



Land at Upper Cufaude Farm Basingstoke, Hampshire

Archaeological Excavation Report



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Contents

Summary	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
1 INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Project and planning background.....	4
1.2 Scope of the report	5
1.3 Location, topography and geology	5
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	5
2.1 Introduction.....	5
2.2 Previous investigations related to the development	6
2.3 Archaeological and historical context	6
3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	10
3.1 Aims	10
3.2 Research objectives	10
4 METHODS.....	10
4.1 Introduction.....	10
4.2 Fieldwork methods.....	11
4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies	11
4.4 Monitoring.....	11
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS	11
5.1 Introduction.....	11
5.3 Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)	12
6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE	12
6.1 Introduction.....	12
6.2 Iron	12
6.3 Burnt flint	12
6.4 Conservation, selection and retention	12
7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	13
7.1 Introduction.....	13
8 CONCLUSIONS	13
8.1 Summary	13
8.2 Discussion	13
9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION.....	14
9.1 Museum.....	14
9.2 Preparation of the archive	14
9.3 Selection policy.....	14
9.4 Security copy	14
9.5 OASIS	14
10 COPYRIGHT	14
10.1 Archive and report copyright	14
10.2 Third party data copyright	15
BIBLIOGRAPHY	16
APPENDICES	18
Appendix 1 OASIS form.....	18



List of Figures

- Figure 1** Site location showing excavation area and previous evaluation trenches.
Figure 2 Plan of excavation area and north-west facing section of Ditch 13908.

List of Plates

- Cover:** Working shot of the Ditch viewed from the south-east.
Plate 1 South-east facing section of Ditch 13904. Scale is 1 m.
Plate 2 North-west facing section of Ditch 13908. Scale is 0.5 m.

List of Sections

- Section 1** North-west facing section of Ditch 13908.

List of Tables

- Table 1** Quantification of finds



Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Croudace Homes Limited to conduct an archaeological excavation on an area of land covering 900 m² at Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire centred on National Grid Reference 465550 156700. The excavation was undertaken in association with planning conditions attached to application 19/00018/OUT for residential development on the site.

Prior to the excavation a desk-based assessment and two phases of trial trench evaluation had been conducted on the site. Following the evaluation, it was determined that a 900m² area should be subjected to targeted excavation to focus on the projected line of the Silchester to Chichester Roman Road, which crosses the site and which had been identified during the evaluation in the form of possible make up layers or metalling and the western flanking roadside ditch. The line of the Roman road is to be retained within the proposed development.

The excavation successfully identified the western flanking ditch, but was unable to identify any evidence for a corresponding eastern flanking ditch. No further evidence for the Roman road itself or any associated features were revealed by the excavation. The only artefacts recovered during the excavation were two metal objects, which were subjected to X-radiography, but remain of indeterminate date of Romano-British or later, and a very small quantity of burnt flint indicative of background prehistoric activity within the landscape of the site.

The excavation was conducted over three days from 20 – 24 January 2020.

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Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Croudace Homes Limited for commissioning the archaeological excavation, in particular Ed Barton. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of David Hopkins, County Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, who monitored the project for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The fieldwork was directed by Matt Kendall, with the assistance of Joe Whelan. This report was written by Rachel Williams and edited by Damian De Rosa. Graphics were prepared by Nancy Dixon and the project was managed by Damian De Rosa on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire

Archaeological Excavation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology were commissioned by Croudace Homes Ltd ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record excavation of 900 m² on Land at Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference 465490 156553 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development application (19/00018/OUT) submitted to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, the local planning authority (LPA), comprises residential development (use class C3) for up to 350 dwellings and land reserved for a primary school with associated access, community facilities, drainage works (SuDS), areas of open space and landscaping.
- 1.1.3 Initial consultation with David Hopkins, County Archaeologist Hampshire County Archaeologist (CA HCC) and archaeological planning advisor to the LPA was for the excavation, investigation and recording of 161 trial trenches (each measuring 25 m by 2 m) equating to an overall 4% sample of the proposed development area. The resulting trial trench evaluation was undertaken in two phases in 2018 and 2019.
- 1.1.4 This excavation is the final part of staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the site and follows non-intrusive archaeological work, including a desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology (WA) 2018a), and heritage statement which was produced after the completion of Phase 1 evaluation works to develop a mitigation strategy for the site, including further Phase 2 evaluation and in particular in relation to the remains of the Roman road the line of which crosses the site (WA 2018b).
- 1.1.5 During the Phase 1 evaluation it had been intended to undertake excavation of all the proposed 161 trenches (WA 2018c). This strategy was altered however, as on the request of the tenant farmer only north-south aligned trenches, with a few exceptions (trenches perpendicular to the line of the Roman Road), could be excavated to correspond with and follow the ploughing tramlines. This resulted in the excavation of 73 no 25 m x 2 m trenches spread across three of five fields of the proposed development site (F2, F4 and F5 - Figure 1). As very little evidence for archaeological potential was found (WA 2018b), with the exception of those trenches targeting the route of the Roman road in, no further evaluation trenches were required in those areas.
- 1.1.6 Two further fields under pasture were unavailable for investigation due to the presence of sheep. These two fields formed Phase 2 of the evaluation (F1 and F3 - Figure 1), which was undertaken in October 2019 and resulted in the excavation of 13 no 25 m trial trenches. A single shallow field boundary ditch was recorded, which except for burnt flint fragments recovered from the fill the ditch remains undated. In a neighbouring trench a small area of colluvium which also containing burnt flint fragments was recorded, these may be indicative of prehistoric activity in the vicinity. No other archaeology was identified (WA 2019a).



1.1.7 Following further consultation with the CA HCC, acting on behalf of the LPA, on submission of the Phase 2 evaluation report (WA 2019a) it was agreed that no further archaeological work would be required beyond the proposed mitigation area across the line of the Roman road centred on Trench 41 from the Phase 1 evaluation. The details of the mitigation area as set out in the Heritage Statement (WA 2018b) comprised the excavation by archaeological strip, map and record of a 900m² area.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the excavation, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The proposed development area is located c. 0.5 km to the north of Chineham. The villages of Sherfield upon Lodden and Bramley are situated approximately 2 km to the north and the north-east respectively. The nearest main town to the Site is Basingstoke, which is located approximately 3 km to the south.

1.3.2 The development area consists of five former agricultural fields which lay under a mixture of both pasture and arable land. Two sets of overhead cables traverse the site from the north-west to south-east, and from the eastern to the western boundary of the site.

1.3.3 To the north and east, Cufaude Lane separates the site from a large swathe of arable land, interspersed with patches of woodland. The landscape is punctuated with a number of dwellings and small farmsteads. To the west the open farmland continues, with small pockets of mature woodland. Modern residential development borders the development area to the south and is still partially in the construction phase. This development is partially screened by mature tree-lined boundaries and a pocket of ancient woodland.

1.3.4 The excavation area was located on the western side of the overall proposed development and measured 900m² in size and was centred on Trench 41 from the Phase 1 evaluation, which identified the potential remains of the line of the Roman road which is known to traverse this part of the development area (**Figure 1**).

1.3.5 Existing ground levels within the excavation area are level at 67.20 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.6 The underlying geology is mapped as Palaeogene Clay, Silt and Sand of the London Clay Formation, there are no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer). This was confirmed during the Phase 1 evaluation, which revealed the natural geology at a depth of 0.40 m beneath the top of the overlying ploughsoil.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in an earlier desk-based assessment (WA 2018a), which concluded that there was an archaeological interest within the site, defined as the potential for the presence of buried archaeological remains, in particular relating to the route of the Roman road between Silchester and Chichester, which was known to traverse the site. The potential for associated remains such as stray finds and road-side activities was highlighted. There was also considered to be the potential for



archaeological features of Late Iron Age, Romano-British or medieval date, including settlement activity.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the development

Phase 1 archaeological evaluation (August 2018)

- 2.2.1 During the Phase 1 evaluation undertaken from 13th August 2018 to the 23rd August 2018 73 no 25 m x 2 m trenches were excavated spread across three of five fields (F2, F4 and F5) of the proposed development site (**Figure 1**)
- 2.2.2 Very little evidence for archaeological potential was found, with the exception of those trenches targeting the route of the Roman road in F4, although this was very poorly preserved and had most likely been truncated by ploughing. Within Trenches 41 and 63 a gravel spread was recorded albeit very patchy, which could be remains of makeup material for the road. Three slots were excavated to determine the depth and nature of the gravel make up, which was shown not to exceed a depth of 0.10 m and comprised coarse sub angular and sub rounded gravels. No dateable finds were recovered from the gravel spreads. A possible western flanking ditch was recorded in Trenches 49 and 63. The ditches were generally shallow being no more than 0.30 m deep.
- 2.2.3 To the south of the site the road exists as a raised earthwork (agger) with flanking ditches, it is reasonable to suggest that the road had also been raised on an agger across the site but has been subsequently 'ploughed out', and only the lower courses of its construction remain, along with the very bases of the road side ditches
- 2.2.4 A small number of small post medieval field boundaries were also recorded in the southern and eastern parts of site (F5). They contained 19th century and modern backfill.
- 2.2.5 Trenches excavated in the north east corner of site (F2) contained a number of post medieval to modern cut features, most probably the result of agricultural activities, and represent modern rubbish pits and drainage ditches.

Phase 2 archaeological evaluation (October 2019)

- 2.2.6 The Phase 2 evaluation comprised of the excavation of 13 no 25 m x 2 m trenches. Ten trenches were located immediately south west of the present farm complex in an area proposed for residential units, with three further trenches located further to the west and immediately south of Cufaude Lane within the footprint of a proposed attenuation pond in an area that is proposed to remain as green space in the proposed development.
- 2.2.7 A single shallow field boundary ditch was recorded, which except for burnt flint fragments recovered from the fill, remains undated. In a neighbouring trench a small area of colluvium which also containing burnt flint fragments was recorded, these may be indicative of prehistoric activity in the vicinity. No archaeology was identified within the footprint of the attenuation pond.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Palaeolithic (970,000–9500 BC)- Mesolithic (8500–4000 BC)

- 2.3.1 There is little recorded evidence to indicate the presence of Palaeolithic activity within the Site or Study Area, and the geological makeup of the area, comprising London Clay, is unlikely to favour the preservation of such evidence.
- 2.3.2 The evidence for Mesolithic activity within this area of north Hampshire is generally sparse (The Atlas of Hampshire's Archaeology). A surface scatter of Mesolithic pottery flint

artefacts was recovered during fieldwalking from Upper Cufaude Farm (33570), immediately to the north of the Site boundary. However, few details are available regarding the nature, location and type of these finds.

Earlier prehistoric (970,000 BC–100 BC)

2.3.3 The presence of prehistoric populations in the landscape is well-represented within the wider Basingstoke area and the Lodden Valley, including barrow cemeteries at Daneshill and an Iron Age hillfort at Bullsdown. However, there is little evidence dating to this period recorded within the Study Area until recently investigations (WA 1999, 2012c and 2017; 39668 and 69894). This is likely to be due relatively little intrusive archaeological investigation within the Study Area, and the clay geology preventing buried archaeological features to result in corresponding cropmarks, and thus less likely to be identified.

2.3.4 The assart patterns of later field systems suggests that parts of the area at least were probably cleared relatively late, and therefore much of the Study Area may have been wooded. However, the area could have provided valuable resource procurement opportunities in the form of hunting, and possibly pasture/grazing and seasonal arable land where clearance had taken place.

Late Iron Age (100 BC-AD 43)

2.3.5 The archaeological investigations immediately south of the Site, at Razor's Farm, identified a Late Iron Age settlement. The geophysical survey picked up a region of increased magnetic response and some curvilinear anomalies of possible archaeological origin, possibly indicative of the extents of former settlement activity, but no associated anomalies definitively archaeological in origin were identified during the survey (WA2012b).

2.3.6 The subsequent evaluation (WA 2012c) and strip, map and sample excavation (WA2017) identified archaeological features of Late Iron Age date. Two substantial curvilinear enclosure ditches were identified from this period. The curvilinear ditches are likely to have defined an area of occupation, but no structures were identified, although they may be preserved beneath the recently built access road. Other features of probable Late Iron Age date include a small number of postholes, two pits and a long narrow gully (*Ibid.*).

2.3.7 Given the waterlogged nature of the Site, and the presumed seasonal flooding which may have occurred during the earlier prehistoric periods, it is probable that by the Iron Age period the local population had begun to drain and clear the surrounding land, in order to allow settlement and agricultural activity to take place.

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

2.3.8 During the Romano-British period, the area of the Site lay to the south of the civitas capital, Silchester or *Calleva Atrebatum*. The road between *Calleva* and *Noviomagus* (Chichester), is known to pass through the western half of the development area on a north-west to southeast alignment, and pass through the proposed mitigation area.

2.3.9 The route of the road survives to the south of the Site within a stand of ancient woodland, comprising a wide sunken track or drove way with flanking ditches. This section of the Roman road is classified as an Orange ALERT area by Hampshire County Council, signifying a monument of national significance that is currently undesignated. To the north of the Site, the line of the road is preserved in the alignment of field boundaries immediately to the north-east of the Site, and subsequently is reflected in the route of Cufaude Lane.

- 2.3.10 The DBA identified that the section of the road within the Site boundary does not survive above ground, and upstanding earthworks have been truncated through repeated ploughing (WA 2018a). This was confirmed in the Phase 1 evaluation (WA 2018c).
- 2.3.11 The evaluation and excavation (WA 2012c, 2017 and 2019b) undertaken in the south-east of Razor's Farm identified evidence of Romano-British settlement activity comprising two phases of settlement, overlying the Late Iron Age enclosures. In the 1st century AD, the Iron Age settlement expanded, and the circular enclosure went out of use and was replaced by a large sub-oval enclosure, surrounding a larger occupation area, including a series of small drainage gullies and ditches demarcating space within the enclosure, several pits and two wells. Two fire pits or hearths were located, one surrounded by a sub-oval gully, which can be interpreted as evidence for a roundhouse. There is also evidence for clay extraction (WA 2017).
- 2.3.12 In the 2nd century AD, a rectilinear enclosure ditch was constructed after the large sub-oval enclosure had gone out of use. This later enclosure had an entrance facing west, towards the Roman road. A large, rectangular post-built structure appeared to respect the position of the enclosure ditch. This is likely to have been an agricultural structure.
- 2.3.13 Finds of Roman pottery within the wider Basingstoke area indicate that the settlement pattern was likely to have been characterised by small farmsteads and settlements.
- Saxon (AD 410–1066)- Medieval (AD 1066–1500)*
- 2.3.14 There are no sites dated directly to the Saxon period within the DBA Study Area. However, there is considerable evidence to indicate that the area was well settled during this period. The Domesday survey of 1086 records manors at Chineham and Old Basing to the south, with Bramley and Sherfield St. John also recorded.
- 2.3.15 There is archaeological and cartographic evidence of occupation of the DBA Study Area and the surrounding landscape from the early medieval period onwards, in the form of both visible landscape features and buried remains. In particular a number of moated sites have been identified. The remains of a moated site lie within Upper Cufaude Farm immediately north of the Site on the other side of Cufaude Lane. A pond at the site may represent the remains of earthworks.
- 2.3.16 A Scheduled Monument at Cufaude Manor is located near the north-eastern limit of the DBA Study Area (List Entry 1013074; 20666). The HHER records that this moated site may have served as the hunting lodge for Cufaude deer park. Beyond the limit of the Study Area, additional moated sites are located at Four Winds Farm, Chineham to the south-east, at Sherfield Court to the east, and at The Vyne to the west. Whilst the present buildings at Razor's Farm, some 200 m to the south of the Site, are of 17th century or later date, the spatial patterning of the farm building plus the substantial encircling drainage ditches may indicate that Razor's Farm may potentially have had medieval origins as a small moated Farmstead.
- 2.3.17 Within the context of this known medieval settlement pattern, it is probable that the Site was part of the land holding associated with the Upper Cufaude moated site and was located within a landscape of similar settlements. Medieval pottery has been recovered within the Site, which could potentially indicate that settlement at Upper Cufaude Farm may have once been larger, and settlement activity may once have extended into the Site. However, it is more probable that the pottery may be redeposited from nearby settlements through medieval agricultural practises such as manure spreading.



- 2.3.18 An area of ridge and furrow has been identified within the fields immediately to the west of the Site, but the distribution and spacing of these suggest they are of post-medieval and modern origin DBA (WA 2018a).

Post-medieval (AD 1500–1800)

- 2.3.19 During the post-medieval period the area seems to have declined and the moated sites fell into disuse. By the 18th century Chineham appears to have been merely a farm or hamlet settlement. There appear to have been no developments or buildings within the Site since at least the 19th century, with the exception of additions to, or modification of, the existing farm buildings. The remainder of the surrounding Study Area appears to have been agricultural land during this period.

- 2.3.20 There is evidence for clay extraction, and to a lesser extent pottery manufacture within the Study Area. Clay extraction pits have been identified to the south-west and the south-east of the Site.

19th Century (AD 1800–1900)- Modern (AD 1900–present day)

- 2.3.21 The Basing Parish Tithe map of 1841 shows that the basic shape of the Site echoes the early post-medieval field pattern, with some boundary loss. The Tithe shows 10 fields within the Site, all relatively small and varied with irregular and curvilinear field boundaries. This field pattern likely reflects a much earlier, likely medieval, field pattern.

- 2.3.22 The field name Wood Field indicates the western edge of the site was likely wooded until the post-medieval period.

- 2.3.23 The north-eastern tip of the Site is identified as Corner of Pond Pighlte, or pond field/ enclosure. This may indicate a very waterlogged area and/ or former pond, perhaps seasonal. The Tithe shows that at this time, Cufaude Lane did not turn east as it met the northern Site boundary, but rather the lane extended south into the Site for a distance of c.70 m. An additional section of lane connected this track back to the main Cufaude Lane, forming the triangle of vacant land identified as Pond Pighlte on the Tithe apportionment. This unusual spatial arrangement no doubt reflects the fact that Cufaude Lane follows the course of the Roman road, and the section of lane within the Site represents a continuation of earthworks associated with the Roman road. It corresponds today to an area of mature trees which mark the route of the Roman road as it meets Cufaude Lane, with low earthworks still surviving in this location.

- 2.3.24 The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1872 shows that by this point several fields had been amalgamated and the field boundaries had straightened and rationalised in several areas. The Site more closely resembled the current layout by this point in time. From the mid-19th century onwards the Site has undergone little change other than minor boundary changes.

- 2.3.25 The field boundaries which form the current southern and south-western edges of Site are present by 1841, as well as a small number of the internal field boundaries within the Site. This may mean they meet the definition of historically Important as defined by the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (as amended 2002).

- 2.3.26 The Basingstoke to Reading railway line, located to the east of the Site, was constructed in 1848, and would have had an impact on settlement and development within the Study Area.

- 2.3.27 The housing development of north of Chineham, to the south of the Site was built at some point between 1982 and 1989 and has continued to extend further north west since.



2.3.28 The OS map of 1968 depicts two small structures on the line of the Roman road, at or immediately beyond the north-western Site limit. The buildings are not depicted on any previous or subsequent map editions and may well represent temporary structures. The farm buildings and dwelling within the Site are not depicted on OS mapping until the late 20th century.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The aims (or purpose) of the excavation, as defined in the ClfA' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a), were:

- To examine the archaeological resource within the proposed mitigation area within a framework of defined research objectives;
- To seek a better understanding of the resource;
- To compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation, and disseminate them.

3.2 Research objectives

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the research objectives of the excavation were to:

- To confirm the results of the previously undertaken Phase 1 evaluation in particular trench 41 (relocated to trench 49 - see 4.1.2 below) and identify where possible whether any remains of the Roman road survive within the mitigation area;
- Determine the date, nature and extent of the Roman road, and its development in Romano-British period;
- Determine the date, extent and character of landscape organisation, and its development in the Romano-British period;
- Assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.
- Determine the date, nature and extent of any archaeological features which may pre date the development of the Roman road;

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (WA 2019a) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 Due to the original mitigation area centred on trench 41, as set out in the WSI, being located beneath overhead cables and within the safety buffer zone once it had been set out, it was agreed in consultation with the CA HCC to move the mitigation area to be centred on trench 49. The relocated mitigation area also lay on the line of the Roman road and during the evaluation a west flanking ditch associated with the Roman road had been identified within trench 49. The resulting relocation meant that a full transect across the line of the Roman road including any flanking ditches could be identified if present in accordance with objectives of the excavation.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

- 4.2.1 The surface of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A 20% sample of the Roman road ditch identified and associated deposits identified were hand-excavated, to address the aims of the excavation, and advice of the CA HCC.
- 4.2.2 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

- 4.2.3 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections), and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.
- 4.2.4 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.5 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (WA 2019a). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The CA HCC, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the excavation. A site monitoring meeting was undertaken by the CA HCC on 22 January 2020.
- 4.4.2 Variations to the WSI to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the CA HCC.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The excavation successfully identified a single ditch, which corresponded with the ditch recorded in Trench 49 in the 2018 evaluation. No further features pertaining to the Roman road were identified.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The overburden comprised a dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil 0.21 m thick which overlay a thin (0.12 m thick) dark grey silty clay subsoil. The natural consisted of a mid to pale yellowish-brown clay with patches of gravels and manganese seams (**Plate 1**).

5.3 Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

5.3.1 A single NW – SE aligned ditch was recorded during the excavation, and is most likely the west flanking drainage ditch related to the line of the Roman road. No evidence for the road itself or an east flanking ditch could be identified.

5.3.2 The ditch measured 1.30 m wide, 0.30 m deep and contained a single homogenised fill. The ditch had irregular moderately sloped sides and a flat base which gave it a broad U-shaped profile (**Plates 1 and 2, Section1**). No dateable material was recovered from the feature.

6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A small quantity of finds were recovered during the excavation. The material has been quantified by type in each context; this information is summarised in **Table 1**.

6.2 Iron

6.2.1 Two iron objects were recovered from ditch 13906. These comprise a wedge-shaped object (ON 1) and an unidentified piece (ON 2). Initially thought to be an axe-head, this was not confirmed by X-radiography as no socket is visible, and the object appears as a solid wedge. Nor has X-radiography shed light on the second object, which remains a roughly rectangular block of unknown function. Given the proposed identification of ditch 13906 as one of the roadside ditches flanking the Roman road from Silchester to Chichester, the iron objects are presumed to be of Romano-British date or later.

6.3 Burnt flint

6.3.1 A small quantity of burnt flint (126 g) was recovered from context 12904, context 13402, ditch 13906 and topsoil 13001. This material type is intrinsically undatable, but is frequently associated with prehistoric activity.

6.4 Conservation, selection and retention

6.4.1 No further conservation work is considered to be warranted, as it is unlikely that this would reveal any further details to enable identification of either object. Retention of these objects is likewise not warranted on the grounds of lack of intrinsic interest, uncertain dating, and inherent instability.

6.4.2 The burnt flint has no further research potential and has been discarded

Table 1 Quantification of finds

Context	Iron		Burnt flint	
	No.	Wg (g)	No.	Wg (g)
12904			1	21
13001			1	11
13402			3	81
13907	2	682	1	13
Total	2	682	6	126

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 No deposits worthy of environmental sampling were encountered. Accordingly, no samples were taken.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

8.1.1 The excavation successfully identified a single ditch. The ditch is on the correct alignment to be associated with the extant part of a known Roman Road to the south-east outside the bounds of the site.

8.2 Discussion

8.2.1 The only feature identified during the excavation was a single ditch; this ditch had been one of the very few features identified in both phases of evaluation. It is possible to say that this undated feature is likely to be the western flanking ditch of the Roman road which runs from Silchester (*Calleva Atrebatum*) to Chichester (*Noviomagus*).

8.2.2 The paucity of archaeology within the evaluation area compared to the nearby Razor's Farm site implies that this area has been part of a rural, farming landscape for millennia (WA 2019b). A section of the Roman Road was investigated during the evaluation at Razor's Farm. Here flanking ditches were recorded on both sides of the road with both ditches containing two distinctive fills. With this in mind it is feasible that any of the road make up has long since been ploughed away. The finds are undated, the scarcity of finds supports the hypothesis that the site has been largely agricultural.

8.2.3 The survival of only a single ditch is also not unusual, a recently excavated section through a scheduled Roman road at Martin Down (WA 2019c), where a reasonable proportion of the *statumen* and part of the *rudus* survived, revealed a flanking ditch on just the south-east side of the Road, here the rural nature of the site echoed the findings from Upper Cufaude Farm with a small number of artefacts indicative of a background of prehistoric activity along with two indeterminate metal objects, despite X-radiography, which at best can only be dated to the Romano-British period or later.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Hampshire Cultural Trust has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **A2018.45**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hampshire Cultural Trust, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site/accession code A2018.45**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics.

9.3 Selection policy

9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and is fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.2 The metal objects will be retained in the first instance; the burnt flint has no further research potential and has been discarded.

9.4 Security copy

9.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

9.5 OASIS

9.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with



all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

- 10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-384818

Project details

Project name	Land at Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Croudace Homes Limited to conduct an archaeological excavation on an area of land covering 900 m ² at Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire centred on National Grid Reference 465550 156700. The excavation was undertaken in association with planning conditions attached to application 19/00018/OUT for residential development on the site. Prior to the excavation a desk-based assessment and two phases of trial trench evaluation had been conducted on the site. Following the evaluation, it was determined that a small area by subjected to targeted excavation, focusing on a trench in which a ditch, possibly relating to the purported line of a Roman Road, had been found. The excavation successfully identified the ditch. No further evidence for the Roman Road or any associated features were revealed by the excavation. The only artefacts recovered during the excavation were two metal objects, which were subjected to X-radiography, but remain of indeterminate date of Romano-British or later, and a very small quantity of burnt flint indicative of background prehistoric activity within the landscape of the site. The excavation was conducted over three days from 20 to 24 January 2020.
Project dates	Start: 20-01-2020 End: 22-01-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any project codes associated	A2018.45 - Sitecode reference
Any project codes associated	202512 - Contracting Unit No. reference
Any project codes associated	19/00018/OUT - Planning Application No. reference
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	AXE-HEAD Uncertain
Significant Finds	BURNT FLINT Uncertain
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country England



Site location	HAMPSHIRE BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BRAMLEY Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke, Hampshire
Postcode	RG26 5PD
Study area	900 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 65550 56700 51.305133558786 -1.05955405366 51 18 18 N 001 03 34 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 67.2m Max: 67.2m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project originator	brief Croudace Homes Ltd
Project originator	design Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Damian De Rosa
Project supervisor	Matt Kendall
Type of sponsor/funding body	Construction company
Name of sponsor/funding body	Croudace Homes Limited

Project archives

Physical recipient	Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Physical Contents		"Metal"
Digital recipient	Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital available	Media	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Survey"
Paper recipient	Archive	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper available	Media	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Upper Cufaude Farm, Basingstoke Hampshire Archaeological Excavation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Kendall, M.



Other bibliographic 202512.03
details

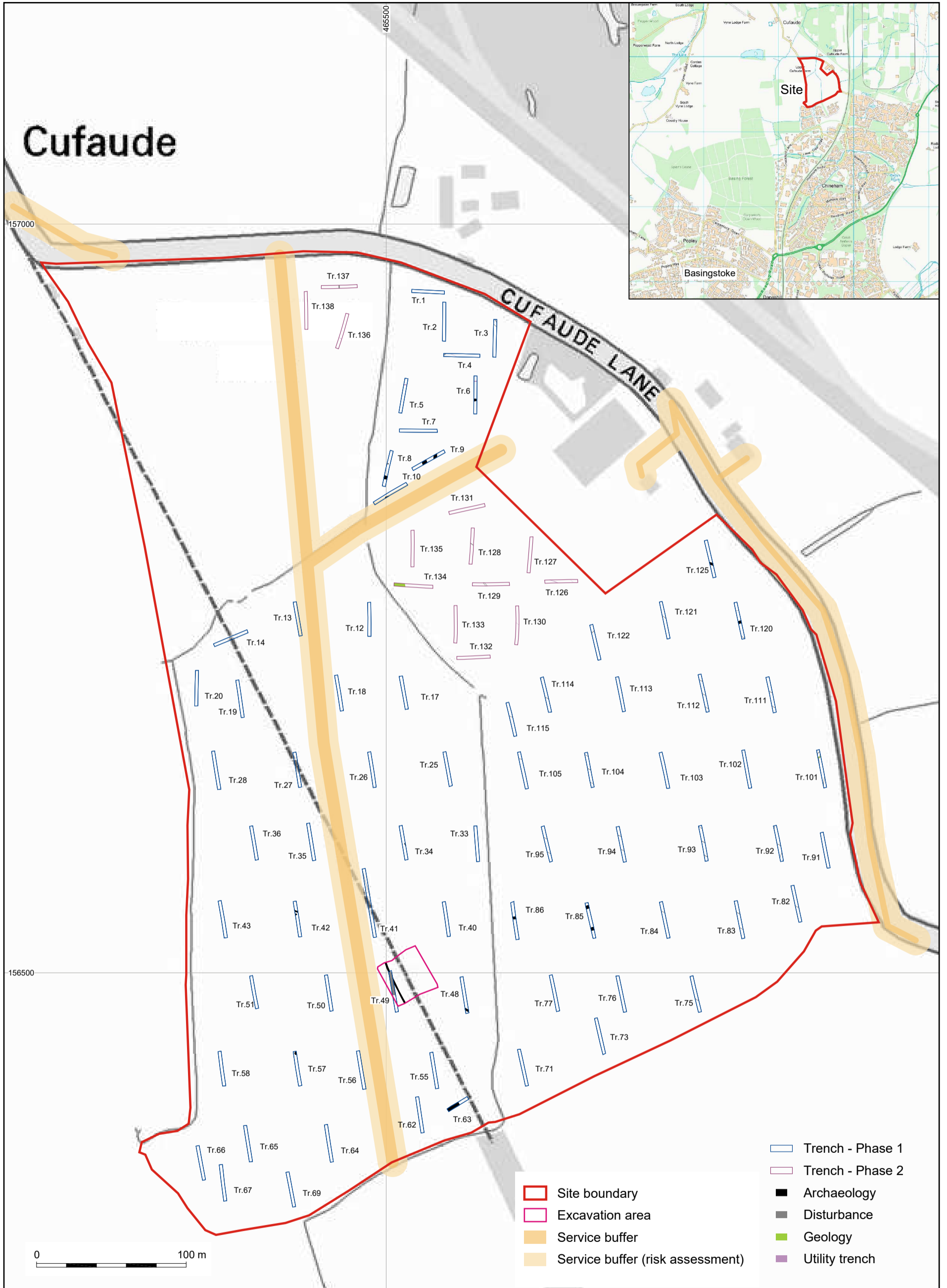
Other bibliographic A2018.45
details

Date 2020

Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

Place of issue or Salisbury
publication

Description WA Standard A4 test report with illustrations



Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

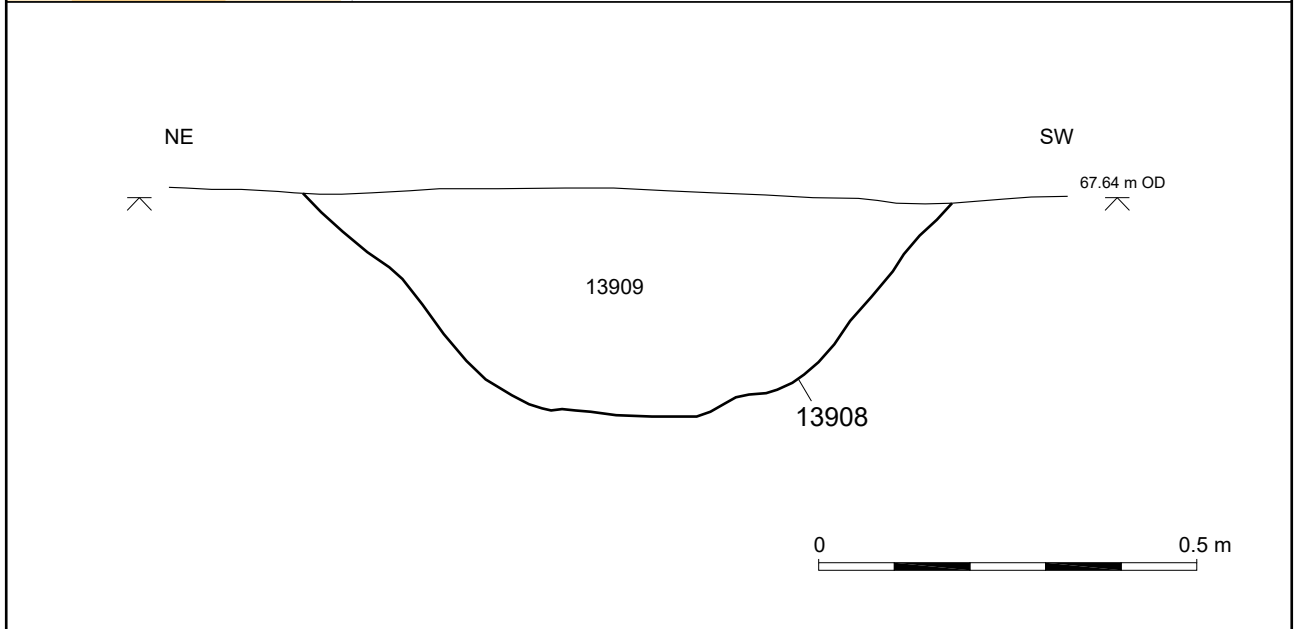
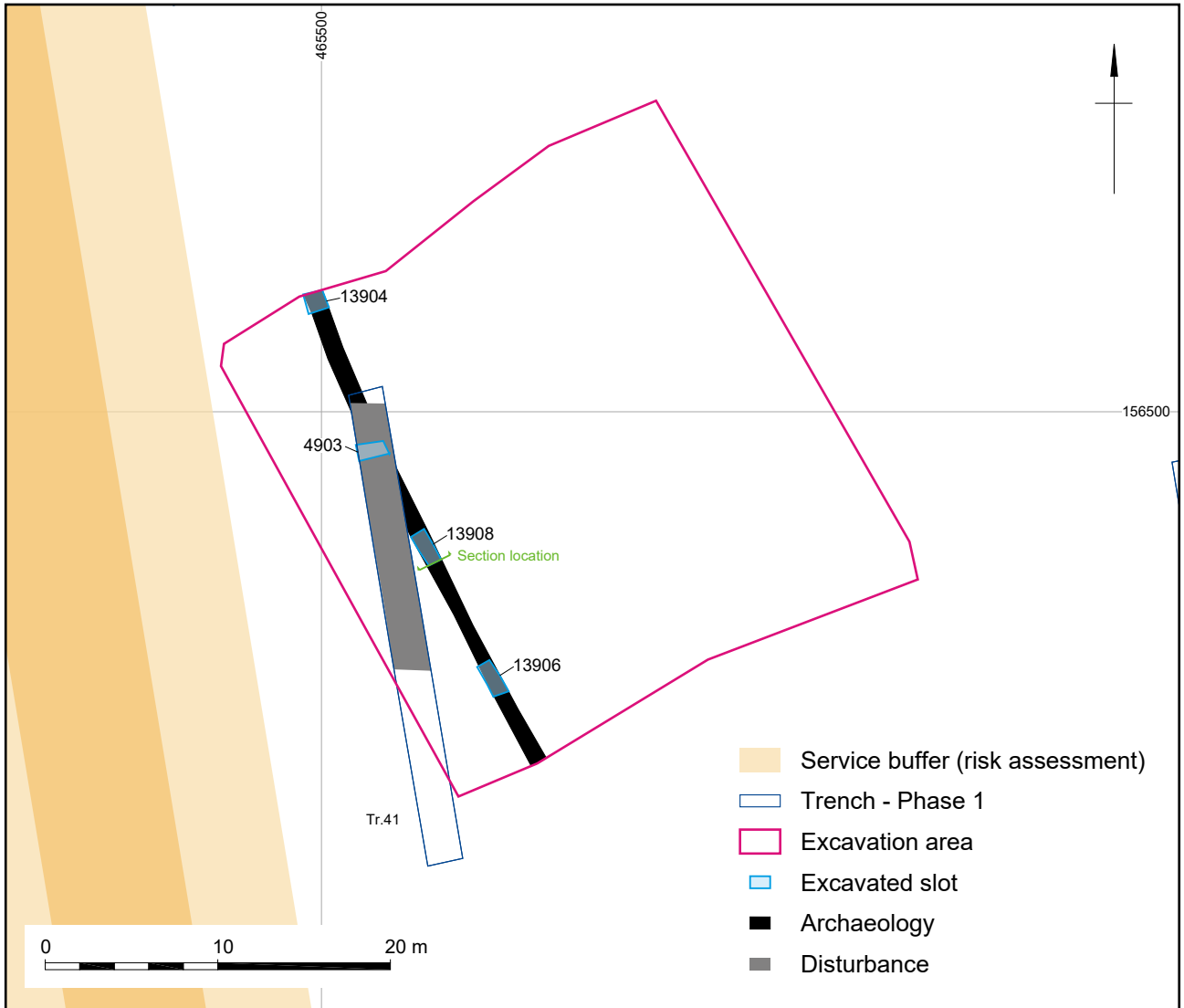



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Site location showing excavation area and previous evaluation trenches

Figure 1



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Plan of excavation area and north-west facing section of Ditch 13908


Figure 2



Plate 1: South-east facing section of Ditch 13904. Scale is 1 m



Plate 2: North-west facing section of Ditch 13908. Scale is 0.5 m

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