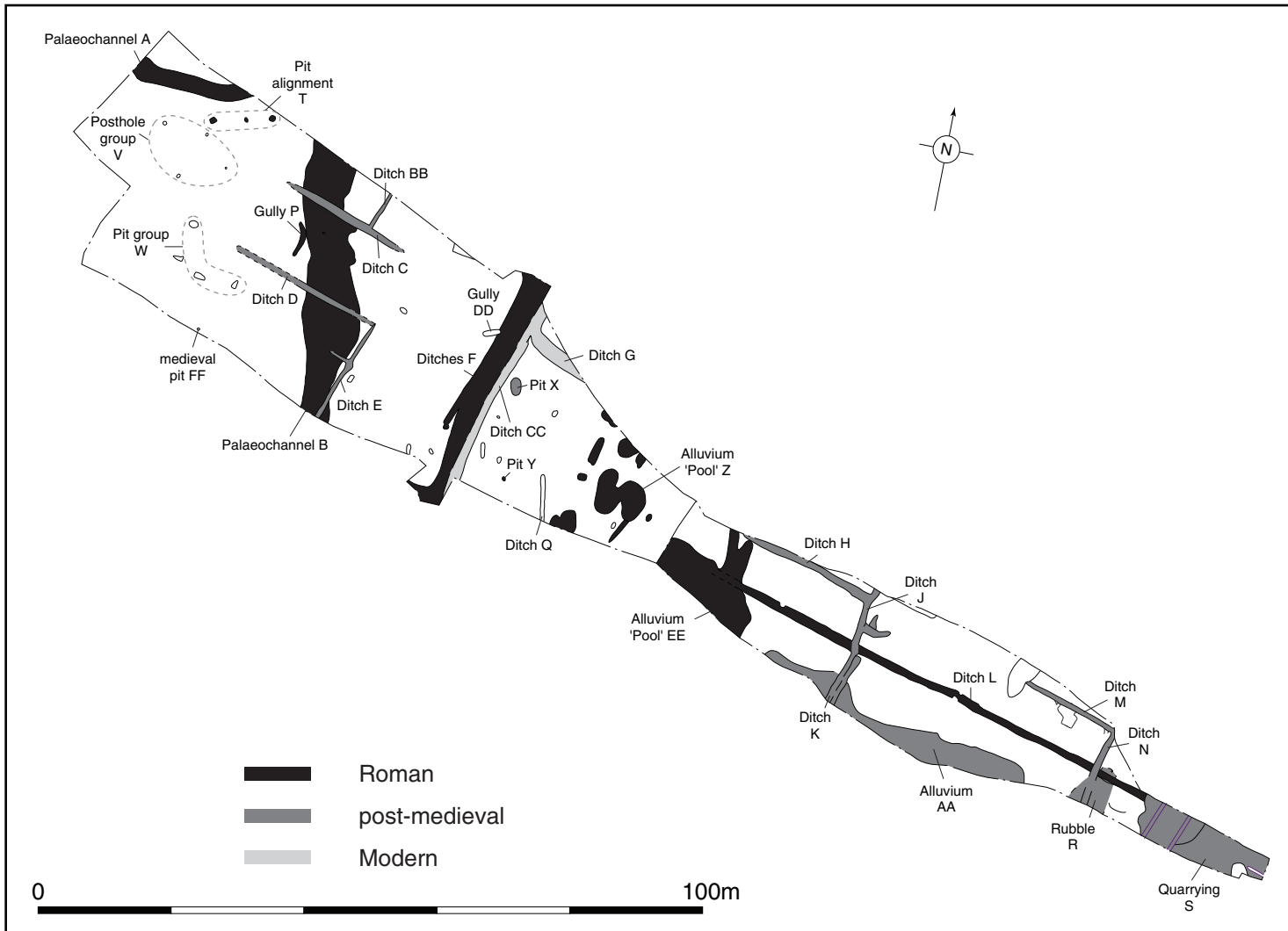


Fig. 3 The site, as excavated (1:1000)