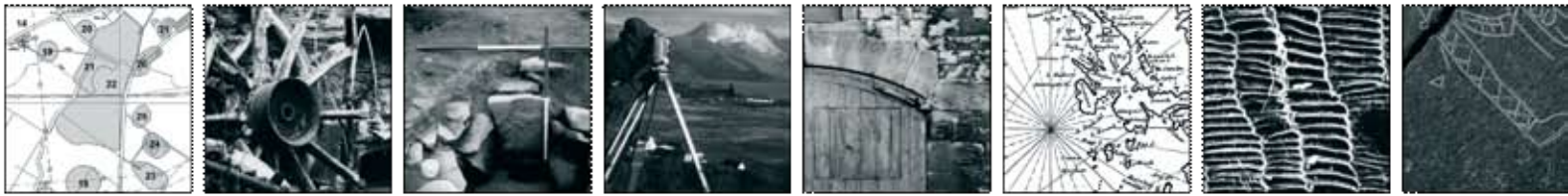


HFMW/01



HAYSLAN FIELDS, MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE

Field Evaluation

*commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd
on behalf of Barwood Strategic Land II*

WSM 57090

May 2014

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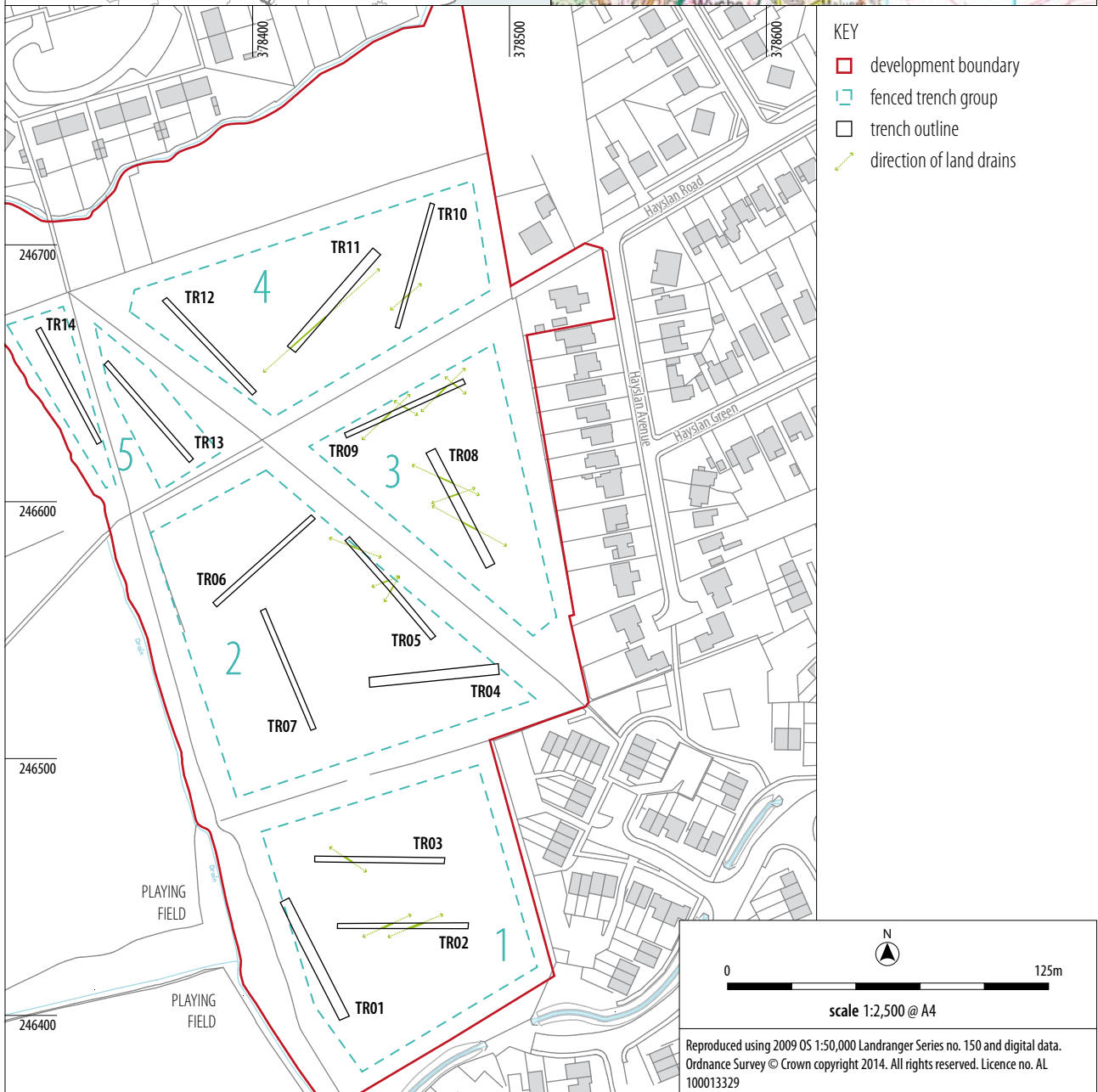
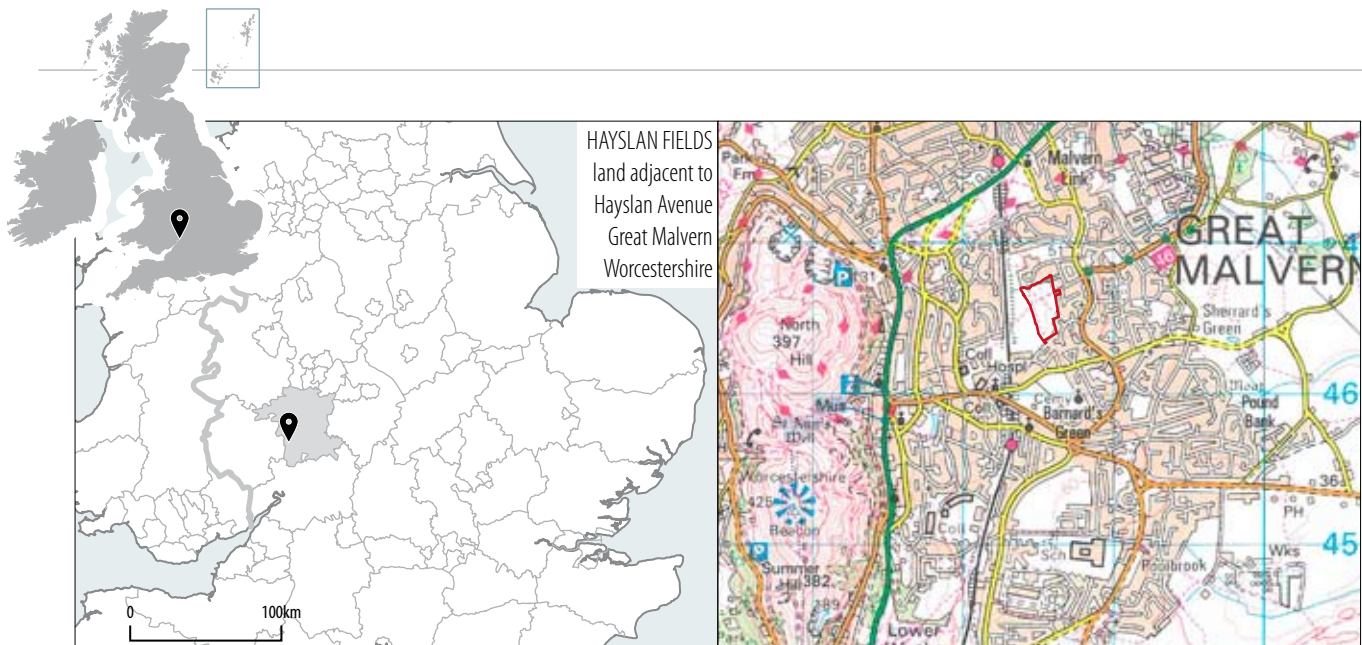
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Illus 1
Site location

HAYSLAN FIELDS, MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE

Field Evaluation

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a field evaluation to determine the archaeological potential of an area of land known as Hayslan Fields, west of Hayslan Avenue in Malvern, Worcestershire. The majority of the site had been subject to deep ploughing and no archaeological features were identified. A small amount of pottery dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods was recovered from topsoil deposits.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership, on behalf of Barwood Strategic Land II (the client), to undertake an archaeological field evaluation on an area of land located to the west of Hayslan Avenue, Malvern.

The client intends to submit a planning application for a residential development on the site. The field evaluation is intended to provide further information about the archaeological resource present within the area of the proposed development to enable appropriate decisions to be reached regarding the planning submission.

Fieldwork took place between 31st March 2014 and 4th April 2014.

1.1 Site description

The proposed development site is located centrally within Great Malvern (SO 7852 4658) and comprises of two fields of pasture land with a wooded area to the north (illus 1). The proposed development area amounts to 6.05ha.

A mature tree-line forms the boundary between the two pasture fields and public footpaths cross the site from east to west, north to south and north-west to south-east. The wooded area in the north of the development area was unavailable for trenching at the time of the field evaluation.

The site is abutted by housing developments to the north, east and south. Pasture land, including two playing fields is present to the west of the proposed development area.

The underlying solid geology within the site comprises mudstone and sedimentary bedrock of the Sidmouth Mudstone formation, formed during the Triassic period, 217-250 million years ago.

The superficial deposits recorded for the site comprise Head-Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel of Quaternary date. (British Geological Survey website; <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

1.2 Archaeological background

No invasive archaeological work has previously been undertaken within the development area.

An Historic Environmental Record (HER) search including the site and a 1km radius search area was undertaken in February 2014 (Webley 2014); a brief summary of which is included below.

Within the search area 72 listed historic buildings were identified and a further 54 unlisted historic buildings were also recorded. The majority of these historic buildings date to the 19th century when Malvern expanded greatly, however there are a large number of buildings dating to the period of the First and Second World Wars. Earlier buildings include the 16th century Hermitage and 15th century Pickersleigh court.

The 19th century expansion of Malvern and Malvern Link was very rapid and grew out of the Victorian Spa town industry, creating many of the historic buildings still standing today. The urban landscape is characterised by large detached houses and luxurious hotels spreading out from the medieval towns and villages within the search area.

Earlier historic monuments within the search area include the gardens at Victoria Park and Assembly Rooms, a post medieval orchard site and the boundary posts marking the edge of the 19th century Clerkenwell estate.

There is little earlier archaeology recorded within the 1km area itself aside from un-stratified Medieval and Roman finds.

Analysis of aerial photographs suggests the presence of crop marks (potentially representing an enclosure) within the playing fields immediately to the south-west of the site.

Within the wider area, prehistoric remains have previously been identified along the Malvern Ridge.

2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the field evaluation were:

- to provide sufficient evidence for confident prediction of the impact of the proposed development by establishing the extent, nature and importance of any heritage assets within the affected area (following the National Planning Policy Framework).
- to establish the location, extent, and as far as practicable, nature and date of archaeological features or deposits that may be present within the areas proposed to be disturbed during the development.

Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in the Archaeological Research Framework for the West Midlands.

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited with The Worcestershire Museums Service to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit. Deposition will take place within one year of the completion of fieldwork.

3 METHOD

A written scheme of investigation outlining the proposed methodology for the archaeological field evaluation was produced by Headland Archaeology (Craddock-Bennett 2014). This proposed methodology was prepared in accordance with a brief (Glyde 2014) issued by the Archaeological Advisor to Malvern Hills District Council.

The agreed trench location plan took into account the constraints imposed on the site by the presence of three public footpaths within the development boundaries.

A total of 14 evaluation trenches were excavated (10 measuring 50m x 1.90m and 4 measuring 50m x 3.80m) constituting a total sample of 3.3% of the proposed development site.

The trenches were non-targeted and were located in order to achieve maximum coverage of the proposed development area.

Due to the presence of active public footpaths with the site, the trenches were excavated in small groups of one to five. Each group of trenches was recorded and backfilled before excavation continued.

All trenches were excavated by a 13 tonne tracked excavator equipped with a 1.90m wide toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Overburden was removed and machine excavation terminated at the uppermost significant archaeological horizon or when geological deposits were encountered. On completion of machine excavation, all faces of the trench that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools.

The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were identified. The excavation of archaeological deposits and features was undertaken by hand to a sufficient degree to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation.

All spoil, including the topsoil strip was checked for datable artefacts and diagnostic finds were retained.

All trenches were planned using a Trimble differential GPS system. The site plan was accurately linked to the National Grid and heights to m AOD.

All recording followed the IfA Standards and Guidance for conducting archaeological evaluations. All deposits were given unique numbers.

All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards. Colour transparencies and black-and-white print photographs were taken on 35mm film. Digital photographs on a 7.2mp camera were taken for illustrative purposes but will not form part of the site archive.

The Archaeological Advisor to Malvern Hills District Council was informed of the progress of the fieldwork.

4 RESULTS

A total of 14 trenches were excavated within the proposed area of development (Illus 1).

A full description of the deposits identified in each trench is provided in Appendix 1 and the location of modern features such as land drains is recorded on illustration 1.

At the time of excavation the area was in use as pasture land, however the area had been subject to deep ploughing in the past, plough scars being visible at 0.40m+ below the present ground level within the central portion of the site and diminishing as expected towards the edges of the area.

Topsoil across the area was generally consistent, comprising of dark grey/brown silty clay, varying between 0.25m and 0.35m in depth, with frequent small angular inclusions of stone. This overlay subsoil, varying between 0.15m-0.25m in depth, comprising of light grey/brown clay with frequent small, angular stone inclusions.

In accordance with the requirements of the archaeological advisor, all artefacts recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits were retained (Appendix 3).

Illus 2

General view of Trench 4

2

Illus 3

General view of Trench 6

The geological deposits remained fairly consistent across the site and were composed of a yellow/brown silty sand and angular gravel, intermixed with bands of reddish brown sand and gravels and patches of red/brown clay with occasional deposits of blue/grey clay particularly towards the north extent of the site.

4.1 Evidence for ploughing

4.1.1 Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

All the evaluation trenches were devoid of archaeological features, however features relating to agricultural practices in the form of plough scars cutting the geological deposits were observed within all the trenches except 13 and 14.

4.1.2 Trenches 13 and 14

The location of Trenches 13 and 14 within a corner of the main field that would not necessarily have been conveniently accessible when ploughing has resulted in the topsoil, subsoil and geological deposits being relatively undisturbed in comparison to the other trenches.

Within Trench 14 a small amount of abraded coarseware pottery dating to the prehistoric period was observed within the remains of a collapsed animal burrow. Although not associated with an archaeological feature, the occurrence of prehistoric pottery within an area less disturbed by modern agricultural practices suggests the potential for greater survival within such parts of the site.

4.2 Features relating to agricultural practices

4.2.1 Post-medieval features

Post medieval land drains were observed in Trenches 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 12. The land drains were a mixture of red clay pipes set at various depths and stone filled channels with pipes set at the base. The various types, depths and





4

Illus 4

West facing section of Trench 6



5

Illus 5

General view of Trench 14



6

Illus 6

West facing section of Trench 14

directions the land drains were orientated upon indicates that multiple phases of land drainage occur within the proposed development site.

5 DISCUSSION

Past agricultural activity has resulted in the majority of the proposed development site being subject to disturbance. The deep ploughing has disturbed the stratigraphic makeup of the area, the ploughing being deep enough to scar the geological deposits, removing any potential evidence of historic surfaces and shallower features that may have been present beneath the topsoil.

The results of the field evaluation have indicated that the potential for survival of archaeological features and deposits is greater at the boundaries of the proposed development site; Trench 14 produced a limited amount of prehistoric pottery and was located in an overgrown area that had not been subject to ploughing.

Within the main area of the proposed development site only features relating to post medieval land drainage were identified. The pattern of the drainage is interesting to note as only the eastern half of the site is drained leaving the western side to drain naturally, this may relate to an un-marked field division or could equally relate to the gentle east-west slope that breaks on a north-south alignment through the proposed development site.

6 CONCLUSION

The evaluation has established that the site has limited archaeological potential. Evidence for deep ploughing was identified in the majority of the trenches. Abraded prehistoric pottery was recovered from the north-west of the site but was not associated with an archaeological feature or deposit.

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8 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench register

Trench 1

Orientation N-S

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.45m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
1000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular-well sorted.	0.00 – 0.26m
1001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.26 – 0.35m
1002	Geological deposit – mid blue grey clay with light brown clay sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.35m +
1003	Geological deposit - changes in northern half of trench, course sand with small to large angular stoned-poorly sorted, pockets of blue clay	0.35m +
1004	Land drain identified within the northern half of trench aligned E-W	0.35m – 0.75m
1005	Tree throw-uneven base and edges-root disturbance	0.35m – 0.40m

Land drain identified within northern half of trench E-W orientation. Tree throw-sectioned, obvious root action within natural, decomposing roots.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 2

Orientation E-W

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.45m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
2000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, -well sorted.	0.00 – 0.27m
2001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.27 – 0.35m
2002	Geological deposit - course sand with small to large angular stones – poorly sorted, pockets of blue clay	0.35m +

Land drains NE-SW- red clay pipe at a depth of 0.20m and at a depth of 0.60m.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 3

Orientation E-W

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.54m

Context No.	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
3000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular-well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
3001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.54m
3002	Geological deposit – mid blue grey clay with light brown clay sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.54m +

Land drain identified.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 4

Orientation E-W

L 50m

W 3.8m

Av. D 0.50m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
4000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular-well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
4001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.54m
4002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.54m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 5

Orientation E-W

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.50m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
5000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.28m
5001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.28 – 0.42m
5002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.42m +

Three stone filled land drains - sectioned, one contained a small fragment of red/orange brick

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 6

Orientation N-S
L 50m
W 1.9m
Av. D 0.40m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
6000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.20m
6001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.20 – 0.31m
6002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.31m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 7

Orientation NE-SW
L 50m
W 1.9m
Av. D 0.45m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
7000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.34m
7001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.34 – 0.41m
7002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.41m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 8

Orientation SE-NW
L 50m
W 3.8m
Av. D 0.45m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
8000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.27m
8001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.27 – 0.36m
8002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.36m +

Land drains, mixed types, modern red pipe and stone filled.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 9

Orientation E-W
L 50m
W 1.9m
Av. D 0.52m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
9000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
9001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.44m
9002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.44m +

Land drains.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 10

Orientation N-S
L 50m
W 1.9m
Av. D 0.45m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
10000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
10001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.40m
10002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.40m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 11

Orientation SE-NW
L 50m
W 3.8m
Av. D 0.50m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
11000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
11001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.45m
11002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.45m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 12

Orientation NW-SE

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.57m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
12000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.30m
12001	Subsoil – Light grey/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.30 – 0.40m
12002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.40m +

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 13

Orientation N-S

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.35m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
13000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.20m
13001	Subsoil – Light orange/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.21 – 0.31m
13002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.31m +

The area has survived the plough damage seen in the other trenches due to the location within the edge of the field.

No features or significant archaeology.

Trench 14

Orientation N-S

L 50m

W 1.9m

Av. D 0.40m

Context	Context Description	Depth of deposit from surface (m)
14000	Topsoil – Mid grey brown, silty clay, very small stone inclusions, angular, well sorted.	0.00 – 0.28m
14001	Subsoil – Light orange/brown clay. Firmly compacted. Infrequent small, angular stone inclusions.	0.28 – 0.37m
14002	Geological deposit – patches of reddish clay/ marl with light brown clay and sand within, stony small to med, angular-moderate sorting.	0.37m +

The area has survived the plough damage seen in the other trenches due to the location within the edge of the field – prehistoric pottery observed within the remains of topsoil filled animal burrow.

No features or significant archaeology.

Appendix 2 Photographic register

Photo	B&W	C/S	Digital	Direction	Description
01	06	06	DSCF0031	–	Film ID
02	07	07	✓	W	East facing section TR 1
03	08	08	✓	SE	General view of TR 1
04	09	09	✓	N	South facing section TR 2
05	10	10	✓	E	General view of TR 2
06	11	11	✓	N	South facing section of TR 3
07	12	12	✓	N	Tree throw in TR 3
08	13	13	✓	W	General view of TR 3
09	14	14	✓	S	North facing section in TR 4
10	15	15	✓	W	General view of TR 4
11	16	16	✓	W	General view of TR 5
12	17	17	✓	S	North facing section of TR 5
13	–	–	✓	S	General view of TR 1–3 – backfilled
14	–	–	✓	SE	General view of TR 1 – backfilled
15	–	–	✓	SE	General view of TR 2 – backfilled
16	–	–	–	E	General view of TR 3 – backfilled
17	18	18	✓	N	South facing section of TR 7
18	19	19	✓	NE	General view of TR 7
19	20	20	✓	S	General view of TR 6
20	21	21	✓	E	West facing section of TR 6
21	–	–	✓	–	General site showing damage to portaloo
22	–	–	✓	–	General site showing damage to portaloo
23	–	–	✓	–	General site showing damage to portaloo
24	–	–	✓	–	General site showing damage to portaloo
25	–	–	✓	–	General site showing damage to portaloo
26	22	22	✓	E	West facing section of TR 8
27	23	23	✓	SE	General view of TR 8
28	24	24	✓	SE	North facing section of TR 9
29	25	25	✓	W	General view of TR 9
30	26	26	✓	NE	South west facing section of TR 12
31	–	–	✓	–	TR 5 - backfilled
32	–	–	✓	–	TR 7 – backfilled
33	–	–	✓	–	TR 6 – backfilled
34	–	–	✓	–	TR 4 – backfilled
35	–	–	✓	–	TR 8 – backfilled
36	–	–	✓	–	TR 9 – backfilled
37	27	27	✓	NW	General view of TR 12
38	28	28	✓	N	South facing section TR 11
39	29	29	✓	S	General view of TR 11
40	–	–	✓	N	General site view for reference only
41	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
42	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
43	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
44	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
45	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
46	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
47	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
48	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
49	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
50	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
51	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
52	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
53	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
54	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
55	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
56	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
57	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
58	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
59	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
60	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
61	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
62	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
63	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
64	–	–	✓	–	General site view for reference only
65	30	30	✓	E	West facing section TR 10
66	31	31	✓	S	General view of TR 10
67	32	32	✓	E	East facing section of TR 13

Photo	B&W	C/S	Digital	Direction	Description
68	33	33	✓	NW	General view of TR 13
69	34	34	✓	SE	West facing section of TR 14
70	35	35	✓	S	General view of TR 14
71	—	—	✓	E	TR 10,11,12 backfilled
72	—	—	✓	W	TR 10,11,12 backfilled

Appendix 3 Finds assessment

Julie Lochrie

Finds were recovered from six trenches and comprised four tiles, an iron nail, two sherds of glass, a bottle top and 25 sherds of pottery. All finds came from topsoil or subsoil contexts and range in date to prehistoric and medieval to modern, see Table 1.

Table 1

Dating by Trench

Trench	Context	Context Description	Date
01	1000	Topsoil	modern
01	1002/1003	Geological deposit	?medieval
04	4000	Topsoil	modern
05	5000	Topsoil	medieval-modern
08	8000	Topsoil	medieval - modern
13	13001	Subsoil	modern
14	14001/14002	Subsoil/Geological	Prehistoric

The oldest artefacts are some small sherds of prehistoric pottery recovered from Trench 14. They were found in topsoil and are abraded from movement suggesting they are not in situ. Most of the remaining finds are modern although finds of potential medieval date were also found in Trenches 1, 5 and 8.

Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Period
01	1000	2	10	Pottery (Mod)	Mixed	creamware and whiteware	Mod
01	1000	1	2	Metal	Screwtop Cap	pepsi	Mod
01	1002/1003	8	299	Pottery (?medi)	—	sherds from the same vessel which has a reduced core and oxidised surfaces.	?Medi
04	4000	2	29	Pottery (Mod)	Mixed	creamware and burnt whiteware sherds	Mod
04	4000	1	3	Glass	Window	small clear sherd	Mod
05	5000	1	128	CBM	Floor Tile	22mm thick. hard fired, red fabric	Medi-Mod
08	8000	1	42	Glass	Bottle	base sherd of modern bottle glass	Mod
08	8000	3	202	CBM	?Floor Tile	20-25mm thick, hard fired red fabric	Medi-Mod
08	8000	4	124	Pottery (Mod)	Mixed	redware and whitewares	Mod
13	13001	1	2	Fe	Nail	possible horseshoe nail	—
13	13001	3	15	Pottery (Medi-Mod)	Mixed	redware and creamware	Mod
14	14001/14002	6	15	Pottery (PH)	Coarseware	abraded body sherds and fragments. Quartz tempered sandy fabric	PH



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