ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT: LAND AT GAWCOTT FARM, GAWCOTT, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NGR: SP 68315 32598

Planning Authority: Buckinghamshire County Council

PCAS job No.: 1316 Site code: GFBE 14

Archive acc. no.: AYBCM 2014.111

Report prepared for

RSK

By

L. Brocklehurst

October 2014



Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
47, Manor Road
Saxilby
Lincoln
LN1 2HX
Tel. 01522 703800
Fax: 01522 703656

e-mail: info@pre-construct.co.uk

Sum	mary		3			
1.0	Introduction					
2.0	Site Location and description					
3.0	Topog	raphy and geology	4			
4.0	Planning background					
5.0	Archaeological and historical background					
6.0	Aims and methodology					
7.0	Result	S	6			
	7.1	Trenches containing archaeological remains	6			
	7.2	Trenches containing no archaeological features	7			
8.0	Discus	sion and conclusions	8			
9.0	Effectiveness of methodology					
10.0	0 Acknowledgments					
11.0	Refere	nces	9			

Figures

- **Fig.1:** Site location (shown in red) reproduced from site location submitted with planning application. @ scale 1:10000.
- Fig 2: Trench location plan overlaid on greyscale geophysical survey results. 1:2500@A3
- **Fig 3:** Trench 3, 5 and 6 plans (1:100) and representative sections (1:20); Pits [302] and [603] (1:20).
- Fig 4: Trench 1 and 15 plans (1:100) and representative sections (1:20).

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** Colour Plates
- Appendix 2 Context Summary
- Appendix 3 Animal Bone Report by Jen Wood
- **Appendix 4** Finds Archive *in-house by Charlotte Bentley*
- **Appendix 5** Oasis summary

Plates

- Plate 1: Trench 1 pre-excavation (looking N).
- Plate 2: Trench 2 pre-excavation (looking WSW).
- Plate 3: Trench 3 pre-excavation (looking SSW).
- Plate 4: Trench 4 pre-excavation (looking WSW).
- Plate 5: Trench 5 pre-excavation (looking NE).
- Plate 6: Trench 6 pre-excavation (looking W).
- Plate 7: Trench 7 pre-excavation (looking NE).
- Plate 8: Trench 8 pre-excavation (looking E).
- Plate 9: Trench 9 pre-excavation (looking W).
- Plate 10: Trench 10 pre-excavation (looking S).
- Plate 11: Trench 11 pre-excavation (looking N).
- Plate 12: Trench 12 pre-excavation (looking S).
- Plate 13: Trench 13 pre-excavation (looking NW).
- Plate 14: Trench 14 pre-excavation (looking W).
- Plate 15: Trench 15 pre-excavation (looking SSE).
- Plate 16: Section of pit [302] (looking NE).
- Plate 17: Section of pit [602] (looking N).

Summary

In September 2014, a trial trench evaluation took place on c.25 hectares of farmland at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire. This was commissioned by RSK Environment Ltd. and was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by Buckinghamshire County Council's Senior Archaeological Planning Officer. The results will be used to inform a planning application.

A preceding Desk-Based Assessment and geophysical survey of the proposed development zone had identified the area as having low archaeological potential. This potential was further investigated by trial trenching; the results of which matched the findings of the earlier surveys.

Eight trenches (2, 4, 7, 8 - 14) contained no archaeology. Three (1, 5 and 15) contained remnants of ridge and furrow field systems. Two trenches (3 and 6) contained single features; one pit in each. Of these, just one (in Trench 6) contained stratified finds, consisting of three fragments of cattle bone.

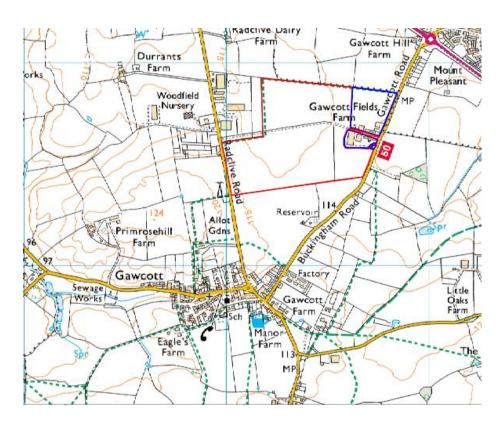


Fig. 1: Site location (shown in red) reproduced from site location submitted with planning application. @ scale 1:10000.

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd., (PCAS) were commissioned by RSK Environment Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a proposed development site at Gawcott, Buckinghamshire. The results of this evaluation will inform a future planning application.

2.0 Site location and description

The proposed development site is located c. 500m to the north of the village of Gawcott in Buckinghamshire. It comprises of two agricultural fields that cover in total *c*. 25ha.

The surrounding landscape comprises of undulating farmland of the southern edge of the valley of the Great Ouse. The village of Radclive is located c.1 km to the northwest, and the town of Buckingham is c.1 km to the north east.

Radclive Road borders the western edge of the site; to the north the site follows a field boundary between Gawcott Farm and Radclive Dairy Farm, whilst the eastern and southern limits of the site also consists of field boundaries.

The approximate central National Grid Reference for the site is SP 68315 32598.

3.0 Topography and geology

The site lies on a band of bedrock recorded as Kellaways Formation - sandstone, siltstone and mudstone formed approximately 161 to 165 million years ago in an environment dominated by shallow seas. To the north lies a band of Jurassic period Limestone cornbrash, and to the south is a band of mudstone of the Peterborough member.

Overlying drift geology is dominated by mid Pleistocene till, with pockets of Glaciofluvial sand and gravel deposited in the same period (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html/).

4.0 Planning background

On 27 March 2012, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) replaced PPS5. The NPPF places the responsibility for dealing with heritage assets affected by development proposals with the developer. Local planning authorities now need to be assured by those applying for planning permission that any such remains are not under threat of being destroyed unrecorded. As a result developers are required to produce a definitive method of mitigating the effect of development on the historic environment within the planning process.

Section 12, paragraph 128 of the NPPF states that, '128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation'.

A planning application for the construction of a new solar PV array on land at Gawcott Farm was submitted to Aylesbury Vale District Council in July 2014 (Planning ref: 14/02293/APP). The Senior Archaeology Planning Officer recommended as scheme of works to evaluate the specific archaeological potential of the proposed development site; including a desk-based assessment which had been prepared and submitted with the initial application, and a geophysical survey followed by targeted trial trenching.

This document reports of the results of the trial trench evaluation, and will be submitted in support of the planning application.

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

Prior to submission of the planning application, a Desk-Based Assessment was compiled by Cotswold Archaeology (CA report 14219).

There is little evidence of prehistoric activity in or around the development site: a single Diorite axe-head probably found in the vicinity of Gawcott is recorded on the Buckinghamshire HER. It is likely that any early occupation and activity was focused on the slightly higher ground to the north.

There are no known Roman sites within 1km of the site. In the wider area, a large villa or temple site with associated baths was excavated in the mid 19th century c. 2km northwest of the site, west of Radclive (HER ref: 0008700000). Further to this early Roman enclosures were identified during trail trenching at Verney Park, c. 2km northeast on the southern edge of Buckingham (HER ref: 0670800000).

Occupation at Gawcott likely originated in the Saxon period; the place-name derives from the Old English gafol and cot, meaning cottages for which rent is payable (Mill, 1993). The Domesday settlement is recorded as being very small, with just two smallholders and a slave recorded, with a small amount of plough and meadow land suggesting a subsistence living (http://domesdaymap.co.uk/place/SP6831/gawcott/). The lost medieval settlement of Haseley has been tentatively located to the northwest of the site (HER ref: 0870300000).

Throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods Gawcott survived as an outlying hamlet of Buckingham, with ridge and furrow earthworks from this period being identified around the modern village; although none have been mapped within the development site itself. The enclosure map indicates that the site was apportioned as land allotments, and was probably an open field. It is therefore likely the site was utilised for agricultural purposes.

A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Pre-Construct Geophysics (Bunn, 2014), which revealed very low archaeological potential, beyond the presence of linear anomalies indicating agricultural furrows.

6.0 Aims and methodology

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for the evaluation written by Cotswold Archaeology and submitted by Harper Solar was approved by Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC). A trial trench location plan was then submitted as an addendum by RSK which proposed fifteen trenches, this was also approved by BCC in advance of works commencing on site. Locations were chosen in order to fully explore the potential archaeology on the area of proposed development as indicated by the preceding geophysical survey.

The broad aim of the evaluation was:

- To determine the presence/absence, nature, date, depth, quality of survival, importance, extent, form and function of archaeological features;
- To recover stratified artefactual evidence:
- To establish the sequence of archaeological remains on the site;
- To interpret archaeology in the context of the known archaeological landscape.

A proposed methodology for the scheme had been fully set out in the WSI; approved by Buckinghamshire County Council's Senior Archaeological Planning Officer in advance of evaluation.

All trenches were accurately fixed into the National Grid using a Leica GS50, Topcom GRS1 global positioning system (GPS). The precise locations of the 17 trenches had been agreed in advance, but their locations were subject to minimal adjustment to avoid services, overhead obstructions etc. These alterations did not affect the features that were being targeted. Trench positions are shown overlain on greyscale geophysical survey imagery on Figure 2.

The excavation of all trial trenches took place initially using a mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Machine excavation progressed in spits no greater than 200mm and ceased either at the first significant archaeological horizon, or the natural substrate.

All archaeological features were examined sufficiently to determine their date, character, state of preservation and extent, as well as to recover artefactual / ecofactual remains for further study. Features were recorded by measured plan and section drawings at appropriate scales (1:20 and 1:10 respectively). A written record for each stratigraphic horizon and archaeological feature was made on standard PCAS recording forms. A photographic archive and a narrative account in the form of a site diary supplements these records.

The results of the evaluation presented here will be used to provide site-specific archaeological information that will allow the Local Planning Authority to make an informed judgement on any appropriate archaeological mitigation for the proposed development.

7.0 Results

A full descriptive context summary list appears as Appendix 2, whilst selected photographs can be seen in Appendix 1. A trench location plan is included as Figure 2; see Figure 3 and 4 for trench plans and sections.

7.1 Trenches containing archaeological features

Trench 1

Trench 1 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NW-SE and was positioned in the centre of the northern field. It was located in an area where ridge and furrow had been defined by geophysical survey. Three features [104], [105] and [106] were identified as ridge and furrow. These were on an approximate E-W alignment and confirmed the results of the geophysical survey. Each of these features was filled by the same subsoil deposit (102). [105] was 1.6m wide and 0.22m from top of ridge to base of furrow, whilst [106] and [104] were 1.7m and 1.5m wide respectively. There was 7m distance between [106] and [105], and 2.5m between [105] and [104].

All of the features in Trench 1 were sealed by topsoil (100), 0.33m deep, and were cut into the natural substrate (101). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.6m below original ground level.

Trench 3

Trench 3 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NE-SW and positioned in the north western corner of the northern field. One feature, [302], was identified. This was a relatively small round pit; bowl shaped in profile, with shallow sides and a concave base. It contained a homogenous fill, (303), devoid of finds. Its use and date is thus uncertain. The pit was 0.54m wide and 0.1m deep.

It was sealed by topsoil (300) and cut into the natural substrate (301). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.58m below original ground level.

Trench 5

Trench 5 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the northern half of the southern field. It was located in an area where ridge and furrow had been highlighted by geophysical survey. Three features, [503], [504] and [505] were identified as furrows. Each lay on an approximately NW-SE alignment and confirmed the results of the geophysical survey. All three features contained the same subsoil deposit (506). [503] was 1.4m wide and 0.2m from top of ridge to base of furrow. [506] was 1.6m wide, whilst [504] had a very diffuse edge so an accurate measurement is not possible. There was 7.5m between [503] and [504], whilst approximately 5-6m between [504] and [506]. As mentioned previously, [504] had an indistinct edge, leading to only an approximate measurement.

They were sealed by topsoil (500), 0.35m deep and were cut into the natural substrate (501). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.4m below original ground level.

Trench 6

Trench 6 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the north western corner of the southern field. One feature, [602], was identified. This was an oval shaped pit with shallow sides and a concave base. It contained one clayey silt fill, (603), that contained small fragments of cattle bone. The pit was 0.9m wide and 0.22m deep. It was sealed by topsoil (600) and was cut into the natural substrate (601). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.4m below original ground level.

Trench 15

Trench 15 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately N-S and was positioned in the western half of the southern field. It was located in an area where ridge and furrow had been highlighted by geophysical survey, and two features, [1503] and [1504], were identified as ridge and furrow. These were on approximately NE-SW alignments and confirmed the results of the geophysical survey. Each was filled by the same silt-clay deposit (1505). [1504] was 1.2m wide, whilst [1503] was 1.5m wide and approximately 0.25m from top of ridge to base of furrow. There was 7m between them.

The features in Trench 15 were sealed by topsoil (1500), 0.3m deep, and were cut into the natural substrate (1501). The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.4m below original ground level.

7.2 Trenches containing no archaeological remains

Trench 2

Trench 2 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NE -SW and was located in the centre of the northern field on site. It was machined to a depth 0.55m below existing ground level. One possible feature, [202], was deemed to be a natural palaeochannel due to its irregular shape and profile. It was filled with topsoil, (200).

Trench 4

Trench 4 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the western part of the northern field. Only the natural substrate (401) and topsoil (400) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.4m below existing ground level.

Trench 7

Trench 7 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NE-SW and was positioned in the northern half of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (701) and topsoil (700) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.48m below existing ground level.

Trench 8

Trench 8 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the centre of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (801) and topsoil (800) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.4m below existing ground level.

Trench 9

Trench 9 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the centre of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (901) and topsoil (900) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.41m below existing ground level.

Trench 10

Trench 10 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately N-S and was positioned in the south eastern area of the southern field. The natural substrate (1001) and topsoil (1000) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.41m below existing ground level.

Trench 11

Trench 11 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NNW-SSE and was positioned in the southern half of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (1101) and topsoil (1100) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.6m below existing ground level.

Trench 12

Trench 12 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NNW-SSE and was positioned in the western half of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (1201) and topsoil (1200) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.52m below existing ground level.

Trench 13

Trench 13 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately NW-SE and was positioned in the south western corner of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (1301) and topsoil (1300) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.4m below existing ground level.

Trench 14

Trench 14 (30m x 2m) was orientated approximately E-W and was positioned in the south western corner of the southern field. Only the natural substrate (1401) and topsoil (1400) were identified. The trench was machined to a depth of 0.4m below existing ground level.

8.0 Discussion and conclusion

The evaluation revealed that Trenches 2, 4, and 7 - 14 were devoid of archaeological remains: only natural substrate, subsoil and topsoil deposits were exposed in these areas.

Trenches 1, 5 and 15 contained remnants of ridge and furrow - corroborating with the results of geophysical survey. A sample of these was investigated in each trench in order to confirm that they were in fact furrows. Ridge and furrow features are characteristic of medieval and post-medieval farming practices, and with no dating evidence recovered from any of these features the furrows may date from either period.

Such findings support findings presented in the Desk-Based Assessment, that the development site was located on the periphery of the Saxon / medieval settlement of Gawcott, and was used primarily for agricultural, rather than domestic, activity.

Only two features (excluding ridge and furrow) were identified and investigated. Both were fairly shallow undated pits, [302] and [602], located in Trenches 3 and 6 respectively. Of these, only one, [602], produced any finds - a very small, largely uninformative, quantity of animal bone (see **Appendix 3**). These features were possibly waste repositories, although the scarcity of finds could indicate otherwise.

9.0 Effectiveness of methodology

The methodology employed during this project achieved its primary objective, ensuring that the proposed development area was fully explored in order to confirm the presence/absence and to characterise the archaeology that was exposed.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd. is grateful to RSK Environment Ltd. for this commission.

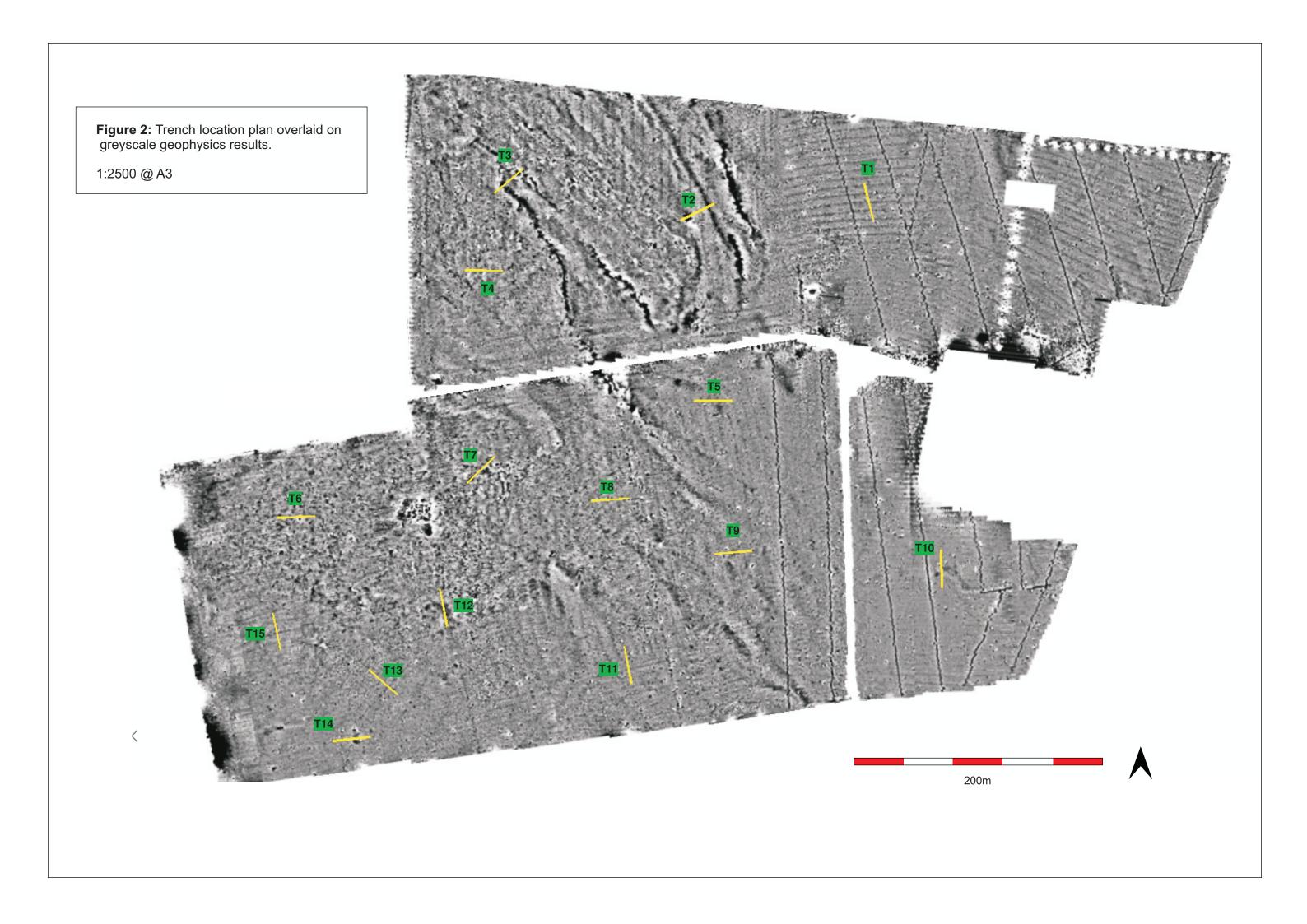
11.0 References

Bunn, D., 2014, Archaeological Geophysical Survey: Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire. Unpublished client report for Pre-Construct Geophysics.

Cotswold Archaeology. 2014. Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire: Heritage Desk Based Assessment. Cotswold Archaeology Report.

http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

Planning documents viewed online at https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=N9KGJ8CL0BI00



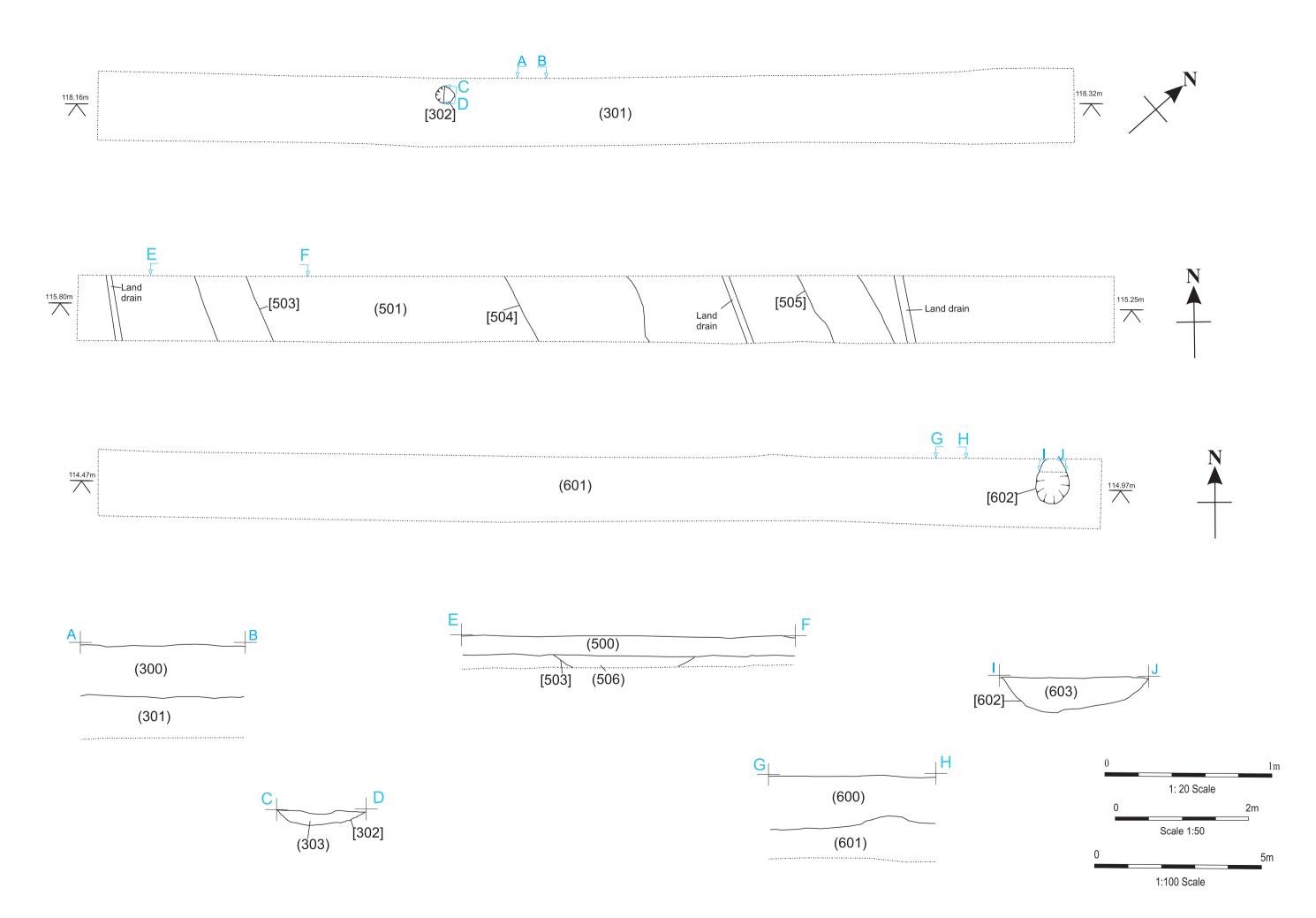


Figure 3: Trench 3, 5 and 6 plans (1:100) and representative sections (1:20; except [503] which is 1:50); Pits [302] and [603] (1:20)

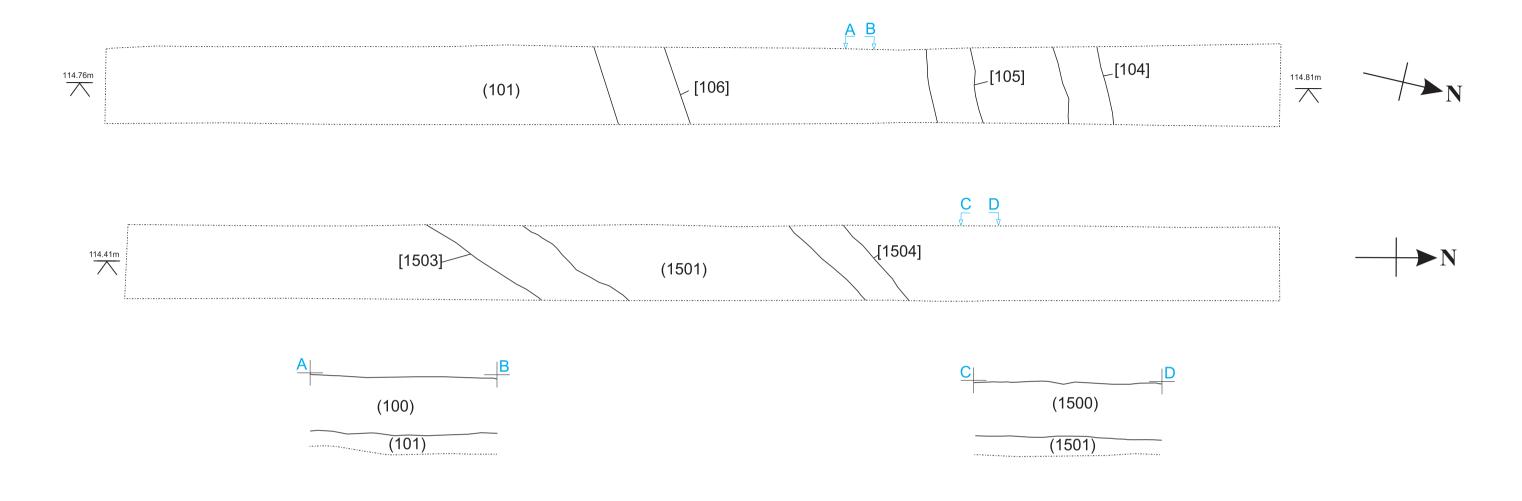
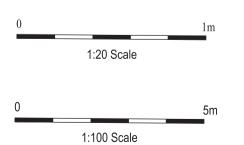
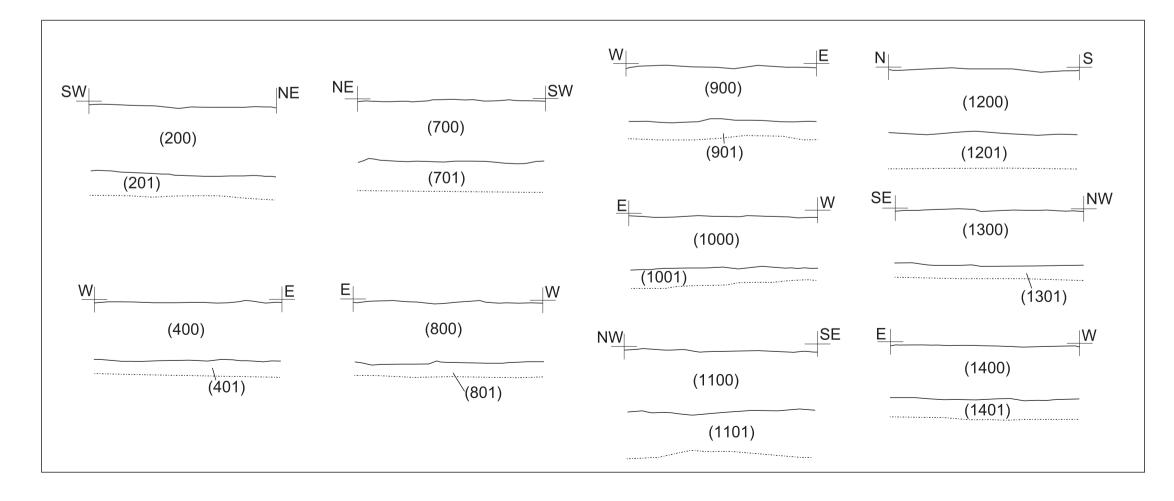


Figure 4: Trench 1 and 15 plans (1:100) and representative sections (1:20).





Appendix 1 – Colour plates



Plate 1: Trench 1 pre-excavation (looking N).



Plate 3: Trench 3 pre-excavation (looking SSW).



Plate 2: Trench 2 pre-excavation (looking WSW).



Plate 4: Trench 4 pre-excavation (looking WSW).



Plate 5: Trench 5 pre-excavation (looking NE).



Plate 7: Trench 7 pre-excavation (looking NE).



Plate 6: Trench 6 pre-excavation (looking W).



Plate 8: Trench 8 pre-excavation (looking E).



Plate 9: Trench 9 pre-excavation (looking W).



Plate 10: Trench 10 pre-excavation (looking S).



Plate 11: Trench 11 pre-excavation (looking N).



Plate 12: Trench 12 pre-excavation (looking S).



Plate 13: Trench 13 pre-excavation (looking NW).



Plate 15 (above): Trench 15 pre-excavation (looking SSE)

Plate 17 (right): Section of pit [602] (looking N).



Plate 14: Trench 14 pre-excavation (looking W).



Plate 16: Section of pit [302] (looking NE).



Appendix 2 – Context Summary

Context	Туре	Description	Finds				
no.							
Trench 1	1		1				
100	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, very compact silty loam. Contains frequent small angular stones. 0.33m thick.					
101	Layer	Natural. Very compact clay. Contains flint nodules, ranging from 4 to 20cm in length.					
102	Fill	Of furrows [104], [105] and [106]. Mid brown orange silt clay. Very compact.					
103	Group	Ridge and furrow system present in trench. Covers features [104], [105] and [106]. All on a NNE-SSW alignment.					
104	Cut	Furrow.					
105	Cut	Furrow.					
106	Cut	Furrow.					
Trench 2							
200	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.4m thick.					
201	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.					
202		Natural palaeo-channel.					
Trench 3		•	1				
300	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.32m thick.					
301	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.					
302	Cut	Shallow pit. Circular in plan with gradual sloping edges and a concave base. Filled by (303). 0.54m in diameter and 0.1m thick.					
303	Fill	Of [302]. Compact silty clay, containing very occasional flint and fairly frequent burnt material.					
Trench 4							
400	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.32m thick.					
401	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.					
Trench 5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
500	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.					
501	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.					
502	Group	Ridge and furrow system. Consists of [503], [504] and [505]. All on a NW-SE alignment.					
503	Cut	Furrow.					
504	Cut	Furrow.					
505	Cut	Furrow.					
506	Fill	Of furrows [503], [504] and [505]. Yellow brown silty clay. Very compact but friable, with occasional flint inclusions.					
Trench 6	•		•				
600	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.					
601	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.					
602	Cut	Shallow oval shaped pit. Gradual sloped sides and a concave base. Elongated N-S. 0.9m long and 0.22m deep.					
603	Fill Of [602]. Mid brown silty clay. Compact and friable with frequent flint inclusions.						

Trench 7			
700	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.	1 x clay
			pipe
701	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
702	Cut	Furrow. Part of a residual ridge and furrow system located across	
		the site. On an N-S orientation.	
703	Fill	Of [702]. Light brown silt clay. Slight yellow hue. Very compact but	
		friable. Contains very frequent flint.	
Trench 8	,		•
800	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.	
801	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 9			
900	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.31m thick.	
901	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 1	0		1
1000	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.3m thick.	
1001	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 1	1		
1100	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.	
1101	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 1	2		
1200	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.35m thick.	
1201	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 1	3		
1300	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.32m thick.	
1301	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
Trench 1	4		
1400	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.32m thick.	
1401	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
1402	Layer	Natural variation. Yellow brown mottled with grey. Friable silty	
		clay. Occasional flint inclusions.	
Trench 1	5		
1500	Layer	Topsoil. See (100) for description. 0.3m thick.	
1501	Layer	Natural. See (101) for description.	
1502	Group	Ridge and furrow system. Consists of [1503] and [1504].	
		Orientated approximately NE-SW.	
1503	Cut	Furrow.	
1504	Cut	Furrow.	
1505	Fill	Of [1503] and [1504]. Yellow brown silty clay. Compact with	
		frequent flint inclusions.	

Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire (GFBE 14) The Animal Bone

By Jennifer Wood

Introduction

A total of 3 (18g) fragments of animal bone were recovered by hand during archaeological works undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Services Ltd on Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire. The remains were recovered from deposit (603) from within cut [604].

Results

The remains were generally of a poor overall condition, averaging at grade 4 on the Lyman criteria (1996). The remains had been heavily leached.

No evidence of butchery, pathology, burning or gnawing was noted on the remains.

Table 1, Summary of Identified Bone

Context	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	Weight	Comments
	Cattle	Tooth	L	1	10	Lower M1
603	Cattle	Tooth	X	1	3	Broken molar fragment
003	Large Mammal Size	Mandible	X	1	5	Body fragment, no teeth in occlusion

As can be seen, cattle was the only species identified within the assemblage.

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation on site, save the presence/use of the animals on site.

References

Lyman, R L, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire GFBE14

Finds Catalogue

Context	Material	No.	Weight (g)	Description	Date	Action
700	C Pipe	1	2g	Stem fragment	C19th/20th	Discard
603	A Bone	3		2 sheep teeth, mandible frag		Discard

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: preconst3-192125

Project details

Project name Land at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott

Short description of the project

In September 2014, in accordance with NPPF, a programme of archaeological evaluation (trialtrenching) took place on c.25 hectares of farmland at Gawcott Farm, Gawcott, Buckinghamshire (centred on NGR: 468315 232598). The evaluation was commissioned by Harper Solar Ltd and Farm Renewables, and was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by Buckinghamshire County Council's Senior Archaeological Planning Officer. The results will be used to inform a planning application. A previous Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) of the site (CA 2014) and a geophysical survey of the proposed development zone had identified the area as having low archaeological potential. 15 trial trenches (30m x 2m) were excavated across the proposed development site. Once excavated the archaeological evidence mirrored the DBA and geophysical survey results with eight trenches (1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14) containing no archaeology. Three (5, 10 and 15) contained purely remnants of ridge and furrow field systems. A number of these furrows were investigated and each of them had diffuse edges and the typical shallow furrow profile. Finally, two trenches (3 and 6) contained a single feature, a pit in each. Out of these two pits, just one (in trench 6)

contained stratified finds, consisting of three fragments of animal bone.

Project dates Start: 01-09-2014 End: 01-09-2014

Previous/future

work

Not known / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

GFBE 14 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Monument type PIT Uncertain

Monument type FURROW Uncertain

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Uncertain

Methods & techniques

"Targeted Trenches"

Development type

Renewable energy

Prompt

National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the

planning process

Pre-application

Project location

1 of 2 09/10/2014 11:16

Country **England**

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AYLESBURY VALE GAWCOTT WITH LENBOROUGH Gawcott Site location

Farm, Gawcott

Study area 2.50 Hectares

SP 68315 32598 51.987202906 -1.00506363583 51 59 13 N 001 00 18 W Point Site coordinates

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd

Project brief originator

Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd

Project

Will Munford

director/manager

Project Benedict Wheeliker

supervisor Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive

Exists?

Buckinghamshire County Museum

Digital Archive recipient

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","other"

No

Digital Media

available

"Database", "Geophysics", "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient

Buckinghamshire County Museum

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","other"

Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation', 'Research', 'General

Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Entered by Leigh Brocklehurst (leigh@pre-construct.co.uk)

9 October 2014 Entered on

OASIS:

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm for this page