

WATCHING BRIEF AT GRIMLEY
SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS,
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Illustrated by Laura Templeton

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Watching brief at Grimley Sewage Treatment Works, Worcestershire

Neil J Lockett and Laura Jones

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Grimley Sewage Works, Worcestershire (SO 8393 6088). It was undertaken on behalf of Severn Trent Water Ltd, who intended to change the use of the land from agriculture to a sewage treatment works and new access for which planning permission has been given. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological deposits lay within the development area, and in particular if any further deposits associated with a known Roman road or extra-mural activity associated with the fortlet located through excavation in the 1950s to the west of the current area of excavation and through salvage recording, the latter of which produced evidence for occupation dated to the 2nd century AD.

The watching brief established that Roman period and later deposits were located within the development area, located to the east of the fortlet and south-east of the road. The features identified as Roman are obviously located in the vicinity of the fortlet, though no military function can be demonstrably associated with these deposits. Therefore, it may be considered that the Roman period deposits were of an agricultural nature, either dating to a period prior to the construction of fortlet, or after this installation had been abandoned.

The absence of ridge and furrow cultivation within the area excavated is explicable through a re-assessment of the aerial photographic transcription carried out in 1999. The photograph used for this computerised process shows strong curving linear traces to the east of the fortlet ditches which were interpreted as ridge and furrow cultivation marks. However, this excavation has shown that these marks relate to modern land drainage pipe-trenches observed at the northern end of the trench. In addition to this the curving nature of the marks gives a further indication as to their true nature, since they curve towards the south and appear to join a larger main drain on a north to south alignment adjacent to the eastern field boundary.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Grimley Sewage Treatment Works, Worcestershire (SO 8393 6088), on behalf of Severn Trent Water Ltd. Severn Trent Water Ltd intended to construct a new sewage treatment works and access and had submitted a planning application to Worcestershire County Council (reference 407488), who consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WSM 4535). This site is considered to be a Roman period military installation, either a small fort or a fortlet.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 1999).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Worcester County Council Archaeological Service (AS 2000a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (AS 2000b).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the watching brief were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation.

More specifically the following aims have been identified.

- To determine the depth and extents of any alluvium.
- To determine the presence or absence of ridge and furrow.
- To determine the presence or absence of prehistoric and Roman deposits, including buried soils.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). In addition the following sources were also consulted:

Cartographic sources

- WRO BA 1572 x760/291.
- WRO BA 5403/18.
- Ordnance Survey 1888, 1905, 1930 [extracts from] *Worcestershire*, Sheet SO 86 SW, 1:10000.

Aerial photographs

- CUCAP AKM 138, oblique photograph of WSM 4534 and Ordnance Survey field 6882.

Documentary sources

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- Cook, M, 1999 *Watching brief at Riverdale, Grimley, Worcestershire*.
- Edwards, R E, 1989 *Archaeological prospection at Top Barns Quarry, Holt*.
- Fagan, L, 1992 *Evaluation at Church Farm East, Grimley, Worcestershire*.
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2.2 **Fieldwork**

2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (AS 2000b).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 21st September 2000 and 29th September 2000.

One trench, amounting to just over 133m² in area, was excavated over the site area of 990m², representing a sample of 13% or the total area of the treatment works. The location of the trench is indicated in Figure 2.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a JCB 3CX employing a toothless bucket and a 360° tracked excavator, both of which were under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

In addition to the excavated area intended for the outfall pipe, an examination was made of an additional trench and corridor stripped of topsoil cut by the contractors to the east of the sewage treatment works.

2.2.2 **Structural analysis**

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 Environment

2.3.1 Sampling policy

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). Samples of 10 litres were taken from two contexts, the relict channel and context 104, which were of uncertain date and Roman date respectively.

2.3.2 Method of analysis

The samples were processed by flotation followed by wet sieving using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a 300µm sieve and the residue sorted on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were fully sorted using a low power EMT light microscope and remains identified using modern reference specimens housed at the Service.

2.4 Artefacts

2.4.1 Artefact recovery policy

All artefacts from the area of salvage recording were retrieved by hand and retained in accordance with the service manual (CAS 1995 as amended).

2.4.2 Method of analysis

All hand retrieved finds were examined. A primary record was made of all finds on *pro forma* sheets. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated. A *terminus post quem* was produced for each stratified context.

Pottery was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992).

2.5 The methods in retrospect

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

3. Topographical and archaeological context

The solid geology of the area consists of Mercian Mudstone (Keuper Marl), overlain by drift deposits of the second river gravel terrace (Geological Survey of Great Britain sheet 182, 1962). The soil belongs to the Wick 1 Association, which comprises deep, well-drained coarse loamy sand soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales sheet 3, 1983).

Archaeological background

No previous fieldwork or geophysical survey has taken place on the site, although excavations have been carried out in the general area (Cook 1999, Edwards 1989, Fagan 1992, Hurst *et al* 1995, WSM 743, WSM 4525, WSM 4503, WSM 4511, WSM 4541, Jackson 1991, Shelley 1989, Webster 1956), of which the work at The Waggon Wheel (WSM 22791) and Church Farm East (WSM 4535) is particularly relevant. Overall, the above fieldwork has established a complex archaeological record with evidence attesting to activity from the Neolithic period, through the Roman occupation and into the medieval period.

Documentary evidence

The Doharty map (HWRO BA 5403/18) dated 1746 suggests that the area to the north-east of Grimley village was once part of a common field system, one of these being called High Bridge Common Field. However, this map gives little indication as to the function of the field in this period, except that it may be considered to have been broadly agricultural. The title map of nearly 100 years later (HWRO BA 1572 x760/291) records the field name 'The Five Acres' for this area.

4. Description

The results of the structural analysis are presented in Table 1, with Table 2 summarising the artefacts recovered. The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

4.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits encountered were of two broad types. The first of these encountered was of a yellow/brown gravel with occasional sandy patches which represents sand and gravel belonging to the third terrace of the River Severn (Geological Survey of Great Britain, sheet 182, 1962).

The second form of natural deposit comprises alluvial clays arising from the flooding of the River Severn. The homogeneous nature of the alluvium suggests that deposition was gradual. These deposits were noted only sparsely during excavation: a situation which may have arisen due to the somewhat distant location of the site from the river Severn.

5. Discussion and artefactual analysis

A summary of the artefacts recovered can be seen in Table 2. The assemblage retrieved from the excavated area came from one stratified context and nine unstratified. The group ranges from Roman to modern in date, with the earliest material dating to the 3rd century. The level of preservation was generally poor with high levels of abrasion. The material of Roman date was in particularly poor condition with the surfaces of pottery and tile highly abraded.

Pottery of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern date was identified and grouped by fabric, see Appendix 2. The majority of sherds were undiagnostic and therefore only dateable to the general period or production span.

Ceramic building material formed the second largest material group accounting for 13% of the assemblage. A total of five fragments of tile could be dated to the Roman period, the remainder were fragments of flat roof tile of a long-lived type produced between the 13th and 18th centuries. All brick was modern in date. Other building material included a number of fragments of burnt red sandstone, with six from context 102 appearing to have been used as roofing material, with a hole drilled through one. In addition, two small, undiagnostic fragments of fired ceramic were retrieved and are most likely to be used as building material although they cannot be ascribed to a specific function.

Other finds consisted of a single piece of coal (context 117), a small piece of clinker (context 100), a clay pipe stem (context 115) and 14 fragments of burnt bone (contexts 104 and 110).

5.1 Discussion of the artefacts

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated based on the evidence recorded and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

5.1.1 Roman

A total of 100 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered, 84 from stratified contexts. The majority of sherds within the Roman assemblage were identified as Severn Valley ware (fabric 12). This fabric was produced locally at various kiln sites in the Severn Valley region and is therefore the most commonly found type of Roman pottery in Worcestershire. A substantial number of Black-burnished ware I sherds were also identified (contexts 103, 104 and 110). This type of coarseware was commonly used for the preparation and cooking of food and was produced in Dorset throughout the Roman period. It was exported along the western seaboard, resulting in a wide distribution throughout western England and Wales from the early 2nd century onwards. Other fabrics present included two small fragments of locally produced Malvernian ware and two reduced body sherds of unknown origin (context 104), one of which had been heavily burnt.

Four contexts (103, 104, 110 and 112) could be allocated a *terminus post quem* of Roman date on the basis of the artefacts recovered. A small number of sherds were diagnostic and could be dated to between the 3rd and 4th centuries, using existing parallels (Webster 1976; Seager Smith *et al* 1993).

The most interesting sequence of datable contexts were contained within ditch 105 which cut through boundary feature 111. The pottery within fill 110 consisted of 24 sherds from the everted rim of a Black-burnished ware jar, which could be dated to *c* 3rd century on the basis of form and obtuse lattice decoration (Seager Smith *et al* 1993). In contrast, ditch fill 104 contained sherds of a jar and a drop-flange rimmed bowl, also of Black-burnished ware but typologically slightly later than the above jar from context 110, dating from the late 3rd century onwards. This date was further supported by the presence of a Severn Valley ware (fabric 12) wide-mouthed jar rim of the same date (Webster 1977, 27; fig 5, no 28).

Further diagnostic sherds were retrieved from context 103, the cleaning layer above both of the aforementioned features, and included the rim of a Black-burnished ware drop flanged rim bowl, although this did not appear to be from the same vessel as that from context 104. Other sherds included the rims of a storage jar and tankard in Severn Valley ware, providing a date range of 3-4th century to the context. A single fragment of Roman tile was also retrieved from this layer. Two unstratified, adjoining rim sherds from a greyware beaker were also identified (context 100).

Other material of Roman date included four fragments of abraded tile, all residual (contexts 100, 107 and 117).

5.1.2 Medieval

A total of 24 sherds of pottery could be identified as medieval, ranging between the 13th and 15th centuries in date. Three contexts could be allocated a *terminus post quem* of medieval date on the basis of these sherds and associated finds.

The majority of the sherds were of Malvernian origin. Three sherds of unglazed Malvernian fabric (fabric 56) were identified (contexts 107, 115 and 117). All were from cooking pots and included a rim of 13th-14th century date with exterior sooting from ditch fill, context 107. Although of typical cooking pot form, this rim is notably smaller and finer than usually seen on vessels of this type and date. The remaining two sherds were undiagnostic, body sherds with traces of exterior sooting and residual within contexts of post-medieval and modern date.

Sherds of glazed Malvernian fabric (fabric 69) were identified within cleaning layer 101 and medieval boundary ditch 102 and provided as *terminus post quem* of 15th century to both. Ten of the sherds from cleaning layer 101 were adjoining, from the base of a single vessel. Those from the boundary ditch were small, highly abraded fragments, one of which was heavily sooted on the exterior.

The remaining sherds were residual and included a single fragment of Brill-Boarstall ware (fabric 63), a pottery type produced in Buckinghamshire between the 13th-14th centuries. A large body sherd which a smoothed exterior surface (miscellaneous fabric 99), could not be paralleled within the fabric reference series but appears to be of Herefordshire origin on basis of fabric and general appearance (V Bryant pers comm).

Remaining artefacts of medieval date included nine fragments of burnt red sandstone from contexts 101 and 102. These appeared to have been used as roofing material due to part of a drilled nail hole identified on one piece. Large pieces of sandstone were commonly used for roofing building during the medieval period with a number of examples identified from sites in Shrewsbury (V Bryant pers comm). It is likely that the rock was quarried locally. The burning of these fragments appears to have occurred following discard.

5.1.3 **Post-medieval and modern**

Two contexts (115 and 117) could be identified as being late post-medieval and modern in date and appear to have been channels for drainage pipes. Both contained residual material of earlier date as a result of this disturbance.

Pottery identified dated between the late 17th-19th centuries. Context 115 contained a single sherd of 19th century modern stone china from a dinner plate, decorated with blue transfer decoration. A single, thin clay pipe stem was also retrieved from this context. Context 117 contained the earliest post-medieval sherd, a undiagnostic fragment of Midlands yellow ware (fabric 77), dating between the 16th-17th centuries. The remaining sherds from this context were a body sherd of red sandy ware with a black glazed interior (fabric 78), dating to the 17th century and the footring from a porcelain cup or bowl (fabric 83) of 18th-19th century date. A further two sherds of red sandy ware and a single sherd from an inlaid slip decorated plate (fabric 91) were identified within the unstratified assemblage (context 100).

A total of fifteen fragments of tile were identified within contexts 115, 117 and 100. These were extremely small and abraded and may have been of either medieval or post-medieval date. Four pieces of unstratified, modern brick were also identified (context 100).

5.1.4 **Significance of the artefacts**

Previous excavation in the vicinity of this site has established the presence of a double-ditched Roman fort (WSM 22791) nearby. It is therefore likely that the Roman pottery identified from this evaluation has resulted from use either at the fort or an associated settlement. It should be noted that the dates indicated by the pottery from this phase of work are at least a century later than those of vessels from the fort ditches (Hurst 1995, 5). However, this earlier pottery did not come from a primary fill and therefore, may not have been a reliable indicator of the fort's date (*ibid*, 7).

The site at Grimley Sewage Works is on the edge of medieval Grimley and a series of medieval fish ponds and therefore material of this date was expected. The majority of sherds were produced locally at the kilns in Malvern (fabric 56 and fabric 69) with only two non-local fabrics identified. Pottery of Buckinghamshire origin (fabric 63) are not unusual within assemblages of this date from sites within the area. Sherds of cooking pot fabric, such as that thought to be of Herefordshire origin are less commonly identified within assemblages from Worcestershire. This is primarily due to the large Worcester and Malvernian industries fulfilling the demand for such utilitarian vessels. However, this vessel stands out from the rest of the cooking pot sherds within the assemblage due to the deliberately smoothed finish of its exterior surface, possibly indicating a different function.

5.2 Discussion of the site

5.2.1 Roman

This period is characterised by four substantial deposits, probably representing agricultural activity.

Of considerable interest for the relative sequence on part of the site was 109/110/111, an east to west gully which terminated in a narrow butt-end. The function of this gully is uncertain, though a 3rd century date can be offered for the primary fill of the feature. It is most likely that this feature represents agricultural activity in the vicinity of the site. This feature, when observed in section, contained a lower fill of fine grey/brown sandy-silt (110), which was probably derived from a gradual process of siltation. No obvious re-cutting of this feature was observed, and the gully had almost silted to the top of its cut when a layer of coarse rubble backfill (109) was used to level the feature. After the final phase of backfilling, this feature was truncated, close to the butt-end, by another gully or slot (104 and 105) containing late 3rd century Roman pottery.

This late-Roman feature: a north-to-south slot (104/105) which curved to the west, was traced for 11.5m. The function of this feature is uncertain, though a single, excavated, posthole was located adjacent to the eastern section of the trench. The posthole, which possessed a rather sub-rounded post-pipe, was packed with large, irregular sandstone rocks, within which Romano-British pottery was found. The diameter of the posthole was *c* 0.33m and, as mentioned above, its shape in plan was sub-rounded thus possibly suggesting that the post had been removed through a rocking action which had modified the shape in plan and displaced some of the stone packing. The environmental sample taken from the fill of this feature (104) did not produce any significant material.

The profile of the slot, into which the posthole was constructed, was a shallow U-profile. Further posts were not located during excavation, possibly suggesting that the posthole located formed an entrance structure. However, the shape in plan of the curving slot (104/105) is such that there are regularly-spaced enlargements in the width, possibly indicating that further posts had once formed a palisaded enclosure possibly for coralling stock.

Thirdly, a V-profile ditch (112/113) also aligned east-to-west, was located *c* 33m to the north of (107/108). In section this feature was of a steep V-profile with a concave base. The feature was filled with a mixed grey/brown sandy silt which contained frequent inclusions of angular and rounded stones and a small quantity of Romano-British pottery. This feature probably represents a further agricultural boundary, though this appears to have silted up naturally, not requiring any backfilling after abandonment.

5.2.2 Medieval

Medieval deposits were identified throughout the trench. In particular, a north-east to south-west linear slot (102/106) which was difficult to trace as it ran through the trench, particularly at the north-eastern side was observed. In profile, this feature was of V-section with a steeply sloping north-western side and a much shallower slope to the south-east. Identification of this feature as a gully seems unlikely, particularly as its dimensions at 0.62m width and 0.12m depth appear too shallow, though it is possible that this feature was a more minor sub-division within a plot, or alternatively a drainage feature associated with settlement outside of the excavated area. The fill of this feature (102) was a medium-brown sandy silt which had inclusions of pebbles, charcoal flecks and small patches of natural orange clay which would be consistent with a deposit comprised of a ploughed mix of topsoil and natural.

Approximately 6m to the north of of the palisade trench an east to west-aligned ditch (107/108) was located. When observed in section, this feature was originally a shallow V-shaped cut though, after a period of siltation, this had been re-cut to a much steeper V-profile,

the centreline of which was displaced by this activity towards the southern side. A further period of siltation was observed before finally the ditch was backfilled with large sub-rounded cobbles, possibly to level-up the ground. This feature may possibly be interpreted as a boundary ditch associated with either fields or properties of medieval date in the vicinity. It is clear from the periodic cleaning of this ditch that its function was important, though it is conceivable that this feature was cut for drainage purposes and that the cleaning action was necessary to ensure that it operated efficiently.

5.2.3 **Modern**

Two features observed close to the southern end of the trench (117/116 and 115/114) were not fully excavated and, as examined, produced finds of a post-medieval to modern date. In plan their orientation was north north-east to south south-west and were filled with a loose light brown sandy clay-loam with inclusions of small gravel and small-to-medium sub-rounded stones. Fragments of coal and occasional patches of orange/red clay were also present within the deposits. The more southerly of the two linear features (115/114) was not fully exposed in plan within the trench and the two features were separated by a linear band of natural sand and gravel. These features, whilst only partly excavated, may be considered modern in origin - possibly representing more recent drainage improvements in the vicinity.

Several other deposits were noted within the excavated area, taking the form of ovular patches of grey-brown silty sand. Whilst these were not examined during the watching brief, it is likely that they were natural deposits of periglacial origin, though identification as pits or postholes may be possible.

5.2.4 **Undated**

Undated deposits were rare among the excavated area on the site. The only considerable deposit encountered to which a date could not easily be attributed was the 'relict' channel located to the east of the main area of excavation, within the area of the outfall pipe from the sewage treatment works. Whilst a natural origin can be ascribed with some certainty for this feature, it was hoped that finds may be recovered from the deposits within this feature in order to add information as to the date at which this feature was still in use, as well as to further increase the artefact recovery policy. In the event, no finds were made within this channel, and the environmental samples produced no information of significance.

5.3 **The extent of remaining deposits**

The watching brief identified archaeological deposits of Roman and medieval dates. Whilst it is far from clear as to the significance of these deposits in relationship to surviving archaeological deposits, it is perhaps significant that none of the features examined in this watching brief was wholly exposed in plan, thus leaving an unquantifiable, though doubtless considerable amount preserved in the vicinity. The areas of greatest truncation are indicated on Figure 2, in order to aid future projects on this, or adjacent sites.

6. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

A watching brief was undertaken on behalf of Severn Trent Water Ltd at Grimley Sewage Treatment Works, Worcestershire (NGR ref SO 8393 6088; SMR ref WSM 30069). Archaeological deposits of an agricultural nature, possibly indicating settlement, of Romano-British, medieval and modern periods were encountered. Of particular note was the discovery of a late 3rd century palisaded enclosure which was observed as having truncated a late 2nd

century or early 3rd century gully which was oriented north-east to south-west. This alteration to the boundary divisions may be related to the other changes to the military or civilian situation of the locality, offering the possibility of settlement within the vicinity during the periods observed, and may offer an insight to the possible end of the adjacent fortlet, currently dated to the 2nd century.

7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

9	Context records AS40
6	Fieldwork progress records AS2
10	Context finds record AS8
2	Photographic records AS3
1	Black and white photographic film
8	Scale drawings
1	Box of finds
1	Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum

Hartlebury Castle

Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Severn Trent Water Ltd, Peter McClatchey of Pick Everard, Droicon, and Mike Glyde of Worcestershire County Council.

9. **Personnel**

The report preparation was led by Neil Lockett. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Woodiwiss, Robin Jackson and Elizabeth Pearson, finds analysis by Laura Jones, Environmental analysis by Elizabeth Pearson, and illustration by Laura Templeton.

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11. Abbreviations

CUCAP	Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography
JRS	Journal of Roman Studies, The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, London.
WSM	Numbers prefixed with 'WSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.
WCRO	Worcestershire County Records Office.

SMR

Sites and Monuments Record.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Site area: Grimley Sewage Treatment works, outfall pipe

Maximum dimensions: Length: 66.50m Width: 2m Depth: 0.40m - 0.91m

Orientation: north, north-east to south, south-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Max depth/Depth below ground surface (b.g.s)
100	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown sandy clay-loam	0.29m
100	Subsoil	Grey/brown loamy-sand	0.16m
101	Cleaning layer over (102)	Medium brown sandy-silt. Inclusions: moderate pebbles, charcoal flecks	0.50m - 0.55m
102	Fill of shallow medieval ditch (106)	Medium brown sandy-silt. Inclusions: moderate pebbles, charcoal flecks	0.57m
103	Cleaning layer over (104)	Grey/brown silty sand/ silty clay. Inclusions: rare large pebbles/cobbles, rare charcoal flecks	0.50m - 0.55m
104	Fill of late Roman gully with post-hole (105)	Grey/brown silty sand/silty clay. Inclusions: rare large pebbles/cobbles, rare charcoal flecks	0.65m
105	Cut of gully with post-hole	U-shaped curvilinear cut with flattened north-western side	0.65m
106	Cut of shallow medieval ditch	V-shaped linear cut with sharp sloping profile on the north-western side and a gradual slope on the south-east.	0.57m
107	Fill of Roman ditch (108)	Medium brown silty sand. Inclusions: frequent pebbles in upper part of deposit	1.07m
108	Cut of Roman ditch	Flat-bottomed linear cut. Northern side steeply sloping, southern side has a gradual slope from the surface, breaking to a steep slope towards the base.	1.07m
109	Upper fill of Roman ditch / gully (111)	Grey/brown silty sand with abundant inclusions of sandstone rubble and frequent small pebbles	0.57m
110	Lower fill of Roman gully / ditch (111)	Fine grey/brown sandy silt with rare inclusions of small pebbles	0.79
111	Cut of Roman gully /	U-shaped profile with gradually sloping southern side, rounded base	0.79m

	ditch	and moderate to steep sloping northern side.	
112	Fill of Roman ditch (113)	Grey/brown sandy-silt with frequent inclusions of sub-angular and sub-rounded stone and rare inclusions of pottery	0.93m
113	Cut of Roman ditch	V-shaped linear cut with steep sloping sides and rounded base	0.93m
114	Cut of linear feature, possibly modern drain.	North-east to south-west aligned linear feature. Not fully exposed in trench and not bottomed. Steeply sloping sides where exposed.	
115	Fill of linear feature (114)	Friable, light brown sandy clay-loam with abundant small gravel and frequent small-medium sub-rounded stones. Frequent inclusions of coal fragments and occasional patches of gravel.	
116	Cut of linear feature, possibly modern drain.	North-east to south-west aligned linear feature. Not fully exposed in trench and not bottomed. Moderate / gradually sloping sides where excavated	
117		Friable, light brown sandy clay-loam with abundant small gravel and frequent small-medium sub-rounded stones. Frequent inclusions of coal fragments and occasional patches of gravel	
118	Natural	Yellow/brown gravel with occasional sandy patches. Occasional patches of Orange sandy clay	0.40m - 0.45m

Appendix 2 Summary of the finds

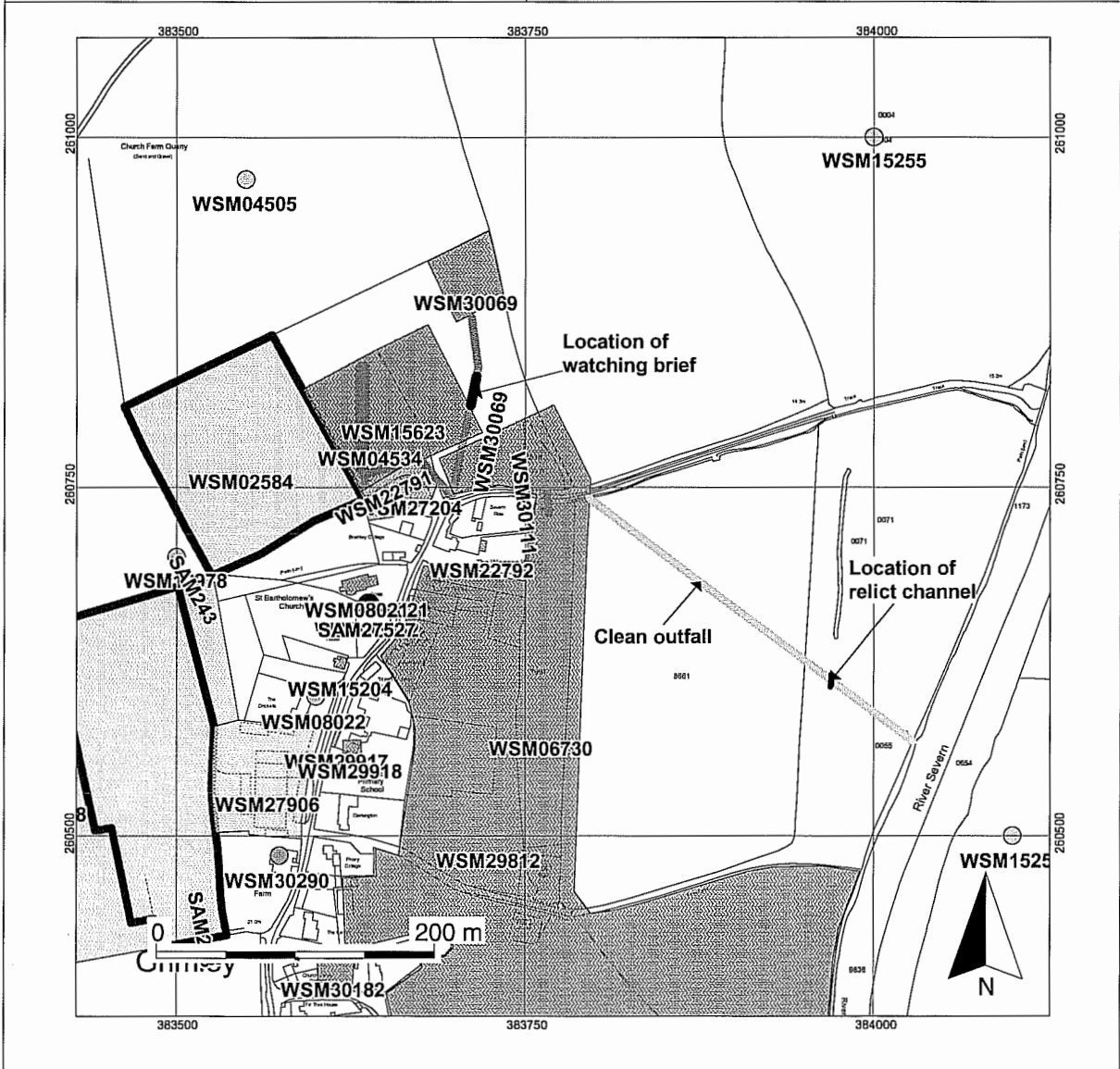
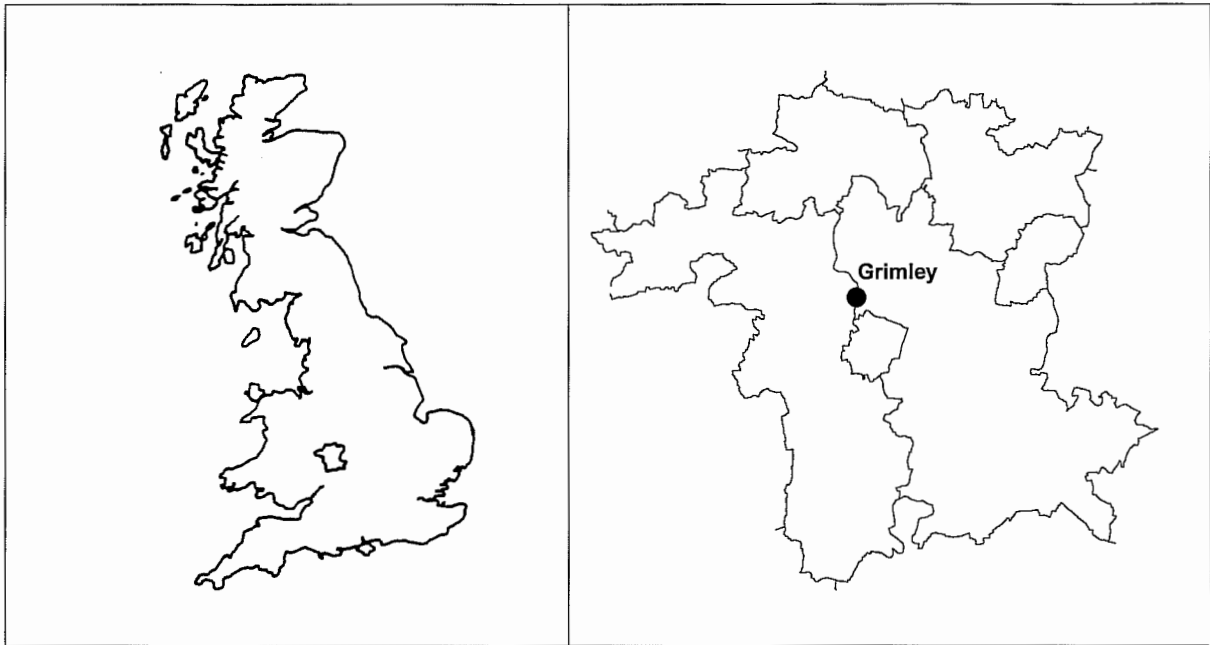
Material	Total	Weight (g)
Roman pottery	100	1028
Medieval pottery	24	190
Post-medieval pottery	7	56
Clay pipe stem	1	1
Tile	21	260
Brick	4	400
Fired clay	2	10
Stone	10	184
Bone	14	3
Coal	1	4
Clinker	1	4

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

Fabric number	Context	Total	Weight
3	102	2	2
12	100	14	134
12	102	1	10
12	103	11	160
12	104	28	350
12	107	1	6
12	110	3	30
12	112	4	20
12R	100	2	6
15	104	1	6
22	103	2	22
22	104	6	160
22	110	24	110
98	104	1	8
56	107	1	8
56	115	1	8
56	117	1	10
63	117	1	1
69	101	14	124
69	102	6	24
99	102	1	16
77	117	1	1
78	100	2	12
78	117	1	6
83	117	1	4
85	115	1	4
91	100	1	30

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric type

- Fabric 3** = Malvernian ware
Fabric 12 = Oxidised Severn Valley ware
Fabric 15 = Coarse grey ware
Fabric 22 = Black Burnished ware I
Fabric 98 = Miscellaneous Roman wares
Fabric 56 = Unglazed Malvernian ware
Fabric 69 = Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware
Fabric 99 = Miscellaneous medieval wares
Fabric 77 = Midlands Yellow ware
Fabric 78 = Post-medieval red wares
Fabric 85 = Modern stone china
Fabric 91 = Post-medieval buff wares



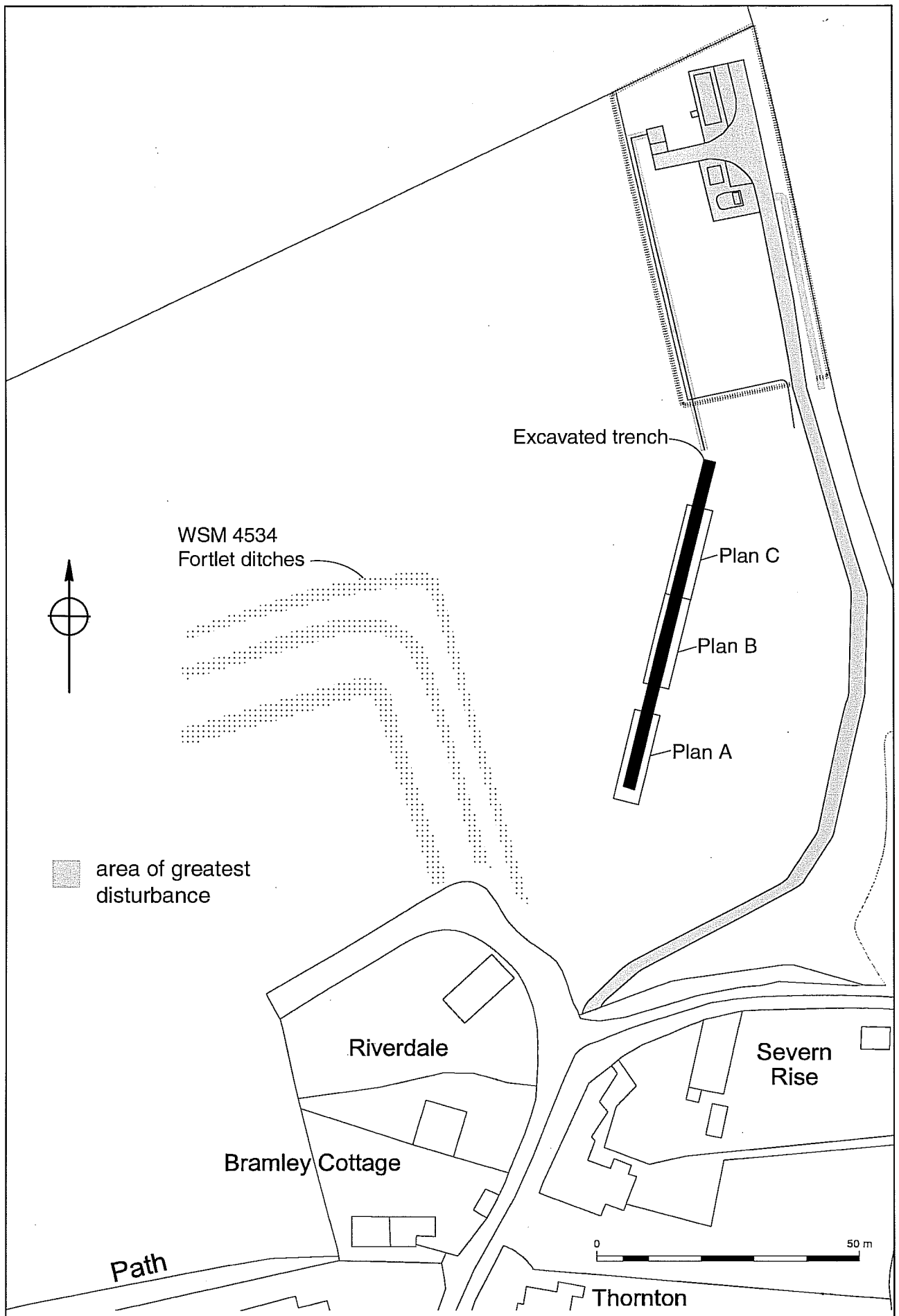
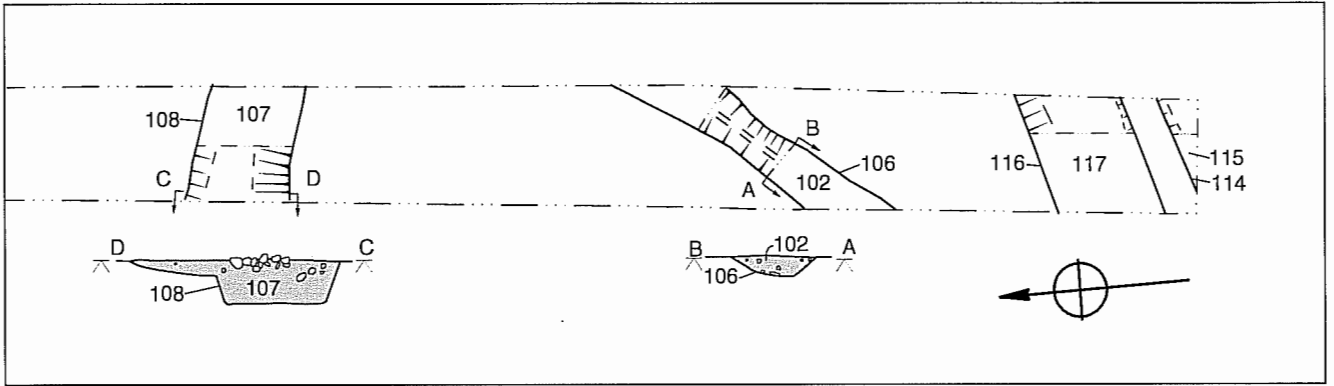
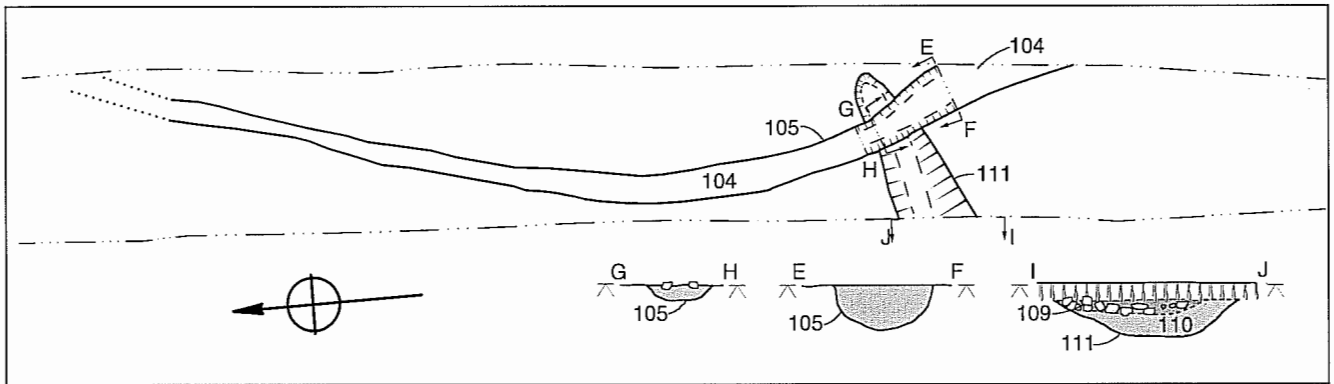


Figure 2: Location of the excavation trench in relation to WSM 4534

Plan A



Plan B



Plan C

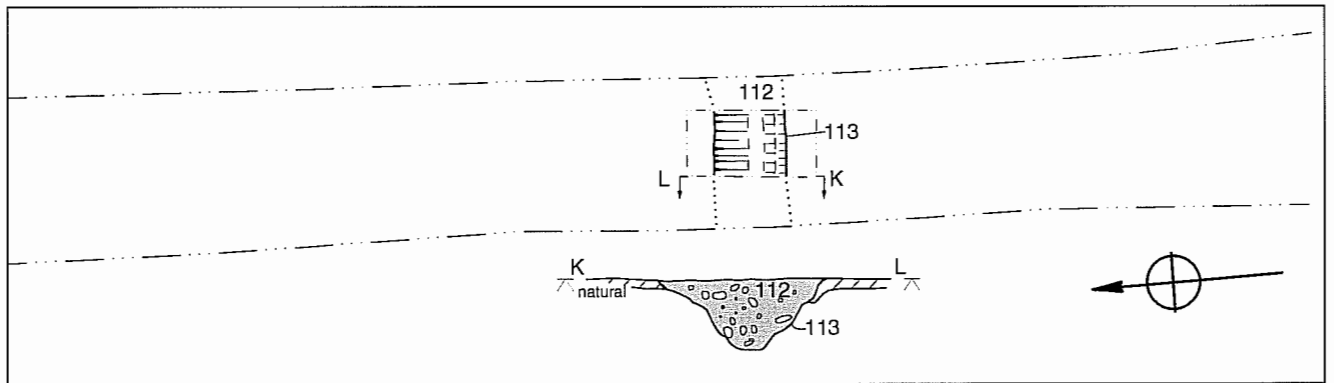


Figure 3: Plans and sections of the excavated features