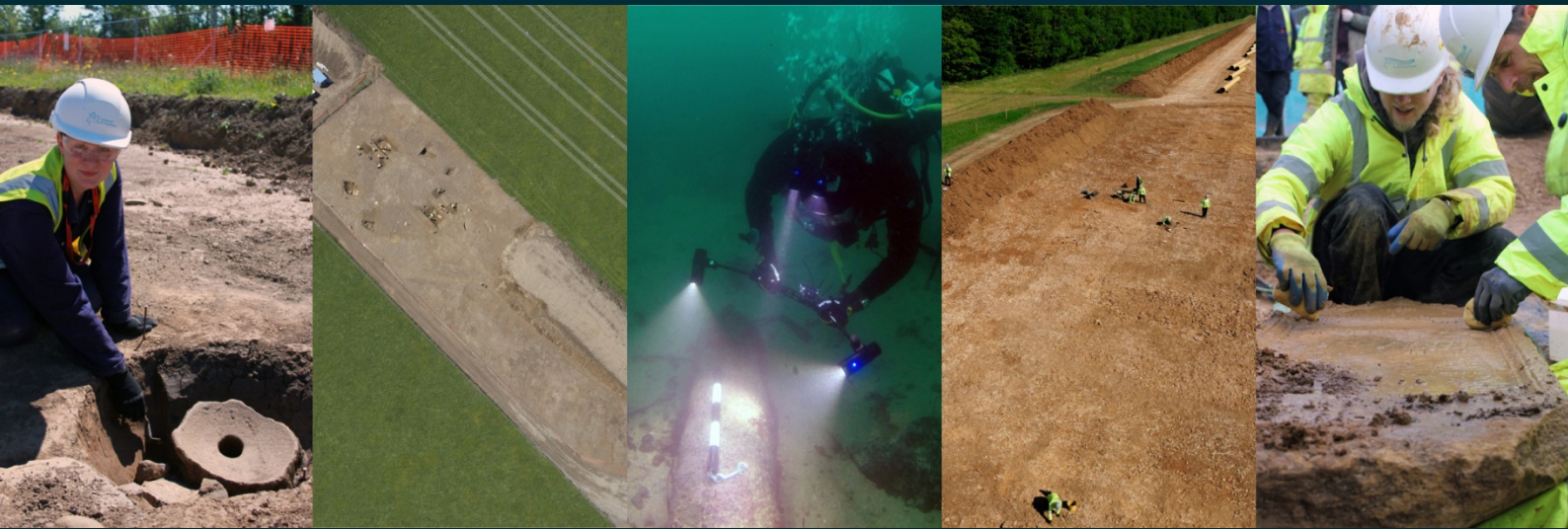


Land off Wexham Road Slough Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Environmental Dimension Partnership

on behalf of
Lovell and Slough Regeneration Partnership

CA Project: 660679
CA Report: 16181

April 2016



Land off Wexham Road
Slough
Berkshire

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SUMMARY

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Project Name: | Land off Wexham Road |
| Location: | Slough, Berkshire |
| NGR: | SU 9874 8194 |
| Type: | Evaluation |
| Date: | 21-24 March and 27-28 June 2016 |
| Planning Reference: | Slough Borough Council P/16006/000 |
| Site Code: | WREX 16 |

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in two phases by Cotswold Archaeology in March and June 2016 at land off Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire. The fieldwork was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning application for residential development of the site. The evaluation comprised the excavation of twenty-three trenches.

Archaeological interest in the site derives from its location immediately north of a small Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement and two Anglo-Saxon post-built halls.

The earliest feature identified within the site comprised a pit containing a single sherd of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. No other features of Late Prehistoric date were identified during the evaluation and no evidence of features, finds or deposits relating to Anglo-Saxon settlement was identified.

Within the south-western and northern part of the site, the evaluation recorded the remains of a medieval to late post-medieval/modern field system. The ditches fit within the general alignment identified within the surrounding field systems depicted on historic and current Ordnance Survey mapping. The ditches are likely to represent boundary and/or drainage features. A single sherd of post-medieval roof-tile was recovered from one of these ditches.

Evidence for modern landscaping and truncation, most probably associated with the former nursery gardens was revealed throughout the northern part of the site. Within the southern part of the site 19th-century pits and a soakaway were identified, as well as a number of undated pits, postholes and ditches. Other investigated features were shown to be geological in origin.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In March and June 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire (centred on NGR: SU 9874 8194; Fig. 1). This work was commissioned by the Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP), on behalf of Lovell and Slough Regeneration Partnership. The evaluation was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition attached to the development by Slough Borough Council (SBC; planning ref: P/16006/000; Archaeology Condition). The development shall comprise the residential development of the site to include the demolition of existing structures and the erection of 109 dwellings.
- 1.2 The scope of the evaluation, which comprised the excavation of 23 trenches, was defined in discussions between Rob Johns, EDP and Roland Smith, Archaeology Officer, Berkshire Archaeology (AOBA), the archaeological advisor to SBC.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by EDP (2016) and approved by Roland Smith. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015). It was monitored by Roland Smith, including a site visit on 23 March 2016.

The site

- 1.4 The site is located to the east of Wexham Road, on the northern edge of Slough, to the south of the hamlet of Wexham Green, Buckinghamshire. The site comprises three parcels of land bisected unequally by Forest Close Road (Fig. 2). The northernmost development area comprises two contiguous parcels of land measuring approximately 2.9ha in size. This area comprises buildings, foundations and areas of hardstanding of a former garden nursery as well as an undeveloped plot to the south of Wexham Lodge. The southern parcel of land, south of Forest Close Road, is 0.6ha in area and comprises open ground of low scrub and brambles. The site is bounded to the north by residential properties along Benjamin Lane, to the east by playing fields, to the south-east by properties fronting on to Forest Close Road and Oak house Care Home, to the south-west by Norway Drive Recreation Ground and to the west by Wexham Road. The site lies at approximately

38m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north, sloping very gradually downwards to c. 35m aOD in the south-west.

- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Lambeth Group, clay, silt and sand of the Palaeogene period overlain by superficial deposits of Lynch Hill gravel member sand and gravel (BGS 2016). Yellow brown and orange clay sands and gravels were encountered during the evaluation.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in an *Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Assessment* prepared by EDP (2015). Reference to the Berkshire Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site is located in an area where there is the potential for the discovery of archaeological remains, with prehistoric, Roman and medieval sites recorded within the immediate area surrounding the proposed development site. The following section provides a summary of this information (HER numbers in parenthesis).

Prehistoric (pre-AD 43)

- 2.2 Archaeological investigations to the immediate south of the proposed development area identified a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement containing a roundhouse (MRM16071). A small quantity of Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age (4000 BC to 701 BC) struck flint was recovered during the course of these archaeological investigations (MRM16133).
- 2.3 The find spot of two flint flakes is recorded immediately south of Forest Close (MRM16075). Evaluation at the site of All Souls Farm Quarry to the east of the site recovered a low level of material dating to the Neolithic period.

Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 2.4 A ditch, pits and two postholes containing Roman pottery sherds were revealed during archaeological investigations to the south of the site (MRM16048).

Early Medieval and Medieval (AD 410 – 1539)

- 2.5 The same investigation also recorded two Anglo-Saxon post-built halls, dated broadly to between the 5th and 6th centuries AD (MRM16072). Following the

Norman Conquest (1066 AD), a homestead was constructed at Wexham Court, some 350m to the south-east of the site. This was initially a simple moated enclosure, with a private chapel added during the 13th century.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation, as detailed in the WSI (EDP 2016), 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). The evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable SBC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 23 trenches (comprising 20 no. 20m long trenches and 3 no. 30m long trenches), in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The first phase of fieldwork comprised the excavation of Trenches 1 to 12, 14, 16 and 21 to 23. Phase two comprised the excavation of a further six trenches (13, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 20), which could not be excavated during the first phase of excavation due to the presence of potential contamination and demolition material. The locations of Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were altered to avoid areas of overgrown vegetation within the southern-western part of the site. The position of Trench 16 was revised from the position shown in the WSI due to the presence of live services. 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*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological

deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*, although no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 The archive and artefact from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefact will be deposited with the appropriate local museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-7)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 23 trenches (Fig. 2).
- 5.2 No archaeological features, finds or deposits were identified within Trenches 8, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22 and 23. Trenches 10 and 15 contained areas of bioturbation interpreted as rooting from modern planting.

General Stratigraphy

- 5.3 A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was identified within all of the evaluation trenches, with the exception of the northern and north-westernmost trenches (Trenches 12, 21 and 22). The geological substrate, consisting of orange-brown silty clay with gravel inclusions was encountered on average at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by subsoil, measuring between 0.2m and 0.4m thick, which comprised grey-brown silty clay. This was in turn sealed by topsoil between 0.2m and 0.3m thick. Directly overlying the natural substrate within Trenches 12, 21 and 22 were modern bedding/make-up layers 1203, 2101 and 2201 respectively. These measured up to 0.4m thick, overlain by subsoil (1201) or tarmac layers (2100 and 2200); 0.1m thick. These deposits

were presumably associated with the former garden nursery. All the identified archaeological features cut the natural substrate and were sealed by subsoil unless otherwise stated.

Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age (1100BC – 400BC)

Trench 6 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.4 Pit 603 was partially revealed at the southern end of Trench 6 (Fig. 3; section AA). It measured in excess of 1.6m long, was 2.4m wide and 0.3m deep with shallow irregular sides and a sloping base. It contained a single brown orange silt fill (604), from which a single sherd of Late Bronze Age to Iron Age pottery was recovered.

Medieval (1066 – 1539)

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 4)

- 5.5 East/west orientated ditch 303 was located towards the centre of the trench. It measured 1m in width and 0.2m in depth, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. No dateable material was recovered from the single light orange-brown silty clay fill (304) of this ditch. Ditch 303 is on the same alignment as surrounding field boundaries depicted on historic mapping. These field boundaries are sinuous in form characteristic of origins within the medieval period.

Post-medieval - modern (1600 – present)

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

- 5.6 Located towards the south-western end of the trench was east/west orientated ditch 103. It remained unexcavated; however, it contained large fragments of concrete paving slabs within its single clay silt fill 104, indicating the ditch had been rapidly backfilled. Ditch 103 broadly correlates with a field boundary first depicted on the 1958 Ordnance Survey Map.

Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 5)

- 5.7 Located towards the south-eastern end of the trench was broadly east/west orientated ditch 205. Approximately 15m to the north was parallel ditch 203. Both ditches remained unexcavated, but contained large fragments of concrete paving slabs within their respective clay silt fills (206 and 204), indicating the ditches had been rapidly backfilled. Ditch 206 broadly correlates with a field boundary first depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1958.

Trench 4 (Fig. 2)

- 5.8 Large sub-rectangular pit 403 was partially revealed towards the north-western end of the trench. It had steeply sloping sides with a flat base and measured in excess of 2.5m long, 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep. It contained a single dark grey-brown silty clay fill (404), from which fragments of 19th-century salt-glazed stoneware pipe were recovered (but not retained).
- 5.9 Located to the immediate south-east was sub-oval pit 405. It was 0.9m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Its single light brown yellow silty clay fill (406), contained fragments of 19th century CBM (not retained).
- 5.10 Modern bedding deposit 407 was identified within the centre of the trench. Pit 408 was recorded towards the south-eastern end of the trench. The feature remained unexcavated, but modern pottery was identified on the surface of its fill 409.

Trench 18 (Figs 2 and 6)

- 5.11 Located towards the northern end of the trench was north-west/south-east orientated ditch 1803 (Fig. 6; section CC). It measured 1.11m wide and 0.3m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a concave base. A fragment of post-medieval flat roof tile, in an unabraded condition and a fragment of animal bone were recovered from its light brown-grey sandy silt fill (1804), which was gradually deposited by natural silting processes.
- 5.12 This ditch correlated with a north-west/south-east orientated boundary depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1875.

Trench 21 (Figs 2 and 7)

- 5.13 Within Trench 21 the natural substrate, consisting of light yellow brown to light orange yellow silty sand was encountered at an average depth of 0.4m bpgl. This was cut by a brick lined soakaway, which consisted of a broadly north/south orientated construction trench 2105 (unexcavated). This was lined by two parallel rows of modern machine pressed; frogged bricks (2103), approximately 1.6 metres apart. The void between the two rows of bricks was filled with cinders and furnace slag/clinker 2104. Deposits of made ground 2101 and tarmac 2100 sealed all the deposits within the trench.

Undated**Trench 5 (Fig. 2)**

- 5.14 Pit 503 was partially revealed at the eastern end of the trench cutting through the subsoil. It measured 1.9m long, in excess of 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep. It was circular in plan with steep sides and a flat base. No finds were recovered from its single dark grey brown clayey silt fill (504).

Trench 7 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.15 Located within the south-eastern end of the trench was circular pit 703 (Fig. 3; section BB). It had gently sloping sides and an uneven base. No dateable material was recovered from its grey brown silty gravel fill 704.

Trench 12 (Fig. 2)

- 5.16 Located towards the eastern end of Trench 12 was north-east/south-west orientated ditch 1204. It had moderately steeply sloping sides and a tapered concave base and measured 0.52m wide and 0.31m deep. No finds were recovered from its single grey brown silt clay fill 1205, which was deposited by gradual silting. Directly overlying this and the natural substrate was mid grey brown silty clay deposit 1203, which contained occasional fragments of modern CBM. It is interpreted as a deliberate deposit of made ground, further indicating an area of modern truncation/landscaping within the northern and north-western part of the site. This was overlain by subsoil 1201, which was in turn sealed by topsoil 1200.

Trench 14 (Figs 2 & 8)

- 5.17 A total of four postholes were recorded within the trench. Posthole 1403 was sub-circular in plan, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 8; section DD). It measured approximately 0.6m in diameter and 0.2m deep. Pit 1411 was revealed in one of two southern extensions projecting at right-angles from this trench (Fig. 8; section EE). It was irregular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.08m in length, 0.6m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.24m. Both features (1403 and 1411) contained similar mid-grey brown silty clay gravel fills; 1404 and 1412 respectively. Two further irregularly shaped postholes (1407 and 1409) were not excavated.
- 5.18 Located towards the eastern end of the trench was ditch terminus 1405. No datable material was recovered from the single mid-grey brown silty clay gravel fill 1406 of this feature.

Trench 18 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.19 Located approximately 0.5m to the south of ditch 1803, pit 1805 was partially revealed projecting from the eastern edge of the trench. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. No finds were recovered from its grey brown, sandy silt fills (1806 and 1807). This feature coincides with an area of tree planting depicted on historic mapping.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from two deposits: ditch and tree throw fills. The recovered material dates to the Late prehistoric and post-medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types recorded are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric.

Pottery: Late prehistoric

- 6.2 An unfeathered bodysherd (2g) in a sparsely flint-tempered fabric was retrieved from tree throw 603 (fill 603). Condition, in terms of surface preservation and edge abrasion, is good. In the absence of form or decoration, this pottery is only broadly dateable to the Late prehistoric period (spanning the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age) on the basis of fabric and firing characteristics.

Ceramic building material

- 6.3 Fill 1804 of ditch 1803 produced a fragment of flat roof tile, of post-medieval date, in an unabraded condition.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 A single animal bone (14g) was recovered from deposit 1804 the fill of ditch 1803 together with artefacts dating to the post-medieval period. The bone was in good condition and identified as a sheep/goat metacarpal (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*). No inference beyond species identification can be drawn and given the low recovery and association with post-medieval material, it is more than likely residual in nature.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 Archaeological investigations to the immediate south of the site identified a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement and Saxon post-built halls, dated broadly to between the 5th and 6th centuries AD. Evaluation was undertaken to determine if the archaeological remains associated with this activity extended into the proposed development area. However, no evidence of this activity was identified and only a single small sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron pottery was identified within the site during the current evaluation.

8.2 The evaluation has recorded evidence for archaeological features within the southern part of the site, comprising a pit, which contained a single sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron pottery. Elements of a medieval/post-medieval to modern field system and modern/undated pits, ditches and postholes were also revealed. Evidence of modern landscaping and truncation within the northern part of the site, presumably associated with the sites former use as garden nursery, was evidenced by deposits of made ground within Trenches 12, 21 and 22, which directly overlay the natural substrate.

Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (1100 BC-400 BC)

8.3 The earliest feature identified within the site comprised pit 603. Flint-tempered pottery recovered from the fill, 604, of this feature dated broadly to the Late Prehistoric (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age).

8.4 No other features of Late Prehistoric date were identified during the evaluation. The evaluation has identified no clear areas of Late Prehistoric settlement, and only a single isolated feature of Late Prehistoric date. The limited identified activity within the site during this period, suggests that the settlement activity identified to the south during this period is not likely to have extended into the site and that any activity during this period is likely to have been transient in nature and has left little evidence in the form of archaeological features.

Anglo- Saxon (AD 410-1066)

8.5 Despite the presence of Saxon activity to the immediate south of the site, no evidence of features, finds or deposits relating to this activity was identified within the site during the current evaluation.

Medieval - modern (1066-present)

- 8.6 The evaluation identified a series of east/west orientated ditches within the south-western field. The alignments of the ditches suggest a field system aligned broadly north/south by east/west. The putative field system comprised ditches 103, 203, 205 and 303 located within Trenches 1, 2 and 3. The identified field system is attributed to the medieval to modern periods based on cartographic evidence and morphological characteristics.
- 8.7 Ditch 303, although undated artefactually may form the eastward continuation of an east/west aligned field boundary depicted on historic mapping to the west of Wexham Road. This field boundary is somewhat sinuous in form and based on morphology may have its origins within the medieval period. If ditch 303 is the continuation of this boundary it would suggest that this field system predates the imposition of Wexham Road.
- 8.8 Ditch 1803 identified at the northern end of Trench 18 corresponds with a field boundary first depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1875 and last depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1961. Ditches 103 and 205 appear to broadly correlate with a boundary first depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1958 and last depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1987. This boundary encloses a thin belt of trees within the south-western corner of a larger field. A small quantity of dating evidence, comprising modern concrete paving slabs was recorded within these ditches.
- 8.9 The putative field system corresponds with the general alignment of the surrounding field systems depicted on historic and current Ordnance Survey mapping. Based on morphological characteristics these field systems predominantly relate to Parliamentary Enclosures of the post-medieval period, with partial surviving elements of earlier medieval strip fields indicated by the sinuous nature of some of the surrounding field boundaries.
- 8.10 Soakaway 2105, identified within Trench 21 is likely to be associated with the 19th century Wexham Lodge and/or its ancillary buildings, the grounds of which form part of the western boundary of the site. Modern pits and postholes were identified within the southern and central part of the site, save for their presence, little further can be said regarding these latter features.

Undated

- 8.11 An undated pit (1805) was revealed within Trench 18. The exact function of this feature is uncertain; however it coincides with an area of tree planting depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping from 1955 to 1961, although it remains unclear whether the pit it is related to this activity.

Geological

- 8.12 A number of geological features were investigated, which superficially had the appearance of archaeological remains; excavation demonstrated that the features were geological formations.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jake Streatfeild-James (Phase 1) and Ralph Brown (Phase 2), assisted by Andrew Whelan, Jonathan Whitmore, Alice Krausova and Edwin Pearson. The report was written by Jake Streatfeild-James and Stuart Joyce. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville and the illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce and for EDP by Rob Johns.

10. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 6 April 2016
- EDP (Environmental Dimension Partnership) 2015 *Wexham Road, Slough: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Assessment*
- EDP (Environmental Dimension Partnership) 2016 *Wexham Road, Slough: Written Scheme of investigation Building Recording and Trial Trench Evaluation*
- DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| Trench No. | Context No. | Type | Fill of | Context interpretation | Description | L (m) | W (m) | D (m) | Spot-date |
|------------|-------------|---------|---------|------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | 100 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey-brown clayey silt, compact | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 1 | 101 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.2 | |
| 1 | 102 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid orange-brown silty clay with gravel, compact | - | - | - | |
| 1 | 103 | Cut | | Cut of ditch | East/west orientated ditch | | 1.2 | | |
| 1 | 104 | Fill | 103 | Fill of ditch | Single clay silt fill, containing large fragments of concrete paving slabs | | 1.2 | | |
| 2 | 200 | Layer | | Topsoil | Mid grey-brown clayey silt, friable to compact | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 2 | 201 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay compact | - | - | 0.2 | |
| 2 | 202 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid brown orange, silty clay with gravel, compact | - | - | - | |
| 2 | 203 | Cut | | Cut of ditch | East/west orientated ditch | | 1.4 | | |
| 2 | 204 | Fill | 203 | Fill of ditch | Single clay silt fill, containing large fragments of concrete paving slabs | | 1.4 | | |
| 2 | 205 | Cut | | Cut of ditch | East/west orientated ditch | | 1.3 | | |
| 2 | 206 | Fill | 205 | Fill of ditch | Single clay silt fill, containing large fragments of concrete paving slabs | | 1.3 | | |
| 3 | 300 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.1 | Modern |
| 3 | 301 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay compact | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 3 | 302 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange silty clay with gravel, compact | - | - | - | |
| 3 | 303 | Cut | | Cut of ditch | Linear, shallow sides, concave base | 1.6 | 1.0 | 0.2 | |
| 3 | 304 | Fill | 303 | Fill of ditch | Light orange-brown silty clay, friable occasional sub-rounded flint gravel | 1.6 | 1.0 | 0.2 | |
| 4 | 400 | Layer | | Topsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, friable | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 4 | 401 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty sandy clay | - | - | 0.2 | |
| 4 | 402 | Layer | | Substrate | Variable mid orange brown clay to light brown yellow clay and gravel | - | - | - | |
| 4 | 403 | Cut | | Cut of Pit | Sub-rectangular, steep sides flat base | >2.5 | >1.2 | 0.2 | Modern |
| 4 | 404 | Fill | 403 | Fill of Pit | Dark grey brown silty clay, friable. Contained CBM and salt glazed pipe | >2.5 | >1.2 | 0.2 | |
| 4 | 405 | Cut | | Cut of Pit | Sub oval in plan, steep sides, concave base | >0.7 | 0.9 | 0.2 | Modern |
| 4 | 406 | Fill | 405 | Fill of Pit | Light brown yellow silty clay, friable, naturally accumulating disuse fill containing 19th-century CBM and pottery | >0.7 | 0.9 | 0.2 | |
| 4 | 407 | Deposit | | Bedding layer | Modern bedding deposit | | | | |
| 4 | 408 | Cut | | Cut of pit | Circular pit | | | | |
| 4 | 409 | Fill | 408 | Fill of pit | Unexcavated | | | | |
| 5 | 500 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 5 | 501 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt friable | - | - | 0.2 | |
| 5 | 502 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel friable | - | - | - | |
| 5 | 503 | Cut | | Cut of Pit | Sub circular in plan, flat base, vertical sides | 1.9 | >1.2 | 0.35 | Modern |
| 5 | 504 | Fill | 503 | Fill of Pit | Dark grey-brown clayey silt, friable, very similar to topsoil 500 | 1.9 | >1.2 | 0.3 | Modern |
| 6 | 600 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 6 | 601 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt friable | - | - | 0.6 | |
| 6 | 602 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel friable | - | - | - | |
| 6 | 603 | Cut | | Cut of pit | Irregular, sub oval in plan, very shallow sides, irregular, concave base | 1.6 | 2.4 | 0.3 | LPRE |
| 6 | 604 | Fill | 603 | Fill of pit | Mid brown orange silt, friable occasional flint gravel. One sherd of | 1.6 | 2.4 | 0.3 | LPRE |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-------|------|----------------------|--|------|-----|------|---------|
| | | | | | Late prehistoric pottery recovered | | | | |
| 7 | 700 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 7 | 701 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt friable | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 7 | 702 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel friable | - | - | - | |
| 7 | 703 | Cut | | Cut of Pit | Sub circular in plan, rounded edges, moderate sloping sides, concave base | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.18 | Undated |
| 7 | 704 | Fill | 703 | Fill of Pit | Dark grey-brown silty gravel, friable | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.1 | |
| 8 | 800 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey-brown silty clay, friable | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 8 | 801 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown silty clay | - | - | 0.3 | |
| 8 | 802 | Layer | | Natural | Mid orange brown silty clay ad gravel | - | - | - | |
| 9 | 900 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey-brown silty clay, friable | - | - | 0.52 | Modern |
| 9 | 901 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, friable | - | - | 0.5 | |
| 9 | 902 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid orange-brown silty clay with light grey-brown silty clay | - | - | - | |
| 10 | 1000 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark brown sandy clay and silt | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 10 | 1001 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid brown-yellow sandy clay and silt | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 10 | 1002 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid orange brown clay rich sandy gravel | - | - | - | |
| 10 | 1003 | Cut | | Cut of Bioturbation | Shallow sub-circular depression irregular sides and base | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | Undated |
| 10 | 1004 | Fill | 1003 | Fill of Bioturbation | Mid grey brown friable silty sand | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | |
| 10 | 1005 | Cut | | Cut of Tree Bole | Sub circular cut, irregular sides and base | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.2 | Undated |
| 10 | 1006 | Fill | 1005 | Fill of Tree Bole | Mid grey brown friable silty sand | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.2 | |
| 11 | 1100 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 11 | 1101 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.1 | |
| 11 | 1102 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid orange brown clayey gravel | - | - | - | |
| 12 | 1200 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 12 | 1201 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt, friable, contained fragments of brick | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 12 | 1202 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey orange-brown clayey gravel | - | - | - | |
| 12 | 1203 | Layer | | Deposit | Mid grey brown silty clay, compact, present in the southern half of Trench 12 | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 12 | 1204 | Cut | | Cut of Gully | Linear feature, parallel irregular sides, rounded edges, steep sloping sides, concave base. Possible Palaeochannel | >1.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | Undated |
| 12 | 1205 | Fill | 1204 | Fill of Gully | Mid grey brown silty clay, compact | >1.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 | Undated |
| 13 | 1300 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark grey brown clayey silt, friable | - | - | 0.41 | |
| 13 | 1301 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown clayey silt friable | - | - | 0.47 | |
| 13 | 1302 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel friable | - | - | - | |
| 14 | 1400 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark brown grey silty clay, compact, small stones, | - | - | 0.2 | Modern |
| 14 | 1401 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey brown silty clay, compact, small stones | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 14 | 1402 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey orange-brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | - | |
| 14 | 1403 | Cut | | Cut of posthole | Concave irregular sides, rounded base | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.27 | Undated |
| 14 | 1404 | Fill | 1403 | Fill of Pit | Mid grey brown silty clay, loose to friable | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | |
| 14 | 1405 | Cut | | Cut of Linear | Linear, irregular sides, rounded base | >1.0 | 0.6 | 0.2 | Undated |
| 14 | 1406 | Fill | 1405 | Fill of Linear | Mid grey brown silty clay, compact | >1.0 | 0.6 | 0.2 | |
| 14 | 1407 | Cut | | Cut of posthole | Cut of unexcavated pit | 0.40 | 0.3 | - | Undated |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-----------|------|------------------|--|--------|--------|------|--------------|
| 14 | 1408 | Fill | 1407 | Fill of posthole | Mid grey brown silty clay, loose to friable | 0.4 | 0.3 | - | |
| 14 | 1409 | Cut | | Cut of posthole | Cut of unexcavated pit | 0.2 | 0.3 | - | Undated |
| 14 | 1410 | Fill | 1409 | Fill of posthole | Mid grey brown silty clay, loose to friable | 0.2 | 0.3 | - | |
| 14 | 1411 | Cut | 1411 | Cut of posthole | Sub oval feature, steep sides, rounded base | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.2 | Undated |
| 14 | 1412 | Fill | 1412 | Fill of posthole | Mid grey brown silty clay, compacted | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.2 | |
| 15 | 1500 | Layer | | Levelling layer | Modern deposit associated with the current works. Stoney rubble in a sandy silt matrix | - | - | 0.18 | |
| 15 | 1501 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.45 | |
| 15 | 1502 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | | |
| 16 | 1600 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark brown-grey silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.2 | Modern |
| 16 | 1601 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 16 | 1602 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | - | |
| 17 | 1700 | Layer | | Levelling layer | Modern deposit associated with the current works. Stoney rubble in a sandy silt matrix | - | - | 0.24 | |
| 17 | 1701 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.24 | |
| 17 | 1702 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | - | |
| 18 | 1800 | Layer | | Levelling layer | Modern deposit associated with the current works. Stoney rubble in a sandy silt matrix | - | - | 0.22 | |
| 18 | 1801 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.18 | |
| 18 | 1802 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | - | |
| 18 | 1803 | Cut | | Ditch | North-west/south-east orientated field system ditch. Shallow sloping sides and concave base. Depicted on historic mapping | - | 1.11 | 0.3 | P-med |
| 18 | 1804 | Fill | 1803 | Fill of ditch | Light brown-grey sandy silt. Soft compaction, 5% small stone inclusions | - | 1.11 | 0.3 | P-med |
| 18 | 1805 | Cut | | Pit | Moderately sloping sides, flat base. Oval in plan as far as revealed | > 0.82 | 1.7 | 0.59 | |
| 18 | 1806 | Fill | 1805 | 1st fill of pit | Dark grey-brown silty sand with gravel. Loose compaction | > 0.82 | 1.34 | 0.24 | |
| 18 | 1807 | Fill | 1805 | 2nd fill of pit | Mid grey brown sandy silt with rare small stone inclusions | > 0.66 | > 0.66 | 0.45 | |
| 19 | 1900 | Layer | | Levelling layer | Modern deposit associated with the current works. Stoney rubble in a sandy silt matrix | | | 0.45 | |
| 19 | 1901 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | | | | |
| 20 | 2000 | Layer | | Levelling layer | Modern deposit associated with the current works. Stoney rubble in a sandy silt matrix | | | 0.43 | |
| 20 | 2001 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | | | | |
| 21 | 2100 | Layer | | Tarmac | - | - | - | 0.1 | Modern |
| 21 | 2101 | Layer | | Made Ground | - | - | - | 0.3 | Modern |
| 21 | 2102 | Layer | | Substrate | Light yellow brown to light orange yellow silty sand and gravel | - | - | - | |
| 21 | 2103 | Structure | | Soakaway | 19th century brick lined soakaway. parallel single course of frogged, machine pressed bricks 1.5 m apart separated by 2104 | 2.0 | 0.6 | - | 19th century |
| 21 | 2104 | Fill | 2103 | Made Ground | Infill between brick courses, probable wall footing material | 2.0 | 0.6 | - | 19th century |
| 21 | 2105 | Cut | | Construction Cut | Construction cut for wall 2103/2104 | 2.0 | 0.6 | - | 19th century |
| 22 | 2200 | Layer | | Tarmac | - | - | - | 0.1 | Modern |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-------|--|-------------|--|---|---|-----|--------|
| 22 | 2201 | Layer | | Made Ground | - | - | - | 0.4 | Modern |
| 22 | 2202 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid orange brown silty clay | - | - | 0.2 | |
| 22 | 2203 | Layer | | Substrate | Light brown yellow silty clay | - | - | - | |
| 23 | 2300 | Layer | | Topsoil | Dark brown-grey silty clay, compact | - | - | 0.2 | Modern |
| 23 | 2301 | Layer | | Subsoil | Mid grey-brown silty clay, compact, | - | - | 0.4 | |
| 23 | 2302 | Layer | | Substrate | Mid grey-orange brown silty gravel with clay | - | - | - | |

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APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

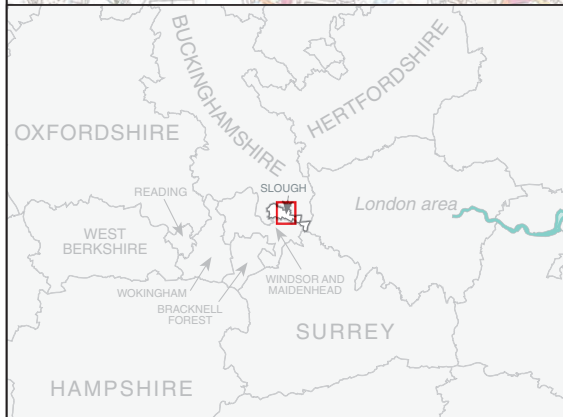
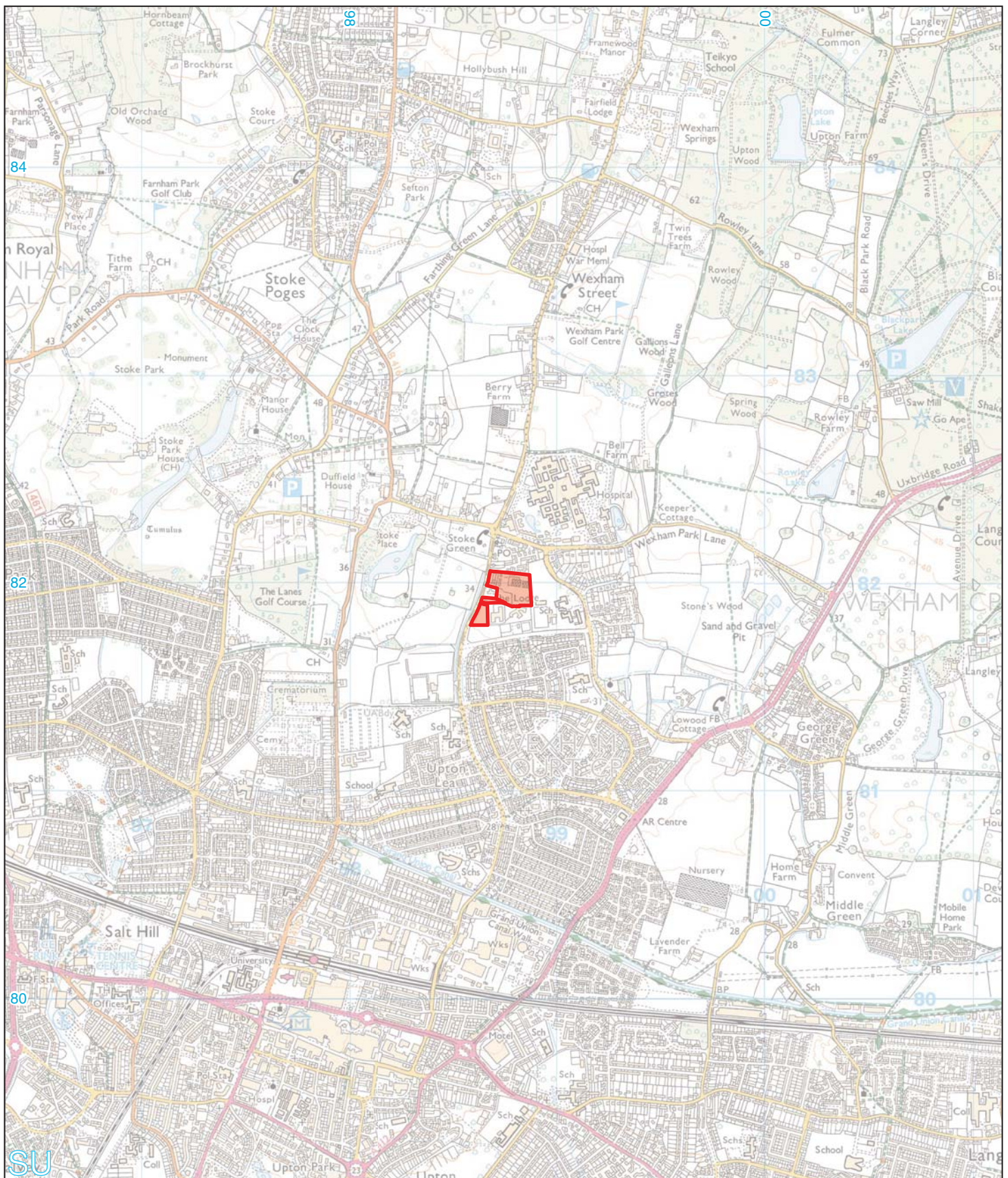
Table 1: Finds concordance

| Context | Category | Description | Fabric Code | Count | Weight (g) | Spot-date |
|---------|---|-----------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------------------|
| 604 | Late prehistoric pottery | Flint-tempered fabric | FL | 1 | 2 | Late prehistoric |
| 1804 | Post-medieval ceramic building material | Flat roof tile | | 1 | 64 | Post-medieval |

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APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

| PROJECT DETAILS | | |
|---|--|---|
| Project Name | Land off Wexham Road, Slough: Archaeological Evaluation | |
| Short description | <p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in two phases by Cotswold Archaeology in March and June 2016 at land off Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire. The fieldwork was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning application for residential development of the site. The evaluation comprised the excavation of twenty-three trenches.</p> <p>Archaeological interest in the site derives from its location immediately north of a small Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement and two Anglo-Saxon post-built halls.</p> <p>The earliest feature identified within the site comprised a pit containing a single sherd of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. No other features of Late Prehistoric date were identified during the evaluation and no evidence of features, finds or deposits relating to Anglo-Saxon settlement was identified.</p> <p>Within the south-western and northern part of the site, the evaluation recorded the remains of a medieval to late post-medieval/modern field system. The ditches fit within the general alignment identified within the surrounding field systems depicted on historic and current Ordnance Survey mapping. The ditches are likely to represent boundary and/or drainage features. A single sherd of post-medieval roof-tile was recovered from one of these ditches.</p> <p>Evidence for modern landscaping and truncation, most probably associated with the former nursery gardens was revealed throughout the northern part of the site. Within the southern part of the site 19th-century pits and a soakaway were identified, as well as a number of undated pits, postholes and ditches. Other investigated features were shown to be geological in origin.</p> | |
| Project dates | 21st – 24th March and 27-28 June 2016 | |
| Project type | Evaluation | |
| Previous work | DBA (EDP 2015) | |
| Future work | Unknown | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | | |
| Site Location | Wexham Road, Slough | |
| Study area (M ² /ha) | 2.8 Ha | |
| Site co-ordinates | SU 9874 8194 | |
| PROJECT CREATORS | | |
| Name of organisation | Cotswold Archaeology | |
| Project Brief originator | Berkshire Archaeology | |
| Project Design (WSI) originator | Environmental Dimension Partnership | |
| Project Manager | Stuart Joyce (CA) Rob Johns (EDP) | |
| Project Supervisor | Jake Streatfeild-James | |
| MONUMENT TYPE | pits and ditches | |
| SIGNIFICANT FINDS | Prehistoric pottery | |
| PROJECT ARCHIVES | | |
| | Intended final location of archive | Content |
| Physical | TBC | pottery |
| Paper | | WSI, pro forma registers, recording forms and photographs |
| Digital | | Digital photographs, digital survey data |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | | |
| CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 16181 | | |



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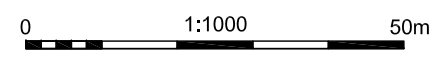
PROJECT TITLE
 Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| DRAWN BY LJH | PROJECT NO. 660679 | FIGURE NO. |
| CHECKED BY DJB | DATE 07/04/16 | |
| APPROVED BY SJ | SCALE@A4 1:25,000 | 1 |



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- bioturbation



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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan showing archaeological features

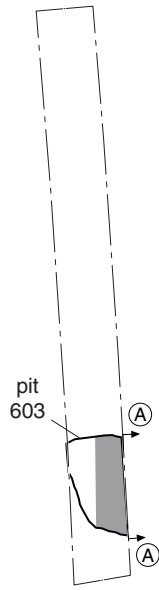
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| CHECKED BY LM | DATE 08/07/2016 | 2 |
| APPROVED BY SJ | SCALE @A3 1:1000 | |

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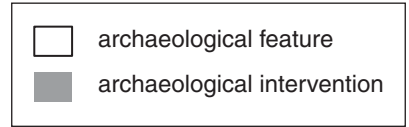
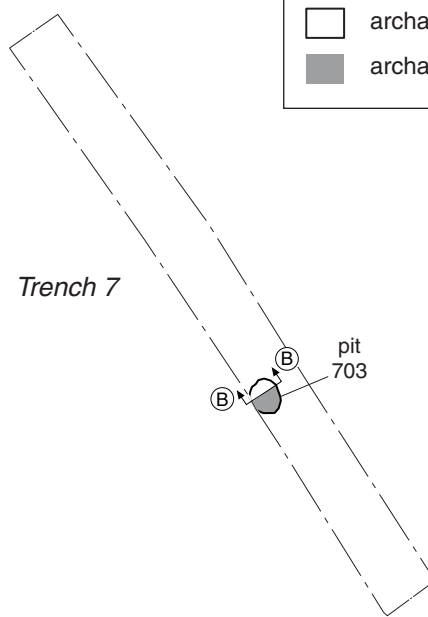
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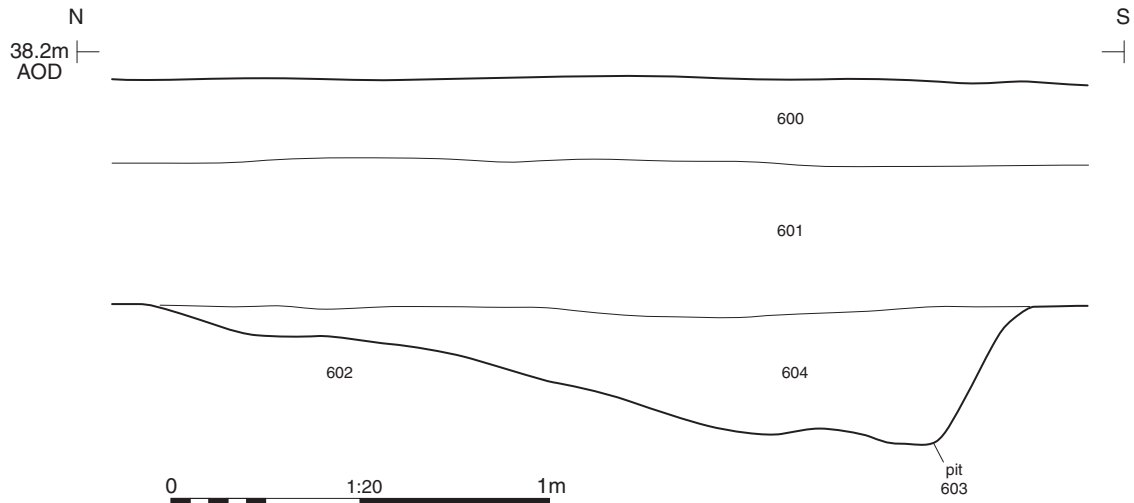
Trench 6



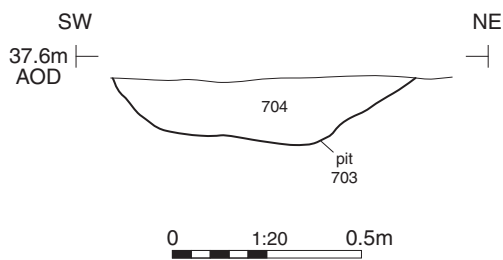
Trench 7



Section AA



Section BB



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Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 6 and 7: plan and sections

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FIGURE NO.

3



4



5

4 Ditch 303, looking west (1m scale)

5 Ditches 203 and 205, looking south-east (1m scales)



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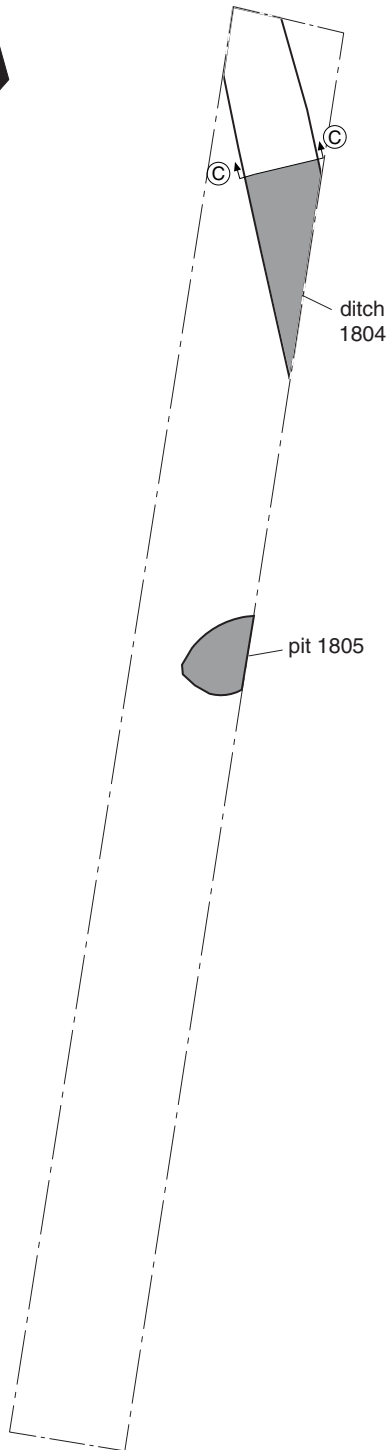
FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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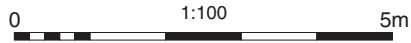
FIGURE NO.

4 & 5



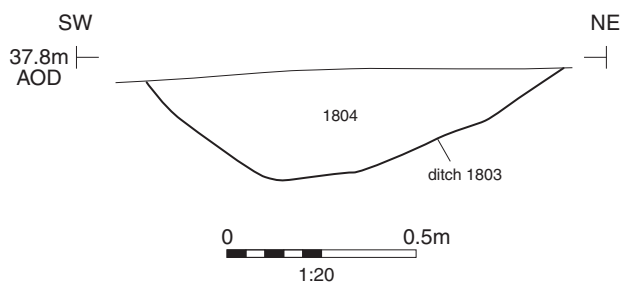
Trench 18: plan

- archaeological feature
- archaeological intervention



Trench 18, looking south (2m scales)

Section CC



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 18: plan, section and photograph

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|-------------|--------------|------------|
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| APPROVED BY | SJ | SCALE@A4 | 1:100 & 1:20 | |



7 Soakaway 2105, looking north-west (1m scales)



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PROJECT TITLE

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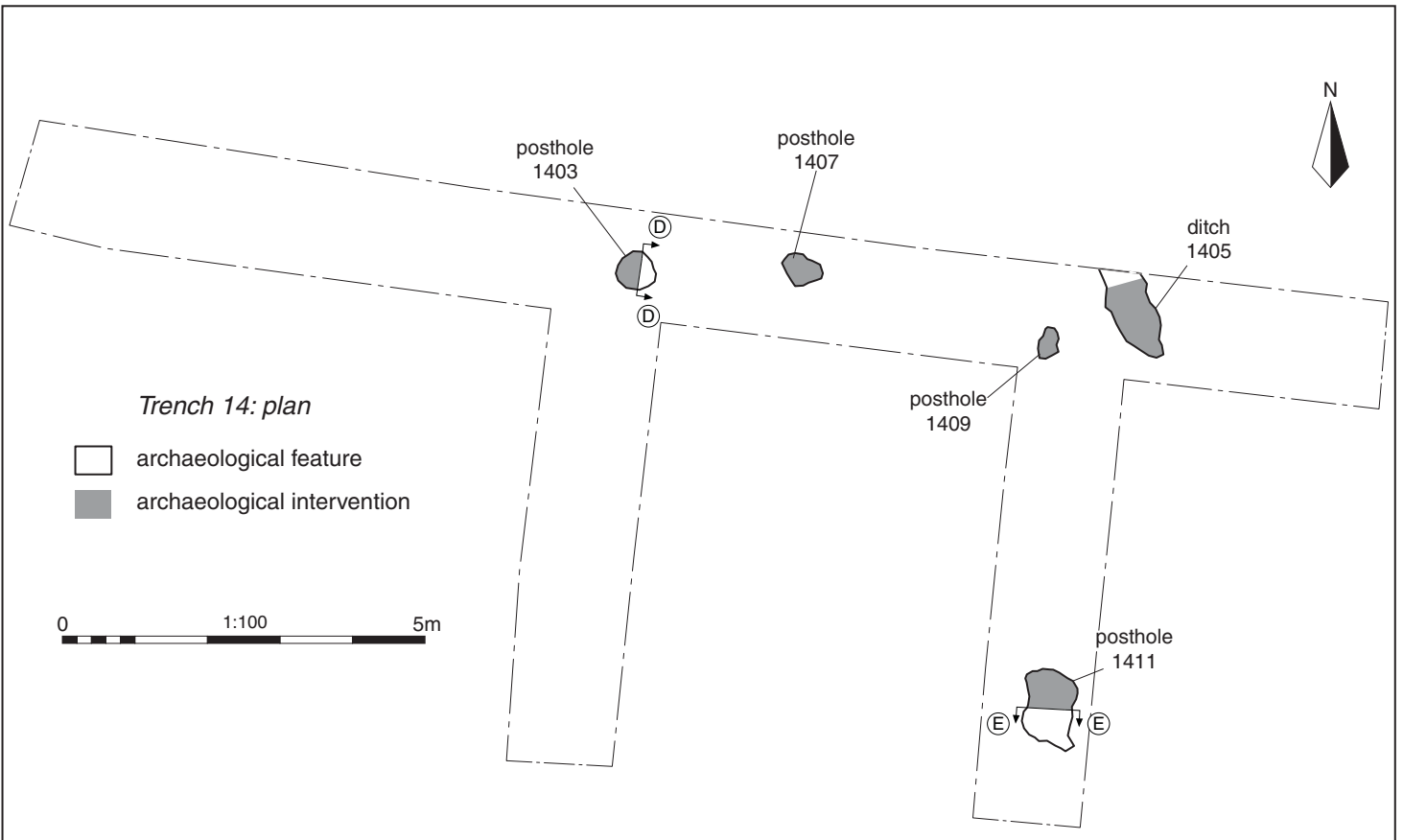
FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

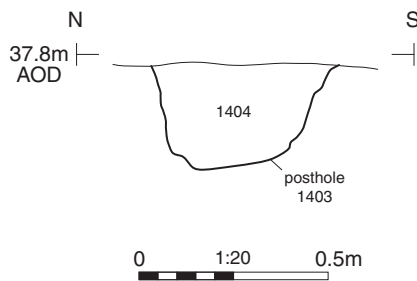
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FIGURE NO.

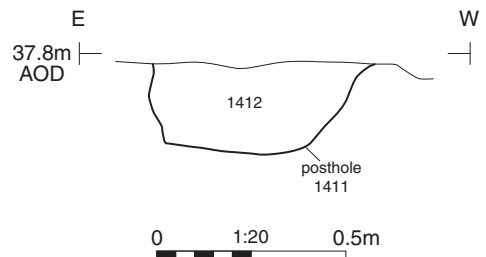
7



Section DD



Section EE



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PROJECT TITLE
 Wexham Road, Slough, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 14: plan and sections

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------|--------------|------------|
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