

**SIMMS COTTAGE,
MILL LANE,
HURLEY,
WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD.**

NGR: 482779.183943

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND
EXCAVATION**

June 2016

Report No. 1135

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.

SUMMARY

In June 2013 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission (**Ref: 12/00098**) for the demolition of an extant house and subsequent construction of a larger dwelling, on land at Simms Cottage, Mill Lane, Hurley (NGR: 482779.183943). The project was commissioned by the landowners Katie and Daniel Gear.

The archaeological works identified, investigated and recorded numerous pit-like features, which were present at the top of natural sand deposits. Despite being subjected to a relatively high sample of hand excavation, there was an almost complete lack of artefacts and a general paucity of charcoal, which suggested that they probably represented natural features, possibly patches of discolouration. There was no other evidence for significant archaeological activity within the investigated areas.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2013 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning permission (**Ref: 12/00098**) for the demolition of an extant house and subsequent construction of a larger dwelling, on land at Simms Cottage, Mill Lane, Hurley (NGR: 482779.183943). The project was commissioned by the landowners Katie and Daniel Gear.
- 1.2 The requirement for archaeological works was in accordance with the principles of NPPF12 (National Planning Policy Framework, 2012), as well as the archaeological policies of Berkshire Archaeology. The evaluation and excavation were undertaken in line with the relevant Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2013a/b), based on a brief issued by Berkshire Archaeology (2012), *IfA Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Evaluation/Excavation* (2008), the *General Standards for Fieldwork Projects* (Berkshire Archaeology n.d.) and MoRPHE, issued by English Heritage (2006).
- 1.3 This report constitutes the results of the archaeological investigations.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located just to the east of the centre of Hurley, on the south side of Mill Lane. At the time of the fieldwork the site was occupied by a house, driveway and garden. The topography is generally flat and the underlying geology is recorded as *Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation* – chalk overlaid by *Shepperton Gravel Member* - sand and gravel (BGS Online Viewer).
- 2.2 Berkshire Archaeology identified the site as being of archaeological potential, due to the number of sites in the vicinity noted on the Berkshire Historic Environment Record (BHER).
- 2.3 The site lies immediately adjacent to the Scheduled Monument of Hurley Priory (Ref: 1007933). The monument comprises the remains of a Benedictine monastery, which was founded as a cell of Westminster by Geoffrey de Mandeville in the late 11th century.
- 2.4 The survival of features outside the Scheduled Monument was not known, but important deposits or structures associated with the boundaries of the priory may have survived below ground, within the study area.
- 2.5 The site therefore contained the potential for Medieval archaeological features and deposits. This did not prejudice the works against the recovery of evidence dating to other periods.

- 2.6 In light of the archaeological potential of the site, a requirement for an archaeological evaluation was attached to the development planning application.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The initial phase of works comprised the excavation of a single 7m long evaluation trench (Figure 2; Trench 1). Due to the presence of numerous pit-like features within the evaluation trench and after consultation with Berkshire Archaeology, an additional archaeological excavation was undertaken. The excavation trench (Trench 2) measured 14m by 5m and was situated across the area of the proposed new building.
- 3.2 In accordance with the WSIs, non-significant overburden was removed to the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved by use of a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under constant archaeological supervision. After the completion of the mechanical strip, the exposed areas were hand-cleaned prior to excavation.
- 3.3 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the relevant WSIs and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 4.1 A description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is listed in Appendix 1, along with an assessment of charred plant macrofossils and wood charcoal in Appendix 2. A summary and discussion are given below.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 Natural sand and gravel was present at an average depth of 1.10m (28.40m AOD) below Modern ground. The natural substrate was sealed beneath a layer of alluvial clay silt sand (1003), up to 0.68m thick, which was in turn overlaid by topsoil and turf (1001/2), up to 0.50m thick.
- 5.2 Numerous sub-circular, sub-oval and amorphous pit-like features were present within both the evaluation and excavation trenches, as shown in Figures 2 to 4. The features were present at the top of the natural sand and were situated beneath alluvium (1003).
- 5.3 The pit-like features ranged in size between 0.16m long by 0.11m wide to 2.34m long by 1.00m wide and 0.06m to 0.93m in depth. The features generally had variable rounded profiles and contained sand and clay-sand fills, which varied between brown to dark brown/black in colour. There was a relative paucity of charcoal present within the fills of the features and only two

small artefacts were recovered from them; fill (1071) contained a small piece of possible struck flint, whilst fill (1191) contained a single small, abraded fragment of CBM. The north end of Trench 1 and the southwestern half of Trench 2 contained relatively fewer features, although generally, they appeared to be randomly distributed within the trenches.

- 5.4 The features were initially thought to be archaeological in nature and, as such, most of them were hand excavated, to a 50% sample level and fills (1021), (1023) and (1029) were subjected to bulk soil-sampling and subsequent analysis (Appendix 2). The almost complete lack of artefacts and a general paucity of charcoal recovered as a result of this level of investigation strongly suggested that the pit-like features probably represented natural, as opposed to archaeological features. The small amount of artefacts and charcoal that were present were most likely to be invasive material, introduced into the sandy feature fills through bio-turbation.
- 5.5 As a result of the hand excavations, it was noted that the features were commonly located where natural gravel occurred near to the top of the natural substrate and, as such, it is most likely that the features represented natural discolouration caused by variation within the substrate deposits (Figure 8).

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The archaeological works identified, investigated and recorded numerous pit-like features, which were present at the top of natural sand deposits. Despite being subjected to a relatively high sample of hand excavation, there was an almost complete lack of artefacts and a general paucity of charcoal, which suggested that they probably represented natural features, possibly patches of discolouration. There was no other evidence for significant archaeological activity within the investigated areas.
- 6.2 The site archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology but will be deposited with a suitable repository in due course. A short note will be submitted to a relevant local journal and an OASIS record will be created.

7 REFERENCES

English Heritage. 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*. English Heritage. Swindon.

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Foundations Archaeology. 2013b. *Land at Simms Cottage, Mill Lane, Hurley: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation*. Unpublished.

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8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 – Context Data

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
				Natural deposits: Yellow sand and gravel.
1001			0.10-0.20	Turf.
1002			0.28-0.40	Topsoil. Dark brown/black silt.
1003			0.42-0.68	Alluvium. Mid red/brown clay silt sand, with rare small stone inclusions.
[1004]	0.24	0.21	0.10	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1005	0.24	0.21	0.10	Fill of [1004] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1006]	>0.22	0.24	n/a	Sub-round feature: Not excavated. Relationship with [1056] unclear.
1007	>0.22	0.24	n/a	Fill of [1006] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1008]	0.36	0.34	0.13	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, rounded base.
1009	0.36	0.34	0.13	Fill of [1008] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1010]	>0.18	0.26	0.18	Feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E., relationship with [1012] unclear.
1011	>0.18	0.26	0.18	Fill of [1010] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1012]	0.22	0.22	0.20	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, rounded base. Relationship with [1010] unclear.
1013	0.22	0.22	0.20	Fill of [1012] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1014]	0.27	0.21	0.15	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1016] unclear.
1015	0.27	0.21	0.15	Fill of [1014] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1016]	0.48	0.46	0.30	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1014] and [1018] unclear.
1017	0.48	0.46	0.30	Fill of [1016] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1018]	0.32	0.30	0.17	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1016] unclear.
1019	0.32	0.30	0.17	Fill of [1018] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1020]	0.50	0.31	0.19	Sub-oval feature: Sloping sides, rounded base.
1021	0.50	0.31	0.19	Fill of [1020] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1022]	0.31	0.30	0.21	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, rounded base. Relationship with [1024] unclear.
1023	0.31	0.30	0.21	Fill of [1022] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1024]	0.40	>0.14	0.10	Feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E., relationship with [1022] unclear.
1025	0.40	>0.14	0.10	Fill of [1024] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1026]	>0.25	0.33	n/a	Feature: Not excavated. Part of feature outside L.O.E., relationship with [1024] unclear.
1027	>0.25	0.33	n/a	Fill of [1026] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
[1028]	0.38	0.36	0.20	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1029	0.38	0.36	0.20	Fill of [1028] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1030]	0.30	0.24	0.14	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1031	0.30	0.24	0.14	Fill of [1030] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1032]	>0.16	0.36	n/a	Feature: Not excavated. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1033	>0.16	0.36	n/a	Fill of [1032] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1034]	0.50	0.30	0.22	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1036] unclear.
1035	0.50	0.30	0.22	Fill of [1034] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1036]	0.36	0.28	0.15	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1034] unclear.
1037	0.36	0.28	0.15	Fill of [1036] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1038]	0.20	0.20	n/a	Sub-round feature: Not excavated. Relationship with [1040] unclear.
1039	0.20	0.20	n/a	Fill of [1038] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1040]	0.24	0.22	0.11	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Relationship with [1036] unclear.
1041	0.24	0.22	0.11	Fill of [1034] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1042]	0.16	0.11	0.06	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1043	0.16	0.11	0.06	Fill of [1042] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1044]	0.34	0.30	0.09	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1045	0.34	0.30	0.09	Fill of [1044] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1046]	0.53	n/a	0.10	Feature: Sloping sides, 'V' shaped base. Visible in trench section only.
1047	0.53	n/a	0.10	Fill of [1046] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1048]	0.30	n/a	0.10	Feature: Sloping sides, 'V' shaped base. Visible in trench section only.
1049	0.30	n/a	0.10	Fill of [1048] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1050]	>0.20	0.20	0.12	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1051	>0.20	0.20	0.12	Fill of [1050] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1052]	>0.11	0.14	0.16	Feature: Sloping sides, 'V' shaped base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1053	>0.11	0.14	0.16	Fill of [1052] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1054]	0.37	0.22	0.12	Sub-oval feature: Sloping sides, rounded base.
1055	0.37	0.22	0.12	Fill of [1054] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Frequent flint nodules.
[1056]	>0.16	0.20	n/a	Sub-round feature: Not excavated. Relationship with [1006] unclear.
1057	>0.16	0.20	n/a	Fill of [1056] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
[1058]	0.34	0.32	0.06	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides, rounded base.
1059	0.34	0.32	0.06	Fill of [1058]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1060]	>0.26	0.52	0.11	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1061	>0.26	0.52	0.10	Primary fill of [1060]: Mid brown clay sand gravel. Frequent flint nodules.
1062	>0.26	0.40	0.05	Secondary fill of [1060]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1063]	>0.49	0.50	0.16	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1064	>0.49	0.50	0.12	Primary fill of [1063]: Mid brown clay sand. Frequent flint nodules.
1065	>0.49	0.50	0.14	Secondary fill of [1063]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1066]	0.46	0.36	0.17	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1067	<0.46	<0.36	0.14	Primary fill of [1066]: Mid brown clay sand. Frequent flint nodules.
1068	0.46	0.36	0.06	Secondary fill of [1066]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1069]	0.45	0.34	0.13	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1070	<0.45	<0.34	0.07	Primary fill of [1069]: Mid brown clay sand gravel. Occasional flint nodules.
1071	0.45	0.34	0.06	Secondary fill of [1069]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions. Contained 1 x possible struck flint.
[1072]	0.47	0.40	0.17	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides, rounded base. Relationship with [1075] unclear.
1073	<0.47	<0.40	0.10	Primary fill of [1072]: Mid brown clay sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1074	0.47	0.40	0.07	Secondary fill of [1072]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1075]	0.45	0.22	0.14	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides, rounded base. Relationship with [1072] unclear.
1076	<0.45	<0.22	0.05	Primary fill of [1075]: Mid brown clay sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1077	0.45	0.22	0.10	Secondary fill of [1075]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1078]	>0.18	0.56	0.24	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, rounded base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1079	>0.18	0.19	0.17	Primary fill of [1078]: Mid brown clay sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1080	>0.18	0.56	0.09	Secondary fill of [1078]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1081]	>0.54	0.90	0.44	Sub-rounded feature: Steep sides, 'V' shaped base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1082	>0.54	0.76	0.33	Primary fill of [1081]: Mid brown clay sand. Frequent flint nodules.
1083	>0.54	0.90	0.12	Secondary fill of [1081]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1084]	>0.26	0.90	0.40	Feature: Steep sides, 'V' shaped base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1085	>0.26	0.56	0.26	Primary fill of [1084]: Mid brown clay sand. Frequent flint nodules.
1086	>0.26	0.90	0.14	Secondary fill of [1084]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay.
[1087]	n/a	0.68	0.12	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides, rounded base. Visible in trench section only.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
1088	n/a	0.68	0.12	Fill of [1087]: Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1089]	>0.35	0.31	0.20	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, rounded base. Part of feature outside L.O.E.
1090	>0.35	0.26	0.14	Primary fill of [1089] : Mid brown clay sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1091	>0.35	0.31	0.09	Secondary fill of [1089] : Mid red-brown sand-silt-clay. No inclusions.
[1092]	0.32	0.21	0.42	Sub-oval feature: Undulating sides and base. Possibly cut by [1209] .
1093	0.32	0.21	0.42	Fill of [1092] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1094]	0.40	0.35	0.08	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1095	0.40	0.35	0.08	Fill of [1094] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Frequent flint nodules.
[1096]	0.38	0.26	0.07	Uneven feature: Undulating sides and base.
1097	0.38	0.26	0.07	Fill of [1096] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1098]	0.42	0.30	0.10	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1099	0.42	0.30	0.10	Fill of [1098] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1100]	0.31	0.32	0.20	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, rounded base.
1101	<0.31	<0.32	0.13	Primary fill of [1100] : Mid brown clay sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1102	0.31	0.32	0.12	Secondary fill of [1100] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1103]	0.31	0.28	0.18	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1104	0.28	<0.28	0.14	Primary fill of [1103] : Mid brown clay sand. Rare flint nodules.
1105	0.31	0.28	0.11	Secondary fill of [1103] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1106]	0.30	0.30	0.23	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, flat base.
1107	0.30	0.30	0.23	Fill of [1106] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1108]	0.42	0.39	0.22	Sub-round feature: Steep sides, rounded base.
1109	0.34	0.34	0.09	Primary fill of [1108] : Mid brown clay sand. Rare/occasional flint nodules.
1110	0.42	0.39	0.16	Secondary fill of [1108] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1111]	0.28	0.16	0.10	Sub-oval feature: Sloping sides, flat base.
1112	0.28	0.16	0.10	Fill of [1111] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1113]	0.50	0.30	0.27	Sub-oval feature: Uneven sides and base.
1114	0.27	0.11	0.12	Primary fill of [1113] : Mid brown clay sand. Rare flint nodules.
1115	0.50	0.30	0.16	Secondary fill of [1113] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1116]	0.39	0.30	0.30	Sub-oval feature: Sloping sides, rounded base.
1117	0.20	0.20	0.09	Primary fill of [1116] : Mid brown clay sand. Rare flint nodules.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
1118	0.39	0.30	0.21	Secondary fill of [1116] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1119]	0.32	0.34	0.17	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1120	0.30	0.30	0.06	Primary fill of [1119] : Mid brown clay sand. Rare flint nodules.
1121	0.32	0.34	0.13	Secondary fill of [1119] : Dark red-brown sand clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1122]	0.23	0.25	0.06	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1123	0.23	0.25	0.06	Fill of [1122] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1124]	0.40	0.40	0.13	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1125	0.40	0.40	0.13	Fill of [1124] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1126]	0.30	0.29	0.13	Sub-rounded feature: Steep sides and flat base.
1127	0.30	0.29	0.13	Fill of [1126] : Mid/dark red-brown sand-silt-clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1128]	0.50	0.40	0.34	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides and flat base.
1129	0.30	0.30	0.18	Primary fill of [1128] : Mid brown sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1130	0.50	0.40	0.16	Secondary fill of [1128] : Dark red-brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1131]	0.32	0.30	0.12	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1132	0.32	0.30	0.12	Fill of [1131] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1133]	0.35	0.34	0.24	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1134	0.35	0.34	0.24	Fill of [1133] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1135]	2.34	<1.00	0.45	Large amorphous feature: Variable sides, flat base. Probably equivalent to [1138] and [1140] .
1136	2.34	<1.00	0.34	Primary fill of [1135] : Mid brown sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1137	1.82	<1.00	0.13	Secondary fill of [1135] : Dark brown/black silt clay. No inclusions.
[1138]	0.34	>0.12	0.13	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and pointed base. Probably part of [1135] .
1139	0.34	>0.12	0.13	Fill of [1138] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1140]	0.66	>0.20	0.47	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and flat base. Probably part of [1135] .
1141	0.66	>0.20	0.47	Fill of [1140] : Dark brown sand clay. Occasional flint nodules.
[1142]	0.50	0.40	0.22	Sub-rounded feature: Sloping sides and rounded base.
1143	0.50	0.40	0.22	Fill of [1142] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1144]	0.39	0.25	0.18	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides and flat base.
1145	0.39	0.25	0.18	Fill of [1144] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1146]	0.44	0.40	0.26	Sub-square feature: Steep sides and rounded base.
1147	0.44	0.40	0.26	Fill of [1146] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
[1148]	0.38	0.22	0.27	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides and flat base.
1149	0.32	0.22	0.10	Primary fill of [1148] : Mid brown sand. Occasional flint nodules.
1150	0.38	0.22	0.17	Secondary fill of [1148] : Dark brown sand clay. Rare flint nodules.
[1151]	0.42	0.39	0.19	Sub-oval feature: Rounded profile.
1152	0.42	0.39	0.19	Fill of [1151] : Dark brown clay sand. Rare flint inclusions.
[1153]	0.38	0.30	0.14	Sub-rounded feature: Rounded profile.
1154	0.38	0.30	0.14	Fill of [1153] : Dark brown clay sand. Rare flint inclusions.
[1155]	0.45	0.44	0.32	Sub-rounded feature: Steep rounded profile.
1156	?	0.35	0.12	Fill of [1155] : Brown sand. Frequent flint inclusions.
1157	0.45	0.44	0.32	Fill of [1155] : Dark brown clay sand. Rare flint inclusions.
[1158]	0.42	0.40	0.23	Sub-rounded feature: Steep rounded profile.
1159	?	0.15	0.07	Fill of [1158] : Brown sand. Rare flint inclusions.
1160	0.42	0.40	0.19	Fill of [1158] : Dark brown clay sand. Rare flint inclusions.
[1161]	0.38	0.33	0.23	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile
1162	?	0.32	0.10	Fill of [1161] : Brown sand. Frequent flint inclusions.
1163	0.38	0.33	0.13	Fill of [1161] : Brown sand.
[1164]	0.29	0.22	0.20	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1165	0.29	0.22	0.20	Fill of [1164] : Brown sand.
[1166]	0.22	0.17	0.10	Sub-rounded feature: Steep rounded profile.
1167	0.22	0.17	0.10	Fill of [1166] : Light brown sand.
[1168]	0.20	0.20	0.14	Sub-rounded feature: Steep rounded profile.
1169	0.20	0.20	0.14	Fill of [1168] : Light red brown sand.
[1170]	0.42	0.35	0.15	Sub-square feature: Steep rounded profile.
1171	0.42	0.35	0.15	Fill of [1170] : Dark brown sand. Frequent flint inclusions.
[1172]	0.45	0.38	0.15	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1173	0.45	0.38	0.15	Fill of [1172] : Brown sand. Frequent flint inclusions.
1174				Void.
1175				Void.
[1176]	0.33	0.28	0.13	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1177	0.33	0.28	0.13	Fill of [1176] : Red brown sand.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
[1178]	0.45	0.42	0.17	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1179	0.45	0.42	0.17	Fill of [1178]: Dark brown sand.
[1180]	1.22	0.55	0.26	Sub-oval feature: Steep sides and a flat base.
1181	1.22	0.55	0.26	Fill of [1180]: Brown red sand.
[1182]	0.45	0.31	0.27	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1183	0.45	0.31	0.27	Fill of [1182]: Dark brown grey sand clay. Occasional charcoal flecks.
[1184]	0.44	0.33	0.24	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1185	0.44	0.33	0.24	Fill of [1184]: Light brown grey clay sand. Occasional charcoal flecks.
[1186]	0.36	0.33	0.31	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1187	0.36	0.33	0.31	Fill of [1186]: Dark brown grey clay sand.
[1188]	0.28	0.18	0.16	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1189	0.28	0.18	0.16	Fill of [1188]: Dark brown clay sand.
[1190]	1.88	0.80	0.25	Sub-oval feature: Irregular profile.
1191	1.88	0.80	0.25	Fill of [1190]: Dark grey black sand clay. Contained 1 x CBM fragment.
[1192]	0.55	0.48	0.16	Sub-circular feature: Rounded profile.
1193	0.55	0.48	0.16	Fill of [1192]: Dark brown grey sand clay. Occasional stones.
[1194]	0.30	0.22	0.21	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1195	0.30	0.22	0.21	Fill of [1194]: Dark brown orange clay sand.
[1196]	0.27	0.27	0.12	Sub-circular feature: Rounded profile.
1197	0.27	0.27	0.12	Fill of [1196]: Dark brown orange sand clay.
[1198]	0.41	0.30	0.24	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1199	?	0.17	0.10	Fill of [1198]: Dark brown sand clay.
1200	0.41	0.30	0.14	Fill of [1198]: Dark brown orange sand clay. Equivalent to fill 1203.
[1201]	0.40	0.40	0.26	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1202	?	0.24	0.12	Fill of [1201]: dark brown grey clay sand. Frequent small stones.
1203	0.40	0.40	0.25	Fill of [1201]: dark brown clay sand. Equivalent to fill 1200.
[1204]	0.37	0.35	0.17	Sub-circular feature: Steep rounded profile.
1205	0.37	0.35	0.17	Fill of [1204]: dark brown orange sand clay.
[1206]	0.82	0.66	0.32	Sub-oval feature: Steep rounded profile.
1207	?	0.60	0.24	Fill of [1206]: dark brown clay sand. Frequent stones.

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION
1208	0.82	0.66	0.08	Fill of [1206] : dark brown orange sand clay.
[1209]	0.70	0.23	?	Possible feature. Not excavated.
1210	0.70	0.23	?	Fill of [1209] : brown sand clay.

APPENDIX 2 – Assessment of charred plant macrofossils and wood charcoal

By Ellen Simmons

Introduction

This report summarises the assessment of three flotation samples, which were recovered from the fills of three features encountered during excavations at SCH13. Sample 1 is from the fill (1029), of a circular pit-like feature, sample 2 is from the fill (1021), of an oval shaped pit-like feature and sample 3 is also from the fill (1023), of a circular pit-like feature.

Recovery, processing and laboratory methods

The flotation samples were processed for charred plant remains and wood charcoal by GeoFlow Southwest Geophysical and Flotation services, using a water separation machine. Floating material was collected in a 300µm mesh, and the remaining heavy residue retained in a 1mm mesh. The flots and heavy residue were air dried and the greater than 2mm fraction of the heavy residue sorted for organic remains and artefacts.

The samples were assessed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines for environmental archaeology assessments (Jones, 2011). The main aim of this assessment was to determine the concentration, diversity, state of preservation and suitability for use in radiocarbon dating, of any archaeobotanical material present within the samples. A further aim was to evaluate the potential of this material to provide evidence for the function of the contexts, the economy of the site or for the nature of the local environment.

A preliminary assessment of the samples was made by scanning under a low power microscope (x7-x45) and recording the abundance of the main classes of material present. As only a small assemblage of charred plant remains was present in the samples it was decided to identify and quantify these in full. Preliminary identification of plant material was carried out by comparison with material in the author's own reference collection and various reference works (e.g. Cappers *et al*, 2006). Cereal identifications and nomenclature follow Jacomet (2006). Other plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010). This data is recorded below in table 1.

Species represented

Preservation of charred cereal grains was poor, with all of the three grains present in the samples being puffed and distorted and retaining only fragments of epidermis. Intrusive roots were also present in all three of the samples.

Only three identifiable charred cereal grains were present in the samples. One grain, identified as oat (*Avena* sp.) was present in sample 1 from fill (1029) although, as no oat chaff was present, it could not be determined whether this grain was representative of cultivated or wild oat. A culm (straw) node, which was less than 2mm in diameter and therefore likely to represent a grass stem, was also present in sample 1. One grain, which could only be identified as indeterminate cereal, was present in sample 2 from fill (1021). One grain which could only be identified as indeterminate wheat (*Triticum* indet.) was present in fill (1023). A low density of vesicular indeterminate material, likely to represent fragmented cereal grain, was also present in all three samples.

A low density of wood charcoal fragments was present in all three samples with between five and ten charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size present in sample 1 and less than five fragments greater than 2mm in size present in samples 2 and 3. Where observable, the majority of the wood charcoal fragments were representative of diffuse porous taxa. Further identification would require high power microscopy. Vitrified charcoal was more frequent than wood charcoal with between ten and thirty fragments present in samples 1 and 2 and

between five and ten fragments present in sample 3.

Discussion and recommendations for further work.

The crop types identified as being present in the samples from SCH13 were oat and wheat. The cereal grains present in the sampled fills are likely to have been charred accidentally during crop drying or food preparation. The low density and poor preservation of the charred material, along with the presence of accidentally charred cereal grains, would be consistent with probable domestic hearth waste which became incorporated into features across the site over time.

The presence of vitrified charcoal has been taken to indicate high temperature burning or the burning of green wood. Recent experimental work by McParland *et al* (2010) has, however, determined that this is not the case and that vitrification is more likely due to a combination of pre and post depositional factors.

No further analysis of the charred plant remains or wood charcoal present in these samples would be recommended due to the low density of material present.

No material suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in the samples due to the small size of the charred material. The low density of charred material present also increases the likelihood that this material may be intrusive.

References

Cappers, R.T.J. Bekker, R.M. Jans, J.E.A. 2006. *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*. Eelde: Barkhuis Publishing.

Jacomet, S. 2006. *Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites – 2nd edition*. Basel: IPAS Basal University.

Jones, D.M. (ed.) 2011. *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2nd edition). London: Centre for Archaeology Guidelines. English Heritage publications.

McParland, L.C. Collinson, M.E. Scott, A.C. Campbell, G. and Veal R. 2010. Is vitrification in charcoal a result of high temperature burning of wood? *Journal of Archaeological Science* **37**: 2679 – 2687.

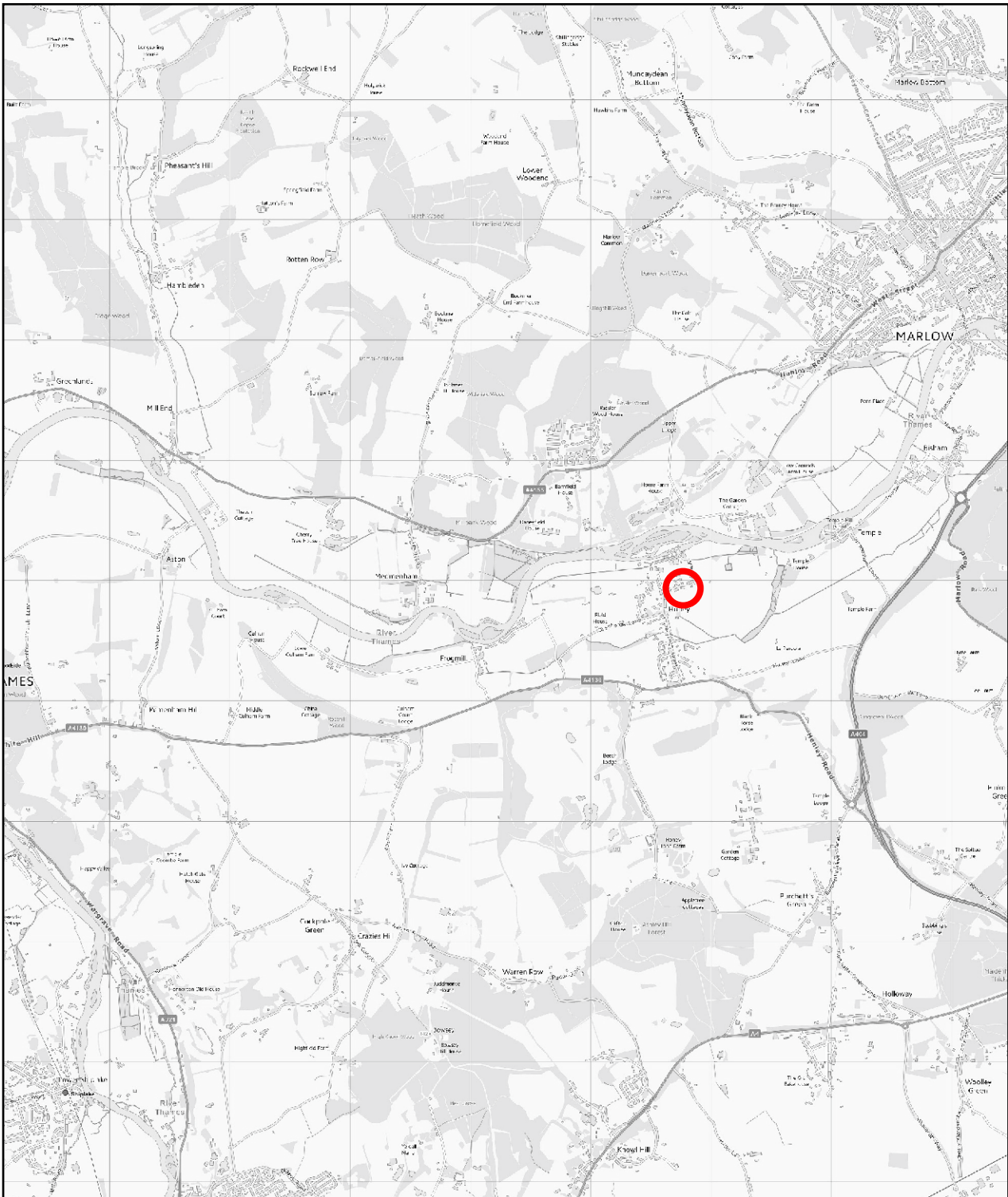
Stace, C. 2010. *New Flora of the British Isles* (3rd edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Appendix 1 – Tables

Table 1

Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet			
SITE: SCH13			
CONTEXT NUMBER	1029	1021	1023
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	001	002	003
FEATURE TYPE	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill
Non seed charred plant material (- = < 5 items, + = > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items)			
<i>Triticum</i> indet. (wheat indet.)			
Grain			1
<i>Avena</i> sp. (oat)			

Archaeobotanical Sample Scanning Sheet			
SITE: SCH13			
CONTEXT NUMBER	1029	1021	1023
FLOTATION SAMPLE NUMBER	001	002	003
FEATURE TYPE	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill
Grain	1		
Cereal indet			
Grain		1	
Culm node (< 2mm)	1		
> 2mm vesicular indeterminate material	+	-	-
> 2mm parenchyma (undifferentiated plant storage tissue)			
> 2mm wood charcoal fragments	+	-	-
> 2mm round wood charcoal fragments			
> 2mm vitrified charcoal fragments	++	++	+
Intrusive plant material / non plant material (- = < 5 items, += > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items)			
Intrusive roots	+++	+++	+++
Un-charred wild plant seeds			
Land snail shells (Mollusca)			
Metallurgical debris	-	-	-
Recommendations & potential			
Further analysis of charred plant material (✓/✗)	✗	✗	✗
Further analysis of wood charcoal (✓/✗)	✗	✗	✗
Charred material suitable for radiocarbon dating (✓/✗)	✗	✗	✗
Retain flots for future research (✓/✗)	✓	✓	✓



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Site Code: SCH13

Accession Code:

FIGURE 1: Site Location

LOVEHATCH CLOSE

MILL LANE

SITE

TRENCH 2

TRENCH 1

SIMMS COTTAGE

NGR: 482782.183939

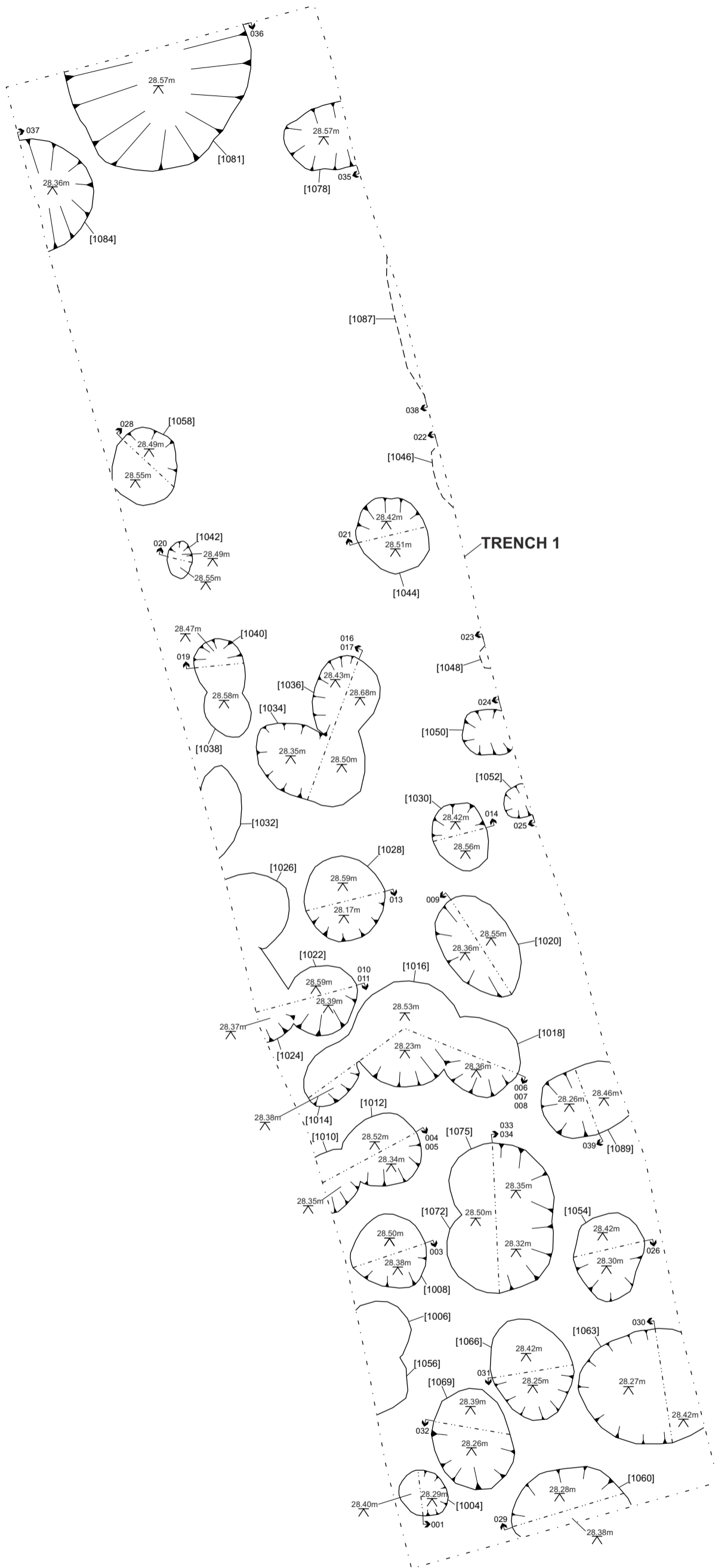
Site Code: SCH13
Accession Code:



● = FEATURE

FIGURE 2: Site Plan



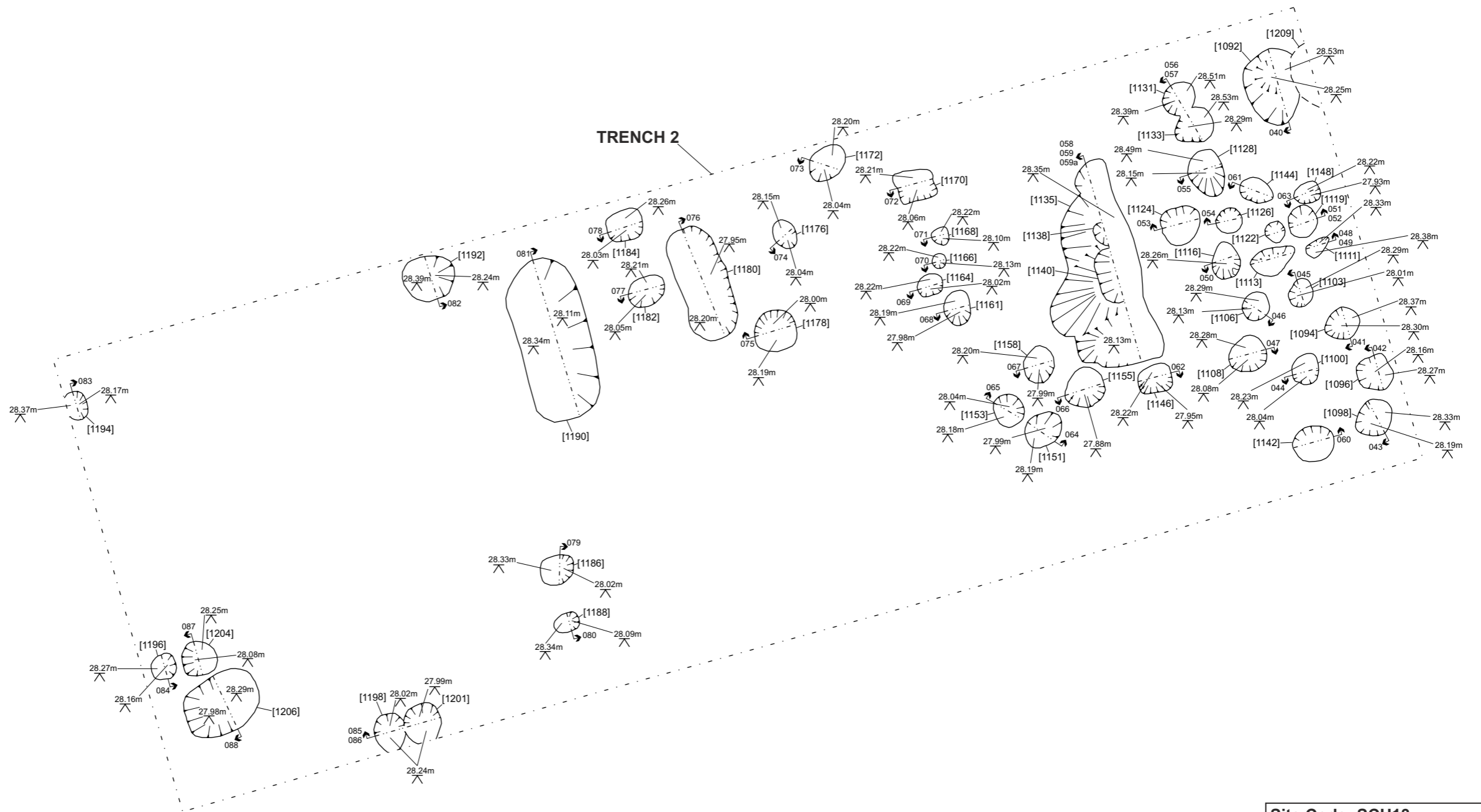


Site Code: SCH13
 Accession Code:

N

0m 1m

FIGURE 3: Trench 1 Plan



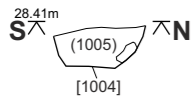
Site Code: SCH13
 Accession Code:

N

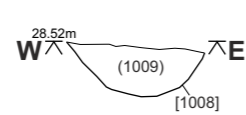
0m 2m

FIGURE 4: Trench 2 Plan

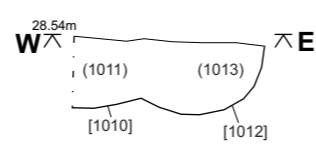
001: EAST FACING SECTION [1004]



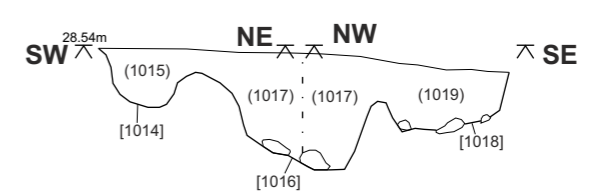
003: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1008]



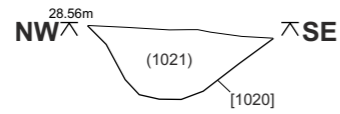
004 and 005: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1010] and [1012]



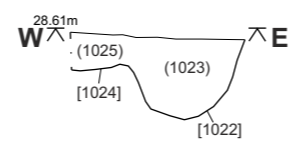
006, 007 and 008: SOUTHEAST and SOUTHWEST FACING SECTIONS [1014], [1016] and [1018]



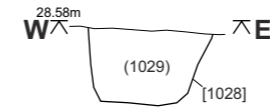
009: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1020]



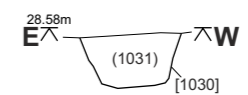
010 and 011: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1022] and [1024]



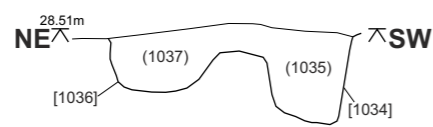
013: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1028]



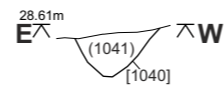
014: NORTH FACING SECTION [1030]



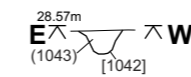
016 and 017: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1034] and [1036]



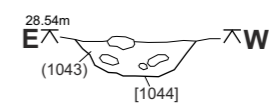
019: NORTH FACING SECTION [1040]



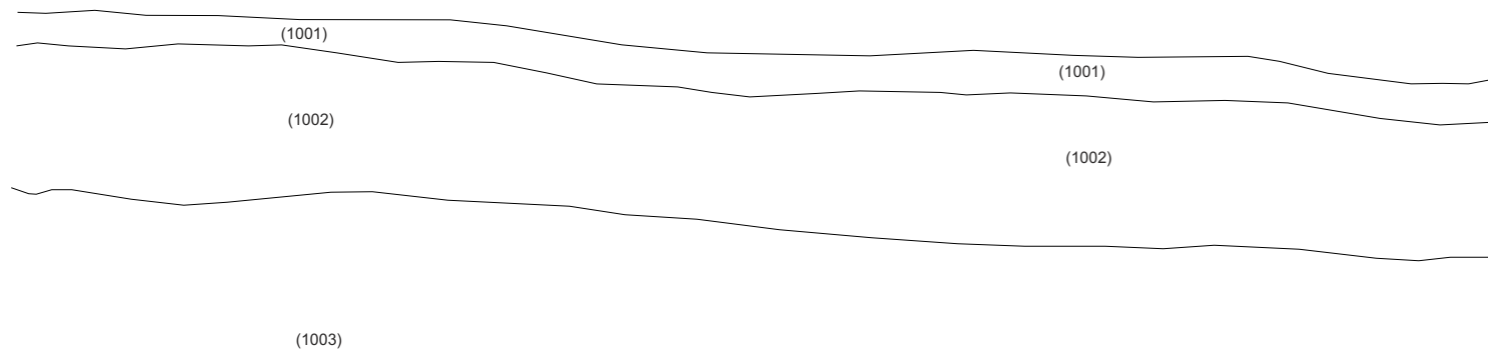
020: NORTH FACING SECTION [1042]



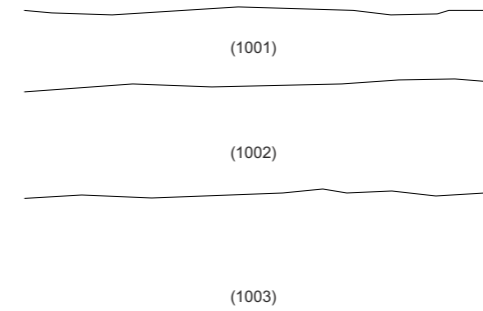
021: NORTH FACING SECTION [1044]



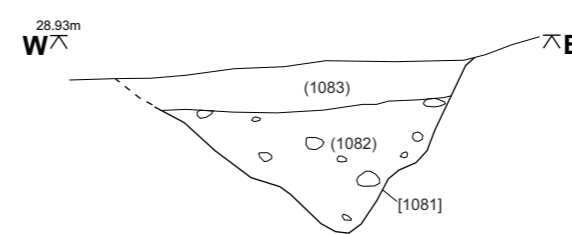
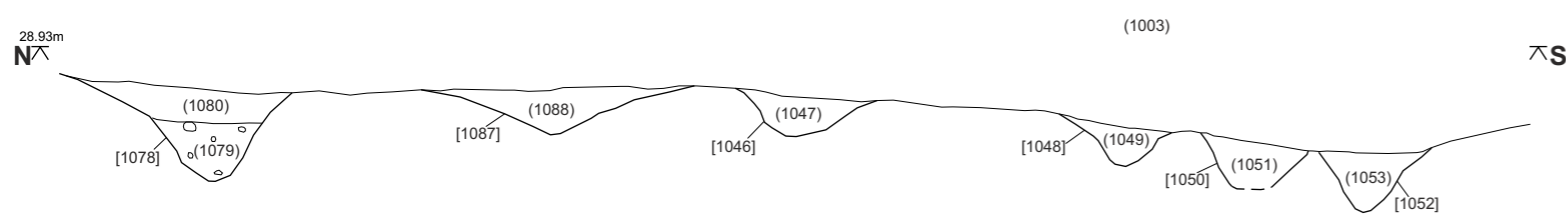
022, 023, 024, 025, 035 and 038: WEST FACING SECTIONS [1046], [1048], [1050], [1052], [1078] and [1087]



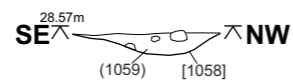
036: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1081]



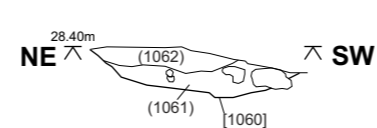
037: EAST FACING SECTION [1084]



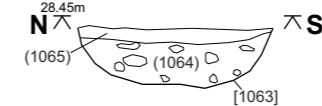
028: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1058]



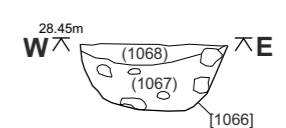
029: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1060]



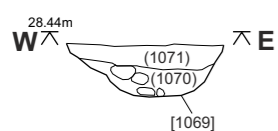
030: WEST FACING SECTION [1063]



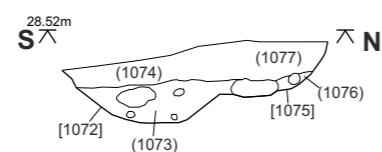
031: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1066]



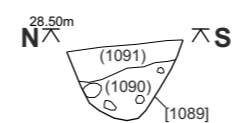
032: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1069]



033 and 034: EAST FACING SECTION [1072] and [1075]



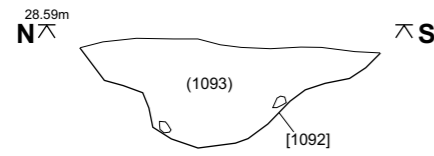
039: WEST FACING SECTION [1089]



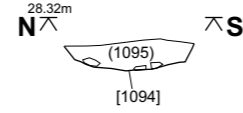
Site Code: SCH13
Accession Code:
FIGURE 5: Sections 001 to 039

SEC 002, 012, 015, 018 and 027 - VOID

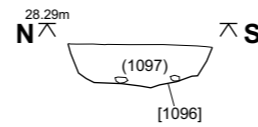
040: WEST FACING SECTION [1092]



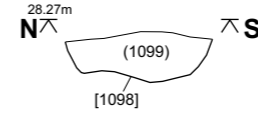
041: WEST FACING SECTION [1094]



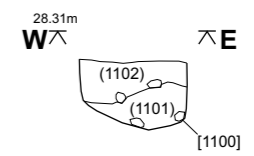
042: WEST FACING SECTION [1096]



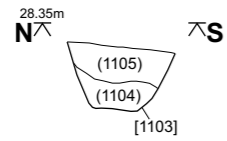
043: WEST FACING SECTION [1098]



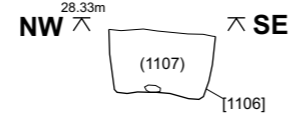
044: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1100]



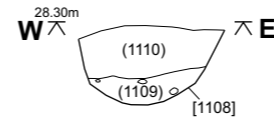
045: WEST FACING SECTION [1103]



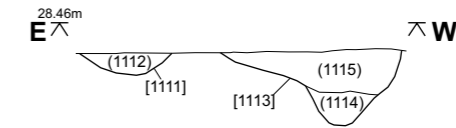
046: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1106]



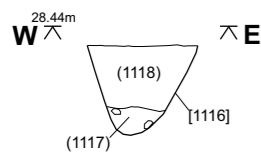
047: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1108]



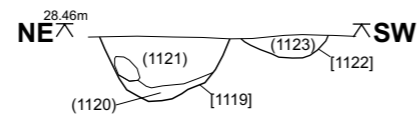
048 and 049: NORTH FACING SECTIONS [1111] and [1113]



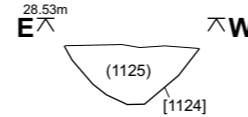
050: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1116]



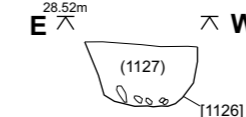
051 and 052: NORTHWEST FACING [1119] and [1122]



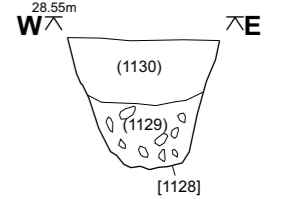
053: NORTH FACING SECTION [1124]



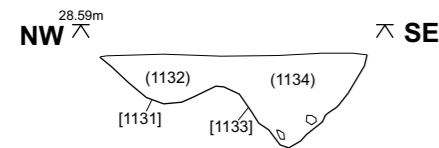
054: NORTH FACING SECTION [1126]



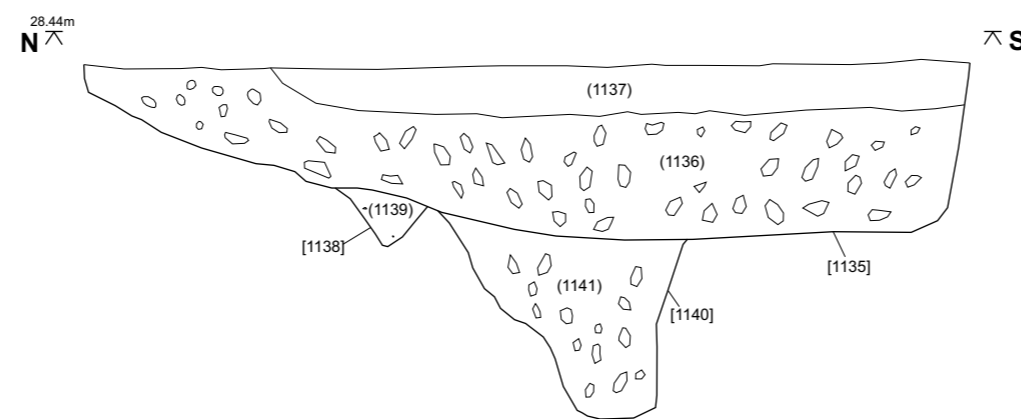
055: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1128]



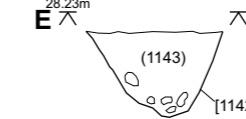
056 and 057: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1131] and [1133]



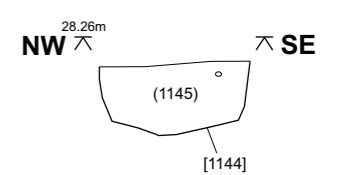
058, 059 and 059a: WEST FACING SECTION [1135], [1138] and [1140]



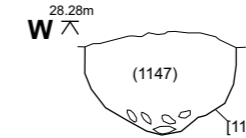
060: NORTH FACING SECTION [1142]



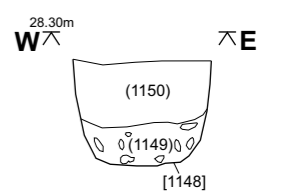
061: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1144]



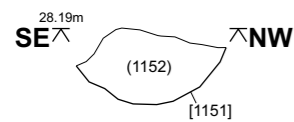
062: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1146]



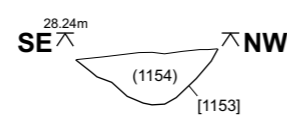
063: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1148]



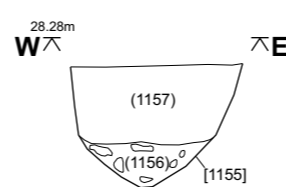
064: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1151]



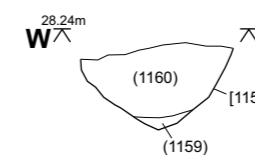
065: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1153]



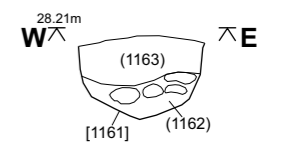
066: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1155]



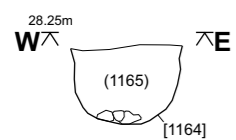
067: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1158]



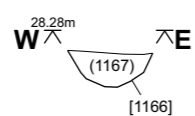
068: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1161]



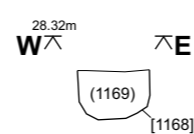
069: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1164]



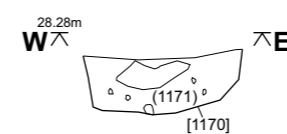
070: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1166]



071: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1168]

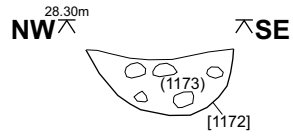


072: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1170]

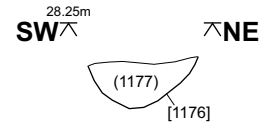


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FIGURE 6: Sections 040 to 072

073: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1172]



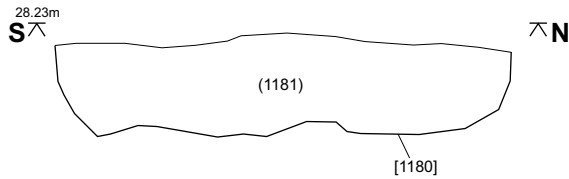
074: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1176]



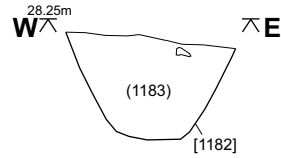
075: NORTH FACING SECTION [1178]



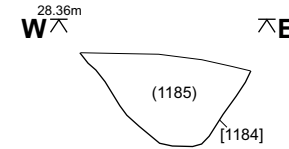
076: EAST FACING SECTION [1180]



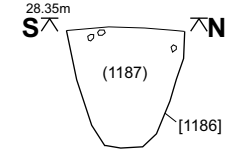
077: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1182]



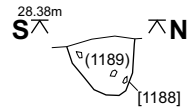
078: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1184]



079: EAST FACING SECTION [1186]



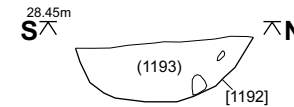
080: EAST FACING SECTION [1188]



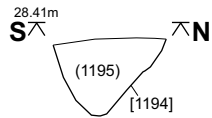
081: EAST FACING SECTION [1190]



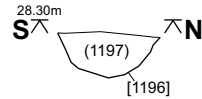
082: EAST FACING SECTION [1192]



083: EAST FACING SECTION [1194]



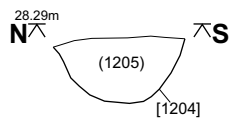
084: EAST FACING SECTION [1196]



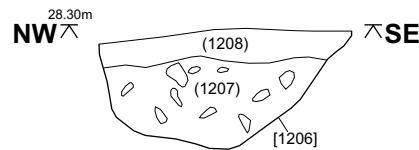
085 and 086: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1198] and [1201]



087: WEST FACING SECTION [1204]



088: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1206]



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FIGURE 7: Sections 073 to 088



PHOTOGRAPH 1: TRENCH 1 LOOKING SOUTH



PHOTOGRAPH 2: FEATURE [1060]



PHOTOGRAPH 3: FEATURE [1069]



PHOTOGRAPH 4: FEATURES [1072] AND [1075]

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**FIGURE 8: Representative
Photographs**