

**LECHLADE MEMORIAL HALL,
LECHLADE,
GLOUCESTSHIRE.**

NGR: SU 213 999

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION;
POST EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT**



May 2018
Report No. 1245



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES

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Quality Assurance

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GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AOD

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

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.

OS

Ordnance Survey.

Post-medieval

The period after *c.* AD 1500.

Prehistoric

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

Roman

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

Saxon

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

Sunken Featured Building SFB - (Grubenhaus)

Structure characteristic of the early to middle Saxon period in Britain. They generally consist of a rectangular pit, often with associated postholes. They are likely to have been used for domestic dwelling, storage and as working-sheds.

SUMMARY

Between 7th August and 19th October 2017 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological excavation in advance of the construction of a new community hall at Lechlade, Gloucestershire (NGR: SU 213 999). The project was commissioned by King Builders Gloucester Ltd.

The archaeological works comprised a phased excavation of the footprint of the new hall and an associated car park. The excavation revealed significant archaeological remains.

Prehistoric activity was represented by a single grave, as well as linear boundaries. The grave contained a probable Prehistoric crouched inhumation and possibly part of a further burial. Numerous linear pit and posthole alignments, as well as related ditches, probably dated to the later Bronze Age – Iron Age. They were present on multiple alignments and there was evidence that at least some of them had been re-instated or modified on at least one occasion. These features are directly comparable to previously recorded later Bronze Age – Iron Age boundaries, which were present in the vicinity of the site.

At least one, or possibly two probable agricultural ditches were later than the Prehistoric boundaries and possibly dated to the Roman period; although the dating of these features remained tentative.

Evidence for Saxon settlement within the site was present in the form of two Sunken Featured Buildings, which were associated with a small number of pits and postholes. Although presently only datable to the Early to Middle Saxon period, the settlement activity is probably related to the nearby Butler's Field Anglo-Saxon cemetery and possibly represents a continuation of Saxon settlement recorded at Sherborne House, to the southwest of the site.

Post Saxon activity was limited to a single Medieval/Post-medieval furrow base, as well as dispersed Modern postholes and services.

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

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between 7th August and 19th October 2017 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological excavation in advance of the construction of a new community hall at Lechlade, Gloucestershire (NGR: SU 213 999). The project was commissioned by King Builders Gloucester Ltd.
- 1.2 In accordance with the principles of NPPF12 (National Planning Policy Framework 2012) and the archaeological policies of Cotswold District Council, a programme of archaeological excavation was required in advance of development ground works.
- 1.3 The archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation – WSI (Foundations Archaeology 2017), which was based upon the standard brief issued by Gloucestershire County Council and complied with CIfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014).
- 1.4 This document provides an assessment of the evidence recovered during the project and a programme to bring the results to publication. The assessment details the proposed publication format and content of the excavation report in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment - MoRPHE (English Heritage 2015).

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission for the erection of a new community hall with ancillary facilities, was granted by Cotswold District Council under **Planning Reference 16/05098/FUL**. The permission included a condition, which required a programme of archaeological works, in accordance with NPPF12.
- 2.2 The site is located at the north end of a recreation ground, to the north of the historic core of Lechlade. It is approximately 100m to the west of Oak Street (A361) and 60m to the south of Gassons Road. It is bounded to the north by a footpath, beyond which are residential rear gardens, to the west by a play area, to the south by a footpath, beyond which is an all-weather sports pitch and to the east by the plot of the former Lechlade Memorial Hall, which burnt down in May 2016.
- 2.3 The study area is situated on relatively flat ground, at approximately 77m AOD, to the north of the confluence of the Rivers Thames and Leach. The River Thames is located approximately 600m to the south of the site, whilst the River Leach is situated approximately 1.5km to the east. The underlying geology is recorded as *Oxford Clay Formation* - mudstone, overlaid by *Summertown-radley Sand and Gravel Member* - sand and gravel (BGS Online Viewer). At the time of the fieldwork, the site comprised an area of grass, which incorporated a tarmac and concrete skatepark at the southwest.

2.4 The site is situated in an area rich in archaeological remains. An historic environment desk-based assessment has previously been undertaken by Foundations Heritage (2017), the results of which are summarized thus:

2.5 Evidence for Prehistoric Activity

2.5.1 Palaeolithic settlement of Gloucestershire is believed to have begun during the late Pleistocene period and there is considerable evidence for Mesolithic activity within the landscape. The Neolithic period witnessed the construction of settlement sites, field systems and megalithic monuments. During the Iron Age, the county was inhabited by the *Dobunni* and the landscape populated by hillforts and enclosed and unenclosed settlements. These generally consisted of groups of round houses and ancillary buildings forming farmsteads or hamlets.

2.5.2 Given the profusion of evidence for Prehistoric activity throughout Gloucestershire, it is not surprising that there is a series of Prehistoric settlement and ritual sites in the landscape around the site.

2.5.3 The earliest Prehistoric activity identified in the HER for the study area is for Neolithic activity, although a Palaeolithic (Acheulian) handaxe (HER 2444) has been found slightly further afield at Station Pit. A series of 15 pits were amongst features excavated at Gassons Road to the northwest of the site in 1993 (HER 13917 and King 1998); Neolithic pottery was recovered from one of these pits and two further pits had antler picks deposited at the base. A circular feature (HER 585), interpreted as one of five small henges or ring ditches (304, 306, 307 and 313), which with the Lechlade cursus (HER 316, 44410), form elements of an 'important ceremonial complex', is located immediately northwest of HER 13917. A number of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint artefacts were recovered during archaeological works at Lechlade Manor in 2006 (HER 20519), to the east of the site. Other Neolithic finds and features are known from the vicinity, including pits from Roughground Farm (HER 3209) to the north of Lechlade and at The Lodens (HER 3012); an arrowhead from SU 21620 99490 (HER 2199); pottery from Maiden's Field (HER 3377) and an axe head from Butlers Court (HER 4870).

2.5.4 Bronze Age activity is extensive within and around the study area. Most pertinently, two Beaker burials were identified and excavated during the 1995 excavations undertaken prior to the construction of the original Clemenson Memorial Hall (HER 17024 and Thomas & Holbrook 1998), immediately adjacent to the current excavation area. A ring ditch (HER 3307) is known from aerial photographs to the west-southwest of the site area, within the recreation ground. A larger potential ring ditch (HER 26665) has been identified on aerial photographs in the south-eastern part of the recreation ground.

2.5.5 An area defined as an 'extensive multi-period settlement, cemetery and ceremonial site represented by cropmarks' (HER 305) lies to the northwest of the site; the greater part of this area is also a Scheduled Monument (Ref: 1003434). The five small 'hengés' noted above, which fall within this area,

may, rather, represent Bronze Age ring ditches – indeed HER 585 yielded two cremations when excavated in 1985. A ring ditch associated with cremations is also mentioned in the description of the 1985 Oxford Archaeology excavations at Butlers Field (HER 586 and Boyle *et al.* 1998), but it is not clear if this is the same, or a different ‘barrow’. Four other cremations were identified during these works and were interpreted as being contemporary with the barrow. A Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age child burial (HER 20519) was recovered to the east of the site, within the grounds of Lechlade Manor, during archaeological works in 2000.

- 2.5.6 A number of other Bronze Age finds and features are known from Roughground Farm, to the north of the site, in the form of an Early Bronze Age pottery sherd and a scatter of Late Bronze Age pits (HER 3209). A further Bronze Age burial is known from the Lodgers (HER 3012) to the south, which may represent the same burial listed under HER 3014.
- 2.5.7 A number of finds and features have also been recovered that date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. These include boundaries and postholes at Gassons Road identified during evaluation and excavation works in 1992 and 1997 and a complex land boundary and landscape (HER 305). Four boundary ditches, four pits, four pairs of postholes, a gully and a number of tree throws found by OA at Cuthwine’s Way (HER 13971). A pit with pottery dated to this period was identified in the centre of a ring ditch at Butlers Field, along with elements of a coaxial field system and a roundhouse (HER 586). Further afield, pottery, pits and roundhouses have been identified during archaeological works at Sherborne House (HER 19964, 32428-32431) and a pit and ditch were identified by TVAS at High Street (HER 48206). An assessment by Cotswold Archaeology in 2012 of land at Moorgate (HER 43357) indicated the potential for Bronze Age features to extend into the site and subsequent field investigations (HER 44582 and 44591) identified Bronze Age and Iron Age ditches relating to a field system.
- 2.5.8 Extensive Iron Age activity is also known from the vicinity. The previous Memorial Hall excavations, located immediately to the east of the current site, contained an Iron Age ditch and two-three pit/posthole alignments, as well as an enclosure, a ditch, a fenceline and more small pits/postholes, which may also date to this period (HER 17204).
- 2.5.9 An Iron Age settlement including houses, enclosures and field systems lies within the ‘extensive multi-period settlement, cemetery and ceremonial site represented by cropmarks’ (HER 305), including an early Iron Age ditch that cut a Bronze Age ring ditch (HER 585). Iron Age pits and postholes were also identified at Gassons Road (HER 13971).
- 2.5.10 Further afield, an Iron Age circular post-built structure (HER 316) was identified within the Lechlade cursus and may be contemporary with a substantial boundary ditch previously identified at Butlers Field in 1985. An Iron Age ditch was also identified near the cursus during evaluation works in 2000.

- 2.5.11 A posthole and some residual Iron Age pottery was recovered during archaeological works at Lechlade Manor (HER 20519) and further possible Iron Age activity was identified at Lechlade Manor by BaRaS in 2000 (HER 48643). Several pits at the Loders (HER 3012) produced Iron Age finds as part of an Iron Age settlement (HER 3016) in the form of pits and a circular roundhouse. A further five features producing pottery and animal bone have been identified in this location (HER 3362). Ditches, three postholes and a pit of probable Prehistoric origin were identified at The Maples, Oak Street (HER 20666) to the northeast of the site.
- 2.5.12 A group of Iron Age ditches were identified at Little London during a 1998 evaluation (HER 3154) and two large ditches, one associated with a pit alignment, field boundaries and part of a ring gully (HER 32771) were recovered at this site during excavation and watching brief works by Oxford Archaeology in 1999. This appears to be the same feature detailed as HER 32773. A Prehistoric boundary ditch at Roughground (HER 3209) appeared to predate an Iron Age trackway. Settlement at Roughground Farm (HER 3209) was present as large Early Iron Age boundary ditches with smaller subdivisions. Pits and occupation in the form of burials and posthole groups were concentrated at the east end of the site. Iron Age pottery was also found in 1936 near Lechlade station.
- 2.5.13 Five pits have been found at Sherborne House (HER 19964), one of which yielded sherds of Iron Age pottery. Middle Iron Age activity was also present in the form of two roundhouses, storage pits and boundary ditches (HER 32432). Ditches at Moorgate (HER 44582) were interpreted as continuations of Iron Age features at Butlers Field, with a field system (HER 44591) also identified as a continuation. More detail of this interpretation was provided in a PXA for the above site (HER 48814). Finally, Iron Age pottery was recovered from a test-pit on A417 Lechlade bypass in 1997 (HER 19838).

2.6 Evidence for Roman Activity

- 2.6.1 Lechlade lies within a busy Roman landscape, probably arranged around the villa known to exist at Roughground Farm to the north (HER 3209). A number of finds and features are known in close proximity to the development site. These include ditches or enclosures and pits to the south (HER 3308); field systems and occupation features, at least some of which represent elements of a small farmstead partially excavated in 1985, pit alignments and enclosures (HER 304, 305), as well as quarry pits and boundary ditches (HER 586, 13971) to the west/northwest. Four ditches identified in 2014 to the northwest of the site (HER 27557) probably represent a continuation of these features. Occupation features including ditches, postholes and an infant inhumation are known from the east, at Lechlade Manor (HER 20519, 48643, 48649).
- 2.6.2 Numerous features are known from slightly further afield, in particular the previously mentioned villa at Roughground Farm (HER 3209), which replaced a native Romano-British settlement in the 2nd century AD. The site also contained gravel pits, an enclosure, a trackway and pits. A further stone subterranean building is marked on OS maps (HER 2442); the HER notes

some discrepancy in the records and that there may have been two structures, at least one of which is likely to have been a bath house.

- 2.6.3 A prehistoric or Roman hut circle is recorded at the site of the Lechlade cursus (HER 316), though it is uncertain as to whether this is the post-built Iron Age structure noted above. A desk-based assessment of land at Little London (HER 32772) suggested Roman activity, which was partially borne out by the recovery of Roman pottery in later and earlier features (HER 32771, 32776). A further desk-based assessment of land at Moorgate (HER 43357) also suggested Roman activity, which was supported by the identification of Roman pits and ditches (HER 48814). Investigations at Faringdon Road in 2013 (HER 45107) also revealed ditches containing Roman pottery, while a watching brief at Box Tree House on the High Street (HER 21030) yielded a single sherd of unstratified Roman pottery and a number of animal bones.
- 2.6.4 Roman ditches have been identified at Butlers Court (HER 19961, 28430) and a sherd of pottery was recovered during investigations at Sherborne House (HER 32429). Roman pottery and daub was recovered during construction of a bungalow to the south of Lechlade (HER 3170) and possible trackways have been identified from aerial photographs (HER 3243, 3314). Roman pottery was recovered from a soil investigation borehole during works for the A417 Lechlade bypass (HER 19838) and part of the course of the Salt Way, Margary's Roman Road 55 (HER 22142) lies within 500m of the site. Two further desk-based assessments at the Cursus (HER 15344) and the Old Station (HER 20797) respectively, also highlighted the potential for Roman activity.
- 2.6.5 An undated burial (HER 4895) at Hambridge Lane to the north of the site may be of Roman or Early Medieval date and evidence for further undated burials was subsequently identified at 18 Hambridge Road (HER 44257, 44258) and ditches and a posthole were uncovered at Garage Court (HER 27557), which may relate to Roman ditches to the west.

2.7 Evidence for Saxon/Early Medieval Activity

- 2.7.1 Anglo-Saxon activity along the Upper Thames Valley appears to have begun in the mid-5th century, increasing after the *Battle of Deorham* in 577, which traditionally broke the power of the British in the area. The Cotswold area is thereafter considered to be part of the *Hwicce* lands, a sub-kingdom of Mercia; later subsumed into Wessex.
- 2.7.2 Although the earliest surviving reference to Lechlade comes in the form of a charter of King Edward (1056-1066), archaeological activity places the earliest settlement at a considerably earlier date.
- 2.7.3 No Saxon activity has previously been recorded from the site area, but extensive and important remains are known from the close vicinity. A major Anglo-Saxon cemetery (HER 586 and Boyle *et al.* 1998) is also included under the umbrella multi-period settlement, cemetery and ceremonial complex (HER 305). A total of 219 burials were recovered from 199 graves, with a

further 29 cremations. The earliest burials dated from the very start of the 6th century with another well-dated group dating from the 7th century; estimates vary between 50-75% as to how much of the cemetery was excavated. Further afield, other burials have been recovered from gravel extraction at SP 215 007 (HER 2445) and 8-10 coffin burials from 'the market' in 1928 (HER 3150). The NGR given places these burials close to the western edge of the site, but the HER notes that the grid reference is probably wrong and that the burials were recovered from the market square near St. Lawrence's Church.

2.7.4 Evidence for a possible post-built hall was recovered during excavations at Gassons Road (HER 13971) to the southeast of the cemetery and to the northwest of the site. Aerial photographic evidence suggests that a number of 'playing-card' shaped features are likely to represent sunken-featured buildings (SFBs), although a Prehistoric or Roman date cannot be entirely ruled out for these (HER 3308).

2.7.5 To the west of the site, Saxon pits and ditches are known from Butlers Court Farm (HER 19961). To the east, Anglo-Saxon activity has been identified at Lechlade Manor in the form of agricultural activity (HER 20519, 48643 and 48649). To the south, Early-Middle Saxon activity has been identified at Spring Gardens in the form of a quarry pit and a possible pit/ditch terminus (HER 48037, 48038). Archaeological investigations at Sherborne House have identified poorly dated pits and ditches, some of which were associated with Saxon pottery (HER 19964), along with other features including six sunken featured buildings, a possible post-built hall, pits and ditches (HER 32429, 32431, 32433), as well as the results of soil morphology (HER 32434). Ditches dating between the 6th and 7th centuries have been identified at Kent Place (HER 20737) and unstratified pottery has been found at The Loders (HER 3019). Anglo-Saxon finds have also been recovered from the top fills of Prehistoric ditches at Little London (HER 32771), along with a Saxo-Norman palisade ditch (32776).

2.7.6 The Saxon potential of Lechlade has also been addressed in a number of previous desk-based assessments in the general vicinity (HER 15344, 32772, 43357 and 44872).

2.8 Evidence Medieval Activity

2.8.1 The Domesday Book of 1086 records Lechlade amongst the lands of Henry of Ferrers; held TRE by Siward Bairn. The Medieval core of the town is centred around St. Lawrence's Church (HER 8202), which is known to have existed by 1254, but may have been present by at least 1210, when the St. Lawrence Day market was granted (HER 18191), with a second fair granted in 1234 at St. John's Bridge. The town became a borough in 1235. The church itself was completely rebuilt in 1470 and no evidence has been identified for the earlier structure. The present building is Listed Grade I (UID 1155874).

2.8.2 No Medieval activity was identified during the excavations undertaken for the former Memorial Hall, but activity of this period is known from around the site. A rectilinear enclosure and a hut site, as well as Medieval pottery have

been identified from within the umbrella multi-period site to the west (HER 305). Medieval crofts, enclosures and agricultural features are known from the area of Lechlade Manor to the east (HER 20519, 48643, 48649). Investigations at Spring Gardens to the south have revealed a ditch and gully dating to the 12th -14th century and two rows of postholes, one of which contained a sherd of 13th -15th century pot (HER 48038).

- 2.8.3 Ditches and pits dating from the 12th century and a 14th -15th century drain have been identified at Little London (HER 3154), along with a Medieval farmstead (All Court) including several stone buildings, enclosures, ditches, pits and quarrying (HER 32771, 32774). Medieval activity in the form of a ditch has also been identified at Sherborne House (HER 19964, 32429), with several ditches at Kent Place (HER 20737) in an area of predominantly Saxon activity. A single sherd of unstratified Medieval pottery has been identified at 19 Hambridge Lane (HER 22434), to the north of the site.
- 2.8.4 A Medieval manor is known to have existed at Butlers Court from 1304 (HER 4870). Ponds, pits, ditches, metalled surfaces and a corn drier have been located at the site during archaeological investigations (HER 4869, 19961, 30460). Undated, but possibly Medieval ditches and pits have also been found close by at Moorgate (HER 44582, 44591, 48814).
- 2.8.5 Further afield, evidence for Medieval activity has been identified in the core of the Medieval settlement (HER 2436, 18176, 45561, 20994, 21030, 26534, 26538, 29619/29620, 45562), including a possible Medieval cross in the Market Place (HER 2264) and a former ford and wharf at Lechlade Footbridge (HER 30610). Medieval ridge and furrow is known from adjacent to Faringdon Road (HER 45107, 44873), off the High Street (HER 47782) and at Roughground Farm to the north, where another manor has been postulated (HER 3209). Medieval pottery was also recovered during soil investigations at the A417 (HER 19838).
- 2.8.6 The Medieval potential of Lechlade has also been addressed in a number of previous desk-based assessments in the general vicinity (*ibid.*).

2.9 Evidence Post-medieval Activity

- 2.9.1 No Post-medieval finds or features are known from within the site area. A number of records relate to activity in the vicinity; in particular, a pit was discovered at Gassons Road (HER 13971). A number of 17th century enclosure ditches associated with the manorial estate, which were infilled in the 18/19th century (HER 20519, 48643) have been uncovered during archaeological investigations at Lechlade Manor, to the east of the site, along with two 19th century pits (HER 21131). Pottery, a possible pewter artefact, a quarry pit and drain have been identified at Sherborne House to the south of the site (HER 19964, 32430). Gravel pits have also been identified at Little London (HER 32771) and a field boundary has been suggested by geophysical survey at Moorgate (HER 44444). The site of an Ice House (HER 18195) is recorded on Ordnance Survey mapping at Oak Street and is shown on Ordnance Survey plans.

2.9.2 Further afield, a number of finds and features have been recovered from the historic core of Lechlade in the form of pottery, pits, postholes, building footings, yard surfaces and soil accumulations (HER 18159, 20994, 22287, 26538, 26647, 29619-29620, 42170, 42171, 43102 and 45561). Parkend Wharf (HER 18192) is first referenced in 1639 and pottery, a revetment and plank off-cuts have been recovered from Riverside Marina (HER 27961). Post-medieval pottery was also recovered from soil investigations on the A417 Lechlade bypass (HER 19838). The site of a smithy (HER 18196) is recorded on the Ordnance Survey plan of 1875 at Sherborne Street and the site of a Malthouse (HER 18194) is recorded on the same map to the south of the churchyard. The site of the Bell Inn in Bell Lane (HER 20590), the station on Burford Road (HER 20594) and the East Gloucestershire and Witney Railway (HER 3239) are also recorded. Turnpike activity of the 18th century is recorded in the form of Halfpenny Bridge (HER 315, UID 10033424) dating to 1782 and the tollhouse dating to 1792 and the turnpike routes from Cirencester to St. John's Bridge (HER3358) and Lechlade to Burford (HER 48845). The site of an ice house is recorded at SP 21450 99830 (HER 3255) and a smithy at SP 21220 99630 (HER 3256).

2.9.3 There are numerous Post-medieval Listed Buildings, all designated Grade II and a number of buildings recorded as non-designated assets within the historic core of Lechlade, of which eight fall within 250m of the site. These comprise the Baptist Chapel (HER 8203, UID 1089377), The Hollies in Oak Street (HER 18177, UID 1156018), Sherborne House (HER 18187, UID 1089375), Sherborne Cottage and gate piers (HER 46893, UID 1089376), the Gazebo at Sherborne House (HER 46894, UID 1303051), Stonecroft (HER 18188, UID 1156044), Burford House (HER 18299, UID 1089430) and Lechlade Manor Lodge (HER 18318, UID 1155614).

2.10 Evidence Modern Activity

2.10.1 No Modern finds or features are recorded on the HER within the site area. In the vicinity, a machine-cut feature was identified at 19 Hambridge Lane (HER 22434) and quarrying is shown on a 1942 aerial photograph to the rear of Redcroft, Los Altos, The Ridings and Bow House (HER 20446). Modern pottery and layers were also identified at Sherborne House (HER 19964, 32430). Somewhat further afield, a Modern pit and Modern buildings have been recorded at Butler's Court Farm (HER 19961, 26922). Pits, postholes, quarries, ditches, a well and pottery have been recovered from investigations in the historic core of the town (HER 18176, 27828, 29053, 29054, 29057, 29058, 29619, 44579 and 45561) and a pound is known from the site of Pound House (HER 2437).

2.11 Undated Finds and Features

2.11.1 The HER lists a number of undated finds and features within the study area. These include features at the Market Place (HER 3186), east of the Methodist Church (HER 3185), fishponds (HER 3254), two old wharves (HER 3356, 18036), an undated human burial at Church Cottage (HER 18170), a possible

trackway (HER 26646) and ditches, pits and a gully at Pigeon Close (HER 29045, 29053, 29055, 29056).

2.12 Aerial Photographs and LiDAR

2.12.1 Analysis of aerial photographs indicated some linear cropmark features very clearly within the site and its environs. The site lies within a complex and extensive multi-period buried archaeological landscape which comprises funerary sites dating to Prehistoric periods (ring ditches which surrounded former likely Bronze Age barrows), a likely Neolithic buried 'cursus' monument to the north and west of the site (outside its boundaries), settlement features, many pits, small rectilinear and curvilinear enclosures, boundaries and ditched trackways. Part of the landscape to the west of and outside the site is a Scheduled Monument with no residual topography extant over the areas of the buried features. The scheduled site contains pits, large ring ditches indicative of likely Bronze Age funerary monuments and boundary ditches with terminal defined entrances which are likely indicative of pre-Medieval stock penning and farming activities. Buried ditches extend to the north and south of the Memorial Hall site and all areas not previously developed carry a high potential for the presence of complex stratified buried deposits.

2.12.2 Examination of LiDAR data (Air Photo Services 2016) has indicated no residual topography over the ring ditches and other known features in the vicinity of the site, although, a series of linear features are likely to derive from Post-medieval activities on the land.

2.12.3 The majority of the buried cropmark features around Lechlade are overlain by eroded broad Medieval ridge and furrow which was largely extant in the 1940s and is now ploughed out and visible as residual topography via LiDAR analysis and profiling, or as marks in crops and grass.

2.13 Historic Map Evidence

2.13.1 The Tithe map of 1839 shows the site located within a single agricultural field. This remains essentially unchanged, up until the Ordnance Survey map of 1972 – 77, which shows the site as part of a recreation ground. The former Memorial Hall is shown adjacent to the site, for the first time, on the Ordnance Survey map of 1999.

2.14 The site therefore contained the potential for the presence of significant archaeological remains, predominately dating to the Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon periods. This did not prejudice the archaeological works against evidence relating to other periods.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Non-significant overburden was removed to the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first, by use of a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, whilst under

constant archaeological supervision. The excavation (Area 1) measured up to 56m long by 42m wide and constituted an area of just under 0.1 hectares, as shown in Figures 2 to 7.

- 3.2 All subsequent hand excavation was undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out in the excavation WSI. In summary, a 20% sample of linear features and a 50% sample of discrete features were excavated. All structural, industrial, ritual or funerary features were 100% excavated.
- 3.3 All recording of archaeological features was undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in the WSI. In summary, features were recorded in plan and section and their height above Ordnance Datum was captured by use of a Topcon GRS1 GPS system.
- 3.4 Human remains were removed only after the acquisition of a Ministry of Justice *Licence for the Removal of Human Remains* (Licence Number: 17-0224)

4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 4.1 A full description of all contexts identified during the course of the project is given in Appendix 1, as well as specialist reports in Appendices 2 to 6. A description of the miscellaneous finds is given in Appendix 7, along with a note on a Saxon bone weaving pick in Appendix 8. A summary of the results is given below.
- 4.2 The natural beige to orange gravel substrate was present at an average depth of 0.40m (76.95m AOD) below Modern ground. Across the majority of the site, the natural was sealed by a brown clay silt subsoil (1002), on average 0.15m thick, which was in turn overlaid by a dark brown clay silt topsoil (1001), on average 0.25m thick. In the southwestern part of the excavation area, at the location of the former skatepark, the natural was directly overlaid by Modern hardcore and tarmac (1245), on average 0.30m thick. At the southern edge of the site, the natural was overlaid by Modern backfill (1003), on average 0.25m thick, which was associated with the construction of the footpath immediately to the south of the site.
- 4.3 Archaeological features were present across the site area, cut into the top of the natural gravels.
- 4.4 **Grave [1123]** (Figure 8)
 - 4.4.1 Grave [1123] was present in the central part of the site. The grave comprised a relatively shallow, sub-circular pit. Its base was unusual, in that it consisted of an annular gully, which surrounded a central ‘dome’ of unexcavated natural gravel. A small hole or ‘divot’ [1237], which was present in the northern part of the grave, at the base of the annular gully, was almost certainly a natural feature. The grave was undated; however, it contained a tightly crouched child inhumation (1124), which suggested a Prehistoric date. The individual had

been laid on their left side, facing to the east, with their head to the north. A small group of human cranial bones (1125), which were present approximately 0.1m to the east of the articulated burial, may represent the remains of a secondary burial; although, at present this is uncertain. No grave goods or other artefacts were present within the grave. The grave contained an orange brown soil backfill (1126), which was present both beneath and above the human remains.

4.5 **Ditch 1**

4.5.1 Ditch 1 (feature [1004]) was present within the south-eastern part of the excavation area for a length of approximately 5m and represented the remains of a fairly substantial northeast – southwest aligned boundary ditch. A single sherd of probable Iron Age pottery was recovered from ditch fill (1006).

4.6 **Ditch 2**

4.6.1 Ditch 2 was present in the centre of the site for a length of approximately 47m and comprised a north – south aligned boundary ditch. Ditch cuts [1018], [1036], [1066], [1185], [1246], [1247] and [1249] most likely represented the earliest surviving phases of the boundary, which had largely been removed by at least one relatively wide sloping re-cut (ditch re-cuts [1234], [1235], [1078], [1205] and [1236]). A total of three sherds of Saxon pottery, which were present within an upper fill (1186) of ditch 2, constituted the only associated datable material.

4.7 **Ditch 3**

4.7.1 Ditch 3 (features [1101], [1103] and [1105]) was present in the north-eastern part of the site for a length of approximately 10m and consisted of a northwest – southeast aligned ditch. A total of two sherds of 2nd to 4th century Roman pottery were recovered from ditch fill (1102).

4.8 **Ditch 4**

4.8.1 Ditch 4 (feature [1192]) was present in the north part of the site for a length of approximately 5m and consisted of a northwest – southeast aligned ditch, which terminated or dissipated at the southeast. No artefactual material was contained within the ditch.

4.9 **Ditch 5**

4.9.1 Ditch 5 (features [1039], [1056], [1062], [1070], [1072] and [1093]) was present in the central part of the site for a length of approximately 19m and consisted of a northeast – southwest aligned shallow, sinuous ditch, which terminated at the southwest and dissipated at the northeast. A single small sherd of Saxon pottery was recovered from ditch fill (1071).

4.10 Posthole/pit/ditch alignments

4.10.1 There was a total of five posthole/pit/ditch alignments within the site, as shown in Figure 17. The features had been cut into the top of the natural gravel and generally contained orange brown soil in-fills.

4.10.2 **Pit alignment 1** was approximately 10m long and consisted of seven tightly spaced rectangular, oval and circular pits ([1181], [1196], [1208], [1210], [1212], [1226] and [1239]), which were set on a northwest – southeast alignment. Pits [1181], [1196] and [1208] were stratigraphically later than the remains of a presumably related, very shallow gully ([1183] and [1194]), which was situated on a similar alignment. A group of postholes ([1214], [1216], [1218], [1228] and [1230]) was located at the southeast end of the pit alignment. These may have been associated with the pits, however, they consistently contained darker fills and therefore may have been unrelated. Although there was no direct stratigraphic relationship between pit alignment 1 and ditch 2, the ditch appeared to disrespect the presumably earlier pits. There was a general paucity of artefacts within the pits, however, three small sherds of probable Iron Age pottery were recovered from pit [1212].

4.10.3 **Pit alignment 2** was approximately 5m long and consisted of two probable linear pits ([1030] and [1033]), which were situated on a northeast – southwest alignment. Pit [1033] was possibly related to feature [1039] (ditch 5) at the northeast, although this remained uncertain. No artefacts were contained within the pits.

4.10.4 **Pit alignment 3** was approximately 3m long and consisted of two near vertically sided, flat based probably circular pits ([1008] and [1012]), which were situated on a northeast – southwest alignment. Pit [1008], which contained a single sherd of probable Iron Age pottery, was demonstrably earlier than posthole [1010].

4.10.5 **Pit alignment 4** was approximately 6m long and consisted of three evenly spaced rectangular and oval pits ([1089], [1241] and [1243]), which were set on a northwest – southeast alignment. A single sherd of probable early Prehistoric pottery was contained within pit [1089].

4.10.6 **Posthole/pit alignment 5** comprised a single posthole [1010], which possibly represented a continuation of C.A.T. posthole/pit alignment B. The posthole was devoid of artefacts; it was, however possible to demonstrate that it was stratigraphically later than Iron Age pit [1008].

4.11 Saxon settlement features

4.11.1 Two Saxon Sunken Featured Buildings (SFBs) were present in the central part of the site. These were associated with five nearby pit/posthole features.

4.11.2 **SFB 1** (Figure 9)

- 4.11.3 Sub-rectangular pit [1114] was 3.7m long, 3m wide and 0.45m in depth and was orientated northeast – southwest on its long axis. It had a relatively shallow, flat profile and was associated with a single posthole [1165] at its northeast end and two postholes [1169]/[1171] at the southwest.
- 4.11.4 The pit contained a thin basal deposit of loose gravel (1115), which was overlaid by soil in-fills (1116) and (1117). A large beige, possibly shaped stone block, which weighed 1666g, was present near the base of fill (1116). Given its stratigraphic location, it is likely that the block had been placed into the open pit at the beginning of the in-filling event. A total of fifty sherds of Saxon pottery, two oyster shell fragments and a Saxon bone weaving pick (Small Find 1, Appendix 8) were recovered from fill (1117). Fills (1116) and (1117) also yielded animal bone/teeth fragments, which represented cattle, sheep and bird, as well as three residual Prehistoric struck flints, which included an Early Bronze Age scraper.
- 4.11.5 The postholes [1165/69/71] present at either end of pit [1114] represented evidence for a former wooden super-structure and were thus consistent with the interpretation of the pit as an SFB. The postholes contained soil in-fills, which were broadly similar to the in-fills within the SFB pit. Postholes [1169] and [1171] probably represented evidence for modification or repair, although there was no direct stratigraphic evidence indicating which was the earlier feature. Two sub-circular shallow features ([1136] and [1137]) were present at the base of the SFB pit, towards the east. These features were too shallow to function as postholes and were therefore almost certainly natural divots. Posthole [1134] was cut into the top of SFB in-fill (1117), contained concrete and bone fragments and was therefore a Modern feature.
- 4.11.6 SFB 1 cut features [1118], [1120] and [1203]; all of which remained undated. It was uncertain if some or all of these features represented archaeological or natural features.

4.11.7 **SFB 2** (Figure 10)

- 4.11.8 Sub-rectangular pit [1146] was 3.95m long, 3.08m wide and 0.28m in depth. It was located approximately 3m to the northwest of SFB 1, on a similar northeast - southwest alignment. It had a relatively shallow, flat profile and was associated with a single posthole [1163]/[1199] at the northeast and southwest ends.
- 4.11.9 The pit contained a thin basal deposit of loose sand silt gravel (1158), which was overlaid by soil in-fill (1147). Fill (1158) contained a single sherd of Saxon pottery, whilst fill (1147) yielded one sherd of residual probable Iron Age pottery, along with a further 24 sherds of Saxon pottery and two crumbs of undiagnostic fired clay or pottery. A total of three sherds of Medieval pottery were also recorded within fill (1147); however, these are likely to be intrusive material, which was possibly incorporated into the fill of the SFB, as

a result of later plough action, represented by furrow [1138] (Figure 5). Fill (1147) yielded animal bone/teeth fragments, which comprised of a mixture of cattle, sheep, bird and equid. The (upper?) part of a cattle skull (1159) was also present within the fill (Figure 10, Sec 070). Fill (1147) also contained 11 fragments of angular grey stone, which ranged in weight between 78g to 1320g, as well as a large beige, shaped-and-faced stone block, which weighed 7090g.

4.11.10 The postholes [1163/99] present at either end of pit [1146] indicated that it had been associated with a wooden super-structure, which was consistent with the interpretation of the pit as the remains of an SFB. Similarly to SFB 1, the postholes contained soil in-fills, which were broadly equivalent to the in-fills within the SFB pit.

4.11.11 SFB 2 fill (1147) was cut into by furrow [1138] and a Modern posthole at the northeast.

4.11.12 **Pit [1220]** consisted of a northwest – southeast aligned, substantial sub-oval pit, which was 3.38m long by 1.19m wide. It was up to up to 0.50m deep at the southeast, where it had a gently sloping profile, whilst, at the northwest, it had a steep, shaft-like profile, which descended to a maximum depth of 1.54m below the top of the natural substrates. It contained four soil fills (1221), (1223), (1232) and (1233), the stratigraphically earliest of which (1233) possibly represented a slump deposit. A total of 61 sherds of Saxon pottery, along with a single residual sherd of probable Iron Age pottery, were recovered from fills (1221), (1223) and (1232). The pit also contained animal bone/teeth fragments, which represented cattle, sheep and pig remains, as well as a shell fragment, a single residual Prehistoric struck flint and part of an iron implement.

4.11.13 **Pits/Postholes [1143], [1151], [1154] and [1175]** were situated in close proximity to the SFBs and pit [1220] and were all associated with Saxon, as well as some residual Iron Age and Roman pottery. The features were generally shallow and there was no direct evidence related to their function; although, postholes [1154] and/or [1175] could possibly have been related to pit [1220]. Pits [1143] and [1151] contained animal bone/teeth, which represented cattle, sheep, pig and equid remains, whilst posthole [1154] yielded bone.

4.12 Other features

4.12.1 Numerous undated pits and possible postholes, which were present across the excavation area, are listed in Table 1. On the whole, these were generally dispersed features, which did not form any obvious or convincing patterning and were thus difficult to assign to any specific phase or type of activity. Postholes [1021] and [1027] had relatively similar deep profiles and fill sequences and were therefore possibly related, although, neither feature contained datable material. Postholes [1134] and [1224] were demonstrably Modern features.

Table 1: Undated pits and postholes

| Feature | Description | Feature | Description |
|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| [1024] | Pit | [1097] | Pit |
| [1042] | Pit | [1099] | Pit |
| [1045] | Pit | [1107] | Posthole |
| [1048] | Pit | [1109] | Pit |
| [1050] | Pit | [1111] | Posthole |
| [1052] | Pit | [1118] | Pit |
| [1054] | Pit | [1120] | Pit |
| [1060] | Pit | [1127] | Pit |
| [1064] | Pit | [1129] | Pit |
| [1074] | Posthole | [1132] | Pit |
| [1076] | Pit | [1140] | Posthole |
| [1081] | Posthole | [1160] | Pit |
| [1083] | Pit | [1167] | Pit |
| [1085] | Pit | [1178] | Posthole |
| [1087] | Pit | [1189] | Posthole |
| [1091] | Pit | [1201] | Posthole |
| [1095] | Posthole | [1203] | Pit |

4.13 The artefact assemblage included earlier Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval pottery, Prehistoric struck flints, animal bone (representing cattle, sheep/goat, pig, equid and domestic fowl), oyster shell, shaped and possibly faced building stones, an iron implement and a Saxon bone weaving pick. The skeletal remains of at least one, or possibly two, probable Prehistoric inhumations were also recovered.

4.14 The site yielded a moderate assemblage of charred plant remains. Probable Iron Age ditch 1 (feature [1004]/(1006)) yielded a single barley grain, whilst later Prehistoric pit alignment 1 (feature [1181]/(1182)) was associated with an apple seed and a wheat grain. Probable Roman ditch 3 (feature [1101]/(1102)) yielded a wheat grain.

4.14.1 Evidence for barley and wheat was recovered from both of the Saxon SFBs, as well as Saxon pits [1151] and [1220], and SFB 2 also contained wild/weed seeds. Wood charcoal was recovered from SFB 2, as well as pits [1151] and [1220].

4.15 A moderate assemblage of land snail shells was recovered from some of the features present within the site, including probable Iron Age ditch 1, later Prehistoric pit [1181] (Pit alignment 1) and SFB 2.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 On the whole, preservation conditions at the level of the natural, were moderate to good. Evidence for damage caused by former ploughing was present in the form of single furrow [1138], which had cut into the top of the

in-fill (1147) of a Saxon Sunken Featured Building (SFB 2). Modern disturbance was generally relatively localised and there was no evidence for significant truncation within the site.

5.2 Grave [1123]

5.2.1 On the basis of its location near to the Lechlade cursus and its associated crouched inhumation burial, grave [1123] almost certainly dates to the Prehistoric period. It is tempting to relate it to the two graved Beaker burials present in the previous adjacent Memorial Hall excavation (Thomas & Holbrook 1998), the closest of which (Burial 2) was located 17m to the southeast. However, grave [1123] did not contain Beaker pottery, or other grave goods, and its unusual gully-like basal profile was very distinct from the graves at the previous site. A recent nearby excavation at the location of the new Lechlade skatepark (Foundations Archaeology forthcoming) has revealed part of a Prehistoric ring ditch associated with five inhumations (as well as four cremations), three of which were essentially indistinguishable from burial (1124) and, likewise, were not associated with grave goods. On this basis, it is not currently possible to directly relate grave [1123] to the Beaker burials to the southeast.

5.2.2 At present it is only possible to confirm one burial within the grave, although bones (1125) may represent a part of a further inhumation. The occurrence of grave fill (1126) beneath and above the inhumation(s) suggested that the burial(s) were interred *during* the process of backfilling the grave pit, possibly as part of a formalised sequence, or burial rite.

5.3 Ditch 1

5.3.1 Ditch 1 was directly comparable, in terms of location, alignment and profile, with Iron Age ditch 12, present within the previous Memorial Hall excavation (hereafter C.A.T ditch 12); although, unlike C.A.T ditch 12, ditch 1 did not present any demonstrable evidence for re-cuts. An Iron Age date for the boundary was confirmed by the occurrence of a single sherd of probable Iron Age pottery from ditch 1.

5.4 Ditch 2

5.4.1 The relative locations and alignments of ditch 2 and ditch 1/C.A.T. ditch 12 suggested that they represented different phases of landscape boundary. It was not possible to demonstrate a stratigraphic relationship between ditch 2 and any other archaeological feature within the site; however, no feature was visibly cut through it and, as such, it is presumed that it was later than pit alignment 1 and ditch 5. The occurrence of three sherds of Saxon pottery in upper ditch fill (1186) would be consistent with a later, possibly Roman date for the ditch.

5.5 Ditch 3

5.5.1 Ditch 3 was clearly a continuation of C.A.T. ditch 32, which was present on a similar alignment, to the southeast. Ditch 3 was only partly present within the excavation area, however, a Roman date for the feature was suggested by the occurrence of later Roman pottery within ditch fill (1102). A Roman date for the ditch is supported by the fact that C.A.T. ditch 32 was later than C.A.T. Iron Age ditch 12.

5.6 Posthole/pit/ditch Alignments and Related Ditches

5.6.1 The posthole/pit/ditch alignments present within the excavation area were generally poorly dated, however, they are entirely consistent with Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age linear boundaries present within previous excavations in the vicinity of the site.

5.6.2 **Pit alignments 1 and 4, gully [1183]/[1194] and possibly ditch 4**, were similar to northwest – southeast aligned pit alignments/ditch boundaries, present in the Butler's Field and Gassons Road excavations, which were located between 260m and 160m to the northwest of the current site (Boyle *et al.* 1998, p6; King 1998, p273). A continuation of these northwest – southeast aligned boundary features is probably represented to the southeast of the current site by a linear gully and two related linear pits, which were present within the previous Memorial Hall excavation (Figure 17).

5.6.3 **Pit alignment 2** was perpendicular to pit alignments 1 and 4 and is therefore presumed to be related. **Ditch 5** may represent a somewhat sinuous continuation of this boundary to the northeast, which continued to approximately 7m south of the south-eastern end of pit alignment 4. A small sherd of Saxon pottery was associated with ditch 5, which may suggest a later date; however, the pottery was recovered from the ditch, where it intersected with ditch 2 (Sec 026: fill (1071)) and therefore may have been intrusive material.

5.6.4 **Pit alignment 3** was directly comparable to C.A.T. Iron Age pit alignment A, which was situated directly to the northwest of and parallel to C.A.T ditch 12. The morphology of pits [1008] and [1012] is similar to that of the pits in the previous excavation and is consistent with an interpretation that they represent a line of storage pits. A single sherd of pottery within pit [1008] concords with an Iron Age date for these features.

5.6.5 **Posthole/pit alignment 5** could be tentatively related to C.A.T. posthole/pit alignment B. It was later than Iron Age storage pit [1008], which was consistent with the evidence from the north of the site, where pit alignment 1 cut gully [1183]/[1194]. It is therefore possible to suggest that some of the linear posthole/pit/ditch alignments within the site had been re-instated, or modified, on at least one occasion. This is, again, entirely consistent with the evidence from Butler's Field and Gassons Road.

5.7 Saxon settlement

- 5.7.1 The morphology of pits [1114] and [1146] and their related postholes was entirely consistent with that to be expected of Saxon Sunken Featured Buildings - SFBs (Tipper 2004). This interpretation was strongly supported by the recovery of a total of 75 sherds of Saxon pottery and a Saxon bone weaving pick from the pit in-fills; although, some earlier, and later (intrusive) artefacts were also present. At this stage, on the basis of the associated Saxon pottery, it is only possible to suggest a broad Early to Middle Saxon date for the SFBs. In light of their proximity to each other and their similar alignments, the two features are likely to have been at least partly contemporary. As is commonly the case in the Thames Valley, there was no direct evidence related to the function of the buildings (Dodd 2014, p199).
- 5.7.2 A total of five nearby features, consisting of three pits and two postholes, were probably contemporary with the SFBs. On the whole, it was not possible to confidently identify functions for these features. However, pit [1220] appeared to have been intentionally dug to allow access from the south, which suggested that it may have been a water hole.
- 5.7.3 Both of the SFBs contained possibly shaped and, in one case, faced stone blocks. At present, these are not datable; however, there is a distinct possibility that they may have been provenanced from the former Roman villa, located to the north of the site. Evidence for similar activity was present within Grave 18 at Butler's Field cemetery, which contained probable re-used Roman building stones as grave fill, over a richly furnished coffined inhumation, which itself, was associated with part of a Roman altar fragment (Boyle *et al.* 1998, p61-63; Welch 1992, p58). Further evidence for placed, or symbolic deposits within the SFB pit fills was potentially present in the form of part of a cattle skull (1159) in SFB 2 fill (1147) and a small amount of Prehistoric struck flint in SFB 1 fills (1116) and (1117). The intentional incorporation of earlier, potentially curated cultural material, into Saxon SFB in-fills is a well-known phenomenon, which extends beyond the Thames Valley, across southern and eastern England (Spoerry 2007).
- 5.7.4 The Saxon SFBs at the current site are significant, in that they suggest that the Anglo-Saxon settlement activity present at Sherborne House (Bateman *et al.* 2003), located approximately 200m to the southwest, potentially extended across a substantial area, to the south/southeast of the known contemporary burial ground at Butler's Field. This accords well with the interpretation of the cropmarks in the recreation ground as SFBs (*ibid.*, p25). An Early to Middle Saxon pit at Spring Gardens (Foundations Archaeology 2015), approximately 150m to the south of the site, is likely to be further evidence of this settlement. The occurrence of SFBs this far north of the centre of Lechlade also lends weight to the interpretation of the post-built structure at Gassons Road (HER 13971) as a Saxon 'post-built hall', which, so far, has been problematic, due to a complete absence of Saxon artefacts from that site (King 1998). In relation to the evidence for Saxon activity in the area of the site, it should be noted that it is currently uncertain if this represents a large-scale, contiguous settlement,

as the potential for 'settlement drift' is widely recognised in relation to the Early Saxon period (Dodd 2014, p198).

- 5.8 Post Saxon features were limited to a single Medieval/Post-medieval furrow base, as well as dispersed Modern postholes and services, which were likely to be associated with the recreation ground and former Memorial Hall.
- 5.9 At present, site features have mostly been dated, where possible, by reference to their associated ceramics. Due to the general paucity of pottery, the majority of the on-site features were poorly dated; although, the Saxon SFBs and related pits/postholes appeared to represent a fairly cohesive and broadly dated feature group. Prehistoric struck flint was recovered from across the site, however, it occurred in very small amounts, and/or was present as residual material. On this basis, the struck flint was not considered to be a particularly reliable indicator of date for features. Animal bone was sparsely distributed across the site, although, the Saxon features generally contained a greater amount of material and there was some evidence for the formal deposition of animal remains in the fill of SFB 2.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The excavation has revealed significant archaeological remains. Prehistoric activity was represented by a single grave, as well as linear boundaries. The grave contained a probable Prehistoric crouched inhumation and possibly part of a further burial. It was probably related to the known later Neolithic and Bronze Age ceremonial and burial complex, centred on the Lechlade cursus. Numerous linear pit and posthole alignments, as well as related ditches, probably dated to the later Bronze Age – Iron Age. They were present on multiple alignments and there was evidence that at least some of them had been re-instated or modified on at least one occasion. These features are directly comparable to previously recorded later Bronze Age – Iron Age boundaries, which were present immediately to the east and up to 260m to the northwest of the site.
- 6.2 At least one, or possibly two ditches were later than the Prehistoric boundaries and possibly dated to the Roman period; although the dating of these features remained tentative. The general paucity of Roman artefacts within the excavation area indicated that the site was not likely to be located near to the focus of Roman settlement and, as such, the ditches most likely represented agricultural boundaries.
- 6.3 Evidence for Saxon settlement within the site was present in the form of two Sunken Featured Buildings, which were associated with a small number of pits and postholes. The Sunken Featured Buildings were situated adjacent to each other, on similar alignments and were therefore likely to have been at least partly contemporary. There was no direct evidence for activities associated with the Saxon features. Although presently only datable to the Early to Middle Saxon period, the settlement activity is probably related to the nearby Butler's Field Anglo-Saxon cemetery and possibly represents a continuation of

Saxon settlement recorded at Sherborne House, approximately 200m to the southwest of the site.

- 6.4 Post Saxon activity was limited to a single Medieval/Post-medieval furrow base, as well as dispersed Modern postholes and services.
- 6.5 The archaeological remains are clearly significant and warrant further analysis. The following sections set out the requirements to bring the site to appropriate publication.

7 NATURE OF THE RECORD

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

Context Sheets
Record Sheets
Plans
Sections
Black & White photographs
Digital photographs
Shapefile geospatial vector data

- 7.2 The following contexts types were represented:

Grave;
Inhumation;
Ditch/gully;
Pit;
Posthole;
SFB;
Furrow;
Fill.

- 7.3 The methodologies used to recover this evidence were set out in the WSI. In summary the following excavation methods were utilised. A mechanical excavator was used to remove overburden onto the surface of archaeological deposits, thereafter an appropriate sample of selected deposits was removed by manual excavation. All contexts were recorded on a pro-forma context sheet and principal deposits were drawn in plan and section. Further spatial data, as well as heights above Ordnance Datum, were captured digitally. These are available in the archive. Photographs were taken of all excavated features and sections.
- 7.4 Following the completion of the excavation an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with MoRPHE.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

8.1 Of the specific objectives set out in the WSI, the following have been achieved;

i/ to identify and define the nature of archaeological deposits on site and date these where possible. The archaeological features have been adequately identified and defined; however, due to a paucity of securely stratified artefactual evidence, the on-site Prehistoric and possible Roman activity was poorly dated, whilst the Saxon settlement activity was broadly dated to the Early to Middle Saxon period.

ii/ to attempt to characterise the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site. The nature of the archaeological sequence has been characterised as probable earlier Prehistoric burial activity, which was followed by later Prehistoric and possibly Roman boundaries. After this, there was Saxon settlement within the site, with later activity represented by Medieval/Post-medieval ploughing and Modern features. This sequence, along with its spatial patterning, was generally consistent with the known archaeological deposits in the vicinity of the site; although, the Saxon settlement evidence is further north than that previously known.

iii/ where possible to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples. The stratigraphic sequence is generally poorly dated; however, it has been possible to confidently relate it to the known archaeological deposits in the vicinity of the site. Coherent artefactual and environmental samples were recovered from probable Iron Age ditch 1 and the relatively well dated Saxon settlement features.

8.2 Updated project design

8.2.1 The inhumation(s) in grave [1123] should be subject to full specialist examination, as detailed in Appendix 4.

8.2.2 A radiocarbon determination should be obtained from skeleton (1124) in order to date the burial.

8.2.3 Subsequent to the above analysis, grave [1123] should be considered in relation to the nearby known burials, especially the two Beaker burials to the immediate east and the burials at the new skatepark site to the west.

8.2.4 Further analysis of material from the later-Prehistoric and possible Roman boundaries is unlikely to enhance the interpretation of these features in relation to their date or function. However, specialist analysis of land snail shells present within fills (1006) and (1182) has the potential to shed light on the environment associated with probable Iron Age ditch 1 (feature [1004]) and later Prehistoric pit alignment 1 (feature [1181]).

- 8.2.5 The later Prehistoric and possible Roman boundaries should be compared to the contemporary examples from previous excavations, along with the aerial photographic evidence. Particular consideration should be given to the extent of the numerous later Prehistoric pit-posthole-ditch boundary alignments in the wider landscape. Of relevance here are the boundary alignments present at Butler's Field and Gassons Road to the northwest and Sherborne House to the south.
- 8.2.6 Further analysis of the animal bones from the Saxon settlement features has the potential to yield meaningful information relating to the contemporary use of animals at the site and should, therefore, be undertaken as detailed in Appendix 5.
- 8.2.7 The charred plant remains and snail shells present within the Saxon settlement features have the potential to yield information relating to the contemporary environment, as well as the utilisation of crops and woodland/scrub. These samples should therefore be subject to further analysis, as detailed in Appendix 6.
- 8.2.8 The precise dating of Early Saxon settlement and associated pottery assemblages has been identified as a key research priority in the Solent-Thames Research Framework (Dodd & Crawford 2014, p228 and p230). The importance of identifying and dating evidence for '*ritual imbedded in daily life*' in the Saxon period has also been highlighted as a major research theme (*ibid.*, p231). It is, therefore, recommended that a radiocarbon determination be obtained from the cattle skull (1159) recovered from the in-fill of SFB 2. This should provide an absolute date for the presumed symbolic deposition of the animal skull and the associated Saxon pottery, as well as the 'closing' of the SFB.
- 8.2.9 Where possible, the shaped and possibly faced stones present within the SFB in-fills should be compared with the possibly re-used Roman building stones present within the Butler's Field cemetery.
- 8.2.10 An attempt should be made to identify the iron implement present within Saxon pit [1220]/(1223).
- 8.2.11 The Saxon settlement evidence should be compared and contrasted with the known Saxon sites in the vicinity, with particular attention given to the settlement evidence at Sherborne House, as well as Butler's Field cemetery.
- 8.2.12 The following artefacts should be illustrated and, where necessary, catalogued for the publication:
- i/ the Saxon bone weaving pick (Small Find 1);
 - ii/ the probable Saxon iron implement from pit fill (1223);
 - iii/ examples of shaped/faced stones from the SFB in-fills;
 - iv/ suitable pottery sherds.

8.2.13 The recovered ceramic and lithic assemblages have no potential for further analysis.

8.3 The results of the fieldwork justified the implementation of the excavation programme and the site is of sufficient quality to warrant a publication in *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* (TBGAS). It is proposed that the current site will form part of a combined publication report, incorporating the results of the recent new skatepark excavations (post excavation assessment report forthcoming), which were conducted under the auspices of the current WSI. The following section presents a considered policy for dissemination of the results, achieving:

- i/ the presentation of the results in a coherently synthesized and detailed format;
- ii/ the deposition of an ordered and internally consistent archive with Corinium Museum and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) archive.

9 PUBLICATION, PRESENTATION AND ARCHIVING

9.1 The following synopsis presents the proposed format for the final report:

Table of Contents

Abstract

Introduction

Background

Location and topography

Methodology

Excavated evidence

Site chronology and brief summary of stratigraphic evidence

Specialist reports

Synthesis

Discussion and Conclusion

Illustrations

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendices

9.2 The combined publication report has the potential to be relatively substantial and, as such, the number of pages and illustrations will be confirmed once the majority of post excavation analysis for both sites is complete. Any decisions regarding the level of detail and illustrations contained within the report will

be made in consultation with the County Archaeological Service and the editor of TBGAS.

- 9.3 A full OASIS record with attached report will be created.
- 9.4 Additionally, a full report of the excavations will be posted on the Internet at the Foundations Archaeology website (<http://www.foundations.co.uk>).
- 9.5 The digital site archive for the project will be submitted to ADS upon completion of the report.
- 9.6 The physical site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Corinium Museum.

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APPENDIX 1 – STRATIGRAPHIC DATA

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|-------------------|
| | | | | AREA 1: Up to 56m long by up to 43m wide by average 0.40m in depth. | | |
| | | | | Natural deposits = beige orange 'pea-grit' gravel with occasional beige limestone brash outcrops; Present at average 76.95m AOD. | | |
| 1001 | 56 | 43 | 0.25 | Topsoil; dark brown clay silt. | 1002 | 1003, 1245 |
| 1002 | 56 | 43 | 0.15 | Subsoil; mid brown clay silt, which contained occasional pea-grit. | natural | 1001 |
| 1003 | 44 | 2.5 | 0.25 | Modern mixed soil backfill. Only occurred at the southern edge of the excavation area. Entirely removed during machine strip. | 1001 | n/a |
| [1004] | 5 | 3.37 | 1.11 | Northeast - southwest aligned ditch with a wide, rounded and uneven profile. Contained fills 1005, 1006, 1007 and 1238. Part of Ditch 1. | natural | 1005, 1238 |
| 1005 | ? | 0.7 | 0.09 | Fill of ditch [1004]; dark grey brown loose gravel. Possible slump deposit. | [1004] | 1006 |
| | | | | Similar to fill 1238. | | |
| 1006 | ? | 1.76 | 0.51 | Fill of ditch [1004]; red brown clay silt gravel, which contained rare to occasional charcoal flecks. | 1005, 1238 | 1007 |
| 1007 | 5 | 3.26 | 0.61 | Fill of ditch [1004]; red brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks. | 1006 | 1003, service cut |
| [1008] | 1.54 | 1.35 | 0.48 | Sub-circular pit with near vertical, slightly undercut sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1009. Part of Pit Alignment 3. | natural | 1009 |
| 1009 | 1.54 | 1.35 | 0.48 | Fill of pit [1008]; orange brown clay silt gravel, which contained occasional charcoal flecks. | [1008] | [1010] |
| [1010] | 0.52 | 0.5 | 0.2 | Sub-circular posthole with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1011. Part of Posthole/Pit Alignment 5. | 1009 | 1011 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1011 | 0.52 | 0.5 | 0.2 | Fill of posthole [1010]; mid brown clay silt, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | [1010] | 1003 |
| [1012] | 1.34 | 0.43 | 0.48 | Probable sub-circular pit with near vertical, slightly undercut sides and a flat base. Similar to pit [1008]. Contained fills 1013 and 1014. Part of Pit | natural | 1013 |
| | | | | Alignment 3. | | |
| 1013 | ? | 1.28 | 0.07 | Fill of pit [1012]; dark grey loose pea-grit. | [1012] | 1014 |
| 1014 | 1.34 | 0.43 | 0.43 | Fill of pit [1012]; orange brown clay silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1013 | 1003 |
| [1015] | 0.4 | 0.37 | 0.16 | Sub-circular posthole with a rounded profile. Contained fills 1016 and 1017. Similar to posthole [1010]. | natural | 1016 |
| 1016 | ? | 0.36 | 0.06 | Fill of posthole [1015]; grey loose pea-grit. | [1015] | 1017 |
| 1017 | 0.4 | 0.37 | 0.1 | Fill of posthole [1015]; mid brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | 1016 | 1003 |
| [1018] | >0.80 | 0.28 | 0.12 | Base of north - south aligned ditch with steep sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1019. Part of Ditch 2. | natural | 1019 |
| 1019 | >0.80 | 0.28 | 0.12 | Fill of ditch [1018]; compact beige brown pea-grit and limestone fragments. | [1018] | [1234] |
| 1020 | >0.80 | 1.38 | 0.42 | Fill of ditch [1234]; compact variable red to orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1234] | 1003 |
| [1021] | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.67 | Sub-circular posthole with near vertical sides, which descended to a rounded base with a 'U' shaped post-setting at its approximate centre. Contained fills 1022 and 1023. Possibly related to posthole [1027]. | natural | 1022 |
| 1022 | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.67 | Post-packing fill within posthole [1021]; compact light brown clay silt gravel. Occurred around the edge and at the base of the posthole. Surrounded post-pipe 1023. | [1021] | 1023 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|--|------------|--------------|
| 1023 | 0.37 | 0.35 | 0.5 | Post-pipe within posthole [1021]; compact red brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. Surrounded by post-packing fill 1022. | 1022 | 1003 |
| [1024] | 0.82 | 0.8 | 0.15 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fills 1025 and 1026. | natural | 1025 |
| 1025 | ? | 0.63 | 0.07 | Fill of pit [1024]; dark brown clay silt gravel. | [1024] | 1026 |
| 1026 | 0.82 | 0.73 | 0.1 | Fill of pit [1024]; red brown clay silt gravel. | 1025 | 1002 |
| [1027] | 1 | 0.71 | 0.69 | Sub-oval posthole with steep sloping sides, which descended to a steep sided, 'U' shaped post-setting at its approximate centre. Contained fills 1028 and 1029. | natural | 1028 |
| 1028 | 1 | 0.71 | 0.69 | Probable post-packing fill within posthole [1027]; compact beige brown clay silt gravel. Occurred around the edge and at the base of the posthole. Surrounded probable post-pipe 1029. | [1027] | 1029 |
| 1029 | ? | 0.87 | 0.35 | Probable disturbed post-pipe within posthole [1027]; compact red brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. Surrounded by post-packing fill 1028. | 1028 | 1003 |
| [1030] | 1.5 | 0.52 | 0.2 | North-northeast - south-southwest aligned linear cut feature, probably a pit, with a rounded profile. Similar to pit [1033]. Contained fills 1031 and 1032. | natural | 1031 |
| | | | | Part of Pit Alignment 2. | | |
| 1031 | ? | 0.52 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1030]; beige brown silt gravel. | [1030] | 1032 |
| 1032 | 1.5 | 0.46 | 0.1 | Fill of pit [1030]; red brown clay silt. | 1031 | 1002 |
| [1033] | 2.4 | 0.62 | 0.26 | North-northeast - south-southwest aligned linear pit with a rounded profile. Contained fills 1034 and 1035. Part of Pit Alignment 2. | natural | 1034 |
| 1034 | ? | 0.62 | 0.21 | Fill of pit [1033]; grey brown loose pea-grit. | [1033] | 1035 |
| 1035 | ? | 0.62 | 0.11 | Fill of pit [1033]; red brown clay silt, which contained occasional pea-grit. | 1034 | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|--|------------|--------------|
| [1036] | >1.35 | 1.1 | 0.43 | North - south aligned ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Contained | natural | 1037 |
| | | | | fill 1037. Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| 1037 | >1.35 | 1.1 | 0.1 | Fill of ditch [1036]; beige compact pea-grit. | [1036] | [1235] |
| 1038 | >1.35 | 0.89 | 0.37 | Fill of ditch [1235]; red brown sand silt gravel. | [1235] | 1002 |
| [1039] | >0.45 | 0.64 | 0.14 | North-northeast - south-southwest aligned curvilinear ditch with a shallow, | natural | 1040 |
| | | | | rounded profile. Contained fills 1040 and 1041. Terminated at the | | |
| | | | | south - southwest. Part of ditch 5. | | |
| 1040 | >0.45 | 0.62 | 0.03 | Fill of ditch [1039]; dark grey brown silt pea-grit. | [1039] | 1041 |
| 1041 | >0.45 | 0.62 | 0.12 | Fill of ditch [1039]; orange brown silt sand gravel. | 1040 | 1002 |
| [1042] | 0.76 | 0.5 | 0.15 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fills 1043 and 1044. | natural | 1043 |
| 1043 | ? | 0.75 | 0.08 | Fill of pit [1042]; dark grey pea-grit. | [1042] | 1044 |
| 1044 | 0.69 | 0.5 | 0.09 | Fill of pit [1042]; red brown silt gravel. | 1043 | 1002 |
| [1045] | 0.58 | 0.43 | 0.13 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fills 1046 and 1047. | natural | 1046 |
| 1046 | ? | 0.38 | 0.03 | Fill of pit [1045]; grey pea-grit. | [1045] | 1047 |
| 1047 | 0.58 | 0.43 | 0.1 | Fill of pit [1045]; red brown clay silt gravel. | 1046 | 1002 |
| [1048] | 2.38 | 1.05 | 0.27 | Amorphous pit with a rounded, irregular profile. Contained fill 1049. | natural | 1049 |
| 1049 | 2.38 | 1.05 | 0.27 | Fill of pit [1048]; orange brown clay silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal | [1048] | 1002 |
| | | | | flecks. | | |
| [1050] | 1.43 | 0.5 | 0.19 | Sub-oval pit with a rounded, irregular profile. Contained fill 1051. | natural | 1051 |
| 1051 | 1.43 | 0.05 | 0.19 | Fill of pit [1050]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1050] | 1002 |
| [1052] | 0.72 | 0.68 | 0.11 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1053. | natural | 1053 |
| 1053 | 0.72 | 0.68 | 0.11 | Fill of pit [1052]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1052] | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1054] | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.12 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1055. | natural | 1055 |
| 1055 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1054]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1054] | 1002 |
| [1056] | >2.0 | 0.8 | 0.15 | Northeast - southwest aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. | natural | 1057 |
| | | | | Contained fill 1057. Part of Ditch 5. | | |
| 1057 | >2.0 | 0.8 | 0.15 | Fill of ditch [1056]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1056] | 1002 |
| 1058 | >1.55 | 1.6 | 0.42 | Fill of ditch [1236]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1236] | 1002 |
| 1059 | >1.55 | 0.44 | 0.18 | Fill of ditch [1246]; beige brown compact silt gravel. | [1246] | [1236] |
| [1060] | 0.59 | 0.55 | 0.12 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1061. | natural | 1061 |
| 1061 | 0.59 | 0.55 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1060]; mid brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel, rare charcoal flecks and a fragment of bone. | [1060] | 1002 |
| [1062] | >1.1 | 0.4 | 0.05 | Northeast - southwest aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. | natural | 1063 |
| | | | | Contained fill 1063. Part of Ditch 5. | | |
| 1063 | >1.1 | 0.4 | 0.05 | Fill of ditch [1062]; mid brown sand clay gravel. | [1062] | 1002 |
| [1064] | 0.78 | 0.53 | 0.09 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1065. | natural | 1065 |
| 1065 | 0.78 | 0.53 | 0.09 | Fill of pit [1064]; brown clay silt, which contained occasional grey, angular stone fragments. | [1064] | 1002 |
| [1066] | >1.45 | 1.23 | 0.53 | North - south aligned ditch with irregular sloping sides, which descended to a 'U' shaped base. Contained fills 1067, 1068 and 1069. Part of Ditch 2. | natural | 1067 |
| 1067 | >1.45 | 1.03 | 0.26 | Fill of ditch [1066]; variable beige brown clay sand gravel. | [1066] | 1068 |
| 1068 | >1.45 | 1.09 | 0.09 | Fill of ditch [1066]; variable compact beige pink sand gravel. | 1067 | 1069 |
| 1069 | >1.45 | 1.23 | 0.2 | Fill of ditch [1066]; red brown soft clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | 1068 | 1002 |
| | | | | Stratigraphically indistinguishable from fill 1071. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1070] | >1.45 | 0.24 | 0.1 | North-northeast - south-southwest aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1071. Part of Ditch 5. | natural | 1071 |
| 1071 | >1.45 | 0.24 | 0.1 | Fill of ditch [1070]; red orange brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | [1070] | 1002 |
| [1072] | >0.60 | 0.6 | 0.15 | Northeast - southwest aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1073. Part of Ditch 5. | natural | 1073 |
| 1073 | >0.60 | 0.6 | 0.15 | Fill of ditch [1072]; orange brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | [1072] | 1002 |
| [1074] | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.21 | Sub-circular posthole with a steep, rounded profile. Contained fill 1075. | natural | 1075 |
| 1075 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.21 | Fill of posthole [1074]; dark brown grey clay silt, which contained occasional gravel, as well as rare charcoal flecks. | [1074] | 1002 |
| [1076] | 0.85 | 0.6 | 0.14 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1077. | natural | 1077 |
| 1077 | 0.85 | 0.6 | 0.14 | Fill of pit [1076]; orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1076] | 1002 |
| [1078] | >1.3 | 1.63 | 0.41 | North - south aligned ditch with a wide, rounded profile. Contained fills 1079 and 1080. Part Ditch 2. | 1248 | 1079 |
| 1079 | >1.3 | 1.38 | 0.23 | Fill of ditch [1078]; light brown orange clay silt gravel. | [1078] | 1080 |
| 1080 | >1.3 | 1.63 | 0.18 | Fill of ditch [1078]; red brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | 1079 | 1002 |
| [1081] | 0.32 | 0.23 | 0.22 | Sub-oval posthole with near vertical sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1082. | natural | 1082 |
| 1082 | 0.32 | 0.23 | 0.22 | Fill of posthole [1081]; dark brown clay silt gravel. | [1081] | 1002 |
| [1083] | 0.77 | 0.63 | 0.13 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1084. | natural | 1084 |
| 1084 | 0.77 | 0.63 | 0.13 | Fill of pit [1083]; orange red brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | [1083] | 1002 |
| [1085] | 1.05 | 0.47 | 0.18 | Cut feature, probably a pit, with a shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1086. | natural | 1086 |
| 1086 | 1.05 | 0.47 | 0.18 | Fill of pit [1085]; red orange brown clay silt, which contained occasional gravel. | [1085] | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1087] | 1.43 | 0.98 | 0.24 | Sub-circular pit with a possible shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1088. | natural | 1088 |
| 1088 | 1.43 | 0.98 | 0.24 | Fill of pit [1087]; red orange brown clay silt gravel. | [1087] | 1002 |
| [1089] | 2.22 | 0.63 | 0.25 | Northwest - southeast aligned linear pit, with a regular, 'U' shaped profile. | natural | 1090 |
| | | | | Contained fill 1090. Part of Pit Alignment 4. | | |
| 1090 | 2.22 | 0.63 | 0.25 | Fill of pit [1089]; red brown sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal | [1089] | 1002 |
| | | | | flecks. | | |
| [1091] | 0.9 | 0.71 | 0.18 | Sub-oval pit with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1092. Uncertain | natural | 1092 |
| | | | | stratigraphic relationship with pit [1109]. | | |
| 1092 | 0.9 | 0.71 | 0.18 | Fill of pit [1091]; red brown sand clay gravel. | [1091] | 1002 |
| [1093] | 1.2 | 0.4 | 0.15 | North-northeast - south-southwest aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded | natural | 1094 |
| | | | | profile. Terminated at the north-northeast. Contained fill 1094. Part of | | |
| | | | | Ditch 5. | | |
| 1094 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 0.15 | Fill of ditch [1093]; light brown sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal | [1093] | 1002 |
| | | | | flecks. | | |
| [1095] | 0.28 | 0.17 | 0.17 | Sub-oval posthole with near vertical sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1096. | natural | 1096 |
| 1096 | 0.28 | 0.17 | 0.17 | Fill of posthole [1095]; grey brown loose clay sand gravel, which contained rare | [1095] | 1002 |
| | | | | charcoal flecks. | | |
| [1097] | 0.75 | 0.28 | 0.12 | Sub-oval pit with a steep, shallow rounded profile. Contained fill 1098. | natural | 1098 |
| 1098 | 0.75 | 0.28 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1097]; brown clay silt gravel. | [1097] | 1002 |
| [1099] | 1.45 | 0.7 | 0.21 | Sub-oval pit with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1100. | natural | 1100 |
| 1100 | 1.45 | 0.7 | 0.21 | Fill of pit [1099]; orange brown clay silt sand, which contained occasional gravel. | [1099] | 1002 |
| [1101] | >0.90 | 0.6 | 0.35 | Northwest - southeast aligned ditch with a sloping southern edge. Contained | natural | 1102 |
| | | | | fill 1102. Part of Ditch 3. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1102 | >0.90 | 0.6 | 0.35 | Fill of ditch [1101]; light orange brown very compact clay silt gravel. | [1101] | 1002 |
| [1103] | >0.40 | 0.77 | 0.27 | Northwest - southeast aligned ditch with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1104. | natural | 1104 |
| | | | | Part of Ditch 3. | | |
| 1104 | >0.40 | 0.77 | 0.27 | Fill of ditch [1103]; brown orange clay silt gravel. | [1103] | 1002 |
| [1105] | >1.20 | 0.83 | 0.27 | Northwest - southeast aligned ditch with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1106. | natural | 1106 |
| | | | | Part of Ditch 3. | | |
| 1106 | >1.20 | 0.83 | 0.27 | Fill of ditch [1105]; brown orange clay silt gravel. | [1105] | 1002 |
| [1107] | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.21 | Sub-circular posthole with a steep, rounded profile. Contained fill 1108. | natural | 1108 |
| 1108 | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.21 | Fill of posthole [1107]; orange brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare | [1107] | 1002 |
| | | | | charcoal flecks. | | |
| [1109] | 1 | 1 | 0.21 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1110. | natural | 1110 |
| 1110 | 1 | 1 | 0.21 | Fill of pit [1109]; orange brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare | [1109] | 1002 |
| | | | | charcoal flecks. | | |
| [1111] | 0.5 | 0.45 | 0.27 | Sub-circular posthole with near vertical sides and a flat base. Contained fills | natural | 1112 |
| | | | | 1112 and 1113. | | |
| 1112 | ? | 0.41 | 0.1 | Fill of posthole [1111]; grey brown loose gravel. | [1111] | 1113 |
| 1113 | 0.5 | 0.45 | 0.17 | Fill of posthole [1111]; orange brown clay sand gravel. | 1112 | 1245 |
| [1114] | 3.7 | 3 | 0.45 | Northeast - southwest aligned sub-rectangular pit with generally steep sloping | 1119, 1122, | 1115 |
| | | | | sides and a relatively flat base. SFB 1. Associated with postholes [1165], | 1204 | |
| | | | | [1169] and [1171], as well as possible postholes [1136] and [1137]. Equivalent | | |
| | | | | to pit [1146]/SFB 2. Contained fills 1115, 1116 and 1117. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|--|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1115 | 3.02 | 2.76 | 0.08 | Primary fill of SFB 1; grey brown loose gravel. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with posthole [1165]/1166. | [1114], [1136], [1137] | 1116 |
| 1116 | 3.5 | 1.34 | 0.35 | Secondary fill of SFB 1; beige brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks, as well as occasional large limestones. Indistinguishable from 1170. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with posthole [1165]/1166. | 1115, 1172 | 1117 |
| 1117 | 3.22 | 2.92 | 0.38 | Tertiary fill of SFB 1; orange brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1116 | [1134], 1002 |
| [1118] | 1.1 | 0.86 | 0.13 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, flat to uneven profile. Contained fill 1119. | natural | 1119 |
| 1119 | 1.1 | 0.86 | 0.13 | Fill of pit [1118]; orange brown clay sand gravel. | [1118] | [1114] |
| [1120] | 2.8 | 0.81 | 0.3 | Northwest - southeast aligned sinuous linear pit, with a steep, rounded and uneven profile. Contained fills 1121 and 1122. | natural | 1121 |
| 1121 | 2.8 | 0.7 | 0.14 | Fill of pit [1120]; grey brown loose gravel. | [1120] | 1122 |
| 1122 | 2.8 | 0.81 | 0.2 | Fill of pit [1120]; brown plastic clay, which contained occasional gravel. | 1121 | [1114] |
| [1123] | 1.08 | 1.02 | 0.21 | Sub-circular grave comprising an annular gully with a 'U' shaped profile, which enclosed a central dome of natural gravel. Contained skeleton(s?) (1124) and ?(1125), as well as grave fill (1126). Associated with probable divot [1237]. | natural | 1124, 1125, 1126 |
| 1124 | 0.6 | 0.35 | ? | Inhumation within grave [1123]; skeleton in a tightly flexed crouched position, facing east, head at north. Associated with bones 1125. Skeleton 1124 was situated on top of the mostly in-filled annular gully, directly above the natural dome at the centre of the base of the grave. | [1123] | 1002 |
| 1125 | 0.07 | 0.06 | ? | Small group of bone fragments, which were located on top of the mostly in-filled annular gully at the base of grave [1123], to the east of skeleton 1124. | [1123] | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1126 | 1.08 | 1.02 | 0.21 | Fill of grave [1123] and divot [1237]; orange brown clay silt gravel. Occurred | [1123], | 1002 |
| | | | | beneath and above skeleton 1124 and bones 1125. | [1237] | |
| [1127] | 1.3 | 0.66 | 0.09 | Sub-oval pit with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1128. | natural | 1128 |
| 1128 | 1.3 | 0.66 | 0.09 | Fill of pit [1127]; orange brown clay sand gravel. | [1127] | 1245 |
| [1129] | 0.72 | 0.54 | 0.27 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, uneven profile. Contained fills 1130 and 1131. | natural | 1130 |
| 1130 | ? | 0.64 | 0.17 | Fill of pit [1129]; grey brown loose gravel. | [1129] | 1131 |
| 1131 | 0.72 | 0.54 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1129]; orange brown plastic clay silt, which contained rare charcoal | 1130 | 1245 |
| | | | | flecks. | | |
| [1132] | 0.58 | 0.56 | 0.13 | Sub-circular pit with a shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1133. | natural | 1133 |
| 1133 | 0.58 | 0.56 | 0.13 | Fill of pit [1132]; orange brown plastic clay silt. | [1132] | 1245 |
| [1134] | 0.27 | 0.24 | 0.22 | Sub-circular posthole with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Contained | 1117 | 1135 |
| | | | | fill 1135. | | |
| 1135 | 0.27 | 0.24 | 0.22 | Fill of posthole [1134]; dark brown loose silt sand, which contained two | [1134] | 1001 |
| | | | | fragments of concrete and a fragment of bone. Modern fill. | | |
| [1136] | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.15 | Sub-circular feature with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1115. | natural | 1115 |
| [1137] | 0.28 | 0.22 | 0.12 | Sub-circular feature with a shallow, irregular profile. Contained fill 1115. | natural | 1115 |
| [1138] | 9 | 1.6 | 0.09 | Northwest - southeast aligned probable furrow base with a wide, shallow | 1147 | 1139 |
| | | | | rounded profile. Contained fill 1139. | | |
| 1139 | 9 | 1.6 | 0.09 | Fill of furrow [1138]; dark brown friable sand silt. | [1138] | 1245 |
| [1140] | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.18 | Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, irregular profile. Contained fills 1141 | natural | 1141 |
| | | | | and 1142. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1141 | ? | 0.4 | 0.13 | Fill of posthole [1140]; loose grey gravel. | [1140] | 1142 |
| 1142 | 0.45 | 0.45 | 0.07 | Fill of posthole [1140]; mid brown soft clay sand. | 1141 | 1245 |
| [1143] | 3.2 | 1.7 | 0.32 | Sub-oval pit with a rounded, uneven profile. Contained fills 1144 and 1145. | natural | 1144 |
| 1144 | 3.2 | ? | 0.07 | Fill of pit [1143]; dark grey loose gravel. | [1143] | 1145 |
| 1145 | 3.1 | 1.7 | 0.29 | Fill of pit [1143]; orange brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1144 | 1245 |
| [1146] | 3.95 | 3.08 | 0.28 | Northeast - southwest aligned sub-rectangular pit with generally sloping sides and a relatively flat base. SFB 2 . Associated with postholes [1163] and [1199]. Similar to pit [1114]/SFB1. Contained fills 1147, 1158 and 1159. | natural | 1158 |
| 1147 | 3.53 | 3.06 | 0.28 | Secondary fill of SFB 2; mid brown silt sand, which contained occasional gravel, along with rare charcoal flecks. Indistinguishable from fills 1164 and 1200. Contained bone deposit 1159. | 1158 | [1138] |
| [1148] | 0.9 | 0.62 | 0.39 | Sub-oval pit with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Contained fills 1149 and 1150. | natural | 1149 |
| 1149 | ? | 0.54 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1148]; dark grey brown compact sand silt gravel. | [1148] | 1150 |
| 1150 | 0.9 | 0.62 | 0.28 | Fill of pit [1148]; dark orange brown clay silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1149 | 1245 |
| [1151] | 2.05 | 1.35 | 0.44 | Amorphous pit with a rounded, uneven profile. Contained fills 1152 and 1153. | natural | 1152 |
| 1152 | ? | 1.42 | 0.13 | Fill of pit [1151]; grey loose gravel. | [1151] | 1153 |
| 1153 | 2.05 | 1.35 | 0.32 | Fill of pit [1151]; mid brown soft clay sand gravel, which contained occasional to frequent charcoal flecks. | 1152 | 1245 |
| [1154] | 0.71 | 0.6 | 0.29 | Sub-circular posthole with a steep, rounded profile. Contained fills 1155, 1156 and 1157. | natural | 1155 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1155 | ? | 0.51 | 0.12 | Fill of posthole [1154]; grey loose gravel. | [1154] | 1156 |
| 1156 | ? | 0.26 | 0.18 | Fill of posthole [1154]; orange brown compact clay sand gravel, which occurred at the southern half of the posthole. Possible post-packing fill. | 1155 | 1157 |
| 1157 | ? | 0.33 | 0.18 | Fill of posthole [1154]; tan brown soft clay sand, which occurred at the northern half of the posthole. Possible post-pipe. | 1156 | 1245 |
| 1158 | ? | 0.81 | 0.09 | Primary deposit of red brown loose sand silt gravel, which contained occasional fragments of beige limestone, along with occasional charcoal flecks and flecks of red brown possible clay daub. Situated at the base of SFB 2, immediately to the southwest of posthole [1163]. | [1146] | 1147 |
| 1159 | 0.22 | 0.2 | 0.05 | Probable cattle skull, which was contained within SFB 2 fill 1147. | 1158 | [1138] |
| [1160] | 2.58 | 0.85 | 0.52 | Cut feature, probably a pit, with a rounded, uneven profile. Contained fills 1161 and 1162. | natural | 1161 |
| 1161 | ? | 1.66 | 0.3 | Fill of pit [1160]; light grey brown compact sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | [1160] | 1162 |
| 1162 | 2.09 | 0.85 | 0.5 | Fill of pit [1160]; light orange brown compact sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1161 | 1245 |
| [1163] | 0.45 | 0.41 | 0.3 | Sub-circular posthole with a near vertical north edge, a sloping south edge and a rounded base. Contained fill 1164. Situated at the north-eastern edge of SFB 2. | natural | 1164 |
| 1164 | 0.45 | 0.41 | 0.3 | Fill of posthole [1163]; mid brown silt sand, which contained occasional gravel and patches of beige sand. Possibly equivalent to fill 1147. | [1163] | [1138] |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1165] | 0.35 | 0.33 | 0.43 | Sub-circular posthole with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Contained fill 1166. Situated at the north-eastern edge of SFB 1. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with 1115 and 1116. | natural | 1166 |
| 1166 | 0.35 | 0.33 | 0.43 | Fill of posthole [1165]; dark brown soft silt sand, which contained occasional lenses of gravel. Uncertain relationship with 1115 and 1116. | [1165] | ? |
| [1167] | 0.72 | 0.46 | 0.15 | Sub-oval pit with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1168. | natural | 1168 |
| 1168 | 0.72 | 0.46 | 0.15 | Fill of pit [1167]; light brown sand silt gravel. | [1167] | 1245 |
| [1169] | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.21 | Sub-circular posthole with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Contained fill 1170. Situated at the southwest end of SFB 1, adjacent to posthole [1171]. | natural | 1170 |
| 1170 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.21 | Fill of posthole [1169]; light brown beige soft silt sand gravel. Indistinguishable from 1116. | [1169] | ? |
| [1171] | 0.22 | 0.16 | 0.26 | Sub-oval posthole with near vertical sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1172. Situated at the southwest edge of SFB 1, adjacent to posthole [1169]. | natural | 1172 |
| 1172 | 0.22 | 0.16 | 0.26 | Fill of posthole [1171]; dark brown soft silt sand gravel. | [1171] | 1116 |
| 1173 | | | | Void. | | |
| 1174 | | | | Void. | | |
| [1175] | 0.37 | 0.34 | 0.2 | Sub-circular posthole with steep sides and a flat base. Contained fills 1176 and 1177. | natural | 1176 |
| 1176 | ? | 0.11 | 0.17 | Fill of posthole [1175]; orange brown compact clay sand gravel, which occurred at the northern half of the posthole. Possible post-packing fill. | [1175] | 1177 |
| 1177 | ? | 0.23 | 0.2 | Fill of posthole [1175]; tan brown soft clay sand, which occurred at the southern half of the posthole. Possible post-pipe. | 1176 | 1245 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|--|---------------|-------------------|
| [1178] | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.11 | Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fills 1179 and 1180. | natural | 1179 |
| 1179 | ? | 0.31 | 0.09 | Fill of posthole [1178]; dark red grey compact sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | [1178] | 1180 |
| 1180 | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.02 | Fill of posthole [1178]; dark brown red silt sand clay gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1179 | 1002 |
| [1181] | 1.2 | 0.59 | 0.28 | Sub-rectangular pit with regular, steep sloping sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1182. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | 1184, 1195 | 1182 |
| 1182 | 1.2 | 0.59 | 0.28 | Fill of pit [1181]; orange brown silt sand, which contained occasional gravel. | [1181] | 1002 |
| [1183] | 0.6 | 0.24 | 0.03 | Northwest - southeast aligned linear cut feature, possibly a gully, with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1184. Equivalent to possible gully [1194]. | natural | 1184 |
| 1184 | 0.6 | 0.24 | 0.03 | Fill of possible gully [1183]; dark brown loose gravel. | [1183] | [1181], [1208] |
| [1185] | >1.1 | 1.8 | 0.67 | North - south aligned ditch with a wide, rounded profile. Contained fills 1186, 1187 and 1188. Part of Ditch 2. | natural | 1188 |
| 1186 | ? | 1.8 | 0.27 | Fill of ditch [1185]; dark brown orange compact sand silt clay, which contained rare charcoal flecks and occasional gravel. | 1187 | 1002 |
| 1187 | ? | 1.3 | 0.25 | Fill of ditch [1185]; beige grey compact sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | 1188 | 1186 |
| 1188 | ? | 0.6 | 0.19 | Fill of ditch [1185]; orange brown sand silt gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | [1185] | 1187 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1189] | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.13 | Sub-circular posthole with a rounded profile. Contained fills 1190 and 1191. | natural | 1190 |
| 1190 | ? | 0.29 | 0.08 | Fill of posthole [1189]; loose brown gravel. | [1189] | 1191 |
| 1191 | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.06 | Fill of posthole [1189]; orange brown soft clay sand. | 1190 | 1002 |
| [1192] | 4.73 | 0.84 | 0.13 | Northwest - southeast aligned ditch with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained | natural | 1193 |
| | | | | fill 1193. Dissipated at the southeast. Part of Ditch 4. | | |
| 1193 | 4.73 | 0.84 | 0.13 | Fill of ditch [1192]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel. | [1192] | 1002 |
| [1194] | 0.5 | 0.31 | 0.05 | Northwest - southeast aligned linear cut feature, possibly a gully, with a | natural | 1195 |
| | | | | shallow profile. Contained fill 1195. Equivalent to possible gully [1183]. | | |
| 1195 | 0.5 | 0.31 | 0.05 | Fill of possible gully [1194]; dark grey loose gravel. | [1194] | [1181], |
| | | | | | | [1196] |
| [1196] | 1.3 | 0.85 | 0.32 | Sub-oval pit with regular, steep sloping sides and a flat base. Contained fills | 1195 | 1197 |
| | | | | 1197 and 1198. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | | |
| 1197 | 1.2 | 0.85 | 0.21 | Fill of pit [1196]; variable brown to beige brown clay sand gravel. | [1196] | 1198 |
| 1198 | 1.3 | 0.85 | 0.11 | Fill of pit [1196]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel. | 1197 | 1002 |
| [1199] | 0.43 | 0.3 | 0.42 | Sub-oval posthole with near vertical sides and a rounded base. Contained fill | natural | 1200 |
| | | | | 1200. Situated at the southwestern edge of SFB 2. | | |
| 1200 | 0.43 | 0.3 | 0.42 | Fill of posthole [1199]; brown silt sand gravel, which contained rare charcoal | [1199] | [1138] |
| | | | | flecks. Indistinguishable from fill 1147. | | |
| [1201] | 0.38 | 0.26 | 0.1 | Sub-oval posthole with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1202. | natural | 1202 |
| 1202 | 0.38 | 0.26 | 0.01 | Fill of posthole [1201]; light brown beige silt sand gravel. | [1201] | 1245 |
| [1203] | 0.55 | 0.48 | 0.14 | Sub-circular cut feature, probably a pit, with a shallow, flat profile. Contained | natural | 1204 |
| | | | | fill 1204. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1204 | 0.55 | 0.48 | 0.14 | Fill of pit [1203]; mid brown clay sand gravel. | [1203] | [1114] |
| [1205] | >1 | 1.4 | 0.5 | North - south aligned ditch with a wide, rounded to uneven profile. Contained fills 1207 and 1250. Part of Ditch 2. | 1206 | 1207 |
| 1206 | >1 | 0.27 | 0.2 | Fill of ditch [1249]; mid brown clay sand gravel. | [1249] | [1205] |
| 1207 | >1 | 1.12 | 0.33 | Fill of ditch [1205]; variable beige brown clay sand gravel. | [1205] | 1250 |
| [1208] | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.32 | Sub-rectangular pit with steep sloping sides and a relatively flat base. Contained fill 1209. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | 1184 | 1209 |
| 1209 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.32 | Fill of pit [1208]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks. Indistinguishable from fill 1211. | [1208] | 1002 |
| [1210] | 0.7 | 0.64 | 0.12 | Sub-square pit with a shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1211. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | natural | 1211 |
| 1211 | 0.7 | 0.64 | 0.12 | Fill of pit [1210]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel. Indistinguishable from fills 1209 and 1213. | [1210] | 1002 |
| [1212] | 0.65 | 0.6 | 0.22 | Sub-square pit with steep sides and a slightly rounded base. Contained fill 1213. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | natural | 1213 |
| 1213 | 0.65 | 0.06 | 0.22 | Fill of pit [1212]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks. Indistinguishable from fills 1211 and 1240. | [1212] | 1002 |
| [1214] | 0.35 | 0.28 | 0.19 | Sub-oval posthole with a shallow, rounded and slightly uneven profile. Contained fill 1215. | natural | 1215 |
| 1215 | 0.35 | 0.28 | 0.19 | Fill of posthole [1214]; dark orange brown clay sand gravel, which contained rare charcoal flecks. | [1214] | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1216] | 0.33 | 0.3 | 0.13 | Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1217. | natural | 1217 |
| 1217 | 0.33 | 0.3 | 0.13 | Fill of posthole [1216]; dark orange brown clay sand gravel. | [1216] | 1002 |
| [1218] | 0.23 | 0.25 | 0.14 | Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1219. | natural | 1219 |
| 1219 | 0.23 | 0.25 | 0.14 | Fill of posthole [1218]; dark orange brown clay sand gravel, with rare charcoal flecks. | [1218] | 1002 |
| [1220] | 3.38 | 1.9 | 1.54 | Substantial northwest - southeast aligned linear pit with a relatively shallow, sloping profile at the southeast and a steep, shaft-like profile at the northwest. Contained fills 1221, 1223, 1232 and 1233. | natural | 1233 |
| 1221 | 3 | ? | 0.8 | Tertiary fill of pit [1220]; mid grey brown clay sand silt, which contained occasional to frequent charcoal flecks. | 1232 | 1223 |
| 1222 | | | | Void. | | |
| 1223 | 3.38 | 1.9 | 0.79 | Upper fill of pit [1220]; dark orange brown silt sand gravel, which contained rare gravel. | 1221 | [1224] |
| [1224] | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.09 | Sub-circular posthole with a shallow, rounded profile. Contained fill 1225. | 1223 | 1225 |
| 1225 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.09 | Fill of posthole [1224]; black loose clay silt. Probably re-deposited Modern topsoil. | [1224] | 1245 |
| [1226] | 0.6 | 0.53 | 0.29 | Sub-circular pit with regular steep sloping sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1227. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | natural | 1227 |
| 1227 | 0.6 | 0.53 | 0.29 | Fill of pit [1226]; red brown silt sand, which contained occasional gravel. | [1226] | 1002 |
| [1228] | 0.3 | 0.26 | 0.21 | Sub-circular posthole with steep sloping sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1229. | natural | 1229 |
| 1229 | 0.3 | 0.26 | 0.21 | Fill of posthole [1228]; dark orange brown silt sand, which contained gravel. | [1228] | 1002 |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|-------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| [1230] | 0.25 | 0.22 | 0.2 | Sub-circular posthole with steep sloping sides and a rounded base. | natural | 1231 |
| | | | | Contained fill 1231. | | |
| 1231 | 0.25 | 0.22 | 0.2 | Fill of posthole [1230]; dark brown orange clay sand, which contained | [1230] | 1002 |
| | | | | occasional gravel. | | |
| 1232 | 0.7 | ? | 0.33 | Secondary fill of pit [1220]; dark grey brown clay silt sand, which contained | 1233 | 1221 |
| | | | | occasional stones. | | |
| 1233 | 0.4 | ? | 0.08 | Primary fill of pit [1220]; light grey brown silt sand gravel. | [1220] | 1232 |
| [1234] | >0.80 | 1.39 | 0.42 | Probable re-cut of ditch [1018] with a wide, sloping profile. Contained fill 1020. | 1019 | 1020 |
| | | | | Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| [1235] | >1.35 | 0.89 | 0.37 | Probable re-cut of ditch [1036] with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1038. | 1037 | 1038 |
| | | | | Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| [1236] | >1.5 | 1.6 | 0.42 | Probable re-cut of ditch [1246] with a rounded profile. Contained fill 1058. | 1059 | 1058 |
| | | | | Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| [1237] | 0.2 | 0.18 | 0.13 | Sub-circular feature with a sloping, rounded profile. Probable natural divot or | natural | 1126 |
| | | | | stone hole. Present at the base of grave [1123]. Contained fill 1126. | | |
| 1238 | ? | 0.9 | 0.12 | Fill of ditch [1004]; dark grey brown loose gravel. Possible slump deposit. | [1004] | 1006 |
| | | | | Similar to fill 1005. | | |
| [1239] | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.22 | Northwest - southeast aligned linear cut feature, probably a pit, with sloping | natural | 1240 |
| | | | | sides and a flat base. Contained fill 1240. Part of Pit Alignment 1. | | |
| 1240 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.22 | Fill of pit [1239]; orange brown clay sand, which contained occasional gravel | [1239] | 1002 |
| | | | | and rare charcoal flecks. Indistinguishable from fill 1213. | | |
| [1241] | 1 | 0.52 | 0.03 | Sub-oval pit with a very shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1242. Part of Pit | natural | 1242 |
| | | | | Alignment 4. | | |

| CXT | L(m) | W(m) | D(m) | Description | Later Than | Earlier Than |
|--------|------|------|------|---|------------|--------------|
| 1242 | 1 | 0.52 | 0.03 | Fill of pit [1241]; orange brown clay sand gravel. | [1241] | 1002 |
| [1243] | 1.17 | 0.63 | 0.06 | Sub-oval pit with a very shallow, flat profile. Contained fill 1244. Part of Pit | natural | 1244 |
| | | | | Alignment 4. | | |
| 1244 | 1.17 | 0.63 | 0.06 | Fill of pit [1243]; orange brown clay sand gravel. | [1243] | 1002 |
| 1245 | 28 | 12 | 0.3 | Former skatepark; tarmac over hardcore. | 1001 | N/A |
| [1246] | >1.5 | 0.43 | 0.17 | North - south aligned ditch with steep sides and a narrow, flat base. Contained | natural | 1059 |
| | | | | fill 1059. Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| [1247] | >1.3 | 0.13 | 0.12 | North - south aligned ditch with a very narrow, steep 'ankle breaker' profile. | natural | 1248 |
| | | | | Contained fill 1248. Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| 1248 | >1.3 | 0.13 | 0.12 | Fill of ditch [1247]; beige brown sand silt gravel. | [1247] | [1078] |
| [1249] | >1 | 0.28 | 0.19 | North - south aligned ditch with a narrow, steep 'U' shaped profile. Contained | natural | 1206 |
| | | | | fill 1206. Part of Ditch 2. | | |
| 1250 | >1 | 1.4 | 0.16 | Fill of ditch [1205]; red brown clay sand gravel. | 1207 | 1002 |

APPENDIX 2 – THE CERAMICS

By Jane Timby

Introduction and methodology

- 1.1 The archaeological work at the Lechlade Memorial Hall resulted in the recovery of a small assemblage of 183 sherds of pottery weighing approximately 1.5 kg. The material includes sherds of earlier Prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval date.
- 1.2 The assemblage was sorted into fabrics based on the colour, texture and nature of the inclusions present in the clay. Known named or traded Roman wares were coded using the National Roman fabric reference system (Tomber and Dore 1998). Other wares, generally of local origin, were coded more generically according to colour and main characteristics.
- 1.3 The sorted assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. Freshly broken sherds where these could be identified were counted as single pieces. Rims were additionally coded to general form. A summary of the main fabrics recorded by period can be found summarised in Table 1, along with provisional spot dates.
- 1.4 In general terms the assemblage was in quite fragmented condition with an overall average sherd weight of 8g. Surface preservation however was good.
- 1.5 Pottery was recovered from 18 contexts, with four sherds from unstratified collection. The quantities range from single sherds up to a maximum of 62 sherds from pit [1220].
- 1.6 In the following report the general composition of the assemblage is described by chronological period followed by an overall assessment of the potential of the material.

Memorial Hall (LMH 17m)

- 2.1 Aside from a tiny crumb of probably early Prehistoric pot, the earliest sherds appear to be 15 sherds of calcareous-tempered or sandy ware, of Iron Age date. There are no featured pieces.
- 2.2 The Iron Age material was distributed across seven contexts but in only three cases do they appear the only material present: ditch [1004], pit [1008] and pit [1212]. The quantities are very small, in two cases just single sherds and thus not statistically reliable. The remaining pieces appear to be re-deposited finds in later features.

- 2.3 There are three Roman sherds present, two of Dorset black burnished ware (DOR BB1) from ditch [1102] and one local grey ware as a residual find in pit [1143].
- 2.4 The largest group of material from the site dates to the Saxon period with 159 sherds in total. Three main fabrics are present: a fine smooth ware with a common abundance of organic temper (SXOR); a fine sandy textured ware with sparse organic matter (SXSAOR) and a sandstone-tempered ware (SXSST). The sherds all come from plain jars.
- 2.5 The largest concentration of finds come from two sunken featured buildings [1114] (SFB 1) and [1146] (SFB 2) and pits [1220] and [1151], which account for 149 sherds. Other sherds came from pit [1143], posthole [1175] and posthole [1154], as well as gully [1070] and ditch [1185].
- 2.6 Three sherds of Medieval date came from SFB 2, one of which is Minety ware, which are presumably intrusive. Two further Medieval sherds were recovered whilst machining.

Summary and potential

- 3.1 The very diverse range of material from the site can be paralleled with previous assemblages recovered from Lechlade. Previous work at the Memorial Hall in 1995 (Thomas and Holbrook 1998) recovered two Beaker burials accompanied by vessels which were radiocarbon dated to the early second millennium. Work at Gassons Road just 200 m north-west of the Memorial Hall (King 1998) produced pottery belonging to the Grooved Ware tradition of the later Neolithic period and further material of this date came from the Lodders, to the south (Darvill *et al.* 1986).
- 3.2 Iron Age and Roman activity has been investigated in and around Lechlade, for example at Sherborne House (Bateman *et al.* 2003), although only appears to form a minor component here.
- 3.3 Saxon occupation is also well documented at Lechlade which has produced one of the largest assemblages of such material from Gloucestershire. A cemetery was excavated at Butler's Field (Boyle *et al.* 1998) dating from the later 5th through to the 7th/8th centuries. Most of the organic-tempered pottery was associated with the earlier phases of use of the cemetery. Evidence of occupation, including SFBs and post-built structures, has been investigated at Sherborne House (Bateman *et al.* 2003).
- 3.4 The small assemblage from this recent work should be published as it contributes to the complicated narrative concerning occupation at Lechlade over a very long period of time. A small number of vessels could be illustrated.

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Table 1: The Pottery from Lechlade Memorial Hall

| Site | Cxt | Cut | Type | BKR | EPREH | IA? | Ro | Saxon | Med | Pmed | Tot No | Tot Wt | Date | non pot |
|--------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| LMH17m | 1006 | 1004 | ditch | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | ?Iron Age | |
| LMH17m | 1009 | 1008 | pit | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 53 | Iron Age | |
| LMH17m | 1071 | 1070 | gully | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1090 | 1089 | pit | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.25 | ?Epreh | |
| LMH17m | 1102 | 1101 | ditch | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | Roman C2-C4 | |
| LMH17m | 1117 | 1114 | sfb | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 473 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1145 | 1143 | pit | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 81 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1147 | 1146 | sfb | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 23 | 2 | 0 | 26 | 331 | Saxon/Med | fclay x1 |
| LMH17m | 1147 | 1146 | sfb | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | Saxon/Med | |
| LMH17m | 1153 | 1151 | pit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 63 | Saxon | bone x2 |
| LMH17m | 1157 | 1154 | posth | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 12 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1158 | 1146 | sfb | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1177 | 1175 | posth | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | ?Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1186 | 1185 | ditch | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 14 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1213 | 1212 | pit | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | ?IA | |
| LMH17m | 1221 | 1220 | pit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 147 | Saxon | fclay x2 |
| LMH17m | 1223 | 1220 | pit | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 286 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | 1232 | 1220 | pit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | Saxon | |
| LMH17m | A2 | | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 43 | IA/Sx/Med | |
| Total | | | | 0 | 1 | 15 | 3 | 159 | 5 | 0 | 183 | 1533.3 | | |

APPENDIX 3 – THE LITHICS

By Hugo Anderson-Whymark

Twenty-nine struck flints were recovered from excavations at Lechlade Memorial Hall (Table 1). The artefacts typically exhibited moderate to heavy edge damage, indicating that they were residual and were recovered from later archaeological deposits. Most flints exhibited a heavy white cortication, but a few were not corticated.

The lithic assemblage is dominated by broad flint flakes, struck without preparation of the platform edge, they are of little intrinsic interest and can only be assigned a broad late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date. Two scrapers were recovered: one was broken, while the other was a fine pressure-flaked D-shaped with low angle invasive retouch. The latter is classed as an early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper, although it is at the top of the size range measuring 25mm long by 28mm wide.

These lithics have no potential for further analysis.

| Artefact type | U/S | Cxt 1009 | Cxt 1057 | Cxt 1058 | Cxt 1061 | Cxt 1116 | Cxt 1117 | Cxt 1209 | Cxt 1213 | Cxt 1223 | Cxt 1231 | Grand Total |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Flake | 13 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | 1 | 26 |
| Irregular waste | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Side scraper | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Thumbnail scraper | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Grand Total | 14 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 29 |

Table 1: The struck lithic assemblage Lechlade Memorial Hall by context

APPENDIX 4 – THE HUMAN REMAINS

By Sharon Clough

Biological Record: factual data

| Type | Category | Count |
|---------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Human Remains | Skeletal Remains | 1 & 1 disarticulated |

A single tightly crouched inhumation considered to be dating to the Bronze Age indicated from the burial practice, was recovered from a pit. Adjacent to the skull was a fragment of cranial bone broken into three pieces.

The articulated inhumation was a non-adult aged approximately 10-13 years and pathological lesions relating to metabolic disturbance were observed. The disarticulated cranial fragments were of a similar age range and need to be examined further in conjunction with the skeleton in order to eliminate the possibility that they are part of the heavily fragmented cranium of the articulated skeleton.

Biological record: statement of potential

The skeleton (1124) was heavily fragmented which will prevent measurements being taken which are used to aid age determination. However, the teeth and joints are observable for age determination. Skull, small bones of the hands and feet were collected, as were vertebrae and ribs and long bones so there is potential to record the presence of pathological lesions. Pelvis was absent, but since this skeleton is non-adult this will not affect the potential for sex estimation as it is not possible to determine sex of non-adults from the morphology of an unfused pelvis.

This burial is significant as it provides the potential for information of the age of the individual at death and for pathological lesions indicating the health of the person in life. When placed in context with other features, and the adjacent excavations (Foundations Archaeology Skatepark site 2017 and Cotswold Archaeology Memorial Hall excavation 1995), the burial will contribute to the information about the funerary aspect of this area.

A radiocarbon date from the skeleton would be recommended, to give a date for the death of the individual.

It is recommended that a full specialist examination of the remains is undertaken and, based on the findings, that a report is produced to publication standard.

All articulated remains would be examined according to standard recommended practice (Brickley and McKinley 2004, updated 2017).

Appendix – Human Bone

Methodology

The skeletal remains were examined to determine the quantity, general condition, completeness, provenance, date and nature of the material (i.e. whether it comprised articulated (disturbed or undisturbed) or disarticulated remains).

All skeletons were examined in accordance with national guidelines for producing assessment reports (Mays *et al.* 2004). This involved assessing the completeness and condition of the skeletons with particular reference to certain landmarks that may be used to establish biological parameters and explore health status.

Completeness was estimated by recording, as a percentage, how much of the skeleton had survived and assigning it to one of the following categories:

1 = <25% complete 2 = 25-50% complete 3 = >50-75% complete 4 = >75% complete

The condition of the bone was assessed according to the degree of erosion of the bone surface and how much of the epiphyses (the ends of the bones) and cancellous bone (the spongy bone that is beneath the outer layer) had survived. Based on these factors, skeletons were assigned to one of the following categories:

1 = Poor (cortical bone completely eroded. Very limited survival of epiphyses and cancellous bone).

2 = Fair (moderate erosion of cortical bone. Limited survival of cancellous bone and epiphyses).

3 = Good (Occasional erosion on cortical bone. Cancellous bone complete and frequent survival of epiphyses)

4 = Excellent (cortical bone undamaged, cancellous bone and epiphyses complete).

All observations were made by rapidly scanning each skeleton. While these observations provide adequate guidance to the potential of the material for further work they are, by their very nature, preliminary and subject to change as a result of any future high resolution examination.

The potential of the skeletons to yield information relating to age and sex was estimated by determining if the appropriate skeletal elements were present to employ standard methods (Brickley and McKinley 2004) scored 1-5 with 5 all parts needed for estimation available and 1 level of determination to human and adult or subadult only.

The skeletons were also assessed for their potential to yield metrical data, in particular that which will allow stature estimation and that which will facilitate age estimation for sub-adults and sex estimation for adults. Potential for metrical assessment was scored on a scale of 1-5, where '1' denotes skeletons that showed no potential (i.e. no elements could be measured owing to fragmentation/poor

preservation) and '5' denotes skeletons that showed high potential (i.e. the full range of standard cranial and post-cranial measurements could be taken).

Other observations pertaining to metrical assessment involved noting which skeletons had sufficiently preserved bones, in particular crania that will facilitate comparisons between individuals and groups. This may indicate factors such as ethnic affinities, regional microevolution and biological distance, particularly when combined with the chemical analysis of the bones and teeth.

An assessment of the potential for the skeleton to yield non-metrical data was scored on a scale of 1-5, where '1' denotes skeletons that showed no potential for non-metrical analysis (i.e. preservation prevented the observation of all standard cranial and post-cranial sites) and '5' denotes skeletons that showed high potential for non-metrical analysis (i.e. all standard cranial and post-cranial sites could be scored).

More readily observable traits were noted (but not formally scored) to give an indication of the level and range of traits present in the population. This will inform a data collection strategy for full analysis. Non-metric traits are morphological variations in the skeleton. They are influenced by both the environment and genetics, but to variable and unpredictable degrees (Saunders 1989).

Table 1: Summary of results of the Inhumation and disarticulated bone

| Skeleton number | Potential for Sex estimation | Potential for Age estimation | Adult/su badult | Completeness | Condition | Potential metric | Potential non-metric | Teeth? | Skeletal pathology |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------|--------|--|
| 1124 | N/A | 5 | Non-adult | 50-75% | 2 | 1 | 3 | Yes | Potential. Cribra orbitalia and porotic hyperostosis observed. |
| 1125 | Disarticulated cranial fragment (in 3 re-fitting pieces). Thin cranium, likely to be young adult or non-adult. Bone surface condition good grade 2. | | | | | | | | |

Skeleton (1124) was a non-adult aged approximately 10-13 years. It was highly fragmented which will impede observation of non-metric traits and prevent metrics from being taken. However, it was possible to observe pathological lesions as the bone surface was good. Cribra orbitalia and porotic hyperostosis were observed on the orbits and posterior left parietal bones respectively. These are both indicators of dietary deficiency and/or metabolic distress. It would be recommended to investigate these lesions further and explore other indicators of diet.

Disarticulated bone (1125) were fragments of left posterior parietal bone. The thin nature of the cranial fragments indicated a younger-aged adult, adolescent or older child. These fragments need to be examined further to determine whether they are part of SK (1124), since they are of a similar thickness. Reconstruction of the SK (1124) cranium would enable observation of any missing elements. If they were not part of the individual, then they would need to be recorded separately and reported on.

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Task List

Task - analyse, record and report on the skeleton and disarticulated bone.

Radiocarbon sample taking and recording.

APPENDIX 5 – THE ANIMAL BONE

By Matilda Holmes

Background

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from various features that are part of a Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age landscape that includes the Lechlade cursus. The exceptions to this are a group of bones from two Saxon Sunken Feature Buildings (SFBs), that are most likely related to the nearby cemetery at Butler's Field.

Methods

All bones and teeth were recorded, although for some elements a restricted count was employed to reduce fragmentation bias: vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments. A basic recording method was employed to assess the potential of the animal bone assemblage. The number of bones and teeth that could be identified to taxa were noted, as well as those used to age the major domesticates (tooth wear and bone fusion). The quantity of bones likely to be useful for metrical data were also recorded. Other information included condition and the incidence of burning, gnawing and butchery marks. All fragments were recorded by context including those that could not be identified to taxa. Recording methods and analysis are based on guidelines from Baker and Worley (2014).

Summary of Findings

The condition of bones varied from good to poor (Table 1). One of the SFBs (context 1117) contained bones that were both in good and poor condition, which indicates that they were subject to different taphonomic processes – either mixing or re-deposition, or that the layer was left open, with the upper fragments being more weathered than those below. With this exception, bones from the SFBs were generally better preserved than those from other features. Several contexts contained gnawed bones suggesting that they were not always disposed of quickly after discard but were available for dogs to chew (Table 1). Butchery marks were also noted on bones from SFBs and other features, and a few burnt bones were recovered from contexts (1221) and (1223).

Cattle and sheep/ goat bones dominated all features (Table 2), with a few fragments of pig, equid (horse or donkey) and domestic fowl also present. Of note are cattle skull fragments from SFB contexts (1159) and (1147); it is possible that these were the same skull, as the mandibles from context (1147) are of a similar age as the maxillary teeth from context (1159). Also in context (1147), were cattle foot bones and equid maxilla, tibia and radius fragments, the latter with butchery marks. Some ageing data were available in the form of tooth wear and bone fusion (Table 3), with a few measurable bones also recorded.

Potential and Significance

The absence of sieved samples at this stage may bias the number of small bones, micro-mammals, birds and fish recovered. Nonetheless, the evidence for Saxon settlement is of importance when placing the contemporary burials at nearby Butler's Field in a wider context and may be compared with evidence from Sherborne House (Maltby 2003). Although this is a small sample of bone, falling well below the recommended 100 identified fragments for full analysis, a basic quantification of species and element can provide some idea of the animals present in the area in the past, as well as the potential redistribution of animals or carcass parts. Ageing data may also provide some information regarding the possible animal husbandry of cattle and sheep/ goats.

Recommendations

Full recording and basic analysis of the assemblage, described above, is recommended to better understand the past story of the inhabitants of the area.

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Table 1: Preservation and bone modifications observed on the bones for each context

| Condition | SFB | Other |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Good | 2 | 4 |
| Good-fair | 1 | 2 |
| Fair | | 3 |
| Poor | | 4 |
| Good-poor | 1 | |
| Total N contexts | 4 | 13 |
| Gnawed | 2 | 4 |
| Butchered | 1 | 2 |
| Burnt | | 2 |

Table 2: Number of fragments recorded for the major domesticates, birds and other taxa

| Feature | Context | Unidentified | Cattle | Sheep | Pig | Other | Bird | Total ID | Other taxa |
|---------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| SFB | 1116 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| | 1117 | 37 | 10 | 7 | | | 1 | 18 | Domestic fowl |
| | 1147 | 103 | 15 | 3 | | 3 | 2 | 23 | Equid |
| | 1159 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| | Total | 141 | 26 | 11 | | 3 | 3 | 43 | |
| Other | 1006 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| | 1061 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| | 1079 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| | 1088 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| | 1122 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| | 1128 | | 2 | | | | | 2 | |
| | 1145 | 17 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 1 | | 18 | Equid |
| | 1153 | 33 | | 7 | | | | 7 | |
| | 1157 | 3 | | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| | 1209 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| | 1221 | 14 | 1 | 5 | | | | 6 | |
| | 1223 | 87 | 19 | 28 | 1 | | | 48 | |
| 1232 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | | |
| | Total | 165 | 32 | 50 | 4 | 1 | | 87 | |

Table 3: Number of bones and teeth likely to provide ageing and metrical data for the major domesticates. MWS= mandibular wear stage; TWS= wear from individual teeth; fusion= bone fusion; meas= metrical data

| Feature | Cattle | | | Sheep/ goat | | | | Pig |
|---------|--------|--------|------|-------------|-----|--------|------|-----|
| | MWS | Fusion | Meas | MWS | TWS | Fusion | Meas | MWS |
| SFB | 2 | 16 | 3 | 1 | | 5 | 9 | |
| Other | 1 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 10 | 1 |
| Total | 3 | 25 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 18 | 19 | 1 |

APPENDIX 6 – PLANT MACROFOSSIL AND WOOD CHARCOAL ASSESSMENT

By Ellen Simmons

Introduction

Fourteen bulk sieving (BS) samples, comprising a total of three hundred and thirty-seven litres of soil, were taken during archaeological excavations at Lechlade Memorial Hall, Lechlade, Gloucestershire (site code: LMH17m), by Foundations Archaeology. Samples were taken from an Iron Age ditch, an Iron Age pit, two possible Roman ditches, two Saxon Sunken Feature Buildings (SFB) and numerous pits/postholes. The samples were processed for the recovery of charred plant macrofossils and wood charcoal and assessed in order to determine the concentration, diversity, state of preservation and suitability for use in radiocarbon dating, of any palaeoenvironmental material present. A further aim of this assessment was to evaluate the potential of any palaeoenvironmental material present in the samples to provide evidence for the function of the contexts, the economy of the site or for the nature of the local environment.

Methodology

The bulk sieving samples were processed by flotation for the recovery of charred plant macrofossils and wood charcoal by GeoFlo Southwest Geophysical and Flotation Services using a water separation machine. Floating material was collected in a 250µm mesh, and the remaining heavy residue retained in a 1mm mesh. The flots and heavy residues were air dried.

The samples were assessed in accordance with Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology assessments (Historic England 2011). A preliminary assessment of the samples was made by scanning using a stereo-binocular microscope (x10 - x65) and recording the abundance of the main classes of material present. Where a total of thirty or more items of charred plant material were present, this material was quantified using a scale of abundance (- = <5 items, += > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items). Where a total of less than thirty items of charred plant material were present this material was identified and quantified in full.

Identification of plant material was carried out using modern reference material in the Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield and various reference works (e.g. Cappers *et al* 2006). Cereal identifications and nomenclature follow Jacomet (2006). Other plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010). The composition of the bulk sieving samples is recorded below in table 1. The seed, in the broadest sense, of the plant is always referred to in these table unless stated otherwise. The abbreviation *cf.* means ‘compares with’ and denotes that a specimen most closely resembles that particular taxa more than any other.

Results

Preservation conditions

The preservation of charred cereal grains was variable, with some grains retaining epidermis and exhibiting low levels of distortion while other grains were puffed and distorted and identifiable by gross morphology only. Wood charcoal fragments were relatively well preserved with minimal evidence for vitrification. A high proportion of intrusive root material was present in context (1065) from posthole [1064] and in contexts (1116) and (1117) from SFB 1 indicating an increased probability that any charred material present in these contexts

may be intrusive. Low to moderate proportions of intrusive root material were present in the remaining sampled contexts.

Plant macrofossils

Iron Age ditch fill (1006) produced an indeterminate barley grain (*Hordeum* sp.) and later Prehistoric pit fill (1182) produced an apple seed (*Malus* sp.) and an indeterminate wheat grain (*Triticum* indet.). Possible Roman ditch fill (1102) produced a probable free threshing wheat grain (*Triticum aestivum* / *turgidum* s.l.). Undated pit fill (1028) produced a probable free threshing wheat grain.

Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) produced a rich assemblage of over one hundred charred cereal grains and over thirty wild or weed plant seeds. The assemblage of charred cereal grains is composed primarily of hulled and indeterminate barley grains. A small quantity of asymmetrical barley grains are present, which are typical of the lateral spikelets of six-row barley, although the presence of two row barley cannot be ruled out. A small quantity of probable free threshing wheat and indeterminate wheat grains are also present in the assemblage. Small quantities of cereal grains, including hulled barley and indeterminate wheat were also found to be present in Saxon SFB 1 fills (1116) and (1117) as well as in Saxon pit fills (1153) and (1232).

The assemblage of wild or weed plant seeds present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) includes segetal / ruderal taxa such as scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*), oraches (*Atriplex* sp.) and curled /clustered / broad-leaved dock (*Rumex crispus* / *conglomeratus* / *abtusifolius*). Grassland taxa which are also commonly found associated with cereals in archaeobotanical assemblages include medicks / clovers (*Medicago* / *Trifolium* spp.) and small seeded grasses (<2mm Poaceae). Taxa commonly associated with damp soils such as spike-rush (*Eleocharis multicaulis* / *uniglumis*), rushes (*Juncus* spp.) and sedges (*Carex* spp.) are also present.

Wood charcoal

Relatively rich assemblages of just under one hundred wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size are present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) and in Saxon pit fill (1153). A moderately rich assemblage of just over fifty wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size is also present in Saxon pit fill (1232). Preliminary examination of the wood charcoal fragments using low power microscopy indicated that the assemblages are composed of primarily diffuse porous taxa along with some ring porous taxa. Diffuse porous taxa which are frequently represented in archaeological charcoal assemblages include hawthorn / apple / pear / whitebeams (Pomoideae), willow / poplar (*Populus* / *Salix*), birch (*Betula* sp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and cherry (*Prunus padus* / *avium*). Frequently represented ring porous taxa include oak (*Quercus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and elm (*Ulmus* sp.). Identification using high power microscopy would however be necessary in order to confirm which taxa are present.

Land snails

Rich assemblages of over one hundred land snail shells (Mollusca) are present in Iron Age ditch fill (1006), later Prehistoric pit fill (1182) and in possible Roman ditch fill (1102). A moderately rich assemblage of between fifty and one hundred land snail shells is also present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147).

Radiocarbon dating

Charred material suitable for radiocarbon dating is present in sample 10 from Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) in the form of charred cereal grain from a rich assemblage of other charred material. The charred cereal grains present in sample 1 from Iron Age ditch fill (1006), sample 13 from later Prehistoric pit fill (1182), sample 6 from possible Roman ditch fill (1102), sample 8 from Saxon SFB 1 fill (1116), sample 9 from Saxon SFB 1 fill (1117), sample 11 from Saxon pit fill (1153), sample 14 from Saxon pit fill (1232) and sample 4 from undated pit fill (1028), would also be suitable for radiocarbon dating, although as the concentration of other charred material was low, this would increase the probability that the cereal grains may be intrusive.

Table 1 – composition of bulk sieving (BS) samples from Lechlade Memorial Hall (LMH17m)

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|------|----------|------|----------|
| Context number | 1006 | 1022 | 1028 | 1046 | 1102 | 1065 | 1116 |
| Feature number | 1004 | 1021 | 1027 | 1045 | 1101 | 1064 | 1114 |
| Sample number | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Feature type | ditch | posthole | pit | pit | ditch | pit | SFB 1 |
| Date | IA | | | | ?Roman | | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 35 | 15 | 18 | 3 | 28 | 6 | 45 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 5 | 40 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0.5 | 20 | 1 | 20 |
| % Intrusive roots | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 50 | 83 | 66 |
| *key += > 5 items, ++ => 10 items, +++ => 30 items, ++++ => 50 items, +++++ => 100 items | | | | | | | |
| Cereals and other economic plants* | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> (six row barley) hulled grain | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (barley) hulled indeterminate grain | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (barley) indeterminate grain | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> / <i>turgidum</i> s.l. (free threshing wheat) grain | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| <i>Triticum</i> indet. (wheat indeterminate) grain | | | | | | | 1 |
| Cereal indeterminate grain | | | | | | | |
| Total identifiable cereal and other economic plant material | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | 2 |
| Wild / weed plant seeds* | | | | | | | |
| <i>Medicago</i> / <i>Trifolium</i> spp. (medick / clover) | | | | | | | 1 |

Lechlade Memorial Hall, Lechlade, Gloucestershire. Archaeological Excavation: Post Excavation Assessment.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|----------|------|------|--------|------|-------|
| Context number | 1006 | 1022 | 1028 | 1046 | 1102 | 1065 | 1116 |
| Feature number | 1004 | 1021 | 1027 | 1045 | 1101 | 1064 | 1114 |
| Sample number | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Feature type | ditch | posthole | pit | pit | ditch | pit | SFB 1 |
| Date | IA | | | | ?Roman | | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 35 | 15 | 18 | 3 | 28 | 6 | 45 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 5 | 40 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0.5 | 20 | 1 | 20 |
| % Intrusive roots | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 50 | 83 | 66 |
| *key += > 5 items, ++ => 10 items, +++ => 30 items, ++++ => 50 items, +++++ => 100 items | | | | | | | |
| <i>Rumex crispus</i> / <i>conglomeratus</i> / <i>abtusifolius</i> (curled / clustered / broad-leaved dock) | | | | | | | |
| <i>Atriplex</i> spp. (oraches) | | | | | | | |
| <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (scentless mayweed) | | | | | | | |
| <i>Eleocharis multicaulis</i> / <i>uniglumis</i> (spike-rush) | | | | | | | |
| <i>Juncus</i> spp. (rushes) | | | | | | | |
| <i>Carex</i> spp. (sedges) | | | | | | | |
| <2mm Poaceae (small seeded grasses) | | | | | | | |
| Total identifiable wild / weed plant material | | | | | | | |
| Wood charcoal and other plant material | | | | | | | |
| Parenchyma (undifferentiated plant storage tissue) | | | | | | | |
| > 4mm wood charcoal fragments | | | | | 1 | | |
| > 2mm wood charcoal fragments | | | 3 | | 1 | | 4 |
| DP = predominantly diffuse porous. RP = predominantly ring porous | | | DP | | DP | | DP |
| Intrusive plant material / non-plant material* | | | | | | | |
| Land snails (Mollusca) | +++++ | ++ | - | | +++++ | + | ++ |
| Recommendations | | | | | | | |
| Sample suitable for further analysis? (CPM = charred plant macrofossils, WC = wood charcoal, M = Mollusca) | M | | | | M | | |
| Charred material suitable for C14 dating? | | | | | | | |

Lechlade Memorial Hall, Lechlade, Gloucestershire. Archaeological Excavation: Post Excavation Assessment.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|----------|------|------|--------|------|-------|
| Context number | 1006 | 1022 | 1028 | 1046 | 1102 | 1065 | 1116 |
| Feature number | 1004 | 1021 | 1027 | 1045 | 1101 | 1064 | 1114 |
| Sample number | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Feature type | ditch | posthole | pit | pit | ditch | pit | SFB 1 |
| Date | IA | | | | ?Roman | | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 35 | 15 | 18 | 3 | 28 | 6 | 45 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 5 | 40 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0.5 | 20 | 1 | 20 |
| % Intrusive roots | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 50 | 83 | 66 |
| *key += > 5 items, ++ => 10 items, +++ => 30 items, ++++ => 50 items, +++++ => 100 items | | | | | | | |
| Retain flots? | yes | no | yes | no | yes | no | yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Context number | 1117 | 1147 | 1153 | 1188 | 1182 | 1232 | 1233 |
| Feature number | 1114 | 1146 | 1151 | 1185 | 1181 | 1220 | 1220 |
| Sample number | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Feature type | SFB 1 | SFB 2 | pit | ditch | pit | pit | pit |
| Date | Saxon | Saxon | Saxon | ?Roman | Late Prehist | Saxon | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 45 | 66 | 10 | 28 | 18 | 14 | 6 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 50 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 25 | 40 | 10 | 1 | 20 | 10 | <0.5 |
| % Intrusive roots | 67 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| *key += > 5 items, ++ => 10 items, +++ => 30 items, ++++ => 50 items, +++++ => 100 items | | | | | | | |
| Cereals and other economic plants* | | | | | | | |
| <i>Malus sp.</i> (apple) pericarp fragment | | | | | 1 | | |
| <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> (six row barley) hulled grain | | - | | | | | |
| <i>Hordeum sp.</i> (barley) hulled indeterminate grain | 2 | +++ | 1 | | | 8 | |
| <i>Hordeum sp.</i> (barley) indeterminate grain | | ++ | 1 | | | 8 | |
| <i>Triticum cf. aestivum / turgidum</i> s.l. (free threshing wheat) grain | | - | | | | | |

Lechlade Memorial Hall, Lechlade, Gloucestershire. Archaeological Excavation: Post Excavation Assessment.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|--------------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Context number | 1117 | 1147 | 1153 | 1188 | 1182 | 1232 | 1233 |
| Feature number | 1114 | 1146 | 1151 | 1185 | 1181 | 1220 | 1220 |
| Sample number | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Feature type | SFB 1 | SFB 2 | pit | ditch | pit | pit | pit |
| Date | Saxon | Saxon | Saxon | ?Roman | Late Prehist | Saxon | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 45 | 66 | 10 | 28 | 18 | 14 | 6 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 50 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 25 | 40 | 10 | 1 | 20 | 10 | <0.5 |
| % Intrusive roots | 67 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| *key + => 5 items, ++ => 10 items, +++ => 30 items, ++++ => 50 items, +++++ => 100 items | | | | | | | |
| <i>Triticum</i> indet. (wheat indeterminate) grain | | + | 1 | | 1 | 3 | |
| Cereal indeterminate grain | | | | | | | 1 |
| Total identifiable cereal and other economic plant material | 2 | +++++ | 3 | | 2 | 19 | 1 |
| Wild / weed plant seeds* | | | | | | | |
| <i>Medicago</i> / <i>Trifolium</i> spp. (medick / clover) | | + | | | | | |
| <i>Rumex crispus</i> / <i>conglomeratus</i> / <i>abtusifolius</i> (curled / clustered / broad-leaved dock) | | - | | | | | |
| <i>Atriplex</i> spp. (oraches) | | - | | | | | |
| <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (scentless mayweed) | | - | | | | | |
| <i>Eleocharis multicaulis</i> / <i>uniglumis</i> (spike-rush) | | + | | | | | |
| <i>Juncus</i> spp. (rushes) | | + | | | | | |
| <i>Carex</i> spp. (sedges) | | + | | | | | |
| <2mm Poaceae (small seeded grasses) | | + | | | | 1 | |
| Total identifiable wild / weed plant material | | +++ | | | | 1 | |
| Wood charcoal and other plant material | | | | | | | |
| Parenchyma (undifferentiated plant storage tissue) | | 2 | | | | | |
| > 4mm wood charcoal fragments | 5 | 3 | 18 | | | 18 | 1 |
| > 2mm wood charcoal fragments | 38 | 91 | 79 | | 13 | 49 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|--------------|---------|--------|--------------|---------|-------|
| Context number | 1117 | 1147 | 1153 | 1188 | 1182 | 1232 | 1233 |
| Feature number | 1114 | 1146 | 1151 | 1185 | 1181 | 1220 | 1220 |
| Sample number | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Feature type | SFB 1 | SFB 2 | pit | ditch | pit | pit | pit |
| Date | Saxon | Saxon | Saxon | ?Roman | Late Prehist | Saxon | Saxon |
| Sample volume (litres) | 45 | 66 | 10 | 28 | 18 | 14 | 6 |
| Volume of intrusive roots (ml) | 50 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Flot volume excluding roots (ml) | 25 | 40 | 10 | 1 | 20 | 10 | <0.5 |
| % Intrusive roots | 67 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| *key + = > 5 items, ++ = > 10 items, +++ = > 30 items, ++++ = > 50 items, +++++ = > 100 items | | | | | | | |
| DP = predominantly diffuse porous. RP = predominantly ring porous | RP & DP | RP & DP | RP & DP | | DP | RP & DP | RP |
| Intrusive plant material / non-plant material* | | | | | | | |
| Land snails (Mollusca) | ++ | ++++ | + | +++ | +++++ | - | |
| Recommendations | | | | | | | |
| Sample suitable for further analysis? (CPM = charred plant macrofossils, WC = wood charcoal, M = Mollusca) | | CPM, WC, M? | WC | | M | WC? | |
| Charred material suitable for C14 dating? | | cereal grain | | | | | |
| Retain flots? | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |

Discussion of the potential and significance of the plant macrofossil and wood charcoal assemblage

The small size of the charred plant macrofossil assemblage from the Late Bronze Age, Iron Age and possible Roman contexts may indicate that activities involving crop processing or food preparation were not being carried out to any great extent in the vicinity of the sampled features, or that the sampled features were not being used for the disposal of hearth waste. It is also possible that the small size of these charred plant macrofossil assemblages is related to poor preservation conditions or that crop processing waste was used for other purposes, such as temper, rather than being burnt. The crop types present are hulled barley and probable free threshing wheat which are typical of the suite of crop types present at Iron Age and Romano-British sites in the Upper Thames Valley (Moffett 2004, 421).

The dominance of hulled barley in the assemblage of charred plant remains present in Saxon Sunken Feature Building 2 fill (1147) is consistent with archaeobotanical samples from the earlier phases of Saxon occupation at the nearby site of Yarnton, Oxfordshire (Stevens 2004, 351). Six-row hulled barley and free threshing wheat are also the crop types present in samples from early and Middle Saxon Sunken Feature Buildings at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire (Moffett 1987). Free threshing wheat replaced spelt wheat as the principle wheat

crop cultivated in the Upper Thames Valley in the Early Saxon period and hulled barley is also a major crop at Early Saxon sites (Dodd 2014b, 193).

The presence of seeds from a range of wild or weed taxa which are commonly associated with damp soils, particularly spike-rush, would also be consistent with the archaeobotanical assemblages from earlier Saxon phases of occupation at Yarnton and the archaeobotanical assemblages from Barrow Hills. Spike rush is frequently associated with cereals in charred archaeobotanical assemblages and it has been suggested that this is indicative of the cultivation of poorly drained arable soils (Jones, 1978). The presence of spike rush, rushes and sedges at Lechlade is therefore likely to indicate the cultivation of low lying floodplain soils although the presence of scentless mayweed may indicate that drier soils were also being cultivated. The dominance of perennials such as spike rush as well as docks and grasses in samples from the earlier phases of occupation at Yarnton was also interpreted as being potentially representative of less intensive tillage in comparison to later phases where annual species are more dominant. It should also be noted however that the seeds of rushes and sedges may be representative of plant material collected for use as roofing, flooring or bedding material rather than crop weeds.

Investigation of the changes in the crop types cultivated and associated changes agricultural practices which occurred at the end of the Romano-British period and start of the Saxon period is highlighted as a research priority for the region (Dodd 2014b, 229). It is likely that full sorting and identification of the charred plant remains from Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) would result in the identification of additional wild or weed seed taxa and it may be possible to identify seeds to species which could only be identified to genera during preliminary assessment. It is also possible that additional minor crop types may be identified which may have been missed during preliminary scanning. The rich assemblage of charred cereal grain and wild or weed plant seeds present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) therefore has the potential to provide evidence for the cultivation of new crop types as well as the cultivation of different soil types in the vicinity of the site and the intensity of cultivation practices. This evidence could then be placed in the context of the rich archaeobotanical evidence from nearby sites such as Yarnton.

The wood charcoal assemblage present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147), Saxon pit fill (1153) and Saxon pit fill (1232) is composed primarily of diffuse porous taxa, with many of the taxa potentially represented being underwood, woodland fringe or scrub taxa. Ring porous taxa, which are generally woodland trees, are also however present, indicating the utilisation of a mix of woody taxa and potentially the utilisation of different habitat types, for fuel. A mix of woody taxa is present in the charcoal assemblage from Saxon contexts at Yarnton, including oak from mature trees along with scrub and woodland margin taxa such as hawthorn / apple / pear/ whitebeams (*Pomoideae*) and cherry / blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.). It has been suggested that there was a decrease in the intensity of agricultural land use in the earlier Anglo-Saxon period in the Thames Valley in comparison to the Romano-British period (Robinson 2007, 29-30; Stevens 2004, 364; Lambrick 1992, 222), although a lack of evidence for woodland regeneration indicates that agricultural land was not abandoned (Robinson 2007, 29-30; Rackham 1994).

The recovery of palaeo-environmental evidence, such as charcoal, which relates to the presence and nature of woodland resources during the Anglo-Saxon period has also been highlighted as a research priority for the region (Dodd 2014b, 229). The relatively rich assemblages of wood charcoal present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) and Saxon pit fill (1153) have the potential to provide a representative sample of woody taxa utilised as fuel and

therefore provide evidence for the types of woodland and scrub resources which were available in the vicinity of the site during the Saxon period. The wood charcoal assemblage present in Saxon pit fill (1232) would also be expected to provide additional evidence for the utilisation of woodland and scrub, although rare woody plant taxa are less likely to be represented due to the smaller size of the charcoal assemblage present in this context.

Recommendations

Full sorting, identification and analysis of the charred plant macrofossil assemblage present in sample 10 from Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) would be recommended to be included in an analysis of the charred plant remains already quantified during preliminary assessment. Analysis of the charred plant remains assemblage would provide evidence for the full range of crop types present at the site as well as potential evidence for crop husbandry, crop cultivation and crop processing techniques.

Identification and analysis of the assemblages of wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size present in sample 10 from Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147), sample 11 from Saxon pit fill (1153) and sample 14 from Saxon pit fill (1232) would be recommended. This analysis would be expected to provide a representative sample the woody taxa utilised for fuel which would complement evidence for the nature and extent of woodland from other forms of palaeoenvironmental data such as pollen sequences. Examination of the ring curvatures and ligneous structure of the charcoal fragments may also provide information on wood diameter, potential use of coppiced wood and whether the wood was dead and rotting or well-seasoned prior to burning.

Analysis of the rich land snail assemblage present in Iron Age ditch fill (1006), Iron Age pit fill (1182) and the moderately rich assemblage present in Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147) would also be expected to provide additional palaeoenvironmental evidence for the nature of the local environment and how this may have changed over time.

Should further analysis of the wood charcoal or land snail assemblages be carried out, it would also be recommended that a radiocarbon determination be obtained for the Saxon SFB 2 fill (1147), in order to establish a more precise date for the SFB.

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APPENDIX 7 – MISCELLANEOUS FINDS

| CXT | DESCRIPTION | WEIGHT (g) |
|--------------|--|------------|
| 1117 | Oyster shell X 1 (west quadrant) | 34 |
| 1117 | Oyster shell X 1 | 17 |
| 1135 | Concrete fragment X 2 | 990 |
| 1147 | Large beige shaped and faced limestone block x 1 | 7090 |
| 1147 | Large grey stone X 6 | 1320 |
| 1147 | Medium grey stone X 3 | 766 |
| 1147 | Small grey stone X 2 (east quadrant) | 78 |
| 1147 | Crumb of undiagnostic fired clay/pottery X 2 | 5 |
| 1223 | Shell fragment X 1 | 1 |
| 1223 | Iron artefact x 1 | 17 |
| base of 1116 | Shaped beige stone X 1 | 1666 |

APPENDIX 8 – A NOTE ON A SAXON BONE WEAVING PICK

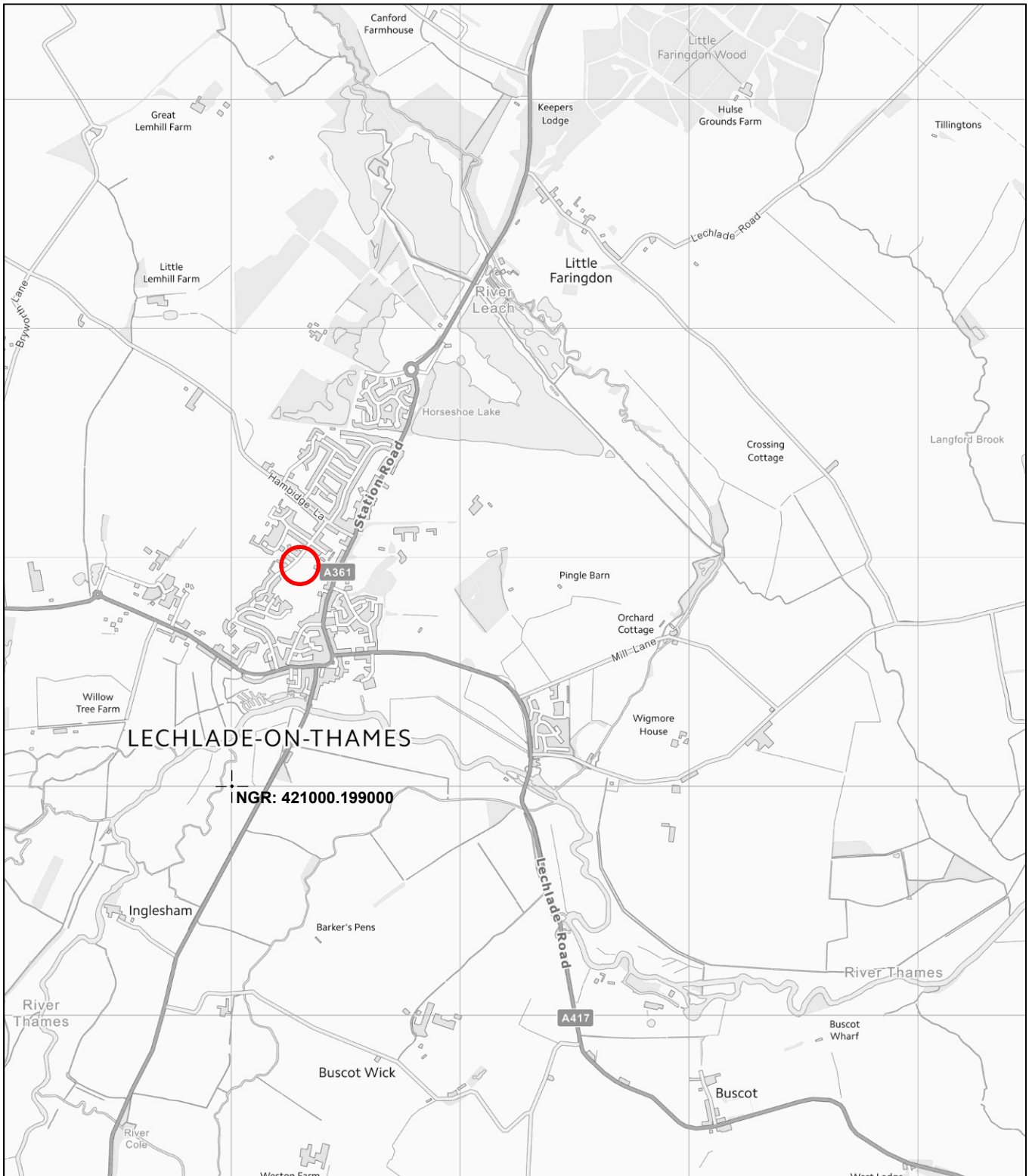
By Andrew Hood

A bone implement (Small Find 1) was recovered from the fill (1147) of SFB 2. It was 90mm long, by 10mm wide and weighed 6g. It was pointed at both ends and was thicker in the middle. It appeared to be in good condition. It was light beige in colour, with a smooth, slightly polished surface. There was no evidence for decoration.

The bone implement is very similar, although slightly smaller in length, than a bone weaving pick present in Grave 54 (find 3) at Butler's Field Anglo-Saxon cemetery (Boyle *et al.* 1998, p77, 163, 211).



Plate 1: LMH17m Small Find 1 – Saxon bone weaving pick
Scale totals 40mm



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Site Code: LMH17m

Accession Code:

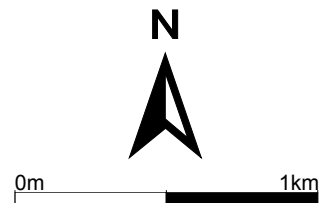
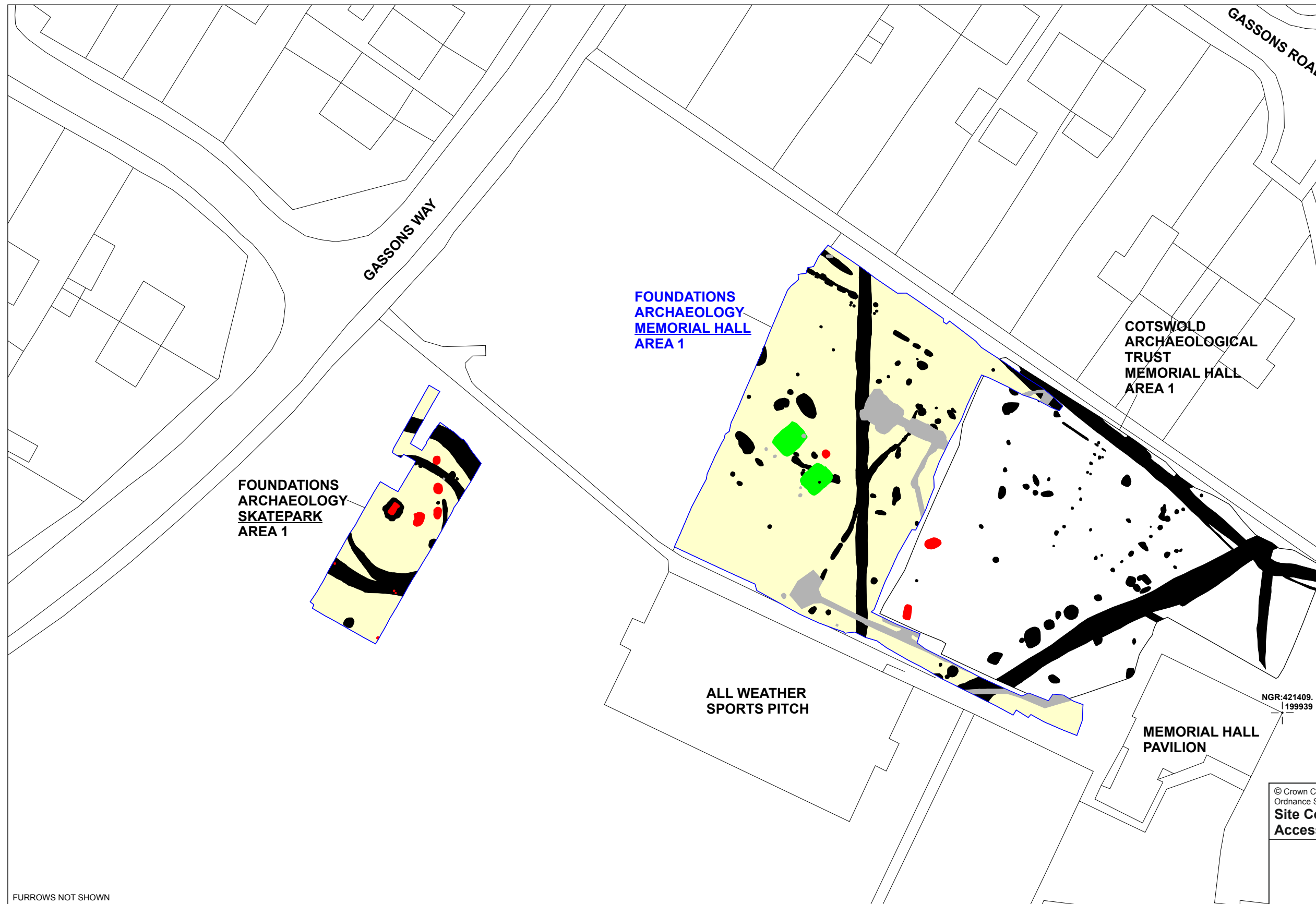


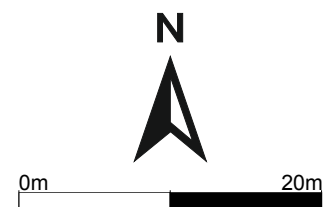
FIGURE 1: Site Location



FURROWS NOT SHOWN

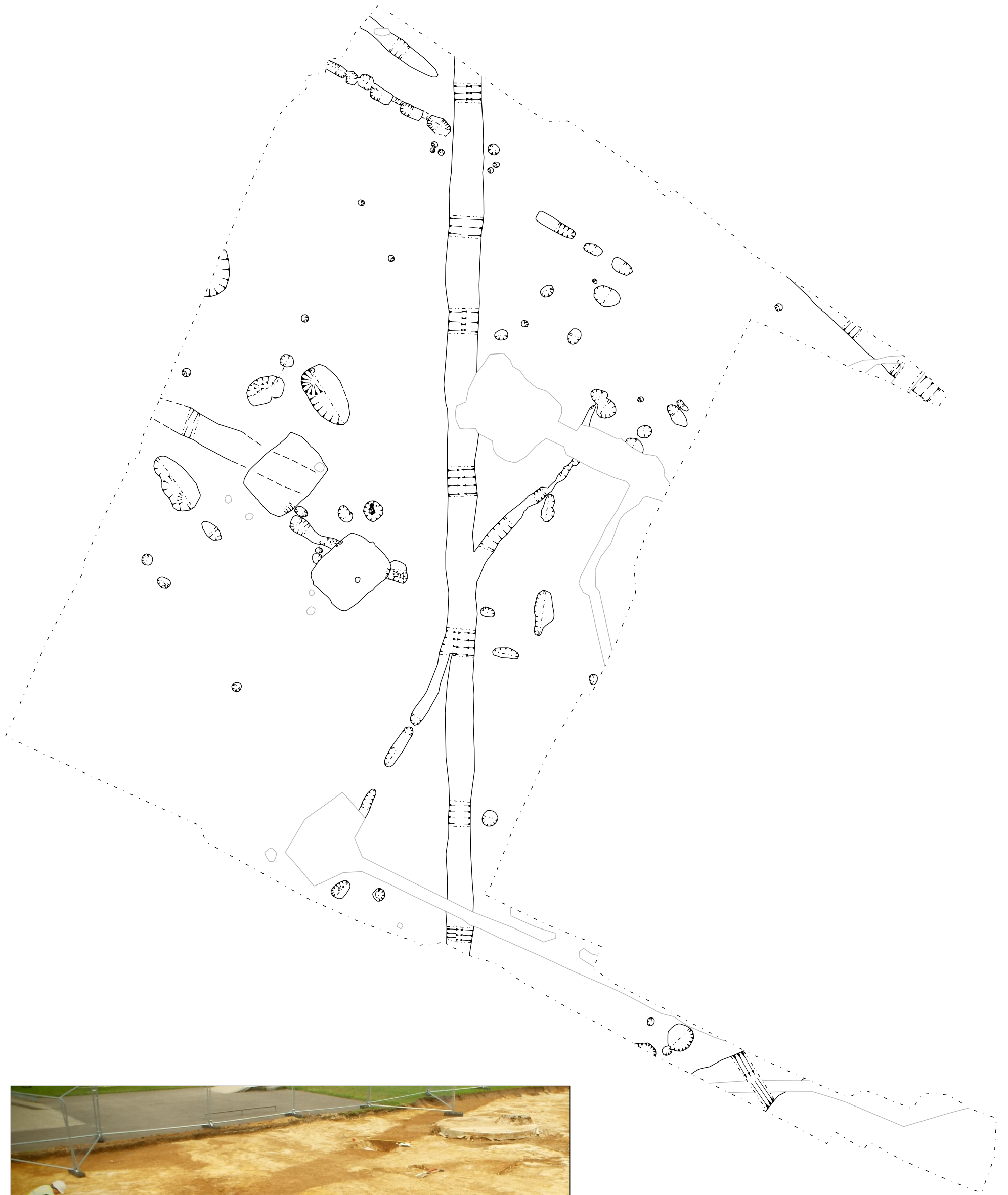
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Site Code: LMH17m
Accession Code:




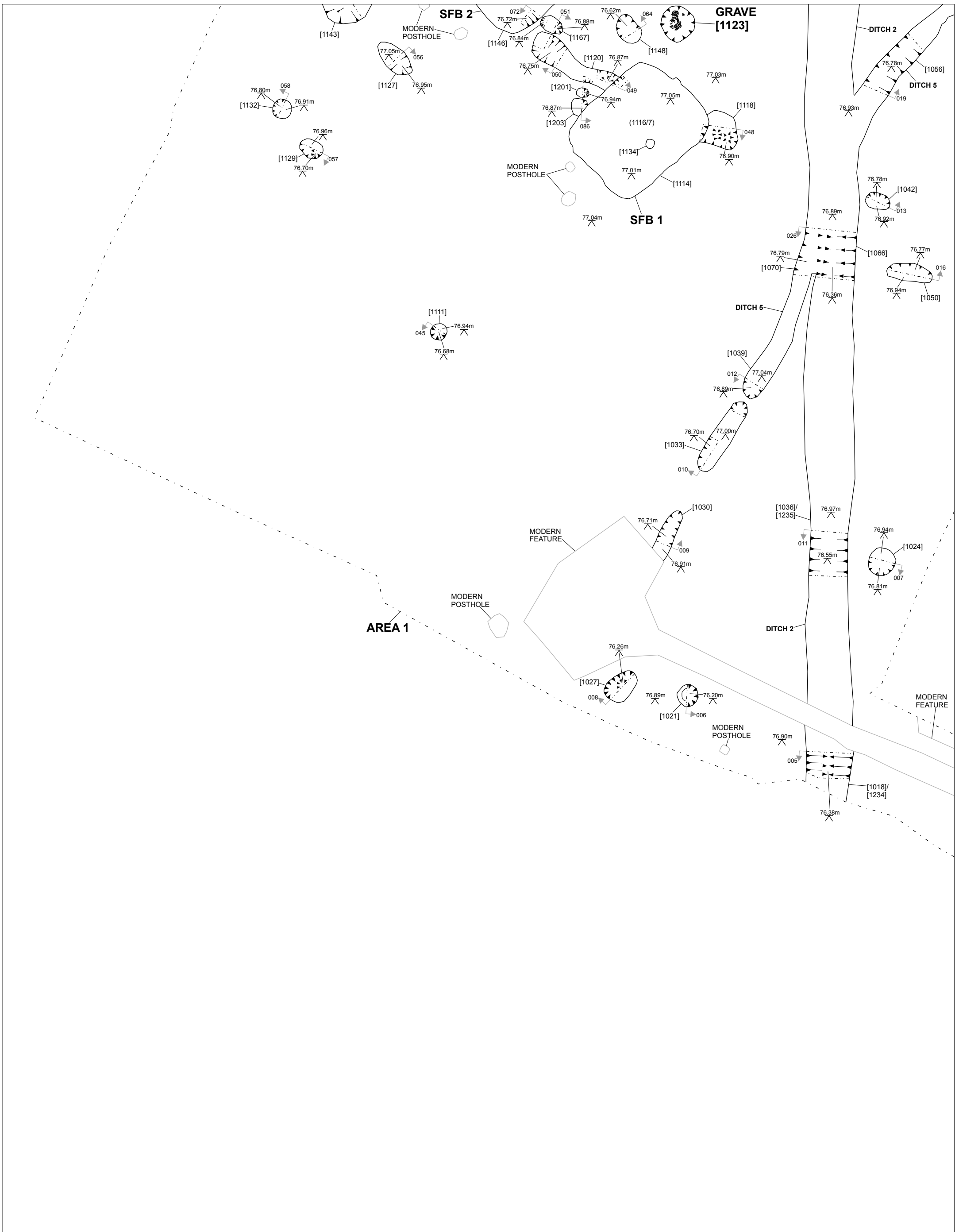
- = ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE
- = GRAVE/CREMATION
- = SAXON SFB
- = MODERN FEATURE

FIGURE 2: Site Plan



Photograph 1: Area 1 East Looking Northwest During Excavation

| |
|--|
| <p>Site Code: LMH17m Accession Code:</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">N</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">0m 10m</p> |
| <p>FIGURE 3: Area 1 Plan (No Labels)</p> |

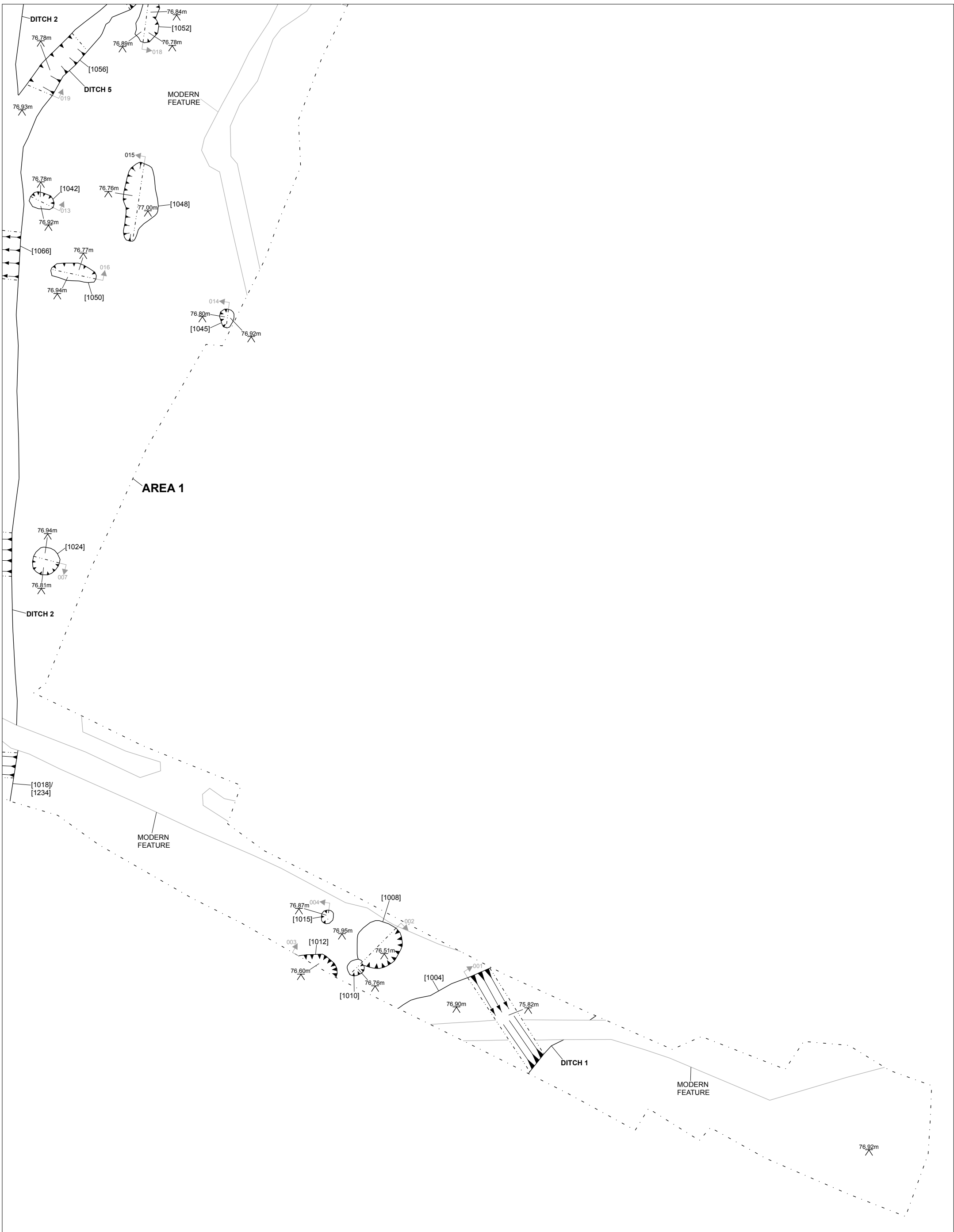


Site Code: LMH17m
 Accession Code:

N

0m 4m

FIGURE 4: Area 1 Plan Southwest Quadrant

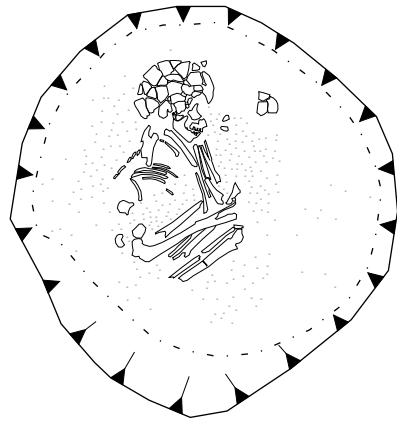


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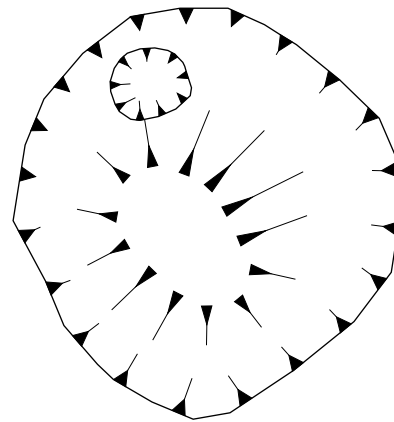
N

0m 4m

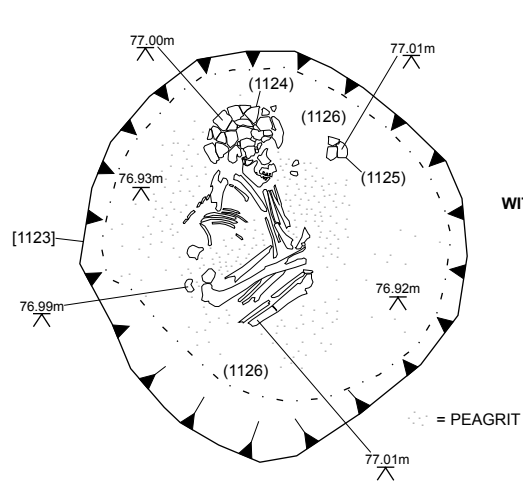
FIGURE 7: Area 1 Plan Southeast Quadrant



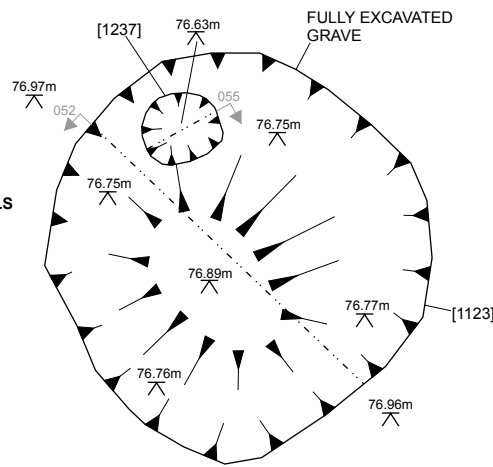
NO LABELS



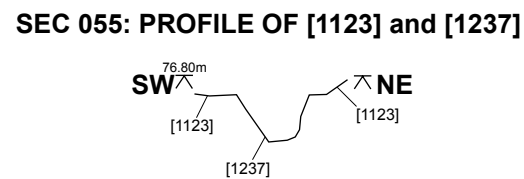
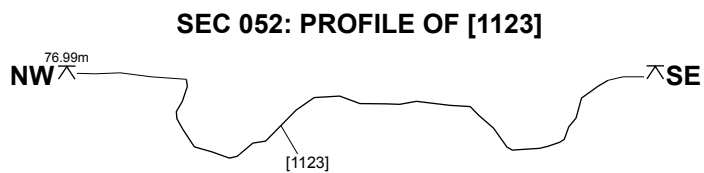
Photograph 2: Inhumation(s?) [1123]/(1124/5)



WITH LABELS



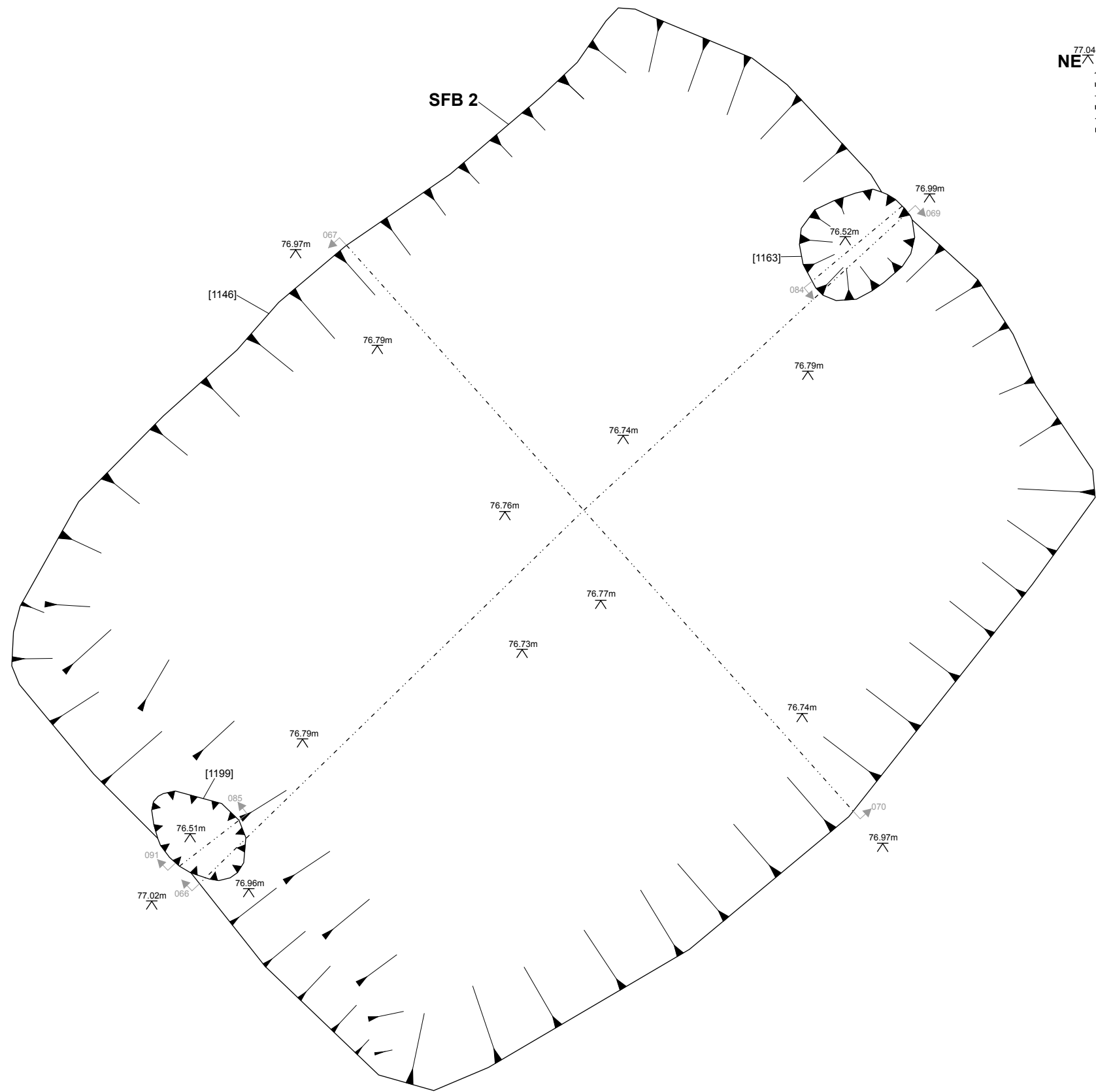
Photograph 3: Grave [1123]/[1237] Fully Excavated



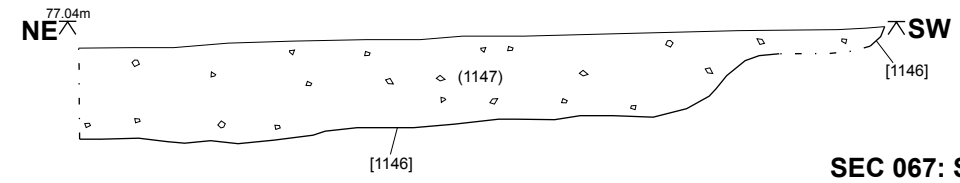
Site Code: LMH17m
Accession Code:



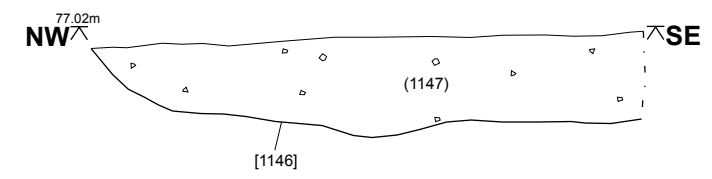
FIGURE 8: Grave [1123] Plans, Sections and Photographs



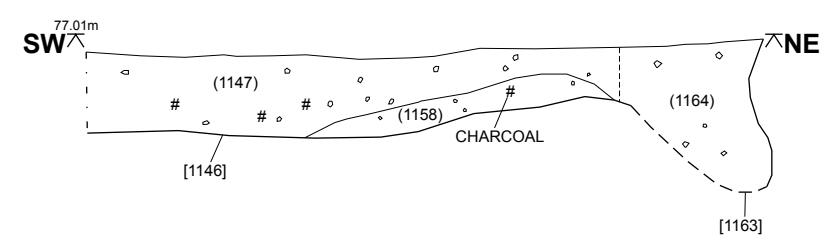
SEC 066: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1146]



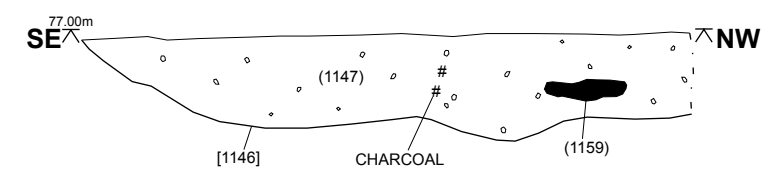
SEC 067: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1146]



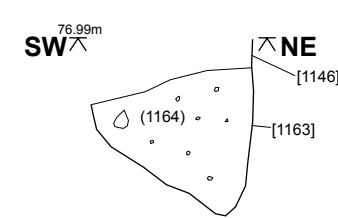
SEC 069: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1146] and [1163]



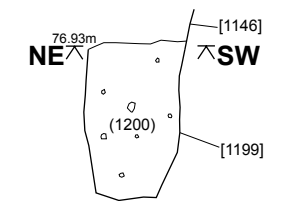
SEC 070: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1146]



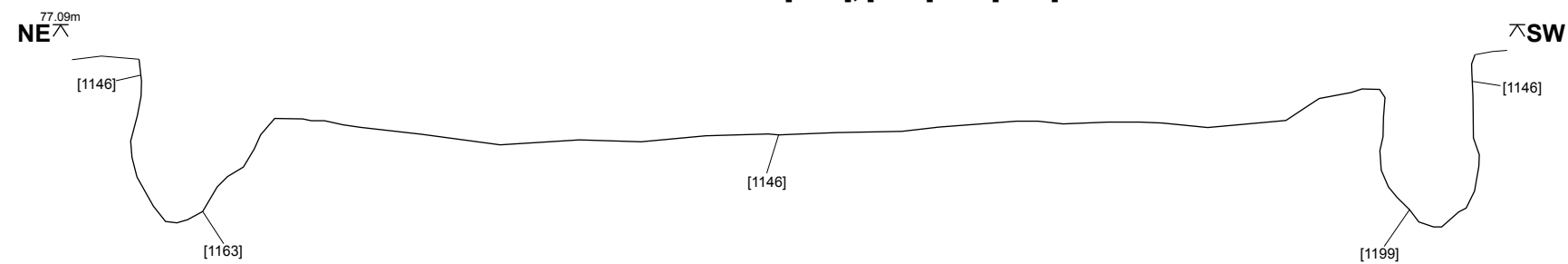
SEC 084: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1146] and [1163]



SEC 085: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1146] and [1199]



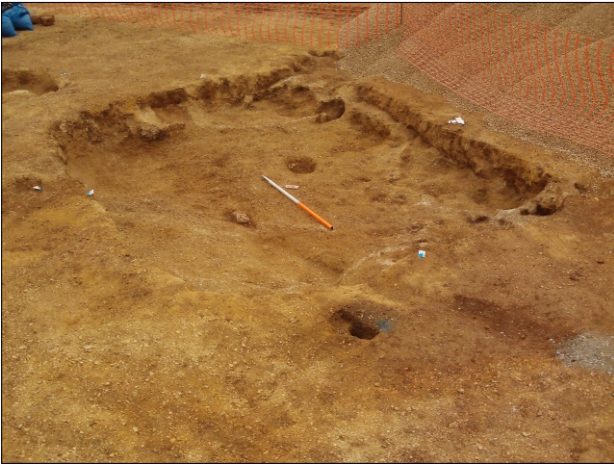
SEC 091: PROFILE OF [1146], [1163] and [1199]



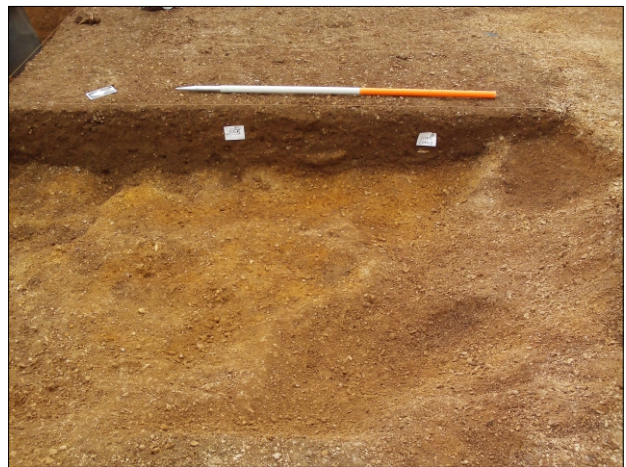
| |
|--|
| <p>Site Code: LMH17m Accession Code:</p> |
| <p>N</p> |
| |
| <p>FIGURE 10: SFB 2 Plan and Sections</p> |



Photograph 4: SFB 1 Looking East, Showing Sections 046 and 047



Photograph 5: SFB 1 Looking East, In-fill Entirely Removed. Note: natural divots have been excavated to test for postholes



Photograph 6: SFB 2 Looking Southeast, Showing Section 066

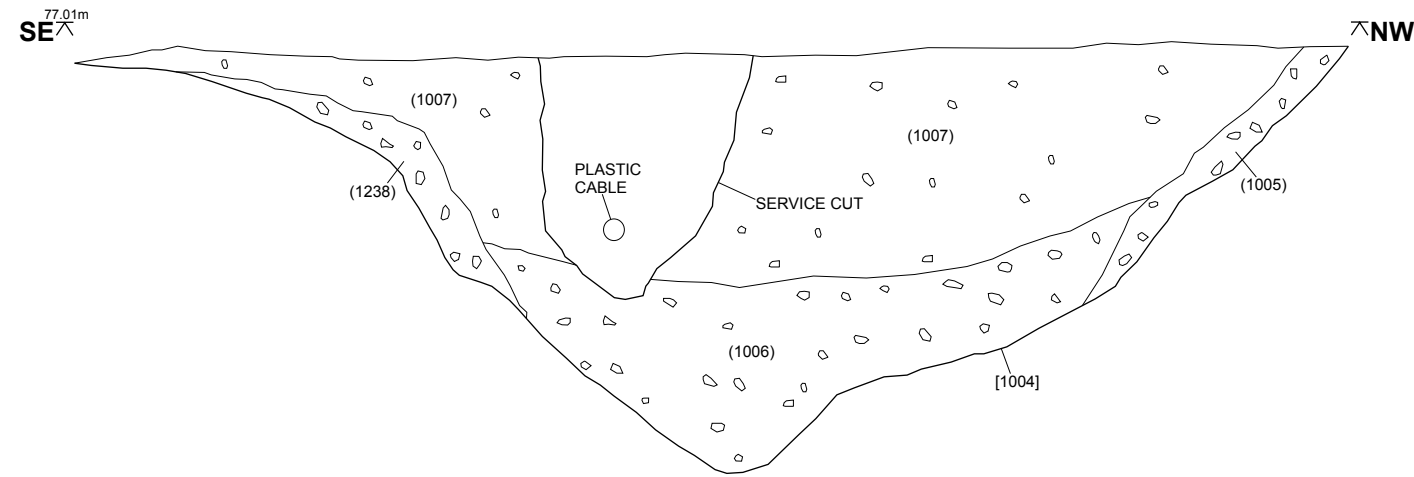


Photograph 7: SFB 2 Looking North, In-fill Entirely Removed

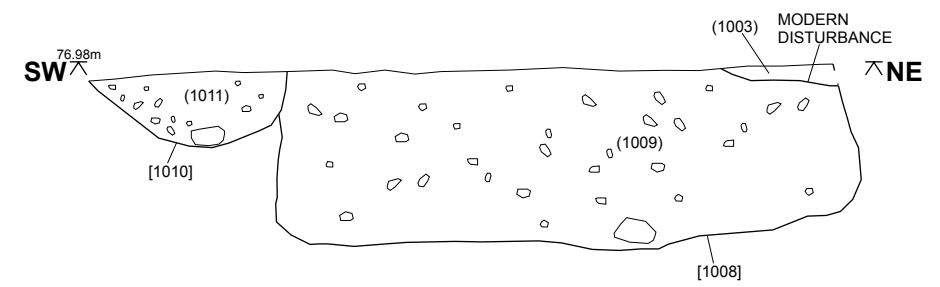
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FIGURE 11: SFB 1 and 2 Photographs

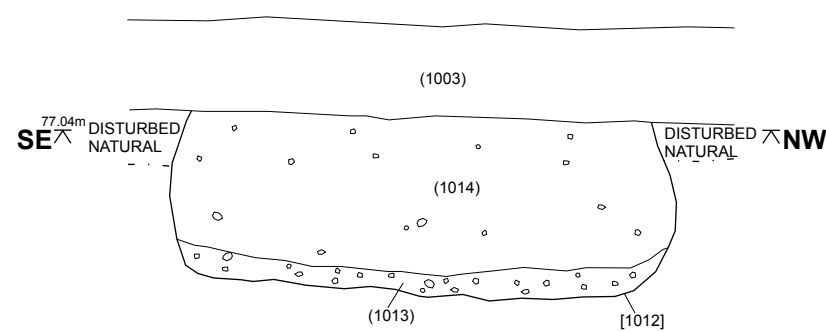
SEC 001: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1004]



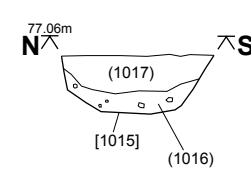
SEC 002: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1008] and [1010]



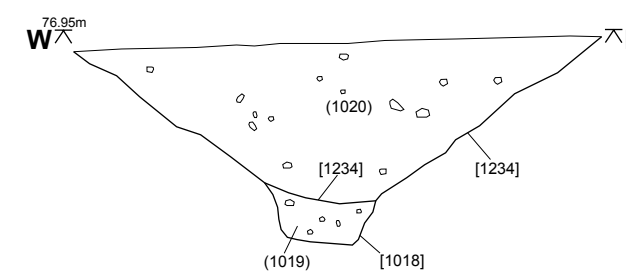
SEC 003: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1012]



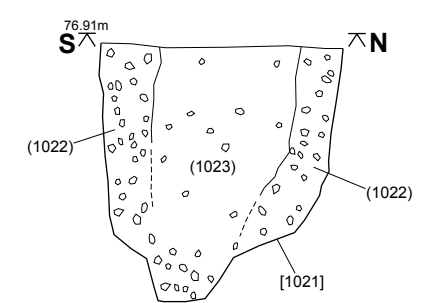
SEC 004: WEST FACING SECTION [1015]



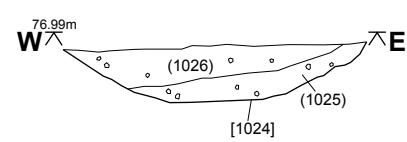
SEC 005: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1018] and [1234]



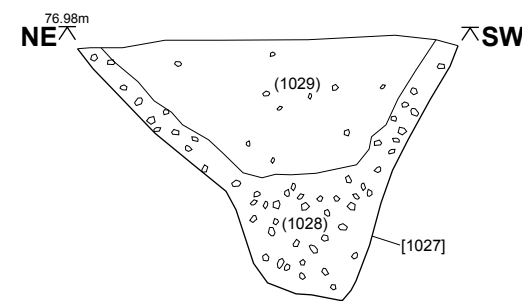
SEC 006: EAST FACING SECTION [1021]



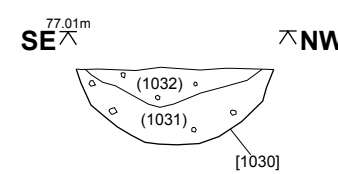
SEC 007: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1024]



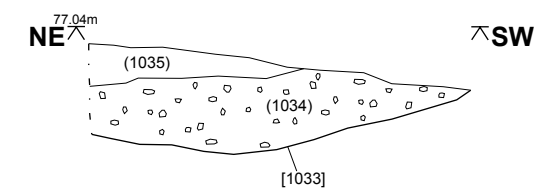
SEC 008: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1027]



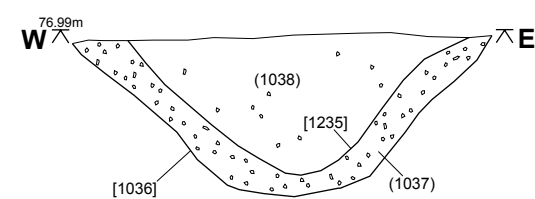
SEC 009: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1030]



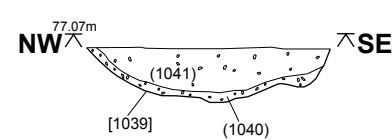
SEC 010: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1033]



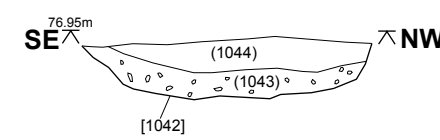
SEC 011: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1036] and [1235]



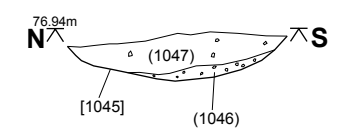
SEC 012: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1039]



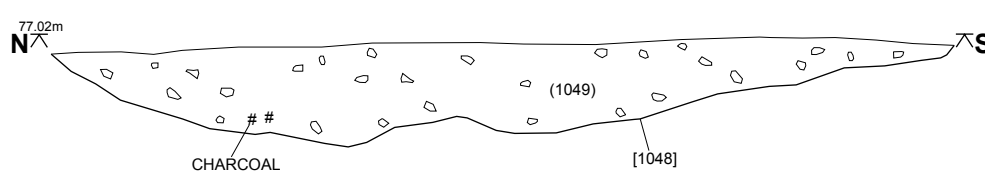
SEC 013: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1042]



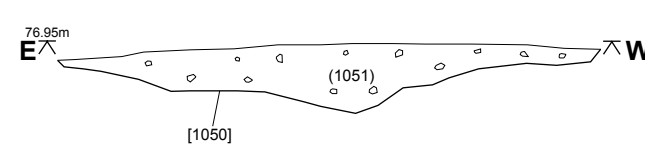
SEC 014: WEST FACING SECTION [1045]



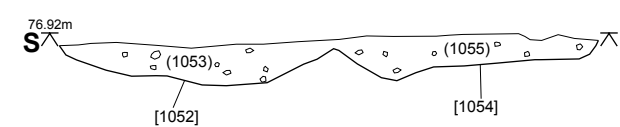
SEC 015: WEST FACING SECTION [1048]



SEC 016: NORTH FACING SECTION [1050]

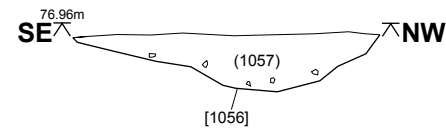


SEC 018: EAST FACING SECTION [1052] and [1054]

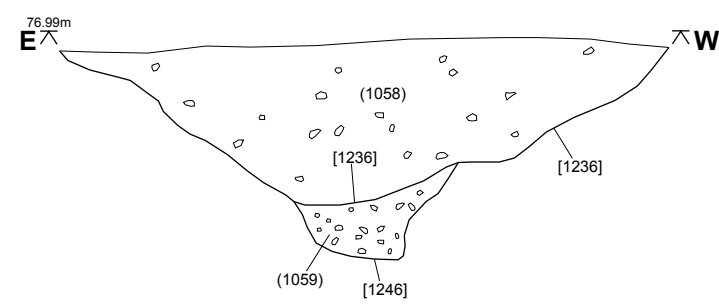


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| FIGURE 12: Sections 001 to 018 |

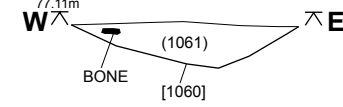
SEC 019: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1056]



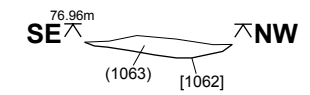
SEC 022: NORTH FACING SECTION [1236] and [1246]



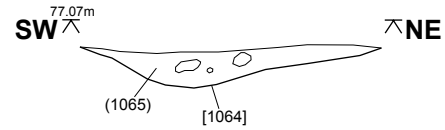
SEC 023: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1060]



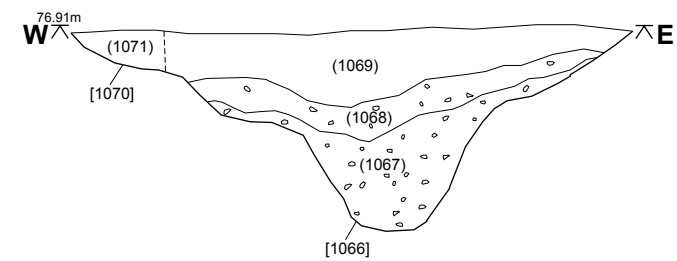
SEC 024: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1062]



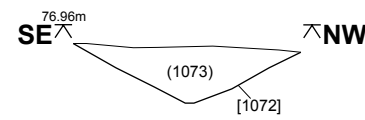
SEC 025: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1064]



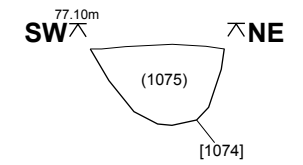
SEC 026: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1066] and [1070]



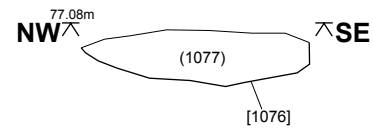
SEC 027: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1072]



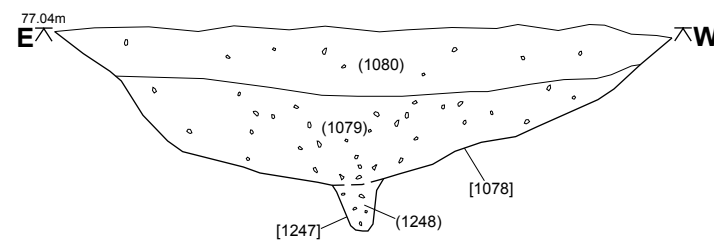
SEC 028: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1074]



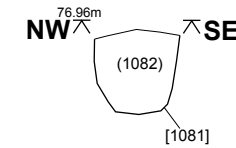
SEC 029: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1076]



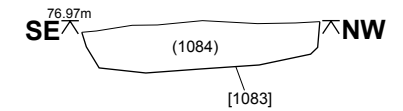
SEC 030: NORTH FACING SECTION [1078] and [1247]



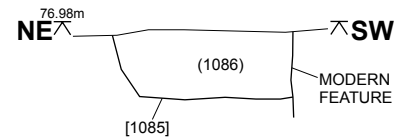
SEC 031: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1081]



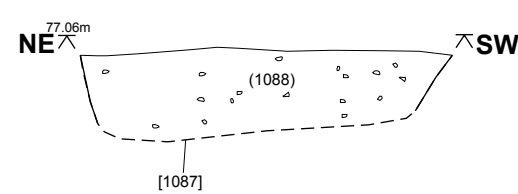
SEC 032: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1083]



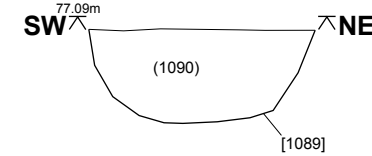
SEC 033: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1085]



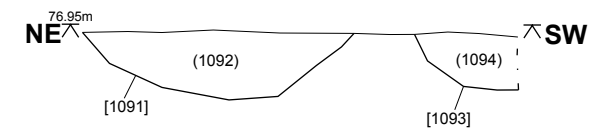
SEC 034: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1087]



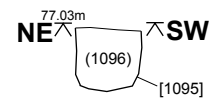
SEC 035: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1089]



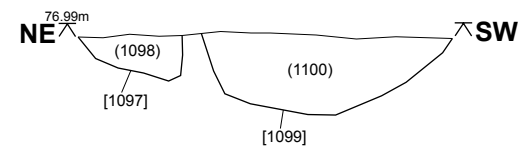
SEC 036: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1091] and [1093]



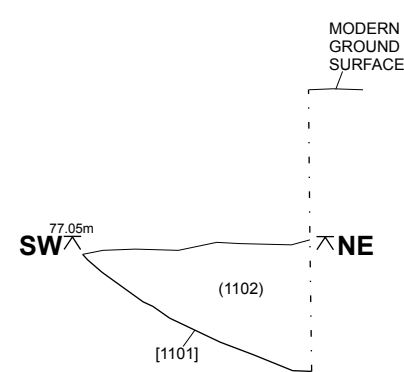
SEC 037: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1095]



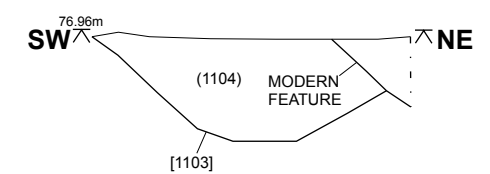
SEC 038: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1097] and [1099]



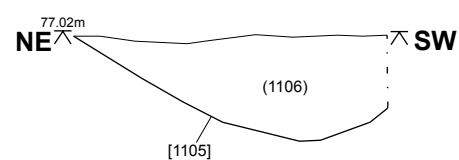
SEC 039: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1101]



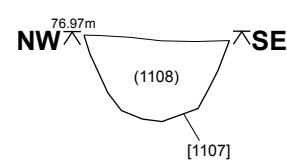
SEC 040: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1103]




SEC 041: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1105]

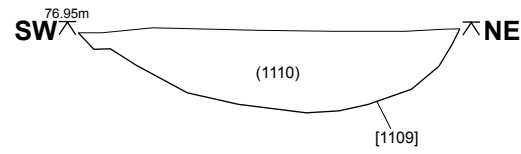


SEC 043: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1107]

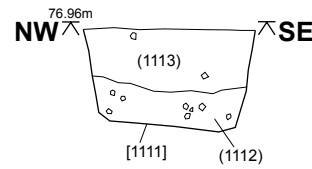


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| FIGURE 13: Sections 019 to 043 |

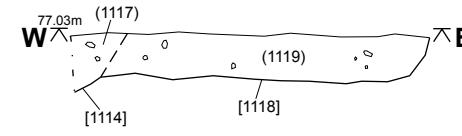
SEC 044: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1109]



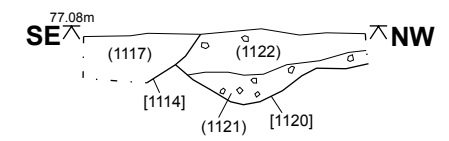
SEC 045: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1111]



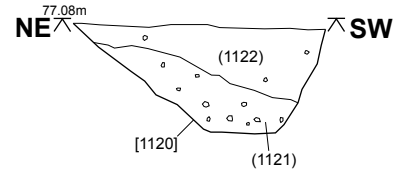
SEC 048: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1114] and [1118]



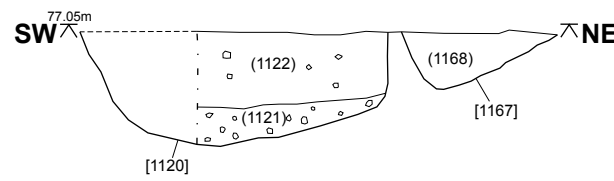
SEC 049: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1114] and [1120]



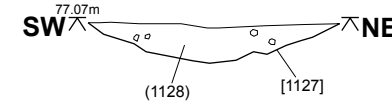
SEC 050: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1120]



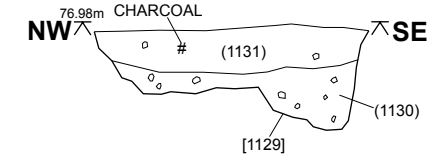
SEC 051: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1120] and [1167]



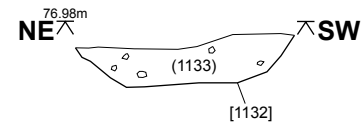
SEC 056: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1127]



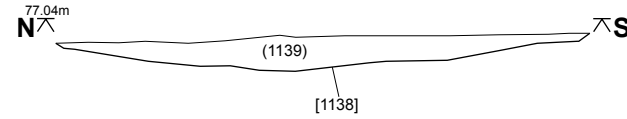
SEC 057: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1129]



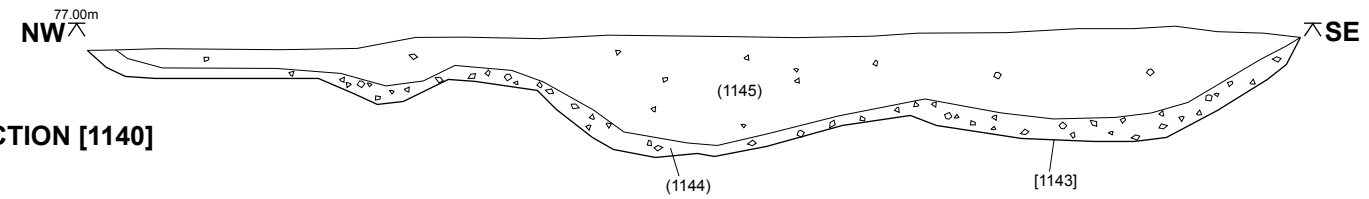
SEC 058: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1132]



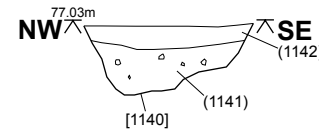
SEC 061: WEST FACING SECTION [1138]



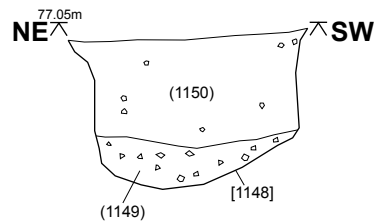
SEC 063: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1143]



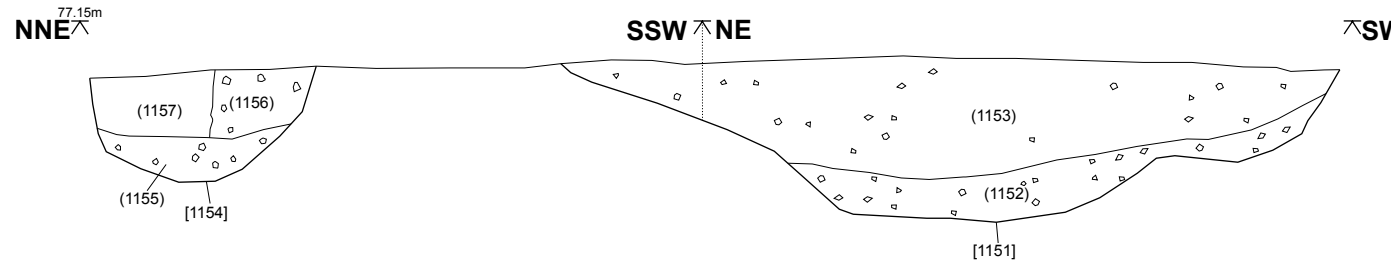
SEC 062: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1140]



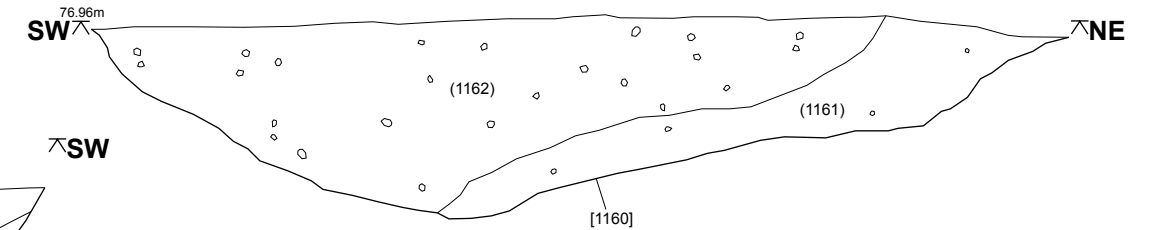
SEC 064: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1148]



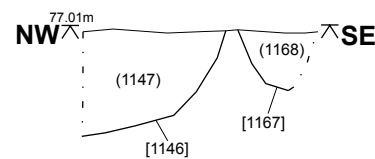
SEC 065: WEST-NORTHWEST/NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1151] and [1154]



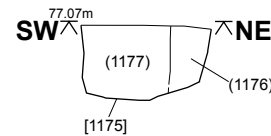
SEC 068: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1160]



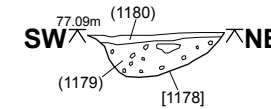
SEC 072: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1146] and [1167]



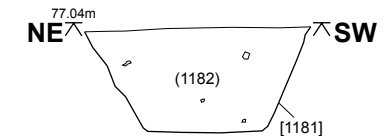
SEC 075: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1175]



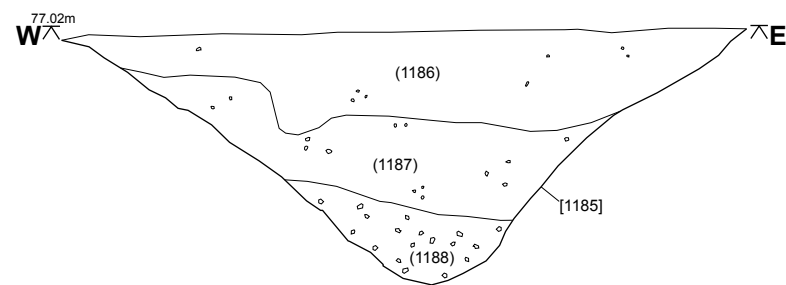
SEC 076: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1178]



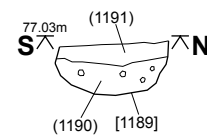
SEC 078: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1181]



SEC 079: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1185]




SEC 080: EAST FACING SECTION [1189]



SEC 081: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1192]

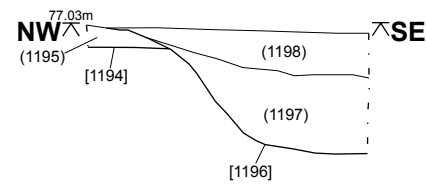


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| FIGURE 14: Sections 044 to 081 |

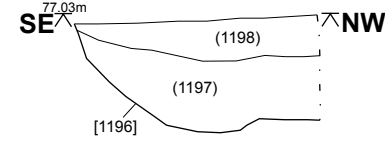
SECS 052, 055 = FIG 8
SECS 046, 047, 053, 054, 059, 060, 071, 073, 077 = FIG 9
SECS 066, 067, 069, 070 = FIG 010

SEC 074 IS VOID

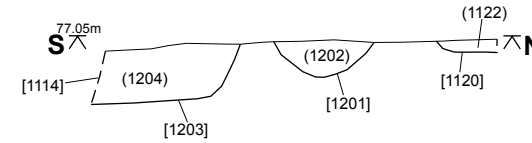
SEC 082: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1194] and [1196]



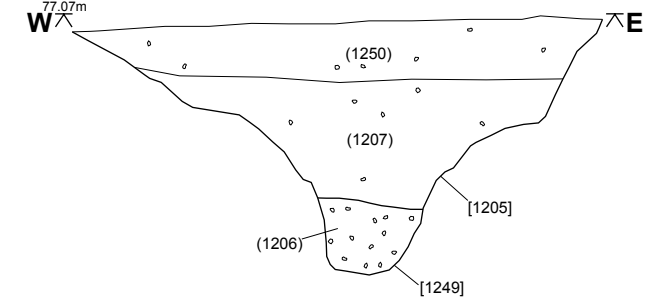
SEC 083: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1196]



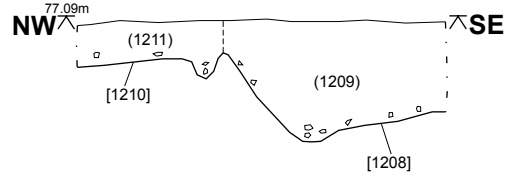
SEC 086: EAST FACING SECTION [1114], [1201], [1202] and [1203]



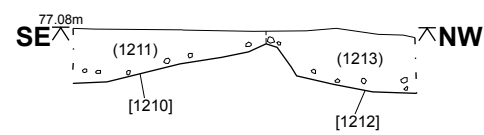
SEC 087: SOUTH FACING SECTION [1205] and [1249]



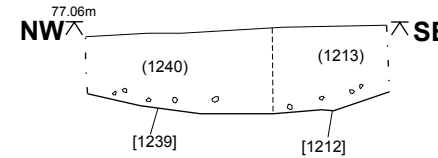
SEC 088: SOUTHWEST SECTION [1208] and [1210]



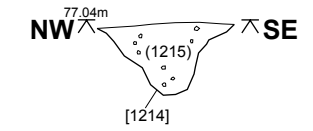
SEC 089: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1210] and [1212]



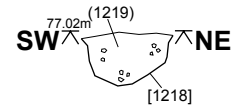
SEC 090: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1212] and [1239]



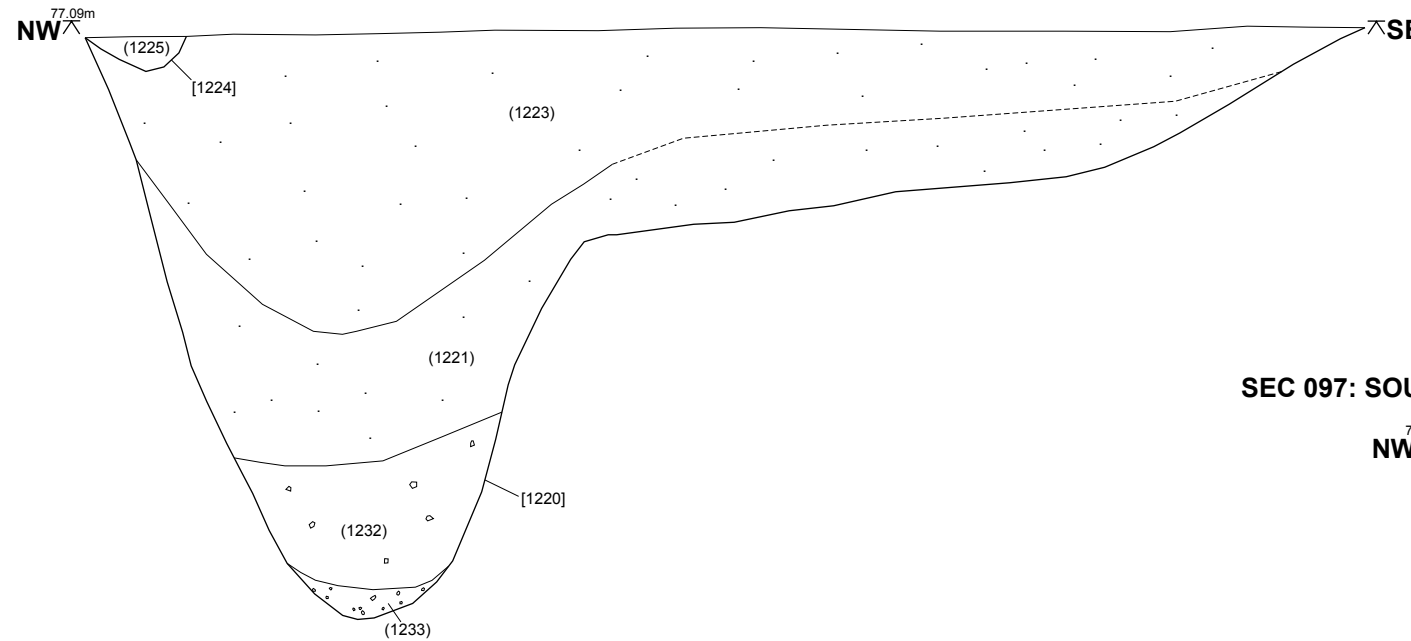
SEC 092: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1214]



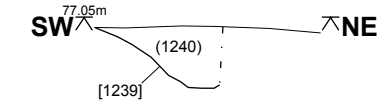
SEC 093: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1218]



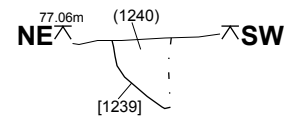
SEC 094: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1220] and [1224]



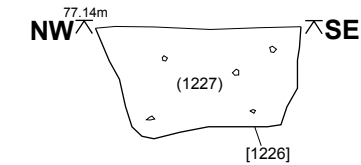
SEC 095: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1239]



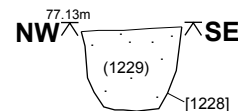
SEC 096: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1239]



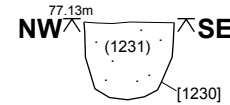
SEC 097: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1226]



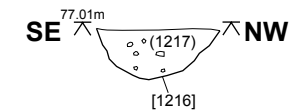
SEC 098: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1228]



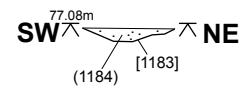
SEC 099: SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION [1230]



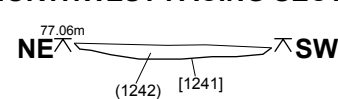
SEC 100: NORTHEAST FACING SECTION [1216]



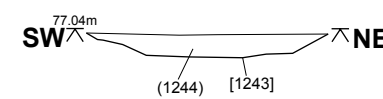
SEC 101: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1183]



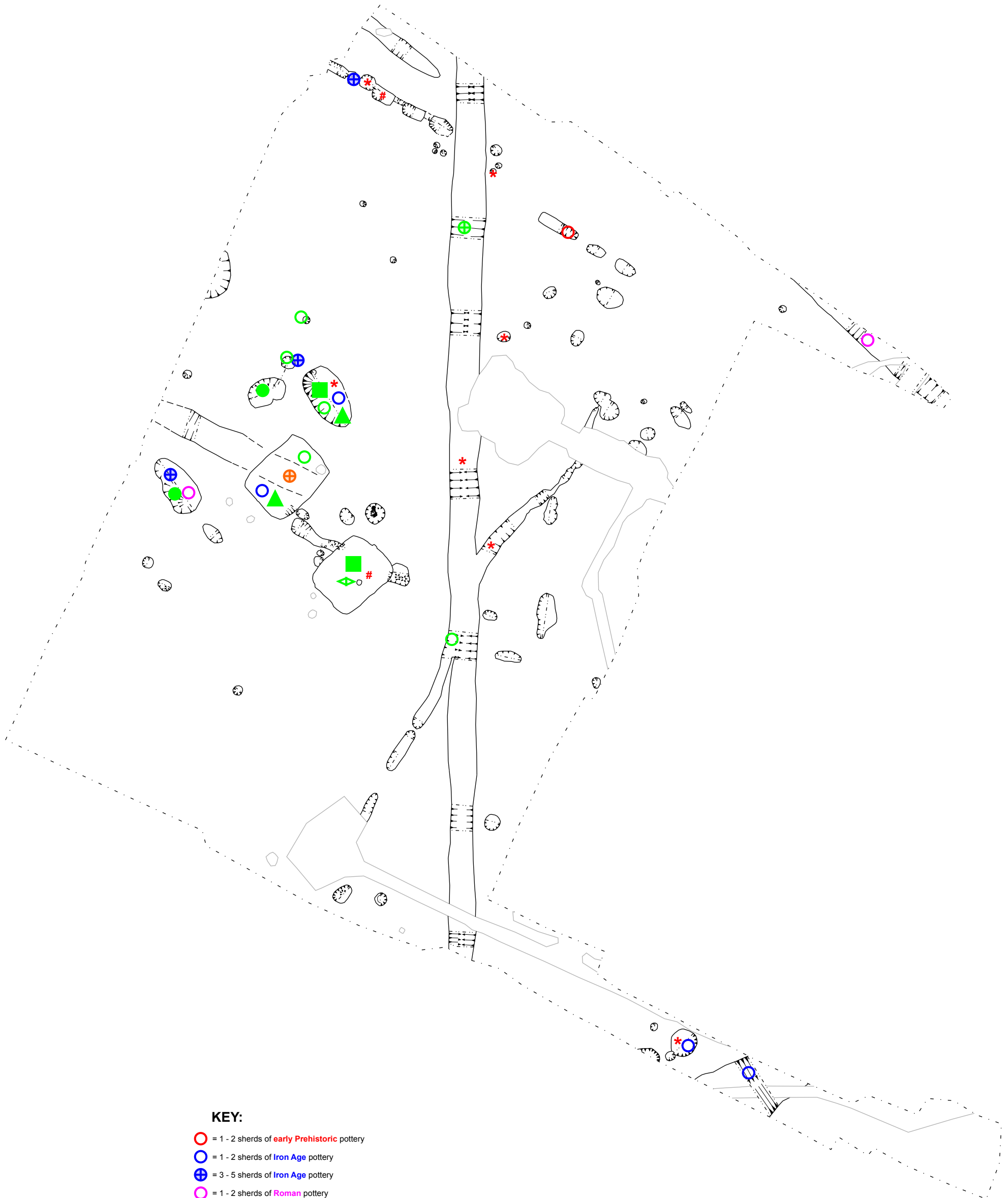
SEC 102: NORTHWEST FACING SECTION [1241]



SEC 103: SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION [1243]



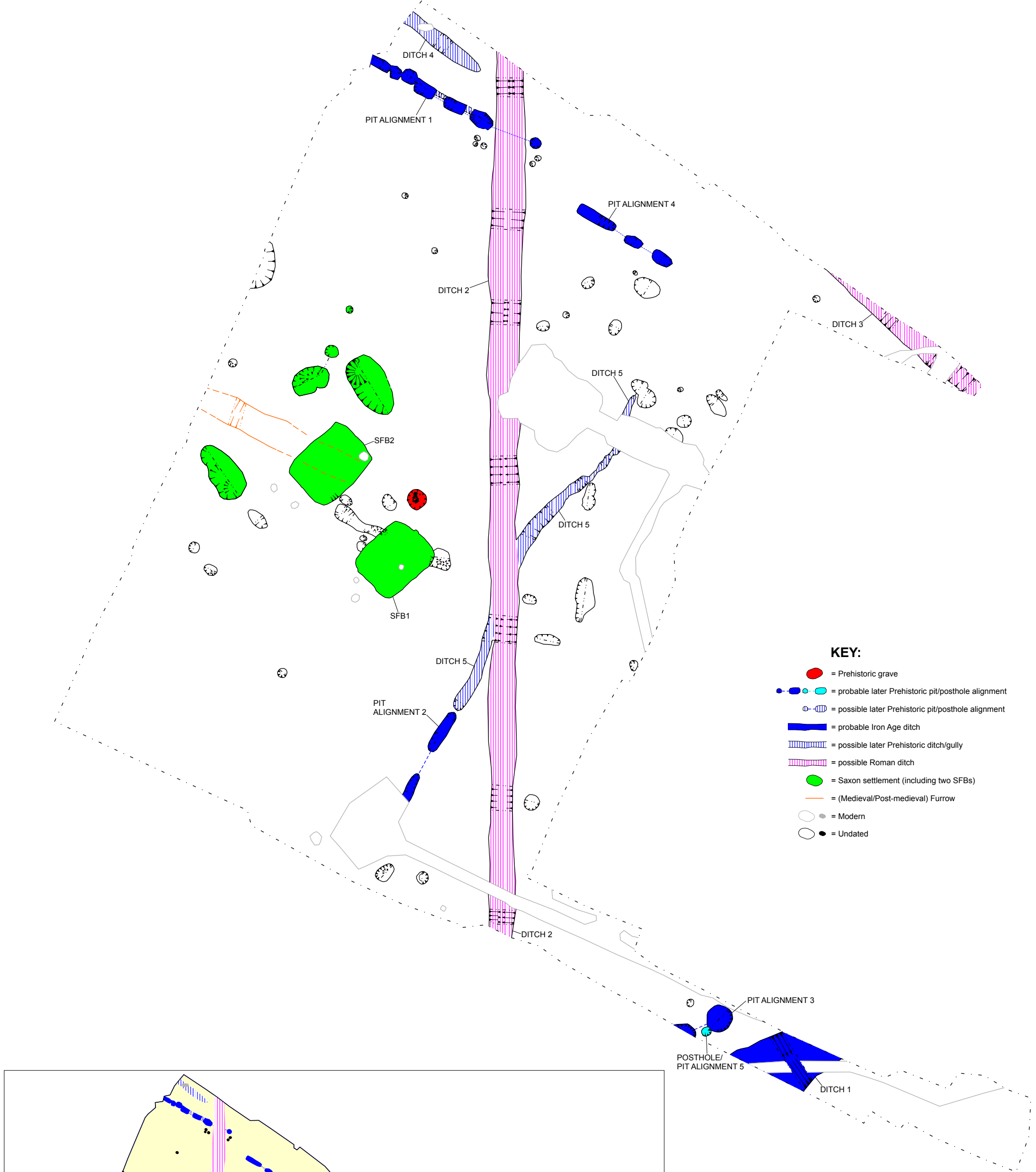
| |
|---------------------------------------|
| Site Code: LMH17m Accession Code: |
| |
| FIGURE 15: Sections 082 to 103 |



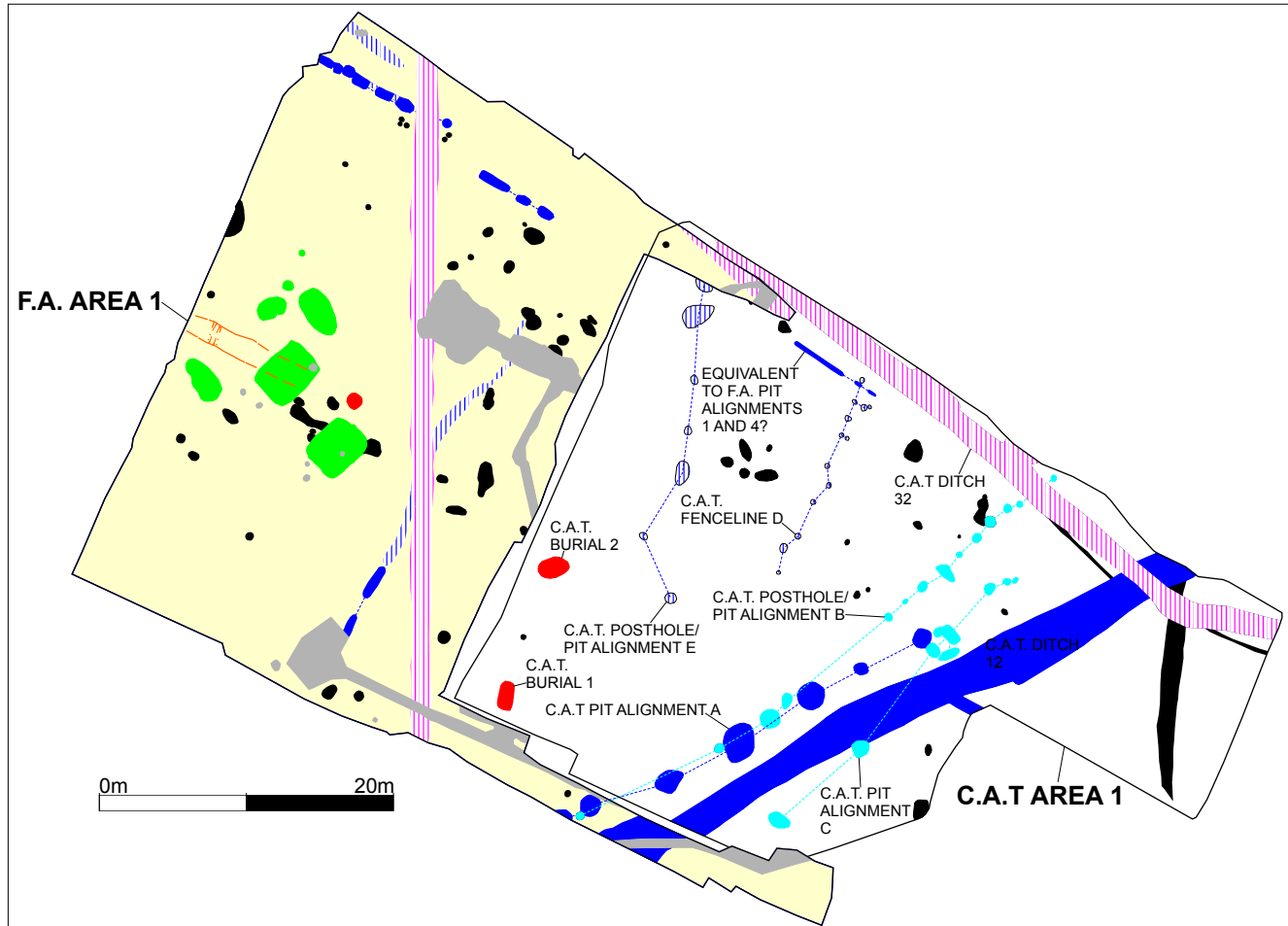
KEY:

- = 1 - 2 sherds of **early Prehistoric** pottery
- = 1 - 2 sherds of **Iron Age** pottery
- ⊕ = 3 - 5 sherds of **Iron Age** pottery
- = 1 - 2 sherds of **Roman** pottery
- = 1 - 2 sherds of **Saxon** pottery
- ⊕ = 3 - 5 sherds of **Saxon** pottery
- = 6 - 10 sherds of **Saxon** pottery
- ▲ = 11 - 25 sherds of **Saxon** pottery
- = 26 - 50 sherds of **Saxon** pottery
- ◀▶ = **Saxon** bone weaving pick
- ⊕ = 3 - 5 sherds of **Medieval** pottery
- * = 1 - 2 Prehistoric struck flint
- # = 3 - 5 Prehistoric struck flint

| |
|---|
| <p>Site Code: LMH17m Accession Code:</p> |
| |
| <p>FIGURE 16: Plan Showing Distribution of Datable Finds</p> |



- KEY:**
- = Prehistoric grave
 - - ● = probable later Prehistoric pit/posthole alignment
 - - ○ = possible later Prehistoric pit/posthole alignment
 - = probable Iron Age ditch
 - = possible later Prehistoric ditch/gully
 - = possible Roman ditch
 - = Saxon settlement (including two SFBs)
 - = (Medieval/Post-medieval) Furrow
 - = Modern
 - = Undated



Site Code: LMH17m
 Accession Code:

N

0m 10m

FIGURE 17: Plan Showing Feature Groups/Phasing

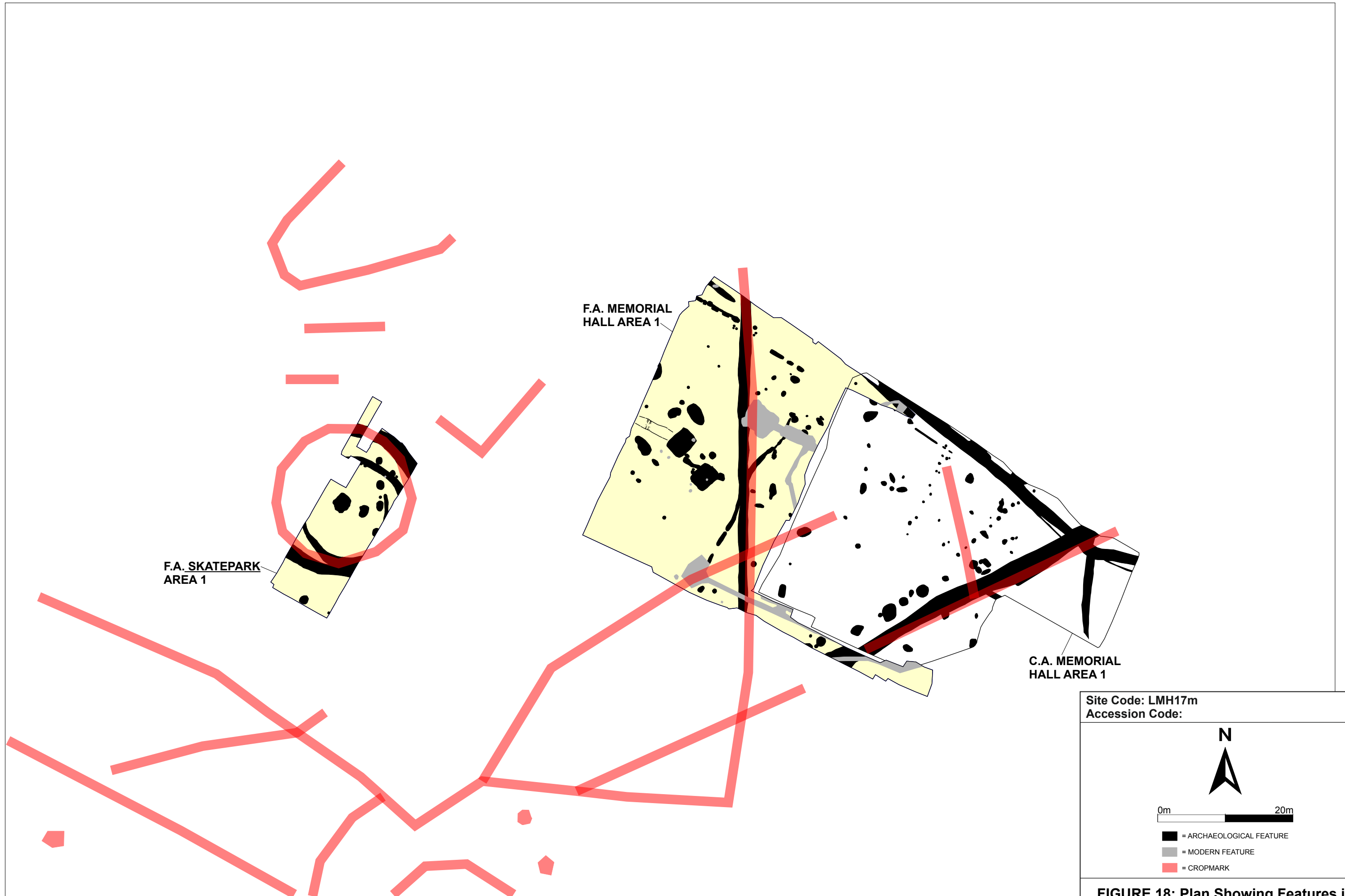


FIGURE 18: Plan Showing Features in Relation to Cropmarks