Archaeology Wales

Manor Farm, Cleestanton,
Stoke St. Milborough, Shropshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Adrian Hadley

Report No. 1665

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Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared for McCartneys LLP on behalf of Mr & Mrs Jones

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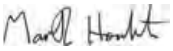
Signed:			Signed:
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Non-Technical Summary

This report results from work undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd at Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Stoke St Milborough, Shropshire. It draws upon the results of an archaeological evaluation on the site of proposed grain store.

The development proposal is to construct a building measuring some 80 foot (circa 24.4m) square, with additional hardstanding for HGV turning between the new shed and the existing modern buildings to the east. The proposed development is in the pre-planning stages of development. The local planning authority is Shropshire Council.

A Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development site has previously been undertaken. This highlighted the fact that extensive earthworks remains have been identified to the south and east of Manor Farm (PRN 33127), comprising hollow-ways and probable building platforms as well as small areas of broad ridge-and-furrow. These earthworks probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Stanton. There are further earthwork remains recorded to the north and west of Manor Farm (PRN 02583). Associated earthwork remains may extend into the proposed development area, although modern agricultural sheds have also been constructed in close proximity to the site. The Assessment recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken of the proposed development site to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. The Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Team (SC-HET) in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, have confirmed the need to assess this impact through intrusive trial trench evaluation.

The general soil sequence recorded within the western part of the development site generally comprised a thin topsoil (100) (101) (200) (201) overlying subsoil (102) (203) of mid brown-orange silt, above the natural (103) (204), a mid orange silt.

At the eastern end of Trench 1, the subsoil (102) and natural (103) appeared to have been eroded, possibly forming a hollow or part of a low and wide ditch. This was recorded as approximately 1m deep (below present ground levels) and over 4m across (extending beyond the eastern side of the trial trench). Within Trench 2, the subsoil layer (203) was truncated by a large ditch [215] within the centre of the trench. This feature was encountered approximately 0.40m below ground level, at circa 173.55m OD. The ditch was recorded as over 0.6m deep, extending below the limit of excavation. The eastern side of the ditch was not fully determined as this was truncated by a modern land drain [211]. The recorded width of the ditch was 4.6m, but the full width was estimated to be some 5m. A layer of redeposited natural or subsoil (202), identified to the west of ditch 215, may represent up-cast material originating from the original construction of this feature.

The general north-south alignment of ditch 215, identified in Trench 2, suggests that the hollow (truncated natural) recorded within Trench 1 forms a continuation of the ditch in Trench 2. There is a strong correlation between the excavated features and the earthworks previously mapped at surface in this field, as well as the presumed boundary ditch shown on aerial photographs. The results from Trenches 1 & 2

therefore indicate the presence of a probable single boundary and/or drainage ditch within the footprint of the proposed grain store. No dateable material was recovered from the ditch, although the suggestion is that it is associated with the medieval earthworks visible in the area. The impact level of the boundary ditch is approximately 173.55m OD, although this will vary slightly across the site.

A stone-filled drain was also identified within Trenches 1 & 2 [113] [217]. The drain was recorded as 0.6m-0.8m wide and 0.35m-0.5m deep. The drain was encountered at 0.5m (circa 173.05m OD) and 0.4m (circa 173.60m OD) below ground level within Trenches 1 and 2, respectively. The stratigraphic sequence in Trench 1 suggests this feature probably dates from the post-medieval or medieval period.

The results of evaluation identified no evidence for occupation (building platforms) or cultivation earthworks (ridge-and-furrow and lynchets) within the footprint of the proposed grain store (Trenches 1&2), and no artefactual evidence was recovered to suggest occupation activity in the immediate vicinity.

Trench 3 was located to the east of the proposed building, within the area of proposed groundworks for HGV access. This is a potential location of medieval occupation, bounded by ditch 215. However, no artefactual evidence was recovered to suggest occupational activity in the vicinity and the soil sequence recorded in Trench 3 indicates significant ground disturbance and/or the presence of made-ground (302) in this part of the site. The results from Trench 3 provisionally indicate that some truncated archaeological features may survive in this area at depth below the impact levels of the previous groundworks, although the potential impact from proposed development works for the HGV access will be limited and therefore the potential disturbance of archaeological features will be reduced.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

An archaeological evaluation comprising three trenches has been undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) in association with a proposed development of a grain store at Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Stoke St Milborough, Shropshire, SY8 3EL (Figures 1 & 2).

The proposed development is in the pre-planning stages of development. The local planning authority is Shropshire Council (SC).

The proposed scheme is located at Manor Farm within the hamlet of Cleestanton, which is located in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The development site is positioned within the mapped area of Cleestanton settlement earthworks (PRN 02583), thought to represent the site of a deserted medieval settlement (Figure 3).

The purpose of the trial trench evaluation is to provide Shropshire Council Historic Environment Team (SC-HET), in its capacity as advisor to Shropshire Council, information they are likely to request in respect of the proposed development, the requirements for which are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) and the Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes (Historic England 2015). The work is to highlight and assess the impact upon standing and buried remains of potential archaeological interest to ensure that they are adequately preserved or fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of subsequent activities associated with the development.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the assessment was drawn up by Philip Poucher, Project Manager for Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW). The WSI was subsequently approved by SC-HET (Appendix II).

The AW project number is 2572 and the site code is MFC/17/EV. The project details are summarised on the Archive Cover Sheet (Appendix III).

The assessment has been commissioned by McCartneys LLP on behalf of the landowners MR & Mrs Jones.

1.2 Topography and Geology

Cleestanton is a small rural hamlet in southern Shropshire, located some 7.5km northeast of Ludlow. The proposed scheme is situated within a largely agricultural landscape with a settlement pattern of dispersed hamlets, farmsteads and small villages.

The proposed development is located at NGR 357450, 279245 (SO 5745 7925). The development site is at approximately 175m Ordnance Datum (OD). The ground generally rises to the prominent local landmark of Titterstone Clee Hill at 533m OD, some 2km to the southeast of Manor Farm.

The development site is located on the western side of the farm complex, adjacent to two modern steel-framed agricultural buildings. The traditional brick-built farm buildings and farmhouse are located to the southeast. Pasture extends to the south on

gradually rising ground. The land is comparatively level to the west, between the development site and Cleestanton hamlet. A local lane, extending eastwards from Cleestanton, bounds the site to the north. The ground rises to the north of this lane, although this slope has partly been terraced for a large agricultural building, detached from the main farm complex.

The regional geology as mapped by the British Geological Survey at 1:50,000 scale (BGS Viewer 2018) indicates that the bedrock geology is comprises interbedded siltstones and mudstones of the Raglan Mudstone Formation of the Pridoli Epoch (423+/-1.5 to 419.2+/-2.8 million years ago). No superficial deposits are mapped within the scheme area.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

A Heritage Impact Assessment has been compiled (Hadley 2018), which details the archaeological and historical background of the proposed development site and the surrounding area.

The scheme area is likely to have formed part of the lands said to have been granted to St. Mildburg before 704, and it is possible a small settlement may have been established at Stanton during the Late Saxon period. By 1066 it lay within the manor of the church of Wenlock, which belonged to Wenlock Priory by 1086. Stanton was probably a subsidiary settlement to Stoke St. Milborough, and is recorded in the Domesday Survey as having only one ploughteam. The manorial history of the Stoke St. Milborough parish throughout much of the medieval period is detailed in the Victoria County History of Shropshire.

There are extensive earthworks to the south and east of Manor Farm (PRN 33127), comprising hollow-ways and probable building platforms as well as small areas of broad ridge-and-furrow. These earthworks probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Stanton. There are further earthwork remains recorded to the north and west of Manor Farm (PRN 02583). The earthwork remains in this area are considered likely to represent 12th to 13th century occupation resulting from increased grazing, enclosure and reclamation of wood and wastes during this period. The settlement most probably shrank during the earlier 14th century as sheep farming became increasingly important, in part following depopulation resulting from the Black Death.

By the 16th century the conversion of open-field arable land to enclosed pasture most probably caused further contraction of settlement at Stanton. The process of enclosure was accompanied by this time, if not earlier, by the formation of many outlying farms. The ‘farm of Clee Stanton’ is recorded as early as 1589 when the lord of the manor, William Knyfton, sold the chief house and demesne lands to Richard Walker. It then descended through the Walker family until bought by Robert Head in 1830, who settled it on the Bradley family in 1839. The current farmhouse, later called Manor Farm, dates from the mid-18th century but was probably on or near the site of the earlier

house.

The proposed development site lies in an area of undulating ground. A curvilinear feature was identified on aerial photographs in this area, but no clear earthworks can be defined on the ground. The nature of the ground suggests earthwork remains may extend into the proposed development site, but also modern steel-framed agricultural sheds lie in close proximity, and it is possible ground deposits in this area have been disturbed during their construction.

2 Aims and Objectives

The archaeological work is intended to elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material that might be affected by the development; and in particular, its character, distribution, extent, condition, date and relative significance. The work will provide information, which is sufficiently detailed, to allow informed planning decisions to be made in order to safeguard the archaeological resource.

3 Methodology

3.1 Fieldwork

The methodology for the archaeological evaluation followed that set out within the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. This work included the following key elements:

- The trial trenches were excavated by a JCB 3CX mechanical excavator fitted with a (toothless) ditching bucket.
- All identified deposits and features were examined and recorded during the evaluation.
- Machine excavation was undertaken in 50-100mm spits. All deposits were investigated during the evaluation.
- The base and one section of each trial trench were hand cleaned using pointing trowels to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features;
- All identified deposits and features were examined and recorded during the watching brief;
- All areas were photographed using high-resolution (10mp+) digital photography;
- The on-site illustrations were undertaken on drafting film using recognised conventions and scales (1:10, 1:20 and 1:50, as appropriate);
- All the deposits were described in the field on pro-forma context sheets using a continuous number sequence for all contexts;

- Plans and sections were related to Ordnance Survey datum, tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to topographical boundaries.

The evaluation was undertaken by Adrian Hadley and Irma Bernardus between 12th and 14th March 2018.

Context numbers 100-113, 200-217 and 300-303 were allocated during the fieldwork. They were ascribed to the soil deposits identified during the evaluation (summarised in Appendix I).

The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with the CIfA's Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation (2014) and current Health and Safety legislation.

3.2 Finds

The finds retrieved during the watching brief were bagged by context.

3.3 Palaeo-environmental Samples

No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the archaeological fieldwork.

4 Results of the Evaluation

4.1 Trench 1 (Figures 4 & 5; Plates 1-6)

Summary

The trial trench was excavated 26m long by 1.6m wide, and was aligned roughly east-northeast to west-southwest. The depth of excavation was between 0.50m and 1m. Ground levels were recorded at 173.85m OD and 172.55m OD at the eastern and western ends of the trench, respectively.

The upper soil sequence comprised the topsoil and turf (100) (101) which overlay up to 0.26m of undisturbed subsoil (102). The natural (103), a mid orange silt, was encountered approximately 0.25m to 0.40m below ground level within the western part of the trench. At the eastern end of the trench the subsoil (102) and the natural (103) appeared to have been eroded, possibly forming a hollow or part of a low and wide ditch, over 4m across. The infill deposits (106) (107) of this hollow had been truncated by modern land drains [109] [111]. Deposit 106 also overlay a stone-filled drain [113] (112). Modern made-ground (104) (105) was also encountered across the eastern part of the trial trench.

Discussion of Features and Deposits

The natural (103) comprised a stiff mid orange silt with occasional cobbles and boulders. This deposit was encountered in the eastern part of the trench some 1m below ground level, at *circa* 172.70m OD. Approximately 0.05m-0.10m of natural was exposed in this area. Within the western half of the trench, the natural was encountered some 0.25m to 0.40m below ground level, at *circa* 173.05m OD. In the central part of the trench, up to 0.60m of this deposit was exposed at the trench base.

The natural was overlain by an undisturbed subsoil (102) within the western half of the trench. This comprised a stiff mid brown-orange silt, recorded as 0.12-0.26m thick. The subsoil was encountered approximately 0.05m below ground level. The subsoil (102) was overlain by topsoil (101) at the centre of the trench.

The hollow at the eastern end of the trench, contained two infill deposits (106) (107), which were in turn overlain by modern made-ground (104) (105). Layer 107 consisted of a firm dark brown silt some 0.16m thick. This deposit was encountered approximately 0.70m to 0.85m below ground level, at *circa* 173.10m OD. This was layer was interpreted as a topsoil-derived fill of the presumed hollow or ditch. This layer was truncated by land drains 109 and 111.

Deposit 107 was overlain by a firm mid brown-orange silt (106), up to 0.35m thick, which was interpreted as redeposited subsoil. This deposit was encountered approximately 0.32m below ground level, at *circa* 173.50m OD.

Deposit 106 sealed a stone-filled drain [113] (112), located at the centre of the trench. The drain had irregular, but comparatively straight sides, at *circa* 80 degrees, leading to a flat base. The drain cut was some 0.7m wide and 0.50m deep. This feature extended across the trial trench. The drain was encountered approximately 0.50m below ground level, at *circa* 173.05m OD.

Layer 106 was truncated by modern intrusions for an early-mid 20th century glazed, ceramic land drain [109] (108) and a modern plastic drain [111] (110). The modern backfill deposits 108 and 110 as well as deposit 106 were sealed by a layer of mid orange silt with much coarse gravel and cobbles (105). The latter deposit has been interpreted as made-ground derived from natural, possibly combined with (demolition) rubble from a wall or building. This deposit was recorded as up to 0.60m thick and 7.65m across, extending into the eastern end of the trial trench. Another layer of made-ground (104), up to 0.20m thick and some 3.9m across, was identified overlaying deposit 105. Both of these made-ground layers (104) (105) were encountered at surface, below the turf.

4.2 Trench 2 (Figures 4 & 6; Plates 7-12)

Summary

The trial trench was excavated 21m long by 1.6m wide, and was aligned roughly east-northeast to west-southwest. The depth of excavation was between 0.55m and 1m. Ground levels were recorded at 174.50m OD and 173.70m OD at the eastern and western ends of the trench, respectively.

The topsoil and turf (200) was typically 0.05-0.10m thick, although the topsoil (201) extended to 0.24m thick in the western part of the trench. The topsoil overlay up to 0.24m of redeposited subsoil or natural silt (202) and up to 0.40m of undisturbed subsoil (203). The natural (204), a mid orange silt, was encountered approximately 0.60m below ground level within the eastern and western parts of the trench. At the centre of the trench, the subsoil (203) and the natural (204) were truncated by a substantial ditch [215] (212) (213) (214), approximately 5m wide, and a stone-filled drain [217] (216). The eastern end of ditch 215 was truncated by modern land drain 211. Modern feature 211 also cut a buried topsoil (205), a disturbed subsoil (207) and a redeposited topsoil (209). A modern backfill of soil and stone (208) overlay the soil horizon 209 and ditch 215.

Discussion of Features and Deposits

The natural (204) comprised a stiff mid orange silt with occasional cobles and boulders. This deposit was encountered in the eastern part of the trench some 0.60-0.85m below ground level, at *circa* 173.55m OD. Approximately 0.10m depth of natural was exposed in this area. Within the western half of the trench, the natural was encountered some 0.60m below ground level, at *circa* 173.40m OD. In this area up to 0.30m of this deposit was exposed at the trench base. At the centre of the trench, the natural was cut by ditches 215 and 217 as well modern land drain 211.

The natural was overlain by an undisturbed subsoil (203) within the western half of the trench. This comprised a stiff mid brown-orange silt, recorded as 0.22m-0.40m thick. The subsoil was encountered approximately 0.25m below ground level, at *circa* 173.72m OD.

The subsoil (203) was truncated by a large ditch [215] within the centre of the trench. This feature was encountered approximately 0.40m below ground level, at *circa* 173.55m OD. The upper western slope was noted to be slightly concave, at approximately 70 degrees. The full depth of the ditch was not ascertained, as this extended below the limit of excavation. The eastern side of the ditch was not fully determined as this was truncated by a modern land drain [211]. The recorded width of the ditch was 4.6m, but the full width was estimated to be some 5m.

The upper fill of ditch 215 comprised a firm mid brown-orange silt (212), which appeared to represent redeposited subsoil or natural silt. This deposit was recorded as some 3.9m wide and over 0.60m deep, extending below the trench base. The lower fills, along the western (213) and eastern (214) sides of the ditch consisted of a stoney

mid orange-brown silt. These appeared to represent the same deposit, possibly the primary fill of the ditch.

The modern land drain [211] (210) that truncated ditch 215, was recorded as some 0.90m wide and more than 0.40m deep, extending below the limit of excavation. This feature was encountered at approximately 0.20m below ground level, at *circa* 173.80m OD. A plastic pipe was exposed within this drain cut.

The eastern side of modern drain cut 211, truncated soil layers 205 and 207. Deposit 207 consisted of a stiff mid orange-brown silt with inclusions of charcoal, and has been interpreted as disturbed or redeposited subsoil. This layer was recorded as some 0.60m thick and more than 4.25m across, extending in to the eastern end of the trench. The deposit was encountered approximately 0.35m below ground level, at *circa* 174.05m OD.

Deposit 207 was partly overlain by a layer of stiff mid brown-orange silt (206) that was interpreted as redeposited natural. This layer was recorded as some 0.35m thick and over 2.65m across, extending beyond the trial trench. The deposit was encountered approximately 0.22m below ground level, at *circa* 174.19m OD.

Deposits 206 and 207 were overlain by a firm mid-dark brown-grey silt (205). This layer was recorded as 0.16m-0.24m thick and over 4.20m across, extending into the eastern end of the trial trench. The deposit was encountered at surface, but overlain further west by deposit 208. Deposit 205 was interpreted as a partly buried topsoil.

Layer 207 has a similar soil matrix as 209, and possibly represents a continuation of this deposit. It is more likely that 209 is a redeposited topsoil (above upper ditch fill 212). Layer 209 was recorded as up to 0.14m thick and some 3.4m across, being truncated to the east by drain 211. Deposit 209 was encountered approximately 0.30m below ground level, at *circa* 173.65m OD.

The subsoil (203) was also truncated by a small stone-filled drain [217] (216). The drain had irregular, but comparatively straight sides, at 80-85 degrees, leading to a shallow u-shaped base. The drain cut was some 0.8m wide and 0.35m deep. This feature extended across the trial trench. The drain was encountered approximately 0.40m below ground level, at *circa* 173.60m OD. This feature was overlain by deposit 208.

Layer 208 was encountered at surface within the central and eastern part of the trial trench. This comprised a stiff mid orange silt with much coarse gravel and cobbles, and has been interpreted as made-ground derived from topsoil and natural, possibly combined with (demolition) rubble from a wall or building. This deposit was recorded as up to 0.40m thick and some 9.40m across. Deposit 208 overlay topsoil (201), recorded at surface within the western half of the trench: this indicates that this infill deposit represents modern made-ground.

4.3 Trench 3 (Figures 4 & 6; Plates 13-15)

Summary

The trial trench was excavated 5.5m long by 1.6m wide, and was aligned roughly north to south. The depth of excavation was approximately 0.9m deep. Ground levels were recorded at 174.15m OD and 174.30m OD at the northern and southern ends of the trench, respectively.

The general soil sequence comprised the topsoil and turf (300), above redeposited topsoil (302), overlying the subsoil (303). This trench was waterlogged shortly after excavation due to high ground water levels in this part of the site.

Discussion of Features and Deposits

The topsoil (300) overlay up to 0.15m of redeposited natural, a stiff mid orange silt (301) and approximately 0.60m thick of redeposited material (302) that comprised topsoil and a natural silt with much coarse gravel and cobbles. Layer 302 contained inclusions of coal and brick fragments. The underlying subsoil (303) was encountered at *circa* 173.70m OD. Approximately 0.20m of this deposit was deposit was exposed within the trench base.

4.4 The Finds

An assemblage of modern material was recovered during the archaeological investigation. These were retrieved from the topsoil (100) (101) (200) (201) (300) and deposits of modern made-ground (104) (105) (208) (302). No residual medieval or early post-medieval finds were present in the assemblage. It is proposed the artefacts recovered from these deposits are discarded.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Overall Interpretation

The general soil sequence recorded within the western part of the development site generally comprised a thin topsoil (100) (101) (200) (201) (300) overlying a subsoil (102) (203) (302) of mid brown-orange silt, above the natural (103) (204), a mid orange silt.

At the eastern end of Trench 1, the subsoil (102) and natural (103) appeared to have been eroded, possibly forming a hollow or part of a low and wide ditch. This was recorded as approximately 1m deep (below present ground levels) and over 4m across (extending beyond the eastern side of the trial trench). The hollow contained two distinct infill deposits (106) (107) overlain by modern made-ground (104) (105).

Within Trench 2, the subsoil layer (203) was truncated by a large ditch [215] within

the centre of the trench. This feature was encountered approximately 0.40m below ground level, at *circa* 173.55m OD. This ditch was recorded as over 0.6m deep, extending below the limit of excavation. The eastern side of the ditch was not fully determined as this was truncated by a modern land drain [211]. The recorded width of the ditch was 4.6m, but the full width was estimated to be some 5m. The ditch appeared to contain a primary fill of stoney silt (213) (214), with an upper fill of mid brown-orange silt (212), interpreted as redeposited subsoil. A layer of redeposited natural or subsoil (202), identified to the west of ditch 215, may represent up-cast material that derives from the original construction of this feature.

The general north-south alignment of ditch 215, identified in Trench 2, suggests that the hollow (truncated natural) recorded within Trench 1, forms a continuation of this feature. In addition, there is a strong correlation between these excavated features and the earthworks previously mapped at surface in this field, as well as the presumed boundary ditch shown on aerial photographs.

A stone-filled drain was also identified within Trenches 1 & 2. The drain was recorded as 0.6-0.8m wide, with irregular but comparatively straight sides and flat base. In Trench 1 the drain [113] (112) was encountered some 0.50m below ground level, at *circa* 173.05m OD. In Trench 2 [217] (216) the same drain was identified approximately 0.40m below ground level, at *circa* 173.60m OD. The stratigraphic sequence in Trench 1 suggests this feature is potentially of medieval or post-medieval date, and post-dates the initial infilling of the hollow. No finds were retrieved during the hand-excavation of a sample-slot across this this feature.

The results from Trenches 1 & 2 indicate the presence of a probable single boundary and/or drainage ditch within the footprint of the proposed grain store. It was also noted that were no residual inclusions or artefacts to suggest medieval occupation in close proximity to the proposed grain store. The made-ground deposits identified in both trenches suggest a substantial modern ground levelling phase, presumably related to the construction of the modern sheds to the east of the development site.

No features were recorded within Trench 3. This trench contained approximately 0.6m of redeposited material (302) derived from topsoil and natural. This area will be encompassed within groundworks for HGV access. Trench 3 was positioned within an area of potential medieval occupation, to the east of the boundary ditch/es previously surveyed and mapped on the Shropshire Historic Environment Record (and the ditch identified in Trench 1 and possibly Trench 2). The soil sequence recorded in Trench 3 provisionally indicates a low potential for medieval occupation in the eastern part of the development area and/or disturbance from previous groundworks most probably associated with the construction of the two adjacent sheds.

5.2 Assessment of Impact and Archaeological Potential

The development proposal is to construct a grain store measuring some 80 foot (*circa* 24.4m) square, with additional hardstanding for HGV turning between the new shed and the existing modern buildings to the east.

The results of the evaluation (Trenches 1 & 2) indicate a probable medieval (or perhaps post-medieval) boundary ditch [215] is positioned within the footprint of the proposed grain store. The impact level of the boundary ditch is at approximately 173.55m OD (Trench 2), although this will vary slightly across the site. A small stone-filled drain [113] [217], of similar date, was also identified within the development area. The drain was encountered at approximately 0.50m (*circa* 173.05m OD) and 0.40m (*circa* 173.60m OD) below ground level within Trenches 1 and 2, respectively.

The fieldwork identified no evidence for occupation (building platforms) or cultivation earthworks (ridge-and-furrow and lynchets) within the site of the proposed building, nor was any artefactual evidence for medieval activity recovered.

There is potential for medieval occupation, bounded by ditch 215, to the east of Trenches 1 and 2 within the area of proposed groundworks for HGV access adjacent to the footprint of the new grain store. However, the soil sequence recorded in Trench 3 indicates significant ground disturbance and/or the presence of made-ground (302) in this part of the site (probably associated with the previous groundworks for the two adjacent steel-framed sheds). Medieval settlement remains, such as house platforms, are unlikely to remain *in situ* within this area. There is nonetheless a possibility that some truncated, deeper level archaeological features may survive below the impact levels of the previous modern groundworks. However, given the lack of occupational activity revealed, the extent of modern disturbance, and the likely reduced level of ground disturbance required in this area, the potential for significant archaeological remains to exist and/or be disturbed is considered to be low.

5.3 Storage and Curation

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with the *Standards and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (CIfA, 2014), *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994), *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (UKIC 1990) and *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (AAF 2007). The resultant archive will conform to the *National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives* (WAT 2008).

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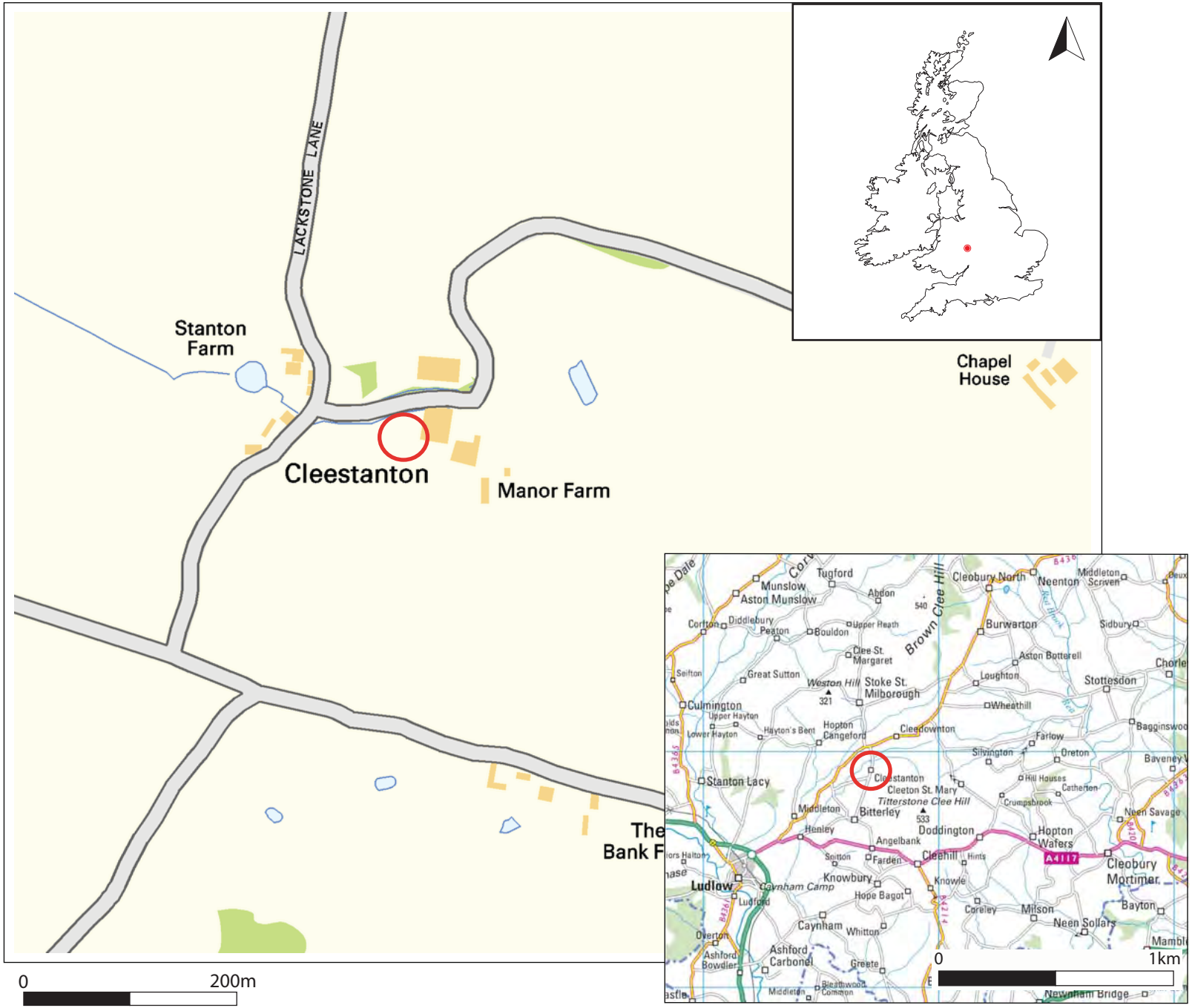
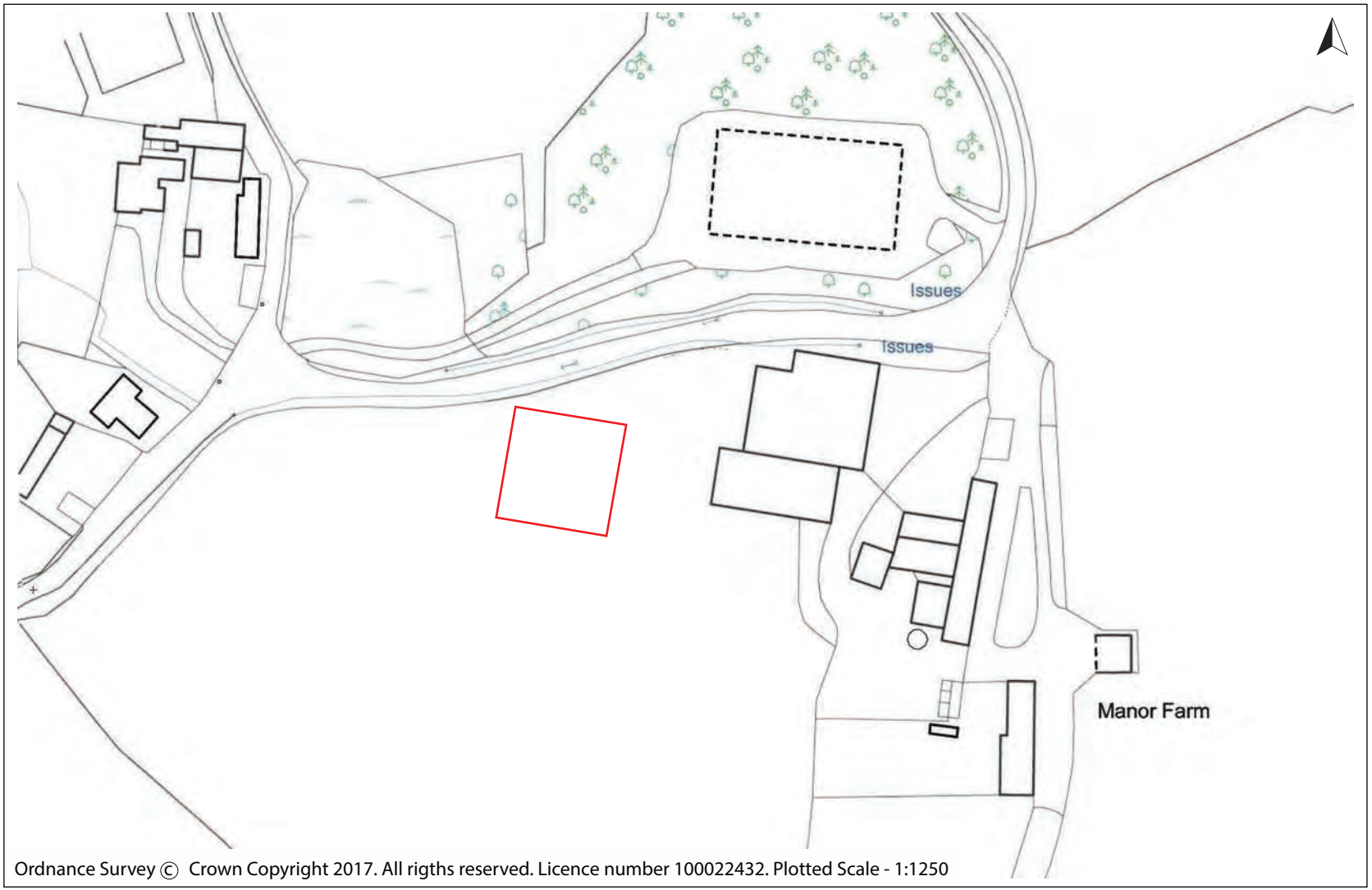


Location of site

Figure 1.
Site location plan

ARCHAEOLOGY WALES
Revealing the past, informing the future



0 100m

Location of proposed grain store

Figure 2.
Proposed development plan

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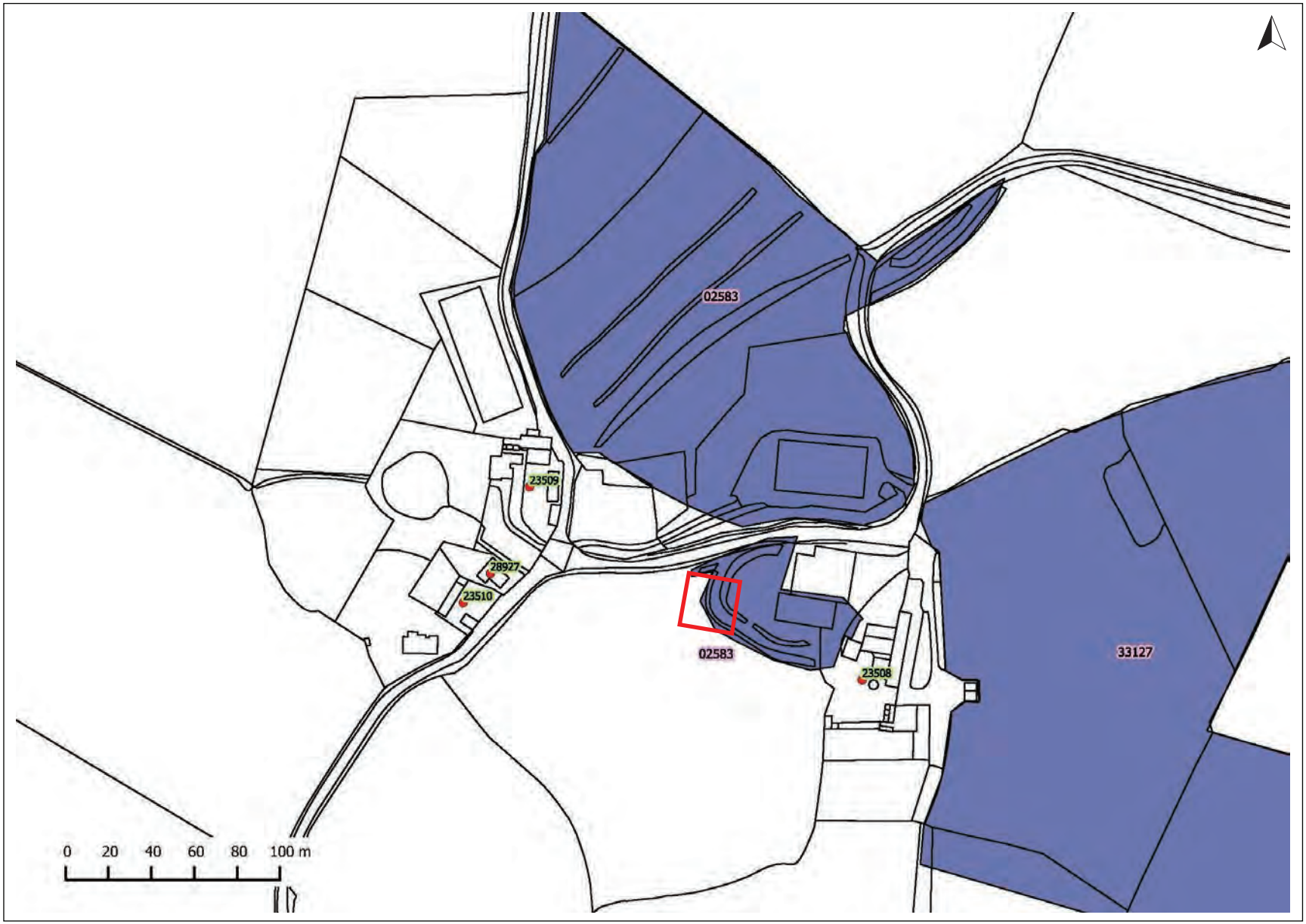

Areas of medieval settlement recorded on the Shropshire Historic Environment Record

Proposed grain store

Figure 3.
Mapped heritage assets surrounding Manor Farm

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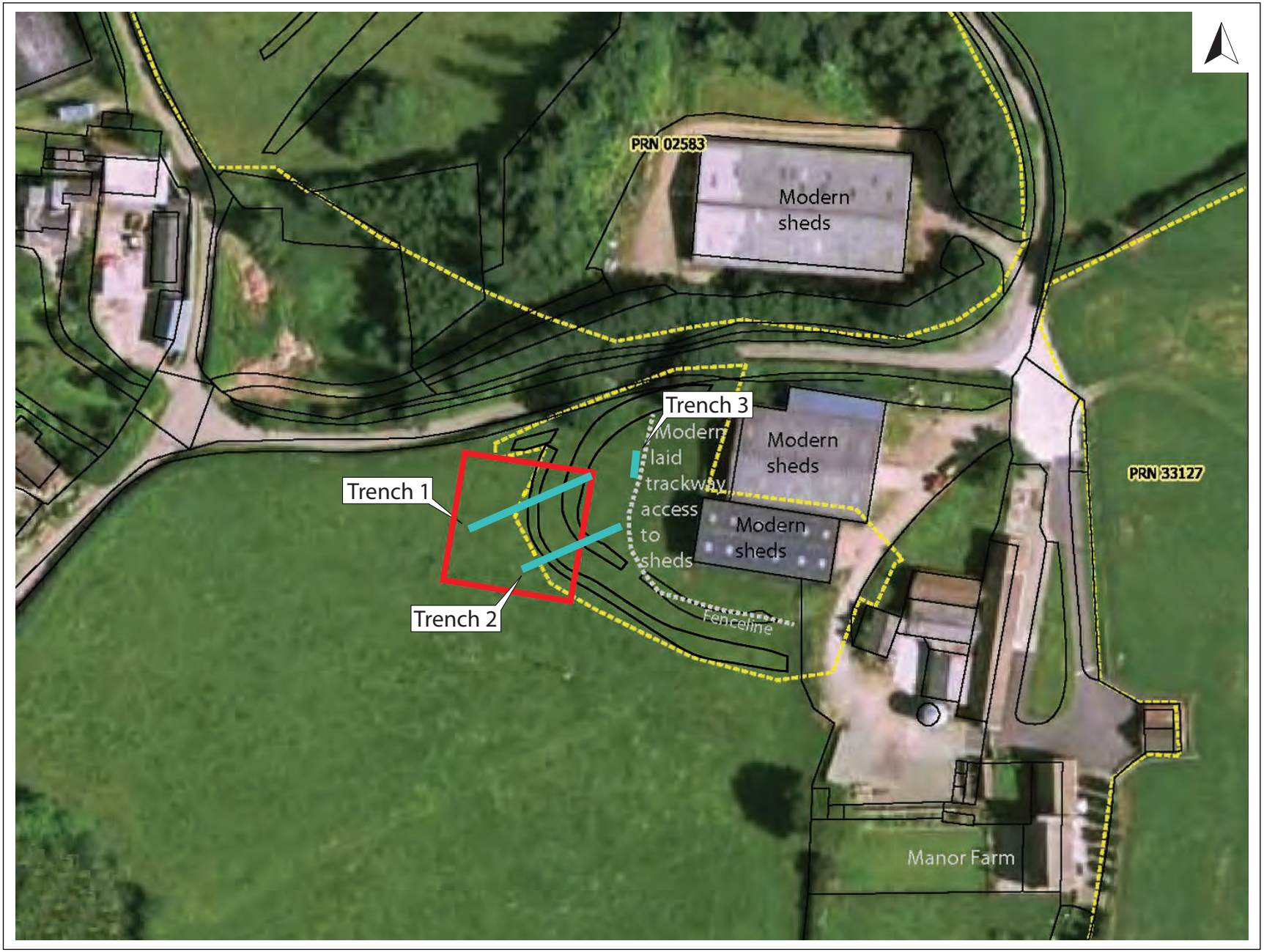

Proposed grain store

Figure 4.
Trench location plan

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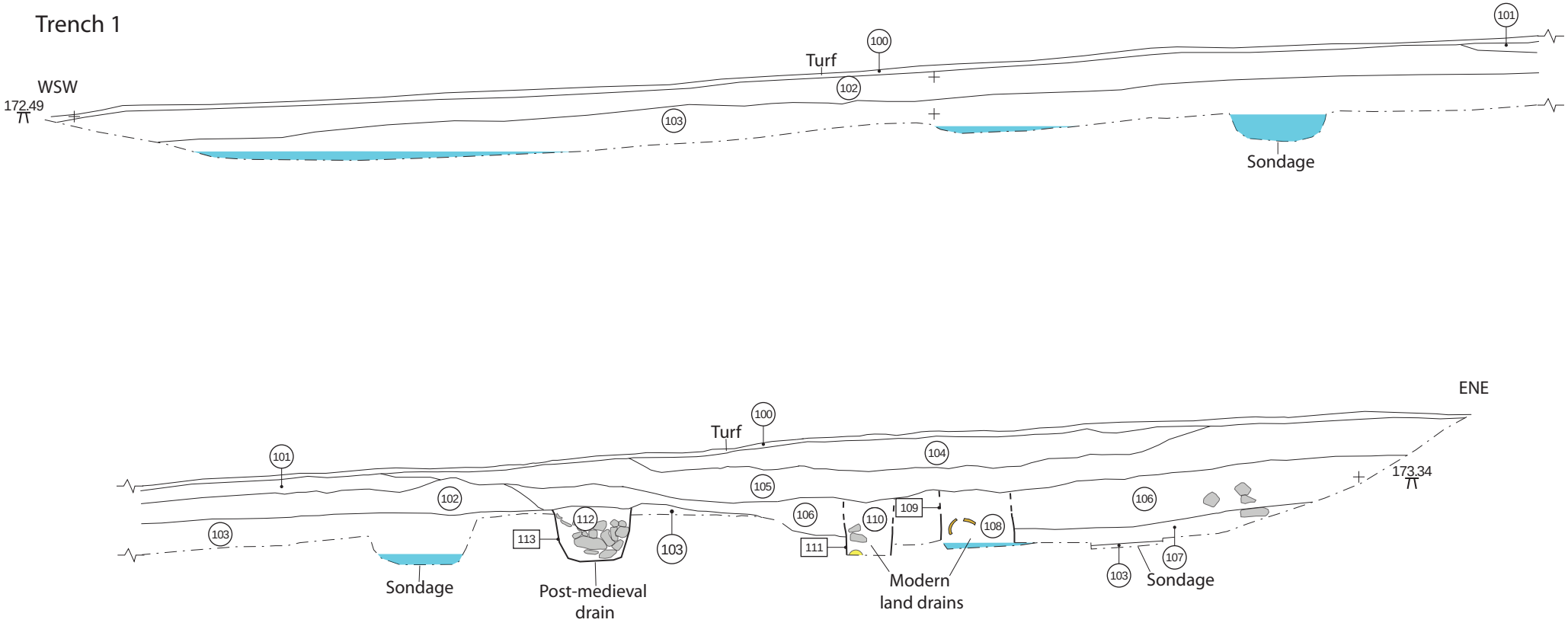

Key

Stones

Water

Note: all heights are metres above Ordnance Datum

0 1 2 3 4m

Figure 5
South-southeast facing section of Trench 1

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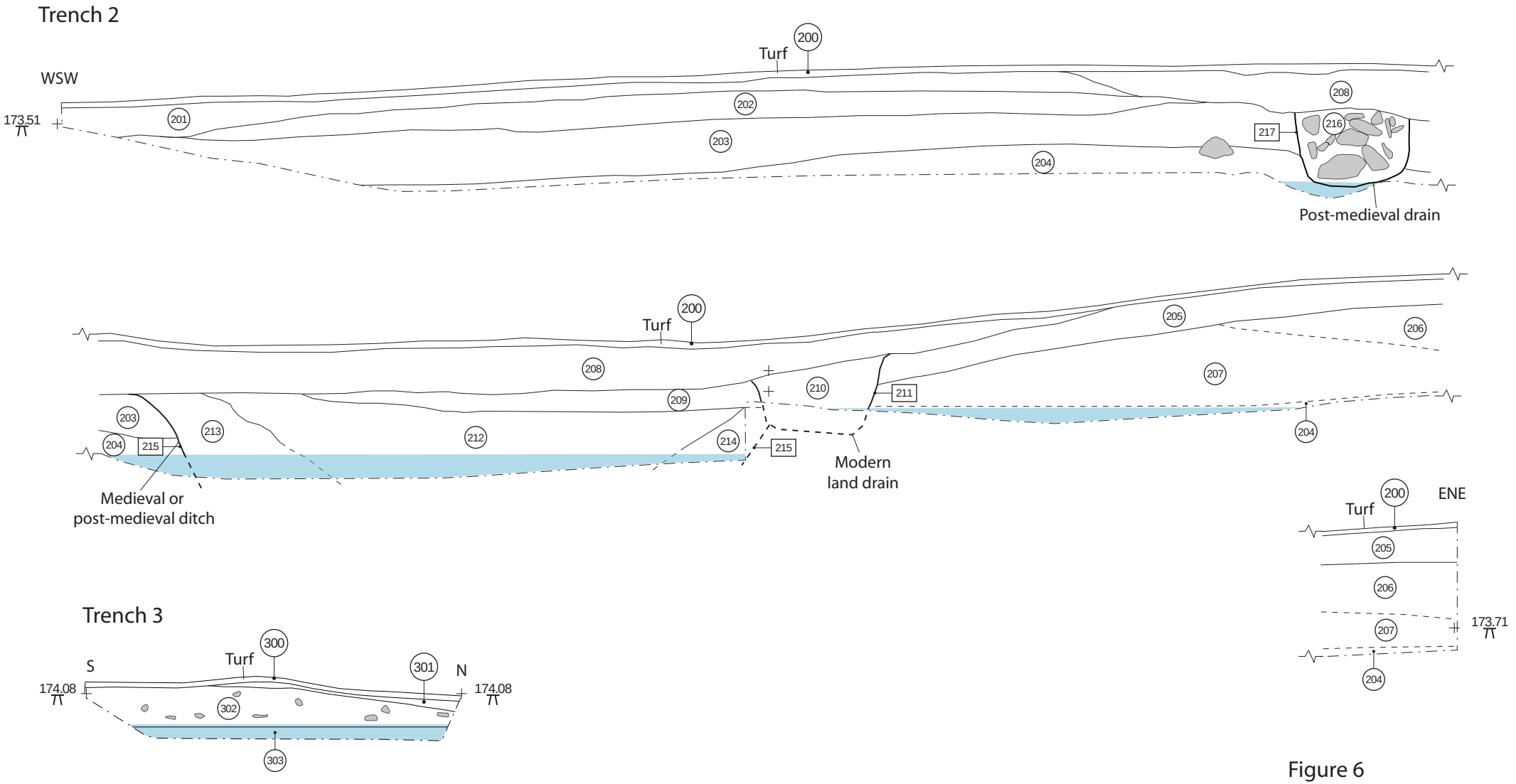

Figure 6
South-southeast facing section of Trench 2 and east facing section of Trench 3

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Plates

Plate 1. Trench 1. Looking east.

Plate 2. Trench 2. Looking west.

Plate 3. Infill deposits 106 and 107, of hollow or ditch, below made ground layers 104 & 105.

Plate 4. Stone-filled drain 113

Plate 5. Central part of Trench 1, showing deposits 102 & 103

Plate 6. Western part Trench 1, showing deposits 102 & 103

Plate 7. Trench 2. Looking east.

Plate 8. Trench 2. Looking west.

Plate 9. Eastern end of Trench 2, showing deposits 205, 206 & 207.

Plate 10. Oblique view of ditch 215.

Plate 11. Detail of ditch 215, showing fill 212 below buried soil horizon 209 and made-ground 208.

Plate 12. Western end of Trench 2, showing deposits 201, 202, 203 & 204

Plate 13. Trench 3. Looking north.

Plate 14. Northern of Trench 3, showing made-ground layers 301 & 302.

Plate 15. Western side of Trench 3, showing made-ground layers 301 & 302.

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Appendix I

Context Descriptions

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS					
Context	**Identifier**	**Type**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**	**Interpretation**
100	Deposit	Layer	Turf and topsoil. Deposit depth: 0.05m-0.10m.	At Surface	Topsoil
101	Deposit	Layer	Soft mid-dark orange-brown humic silt with occasional fine to coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: < 0.10m.	0.05m	Topsoil
102	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid brown-orange silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles. Deposit depth: 0.12m-0.26m.	0.05m	Subsoil (Geological Deposit)
103	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: > 0.60m.	0.25m	Natural (Geological Deposit)
104	Deposit	Infill Layer	Firm mid orange silt and mid-dark orange-brown humic silt, with fine to coarse siltstone/mudstone gravel and much cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: < 0.20m.	0.05m	Made Ground (Modern)
105	Deposit	Infill Layer	Firm mid orange silt and mid-dark orange-brown humic silt, with fine to coarse siltstone/mudstone gravel and much cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: < 0.60m.	0.05m	Made Ground (Modern)
106	Deposit	Infill Layer	Firm mid brown-orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and some cobbles. Deposit depth: < 0.35m.	0.30m	Made Ground (Modern / Post-Medieval)
107	Deposit	Infill Layer	Firm dark brown silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: > 0.16m.	0.70m	Silt Infill (Post-Medieval)
108	Deposit	Backfill	Firm mid orange silt and dark brown silt, with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and some cobbles. Deposit depth: > 0.40m.	0.45m	Backfill of 109 (Early-Mid 1900s)

109	Cut	Drain	Modern land drain (ceramic) recorded as 0.50m wide & > 0.40m deep. Straight sides at *circa* 90 degrees. Base not determined.	0.45m	Land Drain (Early-Mid 1900s)
110	Deposit	Backfill	Firm mid orange silt and dark brown silt, with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and some cobbles. Deposit depth: > 0.40m.	0.45m	Backfill of 111 (Late 1900s)
111	Cut	Drain	Modern land drain (plastic) recorded as 0.35m wide & > 0.40m deep. Straight sides at *circa* 85 degrees. Base not determined.	0.45m	Land Drain (Late 1900s)
112	Deposit	Stone Infill	Angular cobbles and boulders of siltstone / mudstone. Deposit depth: 0.48m.	0.50m	Stone Fill of 113 (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
113	Cut	Drain	Stone-filled drain recorded as 0.60m-0.70m wide and 0.48m deep. Straight / concave sides at *circa* 80 degrees, leading to flat base.	0.50m	Stone Drain (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
200	Deposit	Layer	Turf and topsoil. Deposit depth: 0.05m-0.10m.	At surface	Topsoil
201	Deposit	Layer	Soft mid-dark orange-brown humic silt with occasional fine to coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: 0.05m-0.25m.	0.05m	Topsoil
202	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid brown-orange silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. This deposit is slightly more orange than 203. Deposit depth < 0.25m.	0.12m	Redeposited Subsoil (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
203	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid brown-orange silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles. Deposit depth: 0.22m-0.40m.	0.25m	Subsoil (Geological Deposit)
204	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: > 0.30m.	0.60m	Natural (Geological Deposit)

205	Deposit	Layer	Firm mid brown-grey silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: 0.16m-0.24m.	0.05m	Topsoil / Buried Topsoil
206	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid brown-orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: > 0.34m.	0.22m	Redeposited Natural (Medieval – Modern)
207	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid orange-brown silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Inclusions of charcoal flecks. Deposit depth: > 0.60m.	0.35m	Disturbed Subsoil (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
208	Deposit	Infill Layer	Stiff mid orange silt and mid-dark orange-brown humic silt, with fine to coarse siltstone/mudstone gravel and much cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: < 0.40m.	0.05m	Made Ground (Modern)
209	Deposit	Infill Layer	Firm mid-dark brown-grey silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: < 0.14m.	0.30m	Redeposited Topsoil (Post-Medieval - Modern)
210	Deposit	Backfill	Firm mid orange silt and mid-dark orange-brown humic silt, with fine to coarse siltstone / mudstone gravel and cobbles. Deposit depth: > 0.40m.	0.20m	Backfill of 211 (Late 1900s)
211	Cut	Drain	Modern land drain (plastic) recorded as 0.90m wide & > 0.40m deep. Straight sides at *circa* 70 degrees. Base not determined.	0.20m	Land Drain (Late 1900s)
212	Deposit	Fill	Stiff mid brown-orange silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: > 0.60m.	0.35m	Upper Fill of 215 (Medieval – Post-Medieval)
213	Deposit	Fill	Firm mid-dark orange-brown silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular medium and much angular and sub-angular cobbles. Deposit depth: > 0.60m.	0.40m	Lower Fill of 215 (Medieval – Post-Medieval)
214	Deposit	Fill	Firm mid-dark orange-brown silt with occasional medium and coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular medium and much angular and sub-angular cobbles. Deposit depth: > 0.40m.	0.50m	Lower Fill of 215 (Medieval – Post-Medieval)

215	Cut	Ditch	Ditch recorded as > 4.6m wide & > 0.60m deep. Upper slope of western edge was slightly concave at *circa* 70 degrees. Eastern side truncated by modern feature. Depth was not ascertained.	0.40m	Boundary Ditch (Medieval – Post-Medieval)
216	Deposit	Stone Infill	Angular cobbles and boulders of siltstone / mudstone. Deposit depth: 0.35m.	0.40m	Stone Fill of 113 (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
217	Cut	Drain	Stone-filled drain recorded as 0.80m wide & 0.35m deep. Straight / concave sides at 80-85 degrees, leading to shallow u-shaped base.	0.40m	Stone Drain (Medieval / Post-Medieval)
300	Deposit	Layer	Turf and topsoil. Deposit depth: 0.05m-0.10m.	At Surface	Topsoil
301	Deposit	Layer	Firm mid orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel. Deposit depth: 0.10m-0.15m.	0.05m	Redeposited Natural - Made Ground (Modern)
302	Deposit	Layer	Firm dark brown silt with occasional fine to coarse sub-rounded and sub-angular siltstone / mudstone gravel and occasional angular cobbles. Inclusions of brick and coal fragments and charcoal. Finds of brick fragments. Deposit depth: 0.30m-0.60m.	0.05m	Made Ground (Modern)
303	Deposit	Layer	Stiff mid orange silt with occasional fine to coarse rounded to sub-angular siltstone/mudstone gravel and occasional cobbles and boulders. Deposit depth: > 0.20m.	0.50m	Subsoil (Geological Deposit)

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Appendix II

Written Scheme of Investigation

ARCHAEOLOGY WALES
Revealing the past, informing the future

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WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL

EVALUATION

AT MANOR FARM, CLEESTANTON, SHROPSHIRE SY8 3EL

Prepared for:

Mr & Mrs Jones

Project No: 2572

February 2018

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Contents Page

Summary

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales at the request of Mr & Mrs Jones, Manor Farm.

The programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation will be undertaken prior to the determination of a planning application for the development of a new grain store at Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Shropshire, SY8 3EL. The proposed development is in the pre-planning stages of development. The local planning authority is Shropshire County Council (SCC).

A Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development site has been undertaken (Hadley 2018). This highlighted the fact that extensive earthworks remains have been identified to the south and east of Manor Farm (PRN 33127), comprising hollow-ways and probable building platforms as well as small areas of broad ridge-and-furrow. These earthworks probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Stanton. There are further earthwork remains recorded to the north and west of Manor Farm (PRN 02583). Associated earthwork remains may extend into the proposed development area, although modern agricultural sheds have also been constructed in close proximity to the site. The Assessment recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken of the proposed development site to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. The Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Team (SC-HET) in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, have confirmed the need to assess this impact through intrusive trial trench evaluation.

All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).

1. Introduction and planning background

This WSI details the methodology for a programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation to be undertaken in association with the proposed development of a new grain store at Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Shropshire, SY8 3EL, centred on SO 57454 79250 (Figure 1 and 2). The proposed development is in the pre-planning stages of development. The local planning authority is Shropshire County Council (SCC).

A Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development site has been undertaken (Hadley 2018). This highlighted the fact that extensive earthworks remains have been identified to the south and east of Manor Farm (PRN 33127), comprising hollow-ways and probable building platforms as well as small areas of broad ridge-and-furrow. These earthworks probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Stanton. There are further earthwork remains recorded to the north and west of Manor Farm (PRN 02583). Associated earthwork remains may extend into the proposed development area, although modern agricultural sheds have also been constructed in close proximity to the site.

This WSI has been prepared by Philip Poucher MCIfA, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of McCartneys LLP, on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs Jones.

The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with the Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Team (SC-HET) in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority (SCC). SC-HET agree with the recommendations laid out in an associated Heritage Impact Assessment (Hadley 2018), which suggests that an intrusive archaeological evaluation of the development area is undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The purpose of the proposed programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation is to provide the local planning authority with the information that they are likely to request from the client in response to their planning application, the requirements for which are set out in paragraph 128 of the National Planning Policy Framework NPPF and the Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes (Historic England).

All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

2. Site Description

Planning permission will be sought for the construction of a new grain store adjacent to the current agricultural buildings that form part of the Manor Farm complex in Cleestanton, Shropshire.

The proposed development site is located on the western side of the farmstead complex, adjacent to three modern large steel-framed agricultural buildings, a modern access track surrounds these agricultural buildings to the south and west (figure 3). The traditional brick-built farm buildings and farmhouse lie to the east. A local lane bounds the site to the north, with agricultural land extending to the south on gradually rising ground, and Cleestanton lying to the west.

Cleestanton is a small rural hamlet in southern Shropshire, lying in a largely agricultural landscape with a settlement pattern of dispersed hamlets, farmsteads and small villages. The proposed development site lies at approximately 175mOD, the ground generally rises to the prominent local landmark of Titterstone Clee Hill at 533mOD 2km to the southeast. Small streams lie approximately 600m to the north, following falling ground and feeding the Ledwyche Brook to the southwest. The closest largest settlement would be Ludlow, which lies 7.5km to the southwest.

The underlying solid geology of the area is comprised of interbedded sandstone and mudstone of the Raglan Mudstone Formation. This is overlain by slightly acidic loamy agricultural soils (BGS 2017).

3. Archaeological background

A Heritage Impact Assessment has been compiled (Hadley 2018), which details the archaeological and historical background of the proposed development site and the surrounding area.

In summary, the area is likely to have formed part of the lands said to have been granted to St.Mildburg before 704, and it is possible a small settlement may have been established at Stanton during the Late Saxon period. By 1066 it lay within the manor of the church of Wenlock, which belonged to Wenlock Priory by 1086. Stanton was probably a subsidiary settlement to Stoke St. Milborough, and is recorded in the Domesday Survey as having only one ploughteam. The manorial history of the Stoke St. Milborough parish throughout much of the medieval period is detailed in the Victoria County History of Shropshire.

There are extensive earthworks to the south and east of Manor Farm (PRN 33127), comprising hollow-ways and probable building platforms as well as small areas of broad ridge-and-furrow. These earthworks probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval settlement of Stanton. There are further earthwork remains recorded to the north and west of Manor Farm (PRN 02583). The earthwork remains in this area are considered likely to represent 12th to 13th century occupation resulting from increased grazing, enclosure and reclamation of wood and wastes during this period. The settlement most probably shrank during the earlier 14th century as sheep farming became increasingly important, in part following depopulation resulting from the Black Death.

By the 16th century the conversion of open-field arable land to enclosed pasture most probably caused further contraction of settlement at Stanton. The process of enclosure was accompanied by this time, if not earlier, by the formation of many outlying farms. The 'farm of Clee Stanton' is recorded as early as 1589 when the lord of the manor, William Knyfton, sold the chief house and demesne lands to Richard Walker. It then descended through the Walker family until bought by Robert Head in 1830, who settled it on the Bradley family in 1839. The current farmhouse, later called Manor Farm, dates from the mid-18th century but was probably on or near the site of the earlier house.

The proposed development site lies in an area of undulating ground. A curvilinear feature was identified on aerial photographs in this area, but no clear earthworks can be defined on the ground. The nature of the ground suggests earthwork remains may extend into the proposed development site, but also modern steel-framed agricultural sheds lie in close proximity, and it is possible ground deposits in this area have been disturbed during their construction.

4. Objectives

This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the intrusive trial trench evaluation will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2014)*.

The objective of the intrusive trial trench evaluation will be to locate and describe, by means of strategic trial trenching, archaeological features that may be present within the development area. The work will elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material, its character, distribution, extent, condition and relative significance. The work will include an assessment of regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within national and regional research frameworks.

The intrusive trial trench evaluation will result in a report that will provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made which can safeguard the archaeological resource. Preservation *in situ* will be advocated where at all possible, but where engineering or other factors result in loss of archaeological deposits, preservation by record will be recommended.

4.1. Site Specific Research Aims

It is important to recognize that whilst primarily designed to mitigate impacts, developer-led archaeology is also regarded as research activity with an academic basis, the aim of which is to add to the sum of human knowledge. Curators recognize the desirability of incorporating agreed research priorities as a means of enhancing the credibility of the development control process, ensuring cost-effectiveness and legitimately maximizing intellectual return.

An Archaeological Research Assessment and Research Agenda for the West Midlands region has been compiled (Watt 2011). Given that the anticipated archaeological resource within this evaluation area is likely to relate to medieval settlement activity it has the potential to contribute to a number of research aims highlighted for the medieval period in the west midlands. For example, the scope for further research into the question of village origins, the fluidity of settlement during the medieval period and the desertion and or shrinkage of rural settlements, have all been highlighted. This intrusive trial trench evaluation has the capacity to identify areas where subsequent mitigation may contribute to these published research aims.

5. Timetable of works

5.1. Fieldwork

The programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation will be undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application associated with the proposed development. The work is proposed to start in February/March 2018. Archaeology Wales will update SC-HET with the exact date.

5.2. Report delivery

The report will be submitted to the client and to SC-HET within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. A copy of the report will also be sent to the regional HER.

6. Fieldwork

6.1. Detail

The work will be undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2014).

The archaeological project manager in charge of the work will satisfy him/herself that all constraints to ground works have been identified, including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders.

The agreed evaluation areas will be positioned to maximise the retrieval of archaeological information and to ensure that the archaeological resource is understood.

It is proposed that initially two trenches (T1 & T2) will be machine-excavated within the planned development area (Figure 3). The two trenches (T1 & T2) will each measure 20m by 1.5m. Trench 1 (T1) will be positioned centrally within the proposed development area, Trench 2 (T1) will also incorporate an area to the east of the proposed development area to also assess the likely access route for the development. The exact positioning of the trenches will depend on the position of any extant services or other obstructions that come to light during the initial phase of ground works. The locations and dimensions of the trenches will be agreed with SC-HET prior to the commencement of works.

The evaluation trenches (Trenches 1 & 2) will be excavated to the top of the archaeological horizon by a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under close archaeological supervision. All areas will be subsequently hand cleaned using pointing trowels and/or hoes to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance. The excavation of the minimum number of archaeological features will be undertaken, to elucidate the character, distribution, extent and importance of the archaeological remains. As a minimum small discrete features will be fully excavated, larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated) and long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features. Should this percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required.

Sufficient excavation will be undertaken to ensure that the natural horizons are reached and proven, where this can be practically and safely achieved. If safety reasons preclude manual excavation to natural, hand augering may be used to try to assess the total depth of stratification within each area. The depth of the excavation will conform to current safety requirements. If excavation is required below 1.2m the options of using shoring will be discussed with the client and SC-HET.

Where potentially significant archaeological features be encountered during the course of the evaluation then SC-HET and the client will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity. SC-HET may subsequently request that further archaeological work is undertaken in order to fully evaluate areas of significant archaeological

activity. Such work may require the provision of additional time and resources to complete the archaeological investigation.

6.2. Recording

Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

All features identified will be tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries.

Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 12MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

6.3. Finds

The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological (2014)* will form the basis of finds collection, processing and recording.

All manner of finds regardless of category and date will be retained.

Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure under *The Treasure Act 1996* will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (normally Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

6.4. Environmental sampling strategy

Deposits with a significant potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material will be sampled, by means of the most appropriate method (bulk, column etc). Where sampling will provide a significant contribution to the understanding of the site AW will draw up a site-specific sampling strategy alongside a specialist environmental archaeologist. All environmental sampling and recording and will follow English Heritage's *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology* (2nd Edition 2011).

6.5. Human remains

In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established and the coroner informed. All human remains will be left *in situ* and protected during backfilling. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible the human

remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of licenses and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13* (1993).

6.6. Specialist advisers

In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

Artefact type	Specialist
Flint	Kate Pitt (Archaeology Wales)
Animal bone	Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
CBM, heat affected clay, Daub etc.	Rachael Hall (APS)
Clay pipe	Hilary Major (Freelance)
Glass	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)
Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Malin Holst (University of York)/Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Metalwork	Kevin Leahy (University of Leicester)/ Quita Mold (Freelance)
Metal work and metallurgical residues	Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Neo/BA pottery	Dr Alex Gibson (Bradford University)
IA/Roman pottery	Jane Timby (Freelance)
Roman Pottery	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)/ Peter Webster (Freelance)
Post Roman pottery	Stephen Clarke (Monmouthshire Archaeology)
Charcoal (wood ID)	John Carrot (Freelance)
Waterlogged wood	Nigel Nayling (University of Wales – Lampeter)
Molluscs and pollen	Dr James Rackham

Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers (Freelance)

6.6.1. Specialist reports

Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental reports will be written by AW specialists, or sub-contracted to external specialists when required.

7. Monitoring

SC-HET will be contacted approximately five days prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to SC-HET for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.

Representatives of SC-HET will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the field evaluation. No area will be back-filled, until SC-HET has had the opportunity to inspect it, unless permission has been given in advance. SC-HET will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

8. Post-fieldwork programme

8.1. Archive assessment

8.1.1. Site archive

An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project.

The site archive (including artefacts and samples) will be prepared in accordance with CIfA Guidelines (*Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives'*, 2014). The legal landowners consent will be gained for deposition of finds.

8.1.2. Analysis

Following a rapid review of the potential of the site archive, a programme of analysis and reporting will be undertaken. This will result in the following inclusions in the final report:

- Non-technical summary
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the watching brief, all artefacts, structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings (if features are encountered) with ground level, ordnance datum and vertical and horizontal scales.

- Written description and interpretation of all deposits identified, including their character, function, potential dating and relationship to adjacent features. Specialist descriptions and illustrations of all artefacts and soil samples will be included as appropriate.
- An indication of the potential of archaeological deposits which have not been disturbed by the development
- A discussion of the local, regional and national context of the remains by means of reviewing published reports, unpublished reports, historical maps, documents from local archives and the regional HER as appropriate.
- A detailed archive list at the rear listing all contexts recorded, all samples finds and find types, drawings and photographs taken. This will include a statement of the intent to deposit, and location of deposition, of the archive.

8.2. Reports and archive deposition

8.2.1. Report to client

Copies of all reports associated with the intrusive trial trench evaluation, together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to the client and SC-HET upon completion.

8.2.2. Additional reports

After an appropriate period has elapsed, copies of all reports will be deposited with the relevant county Historical Environment Record, the National Monuments Record and, if appropriate, Historic England.

8.2.3. Summary reports for publication

Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

8.2.4. Notification of important remains

Where it is considered that remains have been revealed that may satisfy the criteria for statutory protection, AW will submit preliminary notification of the remains to Historic England.

8.2.5. Archive deposition

The final archive (site and research) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.

Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with Historic England. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to SCC-HER.

In addition, an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/ will be completed, and preferably initiated with key fields on Details, Location and Creators Forms at the beginning of the work. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). Any spatial data generated will be submitted to the Shropshire County Council HER in a suitable format (e.g. shapefile, MapInfo MIF, dxf, etc).

8.2.6. Finds deposition

The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the legal land owners.

9. Staff

The project will be managed by Philip Poucher MCIfA (AW Project Manager) and the fieldwork undertaken by Adrian Hadley and suitably qualified and experienced staff (Archaeology Wales). Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of SC-HET and the client.

Additional Considerations

10. Health and Safety

10.1. Risk assessment

Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

10.2. Other guidelines

AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2002)*.

11. Community Engagement and Outreach

Wherever possible, AW will ensure suitable measures are in place to inform the local community and any interested parties of the results of the site investigation work. This may occur during the site investigation work or following completion of the work. The form of any potential outreach activities may include lectures and talks to local groups, interested parties and persons, information boards, flyers and other forms of communication (social media and websites), and press releases to local and national media.

The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project.

Where outreach activities have a cost implication these will need to be negotiated in advance and in accordance with the nature of the desired response and learning outcomes.

12. Insurance

AW is fully insured for this type of work, and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

13. Quality Control

13.1. Professional standards

AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists*. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* and the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs* currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

13.2. Project tracking

The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

14. Arbitration

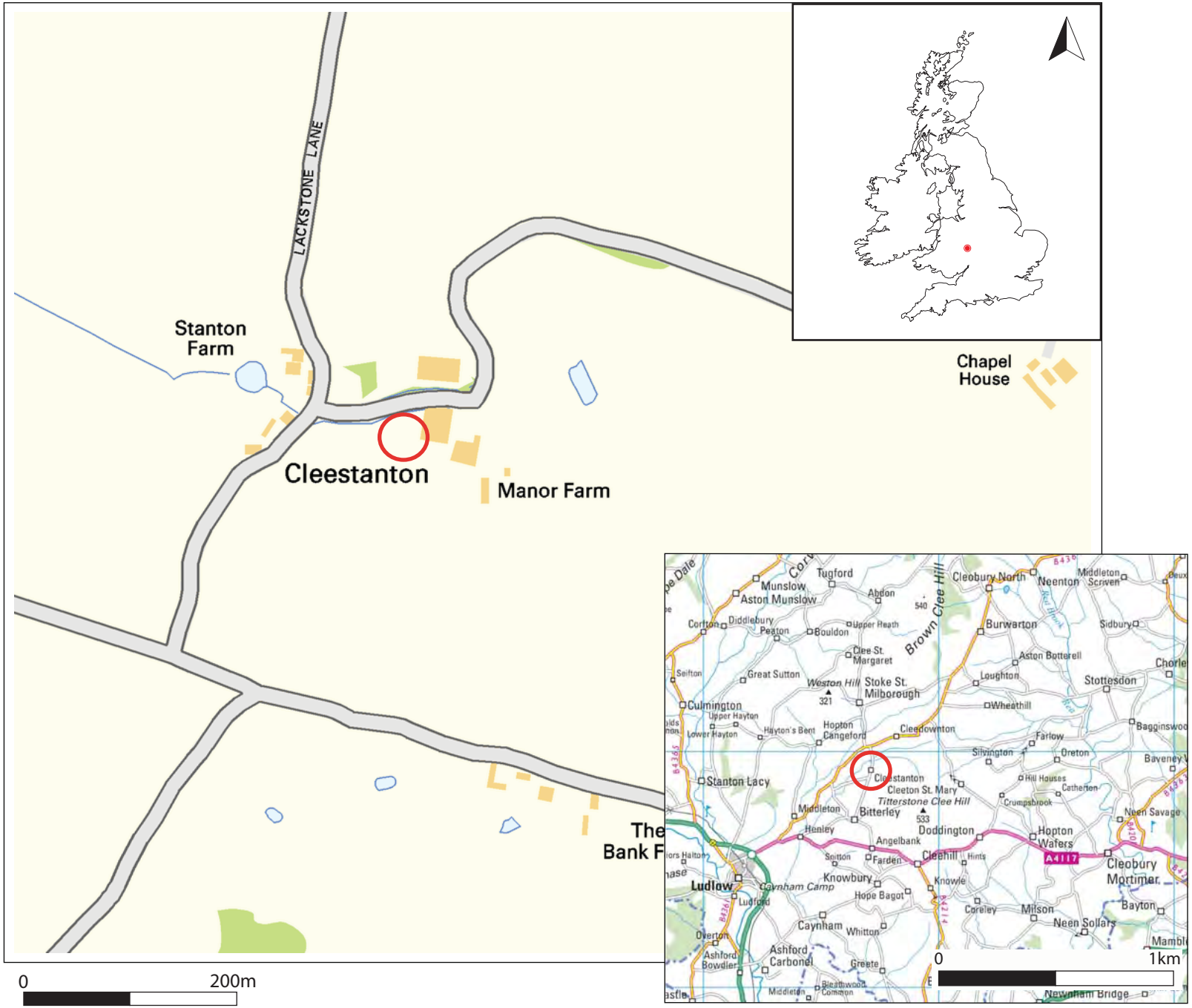
Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists* applying at the date of the agreement.

15. References

British Geological Survey: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html, Retrieved 22/2/2018.

Hadley, A 2018 *Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Stoke St.Milborough, Shropshire: Heritage Impact Assessment* Archaeology Wales Report No.1649

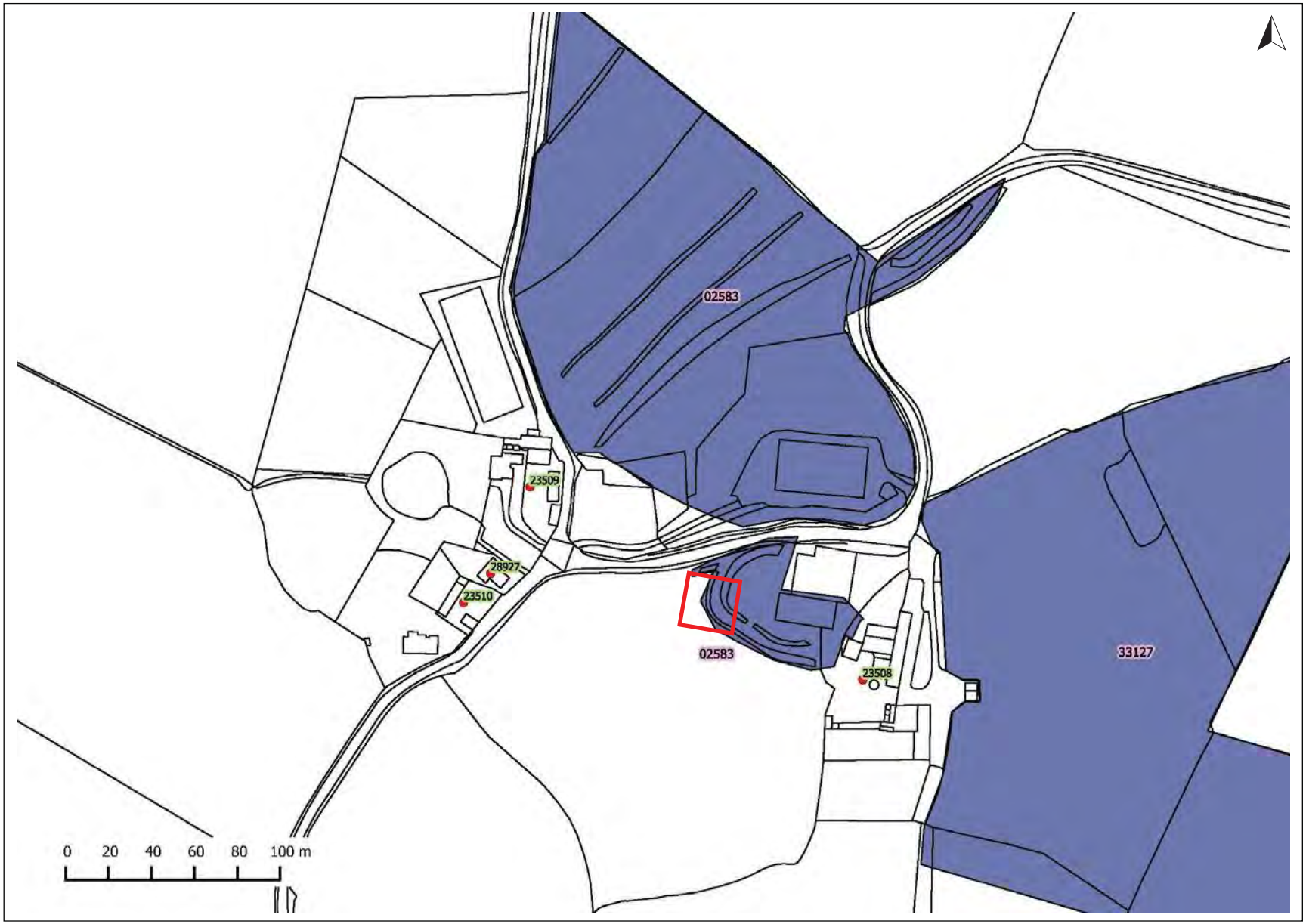
Watt, S (Ed.) 2011 *The Archaeology of the West Midlands: A framework for research* Oxbow Book, University of Birmingham



Location of site

Figure 1.
Site location plan

ARCHAEOLOGY WALES
Revealing the past, informing the future



Areas of medieval settlement recorded on the Shropshire Historic Environment Record

Proposed grain store

Figure 2.
Mapped heritage assets surrounding Manor Farm

ARCHAEOLOGY WALES
Revealing the past, informing the future

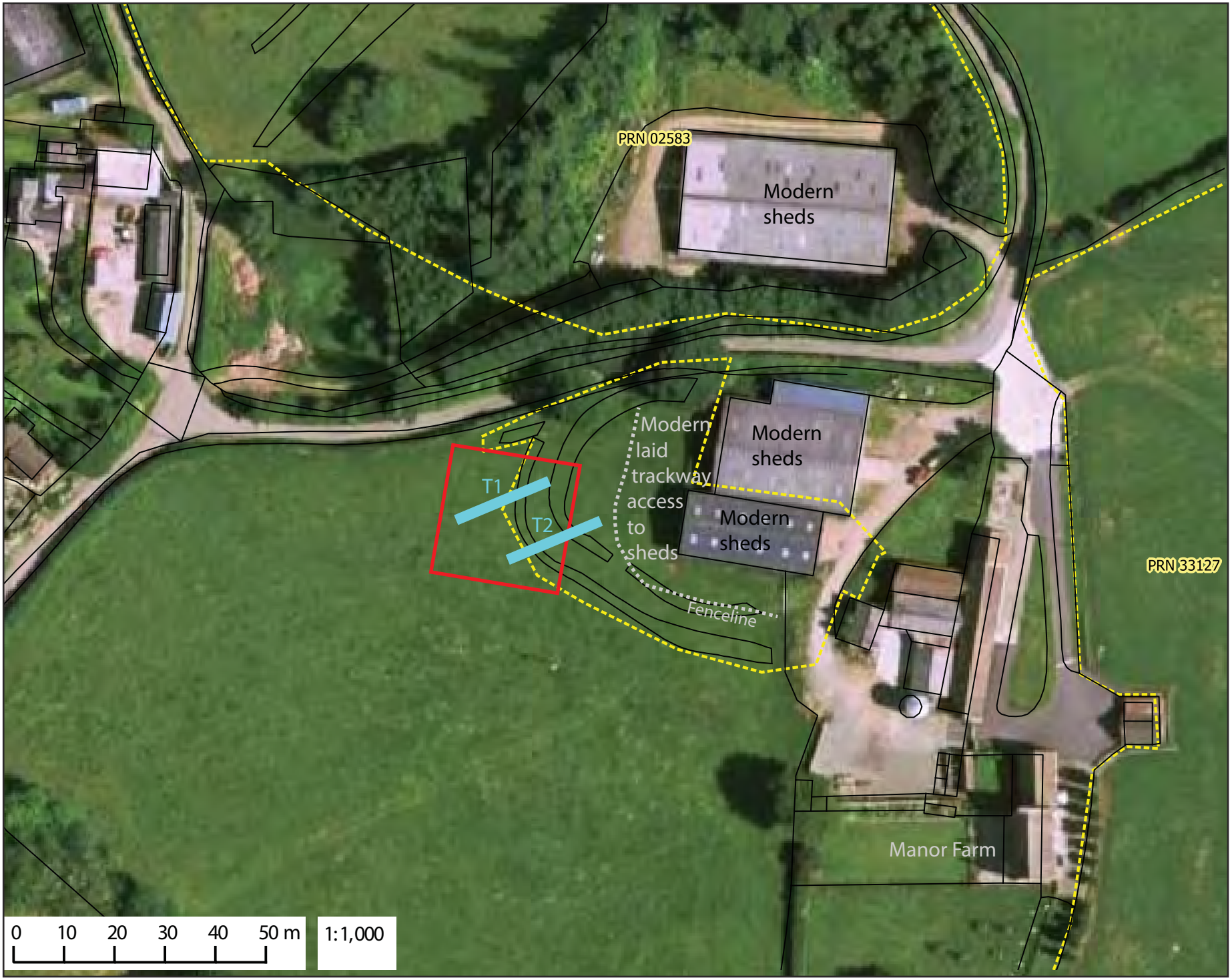


Figure 3.
Location of proposed grain store and evaluation trenches, overlaid on annotated Google Earth image.

Archaeology Wales

Appendix III

Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Manor Farm, Cleestanton, Stoke St. Milborough, Shropshire

Site Name:	Manor Farm, Cleestanton
Site Code:	MFC/17/EV
PRN:	02583 (Cleestanton medieval settlement)
Associated PRN:	-
NGR:	357450, 279245 (SO 5745 7925)
Site Type:	Greenfield
Project Type:	Archaeological Evaluation
Project Manager:	Philip Poucher
Project Dates:	March 2018
Categories Present:	Medieval / Post-Medieval / Modern
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of Duplicate Archives:	Shropshire HER
Number of Finds Boxes:	N/A
Location of Finds:	N/A
Museum Reference:	N/A
Copyright:	AW
Restrictions to Access:	None

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