

Improvement Works to Frilford Junction Frilford Abingdon Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation



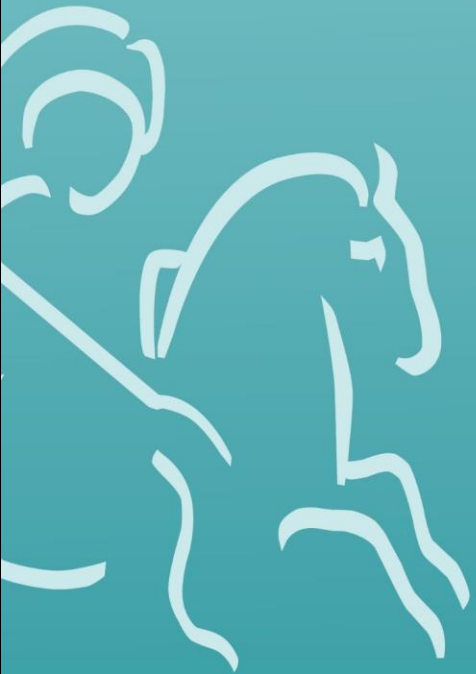
for:
The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd

on behalf of:
Lioncourt Strategic Land Ltd

CA Project: CR1264
CA Report: CR1264_1

Oxfordshire Museums Service Accession No.:
OXCMS: 2022.147

February 2023



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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	5
4. METHODOLOGY.....	6
5. RESULTS.....	7
6. THE FINDS	8
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE	10
8. DISCUSSION.....	11
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	12
10. REFERENCES.....	12
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	14
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	15
APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	15
APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM	16

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing geophysical survey results, previous evaluation trenches and archaeological features (1:1,000)
- Fig. 3 Trench 1: plan (1:200), sections (1:20) and photographs
- Fig. 4 Trench 2: plan (1:200), sections (1:20) and photographs
- Fig. 5 Trench 2: sections (1:20) and photographs
- Fig. 6 Trench 3: plan (1:200), sections (1:20) and photographs

SUMMARY

Project name:	Improvement Works to Frilford Junction
Location:	Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire
NGR:	444185 197081
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	3-6 January 2023
Planning reference:	Vale of White Horse District Council ref: P22/V1757/FUL
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Accession Number:	OXCMS: 2022.147
Site Code:	KRF22

In January 2023, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. A total of three trenches were excavated.

The evaluation identified a series of ditches and pits that were broadly dateable to the Iron Age and Roman periods and are potentially associated with agricultural activity. Limited evidence of late medieval clay extraction activity was also recorded.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In January 2023, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire (centred at NGR: 444185 197081; Fig.1). This evaluation was undertaken for the Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) who were acting on behalf of Lioncourt Strategic Land Ltd.
- 1.1. The evaluation results will inform a planning application for improvement works to Frilford Junction, which has been made to Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC, planning ref: P22/V1757/FUL).
- 1.2. The scope of this evaluation was defined by Oxfordshire County Council Archaeology Service (OCCAS), the archaeological advisor to VoWHDC. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by OCCAS.
- 1.3. The evaluation was also undertaken in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 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

- 1.4. The proposed development site is approximately 0.4ha in extent. It lies on the eastern outskirts of Frilford, c. 5km to the west of Abingdon. The site currently comprises a field bounded to the north by the A415 (Kingston Road); the A338 (Oxford Road) to the east; Strathview House to the south; and playing fields associated with Abingdon Preparatory School to the west. The site lies at approximately 69m AOD and is broadly flat.
- 1.5. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as sandstone of the Kingstone Formation, which formed in the Jurassic Period (BGS 2022). The natural geological substrate identified during the course of the evaluation consisted of yellow-orange sandy clay.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The site is located within an area of known archaeological potential and has previously been subject to a previous archaeological evaluation (OA 2005) and geophysical survey (Wintle, W. 2010). What follows is a succinct summary of publicly available information pertinent to the site.
- 2.2. A series of prehistoric find-spots are recorded by the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) in the area. A Mesolithic to Late Bronze Age dated lithic scatter is recorded c. 160m to the east of the site (HER 9073); a scraper of Bronze Age date is recorded c. 580m to the south-west of the site (HER 12260); and a scraper of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date is recorded c. 350m to the north-west of the site (HER 12314).
- 2.3. During works related to the A415 Bypass in 2005, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology (OA 2005; Fig. 2); two trenches (Trenches 1 and 2) were located immediately adjacent to the current trenches, and a further trench (Trench 3) was located to the east, on the opposite side of Wantage Road. The evaluation identified ditches, postholes, and a pit. The artefactual material recovered from those features were mostly dated to Roman and early Saxon periods and the features were interpreted as Roman and early Saxon field systems. A single fragment of human bone was found in a ditch at the northern end of Trench 3.
- 2.4. Following this evaluation, a geophysical survey was undertaken, including coverage of the current site (Wintle, W. 2010; HER 9629). A series of rectangular enclosures and a north-west/south-east aligned anomaly were identified. This anomaly correlated with the location of the ditch recorded in OA Trench 1 and was interpreted as part of mid-Saxon field system.
- 2.5. Finds of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date were encountered during archaeological excavation in advance of the Cleeve to Fyfield Water Main, located c. 400m to the south of the site (CA 2009).
- 2.6. During an archaeological excavation undertaken c. 750m to the south of the site, remains associated with an Iron Age/Roman temple and a Roman amphitheatre were recorded (HER 13319). These structures were recorded in the proximity of the junction of the Roman road between Wantage to Oxford.

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- 2.7. A ditch containing pottery of Roman date was recorded in a field ‘just off Frilford crossroads’ (Bradford and Morrison 1941). The location of this findspot seems to coincide with the site itself. The location of a possible Roman settlement has also been identified by aerial photography c. 100m to the north-east of the site (HER 12272).
- 2.8. Further finds-spots of Roman date have been recorded in the general environs of the site, with a Roman coin being recovered from Abingdon Preparatory School fields (HER 16817), immediately adjacent to the site, and a Roman spoon recovered from a field c. 200m to the north of the site (HER 16473).
- 2.9. Thirty-eight graves, broadly dated to the Roman and Saxon periods, were recorded c. 300m to the north-west of the temple and amphitheatre mentioned above (HER 7117, 7118). Further Roman to Saxon activity was recorded by archaeological evaluation at Millets Farm, c. 600m to the south of the site, in the form of enclosures and cemetery (Cass and Ford, 2008).
- 2.10. Frilford was mentioned in the Domesday Book as being held by Abingdon Abbey and it is possible that the site was located within an area of open field agriculture during the medieval and post-medieval period.
- 2.11. The 1892-1908 Ordnance Survey (OS) map shows the site within an area of open fields with the River Brook at its southern end. The 1959 edition of the OS mapping depicts the current site boundary with a building shown directly to the south of the site.

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 the archaeological advisor to VoWHDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of three trenches, each measuring 30m in length and 1.8m in width, in locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). This represented a 4% sample of the total developable area of c. 0.4ha. The trenches were located to provide a representative sample 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 in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*, but no deposits were identified that required sampling.
- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. As outlined within the WSI (CA 2022, para. 7.10, 7.11), a Transfer of Title form will be forwarded to the landowner to enable deposition of the full site archive with Oxfordshire Museums Service. At the time of writing, the Transfer of Title form has not been signed by the landowner due to the short span since fieldwork completion, and due to the fact that the archive is still in use for the completion of this report.
- 4.7. CA will make arrangements with the Oxfordshire Museums Service (OXCMS: 2022.147) 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 *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).

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- 4.8. 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 biological evidence (animal bone) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. The general stratigraphic sequence identified throughout the excavated trenches was broadly uniform. The natural substrate, comprising of yellow-orange sandy clay, was encountered in all trenches at depths of between 0.37m and 0.48m. This was overlain by between 0.22m and 0.31m of sandy clay subsoil, which was sealed by between 0.13m and 0.17m of sandy silt topsoil.
- 5.3. Archaeological features were identified within all trenches, where they cut the natural substrate and were sealed by the subsoil horizon. The recorded archaeological features comprised pits, ditches and modern disturbance.

Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

- 5.4. Pit 107 (Fig. 3, Section BB) was recorded at the eastern end of Trench 1, where it measured 0.48m in diameter, 0.16m in depth and contained undated fill 108.
- 5.5. Pit 109/111 was partially exposed within the central part of the trench, where it measured 0.38m in depth, and contained clay silt fill 110/112. Four pottery sherds of pottery, of Iron Age date, were recovered from fill 112.
- 5.6. North/south aligned ditch 105 (Fig. 3, Section AA) was recorded to the west of pit 109/111 and measured 2.7m in width and 0.95m in depth. Thirteen sherds of pottery, dated to the 1st century, were recovered from its fill, 106, along with 15 fragments of animal bone. The ditch correlated closely to a linear geophysical anomaly and likely represents a continuation of a ditch recorded during the previous evaluation trenching to the south, which was interpreted as Roman field boundary/drainage ditch.
- 5.7. Tree-throw 103 was identified and investigated at the western end of the trench: it remained undated.

Trench 2 (Figs. 4 and 5)

- 5.8. East/west aligned ditch 213 (Fig. 5, Section HH) was recorded at the southern end of Trench 2, where it measured 1.33m in width and 0.31m in depth. It contained fill 214, which was devoid of finds. It is probable that this ditch correlates to the continuation of a linear geophysical anomaly previously identified to the west.
- 5.9. Oval shallow pit 211 (Fig. 4, Section EE) was identified towards the centre of the trench and contained single undated fill 212.
- 5.10. Quarry pits 207 (Fig. 5, Section FF) and 209 (Fig. 5, Section GG) were partially exposed immediately to the north of pit 211. Both pits contained a single fill, 208 and 210, respectively. Fill 208 was devoid of finds and four sherds of pottery dateable to the late 12th century to the mid-15th centuries were retrieved from fill 210, alongside an iron nail and residual flint flake.
- 5.11. North-west/south-east aligned ditch 205 (Fig. 4, Section DD) was recorded at the northern end of the trench, where it measured 0.65m in width, 0.14m in depth and contained undated fill 206.
- 5.12. Oval pit 203 (Fig. 4, Section CC) was identified immediately to the north of ditch 205 and remained undated.
- 5.13. Modern disturbance cutting through the subsoil was observed at the western extent of the trench.

Trench 3 (Fig. 6)

- 5.14. South-west/north-east aligned ditch 303 (Fig. 6, Section II) was recorded within the south-eastern part of the trench, where it measured 0.67m in width and 0.16m in depth. Ten sherds of pottery, broadly dateable to the mid-3rd to 4th centuries, were recovered from its fill, 304, alongside two fragments of animal bone.
- 5.15. Pit 305 (Fig. 6, Section JJ) was partially exposed directly to the north of ditch 303. It measured 0.9m in width, 0.2m in depth and contained sterile fill 306.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. Artefactual material consisting of pottery, flint and iron was recovered by hand from four different deposits. Recording of this material was undertaken directly to an Excel spreadsheet, from which Appendix B, Table 1 is taken. The artefacts have been

recorded by deposit and fragment/item count, weight, type and morphological characteristics according to each find category. The recording undertaken is in accordance with the *CIfA finds Toolkit* (CIfA 2021).

Pottery

- 6.2. A total of 29 sherds weighing 289g were hand recovered from four deposits consisting of the fills of ditches and pits. The large majority of the pottery dates to the Iron Age (15 sherds, 221g) and Roman (12 sherds, 64g) periods with a small number of sherds dating to the medieval period (two sherds, 4g). The assemblage is well broken-up and surface survival tends to be poor. Codes for pottery fabrics referred to in the report are defined in Appendix B, Table 1. Those of Roman date correspond to those of Oxfordshire Fabric Type series (summarized in Booth 2020) and those of medieval date correspond to Mellor's Fabric Type series (Mellor 1994).

Late Prehistoric (Iron Age)

- 6.3. A total of 15 unfeathered bodysherds (221g) of Iron Age date were recovered in a handmade, coarse sandy fabric (CS, four sherds, 17g) from pit fill 112 and a handmade, coarse sandy fabric with ironstone inclusions (CSi, 11 sherds, 204g) from ditch 105 (fill 106). The latter is more typical of Middle to Late Iron Age fabrics from the region.

Roman

- 6.4. Pottery of Roman types consists of 12 unfeathered bodysherds (64g). A single sherd (6g) of grog and quartz tempered (E80) fabric was recovered from ditch 105 (fill 106) could be a 'transitional' type in use throughout the 1st century. A single sherd (9g) of probable Oxford red-slipped ware (F51), heavily abraded with no slip surviving, is of mid-3rd to 4th-century date and was recorded in ditch 303 (fill 304). Also recovered were fine sandy greywares (R181, R50; nine sherds, 42g) and a single sherd (7g) of a quartz tempered black sandy fabric (R22).

Medieval

- 6.5. Pottery dated to the Medieval period was recovered from pit 209 (fill 210) and consists of single unfeathered bodysherds of Brill Boarstall ware (OXAW, 3g) of late 12th to mid-14th-century date, and Kennet Valley type (OXAQ, 1g), which was produced between the late 12th to mid-15th centuries.

Flint

- 6.6. One piece of worked flint (2g) was recorded in pit 209 (fill 210). The flake is broadly prehistoric in date and is in a poor condition suggesting that it is probably residual.

Metal: Iron

- 6.7. A single nail (5g) was recovered from pit 209 (fill 210). It has a square shaft and flat head, suitable for carpentry related tasks used from the Roman period onwards.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal bone

- 7.1. Animal bone amounting to 37 fragments (243g) was recovered via hand excavation from deposits 106 and 304, fills of ditches 105 and 303 and from subsoil layer 301. Artefactual material dating to the Roman period was also recovered from these features (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but preserved enough to identify the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*) and horse (*Equus caballus*). Where damage was present and re-fitting was possible, those fragments were counted as a single bone.

Roman

- 7.2. 15 fragments of animal bone (1545g) identified as horse, were recovered from ditch fill 106. The bones were identified as the left and right scapula, humerus, radius and ulna and metacarpals and five carpals. Seven fragments of cervical vertebrae were also recovered. They were too damaged to assign an identification other than 'Large Mammal' but, it is more than likely that these fragments are also horse. None of the horse or large mammal bone displayed any mark to suggest an origin in butchery waste.
- 7.3. In terms of size, development and the recovery from the same context, it is more than likely that the horse bone represents the partial remains of the forequarters of single individual. Furthermore, the absence of butchery evidence suggests the possibility of a deliberate, articulated deposition.
- 7.4. Cattle was also identified from three fragments (171g) a partial tibia and mandible from 106 and a loose molar from 304.

Undated

- 7.5. A single fragment (26g) was recovered from subsoil deposit 301. It was not identifiable to element or species.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. The evaluation identified a series of ditches and pits broadly dateable to the Iron Age and Roman periods, with limited evidence of later medieval activity also represented. The results of this phase of fieldwork appear to broadly correlate to the results of the previous evaluation and geophysical survey.

Early Prehistoric

- 8.2. Early prehistoric evidence within the site is represented by a single residual flint flake recovered from the fill of pit 209. Find-spots of prehistoric material are recorded in the general vicinity of the site, indicative of activity within the area during these periods (see *Archaeological Background*, above); however, this instance is likely to represent residual deposition in a later feature.

Iron Age and Roman

- 8.3. Four sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from pit 109/111 in Trench 1. This feature was only partially exposed within the trench, and this precludes further interpretation at this time.
- 8.4. Ditch 303, recorded in Trench 3, contained 3rd to 4th-century material. Given the current limited exposure, it is unclear if this ditch is related to those anomalies recorded by the archaeological survey (see Fig. 2). However, this feature can be tentatively interpreted as an agricultural subdivision of a wider enclosure.
- 8.5. Pottery sherds dated to the 1st century AD were recovered from fill of ditch 105, identified in Trench 1. This ditch correlated with the location of a linear anomaly recorded by the geophysical survey, likely representing the eastern side of a rectilinear enclosure (Fig. 2). It appears to represent a continuation of ditch 105 recorded to the south by the preceding evaluation (OA 2005), which was previously interpreted as part of a Roman field system.

Medieval

- 8.6. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill of pit 209 in Trench 2. This pit, and similar, adjacent pit 207, potentially represent clay extraction/quarry pits

located on the periphery of the medieval settlement of Frilford (see *Archaeological Background* above). However, given the limited exposure of the features further interpretation is not possible at this time.

Modern

- 8.7. A modern disturbance located at the southern end of the Trench 2 appears to correlate to the continuation of a linear geophysical anomaly. However, the disturbance does not correlate to any mapped historic boundary and its interpretation remains tentative.

Undated

- 8.8. A series of undated pits and ditches were identified in all trenches. The function of these features remains unclear; however, these are likely associate with the Roman and/or medieval activity recorded elsewhere within the site.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Matt Coman, assisted by Noel Boothroyd, Sofia Sunnervik, Will Sibley and Kane Starr. This report was written by Louie Parfitt. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Claire Collier-Jones and Andy Clarke, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled by Matt Coman and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neil. The project was managed for CA by Monica Fombellida.

10. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand	>30	>1.8	0.13	
1	101	Layer		subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	>30	>1.8	0.24	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange sandy clay	>30	>1.8	n/a	
1	103	Cut		Pit	Sub-oval treethrow with rounded sides, irregular base	1.48	1.25	0.19	
1	104	Fill	103	Fill of pit	Mid greyish brown sandy clay	1.48	1.25	0.19	
1	105	Cut		Ditch	Ditch northwest-southeast aligned, moderate sides with flat base	>2.2	1.7	0.95	
1	106	Fill	105	Fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown sandy clay	>2.2	1.7	0.95	C1+
1	107	Cut		Pit	Subrounded pit with steep concave sides, concave base	0.48	0.48	0.16	
1	108	Fill	107	Fill of pit	Mid brownish grey sandy clay with small clay inclusions	0.48	0.48	0.16	
1	109	Cut		Pit	Oval with steep vertical sides and flat base. Same as pit 111	>3	>0.48	0.41	
1	110	Fill		Fill of pit	Dark grey brown, loose clay silt	>3	>0.48	0.41	
1	111	Cut		Pit	Oval with steep vertical sides and flat base. Same as pit 109	>3	>0.5	0.38	
1	112	Fill		Fill of pit	Dark grey brown, loose clay silt	>3	>0.5	0.38	IA
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand	>30	>1.8	0.17	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	>30	>1.8	0.22	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange sandy clay	>30	>1.8	n/a	
2	203	Cut		Pit	Oval pit, gently sloped sides with a concave base	0.2	0.5	0.07	
2	204	Fill	203	Fill of pit	Mid brown, sandy silt	0.2	0.50	0.07	
2	205	Cut		Ditch	Ditch northwest-southeast aligned with concave sides and a rounded base	>2	0.65	0.14	
2	206	Fill	205	Fill of pit	Mid brown, sandy clay	>2	0.65	0.14	
2	207	Cut		Pit	Sub rounded quarry pit with shallow concave sides and a irregular base	1.2	0.32	0.25	
2	208	Fill	207	Fill of pit	Mid orangey brown, sandy clay	1.2	0.32	0.25	
2	209	Cut		Pit	Rounded quarry pit with stepped sides and a flat base	2.3	>0.67	0.54	
2	210	Fill	209	Fill of pit	Mid orangey brown, sandy clay	2.3	>0.67	0.54	LC12-MC15
2	211	Cut		Pit	Oval pit with gently concaved sides and a flat base	0.5	0.2	0.08	
2	212	Fill	211	Fill of pit	Mid brown, sandy clay	0.5	0.20	0.08	
2	213	Cut		Gully	Gully north-south aligned with concave shallow sides and a concave base	>1.8	1.33	0.31	

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
2	214	Fill	213	Fill of gully	Mottled reddish brown, sandy clay	>1.8	1.33	0.31	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand	>30	>1.8	0.17	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	>30	>1.8	0.31	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Oval pit, gently sloped sides with a concave base with brash inclusions	>30	>1.8	n/a	
3	303	Cut		Ditch	Ditch northeast-southwest aligned with concave sides and a flat base	>1.8	0.67	0.16	
3	304	Fill	303	Fill of ditch	Mid orangey clayey silt with occasional subangular stones	>1.8	0.67	0.16	MC3-C4
3	305	Cut		Pit	Oval pit with gentle sloped sides and a concave base	>1	0.9	0.2	
3	306	Fill	305	Fill of pit	Mid reddish brown with grey brown streaks	>1	0.9	0.2	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds Concordance

Context	Material	Fabric*	Description	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Spot-date
106	LP Pottery	CSi	Coarse sandy with ironstone inclusions, handmade	11	204	C1+
	RB Pottery	E80	Grog and quartz tempered	1	6	
	RB Pottery	R22	Quartz tempered, black sandy	1	7	
112	LP Pottery	CS	Coarse sandy, handmade	4	17	IA
210	Med Pottery	OXAQ	Kennet Valley	1	1	LC12-MC15
	Med Pottery	OXAW	Brill Boarstall	1	3	
	Flint		Flake	1	2	
	Iron		Nail	1	5	
304	RB Pottery	F51	Oxford red-slip	1	9	MC3-C4
	RB Pottery	R181	Micaceous greyware	3	15	
	RB Pottery	R50	Dark fired greyware	6	27	

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

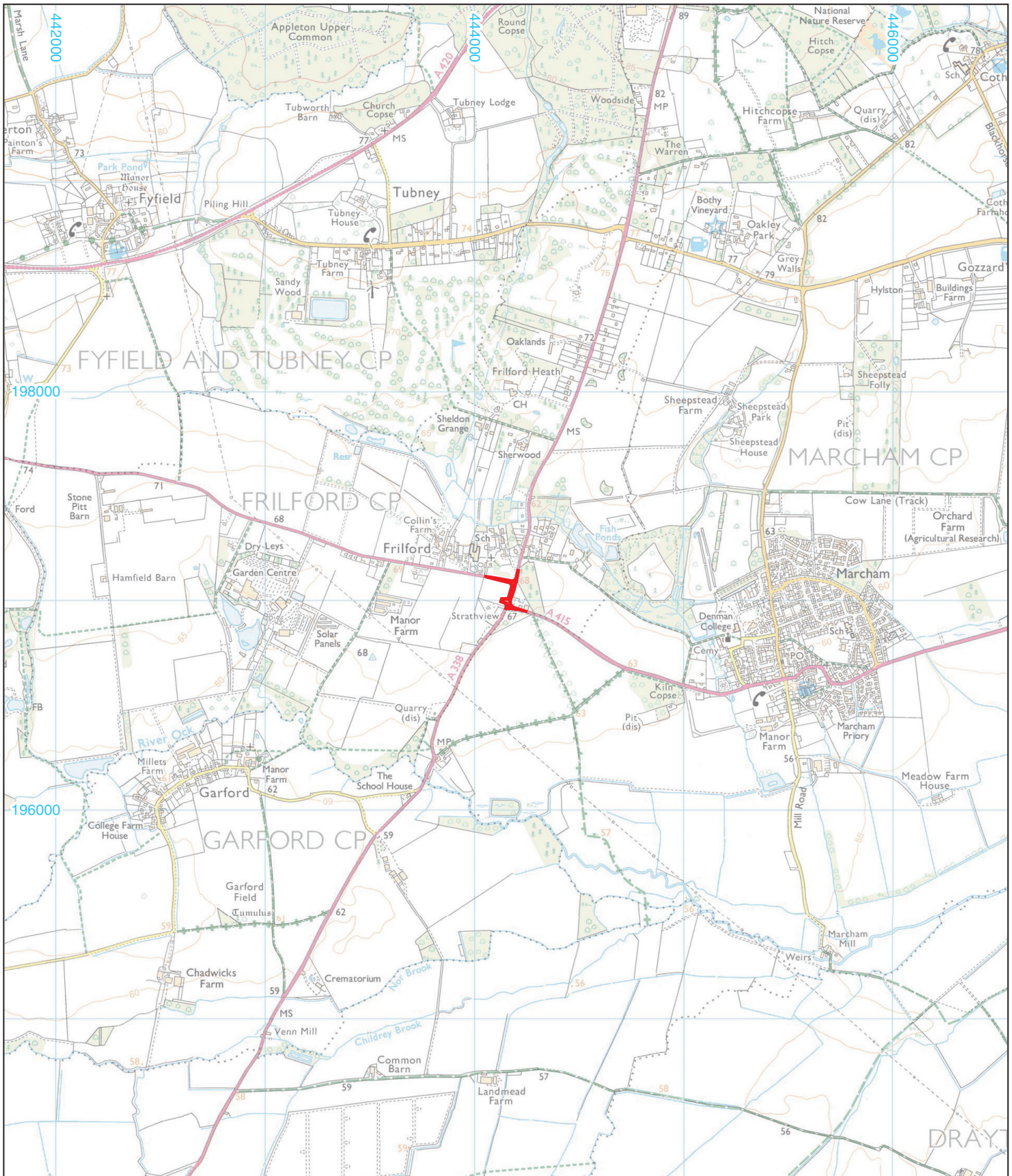
Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	EQ	LM	Total	Weight (g)
Romano-British						
105	106	2	15	7	25	1984
303	304	1			1	22
Subtotal		3	15	7	26	1996
Undated						
	301			1	1	26
Total		3	15	7	27	
Weight		171	1545	316	2032	

BOS = Cattle; EQ = horse; LM = cattle sized mammal

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Improvement Works to Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire	
Short description	In January 2023, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. A total of three trenches were excavated. The evaluation identified a series of ditches and pits that were broadly dateable to the Iron Age and Roman periods and are potentially associated with agricultural activity. Limited evidence of late medieval clay extraction activity was also recorded.	
Project dates	3-6 January 2023	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire	
Study area (m ² /ha)	0.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	444185 197081	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Monica Fombellida	
Project Supervisor	Mathew Coman	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Oxfordshire Museum Service (OXCMS: 2022.147)	Animal bone, pottery sherds
Paper	Oxfordshire Museum Service (OXCMS: 2022.147)	Context sheets, trench sheets, photo registers
Digital	ADS	Digital photos and plans
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2023 <i>Improvement Works to Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report CR1261_1		



N

Site boundary

0 1km

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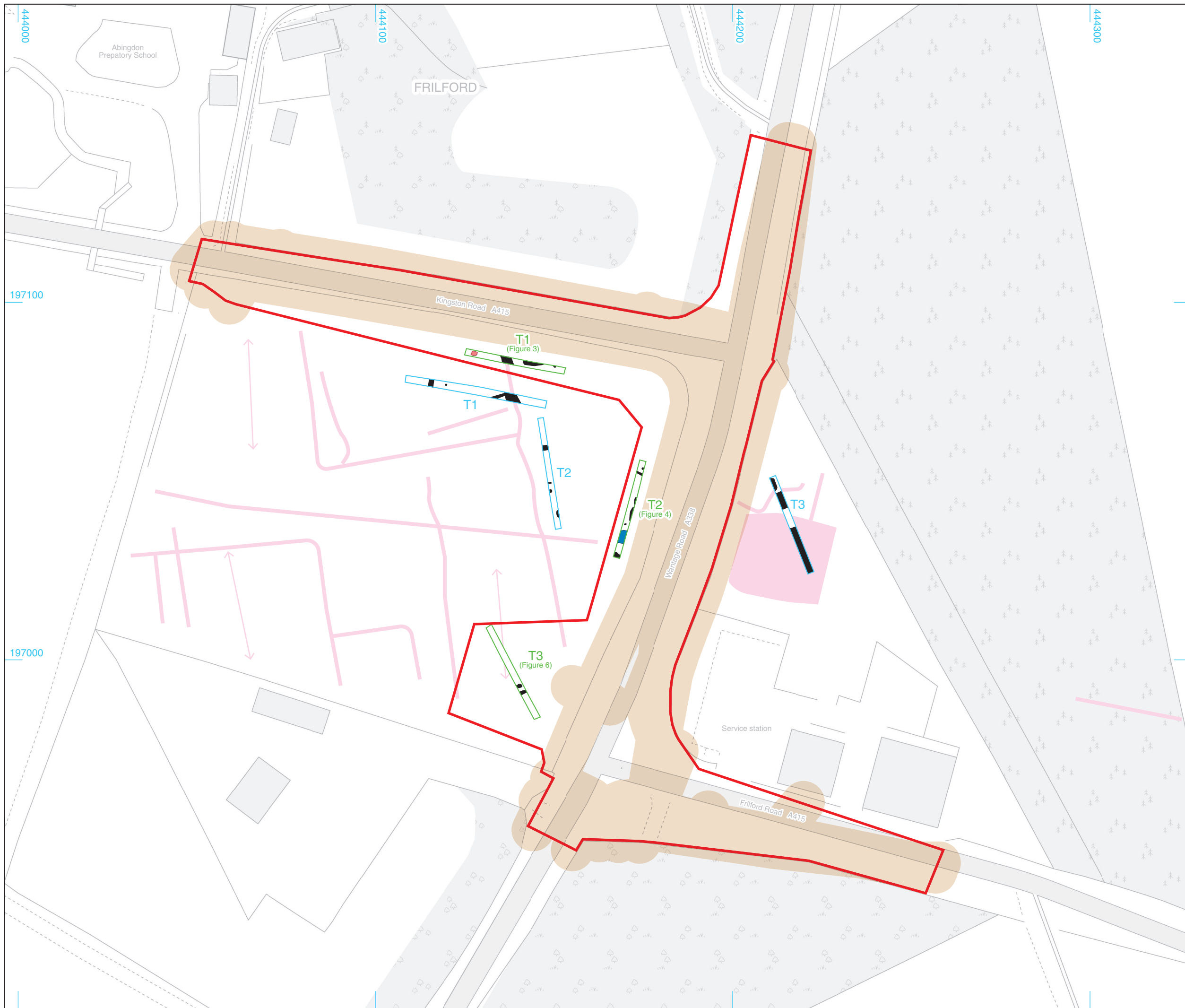
PROJECT TITLE

**Improvement Works to Frilford Junction,
Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire**

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR1264	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/01/2023	
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Evaluation trench (OA 2005)
- Archaeological feature
- Modern
- Tree-throw

- Service buffer
- Probable archaeological features (after geophysical survey results, HER 9629)



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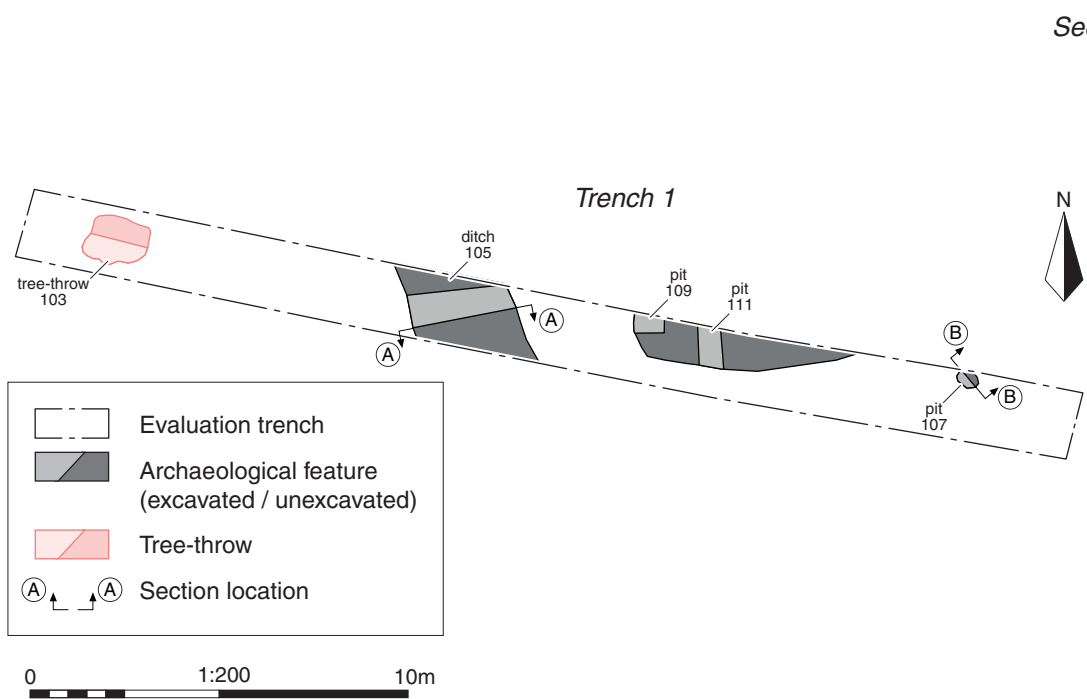
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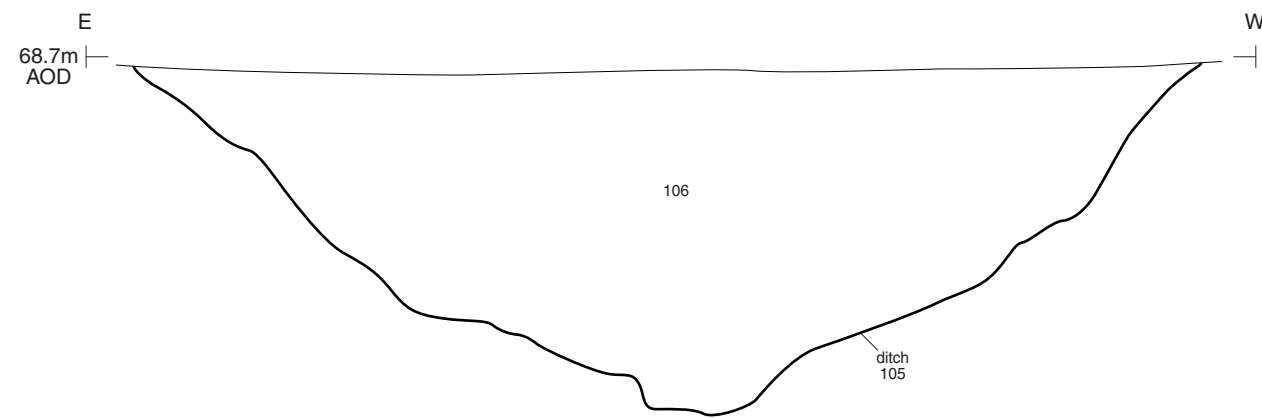
PROJECT TITLE
 Improvement Works to Frilford Junction, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan showing geophysical survey results, previous evaluation trenches and archaeological features

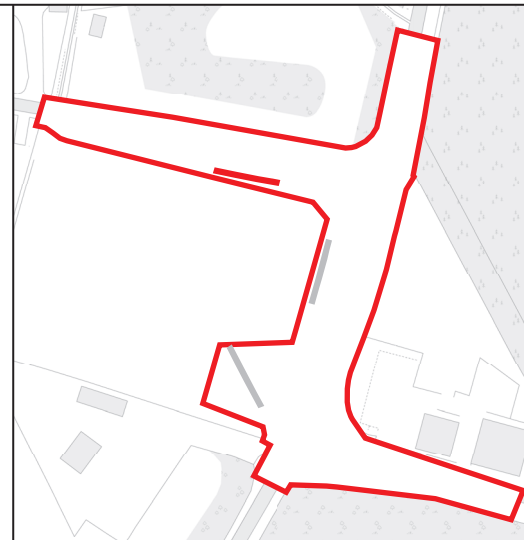
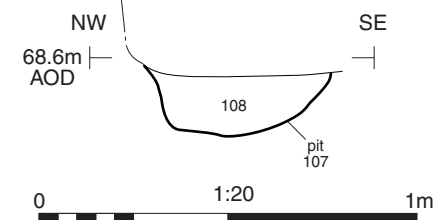
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<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 23/02/2023	2
<small>APPROVED BY</small> MC	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:1000	



Section AA



Section BB



Ditch 105, looking south (1m scale)



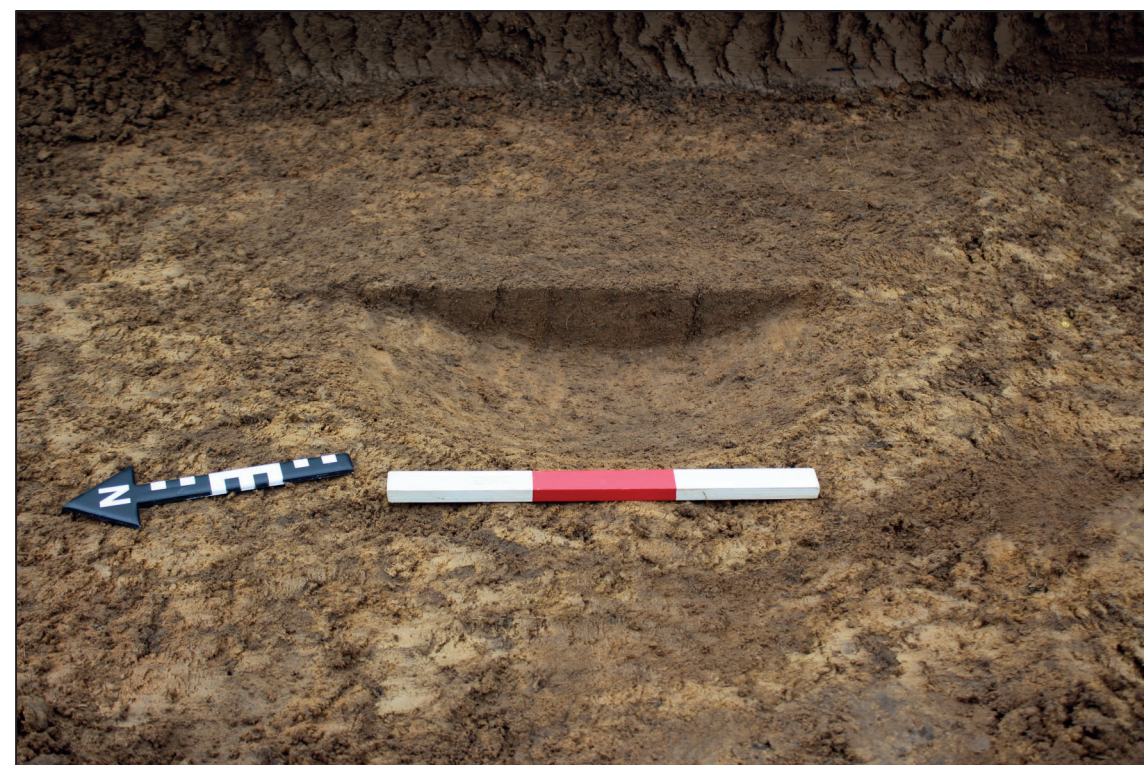
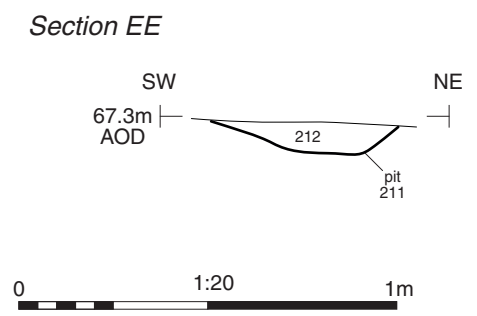
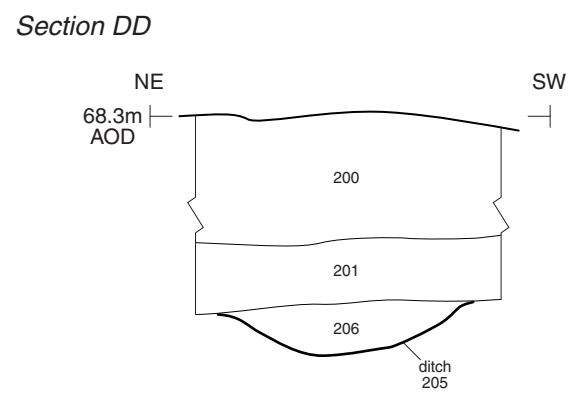
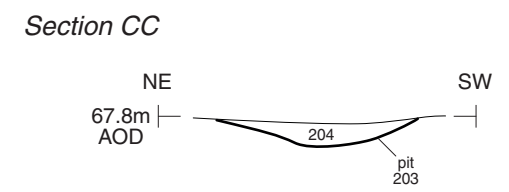
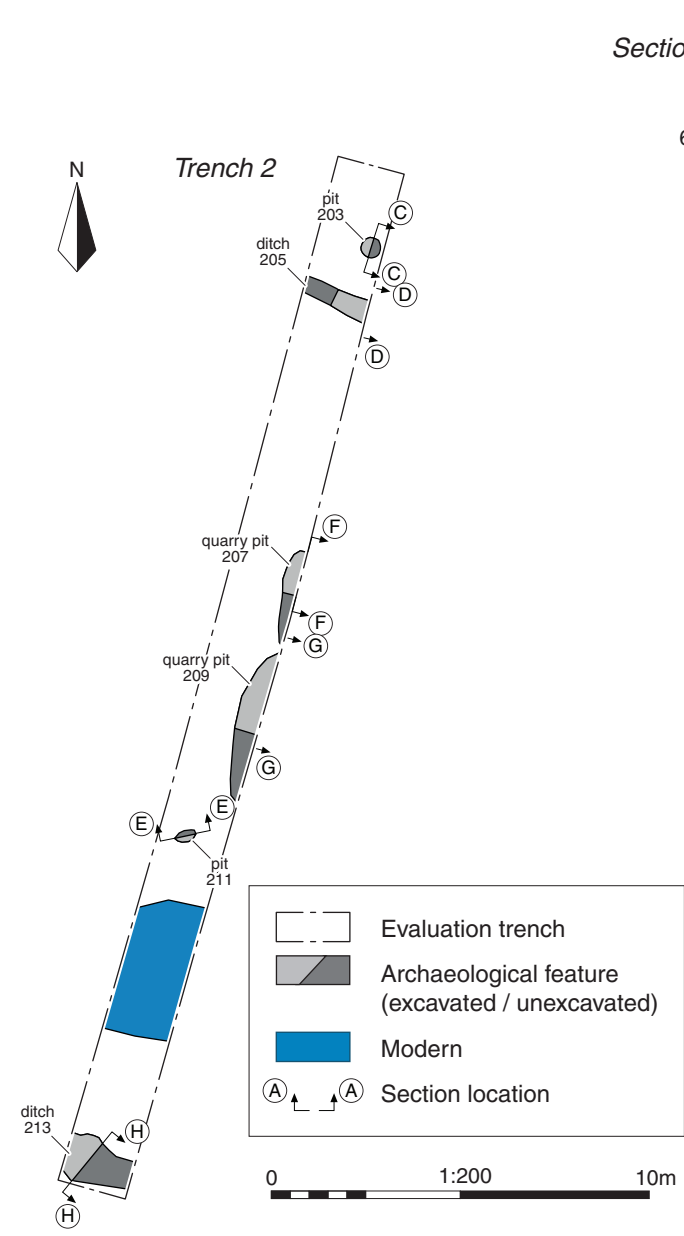
Pit 107, looking north-east (0.3m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE
 Improvement Works to Frilford Junction,
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FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 1: plan, sections and
 photographs**

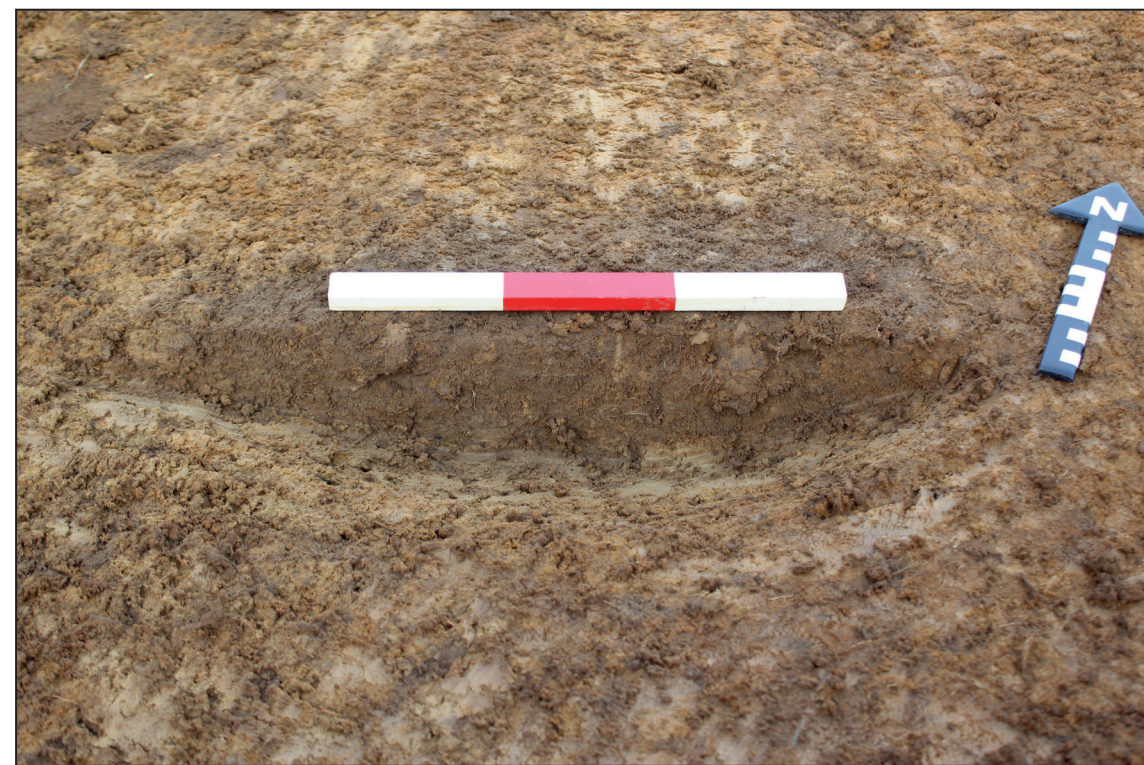
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/01/2023	3
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200, 1:20	



Pit 203, looking south-east (0.3m scale)



Ditch 205, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



Pit 211, looking north-west (0.3m scale)

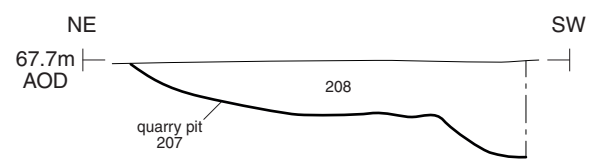
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PROJECT TITLE
 Improvement Works to Frilford Junction,
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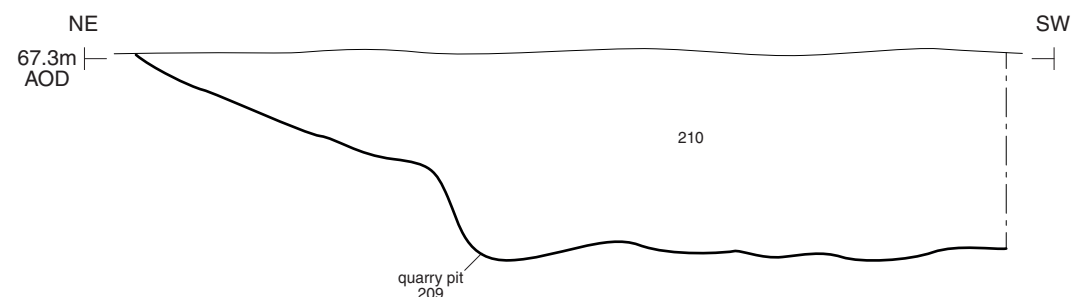
FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 2: plan, sections and
 photographs**

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR1264	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/01/2023	4
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200, 1:20	

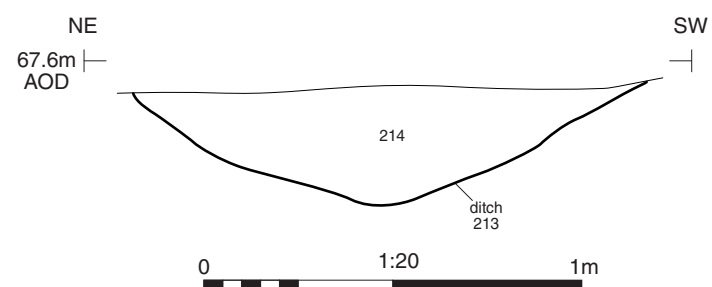
Section FF



Section GG



Section HH



Quarry pit 207, looking south-east (1m scale)



Quarry pit 209, looking south-east (1m scale)



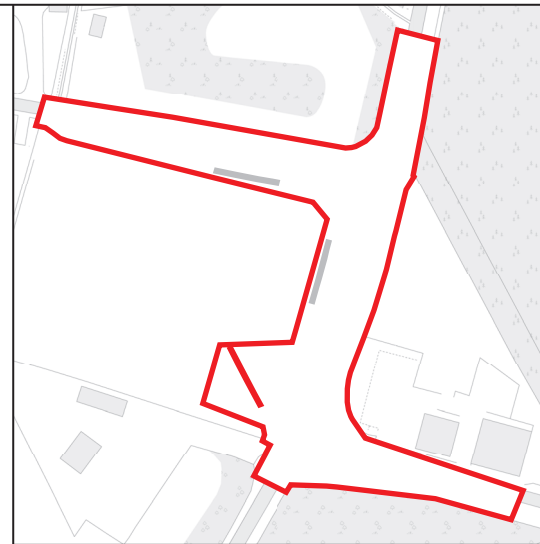
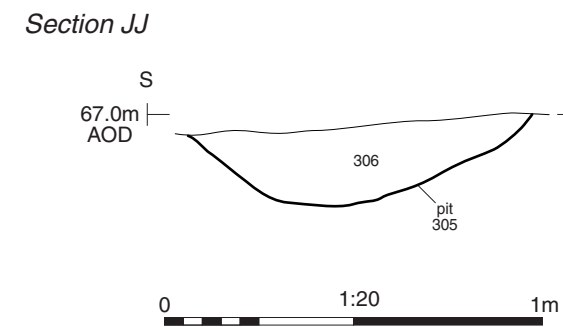
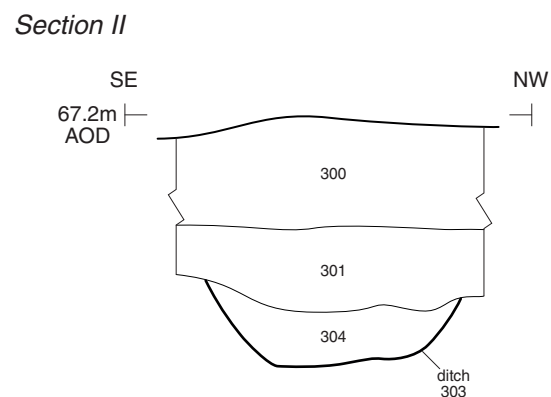
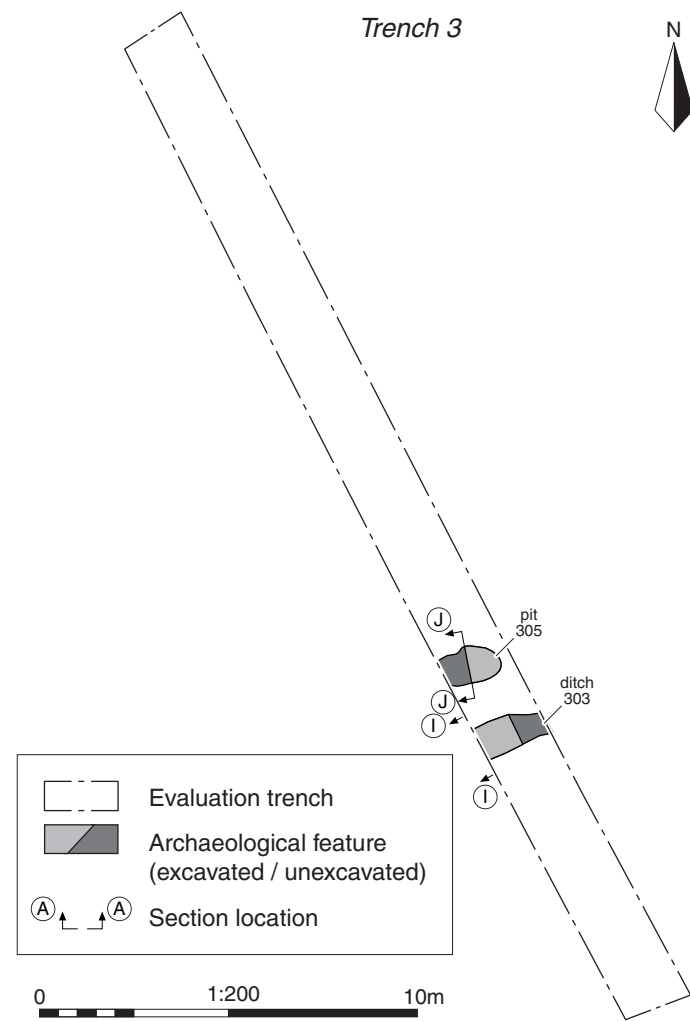
Ditch 213, looking south-east (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
**Improvement Works to Frilford Junction,
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 2: sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/01/2023	5
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Ditch 303, looking south-west (1m scale)



Pit 305, looking west (0.5m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 3: plan, sections and
photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR1264	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	17/01/2023	6
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200, 1:20	

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