

**Land at Cottage Farm,
Glen Road, Oadby,
Leicestershire**

Archaeological Excavation



for
Nexus heritage

on behalf of
Bloor Homes Ltd

CA Project: 660882

CA Report: 17474

April-May 2017



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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	5
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	6
4. METHODOLOGY	7
5. RESULTS (FIGS 3–6).....	10
6. THE FINDS	13
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE.....	14
8. DISCUSSION.....	14
9. CA PROJECT TEAM	16
10. STORAGE AND CURATION	16
11. REFERENCES	17
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....	19
APPENDIX B: POTTERY	24
APPENDIX C: MIXED FINDS.....	26
APPENDIX D: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	27
APPENDIX E: THE ANIMAL BONE	29
APPENDIX F: RADIOCARBON DATE	30
APPENDIX G: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	31



LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000).
- Fig. 2 Area 1 and 2 location plan, showing archaeological features, evaluation results and geophysical survey results (1:1,500).
- Fig. 3 Area 1 plan, (1:500).
- Fig. 4 Area 2 plan, (1:250).
- Fig. 5 Area 1, sections and photographs.
- Fig. 6 Area 2, sections and photographs.



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby
Location:	Oadby, Leicestershire
NGR:	463523 299157
Type:	Excavation
Date:	24 April to 12 May 2017
Planning Reference:	13/00478/OUT and appeal APP/L2440/A/14/2216085
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Museums Service
Accession Number:	X.A36.2017
Site Code:	GRO 17

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April and May 2017 on land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby, Leicestershire. Two excavation areas were located within the development area, targeted on features identified in a previous evaluation of the site (CA 2014).

The excavation revealed evidence of a single charcoal-filled prehistoric pit which yielded a sherd of prehistoric pottery and a Middle Bronze Age radiocarbon date. It also revealed part of a rectilinear field system, or field systems, which the limited ceramic evidence suggests is of Roman date, though perhaps with an Iron Age antecedent. This was overlain by ridge-and-furrow agriculture that is likely to be medieval or possibly post-medieval in origin. The other features scattered across the site are undated but their sparse and irregular distribution, and the sparse finds assemblage, suggests there was no Roman, medieval or later settlement, or other intensive occupation in the area.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April and May 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological investigation at the request of Nexus Heritage and on behalf of Bloor Homes Ltd, on land at Cottage Farm, Oadby, Leicestershire (centred at NGR: 463523 299157; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission for residential housing, and associated infrastructure, including pedestrian and vehicular access, open space and structural landscaping was granted by Oadby and Wigston Borough Council (ref: 13/00478/OUT and appeal ref: APP/L2440/A/14/2216085), conditional on a programme of appropriate archaeological mitigation (Conditions 15 and 16). This comprised an archaeological excavation targeted upon features identified within two areas of the proposed development area (Fig. 2). The scope of the works was detailed during discussions between CA and Teresa Hawtin, Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council's Historic and Natural Environment Team (SPALCC), the archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) – Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by the SPALCC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014); the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015). It was monitored by Richard Clark (Principal Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council - PALCC), including site visits on May 2 and 9, 2017.

The site

- 1.4 The development site, which covers an area of 7.3ha, is located on the south-eastern outskirts of Oadby, approximately 7km to the south-east of Leicester city centre. It consists of a large arable field divided north-east to south-west by a track, the south-western part of which is bounded by hedgerows and trees. The site is bounded by Glen Road (A6) to the north-east, Glen Gorse Golf Course to the south and east, farmland to the south-west and a recreation ground and residential properties to the north-west. The ground is generally flat, lying at c. 120m above

Ordnance Datum (aOD), although it starts to dip into a small tributary valley of the River Sence to the south-west, at the south-western edge of the site.

- 1.5 The two areas of the site chosen for excavation lay to the mid-north (Area 1) and southwest (Area 2) of the development area (Fig. 2). They measured approximately 0.41 and 0.25 hectares respectively.
- 1.6 The geology comprises transitional Triassic-Jurassic mudstone of the Blue Lias Formation, overlain by glacial deposits (diamicton) of the Oadby Member (BGS 2017), which formed the basis of the soils encountered during the excavation.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The detailed archaeological and historical background to the site had been presented in a Heritage Statement produced by Nexus Heritage in 2013. In brief, this established that there were no cultural heritage assets or scheduled/designated sites within the proposed development area or in its immediate surroundings, although some evidence for prehistoric activity, mostly comprising worked flint, had been recovered from fields to the south-west of the site. From at least the medieval period the site had been in agricultural use and the remains of Cottage Farm, which dates from the early 19th century, lay close to the south-western boundary of the site.
- 2.2 The subsequent evaluation stage of works was also informed by a detailed gradiometer survey of the site undertaken by Stratascan in 2013, which identified the remains of ridge and furrow ploughing across much of the site, and a scatter of anomalies that were probably associated with modern activity (Stratascan 2013).
- 2.3 The evaluation (CA 2014) identified evidence of possible Middle to Late Iron Age activity in Trench 12 where a ditch was recorded from which one sherd of pottery was recovered (Fig. 2). Two worked flint blades and a sherd of Roman greyware pottery were recovered from the ploughsoil and subsoil in this general area. Two similar ditches were encountered in the north-eastern part of the site, one parallel and one perpendicular to the furrows in this area; there was no dating evidence in the excavated fills of these features. Other features recorded elsewhere in the site

and identified as the remains of agricultural furrows, were considered to be of at least post-medieval origin (CA 2014).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The general purpose of the archaeological investigation was to provide data to aid the determination and understanding of the nature, date, function, and character of the archaeological remains at the site in their cultural and environmental setting.

3.2 The requirement for the archaeological investigation is in accordance with planning guidance stated in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

3.3 The objectives of the archaeological investigation were to:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of archaeological features that may provide an understanding of settlement and agricultural practices pre-dating the post-medieval period and historically documented field system and boundaries; and
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

3.4 The specific aims of the work were to:

- further characterise and identify the nature and extent of the archaeological features recorded within Trenches 5, 6 (Area 1), 12 and 13 (Area 2);
- recover artefactual and ecofactual remains to provide dating of the archaeological features recorded in the evaluation in order to provide a better understanding of their chronology;
- record any evidence of past settlement activity or other land use with a specific aim of defining the nature of the archaeological features previously recorded in the archaeological evaluation. Identify whether they can be shown to be features that relate to settlement or agricultural activity dating to the later prehistoric or Roman periods, or are of more recent origin;

- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified and in particular to provide dates for the archaeological features previously recorded at the site which are currently undated;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy; and
- Identify whether any dating and ecofactual material recovered from the excavation can provide a better understanding of the chronology of the wider site and archaeological features recorded in the evaluation trenches.

Research objectives

- 3.5 Some initial objectives were identified within *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester University Monograph 13, (ed. Cooper 2006); *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (ed. Knight et al 2012).
- 3.6 The previous evaluation indicated some potential for Iron Age activity in the form of ditches and gullies on the site. The above cited research agenda documents suggest a number of questions that could be addressed relating to Iron Age / Roman settlements and their relationship the Mid to Late Iron Age landscape. Excavations may therefore contribute to our present knowledge of rural settlement, landscape and society.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Code of Conduct (2014a) and adhered to its *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014b).
- 4.2 Accession number X.A36.2017 had been provided by Leicestershire County Council Museum Service and was used for this stage of the project to identify all records and artefacts.
- 4.3 Unlimited access to monitor the project was available to the client and their representatives, and the planning authority, subject to the health and safety

requirements of the site. All monitoring was carried out in accordance with the CiFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014b).

- 4.4 The project adhered to a methodology set out in the WSI and approved by the SPALCC.
- 4.5 The archaeological excavation was undertaken within two areas. These comprise Area 1 (a minimum of 0.40 ha) and Area 2 (a minimum of 0.25 ha) shown on Figure 2 and targeted on the archaeological features recorded within evaluation trenches 5 and 6 (Area 1), and 12 and 13 (Area 2).
- 4.6 The excavation area was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Leica GPS, and scanned for live services by trained staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services. The final 'as dug' area was recorded with a Leica GPS.
- 4.7 The project involved an initial phase of controlled supervision of overburden removal by an experienced professional archaeologist followed by recording and excavation of identified archaeological features within Areas 1 and 2, as shown on Figure 2. Small additions to Area 1 were made, with the approval of the PALCC, in order to investigate features lying on the edge of the stripped area.
- 4.8 The initial works comprised the mechanical removal of non-archaeologically significant soils, under constant archaeological supervision, using a toothless ditching bucket. The spoil was monitored in order to recover artefacts.
- 4.9 Hand-cleaning of the stripped surface, to better define any identified archaeological deposits/features, was undertaken where necessary. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision and ceased when the first archaeological horizon or natural substrate was revealed (whichever was encountered first). All archaeological features were recorded in plan using a Leica GPS.
- 4.10 Examination of features was concentrated on recovering the plan and any structural sequences. Particular emphasis was placed upon understanding the stratigraphic sequence and upon obtaining details of the phasing of the site. All discrete features (postholes, pits) were sampled by hand excavation (average sample 50%). All linear

features (ditches, trackways etc.) were sampled to a maximum of 10%. In addition all intersections were investigated. Priority was attached to features which yielded *in-situ* finds assemblages which could be related to the chronological sequence of the site. The final excavation sampling strategy was agreed between the PALCC and CA, in consultation with the client, once the areas had been stripped and planned.

- 4.11 All archaeological features revealed were planned and recorded in accordance with *Technical Manual 1 Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2013). Each context was recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description; principal deposits were recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50, or electronically using Leica GPS) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). Where detailed feature planning was undertaken using GPS this was carried out in accordance with *Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual* (CA 2012).
- 4.12 A full photographic record was kept. The primary photographic record was captured on Canon digital SLR equipment that matched the quality of a 35mm SLR film camera. The record included detailed images of archaeological deposits and features and other images to illustrate their location and context, and the location and context of the separate working areas. The record included images of the site overall and working shots to illustrate the general progress of the archaeological investigation.
- 4.13 All finds and samples were bagged separately and related to the context record. All artefacts were recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (CA 1995).
- 4.14 Due care was taken to identify deposits which might have environmental research potential, and a programme of environmental sampling was initiated. The PALCC was consulted on the specific requirements for environmental sampling prior to commencement, and once the areas had been stripped and planned. Samples, normally not less than 40 litres in volume (where obtainable), were taken, processed and assessed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (CA 2003) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (EH 2011).

4.15 No human remains or artefacts covered or potentially covered by The Treasure Act 1996 (and the revision of the Treasure Act – Treasure (Designation) Order 2002) were encountered.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 3–6)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices B to E. Contexts from Area 1 are numbered from 2000 to 2078 (Fig. 3) and those from Area 2 from 2500 to 2536 (Fig. 4).

5.2 The spot dating evidence from the site was somewhat sparse but indicated archaeological activity in the Prehistoric, Roman and medieval/post-medieval periods. Stratigraphical analysis of the features has indicated 3 distinguishable periods of activity:

- Period 1: Prehistoric
- Period 2: Roman
- Period 3: Medieval/post-medieval

5.3 Many features could not be definitively assigned a Period based on stratigraphy or spot dating evidence and remained unphased.

5.4 The geological substrate (2002 in Area 1, 2501 in Area 2) was similar across the site, consisting of a yellow brown, compact silty clay, interspersed with a grey-brown silty clay with common inclusions of flint and chalk. In Area 1 the substrate was sealed by intermittent subsoil (2001). Both areas were covered in turn by a modern ploughsoil (2000/2500). A small group of 12 broadly dated prehistoric worked flints were scattered across both excavation areas, occurring as residual finds in several features and also in the topsoil.

Period 1, Prehistoric (Fig. 3)

5.5 Pre-Roman activity was limited to a single pit (2045) located close to the south-eastern limit of excavation of Area 1. The pit was oval in plan, with a shallow irregular profile and measured 0.80m in length by 0.60m in width and 0.09m in

depth. The charcoal rich fill of the pit (2046) contained a single abraded body sherd of quartzite gritted prehistoric pottery. A single radiocarbon date on *Prunus* remains was dated to 1412–1284 cal BC (at 95.4% probability), though the nature of the sample source has the potential to have been residual.

Period 2, Roman (Figs 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Area 1

- 5.6 Roman period activity in Area 1 consisted of two ditches: Ditch 1 running SW-NE and Ditch 2 aligned SE-NW. These were aligned at right-angles to one another and appear to represent elements of a rectilinear field system. Ditch 2 was cut by the plough furrows of a later field system and Ditch 1 ran between two of the furrows, which were also orientated SW-NE. Both these ditches had been identified in the evaluation (Ditches 503 and 603; CA 2014, 2.5, 2.6 and 3.1).
- 5.7 Both ditches were of similar proportions: Ditch 1 was 0.87-1.34m wide and 0.22-0.55m deep; Ditch 2 was 0.72-1.24m wide and 0.25-0.58m deep. In general they had slightly concave sides and bases, although there was some variation, with straighter sides and flatter bases evident in places. Their fills were generally friable to firm, grey or yellow-brown silty clays. The fills of both ditches produced very small quantities of Early Roman samian ware pottery (8 sherds and 1 sherd respectively); the well broken up and abraded condition of which indicated that it might be residual; however, no other finds were recovered from either ditch and their stratigraphic relationship to the overlying ridge and furrow (see below) suggests that a Roman date is most likely.
- 5.8 There was gap of approximately 2.5m between the NE terminal of Ditch 2 and the edge of Ditch 1 meaning that the two ditches lack a direct stratigraphic relationship; nevertheless their similarity in size, profile, fills and their spatial relationship strongly suggests that they were part of the same system. A roughly square posthole or pit (2043; 0.54-0.6m in width by 0.21m in depth) lay on the edge of Ditch 2, adjacent to the gap and although it produced no direct dating evidence, it is possible that it represented a gate post.

Area 2

- 5.9 Three ditches in Area 2 (Ditches 3, 4 and 5) also appeared to be elements of a rectilinear field system. All three ditches were cut by the plough furrows of a later

field system (see below). The excavation of interventions in the plough furrows demonstrated that these were deeper than the ditches and, at the points where the furrows and ditches intersected, had removed them entirely. Ditch 3 had previously been identified in evaluation Trench 12 as Ditch 1202, a probable Iron Age feature (CA 2014, 2.2 and 3.1).

- 5.10 Ditch 3 ran NW-SE, Ditches 4 and 5 were NE-SW aligned. All were of similar proportions (0.66-0.9m wide, 0.23-0.33m deep) and generally with slightly concave sides and bases. The ditch fills were also similar, mostly consisting of grey-brown, firm, silty clay. Only Ditch 5 provided any certain dating evidence, producing two body sherds of grog-tempered Roman pottery, while two sherds of sandy grey ware recovered from the fill of Ditch 3 belonged to either the Roman or Late Saxon periods. However, the layout of the ditches and the similarity of their profiles, size and fills suggest they are all from the same phase of activity.
- 5.11 It is clear that where Ditches 3 and 4 intersected, Ditch 3 cut Ditch 4; however, Ditch 3 possibly represents a recut of an earlier ditch, as Ditch 4 did not continue beyond it to the south-west, suggesting that originally, it may have abutted Ditch 3.

Period 3, medieval/post-medieval (Figs 2, 3 and 4)

- 5.12 Plough furrows representing ridge-and-furrow agriculture were recorded cutting the Iron Age and Roman ditches in both Areas 1 and 2. These comprised broad, parallel, shallow-sided cuts with friable and grey-brown clay silt fills in Area 1 and compact and yellow-brown clay silt fills in Area 2. These features had previously been recorded during the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013) and evaluation of the site (CA 2014).
- 5.13 The furrows in Area 1 were orientated SW-NE and measured 1.9-3.0m across. Those in Area 2 were orientated NW-SE and were 2.75-3.08m across. In both areas the furrows were spaced approximately every 8.0m.
- 5.14 The fills of the furrows in both areas produced pottery of 14th to 19th century date. Where the furrows were fully excavated ceramic drainage pipes were recorded running along their length and sealed by the furrow fills.

Undated (Figs 3 and 4)

- 5.15 Both Areas 1 and 2 contained features that could not be assigned to any period of activity because of a lack of dating material and stratigraphic relationships. Area 1 contained 21 such features and Area 2 contained three.
- 5.16 The undated features were small, all of them being under 1.0m in width/diameter and generally less than 0.5m, and mostly under 0.25m in depth. Most were also somewhat irregular in plan. They may have been small pits or postholes but some could be the product of bioturbation. None formed discernible regular groupings or patterns suggestive of structures. The fills of the features contained little material that might be the product of human activity, although the fills of three (2026, 2031, and 2059) were fairly charcoal-rich.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices B and C.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Late prehistoric	4	4
	Roman	15	62
	?Late Saxon	2	26
	Medieval	37	478
	<i>Total</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>570</i>
Flint	Worked	12	68
	Burnt	2	-
Metalwork	Cu alloy	1	-
	Fe nails	1	-
Glass		8	75
CBM		18	741
fired/burnt clay		4	28
Clay tobacco pipe		4	9

Table 1: Finds

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Biological evidence recovered is listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices D and E.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Animal Bone	Fragments	1	103
Samples	Environmental	4	-

Table 2: Biological evidence

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The excavation confirmed and enhanced the results of the geophysical survey and field evaluation. Groups of ephemeral pits and postholes, mostly concentrated in Area 1, including a pit containing charcoal and a single abraded sherd of prehistoric pottery, along with small quantities of flint tools from both sites are suggestive of temporary occupation or other activity. Charcoal (which yielded a Middle Bronze Age radiocarbon date) and charred weed seeds from the fill of the pit suggests that it was infilled in a grassland, field margin or arable environment and that it contained hearth material from a range of different tree species, suggesting access to nearby mixed woodland. The excavation also demonstrated that the remains of a rectilinear field system or systems of Roman date, though perhaps with an Iron Age antecedent, were present on the site and that these had been succeeded at a later date by ridge-and-furrow agriculture. There was no sign of Roman industrial activity or settlement on the site apart from a single fragment of *tegula* which was redeposited in the fill of a medieval plough furrow.

8.2 Very little dating evidence was recovered and several elements of the field systems have been phased on the basis of their spatial relationships with those elements that did produce dating evidence. It is therefore possible that the dating material is residual and the ditches are of a later date, although they must predate the establishment of the open field system in the medieval period.

8.3 The ditches in Areas 1 and 2 appear to have been orientated on subtly different alignments and those in Area 1 were more substantial than those in Area 2 (Fig. 2). Furthermore, the evaluation (CA 2014) recorded no evidence for comparable ditches between the two excavation areas, suggesting that the excavation may have

recorded two separate field systems. If that is the case; this suggests that they were not particularly extensive; however, some of the ditches were difficult to discern in plan and it may be that others were missed in the evaluation. The fills of two of the ditches from Area 2 produced small quantities of charred plant remains and charcoal, including seeds of vetch/wild pea, indeterminate grain, hazel nut shell and oak consistent with an agricultural environment.

- 8.4 The plough furrows revealed in each area confirmed the evidence from the evaluation and geophysical survey: that there were two blocks of differently orientated ridge and furrow within the development area: that in the south-west, running SE-NW and that to the north-east, running NW-SE. These features were probably medieval in origin, given the presence of 14th to 16th century pottery in their fills and that the greyscale plan of the geophysics (Stratascan 2013, Fig. 02) shows evidence of the characteristic double curve (reverse-S) of medieval ploughland (Rackham 1986, 168).
- 8.5 The presence of modern material within the fills of some of the plough furrows, and the fact that these fills seal ceramic field drains, indicates that the ridge and furrow was flattened and re-ploughed relatively recently. The period of intensified arable agriculture from the mid-20th century seems the most likely period for this change to have occurred. It is possible that soil was imported to fill the furrows, hence the presence of modern material within it.
- 8.6 Examination of the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record indicates that both Roman and prehistoric activity (possibly settlement) occurred within a kilometre to the west and south-west of the site respectively (Nexus 2013, Fig. 3 and 12-13). The Roman field system revealed by this excavation may be related to the Roman centre of activity. The ridge and furrow agriculture on the site is most likely to relate to the settlement of Oadby. The evidence of the Domesday Survey suggests that Oadby was a largely arable parish by the 11th century (ibid.).
- 8.7 In summary, the excavation revealed evidence of prehistoric activity in the form of stone tools and a single pit and a rectilinear field system or field systems of Roman date, probably representative of activity at the periphery of more focused settlement. This was overlain by ridge-and-furrow agriculture that is likely to be medieval in origin. Other features scattered across the site are undated, but their sparse and

irregular distribution and relative lack of archaeological finds suggests that there was no intensive occupation in the excavated area.

The research potential of the archive

- 8.8 Although this excavation revealed relatively limited information, the features that were examined do contribute to various elements of the *Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight, Blaise and Allen 2012). Notably, for the Roman period the excavation archive could contribute to research objective 5.4 “Rural settlement patterns and landscapes” and 5.5 “The agricultural economy”. By themselves the findings of this excavation are of limited significance but they may contribute to wider studies or syntheses proceeding from the research agenda.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Martin Gillard, assisted by Emily Stynes, Luca Belfioretti, Georgina Johnston, Alice Jones, Imber Nowlin and Tim Street. The report was written by Martin Gillard and edited by Daniel Stansbie. The pottery report was written by Grace Jones and Sue Anderson, the mixed finds report by Katie Marsden; the plant microfossils and charcoal reports were written by Sarah Wyles and Sarah Cobain respectively and the animal bone report was written by Andy Clarke. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Emily Evans. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Mark Hewson.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

- 10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Andover and Milton Keynes whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Leicester County Council Museum Service, which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix H, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.



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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Note that contexts 2000-2078 are in Area 1 and contexts 2500-2536 in Area 2

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature Label	Spot Date
Area 1								
2000	layer		Topsoil; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	LOE	>0.4		
2001	layer		Subsoil; yellow-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	LOE	>0.15		
2002	layer		Natural substrate; yellow-brown, compact silt-clay	LOE	LOE	--		
2003	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	1.9	--		Post-Med
2004	fill	2003	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	1.9	--		Post-Med
2005	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.2	--		Post-Med
2006	fill	2005	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.2	--		Post-Med
2007	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.5	--		Post-Med
2008	fill	2007	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.5	--		Post-Med
2009	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.0	--		Post-Med
2010	fill	2009	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.0	--		Post-Med
2011	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	3.0	--		Post-Med
2012	fill	2011	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	3.0	--		Post-Med
2013	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.1	--		Post-Med
2014	fill	2013	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.1	--		Post-Med
2015	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.3	--		Post-Med
2016	fill	2015	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.3	--		Post-Med
2017	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.1	--		Post-Med
2018	fill	2017	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.1	--		Post-Med
2019	cut		Furrow; running SW-NE	LOE	2.0	--		Post-Med
2020	fill	2019	Fill of furrow; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	2.0	--		Post-Med
2021	cut		Pit; oval, concave sides and base	0.43	0.26	0.09		
2022	fill	2021	Fill of pit; whitish-grey, friable, clay-silt	0.43	0.26	0.09		
2023	cut		Pit; oval, irregular sides and base	1.04	0.4	0.12		
2024	fill	2023	Fill of pit; mixed grey and grey-yellow, compact silt-clay	1.04	0.4	0.12		
2025	cut		Pit/posthole; asymmetrical sides, concave base	0.33	0.27	0.1		
2026	fill	2025	Fill of pit/posthole; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.33	0.27	0.1		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature Label	Spot Date
2027	cut		Pit; round-irregular, steep-sided, flat base	0.57	0.54	0.23		
2028	fill	2027	Fill of pit; mixed dark and yellow, compact, silt-clay	0.57	0.54	0.23		
2029	cut		Pit; oval with concave sides and base	0.67	0.33	0.16		
2030	fill	2029	Fill of pit; grey-brown, friable clay-silt, common rounded stone	0.67	0.33	0.16		
2031	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, steep sides, flat/concave base	0.48	0.38	0.14		
2032	fill	2031	Fill of pit/posthole; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	0.48	0.38	0.14		
2033	cut		Pit; irregular oval, steep sides, concave base	0.44	0.4	0.15		
2034	fill	2033	Fill of pit; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.44	0.4	0.15		
2035	cut		Pit; irregular oval, irregular and asymmetrical sides and base	0.41	0.21	0.12		
2036	fill	2035	Fill of pit; mixed dark grey and yellow, compact, silt-clay	0.41	0.21	0.12		
2037	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight sided, concave base	1.0 dug	0.98	0.37	Ditch 1	
2038	fill	2037	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	1.0 dug	0.98	0.37	Ditch 1	
2039	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, shallow sides, flat/concave base	0.39	0.25	0.08		
2040	fill	2039	Fill of pit/posthole; blue-grey, friable, clay-silt	0.39	0.25	0.08		
2041	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, irregular and asymmetrical sides and base	0.25	0.14	0.04		
2042	fill	2041	Fill of pit/posthole; blue-grey, friable, clay-silt	0.25	0.14	0.04		
2043	cut		Pit/posthole; square with rounded corners, steep sides, concave base	0.6	0.54	0.21		
2044	fill	2043	Fill of pit/posthole; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.6	0.54	0.21		
2045	cut		Pit; oval, shallow, flat/irregular base	0.8	0.6	0.09		
2046	fill	2045	Fill of pit; grey-black, friable, silt-clay	0.8	0.6	0.09		Prehist
2047	cut		Pit/posthole; square with rounded corners, steep sides, flat base	0.2	0.19	0.07		
2048	fill	2047	Fill of pit/posthole; grey-black, compact, silt-clay	0.2	0.19	0.07		
2049	cut		?Pit; irregular, very shallow	0.35	0.26	0.05		
2050	fill	2049	Fill of ?pit; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.35	0.26	0.05		
2051	cut		Pit/posthole; irregular-round, concave sides and base	0.47	0.48	0.16		
2052	fill	2051	Fill of pit/posthole; brown-grey, friable, silt-clay, common rounded stones	0.47	0.48	0.16		
2053	cut		Pit; irregular oval, irregular sides and concave base	1.32	0.85	0.21		
2054	fill	2053	Fill of pit; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	1.32	0.85	0.21		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature Label	Spot Date
2055	cut		Pit/posthole; round, concave sides and base	0.52	0.48	0.1		
2056	fill	2055	Fill of pit/posthole; grey-brown, compact, sand-silt	0.52	0.48	0.1		
2057	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, concave sides, uneven base	0.51	0.31	0.07		
2058	fill	2057	Fill of pit/posthole; mixed grey and orange brown, compact, sand-silt	0.51	0.31	0.07		
2059	cut		Pit/posthole; round, steep sides, concave base	0.15	0.11	0.15		
2060	fill	2059	Fill of pit/posthole; brown-grey, friable, clay-silt	0.15	0.11	0.15		
2061	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.0 dug	0.87	0.22	Ditch 1	
2062	fill	2061	Fill of ditch; yellow-brown, friable, silt-clay	1.0 dug	0.87	0.22	Ditch 1	
2063	cut		Pit; oval, irregular concave sides and base	0.9	0.65	0.15		
2064	fill	2063	Fill of pit; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	0.9	0.65	0.15		
2065	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.0 dug	1.34	0.55	Ditch 1	?R-B
2066	fill	2065	Fill of ditch; grey brown, compact, silt-clay	1.0 dug	1.34	0.55	Ditch 1	?R-B
2067	cut		Ditch SE-NW; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.0 dug	0.72	0.25	Ditch 2	
2068	fill	2067	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, friable, silt-clay	1.0 dug	0.72	0.25	Ditch 2	
2069	cut		Pit; oval, irregular and concave sides and base	0.76	0.61	0.16		
2070	fill	2069	Fill of pit; mixed grey and orange-brown, compact, silt-clay, common rounded stone	0.76	0.61	0.16		
2071	cut		Ditch SE-NW; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.0 dug	1.01	0.37	Ditch 2	
2072	fill	2071	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	1.0 dug	1.01	0.37	Ditch 2	
2073	cut		Ditch terminal SW-NE; rounded end, concave sides and base	1.0 dug	1.02	0.28	Ditch 1	
2074	fill	2073	Fill of ditch terminal; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay, common sub-rounded stone	1.0 dug	1.02	0.28	Ditch 1	
2075	cut		Ditch SE-NW; straight-sided, flat sides and base	1.0 dug	1.1	0.45	Ditch 2	
2076	fill	2075	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, friable, silt-clay	1.0 dug	1.1	0.45	Ditch 2	
2077	cut		Ditch SE-NW; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.0 dug	1.24	0.58	Ditch 2	?R-B
2078	fill	2077	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	1.0 dug	1.24	0.58	Ditch 2	?R-B
Area 2								
2500	layer		Topsoil; grey-brown, friable, clay-silt	LOE	LOE	0.3-0.4		
2501	layer		Natural substrate; yellow-brown, compact silt-clay	LOE	LOE	--		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature Label	Spot Date
2502	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, gently concave sides and base	1.33 dug	0.7	0.12	Ditch 5	
2503	fill	2502	Fill of ditch; yellow-grey, friable, clay-silt	1.33 dug	0.7	0.12	Ditch 5	
2504	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	2.86	--		Post-Med
2505	fill	2504	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	2.86	--		Post-Med
2506	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	3.1	--		Post-Med
2507	fill	2506	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	3.1	--		Post-Med
2508	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	2.75	--		Post-Med
2509	fill	2508	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	2.75	--		Post-Med
2510	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	3.26	--		Post-Med
2511	fill	2510	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	3.26	--		Post-Med
2512	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	3.08	--		Post-Med
2513	fill	2512	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	3.08	--		Post-Med
2514	cut		Furrow; running NW-SE	LOE	3.0	--		Post-Med
2515	fill	2514	Fill of furrow; yellow-brown, compact, clay-silt	LOE	3.0	--		Post-Med
2516	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight sided, asymmetrical sides, uneven-concave base	2.0 dug	0.66	0.27	Ditch 5	
2517	fill	2516	Fill of ditch; mixed grey and yellow-brown, compact silt-clay	2.0 dug	0.66	0.27	Ditch 5	R-B
2518	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight sided, asymmetrical concave sides, concave base	1.0 dug	0.69	0.31	Ditch 5	
2519	fill	2518	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	1.0 dug	0.69	0.31	Ditch 5	
2520	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, concave sides and base	0.23	0.21	0.08		
2521	fill	2520	Fill of pit/posthole; mixed grey and yellow-brown, friable, silt-clay	0.23	0.21	0.08		
2522	cut		Pit/posthole; oval, steep sides, concave/flat base	0.69	0.35	0.36		
2523	fill	2522	Fill of pit/posthole; blue-grey, compact, silt-clay, common rounded stones	0.69	0.35	0.36		
2524	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, slightly concave sides and base	0.6 dug	0.36 dug	0.23	Ditch 4	
2525	fill	2524	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.6 dug	0.36 dug	0.23	Ditch 4	
2526	cut		Ditch NW-SE; straight-sided, slightly concave sides and base	0.7 dug	0.2 dug	0.3	Ditch 3	
2527	fill	2526	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, firm, silt-clay	0.7 dug	0.2 dug	0.3	Ditch 3	
2528	cut		Ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, slightly stepped sides and concave base	1.0 dug	0.9	0.33	Ditch 4	

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature Label	Spot Date
2529	fill	2528	Fill of ditch; brown-grey, friable, clay-silt	1.0 dug	0.9	0.33	Ditch 4	
2530	cut		Cut of ditch SW-NE; straight-sided, slightly concave sides and base	1.0 dug	0.75	0.29	Ditch 5	
2531	fill	2530	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	1.0 dug	0.75	0.29	Ditch 5	
2532	cut		Cut of ditch NW-SE; straight-sided, slightly concave sides and base	2.0 dug	0.67	0.23	Ditch 3	Iron Age
2533	fill	2532	Fill of ditch; grey-brown, compact, silt-clay	2.0 dug	0.67	0.23	Ditch 3	R-B (?)L Sax
2534	cut		Cut of shallow pit; irregular, sides gently sloped, base concave	1.64	1.62	0.14		
2535	fill	2534	Lower fill of pit; brown-grey, friable, silt-clay, rounded stone very common	1.62	1.44	0.08		
2536	fill	2534	Upper fill of pit; brown-grey, friable, silt-clay	1.64	1.62	0.08		

APPENDIX B: POTTERY

By Grace Jones and Sue Anderson

Introduction

Fifty-eight sherds of pottery, weighing 570g, were collected from seventeen contexts. The material ranges in date from the prehistoric period to the modern era, and is quantified by fabric type in Table 1.

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	EVE	MNV
Prehistoric						
Quartzite-gritted fabric	Q1	Prehistoric	1	4		1
Grog-tempered ware	G1	Prehistoric	3	3		2
Roman						
Central Gaulish samian	SG SAM	2nd century	10	14		3
Sandy greyware	RB GRY	Roman	3	44		2
Grog-tempered	RB GRG	Roman	2	4		1
?Late Saxon						
Sandy greyware	UNID	RB or LSax?	2	26		2
Medieval						
Potters Marston ware	POTM	12th–13th c.	2	9		2
Midland Purple ware	MIDP	L.14th–16th c.	2	47		2
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	16th–18th c.	1	9		1
Iron-glazed blackwares	IGBW	16th–18th c.	2	12		1
Coarse blackwares	CBW	17th–19th c.?	11	178	0.11	11
Tin glazed earthenwares	TGE	16th–18th c.	1	1	0.04	1
English Stoneware	ESW	17th–20th c.	1	39		1
English Stoneware Nottingham-type	ESWN	L.17th–19th c.	2	41	0.08	2
Late blackwares	LBW	18th–E.20th c.	3	70	0.10	3
Late post-med unglazed earthenwares	LPME	18th–20th c.	2	24		2
Pearlware	PEW	L.18th–M.19th c.	2	18	0.04	2
Refined white earthenwares	REFW	L.18th–20th c.	7	15		5
Yellow kitchen ware	YELW	L.18th–19th c.	1	15		1
Totals			58	570	0.37	45

Prehistoric and Roman pottery (Grace Jones)

Four sherds of prehistoric pottery (7g) were recovered from two deposits. Three are in a grog-tempered fabric (Area 1, topsoil) and one has inclusions of quartzite (Area 1, pit **2045**), but all are abraded body sherds and cannot be closely dated.

Roman pottery (15 sherds, 62g) was recorded in five deposits, all as abraded body sherds. The assemblage includes Central Gaulish samian ware (ditch **2066**, ditch **2077** and furrow **2009**), sandy greyware (furrow 2009 and furrow **2017**) and grog-tempered ware (ditch **2516**).

Post-Roman pottery (Sue Anderson)

The pottery assemblage is dominated by post-Roman pottery. Quantification of this group was carried out using sherd count, weight, estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) and minimum number of vessels (MNV). A full catalogue is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series. Methods follow MPRG recommendations (MPRG 2001) and form terminology follows MPRG (1998). The results were input directly onto an Access database which forms the archive catalogue.

The assemblage

Two sherds of probable Roman period or (possible) Late Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered from Ditch 3. The sherds are abraded, wheelmade body sherds in a black to brown sandy fabric containing abundant sub-angular yellowish, clear and white quartz sand. The clear throwing lines on the inner surface are common in both Saxo-Norman and Roman greywares but the sherds are otherwise undiagnostic and it is uncertain which period this material belongs to, though on the weight of evidence outside Leicester itself a Roman date remains probable. A Saxo-Norman kiln, producing sandy greywares in the 10th century, has been excavated at Southgate Street in Leicester (Hebditch 1986), but elsewhere in east Leicestershire the most common Saxo-Norman finds are Stamford and St Neots-type wares.

Two sherds are of medieval date, both Potters Marston ware (POTM). The fragments are abraded body sherds which were residual in furrow **2011**. Later medieval or early post-medieval pottery comprises a body sherd and a base fragment of Midland Purple ware (MIDP) from furrows **2007** and **2512**.

The post-medieval wares comprise an abraded piece of glazed redware with internal orange glaze (of which only traces survived; GRE), two sherds of a black-glazed redware (IGBW), eleven fragments of large black-glazed coarseware bowls and a jar (CBW), and a small rim fragment of a tin-glazed earthenware bowl or dish (TGE).

Modern pottery included a Nottingham stoneware (ESWN) bowl rim and a body sherd, fragments of black-glazed and unglazed redware jars (LBW, LPME), a pearlware (PEW) shell-edged plate rim and a footring base, refined whiteware (REFW) fragments with willow pattern transfer printed decoration and a cup rim with a handpainted scene externally, and a fragment of yellow kitchen ware with white and blue slip stripes (YELW). One fragment of white stoneware (ESW) from the topsoil of area 2 (**2500**) is probably a piece of electrical insulator from a pylon.

Pottery by context

Table 2 shows the distribution by context with suggested spotdates. All pottery was recovered from post-medieval furrow fills or from topsoil.

Table 2. Pottery distribution and spotdates

Context	Type	Fabrics	Spotdate
2000	Topsoil	GRE CBW LPME REFW	19th-20th c.
2008	Furrow 2007	MIDP IGBW	16th-18th c.
2012	Furrow 2011	POTM TGE	18th c.
2014	Furrow 2013	CBW LBW	17th-19th c.
2015	Furrow 2015	CBW	17th-19th c.
2016	Furrow 2016	YELW	L.18th-19th c.
2500	Topsoil	CBW LBW LPME ESWN PEW REFW ESW	20th c.
2505	Furrow 2504	REFW	19th c.
2510	Furrow 2510	CBW	17th-19th c.
2513	Furrow 2512	MIDP	14th-16th c.
2533	Ditch 3	UNID	Rom/LSax?

Discussion and conclusions

The prehistoric and Roman pottery is abraded and undiagnostic, and the quantities recovered are too small to provide evidence of site use or close dating for these periods. Possible late Anglo-Saxon came from Ditch 3 but comprises only two bodysherds. The medieval pottery was also poorly represented, with two abraded sherds of local Potters Marston ware recovered from later furrow fills. The majority of pottery in this assemblage is of post-

medieval and modern date, and includes 'country pottery' products such as the typical red earthenwares and coarse blackwares which are ubiquitous across the Midlands, together with a few sherds of refined earthenwares, stoneware and yellow kitchen ware which are typical of domestic refuse of the later 18th and 19th centuries. They were probably brought to the site with night soil from Leicester or another large town, and were spread on the fields during manuring.

Reference

Hebditch, M., 1986, 'A Saxo-Norman pottery kiln discovered in Southgate Street, Leicester, 1964', *Trans. Leicestershire Archaeol. Hist. Soc.* 43, 5–9.

APPENDIX C: MIXED FINDS

By Katie Marsden

Ceramic building material and fired clay

Eighteen fragments (741g) of ceramic building material were recovered from ten deposits. The group is highly fragmented and abraded, with few pieces retaining either a full dimension or, in most cases, any original surfaces. As such, the majority of pieces cannot be identified to original form, and are undateable. The exceptions are a fragment from a Roman *tegula* (flanged roof tile), redeposited within area 1 furrow **2003**, and a brick fragment of probable 15th century or later date, recorded from area 2 topsoil **2500**. Four fragments (28g) of fired clay were recorded from two deposits (area 1, furrow **2017** and pit **2063**). All occur in a sandy, oxidised fabric and are heavily abraded. As none of the fragments retain any original surfaces, form and date cannot be identified but they probably derive from hearths or structures.

Clay tobacco pipe

Four fragments (9g) of clay tobacco pipe were recorded from four deposits (area 1: topsoil **2000**, subsoil **2001**, furrow **2017**; area 2: topsoil **2500**). All are stem pieces and none display decoration or surface treatment. Consequently, they cannot be more closely dated than to between the mid 16th and 19th centuries.

Flint

Twelve items (68g) of prehistoric worked flint and two items of burnt flint were recorded from eight deposits. The group varies in condition, with items recovered from area 2 displaying more edge damage and evidence of rolling than those from area 1. This is obscuring potential retouch or use on flakes from area 2 deposits including from furrow **2512**, pit/posthole **2522** and ditch **2524**. Items recovered from area 2 also present heavy recortication, a surface discoloration, resulting from the burial environment (Shepherd 1972, 109). The group is dominated by flakes (area 1: topsoil **2000**, pit **2053**, ditch **2071**, ditch **2073**; area 2: furrow **2512**, pit/posthole **2522**, ditch **2524** and ditch **2532**) and those recorded from area 1 display heavy ripples suggesting hard hammer production. The assemblage cannot be closely dated.

Glass

Eight (75g) fragments of glass were recorded from two deposits (area 1, furrow **2017**; area 2: topsoil **2500**). The dark green colouring of this material is consistent with the 'high lime low alkali' type of vessel manufacture, characteristic of the mid 17th to later 19th centuries (Dungworth 2005). A base fragment with strong basal kick was recorded from area 2 topsoil deposit **2500**, indicative of a wine or spirits bottle of post-medieval date. The

remaining fragments are also likely to be from similar bottles, although diagnostic features are lacking for confirmation.

Metalwork and slag

Two items of metal were recorded, one of iron and one of copper alloy, both from area 2. A single iron nail, of standard hand-forged and flat top type, was recorded from furrow **2506**. Nails of this form develop in the Roman period and continue until the post-medieval period. A copper alloy object, recorded from topsoil deposit **2500**, is too fragmentary to assign date or function. Five items (19g) of indeterminate metalworking slag was recorded from area 1, pit **2053**. They cannot be closely dated.

References

Dungworth, D. 2005. *Assessing evidence for post-medieval glassworking* Unpublished course notes

Shepherd, W. 1972 *Flint: Its origin, properties & uses*. London. Faber and Faber

APPENDIX D: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

By Sarah F. Wyles (plant remains) and Sarah Cobain (charcoal)

Introduction

The charred plant and charcoal remains from a total of four bulk soil samples were analysed from a range of pits and ditches in Areas 1 and 2. Samples were taken from prehistoric pit 2045 and undated pit 2031 in Area 1 and from Roman Ditches 3 and 5 in Area 2.

The bulk samples were processed following standard flotation methods, using a 250µm sieve for the recovery of the flot and a 1mm sieve for the collection of the residue. All identifiable charred plant and charcoal remains were identified following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants and trees, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals. The results are recorded in Tables 1 and 2.

Area 1

The small charred plant assemblage recorded from fill 2046 (sample 6) of prehistoric pit 2045 included seeds of black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and cleavers (*Galium aparine*). These species are typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. Charcoal was present in small quantities, but was highly fragmented. It was possible to identify oak (*Quercus*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), alder/hazel (*Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*), hawthorn/rowan/crab apple (*Crataegus monogyna/Sorbus/Malus sylvestris*), cherry (*Prunus*) species and willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*).

An indeterminate grain fragment and a fragment of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell were recovered from fill 2032 (sample 4) of pit 2031. This small assemblage provides no indication of the likely date of the pit. Charcoal was rare and poorly preserved which rendered the material unidentifiable.

The assemblages may be reflective of dispersed hearth material.

Area 2

Fill 2533 (sample 2) of cut 2532 of Ditch 3, of Roman date, contained a seed of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), a monocotyledon stem fragment and no identifiable charcoal. Whereas the small assemblage from fill 2531 (sample 3) of cut 2530 of undated Ditch 5 included an indeterminate grain fragment, a hazelnut shell fragment, a seed of vetch/wild pea and a monocotyledon stem fragment. Charcoal was present in small quantities, but poorly preserved and only a single item was identifiable as oak. This assemblage provides no clear indication of the likely date of this ditch. Again these assemblages appear to be representative of dispersed hearth material.

Summary

These small assemblages appear to be reflective of dispersed hearth material and do not assist in ascertaining the date of these features. The environmental remains provide an indication that these features are likely to be away from the main areas of settlement activities.

References

Stace, C. 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press Books

Zohary, D., Hopf, M. and Weiss, E. 2012 *Domestication of plants in the Old World: the origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley*, 4th edition Oxford, Clarendon Press

Table 1 Charred plant Identifications

Area		1		2	
		Prehistoric	undated	Roman	undated
Feature type		Pit	Pit	Ditch 3	Ditch 5
Cut		2045	2031	2532	2530
Context		2046	2032	2533	2531
Sample		6	4	2	3
Vol (L)		20	20	20	20
Flot size		160	20	10	5
%Roots		15	15	50	60
Cereals	Common Name				
Cereal indet. (grains)	Cereal	-	1	-	1
Other Species					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (fragments)	Hazelnut	-	1	-	1
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) Å. Löve	black-bindweed	1	-	-	-
<i>Rumex</i> sp. L.	Docks	1	-	-	-
<i>Vicia</i> L./ <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. L.	vetch/wild pea	-	-	1	1
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	Cleavers	1	-	-	-
Monocot. Stem/rootlet frag		-	-	1	1

Table 2 Charcoal identifications

Area			1	1	2	2
Context number			2032	2046	2531	2533
Feature number			2031	2045	2530	2532
Feature Label			Pit	Pit	Ditch 5	Ditch 3
Sample number (SS)			4	6	3	2
Flot volume (ml)			20	160	5	10
Sample volume processed (l)			20	20	20	20
Period			Undated	Prehistoric	Undated	Roman
Charcoal quantity >2mm			+++	++++	+	+
Charcoal preservation			Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor
Family	Species	Common Name				
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.)	Alder/Hazel				
	Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.			3		
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/ Pedunculate Oak		13	1	
	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L.	Ash		7		
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq./ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.	Hawthorn/Rowans/ Crab apple		4		
	<i>Prunus</i> L.	Cherries		2		
Salicaceae	<i>Salix</i> L./ <i>Populus</i> L.	Willows/Poplars		1		
		Indeterminate	5	15		2
Total			0	30	1	0

APPENDIX E: THE ANIMAL BONE

By Andy Clarke

A single fragment of animal bone (103g) was recovered from modern plough soil layer 2500. The bone was in very poor condition, showing a high degree of surface erosion, but could, however, be identified as a partial tibia shaft of a cow (*Bos taurus*). No further useful information was obtained beyond species identification.

APPENDIX F: RADIOCARBON DATE

By Sarah Cobain

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the date of pit 2045. The samples were analysed during January 2018 at Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC), Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, Scotland. The methodology employed by SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory is outlined in Dunbar *et al.* (2016)

The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal v4.3.2 (2017) (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013).

References

Bronk Ramsey, C. 2009 'Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates', *Radiocarbon* **51** (1), 337–360

Dunbar, E., Cook, G.T., Naysmith, P., Tripney, B.G., Xu, S. 2016 'AMS 14C dating at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC)', *Radiocarbon* **58** (1), 9–23

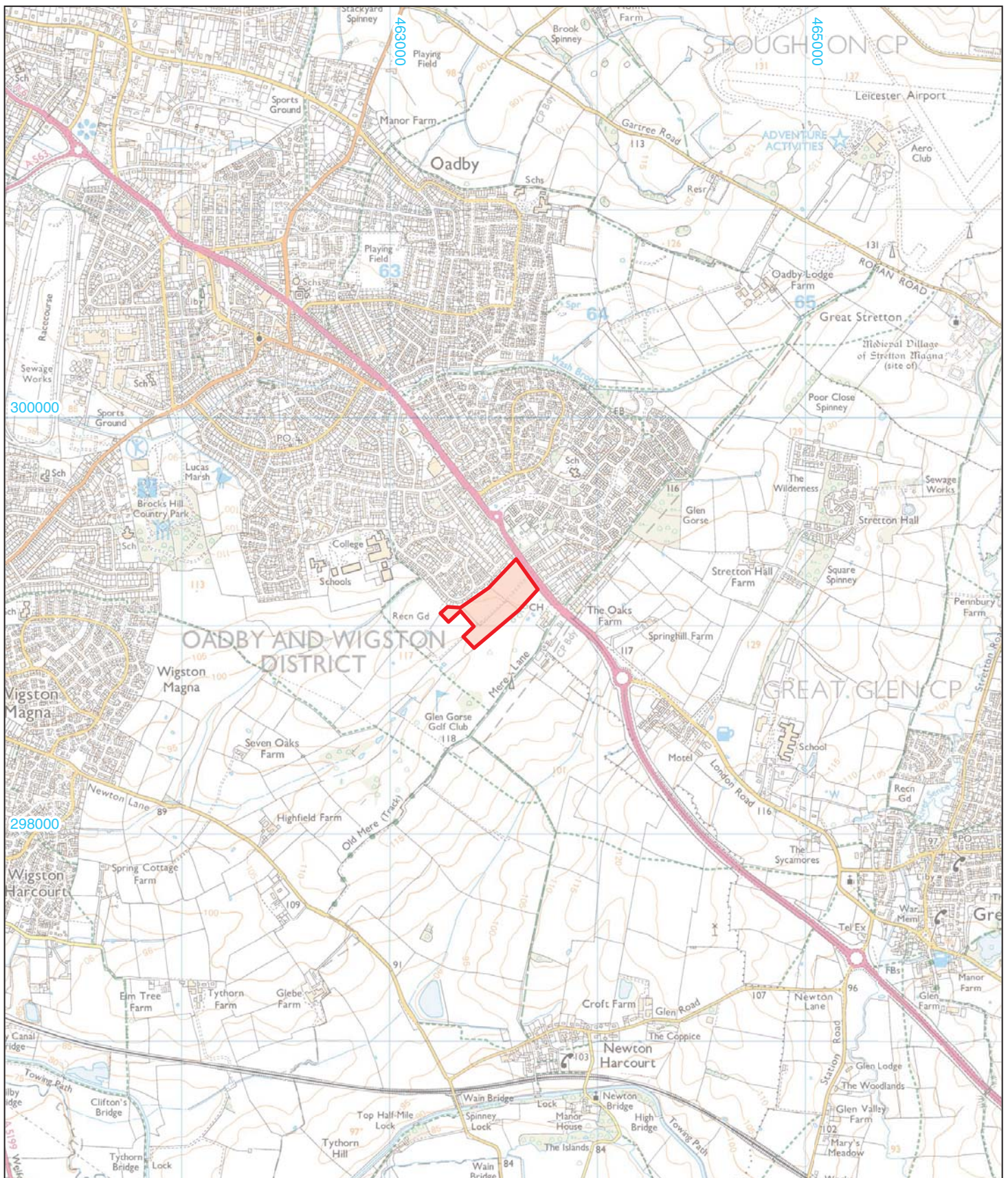
Reimer, P.J., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Beck, J.W., Blackwell, P.G., Bronk Ramsey, C., Grootes, P.M., Guilderson, T.P., Hafliðason, H., Hajdas, I., HattĚ, C., Heaton, T.J., Hoffmann, D.L., Hogg, A.G., Hughen, K.A., Kaiser, K.F., Kromer, B., Manning, S.W., Niu, M., Reimer, R.W., Richards, D.A., Scott, E.M., Southon, J.R., Staff, R.A., Turney, C.S.M., & van der Plicht, J. 2013 'IntCal13 and Marine13 Radiocarbon Age Calibration Curves 0–50,000 Years cal BP', *Radiocarbon* **55** (4), 1869–1887

Table 1: Radiocarbon dating results

Feature	Lab No.	Material	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.2% probability
Context 2046 Pit 2045	SUERC -76952	Charcoal: <i>Prunus</i> (Cherry species)	-25.0‰	3081 ± 21 yr BP	1412–1284 cal BC (95.4%)	1399–1374 cal BC (20.9%) 1355–1302 cal BC (47.3%)

APPENDIX G: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby	
Short description	<p>An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April and May 2017 on land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby, Leicestershire. Two excavation areas were located within the development area, targeted on features identified in a previous evaluation of the site (CA 2014).</p> <p>The excavation revealed evidence of a rectilinear field system or field systems that limited ceramic evidence suggests was of Iron Age to Roman period origin. This was overlain by ridge and furrow agriculture that is likely to be medieval or possibly post-medieval in origin. The other scattered features across the site are undated but their sparse and irregular distribution, and the sparse finds assemblage, suggests there was no settlement, or other intensive occupation in the area.</p>	
Project dates	24 April to 12 May 2017	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2013) Field evaluation (CA 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby, Leicestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.66 ha	
Site co-ordinates	NGR 463523 299157	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	- -	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Mark Hewson	
Project Supervisor	Martin Gillard	
MONUMENT TYPE	Field System Ridge and Furrow	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive Leicestershire County Museum Service, Accession Number X.A36.2017	Content
Physical		Ceramics, and CBM
Paper		Context sheets, matrices, drawings, registers
Digital		Database, digital photos, scanned drawings
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby: Archaeological Excavation</i> . CA typescript report 17474		



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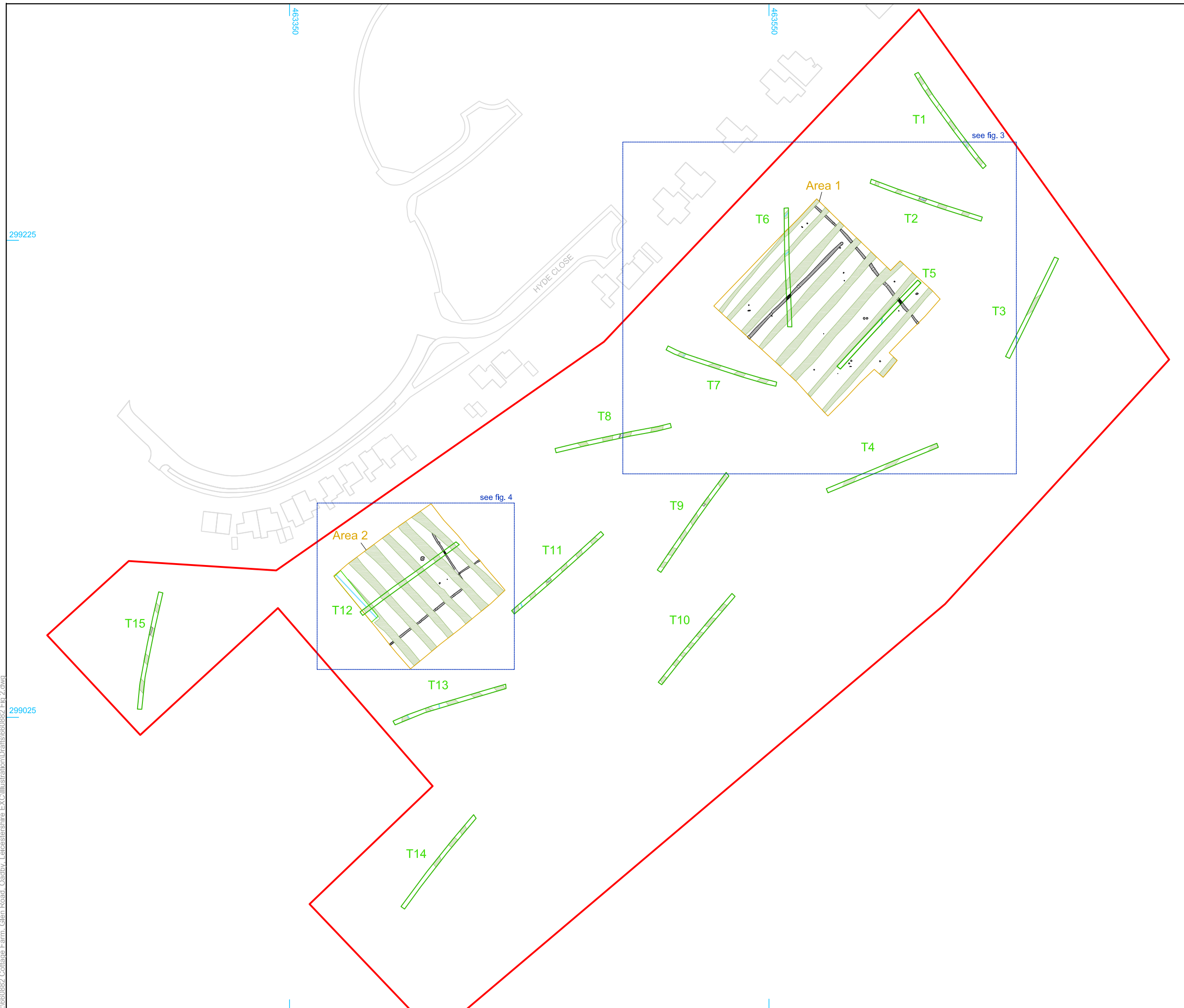
PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby,
 Leicestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan



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CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 24/05/2017	
APPROVED BY MH	SCALE @A4 1:25,000	1



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- excavation area
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern
- field drain



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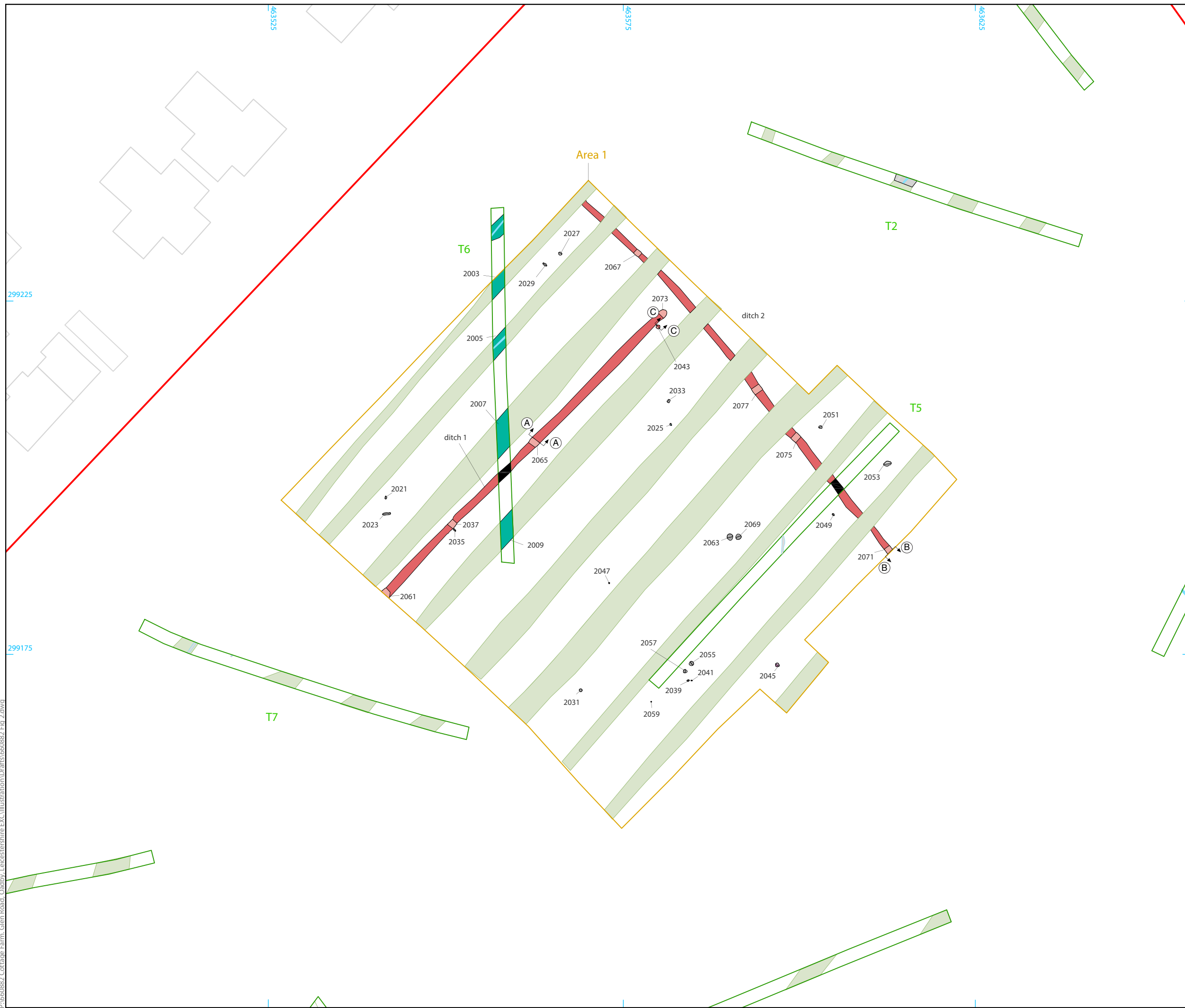
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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Cottage Farm, Glen Road, Oadby, Leicestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Areas 1 and 2 location plan, showing archaeological features, evaluation results and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	660882	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/05/2017	2
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:1500	

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- excavation area
- feature associated with evaluation trench

- excavated/unexcavated
- Period 1: Prehistoric
 - Period 2: Roman (probable)
 - Period 3: medieval/post-medieval
 - Undated
- furrow
 - field drain
- A B C section location



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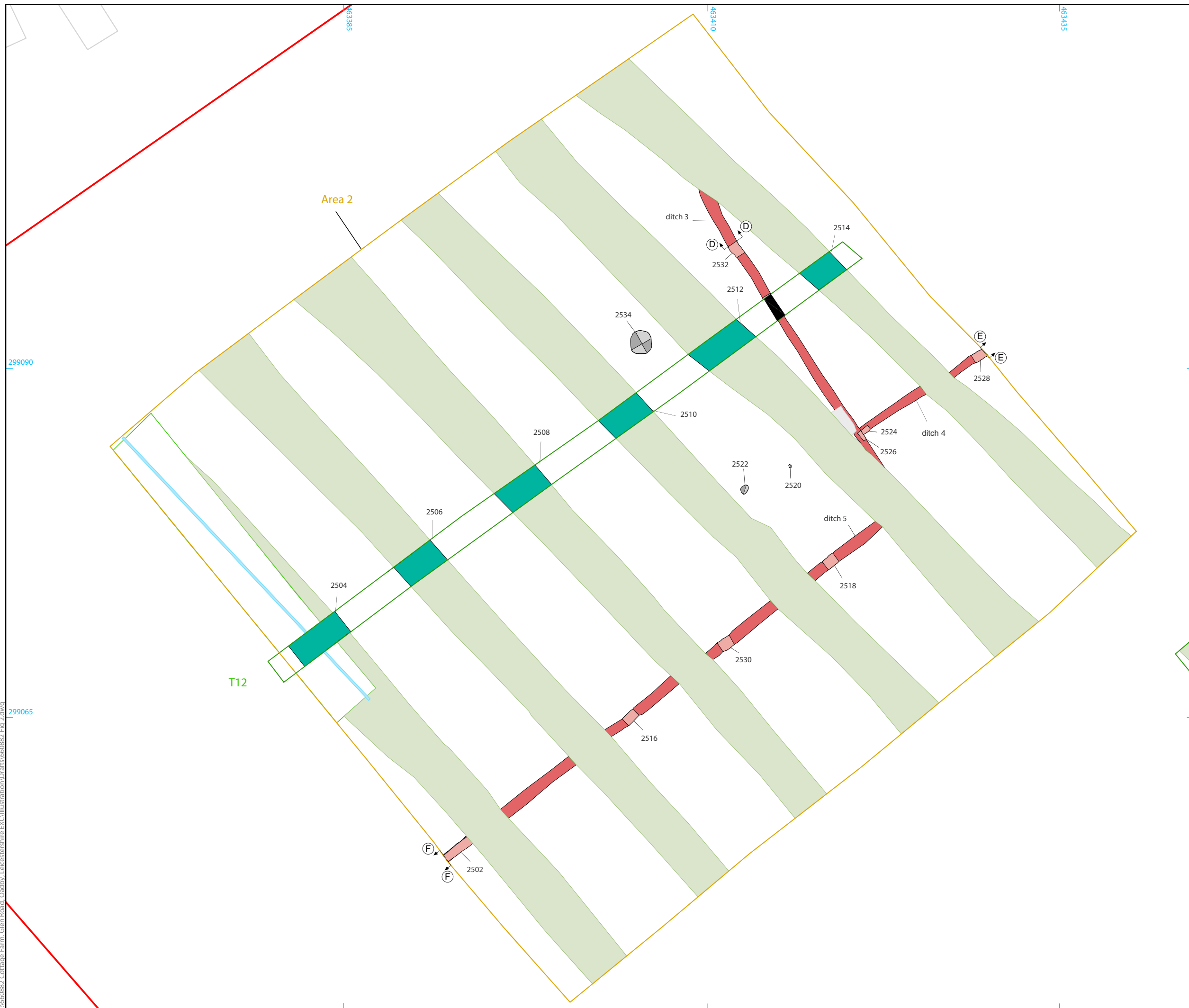
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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
 Area 1: plan

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APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:500	

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- site boundary
 - evaluation trench
 - excavation area
 - feature associated with evaluation trench
- excavated/unexcavated
- Period 2: Roman (probable)
 - Period 3: medieval/post-medieval
 - Undated
- furrow
 - field drain
 - A A section location



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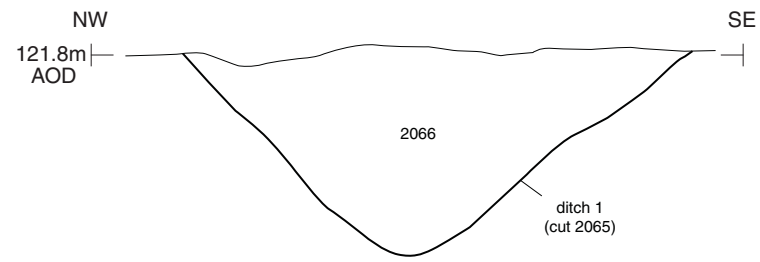
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PROJECT TITLE
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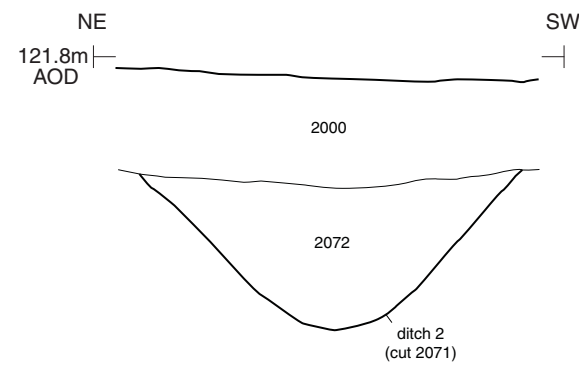
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Area 2: plan

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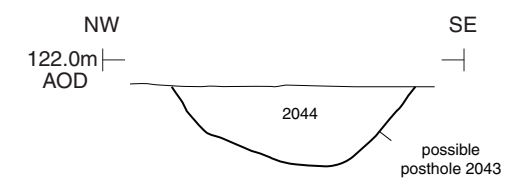
Section AA



Section BB



Section CC



Typical profile of ditch 1, looking north-east (1m scale)



Typical profile of ditch 2, looking south-west (1m scale)



Possible posthole 2043, looking north-east (0.5m scale)


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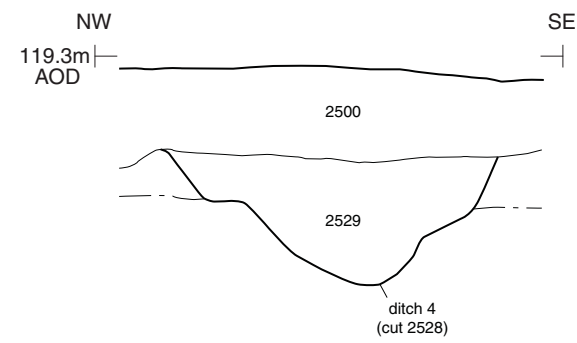
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Area 1: sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/05/2017	5
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE @A3	1:20	

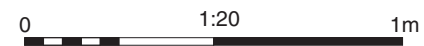
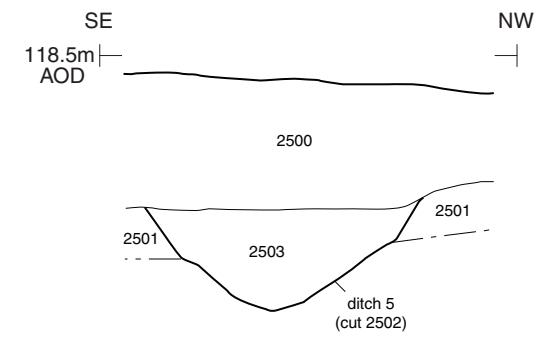
Section DD



Section EE



Section FF



Typical profile of ditch 3, looking north-west (1m scale)



Typical profile of ditch 4, looking north-east (1m scale)



Typical profile of ditch 5, looking south-west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Area 2: sections and photographs

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