

SEME/01



LAND NORTH OF SOUTHAM ROAD, RADFORD SEMELE, WARWICKSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by CgMs
on behalf of Gladman Developments

September 2014

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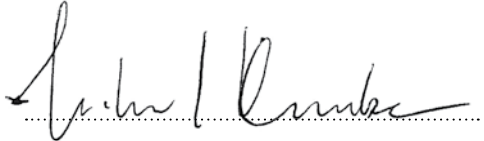
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LAND NORTH OF SOUTHAM ROAD, RADFORD SEMELE, WARWICKSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

Thirty two trenches were opened by Headland Archaeology, during the course of an evaluation at Radford Semele, Warwickshire, in order to provide supporting information for an appeal by Gladman Developments against the refusal of planning permission by South Warwickshire Council. The evaluation identified features of medieval date, most likely boundary ditches related to the hinterland of medieval Radford Semele.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on an area of land at Radford Semele, Warwickshire, in order to provide supporting information for an anticipated appeal by Gladman Developments against refusal of outline planning permission by Warwick District Council with the aim of providing further information about the archaeological resource, and to enable appropriate decisions to be reached regarding the planning submission.

The work was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design agreed with the archaeological advisor to the planning authority, Anna Stocks.

1.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

The proposed development site comprised a 7.2ha area of land located at NGR 434500, 264745 (site centre), plus an area of 1.2ha on the west side of Church lane which runs between the two areas, but was not included within this scheme of evaluation because it is intended for public open space.

The site is undulating and is currently under mixed pasture and arable.

The underlying solid geology comprises Triassic Mercia Mudstone overlain by Wolston Sand and Gravel.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment produced by CgMs (Shepherd 2013), identified the potential for locally important remains relating to early medieval settlement to occur either side of Church Lane, concluding that remains from other periods were unlikely to occur within the area. The core of later medieval settlement is located some distance to the south of the proposed development, and it is presently unclear how this area related to any settlement in the vicinity of the 12th century church.

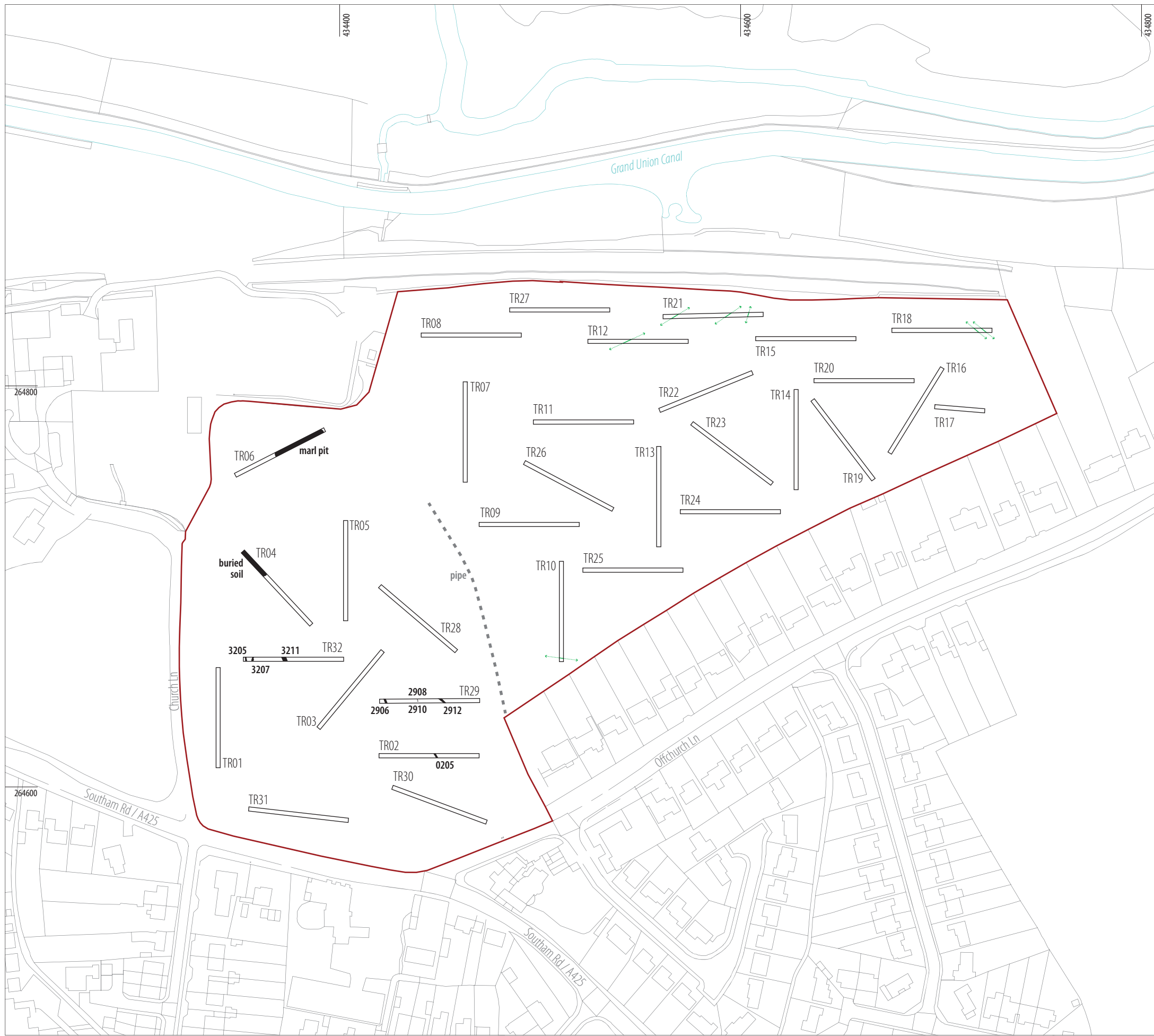
Previous archaeological excavation identified a curved gully containing 13th century pottery close to the junction of Church Lane and Southam Road, and in 2014 a geophysical survey undertaken by Stratascan (Prestidge 2014) identified a linear anomaly of possible archaeological origin.

The church of St Nicholas lies on the northern edge of the development site and dates from the early 12th century.

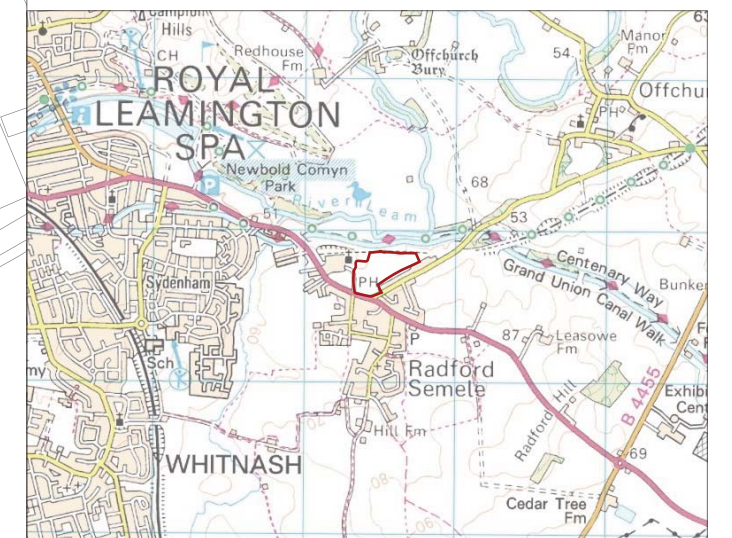
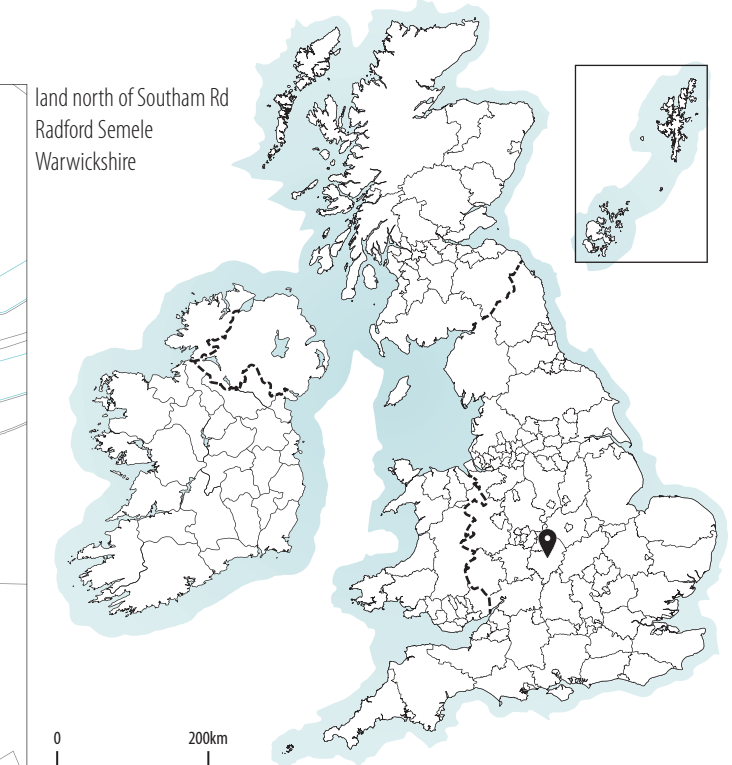
2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the evaluation were:

- to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the proposed development site, with special regard taken as to the potential for medieval occupation remains;



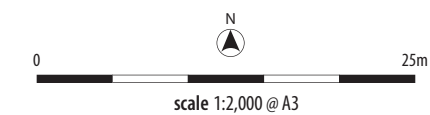
land north of Southam Rd
Radford Semele
Warwickshire

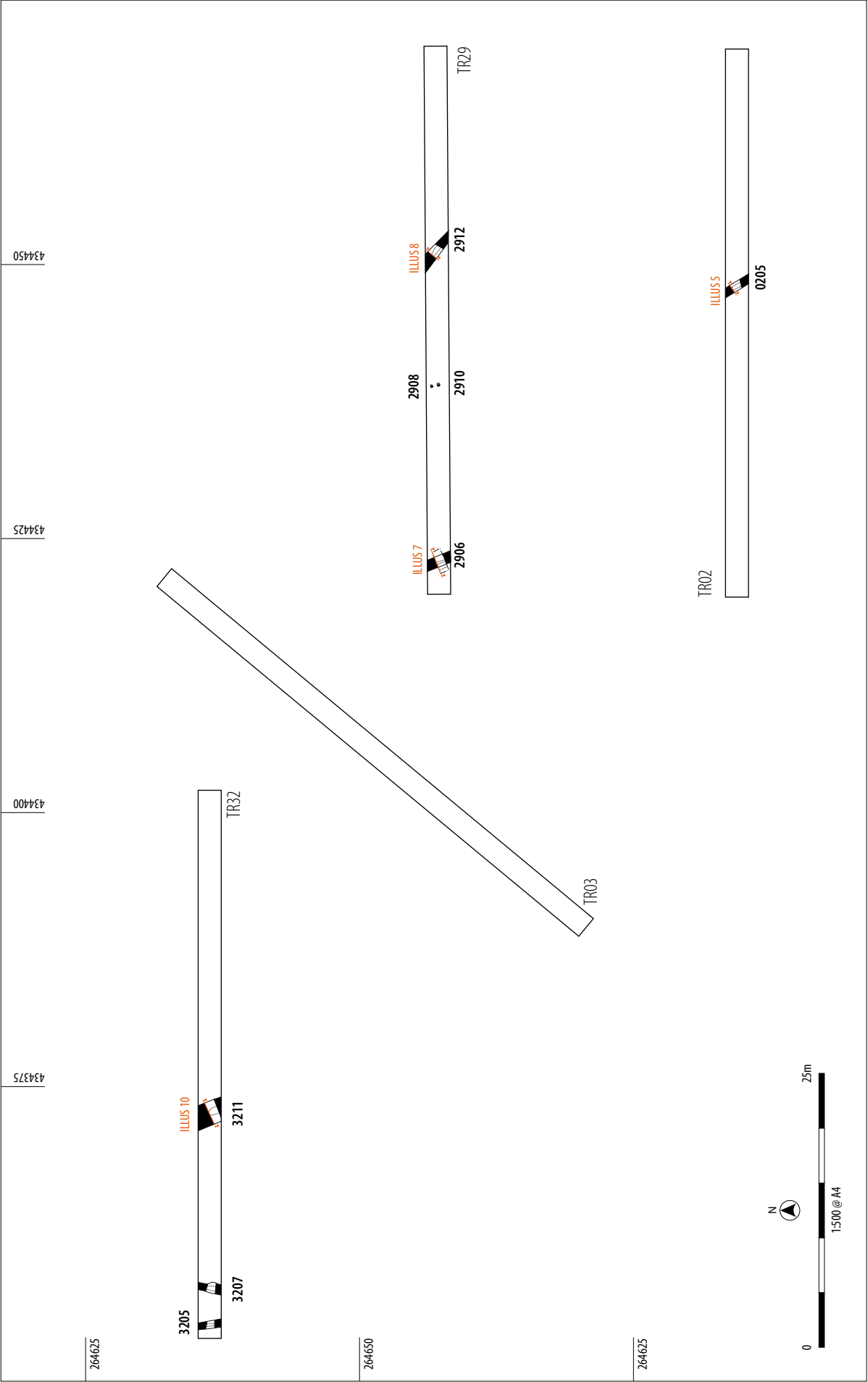


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- KEY
- development boundary
 - trench location
 - archaeological features
 - ↘ land drain





ILLUS 2
Detail of Trenches 2, 3, 29 and 32



ILLUS 3
NW facing view of Trench 11 showing church in background



ILLUS 4
SE facing view of Trench 23



- 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 Warwickshire 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

The evaluation comprised the excavation of approximately 4% of the 7.2ha development area, equating to 32 50m long trenches excavated with a standard width ditching bucket. Trenches 2, 28, 29 and 30 were positioned to target linear geophysical anomalies, the remainder were spread evenly across the site, targeting the proposed site access and the balancing pond area in particular.

Trenches were excavated under direct archaeological supervision using a 25 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.

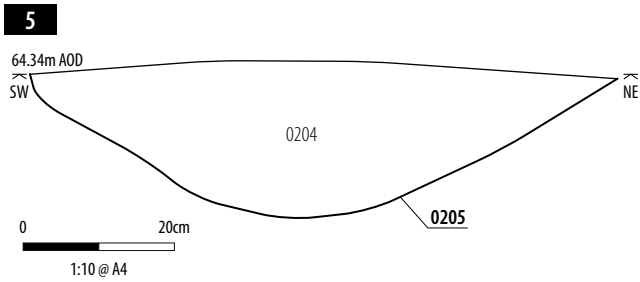
All recording followed IfA Standards and Guidance. All contexts were given unique numbers and recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards. Sections of archaeological features were hand-drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Hand drawn plans of certain archaeological features were also undertaken. A 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. The following results section summarises the archaeological resource observed across the proposed development area and identifies the features of archaeological importance.

4.1 STRATIGRAPHIC SEQUENCE

The eastern part of the site lies on slightly raised ground which falls away towards the north east. The western part of the site is undulating, and is marked by a distinct hollow adjacent to the northern boundary of the site. The topsoil was approximately 0.25–0.30m thick, comprising a dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones, overlying a mid-orangey brown subsoil measuring

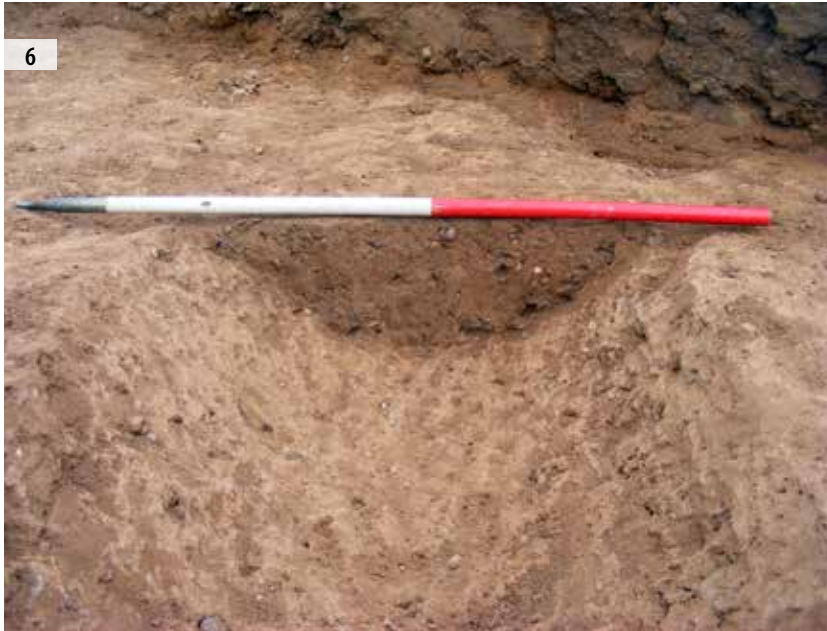


ILLUS 5

Section of ditch [0205]

ILLUS 6

NW facing view of ditch [0205]



naturally occurring dip in the ground surface in this part of the site. A single sherd of 15th–16th century pottery was recovered from the base of the lower soil profile, but this could easily have arrived as a result of manuring.

Trench 32

Three linear features were present in this trench, all of which yielded sherds of medieval pottery. At the western end of the trench was a pair of shallow gullies, orientated north-south. [3205] was 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep. The feature appeared to have silted up, and contained a single sherd of Saxo-Norman pottery in its fill (3204). Its companion, [3207] was a similar width and slightly shallower at 0.19m deep. This feature contained a relatively large number of sherds of 11th to 14th century date, with deposition likely to have occurred in the 13th to 14th centuries.

approximately 0.30m thick, comprising a brown silty sand, with common small to medium stones. The geological substrate was a light yellowish brown, silty sand, with common amounts of small to medium stones, and occasional patches of red clay.

Archaeological remains, modern deposits and variations in the general stratigraphy and geology, were recorded in the following trenches.

4.2 MEDIEVAL

Features containing medieval pottery were located in Trenches 2, 4 and 32.

Trench 2

A linear feature [0205] cut across this trench towards the western end. It was 0.75m wide x 0.2m deep, and clearly extended beyond the baulk in both directions. The profile of the ditch was regular with moderately steep sides and a rounded base, and was filled by a compacted, mid reddish brown deposit (0204), comprising clayey sand with small to medium stones.

This feature likely represents the remains of a former field boundary which has subsequently silted, it is of probable medieval date.

Trench 4

At the north-west end of the trench the soil profile was buried beneath a later modern deposit, most likely an attempt to level the

Roughly mid-way along Trench 32 was a far more substantial ditch feature [3211], orientated north-west to south-east. Measuring 3.8m wide and over 1.5m deep, the fills of this feature indicate an initial period of silting (3210), followed by an episode of backfilling (3209), and final silting of the remaining feature profile (3208). The deposition of pottery (and presumably other waste) into the feature is likely to have commenced during the 13th century, and to have continued into the 14th.

4.3 POST-MEDIEVAL

Trench 6

Located in the lower hollow in the northern part of the site, a modern fill (604) was visible on the base of the trench associated with the backfilling of a marl pit (landowner pers com).

4.4 UNDATED

Trench 29

This trench contained several undated features.

Feature [2905], was a linear ditch measuring 0.7m wide x 0.24m deep, and orientated north-west to south-east. Its fill (2904) derived from the silting of the feature.



ILLUS 7

Section of ditch [2906]

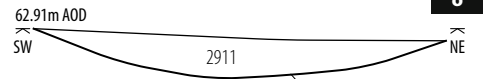
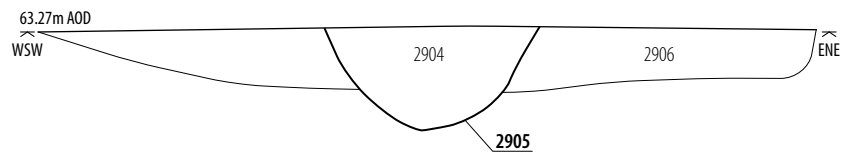
7

ILLUS 8

Section of ditch [2912]

ILLUS 9

W facing view of post-holes [2908] and [2910]



0 50cm
1:20 @ A4

This feature was cut into subsoil deposit (2906), which comprised a light brownish grey, friable, clayey silt, with occasional small-medium stones, and traces of charcoal. This context was found at the western end of the trench, with an additional patch (2913) located towards the east.

Feature [2911] was a linear ditch, cut into subsoil deposit (2913), measuring 1m wide x 0.13m deep. It was aligned north-west to south-east, and was filled by (2912), a deposit representing silting of the feature.

Two circular post-holes were found close together and cut into subsoil deposit (2913). Context [2908] measured 0.25m in diameter x 0.17m deep, and was filled by (2907), a mid-grey brown, friable, clay silt with occasional small stones, and charcoal flecks. Context [2910] measured 0.24m diameter x 0.18m deep. It was filled by (2909), a very similar deposit to (2907).



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Despite being undated, it is likely that the features found in Trench 29 are medieval or even later in date because they were visible within the lower part of the subsoil horizon.

4.5 MODERN AND NATURAL FEATURES

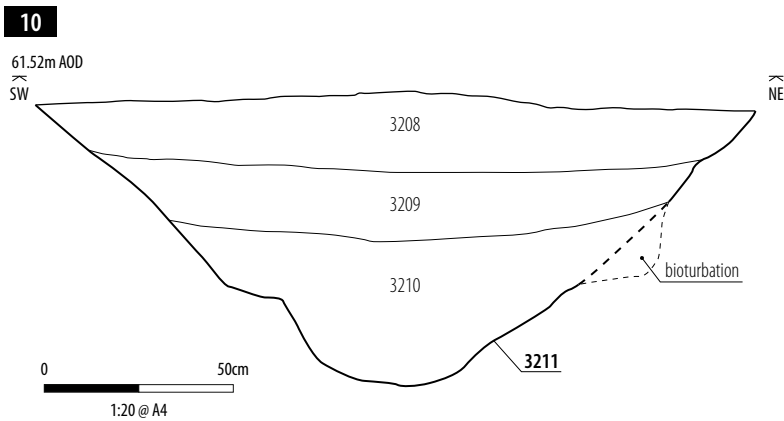
A feature noted in Trench 31 and thought to potentially be the continuation of ditch [3211] was found to be a tree throw pit. A modern sewer was located in Trench 3, and Trench 14 contained a modern pipe. Land drains were noted in trenches 12, 15, 16, 18, 21 and 25.

5 DISCUSSION

There was no clear correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the results of the trial trenching. The only geophysical anomaly targeted by the trenching – a north-south aligned linear anomaly – was not on a sufficiently similar alignment to the linear features identified in Trenches 2 & 21 for it to have been the same feature. There was however clear evidence of human activity shown by the trial trenching, suggesting that on this site gradiometry was not capable of identifying archaeological features.

The large, deep ditch identified in Trench 32 [3211] has the appearance of a substantial boundary feature, which would be expected to continue across much of the site. However it was not identified in any other evaluation trenches. On examination of the alignment of this feature, it is possible that it could have just passed through an un-sampled area between the south-west end of Trench 3 and the east end of Trench 31, and could have passed by Trench 4 to its west. Alternatively the feature may have changed direction. On balance ditch [3211] is probably a landscape scale property division representing a boundaries of a land plot connected with the former medieval settlement.

The smaller linear features identified in Trenches 2, 29 and 32 do not form any obvious pattern of land boundaries. With the possible exception of [0205] and [2905], which share some similarities in form and alignment, no evidence was found to suggest these small gullies are anything other than localised features. Given their generally shallow depth, and the absence of significant quantities of material culture from within them, they are likely to have marked smaller subdivisions of fields or paddocks, or to have been connected with efforts at localised drainage. It is again just possible that evidence for a broader system of these features has slipped through the gaps in the trenching layout, but it seems less likely for the features around



ILLUS 10

Section through ditch [3211]

ILLUS 11

NW facing view of ditch [3211]



6 CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation has met its objectives by identifying the presence of archaeological remains and obtaining evidence for the date of these features. Based on the interpretation of these features as delineating land parcels in the hinterland of the medieval settlement, their configuration will provide only basic information about its layout. Any artefactual remains within their fills are most likely to be the result of the unstructured deposition of domestic waste and are therefore unlikely to yield significant information through analysis. The significance of the archaeological remains located is therefore assessed as low.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Headland Archaeology 2014 *Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Church Lane, Radford Semele, Warwickshire.*

Prestidge, O 2014 *Southam Road, Radford Semele, Warwickshire: Geophysical Survey Report* Stratascan Ltd.

Shepherd, N 2013 *Land off Southam Road, Radford Semele, Warwickshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* CgMs Consulting Ltd.

Trench 29 because of the relative density of trial trenches in this location.

The post-holes in Trench 29 may relate to a structure, or more likely the former line of a fence.

The finds assemblage (largely of 12th to 14th century date, see Appendix 3) is characteristic of the disposal of domestic waste, either by manuring of the fields or by direct dumping into the boundary ditches. The single isolated sherd of medieval pottery found in Trench 4 is not sufficient evidence for the presence of medieval activity; however the presence of an in-filled hollow may provide favourable potential for the preservation of archaeological remains in this area.

The fragments of early (12th century) medieval pottery provide some support for the theory that the earlier medieval settlement at Radford Semele was located closer to the parish church than the later medieval settlement, but do not suggest that it lay within the land to the east of Church Lane.



8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 TRENCH REGISTER

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
01	N/S	50	2.00	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
101	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.25
102	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand, with occasional small stones	0.20
103	Natural. Mid yellowish brown, silty sand, with frequent small-medium stones	+0.30

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
02	E/W	50	2.00	0.45

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
0201	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.30
0202	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand, with occasional small stones	0.25
0203	Natural. Mid yellowish brown, silty sand, with frequent small-medium stones	0.25-?
0204	Ditch fill. Mid reddish brown, compact, clayey sand with occasional very small-medium stones.	0.20
0205	Cut. Linear, steep sided, concave base.	0.20

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
03	NE/SW	50	2.00	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
0301	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with frequent small stones.	0.30
0302	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand with occasional small stones	0.10
0303	Natural. Mid yellowish brown, silty sand, with common small stones	0.50+

Trench description

Field drain at NE end of trench. No archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
04	NW/SE	50	2.00	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
0401	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with frequent small stones.	0.30
0402	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand with occasional small stones.	0.10
0403	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with frequent small-medium stones, and occasional brownish red clay patches.	0.40+

Trench description

Topsoil and subsoil appear to be buried by a subsequent 'layer' of topsoil at NW end. Land surface appears to have originally dipped here.

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
05	N/S	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
0501	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.15
0502	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand with occasional small stones	0.20
0503	Natural. Light grey brown, silty sand with frequent small-medium stones.	0.35+

Trench description

No archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
06	NE/SW	50	2.00	0.60

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
0601	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with frequent small stones	0.25
0602	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand, with frequent small stones	0.20
0603	Natural. Mid yellowish brown, silty sand with frequent small-medium stones	0.45+
0604	Modern material filling former marl-pit	

Trench description

Modern backfill used to fill natural hollow. No archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
07	N/S	50	2.00	0.25
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
0701	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.25		
0702	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with occasional small to medium stones	0.25		
0703	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with frequent small-medium stones, with occasional red patches	0.50		

Trench description

Eastern part of site, No archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
08	E/W	50	2.00	0.40
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
0801	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, clayey sand with common small stones	0.30		
0802	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, with occasional small stones	0.05		
0803	Natural. Mid reddish brown, clayey sand with frequent small stones	0.35+		

Trench description

Eastern part of site, No archaeology. Slight variation in natural from east to west

Trench.	Orientation	Le (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
09	E/W	50	2.00	0.45
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
0901	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with common small stones	0.25		
0902	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small to medium stones	0.15		
0903	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with small-medium stones and occasional red patches	0.40		

Trench description

Eastern part of site, No archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
10	N/S	50	2.00	0.50
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
1001	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.30		
1002	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones.	0.10		
1003	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones and occasional red patches	0.40+		

Trench description

Eastern end of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
11	E/W	50	2.00	0.35
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
1101	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.35		
1102	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10		
1103	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with frequent small-medium stones, and occasional red patches of clay	0.45+		

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology.

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
12	E/W	50	2.00	0.45
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
1201	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt, with frequent small stones	0.30		
1202	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand, common small-medium stones	0.10		
1203	Light yellowish brown, silty sand, with occasional patches of clay.	0.40+		

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology



Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
13	N/S	50	2.00	0.35

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1301	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones.	0.25
1302	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silt sand with frequent small-medium stones.	0.05
1302	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with frequent small to medium stones	0.25+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W(m)	Av. D(m)
14	N/S	50	2.00	0.35

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1401	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.25
1402	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10
1403	Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.35+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
15	E/W	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1501	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones.	0.30
1502	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand, with common small-medium stones	0.10
1503	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand, with common small-medium stones	0.40+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
16	E/W	50	2.00	0.35

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1601	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.25
1602	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10
1603	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.35+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
17	E/W	50	2.00	0.30

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1701	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.20
1702	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand, with common small-medium stones	0.05
1703	Natural. Clayey sand	0.25+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
18	E/W	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1801	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.30
1802	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10
1803	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.40+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, 2 ceramic field drains running nw/se across trench.

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
19	NW/SE	50	2.00	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1901	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, with common small stones	0.40
1902	Subsoil. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
1903	Natural. Gravel sands with clay bands	0.45+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
20	E/W	50	2.00	0.30

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2001	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, common small stones.	0.25
2002	Subsoil. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
2003	Natural. Brown clay with gravels	0.25+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
21	E/W	50	2.00	0.0.30

Context	Context Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2101	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.30
2102	Natural. Red clays and gravels	0.30+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, land drains cutting across trench

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
22	SW/NE	50	2.00	0.45

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2201	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.30
2202	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10
2203	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with clays	0.40+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
23	NW/SE	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2301	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.40
2302	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.10
2303	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand with bands of clay	0.50

Trench description

Eastern part of trench, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
24	E/W	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2401	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.30
2402	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
2403	Natural. Sandy gravels with patches of red clay	0.35

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
25	E/W	50	2.00	0.30

Context	Context Description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2501	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, with common small stones	0.30
2502	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand, with common small-medium stones	0.10
2503	Natural. Sandy gravels	0.40+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, land drain running across site ne/sw



Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
26	NW/SE	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2601	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.40
2602	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
2603	Natural.	0.45+

Trench description

Central part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
27	E/W	50	2.00	0.30

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2701	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, with common small stones	0.30
2702	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
2703	Natural. Red clay, gravels and sands	0.35

Trench description

Central part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
28	E/W	50	2.00	0.18

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2800	Topsoil. Dark brown, soft, clayey silt. Rooty.	0.17
2801	Subsoil. Interface. Light brown with clay flecks, silty clay. No inclusions.	0.06
2802	Natural. Mottled orange clay.	+0.20

Trench description

No Archaeological features. No evidence of Geophysical anomalies.

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
29	E/W	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2901	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, with common small stones	0.30
2902	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.20
2903	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty sand	0.50+
2904	Fill of (2905). Mid brownish grey, friable clay silt	0.24
2905	Cut. Linear, steep, concave ditch, 0.7m wide, Cut into subsoil deposit 2906	0.24
2906	Subsoil horizon. Light brownish grey, friable, clayey silt with occasional small-medium stones	0.13
2907	Fill of post-hole. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt with frequent small stones.	0.17
2908	Cut of post-hole, 0.21m diameter. Circular, straight sides, concave base. 0.25m diameter.	0.17
2909	Fill of post-hole. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt, traces of charcoal.	0.18
2910	Cut of post-hole, 0.24m diameter. Circular, straight sides, concave base	0.18
2911	Fill of ditch. Mid greyish brown, friable, clayey silt with occasional small-medium stones	0.13
2912	Cut of ditch, 1m wide. Linear, sloping sides, concave base	0.13
2913	Subsoil horizon. Light brownish grey, friable, clayey silt (same as (2906))	0.14

Trench description

Eastern part of site, potential medieval settlement/structures in situ

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
30	E/W	50	2.00	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3001	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, common small stones	0.35
3002	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand with common small-medium stones	0.05
3003	Natural. Light yellowish brown. Silty sand with common stones.	0.40+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, no archaeology

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
31	E/W	50	2.00	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3101	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.30
3102	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, silty sand with common stones	0.05
3103	Natural. Red clay/gravels, and mixed sands	0.35+

Trench description

Eastern part of site, No Archaeological features.

Trench	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Av. D (m)
32	E/W	50	2.00	0.30

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3201	Topsoil. Dark grey brown, sandy silt with common small stones	0.25
3202	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, silty sand with small-medium stones	0.20
3203	Natural. Yellowish orange, silty sand, common stones	0.45+
3204	Fill of ditch 3205. Light grey-brown clay silt with occasional small to medium stones, rare inclusions of charcoal	0.25m
3205	Cut of small ditch orientated north-south, steep sides, concave base, 0.6m wide	0.25m
3206	Fill of ditch 3207. Mid grey-brown clay silt with occasional small stones, rare inclusions of charcoal.	0.19m
3207	Cut of small ditch orientated north-south, steep sides and concave base	0.19m
3208	Tertiary silting of ditch 3211. Friable mid brown-grey clay silt with frequent small stones, inclusions of charcoal and clusters of potsherds.	0.4m
3209	Backfilling event in ditch 3211 – secondary fill. Stiff mid grey brown clay silt containing frequent small to large stones and rare inclusions of charcoal, pottery.	0.36m
3210	Primary silting fill of ditch 3211. Stiff dark grey brown silty clay with frequent small to medium stones and rare inclusions of charcoal, pottery.	0.78m
3211	Cut of large ditch orientated NW-SE 3.8m wide. Steep and stepped sides with slightly concave base, sharp breaks of slope.	1.54m

Trench description

Archaeology in this trench.



APPENDIX 2 PHOTO REGISTER

Photo	B & W	Colour	Digital	Direction facing	Description
–	37	00	0062	–	Film identification
001	36	0	0063	S	Trench 1
002	35	01	0064	W	Section, Trench 1
003	34	02	0065	E	Trench 2
004	33	03	0066	N	Section, Trench 2
005	32	04	0067	NE	Trench 3
006	31	05	0068	NW	Section, Trench 3
007	30	06	0069	SE	Trench 4
008	29	07	0070	NE	Section, Trench 4
009	28	08	0071	S	Trench 5
010	27	09	0072	W	Section, Trench 5
011	26	10	0073	SW	Trench 6
012	25	11	0074	NW	Section, Trench 6
013	24	12	0075	N	Trench 7
014	23	13	0076	W	Section, Trench 7
015	22	14	0077	E	Trench 8
016	21	15	0078	N	Section, Trench 8
017	20	16	0079	E	Trench 12
018	19	17	0080	N	Section, Trench 12
019	18	18	0081	E	Trench 15
020	17	19	0082	N	Section, Trench 15
021	16	20	0083	SW	Trench 16
022	15	21	0084	SE	Section, Trench 16
023	14	22	0085	S	Trench 14
024	13	23	0086	E	Section, Trench 14
025	12	24	0087	NW	SE-facing section through Ditch [0205]
026	–	–	0088	N	General view of slot in Ditch [0205]
027	–	–	0089	NW	General view of slot in Ditch [0205]
028	–	–	0090	W	General view of slot in Ditch [0205]
029	–	–	0091	W	General view of slot in Ditch [0205]
030	–	–	0092	NW	General view of slot in Ditch [0205]
031	11	25	0093	NW	SE facing section through Ditch [3211]
032	–	–	0094	–	General views of Ditch [3211]
033	–	–	0095	–	–
034	–	–	0096	–	General views of Ditch [3211]
035	–	–	0097	–	General views of Ditch [3211]

Photo	B & W	Colour	Digital	Direction facing	Description
036	–	–	0098	–	General views of Ditch [3211]
037	–	–	0099	–	General views of Ditch [3211]
038	–	–	0100	N	Trench 10
039	–	–	0101	W	Section, Trench 10
040	–	–	0102	W	Trench 9
041	–	–	0103	S	Section, Trench 9
042	–	–	0104	NW	Trench 11
043	–	–	0105	N	Section, Trench 11
044	–	–	0106	NE	Trench 22
045	–	–	0107	NW	Section, Trench 22
046	–	–	0108	SE	Trench 23
047	–	–	0109	SW	Section, Trench 23
048	–	–	0110	S	Trench 13
049	–	–	0111	W	Section, Trench 13
050	–	–	0112	SE	Trench 26
051	–	–	0113	N	Section, Trench 26
052	–	–	0114	SW	Trench 25
053	–	–	0115	N	Section, Trench 25
054	–	–	0116	N	Trench 24
055	–	–	0117	S	Section, Trench 24
056	–	–	0118	NW	Section, Trench 19
057	–	–	0119	W	Trench 19
058	–	–	0120	NNE	Trench 16
059	–	–	0121	NNW	Section, Trench 16
060	–	–	0122	SE	Trench 17
061	–	–	0123	NE	Section, Trench 17
062	–	–	0124	W	Trench 20
063	–	–	0125	N	Section, Trench 20
064	–	–	0126	E	Trench 18
065	–	–	0127	N	Section, Trench 18
066	–	–	0128	W	Trench 21
067	–	–	0129	S	Section, Trench 21
068	–	–	0130	W	Trench 27
069	–	–	0131	N	Section, Trench 27
070	–	–	0132	NW	Trench 28
071	–	–	0134	SW	Section, Trench 28
072	10	26	0135	NW	SE facing section of Ditch [2905]

Photo	B & W	Colour	Digital	Direction facing	Description
073	–	–	0136	W	Post holes [2908] & [2910]
074	09	27	0137	W	E facing section [2910]
075	08	28	0138	W	E facing section [2908]
076	07	29	0140	NW	SE facing section through Ditch [2912]
077	06	30	0141	E	Trench 29
078	–	–	0142	S	Section, Trench 29
079	05	31	0143	N	S facing section through Ditch [3207]
080	04	32	0144	N	S facing section through Ditch [3205]
081	03	33	0145	E	Trench 32, General view showing features
082	–	–	0146	N	Section, Trench 32
083	–	–	0147	SW	Section, Trench 4 – showing buried soil horizon
084	–	–	0148	SW	Section, Trench 4 – showing buried soil horizon
085	02	34	0149	SW	Section, Trench 4
086	–	–	0150	E	Trench 31 – tree throw
087	–	–	0151	S	Section, Trench 31
088	–	–	0152	E	Trench 31
089	–	–	0153	W	Trench 30
090	–	–	0154	S	Section, Trench 30
091	–	–	0155	NE	Trench 3
092	–	–	0156	NE	Section in Sewer, Trench 3
093	–	–	0157	NW	Section, trench 3



APPENDIX 3 FINDS ASSESSMENT

JULIE FRANKLIN, STEPHANIE RÁTKAI

The finds assemblage was made up of 54 sherds (522g) of pottery, two of ceramic building material, a small quantity of possible ironworking waste and a single modern metal find. The pottery was predominantly medieval in date. A summary of the assemblage is given in the **Table 1**. A complete catalogue of all the finds is given at the end.

Trench	Pottery		CBM	Lead	Industrial Waste	Dating
	Sherds	Wgt				
02	6	26g	–	–	–	c 13th
04	1	6g	–	–	–	15th–16th
06	–	–	–	1	–	Mod
16	–	–	2	–	–	Post-Med?
29	–	–	–	–	2g	?
32	47	490g	–	–	–	c 13th
Total	54	522g	1	1	2g	

TABLE 1

Summary of assemblage and dating by trench (quantification by sherd count unless otherwise stated).

Pottery

The small assemblage of pottery was examined under x20 magnification and referenced to the Warwickshire pottery type series (Soden and Rátkai 1998). A complete list of the list of the types found is given in **Table 2**.

The pottery appears to be mainly post-Conquest dating from the 12th to 14th centuries. The earliest medieval sherds are a tubular spout (3206), a very uncommon form, which could be 11th century in date, and a Cotswold oolitic tempered sherd (3204) from a straight-sided cooking pot which probably dates to c1050-1100. The latest medieval sherd was found in (0403) and is a Late Oxidised Ware sherd, dating to the 15th-16th century. One possible Roman sherd was found in (3210) though is clearly residual.

The pottery is predominantly utilitarian in character with glazed sherds being limited to a possible Lyveden-Stannion B jug (3210) and a Deritend Ware jug (3209).

The medieval pottery has come from a number of sources with local wares, such as Early Medieval Warwick Ware and Coventry-type Ware, being poorly represented. Local products

in total seem to account for no more than 20% of the pottery as a whole. Pottery from Birmingham (Deritend Ware and Reduced Deritend ware) was well represented. Other non-local sources include Northamptonshire and the Cotswolds. Unusually for a site in central Warwickshire there was only one very small sherd of Chilvers Coton A ware, a pottery type that seems to be otherwise ubiquitous. The fabrics recorded would all be expected in this area of Warwickshire but their relative proportions are atypical. This may be the result of the small sample size.

Finds

There were no finds associated with the medieval pottery. A lead-coated electrical cable (604) is clearly modern, while two fragments (37g) of brick (1604) are probably post-medieval or later in date. A total of 2g of magnetic residues were collected from sample retents from Trench 29 (2907, 2909). These may be evidence of ironworking in the general vicinity of the site, though equally may be natural iron-rich stone fragments. They cannot be dated and in such small quantities cannot be used as evidence for on-site industry.

Discussion

The pottery forms the only significant part of the assemblage. The utilitarian nature of the wares suggests some sort domestic activity.

Fabric description	Code	Dating	0204	3204	3206	3209	3210	0403	Total
Brackley Whiteware	WW10	L12th–13th			2				2
Chilvers Coton A	WW01	M13th–E14th					1		1
Coventry-type ware	Sq20.2	12th–13th	1						1
Coventry-type ware?	Sq20.2	12th–13th					1		1
Deritend ware	Sg12	13th–E14th				3			3
Early medieval Warwick Ware	Sq02	12th–13th					1		1
Early medieval Warwick Ware?	Sq02?	12th–13th?					1		1
Fine shelly ware	CL01?	12th–13th					4		4
Late Oxidised Ware	SLM11?	15th–16th						1	1
Lyveden-Stannion A?	CL02?	13th			4				4
Lyveden-Stannion B?	C004	13th–14th	3				2		5
Oolitic ware	C001	M–L11th		1					1
Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	13th–E14th	2		1	4	13		20
Reduced Deritend ware?	RS01?	13th–E14th?			1				1
Reduced sandy ware	RS03?	13th?			6				6
Roman?	n/a	Roman?					1		1
Warwick-Coventry Sandy Ware	Sq20.1	11th			1				1
Total			6	1	15	7	24	1	54

TABLE 2

Distribution of pottery fabrics by context (quantification by sherd count)

The sherds were very much concentrated in Trench 32 (3204, 3206, 3209, 3210). But for two earlier residual sherds, the different fabrics present could all have been deposited in the 13th century, though it is possible that deposition continued into the 14th century. The single sherd found in (3204) is of a Saxo-Norman type and thus this context may conceivably be earlier though a single pot sherd cannot be used as secure dating evidence. A small collection of six sherds found in Trench 2 are contemporary with those from Trench 32. The single sherd found in Trench 4 is later, however, at 15th–16th century and thus probably unrelated to the activity evident in Trench 32.

References

Soden, I & Rátkai, S 1998 'Warwickshire medieval and Post-medieval Ceramic Type Series' (unpublished manuscript held by Archaeology Warwickshire)



Finds data

Trench	Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Material	Object/Fabric	Fabric Code	Description	Spot date	Period
02	0204	3	10	Pottery	Lyveden-Stannion B?	C004	—	13th–14th	Medi
02	0204	2	7	Pottery	Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	—	13th–E14th	Medi
2	0204	1	9	Pottery	Coventry-type ware	Sq20.2	handle	12th–13th	Medi
04	0403	1	6	Pottery	Late Oxidised Ware	SLM11?	—	15th–16th	Medi
06	0604	1	—	Lead	Electrical Cable		copper wires encased in ?plastic & lead – electrical cable	L19th–20th	Mod
16	1604	2	37	CBM	Brick	CBM	brick fragments	Post–medieval?	PM?
29	2907	—	1	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	—	—	—	—
29	2909	—	1	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	—	—	—	—
32	3204	1	30	Pottery	Oolitic ware	C001	—	M–L11th	Sax/Medi
32	3206	4	8	Pottery	Lyveden–Stannion A?	CL02?	—	13th	Medi
32	3206	1	5	Pottery	Reduced Deritend ware	RS01	—	13th–14th	Medi
32	3206	1	15	Pottery	Reduced Deritend ware?	RS01?	—	13th–14th	Medi
32	3206	6	135	Pottery	Reduced sandy ware	RS03?	probably all one vessel	13th?	Medi
32	3206	1	12	Pottery	Warwick–Coventry Sandy Ware	Sq20.1	spout, possibly from spouted bowl	11th	Sax/Medi
32	3206	2	11	Pottery	Brackley Whiteware	VV10	—	L12th–13th	Medi
32	3209	1	5	Pottery	Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	—	13th–E14th	Medi
32	3209	3	12	Pottery	Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	slightly sandier fabric than usual	13th–E14th	Medi
32	3209	3	35	Pottery	Deritend ware	Sg12	jug with white slip dec, sherds join	13th–E14th	Medi
32	3210	4	69	Pottery	Fine shelly ware	CL01?	bead rim bowl	12th–13th	Medi
32	3210	2	53	Pottery	Lyveden–Stannion B?	C004	jug, small spot of glaze	13th–14th	Medi
32	3210	1	1	Pottery	Roman?	n/a	v. small sherd	Roman?	Rom?
32	3210	12	73	Pottery	Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	—	13th–E14th	Medi
32	3210	1	9	Pottery	Reduced Deritend Ware	RS01	rim	13th–E14th	Medi
32	3210	1	2	Pottery	Early Medieval Warwick Ware	Sq02	—	12th–13th	Medi
32	3210	1	7	Pottery	Early Medieval Warwick Ware?	Sq02?	—	12th–13th?	Medi
32	3210	1	7	Pottery	Coventry-type ware?	Sq20.2	rim	12th–13th	Medi
32	3210	1	1	Pottery	Chilvers Coton A	VV01	Tiny chip < 1g	M13th–E14th	Medi



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