

SLWG/01



LAND OFF SCHOOL LANE, WHITMINSTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by CgMs Ltd
on behalf of Robert Hitchins Ltd and its successors in title to the land

F.14/1829/OUT

November 2014

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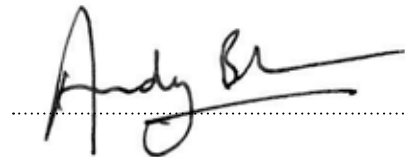
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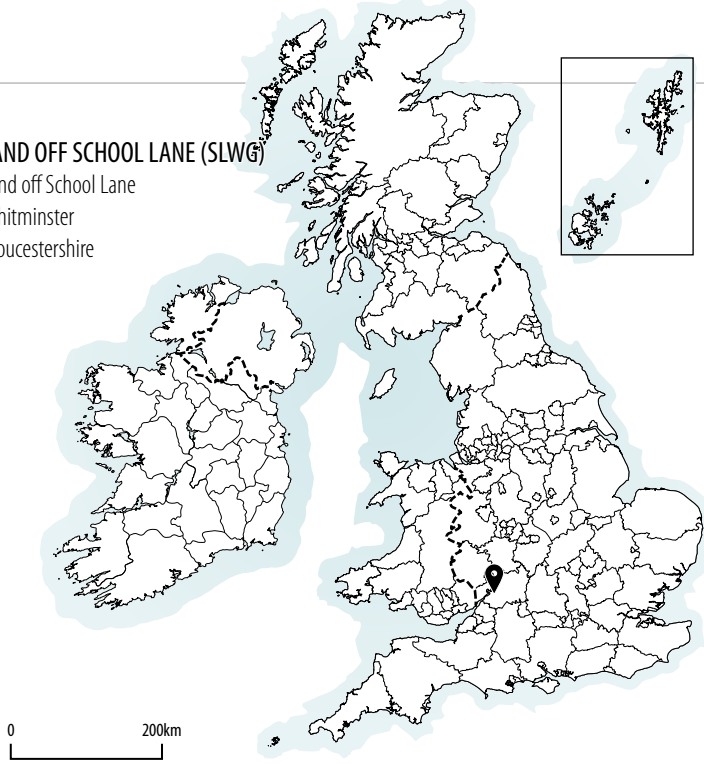
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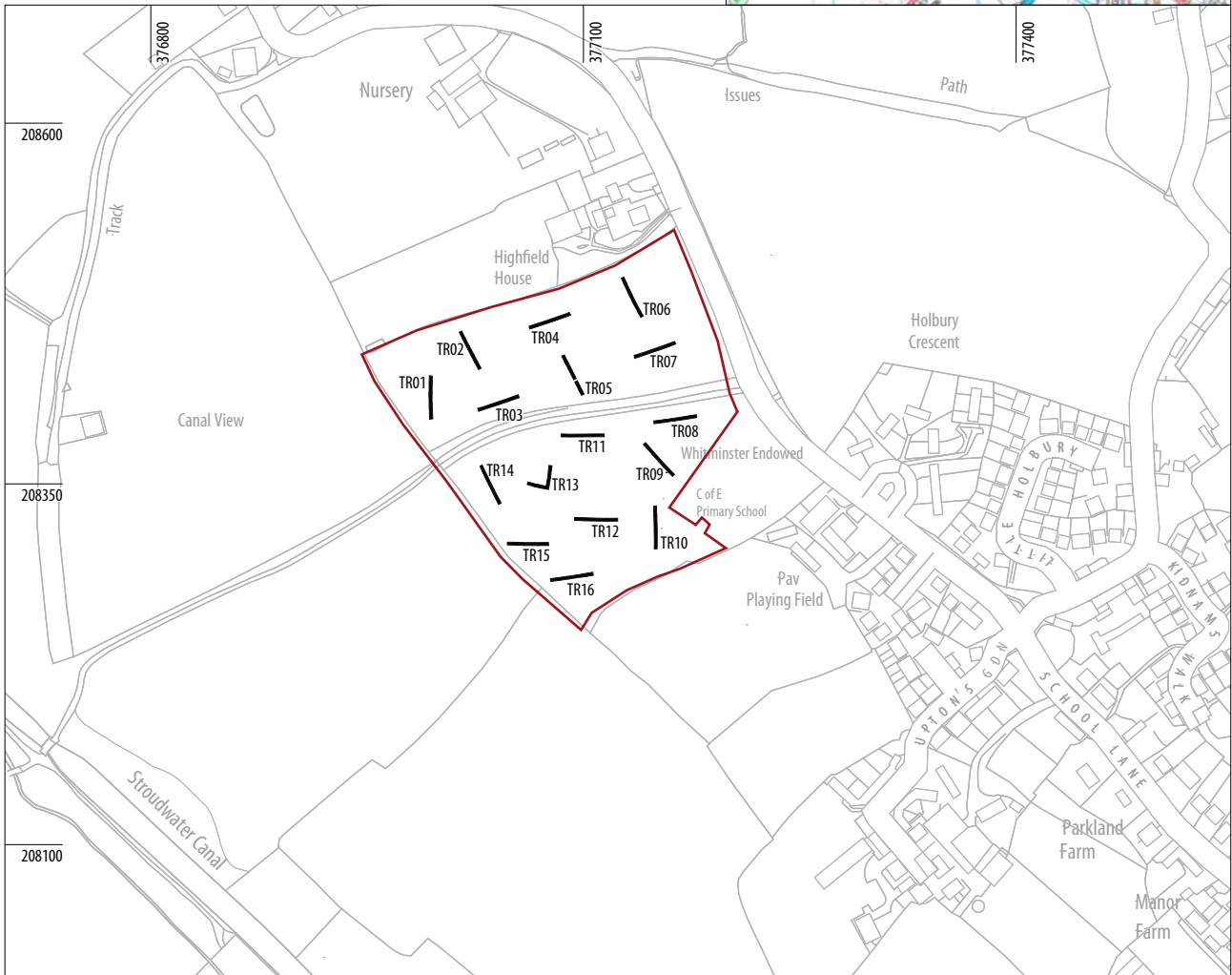
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LAND OFF SCHOOL LANE (SLWG)

Land off School Lane
Whitminster
Gloucestershire

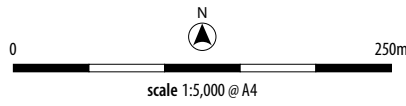


0 200km



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- KEY**
- development boundary
 - trench location



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ILLUS 1
 Site location

LAND OFF SCHOOL LANE, WHITMINSTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology undertook a trial trench field evaluation on a plot of land in Whitminster, Gloucestershire. The evaluation identified the presence of a small number of undated pits and linear features of archaeological origin. The features were confined to the southern part of the site. Extensive evidence for ridge and furrow field systems was identified in the north of the site, but no finds or features of an earlier date were identified in this area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This report presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation on land off School Lane, Whitminster, Gloucestershire. The archaeological works, commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Robert Hitchins Ltd and its successors in title to the land, relate to planning application F.14/1829/OUT for the proposed residential development of the site.

It was agreed with the archaeological advisor to Stroud District Council, Mr Charles Parry, 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 was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake the required works in accordance with a project design agreed with the archaeological advisor (Boucher 2014).

1.2 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The proposed development site (**Illus 1**) comprises an area of land located at NGR 377119 208380 (site centre). The total development site occupies a single field measuring approximately 4ha within the village of Whitminster, Gloucestershire.

The site is bound to the east by School Lane, to the south by Schoolfield Lane housing estate and playing fields, to the west by farmland and to the north by the grounds of Highfield House. A gravel track on an east-west alignment bisects the site. The track provides vehicular access to farmland to the west and follows the line of a public footpath.

The site has a broadly level topography mostly lying at c.24m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), although falling gently westwards at its western extent.

Immediately prior to the current works the site was under stubble.

The underlying geology of the site is recorded as Lias Formation and Charlmouth Mudstone Formation with no overlying drift deposits (BGS 2014).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site and its environs has been produced by CgMs (Weaver and Roper-Pressdee 2014). The results are summarised below.

Part of the site was previously the subject of an archaeological watching brief (HER42628) undertaken by Wessex Archaeology during the construction of new sewerage services in 2011. No archaeological features or finds were recorded during the work.



The site of a possible Prehistoric enclosure site (HER 17264) is recorded immediately to the east of the study site on the opposing side of School Lane. The presence of the enclosure is however speculative, and is based on the fieldname 'Oldbury' for this area on the 1839 Whitminster Tithing map. No associated evidence for activity of this period has been recorded from previous archaeological investigations within Whitminster.

The report also suggested there was a low potential for the study area to contain significant buried archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. The line of the Fosse Way Roman Road (HER 7365) running from Exeter to Lincoln, now followed by the line of the A38, lay c.545m to the south-east of the study site. Evidence of any associated settlement activity related to the road is limited to the chance find of a single Roman coin of Constantine I recovered c.625m to the east of the study area.

Previous field investigations conducted within the present village of Whitminster have recorded no evidence to suggest the presence of any settlement at this locality until the c.12th century. The study site may have formed either agricultural land or woodland during the early medieval period.

The only historic activity recorded within the study site dates to the medieval period or later. Non-designated heritage assets, comprising potential buried remains of former medieval/early post-medieval cultivation of minor significance, were identified within the study site. The line of a former post-medieval/modern trackway is also noted to have once crossed the study site, although this is considered unlikely to comprise any surviving below ground component.

In September 2014 a fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken on the site (Richardson 2014). Evidence for ridge and furrow field systems was identified in the north of the site, along with a limited number of weak linear and discrete anomalies of potential archaeological origin.

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 the nature of anomalies identified by the geophysical survey;
- provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of any proposed development to be assessed;
- assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- produce a site archive for deposition with Stroud Museum and to provide information for accession to the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record.

3 METHOD

The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the following documents:

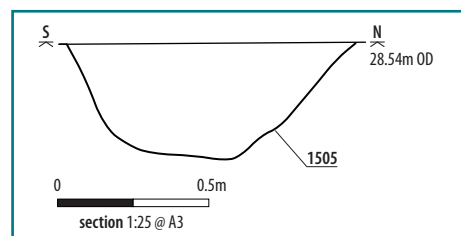
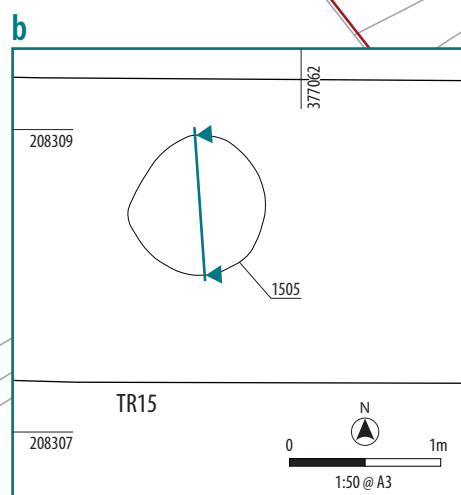
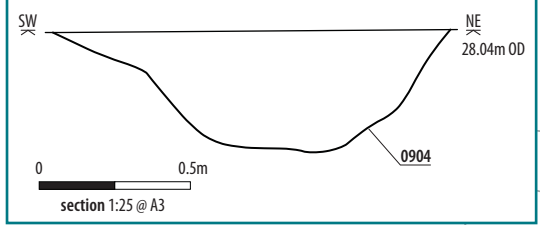
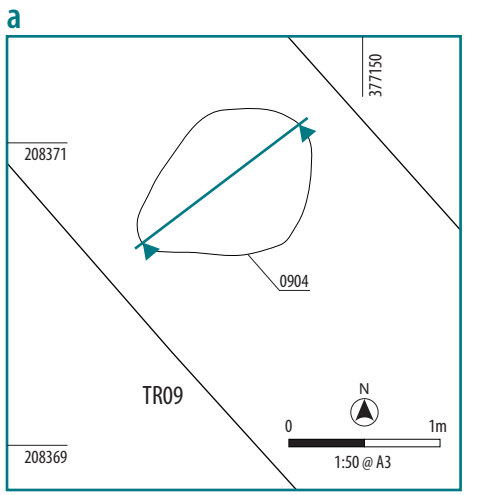
- Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2000)
- Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2001)

The evaluation comprised the excavation of approximately 2% of the proposed development area by means of 16 trenches totalling 480 linear metres.

The evaluation trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision, with topsoil/upper subsoil 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 on Headland Archaeology 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.



KEY

- ▭ development boundary
- trench location
- ridge and furrow
- possible archaeological features
- field drains and modern features

0 50m

scale 1:1,000 @ A3

ILLUS 2
Site plan

ILLUS 3

S facing section in Trench 11

ILLUS 4

Pit feature [0904], SE facing section

ILLUS 5

Linear feature [0908], northern terminus



4 RESULTS

The location of features discussed below can be found on **Illus 2**. A full trench and context register is included in Appendix 1.

4.1 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY

Deposits were generally consistent across the site (**Illus 3**). A dark brown silty clay topsoil deposit e.g. [0101, 0201] between 0.2m and 0.25m in depth overlay a mid-brown silty clay subsoil deposit of between 0.1m and 0.2m in depth e.g. [0102, 0202]. Geological deposits were encountered at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.42m and consisted of a mid-brown or grey silty clay with discrete patches of orange gravel throughout e.g. [0103, 0203].



4.2 TRENCHES CONTAINING POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

Trench 09

An oval pit [0904] (**Illus 4**) measuring 1.2m in width was identified beneath subsoil deposits at a depth of 0.3m below ground level (BGL). The feature, which contained three fills, exhibited a steep sided profile terminating in a concave base at a depth of 0.4m. The lower fill [0907] was formed from a yellow silty clay similar in composition to the surrounding natural and is likely to represent the erosion of the sides of the feature following its original excavation. A thin (0.02m deep) charcoal lens [0906] was formed over deposit [0907] and was sealed by the upper fill of the feature [0905] which consisted of a mid brown silty clay with an orange hue. No artefacts were recovered from the feature and its date is unknown.





ILLUS 6

Trench 10, camera facing N

ILLUS 7

Groundwater in Trench 13, camera facing W

ILLUS 8

Pit feature [1505], E facing section

Approximately 8m to the south-east of pit [0904], an L-shaped linear feature [0908] was identified (Illus 5). The feature was irregular in form, varying in width between 0.36m and 0.62m along its length. The feature displayed a rounded terminus to the north and was truncated by a modern feature [0910] to the east. The single fill of the feature [0909] extended to a depth of 0.12m and comprised a light brown silty clay with a yellow hue. No artefacts were recovered from the feature. The irregular nature of the feature is suggestive of tree rooting or animal burrowing activity.

Trench 10

Two potential features [1007] and [1008] were observed at the northern end of Trench 10 at a depth of 0.3m BGL. Due to the infiltration of groundwater into the northern end of the trench (Illus 6) it was not possible to excavate the features and no dateable material was recovered. The features were amorphous in shape and were filled with deposits identical in nature to the overlying subsoil. Evidence for ridge and furrow was identified immediately to the south [1006] and it is possible that the features relate to disturbance caused by ploughing in this area.



Trench 13

Trench 13 was targeted upon weak anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. During machining two potential features were identified in the southern part of the trench at a depth of 0.43m BGL. A small rectangular feature [1304] measuring 0.66m x 0.59m in plan was filled with a mid brown silty clay. Immediately to the west of [1304] was a roughly circular feature measuring approximately 1.3m in diameter. The feature was filled with a clean orange gravel, which may be natural in origin, however the regularity of the feature in plan suggests that an archaeological origin is also possible. Excavation of the features was not possible due to the infiltration of groundwater (Illus 7).

Trench 15

A circular pit [1505] (Illus 8 and Illus 9) measuring 0.9m in diameter and 0.4m in depth was identified beneath subsoil deposits at a depth of 0.35m BGL. The feature, which was fully excavated, contained a single fill [1506] composed of a mid brown sandy clay with a grey hue. A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from the upper surface of the feature, however, no dateable material was identified. Approximately 4m to the west of [1505] a further pit was identified at a depth of 0.4m BGL. Pit [1507] was oval in shape and measured 1.15m x 0.73m in plan. Due to the infiltration of groundwater at the western end of the trench, the feature was not excavated. The fill was observed to be similar in nature to deposit [1506].

Towards the eastern end of the trench a linear feature was identified on a NW-SE orientation. Measuring 0.4m in width and 0.06m in depth, linear [1504] was filled with mid brown silty clay [1508]. No dateable material was recovered from the feature.

ILLUS 9

Pit feature [1505], fully excavated

ILLUS 10

Linear feature [1604], camera facing SE

ILLUS 11

Linear feature [1606], camera facing S



Trench 16

Two linear features on differing orientations were identified within Trench 16. Linear [1604] (**Illus 10**) was identified beneath subsoil deposits at a depth of 0.35m BGL. The feature was orientated approximately E-W and measured 0.5m in width and 0.1m in depth. No artefacts were recovered from the fill [1605] and the feature remains undated.

Linear [1606] (**Illus 11**) measured 0.35m in width and 0.12m in depth. Considering its orientation and alignment the feature appears to be a continuation of linear [1504].

4.3 TRENCHES CONTAINING RIDGE AND FURROW

Evidence for ridge and furrow field systems was identified in eight Trenches (01, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 10 & 13) predominantly in the northern part of the site. Undulations were noted in the topsoil and subsoil deposits, but the impact of furrows into the underlying geological deposits varied from trench to trench. Furrows were excavated in Trenches 02 (**Illus 12**) 10 and 13 where the impact of the furrows into the underlying geological deposits measured between 0.1m (Trench 10) and 0.12m (Trenches 02 and 13).

4.4 TRENCHES CONTAINING MODERN DEPOSITS

Two parallel linear features [0803, 0804] on a north-south alignment were identified in Trench 08. The features were cut from the level of topsoil and contained modern brick and cinder. A comparable feature [0910] was identified in Trench 09 and appears to be aligned with feature [0803].

Ceramic land drains were identified predominantly in the southern part of the site, where the water table was encountered closer to the surface than in the northern part of the site.



ILLUS 12

Furrow [0207], W facing section



4.5 BLANK TRENCHES

With the exception of ceramic land drains, no features or significant deposits were identified in Trenches 03, 08, 11, 12 or 14.

5 DISCUSSION

The location of furrows associated with ridge and furrow field systems shows a strong correlation with the results of the geophysical survey. The identification of possible archaeological anomalies (as identified by the survey) has been less successful. A linear anomaly identified in the location of Trench 12 was not identified during field evaluation, and features identified during field evaluation in Trenches 09, 10 and 15 were not identified from the geophysical survey. The course of a linear anomaly relating to a former footpath present on pre-AD1900 mapping was not identified.

Features of potential archaeological origin were identified within the southern part of the proposed development area, where the impact of the ridge and furrow field systems was apparently less intrusive upon the underlying geological strata. Two factors have combined to limit our understanding of these features. Firstly, the presence of groundwater within 0.3m of the surface prevented the excavation of a number of potential features and therefore the nature of these features, and whether they are indeed archaeological, remains unknown. Secondly, the features that were excavated contained no dateable artefacts and therefore the period to which they date remains unknown.

The stratigraphic position (sealed beneath subsoil deposits modified by ridge and furrow) of features identified as having archaeological potential in Trenches 09, 10, 13, 15 and 16, suggests that they pre-date the medieval period.

The possible presence of a prehistoric enclosure immediately to the east of the development area may suggest that the features relate to this period. Equally, the linear features may relate to Romano-British agricultural activity, with the route of the Fosse Way Roman Road passing to the south-east of the development area.

6 CONCLUSION

The trial trench evaluation identified the presence of a small number of undated pits and linear features of archaeological origin. The features were confined to the southern part of the site where later ridge and furrow field systems appear to have caused less truncation to underlying deposits. Extensive evidence for ridge and furrow was identified in the north of the site, but no finds or features of an earlier date were identified in this area.

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8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 01 | 0101 | Topsoil. Dark brown, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0102 | Subsoil. Mid brown with a yellow hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.4m |
| | 0103 | Natural. Mottled grey/blue silty clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.4m+ |
| | 0104 | Furrow 1.7m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0105 | Furrow 2.1m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0106 | Furrow 1.9m wide | Not excav. |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Ridge and furrow identified. Not excavated within this trench as sampled within Trench 02.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 02 | 0201 | Topsoil. Dark brown, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0202 | Subsoil. Mid brown with a yellow hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.4m |
| | 0203 | Natural. Mottled grey/blue silty clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.4m+ |
| | 0204 | Furrow 0.6m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0205 | Furrow 0.7m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0206 | Furrow 0.56m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0207 | Furrow 1.74m wide. Filled with subsoil deposit. | 0.4–0.52m |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Ridge and furrow observed as a sub-surface feature. Deepening of topsoil and subsoil deposits evident within furrows.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 03 | 0301 | Topsoil. Dark brown, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0302 | Subsoil. Mid brown with a yellow hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 0303 | Natural. Mottled grey/blue silty clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.3–1m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: No archaeological features or deposits identified. Sondage excavated at western end to confirm natural.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 04 | 0401 | Topsoil. Dark brown with grey hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0402 | Subsoil. Dark olive brown, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 0403 | Natural. Clean, sharp orange gravel. | 0.3m |
| | 0404 | Furrow. Orientated E–W along length of trench. Filled with subsoil deposit equivalent to [0402]. | 0.3–0.5m |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Furrow orientated on same alignment to trench.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 05 | 0501 | Topsoil. Dark brown with grey hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0502 | Subsoil. Dark olive brown, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.4m |
| | 0503 | Natural. Clean, sharp orange gravel. | 0.4m+ |
| | 0504 | Furrow 2.3m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0505 | Furrow 2.55m wide | Not excav. |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Two furrows identified in base of trench. Not excavated. Break in trench due to presence of clay land drain.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 06 | 0601 | Topsoil. Dark brown with grey hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0602 | Subsoil. Dark brown with yellow hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 0603 | Natural. Clean, sharp orange gravel with discrete patches of grey/blue clay. | 0.3m+ |
| | 0604 | Furrow 2.26m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0605 | Furrow 2.24m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0606 | Furrow 3.41m wide | Not excav. |
| | 0607 | Furrow 1.9m wide | Not excav. |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Four furrows identified in base of trench cutting natural deposits.



| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 07 | 0701 | Topsoil. Dark brown with grey hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0702 | Subsoil. Dark brown with yellow hue, friable, silty clay. Occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 0703 | Natural. Clean, sharp orange gravel with discrete patches of grey/blue clay. | 0.3–0.4m+ |
| | 0704 | Furrow. E-W aligned. 3m wide. Filled with subsoil deposit equivalent to [0702]. | 0.4m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Single furrow identified within base of trench. Not excavated.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 08 | 0800 | Topsoil. Dark brown/black loam. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0801 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.2–0.42m |
| | 0802 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.42m+ |
| | 0803 | Modern linear on N-S alignment. 0.64m wide. Filled with dark brown/black silty fill with stone and modern brick inclusions. Cut from topsoil level. | 0.2–0.42m+ |
| | 0804 | Modern linear on N-S alignment. 0.76m wide. Filled with dark brown/black silty fill with stone modern brick, coal and cinder inclusions. Cut from topsoil level. | 0.2–0.42m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: No archaeological features identified. Two modern linear features present – potentially explaining the anomaly identified during geophysical survey.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 09 | 0901 | Topsoil. Dark brown, friable, silty clay. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 0902 | Subsoil. Light brown with a yellow hue, silty clay. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 0903 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.3m+ |
| | 0904 | Cut of pit. Oval in plan, 1.2m in diameter. Steep sides to concave base, 0.4m deep. | 0.3–0.7m |
| | 0905 | Upper fill of pit [904]. Mid brown with orange hue, friable, silty clay. | 0.3–0.58m |
| | 0906 | Fill of pit [0904]. Charcoal lens beneath deposit [0905]. | 0.58–0.6m |
| | 0907 | Lower fill of pit [0904]. Firm yellow silty clay. Potentially represents overcut of feature into deposit [0903]. | 0.6–0.7m |

0908 Cut of L-shaped linear. 0.55m wide, 0.12m deep, 3.5m long. Irregular cut – potentially a truncated animal burrow.

0909 Fill of linear [0908]. Light brown with yellow hue, silty clay.

0910 Cut of linear. 1.1m wide, 0.4m deep, 2m+ in length. Ditch appears to be cut from topsoil level and truncates feature [0908].

0911 Fill of linear [0910]. Grey with brown hue, silty clay.

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Although no dateable finds were recovered, Pit [0904] appears to be archaeological in origin. The feature was sealed beneath subsoil [0902], was regular in nature and shared similarities to feature [1505]. The nature of feature [0908] was unclear. Its irregular shape may indicate that it was the result of animal burrowing. Feature [0910] was cut from a high level and appeared to be modern.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 10 | 1001 | Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay with grey hue. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 1002 | Subsoil. Light brown silty clay with a yellow hue. | 0.2–0.3m |
| | 1003 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.3m+ |
| | 1004 | Cut of furrow. E-W orientation. 1m wide | 0.3–0.4m |
| | 1005 | Equivalent to deposit [1002] | 0.3–0.4m |
| | 1006 | Furrow 2.8m wide | Not excav. |
| | 1007 | Amorphous feature not excavated due to presence of groundwater. Fill equivalent to deposit [1002]. 2.14m+ x 0.97m+ | Not excav. |
| | 1008 | Amorphous feature not excavated due to presence of groundwater. Fill equivalent to deposit [1002]. 3.15m x 0.95m+ | Not excav. |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Base of furrow excavated towards southern end of trench. North of trench beneath level of groundwater. Feature [1006] on correct orientation for furrow. Features [1007] and [1008] amorphous in nature – potentially archaeological.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 11 | 1100 | Topsoil. Dark brown/black loam. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 1101 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.2m–0.45m |
| | 1102 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.45m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: No archaeological features identified.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 12 | 1200 | Topsoil. Dark brown/black loam. | 0.00–0.25m |
| | 1201 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.25m–0.42m |
| | 1202 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.42m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: No archaeological features identified.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 13 | 1300 | Topsoil. Dark brown/black loam with grey hue. | 0.00–0.25m |
| | 1301 | Subsoil. Light-mid brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.25–0.43m |
| | 1302 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, silty clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.43–0.55m+ |
| | 1303 | Furrow. E-W alignment. 0.80m wide. Filled with deposit equivalent to subsoil. | 0.43–0.55m |
| | 1304 | Small rectangular feature measuring 0.66 x 0.59m in plan. Mid brown silty clay fill. Not excavated due to presence of groundwater. | 0.43m+ |
| | 1305 | Circular feature filled with orange gravel. Approx. 1.3m in diameter. Potentially geological. Not excavated due to presence of groundwater. | 0.43m+ |

Dimensions: L-shaped, 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Potential archaeological features identified. Excavation not possible due to the presence of c.0.15m of groundwater in the base of the trench.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 14 | 1400 | Topsoil. Dark brown/black loam. | 0.00–0.25m |
| | 1401 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.25–0.42m |
| | 1402 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.42m+ |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: No archaeological features identified.

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 15 | 1501 | Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay with a grey hue, friable, occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 1502 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.2–0.35m |
| | 1503 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.35m+ |
| | 1504 | Linear feature on NW-SE orientation. 0.4m wide, 0.06m deep. | 0.35–0.41m |

1505 Cut for circular pit. 0.9m diameter, 0.4m deep. Steep sided, regular cut to concave base. 0.35–0.75m

1506 Fill of [1505]. Mid brown sandy clay with a grey hue. Friable. Occasional small stone inclusions. Fragments of animal bone recovered from top of deposit. 0.35–0.75m

1507 Unexcavated pit feature. 1.15m x 0.73m 0.4m+

1508 Fill of linear [1504]. Mid brown silty clay with a green hue. No inclusions. 0.35–0.41m

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Although no dateable artefacts were recovered, both pit [1505] and linear [1504] were sealed by subsoil deposit [1502] and appear to be archaeological in origin. The presence of c.0.10m of groundwater in the western part of the trench prevented the excavation of feature [1507].

| Trench | Context | Description | Deposit depth (BGL) |
|--------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 16 | 1601 | Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay with a grey hue, friable, occasional small rounded stone inclusions. | 0.00–0.2m |
| | 1602 | Subsoil. Light brown with a green hue, silty clay. | 0.2–0.35m |
| | 1603 | Natural. Light brown with a yellow hue, clay with discrete patches of orange gravel. | 0.35m+ |
| | 1604 | Cut for linear feature on E-W orientation. 0.5m wide, 0.1m deep. | 0.35–0.45m |
| | 1605 | Fill of [1604]. Mid brown silty clay. No inclusions. | 0.35–0.45m |
| | 1606 | Cut for linear feature on NW-SE orientation. 0.35m wide, 0.12m deep. | 0.35–0.47m |
| | 1607 | Group number for 3 vegetation hollows in the west of the trench. | 0.45–0.55m |
| | 1608 | Fill of [1606]. Mid brown silty clay with a green hue. No inclusions. | 0.35–0.47m |

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m

Summary: Linear feature [1606] is of similar dimensions and on the same alignment as linear [1504]. It is probable that they are the same feature. Feature [1604] appears to be sealed by the subsoil deposit and is therefore potentially of archaeological origin.



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