

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND ADJACENT TO
CLEMATIS COTTAGE, BACK LANE, ASTON
OXFORDSHIRE**

SP 3385 0325

On behalf of

Mr D Souch

AUGUST 2007

REPORT FOR Mr D South
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FIELDWORK 14th February – 29th June 2007

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CONTENTS

	Page	
<i>SUMMARY</i>	1	
1 INTRODUCTION	1	
1.1 Site Location	1	
1.2 Planning Background	1	
1.3 Archaeological Background	1	
2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION	3	
3 STRATEGY	3	
3.1 Research Design	3	
3.2 Methodology	4	
4 RESULTS	4	
4.1 Field Results	4	
4.2 Reliability of Results	10	
5 FINDS	10	
5.1 Pottery	10	
5.2 Environmental Remains	11	
6 DISCUSSION	11	
7 ARCHIVE	12	
8 BIBLIOGRAPHY	12	
APPENDIX 1 – ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY	13	
FIGURES		
Figure 1	Site location	2
Figure 2	Site plan	5
Figure 3	Plan of feature [08] and sections of features [08], [09], [34] & [36]	8

Summary

A watching brief was carried out by John Moore Heritage Services on land to the rear of Clematis Cottage, Back Lane, Aston, Oxfordshire, on behalf of Mr Souch during groundworks for a new house. Remains of a Romano British field or enclosure system were present that belong to remains previously found to the south-west and probably to a cropmark site even further to the west. 11th - 12th century remains were also present indicating industrial activity.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The site lies on the north side of Back Lane in Aston (NGR SP 3385 0325). The underlying geology is the interface between Second Terrace Gravel deposits and Oxford Clay. The site lies at approximately 70m OD and the site was previously part of the garden of Clematis Cottage.

1.2 Planning Background

West Oxfordshire District Council granted planning permission for the construction of a single four-bedroom dwelling with car parking adjacent to Clematis Cottage on Back Lane, Aston (05/2026/P/FP). Due to the potential of the site to contain archaeological remains and because of the presence of known sites of archaeological interest within the immediate vicinity of the development a condition was attached to the planning permission requiring the implementation of a watching brief during groundworks in accordance with PPG16. Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services (OCAS) prepared a *Brief* for the work. A *Written Scheme of Investigation*, outlining the methods by which the archaeological work would be carried out in order to preserve by record any archaeological remains of significance, was submitted by John Moore Heritage Services.

1.3 Archaeological Background

There is little prehistoric evidence from the surrounding area, although there are cropmarks, photographed by Allen, St Joseph and Baker since the 1930s, covering both the northwest and south of Aston. These air-photographs indicate a range of activities, consisting of rectangular enclosures, pit alignments and possible barrows (Benson & Miles, 1974). This has been used to suggest prehistoric settlement south of Aston and east of Cote. Mostly, dating is lacking but excavations at Old Shifford Farm dated remains to the Iron Age and Romano British periods.

Stray finds from the Neolithic and Bronze-Age have been recovered from north of Aston High Street and near the north end of Cote Lane. Iron-Age pottery and a brooch have been found south of Cote House (VCH, 1996).

Roman settlements linked by trackways apparently dated to the second to fourth centuries define the edge of the second/third terrace gravels at Cote (Henig & Booth, 2000).

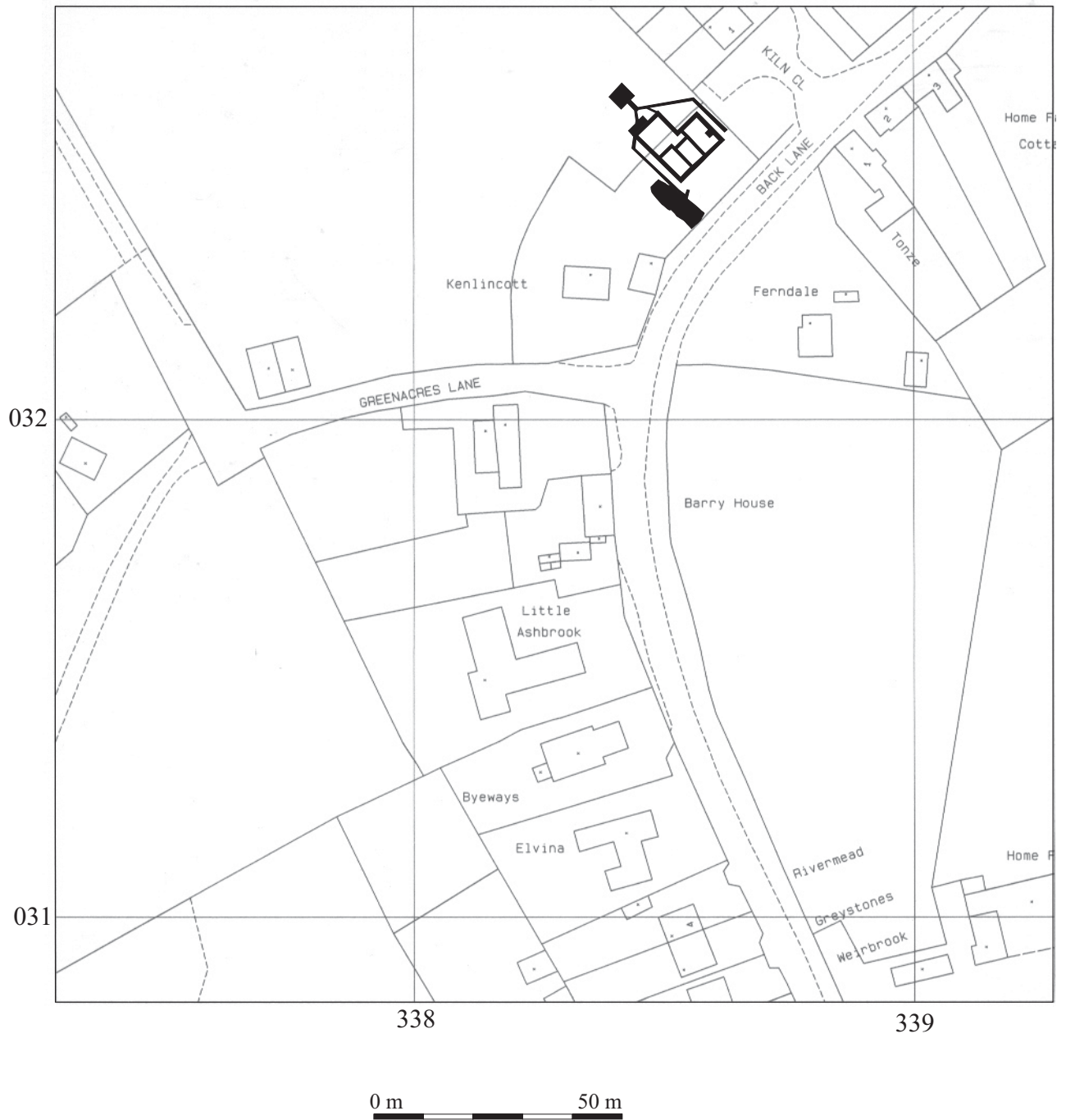


Figure 1. Site Location

South of Great Brook two square enclosures contained within Bronze-Age ring ditches are probably of Roman or post-Roman date (VCH, 1996).

In 2002 an archaeological watching brief carried out by JMHS (2002) adjacent to Barry House, just south-west of the proposed development, found enclosures, pits and ditches dating to the Romano British period. Some of the postholes appeared to have supported timber structures. From the lack of finds it was suggested that the pits may have been used for storage rather than for rubbish disposal. All this suggests the proximity of a settlement. A small number of features were dated to the earlier part of the medieval period and one pit was thought to have had a tanning function. The Romano British features must be part of the cropmark site that lies just to the north-west of Greenacres Lane, 120m to the south-west of the watching brief site that is the subject of this report.

In the Anglo-Saxon period Aston was part of Bampton manor, which is located to the west, and takes its modern name from 'east-tun' (Ekwall, 1960), or eastern settlement or farm. The area to the south east on the opposite side of Back Lane contains a series of earthworks which are assumed to represent part of the medieval settlement. The air-photographs to the south have also possibly revealed traces of Anglo-Saxon period *Grubenhäuser* or 'sunken-features buildings', but excavation has not been carried out to confirm this hypothesis. Furthermore, the presence of these comparatively late earthworks and cropmarks has been used to argue for an establishment of the township boundaries after the 10th century (VCH, 1996). Aston itself is mentioned in medieval charters of 958 and 984 when King Aethelred granted two *cassati* to one Aelfwine. In 1279 there were approximately 55 households in Aston and Back Lane appears to have formed part of the medieval township.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

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

- To identify and record any archaeological remains exposed during the construction works

Particular aims were to record

- any remains associated with the Romano British settlement to the south west
- any remains associated with the medieval settlement of Aston
- any remains relating to the cropmark features to the north

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with OCAS. Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record throughout,

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 of Field Archaeologists (1994) and the procedures laid down in MAP2 (English Heritage 1991).

3.2 Methodology

The stripping of the surface was carried out under archaeological supervision as was the excavation of the foundation and service trenches. This work was undertaken by a mini-digger with a 700mm bucket for both the strip and the excavation of the footings. Service trenches were excavated using narrower buckets as appropriate. The house footprint was reduced to the top of the natural gravels over the eastern two-thirds. However the top of the gravel was fractionally below the reduction level in the western part and therefore any discrete features in this area would not have been seen.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Field results

All archaeological features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers in [] indicate features and fills; context numbers in () indicate deposits or layers. Detailed descriptions of the features and their fills are given in Appendix 1.

The earliest deposit recorded was the natural (3); sandy gravel in a clay matrix – Second Terrace Gravel. In the south-west part of the site Oxford Clay was seen in places under the gravel deposits. The archaeological features were cut into gravel. The horizontal stratigraphy of some of the intercutting features was not always clear to elucidate as it was not possible to excavate within the footprint of the building.

Undated feature (Figure 2)

Pit [27] was stratigraphically one of the earliest features on the site. This was a rectangular pit measuring at least 0.75m wide and 1.28m long. The pit was filled with a pale grey brown sandy, slightly clay, silt and contained c. 20% gravel. No dating was recovered from the feature. However, to the west it was partially truncated by an undated tree-bole, and to the east it was truncated by ditch [29], part of the Romano British field/enclosure system.

The ditches

The site evidenced part of Roman ditch-system, which was roughly aligned north-south, cutting across the site at an angle of approximately 45°. To the east, north and south the ditch-system extended beyond the edges of excavation, but no evidence was observed for it to the west. The ditch system comprised feature numbers [12], [14], [22], as well as a later recut of the ditches as [23], [29] and [31]. The north-south section of the ditch-system was composed of two parallel ditches [12]/[22] and [23], which formed a T-junction on the east side with a further pair of east-west oriented ditches [14] and [31]. Ditch [22] is not clearly identified in the area stripped for the site entrance to the south. It is possible that the later cut [29] was in the same position as the original position of the earlier cut. Alternatively the ditch [22] may have turned outwards and terminate as [30] although the feature fills were dissimilar. An opposing terminal for an entrance 2.7m wide could be feature [28] that was filled with similar

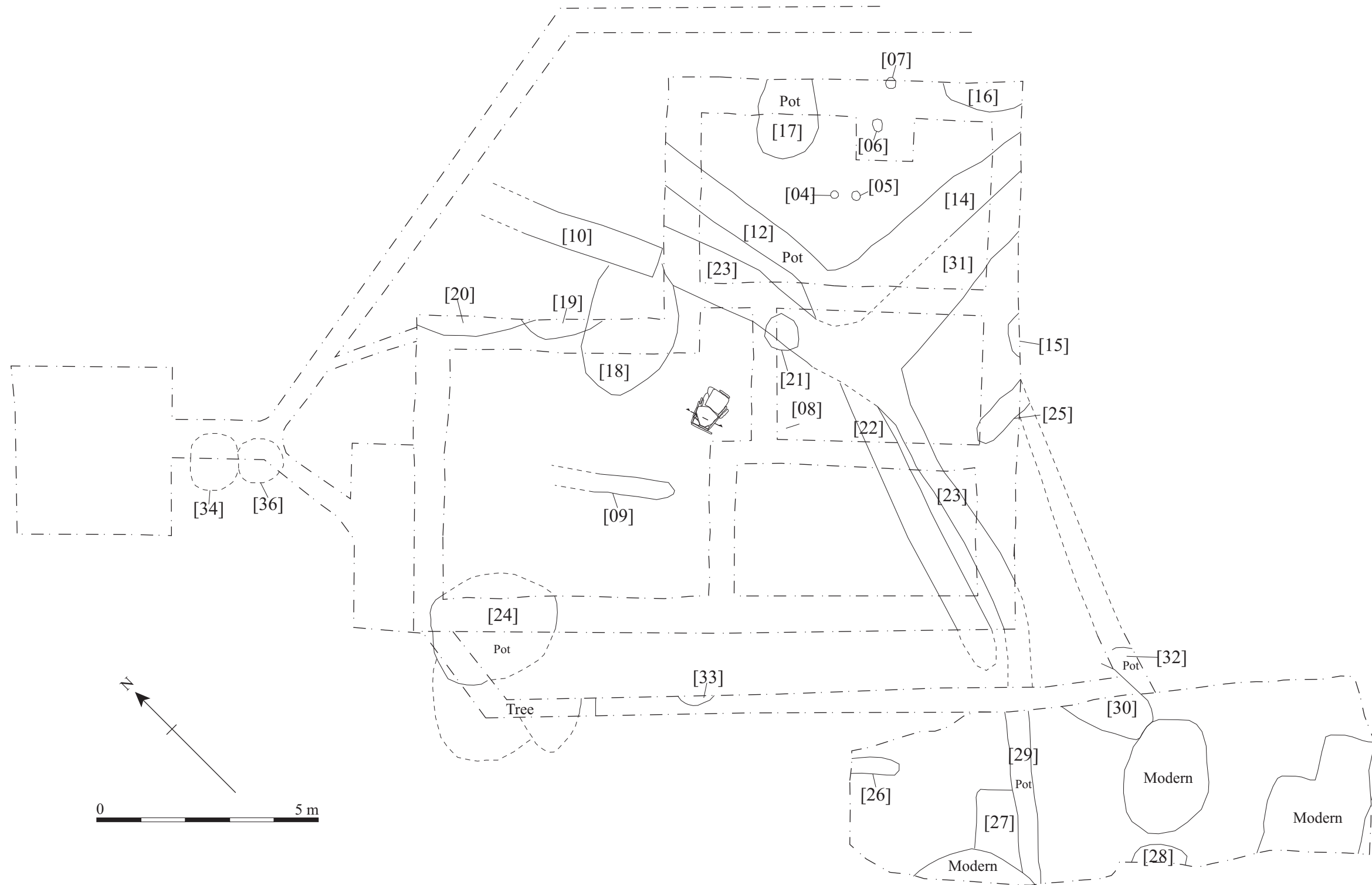


Figure 2. Site Plan

material to [30]; grey brown slightly clay silt, with 5% gravel. However features [28 & 30] could just be pits.

The later phase of the ditch system comprised contexts [23], [29] and [31]. The north-south section, [23], measured 0.7m wide to the south and c. 1.2m wide to the north of the junction with [31]. It was c. 0.5m deep. The sides were concave at c. 30° and the base was rounded. The ditch [31] was c. 0.5m deep and c. 1m wide, with sides at 45° and a slightly rounded base. The fill of the ditches was clay silt ranging in colour from a pale grey brown to pale orange brown, becoming darker brown to the south, with up to 30% gravel.

The ditch-system appears to define three field/enclosure areas, with a possible access to the south from the western area to the south-eastern one. If this access existed then it was closed in the later phase.

Within the south-eastern field/enclosure were two features that may have been associated with the earlier phase on the basis of the colour of their fills. Feature [15] is probably a pit although it could be a terminal of a ditch. The pit was observed to extend 0.25m into the investigation area, and measured 0.9m across and 0.4m deep. The sides of the cut were not the same on both sides, but this may be a consequence of the angle of truncation during machining; on the southwest side the sides were at 60°, on the northeast they were 45° and more irregular. The base was rounded. Feature [25] was a 0.30m deep ditch with sides at c. 60°, with a rounded base.

The pits

At least eleven pits were observed during the investigation of the area. Two pits were dated to the early medieval period. Three of the pits were capable of being stratigraphically related, although they were undated, and a further four were single undated features that may belong to either the Romano British or medieval period.

Medieval pits

In the west corner of the excavated trench area was [24], a large pit with a diameter of at least 2.6m and at least 0.9m deep. The sides were near vertical but it was not bottomed. It was filled with soft black clay silt loam with three yellow bands of gravel c. 0.1-0.2m thick, tipped across the darker fill, at approximately 0.15-0.2m intervals. The darker fill contained c. 5% gravel and 3% charcoal, as well as pottery and animal bone. The pottery from the pit dated from the middle of the 11th century. The filling sequence indicates disposal of smelly material, either cess or from an industrial function, that was capped with gravel.

On the northeast side of the site was a sub-rounded pit, [17], measuring at least 1.7m by 1.35m and more than 0.65m deep. The southeast edge of the feature was nearly vertical; the northwest side was undercut by 0.2m. It was not bottomed. Three fills were observed, the lowest was a dark grey brown slightly clay silt with 5% gravel and occasional pieces of limestone measuring 100x50x20mm. This was overlain by a layer of clean gravel 0.3-0.5m wide and sealed by mid grey brown clay silt with 15% gravel, c. 0.35m thick. Pottery and bone were recovered from this feature. The pottery dated from the 12th century. Again the gravel may have been a capping layer.

Undated pits

Southeast of [17], in the east corner of the site was pit [16]. This pit measured more than 2.25m north-south and extended 0.5m into the foundation trench. It was 0.55m deep. The sides were at c. 60° and the base was flat. The pit [16] was filled with dark grey brown and pale orange brown silty clay with 35% fine gravel. No finds were recovered from the feature.

To the northwest of [17] was pit [19], which was cut to the south by [18] and north by [20]. This feature was a subrounded pit measuring c. 1.7m north-south and at least 0.5m east-west; it was 0.35m deep. The sides were truncated by [18] and [20] to the north and south, and at the break of slope were concave, the base was flat if somewhat irregular. The fill was a pale brownish grey clay silt containing 30-35% gravel and c. 1% charcoal.

Pit [20] was a sub-rounded pit which extended beyond the edges of excavation. It measured, as seen, 2.4m north-south and 0.5m east-west, and was approximately 0.7m deep. The south edge of the cut was slightly stepped at an angle of 60° 0.5m from the edge, dropping from 0.4m deep to 0.7m. The base was irregular. It was filled with loose to moderately compact mid grey brown to blackish brown clay silt and 25-30% gravel. Heavy tree-rooting in the centre and south side of the feature may conceal that it was composed of two or more features.

To the south of [19] was pit [18]. This feature, which may have been a stone-lined pit, cut the later north-south ditch [23] and was overlain by the stone-footing [10]. The pit was subrounded, measuring at least 3.5m north-south by 2m east-west and more than 0.85m deep. The feature extended below the base of the foundation trench, but the sides were nearly vertical – c. 80° - and appeared possibly to have been lined with stone flags, measuring c. 0.15-0.25m by 0.1m. Due to machining and the possibility of the trench sides collapsing it was not feasible to carry out in-depth investigation into the possible stone-lining. During preliminary cleaning the flags fell from the feature fill. If it was stone-lining, rather than dumped rubble, the pit would have had an industrial use. It is not entirely clear, but nonetheless possible, that this pit may be associated with the stone-lined features [08] and [09] (see below).

To the southeast of [18], and also cutting the ditch [23] was a smallish pit [21], measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.45m deep. It had near-vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled with very compact dark grey brown clay silt containing 20-25% pea-grit gravel and c. 1% charcoal. Only animal bone was recovered from the feature.

Given that pits [18] and [21] cut the later phase of the Romano British ditch system it is highly likely that they are of medieval date.

Two pits were located in a service trench to the north-west of the house footprint and observed in section (Fig. 3). Pit [34] was at least 1.2m wide and was 0.5m deep and was U-shaped in profile. It was filled with mid grey-brown sandy clay with 30-40% gravel and the occasional charcoal fleck (35). Pit [36] again was U-shaped, at least 0.9m in diameter and up to 0.7m deep with sides at 60°. It was filled by mid grey-brown sandy clay with 35% gravel with the occasional charcoal fleck (37).

Part of a possible pit [32] was cut by feature [30] in the south part of the site.

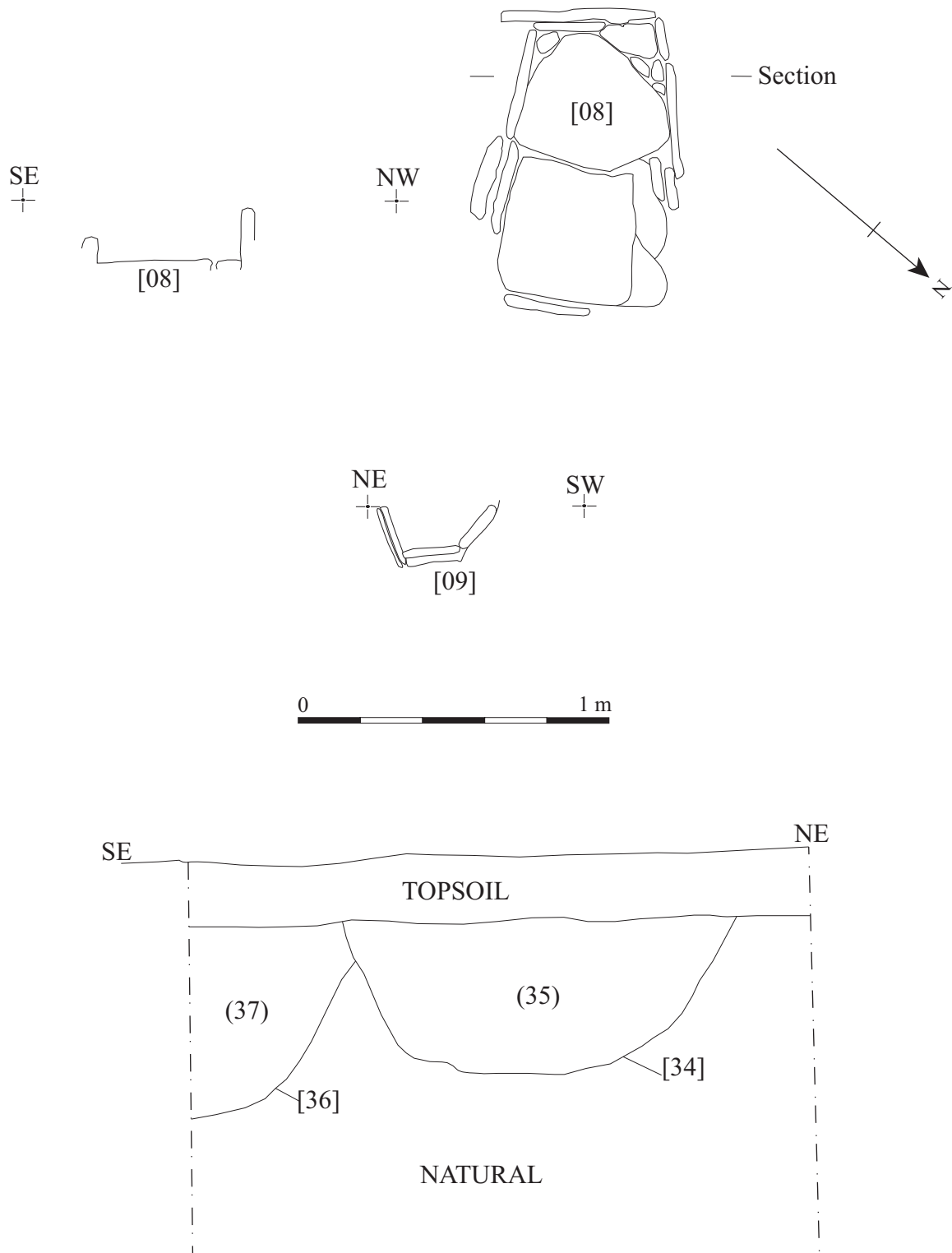


Figure 3. Plan of feature [08] and section of features [08], [09], [34], & [36]

Stone Features

To the west of the junction of the north-south and east-west ditches was a stone-lined feature [08]. The structure was oriented east-northeast by west-southwest, and measured 980mm by 700mm externally and 830mm by 450-490mm internally. Its depth varied between 100 and 160mm. It was made from limestone and comprised, when found, approximately ten flags laid on edge c. 0.08m into the gravel (03) in a trapezoid; the flags were a single row deep, though occasional overlapping occurred. In the base were two large flat stones, measuring 400x400x50mm (east flag) and 420x440x45mm (west flag), with smaller stones as infill. The feature lay within the subsoil (02), and was filled with (11), the same as (02). A single sherd of pottery recovered from the stone structure dated from the 11th century.

Overlying the pit [18] and the later phase ditch was a stone footing [10]. The wall measured c. 0.6m wide, more than 3m long and stood to a height of c. 0.16m; it comprised two rows of facing stone with rubble infill up to three courses high, though generally only two courses were still present. A large squared corner-stone, measuring 550x450x30mm was located at the east end, though no return was observed. The wall was located within (02), and probably sat directly onto the gravel, however the presence of features directly underlying it, and the limited access to the feature prevented further investigation of it.

South of the putative building associated with [10], was a linear northwest-southeast stone-lined feature [09], which may also be related to the stone feature [08], to which it was at a right-angle. The tapered east end of the feature was the only part seen; the western part was removed during machining. It measured in excess of 2.5m long, 0.4m wide at the top and 0.24m at the base and was 0.26m deep within (02). The flags lining the edge of the cut were laid on edge at c. 70° and measured c. 300x220x20mm. Those lining the base measured between 140x110x20mm and 80x70x20mm. It was filled with (02).

Other undated features

Postholes

Four postholes [04], [05], [06] and [07], were observed on the east side of the site. This group of circular to subcircular features, which measured c. 0.25m in diameter and between 0.1m and 0.28m in depth, were filled with pale grey brown slightly clay silt and at least 30% gravel – although [07] was slightly darker and contained less gravel. The postholes [05], [06] and [07] were in a line, though the intervals between the postholes were not regular. The posthole [04] was at approximately 75° to the alignment. Too little was revealed during the strip to be able to assert precisely the nature of the alignment, but it may well indicate a fence line, possibly associated with the medieval structures observed on site, as it appears to be at right angle to the wall [10]. Alternatively [04] & [05] could be a pair of posts for some minor structure.

Other Linear Features

In the southwest extension, stripped to lay hardcore for vehicle access was a stub of northeast-southwest ditch terminal [26]. This was at least 1.1m long and 0.4m wide, with a rounded terminal; it was not excavated. It was filled with dark grey brown slightly clay silt containing 10% gravel and a moderate flecks of charcoal.

4.2 Reliability of results and methodologies

The watching brief was carried out over several visits to the site. The watching brief comprised the monitoring of the stripping of the site and excavation of the house-footings and a water-recycling tank, in addition to which the excavation of drainage trenches was recorded.

Weather conditions were by and large good, although the limited time on site means that it is always possible that further features may well have weathered out subsequently, had they been left exposed for longer. As investigation of the features was limited to the recording of exposed sections, it is possible that some features may have been deeper than observed.

Indeed, it is apparent that certain sections of the field-system were not clearly visible in the trenches excavated for drainage, as these were heavily disturbed and often covered by building debris. Equally, it is clear that not all the features yielded dating material, limiting the interpretability of the site in the context of previous work carried out at land adjacent to Barry Lane, to the southwest.

5 FINDS

5.1 Medieval Pottery *Paul Blinkhorn*

The pottery assemblage comprised 50 sherds with a total weight of 735g. It consisted mainly of unglazed early medieval wares, with the range of fabric types present indicating that medieval activity was restricted to the 11th – 12th century.

Brill/Boarstall ware (Oxford Fabric OXAM), an extremely common 13th century and later pottery type found throughout the whole of the county was entirely absent, showing that medieval activity at the site must have ceased before that time.

The assemblage is also notable for two sherds (from the same vessel) of Shelly Coarseware (Fabric OXCX). This ware was made at a number of sites on the Bedfordshire/Northamptonshire border, and the find from this site is probably the most westerly ever made.

Fabrics

The pottery was recorded utilizing the coding system and chronology of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1984; 1994), as follows:

OXAC: Cotswold-type ware, AD975-1350. 16 sherds, 256g.

OXBF: South-West Oxfordshire ware. c mid 11th – early 13th century. 27 sherds, 365g

OXAG: Abingdon ware, mid/late 11th – mid 14th century. 1 sherd, 3g.

OXCX: Shelly Coarseware, AD1100-1400. 2 sherds, 25g.

Four sherds of Romano-British pottery were also noted. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

Context	RB		OXAC		OXBF		OXCX		OXAG		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
2	1	31	2	73							11thC
11			1	13							11thC
12	1	36									RB
17			5	92	25	359	2	25			12thC
24			8	78	2	6			1	3	M11thC
29	1	13									RB
32	1	6									RB
Total	4	86	16	256	27	365	2	25	1	3	

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

5.2 Environmental Remains

No environmental sampling was carried out on the site as the deposits encountered did not appear to contain suitable quantities of carbonised material.

6 DISCUSSION

This watching brief carried out at Back Lane, Aston revealed the remains of a Romano-British field or enclosure system, which was at an angle of approximately 45° to the present road. It appears to have comprised two phases of activity, both of which delimited two or possibly three enclosed areas. The ditches were broadly oriented north-south with an east-west ditch located on the east side of the north-south ditches.

The ditches were not excavated – only examined in section where the footings for the new-build cut them. At least two pits were Romano-British or earlier – [27] and [32] – apparently extending the Romano-British activity observed adjacent to Barry House (Moore, 2002) south of Greenacres Lane, which in turn is considered to be part of the cropmark site further west. It is apparent that the enclosure ditch adjacent to Barry House observed during the previous works does not follow the same alignment as that found during this watching brief, which may indicate the presence of an unplanned Romano-British settlement in the area, which may well have been composed of a number of domestic units and their associated land-holdings.

Although only a small handful of the features could be dated to the medieval period, these three features – two pits and a stone structure [08] – all corresponded in date, 11th and 12th century, to those found in the previous works. Other pits recorded during the watching brief may well have been broadly from the same period. The pits [18] and [19] were sealed by the stone wall; it was not possible to ascertain whether pit [20] was. The relationship between the stone structures – [08] and [09] – was unclear, as was their relationship with [10]. The stone features observed were with the exception [08] undated. It is highly probable that they were associated, as they appeared to be roughly at right-angles to one another – although at some distance from each other – and in which case a similarly 11th or 12th century date may be construed. The single wall may be part of an open-ended building or a timber lean-to structure against a stone wall. It is possible that the line of postholes [07], [06] and [05] may have been deliberately located at right angles to the wall [10]. The stone

features indicate some sort of industrial activity.

These remains indicate that the presence of early medieval activity associated with industrial activities extended from the core of the village out along Back Lane in 11th – 12th centuries. This may continue into the field to north-west of this site where slight earthworks are visible.

Although the results of the recording action in themselves are quite limited, they indicate the potential quality and extent of the archaeology still buried within this part of the village.

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

The project brief	The project report
Written Scheme of Investigation	The primary site records
Pottery	Animal bone

The archive has been given an accession number OXCMS: 2007.25 by Oxfordshire Museums Service (Oxfordshire County Council), where it will be deposited.

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APPENDIX 1 – ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Ctx	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Date	Interpretation
01	Layer	Dark brown grey slightly clay silt	c. 0.5m				Top soil – present across site
02	Layer	Pale grey brown silty clay 1% gravel	0.25-0.35m				Ploughsoil – present across site
03	Layer	Pale yellow sand & gravel in clay matrix	Unk.				Natural – present across site
04	Feat.	Pale grey brown slightly clay silt, 30% gravel; nr vertical sides, rounded base	0.13m	0.25m dia.			Posthole
05	Feat.	Pale grey brown slightly clay silt, 30% gravel; nr vertical sides, rounded base		0.2m (SE/NW)	0.25m (SW/NE)		Posthole
06	Feat.	Pale grey brown slightly clay silt 30% gravel; nr vertical sides, rounded base	c. 0.1m	0.25m dia.			Posthole
07	Feat.	Mid grey brown clay silt 20% gravel; sides @ 70°, rounded base	0.28m	0.25m dia.			Posthole
08	Struct	Rectangular Limestone; one to two rows stone on edge; base 2 large stone pieces and small infill	0.1-0.16m	0.7m (ext); 0.49m (max. int)	0.98m (ext); 0.83m (int)		Stone structure; east side damaged in machining; set c. 0.08m into gravel (03)
09	Struct	Linear; NW/SE stone lined feature; stones at c 70° on edge, flat base	0.26m	0.4m (top); 0.24m (base)	> 1.7m		Stone culvert; tapered to SE; machined away to NW
10	Wall	Limestone; 2 rows with rubble infill, 2 to 3 courses high (1.6m)					Wall; possibly related to [08] and [09] to SW
11	Fill	Pale grey brown silty clay 1% gravel	0.1-0.16m	0.49m	0.83m		Fill of stone structure [08]
12	Ditch	Moderately compact orange brown silty clay; 25-30% gravel		c. 0.7m		RB	Ditch fill and cut
13							Deleted
14	Ditch	Orange brown silty clay, 30% gravel; Linear, sides @ 45°, rounded base	0.45m	c. 0.9m	c. 5m	RB	Ditch; part of RB field-system
15	Feat.	Orange brown clay silt; sub-circular, sides @ 60° (SW) rounded base, and 45° (NE) (irregular)	0.4m	0.9m			Possible ditch terminal, although may be natural feature
16	Pit	Dark grey brown & pale orange brown (40:60) silty clay 35% fine gravel; unknown shape, sides @ 60°, flat base	0.55m	unk	unk		Pit edge clipped during machining for foundation trench

Ctx	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Date	Interpretation
17	Pit	Mid grey brown clay silt 15% gravel (0.35m), clean gravel (0.3-0.5m), dark grey brown slightly clay silt 5% gravel occ. limestone; elongated sub-circular, SE side nr vertical, NW side undercut	>0.65m	0.76m (top) 0.96m (base)	1.2m	12 th C	Pit on east side of investigation area
18	Pit	Moderately compact, pale greyish brown clay silt 25% pea-grit, stone lined sides?; subrounded, nr vertical sides	>0.85m	2m	3.5m		Pit; possibly stone-lined or filled with rubble – sealed by wall [10] – only observed in section; not fully exposed
19	Pit	Moderately compact, pale brown grey clay silt 30-35% gravel (concentrated at base) c. 1% charcoal; subrounded concave sides irregular base	c 0.35m	>0.5m	c 1.7m		Shallow pit cut by [18] to S and [20] to N
20	Pit	Loose/moderate mid grey brown/blackish brown clay silt c 25-30% gravel; subrounded sides at c 60° stepped on S edge, irregular base	0.7m	>0.5m	>2.4m		Pit, cutting [19] to S, heavily disturbed by tree action, may consist of more than one feature.
21	Pit	Compact dark grey brown clay silt 20-25% pea-grit 1% charcoal; subrounded nr vertical sides flat base	0.45m	0.8m (dia.)			Smallish round pit, only animal bone recovered
22	Ditch	Moderately compact orange brown silty clay 25-30% gravel; linear, sides @ 45° rounded base	0.45m	0.8m	c. 5m		S part of early ditch; cf [12]
23	Ditch	Loose to moderate compaction pale orange brown clay silt 25% gravel; linear sides @ 30° rounded base	0.45m	>0.7m	>4m		Ditch section part of later
24	Pit	Soft black (yellow gravel banding) clay silt loam 3% charcoal 5% gravel; sub rounded nr vertical sides unk base	>0.9m	>2.6m (dia.)		M11 th C	Pit on W side of site.
25	Ditch	Moderately compact mid/dark orange brown clay silt 1% gravel; linear sides @ 60° rounded base	0.3m	0.5m	>1m		Shallow ditch or gully possibly associated with [14]

Ctx	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Length (m)	Date	Interpretation
26	Ditch	Dark grey brown slightly clay silt 10% gravel, charcoal flecking; linear, rounded terminal.		0.4m	>1.1m		NW/SE ditch
27	Pit	Pale grey brown sandy slightly clay silt 20% gravel; rectangular cut by [29] & mod treebole		0.9m	>1.28m		Pit
28	Pit	Dark grey brown slightly clay silt 5% gravel; subcircular		1.35m (dia.)			Pit on SW of investigation area; possibly corresponding terminal to [30]
29	Ditch	Pale/mid brown grey/orange brown clay silt 30-35% gravel occ. charcoal flecks; linear		0.6m	>4m	RB	Ditch, part of the field-system
30	Ditch	Dark grey brown slightly clay silt 5% gravel charcoal flecking; rounded – possibly terminal?		1m	2.1m		Possible ditch terminal corresponding to [28]; part of field system or pit
31	Feat.	Pale grey brown clay silt 30% gravel; linear rounded corners on S side sides @ 45° slightly rounded base	0.5m	1.05m	4.5m		Ditch
32	Pit	Dark grey brown slightly clay silt 5% gravel charcoal flecking				RB	Feature seen in edge of drainage trench
33	Pit	Mid grey brown sandy clay silt 2% fine gravel moderate small/medium limestone pieces; sides @ 45°, rounded base	0.28m	0.6m			Pit observed in edge of drainage trench
34	Cut	Shallow U-shaped cut with flattish base	0.5m	1.2m			Pit observed in area of soakaway
35	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy clay 30-40% gravel charcoal flecking	0.5m	1.2m			Fill of [34]
36	Cut	Rounded V-shaped cut sides @ 60° rounded base	0.7m	0.9m			Only seen in section – possible ditch?
37	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy clay 35% gravel charcoal flecking	0.7m	0.9m			Fill of [36]