

Cotswold Archaeology

Phase 2 North Oxford Triangle East Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for: EDP

on behalf of: Savills

CA Project: CR0660 CA Report: CR0660_1 HER Ref: OXCMS: 2021.12

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SUMMARY

Project name:	Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East
Location:	Oxford, Oxfordshire
NGR:	450375 211562
Туре:	Evaluation
Date:	20 April – 28 May 2021
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Oxfordshire Museums Service and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Accession Number:	OXCMS: 2021.12
Site Code:	NOX 21

In April and May 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East, Oxfordshire. A total of 53 trenches were excavated; some of which were targeted on anomalies identified by a preceding geophysical survey.

The evaluation identified a small number of archaeological features, comprising ditches and gullies, within trenches excavated in the northern and western parts of the development area. The majority of these features remained undated.

A single worked flint flake of broad prehistoric date was recovered from the subsoil within a trench excavated in the central-eastern part of the site.

A single sherd of pottery of broad Romano-British date was recovered from a gully, identified in the north-western part of the site. Two further, albeit undated, gullies were identified in nearby trenches and may be broadly contemporary. The function of these gullies remains unclear, although they are considered most likely to be associated with small-scale agricultural activity. Two further sherds of pottery and a fragment of Ceramic Building Material of broad Romano-British date were recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits within trenches excavated in the north-western and central-eastern parts of the site.

Four fragments of horseshoe of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered from a possible fluvial feature, identified in a number of trenches excavated in the north-western

half of the site. The location and alignment of this feature broadly correlate with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which also corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. A number of ditches, also identified in trenches excavated in this part of the site, also appear to correspond to the broad location/orientation of this field boundary and they may therefore represent the later re-use, remodelling or extension of this boundary.

Evidence of medieval and/or post-medieval agricultural practice, comprising the ploughedout remains of ridge-and-furrow cultivation, was identified in the south-eastern parts of the site.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In April and May 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East, Oxfordshire (centred at NGR: 450375 211562; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for EDP, who were acting on behalf of Savills.
- 1.2. The current Phase 2 site forms part of a wider area proposed for development comprising a mix of residential housing, a primary school, a local centre, green infrastructure, employment, a country park and strategic infrastructure. An archaeological desk-based assessment (EDP 2018) and geophysical survey (WYAS 2018) of the overall proposed development site have thus far been completed. Following consultation between EDP and Richard Oram, Lead Archaeologist, Oxfordshire Country Council Archaeology Service (OCCAS), archaeological advisor to Cherwell District Council (CDC), it was determined that a subsequent programme of archaeological trial-trenching would also be required to inform any forthcoming planning application. Archaeological trial-trenching of the southern (Phase 1) parts of proposed development site has recently been undertaken (OA 2021).
- 1.3. The evaluation was carried out in accordance a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2021) and approved by Mr Oram. The evaluation with also in line with Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020), Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England 2015).

The site

1.4. The overall proposed development site is approximately 50ha in extent, with the Phase 2 site being located in the northern part of the site. The Phase 2 site is currently occupied by a single arable field, which measures approximately 11.89ha in extent. It is bounded to the west by Oxford Road, to the north by Oxford Parkway railway station and car park and to the south and east by further arable fields. The Phase 2 area lies at approximately 68m AOD at its southern edge, with ground level gently sloping down to reach 62m OD at its northern extent.

1.5. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as Oxford Clay Formation and West Walton Formation (undifferentiated) – Mudstone of the Jurassic era (BGS 2021). No superficial deposits are recorded (ibid.). The natural substrate, comprising compact mid yellow-brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches, was encountered in all of the excavated trenches.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The overall proposed development site has previously been subject to archaeological desk-based assessment (EDP 2018) and Geophysical Survey (WYAS 2018). The southern (Phase 1) parts of the proposed development site have also been subject to archaeological trial-trenching (OA 2021). The following is a brief summary of information taken from these assessments.
- 2.2. The site is located within the civil parishes of Gosford and Water Eaton on its western side and within the Oxford suburb of Cutteslowe on its eastern side. Both represent former manorial estates, with the element '-low' within the place name of Cuttleslowe suggesting the presence of a burial mound (EDP 2018).
- 2.3. The presence of an early prehistoric landscape is further supported by numerous findspots recorded by the Oxfordshire County Council Historic Environment Record (HER) within the local area. These include; Palaeolithic handaxes and flakes, a possible Mesolithic mace head and Neolithic find spots; including a fragment of Neolithic Adze-Blade immediately to the south of the site (HER ref. 6163).
- 2.4. Within the overall site itself, the HER records two Bronze Age Round Barrows in a field to the east of Oxford/Banbury Road and to the north-west of St. Frideswides Farm (HER ref. 1324), Further round barrows are also recorded in a field to the west of Banbury Rd (HER ref. MOX5209). The wider landscape features Iron Age and Roman settlement activity indicated by finds and cropmark evidence. In addition to the concentration of Roman activity further south towards Oxford, the farmstead site of St. Frideswides, which lies just beyond the site area, has also yielded limited Roman pottery (ibid.).
- 2.5. The area around St. Frideswides Farm, to the east of the site, includes the earthwork remains of Cuttleslowe Deserted Medieval Village (HER ref. 1094). The village is thought to have been deserted at some point between 1350 and 1450, and has been the subject of various surveys including fieldwalking, geophysics and

archaeological evaluation. An assessment of readily available cartographic sources has indicated that the majority of the site has remained in agricultural use since at least the mid-19th century, although a possible trackway is noted running through Phase 2 on Jefferies map which dates to 1767.

Geophysical survey

2.6. The geophysical survey (WYAS 2018) identified a number of anomalies of probable archaeological origin. These comprised a number of probable ring ditches, some of which are likely to represent Bronze Age round barrows and a 'D' shaped response in the southern half of the site (i.e. outside of the Phase 2 area). Evidence of former field boundaries, medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, modern ploughing and field drains was identified throughout the site.

Phase 1 Archaeological Trial-Trenching

- 2.7. A total of 123 trenches were excavated across Phase 1 (OA 2021). Two pits and a posthole were identified in Trenches 115, 120 and 119 respectively, all of which were located immediately to the south of the Phase 2 area and contained Iron Age pottery. However, a radiocarbon determination of 1011-841 cal BC from the fill of a pit sealed below a probable barrow mound in Trench 115 (see Paragraph 2.8 below) places this feature firmly in the late Bronze Age. Towards the centre of Phase 1 (Trenches 28, 29, 30, 32 and 33) the trenching confirmed the presence of a number ring ditches, previously identified by the geophysical survey. The majority of these features contained quantities of Iron Age pottery, fired clay and animal bone and may represent roundhouses forming a small, potentially unenclosed, settlement (ibid.).
- 2.8. The trenching also confirmed the presence of two features which corresponded with pennanular geophysical anomalies, broadly corresponding to the location of two round barrows recorded by the HER in the northern part of Phase 1 (see paragraph 2.4 above). In Trenches 115 and 119, curving ditches and parts of the internal mounds were identified. The barrow mound material within Trench 115 sealed a pit containing late Bronze Age material, with a Bronze Age date for this feature being confirmed by C14 dating. A pottery vessel dating to AD 400-750 and containing cremated human bone was recovered from the remains of a possible pyre identified overlying the mound material in this trench and an Anglo Saxon date for this material has also been confirmed by C14 dating.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable CDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 53 trenches in the locations shown on Figs 2 and 3. Trenches 1–51 measured 50m in length and 1.9m in width, whereas Trench 2 was spilt into two with the approval of Mr Oram (becoming Trenches 2 and 53), which measured 24m in length and 40m in length respectively, to avoid overhead powerlines.
- 4.2. The trenches were located to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the site. Trenches 1, 3, 4, 8 and 14 were moved slightly from their original locations, as set out in the WSI, due to the presence of overhead cables, with the approval of Mr Oram.
- 4.3. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.
- 4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites.
- 4.6. Artefacts were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation.

- 4.7. CA will make arrangements with Oxfordshire Museums Service for the deposition of the project archive under accession number OXCMS: 2021.12 and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIIFA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.8. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. **RESULTS**

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. The natural substrate, comprising compact mid yellow-brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches, was encountered in all of the excavated trenches. In the majority of trenches this was overlain by subsoil, measuring up to 0.4m in thickness, which was itself overlain by between 0.17m and 0.36m of topsoil. In Trenches 18-20 and 25 the natural substrate was directly overlain by topsoil. In Trench 1 the natural substrate was directly overlain by modern made ground/dumping, possibly associated with the construction of Oxford Parkway Park and Ride immediately to the north-west and correlating closely with an area of increased magnetic response identified by the preceding geophysical survey.
- 5.3. In Trenches 25, 30, 32, 33, 38, 41, 43-45, 47-48 and 50 the subsoil was cut by a series of north-west/southeast aligned plough furrows. Where investigated these measured up to 3.75m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.4m. Changes in the natural substrate, broadly correlating to probable geological anomalies identified by the preceding geophysical survey, were noted in Trenches 20, 21 and 23.
- 5.4. Archaeological features were identified in a total of 14 trenches.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2)

5.5. Three intercutting north-west/south-east aligned ditches, 203, 205 and 207, were identified cutting the natural substrate in the north-western half of the trench. These ditches were not identified by the preceding geophysical survey but appeared to represent a continuation of ditches 5205, 5207 and 5209, identified in Trench 52. They remained unexcavated within the trench.

Trench 6 (Figs 2 & 4)

- 5.6. Parallel north-east/south-west aligned ditches 603 and 606 were identified cutting the natural substrate in the central part of the trench. Ditch 606 measured at least 1.4m in width and 0.4m in depth. It had a steeply sloping south-eastern side and an irregular base and contained a single fill, 607, from which a single sherd of pottery of late 18th to 19th-century date was recovered. Fill 607 was cut by ditch 603 which measured 1.5m in width and 0.35m in depth, had moderately sloping sides and a concave base and contained two undated fills, 604 and 605.
- 5.7. Neither ditch was identified by the preceding geophysical survey however it is possible, due to its similar profile and alignment that ditch 606 represents a continuation of ditch 1103 identified in Trench 11.

Trench 11 (Figs 2 & 5)

- 5.8. North-east/south-west aligned ditch 1103 was identified cutting the natural substrate towards the eastern end of the trench. It measured 1.25m in width and 0.3m in depth, had a gently sloping south-eastern side, an irregular base and contained a single undated fill, 1104. The north-western side of the ditch was truncated by a modern land drain. To the south-west undated compact stony deposit 1105 was identified, overlying the subsoil. Deposit 1105, comprising unworked limestone blocks and rounded cobbles and pebbles, measured 3.2m in width and 0.25m in thickness and appeared to represent an area of consolidation.
- 5.9. Ditch 1103 broadly corresponds with a linear geological anomaly identified by the preceding geophysical survey and it is possible, due to its similar profile and alignment, that this feature represents a continuation of ditch 606 identified in Trench 6. Deposit 1105 was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

Trench 12 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.10. Broadly east/west aligned ditch 1203 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the south-western half of the trench. It measured 0.7m in width and 0.45m in depth, had a steep sided flat-based profile and contained two undated fills, 1204 and 1205.
- 5.11. Ditch 1203 was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

Trench 13 (Figs 2 & 7)

- 5.12. A series of three parallel north-east/south-west aligned ditches, 1303, 1305 and 1307 were identified cutting the natural substrate in the north-western half of the trench.
- 5.13. The earliest of these ditches, ditch 1307, measured at least 1m in width and 0.38m in depth, had a moderately sloping south-eastern side was and a concave base, and contained a single undated fill, 1308. Fill 1308 was cut by ditch 1305, which measured at least 2.4m in width and 0.72m in depth, had a moderately sloping south-eastern side and a concave base, and contained a single undated fill, 1306, which was cut by ditch 1303. Ditch 1303 had an open 'U'-shaped profile and measured at least 1.6m in width and 0.37m in depth and contained a single fill, 1304, from which five fragments of iron horseshoe of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered.
- 5.14. North-east/south-west aligned ditch 1309 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the south-eastern part of the trench. It appeared to be a continuation of ditches 603 and 1103, identified in Trenches 6 and 11 respectively, and remained unexcavated within the trench.
- 5.15. The fills of the aforementioned ditches were sealed by subsoil 1301, which was in turn cut by north-east/south-west aligned ditch 1311. Ditch 1311 measured 0.92m in width and 0.42m in depth, had a rounded 'V'-shaped profile and contained a single fill, 1312, from which a length of orange plastic baling twine was noted but not retained. Ditch 13111 was sealed by topsoil 1300.
- 5.16. Ditch 1303 broadly correlates with a linear anomaly recorded by the preceding geophysical survey, which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map. The remaining ditches were not identified by the geophysical survey.

Trench 14 (Figs 2 & 8)

- 5.17. Narrow north-west/south-east aligned gully 1403 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the south-western part of the trench. It measured 0.43m in width and 0.19m in depth, had a steep-sided flat-based profile and contained a single fill, 1404, from which a single sherd of pottery of broad Romano-British date was recovered.
- 5.18. Gully 1403 was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey but appears to represent a continuation of gully 1603, identified in Trench 16.

Trench 16 (Figs 2 & 9)

- 5.19. Narrow north-west/south-east aligned gully 1603 was identified cutting the natural substrate towards the north-western end of the trench. It measured 0.38m in width and 0.22m in depth and contained a single undated fill, 1604.
- 5.20. Gully 1603 was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey but appears to represent a continuation of gully 1403, identified in Trench 14.

Trench 17 (Figs 2 & 10)

5.21. Feature 1704 was aligned north-south and identified in the central part of the trench. It had an irregular profile and base, measured 6m in width and 0.65m in depth and contained a single sterile fill, 1705, which remained undated and was subsequently sealed by subsoil. Its location broadly correlates with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. It appears to be a continuation of features 2504, 2603 and 2803, identified in Trenches 25, 26 and 28 respectively.

Trench 18 (Figs 2 & 11)

5.22. North-east/south-west aligned gully 1802 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the north-western half of the trench. It measured 0.56m in width and 0.15m in depth, had a shallow open 'U'-shaped profile and contained a single undated fill 1803. It was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

Trench 25 (Figs 2, 12 & 13)

5.23. Feature 2504 was aligned north/south and was identified towards the centre of the trench. It measured 11.35m in width and 0.5m in depth, had an irregular profile and contained a sterile silty clay fill, 2508, from which four fragments of iron horseshoe

of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered. Its location broadly correlates with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. It appears to be a continuation of features 1704, 2603 and 2803, identified in Trenches 17, 26 and 28 respectively. The fill of this feature was sealed by subsoil.

- 5.24. Broadly north/south aligned ditch 2505 was identified cutting the subsoil in the central part of the trench. It measured 2.2m in width and 0.5m in depth, had an open 'U'-shaped profile and contained as single undated fill, 2506. Broadly parallel irregular feature 2507 was identified immediately to the south-east and was found to be highly irregular in both plan and profile; it was therefore interpreted as the remains of a former hedge line.
- 5.25. Shallow irregular furrow 2502 was identified in the north-western half of the trench. It was broadly north/south aligned, measured 3.75m in width and 0.4m in depth and contained a single undated fill, 2503.

Trench 26 (Fig. 2)

5.26. North-east/south-west aligned feature 2603 was identified at the north-eastern end of the trench. It measured 11m in width and its location broadly correlates with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. It remained unexcavated but appears to be a continuation of features 1704, 2503 and 2803, identified in Trenches 17, 25 and 28 respectively. The exposed fill of feature 2603 was cut by north-east/south-west aligned ditch 2605 and former hedge line 2604.

Trench 28 (Figs 2 & 14)

- 5.27. North-east/south-west aligned feature 2803 was identified towards the centre of the trench. It remained unexcavated within the trench, measured 11m in width and its location broadly correlates with a linear anomaly recorded by the preceding geophysical survey, which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. It appears to be a continuation of features 1704, 2503 and 2603, identified in Trenches 17, 25 and 28 respectively. The exposed fill of feature 2803 was cut by north-east/south-west aligned ditch 2805.
- 5.28. Ditch 2805 had an irregular profile, measured 2.3m in width and 0.62m in depth and contained a series of three fills, 2806, 2807 and 2808. A number of modern inclusions, including metal, plastic, tile, glass and wood were recovered from the

second fill of this ditch, 2807, but were not retained. Broadly parallel irregular feature 2507 was identified immediately to the south-east and was found to be highly irregular in both plan and profile; it was therefore interpreted as the remains of a former hedge line.

Trench 52 (Figs 3 & 15)

- 5.29. North-west/south-east aligned gully 5203 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the north-western half of the trench. It had a shallow open 'U'-shaped profile, measured 0.62m in width and 0.26m in depth and contained a single fill, 5204, from which a single, abraded fragment of CBM of uncertain date was recovered. The fill of this feature was cut by north-east/south-west aligned ditch 5205. It was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey but may represent a continuation of gully 5303, identified in Trench 53.
- 5.30. Ditch 5205, survived to a maximum width of 0.58m and a depth of 0.22m. It had a moderately sloping southern side and a flat base, and contained a single undated fill, 5206. To the south-east, north-east/south-west aligned ditch 5207 was identified. It had moderately sloping sides and a rounded base, measured a maximum of 0.77m in width and 0.32m in depth, and contained a single undated fill, 5208. The fills of these ditches were cut by ditch 5209.
- 5.31. Ditch 5209 measured 1.25m in width and 0.3m in depth, had moderately sloping sides and a flat base, and contained a single undated fill, 5210.
- 5.32. Ditches 5205, 5207 and 5209 were not identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

Trench 53 (Figs 3 & 16)

5.33. North-west/south-east aligned gully terminal 5303 was identified cutting the natural substrate in the north-western half of the trench. It measured 0.32m in width and 0.12m in depth, had steeply sloping sides and an irregular base, and contained a single undated fill, 5304. It was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey but may represent a continuation of gully 5203, identified in Trench 52.

6. THE FINDS

6.1. Artefactual material dating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval and postmedieval/modern periods was hand-recovered from eight deposits (the fills of ditches and gullies, a cobbled surface, topsoil and subsoil). Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Roman and medieval fabric codes are equated to the Oxfordshire pottery type series (summarised in Booth 2011, 366–7 and Mellor 1994 respectively). The fabric code for pottery of post-medieval/modern date has been devised for the purpose of this report.

Pottery: Roman

6.2. Three sherds (totalling 10g) were recorded from the site. Unfeatured bodysherds of Oxford whiteware (W22) of 2nd to 4th-century date (Young 1977, 97–9) and fine sandy greyware (R30, broadly Romano-British) were recovered. A rimsherd from a probable bowl or jar in a black-firing, sand-tempered fabric (R50) is also broadly Roman in date.

Medieval

6.3. A base sherd (8g) from a vessel presenting in Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware (West Oxfordshire ware, OXAC), from subsoil deposit 5301, is dateable to the 11th to 13th centuries (Mellor 1994, 51–2).

Post-medieval/modern

6.4. Fill 607 of ditch 606 produced a sherd (3g) of transfer-printed refined whiteware (TPRW) of late 18th to 19th-century date.

Lithics

6.5. A flint flake (1g) was retrieved as a residual find in subsoil deposit 5301. Only broad prehistoric dating can be applied.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

6.6. Two fragments of CBM (25g) were recovered. The heavily abraded fragment from fill 5204 of gully 5203 is too fragmentary for further dating or classification and that from subsoil deposit 5301 is Roman in date.

Other finds

6.7. A total of nine fragments (720g) from iron horseshoes was recorded from fill 1304 of ditch 1303 and fill 2508 of feature 2504. These are heavily corroded and only broad medieval or post-medieval dating can be posited.

7. THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1. A total of 11 environmental samples (200 litres of soil) were processed from a range of feature types. These samples were taken to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains across this area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2) and an additional two litre sub sample of sample 9 from paleochannel 2504 was processed by wet sieving (250 micron mesh size) (CA Technical Manual No. 2) in order to determine the preservation and variation of environmental remains.
- 7.2. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded, following nomenclature according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008). The waterlogged assemblage from paleochannel 2504 has been noted in Table 2.
- 7.3. The flots varied in size from small to moderate with high numbers of rooty material and uncharred seeds. The charred material demonstrated poor levels of preservation, with much of the charred material iron encrusted. The poor preservation levels and iron encrustation also inhibits further wood species identification on the charcoal.

Trench 6

7.4. Fill 605 (sample 7) of ditch 603 contained no charred plant remains or charcoal. Moderate quantities of terrestrial snail shells were observed within the assemblage and include those of the open country species Vallonia sp., Helicella itala, and Pupilla muscorum, the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus and the shadeloving species Discus rotundatus, Oxychilus cellarius, and Carychium tridentatum. A small number of Anisus leucostoma snail shells were also observed within the assemblage and this is a species that favours areas of seasonal flooding and desiccation.

Trench 12

7.5. Ditch 1203 (sample 5) contained no charred plant remains and only a low level of charcoal. A small number of terrestrial snail shells were noted and include those of the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus.

Trench 13

7.6. Sample 12 of ditch 1305 and sample 13 of ditch 1307 contained no charred plant remains or charcoal. Terrestrial snail shells were noted in both assemblages and include those of the open country species Vallonia sp., Helicella itala and Pupilla muscorum, the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus and the shade-loving species Oxychilus cellarius. A small number of freshwater snail shells were also observed and these include the species Anisus leucostoma and Galba truncatula. Both these species are amongst those that favour areas subject to seasonal flooding and desiccation.

Trench 14

7.7. Fill 1404 of gully 1403 (sample 6) contained a single charred barley (Hordeum vulgare) grain that is heavily iron encrusted alongside a small number of vetch/wild pea (Vicia/Lathyrus sp.) seeds. Charcoal was noted in a small quantity as well as a small number of the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus shells.

Trench 18

7.8. Ditch 1802 (sample 10) contained no charred plant remains and only a low level of charcoal fragments. A small number of terrestrial snail shells, including those of the open country species Pupilla muscorum and the shade-loving species Carychium tridentatum, were recorded.

Trench 25

7.9. Feature 2504 (sample 9) contained a moderately small quantity of uncharred seeds which include such species as rush (Juncus sp.) and sedge (Carex sp.). A very low number of charcoal fragments were noted alongside a small amount of waterlogged wood fragments. These remains are suggestive of a damp/marshy environment. Moderate quantities of terrestrial snail shells were observed within the assemblage and include those of the open country species Vallonia sp. and Pupilla muscorum, the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus and the shade-loving species Oxychilus cellarius.

Trench 52

7.10. Three samples were obtained from trench 52. The samples from gully 5203 (sample 1), ditch 5205 (sample 2) and ditch 5207 (sample 4) all contained no charred plant remains with only minimal amounts of charcoal noted in samples 1 and 4. The assemblages from ditches 5205 and 5207 both contained a small number of

terrestrial snail shells which include those of the open country species Vallonia sp. A few shells of the freshwater species Galba truncatula were also observed in sample 4 of ditch 5207.

Summary

- 7.11. The samples discussed above are all likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material and do not indicate whether domestic or industrial activities were taking place in this area. They also provide no indication of the likely date of these features. However, there is evidence of some potential for some waterlogged preservation within feature 2504 identified in trench 25.
- 7.12. The molluscan assemblages are suggestive of a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass and scrub. There is some evidence for some small areas subject to seasonal flooding and desiccation or of damper ground, in particular around trenches 13 and 52.

Animal bone

7.13. Animal bone amounting to 10 fragments (109g) was recovered from compact stony deposit 1105, identified in Trench 11. (See Table 1, Appendix C). The fragments were well preserved making possible the identification of a partial sheep/goat tibia (Ovis aries/Capra hircus) and three cattle molars (Bos taurus), none of which displayed any marks indicative of an origin in butchery waste. The low recovery of animal remains combined with the lack of association with any dateable material, severely limits what can be said in terms of site economy and animal husbandry. No useful information other than species identification was obtained.

8. **DISCUSSION**

8.1. The evaluation has identified a small number of archaeological features, comprising ditches and gullies, within the northern and western parts of the development area. The majority of these features remained artefactually undated. Where linear features were encountered there was a good correlation with the results of the preceding geophysical survey (WYAS 2018). However no evidence of the medieval/post-medieval furrows, identified in a number of trenches excavated in the south-eastern part of the site were identified by the geophysical survey.

8.2. No evidence of the trackway shown within the confines of the current site by historic mapping (see Fig. 2 and *Archaeological Background* above) was identified in any of the excavated trenches. Should this trackway have existed, it would appear likely that it has either been removed by subsequent agricultural activity or that it was unmetalled thus precluding its identification during the current evaluation.

Prehistoric

8.3. A single flint flake of broad prehistoric date was recovered from the subsoil within Trench 53. Whilst a number of prehistoric (predominately Iron Age) features have been recorded immediately to the south of the current site (see *Archaeological Background* above) no further finds or features of prehistoric date were identified by the current works and the limited evidence of prehistoric evidence provided by the current evaluation does little to enhance our understanding of activity during this period.

Romano-British

- 8.4. A single sherd of pottery of broad Romano-British date was recovered from the fill of gully 1403, identified in Trench 14. A probable, albeit artefactually undated, continuation of this gully was identified in Trench 16. It remains possible that undated gully 1802, identified in Trench 18, is also related to gully 1403/1603 although this suggestion remains necessarily tentative. The exact function of these features remains unclear, although their isolated nature within the excavated trenches and limited quantity of artefactual material from within their fills suggests that it lies an appreciable distance from any area of settlement and they are therefore considered most likely to be associated with small-scale agricultural activity.
- 8.5. Two further sherds of pottery and a fragment of CBM, all of which were of broad Romano-British date, were recovered from the topsoil in Trench 14 and the subsoil in Trench 53.

Medieval/post-medieval

- 8.6. Five fragments of iron horseshoe of medieval or post-medieval date were recovered from ditch 1303, identified in Trench 13.
- 8.7. A further four fragments of horseshoe of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered from feature 2504, identified in Trench 25. This feature was also identified in Trenches 17, 26 and 28 (where it was recorded as feature 1704, 2603)

and 2803 respectively). The function of this feature remains unclear although its form and the nature of its fills suggest that it may have originated as a fluvial feature, perhaps associated with a number of natural springs observed within the site during the current works or with the River Cherwell situated to the south-east. Its location and alignment broadly correlate with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which also corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map suggesting that it was utilised as a boundary by at least the post-medieval period. A number of ditches identified in Trenches 13, 25, 26 and 28 (e.g. ditches 1303, 1305, 1307, 2503, 2605 and 2806) also appear to correspond to the broad location of this field boundary and they may therefore represent the later re-use, remodelling or extension of this boundary in the post-medieval and modern periods.

Modern

8.8. A single sherd of pottery of late 18th to 19th-century date was recovered from ditch 606, identified in Trench 6 where it was cut by ditch 603. A probable, albeit artefactually undated, continuation of ditch 606 was identified in Trench 11 (ditch 1103). The function of these ditches remains unclear, although they would appear to relate to land management, drainage or division.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Mark Brett, assisted by Andrew Hurst, Danielle Hurst, Joel Smith and Daniel White. This report was written by Mark Brett. The finds and environmental evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Emma Aitken and Andy Clarke respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Steven Sheldon and Alex Thomson.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.23	
1	101	Layer		Made ground/levelling	Mid greyish brown clayey silt with rubble and redeposited natural	>50	>1.9	>0.77	
1	102	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.23	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.16	
2	202	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
2	203	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated; same as 5207	>1.9	0.77	-	
2	204	Fill	203	Fill	Single fill of ditch 203, Light yellowish brown silty clay with patches of orangey brown sand	>1.9	0.77	-	
2	205	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated; same as 5209	>1.9	1.25	-	
2	206	Fill	205	Fill	Single fill of ditch 205. Mid yellowish brown clayey silt	>1.9	1.25	-	
2	207	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated; same as 5205	>1.9	0.58	-	
2	208	Fill	207	Fill	Single fill of ditch 207. Light yellowish brown silty clay with bluish grey flecking	>1.9	0.58	-	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.17	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.13	
3	302	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.26	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.14	
4	402	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
4	403	Cut		Furrow	NW/SE aligned, gently sloping slightly concave sides, flat base.	>1.9	4.08	0.36	
4	404	Fill	403	Fill	Single fill of furrow 403. Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	4.08	0.36	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.25	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.19	
5	502	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.12	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.36	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.26	
6	602	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
6	603	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, SE side moderately sloping slightly concave, concave base. NW side cut by 605.	>1.9	1.5	0.34	
6	604	Fill	603	Fill	1 st fill of ditch 603. Mid yellowish brown silty clay with greyish blue flecking	>1.9	1.12	0.19	
6	605	Fill	603	Fill	2 nd fill of ditch 604. Dark yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.5	0.18	

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6	606	Cut		Ditch	Moderately steep concave sides, concave base. NE/SW	>1.9	1.39	0.41	
6	607	Fill	606	Fill	Single fill of ditch 603. Light yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.39	0.41	LC18-C19
6	608	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated; NE/SW aligned.	>1.9	0.62	-	
6	609	Fill	608	Fill	Single fill of ditch 608. Dark greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	0.62		
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.24	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.1	
7	702	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.22	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.2	
8	802	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.21	
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>40	>1.9	0.17	
9	902	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.27	
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.3	
10	1002	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.29	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.27	
11	1102	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.12	
11	1103	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, SE side gently sloping concave side, NW cut by field drain. Flat base.	>1.9	1.24	0.31	
11	1104	Fill	1103	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1103. Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.24	0.31	
11	1105	Deposit		Ground make- up/consolidation	Large cobbles set in yellowish brown silty clay	>2	3.20	0.25	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.21	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.22	
12	1202	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.23	
12	1203	Cut		Ditch	Steep straight sides with a flat base	>0.5	0.71	0.46	
12	1204	Fill	1203	Fill	1 st fill of ditch 1203. Light yellowish brown clayey silt	>0.5	0.68	0.26	
12	1205	Fill	1203	Fill	2 nd fill of ditch 1203. Light greyish brown clayey silt	>0.5	0.71	0.2	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.24	
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.33	
13	1302	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.35	
13	1303	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, moderately steep concave sides, concave base.	>1.9	1.6	0.37	
13	1304	Fill	1303	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1303. Mid/light yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.6	0.37	Medieval/ Post- medieval

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13	1305	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, SE side moderately steep slightly	>1.9	2.39	0.72	
					concave. NW side cut by				
13	1306	Fill	1305	Fill	field drain. Concave base. Single fill of ditch 1305. Mid	>1.9	2.39	0.72	
15	1300	ГШ	1305	ГШ	greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	2.39	0.72	
13	1307	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, moderately	>1.9	1.02	0.38	
					steep straight sides, concave base.				
13	1308	Fill	1307	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1307. Mid	>1.9	1.02	0.38	
10	1000			Dist	yellowish brown silty clay	4.0	4.00		
13	1309	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned; unexcavated	>1.9	1.02	-	
13	1310	Fill	1309	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1309. Mid	>1.9	1.02	-	
13	1311	Cut		Ditch	greyish brown silty clay NE/SW aligned, steep	>1.9	0.92	0.42	
15	1311	Cui		DIICH	slightly concave sides,	>1.9	0.92	0.42	
					concave base.				
13	1312	Fill	1311	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1311. Mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	0.92	0.42	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.25	
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.2	
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	>0.15	
				substrate	with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel				
					patches				
14	1403	Cut		Gully	NNW/SSE aligned,	>1.9	0.43	0.19	
					moderately to steeply sloping sides, flat base.				
14	1404	Fill	1403	Fill	Single fill of gully 1403. Light	>1.9	0.43	0.19	RB
	-				greyish brown clayey sand	-			
45	4500			- "	with grey mottling	50	1.0		
15 15	1500 1501	Layer Layer		Topsoil Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50 >50	>1.9 >1.9	0.2	
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	>0.4	
		20,0		substrate	with occasional blue-grey				
					clay and orange gravel				
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	patches Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.23	-
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.23	
16	1602	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.05	
				substrate	with occasional blue-grey				
					clay and orange gravel patches				
16	1603	Cut		Gully	NNW/SSE aligned ,	>1.9	0.6	0.22	
					moderately sloping straight				
16	1604	Fill		Fill	sides, slightly concave base, Single fill of gully 1603. Light	>1.9	0.6	0.22	
					greyish brown silty clay with		0.0	0.22	
47	4700			- "	grey mottling	50	1.0		
17 17	1700 1701	Layer Layer		Topsoil Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50 >50	>1.9 >1.9	0.3 0.13	┼────┤
17	1701	Layer		Natural	Mid vellow brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	>0.13	+
				substrate	with occasional blue-grey				
					clay and orange gravel				
17	1703	Layer		Former	patches Light greyish brown silty	>1.9	0.90	0.22	┨────┤
				hedgerow	clay, heavily root affected				
17	1704	Cut		Linear feature	Gently sloping concave	>1.9	c 6	0.65	
17	1705	Fill	1704	Fill	sides, flat base. Single fill of 1704. Mid	>1.9	c 6	0.65	╂────┤
					yellowish brown silty clay				ļ
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.29	_
18	1801	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
				Subsilate	clay and orange gravel				
					patches				
18	1802	Cut		Gully	NE/SW aligned, moderately	>1.9	0.56	0.15	
					sloping concave sides, concave base.				
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18	1803	Fill	1802	Fill	Single fill of gully 1803. Mid	>1.9	0.56	0.15	
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	yellowish brown silty clay Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.19	
19	1900			Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey sit	>50	>1.9	0.19	
19	1901	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	>0.09	
19		Layer		substrate	with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches				
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.31	
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.1	
20	2002	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.05	
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.28	
21	2101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.12	
21	2102	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.13	
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.28	
22	2201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.12	
22	2202	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	0.15	
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.3	
23	2301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.18	
23	2302	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.12	
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.2	
24	2401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.18	
24	2402	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.12	
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.57	
25	2501	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.11	
25	2502	Cut		Furrow	Gently sloping concave sides, irregular base	>1.9	3.75	0.4	
25	2503	Fill	2502	Fill	Single fill of furrow 2502, mid orangey brown silty clay	>1.9	3.75	0.4	
25	2504	Cut		Linear feature	NE/SW aligned, shallow, gently sloping sides, flat base.	>1.9	11.34	0.48	
25	2505	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, moderately sloping concave sides, concave base	>1.9	2.18	0.5	
25	2506	Fill	2505	Fill	Single fill of ditch 2505. Dark greyish brown, clayey silt	>1.9	2.18	0.5	
25	2507	Layer		Former hedgerow	Mid greyish brown clayey silt, root affected	>1.9	1.1	0.2	
25	2508	Fill	2504	Fill	Single fill of feature 2504. Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	11.34	0.48	Medieval/ Post- medieval
25	2509	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.19	
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.1	
26	2601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.3	
26	2602	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
26	2603	Cut		Linear feature	NE/SW aligned; unexcavated	>1.9	c 11	>0.18	

26	2604	Layer		Former	mid greyish brown clayey	>1.9	1.5	-	
		-		hedgerow	silt, root affected, unexcavated				
26	2605	Cut		Ditch	linear, NE/SW aligned, unexcavated	>1.9	2	-	
26	2606	Fill	2605	Fill	Single exposed fill of ditch 2605. Dark greyish brown clayey silt	>1.9	2	-	
26	2607	Fill	2603	Fill	Single fill of feature 2603. Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	c 11	>0.18	
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.17	
27	2701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.29	
27	2702	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.13	
28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.32	
28	2801	Layer	_	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.1	
28	2802	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.05	
28	2803	Cut		Linear feature	NE/SW aligned; unexcavated	>1.9	c 11	>0.2	
28	2804	Layer		Former hedgerow	Mid greyish brown clayey silt, root affected, N/S aligned	>1.9	1.37	0.24	
28	2805	Cut		Ditch	N/S turning NE/SW, moderately sloping concave sides, base not reached due to large metal scrap	>1.9	2.31	0.62	
28	2806	Fill	2805	Fill	1 st fill of ditch 2805. Light greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.7	0.2	
28	2807	Fill	2805	Fill	2 nd fill of ditch 2805. Dark greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	2.31	0.25	
28	2808	Fill	2805	Fill	3 rd fill of ditch 2805. Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay	>1.9	1.36	0.15	
28	2809	Fill	2803	Fill	Single fill of feature 2803. Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>1.9	c 11	>0.2	
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.12	
29	2901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.23	
29	2902	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.21	
30	3001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.16	
30	3002	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.11	
31	3100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.28	
31	3101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.22	
31	3102	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	0.13	
32	3200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.2	
32	3201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.05	
32	3202	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
33	3300	Layer	1	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.24	
33	3301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.11	
33	3302	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.17	

34	3400	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.22	
34	3401	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.33	
34	3402	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.15	
35	3500	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.28	
35	3501	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.16	
35	3501	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.04	
36	3600	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.28	
36	3601	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.16	
36	3602	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
37	3700	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.17	
37	3701	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.23	
37	3702	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
38	3800	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.17	
38	3801	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.13	
38	3802	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.15	
39	3900	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.21	
39	3901	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.24	
39	3901	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
40	4000	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay silt	>50	>1.9	0.16	
40	4001	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.19	
40	4002	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.14	
41	4100	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.19	
41	4101	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.2	
41	4102	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
42	4200	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.21	
42	4201	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.15	
42	4202	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
43	4300	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.35	
43	4301	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.13	ļ
43	4302	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.07	
44	4400	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.2	
<u>44</u> 44	4401 4402	Layer Layer	Subsoil Natural substrate	Mid orangey brown silty clay Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50 >50	>1.9 >1.9	0.18	
45	4500	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.23	
45	4501	Layer	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.15	
45	4502	Layer	Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey	>50	>1.9	>0.1	

					clay and orange gravel				
					patches				
46	4600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.25	
46	4601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.1	
46	4602	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.15	
47	4700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.19	
47	4701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.25	
47	4702	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.11	
47	4703	Cut		Furrow	NW/SE aligned, gently sloping slightly concave sides, flat base,	>1.9	2.78	0.46	
47	4704	Fill	4703	Fill	Single fill of furrow 4703. Mid orangey brown silty clay	>1.9	2.78	0.46	
47	4705	Cut		Furrow	NW/SE aligned, gently sloping slightly concave sides, flat base,	>1.9	2.12	0.31	
47	4706	Fill	4705	Fill	Single fill of furrow 4705. Mid orangey brown silty clay	>1.9	2.12	0.31	
48	4800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.16	┦───────────
48	4801	Layer	_	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.26	
48	4802	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.14	
49	4900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay silt	>50	>1.9	0.22	
49	4901	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	-	
50	5000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.29	
50	5001	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
51	5002	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.15	
51	5100	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.25	
51	5101	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.1	
52	5200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.22	
52	5201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.24	4
52	5202	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	0.1	
52	5203	Cut		Gully	N/S aligned, moderately sloping concave sides, concave base.	>1.9	0.62	0.26	
52	5204	Fill	5204	Fill	Single fill of gully 5204. Light yellowish brown silty clay with mid bluish grey mottling	>1.9	0.62	0.26	
52	5205	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned, S side moderately sloping straight, N side cut by 5209, concave base,	>2	0.58	0.22	
52	5206	Fill	5205	Fill	Single fill of ditch 5205. Mix of light yellowish brown and mid bluish grey silty clay	>2	0.58	0.22	
52	5207	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned, N side moderately sloping slightly concave side, S side cut by 5209, concave base,	>2	0.77	0.32	
52	5208	Fill	5207	Fill	Single fill of ditch 5207. Light yellowish brown silty clay	>2	0.77	0.32	

					with orangey brown sand patches				
52	5209	Cut		Ditch	Moderately sloping concave sides, concave base	>2	1.25	0.29	
52	5210	Fill	5209	Fill	Single fill of ditch 5209. Mid yellowish brown clayey silt	>2	1.25	0.29	
53	5300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt	>50	>1.9	0.23	
53	5301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay	>50	>1.9	0.18	C11-C13
53	5302	Layer		Natural substrate	Mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional blue-grey clay and orange gravel patches	>50	>1.9	>0.08	
53	5303	Cut		Gully	N/S aligned , moderate to steeply sloping concave sides, concave base.	>1.9	0.32	0.12	
53	5304	Fill	5303	Fill	Single fill of gully 5303. Light yellowish brown silty clay with mid bluish grey mottling	>1.9	0.32	0.12	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric	Count	Weight	Spot-date
607	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed refined Whiteware	TPRW	1	3	LC18-C19
1304	Iron	Horseshoe		5	413	Medieval/ Post-medieval
1400	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand- tempered fabric	R50	1	5	RB
1404	Roman pottery	Fine, sandy greyware	R30	1	3	RB
2508	Iron	Horseshoe		4	307	Medieval/ Post-medieval
5204	Ceramic building material	Fragment		1	2	-
5301	Roman pottery Medieval pottery	Oxford whiteware Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware	W22 OXAC	1 1	2 8	C11-C13
	Roman ceramic building material Fired clay	Fragment		1	23 3	
	Flint	Flake		1	1	

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

	1			Flat		1						
			Vol	Flot size	Roots			Cereal	Charred	Charred Other	Charcoal	
Feature	Context	Somplo	(L)	(ml)	K00IS %	Croin	Chaff	Notes	Other	Notes	> 4/2mm	Other
Trench 6	Context	Sample	(L)	(1111)	70	Grain	Ghan	NOLES	Other	Notes	> 4/211111	Other
Trench 6	<u> </u>					1					1	
Ditch CO2	605	7	20	35	95	_	_		_		_	moll-t****; moll-a*
Ditch 603 Trench 12	005	1	20	- 30	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	mon-a
Ditch 1203	1204	5	20	35	98		1	_	-	-	*/*	
	1204	Э	20	30	98	-	-	-	-	-	/	moll-t*
Trench 13	1					1					1	
Ditah 4005	4000	40		40	05							moll-t***;
Ditch 1305	1306	12	20	12	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-a*
Ditch 1307	1308	13	20	10	98							moll-t*; moll-a**
Trench 14	1308	13	20	10	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	moli-a
Trench 14	1	1					1		1		1	1
								cf. Barley (v. iron		Vicia/		
Gully 1403	1404	6	20	7	98	*	-	encrusted)	*	Lathyrus	*/*	moll-t*
Trench 18								,			•	•
Ditch 1802	1803	10	20	40	98	-	-	-	-	-	*/*	moll-t*
Trench 25											•	•
										uncharred:		
					98 or					Juncus*;		
Feature 2504	2508	9	18	10	N/A	-	-	-	-	Carex*	-/*	moll-t***
Trench 52												
Gully 5203	5204	1	20	20	98	-	-	-	-	-	*/*	-
Ditch 5205	5206	2	20	15	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-t*
												moll-t*;
Ditch 5207	5208	4	20	12	98	-	-	-	-	-	-/*	moll-a*

Assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Key: * = 1-4 items; ** = 4-20 items; *** = 21-49 items; **** = 50-99 items; **** = >100

items: moll-t = terrestrial mollusc, moll-a = aquatic mollusc

Assessment of the waterlogged plant remains

Area		Tr. 25
Feature Type		Feature
Feature		2504
Context		2508
Sample		9
Sample Type		W/L
Processed vol (L)		2
Waterlogged material		
Carex sp.	sedge	+
Juncus sp.	rush	++
Woody stems/twigs frags > 4mm		-
Woody stems/twigs frags > 2mm		+
Root/Leaf frags		++
Kev: + - 1-49 items: ++ - 50-100 it	ems. +++	- >100 items

Key: + = 1–49 items; ++ = 50–100 items; +++ = >100 items

Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Context	BOS	0/C	LM	Total	Weight (g)
1105	3	1	6	10	109
Total	3	1	6	10	
Weight	57	29	23	109	

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; LM = cattle size mammal

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS					
Project name	Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East, Oxf	ordshire			
Short description	In April and May 2021, Cotswold Arc archaeological evaluation of land at Phas East, Oxfordshire. A total of 53 trenches which were targeted on anomalies in geophysical survey.	haeology carried out an e 2, North Oxford Triangle were excavated; some of			
	The evaluation identified a small ne features, comprising ditches and gullies, in the northern and western parts of the majority of these features remained unda	within trenches excavated e development area. The			
	A single worked flint flake of broad prehi from the subsoil within a trench excava part of the site.				
	A single sherd of pottery of broad F recovered from a gully, identified in the site. Two further, albeit undated, gullies trenches and may be broadly contempor gullies remains unclear, although they are be associated with small-scale agricult sherds of pottery and a fragment of Ce broad Romano-British date were reco subsoil deposits within trenches excave and central-eastern parts of the site.	north-western part of the were identified in nearby rary. The function of these e considered most likely to tural activity. Two further ramic Building Material of overed from topsoil and			
	Four fragments of horseshoe of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered from a possible fluvial feature, identified in a number of trenches excavated in the north-western half of the site. The location and alignment of this feature broadly correlate with a linear anomaly depicted by the preceding geophysical survey which also corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1879 First Edition OS map. A number of ditches, also identified in trenches excavated in this part of the site, also appear to correspond to the broad location/orientation of this field boundary and they may therefore represent the later re-use, remodelling or extension of this boundary.				
	Evidence of medieval and/or post-medi comprising the ploughed-out remai cultivation, was identified in the south-eas	ns of ridge-and-furrow			
Project dates	20 April–28 May 2021				
Project type	Field evaluation				
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (EDP 2018)				
	Geophysical survey (WYAS 2018)				
Future work	Unknown				
PROJECT LOCATION	Dhoose Q. North Outside Television C. (
Site location	Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East, Oxfordshire				
Study area (m ² /ha)	11.89ha				
Site co-ordinates PROJECT CREATORS	450375 211562				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology				
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology				
Project Manager	Steven Sheldon				
Project Supervisor Mark Brett					
MONUMENT TYPE	None				
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None				
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content:			
	(museum/Accession no.):				

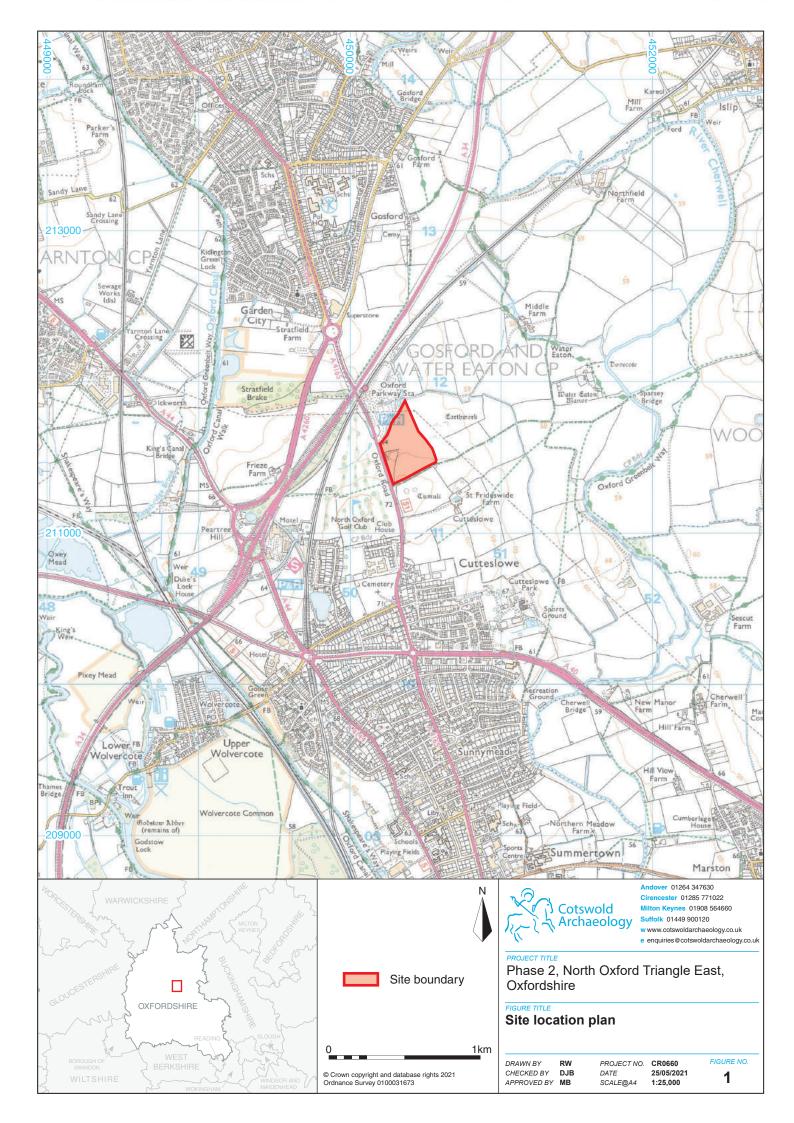
Physical	Oxfordshire Muse	ums Service/	Pottery, animal bone,		
	OXCMS: 2021.12		CBM, metal		
Paper	Oxfordshire Muse	eums Service/	Context sheets, trench recording forms,		
	OXCMS: 2021.12	OXCMS: 2021.12			
			photographic registers,		
			sample register, sample		
			recording sheets,		
			permatrace drawings		
Digital	Oxfordshire Muse	ums Service/	Digital photographs		
	OXCMS: 2021.12				
BIBLIOGRAPHY					
Phase 2, North Oxford Trian	gle East, Oxfordshire: Archaeological E	valuation CA types	cript report CR0660 1		

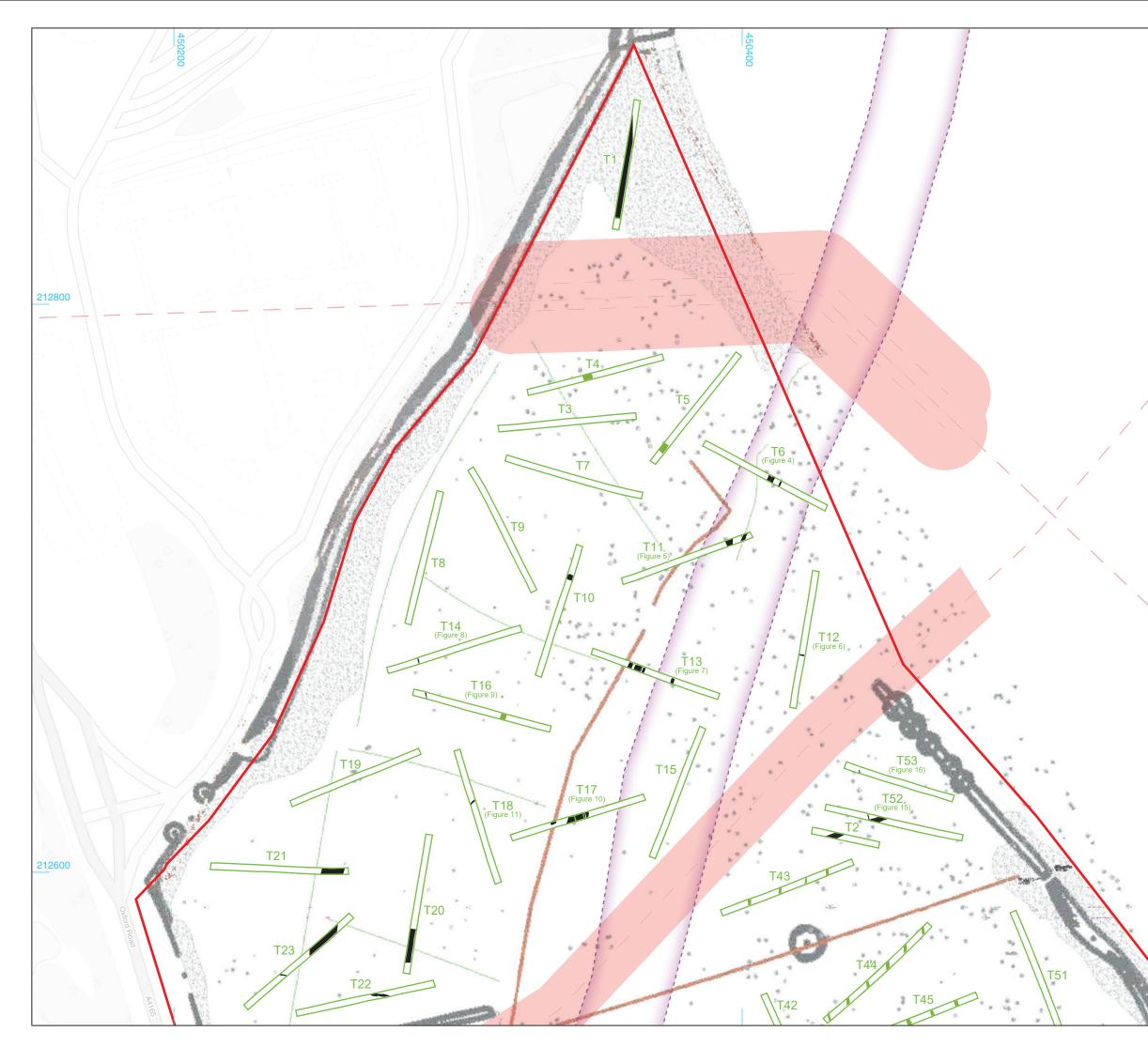
APPENDIX E: TRENCH CO-ORDINATES

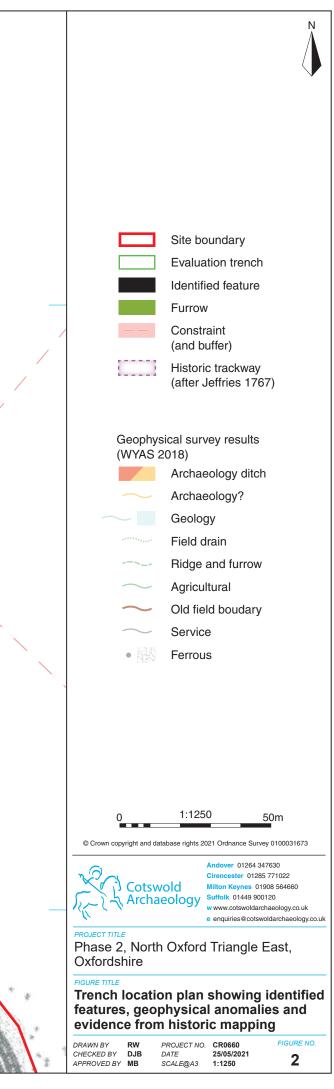
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17b	450366.6	211626.8	
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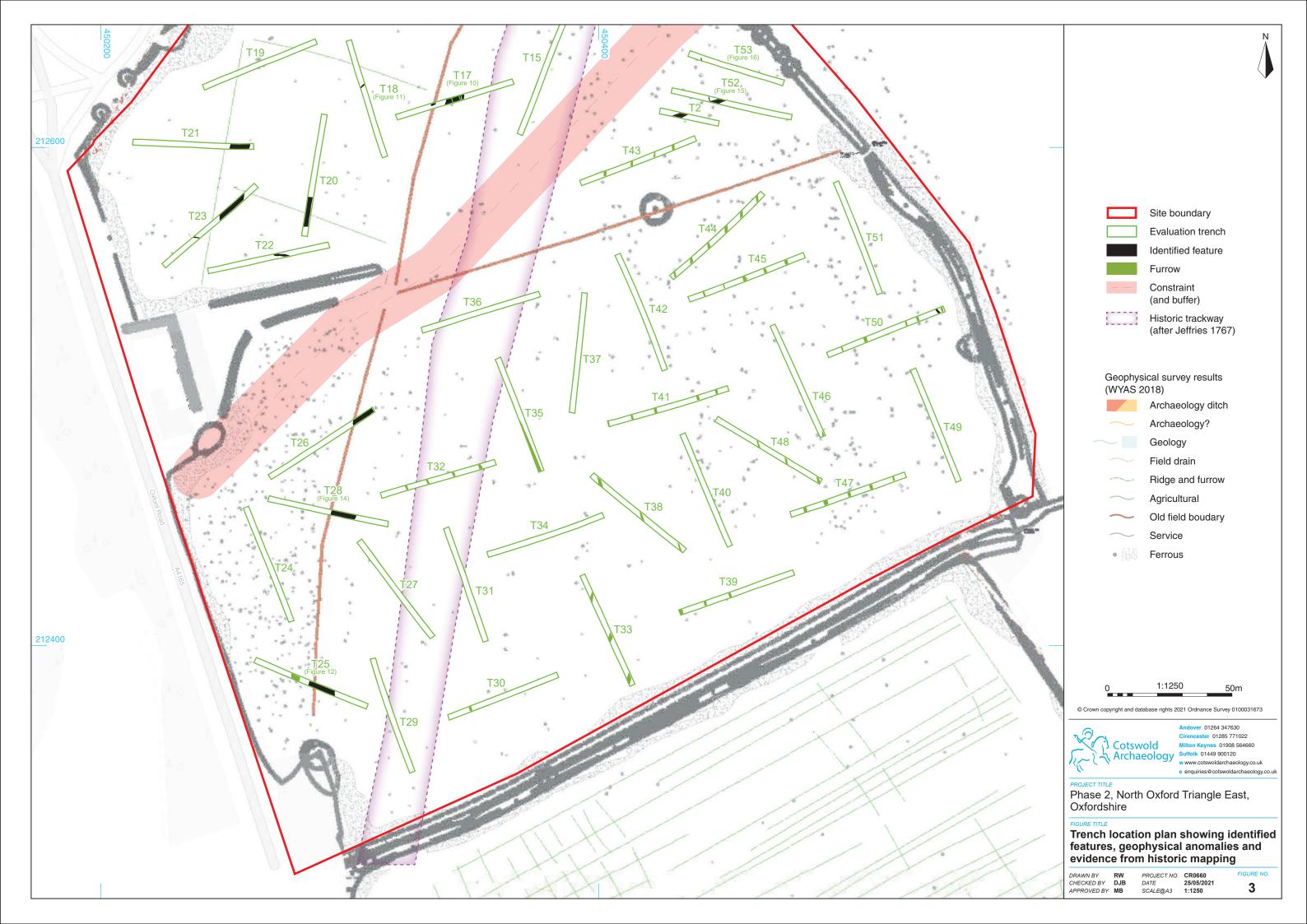
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23b	450263.2	211532.1	
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24b	450276.7	211409.3	
25a	450261.6	211394.2	
25b	450308.3	211374.9	
26a	450267.7	21137 1.5	
26b	450310.1	211494.9	
27a	450303.7	211494.2	
27b	450333.9	211402.4	
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29b	450325.4	211348.4	
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30b	450384.3	211388.2	
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31b	450354.8	211401.3	
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32b	450359.3	211473.7	
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33b	450413.9	211383.5	
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34b	450402.2	211452.3	
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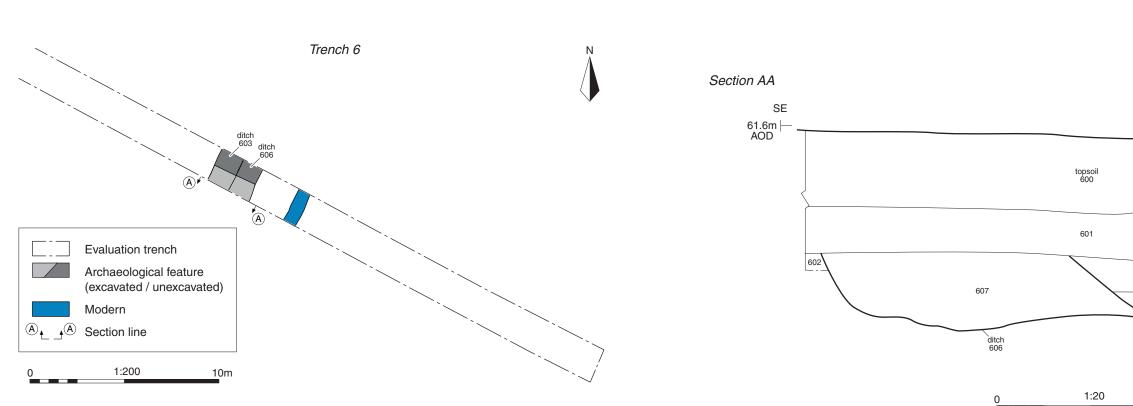
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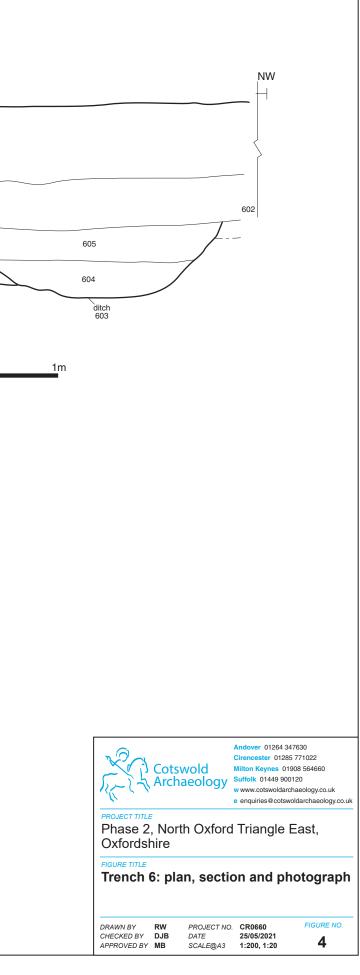


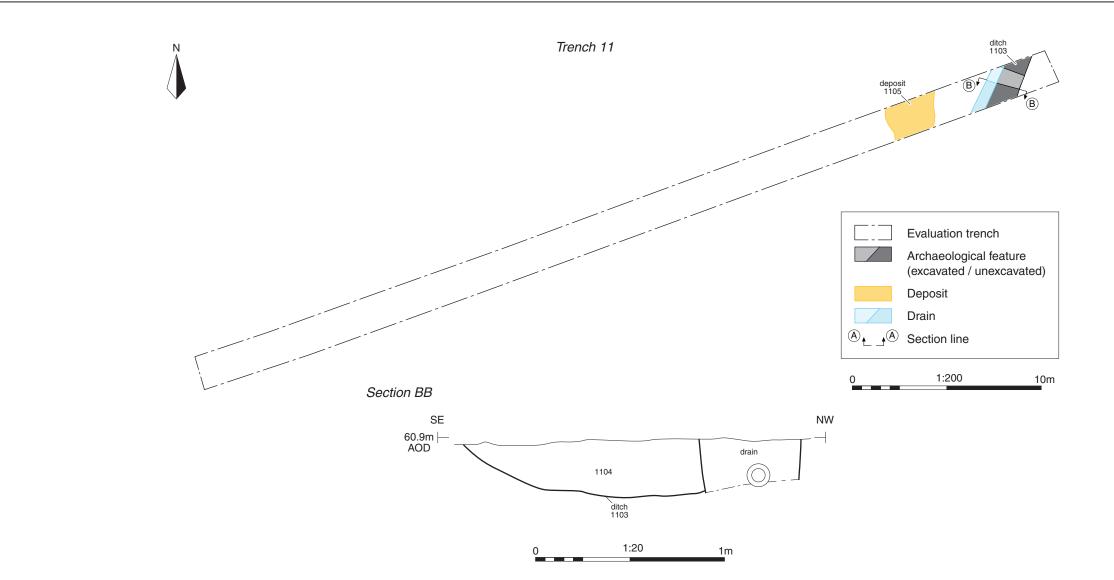






Ditches 606 (left) and 603 (right), looking south-west (2m scale)









Ditch 1103, looking south-west (1m scale)

Deposit 1105, looking north-east (1m scale)





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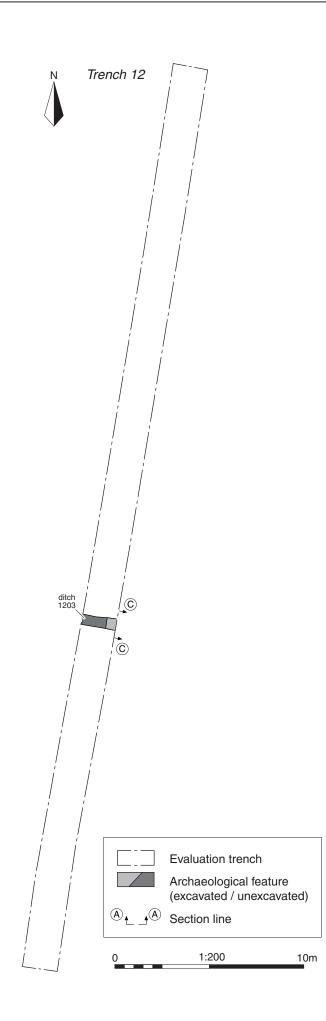
FIGURE TITLE Trench 11: plan, section and photographs

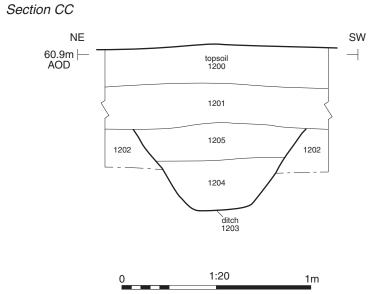
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Ditch 1203, looking south-east (1m scale)



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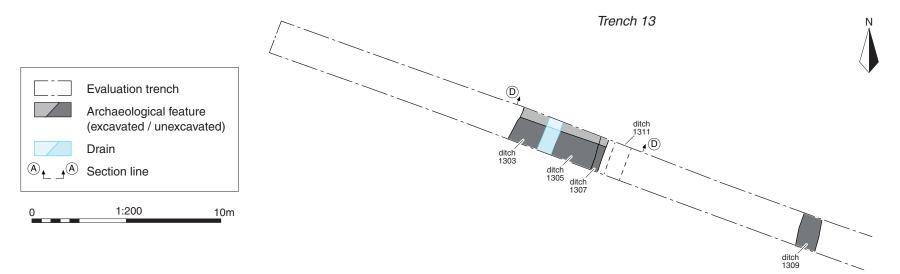
FIGURE TITLE Trench 12: plan, section and photograph

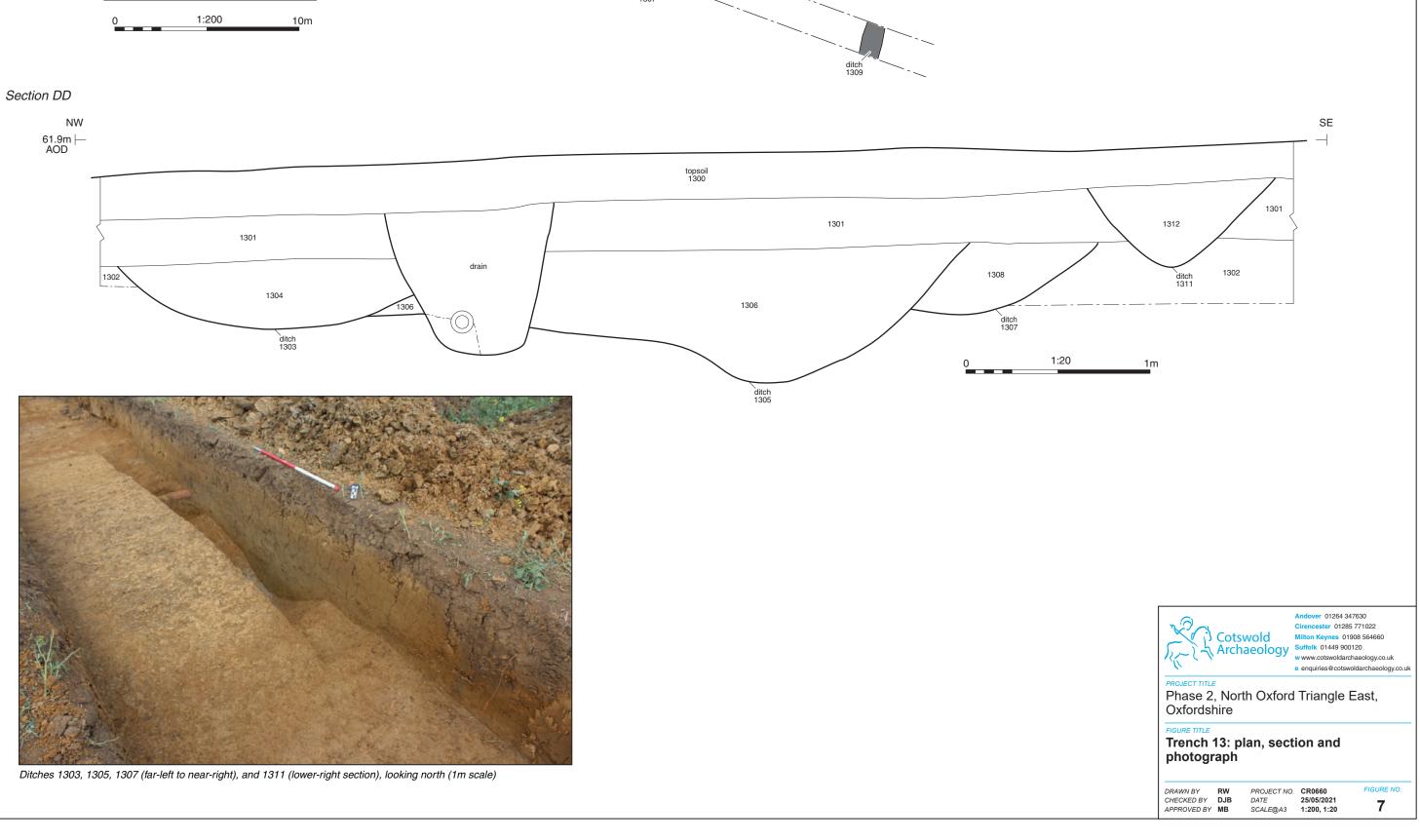
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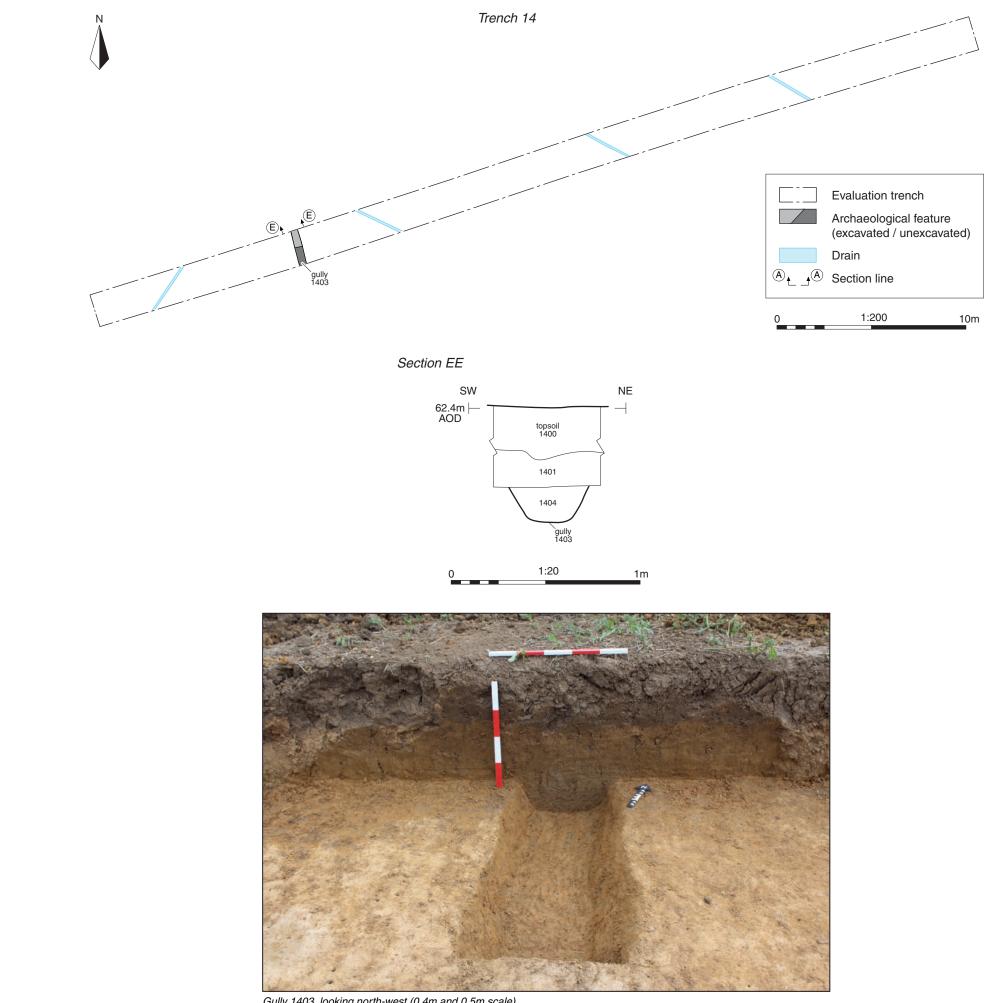
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Gully 1403, looking north-west (0.4m and 0.5m scale)



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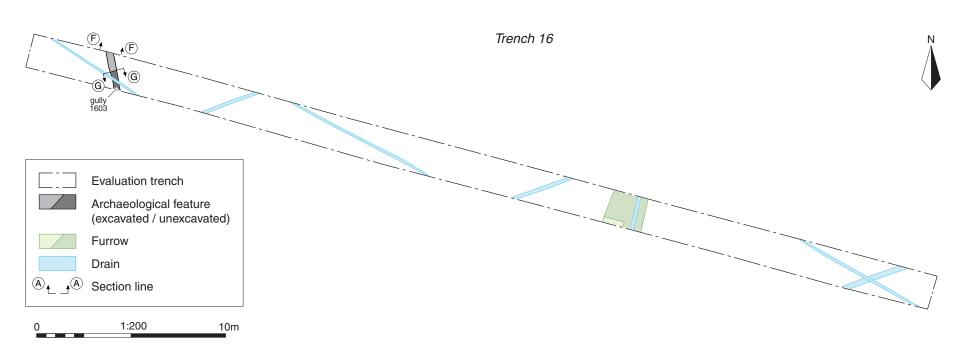
FIGURE TITLE Trench 14: plan, section and photograph

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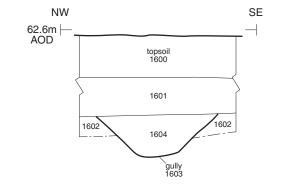
 DATE
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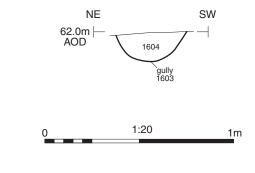
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Section FF









Gully 1603, looking south-east (0.2m scale)



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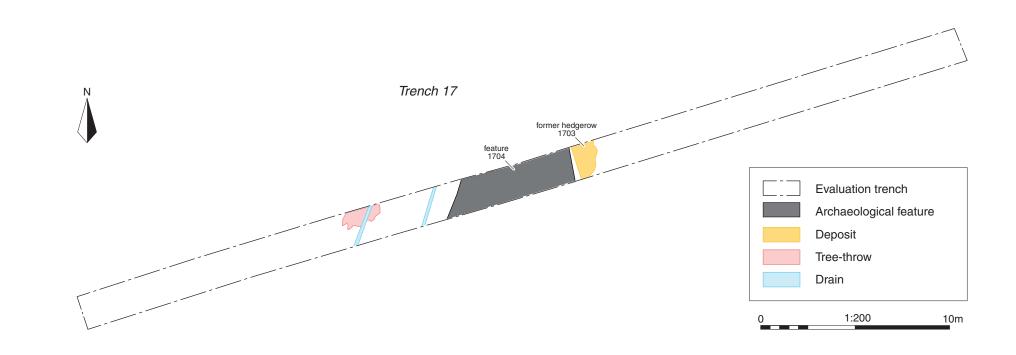
FIGURE TITLE Trench 16: plan, sections and photograph

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Trench 25, looking north-west (1m scales)



Feature1704, looking east (1m scales)



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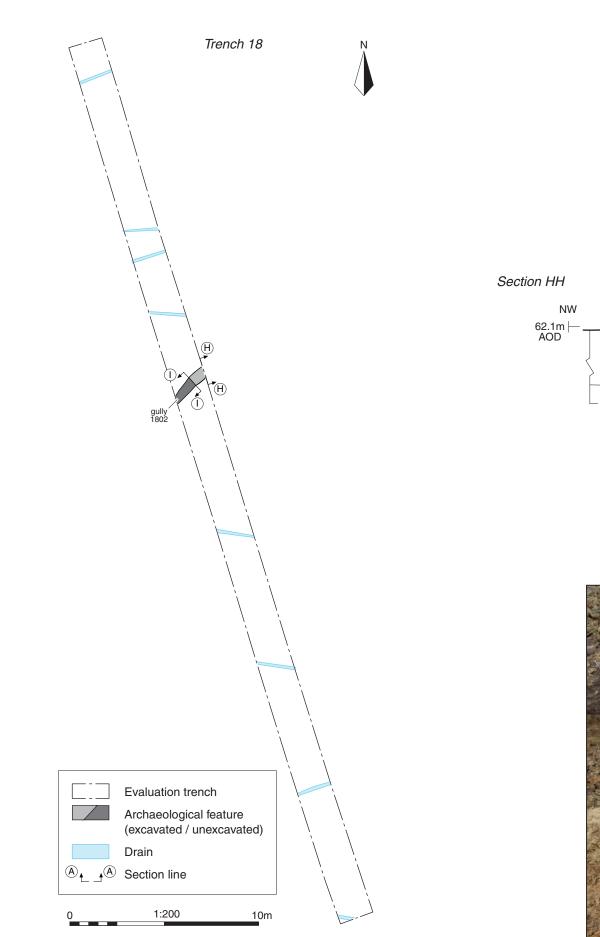
FIGURE TITLE Trench 17: plan and photograph

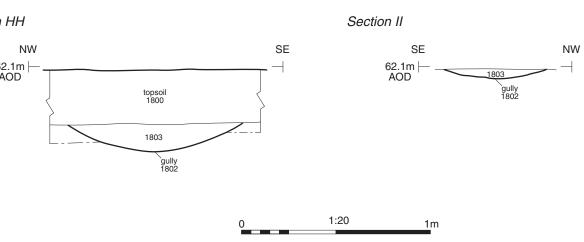
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Gully 1802, looking north-east (0.5m scale)



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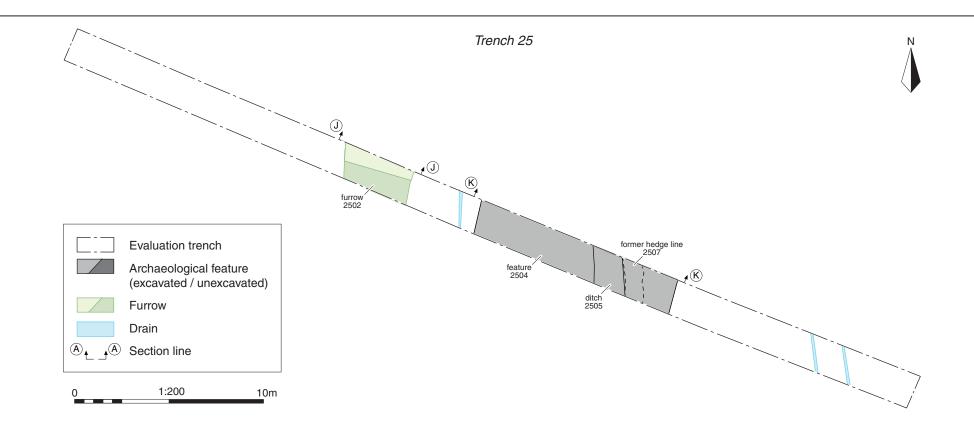
FIGURE TITLE Trench 18: plan, sections and photograph

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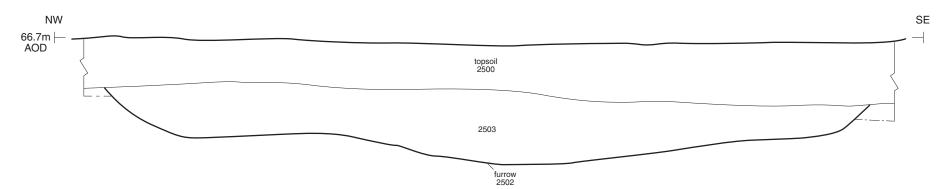
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 SCALE@A3
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Furrow 2502, looking north-west (2m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE Trench 25: plan, section and photograph

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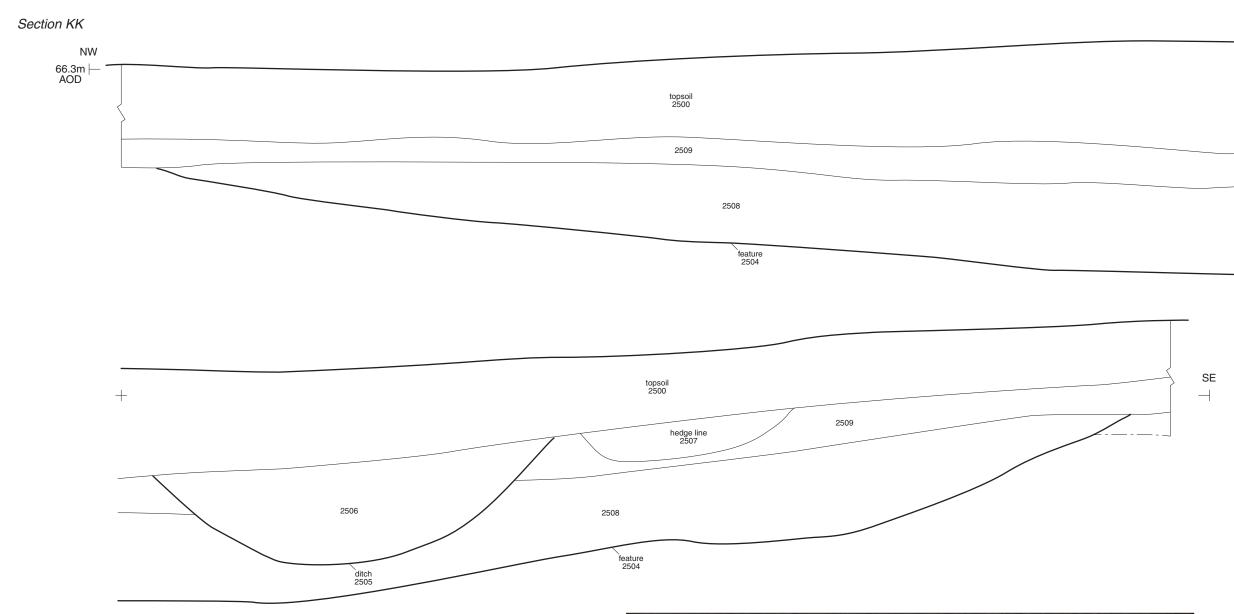
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FIGURE NO. 12

1m

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Feature 2504, ditch 2505 and hedge line 2507, looking north (2m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE Trench 25: section and photograph

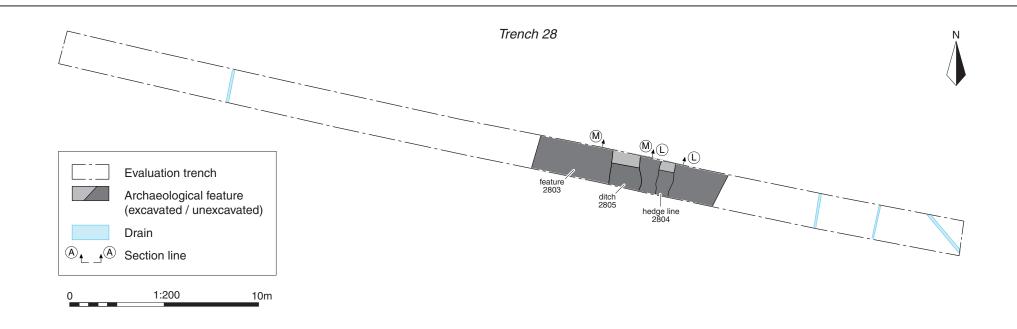
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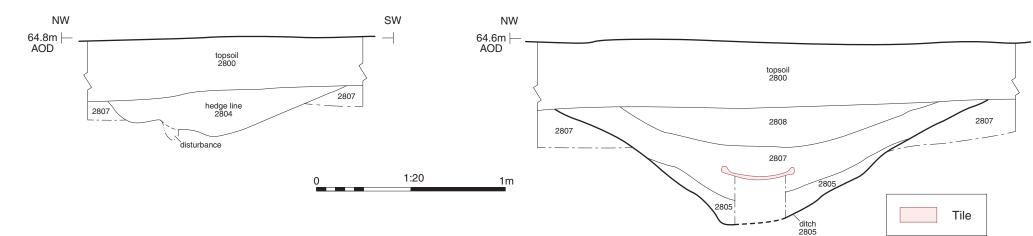
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Section LL

Section MM





Ditch 2805 (near-left) and hedge line 2804 (far-right), looking north-east (1m scale)





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FIGURE TITLE Trench 28: plan, sections and photograph

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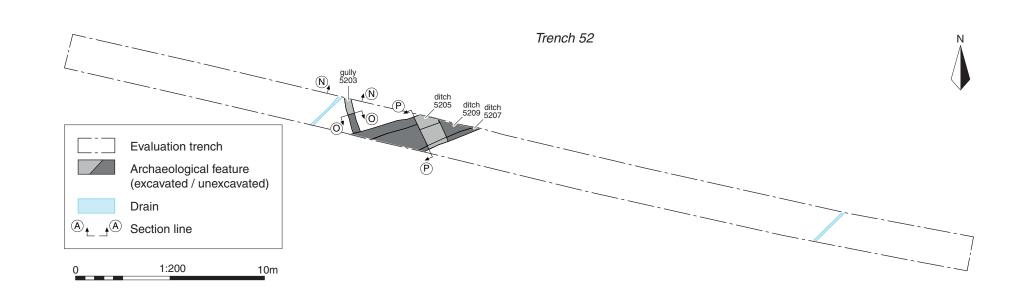
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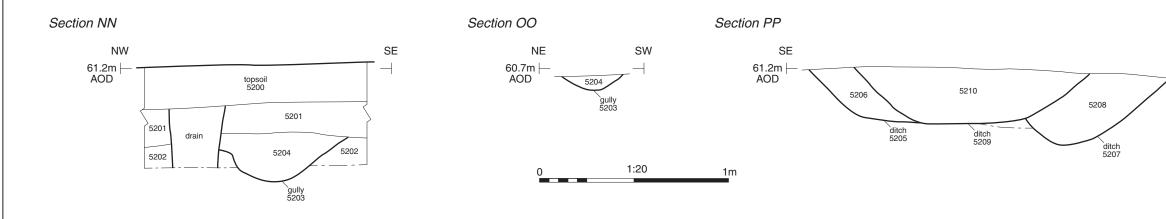
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FIGURE NO.

14









Ditches 5205 (left), 5209 (centre) and 5207 (right), looking south-west (1m scale)

Gully 5203, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



NW

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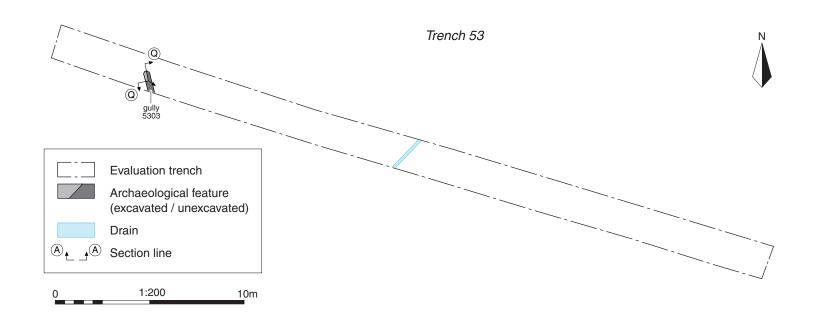
FIGURE TITLE Trench 52: plan, sections and photographs

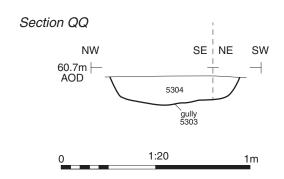
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Gully 5303, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE Trench 53: plan, section and photograph

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Trench 10, looking south-west (1m scales)

Trench 20, looking north (1m scales)

Trench 43, looking south-west (1m scales)



Trench 49, looking north-west (1m scales)



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PROJECT TITLE Phase 2, North Oxford Triangle East, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE Trenches 10, 20, 43 and 49: photographs

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 SCALE@A3
 NA



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