

**Land Adjacent Barnwell Court  
Mawsley  
Northamptonshire**

*Archaeological Evaluation*



*for:*  
WS Planning and Architecture

*on behalf of:*  
Jardin Smith International Berhad (Malaysia)

CA Project: MK0375  
CA Report: MK0375\_2

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# Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court Mawsley Northamptonshire

## *Archaeological Evaluation*

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court
<b>Location:</b>	Mawsley, Northamptonshire
<b>NGR:</b>	481140, 275767
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	14 – 18 December 2020
<b>Planning reference:</b>	KET/2020/0215
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre and Archaeological Data Service (ADS)
<b>Site Code:</b>	MAWS20

In December 2020, Cotswold Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation at Land adjacent to Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Northamptonshire. A total of 22 trenches, each measuring 30m long by 2m wide, were excavated across the 7.4ha site. Overall, the results of the evaluation largely support the results of a preceding geophysical survey, identifying no significant archaeological remains within the Site.

The geophysical survey suggested the presence of numerous furrow, many of which the evaluation did not observe. However, given the thin ploughsoil and evident plough-scarring to the surface of the natural substrate it is possible that any other furrows that were once present have been removed by modern agricultural operations with the more magnetically enhanced soils originally filling the furrows still present as bands in the ploughsoil that have produced the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. The geophysical survey also highlighted the potential for a gully or ditch running between trenches 12 and 14; however, this was not observed in either trench.

A single undated pit identified in Trench 1 is likely the only feature on the Site not directly connected with agricultural practices or post-medieval/modern activity. The function of the pit was unclear and it may be an entirely isolated feature or associated with activity taking place on the fringes of the Iron Age and Roman settlement previously investigated to the north of the Site.

Cumulatively, the results of the evaluation suggest that the Site has primarily been used for agricultural purposes since the prehistoric period.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In December 2020, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of Land adjacent to Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Northamptonshire (centred at NGR: 481140 , 275767; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken for WS Planning and Architecture on behalf of Jardin Smith International Berhad (Malaysia).
- 1.2. A planning application has been submitted to Kettering Borough Council (KBC) for Residential development for *43 dwellings, allotments, outdoor play space for Mawsley Day Nursery and additional car parking for the Community Hall with access only considered at Barnwell Court (land adj), Mawsley, NN14 1GY* (application ref: KET/2020/0215). Comments on the application provided by the Assistant Archaeological Advisor, Northamptonshire County Council (AAANCC – Liz Mordue), in their capacity as archaeological advisor to KBC, highlighted the potential for the Site to contain heritage assets of archaeological interest and recommended that a field evaluation by geophysical survey and trial trenching be undertaken prior to determination of the application, in order to allow an informed assessment of the presence/ absence, extent and significance of any archaeological remains within the site.
- 1.3. The scope of the evaluation was defined by the AAANCC and the work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2020) and approved on 9th December 2020 by the AAANCC.
- 1.4. The evaluation was also undertaken in line with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### *The site*

- 1.5. The Site is a rectangular-shaped plot of arable farmland, approximately 7.4ha in extent. The Site is bounded to the north, east and south by further arable farmland and to the west by the new settlement of Mawsley. The recorded geology within the Site comprises Northampton Sand Ironstone in the south of the Site and sandstone and siltstone of the Stamford Member in the north, overlain by superficial deposits of the Oadby Member, a sandy, gravelly clay with rock fragments (BGS 2020). Soils

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are mapped as lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (Cranfield University 2020).

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. The following summary has been synthesised from a combination of HER data and the reports of previous archaeological work undertaken in the vicinity of the Site.
- 2.2. The landscape in which the new village of Mawsley is situated is of known archaeological potential. Aerial photography has recorded cropmark enclosures of probable Roman or Iron Age to the south-west of the new village (NHMR No. 3702), while Iron Age and Roman finds were recorded in the vicinity in the 19th century (NHER 3703). Cropmarks of another probable Iron Age site are recorded approximately 600m northeast of the Site (NCC 2020, NHER 5883), while the site of the deserted medieval village of Mawsley is located to the west of the new village (NHER3701).
- 2.3. The new village development area has been the subject of extensive intrusive and non-intrusive archaeological investigations. Following an initial desk-based assessment undertaken in 1999, fieldwalking was undertaken across the majority of the new village, producing largely negative results. Fourteen sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the south-west end of the fieldwalking area, close the location of the cropmark enclosures (NHMR No. 3702) but a subsequent evaluation did not identify any associated features and it was suggested that recent ploughing may have destroyed any sub-surface remains (ULAS 2012).
- 2.4. Three phases of geophysical survey were undertaken between July 1999 and April 2000, identifying three main potential archaeological sites and a number of further anomalies within the planned village area. Two of the sites were located in close proximity to each other at the south-west end of the development area, immediately north-west of the putative Iron Age cropmarks (NHMR No. 3702.) At the former the geophysical survey suggested ditch type responses consisting of two clusters of circular and semi-circular features, one of them enclosed by a triangular arrangement of ditches. The third site was located at the north-east end of the development area, where the survey results suggested numerous ditch and pit type responses reflecting a complex of enclosures. Weaker ditch and pit type anomalies

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were apparent to the north-east that suggested further enclosed activity extending beyond the study area (ULAS 2012).

- 2.5. The geophysical anomalies at the south-west end of the planned village were tested in late 1999. Evaluation of the unenclosed cluster of features produced results that closely matched the geophysical survey. However, no evidence of the supposedly triangular enclosed settlement to the east was recorded despite this location being evaluated on two separate occasions and it was concluded that the archaeological remains had been destroyed by ploughing between the undertaking of the geophysical survey and the evaluation.
- 2.6. Evaluation of the suggested enclosed site at the north-east end of the development area was undertaken in May 2000. Targeted trenching identified an enclosure with potential internal divisions, of Late Iron Age – Early Roman date. While some features closely matched anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey, trenches targeting the north-east side of the enclosure and a proposed entranceway on the south-east side produced negative results. This was again taken to be either a reflection of the impact of recent agricultural cultivation or poor ground conditions hindering feature recognition (Hull, G & Preston, S. 2002, ULAS 2012).
- 2.7. Further areas of the village development were evaluated, mainly targeting anomalies detected by the geophysical survey, however little of any archaeological significance was recorded.
- 2.8. Subsequent excavation of the unenclosed site at the south-west end of the village development area, undertaken by Thames Valley Archaeological Services during the winter of 2000/1, revealed six penannular structures as suggested by the geophysical survey. Radiocarbon dating showed that the features were not all contemporary, dating between 300-100BC, and they were interpreted as a series of roundhouse eaves drip gullies, illustrating successive phases of rebuilding/settlement shift. A series of straight parallel ditches traversing the site approximately east to west were also recorded during the excavation, clearly truncating the Iron Age structures. The function of these features was unclear but is likely to relate to a specific type of agricultural activity (Hull, G & Preston, S. 2002).
- 2.9. In 2007, the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) carried out an excavation at Housing Areas 6C/6D, located to the north of the Site and on the



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north edge of the new village (ULAS 2012). These works were undertaken to further investigate the series of enclosures identified by the 1999/ 2000 geophysical survey.

- 2.10. The excavations revealed a complex sequence of archaeological activity spanning the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age through to the Anglo-Saxon period. The earliest activity was represented by a short pit alignment. This became the focus of mid-late Iron Age open settlement, consisting of a single large roundhouse. Subsequently a small enclosed farmstead settlement was established on the site around the end of the 1st century BC. The settlement was subsequently re-organised in the early decades of the 1st century AD, continuing in use through the Roman conquest period, into the mid-late 1st century AD. Within the enclosure a stone roundhouse had been constructed close to the focus of earlier domestic settlement that contained a number of oven type structures. A number of possible corn-drier ovens were recorded on the edges of the earlier enclosure ditches and the large stone ovens within the stone roundhouse may also date to this period. This activity appeared to be non-domestic in nature, perhaps primarily associated with crop processing (ULAS 2012).
- 2.11. By the middle of the 2nd century the focus of domestic settlement appeared to have either shifted away from the excavation area or the settlement had been totally abandoned, the remnants perhaps having become incorporated into a larger estate. An element of ritualised activity appears to have taken place, evidenced by the internment of a burial in the north-east side of the enclosure and clear evidence of structural deposition in and around the south-western side. Coinage recovered suggests there was still a presence on the site until the early 4th century (ULAS 2012).
- 2.12. The Roman settlement site may have remained an important feature within the landscape into the post-Roman period. This is evidenced by an Anglo-Saxon burial, radiocarbon dated to the mid 6th to mid 7th centuries AD, that had been placed into an earlier ditch close to the location of the stone roundhouse (ULAS 2012, NCC 2020).
- 2.13. A geophysical survey (fluxgate gradiometer) of the Site was undertaken in August 2020. No anomalies suggestive of significant archaeological features were identified; however, curvilinear anomalies of undetermined origin were detected in

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the centre of the survey area. The survey identified a path, still extant at the time of the survey and recorded on historic OS maps as a tree lined path/track leading from the neighbouring village of Great Cransley to Cransley Hall. Anomalies related to agricultural activity were also identified and interpreted as evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation, drainage features and modern cultivation methods. A number of these anomalies were the target of investigation during the 2020 archaeological evaluation (CA).

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1.** The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the Site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable Kettering Borough Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage assets of archaeological interest within the Site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between the conservation of those heritage assets and the development proposals. This process is in line with policies contained in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).
- 3.2.** The specific objective of the evaluation was to investigate anomalies of probable/possible and uncertain origin recorded by the 2020 geophysical survey, especially the potential for a gully/ditch running through trenches 12 and 14, and a number of potential agricultural features/ trends recorded across the Site (Magnitude 2020). Had significant archaeological remains been encountered then this report would have sought to place them in the local and regional context in relation to East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands (Vyner and Allen 2012). However, the absence of any significant remains means that the results of the investigation will not contribute to any research objectives.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1.** The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 22 trenches, each measuring 30m long by 2m wide, in the locations shown on Figure 2. Trenches 5 and 7 were moved 5m north-west and south-east respectively from their original intended locations due to close proximity with a public right of way. The trenches were

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located to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the site.

- 4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre (NARC) for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with the *Northamptonshire Archaeological Archives Standards* (Donnelly-Symes 2020) and the *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2020).
- 4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.

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5.2. A total of 22 trenches were excavated across the Site with archaeological features recorded in 7 trenches; namely, trench 1, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18 and 22. The majority of the archaeological features encountered furrows and other agricultural features. The remaining trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.3. The deposit sequence encountered was broadly similar across the Site, with the natural substrate comprising a mid-orange brown/yellow brown silt clay with naturally occurring flint and chalk inclusions (Fig. 3). Subsoil, consisting of a mid-orange brown silt clay, was encountered in trenches 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19, all located towards the centre of the Site. In all of the trenches the natural substrate or subsoil was sealed by a mid-brown grey agricultural ploughsoil between 0.25 and 0.4m thick.

*Trench 1 (Fig. 2 and 4).*

5.4. Trench 1 was located in the south corner of the Site, oriented broadly north/south. Within the trench the natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.35m bpgl, sealed by ploughsoil. The trench contained a single archaeological feature, a pit located towards the centre of the trench.

5.5. Pit 102 extended beyond the baulk of the trench, therefore its exact shape and profile could not be determined; however, within the trench it measured in excess of 1.55m long by 0.55m wide and contained a mid-blue grey silt clay fill 0.47m deep that produced a single unworked fragment of burnt flint that cannot be closely dated. An environmental sample (1) produced no charred plant remains or charcoal.

*Trench 11 (Fig. 2).*

5.6. Trench 11 was located in the centre of the Site on a broadly north-east/south-west alignment. The natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.3m bpgl, sealed by ploughsoil.

5.7. Trench 11 contained a single archaeological feature, a furrow aligned broadly north-west/south-east correlating with a geophysical anomaly. Measuring 1m wide, the furrow (1102) ran along the width of the trench and contained a mid-grey brown silt clay (1103).

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### *Trench 13 (Fig. 2).*

- 5.8. Trench 13 was located slightly to the north-east of Trench 11, again broadly in the centre of the Site. The natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.5m bpgl, covered by 0.2m of subsoil and sealed by 0.3m of ploughsoil.
- 5.9. One possible archaeological feature, gully 1303, was recorded along with a probable modern service trench or geotechnical pit. Gully 1303, which ran across the trench north/south, corresponding broadly with a geophysical anomaly, measured 0.16m wide with a steep, near vertical profile and a rounded base. It contained a single fill, 0.18m thick, consisting of mid-grey brown silt clay (1304).

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

- 5.10. Trench 16 was located to the east of the Site, on a broadly north/south alignment. The natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.35m bpgl, sealed by ploughsoil.
- 5.11. Two furrows, orientated north-west/south-east, were recorded within Trench 16. Measuring approximately 0.75m wide, both ran the width of the trench and contained a mid-orange brown silt clay.

### *Trench 17 (Fig. 2).*

- 5.12. Trench 17 was located towards the north-east of the Site, running on a broadly north/south alignment. The natural geology at the northern end of the trench was encountered at 0.6m bpgl, covered by 0.3m of subsoil and sealed by ploughsoil. Natural geology was not encountered at the southern end of the trench due to the presence of a large quarry pit.
- 5.13. The quarry pit corresponds with a large sub-oval anomaly highlighted on the geophysical survey results. Quarry pit 1703 extended over 7m into the south end of trench and contained at least two deposits. Due to the size and depth of the feature it was investigated via a machine-excavated sondage, with the agreement of the AAANCC. Upper fill 1704, a mid-red brown sandy silt, was approximately 2m thick and sealed a dark grey black sandy silt layer/ fill with coal inclusions that was in excess of 1m thick (1705). Part of the northern edge of the quarry pit was exposed during excavation and the profile was noted as being concave and moderately steep.

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### ***Trench 18 (Fig. 2 and 5).***

- 5.14. Trench 18 was located in the northern part of the Site, running on a broadly east/west orientation. The natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.55m bpgl, covered by 0.25m of subsoil and then sealed by ploughsoil. Two archaeological features were observed within the trench.
- 5.15. Gully 1803 ran 5m broadly north-west/south-east across the trench. The gully was 0.45m wide, had steep sloping sides and a concave base and contained a single sterile, dark grey brown silt clay fill 0.25m thick (1804).
- 5.16. A second gully was recorded to the east of Gully 1803. Gully 1805 was orientated broadly north/south, running across the width of the trench. The gully was 0.35m wide, had steep sides and contained a single dark grey brown silt clay fill, 0.13m thick.

### ***Trench 19 (Fig. 2)***

- 5.17. Trench 19 contained three furrows (1903, 1905, 1907), all running broadly northwest to southeast across the trench and corresponding with a series of linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. All were approximately 0.6m wide and each contained a single fill of dark grey brown sandy clay (1904, 1906, 1908) approximately 0.11m thick). A flint blade of probable Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date was recovered from fill 1904 of furrow 1903.

### ***Trench 22 (Fig. 2 and 6).***

- 5.18. In trench 22, located in the north-east corner of the Site and aligned broadly east/west, the natural silt clay geology was encountered at 0.3m bpgl, sealed by ploughsoil. A single furrow broadly oriented north-west/south-east was recorded within the trench.
- 5.19. Furrow 2202 was located at the western end of the trench and measured 1.2m wide. It contained a single mid-orange brown silt clay fill 0.1m thick that contained a number of animal bone fragments.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1. Artefactual material is recorded from two deposits: the fill of a furrow and the fill of a pit (Appendix B). The material was recovered entirely by hand.

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- 6.2. The finds from the evaluation have been recorded direct to an Excel spreadsheet from which Appendix B (Table 1) is derived and which forms part of the project archive. The finds were examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to count and weight.

### *Flint*

- 6.3. A flint blade (2g) made in yellowish brown flint and approximately 40mm in length is recorded from furrow fill 1904. The blade does not exhibit signs of extensive wear or damage although is clearly redeposited in this feature. Blades (removals with a length/breadth ratio of 2:1 or greater) are a common feature of Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic flint assemblages, although in isolation and as a redeposited piece, close dating cannot be suggested with any confidence in this instance. Similarly, the single fragment of unworked, burnt flint (18g) recorded from pit fill 103, cannot be closely dated.

## **7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

### *Animal Bone by Andy Clarke*

- 7.1. Animal bone amounting to six fragments (227g) were recovered from deposits 1704 and 2203, the fills of quarry pit 1703 and furrow 2202, which remain undated (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but well preserved enough to identify the presence of sheep/goat (*Ovis aries*/*Capra hircus*.) from fragments of two femurs and two tibia and horse (*Equus caballus*) also from a fragment of tibia. No cut marks or impact damage indicative of butchery waste were present which, when combined with the low recovery and lack of association with datable material, limits any inference to species identification.

### *Plant macrofossils by Emma Aitken*

- 7.2. A single environmental sample (17 litres of soil) was processed from the single fill (103) of pit 102 in trench 1. This was done with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site and examining how this changed over time. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

### *Trench 1*

- 7.3. Pit 102 (sample 1) contained no charred plant remains or charcoal, the flot comprising approximately 98% roots/modern material. This assemblage provides

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no insight into the possible use or function of pit 102, nor does it aid in the dating of the feature.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1. In total nine features were identified across the 22 trenches, the majority of which did not contain any dating evidence but can be described as being agricultural in nature.

### *Agricultural features*

- 8.2. The majority of the features identified were furrows, part of a medieval and/ or early post-medieval ridge and furrow field system. The geophysical survey results clearly show anomalies interpreted as furrows aligned north-west/south-east and all of the features interpreted as furrows were also on a broadly north-west/south-east alignment, with the majority of them correlating directly with anomalies from the geophysical survey.
- 8.3. Gullies 1303, 1803 and 1805 are all also either drainage-related or possibly related to internal sub-division of the field. None correspond with boundaries depicted on historic maps of the Site and while gully 1803 is broadly on the same alignment as the ridge and furrow, gullies 1303 and 1805 are on a different, north-south, orientation.

### *Post-medieval and modern*

- 8.4. Two features were recorded during the evaluation that likely represent post-medieval or modern activity on the Site. Feature 1305 in Trench 13 appeared to be a machine excavated trench, possibly for a service or geotechnical/ site investigation purposes. The profile of the feature was very regular, with near vertical sides, and the single fill was very similar to the bedrock geology, suggesting backfilling with the original arisings.
- 8.5. The second feature of likely post-medieval/modern date is the quarry pit located in Trench 17. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the feature and available historic cartographic sources covering the site do not depict a quarry pit in this area, the presence of coal in the lower fill of the pit is more suggestive of a post-medieval or modern date.



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### *Other*

- 8.6. Pit 102 is potentially the only feature on the Site not directly connected with agricultural activity or post-medieval/modern activity. The function of the pit, which produced a single unworked fragment of burnt flint, is unclear and it may be an entirely isolated feature or be associated with activity taking place on the fringes of the Iron Age and Roman settlement previously investigated to the north of the Site. Alternatively, given the high percentage of modern root material recovered via an environmental sample taken from the feature, a relatively modern date could also be conjectured although the abundance of root material may simply be a reflection of the shallow ploughsoil and the current agricultural use of the site.
- 8.7. Overall, the results of the evaluation largely support the results of the preceding geophysical survey, in so far as no potentially significant archaeological remains were identified by either investigation. The geophysical survey suggested the presence of numerous furrows, many of which the evaluation did not observe. However, given the thin ploughsoil and evident plough-scarring to the surface of the natural substrate it is possible that any other furrows that were once present have been removed by agricultural operations with the more magnetically enhanced soils originally filling the furrows still present as bands in the ploughsoil that have produced the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. The geophysical survey also highlighted the potential for a gully or ditch running between trenches 12 and 14; however, this was not observed in either trench.
- 8.8. Cumulatively, the results of the evaluation suggest that the Site has primarily been used for agricultural purposes since the prehistoric period.

## **9. CA PROJECT TEAM**

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Bethany Hardcastle, assisted by Joao Heitor, Nasturcja Pacholek, John Hardisty and Morgan Wampler. This report was written by Bethany Hardcastle. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Andy Clarke and Emma Aiken, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The project archive has been compiled by Matt Lee and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Adrian Scruby.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.35
1	101	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
1	102	Cut		Pit	Sub-oval in plan, irregular sides, full profile unknown	>1.5	>0.55	0.47
1	103	Fill	102	Fill of pit	Mid-blue grey silt clay, frequent angular stones	>1.5	>0.55	0.47
2	200	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.35
2	201	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
3	300	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
3	301	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
4	400	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.35
4	401	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
5	500	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
5	501	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
6	600	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.4
6	601	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
7	700	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
7	701	Layer		Natural	Mid-grey brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
8	800	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.35
8	801	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown clay silt with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
9	900	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.4
9	901	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
10	1000	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
10	1001	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
11	1100	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
11	1101	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
11	1102	Cut		Furrow	Linear, north-west/south-east Orientation	>2.0	1.0	-
11	1103	Fill	1102	Fill of furrow	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>2.0	1.0	-
12	1200	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
12	1201	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
13	1300	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-yellow grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.2

13	1302	Layer		Natural	Mottled mid-orange grey silt Clay	>30	>2.0	-
13	1303	Cut		Gully	Linear, north-east/south-west oriented, steep sloping sides	>2.0	0.16	0.18
13	1304	Fill	1303	Fill of gully	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>2.0	0.16	0.18
13	1305	Cut		Modern	Former geotech pit/service trench	>2.0	0.8	>0.75
13	1306	Fill	1305	Fill of modern	Mid-blue grey silt clay, very compact	>2.0	0.8	>0.75
14	1400	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.1
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
15	1500	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.25
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.2
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay with flint inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
16	1600	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.35
16	1601	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay with flint and chalk inclusions	>30	>2.0	-
16	1602	Cut		Furrow	North-west/south-east oriented, linear	>2.0	0.75	-
16	1603	Fill	1602	Fill of furrow	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>2.0	0.75	-
16	1604	Cut		Furrow	North-west/south-east oriented, linear	>2.0	0.75	-
16	1605	Fill	1604	Fill of furrow	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>2.0	0.75	-
17	1700	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange brown clay silt	>30	>2.0	0.3
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Mid-yellow brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
17	1703	Cut		Quarry Pit	Shape in plan unknown, exposed in south end of trench	>7.0	>2.0	>2.0
17	1704	Fill	1703	Fill of quarry pit	Mid-red brown sandy silt	>7.0	>2.0	>2.0
17	1705	Fill	1703	Fill of quarry pit	Dark black grey, silt clay	>3.0	>2.0	>1.0
18	1800	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-grey brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.25
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Mixed mid-grey/blue brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
18	1803	Cut		Gully	North-west/south-east aligned linear	>5.0	0.45	0.23
18	1804	Fill	1803	Fill of gully	Dark grey brown silt clay	>5.0	0.45	0.23
18	1805	Cut		Gully	North/south linear, steep sides	>2.0	0.35	0.13
18	1806	Fill	1805	Fill of gully	Dark grey brown sand silt	>2.0	0.35	0.13
19	1900	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.1
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Light brown orange silt clay	>30	>2.0	-

19	1903	Cut		Furrow	East/west oriented furrow	>2.0	0.63	0.11
19	1904	Fill	1903	Fill of furrow	Dark grey brown sandy clay	>2.0	0.63	0.11
19	1905	Cut		Furrow	East/west oriented furrow	>2.0	0.6	-
19	1906	Fill	1905	Fill of furrow	Dark grey brown sandy clay	>2.0	0.6	-
19	1907	Cut		Furrow	East/west oriented furrow	>2.0	0.6	-
19	1908	Fill	1907	Fill of furrow	Dark grey brown sandy clay	>2.0	0.6	-
20	2000	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
20	2001	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
21	2100	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
21	2101	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
22	2200	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid-brown grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	0.3
22	2201	Layer		Natural	Mid-orange grey silt clay	>30	>2.0	-
22	2202	Cut		Furrow	North-west/south-east orientated furrow	>2.0	1.2	0.1
22	2203	Fill		Fill of furrow	Mid-orange brown silt clay	>2.0	1.2	0.1

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## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds Concordance

Context	Class	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
103	Burnt flint			1	18	
1904	Flint	Blade		1	2	

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

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

Cut	Fill	O/C	EQ	MM	Total	Weight (g)
1703	1704	4	1		5	221
2202	2203			1	1	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>109</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>227</b>	

O/C = Sheep/goat; EQ = horse

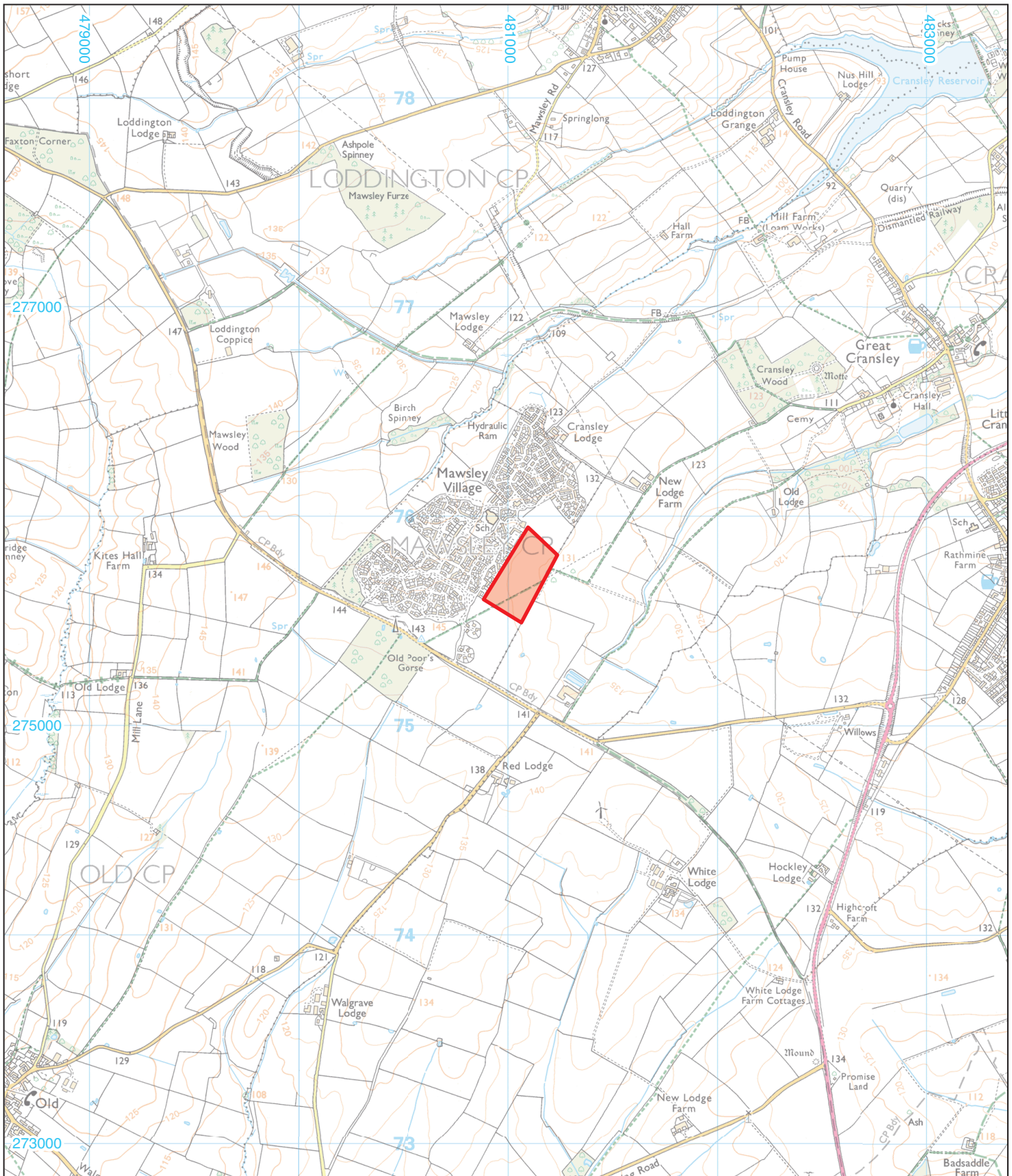
**Table 1** Assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots	Cereal Notes	Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 1 - Pit									
102	103	1	17	7	98	-	-	-	-



## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Northamptonshire	
Short description	<p>In December 2020, Cotswold Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation at Land adjacent to Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Northamptonshire. A total of 22 trenches, each measuring 30m long by 2m wide, were excavated across the 7.4ha site. Overall, the results of the evaluation largely support the results of a preceding geophysical survey, identifying no significant archaeological remains within the Site.</p> <p>The geophysical survey suggested the presence of numerous furrow, many of which the evaluation did not observe. However, given the thin ploughsoil and evident plough-scarring to the surface of the natural substrate it is possible that any other furrows that were once present have been removed by modern agricultural operations with the more magnetically enhanced soils originally filling the furrows still present as bands in the ploughsoil that have produced the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. The geophysical survey also highlighted the potential for a gully or ditch running between trenches 12 and 14; however, this was not observed in either trench. A single undated pit identified in Trench 1 is likely the only feature on the Site not directly connected with agricultural practices or post-medieval/modern activity. The function of the pit was unclear and it may be an entirely isolated feature or associated with activity taking place on the fringes of the Iron Age and Roman settlement previously investigated to the north of the Site.</p> <p>Cumulatively, the results of the evaluation suggest that the Site has primarily been used for agricultural purposes since the prehistoric period.</p>	
Project dates	14 – 18 December 2020	
Project type	Archaeological Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (2020).	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site location	Mawsley, Northamptonshire	
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	7.1	
Site co-ordinates	481140, 275767	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby	
Project Supervisor	Bethany Hardcastle	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)</b>
Physical	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Flint and animal bone
Paper	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Context sheets, photo registers, trench recording sheets, drawings, report
Digital	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre and ADS	Database, digital photos, report
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2021 <i>Land Adjacent Barnwell Court, Mawsley, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report <b>MK375_2</b>		



 Site boundary



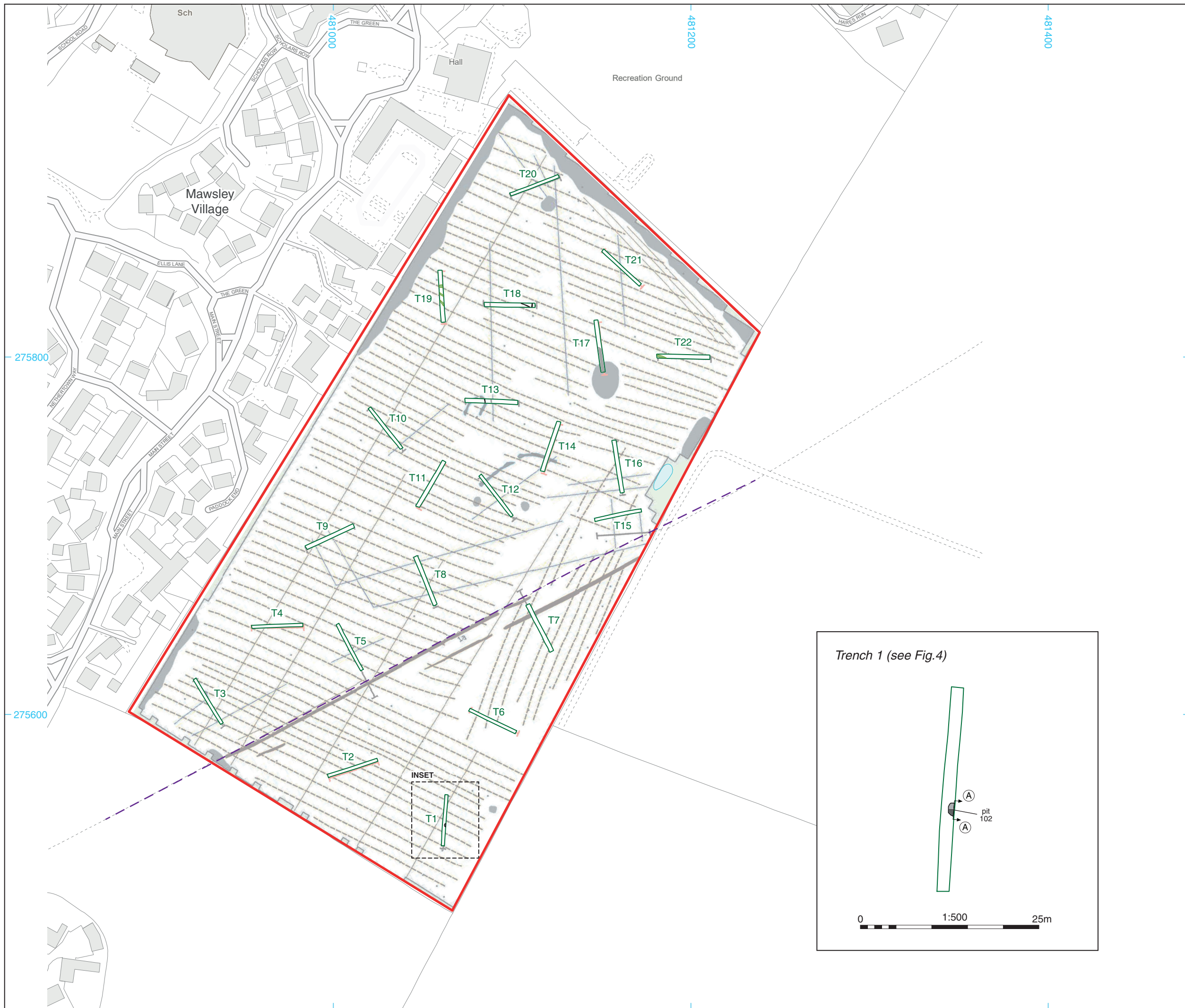
**Andover** 01264 347630  
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court,  
 Mawsley, Northamptonshire

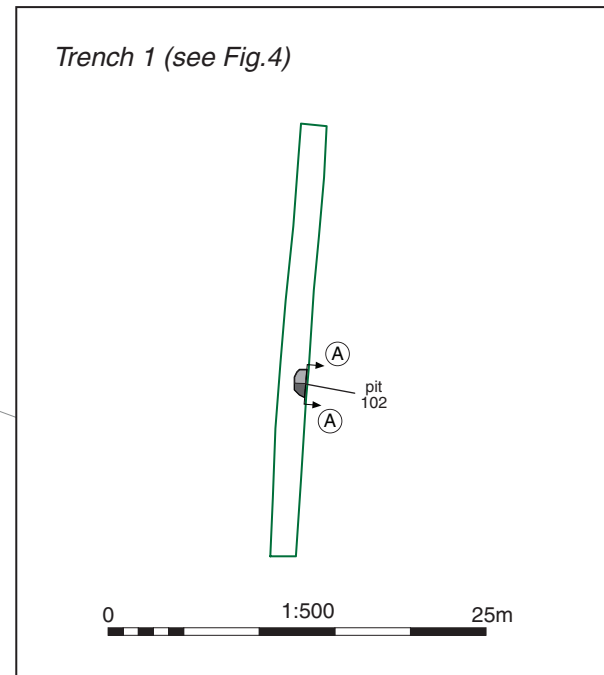
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

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<b>DRAWN BY</b> EE	<b>PROJECT NO.</b> MK0375	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b> DJB	<b>DATE</b> 04/01/2021	
<b>APPROVED BY</b> AS	<b>SCALE@A4</b> 1:25,000	<b>1</b>



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Furrow
- Modern
- Public path
- A Section location



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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court,  
 Mawsley, Northamptonshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	MK0375	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/01/2021	2
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:2,000 / 1:500	



Trench 21, representative section, looking south-west (1m scale)

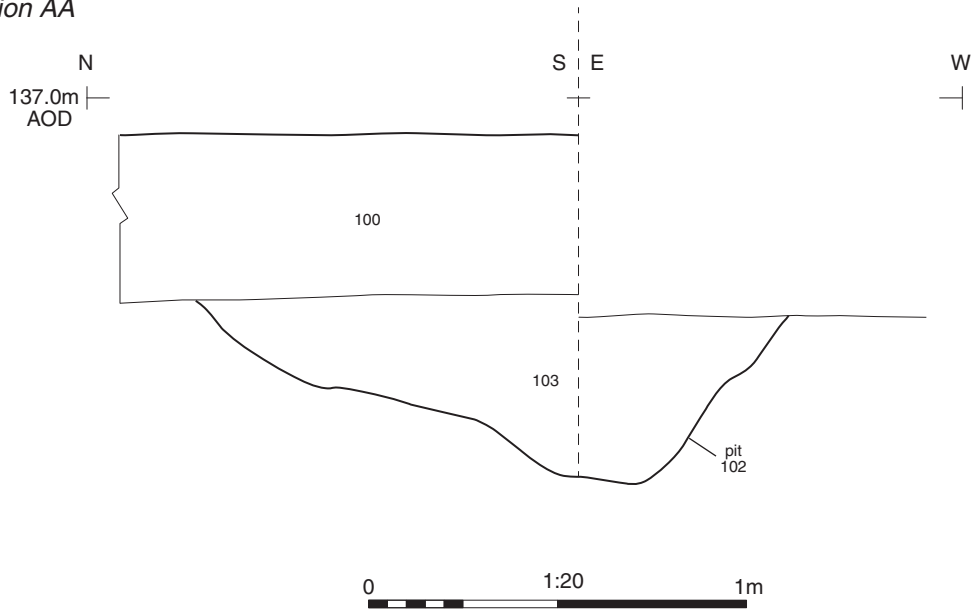


Trench 10, looking north-west (1m scales)



Trench 8, looking north-west (1m scales)

Section AA



Trench 1, pit 102, looking east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court,  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 1, section and photograph**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/01/2021	<b>4</b>
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:20	



*Gully 1803, looking south-east (0.5m scale)*



*Furrow 2202, looking east (1m scale)*



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**PROJECT TITLE**

Land Adjacent to Barnwell Court,  
Mawsley, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**

**Photographs - gully 1803 and  
furrow 2202**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/01/2021	<b>5</b>
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