

**LAND AT MANOR FARM,
ALLINGTON,
DEVIZES,
WILTSHIRE.**

NGR: 406695 162946

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Report No. 1105

January 2016



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES

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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.

Medieval

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

Natural

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

NGR

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD

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

OS

Ordnance Survey.

Post-medieval

The period after *circa* AD 1500.

Prehistoric

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

Roman

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

Saxon

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

SUMMARY

Between March 2014 and April 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological watching brief on land at Manor Farm, Allington, Devizes, Wiltshire (NGR:406695 162946). The nature of the development and quality of the archaeology uncovered necessitated a methodology better described as an archaeological strip, map and sample. The project was commissioned by Oram & Sons.

The site was located to the west of Manor Farm and comprised an agricultural field bounded by agricultural tracks and access roads to the north, east and south and an agricultural field to the west.

The development consisted of the reduction of an area measuring approximately 90m by 40m for the construction of a new dairy unit. The ground was reduced to the top of the archaeological deposits under constant archaeological supervision. Archaeological features encountered were excavated, recorded and, following consultation with the archaeological advisor to the LPA, were then further reduced to the required level for construction.

The strip, map and sample revealed extensive and significant deposits within the site area in the form of twenty-five archaeological features. These comprised an early phase of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age occupation in the form of pits/postholes and ditches/gullies (including two possible partial ring gullies), which is likely to extend further to the east beyond the excavated area. This putative settlement was partially overlain by a probable Romano-British field system, comprising a drove road and associated paddocks.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between March 2014 and April 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological watching brief on land at Manor Farm, Allington, Devizes, Wiltshire (NGR:406695 162946). The nature of the development and quality of the archaeology uncovered, however, necessitated a methodology better described as an archaeological strip, map and sample. The project was commissioned by Oram & Sons.
- 1.2 In accordance with the principles of NPPF12 (National Planning Policy Framework 2012) a programme of archaeological watching brief was required during groundworks associated with the construction of a new dairy unit.
- 1.3 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2014) and with Cifa *Standards and Guidance on Watching Brief* (2011).
- 1.4 This document provides an assessment of the evidence recovered during the project and a programme to bring the results to publication in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment - MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006)

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (Planning Ref: **E/2012/1444/FUL**) was granted for the construction of a new dairy unit on land at Manor Farm, Allington (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The site was located to the west of Manor Farm and comprised an agricultural field, which is bounded by agricultural tracks/access roads to the north, east and south and an agricultural field to the west.
- 2.3 The topography is generally flat and the underlying geology comprises *West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation* and *Zig Zag Chalk Formation* (undifferentiated) – Chalk (BGS On-Line Viewer).
- 2.4 Allington is referred to in the Domesday Book as '*Adelingtone*' (probably derived from Old English '*aethling*' and 'tun', which can be translated to 'Farmstead of the princes'). A Saxon copper-alloy stirrup mount, with Urnes style zoomorphic design, was found approximately 300-400m northeast of the site (HER Ref: SU06SE403). It is, therefore, likely that settlement at Allington dates back to the Saxon period.
- 2.5 A number of undated earthworks located within the village are thought to date to the Medieval period.
- 2.6 There are a total of three Post-medieval Grade II listed buildings within the village, these comprise; Bethel Strict Baptist Chapel (immediately northeast of

the site), Hotspur House (260m to the northeast) and No. 5 Allington (170m to the east).

- 2.7 The study area therefore contained the potential for archaeological remains, predominately dating to the Saxon and Medieval periods. This did not prejudice the watching brief against the recovery of data relating to other periods.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The methodologies used to recover this evidence were set out in the WSI. In summary the following excavation methods were utilised. The site area was mechanically reduced to the level of the natural geology, an average depth of 0.35m (134.5m OD) below the Modern ground surface. All mechanical excavation was undertaken by use of a tracked 360° excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological direction. Archaeological hand-excavation and recording was undertaken as archaeological deposits were encountered.
- 3.2 Once the topsoil had been stripped from the 90m by 40m, it was clear that significant archaeological remains were present, and the archaeological advisor to the LPA was contacted. The decision was made to conduct a strip, map and sample investigation in the area. To assist with on-site time constraints, the site area was split into six areas; a scale plan and photographs of each completed area were submitted to the archaeological advisor before groundworks were allowed to continue. As these area divisions were artificially defined for the purposes of on-site efficiency, they will not be maintained in this report. It should be noted that some repetition of context and feature numbering occurred during the fieldwork as a result of these 'areas'. These repeated numbers are clearly identified in the stratigraphic table (Appendix 1) but are not detailed in the following text.
- 3.3 All archaeological deposits and features that would be impacted upon by the groundworks were subjected to appropriate levels of investigation. Sections were cut through all linear features at appropriate intervals and all intersections, overlaps and terminals were investigated to provide a minimum 20% sample. A minimum 50% sample of all non-linear features was hand excavated. In the case of the circular pits containing high concentrations of charcoal and worked flint, 50% of each pit was excavated and the remaining 50% was sampled. All spoil heaps were examined for finds.
- 3.4 Each excavation context was excavated, wherever possible, in such a way as to produce at least one representative cross-section of the deposit.
- 3.5 Decisions about the relative value of archaeological deposits and features were made in consultation with the archaeological advisor to the LPA.

- 3.6 All contexts except for Post-Medieval ditch [001] were subjected to environmental sampling at an appropriate scale in accordance with Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 2 (Environmental Sampling).
- 3.7 All artefactual and ecofactual remains, whether stratified or not, were collected, bagged and labelled. Artefacts were subject to preliminary study on site in order to help date archaeological features and contexts. All artefactual and ecofactual evidence were treated in accordance with the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 4 (Finds Manual).

4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 4.1 An area measuring 90m by 40m was stripped for the construction of the dairy unit and revealed the natural chalk substrate at an average depth of 0.35m (134.5m OD) below the modern ground surface. The natural substrate was sealed directly by dark black silt ploughsoil (000), up to 0.35m thick. All archaeology observed was cut into the natural chalk. Given the absence of a defined subsoil, it is likely that truncation of deposits will have taken place as the result of agricultural activity and this may explain some of the variation in depth and width of features.
- 4.2 A full stratigraphic description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is given in Appendix 1, along with reports on the recovered pottery and worked flint in Appendices 2 and 3. A brief summary of the features is given below.

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age-Later Iron Age

- 4.3 Three circular pits were situated near the southern edge of the site area: [009], [013] and [016], while further pits of a similar appearance were located near the eastern edge of the site area [076] and in the northwest corner of the site area [053]. The cuts for each of these pits were regular and they must have originally been carefully excavated into the chalk. All five pits contained dark, charcoal rich fills with high concentrations of worked flint. The primary fill of pit [013] and the secondary fill of pit [076] contained pottery dating from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age period, while the secondary fills of pits [009] and [013] contained pottery dating to the Later Iron Age.
- 4.4 Four of the pits [009], [013], [053] and [076] contained Prehistoric worked flint, which could not be more precisely dated. The presence of worked sarsen flakes and the high concentration of worked flint within pits [009] and [076] suggests deliberate deposition. Due to the evident care taken in the creation of these pits, the suggestion of deliberate flint deposition and the apparent longevity of their use, they are unlikely to represent rubbish pits but are more likely to have had a storage or ritual function.
- 4.5 Pit [056], which contained no dating evidence, may also relate to the earlier Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age phase as it was cut by later, Romano-British, ditch [033].

- 4.6 Two shallow curvilinear gullies [064] and [079] were identified adjacent to the eastern boundary of the stripped area and may represent the surviving remains of drip gullies associated with round houses. Dating evidence was recovered from gully [064] in the form of worked flint, while fourteen sherds of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from [079].
- 4.7 The putative houses may have been bounded by an enclosure marked by ditch [029] which ran approximately north-south with a terminus at the northern end, curving eastwards and being lost to truncation at the southern end. A northeast-southwest ditch [060] was located 8m to the northeast and may represent a further element of the possible enclosure, albeit on a slightly different alignment. The northern end of the ditch was partially cut away and, perhaps, extended by a gully [062]; the southern end of this ditch was cut away [040] to the south; at the northern end the gully terminated but was (either subsequently or contemporaneously) extended to the north by gully [062]. An undated, but visually similar east-west ditch [074] may represent the southern extent of the possible enclosure.
- 4.8 Two further pits [070] and [082] were located between the possible ring gully [079] and ditch [029]; both contained Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. A single intrusive sherd of Romano-British pottery was also recovered from [070]. One other undated pit [026], along with a segment of northeast-southwest aligned gully, were also identified 'within' the possible enclosure and may be contemporary.
- 4.9 Ditch [003] was located to the south of the putative enclosure marked by ditches [029], [060/062] and [076] and north of the pit complex [009], [013] and [016]. It contained a single sherd of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery as well as worked flint and terminated at its eastern end in pit [007], from which a further four sherds of contemporary pottery were recovered. An undated pit [018] was located immediately to the north of [003].

Romano-British

- 4.10 In the northern part of the site, two parallel northeast-southwest orientated ditches ([033] and [045]) were identified, associated with ditches [040] and [047], which were present roughly at right angles to ditches [033] and [045], respectively. Dating evidence for these features was sparse and was restricted to pottery dating from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age period and prehistoric worked flint in ditch [033]. Ditch [040], however, contained both Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age and Romano-British pottery. No dating evidence was recovered from ditches [046] and [047]. These ditches, however, appear to represent a later field system, perhaps including a drove road defined by [033] and [045]. This system appears to post-date the Bronze Age/Iron Age features; cutting pit [056] and ditch [061] and a Romano-British date may be postulated for them.
- 4.11 Another ditch [005] was located on a northwest-southeast alignment, parallel to the southern end of ditch [029]. While this feature may be associated with

the earlier phase, it contained 21 sherds of Romano-British pottery and no earlier material. An undated gully [022] was located in the southwest corner of the site. The feature has tentatively been attributed to the later phase due to its alignment, which was approximately parallel to ditch [040] and might, perhaps, connect to ditch [033] further to the west.

- 4.12 An irregular pit-type feature [031] was present between ditches [029] and [005]. No clear dating evidence was recovered although flecks of ceramic building material were recovered, suggesting either a Roman or Post-medieval date.

Post-medieval

- 4.13 A short section of roughly east-west aligned ditch [001] was identified in the southeast corner of the site and contained late Post-medieval artefactual evidence.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The strip, map and sample revealed significant archaeological remains dating from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age period and Romano-British period.
- 5.2 The recovered evidence is suggestive of a late Bronze Age-early Iron Age settlement represented by a possible enclosure, two possible ring ditches and a series of pits and other gullies. While part of the core of the putative settlement lies within the site area, the greater part is likely to lie immediately to the east.
- 5.3 Two parallel northeast-southwest orientated ditches along with a series of ditches at roughly right-angles appear to represent a field system, probably of Romano-British date; in the form of a drove road and land divisions that may represent paddocks.
- 5.4 The results of the watching brief/strip, map and sample works have broadly achieved the aims set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation:

i/ to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site and date these where possible: This has largely been achieved; with the majority of features being dated through artefactual evidence or stratigraphic relationships. Some degree of intrusion and residuality has been noted with regard to artefactual evidence, but confidence in the interpretation is considered high.

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

iii/ *to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples:* This has been achieved, coherent pottery and worked flint assemblages have been recovered. Ecofacts in the form of 11 fragments of bone were recovered from several contexts, but in all cases these were small and undiagnostic fragments. Palaeoenvironmental samples were taken from suitable features and are currently held in storage;

iv/ *to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present:* No assessment of the palaeoenvironmental samples has taken place; these should be considered for analysis should further works in the area take place.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The strip, map and sample has excavated and recorded significant archaeological remains, comprising features and deposits. These comprised an early phase of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age occupation in the form of pits/potholes and ditches/gullies (including two possible partial ring gullies), which is likely to extend further to the east beyond the excavated area. This putative settlement was partially overlain by a probable Romano-British field system, comprising a drove road and associated paddocks.
- 6.2 Following the completion of the excavation, an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with MoRPHE. The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology and will be deposited with the Wiltshire Heritage Museum in due course. A full OASIS record, with attached report, will also be created.

7 REFERENCES

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8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Richard Oram of Oram Brothers and Rachel Foster of Wiltshire County Council for their help during the course of this project.

Appendix 1: Stratigraphic Data

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
(000)			0.30-0.35	Ploughsoil; dark brown/black friable silt.	natural	N/A
[001]	5.0+	1.15	0.30	East-west aligned ditch with shallow-sided profile.	natural	(002)
(002)	5.0+	1.15	0.30	Fill of ditch [001]; dark brown friable silt which contained rare unworked flint and two sherds of Post-medieval pottery.	[001]	(000)
[003]	24.0+	0.83	0.38	East-west aligned ditch with shallowly sloping sides and a narrow base.	natural	(004)
(004)	24.0+	0.83	0.38	Fill of ditch [003]; mid grey plastic clay which contained chalk pieces (>100mm) and infrequent charcoal.	[003]	(000)
[005]/[024]	18.0+	1.40	0.47	Southeast-northwest aligned ditch with shallowly sloping sides and a narrow base.	natural	(006)/(025)
(006)	18.0+	1.40	0.39	Fill of ditch [005]/[024] at terminus; mid grey plastic clay which contained chalk pieces (>50mm) and infrequent charcoal.	[005]/[024]	(000)
[007]	1.55	0.80	0.30	Oval pit with a rounded profile located immediately adjacent to ditch [003].	natural	(008)
(008)	1.55	0.80	0.30	Fill of pit [007]; mid grey clay which contained frequent chalk pieces (>50mm) and infrequent charcoal.	[007]	(000)
[009]	1.06	1.06	0.24	Circular pit with rounded sloping sides and a flat base.	natural	(010)
(010)	1.03	1.03	0.07	Primary fill of pit [009] or interface between loose chalk natural and (011); mottled white soft sandy clay which contained frequent pieces of chalk of variable size (20mm-100mm).	[009]/natural	(011)
(011)	1.04	1.04	0.07	Secondary fill of pit [009]; mottled dark brown and white loose sandy clay which contained occasional small chalk pieces (>50mm).	(010)	(012)
(012)	1.06	1.06	0.17	Upper fill of pit [009]; loose black clay silt which contained frequent fragments and flecks of charcoal and burnt stone.	(011)	(000)
[013]	1.06	1.03	0.41	Circular pit with concave sides and a flat base.	natural	(014)
(014)	1.06	1.03	0.21	Primary fill of pit [013]; loose black clay silt which contained flecks and fragments of charcoal.	[013]	(015)
(015)	1.06	1.03	0.18	Upper fill of pit [013]; grey-brown soft clay silt which contained occasional charcoal and one large piece of flint.	(014)	(000)
[016]	0.71	0.71	0.10	Sub circular shallow pit with a flat base.	natural	(017)
(017)	0.71	0.71	0.10	Fill of pit [016]; bark brown/black plastic clay silt which contained frequent flecks of chalk.	[016]	(000)
[018]	2.15	1.05	0.30	Oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base.	natural	(019)
(019)	21.5	1.05	0.30	Fill of pit [018]; grey/brown plastic clay silt which contained occasional chalk flecks.	[018]	(000)
(020)				Duplicate (004)		
(021)				Duplicate (004)		

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CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
[022]	7.0+	0.78	0.40	Southeast-northwest aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides and a narrow base.	natural	(023)
(023)	7.0+	0.78	0.40	Fill of ditch [022]; mid grey plastic clay which contained frequent chalk pieces and occasional charcoal.	[022]	(000)
[024]				Duplicate [005]		
(025)				Duplicate (006)		
[026]	1.25	0.75	0.29	Sub-oval pit with irregular sides and base.	natural	(028)
(028)	1.25	0.75	0.15	Primary fill of ditch [026]; pale grey plastic clay mixed with redeposited chalk (80% chalk).	[026]	(027)
(027)	1.25	0.75	0.14	Secondary fill of ditch [026]; dark grey plastic clay which contained occasional chalk.	(028)	(000)
[029]	39.0+	1.05	0.50	Southeast-northwest aligned ditch with sloping sides and a narrow rounded base.	natural	(030)
(030)	39.0+	1.05	0.50	Fill of ditch [029]; grey/brown plastic chalky clay which contained frequent small pieces of chalk.	[029]	(000)
[031]	1.67	0.93	0.19	Shallow pit with irregular sides and base.	natural	(032)
(032)	1.67	0.93	0.19	Fill of pit [031]; mid grey plastic clay which contained occasional charcoal, flecks of dark brown organic material and very small flecks of CBM/brick.	[031]	(000)
[033]	10.0+	1.00	0.33	Northeast-southwest aligned ditch with rounded profile.	natural	(034)
(034)	10.0+	0.68	0.20	Primary fill of ditch [033]; mid brown plastic clay which contained occasional chalk.	[033]	(035)
(035)	10.0+	1.00	0.13	Upper fill of ditch [033]; grey/brown plastic clay which contained occasional chalk	(034)	(000)
(036)				Duplicate (030)		
(037-038)				Duplicate (030)		
(039)				Duplicate (030)		
[040]	34.0+	1.80	0.64	Southeast-northwest aligned ditch with sloping sides and a flat base.	[066]	(042)
(041)				Not used		
(042)	34.0+	1.17	0.52	Primary fill of ditch [040]; grey/brown loose clay which contained occ. chalk pieces and occasional charcoal.	[040]	(043)
(043)	34.0+	0.66	0.28	Secondary fill of [040]; mid grey plastic clay which contained occasional chalk and occasional charcoal.	(042)	(000)
(044)				Duplicate (035)		
[045]	40.0+	0.80	0.31	Northeast-southwest aligned ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base.	natural	(046)
(046)	40.0+	0.80	0.31	Fill of ditch [045]; grey/brown plastic clay which contained frequent chalk pieces.	[045]	(000)
[047]	5.50+	0.50	0.26	East-west aligned ditch with steep sides and a flat base.	natural	(048)
(048)	5.50+	0.36	0.18	Primary fill of ditch [047]; mid grey/brown plastic clay silt which contained frequent chalk pieces and rare charcoal.	[047]	(049)

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CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
(049)	5.50+	0.50	0.18	Secondary fill of ditch [047]; mid grey brown plastic clay silt.	(048)	(000)
(050)				Duplicate (034)		
(051)				Duplicate (040)		
(052)				Duplicate (046)		
[053]	1.20	1.10+	0.51	Sub circular pit with very regular rounded profile.	natural	(054)
(054)	0.8	1.10+	0.30	Lower fill of [053]; mottled black/grey/beige plastic clay silt which contained occasional chalk and frequent charcoal.	[053]	(055)
(055)	1.2	1.20+	0.25	Upper fill of [053]; grey brown plastic clay silt which contained occasional chalk and occasional charcoal.	(054)	(000)
[056]	0.90	0.65+	0.28	Sub-oval pit/posthole with shallow, rounded profile. Cut by ditch [033].	natural	(057)
(057)	0.90	0.20	0.20	Primary fill [056]; mottled grey/beige soft clay silt which contained occasional chalk.	[056]	(058)
(058)	0.90	0.45+	0.24	Upper fill [056]; mid brown plastic clay silt which contained rare chalk and rare charcoal.	(057)	(000)
(059)				Duplicate (034)		
[060]	1.90+	0.70	0.30	Eastern part of diverging northeast-southwest aligned terminus of gully [060] with sloping sides and a flat base.	natural	(061)
(061)	1.90+	0.70	0.30	Fill of [060] at terminus; mid grey-brown slightly plastic clay silt which contained frequent chalk.	[060]	(000)
[062]	8.0+	0.33	0.08	Western part of diverging northeast-southwest terminus of gully [066] with sloping sides and a rounded base.	natural	(063)
(063)	8.0+	0.33	0.08	Mid grey-brown slightly plastic clay silt which contained occasional charcoal.	[062]	(000)
[064]	12.0+	1.04	0.27	Curvilinear ditch, orientated east-west at the eastern L.O.E and north-south at the possible terminus, which had irregular sides and base.	natural	(065)
(065)	12.0+	1.04	0.27	Fill of [064]; mid grey loose clay silt which contained occasional chalk.	[064]	(000)
[066]				Duplicate [060]		
(067)				Duplicate (061)		
(068)				Duplicate (061)		
(069)				Duplicate (065)		
[070]	0.70	0.70	0.18	Sub-circular pit with rounded profile.	(087)	(086)
(086)	0.70	0.70	0.18	Fill of [070]; dark brown soft clay.	[070]	(000)
(087)	4.20	2.00	0.07	Area of disturbed natural, grey-white mottled clay chalk.	natural	[070]
(071)				Duplicate (042)		
[072]	9.50+	0.45	0.09	East-west orientated ditch with rounded profile.	natural	(073)

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CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
(073)	9.50+	0.45	0.09	Fill of [072]; dark grey plastic clay which contained frequent chalk.	[072]	(000)
[074]	13.90+	1.50	0.34	East-west orientated ditch with rounded profile.	natural	(075)
(075)	13.90+	1.50	0.34	Fill of [074]; mid grey-brown plastic clay which contained frequent chalk.	[074]	(000)
[076]	1.26	1.26	0.35	Circular pit with sloping sides and flat base.	natural	(078)
(077)	1.26	1.26	0.30	Secondary fill of [076]; very dark brown loose clay-silt which contained abundant charcoal.	(078)	(000)
(078)	1.26	1.26	0.15	Primary fill of [076]; mid brown loose chalky clay which contained abundant chalk and occasional charcoal.	[076]	(077)
[079]	4.0+	1.00	0.30	Southeast-northwest orientated linear with rounded profile.	natural	
(080)/(084)	4.0+	1.00	0.14	Secondary fill of [079]; brown grey clay.	(081)	(000)
(081)/(085)	4.0+	1.00	0.18	Primary fill of [079]; white-grey clay which contained frequent chalk.	[079]	(080)
[082]	1.18	0.80	0.16	Shallow, sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a flat base.	natural	(083)
(083)	1.18	0.80	0.16	Fill of [082]; mid grey plastic clay which contained occasional chalk pieces, occasional charcoal and occasional stones.	[082]	(000)

Appendix 2: The Pottery

Pottery from Allington, near Devizes, Wiltshire (Site MFA14)

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 189 sherds with a total weight of 3,150g. It comprised a mixture of prehistoric, Roman-British and post-medieval wares. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age

The following fabric types were noted.

F1: Sand and Flint. Moderate to dense sub-angular quartz matrix up to 1mm, sparse to moderate angular white flint up to 2mm, most 1mm or less. Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age. 53 sherds, 890g

F10: Shell. Sparse to moderate sub-angular quartz matrix up to 1mm, sparse to moderate angular shell fragments up to 5mm. Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age. 28 sherds, 466g.

F20: Sandy Grogged Ware. Sparse to moderate sub-rounded quartz up to 0.5mm, sparse to moderate angular grey grog up to 2mm. 47 sherds, 546g.

F21: Fine Shell and Grog. As F10, with the shell 1mm or less, sparse dark grey angular grog up to 1mm, rare flint up to 1mm. 1 sherd, 46g.

The flint and shell tempered fabrics are fairly typical of Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age sites in the region (eg. Davies 1990, 30; Mephram and Morris 1992). The assemblage is generally in very good condition, with a number of well-represented vessels, most of which are squat, wide-mouthed jars with simple bead rims, some with light finger-grooving on the shoulders. Such vessels are fairly products of the late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age post-Deverel-Rimbury plain-ware tradition in the region (eg. Powell et al 2005, Fig. 10.29)

A few wall sherds from large storage vessels are also present, and a full profile of a small cup. The sherds are in the main fairly large and in good condition, and appear to be both reliably stratified and the product of primary deposition. Several of the vessels are worthy of illustration if the site is to go to full publication.

Later Iron Age and Romano-British

The following fabric types were noted.

F22: Sandy. Moderate to dense sub-angular quartz < 0.5mm. Later Iron Age. 28 sherds, 122g.

The Romano-British pottery was recorded utilising the conventions of the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998), as follows:

BB1: Black-burnished Ware I, mid-2nd – 4th century. 1 sherd, 10g.

AHGW: Alice Holt/Farnham Grey Ware, 1st – 4th century. 6 sherds, 88g.

DR20. Dressel 20 Amphorae, 1st – 3rd century. 1 sherd, 87g.

SAVGT: Savernake Grog-tempered Ware, mid 1st – 3rd century. 20 sherds, 814g.

The range of late Iron Age and Roman pottery can be paralleled at other sites in the region, such as that from Wayside Farm, Devizes (Corney, 2002). The assemblage was fairly fragmented, and appears to be largely the product of secondary deposition, other than the sherds of SAVGT from context (25), which all join and are from the base of a large base with multiple piercing, presumably a cheese-press.

Post Medieval

The following post-medieval ware was noted:

F401: Verwood Ware, 17th – 18th century. White ware with well-sorted, fine quartz inclusions and a pale-yellowish-green glaze (Brown 2002, 21). 4 sherds, 91g.

Verwood Ware is a common find from post-medieval sites throughout the region. All the vessels here are fragments of large bowls, a very common product of the tradition.

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Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Cntxt	F1		F10		F20		F21		F22		BB1		AHGW		DR20		SAVGT		F401		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
0																			2	53	U/S
2																			2	38	17thC
4	1	57																			LBA
8	4	51																			LBA
11									25	93											LIA
14									3	29											LIA
15	2	12																			LBA
25														1	87	20	814				RB
30	3	20	4	43	12	139															LBA
35					1	4															LBA
38			1	3																	RB
42			8	258	5	32					1	10	2	48							RB
68	3	21																			LBA
77	1	6	13	148																	LBA
81													3	32							RB
83					22	194															LBA
84	34	451																			LBA
86	5	272	2	14	7	177	1	46					1	8							RB
Total	53	890	28	466	47	546	1	46	28	122	1	10	6	88	1	87	20	814	4	91	

Appendix 3: The Flint.

The Worked Chert and Flint from Manor Farm, Allington, Wiltshire

By Dr Martin Tingle

Introduction

The assemblage is composed of 229 pieces of worked flint weighing 1708 g and 13 pieces of worked sarsen weighing 149g. Although the finds derived from eight ditch sections and four pits, 89% of the assemblage was recovered from two pits (009 and 076).

Raw Materials

Allington is located on the undifferentiated chalk deposits of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation which would provide extensive sources of good quality flint. The flint is unpatinated, a typically dark grey with occasional pale speckling.

Sarsen may also have occurred locally, although modern field clearance will have removed much of it. An uncleared area of sarsen is located at Lockeridge, 10 kms north west of Allington which may provide some indication of its former ubiquity.

Composition and Technology

The flint assemblage is predominantly composed of tertiary and uncorticated flakes with significant elements of broken and burnt worked flint (mostly uncorticated flakes and some core fragments). Seven of the eleven sarsen flakes have on their dorsal face, traces of the original weather outer surface of the parent stone.

Find	No	Wgt (g)
Blade	4	9
Burnt Blade	1	5
Primary Flake	7	110
Secondary Flake	16	149
Tertiary Flake	64	393
Uncorticated Flake	58	171
Broken Flake	36	159
Burnt Worked Flint	31	75
Multi-platform Flake Core	1	57
Core Fragment	8	549
End Scraper	1	8
Retouched Flake	1	20
Sarsen Flake	11	136
Sarsen Fragment	2	13
Total	241	1854

Table 1 (above) The composition of the assemblage

There are two retouched tools, a small end scraper, which shows little evidence of use damage or re-sharpening and a single retouched flake. This has a cutting edge 67mm in length on which there are faint traces of wear gloss on the ventral left edge.

Distribution

The worked flint derived from 15 separate contexts from pit and ditch sections. The contexts with the greatest concentrations are 011, the fill of Pit 009 (107 pieces) and contexts 077 and 078 are the upper and lower fills of Pit 076 (97 pieces). Pit 076 is located approximately 50 metres north of Pit 009.

Find	No	Wgt (g)
Blade	2	5
Burnt Blade	1	5
Primary Flake	4	22
Secondary Flake	8	60
Tertiary Flake	34	179
Uncorticated Flake	21	62
Broken Flake	10	51
Burnt Worked Flint	23	48
Core Fragment	2	66
End Scraper	1	8
Sarsen Fragment	1	3
Pit 9 Total	107	509

Table 2 . The lithic finds from Pit 009

Find	No	Wgt (g)
Blade	1	3
Primary Flake	2	64
Secondary Flake	2	50
Tertiary Flake	23	56
Uncorticated Flake	29	75
Broken Flake	17	73
Burnt Worked Flint	7	19
Multi-platform Flake Core	1	57
Core Fragment	3	369
Sarsen Flake	11	136
Sarsen Fragment	2	13
Pit 76 Total	97	912

Table 3 . The lithic finds from Pit 076

The assemblage from the two pits (009 & 076) are similar in that they both contain small numbers of primary and secondary flakes while tertiary and uncorticated flakes predominate and there are lesser quantities of broken flakes. They differ in that 009 has a significant quantity of burnt worked flint while 076 contains almost all of the worked sarsen, while 009 has only a single piece.

The remainder of the assemblage is distributed through 8 ditch contexts (11 pieces) and two pits, Pit 013 with 9 pieces and Pit 053 with 18 pieces. The contrast between the amount of material in the pits compared to the ditches is as notable as the difference between individual pits. In a cluster of pits at the southern edge of the excavated area, Pit 009 contained 107 pieces of worked flint or sarsen while the immediately adjacent Pits 013 had 9 pieces and 013 had no lithic finds whatever.

Dating

There are no obviously datable pieces within the assemblage and although there are blades present within the finds from Pits 009 and 076 they are too few to be of any significance. In general, the assemblage could date from any period from the mid to later Neolithic to the early to mid-Bronze Age.

Conclusion

The assemblage as a whole, made up predominantly of knapping waste with a very small number of simple retouched tools, from a location such as this is not especially noteworthy. However, the concentration of finds within two pits and the composition of both worked flint and sarsen flakes between these two features, is strongly suggestive of deliberate deposition

Terminology

Throughout this analysis the term 'cortex' refers to the natural weathered exterior surface of a piece of flint while 'patination' denotes the colouration of the flaked surfaces exposed by human or natural agency. Following Andrevsky (1998, 104) dorsal cortex is divided into four categories; the term primary flake refers to those with cortex covering 100% of the dorsal face while secondary flakes have cortex on between 50% to 99% of the dorsal face. Tertiary flakes have cortex on 1% to 49% of the dorsal face while flakes with no dorsal cortex are referred to as non cortical

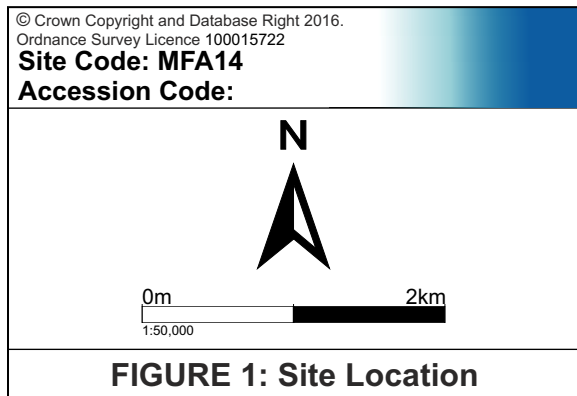
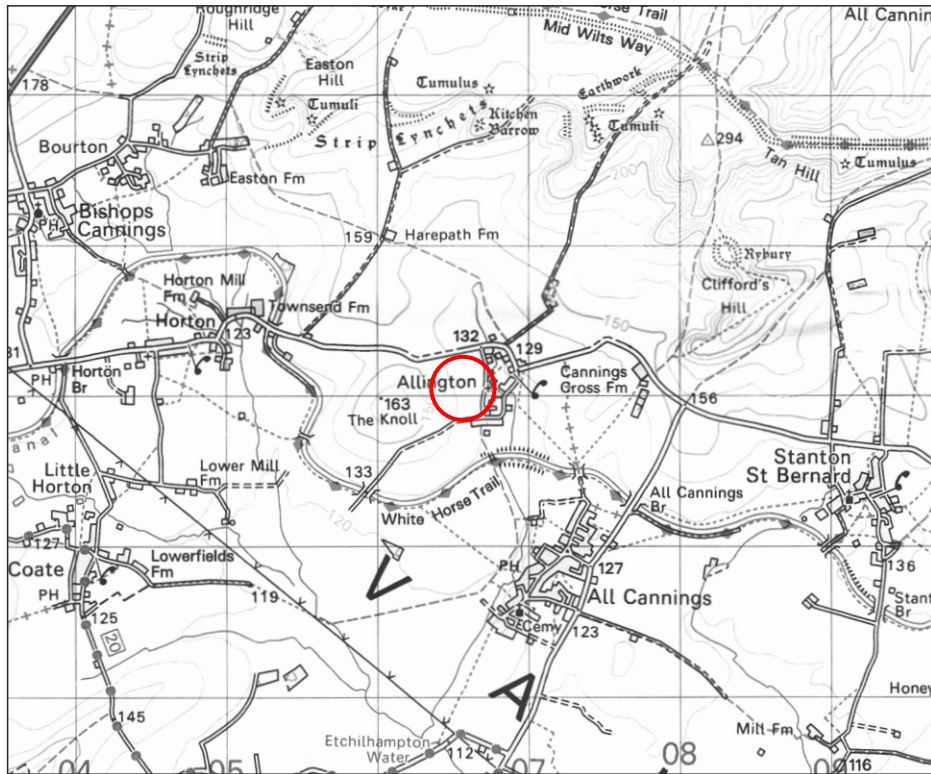
A blade is defined as an elongated flake whose length is at least twice as great as its breadth. These often have parallel dorsal flake scars, a feature that can assist in the identification of broken blades that, by definition, have an indeterminate length/breadth ratio

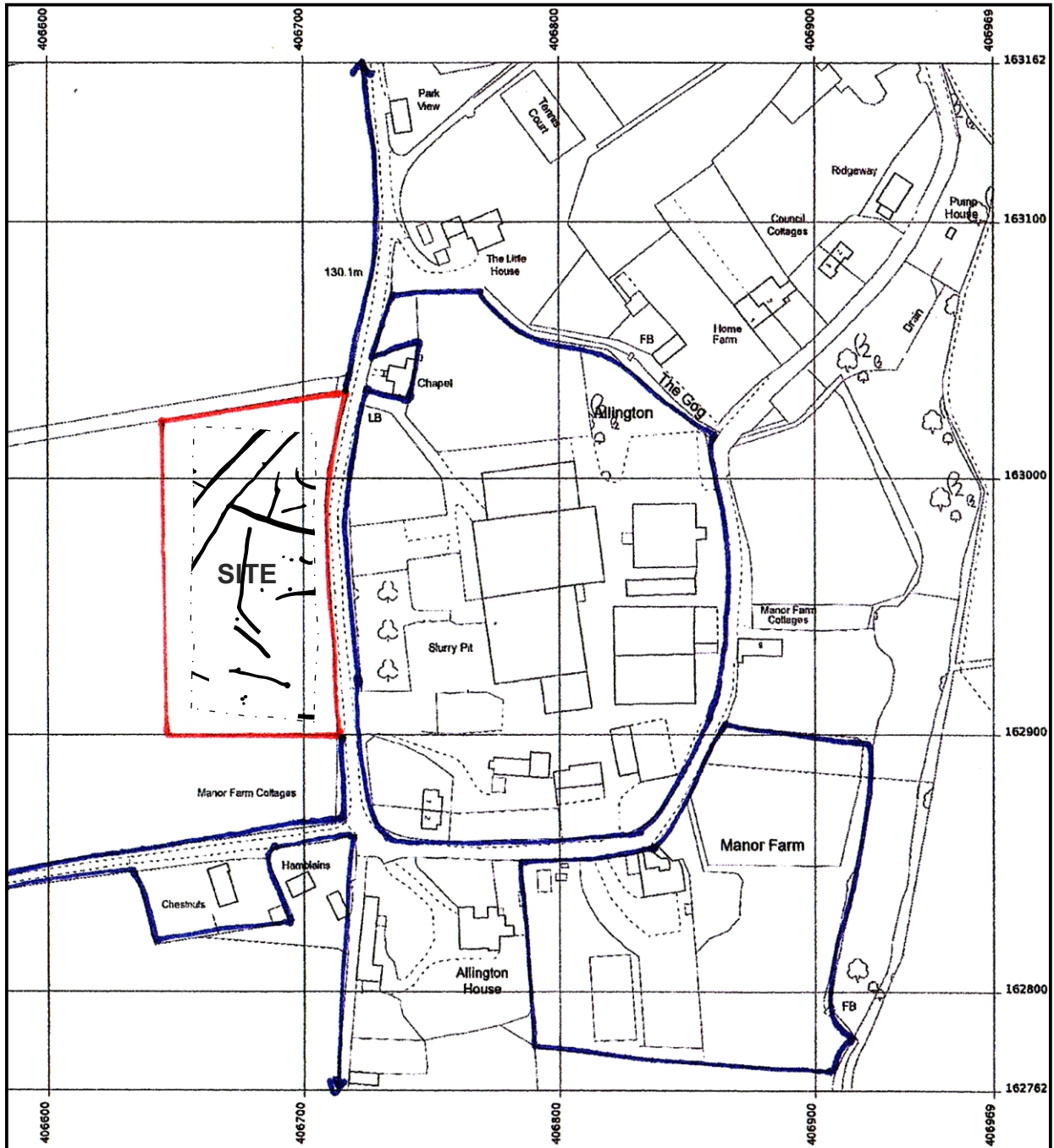
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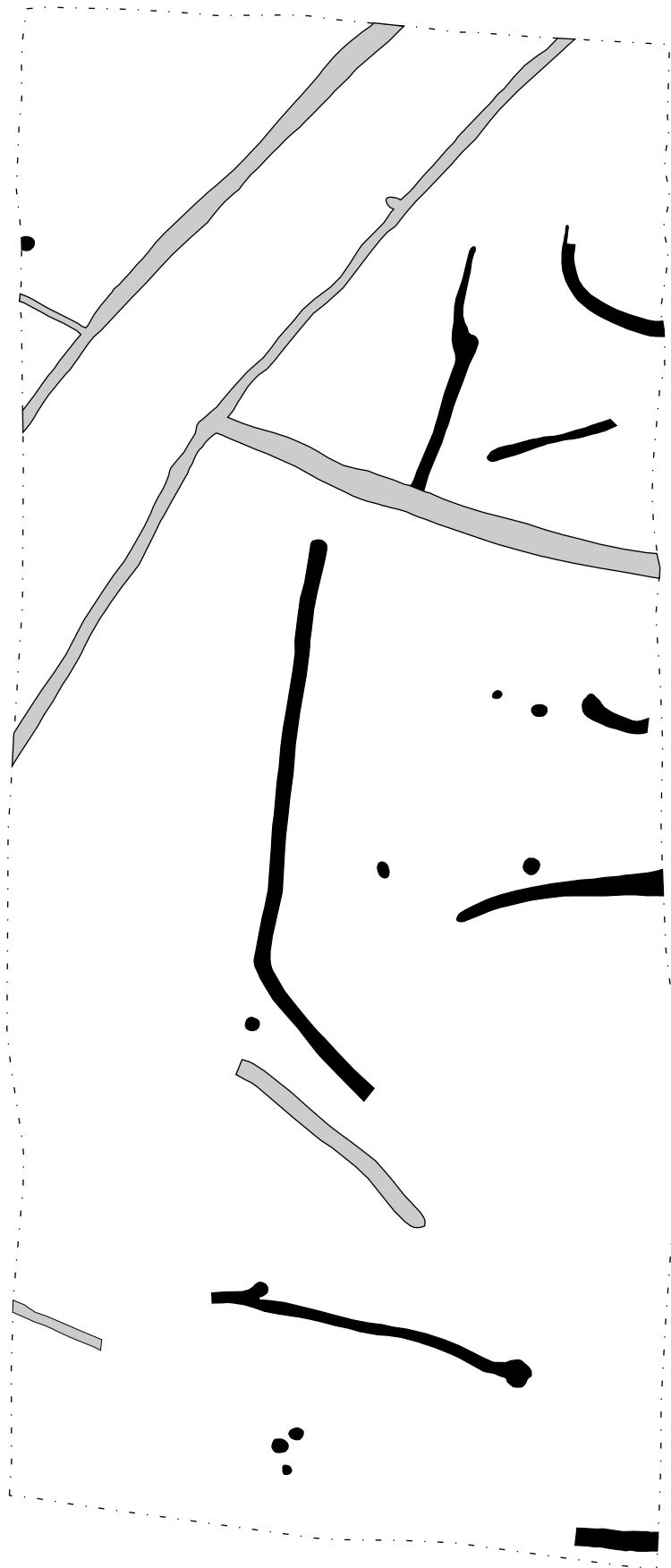
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FIGURE 2: Site Area



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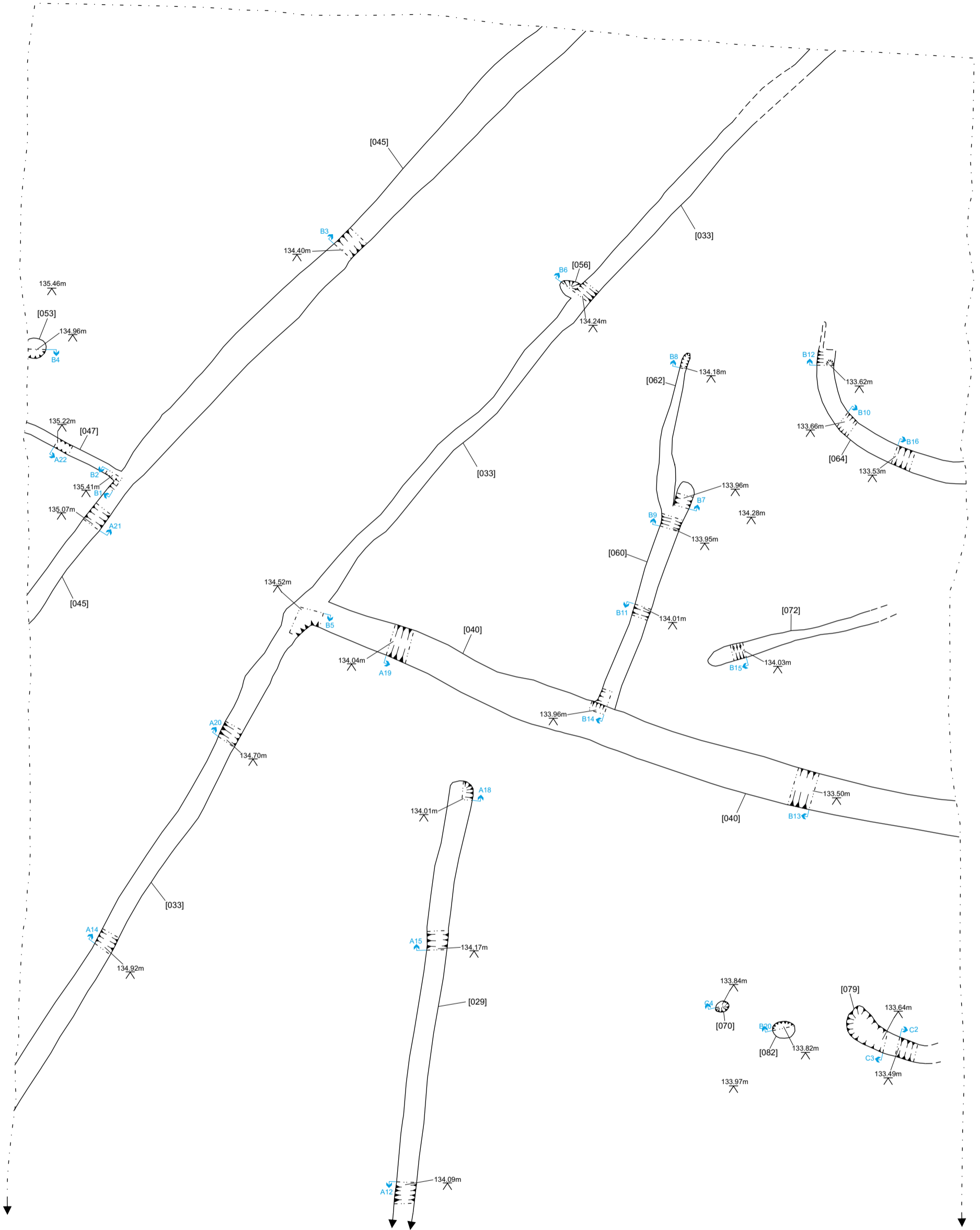
Archaeology

Roman Field System

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FIGURE 3: Plan showing Archaeology

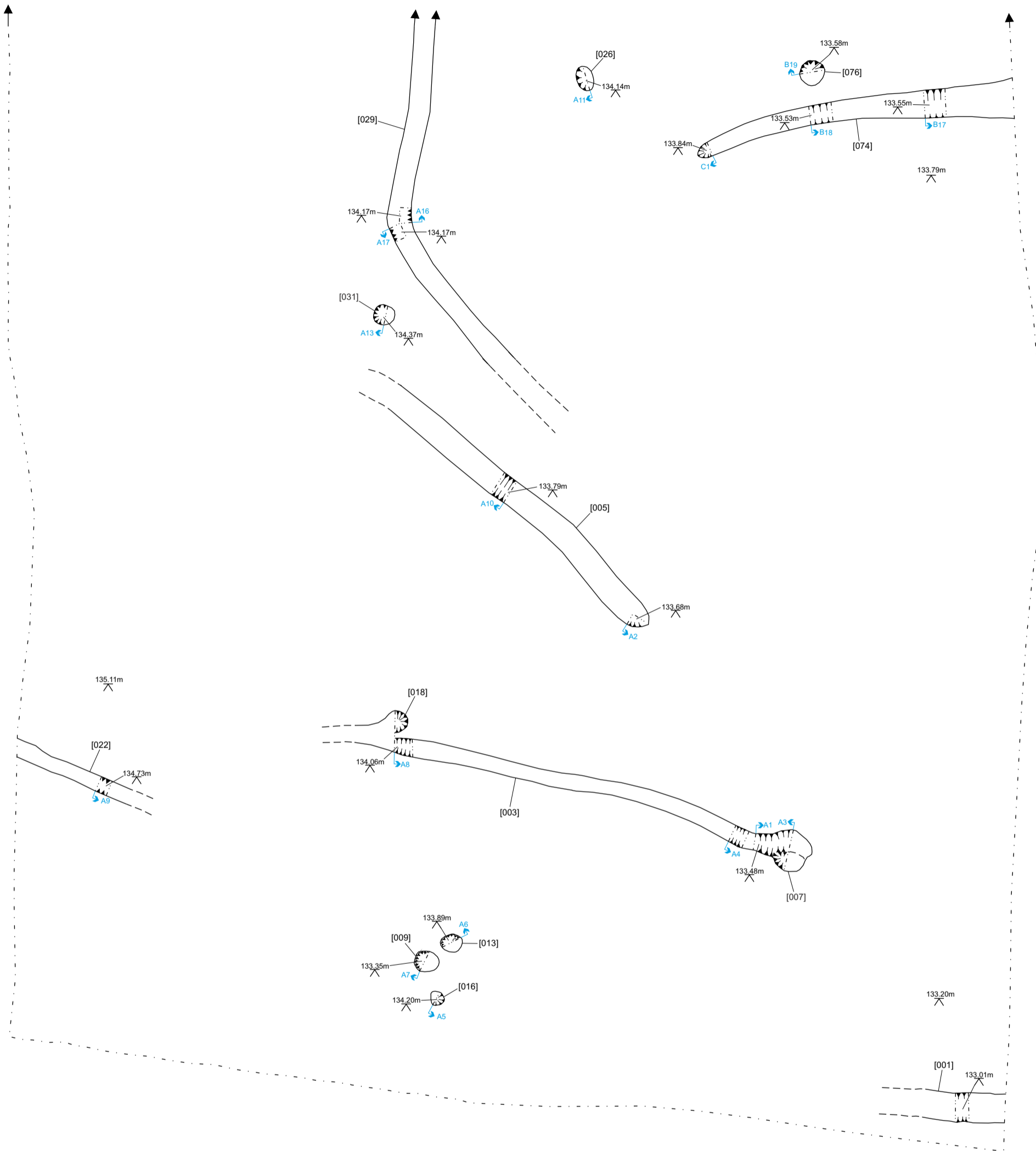


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FIGURE 4: Site Plan, North



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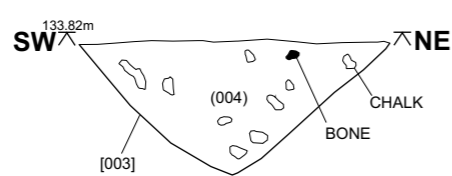
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FIGURE 5: Site Plan, South

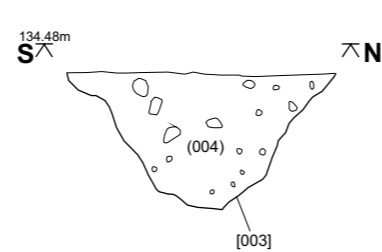
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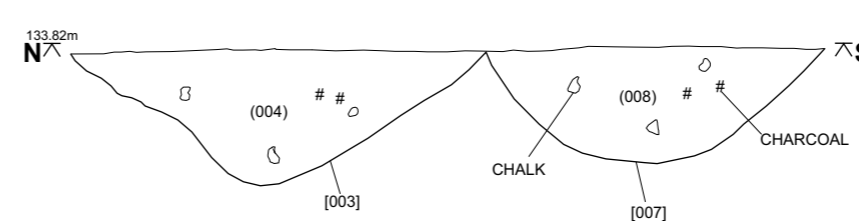
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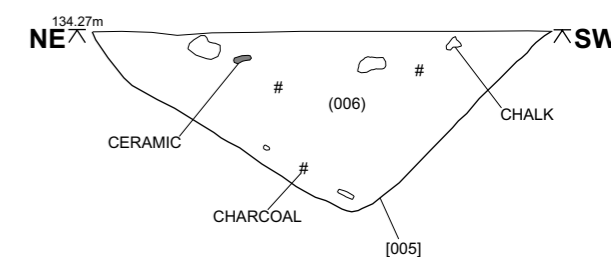
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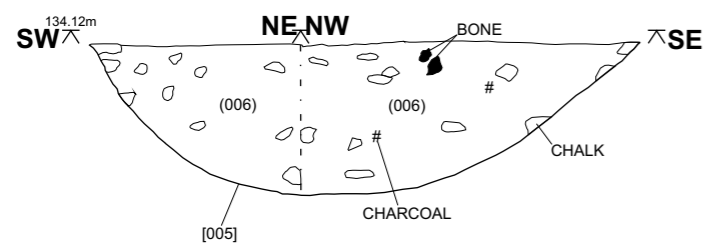
A3: WEST FACING SECTION [003] and [007]



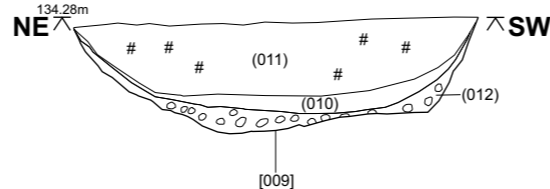
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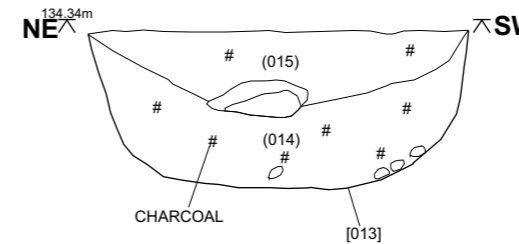
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A7: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [009]



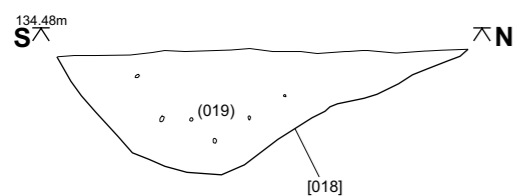
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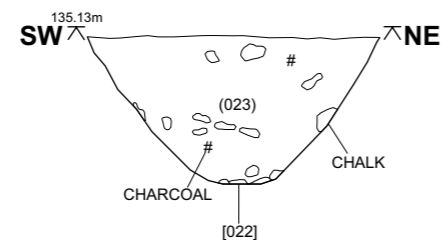
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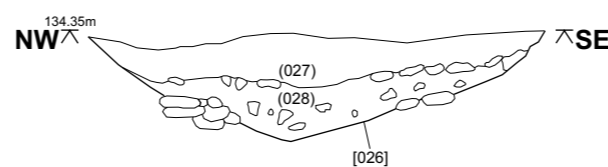
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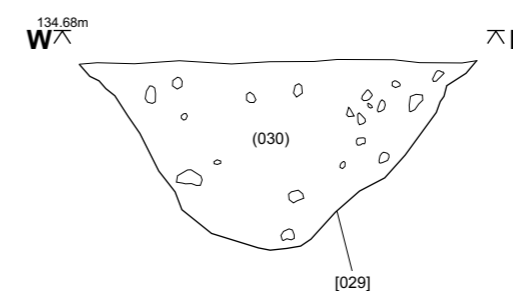
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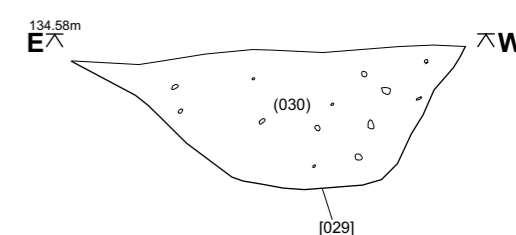
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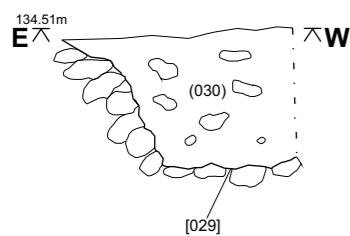
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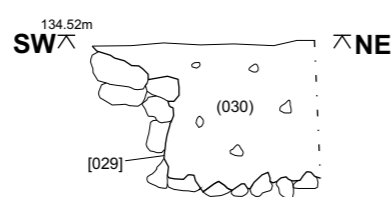
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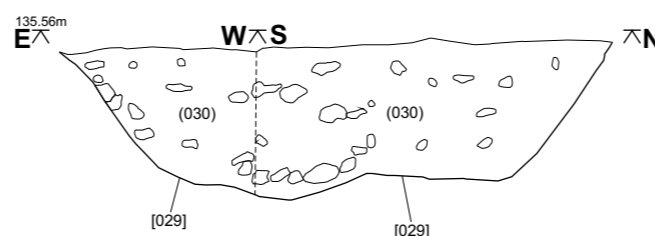
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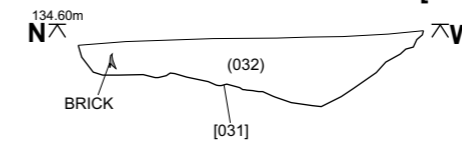
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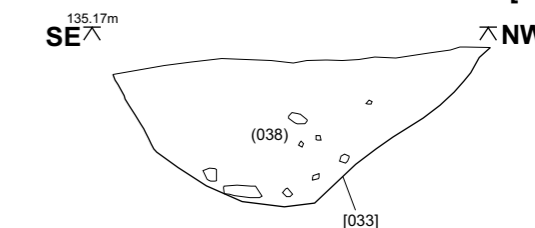
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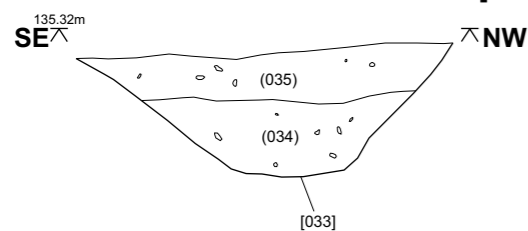
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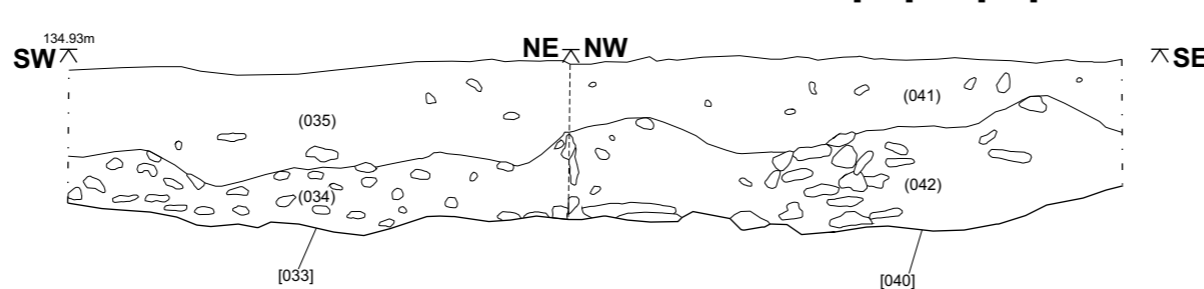
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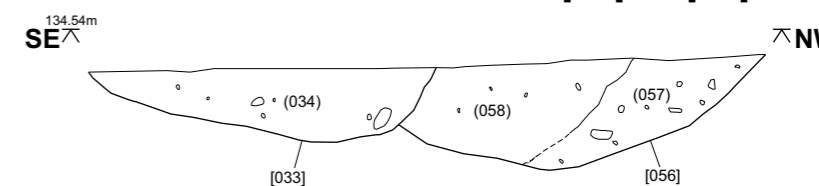
A14: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [033]



B5: SOUTHEAST AND SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [033] and [040]



B6: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [033] and [056]

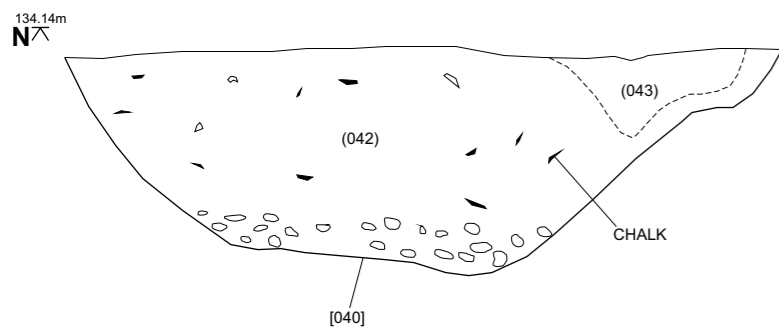


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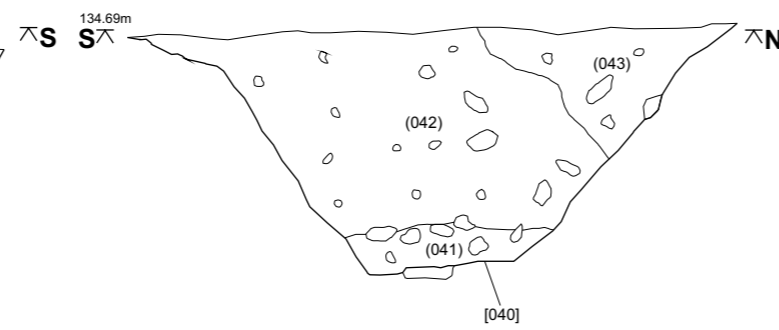
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FIGURE 6: Sections

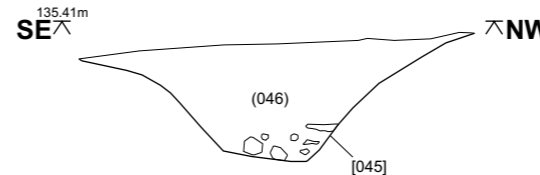
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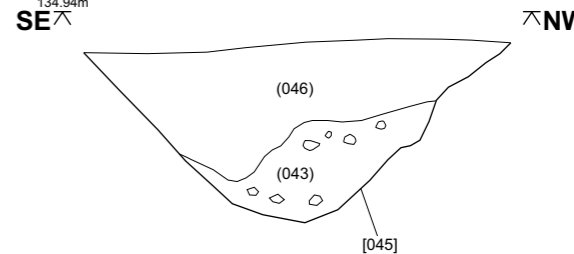
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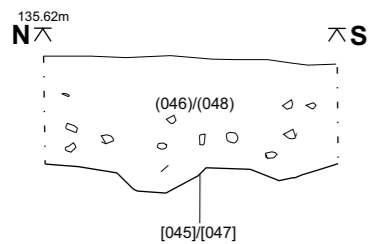
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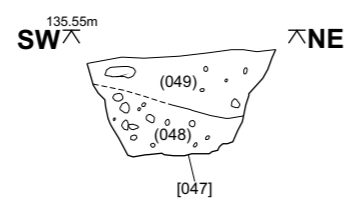
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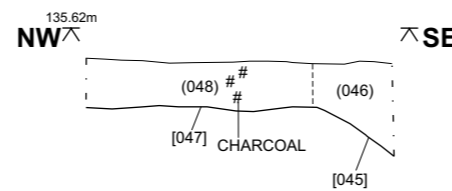
B2: WEST FACING SECTION [045] and [047]



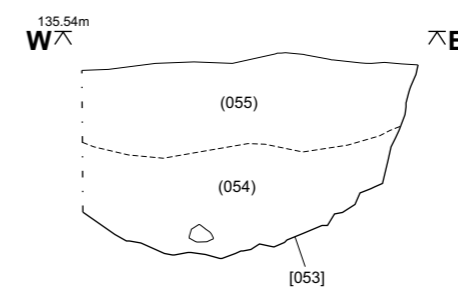
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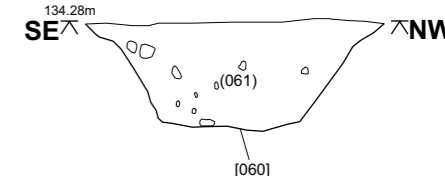
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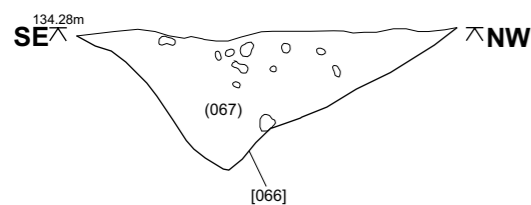
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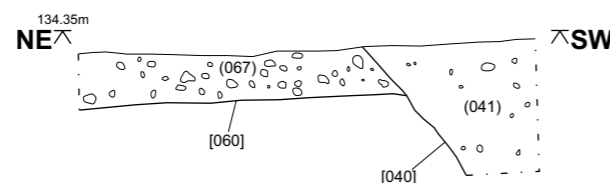
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B9: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [060]



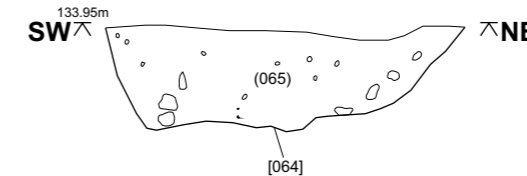
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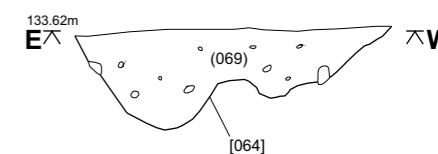
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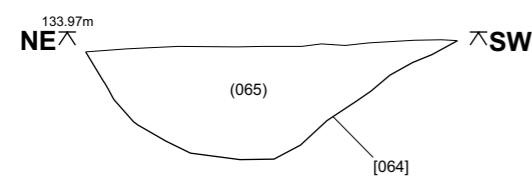
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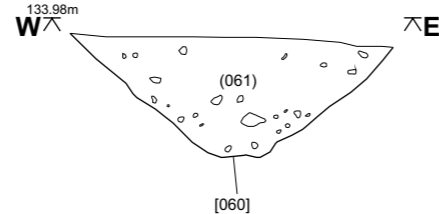
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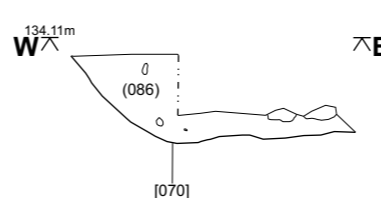
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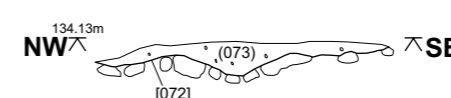
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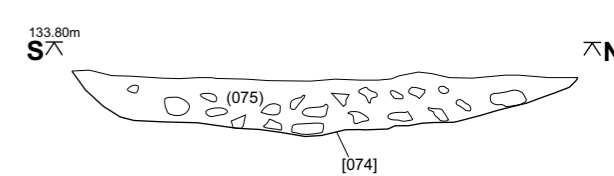
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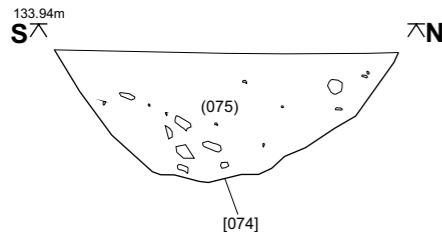
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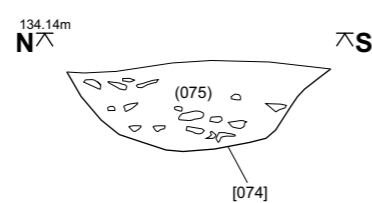
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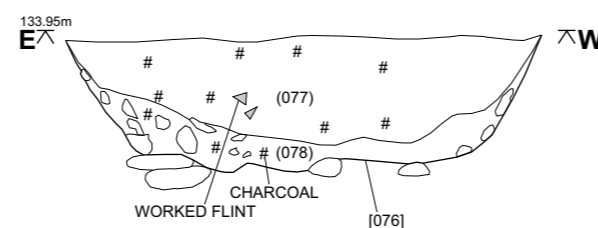
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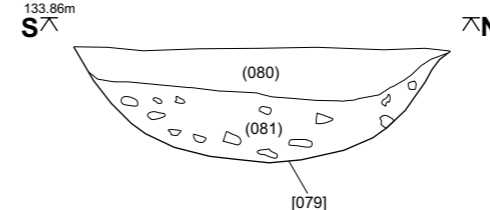
C1: WEST FACING SECTION [074]



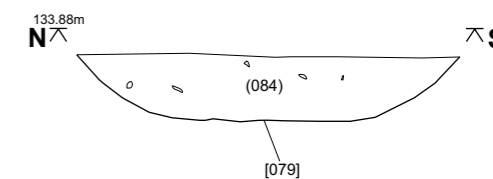
B19: NORTH FACING SECTION [076]



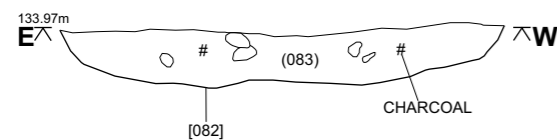
C2: EAST FACING SECTION [079]



C3: WEST FACING SECTION [079]



B20: NORTH FACING SECTION [082]



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FIGURE 7: Sections