



ST PHILIPS

LAND AT FOXLYDIATE LANE, WEBHEATH, REDDITCH, WORCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT FOR AREAS 2 & 7 (CENTRAL PHASE)

NOVEMBER 2020

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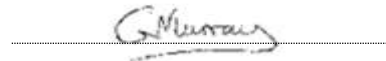
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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA), a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists, was commissioned by St Philips, to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 5ST, centred at National Grid Reference (NGR): SP 00981 67204. The evaluation was undertaken in response to a draft condition in respect to a planning proposal for a mixed-use development (application reference – Bromsgrove District Council - 16/0263). At the time of the works the application was undecided but the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service had indicated through the preparation of a brief that archaeological trial trenching would be required as a condition to consent. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced in response to the brief prepared by Emma Hancox, Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service acting as the archaeological planning advisor on behalf of Bromsgrove District Council.

The archaeological work was undertaken over 11 days between the 16th September 2020 and the 1st October 2020, and comprised the excavation of 28 trenches, separated into two areas. Area 2 had 15 trenches while Area 7 had 13 trenches. The investigation revealed that only 4 trenches in Area 2 had archaeological remains. A single undated pit and a single residual flint flake were recovered in one of the trenches and a heavily truncated feature contaminated by modern rubbish from another trench; all other features were of postmediaeval or modern date. All these features were in poor condition with survival being affected by past ploughing and modern land intervention in both areas. Traces of the medieval ridge and furrow cultivation were visible on the surface in Area 2 but did not survive below ground.

Areas 2 and 7 were predominately agricultural in nature and both areas have been subject to major land management and disturbance from the 19th century to the present day. There was no evidence of potential settlements recorded on the HER through lidar and cropmark evidence and no evidence for the Romano British saltway (HER reference WSM37590) reputed as being potentially present within the northwestern boundary of Area 2 was present.

Trial trenching confirmed that there are no archaeological remains predating the post-medieval date surviving on site. There should be no requirement for further archaeological investigation on Areas 2 and 7.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) thanks the client, St Philips for commissioning the project, and for all their assistance throughout the work. Also, WA thank Emma Hancox, Historic Environment Policy and Advisory Manager and Emily Hathaway, Historic Landscape Officer at Worcestershire County Council for their assistance.

Wardell Armstrong LLP also thanks Gary Follen, Plant Manager, and Barry Foster, Excavator Operator, at James King plant hire company, for their help during this project.

The archaeological evaluation was supervised by Ginette Murray and James Hathaway and the report was written by Ginette Murray. The figures were produced by Richard Abbott. The finds assessment was undertaken by Megan Stoakley and palaeoenvironmental assessment by Freddie Sisson. The project was managed by Rebecca Jones and the report edited and reviewed by Charlotte Dawson and approved by Sean Steadman.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 In August 2020, Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) undertook an archaeological evaluation within Areas 2 & 7 of the Central Phase of a proposed mixed-use development at land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath, Redditch, Worcestershire, (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). The Site is centred on NGR: SP 00981 67204 and is shown on Figure BM11754-035. The work was commissioned by the Client who has submitted a planning application to erect up to 2,560 dwellings; a local centre including retail floorspace, health and community facilities, a school including associated playing area and parking and all associated enabling and ancillary works for which hybrid planning applications have been submitted to the Local Planning Authority, Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) (Planning References: 16/0263 and 2016/077).
- 1.1.2 The determination for the planning application is forthcoming. However the Planning Advisory Section of the Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service has provided a consultee response in the form of a brief (attached as Appendix 3).
- 1.1.3 The brief recommended that a programme of archaeological work would be undertaken at each phase of development with the results from previous phases informing subsequent fieldwork. In order to comply with policy, the Archive and Archaeology Service recommend that the following two conditions should be attached to any consent.

Condition 3: 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:

- A) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- B) The programme for post investigation assessment.
- C) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- D) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- E) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- F) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

Condition 4: 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.

1.2 **Project Documentation**

- 1.2.1 The project conforms to a brief prepared by Emma Hancox, Historic Environment Policy and Advisory Manager as part of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service for Worcestershire County Council (Appendix 3). A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was then produced to provide a specific methodology based on the brief for a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation (Wardell Armstrong LLP, 2020). The WSI 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 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (DCMS, 2019).
- 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 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and Geological Context

2.1.1 Areas 2 and 7, approximately 12.6ha in size, comprised a sub rectangular parcel of land spread across two fields separated by a well-defined hedgerow and wire fence with a stream running along the southwestern boundary of both fields. Area 2 was under a pastoral regime. Area 7 was in arable use.

2.1.2 The underlying solid geology was mapped as Helsby Sandstone Formation, deposited during the Triassic Period approximately 242 to 247 million years ago. No superficial geology was recorded (BSG, 2020). The natural substrate observed during the trial trenching comprised sandstone and a firm clayey sand/sandy clay, which was consistent with the mapped geologies above.

2.1.3 The evaluation trenching has recorded superficial deposits of a mix of clay, silt, sand and gravel. This may indicate that the Alluvium river deposit, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period, located to the south of Site may also stretch across Site (Wardell Armstrong LLP, 2020 a).

2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

2.2.1 A desk-based assessment and geophysical survey report were produced by Wardell Armstrong LLP (2016 a) (2016 b) to assess the known historical and archaeological background of the site and the surrounding landscape to a distance of 1km. It is not intended to repeat that information here and what follows is a brief overview. For further details please refer to the original documents.

2.2.2 Within Area 2 settlement activity was attested to by earthworks (HER Ref: **WSM57880**) recorded in close vicinity to three areas of ridge and furrow cultivation (HER Ref: **WSM57881-883**). Possibly dating to the medieval period.

2.2.3 Within Area 7, cropmarks indicative of enclosures was recorded. Undated cropmark enclosures may attest be prehistoric but could represent later activity (HER Ref: **WSM09872**).

2.2.4 On the northwestern boundary of the Site, there is the possible line of a Romano-British road/saltway; the alignment based on projections (HER Ref: **WSM37590**). However, no associated Romano-British remains have been recorded within the vicinity of the Site and the interpretation of the alignment is tentative.

2.2.5 The results of the geophysical survey indicated that the land in Area 2 was in use with two areas of buried remains of ridge and furrow cultivation identified, aligned east to

west and north to south, according with the earthworks recorded on the HER. These areas were defined by two linear anomalies which may represent former field boundary banks or 'headlands'. Whilst a high magnetic response in the area of the possible former settlement in Area 2 (HER Ref: **WSM57880**) was identified, the geophysical report notes that this may relate to an area of made ground possibly associated with a former quarry pit or pond. Anomalies within Area 7 were limited to a possible former field boundary bank, although this was uncertain, and it may represent a geological feature. No anomalies relating to the cropmarks (HER Ref: **WSM09872**) were identified.

2.3 Previous Work

- 2.3.1 An archaeological Evaluation representing a 2% sample was recently undertaken within the wider planning application boundary adjacent to Areas 2 and 7, within Areas 3, 4 and 5 (Wardell Armstrong LLP, 2020 a). The Evaluation revealed limited evidence of post-medieval activity within Areas 3, 4 and 5. This included a previously recorded Holloway within Areas 3 & 4 (HER Ref: **WSM57885**) from which there was no evidence of related deposits, features or finds. The Holloway was likely used as a trackway from an area of quarrying.
- 2.3.2 In the far south of Area 4, a spread of post-medieval material at the base of a natural hollow suggests an attempt to level the surface of the field, perhaps indicating a more intensive agricultural use of the land. An isolated pit recorded towards the centre of Area 4 was limited in its interpretive value by the lack of any dateable finds or ecofacts.
- 2.3.3 Within Area 5, no archaeologically significant features or deposits were recorded. Whilst extant ridge and furrow was noted, this survived solely within the topsoil with no remains extending into the subsoil or natural substrate of the trenches.
- 2.3.4 The results of the evaluation indicate that the archaeological resource present within Areas 3, 4 and 5 was, with the exception of the Holloway, predominantly post-medieval and later and can be characterised as agricultural in nature. No datable archaeological features were recorded from earlier than the post-medieval period.

2.4 Conclusions

- 2.4.1 Based on the information outlined above, the Site appears to have been under agricultural use from the medieval period onwards, at least in part, with possible medieval ridge and furrow identified in Area 2. Whilst the HER records two areas of possible settlement within the Site, the geophysical survey did not conclusively identify any anomalies in either area. Nothing was recorded in relation to cropmarks

WSM09872 within Area 7 and within Area 2, an area of made ground in the vicinity of the possible settlement **WSM57880** was interpreted as a former quarry pit or pond.

2.4.2 Neither the geophysical survey or recent evaluation undertaken in the adjacent areas highlight potential for prehistoric, Romano-British or Anglo Saxon remains to be present within Areas 2 and 7, although there is a possible Romano-British saltway located along the north western boundary of Area 2 (HER Ref: **WSM37590**).

2.4.3 As such it was expected that features revealed would relate predominately to medieval and post medieval land management, such as ditches and field drains, and features of agricultural origin, such as ridge and furrow.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Standards and Guidance

3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA, 2014a), and in accordance with the WA fieldwork manual (WA, 2017).

3.1.2 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, 2020).

3.2 Archaeological Evaluation

3.2.1 The evaluation comprised 28 trenches measuring 50m by 1.80m, representing a 2% sample of Areas 2 and 7, which measures approximately 12.6ha, see BM11754-035. The trenches were placed with due regard to the location of services and taking into consideration ecological and arboricultural constraints. 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 development on the archaeological site;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes; and
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

3.2.2 And specifically, to:

- determine the presence or absence of below ground remains associated with the features indicative of possible settlement (HER references WSM57880 & WSM098720) and determine the character and date of the features as well as any associated archaeological deposits;
- determine the presence or absence of below ground remains of potential medieval date, which may be associated with the medieval agrarian practices recorded by the HER;

- determine the necessity for targeted full excavation within Area 2 & 7; and
- inform discussions regarding archaeological evaluation within other parts of the larger development area as they come forwards.

3.2.3 Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. A toothed bucket was utilised to remove a rolled sand deposit from Trenches 7.5 and 7.6 due to the compact nature of the deposit. All possible features or deposits 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 WA standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (2017).

3.2.4 All finds were retained on site and returned to the company 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 WA 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 (Walkinson & Neal, 1998). 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; and
- material that has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

3.2.5 On completion the evaluation trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material, which where possible was stored separately to prevent topsoil and subsoil mixing and was backfilled in sequence.

3.3 Site Archive

3.3.1 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 Worcestershire County Museum, with copies of the report sent to the Worcestershire HER, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique HER accession number **WSM69270**.

3.3.2 Wardell Armstrong LLP supports the **Online Access** to the Index of Archaeological Investigation**S** (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 WA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: **wardella2-404843**.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken between the 16th September to the 1st October, with 28 trenches excavated across Areas 2 and 7 (See BM11754-035). The trenches were placed as specified in the Methodology (Section 3).

4.1.2 Two of the trenches were specifically placed to investigate possible settlements and cropmarks as recorded by HER within the evaluation area.

4.1.3 Results are detailed below by trench, deposit numbers are given in **(parenthesis)** and cut numbers are given in **[square brackets]**.

4.2 Area 2 (BM11754-039)

4.2.1 In Area 2 15 trenches were excavated

4.2.2 **Trench 2.1 (Plate 1)** was situated in the northeast of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.65m. The natural substrate **(2103)** consisted of mid reddish pink, clay sand with sparse small stone inclusions at 125.53m AOD. A 1m wide sandstone band was present in the northwest end of the trench orientated northeast to southwest. The natural substrate **(2103)** was overlain by a 0.22m thick deposit of mid brownish pink clay sand subsoil **(2102)**. The trench was sealed by a reddish-brown sandy silt topsoil **(2101)** which was 0.19m thick.

4.2.3 Trench 2.1 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.4 **Trench 2.2 (Plate 2 and BM11754-036)** was situated in the northern end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.70m. The natural substrate **(2203)** consisted of reddish-brown sandy clay with bands of light yellowish-brown clay at 130.41m AOD. This was overlain by a 0.36m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy clay subsoil **(2202)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil **(2201)** measuring 0.15m thick. Twelve ceramic building material (CBM) fragments were recovered from the subsoil **(2202)**.

4.2.5 Trench 2.2 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.6 **Trench 2.3** was situated in the northeast of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.37m and maximum depth of 0.75m. The natural substrate **(2303)** consisting of reddish pink clayey sand at 125.65m AOD had a 1m wide band of sandstone orientated northeast to southwest through the trench.

The natural substrate (**2303**) was overlain by a 0.39m thick deposit of clay sand subsoil (**2302**). The trench was sealed by a reddish-brown sandy silt topsoil (**2301**) measuring 0.13m thick.

4.2.7 Trench 2.3 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.8 **Trench 2.4 (BM11754-036)** was situated in the north of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.30m and maximum depth of 0.60m. The natural substrate (**2403**) consisted of reddish pink clayey sand at 127.30m AOD and was overlain by a 0.34m thick deposit of brownish pink clayey sand subsoil (**2402**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown sandy silt topsoil (**2401**) measuring 0.12m thick. One cbm fragment and one piece of flint debitage were recovered from the subsoil (**2402**).

4.2.9 A possible subcircular pit [**2404**] measuring 0.76m in length, 0.73m in width and 0.27m in depth (to 130.53m AOD) cut into the natural substrate (**2403**). Possible pit [**2404**] was filled by 2 fills (**2405**) and (**2406**) (**Plate 3**). The lower fill (**2405**) was a 0.17m thick dark reddish pink sandy clay with moderate charcoal flecking, this was overlain by the upper fill (**2406**), which comprised reddish brown sandy clay, and measured 0.11m thick. There were no finds within feature [**2404**].

4.2.10 **Trench 2.5** was situated in the northern end of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.35m and maximum depth of 0.65m (**Plate 4**). The natural substrate (**2503**) consisted of reddish brown sandy clay in the northeast end of the trench and a yellowish brown silty sand at the southwestern end of trench at 125.91m AOD. The natural substrate (**2503**) was overlain by a 0.24m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy clay subsoil (**2502**). The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil (**2501**) measuring 0.15m in thickness.

4.2.11 Trench 2.5 was devoid of archaeological features. A 3m wide furrow orientated north to south runs through the topsoil (**2501**); it cannot be seen in the subsoil (**2502**) or natural (**2503**) (**Plate 5**)

4.2.12 **Trench 2.6** was situated in the centre of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 1.10m. The natural substrate (**2603**) consisted of orangey brown sandy clay at 122.83m AOD and was overlain by a 0.25m thick deposit of yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil (**2602**). The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil (**2601**) measuring 0.15m thick.

4.2.13 Trench 2.6 was devoid of archaeological features.

- 4.2.14 **Trench 2.7 (Plate 6)** was situated in the northwest of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.43m and maximum depth of 0.85m. The natural substrate (**2703**) consisted of orangey brown silty clay at 122.52m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.30m thick deposit of orangey brown silty sand subsoil (**2702**). The trench was sealed by a brown silty sand topsoil (**2701**) measuring 0.20m thick.
- 4.2.15 Trench 2.7 was devoid of archaeological features. Earthworks of a ridge and furrow system orientated north to south was within the trenching area; they are visible as you walk across the field but were not seen within the trench section (**Plate 7**)
- 4.2.16 **Trench 2.8** was situated in the northwest end of the site and orientated north to south. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.95m. The natural substrate (**2803**) consisted of orangey brown sandy clay at 120.24m AOD and was overlain by a 0.30m thick deposit of yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil (**2801**). The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil (**2801**) measuring 0.20m thick (**Plate 8**).
- 4.2.17 Trench 2.8 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.2.18 **Trench 2.9** was situated in the western end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.80m. The natural substrate (**2903**) consisted of yellowish brown silty sand at the southwest end of the trench and reddish brown sandy clay at the northeast end of the trench at 118.00m AOD. The natural substrate (**2903**) was overlain by a 0.28m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy silt subsoil (**2902**). The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil (**2901**) measuring 0.19m thick.
- 4.2.19 Trench 2.9 was devoid of archaeological features. A 20th century land drain orientated northwest to southeast was exposed by the trench.
- 4.2.20 **Trench 2.10 (BM11754-036)** was situated in the western edge of the site and orientated east to west. It had a minimum depth of 0.22m and maximum depth of 0.80m. The natural substrate (**21003**) consisted of yellowish brown sandy silt with abundant gravels mixed with bands of yellow sand at 115.66m AOD. This was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy silt subsoil (**21002**). The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil (**21001**) measuring 0.14m thick.
- 4.2.21 The archaeology identified within Trench 2.10, comprised of a former hedgerow line [**21004**] at 115.70m AOD. The linear cut [**21004**] was irregular with undulating sides and base, measuring 18.80m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.29m deep in the half of the feature exposed within the trench, the rest was under the bulk. The singular

0.29m thick fill **(21005)** was an orangey brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal. **(Plate 9)** No finds are associated with this hedgerow **[21004]**.

4.2.22 **Trench 2.11** was situated in the south end of the site and was orientated east to west. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.70m. The natural substrate **(21103)** consisted of orangey brown sandy clay at 120.30m AOD and was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil **(21102)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil **(21101)** measuring 0.20m thick **(Plate 10)**. Six cbm fragments were recovered from the subsoil **(21102)**.

4.2.23 Trench 2.11 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.24 **Trench 2.12 (Plate 11 and BM11754-036)** was situated in the southeast end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 2.20m. The natural substrate **(21203)** consisted of reddish brown silty clay at 119.23m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.75m thick deposit of a reddish brown sandy silt with modern debris and rubbish layer **(21202)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil **(21201)** measuring 0.07m thick. Five brick fragments were recovered as a sample of the rubble within deposit **(21202)**.

4.2.25 A possible ditch **[21205]** cut into the natural substrate **(21203)** at 117.88m AOD overlain by **(21202)**. Ditch **[21205]** was filled by a greyish sand clay **(21204)** which had been contaminated by the rubbish and modern debris deposit **(21202)** **(Plate 12)** No finds are associated with ditch **[21205]**. There was also one 20th century land drain orientated northwest to southeast exposed within the trench.

4.2.26 **Trench 2.13** was situated in the south of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.70m. The natural substrate **(21303)** consisted of brown to reddish brown silty sand at 119.98m AOD and was overlain by a 0.24m thick deposit of yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil **(21302)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil **(21301)** measuring 0.20m thick.

4.2.27 Trench 2.13 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.28 **Trench 2.14 (Plate 13)** was situated in the southeast end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.30m and maximum depth of 1m. The natural substrate **(21403)** consisted of yellowish brown sandy clay with bands of reddish brown sandy clay at 121.79m AOD and was overlain by a 0.28m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy silt subsoil **(21402)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy

silt topsoil **(21401)** measuring 0.14m thick. Four tile fragments were recovered from the topsoil **(21401)**.

4.2.29 Trench 2.14 was devoid of archaeological features.

4.2.30 **Trench 2.15** was situated in the eastern end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.60m and maximum depth of 0.98m. The natural substrate **(21503)** consisted of orangey brown sandy clay at 121.70m AOD and was overlain by a 0.67m thick deposit of orangey brown silty clay subsoil **(21502)**. The trench was sealed by a brown sandy silt topsoil **(21501)** measuring 0.11m thick.

4.2.31 Trench 2.15 was devoid of archaeological features. There was one 20th century land drain orientated northwest to southeast exposed within the trench.

4.2.32 **Area 2 Summary:** Area 2 is largely devoid of archaeological remains.

4.2.33 Trenches 2.9, 2.12 and 2.15 show evidence of land management through 20th century land drains representing at least one system of 20th century land drains orientated northwest to southeast.

4.2.34 Trenches 2.5 and 2.7 show evidence of the extant medieval ridge and furrow agricultural system although very little remains below ground level.

4.2.35 Trench 2.10 shows evidence of a former field boundary in the form of a possibly burnt out hedgerow.

4.2.36 Trench 2.4 contains an undated pit **[2404]** with a flint debitage coming from the same trench.

4.2.37 Trench 2.12 was contaminated by a modern rubble deposit **(21202)** which has heavily truncated and stained the ditch **[21205]** at the very base of the trench.

4.2.38 The other 8 trenches excavated in this field were negative.

4.3 **Area 7 (BM11754-040)**

4.3.1 In Area 7 there were 13 trenches excavated.

4.3.2 **Trench 7.1 (Plate 14 and BM11754-037)** was situated in the northeast end of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.31m and maximum depth of 0.79m. The natural substrate **(7101)** consisted of an orangish brown clay at 122.63m AOD and was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of orangish brown silty clay subsoil **(7102)**. The trench was sealed by a reddish brown sandy silt topsoil **(7101)** measuring 0.33m thick. Four tile fragments and one clay pipe stem were recovered from the topsoil **(7101)**.

- 4.3.3 Trench 7.1 was devoid of archaeological features. There were two 20th century land drains exposed within the trench, one was orientated north to south and the other was orientated northwest to southeast.
- 4.3.4 **Trench 7.2 (BM11754-037)** was situated in the northeast of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.32m and maximum depth of 0.50m. The natural substrate (**7203**) consisted of orangey brown silty clay with bands of reddish brown clay at 122.97m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7202**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown sandy silt topsoil (**7201**) measuring 0.25m thick. One ceramic fragment and one glass fragment were recovered from the topsoil (**7201**).
- 4.3.5 Trench 7.2 was devoid of archaeological features. There were two 20th century land drains exposed in the trench, both orientated north to south.
- 4.3.6 **Trench 7.3** was situated in the northeast of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.28m and maximum depth of 0.45m. The natural substrate (**7303**) consisted of orangey brown silty clay at 124.29m AOD and was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7302**). The trench was sealed by a dark reddish brown silty clay topsoil (**7301**) measuring 0.12m thick (**Plate 15**). Two cbm fragments were recovered from the topsoil (**7301**).
- 4.3.7 Trench 7.3 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.8 **Trench 7.4 (BM11754-037)** was situated in the east of the site and orientated north to south. It had a minimum depth of 0.30m and maximum depth of 0.55m. The natural substrate (**7403**) consisted of orangish brown silty clay with greyish blue silty clay mottling at 125.10m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.16m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7402**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown silty clay topsoil (**7401**) which was 0.20m thick. Two pottery sherds and one aluminium window latch were recovered from the topsoil (**7401**).
- 4.3.9 Trench 7.4 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.10 **Trench 7.5 (BM11754-037)** was situated in the centre of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.38mm and maximum depth of 1.73m. The natural substrate (**7503**) consisted of orangish brown silty clay with reddish brown bands of clay at 122.82m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.25m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7502**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown silty sand topsoil (**7501**) measuring 0.17m thick. One fragment of land drain and one piece of ceramic were recovered from the topsoil (**7501**).

- 4.3.11 A yellow rolled sand deposit (**7504**) measuring 1.23m in thickness down to 121.09m AOD at the base of terminus with near vertical sides and a concave base (**Plate 16**). No finds were recovered from deposit (**7504**). There was a 20th century land drain orientated northwest to southeast that was exposed in this trench.
- 4.3.12 **Trench 7.6** was situated in the centre of the site and orientated southwest to northeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.30m and maximum depth of 1.80m. The natural substrate (**7603**) consisted of brownish red silty clay with bands of orangey brown clay at 123.37m AOD; it was overlain by a 0.19m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7602**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown silty sand topsoil (**7601**) 0.13m thick.
- 4.3.13 A yellow rolled sand deposit (**7604**), measuring 1.47m thick to a depth of 121.89m AOD, was exposed to 22 m in length within the trench and continued under both sides of the bulk. Deposit (**7604**) had gradual sides and a concave base. (**Plate 17**). No finds were recovered from deposit (**7604**).
- 4.3.14 **Trench 7.7 (BM11754-037)** was situated in the centre of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.40m and maximum depth of 0.60m. The natural substrate (**7703**) consisted of orangish brown silty clay with bands of reddish brown clay at 119.02m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.18m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay subsoil (**7702**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown silty sand topsoil (**7701**) measuring 0.20m thick (**Plate 18**).
- 4.3.15 Trench 7.7 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.16 **Trench 7.8** was situated in the southern end of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.45m and maximum depth of 0.65m. The natural substrate (**7803**) consisted of orangey brown sandy clay at 117.63m AOD and was overlain by a 0.40m thick deposit of orangey brown sandy clay subsoil (**7802**). The trench was sealed by a brown silty sand topsoil (**7801**) measuring 0.14m thick.
- 4.3.17 Trench 7.8 was devoid of archaeological features. There were five 20th century land drains running north to south across the trench.
- 4.3.18 **Trench 7.9 (Plate 19)** was situated in the centre of the site and orientated north to south. It had a minimum depth of 0.32m and maximum depth of 0.53m. The natural substrate (**7903**) consisted of pinkish red clayey sand at 117.40m AOD and was overlain by a 0.15m thick deposit of pinkish red clayey sand subsoil (**7902**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown sandy silt topsoil (**7901**) measuring 0.30m thick.

- 4.3.19 Trench 7.9 was devoid of archaeological features. One 19th century land drain, orientated northeast to southwest, was exposed within the trench.
- 4.3.20 **Trench 7.10 (BM11754-038)** was situated in the west of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.51m and maximum depth of 1.22m. The natural substrate (**71004**) consisted of orangey pink clayey sand at 113.98m AOD and was overlain by a 0.71m thick deposit of orangish pink silty sand with subrounded pebbles (**71003**). This layer (**71003**) was then covered by a 0.30m thick pinkish red clayey sand subsoil (**71002**). The trench was sealed by a reddish brown sandy silt topsoil (**71001**) measuring 0.32m. (**Plate 20**)
- 4.3.21 Trench 7.10 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.22 **Trench 7.11** was situated in the west of the site and orientated east to west. It had a minimum depth of 0.45m and maximum depth of 0.80m. The natural substrate (**71103**) consisted of an orangish brown silty sand with occasional bands of reddish brown and grey clay at 114.34m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of yellowish brown silty sand subsoil (**71102**). The trench was sealed by a brown silty sand topsoil (**71101**) measuring 0.25m thick.
- 4.3.23 Trench 7.11 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.24 **Trench 7.12 (Plate 21)** was situated in the southwest of the site and orientated northwest to southeast. It had a minimum depth of 0.50m and maximum depth of 0.80m. The natural substrate (**71203**) consisted of orangey yellow mottled sandy silt with gravel and clay bands at 113.60m AOD, and was overlain by a 0.23m thick deposit of greyish brown sandy silt subsoil (**71202**). The trench was sealed by a greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (**71201**) measuring 0.38m thick. One clay pipe bowl was recovered from the topsoil (**71201**).
- 4.3.25 Trench 7.12 was devoid of archaeological features.
- 4.3.26 **Trench 7.13 (Plate 22 and BM11754-038)** was situated in the southwest of the site and orientated northeast to southwest. It had a minimum depth of 0.30m and maximum depth of 0.65m. The natural substrate (**71303**) consisted of reddish grey sand with bands of clay and gravel at 113.83m AOD and was overlain by a 0.10m thick deposit of brown sandy silt subsoil (**71302**). The trench was sealed by a topsoil (**71301**) of brown sandy silt with reddish grey bands measuring 0.20m thick. Two fragments of tile and one metal pin were recovered from the subsoil (**71302**).

- 4.3.27 Trench 7.13 was devoid of archaeological features. There was evidence of modern ploughing in the form of plough scars at a depth of 114.90m AOD.
- 4.3.28 **Area 7 Summary:** Area 7 is largely devoid of archaeological remains.
- 4.3.29 Trenches 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5, 7.8 and 7.9 show evidence of land management in the form of 19th and 20th century land drains. There are at least three systems of 20th century land drains orientated north/south, northeast/southwest and northwest/southeast. There is also evidence for a 19th century northeast to southwest orientated land drain system.
- 4.3.30 Trenches 7.5 and 7.6 show evidence of a large-scale land levelling programme using waste from the local quarry. Unfortunately, no dateable evidence was recovered from either of these two events within the trenches.
- 4.3.31 Trench 7.13 shows evidence of modern farming practices with the exposure of modern plough scars.
- 4.3.32 The other six trenches excavated in this field were blank.

5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of 47 artefacts, weighing 9,916g, was recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits as well as layer **(12102)** during the archaeological investigation on Areas 2 and 7 (Table 5.1). Artefacts comprised pottery, ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, aluminium (Al), iron (Fe) and glass (Tables 5.2-5.8). All of the artefacts are of late post-medieval to modern date. The finds were in poor to good condition with edges and surfaces displaying evidence of post-depositional damage, possibly as a result of agricultural activity such as manuring / ploughing.

5.1.2 The artefacts were retained with the archive; no finds were recovered from environmental samples.

5.2 Methodology

5.2.1 The material was cleaned prior to examination; this was either through washing robust material, such as pottery and glass, while metal artefacts were left to air-dry then dry-brushed.

5.2.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials (2020). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011) and EAC (2014). Recording guidelines also follow material published by the Society for Museum Archaeologists (2020a; 2020b ; 2020c; SMA Material Fact Sheet: Glass, 2020d). The project has the unique identifier **WA 2020 / BM11754 / WSM69270**.

5.2.3 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).

| Tr No | Context | Cut | Description | Pot | CBM | CTP | GI | Fe | Al | Fli |
|-------|---------|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 2.11 | 21102 | N/A | Yellowish brown sandy silt subsoil | | Yes | | | | | |
| 2.12 | 12102 | N/A | Reddish brown sandy silt layer with modern debris and rubble | | Yes | | | | | |
| 2.2 | 2202 | N/A | Orange-brown sandy clay subsoil | | Yes | | | | | |
| 2.4 | 2402 | N/A | Brownish pink clayey sand subsoil | | Yes | | | | | Yes |
| 7.1 | 7101 | N/A | Reddish brown sandy silt topsoil | | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| 7.12 | 71201 | N/A | Greyish brown sandy silt topsoil | | | Yes | | | | |
| 7.13 | 71302 | N/A | Brown sandy silt subsoil | | Yes | | | Yes | | |
| 7.2 | 7201 | N/A | Reddish brown sandy silt topsoil | Yes | | | Yes | | | |

| Tr No | Context | Cut | Description | Pot | CBM | CTP | Gl | Fe | Al | Fli |
|-------|---------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 7.3 | 7301 | N/A | Dark reddish-brown silty clay topsoil | | Yes | | | | | |
| 7.4 | 7401 | N/A | Reddish brown silty clay topsoil | Yes | | | | | Yes | |
| 7.5 | 7501 | N/A | Reddish brown silty sand topsoil | Yes | Yes | | | | | |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; Pot = pottery; CBM = ceramic building material; Gl = glass; CTP = clay tobacco pipe; Fe = iron; Fli = flint

5.3 Lithics

5.3.1 A single flint débitage flake, weighing 4g, was recovered from subsoil **(2402)** (Table 5.2). The artefact is in good condition.

5.3.2 The flint artefact is of general prehistoric date and undiagnostic in nature.

5.3.3 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|-----|---------|-------------|--------------|---|
| 2.4 | 2402 | 1 | 4 | Prehistoric | Neo-IA | Very small débitage flake, refined period not defined |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context, PM-Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Qty = quantity; Wgt = weight; Neo = Neolithic; IA = Iron Age

5.4 Late Post-medieval to Modern Pottery

5.4.1 A total of four sherds of late post-medieval to modern pottery, weighing 35g, was recovered from three topsoil deposits (Table 5.3). The sherds are in good condition with clean, unabraded edges and surfaces.

5.4.2 The pottery was examined with a x10 hand lens and recorded according to published national guidelines (PCRG,SGRP,MPRG, 2016). Post-medieval pottery used mnemonic codes when they could be identified; this was undertaken using material published by MOLA (MOLA, 2015) and the Worcestershire online ceramics database when possible (Worcestershire County Council, 2020). The codes appear in parenthesis below.

5.4.3 At least four vessels are present in the assemblage. One body sherd and three base sherds are present.

5.4.4 Fabric types include tin-glazed monochrome earthenware (DELFT), a very small sherd of glazed refined red earthenware (REFR; Fabric 78), a sherd of blue Transfer printed ware (TRB, Fabric 85) and buff earthenware (BEARTH; Fabric 91).

5.4.5 Vessel types include jars and medium-sized plates.

5.4.6 The small assemblage spans the late 18th to early 20th century.

5.4.7 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | MNV | Fabric Code | Date | Refined Date | Notes | Rim | Base | Body |
|-------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------|--|-----|------|------|
| 7.2 | 7201 | 1 | 2 | 1 | REFR (Fabric 78) | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Tiny sherd of black glazed red earthenware | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 7.4 | 7401 | 2 | 29 | 2 | DELFT, BEARTH (Fabric 91) | PM-Mod | 18th - E 20th C | Base sherd of tin-glazed earthenware, body sherd of buff earthenware | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 7.5 | 7501 | 1 | 4 | 1 | TRB (Fabric 85) | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Miscellaneous sherd of blue Transfer printed ware | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | 4 | 35 | 4 | | | | | | | |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; MNV = minimum number of vessels; REFR = refined red earthenware; TRB – blue Transfer printed ware; BEARTH = buff earthenware; DELFT = tin-glazed earthenware or imported Delftware; PM – Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Wgt = weight; Qty = quantity

5.5 Ceramic Building Material

5.5.1 A total of 37 fragments of late post-medieval to modern ceramic building material, weighing 9,788g, was recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits (Table 5.4). Identification of the ceramic building material was aided using McCornish (2015). The fragments are in moderate condition and are abraded.

5.5.2 The artefacts comprise fragments of brick and tile. No tiler's marks or decoration was observed. Five semi-complete to complete bricks were recovered from context **(21202)**; one of the bricks was stamped with L.B.C. (London Brick Company).

5.5.3 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|-----------|-------------|--------|----------------------|--|
| 2.2 | 2202 | 12 | 806 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Miscellaneous fragments of brick and tile |
| 2.4 | 2402 | 1 | 82 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Tile fragment |
| 7.1 | 7101 | 4 | 41 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Fragment of plain tile |
| 7.3 | 7301 | 2 | 114 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Fragment of plain tiles |
| 7.5 | 7501 | 1 | 10 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Fragment of land-drain |
| 2.11 | 21102 | 6 | 146 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Fragments of tile |
| 2.12 | 21202 | 5 | 8440 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | 5 brick fragments, one with an L.B.C. stamp - London Brick Range (frogged) |
| 2.14 | 21401 | 4 | 30 | PM-Mod | Late 19th - E 20th C | Fragment of plain tiles |
| 7.13 | 71302 | 2 | 119 | - | - | Conjoining fragments of tile |
| | | 37 | 9788 | | | |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; CBM = ceramic building material, PM-Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Wgt = weight; Qty = quantity

5.6 Clay Tobacco Pipe

5.6.1 Two fragments of clay tobacco pipe, weighing 16g, were recovered from two contexts (Table 5.5). The fragments are in moderate condition and display some evidence of abrasion.

5.6.2 The artefact from topsoil (**7101**) comprises a plain stem fragment and the artefact from topsoil (**71201**) comprises a bowl with either a floral or sun stamp on one side.

5.6.3 Both artefacts date to the post-medieval period; the stem fragment dates to the late 19th century while the bowl is likely to be of late 17th to early 18th century date.

5.6.4 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|----------|-----------|------|-------------------------|--|
| 7.1 | 7101 | 1 | 4 | PM | Late 19th C | Plain stem fragment |
| 7.12 | 71201 | 1 | 12 | PM | Late 17th - E 18th C | Internal stem diameter 2.22mm, bowl with partial flower or sun stamp |
| | | 2 | 16 | | | |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; PM = post-medieval; C = century; Wgt = weight; Qty = quantity

5.7 Glass

5.7.1 A single clear glass shard, weighing 3g, was recovered from topsoil (**7201**) (Table 5.6). The shard is in good condition.

5.7.2 The artefact originated from a bottle and it is likely to be of 20th century date.

5.7.3 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Material Type | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|---------------|-----|---------|------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 7.2 | 7201 | Glass | 1 | 3 | Mod | 20th C | Tiny shard of clear bottle glass |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; PM – Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Wgt = weight; Qty = quantity

5.8 Iron (Fe)

5.8.1 A single iron artefact, weighing 49g, was recovered from subsoil (**71302**) (Table 5.7). The artefact is in poor to moderate condition and rust corrosion is present on all surfaces.

5.8.2 The artefact comprises either a tent peg or a hook and is of modern date.

5.8.3 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|-----|---------|------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 7.13 | 71302 | 1 | 49 | Mod | 20th C | Probable tent peg or hook |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; PM – Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Fe = iron; Wgt = weight; Qty = quantity

5.9 Aluminium (Al)

5.9.1 A single aluminium artefact, weighing 21g, was recovered from topsoil (**7401**) (Table 5.8). The artefact is in good condition.

5.9.2 The object comprises a modern window latch.

5.9.3 No further analysis is recommended.

| Tr No | Context | Qty | Wgt (g) | Date | Refined Date | Notes |
|-------|---------|-----|---------|------|--------------|---------------------|
| 7.4 | 7401 | 1 | 21 | Mod | 20th C | Modern window latch |

Key: Tr = Trench No; Con = context; PM – Mod = post-medieval to modern; C = century; Wgt = weight; Al = aluminium; Qty = quantity

5.10 Statement of Potential and Recommendations

5.10.1 While the recovery of the finds from Areas 2 and 7 provides evidence of late post-medieval to modern activity on the site / in close proximity, they are of low archaeological significance overall. Further analysis on these finds would not contribute to any archaeological research frameworks in the West Midlands (Watt, 2011).

5.10.2 The artefacts will be retained for a period of six months.

6 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A single bulk environmental sample was presented for assessment following the archaeological works at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath, Redditch.

6.1.2 This report presents the results of the assessment of the environmental samples, palaeobotanical and charcoal remains in accordance with Campbell *et al.* (2011) and Historic England (HE, 2015).

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 One bulk environmental sample was processed at Wardell Armstrong LLP. The colour, lithology, weight, and volume were recorded using standard Wardell Armstrong pro forma recording sheets. cf. Tables 6.1 and 6.2. The sample was processed with 500-micron retention and flotation meshes using the Siraf method of flotation (Williams, 1973). Once dried, the residues from the retention mesh were sieved to 4mm and the artefacts and ecofacts removed from the larger fraction and forwarded to the finds department. The smaller fraction was scanned with a magnet for microslags such as hammerscales. This fraction was then examined for smaller artefacts such as beads.

6.2.2 The flot and charcoal were retained and scanned using a stereo microscope (up to x45 magnification) see Table 6.2 for more detail.

6.2.3 The charcoal fragments were identified to species as far as possible, using Hather (2000), Schweingruber (1982) and the author's reference collection. Nomenclature for plant taxa followed Stace (2010).

6.3 Results

6.3.1 A total weight of 12kg (8l) of sandy silt sediment was processed. No artefactual material was recovered from the sample.

6.3.2 A total weight of 7.08g of charcoal was recovered from sample which was taken from fill **(21005)** of possible hedgerow **[21004]**. The charcoal was in an excellent to good state of preservation. The majority was identified as rose (Rosaceae) and privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*), some poplar or willow (*Salix/Populus*) was also included, but in much smaller quantities.

Table 6.1 Sample Information

| C | <> | Desc | Cut | Colour | Matrix | PW | PV | SW | SV |
|-------|----|------------------|-------|----------------------|--------|----|----|------|-----|
| 21005 | 1 | Fill of hedgerow | 21004 | Dark Yellowish Brown | Loose | 12 | 8 | 1326 | 700 |

Key: C=context; <>=sample number; Desc=description of context; Cut=cut number; Colour=Colour of sediment when processed; Matrix=matrix of sediment; PW=processed weight(kg); PV=processed volume(l); SW=sorted weight(g); SV=sorted volume(ml)

Table 6.2 Finds and Flot Information

| C | <> | Flot | | | Retent |
|-------|----|------|-----|------|--------|
| | | FW | FV | Ch | Ch |
| 21005 | 1 | 26.5 | 140 | 6.08 | 1 |

Key: C=context; <>=sample number; FW=flot weight(g); FV=volume of flot(ml); Ch=weight of recovered charcoal(g)

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 With only one sample being taken on site it is difficult to gain much insight into human intervention at Webheath. However if the sample was indeed taken from a hedgerow ditch it could potentially be an example of strategic burning of hedgerows in order to manage growth and keep boundaries clear as was seen with heathland (Rackham, 1986). The species identified in the charcoal would indicate a hedgerow being the likely origin of the material.

6.4.2 An alternative would be that the charcoal was deposited as part of the rubbish from a burning event. In this case it could show the hedgerow as a convenient source of fuel and an area of rubbish deposition.

6.5 Radiocarbon Suitability

6.5.1 Any fragment of charcoal would be suitable for radiocarbon submission; however, it would be useful to date the feature by other means prior to submission to offset against the charcoal being deposited through a natural event and not human intervention.

6.6 Statement of potential and recommendations

6.6.1 Should further work be required in the area it is recommended that a sampling strategy is focused on any similar charcoal fills to establish whether this is deposition of waste or management of the hedgerows

6.6.2 No further work is necessary on this assemblage and the charcoal may be discarded once the project is complete.

7 SYNTHESIS

- 7.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP was commissioned by St Philips to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Area 2 and 7 of the Central Phase of a proposed development at land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath, Redditch, Worcestershire.
- 7.1.2 During the archaeological evaluation at Areas 2 and 7, 28 trenches were excavated over 2 fields, covering 2,520m² (2.52ha) of the proposed 12.6ha development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity.
- 7.1.3 All trenches were excavated down to the top of the natural substrate.
- 7.1.4 Archaeological remains were found in four trenches in Area 2. While the rest either contained no archaeological features or obviously modern features. The remains were concentrated mainly along the northern edge of Area 2 with one outlier in the most south easterly trench in Area 2.
- 7.1.5 There was no evidence of potential settlements recorded on the HER through lidar and cropmark evidence and no evidence for the Romano British saltway reputed as being potentially present within the northwestern boundary of Area 2 was present.
- 7.1.6 The data recovered indicated past activity on the Site dated to the post medieval to modern periods. This activity was represented by the existence of numerous 19th to 20th century land drains and the presence of ceramic and CBM fragments also relating to this period. Earlier post medieval evidence includes a piece of tin glazed earthenware located in **(7401)** which provides tentative date to the 18th to early 20th century andnd a clay pipe bowl recovered from **(71201)** with a late 17th to early 18th century date.
- 7.1.7 Evidence for earlier activity was limited to a residual flint flake of broad prehistoric date. This was recorded in Trench 2.4 which also contained an undated pit **[2404]** While Trench 2.5 and 2.7 showed evidence of extant medieval ridge and furrow the survival of the remains was poor and were only surface level. No dateable evidence, such as pottery, was recovered.
- 7.1.8 In general there was a lack of archaeological contexts across Site. Survival may have been influenced by past ploughing and modern land intervention in both areas, though it was more likely that they were simply never there.
- 7.1.9 In Area 2; Trench 2.10 shows below ground evidence of a former field boundary in the form of a possibly burnt out hedgerow which is supported by the analysis of the

environmental sample which indicates it was a typical country hedgerow of a mix of rose, privet and poplar, there is no evidence of this on the surface. Trench 2.12 was heavily contaminated by a modern rubble deposit **(21202)** containing early 19th to 20th century brick and modern wiring which had heavily truncated and stained the ditch **[21205]** at the very base of the trench of which little remains. This is the location of the possible settlement mentioned in the HER (**HER Reference: WSM57880**) which has also been tentatively described as a former quarry pit or pond but whatever was here has been mostly removed by the intervention to bury the rubble deposit **(21202)**.

7.1.10 In Area 7; Trenches 7.5 and 7.6 show evidence of a land levelling programme using waste from the local quarry. Unfortunately, no dateable evidence was recovered from either of these two events within the trenches. Trench 7.13 shows evidence of modern farming practices with the exposure of modern plough scars.

7.1.11 Based on the results of the evaluation, it can be concluded that the archaeological resource present within Areas 2 and 7 is predominately agricultural and both areas have had major land management and disturbance from the 19th century to the present day. Apart from a single residual flint flake of broad prehistoric date and surface/topsoil evidence of ridge and furrow which may have been medieval in date, there is little evidence for activity earlier than the post-medieval period across the Site and any remains are restricted to Area 2. These include the area of medieval ridge and furrow, an undated pit, a flint debitage flake from the subsoil and a heavily truncated feature contaminated by modern rubbish.

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Appendix 1

Trench Descriptions

Appendix 1: Trench Descriptions

Trench 2.1

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.48m Maximum Depth: 0.65m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 2101 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown, loose, sandy silt, heavily rooted. | 0.19m thick | Topsoil |
| 2102 | Layer | Mid brownish-pink, friable, clayey sand with sparse small (770mm) subrounded stone inclusions, moderate rooting. | 0.22m thick | Subsoil |
| 2103 | Layer | Mid reddish pink, friable, clayey sand with sparse small (770mm) subrounded stone inclusions. Sandstone band in NW end of trench. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.2

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast- Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.55m Maximum Depth: 0.70m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 2201 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt, rooting from turf in situ. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.15m thick | Topsoil |
| 2202 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown, friable sandy clay. Charcoal flecking and sparse stone inclusions. | 0.36m thick | Subsoil |
| 2203 | Layer | Dark reddish-brown firm sandy clay with bands of light yellowish-brown clay, | N/A | Natural substrate |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|----------------|
| | | charcoal flecking and sparse stone inclusions. | | |

Trench 2.3

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest-Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.56m Maximum Depth: 0.75m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 2301 | Layer | Mid reddish- brown, loose, sandy silt. Heavily rooted. | 0.13m thick | Topsoil |
| 2302 | Layer | Mid brownish-pink, friable, clayey sand. Sparse small (750mm) subrounded stone inclusions. Some sandy lamination | 0.39m thick | Subsoil |
| 2303 | Layer | Mid reddish-pink friable clayey sand. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.4

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.45m Maximum Depth: 0.60m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 2401 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown, loose, sandy silt. Heavily rooted. | 0.12m thick | Topsoil |
| 2402 | Layer | Mid brownish pink, friable, clayey sand. Sparse small (750mm) subrounded stone inclusions. Moderate rooting. | 0.34m thick | Subsoil |
| 2403 | Layer | Mid reddish-pink, friable, clayey sand with sparse small (750mm) subrounded stone inclusions | N/A | Natural substrate |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| 2404 | Cut | Sub-circular shaped with sharp top break of slope. Straight/sloping sides, gradual bottom break in slope leading to a flat bottom. | 0.27m depth 0.73m width 0.76m length | Possible cut for a pit. More likely rooting. Close proximity to flint find /1\ |
| 2405 | Fill | Dark reddish pink, firm, sandy clay. Moderate charcoal flecking. | 0.17m depth 0.6m width 0.73m length | Basal fill of possible pit [2404] |
| 2406 | Fill | Mid reddish brown, firm, sandy clay. Spare small stones and charcoal flecks. Some rooting. | 0.11m depth 0.73m width 0.76m length | Top fill of possible pit [2404] |

Trench 2.5

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.50m Maximum Depth: 0.65m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 2501 | Layer | Mid brown, sandy silt, loose. Turf in situ, rare rooting, stone inclusions. | 0.15m thick | Topsoil |
| 2502 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown sandy clay, friable, stone inclusions | 0.24m thick | Subsoil |
| 2503 | Layer | Varies. NE end of trench: dark reddish-brown, friable sandy clay. Charcoal flecking, sparse stone inclusions. SW end of trench: Mid yellowish brown, friable silty sand with charcoal flecking and sparse stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.6

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest

Average Depth: 0.75m

Maximum Depth: 1.10m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 2601 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt. Turf in situ, rooting and rare stone inclusions. | 0.15m thick | Topsoil |
| 2602 | Layer | Mid yellowish-brown, friable sandy silt, rare stone inclusions. | 0.25m thick | Subsoil |
| 2603 | Layer | Mid orangey brown sandy clay, friable, rare stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.7

Length: 50.00m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: Northwest-Southeast

Average Depth: 0.64m

Maximum Depth: 0.85m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 2701 | Layer | Mid brown loose silty sand. Turf in situ and rooting, sparse stone inclusions. | 0.20m thick | Topsoil |
| 2702 | Layer | Mid orangey brown, friable silty sand, sparse stone inclusions. | 0.30m thick | Subsoil |
| 2703 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown silty clay, rare stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.8

Length: 50.00m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: Northeast-Southwest

Average Depth: 0.67m

Maximum Depth: 0.95m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|----------------|
| 2801 | Layer | Mid brown, loose sandy silt with rooting. | 0.20m thick | Topsoil |
| 2802 | Layer | Mid yellowish brown, friable, sandy silt. | 0.30m thick | Subsoil |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------------|
| 2803 | Layer | Mid orangey brown sandy clay, friable, rare stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.9

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast-Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.60m Maximum Depth: 0.80m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 2901 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt. Turf in situ and rooting. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.19m thick | Topsoil |
| 2902 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown, friable sandy silt, rare stone inclusions. | 0.28m thick | Subsoil |
| 2903 | Layer | Varied. SW end: light yellowish brown, friable silty sand. NE end: mid reddish-brown sandy clay, friable. Sparse stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.10

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East-West
 Average Depth: 0.51m Maximum Depth: 0.80m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 21001 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt, rare stone inclusions. Turf in situ with heavy rooting. | 0.14m thick | Topsoil |
| 21002 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown friable sandy silt. Common stone inclusions. | 0.20m thick | Subsoil |
| 21003 | Layer | Light yellowish-brown, loose sandy silt. Abundant | N/A | Natural substrate |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|---|--|
| | | stone inclusions (gravelly). Bands of yellow sand without stone inclusions. Western end of trench mainly sandy with rare stone inclusions. | | |
| 21004 | Cut | Linear shaped with steep top break of slope. Irregular/undulating sides with a shallow bottom break of slope leading to an irregular/undulating base. E-W orientated. | 0.29m depth 0.5m + width 18.8m + length | Cut of possible hedgerow. |
| 21005 | Deposit | Dark orangey brown, friable, sandy silt. Rare stone inclusions and moderate charcoal. | 0.29m depth 0.5m+ width 18.8m + length | Fill of possible hedgerow [21004]. Presence of charcoal could indicate it was removed by fire. |

Trench 2.11

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East-West
 Average Depth: 0.55m Maximum Depth: 0.70m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 21101 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt. Rooting. | 0.20m thick | Topsoil |
| 21102 | Layer | Mid yellowish-brown, friable sandy silt. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.20m thick | Subsoil |
| 21103 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown, sandy clay, friable, rare stone inclusions | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.12

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast-Southwest
 Average Depth: 1.30m Maximum Depth: 2.20m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|---|
| 21201 | Layer | Dark greyish-brown sandy silt, friable, rooting contamination, rare stone inclusions. | 0.07m thick | Topsoil |
| 21202 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown sandy silt, friable, full of modern debris (brick, plastic, wire etc) | 0.75m thick | Layer of modern debris and rubbish, possibly levelling out a field |
| 21203 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown silty clay, firm. Rare stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |
| 21204 | Deposit | Dark greyish, firm, sandy clay. Rare stone inclusions. Contamination staining from (21202) | | Fill of possible ditch [21205]. (Unable to get measurements as was excavated by machine to 2.2m then backfilled) |
| 21205 | Cut | Linear shaped with gradual break in slope at top and bottom. Moderate sides with a fairly flat, slightly concave base. NW-SE orientated. | | Cut of possible ditch. (Unable to get measurements as was excavated by machine to 2.2m then backfilled) |

Trench 2.13

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast-Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.55m Maximum Depth: 0.70m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 21301 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt, rooting. | 0.20m thick | Topsoil |
| 21302 | Layer | Mid yellowish-brown, friable sandy silt. | 0.24m thick | Subsoil |
| 21303 | Layer | Varied from hard, light brown silty sand to light reddish- brown silty sand. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.14

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast-Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.65m Maximum Depth: 1.00m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 21401 | Layer | Mid brown, loose, sandy silt, turf in situ and rooting. | 0.14m thick | Topsoil |
| 21402 | Layer | Mid orangey brown, friable, sandy silt, rare stone inclusions. | 0.28m thick | Subsoil |
| 21403 | Layer | Light yellowish brown, friable sandy clay, sparse stone inclusions, occasional bands of dark reddish brown sandy clay. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 2.15

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East-West
 Average Depth: 0.79m Maximum Depth: 0.98m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 21501 | Layer | Mid brown, loose sandy silt, rooting contamination and rare stone inclusions. | 0.11m thick | Topsoil |
| 21502 | Layer | Mid orangey-brown, friable silty clay, sparse stone inclusions. | 0.67m thick | Subsoil |
| 21503 | Layer | Light orangey brown, sandy clay, friable with small infrequent bands of stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.1

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.55m Maximum Depth: 0.79m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7101 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, sandy silt. Rare stone inclusions | 0.33m | Topsoil |
| 7102 | Layer | Firm, mid orangish brown, silty clay. | 0.2m | Subsoil |
| 7103 | Layer | Firm, mis/light orangish brown, clay. | 0.19m + | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.2

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.41m Maximum Depth: 0.5m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7201 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, sandy silt. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.25m | Topsoil |
| 7202 | Layer | Firm, mid reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.20m | Subsoil |
| 7203 | Layer | Firm, mid/light orangish brown, silty clay with bands of mid reddish brown clay. Rare charcoal flecking. | 0.1m + | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.3

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast – Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.37m Maximum Depth: 0.45m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|----------------|
| 7301 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.12m | Topsoil |
| 7302 | Layer | Firm, mid reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.2m | Subsoil |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------------|
| 7303 | Layer | Firm mid/light orangish brown, silty clay with bands of light bluish grey mottling. | 0.13m + | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.4

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North - South

Average Depth: 0.42m Maximum Depth: 0.55m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7401 | Layer | Firm, dark reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.2m | Topsoil |
| 7402 | Layer | Firm, dark reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.16m | Subsoil |
| 7403 | Layer | Firm, dark orangish brown silty clay with greyish blue mottling. Very rare stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.5

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast

Average Depth: 1.06m Maximum Depth: 1.73m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7501 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, silty sand. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.17m | Topsoil |
| 7502 | Layer | Firm, mid reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.25m | Subsoil |
| 7503 | Layer | Firm, mid/light orangish brown, silty clay with bands of mid reddish brown clay. Rare charcoal | 0.17m + | Natural substrate |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|---|
| | | flecking and sparse areas of stone inclusions. | | |
| 7504 | Layer | Loose, light yellow rolled sand. (Looser on surface but gets much firmer as you go down.) | 1.2m | Believed to be from a local quarry. Deposited to level out field. |

Trench 7.6

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Southwest - Northeast
 Average Depth: 1.05m Maximum Depth: 1.8m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|---|
| 7601 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, silty sand. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.13m | Topsoil |
| 7602 | Layer | Firm, mid reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.19m | Subsoil |
| 7603 | Layer | Firm, mid brownish red, silty clay with bands of orangey brown clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.1m + | Natural substrate |
| 7604 | Layer | Loose, light yellow rolled sand. (Looser on surface but gets much firmer as you go down). | 1.47m | Believed to be from local quarry. Deposited to level out the field. |

Trench 7.7

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest = Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.5m Maximum Depth: 0.6m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|----------------|
| 7701 | Layer | Loose, dark reddish brown, silty sand. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.2m | Topsoil |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------------|
| 7702 | Layer | Firm, mid reddish brown, silty clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.18m | Subsoil |
| 7703 | Layer | Firm, mid/light orangish brown, silty clay with bands of mid reddish brown clay. Rare charcoal flecking and stone inclusions. | 0.23m + | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.8

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest
 Average Depth: 0.55m Maximum Depth: 0.65m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7801 | Layer | Loose, mid brown, silty sand. Turf in situ and rooting. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.14m | Topsoil |
| 7802 | Layer | Friable, mid orangish brown sandy clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.4m | Subsoil |
| 7803 | Layer | Friable, mid orangish brown sandy clay. Rare charcoal flecking and stone inclusions. | 0.8m+ | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.9

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: North - South
 Average Depth: 0.43m Maximum Depth: 0.53m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|----------------|
| 7901 | Layer | Loose, mid reddish brown, sandy silt. Sparse >70mm subrounded stone inclusions. Common rooting. | 0.3m | Topsoil |

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 7902 | Layer | Friable, dark pinkish red clayey sand with sparse small >100mm subrounded and subangular stone inclusions. Rare charcoal flecking. | 0.15m | Subsoil |
| 7903 | Layer | Friable, mid pinkish red clayey sand with sparse small >100m subrounded stone inclusions. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.10

Length: 50.00m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: East - West

Average Depth: 0.87m

Maximum Depth: 1.22m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|---|
| 71001 | Layer | Friable, mid reddish brown, sandy silt. Sparse small >50mm subrounded stone inclusions. Some rooting. | 0.32m | Topsoil |
| 71002 | Layer | Friable, mid pinkish red, sandy clay. Sparse small >70mm subrounded stone inclusions. | 0.30m | Subsoil |
| 71003 | Layer | Friable, mid orangish pink silty sand. Layer of subrounded pebbles at top of the context. | 0.71m | Believed to be from local quarry. Deposited to level out the field. |
| 71004 | Layer | Friable mid orangish pink clayey sand. Sparse small subrounded stone inclusions | N/A | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.11

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: East - West
 Average Depth: 0.63m Maximum Depth: 0.8m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 71101 | Layer | Loose, mid brown, silty sand. Turf in situ and rooting. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.25m | Topsoil |
| 71102 | Layer | Friable, mid yellowish brown, silty sand. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.2m | Subsoil |
| 71103 | Layer | Friable, light orangish brown silty sand with occasional bands of reddish brown and greyish brown clay. Rare stone inclusions. | 0.39 + | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.12

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northwest - Southeast
 Average Depth: 0.65m Maximum Depth: 0.8m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|---|------------|-------------------|
| 71201 | Layer | Loose, mid greyish brown sandy silt. Common stone inclusions. | 0.38m | Topsoil |
| 71202 | Layer | Friable, mid/dark greyish brown sandy silt. Abundant stone inclusions. Occasional gravel bands. | 0.23m | Subsoil |
| 71203 | Layer | Friable, light orangish yellow mottled sandy silt with gravel and clay bands. | 0.10m | Natural substrate |

Trench 7.13

Length: 50.00m Width: 1.80m Orientation: Northeast - Southwest
Average Depth: 0.48m Maximum Depth: 0.65m

| Context Number | Context Type | Description | Dimensions | Interpretation |
|----------------|--------------|--|------------|-------------------|
| 71301 | Layer | Loose, mid brown sandy silt with slight reddish grey bands. Frequent rounded stones. | 0.20m | Topsoil |
| 71302 | Layer | Friable, mid brown sandy silt. Occasional rounded stones. | 0.10m | Subsoil |
| 71303 | Layer | Friable, mid reddish grey sand with bands of clay and gravel. | N/A | Natural substrate |

Appendix 2

Plates



Picture Taken:
20/09/20

Plate
No. 1

Title: Overview shot of trench 2.1. Facing NE direction. 2x 1m scales.



Picture Taken:
22/09/20

Plate
No. 2

Title: Overview shot of trench 2.2. Facing NE direction. 2x 1m scales.

Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



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| Picture Taken: 22/09/20 | Plate No. 3 | Title: S facing section of [2404]. Facing N direction. 1x 0.4m scale. |
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| Picture Taken: 23/09/20 | Plate No. 4 | Title: Overview shot of trench 2.5. Facing NE direction. 2x 1m scales. |
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| Client: St Philips |
| Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7 |
| Project Number: BM11754 |



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| Picture Taken: | Plate No. 5 | Title: Overview shot of trench 2.5 with ridge seen mid-way down trench on left side. Facing SW direction. 2x 1m scales. |
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| Picture Taken: 24/09/20 | Plate No. 6 | Title: Overview shot of trench 2.7. Facing SE direction. 2x 1m scales. |
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Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken:
24/09/20

Plate
No. 7

Title: Ridge and Furrow in trench 2.7. Facing NE direction. 1x 2m scale.



Picture Taken:
24/09/20

Plate
No. 8

Title: E facing rep sec in trench 2.8. Facing W direction. 1x 1m scale.



Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



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| Picture Taken: 28/09/20 | Plate No. 9 | Title Overview shot of Hedgerow [21005] in trench 2.10 showing E facing section. Facing W direction. 1x 0.4m scale. |
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| Picture Taken: 25/09/20 | Plate No. 10 | Title: N facing rep sec in trench 2.11. Facing S direction. 1x 1m scale |
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| Client: St Philips |
| Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7 |
| Project Number: BM11754 |



Picture Taken:
22/09/20

Plate
No. 11

Title: Overview shot of trench 2.12. Facing NE direction. 2x 1m scales.



Picture Taken:
21/09/20

Plate
No. 12

Title: NW facing section of rubble deposit in trench 2.12 Facing S direction. 1x 2m scale

Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken:
25/09/20

Plate
No. 13

Title: Overview shot of trench 2.14. Facing NE direction. 2x 1m scales.



Picture Taken:
17/09/20

Plate
No. 14

Title: Overview shot of trench 7.1. Facing NW direction. 2x 1m scales.

Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken: 17/09/20
 Plate No. 15

Title: NW facing rep sec in trench 7.3. Facing SE. 1x 1m scale.



Picture Taken: 18/09/20
 Plate No. 16

Title: SW facing sec in trench 7.5 showing rolled sand deposit. Facing NE direction. 1x 1m scale



Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken:
18/09/20

Plate
No. 17

Title: NE facing sec in trench 7.6 showing rolled sand deposit. Facing SW direction. 1x 1m scale.



Picture Taken:
21/09/20

Plate
No. 18

Title: NE facing rep sec in trench 7.7. Facing SW direction. 1x 1m scale



Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken: 21/09/20
 Plate No. 19

Title: Overview shot of trench 7.9. Facing N direction. 2x 1m scales.



Picture Taken: 21/09/20
 Plate No. 20

Title: S facing rep sec in trench 7.10. Facing N direction. 1x 1m scale



Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754



Picture Taken:
21/09/20

Plate
No. 21

Title: Oblique shot of trench 7.12. Facing W direction. 2x 1m scales



Picture Taken:
24/09/2020

Plate
No. 22

Title: Overview shot of trench 7.13. Facing SW direction. 2x1m scales.

Client: St Philips

Project: Land at Foxlydiate Lane, Webheath – Areas 2 and 7

Project Number: BM11754

Appendix 3
Brief



Requirements for a programme of archaeological work at land to the west of Foxlydiate Lane and Pumphouse Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

25th March 2020

Planning reference 16/263/FULL - Areas 2 and 7

Important Notes for applicants

This brief has been prepared on the basis of information available through the County Historic Environment Record. If the Applicant has further information, which may be relevant to the site, they should contact the Planning Advisory Section as soon as possible.

The role of the Archive and Archaeology Service in respect of providing advice is to ensure that the proposed work is of sufficient scope and quality to meet the terms of any planning or faculty condition. It does not normally comment on cost unless specifically asked to by the developer. In which case, this information is treated in strictest confidence.

It is, however, strongly advised that the developer and prospective contractor have reached a complete understanding (in writing) what any costing actually comprises before work commences. Archaeological contractors should make it clear if a quotation covers the whole project to the completion of the final report, or not. This is especially true of any tendering situation.

This brief was written by the historic environment planning advisory service of Worcestershire County Council

Brief Written on 25th March 2020

As information is constantly updated this brief is only valid until six months after issue date

Please contact the Planning Advisory Section if you are intending to carry out this work after this date.

Written Schemes of Investigation must be sent to the curator for approval at least five working days before commencement of works, unless previously agreed.

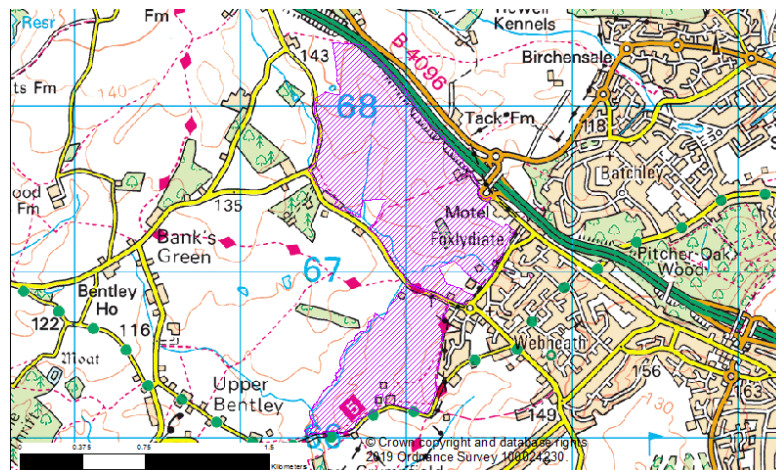
Requirements for a programme of archaeological work at land to the west of Foxlydiat Lane and Pumphouse Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

Definition

'...a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines and records archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains with a specified area (on land or underwater). The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the Project Design and in the light of findings.' *CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*.

1 Site Location

The site is located at land to the west of Foxlydiat Lane and Pumphouse Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire as shown on the plan below. This Written Scheme of Investigation relates to Areas 2 and 7 in the central phase only.



2 Planning background

A planning application has been submitted to Bromsgrove District Council (16/0263/FULL). The application proposes a development of up to 2,560 dwellings (Class C3); Local centre including retail floorspace up to 900 sq metres (Classes A1, A2, A3) health and community facilities of up to 900 sq metres (Class D1); A 3FE first school (Class D1) (up to 2.8Ha site area) including associated playing area and parking and all associated enabling and ancillary works. An archaeological programme of works has been recommended as a condition of consent, although at the time of writing the brief, the application has yet to be determined. Further details of the application can be found on Bromsgrove District Council's online planning portal.

In line with National Planning Policy Framework **paragraph 199**, any permitted development affecting a heritage asset should include the provision to record that asset.

"...Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted."

This document defines the works upon which the Written Scheme of Investigation is required.

3 Archaeological Background

The application site lies in a landscape of dispersed prehistoric, Roman and medieval settlement. The site is bounded by lanes of probable medieval or earlier date. On the northern edge of Area 2, the possible line of the Saltway from Droitwich (WSM37590) is recorded on the Historic Environment Record. Within area 7, enclosures are identified by cropmarks (WSM09872) and earthworks of possible former settlement (WSM57880) are depicted on aerial survey in area 2. Ridge and furrow is also recorded in Area 2. Geophysics picked up some slight anomalies, including high magnetic response in the area identified as possible former settlement, but nothing in the area of cropmarks.

The above is not a full HER assessment as required by this brief.

4 Scope of the Project

The chosen contractor employed by the applicant must contact the HER at Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, to obtain a unique fieldwork reference number prior to any work being carried out. Wardell Armstrong requested a number in 2017 and **WSM69270** was allocated to the evaluation. This fieldwork reference number must be clearly marked on all reports, finds and archive material created during the project.

Separate WSM numbers may be required for further stages of evaluation, depending on whether the evaluation is reported and archived as a single deposit or separately by phases.

Research Objectives

The programme of works will comprise of the following stages:

NOTES

Stage 1)

Documentary Reference

- **HER assessment.** This must be carried out prior to any fieldwork. It will include consulting all available maps, aerial photographs and archive material etc. Where their inclusion in the final report will aid interpretation then these should be plotted or reproduced in the final report.
- **Archive Search.** The area of, and immediately surrounding the site will be referenced at the County Archive.

Stage 2)

Trial Trenching

- **Trial Trenching:** Trial trenching should therefore be undertaken on a 2% grid array across the site, but ensuring that the areas identified by cropmarks and earthworks as possible settlement are targeted. Some trenches should also be placed parallel to the possible Saltway to look for any former roadside settlement. A further 2% contingency should be allocated in case further evaluation is needed.

The area shall be stripped under close archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket to a depth where significant archaeological deposits are exposed. All features of archaeological significance shall be planned at a suitable scale and sampled to determine the nature and significance of any archaeology present.

Spoil from the trenches should be surveyed / scanned with a metal detector, (of appropriate technical specification and operated by an experienced and responsible user). All artefacts other than non-diagnostic or of recent date shall be recovered from the topsoil/subsoil. All finds shall be spatially recorded at an appropriate scale. Finds shall be cleaned and conserved in the appropriate manner.

- **Environmental sampling.** This should be in line with '*Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations - recommendation regarding the environmental archaeology*

Stage 3)

Publication

- **Final Report:** An archaeological evaluation aims to establish the presence and significance of archaeological deposits, and of artefactual and ecofactual assemblages. Negative evidence must also be reported on and its implications considered. The report must discuss the depositional and post depositional processes evident on site. The results should inform the research cycle and should take into account local, regional and national research frameworks and consultation with appropriate specialists.
- The results shall be reviewed and, dependant on the results, further work may be required.
- Fulfilment of the research aims will be by the submission of a final report, in accordance with the CIfA Code of Conduct, Principle 2.

5 Minimum Requirements

The Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists will be followed.

Fieldwork must be carried out in accordance with the *Requirements and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire (2019)*. Copies are available from the Planning Advisory Section on request.

1. Before the project commences a Written Scheme of Investigation, including a methods statement detailing approaches to the site, must be submitted to and approved by the Planning Advisory Section.
2. The project proposal must include appropriate named specialist provision.
3. Written Schemes of Investigation must be sent to the curator for approval at least five working days before commencement of works, unless previously agreed.
4. The finds assessment report must reference all ceramics to the county type fabric series
5. Prior to commencement of any fieldwork the archaeological contractor must contact the HER of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service for an HER fieldwork reference number. This must be clearly marked on all reports, finds and archive material. Tel **01905 845618**.
6. The landowner must be encouraged to deposit artefacts with a local or relevant specialist museum. This must have Museum and Galleries Commission approved storage facilities. Artefacts may only be deposited in accordance with the selected museum's collections policy.
7. At least one week's notice shall be given to the Planning Advisory Section prior to commencement of fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed.
8. A digital copy in .pdf format (see below) must be sent to the Historic Environment Advisor for approval **before** formal submission into the County Historic Environment Record.
9. Upon approval, one digital .pdf copy of the report must be lodged with the County Historic Environment Record within three months of completion of fieldwork. A digital copy must also be deposited with Oasis (<http://www.oasis.ac.uk/>).
10. The Planning Advisory Section of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service must be invited to monitor the fieldwork.

6 Archiving

- All physical archival material shall be deposited with the County Museum. There is now a joint archaeology store between the City and County Museums.
- The digital Archive must be deposited with the **Archaeological Data Service**.
- Proof of deposition will be required in order to fully discharge the planning condition.

7 Disclaimer

- This brief has been prepared on the basis of information available through the County Historic Environment Record. If the Applicant has further information which may be relevant to the site they should contact the Planning Advisory Section as soon as possible.
- The Planning Advisory Section cannot accept responsibility for the following:
 - Notification of hazards, e.g. services, contaminated ground, the condition of the building
 - Obstacles to fieldwork
 - Access to the site
- It will be the responsibility of the contractor, any sub-contractors and the applicant to establish safe working practices based on Construction Design and Management (regulations) and other current health and safety legislation.
- **It will be the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that the developer/applicant has secured appropriate consent for all archaeological groundwork's regarding environmental, ecological and species protection legislation prior to commencement of fieldwork.**

8 Condition Wording

3) 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:

- a) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- b) The programme for post investigation assessment.
- c) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- d) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- e) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- f) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

Reason: In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 199 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

4) 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 (1) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 199 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

9 Written Scheme of Investigation Checklist

All Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI's) or method statements are checked for minimum compliance. As well as the requirements given in ClfA guidance, the following must be included in any WSI submitted.

- Correct Site Name
- Correct Fieldwork Type
- Traceable Source for WSI (contractors reference no. - site code etc)
- Correct planning application for which the work is being undertaken.
- Correct applicant and or agent for which the work is being undertaken.
- Correct planning authority for which the work is being undertaken.

- Correct HER references
- Appropriate plant / ditching buckets to be used to enable a record to be made.
- Correct reference to the brief
- Correct aims and requirements as detailed in the brief.
- Details of the resources to be applied (staff and time)
- Clear explanation of any contingencies
- Named specialist provision
- Details of methodology and standards proposed to fulfil the brief
- Details of the Report structure and content
- Details of the when the report will be submitted to the HER
- Details of the when and where the project archive will be deposited.
- Health & Safety

For further information regarding this brief please contact

Planning Advisory Section
Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service
The Hive
Sawmill Walk
The Butts
Worcester
WR1 3PD



Tel: 01905 844824

E-mail: ehancox@worcestershire.gov.uk

Reference to this document should be

WAAS., 2020, "Requirements for a programme of archaeological work at land to the west of Foxlydiate Lane and Pumphouse Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire." Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council,

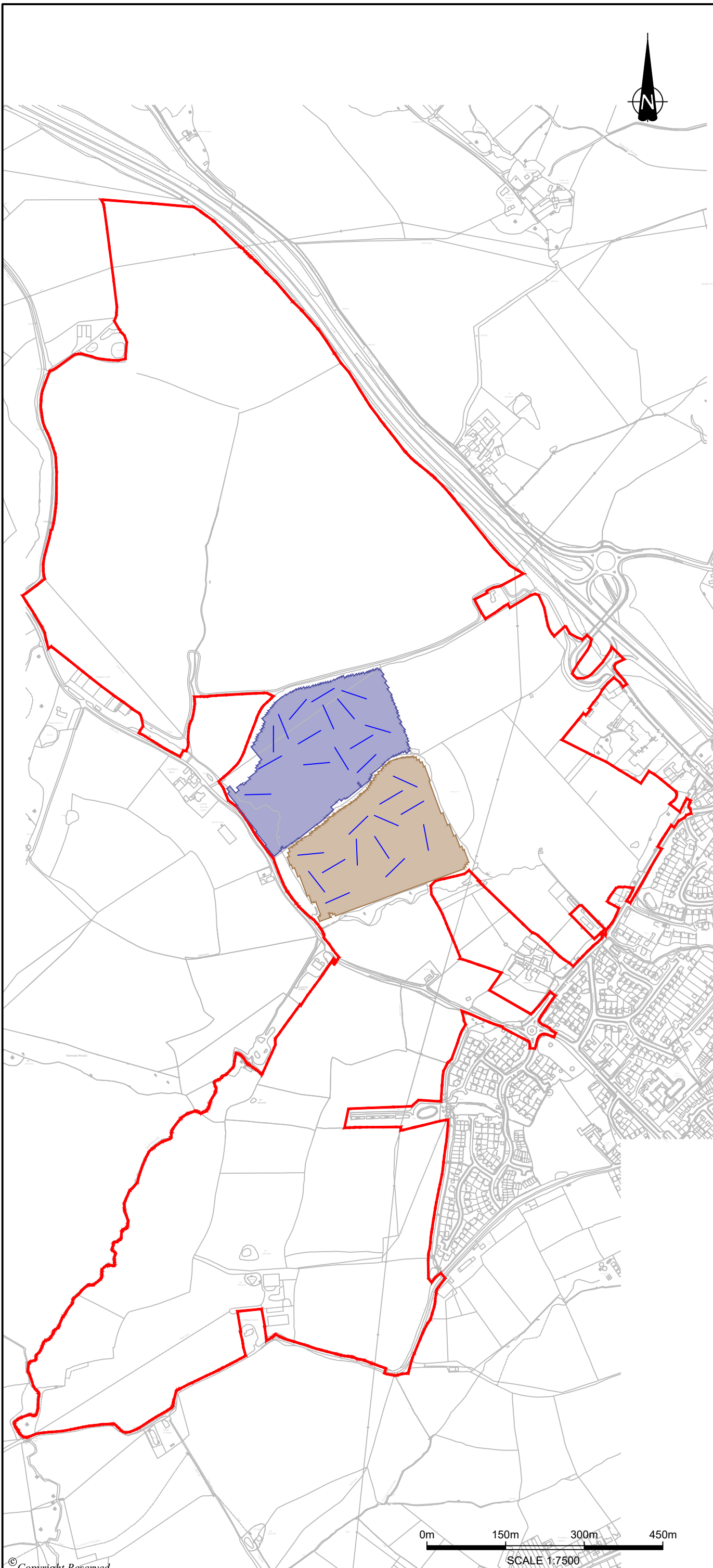
A DIGITAL VERSION OF THIS BRIEF IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Appendix 4 Figures

DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING

REFERENCE

- SITE BOUNDARY
- AREA 2 BOUNDARY
- AREA 7 BOUNDARY
- TRENCH



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| PROJECT |
| FOXLYDIATE LANE, WEBHEATH |

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| SITE LOCATION FOR AREA 2 AND AREA 7 OF FOXLYDIATE LANE, WEBHEATH |







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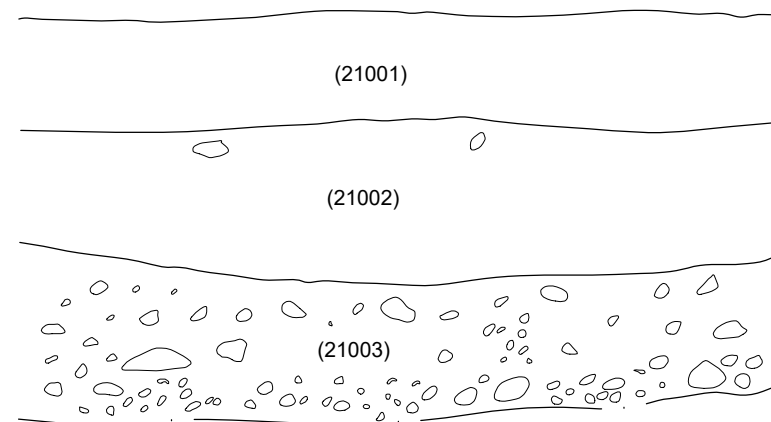
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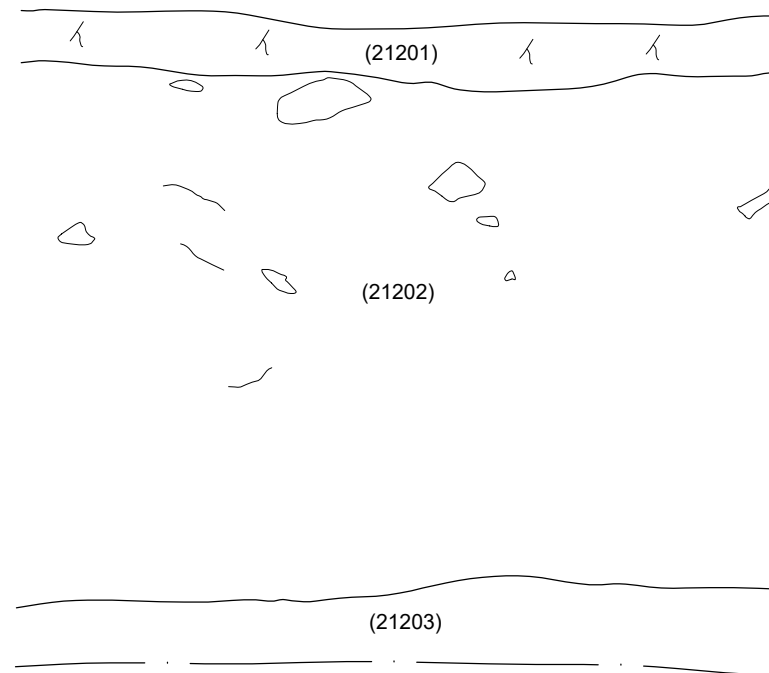
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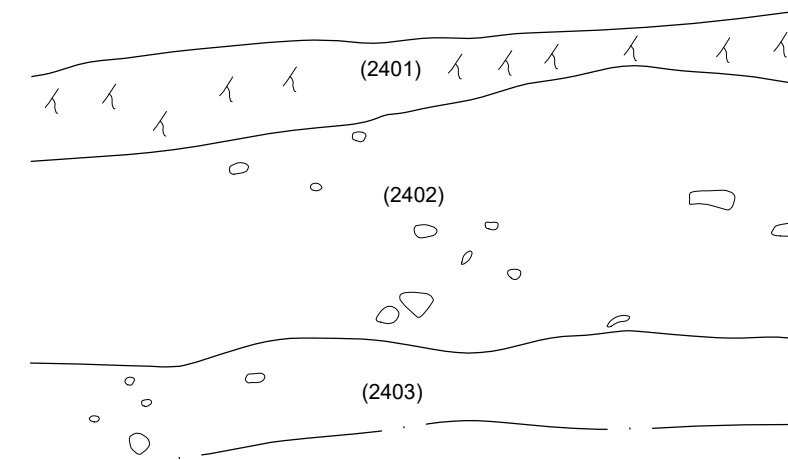
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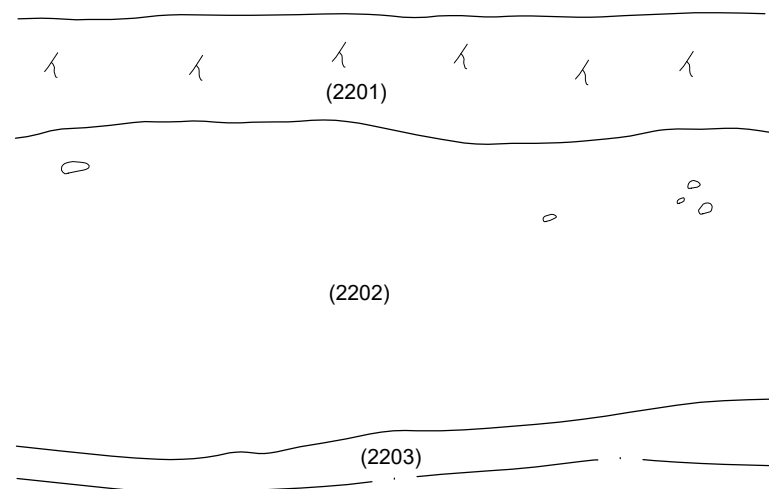
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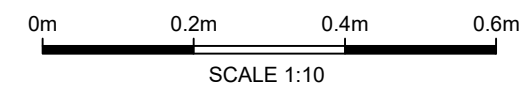
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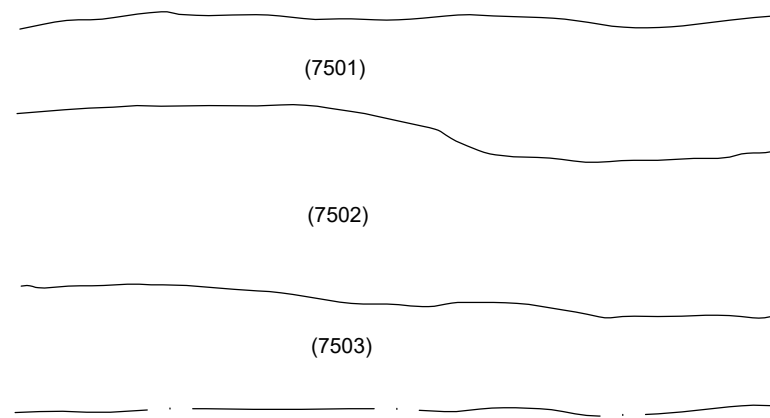


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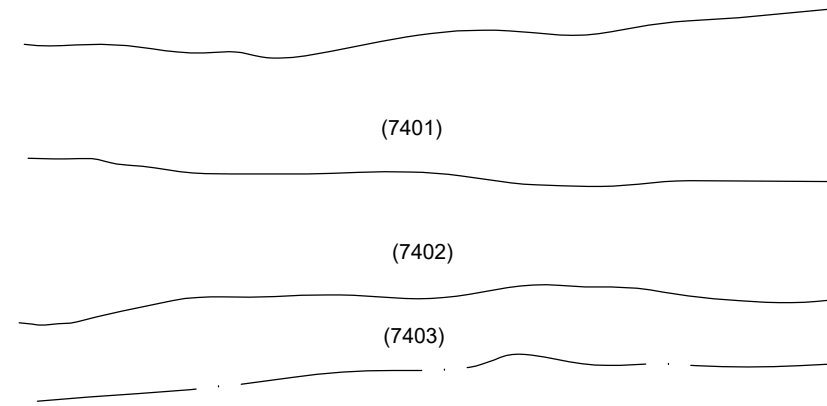
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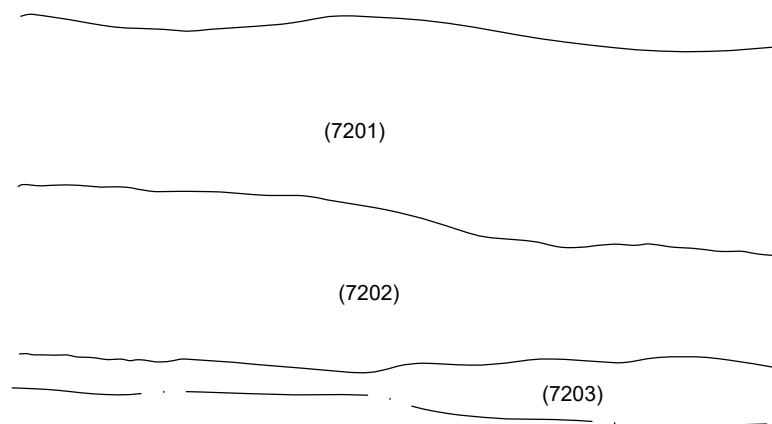
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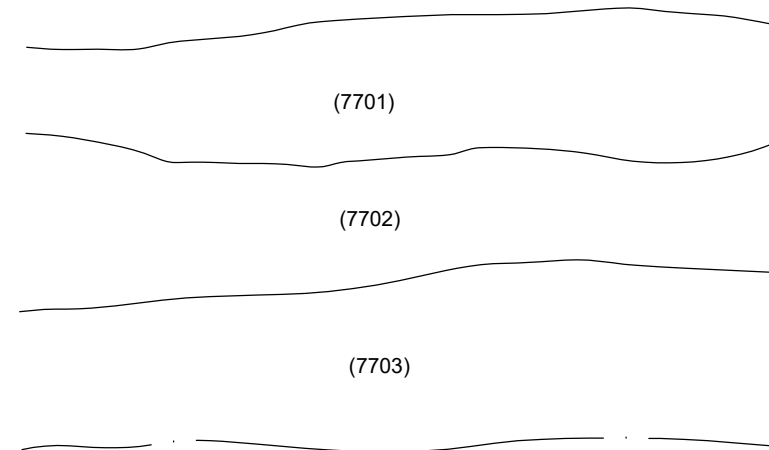
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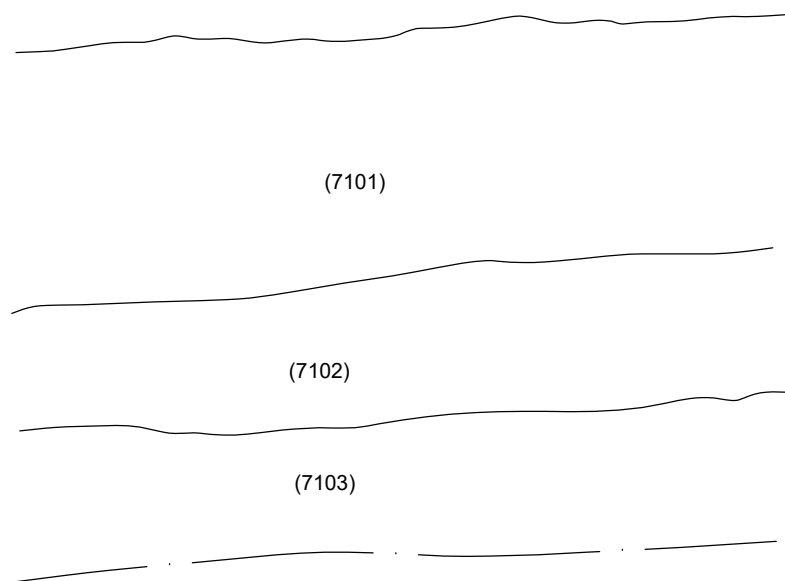
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SOUTHWEST FACING REPRESENTATIVE SECTION OF TRENCH 7.1
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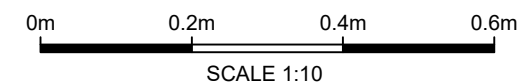
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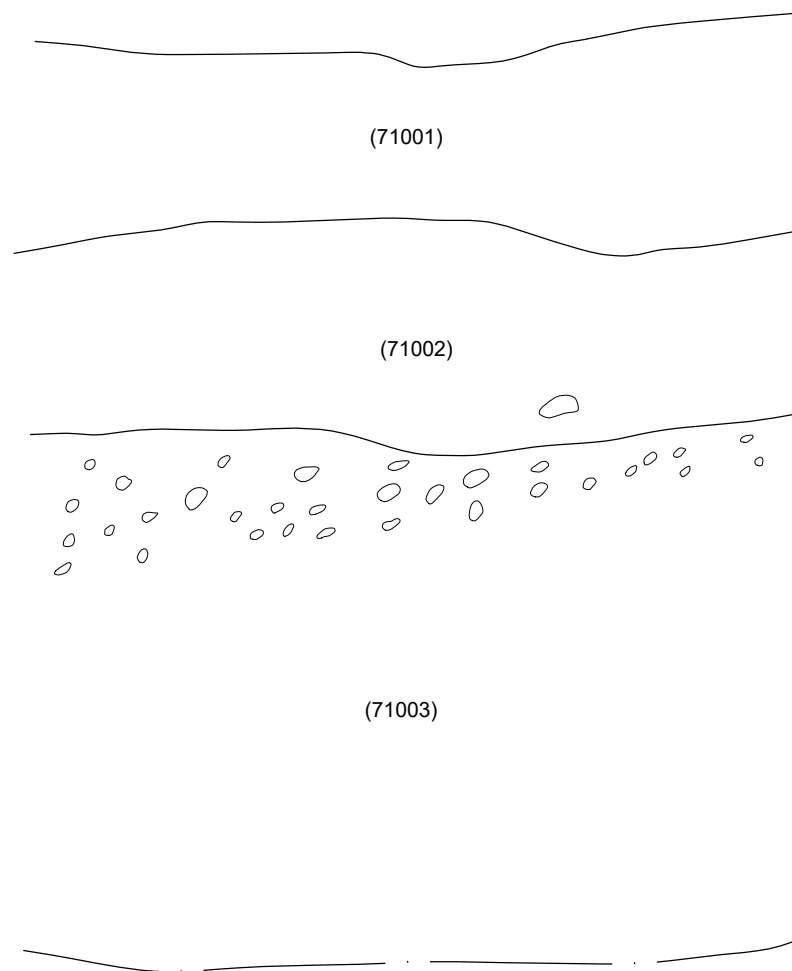
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| DRAWING TITLE | AREA 7 REPRESENTATIVE SECTIONS (b) | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|

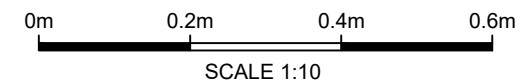
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| DRG No. | BM11754-038 | REV | A | | |
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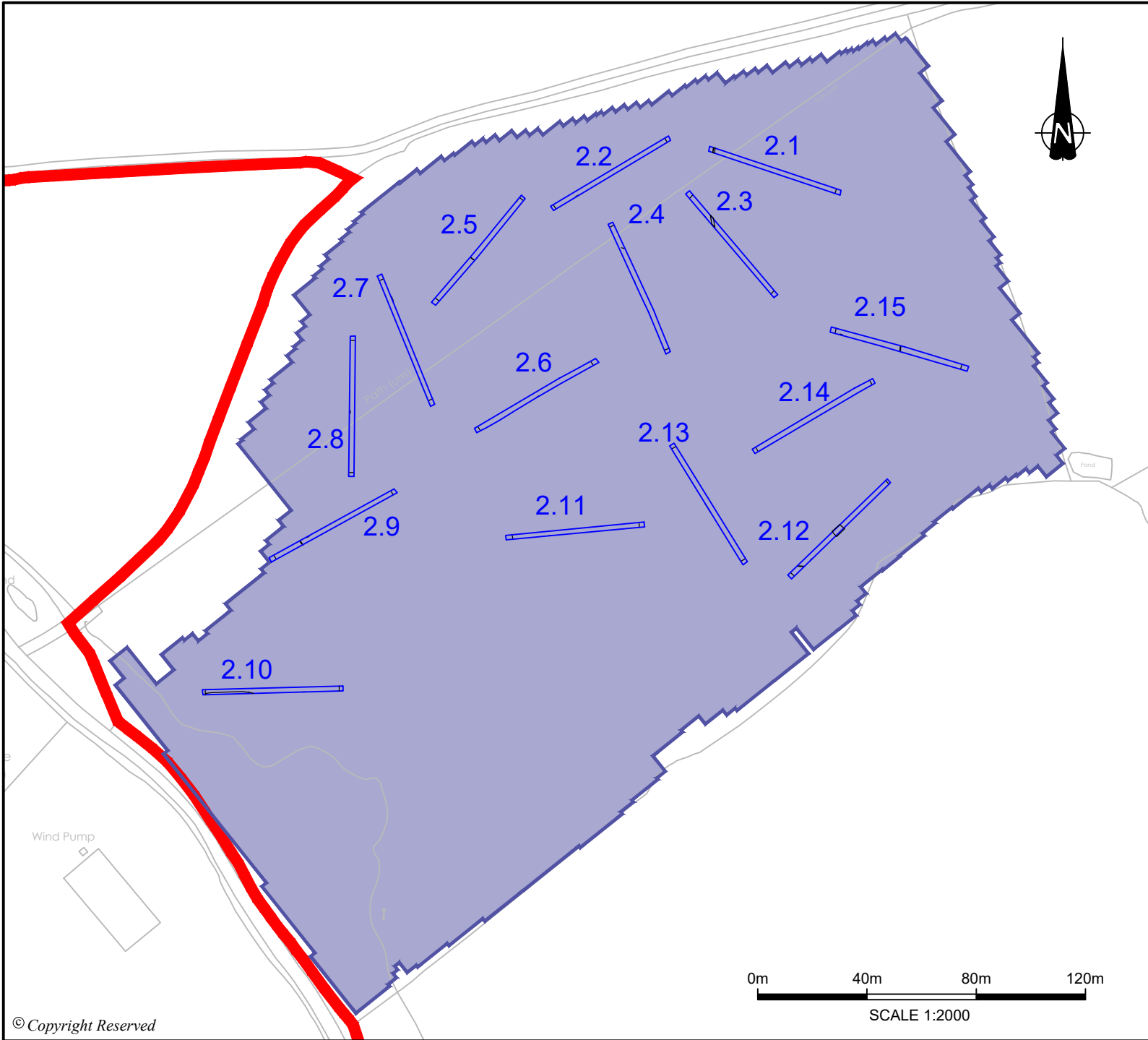
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| DRG SIZE | A3 | SCALE | 1:10 | DATE | 27/11/20 |
|----------|----|-------|------|------|----------|

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|----------|----|------------|----|-------------|----|
| DRAWN BY | RA | CHECKED BY | GM | APPROVED BY | SS |
|----------|----|------------|----|-------------|----|

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| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <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"/> EDINBRUGH | <input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GLASGOW | <input type="checkbox"/> STOKE ON TRENT |





DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING

REFERENCE

- SITE BOUNDARY
- AREA 2 BOUNDARY
- AREA 7 BOUNDARY
- TRENCH

| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|----------|----|----|----|
| A | First issue | 27/11/20 | RA | GM | SS |
|----------|-------------|----------|----|----|----|

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|----------|---------|------|-------|------|------|
| REVISION | DETAILS | DATE | DRAWN | CHKD | APPD |
|----------|---------|------|-------|------|------|

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ST PHILIPS

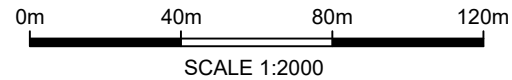
PROJECT
FOXLYDIATE LANE, WEBHEATH

DRAWING TITLE
AREA 2 RESULTS

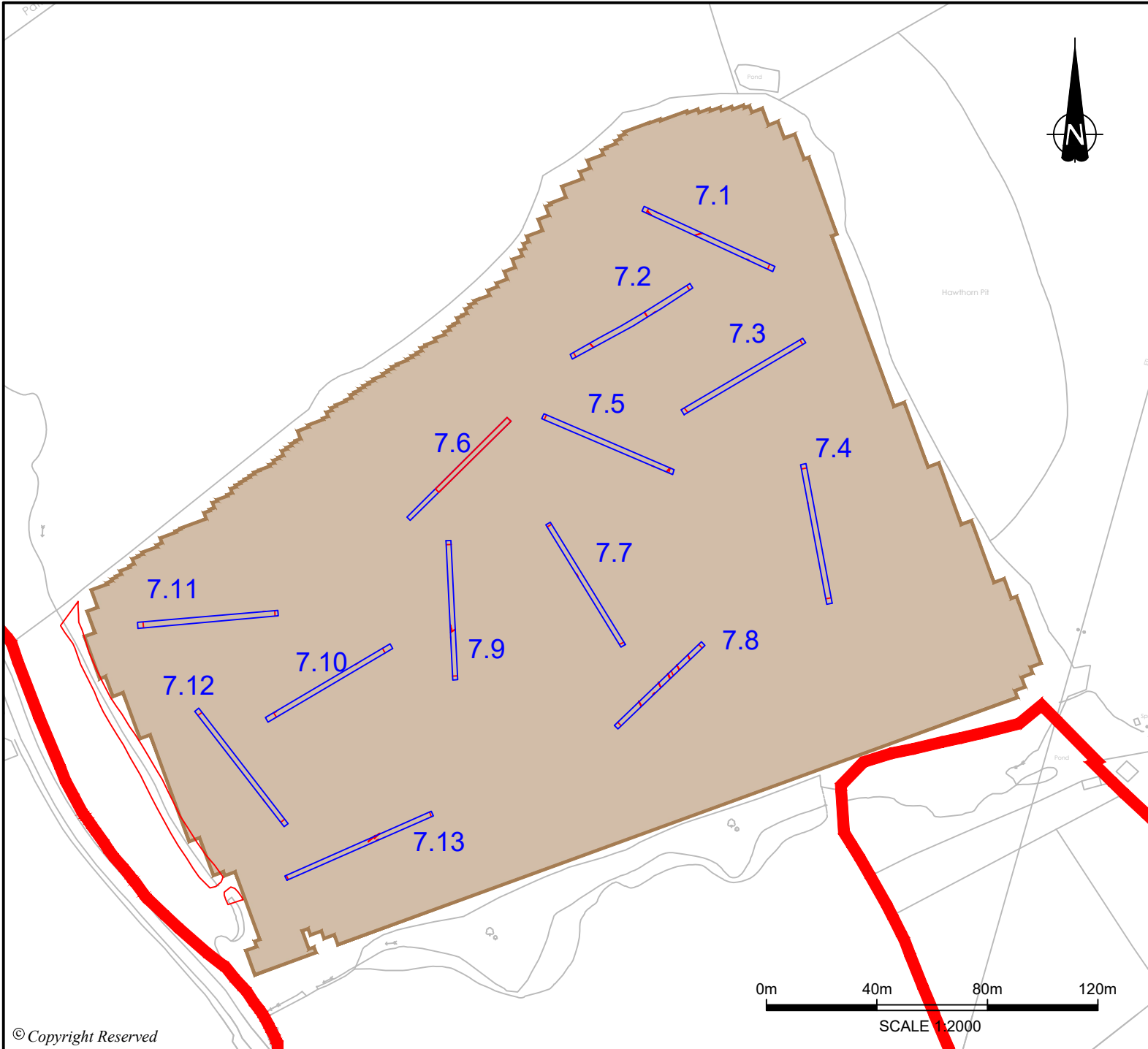
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| DRG No | BM11754-039 | REV | A |
| SIZE | A4 | SCALE | 1:2000 |
| | | DATE | 27/11/20 |
| DRAWN BY | RA | CHECKED BY | GM |
| | | APPROVED BY | SS |

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| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <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"/> N-U-T |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GLASGOW | <input type="checkbox"/> STOKE ON TRENT |



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- TRENCH

| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|----------|----|----|----|
| A | First issue | 27/11/20 | RA | GM | SS |
|----------|-------------|----------|----|----|----|

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|----------|---------|------|-------|------|------|
| REVISION | DETAILS | DATE | DRAWN | CHKD | APPD |
|----------|---------|------|-------|------|------|

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| CLIENT |
| ST PHILIPS |

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| PROJECT |
| FOXLIDIATE LANE, WEBHEATH |

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| DRAWING TITLE |
| AREA 7 RESULTS |

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| DRG No | BM11754-040 | REV | A |
| SIZE | A4 | SCALE | 1:2000 |
| DRAWN BY | RA | CHECKED BY | GM |
| | | APPROVED BY | SS |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> BIRMINGHAM | <input type="checkbox"/> GLASGOW |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> EDINBURGH | <input type="checkbox"/> N-U-T |

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