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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
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HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
EIA AND HERITAGE CONSULTANCY



TAYLOR WIMPEY WEST MIDLANDS

**LAND OFF WATERLOO ROAD,
BIDFORD-ON-AVON,
WARWICKSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

May 2016



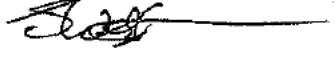


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Land off Waterloo Road, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) were commissioned by Taylor Wimpey West Midlands, to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of land off Waterloo Road, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire (NGR: SP 0977 5234). The evaluation was required as a condition of planning consent. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced in response to advice given by Anna Stocks, Planning Archaeologist at Warwickshire County Council.

The site had been previously subjected to landscaping and so the four trenches were excavated across the development area in order to test the preservation of archaeological remains below the current ground level. The trenches were excavated through modern imported material and found the former topsoil and subsoil still intact, this was continued through to the natural clay substrate. Trench 3 contained the only archaeological feature encountered: a pit containing numerous animal bones and a fragment of later post-medieval Ceramic Building Material (CBM).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) thanks Jane Humby, Design and Planning Executive, Taylor Wimpey West Midlands for commissioning the project, and for her assistance throughout the work. WAA also thanks Anna Stocks at Warwickshire County Council and Tony Horton at Stratford-on-Avon District Council for all their hard work.

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology also thanks Steve Harris of M.V. Kelly Ltd for his help during this project.

The evaluation was supervised by Ben Moore who also wrote this report. Steve Cresswell assisted during the evaluation fieldwork phase. Finds assessment was by Megan Stoakley and palaeoenvironmental assessment by Don O'Meara. The project was managed by Jonathan Webster and the report edited by Dr Emma Tetlow.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Circumstances and Planning Background

1.1.1 In March 2016, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) undertook an archaeological evaluation of land off Waterloo Road, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire (NGR: SP 0977 5234) It was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey West Midlands who are currently undertaking a residential development of the site for which a planning consent has been granted by Warwickshire County Council (planning reference: 13/03115/FUL).

1.1.2 The grant of planning permission by Warwickshire County Council, dated 29 January 2015 stated that:

“No development hereby permitted shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with the written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To ensure that a proper archaeological evaluation can take place in accordance with the provision of policy EF.11 of Stratford-on-Avon District Local Plan Review 1996-2011.”

1.1.3 This planning condition was in line with advice provided to Stratford-on-Avon District Council by Anna Stocks, Historic Environment Planning Officer, Warwickshire County Council.

1.2 Project Documentation

1.2.1 The project conforms to a brief prepared in consultation with Anna Stocks, Historic Environment Planning Officer, Warwickshire County Council on behalf of Stratford-on-Avon District Council. (Email: dated 26th February 2016). A WSI (WAA 2016) was then produced to provide a specific methodology based on the brief for a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation. This was approved by the archaeological planning advisor prior to the fieldwork taking place. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).

1.2.2 This report outlines the work undertaken on site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological evaluation.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards and guidance

2.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (2014a), and in accordance with the WAA fieldwork manual (2012).

2.1.2 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and the *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

2.2 Documentary Research

2.2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was prepared by CSa Environmental Planning (2013), which set out the archaeological and historical background of the site, and provided an assessment of the significance of all known and potential heritage assets up to 500m from the area of investigation.

2.3 The Field Evaluation

2.3.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of four trenches across Area 1 of the development site measuring 10,685m². The trenches were located in the few areas still accessible due to the development already being at an advanced stage. The trenching represented a 2% sample of the overall site. The general aims of these investigations were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
- to assess the impact of the application on the archaeological site;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

And specifically to:

- to understand and record the impact that the current development has so far had on any archaeological remains and whether there was any possibility of undisturbed archaeologically significant deposits below ground.

- 2.3.2 Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Where possible, the trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand. All possible features were inspected and selected deposits were excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples. Once completed all features were recorded according to the WAA standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (WAA 2012).
- 2.3.3 All finds encountered were retained on site and returned to the Carlisle office where they were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* was then produced for each stratified context under the supervision of the WAA Finds Officer, and the dates were used to help determine the broad date phases for the site. On completion of this project, the finds were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines (Ibid). Please note, the following categories of material will be discarded after a period of six months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository:
- unstratified material;
 - modern pottery;
 - material that has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.
- 2.3.4 On completion the evaluation trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.
- 2.3.5 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project specification, and the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with Warwickshire Museum, with three hard copies of the report sent to the Warwickshire County Council HER, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier **FFW-A, CP11591, WAA2016**.
- 2.3.6 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology supports the Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by WAA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: **wardella2-245898**.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Location and Geological Context

3.1.1 The site was located within Area 1 of the current development and was situated to the west of Waterloo Road at the northern end of Bidford-on-Avon. A Church of England Primary School bounds the south-west corner of Area 1 and residential properties limit its southern extent. Phase 1 of the current development has been completed already and new residential properties have been constructed in Area 2, between the two development areas and in the arable fields that extend to the north (Figure 2). In addition, foundations and services have already been excavated in Area 1, limiting the location and extent of the evaluation trenches.

3.1.2 Prior to the archaeological investigations material was imported to create a level piling mat, burying the previous ground level that in the north of the site lay along a ridge that sat at approximately c.35m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) and dropped gradually away to the south.

3.1.3 The area of investigation measured approximately 10,685m² and was roughly rectangular in shape and orientated broadly north-south. At the time of the evaluation the development was ongoing with extensive construction and groundworks being undertaken. The area available for investigation was further reduced by stores of building materials covering much of the free areas.

3.1.4 The underlying solid geology is mapped as mudstone associated with the Mercia Mudstone Group that was deposited between approximately 200 and 251 million years ago during the Triassic period in an environment dominated by hot deserts. This is mapped as being overlain in Area 1 by a combination of sand and gravels associated with the Wasperton Sand and Gravel Member formed up to 3 million years ago during the Quaternary Period in an environment dominated by rivers. The western extremity of Area 2 has no superficial deposits mapped as overlying the Mercia Mudstone, whilst the remainder and majority of the site is shown to have sands and gravels associated with the Ailstone (Warwickshire Avon) Member overlying the mudstone (BGS 2016).

3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

3.2.1 A desk based assessment of the general area was undertaken by CSa Environmental Planning (2012) and while it is not intended to repeat the contents of that document

here, what follows is a brief summary of the results. For further information please refer to the original document.

- 3.2.2 Significant Romano-British, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval archaeology has been identified within the historic core of Bidford-on-Avon to the south but with the exception of a later post-medieval boundary ditch revealed during an evaluation (WA 2014) no significant archaeological remains are known within the immediate environs of the site.
- 3.2.3 Historic mapping shows that the area of investigation had been used for agriculture since at least the mid-19th century. The 1887 1st edition OS shows that while no buildings were present to the west of Waterloo Road the current field layout had already been established, and with the exception of a line of trees running along the eastern boundary of the current Area 1 little has changed in the boundaries. Area 2 and the field running up to the eastern side of Area 1 became an established orchard at some point between 1887 and 1903 and this remained unchanged until the early 1950s when the orchard appears to have become nucleated. By 1966 Area 2 had been cleared, but trees and overgrowth are referenced covering Area 1 and this remains the same until the 1990s, after which the site became occupied to travellers who stayed on the site until the start of the current development.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken between the 8th and the 11th of March 2016 with four trenches excavated across the development site (Figure 2). The trenches were placed to give as broad a coverage of the area as was possible considering the ongoing and previous building works undertaken on the site.

4.2 Results

4.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was located towards the north of the study area and was placed in a gap between concrete piles associated with the current development. It was 25m long, 2.50m wide and was oriented north-east to south-west (Figure 2).

4.2.2 The trench was excavated by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator through c.1.40m of dark greenish grey clay and gravels with occasional modern brick and concrete fragments (**100**) that had been imported to the site to form a piling mat. This sat directly on 0.30m of dark grey silty clay buried topsoil (**101**), below which 0.50m of mid orange brown sandy clay subsoil (**102**) was removed to reveal natural dark red clay substrate at a maximum depth of 2.20m below the current ground level at c.34.84m AOD (Plate 1).

4.2.3 No archaeologically significant deposits or features were encountered and the original ground surface and deposits were seen to remain intact below the imported piling mat material (Plate 2).

4.2.4 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was situated along the western side of the development area in a gap to the west of foundation trenches and piles associated with current building works. The trench was 40m in length, 2m wide and was oriented north-west to south-east (Plate 3).

4.2.5 As with Trench 1, it was excavated through modern made ground comprising bluish green clay, gravel and brick fragments (**200**) up to 1m thick that had been dumped directly on dark greyish brown topsoil (**201**). The topsoil was c.0.20m deep and contained numerous roots. Below this, up to 0.52m of mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**202**) was removed to expose the natural orange brown clay substrate (**203**) at a depth of between 1.65 and 1.82m below current ground level at c.34.72m AOD.

- 4.2.6 No archaeological features were encountered and the original top and subsoil layers were seen to be undisturbed below the imported material, at least within the confines of the trench (Plate 4).
- 4.2.7 **Trench 3:** Trench 3 was located towards the centre of the current development in an area where an attenuation pond is due to be dug. The trench ran for 19m from south-east to north-west before turning north-east and continuing for another 9m. The trench orientation was dictated by the current groundworks and associated construction materials stored on site in this area.
- 4.2.8 The trench was excavated through between 1.10 and 1.80m of reddish brown clay (**300**) associated with the current development and imported to the site within the last few months; 0.20m of dark grey topsoil (**301**) buried beneath it and up to 0.70m of mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**302**). Natural red clay and gravel substrate (**303**) was reached at a maximum depth of 1.80m below the current ground level at between 35.19 and 35.62m AOD (Plate 5).
- 4.2.9 Below the subsoil, where the trench turned north-east, a 1.22m in diameter oval pit [**304**] was recorded cutting the natural substrate (Plate 6; Figure 3). The pit was half sectioned and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.10m where it became waterlogged. The pit had vertical to undercutting sides and contained three fills (**305**, **306** and **307**) all of which contained animal bone, the uppermost fill (**305**) also contained a substantial fragment of Ceramic Building Material (CBM). The pit could be seen to cut a shallower cut feature to the south [**308**] filled by light greyish brown silt (**309**) (Plate 7). Although this feature was likely to also be oval or circular in shape, not enough of it survived to make interpretation possible. It could be the case that pit [**304**] is a recut of an earlier feature [**308**] performing the same function.
- 4.2.10 As in the other trenches, the original top and subsoil were seen to be undisturbed within the confines of the excavated area.
- 4.2.11 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was located to the south-east of the present development area, having been relocated from further south due to the presence of newly laid tarmac and the construction of houses in its original position. The trench was 9m in length and 2m wide. As with the other trenches dug during the evaluation, it was excavated through made ground, in this case up to 1.10m of dark greyish black silty clay including domestic refuse and demolition material. This deposit had been dumped on top of 0.20m of dark brown silty clay topsoil with the original ground surface being seen to slope quite steeply down to the north-east of the trench below the made ground /

levelling material. Up to 0.55m of mid orange brown sandy clay subsoil **(402)** was then removed to reveal the dark purplish red clay natural substrate **(403)** at a maximum depth of 1.85m below current ground level at c.35.56m AOD (Plate 8).

5. FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of two artefacts, weighing 917g, were recovered from two deposits during an archaeological evaluation on land off Waterloo Road (Friday Furlong), Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.

5.1.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011), EAC (2014) and Warwickshire Museum.

5.1.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and further work has been recommended on the potential for the material archive to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.

5.1.4 For ceramics, references are made to the Warwickshire medieval and post-medieval fabric type series (Soden & Ratkai 1998).

5.1.5 The finds assessment was compiled by Megan Stoakley.

5.1.6 Quantification of finds by context is visible in Table 1.

Tr No.	Context	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Comments
2	201	CBM	1	49	Mod	Modern partial kitchen / bathroom tile
3	305	CBM	1	868	Mod	Partial brick fragment
	TOTAL		2	917		

Table 1: Quantification of Bulk Finds by Context

5.2 Modern Ceramic Building Material

- 5.2.1 Two fragments of modern ceramic building material, weighing 917g, were recovered from two deposits (Table 1). The fragments are in good condition with little evidence of post-depositional damage.
- 5.2.2 The artefact from deposit **(201)** comprises a fragment of curved, white, hard-fired modern kitchen or bathroom tile and measures 74mm (L) x 59mm (W) x 6mm (D).
- 5.2.3 The artefact from deposit **(305)** comprises a partial brick fragment of modern date. Weighing 868g, it measures 127mm (L) x 83mm (W) x 82mm (D). The brick has been over-fired and is light red in colour with a shell-tempered fabric.
- 5.2.4 No further analysis is warranted.

5.3 Statement of Potential

- 5.3.1 The modern finds, while providing dating evidence for the two deposits, are of low potential and do not contribute to the archaeological significance of the site.
- 5.3.2 It is recommended that the finds are not retained with the archive.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSES

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During the course of the archaeological investigation, three samples were taken for extracting material of environmental significance. This included archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological material from within the sediment, as well as hand collected animal bones. This was undertaken as per Historic England recommendations (English Heritage 2011; Historic England 2015). In total this represents c.60 litres of archaeological sediment. These were the primary, secondary and tertiary fills of pit [304].

6.1.2 It has been suggested that waterlogging might be present in sample <3> (307), though when examined this feature did not show evidence of permanent/consistent waterlogging.

6.2 Archaeobotanical Assessment

6.2.1 The samples were soaked in water to disaggregate the sediment and then processed in a Sīrāf style flotation tank and collected in a 0.3mm geological sieve.

6.2.2 The heavy residue was air-dried and sorted by eye for any material that may aid our understanding of the deposit. Small bone fragments were recovered from all three samples, though not any material which altered in a major way the conclusions from the hand collected assemblage. The residue samples were also scanned with a hand magnet to retrieve forms of magnetic material. This was done to retrieve residues of metallurgical activity, in particular hammer scale, spheroid hammer scale, fuel-ash slag and vitrified material which might be indicative of other high temperature non-metallurgical processes. Processing procedures and nomenclature follows the conventions set out by the Historic England (2015); this demonstrated only naturally occurring magnetic minerals were found from these samples.

6.2.3 The organic plant material was examined at x40-60 magnification for charred and uncharred botanical remains. Identification of these reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Wardell Armstrong Archaeology and by reference to relevant literature (Cappers et al. 2010; Jacomet 2006). Plant taxonomic

nomenclature follows Stace (2010), except in the case of the cereal remains where Zohary et al. was used (Zohary et al. 2013, Table 3).

6.2.4 Table 2 contains the details of the assessment on a sample by sample basis. The flot matrix is presented on a scale from 1-3; 1-present in small volumes, 2-present but not dominant, 3-dominates the flot. Plant remains are presented as total counts of remains, with an asterisk '*' after the wild remains counts to denote that the remains were charred.

6.2.5 For the purposes of clarity the references to 'seeds' identified here refer to the seed or fruit structures unless otherwise stated; that is to say the propagule or disseminule structures. Cereal grain was recovered in a charred condition and where mentioned refers to the charred caryopsis.

Sample	1	2	3
Context	305	306	307
Cut	304	304	304
Feature	Pit	Pit	Pit
Volume processed (litres)	20	20	20
<i>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</i>			
Charcoal	3	3	2
Herbaceous modern roots			2
<i>Charred plant remains (total counts)</i>			
<i>Avena</i> sp grain (Oats)	3	8	3
<i>Hordeum</i> species grains (Barley species)		23	14
<i>Hordeum</i> species rachis (Barley species)		1	
<i>Triticum compactum</i> type (Compact bread wheat)	21		4
Indeterminate charred grain	43	44	32
<i>Other plant remains (relative abundance)</i>			
<i>Carex</i> (Sedge; trigonous type)		2*	
<i>Chenopodiaceae</i> species (<i>goosefoots</i>)		4	
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i> (ramping fumitory)		4	
<i>Gallium</i> species (<i>Bedstraw</i>)		1*	7*
<i>Persicaria</i> species (<i>Smartweeds</i>)			1*
<i>Rubus cf. fruticosus</i> (Bramble berry family)	2		2
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> (<i>Elder</i>)		1	

Table 2: Assessment of the archaeobotanical samples

6.3 Discussion of the Archaeobotanical Remains

6.3.1 All samples produced charred remains of cereal with just under 200 grains being recovered. The heavy charring means many of these (just over half) were dominated by indeterminate types. After indeterminate types hulled barley grains (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains were the next most common, with 37 individuals, as well as a fragment of barley rachis (which could not be identified further than as a barley type). A smaller number (25) of wheat grains (*Triticum aestivum* type), and oat grains (14; *Avena* species which could not be determined due to the absence of floret bases) were also

recovered. There was a general tendency for more barley grains to be recovered towards the primary fill of the pit, which may represent changing patterns of disposal.

6.3.2 In terms of the wild remains charred seeds of bedstraw (*Galium* species), sedges (*Carex* species) and smartweeds (*Persicaria* species) were also recovered, as well as some possibly intrusive species such as goosefoots and brambleberry seeds.

6.3.3 A small amount of animal bone fragments were recovered from all of the samples, though the fragmentary nature of this material did not allow further identification beyond saying the material came from medium-large mammals. Should independent dating be required from the deposits there is sufficient material from the charred cereal grains to acquire radiocarbon dates if these are needed.

6.4 Discussion of the Zooarchaeological Material

6.4.1 Hand collected animal bone was recovered from contexts **(305)**, **(306)**, and **(307)**. The relatively small assemblage will be presented here as an assessment rather than a full analysis.

6.4.2 Context **(305)** produced 0.4kgs of bone, with bone coming from cattle and pigs. The cattle bone included fragments of horncore and metapodials (a metacarpal and a metatarsal), a cervical vertebra fragment, rib fragments and a fragment of proximal femur that showed possible evidence of being gnawed by a canid. The pig bones consisted of a scapula fragment, a mandible fragment, and a distal tibia fragment. There was some differences between the surface weathering on the bones from this context. The variations in preservation might indicate some relatively material is amongst the assemblage from this upper deposit.

6.4.3 Context **(306)** produced 0.1kgs of bone. This material was more fragmentary than from **(305)** and included an unfused pig calcaneous, an unfused pig metapodial, fragments of large mammal (cattle/horse) skull, and a fragment of large mammal long bone. The fragmentary material was denser than the material from **(307)**, and a paler colour than the material from **(305)**.

6.4.4 Context **(307)** produced 0.2kgs of bone. This included a fragment of distal cattle femur, a fragment of cattle radius, a thoracic vertebra neural spine, a pig axis vertebra, a distal sheep tibia, as well as some fragmentary material.

6.4.5 Overall the zooarchaeological assemblage points to this being a domestic assemblage, but one where animals may have been butchered onsite. The presence of cattle horncores and cattle metapodials are the elements which suggest this. The presence

of dog gnawing on some of the bones also suggests that this may contain an assemblage open to a range of taphonomic factors (rather than being buried immediately after butchery or consumption. Moderate root etching on some of the bone, differences in colour, and physical integrity all suggest a mixed assemblage consisting of bones exposed to different conditions, and possibly to different burial time scales.

6.4.6 The bone is fragmentary, with only four bones suitable for morphometric measurements due to abrasion, and fragmentation on the other remains.

6.5 Conclusions and Recommendations

6.5.1 The deposits and the bone collected as part of this project present an assemblage of mixed domestic wastes which might be indicative of the waste from a rural settlement.

6.5.2 No further work is recommended on this material at this time.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Interpretation

7.1.1 Archaeological remains were found in one of the trenches excavated. The pit recorded in Trench 3 is thought to relate to domestic activity in close proximity to its location although given its probable late post-medieval date there is question on how valid further investigations would be.

7.1.2 Although the site has been majorly disturbed by the current development, the importing of large quantities of material to raise the ground level has acted as a buffer to any archaeological remains present. The depths of most of the intrusive works stay above the former topsoil level and only in those areas where piling has been undertaken and an attenuation pond is planned is the archaeological record at risk.

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BGS 2016, *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>, British Geological Survey, accessed March 2016

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

Length: 27m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest
Minimum Depth: 2.10m Maximum Depth: 2.20m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(100)	Deposit	Firm, dark, greenish-grey clay with frequent small sub-angular gravel and moderate brick fragments and other detritus throughout	1.10m	Made ground deposit overlying the topsoil deposit (101). Deposited within the last few months
(101)	Topsoil	Soft, dark greyish black silty clay with occasional rooting and stones.	0.30m	Buried topsoil layer.
(102)	Subsoil	Friable mid-orangey brown sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions.	0.50m	Subsoil deposit as recorded in Trench 1.
(103)	Natural Substrate	Firm, dark purplish red clay with occasional stone inclusions	-	Natural substrate as recorded in Trench 1.

Trench 2

Length: 40m Width: 2.00m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast
Minimum Depth: 1.65m Maximum Depth: 1.82m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(200)	Deposit	Compacted, blueish green clay with inclusions of brick, concrete, gravel and plastic throughout.	0.90m-1.00m	Made ground deposit built up for piling within the last few months.
(201)	Topsoil	Soft mid-brown silty loam. Deposit is heavily bioturbated with inclusions of stone and rooting.	0.20m	Modern topsoil deposit buried below made ground within the last few months.
(202)	Subsoil	Compacted mid-reddish brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebble inclusions.	0.52m	Subsoil as recorded in Trench 2.
(203)	Natural Substrate	Compacted mid-orangey brown silty clay with occasional manganese flecking.	-	Natural substrate as recorded in Trench 2.

Trench 3

Length: 32m Width: 2.00m Orientation: SE => NW => NE

Minimum Depth: 1.10m Maximum Depth: 1.80m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(300)	Deposit	Compacted reddish brown clay with frequent inclusions of concrete, tarmac, bricks and plastic throughout.	0.50m – 0.90m	Made ground deposit overlying topsoil (301). Deposited within the last few months.
(301)	Topsoil	Soft, dark greyish brown loamy clay with frequent rooting and occasional stones.	0.20m	Buried topsoil layer.
(302)	Subsoil	Compacted mid-reddish brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebble inclusions	0.70m	Subsoil deposit as recorded in Trench 3.
(303)	Natural Substrate	Compacted reddish brown clay and gravels.	-	Natural substrate as recorded in Trench 3.
[304]	Cut	A circular possible well or rubbish pit with a sharp top of slope and sheer, stepped sides, continuing to a vertical shaft.	1.08m (excavated)	Cut of pit. Appears to be a rubbish pit of an unknown date, primarily filled with animal bones and other organic waste, the majority of which has decayed. It is possible, due to this feature's morphology and depth, that it is a well that has been backfilled with waste after its primary function had discontinued. Not bottomed due to depth.
(305)	Deposit	Friable mid-brownish grey clayey silt with occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stone and charcoal flecking.	0.19m	Secondary fill of [304]. Appears to consist of decayed organic matter, such as butchery remains, that was dumped into the cut, as well as washed or slumped sediment.
(306)	Deposit	Friable mid-greyish brown clayey silt with occasional inclusions of small rounded stone and charcoal flecking	0.52m	Tertiary fill of [304]. Appears compositionally similar to (305) but with less organic content, possibly suggesting that this is a dump of primarily soil with some waste, with the purpose of sealing the feature once it was mostly filled.

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(307)	Deposit	Soft mid-reddish brown clayey silt with occasional inclusions of rounded stones and charcoal.	0.65m+	Primary fill of [304]. The reddish hue of this deposit likely arises from the surrounding natural, suggesting this deposit consists largely of slumped or redeposited natural mixed with dumped waste. Likely accumulated natural at first while the feature was in use, before waste was dumped in to inter-mix.
[308]	Cut	A circular pit with a moderate top of slope, gradually curving sides that is largely truncated by [304].	0.16m	Cut of a shallow pit. Appears to have been largely removed by the excavation of [304] but may have initially functioned as a rubbish pit.
(309)	Deposit	Friable light greyish brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecking.	0.16m	Fill of [308]. Likely a mix of washed or dumped sediment and decayed waste. Largely removed by the excavation of [304].

Trench 4

Length: 10m Width: 3.00m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest

Minimum Depth: 2.10m Maximum Depth: 2.20m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
(400)	Deposit	Firm, dark greyish black silty clay with occasional inclusions of CBM, medium sub-rounded stones, rooting and other modern detritus.	1.10m	Made ground deposit overlying the topsoil deposit (401). Deposited within the last few months
(401)	Topsoil	Soft, dark brown silty clay with moderate rooting and occasional stones.	0.20m	Buried topsoil layer.
(402)	Subsoil	Firm mid-orangey brown sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions.	0.55m	Subsoil deposit as recorded in Trench 4.
(403)	Natural Substrate	Firm, dark purplish red clay with frequent stone inclusions	-	Natural substrate as recorded in Trench 4.

APPENDIX 2: PLATES



Plate 1: Trench 1, facing north-east



Plate 2: Trench 1, south-east facing section



Plate 3: Trench 2, facing south-east



Plate 4: Trench 2, north-east facing section



Plate 5: Trench 3, facing north-west



Plate 6: Pit [304], facing west

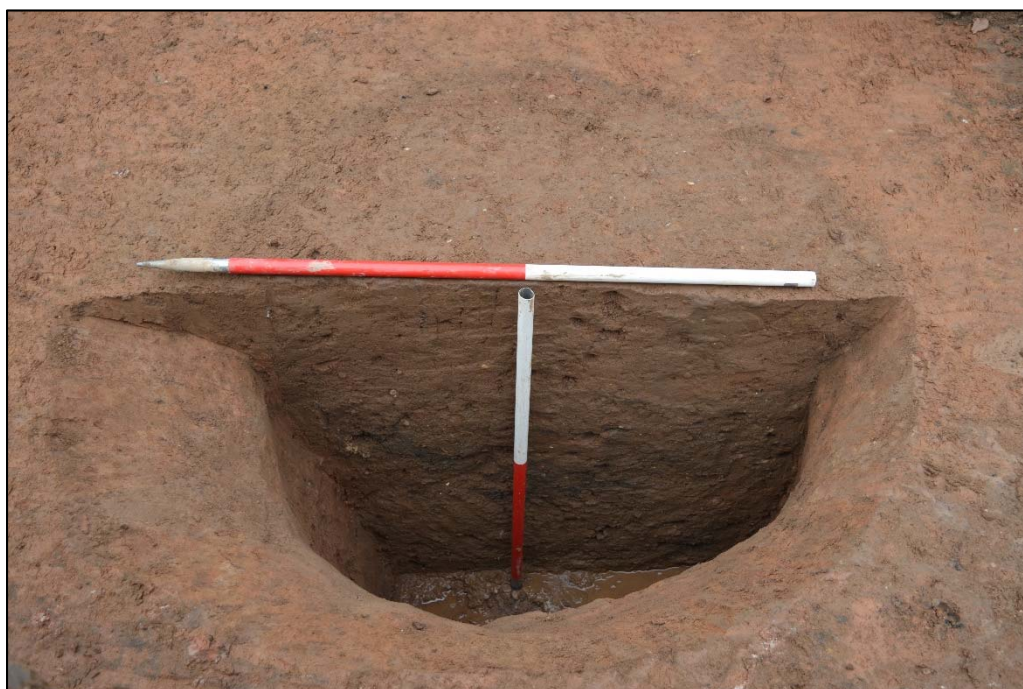


Plate 7: East facing section of pit [304]

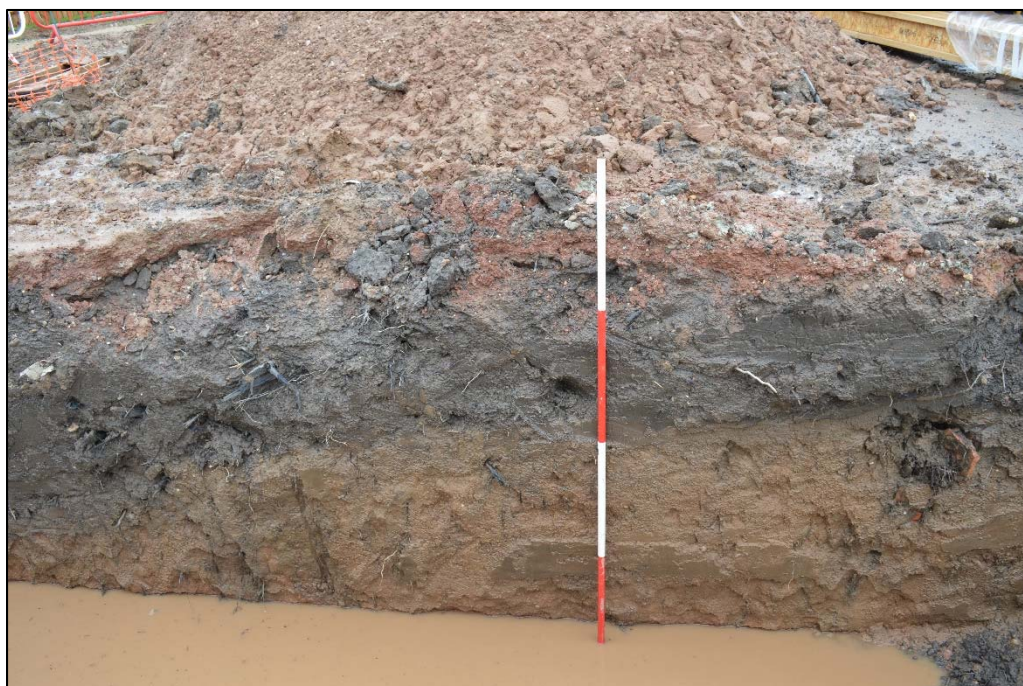
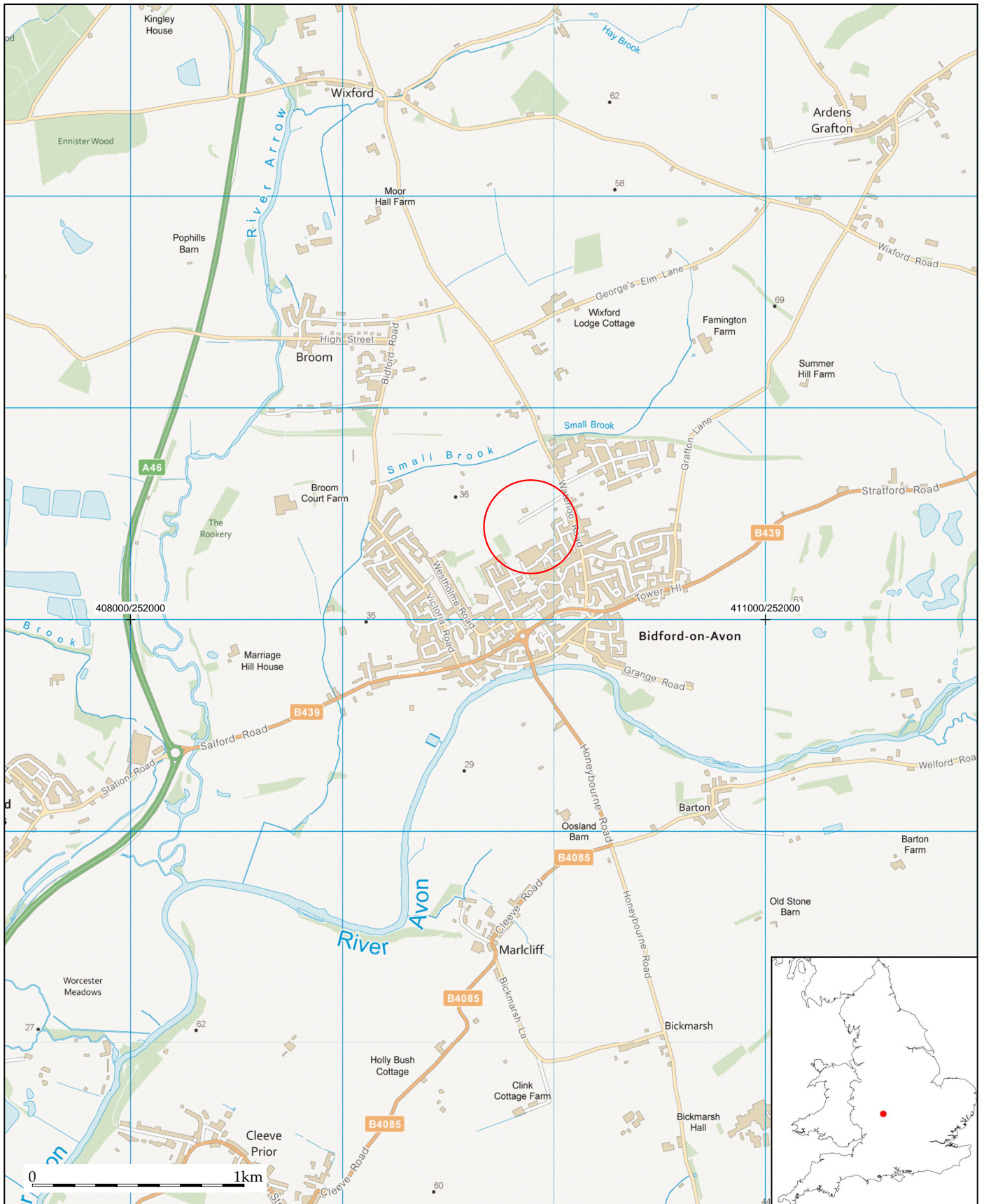




Plate 8: Trench 4, north-west facing section

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES




 Wardell Armstrong
 Archaeology
 2016

PROJECT: Land off Waterloo Road, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire
SCALE: 1:25,000 at A4
REPORT No: CP11591
CLIENT: Taylor Wimpey (West Midlands)
DRAWN BY: AB
CHECKED BY: AB
DATE: May 2016

KEY:
 Site location



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Figure 1: Site location.

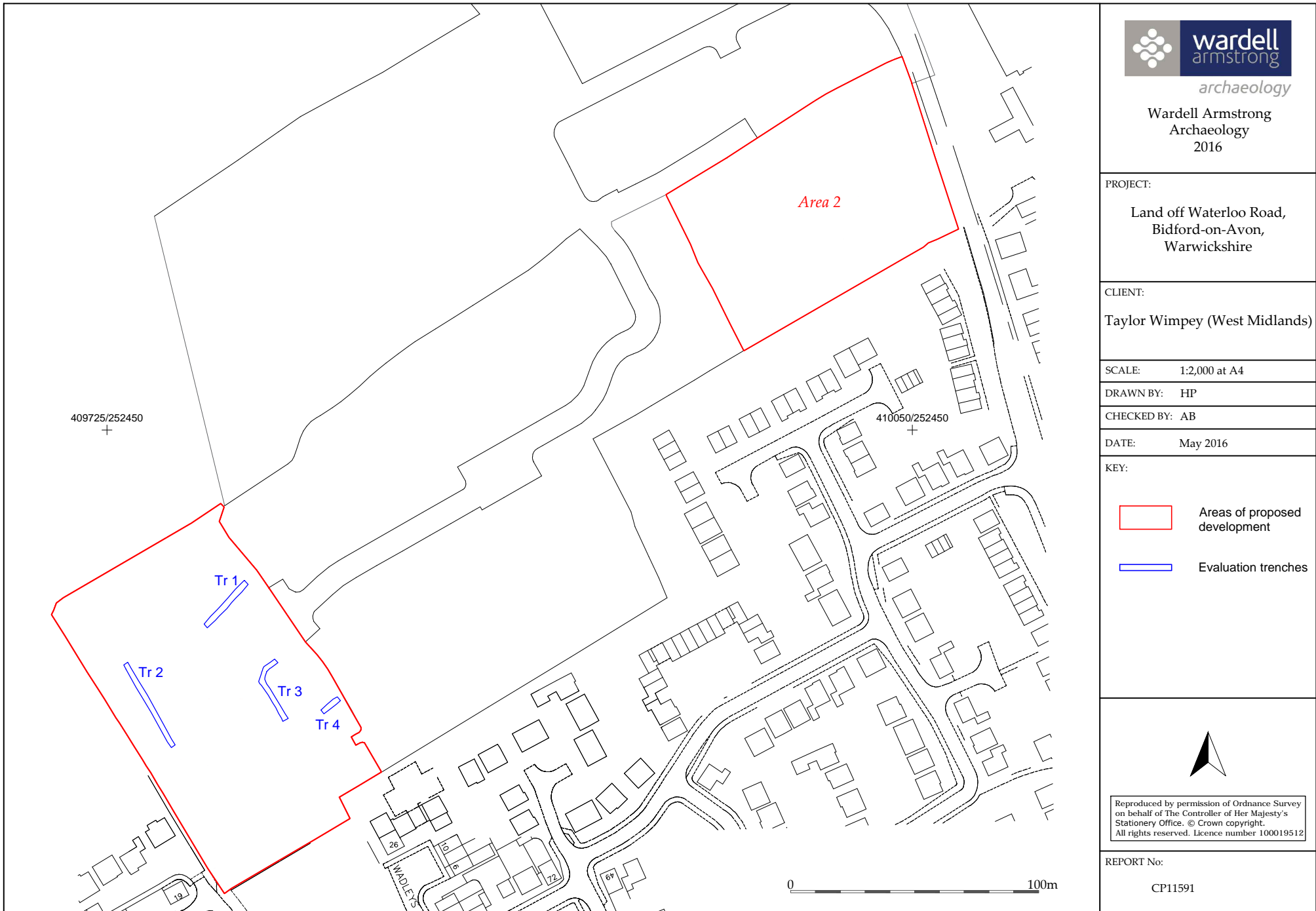


Figure 2: Detailed site location.

PROJECT:
Land off Waterloo Road,
Bidford-on-Avon,
Warwickshire

CLIENT:
Taylor Wimpey (West Midlands)

SCALE: Plan 1:100/Sections 1:25 at A3

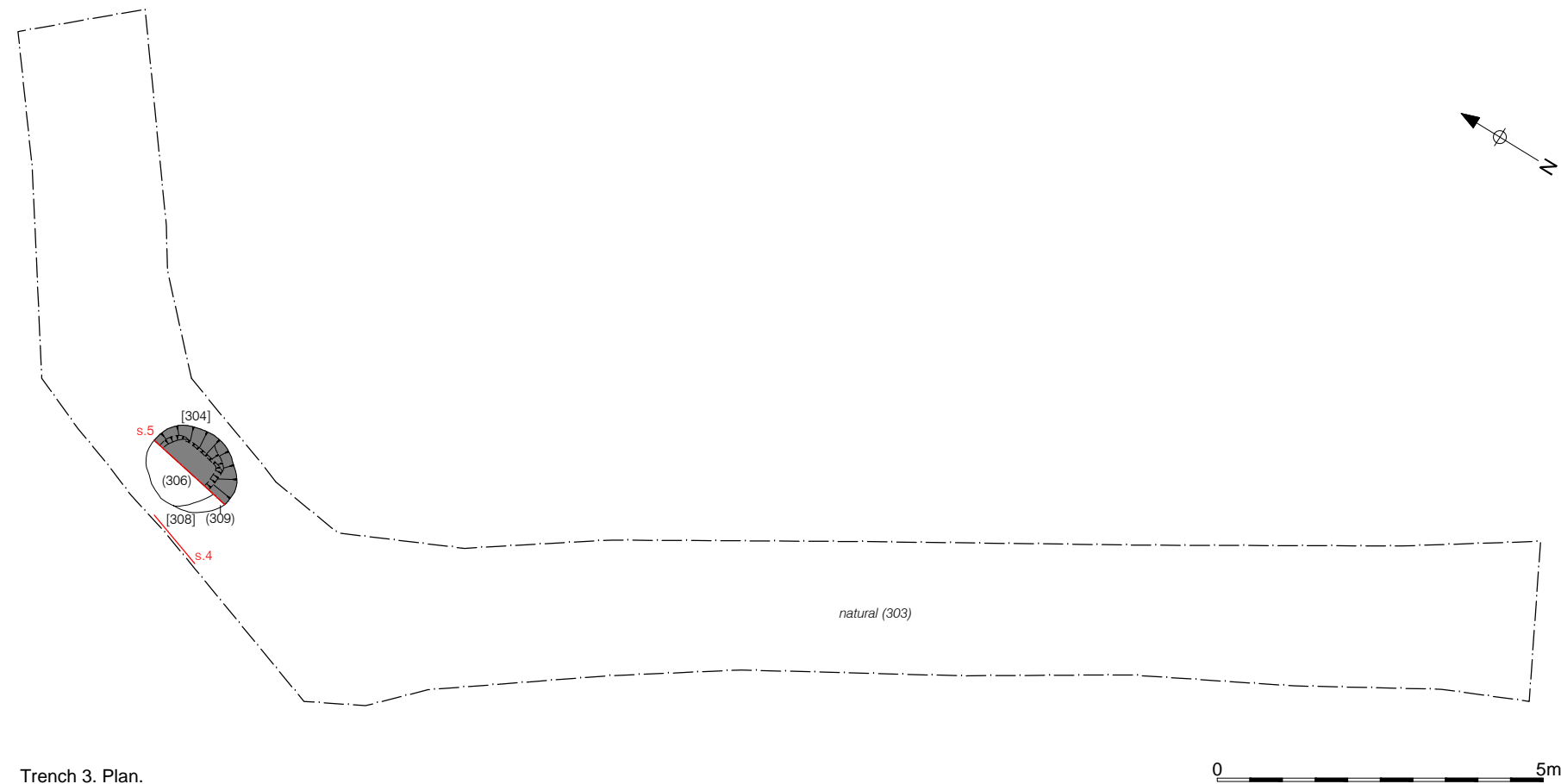
DRAWN BY: HP

CHECKED BY: AB

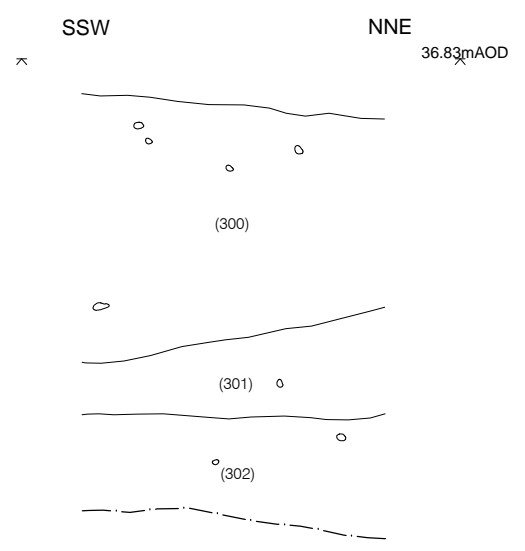
DATE: May 2016

KEY:

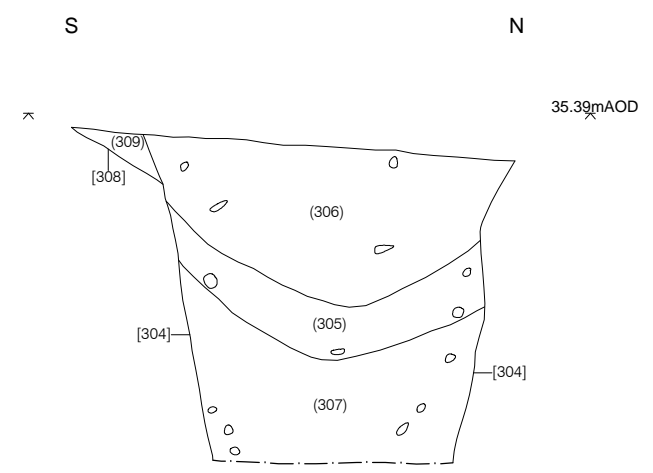
- (101) Context number
- Height mAOD
- Section location
- Limit of excavation
- Excavated portion



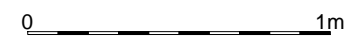
Trench 3. Plan.



Section 4. WNW facing representative section,
Trench 3.



Section 5. East facing section across Pits [304]
and [308].



REPORT No:
CP11591

Figure 3: Trench 3; plan and sections.

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