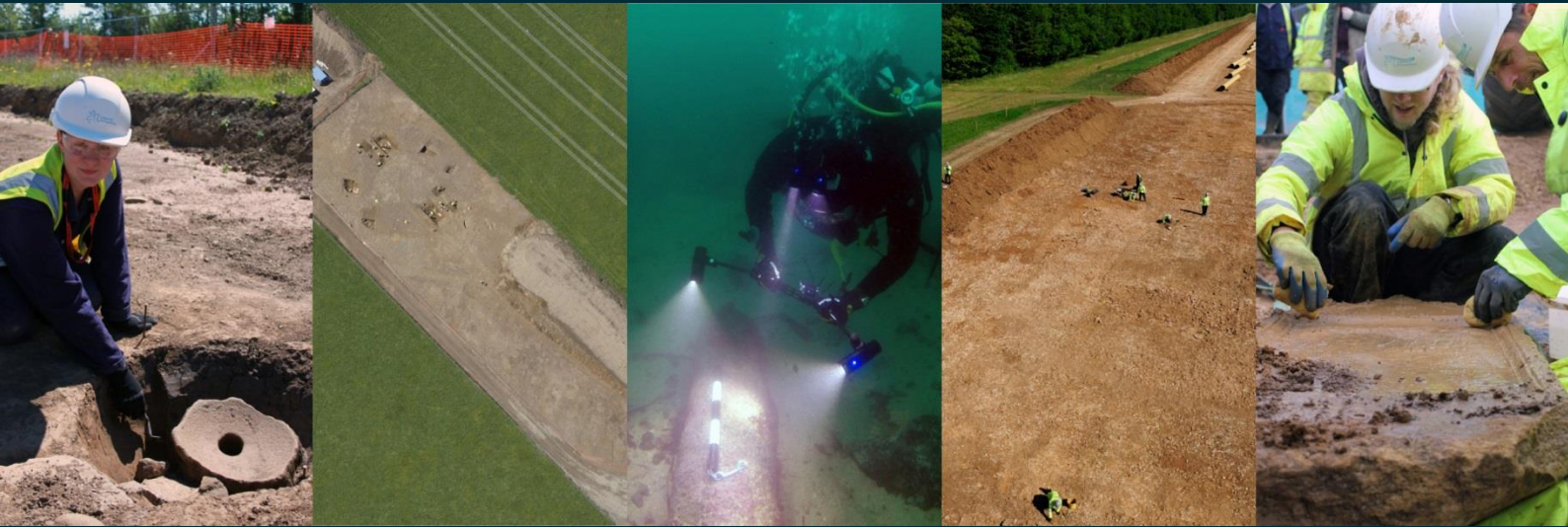


Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Bellways Homes
(Wessex)

CA Project: 770306
CA Report: 16003

December 2015



Land to the North of Cutbush Lane Shinfield, Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 770306
CA Report: 16003



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	4-1-2016	Ray Kennedy		Internal review		

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4. METHODOLOGY	5
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-6).....	6
6. THE FINDS	7
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE	9
8. DISCUSSION.....	10
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	111
10. REFERENCES.....	111
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	133
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS	139
APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	20
APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	21

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing archaeological features (1:2000)
- Fig. 3 Trench 1 photographs
- Fig. 4 Trench 2 photographs
- Fig. 5 Trench 10 & 11 photographs
- Fig. 6 Trench 16 & 29 photographs



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land to the North of Cutbush Lane
Location:	Shinfield, Berkshire
NGR:	SU 7378 6870
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	16-25 November 2015
Planning Reference:	O/2013/0101; RM/2014/2561
Location of Archive:	Reading Museum
Site Code:	NCS 15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2015 at land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire. Thirty-two evaluation trenches were excavated. Archaeological features identified and recorded during the evaluation were located in **Trenches 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 16 and 29**. No archaeological remains were encountered in the remaining trenches.

A single Bronze Age cremation was encountered in the middle of the site but was left unexcavated. A number of ditches of probable Iron Age or Roman date were uncovered on the southern end of the site within **Trenches 10, 29 and 33**, representing an extensive field system. A group of other ditches were also uncovered to the east of the site within **Trenches 1, 2 and 11**, which were dated to the medieval and post-medieval period. These features have been interpreted as representing a medieval agricultural landscape focused on the high ground to the east of the site.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Bellway Homes Ltd (Wessex) at land north of Cutbush lane, Shinfield Berkshire (centred on NGR: SU 7378 6870; Fig. 1). Planning permission was granted to Bellway Homes (O/2013/0101; RM/2014/2561) for a residential development comprising up to 126 dwellings, public open space, children's play areas, accesses to Cutbush Lane, and the Shinfield Eastern Relief Road. The development was subject to an archaeological condition (16), which requires the undertaking of a programme of archaeological investigation prior to development in order to establish the archaeological potential of the site.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Ellie Leary Archaeological Officer (AO) for Berkshire Archaeology and archaeological advisor to Wokingham Borough Council (WBC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Ellie Leary including a site visit on the 20 November 2015.

The site

- 1.3 The site is approximately 4.77ha in area and comprises a single large arable field. The site lies at approximately 60m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) at the northern site boundary, sloping downwards to 50m AOD along the edge of Cutbush Lane. The natural topography of the site has been obscured by the construction of a modern reservoir, subsequently drained, and associated landscaping.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as London Clay Formation, comprising clay, silt and sand; a sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Superficial deposits comprise River Terrace deposits of sand and gravel are present in the south-east corner of the site. These deposits were formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. The local environment would have previously been dominated by rivers (BGS 2016).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 An environmental statement was prepared in support of the planning application and CgMs produced a chapter detailing the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the site (CgMs 2013). A brief summary of the findings of that report are given below.

2.2 No previous archaeological investigations have been conducted within the site itself, however, a number of archaeological investigations have been conducted in the area surrounding the site. An evaluation of the area to the east revealed no archaeological remains, while investigations to the south revealed no evidence of activity earlier than the post-medieval and Modern periods. A geophysical survey to the north-east of the site also revealed no features of archaeological interest.

Prehistoric

2.3 No evidence of prehistoric activity has been recorded within the site or in the surrounding vicinity.

Iron Age and Roman

2.4 Although Iron Age/Romano British activity is recorded to the south of the site and within the Shinfield and Aborfield areas, there is no evidence of Iron Age or Roman activity within the site itself.

Post Medieval and Modern

2.5 An L-shaped feature representing a fishpond or possible moat dating to the Post-Medieval period is located in an area to the west of the site, however, no activity dating to this period is known within the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information will enable Berkshire Archaeology, archaeological advisor to Wokingham Borough Council 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 a total of thirty-two evaluation trenches; twenty-nine trenches measuring 30m x 2m and one trench measuring 25m x 2m. The trenches consisted of a 4% sample of site and were positioned to provide a spread across the development area. An additional trench, **Trench 33**, was excavated in order to help ascertain the extent and continued alignment of a prehistoric boundary ditch identified within **Trench 10**. 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* and, no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Reading Museum under accession number along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-6)

- 5.1 Archaeological features identified and recorded during the evaluation were located in **Trenches 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 16** and **29**. No archaeological remains were encountered in the remaining trenches.
- 5.2 **Trench 1** contained three ditches and one gully. Ditch **103** was located centrally within the trench on a southwest-northeast alignment and measured 0.7m in width and at least 0.15m in depth. Positioned at the western end of the trench was ditch **105** on a broad north-south alignment. Ditch 105 measured 2m in width and at least 0.3m in depth and contained pottery of dating to the 11th-15th century. Both ditches **103** and **105** could not be fully excavated due to water ingress. Gully **107** was positioned just to the west of ditch **103** on a northwest-southeast alignment. The gully measured 0.45m in width and 0.09m in depth and produced pottery of possible medieval date. Ditch **109** was located at the eastern end of the trench on a north-south alignment. It was not excavated due to the high water table and rain water flooding that part of the trench.
- 5.3 **Trench 2** contained one pit, three ditches, one gully and one hedge row remnant. Pit **203** was located centrally within the trench and measured 0.87m in length, 0.74m in width and 0.3m in depth. Hedgerow **205** was initially thought to be a ditch but excavation revealed a very irregular shaped cut and base that measured 2.8m in width and 0.13m in depth on a north-south alignment. Pottery recovered from this feature gave a 15th-16th century. Ditch **207** and gully **209** were located at the western end of the trench on a north-south alignment. Ditch **207** measured 1.4m in width and gully **209** measured 0.29m in width. Both were left unexcavated due to flooding, however, medieval pottery was recovered from the upper fill of ditch **207**. Ditches **211** and **213** ran parallel to each other to the west of gully **209** on a northwest-southeast alignment. Ditch **211** measured 2.2m in width and 0.29m in depth and ditch **213** measured 0.97m in width and 0.27 in depth. Roman ceramic building material, pottery dating to the 15th to 16th century and animal bone was recovered from the fill of Ditch **211** while pottery dating to the 11th to 15th century was recovered from Ditch **213**. Both ditches were cut through deposit **215** that appeared to overlie the natural clay and produced medieval pottery and CBM.
- 5.4 **Trench 8** contained one possible cremation (**803**); it was located centrally within the trench and was left unexcavated.

- 5.5 **Trench 10** contained one ditch located centrally within the trench. Ditch **1003** ran on a north south alignment and measured 1.84m in width and 0.65m in depth. The ditch fill contained late prehistoric pottery, animal bone and struck flint.
- 5.6 **Trench 11** contained two parallel ditches **1103** and **1105**. They were positioned centrally within the trench at a distance of 8m from each other. Each ditch was on the same northeast-southwest alignment and produced late medieval/post-medieval (CBM) and animal bone.
- 5.7 **Trench 16** contained two parallel ditches **1602** and **1605**. Ditch **1602** was located towards the northern end the trench on a southwest-northeast alignment. Ditch **1602** measured 1.08m in width and 0.25m in depth and contained some possible modern fuel ash slag. Ditch **1605** was positioned 7m to the south of ditch **1602** along the same alignment. The ditch measured 0.88m in width and 0.51m in depth. Modern glass and brick were recovered from the fill of this feature.
- 5.8 **Trench 29** contained one ditch. Ditch **2903** was located centrally within the trench on a southwest-northeast alignment. The ditch measured 2.74m in width and 0.55m in depth and contained Middle to Late Iron Age pottery.
- 5.9 **Trench 33** contained one ditch and one gully. Gully **3303** was located centrally within the trench on a southwest-northeast alignment. Ditch **330** was located 5m to the south on the same alignment. Ditch **330** appeared to be a continuation of ditch **2903**. Both features were left unexcavated.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from 16 deposits: ditch/gully fills, a hedge fill, a spread, subsoil and topsoil. The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included form/rim morphology and any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues (although none was apparent).
- 6.2 *Pottery: Late prehistoric*

Pottery of this date (which spans the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age) totals 58 sherds (744g). At 13g, the mean sherd weight is relatively high for a prehistoric assemblage. In terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, condition is variable: ranging from poor (fill 1005 of ditch 1003) to good (most of the sherds from fill 2904 of ditch 2903).

Fabrics include those which feature as their primary/secondary inclusion type: grog (GT), flint (FLC), quartz (QZ, QZF) or a combination (FLQZ, FLQF, GTQZ). Also represented is a vesicular fabric (VES) which has probably resulted from the leaching out of calcareous inclusions. The unfeathered bodysherds from fill 1005 of ditch 1003 are only broadly dateable to the Late prehistoric period. Closer dating, across the Middle to Late Iron Age, is possible for much of the pottery from fill 2904 of ditch 2903. This includes a globular vessel with an upright, slightly pushed-out rim in a fine flint-and-quartz tempered fabric (FLQF) and a globular vessel with a simple, upright rim in a fine quartz-tempered fabric (QZF). Similar vessels have been recorded in Middle Iron Age deposits at sites including Thames Valley Park, Reading, Berkshire (Mepham 1997, 50) and Cippenham, Slough, Berkshire (Lyne 2003, 78–9). A bodysherd in an apparently wheelthrown, quartz-tempered fabric (QZ), also from ditch fill 2904, may be intrusive. It derives from a shouldered bowl or jar, which is a typically Late Iron Age/transitional form.

6.3 *Medieval/early post-medieval*

A total of 43 sherds (627g) was recovered from this date range. The average sherd weight of 15g suggests a relatively low degree of fragmentation and condition is otherwise moderate to good. All of the fabrics present are commonly found on sites in Berkshire.

Newbury C ware is represented by 23 sherds from six deposits. This ware type dates to the 11th to 14th centuries (Vince *et al.* 1997, 64–5). Fifteen sherds of Kennet Valley ware (Newbury B) were recorded, which was produced in the Savernake/Braydon Forest region dating to the late 11th to late 15th centuries. A rimsherd from a jar with a developed, everted rim was noted in fill 208 of ditch 207. Five sherds of Surrey/Hampshire coarse border ware were retrieved, including a rimsherd from a cooking pot from fill 212 of ditch 211. In Berkshire this type of pottery dates to the 15th to 16th centuries. (*ibid.*, 65).

6.4 *Lithics*

The recovered lithics comprise a flake from fill 1005 of ditch 1003 and a spurred piece from subsoil 2001, both made on flint. The latter features fine, abrupt retouch along most of the right/distal dorsal edge, including the formation of a spur in the centre. Both of the flints are broadly prehistoric in date.

6.5 *Ceramic building material*

A fragment of Roman ceramic building material, identifiable as tegula, was retrieved from fill 214 of ditch 213. This item is a residual find in a medieval-dated deposit.

A total of 27 fragments of ceramic building material of medieval/post-medieval date were recovered, in moderate to good condition. The majority of classifiable fragments are flat roof tile (Appendix B) and a fragment of peg tile is included amongst those from fill 206 of hedge 205.

6.6 *Other finds*

Fill 1606 of ditch 1605 produced two fragments of natural-coloured (pale green) glass from a bottle of modern date.

A large fragment of fired clay from fill 2904 of ditch 2903 features two perforations. It is most likely to be part of a loomweight, however, it is too fragmentary to determine the original form.

Four joining fragments of fired clay were retrieved from fill 3306 of ditch 3305. They feature one flat surface and part of an edge at right angles to the surface. Although the fragments do not display any wattle impressions, it is tentatively suggested that they represent daub.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 A small assemblage of seven fragments (171g) of animal bone was hand recovered from site. The bone was in a poor state of preservation and displayed signs of both historical and modern damage, However it was possible to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and domestic goose (*Anser anser domesticus*).

Medieval

- 7.2 A total of five fragments (42g) were recovered from the fills of ditches 211 and 1105 and from layer 215, in association with artefacts dating to the medieval period. Cattle, sheep/goat and domestic goose were all identified from the remains of meat-poor skeletal elements such bones of the skull and lower limbs. No chop and/or cut marks relating to butchery were observed. Each of the species identified were commonly exploited domestic farm animals in the medieval period (Baker & Worley, 2014), but due to their low recovery no further interpretative information can be gained beyond species identification.

Undated

- 7.3 Two further fragments (129g) of bone were recovered from the fills of ditch 103 and pit 203 and identified respectively as fragments of a cattle tibia and a sheep/goat mandible.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation confirmed the presence of archaeology within specific parts of the site. The potential for further archaeological remains within the southern part of the site, specifically the western half of **Trenches 10, 29 and 33** and the eastern half of **Trenches 1, 2 and 11**, is high, however, there is a low potential across the rest of site. The undulating topography of the site, along with superficial deposits of clay and gravels would have likely left many parts of the site prone to waterlogging in the past and therefore unsuitable for exploitation. This features uncovered during this evaluation are concentrated on higher ground to the south and east of the site.

Bronze Age

- 8.2 A possible Bronze Age cremation **803** was found in **Trench 8**. Based on the lack of further examples across the site it is believed that this feature represents an isolated find spot rather than being representative of wider Bronze Age activity across the surrounding landscape.

Iron Age / Roman

- 8.3 The evaluation has revealed a series of Iron Age / Roman ditches which can be interpreted as an extensive field system concentrated to the southern end of the site. A ditch **2903**, found within **Trench 29**, produced the only secure evidence for Iron Age activity within the site. However, ditch **1003**, within **Trench 10**, produced late

pottery of a broad prehistoric pottery and gully **3303** and ditch **3305**, found within **Trench 33**, although unexcavated, were on a similar alignment to the ditches in Trenches 10 and 29. Together these features might represent possible enclosures or field systems dated broadly to the Iron Age or Roman period. The artefactual evidence recovered from the ditches indicates domestic activity, illustrated by the presence of bowls and jars in the assemblage, which may suggest further settlement in close proximity to the site.

Medieval

- 8.4 Medieval activity within the site is concentrated in the eastern edge of the site. Ditches and gullies of a medieval date were identified in **Trench 1 (103, 105, 107 and 109)** and **Trench 2 (207, 209, 2011 and 213)**. These ditches are believed to form part of a medieval agricultural landscape that is focused on the high ground to the east of the site. The artefactual assemblage recovered from the fill of these ditches suggests a date of use from between the 11th and 15th centuries. Trench **11** also contained two parallel ditches **1103** and **1105**. These produced pottery that is indicative of late Medieval / early post-medieval activity within his part of the site.

Post-medieval/modern

- 8.6 **Trench 16** identified two parallel ditches **1602** and **1605** containing modern glass and brick, which are likely post-medieval or modern in date.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Oliver Good, assisted by Tony Brown, Nida Bhunnoo, Amber O'Hara and Katherine Hebbard. The report was written by Ray Kennedy and Oliver Good. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Andy Clark respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Oliver Good, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

10. REFERENCES

- Baker, P. and Worley, F. 2014 *Animal bones and archaeology: Guidelines for best practice*. Swindon, English Heritage

- Barnes, I., Butterworth, C. A., Hawkes, John. W. and Smith, L. 1997 *Excavations at Thames Valley Park, Reading, 1986–88 : Prehistoric & Romano-British Occupation of the Floodplain & a Terrace of the River Thames*. Wessex Archaeology Report No. 14. Salisbury. Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd.
- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 4 January 2016
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*
- CgMS 2013 *Archaeology and Cultural Heritage: Environmental Statement, Land to the North of Cut Bush Lane, Shinfield*
- Ford, S., Entwistle, R. and Taylor, K. 2003 *Excavations at Cippenham, Slough, Berkshire, 1995-7*. Thames Valley Archaeological Services Monograph 3. Reading.
- Lyne, M. 2003 'The Later Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval Pottery', in Ford, S. *et al.*, 78–87.
- Mephams, L. 1997 'Iron Age and Romano-British Pottery', in Barnes, I. *et al.* 1997, 48–65.
- Vince, A. G., Lobb, S. J., Richards, J. C. and Mephams, L. 1997. *Excavations in Newbury, Berkshire 1979–1990*. Wessex Archaeology Report No. 13. Salisbury. Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd.



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown loose silty clay, sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0-0.2	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay with sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0.2-0.4	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid to light yellowish brown compact clay with sub-angular gravel inclusions	29	2	0.4+	
1	103	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with rounded concave sides and a unknown base	1.05	0.7	0.15	
1	104	Fill	103	Secondary Fill	Mid greyish brown friable silty clay with sub-angular flint inclusions	1.05	0.7	0.15	
1	105	Cut		Ditch	Rectangular in plan with gradual concave sides and a rounded base	3.5	0.8	0.3	
1	106	Fill	105	Secondary Fill	Mid to dark brown friable sandy clay with sub-angular stone inclusions	3.5	0.8	0.3	LC11-LC15
1	107	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan with steep concave sides and a concave base	0.5	0.45	0.9	
1	108	Fill	107	Secondary Fill	Mid greyish brown friable silty clay with flint inclusions	0.5	0.45	0.9	
1	109	Cut		Ditch	Cut of unexcavated ditch	>2	3.16	Unknown	
1	110	Fill	109	Secondary Fill	Fill of Ditch (unexcavated)	>2	3.16	Unknown	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with very rare sub-angular stone inclusions	30.7	1.98	0-0.21	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay	30.7	1.98	0.21-0.41	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Orangey yellowish brown silty clay	30.7	1.98	0.41-0.6+	
2	203	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan with steep sloping sides and a flat base	0.37	0.74	0.30	
2	204	Fill	203	Secondary Fill	Greyish brown with specks of yellowish brown moderate silty clay	0.37	0.74	0.30	
2	205	Cut		Hedge Line	Linear in plan with a gentle slope and irregular base	1.8	2.8	0.13	
2	206	Fill	205	Secondary Fill	Mid grey with yellowish brown mottling compact silty clay	1.8	2.8	0.13	C15-C16
2	207	Cut		Ditch	Cut of unexcavated ditch	>2	1.4	Unknown	
2	208	Fill	207	Secondary Fill	Fill of Ditch (unexcavated)	>2	1.4	Unknown	LC11-LC15
2	209	Cut		Ditch	Cut of unexcavated ditch	>2	0.29	Unknown	
2	210	Fill	209	Secondary Fill	Fill of Ditch (unexcavated)	>2	0.29	Unknown	
2	211	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with moderate sides and a rounded base	2.1	2.2	0.29	
2	212	Fill	211	Secondary Fill	Mid grey with yellowish brown mottling compact silty clay	2.1	2.2	0.29	C15-C16
2	213	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with moderate sides and a rounded base	2.10	0.97	0.12	
2	214	Fill	213	Secondary Fill	Dark grey compact silty clay with rare irregular stone and common	2.10	0.97	0.12	LC11-LC15

					charcoal fleck inclusions				
2	215	Deposit		Spread	Mid grey with yellowish brown mottling compact silty clay and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions	2.1	1.1	0.06	C15-C16
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with rare inclusions of sub-angular and sub rounded stones	29.9	1.77	0-0.25	
3	301	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown sandy clay	29.9	1.77	0.25-0.42+	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid-dark brown loose silty clay with sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0-0.27	
4	401	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact clay inclusions with freq sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0.27-0.45+	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown friable silty loam with rare sub-angular stone inclusions	28.8	2	0-0.26	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Dark brown moderate sandy clay with rare charcoal inclusions	28.8	2	0.26-0.5	
5	502	Layer		Natural	Yellowish orangey brown compact sandy clay with common iron panning inclusions	28.8	2	0.5-0.65+	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey silty loam with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	31	1.8	0-0.3	
6	601	Layer		Natural	Light/mid greyish/yellowish brown silty clay with occasional rounded stone inclusion and irregular patches of gravel	31	1.8	0.3+	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	30.2	1.8	0-0.3	
7	701	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown compact silty clay with occasional irregular patches of gravel	30.2	1.8	0.3+	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish loose brown clayey silt with rare gravel inclusions	26.4	2	0-0.34	
8	801	Layer		Sub-soil	Mid reddish brown friable silty clay with no inclusions	26.4	2	0.34-0.52	
8	802	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown compact clay with no inclusions	26.4	2	0.52-0.63+	
8	803	Cut		Cut	Cut of possible cremation	0.65	0.55	Unknown	
8	804	Fill	803	Secondary Fill	Fill of possible cremation	0.65	0.55	Unknown	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown moderate silty clay loam with sub-angular flint gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0-0.25	
9	901	Layer		Natural	Brownish yellow sandy clay with some gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0.25+	
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with occasional sub-rounded stone inclusions	30.8	1.8	0-0.38	
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown compact sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks.	30.8	1.8	0.38-0.66	
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown silty/clayey sand with mid reddish brown mottling and irregular stone and gravel inclusions	30.8	1.8	0.66+	
10	1003	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flat	1.2	1.84	0.65	

					base				
10	1004	Fill	1003	Primary Fill	Mid grey with common yellowish/reddish brown mottling compact clayey sand with occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions	1.2	0.8	0.14	
10	1005	Fill	1003	Secondary Fill	Mid grey with rare dark reddish brown mottling compact clayey sand with occasional sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions	1.2	1.84	0.65	Late prehistoric
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	30.3	2	0-0.3	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown loose silty clay with occasional stone inclusions	30.3	2	0.3-0.48	
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Mid to light yellowish brown clay with minimal gravel inclusions	30.3	2	0.48+	
11	1103	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with moderate rounded sides and a rounded base	1	1	0.27	
11	1104	Fill	1103	Secondary Fill	Mid greyish brown friable clayey silt with sub-angular flint and charcoal inclusions	1	1	0.27	Medieval/post-medieval
11	1105	Cut		Ditch	Rectangular in plan with steep straight sides and a flat but uneven base	1.1	1.08	0.28	
11	1106	Fill	1105	Secondary Fill	Mid greyish brown friable sandy clay with moderate inclusions of sub-angular flint and gravel	1.1	1.08	0.28	C11-C14
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brow friable sandy loam with rare small sub-angular stone inclusions	30.6	1.8	0-0.26	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Moderate mid orangey brown silty clay	30.6	1.8	0.26-0.52	
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Compact light brownish orange clayey sand	30.6	1.8	0.52-0.63+	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown loose with occasional gravel inclusions clayey silt	29.2	2	0-0.25	
13	1301	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown compact clay with gravel inclusions	29.2	2	0.25-0.42	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown moderate silty clay loam with sub-angular flint gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0-0.33	
14	1401	Layer		Natural	Brownish yellow sandy clay with some gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0.33+	
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown loose silty clay	30	2	0-0.3	
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown friable silty clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	30	2	0.3-0.48	
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown compact clay with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	30	2	0.48+	
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with rare sub-angular stone inclusions	29.5	1.8	0-0.28	
16	1601	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact silty clay with occasional patches of	29.5	1.8	0.28+	

					irregular gravel				
16	1602	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with steep sides and a flat base	1	1.08	0.25	
16	1603	Fill	1602	Secondary Fill	Dark grey with dark yellowish brown mottling compact silty clay with rare stone inclusions	1	1.08	0.25	
16	1604	Fill	1602	Deposit	Dark grey with dark yellowish brown mottling compact silty clay	1	0.3	0.12	
16	1605	Cut		Ditch	Rectangular in plan with steep straight sides and a flat but uneven base	1.4	0.88	0.51	
16	1606	Fill	1605	Secondary Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown friable silty clay with freq flint inclusions.	1.4	0.88	0.51	Modern
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with rare sub-angular stone inclusions	30.8	1.8	0-0.27	
17	1701	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact silty clay with occasional patches of sub-rounded gravel.	30.8	1.8	0.27+	
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown loose clayey silt with occasional gravel inclusions	31	2	0-0.27	
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown friable silty clay with no inclusions	31	2	0.27-0.48	
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown compact clay with no inclusions	31	2	0.48+	
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with rare small rounded stone inclusions	30.7	1.8	0-0.25	
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown compact silty clay with rare small rounded stone inclusions	30.7	1.8	0.25-0.47	
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Light greyish/yellowish brown compact sandy/silty clay with rare patches of gravel	30.7	1.8	0.47+	
19	1903	Layer		Natural	Light brownish grey compact sandy clay with common patches of abundant gravel inclusions	30.7	1.8	0.47+	
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable sandy loam with rare small sub-angular stone	30.25	1.75	0-0.22	
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Moderate mid orangey brown sandy clay	30.25	1.75	0.22-0.55	
20	2002	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown clayey sand with common iron panning inclusions	30.25	1.75	0.55-0.68	
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown friable clayey silt with occasional gravel inclusions	29.6	2	0-0.27	
21	2101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown friable clayey silt with occasional gravel inclusions	29.6	2	0.27-0.48	
21	2102	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact clay with occasional gravel inclusions	29.6	2	0.48-0.6	
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown moderate silty clay loam with sub-angular flint gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0-0.30	
22	2201	Layer		Natural	Brownish yellow sandy clay with some gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0.30+	
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown friable clayey silt with occasional	29.5	2	0-0.3m	

					gravel inclusions				
23	2301	Layer		Subsoil	Med reddish brown friable clayey silt with occasional gravel inclusions	29.5	2	0.3-0.4	
23	2302	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact clay with occasional gravel inclusions	29.5	2	0.49+	
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown moderate silty clay loam with sub-angular flint gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0-0.53	
24	2401	Layer		Natural	Brownish yellow sandy clay with some gravel inclusions	30	1.8	0.53+	
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown loose silty clay with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions	34	2	0-0.2	
25	2501	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown compact clay with freq sub-angular gravel inclusions	34	2	0.2-0.4	
25	2502	Cut		Natural Hollow	Cut of unexcavated feature	2.5	2	Unknown	
25	2503	Fill	2502	Secondary fill	Fill of hollow (unexcavated)	2.5	2	Unknown	
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with occasional small sub-rounded stone inclusions	28	1.8	0-0.3	
26	2601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown compact sandy clay with irregular patches of gravel and dark reddish brown sand	28	1.8	0.3+	
26	2602	Layer		Natural	Mid brownish grey compact sandy clay with abundant irregular gravel inclusions	28	1.8	0.3+	
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown loose silty clay with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions	30	2	0-0.23	
27	2701	Layer		Subsoil	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay with occasional stone inclusions	30	2	0.23-0.36	
27	2702	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown compact clay with sub-angular stone inclusions	30	2	0.36-0.46+	
28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark greyish brown loose silty clay with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0-0.3	
28	2801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown friable silty clay with occasional stone inclusions	29	2	0.3-0.52	
28	2802	Layer		Natural	Light brown yellow compact clay with moderate sub-angular stone inclusions	29	2	0.52-0.7+	
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark blackish brown friable silty loam with rare sub-rounded stone	29.9	1.98	0-0.22	IA
29	2901	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown friable sandy clay	29.9	1.98	0.22-0.46	
29	2902	Layer		Natural	Orangey brown compact sandy clay with freq gravel inclusions	29.9	1.98	0.46-0.54+	
29	2903	Cut		Ditch	Linear in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base	2.74	0.91	0.55	
29	2904	Fill	2903	Secondary Fill	Dark greyish brown moderate silty clay with occasional charcoal and sub-rounded stone	2.6	0.91	0.37	MIA-LIA

					inclusions				
29	2905	Fill	2903	Secondary Fill	Blackish brown moderately compact sandy clay with freq charcoal and common sub-rounded stone and flint inclusions	1.59	0.91	0.20	
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown friable silty loam with quite common sub-angular stone inclusions	30.4	2	0-0.27	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
106	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	5	100	LC11-LC15
	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	1	5	
	Fired clay			14	12	
108	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		5	50	Post-medieval
206	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	3	16	C15-C16
	Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Surrey/Hampshire coarse border ware	CBW	1	3	
	Late medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile, peg tile, fragments		9	227	
208	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	1	19	LC11-LC15
212	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	1	6	C15-C16
	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	7	51	
	Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Surrey/Hampshire coarse border ware	CBW	3	54	
	Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		7	390	
214	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	6	98	LC11-LC15
	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	9	243	
	Roman ceramic building material	Tegula		1	69	
	Shell			1	7	
215	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	2	10	C15-C16
	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	1	5	
	Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Surrey/Hampshire coarse border ware	CBW	1	7	
1005	Late prehistoric pottery	Flint-and-quartz tempered fabric	FLQZ	2	32	Late prehistoric
	Late prehistoric pottery	Vesicular fabric	VES	5	12	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	8	
1104	Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		2	40	Medieval/post-medieval
1106	Medieval pottery	Newbury C ware	NC	2	10	C11-C14
	Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		2	90	
1604	Slag			2	93	-
1606	Medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		2	48	Modern
	Modern glass	Vessel		2	32	
2001	Worked flint	Spurred piece		1	3	-
2900	Late prehistoric pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	1	65	IA
2904	Late prehistoric pottery	Coarse flint-tempered fabric	FLC	9	194	MIA-LIA
	Late prehistoric pottery	Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	GTQZ	5	127	
	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine flint-and-quartz tempered fabric	FLQF	35	296	
	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QZF	1	11	
	Late prehistoric pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	1	7	
3306	Fired clay	Loom weight?		1	805	-
	Fired clay	Daub?		4	346	

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

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

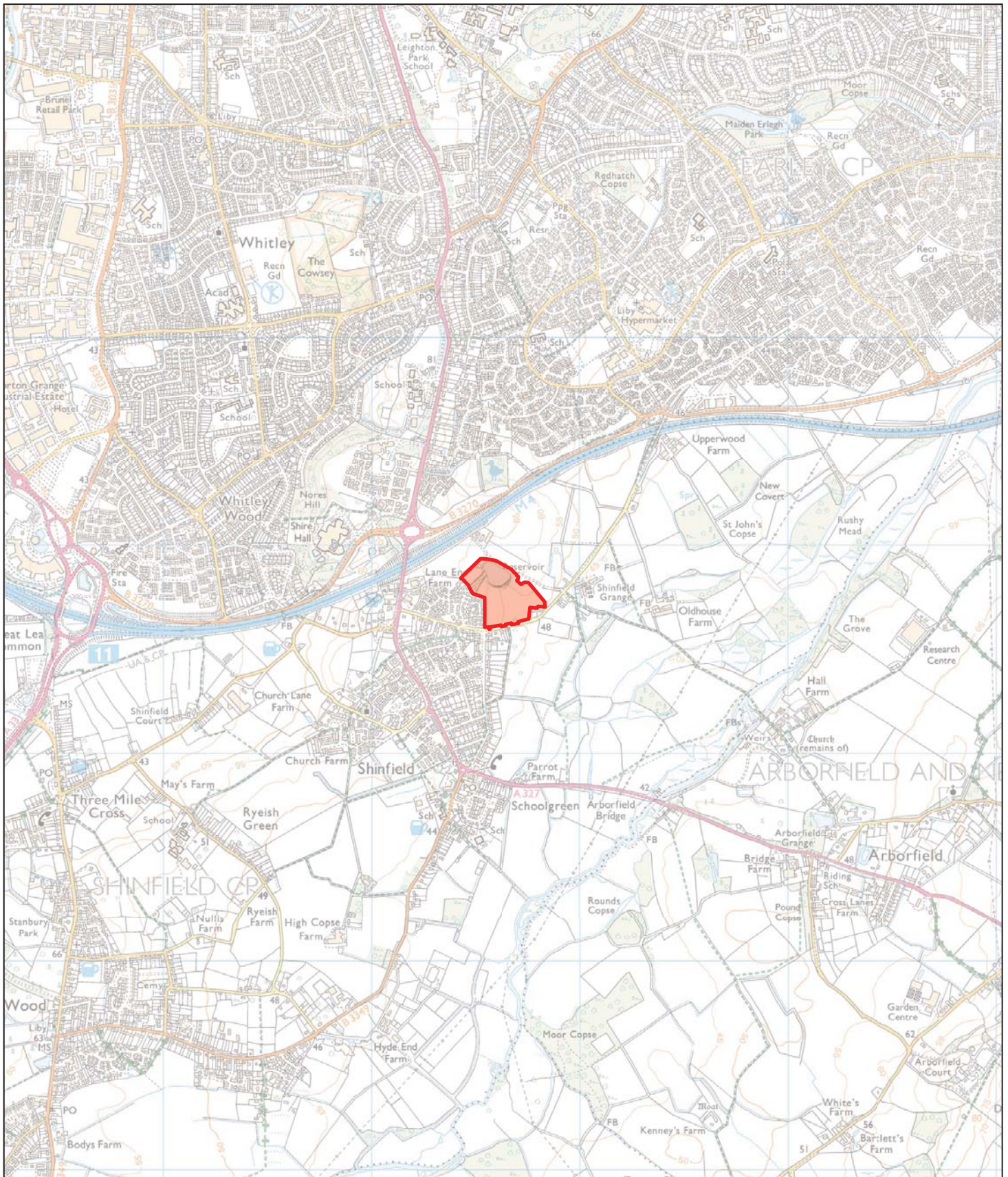
Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	Anser	MM	Total	Weight (g)
Medieval							
211	212		2	1		3	24
	215	1				1	6
1105	1106				1	1	12
Subtotal		1	2	1	1	5	42
Undated							
103	104	1				1	112
203	204		1			1	17
Subtotal		1	1			2	129
Total		2	3	1	1	7	
Weight		118	40	1	12	171	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; MM= sheep sized mammal; Anser = Goose

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2015 at land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire. Thirty-two evaluation trenches were excavated. Archaeological features identified and recorded during the evaluation were located in Trenches 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 16 and 29. No archaeological remains were encountered in the remaining trenches.</p> <p>A single Bronze Age cremation was encountered in the middle of the site but was left unexcavated. A number of ditches of probable Iron Age or Roman date were uncovered on the southern end of the site within Trenches 10, 29 and 33, representing an extensive field system. A group of other ditches were also uncovered to the east of the site within Trenches 1, 2 and 11, which were dated to the medieval and post-medieval period. These features have been interpreted as representing a medieval agricultural landscape focused on the high ground to the east of the site.</p>	
Project dates	16 th -25 th November 2015	
Project type	Archaeological Evaluation	
Previous work	Environment Statement	
Future work	Archaeological Excavation CA(2016)	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	4.77ha	
Site co-ordinates	SU 7378 6870	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Berkshire Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Oliver Good	
MONUMENT TYPE	Cremation - Bronze Age Ditch – Iron Age Ditch - Roman	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	West Berkshire Museum	Ceramics, ceramic building material, animal bone, worked bone, flint, burnt clay, shell, glass
Paper	West Berkshire Museum	Context sheets, plans, survey sheets, trench record sheets, WSI
Digital	West Berkshire Museum	Database, digital photos, survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report **16003**



0 1km

Reproduced from the 2015 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright
Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109



Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

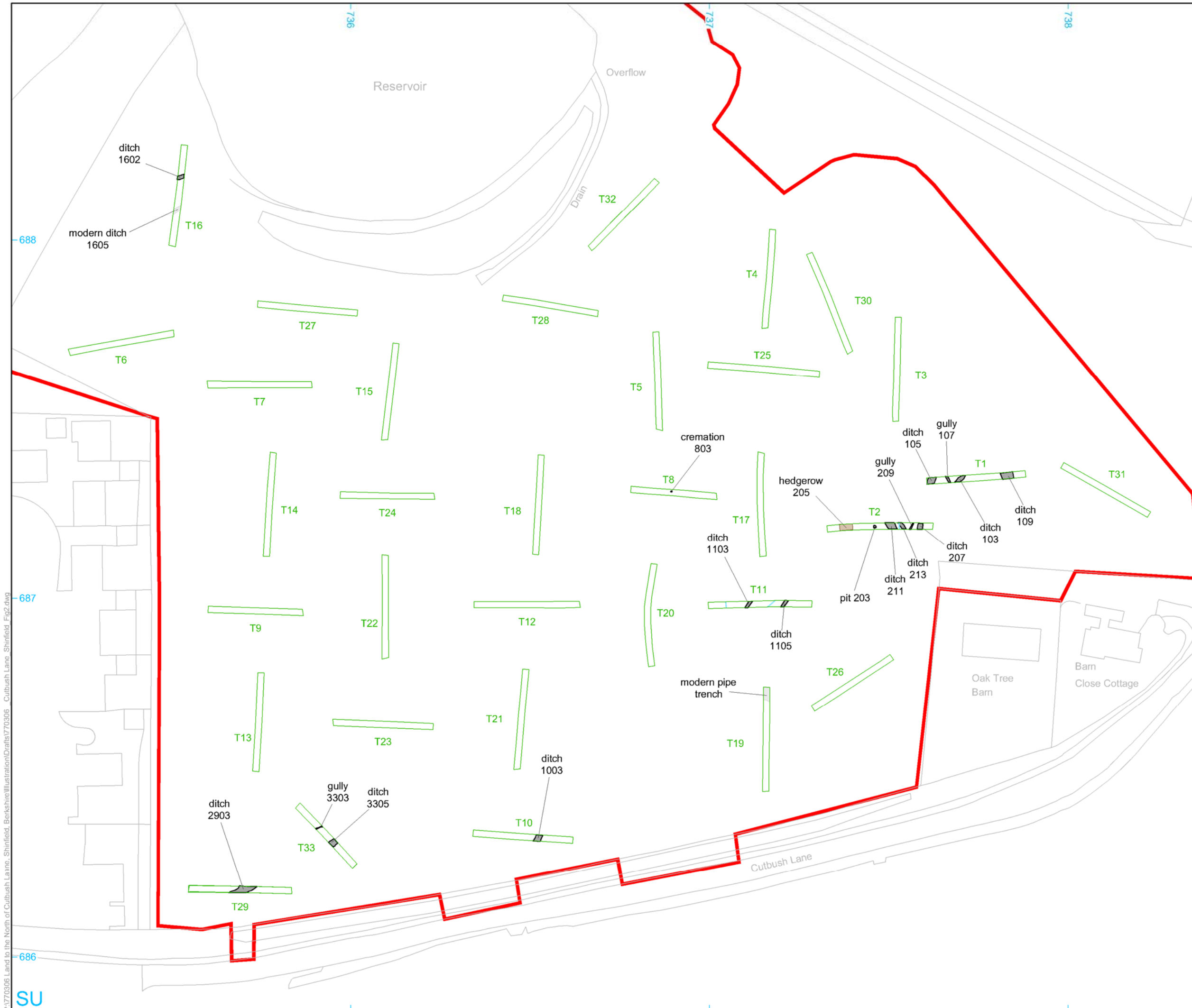
PROJECT TITLE
Land to the North of Cutbush Lane
Shinfield, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

DRAWN BY LJH **PROJECT NO.** 770306
CHECKED BY AO **DATE** 22/12/15
APPROVED BY REG **SCALE@A4** 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



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



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01284 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564860
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land to the North of Cutbush Lane
 Shinfield, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan showing
 archaeological features

DRAWN BY	RJH/LJH	PROJECT NO.	770306	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	22/12/2015	2
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

P:\770306 Land to the North of Cutbush Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire\Illustration\Drafts\770306_Cutbush Lane Shinfield_Fig2.dwg





Ditch 103, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



Ditch 105, looking north-east (1m scale)



Gully 107, looking north-west (0.3m scale)



Pit 203, looking east (0.3m scale)



Hedgerow 205, looking south (2m scale)



Ditch 211, looking north-west (1m scale)



Ditch 213, looking west (1m scale)


Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
**Land to the North of Cutbush Lane
 Shinfield, Berkshire**

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 2: photographs

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	770306	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	AO	DATE	23/12/15	
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A3	n/a	4



Ditch 1003, looking south-west (2m scale)



Ditch 1103, looking north-east (0.3m scale)



Ditch 1105, looking north-east (0.3m scale)



Ditch 1602, looking east (1m scale)



Ditch 1605, looking south-west (1m scale)



Ditch 2903, looking south-west (2m scale)

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660