Crab Hill, Wantage Eastern Link Road

Archaeological Evaluation Report

June 2021

Client: St Modwen Homes

Issue No: 1

OA Reference No: 24769

NGR: SU 41949 88534

oxfordarchaeology

Client Name:	St Modwen Homes
Document Title:	Crab Hill, Wantage Eastern Link Road
Document Type:	Evaluation Report
Report No.:	1
Grid Reference:	SU 41949 88534
Planning Reference:	P13/V1764/O
Site Code:	WACHEL21
Invoice Code:	WACHELEV
Receiving Body:	Oxfordshire County Museum Service
Accession No.:	OXCMS:2021.13
OA Document File Location:	\\10.0.10.86\Projects\w\Wantage Crab Hill\WACHEL21 Report
OA Graphics File Location:	\\10.0.10.86\Projects\w\Wantage Crab Hill\ Geomatics
Issue No:	1
Date:	June 2021
Prepared by:	Paul Murray (Project Officer)
Checked by:	Gerry Thacker (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by:	John Boothroyd ((Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by:	David Score (Head of Fieldwork)
Signature:	

OA South
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North
Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com
Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627

Crab Hill, Wantage Eastern Link Road

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Paul Murray and Gerry Thacker

With contributions from Alex Davies, Michael Donnelly, Adrienne Powell and Ruth Shaffrey with illustrations by Gary Evans and Charles Rousseaux

Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

Summary

In May 2021 Oxford Archaeology carried out a trial trench evaluation to inform mitigation works ahead of the construction of a junction for the Wantage Eastern Link Road. The evaluation comprised two trenches and was targeted on the inner of two ovoid cropmarks. The evaluation revealed that the inner cropmark related to a ditch of late Bronze Age date which is provisionally interpreted as forming part of a hill top enclosure. A posthole within the enclosed area also contained late Bronze Age material. The outer enclosure, which was not investigated, may be of later Iron Age date as is the case with local examples at Taplow, Rams Hill and Wittenham.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank RPS on behalf of St Modwen Homes for commissioning this project. Thanks, are also extended to Steven Weaver who monitored the work on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Gerry Thacker. The fieldwork was directed by Paul Murray, who was supported by Mike Sims. Survey and digitising was carried out by Marjaana Kohtamaki. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Leigh Allen, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of St Modwen Homes to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of proposed junction improvements.

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. P13/V1764/O). Although the Local Planning Authority did not set a brief for the work, discussions between Richard Oram of OCC and Gerry Thacker of OA established the scope of work required. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies to the east of Wantage where the A417 Reading Road meets an unnamed farm access road from the south (Fig. 1).

1.2.2 The area of proposed development includes the carriageways of both roads and the area surrounding their junction. Most of the available area is located within the north-east of the site (Fig. 1).

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Upper Greensand, calcareous sandstone and siltstone laid down 94 to 113 million years ago. The east of the site is mapped as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation – Chalk, a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 94 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS Online).

1.3 Archaeological and historical

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the wider Crab Hill site has been described in detail in a desk-based assessment (DBA; OA 2009), the results of which will not be repeated here.

1.3.2 Subsequent to the DBA, geophysical survey (WYAS 2012) and two phases of trial trenching (CA 2012; CA 2013) were carried out within the site (although excluding the area that is the subject of this document).

1.3.3 The first phase of evaluation was undertaken in the area where cropmark and geophysical survey evidence suggested the presence of buried archaeological remains (WYAS 2012; CA 2012). Archaeological features comprising gullies and ditches were recorded in all trenches. Finds of pottery within the features dated from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age through to the later Roman period. A total of seven Roman coins were recovered by metal detection of spoil heaps, one of mid-3rd-century AD date, the others from the 4th century AD. A small assemblage of animal bone was also recovered from the excavated features (CA 2013).

1.3.4 The second phase of trenching identified features dating from the late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval period. Initially identified by the geophysical survey, two main concentrations of archaeological activity were located in the western part of the proposed development area, the presence of the remains was confirmed through the

trenching and dated to the early to middle Iron Age. Some of the features were substantial in size and did not appear on the geophysical survey, one of which was a possible boundary which was in use into the Saxon period (CA 2013).

1.3.5 In 2018 an excavation of some 2.4 hectares was undertaken focused on trenches from the phase 1 evaluation (CA 2012). The excavation (Allen 2020) identified the first clear evidence of settlement remains as dating from the earliest Iron Age. The settlement appears to have been established in the 8th or 7th century BC, represented by a large post-built roundhouse containing All Cannings Cross pottery. A further five post-built roundhouses and six roundhouses defined by penannular ditches dated to the earliest or early Iron Age. A further post-built roundhouse was not dated, but probably stood during this phase. Also dated to the earliest/early Iron Age were two adjacent linear pit groups, a four-post structure, and nine pits including one that contained an infant burial, and the disarticulated bones of one or more juveniles. A total of 15 roundhouses defined by penannular ditches dated to the middle Iron Age, alongside 12 pits, a four-post structure and several linear features. Another four-post structure, a possible six-post structure, 19 pits and other minor features were broadly dated as 'Iron Age' (pertaining to either the early or middle Iron Age). Late Iron Age activity was represented by a substantial circular enclosure that may have surrounded a building.

1.3.6 The site was significantly reorganised early in the Roman period. Two rectilinear enclosures and minor subsidiary enclosures were established, with a ditch cutting and possibly purposefully slighting the late Iron Age circular enclosure. The Roman enclosures were recut multiple times throughout the following centuries and the organisation of the site remained remarkably consistent until it was abandoned at the end of the 4th century AD. A middle Roman corn drier and two late Roman corn driers were discovered, along with two late Roman wells. A fragment of a quern made from raw material quarried in the Channel Islands or northern France was also discovered.

1.3.7 One early Saxon sunken-featured building was discovered, probably dating to the 6th or 7th century. This phase of occupation is not likely to have immediately followed on from the Roman settlement. The later medieval period saw the site come under arable cultivation, signified by the presence of numerous furrows. The land may have been farmed from medieval Wantage and a trackway of late 15th–16th-century date was found to extend southwards towards the town.

1.3.8 The current evaluation is targeted on cropmarks described in the DBA as "*NMR 130401 An irregular curvilinear enclosure, of unknown date, visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. The enclosure, although incomplete, measures 235m by 145m and appears to be defined by two broadly spaced ditches. Possible Iron Age defended enclosure*" (OA 2009, p iii). The cropmarks are shown in entirety on Figure 5.

GENERAL AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

1.4 Aims

1.4.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive,
ii. To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains,
iii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
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, and
ix. To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

1.5 Specific aims and objectives

1.5.1 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

i. To ground truth the results of the recorded crop marks.

1.6 Methodology

1.6.1 The evaluation comprised two trenches, each measuring 30m x 1.8m laid out as shown on Figure 2. All work was undertaken in accordance with the written scheme of investigation produced by OA (OA 2021) and approved by Richard Oram, Lead Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council, and in accordance Chartered Institute for Archaeology standards and guidance (CIFA 2014).

1.6.2 Site specific methodologies were as follows:

ii. Trenches were set out by an OA surveyor using a GPS with a sub 50mm accuracy.
i. Trench locations were CAT scanned prior to and during machining excavation.
ii. Machine excavation was undertaken in 100mm spits by a suitably powerful machine, under constant archaeological supervision.
iii. Machining ceased at the top of the natural geology or significant archaeological horizon.
iv. Revealed features were sample excavated by hand and recorded (see Appendix A).
v. Once trenches had been signed off by the OCC Archaeologist they were backfilled with the arisings in reverse order of excavation.

2 RESULTS

2.1 Introduction and presentation of results

2.1.1 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.

2.2 General soils and ground conditions

2.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches differed slightly. In Trench 1 the geology of Upper Greensand was recorded towards the western end of the trench, whilst calcareous sandstone was recorded towards the eastern end of the trench. The Upper Greensand was overlain by a colluvial deposit, which was in turn overlain by a subsoil and a topsoil. In Trench 2 the geology comprised West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation overlain by a subsoil.

2.2.2 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 geology.

2.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

2.3.1 Archaeological features were present in both trenches.

2.4 Trench 1

2.4.2 Trench 1 was located on a relatively steep, west facing slope. The geological horizon at the eastern end of the trench was established at a depth of 0.28m (109.98m aOD), whilst at the western end of the trench the geological horizon was established at a depth of 0.61m (107.14m aOD). A colluvial deposit 0.15m thick, 1005, was recorded overlying the geology at the western end of the trench, and extended east for *c.* 10m. The colluvial deposit was overlain by a subsoil, 1001, which was 0.1m thick at the eastern end of the trench, thickening to 0.28m at the western end of the trench. The subsoil was overlain by the ploughsoil. A single ditch, 1004, aligned north-south, was recorded *c.* 10m from the western end of the trench.

2.4.3 Ditch 1004 was 3.4m wide and 0.4m deep and contained two fills, 1002 and 1003 (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 1). The primary fill, 1003, comprised friable, mid-dark grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks, and was 0.15m thick. Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from this deposit. The upper fill of the ditch, 1002, comprised a tenacious, mid grey-green silty clay, measuring 0.32m thick. This deposit also produced late Bronze Age pottery and animal bone from sheep or goat and horse.

2.4.4 The western extent of deposit 1002 was overlain by a colluvial deposit, 1005, (Fig. 2) which produced further late Bronze Age pottery and residual worked flints including a knife of probable late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date.

2.5 Trench 2

2.5.1 The geological horizon was established at a depth of 0.5m (112.25m aOD) and comprised West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation. A ditch, 204, aligned northwest-southeast, and a posthole, 202, were recorded cutting the geology (Plate 2).

2.5.2 Posthole 202 was located at the western end of the trench (Figs 2 and 4). It had a diameter of 0.33m and was 0.05m deep. It contained a single fill, 203, comprising moderately compact, mottled mid and dark grey silt, which produced a single sherd of late Bronze Age pottery.

2.5.3 Ditch 204 was located 5m to the east of the post-hole (Figs 2 and 4; Plate 3). The width of the ditch was not fully exposed within the trench due to its acute angle (7.5m exposed width in trench), although it has been estimated to be *c.* 4m. The depth of the ditch could not be established due to safety considerations, although it was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. Only the south-western side of the ditch was exposed, which was angled at around 45°. Based on this profile the ditch is estimated to be *c.* 2m in depth. Two fills 205 and 206 were exposed. The lowest fill, 205, measured over 0.4m thick and comprised a compact, mid grey silt, which represented edge, or possibly bank, erosion. It produced a single sherd of late Bronze Age pottery. Overlying 205, upper fill 206 was a compact, mid-dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, and measured over 0.58m thick. It produced a number of late Bronze Age or earliest Iron Age pottery sherds and animal bone from sheep and cattle.

2.6 Finds summary

2.6.1 Prehistoric pottery, generally of late Bronze Age date was recovered from all excavated contexts, although the sherds from the upper fill of ditch 204, (context 206) may be slightly later in date (see Appendix B.1). Struck flints, thought to be residual to their contexts were recovered from colluvial layer 1005 and ditch fill 205. Burnt, unworked sandstone fragments were present in ditch fill 1003, and animal bone was recovered from ditch fills 1002 and 206.

3 DISCUSSION

3.1 Reliability of field investigation

3.1.1 The evaluation was conducted in dry, bright conditions. The geological horizon was cleanly established, and the features were clearly identified.

3.2 Evaluation objectives and results

3.2.1 The specific objective of the evaluation was to ground truth recorded crop marks. This was successfully achieved in both trenches. The date range of the crop mark feature and the post-hole was established through artefactual evidence.

3.3 Interpretation

3.3.1 The cropmark in its entirety is defined by an outer ovoid measuring some 365m by 230m, and the inner ditch, which was investigated as part of this evaluation, measuring *c.* 245m by 150m (Fig. 5). Other linear and curvilinear cropmarks contained within the outer circuit may be related, although a third, short section of cropmark was not present within Trench 1 (see Fig. 2).

3.3.2 The evaluation trenches targeted the north-east and north-west sides of the inner enclosure. The western ditch is located on a relatively steep west-facing slope and closely follows the geological boundary between the Greensand and West Melbury Chalk recorded in Trench 1 (and shown of Figure 5). The north-eastern side of the enclosure is located on relatively flat ground.

3.3.3 The enclosure is probably defensive, utilising sloping topography to the west and the substantial ditch to the east. The cropmark as a whole (assuming that the inner and outer rings are related) may represent a late Bronze Age hilltop enclosure, and the ditches contain material of this date and enclose a raised area with good views over the surrounding area, especially to the west. Most examples are univallate, but morphologically similar, if slightly smaller. Examples at Rams Hill, Taplow, Buckinghamshire, located some six miles to the west of Wantage and at Castle Hill, Long Wittenham started off as single ditched enclosures in the late Bronze Age, with a larger outer circuit added in the Iron Age. Although the outer ditch of the Wantage example has not been investigated, it does form a good candidate for a hill top enclosure.

3.4 Significance

3.4.1 Few hilltop enclosures have currently been identified (Historic England 2018), and those at Taplow and Castle Hill, for example, have only been identified through fieldwork undertaken within the past 20 or so years (Allen et al 2010). Those hilltop enclosures that have been investigated appear to have had a defensive function and may have been sited to overlook field systems. Although the monument was previously known as a cropmark, the evaluation has provided additional evidence of its date and function. This has added to its significance.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a ditch of late Bronze Age date. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology greensand and sandstone. A band of colluvium was noted at the western end of the trench.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.5
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Fill	3.08	0.3	Upper fill of 1004.	Pottery. Animal bone. Worked flint.	LBA
1003	Fill	2.7	0.14	Primary fill of 1004.	Pottery. Animal bone. Worked flint.	LBA
1004	Cut	3.4	0.42	Ditch aligned north south.		
1005	Layer		0.12	Colluvium.	Pottery	LBA
1006	Layer			Sandstone geology.		
1007	Layer			Upper greensand geology.		

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench a ditch and posthole both of late Bronze Age date. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of chalk.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.5
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
202	Cut	0.33	0.05	Post-hole.	-	-
203	Fill	0.33	0.5	Fill of 202.	Pottery.	LBA
204	Cut	Est 4m	0.58 as seen	Ditch aligned northwest southeast.		
205	Fill		0.4	Edge/bank erosion. Fill of 204.	Pottery.	LBA
206	Fill		0.58	Upper fill of 204.	Pottery. Bone.	LBA-earliest IA
207	Layer			Compact, pale grey silt. Geology.		

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Prehistoric pottery

By Alex Davies

B.1.1 Some 29 sherds (265g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from six contexts across the two evaluation trenches. The assemblage is consistent and dates to the late Bronze Age, although it is possible that context 206 dates slightly later, to the earliest Iron Age.

B.1.2 The dominant fabric is medium grade flint with glauconitic sand, and this appeared in every context with pottery. A small number of sherds contained only flint, only glauconite, and flint with quartz sand.

B.1.3 Only two contexts contained diagnostic sherds. A shoulder was found in context 1002, and in context 206 a sharp shoulder angle decorated with a line of fingernail impressions in a flint and glauconite fabric was found, and a vessel with incised decoration of uncertain form in a glauconite fabric.

B.1.4 The assemblage can be readily compared with the material from the earlier excavations at Crab Hill, *c*. 1.6km to the north-west (Davies 2020). At these excavations, a small residual late Bronze Age assemblage and a larger assemblage covering the entirety of the Iron Age was found. The same flint and glauconitic sand fabric that dominates the present evaluation assemblage was the main fabric among the late Bronze Age assemblage at the earlier excavations. The earliest Iron Age assemblage at the Crab Hill excavations was more mixed, with shell, iron oxides, glauconitic sand and flint all present in appreciable quantities. The early and middle Iron Age assemblage was dominated by glauconitic sand. The fabric of the assemblage from the present evaluation compares closely with the late Bronze Age assemblage from the excavation.

B.1.5 Context 206 might date slightly later than the rest of the assemblage, to the earliest Iron Age. This is due to the presence of a vessel with a fabric containing only glauconitic sand, a sharp shoulder angle, and that two of the vessels are decorated. Although this might suggest a slightly later date, it is likely that this immediately succeeds the late Bronze Age activity. Context 206 is the upper fill of the enclosure ditch.

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Fabric	Spot-date	Comment
203	1	4	Flint+Glauc, med	LBA	Fired clay?
205	1	13	Flint+Glauc, med	LBA	
206	15	87	Flint+Glauc, med; Glauc, med; Flint, med	LBA / EstIA	Shoulder angle with fingernail decoration; incised decoration
1002	8	86	Flint+Glauc, med; Flint+Sand, med	LBA	Shoulder
1003	3	72	Flint+Glauc, med	LBA	
1005	1	3	Flint+Glauc, med	LBA	
TOTAL	**29**	**265**			

B.2 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

B.2.1 A very small assemblage of four pieces of flint was recovered from this evaluation. Two pieces were recovered from context 205 and two more from 1005. The lithics include one early blade form and a broken knife that most likely dates to the late Neolithic period but could also belong to a wider date range spanning the Neolithic to early Bronze Age. The flints were all quite fresh and while they may be residual, they could also indicate that the monument dates from a period in which flint-use was common such as the Neolithic or Bronze Age.

B.2.2 Context 205 was a ditch fill belonging to the main enclosure and contained a broken flake and a central segment from a probable blade form, both of which were in good condition. Context 1005 was a colluvial spread and as such may not be directly related to the enclosure. However, it may give an indication of other flint-using activities focused on that monument. It contained a side trimming flake and a broken knife of uncertain overall form. This had very typically shallow and multi-directional negative scars on its dorsal surface together with a heavily facetted platform that make it quite certain this was formed on a levallois flake. Although these may be more noted for their middle Palaeolithic connotations, they are also common in later Neolithic assemblages, especially for producing tool blanks as they tend to be very regular in form and are suited for invasive retouch flaking. It would seem very likely that this knife dates to that period although a broader date range encompassing the early Neolithic to early Bronze Age is also a possibility.

B.2.3 The lithics recovered are mostly undiagnostic but all could belong alongside the broken knife which is almost certainly Neolithic in date. The fact that these were recovered from a large enclosure could suggest that this is a significant Neolithic or early Bronze Age monument although as durable material the flints could also be residual.

B.2.4 Any further work in this area should expect to recover a considerable assemblage of struck flint. Should the enclosure prove to be Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date, this assemblage could be very large, especially so if the area proves to include features not easily detectable through evaluation such as isolated pits or pit clusters, or surface spreads/middens that are rarely preserved but could be here due to the presence of colluvial horizons noted in Trench 1.

Methodology

B.2.5 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
205	Blade	Misc trimming	Flint+Glauc, med	
205	Blade	Inner	Probable blade, mesial segment only	EPH
1005	Flake	Side trimming	Flake with multi-directional negative scars	
1005	Knife	Uncertain type	Probable knife on a laterally split levallois flake knife retouch/blunting and use around its surviving edge with shallow negative scars from multiple directions and a facetted platform	L Neo-EBA

B.3 Stone

Identified by Ruth Shaffrey

Context	Description
1003	Nine fragments of burnt limestone, 25g.

B.3.1 Nine fragments of burnt limestone weighing 25 grams were recovered from context 1003.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Adrienne Powell

C.1.1 Thirteen fragments of animal bone, weighing a total of 283g, were recovered from the evaluation. The material was in fair to good condition, some superficial damage from root etching was present but bone surfaces retained evidence of butchery and gnawing.

C.1.2 Context 1002 contained: a sheep/goat atlas vertebra with knife cutmarks on the dorsal surface and left side proximally, indicating removal of the head; seven fragments from a left proximal equid humerus, epiphysis fused; and a right horse upper first or second molar (L = 26.1mm, Br = 26.2mm). Measurement of the crown height of the tooth (Levine 1982) gave a figure of 59.2mm, with a resulting age estimate of 7-9 ½ years.

C.1.3 Context 206 contained: the distal half of a sheep first phalanx; a cattle proximal metatarsal shaft splinter, showing carnivore gnawmarks; two fragments of large mammal long bone shaft.

Recommendations regarding the conservation, discard and retention of material

C.1.4 No further information can be gained from these bones and retention in the archive is not recommended.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen, M, and Davies, A, 2020, Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon settlement at Crab Hill, near Wantage, Oxfordshire, Archaeological Excavation Report, Oxford Archaeology

Allen, T, Cramp, K, Lamdin-Whymark, H and Webley, L, 2010 Castle Hill and its Landscape. Oxford Archaeology Monograph **9**

Anderson-Whymark, H, 2015, the flint, in Allen, T, Barclay, A, Cromarty, A, M, Anderson-Whymark, H, Parker, A, Robinson, M, and Jones, G, Opening the wood, making the Land; The Archaeology of a Middle Thames Landscape, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age, Vol 1, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **38**

Bamford, H., 1985 Briar Hill: excavation 1974-1978, Northampton: Northampton Development Corporation. Archaeological monograph **3**

BGS Online, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

Bradley, P, 1999 The worked flint. In A. Barclay and C. Halpin. Eds. Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **11**: 211-227.

CIfA 2014, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Cotswold Archaeology, 2012, Land at Crab Hill: Phase 1, Wantage, Oxfordshire. Archaeological Excavation, Cotswold Archaeology Unpublished client report

Cotswold Archaeology, 2013, Land at Crab Hill: Phase 2, Wantage, Oxfordshire. Archaeological Excavation, Cotswold Archaeology Unpublished client report

Davies, A, 2020, Prehistoric pottery, in Allen, M, and Davies, A, Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon settlement at Crab Hill, near Wantage, Oxfordshire, Archaeological Excavation Report, Oxford Archaeology

Harding, P, 1990 The worked flint, in The Stonehenge environs project, (ed J C Richards) London, English Heritage

Healy, F, 1988 The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hil, North Elmham, Part VI: Occupation during the seventh to second Millennia BC, East Anglian Archaeological reports 38

Historic England, 2018, Enclosed Prehistoric Settlements.

Inizan, M.-L, Reduron-Ballinger, M, Roche, H and Tixier, J, 1999 Technology and terminology of knapped stone, Cercle de Recherches et d'Etudes Préhistoriques, CNRS, Nanterre

Levine, M A, 1982 The use of crown height measurements and eruption-wear sequences to age horse teeth, in *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites* (Wilson, B, Grigson, C, Payne, S, eds.*)*, BAR British Series 109, 223-250, Oxford

Onhuma, K and Bergman, C A, 1982 Experimental studies in the determination of flake mode, Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, London 19, 161-171

Oxford Archaeology, 2009, Crab Hill, Wantage: Desk-based assessment; Oxford Archaeology Unpublished client report

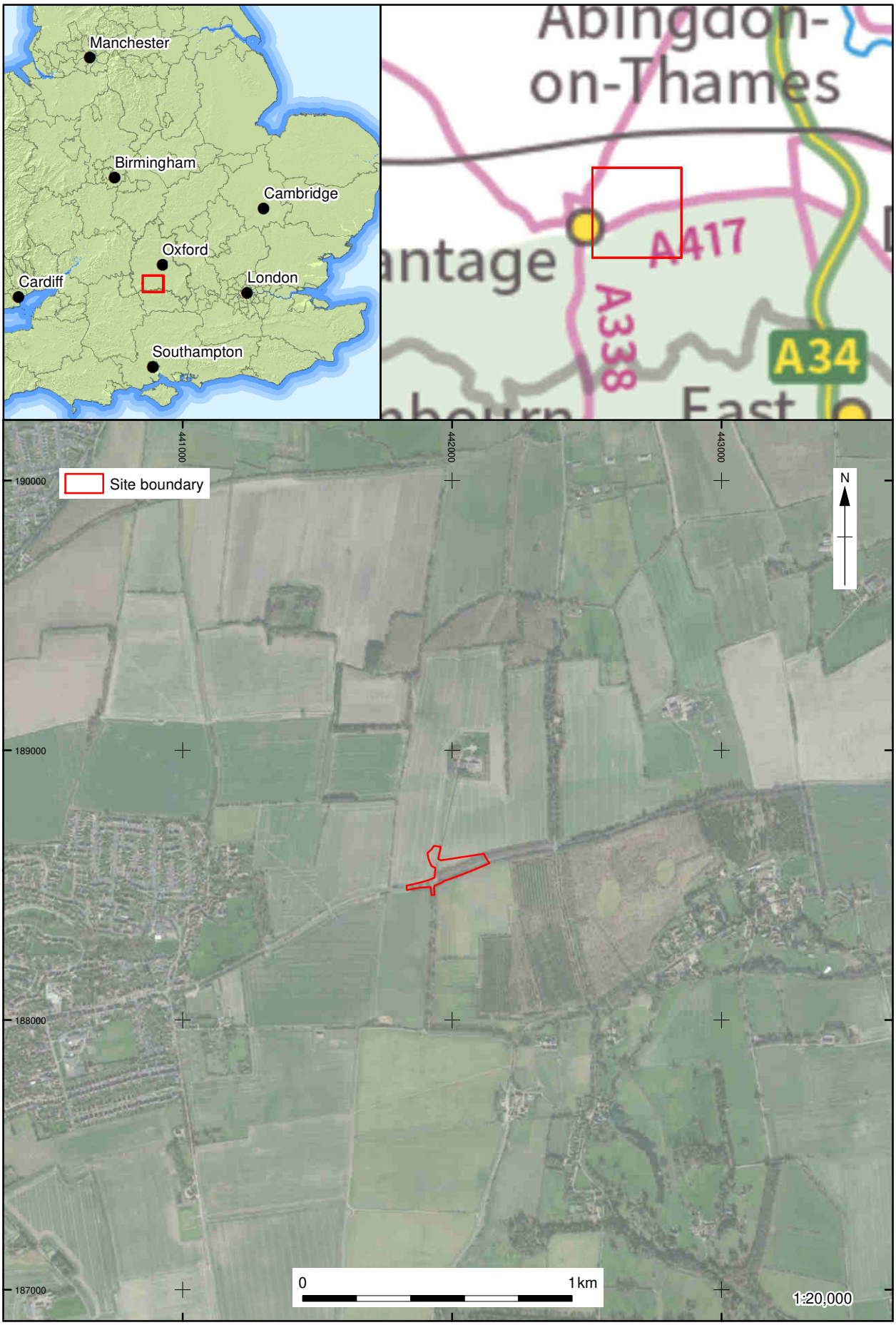
Oxford Archaeology, 2009, The Archaeology of the Gravel Terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames: Late Prehistory 1500 BC – AD 50

Oxford Archaeology 2021, Crab Hill, Wantage Eastern Link Road, written scheme of investigation; Oxford Archaeology, unpublished client report.

WYAS 2012, Crab Hill, Wantage, Oxfordshire. Geophysical Survey. West Yorkshire Archaeological Services. Unpublished client report

APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Wantage Crab Hill. Wantage Eastern Link Road
Site code:	WACHEL21
Grid Reference	SU 41949 88534
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	10th -12th May 2021
Area of Site	8000m²
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS:2021.13.
Summary of Results:	In May 2021 Oxford Archaeology carried out a trial trench evaluation to inform mitigation works ahead of the construction of a junction for the Wantage Eastern Link Road. The evaluation comprised two trenches and was targeted on the inner of two ovoid cropmarks. The evaluation revealed that the inner cropmark related to a ditch of late Bronze Age date which is provisionally interpreted as forming part of a hill top enclosure. A posthole within the enclosed area also contained late Bronze Age material. The outer enclosure, which was not investigated, may be of later Iron Age date as is the case with local examples at Taplow, Rams Hill and Wittenham.



X:\w\Wantage Crab Hill\Evaluation WELR\Geomatics\02_GIS Projects\Figures\WELR_Figure1.mxd*gary.jones*07/06/2021

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Figure 1: Site location

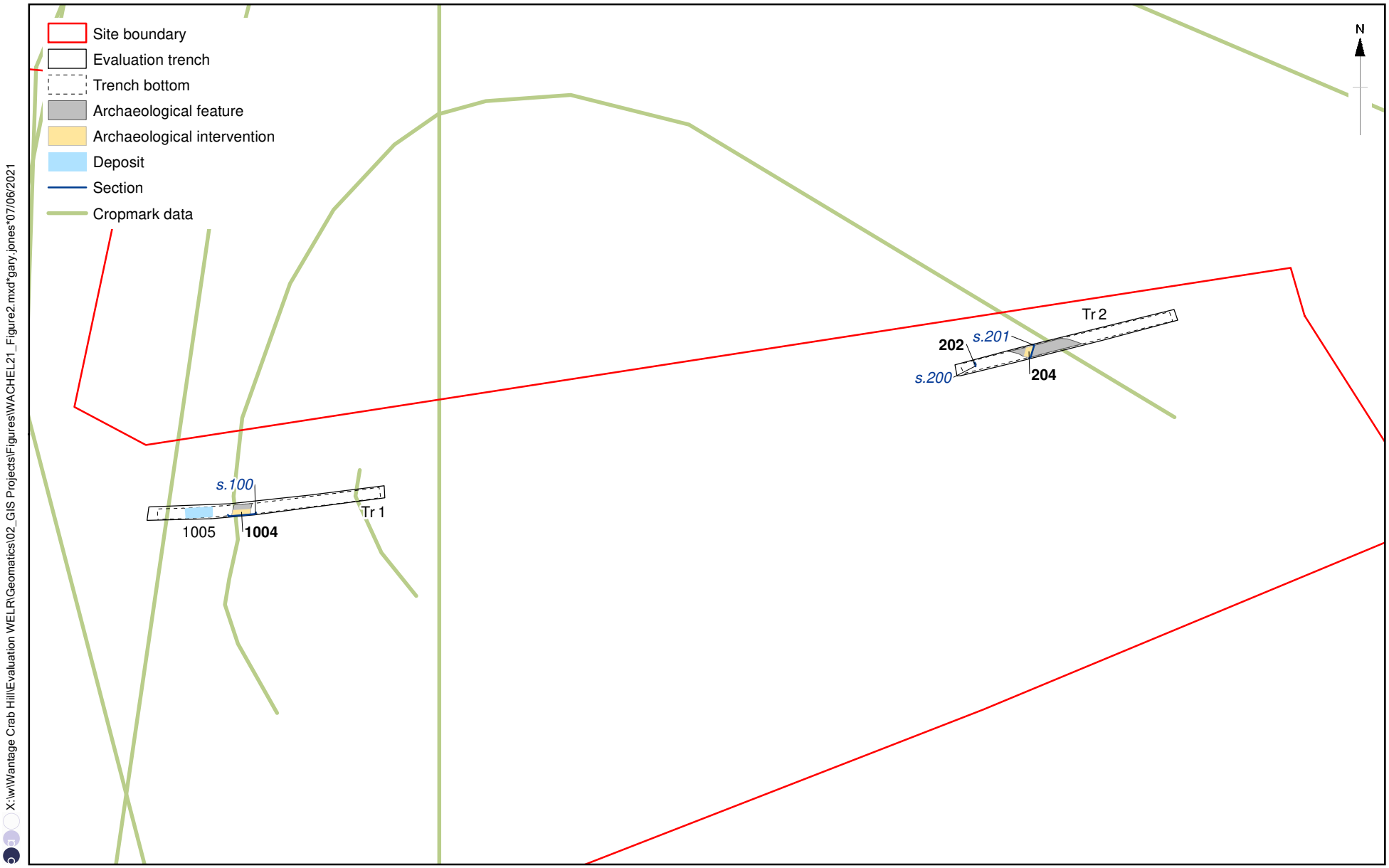


Figure 2: Trench locations with archaeology

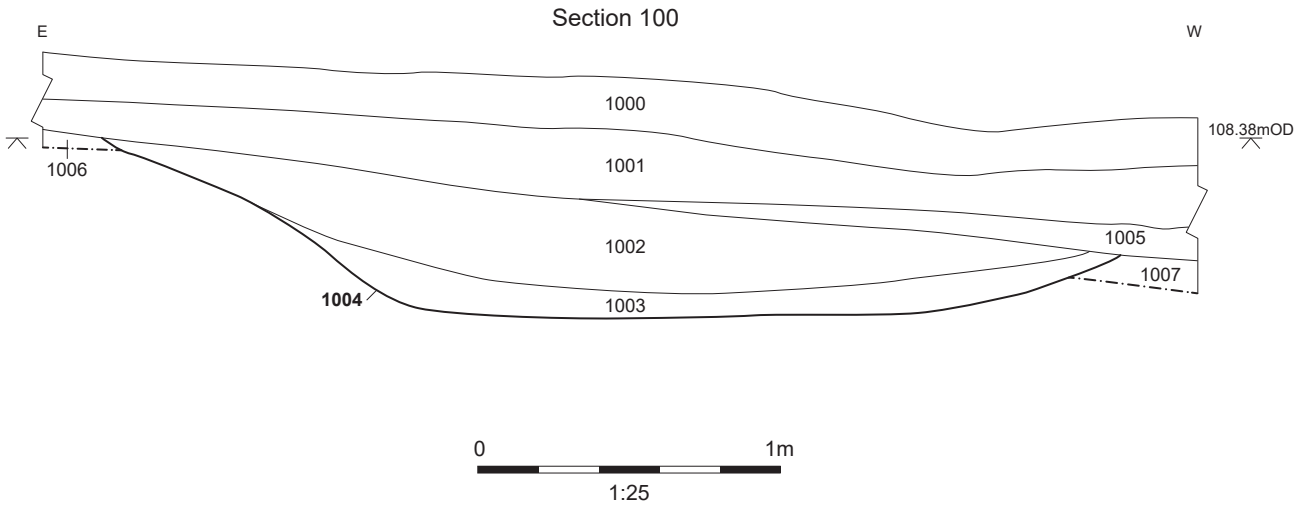
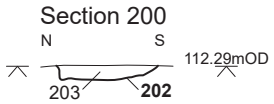


Figure 3



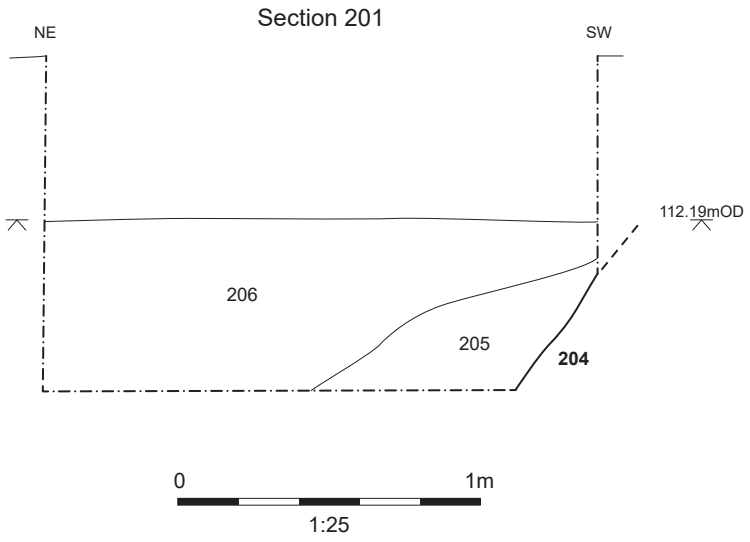


Figure 4

Fig. 5 Cropmarks, trenches and geology

Plate 1: Ditch 1004, Trench 1

Plate 2: Trench 2 view to ENE

Plate 3: Ditch 204, Trench 2

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com