DING/01

# READING GIRLS SCHOOL, BERKSHIRE

## Archaeological Trial-Trenching Evaluation

commissioned by Interserve Construction

140708

February 2015

HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

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project info

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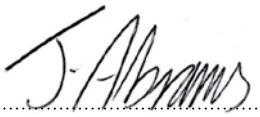



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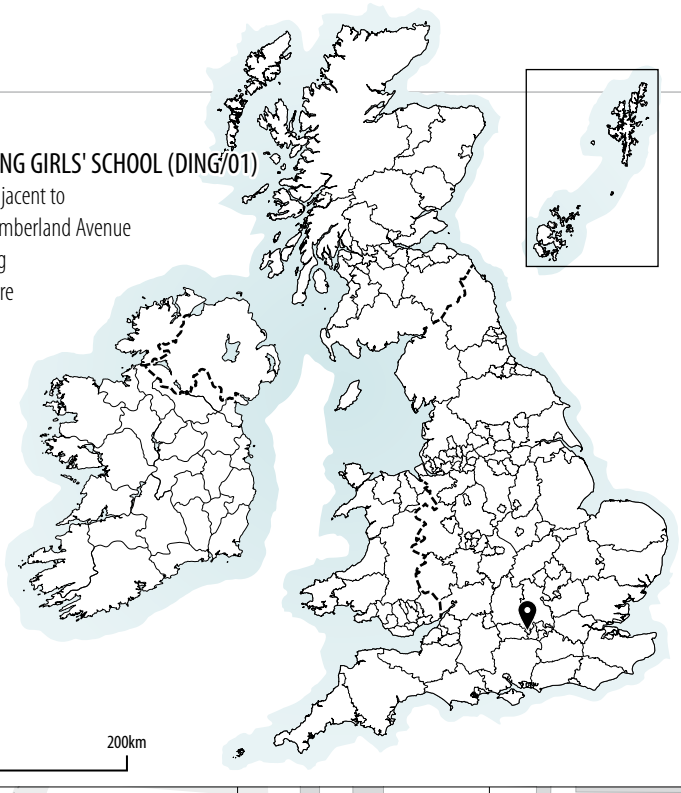
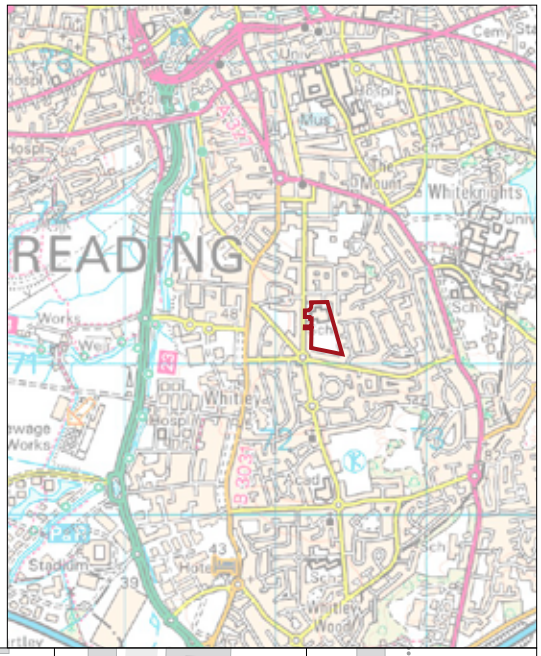
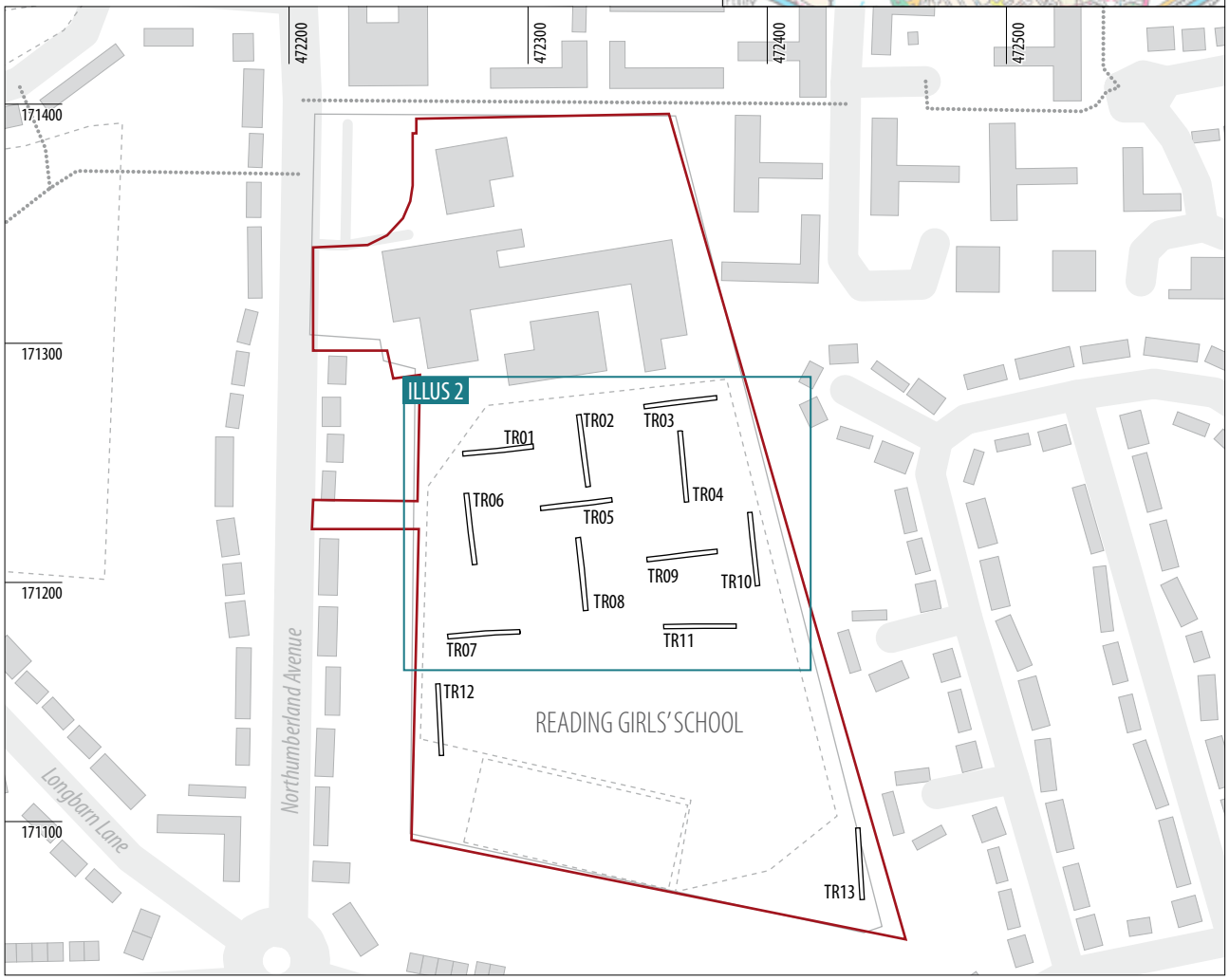
**READING GIRLS' SCHOOL (DING/01)**
land adjacent to
Northumberland Avenue
Reading
Berkshire






KEY
development boundary
trench location

N
0 100m
scale 1:3,000 @ A4

**ILLUS 1**
Site location

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# READING GIRLS SCHOOL, BERKSHIRE

## Archaeological Trial-Trenching Evaluation

**Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd conducted a trial-trench archaeological evaluation on land at Reading Girls School, Berkshire, in response to a planning condition for the erection of a new school. The trial-trenching uncovered evidence for past agricultural activity, dating from both the Iron Age / Romano-British and the post-medieval periods. Remains were distributed around the DA and mainly comprised ditches and post-holes, functioning as drainage ditches and fence-lines.**

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Planning consent has been granted for the erection of a new school and associated works at Reading Girls School, Reading, Berkshire (Planning Ref: 140708). A condition has been placed on this consent (Condition 18) requiring a scheme of archaeological work. Discussion with the Archaeological Officer at Berkshire Council (AO) determined the form this would take: a trial trenching evaluation in the southern part of the site (the playing fields), which, unlike the northern part of the site, has not been impacted on by the construction of the present school buildings.

1.1.2 Interserve Construction has commissioned Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd to undertake the trial trenching evaluation and produce a report on the results. This has been carried out in order to assess the extent, nature and survival of archaeological features within those parts of the site where intrusive development will take place. The results will allow the AO to determine the significance of any archaeological remains within the site, and the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Decisions on the type and scope of mitigation measures (if required by the AO) will be based on the results of field evaluation.

1.1.3 The remit of the archaeological trial trenching programme and test-pitting programme was outlined in a 'Written Scheme of Investigation' compiled by CgMs Consulting Ltd before the fieldwork started, and was agreed with the AO (CgMs Consulting 2014). A systematic array of trenches was designed to effectively evaluate the site. All evaluative works were carried out with the agreement of the AO.

## 1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

1.2.1 The site is located 2.5km south of the historic centre of Reading, to the east of Northumberland Avenue and north of Cressingham Road (centred on NGR SU 7215 7110). The site is bounded by residential housing on all sides (from Hexham Road to the north, Staverton Road to the east, Cressingham Road to the south, and Northumberland Avenue to the west). The existing school buildings are located in the northern part of the site, with playing fields to the south. The archaeological evaluation took place within the playing fields in the southern part of the site (henceforth known as the DA).

1.2.2 The DA lies on an area of gently-sloping land between a ridge of higher ground to the north (The Mount) and east (Shinfield Road), and the lower ground of the floodplain of the River Kennet and Foudry Brook to the west. The DA itself lies at approximately 55mAOD, with the central part of the playing fields being the highest, and levels grading off gently to the north, west and south. Some levelling of this area may have occurred, and the terracing under the present school buildings has been formed by 'cut and fill'.

1.2.3 The underlying geology of the DA is recorded as London Clay of Eocene date. This is a variably silty clay, with beds of sand, silt, and flint pebble seams. No drift deposits are mapped in this area.

## 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.3.1 There is limited evidence for prehistoric activity in this area, with no records of Palaeolithic artefacts; only a few stray Mesolithic finds (i.e. a microlith on Northumberland Avenue HER02034.00.000; and a flint artefact at Whitley Community Centre HER00969.00.000); and no evidence for later prehistoric (Neolithic to Bronze Age) activity. This may have been because of the geology of the area, with the London Clay potentially being avoided in favour of lighter better-drained soils.

1.3.2 The DA was positioned within the hinterland of the Roman villa at Manor Farm and was presumably farmed during the Roman period. A pasture-based stock-farming economy is more probable, based on the London Clay soils. There is limited evidence for Roman activity in the direct vicinity of the DA, with one coin being recovered at Brixham Road (HER02082.00.000).

1.3.3 It is thought that this area was broadly abandoned during the Anglo-Saxon period, with sites investigated at Green Park and elsewhere in the Lower Kennet floodplain rarely producing evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation. Nucleated settlements developed at Reading, Whitley, and Shinfield in the Saxon / early medieval period (with the settlement at Whitley first being mentioned in the 7th century; HER MRM16125), but the DA is thought to have comprised open undeveloped land between these settlements.

1.3.4 In the medieval period, the DA lay within the rural parish of Reading St Giles. It is thought that the DA formed arable land in agricultural use.

1.3.5 The DA remained in the possession of Reading Abbey until the Dissolution when it passed into secular ownership. It seems probable that the DA remained in arable cultivation, and continued as such throughout the 18th and 19th centuries.

1.3.6 The 1930s saw rapid urban expansion in this area, with Northumberland Avenue, Cressingham Road, and a housing estate to the east of the DA having been constructed by 1933. The DA itself remained undeveloped, with the George Palmer Playing Field occupying the southern two-thirds of the site and allotments in the northern part. Reading Girls School was then constructed between 1958 and 1960. The school footprint has remained largely unchanged to the present day.

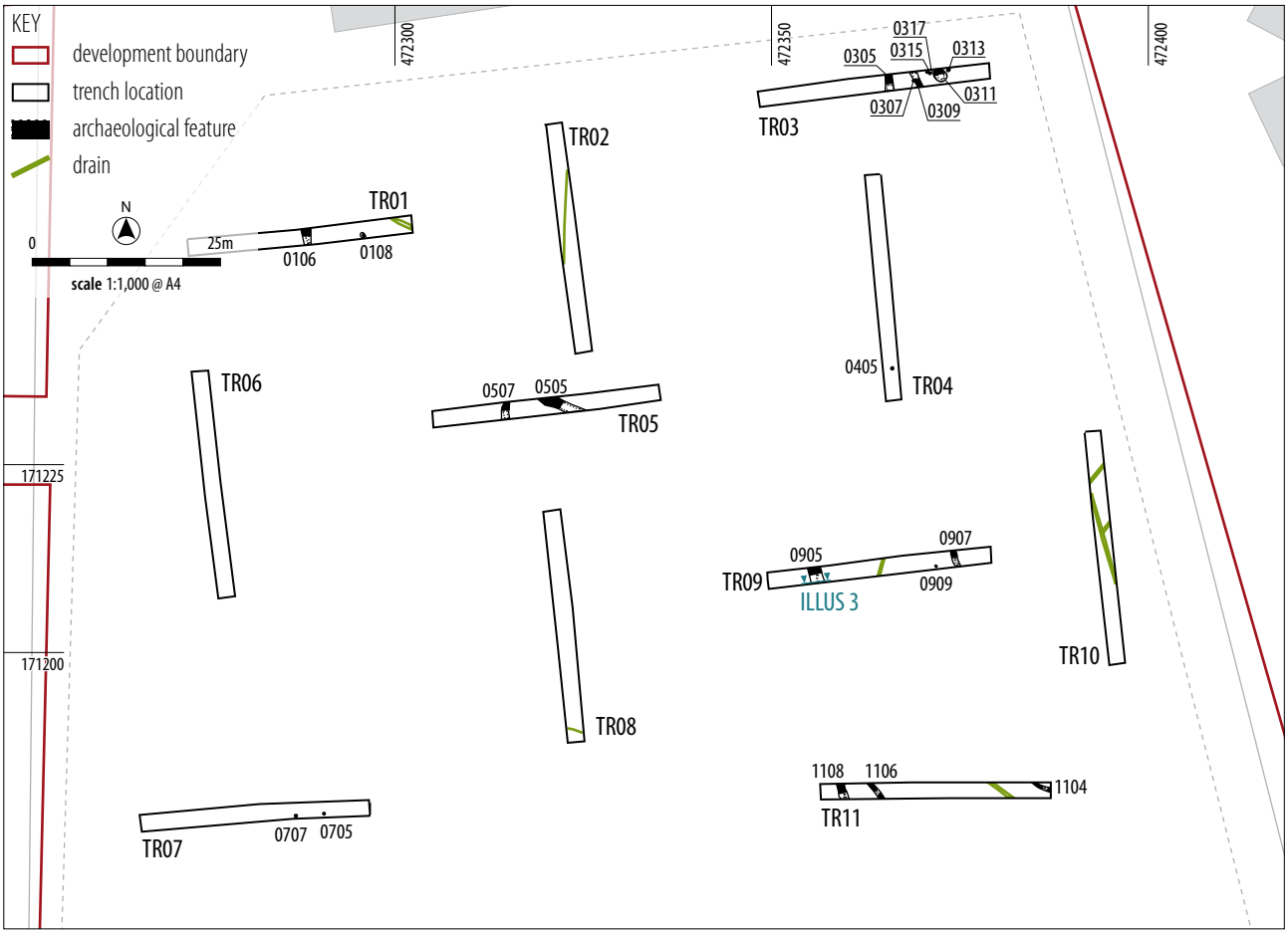
# 2 METHODOLOGY

## 2.1 OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The general aim of the trenching evaluation was to obtain useful information concerning the presence, character, date, status and level of preservation of surviving archaeological remains. It also allows the curatorial authority to determine the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource, and to discuss the necessity for the preservation by record and/or the possibilities which may exist to preserve certain areas of archaeological remains in-situ if appropriate and thus determine their significance.

2.1.2 The archaeological investigations were carried out in order:

- to determine the existence or absence of any archaeological remains;
- to determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- to determine or confirm the approximate extent of the remains;
- to determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;
- to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
- to assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape;
- to determine, as far as is possible, the implications of the remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity;
- to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present;
- to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;
- to determine the sequence and dating of Made Ground deposits to enable an understanding of the recent history of the site and its impact on archaeological remains;
- to establish in more detail the date, character and extent of the archaeological remains on the site.
- to seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- to clarify the recent development history of the site and its impact on the sites archaeological significance.
- to inform the design of suitable mitigation measures and the production of a written scheme of investigation for zoned excavation or an archaeological watching brief if archaeology is identified.




**ILLUS 2**
Plan showing trenches and features

2.1.3 The local and regional research contexts are provided by the Solent Thames Research Framework (Oxford Archaeology). The results from the trial trenching evaluation will be assessed in relation to the research aims in this. These may include:

**Roman landscape and land-use:** 'Further evidence for breed improvement for cattle and sheep should be sought'; 'Changes in the proportions of cattle and pig in relation to socio-economic status require further investigation' (p.2)

**Later medieval landscape and land-use:** 'The chronology of development and character of field systems and their relationship to settlement across the region needs to be explored'; 'The character and organization of ridge and furrow and field drainage'; 'The relation of surviving ridge and furrow to early field maps' (p.2).

**Post-medieval landscape and land-use:** 'The impact of the agricultural revolution on the landscape needs to be explored' (p.2).

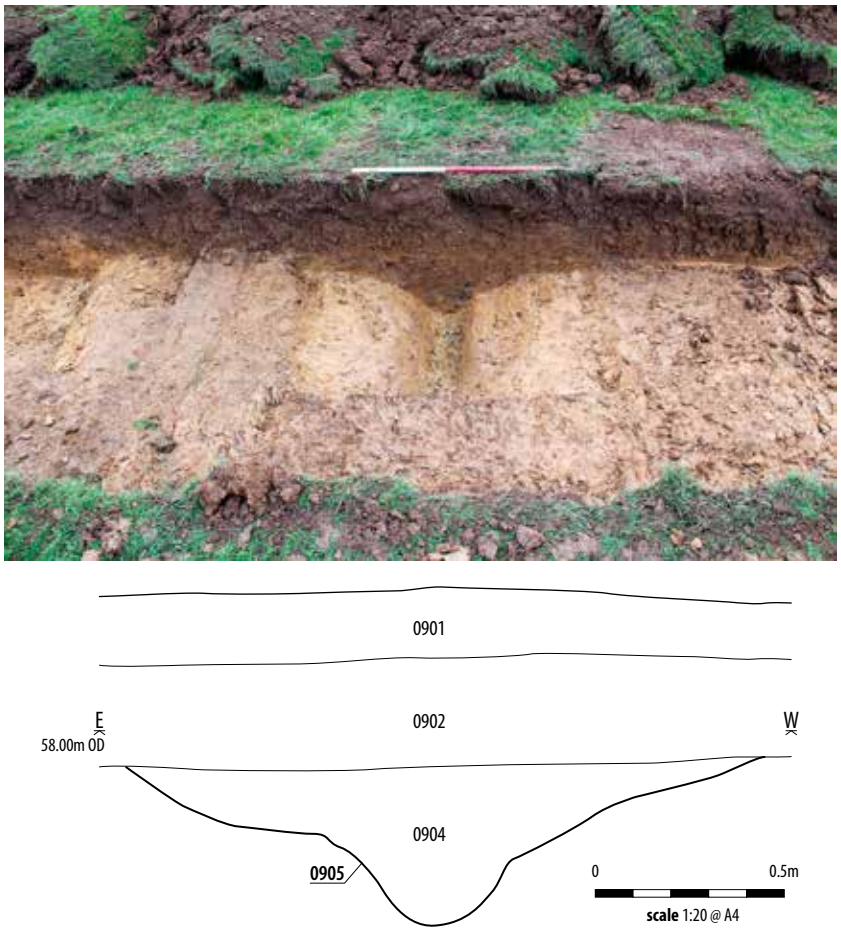
## 2.2 METHODOLOGY

2.2.1 Trial trenching was carried out between the 2nd and 9th February 2015. Twelve trenches were excavated across the DA, all measuring 30m in length by 1.8m in width.

2.2.2 The methodology underlying the archaeological trial trenching was outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2014), and agreed with the AO. The trench layout was designed to evaluate the DA using a systematic trenching array, with the trenches spread across the DA and positioned on varying alignments to pick up any potential archaeological features. Trench 13 was not excavated as it was not accessible, and some of the other trenches had to be shifted as were positioned outside of the fenced area.

2.2.3 A 360 degree tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket was used to remove topsoil under direct archaeological control, with excavation of the trial trenches continuing until clean geological sediments or archaeological deposits were encountered. Further excavation required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation was continued by hand. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified features was investigated by hand and all features were recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

2.2.4 All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and in line with the approved WSI (CgMs 2014). All trenches




ILLUS 3

N facing photo and section of ditch [0905]

and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

2.2.5 An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was recorded by digital survey using a differential GPS.

2.2.6 A full photographic record comprising colour slide and black and white print photographs was taken, supplemented with digital photography. A metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

# 3 RESULTS

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length, and depth are presented in Appendix 1.1. Technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1.2. Contexts are numbered by trench number: i.e. Trench 1 (101), Trench 2 (201). Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102), for example.

3.1.2 Undisturbed natural deposits comprised a firm orange-grey clay with sandy-gravel patches. Some undulations were noted in this, with bands and patches of light-blue-grey sandy-gravelly-clay. This was the natural London Clay deposit, and it was generally observed between 0.35 and 0.5m beneath the present ground-surface. This is with the exception of Trench 11 where it was observed 0.2m beneath the ground-surface, possibly because of levelling involved in the creation of the school playing fields.

3.1.3 The topsoil, a loose dark grey sandy-silty-clay, with small gravel pieces, pebbles, and occasional CBM fragments, was observed in all trenches across the DA. In places this had pieces of modern pottery in. This was between 0.15 and 0.25m in thickness.

3.1.4 The topsoil overlay, in the majority of trenches, the subsoil. This was a loose mid brown-grey sandy-silty-clay deposit, with frequent small stones and gravel, occasional CBM fragments, and very occasional flint nodules. This was between 0.1 and 0.25m in thickness, although was significantly thicker (0.5m) in the central part of Trench 4, demonstrating that there was once a natural depression in this location.

3.1.5 The subsoil deposit was not observed in Trench 11, because of the modern landscaping involved in the creation of the school field. It was also not present in Trenches 6, 12, or the western end of Trench 1, where a modern make-up layer, comprising a compact grey-brown sandy-silty-clay with CBM, tarmac fragments, and gravel (0.1–0.25m in thickness) was observed in its place. These deposits are thought to have been related to the previous car-park and housing existing in these locations.

3.1.6 Trenches 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12 simply consisted of topsoil overlying subsoil / made-ground over the natural London Clay deposit. Elsewhere across the DA, archaeological remains comprising ditches, post-holes, and pits were uncovered. Many of these are thought to have been post-medieval / modern in date and associated with the agricultural use of the area, with a number of the ditches functioning as drainage ditches and the post-holes thought to represent fence-lines. Others, particularly ditches [0905]/[1108]; curvilinear ditch [0907]; ditch [0505]; the two pits; and the post-holes in Trench 3, may be related to earlier, potentially Iron Age - Roman, activity, and are also thought to be associated with agriculture.

## 3.2 EARLY ACTIVITY

### Ditches [0905] and [1108]

3.2.1 The north-south stretches of ditch [0905] and [1108] form part of a contiguous stretch of ditch. This runs for at least 30m in length, and was between 0.87 and 1.8m in width, and 0.29–0.35m in depth.

3.2.2 The profile of this ditch, with steep sides and a V-shaped base, suggests that it was hand-dug. No evidence for recutting or clearing was observed. It was sealed by the subsoil, potentially suggesting a relatively early date for its construction. It contained a single firm orange / grey-brown silty-clay fill with occasional small stones, gravels, flints, and charcoal flecks. The only finds recovered from this ditch were a flint, possibly a core, and a secondary flake. These are thought to be prehistoric in origin, but may be residual within the ditch.

3.2.3 V-shaped ditches are commonly associated with Roman sites, although they are more often found in military contexts. Nonetheless, examples of V-shaped Roman ditches in other contexts have been uncovered, such as the possible Roman roadside ditch at Chidham near Chichester (Southern Archaeology Chichester Ltd; http://www.chichester.gov.uk/article/25427/Gazetteer-of-archaeological-investigation-outside-of-the-city). Furthermore, V-shaped ditches would have been suitable for drainage purposes, as discussed by the Roman historian Livy who refers to the use of a triangular-shaped 'pala' (spades) for constructing V-shaped ditches for drainage (White 2010, 19). It is therefore possible, although by no means certain, that this ditch was a Roman drainage ditch. If so, this demonstrates the use of this area for agriculture in the Roman period, in the hinterland of the villa at Manor Farm.

### Curvilinear ditch [0907]

3.2.4 Ditch [0907] was aligned broadly north-south, but had a slightly curvilinear plan, curving round to the southeast. It measured at least 1.8m in length (although was not observed in any other trenches), by 0.35-0.5m in width, by 0.2m in depth.

3.2.5 This ditch had gradually-sloping sides and a concave base and appeared, from its profile, to be hand-dug. It was sealed by the subsoil and contained a single firm light orange-grey sandy-clay with occasional gravel pieces. It contained two sherds of pottery, potentially Roman or medieval in date.

3.2.6 The profile of this ditch (suggesting it was hand-dug) and the fact it was sealed by the subsoil suggests that it was relatively early in date, as does the pottery recovered. Its curving nature also suggests that it did not function simply as a field boundary drainage ditch. Instead, it may have formed part of an enclosure, potentially a cattle-pen enclosure associated with the pastoral agriculture thought to have been taking place.

### Ditch [0505]

3.2.7 Ditch [0505] was one of the few ditches excavated during this evaluation which contained definitive dating material. This was fourteen sherds of pottery, thought to be early-mid Iron Age in date. This ditch was orientated NW-SE, measured 1.2m in width by 0.15m in depth, had regular gradual sides and a flat base, and contained an orange-grey sandy-clay fill. The wide nature of this ditch suggests that it may have functioned as a field boundary, forming part of the Iron Age agricultural landscape.

### Pits [0108] and [0311]

3.2.8 Two pits were exposed during the course of the evaluation. Both of these were sealed by the subsoil and so are thought to have been of relatively early date. Their function is unclear, as they were positioned broadly in isolation (and not with other pits) and contained no finds or other indicators about the type of activity they were associated with. It seems most likely that they had functions associated with the agricultural activity. Certainly, there was no indication that they functioned as rubbish or storage pits associated with settlement.

3.2.9 Pit [0108] was semi-circular in shape (partially exposed in the trench), and measured 0.3m by 0.25m by 0.13m. It had gently-sloping sides and a concave base and a single grey-brown silty-clay fill. This pit appears to have been truncated, potentially by ploughing activity during the post-medieval period, and so (combined with the fact it was sealed by the subsoil) is thought to have been of relatively early date.

3.2.10 Pit [0311] was larger and oval in shape, measuring 1.52m by 1.28m by 0.14m in depth. It had irregular gradual sides and a relatively flat base, and contained a single light orange-grey sandy-clay fill. The shallow depth of this pit also suggests that it has been truncated by ploughing activity.

### Post-holes [0307], [0313], [0315], and [0317]

3.2.11 A group of four post-holes were recorded towards the eastern part of Trench 3. They did not form the shape of an obvious structure, however the presence of four in such close proximity to each other (within an area of 9m by 1.5m) indicates that there was probably some form of structure here. This may have been a temporary structure related to the housing of animals, in association with the pastoral agricultural activity thought to have been taking place.

3.2.12 These post-holes were all sub-circular / circular, and measured between 0.23m-0.45m by 0.23-0.35m, by 0.06-0.14m in depth. They generally had steep sides (irregular in


ILLUS 4

S facing photo of ditch [0106]


ILLUS 5

N facing photo of gully [0309] and post-hole [0307]

places) and a concave base. They all had a firm light brown-grey silty-clay fill. No packing material for the posts were observed. All of these post-holes were sealed by the subsoil, demonstrating a potentially early date for them, although no finds were recovered to demonstrate this further.

## 3.3 POST-MEDIEVAL / MODERN ACTIVITY

### Ditches [0305], [0309]

3.3.1 Some of the ditches excavated across the DA are thought to be post-medieval in date and functioned as field boundaries and drainage ditches in the post-medieval agricultural landscape. This is based on their profile (some of which looked machine-excavated), and the fact that they cut through the subsoil. However, none of the excavated ditches can be identified on historic maps from the late 19th century onwards, with maps simply showing the DA as comprising one large field. This suggests that some of them may have just functioned as drainage ditches, or that they pre-date the late 19th century.

3.3.2 The two ditches in Trench 3, [0305] and [0309], both had very flat bases, and are thought to have been excavated by machine. They were both orientated north-south and contained a yellow-brown-grey silty-clay fill. They measured between 0.72 and 0.97m in width, by 0.08m in depth. Their shallow depth suggests that they were truncated, potentially by levelling associated with the construction of the school. The presence of manganese fragments in ditch [0309] may indicate that it held water at some point, and potentially that it functioned as a drainage ditch, which seems likely considering that neither of the ditches are shown as field boundaries on historic maps. This is supported by the fact that both ditches run down the natural slope. No dating evidence was retrieved directly from these ditches, however one sherd of modern (post-1780) pottery was recovered from Trench 3, reflecting the fact that there was post-medieval activity in this area.

### Post-holes [0405], [0705], [0707], [0909]

3.3.3 A number of post-holes excavated across the DA are thought to have been post-medieval / modern in date. This is mainly based on their fills and profiles. These post-holes may have functioned as fence-posts dividing up the agricultural areas, particularly as none of them are positioned together to form structures and no structures are shown on the historic maps.

3.3.4 Post-hole [0405] is one of these - an ovoid-shaped post-hole, measuring 0.3m by 0.25m by 0.13m in depth, with near-vertical sides and a pointed V-base. The fill of this was very similar to the topsoil, a mid-grey silty-clay with occasional small stones. One piece of metal bar was recovered from the fill of this post-hole, demonstrating its modern date. This post-hole was apparently positioned on its own, with no others observed within Trench 4, suggesting that it may have functioned as a part of a fence-line running across the DA. This is

**ILLUS 6**
S facing photo of pit [0311]


**ILLUS 7**
W facing photo of post-hole [0705]


supported by the profile of the post-hole, with suggests that a sharpened piled post was positioned within it – a type which are typically used as fence-posts.

3.3.5 Post-hole [0909] is also of modern date, based on the presence of CBM, cinders, and modern finds within its fill. This was rectangular in shape (0.22m by 0.18m), and contained a single dark grey silty-clay fill (also similar to the topsoil). It was also positioned on its own, suggesting it may have also functioned as part of a fence-line. Interestingly, it is located almost directly to the south of post-hole [0405], so it is possible that they formed part of the same broadly north-south aligned fence-line.

3.3.6 Two post-holes were observed in Trench 7: [0705] and [0707]. They were positioned approximately 3.5m apart, and measured 0.26m X 0.26m / 0.33m X 0.26m; by 0.18-0.19m in depth. Both had steep near-vertical sides and a pointed / concave base, and a mid-grey silty-clay fill with gravel pieces (similar to the topsoil). The profile of [0705] indicates that it may have been used for a round-based piling post, with the distortion in shape of [0707] potentially suggesting that the post was levered-out. These two post-holes could form part of an east-west fence-line (with the spacing between them being about right for a fence-line), although no other post-holes were recorded along this line (potentially due to variations in survival).

## 3.4 UNDATED ACTIVITY

3.4.1 A number of ditches excavated across the DA contained no finds or dating evidence, are not identifiable on historic maps, and do not have profiles which help date them. It seems most likely that many of these are associated with the post-medieval agricultural landscape, although some could be earlier (Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval, etc). Interestingly, they were mainly orientated N-S or NW-SE; this runs broadly with the natural topography of the DA (essentially running downhill), and may lead to the suggestion that many of them functioned as drainage ditches. This may also suggest that they were part of the post-medieval agricultural landscape, as the field layout shown on historic maps was broadly orientated north-south (although it is equally possible that earlier field layouts, for which we lack mapping evidence, were also arranged on this alignment).

3.4.2 Ditch [0106] was orientated north-south and measured 0.6m in width by 0.3m in depth. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base, and contained a light grey-orange sandy-clay. The size and orientation of this ditch suggests it may have been a drainage ditch.

3.4.3 There was one undated ditch in Trench 5 – [0507]. This was orientated N-S, measured 0.75m in width by 0.2m in depth, had regular gradual sides and a flat base, and contained an orange-grey sandy-silt fill. This may have functioned as a drainage ditch.

3.4.4 Two undated ditches were also identified in Trench 11 – [1104] and [1106]. Ditch [1104] was aligned NW-SE, measured 0.47m in width by 0.18m in depth, had steep sides and a concave base, and contained a grey-brown silty-clay fill. Ditch [1106] was aligned NW-SE, measured 0.54m in width by 0.09–0.11m in depth, had gradually-sloping sides and a relatively flat base, and contained a grey-brown sandy-silty-clay fill. The similar sizes of these two ditches suggests that they may both have been drainage ditches.

## 3.5 FINDS

Jane Timby, Julie Franklin, Julie Lochrie

3.5.1 The finds assemblage numbered 20 sherds (33g) of pottery, two fragments of ceramic building material, seven finds of chipped stone and 40g of industrial waste. Finds were typically small and abraded, some little more than crumbs, and thus dating evidence is limited. The assemblage includes some prehistoric material, and some later finds. The finds are quantified by trench in **Table 1** with a complete catalogue in the Appendix.

| Trench | Pottery (PH) | | CBM | | Lithics (PH) | | Industrial Waste | Dating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Count | Wgt | Count | Wgt | Count | Wgt | Wgt | |
| 01 | | | | | 2 | 30 | | PH |
| 03 | 1 | 14 | | | | | | Mod |
| 05 | 17 | 10 | | | | | 1 | LPH |
| 09 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 44 | 39 | Mixed |
| 11 | | | | | 2 | 418 | | PH |
| **Total** | **20** | **33** | **2** | **9** | **7** | **492** | **40** | |

TABLE 1

Quantification of finds by trench, with spot dating

### Pottery

3.5.2 The earliest of the pottery were 14 fragments (10g) found in ditch [0505] (0504). Sherds were small and degraded but probably all derived from a single handmade thin (4mm or less) walled vessel. The fabric was fine and sandy containing common very fine quartz sand and a sparse scatter of angular sparse flint generally less than 5mm. Without any featured sherds or associated wares it is difficult to date closely. It is probably early to middle Iron Age; it is not a fabric found in the later Iron Age assemblage at nearby Silchester.

3.5.3 Two sherds of oxidised sandy ware were found in another ditch [0907] (0906). This is again difficult to date. It may be Roman but again has no clear parallel with Silchester. The alternative is that they derive from a medieval jug and have lost their surface finish.

3.5.4 A single sherd of transfer printed whiteware was found unstratified in Trench 3. It post-dates 1780 and is most likely to be 19th century in date.

### Ceramic building material

3.5.5 This comprises two irregular-shaped, small, coarse textured lumps which are probably brick and of post-Roman date.

### Lithics

3.5.6 Flaked flint was retrieved from Trenches 1, 9 and 11. The assemblage comprised four edge retouched tools, two flakes and a possible core. Most of the finds were unstratified, the only exception being a core and a tool found in ditch [1108] (1107). None of the lithics are particularly indicative of date but are certainly prehistoric in origin.

### Industrial Waste

3.5.7 The industrial waste was concentrated (39g) in modern post-hole [908]. The pieces clearly relate to some sort of high-temperature process but are not diagnostic of any particular industry. Further fragments (1g) were found in a ditch [0505] (0504), though again these are undiagnostic and may have resulted from the reactions of the natural silica in the soil to high temperatures.

### Discussion

3.5.8 The assemblage is too small and undiagnostic to give much information about the date or nature of the activity at the site. Though some finds are stratified in the fills of ditches [0505], [0907] and [1108], the size of these context assemblages mean they should only be used with caution as dating evidence for these features.

3.5.9 The pottery found in ditch [0505] gives arguably the best dating evidence and implies activity in the Iron Age. The finding of lithics might suggest there was also an earlier presence on site. Possible Roman activity is implied by the pottery from ditch [0907], though further evidence would be required to confirm a Roman presence on site.

## 3.6 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

LAURA BAILEY, TIM HOLDEN

3.6.1 Four 20 litre samples recovered during an evaluation at Reading Girls School, Reading, Berkshire, were received for palaeoenvironmental assessment. The samples were from the fills (0504, 0904, 1107 and 0906) of ditches [0505], [0905], [1108] and [907] respectively. The aims of the assessment were to provide a basic quantification of the available material and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible. The environmental remains are quantified in Appendix 1.

3.6.2 The samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. The samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al. (2006). Charcoal was identified as oak/non-oak wherever possible.

3.6.3 Results of the assessment are presented in Appendix 1.7 (Flot samples) and Appendix 1.8 (Retent samples). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

### Wood charcoal

3.6.4 Wood charcoal was recovered from all samples in varying quantities.

### Cereal grain

3.6.5 Three, heavily abraded, hulled barley (Hordeum vulgare) grains were recovered from the fill (0504) of ditch [0505], which also contained pottery probably dating from the early to middle Iron Age. A single oat (Avena sp.) grain was present in the fill (906) of curvilinear ditch [907], which also contained sherds of oxidized sandy wear, which may either date to the Roman or Medieval period.

### Discussion

3.6.6 Very few environmental remains were recovered from site. The abraded nature of the cereal grain and charcoal recovered from the features suggest that they are unlikely to relate to the features from which they were recovered and were incidentally incorporated into the ditch fills. The absence of oat chaff means that it is impossible to ascertain whether the oat was wild or cultivated.

## 3.7 DESCRIPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSETS

3.7.1 The local and regional research contexts are provided by the Solent Thames Research Framework. In Section 2.1 of this document we identified research aims relating to Roman, late medieval, and post-medieval landscape and land-use. Having completed the fieldwork we have identified the following heritage assets:

3.7.2 HA1 consists of the V-shaped drainage ditch [0905]/[1108]; the slightly curvilinear ditch [0907]; ditch [0505]; the two pits [0108] and [0301]; and the four post-holes in Trench 3. These are thought to represent general Iron Age – Romano-British agricultural activity, with the ditch functioning as a drainage ditch, the curvilinear ditch potentially being part of an enclosure for animals, ditch [0505] functioning as a field boundary; the post-holes potentially being related to a structure housing animals, and the two pits presumably performing some function in relation to the agricultural activity. This all fits into the idea of the land within the DA being used for pasture-based stock-farming in the Iron Age / Romano-British period. It is considered to have low to medium significance of local interest.

| **Description of HA** | **Trench** | **Feature No/s** | **Significance of heritage asset (**Low, Medium, High**) and of local, regional, national, international interest** |
|---|---|---|---|
| HA1: Evidence for early (Iron Age / Romano-British) agricultural activity | 09; 11; 05; 01; 03 | 0905; 1108; 0907; 0108; 0505; 0301; 0307; 0313; 0315; 0317 | Low – medium local interest |
| HA2:Evidence for post-medieval agriculture | 03; 04; 07; 09 | 0305; 0309; 0405; 0705; 0707; 0909 | Low local interest |
| HA3: Evidence for undated agricultural activity | 01; 05; 11 | 0106; 0507; 1104; 1106 | None |

TABLE 2

Heritage Assets recorded during intrusive evaluation

3.7.3 HA2 comprises the evidence for post-medieval agricultural activity, and consists of two machine-excavated ditches which are thought to have functioned as drainage ditches; and four post-holes distributed across the DA which represent the remains of fence-lines. This is considered to have low significance of local interest, as does not contribute to research questions about post-medieval agricultural practices.

3.7.4 HA3 comprises the undated remains exposed across the DA. These were all N-S / NW-SE orientated ditches, and are thought to have functioned mainly as drainage ditches. They may have formed part of the post-medieval agricultural landscape, although could feasibly relate to earlier activity. These remains are considered to have no significance, because they cannot be dated.

# 4 CONCLUSIONS

4.7.1 The trial trenching evaluation at Reading Girls School revealed some evidence of past agricultural activity, dating from both the Iron Age / Romano-British period and the post-medieval period. Remains were distributed around the DA and mainly comprised ditches and post-holes, functioning as drainage ditches and fence-lines. This contributes to knowledge about how the agricultural landscape in the Iron Age / Romano-British period and post-medieval period was organised.

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# 6 APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

### Appendix 1.1 Trench register

| Trench | Orientation | D | Description | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | E-W | 0.4m | Topsoil (0101) over subsoil (0102) over natural geological deposit (0103). Make-up layer at western end above the natural (0104). One ditch [0106] and one pit [0108]. | 30m |
| 02 | N-S | 0.45m | Topsoil (0201) over subsoil (0202) over natural geological deposit (0203). | 30m |
| 03 | E-W | 0.45m | Topsoil (0301) over subsoil (0302) over natural geological deposit (0303). Two gullies [0305] and [0309]; four post-holes [0307], [0313], [0315] and [0317]; and one pit [0311]. | 30m |
| 04 | N-S | 0.5m | Topsoil (0401) over subsoil (0402) over natural geological deposit (0403). One modern post-hole [0405]. | 30m |
| 05 | E-W | 0.55m | Topsoil (0501) over subsoil (0502) over natural geological deposit (0503). One ditch [0505] and one gully [0507]. | 30m |
| 06 | N-S | 0.35m | Topsoil (0601) over make-up layer (0602) over natural geological deposit (0603). | 30m |
| 07 | E-W | 0.4m | Topsoil (0701) over subsoil (0702) over natural geological deposit (0703). Two post-holes [0705] and [0707]. | 30m |
| 08 | N-S | 0.35m | Topsoil (0801) over subsoil (0802) over natural geological deposit (0803). | 30m |
| 09 | E-W | 0.5m | Topsoil (0901) over subsoil (0902) over natural geological deposit (0903). One ditch [0905]; one curvilinear gully [0907]; and one square post-hole [0909]. | 30m |
| 10 | N-S | 0.5m | Topsoil (1001) over subsoil (1002) over natural geological deposit (1003). | 30m |
| 11 | E-W | 0.5m | Topsoil (1101) over the natural deposit (1102). Three ditches [1104], [1106], and [1108]. | 30m |
| 12 | N-S | 0.5m | Topsoil (1201) over make-up layer (1202) over natural geological deposit (1203). | 30m |

### Appendix 1.2 Context register

| Context | Trench | Description | Dimensions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0101 | 01 | Topsoil: loose dark grey sandy-silt-clay, with frequent small gravel pieces, occasional CBM fragments, and occasional modern pottery. | 0–0.2m |
| 0102 | 01 | Subsoil: loose mid brown-grey sandy-silty-clay, with frequent small stones and gravel, occasional CBM fragments and rare flint nodules. | 0.2–0.4m |
| 0103 | 01 | Natural: firm orange-grey clay with sandy-gravel patches. | 0.4m+ |
| 0104 | 01 | Make-up layer: compact grey-brown sandy-silty-clay with CBM, tarmac fragments, and gravel. Only observed at western end. | 0.1–0.3m |
| 0105 | 01 | Single fill of ditch [0106]. Soft to firm light grey-orange sandy-clay with occasional small stones. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.6m X 0.3m |
| 0106 | 01 | Cut of N-S orientated ditch. Steep sides with slightly concave base. Sealed by subsoil. Truncated by ploughing. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.6m X 0.3m |
| 0107 | 01 | Single fill of pit [0108]. Soft to firm grey-brown silty-clay with occasional small stones. | 0.3m X 0.25m X 0.13m |
| 0108 | 01 | Cut of semi-circular pit (partially exposed in trench). Gradually sloping sides and concave base. Sealed by subsoil. Potentially truncated by ploughing. | 0.3m X 0.25m X 0.13m |
| 0201 | 02 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0202 | 02 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.35m |
| 0203 | 02 | Natural | 0.35m+ |
| 0301 | 03 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0302 | 03 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.4m |
| 0303 | 03 | Natural | 0.4m+ |
| 0304 | 03 | Single fill of ditch [0305]. Firm light yellow-brown silty-clay with occasional gravel pieces. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.97m X 0.08m |
| 0305 | 03 | Cut of N-S orientated ditch. Steep sides with very flat base (machine-dug?). | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.97m X 0.08m |
| 0306 | 03 | Single fill of post-hole [0307]. Firm light brown-grey clay. Contained modern tile (not retained). | 0.26m X 0.24m X 0.12m |
| 0307 | 03 | Cut of circular post-hole. Steep sides and concave base. No packing material observed. Possible associated with post-holes [0313], [0315] and [0317]. | 0.26m X 0.24m X 0.12m |
| 0308 | 03 | Single fill of ditch [0309]. Firm light brown-grey silty-clay with manganes fragments. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.72m X 0.06m |
| 0309 | 03 | Cut of N-S aligned ditch. Gradual sides with very flat base (machine-dug?). Heavily truncated, from ploughing or construction of school. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.72m X 0.06m |
| 0310 | 03 | Single fill of pit [0311]. Firm light orange-grey sandy-clay with occasional gravel pieces. | 1.52m X 1.28m X 0.14m |
| 0311 | 03 | Cut of oval pit. Irregular gradual sides and relatively flat base. | 1.52m X 1.28m X 0.14m |
| 0312 | 03 | Single fill of post-hole [0313]. Loose to firm light grey silty-clay with occasional gravel pieces. | 0.45m X 0.35m X 0.14m |
| 0313 | 03 | Cut of ovoid post-hole. Steep sides and concave base. No packing material observed. Associated with post-holes [0307], [0315], and [0317]. | 0.45m X 0.35m X 0.14m |

| Context | Trench | Description | Dimensions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 314 | 03 | Single fill of post-hole [0315]. Firm light orange-grey silty-clay. | 0.44m X 0.27m X 0.06m |
| 0315 | 03 | Cut of sub-circular post-hole. Partially exposed. Gradually-sloping sides and concave base. May be associated with post-holes [0307], [0313], and [0317]. | 0.44m X 0.27m X 0.06m |
| 0316 | 03 | Single fill of post-hole [0317]. Firm light brown-grey silty-clay. | 0.23m X 0.23m X 0.06m |
| 0317 | 03 | Cut of circular post-hole. Irregular sides and slightly concave base. Heavily truncated. May be associated with post-holes [0307], [0309] and [0313]. | 0.23m X 0.23m X 0.06m |
| 0401 | 04 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0402 | 04 | Subsoil. This is far deeper in the central part (0.25-0.75m), suggesting that there was some form of depression in this area. | 0.25–0.4m |
| 0403 | 04 | Natural | 0.4m+ |
| 0404 | 04 | Single fill of modern post-hole [0405]. Loose to firm mid-grey silty-clay (similar to topsoil) with occasional rounded stones and a piece of metal bar. | 0.3m X 0.25m X 0.13m |
| 0405 | 04 | Cut of ovoid post-hole. Steep (near-vertical) sides and pointed 'V' base. Profile suggests a piled sharpened post, which has been levered out to the south. | 0.3m X 0.25m X 0.13m |
| 0501 | 05 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0502 | 05 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.5m |
| 0503 | 05 | Natural | 0.5m+ |
| 0504 | 05 | Single fill of ditch [0505]. Firm orange-grey sandy-clay with occasional small stones. | 2.9m+ (NW–SE) X 1.2m X 0.15m |
| 0505 | 05 | Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Regular gradual slides and flat base. Truncated. | 2.9m+ (NW–SE) X 1.2m X 0.15m |
| 0506 | 5 | Single fill of ditch [0507]. Firm orange-grey sandy-silt with occasional small stones. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.75m X 0.2m |
| 0507 | 05 | Cut of N-S aligned ditch. Regular gradual sides and flat base. Truncated. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.75m X 0.2m |
| 0601 | 06 | Topsoil | 0–0.15m |
| 0602 | 06 | Make-up layer: compact grey-brown sandy-silty-clay with CBM fragments, gravel pieces, and tarmac fragments. Related to demolition of car-park in this area. | 0.15–0.35m |
| 0603 | 06 | Natural | 0.35m+ |
| 0701 | 07 | Topsoil | 0–0.2m |
| 0702 | 07 | Subsoil | 0.2–0.4m |
| 0703 | 07 | Natural | 0.4m+ |
| 0704 | 07 | Single fill of post-hole [0705]. Firm to plastic mid-grey silty-clay with frequent gravel pieces. | 0.26m X 0.26m X 0.18m |
| 0705 | 07 | Cut of circular post-hole. Steep (near vertical) sides and concave base. Possibly associated with post-hole [0707]. Possibly for a round-based piled post. | 0.26m X 0.26m X 0.18m |

| Context | Trench | Description | Dimensions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0706 | 07 | Single fill of post-hole [0707]. Firm mid-grey silty-clay with occasional gravel pieces. | 0.33m X 0.26m X 0.19m |
| 0707 | 07 | Cut of ovoid post-hole. Steep (near-vertical) sides and pointed base. Distortion in shape suggests levering-out of post. May be associated with post-hole [0705]. | 0.33m X 0.26m X 0.19m |
| 0801 | 08 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0802 | 08 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.4m |
| 0803 | 08 | Natural | 0.4m+ |
| 0901 | 09 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 0902 | 09 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.5m |
| 0903 | 09 | Natural | 0.5m+ |
| 0904 | 09 | Single fill of ditch [0905]. Firm orange-grey sandy-clay with occasional small stones and gravel pieces. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 1.8m X 0.35m |
| 0905 | 09 | Cut of N-S aligned ditch. Steep sides with V-shaped base. Cut suggests hand-digging. No evidence of clearing or recutting. Possibly the same as [1108]. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 1.8m X 0.35m |
| 0906 | 09 | Single fill of ditch [0907]. Firm light orange-grey sandy-clay with occasional gravel pieces. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.35–0.5m X 0.2m |
| 0907 | 09 | Cut of curvilinear NE-SW aligned ditch. Gradually-sloping sides and concave base. Likely to be hand-dug. | 1.8m+ (N–S) X 0.35–0.5m X 0.2m |
| 0908 | 09 | Single fill of modern post-hole [0908]. Loose dark grey silty-clay, with CBM, cinders, and modern finds. | 0.22m X 0.18m X unexcavated |
| 0909 | 09 | Cut of rectangular modern post-hole. | 0.22m X 0.18m X unexcavated |
| 1001 | 10 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 1002 | 10 | Subsoil | 0.25–0.45m |
| 1003 | 10 | Natural | 0.45m+ |
| 1101 | 11 | Topsoil | 0–0.2m |
| 1102 | 11 | Natural | 0.2m+ |
| 1103 | 11 | Single fill of ditch [1104]. Firm light grey-brown silty-clay with rooting and small stones. | 3m+ (NW–SE) X 0.47m X 0.18m |
| 1104 | 11 | Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Steep sides and concave base. Truncated. | 3m+ (NW–SE) X 0.47m X 0.18m |
| 1105 | 11 | Single fill of ditch [1106]. Firm light grey-brown sandy-silty-clay, with frequent gravel pieces and occasional small stones. | 2.3m+ (NW–SE) X 0.54m X 0.09–0.11m |
| 1106 | 11 | Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Gradual sides and relatively flat base. Truncated. | 2.3m+ (NW–SE) X 0.54m X 0.09–0.11m |
| 1107 | 11 | Single fill of ditch [1108]. Firm light brown silty-clay with occasional gravels, flints, and charcoal flecks. | 2.1m+ (N–S) X 0.87m X 0.29m |
| 1108 | 11 | Cut of N-S aligned ditch. Steep sides with V-shaped base. Cut suggests hand-digging. No evidence of clearing or recutting. Possibly the same as [0905]. | 2.1m+ (N–S) X 0.87m X 0.29m |

| Context | Trench | Description | Dimensions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1201 | 12 | Topsoil | 0–0.25m |
| 1202 | 12 | Make-up layer: building debris in clay-silt-sand. Probably associated with housing construction. | 0.25–0.5m |
| 1203 | 12 | Natural | 0.5m+ |

## Appendix 1.3 Photographic register

| Photo | Digital | Direction facing | Description |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1578 | NE | Fencing of site compound |
| 2 | 1579 | NW | Fencing of site compound |
| 3 | 1580 | N | Fencing along eastern edge of site |
| 4 | 1581 | W | Fencing along playing-field / tennis courts |
| 5 | 1582 | SW | SW corner of site |
| 6 | 1583 | SW | SW corner of site |
| 7 | 1584 | N | Western edge of site |
| 8 | 1585 | W | Central field |
| 9 | 1586 | W | Central field |
| 10 | 1587 | W | Site entrance |
| 11 | 1588 | E | Trench 1 |
| 12 | 1589 | W | Trench 1 |
| 13 | 1590 | SW | North-facing section of ditch [0106] |
| 14 | 1591 | N | South-facing section of ditch [0106] |
| 15 | 1592 | SW | North-facing section of pit [0108] |
| 16 | 1593 | E | West-facing section of pit [0108] |
| 17 | 1594 | S | Trench 2 |
| 18 | 1595 | N | Trench 2 |
| 19 | 1596 | E | Trench 3 |
| 20 | 1597 | W | Trench 3 |
| 21 | 1598 | S | North-facing section of gully [0305] |
| 22 | 1599 | S | North-facing section of post-hole [0307] and gully [0309] |
| 23 | 1600 | N | South-facing seciton of pit [0311] |
| 24 | 1601 | E | West-facing section of post-hole [0313] |
| 25 | 1602 | E | West-facing sections of post-holes [0315] and [0317] |
| 26 | 1603 | S | Trench 12 |
| 27 | 1604 | N | Trench 12 |
| 28 | 1605 | N | Trench 8 |
| 29 | 1606 | S | Trench 8 |
| 30 | 1607 | N | Trench 6 |
| 31 | 1608 | S | Trench 6 |
| 32 | 1609 | S | North-facing section of ditch [0905] |
| 33 | 1610 | S | North-facing section of gully [0907] |
| 34 | 1611 | N | South-facing section of gully [0907] |
| 35 | 1612 | OH | Post-hole [0909] |
| 36 | 1613 | S | North-facing section of post-hole [0909] |
| 37 | 1614 | E | Trench 9 |
| 38 | 1615 | W | Trench 9 |
| 39 | 1616 | SE | NW-facing section of ditch [1104] |
| 40 | 1617 | OH | Modern post-holes in Trench 11 |
| 41 | 1618 | S | North-facing section through ditch [1108] |
| 42 | 1619 | SE | NW-facing section of ditch [1106] |
| 43 | 1620 | W | Trench 11 |
| 44 | 1621 | E | Trench 11 |
| 45 | 1622 | S | North-facing section of post-hole [0406] |
| 46 | 1623 | N | Trench 4 |
| 47 | 1624 | S | Trench 4 |
| 48 | 1625 | S | Trench 10 |
| 49 | 1626 | N | Trench 10 |
| 50 | 1627 | NW | SE-facing section of ditch [0505] |
| 51 | 1628 | S | North-facing section of ditch [0505] |
| 52 | 1629 | S | North-facing section of gully [0507] |
| 53 | 1630 | W | Trench 5 |
| 54 | 1631 | E | Trench 5 |
| 55 | 1632 | S | North-facing section of post-hole [0707] |
| 56 | 1633 | E | West-facing section of post-hole [0705] |
| 57 | 1634 | W | Trench 7 |
| 58 | 1635 | E | Trench 7 |
| 59-63 | 1636-1640 | - | Backfilled trenches |

## Appendix 1.4 Drawing register

| Drawing | Scale | Description |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1:10 | N facing section of ditch [0905] |

## Appendix 1.5 Sample Register

| Sample | Context | Volume | Description |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0504 | 20L | Fill of ditch [0505] |
| 2 | 0904 | 20L | Fill of ditch [0905] |
| 3 | 1107 | 20L | Fill of ditch [1108] |
| 4 | 0906 | 20L | Fill of curvilinear ditch [0907] |

# APPENDIX 2 FINDS CATALOGUE

| Trench | Context | Sample | Qty | Weight (g) | Material | Object | Description |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | U/S | – | 2 | 30 | Lithics | Tool & Debitage | Flint. Possible core fragments and edge retouched blade missing its proximal end and retouched along its straight distal end |
| 03 | U/S | – | 1 | 14 | Pottery (Mod) | Whiteware | blue transfer printed plate rim |
| 05 | 0504 | 1 | 3 | 0 | Pottery | – | Crumbs |
| 05 | 0504 | – | – | 1 | Industrial Waste | Slag | Small vitrified fragments |
| 05 | 0504 | – | 14 | 10 | Pottery (PH) | – | Handmade fine sandy fabric with flint. Very small, quite degraded body sherds. Probably from a single vessel. Handmade, thin walled (4 mm and less). Fine sandy fabric containing a common frequency of very fine quartz sand and a sparse scatter of angular sparse flint generally less than 5 mm. |
| 09 | U/S | – | 3 | 44 | Lithics | Debitage & Tool | Flint. Small primary flake, secondary flake with abrupt edge retouch to right of the platform and the left distal corner and a patinated and abraded secondary flake with alternating abrupt retouch |
| 09 | 0906 | – | 2 | 9 | Pottery | – | Dense sandy oxidised ware. Probably same vessel. |
| 09 | 0908 | – | 2 | 9 | CBM | Brick? | small, coarse textured lumps |
| 09 | 0908 | – | – | 39 | Industrial Waste | Slag | small vitrified lumps and fragments |
| 11 | 1107 | – | 2 | 418 | Lithics | Core & Tool | Flint. Possible core onlarge flint nodule, possible natural fractures and a small, short, wide secondary flake abruptly retouched on the right lateral inverse |

# APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

## Appendix 3.1 Flotation results

| Context | Sample | Total flot Vol (ml) | Barley grain | Oat grain | Charcoal | | Material available for AMS | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Qty | Max size (mm) | | |
| 0504 | 1 | 30 | + | – | + | <5 | Yes | 3 hulled barley grains. Heavily abraded |
| 0904 | 2 | 30 | – | – | + | <5 | No | – |
| 0906 | 3 | 100 | – | + | – | – | No | Modern roots and seeds |
| 1107 | 4 | 100 | – | – | – | <5 | No | Modern roots and seeds |

Key: + = rare (1-5), ++ = occasional (6-15), +++ = common (16-50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

## Appendix 3.2 Residue results

| Context | Sample | Sample Vol (l) | Ceramic | Stone | Industrial Waste | Charcoal | | Material available for AMS Dating |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Pottery | Lithics | Fe slag | Qty | Max size (mm) | |
| 0504 | 1 | 20 | ++ | ++ | + | + | 6 | – |
| 0904 | 2 | 20 | – | +++ | – | ++ | 5 | – |
| 0906 | 3 | 20 | – | +++ | – | + | 4 | – |
| 1107 | 4 | 20 | – | +++ | – | ++ | 10 | Yes |

Key: + = rare (1-5), ++ = occasional (6-15), +++ = common (16-50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

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