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**PROPOSED MEDICAL CENTRE, STATION ROAD, BROADWAY**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION REPORT**

**NOVEMBER 2019**

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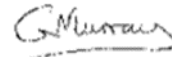
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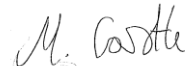
**NOVEMBER 2019**

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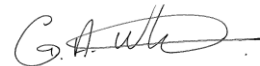
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Wardell Armstrong LLP were commissioned by Eden Stow Properties Limited & Eden Stow (Worcestershire) Limited to undertake an archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation and archaeological Watching Brief at land off Station Road, Broadway, Worcestershire.

The mitigation was required to investigate the potential for archaeological remains ahead of a new development comprising a new medical centre with on-site parking, cycle and refuse storage, and access onto Station Road for which planning permission has been granted by Wychavon District Council.

Previous archaeological works for this Site includes an archaeological Evaluation undertaken by WAAS in 2014, as part of an evaluation for a wider development site. There was considerable archaeological evidence within and adjacent to the Site; including a concentration of Romano-British settlement to the immediate northwest and the Prehistoric pit alignment to the north. There was a high potential for encountering dispersed archaeological remains within the Site from the Prehistoric to Romano-British periods based on the results from the Evaluation.

The Archaeological mitigation recorded medieval furrow systems across the Site, underlying the furrows three (3) pits were recorded of an indeterminate period and purpose due to the sterile nature of their deposits. Evidence for the Romano British settlement to the north-west of the Site was present in the form of residual Romano British pottery sherds redeposited within the plough soil.

No further archaeological features were exposed across the development Site and it is concluded that the development will not have a negative impact on the archaeological resource and that no further archaeological works are required.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) were commissioned by Eden Stow Properties Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Client') to undertake an archaeological Mitigation comprising a Strip, Map and Sample Excavation, and Watching Brief on land off Station Road, Broadway, Worcestershire (hereafter referred to as the "Site") (centred on NGR: SP 09030 37890; Drawing BM11639-001). The archaeological mitigation was required to investigate, record and fully characterise the potential archaeological resource ahead of the construction of a new medical centre with on-site parking, cycle and refuse storage, and access onto Station Road for which full planning permission has been granted by Wychavon District Council (WDC) (Planning Reference: 18/02689/FUL).

1.1.2 The development was demonstrated to affect the potential below ground archaeology identified from a previously conducted archaeological Evaluation (WAAS 2014). As a result, WDC attached Condition No. 12 to the planning permission which states that:

No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work, including a Written Scheme of Investigation, has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- 1) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- 2) The programme for post investigation assessment.
- 3) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- 4) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- 5) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- 6) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

1.1.3 An archaeological Excavation is defined as 'a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets

archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area. The records made and objects gathered during the fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design' (CIFA 2014a).

1.1.4 An archaeological Watching Brief is defined as 'a programme of monitoring and investigation carried out during a non-archaeological activity within a specified area of land or development where construction operations may disturb or destroy archaeological remains' (CIFA 2014b).

1.1.5 The project methodology was prepared in consultation with Aidan Smyth, Archaeology and Planning Advisor, WDC (*Pers. Comm.*: dated from 30-10-2018 to 31-01-2019). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was then produced (WA 2019) to provide a site-specific methodology, and this was approved by Aidan Smyth prior to the fieldwork taking place. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

1.1.6 In addition, the archaeological mitigation conformed to the guidelines and standards laid down in the following documents:

- *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014a);
- *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014b);
- *Code of Approved Conduct for the Regulation of Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014c);
- *Standards and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014d);
- *Management of Archaeological Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, Historic England: London (HE 2015);
- *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire*, Worcestershire County Council: Worcester (2016);
- *Preserving archaeological remains: Decision-taking for sites under development*, Historic England: London (HE 2016);
- *The Archaeology of the West Midlands: A framework for research*, University of Birmingham: Oxford (Watt 2011);

- *Wardell Armstrong Excavation Manual*, Wardell Armstrong: Birmingham (WA 2017).

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Location and Geological Context

2.1.1 The Site is located approximately 0.50km northwest of the centre of Broadway, off the western side of Station Road. The Site is bounded to the northwest, west and southwest by open arable land, to the southeast by dwellings fronting onto Cheltenham Road, and to the northeast by Station Road.

2.1.2 The area of investigation was approximately 4,500m<sup>2</sup> in size and is broadly rectangular shape in plan.

2.1.3 At commencement of the fieldwork the Site comprised agricultural land. The ground is situated at an average height of 75m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) on a shallow northwest facing incline, situated at 77.30m AOD at the south eastern corner declining to 74.20m AOD in the north-western corner of the Site (**Plate 1**).

2.1.4 The underlying geology is mapped as sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 183 to 199 million years ago in the Jurassic Period where the local environment was previously dominated by shallow seas. The bedrock is overlain by superficial deposits of sedimentary gravel, sand, silt and clay deposits formed between 2.588 million years ago during the Quaternary where the local environment was previously dominated by subaerial slopes (BGS 2019).

### 2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 A rapid assessment of the known archaeological and historical background of the Site and its immediate vicinity, was conducted as part of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2019).

2.2.2 The initial assessment identified a plethora of heritage assets, with sixteen (16) previous archaeological investigations recorded within the vicinity of the site, most significantly Worcestershire Archaeology and Archives Service (WAAS) undertook an archaeological Evaluation in 2014, as part of an Evaluation for a wider development Site, which included this Site within its boundary (WAAS 2014).

### 2.3 Prehistoric to Romano-British

2.3.1 The earliest evidence of activity on this Site comes from fieldwalking carried out by Worcestershire Young Archaeologists Club (Mora-Ottamano in Jacobs 2006), where Mesolithic flint finds consisting of thirty-eight flakes (38), two (2) blades, ten (10)



bladelets and eighteen (18) cores were identified. The material was spread over a wide area but increased in concentration over the main density of cropmarks to the immediate northwest of the Site.

- 2.3.2 Several ring and enclosure ditches were identified from aerial photographs in the form of cropmarks to the immediate northwest of the Site (**WSM10076**, **WSM10077**, **WSM06743**, **WSM01860**, and **WSM04138**). The crop marks are predominantly unexcavated; however, they are presumed to be dated between the Bronze Age and Romano-British periods.
- 2.3.3 A pit alignment visible as cropmarks in that area was investigated during the WAAS Evaluation; an Iron Age loom weight and pottery sherd were recovered from the fill of a large enclosure ditch, and further Iron Age and Roman pottery was also found in other deposits across that area. To the east, three ditches containing Iron Age pottery were exposed which were corresponded with one of the curved cropmarks possibly representing a roundhouse.
- 2.3.4 Multiple pits and gullies dating to the Romano-British period and associated with a complex of enclosures and internal features visible as cropmarks were observed in various trenches. The western side of this complex contained two main enclosure ditches and remnants of a gravel bank.
- 2.3.5 An irregular enclosure in the southeast part of the Evaluation contained a series of pits and postholes, and a large linear feature. This probable irregular enclosure contained a grave containing the remains of two individuals, semi-articulated and disturbed, and by a later ditch; The inhumation was recorded but left *in situ*.
- 2.3.6 A layer of stones was recorded in Trench Two of the WAAS Evaluation (NGR: SP 08829 37844) which was interpreted as the possible remains of a building of a potentially 4<sup>th</sup> century date.
- 2.3.7 The cropmarks appear to carry on to the south of the Site but have been truncated by extensive 20th century quarrying.
- 2.3.8 Phases of excavation were undertaken ahead of gravel extraction to the immediate south of the Site in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. One of which was published, demonstrated the presence of pits, ditches, stone paving/ structural foundations, and burnt daub from a possible hut (Smith 1946). A limestone phallus was associated with the stone paving, and other finds included Roman or Late Iron Age pottery, at least three Roman

bronze brooches, and the bones of an infant burial and at least seven inhumations were also recorded at the quarry (as yet unpublished).

## 2.4 Early medieval

2.4.1 Currently there are no known heritage assets dated to the early medieval period recorded on Site or within the search area.

2.4.2 The name Broadway is derived from “Broad road” from the old English brād meaning Broad, spacious, wide, large and weg meaning a road (<http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/map/place/Worcestershire/Broadway>), attesting to Broadway’s potential founding during this period.

2.4.3 The town of Broadway is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086, with a total population of fifty-one households, and a tax assessment of thirty geld units, both very large by the standards of the time, meaning that by 1086 Broadway was a well-established settlement. (<https://opendomesday.org/place/SP0937/broadway/>).

## 2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 The current rectangular plan of the town suggested that it developed from original foundations, as a medieval planned town (**WSM10947**); possibly built up around Abbots Grange, a Grade II\* listed house, built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century with 17<sup>th</sup> century additions (**WSM01292**). Tenements identified on the 1771 map of the Earl of Coventry’s holdings to be following the medieval street system (**WSM17729-33**) attest to this.

2.5.2 Several examples of medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow exist in and around the Site, suggesting a high level of agricultural activity during this period. A paleochannel (**WSM70399**) was uncovered during the WAAS Evaluation, just north of the current Badsey Brook, from which medieval pottery was recovered, indicative of activity within the area. The pottery mainly dates from the late 11<sup>th</sup> to the early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, potentially predating the establishment of Abbots Grange and the planned town of Broadway, suggesting either an earlier medieval settlement was cleared to make way for Abbots Grange, or that Lower Mill may date to this period and the finds relate to the realigning of Bunches Brook.

## 2.6 Post-medieval

2.6.1 As of yet the only post-medieval heritage asset recorded within or near to the Site is the ridge and furrow, any further archaeological features of this date would likely be agricultural in nature.

## 2.7 Conclusions

2.7.1 Overall, there was considerable archaeological evidence within and adjacent to the Site; including a concentration of Romano-British settlement to the immediate northwest and the Prehistoric pit alignment to the north identified from the previous Evaluation. Due to this there was a high potential for encountering dispersed archaeological remains within the Site from the Prehistoric to Romano-British periods.

2.7.2 Given the rural environment of the Site, any archaeological deposits or features dating from the medieval period onwards, should they have been present, were likely to relate to agricultural settlement and activity.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1.1 The general aim of the archaeological Mitigation was to investigate the potential archaeological resource and gain a full understanding of its character, date, form and function.

3.1.2 Specific aims were drawn together primarily reflecting the local regional research framework (Watt 2011). These aims were re-assessed periodically and adapted both during the archaeological fieldwork and before undertaking full analysis in the post-excavation stage.

3.1.3 The regional aims of the archaeological Mitigation were:

#### **3.2 Research Aims 1 (RA1)**

- **Research Aim 1 (RA1):** Establish the dates, chronology and character of the identified activity.
- Was it continuous or episodic?
- How extensive was the activity and how did that vary over time?
- When did it start and end?
- What can be discovered about the function of the activities present?

#### **3.3 Research Aims 2 (RA2)**

- **Research Aim 2 (RA2):** Determine the nature of patterning of activity within the excavated area.
- Is there intra-site variation in deposit, feature type and function?
- Does artefact and ecofact distribution match this patterning?
- Is there significance in the deposition, or lack of deposition, of artefactual/ecofactual material?
- Are there any clear spatial delineations between different activities?
- How does the distribution of activity fit into the wider contemporary landscape?

#### **3.4 Research Aims 3 (RA3)**

- **Research Aim 3 (RA3):** Support analysis of the economic base and resource exploitation of the Site.

- What, if any, technological and craft processes were carried out?
- What categories of palaeoenvironmental material are present/absent and why?
- What was the source of the raw materials?
- Is there any evidence for trade relationships in the artefactual material or raw materials?
- How local or extensive were any such links?

### 3.5 Research Aims 4 (RA4)

- **Research Aim 4 (RA4):** Test the model of continuing prehistoric activity in the region.
- Does the Site have a specialist function within that model?
- How does this Site fit in with the known chronology of other sites in the region?

### 3.6 Research Aims 5 (RA5)

- **Research Aim 5 (RA5):** Test the current hypothesis regarding regional identities and variation through time.
- Are there any characteristics of the Site layout and/or artefactual assemblage which are thought 'characteristic' of a population?
- How do these relate to other sites within the region?

### 3.7 Research Aims 6 (RA6): General aims

3.7.1 In addition to the above the following general aims are to be undertaken;

- **Research Aim 6.1 (RA6.1):** Determine the character, date, extent and distribution of all archaeological deposits and their potential significance;
- **Research Aim 6.2 (RA6.2):** Determine the Site evolution, stratigraphic relationship and phasing of all activities within the investigation area;
- **Research Aim 6.3 (RA6.3):** Gain a full understanding of all activities and their place within the wider landscape context;
- **Research Aim 6.4 (RA6.4):** Determine the levels of disturbance of any archaeological deposits through plough damage or any other agricultural/industrial practices;

- **Research Aim 6.5 (RA6.5):** Characterise the spatial distribution of different activities and relationships between them;
- **Research Aim 6.6 (RA6.6):** Ensure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed to allow for the detailed study and reassessment of all contexts;
- **Research Aim 6.7 (RA6.7):** Disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of reporting.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 General Methodology**

4.1.1 In accordance with discussions held between WA and Aidan Smyth, the scheme of archaeological Mitigation was designed in order to satisfy the stated objectives of the project as set out under Section 3 above.

4.1.2 The Site overlaid Trenches 18 and 19 of the 2014 Evaluation, which recorded an area of potentially dispersed archaeology (WAAS 2014). Trench 18, located in the northern extent of the Site on a southwest to northeast alignment, contained a small possibly prehistoric pit, with fragments of animal bone retrieved from soil samples. Trench 19, located through the centre of the Site on a northwest to southeast alignment, recorded a potential 5m wide ditch presumed to be part of an enclosure, a number of narrow linear features recorded as ditches and/or gullies and several probable medieval furrows.

4.1.3 Informed upon by the Evaluation results the whole Site area measuring 4,500m<sup>2</sup>, was investigated under archaeological Mitigation, comprising a Strip, Map and Sample excavation in areas of greater intrusion by the development and a Watching Brief in areas currently identified to be minimally impacted by the development.

### **4.2 Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample**

4.2.1 A Strip, Map and Sample excavation was undertaken within the footprint of the proposed new building and within those areas designated for deeper services such as the soakaway and drainage, totalling c.930m<sup>2</sup> (Drawing BM11639-002).

4.2.2 The excavations were stripped by a 360° tracked excavator utilising a toothless ditching bucket, under the close supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist to the top of the natural substrate or the uppermost significant archaeological horizon, whichever was higher.

4.2.3 Once exposed, all surfaces were cleaned and inspected for any potential features or deposits of archaeological origin and excavated to retrieve artefactual and ecofactual material, in order to determine their character, significance and date.

### **4.3 Archaeological Watching Brief**

4.3.1 The archaeological Watching Brief was intended to monitor the remainder of the ground intrusive works, predominantly the need to strip the topsoil across the

proposed car park, prior to its build up and construction (Drawing BM11639-002). The topsoil strip was undertaken by WA prior to the contractor's commencement on Site and as part of a single scheme of archaeological fieldwork. The topsoil strip was conducted by a 360° tracked excavator utilising a toothless ditching bucket, under the close supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist.

4.3.2 The Watching Brief allowed for any potential archaeological features or deposits present to be highlighted, investigated and recorded. The stripping of the carpark area was carried out as a single operation to aid the identification of features.

4.3.3 WA requested that all monitored intrusive works using a mechanical excavator were undertaken with a toothless bucket to maximise the chance for identification of any archaeological remains should they have been present.

4.3.4 Spoil removed from the excavation was transported by one dumper to a specific bund location with routes monitored to ensure excessive tyre rutting, which could damage potential underlying archaeology, did not take place.

#### 4.4 Topographic Survey

4.4.1 Once all archaeological works were completed, a topographical survey of the Site was conducted using a Trimble TSC3 GPS unit (or equivalent) with sub-centimetre accuracy, with each point recorded in relation to the OSGB36 geod mod, to capture three-dimensional geo-referenced points. These recorded the levels prior to formation of the building and in relation to the level of any extant archaeological features.

#### 4.5 Recording

4.5.1 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded according to accepted professional standards using the format set out in the WA archaeological field manual (WA 2017), and sufficient data was recorded to allow for a full characterisation of the context and its relationships to be made and allow for future studies to query and compare the dataset with confidence.

4.5.2 Archaeological contexts were recorded and numbered individually on *pro-forma* context sheets with all relevant data such as drawings, photographic images, finds, environmental samples, height values and any other information cross-referenced. In addition, a further, more general record of the work comprising descriptions and discussions of the archaeology was maintained as appropriate. Context sheets were



filled in by the archaeologist excavating the feature/deposit.

- 4.5.3 Once identified, all features were recorded in plan using a Trimble TSC3 GPS unit with sub-centimetre accuracy with each point recorded in relation to the OSGB36 geod model. Once features had been excavated, they were recorded again using a GPS unit under a separate project file with all features recorded to sub-centimetre accuracy and coded to an internal WA database that records feature type, context number, associated drawing numbers and any other feature specific information that may be relevant. In addition, for features that required more detailed illustration this was undertaken by hand in relation to a feature specific geo-referenced baseline and drawn at an appropriate scale on polyester based drafting film and labelled in relation to a Site-specific drawing register.
- 4.5.4 Hand drawn sections of excavated features were drawn at an appropriate scale, primarily 1:10. Likewise, plans of archaeological features were drawn at a suitable scale to record them in detail. A larger Site plan was produced at a scale between 1:100 and 1:1,250 to show the location of monitored works. This plan indicates the boundaries of the excavated area, the Site grid and location and numbers of any smaller detailed plans and sections produced along with any other appropriate information. All plans have been accurately related to the National Grid with a minimum of three reference points.
- 4.5.5 All plans and sections have been levelled in respect to meters AOD and were drawn on polyester based drafting film and clearly labelled in relation to a Site-specific drawing register. All levels taken have been clearly labelled on all drawings.
- 4.5.6 A full digital photographic record of the work was generated. All images were taken using a Nikon D60 digital SLR camera with a 10.2-megapixel resolution or similar. The photographic record is regarded as part of the Site archive and the digital files labelled appropriately and cross-referenced in relation to a Site-specific photography register.
- 4.5.7 WA ensured that the complete Site archive including finds were kept in a secure place throughout the period of fieldwork and post-excavation process.
- 4.6 Finds recovery and processing
- 4.6.1 All artefacts recovered during the archaeological Mitigation are the property of the landowner/Client. They have been suitably bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with the *Standards and Guidance for the Collection, Conservation and Research of*

*Archaeological Materials* (CIFA 2014d) and the *Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe* (Perrin et al. 2014).

- 4.6.2 All artefacts revealed have been retained regardless of date so that the provisional dating of as many contexts as possible can be ascertained.
- 4.6.3 On completion of the project modern material, unstratified remains and objects that have been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention will be discarded after a period of six months, unless there is a specific request to retain them.
- 4.6.4 The primary archive records will clearly state how all artefact assemblages have been recovered, sub-sampled and processed.
- 4.7 End of Site works
  - 4.7.1 On completion of the archaeological works the car park area was covered with a geotechnical membrane and overlaid with type 1 stone to protect the ground from weathering during any interim between the end of the Archaeological works and commencement of construction.
  - 4.7.2 Implementing the stone covering during bad weather meant that minor rutting occurred on the access to the site. This was minimised by changing routes and tracking was only undertaken along those access routes which were built up with ploughsoils and accessed by the farmer. This meant that no rutting beyond the depth of the ploughing occurred.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

- 5.1.1 The archaeological Mitigation was undertaken between 4<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 across the proposed development area (Drawing No. BM11639-002). The works were undertaken as specified in the Methodology (Section 4).
- 5.1.2 Results are detailed below, deposit numbers are given in **(parenthesis)** and cut numbers are given in **[square brackets]**.
- 5.1.3 The stratigraphic sequence across the Site remained predominantly consistent. The natural substrate **(102)** was observed to be at 0.40 to 0.50m Below Present Ground Level (BPGL). The substrate **(102)**, was a hard, yellowish-grey and reddish-brown, gravel with some silty clay inclusions. Cutting the natural substrate **(102)**, were several archaeological features and furrows.
- 5.1.4 Four (4) potential pits were cut into the natural substrate **(102)** which are detailed below.
- 5.1.5 Extending from the northern limit of the excavation, a small, subcircular pit, **[111]**, with a sharp top break of slope, moderately steep sides, a gradual base break of slope, and a concave base **(Plate 2)** was recorded. The pit contained a singular fill, **(112)**, of moderately firm, reddish-brown, silty clay, with occasional natural pea gravel and common small sub-rounded pebbles (Drawing BM11639-005).
- 5.1.6 From the fill of the pit, **(112)**, a single sherd of Iron Age pottery, potentially mid-late Iron Age in date, was recovered. Based on the known archaeological remains directly to the northwest of the Site, should this sherd be in situ, there is potential that this pit could represent the dispersed, isolated archaeological remains expected on the periphery of settlement. Given the abraded nature and singularity of this sherd, there is also the potential for this to be residual and not associated with the actual date the pit would have been in use.
- 5.1.7 In the north-eastern extent of Site a pit, **[127]** measuring 0.80m in diameter, comprising a wide, circular cut, with a severe top break of slope and steep sides contained a loose fill, **(126)**, of c.20<sup>th</sup> Century material of which only 0.20m of the material was excavated. Excavation of **[127]** was ceased due to the concentration of jagged rusty iron objects and broken glass of obvious modern date.
- 5.1.8 Observed and recovered from pit **[127]** was a small assemblage of 20<sup>th</sup> century finds; noted were the remains of a significantly degraded motorbike and bicycle, and the

objects recovered included a WWII Mark 2B steel helmet and whole glass vessels of jars, bottles and a bulb, likely indicative of a local shed clearance.

- 5.1.9 Located along the south western extent of the site, pit **[116]** was a 1.40m wide, sub-circular in shape pit with a sharp top break of slope, moderate sides, gradual base break of slope, and an irregular base (**Plate 3**). Pit **[116]** contained a singular fill of soft, mid reddish-brown, silty clay, (**115**), which was 0.35m thick. Fill (**115**) was overlain by the up-cast material (**117**), a hard, mid greyish-brown, silty clay, with sub-angular gravels of furrow **[114]** measuring 0.29m thick.
- 5.1.10 Located in the southern corner of the Site, Pit **[129]** (**Plate 4**) was 1.1m long, sub-circular in shape, with gradual top break of slope, smooth sides, gradual base break of slope, and a flattish base. Pit **[129]** contained a 70mm- 0.25m thick, soft, mid-reddish-brown, silty clay, with rare sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles (**128**) (Drawing BM11639-005).
- 5.1.11 The remaining features exposed and recorded comprised eight (8) linear furrows **[103]**, **[105]**, **[107]**, **[114]**, **[119]**, **[121]**, **[123]**, **[125]** orientated southwest to northeast, cut into the natural substrate (**102**) (**Plate 5**). The furrows were all filled with a firm, mid yellowish-brown silty clay with common rooting, very common sub-rounded small pebbles and natural pea gravel (**Appendix 1**) (**Drawing BM11639-004**) (**Plate 6**).
- 5.1.12 The furrows are ascribed a likely medieval date, given their irregular spacing, size and not being uniformly linear, they likely pre-date the steam driven plough, and with their orientation not being ergonomic to the fields current shape and size they are likely to pre-date the enclosure of the field.
- 5.1.13 In the northeast edge of the Site a subsoil (**101**) was recorded, consisting of soft, mid-yellowish-brown, silty clay, with sparse gravel inclusions typically 0.10m to 0.20m thick. The subsoil was present due to minor wash, exacerbated by ploughing and allowing formation at the base of the shallow incline.
- 5.1.14 Covering the natural substrate (**102**) and the subsoil (**101**) (where present) was the homogeneous topsoil (**100**), which consisted of friable, mid greyish-orangey-brown, loam, with sparse sub-rounded pebbles, typically 0.30m-0.40m thick.
- 5.1.15 A mixed assemblage of finds was recovered from the topsoil, including residual Romano-British pottery sherds and Ceramic Building Material (CBM) fragments, which have likely been moved to within the Site boundary from the known settlement to the

northwest of the Site via extensive ploughing. The Roman material was intermixed with finds of medieval and post-medieval date, predominantly domestic waste and likely indicative of small-scale waste dumping or having been transported in during manuring.

## 5.2 Archaeological Finds

5.2.1 All deposits were inspected for their artefactual and palaeoenvironmental potential, unfortunately in this instance no deposits were suitable for palaeoenvironmental sampling. All finds recovered were recorded and assessed as described in the following section.

## 6 FINDS ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A total of 165 bulk artefacts, weighing 8,858g, were recovered from an archaeological investigation on land at Station Road, Broadway, Worcestershire (Table 1).

6.1.2 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 (CIfA 2014d). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011), EAC (2014) and Worcestershire County Museum (2010). The project has the unique identifier **WA 2019 / BM11639 / SRB-A / WSM71656**.

6.1.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential in line with the archaeological research framework for the West Midlands (Watt 2011).

6.1.4 The finds assessment was compiled by Megan Stoakley.

6.1.5 Quantification of bulk finds by material and context is given in Table 1.

Context	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Period	Refined Date	Fabric Code	Comments
100	Animal Bone	4	38	-	-	-	Bones from large ungulate
100	CBM	3	215	RB	2nd-4th C	-	Tegula frag and other tile frags
100	CBM	49	2327	PM-Mod	19th-20th C	-	Bricks and tile fragments, land drain fragments
101	CBM	2	1334	Mod	20th C	-	Land drain fragments
100	Fe	1	162	Mod	20th-21st C	-	Bolt
100	Glass	10	67	PM-Mod	18th-20th C	-	Bottle glass fragments, modern car light fragment
126	Glass	27	2690	PM-Mod	19th-20th C	-	Complete jars and bottles, cold cream jar, bulb and window glass fragments
100	Iron & Other	1	124	Mod	21st century	-	Modern plug from car or lawnmower
100	Pottery	3	23	Mod	20th-21st C	FLP	Modern flowerpot sherds
100	Pottery	1	3	Med	11th-14th C	Fabric 55?	Body sherd - unglazed
100	Pottery	22	264	PM	18th-19th C	REFR (Fabric 78), REFW, PORC (Fabric 83.1), TP (Fabric 85)	Jars, plates, teacups
100	Pottery	36	297	RB	3rd-4th C	CO OX (Fabric 13), CO RE (Fabrics 14 & 15)	Jars, bowls, shallow dishes
101	Pottery	2	22	PM	19th C	REFR (Fabric 78), REFW	REFW plate, REFR body sherd
112	Pottery	1	14	Prehistoric	M-LIA?	Fabrics 4.4-4.6?	Body sherd – possibly variant of oolitic tempered ware
126	Steel	1	1237	Mod	1939-1944	-	WWII MK2B helmet (British issue B helmet). Slight magnetic pull, which meant it failed QC, issued to a civilian governmental organisation - likely National or Auxiliary Fire or Air Raid wardens.
100	Stone	2	41	-	-	-	Devil's toenails
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>165</b>	<b>8858</b>				

## 6.2 Prehistoric Pottery

6.2.1 A single sherd of late prehistoric pottery, weighing 14g, was recovered from context **(112)** (Table 1). The sherd is in moderate condition with abraded edges and surfaces.

6.2.2 The pottery was examined and recorded according to guidelines published by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (PCRG, SGRP & MPRG 2016). Where possible, the pottery was assigned a mnemonic code via the Worcestershire ceramics online database (WCOD 2019).

6.2.3 The fabric has been tentatively identified as a variant of oolitic limestone tempered ware (Fabrics 4.4-4.6?) with limestone grits, infrequent sand inclusions and rare voids (possibly from calcareous/organic matter). The clay matrix is also fairly micaceous. No stamps or decoration were observed, and the artefact comprises a plain body sherd from a medium-sized jar.

6.2.4 A broad date of Iron Age is suitable for this sherd and a narrower date of Middle to Late Iron Age may be applicable.

## 6.3 Roman Pottery

6.3.1 A total of 36 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 297g, were recovered from topsoil **(100)** (Table 1). The sherds are in moderate condition with abraded edges and surfaces.

6.3.2 The pottery was examined and recorded according to guidelines published by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (PCRG, SGRP & MPRG 2016). Where possible, the pottery was assigned a mnemonic code as referenced in Tomber & Dore (1998), the Roman Potsherd Atlas online (2019) and the Worcestershire ceramics online database (WCOD 2019).

6.3.3 Fabrics identified in the small assemblage include locally produced oxidised and reduced sandy wares (CO OX & CO RE, Fabrics 13, 14 & 15) which likely originated



from jars, shallow dishes and bowls. No stamps, graffiti or decoration were observed. Rims and body sherds make up the bulk of the material.

6.3.4 A date of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century is suitable for this assemblage.

#### 6.4 Medieval Pottery

6.4.1 A single sherd of medieval pottery, weighing 3g, was recovered from deposit **(100)** (Table 1). The sherd is in good condition and displays little evidence of post-depositional damage.

6.4.2 The pottery was examined and recorded according to guidelines published by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (PCRG, SGRP & MPRG 2016). Where possible, the pottery was assigned a mnemonic code via the Worcestershire ceramics online database (WCOD 2019) and MOLA (2015).

6.4.3 The artefact comprises a miscellaneous unglazed body sherd of grit-tempered ware which may match Fabric 55 (WCOD 2019).

6.4.4 A date of 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century is suitable for this sherd.

#### 6.5 Post-medieval to Modern Pottery

6.5.1 A total of 27 sherds of post-medieval pottery, weighing 309g, were recovered from two contexts (Table 1). The sherds are in moderate to good condition with some evidence of abrasion to edges and surfaces.

6.5.2 The pottery was examined and recorded according to guidelines published by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (PCRG, SGRP & MPRG 2016). Where possible, the pottery was assigned a mnemonic code via the Worcestershire ceramics online database (WCOD 2019).

6.5.3 Fabric types include red wares (Fabric 78), porcelain (Fabric 83.1), refined white earthenwares (REFW, MOLA 2015), Transfer Printed ware (Fabric 85) and modern

flowerpot sherds (FLP, MOLA 2015). Jars, teacups, plates and bowls were observed in the assemblage.

6.5.4 A date of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century is suitable for this assemblage.

#### 6.6 Ceramic Building Material

6.6.1 A total of 54 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 3,876g, were recovered from two contexts (Table 1). The fragments are in moderate condition with abraded edges and surfaces evident.

6.6.2 Three fragments of Roman ceramic building material, weighing 215g, were recovered from context **(100)**. The fabric is highly oxidised with frequent sand inclusions and the small assemblage includes a partial tegula fragment.

6.6.3 The remainder of the material comprises miscellaneous brick, tile and land-drain fragments of probable late 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### 6.7 Metal: Fe (+ Other) & Steel

6.7.1 Three metal artefacts, weighing 1,523g, were recovered from two contexts (Table 1). The metal artefacts are in poor condition and heavy rust corrosion is evident on all surfaces.

6.7.2 Iron (and other) artefacts include a modern bolt and a modern bulb/boat from a motorbike.

6.7.3 An almost-complete Second World War helmet, weighing 1,237g, was recovered from context **(126)**. It comprises a Mark IIB helmet manufactured between 1939 and 1944. Although the chin-straps are no longer present, there appear to be two rivet holes when the chin-straps would have been attached to the interior of the helmet. It has a slight magnetic pull, which meant it would have failed military standard quality control. Helmets such as this one would have instead been issued to civilian

governmental authorities e.g. police, National or Auxiliary fire services, air warden or Women's Land Army.

## 6.8 Glass

6.8.1 A total of 37 glass artefacts, weighing 2,757g, were recovered from two contexts (Table 1). The artefacts are in moderate condition and display some evidence of post-depositional damage.

6.8.2 The artefacts include a number of complete glass drink/food bottles, a cold cream jar plus miscellaneous clear and blue shards from windows, bottles and car headlights.

6.8.3 A date of 19<sup>th</sup> century to modern is suitable for this assemblage.

## 6.9 Stone

6.9.1 A pair of incomplete Devil's Toenails, weighing 41g, were recovered from context **(100)** (Table 1). The fossils are in moderate condition.

## 6.10 Statement of Potential

6.10.1 The finds assemblage is potentially of local level interest however, given the known archaeological resource near the Site, as an isolated assemblage it is of limited interpretative value. Should a project be undertaken on the remaining area of the field and proceed to publication, it may be prudent for further analysis to include the prehistoric to medieval pottery, Roman ceramic building material and the Second World War helmet.

## 7 SYNTHESIS

- 7.1.1 WA were commissioned by Eden Stow Properties Limited to undertake an archaeological Mitigation comprising a Strip, Map and Sample Excavation, and Watching Brief on land off Station Road, Broadway, Worcestershire. The archaeological mitigation was required to investigate, record and fully characterise the potential archaeological resource ahead of development.
- 7.1.2 Previous works had identified a plethora of heritage assets, including considerable archaeological evidence within and adjacent to the Site. Due to this there was a high potential for encountering dispersed archaeological remains within the Site from the Prehistoric to Romano-British periods.
- 7.1.3 The Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample within the proposed footprint of the building was targeting a potential 5m wide enclosure ditch identified in the earlier Evaluation, which was thought to be Romano-British in date. This scheme of works was designed to target such features however this enclosure ditch was exposed and recorded as the horizon between a furrow and a natural undulation in the substrate creating a deeper section of topsoil.
- 7.1.4 The archaeological Mitigation identified several agricultural furrows identified as likely being Medieval in date.
- 7.1.5 Four (4) pits were identified and excavated on site, three (3) of these contained sterile deposits and are of an indeterminate date, with one potentially dating to the Iron Age. The fourth, **[127]**, was identified to be modern in date.
- 7.1.6 Pit **[116]** was truncated by was overlain by the up-cast **(117)** from one (1) of the furrows, **[114]**, in the field system. As such it can be inferred that the pits are earlier than the field system which is currently dated to the medieval period.
- 7.1.7 Due to the present and extensive ridge and furrow ploughing recorded within the Site, and the continuation of ploughing up to the modern day, there is a potential that any

dispersed, discrete archaeological activity could have been truncated, had it been present.

- 7.1.8 Finds of Romano-British date recovered from the topsoil correlate with the settlement identified in previous excavations to the north of the Site, these are likely residual and moved into the Site boundary by ploughing.
- 7.1.9 This report concludes that the development will not adversely affect an archaeological resource, with the pits preserved by record and the remains of agricultural features, the furrows, surviving to their greater extent beyond the limit of excavation.

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## APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
100	Layer	Friable, mid-greyish orangey-brown, loam, with sparse sub-rounded pebbles and cobbles	Thickness: 0.30-0.40m	Topsoil/plough soil.
101	Layer	Soft, mid-yellowish-brown, silty clay, with sparse gravels	Thickness: 0.10-0.20m	Subsoil.
102	Layer	Hard, mixed yellowish-grey and reddish-brown, gravel, with 40% silty clay soil	Not Excavated	Natural substrate
103	Cut	SW-NE linear feature with sharp top break of slope, moderately steep sides, gradual base break of slope, and a flat base	Depth: 0.40m Width: >0.24m	Cut of furrow visible only in section
104	Fill	Firm, mid-yellowish-brown silty clay, with common rooting, very common sub-rounded small pebbles and natural pea gravel	Thickness: 40mm	Fill of furrow [103].
105	Cut	SW-NE linear feature with sharp top break of slope, moderately steep sides, gradual base break of slope, and a flat base	Depth: 0.23m Width: 3.00m	Cut of furrow
106	Fill	Firm, mid-yellowish-brown, silty clay, with common rooting, very common sub-rounded small pebbles and natural pea gravel	Depth: 0.23m	Fill of furrow [105]. No finds
107	Cut	SW-NE linear with sharp top break of slope, moderately steep sides, gradual base break of slope, and a flat base	Depth: 0.20m Width: 2.50m	Cut of furrow
108	Fill	Firm, mid yellowish-brown silty clay with common rooting, very common sub-rounded small pebbles and natural pea gravel	Thickness: 0.20m	Fill of furrow [107]. No finds
109	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
110	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
111	Cut	Sub-circular cut of pit with sharp top break of slope, moderately steep sides,	Depth: 0.15m Width: 0.48m Length: 0.60m	Cut of pit



Context Number	Context Type	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
		gradual base break of slope, and a concave base		
112	Fill	Moderately firm, reddish-brown, silty clay, with occasional natural pea gravel and common small sub-rounded pebbles	Thickness: 0.15m	Fill of pit [111].
113	Fill	Soft, mid-greyish reddish-brown, silty clay, with common sub-angular gravels	Thickness: 0.29m	Fill of medieval furrow [114]
114	Cut	NE-SW linear feature with square corners, a gradual/not perceptible top break of slope, smooth sides, a gradual/not perceptible base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 0.29m Width: 3.95m	Cut of medieval furrow
115	Fill	Soft, mid reddish-brown, silty clay	Thickness: 0.35m	Fill of pit [116].
116	Cut	Sub-circular pit with sharp top break of slope, moderate sides, gradual base break of slope, and an irregular base	Depth: 0.35m Width: 1.40m	Cut of pit
117	Deposit	Hard, mid greyish-brown silty clay, with sub-angular gravels	Depth: 0.29m Width: 0.83m	Up-cast material of furrow [114]
118	Fill	Soft, mid-greyish reddish-brown, silty clay, with common sub-angular gravels	Thickness: 0.33m	Fill of medieval furrow [119]
119	Cut	NE-SW rectangular cut with square corners, a gradual/not perceptible top break of slope, smooth sides, a gradual/not perceptible base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 0.33m Width: 4.49m	Cut of furrow
120	Fill	Soft, mid-greyish reddish-brown, silty clay, with common sub-angular gravels	Thickness: 0.32m	Fill of furrow [121]
121	Cut	NE-SW linear feature with square corners, a gradual/not perceptible top break of slope, smooth sides, a gradual/not perceptible base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 0.32m Width: 3.40m	Cut of furrow

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Dimensions	Interpretation
122	Fill	Soft, mid-greyish reddish-brown, silty clay, with common sub-angular gravels	Thickness: 0.40m	Fill of furrow [123]
123	Cut	NE-SW linear feature with square corners, a gradual/not perceptible top break of slope, smooth sides, a gradual/not perceptible base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 0.40m Width: 2.83m	Cut of furrow
124	Fill	Soft, mid-greyish reddish-brown, silty clay with common sub-angular gravels	Thickness: 0.30m	Fill of furrow [125]
125	Cut	NE-SW linear feature with square corners, a gradual/not perceptible top break of slope, smooth sides, a gradual/not perceptible base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 0.30m Width: 3.70m	Cut of furrow
126	Fill	Loose fill with high contamination	Thickness: >0.20m	Modern fill of [127].
127	Cut	Circular cut with severe top break of slope and steep sides	Depth: >0.20m Width: 0.80m Length: 0.80m	Pit filled by c.20 <sup>th</sup> century material
128	Fill	Soft, mid-reddish-brown, silty clay, with rare sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles	Thickness: 70mm - 0.25m	Fill of pit
129	Cut	Sub-circular cut with gradual top break of slope, smooth sides, gradual base break of slope, and a flattish base	Depth: 70mm-0.25m Length: 1.10m Width: <0.84m	Cut of pit

**APPENDIX 2-  
PLATES**



Picture Taken:

Plate  
No. 1

Title: Pre-excavation shot of site showing ground conditions looking north-northeast.



Picture Taken:

Plate  
No. 2

Title: Northwest-facing section of small pit [111], with a 0.40m scale

Client: Eden Stow Properties Ltd

Project: Station Road, Broadway

Project Number: BM11639



Picture Taken:	Plate No. 3	Title: Oblique shot of furrow [119] to the left and pit [116] to the right of shot, facing east with a 2m scale
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Picture Taken:	Plate No. 4	Title: Southwest-facing section of pit [129], with a 0.50m scale
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Picture Taken:

Plate  
No. 5

Title: Southwest-facing section of furrow [105], with a 1m scale



Picture Taken:

Plate  
No. 6

Title: Northeast-facing section of furrow [125], with a 2m scale



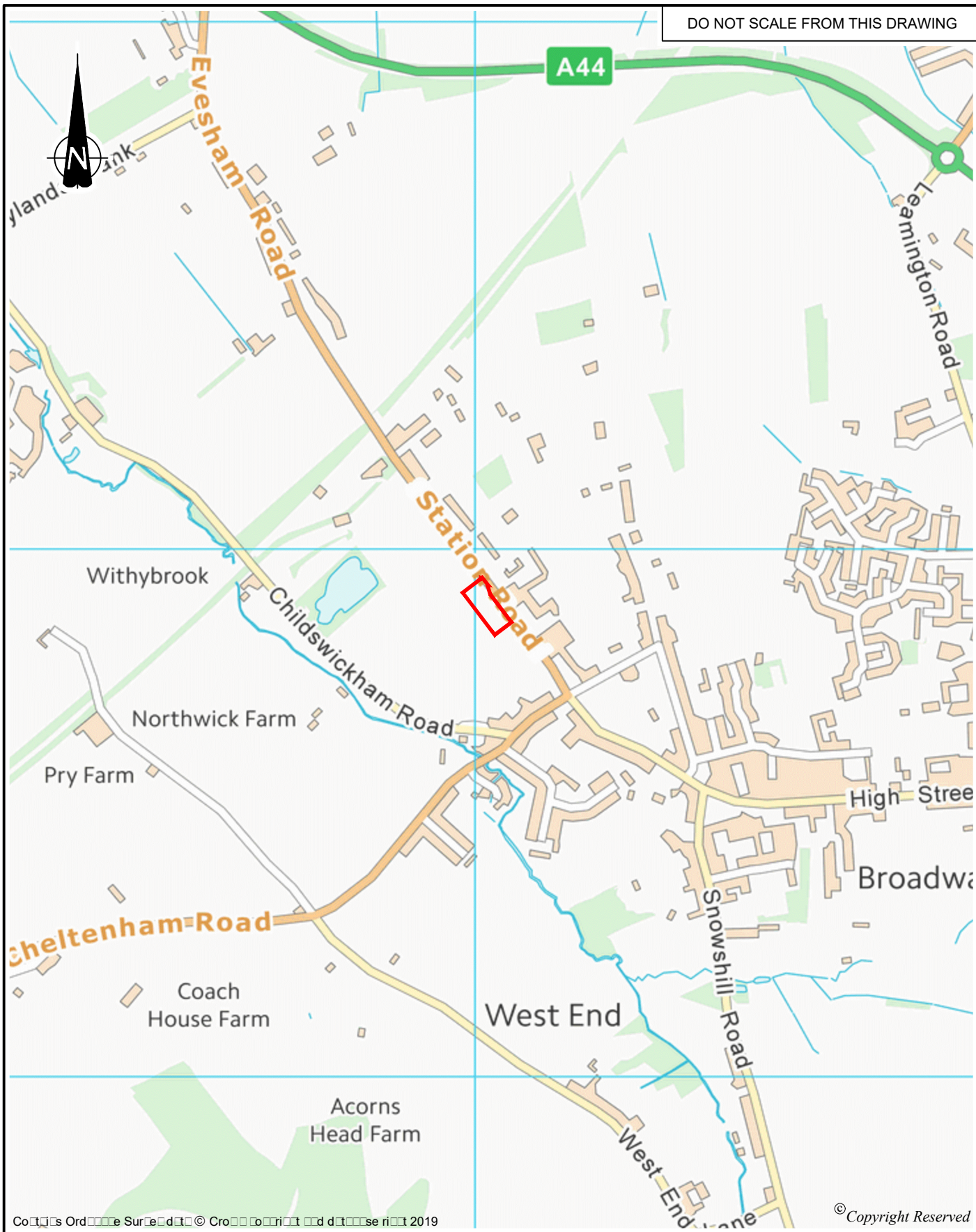
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Project: Station Road, Broadway

Project Number: BM11639

## **DRAWINGS**

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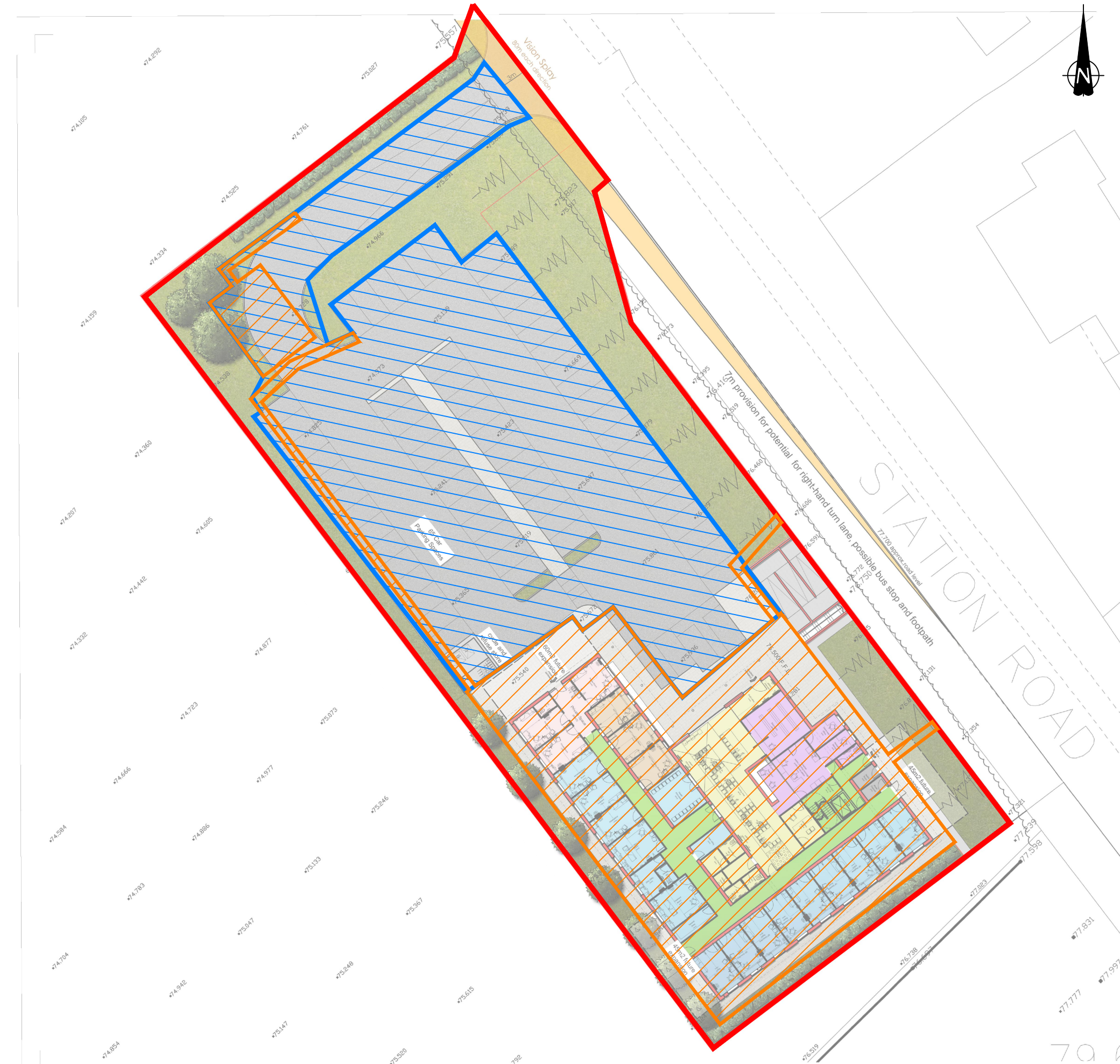
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KEY:

-  RED LINE BOUNDARY
-  STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE AREA
-  WATCHING BRIEF AREA

NOTES:

1. BACKGROUND BASED ON EDEN STOW PROPERTIES LIMITED SITE PLAN DRG NO. AL (90)10 REV □.



A	First Issue	14/05/19	EC	RJ	RJ
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REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRN	CHKD	APPD
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CLIENT	EDEN STOW PROPERTIES LIMITED				
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PROJECT	STATION ROAD, BROADWAY				
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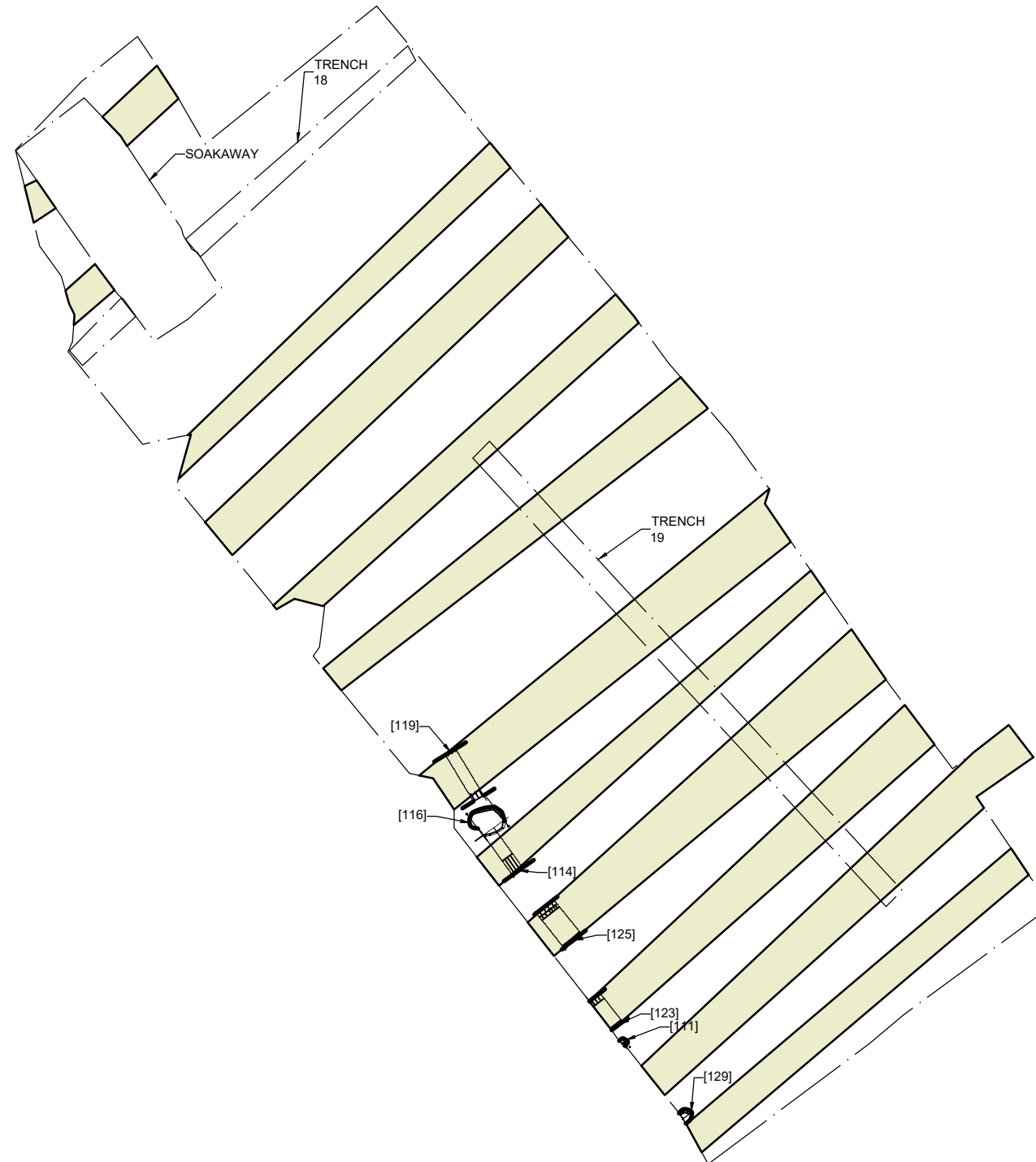
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- FURROW
- LIMIT OF EXCAVATION



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CLIENT  
**EDEN STOW PROPERTIES**

PROJECT  
**PROPOSED MEDICAL CENTRE AT STATION ROAD, BROADWAY**

DRAWING TITLE  
**SITE PLAN AND FEATURES**










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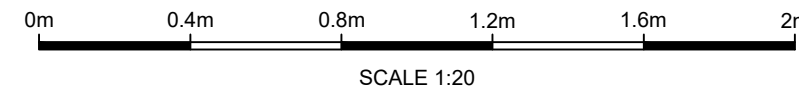
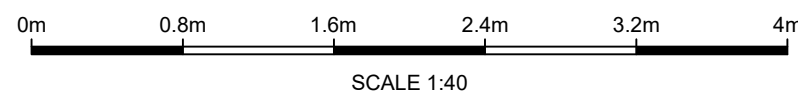
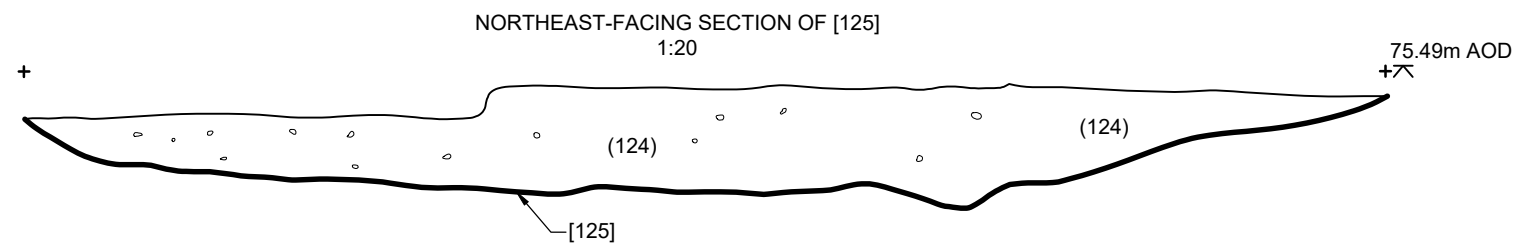
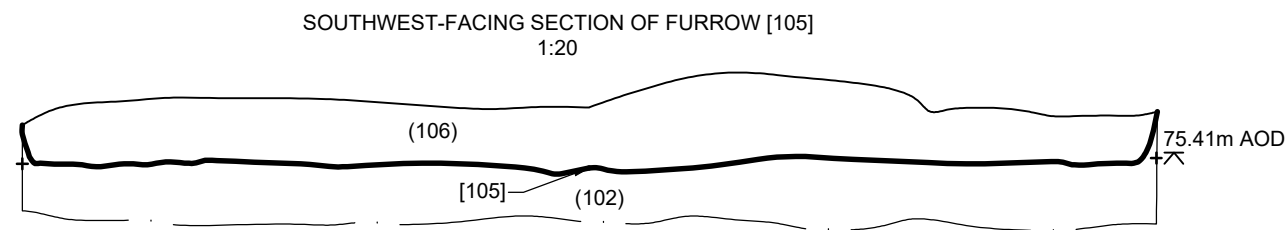
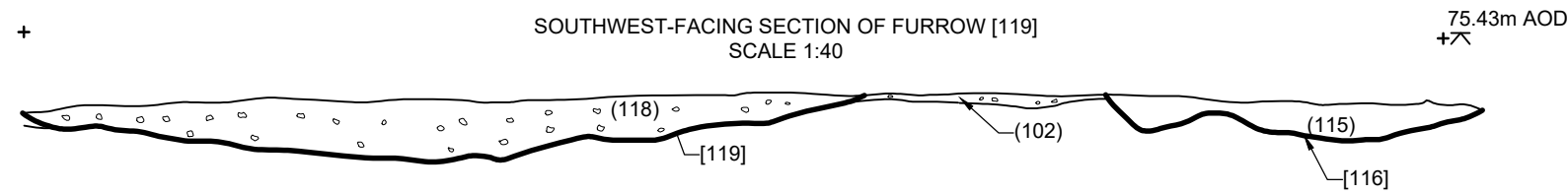
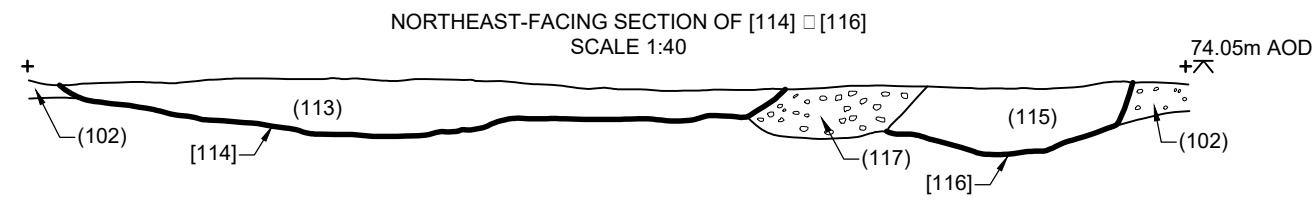
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REFERENCE



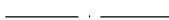






-  CUT LINE
-  CONTEXT LINE
-  LIMIT OF EXCAVATION
-  PROJECTED BOUNDARY
-  BREAK OF SLOPE
-  DIRECTION OF SLOPE
-  STONE
-  CUT NUMBERS
-  DEPOSIT NUMBERS

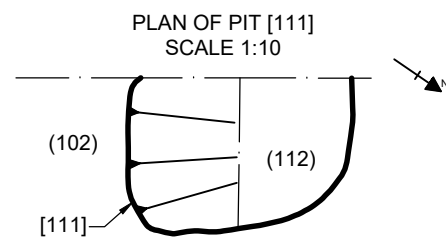
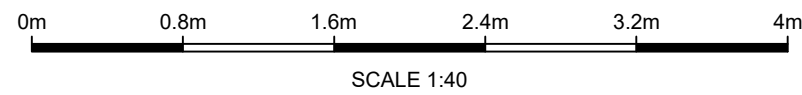
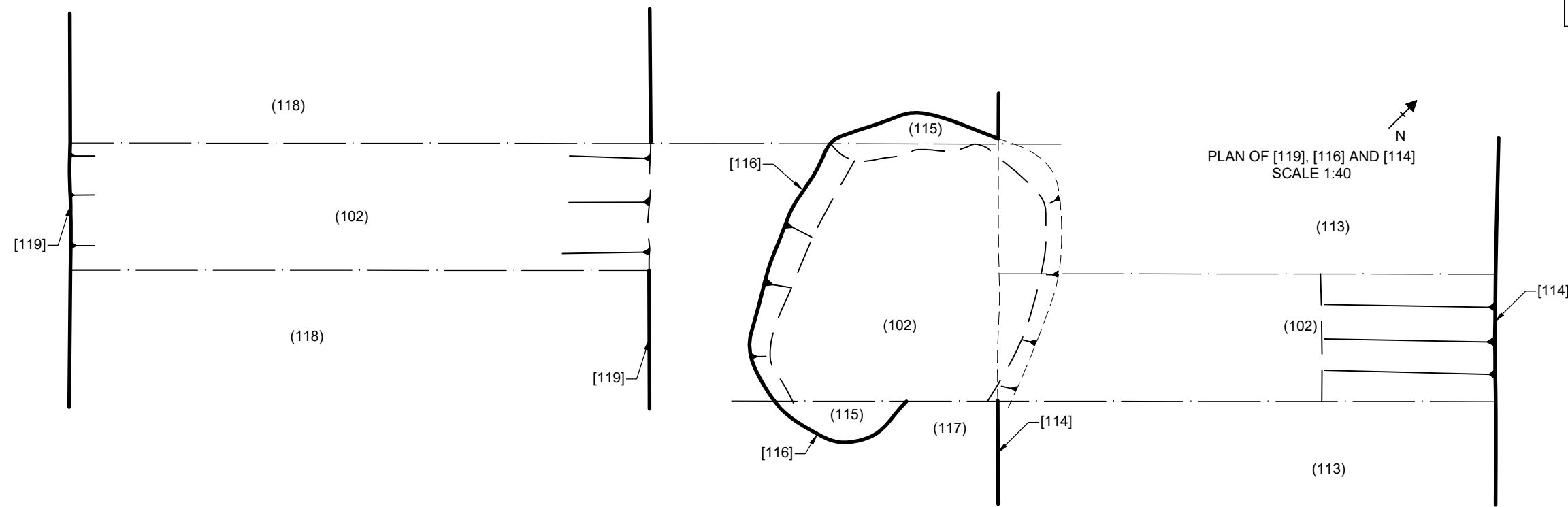


A First Issue		21/10/19	RA	CA	CA
REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRN	CHKD	APPD
CLIENT <b>EDEN STOW PROPERTIES</b>					
PROJECT <b>PROPOSED MEDICAL CENTRE STATION ROAD, BROADWAY</b>					
DRAWING TITLE <b>FURROW DETAILS</b>					
DRG No. <b>BM11639-004</b>		REV <b>A</b>			
DRG SIZE <b>A3</b>	SCALE <b>1:20</b>	DATE <b>21/10/19</b>			
DRAWN BY <b>RA</b>	CHECKED BY <b>CA</b>	APPROVED BY <b>CA</b>			
 <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BIRMINGHAM   TEL 0121 580 0909              WWW.WARDELL-ARMSTRONG.COM  <input type="checkbox"/> BOLTON    <input type="checkbox"/> LEEDS  <input type="checkbox"/> CARDIFF    <input type="checkbox"/> LONDON  <input type="checkbox"/> CARLISLE    <input type="checkbox"/> MANCHESTER  <input type="checkbox"/> EDINBURGH    <input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  <input type="checkbox"/> GLASGOW    <input type="checkbox"/> STOKE ON TRENT         </p>					

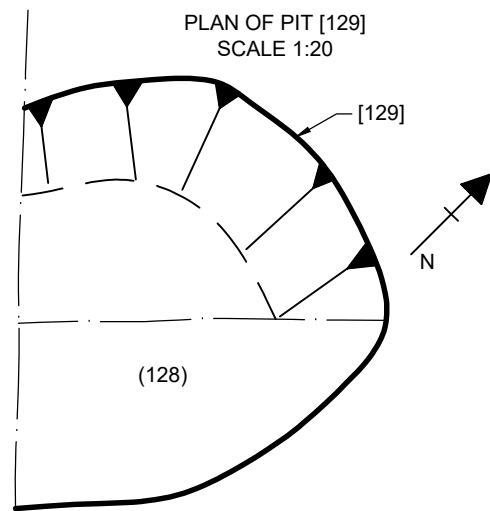
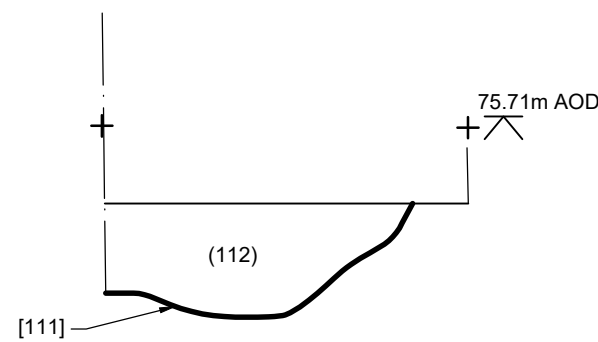
DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING

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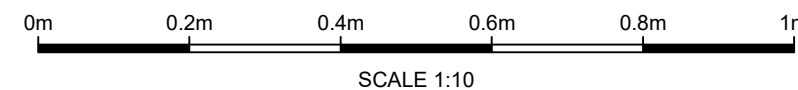
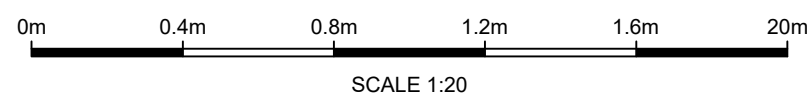
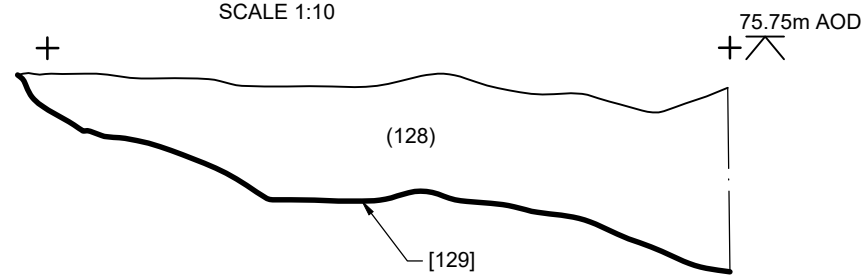
-  CUT LINE
-  CONTEXT LINE
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-  BREAK OF SLOPE
-  DIRECTION OF SLOPE
-  STONE
-  CUT NUMBERS
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SOUTHWEST-FACING SECTION OF PIT [111]  
SCALE 1:10



SOUTHEAST-FACING SECTION OF PIT [129]  
SCALE 1:10




A	First Issue	21/10/19	RA	CA	CA
REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRN	CHKD	APPD

CLIENT  
**EDEN STOW PROPERTIES**

PROJECT  
**PROPOSED MEDICAL CENTRE  
STATION ROAD, BROADWAY**

DRAWING TITLE  
**PLANS AND SECTIONS OF  
INVESTIGATED FEATURES**

DRG No.	BM11639-005	REV	A
DRG SIZE	A3	SCALE	AS SHOWN
DRAWN BY	RA	DATE	21/10/19
CHECKED BY	CA	APPROVED BY	CA

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- STOKE ON TRENT

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