



Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire

Archaeological Excavation Report

January 2018

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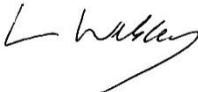
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Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire

Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief Report

Written by Kirsty Smith

With contributions from Lee Broderick, John Cotter, Cynthia Poole and Ian Scott, and illustrations by Markus Dylewski and Caroline Souday

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of the demolition of several buildings and the construction of up to 44 dwellings at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire.

A small amount of residual Roman pottery was recovered. The majority of the features on the site were broadly dated to the medieval period, with a few undated features which may also be of this date. One set of features in the western part of the site appears to form a set of parallel enclosures or plots, and several of these ditches contained pottery dating to the 12th-13th century. Several boundary ditches were dated to the medieval period. A demolished dry stone wall was found in the south-east of the site and may have been part of a garden plot or a small enclosure, just north of the road. Ridge and furrow was also found towards the northern end of the site but could not be dated in this excavation. These features may have been abandoned by the later post-medieval period, as a previous evaluation found late 18th to mid-19th century pottery and post-medieval glass in two of the furrows.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stuart Foreman. The fieldwork was directed by Ashley Strutt, who was supported by Meirion Prysor, Ben McAndrew, George Gurney, David Pinches and Simon Batsman. Survey was carried out by Ashley Strutt and digitizing by Anne Kilgour and Matt Bradley. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Leigh Allen and prepared the archive under the management of Nicky Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Sanctuary Housing to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of the demolition of several buildings and the construction of up to 44 dwellings at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire (SU 1023 9748).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref: 15/01567/OUT – Condition 19). A brief had been set Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service detailing the work necessary to discharge the planning condition. A written scheme of investigation was produced by CgMs detailing how the Local Authority's requirements would be met (CgMs 2017). This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological work was undertaken between 30th August–10th October 2017 and included stripping of the site, survey, watching brief and a period of excavation. Features identified during the strip and survey phase were excavated on several days including 13th, 15th, 26th, 27th September and 3rd-6th October 2017.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is located in the eastern part of the village of Down Ampney (Fig. 1) and lies at a height of 86mm aOD. The site is situated 700m east of the Ampney Brook and 2.6km north of the River Thames. The proposed development area is bounded to the south and east by Charlham Way (the main road through the village), to the west by tennis courts and Down Ampney Village Hall, and to the north by fields and Linden Lea housing estate. The site is currently an open field with farm buildings directly to the south, which are due to be demolished.
- 1.2.2 Down Ampney is located on a bedrock of Oxford Clay Formation (mudstone). The majority of the site does not have any superficial deposits although at the southern edge of the site there are deposits of Summertown Radley sand and gravel. Previous ground investigations on the proposed development have identified the underlying geology of the site as an orange/yellow sandy gravel and greyish blue clay, at a depth of between 0.45m and 0.82m below ground level.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been in part described by a desk-based assessment of the Down Ampney Estate (Scott Wilson 2008) and by three evaluations of the site by Cotswold Archaeology (CA 2004; 2013; 2015). The summary information below was derived from a variety of sources including the desk-based assessment and evaluations mentioned above, Heritage Gateway, the Archaeological Data Service's online resource, 19th century OS maps (National Library of Scotland) and British History Online.

Prehistoric period (c 450,000 BC-AD 43)

- 1.3.2 The 2008 desk-based assessment suggested that limited evidence of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic activity or finds had been found in the vicinity of the site. A 2009 evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology located 1-2km south of the site found dispersed Mesolithic and Neolithic finds and features indicating some activity of this date near the site (CA 2009). In addition a possible Neolithic causewayed enclosure has been identified as a cropmark to the west of Down Ampney airfield, located 1.4km south of the site.
- 1.3.3 Bronze Age barrows have been identified by cropmarks near Down Ampney including a barrow located 360m north-west of the site, a barrow located 1km south of the site and a ring ditch located 500m south-east of the site. Two middle Bronze Age spearheads were found in a field close to Down Ampney located 400m south-west of the site.
- 1.3.4 A scheduled monument located 1km south-west of the site at Bean Hay Copse (HE no: 1003446) is the location of a possible Iron Age settlement. The cropmarks within this scheduled area include enclosures, pits, hut circles and a trackway.

Romano-British period (AD 43-410)

- 1.3.5 The site is located 2km north-west of the Roman Road that linked Silchester to Cirencester (Ermine Street). This road follows the approximate line of the modern A419. The Roman town of Cirencester is located 7km north-west of the site and would have drawn resources from the surrounding area. The Silchester to Cirencester road was the focus of Roman activity along its length and settlements and farmsteads have been found close to it including a possible villa at Court Farm located 2.1km south-west of the site and a probable Roman river port settlement located 2.8km south-west of the site. A possible east-west Roman Road has also been identified 2.3km south of the site.
- 1.3.6 In 2009 Cotswold Archaeology undertook an evaluation of land on the Down Ampney estate located c. 1-2km south of the site (CA 2009). The evaluation found a late Iron Age to late Roman complex of ditched enclosures with an associated driveway and trackway. The complex of recut and remodelled enclosures was interpreted as a stock management centre.

Early medieval period (AD 410-1066)

- 1.3.7 A 9th century burh was located at Cricklade located c. 3.6km south-west of the site. Cropmarks identified near Eysey Manor, located 3km south of the site, have been tentatively dated to the early medieval period.
- 1.3.8 It is very likely there was a late Saxon settlement at Down Ampney as the settlement mentioned in Domesday appears to have been well established (see below).

Medieval period (AD 1066-1536)

- 1.3.9 There was a manor at Down Ampney in 1086 when Domesday recorded a population of 35 households indicating there may have been over 100 people in the village. One

priest was recorded suggesting there may have been a chapel or church in the village. The village had four lord's plough teams and 10 men's plough teams and in 1066 the lord was Ednoth the constable. In 1086 the manor at Down Ampney became part of the Crown Estate (Open Domesday 2017). The name Down Ampney is likely to refer to the Ampney Brook and probably has its origins in the Old English word Amma, a person's name (Scott Wilson 2017, 7).

- 1.3.10 All Saints Church located 1km south-west of the site was built in 1260 by the Knights Templar (Lewis 1848, 53-8). By 1270 a manor house had been constructed on the site of the later manor located c. 900m south-west of the site. In 1361 the Hungerford family had possession of the manor and constructed a new manor house on the site during the late 15th-early 16th century. This hall house is still extant with some alterations and is Grade I listed (HE no. 1341033).
- 1.3.11 It is likely that the settlement of Down Ampney developed as a polyfocal village during the medieval period. One of the foci of the village may have been around the late 13th century church and manor house. Three evaluations by Cotswold Archeology (CA 2004; 2013; 2015; Fig. 2) have shown that there was also rural activity on the Broadway Farm site. The road to the south of the site may have had its origins in the medieval period as it deviates around Broadway Farm.
- 1.3.12 The 2004 evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology in the south of the site revealed a number of shallow linear features, and pottery and tile recovered from two of these in Trench 4 were dated to the 12th-13th century. These linear features were interpreted as part of a medieval field system (CA 2004). The 2013 evaluation found a pit within the south-east part of the site (Trench 3) with a sherd of 11th-13th century pottery and a cow rib with butchery marks. In addition, five undated ditches were found within the northern part of the site and one was interpreted as a former field boundary (CA 2013).
- 1.3.13 In 2015 Archaeological Solutions conducted a geophysical survey of the northern part of the Broadway Farm site. This indicated a number of linear responses thought to be ditches and a number of short linears, pits and ridge and furrow. The 2015 evaluation across the northern part of the site revealed a number of furrows cutting the subsoil, and a shallow ditch within the western part of the site (Trench 1) containing three sherds of 11-13th century pottery (CA 2015).

Post-medieval period (AD 1536 to present)

- 1.3.14 The polyfocal pattern of settlement in and around Down Ampney continued into the post-medieval period. The landscape to the north of Down Ampney appears to have been subjected to enclosure during the post-medieval period. This did not occur on the Down Ampney estate to the south of the village as the OS map of 1875 indicates this area was still parkland at this date (OS 1:2500 1875).
- 1.3.15 The 1875 OS map indicates that All Saints Church was surrounded by the estate buildings of Down Ampney House 1km south-west of the site. The main area of settlement was along Charlham Way west of the site and around Rooktree Farm

located 150m north-east of the site (OS, 1:2500 1875). It appears that in 1875 the south of the site had several large buildings constructed on it surrounded by several fields and enclosures. The north of the site was a large open field at this time. By 1899 some of the enclosures in the centre of the site appear to have been reorganised into part of a larger field (OS 1:1250 1898).

- 1.3.16 During the Second World War, Down Ampney Airfield was constructed 800m south-west of the site. The village and surrounding area were occupied by a number of camps and buildings associated with the airfield to the south. An RAF photograph of 1946 (IWM, American Air Museum 2017) indicates the impact of the military airfield and associated camps and buildings on Down Ampney. Three camps appear to have been constructed around the village including one 200m north of the site and one built 100m south-east of the site.
- 1.3.17 This photograph also shows the southern part of the site was occupied by large buildings (Broadway Farm). In the south-east of the site the photo shows an east-west hedge line with north-south enclosures at the southern edge of the site. Upstanding ridge and furrow earthworks can clearly be seen in the north of the site.

2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the project were to determine and understand the nature, function and character of any archaeological remains within their cultural and environmental setting.

2.1.2 The specific project aims and objectives were as follows:

- i. What is the evidence for medieval activity on the site, at what date did it commence and how does it develop?
- ii. Is the medieval use of the site entirely agricultural in character or is there evidence for domestic/industrial activity, and if so, what is its form and function and when does it fall out of use?
- iii. How does this evidence relate to the foci of contemporary medieval settlement?
- iv. What is the evidence for post-medieval activity within the site?
- v. Does this reflect any continuity with the pattern of use established in the medieval period?
- vi. How does it develop, and was it purely agricultural in character or is there evidence of other activity?
- vii. To produce an archive (finds and records) that will be organised and deposited in a registered museum, to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

2.2 Research framework

2.2.1 The programme of fieldwork was undertaken within the research parameters outlined in *The Archaeology of South West England, South West Archaeological Research Framework, Resource Assessment and Agenda* (Somerset County Council 2007) and objectives defined by the *South West Archaeological Research Framework Research Strategy 2012–2017* (Grove and Croft 2012). The results of the three previous evaluations on the site (CA 2004; 2013; 2015) indicate that the excavation may contribute towards Research Aim 21b: 'Medieval and Post-Medieval agriculture'.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The site was stripped of modern overburden with a machine using a toothless bucket operating under archaeological supervision. Those areas that contained archaeological features were sufficiently hand-cleaned to produce a base plan, recorded digitally using a total station theodolite/GPS. After monitoring by the client a sample of archaeological features was targeted for excavation by hand. They were excavated and recorded stratigraphically in accordance with the WSI and OA's recording system.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The results of the excavation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the archaeological remains by chronological phase. Finds reports are presented in Appendix A and osteological evidence (animal bone) in Appendix B.
- 3.1.2 Four residual sherds of Roman pottery indicate some activity in the vicinity of the site during the Roman period. The majority of the dated features on the site contained pottery dating to the 11th-14th centuries, with an emphasis on the 12th-13th centuries. There was also a stone structure (probable wall) and demolition layer which was difficult to date and may be medieval or post-medieval. Ridge and furrow to the north of the site (Fig. 3) could not be dated in this excavation but the 2015 evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology suggested they went out of use by the later post-medieval period.
- 3.1.3 The whole site was covered by a topsoil (1), 0.31m thick, with an underlying subsoil of yellow brown silty clay (2). The subsoil contained pottery dating to the late 19th century which suggests that the site was levelled during the late 19th-20th century. The underlying natural grey blue clay (3) was encountered within the interventions and contained areas of gravel.

3.2 Phase 1 (11th-14th century)

Boundary ditch 61/63/65

- 3.2.1 A series of intercutting ditches were oriented east-west across the western part of the site (Fig. 4a, Section 19). Ditch 61 was the first in the sequence and was 0.8m wide and 0.5m deep, with a single fill. Ditch 61 was truncated by Ditch 63 at its northern end. Ditch 63 was 2.3m wide by 0.55m deep, and had a moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (64) that produced pottery dating to the 11th-12th century. Ditch 63 was in turn cut by ditch 65 to the north. Ditch 65 was 0.8m wide and 0.4m deep, and showed signs of rooting, so may have been replaced by a hedge line after the ditch had gone out of use. No dating evidence was recovered. The recuts of this ditch suggest that it was a long-lived boundary line.

Enclosure complex to the south of the boundary ditch

- 3.2.2 A series of ditches and gullies appeared to form a small rectilinear enclosure in the western area of the site, to the south of boundary ditch 61/63/65 (Fig. 4a, Section 18; Fig. 4b, Section 21, Section 26). This complex was formed of two parallel NNW-SSE orientated ditches (interventions 72/91 and 58/69), spaced 6m apart, which cut a slightly sinuous ESE-WNW orientated gully (interventions 54, 56, 82, 88).
- 3.2.3 Ditch 58/69 (Plate 2; Fig 4a, Section 18 Fig. 4b, Section 21) was 1.5m wide and 0.32-0.46m deep with a concave base and steep sides. Ditch 72/91 was 1.96m wide and 0.25m deep. Upper fill 74 of intervention 72 contained one worn sherd of possible 12th-13th century pottery.

3.2.4 The ESE-WNW linear was most substantial at its eastern terminus (82; Plate 4). Here the feature was 1.3m wide and 0.37m deep with three fills (83, 86, 87). Fill 83 contained charcoal and fill 86 contained one sherd of possible 11-12th century pottery. This ditch was recut as ditch 85, which was 0.41m wide and 0.28m deep, and had a single fill containing charcoal. The remaining sections of this linear were between 0.68m-0.94 wide and 0.36-0.12m deep, with a concave base and steep sides; no recuts were apparent.

Boundaries in the south-west of the site

3.2.5 Two gullies (36 and 42) and one ditch (53) were exposed and sampled in the south-western part of the site. All three were on a parallel NNW-SSE alignment.

3.2.6 Gully 36 was 0.72m wide and 0.10m deep with a concave base, steep sides and a sharp profile. The gully only ran for a short distance and had one fill (37) containing a sherd of 12th-13th century pottery.

3.2.7 Gully 42 was 0.47-0.56m wide with a concave base and steep sides. This gully survived to a depth of 0.11m and contained a single fill (39, 41). Fill 41 contained four sherds of 12th-13th century pottery.

3.2.8 Ditch 53 was 0.60-1.30m wide and it had a concave base, steep sides and a sharp top profile and survived to a depth of between 0.13m at the northern end to 0.53m at the southern end. At its northern terminus the ditch contained a single fill (44) with four sherds of 12th-13th century pottery. The ditch contained three fills in the central intervention (45; Fig. 4a; Section 15). The lower fill (46) appeared to have formed by slumping and weathering, and the middle fill (47) appeared to have a tip line so might have been deliberately infilled. The upper fill (48) appeared to have been formed by natural processes after the ditch went out of use. Fill 47 contained five sherds of 12th-13th century pottery. At the southern end of the ditch, three fills were encountered. A tip line was observed in profile within the middle fill (51), whereas the other fills may have been formed by natural weathering. Within fill 51, 12 sherds of 12th-13th century pottery were found along with an iron knife dating to the 12th-14th century.

Features in the south-east of the site

3.2.9 Three ditches in the south-east of the site appeared to form three sides of a rectilinear enclosure on a NE-SW/NW-SE alignment, parallel to the nearby road (ditches 19, 24 and 28; Fig. 4a, Sections 7, 9 and 10). All three contained medieval pottery.

3.2.10 Ditch 19 aligned NW-SE. It was 1.42m wide, 0.30m deep with a concave base, steep sides and sharp profile. The ditch contained two silty clay fills, the lower of which (20) produced two sherds of mid-12th to mid-14th century pottery.

3.2.11 Ditch 24 was aligned SW-NE, and was 1.81m wide and 0.34m deep with three fills. Four sherds of 11th-13th century pottery came from the upper fill (27) and two sherds of 12th-13th century pottery from the lower fill (25).

3.2.12 Ditch 28 was orientated NW-SE. It was 2.10m wide, 0.43m deep with a concave base, steep sides and a sharp profile. The ditch contained two fills, the upper of which (30)

produced two sherds of 12th-13th century pottery. Ditch 28 truncated pit or possible ditch terminal 31, which was 0.70m wide and 0.82m deep with very steep sides and a sharp profile. The pit contained four fills, the uppermost of which (35) contained a large amount of charcoal.

To the north of this enclosure was ditch 16, which was orientated east-west and ran for 3.5m before continuing beyond the eastern limit of excavation. At its western terminus this ditch was 1.04m wide and 0.19m deep with a concave base, steep sides and a sharp profile. It contained two silty clay fills. The upper fill (18) yielded three sherds of 11th-13th century pottery.

3.3 Phase 1/2 (medieval or early post-medieval)

3.3.1 A stone structure was uncovered in the south-east of the site (94) which appeared to be the first course of a wall (Fig. 4b, Section 27; Plate 5). The construction cut for the wall (95) was observed in section. In plan the wall was L-shaped (within the limit of the excavation) with a north-east to south-west section of wall 3.5m long and a north-west to south-east section of wall that was c. 1m long. The stones used to build the wall appeared to be large (over 0.30m in length) and were less than 0.08m deep. The shape of the stones and lack of mortar indicates that it may have been part of a dry-stone wall. An extant dry stone wall was located 10m west of wall 94 (Fig. 3) and defined a plot of land adjacent to the main road to the south. This extant wall appears on the OS map of 1875 (1:2500) and is now associated with a mid-20th century house.

3.3.2 Wall 94 is associated with an adjacent demolition or collapse layer 96 (Plate 5) and a layer of overburden (97) which caps 94 and 96. Layer 96 consists of stones from wall 94, and covered an area of 3.5m by 1.8m. Overburden layer 97 contained 22 sherds of pottery including mostly medieval sherds, one sherd of post-medieval pottery (c. 1550-1800) and two sherds of Roman pottery. The Roman sherds are residual and the post-medieval sherd may be intrusive, given that most of the sherds are medieval in date. It is also possible that the wall may have been medieval in date and then demolished and the area levelled (with layer 97) during the post-medieval period.

3.4 Phase 3 (later post-medieval)

3.4.1 The yellow-brown silty clay subsoil (2) capped the earlier deposits on the site and varied in depth from 0.05-0.35m. The subsoil contained 58 sherds of mainly medieval pottery along with several sherds dating from c. 1850-1900. This suggests that the site was levelled during the late 19th century.

3.4.2 A stone structure (101) was observed in the west of the site, orientated north-east to south-west and extending for 3m. This feature may be a stone-lined field drain which had truncated an earlier furrow.

3.5 Undated

3.5.1 Crescent-shaped gully was located in the western part of the site, and may have been related to the nearby medieval enclosure. The gully varied between 0.38-0.48m wide and 0.07-0.18m deep (Fig. 4b, Section 23). The length between the two terminuses of

the gully was 3.7m. The gully contained a single dark fill which contained much charcoal.

- 3.5.2 Ditch 98 was located in the south-east of the site and was orientated north-east to south-west. The ditch was 1.33m wide and 0.62m deep with a concave base, steep sides and sharp top profile (Fig. 4b, Section 28; Plate 6). It is possible that this ditch is related to the adjacent medieval enclosure.
- 3.5.3 Pit 13 was located a short distance from ditch 98, and was 1.65m wide and 0.43m deep. It had two fills (14 and 15).
- 3.5.4 A number of NW-SE orientated furrows were revealed in the northern part of the site. Four of these were sampled (4, 6, 8, 11). These furrows were 1.92-3.28m wide and 0.13-0.32m deep with a concave base, gently sloping sides and a sharp top profile. These furrows were undated during this excavation, but the evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology in 2015 found post-medieval glass within furrow 404 (CA 2015, Trench 4) and a rim sherd within furrow 204 (CA 2015, Trench 2) dating to the late 18th to mid-19th century. Therefore, while these furrows may have been part of an arable field system which originated in the medieval period, they were infilled in the post-medieval period. Aerial photographic evidence suggests that ridge and furrow earthworks were still extant in the northern part of the site in 1946.

4 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The presence of the four residual Roman sherds that were found within layer 97 indicates that there is likely to have been activity close to the site during this period. There may have been a Roman rural settlement near the site related to the stock management centre located 1-2km to the south (CA 2009).
- 4.1.2 The majority of the features on the site can be dated to the medieval period, with a few undated features which may also be of this date. The pottery suggests that this activity dates to between the 11th-14th centuries, with an emphasis on the 12th-13th centuries. The northern extent of the medieval activity seems to be defined by an E-W aligned boundary ditch that was recut twice (61/63/65), suggesting that it was maintained for a significant period. The area to the north of this boundary was dominated by furrows. To the south of the boundary ditch lay a series of ditches and gullies on a NNW-SSE alignment, and a small rectilinear enclosure. A further rectilinear enclosure lay in the south-east corner of the site. These features in the southern half of the site may represent paddocks, livestock enclosures or domestic plots that fronted on to the road to the south of the site. The E-W aligned boundary ditch may thus have separated an area of domestic occupation and/or pastoral farming in the south from an arable field to the north. Evidence from the previous evaluations shows that the medieval occupation continues to the south and east of the excavated area (Trench 4 of the 2004 evaluation; Trench 3 of the 2013 evaluation).
- 4.1.3 Finds other than pottery from the medieval features included a small amount of fired clay and an iron knife. The analysis of the animal bone indicated that there were several species present on the site during the medieval period including cattle, sheep, goose and possibly goat. A dog specimen was possibly found along with an unusually high proportion (25%) of the other animal bones being gnawed by dogs. This suggests that there were dogs present on the farm but the sample is too small to draw any other interpretation. In addition a sheep or goat neonatal radius was recovered from a fill of ditch 53 which also contained pottery dating to 1150-1250. This suggests that sheep or goats were being bred on this site. The 2013 evaluation by Cotswold found a cow rib with butchery marks within a pit containing 11th-13th century pottery to the south-east of the site. This suggests that there was animal butchery taking place on the site during the medieval period.
- 4.1.4 Stone wall 94 and overlying layer 97 were difficult to date due to the presence of mostly medieval pottery but one sherd of 16th-18th century pottery. This later pottery may be intrusive into a medieval demolition layer, or the wall may have been demolished in the post-medieval period. This dry stone wall may have formed part of a farmhouse garden plot, just north of the road, comparable to the extant dry stone wall located 10m to the west (Fig. 3). Indeed the stones may have been robbed from this earlier wall to create the extant one to the west or another dry stone wall nearby.
- 4.1.5 Part of the site appears to have been levelled in the late 19th-early 20th century. The aerial photographic evidence shows that the ridge and furrow in the northern part of

the site was still extant in 1946, and must therefore have been levelled during the mid to late 20th century.

APPENDIX A FINDS REPORTS

A.1 Pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction

- A.1.1 A total of 122 sherds of pottery weighing 1746g were recovered from 16 contexts. Most of this is medieval but there are also eleven sherds of post-medieval pottery (after c. 1480), and four residual sherds of Roman pottery. The pottery is mostly in a very fragmentary and abraded condition but a few medieval sherds are fairly large and fresh. Forty-four percent of the assemblage (54 sherds) comes from subsoil (context 2). Another 18% (22 sherds) comes from a layer of overburden (97) over the demolition layer (96) of medieval wall (94). The rest – mostly just a few sherds per context – comes from the fills of medieval linear features such as ditches, gullies and furrows.
- A.1.2 The limited range of fabrics and vessel forms present is typical of the south Gloucestershire/west Oxfordshire area. It is entirely domestic in character and fairly typical of rural sites in the area. There is a strong 12th–13th century emphasis to the collection and just a handful of sherds as late the 19th century. There are no reasonably-sized groups of material that deserve detailed description or add very much to our knowledge of pottery of this period. None of it has therefore been illustrated and its main value here is for dating purposes.

Methodology

- A.1.3 An intermediate level catalogue of pottery types was constructed (in Excel), following standard procedure, for the whole assemblage and spot-dates produced for each context. The catalogue includes, per context and per pottery fabric, quantification by sherd count and weight only. Additional details, however, including vessel form, part, decoration or any other features of note were routinely recorded in a comments field. Full details remain in the archive. What follows is a simply a quantified table of the various fabrics present and a summary report focusing on the more significant or interesting aspects of the assemblage.

Pottery fabrics

- A.1.4 Medieval pottery fabrics were recorded using the system of codes developed for the Oxfordshire County type series (Mellor 1994). A couple of West Country fabrics not present in the Oxfordshire series (Ham Green ware and Bath A ware) were recorded with abbreviated name-codes from other reports. Post-medieval fabrics were recorded using the codes of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014) which can be applied to most post-medieval types in southern England. The Roman pottery was identified by Edward Biddulph. A breakdown of the fabrics present is given in Table 1.

Fabric	Common name	Date	No.	Weight (g)
E40	Roman Shelly ware	c50BC-50AD	1	3
E80	Grog-tempered ware	c50BC-50AD	1	7
M23	Mancetter mortaria	c150-410AD	2	23
OXAC	Cotswold-type ware	c1050-1250	53	521
OXBF	Kennet Valley A ware	c1050-1250	6	43
BATHA	Bath A ware	c1100-1350	2	30
HG	Ham Green ware (Bristol)	c1120-1300	1	4
OXBB	Minety ware (Wilts)	c1120-1525	25	629
OXAQ	Kennet Valley B ware	c1150-1350	20	311
NDGT	North Devon gravel-tempered ware	c1550-1900	1	6
PMR	Post-medieval red earthenwares	c1550-1900	5	116
CHPO	Chinese porcelain	c1600-1900	1	16
TPW	Transfer-printed wares (Staffs etc)	c1780-1900	1	4
REFW	Refined whitewares (Staffs etc)	c1805-1900	1	2
ENGS BRST	English stoneware (Bristol glaze)	c1835-1900	2	31
TOTAL			122	1746

Table 1. Pottery types and quantities in roughly chronological order

Summary

A.1.5 The four Roman sherds – all small and abraded – are residual in context (97), the medieval/ early post-medieval (Phase 1/2) overburden layer. These do little more than attest some Roman activity in the general area. Medieval pottery, on the other hand, occurs in sufficient quantity and condition to indicate occupation of this date on or

very near the site. Two pottery types present here are broadly contemporary, both with a core date range of c. 1050-1250, as testified from numerous sites in Oxford (Mellor 1994). The commonest of these, Cotswold-type ware (Fabric OXAC), has late Saxon origins going back at least as far as the 9th century. There is nothing identifiable in the typology of the present assemblage however to suggest occupation before the late 11th or 12th century and – on the limited evidence available – a 12th-century start-date seem more likely. The other early fabric – Kennet Valley A ware (OXBF) – adds little to this suggestion but broadly supports it just by its presence here. The six smallish sherds of this identified are residual in subsoil context 2. In a few contexts only Cotswold-type ware occurs, but only in very small quantities and in poor condition. In most contexts it occurs alongside other pottery of 12th-century or later date. The presence of Minety ware (OXBB), in reasonable quantity, and a single sherd from a green-glazed jug in Ham Green ware (HG) both attest to occupation after c. 1120, or perhaps, more likely, from the mid-12th century onwards. The limited number of Minety ware forms identifiable – including jars, a few glazed jug/pitcher sherds and a few unglazed sherds with combed decoration (probably from jugs) – suggest continued occupation into the 13th century and perhaps into the 14th century, but very little evidence of occupation after this. There is a single Minety ware bowl, with a broad flanged rim, which appears to be a late product of this industry - probably datable to the 15th or early 16th century - but this was recovered from the subsoil along with 19th-century pottery.

A.1.6 Cotswold-type ware and Minety ware were both made using clays containing abundant oolitic limestone. In some ways the former ware can be seen to have evolved into the latter. Cotswold-type is a generic name for long-lived tradition of handmade limestone-tempered wares produced in and around the Cotswolds area including Gloucestershire, north-west Oxfordshire and north Wiltshire. Minety ware, however, was only produced in the village of that name in north Wiltshire, from c. 1120 until the early 16th century. Down Ampney lies only 9km north-east of Minety so the presence of this ware here is hardly surprising. The distinction between Minety and Cotswold-type ware is largely based on typology. Minety ware included more developed-looking vessel forms such as glazed and decorated tripod pitchers and jugs, jars with more developed-looking rims which were also sometime glazed. Later on bowls and dishes were added to the repertoire. After c. 1250 most Minety ware vessels were wheel-thrown rather than handmade. Only a few of the sherds identified as Minety ware here have any surviving glaze; others are identified by the presence of combed decoration, rim form, indications of wheel-thrown manufacture and sometimes a harder lighter-coloured fabric than Cotswold-type ware. In view of their visual similarities (particularly unglazed body sherds) and the poor condition of the assemblage here, no firm distinction between the two can be maintained for the majority of their combined assemblage, although this does not necessarily apply to larger assemblages from sites elsewhere. Both were fairly locally produced. In terms of source it probably more sensible to consider them together. Pottery with oolitic limestone temper can then be seen to comprise 64% (78 sherds) of the whole pottery assemblage from this site. A similar situation applies to the Kennet Valley wares A and

B; these sandy fabrics containing flint (OXBF) and/or flint-and-limestone inclusions (OXAQ), are also mostly in too poor a condition to treat as chronologically separate. Taken together, the Kennet Valley wares (possibly from the Savernake Forest in north-east Wiltshire) comprise 21% (26 sherds) of the site assemblage - the second largest ware/source group present.

- A.1.7 Forms present in Cotswold-type ware are limited to a few jar/cooking pots with simple rims. One jar has thumbled decoration on the tip of the rim. The Minety ware is also dominated by jars. A more unusual form is represented by a flat base sherd (diameter 270mm) with an inward-leaning wall, most probably from a so-called 'West Country' dish of the late 12th or 13th century. Similar dishes were identified from nearby Bampton in west Oxfordshire (Cotter 2015). A rim sherd from a jug/pitcher with a characteristic slashed strap handle is also present, as well as the three comb-decorated jug sherds already mentioned. An unglazed flanged rim from a wide bowl (or storage jar?) also has combed wavy band decoration on top of the rim and traces of a vertical thumbled strip attached below the rim. The latest Minety form present is the bowl from the subsoil context (2). This is of conical form with a broad flanged horizontal rim of very wide diameter (c. 520mm) and a greenish internal glaze. It is likely to be of 15th- or early 16th-century date. A range of similar bowls is known from 16th-century contexts at Acton Court near Bristol (Vince and England 2004, fig. 9.5 no. 144-5). The only form identifiable in the Kennet Valley wares is the large handmade medieval cooking pot. Most of the 'B' ware (OXAQ) sherds here come from the sagging base and lower walls of a single cooking pot in fresh condition. Large parts of this were found in two Phase 1/2 contexts separated by nearly 150m distance: some from 41 (the fill of gully 40), and the rest from overburden layer 97. The fresh condition of this vessel suggests it may have been dislodged from its primary context (rubbish pit?) before ending up in two later contexts. This might, possibly, be explained by the effects of ploughing, or possibly by the carting of soil from one location to a more distant one. The remaining post-medieval assemblage is fairly scrappy and not particularly remarkable except to show some activity in the area as late as the 19th century.

A.2 Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

By Cynthia Poole

- A.2.1 Contexts 27 and 34 each produced a single fragment of fired clay weighing respectively 45g and 78g. Both pieces were very similar in character, made in a pinkish red sandy clay containing common small dark red iron oxide pellets up to 3mm in size. They measure 27 and 35mm thick and are of indeterminate form as both retain very little of the original moulded surface. They most probably derive from some form of oven or hearth structure. Neither piece is dateable, but context 27 also produced pottery of 12th-13th century date.
- A.2.2 A single small fragment (4g) of probable ceramic building material from context 66 derived from a cylindrical or curved tile with smooth inner and outer surfaces. It was made in a red clay with frequent fine cream laminations. It measures 11mm thick and

has a diameter in the region of 60mm. The characteristics are consistent with a field drain of mid-19th-20th century date.

A.3 Slag

By Ian Scott

A.3.1 There three pieces of iron slag from context 2 (Phase 3). There is one piece of possible tap slag (49g); one piece of undiagnostic slag (70g); and one fragment of undiagnostic slag (8g) Total weight: 127g.

A.4 Metal

By Ian Scott

A.4.1 There are eight metal objects, six iron and two copper alloy. All but one of the objects come from context 2 and were associated with 19th-century pottery (Phase 3). None of the objects from context 2 need date earlier than the 19th century. The only early object is the small tanged knife with the distinctive thick triangular section of an early medieval knife. This comes from context 51 which is dated to the 12th to 14th century (Phase 1).

Catalogue

1. Context 2 (subsoil). Rake prong, probably modern. Fe. L: 98mm. Phase 3
2. Context 2. Horseshoe, incomplete, with toe clip and calkin on stant branch. Three extant nails and nail holes. Fe. L: 150mm. 19th century. Phase 3
3. Context 2. Nail, large with tapered square section stem and small head. Fe. L: c 145mm. Phase 3
4. Context 2. Wedge, thin of rectangular section with flat rectangular head at a slight angle. Fe. L: 70mm; W: 17mm. Phase 3
5. Context 2. Nail stem fragment? Fe. Not measured. Phase 3
6. Context 2. Rivet, small, very short rivet with circular head. Cu alloy. L: 4mm; D: 5mm. Attached to thin metal plate or other material. Phase 3
7. Context 2. Shank button, plain domed. Cu alloy, originally tinned? D: 28mm. Phase 3
8. Context 51 (fill of ditch 53). Small tanged knife with blade of thick triangular cross-section. Fe. L: 79mm. Phase 1

APPENDIX B ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

B.1 Animal Bone

By Lee G. Broderick

Introduction

B.1.1 A total of 41 animal bones were recovered from the site, principally associated with Phases 1 and 1/2 (Table 2). Given the small sample size in each phase, NISP figures are used throughout as providing the most likely reflection of living animal proportions on the site.

Phase 1

B.2.1 From a total of twenty specimens, it was possible to identify domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) and caprines (sheep [*Ovis aries*] and/or goat [*Capra hircus*]) as well as greylag/domestic goose (*Anser anser*) and cf. dog (*Canis familiaris*). Among the caprines it is possible to say that sheep were definitely present, based on mandibles. The possible dog specimen is supported by taphonomic evidence – 25% of the specimens (NSP=5) had been gnawed by canids, probably dogs (*Canis familiaris*), which is a very high proportion for a rural site. It suggests that scavenging activities may have played a large role in the deposition of the animal bone assemblage at this time.

B.2.2 One large mammal fragment had been chopped through on one side, demonstrating butchery. It is also possible to suggest that caprines were being bred on the site, based on a neonatal radius recovered from a fill of ditch 53. Also recovered from this ditch was a sheep mandible from an individual of between 4½ and 7 years of age at death (Jones 2006, 155–78).

Phase 1/2

B.2.3 The medieval/post-medieval component contained all of the same species as the earlier phase, with the exception of goose and of dog. It is worth noting, however, that a small mammal vertebra was of a size consistent with dog and that one specimen (part of a left side cattle pelvis) had been gnawed by canids, so they were almost certainly present on the site at this time.

B.2.4 All of the specimens from this phase were recovered from a single context – 97 – which covered a wall and its associated demolition, so may not be representative of the entire site. The caprine specimens were all mandible fragments or loose teeth, from at least two individual sheep. One of these was between 3½ and 7 years of age at death, based on tooth wear (Jones 2006, 155–78). A large mammal vertebra from this phase had been chopped through, axially, on the lateral (off-centre).

Phase 4

B.2.5 The small modern component contained three caprine specimens and a dog tibia. The caprine elements represent at least two different individuals (two right side radii were present).

Recommendations for Retention

B.2.6 The assemblage should not be considered a priority for retention.

Conclusions

B.2.7 The assemblage was very small and the most remarkable aspect of this is that so many species were identifiable. This marks a stark improvement in our knowledge over previous work on the site but it does not add to what we already understand about medieval agriculture in the wider region.

Phase	1	1/2	4	Undated
domestic cattle	1	1		1
caprine	5	1	3	
sheep	2	3		
dog			1	
dog?	1			
small mammal		1		
medium mammal		1		
large mammal	7	7		
Total Mammal	16	15	4	1
greylag/domestic goose	1			
Total Bird	1	0	0	0
Total NISP	17	15	4	1
Total NSP	20	15	5	2

Table 2: Total NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) and NSP (Number of Specimens) figures per period from the site.

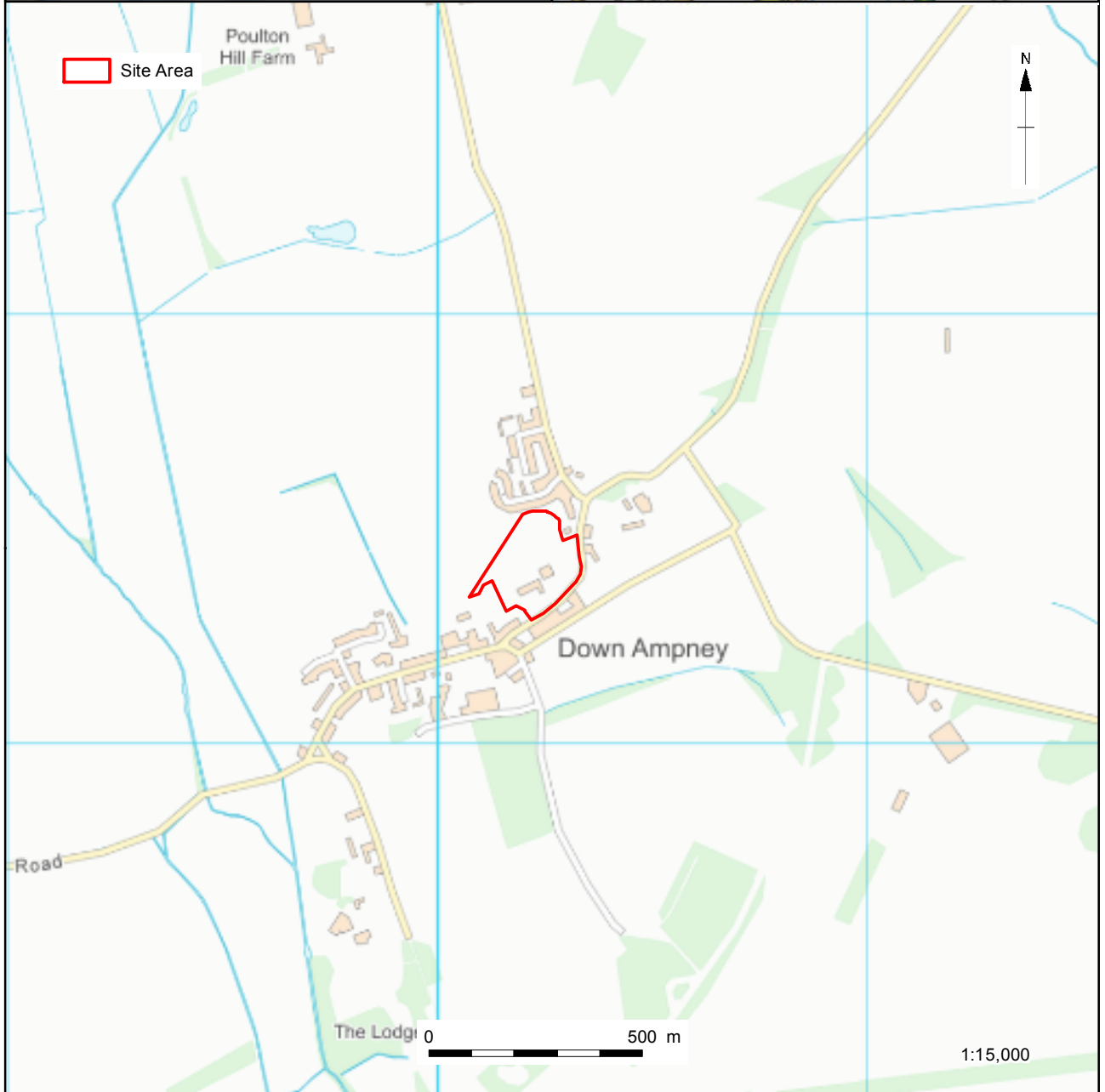
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APPENDIX D SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

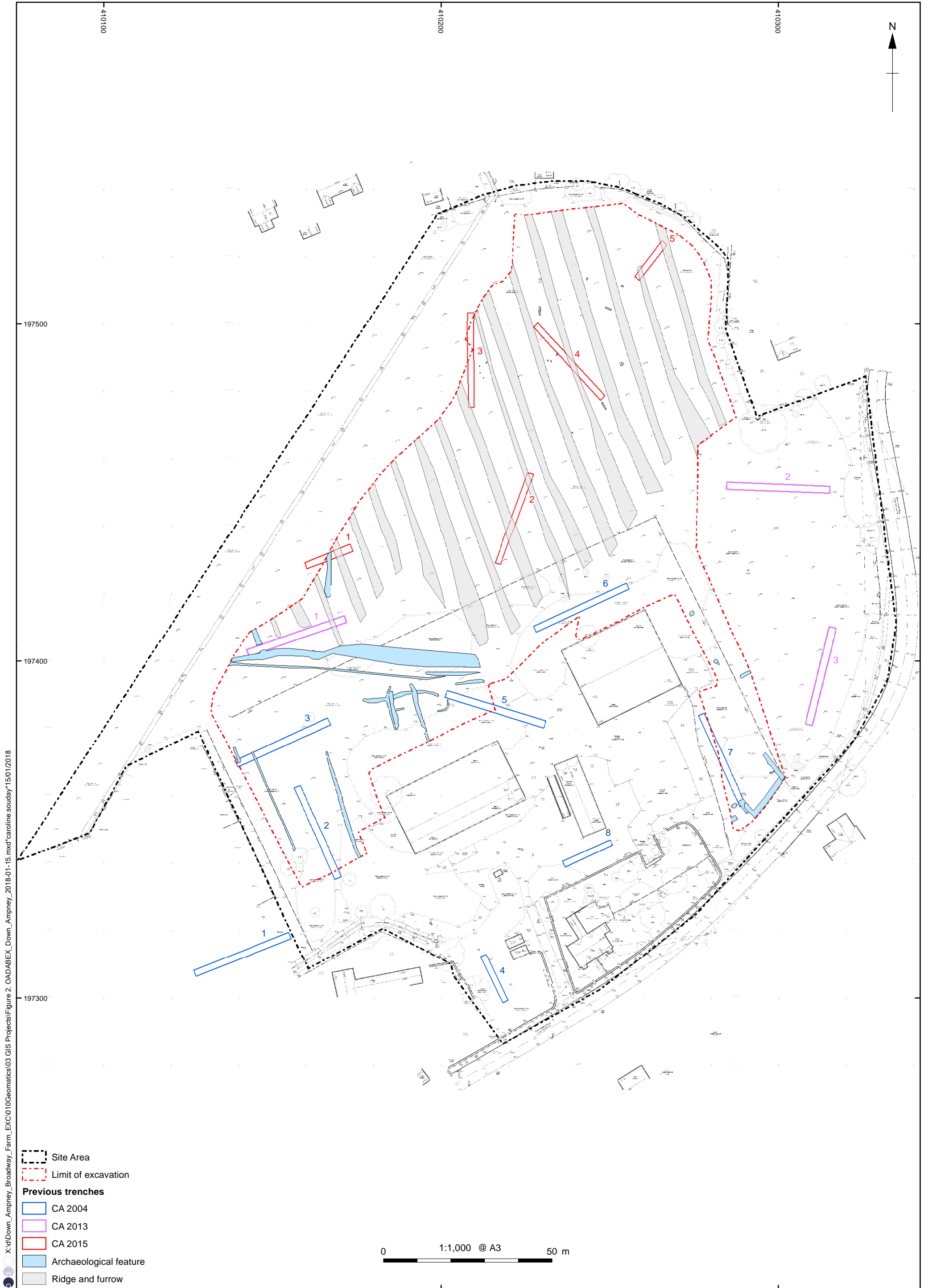
Site name:	Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire
Site code:	OADAB17
Grid reference:	SU 1023 9748
Type:	Excavation and watching brief
Date and duration:	30th August – 10th October 2017 (stripping, survey and watching brief), 13th, 15th, 26th, 27th September, 3rd-6th October 2017 (excavation)
Area of site:	15,480m ² (1.548ha)
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES and will be deposited in due course with Corinium Museum
Summary of results:	Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of the demolition of several buildings and the construction of up to 44 dwellings at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire.

A small amount of residual Roman pottery was recovered. The majority of the features on the site were broadly dated to the medieval period, with a few undated features which may also be of this date. One set of features in the western part of the site appears to form a set of parallel enclosures or plots, and several of these ditches contained pottery dating to the 12th-13th century. Several boundary ditches were dated to the medieval period. A demolished dry stone wall was found in the south-east of the site and may have been part of a garden plot or a small enclosure, just north of the road. Ridge and furrow was also found towards the northern end of the site but could not be dated in this excavation. These features may have been abandoned by the later post-medieval period, as a previous evaluation found late 18th to mid-19th century pottery and post-medieval glass in two of the furrows.



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Figure 1: Site location



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- Site Area
- Limit of excavation
- Previous trenches**
- CA 2004
- CA 2013
- CA 2015
- Archaeological feature
- Ridge and furrow

0 1:1,000 @ A3 50 m

Figure 2 - Previous investigations

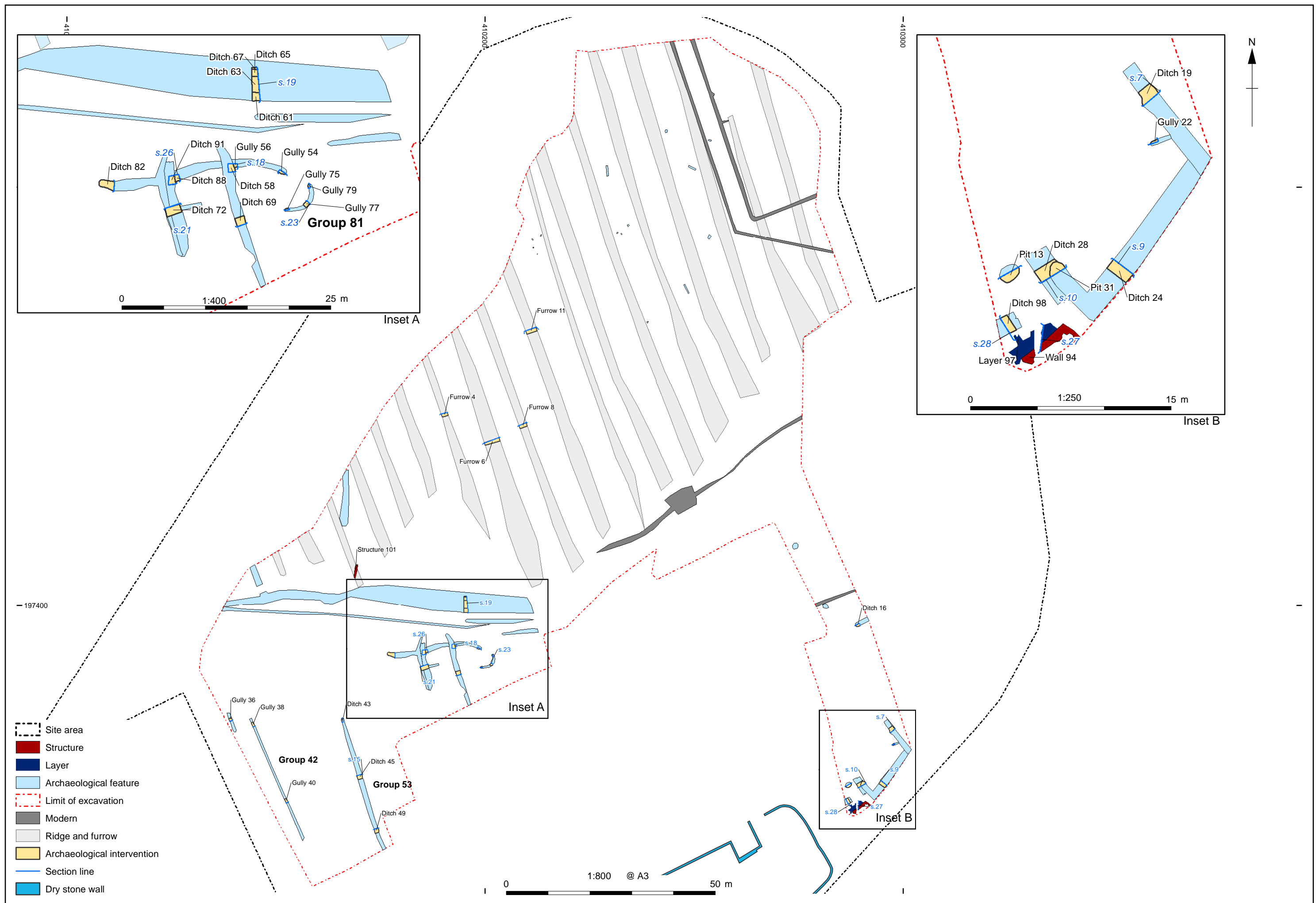


Figure 3 - Site plan showing results of 2017 excavation

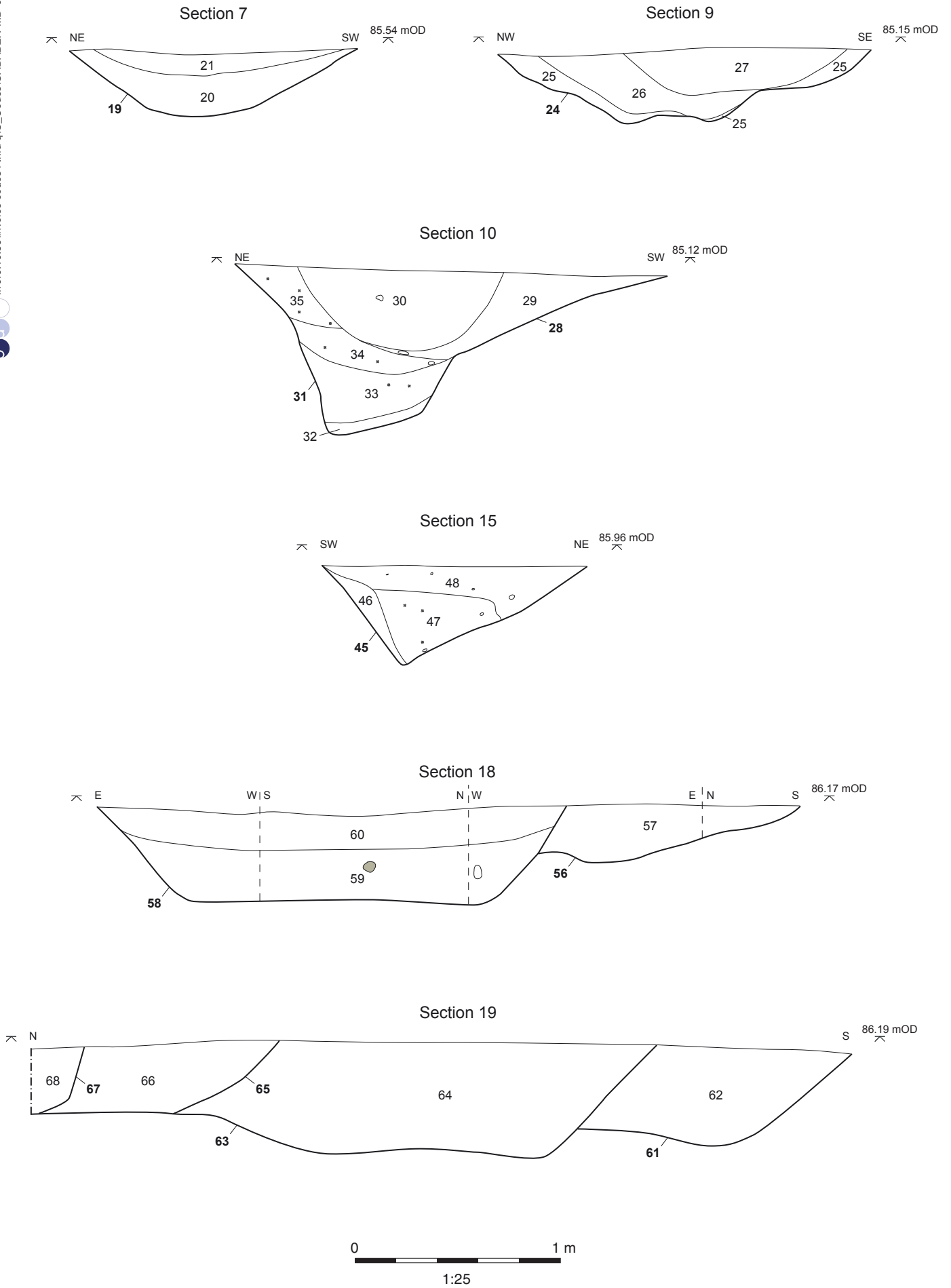


Figure 4a: Sections 7, 9, 10, 15, 18 and 19

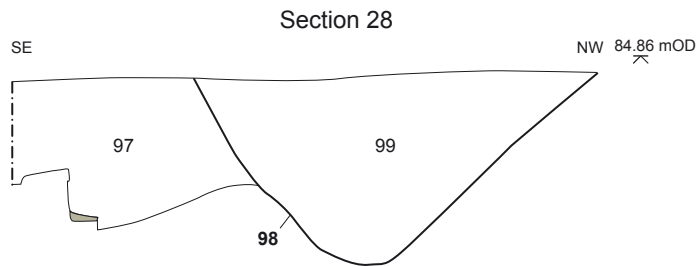
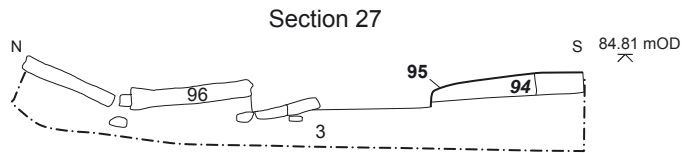
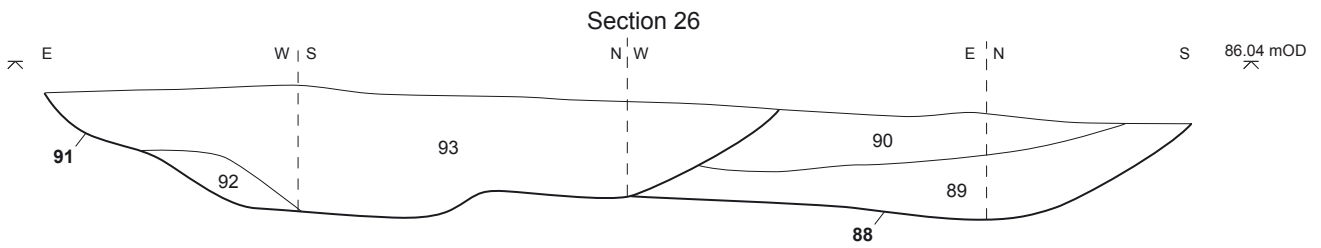
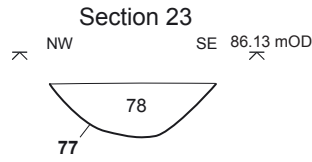
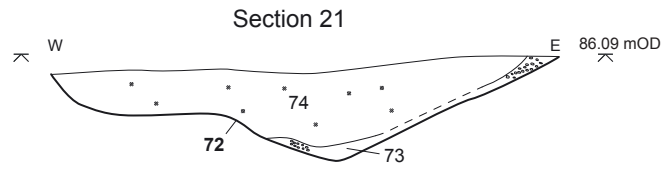


Figure 4b: Sections 21, 23, 26, 27, 28



Plate 1: Pit 31 truncated by Ditch 28, facing SE



Plate 2: Ditch 56 cut by Ditch 58, facing N



Plate 3: Gully 77 (part of Group 81), facing NE



Plate 4: Ditch 82, facing E



Plate 5: Structure 94 and demolition layer 96, facing SW



Plate 6: Ditch 98 facing SW



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