

LAND TO THE SOUTH OF SPRING GARDENS, LECHLADE.

NGR: SU 21360/99800

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



August 2015

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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 *c.* 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 *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 *c.* AD 410 and AD 1066.

SUMMARY

In March and August 2015 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological recording in advance of and during the construction of a house, garage and associated services on land to the south of Spring Gardens, Lechlade, Gloucestershire (National Grid Reference: SU 21360 99800 - centred). The project was commissioned by Mr Roger Smith.

The development area is located to the north of the central core of Lechlade. Lechlade stands at the head of the navigable Thames and on a major road, being the principal route for the carriage of Cotswold wool to London in the Medieval period. It also lies in an area already recognised for its Prehistoric and Saxon archaeology. As a result of this archaeological potential, the Senior Archaeological Officer of Gloucestershire County Council (on behalf of the Cotswold District Council) recommended a programme of archaeological work consisting of a controlled watching brief which involved the monitoring of all intrusive groundworks.

The two monitored areas comprised the garage (17.28m²) and Byrony House (96m²) - undertaken in March – while the excavation of drainage and power pipe trenches and two soakaways, to the front and rear of Byrony House, was undertaken in August.

The controlled archaeological watching brief revealed a number of archaeological features surviving below a substantial depth of overburden. The earliest possibly dated to the early to mid-Saxon period and comprised a large quarry pit later filled in with deposits containing animal bone and pottery – probably deriving from nearby settlement activity. Adjacent to this was an undated, but possibly related pit/posthole/gully terminus, which may have been deliberately backfilled.

A parallel northwest-southeast aligned ditch and gully dating to the 12th to 14th centuries was found to the south, running perpendicular to and sloping down towards Oak Street. To the south of this were two rows of evenly spaced postholes of similar depths, possibly forming a single structure or two rows of postholes. One of the postholes contained a sherd of 13th to 15th century pottery.

No archaeological features were found during the excavation of the pipe trenches and soakaways.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In March and August 2015 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological recording in advance of the construction of a house, garage and associated services on land to the south of Spring Gardens, Lechlade, Gloucestershire (National Grid Reference: SU 21360 99800 - centred). The project was commissioned by Mr Roger Smith.
- 1.2 This programme was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Foundations Archaeology 2015), with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) and the standard Brief issued by Gloucestershire County Council. It complies with the principles of NPPF (2012).
- 1.3 This report presents the results of findings of the archaeological recording within the development area.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission had been granted by Cotswold District Council under reference **14/01463/FUL** for the construction of a three bed detached dwelling, with garage at the southern end of Spring Gardens. (Figures 1 & 2). In accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012), the permission included a condition requiring a programme of archaeological recording.
- 2.2 The development area is located to the north of the central core of Lechlade. Lechlade stands at the head of the navigable Thames and on a major road route from London. Until recently it functioned as a staging post for goods and passenger traffic at the entrance to Gloucestershire from the east. Lechlade also lies on the saltway route leading from Droitwich to the south. Its association with travellers was expressed by the Medieval hospital or priory of St Johns (VCH 1981, 106). In the Medieval period it lay on the principal route for the carriage of Cotswold wool to London (ibid. 115).
- 2.3 Within 250 metres of the study area there are numerous HER entries of Prehistoric date. These include: approximately 250 metres to the west northwest, an extensive multi-period settlement, cemetery and ceremonial complex represented by cropmarks, which is scheduled as SAM 413 (HER 305). Approximately 90 metres to the west and 150 metres to the northwest are two possible Bronze Age barrows (HER 26665 and 3307) which were identified on aerial photographs. Approximately 100 metres to the northwest of the site an archaeological evaluation by Cotswold Archaeological Trust in

1995 identified two early Bronze Age burials, with Beaker pottery, which were possibly associated with a barrow, along with numerous Iron Age features (HER 17204).

- 2.4 Located less than 50 metres to the west of the study area are a complex of enclosures, which have been identified by aerial photography (HER 3308). These are thought to be of Saxon date as they have the distinctive playing card shape marks of Anglo-Saxon huts and are located 250 metres to the east of a Saxon cemetery (HER 586). Numerous Listed Buildings of Post-medieval date are present to the south and southwest of the site.
- 2.5 As such the site was regarded to have the potential to contain features, finds and deposits predominately relating to Prehistoric, Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval periods.
- 2.6 As a result of this archaeological potential, the Senior Archaeological Officer of Gloucestershire County Council (on behalf of the Cotswold District Council) attached Condition 13 to the Decision Notice that states:
- No development shall take place within the application site until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*
- 2.7 To fulfil this Condition, Foundations Archaeology issued a Written Scheme of Investigation (2015) outlining a programme of archaeological recording during the excavation of the house and garage footprints and any associated services which was submitted to the Senior Archaeological Officer for comment and approval. It was accepted and approved and forms the basis of the current works.

3 SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The development area is on a piece of derelict land at the south end of Spring Gardens, Lechlade. It is bounded to the south and east by a fence and to the north by a vegetable garden (Figure 2).
- 3.2 The site is relatively flat and lies at approximately 77.50m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). Bedrock comprises Mudstones of the Oxford Clay Formation overlain by sands and gravels of the Summertown-Radley association (British Geological Survey 2015).

4 AIMS

- 4.1 The aims of the archaeological recording were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits.
- 4.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
 - i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
 - ii) to attempt to characterize the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;
 - iii) where possible to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 In line with the recommendations of the Senior Archaeological Officer the two plots were stripped under constant archaeological supervision. The garage (Plot 1) comprised an area of 5.4m by 3.2m (17.28m²) and Byrony (Plot 2) 12m by 8m (96m²).
- 5.2 Within these areas non-significant overburden was removed to the top of archaeological remains or the underlying natural deposits, whichever was encountered first, by use of a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket.
- 5.3 The associated services comprised four pipe trenches to the north of Byrony for waterworks, one pipe trench for electricity to the south and two soakaways (Figure 2). The excavation of these was also undertaken under constant archaeological supervision.
- 5.4 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

6 RESULTS

- 6.1 A full description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is presented in Appendix 1, along with detailed finds reports in Appendix 2. Below is a summary of the deposits and features present.

6.2 The controlled watching brief and excavation of Plots 1 (Garage) and 2 (Byrony House) was undertaken from the 3rd to 5th of March 2015 while the watching brief for the excavation of the services and soakaways occurred on the 21st of August 2015.

6.3 Plot 1 – The Garage (Figure 3)

6.3.1 Topsoil (**100**) was 0.26m thick, overlying a 0.45m thick subsoil (**101**). Below this was a 0.18m thick deposit (**102**) differentiated from the subsoil by having a higher coarse component content. This layer sealed the two archaeological features present within the excavated area.

6.3.2 Pit [**111**] was at least 1.7m long (running under the eastern baulk) and 1.6m wide – possibly subcircular in plan. It was 0.66m in depth with steep concave to vertical and undercut sides and contained four fills. Basal fill **110** was a yellowish brown sandy silty clay with frequent gravel coarse components deriving from initial weathering of the sides of the feature. Deposit **109** was similar but dark brown in colour indicating mixture with topsoil/subsoil deposits. It occurred around the edge of the feature and probably represents inwash from the spoil created by the excavation of the feature.

6.3.3 The upper fills of the feature were broadly similar; **107** was a mid-brown sandy silty clay and **108** a dark brown sandy silty clay, both with occasional gravel coarse components. Both contained animal bone and **108** also contained three sherds of early to mid-Saxon pottery. These deposits represent low energy inwash, most probably deriving from adjacent settlement activity.

6.3.4 Immediately to the north of pit [**111**] was a smaller feature [**106**]. This also ran under the eastern baulk and was at least 0.5m long by 0.5m wide. It was 0.36m deep with vertical sides and a flat base, containing three fills. It remained uncertain if this feature represented a pit/posthole or, possibly a gully terminus. Basal fill **105** was a dark brown sand silty clay with rare coarse components, above this was **104**, a yellowish brown sandy silty clay with common gravel coarse components. This was sealed by **103** a yellowish brown sandy silty clay with frequent gravel coarse components.

6.4 Plot 2 –Byrony (Figure 4)

6.4.1 Topsoil (**200**) was slightly deeper in Plot 2 than in Plot 1 at 0.39m thick, overlying a 0.41m thick subsoil (**201**). Below this was a 0.19m thick deposit (**202**) again differentiated from the subsoil by having a higher coarse component content. The east-west aligned ditch [**206**]/[**225**] and gully

[208]/[222] were sealed by 202 and it is likely that the remaining features in the plot were also sealed by this deposit.

- 6.4.2 In the northeast corner of Plot 2 ditch [206] was 1.3m wide and 0.42m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. It contained three fills; 203 and 204 were low energy inwash deposits varying only in colour. 204 appeared to have washed in from the south side and may have been bank derived. The basal fill (205) was redeposited natural, representing weathering from the same southern side.
- 6.4.3 Immediately to the north of ditch [206] was gully [208]. This was shallow at 0.16m deep and 0.45m wide with a single fill (207) indistinguishable to the upper fill (203) of ditch [206]. This was caused by the presence of a large animal burrow running along the base and south side of the feature making the relationship of the two features impossible to ascertain. Deposit 207 contained a single sherd of 12th to 14th century coarseware.
- 6.4.4 The second intervention through the ditch and gully was excavated in the northwestern corner of the plot. Here ditch [225] was shallower at 0.34m deep and 0.72m wide. It contained a low energy inwash deposit (223) overlying a redeposited natural deposit (224) again representing weathering from the southern side of the feature. Deposit 223 contained a single sherd of 12th to 14th century pottery and a fragment of Medieval CBM. It also contained an abraded sherd of Roman pottery, which was almost certainly residual.
- 6.4.5 Also at this point the associated gully [222] had diverged from the ditch by 0.35m to the north and was very ephemeral, being only 0.33m wide and 0.07m deep. It contained a single fill (221).
- 6.4.6 The remaining features in Plot 2 comprised five postholes, possibly forming an east-west aligned structure or two parallel fencelines, as well as two Victorian/early 20th century rubbish pits.
- 6.4.7 Posthole [211], the northeastern of the group, was 0.46m in diameter and 0.25m deep with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills – 209, a more gravelly deposit overlying 210, with less coarse components which had washed in from the south side of the feature.
- 6.4.8 Posthole [214] was 2.5m to the west of [211], it was 0.32m in diameter and 0.22m deep with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It also contained two fills – 212, again a gravelly deposit overlying 213, which contained less coarse components which had washed in from the south side of the feature.

- 6.4.9 Posthole [227] was 2.7m further to the west. It was subcircular in plan, 0.59m by 0.51m and 0.28m deep with steep concave sides and a rounded to flat base. It contained two fills – **215** and **226** which varied only in colour.
- 6.4.10 South southeast (3.2m) of posthole [227] was posthole [217], ovoid in plan with steep concave sides and a rounded base, 0.6m by 0.35m and 0.22m deep. It contained a single fill (**216**). Fill **216** contained a single sherd of Minety ware dating from the 13th to 15th centuries.
- 6.4.11 Posthole [219] had been truncated on its south side by a Victorian/early 20th century rubbish pit. It was at least 0.24m across and 0.28m deep with steep concave sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (**218**).

6.5 Services and Soakaway Watching Brief (Figure 2)

- 6.5.1 Superficial deposits were consistent with those found during the earlier phase of works. The pipe trenches excavated to the front and rear of Byrony House were relatively shallow and the natural gravels never exposed. The two soakaways, one to the north and one to the south of the house, were excavated to a depth of 1.15m.
- 6.5.2 The pipe trenches were 0.5m wide and excavated to variable depths. Those to the front (north) of Byrony were for drainage and went to a maximum depth of 0.75m below ground level. The service trench to the rear (south) of the house was excavated to a maximum 0.5m depth. At no point were the natural gravels exposed and no archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.5.3 Typically topsoil deposits (**300**) were 0.22m thick, though becoming thicker (0.30m) to the east. Subsoil **301** was a maximum of 0.48m thick and this overlay **302**, a yellowish brown sandy silty clay – the equivalent of **102** and **202**.
- 6.5.4 Soakaway 1 to the north of the house was deeper, excavated to a depth of 1.2m below ground level. Topsoil **400** was 0.3m deep which overlay a 0.25m deep subsoil (**401**). This sealed the fill (**403**) of a V-shaped posthole [404] which cut a yellowish brown sandy silty clay (**402**) – the layer equivalent to **102**, **202** and **302**. This posthole contained fragments of charcoal and Modern pottery. Layer **402** sealed the natural gravels.
- 6.5.5 Soakaway 2 to the south of the house was excavated to a depth of 1.5m below ground level. Topsoil **500** was 0.30m deep and this sealed the fill (**502**) of a Victorian/early 20th century rubbish pit ([503]) at least 0.8m across and 0.75m deep (it was found in the eastern half of the soakaway). This feature cut subsoil **501** which was 0.30m deep and lay directly above natural gravels.

7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The depth of overburden covering the archaeological deposits suggests that there has been considerable build up over time. Topsoil deposits (**100/200/300/400/500**) were between 0.22m and 0.39m thick and heavily bioturbated. Subsoil deposits (**101/201/301/401**) were relatively thick and variable (between 0.25m and 0.48m thick) – this subsoil deposit did not occur in Soakaway 2.
- 7.2 Deposit **102/202/302/402/501** lay beneath the subsoil (**501** occurs below topsoil **500** in Soakaway 2), it was between 0.18m and 0.30m thick and sealed the archaeological features in Plots 1 and 2. This deposit was cut by a Modern posthole and Victorian/early 20th century rubbish pits – two of which were found in Plot 2 and another, much larger, in Soakaway 2. It is probable that this layer was the original subsoil.
- 7.3 Pit **[111]** in Plot 1 (Figure 3) was possibly early to mid-Saxon in date, based on the small amount of pottery recovered from fill **108**. The function of the pit is uncertain, though it seems that it was left open for a while after excavation, with fill **110** resulting from a slumping of the sides (perhaps accounting for the undercut edges) and fill **109** accumulating only inside the lip of the feature, perhaps deriving from the spoil piled around it.
- 7.4 Subsequently the feature filled up with two low energy deposits (**107** and **108**) – most probably deriving from nearby settlement activity to judge from the amount of animal bone found in the layers. It is likely therefore that the feature was a quarry pit, left open for a while and then utilised as a rubbish pit.
- 7.5 The small feature **[106]** to the north of pit **[111]** was undated, though its proximity suggests it may possibly be of the same date and may have been associated with it (Figure 3). The basal deposit (**105**) is likely to have been inwash deriving from topsoil/subsoil deposits, but **103** and **104** may have been a result of deliberate backfilling.
- 7.6 The ditch/gully pair in Plot 2 (**[206]/[208]** and **[225]/[222]**) were aligned west northwest-east southeast and were clearly related (Figure 4). It was unfortunate that, at the only place a relationship between the gully and ditch could have been ascertained, there was a high degree of animal disturbance making any relationship impossible to interpret. Dating evidence, though, was consistent for both, comprising sherds of 12th to 14th century pottery in fills **207**, **203** and **223**.

- 7.7 Indeed it is highly likely that the two linears were contemporary. Certainly they ran perpendicular to the relict Medieval street frontage of Oak Street, and if not the back end of a burgage plot, then they may have formed some part of a land division running off from it. The base of the ditch in the western intervention ([225]) lay at 76.27m aOD while its base in the eastern intervention ([206]) was at 76.12m aOD indicating a west to east drainage running towards Oak Street.
- 7.8 The five postholes in Plot 2 (Figure 4) most probably formed either two parallel rows, perhaps of different phases, or a single structure aligned east-west. They were evenly spaced and broadly the same depth at between 0.22m to 0.28m. The northern row ([211], [214] and [227]) contained two fills each, while the southern row ([217] and [219]) contained only one. No evidence of a postpipe was found in any, suggesting that the posts had been removed rather than rotting *in situ*.
- 7.9 Only one of the postholes contained pottery – fill 216 in posthole [217] – a single sherd of Minety ware dating from the 13th to 15th centuries. It is possible that this dates the posthole – and therefore the possible structure. However it is also possible that the piece is residual. As a group, the postholes shared a similar alignment to ditch [206]/[225], which may suggest at least a degree contemporaneity between the features.

8 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The controlled archaeological watching brief revealed a number of archaeological features surviving below a substantial depth of overburden. The earliest possibly dated to the early to mid-Saxon period and comprised a large quarry pit later filled in with deposits containing animal bone and pottery – probably deriving from nearby settlement activity. Adjacent to this was an undated, but possibly related pit/posthole/gully terminus which may have been deliberately backfilled.
- 8.2 A parallel west northwest-east southeast aligned ditch and gully dating to the 12th to 14th centuries was found to the south of the pit, running perpendicular to and sloping down towards Oak Street. To the south of this were two rows of evenly spaced postholes of similar depths, possibly forming a single structure or two rows of postholes. One of the postholes contained a single sherd of 13th to 15th century pottery.
- 8.3 No archaeological features predating the Victorian period were found during the excavation of the pipe trenches and soakaways.

9 ARCHIVING, STORAGE & PUBLICATION

- 9.1 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited in due course with the local museum. Copies of the report in PDF/a format will be supplied to the County Archaeological Service and an additional copy will be deposited with the site archive.
- 9.2 The report will be published in an appropriate form in a relevant journal within 12 months from completion of fieldwork. An OASIS record will also be completed and submitted on completion of the project.

10 REFERENCES

British Geological Survey, 2015. *Geology of Britain viewer*. <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>.

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11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 – STRATIGRAPHIC DATA (by feature)

Plot 1 – The Garage

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
100	site	site	0.26	Very dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 101 diffuse. <u>TOPSOIL</u>	101	-
101	site	site	0.45	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 102 diffuse. <u>SUBSOIL</u>	102	100
102	site	site	0.18	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Some bioturbation. Interface with 103 and 107 diffuse.	103, 107	101
112	-	-	-	Natural gravels.	-	[106], [111]
103	0.35	0.25	0.21	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 104 diffuse. Fill of [106] . <u>Backfill</u>	104	102
104	0.42+	0.32+	0.30	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 105 clear. Fill of [106] . <u>Backfill</u>	105	103
105	0.45+	0.31+	0.30	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with rare small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [106] . <u>Low energy inwash</u>	[106]	104
[106]	0.5+	0.5	0.36	Subcircular? feature with vertical sides and a flat base. Runs under the eastern bank. Filled with 103 , 104 and 105 . Cuts 112 . <u>Probable posthole</u> . Post removed and subsequently backfilled.	112	105
107	1.7+	1.6	0.30	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 108 diffuse, with 110 clear. Fill of [111] . <u>Low energy inwash</u>	108	102
108	1.05+	0.75+	0.39	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 109 and 110 clear. Fill of [111] . <u>Low energy inwash</u>	109	107
109	0.70	0.60	0.53	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 110 diffuse. Occurs around the edge of the feature. Fill of [111] . <u>Redeposited natural</u>	110	108
110	1.2+	1.05+	0.33	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with very frequent small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [111] . <u>Redeposited natural</u>	[111]	109
[111]	1.7+	1.6	0.66	Subcircular? feature with steep concave to vertical and undercut sides and a flat base. Runs under the eastern bank. Filled with 107 , 108 , 109 and 110 . Cuts 112 . <u>Possible quarry pit</u> . Early to mid-Saxon.	112	110

Plot 2 – Byrony House

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
200	site	site	0.39	Very dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 201 diffuse. <u>TOPSOIL</u> .	201	-
201	site	site	0.41	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 202 diffuse. Contains lenses of yellow sand. <u>SUBSOIL</u> .	202	200
202	site	site	0.19	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Some bioturbation. Interface with 203 , 207 , 221 and 223 diffuse.	203, 207, 221, 223	201
220	-	-	-	Natural gravels.	-	[206], [208], [211], [214], [217], [219], [222], [225], [227]
203	1+	1.30	0.30	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 204 diffuse. Fill of [206] . <u>Low energy inwash</u> .	204	202
204	1+	0.85	0.28	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 205 diffuse. Fill of [206] . <u>Low energy inwash</u> .	205	203
205	1+	0.60	0.17	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with very frequent small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [206] . <u>Redeposited natural</u> .	[206]	204
[206]	1+	1.30	0.42	Linear regular feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Filled with 203 , 204 , and 205 . Cuts 220 . Same as [225] . <u>Boundary ditch</u> . Medieval.	220	205
207	1+	0.45	0.16	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [208] . Heavily disturbed by animal burrowing.	[208]	202
[208]	1+	0.45	0.16	Linear regular feature with concave sides and a rounded base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Filled with 207 . Cuts 220 . Same as [222] . <u>Boundary ditch</u> . Medieval.	220	207
209	-	0.44	0.22	Dark yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 210 diffuse. Fill of [211] .	210	+
210	-	0.33	0.24	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with rare small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [211] .	[211]	209
[211]	0.46	0.46	0.25	Circular feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base. Filled with 209 and 210 . Cuts 220 . <u>Posthole</u> . Post removed.	220	210
212	-	0.26	0.20	Dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 213 diffuse. Fill of [214] .	213	+
213	-	0.19	0.22	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with rare small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [214] .	[214]	212
[214]	0.32	0.32	0.22	Circular feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base. Filled with 212 and 213 . Cuts 220 . <u>Posthole</u> . Post removed.	220	213
216	0.60	0.35	0.22	Dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Rare angular stone fragments. Fill of [217] .	[217]	+
[217]	0.60	0.35	0.22	Ovoid feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base. Filled with 216 . Cuts 220 . <u>Posthole</u> . Post removed.	220	216
218	-	0.24+	0.28	Dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [219] .	[219]	+
[219]	-	0.24+	0.28	Subcircular feature with steep concave sides and a flat base. Filled with 218 . Cuts 220 . Truncated by a Victorian/early 20 th century rubbish pit to the south. <u>Posthole</u> . Post removed.	220	218

Plot 2 – Byrony (cont.)

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
221	1+	0.33	0.07	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [222].	[222]	202
[222]	1+	0.33	0.07	Linear regular feature with concave sides and a rounded base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Filled with 221. Cuts 220. Same as [208]. Boundary ditch. Medieval	220	207
223	1+	0.72	0.32	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Rare large subangular and angular stone. Interface with 224 diffuse. Fill of [225]. Low energy. Inwash	224	202
224	1+	0.36	0.23	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [225]. Redeposited natural	[225]	223
[225]	1+	0.72	0.34	Linear regular feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Filled with 223 and 224. Cuts 220. Same as [206]. Boundary ditch. Medieval	220	224
215	-	0.45	0.27	Dark yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Interface with 226 diffuse. Fill of [227].	226	+
226	-	0.31	0.28	Dark brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Fill of [227].	[227]	215
[227]	0.59	0.51	0.28	Subcircular feature with steep concave sides and a rounded to flat base. Filled with 215 and 226. Cuts 220. Posthole. Post removed.	220	226

Watching Brief Deposits

Pipe trenches to front and rear of Byrony

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
300	site	site	0.22	Very dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 301 diffuse. TOPSOIL	301	-
301	site	site	0.48	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 302 diffuse. SUBSOIL	302	300
302	site	site	0.05+	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Some bioturbation.	uncertain	301

Watching Brief Deposits (cont.)

Soakaway 1 (north of Byrony)

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
400	1.2	1	0.30	Very dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 401 diffuse. TOPSOIL.	401	-
401	1.2	1	0.25	Mid brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 402 and 403 diffuse. SUBSOIL.	403	400
402	1.2	1	0.30	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with common small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. Some bioturbation. Cut by [404].	405	[404]
403	0.20	0.20	0.20	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay with frequent small to medium subrounded and subangular pebble. Occasional charcoal fragments. Fill of [404]. Contained Modern porcelain.	[404]	401
[404]	0.20	0.20	0.20	V-shaped posthole. Cuts 402 , filled with 403 .	402	403
405	-	-	-	Natural gravels.	-	402

Soakaway 2 (south of Byrony)

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/ LATER THAN	CUT BY/ EARLIER THAN
500	1.6	1.1	0.30	Very dark greyish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Interface with 501 diffuse. TOPSOIL.	501	-
501	1.6	1.1	0.30	Yellowish brown friable to loose sandy silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded, subrounded and subangular pebble. High bioturbation. Cut by [503]. SUBSOIL.	502	[503]
502	1.1+	0.8+	0.75+	Very dark brown to black silty clay deposit with frequent Modern bottles, pottery and metal objects etc.	[503]	500
[503]	1.1+	0.8+	0.75+	Modern rubbish pit with steep concave to vertical sides. Cuts 501 . Filled with 502 . Occurs only in eastern half of soakaway.	504	502
504	-	-	-	Natural gravels.	-	501

APPENDIX 2 – THE FINDS

POTTERY

By Dr Jane Timby

Summary

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of a small assemblage of ten sherds of pottery weighing 115 g and one small fragment of ceramic building material (12 g). Pottery was recovered from five defined archaeological contexts with one unstratified piece. The assemblage dates to the Roman, Saxon and Medieval periods. The sherds are in relatively good condition in terms of preservation with relatively fresh edges.

The pottery comprises one redeposited sherd of Oxfordshire grey ware jar of Roman date from context **223**; three sherds of organic-tempered ware of early-mid Saxon date from context **108** and six Medieval pieces from contexts **203**, **207**, **216**, **223** and unstratified. Details can be found in the catalogue below. On the basis of the pottery context **108** (Feature **[111]**) dates to the Saxon period and contexts **203** (Feature **[206]**), **207** (Feature **[208]**), **216** (Feature **[217]**) and **223** (Feature **[225]**) to the Medieval period.

This is a very small group of material and entirely commensurate with that to be expected from Lechlade. No further work is recommended.

Catalogue

1. Three small bodysherds of handmade, organic-tempered ware weighing 7 g. The sherds come from a single vessel and show a burnt interior surface. The closed vessel was moderately thin-walled and had a roughly burnished exterior finish. Context: (**108**). Date: early-mid Saxon.
2. Two small bodysherds (19 g) of Minety ware. Context (**203**). Date: Medieval (12th – 14th century).
3. One bodysherd (7 g) of plain cooking pot/jar in a sandy fabric with sparse limestone. Context (**207**). Date: Medieval (later 12th-14th century).
4. One sherd (5 g) of Minety ware with a glazed finish. Context (**216**). Date: Medieval (13-15th century).
5. One abraded rimsherd (7 g) from a wheel-made grey ware jar. Context (**223**). Date: Roman.
6. One bodysherd (9 g) from a plain cooking-pot/jar in a sandy fabric with sparse limestone. Context (**223**). Date: Medieval (later 12-14th century).
7. One small fragment of ceramic building material (12 g) in a coarse sandy fabric. One surface has a plain glaze. Context (**223**). Date: Medieval.

BONE

By David Pinches

The recovered bone is detailed in Table 1, a summary is given below:

(107): species represented are dog, cow and sheep. The dog has both cranial (largely mandible) and post cranial elements, the cow is largely made up of cranial elements, the sheep largely consists of teeth. All of the teeth present exhibit little to no signs of wear suggesting younger animals, the exception to this is a molar exhibiting heavy wear, suggesting two animals are represented. No butchery is observed on any species. The preservation is largely good with some root action and some fracturing present. MNI for the context is; one dog one cow and two sheep. There are also 25 unidentified fragments of long bone present.

(108): The context is made up of dog and cow, probably relating to elements seen in (107). Both are represented mostly by cranial elements and as a result there is little butchery exhibited, the exception to this is a chop mark on the cow Atlas (1st vertebra). The preservation is largely good, with only some root action present. MNI for the context is one dog and one cow, these probably relate to the cow and dog from (107).

(203): This context is made up of elements of sheep and cow. The elements present are highly fragmented but exhibit identifiable landmarks. No butchery is present. The preservation is largely good but degrades with some of the larger elements, all bones exhibit some root action and a degree of surface fracture. MNI for the context is one cow and one sheep.

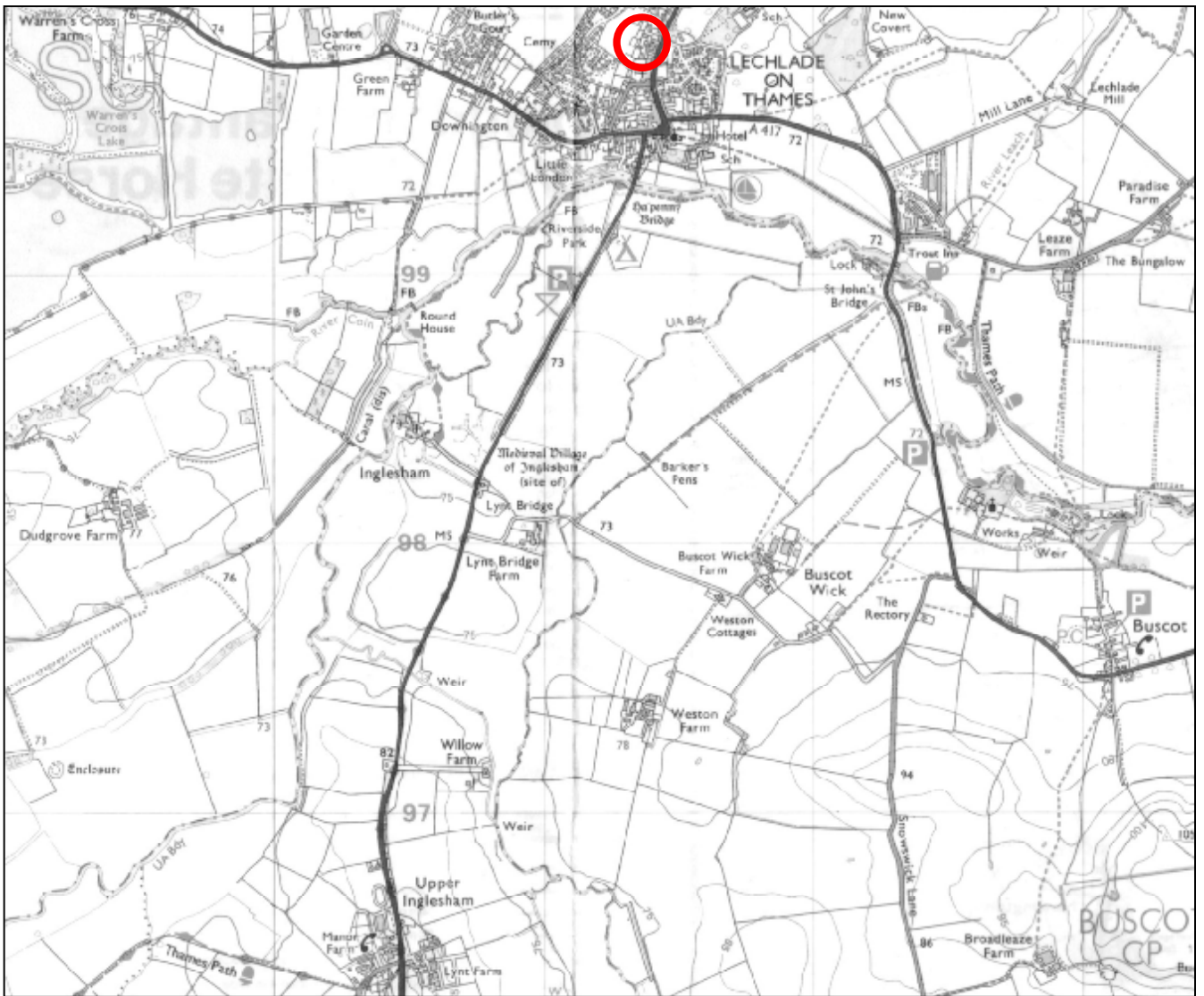
(207): Single fragment of the shaft of a humerus from a large Mammal (horse or cow, uncertain), overall good preservation roughly 5% coated in root marks. No evidence of butchery, cracks in the surface most likely derive from fracturing whilst in the ground.

(223): Single fragment of distal pig humerus, exhibits good preservation with some root marks present and some wear around the broken surfaces. No evidence of butchery, single mark at the proximal end is likely from excavation.

Table 1: The bone from Spring Gardens

context	species	element	Side	butchery
107	dog	vertebra	N/A	not present
107	dog	vertebra	N/A	not present
107	dog	vertebra	N/A	not present
107	dog	vertebra	N/A	not present
107	dog	Mandible	L	not present
107	dog	Mandible	R	not present
107	dog	Mandible	R	not present
107	dog	Canine (tooth)	R	not present
107	dog	Rib	L	not present
107	dog	Rib	L	not present
107	dog	Rib	L	not present
107	dog	Rib	L	not present
107	dog	Rib	L	not present
107	dog	Rib	R	not present
107	dog	Femur	R	not present
107	dog	Scapula	L	not present
107	dog	maxilla	L	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	cranium	N/A	not present
107	Cow	Rib	U	not present
107	Cow	Rib	U	not present
107	Cow	Scapula	U	not present
107	Cow	maxilla	u	not present
107	Cow	maxilla	u	not present
107	Cow	maxilla	u	not present
107	Cow	pre Molar (tooth)	R	not present
107	Cow	Rib	U	not present
107	Cow	Rib	U	not present

context	species	element	Side	butchery
107	Cow	Scapula	U	not present
107	sheep	pre Molar (tooth)	L	not present
107	sheep	pre Molar (tooth)	L	not present
107	sheep	pre Molar (tooth)	R	not present
107	sheep	pre Molar (tooth)	R	not present
107	sheep	Molar	L	not present
107	sheep	ulda	L	not present
107	sheep	rib	R	not present
107	25 unidentified long bone fragments.			not present
108	dog	skull	N/A	not present
108	dog	pre Molar (tooth)	L	not present
108	dog	pre Molar (tooth)	R	not present
108	cow	maxilla	L	not present
108	cow	maxilla	R	not present
108	cow	cranium	N/A	not present
108	cow	atlas	N/A	not present
108	cow	atlas	N/A	not present
108	cow	cranium	N/A	chop
108	unknown	unknown	N/A	not present
203	sheep	Ulna	R	Cut marks
203	sheep	Tibia	L	not present
203	sheep	rib	U	not present
203	sheep	rib	U	not present
203	sheep	rib	U	not present
203	sheep	pre Molar (tooth)	U	not present
203	Cow	rib	L	not present
203	Cow	rib	L	not present
203	Cow	rib	L	not present
203	Cow	rib	U	not present
203	Cow	rib	U	not present
203	Cow	rib	L	not present
203	Cow	pelvis	R	not present
203	Cow	pelvis	U	not present
203	Cow	femur	R	not present
203	Cow	Femur	R	not present
203	Cow	Crania	N/A	not present
	6 unidentified fragments of long bone, medium mammal.			



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Accession Code:


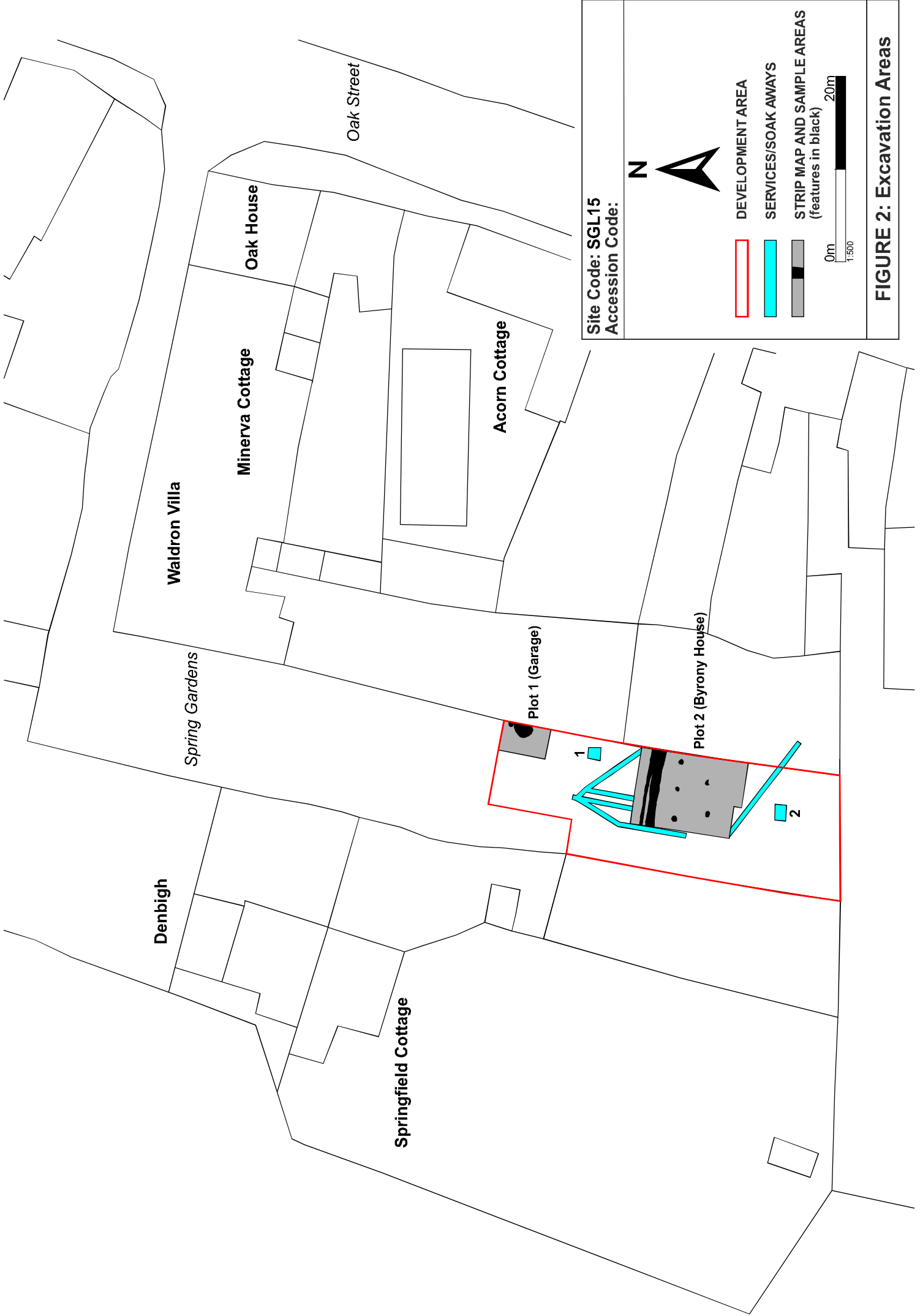

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FIGURE 1: Site Location



Oak Street

Oak House

Minerva Cottage

Acorn Cottage

Waldron Villa

Spring Gardens

Plot 1 (Garage)

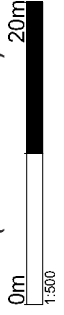
Plot 2 (Byrony House)

Denbigh

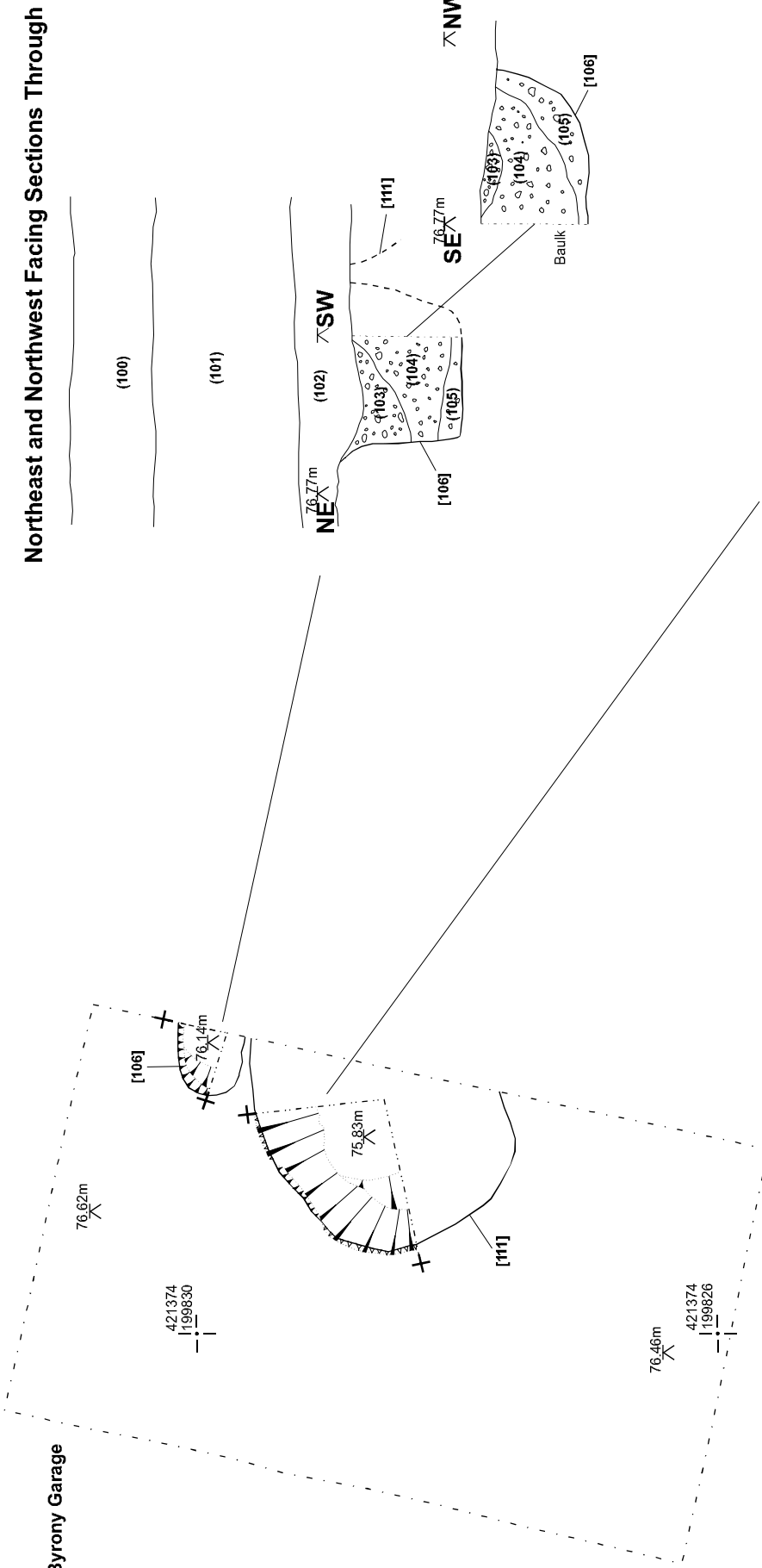
Springfield Cottage

1

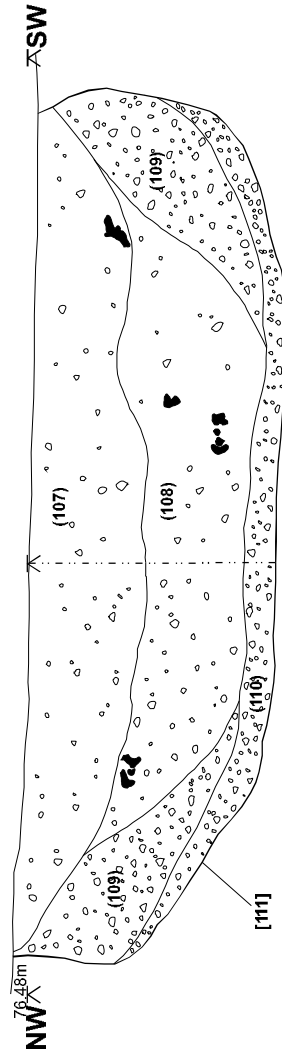
2



Northeast and Northwest Facing Sections Through [106]



Southwest and Northwest Facing Sections Through [111] (Northwest Quadrant)



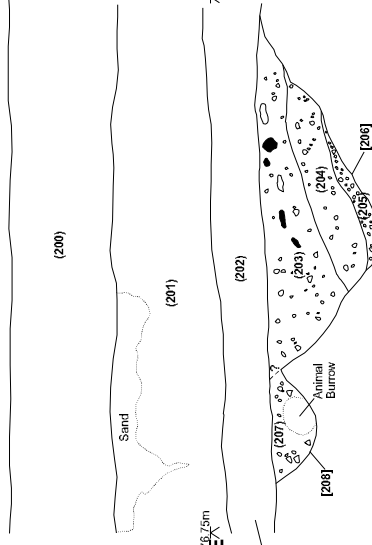
Key for Sections;

- Animal bone
- Stone

All levels m aOD

<p>Site Code: SGL15 Accession Code:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>0m</p> <p>PLAN 1:50</p> <p>2m</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>0m</p> <p>SECTIONS 1:20</p> <p>1m</p> </div> </div>
<p>FIGURE 3: Plan & Sections Plot 1; Byrony Garage</p>	

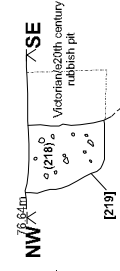
Northwest Facing Bauk Section Through [206] & [208]



Southwest Facing Section Through [211]



Southwest Facing Section Through [219]



Site Code: SGL15
Accession Code:

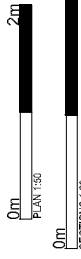


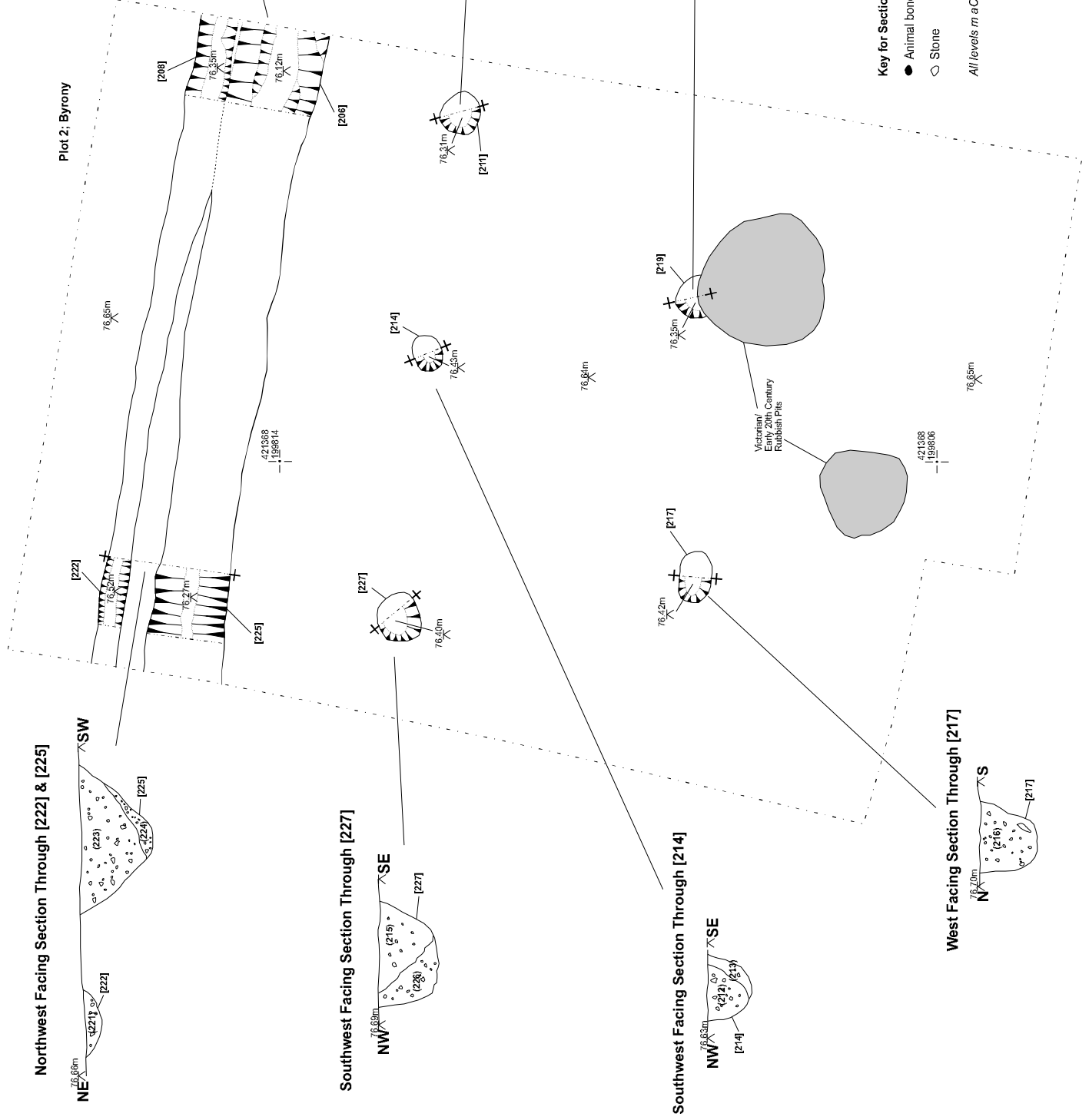
FIGURE 4: Plan & Sections
Plot 2; Byrony

Key for Sections:

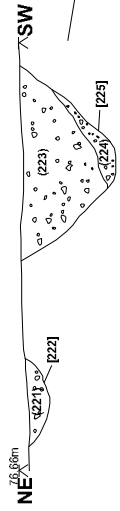
- Animal bone
- Stone

All levels m aOD

Plot 2; Byrony



Northwest Facing Section Through [222] & [225]



Southwest Facing Section Through [227]



Southwest Facing Section Through [214]



West Facing Section Through [217]

