

**The Ship Inn, Camp Road,  
Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire**

**Archaeological Evaluation and  
Watching Brief Project**

NGR ST 60981, 92645



On behalf of  
Property Development Solutions Limited

by Susana Dias and Nick Corcos

Avon Archaeology Limited  
Bristol: April 2015



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**Frontispiece:** Photograph taken at Oldbury probably late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century, towards the southern end of Camp Road, looking north. The Ship Inn is in the background, with its small triangular green immediately in front of it. Note what are clearly at least two phases of building, an earlier to the right, and a later to the left, closer to the road. This fact is not reflected in *any* of the map evidence depicted in the figures at the end of this report, even the OS editions. Reproduced from *Hudson 1987*.

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## ABSTRACT

The following report details the results of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief project undertaken at the Ship Inn, Camp Road, Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire, by Avon Archaeology Limited, as commissioned by Property Development Solutions Limited. The evaluation was preceded by an initial archaeological desk-based assessment of the Ship Inn building and surrounding area (Corcos 2013).

The site, centred on NGR ST 60981, 92645, is roughly rectangular in shape, with its long axis orientated east-west (**Figure 1**). It is bounded on the east and north by an undeveloped pasture enclosure and on the south by an open space used as a car park for the Ship Inn public house. On the west it is bounded by the line of Camp Road, which runs north-south through the central part of Oldbury village. The plot representing the study site occupies a total of 0.203 hectares, which is just over half an acre. The site is currently occupied, on its southern side, by the Ship Inn and its associated skittle alley and car park, although at the time of writing, the building itself, which is not listed, was closed and not in use. The site also includes, as already noted, a small grass paddock immediately north-east of the pub building. The basic intention of the development is to convert the pub building into two eco-houses with gardens, and the present skittle alley into a third.

Oldbury is not subject to Conservation Area status, but the study site is unusual in that almost the whole of its northern half lies within the boundary of a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This is Oldbury Camp, also known as *The Toot* or *Toots*, which was first included in the formal scheduling lists in 1955. However, since being originally designated, the scheduling has been amended twice, in 1974 and 1992, to extend part of the protected area underneath the modern buildings. Oldbury Camp is overwhelmingly considered to belong to that class of field monuments known as *hillforts*, and *hilltop enclosures*, and to be of Iron Age date. Firm dating evidence for Oldbury Camp remains elusive, despite several small, modern interventions at various points along the defensive circuit, including at least one very close to the study site (**Figure 2**).



The present evaluation and subsequent watching brief did not reveal any surviving archaeological features relating to the construction or occupation of the hillfort, even though one of the trenches, Trench 3, was supposedly located within its south-western defensive circuit. Only four sherds of pottery contemporary with the occupation/construction of the hillfort were retrieved during the evaluation, and three of these were residual.

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## **NOTES**

Avon Archaeology Limited have taken all care to produce a comprehensive summary of the known and recorded archaeological evidence. No responsibility can be accepted for any omissions of fact or opinion, however caused.

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All enquiries should be addressed to: Avon Archaeology Limited, Avondale Business Centre, Woodland Way, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 1AW. Telephone 0117 960 8487.

Email: [mail@avonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:mail@avonarchaeology.co.uk)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Property Development Solutions Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation and watching brief project as a consequence of an initial archaeological desk-based assessment project for land at the Ship Inn, Camp Road, Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire. The project was commissioned as a condition of Scheduled Monument Consent, imposed by English Heritage.

Oldbury is not subject to *Conservation Area* status, but it is crucial to note that the study site is unusual in that almost the whole of its northern half lies within the boundary of a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This is Oldbury Camp, also known as *The Toot* or *Toots*, which covers about 10 acres and incorporates an area extending north and east of the study site, roughly in the shape of an inverted 'D', with a relatively straight boundary on the southern side. It is extremely important for present purposes to stress that the scheduled area represents only the minimum extent of the actual monument, the full area of which is unknown, but which, almost certainly, extends beyond, and perhaps well beyond, the formally protected area.

No major conclusive evidence relating to the occupation or construction of the hillfort was discovered during the course of present evaluation. Pottery of late Iron Age/Early Romano-British date was restricted to three residual sherds from Trench 2 and one from the subsoil layer, Trench 1. With the exception of a cut feature in Trench 1, which contained three sherds of pottery, ranging in date between the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, the remaining features recorded (within Trench 2) were modern in date. The section to the rear of the bank retaining wall (Trench 3) revealed a series of dumped deposits, the earliest of which contained one sherd of post medieval Somerset redware pottery.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

The fieldwork conducted at the Ship Inn was implemented in accordance with methodologies outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Potter 2013) as well as the guidelines and criteria defined in a brief issued by English Heritage and objectives

defined by the Archaeological Officer for South Gloucestershire Council. The current project focused on the evaluation and recording of the site's stratigraphical potential, and the identification of all its chronological and typological features.

The trenches were excavated using a mini-digger to the top of the surviving archaeology, or to the level of the natural substrate, where appropriate, and cleaned by hand. Stratigraphical principles were applied when removing the different contexts, using the *E. Harris Method* for archaeological excavations. All the information regarding the *stratum* deposits and archaeological features was recorded on field documents (context record sheets) produced and compiled by Avon Archaeology Limited, in addition to a detailed set of photographic surveys, and technical drawings at scales of 1:10 and 1:20. The chosen methodology used meticulous technical procedures to draw all the relevant sections and plans in detail, using absolute heights above Ordnance Datum. The context layers were characterized individually and numbered in sequential order.

### **3. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY by Dr Nick Corcos**

Geologically, the site sits at the southern end of an isolated outcrop of Triassic Mercia Mudstone, which is otherwise surrounded on all sides by Quaternary, alluvial tidal flat deposits related to the depositional regime of the Severn Estuary. Immediately to the south, however, there is only a narrow, alluvial gap separating this outcrop from a much more extensive tract of Mercia Mudstone which runs away to higher ground to both east and south (BGS). Through this gap flows the Oldbury Pill, which drains part of the low-lying area to the east of Oldbury. It seems almost certain that at least a part of the Pill, immediately south of Oldbury, has at some point been canalised, but a suggestion that this may be part of an abortive 16<sup>th</sup> century canal, begun as an attempt to connect Thornbury with the Severn Estuary, remains to be proven (Bateman, 1996).

Immediately south of this gap, the terrain climbs steeply to St Arilda's church, which occupies a locally prominent knoll standing up above the surrounding landscape probably because it is composed of a particularly resistant form of the Mudstone. The same, indeed, is true of the site of Oldbury Camp itself, which occupies the highest, southern



part of the isolated Mudstone outcrop, although that is not to say much – the highest point of the monument is represented by a spot height of only 14 m aOD, along the surviving, eastern rampart, and the study site itself lies at around 10 m aOD. The two highest points in the parish of Oldbury are represented by St Arilda's knoll, and by Cow Hill, about 2 km south-west of the study site and marking Oldbury's southern boundary. Both of these eminences attain about 40 m aOD.

Perhaps rather more significant for present purposes is the micro-topography of the main part of the study site itself, *i.e.* the Ship Inn, its garden and car park. Ground level at the extreme southern end of the triangular car park centres on around 6.30 m aOD, but the gradient climbs relatively rapidly to the north and east, and just in front of the Ship Inn itself, elevations of between about 8.30 to 9 m aOD are recorded. So, over a distance of about 34 m, the ground rises by some 2 m. At the rear of the pub building, heights centre around 9.50 m aOD, and then climb again to the north and east. It seems certain that the pub has, of necessity, been terraced back to a certain extent into the lower slope of the monument, but these levels also suggest, given the likely projected course of the ramparts in this area, that the pub building, may, as already suggested, occupy a position on top of one of the former banks.

To the north, west and east of the Mudstone bedrock island on which the site stands, heights on the alluvial flats, as might be expected, are below 10 m, and in places are probably close to OD. It should be appreciated, in fact, that by far the overwhelming majority of the later parish area of Oldbury consists of low-lying land.

#### **4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND by Dr Nick Corcos**

The hillfort from which Oldbury can be presumed ultimately to take its name, had an alternative name, *The Toot* or *Toots*, which is marked on some historic OS maps. Interestingly however, the name does not occur on the OS before the early 1920s revision, and thereafter it persisted up to the present. It is questionable therefore, whether this is a genuinely old name, or whether it has simply been applied in modern times to a site that appears appropriate to bear it. It is attested in place-names with proven ancient

provenance, and it is from an inferred Old English word *t t(e)*, 'a look-out place' (Mills, 2011). In his *Place-Names of Gloucestershire* volume covering Oldbury, Smith notes it but is unable to provide any early examples, which may indeed suggest that its application in this case is relatively late (Smith, 1964).

Regrettably, the history of the Ship Inn itself cannot be elucidated in anything other than the most cursory terms. It has been possible to show that there was an inn of that name in Oldbury by 1755, and there is no reason to think that it did not occupy the present site. At the moment, this appears to be the earliest surviving specific mention of the inn, and it is found in a list of alehouse recognizances covering the whole of Gloucestershire. Thereafter the inn is identified by name on all the subsequent large-scale OS sheets, beginning with the First Edition, surveyed in 1880.

The historic parish of Oldbury contains within it a multi-period, archaeological resource of considerable and proven significance, most of it related to the alluvial flats of the Severn Estuary littoral which extend west and north of Oldbury village. However, on the higher ground formed by the Mercia Mudstone outcrops inland from the coast, around Oldbury village itself, the single most important site, and the focus of this report, is the hillfort known as Oldbury Camp. It is upon this site that, of necessity, the following account concentrates, and this perspective is supported by the fact that many of the records returned in the HER trawl relate to listed buildings or other assets of notional historic or other interest, which have no archaeological implications for present purposes.

The site is HER 1568 and, as already noted, is a Scheduled Ancient Monument originally designated in 1955. As might be expected, the HER entry for this feature is long and detailed, but a few salient points can be highlighted. It is taken as given that, despite the lack of irrefutable archaeological evidence, Oldbury is of Iron Age date; morphologically this would certainly seem to be a reasonable position. The fort is of bivallate construction where the disposition of the ramparts is clear; it is almost certainly D-shaped in plan, and the basic shape appears to be that of an inverted horseshoe, with the 'open' ends joined together by a relatively straight side on the south. It should be stressed that only the north-east quadrant survives to any great extent, the inner rampart there attaining nearly 2 m in height. The HER is there quite strictly correct to describe it as 'partly bivallate'

precisely because it has otherwise been largely destroyed by building and road construction.

In fact, the nature of by far the majority of the circuit is simply unknown. It has generally also been assumed that along the north-western and western sides, the line of the defences is marked by the curving course of Camp Road, and this was confirmed in 1990 when an evaluation was undertaken on the western side of Camp Road, in the grounds of Wisteria House, only about 80 m north-north-west of the study site (HER 6383).

The only other modern intervention which appears to have taken place, and for which archaeological features and deposits were recorded, was a watching brief in 1990 at Cherry Tree Cottage, immediately to the south-west of The Ship, on the western side of Camp Road (HER 6419). There were very few finds from this work, and certainly no Iron Age material was identified among the few pottery sherds that were recovered. The excavations did, however, succeed not only in locating the outer bank of the western defences, but also confirmed that within this site, it turned eastwards on an alignment towards the bank and ditch still existing at the north of Rook Farm in OS parcel 2475 (NGR ST 61259265), where the inner bank appears to turn towards the west.

This is crucially important, because it seems strongly to confirm that as originally constructed, Oldbury Camp, in plan, was in the shape of an inverted 'D', with the straight side on the south. It is possible that this may be one of the reasons why it has attracted occasional, albeit misplaced speculation about Scandinavian affinities, but as already noted in the context of the site of St Arilda's church, it is rather dangerous to make arguments about dating on morphological grounds only.

As originally drawn up in 1955, the area protected by formal scheduling was defined on its western and north-western sides by the eastern side of Camp Road. However, largely as a cumulative result of these interventions, the scheduling was later revised to take in a wide strip of land on this side of the monument, extending to the south of Westend Lane, and occupied by existing houses.

It seems remarkable that for a monument of its size, and which morphologically can reasonably date only to the Iron Age, Oldbury Camp has produced so little firm evidence of its actual date, and it is probably this which has given rise to such speculation both in the past and into modern times.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

The archaeological evaluation at the Ship Inn, Oldbury-on-Severn, involved the excavation of three trenches within the study area. Trenches 1 and 2 were located to the north and north-east of the inn buildings, within the paddock to the rear, whilst Trench 3 was set north-west of the inn, adjacent to Camp Road (**Figure 3**). Archaeological features recorded were restricted to a single cut feature of possible early post medieval date in Trench 1, three modern cuts in Trench 2 and a series of post medieval or modern dump layers in Trench 3.

Dimensions of the trenches:

Trench 1: 5 m east-west by 2 m north-south; total area: 10 m<sup>2</sup>;

Trench 2: 5 m north-south by 1.8 m east-west; total area: 9 m<sup>2</sup>;

Trench 3: Vertical survey: 1.72 m high by 2.97 m north-south; total area: 5.1m<sup>2</sup>;

Additional trench to west of vertical survey: c1.8 m north-south by 1 m east-west; total area: 1.8m<sup>2</sup>.

### 5.1. TRENCH 1

This first trench was located approximately 1.75 m from the north-east corner of the main Ship Inn building (**Figure 3**) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 9.56 m aOD. The trench was excavated by mechanical digger to a depth of approximately 9.66 m aOD, under the supervision of the site director, after which excavation was undertaken by hand. The stratigraphy recorded in Trench 1 consisted of a very simple sequence, of no more than five archaeological deposits and one probable cut feature, plus the underlying natural stratum (**Plate 1**).

The most recent deposit identified in Trench 1 was the topsoil layer (101) which sealed the entire trench. This stratigraphic unit consisted of a deposit of friable silty clay, light grey in colour, containing occasional charcoal, lime flecks, rare small stones and occasional small fragments of ceramic building material. This overlay a second modern deposit (102) characterized by frequent lime and coal flecks within a light grey silty clay matrix, also containing occasional small stones. This layer measured a maximum of 260 mm thick and was recorded over the whole trench. Context (102) sealed a small lens of red clay (103), visible only in the south-west corner of the trench, and measuring no more than 630 mm north-south by 140 mm thick. It is likely that Contexts (102) and (103) have been redeposited and are associated with the occupation of the Ship Inn, and its reconstruction after the fire in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (**Plate 2**).








The stratigraphically earlier layers in Trench 1 were, in contrast, sealed deposits and are therefore of greater importance in the present analysis. The layer identified as Context (104) consisted of a deposit of friable silty clay, light brown in colour, which constituted the fill of the underlying cut [105]. Context (104) contained two sherds of medieval pottery (Minety ware, dating to 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> centuries) and one sherd of probable early post medieval redware (West Somerset sandy fabric, dating to 1550-1750).

Cut [105], recorded mainly in the east-facing section, measured over 1.43 m north-south by 430 mm deep and sloped down towards the north. The cut had a relatively flat base and was cut from a height of approximately 9.57 m aOD, truncating the underlying subsoil layer (106). Context (106) consisted of a reddish brown smooth silty clay deposit, with rare charcoal flecks and small calcareous stones. It contained one sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British sandy ware (**Appendix**). This subsoil layer, present at a maximum height of 9.75 m aOD, sealed the natural substrate, (107), which consisted of decayed limestone, recorded at a maximum height of 9.56 m aOD (**Figure 4**).

From the above description of deposits, we may conclude that the redeposited layers, Contexts (102) and (103), are likely to seal any buried archaeology. Regarding the earlier, Iron Age occupation of the site, no major features were recorded within Trench 1,

but a single pottery sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British date, retrieved from the subsoil layer (106), may relate to this earlier occupation of the alluvial platform (**Plate 3**).

It is possible that Cut [105] may relate to activity contemporary with the early life of the inn, although no date has been established for the construction of the original inn building. A small number of clay tobacco pipe fragments, recovered during the cleaning of Trench 1, date from the late 16<sup>th</sup>/early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, and thus suggest that the inn may have been in existence for some time before its entry into the documentary record in 1755.

(Context)	General Description	Stratigraphic Relationship(s)	Sample
(100)	Unstratified finds	Not applicable	-----
(101)	Topsoil: light grey silty clay deposit, with vegetation. Thickness approx. 200 mm	Overlies (102)	
(102)	Mixed deposit with limestone and coal inclusions, consisting of a light grey silty clay matrix with small stones. Thickness approx. 260 mm	Overlies (103)	
(103)	Red clay matrix with decayed calcareous stone, mixed with small coal flecks. 630 mm north-south by 140 mm thick	Overlies (104)	
(104)	Deposit of friable silty clay, light brown in colour. Fills Cut [105]. Thickness approx. 430 mm by max. 1.43 m long	Fills [105]	
[105]	Bowl-shaped cut with a relatively flat base. North-south orientation, over 1.43 m long by 430 mm deep.	Filled by (104); Cuts (106)	
(106)	Reddish brown smooth silty clay deposit. Thickness approx. 450 mm to 570 mm	Overlies (107)	
(107)	Natural substrate. Decayed limestone with reddish brown clay	Underlies (106)	



## 5.2. TRENCH 2

This second trench was located approximately 13.15 m from the north-east corner of the Ship Inn's skittle alley (**Figure 3**). The trench was excavated by machine, as Trench 1, to a depth of 9.90 m aOD and subsequently cleaned by hand. Unlike Trench 1, the only features revealed were modern in date. Three cuts were recorded, none of which appeared to possess archaeological significance. Three residual sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery were recovered from Context (201), a probable redeposited subsoil layer (**Plates 4, 5**).

The latest deposit identified within the trench was Context (200), the topsoil layer. As in Trench 1, the topsoil consisted of friable silty clay, light grey in colour, with charcoal and lime flecks. The topsoil also contained rare small stones and occasional fragments of ceramic building material. Context (200) overlay Context (201), a reddish brown clay layer, with occasional coal inclusions, from which three residual sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery and one clay tobacco pipe stem fragment were retrieved. This appeared to be a redeposited layer, cut by modern construction trenches, similar to layer 102 in Trench 1 (**Figure 5**).










The first of the recorded cuts was Context [202] seen in the east-facing section and base of the trench. In section, the cut had an oval or bowl-like shape and an irregular curvilinear outline in plan. It cut layer (201) as well as the natural substrate layer (208). Cut [202] was probably a modern construction cut and was filled with a silty clay deposit, containing medium-sized stones and fractured ceramic water pipe fragments and had no historical or archaeological significance.

Cut [204], recorded within Trench 2 was visible in the north-facing section and base of the trench, truncating both layer (201) and the natural substrate layer (208). It was rectilinear in plan, and measured over 2.2 m long (south-west north-east) by 450 mm to 500 mm wide. At the south-west end of the cut, a small test sondage was excavated (450 mm long by 450 mm wide), through fill (205). The fill consisted of redeposited red clay with decayed limestone, similar to the natural substrate, and contained one sherd of blue transfer- printed ware pottery, of probable 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

Cut [206], seen in the west-facing section and base of Trench 2, displayed an irregular outline in plan, was bowl-shaped or oval in section and truncated layer (201). The cut was aligned south-east/north-west and measured approximately 2.8 m long, with a width varying between 0.9 m and 2 m. The cut was filled by modern layer (207). This heterogeneous deposit consisted mainly of a dark brown silt layer, containing modern PVC water pipes and the remains of a brick and concrete septic tank, built in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as medium-sized stones and fragments of ceramic building material. All of the above modern features cut the natural substrate (208), which was similar in composition to layer (107), recorded in Trench 1. The natural substrate consisted of a natural layer of clay and decayed limestone, compacted when dry, composed of red clay, with white limestone nodules.

Although it was not clear whether the modern cuts recorded within this trench were related to each other, it became perfectly clear that they had no archaeological significance. All the features and deposits described above are relatively archaeologically sterile, despite the presence of a small number of Iron Age/Romano-British pottery sherds within layer (201), which proved to be residual. It may be concluded that any future construction activity in the immediate area of Trench 2 is unlikely to impinge upon any underlying archaeology, due to the presence of the modern cut features described above.

Trenches 1 and 2, located immediately north-east of the Ship Inn building, revealed the presence of an extensive redeposited layer or layers, Contexts (102) and probably also (201), containing coal and charcoal fragments, possibly relating to the 20<sup>th</sup> century fire which destroyed the earlier inn building. This redeposited or levelling layer served to seal the earlier archaeological features – specifically Cut [105], Fill (104) in Trench 1 –, and may seal further buried archaeology elsewhere within the study area.

<b>(Context)</b>	<b>General Description</b>	<b>Stratigraphical Relation</b>	<b>Sample</b>
(200)	Topsoil: light grey silty clay deposit, with vegetation. Thickness approx. 200 mm to 400 mm	Overlies (201)	
(201)	Reddish brown clay layer, with occasional coal inclusions, some clay tobacco pipe and Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery fragments. Thickness approx. 0.5m. Possibly redeposited	Cut by [202];[204];[206]	
[202]	Cut, oval shape in plan, base not recorded. Orientated north/south, with a maximum length of 2 m by over 800mm deep (visible depth)	Filled by (203)	
(203)	Silt and clay nodules mixed with medium-sized stones and modern water pipe fragments	Fills [202]	
[204]	Regular shaped cut with a rectangular outline with a maximum visible length of 2.2 m long by 0.45m to 0.5m wide	Filled by (205)	
(205)	Natural substrate like soil, with decayed limestone mixed with reddish brown clay	Fills [204]	
[206]	Irregular shaped cut, steeply-sloping in section, with a maximum visible length of 2.8 m long by 0.9m to 2 m wide	Filled by (207)	
(207)	Dark brown silt mixed with modern water pipes, bricks and medium-sized stones.	Fills [206]	
(208)	Natural substrate. Decayed limestone with reddish brown clay	Underlies (201)	

### 5.3. TRENCH 3: VERTICAL SURVEY

Trench 3 was located approximately 3 m north-west of the main building (**Figure 3**) orientated north-south, along the western boundary of the study area, adjacent to Camp Road. The rear garden wall of the pub, located here, had collapsed at its northern end due to a combination of excessive water saturation of the deposits behind it, for which it was acting as a revetment, and root activity from mature trees which have now been felled. This had exposed a section through the garden deposits behind the wall, and from this it seemed clear that at least the part of the garden nearest the road was composed of modern dumped material which had been used to raise the general level of the garden. It should also be noted that the base of the collapsed wall and the lowest of the deposits to the rear were located some 1 to 2m above the level of Camp Road, to the west.

This depositional sequence was identified from the recording of a vertical section, measuring 3 m north/south by 1.90 m high, immediately to the rear of the collapsed garden wall (**Figure 6**). A vertical sondage, measuring 150 mm east/west by 800 mm north/south by 1.9 m high, was excavated by hand towards the southern end of the section. Cleaning of the section was undertaken by hand, after the initial removal of vegetation. Unstratified finds recovered during cleaning were retained and assigned to Context (300).

One of the first units recorded was a modern masonry buttress (301), which was supporting a concrete block retaining wall (302). This collapsed wall (surviving to 2.3 m wide by 1.3 m high) and its respective concrete foundation (303) and foundation trench [Cut 320], were of evident 20<sup>th</sup> century origin (**Plates 6, 7**).

To the rear (east) of the collapsed retaining wall, the stratigraphy consisted of a series of post medieval or modern dump layers, most of which were tipping down towards the north, and the uppermost of which were truncated by two probably modern cut features (Contexts 307 and 309). Cut 307 contained two fills, (Contexts 305 and 306), both of clayey silt, containing modern finds including nails and ceramic building material fragments (not retained), overlain by the topsoil layer, Context 304. The cut was bowl-shaped and measured a maximum width of 1.6 m north-south at the top.

The topsoil layer, Context 304, was truncated to the south by Cut 309, a similarly bowl-shaped cut, over 700 mm wide at the top, with a maximum recorded depth of 200 mm. The cut was filled by a silty deposit, Context 308, containing charcoal flecks and occasional small stones.

The dump layers constituting the bulk of the section to the rear of the modern wall largely consisted of redeposited clay layers, with the exception of two distinct deposits of limestone rubble (311) and (318). Both rubble deposits consisted of linear bands of medium to large limestone blocks, within a reddish clay matrix. It is likely that these deposits originally constituted part of the fabric of an original retaining wall, since collapsed, the predecessor to the concrete block wall (302).












The redeposited clay layers constituting the bulk of the section were recorded as Contexts (310), (312), (314), (316), (317) and (319) and were characterised by a redeposited red clay matrix, containing lesser or greater amounts of charcoal flecks and small limestone inclusions. All these layers appeared to tip down towards the north. The layers contained within them two distinct lenses (313) and (315), composed of dark grey silty deposits, containing significant quantities of ash, charcoal and lime mortar.













The stratigraphically earliest of the dump layers (319), a slightly more mixed deposit, containing a larger silt content than those above, appeared to overlie the concrete foundation, Context (303), and also contained within it a single large sherd of post medieval Somerset redware pottery.

The natural substrate, revealed towards the base of the section, within the vertical sondage only (**Plate 8**) was recorded at a maximum height of 9.5 m aOD and was composed of an upper deposit of reddish brown clay with some decayed limestone (321), overlying a deposit of decayed limestone bedrock (322), similar to that recorded within Trench 1 as Context (107). Context (322) was truncated by the foundation cut [320] for the modern concrete foundation (303) for Wall (302).

In addition to the above section to the rear of the retaining wall, a small trench, measuring 1.83 m north-south by 1.02 m east-west was excavated immediately to the west of concrete foundation (303). The trench was excavated by machine to a maximum depth of 8.55 m aOD and cleaned by hand, to reveal the reddish brown clay substrate (323), similar to Context (321). Context (323) was truncated, to the east, by the western edge of foundation cut [320].

Although the origin of the deposits described above was not known, it is clear that all the deposits (with the exception of the natural substrate) are post medieval or modern in date and thus are unrelated to either the construction or the occupation of the hillfort.

(Context)	General Description	Stratigraphical Relation	Sample
(300)	Finds recovered during cleaning of the bank section	Not applicable	-----
(301)	Masonry buttress supporting concrete block retaining wall (302). 2.1 m north-south by 1.9 m high by 400 mm wide	Abutts (301)	
(302)	Concrete block wall. Over 2.1 m north-south by 230 mm wide by maximum height of 1.3 m	Abutted by (301)	
(303)	Modern concrete foundation for wall (302). Over 2.3 m north-south by 590 mm wide by 200 mm high	Underlies (302)	
(304)	Topsoil: light grey silty clay deposit, with vegetation. Thickness from approx. 100 mm to 200 mm	Overlies (305)	
(305)	Light orange brown clay silt containing occasional flecks of charcoal. 150 mm thick by 600 mm maximum width	Overlies (306)	
(306)	Light grey brown clay silt, sandy inclusions, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small calibre angular limestone. 1 m north-south by 250 mm thick.	Fills [307]	
[307]	Oval shaped cut seen in section, width approx. 1.60 m at the top and up to 0.42 m in depth	Filled by (306)	
(308)	Dark brown fine sand, clay like, friable layer, less rooty despite the amount of tree roots in the section. Fill of shallow pit. 710 mm wide (maximum) by 200 mm thick.	Fills [309]	
[309]	Oval shaped cut seen in section, width approx. 700 mm, by 200 mm deep.	Filled by (308)	
(310)	Redeposited red clay layer, overlying band of rubble. Thickness approx. 400 mm max, by 1.3 m north-south.	Overlies (311)	
(311)	Deposit of irregularly shaped rubble, comprising medium to large calibre limestone. Within matrix of reddish clay. 600 mm north-south by 250 mm thick.	Overlies (312)	

(312)	Redeposited red clay layer, similar to (310). Layer increases in depth to north and overlies (313). Over 3.4m north-south by 1.15m max thickness.	Overlies (313)	
(313)	Dark grey silt layer with a high charcoal content. 1.63 m north-south by 170 mm max thickness.	Overlies (314)	
(314)	Redeposited red clay layer, similar to (310). 2.4 m north-south by 260 mm max. Thickness.	Overlies (315)	
(315)	Layer of ash, lime mortar and small stones, with max. thickness of 140 mm.	Overlies (317)	
(316)	Redeposited red clay layer, with stones. Over 1.57 m north-south by 270 mm max thickness.	Overlies (317)	
(317)	Redeposited red clay layer, similar to (310), (312), (314) and (316). Over 2.9 m north-south by max. thickness 1 m	Overlies (318)	
(318)	Wall tumble, similar to context (311), seen in section only. Medium and large calibre limestone. Max. length 2.1 m	Abutted by (302)	
(319)	Mixed deposit overlying concrete foundation (303). Silty clay layer with charcoal flecks and small calibre stones. Over 400 mm north-south by over 130 mm east-west by 200 mm thick	Overlies (303)	
[320]	Modern cut for concrete foundation (303). Length: over 2.3 m north-south by 640 mm wide by 420 mm recorded depth	Cuts (323)	
(321)	Natural substrate. Reddish brown clay with some decayed limestone brash. Over 930mm north-south by 600mm max recorded thickness	Overlies (322)	
(322)	Natural substrate. Decayed limestone brash with some reddish brown clay. Over 1.6 m north-south by over 250 mm east-west by over 200 mm thick	Overlies (323)	
(323)	Natural substrate. Firm reddish brown clay, with some grey mottles. Possibly same as (321). Over 1.83 m north-south, by over 1.02 m east-west by over 150 mm thick	Underlies (322)	

## 6. WATCHING BRIEF

Following the completion of the formal site evaluation in the summer of 2013, there followed, at intermittent intervals, a watching brief at various locations around the site, with the object of identifying any structures or deposits that might have been of archaeological significance, and specifically, of anything that might have been thought to relate to the Iron Age, so-called 'hilfort' just within the circuit of which the pub is supposed to stand, and which as already noted in the *Evaluation* section of this report, is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. It should be stressed that the car park area fronting onto Camp Road, immediately to the south of the main pub building, and which had been included within the remit of the watching brief, was subjected to groundworks by the client *without* archaeological monitoring, as AAL was *not* advised by the client that this work was taking place.

The main element of the watching brief was carried out on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, when an area at the western side of the pub, fronting onto Camp Road, was cleared and stabilised, following removal of the revetment wall which had been the subject of an element of intervention for the earlier evaluation (above). The work monitored on this occasion involved clearing the road frontage, removing the remains of the tree vegetation that had been encountered in the earlier evaluation after removal of the revetment wall in this area (mainly consisting of stumps and tenacious roots), and then pulling back towards the east to clear the area at the back (*i.e.* to the north of) the pub building. This work also involved a degree of fairly deep excavation in this same area, well into the natural, but at no time did it reveal anything that could have been interpreted as bank material. **Plates 9 to 14**, with explanatory captions, refer to this work. In addition, a sample of both new and old underground services was monitored, and again, no archaeologically significant finds were made, although in some cases the physical nature of the interventions made the work somewhat difficult (**Plate 14**).

In sum, during the course of the post-evaluation monitoring work, no archaeological features, structures or deposits of any kind whatsoever, were identified on any part of the site which was subjected to inspection.



## 7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

A relatively small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation (see Finds Reports, below), largely comprising clay tobacco pipe, pottery and ceramic building material fragments, much of which was unstratified and of post medieval date. Four sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery were, however, recovered, three from a probable redeposited layer within Trench 2 and one from the sealed subsoil layer in Trench 1. Four sherds of pottery of later 12<sup>th</sup> /13<sup>th</sup> century date were also recovered, all of which were either residual or unstratified.

### **Iron Age/Romano-British and Medieval Pottery by Dr Jane Timby (Appendix).**

The archaeological evaluation resulted in the recovery of eight sherds of pottery weighing 63 g dating to the later prehistoric/ early Roman and medieval periods. The assemblage was scanned to assess its composition and date and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. The data has been summarised in Table 1. The assemblage is generally quite fragmented with an overall average sherd weight of just 8 g although the sherds appear quite fresh in condition. There is just a single featured piece present. Pottery was recovered from Trenches 1, 2 and 3, a total of five contexts one of which is unstratified (**Appendix**).

### **Later Iron Age-early Roman**

There are three handmade sherds and one of probable wheel-made ware. The handmade sherds include one rim from a Malvernian-type limestone tempered jar and two coarser sandy micaceous sherds. The wheelmade ware is a finely micaceous grey ware of Severn Valley ware type. This latter sherd along with the Malvernian jar and one sandy ware came from Trench 2 and suggest a later Iron Age or early Roman date. The second sherd of sandy ware came from Trench 1 (106) and is presumably contemporary.

## Medieval

Four sherds of medieval date were recovered, all body sherds from unglazed jars / cooking pots. Two sherds from Tr 1 (104) are from Minety, North Wiltshire and two sherds are more local Jurassic limestone-tempered wares possibly from Haresfield. These four sherds came from Trench 1, Contexts (102) and (106) and the surface of Trench 3 (300) and generally indicate a date from the later 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

This is an extremely small group of pottery which seems to indicate late Iron Age – early Roman and medieval activity at the locality. As an assemblage it has no further potential. No further work is recommended on the assemblage unless it is incorporated into a wider study of the site.

## Post Medieval Pottery by Sarah Newns

A small assemblage of post medieval pottery was retrieved during the evaluation, comprising twenty-seven sherds, weighing a total of 538g. The majority of the sherds were unstratified and were retrieved from Trenches 1 and 3.

Only four sherds were stratified, and these included two Somerset redware sherds (BPT 285; dating 1550-1800) from the possible redeposited layer (Context 102), Trench 1, and from the mixed deposit (Context 319) at the base of the bank section, Trench 3. A further Somerset redware sherd, probable West Somerset sandy fabric (BPT 280/4; dating 1550-1750) was retrieved from the fill (Context 104) of Cut 105, at the west end of Trench 1, and a blue transfer-printed ware body sherd (BPT 278; dating 1770 onwards) was retrieved from the fill (Context 205) of Cut 204, Trench 2.

The remainder of the assemblage, which was unstratified, included sherds from a range of commonly recorded earthenware and stoneware vessels, most of which could be dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Perhaps unsurprisingly, given the location of the trenches, twelve of the sherds derived from mugs or tankards, the earliest of which dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century (three “mottled ware” sherds, BPT 211, dating 1650-1800, Trench 1;

Gutierrez 2007, 632). Seven sherds of a dipped white stoneware tankard or tankards, with manganese decoration and blue and brown hand-painted bands, also of 18<sup>th</sup> century date (op.cit. 633), constituted the majority of the pottery retrieved from Trench 3. A modern glazed stoneware tankard sherd (BPT 200, dating 1835 onwards) was also retrieved, from Trench 1.

The unstratified assemblage also includes seven sherds of glazed redware of late 16<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century date (North Devon wares, BPT 112 and miscellaneous glazed Somerset redwares, BPT 285) and four sherds of white china of probable 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century date (transfer-printed ware, pearl ware and plain white ware, BPT 202, 278).

The post medieval pottery assemblage comprises sherds largely of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century date, consistent with the period of use of the inn, which was established some time before 1755 (Corcos 2013, 10). The presence of a large glazed Somerset redware sherd within the stratigraphically earliest deposit of the bank section (Trench 3) would suggest that the remainder of the deposits are post medieval, if not modern, in date and therefore are not related to the construction of the hillfort within which the study area falls. Similarly, stratified post medieval sherds recovered from Cuts 105 and 204, Trenches 1 and 2, suggest that these features are of relatively modern date and do not relate to the original occupation of the scheduled ancient monument.

## Catalogue

Context Number	Trench No.	Count	Weight	Description
100	1	16	184g	Two sherds of North Devon gravel-tempered ware (BPT 112; 17 <sup>th</sup> /18 <sup>th</sup> century), one rounded upright rim with internal glaze, one highly fractured body sherd, some glaze, hardly any external faces; One sherd of North Devon gravel-free ware (BPT 112), upright rounded rim sherd with some internal glaze; Four miscellaneous glazed Somerset redware sherds (BPT 285; 1550-1800), one with internal green glaze over white slip and possible foot ring, one sherd with grey core, externally oxidised with splashes of external pale green glaze, one orange fabric base sherd with thick treacly glaze, one sherd with internal and external glaze and possible footring (fractured);

				<p>Three sherds of Bristol/Staffordshire “mottled ware” (BPT 211, 18<sup>th</sup> century), one handle sherd, one body sherd with internal clear glaze, one body sherd with bands of rilling (probably from drinking mugs) (Gutierrez 2007, 632; Draper 2001, 9);</p> <p>One modern stoneware (BPT 200; post 1835) tankard basal angle sherd with internal and external brown glaze and embossed decoration around base. Transfer-printed details on base: “COACH.../BY SPECIA.../MACMILL.../RDGWA.../ENGLAND”;</p> <p>One body sherd blue transfer-printed oriental pattern (BPT 278; late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards);</p> <p>One base sherd, plain white ware (glazed) (BPT 202; late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards);</p> <p>One pearlware base sherd with sponged blue decoration (BPT 202, Gutierrez 2007, 630, 1830s onwards);</p> <p>One white china body sherd with external pink glaze (BPT 202; late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards).</p>
102	1	1	14g	One internally glazed Somerset redware body sherd (BPT 285; 1550-1800).
104	1	1	36g	One rim sherd of probable West Somerset sandy fabric (BPT 280/284; 1550-1750; Good and Russett 1987, 40), upright rim with shallow horizontal groove decoration and internal and external bright green glaze. Homogeneous red fabric, slightly micaceous.
205	2	1	2g	One blue transfer-printed ware base sherd (BPT 278; 1770 onwards).
300	3	7	286g	Seven sherds of white stoneware mug, probably from at least two vessels, decorated with rilling around base, concentric brown and blue bands and brownish grey glaze with manganese decoration (Gutierrez 2007, 633; 18 <sup>th</sup> century).
319	3	1	16g	One sherd of probable Somerset redware, glazed (external splashes) (BPT 285; 1550-1800).

### Clay Tobacco Pipe by Sarah Newns

A moderate assemblage of clay tobacco pipe was retrieved during the evaluation, comprising forty-one fragments, weighing a total of 120g. The majority of the pipe was retrieved, unstratified, from Trench 1 and consisted, for the most part, of unmarked stem fragments, although two marked stems were also retrieved. Two bowl fragments (one of which was marked) were also retrieved from Trench 1.

The pipe fragments were weighed, their approximate bore size diameters were recorded, and the small number of diagnostic fragments were compared with the typologies

established for the pipes of Gloucestershire, Bristol and Broseley, in Peacey 1979, Jackson and Price 1977 and Atkinson 1975, with additional reference to Oswald 1960 (see Bibliography). The results are recorded in the catalogue at the end of this report.

The majority of the pipe fragments were recovered, unstratified, from Trench 1, and consisted of relatively undiagnostic stem fragments. Three of the stem fragments were recovered from the probable redeposited subsoil layer recorded in Trenches 1 and 2 (Context 102, Trench 1 and 201, Trench 2).

Of the thirty-eight unstratified fragments recovered from Trench 1, two have the “tailed” and marked heels characteristic of pipes manufactured in the Broseley area of Shropshire, and three (including two bowl fragments) have spurred heels (one of which has been fractured).

The two Broseley pipe fragments are both Atkinson Type 5A, with tailed heels, dating between 1690 and 1720 (Atkinson 1975, 25). One of the heels bears a complete rectangular stamp, showing the initials, “TH”, in relief. This stamp is recorded by Peacey (1979, fig.12 no.148), but is not identified. Atkinson records two Broseley makers with these initials, Thomas Hartshorne (fl.1690-1720) and Thomas Hughes (fl.1658-1700).

Of the two fractured bowl fragments, one is thick-walled, with a fractured spur, and dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards (Peacey 1979, fig.2). The second is a fragment of a large, thin-walled bowl, with an elongated spur, and bears the initials, “IA”, incuse, on the upper surface. The form of the bowl would suggest a date of between 1780 and 1820 (Peacey Type 15, P. 1979, fig.2). No Gloucestershire or Broseley makers with these initials are recorded in either Peacey or Atkinson, so it is likely that the pipe is of Bristol manufacture. Jackson and Price record two makers with these initials working in Bristol at around this time, John Andrews II (freed 1780; J. and P. 1974, 26) and John Adams (freed 1812; J. and P. 1974, 27).

The remaining stems are relatively undiagnostic, but most have a bore diameter of either 5/64” or 6/64”. Dating from bore diameter alone has been somewhat discredited, but an article by Iain C.Walker (Post Medieval Archaeology I, 1967, pp.90 ff.) would suggest that

broad dates may tentatively be assigned, when dealing with relatively large numbers of pipe fragments. Thus, an assemblage such as this with bore diameters of 5/64" and 6/64" would be likely to contain pipes of mid-17<sup>th</sup> to late 18<sup>th</sup> century date (Walker 1967, 99).

One further stem from this assemblage has a spur heel, and may thus date from the late 17<sup>th</sup>/early 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards, when the spur was introduced as a feature of Gloucestershire pipes (as elsewhere in the country, Peacey 1979, fig.2, Oswald 1960).

The clay tobacco pipe assemblage recovered during the evaluation contains pipe fragments ranging in date between the mid-late 17<sup>th</sup> century and the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Oldbury lies between the two major pipe manufacturing centres of Broseley to the north and Bristol to the south, with transport links provided by the adjacent River Severn (Peacey 1979, 68), thus it is not surprising that both Bristol and Broseley pipes are represented in the assemblage. Most of the fragments were retrieved from Trench 1, which was the trench located nearest to the rear of the inn. The inn itself does not enter the documentary record until the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century (Corcos 2013, 10), but the presence of pipe fragments of earlier date on the site, albeit unstratified, would suggest that the inn may have been in existence, possibly as a private dwelling, from at least the mid-late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

## Catalogue

Context Number	Trench No.	Count	Weight	Description
100	1	38	114g	36 stem fragments, including one with spur heel and two with Broseley type heels. Both Broseley heels are Atkinson Type 5A (1690-1720), both stamped, one with "TH" in relief in rectangular stamp. Possible "TH" makers: Thomas Hartshorne (fl.1690-1720); Thomas Hughes (fl.1658-1700) (Atkinson 1975, 28, 60, 62). Two bowl fragments, one with fractured spur heel, one with elongated spur heel and initials, "IA", incuse on upper surface of bowl. Marked bowl is Peacey Type 15 (dated 1780-1820) (Peacey 1979, fig.2). Initials may refer to one of two Bristol makers: John Andrews II or John Adams (Jackson and Price 1974, 26-7). Bore size diameters recorded: 24 x 5/64"; 10 x 6/64"; 3 x 7/64".
102	1	2	4g	Two stem fragments, of bore diameter 5/64".
201	2	1	2g	One burnt stem fragment, bore diameter 5/64".

## Miscellaneous Finds

A very small assemblage of other finds was retrieved during the evaluation, comprising seven fragments of post medieval ceramic building material (mostly unstratified from Trench 1), probably relating to the building or rebuilding of the inn (Corcos 2013, 11) and one water-washed quartzite pebble, from the fill (Context 104) of Cut 105, Trench 1.

## Catalogue

Context Number	Trench No.	Count	Weight	Description
100	1	6	182g	Six ceramic building material fragments, comprising: one modern roof-tile fragment (probably double Roman – Murless 2007, 814-5; mid-19 <sup>th</sup> century onwards); two miscellaneous post medieval roof-tile fragments; three unidentified post medieval ceramic building material fragments.
102	1	1	16g	One probably modern brick fragment.
104	1	1	26g	One water-washed, rounded quartzite pebble.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

The estate of Oldbury-on-Severn in South Gloucestershire originated as a tithing of Thornbury parish, and did not gain formal parochial status in its own right until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, although it is likely that it had effectively functioned as a parish from at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The study site lies on the western side, and partly within, the Scheduled Ancient Monument known as *Oldbury Camp*, or *The Toot*, at Oldbury, and is currently occupied by The Ship Inn, its ancillary buildings, street frontage car park and grass paddock to rear. The present building appears to be a largely inter-war rebuild following a fire of that period, with the addition of a single-storey block, latterly used as a skittle alley, probably before 1946. However, an inn called *The Ship* can be shown from documentary evidence to have existed in Oldbury since at least 1755, and almost certainly occupied the same site. Early photographs suggest the original building to have had at least two phases, but it is likely that little or nothing of that earlier structure remains. This could, however, only be confirmed by detailed building survey.

Oldbury Camp has been known and remarked upon since at least the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and is generally accepted as being of Iron Age date. As originally scheduled, in 1955, the protected area on its west and north-western sides was defined by the eastern side of Camp Road. The monument appears to be a multi-vallate enclosure, although only the defences in the north-east quadrant survive to any great extent. Elsewhere, the circuit has been subsumed under modern or historic development, especially on the west and north-western sides. From both its local topographical setting, and the known or suspected course of the hillfort defences in this area, it is almost certain that the Ship Inn itself stands directly on top of, or its western end is cut into, the inner bank of the Camp.

The trenches excavated during the present evaluation did not reveal any features which were directly related either to the construction or to the occupation of the hillfort. Of the four Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery sherds which were retrieved during the evaluation, three were residual, from a later, probably redeposited layer within Trench 2,



and one was from a buried subsoil layer within Trench 1. The deposits revealed in Trench 3 were all post medieval or modern in date and do not relate to the defensive structure of the Camp. There remains, however, a moderate potential for the survival of significant buried archaeological structures, deposits or features in the area of Trenches 1 and 2 (the paddock to the rear of the Inn), where a substantial redeposited layer or layers was found to seal the buried subsoil. A single probable early post medieval cut feature was recorded within this subsoil layer, and may be connected with the construction or occupation of the Ship Inn. Datable but unstratified fragments of clay tobacco pipe retrieved from Trenches 1 and 2 may also suggest that the inn was already in existence by the late 17<sup>th</sup>/early 18<sup>th</sup> century, preceding its entry into the historical record by at least thirty years. Four sherds of pottery of later 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century date, all either residual or unstratified, also suggest earlier (medieval) activity in the locality.

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**APPENDIX: Catalogue of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British and Medieval Pottery,  
Dr Jane Timby**

Tr	Context	LIA	Roman	Med	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date
1	102	0	0	1	1	4	Med
1	104	0	0	2	2	17	Med
1	106	1	0	0	1	12	LIA-ERO?
2	201	2	1	0	3	27	LIA-ERO
3	300	0	0	1	1	3	Med
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>63</b>	

## Plates



Plate 1 – Final plan of Trench 1.



Plate 2 – East facing section of Trench 1.



Plate 3 – South facing section of Trench 1.



Plate 4 – Final plan of Trench 3, showing cut features.



Plate 5 – Final plan of Trench 3, showing cut features.



Plate 6 – Foundation trench [Cut 320], adjacent to Trench 3.



Plate 7 – West facing section, Trench 3.



Plate 8 – Detail of vertical sondage, Trench 3.



Plate 9 – Initial clearance of the bank fronting onto Camp Road prior to commencement of groundworks at the north-western corner of the site. The section which had been examined during the evaluation phase, following removal of the revetment wall on the western side of the pub garden, can be seen towards centre left. View to south-east.



Plate 10 – Removal of tree stumps from part of former pub garden revetment. View to south-east.



Plate 11 – Clearing and pulling back on top of the former garden revetment at the north-west side of the site. View to east-north-east from Camp Road.



Plate 12 – Clearance work with mechanical excavator in the area behind (ie to the east of) the former revetment wall, showing shallow concrete base of former wooden shed. Camp Road can be seen top left. View to north-west.






Plate 13 – Deep section through natural and overlying deposits, immediately to east of former pub garden revetment wall. The geology here consists of the Triassic Mercia Mudstone.



Plate 14 – One of the narrow service trenches that was monitored during the course of the watching brief, containing backfill, and heavily truncated and disturbed deposits.

Figure 1



Location of the Study Area   
Grid lines at 1 km intervals (extract from OS 1:25 000)

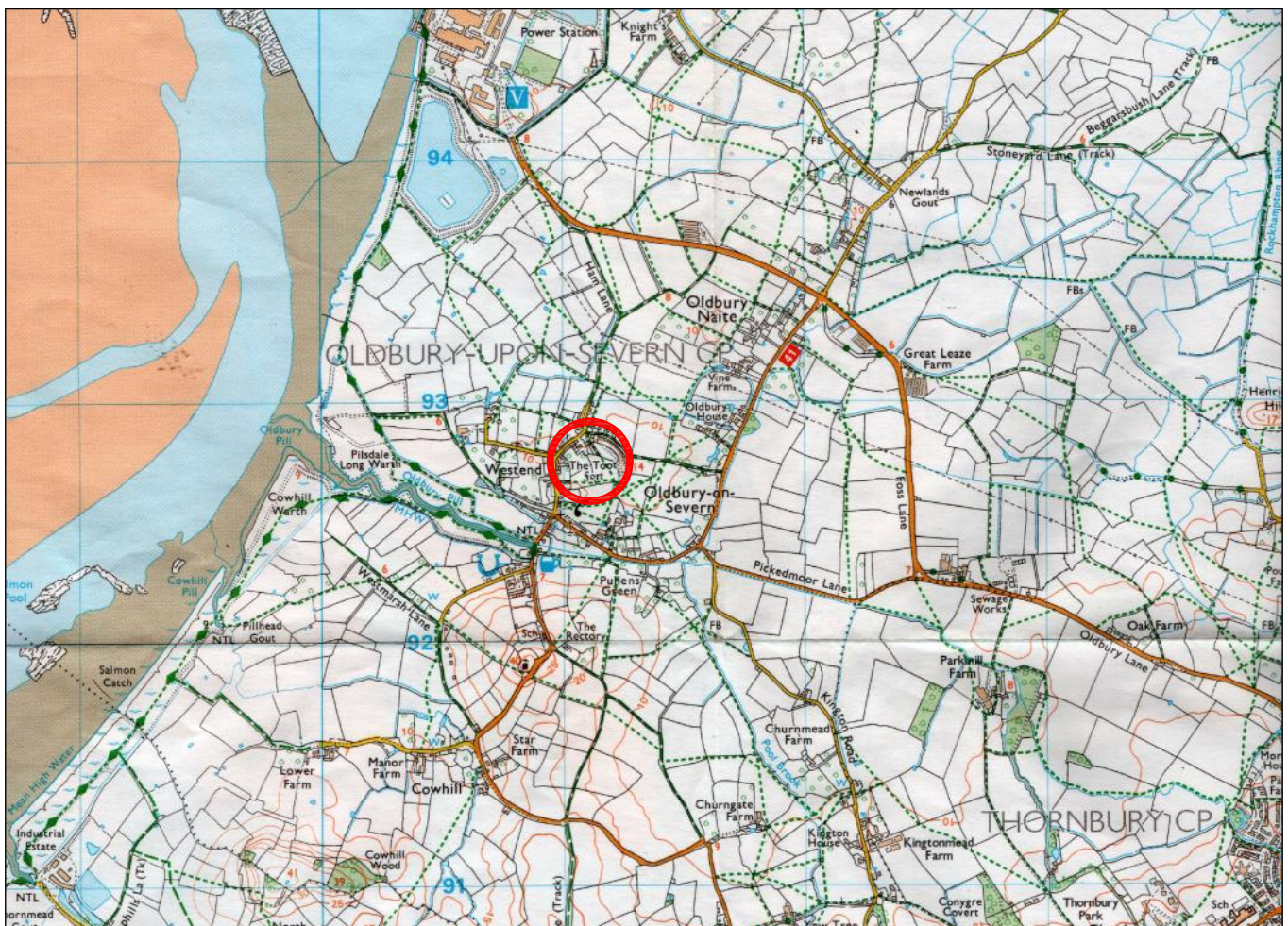


Figure 2



The Ship Inn, Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire. Location of the Study Area outlined in red.

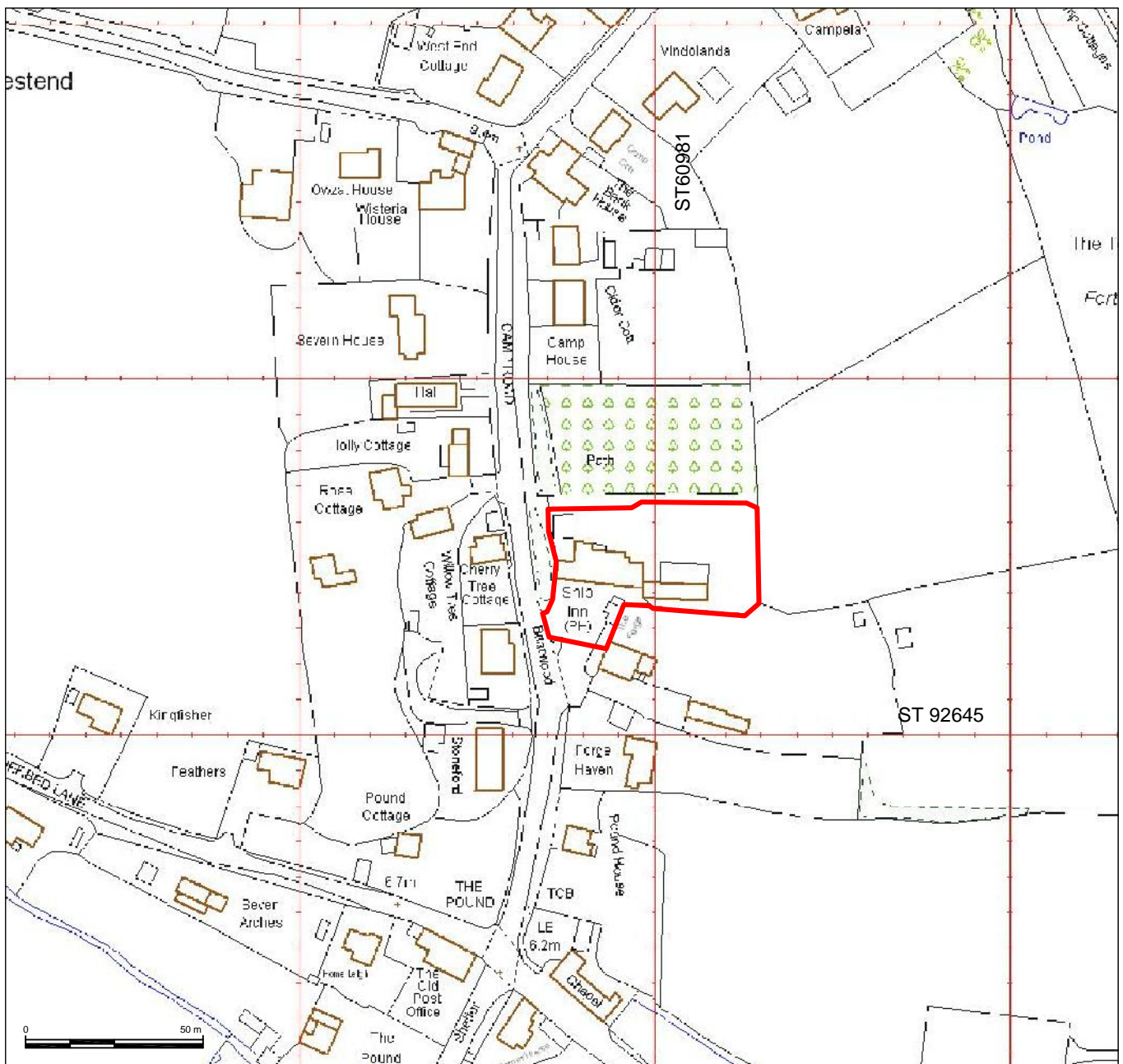
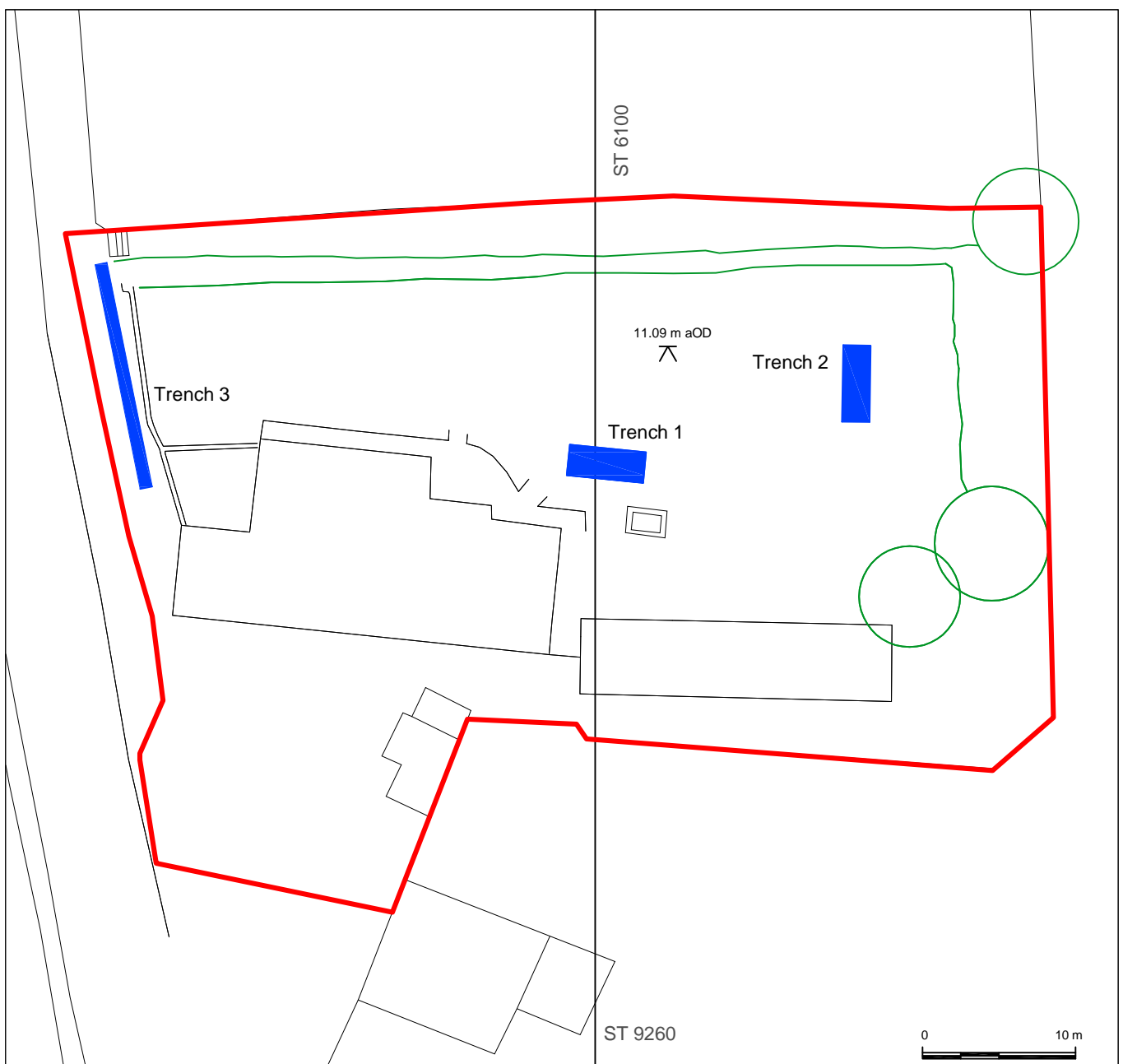


Figure 3

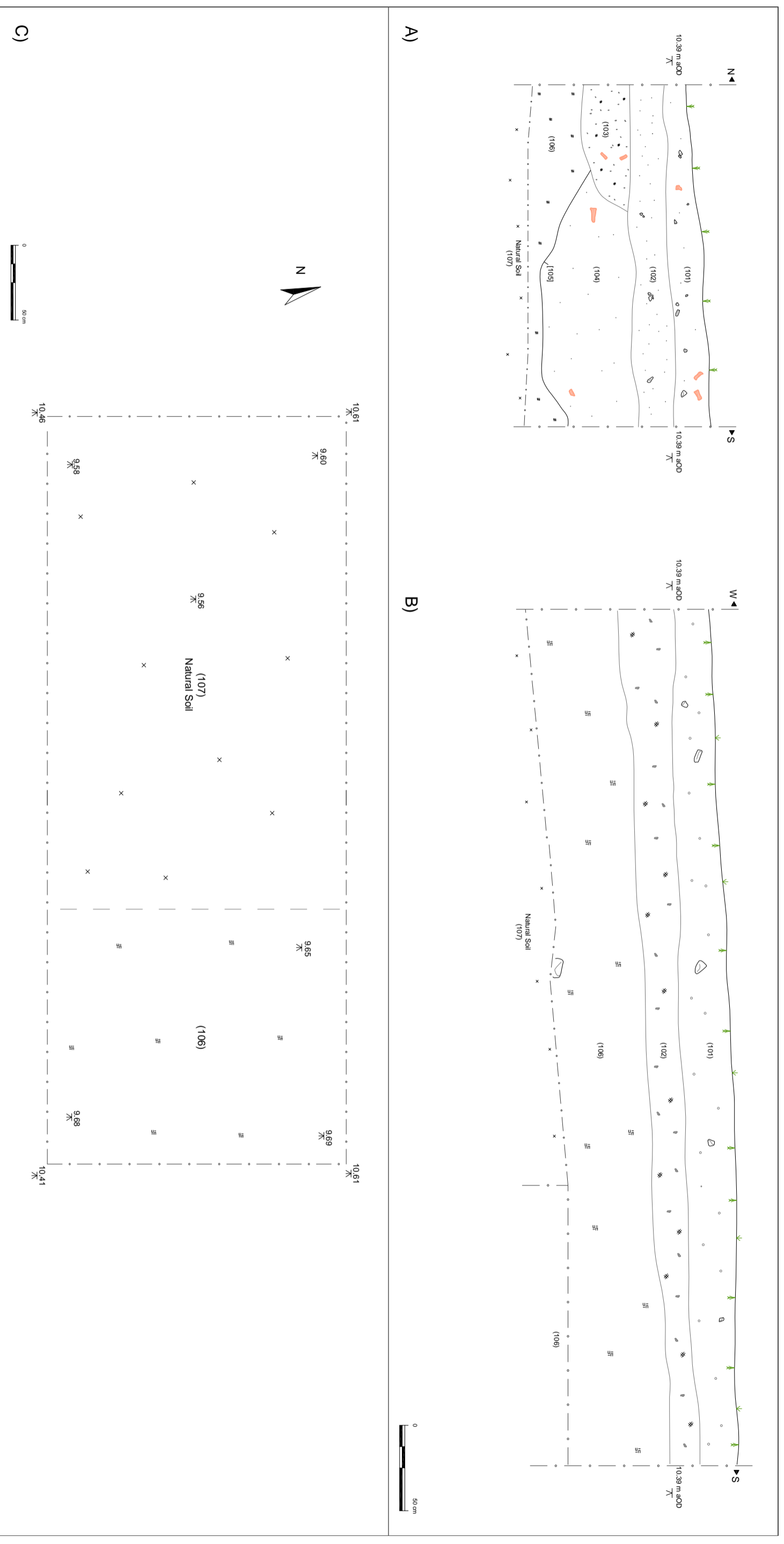


The Ship Inn, Oldbury-on-Severn, South Gloucestershire. Location of Archaeological Trenches and Study Area outlined in red.



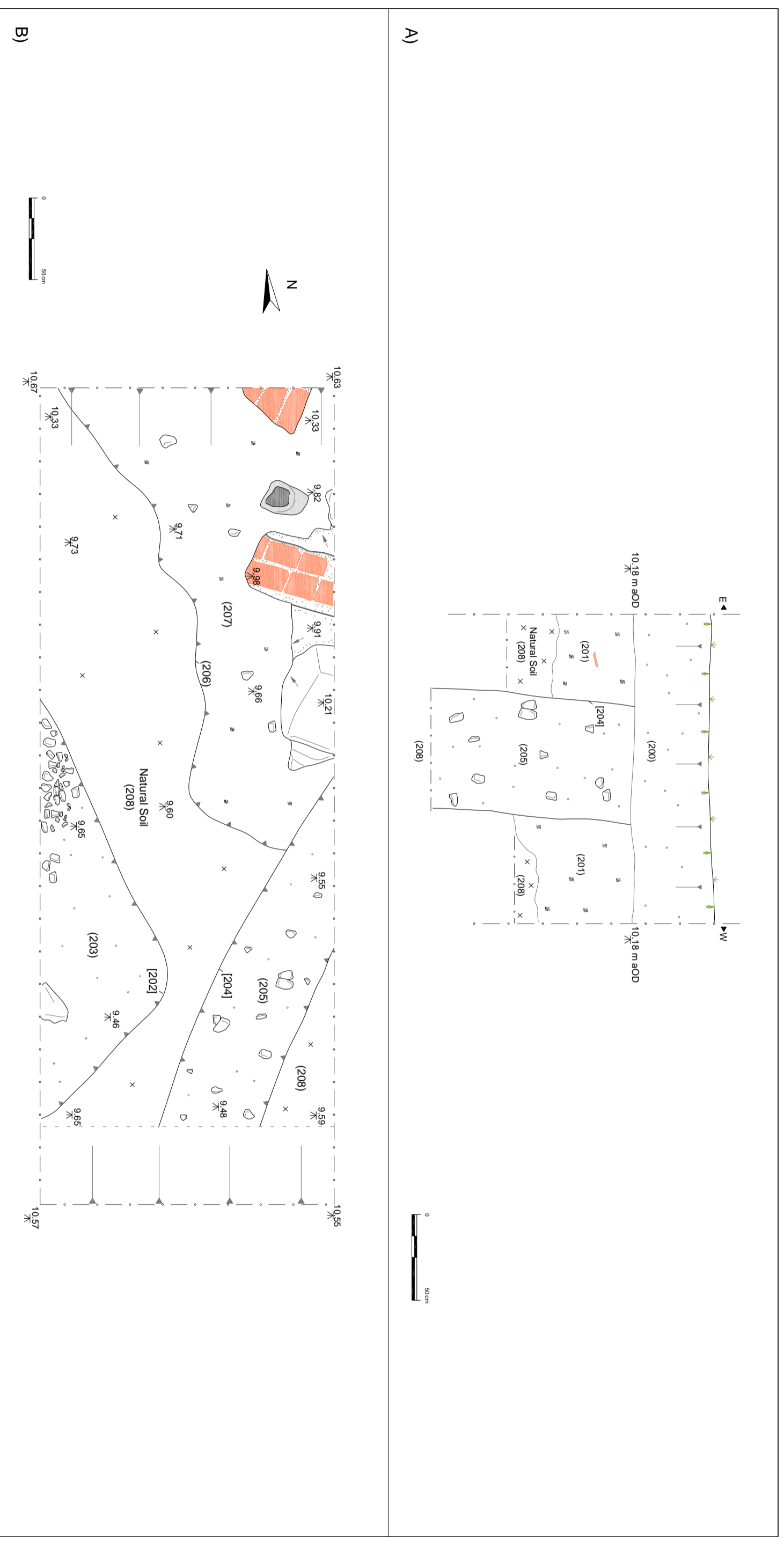
The Ship Inn, Trench 1. A) East facing section. B) South facing section. C) Final plan of Trench 1.

Figure 4



The Ship Inn, Trench 2. A) North facing section. B) Final plan of Trench 2.

Figure 5



# The Ship Inn, Trench 3

Figure 6

