

**RABLEY WOOD,  
MARLBOROUGH,  
WILTSHIRE.**

**NGR: 419098.170101**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

June 2016  
Report No. 1131



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES**

**RABLEY WOOD,  
MARLBOROUGH,  
WILTSHIRE.**

**NGR: 419098.170101**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**June 2016  
Report No. 1131**

**Quality Assurance**

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2008)

Author: A. Hood BSc MCIfA

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Approved: R. King BA MCIfA

QA Checked: D. King BA MCIfA

*This report has been compiled with all reasonable skill care and attention to detail within the terms of the project as specified by the client and within the general terms and conditions of Archaeological Management Services Ltd trading as Foundations Archaeology but no explicit warranty is provided for information and opinions stated. AMS Ltd accepts no responsibility whatsoever to third parties to whom this report or any part thereof is made known. Any such party relies on this report at their own risk. Copyright of this document is retained by AMS Ltd, but unlimited licence to reproduce it in whole or part is granted to the client and/or their agents and/or assignees on payment of invoice.*

## **CONTENTS**

Summary

Glossary of Archaeological Terms and Abbreviations

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND
- 3 AIMS
- 4 METHODOLOGY
- 5 RESULTS
- 6 CONCLUSION
- 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY
- 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Stratigraphic Data

## **FIGURE LIST**

- Figure 1: Site Location
- Figure 2: Site Plan
- Figure 3: Plan Showing Ditch [1304]
- Figure 4: Photographs

## **SUMMARY**

In May and June 2016 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire (NGR: 419098.170101). The project was commissioned by Richard Cosker of RCC Town Planning.

The archaeological works comprised the excavation and recording of thirteen trenches within the site. All of the trenches were located within a playing field, which was situated on sloping ground. Due to on-site constraints, an area of pasture, located within the site on flat ground to the northeast, was not evaluated.

The evaluation has indicated that the area of the playing field is largely devoid of archaeological features or artefacts, with a single undated ditch being the only feature present. The archaeological potential for this area is therefore considered to be **low**.

## **GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

### **Archaeology**

For the purpose of this project, archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### **CBM**

Ceramic Building Material.

### **Medieval**

The period between AD 1066 and AD 1500.

### **Natural**

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

### **NGR**

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### **OD**

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level. (AOD Above Ordnance Datum).

### **OS**

Ordnance Survey.

### **Post-medieval**

The period between AD 1500 and AD 1900.

### **Prehistoric**

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

### **Roman**

The period traditionally dated AD 43 until AD 410.

### **Saxon**

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Foundations Archaeology in May and June 2016 on land at Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire (NGR: 419098.170101). The project was commissioned by Richard Cosker of RCC Town Planning.
- 1.2 The project was conducted in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2016), CIfA *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (2014) and *Standards for Field Evaluation and Assessment in Wiltshire* (CAS 1995).
- 1.3 The code of conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists was adhered to throughout.

## 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 It is proposed to construct a residential development, along with associated works, on land to the northeast of Rabley Wood View, in the northern extent of Marlborough (**Application Number 15/01052/OUT**).
- 2.2 The study area is located approximately 600 metres to the northeast of the centre of Marlborough and is surrounded by housing to the south, west and northwest and pasture and the River Og to the northeast. At the time of the fieldwork the site consisted of a public playing field, with associated play areas, as well as an area of pasture at the northeast. The topography in the playing field generally comprised uneven sloping ground, which sloped downwards from southwest to northeast, towards the River Og. The pasture area, adjacent to the river at the northeast, was essentially flat ground. The underlying geology is recorded as *Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation* and *New Pit Chalk Formation* (undifferentiated) – chalk, overlaid by river terrace deposits (undifferentiated) - sand and gravel (BGS online viewer).
- 2.3 A desk-based assessment was produced for the site in January 2014 by Foundations Archaeology. The results of this report are summarised below:
  - 2.3.1 **Prehistoric:** The site lies within an area of **low** potential for the recovery of stray Prehistoric finds. While there is evidence for Prehistoric activity in the wider landscape, most notably a circular enclosure and tumuli on the west edge of Marlborough Golf course, there is no evidence for Prehistoric finds within the search area itself. However, Prehistoric populations did exploit riverine and wetland resources, so the recovery of stray Prehistoric finds or evidence cannot be ruled out entirely.
  - 2.3.2 **Roman:** The site contains **low** potential for the recovery of evidence for Roman activity. Fragments of Roman pottery have been found within the search area, but most of the evidence for Roman activity comes from Marlborough itself, which suggests that the site area may have been under

agriculture during the Roman period, so the recovery of stray finds or evidence for agricultural activity is possible.

- 2.3.3 **Saxon:** The site contains **low** potential for the presence of Saxon finds and features. There is no evidence for Saxon activity within 500m of the site. It is likely that the site area was in agricultural usage, at least in the later Saxon period as Marlborough is mentioned as an estate in the Domesday Book. Consequently, the presence of stray finds or evidence for agricultural activity cannot be ruled out entirely.
- 2.3.4 **Medieval:** The site contains **low-moderate** potential for the presence of Medieval finds and features. There are two earthworks close by to the southeast of the site, which have been dated to the Medieval period. Pond Bay is a fish or mill pond and this again suggests that the site area was in agricultural usage. Marlborough Castle was the locus for Medieval settlement, which is over 1km to the southwest of the site area. Nevertheless, there may be the potential for features relating to agricultural usage of the site, especially drainage ditches and field boundaries.
- 2.3.5 **Post-medieval:** The site contains **low-moderate** potential for Post-medieval features. Cartographic evidence indicates that no buildings existed within the boundaries of the site area until the 1920s when a building connected to an isolation hospital was constructed. This structure appears on maps until the 1980s. Cartographic evidence also indicates the development of the system of drainage within the site area during the Post-medieval period, so there is potential to identify features such as ditches and field boundaries.
- 2.3.6 The main archaeological potential of the site was therefore for the general presence of Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon finds, with Medieval and Post-medieval features relating to agricultural usage more probable.
- 2.4 As a result of its identified archaeological potential and in accordance with the principles of NPPF 2012, the County Archaeological Officer requested a programme of field evaluation to assess the potential archaeological impact prior to determination of the development application.

### **3 AIMS**

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains. This would allow informed planning decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the proposed development.
- 3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
- i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

ii) to attempt to 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) to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples;

iv) to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;

v) to define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

4.1 A total of thirteen trenches were excavated in the playing field, as shown in Figure 2. The trenches were located in order to provide a representative sample of the area available for evaluation. Due to the presence of mature trees, services and the occurrence of deep, potentially unsafe trench sections, some of the trenches had to be re-located and/or excavated/backfilled in multiple phases. The WSI required the excavation of two trenches (Trenches 14 and 15) in the pasture, at the northeast of the site; however, recent drainage works in this area had rendered machine access to this part of the site unsafe and, therefore, in agreement with the County Archaeological Officer, this area was not evaluated.

4.2 Non-significant overburden was removed, under constant archaeological supervision, to the top of archaeological remains or the underlying natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved through the use of a mechanical excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket. Spoil tips were visually scanned for finds.

4.3 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual. Any amendments to the approved excavation scheme were agreed on site or by email with the County Archaeological Officer.

4.4 Ditch [1304] was recorded in plan only due to the occurrence of deep trench sections.

## **5 RESULTS**

5.1 A full description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is presented in Appendix 1. A summary and discussion of the results is given below.



- 5.2 The trenches located in the north-western half of the site (Trenches 1A/B, 2A/B, 3, 4, 5, 6B, 7 and 9A/B, along with the north-western half of Trench 8) were relatively shallow, with natural chalk and flint gravel deposits present at an average depth of 0.62m below Modern ground. In general, the natural was overlaid by a clay subsoil, which was in turn overlaid by topsoil and turf; although, Modern deposits were situated directly above the subsoil in Trenches 1B and 9A/B. A single Modern service was present within Trench 2B and localised Modern disturbance was present in the north-eastern half of Trench 9A. The frequent occurrence of intact subsoils indicated that preservation conditions in the north-western part of the site were generally good.
- 5.3 The trenches in the south-eastern half of the site (Trenches 6A, 10A/B, 11, 12A/B, 13A/B/C, as well as the south-eastern half of Trench 8) were relatively deep, with natural deposits present at an average depth of 1.57m below Modern ground. All of the trenches in this area contained substantial dumped deposits of Modern soil, rubble and detritus, which were up to 1.67m thick. Subsoil, which was present directly above the natural substrates, was present in Trenches 10A/B, 11, 12B and 13A/B. Elsewhere, the Modern dumped material was located directly on top of the natural deposits. The presence subsoil layers suggested that the Modern dumping activity had not caused extensive significant truncation and the occurrence of buried turf horizons ((1005)/(1103) - Photograph 5), directly below Modern deposits indicated that, at least in some places, the dumping had occurred directly onto the top of the former land surface. Localised Modern disturbance was present within Trenches 6A, 8, 10A, 12A and 13A/B/C. The preservation conditions in the south-eastern half of the site were therefore moderate – good.
- 5.4 Ditch [1304] comprised the only archaeological feature present within the site and consisted of a northeast – southwest aligned drainage and/or boundary ditch, which was cut into the top of the natural chalk. The feature remained undated; however, it appeared to be stratigraphically earlier than subsoil (1303) and as such was likely to be of some antiquity.
- 5.5 A single heavily corroded iron nail, which was present within subsoil (1303), was the only archaeological artefact present within the trenches.

## **6 CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 The evaluation has indicated that the area of the playing field is largely devoid of archaeological features or artefacts, with a single undated ditch being the only feature present. The archaeological potential for this area is therefore considered to be **low**.
- 6.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited in due course with the appropriate museum. A short note will be submitted for publication in the relevant local archaeological journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

## **7 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*. Reading.

Foundations Archaeology. 2016. *Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*. Unpublished.

Wiltshire Council County Archaeological Service. 1995. *Standards for Field Evaluation and Assessment in Wiltshire*. Unpublished.

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Rachel Foster and Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger of Wiltshire Council, along with Richard Cosker and Victoria Cains of RCC Town Planning for their help during the course of the project.

Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation

APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION   | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|-----|------|------|------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 1A:</b> 10m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk/clay, present at           |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | 138.07m (AOD) - 0.38m below Modern ground.  |                 |                     |
| 101 | na   | na   | 0.23 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 102             | 104                 |
| 102 | na   | na   | 0.12 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 101                 |
| 104 | na   | na   | 0.03 | Turf.   | 101             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 1B:</b> 6m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with linear striations of chalk, present at       |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | 141.20m (AOD) - 0.78m below Modern ground.  |                 |                     |
| 102 | na   | na   | 0.23 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 103                 |
| 103 | na   | na   | 0.47 | Modern backfill; white brown mixed soil and chalk.  | 102             | 104                 |
| 104 | na   | na   | 0.08 | Turf.   | 103             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 2A:</b> 36m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches and striations of chalk, present at |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | 137.50m (AOD) - 0.44m below Modern ground.  |                 |                     |
| 201 | na   | na   | 0.17 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 202             | 203                 |
| 202 | na   | na   | 0.24 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 201                 |
| 203 | na   | na   | 0.03 | Turf.   | 201             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |

Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION  | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|-----|------|------|------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 2B:</b> 12m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with occasional striations of chalk, present at 139.41m (AOD) - 0.57m below Modern ground.  |                 |                     |
| 201 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.   | 202             | 203                 |
| 202 | na   | na   | 0.32 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 201                 |
| 203 | na   | na   | 0.05 | Turf.  | 201             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 3:</b> 48m by 1.8m. Natural = chalk with occasional patches of orange brown clay and flint, present at (NE) 129.38m (AOD) - 0.75m below Modern ground; (SW) 135.23m (AOD) - 0.67m below Modern ground. |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | NORTHEAST END OF TRENCH  |                 |                     |
| 301 | na   | na   | 0.41 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and rare CBM.  | 302             | 303                 |
| 302 | na   | na   | 0.27 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 301                 |
| 303 | na   | na   | 0.07 | Turf.  | 301             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | SOUTHWEST END OF TRENCH  |                 |                     |
| 301 | na   | na   | 0.21 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.   | 302             | 303                 |
| 302 | na   | na   | 0.4  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 301                 |
| 303 | na   | na   | 0.06 | Turf.  | 301             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 4:</b> 51m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown white clay flint and chalk, present at (NE) 129.16m (AOD) - 0.73m below Modern ground; (SW) 134.48m (AOD) - 0.45m below Modern ground.                      |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | NORTHEAST END OF TRENCH  |                 |                     |
| 401 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and rare CBM.  | 402             | 403                 |
| 402 | na   | na   | 0.43 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules and chalk lumps.   | natural         | 401                 |
| 403 | na   | na   | 0.1  | Turf.  | 401             | na                  |

**Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION   | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|-----|------|------|------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |      |      |      | SOUTHWEST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 401 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and rare CBM.   | 402             | 403                 |
| 402 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules and chalk lumps.  | natural         | 401                 |
| 403 | na   | na   | 0.05 | Turf.   | 401             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 5:</b> 47m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown white clay flint and chalk, present at (NE) 129.46m (AOD) - 0.60m below Modern ground; (SW) 134.87m (AOD) - 0.40m below Modern ground. |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | NORTHEAST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 501 | na   | na   | 0.26 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 502             | 503                 |
| 502 | na   | na   | 0.3  | Subsoil; mid grey brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 501                 |
| 503 | na   | na   | 0.04 | Turf.   | 501             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | SOUTHWEST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 501 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 502             | 503                 |
| 502 | na   | na   | 0.15 | Subsoil; mid grey brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 501                 |
| 503 | na   | na   | 0.05 | Turf.   | 501             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 6A:</b> 29m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk clay, present at 130.51m (AOD) - 1.60m below Modern ground.                                      |                 |                     |
| 601 | na   | na   | 0.31 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules. Very variable depth.   | 602             | 605                 |
| 602 | na   | na   | 1.22 | Modern backfill; mixed white brown grey soil and occasional rubble, which contained frequent Modern artefacts.  | natural         | 601                 |
| 605 | na   | na   | 0.07 | Turf.   | 601             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |

**Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION   | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|-----|------|------|------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 6B:</b> 20m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk marl, present at     |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | 133.18m (AOD) - 0.50m below Modern ground.  |                 |                     |
| 603 | na   | na   | 0.35 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 604             | 605                 |
| 604 | na   | 9    | 0.1  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules. Dissipates at 9m from west end of the trench.            | natural         | 603                 |
| 605 | na   | na   | 0.05 | Turf.   | 603             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>                                  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 7:</b> 51m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay flint, present at                                     |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | (NW) 137.27m (AOD) - 0.32m below Modern ground; (SE) 134.90m (AOD) - 1.0m below Modern ground.                  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | NORTHWEST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 701 | na   | na   | 0.22 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 702             | 703                 |
| 702 | na   | 41   | 0.07 | Subsoil; intermittent mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules. Dissipates at 41m from northwest end of the | natural         | 701                 |
|     |      |      |      | trench.   |                 |                     |
| 703 | na   | na   | 0.03 | Turf.   | 701             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | SOUTHEAST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 701 | na   | na   | 0.94 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 703                 |
| 703 | na   | na   | 0.06 | Turf.   | 701             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>                                  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 8:</b> 50m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay flint with patches of chalk, present at               |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | (NW) 137.77m (AOD) - 0.35m below Modern ground; (SE) 134.27m (AOD) - 1.90m below Modern ground.                 |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | NORTHWEST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 801 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules.  | 802             | 804                 |
| 802 | na   | na   | 0.1  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 801                 |
| 804 | na   | na   | 0.05 | Turf.   | 801             | na                  |

## Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION   | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|-----|------|------|------|---|-----------------|---------------------|
|     |      |      |      | SOUTHEAST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 802 | na   | na   | 0.3  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 803                 |
| 803 | na   | na   | 1.54 | Modern backfill; mixed mid to dark brown grey soil and occasional rubble, which contained frequent Modern artefacts.                              | 802             | 804                 |
| 804 | na   | na   | 0.06 | Turf.   | 803             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 9A:</b> 13m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk, present at 138.24m (AOD) - 0.88m below Modern ground. |                 |                     |
| 901 | na   | na   | 0.09 | Subsoil; mid brown clay flint.  | natural         | 902                 |
| 902 | na   | na   | 0.37 | Modern layer; compacted chalk, which contained occasional brick fragments.  | 901             | 903                 |
| 903 | na   | na   | 0.34 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and occasional Modern artefacts.  | 902             | 904                 |
| 904 | na   | na   | 0.08 | Turf.   | 903             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |
|     |      |      |      | <b>Trench 9B:</b> 18m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk, present at 139.41m (AOD) - 1.03m below Modern ground. |                 |                     |
| 901 | na   | na   | 0.25 | Subsoil; mid brown clay flint.  | natural         | 902                 |
| 902 | na   | na   | 0.13 | Modern layer; compacted chalk, which contained occasional brick fragments.  | 901             | 903                 |
| 903 | na   | na   | 0.57 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and occasional Modern artefacts.  | 902             | 904                 |
| 904 | na   | na   | 0.08 | Turf.   | 903             | na                  |
|     |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>  |                 |                     |

Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation

| CXT  | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION  | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|------|------|------|------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|      |      |      |      | <b>Trench 10A:</b> 34m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk, present at        |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | 138.21m (AOD) - 1.60m below Modern ground.   |                 |                     |
| 1001 | na   | na   | 0.1  | Turf.  | 1002            | na                  |
| 1002 | na   | na   | 0.8  | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts.                        | 1003            | 1001                |
| 1003 | na   | na   | 0.4  | Modern layer; compacted chalk, which contained occasional brick fragments.                                     | 1004            | 1002                |
| 1004 | na   | na   | 0.3  | Subsoil; mid grey brown clay with occasional flint nodules.  | natural         | 1003                |
|      |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>                                 |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | <b>Trench 10B:</b> 15m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint, present at                              |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | 134.80m (AOD) - 1.90m below Modern ground.   |                 |                     |
| 1001 | na   | na   | 0.08 | Turf.  | 1002            | na                  |
| 1002 | na   | na   | 1.4  | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts.                        | 1005            | 1001                |
| 1005 | na   | na   | 0.02 | Buried turf horizon (former land surface); layer of decayed plant matter, which occurred intermittently across | 1006            | 1002                |
|      |      |      |      | the trench.  |                 |                     |
| 1006 | na   | na   | 0.3  | Former topsoil; dark brown clay silt.  | 1007            | 1005                |
| 1007 | na   | na   | 0.1  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 1006                |
|      |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>                                 |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | <b>Trench 11:</b> 48m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay flint, present at                                   |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | (W) 137.63m (AOD) - 1.21m below Modern ground; (E) 133.78m (AOD) - 2.0m below Modern ground.                   |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | WEST END OF TRENCH   |                 |                     |
| 1101 | na   | na   | 0.1  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural         | 1102                |
| 1102 | na   | na   | 0.2  | Former topsoil; dark brown clay silt.  | 1101            | 1106                |
| 1104 | na   | na   | 0.65 | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.   | 1106            | 1105                |
| 1105 | na   | na   | 0.09 | Turf.  | 1104            | na                  |
| 1106 | na   | 15   | 0.17 | Modern layer; compacted chalk. Dissipated at 15m from the west end of the trench.                              | 1102            | 1104                |



**Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

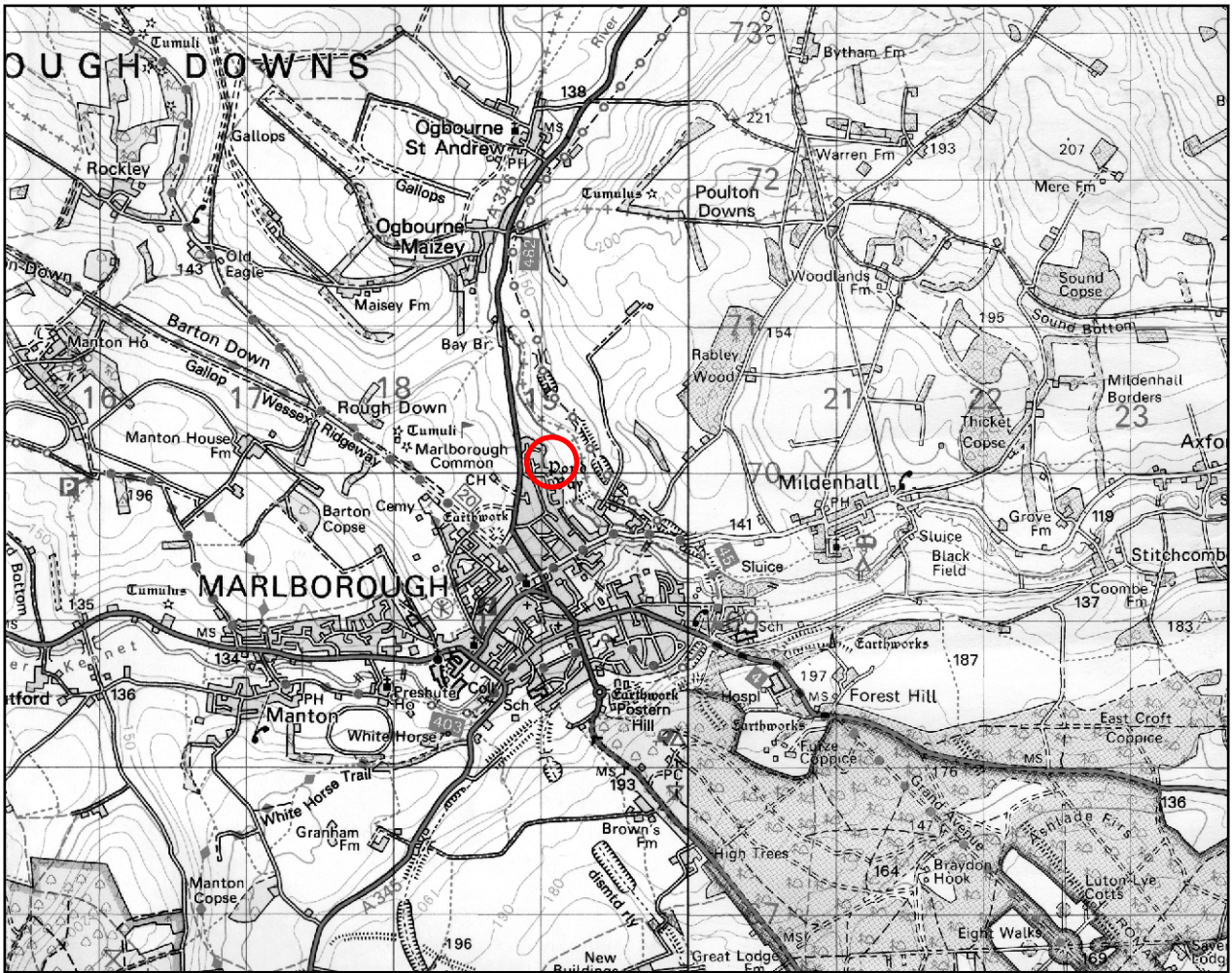
| <b>CXT</b> | <b>L(m)</b> | <b>W(m)</b> | <b>D(m)</b> | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>   | <b>CUTS/LATER THAN</b> | <b>CUT BY/EARLIER THAN</b> |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
|            |             |             |             | <b>EAST END OF TRENCH</b>  |                        |                            |
| 1101       | na          | na          | 0.1         | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules.   | natural                | 1102                       |
| 1102       | na          | na          | 0.15        | Former topsoil; dark brown clay silt.  | 1101                   | 1103                       |
| 1103       | na          | na          | 0.02        | Buried turf horizon (former land surface); layer of decayed plant matter, which occurred intermittently at the east of the trench. | 1102                   | 1104                       |
| 1104       | na          | na          | 1.67        | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.                       | 1103                   | 1105                       |
| 1105       | na          | na          | 0.06        | Turf.  | 1104                   | na                         |
|            |             |             |             | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                        |                            |
|            |             |             |             | <b>Trench 12A:</b> 20m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint, present at 131.98m (AOD) - 1.46m below Modern ground.       |                        |                            |
| 1201       | na          | na          | 0.12        | Turf.  | 1202                   | na                         |
| 1202       | na          | na          | 1.34        | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.                       | natural                | 1201                       |
|            |             |             |             | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                        |                            |
|            |             |             |             | <b>Trench 12B:</b> 28m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint, present at 131.60m (AOD) - 1.29m below Modern ground.       |                        |                            |
| 1201       | na          | na          | 0.06        | Turf.  | 1202                   | na                         |
| 1202       | na          | na          | 1.1         | Modern backfill; mixed brown grey clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.                       | 1203                   | 1201                       |
| 1203       | na          | 7           | 0.13        | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules. Dissipated 7m from the north end of the trench.                             | natural                | 1202                       |
|            |             |             |             | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                        |                            |

**Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

| CXT    | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION  | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|--------|------|------|------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|        |      |      |      | <b>Trench 13A:</b> 23m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk, present at 129.07m (AOD) - 1.51m below Modern ground.   |                 |                     |
| 1301   | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and occasional Modern artefacts.<br>Variable in depth.   | 1302            | 1308                |
| 1302   | na   | na   | 0.85 | Modern backfill; mixed/layered brown grey white clay silt chalk, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.   | 1303            | 1301                |
| 1303   | na   | na   | 0.4  | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules, which contained occasional charcoal flecks.<br>Contained a single <b>small, heavily corroded iron nail.</b>   | natural         | 1302                |
| [1304] | 2    | 0.5  | ?    | Northeast - southwest aligned probable ditch. Contained fill 1305.<br>Not excavated due to the presence of deep trench sections.   | natural         | 1305                |
| 1305   | 2    | 0.5  | ?    | Fill of ditch [1304]; grey brown clay silt, which contained frequent flint nodules and fragments.<br>* Relationship between 1305 and 1303 is probable, as not possible to hand clean the relevant trench section, due to health and safety concerns. | [1304]          | 1303*               |
| 1308   | na   | na   | 0.06 | Turf.  | 1301            | na                  |
|        |      |      |      | <b>Trench 13B:</b> 11m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint with patches of chalk, present at 128.92m (AOD) - 1.76m below Modern ground.   |                 |                     |
| 1301   | na   | na   | 0.2  | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and occasional Modern artefacts.<br>Variable in depth.   | 1302            | 1308                |
| 1302   | na   | na   | 0.98 | Modern backfill; mixed/layered brown grey white clay silt chalk, which contained frequent Modern artefacts and lenses of rubble.   | 1303            | 1301                |
| 1303   | na   | na   | 0.55 | Subsoil; mid brown clay with occasional flint nodules, which contained occasional charcoal flecks.   | natural         | 1302                |
| 1308   | na   | na   | 0.03 | Turf.  | 1301            | na                  |
|        |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>   |                 |                     |

**Rabley Wood, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

| CXT  | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | DESCRIPTION  | CUTS/LATER THAN | CUT BY/EARLIER THAN |
|------|------|------|------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|      |      |      |      | <b>Trench 13C:</b> 14m by 1.8m. Natural = orange brown clay and flint, present at                        |                 |                     |
|      |      |      |      | 129.11m (AOD) - 1.43m below Modern ground.   |                 |                     |
| 1301 | na   | na   | 0.04 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt, which contained occasional flint nodules and occasional Modern artefacts. | 1309            | 1308                |
|      |      |      |      | Variable in depth.   |                 |                     |
| 1306 | na   | na   | 0.26 | Layer of dark brown clay silt, which contained frequent Modern artefacts.                                | natural         | 1307                |
| 1307 | na   | na   | 0.69 | Modern layer; loose chalk.   | 1306            | 1309                |
| 1308 | na   | na   | 0.04 | Turf.  | 1301            | na                  |
| 1309 | na   | na   | 0.4  | Modern backfill; mixed grey brown chalk soil and rubble.   | 1307            | 1301                |
|      |      |      |      | <b>No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trench.</b>                           |                 |                     |

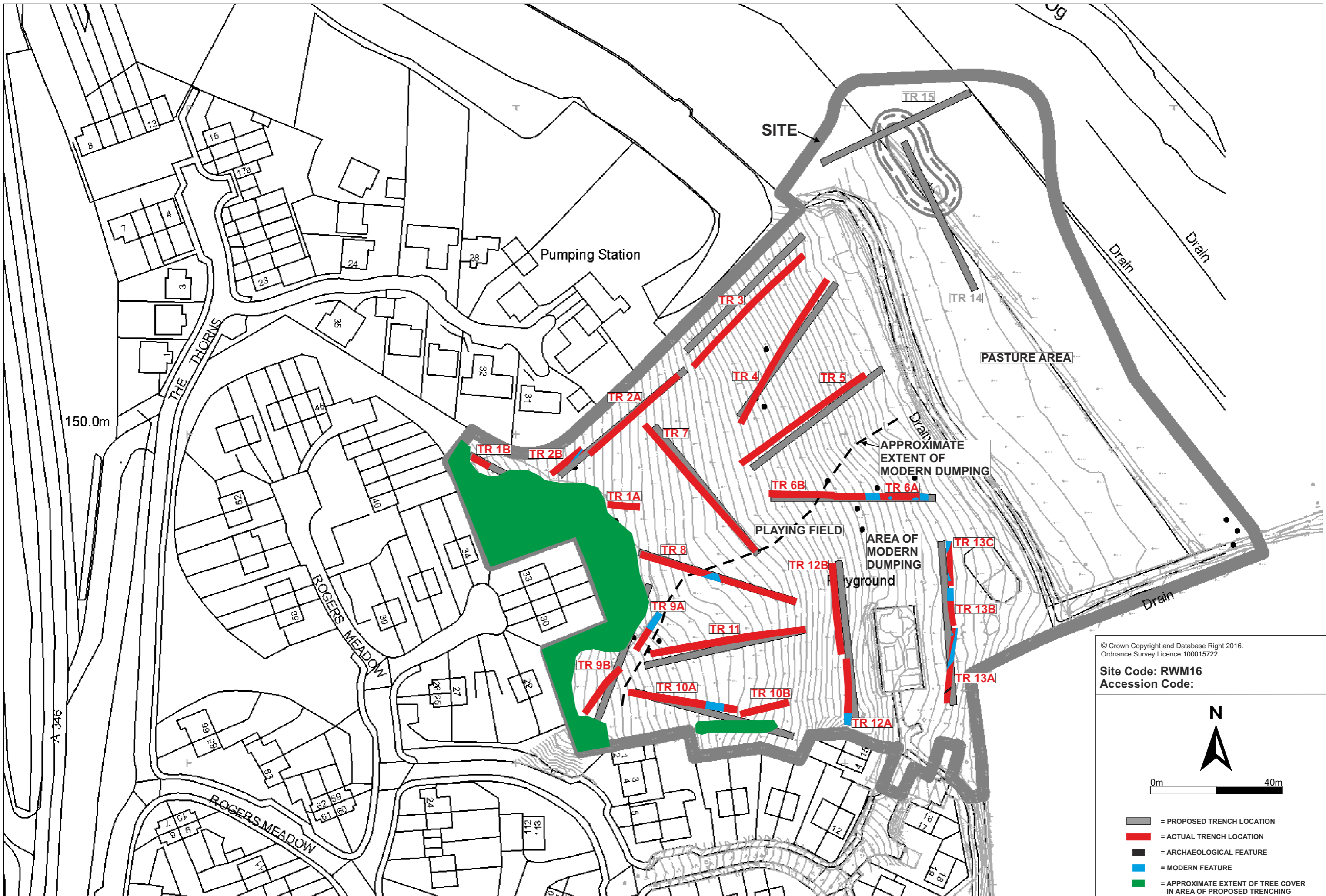


© Crown Copyright and Database Right 2016.  
Ordnance Survey Licence 100015722

**Site Code: RWM16**  
**Accession Code:**

**FIGURE 1: Site Location**





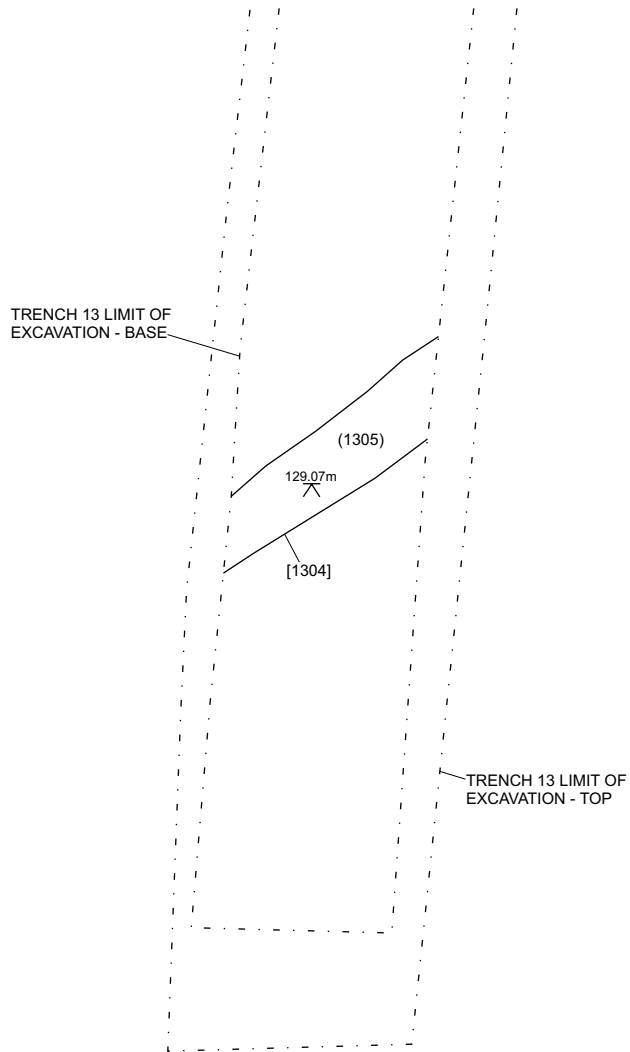
© Crown Copyright and Database Right 2016.  
 Ordnance Survey Licence 100015722  
**Site Code: RWM16**  
**Accession Code:**


0m  40m

N

- = PROPOSED TRENCH LOCATION
- = ACTUAL TRENCH LOCATION
- = ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE
- = MODERN FEATURE
- = APPROXIMATE EXTENT OF TREE COVER IN AREA OF PROPOSED TRENCHING

**FIGURE 2: Site Plan**



|  |
|--|
| Site Code: RWM16<br>Accession Code:  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">N</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">0m <span style="display: inline-block; width: 100px; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></span> 2m</p> |
| <b>FIGURE 3: Plan Showing Ditch [1304]</b>   |





PHOTOGRAPH 1: TRENCH 2A LOOKING SOUTHWEST - TYPICAL SHALLOW TRENCH IN THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE SITE



PHOTOGRAPH 2: TRENCH 8 LOOKING NORTHWEST - THE TRENCH BECOMES SHALLOWER TO THE NORTHWEST, AS IT EXTENDS BEYOND THE AREA OF MODERN DUMPING



PHOTOGRAPH 3: LOCALISED MODERN DISTURBANCE IN TRENCH 9A



PHOTOGRAPH 4: TRENCH 11 SHOWING DEEP MODERN DUMP DEPOSITS (VERTICAL SCALE TOTALS 2m)



PHOTOGRAPH 6: TRENCH 13A SHOWING DITCH [1304] IN THE FOREGROUND



PHOTOGRAPH 5: TRENCH 11 SHOWING BURIED TURF HORIZON (1103) EXPOSED DURING MACHINING



PHOTOGRAPH 5: ANNOTATED

Site Code: RWM16  
Accession Code:

**FIGURE 4: Photographs**