

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood,
Reading, Berkshire**

AREA 2

Archaeological Excavation

by Will Attard

Site Code: CRSW17/256

(SU 7219 6715)

**Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood,
Reading, Berkshire, Area 2**

**An Archaeological Excavation
for Taylor Wimpey**

by Will Attard
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code CRSW17/256

November 2019

Summary

Site name: Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood, Reading, Berkshire

Grid reference: SU 7219 6715

Site activity: Excavation

Project Dates: 6th February to 27th March 2019

Project Coordinator: Danielle Milbank

Site supervisor: Will Attard

Site code: CRSW 17/256

Area of site: c. 0.5ha

Summary of results: The excavation revealed post-medieval and undated features. A number of sherds of medieval pottery hint at some earlier activity. The fieldwork has demonstrated that the earthwork bank is certainly later than a post-medieval ditch and several other features respect its line. All of the features appear to relate to field boundaries and drainage.

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Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood, Reading, Berkshire An Archaeological Excavation Area 2

by Will Attard

Report 18/125b

Introduction

This report details the results of an archaeological excavation carried out by Thames Valley Archaeological Services on land to the north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood, Reading, Berkshire, SU 7219 6715 (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Neil Wright of CgMs Heritage, Burlington House, Lypiatt Rd, Cheltenham GL50 2SY on behalf of Taylor Wimpey West London.

Planning permission (162829) has been granted by Wokingham Borough Council for development of land at Spencer's Wood, Reading, Berkshire. The consent is subject to a condition (33) requiring that a programme of archaeological investigation be carried out. This report relates to a plot of land referred to for archaeological purposes as Mitigation Area 2 (SU7219 6715), which is irregular in plan and covers an area of 0.5ha and forms part of a much larger overall development area.

The site was stripped using a 13-tonne 360° type excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Stripping took place between 6th February and 1st March 2019 and the excavation took place between 21st February and 27th March 2019. The archive is currently held by Thames Valley Archaeological Services, 47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading, RG1 5NR and will be deposited with West Berkshire Museum in due course. The work was carried out according to a written scheme of investigation approved by Mr Roland Smith, Archaeology Officer with Berkshire Archaeology, advising the Borough Council.

Location, topography and geology

The site consists of an irregular portion of land to the north of Ryeish Lane, Spencers Wood, Reading, and north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood, Reading (Fig. 1). The area targeted for excavation is within a field used formerly for equestrian activities, with active stables situated off the north-west corner of the site. The natural geology is recorded as fluvial terrace gravel overlying London Clay (BGS 1981). The geology exposed during the excavation broadly conforms to the mapping: the clay content in the gravel was high, with a thick patch of clay stretching across the centre of the site and aligned roughly north-east/south-west.

Archaeological background

The site's archaeological potential of the overall development area was initially assessed by desk-based assessments (CgMs 2010; 2012), a field walking survey (Ford 1997), aerial photography (Gates 1975) and geophysical survey (Stratascan 1997a and b). Recently excavated sites in the area showed deposits of Iron Age and Roman date at Grazeley Road (Ford *et al.* 2013) and at MereOak Lane (Milbank 2010) to the west with further Iron Age deposits to the south west (ASE 2004a; 2004b).

The specific archaeological potential of Mitigation Area 2 has been evaluated by four trenches (26-7, 29-30) excavated by Cotswold Archaeology (CA 2017). This investigation identified an undated earthwork and various features possibly of Iron Age, Roman or medieval date. Evaluation trenching of the other mitigation areas (CA 2017; Taylor 2012) revealed Iron Age and Roman land use, along with evidence of medieval field systems. Of particular note are a series of cremations discovered in close proximity to each other directly to the south of mitigation Area 3 (CA 2017). These have been dated to the Iron Age.

Aims and Objectives, Methodology

The general objectives of the project were to:

- Excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the area threatened by the proposed development;
- Produce relative and absolute dating for deposits and features recorded on the site;
- Establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, agricultural, etc.

Specific Objectives for the excavation were to attempt to address the following questions:

- What is the nature and date of the earthwork?
- When was the site first utilised; when was it abandoned?
- What is the nature of Iron Age use of the site? Is the occupation enclosed or unenclosed? Does the Iron Age use include field systems as observed recently to the south?
- What is the nature of Roman use of the site? If this is occupation, is it enclosed or unenclosed? Does occupation of the site continue up to the end of Roman rule in Britain, or, as noted elsewhere in the region, does it stop much earlier?
- Is there any pre-Roman or early Saxon activity on the site?
- Is there any medieval activity on the site?
- What is the palaeoenvironmental setting of the area?

The area to be excavated for this phase of works was *c.* 0.5ha as shown in Fig. 2, centred on the earthwork, which was visible prior to excavation. A topographical survey of the earthwork was to be made before topsoil stripping. Topsoil and subsoil were removed under continuous archaeological supervision by a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket. The earthwork was reported as consisting of a ditch and bank, the latter overlying buried top and subsoil (CA 2017). Only a thin strip (0.10m) was removed from this area to preserve the bank material *in situ*. Two evaluation trenches excavated by Cotswold Archaeology that cut through the earthwork were partially re-excavated to establish the extent and stratigraphic position of the earthwork bank deposit, and thus inform stripping strategy.

All archaeological features were to be planned and sectioned as a minimum objective, with provision for fuller excavation or sampling according to an agreed strategy based on the nature and significance of the feature. Excavation and recording followed the procedures of the TVAS Fieldwork manual.

The Earthwork Survey

Prior to removing the top- and subsoil from mitigation Area 2, a walkover survey of the earthwork was conducted. This involved the use of a GPS to record the profile and discernible extent of the earthwork. This established a maximum depth from top of bank to base of ditch of 1.0m. No surface finds were observed during this process.

The Excavation (Fig. 2)

The excavation revealed a modest number of archaeological deposits and features, some of which had been identified during the evaluation trenching (CA 2017). Some features identified during the evaluation trenching were found, on full excavation, to be geological in origin. In total, 22 archaeological features and 1 tree hole were investigated, with 67 slots excavated: 61 slots in 14 ditches and gullies, 3 post holes, 1 tree hole and the large mixed top- and subsoil deposit constituting the earthwork bank.

Earlier post-medieval

A curved ditch, 5004, at the east end of area 2 was examined by five slots (1036, 1038, 1040, 1041 and 1048) in the excavation in addition to one from the evaluation (2705). The ditch entered the site aligned east–west, and curved to a SW–NE orientation heading the north, exiting site aligned almost due N–S. It extended beyond the area of excavation in both directions. It varied between 0.85m and 2.3m in width and 0.4–0.58m in depth (Fig. 4). It had a concave base, becoming flat in the widest sections, with gradually concave sides and contained

between one and four fills along its length (1091, 1093, 1095-6, 1159-62). The evaluation trenching had recorded a Roman date for this feature but pottery and tile from this phase of work establish a post-medieval date. Two further features are dated only on being stratigraphically below post-medieval features.

Ditch 5004 cut through pit 1037, an oval feature with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 4). Pit 1037 had a length of 4.03m and a width of 2.23m with a depth of 0.32m. Filled with a light bluish grey silty clay (1092) with large amounts of stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature but it predates the ditch.

Curvilinear ditch 5005 was investigated in two slots (1024, 1025) (Pl. 3) and one relationship slot (1101) showing it was cut by late post-medieval boundary ditch 5008. The ditch was between 0.44-0.64m wide and 0.17-0.2m in depth with a bowl shaped profile and steep sides (Fig. 4). The ditch had one fill (1075, 1076, 1165) a loose, very dark grey silty clay with small gravel inclusions. At first glance this feature resembled a prehistoric ring gully, but no dating evidence was recovered from the fill and while this feature was earlier than ditch 5008 its unconsolidated fill suggests there is no need for it to be much earlier.

Later Post-medieval

The majority of features were focused north of a post-medieval field boundary aligned SW-NE across area 2. Only 3 isolated post holes and one linear feature were discovered south of this boundary.

Parallel ditches 5001 and 5002 were located to the west of the earthwork and oriented NW/SE, as was the earthwork. Ditch 5001 extended beyond the NW limit of excavation, and terminated 30m south-west of this boundary. It was investigated with three slots (1009, 1022 and 1023) and one relationship slot (1003-4). The ditch measured 0.42-0.57m in width, with depth ranging from 0.11-0.13m (Fig. 3). It had a rounded, concave profile and contained a single fill (1060, 1073 and 1074). Ditch 5002 was located roughly 3m to the NE of 5001, and was investigated in six slots (1011, 1016-18 and 1020-21) and one relationship slot (1008-9). This feature became segmented in the SE, and continued beyond the excavated area in the NW. Ditch 5002 measured 0.40-0.76m wide, with a depth of 0.15-0.26m and a rounded, concave profile (Fig. 3; Pl. 2). Like 5001, ditch 5002 contained a single fill (1062, 1068-69 and 1071-72). The distance between these features, similar profiles, the fact that they run parallel, and are orientated on the same alignment as the earthwork, all suggest they may have formed the edges of a track way.

Ditch 5003 cut through the two parallel ditches 5001 and 5002 (Fig. 3), and was orientated due E-W. Investigated in 3 slots (1006, 1015 and 1032) and two relationship slots (1003-4 and 1007-8) the ditch was 0.84-1.24m wide and 0.17-0.28m in depth (Pl. 4). Ditch 5003 extended beyond the limit of excavation to the west and below the earthwork bank. If it continued to the east of the bank, its line was lost in ditch 5004/5007. On

examination of the earthwork and underlying buried soil deposit, it was possible to establish that ditch 5003 underlies the buried topsoil, but cuts through the subsoil.

Earthwork bank and associated ditch

The earthwork bank (1079-1082) was situated roughly over and in line with a field boundary marked on the 1735 Fingall Estate map (cf., CA 2017, fig. 14), and overlies a large band of naturally deposited clay that spans the site. This would have marked the eastern edge of a field, at its lowest point. The bank deposit overlay a buried top- or subsoil deposit, which in turn overlay the natural geology (Pl. 6). This deposit was investigated using two large machine-dug slots (Pl. 6). At its thickest, the bank was 0.30m high, becoming gradually thinner either side of this rough centre line (Fig. 5).

Ditch 5007, aligned close to NW-SE, was located along the east side of the earthwork, in places partially underlying the bank deposit. It was investigated in five slots (1028, 1030, 1042-3 (Pl. 5), 1044, 1046-7; which included re-excavating one from the evaluation (2707)). A gravel deposit (1086, assigned to cut 1029 but in retrospect this was not a cut) along the western margin of the ditch was upcast from ditch 5007, either from its construction or subsequent maintenance. This deposit was observed to underlie the upper layer of the earthwork bank (Fig. 5). A post-medieval field drain pipe was discovered within part of the cut of 5007, and underlying earthwork bank material. This pipe was found to continue into the other field boundaries observed in the area of excavation. The ditch was between 2.25m and 3.64m wide and between 0.36m and 0.65m deep with between one and four fills along its length (1085, 1090, 1151-55, 1158) (Fig. 4). The orientation and location of this feature suggest it formed a field boundary. Ten sherds of pottery came from various fills of ditch 5007, two residual medieval sherds, and eight post-medieval.

It is plausible that the earthwork, ditch and gravel deposit represent attempts over time to manage water within the boundaries of the former field.

Field Boundary

Field boundary 5008 crossed area 2 on a NE-SW alignment and was investigated in two slots (1004, 1049-1100). A land drain (1005) ran along the length of the field boundary (Pl. 1). The field boundary was 1.21m wide and 0.46m with step sides a sharp break of slope and undulating base (Fig. 4). The field boundary had two fills (1054, 1055) and produced finds of pottery, brick and wood which gave the feature a late post-medieval date. This feature formed the southern extent of a field system and changes direction slightly to become E-W when it meets the earthwork. The two features respect each other showing they were in use simultaneously giving further evidence the earthwork was used alongside the field boundaries possible as a system of water management.

Undated

Ditches

Ditch 5000 was recorded along the SW edge of area 2 aligned NW-SE before turning towards the SW at the northern end. Investigated in four slots (1000-1003), the ditch was 0.47-0.65m wide and 0.18-0.22m deep with a single fill (1050-1053)(Fig. 3). This feature continued beyond the limit of investigation in both directions. No dating evidence was recovered from this feature, its orientation suggests it should be contemporary with ditches 5001 and 5002 and the earthwork. In plan it appeared to be cut by ditch 5008

Ditch 5006 was aligned N-S from the southern boundary of area 2 and terminated after 14m. Investigated in two slots (1035, 1039) in addition to one from the evaluation (3003), the ditch was 0.61-0.84m wide and 0.22-0.29m deep (Fig. 4) with a single fill (1089, 1093) a light greyish brown silty clay. Possibly a continuation of ditch 5007.

Other features

These three postholes were located towards the south of area 2 and were not associated with evidence of a structure. No dating evidence was recovered from these features and their function remains unknown; all postholes were 100% excavated for finds recovery.

Posthole 1031 was circular, with step shallow sides and a concave profile (Fig. 4). It was 0.32m in diameter and 0.13m deep, filled with a light bluish grey silty clay (1083). Posthole 1033 was circular with moderate shallow sides and a concave profile. It was 0.24m in diameter and 0.05m in depth, and filled with a dark brownish grey sandy silt (1087). Posthole 1034 was circular with a concave profile and a moderate break of slope. It was 0.33m in diameter and 0.15m deep, filled with a dark brownish grey sandy silt. Two further postholes recorded in the evaluation likewise did not form any obvious structure (2909, 2911).

Isolated pit 1012 was recorded west of ditch 5001, at the northern edge of excavation. It was an oval feature with gentle sloping sides and a concave profile, 1.4m in length and 0.83m wide with a maximum depth of 0.16m (Fig. 3). Although the feature is undated, a piece of slag (52g) was recovered from the light grey sandy silt (1063) that filled the feature.

Isolated feature 1027 was initially regarded as the possible terminus of a ditch roughly 5m in length. It had a flat, slightly concave base and gradually sloping sides, with a width of 0.52m and a depth of 0.21m (Fig. 3). The feature was filled with a sterile mid blue grey sandy clay (1078). No finds were recovered from this feature, and it is considered more likely to be geological in origin. A very similar short linear feature 1010 was aligned N-S between ditch 5003 ditch 5002, and was and investigated at the terminus. It had a width of 0.58m and a depth of 0.33m (Fig. 3) and was filled with a light grey sandy silt with small rounded gravel inclusions (1061).

No finds were recovered from this feature and like 1027 it may be a natural geological occurrence. A few features from the evaluation also appear to fall into this category (2605, 2917, 2919).

Tree hole 1019 was recorded alongside ditch 5002. It had an irregular shape and uneven profile, with a depth of 0.21m. It was filled with a pale grey-brown sandy clay with small flint gravel inclusions (1070) but no finds.

Finds

Pottery by Cristina Mateos

The pottery assemblage comprised a total of 15 sherds weighing 336g (Appendix 2). The pottery belongs to the Medieval and post-Medieval periods. The medieval pottery was sorted by fabric type, on the basis of the rock and mineral inclusions present. Only one medieval fabric was noted:

SMFQI: Sandy fabric; abundant medium-grained mica, feldspar and quartz; sparse iron oxides.

The rim found on the surface of the ditch (5007) belongs to a cooking pot of 240mm diameter. It has been identified with Newbury Group C (Vince 1997, 52). One of the two body sherds found in deposit 1152 in the same ditch is brown sandy fabric with a grey core. The body sherd recovered from deposit 1095 is in an orange sandy fabric with grey-brownish core. The last sherd came from deposit 1085. These fragments have been dated by analogy with the rim. Despite minor variants in colour, the assemblage all shares the same fabric. Newbury Group C has been dated between the late 12th and mid 14th centuries (Vince 1997, 54); however the sherd in deposit 1152 was accompanied by a post-medieval sherd and ditch 5007 contained further post-medieval wares so the medieval pottery must be regarded as redeposited.

Eleven Post-medieval sherds were recovered. The first piece comes from the top of a ditch. It is a hard orange fabric and the interior face is covered with brownish glaze and the outside surface has traces of the same glaze. The rim from the boundary ditch is glazed red earthenware. Two rims belong to two 'china' plates: the rim found in deposit 1054 is not decorated; one in deposit 1090 has the typical blue transfer print.

A plate rim from deposit 1079 is in a hard orange brownish fabric with brown glaze in the interior only. This surface shows a wavy line decoration made with white paste. Four sherds from the same vessel were recovered from deposit 1154. They are grey-orange hard fabric with a dark brown glaze in both surface.

The other bodysherd in deposit 1152 is in a hard orange fabric with no evidence of any kind of treatment. It belongs to the Post-medieval period.

Ceramic building material by Danielle Milbank

A modest quantity of brick and tile fragments (18 pieces, weighing 2.043kg) were recovered during the excavation (Appendix 3). The majority of the fragments are identifiable as tile, and the material is in moderate condition, fragmented and with occasional abrasion.

Ditch 5008, comprising slots 1004 (1054) and 1005 (1055) contained several pieces of tile in a medium hard fabric with sparse sand inclusions and a coarse sandy base, and a thickness of 14mm to 16mm. The form is fairly even and the pieces are likely to represent roof tile of late medieval or (more likely) early post-medieval date. A brick fragment was recovered from this feature, in a medium to slightly soft clay fabric with sparse fine limestone inclusions and a mid red colour with slight pale lensing. The base is rough, with a strawmark, indicating a mould was used, and the form and thickness (55mm) suggests it is of medieval or early post-medieval date.

Ditch 5004 contained brick fragments including a large piece in a medium hard clay with sparse sand inclusions, a mid red colour, of a fairly regular form with sharp arrises, and a thickness of 60mm, likely to be post-medieval in date. A range of tile pieces were also recovered, which are of medium hard fabric with sparse sand inclusions and a coarse sandy base, typically 15mm thick and of broadly late medieval or post-medieval date.

Two tile pieces were recovered from ditch slot 1044, a piece of roof tile in a fairly fine clay with a broadly post-medieval date, and a small piece in a hard, fine fabric with a thickness of 11mm and a curve, which is likely to represent a fragment of drain or similar type, also of post-medieval date.

The material encountered in the excavation is modest and represents activity on the site in the later medieval or more likely post-medieval periods, though no closely datable forms were identified. The roof tiles perhaps include peg tiles though no peg holes were present.

Glass by Danielle Milbank

Glass was recovered from three contexts. A small piece from ditch slot 1028 (1085) is 3mm thick, in a dark green colour, and represents post-medieval bottle glass.

A second shard from the top of the bank is almost colourless, with a slightly blue green hue, and again represents bottle glass of post-medieval date.

Several fragments which appear to represent one bottle were recovered from a land drain 1005 (1056) and are of a dark green colour, with the form suggestive of an 18th- or 19th-century wine bottle with a deep kick at the base.

Clay Tobacco Pipe by Danielle Milbank

Land drain 1042 and the top bank deposit contained two clay pipe fragments. Both are short pieces of stem and can be only broadly dated (by bore diameter) to the mid to late 18th century.

Metal objects by Danielle Milbank

Metal objects were recovered from four contexts. These are all iron, and all fairly corroded.

From the top of ditch 5008, a handmade iron nail 62mm long, with a rectangular head, and a flat semicircular heel plate 70mm wide and 61mm long (from a shoe or boot) were recovered. These are not closely datable but unlikely to be of any great antiquity.

From the top of the bank came a very corroded object, likely to be a nail, but in too poor condition to discern any other information. A further very corroded nail 63mm long was recovered from ditch 1042 (1098), and an iron loop was recovered from ditch 1044 (1154). This is oval in plan, 66mm wide and 76mm long, circular and 8mm in diameter at the thinnest, thickening to the two ends (12mm), with a small (2mm) gap where the loop is not fully closed. The function is not clear, but it could represent a piece of tack or other agricultural or livestock fitting.

Slag by Danielle Milbank

Four pieces of slag with a total weight of 132g came from two contexts, the top of the bank and undated pit 1012 (1063). The material is fragmented, however the pieces are of moderate size and given their provenance, further analysis was not considered appropriate.

Struck Flint by Will Attard

No struck flint was recovered from excavated slots, but a few nodules were noted on the surface of the field boundaries and earthwork ditch. These nodules featured a thick, chalky cortex and had been roughly faced, with one or two flakes struck. The absence of faced flint in the overburden, other features or lower fills of the field boundaries suggests that this material was deposited recently. It also supports evidence that the field boundaries and earthwork ditches were contemporary features (along with the field drain running through all three).

Burnt flint

Fragments of unworked burnt flint totalling 1561g were recovered from all of ditches 5002–5007, all from sieved samples. This material could have been burnt by any number of processes and in any case is all in post-medieval features.

Environmental Sampling by Jo Pine

Some 22 soil samples for environmental and artefactual remains were taken from various deposits on the site as documented in Appendix 1. Eight litres of each sample were floated and sieved using a 0.25mm mesh. Most samples contained no charred plant remains, except rare flecks of comminuted charcoal, impossible to identify. Sample 6 from ditch 1025 contained some small pieces of charcoal only. Sample 14 from Late post-medieval ditch terminal 1048 contained non-charred remains including roots and twigs clearly of recent deposition.

Conclusion

The excavation in this area disappointingly revealed only post-medieval and undated features. Only a few sherds of medieval pottery (in clearly later contexts) hint at any earlier activity. The fieldwork has demonstrated that the earthwork bank is certainly later than a post-medieval ditch and several other features respect its line. All of the features appear to relate simply to field boundaries and drainage. Either ditch 5004 or ditch 5007 may be the boundary plotted on the 18th-century estate map, and if it was 5007, then the earthwork is later than this. Ditch 5008 also matches a boundary on this map.

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APPENDIX 1: Catalogue of Excavated Features (Area 2)

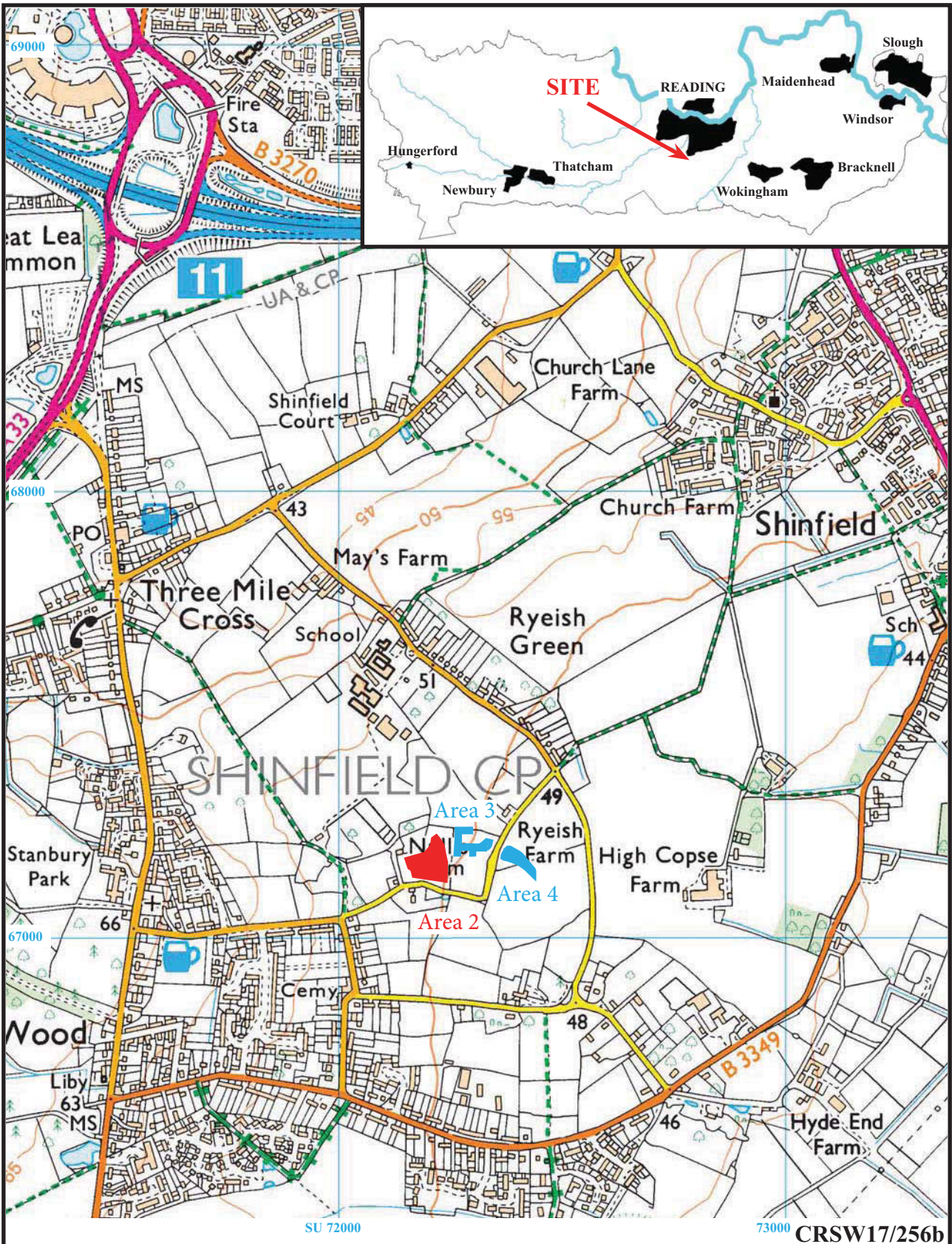
<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
	1079		Upper earthwork bank deposit			
	1080		Lower earthwork bank deposit			
	1081		Upper earthwork bank deposit			
	1082		Lower earthwork bank deposit			
	1156		Upper earthwork bank deposit			
	1157		Lower earthwork bank deposit			
1000	1050	5000	Gully			
1001	1051	5000	Gully	1		
1002	1052	5000	Gully			
1003	1053	5000	Gully			
1004	1054-5	5008	Ditch			
1005	1056		Land drain			
1006	1057	5003	Ditch			
1007	1058	5003	Ditch			
1008	1059	5002	Ditch			
1009	1060	5001	Ditch			
1010	1061		Ditch			
1011	1062	5002	Ditch			
1012	1063		Pit			
1013	1064	5003	Ditch			
1014	1065	5001	Ditch			
1015	1066	5003	Ditch			
1016	1067	5002	Ditch	2		
1017	1068	5002	Ditch			
1018	1069	5002	Ditch	3		
1019	1070		Tree throw			
1020	1071	5002	Ditch	4		
1021	1072	5002	Ditch			
1022	1073	5001	Ditch			
1023	1074	5001	Ditch	5		
1024	1075	5005	Ditch			
1025	1076	5005	Ditch	6		
1026	1077		Geological feature			
1027	1078		Ditch			
1028	1085	5007	Ditch			
1029	1086	5007	Ditch			
1030	1090	5007	Ditch			
1031	1083		Pit			
1032	1084	5003	Ditch	7		
1033	1087		Post hole	8		
1034	1088		Post hole	9		
1035	1089	5006	Ditch	10		
1036	1091	5004	Ditch	11		
1037	1092		Pit			
1038	1093	5004	Ditch	12B		
1039	1094	5006	Ditch			
1040	1095-6	5004	Ditch			
1041	1097	5004	Ditch			
1042	1098-9		Ditch			
1043	1150		Ditch			
1044	1152-5	5007	Ditch	12		
1046	1151	5007	Ditch			
1047	1158	5007	Ditch			
1048	1159-62	5004	Ditch	13, 14		
1049	1163	5008	Ditch			
1100	1164		Ditch			
1101	1165		Ditch			
1102	1166		Ditch			

APPENDIX 2: Catalogue of Pottery

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Date</i>
	Surface	5008	Ditch	2	178	Post-medieval
	surface	5007	Ditch	1	27	Late 12th-mid 14th centuries
1004	1054	5008	Ditch	1	6	Post-medieval
	1079		Upper earthwork bank deposit	1	33	Post-medieval
1028	1085	5007	Ditch	1	4	Late 12th-mid 14th centuries
1030	1090	5007	Ditch	1	17	Post-medieval
1040	1095	5004	Ditch	1	5	Late 12th-mid 14th centuries
1044	1152	5007	Ditch	2	17	Late 12th-mid 14th centuries /Post-medieval
1044	1154	5007	Ditch	5	49	Post-medieval

APPENDIX 3: Catalogue of Ceramic Building Material

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
1004	1054	5008	Ditch	2	2	324
1004	1055	5008	Ditch	2	2	261
1040	1095	5004	Ditch	2	1	25
1040	1096	5004	Ditch	2	4	798
1044	1154	5007	Ditch	2	2	123
1048	1162	5004	Ditch	2	1	88
1218	1269		Ditch	1 South	6	424
			Total		18	2043

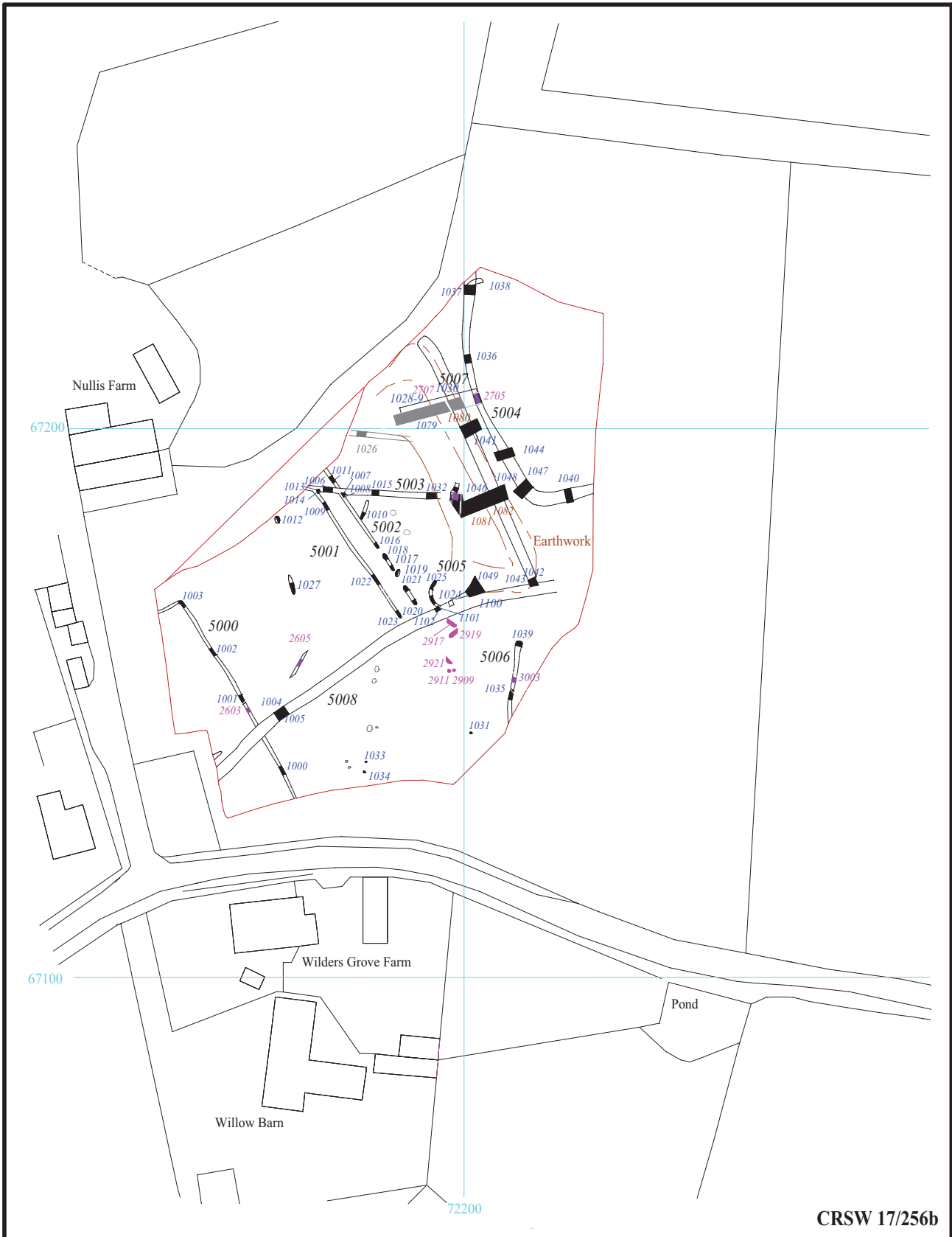


**Areas 2, Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood,
Reading, Berkshire
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Spencers Wood and Berkshire.

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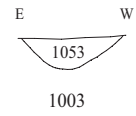
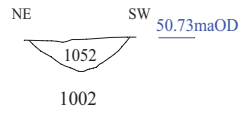
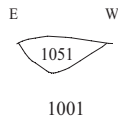
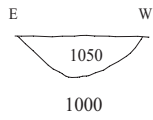
**Land north of Croft Road, Spencers Wood,
Reading, Berkshire
Archaeological Excavation Area 2**

Figure 2. Detail of excavation area.

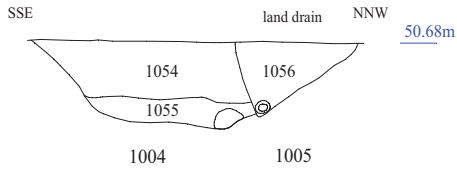


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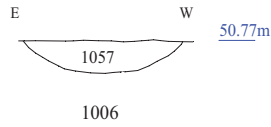
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5008

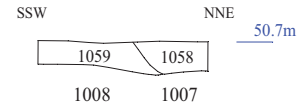


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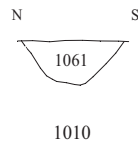
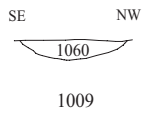


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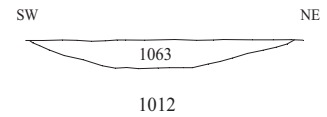
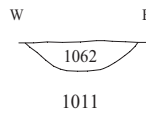
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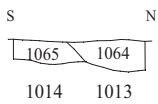
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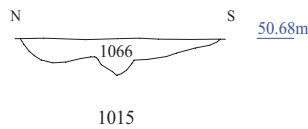
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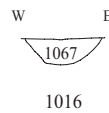
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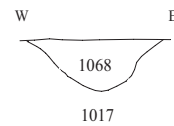
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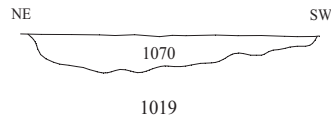
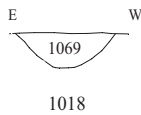
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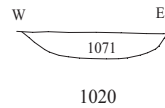
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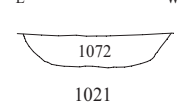
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5002



5002



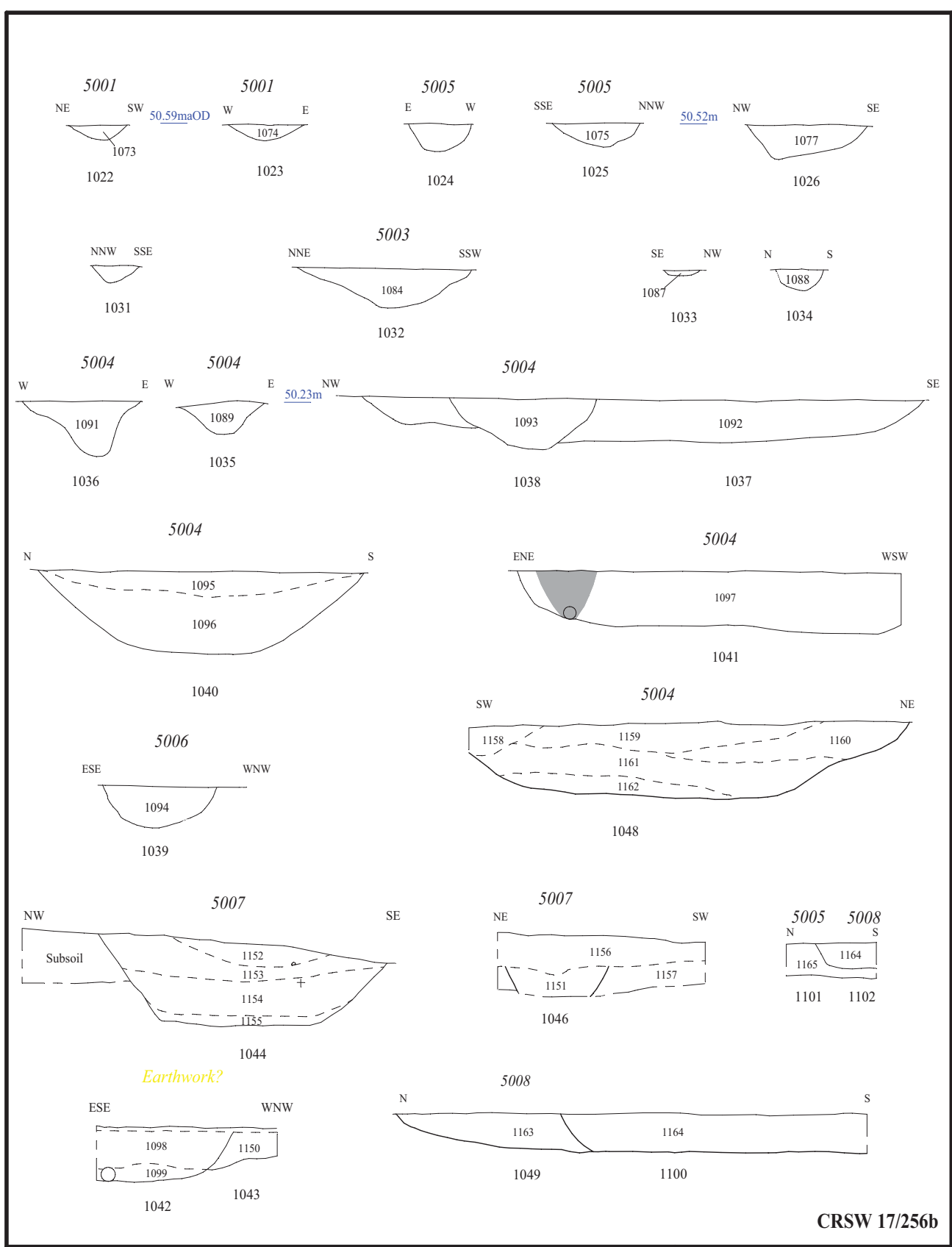
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Figure 3. Sections.



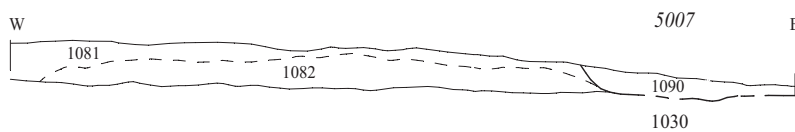
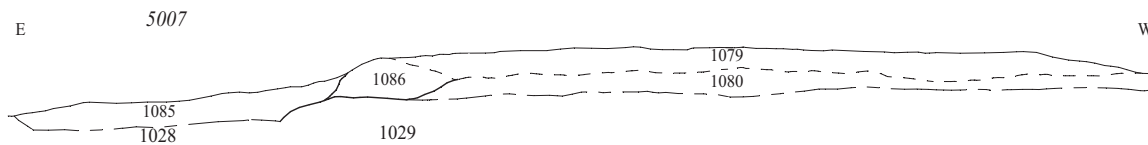
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Figure 4. Sections.





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Figure 5. Sections.



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Plate 1. Ditch slots 1004 and 105, looking north east, Scales: 1m and 0.3m.



Plate 2. Ditch terminus 1020, looking north west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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Plates 1 and 2.

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Plate 3. Linear slot 1025, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 4. Ditch 1032, looking east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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Plates 3 and 4.

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Plate 5. Ditch slot/earthwork relation 1042-3, looking south east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m.



Plate 6. Earthwork slot 1028-9, looking east, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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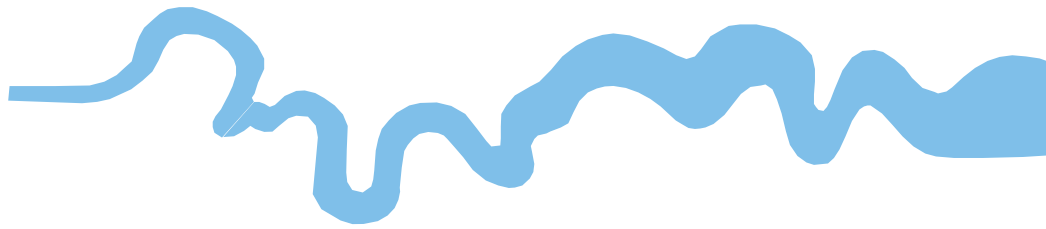
**Land north of Croft road, Spencer Wood,
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Plates 5 and 6.**

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TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





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