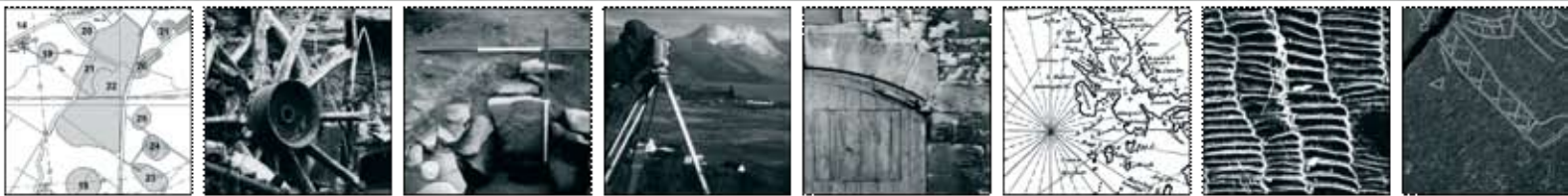


CLDW/02



COPCUT LANE, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 2)

*commissioned by CgMs Consulting
on behalf of William Davis Ltd*

W/10/02896/OU

January 2014

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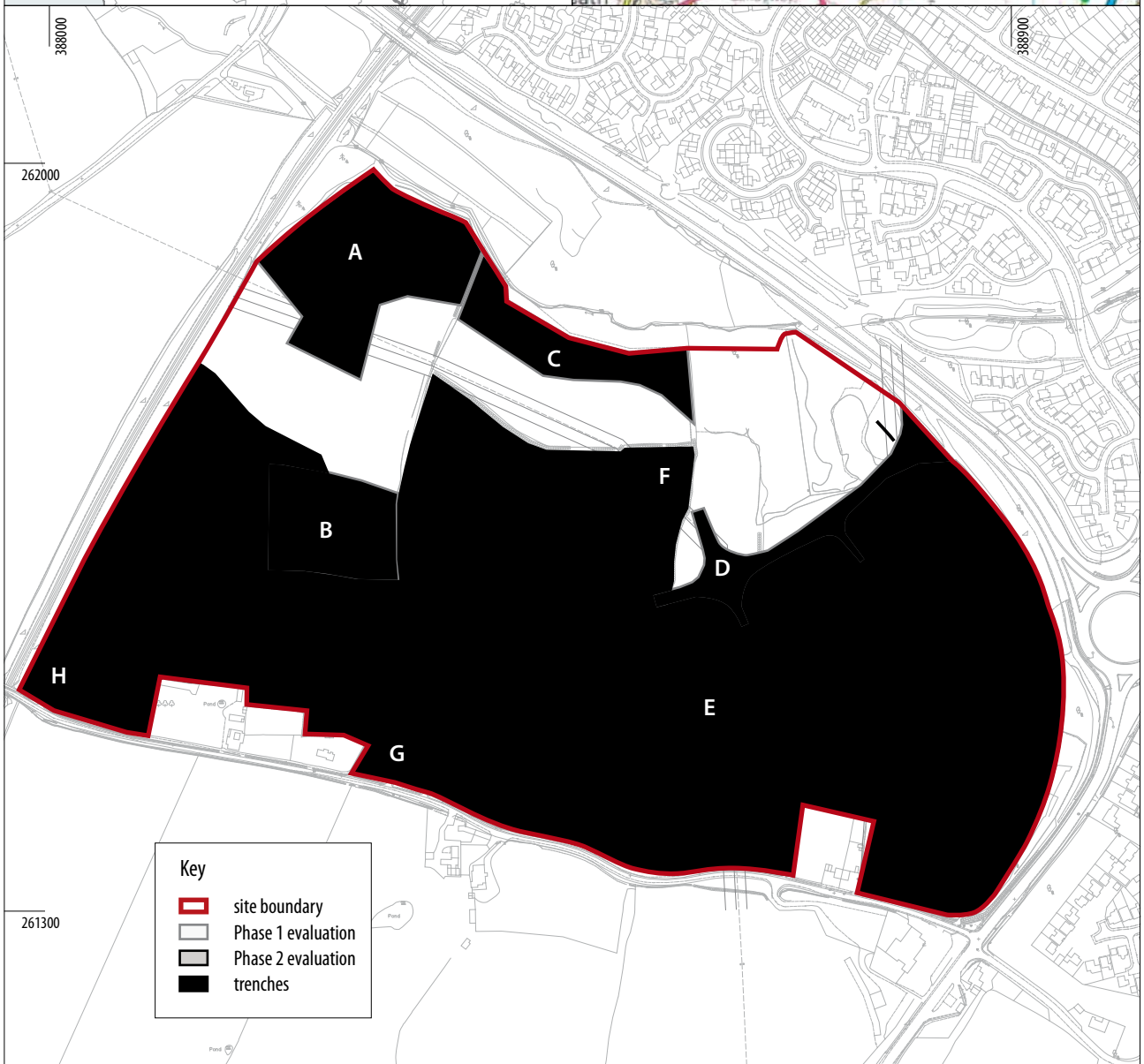
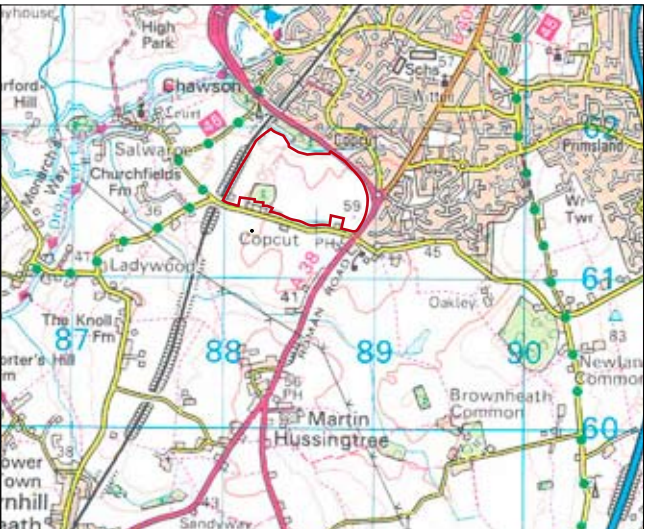
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land at Copcut Lane
Droitwich
Worcestershire



0 100km



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Illus 1

Site location

LANE, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 2)

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Headland Archaeology in October 2013 on land adjacent to Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire. A total of 92 trenches were excavated in four areas (E–H).

Evidence for Romano-British and medieval activity was identified within the central part of the site (Area G). Undated features were identified in the west of the site (Area H). The evaluation identified that large parts of the site had been quarried (Area F) and the potential for survival of archaeological remains was therefore low. No archaeologically significant finds or features were identified within the eastern part of the site (Area E).

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting acting on behalf of William Davis Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Copcut Lane in Droitwich, Worcestershire. The client had been granted outline planning permission for mixed use development of the site (Ref: W/10/02896/OU).

In support of the outline planning application a targeted archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2010 (Harward 2010).

The Historic Environment Planning Advisor for Worcestershire County Council advised that further trial trench evaluation should be undertaken on areas of the site that were not evaluated as part of the pre-determination works.

Condition 19 of the outline planning permission related to the required programme of archaeological works:

19. No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure the proposed development does not cause avoidable harm to any features of archaeological interest and to ensure that a proper record of the archaeology of the site is recorded.

A written scheme of investigation (Gajos 2012) was submitted by the applicant and approved by the Historic Environment Planning Advisor for Worcestershire County Council.

Headland Archaeology undertook the field evaluation between 21st October and 11th November 2013.

1.1 Description of the site

The site is situated to the south-west of Droitwich and covers an area of approximately 40 hectares centred on NGR SO 885 616 (Illus 1).

The site is predominantly occupied by arable farmland with some areas of pasture and woodland. The development area is enclosed on all sides by modern transport links with Copcut Lane running along the southern edge of the development, the A38 bordering the north and east, and the Droitwich to Worcester railway line bordering the western edge.

The geology of the site is recorded as sedimentary bedrock from the Mercia Mudstone Group (formed approximately 200 to 251 million years ago in the Triassic Period), overlain by sands and gravels of the Kidderminster Station Member (British Geological Survey 2013).

As an aid to reporting, the development site has been divided into eight areas roughly defined by field boundaries. Areas A-D were evaluated by Cotswold Archaeology in 2010 and will be referred to as the Phase 1 evaluation. Works undertaken by Headland Archaeology will be referred to as the Phase 2 evaluation and were confined to areas E-F

The Phase 2 evaluation areas are summarised as follows:

Area	Description
E	Improved pasture land
F	Waterlogged pasture land
G	Pasture land; light grazing
H	Cultivated land; maize field

1.2 Archaeological background

A previous programme of archaeological trial trenching (Phase 1) was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2010 (Harward 2010).

These trenches were targeted on areas of the development site which were believed to have high archaeological potential. A desk based assessment (Gajos 2010) was also produced. The results of the desk based assessment and the Phase 1 trial trenching are summarised below.

1.2.1 Prehistoric

There are records of activity in the vicinity of Droitwich since the Mesolithic period. The HER records the finding of worked flints from the proposed development site, but these are based on personal comment from the farmer and have not been verified (WSM17802).

A small amount of early-middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the topsoil in Area A during the Phase 1 trial trenching, and a small pit containing probable prehistoric pottery was identified in Area B (Illus 3). Worcestershire HER records the presence of possible Bronze Age barrows to the south-west of the development site (WSM17380).

Other prehistoric features nearby (approximately 200–300m to the south) include crop mark evidence for a series of sub rectangular and sub circular enclosures (WSM06056) and a ring ditch (WSM29895). The date for these features has not been confirmed although they were believed to be of prehistoric or Roman date. These features were destroyed by quarrying in the 1960s.

1.2.2 Roman

The brine springs on the northern edge of Droitwich have been exploited since the middle Iron Age and by the Roman period it was a major activity. This activity seems to be focused to the north and north-east of the proposed development site, but it has been suggested that the hinterland was heavily wooded and thus exploited to provide fuel.

The importance of the salt industry in Droitwich seems to have influenced the decision to locate a fort at Crutch Lane. After the Boudican revolt in c.61AD the fort was replaced by one at Dodderhill to the north of Droitwich, on a site commanding the junction of the roads from Birmingham to Gloucester, and to Alcester and thence to Rynkild Street (Margary 1957). The town of Salinae (Droitwich) grew up in the river valley, and evidence of buildings, earthworks, industrial development mainly relating to salt production, pottery and coins attest to the importance of this settlement during the Roman period.

The route of the A38, bordering the north and east of the proposed development site, is believed to follow the course of the Roman road from Birmingham to Gloucester (WSM30529) (Margery 1957). It is believed to have been established at the same time as Dodderhill fort and was probably a military construction (Buteux and Hurst 1996).

Fragments of tile and pottery from the Roman period were recovered from within the proposed development area during field walking in 1977 (WSM00502). The finds might relate to undated cropmark enclosures (WSM07119) or to the enclosures mentioned above which were destroyed by quarrying in the 1960s.

Roman features were identified within the southwestern part of Area B during the Phase 1 evaluation. The dated features included an east-west aligned ditch containing pottery with a probable 2nd century date, and a northwest-southeast aligned ditch with pottery which can only be broadly assigned to the Roman period. Residual Roman pottery was observed in a Saxon ditch. These ditches are likely to relate to a field system or be associated with other activity on the site.

1.2.3 Early medieval

Salt production is known to have continued at Droitwich during the post-Roman and early medieval periods although very little detail is available regarding settlement and it is likely that small settlements were clustered around salt wells. The importance of Droitwich in the pre-conquest period is attested by the fact that it is one of the most mentioned places in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (WHEAS 2003).

Salwarpe is first recorded in 817 when Cenwulf, king of Mercia, granted privileges of land at Salwarpe to the bishops and clergy of Worcester Cathedral (Sawyer 1968). The route of a Great Dyke making the boundary of Martin Hussingtree is mentioned in a charter of 972, part of the route can be traced approximately 750m to the south of the development site (WSM30999).

A substantial ditch (over 2m wide and 0.35m deep) containing early/mid Saxon pottery was identified during the Phase 1 evaluation. It has been interpreted as making up part of a field system and raises the possibility of a nearby contemporary settlement. No further dateable features from this period were identified but some of the undated features from Area B, and the features which have currently been identified as Roman, should not be ruled out as being broadly contemporary with this period.

1.2.4 Medieval

Aerial photographs taken in 1985 showed that a significant proportion of the development site and the surrounding area was covered with ridge and furrow earthworks (WSM15915-WSM15918, WSM15922, WSM15923, WSM15907, WSM10620, WSM10623). Ridge and furrow earthworks relate to the open field agricultural system which is typical of the medieval period, and was used up until the parish of Salwarpe was enclosed in 1812. Ploughed out remnants of ridge and furrow running on a north-south alignment, were identified in Area C during the Phase 1 evaluation.

Place name evidence gained from tithe awards has provided evidence of possible medieval activity in and around the development site. At the junction of Copcut Lane and Chawson Lane a field was known as Pigeon House Compass indicating the presence of a dovecote nearby (WSM22897). To the east of Salwarpe Court, approximately 350m north of the development site, are Coney Green and Coney Meadow. Both names suggest the presence of rabbit warrens in the medieval period (WSM22896).

1.2.5 Post-medieval

The only post-medieval sites recorded within the vicinity of the development area are the railway line which was opened in 1852

(WSM31664/5) and some pottery and clay pipe fragments which were discovered during field walking in 1977 (WSM00502).

The Droitwich Canal (WSM20660, WSM32234) passes approximately 400-500m to the west of the proposed development site and was constructed between 1768 and 1771.

The earliest detailed cartographic evidence for the development site is the inclosure plan of Salwarpe dated 1813 (Gajos 2010, Figure 4). The site is divided into many fields with only a small number of those boundaries existing today.

By the time of the production of the 1885 Ordnance Survey (OS) map the railway had been constructed and many of the smaller field divisions had been removed (Gajos 2010, Figure 5). There is a small pit marked as Old Clay Pit to the east of the railway which was not marked on the 1813 plan. The presence of former field boundaries was identified during the Phase 1 evaluation and post-medieval CBM was recovered from these ditches.

1.2.6 Modern

The OS maps of 1903 and 1927 show little change in the development area with the exception of further removal of the minor field boundaries. Some houses were constructed to the northwest of Copcut House by the time the 1927 OS map was produced (Gajos 2010, Figures 6 & 7).

1.2.7 Undated

A number of features encountered in Areas A and B during the Phase 1 evaluation remain undated. No dating evidence was recovered from the features although the proximity of the features to Roman features may suggest that they are contemporary.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the evaluation are as follows:

- to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site;
- to assess the artefactual and environmental potential of the archaeological deposits encountered;
- to provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed;
- to assess the impact of previous land use on the site To inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- to produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Worcestershire HER.

The results of the evaluation will enable reasoned and informed recommendations to be made to the local planning authority and a suitable mitigation strategy for the proposed development to be formulated.

3 METHOD

Work was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (Gajos 2012) approved by the Historic Environment Planning Advisor for Worcestershire County Council.

It was proposed that 91 archaeological trial trenches (each measuring 50m by 2m) would be excavated across the proposed development area (in areas not previously evaluated during the Phase 1 archaeological works). A further 150 linear meters of trenching was held in contingency should any archaeological remains be identified.

A number of trench positions were altered to take into account local ground conditions and topography. All other trenches were positioned to achieve the greatest possible coverage of the site.

Due to the presence of quarrying activity in Area F, the decision was taken in agreement with the Historic Environment Planning Advisor for Worcestershire County Council, to reduce the number of trenches excavated in this area.

A total of three contingency trenches were excavated in order to clarify the extent of identified archaeological deposits.

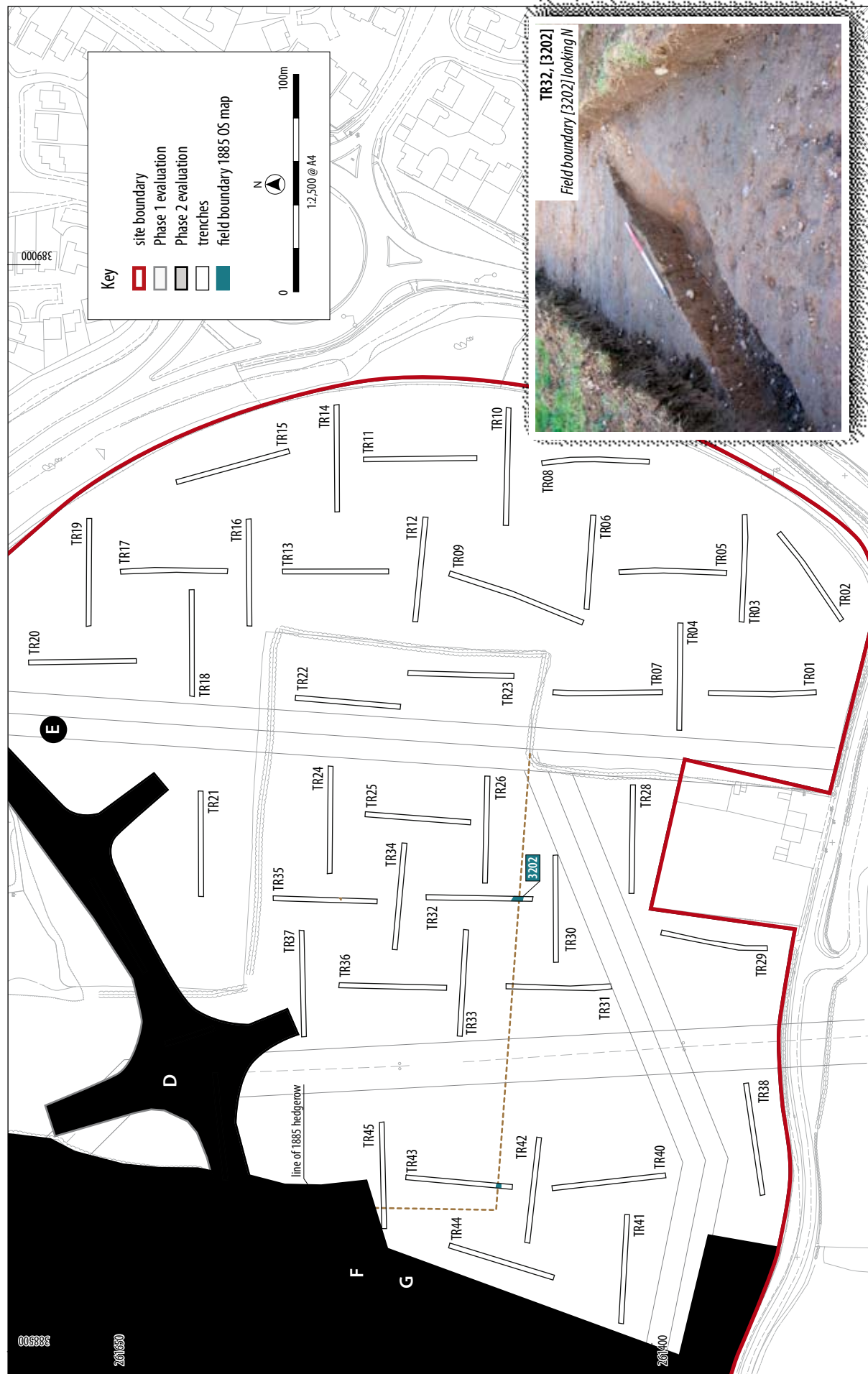
The total number of trenches excavated can be summarised as follows:

Area	Proposed no. of trenches	Actual no. of trenches	Summary
E	43	43	No changes to proposed trench positions.
F	15	13	Evidence for quarrying identified. Trenches 62, 63, 65 and 67 shortened. Trenches 64 and 66 not excavated.
G	16	17	Trench positions in east of area altered to target topographic changes. Contingency Trench 93 excavated in Area G.
H	17	19	Contingency Trenches 94 and 95 excavated in Area H.
Phase 2 evaluation	91	92	

Trenches were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a 14 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a flat bladed ditching bucket. Machine excavation terminated 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 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



Illus 2
Area E – trench positions and key features

on pro forma record cards. Sections of archaeological features were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record, utilising black and white negative film, supplemented by high resolution digital data capture, was maintained during the course of the fieldwork.

4 RESULTS

Full trench descriptions are given in Appendix 1.1 and the finds and environmental assessment reports are presented in Appendices 2 and 3. The following results section summarises the archaeological resource observed across the proposed development area and identifies the features of archaeological importance.

4.1 Area E

4.1.1 Stratigraphic sequence

Area E comprised of 43 trenches distributed between two large pasture fields (*Illus 2*). The soil profile was broadly consistent across the area.

Topsoil was composed of a mid brown sandy clay which varied in depth between 0.15m and 0.35m. Subsoil deposits consisted of a light brown sandy clay with gravel inclusions and where present varied in depth between 0.05m and 0.21m. Within Trenches 04, 07, 10, 11 and 38 no subsoil deposit was identified.

Natural geological deposits varied considerably from red/pink sands and gravels to yellow/brown sandy clays and orange/brown sandy clays. Natural geology was encountered between 0.25m and 0.55m in depth.

4.1.2 Post-medieval and modern

Trenches 32, 43

In Trench 43 a linear was observed running on an east-west alignment. The feature [4304] was 2.7m wide and contained a mid orange brown silt sand fill [4303] from which a clay pipe stem was recovered.

Within Trench 32, a broad linear feature [3202] was identified on a north-west to south-east alignment. Measuring 4m in width and 0.33m in depth, the feature occupied the full width of the trench and was filled with a mid grey clayey sand. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.

4.1.3 Blank trenches

Trenches 01–31, 33–38, 40–42, 44, 45

No evidence for human activity of archaeological significance was observed within these trenches.

4.2 Area F

4.2.1 Modern

Trenches 54–63, 65, 67

With the exception of Trench 53, a deposit of made ground was encountered in all trenches within Area F (*Illus 3*). The made ground [5401, 5501 etc] was present immediately below the topsoil and consisted of redeposited sands and gravels with lenses of redeposited topsoil. Scrap metal, nylon rope and modern brick were present throughout the deposit.

The upper surface of the made ground deposit was identified in all trenches. Where fully excavated (Trenches 54, 58, 59, 62, 63, 65 and 67) the full depth of made ground (including the reinstated topsoil) varied between 0.8m and 1.5m in depth.

The geological horizon showed evidence for truncation. Modern intrusions were observed in the surface of the natural sand deposits and comparison with the geological levels of adjacent areas suggested that the upper surface of geological deposits had been removed.

It was agreed after consultation with the client's agent and the Historic Environment Planning Advisor for Worcestershire County Council, that considering the limited probability of identifying archaeological deposits within Area F, a revised trenching methodology was appropriate.

A sufficient length of Trenches 62, 63, 65 and 67 was excavated to establish the truncation of the geological surface extended to the western boundary of Area F. Proposed Trenches 64 and 66 were not excavated.

A deposit of clean, apparently undisturbed natural sand [5402] was identified at the eastern end of Trench 54. The deposit was present at a depth of 0.25m below ground level and appears to represent the eastern extent of the made ground deposits.

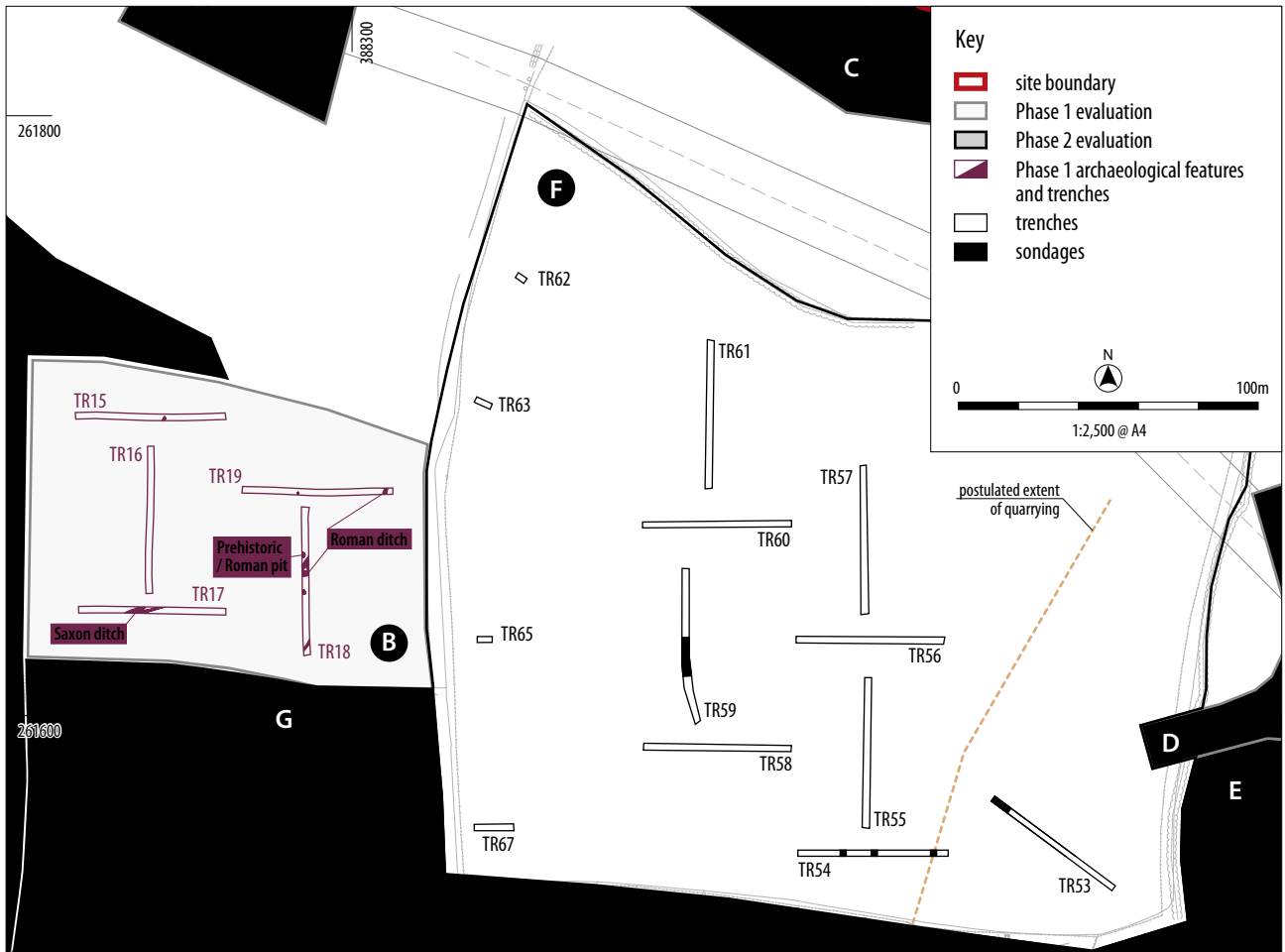
4.2.2 Blank trenches

Trench 53

Clean natural sand deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.5m below ground level within Trench 53. To confirm the geological nature of these deposits a sondage was excavated in the north-western end of the trench. Natural sand deposits continued to the full excavated depth of 1.25m below ground level. No evidence for disturbance was identified.

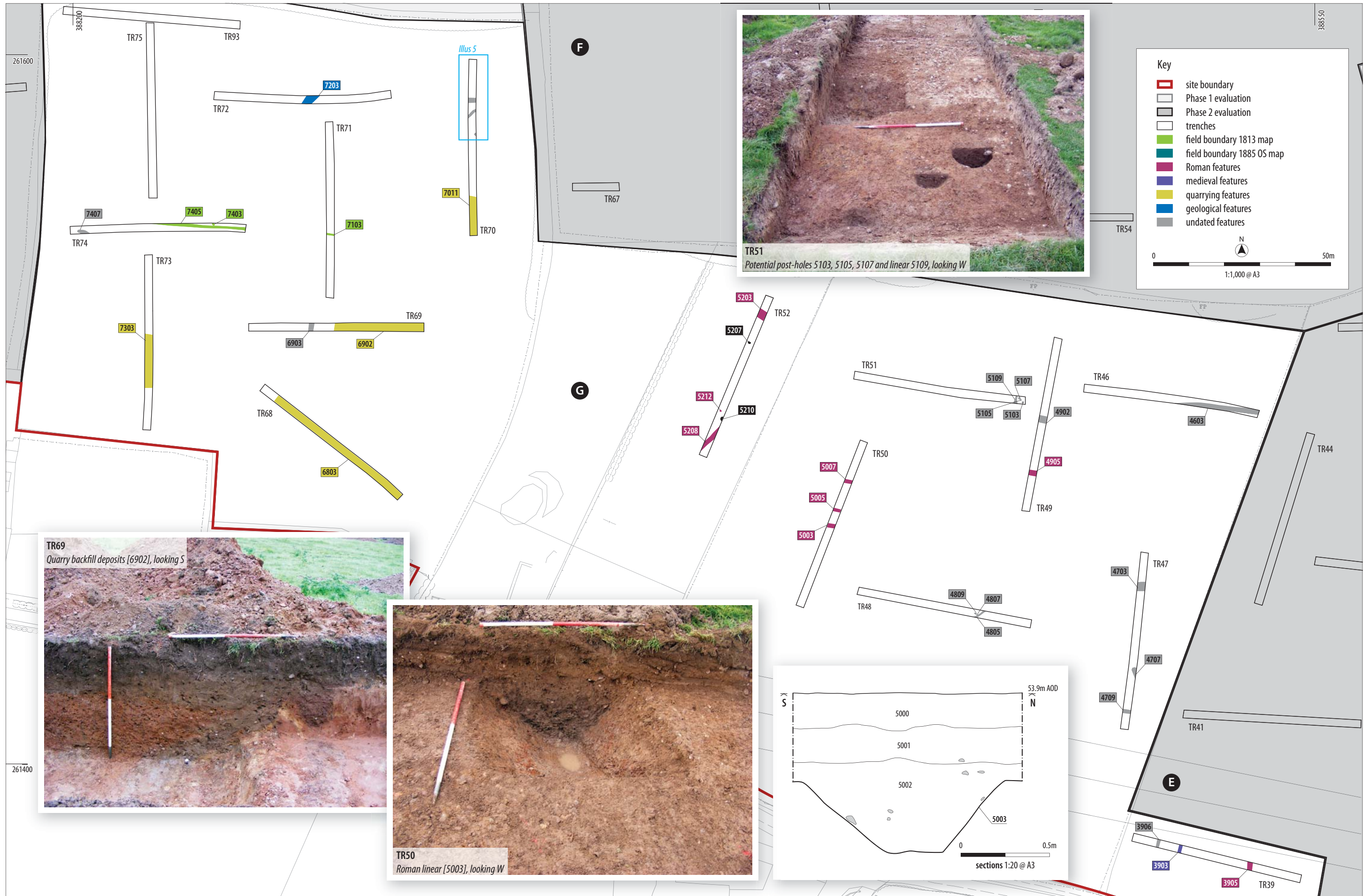
4.3 Area G

A total of 17 trenches were excavated in Area G (*Illus 4*), including one contingency trench (Trench 93). The area was set to pasture and the soil profile was consistent with the topsoil being a dark brown silty clay, varying between 0.36–0.55m in depth, sealing a subsoil of orange/brown silty sand with gravel inclusions (0.1–0.25m deep). The geological deposits varied considerably from red/pink sands and gravels to yellow/brown silty sand and orange/brown silty clay.



Illus 3

Area F – trench positions and key feature



Illus 4
Area G - Trench positions and key features

4.3.1 Evidence for Romano-British activity

Trench 39

An area of apparent tree root disturbance [3905] spanned the width of the trench and measured 1.35m in width and 0.16m in depth. The uneven depression, caused by root action, was filled with a deposit similar in composition to the overlying subsoil and contained a small amount of pottery dated to the mid 1st–4th centuries AD.

A north-south orientated linear feature [3903] contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery. A large assemblage of medieval pottery was also recovered from the feature, and it seems likely that the Romano-British pottery was residual.

Trench 49

A number of sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the base of an east-west orientated feature [4905] measuring 1.1m in width. The linear was visible as a topographical feature and believed to be the truncated remains of a ridge and furrow agricultural system.

Trench 50

Three linear features [5003], [5005], [5007] containing Romano-British pottery were identified on an approximate east-west alignment. The features were of similar dimensions with [5003] being 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep, [5005] being 0.9m wide and 0.34m deep, and [5007] being 1.15m wide and 0.3m deep. The linears were filled with a deposit of mid brown sandy silt and all contained pottery dated to the 1st–4th centuries AD. Linear [5005] was partially cut by a modern land drain running north-east to south-west across the eastern end of the feature.

Trench 52

Three Romano-British features were identified within Trench 52.

Linear feature [5208] was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment and extended beyond the limits of the trench. The 1.3m wide feature was filled with a waterlogged sandy silt deposit [5209] to a depth of 0.3m. A single sherd of pottery dated to the 2nd–4th centuries AD was found at the base of the feature.

To the north of linear [5208], a small discrete feature [5212] contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery. The feature, measuring 0.3m in diameter and 0.07m in depth, was irregular in plan with an uneven base, and is likely to represent a stone throw.

At the northern end of Trench 52 a broad ditch [5203] was identified on a north-west to south-east alignment. Three fills were present within the feature [5204, 5205, 5206] and appeared to represent a gradual in-filling of the ditch over a period of time. Pottery dated to the mid 1st–4th centuries AD was recovered from fills [5204] (upper) and [5206] (lower). A fragment of daub was also recovered from deposit [5204].

4.3.2 Medieval

Trench 39

A linear feature in Trench 39, [3903], produced medieval pottery dated to the late 11th–14th centuries AD. The feature was 1m wide

and 0.1m deep and filled with a mid grey brown clay silt [3904]. A small amount of Romano-British pottery recovered from the feature is believed to be residual. The shallow nature of the feature suggests that it has been heavily truncated by later agricultural activity occurring in this field. No continuation of the linear was observed to the north in Trench 41.

4.3.3 Post-medieval

Trench 71, 74

An irregular linear measuring 0.76m in width and 0.17m in depth was identified on an east-west alignment within Trenches 71 [7103] and 74 [7405]. No dating evidence was recovered but the feature correlates with a former field boundary present on the 1813 tithe map of the site.

4.3.4 Modern

Trenches 68, 69, 70, 73

Redeposited material was identified beneath the topsoil in Trenches 68, 69, 70 and 73. The deposits, which on initial inspection appeared to be geological, consisted of reddish brown sands and gravels. Apparently discrete features appeared to be cut into the top of these deposits, however, upon excavation the sands and gravels were found to partially overlie the *fills* of the features.

After initial hand excavation recovered modern pottery, sondages were excavated into the redeposited material in Trenches 69 and 73. Deposit [6902] was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. Modern white glazed pottery was recovered from this level and the deposit continued beyond this depth. Excavation of deposit [7303] continued to a depth of 0.9m. The deposit continued beyond this level.

4.3.5 Undated features

Trench 39

A north-south orientated gully [3906] (measuring 0.72m in width and 0.05m in depth) was observed in Trench 39. The fill [3907] comprised a light grey/brown silty clay and was very similar in composition to the topsoil.

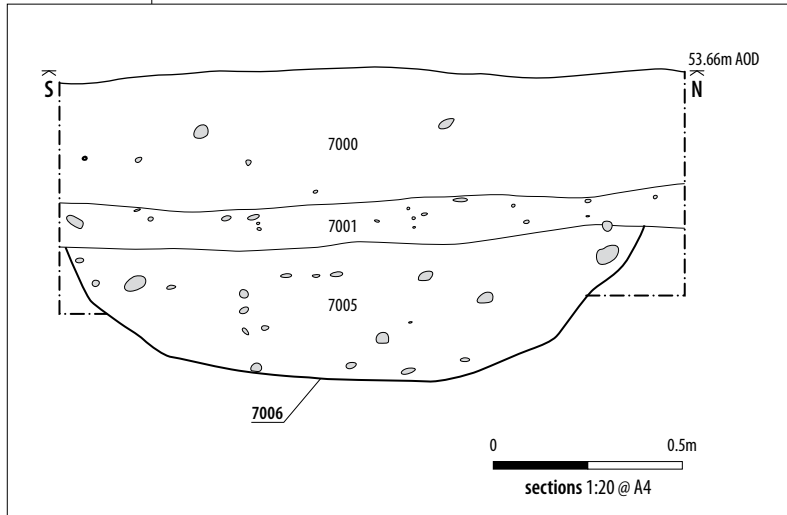
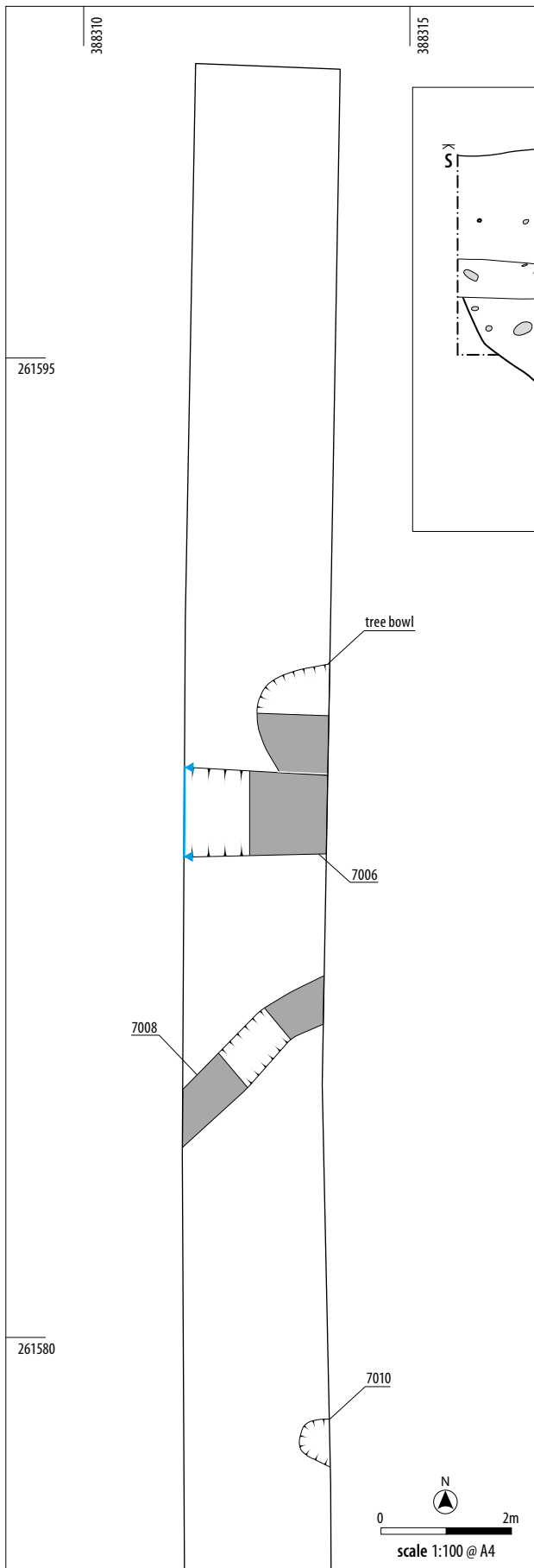
Trench 46

An irregular linear feature [4603] was observed within Trench 46. The fill comprised of a shallow (0.05m) gravel deposit. No dating evidence was recovered.

Trench 47

Visible as an east-west depression within the landscape, linear [4703], when excavated was found to contain a modern land-drain. The width of [4703] (1.3m) would suggest that the land drain was a later insertion into what was an open drainage ditch. On a parallel alignment to [4703] was a 1m wide linear [4709] cut into the natural deposits to a depth of 0.2m.

Feature [4707] is interpreted as a natural depression or plough scar filled with a sterile silt deposit [4706].



Trench 48

Two circular discrete features were identified within Trench 48. Both features were approximately 0.3m in diameter, with feature [4807] measuring 0.14m in depth and feature [4809] 0.1m deep. Feature [4807] was truncated by a 0.3m wide linear feature [4805] on a north-east to south-west alignment. No dating evidence was recovered.

Trench 49

Feature [4902] was an east-west orientated linear measuring 2m in width. Correlating with a depression in the topography of the site, the mid brown sandy silt fill of the feature measured 0.15m in depth. No dating evidence was recovered.

4.3.6 Trench 51

Three potential post hole features [5103], [5105], and [5107] (between 0.38–0.58 in diameter and 0.13–0.28 in depth) were located at the eastern end of the trench. All were filled with a mid grey/brown silt clay, none of which produced any archaeological material. Immediately to the west of the post holes, a potential linear feature [5109] was present on a north-south orientation. Excavation of the potential feature established that it was irregular in section and in plan. Filled with a sterile silty clay with gravel inclusions [5110], the deposit is likely to represent natural banding within the geological deposits.

4.3.7 Trench 52

Feature [5207] was an irregular discrete feature measuring 0.91m x 0.52m in plan. No finds were recovered from the clean sandy silt fill. The irregular form of the feature in plan and section suggested that the feature was formed through tree root disturbance.

Feature [5210] extended beyond the boundaries of the trench to the east. Measuring 0.91m x 0.58m in plan, the semi-circular feature was 0.19m in depth and was filled by a deposit of light grey sandy silt. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.

Illus 5

Plan of Trench 70

4.3.8 Trench 69

A north-south linear feature [6903] containing a light brown clayey silt fill [6904] was identified to the west of modern disturbance within Trench 69. No dating evidence was found within the fill, however a sherd of possible Romano-British pottery was found on the surface of the natural adjacent to the feature.

4.3.9 Trench 70

Two linear features and a pit were observed within Trench 70 (*Illus 5*). Linear [7006] is orientated east-west and is filled by deposit [7005], a very stony dark grey/brown silty sand. Tree root disturbance was identified on the northern edge of the feature. No dating evidence was recovered.

Linear [7008] is orientated north-east to south-west and measures 0.8m in width. The fill [7007] (0.12m in depth) comprised a dark grey/brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of well-fired daub interpreted as the remains of an oven (Appendix 2).

A small pit [7010] was observed to the south of [7008] and was filled by [7009] a pale yellow grey silty clay. No finds were recovered.

4.3.10 Trench 72

Banding within the geological deposits was identified within Trench 72. A slot was excavated into the deposit [7203] and confirmed that it was geological in origin.

4.3.11 Trench 74

The terminus of an east-west orientated feature was excavated within Trench 74. The feature [7407] measured 0.76m in width and 0.27m in depth. The presence of roots within the grey/brown silt fill suggests that the feature may be a root run related to adjacent trees.

4.3.12 Blank trenches

Trenches 75, 93

Trench 93 was excavated as a contingency trench to try and identify a continuation of linear features recorded in Area B during the Phase 1 evaluation works. Extensive tree root disturbance was identified in the western half of the trench. No evidence for human activity of archaeological significance was observed within Trenches 75 or 93.

4.4 Area H

19 trenches were excavated in Area H (*Illus 6*). In addition to the 17 trenches originally proposed, two further trenches were excavated in order to understand the extent of archaeological features. The topsoil in this area comprised a mid grey/brown silty clay, varying in depth between 0.25m and 0.33m, which overlay an orange/brown silty sand with gravel inclusions (0.14–0.25m deep), although this was not present in all of the trenches. The area had been intensively ploughed and the soil horizons were not as defined as other areas of the site. The geological deposits varied considerably from red/pink sands and gravels to yellow/brown silty sand and orange/brown clay silts.

4.4.1 Roman

Trench 83

A linear feature [8303] was identified on a north-west to south-east alignment. The feature was 0.6m wide and 0.12m deep and was filled by [8302] a dark grey/brown sandy silt. A line of potential stake holes was recorded adjacent to the southern edge of the feature. A small fragment of Nene Valley Ware pottery (2nd–4th centuries AD) was recovered from deposit [8302].

In order to clarify the extent of the feature, an extension to Trench 83 was excavated at a right angle to the original trench. Excavation revealed that feature [8303] turned 90° to the north-east and continued beyond the northern limits of the extended trench (*Illus 7*).

4.4.2 Field boundaries

Trench 84

A linear feature [8406] on a north-west to south-east alignment contained a mixed dark brown/orange brown silty sand [8404] overlying an orange/brown silty sand [8405] which was very similar to the natural. The feature correlates with the alignment and position of a former field boundary present on the 1813 tithe map.

Trench 86

A linear feature [8603] measuring 1.12m in width and 0.32m in depth was identified on an east-west orientation within Trench 86. The feature correlates with the alignment and position of a former field boundary present on the 1813 tithe map.

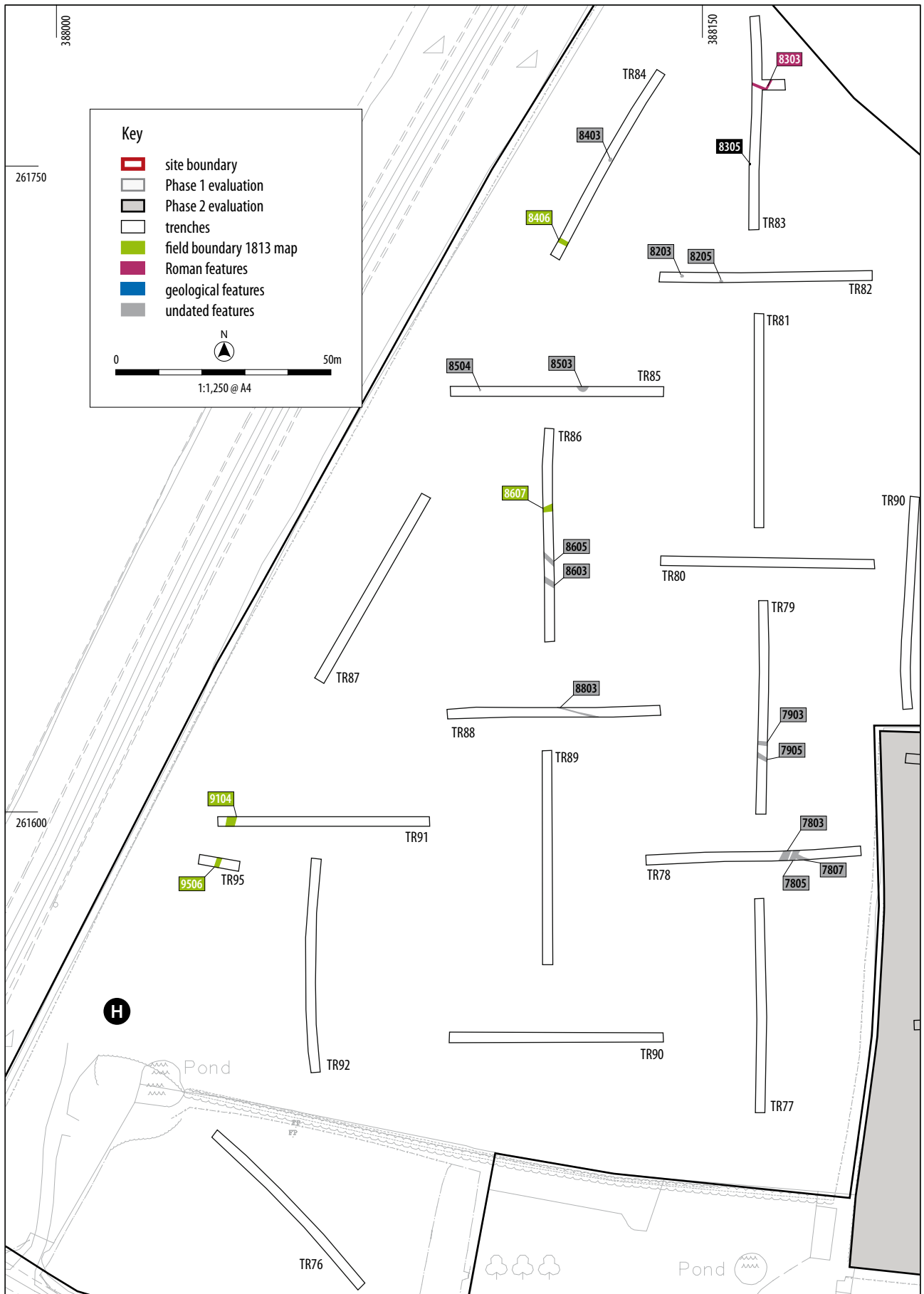
Trenches 91, 95

A linear feature [9104] on an approximately north-south orientation was identified at the western end of Trench 91. The feature measured 2m in width and was filled with a mid brown silty sand [9103]. Fragments of roof tile potentially dating to the Romano-British period were identified within the fill along with a decorated fragment of medieval encaustic floor tile. Due to ingress of ground water it was not possible to fully investigate the feature. A contingency trench was excavated to the south (Trench 95) to further investigate the feature. The continuation of the linear was identified [9506] (*Illus 7*) and a fragment of tile dated to the modern period was recovered. The linear represented by [9104] and [9506] appears to correspond with a former field boundary present on the 1813 tithe map.

4.4.3 Undated features

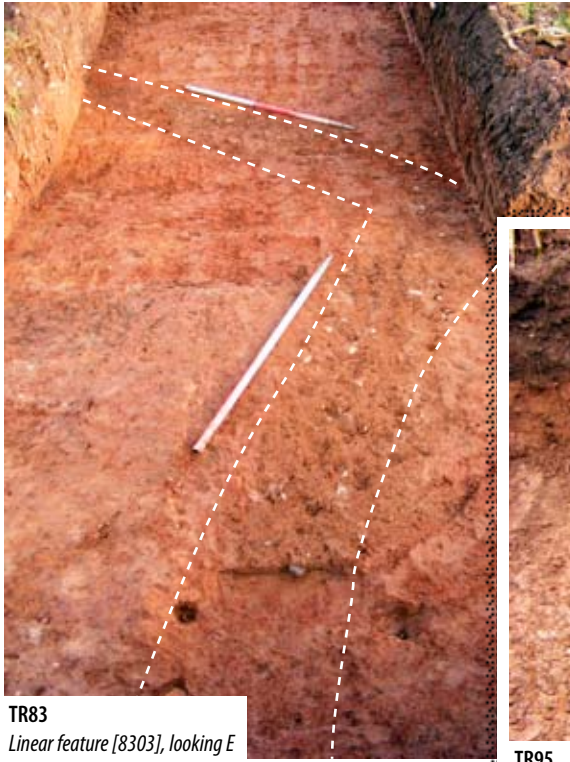
Trench 78

An arrangement of linears of unknown date was identified in Trench 78 (*Illus 7*). Orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment, linears [7803] and [7805] measuring 1.52m and 0.95m wide respectively, ran parallel to each other separated by a 1m gap. Abutting the eastern side of, and orientated at 90° to [7805], linear [7807] measured 0.63m in width. All three linears were filled by a sandy silt deposit with infrequent manganese inclusions. No evidence for cultural material was identified and the features appear to have silted up naturally.



Illus 6

Area H – trench positions and key features



TR83
Linear feature [8303], looking E



TR95
Field boundary [9506], looking N



TR78
*Linear features [7805] (foreground)
and [7803], looking NW*

Illus 7

Area H – photos of features in Trench 83, 95 & 78

Trench 79

A similar double-linear arrangement was identified in Trench 79. Linear [7905] was orientated at approximately 90° to [7803] and [7805]. Measuring 0.95m wide by 0.3m deep, the feature contained a clean sandy silt fill. Linear [7903] was orientated on an east-west alignment and measured 0.8m wide by 0.48m deep. Both linears had irregular edges and uneven bases suggestive of field boundaries.

Trench 82

A discrete circular feature [8203] measuring 0.25m in diameter and 0.3m in depth was identified at the western end of Trench 83. To the east, feature [8205] measured 0.35m in diameter and had a maximum depth of 0.11m. The fill [8204] was a dark grey silt with charcoal inclusions. The base of the feature was uneven and suggestive of root action.

Trench 83

A post hole [8305] identified at the western extent of Trench 83 contained the well preserved remains of a wooden stake. The feature is likely to be relatively modern in date.

Trench 84

An irregular deposit of mixed silty sand [8403/8404] investigated within Trench 84 is likely to represent a variation in the natural geological deposits.

Trench 85

A circular deposit of black sandy silt [8504] was identified. Measuring 0.2m in diameter and 0.01m in depth the feature had been heavily truncated and contained no dating evidence.

Feature [8503] was irregular in plan and section. Decaying organic matter was present within the white/grey sandy fill. The form of the feature and the composition of its fill is suggestive of root activity.

Trench 88

Linear feature [8803] was orientated on a northwest-southeast alignment. Measuring 0.3m in width and 0.1m in depth the feature was filled with a black organic silt suggestive of rotten vegetation. The feature is characteristic of a former field boundary.

4.4.4 Blank trenches

Trenches 76, 77, 80, 81, 87, 89, 90, 92, 94

Contingency Trench 94 was excavated in order to establish if archaeological features identified in Area B during the Phase 1 excavation continued into Area H. No archaeological features were identified.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Romano-British

Securely dated Romano-British features are confined to the eastern half of Area G, primarily within Trenches 50 and 52. Pottery dated to this period recovered from Trench 49 indicates Romano-British

activity in the vicinity, but the feature from which the pottery was recovered [4905] is more characteristic of a medieval ridge and furrow system. Likewise, although Romano-British pottery was present within feature [3903] the amount was small and the dominant finds assemblage in this feature was medieval in date. The earlier pottery within [3903] and the adjacent [3905] may therefore be residual.

Although no dating evidence was recovered from the features identified at the north end of Trench 70, their proximity to the activity identified in Trenches 50 and 52 may suggest a Romano-British date. If this is the case, then the Romano-British activity on the site may well be focused in the region between Trenches 52 and 70, which falls outside the proposed development area.

The nature of the Romano-British activity is not entirely clear. The density of finds within Trench 50, combined with the remains of a potential oven in Trench 70 suggests that the activity is more involved than simple field systems. The right-angled linear feature [8303] in the north of the site is potentially a structural beam-slot raising the possibility of occupation on this part of the site.

5.2 Medieval

Limited evidence for medieval activity was recorded. The assemblage of pottery recovered from feature [3903] suggests potential occupation adjacent to Copcut Lane dating to this period. The western half of Area G contained topographic undulations characteristic of ridge and furrow field systems, however, the only pottery recovered from the potential furrows [4905] was Romano-British in date. The linear nature of the undulations, when taken with the wet nature of the ground raises the possibility that the features relate to a field drainage system rather than ridge and furrow. It is probable that undated linear features within Trenches 46, 47 and 49 relate to the same system.

It is probable that the medieval encaustic tile found within feature [9104] has been introduced to the site at a later date. A range of material dating from the Romano-British through to the modern period was found within the feature. The feature cannot be considered to be contextually secure, and there is no reason to suspect the presence of a high status medieval building on the site.

5.3 Quarrying activity

The presence of a c.1m deep deposit of made ground within Area F resulted from the use of the site as a quarry during the construction of the M5 in the early 1960s (Michael Davies, pers. comm.). The former farmer of the land offered the information prior to the excavation of trenches in Area F and subsequent trenching confirmed that deposits exceeding 1m in depth had been stripped from the site. The area had been reinstated with a mixed deposit containing 20th century materials and overlain with topsoil to allow farming to continue.

Further instances of quarrying were recorded in the eastern part of Area G. It is not clear whether this activity is associated with the quarrying of Area F, however, the identification of discrete areas of quarrying as identified within Trench 73 suggest that the activity

was occurring on a smaller scale within this part of the site. On the OS maps of 1885, 1903 and 1927 a pit is marked to the north in Area H as being an *Old Clay Pit* so it is highly likely that this sort of activity would be occurring in suitable places over the development site (Figures 5, 6, and 7, CgMs 11448/10/01). Considering the nature of the geological deposits across the site it seems likely that it was sand and gravel being extracted from the quarry pits. Certainly in the case of Area F, sand and gravel extraction would be more in keeping with the needs of motorway construction than clay.

5.4 Undated features

The concentration of undated linear features within Trenches 78, 79, 86 and 88 are potentially related. With the exception of feature [7903], the linears are all on a similar north-west to south-east alignment or orientated at 90° to this. Although too closely spaced to relate to ridge and furrow agricultural systems they may relate to other forms of agricultural activity or potentially represent field boundaries which pre-date the cartographic evidence.

5.5 Trenches containing no evidence for archaeological activity

Area E was devoid of significant archaeological activity. The ridge of land occupied by Areas G and H has far reaching views to the north and may have made this a more desirable area for settlement.

In a number of trenches within Area E no subsoil deposits were identified, with topsoil directly overlying geological deposits. The stratigraphic sequence may be suggestive of truncation caused by intensive agricultural practices, which have removed the evidence for archaeological activity within this part of the site.

6 CONCLUSION

The evaluation has succeeded in establishing the location, date and significance of archaeological remains within the site. Archaeological activity is concentrated in the centre of the development area and has been dated to the Romano-British and medieval periods.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Site registers

Appendix 1.1 Trench and context register

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
01	E-W	50	2	0.48
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
100	Topsoil – mid brown sandy clay. Slightly stony with sub-rounded medium sized stones.			0.25
101	Subsoil – light brown sandy clay with many rounded small/medium stones. Rare orange brick-like flecks within.			0.16
102	Natural – mid brown pink sandy clay with many small/large rounded stones and gravel patches.			–
No archaeological features present.				
Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
02	NE-SW	50	2	0.3
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.			0.3
201	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.			0.05
202	Natural – same as Trench 01.			–
No archaeological features present.				
Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
03	E-W	50	2	0.35
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.			0.3
301	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.			0.05
302	Natural – same as Trench 01.			–
No archaeological features present.				
Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
04	E-W	50	2	0.3
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.			0.3
401	Natural – same as Trench 01.			–
No archaeological features present.				
Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
05	N-S	50	2	0.34
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01			0.26
501	Subsoil – same as Trench 01			0.05
502	Natural – same as Trench 01			–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
06	E-W	50	2	0.52

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.32
601	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.21
602	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
07	N-S	50	2	0.48

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
700	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.3
701	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
08	N-S	50	2	0.32

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.28
801	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.05
802	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
803	Plough furrow – the fill is similar to topsoil. The long nature of the feature and uneven nature of cut suggests plough furrow. Dimensions 1.2x0.9x0.23m.	–

No archaeological features present. A modern plough furrow was identified at the centre of the trench probably related to modern cultivation of the land.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
09	NE-SW	65	2	0.48

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.29
901	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.26
902	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
10	E-W	50	2	0.34

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.26
1001	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
11	N-S	50	2	0.32

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.26
1101	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
12	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
1201	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
1202	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
13	N-S	50	2	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
1301	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
1302	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
14	E-W	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.3
1401	Natural – light orange brown clay silt with abundant small/medium sub-rounded stones within. Represents a silting up interface between geology below and topsoil.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
15	N-S	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.3
1501	Subsoil – similar to (1502) but with orange flecks and charcoal within.	0.1
1502	Natural – same as Trench 01.4. A much cleaner deposit.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
16	E-W	50	2	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1601	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1602	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
17	N-S	50	5	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1700	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1701	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1702	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
18	E-W	50	2	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1801	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1802	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
19	E-W	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1901	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
1902	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
20	N-S	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2001	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2001	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
21	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2101	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.2
2102	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
22	N-S	50	2	0.32

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2201	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2202	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
23	N-S	50	2	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
2301	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
2302	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
24	E-W	50	2	0.33

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2401	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2402	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
25	N-S	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2501	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2502	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
2503	Fill of cut [2504] post-med pit. The loose nature of the fill and modern brick within suggests post med/modern deposit.	–
2504	Cut of pit-filled by (2503).	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
26	N-S	50	2	0.33

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2601	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2602	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
27	–	–	–	–

This trench number was not assigned to an excavated trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
28	E-W	50	2	0.26

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
2801	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
2802	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
29	N-S	50	2	0.43

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.12
2901	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
2902	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
30	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
3001	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
3002	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
31	N-S	50	2	0.33

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.12
3101	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.17
3102	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
32	N-S	50	2	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.3
3201	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
3202	Cut for NW-SE linear. 4m wide, 0.33m deep.	–
3203	Fill of [3202] mid grey clayey sand with infrequent rounded stone. No dating material obtained from within.	0.33

Other information: [3202] represents a linear which runs in a NW-SE direction. No dating evidence was retrieved from within.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
33	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.1
3301	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
3302	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
34	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
3401	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
3402	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
35	N-S	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
3501	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
3502	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
36	N-S	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.1
3601	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.15
3602	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
37	E-W	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3700	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.1
3701	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.15
3702	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
38	E-W	50	2	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.28
3801	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
39	E-W	50	2	0.45

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.25
3901	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.17
3902	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
3903	Cut of linear which runs in a N-S direction – filled by (3904) 2x1x0.1m.	–
3904	Mid grey brown clay silt fill of linear [3903] with abundant pottery sherds within.	c.0.15
3905	Light yellow brown silt sand deposit – uneven base and possible modern pottery inclusions suggest a tree bowl or a hollow filled in by subsoil/topsoil.	0.16
3906	Cut of linear feature – runs in an N-S direction-filled by (3907). The shallow and uneven nature of the cut suggests that it may represent a hedgerow.	–
3907	Light grey brown clay silt fill of linear [3906]. No finds within.	0.05

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
40	N-S	50	2	0.44

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.18
4001	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.20
4002	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
41	E-W	50	2	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.26
4101	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.13
4102	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
42	E-W	50	2	0.28

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.15
4201	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.1
4202	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
43	N-S	50	2	0.7

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.15
4301	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.2
4302	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
4303	Mid orange brown silt sand fill of linear feature. Clay pipe stem within.	0.26
4304	Cut of linear feature – filled by (4303).	–

(4303) fill of [4304] was very similar to natural. The vague nature of the feature and the unclear edges suggests disturbance in the form of a possible plough furrow or hedgerow.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
44	N-S	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.15
4401	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.15
4402	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
45	E-W	50	2	0.32

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.1
4501	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c.0.15
4502	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
46	E-W	50	2	0.46

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.18
4601	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	c. 0.17
4602	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
4603	Base of east-west furrow.	0.05

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
47	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4700	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.25
4701	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.25
4702	Fill of [4703] – unknown feature.	0.08
4703	Cut of linear boundary which runs in an E-W direction, filled by (4702).	–
4704	Fill of [4705] a pipe drain.	0.2
4705	Cut for pipe drain (4704).	–
4706	Fill of [4707].	0.2
4707	Cut-filled by (4706).	–
4708	Fill of [4709] – possible ridge and furrow.	0.2.
4709	Cut of possible ridge and furrow – filled by (4708).	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
48	E-W	50	2	–

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.3
4801	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
4802	Fill of rectangular feature [4803].	0.32
4803	Cut of rectangular feature filled (4802).	–
4804	Fill of linear [4805] – possible beam slot.	0.14
4805	Cut for linear-filled by (4804) – beam slot.	–
4806	Fill for posthole [4807].	0.14
4807	Cut for posthole – filled by (4806).	–
4808	Fill for posthole [4809] – charcoal within.	0.1
4809	Cut for posthole (4809).	–

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
49	N-S	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.18
4901	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.32
4902	Cut of linear – possible furrow – filled by [4903]. E-W orientation.	0.15
4903	Mid brown grey sandy silt fill of linear – (4902).	0.15
4904	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
4905	Cut of possible shallow remnant of a plough furrow. Filled by (4906). E-W orientation.	0.08
4906	Fill of possible plough furrow [4905]. Occasional pottery within.	0.08

Two possible plough furrows [4902, 4905] within the trench. A modern land drain is located at the southern end of the trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
50	N-S	50	2	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
5001	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
5002	Mid brown sandy silt fill of ditch [5003] containing possible Romano-British pottery(w.1.2m).	0.5
5003	Cut of V-shaped ditch aligned NE-SW-filled by (5002).	0.5
5004	Mid brown sandy silt fill of possible Romano-British linear feature – gully? [5005]. Pottery within.	0.34
5005	Cut of linear feature – round base. Possible gully? Filled by (5004). Southern edge of feature cut by a modern land drain. E-W orientation.	0.34
5006	Fill of ditch/boundary [5007] – possible Romano-British pottery within.	0.3
5007	Cut of ditch/field boundary (5006) – possible Romano-British pottery within. E-W orientation.	0.3

Three potential Romano-British linear features [5003, 5005, 5007] within this trench running on an E-W direction. Abundant pottery found within all features.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
51	E-W	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.18
5101	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.24
5102	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
5103	Cut of circular pit like feature-filled by (5104). Round bottomed with steep sides. Dim: 0.58x0.43x0.28m.	0.28
5104	Fill-mid grey brown clay silt-of circular pit feature [5103].No datable material found within.	0.28
5105	Cut of circular pit like feature-same as [5103] Dim: 32x0.32x0.14m	0.14
5106	Fill-light brown grey clay silt-of circular pit like feature [5105]. No datable material found within.	–
5107	Cut of circular pit like feature-same as [5103]-filled by (5108) Dim: 0.4x0.32x0.13m.	–
5108	Fill of [5107]-same as (5106)-circular pit like feature. No datable material found within.	0.13
5109	Cut filled by (5110)-irregular linear feature revealed to be natural geological banding within (5102)	–
5110	Fill of [5109] mid grey brown clay silt natural banding within (5102)	0.46
5111	Tree bowl-irregular sides with an uneven pocketed base. Dim: 1.7x0.7x0.19m	0.19

Three circular pits like features [5103, 5105, 5107] were observed at the eastern end of the trench. No datable material or charcoal was found within.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
52	E-W	50	2	0.38

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
5201	Subsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.19
5202	Natural – same as Trench 01.	–
5203	Cut of ditch which runs in an E-W direction. Uneven base with gently sloping sides. This may represent a field boundary or drainage ditch. Pottery found within. 2.55m wide.	0.52/0.54
5204	Fill of ditch [5203] Light grey brown clay silt. Very slightly stony with small/large sub rounded stones. Romano-British pottery recovered. Upper fill.	–
5205	Redeposited natural within [5203] – light pink brown silt sand. Natural redeposited during the initial digging of this ditch feature. Middle fill.	0.12
5206	Light grey brown sandy silt, silting up material located at the base of [5203] – lower fill.	0.06
5207	Irregular sides and uneven pocketed base suggests a tree bowl. Dim: 0.91x0.52x0.2. Filled by a clean sandy silt. No finds.	–
5208	Cut of possible linear round bottomed boundary ditch. Runs NE-SW. A single sherd of pottery was recovered from within the fill (5209).	0.3
5209	Fill of boundary ditch? [5208]. Light grey brown sandy silt fill. Pottery found within.	0.3
5210	Cut of semi circular shaped hollow. Gradually sloping sides, with flat base. Feature extends east beyond limit of excavation. It may represent a natural hollow or stone throw.	0.19
5211	Fill-light grey brown sandy silt of natural hollow [5210]. No inclusions.	0.19
5212	Cut of shallow pit or stone throw. Circular in shape with uneven sides. Dim: 0.31 x 0.32 x 0.07.	0.07
5213	Fill-light grey brown sandy silt of stone throw or possible shallow remnants of a pit [5212]. Pottery sherd within.	–

[5203] – a ditch that runs E-W contains datable pottery within. [5208] – a possible boundary ditch contains datable pottery. [5212] contained a single sherd of pottery also.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
53	NW-SE	50	2.1	1.25

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.2
5301	Orange sandy clay with frequent stone inclusions	0.3
5302	Natural – clean orange sand	0.75

A machine dug sondage was dug in the NW end of the trench to confirm natural rather than made up ground.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
54	E-W	50	2.1	1.2

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5400	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.25
5401	Redeposited/made up ground. Bands of sand and gravel over grey/brick silt clay.	0.55
5402	Natural – as trench 53.	0.4

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. Three sondages were machine excavated in to the base of the trench to characterise the made up ground. Undisturbed natural deposits identified at eastern end of trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
55	N-S	50	2.1	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5500	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.35
5501	Made ground.	0.2+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
56	E-W	50	2.1	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5600	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.35
5601	Made ground.	0.25+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
57	N-S	50	2.1	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5700	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.35
5701	Made ground.	0.15+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
58	E-W	50	2.1	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5800	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.25
5801	Made ground – same as (5901) with steel cable within deposit.	0.75
5802	Natural – truncated surface of natural – red sand.	–

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
59	N-S	50	2.1	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.5
5901	Made ground – dark-drown sandy clay with bands and particles of redeposited natural. Modern brick within.	1+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
60	E-W	50	2.1	0.35

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
6000	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.35
6001	Made ground.	0.15+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
61	N-S	50	2.1	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
6100	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.3
6101	Made ground.	0.1+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
62	NW-SE	5	2.1	1.1

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
6200	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.5
6201	Redeposited material – made ground – a mix of natural sand with seams of dark grey sandy clays.	0.5
6202	Natural – clean orange sand.	0.1+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
63	E-W	5	2.1	1

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
6300	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.4
6301	Made ground – bands of dirty redeposited natural.	0.6

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
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64 – – – –

Trench not excavated. Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
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65 E-W 5 2.1 0.8

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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6500 Topsoil – same as Trench 01. 0.2

6501 Made ground. 0.6+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
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66 – – – –

Trench not excavated. Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
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67 E-W 12 2.1 0.6

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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6700 Topsoil – mid dark brown sandy clay. 0.2

6701 Redeposited made ground. 0.5

6702 Natural red sand. 0.1+

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying associated with M5 development. No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
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68 E-W 12 2.1 0.6

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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6800 Topsoil – same as Trench 01. 0.25

6801 Subsoil – light grey brown clay silt. No inclusions. 0.26

6802 Natural – mid pink brown sandy silt with stony bands within.

6803 Area of disturbance – irregular shaped cut with deposit continuing beneath what seems to be natural but is apparently redeposited. Evidence for quarrying. 0.65+

Evidence for localised quarrying.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
69	E-W	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
6900	Topsoil – same as Trench 01.	0.27
6901	Natural – same over area.	–
6902	Group number for quarrying event with deposits (6905), (6906) + (6907).	0.93+
6903	Cut of linear running N-S. Possible hedgerow. Filled by (6904). Gently sloping sides and a rounded base. Dim:1.2m wide.	0.2
6904	Fill of possible hedgerow [6903]. Loose light yellow brown clay silt, diffuse edges. Rare pot inclusions.	0.2
6905	Light brown grey silt sand deposit. Frequent pot fragments and occasional coal, slag and carbon inclusions. Modern in date. Dim:0.54(W)x0.27(D).	–
6906	Mid purple-brown silt clay deposit. Occasional pot inclusions. Post-medieval in date. Dim:1.12x0.38x0.43.	–
6907	Mid pink-brown sandy gravel deposit. Redeposition of natural?	–

Truncated natural horizon due to quarrying activity. Sherd of potential Roman pottery unstratified within trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
70	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7000	Topsoil – same over area.	0.22
7001	Subsoil – same over area.	0.16
7002	Natural – same over area.	–
7003	Fill of circular feature [7004], likely to be a tree bowl. Dark grey-brown silt sand.	0.19
7004	Cut of circular feature, likely to be a tree bowl. Even gently sloping sides with a rounded base. Dim:1.10x+0.6x0.19. Filled by (7003)	0.19
7005	Fill – dark grey-brown silt sand of possible Roman linear [7006]. No dateable material found within.	0.17
7006	Cut of linear running E-W. Possible Roman date. Gentle sides, flat base. Dim:2x1.30x0.17. Filled by (7005).	0.17
7007	Fill – dark grey-brown silt sand with large amount of fired clay (possible lining). Possible Roman date. Fill of [7008].	0.12
7008	Cut of linear running NE-SW. Possibly Roman in date. Very uneven edges and base. Dim: 2.90x0.80x0.12. Filled by (7007).	0.12
7009	Fill of pit [7010]. Pale yellow-grey silt clay. No dateable material found. Possibly natural.	0.14
7010	Cut of circular pit. Shallow with gentle sides and a rounded base. Dim:0.70x0.45x0.14. May be natural. Filled by (7009).	0.14
7011	Area of disturbance and redeposited natural – same as 6902, 6803, 7303.	–

Two linear features with a possible Roman date were found at the northern end of the trench. A pit (possibly a natural feature) was observed to the south of these features. The only finds recovered from this trench was fired clay from [7007].

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
71	N-S	50	2	0.6

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7100	Topsoil – dark brown silt loam.	0.36
7101	Subsoil – orange- brown/grey-brown silt loam, compact.	0.1
7102	Natural.	–
7103	Continuation of field boundary [7405].	–

Former field boundary [7405] continues into this trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
72	E-W	50	2	0.55
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
7200	Topsoil – same over area.			0.28
7201	Subsoil – same over area.			0.25
7202	Natural – same over area.			–
7203	Geological feature; grey silt sand depression in the orange-red sand clay.			0.5

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
73	N-S	50	2	0.5
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
7300	Topsoil – dark brown sand clay.			0.4
7301	Subsoil – mid brown sand and gravel with red hue.			0.1
7302	Natural – red-orange sands and gravels.			–
7303	Area of disturbance. Mixed deposits of sand/gravel, topsoil and sand clay. No dateable material.			+1

Backfilled quarry identified in centre of trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
74	E-W	50	2	0.5
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
7400	Topsoil – same over area.			0.3
7401	Subsoil – same over area.			0.1
7402	Fill – dark brown black sandy silt with charcoal. No dateable material recovered. Fill of [7403].			0.26
7403	Cut – irregular circle with an uneven base. Dim:0.5x0.26. Filled by (7402).			0.26
7404	Fill – grey brown silt sand with charcoal flecks. Fill of [7405]. Field boundary.			0.17
7405	Cut of possible field boundary running NE-SW. Irregular. Filled by (7404). Dim:1x0.76x0.17.			0.17
7406	Fill – mid grey-brown silt with charcoal inclusions. Fill of [7407]. Root action throughout.			0.27
7407	Cut of linear feature running SE-NW. Possible field boundary or gully. Filled by (7406). Dim:1x0.76x0.27.			–

Two field boundaries and one possible area of burning. No dateable evidence recovered.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
75	N-S	50	2	0.55
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
7500	Topsoil – same over area			0.30
7501	Subsoil – same over area			0.20
7502	Natural – same over site			
7503	Fill – land drain. Fill of [7504]			+0.55
7504	Cut – land drain. Filled by (7503)			+0.55

A couple of land drains run E-W across the length of this trench.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
76	SE-NW	50	2	0.56

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7600	Topsoil – same over area.	0.25
7601	Subsoil – same over area.	0.2
7602	Natural – same over area.	–
7603	Tree bowl – burnt out tree bowl.	0.36

No archaeology present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
77	N-S	50	2	0.42

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7700	Topsoil – same over area.	0.32
7701	Natural – same over area.	–

No archaeology present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
78	E-W	50	2	0.47

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7800	Topsoil – same over area.	0.27
7801	Subsoil – same over area.	0.2
7802	Natural – same over area.	–
7803	Cut of linear/natural geology banding. Filled by (7804) 1.52m wide. NE-SW alignment.	0.38
7804	Fill of [7803]. Mid brown silty clay. Occasional manganese flecks.	0.38
7805	Cut of linear, filled by (7806) 0.95m wide. NE-SW alignment.	0.30
7806	Fill of linear [7805]. Light brown sandy silt. Occasional manganese flecks.	0.30
7807	Cut of gully, filled by (7808), 0.63m wide. NW-SE alignment.	0.11
7808	Fill of gully [7807]. Light brown stone and gravel fill.	0.11

Two linear features – [7803] + [7805] – run parallel in an N-S direction possibly representing a field boundary with associated ditch each side. [7807] represents a shallow gully running into [7805]. No dateable evidence recovered from any of the features.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
79	N/W-S/E	50	2	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
7900	Topsoil – same as Trench 81 + Trench 82.	0.3
7901	Subsoil – ABSENT.	–
7902	Fill of field boundary [7903]. Mid grey-brown silt loam with occasional carbon inclusions.	0.48
7903	Cut for field boundary running E-W, filled by (7902). Irregular sides and base. Dim:0.95(exc)x0.80x0.48.	0.48
7904	Fill of linear [7905]. Mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional carbon flecks. Possibly a gully or plough scar. Same alignment as [7903].	0.2
7905	Cut for linear running S/E-N/W, filled by (7904). Irregular sides and base. Possibly a gully or plough scar. Same alignment as [7903].	0.2

One field boundary [7903] and one gully [7905] (possibly associated with each other). No dateable material recovered from either feature.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
80	N/E-S/W	50	2	0.65

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8000	Topsoil – same as in Trench 81 and Trench 82.	0.3
8001	Subsoil – same as in Trench 81 and Trench 82.	0.2
8002	Variation in the natural – light greeny grey patches of sandy clay with occasional carbon inclusions (probably brought down from the subsoil).	+0.3

No archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
81	NW-SE	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8100	Topsoil – dark grey silt loam	0.35
8101	Subsoil – orange-brown silt, compact.	0.1
8102	Natural – varies between clay sand, sand clay and silt clay with occasional patches of gravel.	+0.45

Modern land drain at N/W end of trench, no other archaeological features present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. Depth (m)
82	NE-SW	50	2	0.4

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8200	Topsoil – same over area.	0.27
8201	Subsoil – same over area.	0.17
8202	Fill of post hole [8203]. Mid grey-brown silt sand. No dateable material recovered.	0.3
8203	Cut of post hole, filled by (8202). Circular with vertical sides and a flat base. Dim:0.25x0.3m.	0.3
8204	Fill of irregular feature [8205]. Dark grey-black silt. Possibly the remains of burnt out stake or posts. Contains charcoal.	0.11
8205	Cut of irregular feature, filled by (8204). Circular with uneven sides and base. Possibly the remains of burnt out stake or posts. Dim:0.35x0.11m.	0.11
8206	Natural – same over area.	–

A number of potential post holes and stake holes were observed in this trench, some showing signs of burning. No dateable evidence was recovered from them.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
83	N-S	50	2	0.55

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8300	Topsoil – same over area.	0.27
8301	Subsoil – same over area.	0.18
8302	Fill of linear (possible beam slot) [8303] and 4 stake holes. Dark grey-brown sand silt. 1 piece of pottery recovered from fill.	0.12
8303	Cut for linear (possible beam slot) and stake holes running NW-SE, filled by (8302). 3 stake holes on N edge and one on S. Irregular sides and flat even base. Post [8305] probably associated with the feature. Dim:0.80x0.60x0.12	0.12
8304	Fill for post hole [8305]. Mostly filled with a rotten post. Modern.	0.45
8305	Cut for pot hole, filled by (8304). V-shaped base with steep sides. Continues under section. Dim:0.30x0.35x0.45m.	0.45
8306	Natural.	–

Trench contains evidence for a beam slot and associated stake/post holes (date as yet undetermined). An extension was added to the east of the trench to further investigate the feature and it was seen to return to the north-east.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
84	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8400	Topsoil – same as area.	0.25
8401	Natural – same over site.	–
8402	Fill of pit [8403]. Pale white–grey silt sand with natural mottling. No dateable material recovered.	0.11
8403	Cut of pit, filled by (8402). Circular with gently sloping sides and a rounded base. Possibly a variation in the natural. Dim:0.68x0.55x0.11m.	0.11
8404	Upper fill of linear (probable field boundary) [8406]. Dark grey–brown silt sand with patches of orange–brown natural. Small pieces of carbon/dark organic material present throughout. Edge with (8405) diffuse. No dateable material recovered.	0.34
8405	Lower fill of linear (probable field boundary) [8406]. Orange–brown silt sand. Redeposit of natural. Very loose and disturbed by root action, edges diffuse.	0.38
8406	Cut of linear field boundary running E–W. Filled by (8404) and (8405). Dim:2x1.20x0.38m.	0.38

A possible pit towards the middle of the trench and one field boundary running E–W at the south end. No dating evidence recovered.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
85	E–W	50	2	0.48

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8500	Topsoil – mid grey brown loamy silt.	–
8501	Subsoil – light grey brown clay silt.	–
8502	Natural – mid brown pink clay silt.	–
8503	Tree bowl. Irregular feature with uneven base. Mixed white–grey fill. Black material within likely to be organic material rather than charcoal. Dim:2.08x0.85x0.32m.	–
8504	Cut of post hole, filled by (8405). Circular, very shallow (probably truncated by the ploughing of this field). Dim:0.2x0.2x0.01m.	0.01
8505	Fill of [8504]. Dark brown–black sand silt. Many small carbon inclusions. No dateable evidence recovered.	0.01

One possible post hole to west of trench. No dating evidence recovered.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
86	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8600	Topsoil – same over area.	0.33
8601	Subsoil – same over area.	0.17
8602	Natural – same over area.	–
8603	Cut of linear boundary/hedgerow, filled by (8604). Dim:2x1.12x0.32m.	0.32
8604	Fill of linear boundary/hedgerow [8603]. Mid grey–brown silt sand with frequent manganese inclusions.	0.32
8605	Cut – similar form to [8603], filled by (8606). Dim:2x0.52x0.15	0.15
8606	Fill of cut [8605]. Same as (8604).	0.15
8607	Cut of furrow/hedgerow, filled by (8608). Dim:2x1.4x0.36m.	0.36
8608	Fill of furrow/hedgerow [8607]. Mid grey–brown sand silt with occasional manganese flecks.	0.36
8609	Charcoal deposit within (8608). On top of fill, uneven base. Likely to be brought down from ploughing.	–

[8603] is a possible field boundary but the similarity with [8605] may suggest these are variations in the natural. No dating evidence was recovered from within. [8607] matches the line of a field boundary present on a map dated 1813.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
87	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8700	Topsoil – same over area.	0.25
8701	Subsoil – same over area.	0.2
8702	Natural – yellow grey silt sand.	–

One tree bowl and one possible plough scar identified. No archaeology present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
88	E-W	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8800	Topsoil – same over area.	0.29
8801	Subsoil – same over area.	0.2
8802	Natural – same over area.	-
8803	Plough scar or former field boundary (0.25m wide) filled with dark brown sandy clay.	0.05

Linear and natural variation noted. No archaeology present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
89	N-S	50	2	

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
8900	Topsoil – same over site.	0.25
8901	Subsoil – same over site.	0.14
8902	Natural – same over site.	–

No archaeology present.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
90	E-W	50	2	0.3

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
9000	Topsoil – same over area.	0.25
9001	Natural – same over area.	–
9002	Fill of post-medieval ditch/plough furrow [9003]. Mixed subsoil + natural fill.	0.1
9003	Cut of post-medieval ditch/plough furrow, filled by (9002).	0.1

No archaeology. One irregular feature at east end of trench representing modern agricultural activity.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
91	NE-SW	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
9100	Topsoil – same across area.	0.3
9101	Subsoil – same across area.	0.25
9102	Natural – same across area.	–
9103	Fill of linear feature [9104]. Mid grey-brown silt sand with occasional tile (one piece decorated) and charcoal inclusions. Uncertain date.	+0.3
9104	Cut of linear feature running N-S, filled by (9103). Not fully excavated due to flooding. Continues in Trench 95 as [9506].	+0.3

Ditch at SW of trench excavated to a depth of 0.30 but flooding prevented further excavation. Continues in Trench 95.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
92	SE-NW	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
9200	Topsoil – same over area.	0.3
9201	Subsoil – same over area.	0.25
9202	Natural – same over area.	–

NW of trench has a possible plough furrow/natural variation. No archaeological features.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
93	E-W	50	2	0.6

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
9300	Topsoil – same over area.	0.4
9301	Subsoil – same over area.	0.2
9302	Natural – same over area – sondage excavated to confirm natural.	0.5+
9303	Area of tree root disturbance.	0.1m+

Contingency trench excavated to see if features observed in Area B continued. No archaeological features identified, but area heavily disturbed by tree roots.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
94	N-S	50	2	0.5

Context	Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
9400	Topsoil – same across site.	0.3
9401	Subsoil – same across site.	0.27
9402	Natural.	–

Contingency trench excavated to see if features observed in Area B continued. No archaeological features identified.

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
95	E-W	50	2	0.70
Context	Description			Thickness of deposit (m)
9500	Topsoil – same over site.			0.30
9501	Subsoil – same over site.			0.14
9502	Natural.			
9503	Upper fill of linear [9506]. *Possibly doesn't exist, may be one disturbed fill with (9504)*. Dark grey-brown sand silt with occasional CBM and coal inclusions. Sits within the top of (9504).			0.30
9504	Middle fill of linear [9506]. Mid orange/red-brown sand silt, loose, very similar to subsoil. Mixed with patches similar to (9505) occurring throughout.			0.40
9505	Lower fill of linear [9506]. Mid grey-brown silt sand, uniform + compact, with tile and carbon inclusions.			0.38
9506	Cut of linear running N-S, filled by (9503), (9504) + (9505). Continuation of feature [9104]. W edge vertical at bottom, E edge gently sloping. Possibly cuts the subsoil in the upper part. Dim:2.5x2x0.78m.			0.78

Ditch at west end of trench, a continuation of [9104] in Trench 91. Datable material was recovered from it.

Appendix 1.2 Photo register

CAMERA 1 840

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
1	36	1	XX	ID Shot
2	35	2	S	TR39 – slot. N-facing section [3903]
3	34	3	E	TR39 – slot. N facing section [3903]
4	33	4	W	TR39 - plan
5	32	5	S	TR39 – deposit (3905)
6	31	6	S	TR39 – [3903] N facing section
7	20	7	E	TR39 – slot [3903]
8	29	8	E	TR39 – (3905)
9	28	9	W	TR38 – plan
10	27	10	N	TR38 – S facing section
11	26	11	W	TR39 – slot [3906]
12	25	12	W	TR41 – plan
13	24	13	S	TR41 – section facing N
14	23	14	S	TR40 – plan
15	22	15	W	TR40 – section facing E
16	21	16	N	TR43 – plan
17	20	17	W	TR43 – plan of feature [4304]
18	19	18	N	TR43 – section facing E
19	18	19	W	TR45 – plan
20	17	20	N	TR45 – section facing S
21	16	21	N	TR44 – plan
22	15	22	E	TR44 – section facing W
23	14	23	W	TR42 – plan
24	13	24	N	TR42 – section facing S
25	12	25	N	TR31 – plan
26	11	26	W	TR31 – section facing E
27	10	27	S	TR29 – plan
28	9	28	E	TR29 – section facing W
29	8	29	E	TR28 – plan
30	7	30	S	TR28 – section facing N
31	6	31	W	TR31 – plan
32	5	32	N	TR31 – section facing S
33	4	33	W	TR33 – plan
34	3	34	N	TR33 – section facing S
35	2	35	N	TR36 – plan
36	1	36	W	TR36 – section facing E

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
37	1	–	W	TR36 – section facing E
38	2	37	N	TR37 – plan
39	3	38	N	TR37 – section facing S
40	4	–	–	ID Shot – film 842
41	5	39	N	TR35 – plan
42	6	40	W	TR35 – section facing E
43	7	41	W	TR34 – plan
44	8	42	N	TR34 – section facing S
45	9	43	W	TR24 – plan
46	10	44	N	TR24 – section facing N
47	11	45	N	TR25 – plan
48	12	46	W	TR25 – section facing E
49	13	47	W	TR26 – plan
50	14	48	N	TR26 – section facing S
51	15	49	N	TR23 – plan
52	16	50	E	TR23 – section facing W
53	17	51	N	TR22 – plan
54	18	52	W	TR22 – section facing E
55	19	53	W	TR21 – plan
56	20	54	N	TR21 – section facing S
57	21	55	E	TR18 – plan
58	22	56	N	TR18 – section facing S
59	23	57	N	TR20 – plan
60	24	58	E	TR20 – section facing W
61	25	59	E	TR19 – plan
62	26	60	N	TR19 – section facing S
63	27	61	S	TR17 – plan
64	28	62	E	TR17 – section facing W
65	29	63	W	TR16 – plan
66	30	64	N	TR16 – section facing S
67	31	65	S	TR13 – plan
68	32	66	W	TR13 – section facing E
69	33	67	E	TR12 – plan
70	34	68	N	TR12 – section facing S
71	35	69	N	TR15 – plan
72	36	70	E	TR15 – section facing W
73	1	–	–	ID Shot: film 854
74	2	71	N	TR32 – plan

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
75	3	72	E	TR32 – section
76	4	73	N	TR32 – [3202]
77	–	74	N	TR32 – [3202]
78	5	75	E	TR14 – plan
79	6	76	N	TR14 – section facing S
80	7	77	N	TR11 – plan
81	8	78	W	TR 11 – section facing E
82	9	79	W	TR10 – plan
83	10	80	S	TR10 – section facing N
84	11	81	N	TR9 – plan
85	12	82	W	TR9 – section facing E
86	13	83	E	TR6 – plan
87	14	84	N	TR6 – section facing S
88	15	85	N	TR8 – plan
89	16	86	W	TR8 – section facing E
90	17	87	S	TR8 – slot [8003]
91	18	88	W	TR8 – slot [8003] section facing E
92	19	89	S	TR5 – plan
93	20	90	E	TR5 – section facing W
94	21	91	W	TR4 – plan
95	22	92	N	TR4 – section facing S
96	23	93	N	TR7 – plan
97	24	94	E	TR7 – section facing W
98	25	95	S	TR1 – plan
99	26	96	E	TR3 – plan
100	27	97	N	TR3 – section facing S
101	28	98	E	TR1 – section facing W
102	29	99	SW	TR2 – plan
103	30	100	SE	TR2 – section facing NW
104	31	101	SE	TR53 – plan
105	32	102	NE	TR53 – section facing SW
106	33	103	E	TR54 – plan
107	34	104	N	TR54 – section facing W
108	35	105	N	TR55 – plan
109	36	106	E	TR55 – section facing W
110	37	107	E	TR56 – plan
111	36	108	–	ID Shot – film 853
112	35	109	N	TR57 – plan

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
113	34	110	N	TR61 – plan
114	33	111	E	TR60 – plan
115	32	112	N	TR49 – plan
116	31	113	E	TR49 – furrow [4902] section facing W
117	30	114	E	TR49 – furrow [4902]
118	29	115	N	TR49 – furrow [4902]
119	28	116	E	TR49 – furrow [4905]
120	27	117	N	TR49 – furrow [4905]
121	26	118	E	TR49 – section facing W
122	25	119	W	TR47 – section facing W
123	–	120	NE	TR47 – section facing W
124	–	121	S	TR47 – section facing W
125	24	122	E	TR47 – [4706] + (4707)
126	23	123	S	TR47 – [4709] + (4708)
127	22	124	W	TR51 – features at E end
128	21	125	N	TR51 – features at E end
129	20	126	W	TR51 – features at E end
130	19	127	W	TR51 – plan
131	18	128	S	TR48 – rectangular feature [4803]
132	17	129	E	TR48 – (4804), [4805], (4806), [4807], (4808), [4809]
133	16	130	N	TR51 – section facing S
134	15	131	E	TR51 – [5109]
135	14	132	E	TR51 – tree bowl (5111)
136	13	133	W	TR50 – Romano-British ditch [5003]
137	12*	134	E	?? *marked as m/f (malfunction?). 146 out a shot too.
138	11	–	E	??
139	9	135	W	TR52 – [5203]
140	8	136	W	TR52 – [5203]
141	7	137	S	TR52 – [5203]
142	–	138	W	TR50 – mid-ex shot of (5004). Degraded timber.
143	6	139	W	TR50 – post-ex shot [5005]
144	5	140	S	TR52 – plan
145	–	141	NE	TR52 – tree bowl (5207)
146	?*	142	W	TR46 – plan
147	4	143	W	TR50 – [5007]
148a	3	144	S	TR50 – plan
148b	2	145	N	TR46 – section facing S

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
149	36	146	—	ID Shot – film 850
150	35	147	SW	TR52 – [5208]
151	34	148	NW	TR52 – [5208]
152	33	149	NE	TR52 – section facing SW of [5208]
153	—	150	NE	TR52 – section facing SW of [5208]
154	—	151	E	TR52 – [5210] natural feature
155	32	152	N	TR52 – [5212] post-hole
156	31	153	W	TR83 – [8303] beam slot and stake holes
157	30	154	E	TR83 – [8305] land drain?
158	29	155	??	TR83 – plan
159	28	156	N	TR84 – [8403]
160	27	157	W	TR84 – [8406]
161	26	158	N	TR84 – plan
162	25	159	S	TR82 – [8203] post hole/pit
163	24	160	N	TR87 – plan
164	23	161	W	TR87 – section
165	22	162	NE	TR91 – plan
166	21	163	N	TR91 – section
167	—	164	S	TR82 – [8205]
168	20	165	N	TR82 – section facing S
169	19	166	—	TR82 – mid ex shot (8205)
170	18	167	E	TR85 – plan
171	17	168	N	TR85 – section of tree bowl (8503)
172	16	169	N	TR85 – section facing S
173	15	170	S	TR82 – [8205]
174	14	171	S	TR81 – plan
175	13	172	E	TR81 – section facing E
176	12	173	E	TR91 – [9103]
177a	11	174	N	TR91 – [9103]
177b	??	175	N	TR80 – section facing S
178	??	176	W	TR80 – plan
179	10	177	SW	TR92 – plan
180	9	178	SE	TR92 – section
181	8	179	E	TR86 – section facing W with [8603]
182	7	180	SW	TR86 – slot in [8605]
183	—	181	—	Wrong mode on digital camera
184	6	182	N	TR86 – slots in [8609] + [8607]
185	5	183	N	TR86 – plan

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
186	4	184	E	TR88 – plan
187	—	185	SE	TR76 – [7603]
188	3	186	SE	TR76 – plan
189	2	187	NE	TR76 – section
190	1	188	E	TR79 – [7903]
191	—	189	N	TR88 – section facing S
192	—	190	E	TR79 – section facing W and [7905]
193	—	191	NW	TR79 – plan
194	37	192	—	ID Shot – Film 851
195	36	193	S	TR89 – plan
196	35	194	E	TR89 – section facing W
197	34	195	S	TR77 – plan
198	33	196	E	TR77 – section facing W
199	—	197	S	TR90 – [9204]
200	32	198	W	TR90 – plan
201	31	199	S	TR78 – slot through linear [7803]
202	30	200	S	TR78 – slot through linear [7803]
203	29	201	N	TR75 – plan
204	28	202	W	TR75 – section
205	27	203	E	TR72 – plan
206	26	204	E	TR78 – plan
207	25	205	S	TR78 – plan with linear [7803] + [7805]
208	24	206	W	TR78 – plan with linear [7803] + [7805]
209	23	207	S	TR78 – section facing N with [7805]
210	22	208	N	TR74 – [7403] section
211	21	209	S	TR72 – section
212	—	210	NW	TR78 – [7803], [7805] + [7807]
213	20	211	NW	TR78 – [7803], [7805] + [7807]
214	19	212	NE	TR72 – (7204)
215	—	213	NE	TR72 – (7204)
216	18	214	S	TR74 – mid ex of [7407]
217	—	215	S	TR74 – close up of mid ex [7407]
218	17	216	W	TR74 – plan mid ex [7407]
219	16	217	E	TR85 – burnt feature [8506]
220	?16?	218	??	TR74 – post ex of linear [7407]
221	15	219	W	TR74 – [7407]
222	14	—	W	TR74 – plan
223	13	220	W	TR74 – plan

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
224	12	–	W	TR74 – plan Camera issues so took multiple shots
225	?12?	221	W	TR70 – [7006]
226	11	222	E	TR74 – [7407]
227	10	223	SE	TR73 – disturbance (7303)
228	9*	224	W	TR73 – section *Film jammed!!

CAMERA 2

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
500	37	–	–	ID Shot – Film 849
501	36	1	NW	TR59 – made ground
502	35	2	W	TR59 – made ground
503	34	3	N	TR59 – plan
504	33	4	W	TR59 – section
505	32	5	NE	TR58 – made ground
506	31	6	N	TR63 – section
507	30	7	N	TR62 – section
508	29	8	W	TR59 – plan
509	28	9	N	TR59 – section
510	–	10	N	TR59 – section
511	27	11	N	TR67 – section
512	26	12	NE	TR67 – plan
513	25	13	N	TR65 – section
514	24	14	E	TR65 – plan
515	–	15	S	Change in ground level between fields
516	–	16	NE	TR53 – NW end clean natural in section
517	–	17	N	TR54 – E end. Change between clean natural and made ground?
518	–	18	W	TR54 – middle sondage, banding of made ground
519	–	19	NW	TR54 – western sondage, banding of made ground
520	–	20	W	TR54 – western sondage, banding of made ground
521	23	21	W	TR54 – plan
522	22	22	W	TR73 – section
523	21	23	N	TR73 – plan
524	20	24	W	TR71 – section facing E
525	19	25	N	TR71 – plan
526	?17?	26	NW	TR68 – plan
527	16	27	N	TR68 – section facing S
528	15	28	NE	TR70 – [7008]
529	14	29	NE	TR70 – [7008] retake

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
530	13	30	S	TR70 – [7005]
531	12	31	N	TR93 – section
532	11	32	E	TR93 – plan
533	10	33	NW	TR83 –
534	9	34	E	TR83 –
535	8	35	S	TR68 – [6803]
536	–	36	NW	TR68 – [6803]
537	7	37	S	TR69 – (6902)
538	–	38	S	TR69 – (6902)
539	–	39	S	TR69 – (6902)
540	6	40	N	TR70 – general plan of features
541a	5	41	N	TR70 – plan
541b	4	42	S	TR69 – [6903]
542	3	43	S	TR69 – (6902) area of quarrying
543	2	44	S	TR69 – (6902) area of quarrying
544	1	45	S	TR69 – (6902) area of quarrying
545	36	46	–	ID Shot – Film 848
546	35	47	S	TR69 – (6902)
547	34	48	E	TR69 – area of quarrying excavated by machine (6902)
548	33	49	S	TR69 – section facing N with (6902)
549	32	50	S	TR69 – section facing N with (6902)
550	31	51	E	TR70 – [7010]
551	–	52	N	TR 70 – general shot
552	30	53	E	TR94 – section
553	29	54	N	TR94 – plan
554	28	55	N	TR93 – section
555	–	56	E	TR93 – plan
556	–	57	N	TR69 – plan
557	–	58	–	TR90 – backfilled
558	–	59	–	TR89 – backfilled
559	–	60	–/	TR73 – backfilled
560	–	61	–	TR69 – backfilled
561	–	62	–	TR60 – backfilled
562	–	63	–	TR63 – backfilled
563	–	64	–	TR46 – backfilled
564	–	65	–	TR51 – backfilled
565	–	66	–	TR44 – backfilled

Photo	B/W	Digital	Direction	Description
566	–	67	–	TR33 – backfilled
567	–	68	–	TR22 – backfilled
568	–	69	–	TR16 – backfilled
569	–	70	–	TR9 – backfilled
570	–	71	–	TR5 – backfilled
571	27	72	N	TR95 – section of [9506]
572	26	73	E	TR95 – plan

Appendix 2 Finds Assessment

By Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction

The assemblage comprises 108 sherds of pottery, a sherd of glass and a small assemblage of CBM, including 3404g of daub and a decorated medieval floor tile.

The pottery and ceramic building material is discussed in more detail below and a finds catalogue has been included as an Appendix 2.1.

The glass fragment from Trench 80, (8302) is included in the catalogue but not dealt with separately below due to its negligible size.

Pottery

The pottery numbered 108 sherds, of these, 103 sherds were assessed in detail with the remainder represented by very small abraded pieces from sample processing.

The pottery consists of a range of Romano-British and medieval material which is typical of sites in the Droitwich area, and suggests that there were two distinct phases of activity, one in the 2nd century and another in the 13th–14th century.

The pottery was recorded using conventions of the Worcestershire county type-series (eg Bryant and Evans 2002). The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in **Table 2.1**. Each date should be regarded as a terminus post quem. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region. The Romano-British assemblage, comprising largely Severn Valley Wares, is very similar to that of second-century date noted at Upwich (Lentowicz 1997, fig. 61). The medieval material also has the same basic range of fabrics in broadly similar proportions as the 13th–14th century assemblage from Upwich (ibid. Fig. 70).

Ceramic Building Material

A total of 3,404g of well-fired daub occurred in context (7007). Many of the fragments were curved, with a relatively smooth, usually reddened outer surface, with the other darker in colour and uneven. No waxy impressions were noted, although some fragments had finger-marks on the outer surface. It seems most likely that they are from the dome of an oven. The fabric is slightly sandy, with plentiful organic voids and the occasional pebble up to 20mm in diameter. A few small fragments of daub in a sandier fabric occurred in contexts (6803) and (7406).

A fragment of a Roman tegula was noted in (5004), Trench 50. It has a slightly sandy fabric, with fragments of pale grog up to 5mm, and flecks of red ironstone. Fragment of flat tiles in a similar fabric occurred in (9103) and (6902). These are likely to be no earlier than the 2nd century, as there is no evidence of roof tile being used in the Droitwich area before that time (Hurst and Evans 1997, p.89).

Pieces of flat tiles in a sandier, less grog-filled fabric were noted in context (3905) and (9103). The latter had a nib present, so these are likely to be of medieval or later date (ibid.). An extremely hard-fired flat tile fragment from context (9505) appears to be modern.

A fragment of a medieval encaustic floor tile also occurred in (9103). The upper surface is fairly worn, but it retains extensive remains of a speckled green glaze over inlaid white slip decoration. The fabric is fine and sandy, with occasional rounded flecks of red iron ore. The surviving fragment of the design, a broad white stripe flanked with crosses, has parallels with, but is by no means identical to, a brown-glazed, printed floor tile from the Deansway, Worcester site (White 2004, Fig. 209 no. 51).

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Trench	Context	F3.2		F12		F13		F14		F15		F16.2		F19		F28		F55		F56		F64.1		F69		F100		Date	
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt		
39	U/S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	30	-	-	1	10	-	U/S	
39	3904	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	20	240	1	49	3	36	-	-	-	13thC	
39	3905	-	-	3	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
49	4906	-	-	1	2	3	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
50	5002	-	-	17	204	-	-	-	-	5	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
50	5004	1	15	22	417	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
50	5006	1	16	8	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
52	5204	-	-	4	122	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
52	5206	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
52	5209	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2ndC	
52	5213	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M1stC	
69	6905	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	19thC
69	6906	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	19thC	
74	7401	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2ndC
83	8302	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2ndC
94	U/S	-	-	1	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	U/S	
Total		2	31	58	928	3	27	1	6	5	29	1	5	2	33	1	4	20	240	3	79	3	36	1	10	3	15		

F3.2: Handmade Malvernian Tubby Cooking Pot, 1st–2nd century; F12: Oxidized Severn Valley Ware, mid 1st–4th C; F13: Sandy Oxidized Ware, mid 1st–2nd C; F14: Fine sandy grey ware, 1st–4th century; F15: Coarse Sandy Grey Ware, mid 1st–2nd century; F16.2: Handmade grog-tempered ware, late 1st–3rd C; F19: Wheel-made Malvernian Ware, 2nd–4th C; F28: Nene Valley Ware, 2nd–4th C; F55: Worcester-type Sandy Unglazed Ware, late 11th–14th century; F56: Malvernian unglazed ware, late 12th–14th century; F64.1: Worcester-type Sandy Glazed Ware, late 11th–14th century; F69: Oxidized Late Malvernian Ware, late 13th–17th C; F100: Misc post-med and modern wares, 19th century +

Table A2.1

Pottery by fabric

Appendix 2.1 Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Fabric Type	Spot date
39	Unstrat	–	2	30	Pottery (Medi)	–	Malvernian Unglazed Ware	F56	late 12th–14th C
39	Unstrat	–	1	10	Pottery (Medi)	–	Oxidised Late Malvernian Ware	F69	late 13th–17th C
39	3904	–	3	36	Pottery (Medi)	–	Worcester-type Sandy Glazed Ware	F64.1	late 13th–17th C
39	3904	–	1	5	Pottery (RB)	–	Handmade grog-tempered ware	F16.2	late 1st–3rd C
39	3905	–	3	52	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
39	3904	–	20	240	Pottery (Medi)	–	Worcester-type Sandy Unglazed Ware	F55	late 11th–14th C
39	3904	–	1	49	Pottery (Medi)	–	Malvernian Unglazed Ware	F56	late 12th–14th C
39	3905	–	–	193	CBM	Tile	Flat tile in a sandier, less grog-filled fabric	–	–
49	4906	–	1	2	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
49	4906	–	3	27	Pottery (RB)	–	Sandy Oxidised Ware	F13	mid 1st–2nd C
50	5002	1	1	1	Pottery	–	–	–	–
50	5002	–	5	29	Pottery (RB)	–	Coarse Sandy Grey Ware	F15	mid 1st–3rd C
50	5006	–	1	16	Pottery (RB)	–	Handmade Mavernian Tubby Cooking Pot	F3.2	1st–2nd C
50	5004	–	1	15	Pottery (RB)	–	Handmade Mavernian Tubby Cooking Pot	F3.2	1st–2nd C
50	5004	6	2	1	Pottery	–	–	–	–
50	5002	–	17	204	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
50	5004	–	1	6	Pottery (RB)	–	Fine Sandy Grey Ware	F14	1st–4th C
50	5004	–	1	184	CBM	Roof Tile	Roman Tegula. Slightly sandy fabric, with fragments of pale grog up to 5mm, and flecks of red ironstone	–	–
50	5006	–	8	98	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
52	5209	–	1	2	Pottery (RB)	–	Wheel-made Malvernian Ware	F19	2nd–4th C
52	5213	–	1	4	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
52	5204	7	1	9	Pottery	–	–	–	–
52	5204	–	1	6	CBM	Daub	Possible daub with linear impression	–	–
52	5206	–	1	3	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
52	5204	–	4	122	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
58	5004	–	22	417	Pottery (RB)	–	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
68	6803	–	–	–	CBM	Daub	Few fragments of sandy fragment	–	–
69	6902	–	–	18	CBM	Roof Tile	Similar fabric to the Roman Tegula from (5004)	–	–
69	6906	–	2	4	Pottery (PM-Mod)	–	Misc post-med and modern wares	F100	19th C
69	6905	–	1	11	Pottery (PM-Mod)	–	Misc post-med and modern wares	F100	19th C
70	7007	–	–	2107	CBM	Daub	See other daub from (7007)	–	–
70	7007	–	64	1297	CBM	Daub	Many of the fragments were curved, with a relatively smooth, usually reddened outer surface, with the other darker in colour and uneven. No warty impressions were noted, although some fragments had finger-marks on the outer surface. It seems most likely that they are from the dome of an oven. The fabric is slightly sandy, with plentiful organic voids and the occasional pebble up to 20mm in diameter.	–	–
74	7406	–	–	–	CBM	Daub	Few fragments of sandy fragment	–	–
74	7401	–	1	31	Pottery (RB)	–	Wheel-made Malvernian Ware	F19	2nd–4th C

Trench	Context	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Fabric Type	Spot date
83	8302	—	1	4	Pottery (RB)	—	Nene Valley Ware	F28	2nd–4th C
83	8302	13	1	1	Glass	Fragment	Very small fragment of greenish, curving glass	—	—
83	8302	13	1	1	Pottery	—	—	—	—
91	9103	—	1	312	CBM	Floor Tile	Hard fired flat tile fragment	—	—
91	9103	—	—	151	CBM	Roof Tile	Similar fabric to the Roman Tegula from (5004)	—	—
91	9103	—	—	285	CBM	Tile	Flat tile in a sandier, less grog-filled fabric	—	—
94	Unstrat	—	1	26	Pottery (RB)	—	Oxidised Severn Valley Ware	F12	mid 1st–4th C
95	9505	—	1	—	CBM	Tile	Extremely hard-fired flat tile fragment	—	—

Appendix 3 Environmental Sample Assessment

By Laura Bailey

Introduction

This report presents the results of an assessment of samples and hand collected bone taken during the course of evaluation at Copcut Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire. Five samples ranging in volume from 10 to 20 litres were processed for environmental assessment. The samples were taken from various features including the fills of ditches, pit, posthole and gullies. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any palaeoenvironmental remains in the samples.

Method

The samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. This was then sorted and any material of archaeological significance removed. All plant macrofossil samples were analysed using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100 where necessary to aid identification. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al. (2006).

Hand collected animal bone from context [8404] was submitted for assessment. The aims of the assessment were to provide a basic quantification of the available data, to characterise the assemblage as far as possible and to help identify the potential of the data-set to benefit from further analysis.

Numbers of identifiable bone fragments were recorded, together with the preservation and any signs of modification of the bone. Where possible, fragments were identified to species level using Schmid 1972. However, where bone was very fragmented and not possible to identify it was marked as indeterminate (**Table A3.3**).

Results

Results of the assessment are presented in **Table A3.1** (Retent samples), **Table A3.2** (Flot samples) and **Table A3.3** (Animal bone). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

Wood charcoal

Wood charcoal was present in the retents of all the processed samples (**Table A3.1**), and the flots of three samples (5002, 8302 and 5204) (**Table A3.2**). The charcoal in was generally poorly preserved, fragmentary and in many cases partially *vitrified*, possibly the result of burning at high temperature. Fragment size ranged from less than 1mm to 1.2cm.

Table A3.1

Retent sample results

Context	Sample	Feature	Sample vol (l)	Burnt bone	Unburnt bone	Charcoal		Material available for AMS Dating	Coal
				Mammal	Mammal	Qty	Max size (cm)		
5002	1	Fill of Ditch [5003]	20	–	–	++	0.9	Charcoal +	–
5004	6	Fill from slot [5005]	10	–	+	++	1.2	Charcoal +, unburnt bone +	+
5204	7	Fill of Ditch [5203]	20	+	–	++	0.9	Burnt Bone +, charcoal +	–
7007	12	Fill of Ditch [7008]	20	+	–	++	1.2	Burnt Bone +, charcoal +	–
8302	13	Fill of slot through Feature [8303]	2	–	–	+	0.9	–	–

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

Table A3.2

Flotation sample results

Context	Sample	Feature	Total flot vol (ml)	Other plant remains	Charcoal		Material available for AMS	Comments
					Qty	Max size (cm)		
5002	1	Fill of Ditch [5003]	15	–	++	<1mm	No	–
5004	6	Fill of slot [5005]	15	Modern roots +	–	–	–	Contains terrestrial snail shell
5204	7	Fill of Ditch [5203]	25	Modern roots +	++	<1mm	No	–
7007	12	Fill of Ditch [7008]	20	Modern roots +	–	–	–	–
8302	3	Fill of slot through Feature [8303]	10	Modern roots +, uncharred seeds ++	+	<1mm	No	Contains terrestrial snail shell

Key: + = rare (1–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (16–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

Plant remains

No charred plant remains were present in any samples.

Snail shell

Small amounts of terrestrial snail shell were recovered from the fills (5004 and 8302) of ditch [5005] and feature [8303] respectively. Given the amount of modern vegetable matter within the samples, together with the excellent condition of the shells it is likely that the shells are of recent rather than archaeological origin.

Animal bone

A small amount of animal bone was recovered from the samples from the fills (5004, 5204, 7007) of ditches [5005], [5205] and [7008] respectively (Tables A3.2 and A3.3). The bone was very fragmentary and it was therefore not possible to identify to species level. Bone including sheep mandible and long bone fragments was hand collected from the upper fill (8404) of linear feature [8406], interpreted as a possible field boundary. The bone was very poorly preserved with both ancient and modern breaks visible.

Table A3.3

Animal bone

Context	Sample	Weight (g)	Number of fragments	Large mammal	Medium sized mammal	Indeterminate
5004	6	<0.1	1	–	1	–
5204	7	<0.1	1	–	–	1
7007	12	<0.1	6	–	–	6
8404	–	60	7	–	7	–

Other finds

Pottery was recovered from samples from contexts [5002, 5004, 5204 and 8302]. A large amount of daub was recovered from the sample from context [7007]. These will be discussed as the subject of a separate finds report (Blinkhorn 2013).

Discussion

The samples contained few environmental remains. It is unlikely that the material recovered relates to the primary function of the features and the animal bone assemblage offers little insight into site activity. Overall the assemblage presents little scope for further work.

With regard to any future work on the site: The charcoal and other charred plant remains recovered to date are neither abundant nor well-preserved. In general charred plant remains do not survive well if exposed to repeated drying and wetting, freezing and thawing or under mechanical stress (eg. ploughing/trampling). Survival (and also concentration) is therefore very dependent on context and it is not possible to offer an opinion across a whole site. It would be expected to be poor if the charred remains have spent any time in a topsoil (ancient or modern) and considerably better if protected in deeper negative features.

In this instance the animal bone is poorly preserved and the snail shell is assumed to have been modern in origin. The soil conditions across the site do not appear to be conducive to the survival of calcareous remains such as snail shell and animal bone. However,

under certain circumstances, notably, if the bone has been burnt or if areas of lime mortar have been identified, preservation of these items can be much improved.

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