

**LAND AT 39 UPCOTT,
LATTON,
WILTSHIRE.**

NGR: 409387 195541

Accession Code: DZSWS:37-2021

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION

January 2022
Report No. 1463



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES

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Quality Assurance

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SUMMARY

Between 5th and 10th August 2021 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation and excavation on land at 39 Upcott, Latton, Wiltshire (NGR: 409387 195541). The project was commissioned by Sepehr Izadpanah of Pars Development.

The works comprised a single evaluation trench and a small area of excavation, within a new residential development, which had been partially built at the time of the archaeological fieldwork.

Limited evidence for pre-Medieval activity was present in the form of two sherds of organic (grass) tempered pottery, which were recovered as residual material from the overburden within the evaluation trench. Although not intrinsically diagnostic, this type of pottery is likely to be of either Iron Age or Anglo-Saxon date.

Both the evaluation trench and the excavation area contained substantial gravel quarry pits, or areas of pitting, which most likely dated from the Medieval to Post-medieval periods. A previous evaluation identified similar pits in other parts of the site, which suggested that this locale had been given over to gravel quarrying in this period. No other archaeological features or finds were present within the investigation areas.

GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Archaeology

For the purpose 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.

CBM

Ceramic Building Material.

Medieval

The period between AD 1066 and 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. (aOD above Ordnance Datum).

OS

Ordnance Survey.

Post-medieval

The period between AD 1500 and AD 1900.

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 until AD 410.

Saxon

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation and excavation, undertaken by Foundations Archaeology between 5th and 10th August 2021 on land at 39 Upcott, Latton, Wiltshire (NGR: 409387 195541). The project was commissioned by Sepehr Izadpanah of Pars Development.
- 1.2 The archaeological works were conducted in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2021) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation/Excavation* (2014a/b).
- 1.3 The CifA code of conduct was adhered to throughout.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission was granted for the construction of four detached dwellings, with associated works, on land at 39 Upcott, Latton, Wiltshire (Planning Reference Number: **18/04383/FUL**). Condition 9 of the Decision Notice required that a programme of archaeological investigation be carried out, in advance of the development. Unfortunately, this condition was overlooked and the development groundworks commenced without archaeological intervention. Subsequently, the archaeological advisor to Wiltshire Council agreed that, in lieu of a strip, map and sample across the whole site, a limited investigation within any available land could be undertaken. The resulting archaeological works, which consisted of a single evaluation trench and an area of excavation, are shown in Figure 2.
- 2.2 The site comprises a ‘wedge’ shaped plot of land, which is located to the south and west of residential dwellings and to the east of Lake Louise, which consists of a Modern lake formed by gravel extraction, with associated mobile homes. A trackway and an arable field are present to the south and east of the site. The topography is generally flat, lying at approximately 82-83m aOD. At the time of the fieldwork, the site contained four partially constructed dwellings, with some open spaces in between.
- 2.3 A Heritage Impact Assessment was prepared by Foundations Heritage (2019), which should be read in conjunction with this document. The assessment is summarized thus:
 - 2.3.1 Latton is located approximately two miles north of Cricklade and six miles southeast of Cirencester. The southwestern side of Latton is bounded by the A419/Ermin Way, which was a Roman road connecting *Glevum* (Gloucester) to *Calleva* (Silchester). One of the earliest references for Latton is in AD 1066, when Latton and Eysey became the property of Earl Harold, but after the Battle of Hastings they both became the property of William I.

- 2.3.2 **Prehistoric:** A scheduled Causewayed Enclosure (UID 1003446) is present approximately 850m to the northeast, at Down Ampney in Gloucestershire. In the slightly wider vicinity, Prehistoric activity is noted in four event records on the Wiltshire and Swindon HER. Fieldwalking in advance of the Latton Bypass recovered Prehistoric flint and pottery (EWI3840), while evaluation on the same road scheme in 1996-97 identified Bronze Age ring ditches and Iron Age enclosures (EWI3847). Geophysical survey (EWI6870) and subsequent evaluation (EWI7023) at the Down Ampney Estate identified a number of Prehistoric features and finds dating from the Mesolithic period to the Iron Age. It is also possible that a number of the undated features noted in the study area may date to the Prehistoric period.
- 2.3.3 **Roman:** No archaeological features of this period are recorded from within the site area; Roman activity in the general area is, however, very well represented. Latton is located virtually equidistant, between the small town of *Durocornovium* at Wanborough in Swindon and the *civitas* capital of *Corinium Dubunorum* at Cirencester. The village lies on the east side of the major Roman Road of *Ermin Street* (MWI9434), with the site located approximately 220m to the northeast of the road. Extensive Roman settlement remains are known from the parish, with two scheduled monuments within the study area dating to this period; both in the form of a Roman settlement, which may or may not have been in contemporary use. The Field Barn settlement is located immediately to the south of the site (MWI 9437, UID 1004690), while the Weavers Bridge settlement (MWI9449, UID 1004689) is located approximately 400m to the northwest.
- 2.3.4 **Early Medieval:** The West Saxons advanced from the south coast in the 5th century AD and brought the area around Swindon under their control after the Battle of *Beranburgh*, reportedly at Barbury Castle in AD556. Saxon settlement may be anticipated within the general vicinity from around this time, but no such activity is known from the study area. It should be noted, however, that early Saxon settlement would have taken the form of family groups or small hamlets, prior to the nucleation of villages and may not be easy to predict.
- 2.3.5 **Medieval:** There was an estate at Latton prior to 1066, at which time, the estate was amalgamated with *Eisey* (Eysey). Domesday Book of 1086 mentions Latton as '*Latone*'; the name deriving from 'farm where herbs are grown', in the hands of Reinbald the Priest. The VCH notes that during the 13th - 14th century the village probably lay as two separate parts, with the church, *demesne* farm and vicarage house forming one core and perhaps as many as 25-30 farmsteads and tenements beside Ermin Street, with the two parts linked by Gosditch. The HER includes the site within the southernmost point of the area defined as the historic core of the Medieval village of Latton (MWI9458); with the main centre focussed around the Grade I listed Medieval church of St. John The Baptist (MWI33838, UID 1284123).
- 2.3.6 The site area is broadly included within the historic core as the result of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2003 within the site area (no MWI

number – Barber 2003), which revealed features interpreted as relating to Medieval structures and other features, based on the recovery of four small sherds of Medieval pottery. The presence of what is clearly residual pottery and the absence of physical evidence has been shoehorned into the suggestion that a Medieval building may have been present on the site. In fact, there is no convincing evidence for such a structure, or for any focus of Medieval activity at all. Cartographic evidence illustrates that a farm-type building was constructed on the site area at some point after 1773 and before 1805 and that this building was gone before 1876. It is considerably more likely that the possible ‘beam slot’ relates to activity associated with this site usage, rather than a hypothetical Medieval settlement focus. Nonetheless, the site area is located on the west side of what was a historic route to Eysey and may have seen some Medieval activity. An evaluation at No. 35 Upcott also yielded Medieval pottery, along with evidence of a field system of probable Medieval date.

- 2.3.7 A Grade II listed Medieval Cross (MWI9459, UID 1284078) is present on the west side of the village. A Medieval building (MWI9466) and a Medieval Seal Matrix (MWI9464) have also been found on the western side of the village. Evidence for Medieval agricultural activity, in the form of ridge and furrow (MWI74700), has been identified during geophysical survey across the scheduled area to the south of the site.
- 2.3.8 **Post-medieval:** The VCH suggests that the area of Upcott was waste land during the early part of the period; late 18th century mapping shows the site area as undeveloped; although there are several buildings shown immediately to the north. The HER records no clear evidence for 15th - 17th century activity, although 17th - 18th century pottery was recovered during an evaluation within the site area in 2003 and glazed earthenwares, presumably of a similar date, were recovered from an evaluation at 35 Upcott in the same year. A quarry pit (MWI75798) at 35 Upcott was identified as being Post-medieval and a number of undated pits/quarry pits (MWI9498) within the site area may be contemporary. Further Post-medieval pits (MWI9470) are known from approximately 95m to the west of the site. The Thames and Severn Canal (MWI31335) also passed to the southwest of the site, within the study area. Later Post-medieval activity is noted in the form of a farmstead incorporating the site area (MWI67528), Street Farm (MWI67529), a farmstead to the south of Street Farm (MWI67530), Little Court (MWI67526) and Church Farm (MWI67527); all of which are recorded as 19th century, but at least some of which may have earlier antecedents. The farmstead associated with 38 and 39 Upcott within the site area may have been present by 1773, and there were certainly farm buildings, including an extant derelict barn against the western boundary by 1805. Cartographic evidence illustrates further farmstead buildings within the site in 1805 that are removed by 1876 and replaced by another (now demolished) barn on the site frontage.
- 2.3.9 **Undated:** A number of undated features are known from the study area; these have generally been discussed under specific periods to which they may be considered likely to belong, with the exception of a droveway and associated

enclosures to the northeast of Latton (MWI9485) and a number of undated pits within the site (MWI9498).

2.3.10 The report concluded that the potential for archaeological activity relating to non-agricultural activity was low, for all periods, up to the Medieval period.

2.4 The site therefore contained the potential for archaeological features and deposits, predominately dating from the Medieval period. This did not prejudice the works against evidence relating to other periods.

3 AIMS

3.1 The aims of the archaeological excavation were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits, in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains; as well as to make recommendations for management of the resource, including further archaeological works if necessary. In turn, this would allow reasonable planning/mitigation decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the development.

3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:

i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

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;

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;

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;

v) to integrate the results of the fieldwork into relevant local and regional research frameworks.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 The archaeological works consisted of a single evaluation trench (**Trench 1**), which was located in the central-west part of the site, along with a 'wedge' shaped area of excavation (**Area 1**) at the south of the site, as shown in Figure 2.

- 4.2 Non-significant overburden was removed, under constant archaeological supervision, to the top of archaeological remains, or the underlying natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved through use of a 360° mechanical excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket. Features and spoil tips were visually scanned for finds and subject to a metal detecting survey. Any Modern finds were noted and discarded; all archaeological finds were retained.
- 4.3 Where potential archaeological features were present, these were subject to appropriate levels of investigation. All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the approved WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

5 RESULTS

- 5.1 A full description of all contexts identified during the course of the fieldwork is presented in Appendix 1. Reports on the recovered ceramics and animal bones are given in Appendices 2 and 3 respectively, whilst a list of miscellaneous finds is presented in Appendix 4. A summary of the results of the archaeological investigation is given below.

5.2 Trench 1

- 5.2.1 Natural gravel was present at an average depth of 0.17m (81.94m aOD) below the Modern ground surface. It was directly overlain by Modern mixed and compacted soil and rubble (101), which contained two residual sherds of organic (grass) tempered pottery, datable to either the Iron Age or Anglo-Saxon periods. Archaeological features were present within the trench, cut into the top of the natural substrates.
- 5.2.2 Feature [103] was perpendicular with, and very likely related to, feature [130] and was probably part of a substantial pit, which was at least 8m in length. Limited excavation indicated that it had a near-vertical southern edge with a flat base. It contained multiple soil and gravel fills (102, 104-5 and 106); of which, fill (102) yielded a total of eight sherds of 10th – 12th century Medieval pottery, a fragment of 14th century or later ceramic tile, two fragments of animal bone and a small piece of possible slag.
- 5.2.3 Feature [110] was almost certainly related to feature [107] and formed part of a probable pit with near vertical sides, which was approximately 3m long. Partial excavation indicated that the pit contained multiple fills (108 and 111-115), which yielded a total of 59 sherds of 12th – 14th century pottery. This included an apparently dumped and partially complete 12th – 13th century Minety ware globular jar (109), which was present at the base of fill (112). Further finds from pit [110] included two fragments of 16th century or later brick and an animal bone fragment from fill (113), along with a 16th century or later fragment of CBM and further animal bones from fill (115).

5.3 Area 1

- 5.3.1 The top of the natural gravel substrates was present at a depth of approximately 0.90m (82.04m aOD) below the Modern ground surface. The natural was intermittently present at the south of the excavation, with the majority of the base of the exposed investigation area consisting of archaeological and Modern in-fill deposits. The natural and archaeological features and fills were overlain by a former topsoil (117), which was subsequently sealed by numerous Modern soil make-up deposits (118-122); the upper-most of which (122) constituted the Modern ground surface (Section 005).
- 5.3.2 Limited excavation indicated that the majority of the natural gravels within the excavation area had been significantly reduced and truncated, to a depth of at least 0.40m, as evidenced by cuts [123], [124] and [126], as well as probable cut [131]. Although the features were only partially revealed and investigated, it is very likely that they represented part of an area of substantial pits. A relatively late date for these pits was suggested by the presence of 18th century or later transfer printed and chinaware pottery, along with 16th century or later ceramic tile and a fragment of Post-medieval smoking pipe from fill (116), as well as two pieces of later Post-medieval/Modern glass from fill (127).
- 5.3.3 Feature [128] consisted of a substantial Modern pit, which was cut through make-up layers (118-121) into the top of the underlying substrates and contained a loose soil fill (129), which was associated with frequent Modern detritus.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The occurrence of compacted Modern re-deposited soils/building rubble, directly over the natural in Trench 1, suggested that the area around the trench had previously been stripped, probably as part of the ongoing development groundworks. However, the height levels of the top of the natural substrates were relatively consistent across both Trench 1 and Area 1, which indicated that significant truncation was not likely to have occurred during the stripping. The height of the encountered gravels in Trench 1 was also consistent with the heights recorded in the previous evaluation (81.89 – 82.00m aOD; Barber 2003, Appendix 3, Trenches 1 and 5). The part of the site around Area 1 had been made-up and was subsequently well preserved at the level of the natural.
- 6.2 A total of two residual sherds of Iron Age/Anglo-Saxon organic (grass) tempered pottery, recovered from the overburden (101) in Trench 1, represented limited evidence for pre-Medieval activity within, or near to the site.

- 6.3 Both Trench 1 and Area 1 contained substantial pits, or areas of pitting, which probably represented the remains of former gravel quarries. The artefacts recovered from the associated in-fills suggested a Medieval to later Post-medieval date; although, it was not possible to discern if the quarrying represented a single phase of use, or episodic/continued use of the site throughout this period.
- 6.4 The presence of quarries was consistent with the results of the previous evaluation (*ibid.*), which identified Medieval and later quarry pits; although, the current investigation did not contain evidence for other types of archaeological feature, such as ditches/gullies or structures/buildings. This suggested that the site was probably located in an area of gravel quarrying, which was situated away from, or at the edge of, any contemporary settlement.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Two residual sherds of Iron Age or Anglo-Saxon pottery represented the only evidence for pre-Medieval activity within, or near to the site. Numerous and potentially substantial gravel quarry pits, which occurred in both the evaluation trench and the area of excavation, are likely to have dated to the Medieval to Post-medieval periods. The site is consequently interpreted as being situated in an area of former gravel quarrying. There is, therefore, a significant potential that this activity may have damaged, or entirely removed, any earlier remains.
- 7.2 The results of the investigation are of moderate archaeological significance and, as such, a short note will be submitted for publication in *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*. A digital report/archive will also be submitted to OASIS/ADS.
- 7.3 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology but will be deposited in due course with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, under Accession Code DZSWS:37-2021.

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
				TRENCH 1: 18.40m long by 1.20m wide. Natural = bright yellow orange gravel, which contained occasional lenses of yellow and light grey sand. Present at average 81.94m aOD.		
101	n/a	n/a	0.17	Overburden: grey brown compacted mixed soil, stone and brick, which contained frequent Modern detritus.	natural	n/a
102	?	1.39	0.48	Fill of [103]: variable tan to orange brown clay silt, which contained occasional small stones, as well as rare to occasional charcoal flecks.	[103]	104, 105
[103]	1.15	>1.52	0.48	Northeast – southwest aligned cut feature with a near vertical southern edge and a flat base. Contained fills 102, 104, 105 and 106. Equivalent to [130] and probably related to [107]/[110].	natural	102, 106
104	?	0.37	0.34	Fill of [103]: beige gravel with occasional patches and lenses of brown clay silt, which contained rare charcoal flecks.	102	101
105	0.75	0.16	0.45	Fill of [103]: beige gravel with occasional patches and lenses of brown clay silt.	102, 106	101
106	?	0.65	0.23	Fill of [103]: beige grey gravel.	[103]	105
[107]	1.20	>0.50	0.33	Northeast – southwest aligned cut feature with a vertical to slightly undercut northern edge. Not fully excavated. Contained fill 108. Equivalent to [110] and probably related to [103]/[130].	natural	108
108	1.20	0.50	0.33	Fill of [107]: variable tan to dark orange brown clay silt, which contained rare charcoal flecks.	[107]	101
109				Pottery dump present within [110], at the base of fill 112. See ceramics report.		
[110]	1.60	>1.23	0.62	Northeast – southwest aligned cut feature with a near vertical to slightly undercut southern edge. Not fully excavated. Contained fills 111 - 115. Equivalent to [107] and probably related to [103]/[130].	natural	111
111	?	1.17	0.21	Fill of [110]: light grey brown sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks.	[110]	112
112	?	1.20	0.17	Fill of [110]: yellow orange brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.	111	113
113	?	1.22	0.18	Fill of [110]: dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel and occasional stones.	112	114
114	?	1.19	0.12	Fill of [110]: light brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel and occasional charcoal flecks.	113	115
115	?	1.24	0.21	Fill of [110]: dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional charcoal flecks.	114	101
[130]	3.20	1.30	?	Northwest – southeast aligned cut feature. Not excavated, recorded in plan only. Equivalent to [103] and probably related to [107]/[110].	natural	?
				AREA 1: 22m long by 6.5m(n)/2.0m(s) wide. Natural = yellow orange gravel, which contained occasional lenses of yellow and light grey sand. Present at average 82.04m aOD.		
116	22.0	6.50	0.18	Probable quarry pit fill: light brown clay silt, which contained occasional charcoal flecks. Extended across the majority of the base of Area 1. Probably related to/associated with 125 and 127.	[123], [124], [126], [131]	117
117	22.0	6.50	0.11	Former topsoil: dark brown clay silt.	116, 125, 127	118
118	?	>0.48	0.15	Make-up layer: orange brown clay silt.	117	119
119	?	>0.55	0.17	Make-up layer: brown clay silt.	118	120

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CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
120	?	>0.60	0.12	Make-up layer: variable/mixed brown soil and gravel.	119	121
121	?	>0.60	0.15	Make-up layer: grey brown clay silt, which contained occasional lumps of grey green plastic clay.	120	[128]
122	22.0	6.50	0.43	Make-up layer: dark brown friable clay silt, which contained frequent Modern detritus.	129	n/a
[123]	0.85	0.40	0.55	Cut feature with an uneven sloping profile. Partially exposed within Section 006. Probably related to [124], as well as [126] and [131]. Contained fill 125.	Natural	125
[124]	0.73	0.30	0.10	Cut feature with an uneven sloping profile. Partially exposed within Section 006. Probably related to [123], as well as [126] and [131]. Contained fill 125.	Natural	125
125	0.85	3.06	0.55	Fill of [123]/[124]: variable orange brown to brown clay silt, which contained occasional to frequent gravel and occasional stones. Probably related to/associated with 116.	[123], [124]	117
[126]	2.85	0.50	0.45	Northeast – southwest aligned cut feature with a steep sloping southern edge. Not fully excavated. Probably related to [131], as well as [123] and [124]. Contained fill 127.	natural	127
127	2.85	0.50	0.45	Fill of [126]: variable brown to grey brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel and occasional stones. Probably related to/associated with 116.	[126]	117
[128]	9.0	2.30	>0.60	Modern cut, probably a pit, which was present in the central-east part of the investigation area. Not fully excavated, recorded in plan only. Contained 129.	121	129
129	9.0	2.30	0.60	Fill of [128]: dark brown black loose clay silt, which contained frequent Modern detritus.	[128]	122
[131]	3.0	1.50	?	Cut feature, probably related to [123]/[124] and [126]. Recorded in plan only.	natural	?

APPENDIX 2: The Ceramics

By Roy King BA, MCIfA

Pottery

The pottery assemblage consisted of 71 sherds, weighing marginally over 1.4kg. It was recovered from a total of seven contexts, with CBM recovered from four contexts. The assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight and assigned, where possible, to local or regional fabric types; the very limited number of rims (2) meant that no EVE assessment was relevant in regard to this assessment. Standard pottery quantification forms were used for the assessment, which follow *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* (MPRG *et al.* 2016).

Common names are attributed to the fabric types where possible and are also linked to the Gloucester fabric type series (TF00).

The pottery assemblage is in a fragmentary state with varying levels of abrasion. One sherd exhibits traces of burning, but there is no evidence of sooting and/or burnt food residue on any sherd.

Two sherds of organic (grass) tempered pottery with sparse quartz inclusions were recovered from the overburden (101) and appear to represent the earliest material recovered from the site. Both sherds were reduced throughout with burnishing on the surfaces. The sherds are attributed to the Anglo-Saxon period and are likely to be of 6th – 7th century date; however, this type of fabric is relatively common during the mid-Iron Age and dating is consequently uncertain.

The Medieval pottery assemblage comprises 67 sherds, with a total weight of 1.4kg. The assemblage almost entirely comprised products of the North Wiltshire/South Cotswolds (NWSC) tradition, which probably originate from the kiln site at Minety (TF44), which is located approximately 7km to the southwest. A total of 59 sherds were recovered from an in-filled probable quarry pit [110]. The greater part of the assemblage; 51 sherds (cxt 109) weighing 1.215kg, was recovered from the base of fill (112). These sherds are well preserved and are part of a single globular jug with a thumb base and strap handle; a typical product of the Minety kilns in the 12th - 13th century. The good level of preservation of the sherds indicates a primary deposition event, strongly suggesting that the quarry pit was in-filled during that period, or not long after. Six of the remaining sherds contained a slight variation in inclusions, suggesting the likelihood of a different kiln site and these have been attributed to the Glos 'Cotswold' ware (TF41).

A second quarry pit [103] yielded two sherds, both of which fell outside the NWSC pottery tradition, in the form of single sherds of Bath A fabric (TF48) and a flint tempered sherd equivalent to Glos TF47. Both sherds are likely to be earlier in date than the NWSC material. Six sherds of 12th century or later TF41 were also present within pit [103].

The Post-medieval assemblage comprises two sherds of 'chinaware' from fill (116), weighing a total of 5g, and dating from no earlier than the 18th century, one of which is a sherd of transfer printed ware.

Ceramic Building Material

The ceramic building material assemblage comprises six stratified fragments of later Medieval/Post-medieval brick and tile, weighing a total of 170g. No fragments are large enough to provide detail as to what size or shape the pieces originally were, which hampers any analysis. The fabric appears identical across all the fragments and they are consequently likely to be a similar date. Post-Roman brick-making started in England during the 12th century but is broadly restricted to southeast England during this period. It is unlikely that these fragments are earlier than 16th century in date; although, the tile fragment from fill (102) may be as early as the 14th century.

Discussion

The earliest pottery recovered from the site comprises two sherds of handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery, probably dating to the 6th -7th century; both, however, were recovered as unstratified finds in a mix of Modern soil and building debris (101). Their presence is indicative of pre-Medieval activity and may date near to the earliest Saxon settlement in this part of Wiltshire, which probably occurred around the mid-6th century.

The stratified assemblage was largely recovered from two distinct probable quarry pits, [103] and [110], both of which were present in Trench 1. Feature [103] yielded sherds with a *terminus post-quem* of 12th century; although a fragment of tile does suggest a later Medieval date. The pottery sherds fall into local traditions and are not uncharacteristic of the period in this locality.

The greater part of the assemblage was recovered from [110]; the pottery dating consistently to the 12th -14th century and including 51 sherds from a single vessel that appeared to have been dumped and subsequently broken *in-situ*. A total of four fragments of Post-medieval brick/CBM were, however, recovered from the same feature and are unlikely to pre-date the 16th century, suggesting either some unidentified intrusion, or the possibility that the pottery vessel survived partially intact elsewhere on site, perhaps in a nearby midden that was used in the 16th century or later to partially in-fill the quarry.

Two small sherds of chinaware were recovered from the fill (116) of a further probable quarry pit or pits in Area 1, suggesting a relatively late in-fill for this feature.

The assemblage itself is mundane and is entirely typical for a site in this part of Wiltshire between the 12th and 14th centuries. The pottery comprises coarsewares, with no evidence for finewares and represents a typical low status rural assemblage. The broken vessel (109) recovered from context (112), however, is of some note, given that at least partial reconstruction could be undertaken; although large parts of the vessel (especially the rim) are clearly missing.

The Post-medieval assemblage is of no research value, comprising two very small undiagnostic sherds of a type of ubiquitous chinaware found from the 18th century onwards. The brick and tile fragments are probably no earlier in date than the mid-16th century; there is some very slight potential that these could, in fact, be Roman in date, but the complete lack of Roman period pottery suggests that this is unlikely.

The assemblage is too small for further conclusions and has limited apparent research value. The broken Minety ware jug has some presentational value if reconstructed, but its incompleteness and common form are limiting factors. It is consequently recommended that the assemblage is marked for dispersal.

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Table 1: The ceramics from ULW21

Context	Description	No	Weight (g)	Kiln	Date
101	Handmade bodysherds	2	24	Unknown. Local manufacture?	C6-7
102	Handmade bodysherd reduced throughout. Quartz, flint and rare mica	1	16	Bath A? (TF48)	C11-12
102	Handmade bodysherd. Oxidised with burnt interior. Flint tempered	1	4	Early Medieval flint tempered ware (TF47)	C10+
102	Handmade or wheel turned, oxidised surfaces and reduced core. Oolitic limestone inclusions, rare quartz. Four sherds with 'green glaze'.	6	40	Cotswold ware (TF41)	C12+
102	Oxidised tile fragment	1	1	CBM	C14+
111	Wheel thrown bodysherd	1	21	Minety ware (TF44)	C13-14
112 – pottery dump 109	Handmade or wheel turned, oxidised surfaces and reduced core. Oolitic limestone inclusions, rare quartz. All sherds appear to be from a single globular jar with a thumbed slightly sagging base. A single narrow rim fragment and two fragments of strap handle	51	1.215kg	Minety ware (TF44)	C12-13
113	Wheelthrown bodysherds, 1x reduced throughout, 1 x reduced core and oxidised surfaces. Limestone inclusions, rare quartz	2	28	Minety ware (TF44)	C13-14
113	Oxidised brick fragments	2	144	Local PM	C16+
115	3 sherds handmade or wheel turned bodysherds; 2 wheelthrown sherds (1x rim, 1x bodysherd), reduced core and lightly oxidised exteriors.	5	77	Minety ware (TF44)	C12-13 and C13-14
115	CBM	2	22	Local PM	C16+
116	1 x chinaware, 1 x transfer printed ware	2	5	?Staffordshire	C18+
116	CBM tile fragment	1	3	Local PM	C16+

APPENDIX 3: The Animal Bone*By Dr Matilda Holmes***Summary**

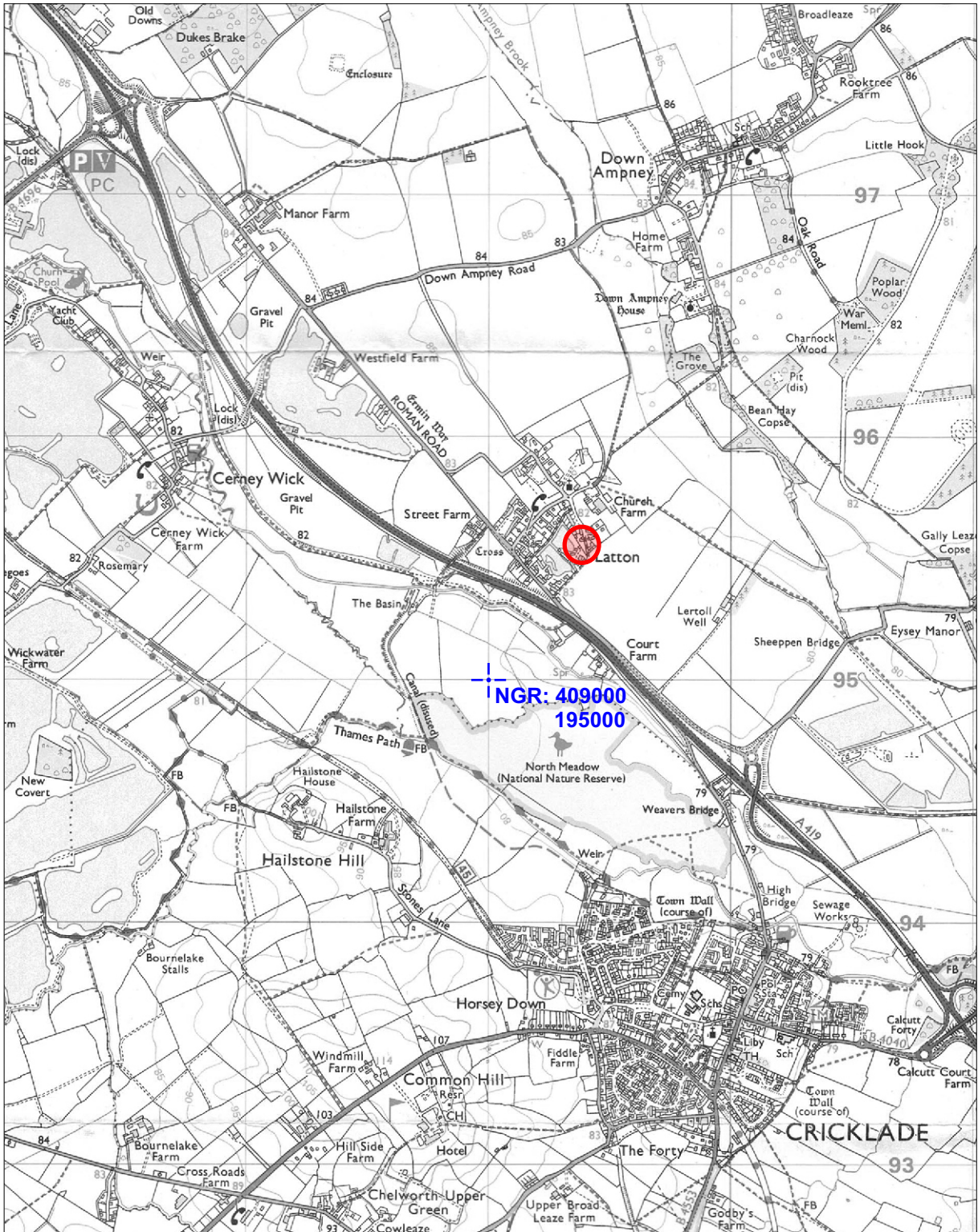
Eleven fragments of animal bones and teeth were recovered from three contexts (Table 1). Bones were in mixed states of preservation, those from contexts (102) and (113) in poor condition, while those from (115) were in good to fair condition. No evidence of butchery or burning was recorded, but two fragments from context (115) showed signs of canid gnawing indicating they were not buried immediately following discard but were available for dogs to chew. Several sheep/ goat bones were identified from context (115), but the sample was too small to comment further.

Table 1: The animal bones from ULW21

Context	N	Element	Taxon
102	2	Long bone fragment	Large mammal
113	1	Long bone fragment	Large mammal
115	1	Rib	Large mammal
115	1	Mandible	Sheep/ goat
115	1	Skull fragment	Sheep/ goat
115	1	Metacarpal	Sheep/ goat
115	1	Metatarsal	Sheep/ goat
115	1	Tibia	Sheep/ goat
115	1	1st cervical vertebra	Sheep/ goat
115	1	Pelvis	Sheep/ goat

APPENDIX 4: Miscellaneous Finds*By Katie Humphries*

Context No.	Clay Smoking Pipe	Glass	Slag
(102)			1 (6g)
(116)	1 (6g)		
(127)		2 (45g)	



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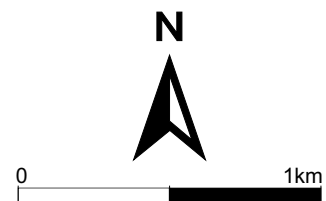
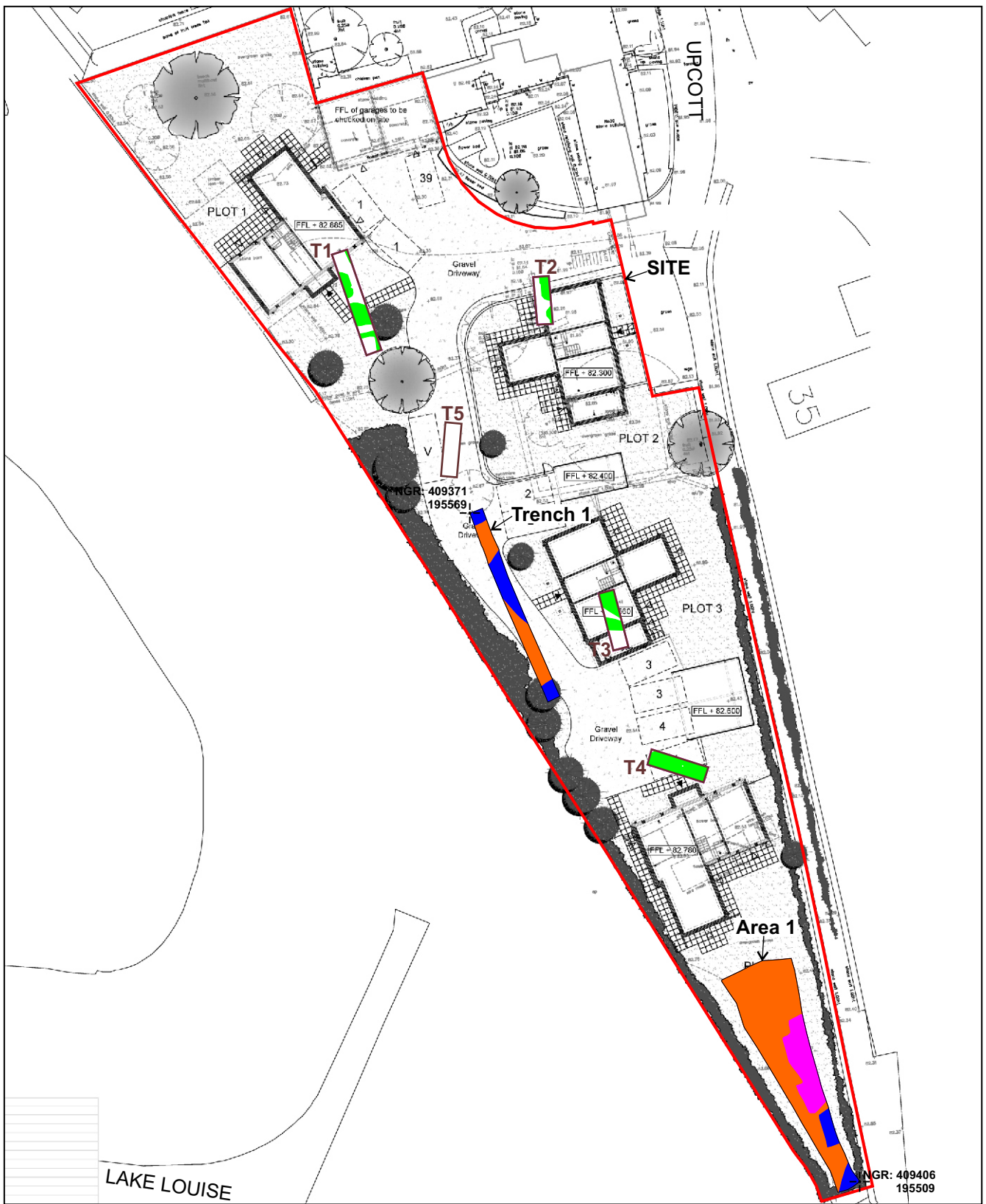


FIGURE 1: Site Location



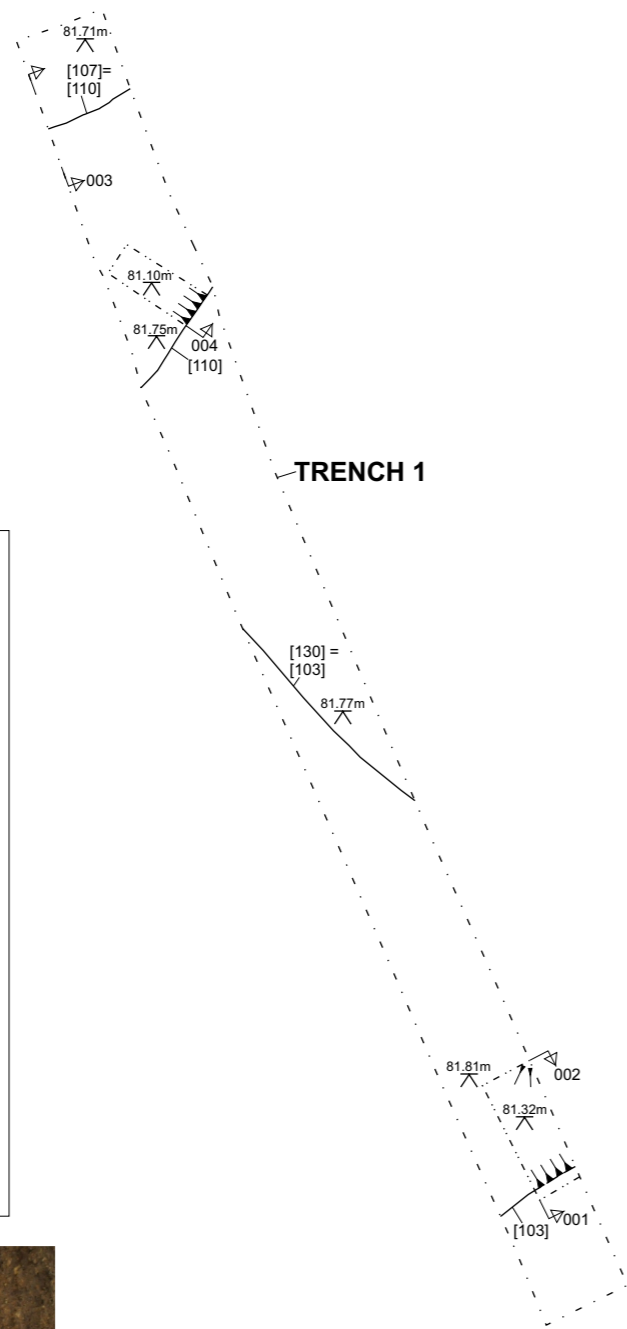
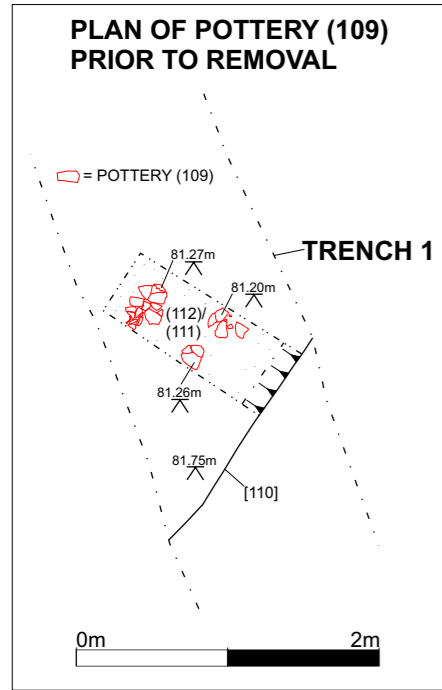
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■ = ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRENCH / AREA
■ = FEATURE
■ = MODERN FEATURE
 = PREVIOUS EVALUATION TRENCH (COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY) - APPROXIMATE LOCATION
■ = FEATURE - PREVIOUS EVALUATION

N
 0m 20m

FIGURE 2: Site Plan



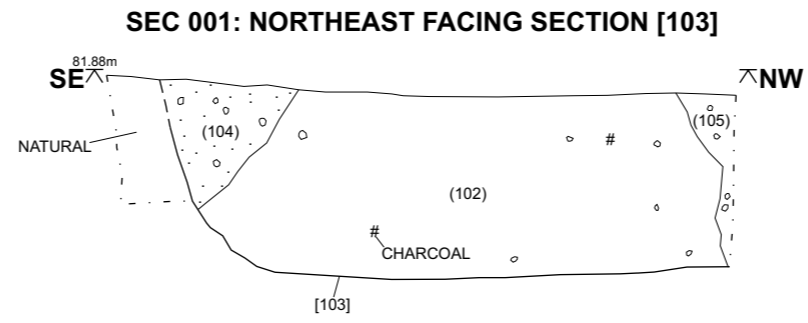
PHOTOGRAPH 2: POTTERY (109) - NORTHWEST PRIOR TO REMOVAL



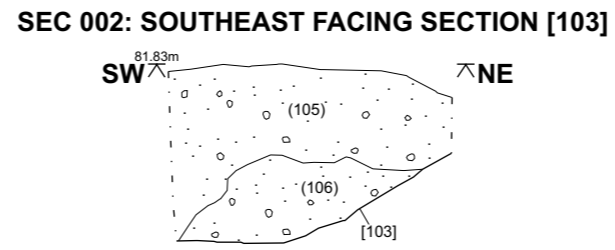
PHOTOGRAPH 2a: POTTERY (109) - SOUTHEAST PRIOR TO REMOVAL



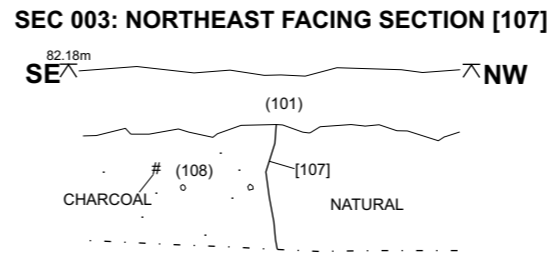
PHOTOGRAPH 1: TRENCH 1 LOOKING SOUTHEAST



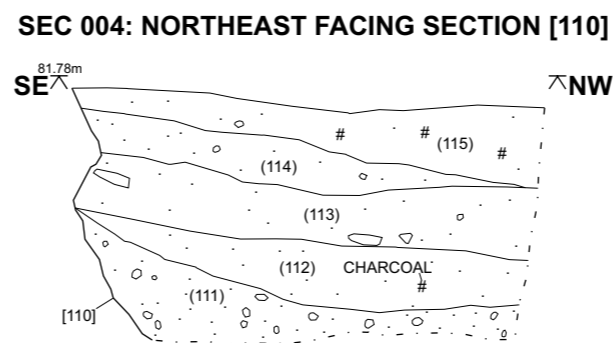
PHOTOGRAPH 3: SECTION 001, FEATURE [103]



PHOTOGRAPH 4: SECTION 002, FEATURE [103]



PHOTOGRAPH 5: SECTION 003, FEATURE [107]



PHOTOGRAPH 6: SECTION 004, FEATURE [110]

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Accession Code: DZSWS:37-2021

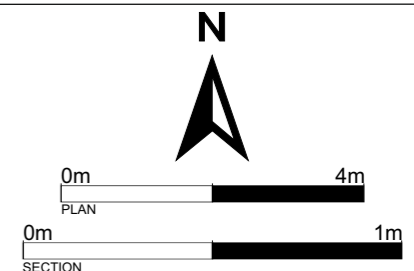
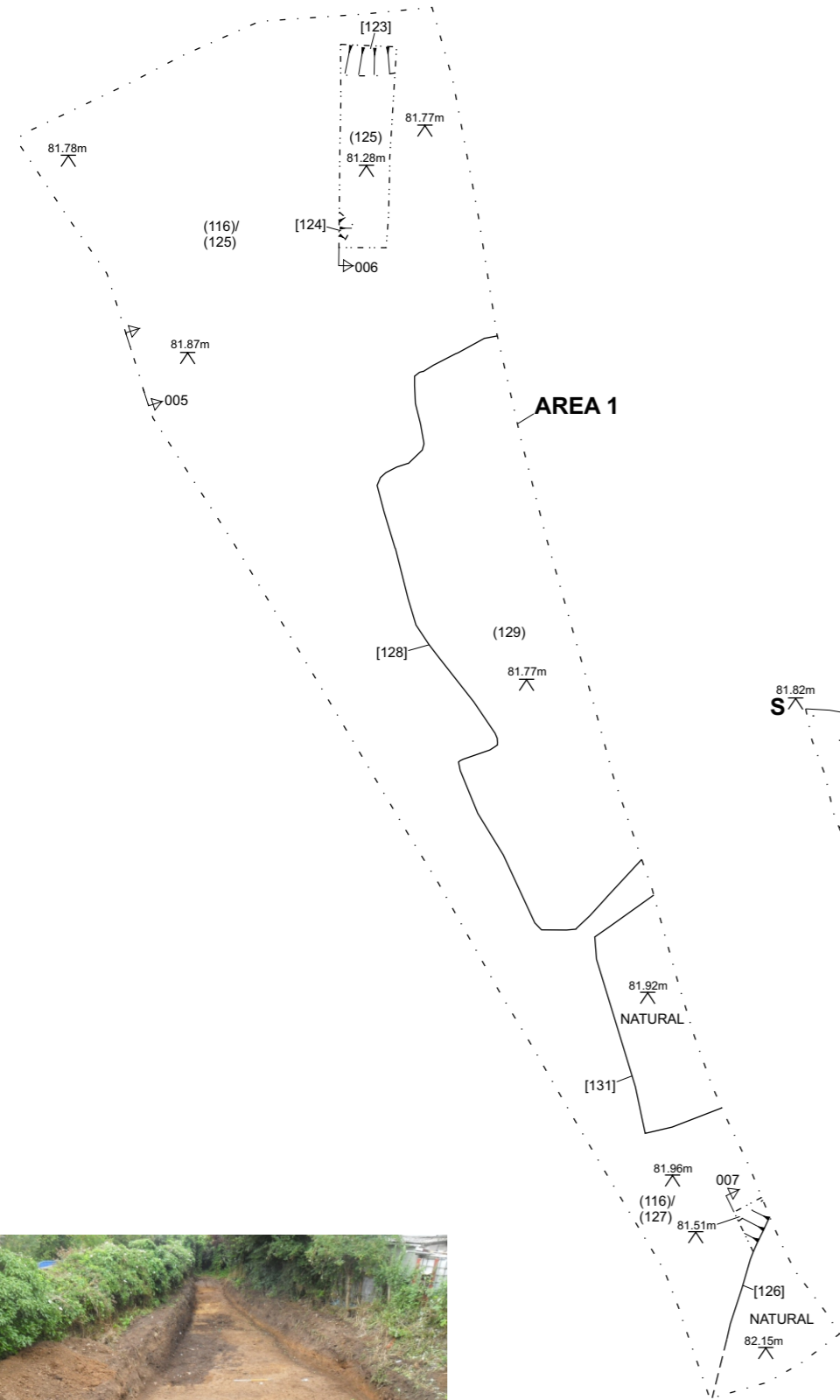
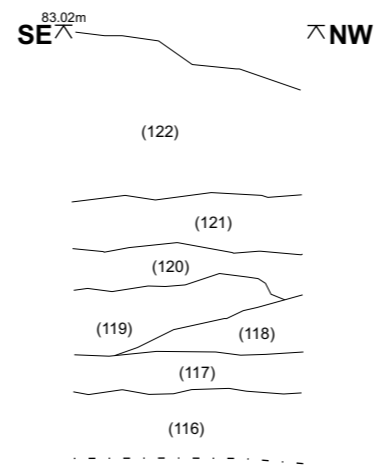


FIGURE 3: Trench 1 Plans, Sections and Photographs

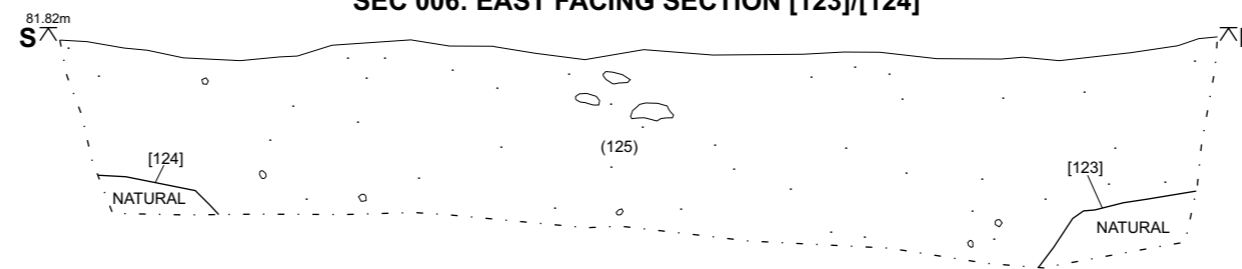


SEC 005: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION



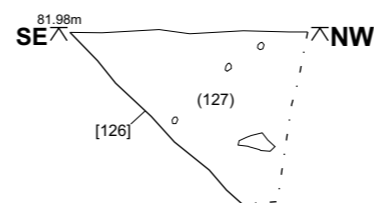
PHOTOGRAPH 8: SECTION 005

SEC 006: EAST FACING SECTION [123]/[124]



PHOTOGRAPH 9: SECTION 006, FEATURE [123]/[124]

SEC 007: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [126]



PHOTOGRAPH 10: SECTION 007, FEATURE [126]



PHOTOGRAPH 7: AREA 1 LOOKING SOUTHEAST

Site Code: ULW21
Accession Code: DZSWS:37-2021

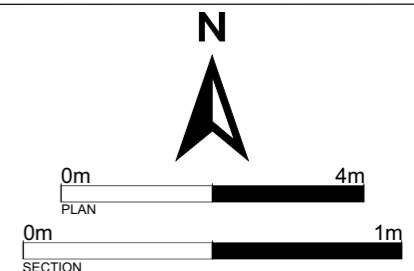


FIGURE 4: Area 1 Plan, Sections and Photographs