

LNPW/01



LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

*commissioned by Lansdowne Rodway Estates Ltd &
Crown House Developments Ltd*

Pre-application reference: CWR9889

November 2013

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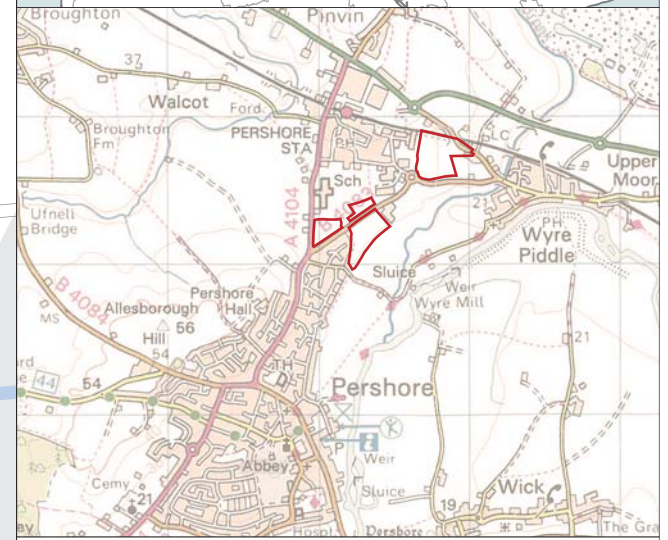
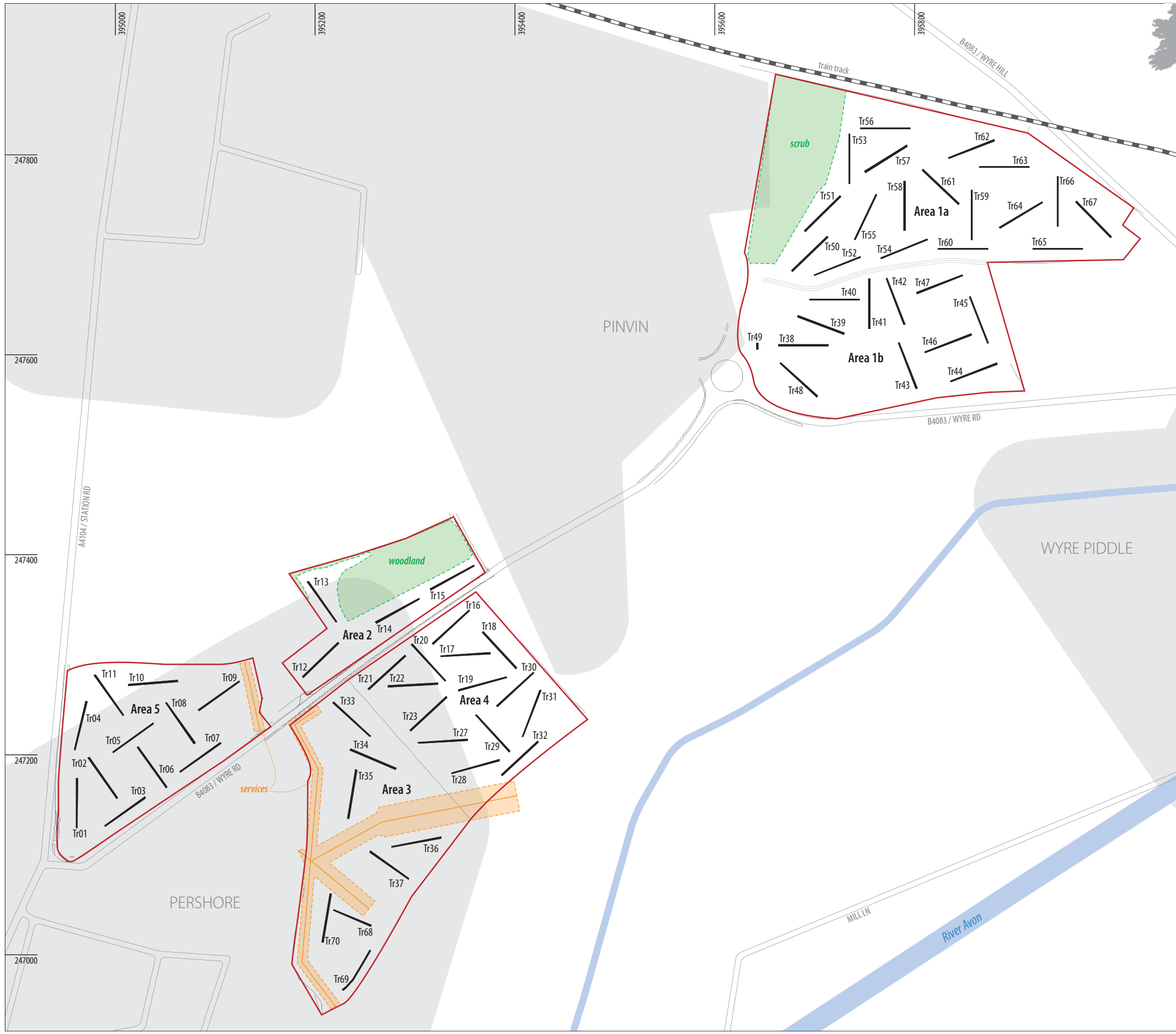
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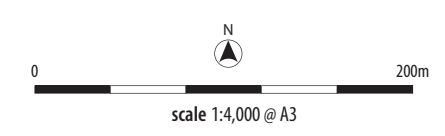
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- application boundary
- trenches



Illus 1
Site location

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LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation to determine the archaeological potential of five fields to the north of Pershore (Areas 1–5). Documentary research and trial trenching was undertaken. Up-standing ridge and furrow was recorded in Area 3 and the truncated remains of ridge and furrow were identified across the remainder of the site. A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from Area 1 but no associated archaeological activity was identified. The probable remains of a WWII Women's Land Army hostel were encountered in Area 2 and a brick-lined well was encountered in Area 4. The remains encountered are of low significance.

1 INTRODUCTION

Lansdowne Rodway Estates Ltd and Crown House Developments Ltd. (the clients) are undertaking pre-application consultations (ref: CWR9889) for the construction of new housing and employment developments at land adjacent to Wyre Road, north of Pershore, Worcestershire.

In response to the pre-application consultation, the planning advisory section of Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, issued a brief (Glyde 2013) outlining the work required to provide sufficient information for the determination of the planning application.

The clients commissioned Headland Archaeology to produce a project design to satisfy the requirements of the brief. The project design (Kimber 2013) outlined a programme of archaeological trial trenching across the proposed development area and was agreed by the planning advisory section of Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service in August 2013. The project design was implemented and fieldwork was carried out during September and October 2013.

1.1 Description of the site

The proposed development site comprises four land parcels to the north and south of the B4083 adjacent to the Keytec 7 Business Park. The land parcels have been divided into five areas. Each area will be taken forward as a separate planning application. Therefore the results, discussion, conclusions and relevant tables for each are presented in separate sections below for ease of use. The archaeological and historic background below is generic to all five sites.

Area	Location	Description
1	395786, 247719	Undeveloped waste land covered in brambles and scrub. Adjacent to Keytec 7 Business Park.
2	395246, 247339	Area of woodland to north of B4083 (Wyre Road). Small area set to grass available for trenching.
3	395285, 247074	Lightly grazed pasture land adjacent to Mill Lane Close.
4	395364, 247249	Cultivated land recently set to grass. Adjacent to Travis Perkins Builders Merchants.
5	395046, 247240	Cultivated land recently set to grass. Bounded by Station Road and Wyre Road.

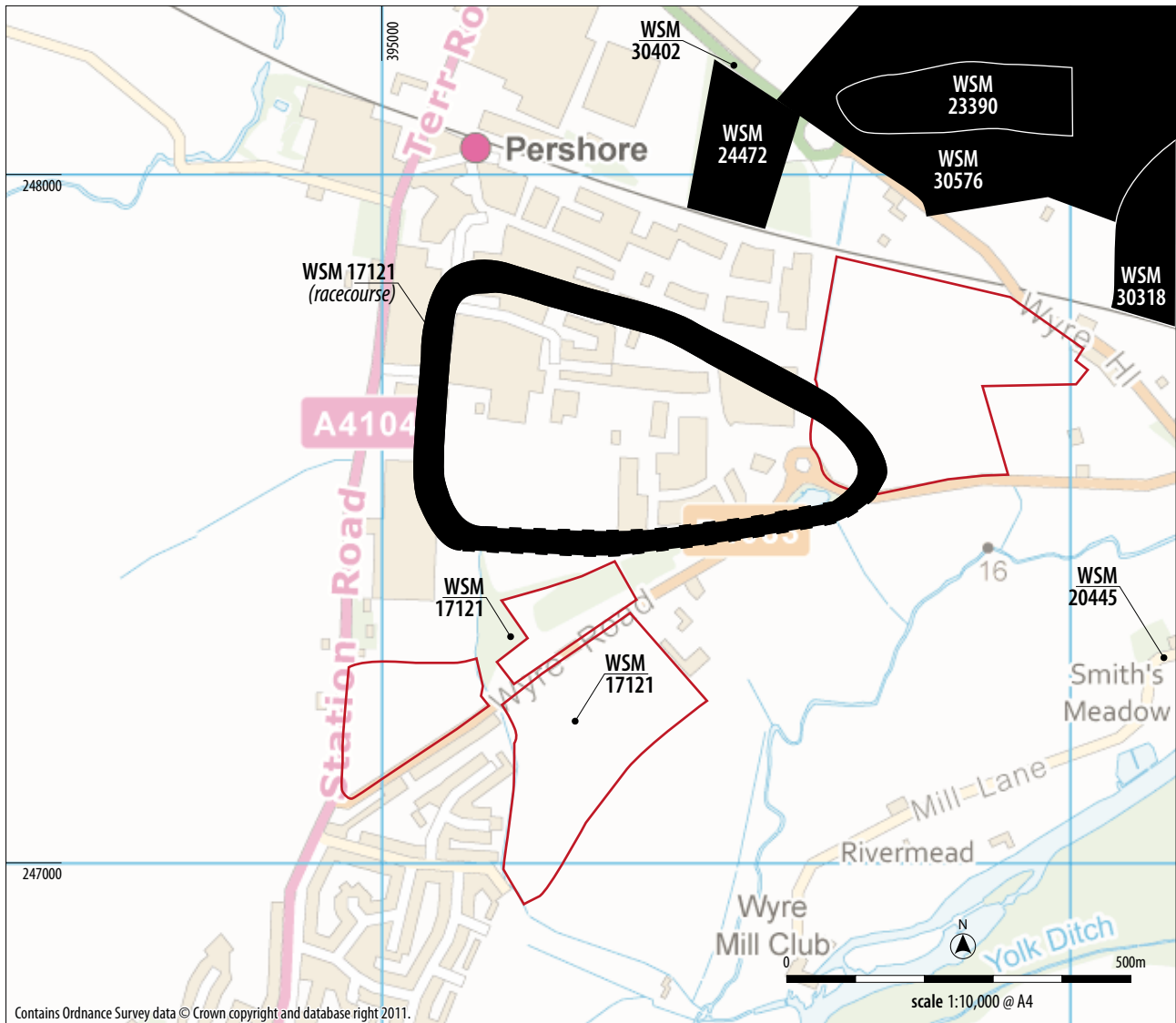
The majority of the proposed development area is within an open, rolling landscape surrounded by large arable fields, often subdivided into a series of smaller plots. The area is also characterised by a nucleated pattern of expanded rural villages.

1.2 Geology of the site

The site is underlain by Jurassic mudstones of the Blue Lias and Charmouth formations, with fragments of Quaternary river terrace (Wasperton Sand and Gravel member) recorded in the vicinity of Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 and deposits of alluvium in Area 3 and 4 (BGS 2013).

1.3 Archaeological background

A Historic Environment Record (HER) search was carried out on a 500m search area around the proposed development areas. This was supplemented by a visit to Worcestershire Records Office to search for additional information on the history of the site.



Illus 2

Heritage assets in vicinity of proposed development

1.3.1 Prehistoric

No evidence for human occupation from this period has been identified within the proposed development areas.

A programme of field walking, evaluation and excavation in advance of the construction of the Wyre Piddle bypass in 2001 (WSM23390,30576) revealed extensive prehistoric activity approximately 250m to the north of Area 1. A Bronze Age cemetery was identified containing three cremations (two accompanied by urns) and a ditch believed to date to the same period. Small quantities of flint, including a broken piece of Beaker of Bronze Age date were also recovered.

1.3.2 Romano-British

No evidence for human occupation from this period has been identified within the proposed development areas.

Work related to the construction of the Wyre Piddle bypass also revealed extensive Romano-British activity. A scatter of Roman

material (WSM23390) was identified by field walking to the north of the route of the bypass. The presence of two human burials of early Roman date identified by subsequent evaluation, and Roman pottery in re-cut Iron Age ditches suggest that the road corridor passes through the periphery of a substantial Roman site. Finds dating to the Romano-British period have also been recovered by metal detectorists approximately 300m to the east of Area 1 (WSM30318).

1.3.3 Early Medieval

No evidence for human occupation from this period has been identified within the proposed development areas.

The A44 'Wyre Hill' road which forms the north-eastern boundary to Area 1 is believed to be Saxon or earlier in date (WSM30402). Wyre House (WSM20445), approximately 380m to the south-east of Area 1 is recorded as being the possible site of a Monastic home farm during the Saxon period.

1.3.4 Medieval

The village of Wyre Piddle to the east of the proposed development areas is medieval in origin and the surrounding countryside displays evidence for medieval open field systems.

Topographic undulations characteristic of ridge and furrow agricultural practices are clearly visible in the northern half of Area 3 (WSM05005). Analysis of aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery has revealed that the ridge and furrow continues into the southern half of Area 3 and is also present across Area 1.

1.3.5 Post-medieval

The practice of ridge and furrow agriculture continued into the post-medieval period. There is the potential for the ridge and furrow identified in Areas 1 and 3 to date to this period rather than the medieval period.

Within the search area there are 9 historic buildings dating to the post-medieval period, 5 of which are grade II listed. The Historic Farmsteads Project has identified 3 historic farms dating to the 19th century.

1.3.6 Modern

Pershore Racecourse (WSM42191) formerly occupied the site of the Keytec 7 Business Park. The eastern end of the racecourse occupied the southern part of Area 1. The course was opened in 1935 but meetings stopped at the outbreak of war in 1939 and the site was commandeered by the military for use as living quarters for the RAF and Women's Land Army. Racing never resumed on the site.

A workers hostel (WSM17121), used by the Women's Land Army was located immediately to the west of Area 2. On the 1945 RAF aerial photograph of the area a structure likely to be the hostel is visible in this location.

1.3.7 Cartographic summary

Date	Area	1	2	3	4	5
1891	Southern part of area set to orchard. Field boundary running through northern part of site on a NE-SW alignment.		Open field	Open field. Current footpath marked.	Area divided in two by NW-SE dog-legged field boundary. Orchard in NE of area.	Open field
1905	No change		No change	No change	No change	'The Croft' farm labelled to west of area.
1938	The eastern bend of Pershore racecourse occupies the southern part of the area.		No change	No change	No change	No change

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the evaluation was to provide sufficient evidence to assess the impact of the proposal by establishing the extent, nature and importance of any heritage assets within the affected area.

Specifically the evaluation aimed to;

- Undertake desk-based research
- Establish the location, extent, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the areas proposed to be disturbed during the development.
- Establish the integrity and state of preservation of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the areas proposed to be disturbed during the development.

3 METHOD

Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service was commissioned to produce a Historic Environment Record (HER) Assessment on 29th August 2013 (Appendix 2). The results of this assessment were made available to field staff prior to the commencement of field work.

To supplement the results of the HER assessment, research visits were made to Worcestershire Records Office at 'The Hive' on the 7th and 8th October 2013.

Field work was conducted between 16th September and 8th October 2013. Sixty-seven trenches were excavated across the main impact areas of the proposed development. Constraints in Areas 1&2 (trees and scrub) and Areas 3&4 (services) meant that some areas were not available for trenching. In total 4% of the area available was subjected to trial trenching. All trenches measured 50m by 2m with the exception of Trench 49 which was shortened due to safety considerations.

Trenches 33, 34 and 35 were specifically located at right angles to the upstanding remains of ridge and furrow within Area 3. All other trenches were positioned to achieve the greatest possible coverage of the site.

Trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision, with topsoil being removed by machine and excavation terminating at the uppermost significant archaeological horizon or when geological deposits were encountered.

All trenches were planned using a Trimble differential GPS system. A record sheet was completed for each trench, even where no deposits of archaeological significance were present. Identified archaeological features were subject to sample hand excavation, carried out to a sufficient degree to meet the objectives of the evaluation.

All recording followed IfA Standards and Guidance. All contexts were given unique numbers and recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards. Colour transparencies and black and white photographs were taken to record archaeological contexts and to illustrate the progress of the trial trenching. Digital photographs on a 7.2mp camera were taken for use in this report but do not form part of the site archive.

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LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Area 1

Location	SO 95786 47719
Description	Undeveloped waste land covered in brambles and scrub. Adjacent to Keytec 7 Business Park.

1 RESULTS

1.1 Romano-British activity

Trench 51

A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the upper surface of the natural deposits (5102) within Trench 51. The pottery was not associated within an identifiable feature. Excavation continued below the surface of the natural to confirm the nature of the deposit and rule out the possibility of further archaeological finds being present. No further archaeological finds, features or deposits were identified within the trench.

1.2 Evidence for ridge and furrow

Trenches 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 45, 48, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67

The soil profile observed within the trenches containing evidence for ridge and furrow was fairly consistent across the area. Dark brown sandy clay topsoil with a grey hue (0.1 – 0.2m in depth) overlay mid brown sandy clay with an orange hue (c.0.1m in depth). The subsoil contained post-medieval and modern cultural material. Across the majority of the area, geological deposits comprised of blue, grey and yellow stiff clay. Pockets of orange sands and gravels were also present in the southern part of Area 1.

The soil profile on higher ground in the north of the area varied slightly, with topsoil directly overlying the geological deposits.

Cutting into the natural deposits the bases of furrows were present, and where excavated (Trenches 40 and 55) were found to be shallow features 0.09m in depth. Furrows in the north and west of the area were orientated NE-SW, whilst those in the south-east conformed to an east-west orientation.

The lack of a significant subsoil deposit and the fact that only the base of the furrows was present suggests that the area was previously levelled and the 'ridge' material was been removed from site as opposed to the ridges simply having been flattened by subsequent farming practices.

1.3 Evidence for Pershore Racecourse

Trenches 38, 39, 40, 48, 49

Re-deposited geological clay and gravel was present immediately below the topsoil in five trenches located within the south-west of Area 1. The underlying natural deposits (clearly distinguishable from the re-deposited material above) sloped gently from east to west. The re-deposited made ground appears to have been used to level the originally sloping ground and create a flat surface. The confinement of this deposit to the area previously occupied by Pershore racecourse suggests that the deposit is related to the creation of the racecourse in the 1930s.

No buried topsoil horizon was present beneath the made ground suggesting that the site had been stripped prior to the deposition of the levelling deposit. Furrow bases were however visible and conformed to the NE-SW orientation observed in the north and west of Area 1.

Excavation of Trench 49 identified made ground to a depth of 1.5m overlying a deposit of coarse sands and gravels with evidence for further truncation below this depth. Due to considerations of safety and the presence of a truncated geological surface the decision was made to limit the length of the Trench 49 to five metres and backfill upon the completion of recording.

1.4 Blank trenches

Trenches 42, 44, 46, 47, 50, 52, 54, 60

No evidence for human activity of archaeological significance was observed within these trenches. The proximity of the trenches to field boundaries may be a factor in the absence of evidence for ridge and furrow. It is possible that the plough was turned on the approach to the boundaries and therefore has not left an impression.

1.5 Finds assessment

A small assemblage of three sherds of pottery and one sherd of tile was retrieved from trenches 51 and 56 in Area 1. The finds indicate two clusters of activity, one Roman and the other post-medieval/modern. A finds catalogue is included below.

A Severn Valley Ware rim sherd (Jane Timby, pers comm) dating to around the 3rd century AD was retrieved from Trench 51. A sherd of tile also found in Trench 51 may be later in date, suggesting the Roman pottery is perhaps residual or disturbed. The finds from Trench 56 were post-medieval or later in date.

1.5.1 Finds catalogue

Context	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date	Period
5102	1	23	Pottery	Roman	Roman Severn Valley Ware bowl with grooved rim	3rd Century AD	Roman
5102	1	96	CBM	Tile	-	-	-
5603	1	17	Pottery (Mod)	Creamware	thick plain sherd	L.18th-m.19th	Modern
5603	1	17	Pottery (PM)	Glazed Redware	black glaze	17th-19th	Post-medieval

2 DISCUSSION

A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the site. The location of the find, towards the north of Area 1, is in keeping with the Romano-British activity identified during works on the Wyre Piddle bypass. The sherd of pottery was not associated with a feature, and no archaeological features dating to the Romano-British period were identified within Area 1. An evaluation undertaken immediately to the north of Area 1 by Cotswold Archaeology in 1998 also reported no archaeologically significant features [WSM24472]. It seems likely that Romano-British activity did not extend into this area, and was instead concentrated to the north of the Wyre Piddle bypass.



Inset A1.1a
Trench 38 'made ground' for racecourse



- application boundary
- trenches
- racecourse deposits
- furrows

N
0 50m
1:1,500 @ A3

Illus A1.1
Area 1 – Trench positions and key features

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Furrow bases were identified in Area 1. The date of the furrows is unknown, however post-medieval material was identified within furrows and it is possible that they date to this period.

The eastern extent of Pershore racecourse was identified in the south of Area 1. Prior to the importation of a deposit of made ground to level the site, topsoil and subsoil deposits had been removed. Although the bases of furrows were present beneath the made ground, the potential for significant archaeological deposits appears to have been compromised by the construction of the racecourse.

3 CONCLUSION

Analysis of aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery has proved useful in determining the presence of ridge and furrow agricultural systems in Area 1. There was no evidence for the survival of any archaeological remains other than those relating to medieval and later agriculture. The Roman pot sherd is likely to have been an isolated occurrence.

The archaeological interest of the below-ground remains encountered by the evaluation is considered to be very slight because of their generally recent nature and limited potential to increase the understanding of post-medieval land use in the locality. Their significance is therefore considered to be low.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Glyde, M 2013 *Requirements for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.

Kimber, M 2013 *Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire; Project design for Archaeological Evaluation*, Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd.

5 CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench 38

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3800	Topsoil – Dark grey/brown, friable, sandy clay.	c.0.23m
3801	Mixed deposit of made ground. Light blue/grey and light green/yellow mottled clay. Plastic, very slightly stoney. Bands of orange/brown sand running through deposit.	1.10m
3802	Natural – Compact orange/brown sandy clay.	0.10m+
3803	Fill of furrow 3804	
3804	Cut of furrow (1.90m wide)	
3805	Fill of furrow 3806	

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3806	Cut of furrow (3.60m wide)	
3807	Subsoil – Mid brown sandy clay with an orange hue. Infrequent stone inclusions.	c.0.12m
3808	Topsoil over 3807. Re-instated.	0.20m

Trench 39

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3900	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	c.0.15m
3901	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	c.0.12m
3902	Natural – Orange/brown sand.	0.30m+
3903	Fill of furrow 3904	Not excavated
3904	Cut of furrow (1.20m wide)	Not excavated
3905	Fill of furrow 3906	Not excavated
3906	Cut of furrow (2.80m wide)	Not excavated
3907	Fill of 3908	Not excavated
3908	Cut of land drain	Not excavated
3909	Made ground deposit – Same as 3801.	0.30m

Trench 40

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4000	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.15m
4001	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.12m
4002	Subsoil – Orange/brown modified subsoil.	0.20m
4003	Re-deposited topsoil.	0.30m
4004	Re-deposited subsoil. Levelling event.	0.30m
4005	Natural – Pale yellow/grey clay (plastic) and orange/brown sandy silt, moderately stony.	0.27m+
4006	Fill of 4007	Not excavated
4007	Cut of land drain	Not excavated
4008	Fill of 4009	0.09
4009	Cut of possible furrow or plough scar (0.60m wide)	0.09

Trench 41

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4100	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
4101	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.10m
4102	Natural – Orange/brown sandy gravel and light yellow/grey clay patches.	Not excavated.
4103	Fill of 4104.	Not excavated.
4104	Cut of field boundary.	Not excavated.
4105	Fill of 4106. Blue/grey clay.	Not excavated.

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4106	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
4111	Modified subsoil. Orange/brown sand.	0.20m

Trench 42

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4200	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
4201	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.10m
4202	Modified subsoil. Orange/brown sand.	0.23m
4203	Natural – Same as 4102.	0.10m+
4204	Fill of 4205.	Not excavated.
4205	Cut of plough furrow.	Not excavated.
4206	Fill of 4207.	Not excavated.
4207	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
4208	Fill of 4209.	Not excavated.
4209	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

Trench 43

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4300	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.15m
4301	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.15m
4302	Natural – Same as 4102.	0.10m+
4303	Fill of 4304.	Not excavated.
4304	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.
4305	Fill of 4306.	Not excavated.
4306	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

Trench 44

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4400	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
4401	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.12m
4402	Subsoil – modified by ploughing at NE end of trench.	0.1m
4403	Natural – Light blue/grey plastic clay. Moderately stony. NE of trench is brown sandy clay. Bands of mid blue/grey clay occur mid slope.	0.29m+

Trench 45

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4500	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
4501	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.12m
4502	Subsoil – Modified by ploughing. Light grey/brown sandy clay.	0.18m
4503	Natural – Blue/grey clay and orange/brown clay present in bands.	Not excavated.
4504	Land drain	Not excavated.

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4505	Land drain	Not excavated.
4506	Furrow	Not excavated.
4507	Furrow	Not excavated.

Trench 46

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4600	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
4601	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.12m
4602	Natural – Same as 4102.	Not excavated.
4603	Fill of 4604.	Not excavated.
4604	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

Trench 47

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4700	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
4701	Subsoil – Same as 3807.	0.12m
4702	Natural – Same as 4102.	0.10m+
4703	Fill of 4604.	Not excavated.
4704	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

Trench 48

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4800	Topsoil. Re-instated over made ground.	0.20m
4801	Made ground deposit. Same as 3801.	1.00m
4802	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/yellow clay.	0.10m+
4803	Fill of 4804.	Not excavated.
4804	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
4805	Fill of 4806.	Not excavated.
4806	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.

Trench 49

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
4900	Topsoil. Re-instated over made ground.	0.20m
4901	Made ground deposit. Same as 3801.	1.30m
4902	Natural – Orange/brown clay and gravels. Truncated natural deposit.	Not excavated.

Trench 50

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5000	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.16m

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5002	Modified subsoil. Light yellow/brown, compact silty clay. Occasional CBM fragments.	0.15m
5003	Fill of 5004	Not excavated.
5004	Cut for land drain.	Not excavated.
5005	Natural – Orange/brown sandy clay with orange, blue and grey clay forming in bands.	Not excavated.

Trench 51

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5100	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5101	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.16m
5102/5103	Natural – Yellow and grey brown clay.	0.80m+
5104	Fill of land drain	Not excavated
5105	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 52

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5200	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
5201	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
5203	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5204	Fill of 5205	Not excavated
5205	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 53

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5300	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5301	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.10m
5302	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5303	Fill of 5304	Not excavated
5304	Cut of furrow (3.00m wide)	Not excavated

Trench 54

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5400	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
5401	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
5402	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5403	Fill of 5404	Not excavated
5404	Cut of furrow	Not excavated
5405	Fill of 5406	Not excavated

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5406	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 55

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5500	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5501	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.10m
5502	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5503	Fill of 5504	0.09m
5504	Cut of furrow (0.74m wide)	0.09m
5505	Fill of 5506	Not excavated
5506	Cut of land drain	Not excavated
5507	Fill of 5508	Not excavated
5508	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

Trench 56

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5600	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5601	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.10m
5602	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5603	Fill of 5604	Not excavated
5604	Cut of furrow (0.67m wide)	Not excavated

Trench 57

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5700	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.12m
5701	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.10m
5702	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5703	Fill of 5704	Not excavated
5704	Cut of furrow (1m wide)	Not excavated

Trench 58

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5800	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
5801	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
5802	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5803	Fill of 5804	Not excavated
5804	Cut of furrow (2.80m wide)	Not excavated

Trench 59

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
5900	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
5901	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
5902	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
5903	Fill of 5904	Not excavated
5904	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 60

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6000	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6002	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6003	Fill of 6004	Not excavated
6004	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 61

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6100	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6101	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6102	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6103	Fill of 6104	Not excavated
6104	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

Trench 62

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6200	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6201	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.10m
6202	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6203	Fill of 6204	Not excavated
6204	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

Trench 63

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6300	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6301	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6302	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6303	Fill of 6004	Not excavated
6304	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

Trench 64

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6400	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6401	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6402	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6403	Fill of 6404	Not excavated
6404	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

Trench 65

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6500	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6501	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6502	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6503	Fill of 6504	Not excavated
6504	Cut of furrow	Not excavated
6505	Fill of 6506	Not excavated
6506	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 66

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6600	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6601	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6602	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6603	Fill of 6604	Not excavated
6604	Cut of land drain	Not excavated
6605	Fill of 6606	Not excavated
6606	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

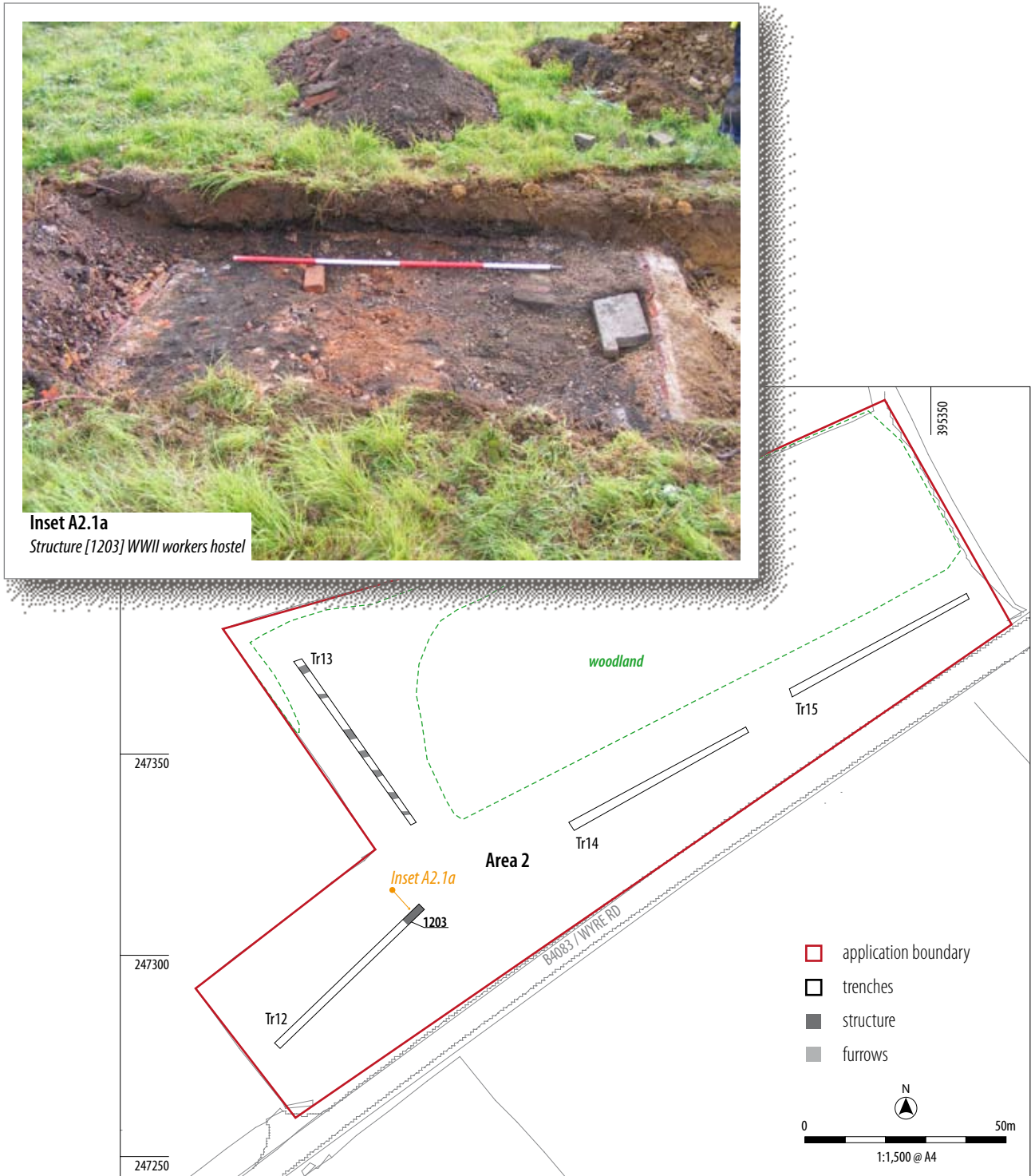
Trench 67

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6700	Topsoil – Same as 3800.	0.10m
6701	Subsoil – Light grey/brown, compact silty clay. Moderate stone inclusions. Some orange iron panning.	0.12m
6702	Natural – Bands of orange/brown sandy clay and blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
6703	Fill of 6704	Not excavated
6704	Cut of furrow	Not excavated

LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Area 2

Location	SO 95246 47339
Description	Area of woodland to north of B4083 (Wyre Road). Small area set to grass available for trenching.



Illus A2.1

Area 2 – Trench positions and key features

1 RESULTS

Four trenches were excavated within Area 2. The soil profile was similar to that identified in Area 1; however evidence for ridge and furrow was only identified in Trench 13 in the north of the area.

At the north-east end of Trench 12 the remains of a brick-built structure were identified. The structure measured 3.4m in length (NE-SW) and spanned the width of the evaluation trench. Within the limited excavation area it was not possible to determine the function of the building. The south-western extent of the building was identified, but it was evident that the building continued beyond the excavated area in all other directions.

2 DISCUSSION

The proximity of the structure to the suggested location of the workers hostel (WSM17121) used by the Women's Land Army during the Second World War and the structure visible on 1945 aerial photographs, would indicate that the structure was related to the war effort during the 1940s.

3 CONCLUSION

Previous aerial photography and LiDAR study did not identify the presence of ridge and furrow in this area, whereas invasive methods did. There was no evidence for the survival of any archaeological remains other than those relating to medieval and later agriculture.

The archaeological interest of the hostel foundations encountered in this area is considered to be slight because of their truncated nature – it is unlikely that sufficient of the structure survives to provide anything more than very limited information about activities associated with the hostel. Their significance is therefore considered to be low.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cornah, T 2013 *Historic Environment Record Search: Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.

Glyde, M 2013 *Requirements for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.

Kimber, M 2013 *Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire; Project design for Archaeological Evaluation*. Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd.

5 CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench 12

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1200	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.12m
1201	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
1202	Light orange/grey sand with mid blue/grey clay banding.	Not excavated
1203	Modern brick structure located at NE end of trench.	

Trench 13

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1300	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.12m
1301	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
1302	Light orange/grey sand with mid blue/grey clay banding.	0.12m+

Trench 14

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1400	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.28m
1401	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.16m
1402	Light orange/grey sand with mid blue/grey clay banding.	Not excavated

Trench 15

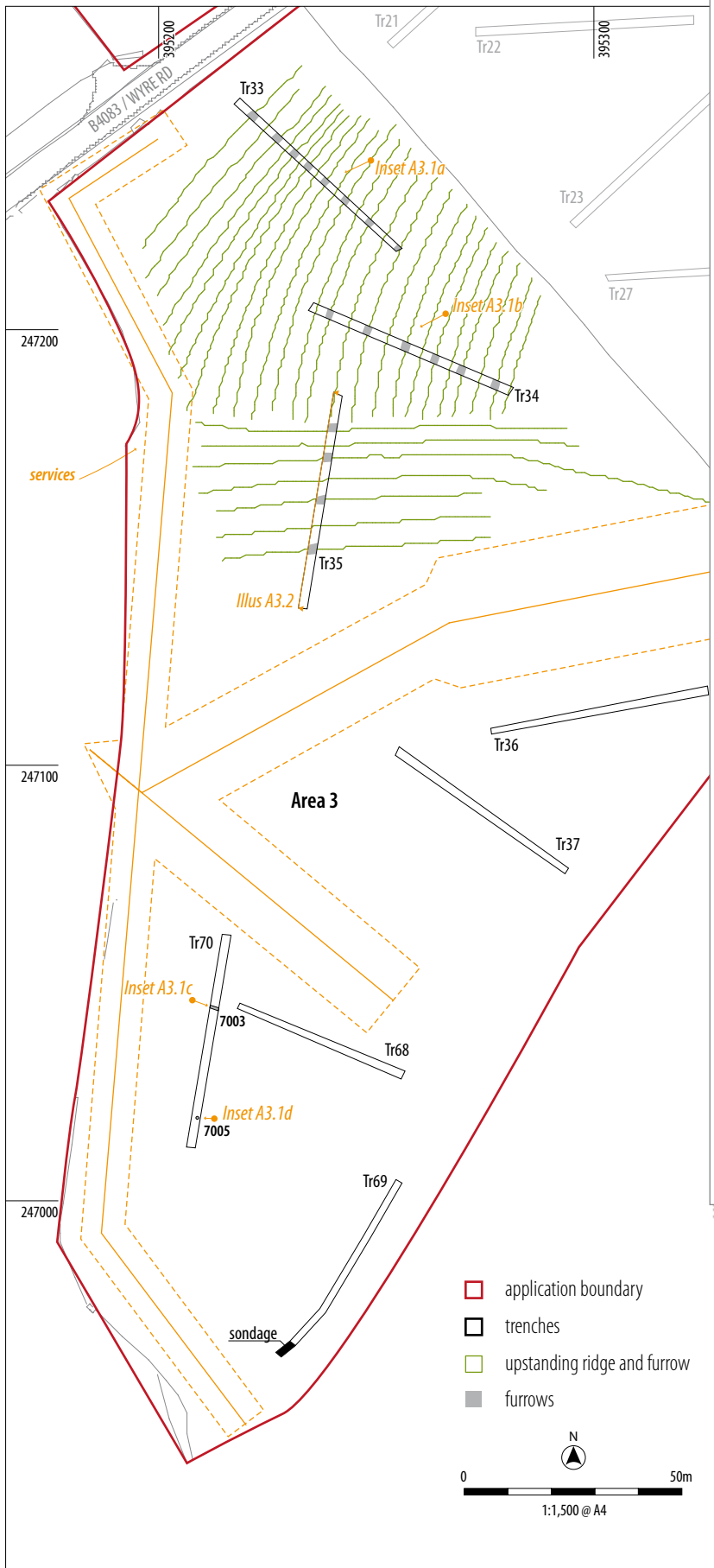
Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1500	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.15m
1501	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
1502	Light orange/grey sand with mid blue/grey clay banding.	0.05m+

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LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Area 3

Location	SO 95285 47074
Description	Lightly grazed pasture land adjacent to Mill Lane Close.



Illus A3.1

Area 3 – Trench positions and key features

1 RESULTS

1.1 Remains of upstanding ridge and furrow

Trenches 33, 34, 35

Three trenches were located at right angles to the extant ridge and furrow visible as a topographical feature. The maximum height difference between the top of a ridge and base of the adjacent furrow was 0.38m, recorded in Trench 35, where the average interval between ridge tops was 12.6m.

The development of the ridge and furrow appears to have had a minimal effect on the underlying geological deposits. Although the very base of furrows did truncate the surface of the natural (as was the case in Area 1) the ridges were formed from a mounded deposit of subsoil overlain by topsoil. The subsoil deposit was not present in the furrows, where the topsoil overlay or slightly cut into the underlying natural deposits.

1.2 Trenches containing possible archaeological features

Trenches 37, 70

A linear feature on an east-west alignment was identified in Trench 70. The feature [7003] was 0.37m wide and contained an orange silty clay fill [7004] which was devoid of archaeological material. The purpose and date of the feature is unknown. Approximately 12m to the south of the linear was the base of a possible post-hole [7005] measuring 0.3m in diameter. A further post-hole of similar dimensions was identified in Trench 37. Both features appear to have been backfilled with re-deposited geological material suggesting the posts were removed before they deteriorated in-situ. The location of the post-holes along the top of a natural ridge may indicate that they relate to a field division. The clean nature of the fills suggests that the division was temporary and short-lived.

1.3 Trenches containing hill wash deposits

Trenches 36, 37, 68

Three trenches were located on a south facing slope with a gradient of approximately 1:10. Although ridge and furrow has been identified through aerial photography in the vicinity of these trenches, none was evident during excavation.

At the southern end of each trench, towards the base of the slope, a mid brown sandy clay deposit [3601] was present to a depth of 0.5m above the underlying natural. The deposit appears to be an accumulation of colluvium, moved down the slope through weathering processes. No archaeological features or deposits were observed below the hill wash deposit.

1.4 Alluvial deposit

Trench 69

Located along the base of a slope, on flat land, Trench 69 contained a blue/grey clay [6901] lacking the consolidation of the natural geological deposits observed in other areas of the site. A sondage

was excavated at the south-western end of the trench to investigate the nature of this deposit. The sondage was excavated to a depth of 1.5m below ground level. Deposit [6901] continued beyond the excavated depth. The location of the trench on a flood plain suggests an alluvial origin for the deposit. No archaeologically significant material was identified within the alluvium.

2 DISCUSSION

Ridge and furrow was identified in all parts of Area 3 in varying degrees of preservation. The best preserved examples were found in the north of the Area. The date of the ridge and furrow is unknown, however post-medieval material was identified within the ridges and furrows and it is possible it dates to this period.

The significance of a linear feature and two post-holes identified in the south of Area 3 is limited by a lack of dateable material. All three features appear to have been short-lived. It is possible that the post-holes relate to the line of a relatively recent fence that once crossed the top of the ridge visible in this part of the site.

3 CONCLUSION

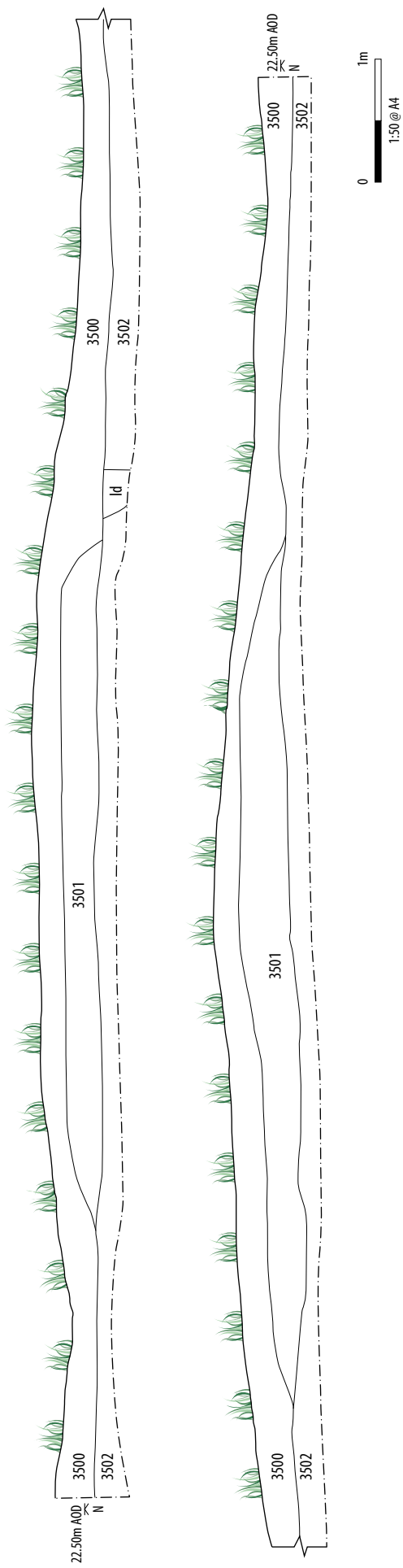
Analysis of aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery has proved useful in determining the presence of ridge and furrow agricultural systems in Area 3. There was no evidence for the survival of any archaeological remains other than those relating to medieval and later agriculture.

The survival of ridge and furrow as an up-standing land form is directly related to subsequent land-use. Area 3 appears to have avoided the modern ploughing methods that have destroyed the ridge and furrow across the other areas of the site.

The archaeological interest of the below-ground remains encountered by the evaluation is considered to be very slight because of their generally recent nature and limited potential to increase the understanding of post-medieval land use in the locality. Their significance is therefore considered to be low.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cornah, T 2013 *Historic Environment Record Search: Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.
- Glyde, M 2013 *Requirements for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.
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Illus A3.2

Trench 35 – E facing section through ridge and furrow

5 CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench 33

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3300	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.22m
3301	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.30m
3302	Modified natural – Blue/grey and orange mottled clay. Plough disturbance evident.	0.13m
3303	Natural – mid blue/grey clay.	Not excavated
3304	Fill of 3305	Not excavated
3305	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 34

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3400	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.22m
3401	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.30m
3402	Modified natural – Blue/grey and orange mottled clay. Plough disturbance evident.	0.13m
3403	Natural – mid blue/grey clay with occasional bands of orange/brown sandy gravel.	Not excavated
3404	Fill of 3405	Not excavated
3405	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 35

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3500	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.22m
3501	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.32m
3502	Modified natural – Blue/grey and orange mottled clay. Plough disturbance evident.	0.12m
3503	Natural – mid blue/grey clay.	Not excavated

Trench 36

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3600	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
3601	Subsoil – Mid brown sandy clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions. Deposit deepens towards base of slope. Hillwash deposit.	0.50m
3602	Natural – Grey/brown clay at top of slope. Orange/brown sandy gravel towards base of slope.	Not excavated.

Trench 37

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3700	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
3701	Subsoil – Mid brown sandy clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions. Deposit deepens towards base of slope. Hillwash deposit.	0.50m
3702	Natural – Grey/brown clay at top of slope. Orange/brown sandy gravel towards base of slope.	Not excavated
3703	Fill of 3704. Yellow/orange compact clay.	0.09m
3704	Cut of possible post hole. Circular. 0.35m in diameter.	0.09m

Trench 68

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6800	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.26m
6801	Subsoil – Mid brown sandy clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions. Deposit deepens towards base of slope. Hillwash deposit.	0.20m
6802	Natural – Grey/brown clay at top of slope. Orange/brown sandy gravel towards base of slope.	Not excavated.

Trench 69

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
6900	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
6901	Alluvial deposit – blue/grey clay, lacking consolidation of natural clay.	1.30m
6902	Natural – Blue/grey clay	Not excavated.

Trench 70

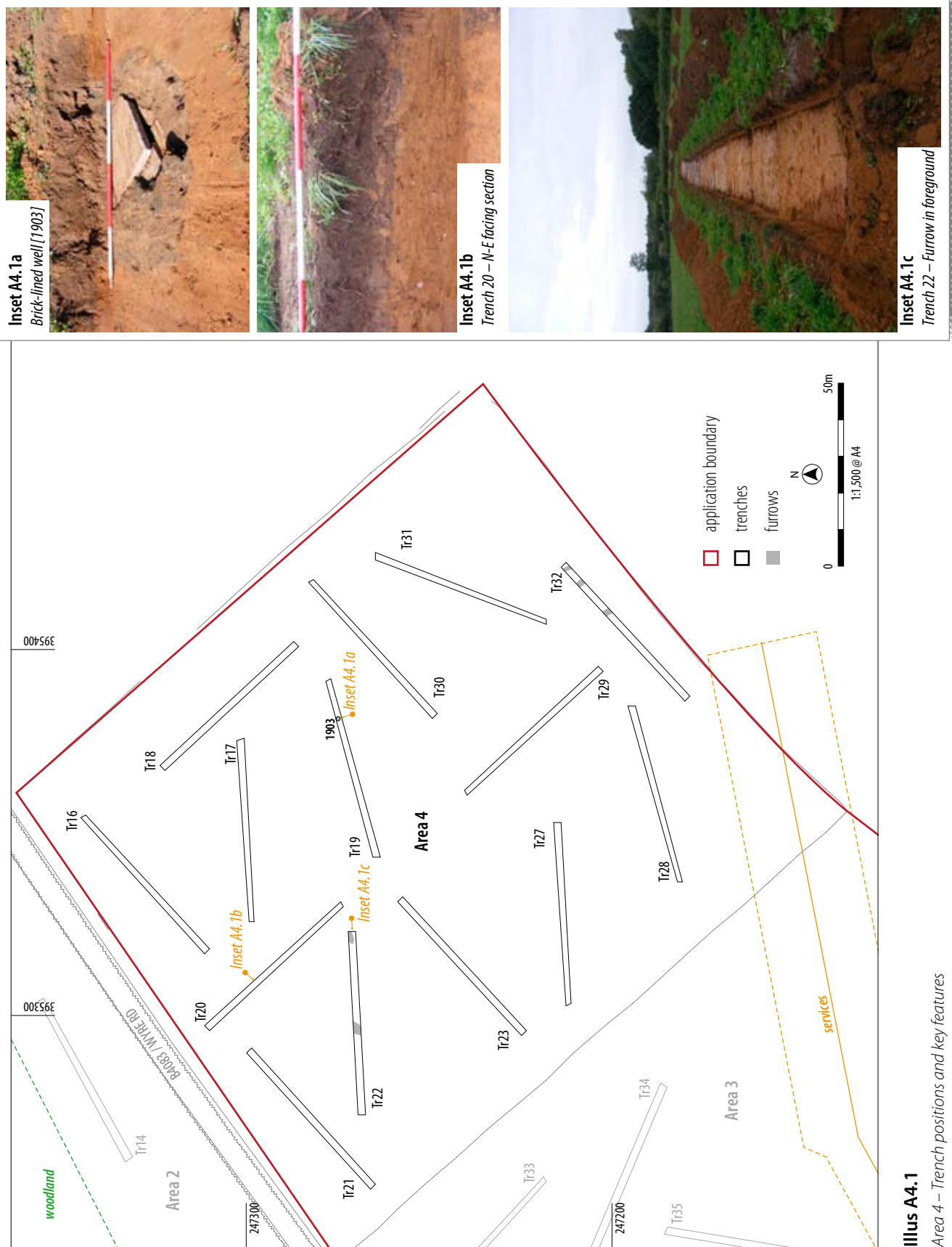
Context	Description	Depth of deposit
7000	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.20m
7001	Natural – mid blue/grey clay.	0.30m+
7002	Fill of 7003. Orange/brown sandy clay. Very similar in nature to natural deposits in Area 4. No finds.	0.37m
7003	Cut of linear crossing trench on an E-W orientation (0.60m wide). Steep sides to a rounded base.	0.37m
7004	Fill of 7005. Orange/brown silty clay. Compact. No finds.	0.07m
7005	Cut of possible post hole. Circular. Gently sloping sides, rounded base (0.30m in diameter).	0.07m

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LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Area 4

Location	SO 95364 47249
Description	Cultivated land recently set to grass. Adjacent to Travis Perkins Builders Merchants.



1 RESULTS

1.1 Evidence for ridge and furrow

Trenches 22, 32

A potential furrow was identified on a NE-SW orientation within Trench 22. The feature would appear to be a continuation of the extant ridge and furrow observed in Area 3. Three further furrows were identified within Trench 32 on a NW-SE orientation.

1.2 Brick-lined well

Trench 19

The remains of a brick-lined well with an internal diameter of 0.8m were uncovered within Trench 19. The well [1903] had been capped with clay and a concrete paving slab. It is probable that the feature relates to Hurst Farm approximately 50m to the north-west, and considering the nature of the capping material was in use well into the modern period.

1.3 Blank trenches

Trenches 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

The soil profile in Area 4 was similar in nature to areas 1 and 2. A mid brown clayey silt (0.1 – 0.32m in depth) overlay a mid brown sandy silt subsoil with a yellow hue (c. 0.1m in depth). Sherds of possible Roman pottery were recovered from the subsoil in Trench 20, and a spread of burnt material of recent date (2903) was found in Trench 29.

The geological deposits across the area comprised of a dark orange gravel with patches of blue and grey clay.

1.4 Finds assessment

The Area 4 assemblage consists of four sherds of pottery and two sherds of tile. The finds indicate two potential clusters of activity, the earliest of which is potentially Roman and the second, later phase is post-medieval. A finds catalogue is included below.

Finds were retrieved from trenches 20 and 29. The sherds found in Trench 20 are extremely abraded body sherds; their form is unclear although the fabric suggests they could date as early as Roman. The finds from Trench 29 are post-medieval in date.

1.4.1 Finds catalogue

Context	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date	Period
2007	2	10	Pottery	Roman?	small soft abraded sherds	-	Roman
2904	2	122	CBM	Tile	-	-	-
2904	2	54	Pottery(PM)	Staffs Type Slipware	combed slip over pale body, notched edge dish	L.17th-e.18th	Post-medieval

2 DISCUSSION

The paucity of evidence for ridge and furrow within Area 4 is entirely at odds with the observations made in Area 3. The ridge and furrow of Area 3 ends abruptly at the boundary with Area 4 and clearly continued into the area previously. It is probable that different land uses for the two areas have led to the disparity in preservation. Area 4 appears to have been turned over to use as an orchard. In advance of this change of use it appears that the ridge and furrow was flattened. Subsequent root penetration by the apple trees has obscured nearly all trace of the previous land use.

3 CONCLUSION

Previous aerial photography and LiDAR study did not identify the presence of ridge and furrow in this area, whereas invasive methods did. There was no evidence for the survival of any archaeological remains other than those relating to medieval and later agriculture. The abraded nature of the possible Roman pottery from Trench 20 suggests it has been transported by ploughing; it is therefore unlikely to indicate the presence of significant Roman remains in the near vicinity.

The archaeological interest of the below-ground remains encountered by the evaluation is considered to be very slight because of their generally recent nature and limited potential to increase the understanding of post-medieval land use in the locality. Their significance is therefore considered to be low.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cornah, T 2013 *Historic Environment Record Search: Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.

Glyde, M 2013 *Requirements for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire*. Worcestershire County Council Archive and Archaeology Service.

Kimber, M 2013 *Land North of Pershore, Worcestershire; Project design for Archaeological Evaluation*. Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd.

5 CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench 16

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1600	Topsoil – Mid brown silty clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.10m
1601	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown clay. Friable. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.15m
1602	Natural – Orange sandy clay and blue/grey clay occurring in bands. Compact	Not excavated.
1603	Fill of 1604	Not excavated

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1604	Cut of land drain	Not excavated

Trench 17

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1700	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.32m
1701	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.15m
1702	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
1703	Linear feature. Land drain.	Not excavated
1704	Linear feature. Land drain. Modern brick fragment visible within fill.	Not excavated

Trench 18

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1800	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.32m
1801	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.12m
1802	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
1803	Linear feature. Land drain.	Not excavated

Trench 19

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1900	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.32m
1901	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.15m
1902	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
1903	Well – Brick built and capped with stone slabs. Cuts through 1902. Not excavated. Internal diameter of circular well (0.8m).	

Trench 20

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2000	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.10m
2001	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.15m
2002	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
2003	Fill of 2004	Not excavated
2004	Cut of land drain	Not excavated
2005	Fill of 2006	Not excavated
2006	Cut for water pipe	Not excavated
2007	Subsoil – Sandy silt, compact. Plough marks evident in surface. Deposit modified by ploughing.	0.28m

Trench 21

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2100	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.30m
2101	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.08m
2102	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.

Trench 22

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2200	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.30m
2201	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.12m
2202	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.

Trench 23

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2300	Topsoil – Mid clayey silt.	0.30m
2301	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.18m
2302	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
2303	Cut of roughly circular feature (0.34m x 0.34m x 0.21m). Steep sided to convex base.	0.21m
2404	Fill of 2303. Light grey/brown sandy silt. No finds. Likely to be a variation in the natural.	0.21m

Trench 27

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2700	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.26m
2701	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.08m
2702	Subsoil modified by ploughing. Mid grey/brown loam silt.	0.08m
2703	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks. Present in western half of trench.	Not excavated.
2704	Natural – Light brown/grey clay. Present in eastern half of trench.	Not excavated.

Trench 28

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2800	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.21m
2801	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.09m
2802	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
2803	Hill wash – Mid brown/yellow silty sand. Small and large sub-angular stones.	Not excavated.

Trench 29

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
2900	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.27m
2901	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.
2902	Natural – Light brown/grey clay.	Not excavated.
2903	Spread of charcoal and burnt material on surface of (2902). Metal nail found within deposit.	0.01m

Trench 30

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3000	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.27m
3001	Natural – Mid yellow/brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks.	Not excavated.

Trench 31

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3100	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.21m
3101	Subsoil – Fine brown sandy silt with a yellow hue.	0.05m
3102	Natural – Mid brown sandy silt with pockets of blue/grey clay. Abundant manganese flecks. Present in SW half of trench.	Not excavated.
3103	Natural – Light brown/grey clay. Present in north-eastern half of trench.	Not excavated.

Trench 32

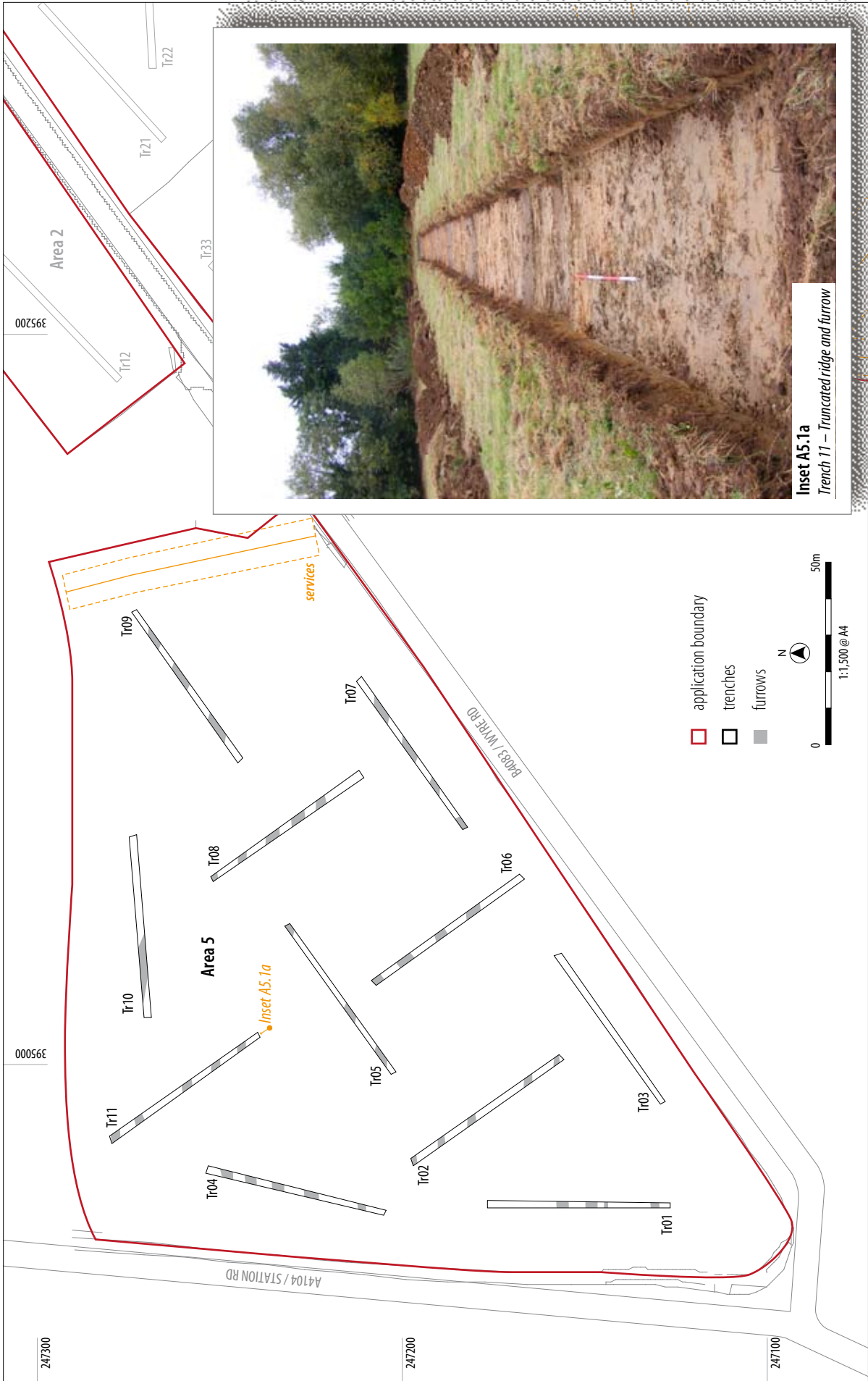
Context	Description	Depth of deposit
3200	Topsoil – Mid brown clayey silt.	0.22m
3201	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown loam silt. Very stony with occasional brick fragments.	0.10m
3202	Natural – Mid yellow/brown silty sand.	Not excavated.

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LAND TO THE NORTH OF PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE

Area 5

Location	SO 95046 47240
Description	Cultivated land recently set to grass. Bounded by Station Road and Wyre Road.



Illus A5.1

Area 5 – Trench positions and key features

1 RESULTS

1.1 Evidence for ridge and furrow

Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

The truncated remains of ridge and furrow were identified across the area. Excavated furrows varied in depth between 0.15m [110, 114] and 0.2m [204, 212]. The ridge and furrow was orientated on an east-west alignment.

Topsoil consisted of a mid brown silty clay with a grey hue (0.11m – 0.22m in depth) overlying a subsoil similar in nature to the topsoil but with a higher clay content (0.20 – 0.25m in depth). Post-medieval pottery and brick fragments were identified within this deposit. It is probable that the subsoil is a modified (subsequently ploughed) version of the ridges that were once present within area 5.

1.2 Blank trench

Trench 3

The proximity to the field boundary may explain why no evidence for ridge and furrow was identified in Trench 3.

2 DISCUSSION

Ridge and furrow was identified in all parts of Area 5 although none was upstanding. The evidence suggests that it was levelled in the recent past. The date of the ridge and furrow is unknown, however post-medieval material was identified within the ridges and furrows and it is possible it dates to this period.

3 CONCLUSION

Previous aerial photography and LiDAR study did not identify the presence of ridge and furrow in this area, whereas invasive methods did. There was no evidence for the survival of any archaeological remains other than those relating to medieval and later agriculture.

The archaeological interest of the below-ground remains encountered by the evaluation is considered to be very slight because of their generally recent nature and limited potential to increase the understanding of post-medieval land use in the locality. Their significance is therefore considered to be low.

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5 CONTEXT REGISTER

Trench 1

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
100	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
101	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
102	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
103	Fill of 104	Not excavated.
104	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.
105	Fill of 106	Not excavated.
106	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
107	Fill of 108.	Not excavated.
108	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
109	Fill of 110. Mid blue/grey silty clay. Compact. Abundant degraded chalk. Occasional post-med CBM.	0.15m
110	Cut of furrow.	0.15m.
111	Fill of 112.	Not excavated.
112	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.
113	Fill of 114.	0.15m
114	Cut of furrow.	0.15m
115	Fill of 116.	Not excavated.
116	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
117	Fill of 118.	Not excavated.
118	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.
119	Fill of 120.	Not excavated.
120	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

Trench 2

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
200	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
201	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
202	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
203	Fill of 204. Compact silty clay. Occasional charcoal and post-med CBM. Abundant degraded chalk and lime fragments.	0.20

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
204	Cut of furrow	0.20
205	Fill of 206	Not excavated.
206	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
207	Fill of 208	Not excavated.
208	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
209	Fill of 210	Not excavated.
210	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
211	Fill of 212. Compact silty clay. Occasional charcoal and post-med CBM. Abundant degraded chalk and lime fragments.	0.20
212	Cut of furrow	0.20
213	Fill of 214	Not excavated.
214	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
215	Fill of 216	Not excavated.
216	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
217	Fill of 218	Not excavated.
218	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
219	Fill of 220	Not excavated.
220	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.

Trench 3

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
300	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.22m
301	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.25m
302	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
303	Fill of 304	Not excavated.
304	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.

Trench 4

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
400	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.20m
401	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
402	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey. Pockets of gravel within clay.	Not excavated.
403	Fill of 404	Not excavated.
404	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
405	Fill of 406	Not excavated.

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
406	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.

Trench 5

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
500	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
501	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
502	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey. Pockets of gravel within clay.	Not excavated.
503	Fill of 504	Not excavated.
504	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
505	Fill of 506	Not excavated.
506	Cut of furrow.	Not excavated.

Trench 6

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
600	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.20m
601	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
602	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
603	Fill of 604	Not excavated.
604	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
605	Fill of 606	Not excavated.
606	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
607	Fill of 608	Not excavated.
608	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
609	Fill of 610	Not excavated.
610	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
611	Fill of 612	Not excavated.
612	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
613	Fill of 614	Not excavated.
614	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.

Trench 7

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
700	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.11m
701	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
702	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
703	Fill of 704	Not excavated.
704	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
705	Fill of 706	Not excavated.
706	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
707	Fill of 708	Not excavated.
708	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
709	Fill of 710	Not excavated.
710	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.

Trench 8

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
800	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
801	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
802	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
803	Fill of 804	Not excavated.
804	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
805	Fill of 806	Not excavated.
806	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.

Trench 9

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
900	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
901	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
902	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
903	Fill of 904	Not excavated.
904	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
905	Fill of 906	Not excavated.
906	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.

Trench 10

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1000	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
1001	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1002	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
1003	Fill of 1004	Not excavated.
1004	Cut of land drain	Not excavated.
1005	Fill of 1006	Not excavated.
1006	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.

Trench 11

Context	Description	Depth of deposit
1100	Topsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded).	0.15m
1101	Subsoil – Mid grey/brown silty clay. Friable. Infrequent stone inclusions (small, rounded). Occasional Post-med / modern CBM.	0.20m
1102	Natural – Bands of firm clay. Light orange, grey/white and blue/grey.	Not excavated.
1103	Fill of 1104	Not excavated.
1104	Cut of furrow	Not excavated.
1105	Fill of 1106	Not excavated.
1106	Cut of land drain.	Not excavated.

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