

AREAS 9-12, TROWBRIDGE ROAD
ST MELLONS
CARDIFF

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 1704
CA REPORT: 04066

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SUMMARY

Site Name:	Areas 9-12, Trowbridge Road
Location:	St Mellons, Cardiff
NGR:	ST 23550 79750
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	9 February to 29 April 2004
Location of Archive:	National Museum of Wales, Cardiff
Site Code:	MEL 04

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between February and April 2004 at the request of WSP Environmental (on the behalf of Cardiff City Council) on land at Trowbridge Road, St Mellons. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2004), 15 trenches were excavated across the development area.

Trenching identified an area of Roman activity. Several *in situ* spreads of stone were recorded; one of which appeared to represent the corner of a structure and another a dwarf wall footing. Several ditches were also observed; the majority of these containing a similar primary fill of blue grey and several were observed to have had their bank tipped back over the silting of the ditch. All of these features produced Roman finds and were sealed by later alluvial layers.

Several undated ditches were recorded, though these are also likely to be of Roman origin.

In addition, a thin layer of organic clay silt with preserved macroplant remains was identified in two trenches towards the southern end of the site.

The project has characterised the archaeological potential of the site, and has shown that there is a high potential for survival of archaeological deposits, with the highest potential in the vicinity of trenches 5, 6, 14 and 15. The project has also confirmed the existence of a previously identified promontory of bedrock.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between February and April 2004 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for WSP Environmental (on behalf of Cardiff City Council) on Areas 9-12, Trowbridge Road, St Mellons, Cardiff (centred on NGR: ST23550 79750; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the submission of a planning application for development of the site.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Brief For Archaeological Recording (WSP 2003) prepared by WSP Environmental, with a subsequent detailed WSI produced by CA (2004) and approved by Neil Maylan, Senior Development Control Officer, Glamorgan and Gwent Archaeological Trust (Curatorial) acting as adviser to Cardiff City Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1999) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects II* (EH 1991). It was monitored by Neil Maylan, including site visits on 30 March and 27 April 2004.

The site

1.3 The site encloses an area of 22ha and comprises pasture fields divided by hedgerows and reens. (Fig. 1). The site lies at approximately 7m AOD, and drops away slightly from north to south.

1.4 The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Mercia Mudstone (formerly Keuper Marl) by the British Geological Survey (*England and Wales Sheet 263 Solid and Drift Edition*).

Archaeological background

1.5 Archaeological interest in the site arises from its location in the Gwent Levels, which contain a uniquely rich archaeological and historical resource and are of international importance and significance. As such the site of the proposed development has the potential to contain internationally significant remains (WSP 2003).

- 1.6 A geo-archaeological investigation by Terra Nova (Terra Nova 2003) has established that the site can be sub-divided into four areas (A1, A2, B and C). The report stated that:

“Area A1 consisted of an area of approximately level bedrock which is likely to have remained as dry land throughout the Holocene. Area A2 comprised bedrock sloping down to the level of bedrock in Area B and is likely to have been within the intertidal zone before the Roman period. The bedrock in Area B lies between 2m and 0m AOD and is thus likely to have been inundated from the late Mesolithic. The bedrock in area C is much deeper and is likely to have been inundated in the early Mesolithic and remained as mudflat and saltmarsh throughout the rest of the Holocene.”

The evaluation was thus concentrated on Area A1, where the bedrock was shallowest and which was most likely to have remained as dry throughout the Holocene, as this was the area most likely to contain deposits of archaeological significance (WSP 2003, 5).

- 1.7 No previous archaeological excavations have been carried out at the site and there is no record of any known archaeological sites, or of artefacts having been recovered, within the site.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.8 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date, significance and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site in order that an informed decision on their importance in a local, regional or national context can be made. This information will clarify whether any remains are of sufficient importance to warrant consideration for preservation *in situ*, or alternatively form the basis of mitigation measures that may seek to limit damage to significant remains.

Methodology

- 1.9 The fieldwork initially comprised the excavation of eight trenches (Fig. 2, trenches 1 to 8) all measuring 50m in length by 1.8m in width. Due to the presence of hedges, reens, and several large areas of standing water, the location of several trenches

was revised slightly in the field; however the basic layout of the trenches remained much as specified within the original WSI.

- 1.10 The first phase of evaluation revealed features of archaeological significance and in consultation with WSP Environmental and GGAT Curatorial a further seven trenches (trenches 9 to 15) all measuring 50m in length by 1.6m in width were excavated to determine the extent of these remains.
- 1.11 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with the CA Technical Manual 1: *Excavation Recording Manual* (1996).
- 1.12 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and, where appropriate, sampled and processed in accordance with the CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003). All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with the CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).
- 1.13 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive (including artefacts) will be deposited with the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.

2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits expressed as metres above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) appear in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Trenches described below have been grouped together into four groups for ease of interpretation and understanding of spatial patterning of archaeological features encountered.

Trenches with no archaeological features

- 2.3 Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 7 contained no features of archaeological significance though a broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was observed in all of these trenches (see Appendix 1 for details). This comprised the natural mudstone substrate sealed by a layer of mid brown grey silty clay alluvium, beneath a thin layer of weathered alluvium/subsoil and topsoil.

Trenches with dated features

Trench 5 (Fig. 4)

- 2.4 Ditch 516 lay towards the centre of trench 5. It was cut through alluvial layer 514 and contained a single mid blue grey clay fill 517 from which no finds were recovered. It was sealed by alluvial layer 505 which was cut by ditch 511, running parallel to 516, which contained a primary blue grey clay fill 512, from which six sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date and a small quantity of animal bone were recovered, and a secondary blue brown silty clay fill 513 from which no finds were recovered.
- 2.5 Alluvial layer 505 was also cut by ditch 507 containing a single grey clay fill 508 from which no finds were recovered. This ditch was aligned perpendicular to ditch 511 and terminated just to the north of it. However no relationship could be established between the two ditches due to the similarity in fills. Both ditches were sealed by alluvial layer 504. A scatter of Roman pottery fragments was observed in this layer at the south-eastern extent of the trench.
- 2.6 Ditch 533 lay at the north-western extent of trench 5 and cut alluvial layer 538. It contained a thin primary fill of mid brown red clay 535 from which no finds were recovered and a more substantial secondary mid blue grey clay fill 534 from which two sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered. A thin lens of dark brown red clay 536 was also observed within this fill. Ditch 530 lay parallel and to the south-east of 533. It contained a single mid blue grey clay fill 531 from which no finds were recovered. Immediately adjacent to 530 lay possible ditch 528. It was heavily truncated by later features and was only visible in one section. No finds were recovered from the single mid blue grey clay fill 529. No relationship

could be established between 530 and 528 due to the shallow intersection of the respective fills.

- 2.7 Ditches 528, 530 and 533 were all sealed by alluvial layer 532 which was in turn cut by ditch 519. It contained a primary mid blue grey clay fill 520 from which ten sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd-century date were recovered and a secondary fill 522 which comprised mid orange brown slightly silty clay mixed with occasional mudstone. The profile of this deposit and the fact that it appeared to lip up over the far south-eastern edge of ditch 519 suggests it was deliberately pushed into the top of ditch 519 from the north-west. It was very similar in composition to probable upcast 521 which lay immediately to the north. 519 was re-cut as 523 through deposit 522 and contained a single light blue grey clay fill 524 from which 12 sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd-century and later date were recovered. This fill was sealed by alluvial layer 525.
- 2.8 Two spreads of stone were also observed. Stone spread 510 overlay alluvial layer 504, whilst 509 overlay alluvial layer 532. Both spreads were seemingly randomly arranged and were not structural.

Trench 6 (Fig. 3)

- 2.9 Ditch 613 lay towards the centre of trench 6 and cut alluvial layer 607. It contained three fills, primary blue grey clay fill 614, secondary mid brown grey silty clay fill 616 and a tertiary mid brown grey slightly sandy clay fill 617. No finds were recovered from the fills of this ditch. The uppermost fill was cut by ditch 618 which was filled in sequence by light red grey sandy clay 619, mid brown grey slightly sandy clay 620, grey brown silty clay 621 dark grey brown silty clay 621. No finds were recovered from the fills of this ditch.
- 2.10 Ditch 609 lay towards the south-eastern extent of trench 6 and was cut from alluvial layer 607 through an accumulated sequence of alluvial deposits. It contained a primary light blue grey silty clay 610 from which two sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered. This was sealed by a secondary mid brown grey slightly sandy clay fill 615 from which one sherd of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th - century date were recovered and which was cut by ditch re-cut 626. This contained a primary dark brown red sandy clay fill 611 and a secondary light brown grey silty clay fill 612. No finds were recovered from either 611 or 612.

- 2.11 A small, shallow pit 623 lay just to the south east of ditch 609 apparently cut through alluvial layer 608. It contained a primary fill 624 which contained frequent irregular stone fragment inclusions, and a secondary mid brown red sandy clay fill 625. No finds were recovered from either fill of 623.

Trench 14 (Fig. 5)

- 2.12 A possible ditch 1424 was identified at the western end of trench 14 running south-west to north-east and was cut from alluvial layer 1421. It appeared to contain a primary fill 1409 of mid red brown silty clay with frequent patches of mudstone and a secondary fill 1408 of dark brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks. No artefactual material was recovered from either fill. This ditch was only examined in one section so interpretation of this feature is limited.
- 2.13 Stone spread 1407 sealed 1408 and did not have a distinct form though it was aligned roughly north-east to south-west with the densest concentration of stones on this alignment. Very few stones appeared to the south-east of the main concentration and there was a distinct thinning of the spread to the north-east. Two sherds of Roman pottery of late 2nd-century and later date were recovered from this context which lay on the same alignment as ditch 1424, though it is unresolved if they were actually a fill of the ditch or merely overlay the latest fill. Contained within 1407 was a red brown silty clay deposit from which 19 sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date, fragments of possible sandstone roof tile, fragments of burnt bone and a fragment of fired clay were recovered.
- 2.14 Stone spread 1423 lay towards the western end of trench 14, comprising several large smoothed stones aligned north-west to south-east with a return at the southern end. Within the area formed by the larger stones was a denser, more tightly packed, concentration of smaller stone fragments. Smaller, less dense concentrations of stones lay beyond the larger stones to the south and west. 1423 sealed deposit 1425 which was very similar in composition to 1408 and may be the same context. Seven sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered from 1423.
- 2.15 Another stone spread 1410 lay towards the centre of trench 14. The stones did not appear to be structural, but were randomly arranged and confined towards the northern edge of the trench. Six fragments of Roman pottery of late 2nd century to 4th-century date were recovered from 1410. Stone spread 1405 lay towards the

eastern extent of trench 14. This appeared to be a linear arrangement, though it did thin out towards the northern edge of the trench. Several of the larger stones within 1405 appeared to be arranged as a possible post setting. Eighteen sherds of Roman pottery of late 2nd/early 3rd-century and later date were recovered from this context.

- 2.16 Ditch 1417 was recorded at the eastern end of trench 14 though was not fully excavated due to its full extent lying beyond the maximum safe depth of excavation. It was cut from alluvial layer 1420 and contained a single exposed fill blue grey slightly silty clay fill 1415 from which two sherds of were recovered. Overlying fill 1415 was a charcoal rich sandy lens 1414 which was sampled and was found to contain fragments of fired clay; an iron nail, two pieces of burnt bone, fragments of mollusc shell, 37 charred seeds and glumes, and a quantity of charcoal. This was sealed by alluvial layer 1413 which was cut by ditch 1418. 1418 contained a primary fill 1419 of mid red brown clay mudstone and a secondary light blue grey clay fill 1412 from which eleven sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered.
- 2.17 An unexcavated ditch 1427 was observed to the east of ditch 1418 and appeared to contain two fills, 1428 and 1429 respectively.
- 2.18 All of the archaeological features from trench 14 described above were sealed by alluvial layer 1403 which extended over the whole length of the trench.

Trench 15 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 6)

- 2.19 Ditch 1513 lay at the south-eastern end of trench 15 and was cut through alluvial layer 1507. This contained three fills; mid blue clay mixed with brown slightly clay 1516, dark grey brown silty clay 1515 and mid yellow brown silty clay 1514. One sherd of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date was recovered from 1514. The upper fill 1514 was sealed by a layer of mid brown red mixed clay and mudstone which appeared to have been tipped over ditch 1513.
- 2.20 A possible gully 1518 lay immediately to the north-west of 1513 and contained a single mid grey brown silty clay fill 1511 from which six sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered. Ditch 1519 lay immediately adjacent to ditch 1518 and contained a single fill 1517 of mid blue grey clay mixed with brown slightly silty clay from which four sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 4th-century date were recovered.

- 2.21 Ditch 1509 was cut from layer 1512 and through fills 1511 and 1517 and contained a single light brown red silty clay fill 1510 from which 45 sherds of Roman pottery of 2nd to 3rd-century date were recovered.

Trenches with undated features

Trench 4 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 6)

- 2.22 Ditch 408 lay towards the western end of trench 4. It was cut through alluvial layer 405 and contained a single blue grey silty clay fill 409. This deposit was in turn sealed by a mid grey brown silty clay alluvial layer 403 which had slumped into the top of the ditch. A further mid blue grey clay alluvial deposit 410 formed in the resulting trough on top of 403. No artefactual evidence was recovered from this feature.

Trench 8 (Fig. 2)

- 2.23 A small pit 805 lay at the western end of trench 8. It was cut through alluvial layer 803 and contained a single charcoal rich clay silt fill 806. This fill was sampled and was found to contain a large quantity of charcoal.

Trench 9 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 6)

- 2.24 Ditch 909 lay at the eastern end of trench 9. It was cut through mudstone bedrock and was aligned obliquely across the trench making recovery of a full section impossible. It contained a primary dark brown grey silty clay fill 908 and a secondary dark brown red silty clay fill 907. This was in turn sealed by two alluvial layers 906 and 905 the latter of which was cut by ditch 904. This ran on a very similar alignment to ditch 909, again making exposure of a full section impossible. It contained a single mid brown grey silty clay fill 903.

Trench 10 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 6)

- 2.25 A sherd of Middle to Later Iron Age pottery was recovered from the earliest alluvial layer 1005. This layer was cut by ditch 1010 which lay towards the north-western end of trench 10. It contained a single blue grey clay fill 1009 which was sealed by brown grey alluvial layer 1004.

Trench 13 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 6)

- 2.26 Ditch 1312 (Fig. 6) lay at the north-eastern end of trench 13. Interpretation of this feature was hampered by a sewer pipe trench which cut across it at an oblique angle. This meant that the ditch and later features could only be observed in one section. 1312 is cut through alluvial layers 1302 and 1305. It contained a primary light blue grey clay fill 1313 and a secondary mid grey brown silty clay fill 1314. Some of the resultant upcast 1315 from the cutting of the ditch has slumped back over onto the secondary fill 1314. This fill 1314 was cut by ditch 1318 which contained a primary mid brown grey silty clay fill 1319 and a secondary re-deposited natural mudstone clay fill 1316 which is similar in composition to upcast 1315.
- 2.27 Fill 1316 was cut by possible ditch 1320 which contained a single dark brown grey silty clay fill 1321. It was also cut by probable re-cut 1322. This contained a single mid brown grey silty clay fill 1323. This fill 1323 was cut by probable ditch 1324 which contained a primary fill 1317 of mid pink red mudstone and clay, similar in composition to upcast 1315 and a secondary dark brown grey silty clay fill 1325. This was in turn sealed by alluvial clay layer 1304.

Trenches with organic clay silt layer

- 2.28 In both trench 11 (Fig. 6) and trench 12 a layer (1108 and 1209 respectively) of dark brown/black clay silt high in organic content was identified. In trench 11 it measured a maximum of 0.08m in depth at the southern end of the trench and thinned out towards the centre of the trench, whilst in trench 12 it contained a large proportion of decayed organic matter such as twigs and reeds and was observed along the entire length of the trench. In both cases this layer was sealed by later alluvial layers.

The Finds

- 2.29 Two sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery were recovered from alluvial layers 1005 and 1205 respectively. The sherd from 1005 came from the earliest alluvial layer in trench 10 whilst the sherd from 1205 was residual in trench 12 subsoil. A large quantity of Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation, the bulk of which is unabraded. In many instances the assemblage comprises sherds of long-lived types which are only broadly dateable to the late 1st/2nd century to 4th-

centuries. Additionally a small quantity of fired clay and ceramic or stone roof tile was recovered, all of which came from Roman contexts.

The Biological Evidence

- 2.30 Two samples were taken during the course of the evaluation. An artefact recovery sample was taken from pit fill 806. This produced a small quantity of charcoal. A bulk environmental sample was taken from lens 1414. This contained a small quantity of fired clay, burnt bone and charcoal, fragments of mollusc shell and 37 charred seeds and glumes.

3. DISCUSSION

Introduction

- 3.1 The archaeological features encountered during the evaluation which produced dating evidence can be broadly dated to the Roman period. The only evidence to pre-date the Roman period were two sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery recovered from the alluvial layers in trench 10 and trench 12. The dated features were all concentrated in a well defined zone around trenches 5, 6, 14 and 15. Undated features were found in other trenches, but the lack of dating from such features strongly suggests the focus of settlement was around the four trenches mentioned above. With the exception of a single pit in trench 8, no features were recorded in trenches to the north of this area. A lack of activity in an area where the bedrock was shallower and more likely to have remained dry throughout the Holocene again points towards a concentration of activity in one area. The majority of artefactual evidence recovered was pottery; the lack of bone and metalwork recovered is likely to be caused by the acidic nature of the alluvial clay layers.

Roman

- 3.2 The features dated to the Roman period can be divided into two groups; ditches and possible structures.

Ditches

- 3.3 The majority of ditches dated as being Roman contained a similar primary fill of blue grey clay. Such a pattern has been observed at Goldcliff (Locock 1997, 63) where it has been provisionally interpreted as a flooding deposit representing a single major flooding event. Dating evidence from such fills at this site is of 2nd to 4th-century date.
- 3.4 Ditches 519 and 1513 have both had a bank (probably formed by upcast from the original excavation of the ditch) deliberately tipped back over the ditch, and then a later ditch cut into this tipped upcast.
- 3.5 Several other ditches (1318, 1324, 1418 and 1424) all contain fills of re-deposited natural clay mudstone of a similar composition to that of upcast observed elsewhere. It is unresolved if these represent remnants of a deliberately tipped bank; their more intermittent nature suggests they may be the result of slumping through weathering.
- 3.6 It is not possible to relate ditches from one trench to another on the basis of alignment alone (Fig. 3) with the possible exception of ditches 1010 and 511. Ditches 613, 618 and 609 in trench 6 display a similar profile to ditches 1519, 1513 and 1509 respectively in trench 15 suggesting they may be the same ditches which have changed course between trenches.
- 3.7 Given the position of ditches almost on the edge of the boundary between the well-drained area of shallow bedrock and the more frequently inundated area of deeper alluvial deposits it is probable that the ditches served a drainage function. As already noted, the majority of these ditches contained a similar fill, and not layers of sedimentation that may be expected of a feature filled by silting. This implies that they were mostly kept clean during their active life and the fills observed have occurred as a result of a major episode of flooding. Some of the ditches then appear to have been deliberately backfilled after this flooding.

Stone Structures

- 3.8 Stone spread 1423 represents the most convincing evidence for a structure. The larger stones retain the area of smaller more densely packed stones. The perpendicular return on the line of larger stones suggests that a corner of a structure has been revealed with its full extent lying beyond the trench.

- 3.9 Stone spread 1405 is linear in plan and contains a possible post setting. This is consistent with a dwarf wall footing for a timber built structure, however without revealing more of this feature in plan, this remains a tentative interpretation.
- 3.10 Stone spread 1407 is roughly aligned north-east to south-west and a sondage revealed that it overlay the upper fill of ditch 1424. It is possible that 1407 is in fact a deliberate fill of 1424 and that 1424 in fact represents a foundation trench that has been deliberately backfilled with 1409 and 1408 and then an upper stone layer 1407. Such a wall footing was observed at Great Pencarn Farm approximately 3km to the north-east of the site (Yates 2000, 55).
- 3.11 Interpretation of stone spread 1410 is problematic given the small amount exposed within the trench. It does however appear to be *in situ* as it overlies the same alluvial layer (1406) as 1405, 1407 and 1423 and is sealed by the same alluvial layer 1403.
- 3.12 Deposits 509 and 519, although not *in situ*, hint at the presence of a nearby stone structure or areas of hardstanding.
- 3.13 The evidence suggests that remains of a building with stone foundations and a probable wooden superstructure have been uncovered. A parallel can be drawn with the Roman structures at Great Pencarn Farm where a building was identified from stone foundations of two walls, cobble spreads comprising its internal flooring and a hearth (ibid, 49). Pottery recovered from 1405 and 1407 suggests a late 2nd/early 3rd century or later date.

Evidence for land surfaces

- 3.14 Organic clay silt horizons 1108 and 1209 can be interpreted as evidence of former land surfaces. The presence of frequent reed and wood fragments in 1209 suggests the presence of reed beds. These deposits were the only such ones observed during the course of the project and were situated in the southernmost trenches where there is a much greater depth of alluvium.
- 3.15 No evidence of any post-Roman land surfaces pre-dating the modern period were observed. All Roman features were sealed by later alluvial layers suggesting

inundation in the post-Roman period. This is consistent with many areas in the Severn estuary being flooded in this period (WSP 2004).

- 3.16 Trenches 4, 5, 13 and 14 appear to lie along the southern edge of the promontory of Area A1 put forward by Terra Nova (Terra Nova 2003, 23). Between these trenches and trenches 10, 11 and 12 to the south there was a marked increase in the depth of alluvium and it is notable that only limited archaeological remains were found in this area.

Undated features

- 3.17 It is almost certain that the majority, if not all, of the undated ditches and features can be interpreted as being of Roman date as they are sealed by the same alluvial layers which seal features constantly dated as being Roman, they contain fills of similar composition and are of similar physical appearance to features dated as Roman.

Conclusions

- 3.18 A system of drainage ditches of 2nd-century and later date and a probable building or buildings of late 2nd/early 3rd-century or later date have been identified. These are sited on the boundary between the solid geology of mudstone bedrock and the softer geology of alluvial layers. The evaluation has shown that the area of greatest archaeological significance is likely to be situated around trenches 5, 6, 14 and 15. To the south of this area the presence of archaeologically significant material is unlikely, whilst to the north of this area this, although unlikely, should not be entirely discounted due to the comparatively shallow depth of alluvium.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Tim Havard, assisted by Dave Cudlip, Jon Hart, Sam Inder, Mike Rowe, Kelly Saunders, Eddie Stratford, Jon Webster, Nick Witchell and Richard Young. The report was written by Tim Havard. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Tim Havard, and prepared for deposition by Ed McSloy. The project was managed for CA by Mark Collard.

5. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**Trench 1**

Present Ground Level: 6.82m to 7.55m AOD

Top of Alluvium: 6.27m to 7.15m AOD

Natural substrate: 5.55m to 6.89m AOD

101	Topsoil: mid grey brown humic clay silt, measuring 0.2m to 0.4m in depth.
102	Layer of made up ground: mid brown red scalplings, measuring a maximum of 0.4m in depth.
103	Alluvial layer: light brown grey silty clay, measuring 0.35m to 0.85m in depth.
104	Natural substrate: mid brown red mudstone with frequent vertical grey veining and a bedrock outcrop.

Trench 2

Present Ground Level: 7.24m to 7.51m AOD

Top of Alluvium: 6.96m to 7.16m AOD

Natural Substrate: 6.65m to 6.97m AOD

201	Topsoil: as 101, measuring 0.12m to 0.2m in depth.
202	Subsoil: mid red brown silty clay with occasional irregular stone fragments, measuring 0.05m to 0.28m in depth.
203	Alluvial layer: mid red brown silty clay, measuring 0.12m to 0.39m in depth.
204	Natural substrate: mid brown red clay mudstone with frequent vertical grey veining.

Trench 3

Present Ground Level: 6.33m to 6.91m AOD

Top of Alluvium: 5.90m to 6.71m AOD

Natural Substrate: 5.62m to 6.19m AOD

301	Topsoil: dark brown grey humic clay silt, measuring 0.08m to 0.22m in depth.
302	Subsoil: mid red brown silty clay with occasional irregular stone fragments, measuring 0.07m to 0.25m in depth.
303	Alluvial layer: mid red brown sandy clay, measuring 0.17m to 0.28m in depth.
304	Natural substrate: mid red brown mudstone with frequent vertical blue grey veining.
305	Alluvial layer: mid to dark orange brown sandy clay, measuring 0.09m to 0.31m in depth.

Trench 4

Present Ground Level: 6.22m to 6.30m AOD

Top of Alluvium: 5.76m to 6.02m AOD

Natural Substrate: 5.60m to 5.91m AOD

401	Topsoil: dark brown humic clay silt, measuring 0.1m to 0.22m in depth.
402	Subsoil: light to mid orange brown slightly sandy clay, measuring 0.08m to 0.39m in depth.
403	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown slightly silty clay, measuring 0.1m to 0.32m in depth.
404	Natural substrate: mid brown red mudstone with occasional bedrock outcrop.
405	Alluvial layer: light brown slightly silty clay, measuring 0.13m in depth.
406	Number not assigned.
407	Number not assigned.
408	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, regular moderately sloped slightly concave sides leading to a concave base, measuring 0.4m in depth, 1m in width and at least 2m in length.
409	Single fill of 408: dark blue grey silty clay.
410	Mid blue grey clay deposit which has accumulated where alluvial layer 403 has slumped into top of ditch 408.

Trench 5

Present Ground Level: 6.11m to 6.22m AOD

Top of Alluvium: 5.89m to 6.02m AOD

Natural Substrate: 5.02m to 5.61m AOD

501	Topsoil: dark brown humic clay silt, measuring 0.14m to 0.22m in depth.
502	Subsoil: mid orange brown sandy clay, measuring 0.08m to 0.16m in depth.
503	Alluvial layer: dark yellow grey silty clay, measuring 0.1m to 0.32m in depth.
504	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey silty clay, measuring 0.2m to 0.28m in depth.
505	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown silty with dark brown mottling, measuring 0.18m to 0.33m in depth.
506	Natural substrate: dark red brown mudstone clay.

507	Cut for ditch, linear in plan, aligned N-S, near vertical sides leading to a flat base, measuring 0.6m in width, 0.43m in depth, and at least 3.2m in length.
508	Single fill of 507: mid grey slightly silty clay.
509	Spread of stone: irregularly sized flat pieces of stone contained within 532. Not <i>in-situ</i> .
510	Spread of stone: irregularly sized flat pieces of stone contained within 504. Do not appear to be <i>in-situ</i> .
511	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, NW side steeply sloped regular side, SE side steeply sloped irregular side, leading to a flat base, measuring 1.34m in width, 0.42m in depth and at least 2m in length.
512	Primary fill of 512: mid blue grey slightly silty clay measuring a maximum of 0.4m in depth.
513	Secondary fill of 512: mid blue brown silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.16m in depth.
514	Alluvial layer: light brown grey silty clay with occasional dark brown mottling, measuring 0.10m to 0.16m in depth.
515	Alluvial lens: mid blue grey slightly silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.06m in depth.
516	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, steeply sloped slightly concave sides leading to a slightly concave base, measuring 1.32m in width, 0.36m in depth and at least 2m in length.
517	Single fill of 516, mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
518	Probable alluvial layer: dark red brown sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.14m in depth.
519	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NW-SE, NW side irregular moderately sloped, SE side regular steep slope leading to a mostly flat base, measuring 1.3m in width, 0.53m in depth and at least 1.8m in width.
520	Single fill of 519: light to mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
521	Upcast from 519: light to mid orange re-deposited mudstone mixed with brown grey silty clay and occasional irregular stone fragments, measuring 2.2m in length, a maximum of 0.38m in depth and at least 1.8m in width.
522	Upcast from 519 pushed back over silted up ditch; light to mid orange brown slightly silty clay mixed with occasional pieces of mudstone, measuring a maximum of 0.16m in depth.
523	Re-cut of ditch 519: linear in plan aligned NE-SW, moderately sloped concave sides leading to a concave base, measuring 1.6m in width, 0.22m in depth and at least 1.8m in length.
524	Single fill of 523: light to mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
525	Alluvial layer: light brown grey slightly silty clay with occasional dark brown mottling, measuring 0.34m in depth.
526	Alluvial layer: light brown grey slightly silty clay with occasional dark brown mottling, measuring 0.34m in depth.
527	Alluvial layer: dark grey brown silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.32m in depth.
528	Cut for possible ditch: appears linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, NW side steeply sloped leading to a flat base, measuring 0.5m in width, 0.2m in depth and at least 0.7m in length.
529	Single fill of 528: light to mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
530	Cut for possible ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, steep regular sides leading to a mostly flat base, measuring 1.2m in width, 0.24m in depth and at least 0.7m in length.
531	Single fill of 530: light to mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
532	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey slightly silty clay with frequent dark brown mottling, measuring 0.25m to 0.35m in depth, 4.8m in length and at least 0.7m in width.
533	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned NE-SW, regular moderately sloped sides leading to a flat base, measuring 3m in width, 0.45m in depth and at least 1.8m in length.
534	Secondary fill of 533: light to mid blue grey slightly silty clay.
535	Primary fill of 533: mid red brown clay with mudstone inclusions.
536	Lens of upcast slumping within 534, dark red brown mudstone clay.
537	Upcast from 533: light to mid orange re-deposited mudstone mixed with brown grey silty clay and occasional sub-rounded stones up to 0.3m by 0.2m by 0.15m, measuring 2.4m in length, a maximum of 0.3m in depth and at least 1.8m in width.
538	Alluvial layer: dark brown grey slightly silty clay with very occasional irregular stone fragments, measuring 0.18m in depth.
539	Alluvial layer: light brown grey slightly silty clay with occasional dark brown mottling, measuring 0.12m in depth.

Trench 6

Present ground level: 6.14m to 6.28m AOD

Top of alluvium: 5.96m to 6.00m AOD

Natural substrate: 5.26m to 5.85m AOD

601	Topsoil: dark brown humic clay silt, measuring 0.14m to 0.24m in depth.
602	Subsoil: mid brown grey slightly sandy clay with occasional dark brown mottling, measuring 0.14m to 0.28m in depth.
603	Alluvial layer: light to mid brown red slightly silty clay, measuring 0.2m to 0.22m in depth.
604	Natural substrate: mid red brown mudstone with vertical blue grey veining.

605	Alluvial layer: light blue grey clay measuring 0.12m to 0.16m in depth.
606	Alluvial layer: mid yellow brown slightly silty clay measuring 0.1m to 0.2m in depth.
607	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey silty clay measuring 0.14m to 0.22m in depth.
608	Alluvial layer: light brown slightly silt clay, measuring 0.18m to 0.2m in depth.
609	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned N-S, moderately sloped regular sides leading to a flat base, measuring 2.9m in width, 0.78m in depth and at least 2.1m in length.
610	Primary fill of 609: light to mid grey clay, measuring a maximum of 0.2m in depth.
611	Primary fill of 626: dark red brown sandy clay with frequent irregular stone fragments.
612	Secondary fill of 626: light brown grey slightly silty clay.
613	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned N-S, western side moderate regularly sloped leading to a flat base, measuring 1.16m in width, 0.4m in depth and at least 2.1m in length.
614	Primary fill of 613: light blue grey clay silt, measuring 0.1m in depth.
615	Secondary fill of 609: mid brown grey slightly silty sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.4m in depth.
616	Secondary fill of 613: mid brown grey (with frequent dark brown mottles) silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.24m in depth.
617	Tertiary fill of 613: mid brown grey slightly sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.12m in depth.
618	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, steep slightly concave sides leading to a concave base, measuring 1.42m in width, 0.52m in depth and at least 1.8m in length. Cuts ditch 613.
619	Primary fill of 618: light red grey sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.14m in depth.
620	Secondary fill of 618: mid brown grey slightly sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.14m in depth.
621	Tertiary fill of 618: grey brown silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.08m in depth.
622	Quaternary fill of 618: dark grey brown silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.18m in depth.
623	Cut for possible pit: sub-circular in plan, moderately sloped sides, base not established, measuring 0.62m in length, 0.61m in diameter and 0.18m in depth.
624	Primary fill of 623: mid red brown sandy clay with frequent irregular stone fragment inclusions, measuring 0.12m in depth.
625	Secondary fill of 623: mid brown red sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.1m in depth.
626	Re-cut of ditch: 609: linear in plan, aligned NW-SE, moderately sloped regular sides leading to a mostly flat base, measuring 0.52m in depth.

Trench 7

Present ground level: 6.40m to 6.89m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.49m to 6.85m AOD

Natural substrate: 5.83m to 6.37m AOD

701	Topsoil: light to mid grey brown humic silty clay, measuring 0.14m to 0.22m in depth.
702	Subsoil: light brown grey (with occasional yellow mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.2m to 0.24m in depth.
703	Alluvial layer: light to mid brown red silty clay, measuring 0.26m to 0.5m in depth.
704	Natural substrate: mid red brown mudstone with frequent vertical grey veining.

Trench 8

Present ground level: 7.13m to 7.33m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.79m to 6.9m AOD

Natural substrate: 6.57m to 6.76m AOD

801	Topsoil: mid grey brown humic silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.18m in depth.
802	Subsoil: light grey brown slightly sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.3m in depth.
803	Alluvial layer: mid brown red slightly sandy clay, measuring a maximum of 0.34m in depth.
804	Natural substrate: brown red mudstone with frequent patches of clay and frequent vertical grey veining.
805	Cut for pit: sub-circular in plan, slightly irregular moderately sloped sides leading to a concave base, measuring 0.3m in length, 0.28m in diameter and 0.1m in depth.
806	Single fill of 805: mid grey brown clay silt with 20% charcoal flecking.

Trench 9

Present ground level: 6.03m to 6.5m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.1m to 6.21m AOD

Natural substrate: 4.97m to 5.43m AOD

900	Topsoil: light grey brown humic clay silt, measuring a maximum of 0.2m in depth.
901	Alluvial layer: mid yellow brown silty clay, measuring 0.25m to 0.3m in depth.
902	Alluvial layer: mid grey slightly silty clay, measuring 0.4m to 0.5m in depth.
903	Single fill of 904: mid blue brown grey silty clay.
904	Re-cut of ditch 909: linear in plan, aligned N-S, west side moderate slightly concave slope, east side and

	base not established, measuring 0.7m in depth, 1.4m in width and at least 1.5m in length.
905	Alluvial layer: mid red brown silty clay, measuring 0.08m in depth.
906	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown silty clay, measuring approximately 0.24m in depth.
907	Secondary fill of 909: dark brown grey silty clay.
908	Primary fill of 909: dark brown red silty clay.
909	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NW-SE, west side moderate regular slope, east side and base not established, measuring approximately 0.3m in depth, at least 1m in width and at least 1.6m in length.
910	Natural substrate: mid pink red mudstone with frequent clay patches.

Trench 10

Present ground level: 6.11m to 6.37m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.08m to 6.13m AOD

Natural substrate: 5.13m to 5.36m AOD

1001	Topsoil: light grey brown humic clay silt, measuring 0.06m to 0.2m in depth.
1002	Upcast from 1008: light brown red clay mixed with topsoil, measuring 0.18m to 0.23m in depth.
1003	Alluvial layer: mid grey yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.3m to 0.34m in depth.
1004	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey (with dark brown mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.36m to 0.44m in depth.
1005	Alluvial layer: mid to dark brown grey (with frequent blue mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.24m to 0.3m in depth.
1006	Natural substrate: light red pink clay mudstone.
1007	Cut for sewer trench: linear in plan aligned N-S, not excavated.
1008	Fill of 1008: as 1002.
1009	Single fill of 1010: blue grey slightly silty clay.
1010	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned E-W, steep regular sides leading to a flat base, measuring 0.49m in depth, 1.18m in width and at least 1.8m in length.

Trench 11

Present ground level: 6.09m to 6.25m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.02m to 6.08m AOD

Top of former land surface: 4.27m to 4.37m AOD

Natural substrate: 4.15m to 4.25m AOD

1101	Topsoil: mid brown grey humic clay silt, measuring 0.18m to 0.24m in depth.
1102	Alluvial layer: mid grey yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.18m in depth.
1103	Alluvial layer: light to mid brown grey (with dark brown mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.3m in depth.
1104	Alluvial layer: mid to dark brown grey (with occasional blue grey mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.4m to 0.5m in depth.
1105	Alluvial layer: mid grey blue clay, measuring 0.12m in depth.
1106	Alluvial layer: as 1103, measuring 0.2m to 0.26m in depth.
1107	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey slightly silty clay, measuring 0.26m in depth.
1108	Possible former land surface: dark brown silt with high organic content, measuring a maximum of 0.08m in depth.
1109	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey (with dark brown mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.16m in depth.
1110	Natural substrate: mid orange pink clay mudstone.

Trench 12

Present ground level: 6.14m to 6.27m AOD

Top of alluvium: 5.96m to 6.06m AOD

Top of former land surface: 4.17m to 4.36m AOD

Natural substrate: 4.21m AOD

1201	Topsoil: mid brown grey humic clay silt, measuring 0.2m in depth.
1202	Alluvial layer: mid grey yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.1m in depth.
1203	Alluvial layer: light brown grey (with dark brown mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.65m in depth.
1204	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey silty clay with occasional patches of blue grey clay, measuring 0.32m in depth.
1205	Alluvial layer: light grey blue clay, measuring 0.07m in depth.
1206	Alluvial layer: light brown grey (with dark brown mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.3m to 0.35m in depth.
1207	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey silty clay, measuring 0.33m in depth.
1208	Alluvial layer: mid grey blue clay, measuring 0.08m in depth.
1209	Possible former land surface: dark brown silt with high organic content, measuring 0.05m to 0.12m in depth.
1210	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown silty clay, measuring 0.15m in depth.
1211	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey slightly silty clay, measuring 0.07m in depth.

Trench 13

Present ground level: 6.06m to 6.25m AOD

Top of alluvium: 5.77m to 5.95m AOD

Natural substrate: 4.66m to 5.27m AOD

1301	Topsoil: mid to dark grey brown humic clay silt, measuring a maximum of 0.2m in depth.
1302	Alluvial layer: mid to dark brown grey (with blue mottling) silty clay, measuring 0.2m to 0.24m in depth.
1303	Upcast from 1309: pink red re-deposited mudstone mixed with topsoil and clay, measuring a maximum of 0.34m in depth.
1304	Alluvial layer: light yellow grey clay, measuring 0.15m in depth.
1305	Alluvial layer: dark brown grey slightly silty clay, measuring 0.31m in depth.
1306	Alluvial layer: light blue grey clay, measuring 0.24m to 0.28m in depth.
1307	Natural substrate: pink red mudstone clay.
1308	Alluvial layer: dark brown grey slightly silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.28m in depth.
1309	Cut for sewer pipe: linear in plan aligned E-W, not excavated, measuring approximately 6m in width.
1310	Fill of 1309: pink red re-deposited mudstone mixed with topsoil and clay.
1311	Same as 1303.
1312	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, moderately sloped irregular sides leading to an uneven base, measuring 2.05m in width, a maximum of 0.52m in depth and at least 1.6m in length.
1313	Primary fill of 1312: light blue grey clay, measuring a maximum of 0.28m in depth.
1314	Secondary fill of 1312: mid grey brown silty clay measuring 0.1m to 0.18m in depth.
1315	Upcast from 1312: mid brown grey silty clay mixed with re-deposited natural mudstone clay, measuring a maximum of 0.5m in depth.
1316	Slumping of upcast into 1318: as 1315, measuring a maximum of 0.3m in depth.
1317	Primary fill of 1324: mid pink red re-deposited natural mudstone and clay, possible slumping of upcast into ditch 1322, measuring a maximum of 0.3m in depth.
1318	Re-cut of 1312: linear in plan aligned N-S, NE side steep regular cut, SW side truncated, base mostly flat, measuring 0.3m in depth, at least 1.7m in width and at least 1.5m in length.
1319	Primary fill of 1318: mid brown grey silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.28m in depth.
1320	Possible re-cut of 1318: only observed in one section, steeply sloped regular sides leading to a flat base, measuring 0.2m in depth, 0.6m in width, length unknown.
1321	Single fill of 1320: dark brown grey silty clay.
1322	Possible re-cut of 1318: only observed in one section, NE side irregular moderate slope, SW side truncated, base uneven, measuring a maximum of 0.4m in depth, at least 1.5m in width, length unknown.
1323	Probable primary fill of 1322: light to mid brown grey silty clay.
1324	Probable re-cut of 1322: only observed in one section, NE side irregular moderate slope, SW side truncated, base uneven, measuring a maximum of 0.38m in depth, at least 1.4m in width, length unknown.
1325	Secondary fill of 1324: dark brown grey silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.34m in depth.

Trench 14

Present ground level: 6.21m to 6.32m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.02m to 6.07m AOD

Natural substrate: 4.81m to 5.81m AOD

1401	Topsoil: mid brown grey humic clay silt with very occasional irregular stone fragments, measuring 0.2m to 0.26m in depth.
1402	Alluvial layer: light brown yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.08m to 0.12m in depth.
1403	Alluvial layer: mid brown yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.44m to 0.5m in depth.
1404	Natural substrate: light to mid brown mudstone with frequent clay patches.
1405	Spread of stone, irregularly shaped stone fragments, up to 0.26m x 0.18m x 0.1m in size, tightly packed towards southern end, loosely scattered towards northern extent, measuring 1.1m in width, at least 1.5m in length, only exposed, not fully excavated. Overlies 1406.
1406	Alluvial layer: dark brown yellow slightly silty clay, measuring at least 0.1m in depth.
1407	Spread of stone, sub-angular and sub-rounded stones up to 0.24m x 0.18m x 0.1m in size, orientated roughly NE-SW, densest concentration on this alignment, measuring approximately 0.1m in depth, approximately 2m in width and at least 2.2m in length. Overlies 1408.
1408	Secondary fill of 1424: mid to dark brown grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecking, measuring 0.16m in depth. Overlies 1409.
1409	Primary fill of 1424: mid red brown silty clay with frequent patches of mudstone, measuring 0.16m in depth.
1410	Spread of stone: sub-angular irregularly sized stones up to 0.3m x 0.14m x 0.08m in size, not packed together, seemingly random scatter, measuring approximately 1.4m in length and at least 0.7m in width. Only exposed, not fully excavated.
1411	Deposit within 1407: mid red brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Overlies 1408.

1412	Secondary fill of 1412: light blue grey clay with very occasional charcoal flecks, measuring a maximum of 0.16m in depth.
1413	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown slightly silty clay, measuring at least 0.44m in depth.
1414	Lens: dark grey black, 50% sandy silt, 50% charcoal, measuring a maximum of 0.02m in depth. Overlies 1415. Sealed by 1413.
1415	Single exposed fill of 1417: light blue grey slightly silty clay with very occasional charcoal flecks, measuring at least 0.2m in depth.
1416	Number not assigned.
1417	Cut for probable ditch: not fully exposed, west side moderate regular slope, east side and base not exposed, measuring at least 0.7m in length, at least 1.1m in width and at least 0.2m in depth.
1418	Cut for ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW, shallow slightly concave sides leading to an uneven concave base, measuring 0.22m in depth, approximately 2.2m in width and at least 1.6m in length.
1419	Primary fill of 1419: light to mid red brown re-deposited clay mudstone, measuring a maximum of 0.12m in depth.
1420	Alluvial layer: mid grey brown slightly silty clay, measuring at least 0.4m in depth.
1421	Alluvial layer: mid brown grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking, measuring 0.48m in depth.
1422	Alluvial layer: mixed red brown and blue grey silty clay, measuring 0.22m in depth.
1423	Possible stone structure: 4 large sub-rounded stones aligned NW-SE with probable SW-NE return, interior of this tightly packed smaller sub-angular and flat stone fragments. Some possible collapse on exterior, measuring at least 2m in length and at least 1m in width, fully exposed but not excavated. Overlies 1425.
1424	Cut for probable ditch: only observed in one section, appears linear in plan aligned approximately E-W, uneven gently sloped sides leading to a fairly flat base. Measuring 0.24m in depth, at least 1.26m in width and at least 10m in length.
1425	Layer underlying 1423: as 1408. Unexcavated.
1426	Layer of re-deposited natural substrate to east of 1423: as 1409. Unexcavated.
1427	Cut for unexcavated ditch: linear in plan, aligned NE-SW.
1428	Unexcavated fill of 1427: as 1419.
1429	Unexcavated fill of 1427: as 1412.

Trench 15

Present ground level: 6.33m to 6.77m AOD

Top of alluvium: 6.10m to 6.12m AOD

Natural substrate: 5.66m to 6.29m AOD

1501	Topsoil: mid to dark brown grey humic clay silt, measuring 0.14m to 0.24m in depth.
1502	Alluvial layer: light grey yellow silty clay, measuring 0.06m to 0.12m in depth.
1503	Alluvial layer: dark grey yellow slightly silty clay, measuring 0.2m to 0.34m in depth.
1504	Natural substrate: light to mid brown mudstone with frequent clay patches.
1505	Number not assigned.
1506	Alluvial layer: light brown silty clay, measuring 0.08m in depth.
1507	Alluvial layer: light grey silty clay, measuring 0.12m in depth.
1508	Upcast from 1513: mid brown red mixed clay and mudstone, measuring 0.1m to 0.14m in depth.
1509	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned E-W, NW side moderate regular slope, SE side shall slope leading to a concave base, measuring a maximum of 0.5m in depth, approximately 3.6m in width and at least 1.5m in length.
1510	Single fill of 1509: light red brown (with frequent dark brown mottling) silty clay.
1511	Single fill of 1518: mid grey brown slightly silty clay.
1512	Tipped upcast: as 1508, measuring a maximum of 0.24m in depth. Overlies ditch 1513.
1513	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned E-W, NW side steep regular slope, SE side steep uneven slope leading to a flat base, measuring 0.6m in depth, 1.4m in width and at least 1.5m in length.
1514	Tertiary fill of 1513: light to mid yellow brown silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.14m in depth.
1515	Secondary fill of 1513: mid to dark grey brown silty clay, measuring 0.16m in depth.
1516	Primary fill of 1513: 70% mid grey blue clay 30% brown slightly silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.34m in depth.
1517	Single fill of 1519: 70% mid grey blue clay 30% brown slightly silty clay, measuring a maximum of 0.35m in depth.
1518	Cut for possible gully: linear in plan, aligned E-W, heavily truncated by 1509, measuring 0.08m in depth, 0.36m in width and at least 1.5m in length.
1519	Cut for ditch: linear in plan aligned E-W, steep regular sides leading to a flat base, measuring 0.62m in depth, 1.3m in width and at least 1.5m in length.

APPENDIX 2: THE FINDS

By E.R. McSloy

The pottery

A total of 310 sherds of pottery (3520g) were recovered. Condition is generally good with average sherd weight reasonably high at 11.4g. The bulk of the assemblage is unabraded with surfaces surviving well. However material from Trenches 14 and 15 appears to be more abraded and to occur as smaller sherds.

The earliest pottery recovered consists of sherds of a handmade coarse quartz and sandstone tempered fabric from contexts 1005 and 1205. A Middle to Late Iron Age date is likely for this material.

In many instances the recovered Roman pottery consists of small numbers of sherds of long lived types and as such are only broadly dateable to the late 1st/2nd-4th centuries.

Earlier Roman pottery was recovered from a number of contexts (see concordance). Material from 520 consists of sherds of Dorset Black-Burnished Ware and (?local) coarse gritty greyware including a tankard with scored lattice decoration which copies a 2nd-century AD Severn Valley Ware form. Dorset BB1 from this context include jar sherds with acute-angled lattice signifying a date of before c. AD 200. Pottery from context 524 includes large, joining sherds of a fine, slipped greyware bowl. The form in this instance is closely comparable to examples from Usk dateable to the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD (Manning 1993, No. 60.2). Note that a samian form Dr. 31 bowl from context 504 is of Antonine date, but would appear to be residual in its context.

The bulk of pottery from Trenches 14 and 15 is poorly dated, with little diagnostic material present. The occurrence of certain dish and jar forms in Dorset BB1 and the absence of distinctively late forms or fabrics probably indicates an earlier Roman date (2nd or 3rd century) for much of this material

Late forms of Dorset Black Burnished Ware and miscellaneous (South Wales type?) greywares from contexts 503, 504 and an unstratified sherd from Trench 14 probably date to the later 3rd or 4th centuries.

Other Finds

Artefactual material other than pottery is restricted to small quantities of fired clay and ceramic or stone roof tile. All derives from contexts of Roman date (see concordance)

Concordance

Us (tr.5)	2 sherds Roman pottery (34g): misc greyware
403	1 sherd Roman pottery (14g):. Greyware Spot-date: C2-C4
503	8 sherds Roman pottery (71g): Dorset BB1 (jar with obtuse lattice dec.) and misc greyware. Burnt stone (130g) Spot-date: C3+
504	91 sherds Roman pottery (625g): South Wales greyware (everted-rim jar with wavy line dec.) Dorset BB1 (jar with obtuse lattice dec.); Samian (Drag. 31). Animal bone (33g) Spot-date: C3+
505	6 sherds Roman pottery (314g): misc grey and oxidised ware animal bone (20g) Spot-date: C2-C4
512	6 sherds Roman pottery (274g): misc grey and oxidised ware animal bone (38g) Spot-date: C2-C4
520	10 sherds Roman pottery (406g): misc. greyware (necked jar) and coarse grey ware (tankard) animal bone (261g) Spot-date: C2
522	animal bone (32g)

- 524 12 sherds Roman pottery (368g): fine, slipped greyware (bowl) and sandy oxidised ware
animal bone (18g)
Spot-date: C2+
- 532 16 sherds Roman pottery (85g): greyware
animal bone (15g)
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 534 2 sherds Roman pottery (210g): greyware
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 605 2 sherds Roman pottery (27g): misc grey and oxidised ware
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 610 2 sherds Roman pottery (43g): greyware
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 615 1 sherd Roman pottery (3g): oxidised
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 801 2 sherds modern pottery (7g): transfer print decorated china
Spot-date: modern
- 1005 1 sherd Iron Age pottery (43g): coarse quartz and ?sandstone tempered.
Spot-date: Iron Age+
- 1205 1 sherd Iron Age pottery (9g): coarse quartz and ?sandstone tempered.
Spot-date: Iron Age+
- 1310 2 sherds Roman pottery (516g): sandy reduced ware (flat-rim bowl) and oxidised ware mortaria
Spot-date: C2-C3+
- 1403 18 sherds Roman pottery (154g): misc grey and Dorset Black Burnished ware. Includes (greyware)
plain-rimmed dish and bead-rim jar and (DOR BB) flat-top rim bowl.
1 fragment bone (1g): burnt
Spot-date: LC2-C3
- 1405 18 sherds Roman pottery (273g): misc grey and Dorset Black Burnished ware. Includes (DOR BB)
plain-rimmed dish with burnished arcading.
1 fragment imbrex roof tile (662g)
Spot-date: LC2-C3+
- 1407 2 sherds Roman pottery (9g): misc greyware. Includes everted-rim jar.
Spot-date: LC2-C3+
- 1410 6 sherds Roman pottery (83g): misc grey and Dorset Black Burnished ware. Includes plain-rimmed dish
and necked jar forms.
5 fragments animal bone (44g)
Spot-date: LC2-C4
- 1411 19 sherds Roman pottery (112g): misc grey, misc. oxidised, Severn valley ware, Dorset Black
Burnished ware and (scrap) samian. Includes SVW wide-mouthed jar.
3 fragments sandstone ?roof tile (45g)
4 fragments bone (2g): burnt
1 fragment fired clay (3g)
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1412 11 sherds Roman pottery (147g): misc grey and Dorset Black-Burnished ware.
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1413 2 sherds Roman pottery (13g): misc greyware.
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1415 2 sherds Roman pottery (13g): greyware
1 fragment fired clay (7g).

- 1421 2 sherds Roman pottery (13g): misc greyware.
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1423 7 sherds Roman pottery (51g): misc greyware. Very abraded.
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1507 1 fragment post-medieval pottery (2g): glazed red earthenware
1 sherd Roman pottery (2g): greyware
- 1510 45 sherds Roman pottery (248g): misc grey and Dorset Black Burnished ware. Includes (DOR BB)
everted-rim jar with burnished wavy line dec under rim.
1 fragment fired clay (12g)
Spot-date: C2-C3
- 1511 6 sherds Roman pottery (22g): misc greyware
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1514 1 sherd Roman pottery (4g): misc greyware
Spot-date: C2-C4
- 1517 4 sherds Roman pottery (28g): misc grey and Dorset Black-Burnished ware. Abraded.
Spot-date: C2-C4
- Tr.14 1 sherd Roman pottery (60g): misc greyware plain rimmed dish (C3-C4). Abraded.
- Tr.15 16 sherds Roman pottery (116g): misc grey and Dorset Black-Burnished ware. Abraded.

APPENDIX 3: THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

By S.P. Inder

A bulk environmental sample was taken for the purposes of confirming the presence of biological remains and gauging their state of preservation in order to assess the potential for analysis towards reconstructing former economies and environments. A single 1 litre sample was taken from layer 1414.

The sample was taken using a sealable plastic tub and transported to the CA offices for processing. The sample was processed for purposes of assessment. Processing was by means of floatation utilising meshes of 250µm and 500µm for the flots and residue respectively. The residue and flots were dried in a low temperature drying cabinet prior to sorting. The dried flots were scanned under a low power binocular microscope for charred plant, molluscan material and artefacts.

The sample from 1414 contained 4 fragments of fired clay (3g); 1 Fe nail (2g); 2 pieces of burnt bone (<1g); 8 fragments of mollusc shell (<1g); 37 charred seeds and glumes (<1g); and a quantity of charcoal (<1g).

A single 3 litre artefact recovery sample was taken from pit fill 806. The sample was processed utilising a 2mm aperture sieve and visually scanned for charcoal and artefacts. A quantity of charcoal weighing some 37g was recovered.

The presence of carbonised material, including seeds indicates that there is a high potential for preservation of further biological remains. Such material will be of value in helping to reconstruct the environment at this site.

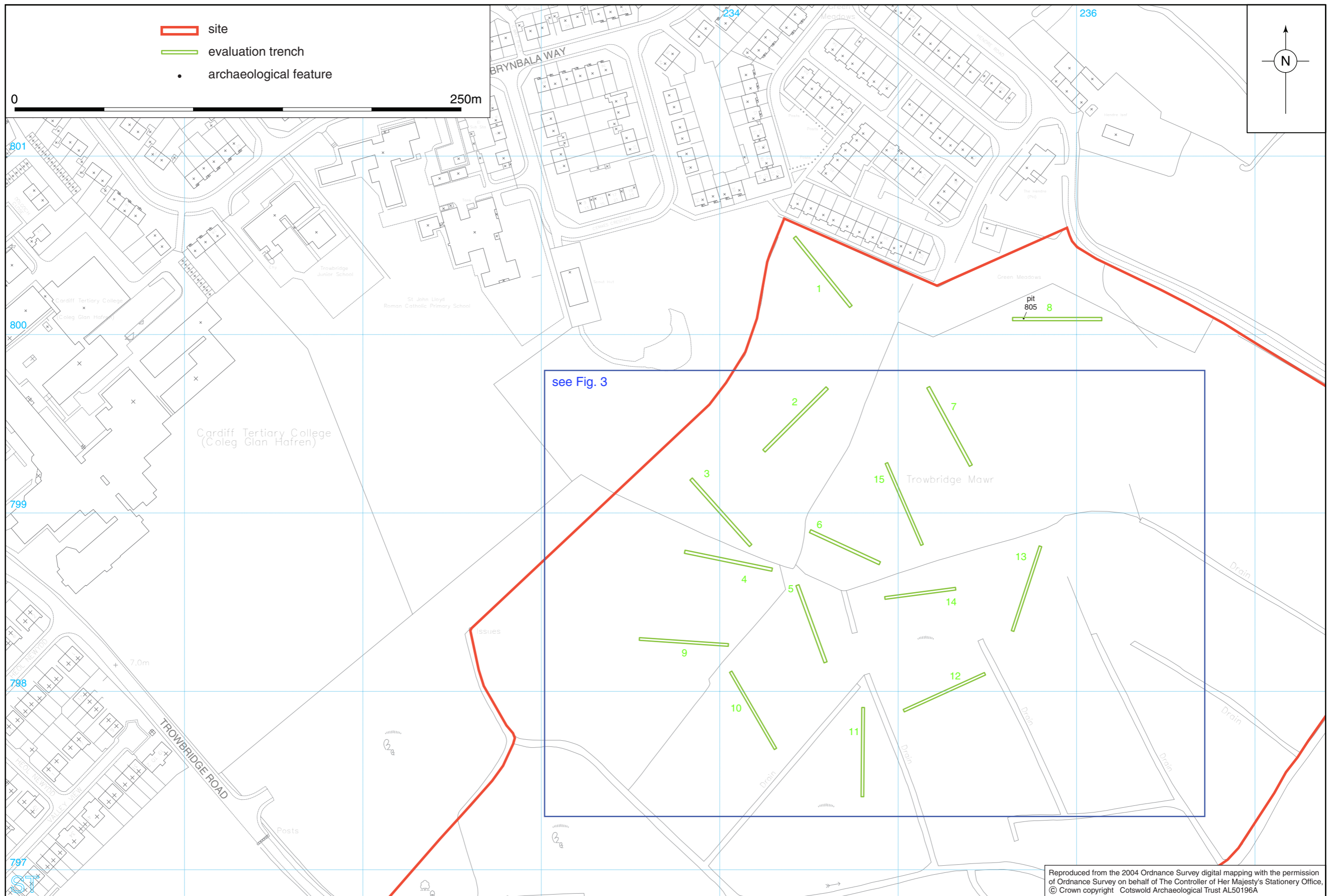


Fig. 2 Trench location plan (1:2000)