GATEHAMPTON TO COMPTON

LICENCE TRANSFER

Archaeological Monitoring & Recording

Phase 2

Prepared by
NETWORK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
For
BLACK & VEATCH
On behalf of
THAMES WATER

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Network Archaeology delivers a complete consultancy and field service nationwide. The company's particular expertise is linear infrastructure, such as pipelines, roads, rail and cables. Its emphasis is upon good communication and recognition of client's individual needs and priorities. Network is known for delivering professional support, taking care of the archaeology and enabling projects to keep moving forward.

Our operating systems have been verified by:

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Non-Technical Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during the installation of a flood compensation area during improvement works at the Thames Water Utilities Ltd site at Gatehampton Farm, near Goring in south Oxfordshire (NGR 460290 279730).

The archaeological works were intended to mitigate potential adverse effects of the new installations upon buried archaeology.

The works comprised the excavation of a rectangular, long-term flood compensation area and the stripping of topsoil over a temporary soil storage area.

Four archaeological features of undetermined date, including a ditch, two postholes and a pit, were identified within the flood compensation area.

These cut features were sealed by a layer of alluvium, containing a wide date range of finds. The pottery was mostly prehistoric, some of which could be dated to the late Bronze Age. Some of the pottery was either early-middle Iron Age or Saxon. The flint spanned the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose & Description of the Scheme

This report presents the results of Phase 2 of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during the installation of a Flood Compensation Area (FCA) at Thames Water's Gatehampton Farm facility, South Oxfordshire.

1.2 Location, Site Description & Natural Environment

Thames Water's Gatehampton Farm facility is located on the northern bank of the River Thames, to the west of the Reading to Didcot railway line, south of Goring (NGR 460290 279730, centre) (Figure 1). The region falls within the Goring Gap, where the Thames river valley narrows as it passes through the Berkshire Downs. The area lies at c.45m OD, with the land sloping downwards towards the river.

1.3 Planning Background

Planning permission for the construction of the new borehole headworks and associated equipment was obtained by Thames Water Utilities Ltd from South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) on 22/12/2008 (Reference P08/W1221). The underground pipe and cabling works were carried out using Thames Water Utilities Ltd's permitted development rights.

Due to the potential of the proposed engineering works to affect archaeological remains, Thames Water Utilities engaged Network Archaeology to manage the archaeological component of the scheme. A WSI was prepared and archaeological monitoring carried out in agreement with Oxfordshire County Council Environment & Economy (OCCEE).

1.4 Scope of Works

The proposed scheme includes the following components:

1. Raising of existing borehole kiosks 2, 3 and 4;
2. Installation of new piping, cabling and hard-standing associated with the existing boreholes; and
3. Establishment of a Flood Compensation Area (FCA).

Scheme components 1-2 were monitored as part of the Phase 1 works in January to March 2011, and an Interim Report compiled (Network Archaeology 2011).

The current work (Phase 2) relates solely to scheme component 3 above. This included stripping both the FCA and a triangular piece of land for soil storage located north east of the FCA near the existing control building.

1.5 Archaeological Resourcing & Programming

The archaeological works were undertaken by a single archaeologist at project officer level between the 13th and 16th of August 2013 and an additional archaeologist at site assistant level on the 16th August 2013.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Rapid Appraisal

A rapid appraisal of archaeological and historical background within a 1km study area centred on the FCA was undertaken using publically available on-line resources. A number of archaeological sites were identified within the search area and are summarised below by period.

2.1.1 Previous archaeological investigations

A watching brief, conducted during upgrading works to the existing operations, identified a prehistoric palaeo-channel, stray finds evidencing landscape exploitation during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, Bronze Age hearths, an Iron Age ditch, a Roman posthole, hearth and possible quarrying pit, and a Saxon pit (JMHS 2009).

A watching brief, conducted on the Thames Valley pipeline at Gatehampton Farm, Goring, between 1985-1992, revealed evidence of occupation from the early post-glacial to the Middle Ages (Allen 1995)

2.1.2 Prehistoric (c.500 000- 43AD)

The term ‘prehistoric’ is applied to sites which are clearly prehistoric in nature (i.e. pre-AD43). All prehistoric periods were represented within the study area through the presence of stray finds and sites. These included a Palaeolithic handaxe, three Mesolithic axes, flint tools and cores and a Mesolithic flint pick. Most notably, to the immediate east of the FCA, a Palaeolithic kill site and Mesolithic flint scatter were identified (HER MOX10872). Neolithic flint tools were also identified within the study area as well as a Neolithic causewayed enclosure and settlement and a Bronze Age barrow cemetery immediately south east of the FCA (NMR 241352). A finds scatter including Mesolithic flint tools, a Neolithic axle cap and Iron Age coins was also identified within the study area, north east of the FCA (NMR 241927).

Notably within the study area, to the immediate east of the FCA beyond the railway a Bronze Age barrow cemetery and Neolithic cursus were identified (NMR 241340). Investigations in advance of construction works surrounding these features revealed a number of finds including Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age lithic material and pottery, suggesting multiphase activity within the area. Adjacent to this settlement, previous excavations have identified ring ditches, a bell barrow, round barrow and barrow cemetery with several associated artefacts pertaining to the Bronze Age period (HER MOX1079). A watching brief undertaken between 2008 and 2009 identified a paeleo-channel within close proximity to the barrow cemetery. Accumulative silting during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, Bronze Age hearths and associated contemporary finds from these periods suggest exploitation of the area over a broad period of time (John Moore Heritage services 2009).

2.1.3 Roman (43AD-410)

The Roman period is well represented through the identification of a number of stray finds and settlement evidence. Excavations undertaken in 1839 identified the remains of a villa south east of the FCA with associated pavements, pottery and a coin (NMR 241288). Futher settlement evidence was identified, adjacent to the villa, in the form of cropmarks representing a trackway and enclosures with wall remains, pottery, tile and bone fragments (NMR 24135). A further three villas were identified within the study area, one situated directly west of the FCA (NMR 1401795), one to the south (NMR 1178953) and one to the east of the FCA. Further to this, a possible farmstead was identified east of the FCA (HER MOX8155). The roman road from Dorchester-on-Thames to Silchester also runs through the south west extent of the study area (NMR 984108). Stray finds were also identified in the study area, including seven coins, two brooches and pottery sherds.

2.1.4 Medieval (AD 410 – 1540)

Excavations have identified evidence of Saxon activity immediately south of the FCA in the form of a sunken-featured building and scattered postholes (HER MOX 10887). These features were found in the vicinity of the Neolithic causeway and Bronze Age barrow cemetery discussed above.
Documentary evidence of an abandoned village on the eastern periphery of the study area is further evidence of medieval activity (NMR 241339).

2.1.5 Post-medieval – Early modern (AD1540 – 1939)

A total of eight post-medieval features were identified in the study area. Of these, five were listed structures: Gatehampton Manor, C17, Grade II (LS 247267; a barn, C17, grade II (LS 247266); a house, C18 grade II (LS 395026); a milestone, C18, grade II (LS 395020); and a railway bridge, c. 1838, grade II (LS 394736). A Type 22 shell-proof pillbox was also identified to the west of the FCA (NMR 1401795). It is also important to note Brunel's Great Western Railway adjacent to the FCA (NMR 1359288) and the River Thames navigation running along the western and southern sides of the FCA (NMR1341177).

2.1.6 Modern and Unidentified

A single pillbox was identified within the study area to the south east of the FCA (HER MOX8167). Aerial photography has also identified crop-marks and a linear ditch of undetermined date directly north of the FCA (Waterman CPM 2007).

3 AIMS & METHODODLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

The **general** objectives of the watching brief were:

- To identify, appropriately manage and fully mitigate the archaeological resource potentially affected by the proposed works;
- To consider, in all cases of archaeological discovery, whether preservation in situ is desirable or achievable as the foremost response;
- To determine, where preservation in situ is not desirable or achievable, an appropriate strategy for preservation by record;
- To develop, where possible, knowledge and understanding of the historic landscape and archaeological resource through recording of threatened remains;
- To determine and understand the nature, function and character of any archaeological remains in their cultural and environmental setting;
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental sequence and context of archaeological deposits and features;
- To engage in a programme of post excavation, archiving, synthesis and study, leading to publication and dissemination of results, and
- To ensure the long-term survival of the information through deposition of a project archive.

3.2 Methodology & Standards

A permanent-presence was maintained during all ground penetrating works.

All work (fieldwork, processing, assessment and reporting) was undertaken in accordance with the methodology and standards laid out in the WSI (Network Archaeology 2013), an extract of which appears in Appendix A.

4 RESULTS & INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

The results of the watching brief are presented below. A summary table of contexts can be found in Appendix B.

4.2 Flood compensation area

4.2.1 Description

The FCA was located towards the south west perimeter fence/track in-between borehole no. 2 and borehole no. 3. The FCA was a rectangular area of 537 m^2, oriented northeast to southwest, and which measured 58m long and 9.4m wide at its SW end tapering to under 8m at its NE end, and was excavated to an average depth of 0.5m (Figure 3).

4.2.2 Stratigraphy

The topsoil (7000) comprised 0.2-0.3m mid dark grey brown loose silty sand which contained worked flints. The topsoil overlay 0.06-0.10m of alluvium (7001) which comprised mid orange brown friable coarse silty sand with frequent stony inclusions. This layer contained worked flints, burnt flint and a range of pottery sherds including prehistoric, late Bronze Age and Iron Age or Saxon. Directly below this was yellow/orange brown silty sand, forming the natural geology (7002) (Plates 1 and 6)

4.2.3 Archaeological findings

Four archaeological features were identified during the watching brief, comprising one ditch, one pit and two possible postholes. All features were found to cut the natural geology (7002) and were sealed by alluvial layer (7001)

Ditch 7013

The ditch was visible for approximately 8m, extending from the east to the west baulk of the FCA (Figure 3). The ditch appeared continuous and straight in plan, oriented east west. It was excavated in two sections, one at each extent of the FCA (Figure 4a). The east section (**7003)** had progressively steeper sloping sides and a moderately rounded base (1m

wide and 0.25m deep). The primary fill (7005) comprised 0.05m of mid brown orange friable sandy silt. The secondary fill (7004) comprised 0.20m of mid orange brown firm silty sand with a high stone and gravel content (Figure 4c, Plates 1 and 2).

The west section (**7010)** had steep sloping, slightly concave sides and a moderately flat base (0.9m wide and 0.44m deep). The primary fill (7012) comprised of 0.06m of the same mid brown orange friable sandy silt as (7005). The secondary fill (7011) comprised 0.38m of the same mid orange brown firm silty sand with a high stone and gravel component as (7004). The stone and gravel content in this section appeared in bands sloping slightly from the northern edge of the ditch but these did not appear distinct enough to record as separate contexts. No finds were retrieved from either section of the ditch (Figure 4b, Plates 5 and 6).

Posthole 7006

This posthole was located centrally towards the south west end of the FCA (Figure 3). The posthole was circular in plan and had steep concave sides and a flattish/ slightly rounded base (0.28m by 0.31m and 0.17m deep) (Figure 4a). The sole fill of the posthole (7007) comprised dark red brown friable gravelly silty sand. No finds were retrieved (Figure 4d, Plate 3).

Posthole 7008

This posthole was located towards the south west end of the FCA (Figure 3). The posthole was ovoid in plan and had shallow sloping sides and a flattish/ slightly rounded base (0.30m wide, 0.44m long and 0.08m deep) (Figure 4a). The sole fill of the posthole (7009) comprised dark red brown friable gravelly silty sand. No finds were retrieved (Figure 4f, Plate 4).

Pit 7014

This pit was located just south of the western most visible end of ditch 7013 (Figures 3, 4a). The pit was sub-circular in plan and had concave sides and a rounded base (0.8m long, 0.54m wide and 0.35m deep). The primary fill of the pit (7016) comprised 0.05m of mid yellow orange loose silty sand. The secondary fill of the pit (7015) comprised 0.30m of dark brown grey, loose silty sand and contained a single Mesolithic blade (Figure 4b, Plate 5).

4.3 Soil storage area

4.3.1 Description

The soil storage area was located just south of the existing control building, alongside the railway track which formed the north east boundary of the water operations site. The storage area was triangular and measured 1771 m^2. It was 173 m long, 49 m wide and was stripped to a depth of *c*.0.30m (Figure 3).

4.3.2 Soil stratigraphy

The topsoil (8000) comprised 0.15-0.25m mid dark grey brown loose silty sand, which overlay a mid orange brown layer of alluvium (8001) with frequent stony inclusions. The depth of this layer was unknown as it was not fully excavated. Neither layer contained any finds.

4.3.3 Archaeological findings

Towards the south corner of the soil storage area was an 'L'-shaped brick feature comprising a NE-SW oriented 'arm' measuring *c*.5m long and a NW-SE oriented 'arm' measuring *c.*1m long. Both 'arms' were *c*.0.45m wide and 0.06m deep. The feature contained modern brick rubble footings and hessian sacking.

The feature is thought to represent the footprint of a temporary/short-term, and possibly non-load-bearing structure. As an evidently modern feature, the building footprint was not subsequently recorded in detail.

4.4 Finds

4.4.1 Summary

A total of 25 artefacts, comprising 7 worked flints weighing 62 g, 5 burnt flints weighing 35 g and 13 sherds of pottery, weighing 62 g were recovered during the archaeological works. A summary table of the finds is below (Table 4.1) and the specialist finds reports are presented in Appendix D.

Table 4.1 Summary table of finds

Context	Data	Flint					Pottery				Grand Total
		M	M/N	N/BA	?Mod	B	LBA	PR	IA/S	U/D	
7000	C			3							**3**
	W (g)			47							**47**
7001	C		2		1	5	1	4	7	1	**21**
	W (g)		11		1	35	16	20	23	3	**109**
7015	C	1									**1**
	W (g)	3									**3**
Total Count		**1**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**4**	**7**	**1**	**25**
Total Weight		**3**	**11**	**47**	**1**	**35**	**16**	**20**	**23**	**3**	**159**

KEY: B=burnt, M=Meso, N=Neolithic, BA=Bronze Age, LBA=late Bronze Age, Mod=modern, PR=prehistoric, IA=Iron Age, S=Saxon, U/D=undetermined

5 DISCUSSION

The archaeological investigations have recorded a low volume of archaeology within the FCA comprising one ditch, one pit and two postholes. None of these features benefit from reliable, absolute dating.

All of these features cut the natural geology (7002) and were sealed by a thin layer of alluvium (7001), representing over-bank spill from the nearby River Thames. This layer contained a wide date range of pottery and flint covering the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and either the Iron Age or Saxon periods. Residuality is clearly an issue here. The small and abraded nature of the assemblage reflects its 'disturbed' stratigraphic location.

Turning to the cut features, these appear to represent a boundary ditch and part of a post-fast structure. The spatial proximity of the two postholes (**7006** and **7008**) suggest that they are likely associated with one another. Unfortunately, the form and function of any postulated structure to which they related cannot be determined, as this was not visible within the FCA. In terms of dating, the fills were naturally-derived and contained no archaeological material, apart from possible packing stones. The stratigraphic relationships to other deposits also proved unhelpful in this respect.

The ditch (**7013**) is thought to have demarcated a boundary rather than have provided drainage, as the underlying substrate/geology is fairly free-draining. The lower fill of the ditch (7005) and (7012) represented a phase of primary silting during the active life of the ditch. Although the upper fill of the ditch appeared naturally accumulated, the stony 'banding' recorded within the west section may represent episodes of human/animal activity during its later life and suggests that the site had not been abandoned at this time. With no recovered finds, the date of the ditch is also unknown.

The ditch (7013) was not aligned with either of the WNW – ESE oriented ditches which are visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Neither of these ditches appeared to continue west into the FCA (Waterman CPM 2007) (Figure 3).

Whilst the stratigraphic relationship of all of the cut features suggests that they may be broadly contemporary, the intercutting of ditch 7013 and pit 7015 is evidence of a degree of multi-phase activity.

Pit **7014** contained two naturally accumulated fills, including primary silting and a subsequent, more prolonged, filling event. This upper fill was distinctly darker than other fills encountered on the site, suggesting that the soil content of the pit might include anthropogenic material such as fine charcoal dust. The material was not, however, in sufficient density to indicate anything other than wind or water dispersal. Whilst this pit was the only cut feature to produce any finds, little significance can given to the Mesolithic blade which it contained.

No archaeological remains of any significance were found in the soil storage area.

6 CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological monitoring and recording proved successful in achieving the aims of the Written Scheme of Investigation and has also ensured the long-term survival of the information through the completion of this report and the deposition of the site archive.

The recent investigations identified evidence of multi-phase activity pre-dating an alluvial event and a wide date range of finds, all in line with previous findings.

Given the considerable amount of archaeology identified during previous investigations, however, the recent watching brief at Gatehampton Farm identified a comparatively low density of new findings.

Given the low level of archaeological activity identified during the recent watching brief, the effect upon the archaeological resource of this particular component of the development is considered negligible to low. However, it is worth noting that only a small area was investigated, and given what else has been found during previous phases of work at Gatehampton Farm and the richness of the local archaeological resource, it is highly likely that further remains exist within the vicinity.

7 ARCHIVE

The documentary archive comprises:

- a copy of this report
- relevant and non confidential documents and correspondence relating to the site, held by Network Archaeology
- original notes relating to the finds or post excavation assessments
- site records, as detailed in the table below:

Table 7.1 Archive summary

Archive item	Count
Context indicies	**2**
Context sheets	**19**
Digital images	**11**
Drawing registers	**1**
Film: black and white	**7**
Film: colour slide	**0**
Level registers	**0**
Number record	**1**
Permatrace sheets	**1**
Photographic registers	**3**
Plans	**4**
Plot survey Records	**0**
Registered finds indicies	**0**
Registered finds sheets	**0**
Sample indicies	**1**
Sample sheets	**1**
Sections	**5**
Trench record sheets	**0**

Oxfordshire County Museum and Archive Store, Witney Road, Standlake, Oxon OX8 7QG (telephone number: 01865 300716) will receive the document archive, and with the permission of the landowner, any finds generated from the archaeological works. The Accessions Number for this project is OXCMS: 2011.4.

Completion of archive deposition will be notified in writing to B&V, Thames Water and OCCEE.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Network Archaeology would like to thank the following for their contribution to the project:

Table 8.1 Acknowledgements

Organisation	Name	Position
Black & Veatch	Colin Miller	Project Manager
	Paul King	Works Manager
	Chris Horley	Site Engineer
	Anne Dugdale	Technical Director
	Ashley Carton	Graduate Environmental Scientist
	Andrea Fitzmaurice	QA & Env Advisor
Network Archaeology	David Bonner	Senior Project Manager
	Graham Cruse	Senior Project Officer
	Virginia Walton	Project Archaeologist
	Susan Freebrey	Illustrations Officer
Oxfordshire County Council: (Historic and Natural Environment Team, Infrastructure Planning)	Richard Oram	Planning Archaeologist

9 REFERENCES

Source	Year	Title	Publisher
Allen. T.	1995	Lithics & Landscape: Archaeological Discoveries on the Thames Water Pipeline at Gatehampton Farm 1985 – 92	Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph No 7, OA
John Moore Heritage Services (JMHS)	2009	An Archaeological Watching Brief at Gatehampton, Goring, Oxfordshire, Phase II	Unpublished report JMHS no. 1918
Network Archaeology Ltd	2013	Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief	
Waterman CPM (Environmental Planning & Design)	2007	Interpretation of Aerial Photographs for Archaeology	Unpublished report H3068-01

Appendix A

Methodology extracted from the WSI

1.7.2 Objectives

The general objectives of the watching brief are:

- To identify, appropriately manage and fully mitigate the archaeological resource potentially affected by the proposed works;
- To consider, in all cases of archaeological discovery, whether preservation in situ is desirable or achievable as the foremost response;
- To determine, where preservation in situ is not desirable or achievable, an appropriate strategy for preservation by record;
- To develop, where possible, knowledge and understanding of the historic landscape and archaeological resource through recording of threatened remains;
- To determine and understand the nature, function and character of any archaeological remains in their cultural and environmental setting;
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental sequence and context of archaeological deposits and features;
- To engage in a programme of post excavation, archiving, synthesis and study, leading to publication and dissemination of results, and
- To ensure the long-term survival of the information through deposition of a project archive.

2.2 Quality standards

2.2.1 Institute for Archaeologists

All archaeological work will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) Code of Conduct (2002) and Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (2002) and with all relevant IfA standard and guidance documents. The standards represented by the Registered Archaeological Organisation (RAO) scheme operated by the IfA will be adhered to throughout.

2.3 Watching brief scope

An archaeological watching brief will be undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologists within a framework for reporting of significant archaeological discoveries which allow for decisions to be taken regarding the treatment of any identified archaeological sites in accordance with the principles set-out below, retaining preservation in situ as an option and allowing time for preservation by record if appropriate.

2.4 Areas(s) requiring an archaeological watching brief

Monitoring will take place of all ground-disturbing activities which have the potential to affect archaeological remains.

2.5 Watching brief strategy

2.5.1 Watching brief methodology

Continuous presence monitoring will take place during mechanical excavation of topsoil, subsoil and any other overburden, where there is potential for archaeological impact. The surface of all stripped areas will be visually searched for archaeological remains.

Finds will be collected from the stripped surface and spoil heaps and placed within plastic bags marked with the relevant context number and unique find number identifier. Finds will be recorded by hand-held GPS, to an accuracy of sub-5m. Where necessary, finds will be recorded using equipment with a greater degree of accuracy. The recorded data will be downloaded into a GIS system which will be used for display purposes. Artefacts of intrinsic importance will be located to the nearest metre using hand held GPS technology. All artefacts will be collected with the exception of any artefacts positively identified as modern (post WWII). If concentrations of certain materials such as stone, slag, tile and early modern pottery are present they will be sketch planned in the field and sampled only.

Any mechanical excavation which is considered necessary to monitor will be visually inspected for archaeological remains. Where the trench is too deep to enter a visual inspection will be conducted from the top of the trench ensuring that a safe distance is maintained from the trench edge.

All features revealed within stripped areas and mechanically excavated trenches, which cannot be positively eliminated as natural in origin, will be cleaned and investigated sufficiently to positively determine whether or not they are of archaeological origin.

In the case of discovering single or isolated groups of archaeological remains, the archaeologist(s) undertaking the watching brief will clean, excavate and record them in the course of their daily duties. Investigation and recording will follow the procedures laid down in Section 2.7. The notification and management of significant archaeological remains will be undertaken as per the procedures laid down in Section 2.6.

In the event of the discovery of human remains or 'treasure', the attending archaeologist will follow the procedures laid down in section 2.8.1 and section 2.8.2 respectively.

2.6 Notification and management of significant archaeological remains

The management of significant archaeological remains, discovered during the watching brief, will be achieved by a three stage process, as follows:

- Notification of discovery;
- On-site assessment of the importance of any such remains and formulation of a scope of recording works, and
- Implementation of approved scope of works.

Upon discovery of significant archaeological remains Black & Veatch, Thames Water Utilities Ltd and OCCEE will be notified immediately by Network Archaeology. Any archaeologically sensitive areas will be clearly demarcated on the ground so as to protect such areas from any activities which might have an adverse impact upon archaeology.

The scope of investigation, programme and resources will be determined by OCCEE, Thames Water Utilities Ltd, Black & Veatch and Network Archaeology Ltd during a site meeting. The agreed works will be confirmed immediately in writing by Network Archaeology Ltd to Black & Veatch, Thames Water Utilities Ltd and OCCEE.

Sufficient time will be allowed within the Principal Contractor's construction programme to provide an appropriate record of the identified archaeology.

Mitigation might include additional machine and/or hand cleaning, and/or hand excavation/ recording and/or avoidance mitigation.

The final mitigation will take account of:

- The Principal Contractor's construction schedule;
- Engineering and health & safety requirements;
- The extent and distribution of archaeological remains across the stripped areas, and
- The significance of the remains.

Areas for which 'formal excavation' is agreed may require an addendum to this Written Scheme of Investigation.

2.7 Archaeological Excavation - Investigation and Recording

2.7.1 Hand-cleaning and hand-excavation

All significant archaeological remains encountered will be sample excavated, in a controlled and stratigraphic manner, and in sufficient quantities, in order to meet the stated objectives (see 1.7.3) and recorded fully.

The following outline will form the basis of any formal excavation. The final applied specification will be agreed in consultation with OCCEE:

- Intersections between features and/or deposits (where any relationships are uncertain) will be investigated and recorded, so as to determine sequence.
- Linear features will be excavated in sections at least one metre wide, up to a minimum of 20% of their revealed length. Sections will be positioned away from intersections with other features or deposits.
- Pits, postholes and other discrete features will be half sectioned (unless agreement otherwise is reached with OCCEE).

- Postholes and related features which form recognisable structures will be fully excavated.
- Burials will be fully excavated.
- Discrete features which contain deposits of particular value or significant artefact or environmental assemblages will be fully excavated.
- Floor surfaces, occupation layers, kilns, furnaces or stone structures will be fully excavated, as appropriate.
- Complex stratigraphy will be excavated in accordance with a sampling strategy to be developed on site in consultation with OCCEE. Where necessary, this may include structured sampling of buried soils to provide a representative assessment of artefact densities.
- A sampling procedure for the retrieval of artefactual, environmental and organic material will be instituted during the excavation and this will be based upon national guidance (English Heritage 2002). Details of the sampling strategy are included below (see Section 2.7.5).
- Waterlogged deposits will be sampled appropriately for environmental study (e.g. pollen);

A 20% contingency has been identified for more intensive sampling. The use of this contingency would only be undertaken once agreed with Black & Veatch, Thames Water Utilities Ltd and OCCEE.

2.7.2 Preservation *in situ*

All archaeological work will be undertaken with a view to avoiding deposits worthy of preservation in situ, where practicable and desirable. This is likely to only concern archaeological features or deposits which exist below the ‘reduced construction level’. Where archaeological remains are to be preserved in situ, advice will be sought from OCCEE and English Heritage and a specification will be drawn up to adequately protect any such remains from deterioration.

3 POST-FIELDWORK PROCEDURES

3.1 Overview

A programme of post-fieldwork assessment and reporting will be initiated upon completion of archaeological fieldwork. This will include the preparation, processing, research, assessment, analysis and investigative conservation necessary to prepare the site archive for preservation in a usable form and to produce an appropriate report for publication. This work will be carried out in accordance with current national guidelines (EH 2006 and EH 1991ii).

Post-fieldwork procedures for this phase of works will be determined by agreement between OCCEE, Black & Veatch, Thames Water Utilities Ltd and Network Archaeology Ltd, and is likely to take one of two routes:

- In the event of no significant findings, the likely route is a preliminary statement (see Section 3.2) followed by a client report (see Section 3.5) and submission of a publication note (see Section 3.6.2).

- In the event of significant findings, a formal MAP 2 route is more likely, comprising submission of a preliminary statement (see Section 3.2), assessment of the finds/samples and document archive (see Section 3.3), submission of an assessment report and updated project design (see Section 3.4), submission of a client report (see Section 3.5) and submission of a publication report (see Section 3.6.2).

The findings of the archaeological investigations to which this WSI relates will be considered alongside those of all previous archaeological works relating to this scheme and any other relevant archaeological works. Post-fieldwork Assessment, Analysis and Publication will be advanced through ongoing collaboration with any other organisations/parties considered relevant by OCCEE and approved by Black & Veatch.

Appendix B

Summary table of contexts

Context	Type	Fill of	Dimensions (m)	Description	Interpretation
7000	Layer		0.2m to 0.3m thick	Mid to dark grey-brown loose silty sand	Topsoil
7001	Layer		0.11m thick	Mid orange-brown coarse friable silty sand	Subsoil
7002	Layer		n/a	Mid yellow orange-brown sandy gravel	Natural gravel
7003	Cut		1m wide x 0.24m deep	E-W oriented linear with steep concave sides and a concave base	Ditch
7004	Fill	7003	0.2m thick	Dark red-brown friable silty sand	Upper fill of ditch
7005	Fill	7003	0.04m thick	Dark orange-brown fine silty sand	Primary fill of ditch
7006	Cut		0.31m long, 0.28m wide and 0.17m deep	Ovoid cut with moderate concave sides and a flat base	Posthole
7007	Fill	7006	0.17m thick	Dark red-brown friable gravelly silty sand	Sole fill of posthole
7008	Cut		0.44m long, 0.3m wide and 0.09m deep	Ovoid cut with shallow concave sides and a concave base	Posthole
7009	Fill	7008	0.08m thick	Dark red-brown friable gravelly silty sand	Sole fill of posthole
7010	Cut		0.92m wide x 0.44m deep	E-W oriented linear with steep concave sides and a concave base	Ditch
7011	Fill	7010	0.38 max thick	Firm mid orange-brown silty gravelly sand	Upper fill of ditch
7012	Fill	7010	0.09m max thick	Friable mid brown-orange sandy silt	Primary fill of ditch
7013	Group		c.8m long, 1m wide and 0.4m deep	E-W oriented linear with steep concave sides and a concave base	Ditches 7010 and 7003
7014	Cut		0.8m long, 0.54m wide and 0.35m deep	Sub-circular cut with steep concave sides and a flatish base	Pit of posthole
7015	Fill	7014	0.3m thick	Dark brown-grey loose silty sand	Burnt fill of pit or posthole
7016	Fill	7014	0.05m max thick	Mid yellow-orange loose silty sand	Weathered natural
8000	Layer		0.15m to 0.25m thick	Mid to dark grey-brown loose silty sand	Topsoil
8001	Layer		0.1m thick	Mid orange-brown coarse friable silty sand	Subsoil

Appendix C

Specialist finds reports

STRUCK FLINT

Dr Hugo Anderson-Whymark

Introduction

Eight struck flints (83g) and five pieces of burnt unworked flint (35g) was recovered from the excavations. The artefacts comprise five flakes, a broken blade (a flake with a length to breadth ratio >2:1), a bladelet (a blade <40mm in length) and a chip (a flake with a maximum dimension <10mm). These artefacts are not intrinsically datable, but flake morphology provides some indication of the industries from which they derive (Pitts and Jacobi 1979; Ford 1987). The blade and a regular flake from context 7001 and bladelet from context 7015 are the product of a blade orientated industry that probably dates from the Mesolithic or possibly early Neolithic. In contrast the flakes are of broad and thick proportions and probably derive from a Neolithic or Bronze Age flake-orientated assemblage. Many of the flints exhibit extensive edge damage indicating that they were recovered from disturbed contexts. No further work is recommended.

Bibliography

Ford, S. 1987 *Chronological and functional aspects of flint assemblages. Lithic analysis and later British prehistory: some problems and approaches*. A. G. Brown and M. R. Edmonds. Oxford, British Archaeological Reports. British Series 162: 67-81.

Pitts, M. W. and Jacobi, R. M. 1979 *Some aspects of change in flaked stone industries of the Mesolithic and Neolithic in Southern Britain*. Journal of Archaeological Science 6: 163-177.

Catalogue

7000. GPS 6181014. Flake with extensive edge damage, some of which resembles edge retouch. 19g. Neolithic or Bronze Age

7000. GPS 6181015. Flake. 3g Neolithic or Bronze Age?

7000. GPS 6181016. Hard hammer flake with heavy edge damage. 25g. Neolithic or Bronze Age?

7001. Burnt unworked flint. 5 pieces, 35g.

7001. Chip (possibly modern). <1g.

7001. GPS 6181073. Heavily corticated regular flake with extensive edge damage. 8g. Mesolithic or Neolithic.

7001. GPS 6181075. Bladelet with dorsal blade scars. 3g. Mesolithic or early Neolithic.

7015. Heavily corticated broken blade. 3g. Mesolithic?

8000. GPS 6181041. Hard hammer flint flake with extensive edge damage. 21g. Neolithic or Bronze Age.

IRON AGE POTTERY

Jane Timby

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of a small assemblage of seven sherds weighing 28 g, all recovered from subsoil horizon (7001). Six sherds are in a handmade sandy fabric tempered with burnt out organic material. Such material is generally characteristic of the Saxon period (6th-9th century) when this was a standard fabric. However, organic tempering was also used during the later Prehistoric period, albeit not commonly, so in the absence of other datable material this option cannot be entirely ruled out. All the sherds are small bodysherds. The seventh sherd, also a bodysherd, is tempered with a moderate to common frequency of angular calcined flint and is more clearly of prehistoric date. Such wares are typical of the Bronze Age and early Iron Age. Again without corroborative evidence closer dating is not possible for a stray sherd.

No further work is recommended.

Table 1: Summary of pottery

GPS	Cxt	Type	Fabric	Wt	No	Date
6181072	7001	subsoil	ORG	9	4	Saxon/IA
6181018	7001	subsoil	ORG	3	2	Saxon/IA
6181017	7001	subsoil	FLINT	16	1	Preh
TOTAL				**28**	**7**	

PREHISTORIC POTTERY

Emily Edwards

Introduction

This report assesses all of the prehistoric pottery recovered from Gatehampton (GAF26), which totalled six sherds, weighing 34 g and comprised one late Bronze Age body sherd; four indeterminate body sherds; and one body sherd containing mica, grog and organic material. This latter sherd may either be Early Iron Age or early Anglo Saxon and needs to be considered by a specialist in this period. The pottery was all recovered from an alluvial layer that sealed all of the features on the site (context 7001).

Methodology

The principal fabric groups were determined through macroscopic examination of visible inclusions and recorded according to standards set out by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG). Small crumbs were grouped together and were not classified.

LBA – late Bronze Age

EIA – early Iron Age

IA - Iron Age

Preh – Prehistoric

IND – Indeterminate

Condition

Broken and worn, plain body sherds of small size.

Dating

The method of dating the assemblage has been relatively broad at this stage largely based on fabric and finish.

Generally speaking, in excess of 20 sherds or several diagnostic sherds are required from a single prehistoric context to allow some precision of dating taking into account residuality. This must be taken into account with the spot dating especially where there are less than five sherds. The alluvial layer from which this assemblage was recovered is not a discreet feature and therefore residuality must be taken into account with all attempts to relate the pottery dates to the alluvium.

Quantification

Context	Count	Weight	Fabric	Vessel Element	Date
7001	1	16	Common, coarse flint	Body	LBA
7001	1	3	Indeterminate	Body	IND
7001	3	4	Indeterminate	Body	PREH
7001	1	11	Grog, mica and organic material	Body	EIA/MIA or Saxon?
Total	**6**	**34 g**			

Conservation

At this stage all the material should be retained. The pottery is adequately bagged and boxed for long term storage and will require no further conservation, although some vessels might benefit from more careful packaging. Consideration might be given to reconstructing some vessels.

Potential for further work

There is little potential for further work, beyond a more detailed description of the fabrics.

Bibliography

PCRG 1997, '*The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*'. Occasional Papers Number 1 and 2. Revised 1997.

Appendix D

Plates

Plate 1: Ditch 7003, NW facing section

Plate 2: Ditch 7003, SE facing section

Plate 3: Posthole 7006, SW facing section

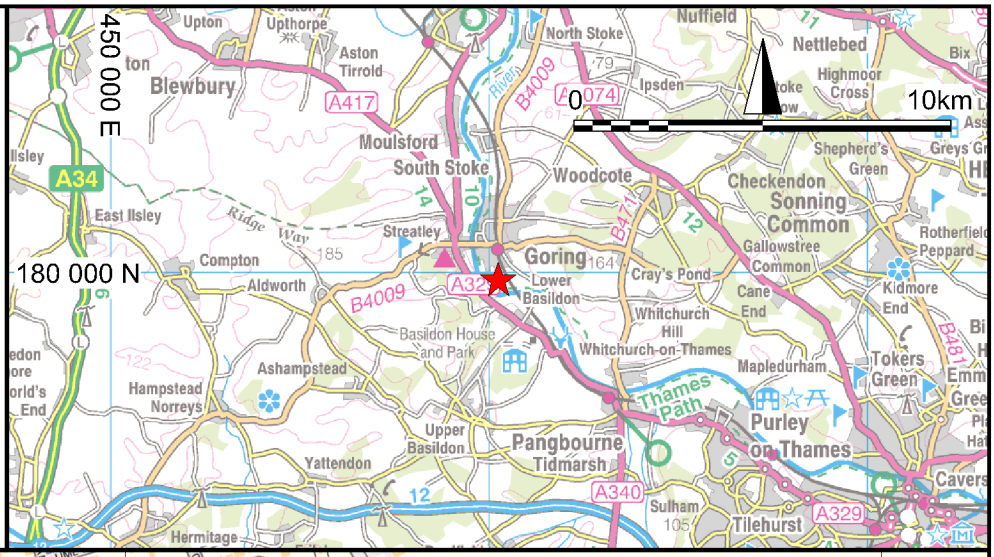
Plate 4: Posthole 7008, SE facing section

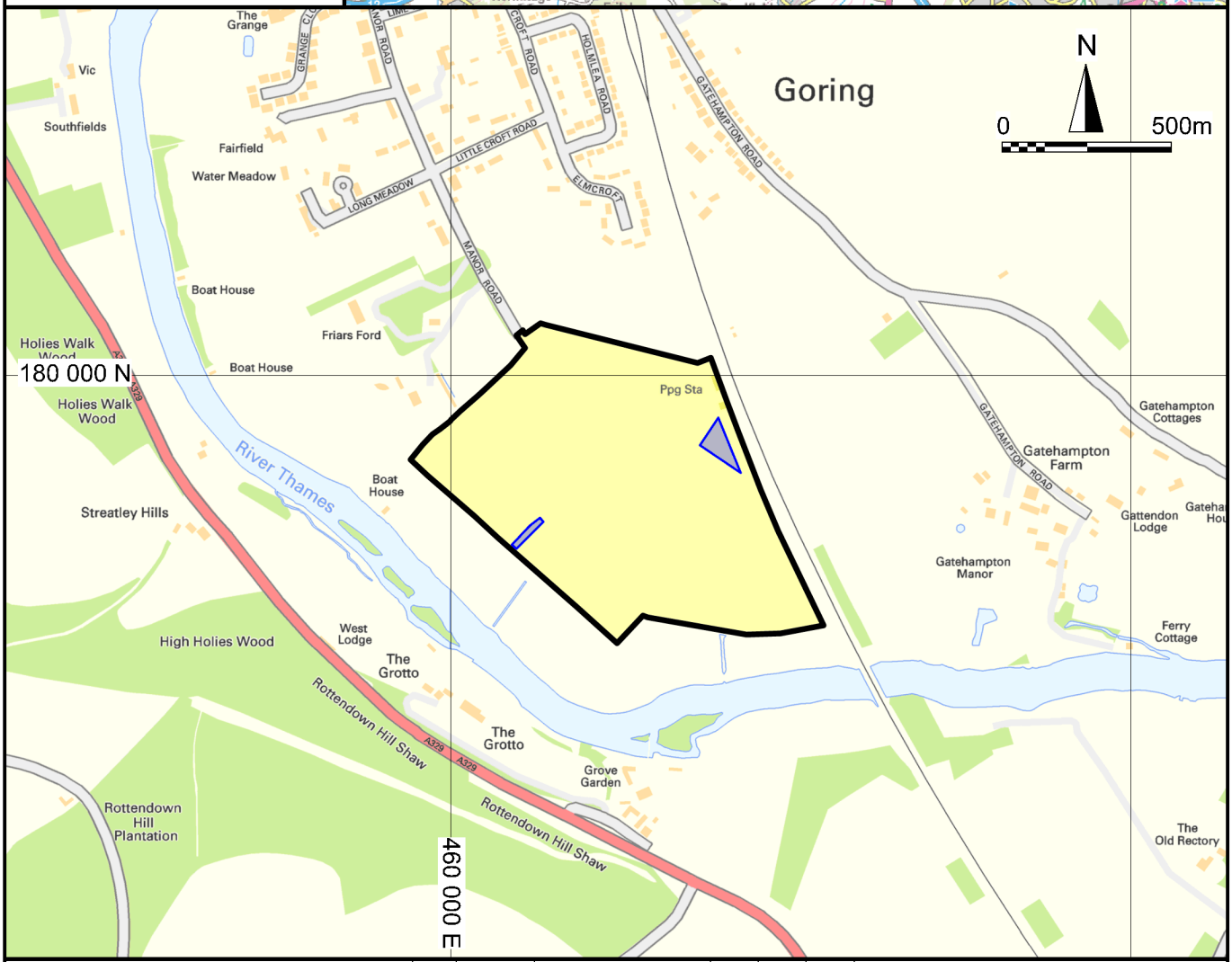
Plate 5: Ditch 7010, NW facing section

Plate 6: Ditch 7010, SE facing section

Appendix E

Figures





Proposed development area

Watching brief areas

Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
1.00	03/01/14	First issue	JLC	GC	DB

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Figure 1
Location of Proposed Development Area

Scale: 1:200,000 and 1:10,000

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Goring

N

0 250 500m

Development area

Watching brief areas

Archaeological sites

Prehistoric

Roman

Saxon and medieval

Post medieval and modern

Undetermined

Aerial photograph data

180 000 N

460 000 E

Fairfield

Water Meadow

LONG MEADOW

LITTLE CROFT ROAD

ELMCROFT

MANOR ROAD

GATEHAMPTON ROAD

Boat House

Friars Ford

Boat House

River Thames

Boat House

Beatley Hills

Walk

Gatehampton Farm

Gattendon Lodge

Gatehampton Manor

West Lodge

The Grotto

High Holies Wood

Rottendown Hill Shaw

Rottendown Hill Plantation

Grove Garden

NMR 1359288
RAILWAY

NMR 241340
SETTLEMENT
NMR 241340
SETTLEMENT

DBA:AD
?DITCH

NMR 1401795
VILLA

NMR 1341177
RIVER

NMR 984108
ROAD

HER MOX8152
TOOLS

HER MOX10879
RING DITCHES

HER MOX10883
VILLA

HER MOX23891
POTTERY

HER MOX8142
?VILLAGE

LS 247266
BARN

LS 247267
MANOR

HER MOX10872
BLADES

HER MOX8154
TOOLS

HER MOX10874
SETTLEMENT

HER MOX8155
?FARM

NMR 1426235
PILLBOX

HER MOX23717
SETTLEMENT

HER MOX23717
SETTLEMENT

HER MOX23717
SETTLEMENT

HER MOX10887
SETTLEMENT

HER MOX8167
PILLBOX

SM WB104
DITCH

LS 394736
BRIDGE

NMR 1178953
?VILLA

LS 395026
HOUSE

NMR 241341
POTTERY

NMR 241319
TOOL

NMR 241351
SETTLEMENT

NMR 241288
VILLA

Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
1.00	03/01/14	First issue	JLC	GC	DB

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Figure 2
Development Area and Archaeological Sites by Period

Scale: 1:5000

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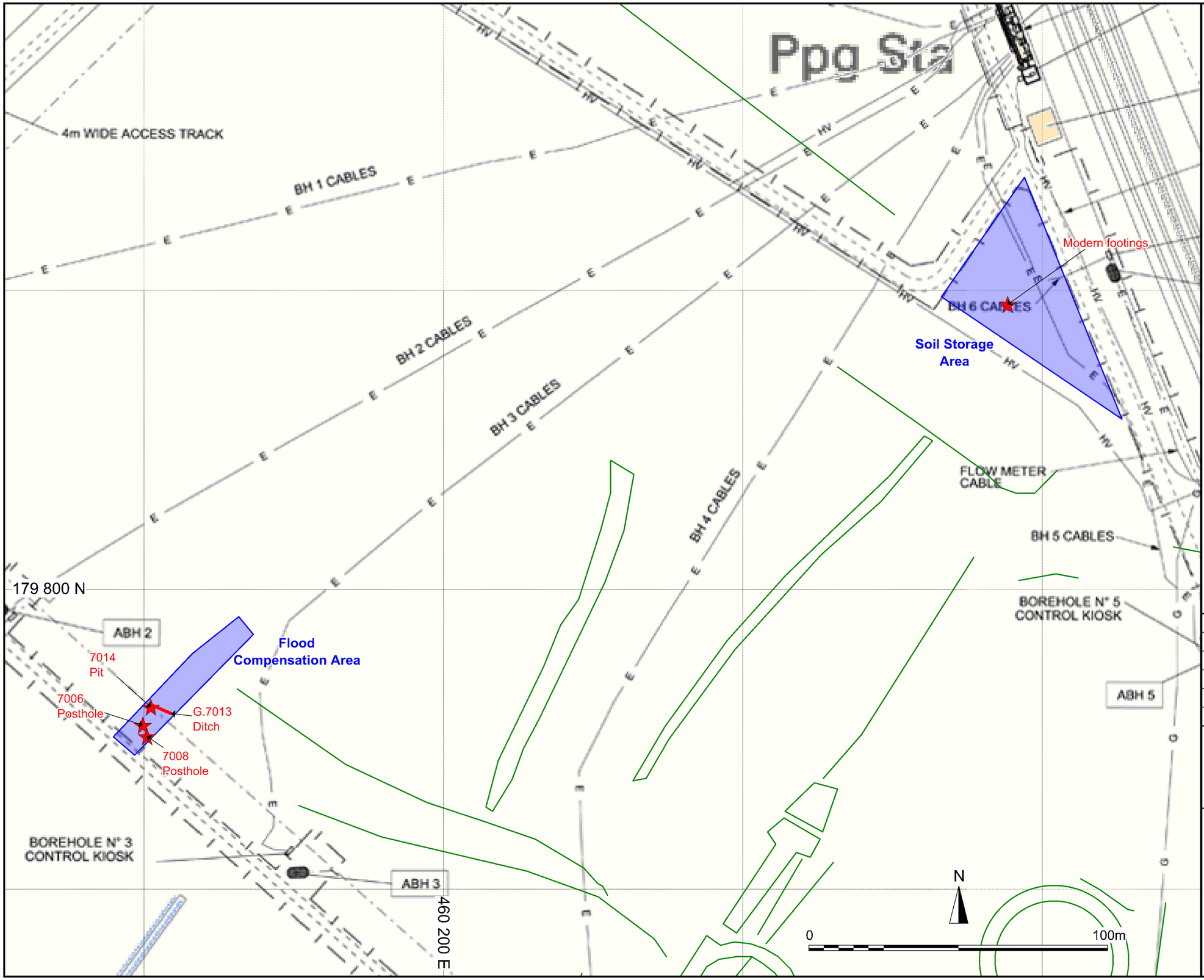

Watching brief areas

Watching brief features

Study area

Aerial photograph data

Ver	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
1.00	03/01/14	First issue	JLC	GC	DB

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Figure 3
Watching Brief Areas and Discovered Archaeology in Relation to Aerial Photographic Data

Scale: 1:1250

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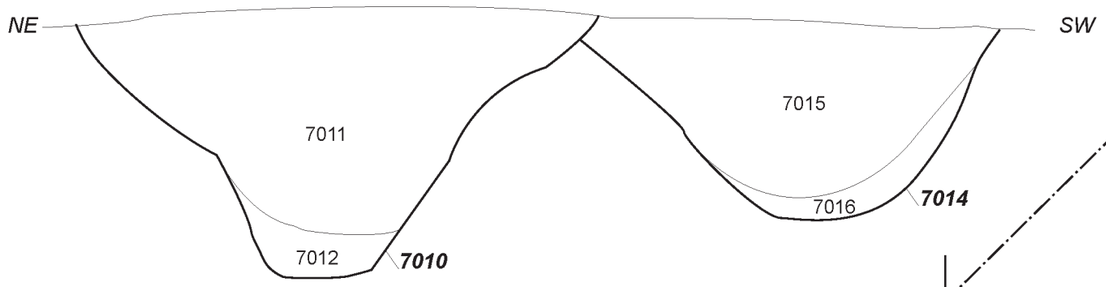

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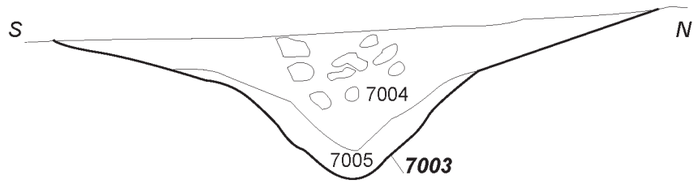

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e)

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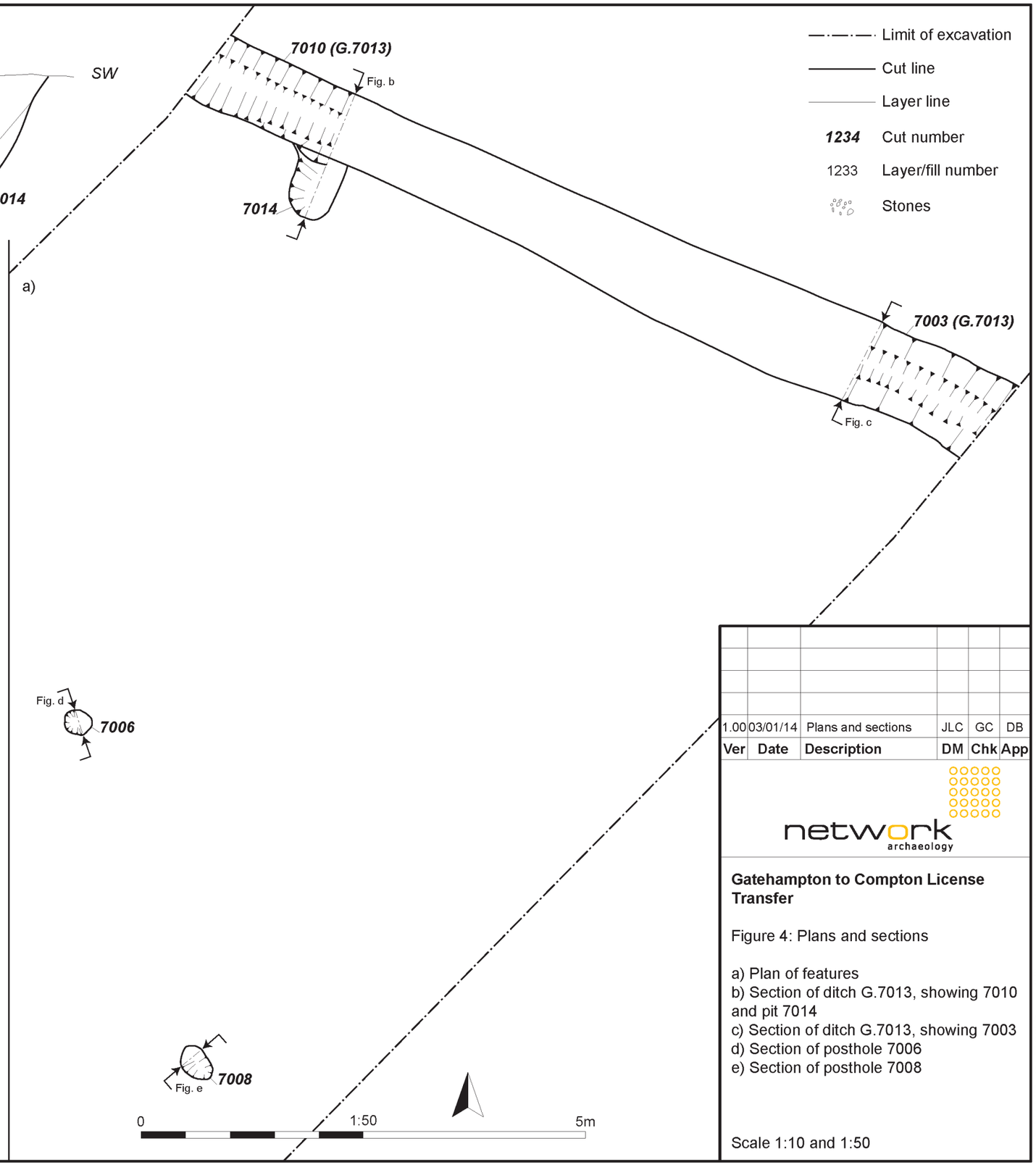
a)



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Ver	Date	Description	DM	Chk	App
1.00	03/01/14	Plans and sections	JLC	GC	DB

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Figure 4: Plans and sections

a) Plan of features
b) Section of ditch G.7013, showing 7010 and pit 7014
c) Section of ditch G.7013, showing 7003
d) Section of posthole 7006
e) Section of posthole 7008

Scale 1:10 and 1:50

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