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Armstrong Road, Littlemore, Oxford

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

In July 2019 Oxford Archaeology undertook a 15-trench evaluation at Armstrong Road, Littlemore, Oxford, on behalf of RPS Heritage in advance of a new housing development. The site had already been subject to two previous phases of archaeological evaluations, in which only two fragments of late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery were recovered along with a single undiagnostic flint flake. This phase of further trenching aimed to help contextualise these finds and assess the potential of the remaining areas of the site.

The evaluation revealed fragments of a domestic landscape dating to the late Iron Age or more probably the Roman period in the western field 1. The area had been heavily landscaped in modern times and it is possible that this may have sealed archaeological remains. To the east, in field 2, archaeological remains were very sparse with just one probable post-medieval ditch being identified. No evidence was found to suggest that the known post-medieval cemetery to the immediate north-east of the site extended into this area.

Based on the results of the evaluation the western area of the site within Trenches 1-6 is considered to have been a focus of late Iron Age/Romano-British activity.



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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Carl Champness. The fieldwork was directed by Mike Donnelly, who was supported by Tom Bruce and Katie Webster. Survey and digitising was carried out by Katie Webster and Conan Parsons. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Geraldine Crann.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by RPS Heritage to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed new housing development at Armstrong Road, Littlemore, Oxford.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of planning permission (planning ref. 14/02940/OUT) to inform the Planning Authority in advance of a submission of a planning application. A brief was set by David Radford, City Archaeologist for Oxford, and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. This document outlines the results of the evaluation.
- 1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' 'Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavation' (CIfA 2014) and local and national planning policies.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the western edge of Littlemore, a parish within Oxford, Oxfordshire (Fig. 1; NGR: SP 53341 02318). Littlemore is located approximately 4km south-east of the city centre.
- 1.2.2 The site itself occupies an area of sloping ground off Armstrong Road. The site slopes downhill to the south-east with a height above Ordnance Datum ranging between 57m and 72m. The Littlemore Brook flows from north-east to south-west and forms the site's south-eastern boundary.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Beckley Sand Member Sandstone, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 157–164 million years ago in the Jurassic Period (BGS Online). No superficial deposits are recorded.
- 1.2.4 Whilst no site-specific borehole data is currently available, the archaeological evaluation previously undertaken on the site recorded variation in geology including a yellow-orange sand, yellow clay sand and a blue-grey sandy gley soil which is likely to be alluvial deposits related to the Littlemore Brook located adjacent to the site's southeastern boundary.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in detail in the desk-based assessment (DBA; RPS 2018) and is only summarized here. This document should be read in conjunction with the DBA.

Early prehistoric 900 KA - 12 KA BC

1.3.2 The HER and HEA record no evidence for early prehistoric activity on the site, or in the wider search area. Furthermore, the archaeological investigations previously undertaken on the site itself did not record any early prehistoric finds or features.



Later prehistoric 12,000 BC - AD 43

- 1.3.3 The archaeological investigations carried out at the Oxford Science Park, approximately 125m south-east of the site, recorded a number of features of Iron Age origin, indicating a possible settlement in that area.
- 1.3.4 Evidence for later prehistoric evidence is sparse in the local landscape, and restricted to a single residual sherd of Iron Age pottery and an undiagnostic flint flake from the site itself.

Roman AD 43-410

- 1.3.5 Roman pottery and a single piece of Roman kiln furniture have been recovered close to the site. No features of a Roman date were associated with these pottery fragments.
- 1.3.6 Two archaeological trial trench evaluations have been conducted within the wider area of the site. These evaluations did not record any features dating to the Roman period. However, some fragments of pottery and kiln furniture were recovered indicating a source of Roman occupation nearby. The trial trenching undertaken immediately to the north of the site recorded a Roman ditch in association with 29 sherds of Roman pottery (HER MOX26652).
- 1.3.7 Further afield, evidence for Roman activity is recorded in the wider site area in the form of pottery fragments, a kiln and coins, indicating that the wider local landscape was also settled and utilised in this period.

Early medieval and medieval (AD 410-1485)

- 1.3.8 No Saxon or early medieval assets are recorded on the site and no evidence of activity of this date was recorded by the trial trenching previously undertaken on site.
- 1.3.9 An archaeological excavation undertaken in relation to the Oxford Science Park recorded the remains of a 6th–7th century AD Saxon village approximately 125m south-east of the site. The Saxon features included six sunken-feature buildings (SFBs) and pits.

Post-medieval (AD 1480-1800)

- 1.3.10 Historical records indicate that the site comprised agricultural land until it was developed as a gas works and orchard in the late 19th century. The gas works continued to be present until the late 20th/early 21st century when it was removed. The majority of the site has been used as sports fields from the late 19th century onwards.
- 1.3.11 The north-eastern limit of the study site was used as a burial ground from the late 19th century.

Previous archaeological investigations

1.3.12 The site has already been subject to two archaeological trial trench evaluations (Fig. 2). Four trenches (Trench 1 of 3 being split) were excavated in the central part of the site in November 2006 (JMHS 2006; HER EOC6205). No archaeological features were



recorded, but two fragments of late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery were recovered along with a single undiagnostic flint flake. The report concluded that the pottery fragments may be residual and spread through manuring and that the flint flake may have been a casual loss (JMHS 2006).

- 1.3.13 Two further trenches were excavated in the eastern/central part of the site in 2007 (JMHS 2007; HER EOX2152). No archaeological features were identified, and the site was noted to have been levelled in the 19th century. However, fragments of Roman pottery were recovered from the topsoil, along with some kiln furniture.
- 1.3.14 An archaeological evaluation undertaken at Littlemore Park, immediately north of the site, recorded a single ditch dated to the Roman period. Further features were also identified, but we recorded as undated (JMHS 2008).
- 1.3.15 More recently a magnetometer survey was conducted over *c* 1.4ha of the site (SUMO 2019). No definite archaeological remains were identified. A few linear trends of uncertain origin were mapped, though these are more likely to be related to an old boundary or drain or have other modern origins. A trackway was also detected, as well as areas of strong ferrous disturbance from former tanks/structures.



2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were as follows:
 - i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
 - ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
 - iii. To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means.
 - iv. To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
 - v. To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy.
 - vi. To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape.
 - vii. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive
 - viii. To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.
 - ix. To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 A total of 15 trenches were excavated across the site within areas not covered by the previous evaluation trenching. These varied in size but were typically 1.8m by 20m, except for three trenches in the northern part of the site that were 30m (Trench 12), 13m (Trench 13) and 15m (Trench 15) long respectively. Many of the trenches were targeted on geophysical anomalies, while the cluster at the northern limit were designed in order to show whether the known cemetery to the north of the boundary continued into the evaluation area (Fig. 2). Trench 8 was located on a known historical greenhouse in order to see if that relatively ephemeral structure had preserved archaeology underneath it.
- 2.2.2 All trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Machining continued in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or to the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first.
- 2.2.3 The exposed surfaces were sufficiently clean to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type, for example pits, postholes, and ditches, was excavated and recorded in each trench.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was extremely varied with many of the trenches featuring terraces, redeposited natural, redeposited subsoil, made ground and even possible buried soil horizons (Trench 2). The extreme northern end of the evaluation area (Trenches 12-15) had alluvial deposits along much of their length, including all of Trench 12.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 1, 5, 6 and 11, with a possible manmade bank or river terrace in Trenches 13, 14 and 15. More recent features such as garden terracing and the greenhouse foundations were encountered in Trenches 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8. Trenches 1 and 6 represented the northern limit of the evaluation area as it approached the top of a low rise just north of the site (under the current Busy Bees Nursery) and it was here that the best preserved archaeology was encountered.

3.4 Trenches 1-9, Field 1 (Fig. 3)

- 3.4.1 The main part of the evaluation area lay to the south and west of the Busy Bees Nursery in an area previously used as a gas works and as gardens including greenhouses. The best-preserved archaeological remains were found in Trenches 1 and 6 as well as possible undisturbed natural surfaces in Trenches 5 and 9 and a putative buried soil in Trench 2. Elsewhere in this area the ground had been severely disturbed by its various modern land usages.
- 3.4.2 Trench 1 contained a sizeable boundary ditch (103) of mid-late Roman date. This feature was not bottomed due to safety concerns but measured 3.2m in width with an excavated depth of 0.65m (1.5m below ground surface) and a probable total depth of around 1m. It contained a considerable amount of animal bone and pottery and was associated with a deep inclined posthole at its eastern edge. The ditch also yielded the only early prehistoric evidence recovered, a narrow bladelet of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date.
- 3.4.3 Trench 2 was located around 25m east of the ditch 103 and had evidence of severe modern disturbance and/or landscaping. It revealed a putative buried soil (206) that contained animal bone, a possible quern fragment and pottery of Roman date alongside a single medieval pottery sherd and a piece of medieval peg tile. The date of



this soil horizon is uncertain, and it is very likely that it was buried during the modern development of the site. A such, it is possible that archaeological remains are buried beneath this layer.

- 3.4.4 Trench 5 contained a modern ditch (502) as well as a possible tree-throw hole (504) that appeared to cut natural at depths of only 0.36m.
- 3.4.5 Trench 6 contained the densest and best-preserved archaeology on site with at least seven features, six of which were likely to be very late Iron Age or more likely Roman in date. Three pits were present in the trench but only pits 603 and 607 were excavated while pit 614 was surface cleaned for artefact retrieval. Pit 603 was oval in plan and measured 0.1m by 0.9m with a vertical-sided and flat-bottomed cut with an initial and obvious undercut suggestive of a storage pit. Its fill contained considerable amounts of pottery, animal bone and burnt stone but also yielded charred wheat grains and two blue glass beads from a bulk sample taken from it. Both the pottery and beads have been dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period.
- 3.4.6 Pit 607 was more elongated in plan and only survived as a shallow scooped hollow. Its main fill had a dump of stone (609) sitting over it reminiscent of a post pad. The pit yielded a very small sherd of late Roman pottery.
- 3.4.7 Trench 6 also contained a possible ditch (616), that stopped at or was truncated by pit 614. This feature was not excavated but a surface clean recovered a large pottery sherd of late Iron Age or early Roman date as well as a single fragment of medieval tile that might well be intrusive. Two small postholes measuring around 0.4m in diameter were identified in the trench and posthole 610 contained a small sherd of late Roman pottery identical to the material from pit 607. Finally, one shallow post-medieval gully (605) orientated north-south cut across the southern third of the trench.
- 3.4.8 Trench 8 contained the remains of a greenhouse of very recent date along much of its length. It was targeted in order to determine if these structures, more of which were nearby, may have protected archaeological remains, but the greenhouse was clearly built into already disturbed ground to a depth of around 1.5m. No truncated archaeological remains were identified cutting into the natural once the green house had been removed.
- 3.4.9 Trenches 4, 7 and 9 did not contain any archaeological features. However, Trench 7 did have a very deep build-up of made ground and other layers overlying a possible buried horizon that contained a large sherd of a locally produced Roman mortarium. It is also possible that Trench 4 contained similar redeposited layers.

3.5 Trenches 10-15, Field 2 (Fig. 4)

3.5.1 The second area to be evaluated lay to the north-east of field 1. This contained very few archaeological remains, with just one probable ditch in Trench 11. Trench 12 was unusual in that despite its longer length at 30m, at no point was the underlying natural sand met. One deeper test pit at its southwestern end was excavated to at least 1.2m. A sequence of three alluvial horizons was present with no artefactual material recovered to indicate their age. The same upper alluvium was present in Trenches 13-15, but did not occupy the whole of those trenches, and was only 5m wide in two trenches (14-15) where it clearly sat over the natural sands.



- 3.5.2 All three trenches (13-15) placed against the northern limit of the evaluation area had the same broad sequence with a raised terrace at the northern end of probable natural sands, followed by alluvium in the central part of the trench (extending to the southwest edge in Trench 13) and then the natural sand in the south-west third of Trenches 14-15. It is possible that the terrace at the north-east end of these trenches was a manmade bank, but unfortunately a live service ran along the meeting point between the base of the bank and the alluvium preventing us from testing this theory. No evidence of any grave cuts was identified in these trenches, and if the cemetery extended to the south, it would have most likely been up on the terrace rather than down in the alluvial part of site.
- 3.5.3 One possible ditch was identified in Trench 11 running north-west to south-east across the trench. It was very probably a relatively modern field boundary and had a heavily bioturbated edge. The only find recovered was a piece of ceramic building material of Roman date.

3.6 Finds summary

3.6.1 Small amounts of finds were recovered from this evaluation, nearly all of which were found in trenches adjacent to the Busy Bees nursery indicating a clear focus for any settlement activity here. The bulk of the finds were either very late Iron Age or Roman in date and included rich pits in Trench 6, one of which contained several pottery sherds, animal bone and two glass beads. Ditch 103 in Trench 1 produced a considerable assemblage of pottery and animal bone as well as single early prehistoric flint. Beyond this, finds recovery was minimal but some sherds of Oxfordshire white ware were recovered from made ground or terrace fills including a large mortarium sherd from Trench 7.

3.7 Environmental summary

3.7.1 Charred grain was recovered from a sample from pit 603 in Trench 6 and could be identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.). Other identified seeds were those common to disturbed or cultivated land such as dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.).



4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 In general, the archaeological features identified were very easily spotted against the background natural. A good quantity of these have been dated through excavation and several of the unexcavated features yielded dateable surface finds. It is noted that the archaeological levels may not have been fully reached in some of the trenches in field 1, where modern landscaping may have obscured some features.
- 4.1.2 In spite of the modern disturbance, the trenches did achieve a good coverage of the site and were able to determine archaeological remains that helped to explain the concentration of Roman finds in the area.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The evaluation did not reveal any evidence of Roman pottery production. However, it did identify a probable settlement focus in field 1 that could well be associated with production and merits further investigation. The trenching did not identify any evidence to suggest that the Victorian cemetery extends into the site.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 The main archaeological interest of the site was in and around Trenches 1, 2, 5 and 6, running off a slight rise currently occupied by the Busy Bees Nursery. Here, several late Iron Age or more likely Roman features were identified that strongly suggest a domestic focus. There was no further evidence of pottery production in terms of kiln material, wasters, etc. Many of the fills containing finds appeared to be domestic in nature with butchered bone and abraded pottery sherds. Spot dates for the excavated contexts ranged from the late Iron Age/early Roman period to the late Roman period.
- 4.3.2 The remainder of the field 1 area was harder to interpret, and it is possible that many of the 'natural' surfaces identified here were in fact redeposited. This could mean any archaeological landscape had been truncated away, but it could also mean that features might be buried and protected by this levelling event. There was some Roman material also recovered from these trenches including the large sherd in Trench 7.
- 4.3.3 Field 2 appeared to have very limited archaeological value with the isolated feature identified looking to be a fairly recent field boundary. The alluvial sequence in Trenches 12-15 did not appear to be prehistoric in date and lacked struck flints.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The only area of interest is the focus of late Iron Age/Roman activity around Trenches 1 and 6. This area could conceivably contain a domestic landscape, possibly associated with large enclosure ditches such as 103 and containing key artefacts such as the glass beads in Trench 6.



APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1	Trench 1							
General	descriptio	on		Orientation	WNW- ESE			
Trench co	ontained	very wid	Length (m)	20				
posthole	. Consists	of tops	oil, subso	oil and possible made ground	Width (m)	1.8		
overlying recovere		and geol	ogy. One	early prehistoric flint was also	Avg. depth (m)	0.60		
Context No.	Туре	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date		
100	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-		
101	Layer	-	0.37	Subsoil	-	-		
102	Layer	-	-	Natural, light brownish yellow sand	-	-		
103	Cut	3.18	0.66+	Cut of north-south main ditch with deep rounded 'V' shaped profile	-	Roman		
104	Cut	0.54	0.32	Slightly inclined to west posthole cut with inclined regular sides and a rounded 'U' shaped base	-	-		
105	Fill	2.96	0.18	Yellowish brown silty sand lower fill in 103	Pot, animal bone and burnt stone	Roman		
106	Fill	3.18	0.56	Dark greyish brown silty sand upper fill in 103	Pot, flint, animal bone and burnt stone	Roman		
107	Fill	0.54	0.09	Soft dark yellowish brown silty sand lower fill of 104	-	-		
108	Fill	0.54	0.32	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand upper fill of 104	-	-		
109	Layer	-	0.35	Made ground? Greyish brown silty sand	Animal bone			

Trench 2								
General o	descriptio	Orientation	NE-SW					
Trench co	ontained o	complex	sequence	of layers at one end including	Length (m)	20		
a putativ	e buried	soil with	Roman r	material culture. One possible	Width (m)	1.8		
ditch was	s more lil	kely to b	e more i	redeposited layers. All of this	Avg. depth (m)	1.15		
overlay n	atural ged	ology of s	lightly cla	ayey sand.				
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
200	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	-	-		
201	201 Layer - 0.17 Subsoil					-		
202	Layer	-	-	Made ground? mid-light	-	-		
İ				brownish yellow sand				

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203	Layer	-	-	Redeposited subsoil, greyish brown silty sand	-		-
204	Layer			Redeposited subsoil, greyish brown silty sand			
205	Layer			Redeposited natural, mid- light brownish yellow sand			
206	Layer			Buried soil with Roman and medieval finds? Mid greyish brown silty sand	Pot, bone, quern	animal tile,	Medieval?
207	Layer			Natural, light brownish yellow sand			
208	Cut			Ditch cut? unexcavated			
209	Fill			Fill of 208, unexcavated			

Trench 3							
General o	descriptio	n	Orientation	WNW-			
						ESE	
Trench ha	ad eviden	ce for a g	garden te	errace and a small and modern	Length (m)	20	
looking p	it that cut	t the terra	ace fill an	d was not excavated due to its	Width (m)	2	
date. All	of which I	ay over n	atural ge	ology of sand.	Avg. depth (m)	0.57	
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date	
No.		(m)	(m)				
300	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-	
301	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-	
302	Layer	-	0.10	Made ground or subsoil?	-	-	
303	Fill	2+	20+-	Terrace fill, mid brownish	Clay pipe	-	
				grey silty sand			
304	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish			
				yellow sand			
305	Cut	1.12	?	Cut of modern pit, cuts 303			
306	Fill	1.12	?	Fill of modern pit			
307	Cut	2+	20+	Cut for terrace edge, vertical			
				sided and flat bottomed			

Trench 4								
General o	descriptio	Orientation	NE-SW					
Trench c	levoid of	archaeo	logy. Co	nsists of topsoil and subsoil	Length (m)	20		
overlying	natural g	eology of	sand.		Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.82		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
400	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-		
401	Layer	-	0.44	Subsoil	-	-		
402	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish yellow sand	-	-		

Trench 5		
General description	Orientation	E-W
	Length (m)	20



Trench c	levoid of	archaeo	nsists of topsoil and subsoil	Width (m)	1.8	
overlying	natural ge	Avg. depth (m)	0.36			
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
502	Cut	2.2	0.2+	Cut of steep sided ditch, abandoned after modern finds were recovered	-	-
503	Fill	2.2	0.2+	Dark reddish brown slightly silty clayey sand	Glass	Modern
504	Cut	2.8	0.08	Irregular treethrow cut in plan with shallow sides and irregular base		
505	Fill	2.8	0.08	Grey silty sand fill of 504		
506	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish yellow sand		

Trench 6						
General o	descriptio	Orientation	NE-SW			
Trench co	ontained	quite rich	archaec	ological remains including two	Length (m)	20
	•		-	one of which was modern. This	Width (m)	1.8
		tandard	topsoil a	n subsoil and lay over natural	Avg. depth (m)	0.40
geology c		ı	ı			
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
600	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural, light brownish yellow sand	-	-
603	Cut	0.9	0.42	Oval, slightly undercutting to vertical sided and flat bottomed pit, rich in finds	-	-
604	Fill	0.9	0.42	Dark yellowish brown clayey sand fill of 604	Pot, animal bone, glass beads, burnt stone	LIA-Early Roman
605	Cut	0.42	0.08	Cut of NW-SE orientated shallow ditch with open 'U' shaped profile	-	-
606	Fill	0.42	0.08	Greyish brown silty sand	Pot, CBM, metal, animal bone	Modern
607	Cut	1.28	0.08	Shallow dished cut of pit	-	-
608	Fill	0.98	0.08	Dark greyish brown basal fill in 608	-	-
609	Fill	1.03	0.08	Dump of large stones in upperpart of pit 607	Pot, animal bone	Late Roman



610	Cut	0.4d	0.08	Circular posthole cut, steep sided and flat-bottomed	-	-
611	Fill	0.4d	0.08	Dark brownish grey silty sand fill of 610	Pot, CBM, animal bone	Late Roman
612	Cut	0.4d	3	Circular posthole cut, unexcavated	-	-
613	Fill	0.4d	?	Dark brownish grey silty sand fill of 612	-	-
614	Cut	0.8d	?	Cut of pit, unexcavated	-	3
615	Fill	0.8d	?	Mottled dark brown/light yellow brown silty clayey sand fill of 614	Animal bone	?
616	Cut	0.8	?	Ditch cut orientated N-S, unexcavated, uncertain relationship with pit 612		
617	Fill	0.8	?	Dark greyish brown silty clayey sand fill of 616	Pot, animal bone, CBM	LIA- Roman

Trench 7								
General o	description	Orientation	WNW-					
						ESE		
Trench d	levoid of	archaeol	ogy. Cor	sists of topsoil, Victorian to	Length (m)	20		
modern	terracing	and subs	oil overl	ying natural geology of sand.	Width (m)	1.8		
Single lar	ge mortar	ium sher	d found i	n 7 02	Avg. depth (m)	1.3		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-		
701	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-		
702	Layer	-	0.4	Made ground/terrace fill	Roman pot	Modern		
703	Layer	-	0.48	Made ground/terrace fill		Modern		
704	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish	-	Modern		
				yellow sand				
705	Cut	2+	0.88	Terrace cut	-	Modern		

Trench 8	Trench 8								
General o	description	Orientation	E-W						
Trench co	ntained a m	nodern gr	eenhous	e and destruction layers atop	Length (m)	20			
it. Below	this was a t	errace cu	ut of prol	bable Victorian-modern date	Width (m)	1.8			
cutting a	natural geol	ogy of sa	nd.		Avg. depth (m)	0.25			
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
800	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-			
801	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-			
802	Layer	-	-	Natural, light brownish	-	-			
				yellow sand					
803	Structure	1.5+	0.30	Greenhouse structure with	Modern (not	Modern			
		retained)							
804	Fill	0.3	0.25	Backfill in 805	Modern (not	Modern			
					retained)				



805	Cut	0.3	0.25	Cut for concrete		Modern
003	Cut	0.5	0.23	foundations 806		Wiodeiii
806	Structure	0.3	0.22	Concrete foundations 'L'	Modern (not	Modern
				shaped in side elevation	retained)	
807	Layer	1.5+	0.1	Backfill in greenhouse	Modern (not	Modern
					retained)	
808	Layer	2+	0.01	Thin material laid over		Modern
				Greenhouse structure		
809	Layer			Pebble sand and modern	Modern (not	Modern
				detritus backfill over 808	retained)	
810	Cut	10+	0.5	Probable terrace cut below		Modern?
				greenhouse 806		
811	Fill	10+	0.5	Mixed and layered fill of	Modern china	Modern?
				810, redeposited natural	pot (not	
				and fill, dark yellowish	retained)	
				brown silty clayey sand		
812	Cut	0.35	0.1	Cut of vertical sided and		Modern
				flat-bottomed feature, cuts		
				811		
813	Fill	0.35	0.1	Dark blackish grey silty	Coke, clinker	Modern
				sand fill of 812	(not retained)	

Trench 9								
General o	description	n			Orientation	N-S		
Trench c	levoid of	archaeo	logy. Co	nsists of topsoil and subsoil	Length (m)	20		
overlying	natural ge	eology of	sand.		Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.52		
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
900	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-		
901	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-		
902	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish	-	-		
				yellow sand				

Trench 10	Trench 10							
General o	description	n			Orientation	E-W		
Trench de	evoid of a	rchaeolo	gy. Consi	sts of topsoil, demolition layer	Length (m)	20		
containin	g modern	material	s and sul	osoil overlying natural geology	Width (m)	1.8		
of clayey	sand.				Avg. depth (m)	0.55		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1000	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-		
1001	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-		
1002	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish	-	-		
		yellow clayey sand						
1003	Layer	-	0.2	Made ground/demolition	Brick, glass (not	Modern		
				layer below 1000	retained)			

Trench 11



General o	descriptio	Orientation	NE-SW			
Trench c	ontained	Length (m)	20			
made gro	und and a	lluvium c	verlying	natural geology of clayey sand.	Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
1100	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	0.13	Made ground, redeposited	-	-
				natural and subsoil mix		
1103	Layer	-	0.09	Light grey silty sand, charcoal	-	-
				flecks, possible alluvium		
1104	Fill	1.03	0.11	Light brownish grey silty		
				sand upper fill in ditch 1106		
1105	Fill	1.3	0.15	Dark yellowish brown silty	CBM	
				sand lower fill in ditch 1106		
1106	Cut	1.48	0.22	Possible NW-SE ditch	-	-
1107	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish	-	-
				yellow clayey sand		

Trench 12								
General o	description	Orientation	NE-SW					
Trench de	evoid of a	rchaeolog	gy. Consis	sts of topsoil, subsoil and thick	Length (m)	30		
alluvium.					Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	?		
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-		
1201	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-		
1202	Layer	-	?	Natural, not reached	-	-		
1203	Layer	-	0.4	Alluvium, pale blueish grey	-	-		
				clayey sand				
1204	Layer	-	0.22	Alluvium, mid grey green	-	-		
1205	Layer	-	0.18+	Alluvium, light grey clayey	-	-		
				sand				

Trench 13								
General o	description	Orientation	NE-SW					
Trench o	pened to i	dentify c	emetery	limits. Revealed terrace edge,	Length (m)	13		
service c	hannel cu	t into ba	ase of te	rrace prevented examining if	Width (m)	1.8		
terrace w	as man m	ade. No a	archaeold	ogy or finds.	Avg. depth (m)	0.58		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1300	Layer	-	0.43	Topsoil	-	-		
1301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-		
1302	Layer	-	?	Natural, light brownish yellow clayey sand	-	-		



1303	Layer	3.5	?	Terrace, light yellow clayey	-	-
				sand		

Trench 14						
General o	description	Orientation	NE-SW			
Trench o	pened to i	dentify c	emetery	limits. Revealed terrace edge,	Length (m)	20
and sam	e service	channel	as Tren	ch 13. One other service in	Width (m)	1.8
southern	half caus	ed trenc	h to be	expanded into a 'T' to see if	Avg. depth (m)	0.50
feature v	was a gra	ve. Cons	iderable	modern disturbance but no		
archaeolo	ogy or find	s.				
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
1400	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural, light brownish yellow clayey sand	-	-
1403	Cut	0.55	?	Service cut running NW-SE, trench expanded to prove it was not a grave	-	-
1404	Fill	0.55	?	Fill of 1403, mixed sandy clay and topsoil/subsoil	-	-
1405	Layer	4.5	?	Alluvium, pale greyish blue sandy clay	-	-

Trench 15						
General o	description	Orientation	NE-SW			
Trench o	pened to i	identify c	emetery	limits. Revealed terrace edge,	Length (m)	15
and same	service c	hannel as	Trench 1	13. No archaeology or finds.	Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date
No.		(m)	(m)			
1500	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural, light brownish	-	-
				yellow clayey sand		
1503	Layer	5.5	?	Alluvium, pale greyish blue	-	-
				sandy clay		
1504	Layer	4.5	?	Terrace, light yellow clayey	-	-
				sand		



APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Kate Brady

Introduction

- B.1.1 A total of 63 sherds (1357g) of pottery was recovered. The assemblage was scanned to identify diagnostic forms and fabrics, provide spot-dates, and make recommendations for the treatment of the material. Roman-period fabrics were assigned codes from OA's standard recording system for later Iron Age and Roman pottery (Booth 2016). Reference was also made to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (NRFRC; Tomber and Dore 1998). The single medieval sherd was identified by John Cotter.
- B.1.2 Each context-group was quantified by sherd count and weight (grammes), and any rims present were additionally quantified by estimated vessel equivalent (EVE), which measures the proportion of rim that survives (thus, 0.3 equals 30%).
- B.1.3 The following late Iron Age and Roman fabrics were noted (NRFRC codes and in brackets):
 - E80 Late Iron Age to early Roman grog-tempered ware (SOB GT)
 - E810 Late Iron Age to early Roman grog and sand-tempered ware
 - F51 Oxfordshire red/brown colour-coated ware (OXF RS)
 - M22 Oxfordshire white ware mortaria (OXF WH)
 - O21 Sandy Oxfordshire oxidised ware
 - R30 Medium sandy reduced ware
 - W12 Oxfordshire fine white ware (OXF WH)
- B.1.4 The following medieval fabric was noted (codes in brackets after Mellor 1994)
 - East Wiltshire ware (OXAQ)

Description

Context	Sherds	Weight	Description	Spot-date
		(g)		
105	4	289	W12 body sherd, M22 (Young M12) O21 body, M22 prob M2/M3? Flange only	AD 180-200/240
106	25	497	F51 4 vessels; collared mortaria Young C97, Curving sided bowl with flat rim Young C47, bowl with fat bead rim (type not certain), small everted rim jar/bowl, W12 burnt exterior, M22 (Young type M22), R30 medium mouth jar with everted rim, R30 bow (Young R55?), W12 flagon rim and neck (Young W18.2 240-300)	AD 270-300



206	6	36	OXAQ cooking pot rim, residual? Roman M22	AD 1150-1350
			body sherd and O20 body sherds	
604	26	106	E80, E810 coarse body sherds	100BC - AD100
606	1	2	F51 Small body sherd trace of slip	240-410
611	1	2	F51 Small body sherd trace of slip	240-410
617	3	51	Rim and body sherd grog and occasional fossil	100 BC – AD 100?
	shell prob LIA and small glazed pc		shell prob LIA and small glazed pc CBM (roof	
			tile) fragment (AD1200-1500) intrusive?	
703	1	374	M22 (Young M2) large rim fragment	AD 100-170

Table 1: Description of the pottery by context

- B.1.5 Although the pottery was recovered from only eight contexts the dates of the context groups spanned the late Iron Age/early Roman period to the late Roman period and a single sherd dated to the medieval period.
- B.1.6 The earliest material are sherds in grog-tempered or grog-and-sand-tempered E wares (E80/E810) dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period (100 BC to AD 100). Only a broad date was possible for the majority of this material as only one rim sherd was present, from a handmade bowl/jar with stubby everted rim of late Iron Age date from context 617. This context also contained a small piece of glazed medieval roof tile, which may have been intrusive.
- B.1.7 Two contexts (105 and 703) contained material of middle Roman date and in both instances the dates were provided by Oxfordshire white ware mortaria (M22) (Young types M12 and M2).
- B.1.8 Late Roman material was recovered from contexts 106, 606 and 611. Context 106 contained the rims of four vessels in Oxfordshire colour-coated ware (F51) including a collared mortarium (Young C97), a curving-sided bowl with a flat rim (Young C47), a probable bowl with a bead rim and an everted rim from a small jar/bowl. This context also contained a straight-sided bowl (possibly Young type R55) and a disc-rimmed flagon in Young form W18. None of the late Roman forms need date to after AD 300.
- B.1.9 The only sherd of post-Roman material is a sherd of a medieval cooking pot (fabric OXAQ) from context 206.

Discussion

- B.1.10 The condition of the pottery is mixed. Surfaces are well preserved on some of the pottery, most notably on the large mortaria sherds, but on some of the colour-coated sherds the slip is very worn. The pottery has an overall mean sherd weight (weight divided by number of sherds) of 21.5g, indicating a well-preserved assemblage with low fragmentation and possibly suggesting that the material was deposited close to its point of initial discard, not far from a settlement.
- B.1.11 The pottery can be allocated to two phases. The late Iron Age to early Roman E wares were found without accompanying Romanised wares, perhaps suggesting that they date to the pre-conquest period although this is not conclusive, and they could date to up to around AD 100.
- B.1.12 The material also suggests that there was activity in the middle and late Roman periods with the material from the Oxford industry being particularly well represented. The



site is located close to several of the kiln sites making the M2 mortaria (Littlemore) and the M12 mortaria (Cowley).

B.1.13 Overall, the pottery indicates Roman activity in the area, in both the late Iron Age to early Roman and middle to late Roman periods.

B.2 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

- B.2.1 A single struck flint was recovered from this evaluation from Roman ditch fill 106. The piece was a very narrow bladelet form with parallel negative scars but lacked its bulbar end. The type of bladelet and the quality of its manufacture defines it as early prehistoric, with a broad range of possible dates spanning the upper Palaeolithic through to the Neolithic period, but a date range between the Mesolithic and early Neolithic is most likely.
- B.2.2 The assemblage suggests only a very limited presence or flint-related activity here during early prehistory. Early prehistoric activity is well known around the Oxford area and it is likely that much of the landscape was exploited in one way or another. Some of this activity may have been very limited in scope or did not directly involve flint-related activity. Both options would readily explain the near total lack of flint here.

Methodology

B.2.3 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan *et al.* 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

Context	type	sub-type	notes	date
106	bladelet		Distal bladelet segment displaying very parallel edges and negative scars	EPH

Table 2: Flint



B.3 Ceramic building material and fired clay

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction

- B.3.1 A small quantity of ceramic building material (CBM) amounting to 11 fragments weighing 360g and a single fragment of fired clay (FC) weighing 22g were recovered from Trenches 1, 2, 6 and 11. The assemblage consists of small fragments of Roman and medieval date, poorly preserved with a low mean fragment weight of 33g. The assemblage has been spot dated and a brief record made in the table below.
- B.3.2 The single fragment of fired clay (ctx 604) forms a slightly curving slab 23mm thick, smooth on the convex side and rough on the opposite surface. Its form suggest it could be a thick curved tile, but the fabric is atypical of ceramic building material and the early date of associated pottery of 1st centuries BC/AD would also point to it being fired clay rather than tile.
- B.3.3 The Roman CBM was made in red-orange coarse sandy fabric (fabric C) apart from one piece in a fine clay fabric (D). Both fabrics are similar to those commonly found in the Oxford region. Two fragments of imbrex were recovered from context 105 and two pieces of thick flat tile, probably brick, from context 106. Indeterminate fragments probably of Roman date were recovered from contexts 606 and 1105.
- B.3.4 A fragment of medieval peg tile was found in context 206, where it was associated with pottery of 12th-14th century date. The tile was made in Oxford fabric IVA/B and dates to the 14th-15th century.
- B.3.5 The tile provides evidence of Roman and medieval activity within the evaluation area. The quantity of material and size of fragments suggests activity represented was either peripheral to any settlement or distributed to more outlying areas through agricultural activity and cultivation.

Ctx	Nos	Wt g	Date	Fabric	Form	Description	Size
105	1	60	RB	C; MS: M	Imbrex	Rough irregular concave lower surface; upper surfaces has sheared off	Th: 14mm +
105	1	25	RB	C; MS: M	Imbrex	Edge sherd with smooth outer surface, rough underside and rough concave edge with lipped arrises. Slight burning on edge and more heavily burnt on small section of broken edge	



106	2	197	RB	C; MS: M; C-G	Brick /Flat tile	Two edge fragments one heavily overfired to a purple/blue-grey colour. Smooth upper surfaces, rough sanded bases and edges.	Th: 31, 38mm
206	3	29	C14- C15	OX: IVA/B	Peg tile	Joining fragments with a smooth upper surface, rough edge but the lower surface is mostly missing. A very small section of circular peg hole survives.	Th: 16mm
604	1	22	LIA- ERB	Light brown sandy with quartz and alluvial limestone sand	FC Slab	Slightly curving slab with smoother convex surface and rougher concave surface.	Th: 23mm
606	1	19	RB?	C; MS: C	Indet	Fragment with two flat sanded surfaces forming edge and base of a tile. Upper surface is missing and form not identifiable	
1105	1	15	RB?	D; MS: C	Indet	Fragment with flat even base coated in rose quartz moulded sand. Form uncertain, but probably Roman.	TH: >27mm
Total	12	382					

Table 3: Record of the CBM and fired clay assemblage

B.4 Metals

By Ian R Scott

B.4.1 There is just one metal fragment from context 606.

Context 606 (1) Small triangular fragment, broken at the wider thin flat end, with slightly arched and thickened point at the other end. Function uncertain. Fe. L extant: 23mm; W: 9mm.
--



B.5 Glass

By Ian R Scott

B.5.1 Two glass beads were recovered from a soil sample from context 604. The beads could be late Iron Age or Roman.

Context 604	(1)	Bead. Bun-shaped glass bead in cobalt blue glass. L: 7.5mm; D: 13.5mm.	
	(2)	Bead. Small annular bead in pale blue glass. L: 2mm; D: 5.3mm	

B.6 Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

- B.6.1 A total of ten pieces of stone were retained and submitted for analysis. Eight of these are burnt and unworked (see Table 4). One is unworked (206) and one is a possible quern fragment (105, 195g). It has part of a possible worked surface and is of a known quern material (slightly ferruginous and gritty Culham Greensand).
- B.6.2 The burnt and unworked stone can be discarded. The possible quern fragment should be retained for potential future analysis.

Ctx	Weight (g)	No.	Notes
604	765	6	Reddened and heat cracked quartzite cobbles
106	283	2	Reddened quartzitic sandstone

Table 4: Burnt unworked stone

B.7 Clay tobacco pipes

By John Cotter

- B.7.1 A single piece of clay pipe weighing 2g was recovered. Given the small amount this has not been separately catalogued but is fully described below.
- B.7.2 **Context 303 Spot-date: 19th century**. Description: 1 piece of pipe stem (2g). Length 34mm. Slender 19th-century type stem in a clean white fabric, with a stem bore diameter of 1.8mm. Fairly fresh condition although one of the broken ends is covered with a rusty brown staining.
- B.7.3 The pipe is really only of use for dating and has little potential for further analysis. As it has been adequately recorded it could be discarded.



B.8 Coal and clinker

By Geraldine Crann

Context	Description	
606	2 fragments of coal, 9g.	
609	2 fragments of clinker, 12g.	

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APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Richard Palmer

Introduction

C.1.1 A bulk sample, of 40 litres, was taken from the evaluation, primarily for the retrieval and assessment of charred plant remains and the recovery of bones and artefacts. Sample 1, from fill 604 of pit 603, is potentially Roman in date and was composed of a dark yellowish brown sandy silt loam (Munsell colour 10YR 4/4), with rare sub-rounded pebbles.

Method

C.1.2 The sample was processed in its entirety using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine. The flot was collected in a 250 μ m mesh and heavy residue in a 500 μ m mesh and dried. The residue fractions were sorted by eye and with the aid of a magnet while the flot material was sorted using a low power (x10) binocular microscope to extract cereal grains and chaff, smaller seeds and other quantifiable remains.

Results

C.1.3 A 50ml flot was recovered from the sample which consisted of a mixture of charcoal, charred plant remains and modern roots (Table 5). Recovered grain was often fragmentary though several specimens could be identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.). Other identified seeds were those common to disturbed or cultivated land such as dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). The heavy residue produced pottery, animal bone and two glass beads.

Discussion

C.1.4 The recovered material whilst being of limited interpretive value does indicate that charred material survives on the site and can be recovered in reasonable quantities. The preservation of the material was mixed with heavily fragmented and unidentifiable material being recovered alongside intact seeds in good condition.

Recommendations

- C.1.5 In general, if further excavation is carried out it is recommended that sampling should take place, ideally from a range of features across the site. This sampling should be carried out in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (eg Oxford Archaeology 2017 and English Heritage 2011).
- C.1.6 The flot warrants retention until all works on the site are complete although at this stage it is not expected that further work will be required on the material.



Sample no.	Context no.	Area/Trench	Feature/Dep osit	Date	Sample vol. (L)	Flot vol. (ml)	Charcoal >2mm	Grain	Chaff	SpeeW	Molluscs	Other	Notes
1	604	Tr 6	603	RB	40	50	+++	++	+	++			10YR 4/4 sandy silt loam. Frequent modern roots.

Table 5: Charred material

Key: +=present (up to 5 items), ++=frequent (5-25), +++=common (25-100), ++++=abundant (100+)

C.2 Animal bone

By Lee G. Broderick

Introduction

- C.2.1 A total of 201 animal bone specimens were recovered from the site (Table 6), most of which were collected by hand. An environmental sample was also taken from context 604 and was sieved at 10mm, 4mm, 2mm and 0.5mm fractions.
- C.2.2 The material was assessed on a context level basis in line with current guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019), i.e. no material has yet been recorded in full.
- C.2.3 Taxonomy follows Wilson and Reeder (2005) for mammals. The word 'caprine' is used when referring to an animal that may be a sheep or a goat.

Description

- C.2.4 Preservation of bone was moderate. The assemblage is dominated by domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) specimens, with pig (*Sus domesticus*) being the second most commonly occurring species, slightly more common than caprine (sheep [*Ovis aries*] and/or goat [*Capra hircus*]) (Table 6). This dominance is reflected in the potential for ageing and biometric data contained in the assemblage, with domestic cattle having nine specimens which could provide ageing estimates, either through epiphyseal fusion data or mandibular wear stage, and caprine having just one (Table 7).
- C.2.5 Two of the specimens have been gnawed by canids, suggesting that dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*) was also present on the site.

Conclusions

C.2.6 Assemblages dominated by domestic cattle in Roman Oxfordshire are common and this assemblage fits that pattern. Having more pig than caprine in an assemblage is unusual, however, with large proportions of pig being more commonly associated with military sites at this time (King 1999). That said, the position of pig as the second most common species by NISP in this assemblage owes as much to the relative scarcity of caprine as it does to the frequency of pig. Combining this assemblage with a larger



sample, from future phases of excavation, will be important in providing data to interpret the relative importance that these animals had in the economy of the site and, therefore, how it fit into the wider society of Roman Oxfordshire.

						100BC-	
	100BC-	AD180-	AD240-	AD270-	AD1150-	AD100	
	AD100	200/240	410	300	1350	(sieved)	Undated
domestic							
cattle	1	1		17			
caprine	2				1		
pig		4					1
small							
rodent						5	
Total							
NISP	3	5	0	17	1	5	1
Total							
NSP	8	53	4	90	20	5	21

Table 6: Total NISP (Number of Identified SPecimens) and NSP (Number of SPecimens) figures per period

	Butchery marks	Ageing	Biometric data	Sex
domestic cattle		9	2	
caprine		1		
Total	0	10	2	0

Table 7: Non-species data recorded from the specimens (NSP) in the assemblage



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APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name: Armstrong Road, Littlemore, Oxford

Site code: LIAR19

Grid Reference SP 5368 0215

Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: July 2019

Area of Site 2ha

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead,

Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Oxfordshire County Museum Service in due course, under the following accession

number: OXCMS:2019.102.

Summary of Results: The site had already been subject to two previous phases of

archaeological evaluations, in which two fragments of late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery were recovered along with a single undiagnostic flint flake. This phase of further trenching aimed to help contextualise these finds and assess the potential of the

remaining areas of the site.

The evaluation revealed fragments of a domestic landscape dating to the late Iron Age or more probably, the Roman period in the western field 1. The area had been heavily landscaped in modern times and it is possible that this may have sealed archaeological remains. To the east, in field 2, archaeological remains were very sparse with just one probable post-medieval ditch being identified. No evidence was found to suggest that the known post-medieval cemetery to the immediate north-east of the site extended into this area.

Based on the results of the evaluation the western area of the site within Trenches 1-6 is considered to have been a focus of late Iron

Age/Romano-British activity.

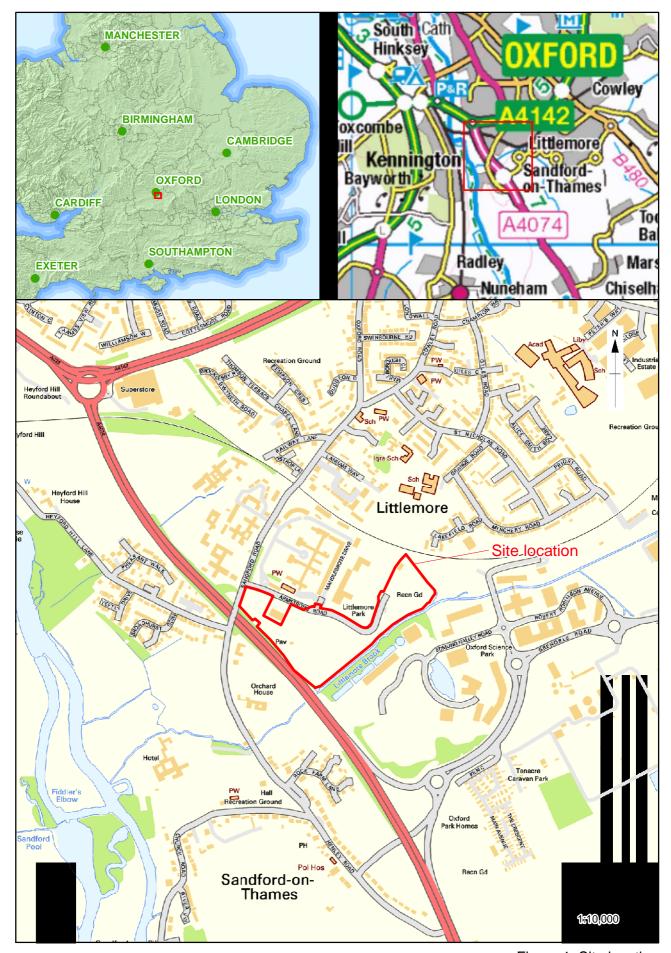
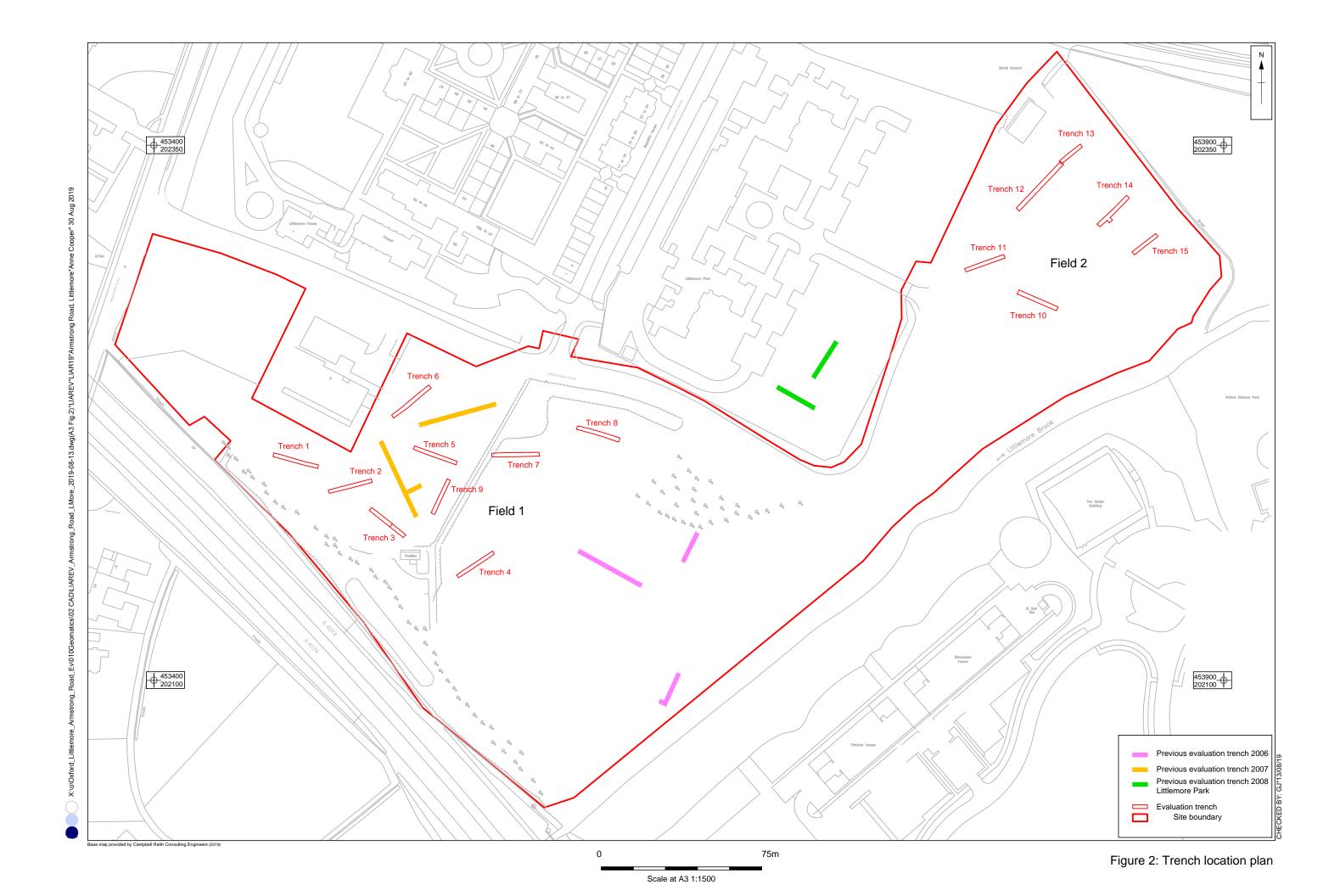
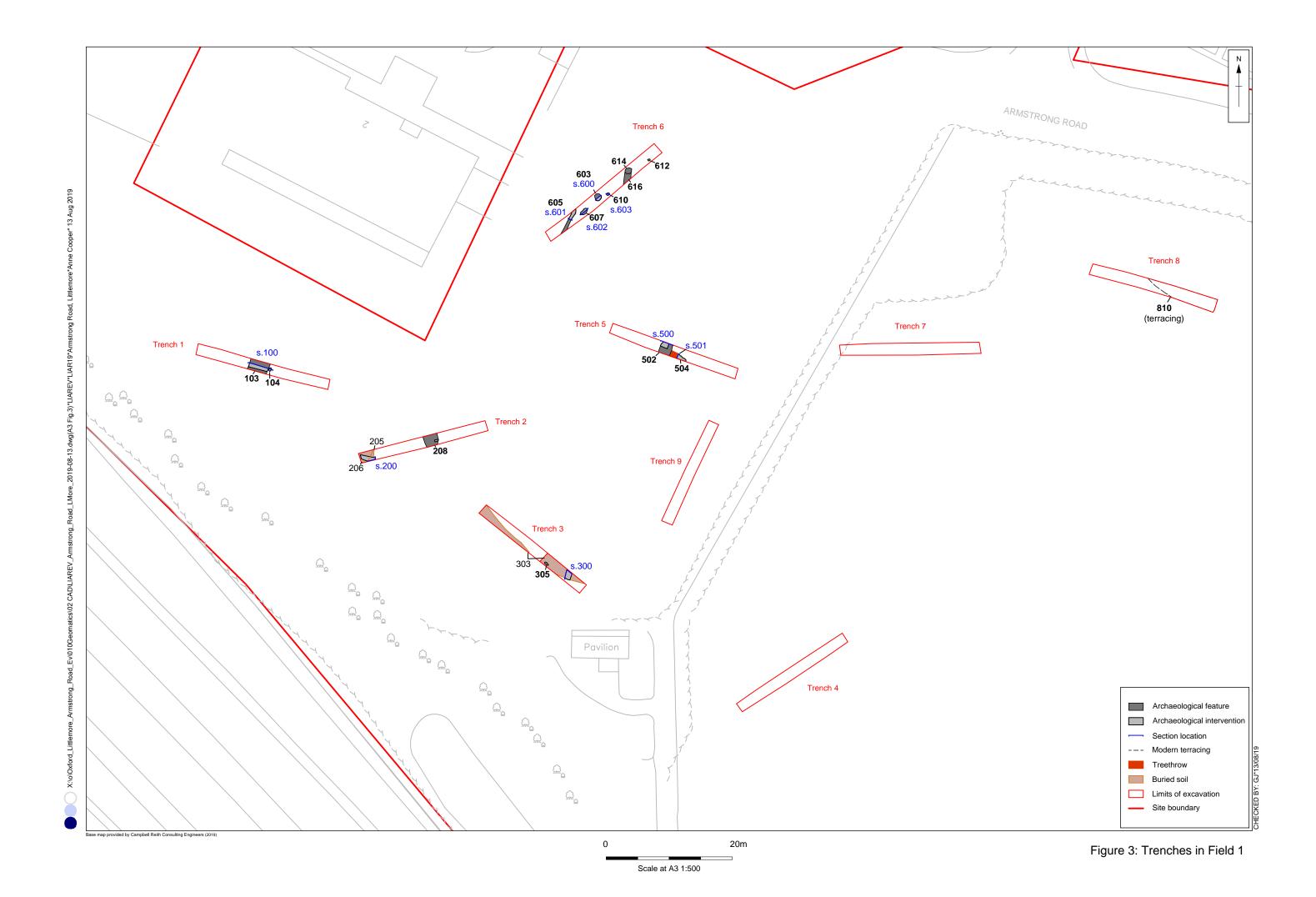
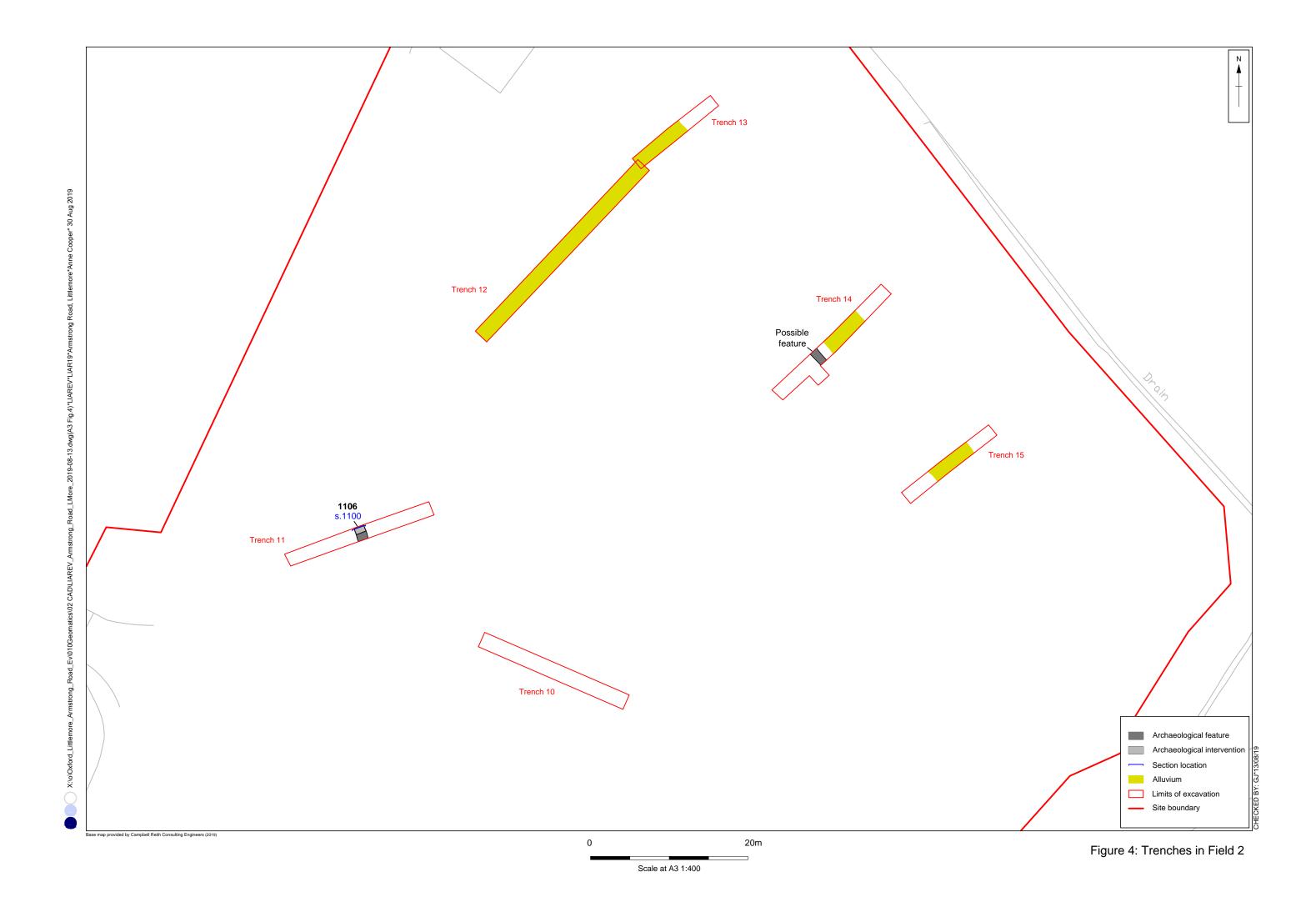


Figure 1: Site location





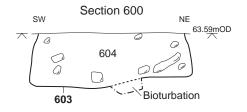


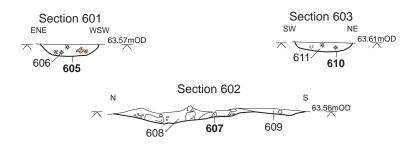
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Figure 5: Sections Trenches 1, 2 and 5

Pottery Charcoal





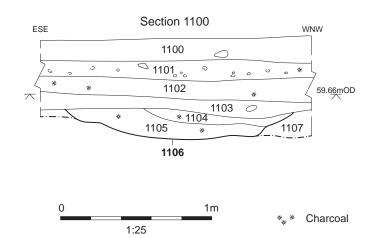


Figure 6: Sections Trenches 6 and 11



Plate 1: Trench 1 view to WNW



Plate 2: Trench 1, ditch 103 and posthole 104, view to north-west



Plate 3: Trench 6, view to NNE



Plate 4: Trench 6, pit 607, view to south-east



Plate 5: Trench 6, pit 603, view to north-west

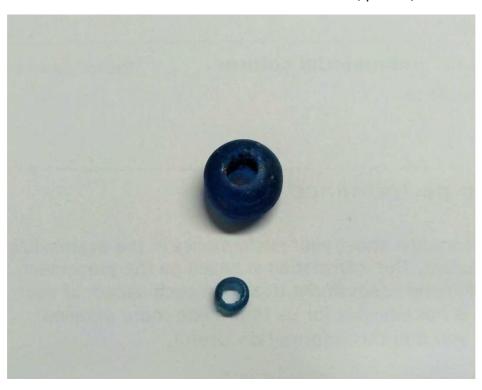


Plate 6: Trench 6, beads



Plate 7: Trench 11, view to west



Plate 8: Trench 11, ditch 1106, view to north





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