

Southampton Archaeology Unit

17-19 Between Towns Road, Cowley

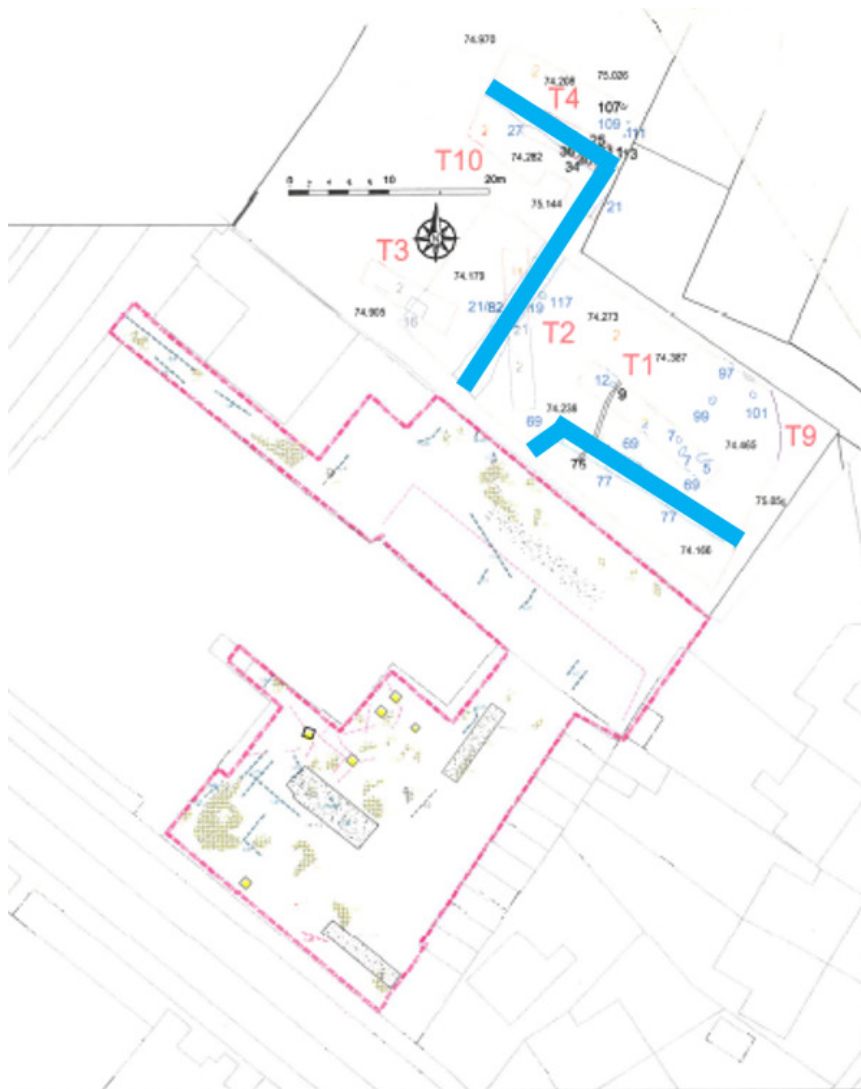
Comments on Sumo survey 2019 Report 16403 by Dr AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA.

1. The magnetometer survey picked up one potential kiln, and one potential waster pit. The potential kiln was found in the Stratascan survey of 2011 and was investigated by Trench 2 of the Oxford Archaeology South evaluation in 2015. It was found to be a large late Roman pit dated to after 270AD. The potential waster pit was also picked up by the 2011 Stratascan survey but was not investigated in 2015. The 2011 Stratascan survey also picked up a second magnetic anomaly to the north of the potential waster pit. This is not mentioned in the present survey but can be seen as a small red spot in the 2019 survey. These small anomalies may well be pits with large amounts of Roman pottery, or possibly dumps of pottery in a north-south ditch, as was found on the site to the north.

2. The GPR data looks impressive, and seems to have located modern drains and service runs well, but I would have expected to see the two Roman ditches that left the south side of the site to the north in the 0.6m, 0.7m, and 0.8m timeslices. The top of the natural is about 0.6m below the surface and the ditches were 300-400mm deep. Most of the anomalies showing in these lower timeslices can be seen higher up, suggesting they are more recent disturbances.

3. The data suggests that there are no kilns on the site as the strongest magnetic signal comes from a pit containing pottery, but does suggest more such pits are present. The data also suggests that the geophysical methods cannot detect the Roman ditches probably due to the ground conditions, with the ditches cut through fairly soft sand and backfilled with the same. It may be that the pits detected by the magnetic survey are dumps of pottery in the ditches.

Plan below shows the Sumo 'Interpretation of GPR fig 13' combined with results to the north, with Roman ditches highlighted in blue.



This performance of this work is undertaken on behalf of the client and the client shall be responsible for the accuracy of the data and the interpretation of the data. The client shall be responsible for the accuracy of the data and the interpretation of the data. The client shall be responsible for the accuracy of the data and the interpretation of the data.

KEY	
	Irregular high amplitude anomaly
	Linear anomaly
	Possible service
	Estimated trench
	Manhole
0.40	Depth to the top of the feature (in m)



Title:		GPR Survey - Interpretation
Client:		Southampton City Council
Project:		16493 - 17-19 Between Towns Road, Oxford
Scale:	1:500 @ 2:1	Page No: T3
Survey Date:	November 2012	Checked by: PMS