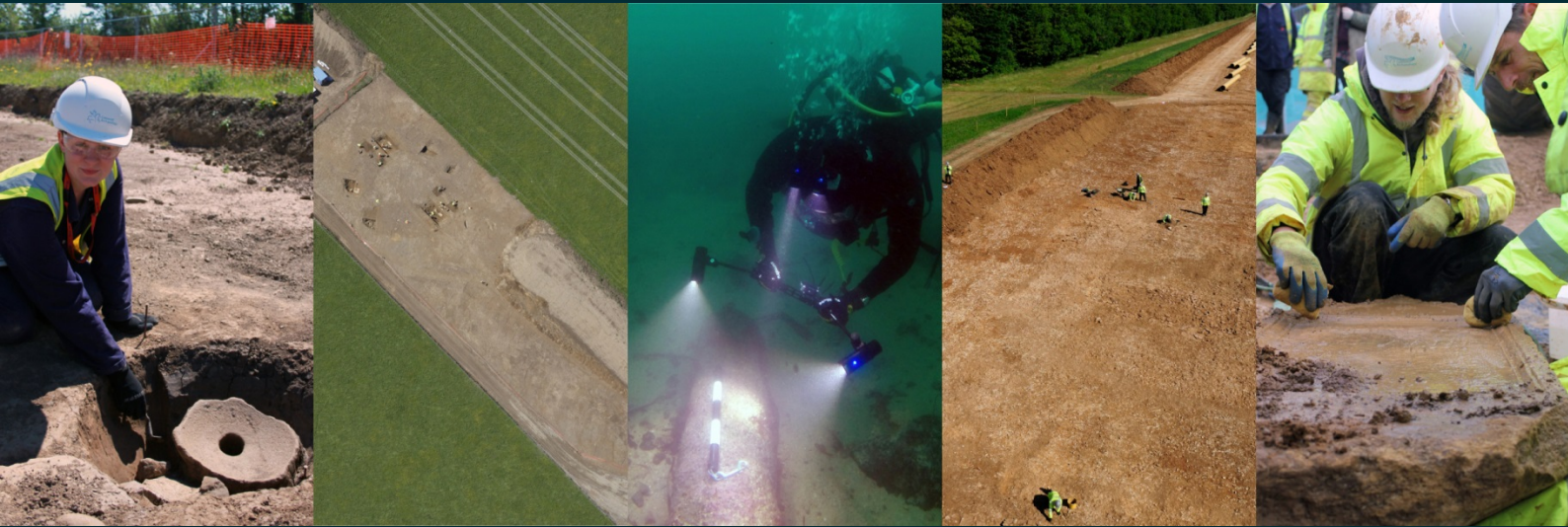


Land at Alford Close Sandhurst Berkshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
CgMs Consulting

on behalf of
Bloors Homes Ltd

CA Project: 770507
CA Report: 17122

February 2017



Land at Alford Close
Sandhurst
Berkshire

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	26.01.17	JCC	Richard Greatorex	Internal Draft	General Edit	Richard Greatorex

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Alford Close
Location:	Sandhurst, Berkshire
NGR:	SU 8320 6170
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	16-23 January 2017
Planning Reference:	16/00372/FUL
Location of Archive:	TBC
Accession Number:	TBC
Site Code:	ALF 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2017 at Alford Close, Sandhurst. Twenty seven trenches were excavated.

The evaluation did not find any evidence within the natural alluvium (Holocene) for any features pre-dating the medieval period. Furthermore, of human groups present before the deposition of the alluvium, the braid plain (Pleistocene), would have been an unattractive landscape for occupation, and the potential for evidence of activity would be low. Archaeology was sparse and consisted of a number of ditches following a mostly parallel or perpendicular alignment with extant boundary and drainage ditches and shallow pits with evidence for burning.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CgMs Consulting Ltd. on behalf of Bloors Homes Ltd. at Alford Close, Sandhurst, Berkshire (centred on NGR: SU 8320 6170; Figure 1). The evaluation was undertaken in support of planning application (Ref: 16/00372/FUL) made to Bracknell Forest Council for erection of 108 dwellings, creation of new access off High Street, Sandhurst, the construction of a community facility and provision of public open space with associated infrastructure following demolition of two existing dwellings.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Roland Smith. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). Fieldwork was monitored by Roland Smith on 18 January 2017.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 7.5ha, and comprises four fields laid to pasture. The site lies at approximately 59m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north to 56m aOD in the south.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as sands, silts and clays of Windlesham Formation of the Eocene. The drift geology is mapped as alluvial clays, silts, sands and gravels formed in the Flandrian interglacial (BGS 2017). This was further corroborated by what was revealed on site (see section 5.4)

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 No archaeological desk-based assessment was available at the time of writing of this document. The following, necessarily brief, archaeological background of the site is based on a rapid survey of the available information provided at the Heritage Gateway website (<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/>) within a 500m-radius of the site.

- 2.2 There are no known archaeological assets within the site. The only evidence for prehistoric activity within the search area is a Neolithic ground flint axe found in the front garden of a house in Sandhurst in c.1950, although the exact location is not known. In 2003 an archaeological evaluation undertaken at 69-83 High Street, c. 250m west of the site, recorded only a modern garden feature and an undated gully.
- 2.3 The first mention of Sandhurst as 'San(d)herst' is found in the Exchequer Rolls dated 1175, when the receipt of one mark for the 'Villata de Sandhurst' is recorded. In 1222 there is evidence of a chapel in Sandhurst on the present church of St. Michael and All Angels. This chapel was attached to the mother church of Sonning. In 1316, along with Wokingham the manor is said to be vested in the Bishop of Salisbury. In 1498 Chertsey Abbey held the manor. In 1537 Sandhurst manor was surrendered to the king, and in 1552 a survey of the manor revealed very few tenants who occupied smallholdings which were clustered around the village centre. In 1562, Elizabeth I handed the manor of Sandhurst to John Mason.
- 2.4 In August 2016 the site was subject to a magnetometer survey which identified no features of definite archaeological interest (Stratascan 2016). Three linear anomalies were identified as drains and/or services.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable the Bracknell Forest 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).
- 3.2 Once any features cut into the natural had been recorded, selected trenches with a potentially good alluvial sequence were investigated in order assess their date and nature of formation. This was undertaken in the base of the identified trenches using

a narrow machine bucket and subsequently recording monoliths and column samples where practical and safe to do so.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 27 trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan (Figure 2). All trenches were 30m long and 2m wide. **Trenches 11** and **15** were re-orientated to avoid modern dumps of asbestos and the south-eastern end of **Trench 23** was backfilled immediately due to asbestos being present in the topsoil. 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 palaeo-environmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and 11 were sampled and 1 processed (Sample 11). 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 Kemble. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGURES 2-8)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeo-environmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.

5.2 The trial trench evaluation was hampered by a high water table and considerable flooding of trenches. **Trenches 2, 12, 17, 19, 20-25 and 27** were flooded making visibility poor, trenches unstable and excavation problematic. This was not surprising given the location of the fishing lakes immediately to the south and south-west of the site. **Trenches 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16, 17, 21-23, 25 and 26** revealed no archaeology.

Geophysical Survey

5.3 The geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) did not correspond to any of the archaeological features revealed on site perhaps due to the high water retention of the land but also the sparsity and minimal size of archaeological features. Modern levelling of Field 1 with domestic debris will have distorted magnetic signatures too.

Geology

5.4 The geology was assessed by Nick Watson of Arca (*pers. comm*) and found to be Pleistocene channel fill of sand and flint gravel below 0.65m. Above this lay an average of 0.35m thick light blue/grey and orange/brown silt/sand alluvium which was in turn overlain by an average of 0.3m dark brown/grey silt/sand topsoil. Tonally varying brown silt/sand and sand/clay subsoil was found at an average thickness of 0.19m on the east and west sides of field 2 within **Trenches 5, 6, 8, 10, 15 and 18-22**. This subsoil was revealed stratigraphically below the topsoil and above the alluvium.

Trench 2 (Figure 2)

5.6 A single unexcavated ditch (**202**) measuring 1.85m wide was revealed with a north-south alignment and was respected by a ceramic field drain cut through its centre. It contained a secondary fill (**203**) of mid grey/brown clay/sand.

Trench 5 (Figures 2 & 3)

- 5.7 A single ditch (**504**) measuring 2.42m wide by 0.31m deep was recorded with a north-south alignment at the west end of the trench. It contained a single secondary fill (**503**) of mid grey sand/clay.

Trench 6 (Figures 2 & 4)

- 5.8 A single ditch (**602**) measuring 0.9m wide by 0.23m deep was recorded on a north-east/south-west alignment at the east end of the trench. It is potentially a continuation of ditches **1402**, **1106** and **1003**. Ditch **602** contained a single secondary fill (**603**) of mid grey sand/clay.

Trench 10 (Figures 2 & 5)

- 5.9 A single ditch (**1003**) measuring 0.98m wide by 0.43m deep was recorded aligned north-west/south-east at the west end of the trench. It is potentially a continuation of a ditch outlined above in section 5.8. Ditch **1003** contained a secondary fill (**1002**) of mid grey/brown sand/clay from which only a single sherd C11-C14 medieval pottery was recovered.

Trench 11 (Figure 2)

- 5.10 A single unexcavated ditch (**1106**) measuring 1m wide was revealed with a north-west/south-east alignment within the northern half of the trench. It is potentially a continuation of a ditch outlined above in section 5.8. Ditch **1106** contained a single secondary fill (**1107**) of mid black/brown clay/sand.

Trench 12 (Figure 2)

- 5.11 A single unexcavated sub circular feature (**1203**) measuring 1.3m long by 0.8m wide was identified within the centre of the trench. It contained a single fill (**1204**) of mid grey/brown clay/sand.

Trench 14 (Figures 2 & 6)

- 5.12 A single unexcavated ditch (**1402**) measuring 0.87m wide was revealed with a north-west/south-east alignment at the west end of the trench. It is potentially a

continuation of a ditch outlined above in section 5.8. Ditch **1402** contained a single secondary fill (**1403**) of dark grey/brown clay/sand. **Trench 14** also contained a shallow sub-circular pit, **1408**, partly obscured by the baulk section. This measured 1.11m wide by 0.19m deep and was >0.4m long. It contained three fills associated with burnt debris; a mid-grey and yellow silt/clay (**1409**), a charcoal-rich clay/silt (**1410**) and a mid-brown clay/silt (**1411**).

Trench 15 (Figures 2 & 7)

- 5.13 A single circular shallow pit (**1503**) measuring 0.5m wide, 1.6m long and 0.1m deep was revealed partly obscured by the baulk. It contained a single fill (**1504**) of mid blue/black sand/clay with frequent charcoal flecks.

Trench 18 (Figures 2 & 8)

- 5.14 An irregular sub-oval shallow pit (**1803**) measuring 0.5m wide, 0.6m long and 0.16m deep was revealed at the east end of the trench. It contained two fills associated with burnt debris; a mid-brown/yellow clay/sand (**1804**) and a dark-black/brown charcoal-rich clay/sand (**1805**). A potential sub-round posthole was found (**1806**) measuring 0.28m wide by 0.24m long, however poor lighting made it hard to discern a base to the feature so it may be similar to other geological deposits elsewhere on site derived from a high water table associated with percolating waters and sediment through the alluvium. Posthole **1806** was filled by mid-brown/grey clay/sand with a yellow mottling (**1807**).

Trench 19 (Figure 2)

- 5.15 Two potential unexcavated circular pits were revealed in close proximity in the northern half of the trench (**1903** and **1905**). Pit **1903** measured 0.52m wide by 0.58m long and filled by a dark-brown/black charcoal-rich sand/clay (**1904**). Pit **1905** measured 0.44m wide by 0.49m long and was filled with a similar fill (**1906**) to fill **1904**. These pits may actually be one feature but excavation was not possible due to flooding.

Trench 20 (Figure 2)

- 5.16 Several features were identified before the trench was flooded, but none could be excavated as a result: A potential pit or ditch terminus (**2003**) measuring 0.96m long

by 0.5m wide containing mid greyish-brown sandy-clay (**2004**); a potential pit or ditch terminus (**2005**) measuring 1.36m long by 0.5m wide containing a similar fill to **2004** (**2006**); an east-west aligned ditch (**2007**) measuring 1.8m wide containing a mid to light- greyish-brown sandy-clay with occasional charcoal flecks (**2008**); a potential ditch (**2011**) with a ninety-degree-return to a terminus, measuring 0.5m wide by 4.5m long and containing a similar fill to **2004** (**2012**); a potential pit (**2013**) measuring 0.49m wide by 0.98m long containing a similar fill to **2004** (**2014**); a potential pit (2015) measuring 0.44m wide by 0.5m long containing a similar fill to 2004 (2016).

Trench 24 (Figure 2)

- 5.17 A single unexcavated ditch (**2405**) orientated north-east/south-west was revealed measuring 0.7m wide and was filled with a mid-brownish-grey silty sand (**2406**).

Trench 27 (Figure 2)

- 5.17 An unexcavated ditch (**2702**) orientated north/south was revealed measuring 0.91m wide and was filled with a dark, greyish-brown silty-sand (**2703**). Ditch **2702** cut a sub circular pit (**2704**) measuring 0.35m wide by 0.59m. The pit contained a fill of dark brown/grey silt/sand with frequent charcoal flecks.

6. THE FINDS

Pottery

- 6.1 A total of 1 sherd (9g) was recorded from Ditch **1003** in secondary fill **1002**. The sherd was moderately abraded Newbury 'C' ware dating from C11-C14.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Palaeoenvironmental Evidence

- 7.1 A single sample (seven litres of soil) was taken from a charcoal rich pit fill within **Trench 15** to evaluate the preservation of palaeo-environmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. It was also hoped that the environmental evidence might provide an indication of the date of the pit fill. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

Trench 15

- 7.2 Fill **1504** (sample 11) within undated pit **1503** contained large quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm. The well preserved charcoal assemblage included mature and round wood fragments and showed no evidence of vitrification. No plant remains other than a few bud fragments were recorded within this sample. The assemblage is likely to be representative of dumped material.
- 7.3 The environmental remains provide no indication of the date of this deposit and no clear evidence for any specific activity taking place on site such as crop processing, metalworking or charcoal production.

Geoarchaeological Evidence

- 7.4 A 2m square trial pit was dug for ARCA at the southern end of **Trench 26** and recorded 4 geological units going down 2m below ground level (BGL). Unit 1 corresponded with the Topsoil (**2600**); Unit 2 the alluvium (**2601**) and Unit 3 the natural gravel (**2602**). Unit 4 was beyond the scope of the archaeology and thus had no corresponding trench specific context (ARCA 2017).
- 7.5 The Holocene fine grained alluvium (Unit 2) was recorded to a depth of 0.65m BGL (the topsoil had developed within it) and it is underlain by channel deposits of sand and flint gravel that were laid down in the late Pleistocene. Archaeological features could be expected to be cut into or be buried by Unit 2, and cut into Unit 3. Although human groups were present at the time of the deposition of the channel gravels the braid plain would have been an unattractive landscape for occupation and the potential for evidence of activity is low. This being said, human occupation in the Mesolithic period after the deposition of the sands and gravels – Units 3 and 4 – has been found 3km west at Eversley Quarry. Surface scatters of flints and cores have been dated from 9800-9400 to 6690-6500 BC and were associated with peat alongside an old river channel (Sarah Wyles pers. comm. 2017).

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation did not find any evidence within the natural alluvium (Holocene) for any features pre-dating the medieval period. Furthermore, of human groups present before the deposition of the alluvium, the braid plain (Pleistocene), would have been an unattractive landscape for occupation, and the potential for evidence of activity would be low. Archaeology was sparse and consisted of a number of ditches following a mostly parallel or perpendicular alignment with extant boundary and drainage ditches (**202, 504, 602, 1003, 1106, 1402, 2007, 2405 and 2702**) and shallow pits with evidence for burning (**1408, 1503, 1803, 1903, 1905 and 2704**).
- 8.2 None of the archaeological features revealed on site corresponded with the prior geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) and cannot be found on 19th or 20th century mapping.
- 8.3 Ditches **602, 1003, 1106 and 1402** are probably part of the same curvilinear boundary ditch on the west side of Field 2 and it is from this ditch (fill **1002**) that the only sherd of pottery from the site was recovered, tentatively dating the ditch to the medieval period.
- 8.4 Pit **1503** was cut below the subsoil and pit **1408** was cut by a ceramic land drain so it is possible that these pits with quantities of charcoal are of a similar late medieval/post medieval date. Palaeo-environmental evidence from fill **1504** was unable to provide any indication of a date either.
- 8.5 Despite a number of features being unexcavated due to flooding, it is probable that a number of these upon excavation would turn out to be geologically derived as the evidence suggested in **Trenches 11, 13 and 14** where potential features were tested. The high water table meant darker silty clays were percolating up through the lighter alluvium, further evidenced when 1.5m deep test pits were dug in **Trench 26**.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jeremy Clutterbuck, assisted by Francesco Catanzaro, Alice Jones and Adam Howard. The report was written by Jeremy Clutterbuck and Emily Stynes. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Sarah F. Wyles respectively. The illustrations

were prepared by Lesley Davidson and Tilia Cammegh. The archive has been compiled by Andy Donald, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

10. REFERENCES

ARCA 2017 *Land at Alford Close, Sandhurst, Berkshire: A Geoarchaeological Trial Pit*. Report: 1617_15

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark black brown silty loam, friable with rare flint inclusions		1.85	0.28
1	101	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Mid brown orange sandy clay compact with grey brown mottling and occasional flint inclusions		1.85	>0.12
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam with orange mottling and rare sub rounded flint inclusions	28.7	1.85	0.3
2	201	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Mid brown orange sandy clay compact with grey brown mottling and occasional flint inclusions	28.7	1.85	>0.3
2	202	Cut		Linear	Cut of linear ditch	>1.85	3	
2	203	Fill	202		Mid grey brown clay sand, soft	>1.85	3	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam friable with rare flint inclusions	29.5	1.85	0.32
3	301	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Mid brown yellow sandy clay compact with grey brown mottling and occasional flint inclusions	29.5	1.85	>0.11
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam friable with rare flint inclusions	30	1.85	0.33
4	401	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay with orange grey mottling, compact with common flint inclusions	30	1.85	>0.13
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey sandy clay firm with occasional flint inclusions	30.2	1.85	0.34
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow brown sandy clay firm with occasional flint inclusions	30.2	1.85	0.12
5	502	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay firm	30.2	1.85	>0.16
5	503	Fill	504		Mid grey sandy clay firm	>2	2.42	0.31
5	504	Cut		Furrow	Linear with gradual sloping sides to a shallow base	>2	2.42	0.31
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown clay sand friable. Turf layer	30	1.8	0.2
6	601	Layer		Natural	Mid orange brown silty sand friable	30	1.8	>0.1
6	602	Cut		Linear	Linear cut with regular gradual sloping sides to a regular flat base on a N-S alignment	>1.8	0.9	0.23
6	603	Fill	602	Secondary fill	Mid grey sandy clay compact with rare sub squared stones	>1.8	0.9	0.23
6	604	Layer		Subsoil	Light brownish yellow clayey sand	30	1.8	0.2
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid black grey sandy clay firm	29.3	1.85	0.33
7	701	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay firm with occasional sub rounded flint inclusions	29.3	1.85	>0.22
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam friable with rare flint inclusions	30	1.85	0.15
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown grey silty sand loam, soft with rare sub angular flint inclusions and rare charcoal flecks	30	1.85	0.14
8	802	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Mid brown orange sandy clay compact with rare flint inclusions	30	1.85	>0.17
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey sandy clay firm	29.8	1.85	0.34
9	901	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay firm with occasional flint gravel	29.8	1.85	>0.11
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey sandy clay firm with occasional gravel flint inclusions	26.1	1.85	0.2
10	1001	Layer		Natural	Mid grey yellow clay firm	26.1	1.85	>0.15

10	1002	Fill	1003		Mid grey brown sandy clay soft with occasional sub angular flint inclusions	0.85	0.98	0.43
10	1003	Cut		Linear	Linear with gradual sloping sides to a shallow concave base on NW-SE alignment	0.85	0.98	0.43
10	1004	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow grey with blue mottling firm	26.1	1.85	0.2
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sandy loam friable with very rare sub angular flint inclusions	30.8	1.85	0.32
11	1101	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Light brown yellow clay sand soft with orange mottling and rare flint inclusions	30.8	1.85	>0.24
11	1102	Cut		Geology	Sub circular	0.68	0.4	
11	1103	Fill	1102		Mid grey brown clay sand soft	0.68	0.4	
11	1104	Cut		Geology	Sub rounded truncated by trench	0.98	0.8	
11	1105	Fill	1104		Light grey brown clay sand soft with very rare charcoal flecks	0.98	0.8	
11	1106	Cut		Ditch	Linear	1	3.5	
11	1107	Fill	1106		Mid black brown clay sand soft with very rare flint inclusions	1	3.5	
11	1108	Cut		Geology	Sub oval	0.25	0.3	
11	1109	Fill	1108		Mid grey brown - underwater	0.25	0.3	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam friable with rare sub angular flint inclusions	28.2	1.85	0.18
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay silt loam soft with rare flint inclusions and rooting	28.2	1.85	0.18
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Light brown yellow sandy clay with orange mottling, soft	28.2	1.85	>0.17
12	1203	Cut		Pit		1.3	0.8	
12	1204	Fill	1203			1.3	0.8	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown grey sandy clay soft	29.9	1.85	0.39
13	1301	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay soft with dark grey patches	29.9	1.85	>0.09
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sandy loam friable with very rare flint inclusions	30	1.85	0.29
14	1401	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Light brown orange yellow clay sand with mid orange mottling and very rare flint inclusions	30	1.85	>0.18
14	1402	Cut		Linear		0.87	2.8	
14	1403	Fill	1402		Mid grey brown clay sand soft with rare flint inclusions and rare charcoal flecks	0.87	2.8	
14	1404	Cut		Pit	Sub oval	0.42	1.73	
14	1405	Fill	1404		Mid grey brown clay sand soft with rare flint inclusions	0.42	1.73	
14	1406	Cut		Linear	Linear with sub rounded end	3.1	0.45	
14	1407	Fill	1406		Mid grey brown with patches of light brown yellow. Sandy clay soft with very rare sub angular flint inclusions	3.1	0.45	
14	1408	Cut		Pit	Sub oval with rounded corners and shallow sides to a flat base	>0.48	>1.11	0.19
14	1409	Fill	1408	Dumped Fill	Mid grey yellow silty clay firm with occasional charcoal flecks	>0.48	>1.11	0.08
14	1410	Fill	1408	Dumped Fill	Black charcoal rich clay silt soft	>0.48	>1.11	0.09
14	1411	Fill	1408	Dumped Fill	Mid brown clay silt soft with occasional charcoal	>0.48	>1.11	0.06
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay firm	29.7	1.85	0.31
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown sandy clay firm	29.7	1.85	0.1
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid brown yellow sandy clay firm	29.7	1.85	>0.08
15	1503	Cut		Pit	Circular with very shallow sides to a shallow irregular concave base	1.6	0.5	0.1

15	1504	Fill	1503	Dumped fill	Mid blue black sandy clay firm with frequent charcoal flecks	1.6	0.5	0.1
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sand friable with rooting and very rare flint inclusions	29.9	1.85	0.2
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay silty loam soft with rare sub angular flint inclusions	29.9	1.85	0.2
16	1602	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Light brown yellow sandy clay compact with very rare flint inclusions	29.9	1.85	>0.24
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional subangular flint inclusions	30	2	0.34
17	1701	Layer		Natural	Light yellow brown sandy clay with rare flint inclusions	30	2	>0.1
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sandy clay friable	28.8	1.85	0.24
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand soft with rare charcoal flecks and sub angular flint inclusions	28.8	1.85	0.19
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Alluvium. Mid grey brown yellow clay sand soft with rare sub angular flint inclusions	28.8	1.85	>0.1
18	1803	Cut		Pit	Irregular sub oval with rounded concave symmetrical sides and a rounded concave base	0.6	0.5	0.16
18	1804	Fill	1803	Dumped fill	Mid brown yellow with dark black brown patches, clay sand, soft with rare charcoal and rare sub angular flint inclusions	0.6	0.5	0.12
18	1805	Fill	1803	Dumped fill	Dark black brown clay sand soft with common charcoal flecks and sub angular flint inclusions	0.6	0.5	0.08
18	1806	Cut		Post hole/Geology	Sub rounded with sharp vertical straight sides	0.28	0.24	>0.44
18	1807	Fill	1806		Mid brown grey with orange mottling, clay sand soft with rare charcoal flecks	0.28	0.24	>0.44
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy clay	30	2	0.09
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay	30	2	0.24
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	30	2	>0.16
19	1903	Cut		Pit	Sub round feature	0.52	0.58	unexcavated
19	1904	Fill	1903	Dumped fill	Dark brownish-black charcoal-rich sandy clay	0.52	0.58	unexcavated
19	1905	Cut		Pit	Sub round feature	0.44	0.49	unexcavated
19	1906	Fill	1905	Dumped Fill	Dark brownish-black charcoal-rich sandy clay	0.44	0.49	unexcavated
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy clay	30	1.8	0.15
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay	30	1.8	0.26
20	2002	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	30	1.8	>0.14
20	2003	Cut		Pit/Ditch terminus?	Sub oval feature	0.96	0.5	unexcavated
20	2004	Fill	2003	Secondary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand	0.96	0.5	unexcavated
20	2005	Cut		Pit/Ditch terminus?	Irregular linear feature	1.36	0.5	unexcavated
20	2006	Fill	2005	Secondary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand	1.36	0.5	unexcavated
20	2007	Cut		Ditch	Linear ditch orientated east-west	1.8	1.08	unexcavated
20	2008	Fill	2007	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty sand with rare charcoal flecks	1.8	1.08	unexcavated
20	2009	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
20	2010	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID

20	2011	Cut		Ditch?	Possible ditch orientated north-west/south-east terminating with a roughly ninety degree return to the south-west at the north end	4.6	0.5	unexcavated
20	2012	Fill	2011	Secondary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand	4.6	0.5	unexcavated
20	2013	Cut		Pit?	Irregular shape in plan	0.98	0.49	unexcavated
20	2014	Fill	2013	Secondary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand	0.98	0.49	unexcavated
20	2015	Cut		Pit/Ditch terminus	Sub circular feature	0.5	0.44	unexcavated
20	2016	Fill	2015	Secondary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand	0.5	0.44	unexcavated
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy clay with common building waste inclusions	30	2	0.19
21	2101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional sub rounded flint and sandstone inclusions	30	2	0.16
21	2102	Layer		Natural	Light yellow brown sandy clay	30	2	>0.3
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy clay with occasional sub rounded flint inclusions	30	2	0.05
22	2201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay with occasional sub rounded flint inclusions	30	2	0.33
22	2202			Natural	Light yellow brown sandy clay	30	2	>0.13
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown grey silty sand with occasional subangular and rounded flint	20	1.85	0.2
23	2301	Layer		Made ground	Mid grey brown silty sand with common modern CBM, concrete and plastic	20	1.85	0.3
23	2302	Layer		Redeposited natural alluvium	Light grey and yellowish orange silty sand	20	1.85	0.25
23	2303	Layer		Buried soil	Dark grey and black silty sand with dead grass and contaminated with hydrocarbon substance such as diesel oil. Occasional chunks of modern wood	20	1.85	0.28
23	2304	Layer		Natural	Light orange brown and light grey silt sand and clay sand. Some leaching of hydrocarbon evident	20	1.85	0.2
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional sub rounded ≤40mm flint	30	1.85	0.25
24	2401	Layer		Made Ground	Mid grey and dark brownish grey silty sand and ≤60mm flint gravel	30	1.85	0.2
24	2402	Layer		Redeposited natural alluvium	Light grey and yellowish orange silty sand	30	1.85	0.25
24	2403	Layer		Buried soil	Dark brownish grey and black silty sand with hydrocarbon contamination	30	1.85	0.2
24	2404	Layer		Natural Alluvium	Light orangey brown and grey silty sand	30	1.85	>0.1
24	2405	Cut		Ditch	Linear feature with north-east/south-west orientation	>2	0.7	unexcavated
24	2406	Fill	2405	Secondary Fill	Mid brownish grey silty sand	>2	0.7	unexcavated
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional sub rounded ≤40mm flint	30	1.85	0.25
25	2501	Layer		Redeposited natural	Light grey and yellowish orange silty sand	30	1.85	0.25
25	2502	Layer		Buried soil	Dark brownish grey and black silty sand with hydrocarbon contamination	30	1.85	0.2

25	2503	Layer		Natural	Light orangey brown and grey silty sand with patches of gravel	30	1.85	>0.3
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown grey silt sand with iron mottling and occasional sub angular flint	31.5	3	0.38
26	2601	Layer		Alluvium	Light brown grey and orange brown silty sand	31.5	3	0.34
26	2602	Layer		Natural	Natural sandy gravel. Mid grey and mid red brown coarse sand with 50% sub angular flint	31.5	3	>0.01
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty sand	30.8	1.85	0.26
27	2701	Layer		Natural	Mid brownish orange clayey sand	30.8	1.85	>0.07
27	2702	Cut		Ditch	North-south orientated ditch at west end of the trench	>2	0.91	unexcavated
27	2703	Fill	2702	Secondary Fill	Mid greyish brown clayey sand	>2	0.91	unexcavated
27	2704	Cut		Pit	Sub circular pit feature cut by 2702	0.59	0.35	unexcavated
27	2705	Fill	2704	Dumped Fill	Dark brownish grey clayey sand with moderate charcoal flecks	0.59	0.35	unexcavated

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric code	Count	Weight	Spot-date	Condition
1002	Medieval pottery	Newbury 'C' ware		1	9	C11-C14	Moderately abraded

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 15 Undated pit											
1503	1504	11	7	150	10	-	-	*	Buds	****/****	-

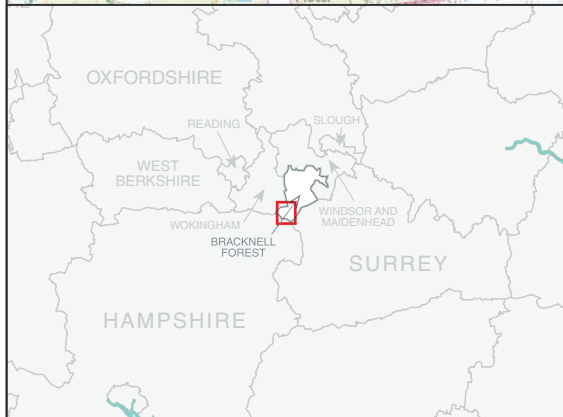
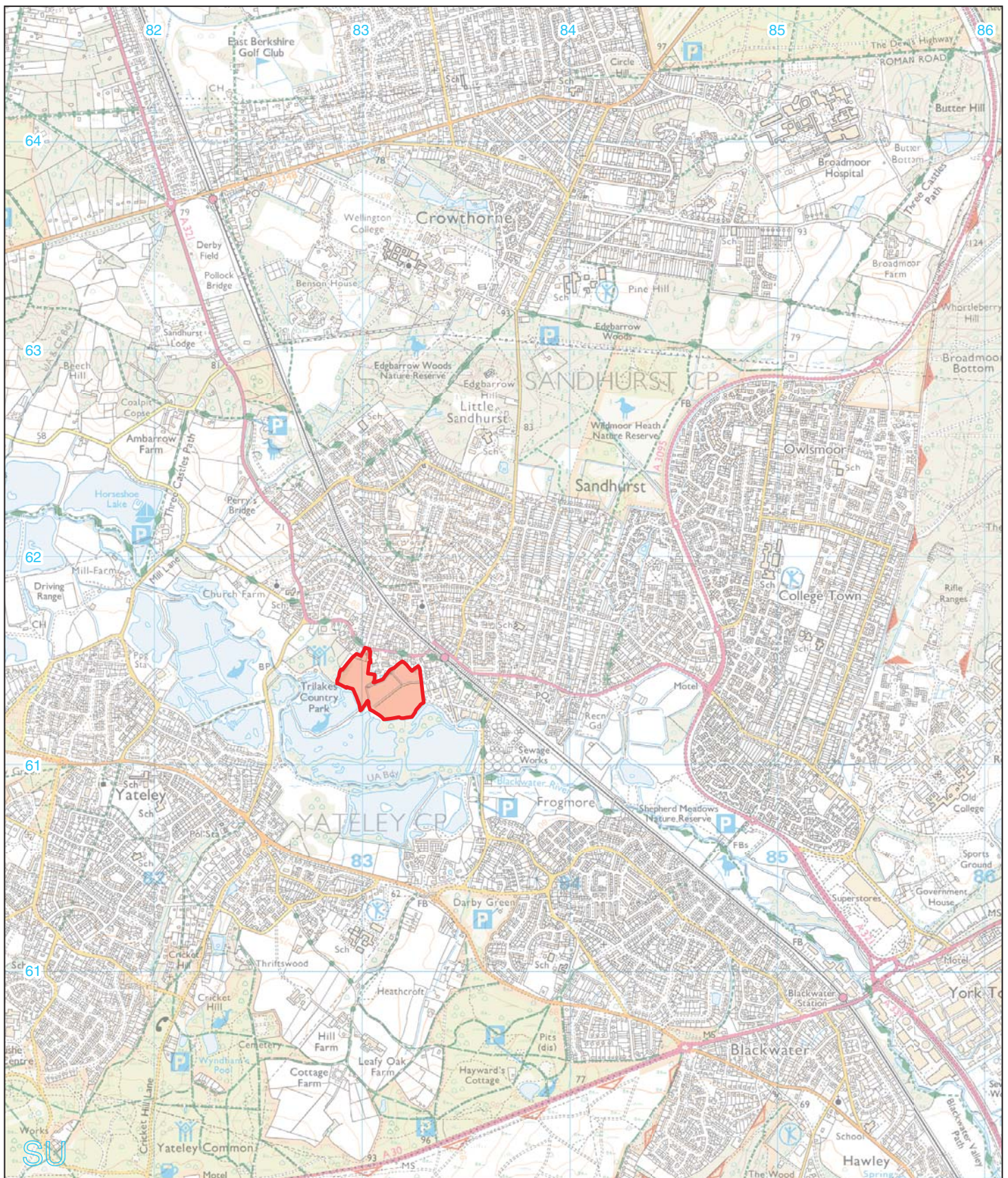
Key * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items

Table 2 Assessment table of the Geoarchaeological evidence from ARCA report (2017)

Depth m	Unit	Description
0-0.30	1	10 YR 3/1 Very dark grey silt/clay with frequent fine sand-sized mineral grains (approaching a sandy clay). Frequent orange iron oxide mottles and frequent fine roots. Very rare sub angular fine pebble-sized flint clast. (Topsoil). Sharp boundary to:
0.30-0.65	2	10 YR 5/8 Yellowish brown and 10 YR 4/1 Dark grey fine sandy clay with fine and evenly distributed mottles (50%). (Alluvium). Diffuse boundary to:
0.65-1.50	3	10 YR 5/8 Yellowish brown, poorly sorted fine to medium matrix supported gravel of sub angular to sub rounded flint clasts. Matrix of fine to coarse sandy clay. Large areas of more intense mottling, 10 YR 6/8 Brownish yellow. (Weathered top of channel gravels). Sharp boundary to:
1.50- >2	4	10 YR 5/1 Grey, interbedded, fine to coarse clayey sands and poorly sorted, clast supported gravels of granular to cobble-sized sub angular to sub rounded flint clasts. (Reduced, water logged channel gravels)

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Land at Alford Close, Sandhurst, Berkshire
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2017 at Alford Close, Sandhurst. Twenty seven trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation did not find any evidence within the natural alluvium (Holocene) for any features pre-dating the medieval period. Furthermore, of human groups present before the deposition of the alluvium, the braid plain (Pleistocene), would have been an unattractive landscape for occupation, and the potential for evidence of activity would be low. Archaeology was sparse and consisted of a number of ditches following a mostly parallel or perpendicular alignment with extant boundary and drainage ditches and shallow pits with evidence for burning.</p>
Project dates	16-23 January 2017
Project type	Evaluation
Previous work	Geophysical Survey, Stratascan (2016)
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Land at Alford Close, Sandhurst, Berkshire
Study area (M ² /ha)	7.5 ha
Site co-ordinates	SU 8320 6170
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Roland Smith, Berkshire Archaeology
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex
Project Supervisor	Jeremy Clutterbuck
MONUMENT TYPE	N/A
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None
PROJECT ARCHIVES	
Physical	Content: CBM and Iron Implement
Paper	Andover Office Context sheets, matrices etc
Digital	Database, digital photos etc
BIBLIOGRAPHY	
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land at Alford Close, Sandhurst, Berkshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report	



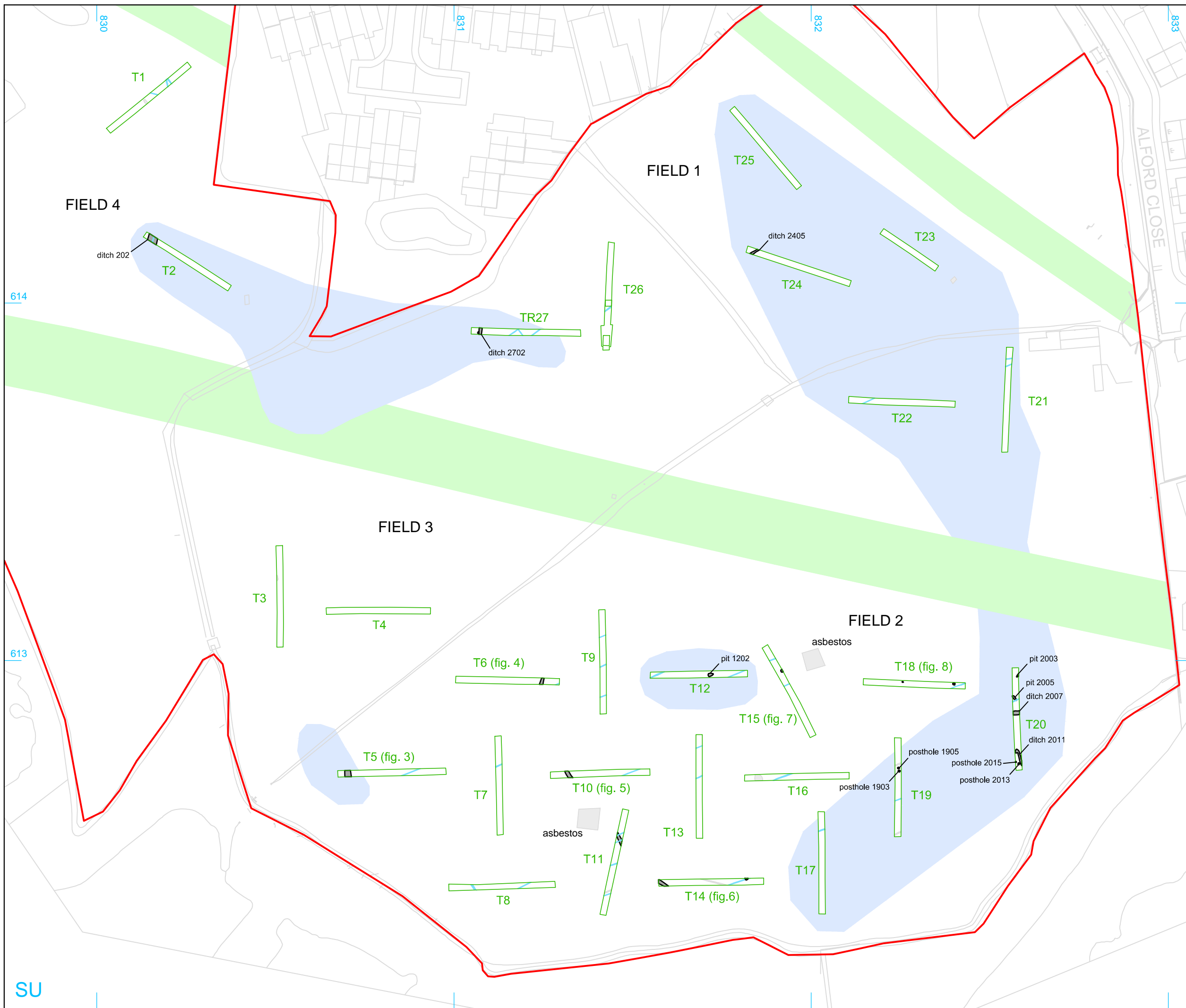
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land off Alford Close, Sandford, Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

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- ▭ site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- field drain
- area of flooding
- utility buffer



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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan

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SU



Trench 5, looking east (scales 1m)

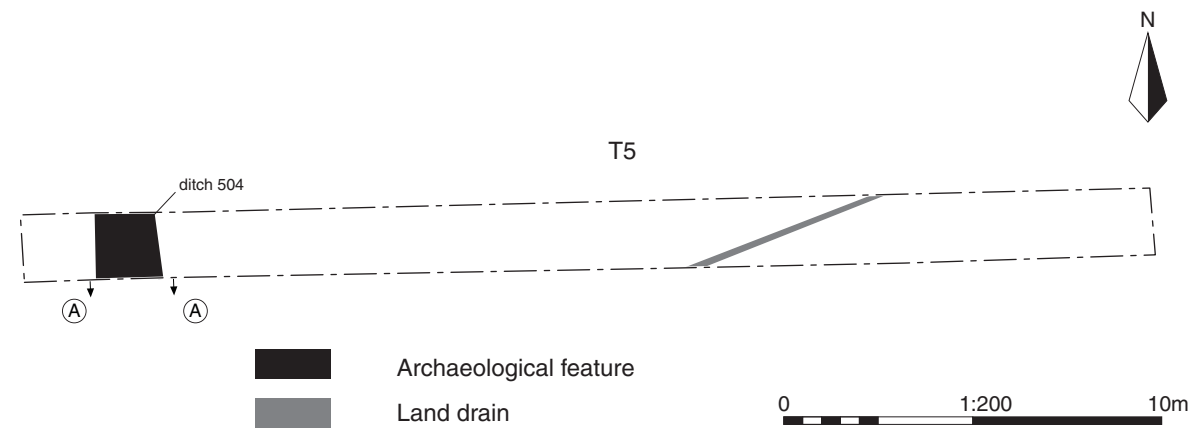
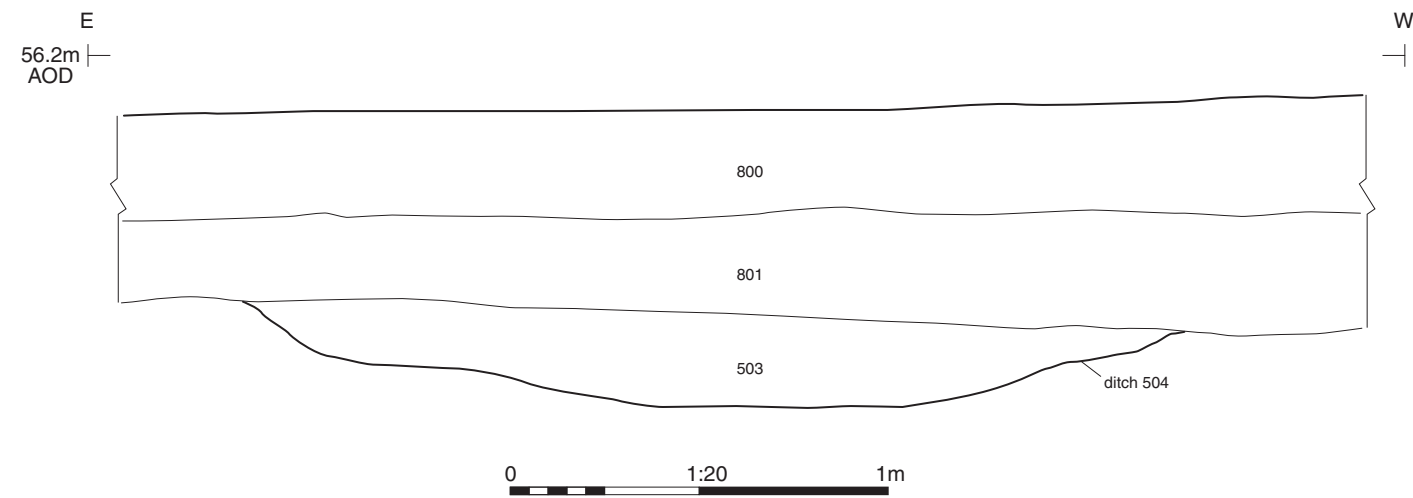


Trench 5, looking west (scales 1m)



Ditch 504, looking south (scale 1m)

Section AA




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FIGURE TITLE
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 photographs**

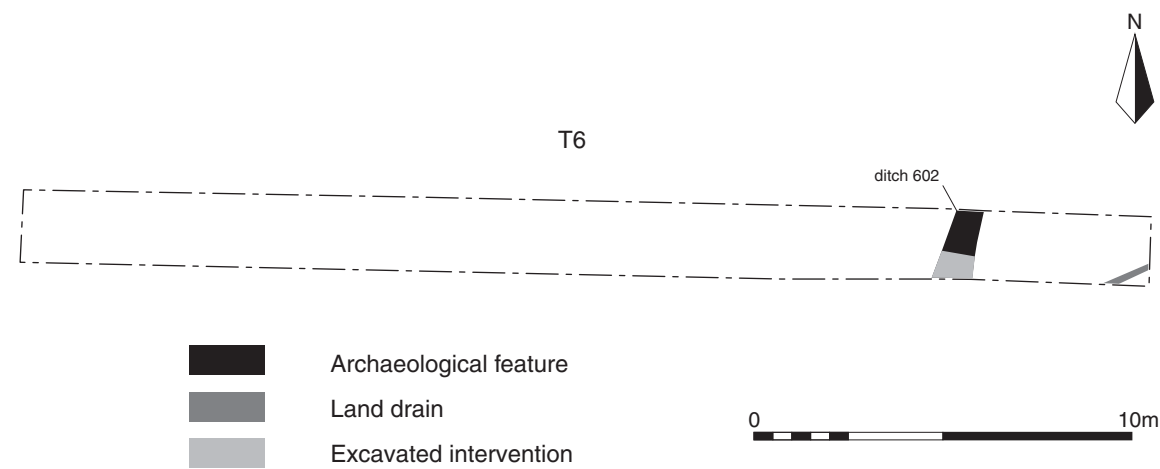
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Trench 6, looking west (scale 1m)



Ditch 602, looking north (scale 0.5m)



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FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 6: Plan, section and
 photographs**

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Trench 10, looking east (scales 1m)

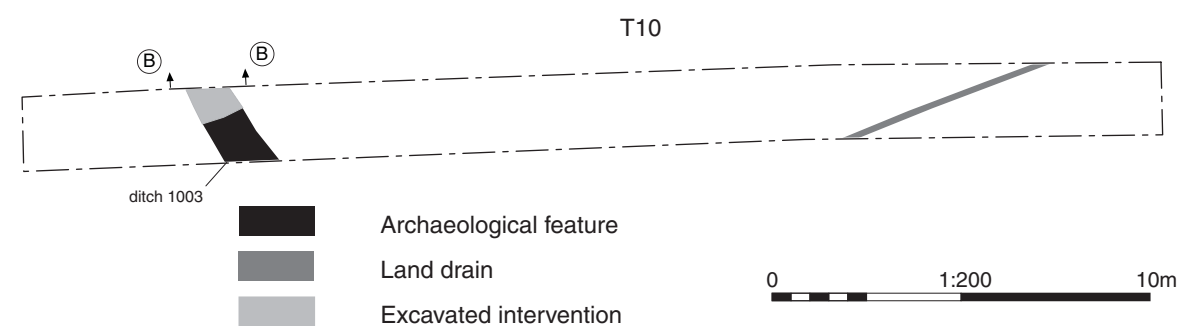
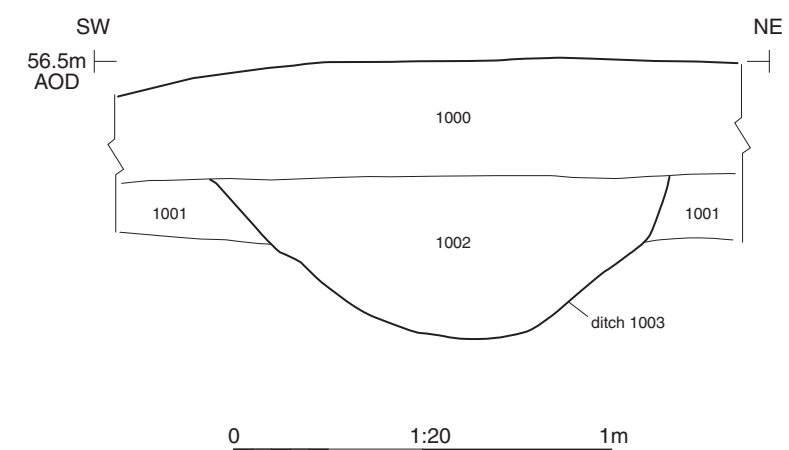


Ditch 1003, looking north-west (scale 1m)



Trench 10, looking west (scales 1m)

Section BB



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FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 10: Plan, section and
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Trench 14, looking west (scales 1m)

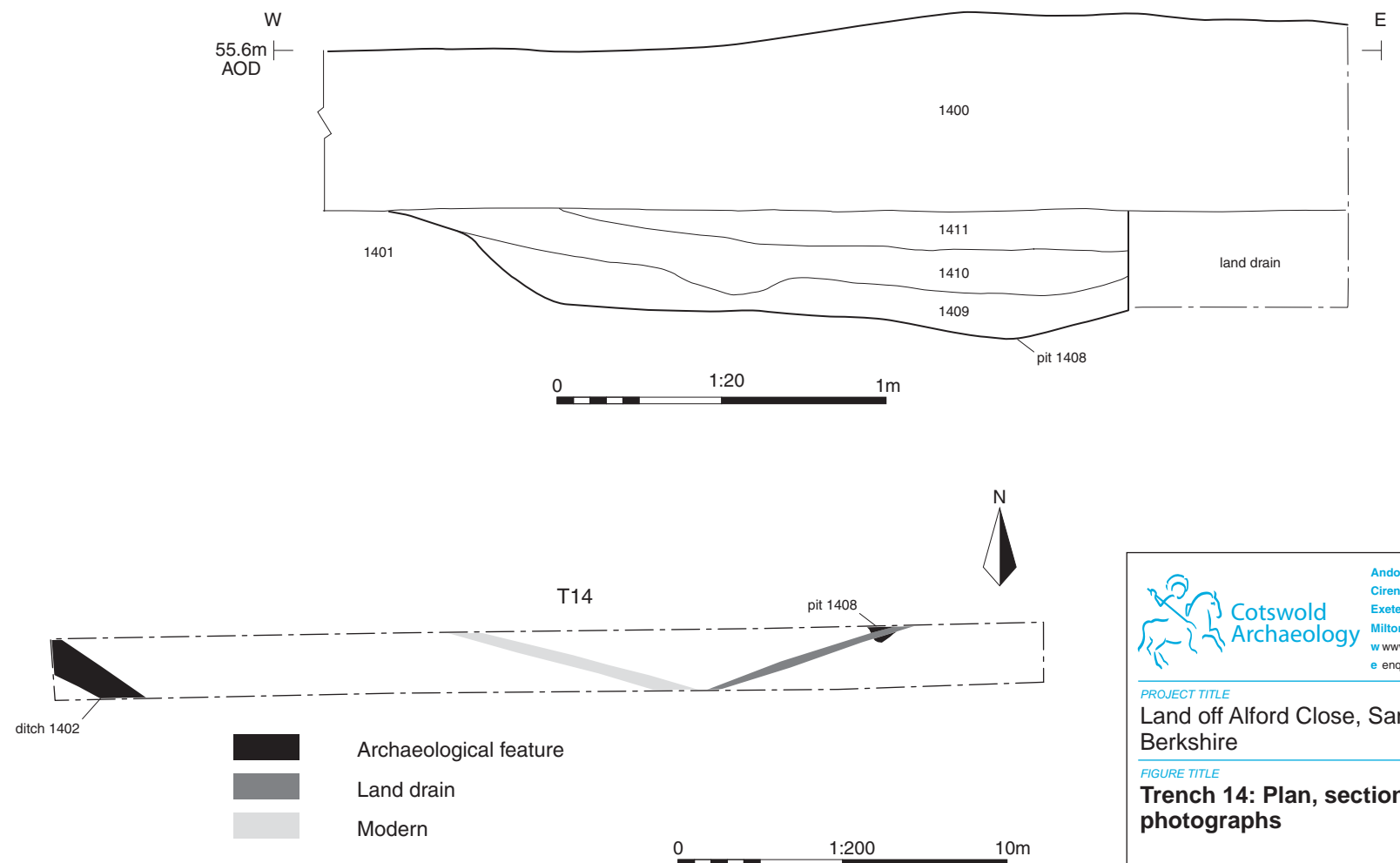


Pit 1408, looking north (scale 1m)



Trench 14, looking east (scales 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE
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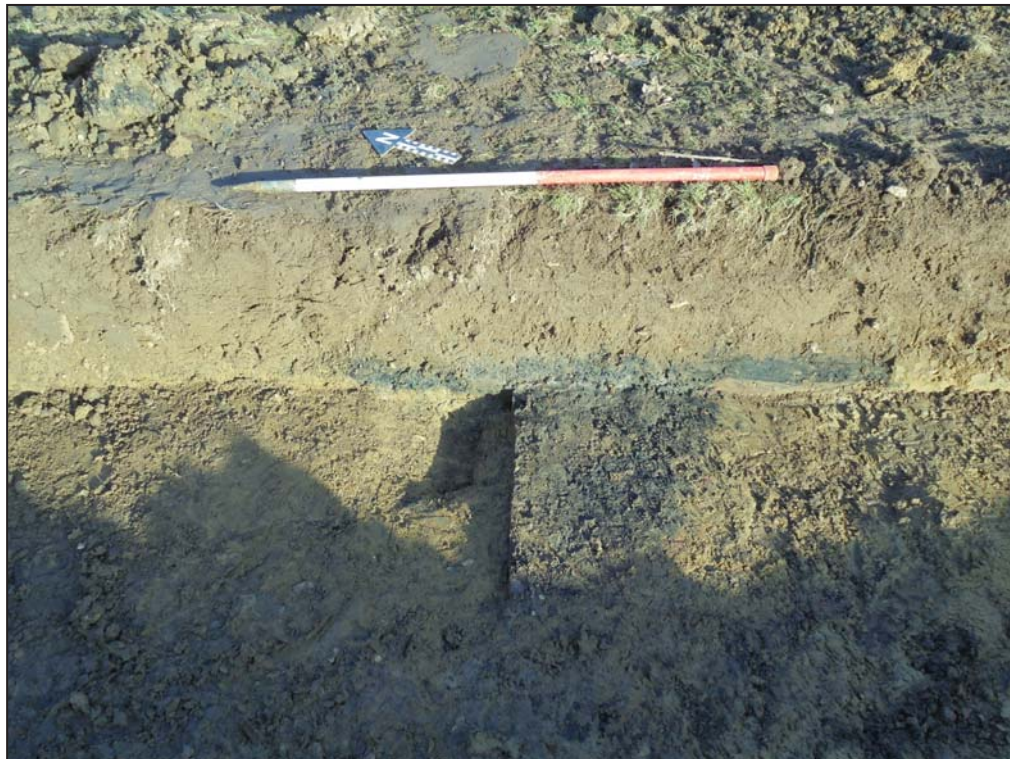
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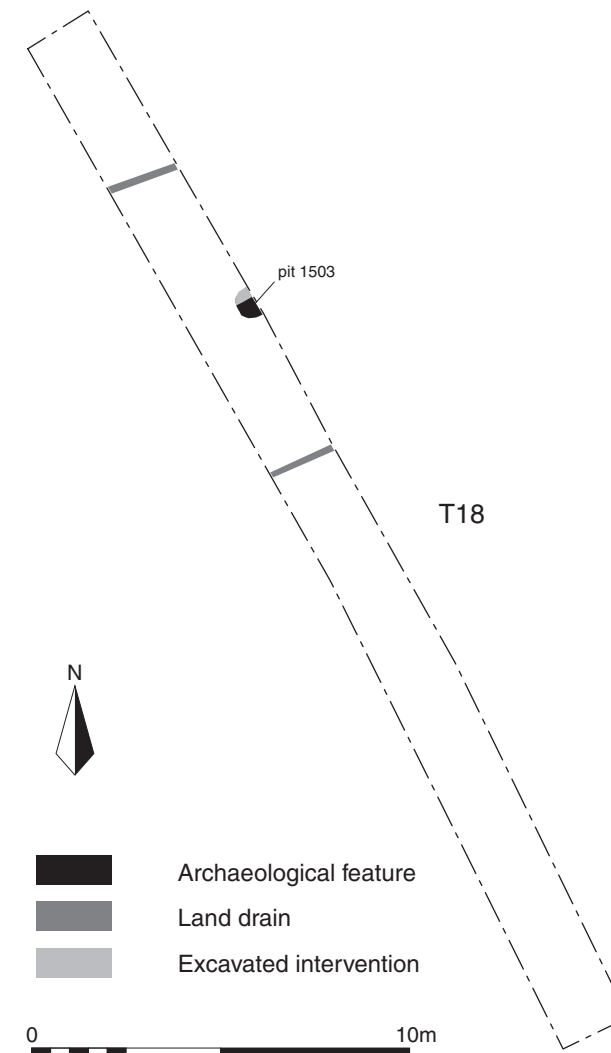
Trench 15, looking south-east (scale 1m)



Pit 1503, looking south-east (scale 0.3m)



Pit 1503, looking north-east (scale 1m)



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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 15: Plan and photographs

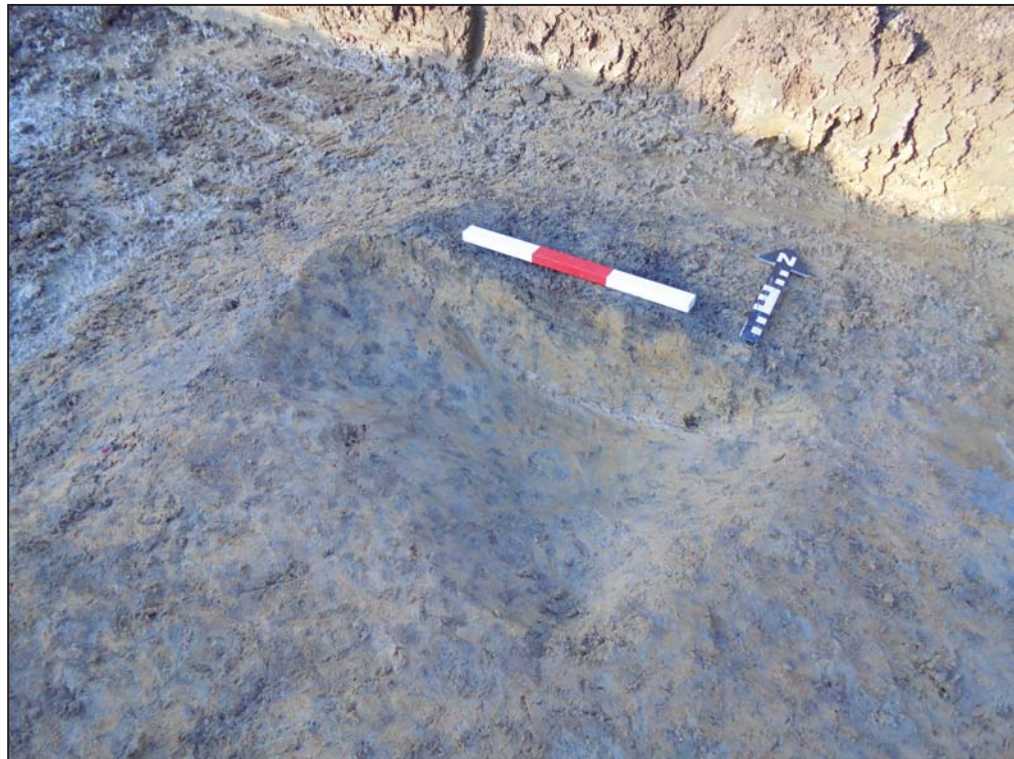
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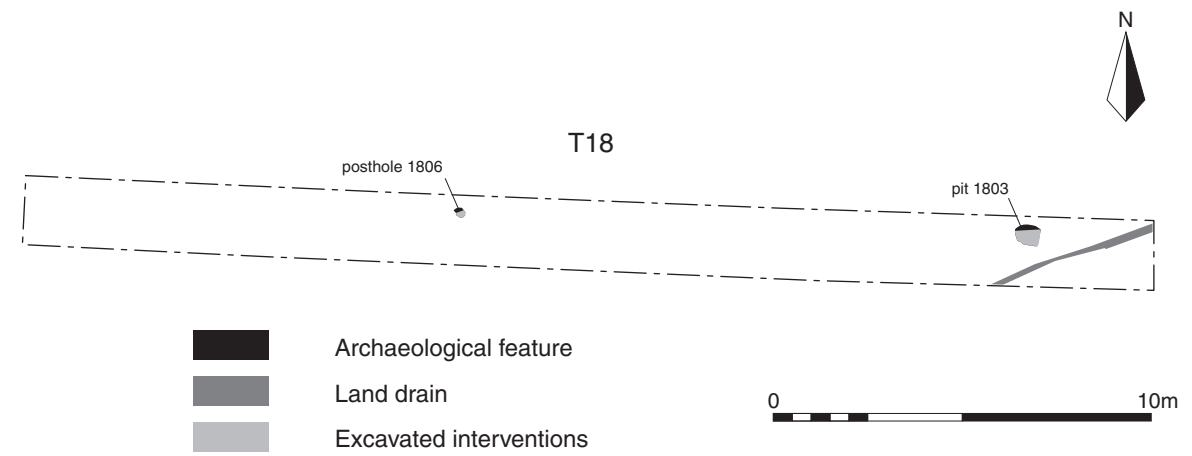
Trench 18, looking east (scales 1m)



Trench 18, looking west (scales 1m)



Pit 1803, looking north-west (scales 1m)



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Trench 18: Plan and photographs

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