

# Land at Newnham Manor Crowmarsh Gifford Oxfordshire

*Archaeological Evaluation*



*on behalf of*  
Avant Homes

CA Project: 770401  
CA Report: 16481

September 2016



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## Summary

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at Newnham Manor
<b>Location:</b>	Crowmarsh Gifford Oxon
<b>NGR:</b>	SU 461980 188840
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	15 – 24 August 2016
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service
<b>Site Code:</b>	CGO 16

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2016. The evaluation comprised the excavation of thirty five trenches measuring 30m in length.

Identified within the trenches was *the Reading Way*, a 17<sup>th</sup> century road with probable medieval origins which originally crossed the site from north to south before being re-routed further to the west in 1862. An undated pair of ditches were identified within two of the trenches and are likely to represent flanking drainage features associated with the road.

Within the main arable field a pair of ditches were identified crossing the site from west to east. The two ditches, which were identified within three trenches, covered an area of at least 150m in length. The undated ditches appeared to cut the subsoil from directly beneath the topsoil and are likely to represent post-medieval field boundaries.

Four pits were also recorded. Three shallow circular pits in trench 36 are post-medieval in date, whilst an undated pit in trench 18 contained mollusc species indicative of a generally shady localised landscape of open woodland and grassland. The woodland may be primary deciduous woodland, which could point towards an early possible prehistoric date for this feature.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation, on the behalf of Avant Homes, on land south of Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford (centred on NGR: SU 461980 188840; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken in support of a hybrid planning application for the erection of 100 new residential dwellings including a new access road off the A4074, public open space and the provision of school land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford. The local planning authority (LPA) is South Oxfordshire District Council.
- 1.2 The LPA sought pre-application advice from their archaeological planning adviser, Richard Oram Planning Archaeologist at Oxfordshire County Council (PAOCC). The LPA was advised that based on the archaeological potential of the site, that should an application be made, a predetermination archaeological investigation to establish whether archaeological features are present would be required. The current report constitutes the results of that archaeological investigation.
- 1.3 A geophysical survey of the site (where accessible) had been previously undertaken (AOC 2016) in order to inform the archaeological evaluation strategy.
- 1.4 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) and approved by Richard Oram. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), 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).

### ***The site***

- 1.5 The proposed development site is located within a campsite and on adjacent fields to the south-east of Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire within an area of land boarded by the A4074 Port Way to the east, Old Reading Road to the west with agricultural land and a light industrial unit to the south and with properties including Newnham Manor, along The Street to the north.
- 1.6 The site measures some 7.8 hectares in area. The north-west side of the site covers two fields set to grass or rough pasture forming part of a caravan park which

occupies the northern part of the site. Along the Old Reading Road the site is occupied by light industrial units and woodland and by two fields that are used intermittently for camping. To the south-west and east three arable fields are divided by hedgerows and mature trees.

- 1.7 The British Geological Survey Geology of Britain Viewer website records the bedrock geology as chalk of the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation (BGS 2016), overlain by freely draining loamy soils.
- 1.8 The ground within the site is generally level and is situated at a height of approximately 50m above Ordnance Datum (OD)

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The archaeological background below is drawn from the archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development site produced by Oxford Archaeology South (OAS 2012), which looked at the known and documented archaeological resource within a 1km Study Area of the site.

### **Prehistoric Period (500,000 BP - 43 AD)**

#### **Palaeolithic and Mesolithic**

- 2.2 There has been one recorded discovery of a Palaeolithic artefact found at Lonesome Farm (c.900m to the south east of the site).
- 2.3 Mesolithic flints have been recovered in four locations within the Study Area, although the descriptions and dating of all of the artefacts is not totally conclusive. All of these Mesolithic artefacts have however, been found within the gravel geology to the west of the site and not within the chalk geology on which the site lies.

#### **Neolithic and Bronze Age**

- 2.4 Neolithic and Bronze Age features and material has also been recorded in the vicinity. There has been a number of recorded Neolithic flint artefacts recovered from the surrounding area but none from within the site itself. Of greater significance are the presence of two Neolithic features, a ditch excavated to the north-west of the site and a cropmark to the south-east which has been interpreted as a potential Neolithic mortuary enclosure.

2.5 The surrounding area includes several sites of possible Bronze Age origin including a number of cropmarks which may represent the ploughed out remains of Bronze Age burial mounds. Such cropmarks are located both to the north of the site and to the south. The cropmark to the south is located on a north facing ridge, whilst the cropmarks to the north are located on a similar level to the site itself.

2.6 There have also been a large number of Bronze Age artefacts found within the River Thames which may be evidence in part of ritual deposition. Excavations at Grim's Ditch, c.1km south-west of the site, recorded the only potential evidence of Bronze Age settlement evidence from the surrounding area, with the discovery of possible Bronze Age cultivation soils.

### **Iron Age**

2.7 Grim's Ditch, a significant Iron Age earthwork likely to mark a tribal boundary, is located c.840m to the south of the site. This embankment and ditch, which runs for 7km, was up to 10m wide, 3m deep and with a bank up to 7m wide and 2m high. Excavations along this Scheduled Monument have also recorded further Iron Age features.

### **Romano-British Period (AD 43-410)**

2.8 Despite the excellent knowledge of the Upper Thames Valley for this period, there has been relatively little investigation of sites downstream from Dorchester. However, excavations to the north east of the site at Cold Harbour Farm have revealed a Roman settlement site of the 2nd-4th centuries AD, which is of interest due to its close association with two 3rd century coin hoards, and a small 4<sup>th</sup> century cemetery has also been recorded 660m north east of the proposed site, which included an inhumation in a lead lined coffin.

2.9 The site is located 650m east of a probable Roman settlement site identified from aerial photographs. Roman pottery and tiles have also been recorded in this area. Other evidence of Roman activity, within the vicinity of the site comprises a few Roman features excavated at Howbery Park, c.815m to the north of the site.

### **The Anglo Saxon Period (AD410-1066)**

2.10 The site is situated c.800m to the east of the town of Wallingford, and much of the history of Newnham Murren is linked to this larger settlement. Wallingford is first



recorded in a charter of c 895 and is also recorded in the 919 Burghal Hidage. The manor of Newnham Murren is first recorded in a charter of 966. The name 'Newnham' comes from New-ham' or New Town. Until the 14th century, the manor was known as either Newnham-by-Wallingford or Newnham-by- Crowmarsh, but by the mid-14th century it had come to be known as Newnham Murren.

- 2.11 Despite the proximity to Wallingford, there have been no recorded Anglo Saxon features discovered to the east of the river. The only features recorded, Anglo Saxon pits (c.860m from the site) were made to the west of the river. However, there have been a number of Anglo Saxon artefacts recovered from closer to the site, including a spear, axes and a sword.

### **The Later Medieval Period (AD1066-1550)**

- 2.12 It is believed that William the Conqueror crossed the River Thames at Wallingford Bridge (c.800m to the west of the site). The present stone bridge at Wallingford replaced a wooden structure in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The Street, which runs just to the north of the site follows the alignment of the medieval Henley Way, which ran from Wallingford Bridge to London. This would have been a busy and important road prior to the construction of Abingdon Bridge in the early 15th century.
- 2.13 Despite being located within the Parish of Newnham Murren, the site is likely to have been located closer to the village of Crowmarsh Gifford than to Newnham Murren. The centre for the village of Newnham Murren during this period appears to have been within the south of the parish, as demonstrated by the earthworks of a Deserted Medieval Village c.785m to the south of the site, whilst the centre of Crowmarsh Gifford appears to have been located around the church c.365m to the north-west of the site.
- 2.14 Wallingford Castle (c.875m to the west of the site) was built in c 1067-71, and is central to the medieval town of Wallingford. Closer to the site are the possibly 12th century fortifications of a siege castle (c.525m to the north-west of the site). A siege castle is known to have been built close to Wallingford in 1139 and taken in 1153. Historic maps show earthworks, and excavations have uncovered evidence of 12th to 14th century occupation in this area (c.470m to the north-west of the site).
- 2.15 A road, the *Reading Way* shown on post-medieval maps as passing through the site may have been in use during the medieval period. The Parish Boundary between



the parishes of Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren is also shown on Davis' 1793 map as running along the south of the site, which is the likely alignment of the boundary during the medieval period.

### **Post-Medieval Period (AD1550 - Present)**

- 2.16 Davis' map of the County of Oxfordshire from 1793 shows the site comprising mainly open land. A road runs down the centre of the site, but there is no other visible development within the site shown on this map. Davis' map also shows two field boundaries within the western half of the site, which are no longer extant.
- 2.17 The earliest detailed map of the site is the 1847 Tithe Map of Newnham Murren. The Tithe Map shows the site lying mainly within open farmland of various types with the centre of the site occupied by two cottages and gardens. The road shown on Davis' map is also shown here.
- 2.18 An Estate Map dating to 1855 lists the land on which the site lies in a similar way to that recorded by the Tithe Apportionment, although the eastern half of the site has been relisted as 'plantation and orchard' as opposed to pasture. This appears to be the first stage in the remodelling of the site.
- 2.19 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1883 shows the site to have become part of what appears to be an area of parkland. The western boundary of this parkland is formed by a new road, called Old Reading Road, whilst the old road, the Reading Way seems to have become a tree lined avenue, more a garden feature than a through road. The Reading Way was realigned in 1862, apparently to shorten the distance to Wallingford, and due to the poor state of the road. The field boundaries shown on earlier maps are still present, and an additional boundary has been established, which is still present today.
- 2.20 The majority of the Newnham Murren Estate was sold in 1913, and a map of the plots for sale shows that the parkland was not included in the sale. The division of the land by this date closely resembles the layout of the site today, although the usage of the site appears to all have been parkland. Cropmark linear features to the south east of the site may be field boundaries of the post-medieval period or may be field boundaries of an earlier date.

- 2.21 The site lies just south-east of the Red Line of the GHQ Reserve Positions established during World War II. This defensive line stretched west from Reading along the Thames.
- 2.22 Aerial photographs of the site from the 1960s still show it as mainly parkland. A road can be seen crossing the site from east to west, and some small structures can be seen, possibly caravans. By the aerial photographs of the late 1980s, the site can be seen to be under arable cultivation, and the current layout of the site is shown on the 1993 Ordnance Survey map.

### **Geophysical Survey**

- 2.23 The archaeological geophysical (gradiometer) survey (AOC 2016) was undertaken to investigate the potential for buried archaeological remains and to inform the trial trench evaluation strategy. Due to onsite restrictions comprising upstanding mature crops in the south east of the site and a caravan park to the north along with number of mature hedgerows and areas of woodland the area suitable for survey was limited.
- 2.24 The survey identified a number of geophysical anomalies relating to modern services. Within the two larger arable fields to the east only tentative discrete trends and possible geological features were recorded, but the majority of the site appeared to be void of significant archaeological anomalies

## **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The objectives of the trial trench 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.
- 3.2 Specific aims were to target the results of the geophysical survey and determine the nature, date and character of the identified anomalies. The evaluation also sought to establish how accurate the results of the geophysical survey are in establishing the archaeological potential of the site.

- 3.3 In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable the PAOCC acting on behalf of the LPA 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 35 trenches; comprising 31 *no* x 30m in length by 2.3m in width trenches, with four trenches being reduced in length due to the presence of buried services, mature trees and newly planted saplings. The lengths of the reduced trenches measured 17.5m, 17m, 10m and 7m respectively. Two other trenches (6 & 13) were abandoned and could not be excavated due to a large dump of modern building materials within an area of heavily overgrown vegetation (Tr 6) and the presence of live services (Tr 13). The 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*. The final 'as dug' locations of the trenches are shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2).
- 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*, as a result three deposits were sampled and processed. 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 Oxfordshire Museum Service 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 2-12)**

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively. The natural substrate across the site consisted of clayey silty chalk with occasional flint inclusions which became slightly more common to the west of the site. This was overlain by a pale grey brown subsoil with an average depth of 0.20m (locally deeper). The topsoil with an average depth of 0.35m consisted of a dark yellow brown clayey silt with rare flint inclusions.

- 5.2 The following trenches were devoid of archaeological activity and are summarised in appendix A; 1 - 5, 7 - 10, 14 - 15, 17, 19 - 20, 22 - 26, 28 - 31, 33 & 34. Within these trenches two modern pits containing CBM were recorded but not excavated within trench 17 and an area of modern disturbance containing buried tree stumps was recorded in trench 22. Two modern post holes which contained the remains of timber posts were also noted in trench 25. Several features of geological origin were noted within trench 34. The excavation of one 3403, confirmed their natural origin.

### **Trench 11 (Figs 2, 3 & 5)**

- 5.3 The location of trench 11 was altered on site to avoid newly planted saplings and a stacked bonfire. The trench revealed a pair of parallel ditches running approximately north – south. Ditches 1103 and 1105 could not be excavated due to the depth of overburden within this trench. The two ditches continued south into trench 12.

### **Trench 12 (Figs 2, 3 & 6)**

- 5.4 Trench 12 contained a gully and a ditch which both continued north into trench 11. 1203 was an undated V-shaped gully which measured 0.44m in width by 0.15m in depth and was filled with 1204, a grey brown clayey silt. Immediately east of the gully an undated ditch 1207 was recorded. This ditch, a broad U-shaped feature

measured 1.95m in width by 0.23m in depth was filled with 1208, a grey brown clayey silt. The eastern end of the trench consisted of a buried road surface, the former *Reading Way*. This road is shown on 17<sup>th</sup> century maps and may have been in use during the medieval period before being diverted further to the west in 1862. The evaluation trench came down onto the road surface but did not cut into it. The road 1214, consists of a series of compacted aggregates with chalk / limestone rubble evident as a foundation layer.

#### **Trench 16 (Fig 2)**

- 5.5 Trench 16 contained two unexcavated features, a gully and a ditch both of which extend into the eastern trenches. Ditch 1603 measured 1.1m in width and 1605, a gully measured 1m in width.

#### **Trench 18 (Figs 2 & 7)**

- 5.6 Trench 18 contained an undated oval shaped pit. 1803 measured at least 2.3m in length by 2.15m in width by 0.71m in depth. It contained a grey brown clayey silt fill with a wide diversity of molluscs being evident. Environmental sample <3> was taken from this deposit which confirmed that the pit may have been open within a primary deciduous woodland.

#### **Trench 21 (Fig 2 & 8)**

- 5.7 A single feature, ditch 2103 runs along trench 21. This ditch is a continuation of ditch 1603 seen in trench 16 and which continues east into trenches 27 and 35. The U-shaped ditch measured 1.7m in width by 0.59m in depth and was filled with a grey brown clayey silt. No finds were recovered but it did appear to be cut through the subsoil from the base of the ploughsoil suggesting a more recent, post-medieval date.

#### **Trench 27 (Figs 2 & 9)**

- 5.8 A ditch and a gully both cross the trench and are a continuation of the two features within trench 16. Ditch 2703 measured 1.5m in width and remained unexcavated, although this feature was excavated as 2103 in trench 21 (This ditch also possibly extends east into trench 35).
- 5.9 A V-shaped gully 2705, measuring 1.05m in width and filled with a grey brown clayey silt was excavated, but contained no dateable material. A sub-rectangular natural feature 2707, a possible former badger sett, was found at the northern end of

the trench. Environmental sample <2> taken from this feature indicated its location within a primary deciduous woodland was likely.

### ***Trench 32 (Figs 2 & 10)***

- 5.10 The geophysical survey indicated a large area of possible geological disturbance around trench 32. Excavation revealed at least four areas of disturbance within the trench. A single hand dug test pit (TP1) examined area 3205, a rapidly infilled hollow, and demonstrated the deposit (3206) consisted of a grey brown clayey silt with redeposited chalk inclusions. Nine sherds of medieval pottery dating from between the twelfth – fifteenth centuries, animal bone and an iron nail were recovered from the deposit which measured 0.37m in depth. Fragments of medieval pottery and animal bone were also recovered from the surface of the other features within trench 32. Environmental sample <3> was retained from the test pit and demonstrated the infilled hollow was located within a well-established open landscape and was unlikely to represent an infilled pond or similar wetland feature.

### ***Trench 35 (Figs 2 & 11)***

- 5.10 A single ditch was recorded crossing trench 35: 3503 measured 0.75m in width and 0.26m in depth and was filled with a grey brown clayey silt 3504, which contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery. This feature corresponds with a geophysical anomaly and appears to be on the same alignment as ditch 2703 within trench 27 and may be its continuation.

### ***Trench 36 (Figs 2 & 12)***

- 5.11 Three circular pits were recorded in trench 36. Two extended out of the trench with the third located centrally. This pit 3605, measured 2.3m in diameter by 0.31m in depth. The base of the pit contained a dump of post-medieval CBM and animal bone. The single fill consisted of a grey clayey silt with redeposited chalk inclusions.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1 Artefactual material from excavation was hand-recovered from 12 deposits (ditch, pit, infilled hollow, topsoil and subsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval 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. Recording also included a note of any evidence for

use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Medieval pottery fabric codes equate to the Oxford type series (Mellor 1994).

### **Pottery: Roman**

- 6.2 An unfeathered bodysherd (4g) in a grog-tempered, wheel-thrown fabric (GT) was retrieved from fill 3504 of ditch 3503. This pottery, in poor to moderate condition, is likely to date to the 1st or 2nd centuries AD.

### **Medieval**

- 6.3 Medieval pottery totals 14 sherds (139g) from five deposits. Most are in a moderately abraded condition and two sherds from fill 3206 of pond / hollow 3205 display external sooting.
- 6.4 Two unfeathered bodysherds of Kennet Valley ware (East Wiltshire ware) (OXAQ) were recovered from topsoil 200 and fill 3206 of possible pond 3205. This ware type was produced in the Savernake/Braydon Forest area and is commonly found in Oxfordshire, dating to the 12th to early 15th centuries (Mellor 1994, 100–6). Brill Boarstall ware (OXAW) was represented by two sherds, including a fragment of a jug or pitcher handle featuring stabbed decoration, from topsoil 3100. This type of pottery was manufactured at Brill and Boarstall in Buckinghamshire during the 13th and 14th centuries (*ibid.*, 111–40). A total of ten sherds of Oxford ware (OXY), produced at kilns in north Oxfordshire from the mid-11th to late 13th centuries (*ibid.*, 63–71), was recorded from three deposits. Included are a rimsherd from a vessel with a thickened, everted rim from topsoil 2900 and a glazed bodysherd.

### **Post-medieval**

- 6.5 The only pottery from this date range (10g) is a sherd of Glazed earthenware (GLEW), which dates to the mid 16th to 18th centuries, from topsoil 3300.

### **Lithics**

- 6.6 A total of three worked flints (64g) and three pieces of burnt, unworked flint (45g) was retrieved from two deposits and as unstratified finds. Single flint flakes were recovered from subsoil 2801 and unstratified. The unstratified flake is thick and has suffered moderate degrees of edge damage, rolling and recortication. The flake from subsoil 2801 is thin and in a sharp, unrecorticated condition. Neither can be dated more closely than to the prehistoric period. A small, multi-platform core was



recorded in subsoil 1701. It had been used for the manufacture of bladelets and flakes, which allows dating to the Mesolithic period, although it is clearly residual.

### ***Ceramic building material***

- 6.7 Pit 3605 (fill 3606) produced 13 fragments of ceramic building material (11.472kg) of post-medieval date. These comprise three fragments of flat roof tile, eight fragments of brick and two fragments of curved brick: the latter may have been used around cornices or window mouldings. The brick fragments included one measuring 4½ x 2” which is probably of 17th century date. The remainder most likely date to the 18th century: five have been overfired to a grey colour and all of these feature partially vitrified surfaces.

### ***Metal objects***

- 6.8 Two metal objects were recorded. From fill 3206 of pond 3205 was an iron nail of uncertain date. Topsoil 3100 produced a fragment from a copper alloy .303 (7mm) rifle/machine gun cartridge – a type which was in use from the late 19th to mid 20th centuries.

## **7. THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### ***Animal Bone***

- 7.1 Animal bones amounting to 51 fragments (194g) were recovered via a combination of hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from six features. The material was poorly preserved displaying heavy surface erosion and both historical and modern fragmentation, rendering 84% of the assemblage unidentifiable to species level. A single fragment (3g) was recovered in association with medieval artefacts, from deposit 3204 a fill of a possible pond feature 3203. Identified as vertebrae fragment of a cattle size mammal, clear and repeated cut marks were present that are indicative of kitchen waste and meal preparation.
- 7.2 The remaining 50 fragments (191g) in the assemblage were recovered from deposit 3206 in association with medieval pottery and deposits 1804, 2708, 3210 and 3608 which remain undated. As stated the bone was poorly preserved but it was possible to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*) pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*), horse (*Equus caballus*) and dog (*Canis familiaris*). No cut and/or chop marks relating to butchery

practices were observed and no other interpretative inference could be drawn beyond species identification.

### **Samples**

- 7.3 A series of three environmental samples (59 litres of soil) were taken from a range of features within three trenches to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains across the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic or industrial activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.4 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 3 in Appendix C, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded and these are tabulated in Table 4 in Appendix C. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.5 The flots varied in size with generally relatively low quantities of rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

### **Trench 18**

- 7.6 The fill 1804 (sample 3) within undated pit 1803 contained a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) haw and a small quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm.
- 7.7 The mollusc assemblage contained shells of a wide diversity of species. These included high numbers of those of the open country species *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Pomatias elegans*, *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Cepaea* spp., and the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Aegopinella nitidula*, *Aegopinella pura*, *Vitrea* spp. and *Acanthinula aculeata*.
- 7.8 The charred remains may be indicative of hedgerow/scrub remains. The mollusc assemblage appears to be indicative of a local landscape of a generally shady environment of possibly open woodland and grassland.

### **Trench 27**

- 7.9 No charred plant remains were recovered from fill 2708 (sample 1) within the undated possible former badger sett 2707. There were only a few charcoal fragments noted within this deposit.
- 7.10 The mollusc assemblage again contained shells of a wide diversity of species. These included high numbers of those of the open country species *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Pomatias elegans*, *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Punctum pygmaeum*, and the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Aegopinella nitidula*, *Aegopinella pura*, *Vitrea* spp. and *Acanthinula aculeata*. There were also a few shells of some rarer species, *Vertigo pusilla*, *Lauria cylindracea* and *Ena montana*.
- 7.11 The mollusc assemblage may be indicative of a generally shady localised landscape of open, possibly primary deciduous, woodland and grassland.

### **Trench 32**

- 7.12 A small amount of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains, weed seeds including those of oat (*Avena* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) and vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and charcoal fragments were recorded from fill 3206 (sample 2) part of the infilling of a possible pond / hollow 3205. This small quantity of remains may well be representative of wind-blown debris. Free-threshing wheat became the predominant wheat in Southern Britain from the Saxon period (Greig 1991) and this assemblage may be fairly recent.
- 7.13 There was a lower diversity of species within the mollusc assemblage from this deposit. The assemblage included high numbers of shells of those of the open country species *Pupilla muscorum*, *Helicella itala*, *Vertigo pygmaea*, *Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica* and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*.
- 7.14 This assemblage is indicative of a well-established open landscape. There is no evidence of a former pond within the assemblage composition.

### **Summary**

- 7.15 There is no evidence from the samples for any settlement activities taking place in the immediate vicinity of trenches 18 and 27. There is some indication from the environmental remains of a small amount of activity in the area of trench 32 but this could be relatively recent
- 7.16 The mollusc assemblages from trenches 18 and 27 appear to be indicative of a generally shady localised landscape of open woodland and grassland. The woodland may be primary deciduous woodland, which could point towards an early date for these features. The assemblage from trench 32, however, is indicative of a well-established open environment.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1 A total of ten individual ditches / gullies were identified within six separate evaluation trenches. Whilst mostly undated it is probable they form four separate boundaries. To the east of the site two ditches and two gullies extend across several trenches on a north-west / south-east orientation for at least 150m in length and are likely to represent post-medieval field boundaries (The ditch in trench 21 appears to be cut from immediately beneath the topsoil, cutting through the subsoil).
- 8.2 In the southwest of the site a pair of parallel ditches appear to follow the route of the 17<sup>th</sup> century road, the *Reading Way*. Whilst remaining undated, it is possible these features represent drainage for the former roadway. The *Reading Way* which may have medieval origins was revealed and recorded within trench 12 where it survives as a metalled surface with rubble foundations. The road was re-routed further to the west in 1862 to what is now known as the *Old Reading Road*, with the former stretch of the road becoming part of a private tree lined avenue running south from Newnham Manor. Today the route of the former road now survives only as an overgrown trackway / line of vegetation within the site.
- 8.3 The number of geophysical anomalies which corresponded with archaeological features was very low with only a single gully in trench 35 accurately matching. The geophysical survey did however identify a large area of 'probable geological' disturbance around trench 32. Upon excavation this trench was found to contain four large amorphous features which the excavators originally thought they may have represented either infilled ponds or quarrying hollows. Pottery and animal bone

found within the backfilled features suggest a medieval or post-medieval date for the infilling. The subsequent palaeoenvironmental evidence demonstrated no evidence for these features having been marshy or wet ground, so in probability they may represent rapidly backfilled quarry hollows.

- 8.4 There is no evidence from the environmental samples for any settlement activities taking place in the immediate vicinity of trenches 18 and 27. The mollusc assemblages from trenches 18 and 27 appear to be indicative of a generally shady localised landscape of open woodland and grassland. The woodland may be primary deciduous woodland, which could point towards an early date for these features. The molluscs from trench 32 however are indicative of a well-established open environment with a medieval or early post-medieval date.

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Stephanie Duensing, Jack Marten-Jones, Tim Sperring, Tim Street. The report was written by Joe Whelan. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Sarah Wyles respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Andrew Donald. The project was managed for CA by Damian De Rosa.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Cxt.	Type	Fill of	Description	Description	W (m)	Depth
1	1		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clayey sand which is friable. Modern debris 5-10%.	28.5	2.3
101	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown which is friable but firm, clayey silt. Rare natural flint <5% at 0.02-0.05m.	28.5	2.3
102	Layer		Natural	Light greyish yellow silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint inclusions 0.02-0.05m.	28.5	2.3
200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clayey sand which is friable. Modern debris 5-10%.	25.5	2.3
201	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown which is friable but firm, clayey silt. Rare natural flint <5% at 0.02-0.05m.	25.5	2.3
202	Layer		Natural	Light greyish yellow silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint inclusions 0.02-0.05m.	25.5	2.3
300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clayey sand which is friable. Modern debris 5-10%.	23	2.3
301	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown which is friable but firm, clayey silt. Rare natural flint <5% at 0.02-0.05m.	23	2.3
302	Layer		Natural	Light greyish yellow silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint inclusions 0.02-0.05m.	23	2.3
400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	26.2	2.3
401	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. No inclusions.	26.2	2.3
402	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint <5%.	26.2	2.3
500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	26.5	2.3
501	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <5% natural flint, 0.02-0.05m	26.5	2.3
502	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint 0.02-0.05m.	26.5	2.3
Tr6				Not Excavated		
700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish yellow brown clayey silt. Very rare flint inclusions.		2.3
701	Layer		Subsoil	Pale grey brown silty clay.		2.3
702	Layer		Natural	Clayey chalk, otherwise inclusion free.		2.3
800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Grass on top.	31	2.3
801	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Chalk flecking very common throughout.	31	2.3
802	Layer		Natural	Pale greyish white chalky clay which is very compact and firm.	31	2.3
900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Grass on top.	17.5	2.3
901	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Chalk flecking very common throughout.	17.5	2.3
902	Layer		Natural	Pale greyish white chalky clay which is very compact and firm.	17.5	2.3
1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural flint 0.02-0.05m.	7	2.3
1001	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural flint <5%, 0.02-0.05m and chalk flecking.	7	2.3
1002	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Very rare natural flint <0.05m.	7	2.3
1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Modern debris 5-10%. Rare amount of natural flint.	17	2.3
1101	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. <5% chalk flecking.	17	2.3
1102	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Patches of greyish brown, indicating rooting/animal disturbance.	17	2.3
1103	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch.	N/A	N/A
1104	Fill	1103	Single fill	Fill of ditch [1103].	N/A	N/A
1105	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch.	N/A	N/A
1106	Fill	1105	Single fill	Fill of ditch [1105].	N/A	N/A
1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural stone and modern rubble <5%.	30	2.3
1201	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	30	2.3
1202	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk with patches of root/animal disturbance.	30	2.3
1203	Cut		Gully	Linear, parallel sides. Moderate sides with moderate break of slope. Concave base. N-S alignment.	>2.3	0.44
1204	Fill	1203	Single fill	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. <5% chalk flecking.	>2.3	0.44
1205	Cut		Natural	Investigated and turned out to be animal disturbance, most likely a badger set.	N/A	N/A
1206	Fill	1205	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is loose and soft.	N/A	N/A
1207	Cut		Ditch	Linear, parallel sides. Moderate sides which are slightly concave with gradual breaks of slope. Concave base. N-S alignment.	>2.3	0.95
1208	Fill	1207	Single fill	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. <5% chalk flecking.	>2.3	0.95
1209	Deposit	1214	Road	Mid reddish brown sandy silt which is compact. 20% Sub-angular flint <0.04m.	>2.3	4.5
1210	Deposit	1214	Road	Light reddish brown sandy silt which is friable. 70% gravel.	>2.3	>1.25
1211	Deposit	1214	Road	Light greyish white chalk which is compact (road foundation).	>2.3	>0.16
1212	Deposit	1214	Road	Dark blackish brown sandy silt which is friable but firm. 75% Gravel and sub-angular flint <0.05m.	>2.3	>1.05
1213	Deposit	1214	Road	Mid reddish yellow silty sand which is friable. 90% gravel <0.03m.	>2.3	>1.63



Cxt.	Type	Fill of	Description	Description	W (m)	Depth
1214	Group		Road	Group number for road inc (1209), (1210), (1211), (1212) and (1213).	N/A	N/A
1215	Cut		Service	Cut for Plastic waterpipe.	>2.3	0.2
1216	Fill	1215	Single fill	Fill of field drain [1215].	>2.3	0.2
Tr 13				Not Excavated		
1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	29	2.3
1401	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. Chalk flecking throughout.	29	2.3
1402	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint <5%.	29	2.3
1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare inclusions of natural flint 0.02-0.05m.	29.5	2.3
1501	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable with chalk flecking <5%.	29.5	2.3
1502	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. No inclusions.	29.5	2.3
1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. <5% natural flint 0.02-0.05m	29.8	2.3
1601	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable with chalk flecking <5%.	29.8	2.3
1602	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. No inclusions.	29.8	2.3
1603	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch. Also seen in Tr 21 and Tr27 i.e. [2103] + [2703]. Unexcavated.	>2.3	1.1
1604	Fill	1603	Single fill	Fill of ditch [1603].	>2.3	1.1
1605	Cut		Ditch	Cut of gully. Also seen in Tr27 i.e. [2705].	>2.3	0.7
1606	Fill	1605	Single fill	Fill of gully [1605].	>2.3	0.7
1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Grass on top.	29.8	2.3
1701	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Chalk flecking very common throughout.	29.8	2.3
1702	Layer		Natural	Pale greyish white chalky clay which is very compact and firm.	29.8	2.3
1703	Cut		Modern	Cut of modern feature. Unexcavated.	>2.3	>2.4
1704	Fill	1703	Single fill	Fill of [1703]. Dark greyish brown clayey silt. Wood in fill.	>2.3	>2.4
1705	Cut		Modern	Cut of modern feature. Unexcavated.	>2.3	0.2
1706	Fill	1705	Single fill	Fill of [1705]. Light greyish brown clayey silt. Very common amount of stone.	>2.3	0.2
1707	Cut		Modern	Cut of modern feature. Unexcavated.	>2.3	>4.3
1708	Fill	1707	Single fill	Fill of [1707]. Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is compact. Wood in fill.	>2.3	>4.3
1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare sub-angular flint <0.03m.	29	2.3
1801	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Chalk flecking.	29	2.3
1802	Layer		Natural	Light greyish brown silty chalk which is compact. Rare natural flint <0.05m.	29	2.3
1803	Cut		Pit	Oval/sub-circular. Moderate sides with gentle breaks of slope. Sub-rounded base.	>2.3	2.15
1804	Fill	1803	Single fill	Mid-light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable but firm. 10-20% snail remains and chalk flecking. Very rare charcoal flecking.	>2.3	2.15
1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	29.5	2.3
1901	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Rare flint <0.05m.	29.5	2.3
1902	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Rare flint <0.05m.	29.5	2.3
2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2001	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Rare flint <0.05m.	30	2.3
2002	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. Rare flint <0.05m.	30	2.3
2003	Cut		T Throw	Oval. Concave and irregular sides. Concave and irregular base. N-S alignment.	2.2	0.73
2004	Fill	2003	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact. Chalk flecking.	2.2	0.73
2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Vegetation on top.	27.4	2.3
2101	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Chalk flecking very common throughout.	27.4	2.3
2102	Layer		Natural	Pale greyish white chalky clay which is very compact and firm.	27.4	2.3
2103	Cut		Ditch	Linear, parallel sides. Moderate and straight sides. Gradual breaks of slope. Flat base. NW-SE alignment.	>11.8	1.2
2104	Fill	2103	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable and soft. Moderate amount of chalk flecking. Very rare amount of charcoal flecking.	>11.8	1.2
2200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural flints 0.02-0.05m.	28	2.3
2201	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. 5% chalk flecking.	28	2.3
2202	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. No inclusions.	28	2.3
2203	Cut		Modern	Modern disturbance. Unexcavated.	>7	2.3
2204	Fill	2203	Single fill	Fill of [2203]. Visible modern ceramics, wood timbers, etc.	>7	>2.3
2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural flints 0.02-0.05m.	30	2.3
2301	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. 5% chalk flecking.	30	2.3
2302	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare natural flints 0.02-0.05m.	28	2.3
2401	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. 5% chalk flecking.	28	2.3
2402	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. No inclusions.	28	2.3
2500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3

Cxt.	Type	Fill of	Description	Description	W (m)	Depth
2501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2502	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2503	Cut		Modern	Modern posthole with remains of timber post. Unexcavated.	>0.9	0.7
2504	Fill	2503	Single fill	Fill of [2503].	>0.9	0.7
2505	Cut		Modern	Modern feature.	>0.54	0.25
2506	Fill	2505	Single fill	Fill of [2505].	>0.54	0.25
2600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2602	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2702	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2703	Cut		Ditch	Linear, parallel sides. NW-SE alignment. Seen in Tr16 and Tr21 i.e. [1603] + [2103]. Unexcavated.	>2.3	1
2704	Fill	2703	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable and soft.	>2.3	1
2705	Cut		Ditch	Linear, parallel sides. Rounded and concave sides. Rounded and concave base. NW-SE alignment.	>2.3	1.05
2706	Fill	2705	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable/loose. <1% chalk flecks <10mm.	>2.3	1.05
2707	Cut		Bio-turbation	Sub-rectangular with sub-rounded corners. Steep - vertical sides. Flat - concave base. NE-SW alignment.	1.52	0.52
2708	Fill	2707	Single fill	Light whitish brown chalky silt which is friable. No inclusions.	1.52	0.52
2800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2802	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
2900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
2902	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
3000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	29	2.3
3001	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Chalk flecking.	29	2.3
3002	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. <5% Rare natural flint <0.05m.	29	2.3
3100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. No inclusions.	30	2.3
3101	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Chalk flecking.	30	2.3
3102	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white silty chalk which is compact. <5% Rare natural flint <0.05m.	30	2.3
3200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is friable. Rare sub-angular flint <0.03m.	28.5	2.3
3201	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. Chalk flecking and rare angular flint 0.03-0.05m.	28.5	2.3
3202	Layer		Natural	Light brownish white with patches of mid greyish brown chalky clay which is compact. Rare flints <0.06m.	28.5	2.3
3203	Cut		Pond	Cut for possible pond.	>3	>2
3204	Fill	3203	Single fill	Fill of [3203].	>3	>2
3205	Cut		Pond	Irregular, sub-rectangular cut - possible pond.	>7.5	>2
3206	Fill	3205	Single fill	Fill of [3205].	>7.5	>2
3207	Cut		Pond	Cut for possible pond.	>5	>2
3208	Fill	3207	Single fill	Fill of [3207].	>5	>2
3209	Cut		Pond	Sub-rectangular cut - possible pond.	1	2
3210	Fill	3209	Single fill	Fill of [3209].	1	2
3300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3302	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
3400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Vegetation on top.	29.3	2.3
3401	Layer		Subsoil	Light greyish brown clayey silt which is compact and firm. Sparse amount of chalk flecking/rubble (<10mm).	29.3	2.3
3402	Layer		Natural	Pale greyish white chalky clay which is very compact and firm. Sparse amount of sub-angular flint (<30mm) throughout.	29.3	2.3
3403	Cut		Geology	Sub-oval, irregular in plan. Sub-rounded corners. Moderate sides which are irregular. Gradual breaks of slope. Flat base.	>2.5	1.02

Cxt.	Type	Fill of	Description	Description	W (m)	Depth
3404	Fill	3403	Single fill	Pale greyish brown clayey silt which is friable and soft. Rare amount of chalk flecking (<10mm) throughout.	>2.5	1.02
3500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3502	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
3503	Cut		Ditch	Linear, parallel sides. Moderate and concave sides. Rounded breaks of slope. Rounded and concave base. E-W alignment.	>2.9	0.75
3504	Fill	3503	Single fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable/loose. <1% flint/stones/chalk <30mm.	>2.9	0.75
3600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey clayey silt which is very dry and crumbly. 19th century ceramic shards.	30	2.3
3601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3
3602	Layer		Natural	Light greyish white chalky clay which is compact. Rare natural flint inclusions.	30	2.3
3603	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan. NE-SW alignment. Unexcavated.	>1.8	0.7
3604	Fill	3603	Single fill	Light brownish grey clayey silt with 30% greyish white chalk. Friable.	>1.8	0.7
3605	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan. Vertical and straight sides. Flat base. NW-SE alignment.	2.3	>2
3606	Fill	3606	Single fill	Light brownish grey clayey silt with 30% greyish white chalk. Friable. Flint and brick rubble throughout.	2.3	>2
3607	Cut		Pit	Circular in plan. NE-SW alignment. Unexcavated.	>1.8	>0.41
3608	Fill	3608	Single fill	Light brownish grey clayey silt with 30% greyish white chalk. Friable.	>1.8	>0.41
3700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt which is friable. <1% sub-angular flint/stone/chalk <30mm.	30	2.3
3702	Layer		Natural	Light whitish brown chalky clay which is compact. No inclusions.	30	2.3

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric	Count	Weight	Spot-date
0	Worked flint	Flake		1	34	-
200	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware (East Wiltshire ware)	OXAQ	1	7	C12-C15
1701	Worked flint	Core		1	25	-
2801	Worked flint	Flake		1	5	-
2900	Medieval pottery	Oxford ware	OXY	1	8	MC11-LC13
3100	Medieval pottery Copper alloy	Brill Boarstall ware Shell casing	OXAW 1	1 1	43 2	LC19-MC20
3204	Medieval pottery Medieval pottery	Brill Boarstall ware Oxford ware	OXAW OXY	1 1	21 6	C13-C14
3206	Medieval pottery  Medieval pottery Iron Burnt flint	Kennet Valley ware (East Wiltshire ware) Oxford ware Nail	OXAQ  OXY	1  8 1 3	<1  54 3 45	C12-C15  MC11-LC13
3300	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GLEW	1	10	MC16-C18
3504	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GT	1	4	C1-C2
3606	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Brick, flat roof tile		13	11472	C18

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

**Table 2:** Animal bone. Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	SUS	EQ	Canid	LM	MM	Ind	un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Medieval</b>											
3203	3204					1				1	3
<b>Modern/undated</b>											
1803	1804								4	4	1
2707	2708				3					3	20
3205	3206	1	1	2		2	1	18	9	34	113
3209	3210							8		8	3
3607	3608	1								1	54
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>51</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>194</b>	

Bos = cattle; SUS = pig; EQ = horse; Canid = dog; LM = cattle size mammal; Ind – indeterminate; Un-id SS = unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples

**Table 3:** Samples. Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
<b>Trench 18 Undated Pit</b>													
1803	1804	3	20	0	150	10	-	-	-	*	<i>Crataegus haw</i>	*/*	Moll-t (*****)
<b>Trench 27 Undated ?Possible old badger sett</b>													
2707	2708	1	19	20	100	20	-	-	-	-	-	*/*	Moll-t (*****)
<b>Trench 32 Modern ?Possible Pond</b>													
3205	3206	2	20	0	40	30	*	-	F-t wheat + barley grain frags	*	<i>Avena. Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	*/**	Moll-t (*****)

Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 5–19 items; \*\*\* = 20–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items, Moll-t = land snails

**Table 4:** Samples. Assessment table of the mollusc assemblages

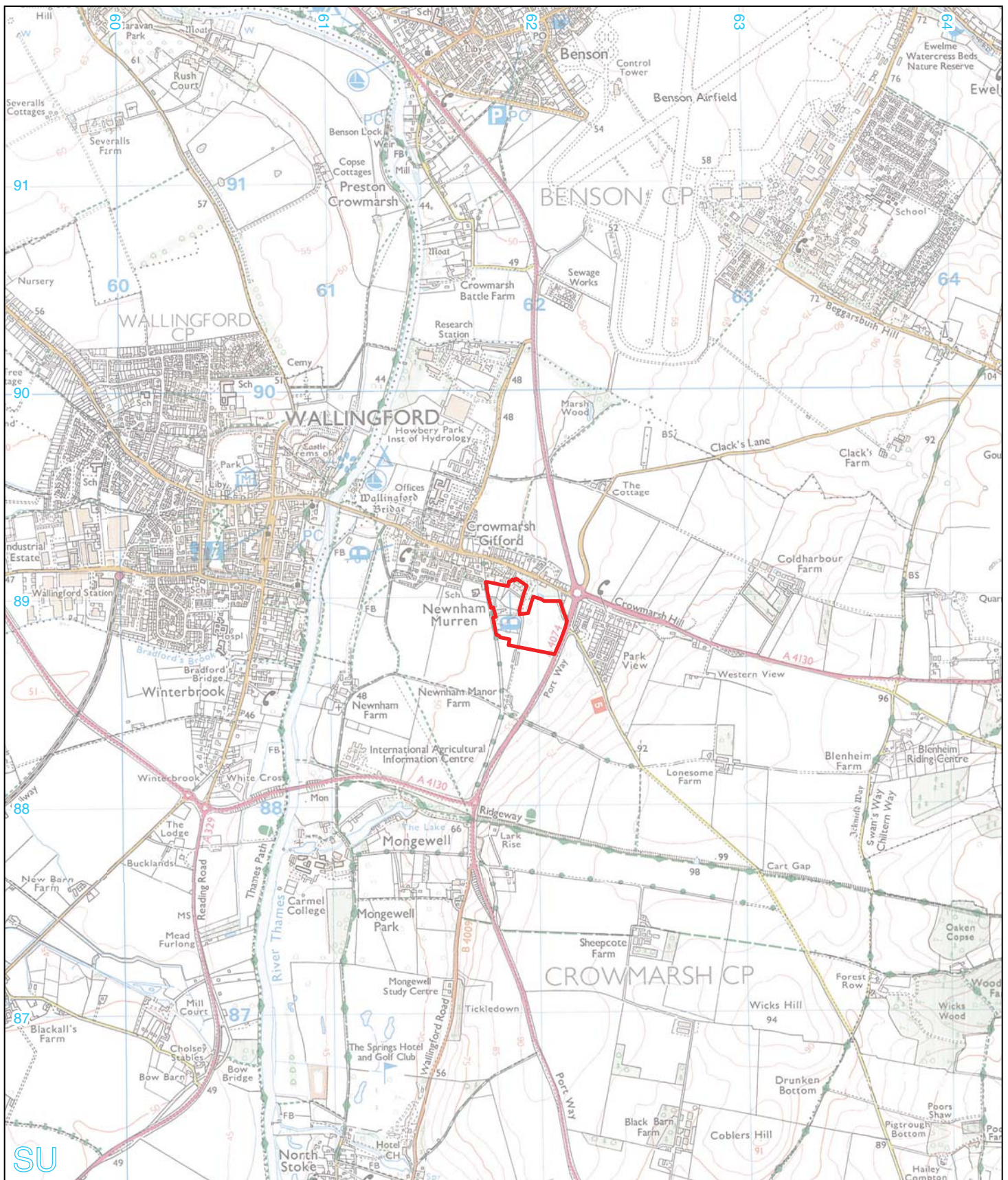
Trench	TR18	TR 27	TR 32
Phase	undated	undated	modern
Feature Type	Pit	?possible old bad ger sett	?Pond
Feature	1803	2707	3205
Context	1804	2708	3206
Sample	3	1	2
Vol (L)	20	19	20
<b>Open country species</b>			
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	A	A	A
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>	C	C	A
<i>Helicella itala</i>	B	-	A
<i>Vallonia costata</i>	A	A	A
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	A	A	A
<b>Intermediate species</b>			
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>	A	A	A
<i>Pomatias elegans</i>	A	A	C
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	A	A	C
<i>Cepaea</i> spp.	A	B	C
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	B	A	C
<i>Euconulus fulvus</i>	C	-	C
<b>Shade-loving species</b>			
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i>	A	A	B
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	A	A	C
<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i>	A	A	C
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i>	A	A	-
<i>Aegopinella pura</i>	A	A	-
<i>Clausilia bidentata</i>	C	B	-
<i>Cochlodina laminata</i>	C	C	-
<i>Acanthinula aculeata</i>	A	A	-
<i>Helicigona lapicida</i>	C	C	-
<i>Lauria cylindracea</i>	-	C	-
<i>Vertigo pusilla</i>	C	C	-
<i>Ena montana</i>	C	C	-
<i>Merdigera obscura</i>	-	C	-
<i>Vitrea</i> spp.	A	A	-
<b>Burrowing species</b>			
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	A	A	A
<b>Approx totals</b>	100+	100+	100+

Key: C = 1–4 items; B = 5–9 items; A = 10+ items

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford Oxon	
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2016. Thirty five trenches were excavated which revealed a 17 <sup>th</sup> century road <i>the Reading Way</i> with a pair of probable flanking drainage ditches, in addition to several former field boundary ditches of likely post-medieval date and several undated pits.	
Project dates	15 – 24 August 2016	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Geophysical survey	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford Oxon	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	7.8 Ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 461980 188840	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology none	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Damian De Rosa	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	none	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	none	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service	ceramics, animal bone fe
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Context sheets, registers
Digital	Oxfordshire Museum Service	digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford Oxon</i> . CA typescript report <b>16841</b>		





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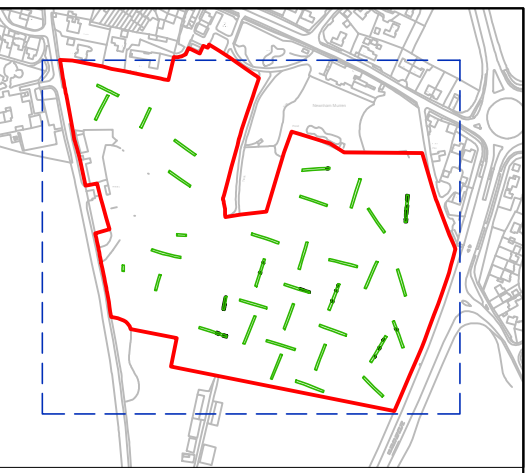
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

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<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>LM</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>30/08/2016</b>	
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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- evaluation trench unexcavated
- archaeological feature
- modern
- field drain
- geology



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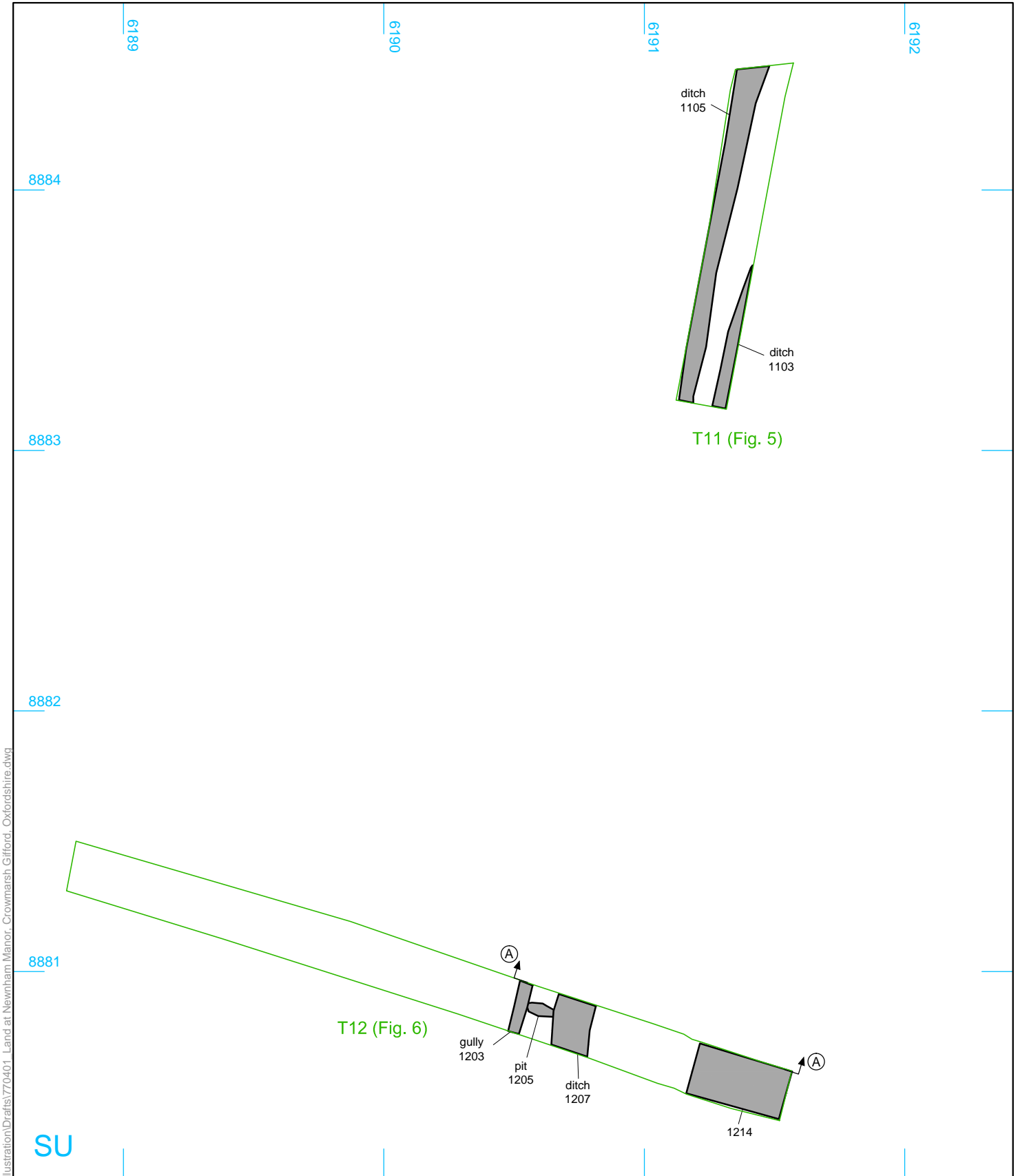
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
PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan**

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CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	30/08/2016	2
APPROVED BY	DDR	SCALE@A3	1:1250	

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-  evaluation trench
-  archaeological feature
-  section location



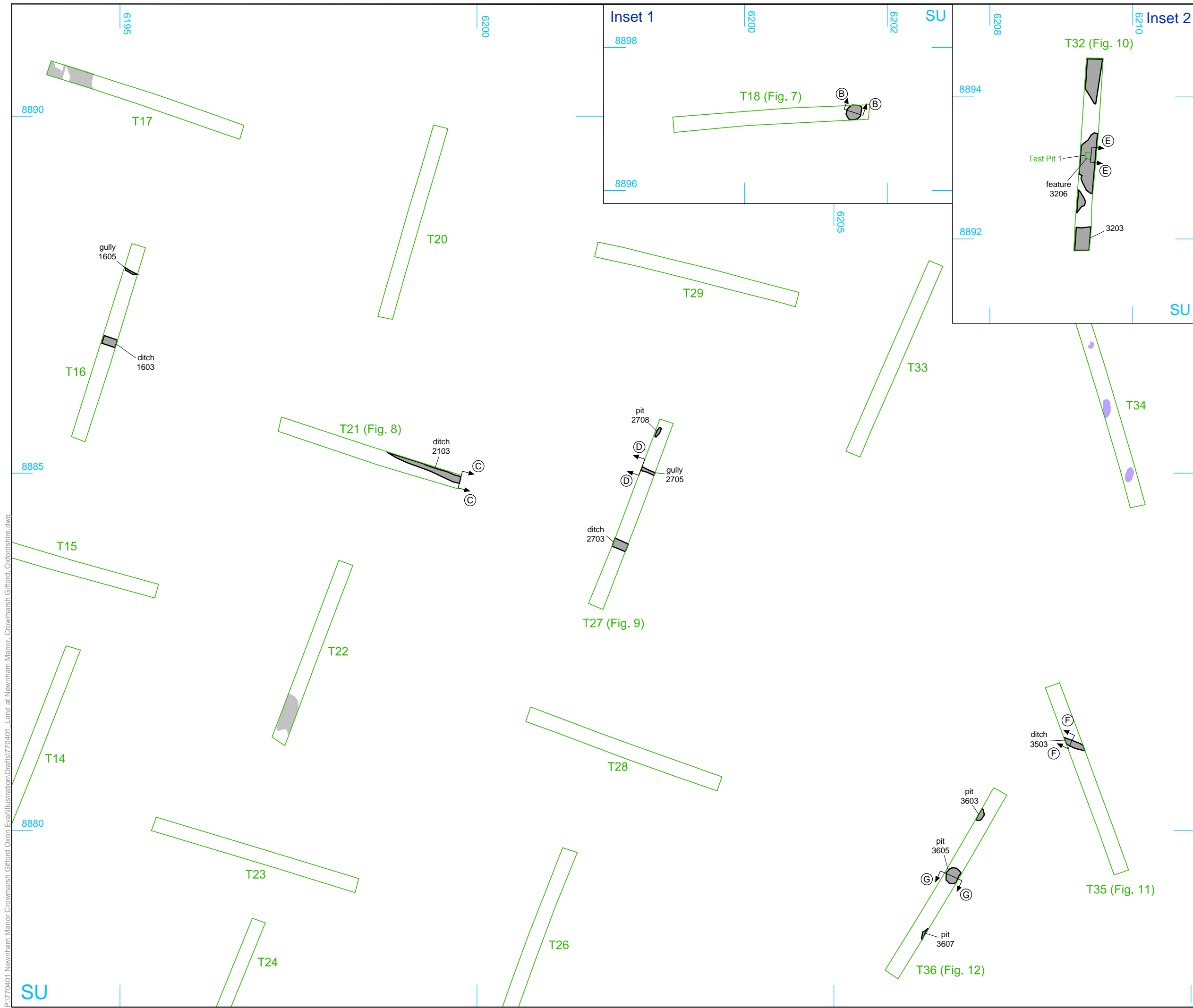
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trenches 11 and 12, plan**

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<b>CHECKED BY</b>	LM	<b>DATE</b>	30/08/2016	<b>3</b>
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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- field drain
- geology
- ⓐ ⓑ section location



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**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trenches 14-17, 20-24, 26-29 and 32-36, plan

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Ditches 1103 and 1105, looking south (1m scales)



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FIGURE TITLE

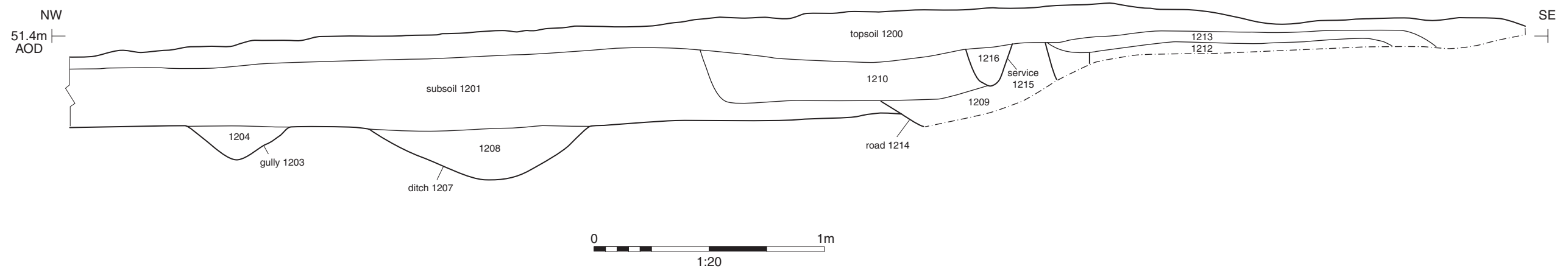
**Trench 11, photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**5**

Section AA



Trench 12, showing the former Reading road in foreground and gully 1203 and ditch 1207 to the west (2m scale)


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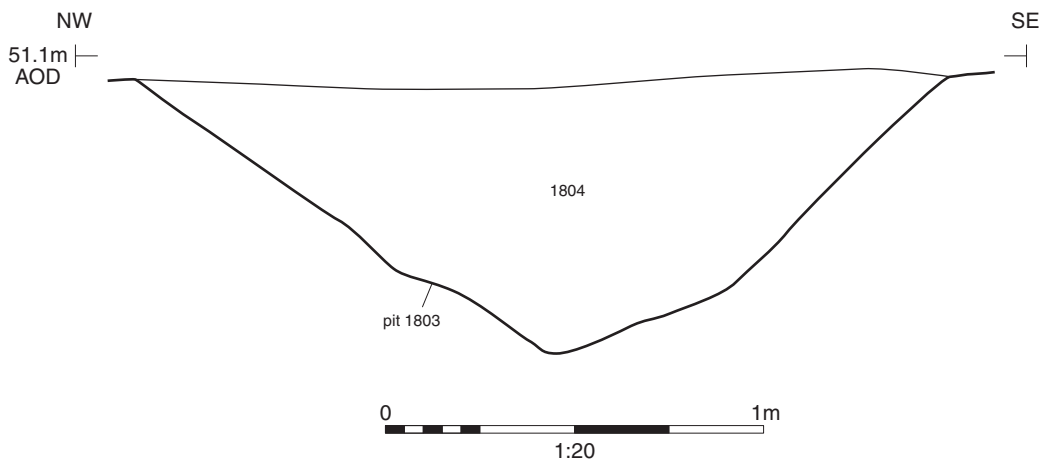
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 12, section and photograph**

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Section BB



Pit 1803, looking north-east (1m scale)



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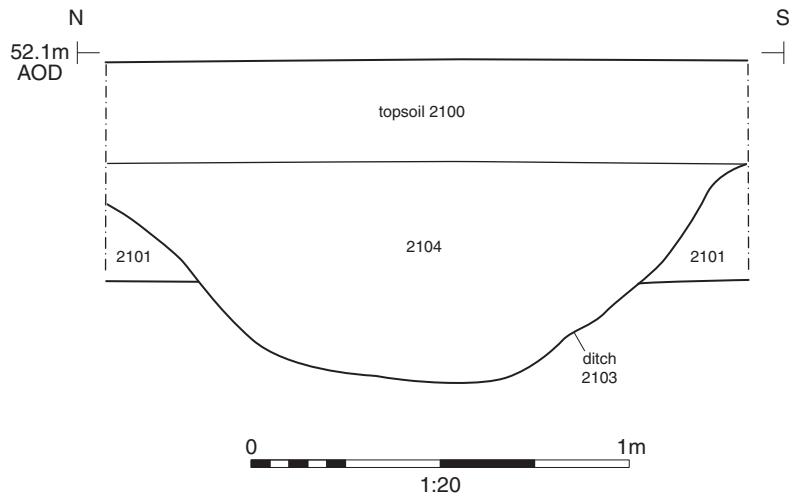
Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 18, section and photograph**

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Section CC



Ditch 2103, looking east (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 21, section and photograph

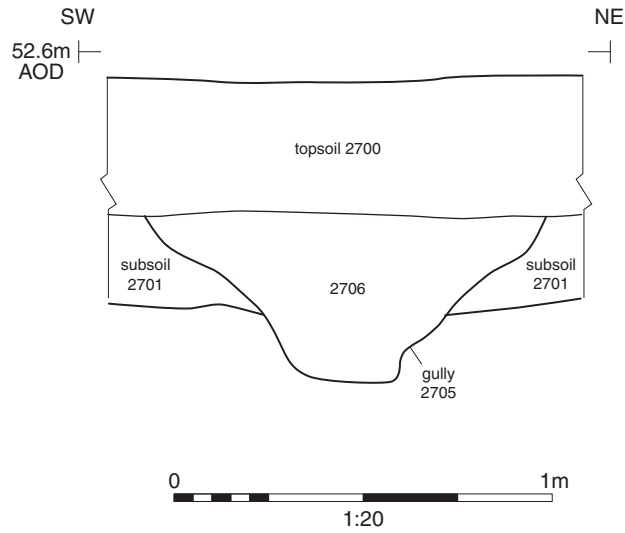
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FIGURE NO.

8



Section DD



Gully 2705, looking west (1m scale)



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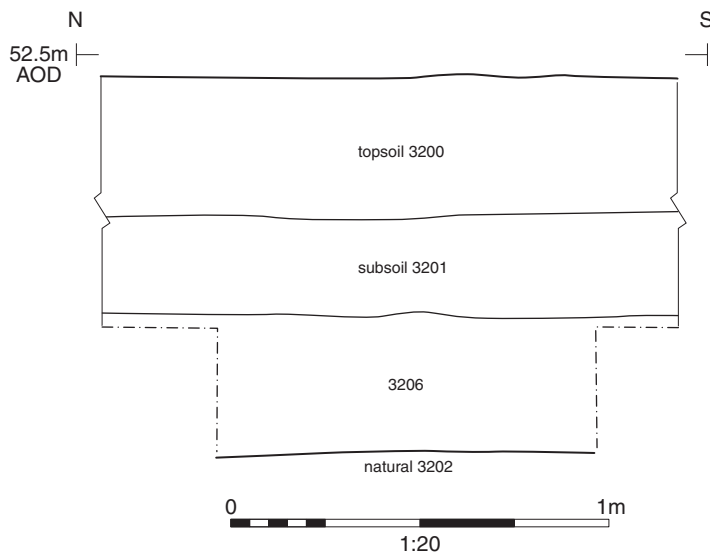
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 27, section and photograph**

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Section EE



Test Pit 1, showing feature 3205, looking east (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

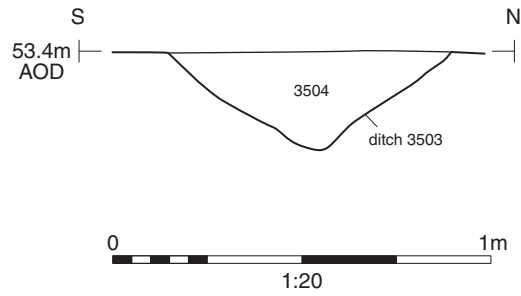
**Trench 32, section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**10**

Section FF



Ditch 3503, looking west (0.4m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 35, section and photograph**

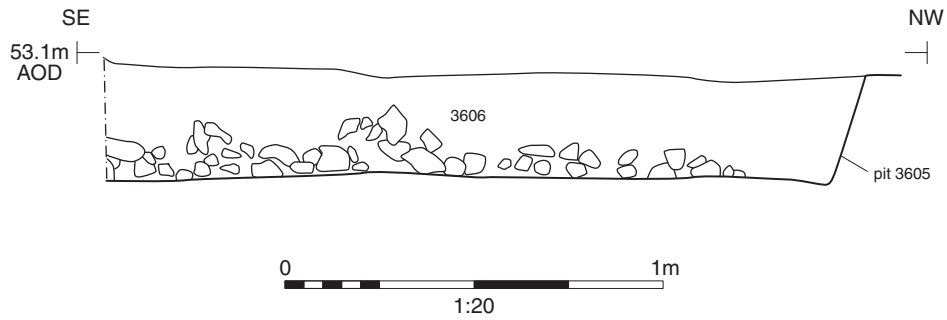
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FIGURE NO.

**11**



Section GG



Pit 3605, looking south (1m scale)



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Land at Newnham Manor, Crowmarsh  
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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 36, section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

12

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