



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

20 BLENHEIM DRIVE, OXFORD OX2 8DG

NGR SP 50070 09540

DECEMBER 2020

REPORT PREPARED BY Christopher Whitehead

ILLUSTRATION BY Christopher Whitehead, Iwona Brodzka

EDITED BY John Moore

AUTHORISED BY John Moore

FIELDWORK 30th November 2020

REPORT ISSUED 7th December 2020

ENQUIRES TO John Moore Heritage Services
Pasture Farmhouse
Boarstall
Aylesbury
HP18 9UR

Tel: 01865 358300
Email: info@jmheritageservices.co.uk

JMHS Project No: 4242
OASIS No: johnmoor1_410068
Site Code: OXBD 20
Archive Location: A copy of the digital archive is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services (ID 4242). Digitised copies of the primary records are available on OASIS.



CONTENTS

	Page
<i>SUMMARY</i>	<i>1</i>
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Site Location	1
1.2 Planning Background	1
1.3 Archaeological Background	1
2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION	4
3 STRATEGY	5
3.1 Research Design	5
3.2 Methodology	5
4 RESULTS	5
4.1 Trench 1	5
4.2 Trench 2	7
4.3 Trench 3	10
4.4 Reliability of Results	11
5 FINDS	11
6 DISCUSSION	11
7 ARCHIVE	11
8 BIBLIOGRAPHY	11
APPENDIX 1 Context Inventory	12
APPENDIX 2. OASIS Report Form	14
APPENDIX 3. Primary Records	16
 FIGURES AND PLATES	
Figure 1. Site location	2
Figure 2 .Plan of trenches 1-3 and associated sections.	9
 Plate 1: Section 1.02 of Ditch 1/08. Looking south-west.	 6
Plate 2: Section 2.01. Looking south.	8
Plate 3: Section 3.01. Looking south-west.	10

SUMMARY

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an evaluation at 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford, Oxfordshire on the 30th November 2020. (NGR SP 50070 09540). The purpose of the evaluation was to inform a planning application for the demolition of no 20 Blenheim Drive, as well as the subsequent erection of 2 x 5-bed dwellinghouses and 3 x 3-bed dwellinghouses. During the course of the watching brief, three evaluation trenches were excavated. This particular area had potential for Palaeolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains. Over the course of the evaluation, an undated ditch feature, a modern pit feature and two natural features were uncovered. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The development site is located at the site of 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 8DG. (NGR SP 50070 09540). The site is located to the north of Blenheim Drive between 65m and 68m AOD. The deep geology is Oxford Clay formation. The superficial geology is Summertown-Radley Sand and Gravel Member.

1.2 Planning Background

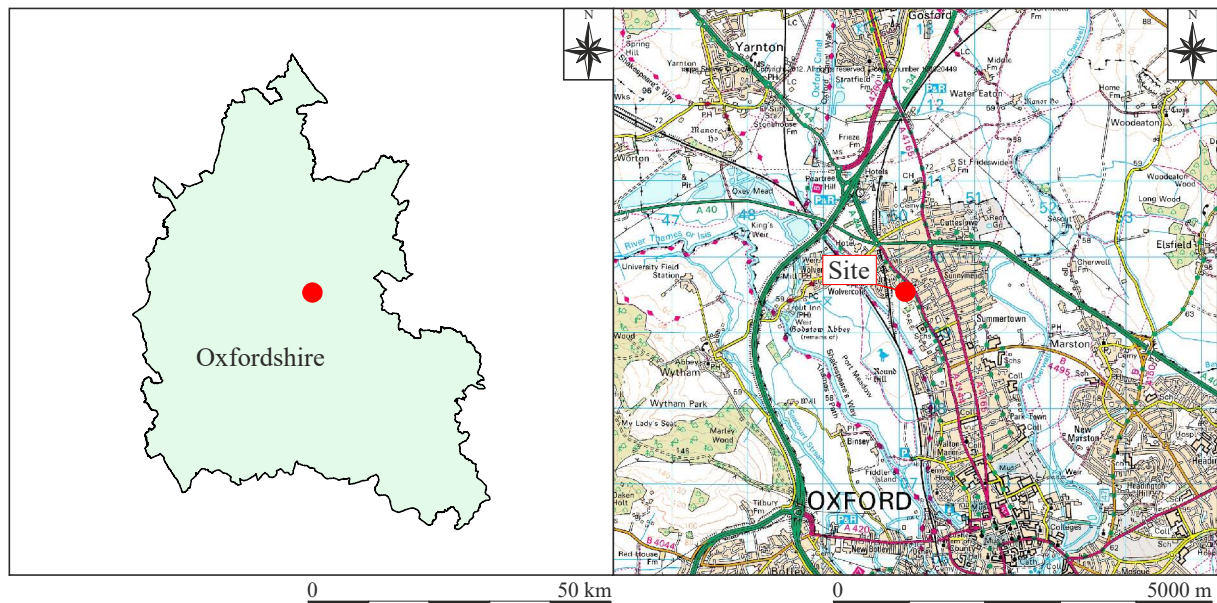
A planning application has been made to Oxford City Council for the demolition of no. 20 Blenheim Drive, as well as the erection of 2 x 5-bed dwellinghouses and 3 x 3-bed dwellinghouses. Additionally, for the provision of car parking, shared access drive with IR sensor, bin and cycle stores, with associated landscaping (Ref. 19/02723/FUL). Due to the potential for prehistoric and Roman remains in this location, and the insufficient information to establish the significance of heritage assets and the site, the City Council Archaeological Officer has requested that the applicant be required to undertake a field evaluation prior to the determination of this application.

Advice: In this case, there is insufficient information to establish the significance of the heritage assets at this site. I would therefore request that, in line with the advice in the NPPF, the applicant be required to undertake a field evaluation prior to the determination of this application.

Reason: Because the development may have a damaging effect on known or suspected elements of the historic environment of the people of Oxford and their visitors, including prehistoric and Roman remains.

1.3 Archaeological Background

A search of the City of Oxford Urban Historic Environment Record (COUHER) was made, with a radius of 750m from the site. The results are detailed below in chronological order; listed buildings are not included, except where they may have a bearing on the archaeological potential of the site.



Ordnance Survey (c) Crown Copyright 2017. All rights reserved. Licence number LAN1000151

Key Site boundary Evaluation trenches
 Archaeological features

0 50 m

Figure 1: Site location

Palaeolithic: There has been a limited amount of Palaeolithic material found within the search area: two flint flakes were found during the excavation of foundations approximately 470m northeast of the site; the broken tip of a handaxe was found further east in the Sunnymead area; undiagnostic flint flakes were found 700m southeast at St Edwards School and a primary flake was found further south in the Oakthorpe Road area. These pieces are likely to be residual, having been deposited in their final locations through the same natural processes that formed the Oxford Gravels.

Bronze Age: The site is located c.500m east of Port Meadow and Wolvercote Common; the area is a scheduled monument and contains evidence for activity from the Bronze Age period onwards. Remains dating to the Bronze Age include a circular ditched enclosure with a later Bronze Age burial mound, a burial mound combined with two banked ditches and a circular ditch dating to the late Bronze Age. These are likely to represent part of a dispersed ritual and funerary landscape that extends across the Summertown-Radley gravels from the River Thames to the River Cherwell.

A significant number of residual Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered during an evaluation and subsequent watching brief at Wolvercote Primary School approximately 330m northwest of the site. One sherd was recovered from the top fill of a large pit, perhaps providing a date for the feature.

Sherds of Bronze Age pottery and a collection of flint tools were found at the St Edwards School playing fields, approximately 700m southeast of the site.

Iron Age: Activity in the area now occupied by Wolvercote School appears to have continued into the Iron Age; the northwest corner of a rectilinear enclosure of Iron Age to early Roman date was recorded, in addition to other Iron Age ditches.

Another area of Iron Age activity is recorded c.380m southeast in the area of Middle Way. Several features, including a possible post built granary, an area of hardstanding and a gully were dated to the Late Iron Age to early Roman Period. The range of features recorded was thought to be indicative of a small scale farmstead.

A number of Iron Age or Romano British pottery sherds were found in a garden c.410m north of the site on Blandford Avenue.

Prehistoric: Cropmarks of broadly prehistoric date have been identified in the playing fields of St Edwards School, approximately 500m south of the site; these include a two circular enclosures, possibly ring ditches associated with Bronze Age round barrows.

Roman (Romano British): Activity in the Wolvercote School area continued into the Roman Period; the earlier enclosure ditches were recut and had been backfilled by the mid-1st century AD, perhaps representing the termination of activity in the area.

At Middle Way activity also continued. In the early Roman period a new four-post structure replaced the earlier one, with a renewed layer of hardstanding also laid down; to the west a number of enclosure gullies were dug. During the middle Roman period another four-post structure was built, though quickly removed due to the construction of two large ditches that ran through the centre of the excavated area. In

the late Roman period a further ditch was excavated across the site. Activity appears to have ceased by the end of the 3rd century. An evaluation nearby at 274-276 Woodstock Road recorded a posthole that, due to its proximity with the Middle Way site, was considered to be of Roman date.

Roman pottery dating to the 2nd to 4th century and possible evidence for occupation was found at St Edwards School during the excavation of a tunnel across the Woodstock Road in the early 20th century.

Chance finds dating to the period include: Roman coins found in the area of Davenant Road in the early 20th century, 400m north of the site; sherds of Roman pottery including mortaria and grey ware found in the area of Mere Road, approximately 500m northwest of the site and sherds of pottery found at 37 Blandford Avenue.

Medieval: During the medieval period the focus of settlement locally is likely to have been at Wolvercote, c.450m northwest of the site; the church of St Peter dates to at least the 14th century, though the a 12th century font suggests the presence of an earlier church. Ridge and furrow was recorded at 41 Davenant Road and Wolvercote School during archaeological investigation.

A medieval seal matrix dating to the 13th century was found at 43 Blenheim Drive, approximately 120m southwest of the site.

Post-medieval: A post-medieval horse racing track is located on Port Meadow, approximately 700m southwest of the site; the track is first recorded in the late 17th century and survives as grass marks, embankments and small bridges.

From the post-medieval period onwards extant buildings predominate the COUHER, though there is some archaeological evidence for activity. Walls associated with buildings dating to the 19th century were recorded during archaeological evaluation at 274-276 Woodstock Road. Several sherds of pottery and glass dating to the 16th – 18th century were found c.550m north of the site at Blandford Way.

Undated: A system of undated linear ditches is located on Port Meadow approximately 600m southwest of the site, identified through the Thames Valley NMP survey.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

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

- To undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site.
- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the site and the depth of soil deposits that overlie these remains.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To determine the degree of complexity of any horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
- To determine the impact of the proposed development on any remains present.

In particular:

- To establish the character and extent of any prehistoric or Roman activity.
- To inform the need for, and scope of, further phases of work to mitigate the impact of the development under consideration.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with David Radford (Oxford City Archaeological Officer) the archaeological advisor to the Oxford City Council.

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

3.2 Methodology

Three evaluation trenches of various lengths were excavated at the proposed development site of 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford. Trench 1 measured 28.50m by 1.60m, it was located to the north of no. 20 and was orientated NW-SE. Trench 2 measured 10.85m by 1.60, it was also located to the north of no. 20 and it was orientated E-W. Lastly, Trench 3 measured 20m by 1.60m, it was located to the south of no. 20 and it was orientated NW-SE. Trench 3 also curved slightly to the east at its south-eastern extent.

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.

4 RESULTS (Figure 2)

4.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located to the north of no. 20 Blenheim Drive, and was orientated NW-SE. It measured 28.50m by 1.60m. The earliest recorded deposit within Trench 1 was a friable, mid brownish-yellow gravelly sand (1/03) (Figure 2, P.1.01 and Section 1.01 and plate 1). It measured greater than 25m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and greater than 0.32m in depth. It was not observed throughout the full extent of the trench. This deposit was truncated by a natural feature 1/04, the cut for a modern feature 1/06 and the cut for a ditch feature 1/08. Deposit (1/03) was identified as the Summertown-Radley Sand and Gravel Member geology.

Stratified above deposit (1/03) in the north-western half of trench 1 was a deposit of loose, mid brown fine gravels (1/10) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01). Deposit (1/10) measured 7m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and greater than 0.40m in depth. It was identified as a natural gravel deposit.

Truncating deposit (1/03) in roughly the centre of trench 1 was an oval-shaped cut for a natural feature 1/04 (Figure 2, Plan 1.01). It had a gradual break-of-slope at the top

and irregular concave edges. It measured greater than 1.60m in length, 1.30m in width and greater than 0.30m in depth. An intervention was excavated through the feature, which revealed the irregular-shaped edges, however, the base was not observed. Additionally, cut 1/04 was observed to be truncating the natural deposit (1/03) on the south-western edge, but was observed to be underlying deposit (1/03) on the opposing north-eastern edge. This natural feature was therefore identified as a burrow truncating deposit (1/03).

Natural feature 1/04 was filled by a friable dark-brown sandy-silt (1/05). It measured greater than 1.60m in length, 1.30m in width and greater than 0.30m in depth. It also contained inclusions of moderate small-sized gravels. Deposit (1/05) was very similar to the subsoil deposit (1/02) that was observed throughout the full extent of trench 1. This material is the result of natural infilling of the burrow following its disuse.

Truncating deposit (1/03) to the north-western corner of trench 1 was an irregular shaped cut for a pit 1/06. (Figure 2, Plan 1.01). This feature measured 1.35m in length, greater than 0.70m in width and greater than 0.10m in depth. This feature was not excavated, as the fill deposit contained modern scrap metal (Fe), which identified pit 1/06 as a modern feature.

Pit 1/06 was filled by a friable, dark grey-black sandy-silt (1/07). This deposit was the primary fill and measured 1.35m in length, greater than 0.70m in width and greater than 0.10m in thickness. Fill (1/07) contained scrap metal (Fe) pieces, and the dark colour of the fill suggests other burnt and waste material was dumped into the feature.



Plate 1: Section 1.02 of Ditch 1/08. Looking south-west.

Stratified above deposit (1/03) at the south-eastern extent of Trench 1 was a firm blueish-grey clay (1/11) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01). It measured greater than 6.50m in

length and greater than 1.60m in width. The thickness of the deposit exceeded 0.20m. Deposit (1/11) was a sterile material and contained no inclusions, as a result this deposit was identified as a natural clay deposit.

Truncating the clay deposit (1/11) was a linear cut for a ditch 1/08. (Figure 2, Plan 1.01, Section 1.02 and Plate 1). It measured greater than 1.80m in length, 2.15m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.44m. It was orientated NE-SW. The ditch had a sharp break-of-slope at the top, with moderate concave edges and a gradual break-of-slope at the base. The base of the ditch was flat but slightly irregular. The intervention excavated into this ditch did not manage to capture the north-western extent of the feature in section. Ditch 1/08 has been identified as an field boundary ditch. However, this ditch was not identified within Trench 2 located to the south, so it has either curved or returned to the west and south-west, or it has terminated in-between Trenches 1 and 2. Additionally, the base of the feature was slightly overcut and the natural deposit (1/03) was observed at the base.

Ditch 1/08 was filled by a friable, dark brownish-grey silty-clay (1/09) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01 and Section 1.02 and Plate 1). It contained inclusions of frequent small stones and moderate small-sized gravels. Fill (1/09) measured greater than 1.80m in length, 2.15m in width and had a thickness of 0.44m. This fill deposit represents that naturally occurring silting of the ditch feature. Fill (1/09) contained no dating material so this ditch feature remains undated.

Overlying deposit (1/09) was a firm, light grey clay (1/12) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01, Section 1.02 and Plate 1). This deposit measured greater than 1.80m in length, 0.90m in width and 0.11m in thickness. It was a sterile deposit that contained no noteworthy inclusions. Deposit (1/12) was observed within section 1.02, but was identified as redeposited clay material.

Overlying deposits (1/05), (1/07), (1/10) and (1/12) was a friable, dark brown sandy-silt (1/02) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01, Section 1.01). This deposit measured greater than 28.5m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and 0.15m in thickness. Deposit (1/02) contained inclusions of moderate small-sized gravels. This deposit was identified as a subsoil layer, and it was observed throughout the full extent of trench 1.

The latest deposit within Trench 1 was a loose, dark grey sandy-silt (1/01) (Figure 2, Plan 1.01, Section 1.01). It measured greater than 28.50m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and had a thickness of 0.12m. Deposit (1/01) contained no noteworthy inclusions and was identified as topsoil. It was observed throughout the full extent of trench 1.

4.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located to the north of no. 20, and was located to the south of Trench 1, roughly 3m from the eastern-most extent. Trench 2 measured 10.85m by 1.60m and was orientated E-W. The earliest deposit within Trench 2 were firm light brown sandy-gravels (2/03) (Figure 2, Plan 2.01, Section 2.01 and Plate 2). It measured greater than 10.85m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and greater than 0.08m in depth. Deposit (2/03) was identified as being a natural sandy-gravel deposit.

Truncating natural deposit (2/03) was a natural feature 2/04 (Figure 2, Plan 2.01). It measured greater than 1.85m in length and 1.30m in width with a maximum depth of 0.18m. It was orientated NE-SW. It was irregularly shaped in plan, and it had gradual concave sides with a gradual break-of-slope at the top. The base was irregular and undulated moderately. A test intervention was placed through the centre of this feature, as it could have been the continuation of ditch 1/08 within Trench 1. However, after further excavation, it was identified as being a natural feature, following the irregular shape in plan, the irregular base and its shallow depth.



Plate 2: Section 2.01. Looking south.

Natural feature 2/04 was filled by a soft, greyish-brown sandy-silt clay (2/05). It contained inclusions of frequent small-sized stones and gravels. It measured greater than 1.85m in length, 1.30m in width with a maximum thickness of 0.18. A single piece of burnt clay weighing less than 1 gram was identified within this deposit. It was identified as a naturally occurring deposit within a natural feature.

Overlying the natural feature 2/04 and the natural deposit (2/03) was a friable mid-dark brown sandy-silt (2/02) (Figure 2, Plan 2.01, Section 2.01 and Plate 2). It measured greater than 10.85m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and had a thickness of 0.44m. Deposit (2/02) contained inclusions of rare small gravels. This deposit was nearly identical to deposit (1/02) observed within Trench 1 and was subsequently identified as a subsoil deposit.

The latest deposit within Trench 2 was a loose, dark grey sandy-silt (2/01) (Figure 2, Plan 2.01, Section 2.01 and Plate 2). It measured greater than 10.85m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and had a thickness of 0.10m. It contained no noteworthy inclusions. Deposit (2/01) was identified as the topsoil, and it was identical to deposit (1/01) observed within Trench 1.

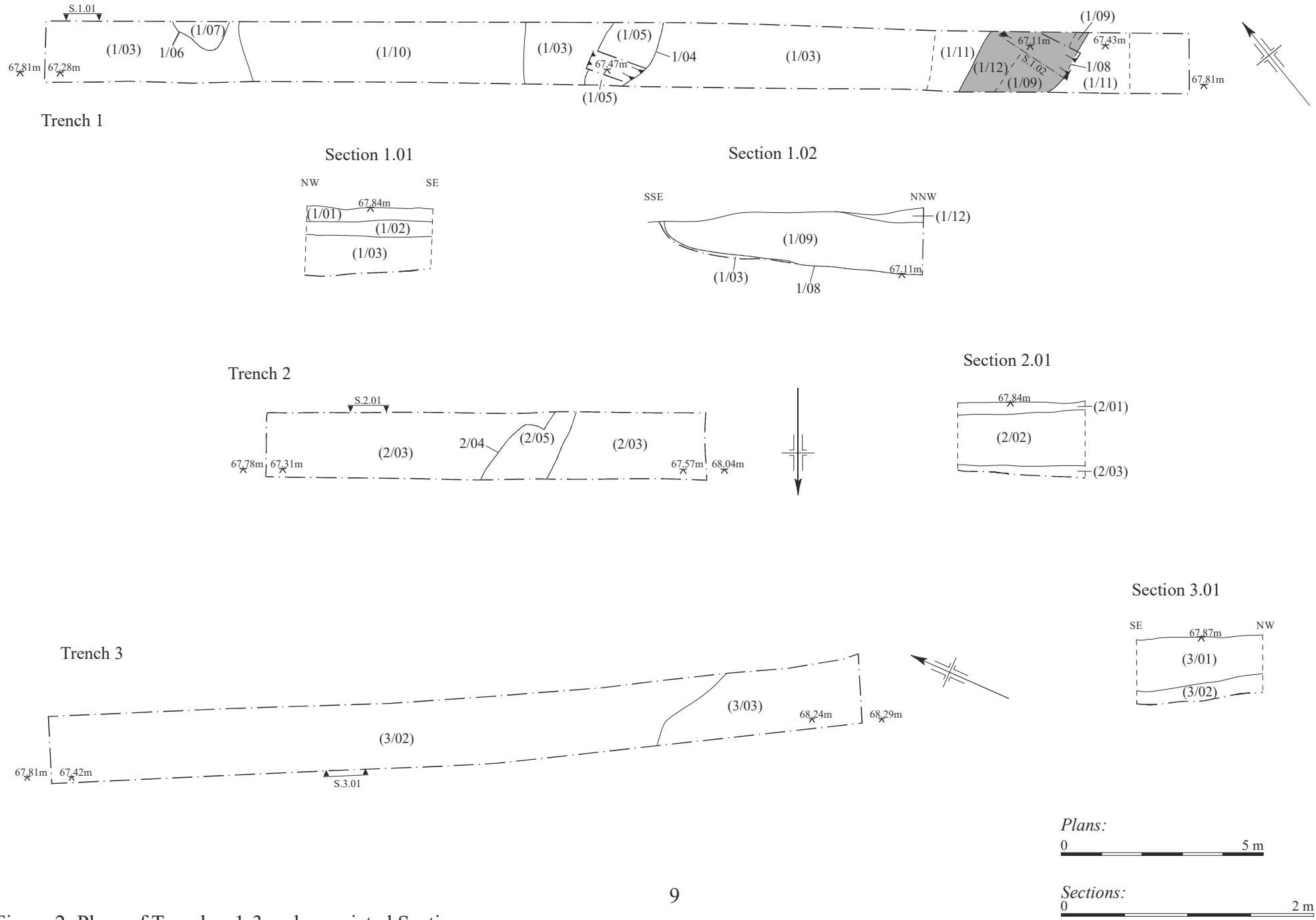


Figure 2: Plans of Trenches 1-3 and associated Sections.

4.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located to the south of no. 20, and was orientated NW-SE. It measured 20m by 1.60. The earliest recorded deposit was a firm, orangey-brown clayey-sand (3/02) (Figure 2, Plan 3.01, Section 3.01 and Plate 3). This deposit measured greater than 16.70m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and greater than 0.15m in depth. Deposit (3/02) was identified as a natural clay-sand deposit.



Plate 3: Section 3.01. Looking south-west.

Overlying deposit (3/02) to the south-eastern extent of Trench 3 was a firm, mid reddish-brown clayey-sand gravels (3/03) (Figure 2, Plan 3.01). The clay observed within this deposit was roughly less than 10% of the deposits composition. Deposit (3/03) measured greater than 5m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and greater than 0.10m in depth. There was a sliver of firm, mid grey-brown clayey-silt observed within the south-eastern corner of Trench 3, within deposit (3/03), but this was identified as topsoil material within an undulation of deposit (3/03). Deposit (3/03) was identified as being a natural clay sand deposit, it was very similar to natural deposit (3/02) observed throughout the rest of Trench 3.

The latest deposit observed within Trench 3 was a loose, mid grey-brown clayey-silty (3/01) (Figure 2, Plan 3.01, Section 3.01 and Plate 3). It measured greater than 20m in length, greater than 1.60m in width and had a thickness of 0.40m. There was no subsoil material identified within Trench 3, the horizon quality was not good enough to differentiate between the topsoil material and other deposits. Deposit (3/01) was identified as the topsoil deposit, and was consistent with deposits (1/01) and (2/01) in Trenches 1 and 2 respectively.

4.4 Reliability of Results

The reliability of the results is considered to be good, the three evaluation trenches were all opened and recorded within the same day. Additionally, the weather was overcast so visibility during the course of the evaluation was good.

5 FINDS

A single piece of burnt clay was observed within fill deposit (2/05) within the natural feature 2/04, it measured less than 1 gram and was not retained. No other archaeological material or artefacts

6 DISCUSSION

The evaluation aimed to identify the presence or absence of significant archaeological remains, with a particular focus on prehistoric and Roman remains. During the course of the evaluation, however, only a single undated field-boundary ditch was uncovered. Other features including two natural features and one modern feature were uncovered, but these were of no archaeological significance.

7 ARCHIVE

A Digital Archive is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services (ID 4242) and will be made available upon request (to admin@jmheritageservices.co.uk). Digitised copies of all the primary records will be made publicly available as appendix to the Final Report submitted to OASIS (ID johnmoor1_410068).

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014 *Standards and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation*

John Moore Heritage Services, 2020. 19/02723/FUL – 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 8DG. *Archaeological Evaluation. Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished.

Context	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1								
(1/01)	Deposit	Dark grey, sandy-silt. Loose	0.12m	1.60m >	28.50m >	None	Topsoil	Modern
(1/02)	Deposit	Dark brown, friable, sandy-silt. Moderate gravels.	0.15m	1.60m >	28.50m >	None	Subsoil	Undated
(1/03)	Deposit	Mid brownish-yellow, friable, sand with gravels.	0.32m >	1.60m >	25m>	None	Natural	N/A
1/04	Cut	Oval shaped, gradual BoS, concave edge.	0.30m >	1.30m >	1.60m>	N/A	Natural Feature	Undated
(1/05)	Fill	Friable, dark brown, sandy-silt. Moderate gravels inclusions.	0.30m >	1.30m >	1.60m>	None	Fill of 1/04	Undated
1/06	Cut	Irregular shape, not excavated	0.10m >	0.70m	1.35m	N/A	Modern Feature	Modern
(1/07)	Fill	Dark grey-black, friable, sandy silt	0.10m >	0.70m	1.35m	Scrap metal (Fe)	Fill of 1/06	Modern
1/08	Cut	Linear Ditch	0.53m	2.15m	1.80m>	N/A	Interior field boundary ditch	Undated
(1/09)	Fill	Friable, dark brownish-grey, silty-clay	0.53m	2.15m	1.80m>	None	Fill of 1/08	Undated
(1/10)	Deposit	Mid brown loose gravels	0.44m >	1.60m >	7m	None	Natural gravels	N/A
(1/11)	Deposit	Firm, blueish-grey clay	0.20m >	1.60m >	6.50m>	None	Natural Clay	N/A
(1/12)	Deposit	Firm, light grey clay. No inclusions	0.11m	0.90m	1.80m>	None	Redeposited clay within cut 1/08	Undated
Trench 2								
(2/01)	Deposit	Dark grey, loose sandy-silt.	0.10m	1.60m >	10.85m >	None	Topsoil	Modern
(2/02)	Deposit	Mid-dark brown, friable, sandy-silt, rare gravels.	0.44m	1.60m >	10.85m >	None	Subsoil	Undated
(2/03)	Deposit	Light brown, firm, sandy gravels	0.08m >	1.60m >	10.85m >	None	Natural	N/A
2/04	Cut	Irregular shape in plan, irregular base.	0.18m	1.30m	1.85m>	N/A	Natural Feature	Undated
(2/05)	Fill	Soft, mid greyish brown, sandy-silt clay. Frequent stones/gravels	0.18m	1.30m	1.85m>	None	Fill of 2/04	Undated
Trench 3								
(3/01)	Deposit	Loose, mid grey-brown, clayey-silt	0.40m	1.60m	20m>	None	Topsoil	Modern

				>				
(3/02)	Deposit	Firm, orangey-brown, clays-sand	0.15m >	1.60m >	16.70m >	None	Subsoil	Undated
(3/03)	Deposit	Firm, mid reddish brown, clayey sand gravels.	0.10m >	1.60m >	5m>	None	Natural	N/A

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Printable version

OASIS ID: johnmoor1-410068

Project details

Project name	20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford
Short description of the project	John Moore Heritage Services carried out an evaluation at 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford. Three evaluation trenches were excavated; an undated ditch feature, a modern pit feature and two natural features were uncovered. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered.
Project dates	Start: 30-11-2020 End: 30-11-2020
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	4242 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	OXBD 20 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	19/02723/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	BURNT CLAY Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	OXFORDSHIRE OXFORD OXFORD 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford, Oxfordshire.
Postcode	OX2 8DG
Study area	50 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 50070 09540 51.781829647612 -1.274102854987 51 46 54 N 001 16 26 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 67.11m Max: 68.29m

Project creators

Name of Organisation John Moore Heritage Services
 Project brief originator Oxford City Council
 Project design originator JMHS
 Project director/manager John Moore
 Project supervisor Christopher Whitehead
 Type of sponsor/funding body client
 Name of sponsor/funding body RIACH architects

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive recipient John Moore Heritage Services
 Digital Archive ID 4242
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","other"
 Digital Media available "GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Text"
 Digital Archive notes Digital files related to the project are maintained by John Moore Heritage Services (ID 4242) and will be made available upon request (to admin@jmheritageservices.co.uk).
 Paper Archive Exists? No

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Archaeological Evaluation at 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 8DG.
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Whitehead, C.
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Moore, J.
 Other bibliographic details JMHS Report Number 4242
 Date 2020
 Issuer or publisher JMHS
 Place of issue or publication Wheatley
 Entered by Simona Denis (admin@jmheritageservices.co.uk)
 Entered on 9 December 2020

SITE NAME 20 Bleken Drive Oxford 4242		SITE CODE OXBD20	Trench No. 1 (1 of 2)
DATE 30/11/20	Recorder IB/cw.	Trench size 28.5m x 1.60m	Co-ordinates at SW corner
Type of machine 360° tracked Bucket size/type 1.60m	Plan Nos. P. 1.01 Section Nos.	Conditions Overcast	
End: NW	Level at Top: 67.81	Level at Bottom: 67.28	End: SE Level at Top: 67.81 Level at Bottom: 67.43

Context	Layer thickness	Extent	Over	Under	Detailed Soil/Feature Description	Interpretation
(1/01)	0.12m	28.5m > x 1.60m >	(1/02)	-	Dark grey Sandy-Silt, loose,	Topsoil
(1/02)	0.15m	28.5m > x 1.60m >	(1/02) (1/08) (1/12)(1/07) (1/05)(1/10)	(1/01)	Dark brown, friable Sandy-Silt. Moderate gravels.	Subsoil
(1/03)	0.32m 0.16m 0.26m	28.7m > x 1.60m >	/	(1/11) (1/08) (1/10) (1/04)	mid brownish yellow friable Sand w/ gravels.	Natural Sand
[1/04]	>0.30m	1.60m > x 1.30m >	(1/03)	(1/05)	Oval - Shape, gradual BOS, concave edge	Cut of natural feature
(1/05)	>0.30m	1.60m > x 1.30m >	[1/04]	(1/02)	Friable dark-brown Sandy-Silt with moderate gravel inclusions.	Fill of [1/04]
[1/06]	/	1.35m x 0.70m >	(1/03)	(1/07)	Irregular Shape, not excavated.	Cut of modern feature
(1/07)	>0.10m	1.35m x 0.70m >	[1/06]	(1/02)	Dark grey-black, friable Sandy-Silt. Scrap metal.	Fill of [1/06]
[1/08]	0.53m	1.80m > x 2.15m	(1/11)	(1/09)	Linear Ditch - See Sheet [1/08]	Cut of Ditch
(1/09)	0.44m	1.80m > x 2.15m	[1/08]	(1/12)	Friable, dark brownish-grey Silty-clay. See Sheet (1/09)	Fill of [1/08]
(1/10)	0.44m	7m x 1.60m >	(1/03)	(1/02)	Mid brown, very loose gravels	Natural gravels

Grid Squares <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area/Trench TR1	Context Type cut	Site Code OXPD20	Context 1/08
--	--------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----------------

Plan No. P1.01 on Drawing Sheet No. 2	Section No. S1.02 on Drawing Sheet No. 2	Add. Sheet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	---	--

DEPOSIT 1 Compaction 2 Colour 3 Composition 4 Inclusions 5 Horizon clarity 6 Comments 7 Method & Conditions	Description 1 - LINEAR 2 - N/A 3 - E SIDE SHARP, W SIDE UNK 4 - E CONCAVE, W UNK 5 - E QUADRANT, W UNK 6 - IRREGULARLY FLAT 7 - NNE-SSW 8 - N/A 9 - UNK 10 - 1/09 11 - EXTENDS BEYOND LOE TO S, N, AND W
CUT 1 Shape in plan 2 Corners 3 Break of slope-top 4 Sides 5 Break of slope-base 6 Base 7 Orientation 8 Inclination of axis 9 Truncation 10 Fill Nos. 11 Other comments	
Dimensions Length: > 1.90m (1.80m) Thickness/Depth: > 2.15m (max 0.45) Width: > 2.15m	

Stratigraphic matrix	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 1/09 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	BELOW Under: 1/09 Filled by: 1/09 Cut by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Physical Relationship
	This context is: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 1/08 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	CONTEMPORARY Group No.: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 1/03 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	ABOVE Over: 1/03 Fill of: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cuts: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Interpretation & Discussion: Internal External Structural Other (specify)

CUT FOR LARGE LINEAR FEATURE POSSIBLE DITCH
 EXTENDS BEYOND LOE TO N AND S IN LENGTH, AND
 TO E IN WIDTH - NOT FULLY INVESTIGATED

Environmental Samples Nos: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FINDS none pot CBM fauna flora flint glass metal burntmat. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Small Finds: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Other finds (specify):	

Provisional Date:	Checked by (on site): _____ Date: _____
Completed by: SD Date: 30/11/20	Checked by (office): _____ Date: _____

Grid Squares <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area/Trench TR1	Context Type F/U	Site Code OXPD 20	Context (1/09)
--	--------------------	---------------------	----------------------	-------------------

Plan No. 71.01 on Drawing Sheet No. 2	Section No. S1.02 on Drawing Sheet No. 2	Add. Sheet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	---	--

DEPOSIT 1 Compaction 2 Colour 3 Composition 4 Inclusions 5 Horizon clarity 6 Comments 7 Method & Conditions	Description 1 - Soft friable brownish-grey 2 - DARK BROWN - GLEIST 3 - SILTY CLAY 4 - FREQ STONE, MOD GRAVEL 5 - FAIR 6 - NOT FULLY EXCAVATED
CUT 1 Shape in plan 2 Corners 3 Break of slope-top 4 Sides 5 Break of slope-base 6 Base 7 Orientation 8 Inclination of axis 9 Truncation 10 Fill Nos. 11 Other comments	
Dimensions Length: 1.90m 1.80m Thickness/Depth: max 0.45m Width: > 2.15m	

Stratigraphic matrix	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1/02) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	BELOW Under: 1/02 Filled by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut by: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Physical Relationship
	This context is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1/09)	CONTEMPORARY Group No.: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1/08) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	ABOVE Over: 1/08 Fill of: 1/08 Cuts: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Interpretation & Discussion: Internal External Structural Other (specify)

SINGLE F/U OF LARGE LINEAR FEATURE POSSIBLE DITCH
 1/08. NOT FULLY INVESTIGATED AS EXTENDING
 BEYOND COE TO N, S AND W

Environmental Samples Nos:	FINDS none pot CBM fauna flora flint glass metal burntmat. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Small Finds:	
Other finds (specify):	

Provisional Date:	Checked by (on site):	Date:
-------------------	-----------------------	-------

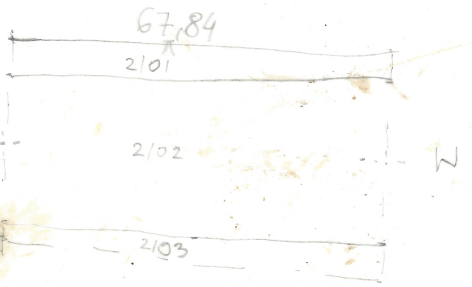
Completed by: SD	Date: 30/11/20	Checked by (office):	Date:
------------------	----------------	----------------------	-------

SITE NAME: 20 Blenheim Drive, Oxford		SITE CODE: OXBD20		Trench No. 2	
DATE: 30/11/20		Recorder: JBLaw.		Trench size: 10.85m x 1.60m	
Type of machine: 360° tracked		Bucket size/type: 1.60m toothless.		Conditions: Overcast	
End: E		Level at Top: 67.78		Level at Bottom: 67.31	
End: W		Level at Top: 68.04		Level at Bottom: 67.57	

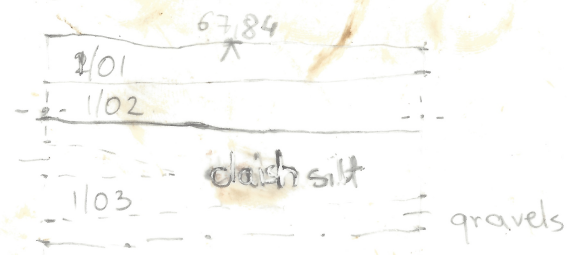
Layer	Layer thickness	Extent	Over	Under	Soil Description	Interpretation
2/01	0, 10m	9.00 x >1.50m	(2/02)	-	Black, loose, sandy silt, no inclusions Dark-grey.	Topsoil
2/02	0, 44m	>9.00 x >1.50m	(2/03)	(2/01)	Mid brown, friable, sandy silt, rare gravels -Dark-Brown	Subsoil
2/03	70, 08m	>9.00 x >1.60m	-	2/02 [2/04]	light brown, compacted, gravels firm Sandy gravels.	Natural
[2/04]	-	>1.90 x 1.30m	2/03	2/05	IRREGULAR in floor, irregular dense!	CUT OF POSS. NAT. FEAT.
2/05	max 0.18m	>1.90 x 1.30m	2/04	2/02	SOFT, MID BROWN GREYISH SANDY SILTY CLAY FR. STONE, GRAVEL	FIG OF POSS. NAT FEAT. [2/04]

OXBD 20 TR2

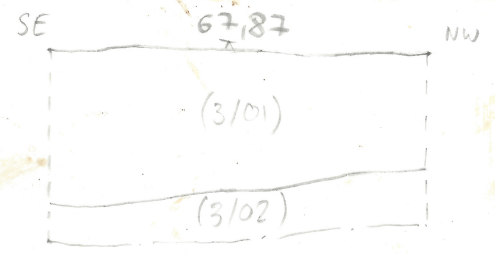
S. 2.01 rep. sec
30.11.20 1:20 1B



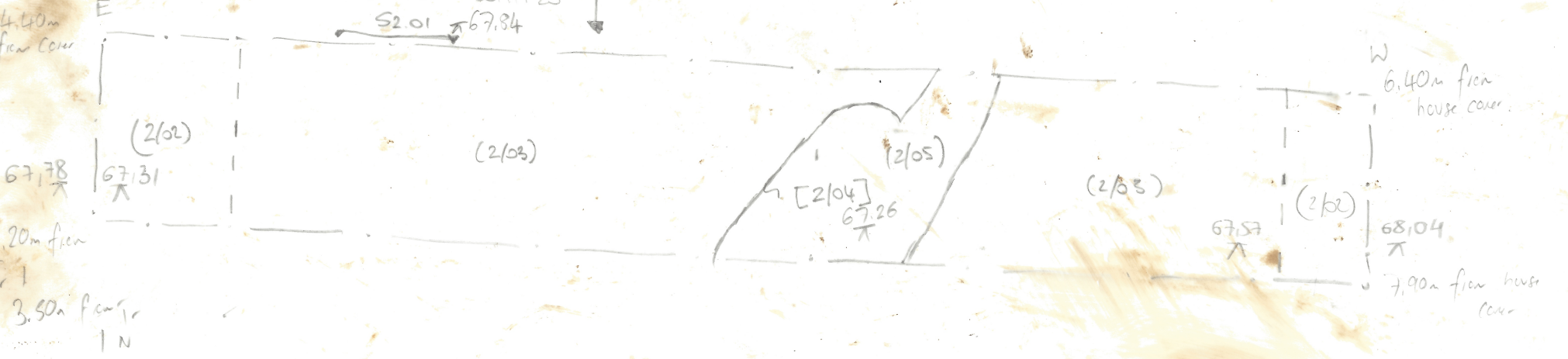
S. 1/01 1:20
30.11.20 1:10



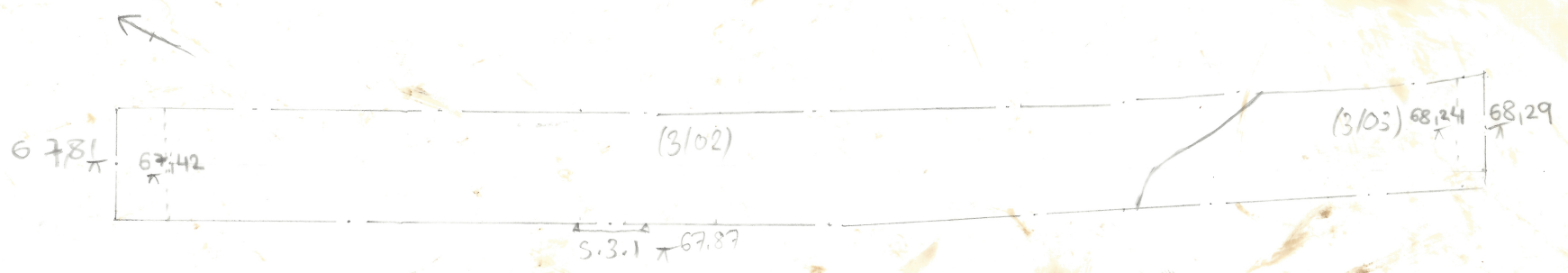
OXBD 20 S. 3.1 CW 1:20 30/11/20



OXBD 20 P. 2.01 TR2 1.50 SD 30.11.20



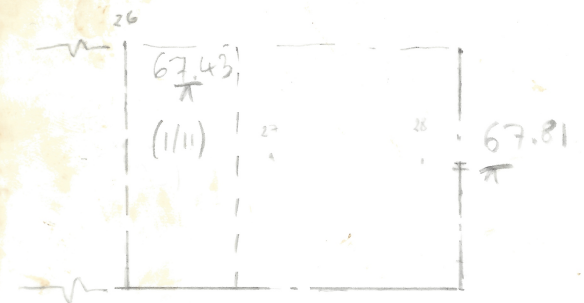
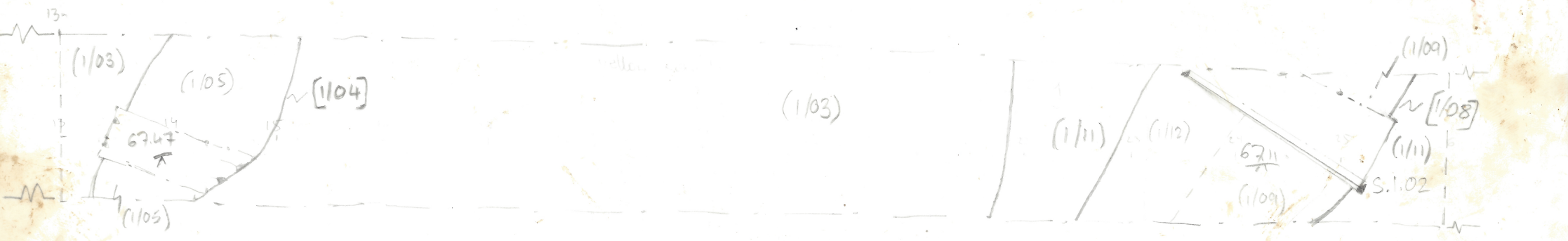
OXBD 20 P. 3.01 Tr. 3 1:100 CW 30/11/20



OXDB 20
PI. 01
1:50 IB 30/11/20



Modern Feature



OXDB 20 S1.02 DITCH [1/08] 1:20 SD 30.11.20

