

## **TP 2 Summary of primary findings**

The following document states the current findings from the test pit dug on Charney Bassett village Green, on the weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Each spit/feature or group of spits/features will be described in turn, including the finds material, provisional date and provisional interpretation.

### **Spit 1**

The first layer uncovered was formed of spit 1, and was comprised of a friable, mid greyish brown, silty sand, with limestone inclusions. This layer was 0.10 m in depth. The finds material recovered from this layer included: animal bone (1 gram); roofing slate (3 grams); Cu alloy objects (28 grams); charcoal (6 grams); plastic (1 gram); and slate pencil (1 gram). The pottery recovered dated to modern (1 gram) period. This layer is interpreted as being formed of the modern turf and topsoil.

### **Spit 2 to 3**

The second layer was formed of spits 2 to 3, and was comprised of a friable, mid greyish brown, silty sand, with limestone inclusions. This layer was 0.20 m in depth. The finds material recovered from this layer included: animal bone (13 grams), including cattle, bird and sheep; building material including, brick (253 grams), roof tile (562 grams), and roofing slate (30 grams); charcoal (75 grams); metal including, Fe nails (58 grams), Fe object (342 grams), cu alloy objects (10 grams) and lead objects (73 grams); clay pipe including, stem (4 grams) and bowl (3 grams), dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> C; glass including, window (1 gram) and vessel (68 grams); iron slag (20 grams); flint worked (4 grams) including one scraper Neolithic in date; plastic (1 gram); and slate pencil (2 grams). The pottery recovered dated to post medieval (92 grams) and modern (34 grams) periods. This layer is interpreted as a soil deposit dating to the early modern to post medieval period, related to the Green.

### **Spit 4**

The third layer was formed of spit 4, and was comprised of a loose, mid yellowish brown, silty sand, with limestone inclusions. This layer was 0.10 m in depth. The finds material recovered from this layer included: building material including, roof tile (10 grams); iron slag (3 grams). The pottery recovered dated to the Saxon (11 grams) and modern (11 grams) periods. This layer is interpreted as the weathered top of the underlying geology (spit 5).

### **Spit 5 – Natural**

Spit 5 was the natural underlying geology. The natural geology was found to be a hard, light greyish white, limestone, with no inclusions. This level was reached at a depth of 0.40 m from the top of the test pit. No finds material was recovered from this spit and because of this it is thought to be formed of the natural Stanford Formation Limestone geology.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, from the evidence presented above, it is shown that the underlying archaeology within the area of test pit 2 comprised the modern topsoil overlying a modern to post medieval soil deposit. This overlaid a layer containing weathered limestone material and therefore is thought to relate to the underlying geology Stanford Formation Limestone. However, it is important to note two sherds of Saxon pottery as well as a small fragment of iron slag were found in this deposit. This is important as these Saxon pottery sherds demonstrate activities of this period occurring on this site. Lastly, finds material indicates Neolithic activity in this area of the village as one flint scraper, dating to this period, was also found.