



Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Excavation



for
CgMs Consulting Ltd

on behalf of
Stockham Developments Ltd
and Stockham
Properties (Oxon) Ltd

CA Project: 9244
CA Report: 16703

July 2017



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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	5
<i>Prehistoric (500,000 BC – AD 43)</i>	5
<i>Roman (AD 43 – 410)</i>	6
<i>Early medieval/Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1066)</i>	6
<i>Medieval (1066 – 1539)</i>	6
<i>Post-medieval (1540 - 1800)</i>	7
<i>Previous Investigation</i>	7
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	8
4. METHODOLOGY	8
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 – 6)	9
<i>Geology</i>	10
<i>Period 1: Middle to Late Iron Age? (400 BC – AD 43)</i>	11
<i>Period 2: Roman? (2400 BC- AD 410)</i>	11
<i>Period 2: Medieval (mid 11th to early 15th century)</i>	12
<i>Undated</i>	13
6. THE FINDS	13
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE	13
8. DISCUSSION.....	14
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	15
10. STORAGE AND CURATION.....	15
11. PUBLICATION PROPOSALS	16
12. REFERENCES.....	16
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	19
APPENDIX B: POTTERY	22
APPENDIX C: LITHICS	24
APPENDIX D: OTHER FINDS.....	26
APPENDIX E: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	27
APPENDIX F: ANIMAL BONE	29

APPENDIX G: OASIS REPORT FORM.....30**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS**

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
Fig. 2 the site, showing excavation area and evaluation trenches (1:1250)
Fig. 3 Area 1 & 2: Phase plan (1:400)
Fig. 4 Ditch 103 (Ditch F): section and photograph (1:20)
Fig. 5 Ditch 111 (Gully H): section and photograph (1:20)
Fig. 6 Test Pits 10, 11 & 12: section and photograph (1:20)

LIST OF TABLES

- Table 1 Overall finds summary
Table 2 Overall biological evidence summary
Table 3 Pottery quantification by type
Table 4 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains
Table 5 Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Stockham Farm
Location:	Wantage, Oxfordshire
NGR:	439006 188671
Type:	Excavation
Date:	8 November – 2 December 2016
Planning Reference:	P14/V1810/FUL
Location of Archive:	Oxfordshire Museum Service
Accession Number:	OXCMS: 2016.189
Site Code:	WANT 16

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November and December 2016 on Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire. Two excavation areas were located along the western edge of the area of development and were targeted on a number of later prehistoric and undated features identified during two previous evaluations of the site. Several deposits of alluvial clay were located along the northern edge of the site. Palaeoenvironmental analysis of these deposits suggests that this area was once open grasslands prone to seasonal flooding and desiccation.

Limited numbers of artefacts were recovered from archaeological features, however, the excavation identified three phase of activity including a number of Middle to Late Iron Age drainage gullies and some later Roman drainage gullies and possible field boundary ditches. The archaeological remains suggest the site lies on the periphery of an area of Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement, which is possibly located to the south of higher and drier ground. The presence of several probable medieval plough furrows in the eastern part of the site suggests that earlier features may have been subject to truncation by later agricultural activities.

These results contribute to a growing body of evidence for Iron Age and Roman activity in the local area and are of local significance. A short, summary note will be prepared for publication in the *CBA South Midlands Archaeology Journal*.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November and December 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at the request of CgMs Consulting Limited and on behalf of Stockham Developments Limited and Stockham Properties (Oxon) Limited on Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire (centred on NGR: 439006 188671; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission (P14/V1810/FUL) for a residential development comprising 90 new homes, public open space and protective works along the former Wilts and Berks canal, has been granted by the Vale of the White Horse District Council, conditional (21-22) on a programme of archaeological work, comprising an excavation targeted upon remains uncovered in the south-west corner of the wider development area (see Fig. 1, site boundary). The archaeological condition was recommended by Hugh Coddington, Principal Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and advisor to the local authority. Informed by the results of two previous phases of archaeological evaluation, a strategy of targeted excavated was recommended.
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016a) and approved by OCC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014); the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015a) and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015b). It was monitored by Hugh Coddington, which included a site visit on December 2nd 2016.

The site

- 1.4 At the time of the excavation, the site was located within a single field set to pasture, approximately 3.4ha in area, to the west of Stockham Farm and Stockham Primary School. The site is bounded to the north by the former Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal, to the south and east by residential housing and to the west by further fields set to pasture. The south of the site lies at approximately 94m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) falling to 87m AOD along the northern boundary.

- 1.5 The solid geology in the southern part of the site comprises Upper Greensand Formation, a calcareous sandstone and siltstone bedrock, which formed approximately 94 to 112 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period (BGS 2017). In the northern part of the site, the solid geology comprises the Gault Formation, a mudstone bedrock formed approximately 100 to 112 million years ago, also in the Cretaceous Period (BGS 2016). No superficial deposits were identified by the British Geological Survey, however, several alluvial deposits were encountered during the archaeological investigation of the site (section 5.3-5.4).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 An archaeological desk based assessment (CgMs 2012) and heritage statement (CgMs 2014) of the site and areas to the east was prepared by CgMs as part of the submission of the planning application. The following background incorporates information from these documents, the results of recent fieldwork projects conducted in the surrounding area and previous investigations undertaken at the site.

Prehistoric (500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 2.2 Archaeological evidence for prehistoric occupation of the area surrounding the site is limited, in most cases, to the recovery of isolated findspots. Only a single entry from the Historic Environment Record (HER) relates to earlier prehistoric activity, comprised of a single Mesolithic blade, recovered 1km to the south-east of the site. The Bronze Age is similarly represented by isolated flint flakes, located 1km to the south, and by a number of palstave axes, recovered 250m to the south, and redeposited pottery, 250m to the east. Excavations at Mill Street, Wantage, located some 340m to the south of the site, also revealed a number of residual Bronze Age flints deposited in features of a later date (Holbrook and Thomas 1996, 115).
- 2.3 Evidence for occupation in the Iron Age is slightly more extensive and includes the discovery of features and pottery sherds during investigations in the town of Wantage, 900m to the south-east. A recent evaluation of the Grove Airfield, located 200m to the north of the site, has revealed a small selection of features (a gully and two ditches) that may also be Iron Age in date. Furthermore, recent archaeological investigation of the area immediately to the north-east of the site has revealed evidence for possible Iron Age occupation. A single Late Iron Age ditch was uncovered during the monitoring of a geotechnical test pit (OA 2012a) and a number

of Middle Iron Age enclosures and fields were identified during an evaluation of the same area (OA 2012b).

Roman (AD 43 – 410)

2.4 Extensive evidence for Roman occupation has been uncovered in the area surrounding the site. The projected route of a Roman road from Oxford to Wantage, lies c.170m to the east of the site. A series of archaeological investigations, particularly at Mill Street and Denchworth Road to the south-east of the site, have revealed evidence for trackways and stone buildings, which may represent either a villa estate or roadside settlement (Barber and Holbrook 2001, Holbrook and Thomas 1996). Furthermore, to the south-west of site at East Challow, antiquarian investigations revealed the footprint of a probable corridor villa, dated to between the 2nd-4th centuries AD. Recent evaluation of the area to the north of the villa by Cotswold Archaeology revealed an intensive area of Romano-British occupation, comprised of a number of pits, postholes and ditches (CA 2016c).

2.5 Beyond these sites a number of investigations have revealed some, albeit limited, evidence for further Roman occupation. This includes a ditch uncovered at Grove Airfield, 100m to the north of the site and a number of isolated burials, 160m to the south-east. Features of probable Roman date were also identified during the evaluation of the current site (section 2.9-2.10).

Early medieval/Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1066)

2.6 Documentary records suggest the presence of a Royal palace at Wantage at some point in the 9th century, although this has yet to be confirmed by archaeological investigation. Several excavations within Wantage itself have revealed evidence for occupation in this period including deposits and artefacts of an early Anglo-Saxon date at Mill Street (Holbrook and Thomas 1996, 125-129). Furthermore, the medieval church of St Peter and Paul, located to the south-east of the site, is thought to have been built on top on an earlier Saxon church. Limited evidence for early medieval occupation has been found in the area surrounding Wantage and is it likely that these areas were utilised as agricultural areas during this period.

Medieval (1066 – 1539)

2.7 Wantage became an established market town in the 12th to 13th century. Although the exact development of the town is unknown, it is thought that the core of town lay to the east of the Letcombe Brook, c.850m to the south-east of the site. Again, little

information is known about the areas surrounding the town, including that of the site itself, however, aerial photographs have identified large areas of surviving ridge and furrow cultivation in this area. A site visit, conducted during the compilation of the desk based assessment of the site, identified the presence of ridge and furrow earthwork in the western part of the proposed development area (CgMs 2012, 15). It is probable that this area formed an agricultural hinterland to the town during the medieval period.

Post-medieval (1540 - 1800)

- 2.8 Historic map regression and documentary evidence indicates that the site formed part of a wider agricultural landscape during the post-medieval and modern periods. The route of the Wiltshire and Berkshire canal, , is indicated on early 19th century maps of site and shown as constructed on the Tithe map of 1844. These maps also show the site as being comprised of a number of fields, which by the time of the OS (Ordnance Survey) map of 1883 had been opened up into a single field. Apart from the canal falling out of the use by the early 20th century, the historic maps show little change within the site up until the time of the excavation.

Previous Investigation

- 2.9 Two trial trench evaluations of the site were undertaken prior to the archaeological excavation. The first was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology in 2013, comprising the excavation of thirteen trenches or a 2% sample of the site (OA 2013, Fig. 2). The evaluation revealed a series of ditches and shallow pits, however, limited quantities of artefactual material were recovered from these features. Of note was a cluster of features within Trench 65, including several pits, a posthole and a large possible waterhole, which contained a few sherds of later prehistoric pottery. A single possible Roman ditch was also uncovered in Trench 69 and a possible medieval feature in Trench 62. A small assemblage of prehistoric flint and Roman and medieval pottery were also recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits.
- 2.10 A second phase of trial trenching, comprising the excavation of 32 trenches, was undertaken by CA in October 2016 (CA 2016b). The evaluation was conducted in order to clarify the nature of the remains on site and define the span of the archaeological activity (CA 2016b, 6). The evaluation uncovered a number of linear features, mostly undated, spread across the north-western, southern and north-eastern parts of the site. Evidence for later prehistoric activity was revealed across the western and central parts of the site, most likely consisting of agricultural field

enclosures. A large ditch or spread of material was identified within Trenches 106, 107 and 108, in the north-western corner of the site, however, it was uncertain what this material represented. A background of scatter of Iron Age, Romano-British and medieval activity, as well as animal bone recovered suggested the presence of an area of habitation nearby. Evidence for post-medieval and modern agricultural activity was also uncovered in the eastern part of the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation as detailed in the WSI (CA 2016a) were to:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains;
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

3.2 The specific aims of the work were to:

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use;
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified; i.e. late prehistoric, Romano-British or medieval;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out and agreed within the WSI (CA 2016a). The location of the excavation area was agreed with Hugh Coddington (OCC) and informed by the results of the previous archaeological evaluations (OA 2013, CA 2016b). Due to the presence of a live sewer / storm drain, crossing the site on a north-south alignment, the excavation area was divided into two halves to avoid potential damage. Area 1 measured c. 60 x 55m and was located to the west of the service, while Area 2, an L shaped area, measured c. 70 x 60m and was located to the east of the of the service (Fig. 2). The excavation areas were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with

CA Technical Manual 4: *Survey Manual*. The excavation areas were scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. As a result of the presence of a potentially live electricity cable running north-west / south-east across the site, Area 2 was reduced in size by several metres on the eastern side. The stripping of the site to the south was abandoned on 2 December 2016 on the advice of Hugh Coddington due to the paucity of archaeological remains.

- 4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area by a mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision. Archaeological features and deposits once exposed were hand cleaned where necessary and then excavated by hand. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Features and deposits and were assessed for their environmental potential and twelve environmental samples were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. Six monolith samples and six snail columns were taken from a number of hand excavated test pits through dark alluvial deposits uncovered in both excavation areas. The results are summarised in Appendix C.
- 4.4 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation*.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 – 6)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices A-F.
- 5.2 The phasing is based on artefacts recovered from the fills of identified features (where present), and/or on defined stratigraphic sequences. The finds assemblage recovered from across excavation was extremely limited, making phasing tentative in most instances. While some features contained no artefactual evidence or had no stratigraphic relationship to other features, they have been assigned to a period

based upon morphological characteristics and/or proximity to other features. Some features could not be definitively assigned a phase based on stratigraphy or dating evidence and remain unphased.

- Phase 1: Middle to Late Iron Age? (400 BC – AD 43)
- Period 2: Roman? (AD 43-410)
- Period 3: Medieval (mid 11th to early 15th century)
- Undated

Geology

- 5.3 The natural substrate (102, 202) within both excavation areas consisted of a grey yellow brown clay with localised grey gritty calcareous siltstone outcrops. A large spread (175, 226) of dark alluvial clay was uncovered along the northern edge of Area 1 and within a narrow band running downhill (north-west/south-east) across Area 2. These alluvial deposits, a very dark grey humic clayey silt with moderate quantities of crushed mollusc shells, had an average depth across the site of 0.25m. A total of twelve hand dug test pits and a number of environmental and monolith samples examined this deposit in both areas of the site (Fig. 3). The results of the environmental analysis indicate a generally open local landscape with indications of localised seasonal flooding and desiccation (Appendix E). The environmental remains provided no evidence for the date of this deposit or for any settlement activities associated with this material.
- 5.4 Test pits 10, 11 and 12 examined a cross section through the alluvial layer in Area 2 and identified a broad U-shaped channel (207) measuring up to 7m wide and 0.70m deep (Figs. 3 and 6). It is probable that this channel represented either an undulation in the natural substrate or a former palaeochannel. Two medieval plough furrows truncated the alluvial layer this area (section 5.10) and suggest that it must pre-date the 11th century AD. A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the alluvial material. A flint core and flake were also recovered from the alluvial layer (211) excavated within Test pit 11 (Appendix C). A single sherd of mid 13th to mid 17th century pottery was recovered from this layer (203) in Test pit 6. Based on the stratigraphic relationship between this layer and the medieval furrows described above it is probable that this sherd represents later disturbance of this alluvium.

5.5 The natural geology was overlain in both areas by a grey yellow brown silty clay subsoil (101, 201), which measured an average of 0.35 in thickness. A moderate assemblage of redeposited Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval pottery (Appendix B), lithics (Appendix C) and other finds (Appendix D) was recovered from the subsoil layer in each area (Appendix B), suggesting that agricultural activities had disturbed earlier deposits. The subsoil layer became noticeably shallower to the east of the site. The subsoil was sealed by a layer of topsoil (100, 200), a dark yellow brown silty clay, which measured an average depth of 0.25m in thickness.

Period 1: Middle to Late Iron Age? (400 BC – AD 43)

5.6 The earliest phase of archaeological activity on the site comprised a number of interconnected gullies uncovered within the centre of Area 1 (Gullies A to C – Fig. 3). Three gullies intersected one another and were aligned either east/west (Gully A) or north/south (Gullies B and C). The gullies were each concave in shape and measured 0.3-0.9m wide and 0.13-0.23m deep. In a number of the interventions a thin layer of silting was present at the base of the cut, suggesting that the feature was open for a time. These primary fills were each overlain by a homogenous dark grey silty clay, possibly deposited through alluvial action (Fig. 4). Due to the homogenous nature of this fill it was not possible to determine the stratigraphic relationships between the three gullies and it may be that they were all excavated and filled up during the same period.

5.7 Artefacts were only recovered from two of the interventions through the three gullies. Three flint flakes and a single rounded rim of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the second fill (156) of an intervention (154) through Gully A (Appendix B and C). This single sherd represents the only dating evidence recovered from this phase of occupation. A single sherd of pottery of probable 11th to late 14th century date was also recovered from the single fill (150) of an intervention (149) through Gully C. This may suggest that this feature was a later in date than Gullies A and B or that this represents a piece of intrusive material, incorporated through disturbance or truncation by later agricultural activity.

Period 2: Roman? (2400 BC- AD 410)

5.8 Three parallel east/west aligned ditches (D, E and F) extended from the western boundary of Area 1 for approximately 15m (Fig. 3). Ditch D, the northernmost of the three features, measured 14m long (as visible), and was 1m wide and 0.27m deep. The U-shaped ditch contained a single grey silty clay fill (137), from which no finds

were recovered. Ditch E, located c.4m to the south, measured 11m long (as visible), 2.2m wide and 0.13m deep. The ditch was filled with a dark grey silty clay (133, 135), from which no finds were recovered, however, during the evaluation a single sherd of late medieval pottery was recovered from the fill (10006) of an intervention (10005) through the line of Ditch E. The irregular nature of the ditch may suggest that it was naturally formed through water movement. Ditch F, located 8.5m to the south, measured 17m long (as visible), 1.53m wide and 0.41m deep. The ditch was filled by two deposits. The initial fill (104) comprised a black brown silty clay, 0.08m deep, and was overlaid by a grey brown silty clay (105) 0.32m in depth. The later fill (105) contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery and fragments of cattle bone. This represents the only dating evidence for this feature. Each of the three ditches had been identified and investigated as part of previous evaluation of the site (CA 2016).

- 5.9 Two probable gullies (G and H), each aligned north-west/south-east, were located to the east of Ditches D-F (Fig. 3). The gullies were each concave in shape and measured 0.35-0.7m wide and 0.05-0.23m deep. A gap of c.2.5m was present between the two gullies and may represent either an entranceway or part of the ditch that had been truncated by later activity. A thin layer of silting was present at the base of some of the interventions through the gullies and was overlaid by a homogenous dark grey silty clay, possibly deposited through alluvial action. No finds were recovered from the fills of the two gullies, however, Gully G truncated Gully A, which was tentatively dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age (section 5.6-5.7). These gullies lay perpendicular to Ditches D-F and may represent a contemporary phase of activity.

Period 2: Medieval (mid 11th to early 15th century)

- 5.10 Two parallel north/south orientated plough furrows (I, J) of medieval date were recorded on the eastern side of Area 2 (Fig. 3). The furrows were positioned approximately 15m apart. The furrows measured 0.87-2.7m wide and 0.13-0.22m deep, had a concave profile and were filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay. Small assemblages (five sherds or fewer) of medieval pottery were recovered from the fills of several interventions (214, 217, 222, 224) excavated through the two furrows. The pottery was only broadly datable to the late 11th to mid 15th century.

Undated

- 5.11 A short undated gully was uncovered along the southern edge of Area 1. The gully (K) was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 5.7m long, 0.23m wide and 0.09m deep. The single fill (168, 170) was a dark grey silty clay. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the fill of this feature, its general proximity to the possible Iron Age and Roman features (described above) may indicate that it is of a contemporary date although it is not aligned with or perpendicular to them. A parallel but undated gully (10203) was uncovered during the evaluation of the site, approximately 6.5m to the south. It is possible that these features were associated with one another, however, there is little corresponding evidence to support this interpretation.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices B to D.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Iron Age	3	25
	Roman	56	518
	medieval	81	572
	Post-medieval	8	71
	<i>Total</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>1186</i>
Lithics		24	151
Metalwork	Cu alloy objects	2	-
	Fe nails	3	-
	Fe other	7	-
CBM		1	36

Table 1: Overall finds summary

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1 Biological evidence recovered is listed in Table 2 below. Details are to be found in Appendices E-F.

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments (Identified to species)	22
Samples	Environmental	12

Table 2: Overall biological evidence summary

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The archaeological investigations at Stockham Farm, Wantage have recorded the presence and survival of archaeological remains across the site and allowed the investigation of the evidence for past occupation. The site stratigraphy has been analysed as far as the evidence allows and features have been dated by associated finds, stratigraphic relationships and spatial logic where possible. The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was moderate with archaeological remains having survived as shallow negative features, however, a limited artefactual assemblage recovered from the fills of these features. The quantity of artefactual material recovered from the features is low and therefore phasing of some features, particularly that of Iron Age or Roman date, is tentative at best. The analysis of environmental remains, particularly from a large alluvial layer along the north of the site, allowed the understanding of past land use and economy.
- 8.2 A large area of dark grey clay was uncovered across both Areas 1 and 2 and partially filled what is thought to represent a former palaeochannel. This material was identified in a previous evaluation of the site (CA 2016a), although its function and formation was unexplained. This excavation has demonstrated that these deposits (**175, 226**) represent alluvial clays, formed through repeated seasonal flooding of this part of the site. The palaeoenvironmental evidence from these deposits contained moderate quantities of waterlogged plant materials and molluscs retrieved confirmed this area was dominated by open grasslands prone to seasonal flooding and desiccation.
- 8.3 Two phases of Middle to Late Iron Age and Romano-British ditches and gullies were uncovered within Area 1. The initial phase, dated tentatively to the Middle to Late Iron Age, consisted of a series of north/south and east/west aligned drainage gullies, presumably used to drain water from wet low lying areas. The later phase, dated to some point in the Roman period, consisted of several north-east/south-west ditches and a north-west/south-east aligned gully. It is probable that these features were also used as drainage ditches and/or field boundaries. It should be noted that the phasing for these two periods is tentative and relies on single sherds of pottery as dating evidence, a single stratigraphic relationship between Gully A and G, and the general alignment of these features.

- 8.4 Both phases of these features probably represent localised drainage works, directing water away from the settlement / farmland down towards the waterlogged and less productive lowlands along the northern boundary of the site. The presence of drainage features suggests that the site lies upon the periphery of a settlement or large farmstead, presumably located to the south on higher and drier ground. This interpretation corresponds with our current knowledge of Roman occupation in the surrounding area, which appears to be concentrated to the south and east of the site (section 2.4-2.5).
- 8.5 Two parallel medieval furrows were uncovered in the eastern part of Area 2. These remains correspond with the identification of ridge and furrow across the site and the surrounding area (section 2.7). The presence of the remaining furrows, the shallow nature of the surviving features from the site and the high quantity of finds from the subsoil deposits, suggests that medieval and later ploughing has likely had a detrimental impact on the survival of earlier features.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Oliver Good and Joe Whelan assisted by Nida Bhunnoo, Francesco Catanzaro, Jon Dobbie, Ed Grenier, Emily Stynes, Keighley Wasenczuk and Sam Wilson. The report was written by Joe Whelan and Nicky Garland. The pottery and metal finds reports were written by Grace P. Jones and Katie Marsden and the worked flint report by Jacky Sommerville. The faunal remains report was written by Andrew Clarke and the plant macrofossils and mollusc report was written by Sarah Wyles. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Andrew Donald. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex and the post-excavation was managed by Jacek Gruszczynski.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

- 10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Andover whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Oxford Museum Services, which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project. A summary of information from this project, set out

within Appendix G, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

11. PUBLICATION PROPOSALS

- 11.1 A short summary note will be published the *CBA South Midlands Archaeology Journal*, to bring these results to the attention of the local readership and to draw wider attention to the fact that this report will be made available on-line.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Interpretation
100	deposit		Dark yellow brown silty clayey silt	Top soil area 1
101	deposit		Grey yellow brown silty clay	Subsoil area 1
102	deposit		Grey yellow brown silty clay with grey calcareous siltstone outcrops	Natural area 1
103	cut		Linear cut of ditch with a concave, fairly narrow even base running SW-NE	Ditch F
104	fill	103	Dark black brown silty clay, compact with frequent calcareous siltstones. Secondary fill	Ditch F
105	fill	103	Mid grey brown silty clay, compact with common calcareous siltstone	Ditch F
106	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay with calcareous siltstone	TP 1
107	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus with sharp rounded sides and a flat base on a N-S alignment	Ditch F
108	fill	107	Mid brown grey silty clay, firm	Ditch F
109	cut		Linear cut of ditch with shallow concave sides and a concave base on a NW-SE alignment	Gully G
110	fill	109	Black grey silty clay, firm with frequent crushed shall. Single secondary fill	Gully G
111	cut		Linear cut of ditch with asymmetrical, concave to SW and convex to NE sides with a concave base on NW-SE alignment	Gully H
112	fill	111	Light grey with dark grey mottling, firm primary fill	Gully H
113	fill	111	Dark black grey firm clay, occasional charcoal flecks. Secondary fill	Gully H
114	cut		Linear cut of ditch. Concave moderately sloping sides to NE and steeply sloping sides to the SW with a concave base. On a NW-SE alignment	Gully H
115	fill	114	Light grey with dark grey mottling, firm primary fill	Gully H
116	fill	114	Dark black grey firm clay, occasional charcoal flecks. Secondary fill	Gully H
117	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus on NW-SE alignment. Concave, gently sloping sides to a concave base.	Gully H
118	fill	117	Light white grey with yellow mottling gritty clay. Primary fill	Gully H
119	fill	117	Dark black grey firm clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Secondary fill	Gully H
120	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus with sharp rounded concave sides and a flat base on a E-W alignment	Gully G
121	fill	120	Dark grey brown silty clay, firm	Gully G
122	cut		Linear cut of ditch with concave sides and a concave base on a NW-SE alignment. Cuts ditch 124	Gully G
123	fill	122	Black grey silty clay with frequent crushed shell inclusions	Gully G
124	cut		Linear cut of ditch with shallow irregular sides and a concave base on a SE-NW alignment. Cut by 122	Gully A
125	fill	124	Dark grey silty clay, firm with frequent crushed shell. Secondary fill of ditch	Gully A
126	cut		Linear cut of ditch with sharp rounded, concave sides and a flat base on a E-W alignment	Gully A
127	fill	126	Mid brown grey silty clay, firm. Root disturbance present	Gully A
128	cut		Linear cut of ditch with slightly convex sides and a concave base on a E-W alignment	Gully A
129	fill	128	Light grey with dark grey mottling clay, firm primary fill	Gully A
130	fill	128	Dark black grey firm clay with occasional sub rounded chalk inclusions	Gully A
131	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, firm with occasional shell inclusions	TP 2
132	cut		Curvilinear irregular cut of possible water channel with undulating, irregular sides and an irregular base	Ditch E
133	fill	132	Mottled mid black grey firm clay with common sub rounded stone inclusions	Ditch E
134	cut		Ephemeral with irregular sides and base. Natural water channel	Ditch E

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Interpretation
135	fill	134	Dark grey silty clay, compact	Ditch E
136	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus. Concave sides and a shallow irregular base on a NE-SW alignment	Ditch D
137	fill	136	Dark grey silty clay, firm with occasional sub rounded stone inclusions	Ditch D
138	cut		Linear cut of ditch with slight concave moderately sloping sides to a concave base on a N-S alignment	Gully C
139	fill	138	Light grey with mid black grey mottling firm clay	Gully C
140	fill	138	Mid black grey firm clay with occasional sub rounded stone inclusions	Gully C
141	cut		Linear cut of ditch with straight regular sides to a flat base on a E-W alignment	Gully A
142	fill	141	Pale green grey silty clay, compact	Gully A
143	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, firm. Shell inclusions	TP 3
144	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, firm. Shell inclusions	TP 4
145	fill	141	Mid grey silty clay, compact	Gully A
146	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus with slightly convex sides and a concave base on a NE-SW alignment	Gully B
147	fill	146	Light grey with mid black grey mottling firm clay	Gully B
148	fill	146	Mid black grey firm clay with occasional sub rounded stone inclusions	Gully B
149	cut		Linear cut of ditch with straight regular sides to a flat base. Curves to from N-S to E-W at nearly 90 degrees on the top of slope	Gully C
150	fill	149	Dark grey silty clay, compact with frequent flakes of chalk	Gully C
151	cut		Linear cut of ditch, straight regular sides with a sharp 'v' shape base on a N-S alignment	Gully C
152	fill	151	Dark grey silty clay, firm with occasional sub rounded stone inclusions	Gully C
153	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, firm with shell inclusions	TP 5
154	cut		Linear cut of ditch terminus with asymmetrical sides the S side convex and the N side concave with a concave base on a E-W alignment	Gully A
155	fill	154	Mid green grey with orange mottling firm clay	Gully A
156	fill	154	Mid black grey firm clay with common sub rounded stone inclusions	Gully A
157	cut		Linear cut of ditch with 90 degree angle from the N-S ditch to an E-W ditch with straight regular sides and a flat base	Gully B
158	fill	157	Dark grey silty clay compact secondary fill with frequent chalk flecks	Gully B
159	cut		Linear cut of ditch with straight sides and a sharp 'v' shaped base on a N-S alignment	Gully C
160	fill	159	Dark grey silty clay, firm with occasional stone inclusions	Gully C
161	cut		Linear cut of ditch with sharp 'v' shaped base on a N-S alignment	Gully C
162	fill	161	Grey silty clay, firm with rare calcareous sandstone inclusions	Gully C
163	cut		Sub oval cut of tree throw with slightly concave, very shallow sides to an irregular base	Tree throw
164	fill	163	Light grey with black grey mottling clay, firm with occasional sub rounded siltstone inclusions	Tree throw
165	cut		Linear cut of ditch with sharp concave sides and a flat base on a NW-SE alignment	Gully H
166	fill	165	Dark black grey silty clay, firm	Gully H
167	cut		Irregular cut of gully terminus with very shallow sides and a flat base on an E-W alignment	Gully K
168	fill	167	Dark black grey silty clay, compact	Gully K
169	cut		Irregular linear cut of gully terminus with gradual shallow sides and a flat base in an E-W alignment	Gully K
170	fill	169	Dark black grey silty clay, compact	Gully K
171	cut		Linear cut of gully running NW-SE with shallow smooth sides to a rounded angle at base meet and a flat concave base. Same as 165 and 117	Gully H

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Interpretation
172	fill	171	Dark grey black silty clay, firm with common calcareous mud stone inclusions and moderate rooting disturbance. Secondary fill	Gully H
173	cut		Linear cut of gully running E-W with moderate sides slightly convex and a concave base	Gully A
174	fill	173	Dark grey clay, compact with rare sub angular siltstone inclusions. Secondary fill	Gully A
175	deposit		Overall feature number for natural 'dark soil' in Area 1	Feature
200	deposit		Dark yellow brown silty clayey silt	Top soil area 2
201	deposit		Grey yellow brown silty clay	Subsoil area 2
202	deposit		Grey yellow brown silty clay with grey calcareous siltstone outcrops	Natural area 2
203	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, compact with common shell and calcareous silt stone inclusions	TP 6
204	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, compact with common shell and calcareous siltstone inclusions	TP 7
205	deposit		Dark grey black silty clay, compact with rare siltstone inclusions	TP 8
206	deposit		Dark black grey silty clay, compact with common shell and calcareous siltstone inclusions	TP 9
207	cut		Linear cut of possible palaeochannel with gradual regular sloping sides on the east and the base not completely uncovered but flat in area exposed.	Natural strata
208	deposit	207	Mid green grey silty clay, compact with frequent chalk flecks	Natural strata
209	deposit	207	Black silty clay, compact with frequent chalk flecks and rare sub angular stones and shell	Natural strata
210	deposit	207	Dark black grey silty clay, compact with common shell and chalk inclusions.	TP 12
211	deposit	207	Mid grey black, compact with very common sub angular silt stone inclusions	TP 11
212	deposit	207	Mid grey black sandy clay, compact with rare sub angular silt stone inclusions	TP 11
213	deposit	207	Dark grey black silty clay, compact with rare siltstone inclusions	Natural strata
214	cut		Linear cut of furrow running N-S with a flat base and sharp rounded sides. Same as 217, 220, 222	Furrow I
215	fill	214	Mid grey brown silty clay, firm with common siltstone inclusions	Furrow I
216	deposit		Dark black brown silty clay, compact with common siltstone and shell inclusions. Cut by 214	Natural strata
217	cut		Linear cut of furrow running N-S with gentle concave sloping sides and a concave base. Same as 220	Furrow I
218	fill	217	Mid grey black silty clay, compact with rare silt stone inclusions	Furrow I
219	deposit		Dark grey black silty clay, compact with rare silt stone inclusions	Natural strata
220	cut		Linear cut of furrow with gentle shallow sides and a flat concave base on a N-S alignment	Furrow I
221	fill	220	Mid grey silty clay, firm with occasional mud stone inclusions and rare charcoal flecks. Secondary fill of furrow	Furrow I
222	cut		Linear cut of furrow on a N-S alignment with gradual regular sides and a flat base	Furrow I
223	fill	222	Mid grey brown silty clay, compact with rare mud stone and shell inclusions.	Furrow I
224	cut		Linear cut of furrow on a N-S alignment parallel to furrow 220. Shallow sides and a flat concave base	Furrow J
225	fill	224	Mid grey silty clay, firm with occasional mudstone inclusions as well as charcoal flecks.	Furrow J
226	deposit		Overall feature number for natural 'dark soil' in Area 2	Feature

APPENDIX B: POTTERY

By Grace P. Jones and Katie Marsden

The pottery assemblage comprises 148 sherds, weighing 1186g. The material is of later Iron Age to post-medieval date, with a focus on the Romano-British and medieval periods. The pottery from each context has been quantified by fabric, with reference made to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998) and the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994) where appropriate (Table 3). Details of form, rim diameter, decoration and any other salient features have been recorded. The largest group of material (93 sherds, 860g) was recovered from the subsoil of Area 1, with a further 18 sherds (111g) from the subsoil of area 2, and two sherds (37g) from test pit 6. The remaining 34 sherds (171g) came from ditches 103, 149, 154, 214, 217, 220, 222 and 224. The pottery is moderately fragmented, with a mean sherd weight of 9.3g for the Roman material and 7.1g for the medieval group. Surface preservation is variable; the fabrics with calcareous inclusions are leached.

Iron Age and Roman

A single rounded rim fragment, in a silty, unoxidised fabric (IA QZ), was the only pottery recovered from ditch 154, and is of Middle to Late Iron Age date. The Roman pottery (56 sherds, 518g) was predominantly recovered from the subsoil, or was residual in later features. Single sherds of Roman pottery from ditches 103 and 220 were the only fragments of pottery from these ditches but do not necessarily imply a Roman date for the features. The assemblage is dominated by locally-produced coarsewares, primarily occurring in reduced and oxidised fabrics (codes RB GRY and RB OX), with smaller quantities of other sandy wares (RB QZ), grog-tempered wares (RB GRG) and a flint-tempered fabric (RB FT). The sandy greywares include an imitation of a platter (a CAM 19 variant) and two jar rim fragments, broken at the neck. The everted rim from a small jar or beaker, and an everted jar rim, were also recorded in oxidised fabrics. The rims were recovered from the subsoil of areas 1 and 2, with the exception of one greyware jar rim from ditch 149. Three sherds of Black-burnished ware, from the Wareham/Poole Harbour area of Dorset (DOR BB1), were also recovered from the subsoil, including a jar rim fragment that was too small to identify to form type. The white wares comprise five body sherds in fine (RB WW1) and coarse (RB WW2) fabrics. A single sherd of central Gaulish samian was the only fragment of pottery recovered from ditch 220, whilst one sherd of Oxfordshire Red-slipped ware (OXF RS) was residual in ditch 214.

Medieval to post-medieval

The medieval pottery (82 sherds, 585g) came mostly from the subsoil, with five sherds or fewer stratified in ditches 149, 214, 217, 222 and 224, and one sherd recovered from test pit 6. The group is dominated by sandy wares, with calcareous fabrics also recorded. The sandy fabrics included products from the Brill/Boarstall industry in west Buckinghamshire (OXAM) and Abingdon (OXAG). The forms include a bowl with flat-topped, expanded rim and pinched spout, with internal green glaze; a bowl with squared rim; a necked jar with internally and expanded rim; an out-turned rim and a thumbled rim, both probably from jars. Most of the rims were recovered from the subsoil, with the necked jar recorded from test pit 6. Amongst the body sherds were examples with a green glaze with white dots, and one with red and yellow glaze; both were from the subsoil. A sandy fabric with inclusions of flint and limestone – Early to Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (OXAQ), derives from the Kennet Valley area, but was represented only by body sherds. Two bowls in a leached, limestone-gritted fabric (MED LM) were recovered from the subsoil. Both were very similar in form, with flat-topped, squared rim; one had a groove under the rim on the external surface. Overall, the medieval group lacks tightly dateable forms and the fabrics span the late 11th to mid 15th century range.

Pottery of post-medieval date comprises a single a grey stoneware sherd (PSW) and five sherds in an orange fabric with internal green glaze from the subsoil, and a glazed earthenware sherd from ditch 224.

Discussion

The pottery assemblage is largely unstratified but is indicative of activity on the site from the later Iron Age through to the post-medieval period. The Roman pottery was largely residual but includes earlier (samian) and later (Oxfordshire red-slipped ware) fabrics. The bulk of the assemblage is medieval in date, but few sherds were recovered from negative features, precluding any meaningful discussion of pottery supply or of site status. Additionally, closer dating is made difficult by the longevity of the types represented.

Table 3: Pottery quantification by type

Period	Fabric code	Description	Number	Weight (g)
Iron Age	IA QZ	Fine, sandy fabric	3	25
Roman	CG SAM	Central Gaulish samian	1	1
	OXF RS	Oxfordshire red-slipped ware	1	1
	RB WW1	White ware, fine	2	9
	RB WW2	White ware, coarse	3	22
	RB OX	Oxidised ware	16	106
	RB GRY	Greyware	18	177
	RB GRG	Grog-tempered fabric	8	142
	DOR BB1	SE Dorset Black-burnished ware	3	25
	RB QZ	Sandy ware	2	12
	RB FT	Flint-tempered fabric	2	23
Medieval	MED QZ	Sandy ware	34	247
	MED QZC	Sandy ware, coarse	3	20
	OXAG	Abingdon ware	1	15
	OXAM	Brill/Boarstall ware	11	78
	OXAQ	Kennet Valley ware	29	153
	MED LM	Limestone-gritted fabric	3	59
Post-medieval	PM GEW	Glazed earthenware	2	12
	PM SW	Stoneware	1	15
	PM QZ	Orange sandy fabric	5	44

*types in bold equate to NRFRC (Tomber and Dore 1998) or Mellor's (1994) series

References

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APPENDIX C: LITHICS

By Jacky Sommerville

Introduction and methodology

A total of 24 worked lithics (151g) was hand-recovered from eight separate deposits. The lithics were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type and catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. A reduced level of recording was carried out due to the small assemblage size. Attributes recorded include: weight, colour, cortex description, degree of edge damage (microflaking), rolling (abrasion) and recortication (a surface discoloration resulting from burial environment - Shepherd 1972, 109).

Raw material, provenance and condition

The raw material was flint in all cases. All was grey, black or brown in colour and slight recortication was observed on just one flake from subsoil deposit 101. Cortex was present on 16 items – it was chalky on half and abraded on half, indicating the exploitation of both primary (e.g. chalk) and secondary (e.g. river gravels) sources. Potential sources include the Upper Chalk of the Berkshire Downs and the Chilterns or the Chiltern outwash gravels, although the latter is of poorer quality (Avery 1982, 35).

Eleven flints derived from the subsoil and all but two were from ditches or furrows dated from the Roman to post-medieval periods. The remaining two were from fill 211 of undated palaeochannel 207. Condition of the lithics was mixed, as might be expected from a largely residual assemblage. However, three of the items recovered from subsoil deposit 101 displayed minimal edge damage and rolling, which may suggest they had not travelled far from where they were initially deposited.

Range and variety

The assemblage comprised 14 flakes, 4 cores, 2 scrapers, 2 notched pieces, a retouched flake and a miscellaneous item.

Primary technology

On flakes, butt types were mostly plain, but also included were cortical and dihedral types. Most of the terminations were feathered and three were hinged. The assemblage is too small to allow a full analysis of technological attributes. Of the four cores one was a single platform type, using a thermal blank, and the remainder feature multiple platforms. The latter were very small and worked out, and all the cores had been used for the production of flakes. Such cores are most typical of the Neolithic period (Malone 2001, 217).

Secondary technology

An unusually large proportion of retouched items (25%) was retrieved and five of these were from subsoil deposit 101. The two end-scrapers, both from the subsoil, featured fine, steep retouch along the distal dorsal edge. One was a combination tool, with a shallow notch on the proximal half of the right ventral edge. Two more notched pieces were recorded, also from the subsoil. The notch on both was on the right ventral edge – one was on a flake and one on a blade blank. The notched blade is suggestive of dating in the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods, when blade technology was most common. The other tools are not chronologically diagnostic.

Discussion

The assemblage of flint tools and debitage from Stockham Farm, Wantage is very small and has been redeposited. It demonstrates prehistoric activity on the site and Neolithic activity is hinted at by a small number of technological attributes.

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APPENDIX D: OTHER FINDS

By Katie Marsden

Other finds

Two copper alloy objects were recovered from the subsoil. A two-piece buckle, dated 1690-1720, has a separate spindle, tinned frame and two integral spikes to the chape (cf Whitehead 1996, no. 662). A brass plaque, of rectangular shape, 47x28mm, is stamped 'BERKS'. Seven iron objects were recorded, including one complete and one partial horseshoe, from the subsoil of area 2. The complete example weighs 247g, it is 112mm at its widest point, 120mm in length, with a broad web of approximately 30mm. Three rectangular nail-holes are present on each branch. It is of probable 13th to 14th century date (Clark 2011, type 3). Three iron nails were recorded – one with bent shaft from the subsoil, and two small examples from ditches 214 and 222. A fragment of sheet iron also came from ditch 214. A U-shaped iron rod from ditch 217 may have formed part of a fitting.

A single fragment of ceramic building material – a plain, flat tile (36g), of medieval or post-medieval date, was recorded from ditch 224. It is a micaceous fabric with oxidised surfaces and unoxidised core, and is 13mm thick. A rounded, flint pebble (251g) from tree throw hole 163 may have been utilised as a hammerstone or grinding stone, but showed no obvious signs of working.

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APPENDIX E: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

By Sarah F. Wyles

Six samples for the recovery of molluscs and waterlogged remains and six monoliths were taken from six of the test pits dug through dark alluvial clays in order to characterise the nature of this deposit in more detail. Two samples from test pits 1 and 4 were selected for processing to ascertain whether the palaeoenvironmental remains showed any spatial differences within this deposit. These samples were processed by standard procedures for the recovery of waterlogged remains (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

The environmental results are tabulated in Table 4 in Appendix C. Nomenclature of the mollusc assemblages follows Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

Test pit 1

The alluvial deposit 106 (sample 10) within Test pit 1 produced a moderate quantity of waterlogged stem and root fragments greater than 2mm although no waterlogged or charred plant remains were recovered. No mollusc shells were noted.

Test pit 4

Sample 3 from alluvial deposit 144 within Test pit 4 contained a small quantity of waterlogged stem and root fragments greater than 2mm. No waterlogged or charred plant remains were recorded.

The large mollusc assemblage recovered from this deposit comprised shells of a wide diversity of species. These included high numbers of those of the open country species *Vertigo pygmaea* and *Vallonia pulchella/excentrica*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Pomatias elegans*, *Limax/Deroceras* sp., *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Cepaea* sp., the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus* and *Oxychilus cellarius*, the marsh species *Succinea/Oxyloma* sp., and the aquatic species *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula*.

The mollusc assemblage may be indicative of a generally open local landscape with some longer damp grassland in the vicinity. There is an indication of seasonal flooding and desiccation in this area.

Summary

The mollusc assemblages from the alluvial clay deposit in Test pit 4 and from Trenches 106 and 107 from the evaluation (CA 2016) appear to be indicative of a generally open local landscape with areas of longer damp grassland and possible open woodland/scrub in the vicinity and with indications of localised seasonal flooding and desiccation in this part of the site. The area of the site around Test pit 1, where molluscs were not recovered from alluvial clay deposit 106, may have been more prone to flooding and less subject to seasonal desiccation than the area around Test pit 4.

The environmental remains provide no indication of the date of this deposit and there is no evidence for any settlement activities, such as crop processing, taking place in the immediate vicinity of these test pits or of the evaluation Trenches 106 and 107 from these assemblages.

No further analysis work is recommended on the samples or monoliths from this alluvial deposit as this would be unlikely to provide a much more detailed picture of the nature of the deposit than that already ascertained. Furthermore this deposit is not directly linked to the archaeological activity on the site.

Table 4 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Area	TP1	TP4
Context	106	144
Sample	10	3
Processed vol (L)	1	1
Waterlogged material		
stem/root frags > 4mm	+	+
stem/root frags >2 - < 4mm	++	+
Molluscs		
Open country species		
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>		+
<i>Vallonia pulchella/excentrica</i>		+
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.		+
Intermediate species		
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>		+
<i>Pomatias elegans</i>		+
<i>Cepaea</i> sp.		+
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.		+
<i>Deroceras/Limax</i> sp.		+
Shade-loving species		
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>		+
<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i>		+
Marsh species		
<i>Succinea/Oxyloma</i> sp.		+
Amphibious species		
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>		+
<i>Galba truncatula</i>		+
Total molluscs	0	100 +

Key: + = 1–49 items; ++ = 50–99 items; +++ = >100 items,

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APPENDIX F: ANIMAL BONE

By Andrew Clarke

A collection of animal bones numbering 22 fragments (309g) was recovered from nine deposits dating from the Roman to the medieval period. The material was very poorly preserved, highly fragmented and displayed a high degree of surface erosion. The bones of cattle (*Bos taurus*) were the only identifiable remains present.

Roman

Two fragments (123g) were recovered from deposits 105 and 220, the fills of ditch 103 and furrow 220 and were identifiable as a partial cattle humerus and pelvis.

Medieval

A total of 18 fragments (63g) were recovered from layers 201 and 203, as well as from deposits 218, 223 and 225, the fills of furrows 217, 222 and 224. Once again cattle was the only species identified from a fragment of molar in subsoil layer 201 and a complete first phalange from furrow fill 225. No cut and/or chop marks were present in either period, so an origin in butchery waste cannot be assumed, a fact when combined with the low recovery of cattle remains prevents any further inference beyond species identification

Undated

A further two fragments (123g) were recovered from possible paleochannel deposit 211 and ditch fill 113 of which, the former was identifiable as a partial cattle radius.

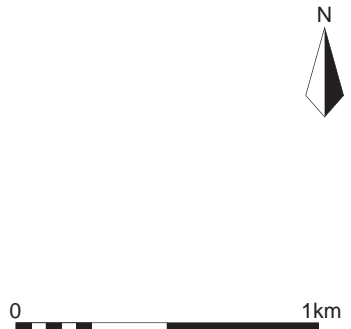
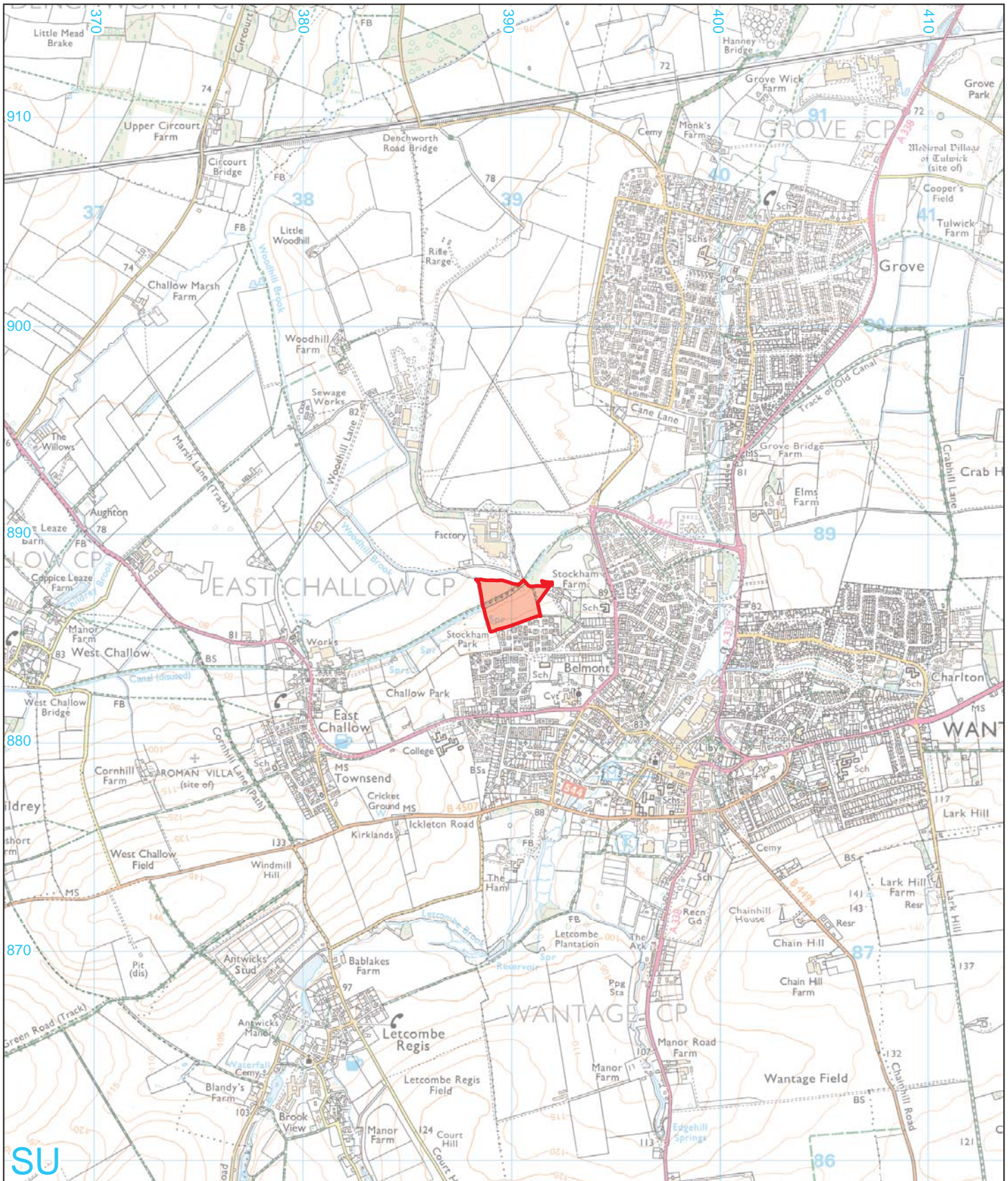
Table 5: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	LM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
Roman						
103	105	1			1	71
220	221	1			1	52
Subtotal		2			2	123
Medieval						
	201	1			1	1
	203			11	11	9
217	218			1	1	6
222	223			2	2	40
224	225	1			1	7
Subtotal		2	2	14	18	63
Undated						
111	113			1	1	1
207	211	1			1	122
Subtotal		1		1	2	123
Total		5	2	15	22	
Weight		253	33	23	309	

BOS = Cattle; LM= large sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate

APPENDIX G: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November and December 2016 on Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire. Two excavation areas were located along the western edge of the area of development and were targeted on a number of later prehistoric and undated features identified during two previous evaluations of the site. Several deposits of alluvial clay were located along the northern edge of the site. Palaeoenvironmental analysis of these deposits suggests that this area was once open grasslands prone to seasonal flooding and desiccation.</p> <p>The excavation identified three phases of activity, including a number of Middle to Late Iron Age drainage gullies and some later Roman drainage gullies and possible field boundary ditches. The archaeological remains suggest the site lies on the periphery of an area of Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement, which is possibly located to the south of higher and drier ground. The presence of several probable medieval plough furrows in the eastern part of the site suggests that earlier features may have been subject to truncation by later agricultural activities.</p>	
Project dates	8 November – 2 December 2016	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Archaeological Evaluations (OA 2013, CA 2016) Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2012) Heritage Statement (CgMs 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire	
Study area	3.4ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 3926 8870	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Oxfordshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	Gully (Iron Age) Ditch (Roman)	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service (OXCMS: 2016.189)	Ceramics, animal bone & iron
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service (OXCMS: 2016.189)	Context sheets, registers, sample sheets
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Digital photos, survey
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Excavation</i> . CA typescript report 16703		



**Cotswold
Archaeology**

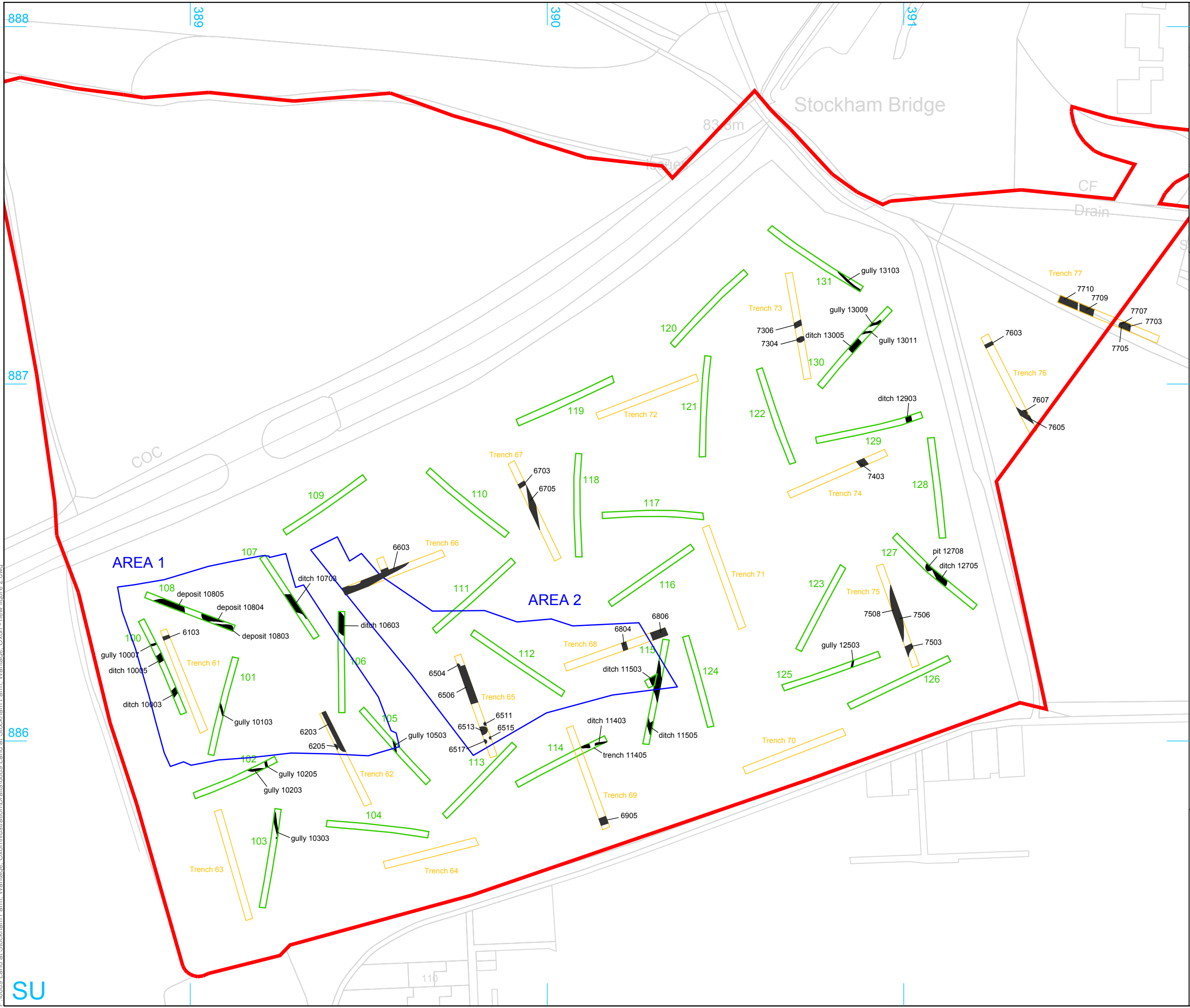
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 Cirencester 01285 771022
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage
 Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6089	FIGURE NO.	1
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/07/2017		
APPROVED BY	RG	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		

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N

- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench (CA 2016b)
- ▭ Evaluation trench (OA 2012)
- ▭ Excavation area
- Archaeological feature

0 — 20m

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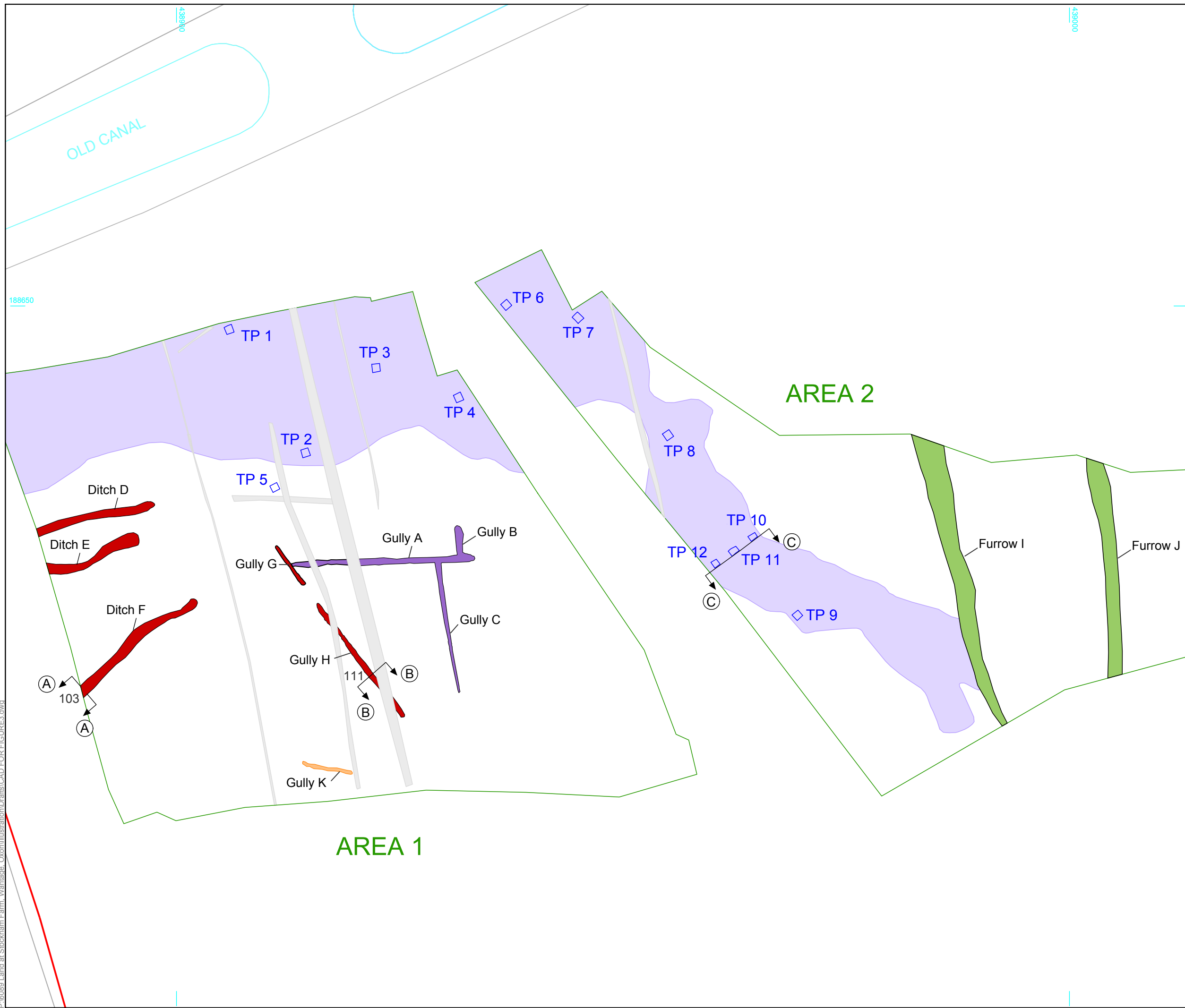
PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage
 Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing excavation areas
 and evaluation trenches

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	9244	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/07/2014	
APPROVED BY	KW	SCALE@A3	1:1,250	2

P:\6089 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxon\Illustration\Drawings\6089 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage, Oxon - new figure 2.dwg





- Site boundary
- Excavation area
- Test pit
- Alluvial layer
- ⓐ ⓑ Section location

- Periods:
- Mid to Late Iron Age ?
 - Roman ?
 - Medieval
 - Modern
 - Undated



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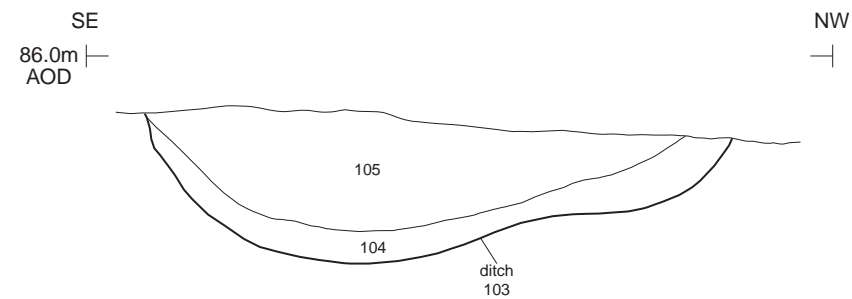
PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage
 Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE
Phase plan : Areas 1 & 2

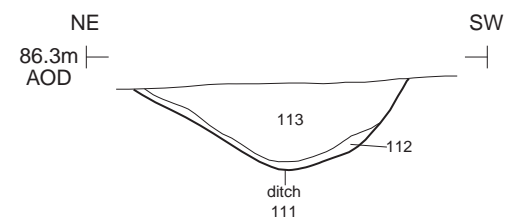
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/07/2017	3
APPROVED BY	KW	SCALE@A3	1:400	

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Section AA



Section BB

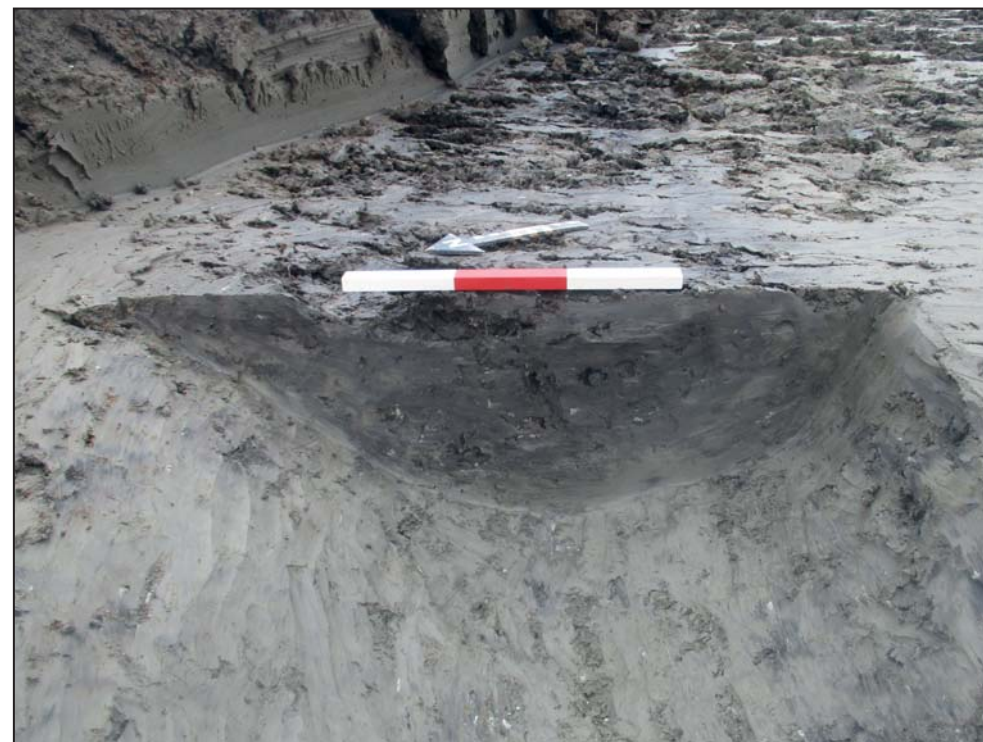


- 4 Ditch 103, section and photograph (Ditch F)
- 5 Ditch 111, section and photograph (Ditch H)



3

Ditch 103, looking south-west (1m scale)



4

Ditch 111, looking south-east (0.3m scale)

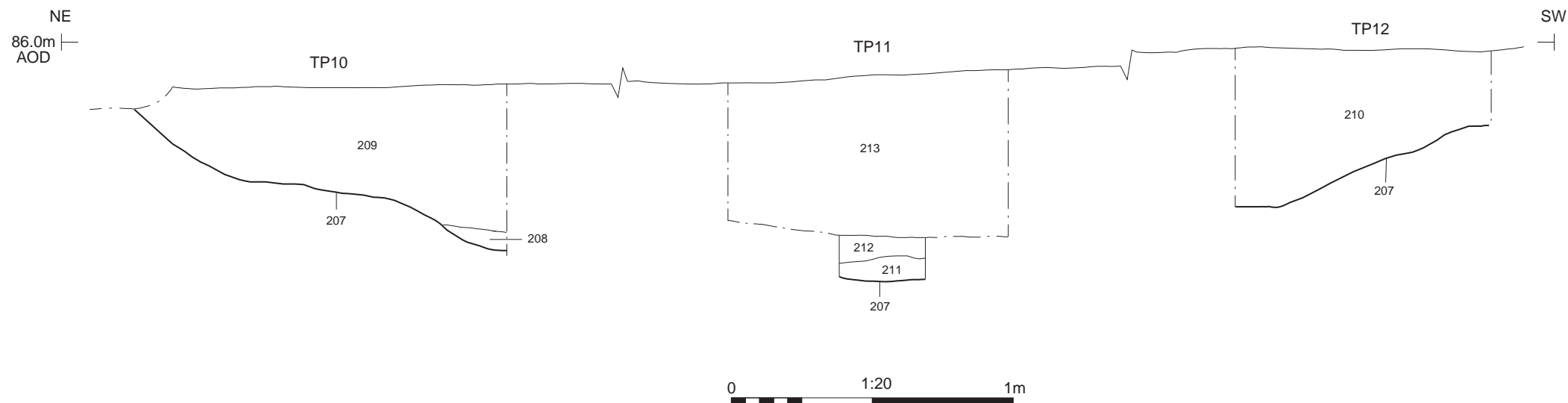
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage
 Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Sections and photographs

DRAWN BY EE PROJECT NO. 9244 FIGURE NO.
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 17/07/2017 4 & 5
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Section CC



Test pit 11, looking south-east (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Stockham Farm, Wantage
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FIGURE TITLE
**Test pits 10, 11 & 12: section and
 photograph**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	9244	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/07/2017	6
APPROVED BY	KW	SCALE	@A3 1:20	

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