Cotswold Archaeology

Land Adjacent to the Village Hall
Main Road
East Hagbourne
Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

for
Greenlight Developments Ltd.

CA Project: 770598
CA Report: 17423

August 2017

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne
Location:	East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire
NGR:	452436 188456
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	10 – 12 July 2017
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service
Site Code:	EHD 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2017 at Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire. Seven trenches were excavated.

Evidence of residual Neolithic activity in the form of a small number of flint flakes and two flint arrowheads, found as residual finds in later features. These finds were indicative of the site being used for seasonal activity by transient groups. The main phase of activity consisted of a single probable enclosure ditch and a number of internal pits of an Early Iron Age date. These features correspond with the results of the geophysical survey and indicate the presence of an enclosure, which extended beyond the eastern boundary of the site. The artefacts and environmental information recovered the site suggests the presence of domestic activity in close proximity to the site and the enclosure may have represented part of larger Early Iron Age settlement.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In July 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Greenlight Developments Ltd on Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire (centred at NGR: 452436 188456; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a planning application to be made to South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC), the Local Planning Authority (LPA), for the construction of a new housing development.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief for an archaeological evaluation (OCC 2017) prepared by Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, the archaeological advisor to SODC, and with a subsequent *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017a). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014).

The site

1.3 The site lies within the parish of East Hagbourne, on the southern edge of Didcot, Oxfordshire and covers 3.51ha within a single agricultural field. The site lies to the north of Hagbourne village hall and is bounded to the north and east by properties fronting Harwood Road and Lake Road, respectively. Main Road bounds the site to the south, while a dismantled railway and sports field lie to the west. The site is relatively level, lying at approximately 62m aOD (above Ordnance Datum).

1.5 The underlying bedrock geology within the site consists of Upper Greensand Formation, a sedimentary bedrock of calcareous sandstone and siltstone laid down in the Cretaceous Period, approximately 112 to 94 million years ago (BGS 2017). Head deposits, laid down 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period, are mapped as superficial deposits within the site boundary. During the excavation of the trenches, the head deposits were not observed (section 5.2). Archaeological features truncated the Upper Greensand Formation.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The archaeological background given below is a summary of the known archaeological information prior to the evaluation and is taken from a Heritage Desk Based Assessment prepared by Cotswold Archaeology (2017b).

Prehistoric (pre AD 43)

2.2 The earliest prehistoric evidence from the area surrounding the site comprises a Neolithic long barrow, located 980m to the southwest. An unstratified Neolithic polished ground greenstone axe was also found 1.2km to the northwest. Possible evidence of prehistoric activity was recorded during investigations on the Didcot Sewerage Scheme, 470m south-west of the site. The recovery of six flints, including a flint awl, flint flakes, flint core and burnt flint, may suggest prehistoric activity within this area (Cotswold Archaeological Trust 1998). Bronze Age activity in the area surrounding the site is represented by two unstratified copper alloy objects recorded through metal detecting. The finds include the hilt end of a dirk (knife) and the tip end of a rapier. Both finds were found in close proximity to each other, 530m south-east of the site.

2.3 Evidence of Iron Age activity in the area surrounding the site is limited to a number of unstratified finds, including a gold band found 980m south-east, a coin found 830m to the west and a La Tene style brooch found 840m to the west. A possible Iron Age or Roman field system is located 1.1km south-east of the site. The field system comprises a number of ordered fields defined by ditches, as well as two rectangular enclosures. The field system appears to suggest more than one phase of occupation covering an area of approximately 11.25ha.

Romano-British (AD 43 – AD 410)

2.4 No Roman finds or features are recorded within the boundary of the site, however, Roman pottery was recorded 900m to the south-east and evidence of settlement, including ditches and pits containing flint, animal bone and pottery, was uncovered during investigations of the Didcot Sewerage Scheme, *c.* 470m to the south-west. During the investigations, two distinct phases of activity were identified, dating to the 2nd to 3rd century AD and the 4th century AD, indicating a continuity of occupation throughout the Roman period (Enright and Thomas et al., 1999; Cotswold Archaeological Trust 1998).

2.5 An area of Romano British settlement has also been recorded during the excavation of a pipeline, 1km to the north-west of the site. A series of enclosures and stone corn driers dating to the Roman period were uncovered. Furthermore, metal detecting in the area 200m to the north of the site recovered a Roman vessel with a copper pot reused as a lid. This find is very unusual and suggests that further Roman settlement is located in the surrounding area (OCC 2017).

Medieval period (AD 1066 – 1539)

2.5 The site is located within the historic parish of East Hagbourne, which may take its name from 'Hacca', a chief of one of the West Saxon tribes who settled in Britain. The earliest evidence of settlement is recorded in a 9th century charter (East Hagbourne Parish Council 2011). Recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, Hagbourne was divided into two separate holdings by the 11th century, East Hagbourne and West Hagbourne, which encompassed 2,815 acres of arable land, pasture and orchards. During this period East Hagbourne was under the ownership of the Crown and held by the priest of Cirencester Abbey, Regenbald.

2.6 During the medieval period, the Grade I Listed Church of St Andrew was constructed 160m to the south of the site. Two scheduled standing crosses, located 160m to the south-east and 770m to the west, are also of medieval origin. Serving a variety of functions, standing crosses were used in this period as stations of outdoor processions; places of preaching, public proclamation and penance; to validate transactions; and act as boundary markers (Historic England 2017). Medieval ridge and furrow and field boundaries are recorded within the site boundary and its environs as part of the RCHME: Lambourn Downs National Mapping Project.

Post-medieval and modern period (1540 to present)

2.7 During the late 18th and early 19th century, the site formed part of the agricultural surroundings of East Hagbourne. A moated manor site was established at Manor Farm during this period, located 210m south-east of the site. Historic map regression suggests that the site was subject to limited alteration during the late 19th century, however, during this period the former Didcot, Newbury and Southampton Junction railway was constructed, which forms the north-western boundary of the site. The site continued to comprise an area of agricultural land throughout the early 20th century, located on the western periphery of East Hagbourne. By 1931, East Hagbourne Village Hall was constructed to the south-east. During the 21st century, the current layout of the site appears to have been established, with the northern

and eastern boundaries demarcated by residential development constructed in the 1960s. Recent aerial photography of this area suggests that over the course of the 20th century the site was subject to continued agricultural activity, resulting in the former medieval ridge and furrow becoming less visible.

Geophysical Survey

2.8 A detailed geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. in May 2017 (Archaeological Surveys 2017). The survey located a positive rectilinear anomaly within the eastern part of the site, which may relate to the part of a rectilinear enclosure (Fig. 2). It contained a number of positive linear and discrete responses that indicate the presence of cut features within the interior of the enclosure. To the west of the enclosure there are several positive linear, rectilinear, curvilinear and discrete responses, however, they were very weak and could not be confidently interpreted. Very weak linear anomalies associated with possible ridge and furrow cultivation were also located.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable South Oxfordshire District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 7 trenches (each measured 30m long and 2m wide) in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.

4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and as a result 5 samples were retained for processing. 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 Oxford Museum Services, along with the site archive. 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 (FIGS 2-5)

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.

5.2 The topsoil across the entire site consisted of a grey brown clayey silt with an average depth of 0.20m. The topsoil directly overlay a compacted grey brown silty clay subsoil with common calcareous sandstone inclusions. The depth of the subsoil reached a maximum of 0.5m in the southern part of the site. All observed archaeological features were sealed by the subsoil and cut the solid natural substrate. The natural consisted of calcareous sandstone within a grey brown clay. No archaeological features were observed within trenches 1, 2, 5, 6 & 7. These trenches are summarised in Appendix A.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 3)

5.3 Trench 3 contained a single large pit (303) at the south-eastern end. Pit 303 measured 7.2m in diameter and extended beyond the edge of the trench to both the north and the south. The pit was not fully excavated, however, it did contain a dark grey brown silty clay fill with visible charcoal flecks (304). Thirty-one sherds of Early Iron Age pottery were collected from the surface of the feature and from an environmental sample taken from the uppermost fill (304).

5.4 Towards the centre of the trench an oval shaped pit (305) lay against the northern edge of the trench. Pit 305 measured at least 1.30m long, 1.02m wide and 0.18m deep and was filled with a single grey brown silty clay with visible charcoal inclusions (306). Eleven sherds of Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of this pit.

5.5 Ditch 307 crossed the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. The ditch measured 1.12m wide and was filled with a single grey brown silty clay (308). Although the feature was not excavated, three sherds of Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the surface of the ditch. This feature represented a continuation of enclosure ditch 403 in Trench 4.

Trench 4 (Figs 2, 4 & 5)

5.6 Enclosure ditch 403 crossed the trench on a north-south alignment. The ditch was u-shaped in profile and measured 2.06m wide and 0.70m deep. Three fills were identified within the ditch (Fig 4, Section BB). The earliest fill (415) was a yellow brown clay silt, which was overlain by a grey brown clay silt (416). The final fill (404) was a dark grey brown clay silt. Deposit 404 extended out of the ditch to the east and may represent collapsed bank material or an act of deliberate dumping. Ditch 403 continued to the north into Trench 3 and likely represents the same feature as ditch 307 (section 5.5). Twenty sherds of early Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill of ditch 403. A residual Early Neolithic tanged arrowhead was also recovered from the final fill 404.

5.7 Two intercutting pits were uncovered within the centre of the trench. Pit 405 was a large oval pit that measured 3.10m long and at least 1.30m wide, while pit 413 measured 1.4m long and 0.9m wide. Neither feature was excavated; however, six sherds of Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the top fill of pit 405.

5.8 Pit 407, a large oval feature located in the centre of the trench, measured 1.82m long, 1.8m wide and 0.60m deep. The earliest fill (417) was a brown clayey sand that contained 89 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery, a small assemblage of worked flint including a residual Early Neolithic arrowhead and three pieces of fired clay. The uppermost fill (408) was a very dark grey clay silt, which contained 105 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery and ten pieces of fired clay. Environmental samples taken from the earliest fill indicates that crop processing may have been undertaken in close proximity to this feature.

5.9 Two features were located at the eastern end of the trench. Pit 409 was an oval shaped feature, which extended beyond to the north beyond the edge of the trench. The pit measured 1.9m long, 1.2m wide and was filled with a grey brown silty clay. A possible ditch (411) also crossed the trench in a north/south orientation. The ditch measured 1.55 in width and was filled with a yellow brown silty clay. Both features were not excavated, however, based on their proximity to the Early Iron Age features discussed above, may be contemporary in date.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material recovered from the evaluation is listed in Appendix B and discussed further below. All finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type in each context. The pottery has been fully recorded according to the Guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). Each sherd, or group of related sherds, has been assigned a pottery record number (PRN) and details of fabric, form, rim diameter, surface treatment and decoration have been recorded to an Excel spreadsheet, available in the project archive.

Pottery Grace Jones

6.2 A total of 279 sherds of pottery, weighing 2795g, were recovered from 11 deposits of six features and the topsoil (Table 1). With the exception of a single sherd of post-medieval redware from the topsoil (context 400), the assemblage is of Early Iron Age date. The material is moderate condition, with relatively large sherds (average sherd weight 10g) but most displaying some surface abrasion.

Feature	Count	Weight (g)
Ditch 308	3	75
Ditch 403	20	145
Pit 303	31	135
Pit 305	11	32
Pit 405	6	82
Pit 407	196	2204
Topsoil	9	98
Unstratified	3	24
Total	**279**	**2795**

Table 1. Quantification of pottery by feature

6.3 The Early Iron Age pottery is almost all in sandy fabrics, with smaller quantities of grog-tempered and shell-tempered or vesicular wares (Table 2). Descriptions of the fabrics are presented in Appendix B. The sandy wares include glauconitic and non-glauconitic types, and one fabric with a mudstone component. The local geology is the Upper Greensand, with alluvium, and mudstone deposits of the Gault formation found just over 1km to the north of the site. All vessels may therefore have been made from the clay deposits outcropping within a few kilometres of the site.

Fabric	**Count**	**Weight (g)**
Early Iron Age		
G1	1	5
I1	1	28
Q1	94	939
Q2	26	391
Q3	53	442
Q4	9	248
Q5	86	634
S1	6	80
V99 (?S1)	2	24
Post-medieval		
PMR	1	4
Total	**279**	**2795**

Table 2. Quantification of pottery by fabric

6.4 The vessel forms are dominated by tripartite vessels, typical of the Early Iron Age period. A large jar (rim diameter 320mm) with long, flared rim and squared rim top, has fingertip decoration around its carinated shoulder, and wiping across the external surface (pit 407; PRN 7). A similar, but smaller jar (140mm rim diameter) was also found in this pit, but with a rounded rim top and fingertip with fingernail

impressions around the shoulder (PRN 27). A probable third example (PRN 40), with diagonally wiped exterior, had broken at the neck. Tripartite bowls with long, flared rims were also recovered from this pit (PRN 14), as well as a base with at least four post-firing perforations. A flat-topped rim from a large jar, externally and internally expanded with slightly pie-crusted exterior rim edge and concave inner neck, came from ditch 308. Rims that are too fragmentary to ascertain their original form include seven with rounded tops (PRN 6, 10, 12, 30, 31, 45, 64), four with flat or squared tops (PRN 5, 21, 35, 61), a flattened rim with fingertip decoration on top (PRN 38) and an internally-bevelled rim (PRN 34). The most common surface treatments noted amongst the sherds are wiping of the surfaces with organic materials, and smoothing. Five sherds are burnished.

6.5 The range of fabrics and forms are paralleled at sites in south Oxfordshire and across the wider region. Examples of the expanded rim jar and tripartite jars and bows have been recorded at Ashville, Abingdon in Period 1, dated *c.* mid 6th century BC to *c.*300 BC (DeRoche 1978, forms A3, C1 and C2 respectively). Wiped surfaces were also a feature of this assemblage during this period, with decoration also confined to fingertip impressions at the shoulder and rim top.

Flint Katie Marsden

6.6 Nine pieces of prehistoric worked flint were recovered from three deposits. The group is in relatively poor condition, with several pieces displaying heavy edge damage. The majority (six items) comprise flakes; some with retouch such as those recorded from ditch 407 (fill 417). Also recorded from this deposit was one heavily damaged scraper which, along with the flakes, cannot be closely dated. Two arrowheads were recovered: Ra. 1 from ditch 407 (fill 404) is a Sutton A tanged arrowhead, whilst a British Oblique arrowhead was recovered from ditch 407 (fill 417). Both are of probable Late Neolithic date.

Other finds Grace Jones

6.7 Fifteen fragments of fired clay (152g) were recorded from four deposits of pits 303, 405 and 407. These include three in pottery fabrics from pit 407 that do not appear to have derived from vessels, but are too fragmentary to ascertain their original form, and amorphous fragments that may derive from hearths or structural components.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

7.1 Animal bone amounting to 103 fragments (446g) was recovered via hand excavation and the processing of bulk soil samples from the fills of Early Iron Age pits features 303, 305 and 407. The material was only moderately well preserved and highly fragmented, with a limited amount burning in evidence. This combination of these three factors has rendered 90% of the bone unidentifiable however, it was possible to confirm the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*) and sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), both of which were identified from small fragments of meat-poor skeletal elements such as the mandible or the bones of the lower limbs. No cut or chop marks linked to butchery practice were present and each species was recovered in such low numbers that it is not possible to make any useful inference beyond species identification.

Environmental

7.2 A series of five environmental samples (49 litres of soil) were taken from a range of Early Iron Age pits and a ditch within Trenches 3 and 4 to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains across the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

7.3 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1 in Appendix C, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals.

7.4 The flots were generally moderate in size with between 20-60% of rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

Trench 3

7.5 A moderate charred plant assemblage was recovered from fill 304 (sample 3) within Early Iron Age pit 303. The cereal remains included barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain fragments and hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain and glume base fragments. The weed seeds included seeds of oat (*Avena* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*). The weed seeds species are generally typical of those found in grassland, field margins and arable environments. A

moderate quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm was also noted. This assemblage may be representative of dumped settlement waste.

7.6 The fill 306 (sample 2) within Early Iron Age pit 305 contained a small quantity of charred remains. These included a few barley and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type) grain fragments, seeds of oat and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*) and charcoal fragments. This assemblage may well be representative of dispersed settlement debris.

Trench 4

7.7 A moderately large charred plant assemblage was recorded from fill 408 (sample 4) within Early Iron Age pit 407, whilst only a small number of charred remains were present in sample 5 from fill 417 of the same pit. The cereal remains within these assemblages included hulled wheat grain, spikelet fork and glume base fragments and barley grains. A number of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). The weed seeds included seeds of oats, brome grass, vetch/wild pea and bedstraw. There was also a mineralised seed of knotgrass (Polygonaceae) within the assemblage. There were only moderate quantities of charcoal fragments noted. The assemblage from fill 408 is likely to represent the dumping of crop processing waste, possibly from the processing of stored semi-cleaned spikelets, within the pit. Again the weed seeds are of those species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments and spelt wheat is the predominant wheat in Southern Britain within this period (Greig 1991).

7.8 Sample 1 from fill 415 of Early Iron Age ditch 403 contained a small amount of indeterminate grain fragments and charcoal fragments and these few remains may well be representative of dispersed hearth debris.

Summary

7.9 The charred plant remains, particularly those from Trench 4, provide an indication of domestic settlement activities taking place in the area during the Early Iron Age period. The assemblages from these features are comparable with other assemblages of this date from other sites in the local area such as Ashville Trading Estate, Abingdon (Jones 1978).

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The results of the evaluation achieved its objectives in establishing the presence of archaeological features across the site and, if possible, characterising the character and date of those features. The state of preservation was generally good and the features appear to have been only partially disturbed by later agricultural activities. A number of the features uncovered during the evaluation corresponded well with the results of the earlier geophysical survey. A concentration of archaeological features was uncovered within the two westernmost trenches within the site (Trenches 3 and 4).

8.2 Evidence of Neolithic activity was identified in the form of a number of residual flints including two arrowheads, which were deposited in features of a later date. No evidence of settlement activity was identified and this may indicate that the site was seasonally occupied by transient groups.

8.3 The majority of the features within Trenches 3 and 4 corresponded accurately with the results of a recent geophysical survey. The survey and the excavation of these trenches clearly identified a linear feature, at least 110m in length, which may form part of a larger rectilinear enclosure. A large number of pits, possibly used for disposing refuse, were also identified and appear to have been located within the interior of the enclosure. Moderate quantities of pottery recovered from the fills of the enclosure ditch and pits suggest that they each dated to the Early Iron Age. The environmental material and animal bone recovered suggests that these features represent domestic settlement in this period. The enclosure appears to extend beyond the eastern edge of the site towards the carpark of the village hall and properties off Harwood Road. These results corroborated with recent archaeological fieldwork undertaken to the north-east of the site, which revealed Iron Age features and Roman enclosures and field system (CA 2017c). Together with the results from this evaluation, this suggests that the area was densely settled in the Iron Age.

8.4 While the geophysical survey had identified weak traces of ridge and furrow running north to south across the site, the evaluation failed to identify any surviving traces of these agricultural earthworks. No other archaeological features were uncovered during the evaluation.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Emily Stynes. The report was written by Joe Whelan. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Grace Jones, Katie Marsden and Sarah Wyles. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Andrew Donald. The project was managed for CA by Ray Kennedy.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context	Type	Fill of	Context	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Grey clayey silt. Rare sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0-0.27 (0.27)
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Compacted light grey clayey silt. Common degraded sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0.27-0.85 (0.58)
1	102	Deposit		Natural	Compacted grey silty clay. Common sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	>0.85
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Grey clayey silt. Rare sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0-0.26 (0.26)
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Compacted light grey clayey silt. Common degraded sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0.26-0.59 (0.33)
2	202	Deposit		Natural	Compacted grey silty clay. Common sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	>0.59
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown clayey silt.	30	1.9	0-0.21 (0.21)
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Compacted light grey clayey silt. Common degraded sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0.21-0.42 (0.21)
3	302	Deposit		Natural	Compacted grey silty clay. Common sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	>0.42
3	303	Cut		Cut of pit	Cut of possible quarry pit.	7.3	>2	Unexcavated
3	304	Fill	303	Fill of pit	Dark grey brown silty clay. Charcoal flecks and sandstone inclusion.	7.3	>2	Unexcavated
3	305	Cut		Cut of pit	Cut of pit. Extends n/east out of trench.	>1.3	1.02	0.18
3	306	Fill	305	Fill of pit	Compact grey brown silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks.	>1.3	1.02	0.18
3	307	Cut		Cut of ditch	Cut of enclosure ditch on a n/east-s/west alignment.	>2	1.2	Unexcavated
3	308	Fill	308	Fill of ditch	Yellow brown silty clay.	>2	1.2	Unexcavated
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Compact light grey clayey silt. Rare sub-angular flint, Rooting present.	30	1.9	0-0.23 (0.23)
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Compact light grey clayey silt. Occasional patches of degraded sandstone.	30	1.9	0.23-0.42 (0.19)
4	402	Deposit		Natural	Mid grey clayey silt with patches of dark grey silty clay. Common sandstone throughout.	30	1.9	>0.42
4	403	Cut		Cut of ditch	Cut of enclosure ditch on a north-south alignment.	>1.9	2.06	0.7
4	404	Fill	403	Fill of ditch	Firm Dark grey brown clayey silt. Patches of calcareous stone. Contains charcoal flecks. Possible bank collapse. Third fill of ditch.	>1.9	1.85	0.34
4	405	Cut		Cut of pit	Cut of oval storage pit	>1.3	3.1	Unexcavated
4	406	Fill	405	Fill of pit	Firm dark grey brown silty clay. Limestone inclusions.	>1.3	3.1	Unexcavated

4	407	Cut		Cut of pit/ditch	Oval storage pit. Two possible intercutting pits.	>1.82	>0.62	0.6
4	408	Fill	407	Fill of pit/ditch	Firm dark grey clayey silt. Common charcoal flecks. Occasional limestone fragments. Only fill.	>0.85	0.62	0.56
4	409	Cut		Cut of pit/ditch	Cut of possible pit/ditch on a north/south alignment.	1.9	1.2	Unexcavated
4	410	Fill	409	Fill of pit/ditch	Firm dark grey brown silty clay. Common limestone and charcoal inclusions.	1.9	1.2	Unexcavated
4	411	Cut		Cut of ditch	Cut of possible ditch on n/east s/west alignment.	1.9	1.55	Unexcavated
4	412	Fill	411	Fill of ditch	Firm Mid yellow brown silty clay. Rare limestone inclusions.	1.9	1.55	Unexcavated
4	413	Cut		Cut of pit	Cut of Oval pit. Possibly conjoined to pit 405.	1.4	1.9	Unexcavated
4	414	Fill	403	Fill	Dark grey brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions	1.9	1.4	0.9
4	415	Fill	403	Fill	Mid yellow brown compact clayey silt with common limestone inclusions	1.9	1.82	0.53
4	416	Fill	403	Fill	Light greyish brown form clayey silt with small sandstone inclusions	1.9	0.86	0.14
4	417	Fill	403	Fill	Mid brown form clayey sand with occasional flecks of charcoals and common sandstone inclusions	1.9	0.55	0.53
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Grey clayey silt. Rare sandstone inclusion.	30	1.9	0-0.28 (0.28)
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Compacted grey clayey silt. Common sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	0.28-0.54 (0.26)
5	502	Deposit		Natural	Compacted grey silty clay. Abundant sandstone inclusions.	30	1.9	>0.54
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Compacted light brown grey clayey silt. Rare sub-rounded pebbles. Rooting present throughout.	30	1.9	0-0.29 (0.29)
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey clayey silt. Common patches of off white calcareous limestone and degraded sandstone.	30	1.9	0.29-0.72 (0.43)
6	602	Deposit		Natural	Light grey clayey silt. Common patches of dark grey silty clay and limestone. Occasional patches of rust coloured mottling.	30	1.9	>0.72
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Compact light brown clayey silt. Rooting present throughout.	30	1.9	0-0.3 (0.3)
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Compact light yellow grey clayey silt. Patches of degraded limestone. Calcareous degraded pebbles present throughout.	30	1.9	0.3-0.79 (0.49)
7	702	Deposit		Natural	Compact mid yellow grey clayey silt. Limestone present throughout. Natural substrate becomes more yellow to the west.	30	1.9	>0.79

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Class	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot date
304	Pottery Flint Fired clay	 Flake	31 1 1	135 10 19	EIA
306	Pottery		11	32	EIA
308	Pottery		3	75	EIA
400	Pottery		9	98	C16-C19
404	Flint	Arrowhead (RA1)	1	2	
405	Pottery		5	59	EIA
406	Pottery Fired clay		1 1	23 9	EIA
407	Pottery		2	101	EIA
408	Pottery Fired clay		105 10	1263 105	EIA
414	Pottery		3	24	EIA
415	Pottery		20	145	EIA
417	Pottery Flint Fired clay	 Arrowheadx1, scraperx1, Retouched flakesx2, flakesx3	89 7 3	840 16 19	EIA

Table 1: Finds concordance

Pottery fabrics

G1: A soft, soapy fabric with common (20%) grog, up to 1mm, angular, well sorted; rare (2%) quartz, coarse-sized, rounded; rare (1%) iron oxides, up to 2mm, rounded.

I1: A soft, silty fabric containing moderate (15%) iron oxides, up to 2mm, rounded; moderate (10%) voids, up to 5mm; sparse (5%) quartz, medium-grained, sub-rounded, well-sorted.

Q1: A hard, sandy fabric with very common (30%) medium to coarse-grained quartz grains, sub-rounded to sub-angular, well sorted, includes a glauconitic component; moderate (10%) pale grey mudstone, easily scratched with a fingernail and containing fine inclusions of golden mica and very fine black inclusions, 0.5-8mm, sub-rounded to sub-angular, poorly sorted.

Q2: A hard, sandy fabric containing common (20%) coarse to very coarse quartz, sub-angular, well-sorted; sparse (3%) iron oxides, up to 4mm, sub-rounded to sub-angular.

Q3: A soft, silty fabric with a moderate (10%) amount of soft, yellowish brown argillaceous inclusions, 1mm, rounded, well sorted; moderate (10%) voids from organic inclusions; sparse (3%) quartz, medium to coarse-grained, sub-rounded to sub-angular, in a very fine/silty and micaceous clay matrix.

Q4: A hard, sandy fabric with sparse (7%) medium to coarse-grained quartz, sub-angular to sub-rounded; sparse (5%) voids from organic inclusions; sparse (5%) iron oxides, up to 5mm, sub-rounded, poorly sorted; in a very fine/silty and micaceous clay matrix.

Q5: A soft, silty-textured fabric with rare (2%) medium to coarse-sized quartz, sub-rounded to sub-angular, moderately sorted; in a micaceous, glauconitic fabric.

S1: A soft, sandy/silty fabric with common (20%) shell, up to 2mm, moderately sorted; moderate (10%) coarse quartz, rounded, well sorted; sparse (3%) iron oxides, up to 2mm, rounded; in a silty matrix with a glauconitic component.

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	LM	MM	Ind	un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
303	304	1	2				16	19	116
305	306	1			5		3	9	8
407	408	4	2				28	34	260
407	417	1	2	1		34	3	41	62
Total		**7**	**6**	**1**	**5**	**34**	**50**	**103**	
Weight		**364**	**34**	**8**	**6**	**20**	**14**	**446**	

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; LM = cow size mammal; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate; un-id SS = unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples

Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

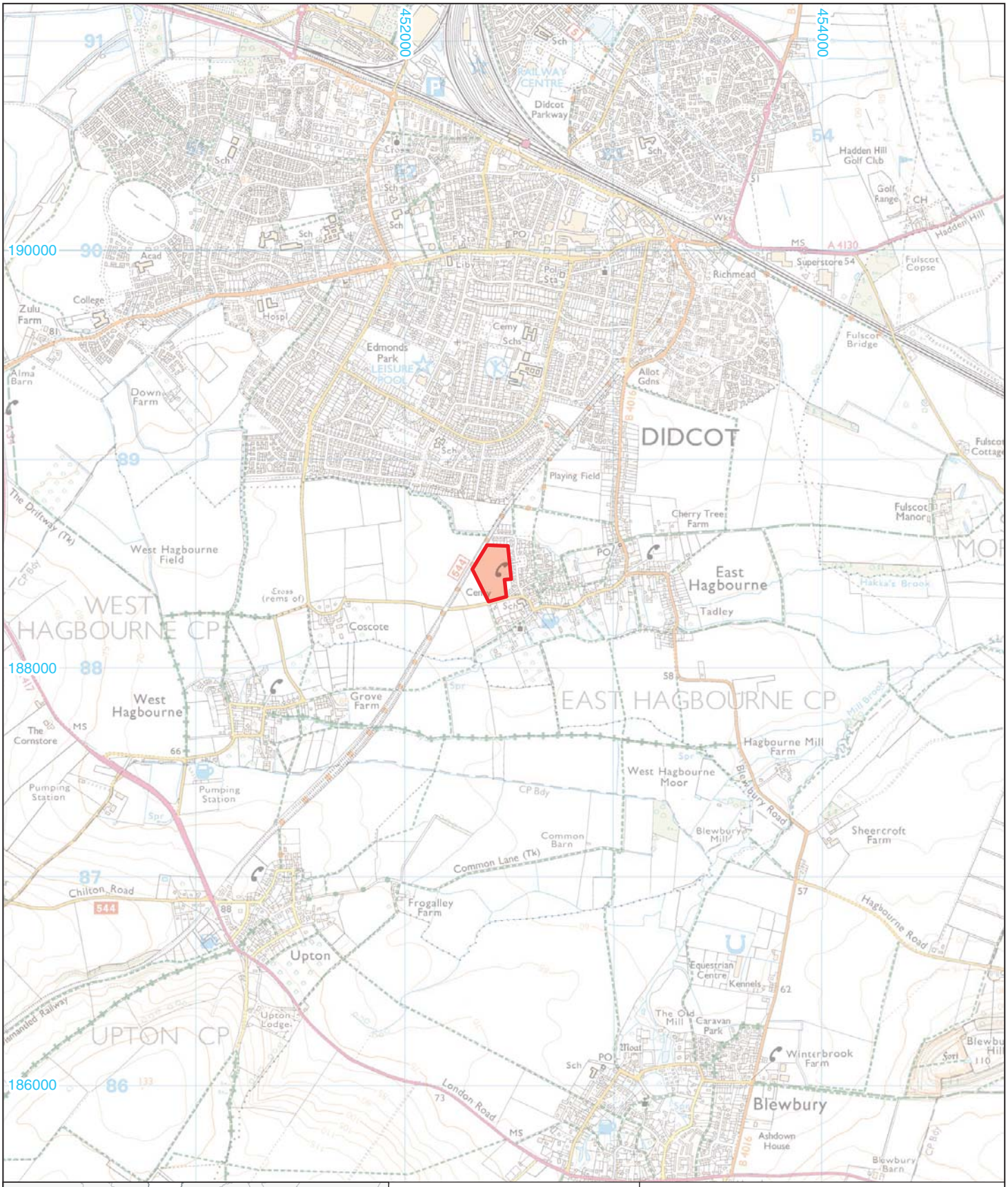
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 3 - Early Iron Age Pits												
303	304	3	10	70	50	**	*	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume base frags	**	*Avena, Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Galium, Veronica*	**/***	Sab (*)
305	306	2	10	50	60	**	-	Barley, hulled + f-t wheat grains	*	*Avena, Tripleurospermum*	*/*	-
Trench 4 - Early Iron Age Pit												
407	408	4	9	50	20	**	***	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume base + spikelet fork frags, inc. spelt	**	*Avena, Bromus, Galium*	**/**	Sab (**), min. seed (*)
	417	5	10	25	30	*	*	Hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags inc. spelt	*	*Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus*	**/**	Sab (*)
Trench 4 - Early Iron Age Ditch												
403	415	1	10	15	50	*	-	Indet. grain frags	-	-	-/*	-

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items, Sab= small animal bones

Table 2: Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2017 at Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire. Seven trenches were excavated. Evidence of residual Neolithic activity in the form of a small number of flint flakes and two flint arrowheads, found as residual finds in later features. These finds were indicative of the site being used for seasonal activity by transient groups. The main phase of activity consisted of a single probable enclosure ditch and a number of internal pits of an Early Iron Age date. These features correspond with the results of the geophysical survey and indicate the presence of an enclosure, which extended beyond the eastern boundary of the site. The artefacts and environmental information recovered the site suggests the presence of domestic activity in close proximity to the site and the enclosure may have represented part of larger Early Iron Age settlement.	
Project dates	10 – 12 July 2017	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Archaeological Surveys 2017)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	3.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	452436 188456	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Oxfordshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ray Kennedy	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
MONUMENT TYPE	Enclosure (Early Iron Age) Refuse pit (Early Iron Age)	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Pot (Early Iron Age) Arrowhead (Early Neolithic)	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Ceramics, flint, animal bone, fired clay, sample residue
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service	Context sheets, registers, sample sheets
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Database, digital photos, survey
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Land Adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report 17423		



N

0 1km

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PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	770598	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	13/07/2017	1
APPROVED BY	RK	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

452300
452400
452500
188500
188400

T1
T2
T3
T4
T5
T6
T7

307
303
ditch
305
ditch
403
405
409
411
413
pit
407

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Harwood Road
Windsor Crescent
The Croft
Main Road

N

Site boundary

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(excavated/unexcavated)

Geophysics Key
(Archaeological Surveys Ltd.)

- Positive linear anomaly - cut feature of archaeological potential
- Positive curvilinear/rectilinear anomaly - enclosure ditch
- Positive linear anomaly - possible ditch-like feature
- Linear anomaly - possible land drain
- Linear anomaly - ridge and furrow
- Discrete positive response - cut feature of archaeological potential
- Discrete positive response - possible pit-like feature
- Magnetic debris - spread of magnetically thermoremnant/ferrous material
- Magnetic disturbance from ferrous material
- Strong dipolar anomaly - ferrous object

0 50m

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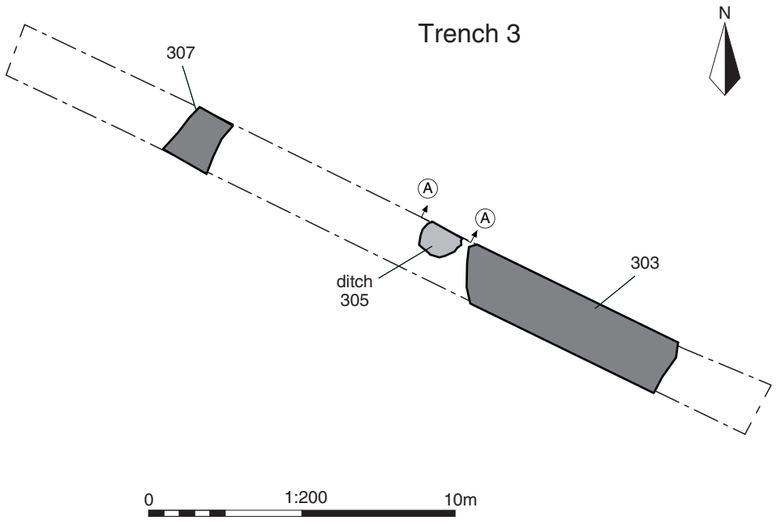
PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent to the Village Hall,
East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

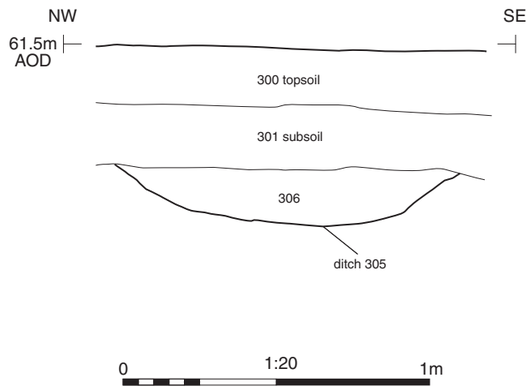
Trench location plan

DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770598**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**13/07/2017**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:1,000**	



Trench 3, looking north-west (1m scales)

Section AA



Ditch 305, looking north-east (1m and 0.4m scales)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(excavated/unexcavated)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent to the Village Hall,
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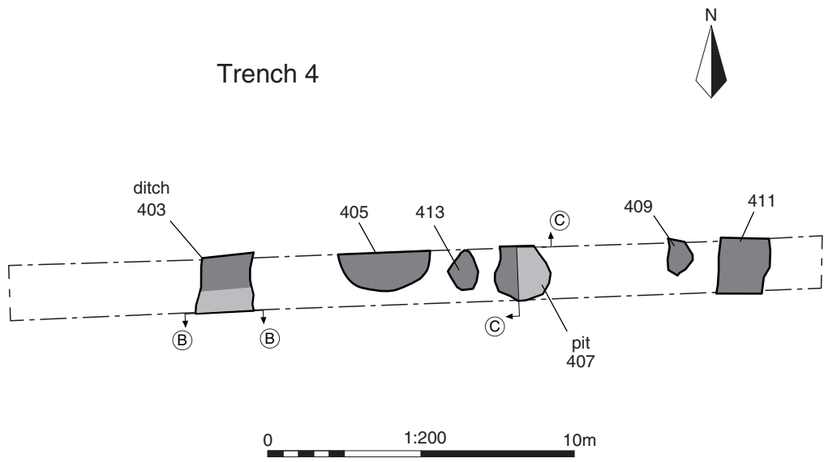
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3; plan, section and photographs

DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770598**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**13/07/2017**	**3**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200 / 1:20**	



Trench 4, looking east (1m scales)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(excavated/unexcavated)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent to the Village Hall,
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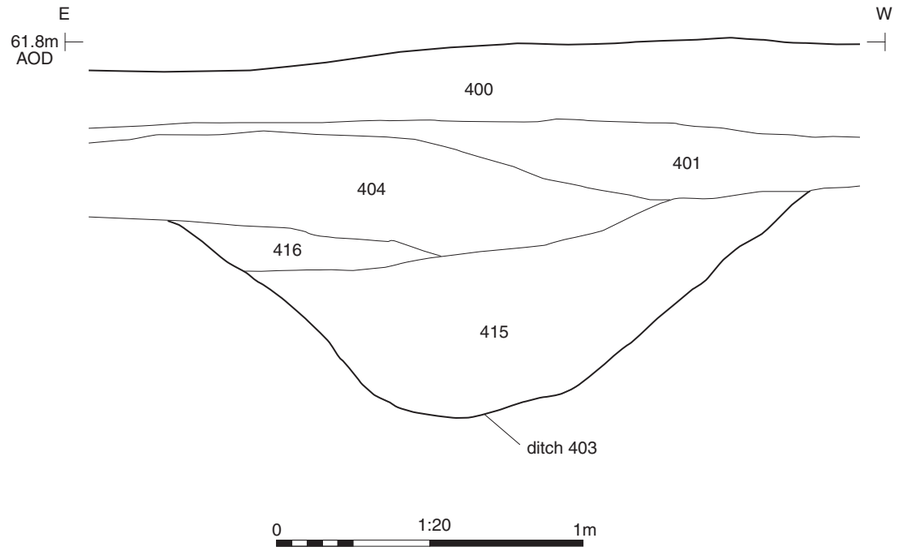
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 4; plan and photograph

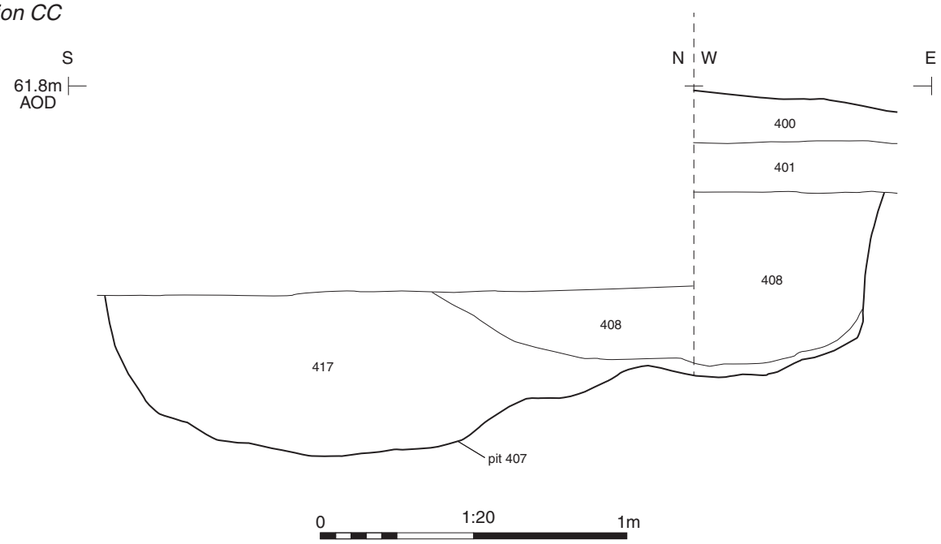
DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770598**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**13/07/2017**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200**	

Section BB



Ditch 403, looking south (1m scale)

Section CC



Pit 407, looking west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land adjacent to the Village Hall, East Hagbourne, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 4; sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770598**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**13/07/2017**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**RK**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

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