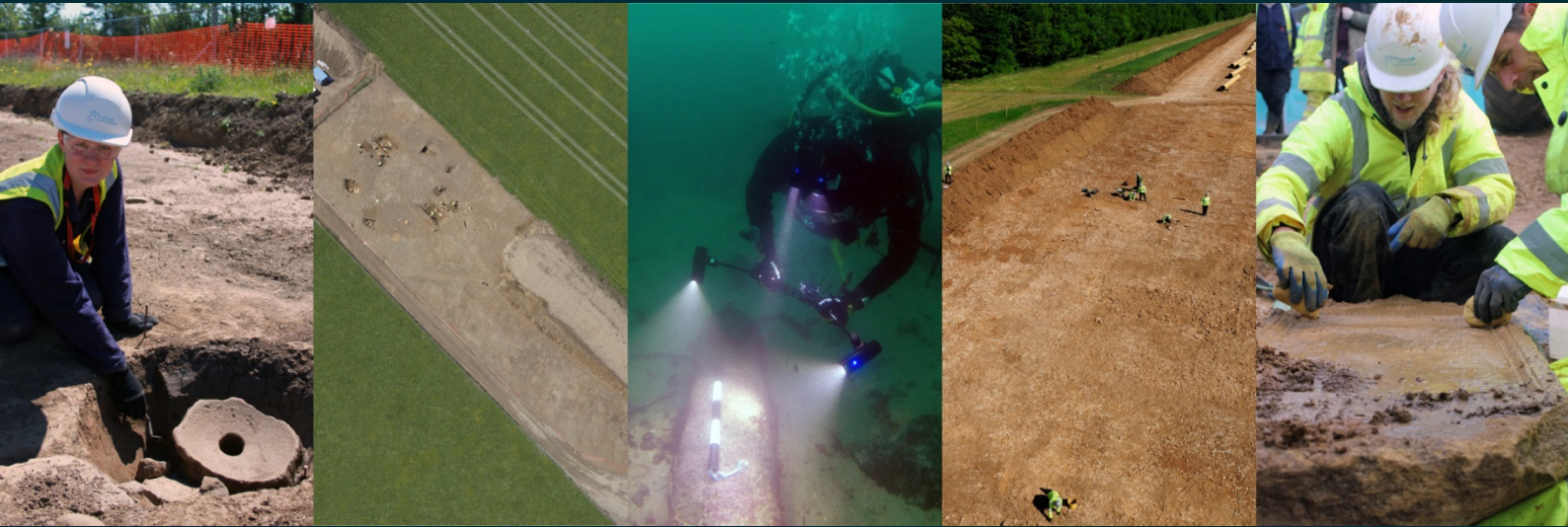




**Land West of Cheddington
Aylesbury Vale
Buckinghamshire**
Archaeological Evaluation



for
Savills

on behalf of
Society of Merchant Venturers

CA Project: 660976
CA Report: 17708

November 2017



Land West of Cheddington Aylesbury Vale Buckinghamshire

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land west of Cheddington
Location:	Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire
NGR:	491853 217510
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	20-28 November 2017
Planning Reference:	16/02806/AOP
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Buckingham County Museum
Site Code:	LWCB17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2017 at land west of Cheddington, Buckinghamshire. Sixteen trenches were excavated.

The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features which were not identified by a preceding geophysical survey. The archaeological features encountered comprised ditches, pits and a trackway that are dated to the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern periods.

Evidence for possible later prehistoric activity but in particular Early Roman agricultural activity was revealed in the central part of site. The size and character of the pottery, as well as the environmental assemblages, recovered from these features suggests the presence of a contemporary settlement within close proximity.

Medieval and post-medieval activity was encountered throughout the site and consisted of evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation, a trackway and associated ditch and field boundaries.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Savills, on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers, on land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire (centred at NGR: 491853 217510; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to support an outline planning application that has been made to Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) for residential development at the site (Planning Ref: 16/02806/AOP).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Phil Markham, Senior Archaeology Planning Officer, BCC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Phil Markham and Eliza Alqassar, BCC, including a site visit on 23 November 2017.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 4.8ha in extent and lies to the west of the village of Cheddington, Buckinghamshire. The site is situated on the western fringe of the village and is bordered by Long Marston Road to the north-west, by Mentmore Road to the north-east (including the housing estates off Mentmore Road, Partridge Close and Barkham Close), and to the south and west by grassed fields adjacent to Cheddington Manor House.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Gault Formation and Upper Greensand Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone in the northern part of the site and West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation in the south; both deposited during the Cretaceous period (BGS 2017). No superficial deposits are recorded in the proposed development area (ibid.). The natural geological substrate encountered during the current works comprised yellow-grey clays.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in detail in the Heritage Statement prepared by Savills (2016). This concluded that there are no designated or non-designated heritage assets within the site.

- 2.2 Documentary sources indicate that Cheddington had been established as a settlement by the mid-11th century, though there is archaeological evidence suggesting occupation in the area well before this. There is some evidence for a suggestion of occupation in the area of Cheddington before the Iron Age, and it is known that settlement in the Aylesbury area dates to at least 1500BC (ibid.). There is some suggestion that cropmark evidence, suggestive of a possible enclosure and ring ditch to the west of Great Seabrook Farm (to the south of Cheddington, c.1km from the Site), may represent a small Neolithic or Bronze Age settlement and associated barrow. This has not, however, been confirmed through archaeological investigation (Cotswold Archaeology 2015). Cropmark evidence also suggests a potential Bronze Age enclosure to the east of the railway line.
- 2.3 There is greater archaeological evidence indicating settlement activity in the area around Cheddington during the Iron Age. Southend Hill includes a small multivallate hillfort (a Scheduled Monument), from which evidence suggests occupation from the Early to Middle Iron Age, c.600BC to 300BC and then again (if not continuously), from c.100BC to AD 50 around the time of the Roman Conquest. Another hillfort lies on neighbouring Ivinghoe Beacon to the east, which also has evidence of habitation from the 6th century BC. This example and the hillfort at Southend Hill are part of a chain established along the Chiltern escarpment in the late Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. Late prehistoric flint flakes and cores were also recovered at Southend Hill (HER 0403900002). In addition to these examples, evidence for early Iron Age occupation has also been found at Great Seabrook Farm to the south of the village of Cheddington. This was recorded during field walking and as pottery recovered from the fill of ditches during trial trench evaluation (Cotswold Archaeology 2015).
- 2.4 Evidence of occupation and settlement in the area during the Roman period includes metalwork finds near to Cheddington High Street and fragments of Roman tile. To the south of the village, on the opposite side of the High Street from Seabrook Farm a Roman tile scatter was recorded, which could suggest the site of a former Roman villa. It has also been suggested that the High Street through the village, running north toward Mentmore Towers has Roman origins, as the *Viatores* road.
- 2.5 Although there is no evidence for Early Medieval activity within 1km of the site the name Cheddington stems from the Old English 'cyte' meaning a cottage, or a monk's or hermit's cell, and 'dun' meaning a hill. It is suggested on that basis at least that a settlement may have been established here by this period.

- 2.6 Whilst the present Manor House at Cheddington dates to the late 16th Century, though much altered and with more recent additions, there is reference to a manor at Cheddington dating to 1259. The existence of the remains of a moat and fishponds so close to the manor house also suggest that it is highly probable an earlier Manor house was situated here. It is also possible that the land containing the medieval Manor house, moat and fishponds may be that which was laid waste in 1086 and which was subsequently held by Hugh de Bolbec. In addition to this, there is evidence of a further manor house c.700m north-east of the site at Elsage Farm off Station Road (dating at least to 1283). A moat thought to have been associated with that manor house is reported to have been filled in in the 1950s.
- 2.7 The parish Church of St. Giles was originally built in the late 12th century though altered and extended over the following centuries. The present chancel and nave comprise its earliest elements and are dated to the first half of the 12th century. Much of the subsequent addition and alteration took place during the 15th century, possibly as an indirect result of the increase in the population in the area. The Poor Box in the north aisle has extant graffiti with the date 1617 inscribed. The location of the church has remained the same throughout its history; distinctly separate from the core of the village. Elsewhere, Southend Hill continued to be used by the inhabitants of the area of Cheddington. The southern slopes were remodelled in the late medieval period to form cultivation terraces or lynchets, which are clearly evident today and are prominent in the landscape from both the village and the mainline railway line running immediately east of the village. Medieval cultivation terraces are also present south of the site at Westend Hill and there is evidence of worked chalk in a pit at the base of the hill (Victoria County History, Volume 3, 1925 p.331).
- 2.8 By the 18th century, Cheddington had developed as two distinct foci, with the hamlet of West End being depicted as a settlement of similar size to Cheddington itself. In 1838, the mainline railway was opened running from London to Birmingham (now the West Coast mainline), and the following year saw the opening of a branch line from Cheddington Junction to Aylesbury. The introduction of the railway created rigid manmade boundaries through Cheddington parish, with the mainline running on a north-west / south-east axis, east of the village and the branch line running on a roughly north-east / south-west alignment to the c.400m north-west of the village and the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable BCC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork initially comprised the excavation of 15 trenches, each 50m in length by 2m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (see Fig. 2 for locations and extent). Following a site visit Phil Markham and Eliza Alqassar, BC, requested that a further trench, Trench 16, measuring 50m by 2m was excavated immediately inside the redline area within the southern-most field to test extant earthworks (see Fig. 2). The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. One sample, recovered from the fill of ditch 603 was taken and processed. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

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

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-6)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.
- 5.2 The natural geological substrate was broadly similar throughout site and consisted of yellow-grey clays that were typically revealed at a depth of 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by a 0.3m thick layer of subsoil that was in turn overlaid by topsoil.
- 5.3 Trenches 8, 9, 10 and 12 contained no archaeological features or deposits, whereas Trench 2 and 3 solely contained furrows correlating to the LiDAR results and are not discussed further. Unless otherwise noted, all archaeological features were sealed by subsoil.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.4 Ditch 103, aligned north-east/south-west, measured 0.94m in width and remained unexcavated. Its fill, 104, comprised compact clay and was found to cut the subsoil. It contained one sherd of post-medieval/modern pottery, ceramic building material and a residual sherd of Roman pottery. The ditch corresponded well to the LiDAR imagery (see Fig. 3) and was still visible as a linear earthwork.

Trench 4 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.5 Two circular pits, 403 and 405, were recorded close to the eastern extent of the trench. Both were approximately 0.5m in diameter, 0.12m deep with steep sides and flat bases, and contained silty fills 404 and 406 respectively. Both pits were observed cutting through the subsoil. Fill 406 of pit 405 contained artefacts dating to the post-medieval/modern period, whilst plastic was recovered from fill 404 within pit 403.

Trench 5 (Figs 2, 3, 4 & 5)

- 5.6 A series of ditches aligned north-east/south-west (507, 511, 517 and 519) and north-west/south-east (505 and 503/513), and two pits 509 and 515, were revealed throughout Trench 5 (Fig. 4).
- 5.7 Pit 509 (Fig. 5, Section BB), located within the southern half of the trench, measured 0.9m in length, 0.25m in width and 0.16m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides, a concave base and contained a single clay fill, 510, from which four sherds of Roman pottery dating to the mid to late 1st century, ceramic building material and a fragmentary jet object were recovered.
- 5.8 At the northern end of Trench 5, ditch 519 was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 1.42m in width and 0.55m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 5, Section EE and photograph). It contained single clay fill 520 from which two sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, cattle and sheep/goat bones, and a residual sherd of later prehistoric pottery were recovered.
- 5.9 At the southern end of the trench, ditch 517 was also aligned north-east/south-west, and measured 1.05m in width and 0.64m in depth (Fig. 5, Section DD). It had moderately sloping sides, a concave base and contained single clay fill 518 from which nine sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, a burnt flint, cattle and sheep/goat bones were recovered. Ditch 517 was cut by two, stratigraphically later, features; pit 515 and ditch 503/513 (Fig. 5, photograph).
- 5.10 Ditch 503/513 was aligned north-west/south-east, measured 0.48m in width, 0.33m in depth and cut ditch 517 to the south-west. It had moderately sloping sides, a concave base and contained a single clay fill 504/514 (Fig. 5, Section DD). Fill 504/514 contained three sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, fragments of cattle bone as well as an unidentified iron object.
- 5.11 Oval pit 515 cut the south-east edge of ditch 517. It measured 0.46m in length, 0.33m in width and 0.31m in depth with steeply sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 5, Section DD). No finds were recovered from its clay fill, 516.
- 5.12 Ditch 505 was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 0.69m in width and 0.19m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides, a concave base and contained a single fill, 506, from which a piece of bottle glass dating to the post-medieval period

was recovered. The ditch was still visible as earthworks within the landscape and correlates well to the LiDAR results (see Fig. 3). It was observed cutting the subsoil.

- 5.13 Ditch 511 was aligned north-east/south-west, and measured 0.52m in width and 0.14m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides, a concave base and contained single artefactually sterile clay fill 512 (Fig. 5, Section CC).
- 5.14 Ditch 507 was aligned north-west/south-east, and measured 0.78m in width and 0.3m in depth with moderately sloping sides, a concave base. No finds were recovered from its clay fill, 508 (Fig. 5, Section AA).

Trench 6 (Figs 2, 3, 4 & 6)

- 5.15 Trench 6 revealed a series of ditches aligned broadly north-east/south-west (603, 606, 608, 610, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 619, 626, 628 and 630) and north-west/south-east (612, 621, 624 and 632), a number of the ditches having intercutting relationships (Fig. 6). A selected number of the ditches in the eastern half of the trench were excavated; the others remain un-investigated but are thought to be broadly contemporary.
- 5.16 Ditch 617, aligned north-east/south-west, measured 0.65m in width, 0.21m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base. Its silty clay fill 618 contained a single sherd of later prehistoric pottery, a fragment of fired clay and a fragment of sheep/goat bone.
- 5.17 Broadly perpendicular to ditch 617, ditch 632 measured 0.65m in width, 0.19m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a slightly rounded base. Silty clay fill 633 within ditch 632 contained no datable artefacts. The relationship between ditches 617 and 632 was not established during the current works. However, the similarities in dimensions, profile and of their fills may suggest that they form part of a contemporary field system.
- 5.18 To the south-east of ditch 617, a pair of intercutting north-east/south-west aligned ditches, 603 and 606, was recorded. Ditch 603 measured 1m in width, 0.63m in depth with very steep sloping sides to a rounded base. Its lower fill, 604, contained large quantities of Roman pottery (40 sherds), suggesting a 2nd-century date, alongside two later Roman pottery sherds which may be intrusive. In addition, cattle, sheep/goat and hare bones were also retrieved. Environmental sample <1>

recovered from ditch fill 604 contained remains from crop processing and round wood charcoal fragments, that are interpreted as being representative of a dump of domestic settlement waste. Fired clay at the base of the deposit perhaps suggests the dumping of a mixture of domestic waste and hot fire debris into the ditch. The upper ditch fill 605 contained a similar finds assemblage consisting of 17 sherds of 2nd century pottery, sheep/goat and pig bone (Fig. 6, Section FF).

- 5.19 Ditch 603 was truncated by similarly aligned ditch 606. Measuring 1.55m in width and 0.15m in depth, ditch 606 had gradually sloping sides to a wide flat base and may represent a recut of ditch 603. It contained single silty clay fill 607 from which 53 sherds of pottery of 2nd-century Roman pottery, fired clay, cattle, sheep/goat and hare bone, and a residual worked flint flake were recovered (Fig. 6, Section FF).
- 5.20 Approximately 1.5m to the south-east of ditch 603, a series of three north-east/south-west aligned intercutting ditches 628, 626 and 630 were recorded (Fig. 6, section HH and photograph). The stratigraphically earliest, ditch 628, measured 1m in width and 0.37m in depth. The north-west edge of this ditch had a stepped profile to a broad, slightly concave base. Its single clay fill 629 contained four sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, cattle and pig bone, and industrial waste.
- 5.21 Ditch 626 measured 0.83m in width, 0.3m in depth with moderately sloping, slightly stepped sides to a rounded base and cut the south-east edge of ditch 628. Its single clay fill, 627, also contained four sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, cattle and pig bone (Fig. 6, section HH and photograph).
- 5.22 Cutting the south-east edge of ditch 626, ditch 630 measured 0.34m in width, 0.13m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base (Fig. 6, section HH and photograph). A single sherd of broadly dated Roman pottery was recovered from single clay fill 631. Given their parallel alignments, it is probable that ditches 626 and 630 represent re-cutting of a boundary or enclosure originally defined by ditch 628.
- 5.23 Intercutting ditches 624, 621 and 619 were identified to the south-east of ditch 628/626/630. Ditches 624 and 621 were aligned north-south whereas ditch 619 was aligned north-east/south-west (Fig. 4).
- 5.24 The stratigraphically earliest of the three ditches, ditch 624 measured 1.25m in width, 0.52m in depth with a stepped profile to an irregular but largely flat base (Fig.

6, section GG and photograph). Its silty clay fill 625 contained two sherds of 1st-century Roman pottery and cattle and pig bone.

- 5.25 The western side of ditch 624 was cut by similarly aligned ditch 621 which may represent re-cutting of the boundary or enclosure. Ditch 621 measured 2.06m in width, 0.77m in depth and contained two distinct artefactually sterile silty clay fills, 623 and 622 (Fig. 6, section GG and photograph).
- 5.26 Ditch 619 cut the upper fill (622) of ditch 621. It measured 0.86m in width, 0.58m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base. The single clay fill 620 of the ditch contained six sherds of broadly dated Roman pottery, a fragment of Roman ceramic building material in addition to cattle, sheep/goat and pig bone (Fig. 6, section GG and photograph).
- 5.27 At the south-east end of Trench 6, two further intercutting ditches, ditches 608 and 610, on a north-east/south-west alignment were recorded (Fig. 4). The stratigraphically earliest ditch 608, measured 0.58m in width, 0.18m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a wide flat base. Its single clay fill 609 was artefactually sterile. Ditch 610 cut the south-east edge of ditch 608, had moderate sloping sides to a rounded base and measured 0.5m in width and 0.37m in depth. The clay fill 611 contained a fragment of fired clay and sheep/goat bone.
- 5.28 A further ditch on a north-south alignment, ditch 612 and four ditches aligned north-east/south-west, ditches 613, 614, 615 and 616, were identified in the north-west half on Trench 6 but remain unexcavated (Fig. 4).

Trench 7 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.29 North-west/south-east aligned furrow 705 was revealed close to the north-eastern extent of Trench 7. It measured approximately 1.1m in width, 0.1m in depth with moderate sloping sides to a wide flat base and corresponded with the alignment of furrows identified by the LiDAR survey (see Fig. 3). It contained silty clay fill 706 from which a single sherd of residual Roman pottery and sheep/goat bone was recovered.
- 5.30 North-west/south-east aligned ditch 703, measuring 1.09m in width and 0.3m in depth, was also revealed at the north-eastern end of Trench 7. Its location correlates

with a boundary depicted on the 1842 Tithe map that was also revealed by the LiDAR survey.

Trench 11 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.31 North-west/south-east ditch 1103, located within the southern half of Trench 11, measured 0.3m in width and 0.2m in depth with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. A single sherd of mid 16th to 18th-century pottery was recovered from its clay fill 704. Its location correlates with a boundary depicted on the 1842 Tithe map that was also revealed by the LiDAR survey, and was found to cut the subsoil.

Trench 13 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.32 Metalled surface 1303, comprising chalk and flint nodules, was located at the north-eastern extent of the trench. It measured 3.1m in width, 0.3m in depth, and contained post-medieval pottery and building material within its make up (not recovered). On the southern edge of this surface ditch 1304 was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 1.15m in width. Both the ditch and metalled surface correlate with a field boundary and adjacent trackway which are depicted on the 1842 Tithe map and correspond with the trackway identified by the LiDAR survey (see Fig. 3). Both were shown to cut the subsoil.

Trench 14 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.33 Metalled surface 1407 was located at the northern end of the trench and measured 5.1m in width and 0.35m in depth. Ditch 1405 was identified at the southern edge of the metalling. It measured 0.39m in width and 0.19m in depth and contained fill 1406 from which post-medieval ceramic building material was recovered. Both the ditch and metalled surface correlate with a field boundary and adjacent trackway depicted on the 1842 Tithe map and also revealed by the LiDAR survey, and represent a continuation of surface 1303 and ditch 1304 revealed in Trench 13 to the north. Both were shown to cut the subsoil.
- 5.34 Oval pit 1403 was located 0.5m to the south of ditch 1405. Measuring 0.64m in length, 0.54m in width and 0.15m in depth, it had steep sides to a flat base, cut the subsoil and contained a single artefactually sterile silty clay fill 1404.

Trench 15 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.35 Ditch 1503, a continuation of ditch 1304/1405 discussed above, was located in the central part of Trench 15. It measured 0.83m in width, 0.24m in depth, had

moderately sloping sides and a concave base and cut the subsoil. The ditch contained a single clay fill 1504 from which a sherd of late 18th to 19th century pottery was recovered. No evidence for the adjacent trackway was revealed in Trench 15.

Trench 16 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.36 Ditch 1603 was aligned north-west/south-east, measured 2.4m in width, was visible as an upstanding earthwork that corresponded with a field boundary depicted on the 1842 Tithe map and was also revealed by the LiDAR survey. The clay fill 1604 contained a single sherd of late 18th to 19th-century pottery. The ditch was shown to cut the subsoil.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from 27 deposits (mostly ditch fills but also pit and furrow fills and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the later prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Where possible, National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are used (in parenthesis in the text) (Tomber and Dore 1998). Otherwise, pottery fabric codes have been devised for the purpose of this report.

Pottery: Late prehistoric

- 6.2 Two unfeatured bodysherds (12g), in an abraded condition, presented in a fine quartz-and-organic tempered fabric (QZOR). In the absence of indications of vessel form or of decoration, dating to the Late prehistoric period (Late Bronze Age to Iron Age) is considered most likely on the basis of fabric and firing characteristics.

Roman

- 6.3 The bulk of the assemblage (154 sherds, 1869g) is of Roman date, predominantly dating to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries. The average sherd weight of 12g is slightly low for a group of this date and suggests it has been moderately fragmented. In terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, condition was mostly recorded as moderate to good. External 'sooting' was recorded on five sherds. Most of the pottery is of probable local manufacture, including greywares (GW), oxidised fabrics

(OXF, OXS), black-firing sand-tempered fabrics (BS) and fabrics tempered with shell (ROB SH), grog (GT, GTF) or grog, quartz and organic material (GQO).

- 6.4 The grog-tempered types identified probably date to the 1st century AD, perhaps extending into the early 2nd century. A neckless vessel with a short, thickened, everted rim in fabric GQO, with a post-firing perforation below the rim, was recovered from fill 604 of ditch 603. Fill 510 within pit 509 produced a rimsherd from a vessel with a tall neck in a fine grog-tempered fabric (GTF), which is typical of the 'Belgic' tradition current in this area across the 1st century AD. A necked vessel, and two bodysherds, in the coarser grog-tempered (GT) fabric display combed decoration.
- 6.5 Two greyware bodysherds, from fill 605 of ditch fill 603 and fill 607 of ditch 606, have been decorated with barbotine dot panels, most commonly seen in the early and mid 2nd century. Forms indicative of mid 1st to 2nd century dating include a lid-seated jar in fabric SH from ditch fill 604, and carinated vessels in fabric BS from ditch fill 604 and fill 607 of ditch 606. The only sherd in the assemblage which clearly dates to the later Roman period (mid 3rd to 4th century) is a rimsherd in a greyware fabric from a conical flanged bowl, which is in imitation of a Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware form (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 234–5). This was recorded from fill 604 of ditch 603, which also produced a rimsherd of Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (DOR BB1) from a Seager Smith and Davies Type 20 plain rim dish of late 2nd to 4th century date (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 232–3). Of the 40 sherds from this deposit most suggest 2nd century dating so these two sherds may be intrusive or ditch 603 may be a long-lived feature. Verulamium Whiteware (VER WH), which was manufactured at kilns in Hertfordshire and Greater London during the 1st and 2nd centuries (Davies *et al.* 1994, 40) was represented by 11 sherds. Identifiable forms in this ware type are necked jars and mortaria. Continental imports were represented by an unfeathered bodysherd of south Gaulish samian. Samian from this region was imported to Britain from the mid 1st to early 2nd centuries (Webster 1996, 2–3).

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.6 Pottery from this date range totals nine sherds (71g). Of post-medieval date are a rimsherd from a vessel in glazed earthenware (GRE), dating to the mid 16th to 18th centuries, and an unfeathered bodysherd of Creamware (CRM, mid to late 18th century). Dateable to the mid 18th to 20th centuries are refined whiteware and

Pearlware (RWF, RWH, TPW, TPP) some featuring transfer-printed or 'flow blue' decoration, Nottingham/Derby stoneware (NDS), 'late' English stoneware (LES) and yellow ware (YEL).

Lithics

- 6.7 Three worked flints (20g) and one piece of burnt, unworked flint (2g) were recovered as residual items. The worked lithics comprise two flakes and one spurred piece.

Ceramic building material

- 6.8 Ceramic building material totals nine fragments (375g). All but one are of post-medieval/modern date, including flat roof tile from fill 304 of furrow 303 and fill 406 of pit 405, and a modern drainpipe fragment from fill 1504 within trackway ditch 1503. Single fragments from Roman-dated fill 510 of pit 509 and fill 620 of ditch 619 are too small and abraded for dating or further classification.

Other finds

- 6.9 Fill 506 of ditch 505 produced a fragment of dark green-coloured glass (16g) from a wine/spirits bottle of post-medieval date.
- 6.10 Three iron objects (16g) were retrieved. Two are nails of uncertain date. The object from fill 504 of ditch 503 is roughly triangular in shape but is covered in a thick concretion so its precise form and function is unclear.
- 6.11 A fragment of jet (5g) measuring 25 x 25 x 19 mm (maximum dimensions) was recovered from fill 510 of pit 509. One rounded edge was noted but the item is too fragmentary to identify the type of object it derives from.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 Animal bone amounting to 147 fragments (1389g) was recovered through a combination of hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from 12 deposits dating from the later prehistoric/early Roman period through to the post-medieval/modern period. The bone was highly fragmented but well preserved, enabling the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa* sp.) horse (*Equus caballus*) and hare (*Lepus timidus*) Unless otherwise

stated, these species were identified from fragments of meat-poor skeletal elements such as the mandible, loose molar teeth or bones of the lower limbs

Late prehistoric

- 7.2 Deposit 618, a fill of ditch 617 produced only two bones (30g). Of these, a partial sheep/goat metapodial shaft was the only identifiable fragment.

Roman

- 7.3 The Roman activity on site produced the largest amount of bone with 139 fragments (1186g) recovered from 11 deposits. As noted above, the bone was well preserved and it was possible to identify the presence of cattle, sheep/goat and pig. Each of these species were recovered in only limited numbers and no cut and/or chop marks were present to suggest an origin in butchery waste. However, as each was commonly exploited domestic animals in the period their presence is to be expected (Baker and Worley, 2014). Two hare bones were recovered from fills 604 and 607 within ditches 603 and 606 respectively. Hare did form part of the Roman diet, although it's consumption was not common (Cool, 2009). Each was an almost complete pelvis, a part of the carcass that is rich in meat however, due to the absence of any cut marks it has not been possible to confirm an origin in butchery or meal waste.

Post-medieval/modern

- 7.3 Five fragments (62g) were recovered from deposits 1406 and 1503, fills of ditches 1405 and 1503 respectively. Sheep/goat was identified from two mandibles from deposit 1406 and a partial metapodial shaft from 1503.

Undated

- 7.4 A further six fragments (93g) were recovered from deposit 611 and 704, fills of undated ditches 610 and 703 respectively. Sheep/goat was identified by a first phalange from 611 and horse, also by a first phalange, from 704. The later of these bones is notable as it has repeated small, cut marks on both the medial and lateral surfaces. This is potentially indicative of the removal of the tendons to be utilized as a raw material (D. Serjeantson, pers. comm).

Plant Macrofossils

- 7.5 A single environmental sample (20 litres of soil) was processed from the earliest fill, 604, within ditch 603 in Trench 6 to evaluate the preservation of

palaeoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

- 7.6 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 2 in Appendix C, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.7 The flot was of moderate size with c.35% rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

Sample 1

- 7.8 A high number of charred plant remains were recovered from the lower fill 604 (sample 1) within Roman ditch 603. The cereal remains included hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain, glume base and spikelet fork fragments, barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain and rachis fragments, possible free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type) grains and a culm node. A number of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). The weed seeds included seeds of oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), meadow grass/cat's-tails (*Poa/Phleum* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and docks (*Rumex* sp.). There were also a few monocotyledon stem fragments noted. A moderate quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm was recovered from this deposit and included round wood fragments.
- 7.9 This charred assemblage may be representative of a dump of domestic settlement waste, including remains from crop processing, within the ditch. The weed seeds are generally species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. Spelt wheat is generally the predominant wheat species within Roman assemblages within southern Britain (Greig 1991) and the assemblage appears to be generally compatible with the Romano-British date for the feature. The small amount of possible free-threshing wheat grains may be intrusive.
- 7.10 The moderate number of mollusc shells recorded within the assemblage included shells of the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla*

muscorum and *Vertigo pygmaea*, the intermediate species *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Trochulus hispidus*, and the shade-loving species *Aegopinella nitidula*. The assemblage may be reflective of a well-established open landscape with some areas of longer grass in the area of the ditch.

- 7.11 The assemblage is indicative of settlement activities taking place in the vicinity of Trench 6.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The results of the preceding geophysical survey indicated few likely archaeological features within the proposed development area. Despite this, archaeological features dating from the later prehistoric/early Roman period through to the post-medieval/modern period were found in nine trenches (Trenches 1, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16), with a localised, but dense, concentration of Roman activity in the central part of the site (Trenches 5 and 6).

Later prehistoric

- 8.2 Ditch 617, identified in Trench 6, solely contained a single sherd of later prehistoric period. Although it may be representative of prehistoric activity, certainly given its proximity to Southend Hill hillfort, it is perhaps more probable that the recovered pottery is residual within a Roman ditch. Certainly ditch 617, and associated ditch 632, were identified on similar alignments to the Roman ditches revealed throughout Trenches 5 and 6 suggesting that both most probably represents further evidence of the Early Roman field systems/enclosures (see below).

Roman

- 8.3 A concentrated area of Roman activity was revealed in the central part of the site, within Trenches 5 and 6. It is noteworthy that no evidence for contemporary activity was identified in the adjacent fields, with the exception of a residual sherd of Roman pottery within a later furrow in Trench 7. The identified Roman activity was not detected by the preceding geophysical survey nor on the LiDAR surveys.
- 8.4 The ditches were orientated broadly north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east suggesting they form as series of rectilinear enclosures. A number of the

ditches also contained evidence of multiple re-cuts suggesting several phases of activity.

- 8.5 The assemblage of pottery and animal bone, including burnt bone, coupled with the environment data, recovered from the ditches is suggestive of domestic settlement nearby, although no direct evidence for associated, such as postholes etc, was revealed during the current works. The artefact assemblage recovered from ditch 628 would also suggest potential for industrial activities taking place in the immediate vicinity.
- 8.6 Further undated ditches in Trenches 5 and 6 on the same broad north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east alignment as the Roman features may be broadly contemporary.

Medieval/Post-medieval

- 8.7 Within the northern-most field the geophysical results and LiDAR images show extensive evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation predominately on a north-west/south-east alignment (Fig. 3). The ridge and furrow was visible as slight extant earthworks but rarely penetrated through the subsoil into the underlying natural clays. The one exception was furrow 705, revealed in Trench 7, which contained a residual sherd of Roman pottery. The furrows identified within the LiDAR survey are shown to be within strip fields which are depicted on the 1842 Tithe Map. The field boundaries shown on the map were identified as ditches 703 and 1103.
- 8.8 Trackway 1303/1407, identified close to the northern limit of the northern-most field, is depicted on the 1842 Tithe Map but is not present on any subsequent mapping. The trackway does not extend directly to Cheddington Manor House, located just south-west of site, but may have been an early, indirect, roadway between the strip fields. The trackway was flanked to the south by ditch 1304/1405/1503. The original trackway was seemingly replaced by the current alignment of Long Marston Road, which forms the north-western boundary to the proposed development area, the latter being first depicted on the 1862 Parish Map. This map also depicts the reconfiguration of field boundaries to broadly akin to their modern counterparts, suggesting the medieval strip field system was abandoned in the mid 19th century. Certainly former trackway ditch 1405/1503 was reused to form a field boundary along with ditch 703 to create a separate field. The geophysical survey identified ditch 1503 but not the continuation into Trenches 13 and 14. Similarly the

geophysics did not identify the return within Trench 7. The LiDAR results correlate closely with the 1842 Tithe Map.

- 8.9 Within the southern-most field LiDAR image results and subsequent trenching show ridge and furrow cultivation throughout on a north-east/south-west alignment. Ditch 1603 first appears on the 1842 Tithe Map of the area as a separate field connected to an outbuilding of the Manor house. By the 1862 Parish Map of the area this field was enlarged eastwards to include the return ditch 103. Both these ditches are still visible as earthworks within the landscape.
- 8.10 Further earthworks could be seen within the central and southern-most fields aligned north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east. These all correlate to the LiDAR results and appear to be larger and wider earthworks than those depicted as furrows. The north-east/south-west aligned earthworks appear to feed into two large earthworks running north-west/south-east located at the southern limit of the central field and the northern limit of the southern-most field. The fields themselves have low points in these places and these earthworks probably serve as drainage for the fields.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Alison Roberts, assisted by Chantal Ash, Noel Boothroyd, Kinga Werner, Daniel White and Liam Wilson. The report was written by Alison Roberts, assisted by Ray Holt. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville / Quita Mould and Andrew Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.37	
1	101	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.32	
1	102	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
1	103	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, unexcavated	>1.8	0.94	n/a	
1	104	Fill	103	fill of ditch	mid brown grey clay	>1.8	0.94	n/a	MC18-C19
2	200	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
2	201	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.3	
2	202	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
3	300	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.3	
3	301	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.35	
3	302	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
3	303	Cut		furrow	linear furrow aligned north-east/south-west, unexcavated	>1.8	2.1	n/a	
3	304	Fill	303	fill of furrow	mid grey brown clay with porcelain within	>1.8	2.1	n/a	Post-med
3	305	Cut		furrow	linear furrow aligned north-east/south-west, unexcavated	>1.8	2.5	n/a	
3	306	Fill	305	fill of furrow	mid grey brown clay with porcelain within	>1.8	2.5	n/a	MC19-LC19
4	400	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.37	
4	401	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.32	
4	402	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
4	403	Cut		pit	circular pit, unexcavated	0.58	0.51	n/a	
4	404	Fill	403	fill of pit	dark grey black clay with plastic within	0.58	0.51	n/a	
4	405	Cut		pit	oval pit with steep sides and a flatbase	0.58	0.48	0.11	
4	406	Fill	405	fill of pit	dark grey black silty clay	0.58	0.48	0.11	MC19-MC20
5	500	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.3	
5	501	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.34	
5	502	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
5	503	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-west/south-east, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	0.48	0.14	
5	504	Fill	503	fill of ditch	light white grey clay	>1.8	0.48	0.14	
5	505	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-west/south-east, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	0.69	0.19	
5	506	Fill	505	fill of ditch	light white grey clay	>1.8	0.69	0.19	Post-med
5	507	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, steep slope, concave base	>1.8	0.78	0.3	
5	508	Fill	507	fill of ditch	mid white grey clay	>1.8	0.78	0.3	
5	509	Cut		pit	oval pit, steep slope, concave base	0.9	>0.25	0.16	
5	510	Fill	509	fill of pit	mid blackish grey clay	0.9	>0.25	0.16	MC1-LC1
5	511	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	0.52	0.14	
5	512	Fill	511	fill of ditch	mid black grey clay	>1.8	0.52	0.14	
5	513	Cut		ditch	same as (503)	>1.8	0.45	0.33	
5	514	Fill	513	fill of ditch	same as (504)	>1.8	0.45	0.33	RB
5	515	Cut		pit	oval shaped pit, steep slope, concave base	0.46	>0.33	0.31	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
5	516	Fill	515	fill of pit	mid white grey clay	0.46	>0.33	0.31	
5	517	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	1.05	0.64	
5	518	Fill	517	fill of ditch	light black grey clay	>1.8	1.05	0.64	RB
5	519	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	1.42	0.55	
5	520	Fill	519	fill of ditch	mid black grey clay	>1.8	1.42	0.55	RB
6	600	Layer		topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.19	
6	601	Layer		subsoil	Mid greyish brown clay	50	1.8	0.41	
6	602	Layer		natural substrate	Light greyish brown clay	50	1.8	n/a	
6	603	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with steep sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.7	0.55	
6	604	Fill	603	Primary fill of ditch	Dark blackish grey silty clay	>1.8	0.7	0.3	MC1-C2; MC3-C4
6	605	Fill	603	Secondary fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	0.7	0.2	C2+
6	606	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with shallow sloping sides to a wide mostly flat base	>1.8	1.55	0.15	
6	607	Fill	606	Fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	1.55	0.15	C2
6	608	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides to a wide flat base	>1.8	0.58	0.18	
6	609	Fill	608	Fill of ditch	Dark blueish grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks	>1.8	0.58	0.18	
6	610	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with shallow sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.5	0.37	
6	611	Fill	610	Fill of ditch	Dark grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks	>1.8	0.5	0.37	
6	612	Cut		Ditch	north-west /south-east aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	1	n/a	
6	613	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	1.8	n/a	
6	614	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	1.6	n/a	
6	615	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	1.5	n/a	
6	616	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	2.5	n/a	
6	617	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.65	0.21	
6	618	Fill	617	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey silty clay	>1.8	0.65	0.21	Later prehistoric
6	619	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.86	0.58	
6	620	Fill	619	Fill of ditch	Dark grey brown silty clay	>1.8	0.86	0.58	RB
6	621	Cut		Ditch	North/south aligned ditch with moderate sloping stepped sides to a slightly rounded base	>1.8	2.06	0.77	
6	622	Fill	621	Upper fill of ditch	Mid to dark brown silty clay	>1.8	2.06	0.27	
6	623	Fill	621	Lower fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey silty clay	>1.8	1.5	0.46	
6	624	Cut		Ditch	North/south aligned ditch	>1.8	1.25	0.52	
6	625	Fill	624	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey silty clay	>1.8	1.25	0.52	C1
6	626	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.82	0.3	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
6	627	Fill	626	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey clay	>1.8	0.82	0.3	RB
6	628	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping stepped sides to a slightly rounded base	>1.8	0.81	0.37	
6	629	Fill	628	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey clay	>1.8	0.81	0.37	RB
6	630	Cut		Ditch	north-east/south-west aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides to a rounded base	>1.8	0.34	0.13	
6	631	Fill	630	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey clay	>1.8	0.34	0.13	RB
6	632	Cut		Ditch	north-west /south-east aligned ditch, unexcavated	>1.8	0.65	0.19	
6	633	Fill	632	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey clay	>1.8	0.65	0.19	
6	634	Fill	612	fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	1	n/a	
6	635	Fill	613	fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	1.8	n/a	
6	636	Fill	614	fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	1.6	n/a	
6	637	Fill	615	fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	1.5	n/a	
6	638	Fill	616	fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	2.5	n/a	
7	700	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.26	
7	701	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
7	702	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
7	703	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-west/south-east, steeply sloped, concave base	>1.8	1.09	0.3	
7	704	Fill	703	fill of ditch	mid brown grey clay	>1.8	1.09	0.3	
7	705	Cut		furrow	linear furrow aligned north-west/south-east, gentle slope, flat base	>1.8	1.07	0.09	
7	706	Fill	705	fill of furrow	light brown grey clay	>1.8	1.07	0.09	RB
8	800	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
8	801	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.28	
8	802	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
9	900	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
9	901	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.34	
9	902	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
10	1000	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.24	
10	1001	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.23	
10	1002	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
11	1100	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.2	
11	1101	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.34	
11	1102	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
11	1103	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-west/south-east, steep slope, concave base	>1.8	0.3	0.2	
11	1104	Fill	1103	fill of ditch	light white grey clay	>1.8	0.3	0.2	MC16-C18
12	1200	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.24	
12	1201	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.27	
12	1202	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
13	1300	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.25	
13	1301	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.38	
13	1302	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay, within southern half of trench	>30	1.8	n/a	
13	1303	Layer		natural substrate	mid greyish brown clay, within northern half of the trench	>20	1.8	n/a	
13	1304	Surfac		metaled surface	surface made up of chalk and	>1.8	3.1	0.3	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
					flint with glazed pot within				
13	1305	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, unexcavated	>1.8	1.15	n/a	
13	1306	Fill	1305	fill of ditch	light yellow grey clay	>1.8	1.15	n/a	
14	1400	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.22	
14	1401	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.42	
14	1402	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
14	1403	Cut		pit	oval shaped pit, steeply sloped, flat base	0.68	0.54	0.15	
14	1404	Fill	1403	fill of pit	light yellow grey	0.68	0.54	0.15	
14	1405	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	0.39	0.19	
14	1406	Fill	1405	fill of ditch	light yellow grey clay	>1.8	0.39	0.19	Post-med
14	1407	Surfac		metaled surface	surface made up of chalk and flint with glazed pot within	>1.8	5.1	0.35	
15	1500	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.2	
15	1501	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.36	
15	1502	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
15	1503	Cut		ditch	linear aligned north-east/south-west, moderately sloped, concave base	>1.8	0.83	0.24	
15	1504	Fill	1503	fill of ditch	mid white grey clay	>1.8	0.83	0.24	C19-C20
16	1600	Layer		topsoil	dark grey black silty clay	50	1.8	0.2	
16	1601	Layer		subsoil	Mid black grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.4	
16	1602	Layer		natural substrate	light whitish grey clay	50	1.8	n/a	
16	1603	Cut		Ditch	north-west/south-east aligned ditch	>1.8	2.4	>0.2	
16	1604	Fill	1603	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey clay	>1.8	2.4	>0.2	LC18-C19

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	1	8	MC18-C19
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Nottingham/Derby stoneware	NDS	1	7	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	21	
304	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		2	83	Post-med
	Iron	Nail		1	3	
306	Post-medieval pottery	Creamware	CRM	1	<1	MC19-LC19
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed pearlware	TPP	1	<1	
	Modern pottery	Refined whiteware with 'flow blue' decoration	RWF	1	1	
406	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Refined whiteware	RWH	1	2	MC19-MC20
	Modern pottery	'Late' English stoneware	LES	1	4	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	19	
	Iron	Nail		1	5	
504	Iron	Object		1	8	-
506	Post-medieval glass	Bottle		1	16	Post-med
510	Roman pottery	Fine grog-tempered fabric	GTF	2	12	MC1-LC1
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	2	45	
	Ceramic building material	Fragment		1	1	
514	Jet	Object		1	5	RB
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	1	19	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	1	11	
518	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	1	7	RB
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	1	4	
	Burnt flint	Shell-tempered fabric	ROB SH	8	25	
520	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-and-organic tempered fabric	QZOR	1	8	RB
	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	2	39	
604	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	4	19	MC1-C2; MC3-C4
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered greyware	GTG	1	10	
	Roman pottery	Verulamium whiteware	VER WH	2	23	
	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	DOR BB1	1	2	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	16	159	
	Roman pottery	Shell-tempered fabric	ROB SH	4	99	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	10	213	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Buff-firing fabric	BUF	1	24	
	Roman pottery	Grog, quartz and organic-tempered pottery	GQO	1	25	
	<1>	Fired clay		2	166	
<1>	Fired clay		6	43		

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
605	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	2	19	C2+
	Roman pottery	Verulamium whiteware	VER WH	2	85	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	2	30	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	10	165	
	Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	OXF	1	3	
607	Roman pottery	South Gaulish samian	LGF SA	1	1	C2
	Roman pottery	Verulamium whiteware	VER WH	7	58	
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	11	98	
	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered greyware	GTG	1	10	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	GW	23	294	
	Roman pottery	Lower Nene Valley greyware	LNG	1	15	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	7	47	
	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	OXS	2	12	
	Fired clay			1	<1	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	4	
611	Fired clay			1	1	-
618	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-and-organic tempered fabric	QZOR	1	4	Late prehistoric
	Fired clay			1	1	
620	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	3	35	RB
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand -tempered fabric	BS	1	7	
	Roman pottery	Greyware	BW	1	3	
	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	OXS	1	5	
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		1	6	
Fired clay			1	3		
625	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	2	18	C1
627	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	1	7	RB
	Roman pottery	Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	GTQZ	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand -tempered fabric	BS	3	56	
629	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand -tempered fabric	BS	2	29	RB
	Roman pottery	Whiteware	WH	2	60	
	Industrial waste			3	42	
631	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand -tempered fabric	BS	1	12	RB
706	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	BS	1	3	RB
1104	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	1	21	MC16-C18
1406	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	76	Post-med
1504	Modern pottery	Yellow ware	YEL	1	35	C19-C20
	Modern ceramic building material	Drainpipe, fragment		2	169	
1601	Worked flint	Flake, spurred piece		2	16	-
1604	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed refined whiteware	TPW	1	1	LC18-C19

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

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

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	LAG	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
Late Prehistoric												
617	618		1				1				2	30
Roman												
513	514	2									2	143
517	518	1	1					10			12	26
519	520	1	2					2			5	58
603	604	1	1			1		1		51	55	70
603	605		2	1			2				5	87
606	607	1	1			1		16			19	61
619	620	3	2	1			1	3			10	462
624	625	1		1				1			3	51
626	627	1		1				3			5	46
628	629	3		2			2	15			22	180
705	706		1								1	2
Subtotal		14	10	6		2	5	51		51	139	1186
Post-medieval/modern												
610	611		1				3	1			5	37
703	704					1					1	56
Subtotal			1		1		3	1			6	93
Total		14	12	6	1	2	9	52	0	51	147	
Weight		726	87	157	56	14	149	113	0	7	1309	

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

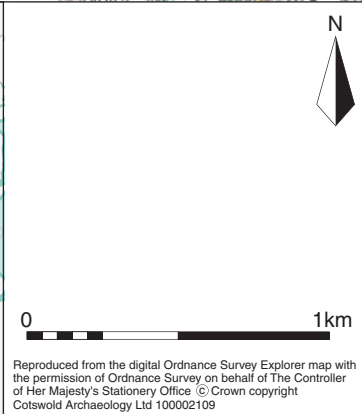
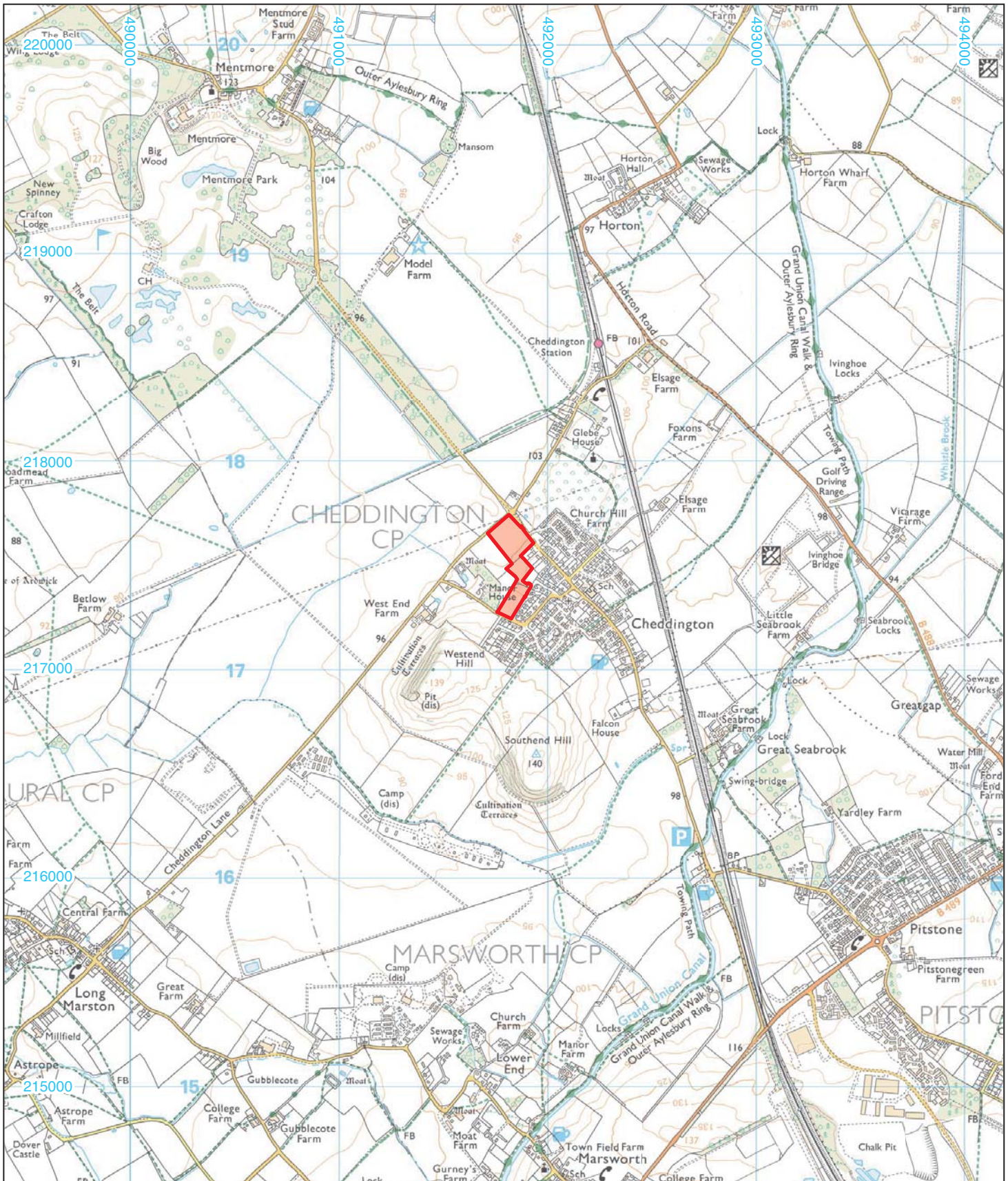
Table 2: Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains


Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 6 - Romano-British Ditch													
603	604	1	20	20	75	35	****	****	Hulled wheat, barley + ?f-t wheat grain frags, glume base + spikelet forks inc. spelt, barley rachis, culm nodes	***	<i>Bromus, Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Poa/Phleum, Galium, Rumex, stem frags</i>	**/**	Moll-t (***)

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items, Moll-t = land snails

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land West of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2017 at land west of Cheddington, Buckinghamshire. Sixteen trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features which were not identified by a preceding geophysical survey. The archaeological features encountered comprised ditches, pits and a trackway that are dated to the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern periods.</p> <p>Evidence for possible later prehistoric activity but in particular Early Roman agricultural activity was revealed in the central part of the site. The size and character of the pottery, as well as the environmental assemblages, recovered from these features suggests the presence of a contemporary settlement within close proximity.</p> <p>Medieval and post-medieval activity was encountered throughout the site and consisted of evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation, a trackway and associated ditch and field boundaries.</p>	
Project dates	20-28 November 2017	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land West of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	4.8ha	
Site co-ordinates	NGR 491853 217510	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	None	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Alison Roberts	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Buckingham County Museum	Ceramics, animal bone
Paper	Buckingham County Museum	Context sheets, trench recording sheets, photographic registers, permatrace drawings
Digital	Buckingham County Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land West of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 17708</p>		




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PROJECT TITLE
 Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	660976	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08.12.17	
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- cut feature
- trackway
- field drain
- furrow

Geophysics Key (Stratascan)

Probable Archaeology

- Linear anomaly - probably associated with former field boundaries
- Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow

Other Anomalies

- Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
- Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
- Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
- Scattered magnetic debris
- Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object



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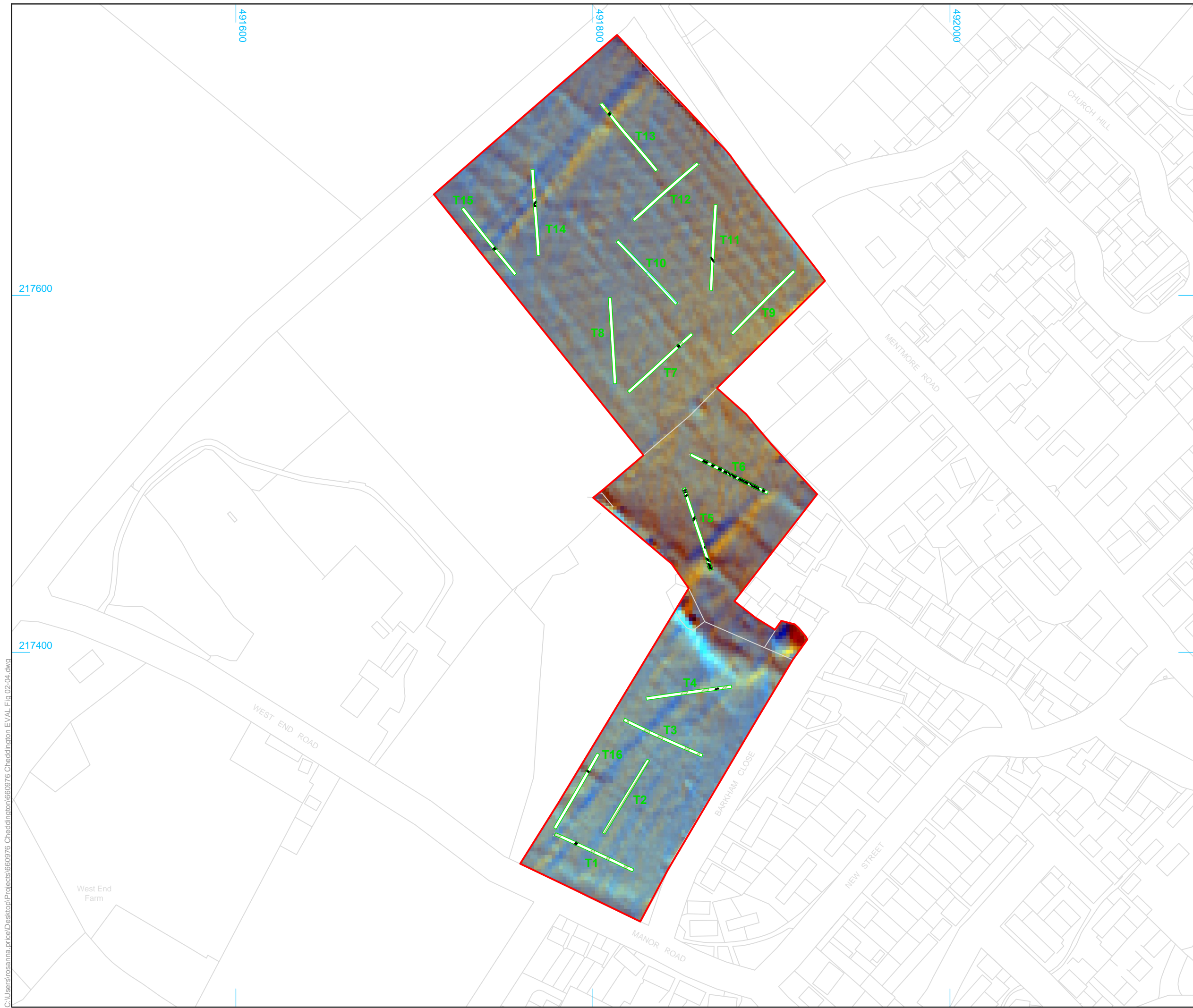
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PROJECT TITLE
Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale,
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FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan, showing
archaeological features and
geophysical survey results**

DRAWN BY RP	PROJECT NO. 660976	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 08.12.17	2
APPROVED BY CMB	SCALE@A3 1:2000	

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- cut feature
- trackway
- field drain
- furrow



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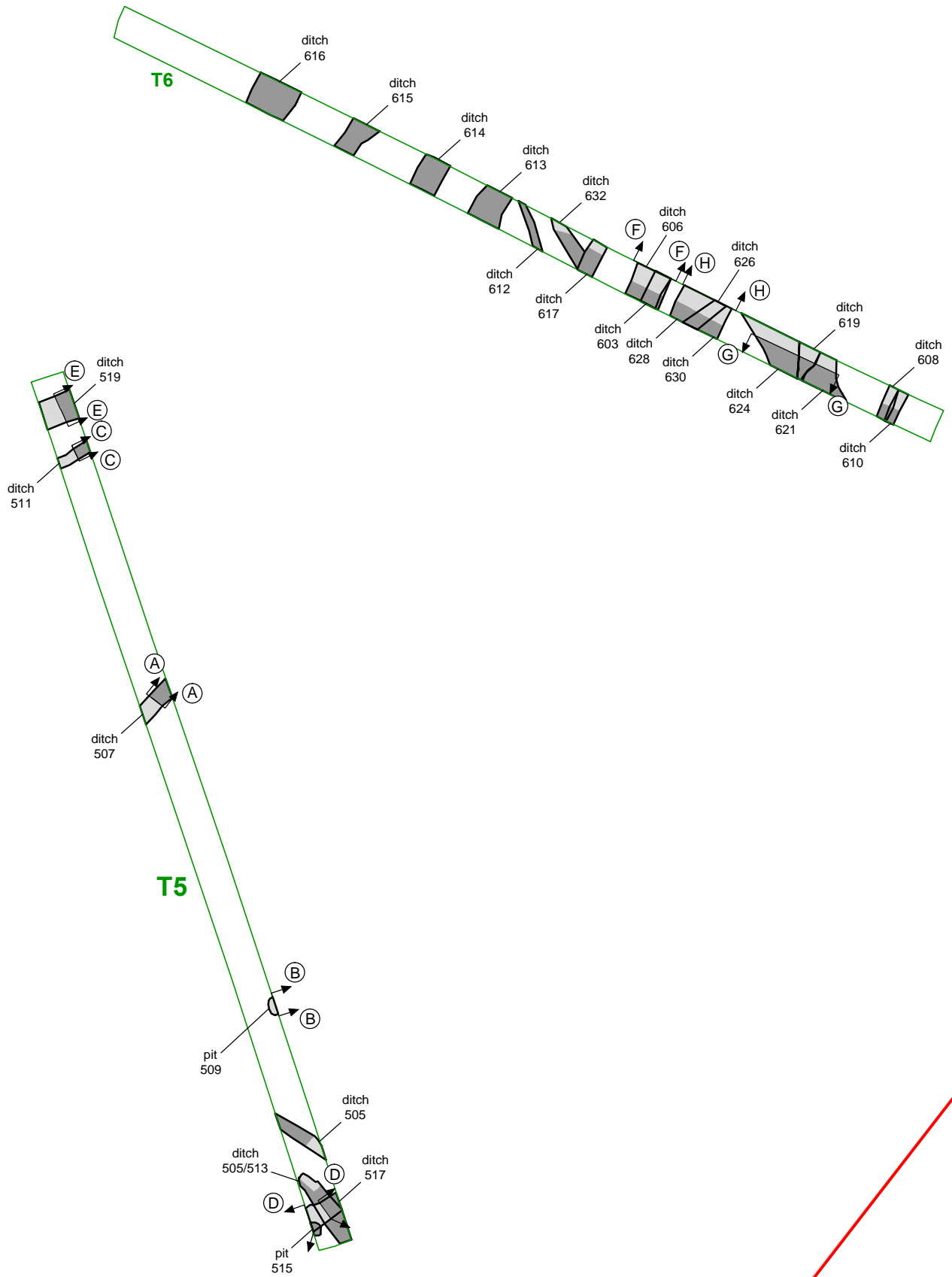
PROJECT TITLE
 Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale,
 Buckinghamshire






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

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	12.12.17	3
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A3	1:2000	

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-  site boundary
-  evaluation trench
-  cut feature
-  excavated intervention
-  section location



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PROJECT TITLE
 Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury Vale,
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FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 5 and 6, showing
 archaeological features**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08.12.17	
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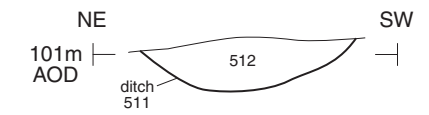
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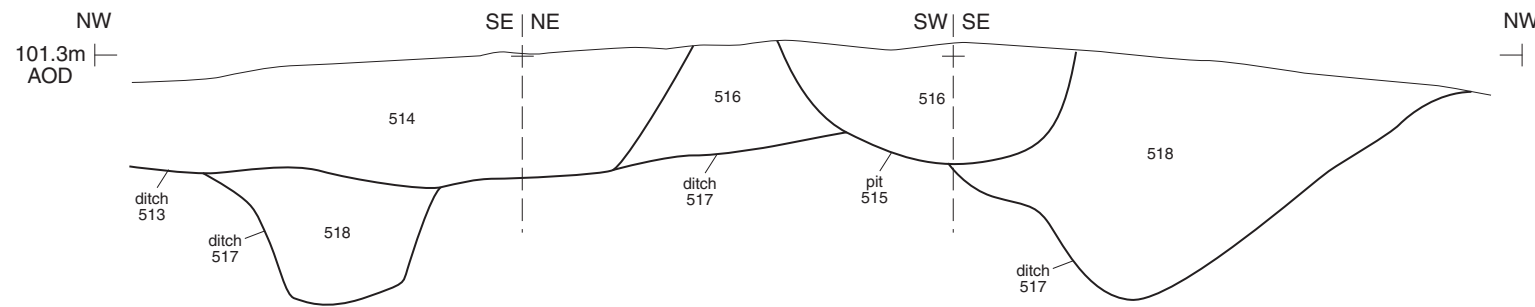
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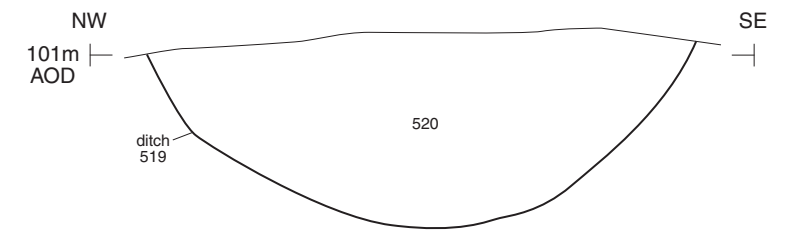
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Section DD



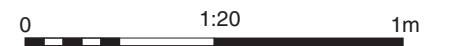
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Trench 5, ditches 515 and 517, looking south-west (1m scale)



Trench 5, ditch 519, looking north-east (1m scale)



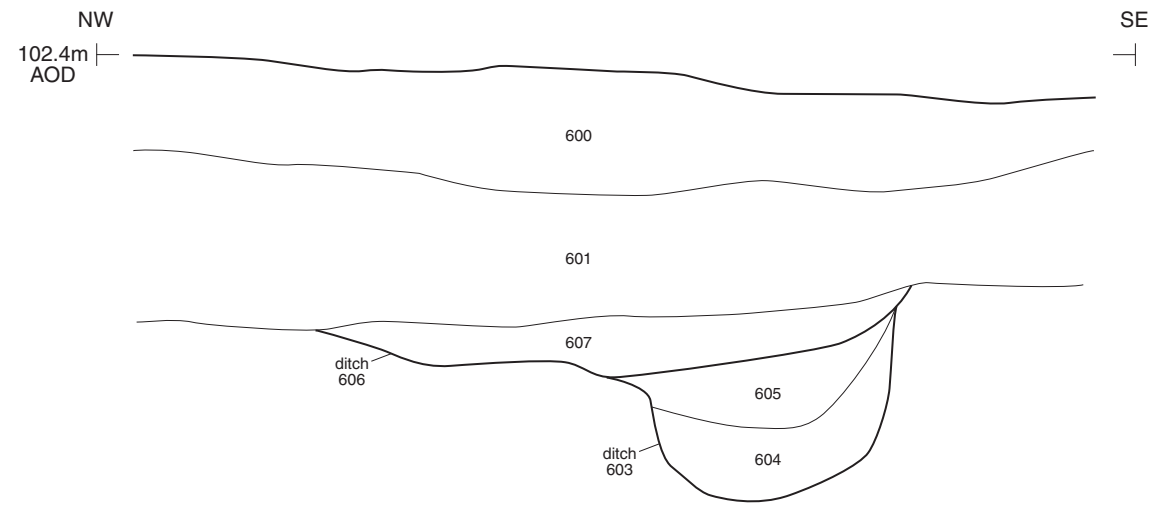
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury
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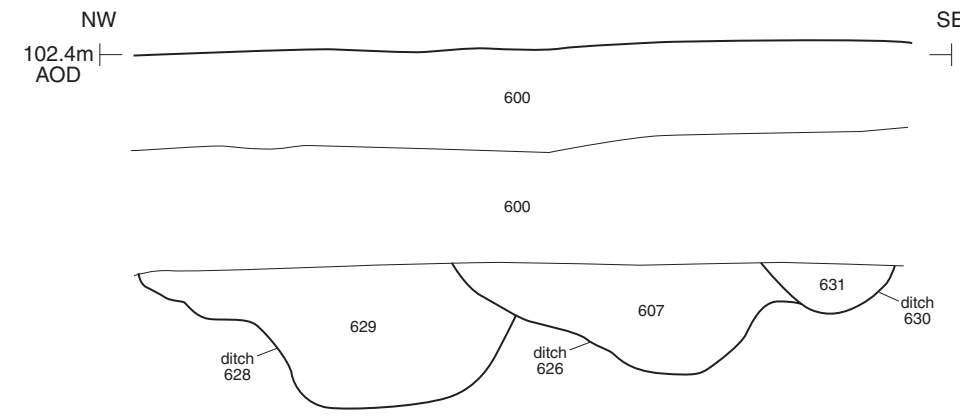
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Trench 5: sections and photographs

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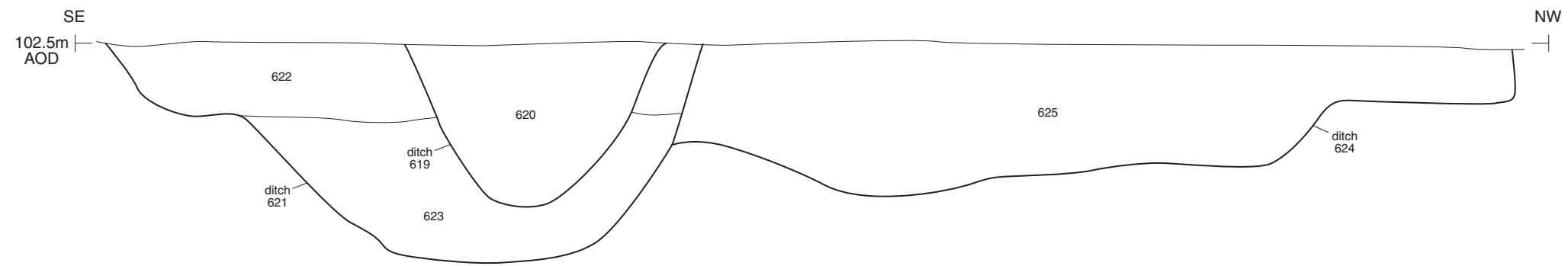
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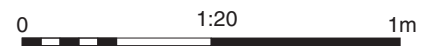
Section GG



Trench 6, ditches 619, 621 and 624, looking north-west (2m scale)



Trench 6, ditches 628, 626 and 630, looking north-west (1m scale)




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PROJECT TITLE
 Land west of Cheddington, Aylesbury
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 6: sections and photographs

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