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Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Barwell West, Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP), on behalf of Ainscough Strategic Land Ltd, Barwood Homes Ltd and Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of Land at Barwell West, Leicestershire, centred on National Grid Reference SP 436 975 (Fig.1). The work was carried out in advance of a planning application for proposed development. The work was undertaken between 28th November and 16th December 2011. A geophysical survey had previously identified clusters of magnetic anomalies in the southern, central and northern parts of the site, which were the main focus of the present evaluation. A group of geophysical anomalies to the north of Bosworth House Farm, were located within a series of enclosures identified by Lidar survey and Roman finds made during surface artefact collection surveys.

The evaluation revealed remains confirming the presence of Roman activity, mainly concentrated in the western part of the site near the A447, in the fields to the north of Bosworth House Farm (Fig.2). The distribution of archaeological features found during the trial trenching appears to correspond in general terms with the distribution of geophysical anomalies, although the magnetometer plots do not provide a clear picture of the nature of the Roman activity (Figs.3, 4 and 5). The majority of the features identified were sparsely distributed boundary or drainage ditches, although pits, possible postholes and one severely truncated Roman cremation burial were also found. The Roman remains appear to date predominantly from the 2nd century AD, although possibly earlier and later material is present. The artefact assemblage includes imported decorated samian ware pottery, a fragment of window glass from a Roman context, and a single tessera (mosaic fragment) as well as small quantities of Roman roof and floor/ hypocaust tile, suggesting the presence of a relatively high status settlement in the general vicinity.

Traces of plough furrows were commonplace in many of the trenches, confirming the presence of former medieval/ post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Daniel Lewis of The Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP), on behalf of Ainscough Strategic Land Ltd, Barwood Homes Ltd and Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Barwell West, Leicestershire, the site of proposed development.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the determination of an Outline Planning Application. Discussions with Teresa Hawtin (LCC Historic and Natural Environment Team) established the scope of work required.

1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with Policy HE6.1 of Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (DCLG 2010). OA operates in line with current professional guidelines and standards:

- IfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (1995, revised 2008);
- IfA Code of Conduct (1985, revised 2010);
- IfA By-Law Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (IfA, 1990 as revised, 2008).
- LCC 1997 "*Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland*" (Leicestershire County Council, 1997).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 426 975 (Fig. 1) and is located on the western outskirts of Barwell. Barwell lies approximately 7km south-west of Leicester, 2km north-east of Hinckley, and to the north-west of the M69.

1.2.2 The 142.5 hectare area site lies immediately to the north of Rogues Lane, lying between the A447 main road to Ashby to the west and the western edge of Barwell. The proposed development area currently consists of open land used for agricultural purposes. The land within the site reaches a maximum elevation of c. 120m aOD at the north end and descends to c. 105m aOD at the south-east end.

1.2.3 The solid geology of the area is mudstone of the Gunthorpe Member, generally described as a red-brown mudstone with dolomitic siltstones and fine-grained sandstones (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk). These are of mid-Triassic date (*c* 245 to 228 million years ago) laid down during the hot, arid conditions, with sediments originating from the upland areas producing fluvial activity, rather than from marine conditions (Benton et al 2002). The overlying drift geology consists of clays and silts of the Bosworth and Oadby types with a resultant brown earth soil series above (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site, based on consultation of Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER), historic maps, Lidar data and the results of site visits, has been described in detail in the Archaeological Assessment (EDP 2011). The following section briefly summarises the archaeological and historic landscape features that are either directly affected by the proposed development, or of particular relevance to discussion of the main aspects of the evaluation results (Roman rural settlement and medieval/post-medieval landscape).

1.3.2 There was significant evidence for Roman settlement activity prior to the present evaluation, concentrated on the western edge of the site, adjacent to Ashby Road and north of Bosworth House Farm: Roman period pottery and brooches (HER 9618, 2822) were recorded during a survey in 1995 by the Hinckley Field Walking Group (now the Hinckley Archaeological Society) (see EDP 2011, Plan EDP 1). Further field walking in 1996 and 2002 in fields to the north identified a large scatter of Roman pottery, along with fragments of tile and wall plaster (HER 9618). The latter suggested a relatively high status Roman occupation site, possibly a farmstead or villa.

1.3.3 The artefact scatter covers an area of approximately 4ha, and corresponds with possible enclosures visible in the LiDAR data (see EDP 2011, Plan EDP 2). Two enclosures are visible, the smaller of which straddles the line of Ashby Road, to the immediate north west of Bosworth House. It is roughly trapezoidal in shape, and adjoins a rectangular platform to the north. The larger enclosure to the immediate north is roughly oval in shape (EDP 2011).

1.3.4 There is a scatter of Roman finds in the wider area of the site, mainly to the south and south east of the historic core of Barwell. These comprise coins (HER 7933), tile fragments (HER 15946, 7934), and pottery (HER 17947). Of particular relevance to the present evaluation, as a potential source of the high status finds from the fieldwalking, is the site of a possible Roman villa (HER 2812). Discovered in the early 20th century during sand extraction, the remains comprised a possible floor surface, several hundred pottery fragments, and building material such as brick, tile and tesserae, along with a whetstone.

1.3.5 Barwell Farmhouse and its attached stable adjoin the site to the south. The buildings are Grade II listed, and some elements of the house date from the 12th century, although most of the fabric dates to the 18th century (LB 12977).

1.3.6 Ridge and furrow (traces of medieval/ post-medieval open-field agriculture) formerly extended across the whole site, but now only survive as earthworks in limited areas, in the north west of the site, in the fields to the east of Abraham's Bridge, and in the southernmost corner. The remains of a 'bullet' shaped fishpond also survive in the southern corner of the site as an earthwork feature (HER 2819).

1.3.7 On the north-eastern edge of the site lies lies the possible encampment of Richard III, which he established prior to the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485 (HER 3090). In 1907, the Victoria County History of Leicestershire recorded a 300 yard breastwork fortification, but by the time it was re-surveyed by the Ordnance Survey, it no longer survived as a visible earthwork feature.

2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were as follows:

(i) To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development;

(ii) To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;

(iii) To provide sufficient information on the archaeological interest of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed;

(iv) To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;

(v) To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;

(vi) To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Leicestershire HER.

2.1.2 The fieldwork and report are conceived as operating within the East Midlands Regional Research Agenda (Cooper 2006). The specific aims and objectives of the Barwell West evaluation were therefore:

(vii) to investigate and characterise various anomalies identified through geophysical survey that may represent archaeological features.

(viii) to examine areas identified by the geophysical survey as being blank to ground truth the data and determine whether below ground features may be masked by medieval / post-medieval cultivation features ('ridge and furrow').

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The evaluation comprised thirty-five 50m x 2m trenches, with their locations agreed in advance by Teresa Hawtin of LCC.

2.2.2 Trenches were located to investigate geophysical anomalies and to ground truth blank areas. The locations were stipulated by EDP on the basis of previous assessment and survey results and no significant changes were required during the works.

2.2.3 Trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator using a wide, flat-bladed toothless bucket. Machine excavation was undertaken to the top of undisturbed natural or archaeological deposits, whichever was the highest. At that point machine excavation ceased and hand excavation of the features was undertaken as detailed within the WSI. All finds recovered were retained and subject to specialist assessment.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are described below with reference to four distinct clusters of trenches (Figs 2-5). Trenches 1 and 2 were located in the far south-east of the site (the 'southern trench group', Fig.3). A cluster of trenches were located towards the south west edge of the site near Bosworth House Farm ('central trench group', consisting of trenches 3 to 23, Fig.4). Trenches 24 and 25 were located approximately 560 metres north of the central trench group and are referred to as the 'north central trench group' (not illustrated in detail). A final cluster at the northern extremity of the site (trenches 26 to 35) are referred to as the 'northern trench group' (Fig.5).

3.1.2 Trenches 19, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 34 and 35 were found to be devoid of archaeological features and are not discussed further in this report. Similarly, Trenches 14, 15, 17 and 23 contained only east-west aligned agricultural furrows and are also not discussed further.

3.1.3 The context details for all trenches can be found in the Context Inventory (Appendix 1). The context numbers are prefixed with the trench number (thus 1701 is context 1 in Trench 17). Context numbers ending in '00' always refer to the topsoil.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 Ground conditions were generally good throughout the period of excavation.

3.2.2 The clay based fills within archaeological features were firm to hard, requiring significant time and effort during hand excavation. The sometimes wet weather meant there were occasionally problems with ground water or puddling. Visibility of features was sometimes difficult, particularly where these were filled with deposits similar to the natural geology.

3.3 Southern trench group (Fig.3)

3.3.1 Located at the southern extremity of the site, Trenches 1 and 2 were located to investigate anomalies revealed in the geophysical survey. These were found to broadly coincide with a group of archaeological features, although artefactual dating evidence was very sparse, suggesting that the features are unlikely to be within a settlement area.

3.3.2 Trench 1 contained a substantial linear ditch **105** (Fig. 7) at its eastern end and two discrete pits **107** and **109,** located towards the centre of the trench (Fig.7). No datable artefacts were recovered from the features within Trench 1.

3.3.3 Trench 2 was located c. 14 metres to the north of Trench 1 and contained a continuation of the ditch revealed in the eastern end of Trench 1. The ditch **203** (Fig.8) contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery (43-410 AD) within its lower fill (204). Two further pits (**207** & **209**, Fig.8) were uncovered within Trench 2. Pit **209** was noted to cut into Ditch **203**, but neither of the features produced any datable artefacts.

3.4 Central trench group (Fig.4)

3.4.1 The central area of trenches (Fig.4) produced a considerably higher density of archaeological features and finds than the other trenches, although once plough furrows are excluded from consideration, the distribution of features is relatively sparse. The archaeological deposits included a series of ditches on various alignments within

the trenches immediately to the north of Bosworth House Farm. A number of discrete pits were recorded in the same area, and a cremation burial was found in Trench 16.

3.4.2 Trench 3 (Fig.2) was located in isolation towards the eastern edge of the site and was targeted on a strong north-south aligned linear geophysical anomaly. During excavation this was revealed to be a field drain (**307)** containing three sherds of post medieval pottery (c. 1780-1830) within its fill.

3.4.3 Trench 4 (Fig.4) contained a single north-west to south-east aligned ditch. The ditch (**404**, Fig.8) contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery (c. 43-410 AD) in its upper fill. A further linear feature (**406**) was investigated, but was revealed to be the trench for a ceramic field drain.

3.4.4 Trench 5 (Fig.4) contained a further ditch (**504,** Fig.9) aligned north-east to south-west. This was truncated at its eastern end by pit **506** (Fig.9), which was in turn cut by a smaller pit (**516**, Fig.9). All of these features produced small amounts of Romano-British pottery (c. 43-410 AD). A further small gully terminal (**519**) was noted toward the eastern end of the trench, but produced no datable artefacts. Trench 5 also contained a series of plough furrows.

3.4.5 Trench 6 (Fig.4) contained four broad parallel linear features that appeared in plan to be plough furrows. Two (**622** and **603**) were investigated to confirm this interpretation. Another broad, shallow feature (**617**) was excavated at the north end of the trench. An apparently contemporary ditch (**620**, **617**, Fig.10) contained a small amount of Romano-British pottery (c.43-410 AD). To the south east of this was a narrow linear **632** and a possibly associated post-hole (**630**, Fig.10). Near the south-east end of the trench was an undated south-west to north-east aligned ditch (**627**, Fig.10) and to the north-east of that was a a post-hole or small pit (**605**). Two inter-cutting land drains were identified at the far south-eastern end of the trench.

3.4.6 Trench 7 (Fig.4) contained three east-west aligned plough furrows, at regular intervals, and a further east-west aligned ditch (**710**, Fig.11) towards the northern end of the trench. No datable artefacts were recovered from the ditch.

3.4.7 Trench 8 contained a series of three large ditches (**804**, **806** and **810**, Fig.12) at its western end running on an approximately north-south alignment. Ditch **804** appeared to be the earliest in the sequence, being truncated by ditches **806** and **810**. Ditch **806** terminated within the trench. No datable artefacts were recovered from any of these ditches. At the northern edge of the trench a shallow gully (**808**) was recorded, truncating ditch **806** on an east-west alignment, possibly turning to the south. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature. Further to the east was a shallow gully terminal (**823**) aligned north-west to south-east and a further north-south aligned ditch (**822**/**821**), neither of which produced any datable artefacts. A further more substantial ditch (**835**, Fig.12) was located at the eastern end of the trench. Aligned north-south, the fill of this feature produced several sherds of Romano-British pottery (c. 43-410 AD).

3.4.8 Trench 9 (Fig.4) was dominated by the presence of a plough furrow running along its length. A further grey spread (**905**/**912**, Fig.13) was noted, but is likely to be related to the furrow, as it is on the same alignment. The spread produced a single sherd of Romano-British pottery (c. 43-410 AD), but also a sherd of post-medieval pottery (c. 1675-1900). A further gully (**902**) could be seen emerging from the spread and terminating shortly after. No datable artefacts were recovered from the gully.

3.4.9 Trench 10 (Fig.4) contained two intercutting ditches on a north-south alignment. The larger of the two (**1004**) truncates the smaller (**1008**). The earlier ditch (**1008**, Fig.14)

produced seven sherds of Romano-British pottery (c. 140-250 AD). The later ditch (**1004**, Fig.14) produced 15 sherds of Romano-British pottery (c. 130-410 AD), but also a single sherd of post-medieval pottery (c. 1675-1850 AD) from the same context (1006). A further spread of material (1010) was excavated at the eastern end of the trench, but did not produce any datable artefacts.

3.4.10 Trench 11 (Fig.4) contained a large west-east aligned ditch (**1101**, Fig.15) towards the north-west end of the trench. The upper fills of the ditch 1002 contained a total of 29 sherds of Romano-British pottery (c. 150-200 AD). The lower fill (1003) contained a further nine sherds of Romano-British pottery (c. 140-200 AD). Pit **1104** (Fig.15) towards the north-west end of the trench did not produce any datable artefacts. Further to the north-west a large ditch terminal or pit (**1114**, Fig.15) was excavated and produced a single sherd of Romano-British pottery (c. 43-100 AD).

3.4.11 Trench 12 (Fig.4) contained only a shallow and ephemeral linear feature **1203** (Fig.16), which was aligned north-west to south-east. No datable artefacts were recovered from the feature.

3.4.12 Trench 13 (Fig. 4) contained one possible ditch (**1303**) and three plough furrows. The former produced no datable artefacts and could be either a ditch or furrow – However, its alignment was not the same as the three definite east-west aligned plough furrows in this trench, so it is shown on Figure 4 as a possible ditch.

3.4.13 At the eastern edge of the central trench group, Trench 16 contained the severely plough-truncated remains of a human cremation (**1603,** Figs 6 and 16). The cremation burial deposit (1602) contained both human and animal bone, as well as 13 hobnails probably indicating a Romano-British date. Seven small pieces of worked bone (context 1601, sample 4) were recovered, all of which appeared to have been burnt. Figure 6 comprises photographs of selected worked bone fragments and the *in situ* cremation burial. The feature coincided with a plough furrow and was severely truncated.

3.4.14 Trench 18 (Fig.2) contained an east-west aligned ditch (**1805**, Fig.16) towards the northern end. No datable artefacts were recovered from the ditch fill. There was evidence for slight traces of a bank (1803) to the south. It had started to erode to the north and into the ditch 1805. Ditch **1805** continued to the west and was also recorded in Trench 20.

3.4.15 Trench 21 (Fig.2) contained a north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**2103**, Fig.17) and four north-south aligned furrows.

3.5 North central trench group (Fig.2)

3.5.1 The north central trench group (Trenches 24 and 25) contained only modern disturbance and services, which are not described in detail or illustrated. Both trenches contained evidence for a spread of material containing modern brick fragments, possibly an area of hard-standing or a field track. Trench 24 also contained a modern service trench **2404,** which was aligned north-west to south-east.

3.6 Northern trench group (Fig.5)

3.6.1 Archaeological deposits in the northern trenches (26 to 35) comprised a very low density scatter of linear ditches, crossing the trenches on a variety of alignments, and and two small pits. No datable artefacts were recovered.

3.6.2 Trench 28 contained an east-west aligned ditch (**2803**, Fig.17). Three plough furrows on an east-west alignment were also observed.

3.6.3 Trench 30 contained a single north-east to south-west aligned ditch (**3005**, Fig, 18).

3.6.4 Trench 32 contained a single north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**3210**), which did not produce any datable artefacts, and two small pits **3205** & **3206** (Fig. 19) which also did not produce any datable artefacts.

3.6.5 Trench 33 contained a north-south aligned linear **3303** (Fig.20) towards its eastern end, but it did not produce any datable artefacts.

3.7 Finds summary

3.7.1 Finds types recovered from the trench evaluation comprise pottery (Roman and Post medieval in date), ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay (Roman/medieval/ post-medieval), metal finds (undiagnostic), clay pipe (post-medieval), glass (undiagnostic/ post-medieval), flint (prehistoric), stone (Roman/undiagnostic), worked bone (undiagnostic, probably Roman) and animal bone (Roman/post-medieval).

3.7.2 The site is comparatively finds poor, but there is a distinct concentration of Roman artefacts in the fields to the north of Bosworth House Farm. Only 29 excavated deposits (out of 153) contained datable pottery, and generally in only small quantities.

3.7.3 The pottery recovered from the evaluation suggests a single-period occupation of the area. Whilst there was not an abundance of Roman pottery, there is sufficient present to suggest nearby settlement (presumably close to Bosworth House Farm). Most of the identifiable wares have an early Roman dating emphasis (c. 43-200 AD) with some possibly later material. The post-medieval pottery was mostly recovered from the ploughsoil and plough furrows or clearly modern contexts.

3.7.4 The assemblage of animal bone comprised a total of 120 bones with the bone preservation being fair but fragmentary. The great majority is from cattle or is cattle-sized, although sheep/pig-sized animals are also represented.

3.7.5 Soil samples for environmental assessment were taken from cremation burial **1602/3** in Trench 16. The samples from the cremation contained charcoal in high concentrations, and a limited amount of charred seeds. The sample also contained a quantity of fragmented burnt bone, identified as a mixture of human and animal, interpreted as the highly plough-truncated remains of a cremation burial. The assemblage contained several items of worked burnt bone (Fig. 6), which have been quantified, although the small size of the fragments prevented identification of their function (Appendix B.9). Several items of ironwork were also present, including hobnails, which suggest that a Roman date is most likely for the cremation.

4 Discussion

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 Access was available to the entire site and all planned trenches were excavated. Ground and light conditions were good throughout, although the minerogenic nature of the fills made identification of features in plan occasionally difficult.

4.1.2 Most of the trenches were located to test specific geophysical anomalies, and in that they were generally successful. The majority of the anomalies tested could be associated with features in the trenches, although some new features, not predicted by the geophysical survey, were also identified (Figs 3, 4 and 5).

4.1.3 Some trenches were positioned to test apparently blank areas in the geophysical survey plots and these also largely confirmed the survey results.

4.1.4 The site is comparatively poor in finds (see 3.8 above). This means that it is difficult to arrive at any detailed understanding of the function, layout and phased development of the site, although the evidence is sufficient to reliably pinpoint the principal focus and period of Roman activity within the development boundary.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The main focus of archaeological activity was concentrated in a zone between 50 and 200 metres north of Bosworth House Farm. The area investigated in the south-eastern corner of the site also contained a small number of possible Romano-British features. Those trenches clustered in the northernmost extremity of the site produced few features and little evidence for dating.

4.2.2 The evaluation recovered no significant evidence for prehistoric activity. The almost complete absence of worked flint (a single flake) finds indicates very limited activity.

4.2.3 The central trench group (Trenches 3 - 23), clustered to the north-east of Bosworth House Farm, revealed a range of archaeological features of Roman date, including ditches and pits, possible post-holes and a single Roman cremation burial (1602). Within this group, Roman pottery was recovered from evaluation Trenches 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 13; the largest groups by sherd count being recovered from Trenches 5, 6, 10 and 11, suggesting that the main concentration of Roman activity within the site is in the two fields immediately north of the Farm.

4.2.4 The distribution of Roman tile tells a similar story, with most diagnostic Roman material being recovered from Trenches 6, 7, 8 , 9 and 10, immediately north of the farmhouse. The cremation in Trench 16, which contained hobnails and burnt bone artefacts suggesting a Roman date, appears to be an outlier of the Roman features in this part of the site, but Roman burials are typically found on the periphery of settlement areas in rural as well as urban contexts.

4.2.5 The dating of the pottery from the central group of trenches suggests that the material was deposited in the mid/late 1st to late 2nd centuries, but may have continued to a lesser extent into the 3rd century or later. Local sources appear to have dominated supply, although pottery also arrived from the south Midlands, Gaul and Spain. The continental imports, especially the decorated samian ware, potentially point to occupation of moderate to high status. An east-west aligned ditch (703) in Trench 7 (context 704) produced a single tessera and a fragment of window glass (probably Roman based on the associated finds), which may also suggest a relatively high status settlement in the vicinity. The range of building materials, including hypocaust

components, suggests that it probably derived originally from a villa - The site of a possible villa (HER 2812) was recorded in the early 20th century during gravel quarrying to the south of Barwell (EDP 2011). However these finds are likely to have been re-used in low status contexts prior to discard: The CBM assemblage includes a high proportion of brick, tegula and flat tile which, together with the presence of burning on much of the tile, is a characteristic feature of material that has been reused in ovens, hearths or corn driers on rural or lower status sites.

4.2.6 Fragments of pottery were generally large, suggesting that the material had been deposited reasonably close to the point of original use and discard, although surfaces were often abraded. The red slip of the samian had disappeared entirely, probably due to soil conditions. Taken together there is sufficient evidence to suggest that part of a Roman settlement lay in the area to the north of Bosworth House Farm or very close by. The main concentration of Roman features falls within the north-east corner of 'Enclosure 1', as identified in the Archaeological Assessment on the basis of Lidar Data (EDP 2011, Plan EDP2), although it is not possible to identify any of the features investigated as part of the enclosure boundary. 'Enclosure 2' encompasses most of the remaining Roman features. The features investigated could be the remnants of a severely plough-eroded settlement within the site limits. Alternatively, they could form the periphery of a settlement centred elsewhere in the surrounding landscape, perhaps within the enclosures identified from the Lidar data, but centred slightly further to the west in the vicinity of the A447.

4.2.7 The southern trench group (Trenches 1 and 2) produced features consistent with part of a Roman period field boundary system, although the quantity of artefacts recovered from this group of features (a single Roman sherd from ditch 203 in Trench 2) cannot be considered secure dating evidence.

4.2.8 The northern trench group revealed a small number of ditches, none of which produced artefacts. These are likely to be agricultural field boundaries or drains of uncertain date, located at some distance from any focus of settlement.

4.2.9 There was no evidence for medieval activity in the artefact assemblage.

4.2.10 Post-medieval pottery was recovered from a variety of contexts in relatively small quantities. Most material of this date was recovered from topsoil (trenches 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 27 and 31). The remainder was from plough furrows (904, 1505, 1702, 1703) and an area of modern disturbance (Trenches 24 and 25). A single sherd of 18th century Midlands Blackware from ditch fill 1006 in Trench 10 may be intrusive, as the same context produced seven sherds of Roman pottery (mixing of contexts could result from plough disturbance). The context, character and widespread distribution of the post-medieval finds is consistent with the material entering the soil as domestic rubbish used in manuring fields.

4.2.11 There are clear indications that the archaeological features in all trenches have been heavily truncated by ploughing, most obviously and extensively where the medieval/ post-medieval plough furrows intersect with features, as in the case of the Roman cremation burial in Trench 16. Evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation was expected on the basis of aerial photographic and geophysical survey evidence. Numerous plough furrows were encountered, particularly in the southern and central trench groups, although the shallow soil sequence and the effects of modern mechanical cultivation meant that there was little or no surface indication.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 1					
General description					**Orientation** NW-SE
Trench contained a N-S aligned ditch and two pits.					**Avg. depth (m)** 0.35
					Width (m) 1.8
					Length (m) 50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
100	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	dark brown clayey silt
101	Layer			natural	mid orange silts and sands with occasional clay patches
102	Deposit		0.09	pebbly horizon between topsoil and natural	firm mid grey sandy silt with 75% small rounded pebbles including occasional flint fragments
103	Fill	1.29	0.38	top fill of ditch 105	soft mid brownish grey medium sand occasional rounded small pebbles
104	Fill	0.69	0.1	lower fill of ditch 105	soft-friable pale grey sand with 20% small-medium rounded pebbles
105	Cut	1.3	0.48	north-south aligned ditch	
106	Fill	0.8	0.22	upper fill of pit 107	soft mid brownish grey medium sand with 2% small rounded pebbles
107	Cut	0.8	0.35	undated pit	
108	Fill	1.1	0.22	fill of pit 109	soft mid grey medium sand with occasional shale and charcoal flecks
109	Cut	1.1	0.56	undated pit	
110	Fill	0.5	0.15	fill of pit 109	soft-firm mid grey sandy matrix around c50% medium cobbles and large rounded stones
111	Fill	0.5	0.3	fill of pit 109	soft-friable mid grey medium sand with orange flecks
112	Fill/Layer		0.15	possible variation in natural or lower fill of pit 107	firm mid grey silty sand black shale and siltstone towards top of deposit
113	Fill			Fill of furrow	unexcavated
114	Cut			Un-excavated furrow	

Trench 2					
General description					**Orientation** NW-SE
Trench contained a N-S ditch at its SE end and a pit.					**Avg. depth (m)** 0.2
					Width (m) 1.8
					Length (m) 50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
200	Layer			natural	variable reddish/orangey yellow sand with 5% gravel inclusions
201	VOID			VOID	VOID
202	Deposit			topsoil	soft/friable dark brown sandy silt with 15% rounded stones with occasional CBM
203	Cut	2m	1.1	curvilinear ditch	
204	Fill	1.35	0.77	lower fill of ditch 203	compact greyish blue slightly silty clay with 5-10% small to medium rounded stones; 40% charcoal; occasional CBM
205	Fill	1.8	0.24	fill of ditch 203	friable/compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with c30% small to medium large stones both rounded and angular; 25% charcoal
206	Fill	2	0.2	upper fill of ditch 203	firm/friable mid grey brown sandy silt with 15% charcoal
207	Cut	0.7	0.18	shallow pit	
208	Fill	0.7	0.18	fill of shallow pit 207	loose and friable mid yellowish grey sand with 20% small to medium large stone
209	Cut	0.3	0.4	pit	
210	Fill	0.3	0.25	lower fill of pit 209	firm/friable patchy brown grey sandy silt with 5% charcoal; 2% small rounded stones
211	Fill	0.3	0.05	fill of pit 209	firm/friable mid orange silty sand
212	Fill	0.3	0.24	top fill of pit 209	firm/friable mid grey brown sandy silt with 5% charcoal; 5% small rounded stones
213	Cut	-	-	un-excavated furrow (NW end of trench)	-
214	Fill	-	-	fill of furrow 213	-
215	Cut	-	-	un-excavated furrow (middle of trench)	-
216	Fill	-	-	fill of furrow 215	-
217	Cut	-	-	un-excavated furrow (SE end of trench)	-

Trench 2					
218	Fill	-	-	fill of furrow 217	-

Trench 3					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a N-S aligned stone lined land drain				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
300	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	soft dark brown clayey silt
301	Deposit		0.1	subsoil	pale greyish brown clay with occasional flecks of sand
302	Layer			natural	pale-mid brownish grey clay with occ. pebbles and sand flecks
303	Fill	0.69	0.22	fill of drain cut 307	firm/tacky mid greyish brown clay
304	Fill	0.62	0.04	fill of drain cut 307	firm mid orange sandy gravel
305	Fill	0.62	0.5	fill of drain cut 307	stiff mid grey clay
306	Fill	0.62	0.21	fill of drain cut 307	70% large angular stones; 30% smaller stones
307	Cut	0.62	0.61	land/field drain	

Trench 4					
General description				**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a NW-SE aligned ditch.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
400	Deposit			topsoil	mid-red brown clayey sandy silt
401	Deposit			subsoil	mottled light orange-brown and grey sandy silt
402	Fill			fill of ditch 404	moderate mid orange brown grey sandy silt
403	Fill			fill of ditch 404	firm light brown orange and mottled grey silty sand with small flint and ?quartz pebbles and 3% manganese flecks
404	Cut			NW-SE aligned ditch cut	
405	Fill			fill of cut for drain 406	firm/compact variable red-brown/orange-brown/grey-brown

Trench 4					
					sandy clay and silty sand
406	Cut			cut for field drain	
407	Drain			ceramic field drain	
408	Layer			natural	

Trench 5					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained an E-W aligned linear and two pits.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
500	Deposit		0.36	topsoil	soft-friable very dark grey brown clayey soil with frequent gravel pebbles
501	Deposit		0.12	subsoil	firm light orange/mid grey brown silty clay with occ rounded pebbles
502	Layer			natural	compact light grey yellow silty clay
503	Fill	1.4	0.14	fill of ditch 504	soft mid-dark brown grey silty clay with occasional rounded small pebbles, frequent chalk flecks
504	Cut	1.4	0.14	NE-SW aligned Roman ditch	
505	Fill	1.6	0.2	fill of pit 506	compact dark brown grey silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles
506	Cut	1.36	0.48	large square-cut Roman pit	
507	Fill	0.62	0.1	fill of probable furrow 508	compact mid grey-brown silty clay occ pebbles and charcoal flecks
508	Cut	0.62	0.1	probable furrow	
509	Fill	0.32	0.1	fill of probable furrow 510	soft mid grey brown clayey silt with occ small-med rounded pebbles
510	Cut	0.32	0.1	probable furrow	
511	Fill	2		fill of un-excavated furrow	soft mid brown grey silty clay
512	Cut	2		probable furrow	
513	Fill	4.6		fill of un-excavated furrow	soft mid grey brown silty clay
514	Cut	4.6		probable furrow	
515	Fill	1.3	0.3	fill of pit 516	very compact mid grey brown silty clay with mid-large rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks

Trench 5					
516	Cut	1.3	0.3	circular Roman pit	
517	Fill	1.36	0.3	lower fill of pit 516	very hard dark brown grey silty clay with frequent moderately well sorted sun-angular pebbles
518	Fill	0.14	0.22	fill of gully 519	soft dark brown grey silty clay
519	Cut	0.14	0.22	cut of gully terminus	
520	Fill	1.4	0.1	uppermost fill of Roman pit 506	soft/loose very dark brown grey silty clay with occ charcoal flecks
521	Fill	0.74	0.06	lower fill of pit 516	very compact mid brown grey silty clay with frequent chalk and charcoal flecks

Trench 6					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained three ditches and three small pits or post-holes				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
600	Deposit			topsoil	mid brown sandy clay silt
601	Deposit			subsoil	light yellow brown grey fine sandy clay silt
602	Fill	2.2	0.08	fill of furrow 603	soft mid orange brown silty sandy clay with flint and quartzite pebbles
603	Cut	2.2	0.08	furrow	
604	Fill	0.4	0.12	fill of small pit/post hole 605	compact mid orange brown grey silty sand with c3% manganese flecks
605	Cut	0.4	0.12	pit/post hole	
606	Fill	0.7	0.13	upper fill of ditch 608	soft mid brownish-grey sandy silt with 1% manganese flecks and 1% charcaol
607	Fill	0.25	0.04	primary fill of ditch 608	moderate mottled brown red and grey brown silty sand
608	Cut	0.7	0.15	east-west aligned ditch	
609	Fill	2.6	0.08	upper fill of feature 611	moderate mid brown grey sandy clay silt with 1% manganese flecks
610	Fill	0.5	0.08	primary fill of feature 611	moderate mid grey orang red silty sand
611	Cut	2.6	0.15	large sub-rectangular cut	
612	Fill	0.7	0.16	upper fill of pit 614	moderate mid brown grey clayey sandy silt

Trench 6					
613	Fill	0.65	0.3	primary fill of pit 614	firm mottled light to mid grey and dull orange mixed silty sand and clayey sand
614	Cut	0.65	0.43	pit	
615	Layer			natural	orange clay to north of trench; orange sandy clay to south
616	Fill	2.2	0.18	fill of feature 617	soft mid grey brown sandy clay silt with c15% flint pebbles and sandstone fragments
617	Cut	3	0.18	roughly east-west aligned ?linear feature	
618	Fill	1.5	0.19	upper fill of ditch 620	soft mid grey brown sandy clay silt with c15% flint and pebbles
619	Fill	0.9	0.2	primary fill of ditch 620	firm to compact mid orange brown silty clay with 5% flint pebbles; 1% sandstone fragments
620	Cut	0.8	0.36	east-west aligned ditch	
621	Fill	0.85	0.12	fill of furrow 622	soft light-mid grey brown sandy clay silt
622	Cut	2.4	0.12	furrow	
623	Fill	0.4	0.1	fill of ditch 624	soft mid brown-grey sandy clay silt with 3% flint pebbles
624	Cut	0.4	0.1	north-south aligned ditch	
625	Fill	0.6	0.07	upper fill of ditch 627	soft mid grey sandy clay silt
626	Fill	0.7	0.14	main and primary fill of ditch 627	firm to compact light grey with pale orange patches silty clay with 1% charcoal flecks, 1% manganese flecks and 5% small flint pebbles
627	Cut	0.7	0.2	roughly SW-NE aligned ditch	
628	Fill	0.4	0.2	upper fill of pit/post hole 630	soft-loose dark brown grey clayey sandy silt with 30% large rounded sandstone pebbles and stones
629	Fill	0.9	0.18	primary fill of pit/post hole 630	firm mid brown grey sandy silt with 25% large sandstone pebbles
630	Cut	0.9	0.4	vertically sided, flat based pit	
631	Fill	0.15	0.08	fill of linear feature 632	moderate mid grey sandy silt
632	Cut	0.15	0.08	narrow linear feature	
633	Fill	0.23	0.1	fill of post hole 635	moderate mid brown sandy silt
634	Fill	0.2	0.1	fill of post hole 635	firm light brown orange silty sandy clay with 1% charcoal
635	Cut	0.25	0.1	post hole cut	

Trench 7					
General description					**Orientation** N-S
Trench contained two E-W aligned ditches.					**Avg. depth (m)** 0.4
					Width (m) 1.8
					Length (m) 50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
700	Layer			natural	variable grey yellow clay with orange yellow sandy clay
701	Deposit			subsoil	dark brown and orange brown clay sand with 20% charcoal and 20% rounded stones
702	Deposit			topsoil	dark brown loose/friable clayey silt with occasional angular and rounded stones
703	Cut	2.5	0.1	east-west aligned Roman linear feature	
704	Fill	2.5	0.06	fill of linear feature 703	compact yellowish grey brown silty clay
705	Fill	1.5	0.04	charcoal rich fill of linear feature 703	
706	Fill	1.92	0.2	fill of east-west aligned furrow	moderately compacted mid dark grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles
707	Cut	0.92	0.2	east-west aligned furrow	
708	Fill	0.34	0.32	fill of cut for land drain 709	compact mid grey orange sandy clay
709	Cut	0.34	0.32	cut for east-west aligned land drain	
710	Cut	0.43	0.25	WNW-ESE aligned linear feature	
711	Fill	0.32	0.1	fill of feature 710	compact blueish grey and grey orange sandy clay with 5% charcoal and 10% stones, mostly rounded, some angular
712	Fill	0.43	0.15	fill of feature 710	firm orange yellow grey sandy clay with 30% small rounded stones

Trench 8					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained five N-S aligned linears, two small E-W aligned gullies and a further NW-SE gully.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
800	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	soft and friable dark brown silty clay
801	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	mid greyish brown clayey silt
802	Layer	-	-	Natural	yellow, grey and pink clay
803	Layer	3.54	0.32	Layer overlying 810 and 806	Dark black grey-brown silt clay
804	Cut	1.04	.0.25	North-south aligned linear feature	-
805	Fill	0.8	0.26	Fill of 806	Dark orange brown sily clay
806	Cut	1.18	0.57	North-south aligned linear feature	-
807	Fill	0.34	0.11	Fill of 808	Mid orange grey silt clay
808	Cut	0.34	0.11	East-West aligned linear	-
809	Fill	2.1	0.38	Fill of 810	Mid red brown-grey silt clay
810	Cut	2.1	0.38	North-south aligned linear	-
811	Fill	1.04	0.25	Fill of 804	Light orange grey silt clay
812	Layer	1.28	0.14	Layer overlying 810 and 806	Dark grey-brown silt clay
813	Fill	1.18	0.14	Fill of 806	Dark orange brown silt clay
814	Layer	-	0.3	Natural	As above
815	Fill	0.2	0.16	Fill of 816	Red brown silt clay
816	Cut	0.2	0.16	North-south aligned linear feature	-
817	Fill	0.2	0.06	Fill of 818	Dark grey-brown silt clay
818	Cut	0.2	0.06	East-west aligned linear feature	-
819	Fill	1.16	0.14	Fill of 806	Mid orange-brown silt clay
820	Cut	0.46	0.09	east-west aligned linear feature	-
821	Cut	0.45	0.12	north-south aligned linear feature	-
822	Cut			same as 821	-
823	Cut	0.4	0.07	NW-SE aligned ditch	-

Trench 8					
824	Fill	0.46	0.09	fill of linear feature 820	soft mid brownish grey silty clay 5% stones
825	Fill	0.45	0.12	fill of linear feature 821	soft mid brownish grey silty clay with 5% stones
826	Fill			same as 825	same as 825
827	Fill	0.4	0.07	fill of ditch 823	soft mid greyish brown silty clay
828	Cut	0.53	0.2	east-west aligned ditch	
829	Fill	0.53	0.2	fill of ditch 828	firm mid orangey grey clay
830	Fill	0.12	0.06	Fill of 831	Soft mid grey-brown silt clay
831	Cut	0.57	0.06	Furrow	-
832	Fill	1.46	0.46	Fill of 835	Dark Grey-brownsilt clay
833	Fill	0.92	0.3	Fill of 835	Mid grey-brown silt clay
834	Fill	0.7	0.12	Fill of 835	Light orange-brown silt clay
835	Cut	1.46	0.73	North-south aligned linear feature	

Trench 9					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a agricultural furrow along its length and a small gully aligned E-W.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
900	Layer			natural	yellow, grey and pink clay
901	Deposit			topsoil	soft and friable dark brown silty clay
902	Cut	1.1	0.19	possible furrow	
903	Fill	1	0.11	fill of possible furrow 902	friable mid brown orange silty sand with 40% charcoal and 20% rounded small stones
904	Fill	0.92	0.09	fill of possible furrow 902	friable mid brown grey silty sand with 10% charcoal and 5% rounded small stones
905	Cut			same as 902	
906	Fill			same as 904	same as 904
907	VOID			VOID	VOID
908	Fill	0.85	0.15	fill of ditch 905	friable orange grey sandy silt with 5% charcoal and 5% rounded stones
909	Cut	0.45	0.08	possible ditch terminus	

Trench 9					
910	Fill	0.45	0.08	fill of possible ditch terminus 909	friable mid to light grey clayey silt with 40% charcoal flecks
911	Fill			fill of 905	re-deposited sand
912	Cut			possible furrow	
913	Fill			same as 903	same as 903
914	Fill			same as 904	same as 904

Trench 10					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained two NW-SE aligned linears.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1000	Deposit		0.24	topsoil	very dark greyish brown silt
1001	Deposit		0.24	subsoil	mid greyish brown clayey silt
1002	Layer			natural	dark greyish red sclayey sand
1003	Fill		0.22	possible ditch fill	soft dark greyish brown clayey silt with 2% small stones
1004	Cut	3.11	0.8	north-south aligned Roman boundary ditch	
1005	Fill		0.62	lowest fill of ditch 1004	firm mid orangey grey clay
1006	Fill		0.16	fill of ditch 1004	firm dark brownish grey clayey silt
1007	Fill		0.2	fill of ditch 1004	firm mid brownish grey clayey silt
1008	Cut		0.37	north-south aligned ditch	
1009	Fill		0.37	fill of ditch 1008	firm mid brownish red silty clay
1010	Deposit	0.44	0.1	silty clay spread at west end of trench	soft dark greyish brown silty clay with 5% medium and small stones

Trench 11					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a NE-SW aligned linear, a ditch terminus at its western end and a small pit.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1100	Deposit			topsoil	
1101	Cut	1.7	0.8	east-west aligned ditch	

Trench 11					
1102	Fill	1.5	0.3	uppermost fill of ditch 1101	soft dark grey clayey silt
1103	Fill	1.55	0.3	fill of ditch 1101	moderate light mottled grey yellow and light grey silty clay
1104	Cut	1.7	0.9	pit	
1105	Fill	1.7	0.28	fill of pit 1101	firm mid brown/grey yellow silty clay with c3% small flint pebbles
1106	Fill	0.45	0.1	fill of pit 1101	soft mid grey clayey silt
1107	Fill	0.38	0.44	fill of pit 1104	soft mid brown grey clayey silt with 3% pebbles
1108	Fill	0.55	0.12	fill of pit 1104	soft light grey yellow orange silty clay with 5% pebbles
1109	Fill	0.6	0.3	fill of pit 1104	soft mid grey clayey silt with 1% charcoal flecks and 2% pebbles
1110	Fill	0.4	0.16	fill of pit 1104	soft mottled mid grey and grey yellow sandy gritty silty clay
1111	Fill	1.46	0.16	fill of ditch terminus 1114	moderate mid grey clayey silt with 1% charcoal flecks
1112	Fill	0.8	0.1	fill of ditch terminus 1114	firm mottled light grey yellow silty clay
1113	Fill	0.5	0.07	primary fill of ditch terminus 1114	firm mid grey clayey silt with 1% charcoal flecks
1114	Cut	1.46	0.33	possible ditch terminus	
1115	Layer			natural	orange clay

Trench 12					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a single NW-SE aligned linear feature.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1200	Deposit			topsoil	dark brownish grey friable sandy clay with occasional sub angular pebbles
1201	Layer			natural	pale yellowish brown to mid brown clay
1202	Fill	0.76	0.1	fill of possible linear feature	friable pale-mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional pebbles
1203	Cut	0.76	0.1	possible linear feature	

Trench 13					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained one possible feature (1303) and three agricultural furrows. The former produced no datable artefacts and could be either a ditch or furrow – The alignment was not the same as the plough furrows in this trench, so it recorded as a possible cut feature.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1300	Deposit			topsoil	dark brownish grey soft silty clay with occasional sub angular pebbles
1301	Fill	1.8	0.06	fill of furrow 1303	firm mid grey clayey silt with 75% small rounded pebbles
1302	Fill	2.8	0.15	fill of furrow 1303	firm mid greyish brown silty clay with 1% pebbles
1303	Cut	2.8	0.45	Possible feature ot furrow	
1304	Fill	2	0.2	fill of furrow 1305	firm mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional pebbles
1305	Cut			furrow	
1306	Fill	3	0.2	fill of furrow 1307	firm mid greyish brown silty clay with 1% pebbles
1307	Cut			furrow	
1308	Fill			fill of furrow 1309	un-excavated
1309	Cut			furrow	
1310	Layer			natural	un-excavated
1311	Fill			fill of furrow 1303	

Trench 14					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained five agricultural furrows aligned E-W				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1400	Deposit			Deposit	dark brownish grey soft silty clay with occasional pebbles
1401	Fill			fill of furrow 1402	un-excavated
1402	Cut			furrow	
1403	Fill			fill of furrow 1404	un-excavated
1404	Cut			furrow	

Trench 14					
1405	Fill	2.85	0.6	fill of furrow 1406	firm mid greyish brown sandy silt with 1% pebbles
1406	Cut	2.85	0.6	furrow	
1407	Fill			fill of furrow 1408	un-excavated
1408	Cut			furrow	
1409	Fill			fill of furrow 1410	un-excavated
1410	Cut			furrow	
1411	Layer			natural	

Trench 15					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained five E-W aligned agricultural furrows.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.38
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1500	Deposit		0.35	topsoil	dark brownish grey friable clayey silt with occasional pebbles
1501	Layer			natural	mid greyish brown silty clay
1502	Fill			fill of furrow	un-excavated
1503	Fill			fill of furrow	un-excavated
1504	Fill			fill of furrow	un-excavated
1505	Fill			fill of furrow	un-excavated
1506	Fill			fill of furrow	un-excavated

Trench 16					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained four E-W aligned agricultural furrows and a possible Romano-British cremation burial.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1600	Deposit			topsoil	dark brownish grey friable clayey silt with occasional pebbles
1601	Layer			natural	pale-mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks
1602	Fill	0.4	0.07	fill of feature 1603	dark greyish black clayey silt with 2% rounded small pebbles; 5% white calcined bone fragments

Trench 16					
1603	Cut	0.4	0.07	?pit - possible cremation	
1604	Fill	2	0.05	fill of furrow 1605	friable mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
1605	Cut	2	0.05	furrow	
1606	Fill			fill of furrow 1607	un-excavated
1607	Cut			furrow	
1608	Fill			fill of furrow 1609	un-excavated
1609	Cut			furrow	
1610	Fill			fill of furrow 1611	un-excavated
1611	Cut			furrow	

Trench 17					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a single E-W aligned agricultural furrow.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1700	Deposit		0.28	topsoil	dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles
1701	Layer			natural	pale yellow brown clay with occasional pale grey patches; 2% pebbles; 1% chalk flecks
1702	Fill			fill of furrow	
1703	Cut			furrow	
1704	Fill			fill of cut for land drain	
1705	Cut			cut for land drain	

Trench 18					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a single E-W aligned linear feature.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1800	Deposit		0.31	topsoil	dark greyish brown firm sandy silt with 1% rounded pebbles and occasional clay
1801	Deposit		0.1	subsoil	mid brown firm clayey silt

Trench 18					
1802	Layer			natural	pale brown silty clay
1803	Deposit		0.23	bank deposit	firm very pale yellow brown sandy silt with occasional pebbles and brown mottling
1804	Fill	0.56	0.3	ditch fill	firm dark grey clay with occasional pebbles
0	Cut	1.7	0.3	ditch cut	

Trench 19					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeological features				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
1900	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	dark brownish grey sandy silt
1901	Deposit		0.1	subsoil	mid brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks
1902	Layer			natural	variable pinkish brown silty clay

Trench 20					
General description				**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a continuation of the field boundary seen in trench 18.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2000	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	dark brownish grey sandy silt
2001	Deposit		0.25	subsoil	mid brown clayey silt with occasional stones
2002	Layer			natural	pale grey-brown silty clay
2003	Fill			ditch fill	same as 1804
2004	Cut			east-west aligned ditch	same as 1805
2005	Deposit			bank deposit	same as 1803

Trench 21					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a single N-S aligned linear and four N-S aligned agricultural furrows.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.29
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2100	Deposit		0.29	topsoil	dark grey very soft clayey silt with occasional pebbles
2101	Layer			natural	variable sandy to south, clayey to north
2102	Fill	0.63	0.23	fill of shallow ditch	soft pale grey sandy silt
2103	Cut	0.63	0.23	shallow ditch	
2104	Fill			fill of furrow 2105	
2105	Cut			furrow	
2106	Fill			fill of furrow 2107	un-excavated
2107	Cut			furrow	
2108	Fill			fill of furrow 2109	un-excavated
2109	Cut			furrow	
2110	Fill			fill of furrow 2111	un-excavated
2111	Cut			furrow	

Trench 22					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained three north-south aligned furrows				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	2
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2200	Deposit	-	0.3	topsoil	mid brown, firm, clayey silt
2201	Deposit	-		subsoil	
2202	Layer	-		natural	pale yellowish brown clay

Trench 23					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained three N-S aligned agricultural furrows				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2300	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	very dark greyish brown clayey silt
2301	Layer			natural	mid greyish brown silty clay with 5% pebbles
2302	Fill			fill of furrow 2303	un-excavated
2303	Cut			furrow	
2304	Fill			fill of furrow 2305	un-excavated
2305	Cut			furrow	
2306	Fill			fill of furrow 2307	un-excavated
2307	Cut			furrow	

Trench 24					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a single N-S aligned linear service trench.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2400	Deposit			topsoil	mid brown, firm, clayey silt
2401	Deposit		0.3	possible modern/post med deposit	black stoney deposit, discoloured clay below same as 2503
2402	Layer			natural	pale yellowish brown clay
2403	Fill			fill of service trench	
2404	Cut			service trench	

Trench 25					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a modern service trench				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2500	Deposit		0.26	topsoil	mid brown firm clayey silt
2501	Deposit		0.1	?modern deposit	stiff pale brown silty clay
2502	Deposit		0.2	?modern deposit	friable mid brownish grey clayey silt
2503	Deposit		0.25	?modern deposit	compact dark grey sandy gritty silt with 50% small sub angular yellowy grey stones and pebbles
2504	Layer		0.1	natural	stiff pale brownish pinky yellow clay with occasional pebbles
2505	Fill		0.1	fill of service trench	
2506	Cut	0.55	0.1	service trench	
2507	Fill			fill of cut for land drain	
2508	Cut			cut for land drain	

Trench 26					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench was devoid of archaeological features				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2600	Deposit		0.35	topsoil	dark brownish grey sandy silt
2601	Layer			natural	mid reddish brown sandy gravel

Trench 27					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench was devoid of archaeological features				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2700	Layer		0.3	topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
2701	Layer		0.1	subsoil	-
2702	Layer			Natural	Light grey-brown silt clay

Trench 28					
General description				**Orientation**	ENE-WSW
Trench contained a single E-W aligned linear feature, and three E-W aligned agricultural furrows.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2800	Deposit		0.3	topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
2801	Layer			natural	Light pink yellow clay
2802	FIll	0.95	0.25	Fill of 2803	Pale grey clay silt
2803	Cut	0.95	.025	East-west aligned linear feature	-
2804	Fill	1.3	-	Fill of furrow	
2805	Fill	1.3	-	Fill of furrow	
2806	Fill	1.3	-	Fill of furrow	

Trench 29					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.38
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
2900	Layer		0.3	topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
2901	Layer			natural	Brown-grey clay

Trench 30					
General description				**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a single NE-SW aligned linear feature				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3000	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3001	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	Mid orange grey-brown clay silt
3002	Layer	-	-	Natural	Orange grey clay
3003	Fill	1	0.35	Fill of 3005	Mid grey-brown sand silt
3004	Fill	0.6	0.1	Fill of 3005	Dark grey-brown sand silt
3005	Cut	1	0.45	East-West aligned linear feature	-
3006	Layer	-	-	Natural	Grey black clay

Trench 31					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3100	Layer	-	0.36	tTopsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3101	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay silt

Trench 31					
3102	Layer	-	-	Natural	Mid brown-yellow clay

Trench 32					
General description				**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a single N-S aligned linear and two small pits.				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3200	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3201	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	Grey-brown silt sand
3202	Layer	-	-	Natural	Light brown yellow sand clay
3203	Fill	0.62	0.2	Fill of 3205	Mid grey clay sand
3204	Fill	0.5	0.11	Fill of 3205	Mid orange-brown silt clay
3205	Cut	1.04	0.33	Pit	-
3206	Cut	1.24	0.3	Pit	-
3207	Fill	1.24	0.12	Fill of 3206	Firm dark grey brown silt clay
3208	Fill	1	0.1	Fill of 3206	Firm mid orange grey silt clay
3209	Fill	0.8	0.09	Fill of 3206	Dark grey-brown clay
3210	Cut	0.7	0.08	North-south aligned linear feature	-
3211	Fill	0.7	0.08	Fill of 3210	Mid brown grey clay

Trench 33					
General description				**Orientation**	ENE-WSW
Trench contained a single NE-SW aligned linear				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3301	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	Red brown clay silt
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural	Orange grey clay
3303	Cut	0.98	0.18	North-south aligned linear feature	-

Trench 33					
3304	Fill	0.98	0.18	Fill of 3303	Mid red brown clay sand

Trench 34					
General description				**Orientation**	NNE-SSW
Trench was devoid of archaeological features				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.43
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3401	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	Red brown clay silt
3402	Layer	-	-	Natural	Orange grey clay

Trench 35					
General description				**Orientation**	E-W
Trench was devoid of archaeological features				**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
				Width (m)	1.8
				Length (m)	50
Contexts					
context no	**type**	**width (m)**	**depth (m)**	**comment**	**soil description**
3500	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles
3501	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	Red brown clay silt
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural	Orange grey clay

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Roman Pottery

By Edward Biddulph

Introduction

A total of 152 sherds, weighing 2.5kg, was recovered from the evaluation. Each context group was quantified by sherd count and weight and rapidly scanned to identify diagnostic forms and fabrics and allow the groups to be dated. Fabrics were assigned codes from OA's standard Roman pottery recording system, while forms were briefly described. Table 1 provides a summary of the assemblage.

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot-date
204	1	8	Body sherd with ?combed decoration and cordon (O20)	43-410
402	1	3	R30 body sherd	43-410
503	1	9	R30 body sherd	43-410
505	10	18	Body sherds: R10, ?E80, O10, ?O40	43-100
515	13	205	Storage jar body sherds (C10), O80; carinated bowl (O40 or similar)	43-100
517	1	20	R30 body sherd	43-410
609	7	30	Body sherds: E80, R10, R30	43-100
616	10	103	Body sherds: R10, R20, R30, F60; cooking-pot (B10)	120-410
621	3	27	Cup-mouthed/lid-seated jar, bowl or jar (R30)	180-400
629	1	7	C10 body sherd	43-410
700	1	5	R20 body sherd	43-410
704	5	42	Bead-and-flanged mortarium (M23), R30 body sherds, chip from oxidised vessel	140-200
705	3	24	Plain-rimmed dish (R20), O10 body sherds	120-410
832	4	6	Body sherds: R10, unidentified fabrics	43-410
833	2	35	R20 body sherd [label in bag gives 2061 as context number]	43-410
904	1	17	Drag. 31 (S30) – very abraded surfaces; no slip remaining except at top of external wall; post-med sherd in group	150-200
1003	19	381	Mortarium with thin curved flange and upright bead (M23); wide-mouthed jar, dropped flange dish (R30);	170-200

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot-date
			F52 body sherd	
1004	1	122	Drag. 31 (S30) – very abraded surfaces; no slip remaining	150-200
1006	15	295	Narrow-necked jar, necked jars (R30); B10; ?platter (S0); bowl (O20); 1 x post-med sherd - ?intrusive	130-410
1009	7	61	Mortarium flange (M23), R30 body sherds	140-250
1102	29	819	Dressel 20 body sherd (A11); oval-bodied necked jar, jar or bowl (R30);W10; Drag. 37 body sherds – leaf motif visible (S30)	150-200
1103	9	167	Ring-necked flagon (W13); lid-seated jar (C11)	140-200
1104	2	38	W20 body sherd	43-410
1115	1	19	Body sherd possibly from butt-beaker (R10)	43-100
1300	1	14	O10 body sherd - ?residual in post-med context	43-410
TOTAL	152	2563		

Table 1: Roman pottery

Assemblage composition

The earliest groups (contexts 505, 515, 609 and 1115) were dated to the mid to late 1st-century AD on the basis of grog-tempered fabrics (E80, O80), a carinated bowl in a Severn Valley oxidised ware-type fabric (O40), and a possible butt-beaker in fine grey ware (R10). Shelly ware (C10) and sandy grey ware (R30) was also present. Fabric O40 was also recorded as a bowl or wide-mouthed jar from late 1st or 2nd century context 1005.

Six context groups (704, 904, 1004, 1102, 1103) were dated to the mid to late 2nd century. Bead-and-flanged mortaria (fabric M23), manufactured in the Mancetter-Hartshill industry, (c.15km west of Barwell), were recorded. A white-ware (W23) ring-necked flagon is likely to have had the same source. Sandy grey ware vessels included an oval-bodied necked jar, a bowl, and a dropped-flange dish. These may also be Mancetter products, although a number of other kiln sites in the area are known. A lid-seated jar in a shelly ware (C11) probably arrived from the Midlands, perhaps Harrold in Bedfordshire. Other fabrics recorded included Nene Valley colour-coated ware (F52) and fine white ware (W10) of unknown source. The presence of Central Gaulish samian ware (S30) provided a good indication of a later 2nd-century date. Two Drag. 31 dishes and one Drag. 37 decorated bowl were recorded. Two context groups contained fragments of Dressel 20 amphorae. These were imported from southern Spain and contained olive oil.

Context 621 contained a grey ware jar with a cup-mouthed or lid-seated jar reminiscent of standard jar forms produced in Derbyshire ware. The fabric (R30) is similar to other probably local sandy grey wares, and the form is paralleled in the Mancetter-Hartshill repertoire (P Booth, pers. comm.). The form is typical of the late Roman period, but was produced from the late 2nd century onwards. A date of AD 180-400 was therefore given to the group.

The remaining context groups contained pottery that was more broadly dated. A date after AD 120 is assigned to context 616 on the basis of a black-burnished ware (B10) cooking pot and

715 on the basis of a plain-rimmed dish in a coarse sandy grey ware (R20). Context 1006 contained a grey ware narrow-necked jar and a residual South Gaulish samian (S20) platter. Other wares recorded included fine and sandy oxidised wares (O10 and O20).

Discussion

The dating of the diagnostic forms and fabrics suggests that pottery deposition spanned the mid/late 1st to late 2nd centuries, but may have continued to a lesser extent into the 3rd century or later. Local sources appear to have dominated supply, although pottery also arrived from the south Midlands, Gaul and Spain. The continental imports, especially the decorated samian, potentially point to occupation of at least moderate to high status.

With a mean sherd weight (count/weight) of 16.9g, fragments were generally large, suggesting that the pottery had been deposited reasonably close to the point of original use and discard. However, surfaces were often abraded. The red slip of the samian had disappeared entirely, probably due to soil conditions.

The pottery was recovered from evaluation trenches 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 13; the largest groups by sherd count were recovered from trenches 5, 6, 10 and 11. The focus for the Roman-period activity is in the area at the south-western edge of the evaluation area close to Bosworth House Farm.

B.2 Post Medieval Pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction

A total of 85 sherds of pottery weighing 1213g. were recovered from 27 contexts. All of this is of later post-medieval date. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date, which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.). An assemblage of Roman pottery from the present excavation is reported separately above.

Date and nature of the assemblage

The assemblage is generally in a very fragmentary and slightly worn condition, but some sherds are quite large and fresh. It comprises only common domestic pottery types typical for the region and has the appearance of common domestic or garden rubbish. A few pieces might date from the late 17th/early 18th century, but the bulk of the assemblage dates from the late 18th and 19th centuries. There are few, if any, pieces datable as late as c. 1900.

Coarsewares present are likely to be from fairly local or regional sources. Predominant here are sherds of ‘Midlands Blackware’ (c 1675-1900?). These are generally quite robust vessels in a cream, buff or orange coal measures fabric with a shiny black glaze. A few sherds of ‘Midlands Yellow ware’ of the same date are also present and a few sherds of Staffordshire-type slip-decorated earthenware - mainly dishes with combed slip decoration (mainly 18th century). The most unusual piece here is a worn bowl rim in coarse North Devon gravel-tempered ware (c 1650-1850) from Context 1500. This type is found on sites further west along the River Severn and at least as far north as Ironbridge (Shropshire). A relatively large number of common Staffordshire-type cream or white earthenwares of the late 18th and early 19th century are present, including Creamware and Pearlware in the form of dishes, cups and chamberpots etc.

Staffordshire-type plain and transfer-printed whitewares of the period c. 1830-1900 are also present, alongside Yellow ware (c 1780-1900) from potteries in Derbyshire and Leicestershire and a few sherds of late English stoneware and porcelain. Fuller details are available in the spot-dates see catalogue.

Context	Spot-date	No.	Weight	Comments
100	c1780-1830	5	64	2x Pearlware (PEARL). Midlands blackware in cream & red fabrics with iron slip under black glaze on the cream sherds
200	c1700-1850?	1	10	Bs Staffs combed slipware dish
300	c1780-1830	4	8	2 x hand-painted Pearlware (PEARL). Creamware (CREA) x 2
303	c1780-1830	3	2	1 vess. Hand-painted Pearlware (PEARL) cup
500	19-20C?	1	16	Date based on edge fragment of over-fired purplish-glazed roof tile - prob fairly modern (extracted). Pot = worn 18C (c1700-1750) dish rim in Staffs-type slip-trailed ware with pale cream fabric & pale brown trailed slip dec incl white slip 'jewelling'
800	c1830-1900	6	110	Blue transfer-printed dish (TPW), refined white earthenware (REFW), Bristol glz stoneware preserve jar w iron-dipped rim & corduroy dec ext. 3x Midlands blackware incl over-fired bloated jar base
900	c1820-1900	1	55	Small cylindrical brown salt-glz stoneware ink bottle body - split vertically in half
904	c1675-1900	1	3	Finer red Midl blackware bs - cup etc?
1006	c1675-1850?	1	26	Bs Midl blackware (7x Roman sherds also in this ctx)
1200	c1830-1900	5	128	Bone china saucer base. 4x Midlands blackware
1300	c1675-1900	4	93	Midlands blackware. Prob 3 vess incl squared large bowl rim in cream fabric w red slip int. Cylindrical storage jar base. Bs ?jar. 1x Roman bs removed

1400	c1830-1900	7	55	Porcelain ?octagonal plate rim with faded ?grey transfer-printed dec of tower and ?battlements & shrubs under inscrip 'WARWI[CK CASTLE]? Souvenir dish. TPW. Midl blackware
1500	c1830-1850?	8	102	TPW & REFW. Yellow ware (YELL). Midl blackware. Base Midlands brown-mottled ware - prob 18C. Worn hammerhead rim from bowl or jar apparently in North Devon gravel-tempered ware with traces int greenish-brown glaze - prob 18C/E19C?
1505	c1675-1850?	1	41	Large ?bowl base in Midlands cream/buff ware with int red-brown slip under a clear glz
1700	c1830-1900	8	40	REFW (white earthenware) incl grey sponged whiteware. 1x late CREA (Creamware). 2x Yellow ware (YELL). 2x Midlands blackware - red fabric. 1x fine pink-buff flowerpot rim?
1702	c1675-1900	1	8	Worn bs prob orange sandy Midl blackware with specks of black glz int
1703	c1675-1900	1	68	Midl blackware - large jar/bowl flat base
1800	c1675-1800?	2	11	Rim Midlands yellow ware (or Staffs slipware) ?porringer. Bs finer Midlands blackware globular form - poss 17/18C?
1900	c1770-1830	4	22	Bs CREA. Rim Midlands Yellow ware. Bs Midl blackware. Bs unident/CBM?
2061	c1830-1900	6	49	1x green-glazed REFW. CREA. Midl blackware
2200	c1780-1900	1	2	Bs Yellow ware
2300	c1675-1850?	1	11	Midlands blackware bs w buff fabric & int black glz
2300	c1700-1850?	1	5	Bs Staffs combed/feathered slipware dish
2401	c1850-1900?	3	217	REFW small puddingbowl rim. Bs YELL. Rim from large storage jar in post-med red earthenware (PMR) with int clear glaze and traces of arched lug handle on neck
2500	c1830-1900	3	14	TPW & REFW
2502	c1770-1830	3	19	CREA chamberpot rim. Bs Midl blackware - buff sandy fabric with int red slip under black glz
2700	c1700-1850?	1	17	Rim Staffs combed slipware dish - press-moulded, rim scalloped

Table 2: Post-medieval pottery

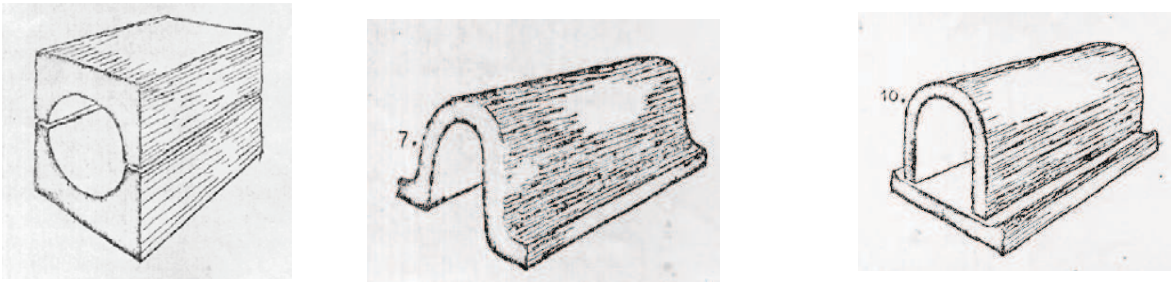
B.3 C.B.M. And Fired Clay

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction and methodology

Ceramic building material amounted to 164 fragments weighing 9395g and is summarised by context and type in the table below. The assemblage includes both Roman and post-medieval - early modern (18th-20th century) material, using similar sandy fabrics in both periods. This has made it difficult to assign non-diagnostic flat tile and indeterminate pieces to a phase, as well as separating Roman and modern brick, which occurred in the same thickness range. The site is situated on the Keuper Marl, which has been extensively exploited for brick production in south Leicestershire during recent centuries and presumably the same clay sources were exploited during the Roman period.

The early modern material, probably largely of early–mid 19th century date all appears to relate to field drainage. It is difficult to date field drains precisely and it is possible that they were already being constructed during the 18th century and continued into the early 20th century. The main diagnostic pieces were horseshoe shaped drain tiles with feet and whelms (bricks with a central semi-circular groove in one surface). A number of plain flat tiles 15-20mm thick may have been flat drain tiles, which could be used by themselves in an inverted V within the trench or in conjunction with the horseshoe drain tiles. One specialised base tile of this type with thickened edges was found in trench 27.



Examples of early modern field drains: from L to R whelms, footed horseshoe field drain and horseshoe drain with specialised base tile.

The field drain tiles are spread across much of the area investigated within the northern group of trenches (27, 30, 32, 35), Trenches 24 and 25, the more easterly trenches of the southern group (14, 15, 17, 20, 22) and Trenches 1-3. The variety of types suggests a succession of different types were used during the 19th century – early 20th century to improve agricultural production around Barwell.

Roman tile was concentrated to the north of Bosworth House Farm (Trenches 5-7, 10-13 and 23). Some fragments from Trenches 1 and 2 may be Roman and a brick in Trench 28 was the only Roman item from the northern area. The Roman assemblage was dominated by brick, including much thick brick in 40-60mm thickness range, which would imply larger size bricks such as lydions or bipedales were being sourced. Such bricks were often used for the suspended floors of hypocausts, but burning on the surfaces of much of the brick suggests it had been re-used in ovens or hearths. Two examples of tegula and a possible imbrex (roof tiles) were also identified. A flat tile with recessed margin on the underside may be some sort of flue tile.

This range of material suggests it probably derived originally from a villa: The site of a possible villa (HER 2812) is known to the south of Barwell. The dominance of brick, tegula and flat tile, together with the presence of burning on much of the tile, is nevertheless typical of reuse in ovens, hearths or corn driers on rural or lower status sites during the Roman period.

A small quantity of fired clay was recovered from Trench 11, consisting of oven lining or structure (context 1102) and a fragment of oven plate or 'Belgic brick' (context 1100), which was probably used as oven or hearth furniture. This group could be of late Iron Age or early Roman date, but reflects native traditions rather than introduced Roman technology.

Ctxt	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Dimensions	Date
100	1	61	Flat	Smooth flat surfaces; upper wiped smooth.	21mm th	U
100	1	295	Brick	Thickness consistent with a Pmed brick, but character consistent with RB brick.	55mm th	RB
100	1	54	Flat	Very heavily worn. Smooth flat upper surface.	23mm th	U
100	1	30	Flat	Smooth flat surfaces.	20mm th	U
100	1	74	Field drain tile?	The diverging surfaces suggest this is the foot of a field drain.	23-47mm	C19?
200	1	42	Flat	Flat smooth surface with sharp arrises on one edge and rounded on the other. Possibly a flat field drain tile.	20mm th	Lpmed-Emod
203	2	44	indet	A tiny sliver of original buff surface. Small fragment has burnt black surface.	>45mm	U (??RB)
216	1	17	Flat	Large flake off surface. Smooth flat surface with fine striations from wiping.	>10mm	U
300	2	102	Flat	Flat smooth surface; probably base surface.	>21mm th	U (??RB)
300	3	28	Flat		14-18mm+	Lpmed-Emod
303	1	11	indet	Possibly a flat field drain tile.	18mm	Lpmed-Emod
500	8	106	Indet	2 join. Surfaces irregular	>25mm	U

Ctxt	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Dimensions	Date
				undulating, possible broken or worn.		
500	2	74	Brick?	2 flat even surfaces at right angles; possible brick or whelm.	>40mm th; >65mm w	~
500	1	23	Roof: flat	Vitrified engineering type roof tile	11mm th	LC19-C20
500	3	90	Brick	Joining fragments. Flat smooth surfaces, burnt grey on top.	35mm th	RB
600	1	142	Brick	Smooth flat surfaces; sharp arrises and corner. Wire cut or machine made.	75mm th	C19-EC20
600	3	33	indet	amorphous fragment, ?brick	>20mm	U
600	3	9	indet	amorphous		U
600	9	57	Flat	?flat drain tile	16mm th	C19?
600	6	147	Brick	3 joining fragments form the corner of a brick overfired with slightly vitrified surface. 3 other fragments look as though they are from a separate object; 2 join. Fresh breaks on both objects show they were not fully recovered.	61mm th	?Pmed
616	4	727	Brick	Smooth upper surfaces (T1) burnt grey on one. Very irregular pitted lower surface (B3). Rounded corner and lower arrises, upper rather sharper, though still rounded.	35, 43mm th	RB
616	2	309	Flat	Flat tile, burnt grey, Part of straight edge with shallow recessed margin 45mm wide running parallel to edge: similar to a tile from STBT – Possibly some sort of flue tile?	20/25mm th	RB
618	1	90	Imbrex	Rounded apex of tile. This has the feel of RB rather than field drain. Upper surface smooth and even; underside worn undulating.	11-15mm th	RB
623	2	34	indet		>22mm th	?
633	6	92	Flat	Smooth flat surfaces.	>30, 45 mm th	U
633	11	117	Flat	Two smooth flat surfaces at right angles with slightly raised lip along arris	>27 x >57mm	U
700	1	129	Brick	Flat even upper surface with rounded arris; side poorly preserved but appears to have groove down it. Rough irregular base.	37mm th	?RB
700	2	247	drain tile	Foot 45mm w. Probably part of horseshoe drain tile with thick foot, though could be tegula with type C flange. The heavy abrasion may be indicative of a Roman date, but need to see more RB tile from this area.	23mm th	RB/C19

Ctxt	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Dimensions	Date
700	1	65	Flat	Flat even surfaces and straight flat edges; fairly sharp arrises. Probably flat drain tile.	21mm th	C19
700	15	63	indet	broken fragments		U
706	1	33	flat	flat even surfaces; ?part of drain tile	15mm th	C19?
706	3	435	Whelm	Rectangular brick with flat base and side surfaces with central semicircular channel 43mm D & 90 mm diameter in upper surface. Joining fragments. Side and base surface quite rough; end and upper surfaces fairly smooth.	>90mm L; >60mmW (est. c130mm); 77mm H; 21mm th at edge; 36mm in centre base.	C19
706	1	22	flat	flat smooth surface possible part of a whelm	>22mm th	C19?
706	1	1	flat	flat rough sanded surface – flake off brick surface	>2mm th	RB?
800	1	7	flat		>15mm	U
800	1	44	Roof: flat	Smooth surfaces; sharp angular arrises; dark reddish grey 'engineering' type surface. factory mass-produced.	13 mm th	C20
908	1	5	flat		10mm th	Pmed?
1003	1	304	Tegula	Irregular sanded side and base with deep pitting. Smooth even upper surface. Flange D2 tapered 26-30mm W; 50-54Hx.FG along inner base angle	25mm th	RB
1003	6	600	Brick	Smooth upper surfaces burnt grey-black. Very irregular pitted lower surface.	52, 45mm	RB
1004	1	198	Flat	Two smooth flat surfaces, one only surviving over small area and burnt grey. Not clear which is top or base, neither has moulding sand. Possibly a RB brick, but would like to see more RB from the area first.	40mm th	U (??RB)
1006	3	41	indet	broken with patches of burning	>25mm th	RB?
1102	1	213	Brick	Smooth flat upper surface; side and base sanded side flat/undulating with sharp arrises. Base irregular and partly knife trimmed. The upper surface has the tail end of a curving possibly finger groove probably part of sig. Uniform thickness right up to edges.	40mm th	RB
1102	2	92	Flat	Small area of irregular pitted base (B3). Broken and sheared along clay laminations.	>33 mm th	RB
1102	1	35	Flat	Smooth flat top; undulating sanded base. Probably from tegula.	25mm th	RB
1200	1	190	Flat	Flat even surfaces; base sanded &	22mm th	RB

Ctxt	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Dimensions	Date
				partly knife trimmed. Shallow groove across top – possibly finger groove, but could be plough damage.		
1200	1	75	Flat	Two sanded surfaces at right angles with rounded arris. Probably brick	>48 x>60mm	RB?
1201	1	123	Tegula	Flange very worn with rounded profile and rounded internal base angle.	25mm th	RB
1201	1	4	indet			RB
1300	1	40	Flat	Flat even surfaces. Base sanded &burnt grey. Edge straight with very rounded lower angle. Base burnt grey - this may indicate a RB flue tile - side face unkeyed. But doesn't really shout RB at me!	16mm th	RB?
1400	1	52	Flat	Smooth flat surfaces; sanded base, edge is slightly concave	19mm th	Pmed?
1400	1	396	Brick	Smooth upper surface, flat straight edge; rough flat lower surface with impression of ground/work surface. No thickening of edge. Character does not look RB, but could be an RB brick.	50mm th	Pmed?
1505	2	14	Flat	Flat even surfaces, base sanded; straight edge with angular upper arris, rounded lower.	14mm th	Pmed?
1700	1	43	Flat	Flat even surfaces - smooth top, sanded base. ?Flat drain tile	15mm th	C19?
1703	6	1590	field drain tile	Horseshoe tile with feet; foot flange has triangular profile and projects 20mm. Hand made. Smooth moulded outer surface. Joining fragments.	305mm (1ft) L; 130mm W (internal 55mm); 105mm H; 16-19mm th	C19
1703	1	5	indet	amorphous fragment, probably brick	25mm	Pmed?
1900	1	19	Flat	Flat even surfaces - striated top, sanded base. ?Flat drain tile	15 mm th	C19?
1900	1	6	indet	broken fragment	>12mm	Pmed?
2001	3	136	Flat	Smooth flat surfaces; straight flat edge with rounded arrises. ?Flat field drain tile. Joining fragments.	18mm th; >60 x >110mm	C19?
2061	2	20	indet	broken fragments	>25mm	U
2200	1	56	Brick	one very smooth surface one slightly rough sanded fired grey	>32mm th	Pmed?
2200	1	36	Brick	one very smooth surface one rougher sanded	>30mm th	Pmed?
2300	2	153	Brick?	Joining fragments. Surfaces poorly preserved, especially upper	43mm th	RB?

Ctxt	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Comments	Dimensions	Date
				surface; lower rough & irregular		
2300	1	14	Flat	Smooth flat surface	>21mm th	RB?
2401	1	50	wall tile	Rectangular wall tile with brown glaze face. End of oval depression (for keying) in broken end.	10mm th, 53mm W; >55mm L	C19-EC20
2502	1	62	Brick	Two flat surfaces at c85degs not a right angle - ?frogged brick.	>25mm th	Emod?
2702	1	19	indet	broken sheared flake		U
2702	2	38	Flat drain tile	Flat tile with smooth surface, rough base and edge, slightly thickened/flanged at edge. Thin field drain tile to be used as base in conjunction with horseshoe shaped drain tile.	12mm - 15mm at edge	C19
2800	1	366	Brick	Corner fragment of thick brick with smooth finely striated/wiped upper surface. Sanded sides and base. One side vertical one bevelled; angular upper arrises rounded lower. Irregular undulating base (B3).	55-62mm	RB
3000	5	539	field drain tile	Lower sections of horseshoe tile with feet. Triangular profile feet 27-32mm W on one, 45mm on the corner fragment. More roughly finished than 1703. 2 joining.	13-19mm th; >75mm H	C19
3200	4	16	indet	broken fragments	>17mm	U
3500	1	14	indet	Possibly foot of horseshoe field drain tile.	>15mm	Emod?
Total	164	9395				
Fired Clay						
Cntxt	Nos	Wt g	Form	Description	Dimensions	Date of obj
1100	1	98	Oven plate / Belgic brick	Edge of rectangular oven plate or 'Belgic brick' with flat moulded surfaces, irregular and undulating;	47 mm thick.	IA-ERB
1102	48	550	Oven str	Fragments with a single flat moulded surface; some irregular or impressed base. One fragment has moulded surface with finger depressions from pressing the clay into place. On the back is a wattle impression 14mm dia, and it may be pierced by a cylindrical perforation c.15mm dia.	Thickness: 20-35mm.	IA-ERB

B.4 Glass

By Ian Scott

Introduction and methodology

There are six, or possibly sherds, sherds of glass, including one sherd of window glass, and five sherds of vessel glass and a sherd of uncertain origin (context 2500). The assemblage is undistinguished and of strictly limited interest.

Context 704 – small thin sherd of window glass in green metal with small elongated bubbles, suggesting that this is a small piece of cylinder glass. Not closely datable.

Context 901 – base sherd from a moulded medicine bottle, probably 19th- or early 20th-century in date. Blue green metal.

Context 1500 – sherd from the shoulder of cylindrical wine bottle with distinctive mould mark from a two-piece mould. Mid to late 19th-century. Dark green metal.

Context 1804 – thick walled base sherd from free blown squat cylindrical wine bottle of mid 18th-century date. Dark green metal.

Context 2401 – 2 sherds. (1) Sherd from the base of a machine moulded bottle, modern. Colourless glass. (2) Body sherd, undiagnostic. Not closely datable. Cobalt blue metal.

Context 2500 – One sherd in opaque pink (flesh-coloured) bisque (porcelain) rather than glass? Possibly from the body of a doll. Later 19th to mid 20th century.

B.5 Metal

By Ian Scott

Only one metal find was recorded during the excavation:

Context 706 – small U-staple (L extant: 48mm). Fe. .

Forty-one fragments of iron were recovered during sieving of a soil sample from cremation burial 1602 (sample 2). These comprise nine incomplete nails or nail heads. All probably had flat or slightly domed circular or sub-rectangular heads (Manning Type 1 nails; Manning 1985). There are also 12 nail stem fragments, 13 hobnails and seven small unidentifiable fragments of iron.

B.6 Clay Pipes

By John Cotter

Four pieces of worn/slightly worn clay pipe stem weighing 12g. were recovered from four contexts. These have not been separately catalogued but are listed below. No further work is recommended:

Context (600). 1 piece (3g.). Stem bore c. 3.5mm. Date: 17th century.

Context (908). 1 piece (4g.). Stem bore c. 2.5mm. Date: late 17th/18th century.

Context (2061). 1 piece (1g.). Stem bore c. 2mm. Narrow stem. Date: 18th/early 19th century?

Context (3500). 1 piece (4g.). Stem bore c. 3mm. Date: 17th century?.

B.7 Stone

By Ruth Shaffery

A total of ten pieces of stone were retained during the evaluation at Barwell West. These include seven pieces of shale, none of which are worked. Two further stones are burnt /heat cracked quartzite and are unworked. The final item (704) is likely to have been a tessera (mosaic fragment).

Ctxt	Description
505	Burnt quartzite, unworked
706	Dried out shale, 2 fragments
616	3 fragments of dried out shale
1003	1 fragment shale
2100	1 fragment shale
704	Probable tessera. Grey limestone, measures 25 x 21 x 18mm
2100	Heat cracked quartzite pebble, unworked

B.8 Worked Bone

By Ian Scott

The following worked bone fragments were recovered from cremation deposit 1602 (Trench 16). Fig. 6 comprises photographs of selected fragments and the *in situ* cremation burial. While not intrinsically datable, the same context contained iron hobnails, suggesting that a Roman date for the cremation burial is most likely. Seven small pieces of worked bone (context 1601, sample 4) were recovered. All appears to have been burnt:

1. Small rectangular piece with a neatly cut oval hole in the centre. Now dished in cross-section, possibly as a result of burning. Measurements 12mm x 10mm x 2.5mm.
2. Tear drop shaped fragment, possibly a terminal from a larger bone object. It has a central hole. L extant: 19mm; W: 13mm; Th: 3.1mm.
3. Tear drop shaped fragment, similar to the above, but less complete. Again it has a central hole. L extant: 21mm; W extant: 11mm; Th: 2.1mm.
4. Small fragment possibly a small segment form a an object similar to Nos 1 and 2. L extant: 7.3mm; W extant: 6.5mm; Th: 3mm.
5. Small fragment of worked bone, possibly a small section of pin shaft. L extant: 12mm; D max: 3.5mm x 4mm
6. Small fragment of worked bone, possibly a pin rough out with clear evidence for shaping with a knife. L extant: 8.4mm; D max: 3mm x 3.4mm
7. Small fragment of worked bone of D-section, with some traces of shaping by cutting. L extant: 11.2mm; W max: 4.3mm
8. The identification and function of all the above pieces is uncertain.

B.9 Flint

By Geraldine Crann

Context	Description	Date
1500	Single heavily patinated flake, rolled condition with much edge damage, 6g	Undatable prehistoric

The single worked flint recovered from the site is a heavily damaged, undatable debitage flake.

B.10 Cremated Bone

By Helen Webb

Cremated bone was recovered from fill 1602 (pit 1603). The following assessment was carried out in accordance with standard guidelines (Brickley and McKinley 2004).

The total weight of the sorted cremated bone is 58.9 g (10-4mm fraction – 39.5 g, 4-2mm fraction – 19.4g). A small amount of bone (<1%) is also present in the unsorted residues. The majority of bone fragments are white, with <1% grey in colour.

A tooth root and a probable first metatarsal fragment were identified as human, whilst other fragments look to be animal bone. Full osteological analysis may identify other fragments to species/element. However, it is unlikely that age or sex of the human bone can be estimated due to the absence of diagnostic features.

It is worth noting that a few fragments of bone were worked (small find 2, see Scott 2011).

It is recommended that full analysis is undertaken to identify further fragments of human bone, and to look for evidence of pathology. Aspects of the funerary rite could be explored by assessing fragment sizes and colour variation.

B.11 Animal Bone

By Rebecca Nicholson

The animal bone reported here was recovered from 11 contexts excavated at Barwell West. All of the mammal bone was hand collected during excavation of predominantly Roman features.

Methods

The animal bone has been scanned and, where possible, fragments have been identified to species using the Oxford Archaeology Zooarchaeology reference collection and published manuals. Detailed recording has not been undertaken.

Results

Generally the bone is in good to fair condition, although heavily fragmented. Gnawing marks are rare and, while the edges of some fragments are eroded, many others appear relatively sharp. Fresh breaks are common. A number of bones exhibit butchery marks consistent with the use of a heavy blade or cleaver. The high degree of fragmentation (excluding modern breaks) suggests that the bones were smashed in antiquity. The only burnt bone comprises tiny indeterminate fragments of calcined bone from context 705.

In total, 120 fragments of animal bone was recovered, weighing 1009g. The great majority is from cattle or is cattle-sized.

A fragmented and chopped distal end of a cattle humerus (left side) came from context 1005, while part of an adult cattle maxilla (all molar teeth in wear) was recovered from context 1006 together with a fragment of pig maxilla and several large mammal limb bone shaft fragments.

Context 1002 includes several cattle teeth, together with fragments from a cattle distal humerus (left side) cut and chopped through the distal articulation and with heavy cut/chop marks also evident on one of the shaft fragments. Other large mammal (probably cattle) bone fragments include a small piece of scapula and a metapodial shaft fragment.

Small numbers of large mammal bone limb bone fragments came from contexts 517, 704, 908, 1003, 1009 and 3211, while medium mammal (sheep/pig-sized) shaft fragments came from context 1104. Context 505 included 25 fragments of large mammal bone, including mandible fragments, but no teeth.

Ctxt	No Frags	Weight (g)
517	14	38
505	27	138
704	26	12
705	11	<1
908	1	4
1003	8	29
1005	8	396
1006	7	218
1009	1	10
1102	12	140
1104	2	17
3211	3	6

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Sharon Cook

Introduction

A single environmental sample was taken during the evaluation at Barwell West in Lincolnshire. Sample <2> was taken from the fill (1602) of small pit [1603] which was probably of Roman date had been cut by a medieval furrow. The sample was for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR) and artefacts. The sediment was a light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) sandy clay, with sub-angular flint pebbles.

Methodology

5L was processed for the recovery of CPR by hand flotation. The flot was collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residues sieved to 500µm. Several items of worked bone were noted during processing and were removed at this stage. The rest of the residue was dried in a heated room after which it was sorted by eye for artefacts and ecofactual remains. The CPR flot was scanned for plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification. Identifications were made with guidance from Kath Hunter and nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (2010).

Results

Charred Plant Remains

Sample <2> produced a flot of 100ml, of which approximately one quarter was scanned. The flot was quite sandy and contained frequent modern roots. Unfortunately, the charred plant assemblage was limited and the preservation, while very good for the charcoal, was less so for the other charred plant remains. A number of examples of grain were noted. However, it was impossible to identify them, other than as a generic wheat (*Triticum* sp.). A single badly degraded grain was possibly an oat (*Avena* sp.). However this identification was tentative. No examples of chaff were observed to confirm the identifications. Legumes of 2mm type occurred commonly.

Occasional charred weed seeds were observed; three of probable dock (*Rumex* sp.), two of bartsia (*Euphrasia/Odontites* sp.) and one of *s*centless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*); as well as a single example which could only be identified to Asteracea sp. (daisy family). Culm nodes of false oat grass, also known as onion couch tubers (*Arrhenatherum elatius* spp. *bulbosum*) were present in sufficient number to make a clear positive identification, although the condition was poor.

Charcoal was present in large quantities, and included a large amount over 2mm in size. The preservation of the charcoal was much better than that of the seeds and it should be possible to identify to species if required.

Finds

The sample contained a quantity of fragmented burnt bone, provisionally identified as a mixture of human and animal. The assemblage contained several items of worked burnt bone which have been quantified, although the small size of the fragments inhibited identification of their function (Scott 2012). Several items of ironwork, most likely nails, were also present.

Discussion and Recommendations

While the preservation within this particular sample is poor with regard to the seeds and grain, the charcoal has survived very well, demonstrating that charred plant remains survive at this site and so other significant assemblages of charred plant material may be expected in other as yet unexcavated features.

Couch grass tubers are frequently found in cremation graves, particularly in the Bronze Age in the UK (Robinson 1988, Campbell 2001), although they are rarely found in cremations of later periods. However it should be noted that these may be the result of the burning of turves, as the remains are not always directly linked with funerary practices (Hall & Carrott (2003). It is also possible that Arrhenatherum plants were used as tinder for starting fires and the swollen internodes were charred and preserved in this process (Robinson 1988). Archaeologically, they are an indicator of cleared areas near to the site that were not being agriculturally utilised, either abandoned arable fields or grassland not being grazed by animals (Robinson 1988).

Appendix D. Bibliography and References

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Appendix E. Summary of Site Details

Site name: Barwell West, Leicestershire

Site code: X.A175.2011

Grid reference: SP 436 975

Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: 28/11/11 to 16/12/11

Area of site: 142.5 ha

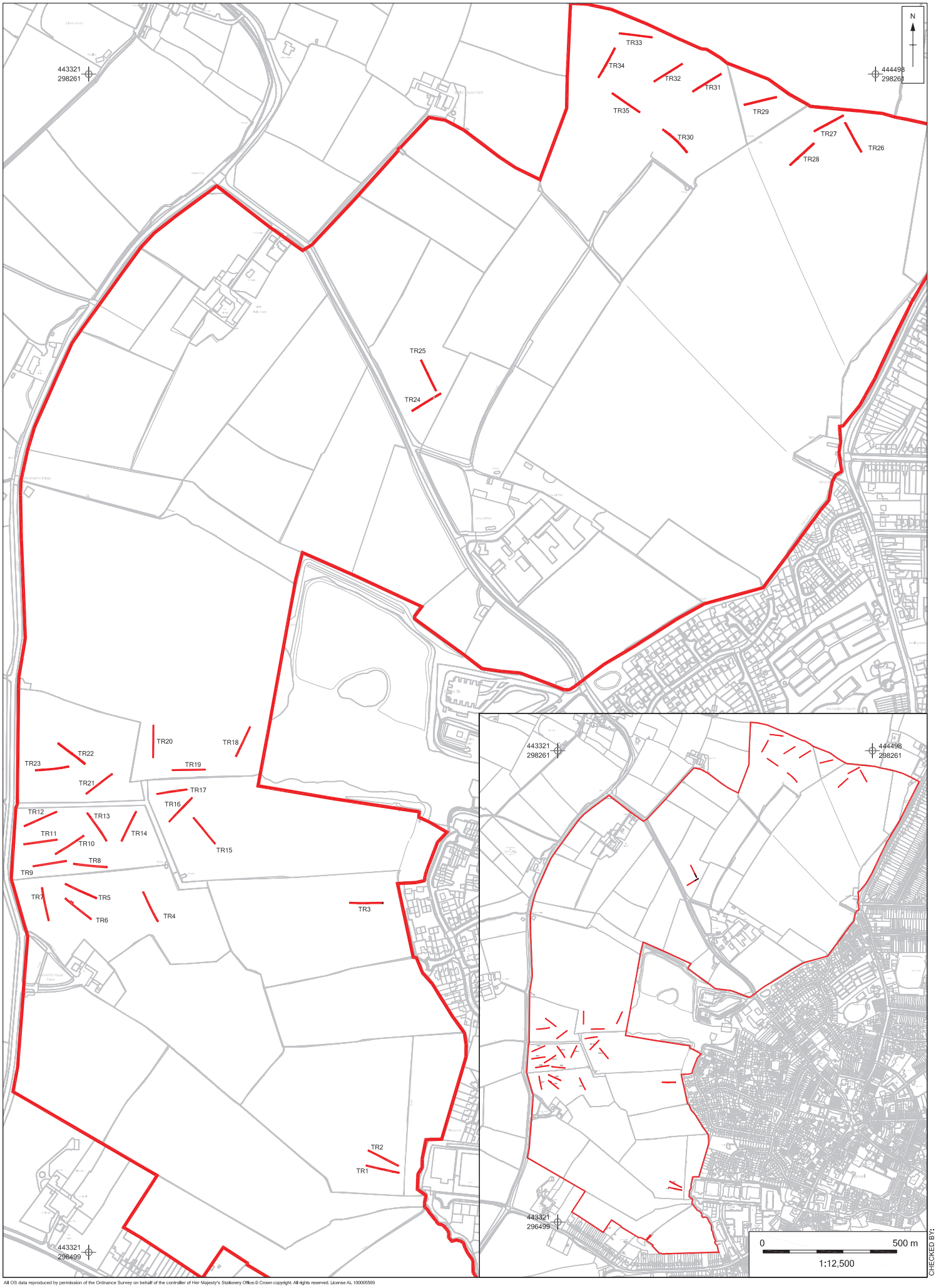
Summary of results: Oxford Archaeology South (OAS) was commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP), on behalf of Ainscough Strategic Land Ltd, Barwood Homes Ltd and Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at Barwell West, Leicestershire, centred on National Grid Reference SP 436 975 (Fig.1). The work was carried out in advance of a planning application to develop the site. The work was undertaken between 28th November and 16th December 2011. A geophysical survey had previously identified clusters of magnetic anomalies in the southern, central and northern parts of the site, which were the main focus of the present evaluation. A group of geophysical anomalies, to the north of Bosworth House Farm, were located within a series of enclosures identified by Lidar survey and Roman finds made during surface artefact collection surveys.

The evaluation revealed remains confirming the presence of Roman activity, mainly concentrated in the western part of the site near the A447, in the fields to the north of Bosworth House Farm (Fig.2). The distribution of archaeological features found during the trial trenching appears to correspond in general terms with the distribution of geophysical anomalies, although the magnetometer plots do not provide a clear picture of the nature of Roman activity (Figs.3, 4 and 5). The majority of the features identified were sparsely distributed boundary or drainage ditches, although pits, possible postholes and one severely truncated Roman cremation burial were also found. The Roman remains appear to date predominantly from the 2nd century AD, although possibly earlier and later material is present. The artefact assemblage includes imported decorated samian ware pottery, a fragment of window glass from a Roman context, and a single tessera (mosaic fragment), as well as small quantities of Roman roof and floor/ hypocaust tile, suggesting the presence of a relatively high status settlement in the general vicinity.

Traces of plough furrows were commonplace in many of the trenches, confirming the presence of former medieval/ post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: X.A175.2011

Figure 1: Site location



Survey Data supplied by :
Vix Hughes & Harriet Bloore

0 200 m
Scale at A3 1:5000

Fig 2 Trench Locations

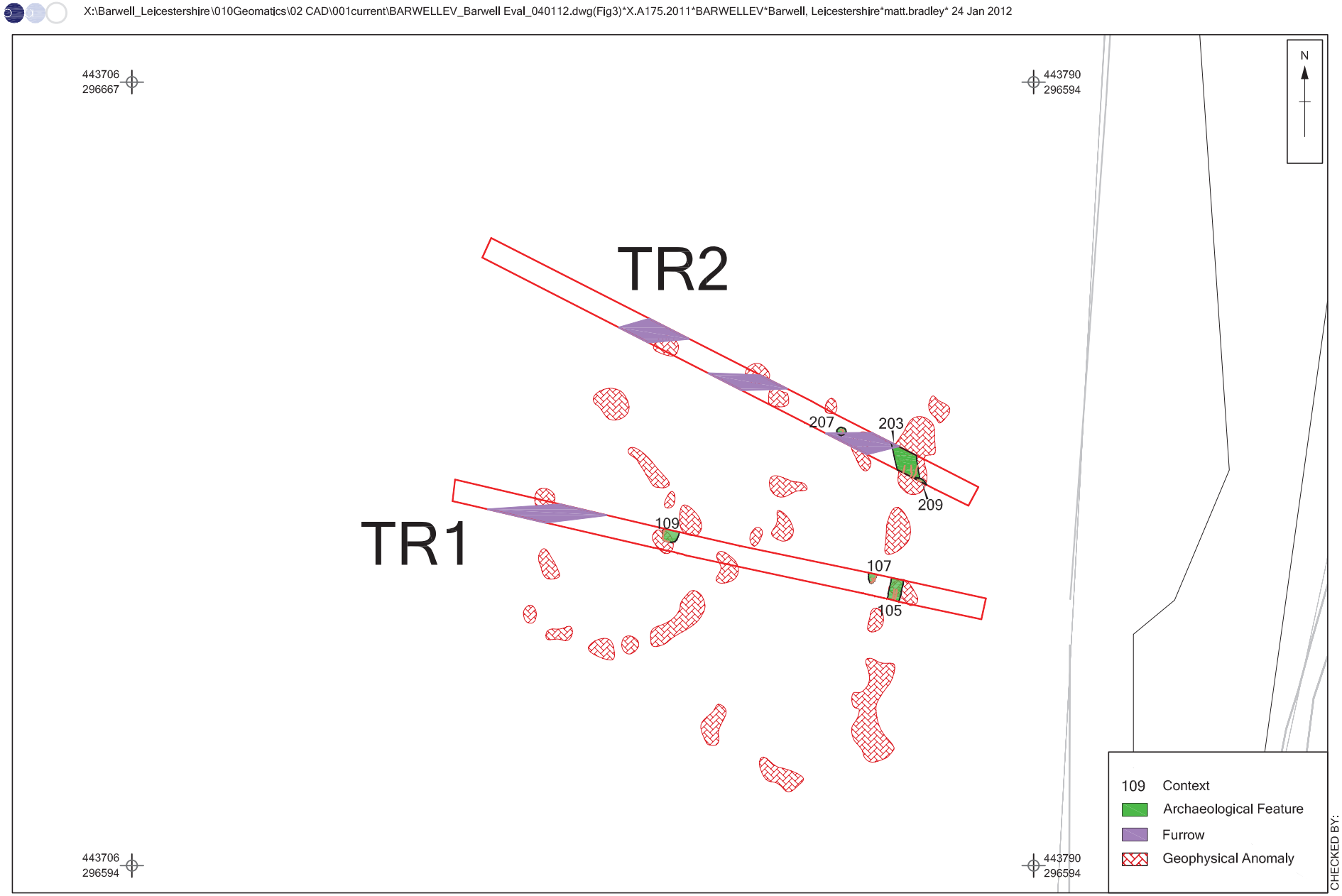
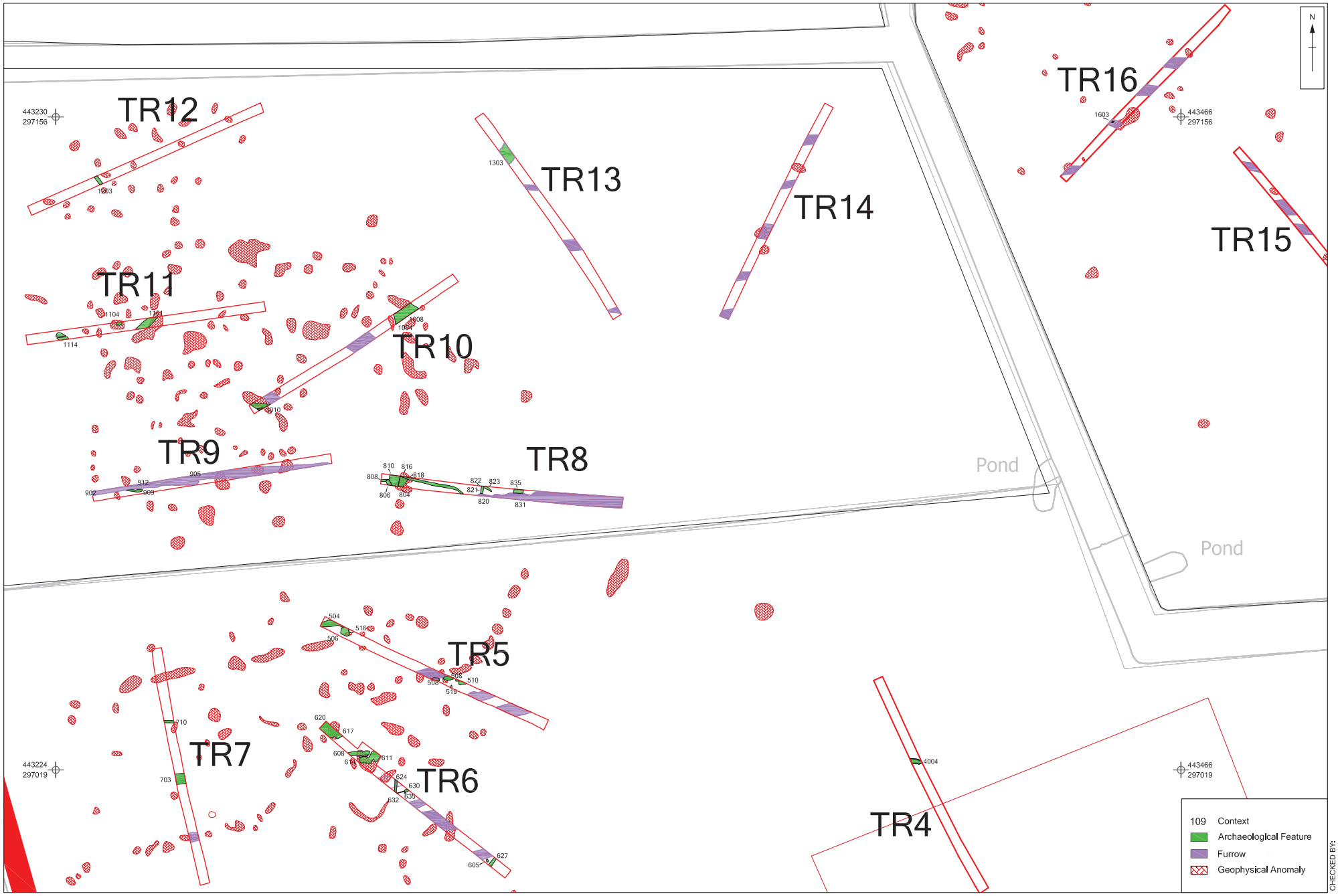
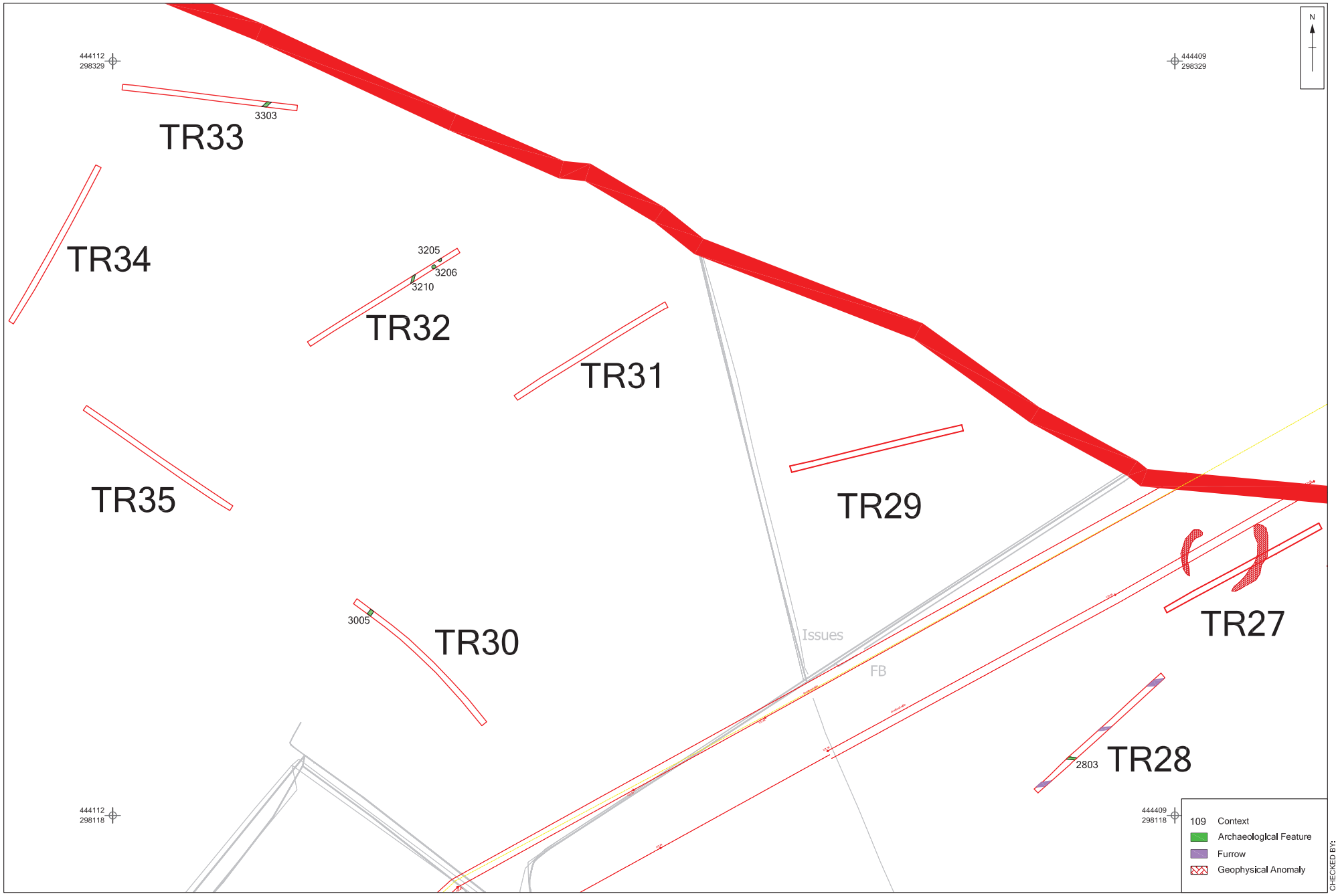


Fig 3: Southern Trenches



Survey Data supplied by :
Vix Hughes & Harriet Bloore

Fig 4: Central Trenches



Survey Data supplied by :
Vix Hughes & Harriet Bloore

0 50 m

Scale at A3 1:1000

Fig 5: Northern Trenches

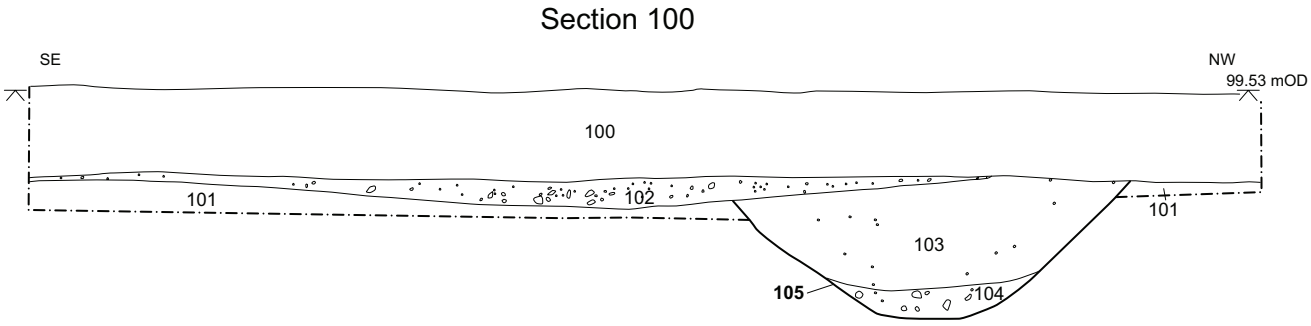
a

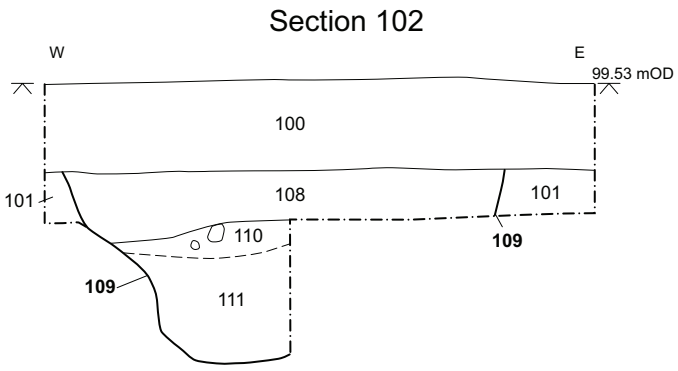
0 40 mm

2:1

b

Figure 6:
A - Perforated bone artefacts from cremation burial in Trench 16 (context 1602)
B - Cremation burial 1602 during excavation





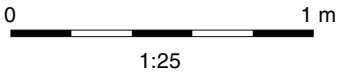
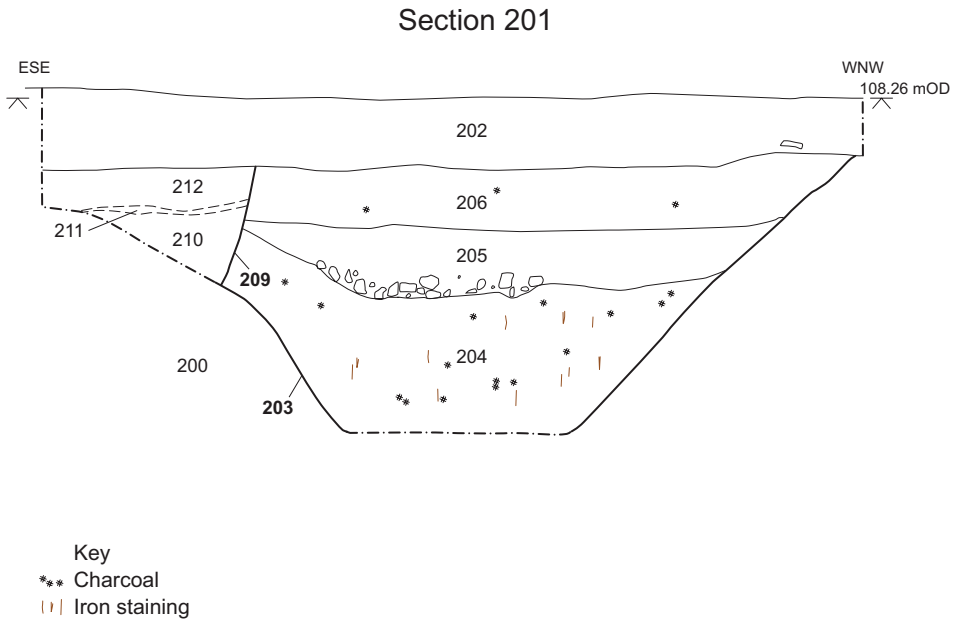


Figure 7: Sections 100 and 102



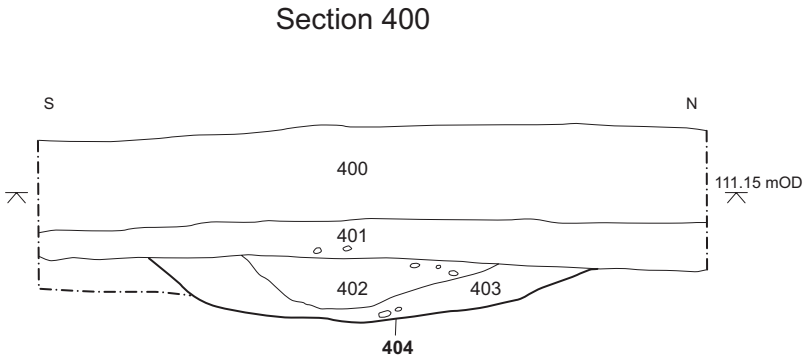
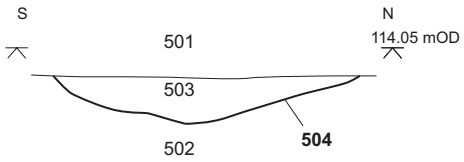


Figure 8: Sections 201 and 400

Section 501



Section 502

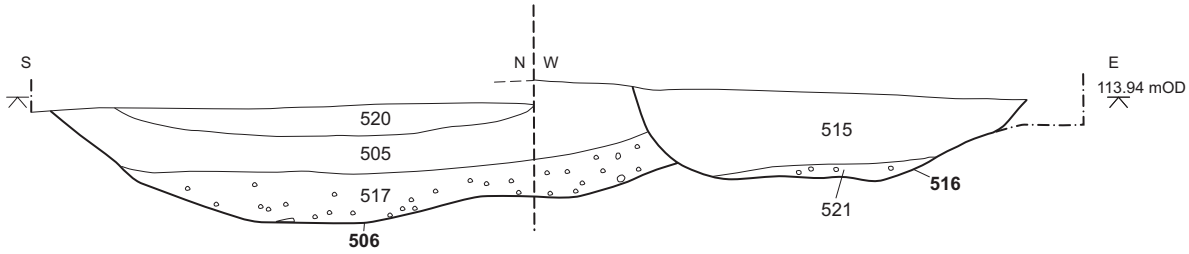
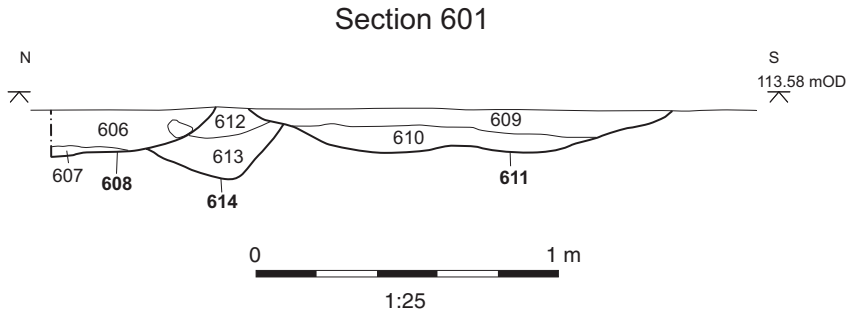
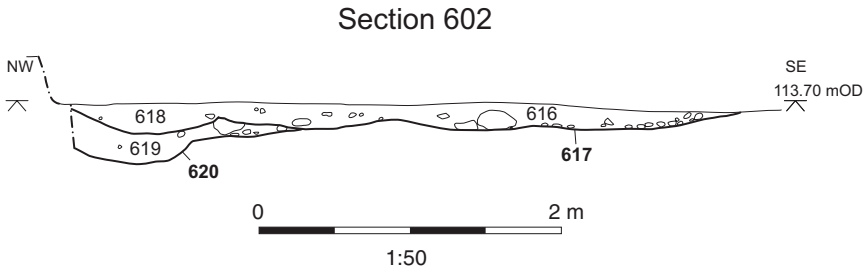
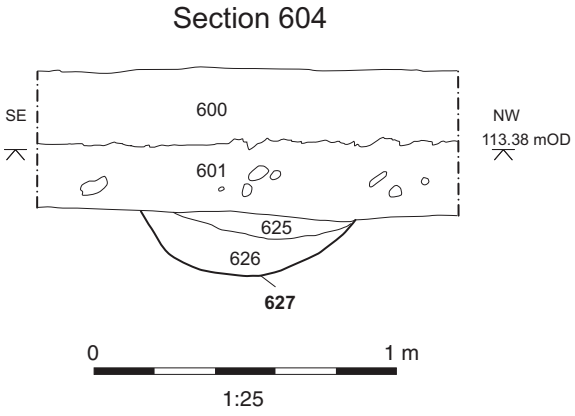


Figure 9: Sections 501 and 502







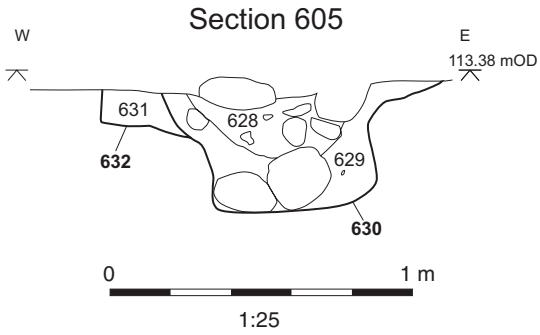


Figure 10: Sections 601, 602, 604 and 605

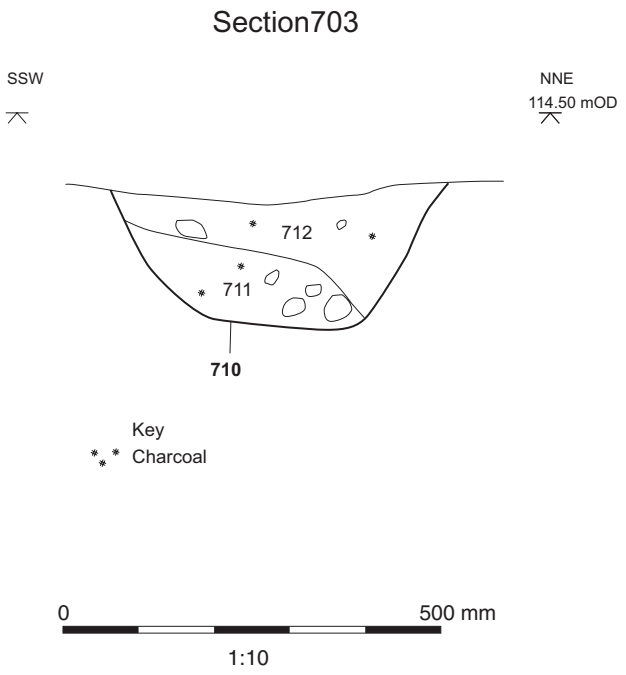
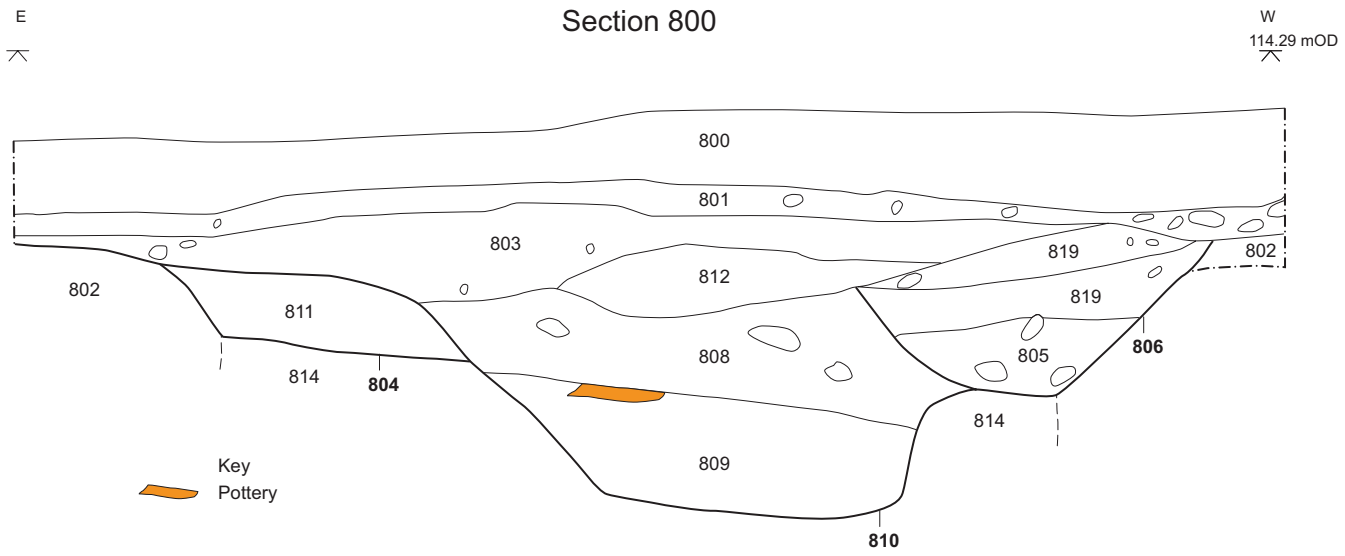


Figure 11: Section 703



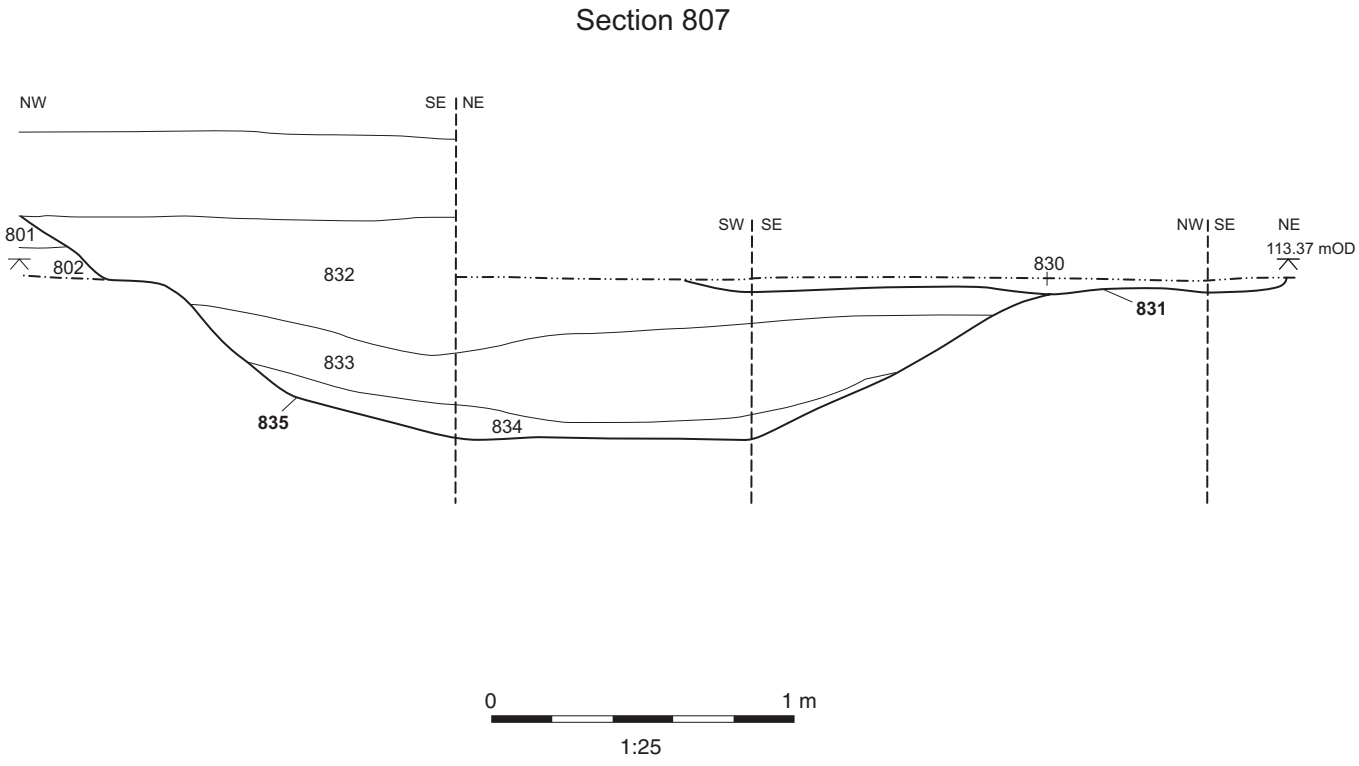


Figure 12: Sections 800 and 807

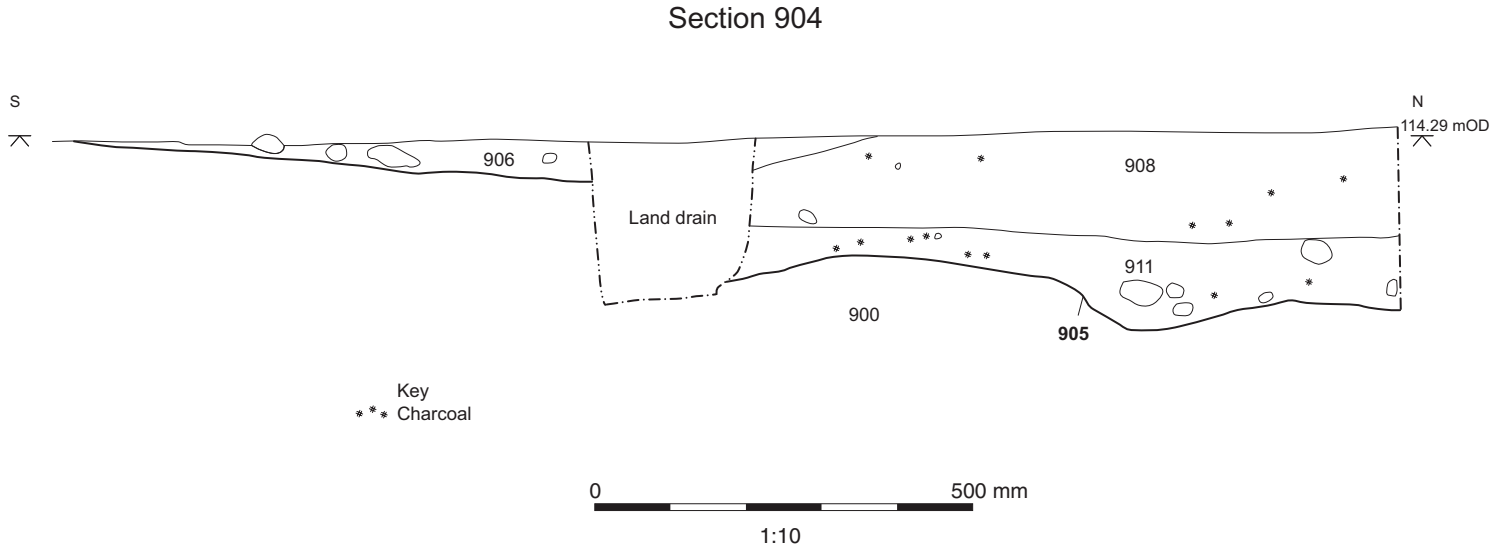
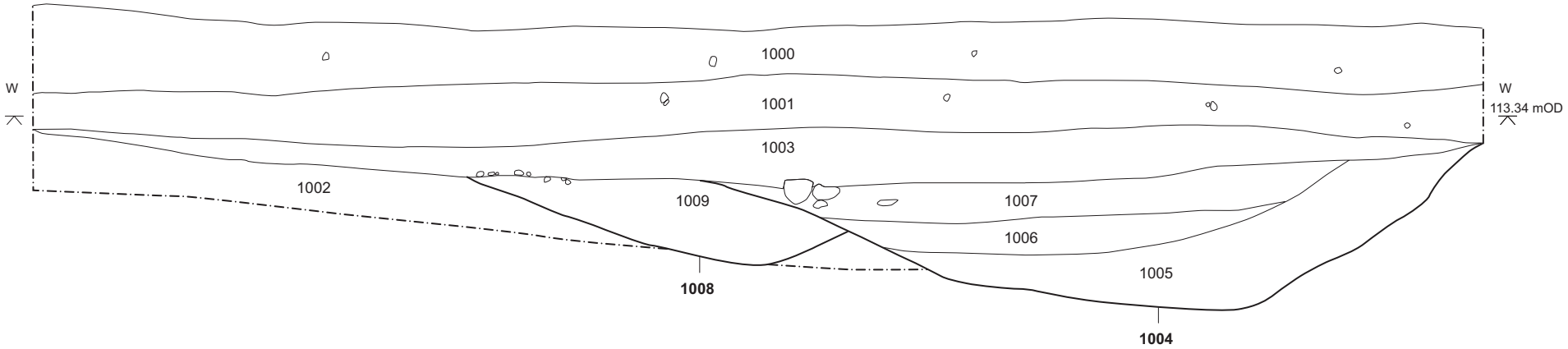


Figure 13 : Section 904

Section 1000



0 1 m

1:25

Figure 14 : Section 1000

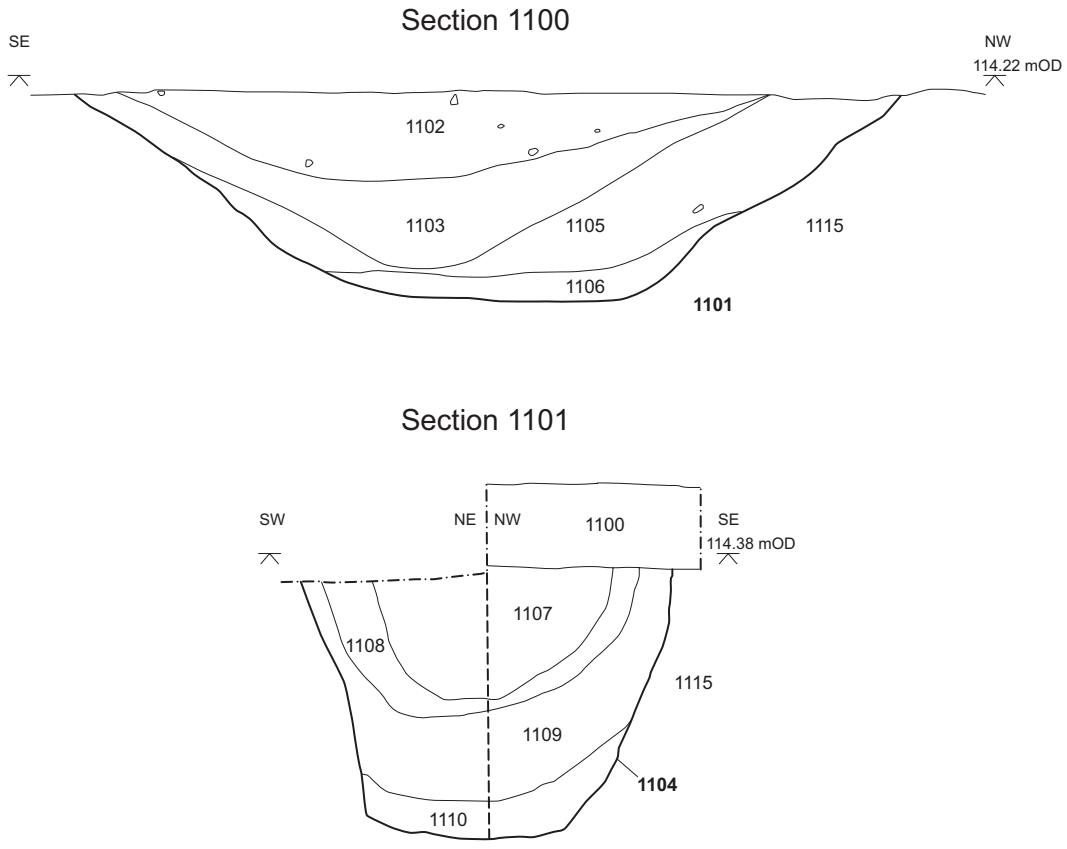
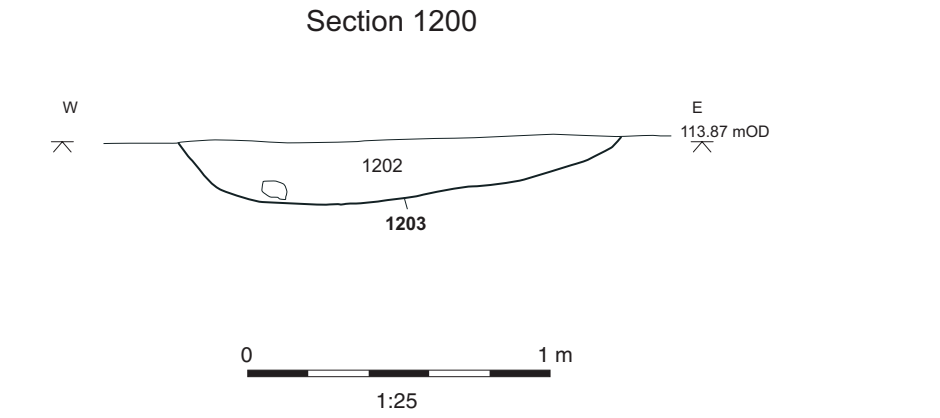
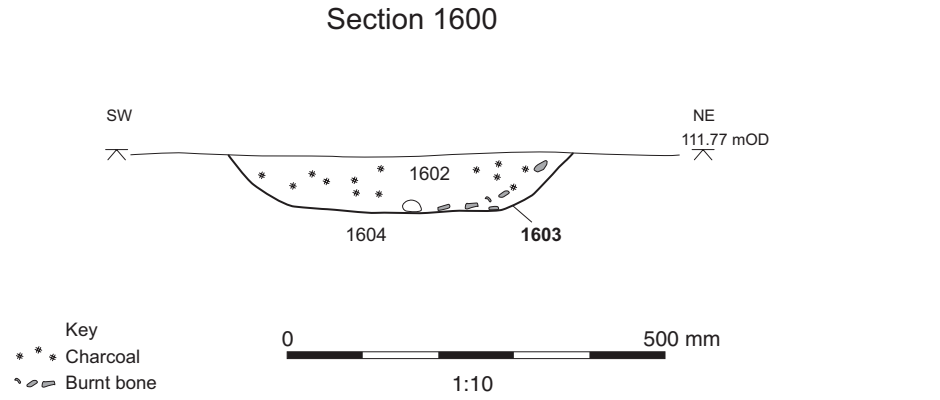


Figure 15: Sections 1100-1103





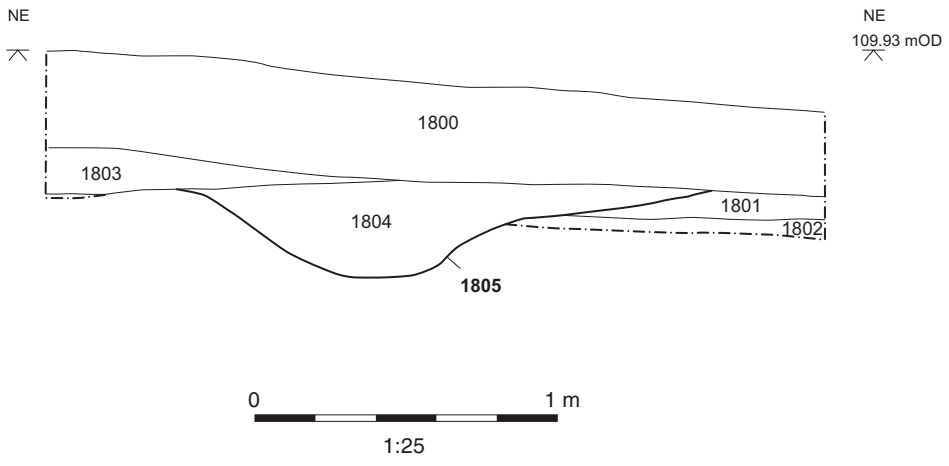
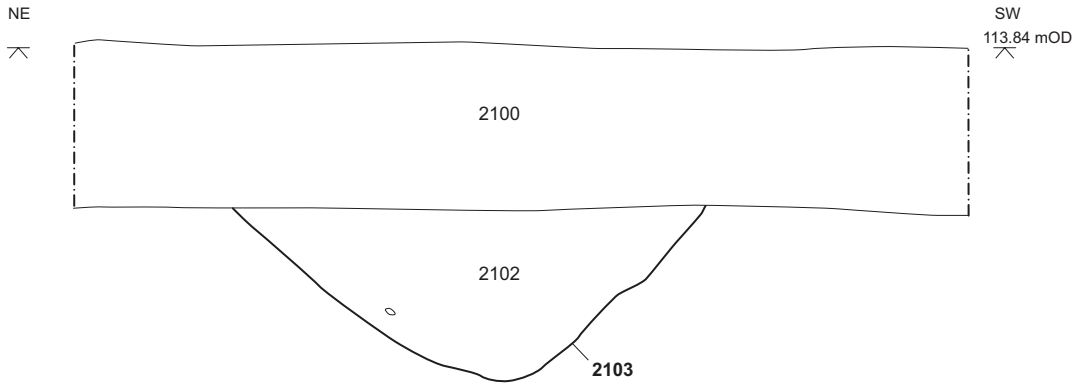
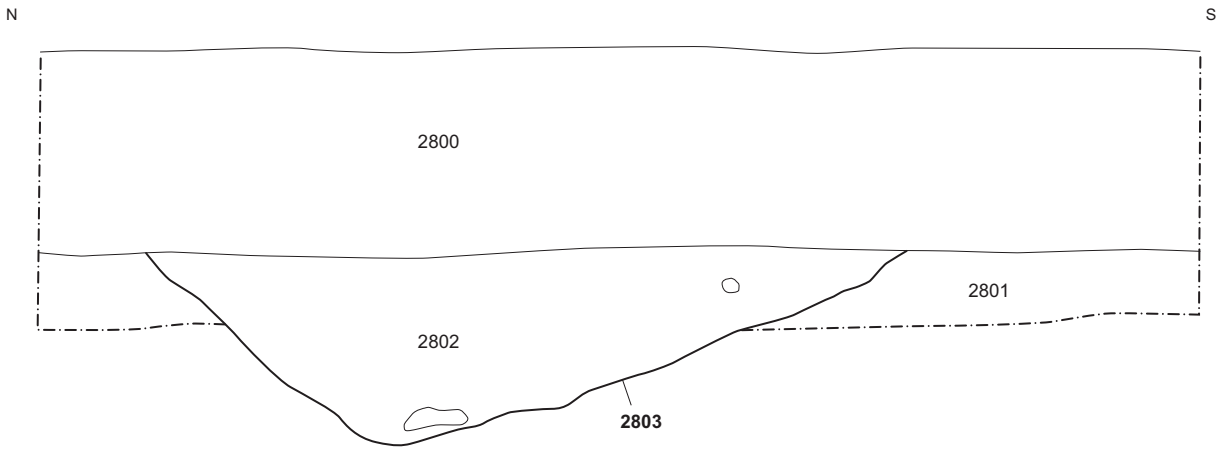


Figure 16: Sections 1200, 1600 and 1800

Section 2100



Section 2801



0 500 mm

1:10

Figure 17: Sections 2100 and 2801

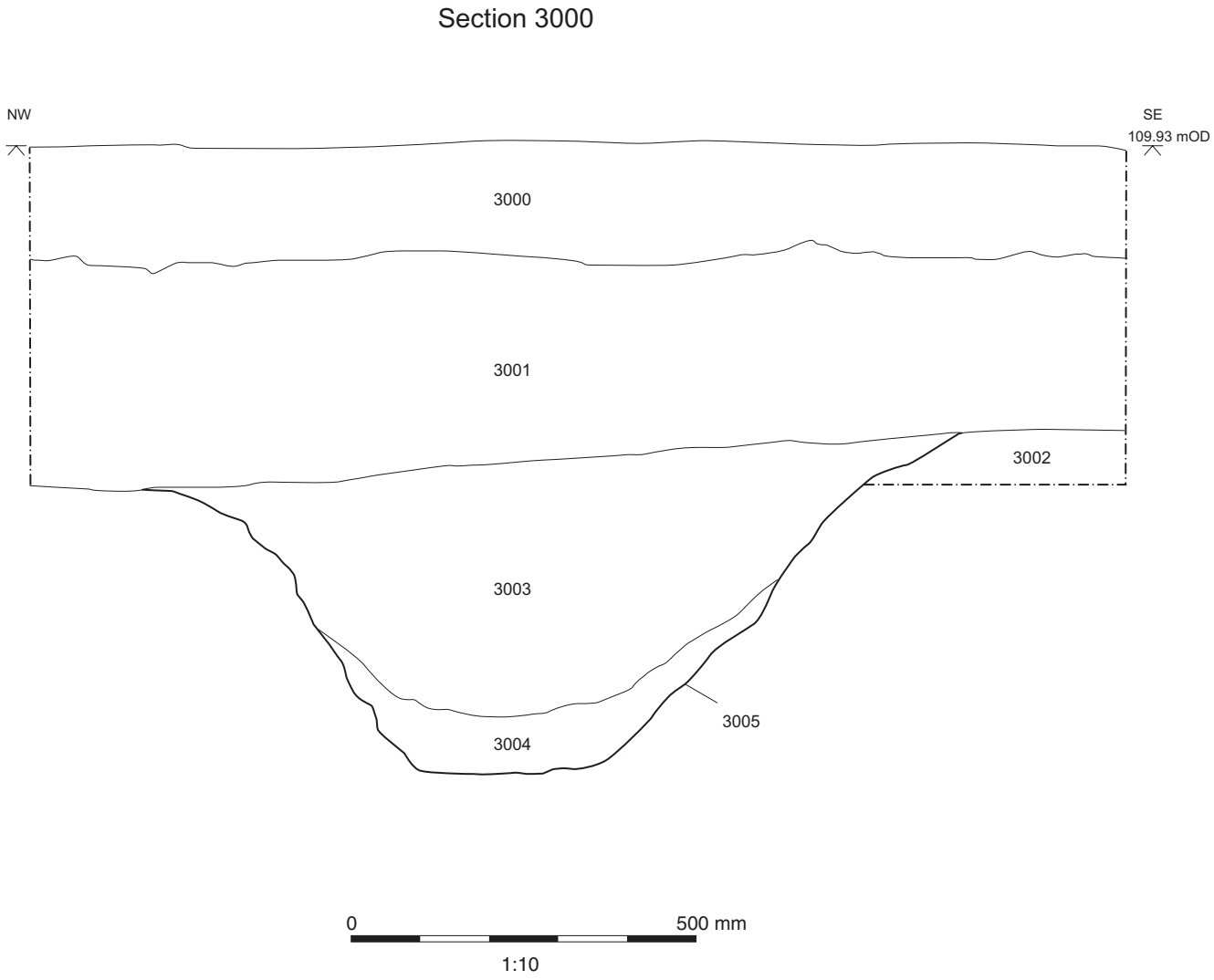


Figure 18: Section 3000

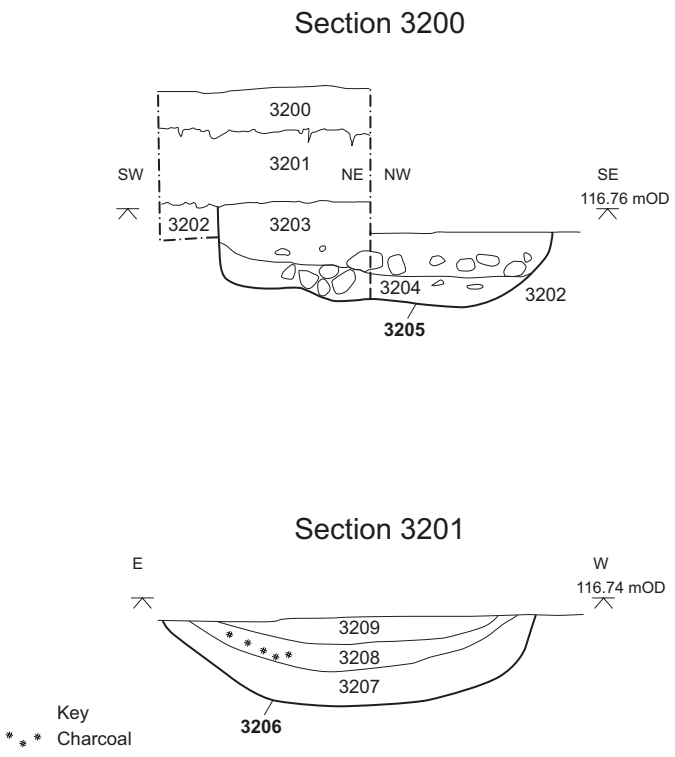


Figure 19: Sections 3200-3202

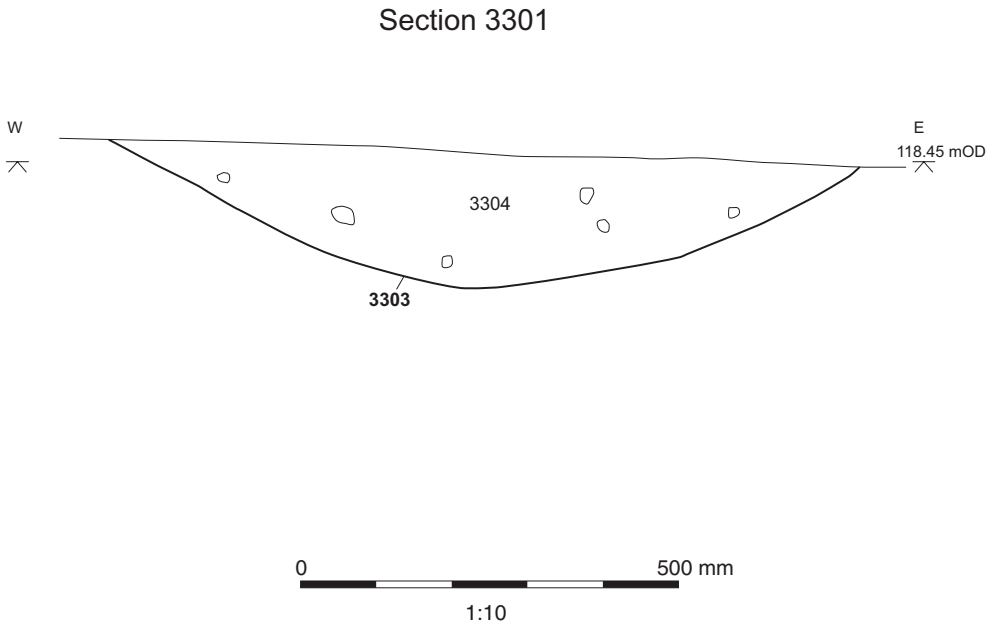


Figure 20: Section 3301

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