LAND AT CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE, ST. GEORGES ROAD, WALLINGFORD.

NGR: SU 604 895

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE AND WATCHING BRIEF:

POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT.

AREA 1 LOOKING NORTHWEST; SHOWING TERMINUS OF DITCH 1, AS WELL AS PART OF BANK 1

Report No. 982

September 2014

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES

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AREA 2 LOOKING SOUTH

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Quality Assurance
This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2008)
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GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Archaeology
For the purposes of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from Prehistoric times to the Modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

Burh
A late Saxon fortified place. Some of these were specifically built and developed, by the order of Alfred the Great, as strong points against attack by Viking raiders.

CBM
Ceramic Building Material.

Medieval
The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and *circa* AD 1500.

Natural
In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

NGR
National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD
Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

OS
Ordnance Survey.

Post-medieval
The period after *circa* AD 1500.

Prehistoric
The period prior to the Roman invasion of AD 43. Traditionally sub divided into; *Palaeolithic – c.* 500,000 BC to *c.* 12,000 BC; *Mesolithic – c.* 12,000 BC to *c.* 4,500 BC; *Neolithic – c.* 4,500 BC to *c.* 2,000 BC; *Bronze Age – c.* 2,000 BC to *c.* 800 BC; *Iron Age – c.* 800 BC to AD 43.

Roman
The period traditionally dated AD 43 to *circa* AD 410.

Saxon
The period between *circa* AD 410 and AD 1066.

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SUMMARY

Between October 2013 and April 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample and watching brief on land at Cross Keys Public House, St. Georges Road, Wallingford (NGR: SU 604 895). The project was commissioned by Brakspear.

The site was located adjacent to Wallingford Town Saxon Defences, approximately 70m north of the West Gate.

The strip, map and sample consisted of the mechanical reduction of a proposed development site onto the top of archaeological deposits and subsequent archaeological mapping, as well as the excavation and recording of multiple sections into the exposed deposits.

The strip, map and sample revealed substantial and significant deposits:

A large ditch (Ditch 1) was situated parallel with and west of the Saxon Burh rampart. The ditch probably represented part of an outer defensive ditch related to the rampart. Ditch 1 terminated at the north of the site, which suggested that either the Saxon military earthworks are more complex than previously thought; or, the ditch may represent a relatively early alteration or addition to the Burh defences.

Some gully or pit-like features were present immediately north of Ditch 1. These were undated; however, they were stratigraphically early and were likely to have been open features during the earlier phases of Ditch 1.

A substantial linear bank of chalk marl (Bank 1), which had been deposited on top of the upper in-fills of Ditch 1, probably represented a military outwork to the rampart. It appeared that the bank had originally been constructed so that it gradually became more substantial to the south, which suggested that part of its function was to enhance the defences at the West Gate. Stratigraphic and artefactual evidence indicated that Bank 1 dated to the 13th century or later and, therefore, it must been seen as a later Medieval or later addition to the earlier Saxon military earthworks.

A large ditch (Ditch 2) was situated parallel with the Saxon Burh rampart and west of Ditch 1 and Bank 1. The ditch was only partially present within the excavation area and, unfortunately remained undated; however, it was possible to demonstrate that it had been re-cut on at least three occasions.

The watching brief comprised the archaeological monitoring during the excavation of ring-beam foundation trenches, which did not penetrate to archaeologically significant levels. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were revealed during the watching brief works.

This assessment document provides an overview of the results from the archaeological works and sets out the requirements to bring the site to publication.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between October 2013 and April 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample and watching brief on land at Cross Keys Public House, St. Georges Road, Wallingford (NGR: SU 604 895). The project was commissioned by Brakspear.

1.2 In accordance with the principles of NPPF12 (National Planning Policy Framework 2012) a programme of archaeological works, comprising strip, map and sample and watching brief, was required prior to, and during groundworks associated with a residential development.

1.3 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2013) and with IfA *Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Excavation/Watching Brief* (2011).

1.4 This document provides an assessment of the evidence recovered during the project and a programme to bring the results to publication. The assessment details the proposed publication format and content of the excavation report in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment - MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006).

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 The site is located on the western side of the historic core of Wallingford, on the eastern side of St. Georges Road and north of the High Street. The underlying geology is recorded as *River Terrace Gravels* with underlying *Chalk Marl* substrates (BGS on-line viewer). At the time of the fieldwork, the site comprised a car park, situated at approximately 48m OD.

2.2 The site has been the subject of archaeological investigations, undertaken by Foundations Archaeology, which comprised a desk-based assessment (2010) and a subsequent evaluation (2011). The results of these can be summarized as follows:

2.3 The site lies within an area of archaeological interest, located adjacent to the Scheduled Monument of Wallingford Town Saxon Defences (SM 234). The Saxon defences at this location are believed to have comprised a north-south aligned (outer) ditch with a parallel (inner) bank to the east, which would have formed the western defensive perimeter of the Burh. The West Gate through the Burh defences is located approximately 70m to the south of the site. The site was situated immediately west of the extant defensive bank, at the approximate postulated location of the defensive ditch. The desk-based assessment and evaluation also indicated a limited potential for the remains of later-Medieval and Post-medieval activity to be present within the site.

2.4 Planning permission (P11/W0363/FUL) was granted for the construction of two residential dwellings within the site. In light of the archaeological

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potential and in accordance with NPPF12, a condition was attached to the planning permission requiring a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample and watching brief prior to, and during the development groundworks.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Strip, Map and Sample

3.1.1 Areas 1 and 2 were mechanically reduced to an average depth of 0.82m (47.13m OD) below the Modern ground surface. All mechanical excavation was undertaken by use of a tracked 360º excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological direction.

3.1.2 All identified features and deposits were recorded in plan, prior to manual excavation.

3.1.3 Features such as pits, postholes and ditches/gullies were excavated in accordance with the sampling levels detailed in the WSI. The deposits presumed to be the upper in-fills of the postulated defensive ditch were investigated by the manual excavation of two sections; one within each area (Sections 001 and 008). These two sections constituted an approximate 10% sample of the available defensive ditch deposits. A further 'T-off' section (Section 003) was manually excavated in order to investigate a possible ditch terminus (Feature [1004]), which had been identified during the excavation of Section 001.

3.1.4 Spoil heaps were subjected to a visual and metal detector scan.

3.2 Watching Brief

3.2.1 The mechanical excavation of ring-beam foundation trenches was archaeologically monitored. The new-build pile foundations were rammed into the underlying deposits and, as such, were unlikely to reveal archaeological material. The on-site service trenches were excavated to levels well above archaeologically sensitive horizons. As such, the piling works and the service trench excavations were not archaeologically monitored.

3.3 All archaeological excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in the WSI and Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: *Excavation Manual*.

4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

4.1 A full stratigraphic description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is given in Appendix 1 and Figures 13 and 14, along with reports on the recovered pottery and charred plant remains in Appendices 2 and 3 and lists of the recovered bone and miscellaneous finds in Appendices 4 and 5.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Feature [1004]/[1041], along with features [1024] and [1027], were the stratigraphically earliest features within the excavation areas.

5.2 **Ditch 1**: Feature [1004]/[1041] consisted of a substantial linear feature, probably a large ditch, with a wide rounded profile (hereafter referred to as 'Ditch 1'). The ditch was only partially revealed within the excavation areas, but it was at least 17.5m long, 7m wide and 1.3m deep; although, due to the limited nature of the investigation, along with later truncation, it was difficult to estimate the original total depth of the ditch (Figures 4 and 12). Ditch 1 was cut into the natural gravel and chalk substrates on an approximately north – south alignment and, as such, was parallel with the extant Saxon Burh rampart to the east (Figure 6). The ditch terminated at the north, approximately 1.5m south of the Area 1 northern limit of excavation (Figures 4 and 9 – SEC 003).

5.2.1 Ditch 1 contained numerous layered fill deposits, which appeared to represent a gradual and piecemeal in-filling of the ditch. There was no evidence for any re-cutting events. Primary fill (1042) contained two sherds of Roman pottery, which were probably residual material. Other than this, the basal fills of the ditch contained a relative paucity of artefacts; fill (1005) contained animal bone, fill (1042) contained animal bone, as well as, two pieces of possible slag and fill (1044) contained a small amount of animal bone, along with some oyster shell. A mixture of residual later-Saxon, as well as Medieval pottery was recovered from the stratigraphically later ditch fills. Other artefacts recovered from the ditch included iron nail fragments, oyster shells, a tile fragment, a piece of burnt flint, a residual struck flint and part of a small metal cylinder.

5.2.2 The primary fills of Ditch 1 were poorly dated; however, the occurrence of Medieval pottery in its upper fills suggested that the ditch dated to the Medieval period or earlier. Its location and orientation suggested that it may represent part of a defensive ditch, which was related to the Saxon Burh. The ditch terminus at the north is, however, somewhat problematic in this regard, and may indicate that either the Saxon military earthworks are more complex than previously thought; or, the ditch may represent a relatively early alteration or addition to the Burh defences.

5.3 **Features [1024] and [1027]** were located immediately north of the terminus of Ditch 1 and were cut into the top of the natural gravels. They were only partially revealed within the excavation trench and were, therefore, difficult to interpret, although their morphology suggested that they may have represented relatively shallow pits or gullies. The features did not contain any artefacts and therefore remained undated; however, feature [1024] contained a secondary fill (1026), which was indistinguishable from a primary fill (1029) present within, and beyond, the end of the terminus of Ditch 1. This suggested that feature [1024] was contemporary with the earlier in-filling of Ditch 1, or possibly earlier. It is plausible that features [1024] and [1027] represented

activity associated with, or related to, the construction and/or use of Ditch 1. This hypothesis, however, remains untested.

5.4 **Bank 1**: Deposits (1014)/(1079) and (1054)/(1086) (hereafter referred to as 'Bank 1') comprised a substantial linear bank of chalk marl, with a domed upper profile, which was 23m long, 5m wide and up to approximately 1.4m in depth (Figures 9 – SECS 001 and 003, 10 – SEC 008, 11 – SECS 009 and 010). The bank had been deposited on top of the upper in-fills of Ditch 1, on a north – south alignment and, as such, was parallel with the extant Saxon Burh rampart to the east (Figure 7). Although the feature was only partially exposed, and had suffered a degree of later disturbance and truncation, it appeared that the bank had originally been constructed so that it gradually became more substantial to the south (Figure 12).

5.4.1 Bank 1 probably represented part of a secondary, outer defensive rampart, which may have been constructed to be more substantial towards the south, possibly to enhance the defences near the West Gate.

5.4.2 The bank was securely stratified above Ditch 1 in-fills which contained Medieval pottery; fills (1048) and (1051) contained pottery which provided a *terminus post quem* of 13th century or later for Bank 1.

5.5 **Ditch 2**: Feature [1018]/[1059] consisted of a substantial linear feature, probably a large ditch, with a steep, sloping eastern edge (hereafter referred to as 'Ditch 2'). Only the eastern edge of the ditch was present within the excavation area, but it was at least 22.5m long, 2.5m wide and 1.85m deep (Figures 4 and 12). Ditch 2 was aligned north – south and was parallel with the extant Saxon Burh rampart to the east, as well as St Georges Road immediately to the west (Figure 8). The part of the ditch that was present within the excavation area had been re-cut up to three times ([1064], [1090] and [1091]). The relative dimensions of the exposed part of the feature suggested that the majority of Ditch 2 was likely to be present beneath the pavement situated on the eastern side of St Georges Road.

5.5.1 Ditch 2 appeared to be stratigraphically late; parts of the ditch were cut into deposits (1035), (1056) and (1058) (Figures 4 and 11 – SECS 009 and 010), all of which were later than Bank 1. However, due to the multiple re-cuts associated with the ditch, the lack of a complete ditch profile within the excavation area and a relative paucity of datable finds from the excavated ditch fills, the earlier phases of Ditch 2 remained undated. Due to the uncertainties associated with the ditch, its function remained unknown.

5.6 A total of six pits [1020], [1022], [1033], [1068], [1070] and [1073], along with one posthole [1036], were present within the excavation area. They were all stratigraphically later than Bank 1 and fill (1021) of pit [1020] contained a sherd of Post-medieval pottery. It is most likely, therefore, that these features were the result of Post-medeival or Modern activity. The features were relatively dispersed, and there was no evidence that they formed any focus of activity or that they represented structural remains associated with a building.

5.7 The recovered finds assemblage included Roman, Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery, along with animal bone, oyster shell, CBM, a small number of metal artefacts and burnt flint. Two struck flints, recovered from contexts (1003) and (1048), represented limited evidence for Prehistoric activity in the general locale. A small amount of possible slag was recovered from fills (1042) and (1016) and the spoil heap; other than this, there was no evidence for industrial activity within the site.

5.8 **Watching Brief**: The ring-beam foundation trenches, which were excavated across the majority of the site area, did not penetrate beneath the previous archaeological excavation backfill into archaeologically sensitive horizons. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present within the monitored trenches.

6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

6.1 The strip, map and sample has excavated and recorded significant archaeological remains, including features and deposits almost certainly related to the Saxon Burh military earthworks located to the north of the West Gate.

6.2 Ditch 1 consisted of a substantial ditch, which was situated parallel with and west of the Saxon Burh rampart. The construction and primary use of the ditch was poorly dated, although on site evidence suggested that it was relatively early and, as such, probably represented part of an outer defensive ditch related to the rampart. The termination of the ditch at the north of the site was unexpected and suggested that either the Saxon military earthworks are more complex than previously thought; or, the ditch may represent a relatively early alteration or addition to the Burh defences.

6.3 Some poorly defined gully or pit-like features were present immediately north of Ditch 1. These were undated; however, they were stratigraphically early and were likely to have been open features during the earlier phases of Ditch 1. It is plausible that these features were related to the construction and/or use of Ditch 1.

6.4 Bank 1 comprised a substantial linear bank of chalk marl, which had been deposited on top of the upper in-fills of Ditch 1 and, as such, was parallel with the Saxon Burh rampart. The bank probably represented a military outwork to the rampart. It appeared that the bank had originally been constructed so that it gradually became more substantial to the south, which suggested that part of its function was to enhance the defences at the West Gate. Stratigraphic and artefactual evidence indicated that Bank 1 dated to the 13th century or later and, therefore, it must been seen as a later Medieval or later addition to the earlier Saxon military earthworks.

6.5 Ditch 2 comprised the eastern edge of a substantial ditch, which was situated parallel with the Saxon Burh rampart and west of Ditch 1 and Bank 1. The ditch was only partially present within the excavation area and, unfortunately

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remained undated; however, it was possible to demonstrate that it had been re-cut on at least three occasions.

6.6 The evidence from the archaeological fieldwork is significant and clearly warrants publication in a relevant journal. The following constitutes an assessment of the potential for further research, prior to publication:

i/ The construction and early use of Ditch 1 are poorly dated and it is therefore difficult to contextualise this feature in relation to the Saxon Burh and later activity. Radiocarbon C14 determinations from bone fragments recovered from fill (1042) have the potential to provide useful absolute dates for early/primary fills within Ditch 1;

ii/ There is a general lack of published pottery reports relating to material recovered from Wallingford. It is therefore recommended that the Saxon and Medieval pottery from the site is subjected to a more detailed analysis. Any pottery which provides a more refined *terminus post quem* for Bank 1 should be considered significant and, therefore, form a focus of any further research. The pottery publication report should, where necessary, contain appropriate illustrations;

iii/ Ditch 1 and feature [1024] contained environmental, and potential dating evidence, in the form of charred crop remains, wood charcoal and snail shells. A relatively high amount of intrusive root was noted in multiple deposits, including (1039), which was situated at the base of the deepest section (SEC 008) within the excavation area. In light of the potential for charred crop remains or wood charcoal to be intrusive, due to root action, it is suggested that none of this material be subjected to radiocarbon C14 determination;

iv/ The fills of Ditch 1 represent relatively poorly dated deposits, which were most likely dumped into the ditch as waste, and, as such are of uncertain provenance. Feature [1024] remained poorly defined and undated. Further analysis of the environmental and economic data recovered from Ditch 1 and Feature [1024] is not likely, therefore, to provide sufficiently precise information, both spatially and chronologically, relating to the local environment and economy. Deposits later than the fills of Ditch 1 appear unlikely to contain archaeologically significant environmental or economic data. No further work relating to the charred crop remains, wood charcoal, snail shells or bone is recommended;

v/ The features revealed at Cross Keys should be compared with the results of investigations elsewhere in Wallingford and will need to be contextualised in regard to the wider landscape setting, especially in relation to the Burh. Reference to the *Solent-Thames Research Framework* and *Wallingford: Burh to Borough Project* (2013) will be required.

7 NATURE OF THE RECORD

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

context sheets;
record sheets;
plans;
sections;
acetate sheets;
black and white photographs;
digital photographs;
site diary.

7.2 The following contexts types were represented:

ditch;
ditch re-cut;
bank;
pit/posthole/cut;
gully;
fill;
layer.

7.3 The methodologies used to recover this evidence were set out in the WSI. In summary the following excavation methods were utilised. A mechanical excavator was used to remove overburden onto the surface of archaeological deposits, thereafter an appropriate sample of selected deposits was removed by manual excavation. All contexts were recorded on a pro-forma context sheet and principal deposits were drawn in plan and section. These are available in the archive. Photographs were taken of all excavated features and sections.

7.4 Following the completion of the excavation, artefacts were appropriately conserved and an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with MoRPHE. All applied conservation methodologies are detailed in the archive.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

8.1 Of the specific objectives set out in the WSI, the following have been achieved:

i/ *to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site and date these where possible:* This has largely been achieved; however, Ditches 1 and 2 and Bank 1 are, at present, relatively poorly dated. The recommended further research (paragraph 6.6) may provide a more precise site chronology;

ii/ *to attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site:* This has been achieved;

iii/ *to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples:* This has been achieved;

iv/ *to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present:* This been achieved. The site is perceived to be of low potential for palaeoenvironmental and/or economic data;

v/ *to clarify the nature of the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval activity within the area and tie the results to applicable research agendas:* This has been partly achieved; the publication will need to refer to the relevant research agendas, as appropriate.

8.2 The results of the fieldwork justified the implementation of the strip, map and sample and watching brief programme and the site is of sufficient quality to warrant publication in a relevant archaeological journal. The following section presents a considered policy for dissemination of the results, achieving:

i/ the presentation of the results in a coherently synthesized and detailed format;

ii/ the deposition of an ordered and internally consistent archive with an appropriate museum.

9 PUBLICATION, PRESENTATION AND ARCHIVING

9.1 The following synopsis presents the proposed format for the final report:

Table of Contents

Abstract

Introduction
Background
Location and topography
Methodology

Excavated Evidence
Site chronology and brief summary of stratigraphic evidence

Synthesis
Discussion and Conclusion

Illustrations and Photographs

Acknowledgements
Bibliography
Appendices

9.2 The report should comprise approximately four-six pages of text illustrated with appropriate plans, photographs and sections, as well as appropriate appendices/specialist reports.

9.3 A full OASIS record, with attached report, will be created.

9.4 Additionally, a full report of the excavations will be posted on the Internet at the Foundations Archaeology website (http://www.foundations.co.uk).

9.5 The site archive for the project will be submitted to the National Monuments Record of English Heritage for security copying upon completion of the report.

9.6 The site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with an appropriate Museum.

10 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1 – STRATIGRAPHIC DATA

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
				AREA 1; 10.5m by 8.5m		
1001	10.5	8.5	0.08	Modern ground surface; Tarmac/gravel	1002	na
1002	10.5	8.5	0.3	Hardstanding; brick and stone rubble, clinker and soil.	1003	1001
1003	10.5	8.5	0.4	Mixed grey to green clay sand, which contained occasional	1014	1002
				brick and CBM fragments.		
[1004]	4.34	7.3	>1	Substantial cut with a sloping profile. Terminated at the	Natural	1005, 1029
				north. Not fully excavated. Equivalent to [1041].		
				Contained fills 1005 - 1017 and 1029, 1031 and 1032.		
1005	1.9	4.95	0.33	Fill of feature [1004]; mid grey brown silt gravel, which	[1004]	1006
				contained rare charcoal flecks.		
1006	?	1.85	0.46	Fill of feature [1004]; orange brown sand gravel, which	1005	1007
				contained rare charcoal flecks.		
1007	?	1.5	0.39	Fill of feature [1004]; mid brown clay sand gravel.	1006	1008
1008	?	1.95	0.19	Fill of feature [1004]; grey brown sand silt gravel, which	1007	1009
				contained rare charcoal flecks.		
1009	?	1.28	0.12	Fill of feature [1004]; dark brown black clay sand, which	1008	1010
				contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
1010	3.14	5.36	0.35	Fill of feature [1004]; mottled grey brown and orange	1009, 1032	1011
				silt sand, which contained occasional gravel.		
1011	?	2.36	0.42	Fill of feature [1004]; light grey silt sand, which	1010	1012, [1018]
				contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
1012	1.94	5.28	0.29	Fill of feature [1004]; dark brown clay sand silt, which	1011	1013
				contained occasional gravel and frequent charcoal flecks.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
1013	1.36	2.98	0.29	Fill of feature [1004]; mid grey gritty silt sand, which	1012	1014
				contained frequent gravel and occasional-rare charcoal		
				flecks.		
1014	5.98	4.28	0.7	Fill of feature [1004]; substantial deposit of light green beige chalk marl, which contained rare charcoal flecks.	1013, 1026, 1028, 1030	1015, 1017, 1003
1015	?	2.93	0.22	Fill of feature [1004]; grey clay sand silt, which contained	1014	1016
				occasional gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.		
1016	3.3	2.78	0.3	Fill of feature [1004]; orange brown clay sand gravel,	1015	[1020], [1022]
				which contained rare charcoal flecks.		
1017	?	1	0.33	Fill of feature [1004]; mid grey chalk marl sand, which	1014	1003
				contained occasional grit and occasional charcoal		
				flecks.		
[1018]	10.6	1.8	0.65	North - south aligned linear cut feature, possibly a ditch,	1011, 1078,	1019, 1076
				with an irregular, sloping profile. Contained fill 1019.	1077	
				Only partially revealed within the excavation area.		
1019	10.6	1.8	0.65	Fill of ditch [1018]; grey green soft chalk marl silt, which	[1018]	1003
				contained occasional charcoal flecks. Same as 1076.		
[1020]	0.85	0.7	0.39	Sub-square pit with near vertical sides and a flat base.	1016, 1078,	1021
				Contained fill 1021. Similar to pit [1022].	1079	
1021	0.85	0.7	0.39	Fill of pit [1020]; mid brown loose clay silt sand, which	[1020]	1003
				contained occasional charcoal flecks and occasional gravel.		
[1022]	0.7	0.63	0.37	Sub-square pit with near vertical sides and a flat base.	1016, 1078,	1023
				Contained fill 1023. Similar to pit [1020].	1079	
1023	0.7	0.63	0.37	Fill of pit [1022]; light orange brown gravel, with lenses of	[1022]	1003
				grey green chalk marl, which contained rare charcoal		
				flecks.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
[1024]	?	0.85	0.3	Cut feature with a rounded profile. Contained fills 1025	Natural	1025
				and 1026. Possibly associated with/equivalent to feature		
				[1027]. Only partially revealed within the excavation area.		
1025	?	0.58	0.15	Primary fill of feature [1024]; light brown loose silt gravel,	[1024]	1026
				which contained rare charcoal flecks.		
1026	?	0.85	0.2	Secondary fill of feature [1024]; mid brown soft clay sand,	1025	1014
				which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal		
				flecks. Equivalent to fill 1029.		
[1027]	1.05	0.56	0.25	Cut feature with a sloping profile. Contained fill 1028.	Natural	1028
				Possibly associated with/equivalent to feature [1024].		
				Only partially revealed within the excavation area.		
1028	1.05	0.56	0.25	Fill of feature [1027]; mid brown soft clay sand,	[1027]	1014
				which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal		
				flecks. Equivalent to fill 1030.		
1029	?	1.86	0.18	Fill of feature [1004]; mid brown soft clay sand, which	[1004]	1031
				contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
				Extended beyond the northern edge of feature [1004].		
1030	?	0.33	0.08	Deposit of mid brown soft clay sand, which contained	Natural	1014
				occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks. Occurred to		
				the south of feature [1027].		
1031	?	2.04	0.21	Fill of feature [1004]; brown clay sand, which contained	1029	1032
				rare gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
1032	?	1.5	0.12	Fill of feature [1004]; light brown grey clay sand marl,	1031	1010
				which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal		
				flecks.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
				Fills visible during pre-excavation planning:		
1076				Same as 1019. Equivalent to 1082.		
1077				Same as 1012.		
1078				Same as 1016. Equivalent to 1035.		
1079	10.65			Same as 1014. Equivalent to 1086.		
1080	5	1.25	?	Deposit of grey beige clay sand with flint. Recorded	1014	1003
				in plan only.		
1081				Same as 1017. Equivalent to 1087.		
				AREA 2; 12m by 8.5m		
[1033]	0.7	0.4	0.14	Sub-oval pit with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1034.	1086	1034
1034	0.7	0.4	0.14	Fill of pit [1033]; mid brown grey sand silt, which	[1033]	?
				contained occasional small stones.		
1035	4.8	3.8	?	Deposit of orange brown sand silt gravel, which contained	1085, 1086	[1036], [1059]
				occasional charcoal flecks. Equivalent to 1016 and 1078.		
[1036]	0.72	0.51	0.33	Sub-oval posthole with a steep, rounded profile.	1035	1037
				Contained post-packing fill 1037 and post-pipe 1038.		
1037	?	0.18	0.33	Post-packing fill within posthole [1036]; dark grey sand silt,	[1036]	1038
				which contained frequent small stones.		
1038	?	0.47	0.33	Post-pipe within posthole [1036]; red brown sand silt,	1037	?
				which contained occasional small stones.		
1039	?	1.25	0.18	Probable natural deposit of loose bright orange gravel.	na	[1041]
1040	?	0.57	0.15	Probable natural deposit of loose beige orange	na	[1041]
				gravel.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
[1041]	?	6	>1.65	Substantial cut with a wide, rounded profile.	natural,	1042, 1043
				Not fully excavated. Equivalent to [1004].	1039, 1040	
				Contained fills 1042 - 1054.		
1042	?	3.8	0.69	Fill of feature [1041]; mottled beige green to light tan	[1041]	1044
				brown soft clay sand gravel, which contained occasional		
				charcoal flecks. Contained deposit 1043.		
1043	?	1.68	0.23	Fill of feature [1041]; dark orange brown compact	[1041]	1044
				gravel, which contained occasional charcoal flecks.		
				Contained within deposit 1042.		
1044	?	2.35	0.31	Fill of feature [1041]; mid brown soft clay sand, which	1042, 1043	1045, 1049
				contained frequent gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.		
1045	?	1	0.3	Fill of feature [1041]; mid brown soft clay sand, which	1044	1046
				contained frequent small stones and rare charcoal flecks.		
1046	?	1.3	0.17	Fill of feature [1041]; mid orange brown soft clay sand,	1045	1047
				which contained frequent gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
1047	?	1.8	0.11	Fill of feature [1041]; mid brown soft sand silt, which	1046	1048
				contained frequent gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.		
1048	?	3.1	0.19	Fill of feature [1041]; dark brown compact clay sand, which contained occasional gravel	1047	1050
				and frequent charcoal flecks and lumps.		
1049	?	3	0.4	Fill of feature [1041]; dark grey brown soft clay sand,	1044	1050
				which contained occasional gravel and occasional		
				charcoal flecks.		
1050	?	4.02	0.3	Fill of feature [1041]; mid brown clay sand, which contained	1048, 1049	1051, [1059]
				occasional gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
1051	?	4.4	0.23	Fill of feature [1041]; dark brown grey soft clay silt sand,	1050	1052
				which contained occasional gravel and frequent charcoal		
				flecks.		
1052	?	3.16	0.2	Fill of feature [1041]; orange tan compact sand gravel.	1051	1053
1053	?	3.6	0.3	Fill of feature [1041]; light grey soft clay sand, which	1052	1054
				contained occasional to frequent gravel and rare charcoal		
				flecks.		
1054	?	4.76	1.4	Fill of feature [1041]; substantial deposit of light green beige chalk marl,	1053	[1070], 1056,
				which contained rare charcoal flecks.		1055
				Equivalent to 1014 and 1079.		
1055	?	0.78	0.27	Layer of mid brown soft clay sand, which contained	1054	[1066]
				occasional small stones and occasional charcoal flecks.		
1056	?	2.4	1.2	Deposit of grey brown loose silt sand, which contained	1054	1057, 1058,
				frequent patches of loose light pink ash material and		[1059]
				frequent charcoal flecks, as well as occasional gravel.		
1057	?	1.42	0.14	Deposit of mixed orange to dark brown soft clay sand,	1056	[1073]
				which contained occasional gravel and grit, as well as		
				rare charcoal flecks.		
1058	?	2.5	0.24	Deposit of mixed orange to dark brown soft clay sand,	1056	[1059]
				which contained occasional gravel and grit, patches of		
				light grey re-deposited chalk natural, as well as		
				rare charcoal flecks. Equivalent to 1057.		
[1059]	12	2.5	1.85	Substantial north-south aligned cut feature with a steep,	1050, 1056,	1060, 1061
				sloping edge. Only part of the eastern edge of this feature	1058	
				was present within the excavation area. Equivalent to feature [1018].		
				Contained fills 1060 and 1061.		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
1060	?	0.72	0.47	Fill of feature [1059]; dark grey soft clay silt, which	[1059]	1061
				contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
1061	?	0.78	0.69	Fill of feature [1059]; mixed light grey/dark green to dark	1060	[1090]
				brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel		
				and occasional charcoal flecks.		
1062	?	1.5	1.4	Fill of re-cut [1090]; dark grey green soft clay silt, which	[1090]	[1064], [1091]
				contained occasional gravel.		
1063	?	0.67	0.8	Fill of re-cut [1091]; light grey green soft clay silt, which	[1091]	[1064]
				contained rare gravel.		
[1064]	?	1.75	1.37	Re-cut of feature [1059] with a steep, sloping eastern edge.	1062, 1063	1065
				Contained fill 1065.		
1065	?	1.75	1.37	Fill of re-cut [1064]; mottled brown green soft clay silt,	[1064]	[1066]
				which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks.		
[1066]	?	7.83	0.43	Levelling cut. Contained fill 1067.	1055, 1065	1067
1067	?	7.83	0.43	Fill of [1066]; dark brown compact clay sand, with frequent stone,	[1066]	[1068]
				frequent charcoal flecks and frequent brick and CBM.		
[1068]	?	0.6	0.47	Cut feature, probably a pit, with near vertical sides and a	1067	1069
				round base. Contained fill 1069.		
1069	?	0.6	0.47	Fill of pit [1068]; brown soft clay sand, which contained	[1068]	1075
				occasional lumps of grey green chalk marl and occasional		
				charcoal flecks.		
[1070]	3.15	1.25	>0.48	Sub-rectangular pit with a near vertical profile. Contained	1054, 1067	1071
				fills 1071 and 1072. Possibly related to [1073].		

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
1071	2.88	?	0.36	Fill of pit [1070]; grey beige loose clay sand, which	[1070]	1072
				contained frequent lumps of chalk marl and occasional		
				charcoal flecks.		
1072	3.15	1.25	0.44	Fill of pit [1070]; mid brown clay sand, which contained	1071	?
				occasional stone.		
[1073]	2.4	1.15	0.25	Sub-rectangular/oval pit with sloping sides. Contained	1057, 1062,	1074
				fill 1074.	1067	
1074	2.4	1.15	0.25	Fill of pit [1073]; mid brown loose clay sand, which	[1073]	?
				contained occasional stones and frequent roots.		
1075	12	8.5	0.25	Modern ground surface; Tarmac with an underlying layer	1069	na
				of gravel and brick rubble.		
[1090]	?	1.25	1.15	Re-cut of feature [1059] with a steep, sloping eastern edge.	1061	1062
				Contained fill 1062.		
[1091]	?	0.6	0.85	Re-cut of feature [1059] with a steep, sloping eastern edge.	1062	1063
				Contained fill 1063.		
1092	?					
				Fills visible during pre-excavation planning:		
1082	11.15	2	?	Fill of [1059] and re-cuts; grey green clay sand.	[1059]	[1066]
				equivalent/similar to fills 1061, 1062, 1063 and 1065.		
				Equivalent to fills 1019 and 1076.		
1083	2.2	3	?	Probably same as 1056.		
1084	2	2.4	?	Probably same as 1051.		
1085	3.75	3.5	?	Deposit of mid green marl.	1086	1035

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Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description	Later than	Earlier than
1086	11.1	5	?	Same as 1054. Equivalent to 1079.		1085, 1087,
						[1033], 1088,
						1083
1087	4.1	1.5	?	Deposit of light grey clay sand chalk, which contained	1086	
				occasional CBM fragments.		
1088	1.4	0.65	?	Same as 1055.	1086	
1089	3	2	?	Deposit of orange brown gritty sand and gravel, which	1084, 1085,	
				contained occasional brick and tile fragments.	1086	

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APPENDIX 2 – THE POTTERY

By Jane Timby

Introduction

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of 134 sherds of pottery weighing 2426 g, largely dating to the late Saxon and Medieval periods. There are two sherds of Roman and a single Post-medieval piece also present.

Pottery was recovered from 20 recorded contexts, with two unratified sherds from Area 2.

The condition of the assemblage was moderately good in that the average sherd size is 18 g which suggests material that has not suffered on-going disturbance. This aside, there does appear to be a few re-deposited sherds present in what mainly appear to be Medieval layers.

The assemblage was sorted into broad fabric types and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded contexts. The resulting data is summarised in Table 1.

No detailed research has been carried out into precisely provenancing the sherds other than in general terms or seeking parallels with material previously excavated from Wallingford.

Roman

Two sherds from an Oxfordshire colour-coated flanged bowl (Young 1977, type C51) were recovered from fill (1042); the lower-most layer in ditch [1041]. The vessel had white-painted decoration on the flange and is a form current in the period AD 240-400.

Late Saxon

One handmade sherd from (1013) appears to conform to Mellor (1994) fabric OXBF. This is a coarse flint-tempered ware with rounded grains of quartz sand. In addition there are a few sherds with a calcareous temper with grains of limestone and fossil material with rare flint and quartz sand. These appear in two grades; a coarser and finer variant. The material appears quite distinct from the medieval wares proper and may tentatively be regarded as late Saxon in date.

In addition there are two rim-sherds from a black sandy ware cooking pot with a finger-tipped rim surface from (1051). The vessel can be directly paralleled with similar examples from Faccombe Netherton, Hampshire (Fairbrother 1990, fig. 8.15.101-04) which were noted as not conforming to any established late Saxon or Medieval pottery scheme (ibid 295) and could not be paralleled at the time. Based on

the stratigraphic occurrence of the form at Faccombe Netherton a date in the late 10th or perhaps 11th century was suggested.

A worn sherd of what appears to be a flat basesherd from a thick-walled handmade vessel in a black sandy fabric ware present in (1016) which could be late Saxon or earlier.

Medieval

Most of the assemblage appears to date to the Medieval period. The wares are dominated by a moderately fine, unglazed sandy ware, mainly plain but with 15 glazed pieces. Most of the pieces, although not all, fall into the category of material referred to as Wallingford ware (Mellor 1994, fabric WA 38). This is generally dated from the later 11th through to the mid-late 13th century. A few sherds may belong to other broadly contemporary wares in the quartz sand tradition found in the region but these appear to be very much in the minority.

The vessels include both handmade, but mainly wheel-made forms. Most of the plain wares appear to be from jars / cooking pots including one example with a thumb-pressed rim from (1012). The glazed wares include at least two pitchers from (1013) with rouletting and applied vertical thumbed clay strips.

One jar from (1056) has an internal calcareous lining from holding or heating water.

Accompanying the sandy wares are a few sherds in a flint and quartz sand-tempered ware equating the Newbury fabric A group (Vince 1997, 46). These wares were probably current from the early 11th century continuing into the 12th century. There are also a few sherds of sand-, flint- and limestone-tempered ware falling into Newbury Group B (ibid, 51) thought to have a source in the Kennet Valley. The sherds include jars, one with calcareous lining, and at least one dish from (1048). The ware appears in the 12th century and was particularly common in the region in the 13th-14th centuries. There is also a single basesherd of probable Minety ware, Wiltshire, from (1003) which is generally dated from the later 12th through to the 15th century.

Post-medieval

A single sherd of English stoneware dating to the later 19th or early 20th century came from layer (1021).

Distribution

Most of the pottery recovered came from the two sections across the ditch [1004/1041] with 38 sherds from the former and 70 from the latter, 80.6% of the total recovered assemblage.

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The remaining sherds came from six other contexts with the largest number, 14 sherds from deposit (1056) and smaller groups or single sherds from cuts [1018], [1022]. [1059] and [1065] and from the overburden (1003).

Potential and further work

It is likely that the wares present are largely of local origin and can be paralleled with material already excavated from Wallingford, although unfortunately most of this remains unpublished. Wallingford appears to have been supplied by its own pottery sources and has little in common with other contemporary sites such as Oxford or Abingdon (Maureen Mellor pers. comm.).

Although it is likely that there is some pre-conquest material present some of the fabrics are very similar and may continue or date to the post-conquest period. Stratigraphically the lowest horizon in ditch [1041] with pottery produced a sherd of later Roman ware which is presumably residual. The next deposit with pottery is (1048) which produced two sherds which include a sherd of Medieval sandy ware and a Newbury B-type suggesting a date in or after the 13th century. A large collection of material came from deposit (1051) with 56 sherds most of which appear to be Wallingford ware with some potential late Saxon sherds but again with a *terminus post quem* in the 13-14th century. Of note is the unusual cooking pot paralleled with the examples from Faccombe Netherton.

The earliest pottery from cut [1004] came from fill (1010) with two sherds of Wallingford ware again suggesting a likely Medieval date.

It would seem therefore that the ditch is late-Saxon - Medieval in date. Given the lack of publication for Wallingford, the group may be worth publishing a more detailed analysis if work proceeds.

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Table 1: The pottery from Cross Keys

Context	Descrip	Roman	?late Saxon			medieval					Pmed	Unknown	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date (tpq)
			flint	calcar	sand	New A	New B	Minety	sandy	glazed					
1003	overburden	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	163	med
1010	fill of 1004	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	28	med
1011	fill of 1004	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	36	late Sx/med
1012	fill of 1004	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	9	2	0	0	14	220	med
1013	fill of 1004	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	7	4	0	1	16	219	med
1014	fill of 1004	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	48	med
1015	fill of 1004	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	46	med
1016	fill of 1004	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	?late Saxon
1019	fill of 1018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	12	med
1021	fill of 1022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	post-med
1042	fill of 1041	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	23	240-400
1048	fill of 1041	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	23	med
1050	fill of 1041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	50	med
1051	fill of 1041	0	0	7	2	2	1	0	35	9	0	0	56	945	med
1052	fill of 1041	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	6	75	med
1053	fill of 1041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7	med
1054	fill of 1041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9	med
1056	deposit	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	12	0	0	0	14	393	med
1061	fill of 1059	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	57	med
1065		0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	33	med
Area 2	unstrat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	18	med
Total		**2**	**1**	**18**	**3**	**5**	**5**	**1**	**81**	**15**	**1**	**1**	**134**	**2426**	

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APPENDIX 3 – THE CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

By Ellen Simmons

Introduction

Excavations carried out by Foundations Archaeology at Cross Keys, Wallingford revealed a series of ditch fills probably dating to the late Saxon or Medieval periods. Flotation samples were taken from context (1025), the basal fill of cut [1024], context (1005), one of the fills of large ditch feature [1004] as well as contexts (1039), (1042), (1043), (1044), (1048) and (1049), which are all fills of ditch feature [1041], equivalent to ditch feature [1004] (Ditch 1). These samples were taken in order to determine the concentration, diversity, state of preservation and suitability for use in radiocarbon dating, of any archaeobotanical material present. A further aim of this assessment was to evaluate the potential of this material to provide evidence for the function of the contexts, the economy of the site or for the nature of the local environment.

Recovery, processing and laboratory methods

The flotation samples were processed for charred plant remains and wood charcoal by GeoFlo Southwest Geophysical and Flotation Services using a water separation machine. Floating material was collected in a 250µm mesh, and the remaining heavy residue retained in a 1mm mesh. The flots and heavy residues were air dried.

The samples were assessed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines for environmental archaeology assessments (Jones, 2011). A preliminary assessment of the samples was made by scanning under a low power binocular microscope (x7-x45) and recording the abundance of the main classes of material present. Preliminary identification of plant material was carried out by comparison with material in the author's own reference collection and various reference works (e.g. Berggren, 1981; Anderberg, 1994; Cappers *et al*, 2006). Cereal identifications and nomenclature follow Jacomet (2006). Other plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010). The composition of the samples is recorded below in Table 1.

Preservation

A relatively high proportion of intrusive roots were present in sample 2 from context (1025), sample 3 from context (1039) and sample 6 from context (1049) indicating an increased likelihood that some charred material present in these samples may be intrusive, particularly in the case of deposits where a lower density of charred plant material was present.

Preservation of charred cereal grains was somewhat poor, with the majority of grains exhibiting puffing and distortion and retaining only fragments of epidermis. Preservation of wood charcoal was good, with no vitrified charcoal fragments noted as present and little evidence of mineralisation, whereby mineral deposits penetrate into the vessels of the wood charcoal fragments, obscuring morphological characteristics and potentially hampering identification.

Charred plant material

Charred cereal grains and wild or weed plant seeds were present in varying densities in all eight of the assessed samples. Less than five identifiable items of crop material and less than five wild or weed plant seeds were present in sample 2 from context (1025), sample 3 from context (1039) and sample 4 from context (1043). Sample 1 from context (1005) contained over thirty cereal grains morphologically similar to bread / club type wheat but little other charred material was present. Sample 6 from context (1049) contained between thirty and fifty items of identifiable crop material and identifiable wild or weed plant seeds. Sample 5 from context (1042), sample 7 from context (1044) and sample 8 from context (1048)

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contained over one hundred items of identifiable crop material and between thirty and fifty wild or weed plant seeds.

The majority of cereal grains in samples 5, 6, 7 and 8 were morphologically similar to bread / club type wheat (*Triticum aestivo-compactum*). Charred rachis nodes identified as probable bread wheat (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*) were present in small amounts in samples 5, 7 and 8 indicating the bread / club wheat grains are likely to represent bread wheat. Barley grains were also relatively abundant with a small quantity of twisted barley grains noted in sample 7 indicating the presence of the 'six-row' barley type. Pea and large seeded legumes were present in samples 1, 6, 7 and 8. Fragments of charred hazel nutshell (*Corylus avellana*) were present in samples 2 and 8.

Charred wild or weed plant seeds include poppy (*Papaver* sp.) vetch / pea (*Vicia / Lathyrus*), clover / medick (*Trifolium / Medicago*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), mallow (*Malva* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), docks (*Rumex* spp.), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* spp.), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), plantain (*Plantago* sp.) hawkweed oxtongue (*Picris hieracioides*) stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), rushes (*Juncus* spp.) sedge (*Carex* sp.), brome / rye grass (*Bromus / Lolium*), and grasses (Poaceae).

Wood charcoal

Wood charcoal fragments were present in all of the samples, although only sample 7 from ditch fill (1044) and sample 8 from ditch fill (1048) contained more than one hundred fragments greater than 2mm in size. The majority of wood charcoal fragments were noted as being of diffuse porous taxa although some ring porous taxa was also noted. Further identification of the range of woody taxa utilised as fuel would require identification using high power microscopy.

Discussion and recommendations for further work.

Charred crop material associated with charred wild or weed plant seeds is generally most likely to represent waste from crop processing, which is mixed with cereal grains charred accidentally during grain drying or food preparation and deposited in the fills of features. The presence of seeds from a number of typical weeds of crops in association with crop material indicates that the wild plant seeds are likely to have been harvested along with the crops. The presence of seeds of rushes and sedge may therefore indicate the cultivation of damp soils or wet field ditches. Other sources of charred plant remains however include waste roofing or flooring material, turves, kindling and animal fodder and as such the seeds of rushes and sedge may not represent crop weeds. The seeds of buttercup, plantain and hawkweed oxtongue also suggest the possible presence of plant taxa commonly associated with grassland or pasture, although further sorting and identification of the charred assemblage would be necessary in order to investigate this. Collection of wild food resources is indicated by the presence of small amounts of charred hazelnut shell.

The crop types represented in the archaeobotanical assemblage from Cross Keys are typical for those recovered at sites of Saxon and Medieval date in Southern England, such as at the nearby Saxon and Medieval settlement site at Yarnton in Oxfordshire (Stevens, 2004, 351-360). Free threshing wheat replaces spelt wheat as the most frequently occurring crop type in England at some point between the late Roman and Anglo Saxon period. Six row hulled barley, oats and rye are also important crops with differences in the range of crop types represented between urban and rural sites (Green 1994, 85). It is often not possible, as at Yarnton, to determine whether oat grains represent a cultivated crop or a weed due to a lack of diagnostic chaff. Legumes are frequently present, and may have had similar importance as in the later Medieval period, although the frequent poor preservation of legume remains means hampers the assessment of the importance of legumes as a crop (Green 1994, 86). Hazel nuts are also frequently represented (Green 1994, 87) indicating the utilisation of wild food resources.

It has been argued that the adoption of bread wheat as a principle crop during the Anglo Saxon period onwards may be related to agricultural intensification (Jones 1981, 107). Bread wheat requires a greater input of fertiliser than other wheat and is less tolerant of competition by weeds. The wild or weed plant taxa represented in the samples are also typical of those present in Saxon and Medieval charred plant assemblages. The presence of stinking mayweed in particular is characteristic of Roman and later charred plant assemblages and the increased presence of this species has also been related to the expansion of agriculture on to heavier clay soils, as has the presence of taxa commonly associated with damp soils such as rushes and sedges (Jones 1981, 111).

Full identification and analysis of the charred plant remains present in sample 5 from context (1042), sample 6 from context (1049), sample 7 from context (1044) and sample 8 from context (1048) would therefore be recommended in order to provide a fully quantified record of the crop types present including those present at low density which may have been missed during preliminary scanning. In addition, the full identification of the charred wild or weed plant seeds, including the potential recovery of seeds missed during preliminary scanning, would be expected to provide information concerning land use, crop husbandry and harvesting practices as well as information concerning the local environment.

Wood charcoal assemblages of Saxon and early Medieval date in Southern England are relatively sparse and debate surrounds the extent of woodland regeneration following the Roman period (Smith 2002, 32-35). Full analysis of the wood charcoal assemblage present in sample 7 from context (1044) and sample 8 from context (1048) would therefore be recommended in order to provide a complete list of taxa used as fuel. This analysis would be expected to provide evidence concerning the availability of local woodland in the region as well as the utilization and possible management of wood for fuel.

Between fifty and one hundred land snail shells (Mollusca) were present in sample 1 from context (1005), sample 2 from context (1025) and sample 5 from context (1042). It would be recommended that these samples be assessed by a Molluscan specialist in order to evaluate the potential of the Molluscan assemblage to contribute palaeoenvironmental evidence for the nature of the local environment.

Charred material suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in samples 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in the form of charred cereal grains, which are particularly suitable for use in dating due to their short life. Wood charcoal with strong ring curvatures and therefore representative of round wood, was also present in samples 7 and 8. The cereal grain or round wood present in samples 7 and 8 would be the most suitable material for use in dating due to the high density of charred material and low proportion of intrusive roots present in these samples. Should any cereal grain or wood charcoal be utilised for dating purposes, full identification and recording of the material would be recommended.

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Appendix – Tables

Table 1

Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet								
SITE: Cross Keys, Wallingford								
CONTEXT NUMBER	**1005**	**1025**	**1039**	**1043**	**1042**	**1049**	**1044**	**1048**
FEATURE NUMBER	**1004**	**1024**		**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 equiv 1004**	**1041 equiv 1004**
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	**001**	**002**	**003**	**004**	**005**	**006**	**007**	**008**
CONTEXT TYPE	Basal ditch fill	fill	natural? Beneath ditch feature 1041	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill
PROVISIONAL DATE	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med
SAMPLE VOLUME (litres)	33	32	15	61	137	42	52	37
Charred plant material (*key - = < 5 items, + = > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items.)								
CROP MATERIAL*								

Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet								
SITE: Cross Keys, Wallingford								
CONTEXT NUMBER	**1005**	**1025**	**1039**	**1043**	**1042**	**1049**	**1044**	**1048**
FEATURE NUMBER	**1004**	**1024**		**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 equiv 1004**	**1041 equiv 1004**
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	**001**	**002**	**003**	**004**	**005**	**006**	**007**	**008**
CONTEXT TYPE	Basal ditch fill	fill	natural? Beneath ditch feature 1041	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill
PROVISIONAL DATE	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med
SAMPLE VOLUME (litres)	33	32	15	61	137	42	52	37
Oat grain (*Avena* sp.)						-	++	+
Probable oat grain (cf. *Avena* sp.)						-	++	++
Barley grain (*Hordeum* sp.)	-			-	+		++	++
Barley grain (*Hordeum* sp.) hulled						-	++	++
Barley grain (*Hordeum* sp.) hulled twisted							+	
Barley rachis node (*Hordeum* sp.)			-					
Rye grain (Secale cereale)				-	++		++	
Rye rachis internode (Secale cereale)					-	-	-	+
Bread / club wheat type grain (*Triticum aestivo-compactum* type)	-				+++	++	++++	++++
Probable bread / club wheat grain (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*)	+++				++	+	++++	++++
Probable bread wheat rachis node (*Triticum* cf. *aestivum*)					-		++	+
Wheat grain indet. (*Triticum* sp.)	+	-	-		++	+		+++
Wheat glume base indet. (*Triticum* sp.)		-	-					
Pea (*Pisum* sp.)							+	++
Large seeded legume	-					-		+
Culm node					-	+	+	+++
Culm base							-	++
Total identifiable crop material	+++	-	-	-	+++++	+++	+++++	+++++
WILD / WEED PLANT MATERIAL*								
Poppy (*Papaver* spp.)					-			

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Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet								
SITE: Cross Keys, Wallingford								
CONTEXT NUMBER	**1005**	**1025**	**1039**	**1043**	**1042**	**1049**	**1044**	**1048**
FEATURE NUMBER	**1004**	**1024**		**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 equiv 1004**	**1041 equiv 1004**
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	**001**	**002**	**003**	**004**	**005**	**006**	**007**	**008**
CONTEXT TYPE	Basal ditch fill	fill	natural? Beneath ditch feature 1041	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill
PROVISIONAL DATE	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med
SAMPLE VOLUME (litres)	33	32	15	61	137	42	52	37
Vetch / pea (*Vicia / Lathyrus*)						-		+
Clover / medick / (*Trifolium* / *Medicago*)					-			
Buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.)							+	-
Mallow (*Malva* sp.)							-	
Black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*)					-		-	-
Docks (*Rumex* spp.)						-	-	++
Pink family (Caryophyllaceae)							-	
Goosefoots (*Chenopodium* spp.)			-	-	-		+++	
Probable cleavers (*Galium* cf. *aparine*)		-				-		+
Plantain (*Plantago* spp.)							-	
Daisy family (Asteraceae)		-	-				-	++
Hawkweed oxtongue (*Picris hieracioides*)						-		
Stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*)					+++	+++	+++	++
Carrot family (Apiaceae)							-	
Rushes (*Juncus* spp.)					-	-		
Sedge (*Carex* sp.)							++	+
Brome / rye grass (*Bromus / Lolium*)							+	+
Small seeded grass (<2mm Poaceae)					-	-	++	
Large seeded grass (>2mm Poaceae)							++	+
Unidentified wild seed						-	+	++
Total identifiable wild / weed plant material		**-**	**-**	**-**	+++	+++	++++	+++
NON SEED PLANT MATERIAL*								
Hazel nutshell (*Corylus avellana* L.)		-						+

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Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet								
SITE: Cross Keys, Wallingford								
CONTEXT NUMBER	**1005**	**1025**	**1039**	**1043**	**1042**	**1049**	**1044**	**1048**
FEATURE NUMBER	**1004**	**1024**		**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 (equiv 1004)**	**1041 equiv 1004**	**1041 equiv 1004**
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	**001**	**002**	**003**	**004**	**005**	**006**	**007**	**008**
CONTEXT TYPE	Basal ditch fill	fill	natural? Beneath ditch feature 1041	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill
PROVISIONAL DATE	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med	Late Saxon / Early Med
SAMPLE VOLUME (litres)	33	32	15	61	137	42	52	37
> 2mm wood charcoal fragments	++	++			++	+++	+++++	+++++
> 2mm round wood charcoal								
> 2mm vitrified charcoal								
Charred sugar / starch rich material		-						
Charred organic amalgam					-			-
Intrusive plant material / non-plant material (- = < 5 items, + = > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items.)								
% Intrusive roots	5	80	80	20	50	60	2	0
Non – charred wild plant seeds			-	+	+++			
Land snail shells (Mollusca)	++++	++++		+	++++	++	+++	+
Fish scale		1						
Metallurgical debris								
Sample summary information								
Further analysis of charred plant material	×	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	✓
Further analysis of wood charcoal	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	✓
Charred material suitable for C14 dating	✓	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	✓
Retain flots	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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APPENDIX 4 – THE BONE

Identification by Natasha Moakes

cxt no	no frags	human/animal	skeletal areas represented	suggested species
1005	4	undiagnostic	4 x long bone	N/A
1010	6	animal	5 x long bone	domestic cat/dog, domestic goat/sheep
1011	1	animal	rib	bird/rabbit
1012	26	animal	6 x skull/tooth, 3 x vertebral, 11 x long bone, 3 x pelvic, 2 x unidentified	domestic cattle, bird(chicken?), pig/boar, goat/sheep
1013	28	animal	10x skull, 9 x long bone, 4 x thoracic, 5 x unidentified	domestic cattle, domestic sheep/goat
1015	6	animal	1 x skull, 1 x tooth, 1 x vertebral, 1 x long bone, 2 x unidentified	domestic cattle, sheep/goat/deer
1016	4	animal	1 x rib, 2 x long bone, 1 x unidentified	N/A
1042	3	undiagnostic	3 x unidentified	N/A
1044	2	animal	2 x long bone	N/A
1048	2	animal	2 x long bone	domestic cattle

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cxt no	no frags	human/animal	skeletal areas represented	suggested species
1050	2	animal	1 x vertebral, 1 x flat bone (scapula?)	N/A
1051	76	animal	12 x skull, 18 x thoracic, 8 x pelvis/scapula, 29 x long bone, 7 x unidentified	domestic cattle, deer, dog, chicken, goat/sheep
1052	8	animal	4 x long bone, 2 x flat bone, 1 x rib, 1 x unidentified	domestic sheep/goat
1053	2	animal	1 x horn core, 1 x metapodial	domestic sheep/goat
1054	13	animal	7 x long bone, 5 x skull/teeth, 1 x rib	domestic cattle, domestic sheep/goat
1056	1	animal	1 x rib	domestic cattle or large deer
1061	7	animal	1 x skull, 3 x long bone, 1 x vertebral, 1 x rib, 1 x unidentified	domestic cattle

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APPENDIX 5 – MISCELLANEOUS FINDS

Context	Description
1003	1 x struck flint
1003	1 x CBM fragment
1012	1 x Fe nail fragment?
1012	1 x tile fragment
1014	1 x oyster shell fragment
1014	1 x CBM fragment
1016	1 x copper artefact fragment - top/neck of small bottle or vessel
1016	3 x possible slag fragments
1019	1 x CBM fragment
1021	1 x oyster shell fragment
1021	1 x CBM fragment
1032	1 x Fe nail fragment?
1042	2 x possible slag fragments
1044	1 x oyster shell fragment
1048	1 x struck flint
1051	12 x oyster shell fragment
1051	1 x burnt flint
1051	1 x fragment of metal (Fe) cylinder
1053	1 x oyster shell fragment
U/S metal detection	2 x possible slag fragments

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FIGURE 1: Site Location

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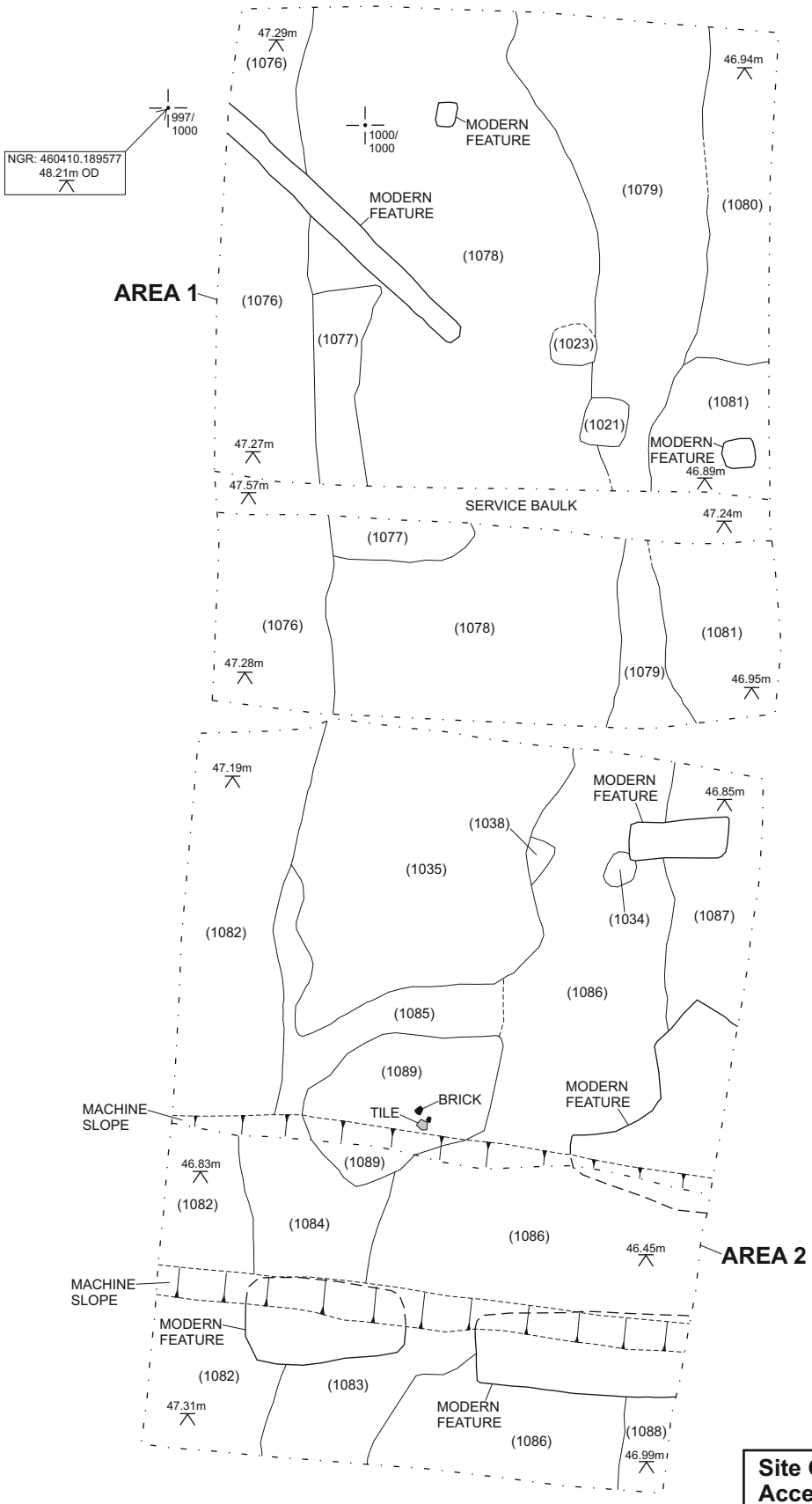
0m 40m

FIGURE 2: Area Locations



Site Code: CKW13
Accession Code:

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0m 4m

FIGURE 3: Areas 1 and 2; Pre-excavation Plans

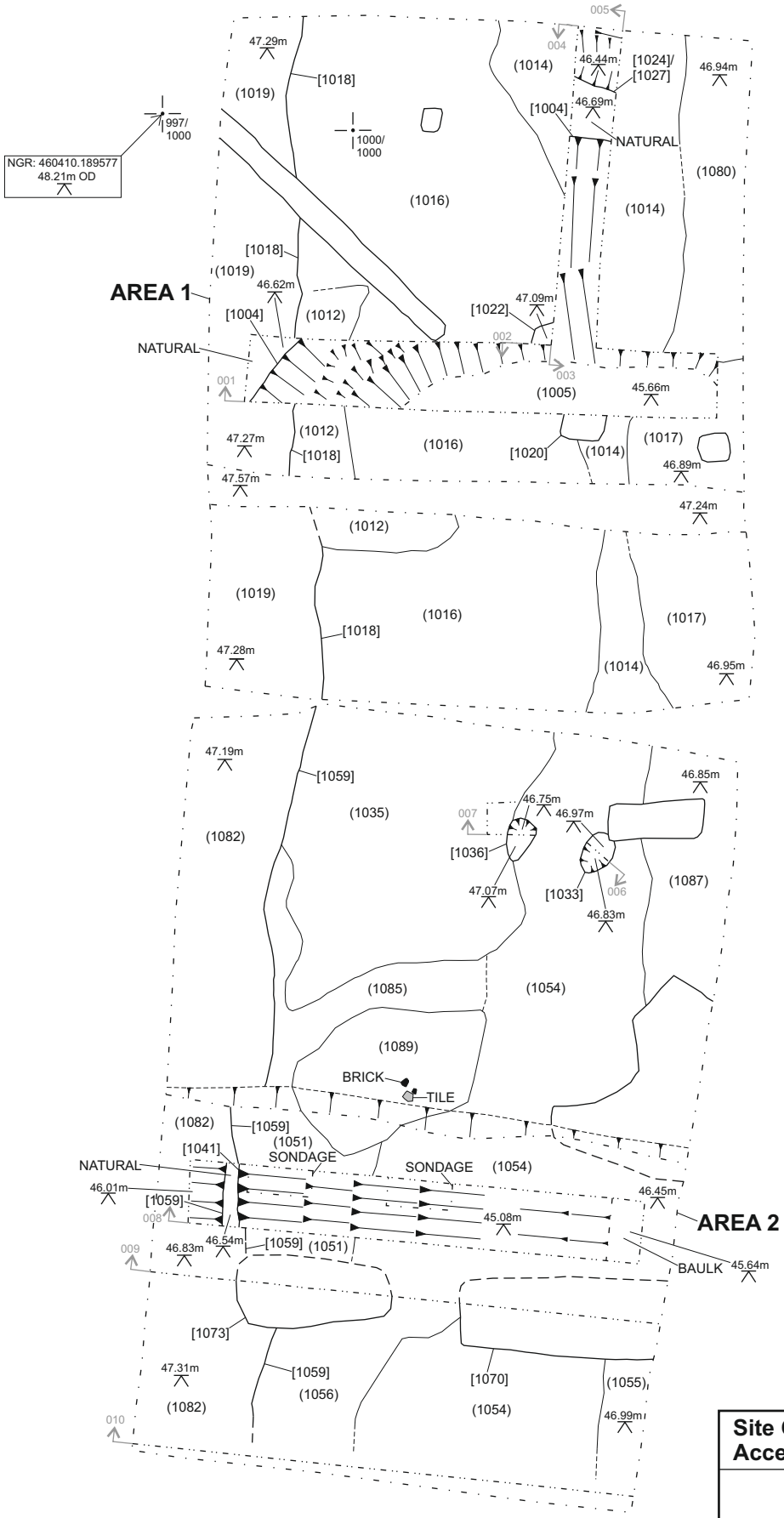

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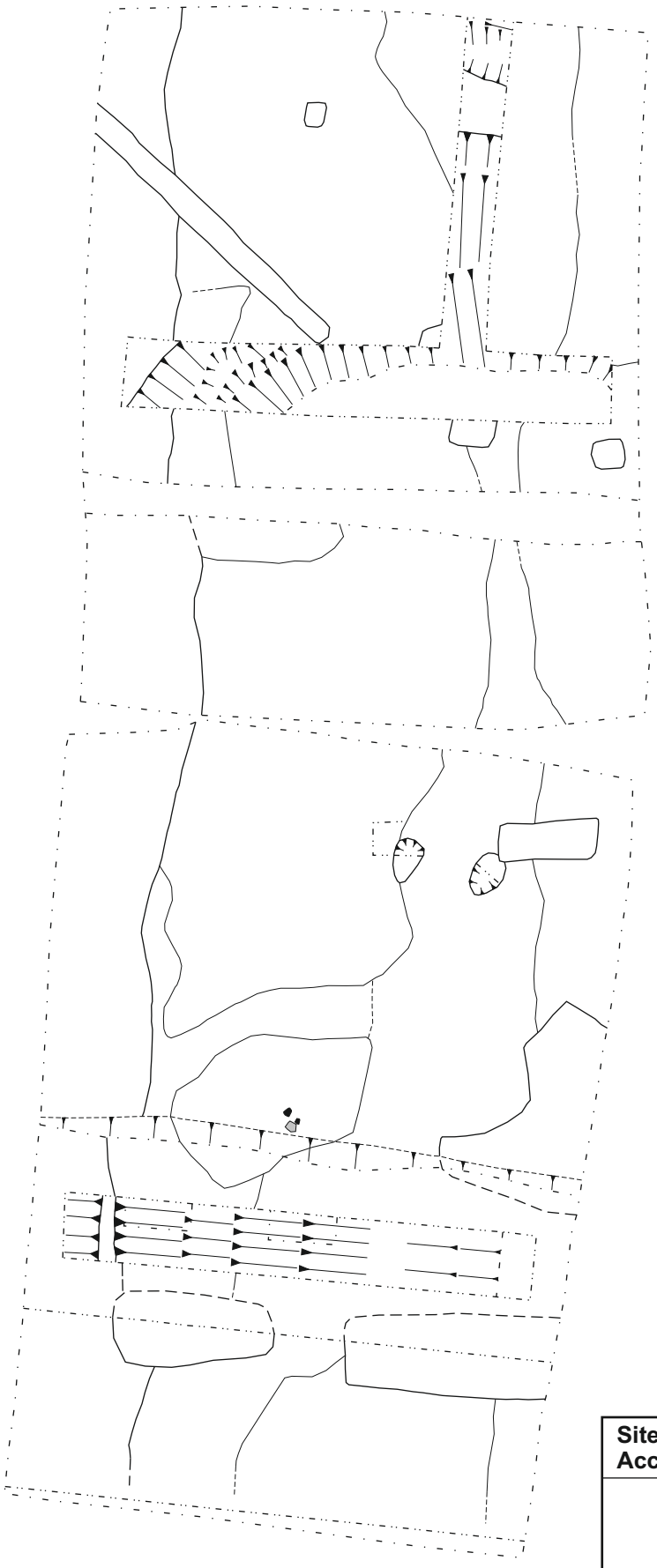
FIGURE 4: Areas 1 and 2; Post-excavation Plans



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Accession Code:

N

0m 4m

FIGURE 5: Areas 1 and 2; Post-excavation Plans (no labels)

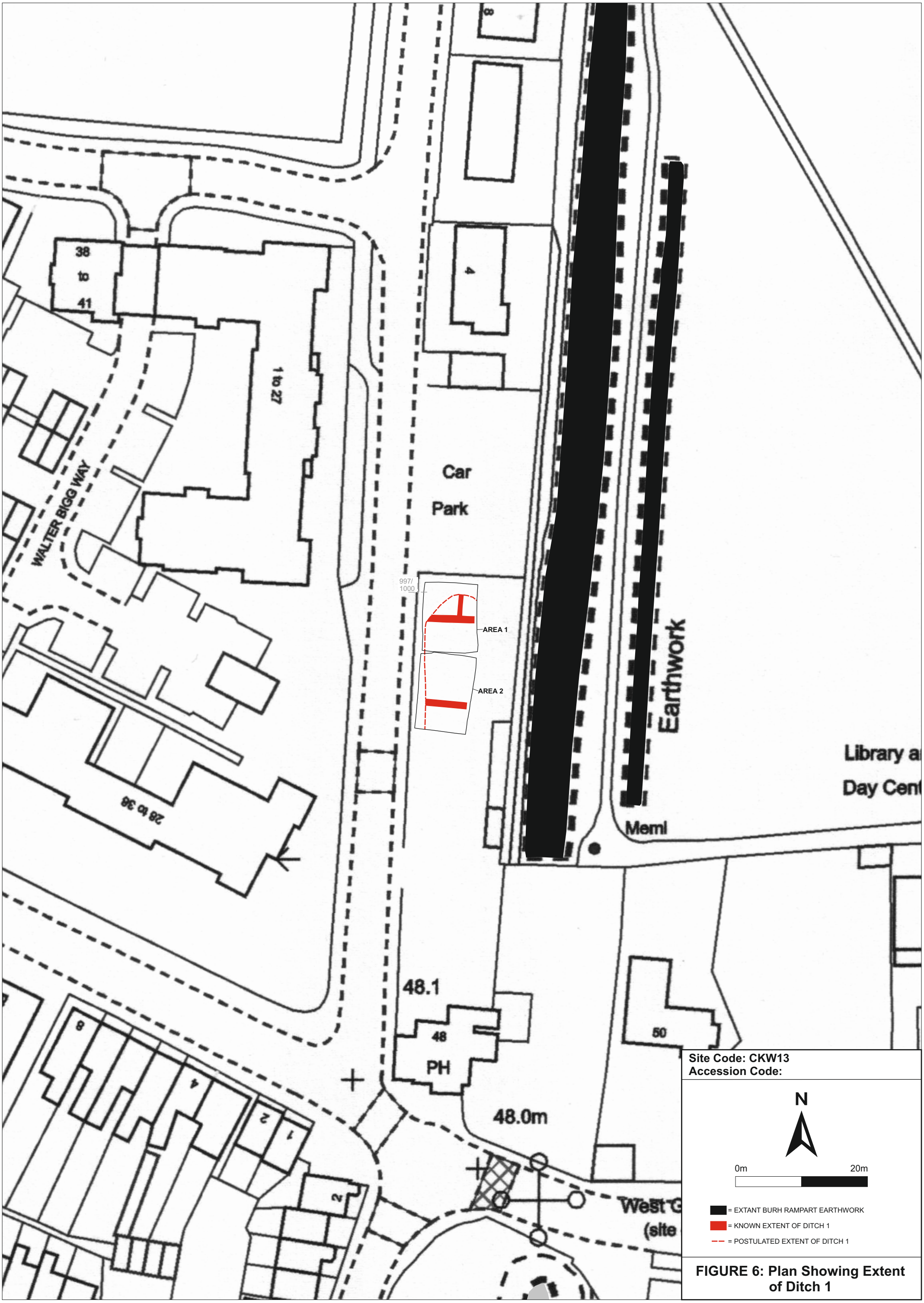


FIGURE 6: Plan Showing Extent of Ditch 1

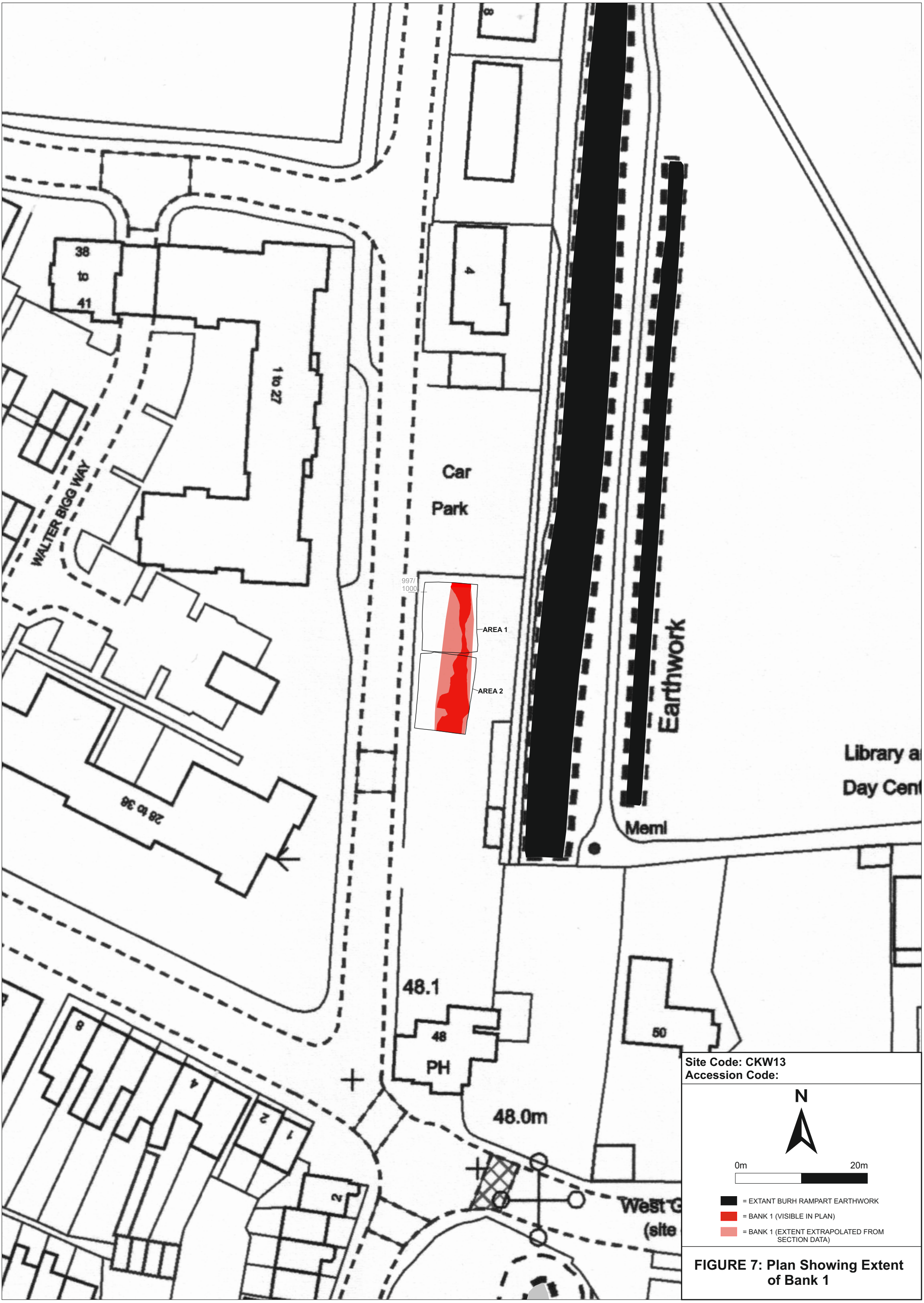


FIGURE 7: Plan Showing Extent of Bank 1

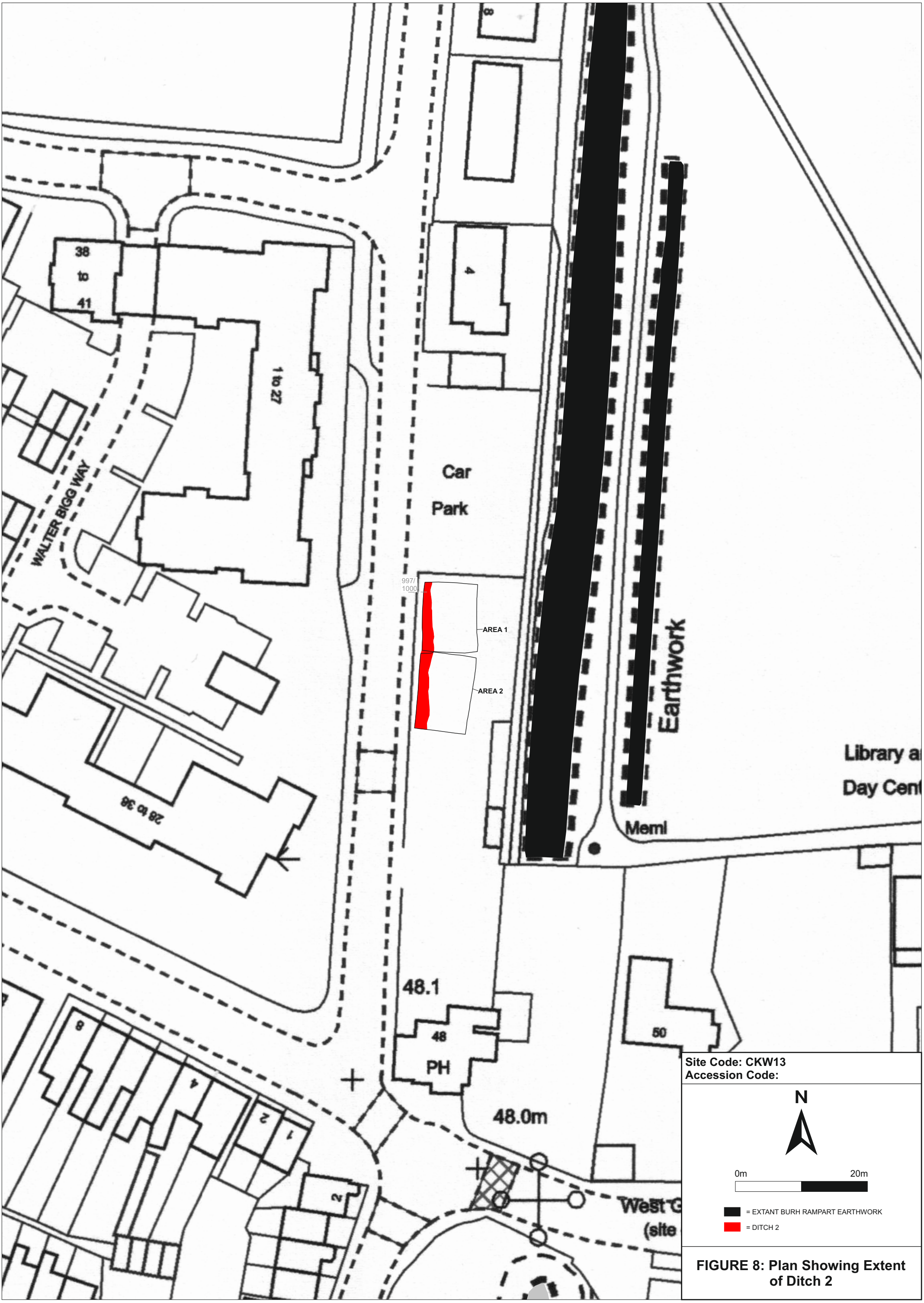
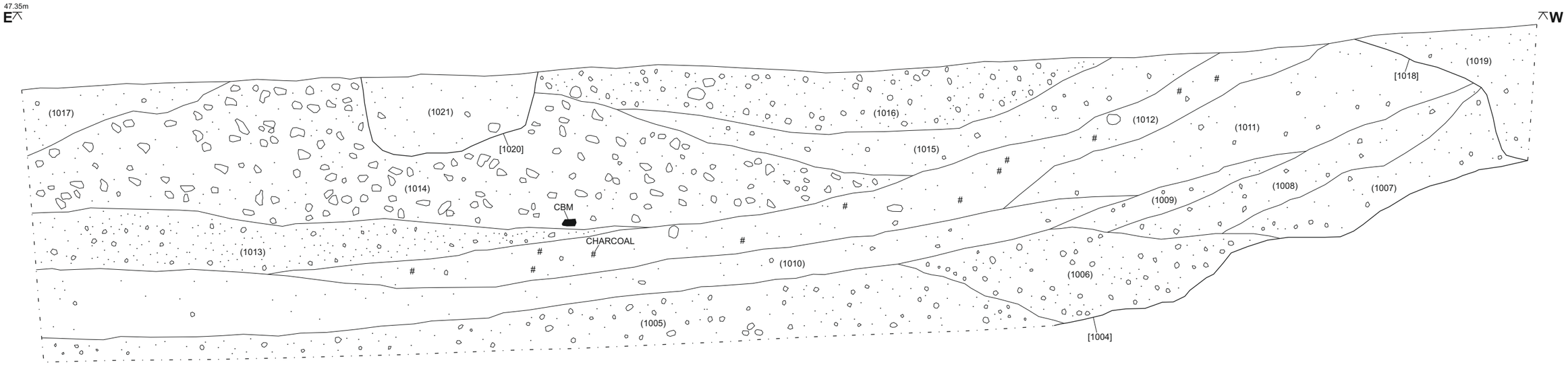


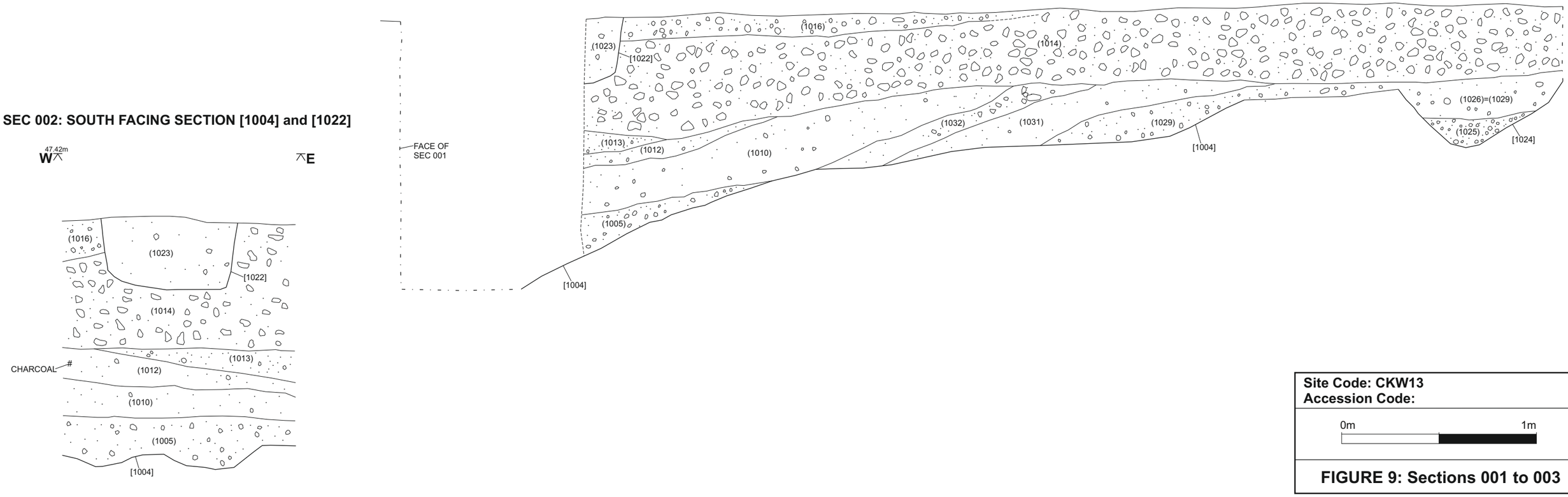
FIGURE 8: Plan Showing Extent of Ditch 2

SEC 001: NORTH FACING SECTION [1004], [1018] and [1020]



SEC 003: EAST FACING SECTION [1004], [1022] and [1024]

SEC 002: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1004] and [1022]



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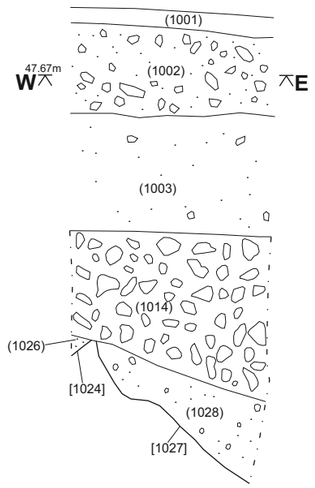
Accession Code:

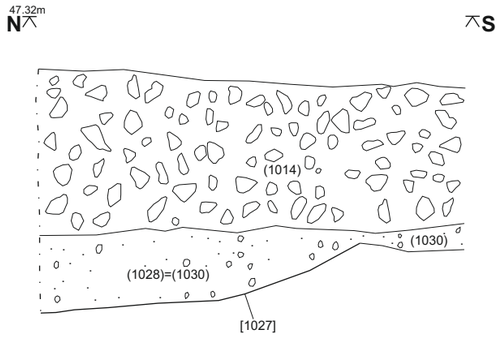
0m 1m

FIGURE 9: Sections 001 to 003

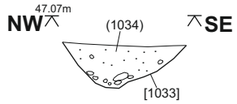
SEC 004: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1024] and [1027]



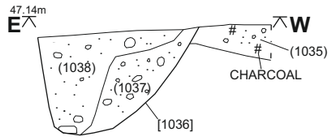
SEC 005: WEST FACING SECTION [1027]



SEC 006: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1033]



SEC 007: NORTH FACING SECTION [1036]



SEC 008: NORTH FACING SECTION [1041], [1059], [1064], [1090] and [1091]

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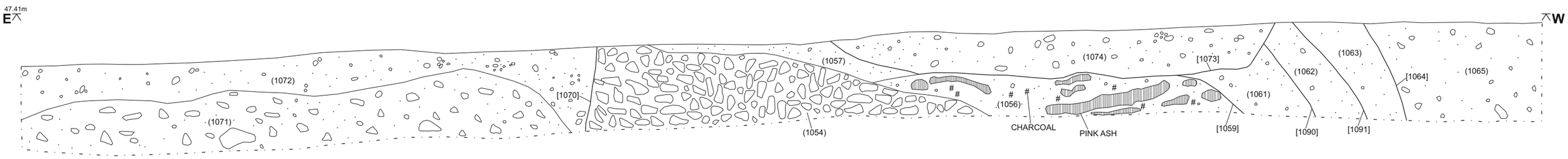
Accession Code:

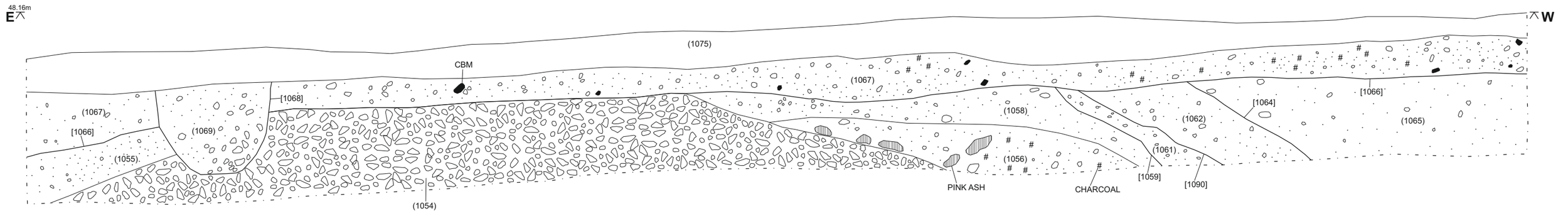
0m 1m

FIGURE 10: Sections 004 to 008

SEC 009: NORTH FACING SECTION [1059], [1064], [1070], [1073], [1090] and [1091]



SEC 010: NORTH FACING SECTION [1059], [1064], [1066], [1068] and [1090]

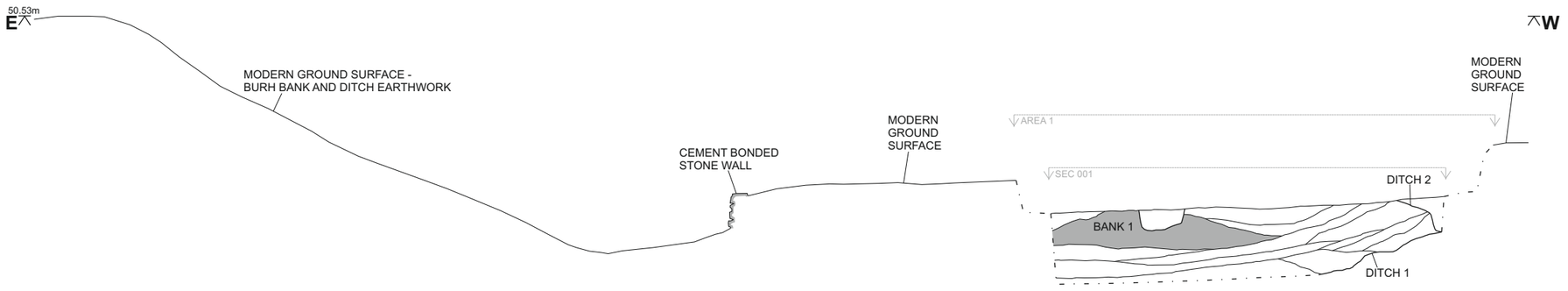


Site Code: CKW13
Accession Code:

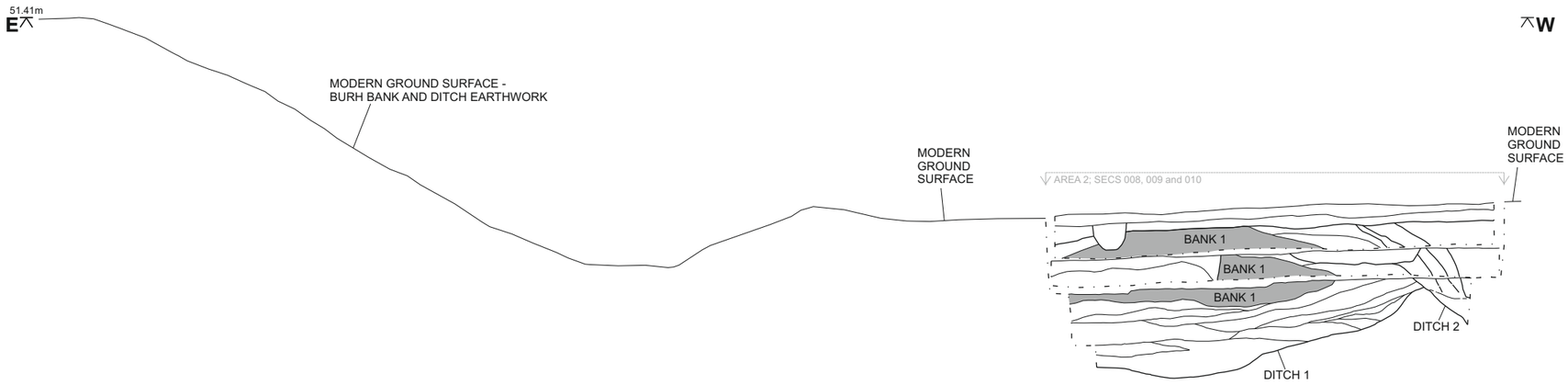
0m 1m

FIGURE 11: Sections 009 to 010

PROFILE 001: PROFILE OF BURH EARTHWORK BANK AND DITCH AND SECTION 001 (SHOWING TIP AND CUT LINES)



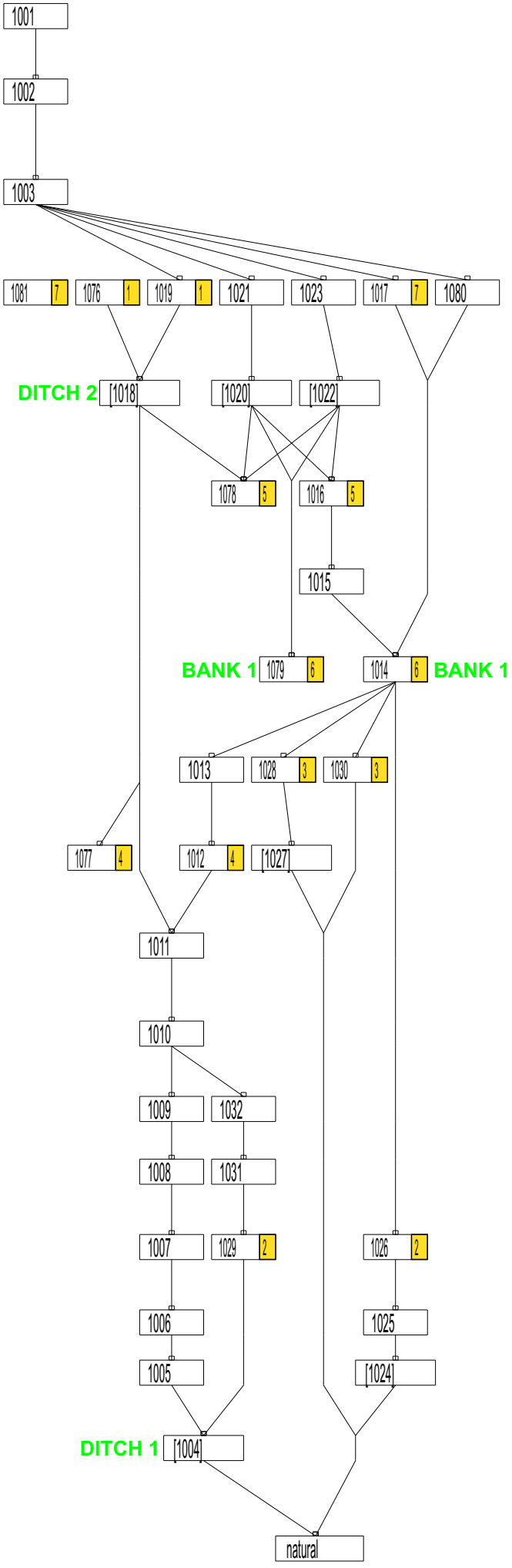
PROFILE 002: PROFILE OF BURH EARTHWORK BANK AND DITCH AND SECTIONS 008, 009 AND 010 (SHOWING TIP AND CUT LINES)



Site Code: CKW13
Accession Code:

0m 4m

FIGURE 12: Profiles 001 and 002



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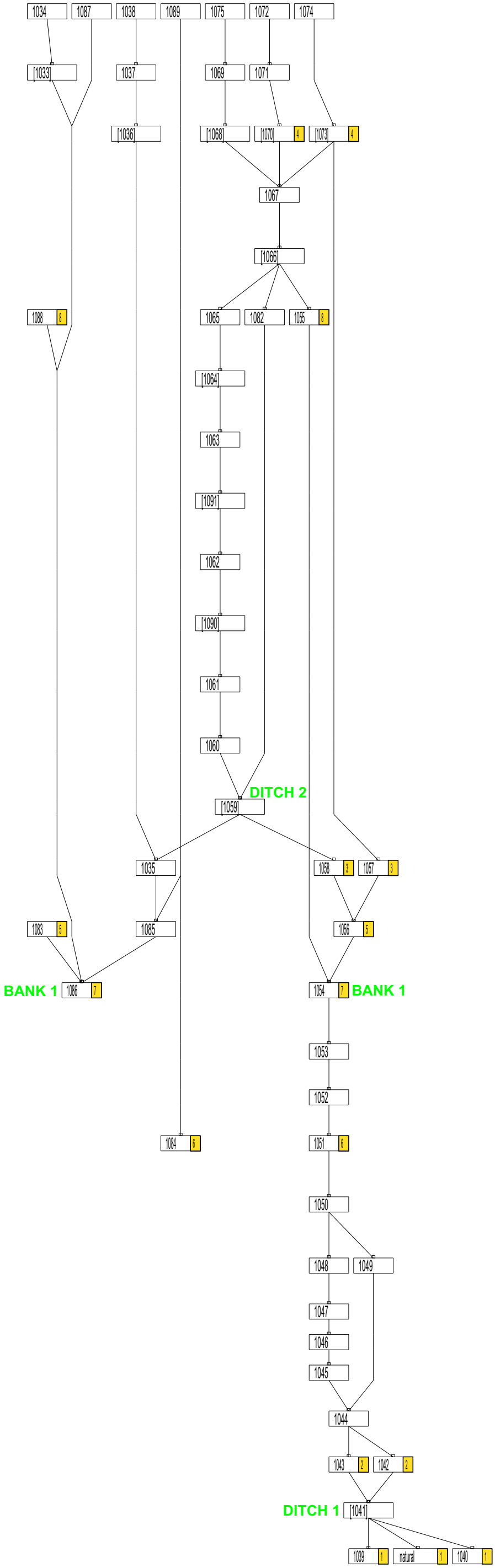
= CONTEMPORARY/EQUIVALENT CONTEXTS

FIGURE 13: Area 1 Harris Matrix



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= CONTEMPORARY/EQUIVALENT CONTEXTS

FIGURE 14: Area 2 Harris Matrix