

CLBH/01



# LAND OFF CHAPEL LANE, BODENHAM MOOR, HEREFORDSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd  
on behalf of Bovis Homes Ltd

EHE80084

September 2014



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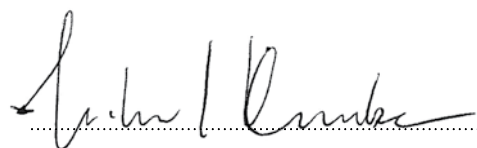
September 2014

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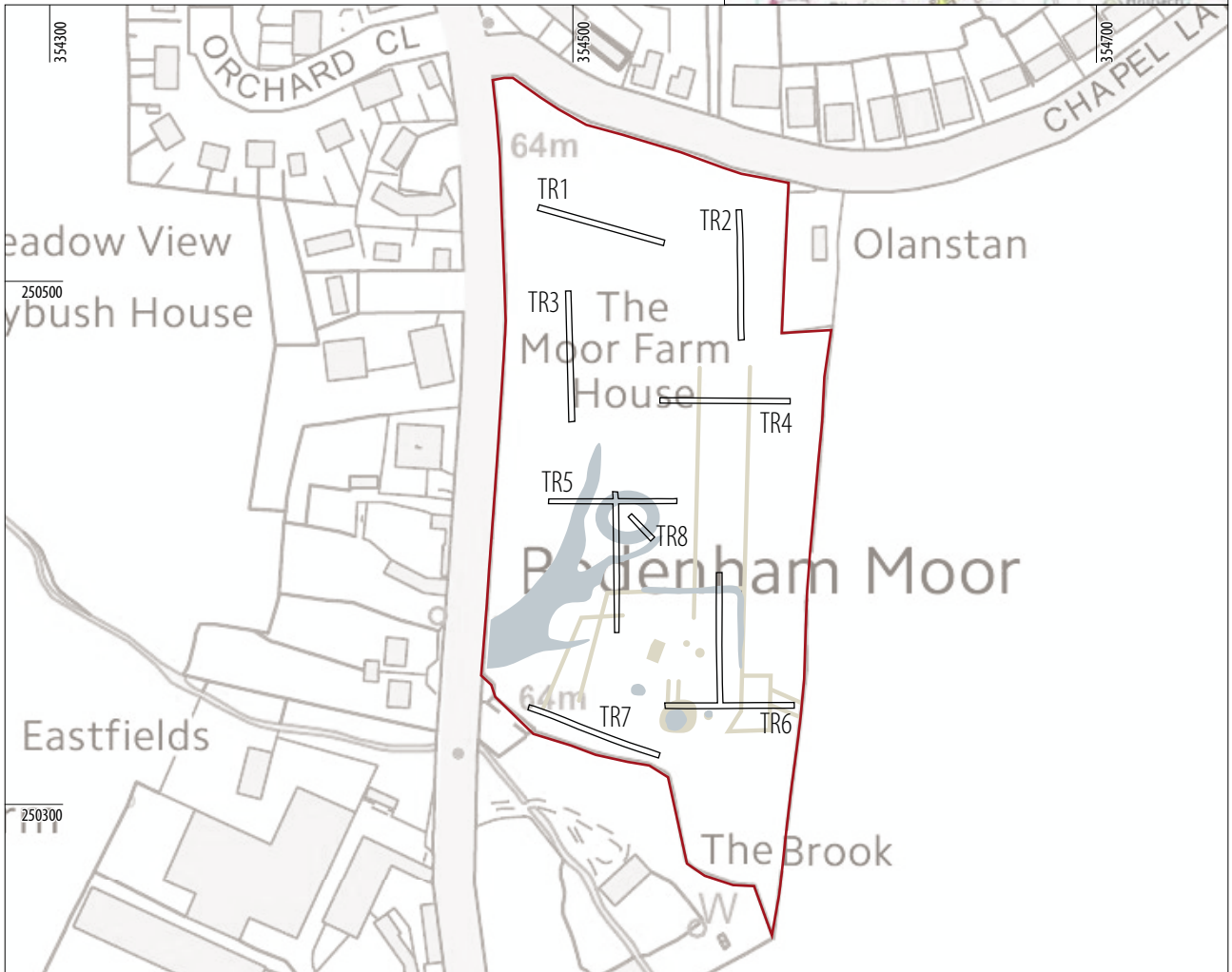
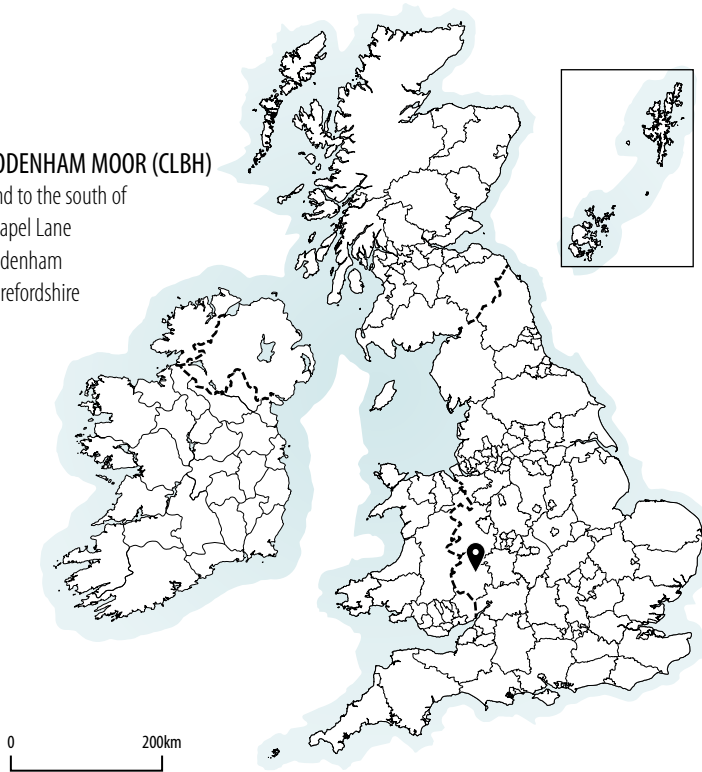
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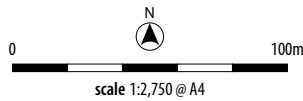
**BODENHAM MOOR (CLBH)**

land to the south of  
Chapel Lane  
Bodenham  
Herefordshire



**KEY**

- development boundary
- trench location
- cropmarks
- Herefordshire County Council cropmarks (2006)



**ILLUS 1**  
Site location



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# LAND OFF CHAPEL LANE, BODENHAM MOOR, HEREFORDSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a trial trench evaluation on an area of land in Bodenham Moor, Herefordshire. Aerial photographs of the site had identified a number of crop marks of possible archaeological origin. The evaluation confirmed the presence of a prehistoric round barrow in the centre of the site, situated in relation to potential paleochannel deposits. A boundary or enclosure ditch containing medieval pottery was identified in the south of the site.

Deep ploughing of the site appeared to have caused disturbance and truncation to the upper archaeological horizon which is likely to have removed all but the deepest features.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This report presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation on land to the south of Chapel Lane, Bodenham Moor, Herefordshire. The archaeological works relate to the forthcoming submission of a detailed planning application for the proposed residential development of the site by Bovis Homes Ltd.

It was agreed with the archaeological advisor to Herefordshire Council, Mr Julian Cotton, that the site had the potential to include heritage assets of archaeological interest. In accordance with relevant policy and best practice, the archaeological advisor requested that a field evaluation be undertaken in order to provide sufficient information to allow the consideration of the planning application.

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) to undertake the required works in accordance with a project design agreed with the archaeological advisor (Craddock-Bennett 2014).

### 1.2 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The proposed development site (**Illus 1**) comprises an area of land located at NGR SO 54527 50423 (site centre). The total development site occupies a single field measuring approximately 3.1ha within the village of Bodenham Moor, Herefordshire.

The site is bound to the north by Chapel Lane, to the west by Brockington Road, and to the east by a commercial apple orchard. A brook forms the southern boundary of the site. From a high spot in the centre of the site (c.66mOSL), the site falls gently to the north (63.50mOSL) and south (64.80mOSL).

Immediately prior to the current works the site was under a potato crop.

The underlying geology of the site is recorded as Raglan Mudstone overlain across the majority of the site by river terrace deposits of sand, gravel and fine silts and clays (BGS 2014).

### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site and its environs is currently being prepared by EDP (2014). The results are summarised below:

Although the site contains no previously recorded undesignated heritage assets, analysis of aerial photographs and satellite photography has identified an area of localised crop marks in the centre and south end of the site (**Illus 2**). These include a possible prehistoric round barrow situated on an 'islet' within a palaeochannel. This suggests a moderate/high potential for prehistoric archaeology to be present within the site. The remaining crop marks comprise of linear, sub-circular and amorphous anomalies, which may be the result of disturbance related to agricultural activity and trees previously present on the site.





To the north of the possible round barrow, aerial photographs appear to show a distinct change in crop growth. This is likely to represent a change in the site geology.

An assessment of archaeological assets recorded within the wider study area, suggests an overall low potential for the site to contain deposits dating to the Roman and medieval periods.

The site is located outside of known areas of settlement and was most likely part of the farmed hinterland from at least the post-medieval period onwards. There is, therefore, a moderate potential for archaeological deposits from this period to be present on site, albeit most likely of low value; i.e. plough soils and field boundaries.

## 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the extent, nature and importance of any buried heritage assets within the proposed development area.

Specifically the evaluation aimed to:

- assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed;
- assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;

- produce a site archive for deposition with Hereford Museum and to provide information for accession to the Herefordshire Historic Environment Record.

## 3 METHOD

The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the following documents:

- Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2000);
- Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2001).

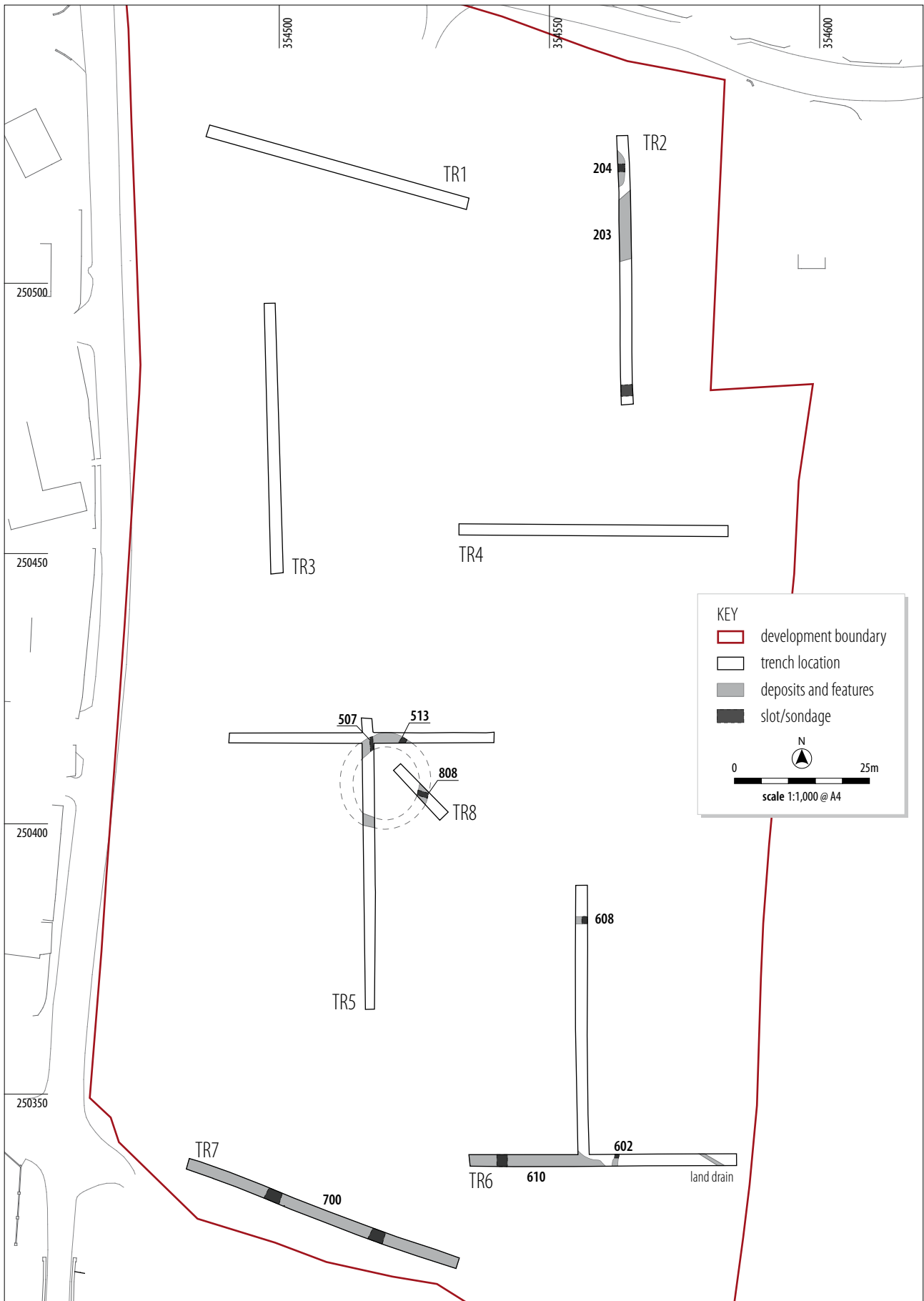
The evaluation comprised the excavation of approximately 3% of the proposed development area by means of trenches totalling 468 linear metres. In a change to the proposed methodology, the location of one of the trenches (Trench 8) was moved from the far south of the site to a location in the centre of the site. This was done in agreement with the archaeological advisor to Herefordshire County Council.

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

The stratigraphic sequence was recorded in full in each of the trenches, even where no archaeological deposits were identified.

All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). The recorded contexts were assigned unique numbers and recording was undertaken





ILLUS 3  
Trench and feature location plan



ILLUS 4

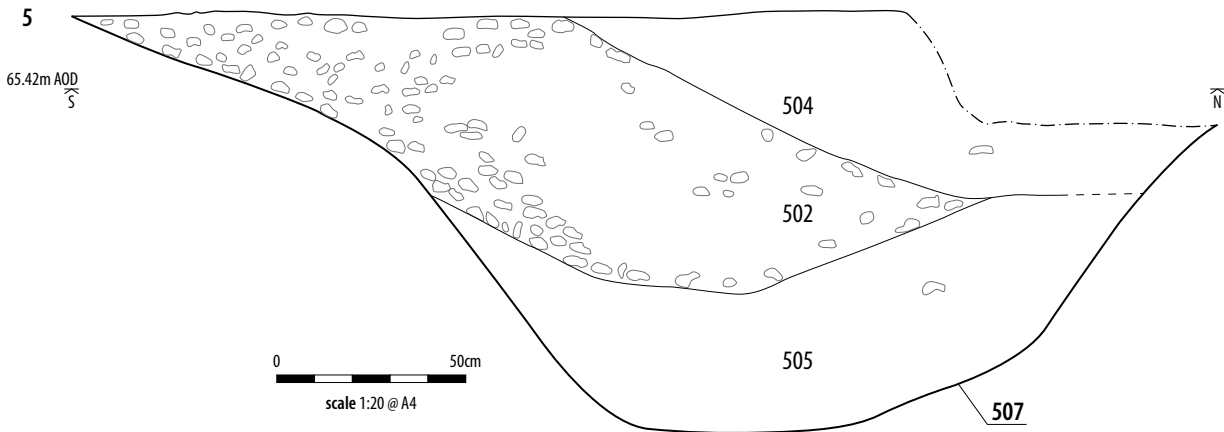
Northern edge of ring-ditch [slot 507]. Camera facing S

ILLUS 5

E facing section through ring-ditch [slot 507]

ILLUS 6

W facing section through ring-ditch [slot 507]



## 4 RESULTS

The location of features discussed below can be found on **Illus 3**. A full trench and context register is included in Appendix 2.

### 4.1 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY

Topsoil across the site consisted of a mid-brown silty clay e.g. [100, 200] measuring between 0.30m and 0.40m in depth. Across the majority of the site the topsoil was underlain by a compact silty clay subsoil showing evidence of disturbance caused by deep ploughing e.g. [101, 301]. At an average depth of 0.45m below ground level a clean yellow silty clay e.g. [102, 302] was observed which appeared to be alluvial in origin.

Natural red and orange gravels e.g. [505, 802]

were observed beneath the alluvial subsoil at a depth of between 0.58m and 0.68m below ground level.

At the northern end of Trench 2 and the southern ends of Trenches 5 and 6 no subsoil deposit was observed. Within these areas topsoil directly overlay natural gravels.

on Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd pro forma trench and context record sheets. Digital photographic images, colour slide and black and white photographs were taken of all trenches with a graduated metric scale clearly visible. Digital surveying was undertaken using a Trimble dGPS system.

ILLUS 7

S facing section through ring-ditch [slot 808]



ILLUS 8

S facing section through ring-ditch [slot 808]

ILLUS 9

SE facing section through ring-ditch [slot 513]

## 4.2 TRENCHES CONTAINING ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

### Trench 5

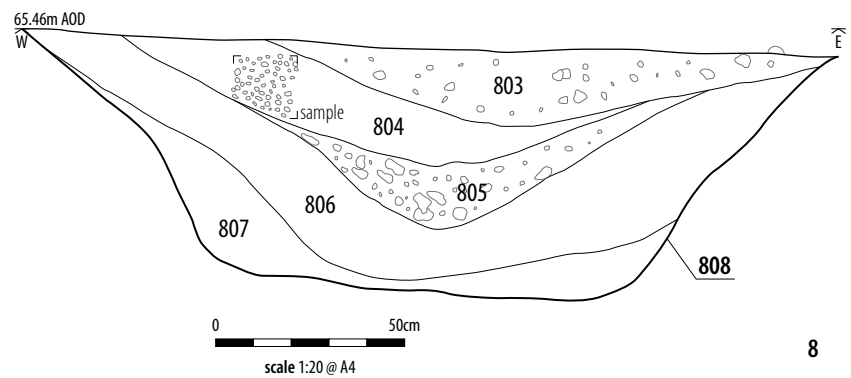
Trench 5 was positioned to target the possible ring-ditch identified from aerial photographs. Overburden was removed to the upper surface of subsoil deposit [501] at which point a band of gravel [502] representing the inner edge of the ring-ditch [507] was observed. A subtle difference in soil composition was identified between the natural subsoil [501] and the upper fill [504] of the feature. In order to further define the feature, targeted machine excavation was used to remove subsoil deposits in the vicinity of the ring-ditch (Illus 4). Two hand dug slots were excavated through the ring-ditch within Trench 5. The surviving ditch measured 1.10m in depth and c.3m in width. A compact silty clay deposit [512] formed the primary fill within slot [513] which was overlain by a loosely compacted silty clay deposit [511] also observed as deposit [505] within slot [507] (Illus 5). Overlying these deposits and confined to the inner edge of the ring-ditch was a deposit of loose red gravel [502, 510]. The deposit appeared to have slumped into the ditch from the interior of the ring-ditch. Overlying the gravel was a fine silt deposit [504, 509] similar in composition to the surrounding subsoil deposits. Prehistoric pottery and worked flint were recovered from deposit [504].

Careful cleaning of the trench section established that the gravel deposit [502, 510] was not present on the interior of the ring-ditch (Illus 6). It would appear that the deposit had been truncated by modern ploughing.

The southern limit of the ring-ditch was identified but not excavated. No archaeological features or deposits were identified on the interior of the ring-ditch. Modern ploughing to a depth of c.0.40m appeared to have truncated the feature.

### Trench 8

In order to identify the eastern extent of the ring-ditch an additional trench was excavated (Trench 8). The continuation of



the ring-ditch [808] became visible at a depth of 0.60m below ground level and measured 2.20m in width. The stratigraphic sequence within the ditch was similar to that observed in the other slots; a compact primary deposit overlain by a loose silt, subsequently overlain by gravel slumping from the interior. In contrast to the ditch profiles recorded within Trench 5, the ditch in Trench 8 had a regular, flat base (Illus 7 and 8) as opposed to a gentle u-shaped profile (Illus 9).





ILLUS 10

W facing section through enclosure ditch [608]

ILLUS 11

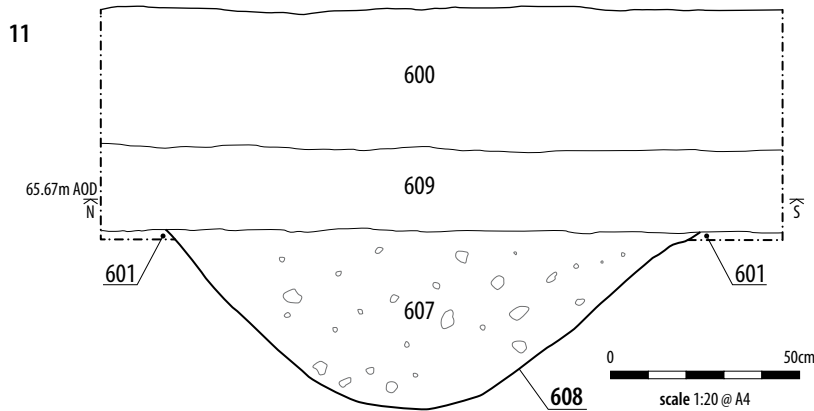
W facing section through enclosure ditch [608]

ILLUS 12

N facing section through feature [610]

The feature exhibited a gentle U-shaped profile and was filled with a compact deposit of silty sand [607] extending to a depth of 0.46m (Illus 11). Two sherds of medieval cooking pot were recovered from it.

In the south of the trench, where topsoil directly overlay geological gravel deposits, an area of apparent disturbance [610] was observed. The feature, measuring c.25m in length and occupying the full width of the evaluation trench was characterised by an upper deposit [604] of mid brown silt containing post medieval tile fragments, and an underlying deposit of loosely compacted silts [605] with occasional charcoal flecking. The feature extended to a depth of 1.12m below ground level (Illus 12). To the east of [610] an irregular linear on a N-S alignment was observed [602]. No cultural material was identified within the feature and the undulating nature of the base and sides was suggestive of tree root activity.



### 4.3 TRENCHES CONTAINING MODERN DEPOSITS

#### Trench 2

An area of farm detritus [203] occupying the full width of the trench and measuring approximately 15m in length was present towards the north of Trench 2. The deposit, containing modern brick and asbestos sheeting extended to a depth in excess of 0.60m below ground level. Feature [204] to the north was irregular in plan and extended beyond the western trench edge. The fill, measuring 0.16m in depth contained occasional charcoal flecks but was devoid of datable material. The irregular shape of the feature was suggestive of a tree throw pit.

#### Trench 7

Trench 7 was located adjacent to an embankment separating the proposed development area from a brook on the southern boundary of the site. Immediately below the turf line a stiff red clay deposit [700] was identified. Two sondages were excavated

#### Trench 6

Trench 6 was positioned to target a number of crop marks identified on aerial photographs. In the north of the trench an E-W orientated linear feature [608] measuring 1.50m in width was identified (Illus 10).

into the clay and revealed the deposit to continue to a depth of between 0.95m and 1.20m below ground level. Fragments of brick and modern plastic were dispersed throughout the deposit. Within the eastern sondage a dark organic deposit [702] containing modern porcelain and bottle glass was identified beneath the clay. In the western sondage, yellow and green gravels [701] were encountered at a depth of 0.95m below ground level.

## 4.4 BLANK TRENCHES

### Trenches 1, 3 and 4

The northern half of the proposed development area (excluding the disturbance observed in Trench 2) was characterised by the presence of a clean, compact deposit of silty clay at a depth of c.0.45m e.g. [102, 302]. This deposit was present beneath the plough disturbed subsoil and was devoid of human cultural material. A sondage excavated through the deposit at the southern end of Trench 2 revealed the deposit became redder and had a slightly higher stone content [202] at a depth of 0.66m below ground level. Discrete gravel patches were present within the deposit in Trench 4 and its composition suggests that it is geological in origin. The extent of the deposit appears to correlate with the band of un-ripened corn visible on the 2006 aerial photograph.

## 5 DISCUSSION

Deep ploughing practices appear to have caused a significant level of truncation and disturbance to the upper subsoil horizon, and the potential for shallow, ephemeral archaeological features to survive on the site is considered to be low. A number of the anomalies identified on aerial photography were found to be of limited significance.

### 5.1 GEOLOGICAL

Two geological deposits predominate across the site. River terrace deposits of sand and gravel were present immediately below the topsoil in the northern and southern parts of the site. At the northern ends of Trenches 5 and 6 the gravel deposits were sealed beneath an alluvial deposit.

Across the northern half of the site (excluding the northern end of Trench 2), a compact silt deposit appears to represent a more recent geological horizon. An assessment of the geological data for this area suggests that this may represent a former channel of the River Lugg. The alluvial deposits observed in Trenches 5 and 6 may be the result of overbank floods related to this former watercourse. The subsoil horizon appears to be ancient – as the ring-ditch is cut into it – and is therefore unlikely to mask any further archaeological remains.

The potential palaeochannel visible on the 2006 aerial photograph which appears to enclose the ring-ditch was not identified during excavation.

### 5.2 PREHISTORIC

The ring-ditch identified in Trenches 5 and 8 appears to represent the remains of a round barrow. Of the four sherds of prehistoric pottery recovered from the ring-ditch, one has been tentatively dated to the Iron Age.

The deposits of gravel present on the internal edges of the excavated slots are likely to represent the remains of a mound that would have originally occupied the internal area. The stratigraphic sequence of deposits visible within the ditch represents a gradual silting up of the monument rather than a rapid backfilling event. Evidence for the mound itself does not survive, and the abrupt truncation of the gravel deposits at the top of the visible ditch cut is likely to be the result of modern deep ploughing methods.

The artefact assemblage associated with this feature is unremarkable (Appendix 2) and its abraded nature suggests it may derive from the ploughing out of the central mound. There is no indication that the fill of the ring-ditch has any particularly significant palaeoenvironmental potential (Appendix 3).

The location of the round barrow on an apparent island, within what appears to be a former channel of the River Lugg, may suggest that the channels were active or at least visible as landscape features when the monument was built. However, it should be noted that this potential palaeochannel was not confirmed during the evaluation and the crop-mark which indicated its presence may have been the result of other activity or geological action.

### 5.3 MEDIEVAL

The recovery of small and abraded medieval pottery sherds from subsoil deposits across the site is consistent with manuring.

The linear feature [608] in Trench 6 may represent a former land boundary or stock enclosure. Pottery recovered from this feature is medieval in date, although the sherds may be residual, deriving from manuring across the site. This means that the feature may actually date to later than the medieval period.

### 5.4 POST-MEDIEVAL

Post-medieval tile was recovered from feature [610]. The nature of the feature however remains unclear. It is worth noting that on the 1887 Ordnance Survey map the corner of a former field boundary marked with a mature tree is present in this location. Feature [610] may therefore relate to the disturbance caused by the uprooting of this tree upon the removal of the field boundary.

### 5.5 MODERN

A discussion with the landowner, Mr Nick Bevan, ascertained that the field in the region of Trench 7 had previously sloped off towards the brook to the south of the site. In order to enable this part of the field to be farmed more effectively, the landowner imported a large amount of material to form a terrace in this





area. The works are visible on the aerial photograph of the site taken in 2006. The deposits identified within Trench 7 date to this period.

Modern farm debris was also present within Trench 2 in the north of the site.

## 6 CONCLUSION

The trial trench evaluation has confirmed the presence of an archaeological monument with a limited spatial extent in the form of a prehistoric ring-ditch. There is general evidence for the use of the proposed development area as agricultural land from the medieval period onwards.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Morgan, M 2014 (draft) *Land to the South of Chapel Lane, Bodenham Moor, Herefordshire: Archaeological and Heritage Assessment*, EDP Ltd, Report Ref: H\_EDP2302\_01.

## 8 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

#### Trench and context register

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
1	100	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay with a pink hue. Very recently under potato crop. Roots throughout plus farm debris.	50m x 2m	0.00–0.35m
	101	Subsoil. Light brown silty clay. Very compact.		0.35–0.45m
	102	Subsoil. Undisturbed. Clean yellow silty clay.		0.45m+
<b>Summary</b> Occasional pottery fragments recovered from subsoil. No archaeological features identified.				

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
2	200	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay.	50m x 2m	0.00–0.40m
	201	Subsoil. Yellow silty clay. Very compact. Frequent mica flecks.		0.40–0.66m
	202	Natural. Red silty clay. Very compact. Frequent stone inclusions.		0.66–0.95m+
	203	Deposit of modern debris. Redeposited natural silts and gravels with inclusions of modern brick and asbestos sheeting.		0.30–0.60m+
	204	Discrete deposit of mid brown gravelly silt. Infrequent charcoal flecks. No finds. Irregular shape in plan suggests a tree throw pit.		0.42–0.58m
	205	Natural. Red and orange gravel with discrete patches of red clay dispersed throughout.		0.40–0.58m+
<b>Summary</b> Natural gravels (205) identified immediately below topsoil in south of trench. Natural silts (201/202) identified below the topsoil in the north of the trench. Sondage excavated to 'test' natural deposits in north of trench. No archaeological features identified.				

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
3	300	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay with a pink hue. Very recently under potato crop. Roots throughout.	50m x 2m	0.00–0.35m
	301	Subsoil. Light brown silty clay. Very compact.		0.35–0.45m
	302	Subsoil. Undisturbed. Clean yellow silty clay.		0.45m+
<b>Summary</b> Occasional fragments of pottery identified within topsoil and subsoil deposits. No archaeological features identified. Linear plough scars evident.				

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
4	400	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay.	50m x 2m	0.00–0.30m
	401	Subsoil. Light brown silty clay. Very compact. Evidence for ploughing disturbance.		0.30–0.45m
	402	Natural. Light brown silty clay with frequent mica flecking. Discrete patches of red gravel deposited throughout.		0.45m+
<b>Summary</b> No archaeological features identified. No evidence for linear features identified on aerial photographs.				



Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
5	500	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay with a pink hue. Very recently under potato crop. Roots throughout.	2 (50m x 2m); T-shaped trench and 5m extension to N.	0.00–0.40m
	501	Subsoil. Light brown silty clay. Very compact.		0.40–0.68m
	502	Mid to dark orange gravel. Appears to be slumping of 'mound' material into ring ditch.		0.40–1.14m
	503	Pink silty clay in base of trench in interior of ring ditch. Interpreted by excavator as possible curves.		0.40–0.45m
	504	Light brown silt with orange hue. Compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Upper silting deposit filling ring ditch.		0.40–1.00m
	505	Dark brown silt with red hue. Soft. Lower fill of ring ditch.		1.00–1.60m
	506	Natural. Dark red, compact, gravelly clay.		0.68m+
	507	Cut for ring ditch. Steep sided, rounded base. Width of ditch 2.30m. Diameter of barrow 16.40m.		0.40–1.60m
	508	Same as [507].		–
	509	Upper fill of ring ditch [513]. Mid orange/brown fine silty sand. Compact.		0.64–0.80m
	510	Fill of ring ditch [513]. Dark reddish brown loose gravels. Equivalent to (502)		0.80–1.00m
	511	Fill of ring ditch [513]. Mid-dark brown fine silty clay. Equivalent to (505).		1.00–1.34
	512	Lower fill of ring ditch [513]. Reddish brown silty clay. Compact.		1.34–1.46m
	513	Cut for ring ditch. Equivalent of [507].		0.64–1.46m
514	Iron water pipe truncating barrow deposits.	0.50m		

**Summary** Ring ditch believed to relate to a round barrow identified on aerial photographs. The ditch appeared as an extremely ephemeral feature at a depth of 0.40m BGL, cutting through a subsoil horizon which differs only slightly from the upper ditch fill. Removal of the subsoil deposit in the vicinity of the ring ditch provided greater definition of the cut.

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
6	600	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay.	2 (50m x 2m); T-shaped trench.	0.00–0.36m
	601	Geological deposits. Orange red gravels with pockets of clayey silt deposited throughout.		0.36m+
	602	Cut for irregular linear feature on N-S alignment. Width varies between 0.70m and 1.12m. Root run.		0.36–0.64m
	603	Fill of [602]. Dark brown silty gravel. Sterile.		0.36–0.64m
	604	Upper fill of [610]. Compact mid brown silt deposit containing post-med tile fragments. Area of made ground/disturbance.		0.38–0.70m
	605	Lower fill of [610]. Mid brown silts with red hue. Soft compaction. Occasional charcoal flecking.		0.70–1.12m
	606	Yellow gravels. Natural deposit potentially relating to former course of stream.		1.12m+
	607	Fill of [608]. Mid-dark reddish brown silty sand. Firm/compact. Single ditch fill.		0.58–1.06m
	608	Cut for E-W linear ditch. 1.60m wide. 45° sides to concave base. Relates to enclosure identified on aerial photographs.		0.58–1.06m
	609	Subsoil deposit in northern part of trench. Compact light yellow/brown silty clay.		0.33–0.58m
	610	Irregular cut containing deposits (604 and 605). This appears to be an area of disturbance which may relate to the made up ground identified in Trench 7.		0.38–1.12m

**Summary** Enclosure ditch identified in northern part of trench. Activity identified in southern part of trench does not appear to be archaeologically significant. Area appears to be disturbed and may relate to historically recorded orchard activity in this part of the site.

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
7	700	Redeposited natural clays and gravels with brick, polystyrene and plastic inclusions. Made ground. Covers extent of trench.	50m x 2m	0.00–1.20m
	701	Yellow and green gravels. Natural deposit potentially relating to former course of stream.		0.95–1.05m+
	702	Dark brown/black organic silty clay containing brick, modern porcelain and bottle glass.		1.20–1.35m+

**Summary** Material imported to level the southern end of the field. Evidence for the importation of material evident on aerial photograph of 2006.

Trench	Context	Description	Dimensions	Deposit depth (BGL)
8	800	Topsoil. Plough soil. Mixed loose light-mid brown silty clay.	13.20m x 2m	0.00–0.35m
	801	Subsoil. Compact light reddish brown silty sand.		0.35–0.60m
	802	Geological deposits. Compact small sub-rounded gravel/small stones in a mid-red sandy matrix. Occasional clay patches.		0.60–1.24m+
	803	Upper fill of [808]. Mid orange/brown fine silty sand. Material from natural slumping/erosion from interior of ring ditch.		0.60–0.80m
	804	Fill of [808]. Dark reddish brown gravels. Gravel slumping from inner mound/bank. Same as (510).		0.60–1.02m
	805	Fill of [808]. Mid brown fine silty sand.		0.70–1.18m
	806	Fill of [808]. Mid dark brown fine silty clay. Low action deposit.		0.60–1.20m
	807	Primary fill of [808]. Reddish brown silty clay. Compact. Low action deposit. Same as (512).		0.70–1.24m
808	Cut for ring ditch. 2.14m wide. Steep sides to flat base.	0.60–1.24m		

**Summary** Trench excavated to identify continuation of ring ditch. Multiple fills suggestive of gradual silting up of feature.



## APPENDIX 2 FINDS

### Finds assessment

JULIE FRANKLIN AND PAUL BLINKHORN

#### Introduction

The finds assemblage was small and mixed in terms of dating. It was made up of small abraded sherds of pottery and other ceramics, with two lithics finds. Finds range in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods. A summary of the finds by trench is shown in **Table 1**, while a complete catalogue of all the finds is given below.

#### Pottery

The pottery assemblage comprised 19 sherds with a total weight of 92g. It was recorded using the conventions of the Hereford type-series (e.g. Vince 1985) where appropriate.

Four prehistoric coarseware sherds were recovered from the ring ditch [507/808] (504/804). One (504) was very abraded but had inclusions which suggest a Malvernian origin and hence possibly an Iron Age date, though the sherd was too damaged to allow confident identification. The remaining three sherds (804) were very fragmentary and likewise cannot be identified or dated.

Other pottery was predominantly found in subsoil contexts (101, 301, 501) where it probably derives from midden material spread on the fields to fertilise and break up the soil. The material spans the medieval and post-medieval periods including: 12th to 14th century Malvernian cooking pots; mid 13th to early 15th century Hereford Medieval Glazed Ware; 14th to 17th century Malvernian oxidized glazed wares; and 17th and 18th century types such as black-glazed earthenwares, Newent and Whitney slipwares and Border wares. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region. The two sherds of Malvernian cooking pot from ditch [608] (607) suggest this feature may date to the medieval period, though equally they may be residual.

#### Other finds

Two small pieces of chipped flint found in the ring ditch [507] (504) are of prehistoric date, though again, cannot be closely dated.

Finds of ceramic building materials include two possibly Roman sherds of brick or tile (301), a piece of medieval Malvernian flat roof tile (501) and some sherds of post-medieval pan tile (604). A fragment of clay pipe stem (301) is also of post-medieval origin.

#### Discussion

The finds confirm prehistoric origins for the ring ditch [507/808] but cannot provide any close dating. They also suggest possible medieval origins for ditch [608]. Other finds merely indicate low level, probably agricultural activity in the area. The small size and abraded nature of many of the finds are consistent with manuring.

#### References

Vince, AG 1985 'The Ceramic Finds' in Shoesmith, R *Hereford City Excavations. Volume 3: The Finds*, CBA Research Report 56, pp34–82.

TABLE A2.1

Finds quantification by trench

Trench	Pottery (PH)		Pottery (Medi)		Pottery (PM)		CBM		Clay Pipe	Lithics
	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)		
1	–	–	5	31	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	–	–	5	21	–	–	2	50	1	–
5	1	7	–	–	2	5	1	33	–	2
6	–	–	2	19	1	7	4	304	–	–
8	3	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>



## Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Context description	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Fabric code	Object	Description	Spot date	Period
1	101	Subsoil	1	7	Pottery (Medi)	B4	Oxidized Malvernian	—	14thC	Medi
1	101	Subsoil	2	2	Pottery (Medi)	A7b	Hereford medieval glazed ware	white slip	M13thC	Medi
1	101	Subsoil	1	18	Pottery (Medi)	B1	Malvernian cooking pots	jar rim	12thC	Medi
1	101	Subsoil	1	4	Pottery (Medi)	B1	Malvernian cooking pots	—	12thC	Medi
3	301	Subsoil	2	50	CBM	—	Brick/tile	—	Roman?	Rom?
3	301	Subsoil	1	0	Clay Pipe	—	Stem	Small fragment, wide bore?	L.16th/e.18th	PM
3	301	Subsoil	4	19	Pottery (Medi)	B1	Malvernian cooking pots	—	12thC	Medi
3	301	Subsoil	1	2	Pottery (Medi)	A7b	Hereford medieval glazed ware	white slip	M13thC	Medi
5	501	Subsoil	1	33	CBM	B4	Oxidized Malvernian	flat roof tile	14thC	Medi
5	501	Subsoil	1	1	Pottery (PM)	A7d	Black-glazed Earthenware	—	L17thC	PM
5	501	Subsoil	1	4	Pottery (PM)	A7e	Newent and Whitney Slipware	bowl rim	17thC	PM
5	504	Ring ditch [507] upper fill	2	2	Lithics	Flint	Flake & Chip	small worked pieces	—	PH
5	504	Ring ditch [507] upper fill	1	7	Pottery (PH)	?	Coarseware	abraded	—	PH
6	604	Cut [610] upper fill	4	304	CBM	—	Pan Tile	joining sherds from same tile, with spot of glaze	—	PM
6	604	Cut [610] upper fill	1	7	Pottery (PM)	BORDB	Border Ware - brown glazed	dish rim with internal brown glaze	17thth/18th	PM
6	607	Ditch [608] fill	2	19	Pottery (Medi)	B1	Malvernian cooking pots	—	12thC	Medi
8	804	Ring ditch [808] fill	3	2	Pottery (PH)	?	Coarseware	fragments of prehistoric pottery	—	PH



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## APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL

### Environmental assessment

LAURA BAILEY

#### *Introduction*

One 20 litre sample was recovered during an evaluation at land south of Chapel Lane, Bodenham. The sample was taken from the upper fill of a ring ditch. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains in the sample. The environmental remains are quantified in Environmental catalogue.

#### *Method*

The sample was subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm 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).

#### *Results*

Results of the assessment are presented in retent sample and flot sample tables. No material of a suitable size for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) was recovered.

A small amount of heavily fragmented wood charcoal, ranging in size from 1mm to 5cm, was recovered from the sample. No other artefacts or ecofacts were present.

#### *References*

Cappers, RTJ, Bekker, RM & Jans, JEA 2006 *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*, Barkhuis Publishing and Groningen University Library, Groningen.

## Environmental catalogue

### *Retent sample results*

Context	Sample	Sample vol (l)	Charcoal		Material available for AMS Dating	Comments
			Qty	Max size (mm)		
504	1	20	+	5	No	–

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)  
NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

### *Flotation sample results*

Context	Sample	Total flot vol (ml)	Charcoal		Material available for AMS	Comments
			Qty	Max size (mm)		
504	1	20	+	1	No	Contains modern roots and seeds

Key: + = rare (1–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (16–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)  
NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating









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