

**364 MARLBOROUGH ROAD,
SWINDON,
WILTSHIRE.**

NGR: SU 17360 82840 (centred)

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND
WATCHING BRIEF;**

POST EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT.

July 2009

Report No. 654

Quality Assurance

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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.

CBM

Ceramic Building Material.

Corn drier

A heated stone, brick or iron chamber used for drying corn.

Four-poster

Square arrangements of postholes, around 2-4m², which are commonly interpreted as the remains of raised granaries or haystacks. These types of feature are commonly found at hillfort and farm sites datable to the later Prehistoric and Roman periods.

Medieval

The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and c. AD 1500.

Natural

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site, in this case *Portland Beds* limestone deposits.

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 c. 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 c. AD 410.

Saxon

The period between AD 43 and the Norman Conquest (AD 1066).

SUMMARY

Between the 26th July and the 14th November 2007 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of, and during, development works on land at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon, Wiltshire (NGR: SU 17360 82840 - centred). The archaeological works were commissioned by Antler Homes Wessex Ltd.

The archaeological investigations revealed moderately well preserved archaeological features and deposits, which included evidence for late Mesolithic occupation activity, in the form of a relatively substantial flint scatter, along with a limited assemblage of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints and a small amount of Iron Age pottery.

A probable Prehistoric ring-ditch was also present; however, it remained unclear if it represented a truncated barrow ditch or a roundhouse drip-gully.

Roman settlement evidence, represented by pits, postholes, ditches and a probable corn drier, was datable to the earlier-mid Roman period. A large number of the pits were probably limestone quarries, with the corn drier, ditches and dispersed postholes and pits most likely representing activity related to an agricultural regime. The recovered Roman pottery, CBM, animal bone and small finds assemblages were consistent with a rural settlement.

There was limited evidence that at least some of the Roman features were in-filled in the Saxon or early-Medieval period.

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

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In 2007 Foundations Archaeology was commissioned by Antler Homes Wessex Ltd. to undertake a programme of archaeological excavation and subsequent watching brief in advance of, and during, development works on land at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon, Wiltshire (NGR: SU 17360 82840 - centred). The proposed development comprised four domestic dwellings, with associated garages, access and landscaping (Application Reference Number: S/06/1314/CA).
- 1.2 The archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2007), *IfA Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Excavation* (2001) and *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (CAS 1995).
- 1.3 The subsequent archaeological watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the WSI prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2007), *IfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (1999) and *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (CAS 1995).
- 1.4 This document provides an assessment of the evidence recovered during the archaeological excavation and watching brief and a programme to bring the results to publication. This assessment now details the proposed publication format and content of the project report. The document conforms to the specification set out in MoRPHE (English Heritage, 2006).
- 1.5 In the following sections, a summary of the results from the investigation is followed by an assessment of its stated aims and an overall assessment of the importance of the site is given. Finally each major category of finds is then similarly assessed in turn.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The study area was located immediately south of Marlborough Road, was bounded to the west and east by domestic dwellings and to the south by Coate Water Country Park. The site was situated on gently sloping land, on top of a natural ridge, with extensive views to the south. A number of natural springs were located to the south of the site. The underlying geology comprised *Portland Beds* limestone deposits.
- 2.2 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Bernard Phillips in 2006, which involved the excavation of eight 1.2m by 1.2m test pits within the study area. In the northern part of the site, Test pits 1-3 identified no archaeological features, although a number of struck flint flakes of Mesolithic/Neolithic date were recovered from each, along with a single Roman pottery sherd from Test pit 2. Archaeological features were identified in Test pits 4-7 in the southern part of the site, although no features were present in Test pit 8. The size of the

test pits meant that interpretation of these features was tenuous, but they appeared to represent ditches and pits of Roman and Anglo-Saxon date, and may have included a Saxon sunken featured building (SFB). Struck flints were also recovered from Test-pits 4, 7 and 8. The evaluation therefore indicated that there was *in situ* flint working during the Prehistoric period, followed by a hiatus until the Roman period. Anglo-Saxon activity appeared to have followed, although again, there may have been a significant hiatus in occupation between the 3rd century AD and 5th/6th century AD. No Medieval activity was identified, suggesting a subsequent shift in the focus of settlement.

- 2.3 The study area therefore contained the potential for undisturbed archaeological features and deposits, predominantly associated with the Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon periods. This did not prejudice the investigations against the recovery of evidence dating to other periods.
- 2.4 In accordance with the principles of PPG16 (Planning Policy Guidance, note 16), and the archaeological policies set out in *HE2 Wiltshire Structure Plan 2016 (2006)* and *ENV5, ENV6 Swindon Local Plan 2011 (2006)*, a programme of archaeological works, which included an archaeological excavation and subsequent watching brief, was required by the Historic Environment Service.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Area 1 (625m²) was stripped at the location of proposed house plots 3 and 4, in the southern half of the site. Due to the presence of significant archaeological deposits within Area 1, it was agreed that three further areas were to be stripped at the location of proposed house plot 2 (Area 2; 157m²), with associated detached garage (Area 4; 30m²) and the proposed access road (Area 3; 180m²). Due to the presence of substantial in-fill deposits in Area 3, which were probably associated with quarrying activities, the groundworks associated with the construction of proposed house plot 1 and associated garage were subject to archaeological watching brief monitoring.
- 3.2 **Excavation (Areas 1 – 4);** Topsoil and non-significant overburden were removed to the top of archaeological or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved by use of a 360° tracked excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.3 Upon completion of the mechanical strip, the exposed deposits were trowel cleaned and planned. All subsequent investigations were conducted by hand. The excavation, recording and sampling of archaeological features and deposits was generally undertaken in accordance with the excavation WSI. Any deviation to the written methodology was agreed, on-site, with the archaeological representatives of the local planning authority.

- 3.4 A metal detector survey, which comprised a scan of all features and spoil heaps, was undertaken in Areas 1 to 4. This was achieved by use of a *Whites DFX Twin Frequency Eclipse D.D. Coil* (iron and non-ferrous – 12” depth) metal detector.
- 3.5 **Watching Brief;** The monitored groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation footing trenches for proposed house plot 1 and associated garage, as shown in Figure 2. In accordance with the watching brief WSI, all mechanical excavation was undertaken by use of a 360° tracked excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological observation. Potential archaeological deposits were manually investigated and, where appropriate, hand excavated and recorded. Spoil heaps were visually scanned for finds.

4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 4.1 The natural substrates, which consisted of solid limestone, were encountered at an average depth of 0.57m (120.70m OD) below the modern ground surface in southern half of the study area (Area 1) and 0.48m (121.94m OD) in the northern half of the study area (Areas 2 to 4). In all of the excavation areas and the monitored footing trenches, the natural deposits were overlaid by a mid brown, friable clay sand topsoil, up to 0.84m thick.
- 4.2 Numerous archaeological features and deposits were present within the investigated areas. The stratigraphic descriptions of these are detailed in Appendix 1 with Harris Matrices presented in Appendix 2. A summary discussion is given below.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 Visibility conditions, after trowel cleaning, were generally very good; however, some of the features, such a penannular ditch [1085], exhibited a significant degree of truncation. Given the evidence for multiple phases of activity within the site, it was likely that the partial survival of some features and deposits was due to a combination of truncation in antiquity, as well as later plough damage.
- 5.2 **Prehistoric**
- 5.2.1 The earliest evidence from the site comprised an assemblage of worked flint and stone, which represented at least two industries, datable to the late Mesolithic and the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age periods.
- 5.2.2 The late Mesolithic flint assemblage provided evidence for a focus of considerable knapping activity within the study area. It was therefore probable that the flint scatter represented an occupation site, which may have been visited over a prolonged period of time.

- 5.2.3 Despite extensive trowel cleaning, along with excavation of numerous natural depressions and shallow 'sink holes' (not recorded), no cut features demonstrably related to the late Mesolithic activity were present within the study area. In light of the evidence for later archaeological activity, it is unlikely that potentially ephemeral Mesolithic features would have survived.
- 5.2.4 The late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints formed a fairly low density scatter and represented evidence for activity in the general vicinity of the study area.
- 5.2.5 A total of three sherds of late Iron Age pottery provided limited evidence for activity, although no features were securely datable to the later Prehistoric period.
- 5.2.6 Given their relative locations, penannular ditch [1085] and Roman feature [1091] were unlikely to have been contemporary. The poor survival of ditch [1085] compared to feature [1091] suggested that it had been truncated prior to the construction feature [1091] and, as such, represented a Prehistoric ring-ditch.
- 5.2.7 No features were demonstrably associated with ring-ditch [1085] and, as such, it was unclear whether it represented the truncated remains of a Prehistoric barrow ditch or a later Prehistoric roundhouse drip-gully. The occurrence of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints and late Iron Age pottery within the study area suggested that both interpretations were possible, although the relatively narrow profile of the ditch was more in keeping with the form of a drip-gully.
- 5.2.8 A single sherd of 2nd century AD or later Roman pottery, within context (1086), suggested that ring-ditch [1085] was in-filled in the Roman period; however, in light of the shallow depth of the feature, it is entirely possible that the Roman material was invasive.

5.3 Roman

- 5.3.1 The overwhelming majority (98%) of pottery recovered from the site dated to the Roman period. Features associated with Roman pottery included pits, postholes, ditches and a probable *corn drier*.
- 5.3.2 On the whole, the archaeological deposits were fairly dispersed, with only a small number of inter-cutting features. One pocket of stratigraphy was, however, present; ditch [1039] was cut by pit [1078], posthole [1082] and feature [1091], which itself was cut by posthole [1113]. This stratigraphic sequence suggested at least three phases of activity, which were associated with 1st - 2nd century AD pottery.
- 5.3.3 A high potential for the presence of residual Roman artefacts was demonstrated, in ditch [1030], by the occurrence of Roman pottery in fill

(1026), which was located above Saxon fill (1028) and, in pit [1076], by the occurrence of Roman pottery within Medieval fill (1077).

- 5.3.4 In light of the general lack of stratigraphy, along with the high potential for residual dating evidence, it was not instructive to divide the Roman deposits into sub-phases of activity. A general interpretation of the Roman evidence is given below.
- 5.3.5 A significant number of the pits within Area 1 formed ‘pit-clusters’, these included;
 - i) cluster 1 = pits [1004], [1015], [1018], [1031], [1033], [1035], [1037], [1092], [1094], [1096], [1098], [1100] and [1102];
 - ii) cluster 2 = pits [1089], [1120], [1122], [1125] and [1127];
 - iii) cluster 3 = pits [1065], [1067], [1069], [1071], [1074], [1087], [1104], [1116], [1130], [1132], [1134];
 - iv) possible cluster 4 = pits [1048], [1050] and [1052].
- 5.3.6 The pits were variable in shape and size, but had a generally rounded and amorphous profile, up to 0.80m in depth. They were cut into the solid limestone deposits and probably represented limestone quarry pits. The features were associated with substantial in-fills, which contained numerous Roman artefacts. One sherd of Saxon pottery within feature [1089] suggested that at least some of the quarry pits were back-filled in the post-Roman period. A single sherd of Iron Age pottery within pit [1098] was likely to be residual.
- 5.3.7 Features [2013] and [3002] formed a substantial, northwest-southeast aligned linear cut feature, with a sloping, irregular profile, up to 0.66m in depth, which was present in the southeast of Area 2 and the southern half of Area 3. The feature was only partially excavated; however, it was associated with substantial in-fills, which yielded earlier-mid Roman pottery. A similar in-fill (5002) was present within the footing trenches for proposed house plot 1, but was not present within the associated garage footing trenches, where the modern topsoil directly overlaid *in-situ* natural solid limestone deposits. It was very likely that feature [2013]/[3002] and in-fill (5002) represented a continuation of the limestone quarrying activity identified in Area 1.
- 5.3.8 Postholes [2004], [2008], [2015] and [3004] formed a northwest-southeast aligned linear post setting, which probably represented a former fence line. It was located to the northeast of, and shared a similar alignment to the edge of quarry [2013]/[3002]/(5002), and may possibly have been contemporary. A single sherd of Saxon pottery within posthole [2008] suggested a post-Roman back-fill; however given the shallow profile of the feature, it was possible that the pottery represented invasive material.

- 5.3.9 Ditch [1039] was associated with 1st - 2nd century AD material, was earlier than feature [1091] (see below) and was almost certainly datable to the earlier Roman period. The feature appeared to have been intentionally situated between ditch [1030] to the north and pit cluster 1 to the south and, as such, possibly indicated that all three features were, at least roughly, contemporary.
- 5.3.10 Feature [1030] comprised a substantial, rock-cut, west-northwest – east-southeast aligned boundary ditch. Establishing a date for the ditch was problematic. The feature was possibly contemporary with early Roman ditch [1039]; however, a sherd of Saxon pottery, recovered from basal fill (1028), strongly suggested a post-Roman in-fill. Unfortunately, due to the limits of excavation, it was not possible to determine the relationship between ditch [1030] and the quarrying activity.
- 5.3.11 Feature [1091] comprised an east-west aligned *cruciform* stone-built structure (Figures 6, 7 and 13). An outcrop of solid, natural limestone deposits immediately to the north of the feature had apparently protected it from plough damage, which resulted in exceptional preservation. In light of the good preservation conditions and in order to recover as much information as possible, the feature was entirely excavated. The resulting data suggested a three phase stratigraphic sequence;
- 5.3.12 Phase 1 (Figure 7): Context [1109] consisted of an east-west aligned cruciform pit with a generally flat base, which was cut into the top of the natural limestone, up to a depth of 0.30m at the west and 0.20m at the east. The pit was subsequently lined with a limestone and clay bonded wall (1110)/(1111), which survived up to five courses (0.30m) in depth. The stone-built structure was very well constructed, with internally faced stones forming a regular inner wall, which formed a cruciform space, with the wide end at the east and an open end at the west (Figure 7, Plan 2).
- 5.3.13 Limestone slab (1136) was present at the west end of the structure. This feature was laid flat, directly on top of the natural limestone and was abutted by clay (1111). Frequent evidence for burning at this location strongly suggested that stone slab (1136) represented the remains of a fire platform at the western, open, end of the structure. There was no evidence that context (1136) had originally formed part of a more extensive internal floor.
- 5.3.14 Skeletal material from two partially articulated lambs (1137) was present within the clay bonding matrix (1111) of wall (1110). There was no evidence of later disturbance or intrusion at this location, and deposit (1137) was securely stratified *within* the wall structure (Figure 7, Plan 3 and inset). It was therefore very likely that the animal remains were deposited at the time of construction, and possibly represented a votive offering.
- 5.3.15 Phase 2 (Figures 6 and 7, Sections 1042, 1044 and 1045): Context (1106) comprised a lens of charcoal-rich material, which occurred across the base of feature [1091], within the confines of wall (1110)/(1111). Lens (1106) almost

certainly represented an *in-situ* floor deposit and, as such, was associated with the use of feature [1091].

- 5.3.16 Phase 3 (Figures 6 and 7): Deposit (1112) occurred across the entire length of feature [1091] and consisted of a mixed in-fill, which contained frequent limestone fragments, along with charcoal and patches of re-deposited bonding clay (1111). Context (1112) was stratigraphically later than Phase 1 and 2 contexts, and probably represented a demolition deposit. The limestone fragments and patches of re-deposited bonding clay within fill (1112) were probably derived from a former superstructure.
- 5.3.17 Feature [1091] was stratigraphically later than ditch [1039] and, as such, was constructed no earlier than the 2nd century AD. Two sherds of 2nd century AD pottery were recovered from wall bonding clay (1111) and 19 sherds of mid-late 2nd century AD or later pottery, were recovered from in-fill (1112). The stratigraphic and artefactual dating evidence, therefore, indicated that feature [1091] was constructed, used and abandoned in the 2nd – 3rd century AD.
- 5.3.18 The form of feature [1091] was entirely consistent with that of a *corn drier*. The occurrence of abundant, well preserved, charred cereal grains within contexts (1106) and (1112) strongly supported this interpretation.
- 5.3.19 Postholes [4002], [4004], [4006] and [4008] formed a square setting, approximately 4m², which possibly represented a *four-poster*. Although the postholes were undated, this type of feature is commonly found on later Prehistoric and Roman sites, and has previously been interpreted as representing the remains of an above-ground granary or haystack. It was, therefore, entirely possible that corn drier [1091] and the possible four-poster were associated.
- 5.3.20 Further features, in the form of dispersed pits and postholes, were present in Areas 1, 2 and 4. On the whole, these were associated with Roman artefactual material, and were consistent with the other Roman features and deposits present within the site.
- 5.3.21 The Roman pottery assemblage from the site predominately dated to the 2nd – 3rd century AD, which suggested a focus of activity in the earlier-mid Roman period. The assemblage was dominated by local wares, which was characteristic of a rural, possibly low status domestic site.
- 5.3.22 Ceramic floor tile, recovered from multiple contexts, indicated the presence of fairly permanent structures in the vicinity of the site. A complete lack of Roman ceramic or stone roofing tile suggested that these structures probably had thatched/wooden roofs.
- 5.3.23 The animal bone assemblage was dominated by domestic species, which included cattle and sheep/goat, along with some horse and pig. This was consistent with that to be expected from a Roman rural site. Dog and deer

were also present, along with infant specimens, which possibly indicated stock-rearing activities.

- 5.3.24 The small finds from the site comprised a total of 58 metal objects, which were datable to the Roman and Post-medieval/modern periods. The possible Roman objects included a 1st century AD copper brooch, a copper buckle frame, a copper ferrule, two copper studs/nails, a fragment of lead sheet, two small fragments of molten lead, an iron stylus/awl, three iron cleats and 22 iron hobnails, which were probably derived from Roman footwear and approximately 22 iron nails and nail fragments. Apart from the two small fragments of molten lead, there was no significant evidence for metal processing or working within the site.
- 5.3.25 Bulk soil samples yielded assemblages of molluscs and charred plant macro-fossils. The molluscan evidence indicated that the immediate environs to the site comprised dry, stable grassland throughout the Roman period and possibly into to the Saxon period. Evidence for cereal cultivation and on-site processing was present in the form of charred plant remains.

5.4 Saxon

- 5.4.1 No features were demonstrably datable to the Saxon period. Three of the four sherds of Saxon pottery recovered from the site were present within the in-fills of earlier Roman features. The remaining sherd was recovered from a relatively shallow posthole, and possibly represented invasive material. The evidence from the site therefore indicated a general Saxon presence in the landscape, with further limited evidence that the some of the Roman remains, such as ditch [1030] and pit [1089] were in-filled in the Saxon or early-Medieval period.

5.5 Medieval

- 5.5.1 Medieval evidence was limited to one possible pit [1076], which cut Roman pit [1074] and contained a single sherd of Medieval pottery, along with a single unstratified pottery sherd.

6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

- 6.1 The excavation and watching brief programme identified and recorded moderately well preserved archaeological features and deposits.
- 6.2 Evidence for late Mesolithic occupation activity was present in the form of a relatively substantial flint scatter, with further evidence for later Prehistoric activity in the form of a limited assemblage of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints and a small amount of Iron Age pottery.
- 6.3 A probable Prehistoric ring-ditch was also present; however, it remained unclear if it represented a truncated barrow ditch or a roundhouse drip-gully.

- 6.4 Roman settlement evidence, in the form of pits, postholes, ditches and a probable corn drier, was datable to the earlier-mid Roman period. A large number of amorphous pits were probably limestone quarries, with the corn drier, ditches and dispersed postholes and pits most likely representing activity related to an agricultural regime.
- 6.5 The recovered Roman pottery, CBM, animal bone and small finds assemblages were consistent with a rural settlement.
- 6.6 There was limited evidence that at least some of the Roman features were in-filled in the Saxon or early-Medieval period. There was, however, no evidence for significant Saxon or later activity within the study area.
- 6.7 The late Mesolithic flint assemblage represents an important addition to the corpus of known sites in the Upper Thames Valley. Whilst no further analytical work is recommended, a report of approximately 2000 words, with one table and appropriate illustrations, should be included in the site publication.
- 6.8 The Roman pottery from the site forms a relatively important assemblage, which warrants full analysis, with appropriate illustrations and subsequent publication.
- 6.9 The small finds are of local importance and warrant limited further conservation and analysis, which should include;
- i) cleaning of the surface of the copper brooch;
 - ii) identification and cataloguing of five of the copper items (the buckle frame, the ferrule, the brooch, the nail and nail/stud) along with one of the iron objects (the possible stylus or awl);
 - iii) comparison of the above objects with contemporary parallels.
- The current small finds assessment, along with the results of the further analysis, should be combined to form a synthesized publication report, with appropriate contextual discussion and illustrations.
- 6.10 The animal bone assemblage is small and only warrants limited further work, which should comprise;
- i) confirmation of the presence of deer species;
 - ii) measurement of the dog radius and comparison with published data;
 - iii) comparison of possible votive deposit (1137) with parallels in the literature.

The current animal bone assessment, along with the results of the further analysis, should be combined to form a synthesized publication report, with appropriate contextual discussion.

- 6.11 The mollusca assemblage is small and, in itself, of limited interpretative value. However, the complete assemblage of shell should be retained with the site archive for future comparison.
- 6.12 A number of contexts yielded relatively well preserved assemblages of charred plant material and charred wood fragments. Analysis of these assemblages is likely to provide information regarding the utilization and processing of crops and wild foods, along with the selection of wood used for fuel at the site. The following assemblages are recommended for further analysis;

Sample	Context
2	(1112)
3	(1106)
4	(1106)
5	(1106)
14	(1041)
16	(1028)
19	(1026)
24	(1045)
25	(1049)
49	(1114)
61	(2003)

7 NATURE OF THE RECORD

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

Context Sheets
Record Sheets
Plans
Sections
Black & White photographs
Colour slides
Digital photographs

- 7.2 The following contexts types were represented:

Flint scatter;
Ring-ditch;
Pit/Quarry;
Posthole;
Ditch;
Corn drier.

- 7.3 The methodologies used to recover this evidence were set out in the excavation WSI and watching brief WSI. In summary, the following 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 and watching brief, an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with MoRPHE.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

- 8.1 Of the four specific objectives set out in the excavation WSI (4.2) and watching brief WSI (4.2), the following have been achieved:
- i) *to identify and define the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible - this has been achieved;*
 - 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 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 present – this has been achieved.*
- 8.2 The results of the fieldwork justified the implementation of the excavation and watching brief programme and the site is clearly of sufficient quality to warrant publication in a local 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 the 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

Report structure

Background

Location and topography

Methodology

Excavated evidence

Site chronology and summary of stratigraphic evidence

Synthesis

Conclusion

Review of objectives

Illustrations

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendices

- 9.2 The report should comprise approximately 8-10 pages of text illustrated with appropriate plans, sections, finds drawings and photographs.
- 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 Swindon Museum and Art Gallery.

10 REFERENCES

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11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
EXCAVATION; Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4				
1001	na	na	0.57	Area 1 topsoil; mid brown, friable clay sand.
[1002]	0.5	?	0.25	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1003.
1003	0.5	?	0.25	Fill of [1002]; dark brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1004]	2	1.4	0.41	Linear cut, probably a pit, with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fills 1005 and 1006.
1005	2	1.4	0.3	Secondary fill of [1004]; mid brown silt clay with occasional limestone fragments.
1006	2	1.4	0.16	Primary fill of [1004]; yellow brown silt clay with frequent limestone fragments.
[1007]	0.45	0.45	0.22	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1008.
1008	0.45	0.45	0.22	Fill of [1007]; dark brown clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1009]	0.4	0.28	0.15	Sub-oval posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1010.
1010	0.4	0.28	0.15	Fill of [1009]; dark brown clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
1011				void
1012				void
1013				void
1014	?	0.84	0.07	Layer of dark brown, friable clay silt with frequent small limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks.
[1015]	1.5	1.3	0.51	Sub-oval pit with steep sides and an irregular base. Contains fills 1017, 1016 and 1041.
1016	?	0.84	0.05	Secondary fill of [1015]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks.
1017	?	2.64	0.27	Primary fill of [1015] and [1018]; yellow brown clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1018]	1.2	1.1	0.12	Sub-oval pit with a shallow, irregular profile. Contains fill 1017.
1019				void
1020				void
1021				void
1022				void
1023				void
[1024]	0.5	0.4	0.36	Sub-oval posthole with steep, irregular sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1025.
1025	0.5	0.4	0.36	Fill of [1024]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
1026	?	2.34	0.42	Tertiary fill of [1030]; grey brown sand silt with occasional limestone fragments.
1027	?	1.73	0.23	Secondary fill of [1030]; yellow brown sand silt with frequent limestone fragments.
1028	?	1.7	0.42	Primary fill of [1030]; mid brown silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and rare charcoal flecks.
1029				void
[1030]	12.3	2.3	0.9	East-west aligned linear ditch with steep, sloping sides and a flat base. Substantial feature cut through solid limestone deposits.
				Contains fills 1026, 1027, 1028, 1056, 1057 and 1115.
[1031]	2	0.7	0.41	Sub-oval pit with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fills 1032 and 1041.
1032	2	0.7	0.23	Primary fill of [1031]; tan clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1033]	2.2	1.2	0.48	Sub-oval pit with vertical sides and a flat base. Contains fills 1034 and 1041.
1034	?	0.8	0.33	Primary fill of [1033]; tan clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1035]	1.2	0.9	0.22	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1036.
1036	1.2	0.9	0.22	Fill of [1035]; light tan clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1037]	1.8	1.5	0.3	Sub-oval pit with an irregular profile. Contains fill 1038.
1038	1.8	1.5	0.3	Fill of [1037]; tan clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1039]	13.3	1.2	0.39	North-south aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Terminates at north and south. Contains fill 1040.
1040	13.3	1.2	0.39	Primary fill of [1039]; orange brown clay silt.
1041	7	4	0.36	Fill of [1015], [1031], [1033] and [1094]; mid brown, soft clay silt with occasional limestone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. Substantial dumped levelling deposit.
[1042]	0.82	0.6	0.18	Cut feature, probably a pit, with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1043.
1043	0.82	0.6	0.18	Fill of [1042]; mid brown, plastic clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1044]	3.5	2.4	0.21	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1045.
1045	3.5	2.4	0.21	Fill of [1044]; mid brown, compact clay silt with frequent limestone fragments and occasional pink (heated?) clay patches.
1046				Void
1047				Void
[1048]	1.5	1.2	0.23	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1049.
1049	1.5	1.2	0.23	Fill of [1048]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1050]	1	0.85	0.16	Sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1051.
1051	1	0.85	0.16	Fill of [1050]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
[1052]	0.6	0.6	0.22	Sub-circular pit with steep sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1053.
1053	0.6	0.6	0.22	Fill of [1052]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
1054				Void
1055				Void
1056	?	0.85	0.65	Primary fill of [1030]; dark brown sand silt.
1057	?	1.64	0.54	Secondary fill of [1030]; brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments and rare charcoal flecks.
1058	?	3.4	0.14	Layer of brown orange clay sand.
[1059]	0.41	0.41	0.26	Sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1060.
1060	0.41	0.41	0.26	Fill of [1059]; dark brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1061]	1.16	0.75	0.26	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a flat base.
1062	1.16	0.75	0.26	Fill of [1061]; mid brown, compact clay silt with frequent limestone fragments and occasional pink (heated?) clay patches.
				Equivalent with fill 1045.
1063				Void
1064				Void
[1065]	2.2	1.52	0.4	Rectilinear pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1066.
1066	2.2	1.52	0.4	Fill of [1065]; dark brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
[1067]	1.5	1.2	0.19	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1068.
1068	1.5	1.2	0.19	Fill of [1067]; brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
[1069]	1.5	1.3	0.18	Sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1070.
1070	1.5	1.3	0.18	Fill of [1069]; brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
[1071]	2	2	0.8	Sub-square pit with an irregular profile. Contains fill 1072.
1072	2	2	0.58	Fill of [1071]; light brown sand with occasional limestone fragments and rare oyster fragments.
1073	?	3.8	0.26	Layer of dark brown clay silt.
[1074]	2.2	1.3	0.6	Sub-oval pit with steep sides and an irregular base. Contains fill 1075.
1075	2.2	1.3	0.6	Fill of [1074]; light brown sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1076]	1.6	1.1	0.41	Cut feature, possibly a linear pit, with steep sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1077.
1077	1.6	1.1	0.41	Fill of [1076]; dark brown clay sand.

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
[1078]	2.2	1.1	0.21	Sub-oval pit with steep sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1079.
1079	2.2	1.1	0.21	Fill of [1078]; grey brown, compact clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1080]	0.6	0.6	0.2	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1081.
1081	0.6	0.6	0.2	Fill of [1080]; grey sand silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1082]	0.6	0.6	0.2	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Equivalent with posthole [1080]. Contains fill 1083.
1083	0.6	0.6	0.2	Fill of [1082]; grey sand silt with frequent limestone fragments. Equivalent with fill 1081.
1084	?	1	0.09	Secondary fill of [1039]; grey clay silt.
[1085]	12.3	0.33	0.12	Truncated remains of a penannular ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. Dissipates at northeast and southwest.
				Contains fill 1086.
1086	12.3	0.33	0.12	Fill of [1085]; mid brown, soft clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
[1087]	1.5	0.7	0.37	Cut feature, probably a pit, with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1088.
1088	1.5	0.7	0.37	Fill of [1087]; mid brown clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1089]	2	1.1	0.36	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and an irregular, rounded base. Contains fill 1090.
1090	2	1.1	0.36	Fill of [1089]; dark brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1091]	4.08	2.33	0.37	Stone-built structure associated with burning and charcoal deposits. Comprises contexts; 1106, [1109], 1110, 1111, 1112, 1136
				and 1137.
[1092]	1.75	0.75	0.21	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1093.
1093	1.75	0.75	0.21	Fill of [1092]; tan brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1094]	0.88	0.6	0.25	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fills 1095 and 1041.
1095	?	0.76	0.11	Primary fill of [1094]; tan brown clay silt.
[1096]	0.9	0.85	0.13	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1097.
1097	0.9	0.85	0.13	Fill of [1096]; tan brown clay silt.
[1098]	1.5	0.9	0.27	Sub-oval pit with steep sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1099.
1099	1.5	0.9	0.27	Fill of [1098]; tan brown clay silt.
[1100]	1.5	1.2	0.26	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and an irregular, rounded base. Contains fill 1101.
1101	1.5	1.2	0.26	Fill of [1100]; tan brown clay silt.
[1102]	1.3	0.58	0.08	Cut feature, probably a pit, with a shallow, flat profile. Contains fill 1103.
1103	1.3	0.58	0.08	Fill of [1102]; light tan beige clay sand.

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
[1104]	2.28	1.8	0.36	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1105.
1105	2.28	1.8	0.36	Fill of [1104]; light brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
1106[1091]	3.2	1.78	0.1	Lens of black, charcoal rich clay silt. Occurs at base of cut [1109], abutts wall 1110/1111. Deposit associated with use of feature [1091].
1107	1.5	0.7	0.14	Fill of [1108]; green grey sand silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1108]	1.5	0.7	0.14	Sub-rectangular feature with a shallow, flat profile. Unclear if the feature represents an archaeological or natural deposit. Contains fill 1107.
[1109][1091]	4.08	2.33	0.37	Cut feature with steep to vertical sides and a flat base. Forms a cruciform pit with the 'T' at the east. Eastern edge is highly truncated.
1110[1091]	2.9	0.32	0.34	Limestone blocks (up to 0.32m long by 0.30m wide and 0.10m thick), set to a depth of up to five courses to form two parallel, east-west aligned linear walls within pit [1109]. Most of the blocks were internally faced and were bonded by context 1111.
				North wall; east-west aligned for a length of 1.9m. A 1m long 'dog-leg' at the east formed the wide end of a cruciform structure. The wall had a maximum width of 0.32m.
				South wall; east-west aligned for a length of 2.1m. The wall had a maximum width of 0.87m, which occurred at the east end of the structure.
				Both of the walls terminated approximately 1.20m from the west end of cut [1109]. A complete lack of evidence for significant disturbance/truncation at this location suggests that this represents the original, open-ended form of the structure.
				Structure 1110/1111 enclosed an internal area of 2.1m by 0.56m on its east-west axis and approximately 1.90m by 0.50m on its north-south axis. A number of stones (1110) at the western end of the structure were burnt and fire cracked.
1111[1091]	na	na	0.06	Bonding matrix for stones 1110; grey green, sticky clay. Occasional burnt patches at western end of structure 1110/1111. Contains context 1137. Occurs as re-deposited material within fill 1112.
1112[1091]	3.7	2.13	0.3	Mixed brown clay sand silt with frequent limestone fragments and frequent charcoal flecks, along with occasional patches of re-deposited 1111. In-fill deposit associated with demolition of feature [1091].
[1113]	0.43	0.43	0.18	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Equivalent with posthole [1119]. Contains fill 1114.
1114	0.43	0.43	0.18	Fill of [1113]; mid-dark brown sand silt with occasional limestone fragments.
1115	?	0.76	0.45	Fill of [1030]; mid grey brown sand silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1116]	1.1	0.7	0.22	Sub-rectangular pit with steep sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1117.
1117	1.1	0.7	0.22	Fill of [1116]; dark brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.

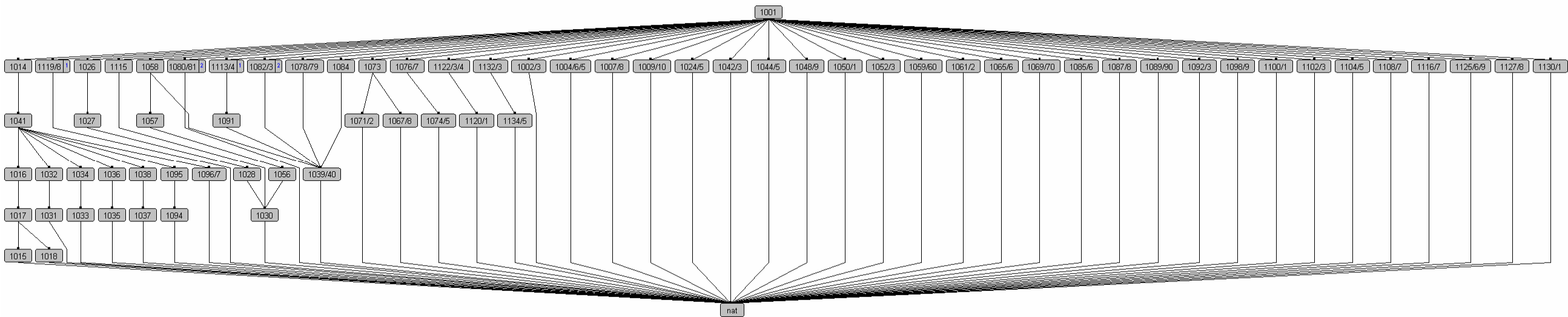
Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
1118	0.5	0.5	0.18	Fill of [1119]; mid brown sand silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[1119]	0.5	0.5	0.18	Sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1118.
[1120]	1.12	0.55	0.4	Cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 1121.
1121	1.12	0.55	0.4	Fill of [1122]; beige tan clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[1122]	3.2	3	0.46	Large, sub-oval pit with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fills 1123 and 1124.
1123	?	2.98	0.27	Primary fill of [1122]; red brown clay silt with occasional to frequent limestone fragments and rare oyster fragments.
1124	?	3.2	0.25	Secondary fill of [1122]; mid brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1125]	2.5	2	0.4	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fills 1126 and 1129.
1126	2.5	1.98	0.25	Primary fill of [1125]; red brown clay silt with occasional to frequent limestone fragments.
[1127]	1.6	1.25	0.51	Cut feature, probably a pit, with vertical sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1128.
1128	1.6	1.25	0.51	Fill of [1127]; dark brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
1129	2.5	2	0.17	Secondary fill of [1125]; mid brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1130]	1.4	1.3	0.25	Sub-square pit with sloping sides and a round base. Contains fill 1131.
1131	1.4	1.3	0.25	Fill of [1130]; mid brown silt sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[1132]	3.1	1.3	0.29	Sub-rectangular pit with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1133.
1133	3.1	1.3	0.29	Fill of [1132]; dark brown clay sand.
[1134]	2.25	2	0.4	Sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 1135.
1135	2.25	2	0.4	Fill of [1134]; mid brown clay sand.
1136[1091]	0.25	0.22	0.05	Burnt and fire-cracked limestone slab located at base of cut [1109], within area enclosed by structure 1110/1111. Associated with
				burnt 1111 and burnt natural deposits. Possible remains of a stone floor or fire platform.
1137[1091]	0.28	0.25	na	Assemblage of bones contained within context 1111.
2001	na	na	0.44	Area 2 topsoil; mid brown, friable clay sand.
[2002]	0.39	0.29	0.33	Sub-oval posthole with vertical sides and a flat base. Contains fill 2003.
2003	0.39	0.29	0.33	Mid brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments and rare charcoal flecks.
[2004]	0.4	0.4	0.17	Sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 2005.
2005	0.4	0.4	0.17	Fill of [2004]; mid brown clay sand with occasional limestone fragments.
[2006]	1.3	1.1	0.27	Sub-oval pit with an irregular, shallow profile. Contains fill 2007.
2007	1.3	1.1	0.27	Fill of [2006]; mid brown clay silt sand with occasional limestone fragments.

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
[2008]	0.44	0.44	0.2	Sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contains fill 2009.
2009	0.44	0.44	0.2	Fill of [2008]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[2010]	1.15	0.75	0.22	Shallow, sub-oval pit with posthole at southeast. Posthole is sub-circular with vertical sides and a flat base and
				measures 0.35m in diameter by 0.30m in depth. Contains fill 2011.
2011	1.15	0.75	0.52	Fill of [2010]; grey brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
2012				Void
[2013]	10	4.5	0.43	Substantial northwest-southeast aligned linear cut with an irregular, sloping profile. Equivalent to [3002]. Contains fill 2014.
2014	10	4.5	0.43	Fill of [2013]; mixed brown beige orange sand silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[2015]	0.49	0.49	0.16	Sub-circular posthole with a rounded profile. Contains fill 2016.
2016	0.49	0.49	0.16	Fill of [2015]; mid brown clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
3001	na	na	0.56	Area 3 topsoil; mid brown, friable clay sand.
[3002]	6.7	5+	0.66	Substantial northwest-southeast aligned linear cut with sloping sides and an irregular base. Contains fills 3003 and 3006.
3003	?	2	0.45	Fill of [3002]; orange brown clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
[3004]	0.5	0.5	0.17	Sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a flat base. Contains fill 3005.
3005	0.5	0.5	0.17	Fill of [3004]; mid brown clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
3006	?	1.7	0.66	Fill of [3002]; mixed brown and yellow clay sand with frequent limestone fragments.
4001	na	na	0.4	Area 4 topsoil; mid brown, friable clay sand.
[4002]	0.42	0.42	0.22	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 4003.
4003	0.42	0.42	0.22	Fill of [4002]; light brown, compact clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[4004]	0.42	0.42	0.26	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 4005.
4005	0.42	0.42	0.26	Fill of [4004]; light brown, compact clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[4006]	0.42	0.42	0.17	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contains fill 4007.
4007	0.42	0.42	0.17	Fill of [4006]; light brown, compact clay silt with frequent limestone fragments.
[4008]	0.3	0.3	0.08	Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, flat profile. Contains fill 4009.
4009	0.3	0.3	0.08	Fill of [4008]; light brown, compact clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.
[4010]	0.24	0.24	0.2	Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a pointed base. Contains fill 4011.
4011	0.24	0.24	0.2	Fill of [4010]; mid brown, compact clay silt with occasional limestone fragments.

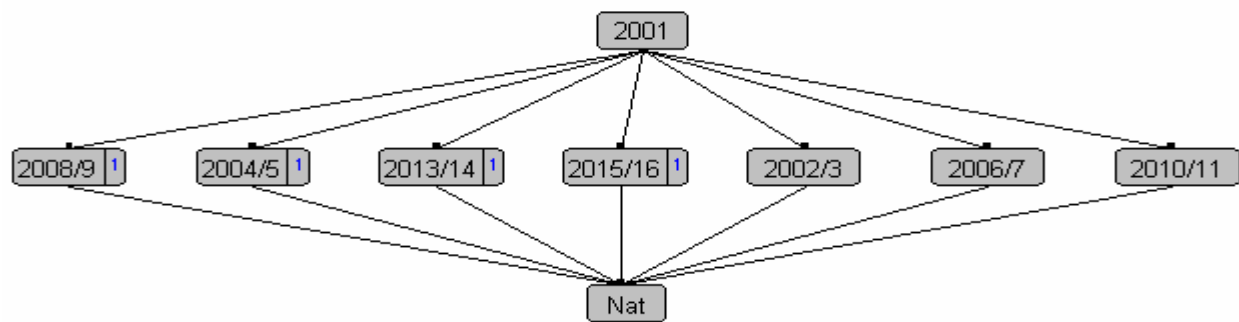
Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Description
				WATCHING BRIEF; Plot 1 and garage
5001	na	na	0.4	Plot 1 topsoil; dark brown, friable clay sand silt.
5002	na	na	1.5	Mixed beige brown sand with occasional limestone fragments. Generally equivalent to fills 2014, 3003 and 3006.
				Probably represents continuation of [2013]/[3002].
5003	na	na	0.6	Plot 1, garage topsoil; dark brown, friable clay sand silt. No archaeological features or deposits within garage footing trenches.

APPENDIX 2: Harris Matrices

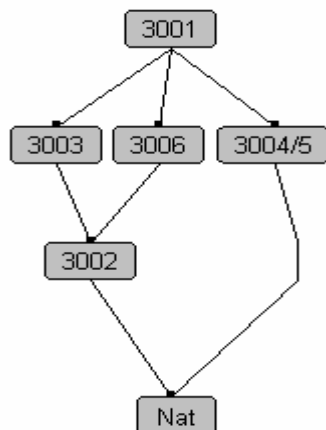
Area 1 matrix;



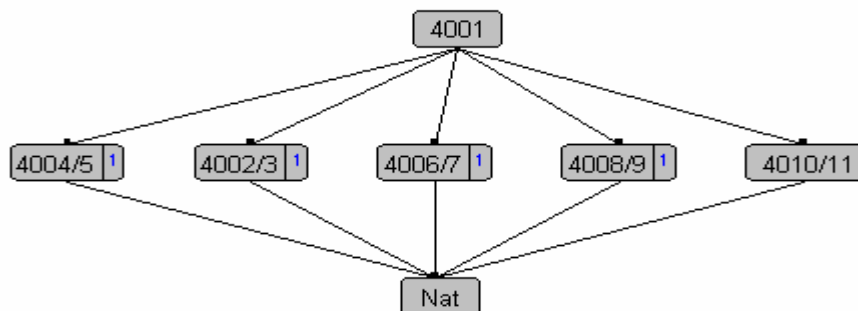
Area 2 matrix;



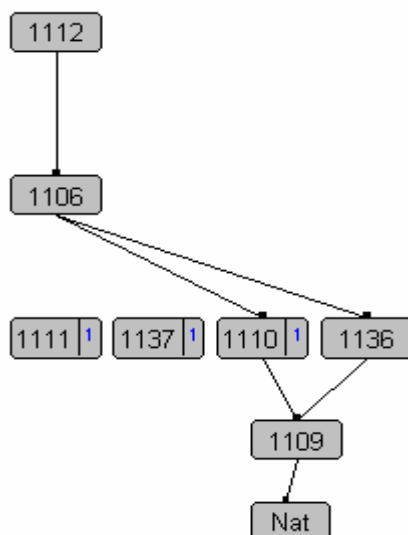
Area 3 matrix;



Area 4 matrix;



Feature [1091] matrix;



APPENDIX 3: Pottery

By Dr. Jane Timby

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The excavations at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon resulted in the recovery of 807 sherds of pottery weighing 11.5 kg, largely dating to the Roman period, accompanied by small quantities of later Prehistoric, Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval material. In addition 93 fragments, 1.5 kg, of fired clay/ceramic building material were recorded.
- 1.2 Pottery was recovered from 48 separate contexts with 229 sherds, 28% of the assemblage, from unstratified collections. The condition of the material was quite good with an overall average sherd size of 14.3 g.
- 1.3 For the purposes of the assessment the pottery assemblage was briefly scanned to assess its likely chronology and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. The resulting data is summarised in Table 1.
- 1.4 In the following, the pottery is discussed chronologically followed by a comment on the fired clay/CBM. No research has been carried out at this stage to seek local or regional parallels for the material.

2 Prehistoric

- 2.1 Three handmade bodysherds with a calcined flint temper are likely to be residual, or survivals of a late Iron Age tradition. One was an unstratified find; one was the only find from ext 1099 and one is mixed with later material in ext 1057.

3 Roman

- 3.1 Some 792 sherds of Roman pottery were recorded, 98% of the whole assemblage. The pottery appears to largely date to the earlier-mid Roman period with no obvious 4th-century wares although one or two sherds could be this late.
- 3.2 The assemblage is dominated by local grey sand and grog-tempered wares belonging to the North Wiltshire industries. A small quantity of imported material is reflected in 21 sherds of samian with pieces from South, Central and East Gaul and a single sherd of Central Gaulish black-slipped beaker.
- 3.3 Samian contributes 2.6% to the Roman assemblage, a typical figure for a fairly rural, lower status settlement. It is quite diverse with South Gaulish plain wares including the edge of a stamp on a cup base dating to the later 1st century; 2nd-century Central Gaulish wares including a fragment of

mortarium, Dr 45, a sherd of bowl, probably Dr 44 with a single perforation probably for a rivet repair and Dr 31 dishes and two East Gaulish sherds, one from a cup Dr 40 dating to the later 2nd-early 3rd century. Only one decorated sherd was present.

- 3.4 Regional imports include Dorset black burnished ware (DOR BB1) and Oxfordshire products. The former contributes c 6% to the assemblage and includes bowls, dishes and jars. The latest sherds are a jar with oblique latticing from cxt 1073 and an unstratified grooved-rim dish of later 2nd-early 3rd-century date. Significantly no 4th-century types are present. The Oxfordshire ware is limited to two sherds of colour-coated mortaria dating from the mid 3rd century onwards only one of which was stratified coming from cxt 3006.
- 3.5 Wiltshire grey sandy wares dominate accounting for 65.5% of the assemblage by count. Grey ware copies of DOR BB1 forms contribute a further 5.5% and grey grogged wares another 13.4%. The Wiltshire industries developed in the later 1st-early 2nd century with most the wares here appearing to belong to the 2nd and 3rd centuries.
- 3.6 Other Wiltshire products are reflected in a small amount of Savernake ware, mainly storage jar, some oxidised sandy ware and three sherds of colour-coated ware. A black sandy ware dating to the 1st-early 2nd century is represented with at least two carinated cups similar in form to those found in the Severn Valley industry.
- 3.7 A small fragment of a perforated disk made from a potsherd in a local fabric came from cxt 1034.
- 3.8 The character of the assemblage might suggest a fairly rural domestic site dating from the later 1st to early 2nd century through to the 3rd. Although a few later sherds are present their sporadic nature might indicated a shift in focus of the area of activity in the later Roman period. Although there are a few imports these only form a minor part of the group.

4 Saxon

- 4.1 In total four sherds of handmade Saxon ware are present. Most of the sherds have a sandy fabric with an organic temper. In addition there are two sherds, one with oolitic limestone; the other sandy with limestone which may also be of Saxon date.
- 4.2 The four definite sherds came from contexts 1028, 1090 (x2) and 2009.

5 Medieval and Post-medieval

- 5.1 Two sherds of Medieval date and six pieces of Post-medieval/modern date were recovered. Seven of these sherds came from unstratified collection with one medieval sherd from cxt 1077.

6 Ceramic building material

- 6.1 Some 93 pieces of fired clay/ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered. Most of this consists of friable tile-like fragments with two flat surfaces with a sparse fossil shell temper. Some pieces have a smooth upper surface and an organic-impressed lower surface and the most likely interpretation is that this material is from a floor surface or a mixture of floor and lining.
- 6.2 The recovered pieces were recovered from several contexts with the highest concentrations coming from 1084 and 1135. Apart from a piece of Post-medieval tile there were no pieces of standard roofing tile.

7 Summary and further work

- 7.1 The assemblage recovered appears to document occupation at or near the site from the early Roman period through to the 3rd century with very sporadic later Roman, Saxon and Medieval activity. It is a useful addition to the known Roman sites in the local area. It is unfortunate that many of these, including many of the pottery production sites supplying the bulk of the pottery to this and other sites in the region, are poorly documented and remain unpublished. For this reason any new site producing this quantity of Roman material warrants a short publication.
- 7.2 Further work would involve full analysis of the pottery and the preparation of a short publication report accompanied by c 10-15 illustrations. This work should be undertaken in conjunction with full site information.

Table 1: The pottery from 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon

Context	Preh	SAM	BB1	WILRE	WILOX	Other	Saxon	Med/PM	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date	cbm/fc	cbm/fc wt
1008	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	C2+		
1014	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	27	459	eC2		
1016	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	49	C2+		
1026	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	0	10	197	late C3-C4		
1028	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	4	211	Saxon	10	140
1034	0	0	0	13	0	2	0	0	15	148	C2+		
1036	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	16	C2nd+		
1038	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	C2+	1	6
1040	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	6	60	C2		
1041	0	3	9	101	1	2	0	0	116	1293	C2	10	86
1049	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	55	C1/C2	1	1
1051	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	30	C2		
1053	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	6	31	m-1C2+		
1056	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	18	C2+		
1057	1	2	0	39	1	10	0	0	53	1435	C1/eC2	2	9
1062	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Roman	12	173
1066	0	2	2	11	1	1	0	0	17	83	1C2-C3		
1068	0	0	1	21	0	0	0	0	22	90	C2-C3		
1070	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	8	C2		
1072	0	1	0	29	0	0	0	0	30	215	C2	1	3
1073	0	3	8	21	1	0	0	0	33	338	1C2-C3		
1077	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	5	64	Ro/Med		
1079	0	0	0	2	0	14	0	0	16	560	C1/C2		
1084	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	6	352	C1/C2	6	336
1086	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	C2+		

364 Marlborough Road, Swindon; Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief: Post Excavation Assessment

Context	Preh	SAM	BB1	WILRE	WILOX	Other	Saxon	Med/PM	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date	cbm/fc	cbm/fc wt
1088	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	36	C2+		
1090	0	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	6	43	Saxon	1	0.5
1091	0	0	1	12	0	0	0	0	13	154	C2+	3	44
1093	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	52	C2		
1099	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	LIA-Ro		
1105	0	0	5	5	1	0	0	0	11	260	C2		
1111	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	5	C2		
1112	0	2	0	17	0	0	0	0	19	185	m-lC2+	5	33
1115	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	4	82	C1+		
1118	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	C2+		
1123	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	21	216	C2	5	35
1124	0	0	0	20	2	0	0	0	22	432	C2	7	87
1125	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	372	C2		
1128	0	0	2	9	1	0	0	0	12	62	C2+	1	84
1129	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	17	270	C2	1	8
1133	0	0	0	18	1	1	0	0	20	266	C2	1	3
1135	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	11	367	C2+	23	448
2003	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	10	?date		
2007	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	28	C1/C2		
2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	7	Saxon		
2014	0	0	0	2	0	6	0	0	8	56	e C2	2	27
3003	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	111	C2		
3006	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	23	late C3-C4	1	0.5
A1 us	1	7	13	184	6	6	0	7	224	2660	Ro/Pmed		
A2 us	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	11	Roman		
A3 us	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	113	Roman		
TOTAL	3	21	46	656	17	52	4	8	807	11553		93	1524

APPENDIX 4: Worked Flint and Stone

By Dr. Hugo Lamdin-Whymark

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Excavations at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon, yielded 260 struck flints, 2 pieces of burnt unworked flint and 1 Sarsen hammerstone (Table 1). The majority of the flint was recovered from Area 1, but a small number of artefacts were also recovered from Areas 2 and 3. The flintwork was probably originally deposited as an artefact scatter on a former ground surface and the artefacts have been subsequently vertically displaced onto the top of the natural geology or reworked into later archaeological deposits. The scatter is, therefore, not *in situ*, but it represents the location of a significant episode of activity during the Mesolithic, probably the later Mesolithic. The flint assemblage also provides evidence for limited activity in the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age.

Table 1: The flint assemblage from Marlborough Road by excavation area

CATEGORY TYPE	Area			Grand Total
	1	2	3	
Flake	121	13	10	144
Blade	17		1	18
Bladelet	15	1	2	18
Blade-like	16	1	1	18
Irregular waste	14	1		15
Micro-burin	1			1
Rejuvenation flake core face/edge	2			2
Rejuvenation flake tablet	1			1
Crested blade	5			5
Single platform blade core	9	2		11
Bipolar (opposed platform) blade core	1			1
Other blade core	1			1
Tested nodule/bashed lump	1			1
Single platform flake core	3			3
Multiplatform flake core	7			7
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	2			2
Microlith	1			1
Burin	1			1
End scraper	2			2
Side scraper	1			1
End and side scraper		1		1
Other scraper	1			1
Awl	1			1
Notch	2			2
Retouched flake	2			2
Hammerstone	1			1
Grand total	228	19	14	261

Burnt unworked flint No./Wt. (g)	1/6	1/4		2/11
No. of burnt flints (%)	20 (8.8)	1 (5.3)	1 (7.1)	22 (8.4)
No. of broken flints (%)	72 (31.6)	4 (21.1)	5 (35.7)	81 (31)
No. of retouched flints (%)	11 (4.8)	1 (5.3)		12 (4.6)

2 Methodology

- 2.1 The flints were catalogued according to broad artefact/debitage type and retouched pieces were classified following standard morphological descriptions (Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-49; Bradley 1999, 211-227; Butler 2005). Additional information was recorded on the condition of the artefacts including, burning, breakage, the degree of edge-damage and the degree of cortication. Unworked burnt flint was quantified by weight and number. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database and data manipulated in Microsoft Excel.

3 Provenance

- 3.1 The flints recovered derive from an artefact scatter and were either recovered from the surface of the natural geology or as residual finds in later archaeological deposits. The majority of these flints, however, only exhibited slight edge-damage indicating that they are unlikely to have moved far from their original place of deposition, i.e. on the Mesolithic ground surface. The assemblage can therefore be considered as a coherent unit resulting from one or more periods of Mesolithic activity on the site. The lithic technology also indicates the presence of a small number of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flints.

4 Raw material and condition

- 4.1 The lithic raw materials include flint from at least two sources. The most common raw material was a dark brown flint or grey flint with occasional small cherty inclusions that exhibited a thick (4-8 mm) unabraded buff coloured cortex. This raw material is likely to derive directly from the chalk and is available from the Marlborough Downs, to the south of the site. The second flint type, represented by only a few artefacts, exhibits an abraded cortex typical of nodules from secondary deposits such as river gravels.
- 4.2 The majority of the flintwork exhibits slight post-depositional edge-damage, with occasional pieces exhibiting moderate to heavy edge-damage. This indicates the flint has undergone some movement, but that it is unlikely to have moved far from its original place of deposition. A white surface cortication was present on 202 of the flints. This varied from a light white speckling to a thick white surface. Cortication is a notoriously unreliably dating indicator, but it was noted that two diagnostic late Neolithic/early Bronze Age scrapers were not corticated and that a higher proportion of Mesolithic blades were corticated. In total, blades, bladelets and blade-like flakes form 31.1% of the corticated flake assemblage, as opposed to 10.8% of the uncorticated flake assemblage. The cortication may, therefore, indicate the presence of two industries, but it cannot be used to definitively separate them. A fact highlighted by the only microlith being free from surface cortication.

5 Storage and curation

- 5.1 The majority of the struck flints are bagged by context. This may result in some additional edge-damage, particularly during transportation, but this will not affect the value of the assemblage as the majority of artefacts already exhibit some edge-damage. The flintwork is therefore adequately boxed and bagged for long-term storage and curation.

6 The assemblage

- 6.1 The flint assemblage includes elements of at least two industries. The vast majority of the assemblage derives from a blade-based industry dating from the Mesolithic, but a small number of flints (probably fewer than 50) date from the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. These industries are considered further below.

6.2 Mesolithic

- 6.2.1 The Mesolithic assemblage accounts for c 80% of the site total, representing more than 200 flint artefacts. This total is dominated by flake debitage, including numerous pieces of narrow proportions. Blades, bladelets and blade-like flakes form 27.3% of the flake debitage from the site as a whole, and this total rises to 31.1% if only the corticated debitage is considered. These figures are comparable to totals from other Mesolithic sites in the region and reflect an industry orientated to the production of blades (Ford 1987). The flake debitage was predominately struck using a soft hammer percussor, such as antler, and frequently exhibits platform-edge abrasion. Cortical trimming flakes appear to be under-represented and very few entirely cortical flakes were noted, indicating that the initial preparation of cores may have been undertaken at another location.
- 6.2.2 A large number of cores were present in the assemblage (26), representing a core to flake ratio of 1:7.6. This figure may indicate the removal of flakes from the assemblage for use elsewhere, but, alternatively, it may reflect a collection bias towards larger and more easily identifiable artefacts. Single platform blade cores represent the most common form and are generally orientated towards the production of bladelets c 30-40 mm in length, although the scars of removals up to 70 mm in length are present on a few cores. The single platform blade cores weigh between 11 g and 106 g, with an average weight of 36 g. A single opposed platform blade core was recorded (weighing 49 g) and one 'other blade core' was a single platform form that been unsuccessfully rejuvenated (58 g). The presence of five crested blades indicates that this technique was used to initiate or rejuvenate blade production. A single rejuvenation tablet was present, indicating that this technique was not commonly used to rejuvenate cores and only two small platform-edge rejuvenations were recorded; these both represented only minor adjustments to the flaking angle. The flake cores included single and multi-platform forms and were generally regularly worked, indicating the majority

are probably contemporary with the blade cores. The flake cores weighed between 14 g and 149 g, with an average weight of 37 g.

- 6.2.3 Eight Mesolithic retouched artefacts were recovered. These comprise two minimally edge-retouched flakes, two scrapers, two notches, a burin, a microlith. The microlith is a rod-shaped form, measuring 25 mm long by 5 mm wide and 3 mm thick, and dates from the late Mesolithic. This microlith may be unfinished as the micro-burin snap and the distal end have not been retouched. The burin was simply manufactured on a break on a fine parallel-sided blade. The notches comprise a slight notch in a broken flake and a notch in the side of a blade that may have been positioned for a micro-burin technique snap that was never executed. In addition, to the retouched tools a micro-burin was recovered, indicating the production of a microlith.

6.3 Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age

- 6.3.1 The late Neolithic/early Bronze Age assemblage comprises a small number of broad hard hammer flakes, three scrapers and a possible awl. In total, this industry comprises less than 50 artefacts, although it is not possible to provide an absolute quantification due the mixed nature of the assemblage. The scrapers comprise an irregular flake form, an end scraper and an end and side scraper. The two latter examples both exhibit scalar pressure flaking typical of the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age Beaker period and provide a broad indication for the date of the less diagnostic flake debitage.

6.4 Undated

- 6.4.1 A large spherical hammerstone, weighing 740 g, was recovered as an unstratified find in Area 1. The hammerstone was manufactured from a piece of hard Sarsen and exhibits heavy battering overlain by a smooth wear or polish. The size of this artefact precludes its use for flintknapping and the wear is perhaps more indicative of a burnishing-type activity. The date of this artefact is uncertain and it may be associated with either the prehistoric or Roman activity. Similar artefacts, although manufactured from flint, were recovered from the Channel Tunnel Rail Link excavations at Springhead Roman town, Kent.

7 Discussion

- 7.1 Area 1 was clearly the focus of considerable activity in the Mesolithic and the rod-shaped microlith suggests this date may be further refined to the late Mesolithic. The limited size of the blade cores and blades may further support this assertion. The flint was imported from the Marlborough Downs to the south and, to a lesser extent, a river gravel source and a considerable amount of flint-knapping was undertaken at this location. The knapping was primarily aimed at the production of small flakes and bladelets, and a micro-burin indicates that at least one microlith was produced. Small debitage was notably scarce raising the possibility that finest debitage may have eluded collection; micro-burins are commonly missed unless sieving is employed. There was no

evidence from the production or re-sharpening of larger flake tools, such as tranchet axes. The reasonably high proportion of retouched tools (c 4% of the assemblage) indicate that a broad range of activities may have been undertaken, but the limited number of artefacts precludes characterisation of the activities undertaken. It is, however, probable that this scatter represents the location occupation site, which may have been visited over a prolonged period of time.

7.2 The current scatter represents one of several in the local landscape and it is becoming clear that the area to the south of Swindon was the focus of considerable activity in the late Mesolithic. Late Mesolithic flints have previously been recovered from the Coate Water Park (SU178822), Mill Lane (SU146831) and Market Square (SU159837, Holgate 1988) and an important discrete scatter, containing geometric microliths and micro-lunates and dating post c 5000 BC, was recently identified to the west of Day House (Lamdin-Whymark 2006).

7.3 The late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flint forms a relatively low density scatter, but represents a presence in the landscape. Flintwork of this date has again been identified to the south at Coate Water Park and at Day House.

8 Potential

8.1 The flint assemblage has considerable potential to enhance our understanding of late Mesolithic activity in the Upper Thames Valley and represents an important addition to the corpus of known sites. The assemblage, however, has little potential for further analytical work as it represents a comparatively small group with a limited number of diagnostic artefacts. The late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flintwork has no potential for further work.

9 Recommendations

9.1 No further analytical work is recommended, but a report of c 2000 words with one table should be prepared for publication. This assessment should be edited and used as the basis for a publication text. Approximately four flints should be illustrated to demonstrate the technology employed. It is provisionally recommended that the illustrations comprise three cores and the rod microlith.

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APPENDIX 5: Small Finds

By Dr. Lynne Bevan

1 Introduction

- 1.1 A small assemblage of three registered metal small finds and 55 other metal objects was recovered from the Marlborough Road, Swindon site, including objects made of copper alloy, iron and lead. The majority of the assemblage was collected by metal detector scanning. It includes some identifiable Romano-British objects, as well as less-identifiable objects of probable Post-medieval and modern date.
- 1.2 The small finds from the site were examined individually, preliminarily identified, and then spot-dated. No contextual or stratigraphic research was conducted on the items in the assemblage, the majority of which were in any case unstratified. This research principally included comparison with published comparanda of Romano-British small finds (e.g. Allason Jones and Milet 1984; Bishop 1996; Cool and Philo 1998; Cool, Lloyd-Morgan and Hooley 1995; Crummy 1983; Hattatt 2000; and Manning 1976 and 1985) for the purposes of identification and spot-dating.
- 1.3 The assessment was undertaken in cognisance of the procedures of assessment as set out in MAP 2 (English Heritage 1991), to provide both a quantification of the assemblage and a qualitative overview of its potential for further analysis.

2 List of Small Finds and Spot-Dating

2.1 Registered Metal Small Finds

- 2.1.1 The three registered small finds of copper alloy comprised a small circular buckle frame (SF 1, Context 1014), a ferrule (SF 2, Context 1133) and a brooch (SF 3, Metal Detecting, Context 1077), now very bent and broken at the shoulder, the shape of which is suggestive of a Hod Hill type brooch of the 1st century A.D.
- 2.1.2 Apart from the brooch, which will require cleaning, the two other registered finds were both in a good, stable condition. Though undiagnostic, both are also probably of Romano-British date.

2.2 Other Metal Finds

- 2.2.1 Copper alloy objects: Non-registered copper alloy finds comprised a halfpenny of George V, dated 1923, a nail, a dome-headed stud/nail, both of which were possibly of a Romano-British date, and a fragment of modern wire. All of these finds were recovered by metal detection (A1, Spoilheap).

2.2.2 Lead objects: Lead finds comprised a fragment of sheet, possibly decorated (Metal Detecting, A1, Spoilheap) and two small fragments of molten lead from the manufacturing process (Metal Detecting, Context 1115 and A1, unstratified). Though undiagnostic, a Romano-British date is possible for these finds.

2.2.3 Iron objects: In contrast to the copper alloy and lead finds, which were generally well-preserved, the ironwork was largely in a poor, corroded condition. A heavily-corroded, spike-like object (Metal Detecting, A1, Spoilheap) was of most interest. Though obscured by corrosion products, its shape - pointed at one end and flattened at the other - is suggestive of a stylus or a small awl or other tool. This is probably of Romano-British date, in common with the three cleats and 22 hobnails identified among the iron objects, all of which were probably derived from Roman footwear. A total of c. 22 other nails and nail fragments of various types, many of which are possibly also of Romano-British date, was also recovered.

3 Conservation Statement

3.1 Most of the non-ferrous artefacts from the site were in a stable condition, notably the well-preserved copper alloy buckle frame and brooch. Most of the iron objects were heavily corroded, though not flaking or cracking. In terms of further work, exploratory conservation work is not recommended on the assemblage, beyond cleaning of the surface of the brooch to enable closer identification. X-raying of the iron objects is not recommended.

4 Assessment of Potential

4.1 The small finds assemblage from Marlborough Road, Swindon constitutes an assemblage of local importance only due to its size, composition and, in the case of the majority of the items, its lack of stratigraphic context. The majority of the assemblage comprises Romano-British, Post-Medieval or modern objects. Some further analysis of the small finds assemblage is recommended, that is the closer identification and cataloguing of five of the copper alloy items (the buckle frame, the ferrule, the brooch, the nail and nail/stud) and one of the iron objects (the possible stylus/spike/tool). A search for parallels for these will contribute towards an understanding of the use and importance of material culture in the lives of the inhabitants of the area principally in the Romano-British period. All other items should simply be listed in a summary archive catalogue.

APPENDIX 6: Animal Bone

By Silvia Warman

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The animal bone included in this assessment was hand-collected during excavations in 2007. A total of 439 bone fragments from 305 bones weighing 4.5kg were recovered, of these, 123 bones were identified to species. The assemblage contained 19 mandibles and 22 longbone epiphyses.

2 Methods

- 2.1 The assessment conforms to guidance on best practice as described by English Heritage (2002). The animal bone was rapidly scanned and the following recorded; number of bones, number of fragments, weight of bones in grams, number of bones identifiable to species, fragmentation and preservation, numbers of mandibles, epiphyses and whole bones, species and body parts identified, age and state (including modifications such as butchery, burning, gnawing etc).

3 Results

- 3.1 The animal species identified were; red deer, roe deer, horse, cattle, sheep/goat, pig and dog. More fragmented animal bone was classified by size as cow-sized, sheep-sized and cat-sized. The assemblage is presented in Table 1 by spot-date, feature and deposit.

3.2 Roman

- 3.2.1 Four ditch fills of Roman date produced animal bone which comprised cattle, sheep/goat and pig (mandibles and teeth) and cow-sized and sheep-sized ribs.

- 3.2.2 A total of eighteen pit fills of Roman date produced animal bone, including cattle, sheep/goat and pig (both cranial and post-cranial parts). Two wild species were also identified, a single red deer (antler) and a single roe deer (metapodial). A quarry pit (2013) at the south-west corner of Area 2 contained a dog mandible and radius, as well as cow-sized and sheep-sized fragments. Deposits within the cruciform structure in the northern part of Area 1 contained a cattle metapodial and a juvenile sheep mandible and cow-sized and sheep-sized rib and vertebra fragments. Context 1137 is of particular note as a concentration of bones from the clay bonding matrix (deposit 1111) associated with the cruciform structure. This material comprises two lambs with a wide range of body parts present (see Table 1). The more fragmented sheep-sized bones from this deposit are, given their porosity, likely to represent additional fragments of the two lambs. There is no evidence of butchery and the presence of articulating elements suggests that the carcasses were at least partially articulated at the time of deposition.

3.3 Saxon

- 3.3.1 Animal bone was recovered from just one Saxon deposit, the fill of pit 1089, in the south-west corner of Area 1, this material comprised part of a cattle mandible and a fragment from a cow-sized long bone.

3.4 Undated

- 3.4.1 Two currently undated deposits contained animal bone, the fills of pit 1044 (Area 1) and a posthole 2002 (Area 2). A cow-sized rib was recovered from the posthole fill and a sheep-sized long bone from the pit fill. Unstratified animal bone included cattle, sheep/goat and pig as well as cow-sized, sheep-sized and cat-sized fragmented bone.

3.5 Age and Sex

- 3.5.1 Based on observation of fusion of long bones and the eruption of the teeth, the ages at death are mostly adult or sub-adult with some juveniles and occasional infants. The two lambs from the 1137 both have the fourth deciduous molar present which suggests an age in excess of 2 months (Silver 1969). The red deer antler would be from a male as the females of this species do not develop antlers. Two specimens of pig were positively identified as male; from ditch 1039 a lower jaw (mandible) with the socket for the canine tooth (which is highly sexually dimorphic in this species Hillson 1986), and from ditch 1030 an upper jaw (maxilla), with the canine tooth present.

3.6 Modifications

- 3.6.1 Half of the deposits which produced animal bone included specimens which showed signs of butchery. Just four of the deposits (13%) included bone which showed evidence of weathering. Additionally seven deposits included bones with signs of root etching, which occurs when bones are in a deposit through which plant roots are actively growing. Bones with gnaw marks (from the teeth of dogs) were observed in seven deposits 23% of all animal bone producing deposits. The same percentage showed signs of breaks that had occurred in antiquity, but a greater quantity 67% had post-excavation breakage. One specimen from pit 1122, a fragment of red deer antler, appeared to be partially mineralised. Possible pathological changes were noted in just one specimen (3%), a sheep mandible from 1112 (part of the cruciform structure) has a bulge around the root of the unerupted molar, suggesting a possible abscess. An X-ray would be required to confirm this.

4 Discussion

- 4.1 The assemblage, although small, gives some insight into activity at the site. The identified animal bone is dominated by domestic species mostly cattle and sheep/goat with some horse and pig. This is in line with rural assemblages of this date (Dobney 2001). The dog bones from the quarry pit are of note in that

the radius (lower forelimb) is very short, and similar in this respect to a modern terrier breed. There is evidence of a diversity of dog breeds in the Roman Period (Harcourt 1974). The presence of the deer species is interesting, indicating an element of game to the economy. The range of species present is very similar to that seen at other Romano-British sites from the area including South Marsden Park (Warman 2009a), Blunsdon Bypass (Warman 2009b) and Groundwell Villa (Worley 2009). The butchery evidence includes both bones which have chop or cut marks on their surfaces and bones which had been chopped through. The presence of gnawing on the bones suggests that dogs had some access to food waste, but the low levels of weathering indicate rapid deposition. The presence of infant specimens could indicate stock-rearing activity, particularly of sheep. The presence of the lambs in the deposit within the cruciform structure (possibly a corn drier) is interesting as the remains appear to be placed within the clay bonding of the structure rather than part of a backfill. It has been suggested by the excavator that this may be a votive deposit. This suggestion is supported by the fact that there are no signs of butchery on the bones so they do not appear to be food waste. However the possibility of death due to disease cannot be excluded.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage is small and full analysis of the animal bone is not recommended. It is recommended that the Late Iron Age/Roman British assemblage should be reported on for publication including discussion within the context of other local evidence of the rural economy in the area. This can be done using the data collected during the assessment. The identification of the deer species should be confirmed, the dog radius should be measured and compared with published measurements. The discussion should include further investigation of the lambs within the cruciform structure, in terms of any parallel deposits votive or otherwise in the literature. This may be regional or national rather than local. The Saxon and unstratified animal bone does not require any further work.

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Table 1: Animal bone by feature, deposit and spot-date

fill of	context	type	spot date	no of frags	no of bones	weight	No id to species	large mam	small mam	mands	epiphs	species/ part	state	age
Roman														
1030	1057	DITCH	C1/EC2	10	8	34	7	1		2		O/C(H,UL) S(H)	MB	A, SA
1030	1056	DITCH	C2	3	1	4	1	1		1		O/C(H)	MB	J
1030	1026	DITCH	LC3-C4	7	5	178	1	1		1		B(H) CSZ(R) SSZ(R)	MB	SA
1039	1084	DITCH	C1/C2	5	3	76	2	1		2		B(H) O/C(H) CSZ(H)	BT MB WE	A, SA
1039	1040	DITCH	C2	2	2	81	2	1		1		B(V) S(H)	BT WE	A, SA
1015	1016	PIT	C2+	1	1	19	1	1				S(UL)	BT RT GN	
1048	1049	PIT	C1/C2	9	7	82	6	1		1		O/C(H,HYD) CSZ(LB)	WE MB	A
1052	1053	PIT	M-IC2+	2	2	9	0	1				SSZ(LL,R)	AB MB	
1065	1066	PIT	LC2-C3	4	4	32	3	1			2	O/C(UL,LL,MP) UNID(UNID)	AB MB RT	A, I
1067	1068	PIT	C2-C3	1	1	9	0	1				SSZ(LL)	GN	
1071	1072	PIT	C2	12	1	298	1	2				B(H)	MB	A
1071	1072	PIT	C2	39	4	398	2	2				B(H) O/C(UL) CSZ(R)	BT RT	A, SA
1071	1072	PIT	C2	51	5	696	3	2				B(H) O/C(UL) CSZ(R)	BT RT MB	A, SA
1078	1079	PIT	C1/C2	18	18	89	0	2				CSZ(H,LB,R)	MB BT	
1087	1088	PIT	C2+	1	1	24	0	1				CSZ(UL)	BT	

fill of	context	type	spot date	no of frags	no of bones	weight	No id to species	large mam	small mam	mands	epiphs	species/ part	state	age
1098	1099	PIT	LIA-ROM	18	18	30	1	2				B(H) CSZ(FB,R) SSZ(R)	MB	A, SA
1104	1105	PIT	C2	2	1	52	0	1				CSZ(LB)	AB MB WE	
Roman														
1122	1123	PIT	C2	2	2	9.2	1	1				O/C(MP) SSZ(R)	GN? RT	SA
1122	1124	PIT	C2	3	3	58	2	1				RD(ANT) CC(MP) CSZ(LB)	BT MN AB	A, SA
1125	1129	PIT	C2	2	2	8	0	1				SSZ(V, LB)	GN	
1132	1133	PIT	C2	1	1	5	1	1				O/C(MP)	BT	
1134	1135	PIT	C2+	2	2	56	2	1				B(LL, MP)	BT GN	A, J
2013	2014	QUARRY PIT	EC2	21	18	197	3	2		1	2	D(H, LL) CSZ(V, R) SSZ(LL)	MB GN	A
1091	NOT SPEC	CRUCIFORM STONEBULIT STRUCTURE	C2?	4	4	65	1	1			1	B(MP) CSZ(V, R) SSZ(V)	BT RT MB	A, SA
1091	1112	CRUCIFORM STONEBULIT STRUCTURE	M-LC2+	12	10	49	3	2		1		O/C(H) CSZ(V) SSZ(R)	BT PA?	SA, J
1111	1137	Associated with 1091		62	48	149	38	2		2	7	O/C(H, HYD, UL, LL, M P, P) SSZ(H, LB)	AB, MB	J
	1014	LAYER	EC2	6	6	129	2	1				B(LL) O(H) CSZ(V) SSZ(R, LB, MP)	BT	A
	1041	LEVELLING LAYER	C2	36	36	776	12	2		2	6	E(H) B(H, LL, P) O/C(H, UL, LL) S(MP) CSZ(H, R) SSZ(R)	BT MB	A, SA, J
	1073	LAYER	IC2-C3	16	8	53	2	1				O/C(UL, MP) CSZ(R) SSZ(R)	BT RT MB	A, I
Saxon														
1089	1090	PIT	SAXON	2	2	21	1	1		1		B(H) CSZ(LB)	MB	A

fill of	context	type	spot date	no of frags	no of bones	weight	No id to species	large mam	small mam	mands	epiphs	species/part	state	age
undated														
1044	1045	PIT	Undated	1	1	6	0	1				SSZ(LB)	AB	
2002	2003	POSTHOLE	undated	1	1	6	0	1				CSZ(R)	MB	
U/S	U/S	Unstratified material	U/S	83	79	763	25	2	1	4	4	B(H,UL,MP,LL) O/C(H,UL,LL,MP) S(H) CSZ(R,V,LB) SSZ(LB,R) CTSZ(UL)	BT AB MB	A, SA, J
		TOTALS		439	305	4461.2	123			19	22			

Key to codes used in table

Species; RD = *Cervus elaphus* (red deer), CC = *Capreolous capreolous* (roe deer), E = *Equus caballus* (Horse), B = *Bos taurus* (cow), O/C *Ovis/Capra* (sheep/goat), S = *Sus scrofa* (pig), D = *Canis familiaris* (dog), CSZ = cow-sized, SSZ = sheep-sized, CTSZ = cat-sized.

Parts; H = head, HC = horncore, HYD = hyoid, V = vertebra, R = rib, UL = upper limb, LL = lower limb, MP metapodial, P = phalange, FB = flat bone, LB = long bone, F = fragment.

Large mam = larger mammal (dog and larger), small mam = small mammals (cat and smaller)

Ageing data; epiphs = epiphyses, mand = mandibles both simple counts

State; WE = weathered, BT = butchery marks, BN = burnt, GN = gnawed, RT = root etching, MB = modern break, PA = pathology.

Age; F/N = foetal/neonatal, I = infant, J = juvenile, SA = sub-adult, A = adult, O = old adult.

APPENDIX 7: Mollusca

By Matthew Law

1 Introduction and Methods

- 1.1 One box of mollusca from excavations at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon was presented for assessment. Remains were examined from the washovers of bulk sediment samples processed by GeoFlo in Sutton Montis, Somerset.
- 1.2 All complete shells and distinctive fragments were identified as closely as possible, although in some cases key diagnostic features had been lost through damage to the shells or were obscured by concreted deposits in the shell openings. For each taxa within a sample, the most commonly represented non-repetitive element (usually the shell apex, umbilicus, or body whorl with mouth) was counted to determine the minimum number of individuals (MNI) present. This avoids the underestimation reported when only shell apices are counted (Giovas 2009).
- 1.3 Principal sources for the biology of the recorded species were Kerney and Cameron (1979), Cameron (2003), and Davies (2008). Nomenclature follows Anderson (2005).

2 Results

- 2.1 Minimum numbers of individuals (MNI) for land snails collected from the washovers are presented in Table 1, except for *Ceciloides acicula*, which were not counted. Preservation was consistently good throughout the samples. There were a relatively low number of shells recovered, which might be indicative of a generally low abundance of molluscs on the site.

3 Discussion

- 3.1 The presence throughout the samples of *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea* and especially *Vallonia* cf *excentrica*, which makes up a high percentage of almost all of the samples, indicates a general environment of dry, calcareous grassland, which persists throughout the Roman and Saxon periods without any indication of cultivation. *Pupilla muscorum* favours broken ground in short-sward dry grassland and declines when grassland becomes longer (Davies 2008: 60), suggesting that the land was grazed, while a high incidence of *Vallonia excentrica* along with some *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa lubrica* has previously been proposed as indicative of stable grassland where there has been some decalcification and vegetation impoverishment (Davies 2008: 63, 64).
- 3.2 The presence of *Trochulus hispidus* and *Trochulus striolatus* in high numbers in a number of the samples may be indicative of a locally shaded environment, perhaps associated with a cut feature being open for some time. In particular,

the secondary ditch fill (1027) is dominated by *T. hispidus* and *Aegopinella nitidula*, which strongly suggests the presence of moisture and shade, as might be expected from an open ditch.

- 3.3 Against the general environmental background outlined above, the presence of an individual shell of a member of the family Succineidae, probably *Succinea putris*, an obligate marshland species, in the pit fill (2007) is somewhat anomalous. It is likely that the shell has been accidentally brought into the site. Snails of this family are often found on plant stems at the margins of lakes, fens and marshes (Kerney and Cameron 1979: 60; Davies 2008: 174), so it might be derived from reeds being imported to the site. The identification to species level is uncertain, as the shell morphology of *S. putris* is very similar to that of the related *Oxyloma pfeifferi*, which has identical habitat preferences.
- 3.4 The land snail *Cecilioides acicula* dominates the samples. This species is problematic for archaeologists, as it is a burrowing species. Furthermore, it is suspected to be a relatively late introduction to Great Britain. A large number of the shells appeared fresh, so it is concluded that the shells within the samples are intrusive.
- 4 Statement of potential
- 4.1 The assemblage from 364 Marlborough Road is rather small, although it does present clear general evidence of a dry, stable grassland environment throughout the Roman and Saxon periods, with isolated refugia providing shade and moisture. Due its size, the interpretative value of the assemblage is limited, although in combination with other environmental evidence it may provide an insight into the timing and extent of anthropogenic landscape change. Future archaeological work in the locality would benefit from an integrated palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy to explore localised habitat transitions associated with settlement.
- 5 Recommendations
- 5.1 It is recommended that the complete assemblage of shell is retained with the archive in case of future synthetic study, but further analytical work is not judged necessary.

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Table 1: MNI values and habitats of land molluscs (excluding *Cecilioides acicula* Müller, 1774) recovered from 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon

		Period	AD 1 st -2 nd Century		AD 2 nd Century			AD 2 nd Century or later						Roman (unspecified)		Roman - Medieval		Saxon					UNKNOWN				
		Context	1049	2007	1040	1041	1051	1111	1053	1056	1086	1112	1114	1118	1045	1077	1026	1027	1028		2009	1106			2003		
		Sample	25	62	36	14	26	7	27	28	40	2	69	51	24	37	19	18	17	16	63	3	4	5	61		
		Context type	Pit fill	Pit fill	Ditch fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Structural bonding matrix	Pit fill	Ditch fill	Ditch fill	Demolition layer	Posthole fill	Posthole fill	?Pit fill	?Pit fill	Tertiary fill of ditch	Secondary fill of ditch	Primary of ditch	Fill of posthole	Lens within building				Fill of posthole		
	Habitat																										
COCHLICOPIDAE																											
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller, 1774)	Terrestrial, ubiquitous		2	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
<i>Cochlicopidae</i> sp.			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
HELICIDAE																											
<i>Cepaea</i> cf. <i>hortensis</i> (Müller, 1774)	Terrestrial, ubiquitous		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
HYGROMIIDAE																											
<i>Helicella itala</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Terrestrial, dry, calcareous grasslands		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	-	-	-	1	-		
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Terrestrial, ubiquitous, especially damp shaded places		8	21	3	2	14	-	13	6	5	-	23	1	1	-	8	13	6	-	4	-	-	1	2		
<i>Trochulus striolatus</i> (C. Pfeiffer, 1828)	Terrestrial, damp and shaded places		21	31	1	2	2	-	8	-	4	11	-	-	9	3	-	5	7	15	-	6	-	4	4		
OXYCHILIDAE																											
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud, 1805)	Terrestrial, moderately moist places		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	2	-			
<i>Aegopinella pura</i> (Alder, 1830)	Terrestrial, moderately moist places		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
<i>Nesovitrea hammonis</i> (Ström, 1765)	Terrestrial, ubiquitous		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
<i>Oxychilidae</i> sp. juvenile, unidentified.			2	-	1	1	-	-	1	6		6	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	11	-	2	1	-	-		
PUPILLIDAE																											
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Terrestrial, dry grassland, walls		2	4	1	2	-	-	1	-	1	4	3	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2		
SUCCINEIDAE																											
? <i>Succinea putris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Terrestrial, very wet conditions, marsh and fen		-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
VALLONIIDAE																											
<i>Vallonia</i> cf. <i>excentrica</i> (Sterki, 1893)	Terrestrial, dry grassland		20	25	8	10	45	2	33	1	3	9	27	-	21	7	6	3	5	-	6	6	2	10	13		
VERTIGINIDAE																											
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> (Draparnaud, 1801)	Terrestrial, dry calcareous grassland		8	2	1	3	5	-	3	-	-	5	2	-	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2		
? Juvenile, not identified			-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

APPENDIX 8: Plant Macro-fossils

By Ellen Simmons

- 1 Sampling and recovery
 - 1.1 Twenty three flotation samples, collected during excavation of a Roman rural site at 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon were provided for assessment. The flotation samples had been processed for charred plant remains and wood charcoal using a water separation machine. The aim of this assessment was to determine whether any identifiable archaeobotanical material was present within the samples, and whether this material would be suitable for further analysis or for radiocarbon dating.
 - 1.2 A preliminary assessment of the samples was made by scanning under a low power microscope (x7-x45) and recording the abundance of the main classes of charred plant material and charred wood present. Preliminary identification of plant material was carried out by comparison with material in the reference collections at the Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). The data is presented below in Table 1.
- 2 Material represented
 - 2.1 Charred plant remains, predominantly in the form of cereal grains and wild/ weed plant seeds, were present in the majority of the samples. Preservation of charred cereal grain in the samples from the stone built structure [1091] was good, with only slight puffing noticeable and epidermis almost complete. Preservation of seeds in the remaining samples was generally poor, however, with many of the charred seeds showing signs of distortion such as puffing and clinkering. Postdepositional preservation was also poor, with many of the grains lacking epidermis and identifiable by gross morphology only (cf. Hubbard and al Azm 1990).
 - 2.2 Charred wood was present in all of the samples and appeared on examination under a low power microscope to be well preserved with no evidence for vitrification or penetration of vessels by silt. The density of charred wood however, was low in all samples.
 - 2.3 The main cereal types identified from these samples were predominantly wheat (*Triticum*) with lesser, possibly residual, quantities of barley (*Hordeum*). It was not possible to determine during preliminary scanning which species of wheat and barley were present although several grains and glume wheat glume bases were noted as being of possible spelt wheat. A single fragment of charred hazel nutshell in sample 36 from the primary fill (1040) of north south ditch [1039] also indicates the utilization of wild food resources by the inhabitants of the site.

- 2.4 Parenchyma fragments were present in the majority of samples and although identification using low power microscopy could not be made, it is likely that these represent broken cereal grain fragments. Charred sugar / starch rich material was also present in a small number of samples. It is likely that this represents food remains although again, positive identification using low power microscopy was not possible.
- 2.5 Charred wild plant seeds were also present in many of the samples, although only numbering more than 30 in sample 4 (1106). It is likely that these seeds originated from weeds growing in the arable fields that were harvested along with the crop. It was not possible within the time allowed to identify these to species.
- 3 Conclusions and recommendations for further work
- 3.1 The cereals found at MRS07 are typical for the Roman period in Britain (Grieg 1991). The possible presence of spelt wheat in particular is consistent with the widespread cultivation of this crop by the Roman period. Some of these crops may have been cultivated for fodder as well as for human consumption. The presence of weed seeds is very encouraging as these may shed light on the types of soil cultivated and on the intensity of cultivation practices.
- 3.2 The greatest quantities of seed and glume wheat glume bases (between 30 and 100) were derived from two of the fills (1112 and 1106) of a stone built structure [1091] associated with burning and charcoal deposits. A relatively substantial quantity of charred wild / weed plant seeds (between 10 and 50) was also present in samples 4 and 5 from context (1106) along with between 10 and 30 items of possible charred grass chaff. It is likely that the material from feature [1091] represents accidentally burnt grain as well as waste from crop processing burnt as fuel. It is possible that this material represents a primary deposit of charred plant remains rather than re-deposited material due to its high density and the superior state of preservation of the seeds within these samples.
- 3.3 A substantial quantity of glume wheat glume bases (between 30 and 50) as well as some grain was also present in the fill (1049) of a small sub-oval pit [1048]. A moderate number (between 10 and 30) of cereal grains and wild / weed plant seeds were present in the substantial dumped levelling deposit comprising the fill (1041) of pits [1015], [1031], [1033] and [1094]. Similar quantities of cereal grain and wild / weed plant seed were also present in one of the fills (1028) of a substantial east west linear ditch [1030] and the fill (1045) of a probable pit [1044]. The remaining samples contained small quantities (less than 10 items) of charred crop remains, most likely representing a low density background scatter of charred material from hearths and fires being incorporated into the various features across the site over time.
- 3.4 Based on density of material and with the aim of analysing as wide a variety of contexts as possible, further identification and analysis would be

recommended for the charred plant material in samples 2 (1112), 3 (1106), 4 (1106), 5 (1106), 14 (1041), 16 (1028), 24 (1045), and 25 (1049). This analysis would be expected to provide information concerning the utilization of crops and wild plant foods for human or animal consumption, as well as aspects of crop cultivation, processing and storage practices.

- 3.5 Charred wood fragments were present in all samples but not in sufficient quantities of fragments of sufficient size for full analysis. Identification of at least 30 fragments larger than 2mm per context is recommended in order that all species of wood utilised are represented (Stuijts, 2006). Samples 19 (1026), 25 (1049), 49 (1114) and 61 (2003) however contained just less than 30 larger than 2mm fragments of charred wood. Analysis of these would provide information concerning the selection of wood used for fuel at the site but with the caveat that some of the more rare species may not be represented.
- 3.6 AMS radiocarbon dating of the cereal grains in the majority of the samples would be possible and would be expected to produce a more accurate date than if charred wood were used, due to the short life of cereal grains. Should radiocarbon dating be carried out however, full identification of the seeds to be used would be also be recommended.

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Table 1: Preliminary assessment of charred plant remains from 364 Marlborough Road, Swindon

Sample number	2	3	4	5	7	14	16	17	18	19	24
Context number	1112	1106	1106	1106	1111	1041	1028	1028	1027	1026	1045
Sample volume (litres)	17	10	3	4	10	15	10	12	15	15	18
Context type	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Secondary ditch fill	Tertiary ditch fill	? pit fill
Non-charred / modern plant material (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ > 100 items)											
Arthropod egg capsules	+										
Wild plant seeds						+					
Charred plant material (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ > 100 items)											
Cereal grain	+	++	++	++		+	+	-	+	-	+
Wheat grain	++	+++	++	+++		++	+	-	+	-	+
Glume wheat glume base	++	++	+++	++++			+	-			-
Barley grain		+	-			-	-				-
Total identifiable crop material	+++	++++	++++	+++++		++	++	+	+	+	+
Charred sugar / starch rich material	-	-	-	-					-		

Sample number	2	3	4	5	7	14	16	17	18	19	24
Context number	1112	1106	1106	1106	1111	1041	1028	1028	1027	1026	1045
Sample volume (litres)	17	10	3	4	10	15	10	12	15	15	18
Context type	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Secondary ditch fill	Tertiary ditch fill	? pit fill
Parenchyma – undifferentiated plant storage tissue	++	+++	+	++++		+	+	+	++	++	+
Charred organic amalgam			-								
Weed / wild plant seeds	+	-	+++	++		+	+		+	+	++
cf. Poaceae rachis		+	++	++							
Wood charcoal (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items)											
> 4 mm	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	+	+	+
2 – 4 mm	+		+	+		+	-	+	+	++	+
< 2 mm	+			+		+	-	+	+	+	+
Vitrified											
Recommendations & potential											
Further analysis of charred plant material (J / X)	J	J	J	J	X	J	J	X	X	X	J

Sample number	2	3	4	5	7	14	16	17	18	19	24
Context number	1112	1106	1106	1106	1111	1041	1028	1028	1027	1026	1045
Sample volume (litres)	17	10	3	4	10	15	10	12	15	15	18
Context type	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Fill of stone structure	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Secondary ditch fill	Tertiary ditch fill	? pit fill
Further analysis of wood charcoal (✓ / X)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X
Charred material suitable for C14 dating (✓ / X)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Retain flots for future analysis (✓ / X)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 1 cont – Preliminary assessment of charred plant remains from MRS07

Sample number	25	26	27	28	36	37	40	49	51	61	62	63
Context number	1049	1051	1053	1056	1040	1077	1086	1114	1118	2003	2007	2009
Sample volume (litres)	11	13	10	10	12	16	14	15	10	7	15	7.5
Context type	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Pit fill	Ditch fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Pit fill	Post hole fill
Non-charred / modern plant material (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items)												
Arthropod egg capsules												
Seeds		+		-			++	++	+	-		

Sample number	25	26	27	28	36	37	40	49	51	61	62	63
Context number	1049	1051	1053	1056	1040	1077	1086	1114	1118	2003	2007	2009
Sample volume (litres)	11	13	10	10	12	16	14	15	10	7	15	7.5
Context type	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Pit fill	Ditch fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Pit fill	Post hole fill
Charred plant material (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ > 100 items)												
Cereal grain	+	+	-	-	-	+	+			-	+	
Wheat grain	++	-	-	-		+						
Glume wheat glume base	+++	+							-			
Barley grain						-	-					
Total identifiable crop material	++++	++	+	+	-	+	++		+	-	+	
Hazel nutshell fragment					-							
Root / tuber type material			-									
Charred sugar / starch rich material						-			-	+		
Parenchyma – undifferentiated plant storage tissue	++	+	-	+	+	+	-		-		+	-
Charred organic amalgam												
Weed / wild plant seeds	+	+		-	-	-	-	-				-

Sample number	25	26	27	28	36	37	40	49	51	61	62	63
Context number	1049	1051	1053	1056	1040	1077	1086	1114	1118	2003	2007	2009
Sample volume (litres)	11	13	10	10	12	16	14	15	10	7	15	7.5
Context type	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Primary ditch fill	Primary ditch fill	Pit fill	Ditch fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Post hole fill	Pit fill	Post hole fill
cf. Poaceae rachis	-	-										
Wood charcoal (- = 1 or 2 items, + = < 10 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items)												
> 4 mm	++	+	-	+	+	+		+	-	+	-	
2 – 4 mm	++	+	-	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	-
< 2 mm	++	+	-	+	+	+		+	+	++	+	-
Vitrified												
Recommendations & potential												
Further analysis of charred plant material (J / X)	J	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Further analysis of wood charcoal (J / X)	?J	X	X	X	X	X	X	?J	X	J	X	X
Charred material suitable for C14 dating (J / X)	J	J	J	J	J	J	X	J	J	J	X	X
Retain flots for future analysis (J / X)	J	J	J	J	J	J	X	J	J	J	X	X



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FIGURE 1: Site Location

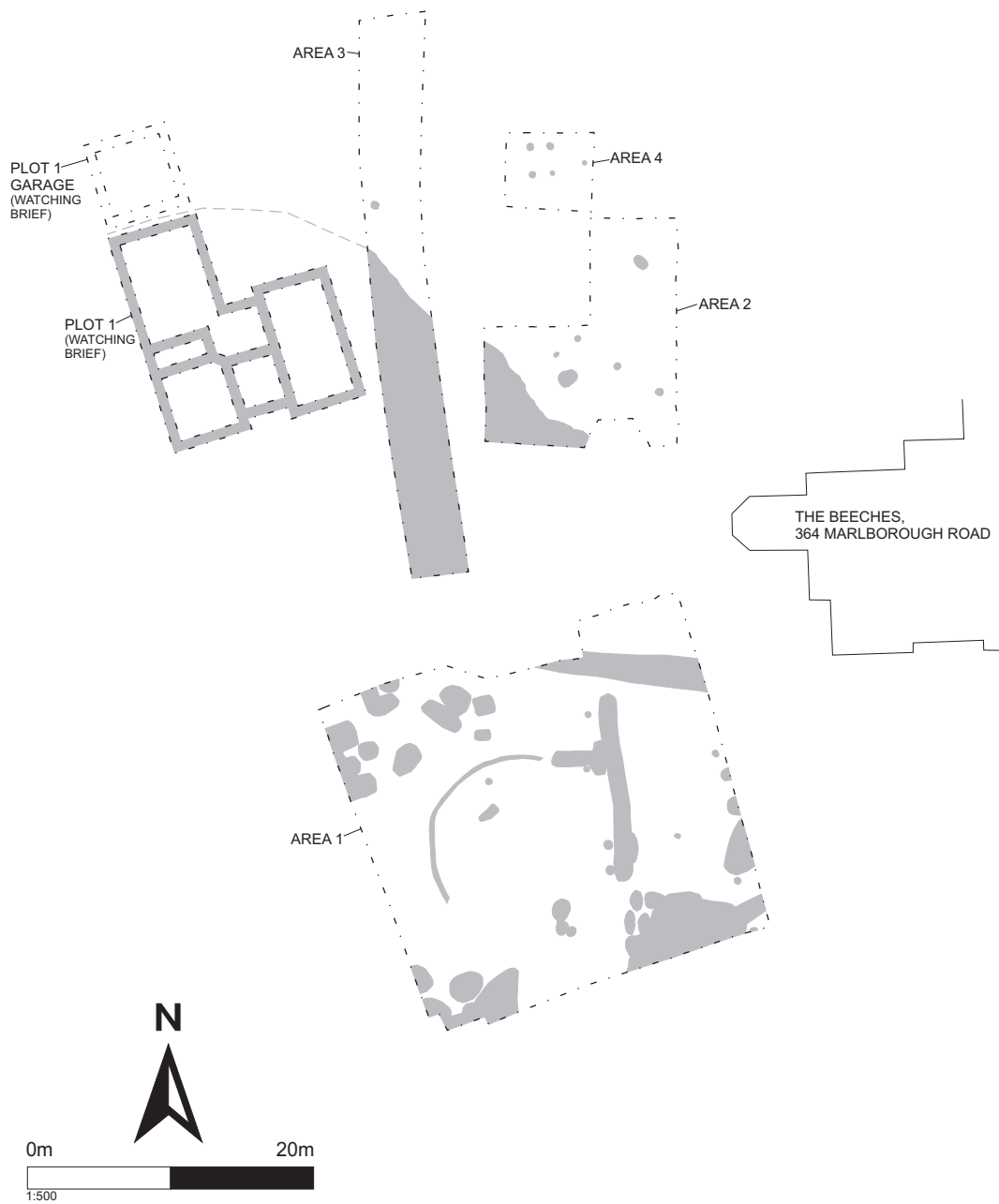


FIGURE 2: Site Plan

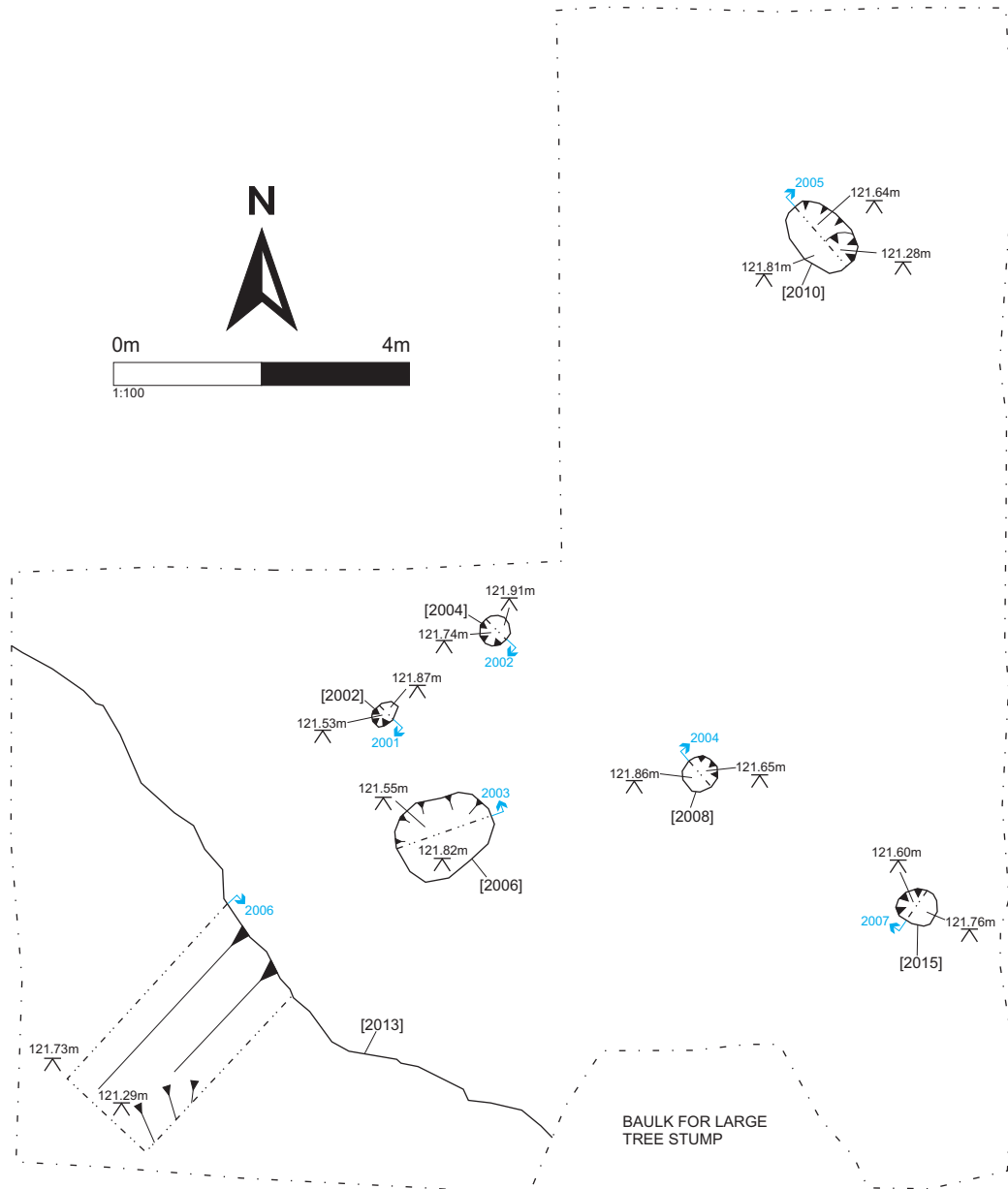
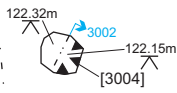
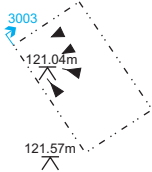
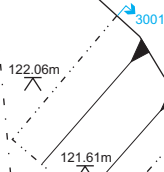


FIGURE 4: Area 2 Plan

AREA 3



[3002]



AREA 4

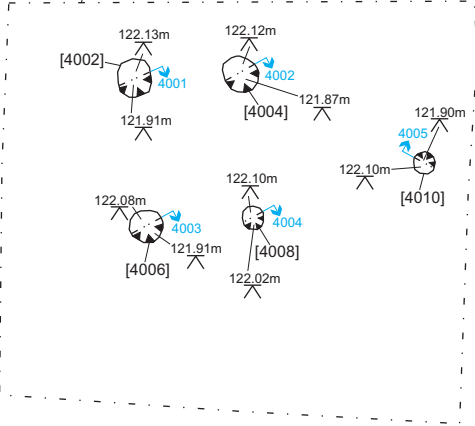
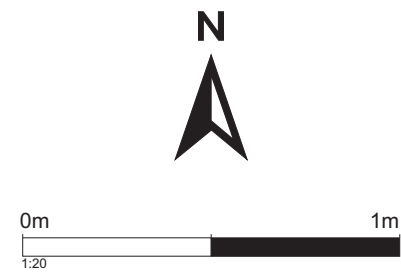


FIGURE 5: Area 3 and 4 Plans

FEATURE [1091]; PRE-EXCAVATION PLAN



FEATURE [1091]; POST-EXCAVATION PLAN 1

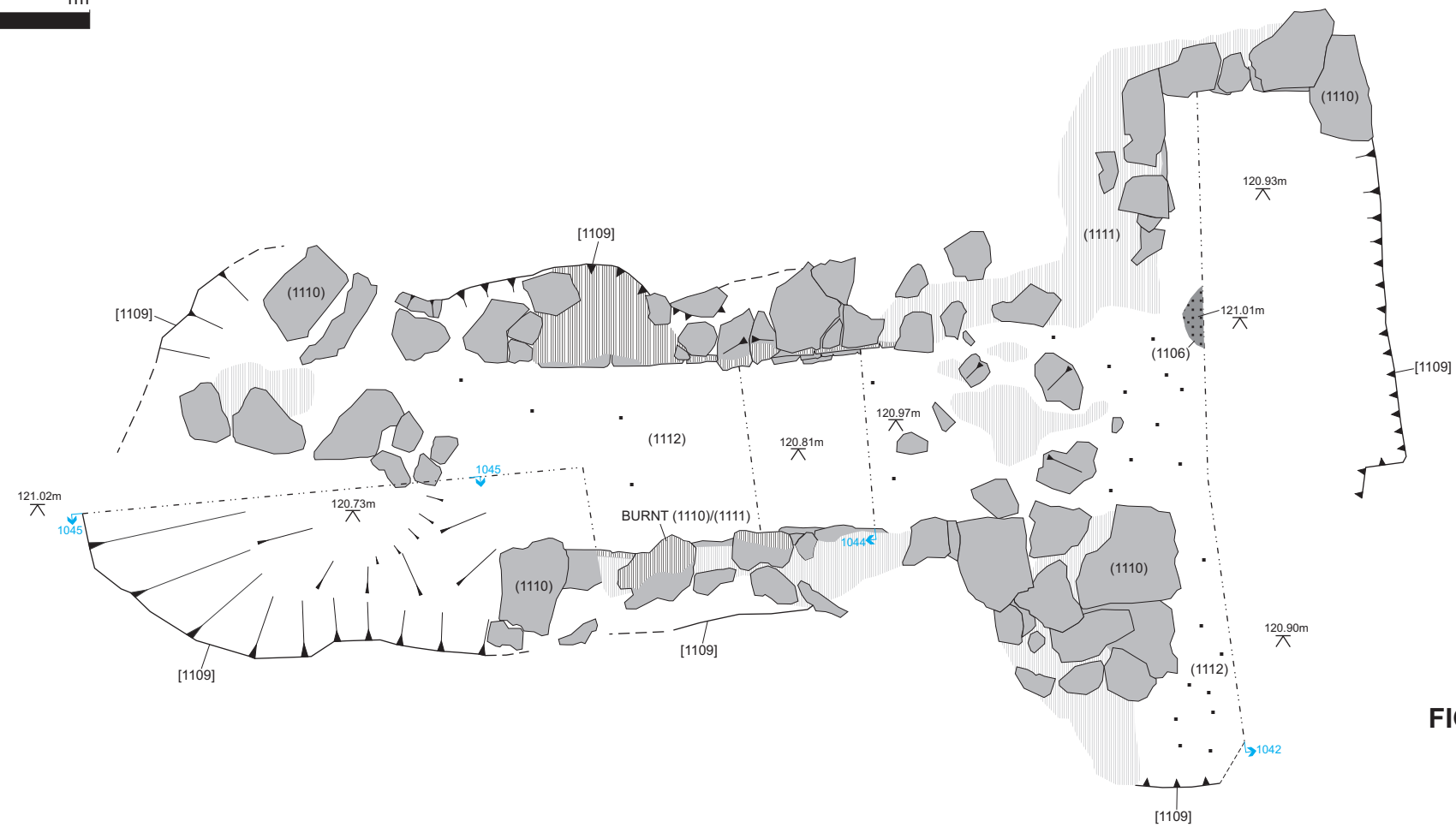


FIGURE 6: Feature [1091]; Pre-Excavation Plan and Post Excavation Plan 1

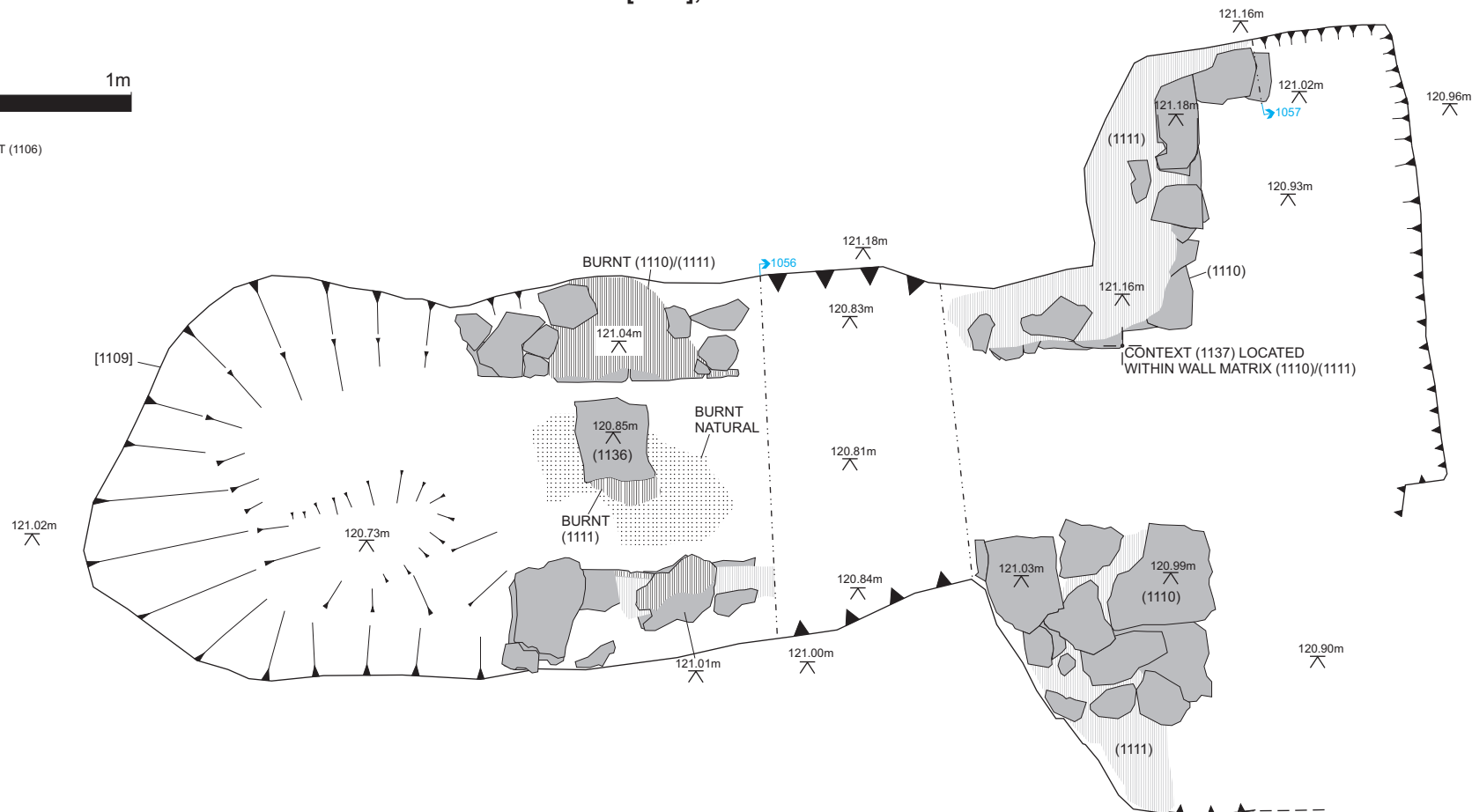
FEATURE [1091]; POST-EXCAVATION PLAN 2



FEATURE [1091]; POST-EXCAVATION PLAN 3



⬢ = BULK SOIL SAMPLE; CONTEXT (1106)



PLAN OF CONTEXT (1137)

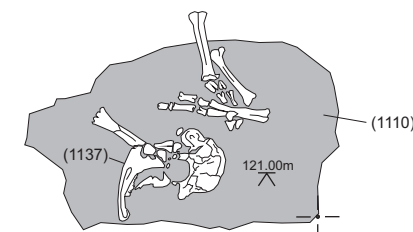
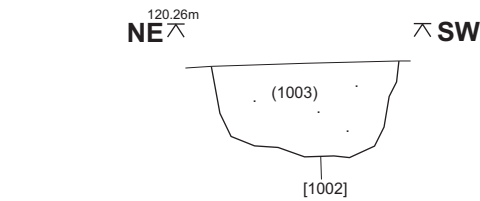
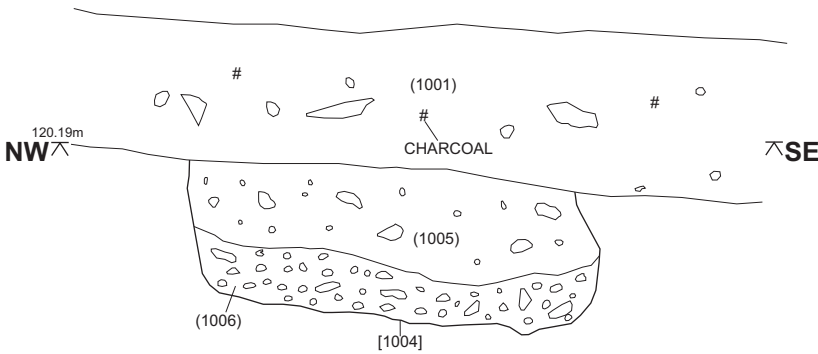


FIGURE 7: Feature [1091]; Post-Excavation Plans 2 and 3

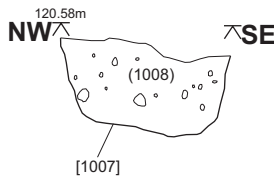
SEC 1001: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1002]



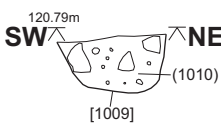
SEC 1002: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1004]



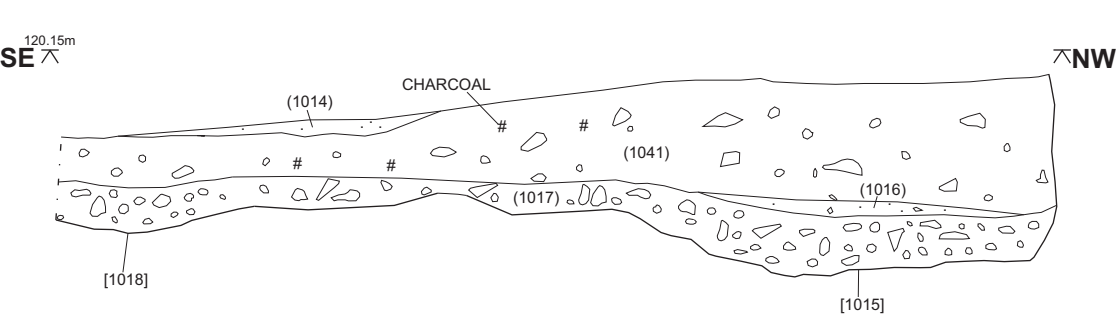
SEC 1003: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1007]



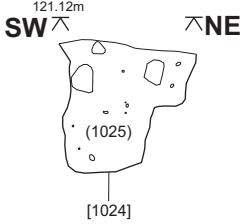
SEC 1004: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1009]



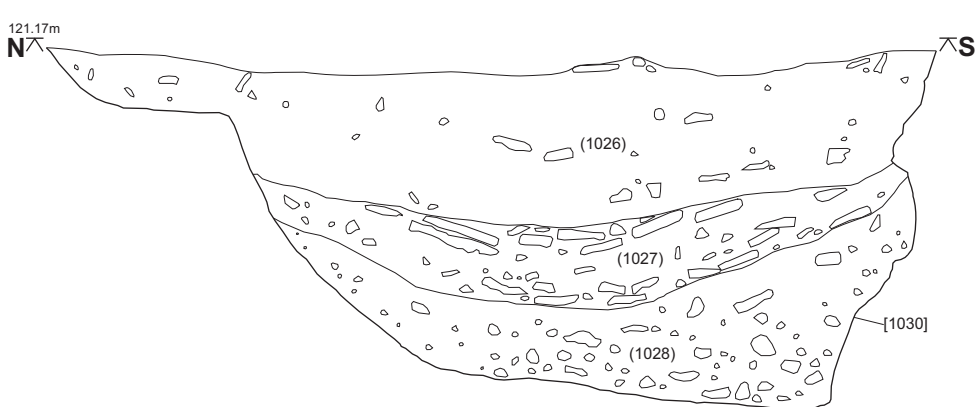
SEC 1006: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1015] and [1018]



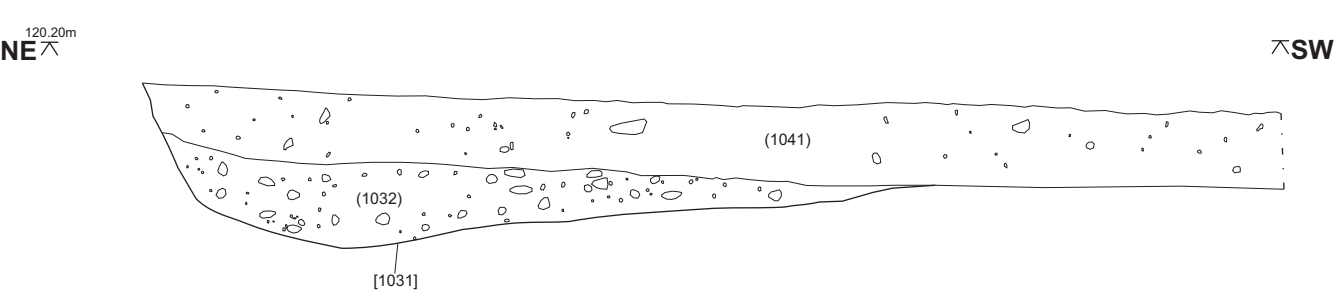
SEC 1008: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1024]



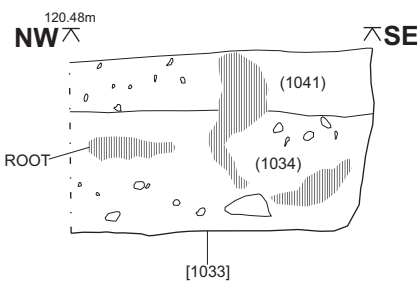
SEC 1009: WEST FACING SECTION [1030]



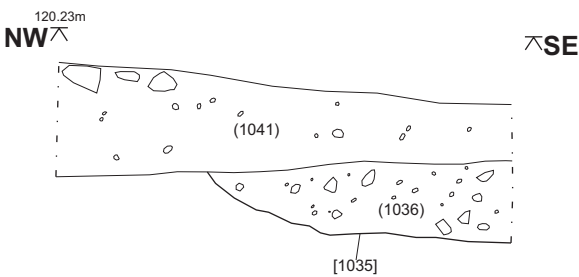
SEC 1010: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1031]



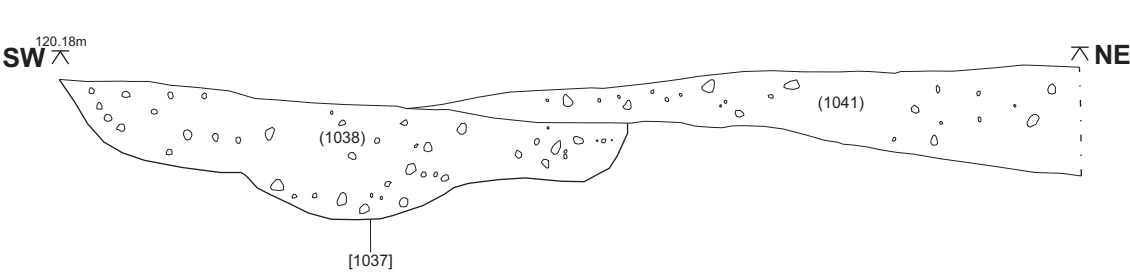
SEC 1011: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1033]



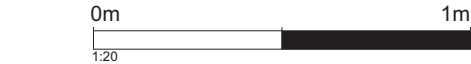
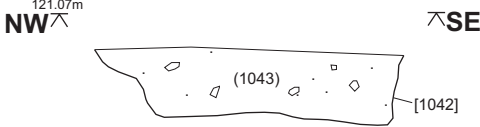
SEC 012: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1035]



SEC 1013: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1037]

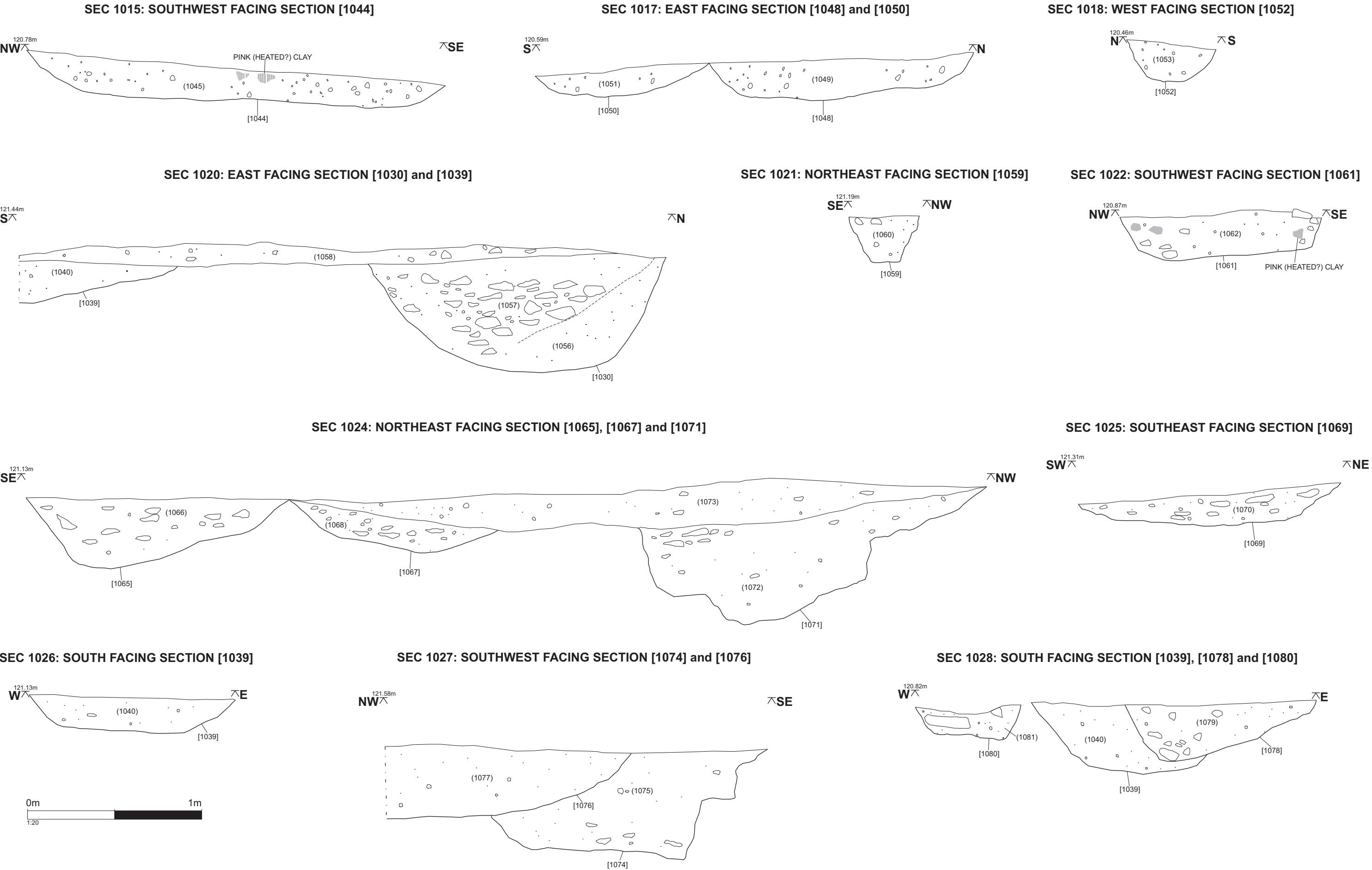


SEC 1014: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1042]



SECTIONS 1005, 1007, 1016, 1019, 1023, 1046 and 1054 ARE VOID

FIGURE 8: Sections 1001 to 1014



SEC 1020: EAST FACING SECTION [1030] and [1039]

SEC 1021: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1059]

SEC 1022: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1061]

SEC 1024: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1065], [1067] and [1071]

SEC 1025: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1069]

SEC 1026: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1039]

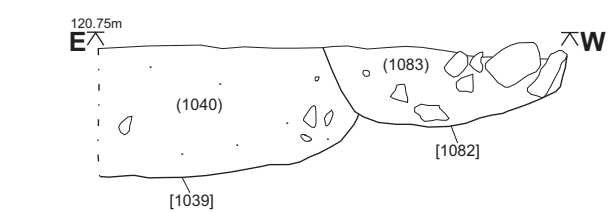
SEC 1027: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1074] and [1076]

SEC 1028: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1039], [1078] and [1080]

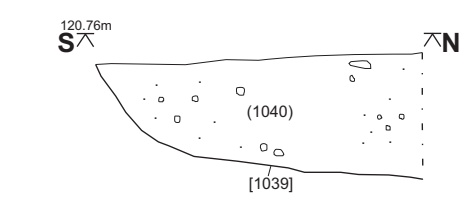
0m 1m
1:20

FIGURE 9: Sections 1015 to 1028

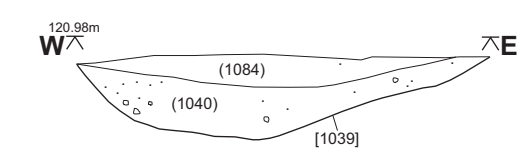
SEC 1029: NORTH FACING SECTION [1039] and [1082]



SEC 1030: EAST FACING SECTION [1039]



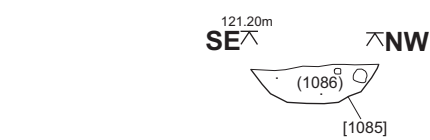
SEC 1031: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1039]



SEC 1032: EAST FACING SECTION [1085]



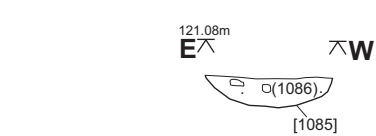
SEC 1033: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1085]



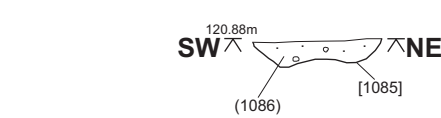
SEC 1034: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1085]



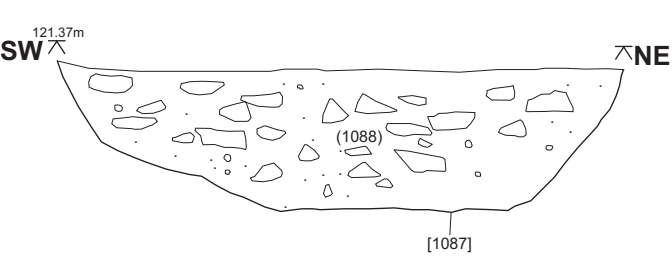
SEC 1035: NORTH FACING SECTION [1085]



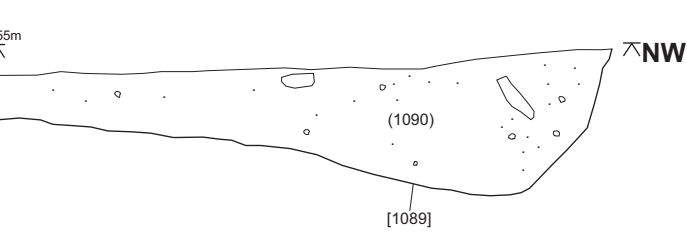
SEC 1036: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1085]



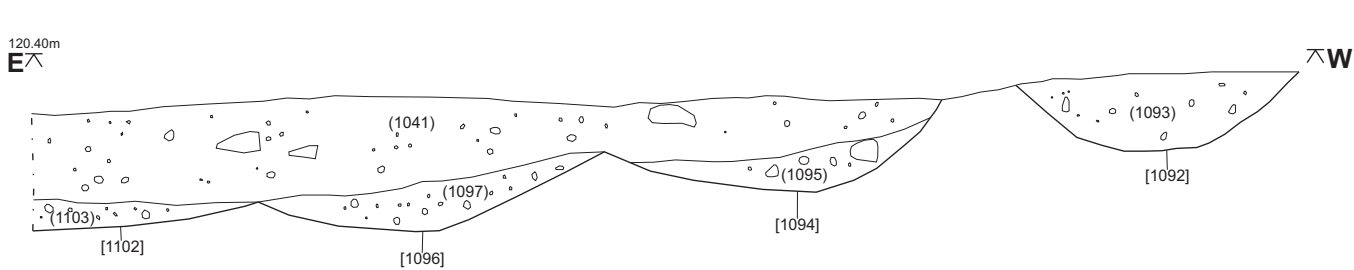
SEC 1037: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1087]



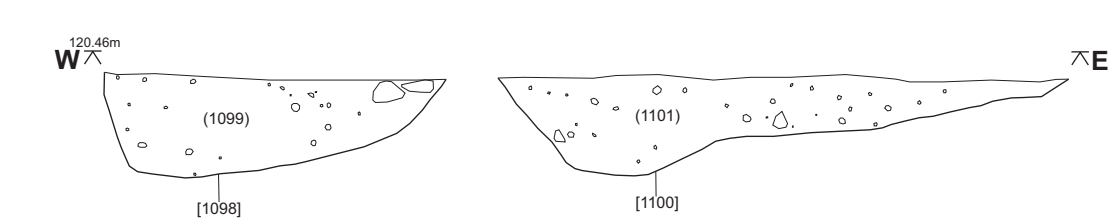
SEC 1038: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1089]



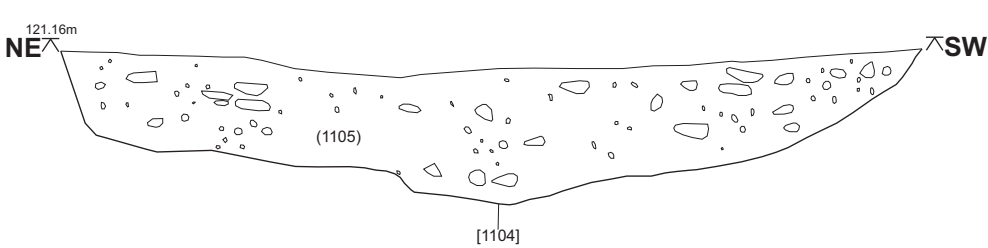
SEC 1039: NORTH FACING SECTION [1092], [1094], [1096] and [1102]



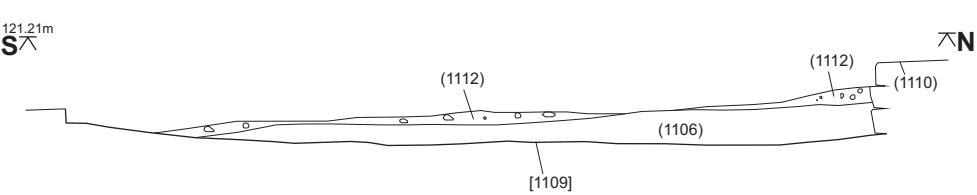
SEC 1040: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1098] and [1100]



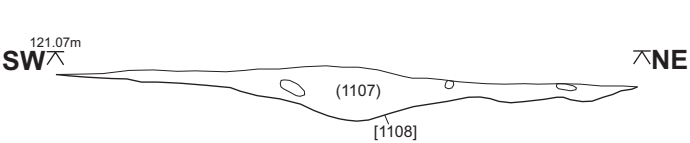
SEC 1041: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1104]



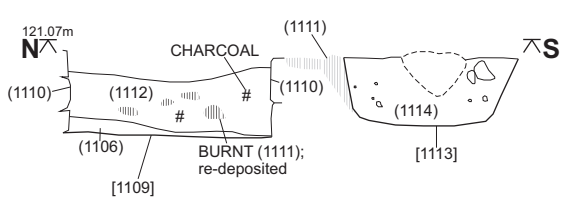
SEC 1042: EAST FACING SECTION [1109] ([1091])



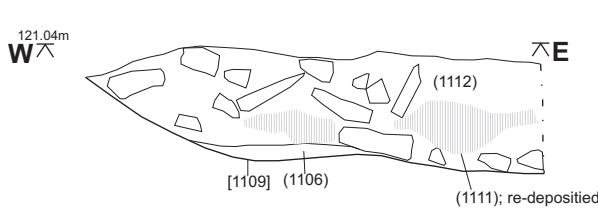
SEC 1043: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1108]



SEC 1044: WEST FACING SECTION [1109] ([1091]) and [1113]



SEC 1045: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1109] ([1091])



SEC 1047: WEST FACING SECTION [1030]

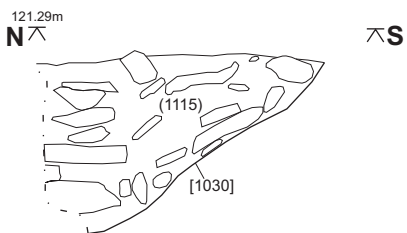
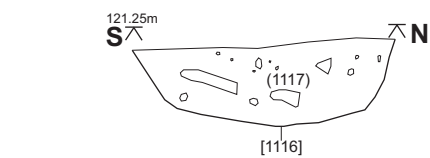
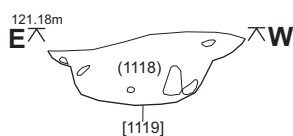


FIGURE 10: Sections 1029 to 1047

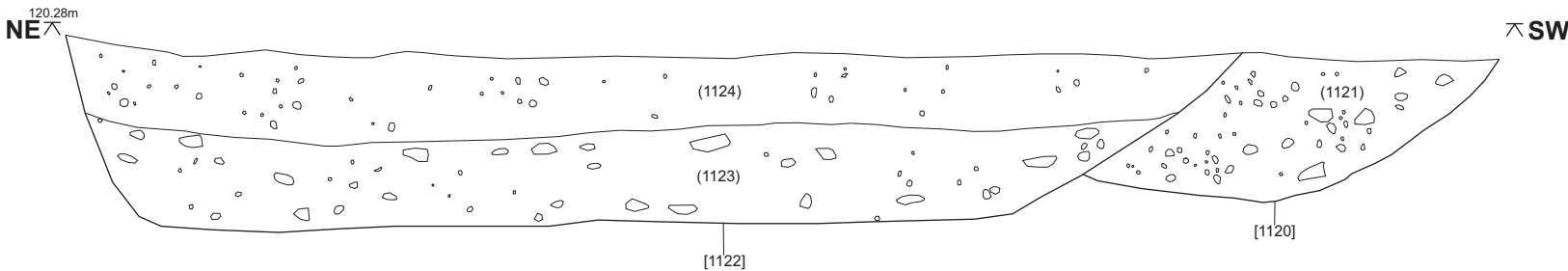
SEC 1048: EAST FACING SECTION [1116]



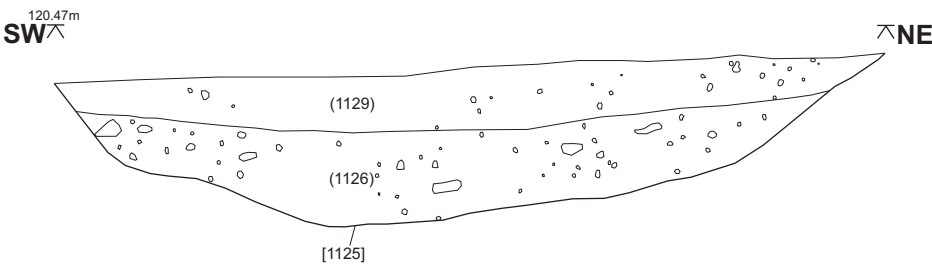
SEC 1049: NORTH FACING SECTION [1119]



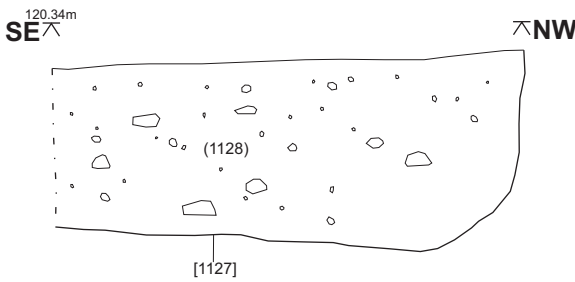
SEC 1050: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1120] and [1122]



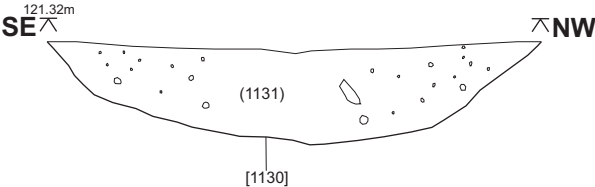
SEC 1051: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1125]



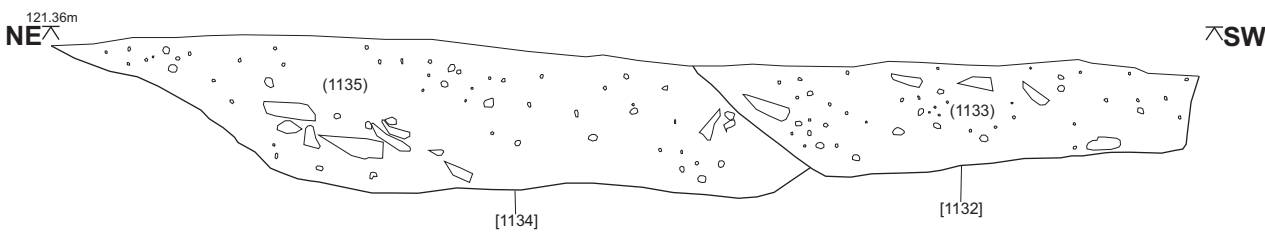
SEC 1052: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1127]



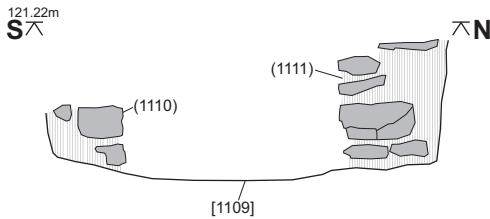
SEC 1053: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1130]



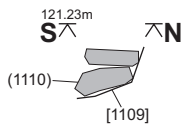
SEC 1055: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1132] and [1134]



SEC 1056: EAST FACING SECTION [1109] ([1091])



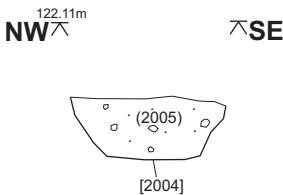
SEC 1057: EAST FACING SECTION [1109] ([1091])



SEC 2001: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [2002]



SEC 2002: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [2004]



SEC 2003: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [2006]

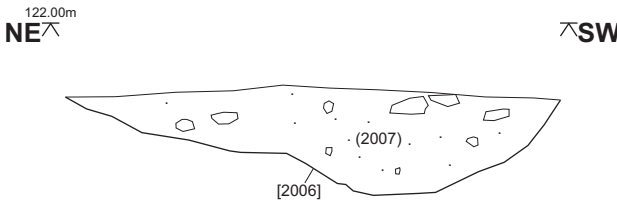


FIGURE 11: Sections 1048 to 2003

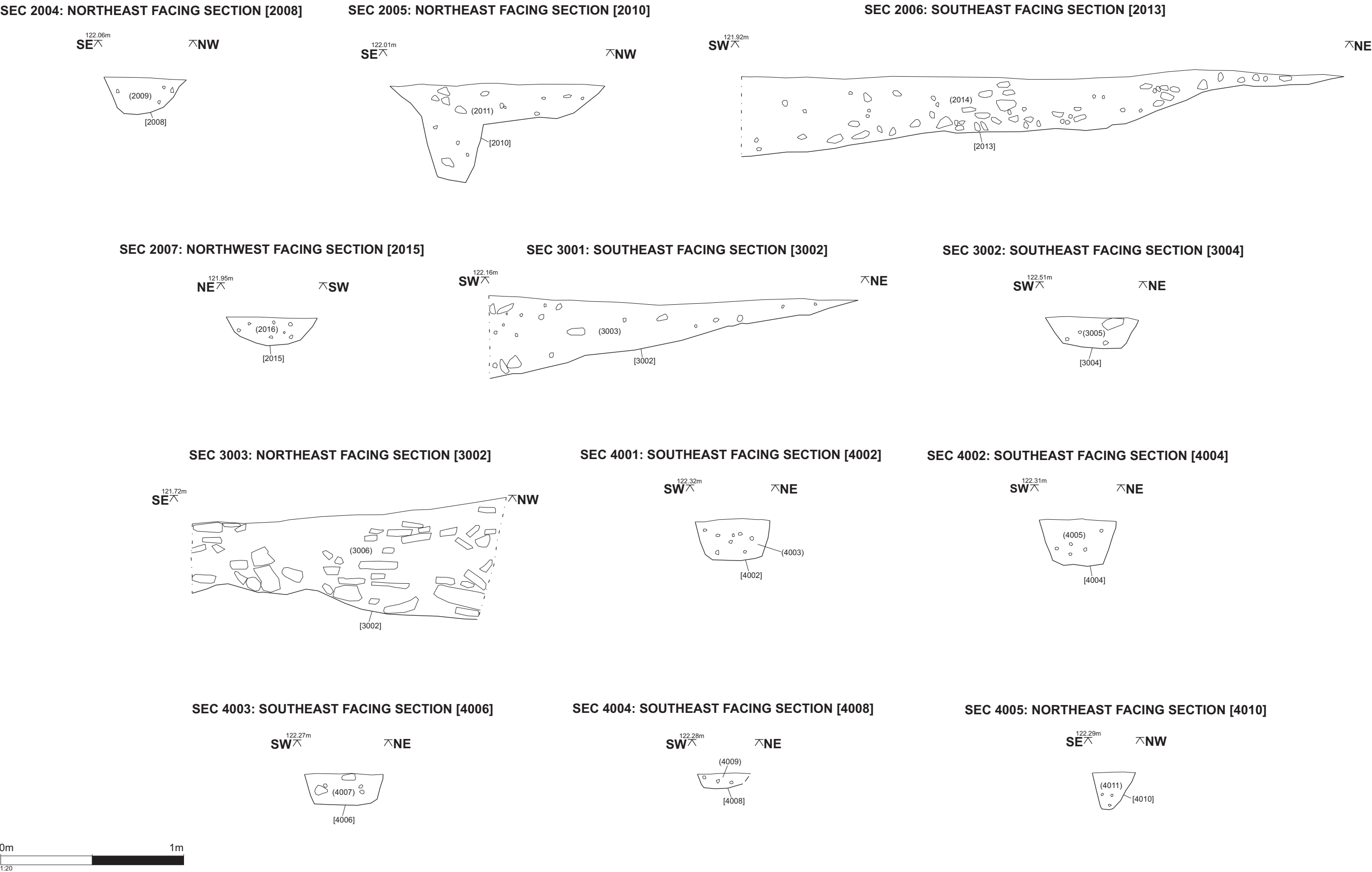


FIGURE 12: Sections 2004 to 4005



FEATURE [1091], PRE-EXCAVATION



FEATURE [1091], POST-EXCAVATION (phase 1)

FIGURE 13: Photographs of Feature [1091]