

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT

WOLVERCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL,

FIRST TURN, WOLVERCOTE,

OXFORD

NGR SP49750977

*On behalf of
Carillion (AMBS) Limited*

SEPTEMBER 2016

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SUMMARY

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief at Wolvercote Primary School, First Turn, Wolvercote, Oxfordshire (NGR SP49750977). Groundwork consisted of ground reduction ahead of piling mat construction and landscaping associated with the proposed extension, in addition to a topsoil strip associated with the construction of a multi use games area (MUGA). During the works a series of linear enclosure ditches were recorded; two phases of activity were shown. The first was represented by two ditches of probable later Bronze Age or early Iron Age date which formed the north eastern corner of a regular sided enclosure. The second phase of activity was represented by a linear ditch, dated to the mid 1st century.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Fig. 1)

The development site is located at Wolvercote Primary School, off First Turn, Wolvercote on the west side of the railway line (NGR SP49750977). The site lies at approximately 66m OD and the geology is alluvium, with sand and gravel overlying mudstone. The land use before excavation was part hard school grounds and part playing field.

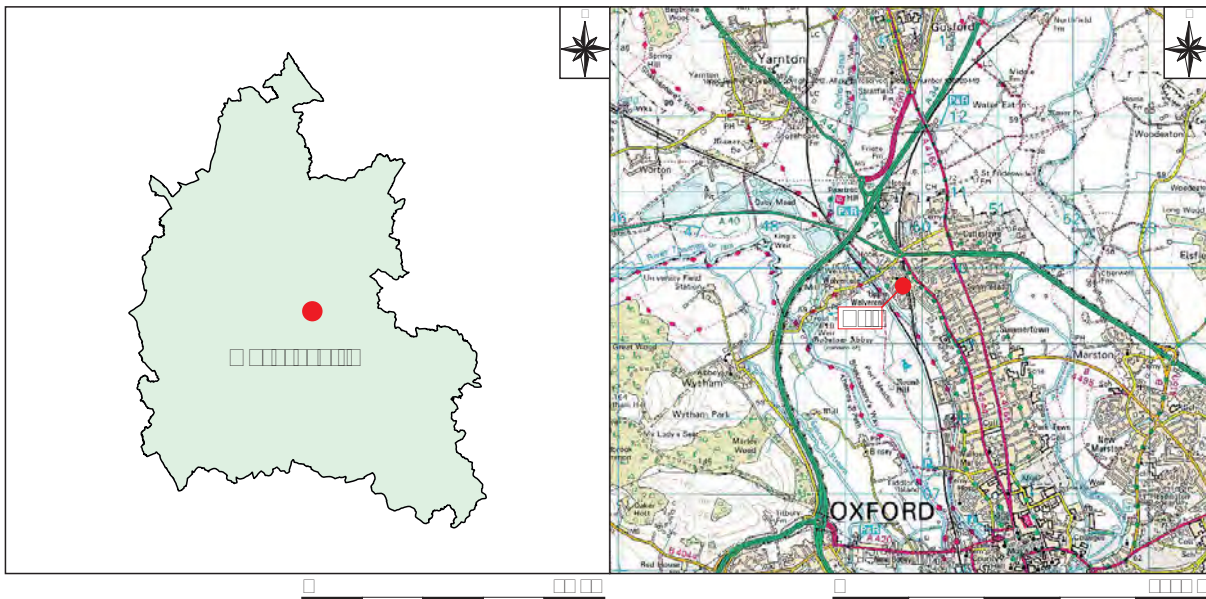
1.2 Planning Background

Oxfordshire County Council granted planning permission for the extension of the existing building to provide Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage classrooms, and external works to provide associated play areas and MUGA (R3.0053/14). Due to the archaeological and historical importance of the surrounding area a condition was attached to the permission requiring a watching brief to be maintained during the course of building operations or construction works on the site. This was in line with PPG 16 (the planning policy current at the time) and other Local Planning policies.

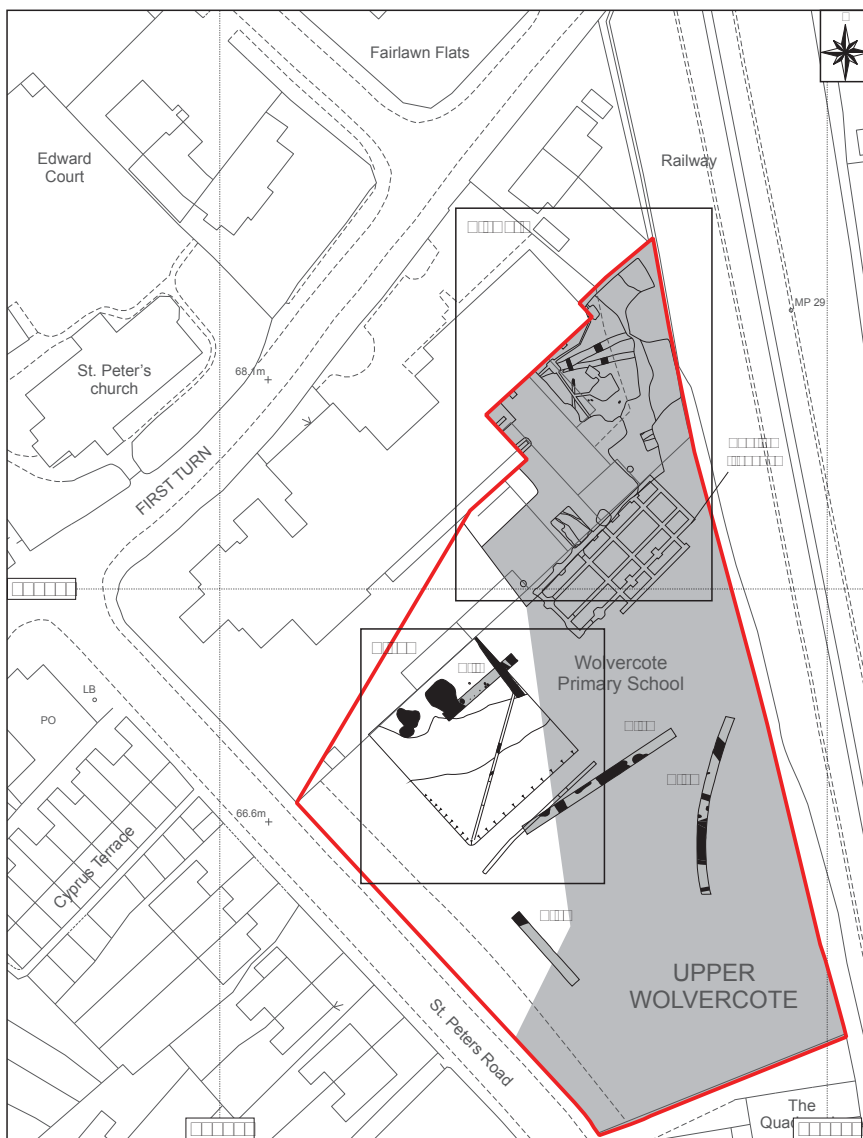
1.3 Archaeological Background

The site is located in an area of archaeological interest within an area of archaeological features identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs. An archaeological evaluation (JMHS 2013) has been undertaken on the site which recorded two Iron Age ditches along with a number of undated features (County Historic Environment Record PRN 28266). It is likely that a number of these undated features are associated with the Iron Age features. A series of post-medieval field ditches were also recorded.

To the south of the present school buildings on the playing fields is a single line of pits. These may form part of an Iron Age pit alignment. However they do lie parallel to the railway line and may therefore be associated with that. Also in the playing field is a circular feature or enclosure. This is partly enclosed on three sides by another feature. This could be a double ditched enclosure or possibly a barrow.



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2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To make a record of any significant archaeological remains revealed during the course of any operations that may disturb or destroy archaeological remains

In particular:

- To try to understand the type of activity on the site during the Iron Age or any other prehistoric period. Was there settlement activity present and what form did it take, or was it just an agricultural system?

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services the archaeological advisors to Oxfordshire County Council. Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate and possible.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (2014).

3.2 Methodology

An archaeologist was to be present on site during the course of any groundwork that had the potential to reveal or disturb archaeological remains. This was achieved except for some landscaping works at the end of the work.

Any archaeological deposits and features revealed were cleaned by hand and recorded in plan before being excavated and recorded at an appropriate level. Archaeological features or other remains i.e. concentrations of artefacts, were recorded by written, drawn and photographic record. Where archaeological features were exposed during any ground reduction but otherwise would remain unaffected they were recorded only by plan and written description. Where remains were to be impacted on then they were sample excavated. All artefacts were collected and retained.

Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was also produced.

Excavation was undertaken using a tracked excavator fitted with a bladed ditching bucket. The resultant spoil from the works was visually scanned, especially for finds relating to prehistoric activity.

4 RESULTS

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers without brackets indicate features i.e. pit cuts; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. Numbers in bold indicate structural features.

4.1 New School Building Ground Reduction

4.1.1 Geological Horizon

The lowest deposit encountered in this area was the natural geology, a compact mid yellowish brown to reddish brown silty clay, at approximately 98.4m OD. The natural geology was present across an area of approximately 15m by 15m, truncated to the west and south by modern ground reduction and backfilling associated with the existing school buildings and truncated to the north by the present school building. Within this area a number of archaeological features were present.

4.1.2 Prehistoric Ditches (Figures 2 & 3)

Cutting natural (102) were two linear ditches: 105 & 112, a sub-linear ditch surviving 12.5m in length by 1.2m in width, with a depth of 0.46m (Fig. 3; section 1. Plate 1). The cut had steep concave sides, with a sharp break of slope (b.o.s) at top and base, and a concave base. The ditch was aligned east - west, terminating within the area of excavation and extending under the limit of excavation to the east. This ditch contained two fills; top fill (103), a stiff mid brown silty clay with moderate rounded stone and occasional charcoal flecks, 1.2m in section and 0.3m thick; basal fill (104 & 111), a firm light yellowish brown silty clay, 0.9m in section and 0.18m thick. This fill was indicative of naturally derived infill, possibly the result of silting while the ditch was open. Two sherds of heavily abraded prehistoric hard sandy ware were recovered from fill (103).

114: Linear ditch surviving 5m in length by 0.5m in width, with a depth of 0.25m (Fig.3; section 4. Plate 4). The ditch cut had steep sides, with a sharp b.o.s at top and base and a concave base. Aligned north - south, it terminated within the area of excavation and was truncated to the south by modern cut 122. This ditch contained a single homogenous fill, possibly suggesting a rapid backfilling event; (113), a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks, 0.5m in section and 0.25m thick. One sherd of possible Late Iron Age – Early Roman wheel thrown pot and two sherds of Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from this fill. There was a narrow gap, 1.5m at the surviving top level of the features.

4.1.3 Roman ditch (Figs. 2 & 3)

Ditch 105 was truncated by ditch 107 & 110 (Fig. 3; sections 2, 3. Plates 2, 3). This ditch was aligned east-north-east - west-south-west, extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east and was truncated by the school buildings to the west. Through excavation the ditch was shown to truncate the terminal end of ditch 105. The cut was



Plate 1: *Ditch 105, Section 1. Looking east.*

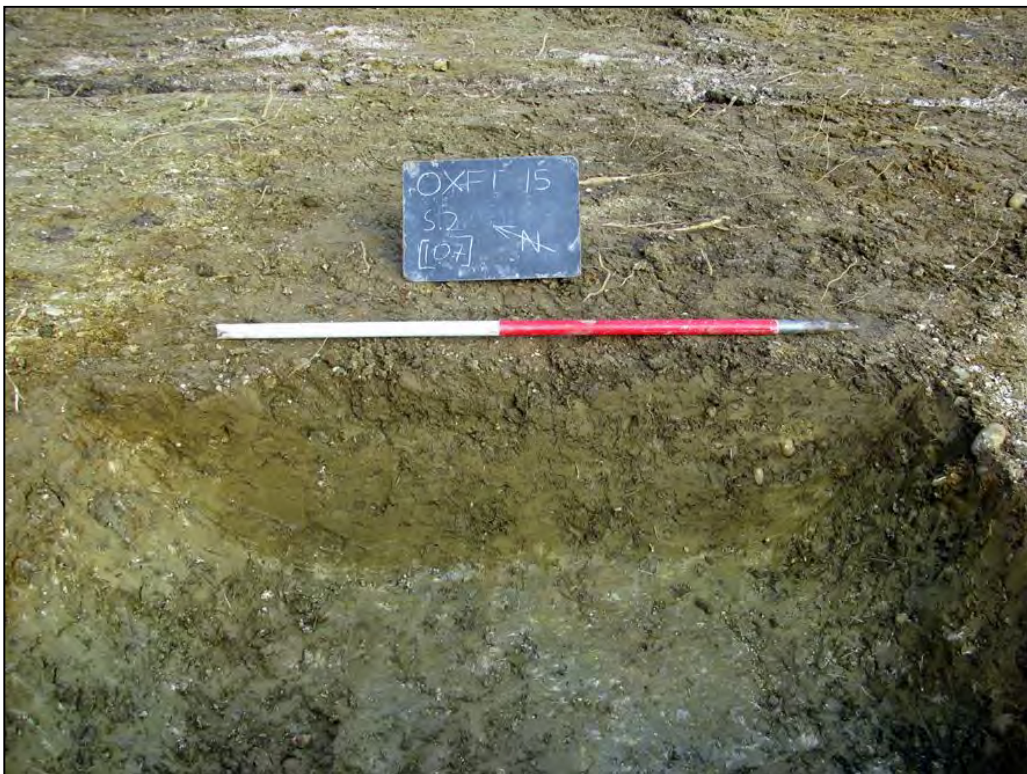


Plate 2: *Ditch 107, Section 2. Looking east-north-east.*



Plate 3: *Ditches 105 and 107, Section 3. Looking east-north-east.*



Plate 4: *Ditch 114, Section 4. Looking south.*

a sub-linear ditch surviving 16.5m in length by 1.5m in width, with a depth of 0.42m. The ditch cut had relatively steep sides with a sharp b.o.s at top and base and a flat to slightly concave base. The top fill of this ditch was a thick homogenous fill, possibly

suggesting a rapid backfilling of the bank into the ditch; recorded as (106) and (108) in two interventions. This was a compact mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional rounded stone and occasional charcoal flecks. Small Find 1 was found within (108); a well preserved copper alloy brooch of mid-1st century AD date. In Section 3 a basal fill was recorded (109); this was a stiff mid brown silty clay, 0.2m in depth and 0.6m in section (Fig. 3; section 3. Plate 3). This fill was indicative of naturally derived infill, possibly the result of silting while the ditch was open. The profile and fills of ditch 110 suggests a recut with the south part filled by 109 indicating the remnants of the earlier cut which was not apparent in the part of the ditch recorded as 107.

4.1.4 Undated Features

To the east of ditch 114 were three small sub-circular features, which were possibly post holes (Fig. 3). These features remained unexcavated as they were located outside of the area impacted by ground reduction for the piling mat. 116, was an ovoid cut with rounded corners, 0.4m by 0.25m, filled by (115), a soft dark grey clayey silt containing moderate charcoal flecks. 118 was an irregular ovoid cut with rounded corners, 0.4m by 0.15m, filled by (117), a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt, containing occasional charcoal flecks. 120 was a circular cut, 0.28m in diameter, filled by (119), a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt

The removal of a small 20th century building, 6.5m by 4.5m in size and cut into made ground (121), revealed three irregular features (Fig 2): 128, a linear cut, seen 3.5m in length by 1.3m in width, aligned north west – south east. This was filled by (127) a soft dark brown clayey silt loam containing moderate rounded stone; 130, a sub linear cut, seen 6m in length by 2.5m in width, aligned north west – south east. This was filled by (129), a firm mid greyish brown silty clay containing moderate rounded stone; 132, an irregular cut with rounded sides, seen 6.5m in length by 1.4m in width aligned north west – south east. This was filled by (131), a soft dark brownish grey silty clay containing occasional charcoal and coal fragments. These features were all cut into the natural geology (102), present in this area as a compact mid reddish brown coarse sandy gravel, and were overlain by made ground deposit (121). In this area (121) was seen to be between 0.5 and 0.6m in thickness.

4.1.5 Post-Medieval Features and Disturbance

A large deposit of modern backfill or made ground (121) was present across much of the site, truncating natural (102) and ditches 107 and 114. This deposit was a firm mid greyish brown silty clay containing frequent 19th/20th century building material including brick, slate, stone and metal fragments. It sat within 122, an irregular cut with vertical sides. This cut was not fully excavated as it extended below impact level.

Two features were identified after the removal of a 20th century concrete pond present against the eastern limit of excavation (Fig. 2). The first, 124, was a linear cut seen 2m in length by 0.8m in width, aligned east – west. It was filled by (123) a loose dark blackish grey silty loam containing frequent pieces of coal. This feature was cut into subsoil (101), and overlain by topsoil (100). The second was 126, a linear cut again seen 2m in length and 1.5m in width, aligned east – west. It was filled by (125), a firm mid brown silty clay with moderate rounded stone. This feature was cut into the

natural (102) and overlain by subsoil (101). These features were not excavated as they were located below impact level.

Two brick built soakaways were present within the area of excavation **133** and **135**; presumably associated with the school.

4.2 Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Groundworks associated with the construction of a MUGA consisted of several phases of excavation and monitoring. Topsoil was stripped from the former playing fields (an area of approximately 625m²). This was followed by a small amount of ground level reduction in the northern half of the site. The final phase of works was the excavation of a drainage trench across the area. During monitoring several archaeological features were identified and recorded in plan; these were not excavated as they lay below the impact depth of the groundworks.

Groundwork carried out prior to the construction of the MUGA was minimal. This consisted predominantly of a topsoil strip in the area of the former playing field; topsoil (100) was stripped to the top of subsoil horizon (101); the depth of the topsoil varied from 0.1 – 0.2m across the site. During the excavation 31 sherds of pottery were recovered from the subsoil (101). These were predominantly dated to the Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age, with one sherd of medieval pottery also present.

In order to create a level surface for the attenuation tank and MUGA a reduction in ground level of 0.2m in the northernmost corner was required; the lower ground to the south was built up with a deposit of crush in order to create a level surface. An area of the geological horizon approximately 130m² was exposed and a number of archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1 Prehistoric Features

Two large pits of possible prehistoric date were recorded; 140, a sub-ovoid feature 4m in length by 3m in width; the uppermost fill (139) was a friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with moderate fine gravels. This feature was truncated on its southern side by 138, an ovoid feature 2.4m in length by 1.7m in width; this was filled at the top as seen by (137) a friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with moderate fine gravel. A single sherd of sandy ware with sparse calcareous inclusions was recovered from this fill, providing a possible Iron Age date.

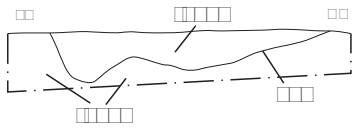
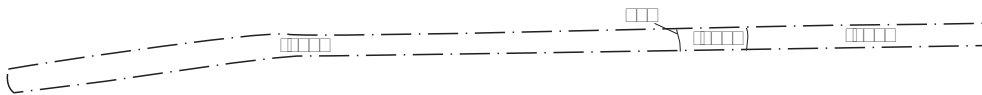
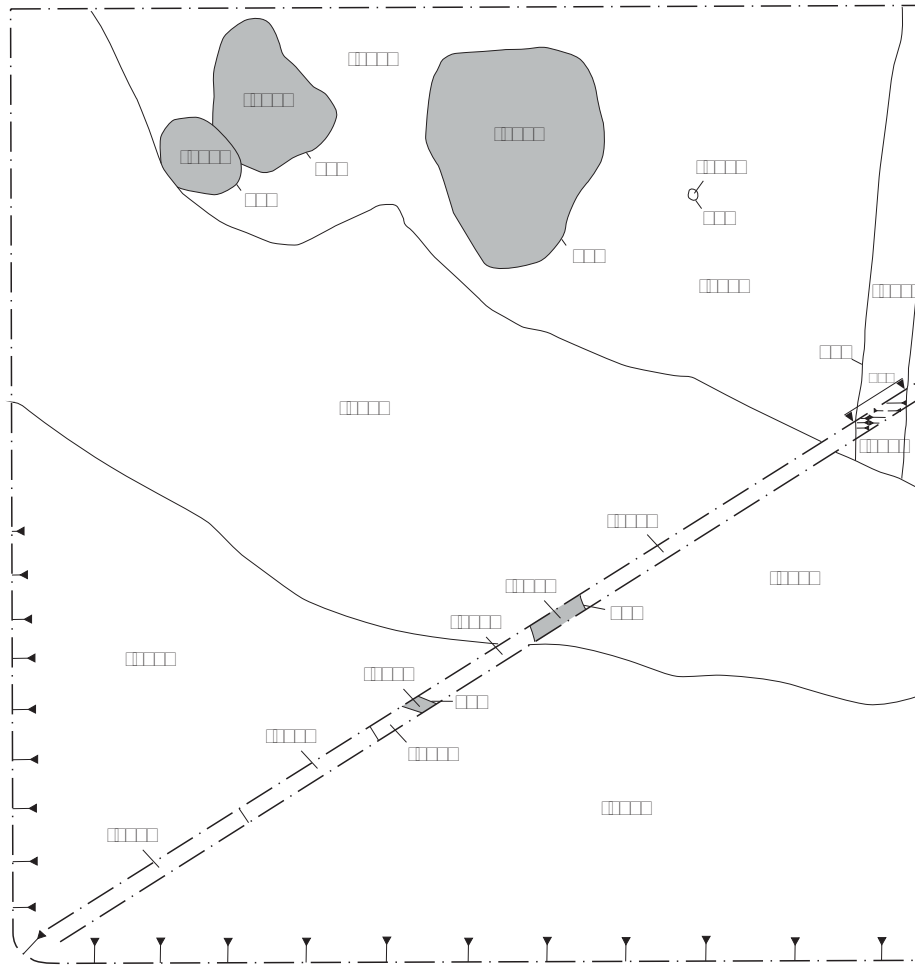
4.2.2 Post-Medieval Rubbish Pit

A large post-medieval rubbish pit 142 was recorded 2.5m to the north east of 140. 142 was a sub-ovoid cut 5.58m in length by 4.57m in width; this was filled by (141) a soft dark blackish grey clayey silt. Frequent sherds of 19th to 20th century White Earthen Ware were noted in this fill but not retained.

4.2.3 Undated Features

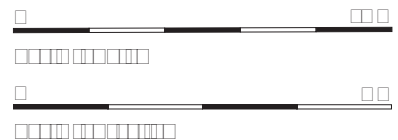
A small pit or post hole was located 2.5m to the east of 142. This was recorded as 145, a sub circular cut 0.35m in length by 0.3m in width; filled by (145) a friable mid greyish brown sandy silt.

Plan 2



Key

-
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A linear ditch 144, aligned north north west – south south east, was exposed against the eastern baulk of the excavation area; this ran for a length of 12.5m as seen and extended beyond both the north western and south eastern limits of excavation. A narrow section (0.40m) was excavated through this feature as it lay within the area of the drainage trench excavation. The feature had a maximum width of 1.2m, and where excavated in the drainage trench, a depth of 0.25m. Where excavated the cut was shown to have a steep south western edge and a gently sloping north eastern edge; the breaks of slope on the south western side were sharp, while on the north eastern side they were gradual; the cut had a concave base. A single fill was recorded; (143) a soft light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent fine gravel. Again, from the profile the ditch appears to have been recut.

4.3 Drainage Trenches (Fig. 4)

Two drainage trenches were excavated in the MUGA area: The first drainage trench was excavated across the area of the MUGA in a north east – south west direction. The trench was 27m in length by 0.4m in width, and had a maximum depth of 0.3m. 13m of the geological horizon was exposed toward the northern end of the trench, while the southern end was cut into crush layer (147) and subsoil (101). At the northern end of the trench ditch 144 was exposed and excavated, as described above. Two further linear features of unknown date were recorded in plan but left unexcavated as they were below impact level: 149 a linear feature, aligned east west, with a length of 0.4m as recorded in the trench, and a width of 0.4m; this was filled by (148) a firm mid brown silty sand. 3m to the north linear feature 151 was recorded; this feature was aligned north west – south east, with a length of 0.4m as seen and a width of 1.5m; this was filled by (150) a soft mid greyish brown silty clay.

The second trench was located 4m to the south of the MUGA and was aligned north east – south west. The trench was 28m in length by 0.5m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.4m. The lowest deposit encountered in this trench was the geological horizon. This was truncated by 153, a feature of uncertain form 1.8m in width by 0.5m in width as recorded within the trench; this was filled by (152) a firm mid reddish brown clayey silt. This may have been the continuation of ditch 151 seen further north. 153 was overlain by subsoil (101) which was present throughout the trench.

4.4 Footings Trenches (Figure 1)

A small portion of the footings trench for the new school building was excavated to a depth that required archaeological monitoring. The portion of the footings trench monitored extended for 14m in a north east – south westerly direction, before turning and running north west – south east for 10m. The trenches were excavated to a width of 0.9 – 2.5m and a depth of 2m.

The lowest deposit encountered during excavation was the geological horizon (102), which was excavated to a depth of 0.3m. This deposit was present throughout the footings trenches. In the southern half of the footings the geological horizon was overlain by subsoil (101); this area was formerly playing field. To the north the geological horizon had been truncated by cut 122, previously encountered during initial ground reduction. 122 extended for 10m, had a width of 8m and was filled by 121, which had a thickness of 0.4 to 0.5m. This deposit was overlain by a layer of

crush (154) deposited to form a piling mat for the new build; this layer was between 1 – 1.2m in thickness and present throughout the footings trench. No archaeological features were present.

The remaining footings trenches did not extend more than 0.5m in depth into the piling mat and so no archaeological monitoring was required.

4.5 Reliability of results

Excavation took place in mixed weather; however this did not adversely affect conditions on site. No other difficulties were encountered during the works. As such the reliability of the results is considered to be high.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery *By Jane Timby*

5.1.1 Introduction

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of a small group of 38 sherds pottery weighing 351 g and two probable pieces of fired clay weighing 8 g. The pottery includes sherds dating to the later Prehistoric, LIA-early Roman and medieval periods.

Pottery was recovered from four contexts, with most of the material, 86.8%, coming from the sub-soil (101). Thus the incidence of sherds for the other deposits is very low. This combined with few featured sherds means that dating can only be approximate.

The material is of mixed preservation but overall quite fragmented and abraded with an overall average sherd weight of 9.2 g.

For the purposes of the assessment the assemblage was scanned to assess the likely chronology and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. The resulting data can be found in Table 1.

Context	LBA - EIA	LIA-eRo	Medieval	Fired Clay/Pot	Total No	Total Wt (g)	Proposed Date
101	33	0	1	0	34	321	Iron Age to Medieval
103	0	0	0	2	2	8	Prehistoric
113	2	1	0	0	3	20	Iron Age - Early Roman
137	1	0	0	0	1	10	Possible Iron age
Total	36	1	1	2	40	359	

Table 1: Pottery by context

5.1.2 Later prehistoric

Most of the assemblage, some 37 sherds, appears to date to the later prehistoric period. With a single exception the sherds are handmade bodysherds with no

diagnostic features but there is one wheel-made piece. Featured sherds are limited to a single small rim fragment and two sherds with incised decoration all of which came from the sub-soil.

The two decorated pieces include one with a small raised cordon with diagonal slashing; the other a plain bodysherd with diagonal incised lines.

Fabrics were variable with most sherds in a moderately well crushed fossil shell fabric. Also present are sandy wares, a ferruginous sandy ware with calcareous inclusions, two types of limestone-tempered ware, one with oolitic fragments, coarse shell-tempered and grog-tempered.

Dating the group is a little problematic with so few pieces especially as there appears to be a mixture of material. Where it could be determined most of the sherds probably date to the later Bronze Age or early Iron Age period. None of the bodysherds showed any form of carination which might be expected although the cordoned vessel may have been a flared rim jar or bowl. At least one grog-tempered ware from ditch fill (113) appears to be wheel-made indicating a later Iron Age-early Roman date. It is thus possible that the sub-soil group also contains material of this date.

5.1.3 Medieval

There is a single abraded base-sherd from a medieval, (12th-13th century), cooking pot/ jar amongst the assemblage from the sub-soil. The fabric contains sand, flint and limestone and is typical of Kennet Valley wares.

5.1.4 Fired clay / pot

Two small fragments of hard sandy ware with just one extant surface came from ditch fill (103). It is difficult to determine whether these are abraded pot or fired clay although they suggest a prehistoric date. No other ceramic material came from this feature to allow dating.

5.1.5 Potential and further work

This is a very small assemblage which hints at multi-period activity. Much of the material came from the sub-soil which would account for its overall abraded condition. Whilst most of this can be assigned to the later prehistoric period, and possibly the LIA-early Roman, there is at least one medieval sherd present. One of the three sherds from ditch fill (113) is wheel-made and thus LIA-early Roman although the other two sherds could potentially be earlier. Pit fill (137) contains a single sandy ware with sparse calcareous inclusions which can only be dated as probably Iron Age.

At present the assemblage is too small to allow very precise dating. No further work is recommended on this group of wares unless additional material is recovered from the same locality which might remove some of the ambiguities presented here.

5.2 Copper Alloy Brooch by Stephen Yeates

The finds from the watching brief at Wolvercote School included one brooch or fibulae.

Copper alloy 'Dolphin type' brooch with surviving spring and forward facing hook 52mm long by 21mm across arm weighing 18g recovered from context (108). There is a band of wave decoration down the centre of the brooch. The spring has two coils with a connecting wire that is threaded through the forward facing hook. Dolphin Brooches are called this because the arch of the bow rises up above the T-bar of the spring.

A number of dolphin type brooches have been found, a few of which appear to show parallels to the Wolvercote brooch. An example in Hattatt (1982, 64-68) is a dolphin brooch with a lug behind the head rather than a forward facing hook. The brooch, however, has decoration running down the ridge of the bow in a similar fashion. A closer parallel from Hattatt (1985, 74-77 fig. 31 356) is an example with a bow with a central groove in the bow. This example has a hook and is facing forward, unlike other examples with a lug or backward facing hook. Hattatt compares the example to those from Bagendon which has a knurled mid-rib and at the wing tips and also an example from Stratford-on-Avon that is undecorated except for the perforation of the catch plate. A further example from Hattatt (1989, 68-70 fig. 33 1509) has a similar decorated central rib but with a backward facing hook, and a decorated cross bar. This particular brooch had been repaired because the design of the spring was inefficient. The closest examples from Bayley and Butcher (2004, 82-85) are the two piece Colchester brooches, which contain decorated central ribs but an incorrect hook design. There are a number of iron and copper alloy brooches from Bagendon that have a forward facing hook (Hull 1964, 167-185, spec 172 24 fig. 31 3) which is a Dolphin Brooch with a forward facing hook with a bead decoration on the bow, but also the wings. At the time Hull reported this as the only Dolphin Brooch he had seen with a forward facing brooch. Though there are no direct parallels at Wanborough in Wiltshire (Butcher 2001, 41-47) it is noticeable that a number of the brooches do have a forward facing hook.

The dates of the quoted brooches are roughly dated to the 1st century AD. Hattatt's (1982, 64-68) example of the dolphin with the lug is roughly dated to the 1st century AD. The date of a further example of Hattatt (1989, 68-70 fig. 33 1509) has been dated to AD 40-55. The example from Bagendon is the closest example to the Wolvercote School Brooch. Hull (1964, 185) places this brooch as coming from period IIIB. The date applied to period IIIB is late Claudian (Clifford 1964, 19), which would be 47-52 AD. This implies that a reasonable date for the brooch would be mid-1st century AD.

The brooch is a Dolphin Brooch with a forward facing hook. These brooches are not common, and it would seem that the recognised distribution of these Brooches: Bagendon, Stratford-on-Avon, Wanborough in Wiltshire, Bournemouth, and Wolvercote indicates that this specific feature occurs in Western England. The areas in which they fall are predominantly associated with the tribal groups of the Dobunni and Durotriges.

6 DISCUSSION

Lack of substantial dating evidence inhibits the detailed reconstruction of phasing throughout the site, and a number of features contained no dating evidence. Despite

this, a series of phases can be identified, with activity commencing in the probable later Bronze Age or early Iron Age and continuing into the Roman Period.

Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age

The earliest phase of activity is likely to consist of the excavation of ditch 105; this feature is likely to represent part of an enclosure ditch. Unfortunately, due to its highly abraded condition, pottery from this feature can only be described as prehistoric; however, this feature was truncated by ditch 107, providing a *terminus ante quem* of the mid 1st century AD.

Ditch 114 was located approximately 1m to the south of the terminus of ditch 105; pottery recovered from this feature provided an Iron Age to early Roman date. The position of this ditch seems to take account of ditch 105, possibly indicating the two are contemporary (Fig. 3). If this is taken to be the case then it can be suggested that the two ditches form the north west corner of a rectilinear enclosure of Iron Age to Early Roman Date. Due to the small area excavated it is difficult to know the overall form or extent of the enclosure, however excavation indicates that the enclosure may have extended to the south east.

Further activity of probable later Bronze Age or early Iron Age date is represented through a significant number of residual LBA-EIA pot sherds recovered from the subsoil throughout the playing field. Where trenches were excavated to the geological horizon in this area a series of undated linear features were recorded. These may represent further evidence of prehistoric activity or they may date to later periods; dating evidence recovered from similar features during the evaluative trenching does appear to indicate that the enclosure system was present in this area. Ditches 151 & 153 may be the same feature along with 3/06 found in the evaluation (allowing for a slight discrepancy in surveying). Ditch 2/12 again found in the evaluation may be part of the same ditch cut by post-medieval pit 142.

Pit 137, recorded within the MUGA area, can also be tentatively dated to the Iron Age through a sherd of Iron Age pottery recovered from fill (136).

Roman

The next phase consisted of the construction of ditch 107. This apparent recut ditch truncated ditch 105 at its terminal end and appeared to run under the school building to the west. This appears to represent a later phase of enclosure within the same area as ditches 105 and 114, and was dated to the mid 1st century AD (*terminus ante quem*). This date was provided by copper alloy brooch SF1. This brooch was found to be in excellent condition, showing little evidence of abrasion and rolling; furthermore the fill of this ditch is thick and homogenous. These two factors may indicate that the backfilling of the ditch took place over a short period of time, possibly during a single event in the mid-1st century AD. The brooch suggests the ditch is within an area of occupation as opposed to it being a field boundary.

Undated Features

A group of undated post holes were present within the excavation area, located approximately 2m to the east of ditch 114 and aligned east-west. It is possible that these features may have formed part of a linear wooden structure associated with the

enclosure possibly dated to the LBA-EIA; this however can only be suggested tentatively, as the only evidence to support this interpretation is the alignment of the features in relation to the enclosure ditches.

A series of undated linear features were found to be present throughout the site where excavation extended to the geological horizon. Ditch 144 appears to be the same as ditch 2/08, recorded during the evaluation in 2013 (JMHS 2013). Ditch 132 runs roughly parallel to the ditch numbered 2/12, 151, 153 and 3/06 in a north-west south-east direction and if considered contemporary may form part of a field system or enclosure.

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief
Written scheme of investigation
The project report
The primary site record

Physical record

Finds

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to the Oxford County Museums Service under accession code *OXCMS.2013.95*.

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