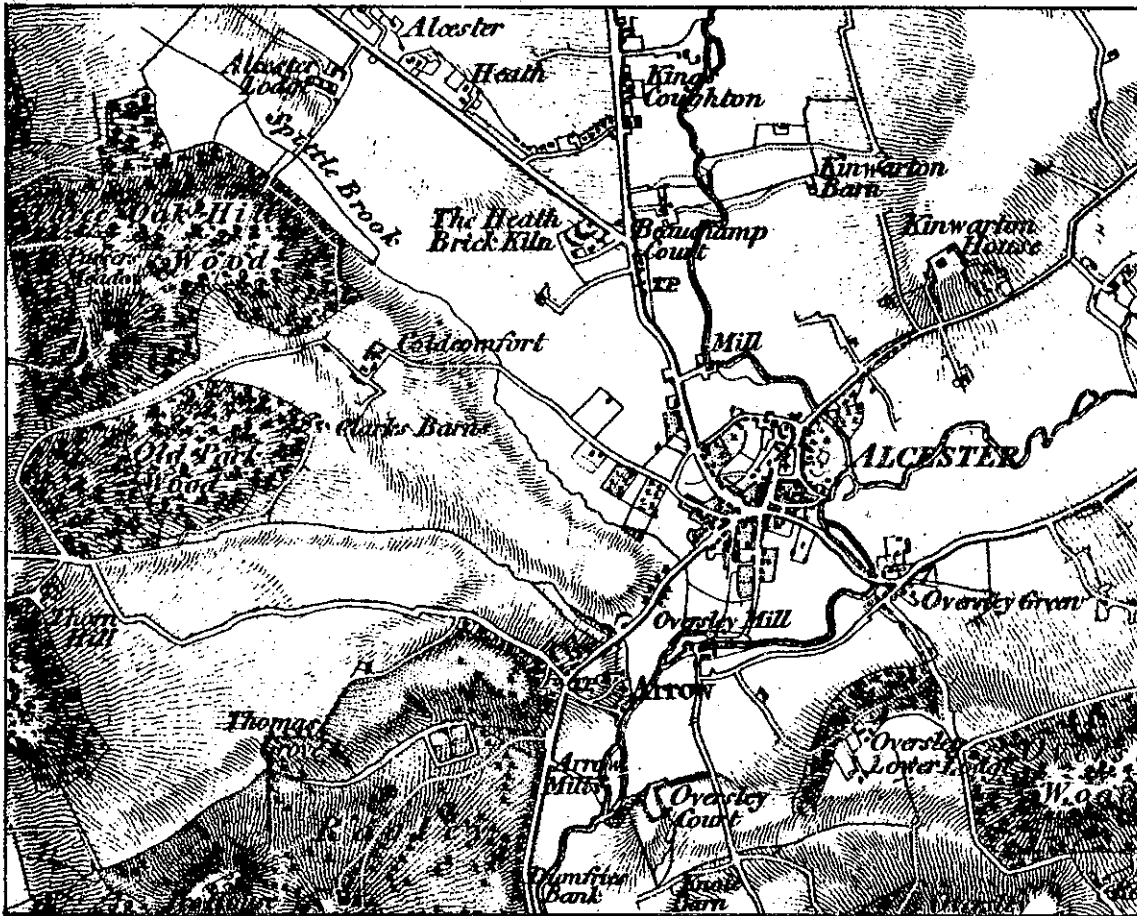


# Archaeological Evaluation of land north of Cold Comfort Lane, Alcester



 **Warwickshire**  
County Council  
Libraries & Heritage  
Museum Field Services  
Archaeology Projects Group

January 2000

# Archaeological Evaluation of land north of Cold Comfort Lane, Alcester

## Contents

Summary

1. Introduction
2. Site Location
3. Aims and Methods of the Evaluation
4. Archaeological and Historical Background
5. Trial Trenching
6. Conclusions

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendix A: List of Excavated Contexts

Appendix B: List of Finds

## List of Figures

Cover: West of Alcester, 1831 (1st ed Ordnance Survey 1 inch map)

Fig. 1: Site Location

Fig. 2: Location of Trial Trenches

Fig. 3: Trenches 1-5, Plans

Fig. 4: Sections A-Z

Fig. 5: Trench 2, Pit/posthole 204 (Neg. 4/28)

Fig. 6: Trench 3, west end, Ditch 303, Pit 349, Pit 305 (Neg. 2/30)

Fig. 7: Trench 4, Ditch 407, Grave 409 (to left, skull visible) (Neg. 1/22)

Fig. 8: Trench 17, Wall 1703 (Neg. 1/18)

Fig. 9: Trenches 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, Plans

Fig. 10: Trench 20, east end, Pits 2018, 2020, 2022, Surface 2024 (Neg. 2/17)

Fig. 11: Trench 20, eastern part, Posthole 2025, Pits 2022, 2020, 2018 (Neg. 2/19)

Report 0003  
January 2000

Warwickshire Museum Field Services  
The Butts  
Warwick  
CV34 4SS

## Summary

Archaeological evaluation of land north of Cold Comfort Lane, west of the Roman town of Alcester involved the excavation of twenty trial trenches. Because Cold Comfort Lane follows the line of the Alcester-Droitwich Roman Road there was a possibility that remains of Romano-British 'ribbon development' along the road or a cemetery survive within the site.

Eight trenches at the south end of the site (Areas 3 & 4) found fairly extensive evidence of late Iron Age and Romano-British activity including ditches, gullies, pits, a stone wall foundation and a single human burial. To the north-west, in a plot previously evaluated in 1998, a single trench confirmed the presence of a recent gravel pit extending c.35m back from the lane which will have removed any surviving remains. To the north-west again (Areas 2 & 5), two out of five trenches contained undated but probably early features: a gully in a trench adjacent to the lane and a gully and two postholes in the centre of the site. To the north-west again, in an area evaluated in 1995, of eight trenches, one, adjacent to the lane, contained late Iron Age/Roman postholes, pits and ditches, and a second in the centre of the site contained probable Iron Age gullies and postholes. The other six trenches to the north and north-west contained no significant remains. To the west a single trench in a plot adjacent to the lane (Area 1) contained no early remains, nor did five trenches in a final area (Area 6) to the north.

The work therefore confirmed the presence of Iron Age and Romano-British remains in the south-west part of the site and along the Cold Comfort Lane frontage, but petering out to the north-west. There was also a cluster of probable Iron Age features in the centre of the site, but most of this area and the northern part of the site contained no significant remains.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 An application has been submitted to Stratford-upon-Avon District Council for residential development and associated uses on land north of Cold Comfort Lane, Alcester (Ref 99/02962/OUT). The site has been identified for residential development in the Stratford Local Plan (H Alc 1). However, because the site of the proposed development lies within an area of potential archaeological interest, just to the west of the Roman town of Alcester and along the north side of the Roman and medieval road to Droitwich, the Salt Way, it was recommended that an archaeological evaluation of the site should take place prior to a decision being made over the application. A desktop assessment of the site was completed in 1995 (Warwickshire Museum 1995) along with trial trenching and geophysical survey of the central part. Observation of ground investigation test pitting in 1998 enabled the assessment of another section of the site to the south (Warwickshire Museum 1998). In 1999 access was arranged for fieldwork over the rest of the site.

1.2 A programme of fieldwork covering the rest of the site, in accordance with a Brief prepared by the County Planning Archaeologist on behalf of the Planning Authority was commissioned from the Warwickshire Museum and carried out in December 1999. This report presents the result of that programme.

## 2. Site Location

2.1 The site of the proposed development lies north of Cold Comfort Lane (now renamed Allimore Lane), Alcester, Warwickshire, and is bounded by the former railway line to the east and the Alcester by-pass to the west, centred around national

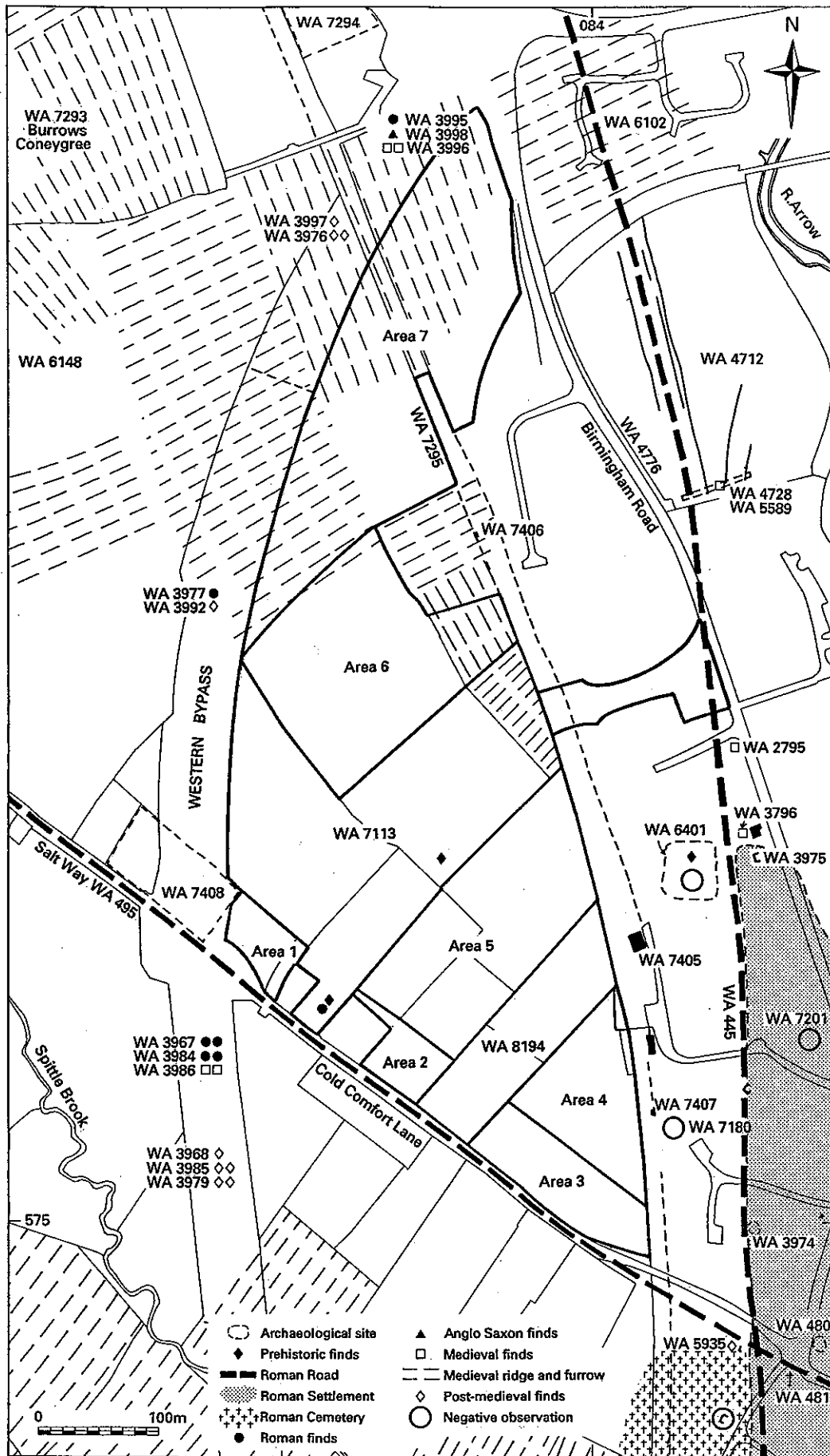


Fig. 1: Site Location

grid reference SP 082 578. The total area of the current proposal affects some 16.5 hectares which is presently a mixture of scrubland and pasture.

2.2 The underlying geology of the proposed development area is Mercia Mudstone (British Geological Survey 1974), although in places the trenching revealed patches of natural mixed red clay and gravel which was presumably glacial or alluvial in origin.

### **3. Aims and Methods of the Evaluation**

3.1 The current fieldwork was designed to discover the date, nature and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits which might be present in the remaining unassessed parts of the proposed development.

3.2 The previous desktop assessment of the site (Warwickshire Museum 1995, 2-3) identified the area along Cold Comfort Lane, the former Alcester-Droitwich Roman Road as most likely to contain archaeological remains in the form of 'ribbon development' along the road and/or an extension to a large Roman cemetery known to the south. It was therefore decided that the area within 50m of the lane should be trial trenched at a 2% sample level, while the rest of the site should be trenched at a sample level of 1%, but with a contingency allowance for further trenching and/or geophysical survey, to define the extent of any remains revealed. A similar approach was adopted in the Planning Archaeologist's Brief of November 1999 for the current work.

3.3 For the purposes of the evaluation the previously untrenched parts of the site were divided into seven areas (Fig 1, Areas 1-7). Areas 1-3 lay within 50m of the north side of Cold Comfort Lane and these were to be sampled at a level of 2%, while Areas 4, 5 and 6 were to be sampled at a level of 1%. Area 7 at the extreme north end of the site was only to be trenched if significant remains were found in Area 6. An initial 17 trenches were dug (Trenches 1-4 and 17 in Area 3, Trench 5 in Area 4, Trenches 6-10 in Area 6, Trenches 11-12 in Area 2, Trenches 13-15 in Area 5 and Trench 16 in Area 1).

3.4 In all the trenches the topsoil was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a 1.6m toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The artefact content of the topsoil proved negligible. A representative sample of features and possible features revealed was then excavated by hand. These were then recorded using the standard Warwickshire Museum archaeological recording system. Scale plans and sections were drawn where appropriate and photographs taken in both monochrome and colour slide.

3.5 The results of the initial trenching in the north part of the site were such that no trenching in Area 7 or geophysical survey was deemed necessary by the Planning Archaeologist, but three more trenches were dug in the south part of the site. One trench (Trench 18) was dug to give an idea of the density of features between Areas 3 and 4; a second trench (Trench 19) was dug in the plot evaluated in 1998 to confirm the extent of the probable gravel pit adjacent to Cold Comfort Lane; and a third trench (Trench 20) was dug to the south-east to see whether the gravel pit extended into the adjacent plot.

### **4. Archaeological and Historical Background**

4.1 The archaeological and historical background of the area is described in detail in the desktop assessment carried out in 1995 (Warwickshire Museum 1995). In summary, there is relatively little evidence for prehistoric activity in the area although finds of small quantities of later prehistoric/Iron Age pottery in the part of the development site evaluated in 1995, and to the east (Warwickshire Sites and

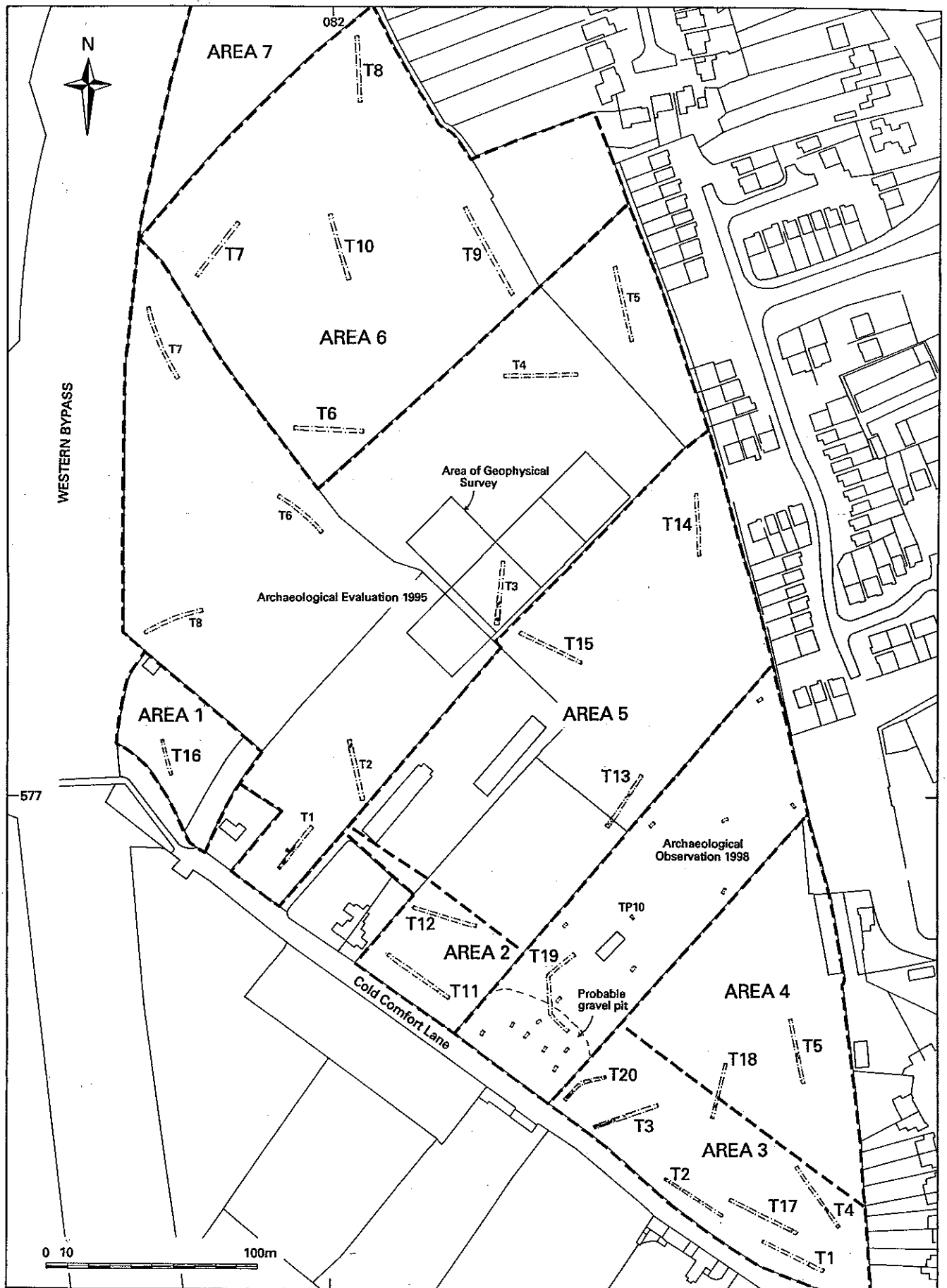


Fig. 2: Location of Trial Trenches

Monuments Record Nos WA 7113 and WA 6401), suggest that there may have been scattered Iron Age settlement here.

4.2 The site lies in the angle made by two major Roman Roads, but probably to the west of the built up area of the Roman town of Alcester (WA 4495). Ryknild Street (WA 445), running north-south, and the road running to Droitwich (WA 495) along Cold Comfort Lane, later known as the Salt Way after Droitwich's most famous product, were both probably laid out by the Roman army early in the conquest period. The line of Ryknild Street has been investigated in a number of places (WA 4712, WA 4728, WA 6102) and, although uncertainties about it remain, it certainly ran east of the development site. The Salt Way (WA 495) has not been excavated but its line along Cold Comfort Lane also seems clear.

4.3 Ryknild Street seems generally to have marked the western extent of the Romano-British settlement that grew up at Alcester. Investigations in Sherwell Drive to the east of Ryknild Street in 1990 (WA 3974) found Romano-British material, while similar work to the west in 1993 (WA 7180) did not. Similarly an evaluation to the west in 1990 at the Eclipse Trading Estate found no settlement evidence (WA 6102) but work to the east did produce material (WA 480). The northern extent of settlement appears to be marked by features found at 30 Birmingham Road (WA 3975).

4.4 There may also have been 'ribbon development' along the Salt Way/Cold Comfort Lane. The 1995 evaluation revealed Romano-British activity just north of the Lane but it was concluded that this was more likely to be a discrete rural settlement outside the town than continuous occupation along the road (WA 7113; Warwickshire Museum 1995, 14). Romano-British finds were also collected along the Western Bypass west of the development site (WA 3995, WA 3977, WA 3967 and WA 3984), but these are most likely to be the result of manuring of fields with domestic waste from the town. Denser concentrations to the south of the Spittle Brook may suggest a settlement site on the line of the road in that area (Warwickshire Museum 1995, 5).

4.5 South of Cold Comfort Lane and west of Ryknild Street was a major Romano-British cemetery (WA 486). This has been known since 1866 when the construction of the Evesham and Redditch Railway uncovered a stone coffin with the remains of two bodies, but the most extensive evidence of the cemetery came in 1962 during the construction of the Roman Way/Hadrian's Walk/August Drive housing estate. Only limited archaeological recording was carried out but over 100 inhumations were recorded, a few in stone-lined graves. East of Ryknild Street a single burial was uncovered in 1913 on the corner of Cross Road and Seggs Lane (WA 481). Roman cemeteries often lay alongside roads, and it is possible that the burials extended along Cold Comfort Lane.

4.6 The only Anglo-Saxon evidence from the area is a saucer brooch found on the northern end of the bypass (WA 3998). This is probably a chance loss but might possibly indicate the presence of a cemetery in the vicinity.

4.7 In the medieval period the development site formed part of the open fields of Alcester and the remains of the medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing are visible across parts of it on air photographs. In the later middle ages the area to the north formed part of Beauchamp Court Park (WA 6148), which seems to have included a rabbit warren judging by the field name Burrows Conygree (WA 7293). Medieval objects have been found around the development site on the bypass and to the east (WA 2795, WA 3796, WA 3996, WA 3986 and WA 5589), but these are again probably chance losses or manuring material rather than indicators of settlement.

4.8 A number of post-medieval sites are also recorded in the vicinity. Although its route diverged from its Roman original, Ryknild Street retained its importance

through the medieval and post-medieval period, becoming the Birmingham Road, turnpiked in 1753/4 (WA 4776). Again numbers of miscellaneous post-medieval finds without wider significance have come from the area (WA 3992, WA 3968, WA 3985, WA 3979, WA 3997, WA 3976 and WA 5935). In the 19th century the Redditch and Evesham Railway (WA 7295) was constructed, along with Alcester Station and two signal boxes WA 7405, WA 7406, WA 7407). The railway ran along the east side of the development site before cutting across its northernmost part (Area 7). There were also two 19th century brickworks just outside the development area, one to the north (WA 7294), and one to the west on Cold Comfort Lane (WA 7408). By the late 19th century a number of houses had also been built along the Lane.

4.9 Since the desktop assessment was carried out in 1995 (Warwickshire Museum 1995) there have been two pieces of work carried out in the vicinity of the development site. In 1998 a series of geological test pits in the field between Areas 3/4 and Areas 2 & 5 were observed (SMR WA 8194, Warwickshire Museum 1998). These detected an undated gully, together with others associated with one of the late 19th century buildings in the area and a large 19th century quarry pit adjacent to the lane frontage. Also in 1998 observation of foundation trenches for a house south of Cold Comfort Lane close to the cemetery revealed no trace of Romano-British activity.

## 5. Excavation of Trenches

### Areas 3 and 4

5.1 Areas 3 and 4 lay at the south-east end of the site, Area 3 within 50m of Cold Comfort Lane and Area 4 to the north-east. Eight trenches were dug within this area (Fig 2, Trenches 1-5, 17-18 & 20), all of which contained early or probably early features.

#### *Trench 1* (Figs. 3-4)

5.2 Trench 1 was c.25m long and lay parallel to Cold Comfort Lane. Towards the south-east end of the trench there was an undated gully/small ditch (102) aligned north-east-south-west, 0.50m wide and 0.15m deep (Section A). This may have been a boundary coming back from the Lane. At the north-west end there was a narrow trench (104), filled with brown sandy loam (106) containing a modern concrete drain (105); and, towards the eastern end there was a modern posthole (107, not on plan) with a similar fill (106) containing a wooden post. The features were overlaid by layers of sandy clay loam subsoil (101), 0.40m deep, and topsoil (100), 0.20m deep.

#### *Trench 2* (Figs. 3-5)

5.3 Trench 2 was 32m long and also lay parallel to Cold Comfort Lane. The natural was cut by two geological/root holes (208, filled with 209; and 214, filled with 215).

5.4 Towards the north-western end of the trench there was an irregular hollow (202) (Fig. 4, Section B), whose fill (203) contained a handmade, late Iron Age/Romano-British sherd. Adjacent to this was a pit/posthole (204), 0.70m across by 0.40m deep (Fig. 4, Section C; Fig. 5), filled with brown sandy loam (205), containing a (joining) sherd belonging to the same vessel. To the south-east were three more undated features: an irregular pit (206), 0.95m across by 0.13m deep (Fig. 4, Section D), filled with brown sandy loam (207); a rectangular posthole (210), 0.50m by 0.30 and 0.32m deep (Fig 4, Section E), filled with brown clay loam (211); and a posthole (212), 0.65m in diameter by 0.22m deep (Fig. 4, Section F), filled with brown clay loam (213). Further to the south-east was a gully (220), aligned east-west, possibly marking the boundary of the plot containing the other features. Gully 220 was 0.50m wide by 0.14m deep (Fig. 4, Section G) and filled with brown clay loam (221).



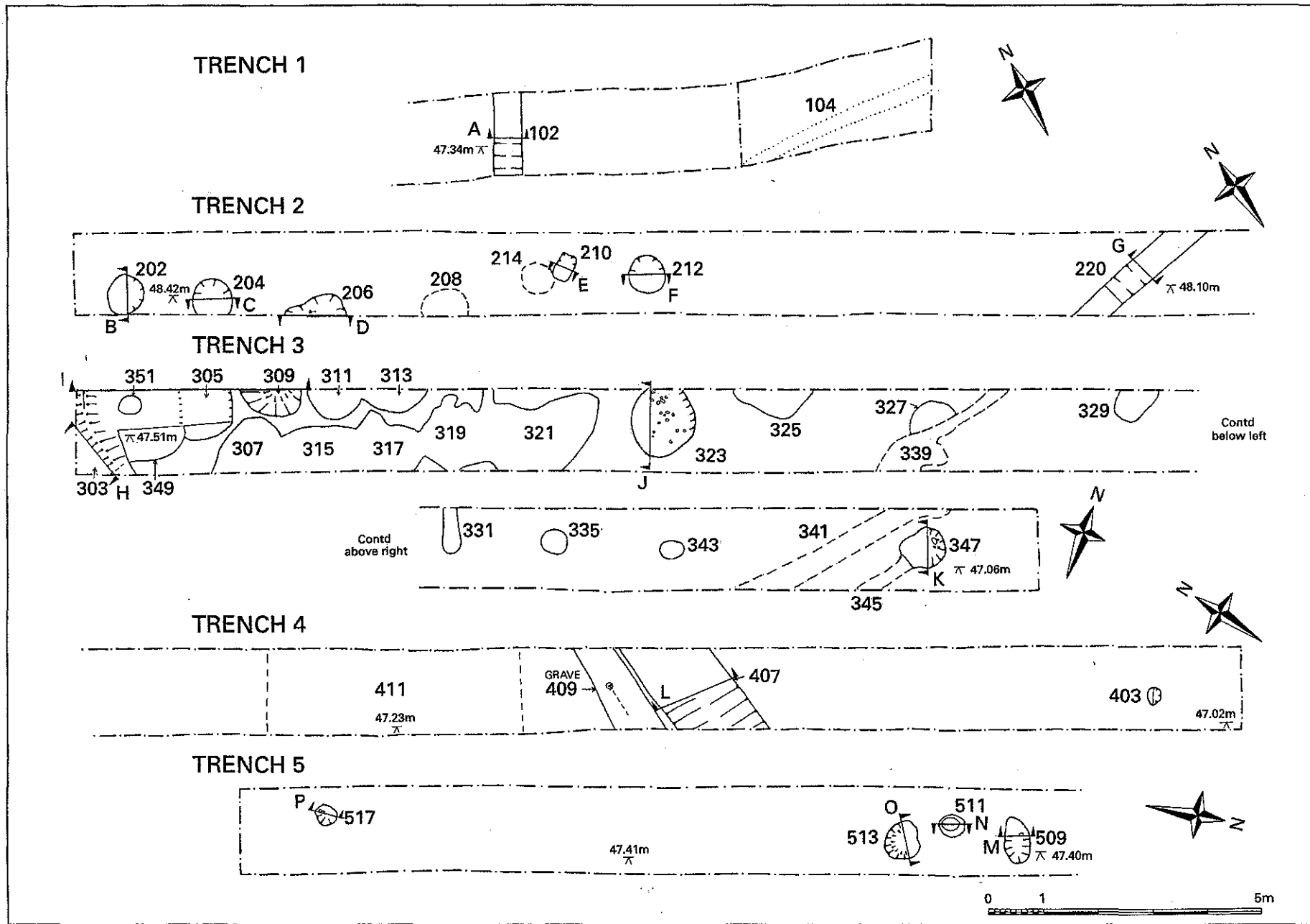


Fig. 3: Trenches 1-5, Plans

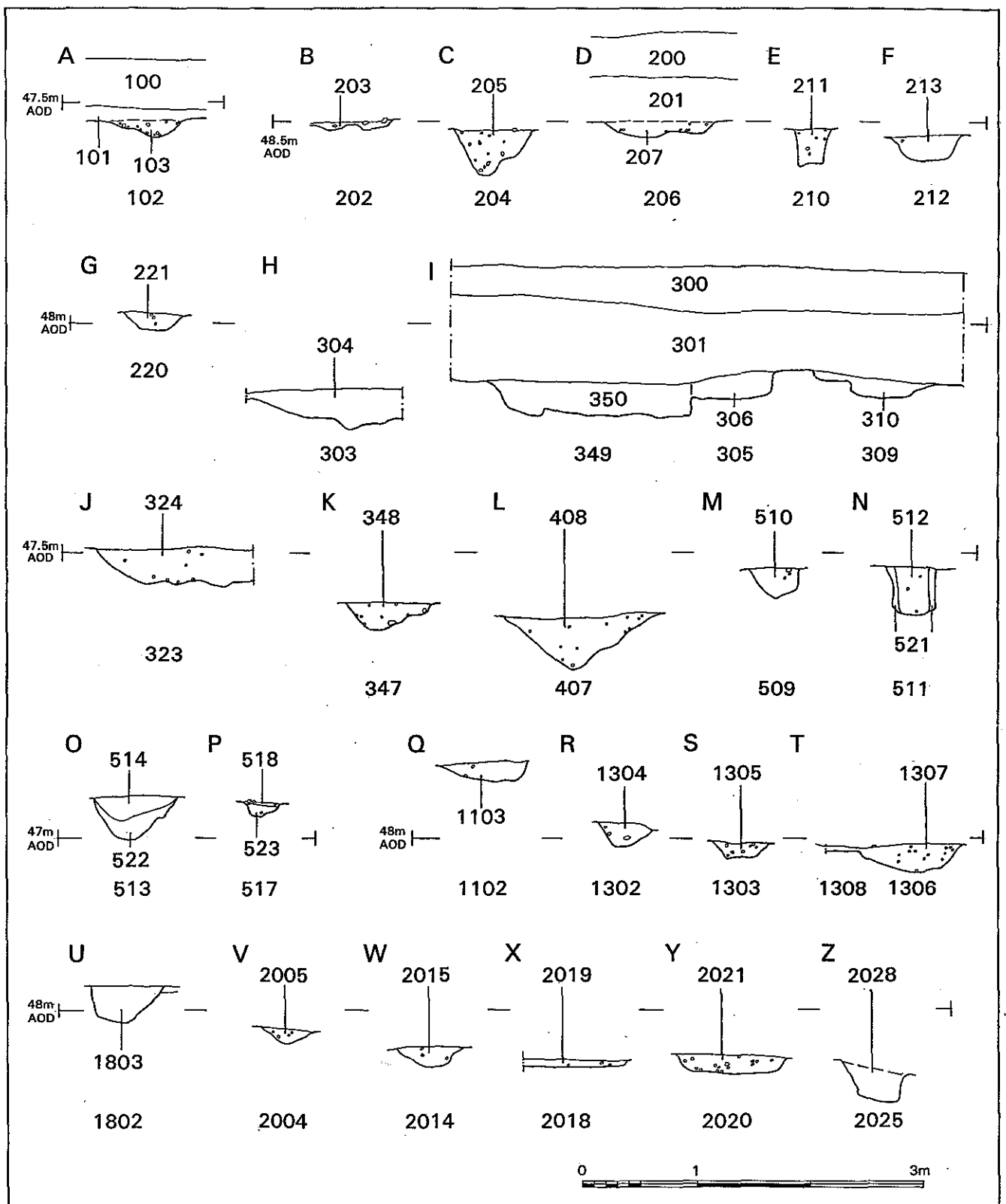


Fig. 4: Sections A-Z



Fig. 5: Trench 2, Pit/posthole 204 (Neg. 4/28)

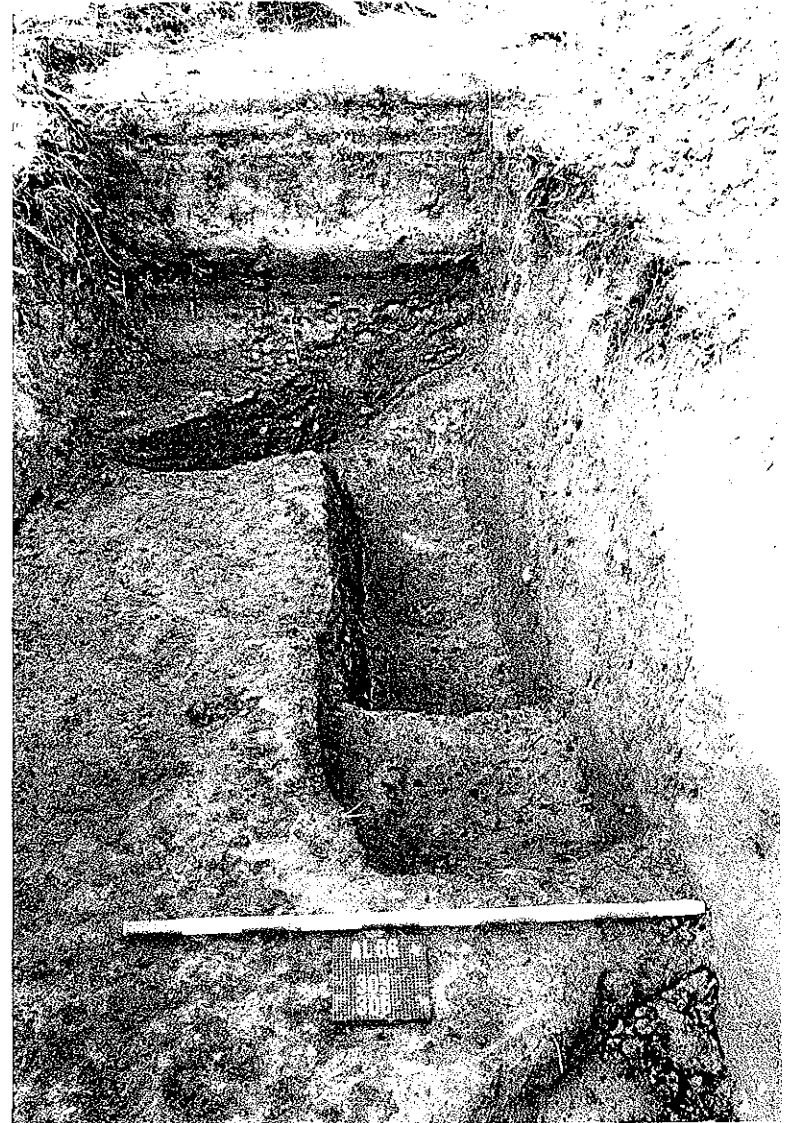


Fig. 6: Trench 3, west end, Ditch 303, Pit 349, Pit 305 (Neg. 2/30)

5.5 Over the trench there was a layer of subsoil (201, 216-219, 222), 0.3-0.53m deep, containing one medieval and four Romano-British sherds (from 201 and 219), overlaid by a layer of topsoil (200), 0.28-0.40m deep.

*Trench 3* (Figs. 3, 4 & 6)

5.6 Trench 3 which was 40m long ran back at an angle to Cold Comfort Lane. It encountered a high density of early and probable early features which concentrated to the south-west towards the Lane.

5.7 At the south-western end of the trench there was a cluster of pits. Running north-eastwards these were 349, which was 2.20m across by 0.30m deep (Fig. 4, Section I; Fig. 6), and whose fill (350) contained 11 sherds of Iron Age pottery, animal bone and daub. To the north-west was another pit (305), over 1.15m across by 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, Section I; Fig. 6), filled with brown clay loam (306) containing a single Iron Age sherd and a fragment of daub. Beyond this was Pit 309, 1.08m across by 0.15m deep (Fig. 4, Section I; Fig. 6), filled with clay loam (310), containing charcoal, animal bone, daub and three sherds of Iron Age pottery.

5.8 Pit 349 cut an undated posthole (351), 0.48m by 0.45m across, filled with brown sandy loam (352), and, to its south there was the end of an undated ditch (303) running north-westwards, over 0.8m wide by 0.35m deep (Fig. 4, Section H; Fig. 6), filled with brown clay loam (304).

5.9 To the north-east of Pits 305 and 309 were more, unexcavated pits filled with brown sandy loam (307; 1.50m across, filled with 308; 311, 1.25m across, filled with 312; 313, 1.50m across, filled with 314; 315, c.1.75m across, filled with 316; 317, c.1.50m across, filled with 318; 319, irregular, 1.60m across, filled with 320; and 321, 2.75m by 1.50m, filled with 322). Beyond these were three outliers: 323, 1.55m in diameter by 0.33m deep (Section J), filled with 324, which contained Late Iron Age/Romano-British (1st century AD) pottery and fragments of daub and (residual) worked flint; and the unexcavated pits, 325, 1.75m across, filled with 326, and 327, 1.15m across, filled with 328).

5.10 In the north-eastern part of the trench there was a scatter of miscellaneous unexcavated but probably early features filled with brown sandy loam: a pit (329), 0.75m across, filled with 330; a gully (331), 0.40m wide, filled with 332; and two postholes, (335), 0.60m by 0.55m, filled with 336, and 343, 0.55m by 0.40m, filled with 344. Finally, at the northern end of the trench there was a pit/posthole (347), 1.05m by 0.76m and 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, Section K) filled with 348 which contained a sherd of Iron Age pottery and a fragment of animal bone decorated with an incised design.

5.11 In the northern part of the trench there were also three linear features, probably ploughmarks or cultivation marks: 339, an irregular feature, 0.30-1.1m wide, filled with 340; 341, 0.55m wide, filled with 342; and 345, 0.40m wide, filled with 346. Over the trench were layers of subsoil (301, 333, 334), 0.50m deep, containing medieval and Romano-British pottery, and topsoil (300), 0.40m deep. There was also a possible modern surface layer (302) containing gravel and modern bricks.

*Trench 4* (Figs. 3, 4 & 7)

5.12 Trench 4 lay north of Trench 1; it was 35m long. Across the centre of the trench were two pebble spreads, 411, 4.60m across, and 412, 5.00m across, originally thought to be surfaces but which were probably actually natural. The natural subsoil was also cut by two root holes, 405, filled with 406, and 413, filled with 414.

5.13 Towards the south-east end of the trench was a V-shaped ditch (407), aligned north-south, 1.40m wide by 0.47m deep (Fig. 4, Section L; Fig. 7), filled with brown clay loam (408), containing Iron Age and Romano-British pottery (suggesting a late 1st/early 2nd century AD date), 25 fragments of animal bone and one of copper



Fig. 7: Trench 4, Ditch 407, Grave 409 (to left, skull visible) (Neg. 1/22)



Fig. 8: Trench 17, Wall 1703 (Neg. 1/18)

alloy sheet. On the west side of Ditch 407 there was a grave (409), also aligned north-south, 0.75m wide, and filled with brown clay loam (410). Only the skull of the skeleton was uncovered; this lay to the north within a coffin outlined by at least four iron nails (one recovered, the others recorded by metal detector). At the south-east end of the trench there was an undated small, vertical sided, flat bottomed posthole (403), 0.35m by 0.27m across, filled with dark grey clay loam (404).

5.14 To the south-west the trench also contained two plough/cultivation marks, aligned north-east-south-west (415, 0.40m wide, filled with 416; 417, 0.45m wide, filled with 418; and 419, 0.35m wide, filled with 420). The features were overlaid by layers of subsoil (401), 0.21-0.23m deep, and topsoil (400), 0.20-0.22m deep.

#### *Trench 5* (Figs. 3-4)

5.15 Trench 5 lay in the centre of Area 4; it was 30m long and aligned NNW-SSE. In the centre of the trench there was a group of three posthole type features (509, 511 & 513). Posthole 511 was 0.45m by 0.43m and 0.43m deep (Fig. 4, Section N) and filled with layers of sandy loam (521) around the sides and greyish brown clay loam (512) in the middle. Layer 512 contained seven sherds of mid/late Iron Age pottery, a quantity of daub and some small fragments of gritstone quern. A soil sample (512/1) contained quite large quantities of charred grain. Pit/posthole 509 was undated; it measured 0.85m by 0.45m and 0.27m deep (Fig. 4, Section M) and was filled with brown/dark brown clay loam (510). Posthole 513 was 0.73m by 0.63m and 0.38m deep (Fig. 4, Section O); it was filled with 514 and 522. These features were presumably structural although the trench was too narrow to gain any idea about the plan of the structure they supported.

5.16 At the southern end of the trench was another, isolated, undated posthole (517), 0.37m by 0.33m and 0.12m deep (Fig. 4, Section P), filled with layers of sandy clay loam (523) and dark greyish brown clay loam (518). Adjacent to 517 there was a root hole (519, not on plan, filled with 520).

5.17 Running across the trench on approximately north-east - south-west alignments were two linear features (503, filled with 504; and 505, filled with 506). These were probably recent cultivation marks but they were not really regular enough to be traces of the medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow previously recorded in this area. The features in the trench were covered by layers of subsoil (501, 507, 508, 515 & 516) and topsoil (500), together 0.42m-0.65m thick. The topsoil contained two abraded Romano-British pot sherds

#### *Trench 17* (Figs. 4, 8 & 9)

5.18 Trench 17 lay parallel to Cold Comfort Lane north-east of Trenches 1 and 2 and south west of Trench 4. It was 33m long. At the south-eastern end of the trench there was a section of wall (1703), c.0.50m wide, of rubble blocks, one course deep, facing a core of small stones (1704) and containing eight sherds of ?2nd century pottery. The wall (Fig. 8) appeared to make a corner although the return wall to the south east was missing. To the west of the wall was a strip of pebbles (1702), 0.42m wide, which probably represented the remains of a surface against the wall rather than a construction trench. In view of the presence of the burial in Trench 4 just to the north and the cemetery recorded to the south it is possible that this wall formed part of a tomb rather than a building.

5.19 Towards the north-eastern end of the trench there was an undated gully (1705), 0.55m wide, aligned east-west and filled with greyish brown sandy clay loam. The features in the trench were covered by layers of subsoil (1701), 0.15-0.20m deep, and topsoil (1700), 0.35-0.40m deep.

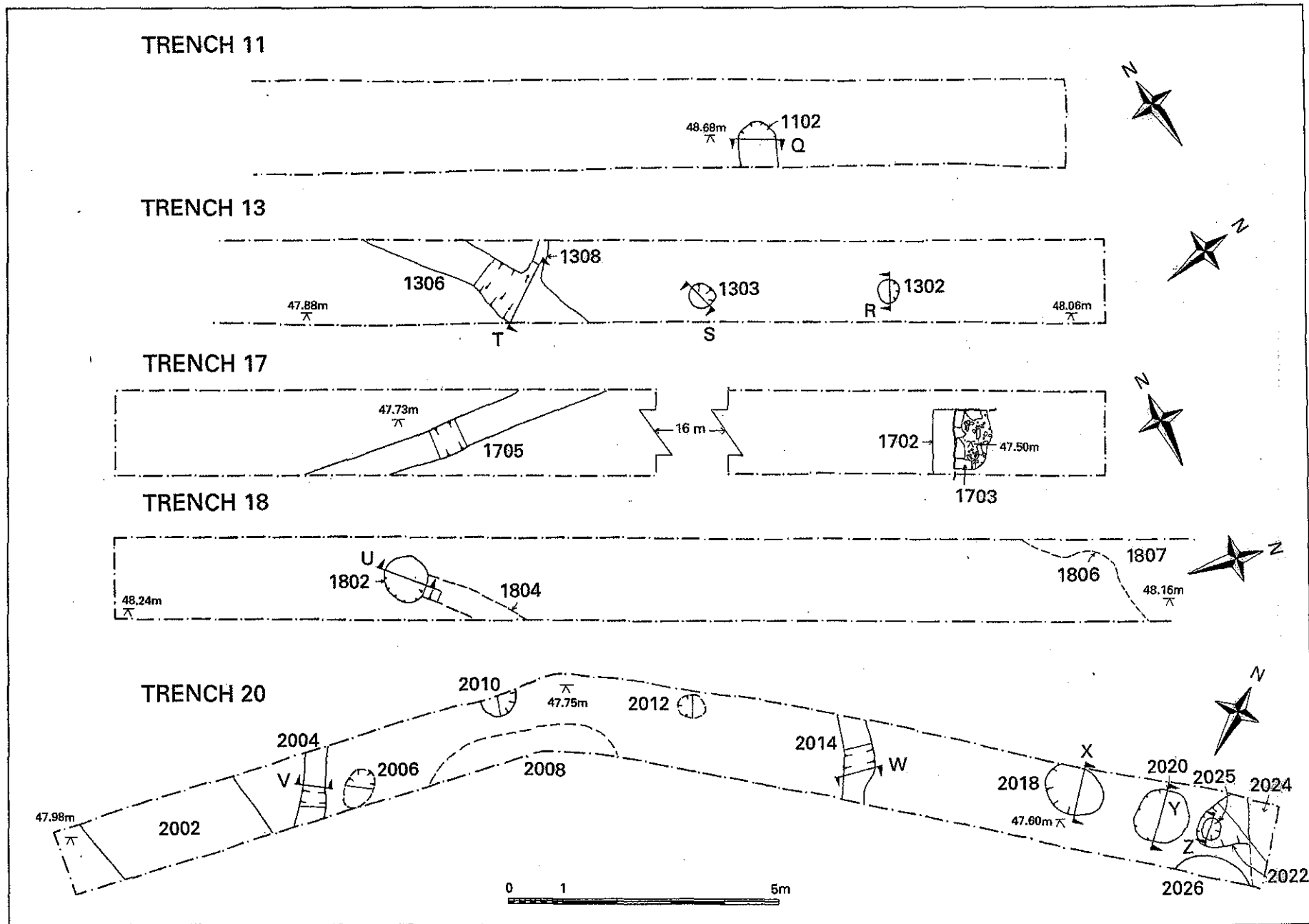


Fig. 9: Trenches 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, Plans

### *Trench 18* (Figs. 4 & 9)

5.20 Spanning the boundary between Areas 3 and 4 was Trench 18. It was 26.5m long and aligned NNE-SSW. Towards the southern end of the trench there was a posthole/pit (1802), 0.85m by 0.65m and 0.32m deep (Fig. 4, Section U). It was filled with very dark greyish brown clay loam (1803) containing a sherd of late Iron Age/early roman pottery (1st century) and a fragment of animal bone. Running north-eastwards from the posthole was a shallow, possible gully/root hole (1804), 0.45m wide, filled with 1805

5.21 The only other features in the trench were two, more definite, irregular geological/root holes (1806, 1.90m across, filled with 1807; and 1808, 3.50m across filled with 1809). Over all these there were layers of subsoil (1801), 0.23m deep, and topsoil (1800), 0.30-0.35m deep.

### *Trench 20* (Figs. 4, 9-11)

5.22 Trench 20 lay on the west side of Area 3. It was 23m long and ran back from the Lane. It was designed to show whether a gravel pit located to the north-west in 1998 extended into this area. In fact the gravel pit proved to respect the existing property boundary and quite a high density of features survived in the trench.

5.23 Most of the features in Trench 20 were undated, but towards the north-western end there was a shallow pit (2020), 1.00m by 0.95m across and 0.18m deep (Fig. 4, Section Y; Figs. 10 & 11), filled with greyish brown sandy loam (2021) containing three sherds of probably Iron Age pottery and two fragments of a fired clay firebar or loomweight. In the same area there were two undated pits (2018 and 2026). Pit 2018 was 1.10m by 0.90m across by 0.06m deep (Fig. 4, Section X); its fill (2019) contained a fragment of daub. Pit 2026 was 1.37m across; its fill (2027) was unexcavated.

5.24 At the north end of the trench there was a posthole (2025), 0.40m by 0.30m and 0.30m deep (Fig. 4, Section Z; Figs. 10 & 11), filled with greyish-brown sandy clay loam (2028). The posthole was cut by a shallow pit (2022), 0.95m across and 0.09m deep, with a similar fill (2023). Overlying Pit 2022 was the edge of a pebble surface (2024), 0.05m thick, containing a quite large quantity of 2nd century pottery (19 sherds) and some Romano-British tile and animal bone.

5.25 At the south-eastern end of the trench there was a wide undated ditch (2002), 2.75m wide, filled with dark greyish brown sandy loam (2003). This ran parallel to Cold Comfort Lane, and could have been a roadside ditch and the continuation of Ditch 303 in Trench 3. To the north-east of Ditch 2002 the trench was crossed by two undated gullies, aligned NNW-SSE, 10m apart (2004, 0.46m wide by 0.12m deep (Section V), filled with greyish brown sandy loam (2005); and 2014, 0.57m wide by 0.17m deep (Fig. 4, Section W), with a similar fill (2015). Between the two gullies there was a shallow, undated posthole (2010), 0.70m across by 0.30m deep, whose very dark grey silty loam fill (2011) contained a fragment of daub. There were also a number of natural/root holes (2006, 0.70m by 0.45m across, filled with 2007; 2008, 3.60m across, filled with 2009; and 2012, 0.50m by 0.45m across, filled with 2013). Over the trench were layers of subsoil (2001), 0.30-0.40m deep, and topsoil (2000), 0.30-0.40m deep.

### **Area observed in 1998**

5.26 One of the extra trenches (Trench 19) was dug in the area where ground investigation test pits had been observed in 1998 (Fig. 2; Warwickshire Museum 1998). These pits had identified a large modern disturbance, probably a gravel pit extending c.35m north-eastwards from Cold Comfort Lane.





Fig. 10: Trench 20, east end, Pits 2018, 2020, 2022, Surface 2024 (Neg. 2/17)



Fig. 11: Trench 20, eastern part, Posthole 2025, Pits 2022, 2020, 2018 (Neg. 2/19)

### *Trench 19*

5.27 Trench 19 was c.42m long; it was dug in three sections, the northern one at right angles to the Lane, the central one diagonally and the third one parallel to it. As in 1998 the edge of the probable gravel pit was located c.35m back from the Lane. No early features at all were detected in the trench.

### *Areas 2 and 5*

5.28 Areas 2 and 5 covered the central part of the site, between the two areas previously evaluated (Fig. 2). Two trenches (11 and 12) were dug in Area 2 which lay within 50m of Cold Comfort Lane; and three trenches (13, 14 and 15) were dug in Area 5 to the north-east.

### *Trench 11* (Figs. 4 & 9)

5.29 Trench 11 was 35m long and lay parallel to Cold Comfort Lane. Towards its south-eastern end it contained a single, undated pit (1102), 0.80m wide by 0.18m deep (Fig. 4, Section Q), filled with dark greyish brown sandy clay loam (1103). The trench was covered by layers of subsoil (1101, 1104) and topsoil (1100), together totalling 0.51-0.65m deep. The topsoil contained a single Romano-British sherd.

### *Trench 12*

5.30 Trench 12 lay north of Trench 11. It was 30m long but contained no archaeological features at all. The subsoil (1201) was 0.16-0.33m deep and the topsoil (1200), which contained a fragment of Roman tile, was 0.26-0.31m deep.

### *Trench 13* (Figs. 4 & 9)

5.31 Trench 13 was aligned at right angles to Cold Comfort Lane. It was 30m long and contained a small number of undated, but probably early features. Towards the north-east end of the trench there were two postholes: 1302, 0.48m in diameter by 0.21m deep (Fig. 4, Section R), filled with dark grey clay (1304); and 1303, 0.50m in diameter by 0.13m deep (Fig. 4, Section S), filled with brownish grey sandy clay loam (1305). South-west of these there was a ditch (1306), aligned ENE-WSW, 0.90m wide by 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, Section T), filled with dark grey sandy clay loam (1307). Running northwards from Ditch 1306 was a shallow gully (1308) with a similar fill, 0.23m wide by 0.04m deep (Fig. 4, Section T). This may have been a drain into 1306, or possibly a root hole.

5.32 At the south-west end of the trench there were two modern postholes (1309, filled with 1310, and 1311, filled with 1312). Over these and the other features were layers of subsoil (1301), 0.28-0.35m deep, and topsoil (1300), 0.31-0.40m deep.

### *Trench 14*

5.33 Trench 14 lay at the north end of Area 5; it was 28m long, aligned approximately north-south, but contained no early features. There was however a series of three medieval/post-medieval ploughfurrows running north-east-south-west at approximately 7m intervals: 1406, 1.20m wide, filled with 1407; 1408, 0.65m wide, filled with 1409; and 1412, 2.05m wide, filled with 1413. The trench was also cut by a series of four modern land drains, three running parallel to the furrows, the fourth (1404) at right angles (1402, 0.25m wide, filled with 1403; 1404, 0.35m wide, filled with 1405; 1410, 0.35m wide; filled with 1411; and 1414, 0.25m wide, filled with 1415). Over the features were layers of subsoil (1401), 0.20-0.40m deep, and topsoil (1400), 0.27-0.40m deep.

### *Trench 15*

5.34 Trench 15 lay to the south-west of Trench 14. It was 32m long and aligned WNW-ESE. Again there were no early features, but there were three medieval/post-medieval furrows aligned north-west - south-east at 5m and 9m intervals (1502, 1.75m wide, filled with 1503; 1504, 1.85m wide, filled with 1505; and 1508, 2.35m, filled with 1509. There were also two modern land drains: 1506, 0.30m wide, filled with 1507; and 1510, 0.70m wide, filled with 1511. The trench was covered by layers of subsoil (1501) and topsoil (1500), together 0.43m-0.52m deep.

### **Area 1**

5.35 Area 1 lay within 50m north of Cold Comfort Lane just to the east of the bypass (Fig. 2). It contained a single trench (Trench 16).

### *Trench 16*

5.36 Trench 16 was c.32m long and aligned NNW-SSE. It contained no early features, but there were three medieval/post-medieval furrows aligned north-east - south-west: 1602, 2.00m wide, filled with 1603; 1604, 0.70m wide, filled with 1605; and 1606, 1.80m wide, filled with 1607. There was also a single land drain on a similar alignment (1608, 0.60m wide, filled with 1609). These features were overlaid by layers of subsoil (1601), 0.30-0.50m deep, and topsoil (1600), 0.20m deep.

### **Area 6**

5.37 Area 6 lay north of the area evaluated in 1996 (Fig. 2). The five trenches here (Trenches 6-10) were the most northerly to be excavated. As none of them contained early features it was decided by the Planning Archaeologist that no trenching in Area 7 was necessary.

### *Trench 6*

5.38 Trench 6 in the south corner of Area 6 was c.32m long and aligned east-west. It contained three medieval/post-medieval furrows aligned north-east - south-west (602, 603 and 604). The fill of the furrows merged with the subsoil (601) over the trench. The trench also contained four modern land drains on the same alignment (605, 0.25m wide, filled with 609; 606, 0.25m wide, filled with 610; 607, 0.25m wide filled with 611; and 608, 0.20m wide, filled with 612). Over the features were layers of subsoil (601), 0.23-0.26m deep, and topsoil (600), 0.26-0.37m deep. The topsoil contained a single Romano-British sherd.

### *Trench 7*

5.39 Trench 7 was 31.5m long; it lay in the west part of Area 6 and was aligned north-east-south-west. It contained two medieval/post-medieval furrows (702, filled with 703; and 706, 1.10m wide, filled with 707) and two modern land drains (704, filled with 705; and 708, filled with 709). The subsoil (701) and topsoil (700) layers over the trench were 0.10m and 0.27-0.40m deep respectively.

### *Trench 8*

5.40 Trench 8, in the northern part of Area 6, was 31.5m long and aligned north-south. It contained four medieval/post-medieval furrows (802, 2.40m wide, filled with 803; 804, 2.20m wide, filled with 805; 806, 0.90m wide, filled with 807; and 808, 3.10m wide, filled with 809. The subsoil (801) and topsoil (800) layers over the trench were 0.20m and 0.30-0.55m deep respectively.

### *Trench 9*

5.41 Trench 9 was 30.55m long and aligned NNW-SSE. It contained a single modern land drain (902, 0.31m wide, filled with 903), beneath layers of subsoil (901), 0.20m deep, and topsoil (900), 0.40m-0.50m deep.

### *Trench 10*

5.42 Trench 10, in the centre of Area 6, was 31.5m long and aligned NNW-SSE. It contained three medieval/post-medieval ploughfurrows, aligned north-east – south-west (1002, 1.50m wide, filled with 1003; 1004, 0.90m wide by 0.13m deep, filled with 1005; and 1006, 1.95m wide, filled with 1007). There were also six modern land drains on the same alignment (1008, filled with 1014; 1009, filled with 1015; 1010, filled with 1016; 1011, filled with 1017; 1012, filled with 1018; and 1013, filled with 1019) over which were layers of subsoil (1001), 0.05m deep, and topsoil (1000), 0.35m deep.

### **Finds**

5.43 The relatively small group of finds recovered from the trenches included Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval pottery, daub/fired clay, tile, animal bone, a worked flint fragment, a copper alloy fragment and an iron nail (For a full list see Appendix B). The human remains found in Trench 4 were left in situ.

5.44 The pottery included hand made material of late Prehistoric type, but few diagnostic forms. Some of the coarser fabrics might have been middle Iron Age, but most was probably late Iron Age or early Romano-British. Some of the hand made sherds were associated with definite Romano-British material. The diagnostic Romano-British pottery, which included rusticated jars and a poppy headed beaker, was largely of (early) 2nd century date. Most of the pottery appeared to be local apart from a single sherd of samian ware from Gaul. All this suggests the early activity on the site concentrated in the 1st-early 2nd centuries AD.

5.45 The animal bone included one small worked fragment decorated with a pattern of incised lines (from posthole fill 348). Some fired clay fragments from 2021 might have been from an oven firebar or a loomweight.

5.46 A soil sample from 512, the fill of Pit 511 contained quite large quantities of charred grain, showing that further investigation in this area would have the potential to produce good information about early agricultural practices.

## **6. Conclusions**

6.1 The work has confirmed the presence of Iron Age and Romano-British remains in the south-west part of the site, and along the Cold Comfort Lane frontage, but petering out to the north-west. The remains appear to date mainly to the 1st and early 2nd century AD. The activity recorded in 1995 on the Lane frontage which was then identified as probably belonging to a discrete rural settlement now appears to be the north-westwardsmost extent of this 'ribbon development'. There was also a cluster of probable Iron Age features in the centre of the site, but most of this central area and the northern part of the site contained no significant early remains.

6.2 The eight trenches at the south end of the site (Areas 3 & 4) found fairly extensive evidence of late Iron Age and Romano-British activity including ditches, gullies, pits, a stone wall foundation and a single human burial. The main concentration of activity lay close to Cold Comfort Lane around Trenches 2, 3 and 20, but structural remains were found as far north as Trench 5. It is not clear whether the burial found in Trench 4 was an isolated example or part of a larger cemetery. The fragment of stone foundation in Trench 17 may lie within the same plot as the

burial and form part of a tomb structure, although it is also possible that it was an ordinary building.

6.3 To the north-west, in the plot previously evaluated in 1998, Trench 19 confirmed the presence of a recent gravel pit extending c.35m back from the lane which will have removed any surviving early remains across this plot. The rest of this plot appeared to contain only an undated gully and features belonging to a 19th century house called 'Canada'.

6.4 Further to the north-west, adjacent to the lane in Area 2, Trench 11 located a single undated gully, while Trench 12 contained no early features. However, in the area evaluated in 1995, Trench 1, adjacent to the lane, contained late Iron Age/Roman postholes, pits and ditches. This suggests that the ribbon development extended this far to the north-west, but was not of a consistent density.

6.5 In Area 5 one of the three trenches (Trench 13) located a gully and two postholes in the centre of the site. This may have been associated with the probable Iron Age gullies and postholes found in the 1995 Trench 3, although there was an empty trench between them (Trench 15). Further north and north west the other six 1995 trenches, the one excavated in Area 1 adjacent to the lane and those to the north in Area 6 contained no early remains.

6.6 The early remains in the southern part of the site constitute significant evidence for the late Iron Age background to Roman Alcester. Their state of preservation is average: there was some surviving positive stratigraphy and small features like post holes surviving but most of the features recorded were cut into the natural. The finds assemblage from the trenches was small, bone preservation poorish (albeit normal for Warwickshire soils) but a good quantity of charred grain was recovered from one sample.

6.7 In the middle ages the site lay within the open fields of Alcester. Most of the trenches in the northern part of the site contained traces of medieval and post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing on a north-east – south west alignment similar to that showing on air photographs. These remains were too badly preserved to be a significant constraint.

6.8 The northern end of the site is crossed by the line of the former Evesham and Redditch Railway, which was opened in the 1860s and closed in the 1960s, but the short stretch in question did not contain any significant railway features and it is unlikely that anything survives.

## Acknowledgements

The Warwickshire Museum is grateful to Tom Pettifer Developments Ltd for commissioning this work, to Mr D MacMullen for his patience, and to the various landowners for their tolerance of the disruption. The work on site was carried out by Christopher Jones, Bryn Gethin, Robert Jones, Richard Newman and John Robinson. This report was written by Christopher Jones and Nicholas Palmer with illustrations by Candida Stevens and Andrew Isham.

## Bibliography

British Geological Survey 1974 *1: 50,000 Series, England and Wales Sheet 200 Stratford-upon-Avon Solid and Drift Geology*

Warwickshire Museum 1995 *Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Cold Comfort Lane, Alcester (H. Alc. 1), Warwick*

Warwickshire Museum 1998 *Archaeological Observation of Geological Test Pits at Cold Comfort Lane, Alcester, Warwick*

## Appendix A: List of Excavated Contexts

	L.	W.	D.
<b>Trench 1</b>			
100	Topsoil		0.20m
101	Subsoil layer		0.40m
102	Gully	0.50m	0.15m
103	Gully fill (of 102)		
104	Drain	0.30m	
105	Concrete drain (in 104)	0.30m	
106	Drain fill (of 104)		
107	Modern posthole	c.0.3m	
108	Posthole fill (of 107)		
<b>Trench 2</b>			
200	Topsoil		0.28-0.40m
201	Subsoil layer		0.30-0.53m
202	Hollow	0.70m	0.60m 0.07m
203	Hollow fill (of 202)		
204	Pit/posthole	0.70m	0.40m
205	Pit/posthole fill (of 204)		
206	Pit	0.95m	0.13m
207	Pit fill (of 206)		
208	Root hole	0.80m	
209	Root hole fill (of 208)		
210	Posthole	0.50m	0.30m 0.32m
211	Posthole fill (of 210)		
212	Posthole	0.65m	0.65m 0.22m
213	Posthole fill (of 212)		
214	Root hole	0.60m	0.55m
215	Root hole fill (of 214)		
216	Subsoil remaining		
217	Subsoil remaining		
218	Subsoil remaining		
219	Subsoil remaining		
220	Gully	0.50m	0.14m
221	Gully fill (of 220)		
222	Subsoil remaining		
<b>Trench 3</b>			
300	Topsoil		0.40m
301	Subsoil layer		0.50m
302	Gravel and brick surface		
303	Ditch		0.35m
304	Ditch fill (of 303)		
305	Pit		0.25m
306	Pit fill (of 305)		
307	Pit	1.50m	
308	Pit fill (of 307)		
309	Pit	1.08m	0.15m
310	Pit fill (of 309)		
311	Pit	1.25m	
312	Pit fill (of 311)		
313	Pit	1.50m	
314	Pit fill (of 313)		
315	Pit	c.1.75m	
316	Pit fill (of 315)		

	L.	W.	D.
317	Pit	c.1.50m	
318	Pit fill (of 317)		
319	Pit	1.60m	
320	Pit fill (of 319)		
321	Pit	2.75m	1.50m
322	Pit fill (of 321)		
323	Pit	1.55m	0.33m
324	Pit fill (of 323)		
325	Pit	1.75m	
326	Pit fill (of 325)		
327	Pit	1.15m	
328	Pit fill (of 327)		
329	Pit		0.75m
330	Pit fill (of 329)		
331	Gully		0.40m
332	Gully fill (of 331)		
333	Subsoil remaining		
334	Subsoil remaining		
335	Posthole	0.60m	0.55m
336	Posthole fill (of 335)		
337	Not a feature		
338	Not a feature		
339	Ploughmark		0.30-1.1m
340	Ploughmark fill (of 339)		
341	Ploughmark		0.55m
342	Ploughmark fill (of 341)		
343	Posthole	0.55m	0.40m
344	Posthole fill (of 343)		
345	Ploughmark		0.40m
346	Ploughmark fill (of 345)		
347	Pit/posthole	1.05m	0.76m 0.25m
348	Pit/posthole fill (of 347)		
349	Pit	2.20m	0.30m
350	Pit fill (of 349)		
351	Posthole	0.48m	0.45m
352	Posthole fill (of 351)		

#### Trench 4

400	Topsoil		0.20-0.22m
401	Subsoil layer		0.21-0.23m
(402)			
403	Posthole	0.35m	0.27m
404	Posthole fill (of 403)		
405	Root hole		
406	Root hole fill (of 405)		
407	Ditch	1.40m	0.47m
408	Ditch fill (of 407)		
409	Grave	0.75m	
410	Grave fill (of 409)		
411	Pebble spread (natural?)	4.60m	
412	Pebble spread (natural?)	5.00m	
413	Root hole		
414	Root hole fill (of 413)		
415	Ploughmark	0.40m	
416	Ploughmark fill (of 415)		
417	Ploughmark	0.45m	
418	Ploughmark fill (of 417)		
419	Ploughmark	0.35m	

L. W. D.

420 Ploughmark fill (of 419)

**Trench 5**

500	Topsoil	} 0.42m-0.65m
501	Subsoil layer	
(502)		)
503	Ploughmark	
504	Ploughmark fill (of 503)	
505	Ploughmark	
506	Ploughmark fill (of 505)	
507	Subsoil remaining	
508	Subsoil remaining	
509	Pit	0.85m 0.45m 0.27m
510	Pit fill (of 509)	
511	Pit	0.45m 0.43m 0.43m
512	Pit fill (of 511)	
513	Pit/posthole	0.73m 0.63m 0.38m
514	Pit/posthole fill (of 513)	
515	Subsoil remaining	
516	Subsoil remaining	
517	Posthole	0.37m 0.33m 0.12m
518	Posthole fill (of 517)	
519	Root hole	
520	Root hole fill (of 519)	
521	Pit fill (of 511)	
522	Pit fill (of 513)	
523	Pit fill (of 517)	

**Trench 6**

600	Topsoil	0.26-0.37m
601	Subsoil layer/furrow fill	0.23-0.26m
602	Furrow	
603	Furrow	
604	Furrow	
605	Land drain	0.25m
606	Land drain	0.25m
607	Land drain	0.25m
608	Land drain	0.20m
609	Land drain fill (of 605)	
610	Land drain fill (of 606)	
611	Land drain fill (of 607)	
612	Land drain fill (of 608)	

**Trench 7**

700	Topsoil	0.27m-0.40m
701	Subsoil layer	0.10m
702	Furrow	
703	Furrow fill (of 702)	
704	Land drain	0.25m
705	Land drain fill (of 704)	
706	Furrow	1.10m
707	Furrow fill (of 706)	
708	Land drain	0.25m
709	Land drain fill (of 708)	



L. W. D.

**Trench 8**

800	Topsoil		0.30-0.55m
801	Subsoil layer		0.20m
802	Furrow	2.40m	
803	Furrow fill (of 802)		
804	Furrow	2.20m	
805	Furrow fill (of 804)		
806	Furrow	0.90m	
807	Furrow fill (of 806)		
808	Furrow	3.10m	
809	Furrow fill (of 808)		

**Trench 9**

900	Topsoil		0.40m-0.50m
901	Subsoil layer		0.20m
902	Land drain	0.31m	
903	Land drain fill (of 902)		

**Trench 10**

1000	Topsoil		0.35m
1001	Subsoil layer		0.05m
1002	Furrow	1.50m	
1003	Furrow fill (of 1002)		
1004	Furrow	0.90m	0.13m
1005	Furrow fill (of 1004)		
1006	Furrow	1.95m	
1007	Furrow fill (of 1006)		
1008	Land drain	0.25m	
1009	Land drain	0.25m	
1010	Land drain	0.25m	
1011	Land drain	0.25m	
1012	Land drain	0.35m	
1013	Land drain	0.25m	
1014	Land drain fill (of 1008)		
1015	Land drain fill (of 1009)		
1016	Land drain fill (of 1010)		
1017	Land drain fill (of 1011)		
1018	Land drain fill (of 1012)		
1019	Land drain fill (of 1013)		

**Trench 11**

1100	Topsoil		} 0.51-0.65m
1101	Subsoil layer		
1102	Pit	0.80m	0.18m
1103	Pit fill (of 1102)		
1104	Subsoil remaining		

**Trench 12**

1200	Topsoil		0.26-0.31m
1201	Subsoil		0.16-0.33m

**Trench 13**

1300	Topsoil		0.31-0.40m
------	---------	--	------------

	L.	W.	D.
1301 Subsoil			0.28-0.35m
1302 Posthole	0.48m	0.48m	0.21m
1303 Posthole	0.50m	0.50m	0.13m
1304 Posthole fill (of 1302)			
1305 Posthole fill (of 1303)			
1306 Ditch/gully		0.90m	0.25m
1307 Ditch/gully fill (of 1306)			
1308 Gully?		0.23m	0.04m
1309 Modern posthole	0.65m	0.50m	
1310 Modern posthole fill (of 1309)			
1311 Modern posthole	0.65m	0.50m	
1312 Modern posthole fill (of 1311)			

#### Trench 14

1400 Topsoil			0.27-0.40m
1401 Subsoil layer			0.20-0.40m
1402 Land drain	0.25m		
1403 Land drain fill			
1404 Land drain	0.35m		
1405 Land drain fill			
1406 Furrow	1.20m		
1407 Furrow fill			
1408 Furrow	0.65m		
1409 Furrow fill			
1410 Land drain	0.35m		
1411 Land drain fill			
1412 Furrow	2.05m		
1413 Furrow fill			
1414 Land drain	0.25m		
1415 Land drain fill			

#### Trench 15

1500 Topsoil			} 0.43m-0.52m
1501 Subsoil layer			
1502 Furrow	1.75m		
1503 Furrow fill			
1504 Furrow	1.85m		
1505 Furrow fill			
1506 Land drain	0.30m		
1507 Land drain fill			
1508 Furrow	2.35m		
1509 Furrow fill			
1510 Land drain	0.70m		
1511 Land drain fill			

#### Trench 16

1600 Topsoil			0.20m
1601 Subsoil layer			0.30-0.50m
1602 Furrow	2.00m		
1603 Furrow fill (of 1602)			
1604 Furrow	0.70m		
1605 Furrow fill (of 1604)			
1606 Furrow	1.80m		
1607 Furrow fill (of 1606)			
1608 Land drain	0.60m		
1609 Land drain fill (of 1608)			

	L.	W.	D.
<b>Trench 17</b>			
1700			0.35-0.40m
1701			0.15-0.20m
1702		0.42m	
1703		0.53m	
1704			
1705		0.55m	
1706			

### Trench 18

1800			0.30-0.35m
1801			0.23m
1802	0.85m	0.65m	0.32m
1803			
1804		0.45m	
1805			
1806	1.90m		
1807			
1808	3.50m		
1809			

### Trench 19

1900			
1901			
1902			
1903			

### Trench 20

2000			0.30-0.40m
2001			0.30-0.40m
2002		2.75m	
2003			
2004		0.46m	0.12m
2005			
2006	0.70m	0.45m	
2007			
2008	3.60m		
2009			
2010	0.70m		0.30m
2011			
2012	0.50m	0.45m	
2013			
2014		0.57m	0.17m
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018	1.10m	0.90m	0.06m
2019			
2020	1.00m	0.95m	0.18m
2021			
2022	0.95m		0.09m
2023			
2024			0.05m
2025	0.40m	0.30m	0.30m
2026	1.37m		

2027 Pit fill (of 2026)  
 2028 Posthole fill (of 2025)

## Appendix B: List of Finds

(Abbreviations: IA Iron Age, RB Romano-British, Med Medieval, P.Med Post-medieval)

### Trench 2

201	Pottery	3	RB 2, Med 1
203	Pottery	1	IA/RB 1
205	Daub	2	
205	Pottery	1	IA/RB 1
219	Pottery	2	RB 2

### Trench 3

301	Pottery	2	RB 1, ?Med 1
306	Daub	1	
306	Pottery	1	IA 1
310	Animal bone	1	Burnt
310	Daub	1	
310	Pottery	3	IA 3
324	Daub	3	
324	Flint	1	Prehistoric
324	Pottery	6	IA 5, RB 1
348	Animal bone	1	Decorated with incised design
348	Pottery	1	IA 1
350	Animal bone	4	
350	Daub	1	
350	Pottery	11	IA 11

### Trench 4

408	Animal bone	25	Fragments
408	Copper alloy	1	Sheet fragment
408	Pottery	4	IA 3, RB 1
409	Nail	1	

### Trench 5

500	Pottery	2	RB 2
512	Daub	12	
512	Pottery	7	IA 7
512/1	Sample	1	
512/1	Daub	1	
512/1	Stone	2	Quern fragments

### Trench 6

600	Clay pipe	1	Initialed spur I/D
600	Pottery	3	RB 1 (early 2nd cent.), P. Med 2

**Trench 11**

1100 Pottery 1 RB 1

**Trench 12**

1200 Glass 1 P. Med (bottle)  
1200 Pottery 2 P. Med 2  
1200 Tile 1 ?RB 1

**Trench 13**

1300 Pottery 2 P. Med 2

**Trench 14**

1400 Animal bone 5  
1400 Pottery 1 P. Med 1

**Trench 15**

1500 Animal bone 2  
1500 Pottery 1 P. Med 1

**Trench 16**

1600 Pottery 1 P. Med 1

**Trench 17**

1704 Pottery 8 RB 8

**Trench 18**

1803 Pottery 1 IA/RB 1 (1st century)  
1803 Animal bone 1

**Trench 20**

2011 Daub 1  
2019 Daub 1  
2021 Pottery 3 IA 3  
2021 Fired clay 2 (Firebar/loomweight?)  
2024 Animal bone 1  
2024 Pottery 19 RB 19 (2nd century)  
2024 Tile 3 RB 3



**Warwickshire**  
County Council

# Libraries & Heritage

**Archaeology Projects Group, Warwickshire Museum Field Services**  
The Butts, Warwick, CV34 4SS *Tel: 01926 412280/412278 Fax: 01926 412974*