

**Berkhamsted Police Station  
Berkhamsted  
Hertfordshire**

Archaeological Evaluation



*for*  
**Beechcroft Developments Ltd**


CA Project: 660376  
CA Report: 15039

January 2015

Berkhamsted Police Station  
Berkhamsted  
Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 660376  
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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Berkhamsted Police Station
<b>Location:</b>	Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
<b>NGR:</b>	SP 9911 0780
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	24–27 November 2014
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Dacorum Heritage Trust
<b>Site Code:</b>	FUZ 14

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2014 at the site of the former Berkhamsted Police Station, Hertfordshire.

The police station site is located within an area of former burgage plots. Previous archaeological investigations carried out within surrounding burgage plots revealed features indicative of medieval occupation, including pits, post-holes and metal-working remains.

The present evaluation recorded rectangular pits containing 12th–15th-century pottery. The presence of pottery, metal-working slag, charcoal and cereal grains within the pit fills indicates that they were used for the disposal of domestic and industrial waste. Relatively large quantities of residual prehistoric worked flints were also recovered from the medieval pit fills, which might suggest that the pits were cut through *in situ* prehistoric features or deposits.

The site has undergone horizontal truncation to the level of the natural geological substrate, so that the cut archaeological features were sealed directly by modern deposits. The evaluation indicated that the medieval features at the site survive at an average depth of 0.4m–0.6m below the current ground surface.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2014, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Beechcroft Developments Ltd within the grounds of the former Berkhamsted Police Station, Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (centred on NGR: SP 9911 0780; Fig. 1). This work was commissioned by Beechcroft Developments Ltd.
- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken to inform a planning application for residential development of the site, which is to be submitted to Dacorum Borough Council (DBC; the local planning authority). The scope of the evaluation was defined by Kate Batt of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team (the archaeological advisors to DBC).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2014a) and approved by Kate Batt. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Kate Batt, including a site visit on 26 November 2014.

### **The site**

- 1.4 The site is located in central Berkhamsted, at the junction of Kings Road and the High Street. The site comprises an irregular parcel of land enclosing approximately 2,300m<sup>2</sup>. It is currently occupied by the police station building to the north and a library building to the south. The area outside of the buildings comprises tarmac-surfaced access roads and car parking areas (Fig. 7). The site is bounded to the north by the High Street, to the east and south by properties fronting onto the High Street, Kings Road and Clarence Road, and to the west by Kings Road.
- 1.5 The police station site lies on a shallow, north facing slope, c.190m to the south of the River Bulbourne, at an elevation of approximately 110m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as chalk of the Holywell Nodular and New Pit Chalk Formations, which formed in the Cretaceous



Period (BGS 2014). Although the British Geological Survey records no superficial deposits within the police station site, borehole samples taken during a recent geo-environmental assessment of the site (RSK 2014) revealed a deposit of Clay with Flints Formation overlying the chalk geology. The boreholes indicated that the Clay with Flints Formation was directly overlain by up to 0.95m of made ground.

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 The following section is summarised from a desk-based archaeological assessment (AA) of the site produced by CA (2014b).
- 1.7 The police station site is within Berkhamsted Conservation Area. The site is also within DBC Local Plan Archaeological Alert Area 21. Alert Areas are areas of known archaeological significance, and are protected under Policy 118 of the Local Plan (DBC 2004). Area 21 extends across the historic core of Berkhamsted and is focussed on the medieval extent of Berkhamsted town, as well as areas of known prehistoric and Roman occupation remains.
- 1.8 Roman Akeman Street ran from Alchester to St Albans and may have followed the route of a late prehistoric trackway. The line of Akeman Street is preserved by Berkhamsted High Street. While there is no known evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity within the police station site, its proximity to this ancient thoroughfare means that the potential for such remains cannot be discounted entirely.
- 1.9 In the medieval era, burgage plots extended to the north and south of the High Street. These plots were generally occupied by town houses fronting onto the road, with gardens to the rear. The police station site is located within the area of these former burgage plots. Previous archaeological investigations carried out within burgage plots along the High Street have revealed features indicative of medieval occupation, including pits, post-holes and metal-working remains.
- 1.10 In the post-medieval era, the Berkhamsted town jail was known as the Bridewell. First recorded in the year 1616, the Bridewell is known to have included “insanity cells” and a below-ground “dungeon.” The 1839 Berkhamsted Tithe Map shows that the Bridewell lay to the west of the police station site, on the opposite side of Kings Road. In 1843, the Bridewell was replaced by a police station on the same site,

which was itself demolished during the widening of Kings Road in the later 19th century.

- 1.11 Nineteenth-century cartographic sources record that the evaluation site was occupied by residential properties fronting onto the High Street to the north, with associated backyards to the south. Numerous ancillary structures were located within these yards, including stables, workshops and a smithy.
- 1.12 After the demolition of the police station at the Bridewell site, a replacement police station was constructed within the north-western corner of the evaluation site in 1894. This was itself replaced by the current police station building in 1972, which is in the same location as the previous building but has a slightly different footprint.
- 1.13 Twentieth-century cartographic sources and aerial photographs document further developments within the site, including the demolition of outbuildings and the construction, by 1938, of small structures along Kings Road and a large building to the rear of the Red Lion public house.
- 1.14 The library building was constructed in the southern part of the site in the 1960s. The construction of the library required the creation of several terraces in this area of the site, supported by a number of brick retaining walls. Observations made during the preparation of the AA suggested that the terraces had been established through the introduction of made ground into the site, rather than through extensive ground reduction, although this has not been confirmed.
- 1.15 A below-ground fuel tank is believed to lie within the site. While the exact location and extent of this tank is not known, the presence of “highly flammable” warning signs indicates that it is likely to lie near one of the library retaining walls.

### **Archaeological objectives**

- 1.16 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009). This information will enable DBC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development

upon that significance, and develop appropriate strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

### **Methodology**

- 1.17 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of four trenches in the locations shown on Figure 2 (T1–T4; T5 and T6, shown on Figure 2 and referred to in the WSI, will form a proposed second phase of evaluation). The WSI stipulated that each trench would measure 10m in length and 2m in width, but T1–T3 were shortened slightly due to the presence of services, with the approval of Kate Batt. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (2012).
- 1.18 All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological remains were first exposed. Where archaeological deposits were encountered, they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).
- 1.19 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* (2003). All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).
- 1.20 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, the artefacts will be deposited with Dacorum Heritage Trust, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, as set out within Appendix F, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.



## 2. RESULTS

2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds, palaeoenvironmental evidence and faunal remains are to be found in Appendices A–D, respectively. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features are given in Appendix E.

2.2 Archaeological features were exposed in three of the four trenches (T1–T3). These features took the form of medieval pits.

### *General stratigraphy*

2.3 A similar stratigraphic sequence was identified across the site. The natural geological substrate was identified at an average of depth of between 0.4m and 0.8m below present ground level and comprised orange-brown clay with frequent flint inclusions. This was overlain by a reworked natural layer measuring approximately 0.1m in thickness, which was overlain in turn by 0.15m–0.5m of red brick rubble. The sequence was sealed by up to 0.1m of gravel bedding and c. 0.1m of tarmac.

### *Trench 1*

2.4 Pit 111 was partially revealed at the south-western end of T1 (Fig. 3). This pit was circular in plan, with moderately sloping upper sides which stepped inwards to become vertical-sided and rectangular in plan. It is probable that the pit's original form was entirely rectangular, but that it has eroded along its upper edges. The pit featured two clayey silt fills, both of which contained medieval pottery and appeared to represent separate acts of deliberate backfilling. Pit 111 was cut by modern truncation 114.

2.5 Intercutting rectangular pits 105 and 107 lay within the centre of T1 (Fig. 4). These pits were only partially revealed and extended beyond the north-western edge of the trench. Pit 105 had near vertical sides and contained a single silty clay fill (106). Pit 105 was cut by pit 107, which also had vertical sides and a similar fill (108). The fills of both of these pits contained medieval pottery and ceramic building material (CBM), as well as metal working slag and residual worked flint. Pit 105 also yielded

an iron nail, while pit 107 contained a glass droplet. Both pits had apparently been deliberately backfilled.

- 2.6 Pit 109 was located towards the north-eastern end of T1 (Fig. 2). This pit remained unexcavated, as only a small part of it was exposed within the trench.

#### *Trench 2*

- 2.7 A group of intercutting pits (206, 208 and 209; Fig. 5) extended beyond the north-western end of T2. Pit 206 had a flat base and contained a single clay silt fill (207), from which medieval pottery and CBM were recovered, as well as an iron nail, metal-working slag and residual worked flints.
- 2.8 Pits 208 and 209 were not excavated due to their proximity to a live service. Their respective fills (210 and 211) were apparently similar in nature to the fill of pit 206.

#### *Trench 3*

- 2.9 Rectangular pit 307 (Fig. 6) extended beyond the south-western limit of T3. This pit had vertical sides and contained a sequence of silty clay fills. The lowest-encountered fill (308) yielded fragments of medieval CBM. Penultimate fill 310 contained medieval pottery and CBM, as well as metal-working slag and residual worked flints.

#### *Trench 4*

- 2.10 No archaeological features or deposits were revealed within T4.

### ***The finds***

- 2.11 The finds recovered during the evaluation included pottery, CBM, glass, metal-working slag, metal objects and worked flint (see Appendix B for full details).

#### *Pottery*

- 2.12 All of the pottery recovered from the site was medieval in date. This was retrieved from the fills of pits 105, 107 and 111 (all T1), pit 206 (T2) and pit 307 (T3).

### *CBM*

- 2.13 A total of 154 fragments of medieval CBM was recovered from the fills of pits 105 (T1), 107 (T1), 206 (T2) and 307 (T3).

### *Glass*

- 2.14 Two very small fragments of glass were recovered from pit 206 (T2). One fragment was post-medieval in date and the other was modern. These are likely to be intrusive, as pit 206 also contained relatively large quantities of medieval material.
- 2.15 A very small spherical glass droplet from pit 107 (T1) may be a waste product of the glass manufacturing process.

### *Metal objects and slag*

- 2.16 Three iron nail fragments of uncertain date were recovered from pits 105 (T1) and 206 (T2). Pit 307 (T3) also produced two very small, unclassifiable iron fragments.
- 2.17 A total of 301 pieces of metal-working slag was retrieved from pits 105 (T1), 107 (T1), 206 (T2) and 307 (T3).

### *Worked flint*

- 2.18 A total of 89 worked flint items and 148 pieces of burnt, unworked flint was recovered from pits 105 (T1), 107 (T1), 206 (T2) and 307 (T3). None of the flints are diagnostic types and all were recovered as residual finds in medieval-dated deposits. The presence of a substantial number of flint chips is usually taken as an indication of on-site knapping; in this case, it suggests that the medieval features may have cut through *in situ* prehistoric deposits.

### ***The palaeoenvironmental evidence***

- 2.19 This section presents a summary of the palaeoenvironmental evidence from the site. Full details are given in Appendix C.

- 2.20 Four environmental samples (50 litres of soil) were retrieved from four deposits with the intention of recovering evidence of industrial or domestic activity and material for radiocarbon dating.
- 2.21 Pits 105 (T1), 107 (T1), 206 (T2) and 307 (T3) all contained similar plant macrofossil and charcoal assemblages. The presence of pot, slag and iron fragments along with charcoal is suggestive of dumps of industrial waste. Cereal grains may suggest the presence of domestic waste, although it is also possible that the cereal grains were incorporated in tinder used to light hearths/furnaces. The identifiable grain would be suitable for radiocarbon dating if required.

### ***The faunal remains***

- 2.22 This section presents a brief summary of the animal bones recovered during the evaluation. Full details are given in Appendix D.
- 2.23 A total of eight fragments (44g) of moderately well-preserved animal bone was recovered from the fills of pits 111 (T1), 206 (T2) and 307 (T3). It was possible to identify the remains of cattle and sheep/goat. A single bird bone was also recovered, but this was too poorly preserved to identify to species level.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 The archaeological evaluation recorded evidence for medieval activity within the northern part of the site, as well as evidence for modern horizontal truncation of the land surface across the entirety of the site.
- 3.2 The medieval activity at the site was characterised by relatively intense pit-digging in the northern part of the site. Most of the pits were rectangular in plan, with near-vertical sides and flat bases (where revealed). With the possible exception of pit 111 (T1), the pits did not show evidence of rapid erosion of the sides, which may suggest that they were sheltered from the elements, or that they were lined (possibly with wooden planks) and then filled rapidly following use.
- 3.3 The presence of pottery, metal-working slag, charcoal and cereal grains within the pit fills indicates that they were used for the disposal of domestic and industrial

waste. Additionally, some of the soil deposits within the pits displayed a greenish tinge, suggestive of cess. This may indicate that the pits also functioned as latrines/cess pits.

- 3.4 The site lies within the historic core of Berkhamsted, within an area of former medieval burgages. The medieval archaeology found in T1–T3 is characteristic of urban medieval domestic/industrial use and fits within the pattern of usage expected for these ‘backyard’ plots. Pottery recovered from the site indicates that the activity was concentrated within the 12th–15th centuries. The assemblage is dominated by local coarsewares, suggestive of households of fairly modest status.
- 3.5 Relatively large quantities of residual prehistoric worked flints were recovered from the medieval pit fills, including a substantial number of flint chips. This is usually taken as an indication of on-site knapping; in this case, it might suggest that the medieval pits were cut through *in situ* prehistoric features or deposits. There is little known evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site, although Berkhamsted High Street possibly preserves the line of a late prehistoric trackway (see *Archaeological background*, above). Additionally, a late Iron Age coin was found in Lower Kings Road (c. 50m north-east of the present evaluation site; Hertfordshire HER ref: MHT6075) and residual Mesolithic flints were recorded in association with medieval industrial features during archaeological works at 8 Manor Street (c. 335m east of the evaluation site; Hertfordshire HER ref: EHT6921/EHT6719).
- 3.6 The evaluation demonstrated that site has been truncated down to the level of the natural geological substrate, so that only cut archaeological features survived at an average depth of 0.4m–0.6m below the current ground surface. This confirms the results of the geo-environmental boreholes excavated at the site (RSK 2014). The truncation is likely to have taken place during the construction of the police station and library buildings.

#### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Stuart Joyce, assisted by Edwin Pearson and Kostas Papagiannakis. This report was written by Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and



prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

## 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 *Geology of Britain Viewer* [http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology\\_viewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html) Accessed 28 October 2014

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014a *Berkhamsted Police Station, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014b *Berkhamsted Police Station and Swing Gate Lane, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Assessment* CA Report No. **14404**

DBC (Dacorum Borough Council) 2004 *Dacorum Borough Local Plan 1991-2011* (adopted 21 April 2004; acceded 8 September 2014)

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

RSK 2014 *Geo-Environmental Site Assessment: Berkhamsted Police Station* RSK Report Ref. **26983-R01 (00)**

## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Tarmac	Tarmac			0.1	Modern
1	101	Layer		Levelling	Type 1 gravel			0.05	Modern
1	102	Layer		Hardcore bedding	Red brick rubble hardcore			0.5	Modern
1	103	Layer		Re-worked natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint and red-brick inclusions. Re-worked upper surface of natural 104			0.1	
1	104	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint inclusions				
1	105	Cut		Pit	Rectangular pit. Vertical sides, base not reached	>1.7	0.7	0.42	
1	106	Fill	105	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Frequent chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks	>1.7	0.7	0.42	C12–C14
1	107	Cut		Pit	Rectangular pit. Vertical sides, base not reached	>1.1	>0.37	>0.48	
1	108	Fill	107	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt, with slight green hue. Soft compaction. Frequent chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks	>1.1	>0.37	>0.48	C12–C14
1	109	Cut		Pit	Partially revealed pit. Unexcavated				
1	110	Fill	109	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Frequent chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks				
1	111	Cut		Pit	Rounded pit at top of cut. Vertical sides, base not reached	>0.8	>0.7	>0.5	
1	112	Fill	111	2nd fill	Dark brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks	>0.7	>0.48	0.19	C12–C14
1	113	Fill	111	1st fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks	>0.8	0.15	>0.3	C12–C14
1	114	Cut		Truncation	Modern truncation	>0.8	>0.7	0.5	
1	115	Fill	114	Single fill	Mixed natural clay and mid brown grey clay silt	>0.8	>0.7	0.5	
2	200	Layer		Tarmac	Tarmac			0.12	Modern
2	201	Layer		Levelling	Type 1 gravel			0.08	Modern
2	202	Layer		Hardcore bedding	Red brick rubble hardcore			0.2	Modern
2	203	Layer		Re-worked natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint and red-brick inclusions. Re-worked upper surface of natural 204			0.1	
2	204	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint inclusions				

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
2	205	Cut		Service trench	Machine cut, gravel filled service trench				
2	206	Cut		Pit	Flat bottomed pit			0.58	
2	207	Fill	206	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks			0.58	C12-C15
2	208	Cut		Pit	Pit, unexcavated				
2	209	Cut		Pit	Pit, unexcavated				
2	210	Fill	208	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks, unexcavated				
2	211	Fill	209	Single fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Soft compaction. Moderate chalk flecks, occasional charcoal flecks, unexcavated				
3	300	Layer		Tarmac	Tarmac			0.1	Modern
3	301	Layer		Levelling	Type 1 gravel			0.09	Modern
3	302	Layer		Hardcore bedding	Red brick rubble hardcore			0.18	Modern
3	303	Layer		Re-worked natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint and red-brick inclusions. Re-worked upper surface of natural 304			0.06	
3	304	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint inclusions				
3	305	Fill	306	Single fill	Pea-grit pipe bedding, fibre-pitch pipe				
3	306	Cut		Service trench	Cut of water pipe, same as 408				
3	307	Cut		Pit	Rectangular pit. Vertical sides, base not reached	>0.8	>0.45	>0.6	
3	308	Fill	307	Earliest encountered fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Moderate chalk rubble frequent flint inclusions			0.3	C12-C15
3	309	Fill	307	2nd fill	Mid brown silt clay. Occ chalk inclusions			0.3	
3	310	Fill	307	3rd fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Moderate chalk rubble frequent flint inclusions			0.3	C12-C14
3	311	Fill	307	4th fill	Mid brown grey clay silt. Moderate chalk rubble frequent flint inclusions			0.3	
4	400	Layer		Tarmac	Tarmac			0.13	Modern
4	401	Layer		Levelling	Type 1 gravel			0.12	Modern
4	402	Layer		Hardcore bedding	Red brick rubble hardcore			0.15	Modern
4	403	Layer		Re-worked natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint and red-brick inclusions. Re-worked upper surface of natural 404			0.18	
4	404	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow to orange brown clay with frequent flint inclusions				

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot-date
4	405	Cut		Service trench	Water pipe	>10	>0.75		
4	406	Fill	405	Fill	Backfill of service trench, salt glazed pipe	>10	>0.75		
4	407	Pipe			Cast iron pipe	>2			
4	408	Cut			Cut of water pipe, same as 306	>2	>0.7		
4	409	Fill	408		Pea-grit pipe bedding, fibre-pitch pipe	>2	>0.7		

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

*By Jacky Sommerville (CA)*

Finds recovered during the evaluation included pottery, ceramic building material, glass, metal-working slag, metal objects and worked flint.

### *Pottery: medieval*

All of the pottery recovered from the site was medieval in date, mostly comprising reduced, sandy coarseware fabrics (90 sherds from six deposits) (Whittingham 2009). These included a rimsherd from a jar with a developed, thickened rim from pit fill 106 (pit 105, T1). Also present were ten bodysherds in oxidised, sandy coarseware fabrics from three deposits, two unfeathered bodysherds in a limestone-tempered fabric from pit fill 106 and three bodysherds in a limestone-and-organic tempered fabric from pit fill 310 (pit 307, T3). The latter sherds included one which featured decoration in the form of a thumb, applied clay strip.

### *Ceramic building material*

A total of seven fragments of ceramic building material of medieval date was hand-recovered from pit fills 207 (pit 206, T2) and 308 (pit 307, T3). The only fragment which was sufficiently complete to allow further classification was a fragment of peg tile from pit fill 308. A further 147 fragments, weighing a total of 71g, was recovered from bulk soil sampling of four deposits. Included amongst these were two fragments of flat roof tile from pit fill 207.

### *Glass*

Two very small fragments of glass were recovered from bulk soil sampling of pit fill 207 (pit 206, T2). One fragment was post-medieval in date and the other was modern. These are likely to be intrusive.

A very small, spherical glass droplet recorded in pit fill 108 (pit 107, T1) is unperforated and may be a waste product of the glass manufacturing process.

### *Metal objects and slag*

Three iron nail fragments, of uncertain date, were recovered from pit fills 106 (pit 105, T1) and 207 (pit 206, T2). Pit fill 310 (pit 307, T3) produced two very small, unclassifiable iron fragments.

A total of 301 pieces of metal-working slag was retrieved from pit fills 106, 108 (pit 107, T1), 207 and 310 (pit 307, T3).

### *Worked flint*

A total of 89 worked flint items and 148 pieces of burnt, unworked flint (the latter weighing 99g) was recovered from bulk soil sampling of four deposits. The struck flints comprised two cores, 24 flakes, 61 chips and two items of shatter. One core was a very small, dual-platform type which had been used to remove flakes and the other was a flake core fragment. None of the flints are diagnostic types and all were recovered as residual finds in medieval-dated deposits. The presence of a substantial number of flint chips (débitage  $\leq 10\text{mm}$ ) is usually taken as an indication of on-site knapping; in this case it suggests that the medieval features may have cut through *in situ* prehistoric deposits.



Table B1: Finds concordance

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
106	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware; oxidised, glazed sandy coarseware	15	132	C12-C14
<1>	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware; limestone-tempered fabric	26	27	
<1>	Ceramic building material	22	0.2	
	Iron object: nail	1	8	
	Slag	3	211	
<1>	Slag	2	1	
<1>	Slag sphere	1	0.2	
<1>	Worked flint: flakes, chips, shatter	10	3	
<1>	Burnt flint	35	17	
108	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware	1	12	C12-C14
<2>	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware	7	21	
<2>	Ceramic building material	13	0.3	
<2>	Glass droplet	1	<0.1	
<2>	Slag	90	9	
<2>	Worked flint: flakes, chips, chunk	10	2	
<2>	Burnt flint	27	7	
112	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware	14	332	C12-C14
113	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware	1	5	C12-C14
207	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware; oxidised sandy coarseware	7	56	C12-C15
<3>	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware; oxidised sandy coarseware (5)	23	36	
	Medieval ceramic building material	5	98	
<3>	Medieval ceramic building material: flat tile	103	70	
<3>	Post-medieval glass	1	<0.1	
<3>	Modern glass	1	<0.1	
<3>	Plaster	1	2	
<3>	Iron nail	2	6	
<3>	Slag	166	25	
<3>	Worked flint: cores, flakes, chips	41	19	
<3>	Burnt flint	42	69	
308	Medieval ceramic building material: peg tile	2	306	C12-C15
310	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware; oxidised sandy coarseware; limestone-and-organic tempered fabric	9	59	C12-C14
<4>	Medieval pottery: reduced sandy coarseware	2	11	
<4>	Ceramic building material	9	0.3	
<4>	Fired clay	2	0.5	
<4>	Iron fragments	2	1	
<4>	Slag	39	17	
<4>	Worked flint: flakes, chips	28	3	
<4>	Burnt flint	44	6	

## References

Beresford, G. 2009 *Caldecote: The Development and Desertion of a Hertfordshire Village* London. Society for Medieval Archaeology, Monograph 28

Whittingham, L. 2009 'Medieval and Post-medieval pottery', in Beresford, 2009, 173–8

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

By Sarah Cobain, CA

Four environmental samples (50 litres of soil) were retrieved from four deposits with the intention of recovering evidence of industrial or domestic activity and material for radiocarbon dating. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual 2: *The taking and processing of environmental and other samples from archaeological sites* 2003).

Pits 105 (sample 1; T1), 107 (sample 2; T1), 206 (sample 3; T2) and 307 (sample 4; T3) all contained similar plant macrofossil and charcoal assemblages. Moderately preserved plant remains consisted of free-threshing wheat, oat and barley cereal grains, a hazelnut shell and a dock seed. Charcoal was moderately abundant and consisted of beech and hawthorn/rowan/crab apple.

The mixture of pot, slag and iron fragments along with charcoal is suggestive of dumps of industrial waste. Cereal grains may suggest the presence of domestic waste, although it is also possible that the cereal grains were incorporated in tinder used to light hearths/furnaces.

The identifiable grain would be suitable for radiocarbon dating if required.

Context number				106	108	207	310
Feature number				105	107	206	307
Sample number (SS)				1	2	3	4
Flot volume (ml)				17.5	10	24.5	2
Sample volume processed (l)				10	10	20	10
Soil remaining (l)				0	0	0	0
Period				Med	Med	Med	Med
Plant macrofossil preservation				Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Poor
Habitat Code	Family	Species	Common Name				
HSW	Betulaceae	<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Hazelnut shell	+			
E	Poaceae	<i>Avena</i> L.	Oats grain	+	+		
E		<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	Barley grain	+	+	+	
E		<i>Triticum aestivum/turgidum/durum</i>	Free-threshing wheat grain			++	
E		Poaceae	Indeterminate cereal grain	+	++	++	+
D/A/P	Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex</i> L.	Docks		+		

Table C1: Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number			106	108	207	310
Feature number			105	107	206	307
Sample number (SS)			1	2	3	4
Flot volume (ml)			17.5	10	24.5	2
Sample volume processed (l)			10	10	20	10
Soil remaining (l)			0	0	0	0
Period			Med	Med	Med	Med
Charcoal quantity			++++	++++	++++	+++
Charcoal preservation			Good	Good	Good	Good
Family	Species	Common Name				
Fagaceae	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> L.	Beech	10	10	8	9
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq/ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.	Hawthorn/rowan/ crab apple			2	1
Total:			10	10	10	10

Table C2: Charcoal identifications

**Key**

E = Economic species; D = opportunistic species; A = arable weed; P = grassland species; HSW = hedgerow/woodland/scrub species

+ = 1–4 fragments; ++ = 4–20 items; +++ = 21–49 items; ++++ = 50–99 items; +++++ = 100–500 items; ++++++ = >500 items

Med = medieval

## APPENDIX D: THE FAUNAL REMAINS

By Andy Clarke, CA

A total of eight fragments (44g) of moderately well preserved animal bone was recovered from four deposits. The amount of useful interpretative data that can be obtained from such a small amount of bone is very limited; it was possible, however, to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*) and sheep/goat (*Ovis aries*/*Capra hircus*) from fragments of meat-poor skeletal elements. A single bird bone was also recovered but was too poorly preserved to identify to species level.

Fill	BOS	O/C	Bird sp.	MM	Total	Weight (g)
112			1	1	2	2
207	1	1		2	4	15
308	1				1	24
310		1			1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>Weight</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	

Table D1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; Bird sp. = bird species; MM = medium sized mammal

## APPENDIX E: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS

Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), calculated using Leica GPS.

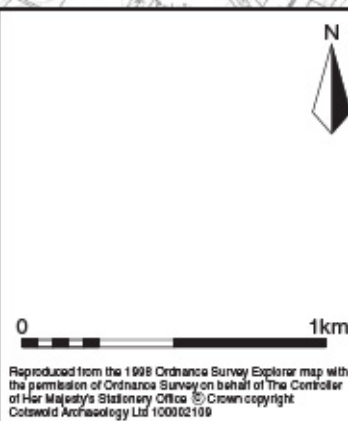
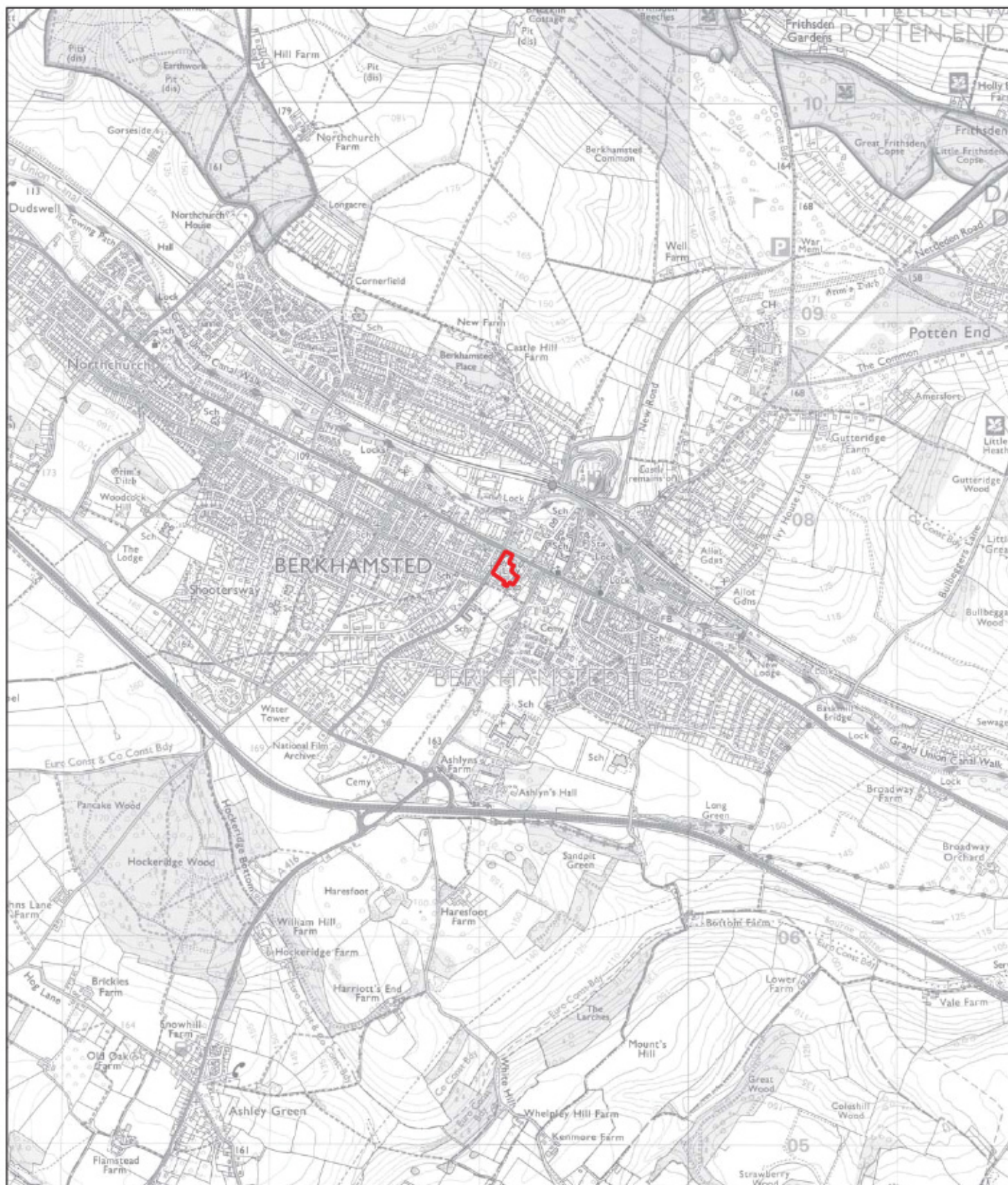
	Trench 1	Trench 2	Trench 3	Trench 4
Current ground level (average across trench)	0.00m (109.82m)	0.00m (109.88m)	0.00m (110.21m)	0.00m (110.43m)
Top medieval deposits (taken from sections)	0.56m (108.84m)	0.4m (108.9m)	0.4m (109.4m)	-
Natural geological substrate (average across trench)	0.55m (109.27m)	0.4m (109.44m)	0.48m (109.73m)	0.6m (109.83m)
Limit of excavation (depth of archaeological interventions)	1.06m (108.76m)	1.1m (108.78)	1.41m (108.8m)	0.6m (109.83m)

Upper figures are depth below modern ground level; lower figures in parentheses are metres AOD.



## APPENDIX F: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Berkhamsted Police Station, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2014 at the site of the former Berkhamsted Police Station, Hertfordshire.</p> <p>The police station site is located within an area of former burgage plots. Previous archaeological investigations carried out within surrounding burgage plots revealed features indicative of medieval occupation, including pits, post-holes and metal-working remains.</p> <p>The present evaluation recorded rectangular pits containing 12th–15th-century pottery. The presence of pottery, metal-working slag, charcoal and cereal grains within the pit fills indicates that they were used for the disposal of domestic and industrial waste. Relatively large quantities of residual prehistoric worked flints were also recovered from the medieval pit fills, which might suggest that the pits were cut through <i>in situ</i> prehistoric features or deposits.</p> <p>The site has undergone horizontal truncation to the level of the natural geological substrate, so that the cut archaeological features were sealed directly by modern deposits. The evaluation indicated that the medieval features at the site survive at an average depth of 0.4m–0.6m below the current ground surface.</p>	
Project dates	24–27 November 2014	
Project type	Archaeological field evaluation	
Previous work	Archaeological Assessment (Cotswold Archaeology 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Berkhamsted Police Station, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	2,300m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates	SP 9911 0780	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Stuart Joyce	
MONUMENT TYPE	Medieval Pits	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Dacorum Heritage Trust	Pottery, animal bone, slag, CBM
Paper	Dacorum Heritage Trust	WSI, pro-forma registers, recording forms.
Digital	Dacorum Heritage Trust	Digital photographs, digital survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 <i>Berkhamsted Police Station, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 14589		



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**PROJECT TITLE**

**Berkhamsted Police Station  
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire**

**FIGURE TITLE**

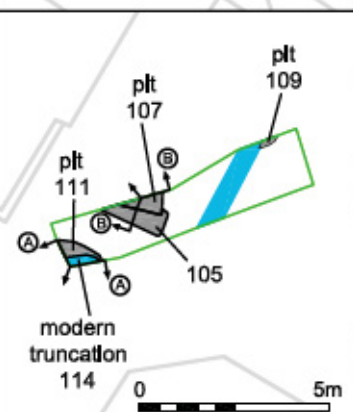
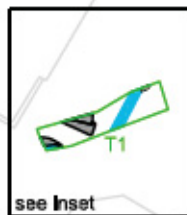
**Site location plan**

PROJECT NO. 660376 DATE 09.12.14  
DRAWN BY RP REVISION 00  
APPROVED BY JB SCALE A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

**1**





- site
- evaluation trench
- proposed Phase 2 trenches
- archaeological feature
- modern



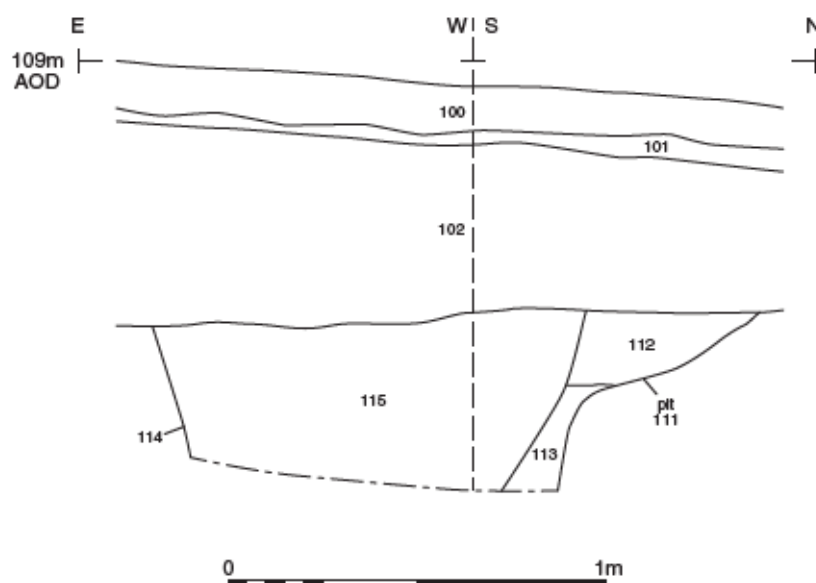
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Berkhamsted Police Station  
 Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan showing  
 archaeological features

PROJECT NO.	680376	DATE	10.12.14	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	RP	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	JB	SCALE	1:200 & 1:400	

# Trench 1, section AA



Pit 111, looking south (scale 1m)



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## PROJECT TITLE

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## FIGURE TITLE

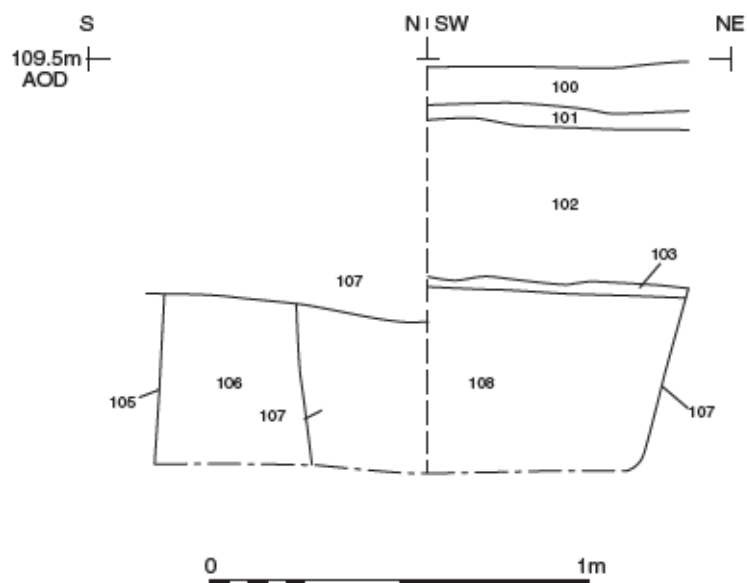
Trench 1, section and photograph

PROJECT NO. 660376 DATE 09.12.14  
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FIGURE NO.

3

*Trench 1, section BB*



*Pits 105 and 107, looking north-west (scale 1 m)*



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**PROJECT TITLE**

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**FIGURE TITLE**

**Trench 1, section and photograph**

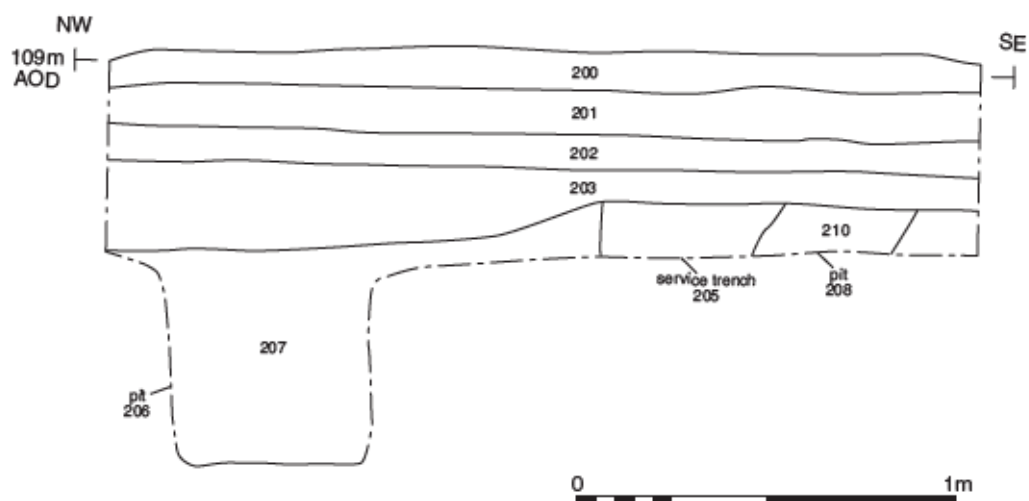
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FIGURE NO.

**4**



Trench 2, section CC



Pits 206, 208 and 209, looking north-east (scale 1 m)



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FIGURE TITLE

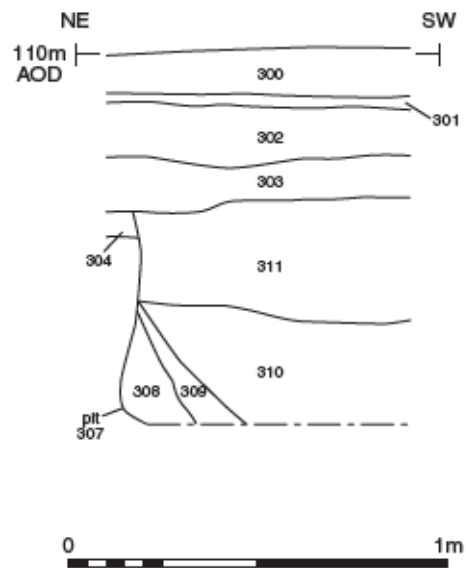
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PROJECT NO. 660376 DATE 09.12.14  
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FIGURE NO.

5

*Trench 3, section DD*



*Pit 307, looking south-east (scale 1m)*



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**FIGURE TITLE**

**Trench 3, section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**6**



7

## 7 Site, looking north-west



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### FIGURE TITLE

**Photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

7