



# CFA ARCHAEOLOGY

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## Jesmond, Pulpit Lane Oving Buckinghamshire

Archaeological Evaluation  
Report No. 4350

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**Jesmond, Pulpit Lane**

**Oving**

**Buckinghamshire**

**Archaeological Evaluation**

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## **Summary**

*An archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation and recording of two 10m x 1.8m trenches was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd on land at Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2023. The evaluation identified a single undated linear feature.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on behalf of Welland Design and Build Ltd on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The CFA site code and project number for the works are JPOB and 5039.

The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by CFA Archaeology and approved by Buckinghamshire County Council (Walker 2023). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the construction of three residential dwellings and associated infrastructure (planning application number 22/04089/APP).

### **1.2 Site Location and Description**

The proposed development (the Site) is located on a small parcel of land surrounded by residential housing to the north and west, bounded by Pulpit Lane to the east, and Marston Hill to the south (Fig. 1). The site currently contains a single dwelling.

The geology of the Site consists of Whitchurch sand formation Sandstone, a sedimentary rock formed between 139-133 million years ago, with no superficial geology recorded (BGS 2023). The Site has freely draining, lime-rich loamy soil (LandIS 2023).

### **1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

The Site lies within an Archaeological Notification Area, which has been defined by the Local Planning Authority due to a series of Iron Age artefacts and funerary remains identified during previous archaeological investigations and chance discoveries. There are several listed buildings within 1km of the Site. The following is brief summary of the known heritage assets and historical background of the area within 1km of the Site. Numbers in parenthesis relate to Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER ref 1442) numbers.

#### ***Prehistoric***

Neolithic or Bronze Age flints (MBC6811) have been recovered c.600m south of the site, suggesting some activity during that period.

There is evidence of more established activity during the Iron Age, with a probable burial (MBC1692), coin (MBC1693), and pottery (MBC1694) findspots near to the Site.

### ***Romano-British***

There is an increasingly large body of evidence for Roman activity in the area, including a possible Roman road (MBC6081) between Ermine Street and Dorchester-on-Thames which runs to the east of the Site alongside nearby pottery (MBC2329) and coin (MBC37336, MBC37338, MBC39360, MBC39362) findspots.

### ***Medieval***

An Anglo-Saxon bronze enamelled escutcheon with a Celtic design (MBC2326) is recorded from Oving, suggestive of Early Medieval activity, alongside the remains of a Saxon or medieval ring earthwork (MBC380), with at least two building platforms inside the outer enclosure, c.610m south-west of the Site.

### ***Post-Medieval***

During this period, the landscape was dominated by agricultural activity and the Site itself was used as allotments by 1898, according to Ordnance Survey mapping. There are several listed buildings within 1km of the Site, although none are within its boundaries.

## **1.4 Project Aims**

In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Walker 2023), the primary aims of the evaluation were:

- To undertake a trial trench evaluation in order to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits;
- To establish the potential impacts of the proposed development and associated infrastructure and to allow mitigation measures to be proposed, where appropriate;
- To disseminate the results of the archaeological evaluation to the wider public in a manner appropriate to their significance, to be agreed with the client.

No research questions from the *South-East Research Framework* were applicable to this project (Research Frameworks 2023).

## 2. WORKING METHODS

### 2.1 Excavation Methodology

2no. trenches (10m x 1.8m) were excavated to the first archaeological horizon and the natural substrate. A mechanical excavator, fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket, was used to remove topsoil and subsequent material in spits of no more than 0.1m. All machine excavation was directed by CFA's on-site supervisor and was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.

Archaeological remains were recorded by means of written records, drawings and photographs conforming to ClfA standards (ClfA 2020a) and CFA's quality manuals. All features were planned with an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish levels above Ordnance Datum for the areas of archaeological investigation.

### 2.2 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology Ltd is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA). CFA follows all relevant ClfA and Historic England Standards and Guidance (ClfA 2020a-c and EH 2008).

### 2.3 Monitoring

The project was monitored by the Buckinghamshire Council Archaeological Officer, who was informed of the site works taking place.

### 2.4 Dissemination and Archiving

A summary of the results of archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS V, Appendix 2). The OASIS reference is cfaarcha1-515830. A summary of the contents of the archive is shown in Table 1, below.

Phase	File/Box No.	Description	Quantity
Evaluation	1	Drawing Sheet	1
		Context Sheets	2
		Digital Photographic Register	1

**Table 1:** Contents of the Archive

## 3. RESULTS

Two trenches, measuring 10m x 1.8m, were excavated within the footprint of the proposed new building. A summary of the trenches and contexts can be found in Appendix 1. These results should be read in conjunction with Figures 1-3.

A single north to south orientated ditch (201; Figs. 2.1, 2.2, & 3.4), was recorded in Trench 2. The ditch measured 0.9m wide by 0.3m deep, with gradually sloping sides, and contained a single fill of very loose light brown sand with moderate quantities of medium sub-angular elongated and irregularly shaped flint inclusions, concentrated towards its base.

No finds were recovered from Ditch 201, and it cannot be assigned a date or purpose.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

The evaluation at Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire successfully assessed the archaeological potential of the site, prior to the construction of three new residential dwellings. Although there was moderate potential for archaeological remains, only a single undated ditch was recorded.

## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### Cartographic Sources

Ordnance Survey 1899 *Buckinghamshire-Sheet XXIII.10*. 1:250,000

### Online Resources

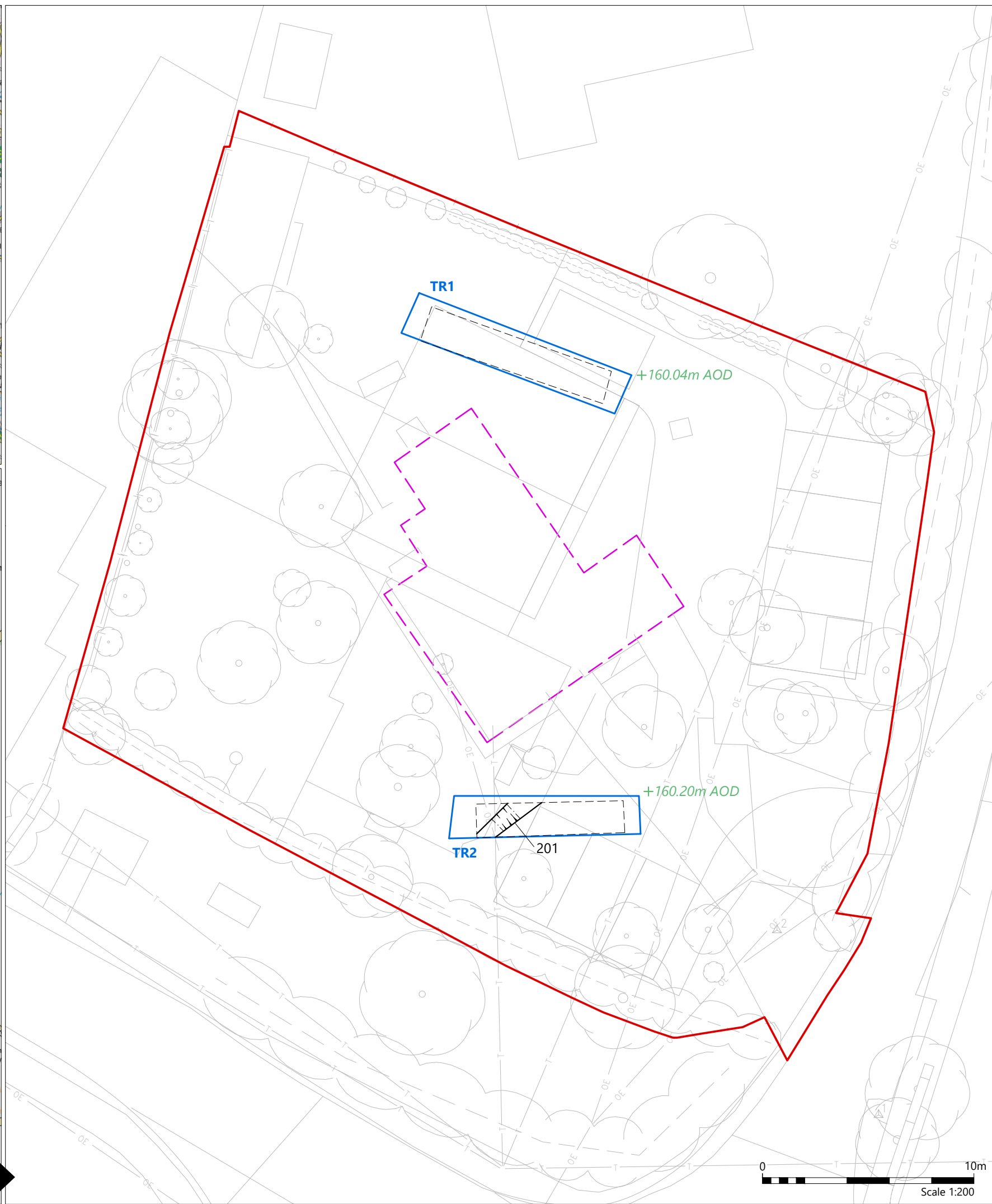
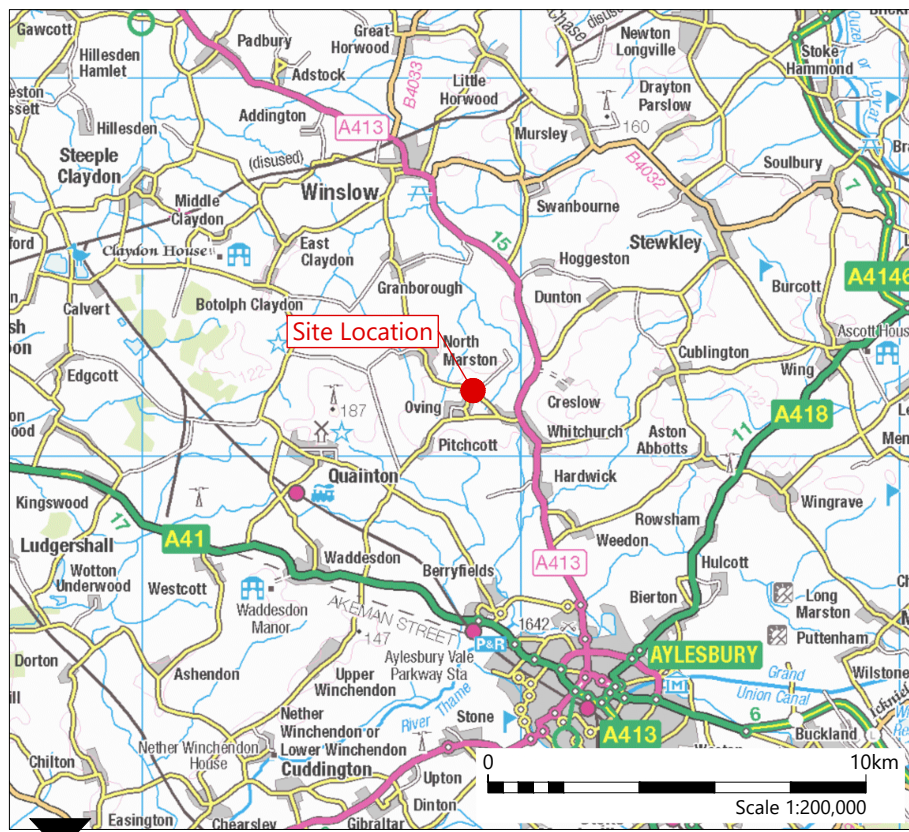
British Geological Survey (BGS)  
<http://www.bgs.uk> British Geological Survey (Accessed 10/05/2023)

Land Information System (LandIS)  
<http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes> (Accessed 10/05/2023)

Research Frameworks, 2023, *East of England Research Frameworks*  
<https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/> (Accessed 17/07/2023)



**FIGURES 1-3**



- Key:**
- Site Boundary
  - Trench Location
  - Base of Trench
  - Existing Building
  - Archaeological Feature



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Title: <b>Site Location</b>		
Project: <b>Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation</b>		
Client: <b>Welland Design and Build Ltd</b>		
Scale at A3: <b>Varies</b>		
Drawn by: <b>CA</b>	Checked: <b>SW</b>	Date: <b>25/08/2023</b>
Report No: <b>4350</b>	Fig. No: <b>1</b>	

Fig. 2.1: South-facing section of Ditch 201

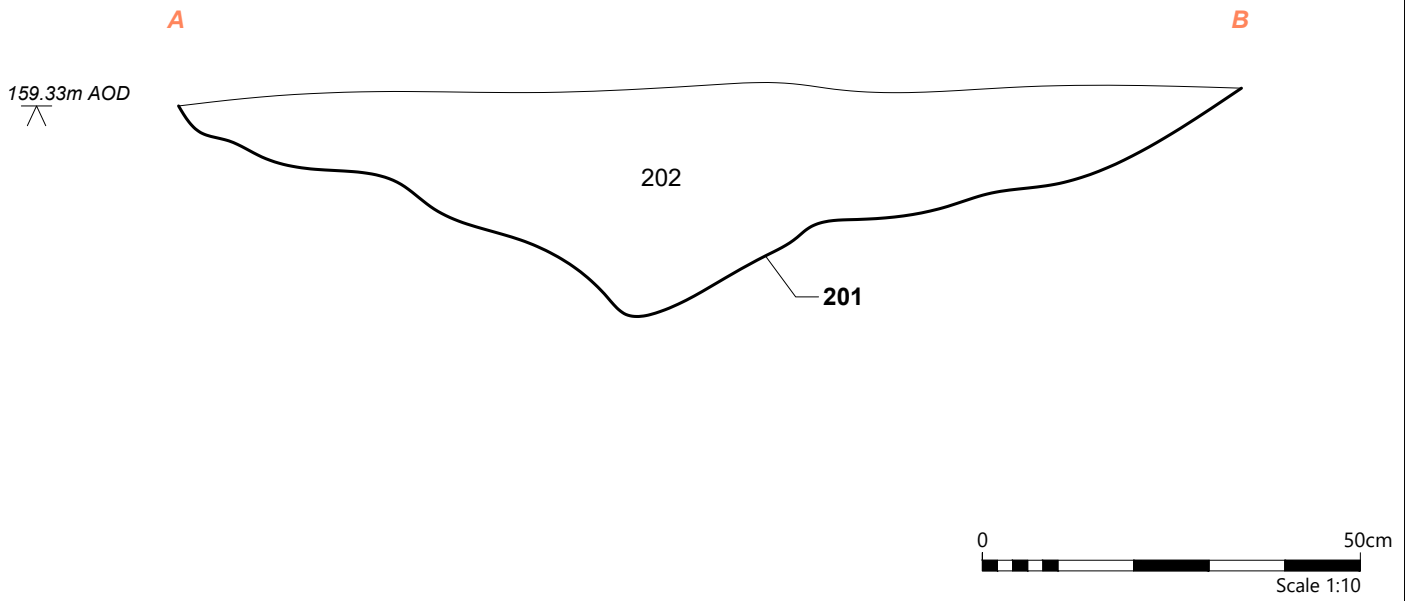
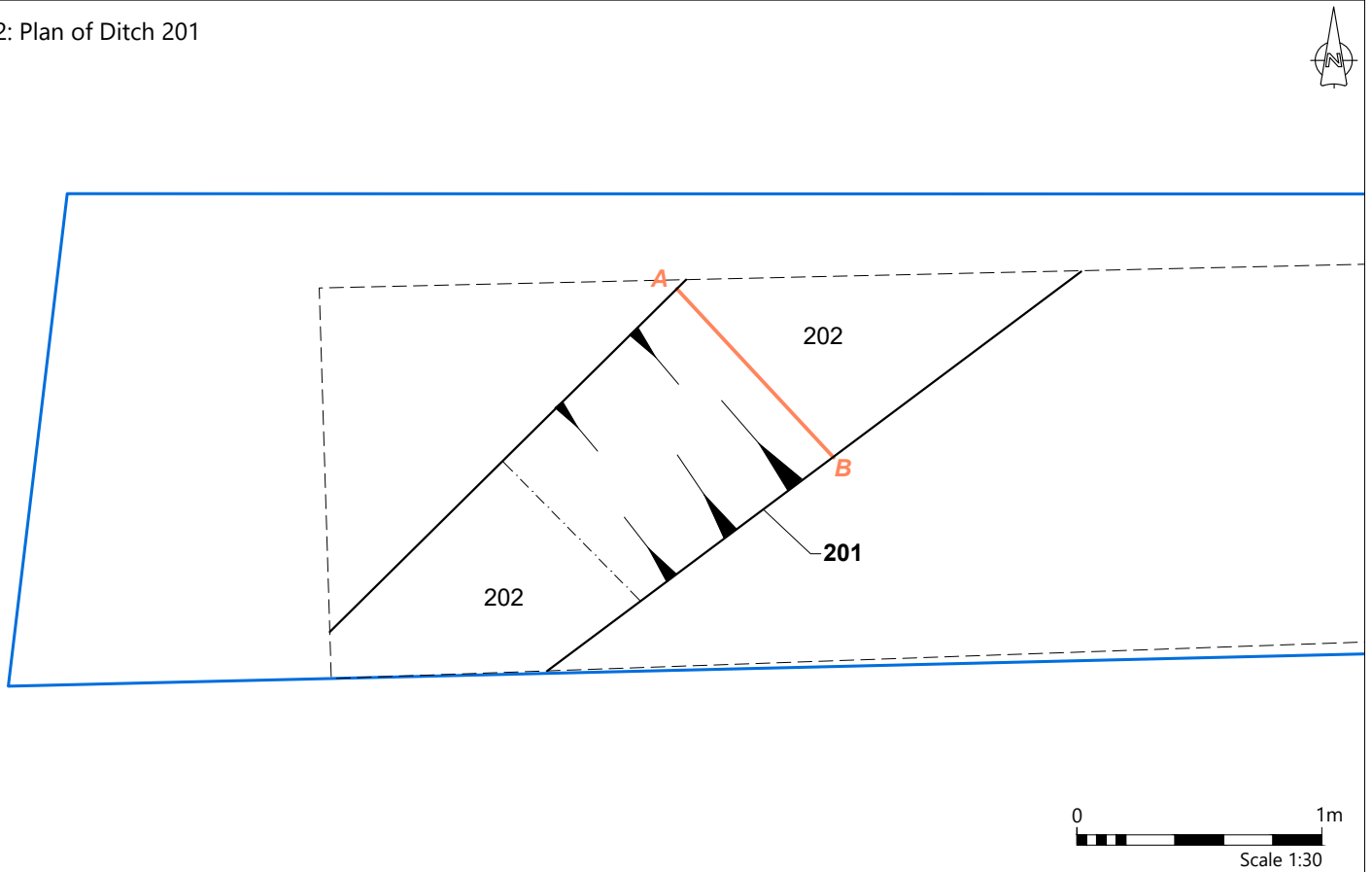
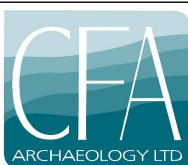


Fig. 2.2: Plan of Ditch 201



Title:  
Section and Plan Drawings

Client:  
Welland Design and Build Ltd



Project:  
Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation

Scale at A4:  
Varies

Drawn by:  
CA

Checked:  
SW

Date:  
25/08/2023

Report No:  
4350

Fig. No:  
2





Fig. 3.1: Trench 1, facing north



Fig. 3.2: Trench 2, facing north-west



Client:  
Welland Design and Build Ltd

Project:  
Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation

Drawn by:  
CA

Date:  
29/08/2023

Checked:  
SW

Report No:  
4350





Fig. 3.3: South-west facing representative section of Trench 2

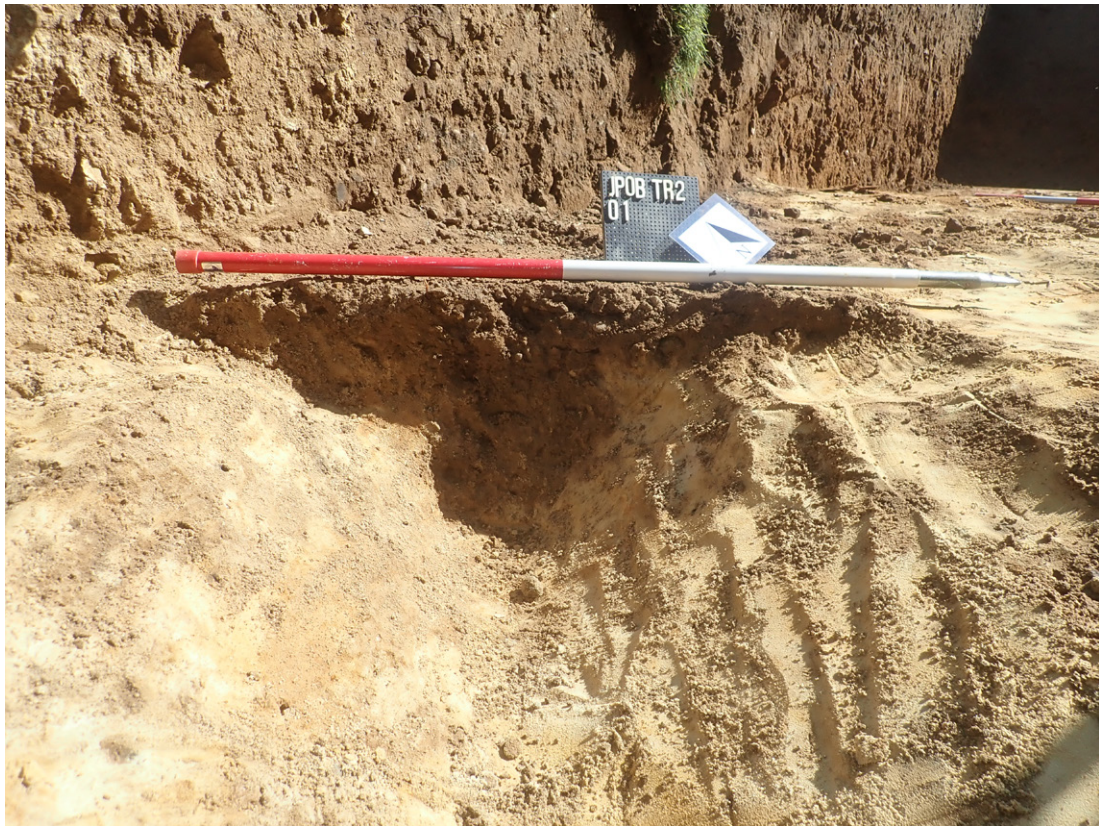


Fig. 3.4: South facing section of Ditch 201



Client: Welland Design and Build Ltd	Drawn by: CA	Date: 29/08/2023
	Project: Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation	Checked: SW



## Appendix 1: Trench and Context Summary

Trench No.	Description
1	<p>Trench 1 was orientated north-west to south-east and measured 10m x 1.8m.</p> <p>It contained a dark brown loamy topsoil (103), a mid-brown silty loam subsoil (102), and a light yellow sandy natural geology (101).</p> <p>No archaeological remains were uncovered.</p>
2	<p>Trench 2 was orientated broadly east to west and measured 10m x 1.8m.</p> <p>It contained a dark brown loamy topsoil (205), a brown silty loam subsoil (204), and a light yellow sandy natural geology (203).</p> <p>One ditch was recorded (201).</p>

Context No.	Trench	Type	Feature	Fill of	Filled by	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Interpretation
101	1	Deposit	Natural						Light yellow sand.	
102	1	Deposit	Subsoil						Mid-brown silty loam.	
103	1	Deposit	Topsoil						Dark brown loam.	
201	2	Cut	Ditch		202	>1.0	0.9	0.3	Cut of N-S ditch. Regularly shaped linear ditch.	Small, shallow ditch. No finds, not datable.
202	2	Fill	Ditch	201		>1.8	0.9	0.3	Fill of Ditch 201. Very loose light brown fine sand with moderate quantities of medium sub-angular elongated and irregularly shaped flint, concentrated towards base.	Probably accumulated through natural siltation.
203	2	Deposit	Natural						Light yellow sand.	
204	2	Deposit	Subsoil						Brown silty loam.	
205	2	Deposit	Topsoil						Dark brown loam.	

## Appendix 2 OASIS Summary

# OASIS Summary for cfaarcha1-518564

OASIS ID (UID)	cfaarcha1-518564
Project Name	Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Sitename	Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Sitecode	JPOB
Project Identifier(s)	JPOB / 5039
Activity type	Evaluation, Trial Trench
Planning Id	22/04089/APP
Reason For Investigation	Planning requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	CFA Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	16-Aug-2023 - 16-Aug-2023
Location	Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire: Archaeological Evaluation NGR : SP 78730 21754 LL : 51.88879205871933, -0.85743191767973 12 Fig : 478730,221754
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Buckinghamshire District : Aylesbury Vale Parish : Oving
Project Methodology	2no. trenches (10m x 1.8m) were excavated to the first archaeological horizon and the natural substrate. A mechanical excavator, fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket, was used to remove topsoil and subsequent material in spits of no more than 0.1m. All machine excavation was directed by CFA's on-site supervisor and was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.  Archaeological remains were recorded by means of written records, drawings and photographs conforming to ClfA standards and CFA's quality manuals. All features were planned with an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish levels above Ordnance Datum for the areas of archaeological investigation.
Project Results	The evaluation at Jesmond, Pulpit Lane, Oving, Buckinghamshire successfully evaluated the archaeological potential of the site, prior to the construction of three new residential dwellings. Although there was moderate potential for archaeological remains, only a single undated ditch was recorded.
Keywords	
Funder	Private or public corporation Welland Design and Build Ltd
HER	Buckinghamshire HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Jamie Walker
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;





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