

RRHG/01



# ROSS ROAD, HUNTLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by CgMs Consulting  
on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd

P1995/14/OUT

April 2015



# ROSS ROAD, HUNTLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by CgMs Consulting  
on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd

P1995/14/OUT

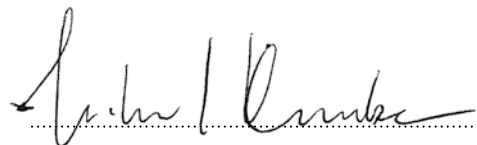
April 2015

project info

**HA JOB NO.** RRHG/01  
**HAS NO.** 1111  
**NGR** SO 718 194  
**PARISH** Huntley  
**LOCAL AUTHORITY** Forest of Dean District Council  
**OASIS REF.** headland3-208079

project team

**PROJECT MANAGER** Mike Kimber  
**AUTHOR** Luke Craddock-Bennett  
**FIELDWORK** Luke Craddock-Bennett & Sam Thomas  
**GRAPHICS** Caroline Norrman – Illustrations  
Julia Bastek-Michalska – Typesetting  
**SPECIALISTS** Laura Bailey, Tim Holden – Environmental  
Imogen Wood, Julie Franklin – Finds  
**APPROVED BY** Mike Kimber – Project Manager



© 2015 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd





---

# CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES	1
1.2	SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING	1
1.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	1
<b>2</b>	<b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>METHOD</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>RESULTS</b>	<b>3</b>
4.1	TRENCH 1	3
4.2	TRENCH 2	3
4.3	TRENCH 3	3
4.4	TRENCH 4	3
4.5	TRENCH 5	3
4.6	TRENCH 6	4
<b>5</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>5</b>
APPENDIX 1	TRENCH REGISTER	5
APPENDIX 2	FINDS ASSESSMENT	6
	Pottery	6
	Industrial waste	6
	Discussion	6
	References	6
APPENDIX 3	ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	7
	Introduction	7
	Method	7
	Results	7
	Discussion	7
	References	7

---

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

<b>ILLUS 1</b>	VI
Site location	
<b>ILLUS 2</b>	2
Furrow [204] (camera facing NW)	
<b>ILLUS 3</b>	2
Linear feature [504] (camera facing W)	
<b>ILLUS 4</b>	3
NW facing section through features [604] and [607]	
<b>ILLUS 5</b>	3
Linear feature [607] (camera facing SE)	
<b>ILLUS 6</b>	3
Linear feature [604] (camera facing S)	

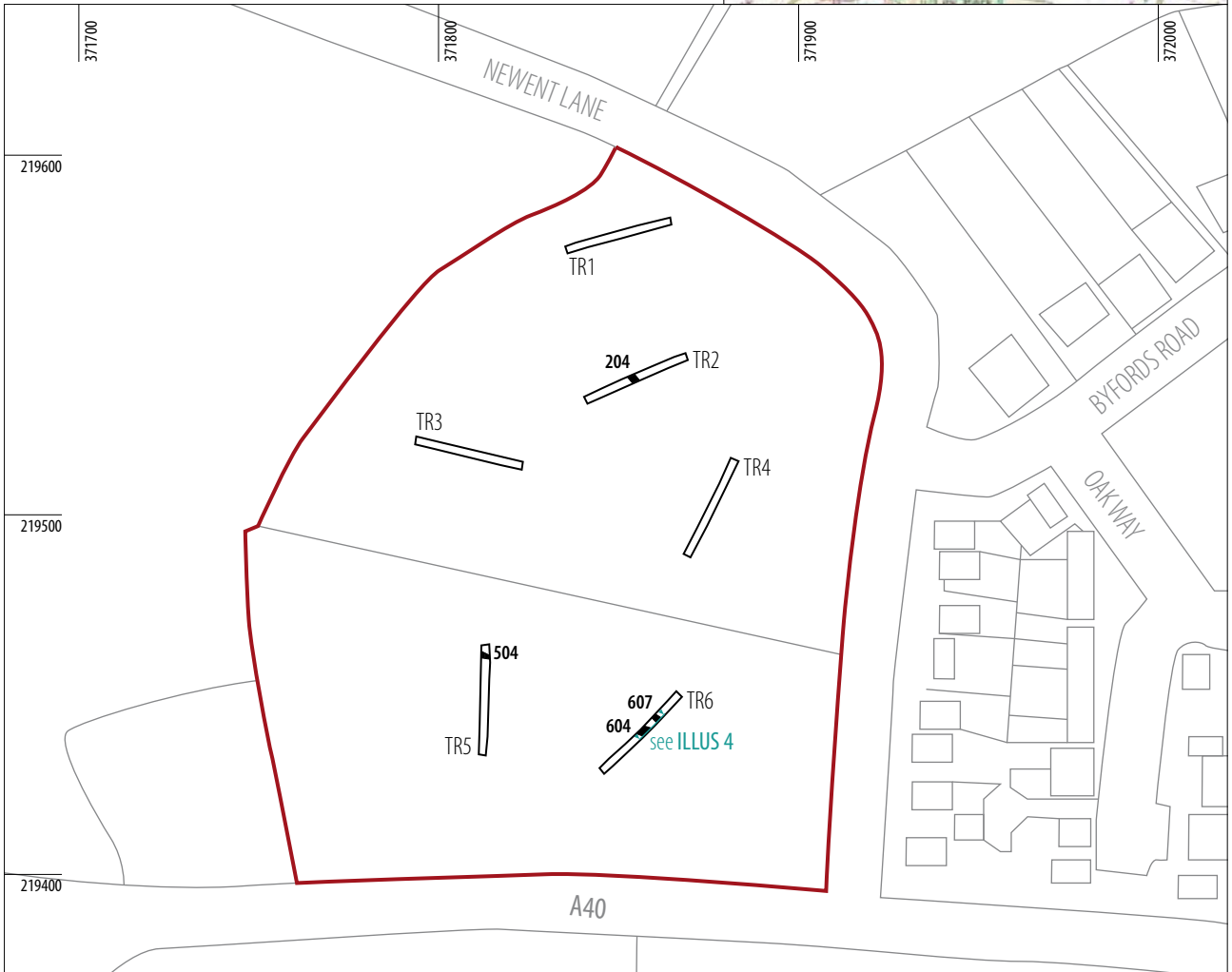
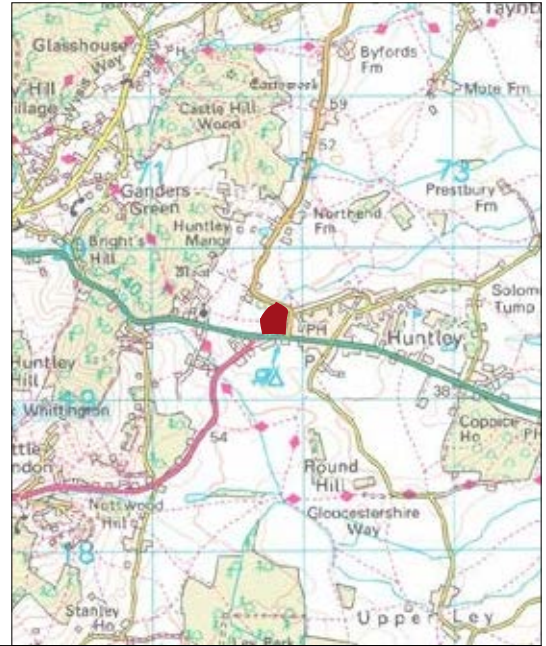
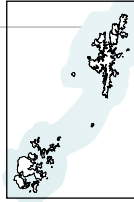
## LIST OF TABLES

<b>TABLE A2.1</b>	6
Assemblage summary by context	
<b>TABLE A2.2</b>	6
Finds catalogue	
<b>TABLE A3.1</b>	7
Retent samples	
<b>TABLE A3.2</b>	7
Flotation samples	

# ROSS ROAD, HUNTLEY (RRHG/01)

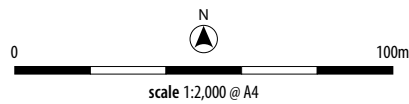
land adjacent to Newent Ln  
Huntley  
Gloucestershire

0 200km



Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright (insert the year of publication of the OS paper map). All rights reserved. Licence no. AL 100013329

- KEY
- site boundary
  - trench location



MIDLANDS & WEST

Unit 1, Premier Business Park  
Faraday Road  
Hereford HR4 9NZ  
01432 364 901  
[www.headlandarchaeology.com](http://www.headlandarchaeology.com)

ILLUS 1  
Site location

# ROSS ROAD, HUNTLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on land to the north of Ross Road, Huntley. The works relate to the submission of a planning application for the residential development of the site. The evaluation identified a possible ditch-like feature containing medieval pottery in the south of the site. Two further undated linear features were also identified. The significance of the identified archaeological features is considered to be low.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This report presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation on land to the north of Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire. The archaeological works commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd relate to the submission of a planning application (P1995/14/OUT) for the residential development of the site.

In response to the application the archaeological advisor to Forest of Dean District Council, Mr Charles Parry, determined 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 (Kimber 2015).

### 1.2 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The proposed development site (**Illus 1**) comprises two pasture fields located at NGR 371850, 219495 (site centre). The site, measuring approximately 2.4ha is located at the western extent of the village of Huntley. A public footpath on an east-west orientation bisects the site and a further footpath passes through the southern half of the proposed development area on a NE-SE alignment.

The site is bound to the south by the A40 road between Ross-on-Wye and Gloucester, to the north and east by Newent Lane and to the west by agricultural land.

The site is generally flat (c65m OD), but drops sharply towards its northern and western boundaries (c60m).

The underlying geology of the site comprises Mudstone of the Mercia Mudstone Group. Superficial deposits of Head (comprising clay, silt sand and gravel) are present across the site (BGS 2015).

### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site (Weaver 2014) identified that the site is recorded as being crossed by the suggested route of a former Roman road.

The road which is believed to follow the line of the current east-west footpath through the site is identified as road number 611 (Margary 1973) running from Huntley to Ariconium (Weston-under-Penyard in Herefordshire). Margary notes the road to have taken a direct route through Huntley and to have been raised above ground by 1–2 feet. Examination of the road in a field situated c200m to the west of the proposed development area by Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service in 1994, noted the presence of a raised linear earthwork feature possibly representing preserved remains of this former route. Subsequent archaeological monitoring works conducted at the Huntley CofE Primary School in 2008, and during the course of the construction of a footpath from Huntley church and Newent Lane, situated immediately on and adjacent to the projected line of the road and c380m to the west of the proposed development, have produced no evidence for either the road or any associated adjacent activity.

Beyond the suggested line of the Roman road, the assessment concluded that the study area has a low potential for features of archaeological interest. The proposed development area appears to occupy a peripheral location to the foci of settlement that developed at Huntley during the medieval period. Earthwork and



ILLUS 2

Furrow [204] (camera facing NW)



ILLUS 3

Linear feature [504] (camera facing W)

cropmark evidence recorded adjacent to the study site would indicate that it is likely to have formed part of, or lain adjacent to, areas of open cultivated land associated with the settlement of Huntley. An absence of any previously known heritage assets of this date within the proposed development area is likely to reflect such an agricultural use.

Historic map evidence illustrates the proposed development area to have remained agricultural land throughout the post-medieval period to the present day.

A gradiometer survey carried out by Stratascan in October 2014 (Richardson 2014) did not detect any magnetic anomalies suggestive of the presence of archaeological features. Faint linear anomalies on a NW-SE orientation are likely to represent plough furrows.

## 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:

- 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 the Dean Heritage Centre 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* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)

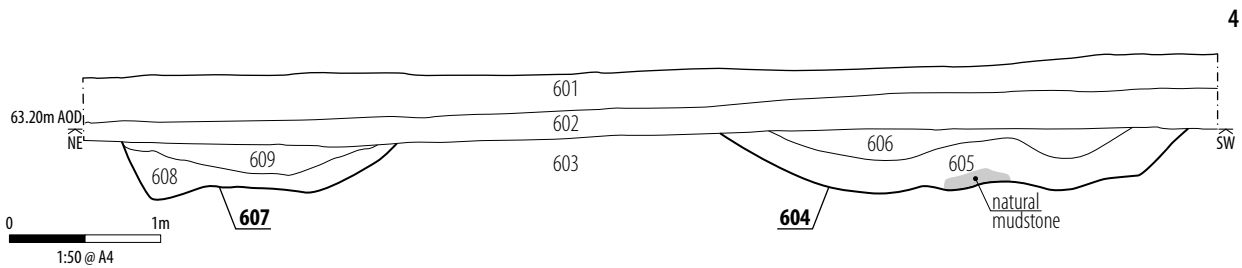
The evaluation comprised the excavation of approximately 2% of the proposed development area by means of six trenches totalling 180 linear metres. The trenches excavated within the site were specifically located in order to test the results produced by previous geophysical survey and to provide for a good spatial coverage of the available site area.

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 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The recorded contexts were assigned unique numbers and recording was undertaken on Headland Archaeology pro forma trench and





ILLUS 4

NW facing section through features [604] and [607]

ILLUS 5

Linear feature [607] (camera facing SE)

ILLUS 6

Linear feature [604] (camera facing S)

context record sheets. Digital photographic images 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.

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 25th and 27th March 2015.

## 4 RESULTS

A full trench and context register is included in Appendix 1. A plan of the excavated trenches can be found on **Illus 1**.

### 4.1 TRENCH 1

Trench 1 was located on a slight north facing slope in the north of the site. A mid-dark brown silty clay topsoil [100] overlay a light-mid brown gravelly clay subsoil [101]. Geological deposits comprising of yellow and red clays interspersed with patches of degraded bedrock [102] were identified at a depth of 0.35m below ground level. No archaeological deposits were identified.

### 4.2 TRENCH 2

Geological deposits [203] were identified at a depth of 0.45m. Cutting into these deposits a NW-SE orientated linear feature [204] measuring 2m in width and 0.05m in depth was identified at the mid-point of the trench (**Illus 2**). The feature was filled with a light-mid brown gravelly clay [205] similar in composition to the overlying subsoil [202]. No archaeological material was recovered from the feature. The shallow nature of the feature may indicate that it represents a natural depression in the geological surface that has subsequently been filled with subsoil.

### 4.3 TRENCH 3

Trench 3 was located at the highest point within the site. Geological deposits [302] comprising a stiff red clay interspersed with degraded mudstone were identified at a depth of 0.40m below ground level. No archaeological deposits were identified.

### 4.4 TRENCH 4

Geological deposits [402] were present in Trench 4 at a depth of 0.4m below ground level. No archaeological deposits were identified.

### 4.5 TRENCH 5

Geological deposits [503] were identified at a depth of 0.35m below ground level. At the northern end of the trench a linear feature [504] was present on a NW-SE orientation (**Illus 3**). The feature, which measured 1.45m in width and 0.29m in depth had a gentle, shallow profile and contained two fills. Its lower fill [506] was formed from a light grey/orange silt that appears to represent natural silting of the feature. Overlying deposit [505] comprised a mid brown silty clay containing infrequent charcoal inclusions. No archaeological finds were recovered from the feature.



A single sherd of pottery dating to the 14th–15th century was recovered from the topsoil [500] at the southern end of the trench.

## 4.6 TRENCH 6

Geological deposits [603] were identified at a depth of 0.45m below ground level and were shown to be cut by two recorded features.

Located towards the north-eastern end of Trench 6, linear feature [607] (**Illus 4 & Illus 5**) appeared to represent a continuation of linear [504] recorded in Trench 5 to the west. The feature was broadly comparable in profile, albeit with a slightly irregular base. The lower fill [608] comprised a light yellow sandy silt with occasional degraded mudstone fragments. Overlying fill [609] was composed of a light brown sandy silt. Neither fill contained any archaeological finds.

Located 2m to the south-west of linear [607], a further presumed linear [604] on an approximate E-W orientation was identified (**Illus 6**). The feature measured 3.1m in width and its two fills extended to a depth of 0.42m. The lower fill [605] comprised a light brown silty sand with frequent gravel and sub-angular stone inclusions. Upper fill [606] comprised a light brown silty clay with a grey hue. Environmental samples taken from both deposits contained heavily abraded and fragmented wood charcoal and small quantities of industrial residue in the form of hammerscale. Infrequent charred plant remains indicative of open wasteland were recovered from deposit [606]. Heavily abraded pottery dated to the 13th century was recovered from both fills of the feature, with a single sherd of 16th/17th century pottery recovered from the overlying subsoil [602].

## 5 DISCUSSION

No evidence was observed for the presence of the postulated Roman road within the proposed development area, or any potential associated roadside activity.

Feature [604] extended beyond the bounds of the evaluation trench to the east and west. No continuation of the feature was identified within Trench 5. If the feature does represent a linear ditch it would appear to terminate or deviate from its course to the west of Trench 6. Considering its medieval date and its location within land on the margins of medieval settlement, the feature is likely to represent a furrow or drainage ditch relating to farming activity on the site. The small quantities of industrial residue recovered from the feature are likely to be intrusive.

Feature [504/607] was orientated on a broadly comparable alignment to [604] and may similarly relate to agricultural practices. Unfortunately no dateable material was present within the feature.

Feature [204] is likely to represent a heavily truncated plough furrow or a natural undulation within the geological horizon.

## 6 CONCLUSION

The trial trench evaluation confirmed that the proposed development area has a low archaeological potential. A small amount of medieval pottery was recovered from a cut feature of uncertain form in the south of the site. The significance of the identified archaeological features is considered to be low.

No evidence relating to the presence of a Roman road or associated activity was recorded within the development area.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS 2015 *British Geological Survey* [online] [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk) [accessed 13th April 2015].

Kimber, M 2014 *Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire: Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation*, Headland Archaeology Project RRHG14.

Richardson, T 2014 *Huntley, Gloucestershire: Geophysical Survey Report*, Stratascan Report J7456.

Weaver, S 2014 *Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment*, CgMs Consulting Report SW/17662.

## 8 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 TRENCH REGISTER

TR 1	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	ENE-WSW	30	1.6	0.35

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

100	Topsoil: Mid-dark brown silty clay.	0.00–0.2
101	Subsoil: Light-mid brown gravelly clay with yellow hue.	0.2–0.35
102	Natural: Yellow and red clay. Fractured mudstone bedrock deposits visible in patches.	0.35+

Summary: Trench located on slight north facing slope. No archaeological deposits identified.

TR 2	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	ENE-WSW	30	1.6	0.45

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

201	Topsoil: Mid-dark brown silty clay.	0.00–0.23
202	Subsoil: Light-mid brown gravelly clay with yellow hue.	0.23–0.45
203	Natural: Light brown gravelly mudstone with yellow hue. Patches of gravelly silty sand.	0.45+
204	Cut of furrow on NE-SW orientation. 2m in width.	0.45–0.5
205	Subsoil fill of [204].	0.45–0.5

Summary: Linear depression/cut in surface of natural characteristic of agricultural furrow. No finds recovered.

TR 3	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	WNW-ESE	30	1.6	0.4

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

300	Topsoil: Mid-dark brown silty clay.	0.00–0.3
301	Subsoil: Light-mid brown gravelly clay with yellow hue.	0.3–0.4
302	Natural: Mix of gravelly degraded mudstone interspersed with patches of red stiff clay (more frequent towards west of trench).	0.4+

Summary: Trench located at crest of small hill. Reduced thickness of subsoil. Natural very close to surface. No archaeological deposits identified.

TR 4	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	NE-SW	30	1.6	0.4

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

400	Topsoil: Mid-dark brown silty clay.	0.00–0.2
-----	-------------------------------------	----------

401	Subsoil: Light-mid brown gravelly clay with yellow hue.	0.2–0.4
402	Natural: Light brown degraded, fractured mudstone within a silty clay matrix.	0.4+

Summary: No archaeological deposits identified.

TR 5	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	N-S	30	1.6	0.35

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

500	Topsoil: Mid-dark brown silty clay.	0.00–0.18
501	Subsoil: Light-mid brown gravelly clay with yellow hue.	0.18–0.35
503	Natural: Light brown silty clay matrix with multiple degraded mudstone inclusions.	0.35+
504	Cut for linear. 1.45m wide. Shallow, gradual slope to sides. Potentially represents a continuation of feature [607].	0.35–0.64
505	Upper fill of [504]. Mid brown silty clay with orange hue. Infrequent charcoal inclusions.	0.35–0.5
506	Lower fill of [504]. Light grey/orange silt – natural accumulation of geological material.	0.5–0.64

Summary: Linear feature identified at southern end of trench. No dating evidence recovered. No evidence was identified for the continuation of feature [604].

TR 6	Orientation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Av. depth (m)
	NE-SW	30	1.6	0.6

Context	Context description	Depth of deposit (mBGL)
---------	---------------------	-------------------------

601	Topsoil: Dark brownish grey silty clay. Friable, moist, occasional small mudstone and charcoal inclusions.	0.00–0.25
602	Subsoil: Mid greyish brown sandy clay. Firm, moist. Small-medium sub-angular stone inclusions.	0.25–0.45
603	Natural: Light brown silty clay matrix with multiple degraded mudstone inclusions.	0.45+
604	Cut for broad feature (3.1m) occupying full width of trench. Gradual BOS to irregular base. Presumed to be linear.	0.4–0.82
605	Lower fill of [604]. Light brown silty sand with yellow hue. Frequent gravel and sub-angular stone inclusions.	0.4–0.82
606	Upper fill of [604]. Light brown silty clay with grey hue. Occasional charcoal flecks.	0.4–0.82
607	Cut for linear. 1.8m wide and occupying full width of trench. Steep side to NE, moderate to SW. Irregular base.	0.4–0.77
608	Lower fill of [607]. Light yellow sandy silt with grey hue. Occasional degraded mudstone fragments. Natural accumulation of geological deposits.	0.4–0.77
609	Upper fill of [607]. Light brown sandy silt with grey hue. Natural accumulation of geological deposits.	0.4–0.61

Summary: Broad feature [604] containing Medieval pottery on upper surface. Believed to be a ditch. Further ditch [607] on differing alignment similar in character to [504] – little to characterise it as archaeological.



## APPENDIX 2 FINDS ASSESSMENT

IMOGEN WOOD, JULIE FRANKLIN

The finds assemblage numbered seven sherds (135g) of pottery and a small quantity of magnetic residues. The pottery all dates to the medieval and early post-medieval periods. A summary of the assemblage is given below Table A2.1). A complete catalogue of all the finds is given at the end of the report.

Context	Pottery (Medi)		Pottery (PM)		Industrial Waste	Dating
	Count	Weight	Count	Weight		
500	1	54	–	–	–	14th-15th
602	–	–	1	22	–	L16th-E17th
605	1	5	–	–	<0.5g	13th
606	4	54	–	–	<0.5g	13th
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>&lt;0.5g</b>	<b>–</b>

TABLE A2.1

Assemblage summary by context

### Pottery

The pottery derived from four contexts (500), (602), (605) and (606). All sherds were examined macroscopically with a hand lens at x2 magnification to identify initial fabric groups; these groups were then examined under a binocular microscope at a magnification of x10 to x40. The pottery is in a generally poor condition with all sherds being very abraded level 3 in Sorensen's (1996) abrasion scale. All vessels represent typical domestic wares for the region.

There are four conjoining rim sherds in a Malvernian fabric from a cooking pot with an inturned rim in a reduced coarse soft fired fabric (606). Whilst this is common Romano-British fabric often found in this region, this vessel lacks the characteristic feldspar and hornblende inclusions and the rim form is not consistent with this period. It is more comparable with medieval Malvernian unglazed ware Fabric 56 (Bryant 2004, Fabric 56, 298). A body sherd from (605) is of a similar fabric. This ware reached its maximum distribution in the late 12–13th century (Bryant 2004, 299).

The foot of a tripod pipkin vessel (500) is of later medieval date. Its

TABLE A2.2

Finds catalogue

Trench	Context	Sample	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot date	Period
5	500	–	1	54	Pottery	Local Redware fabric	Foot of tripod pipkin	14th-15th	Medi
6	602	–	1	22	Pottery	South Somerset	Rim of bowl	L16th–E17th	PM
6	605	–	1	5	Pottery	Malvernian unglazed ware Fabric 56	Body-cooking pot	12th-13th	Medi
6	605	2	–	<0.5g	Industrial Waste	Hammerscale	–	–	–
6	606	–	4	54	Pottery	Malvernian unglazed ware Fabric 56	Rim-cooking pot	12th-13th	Medi
6	606	1	–	<0.5g	Industrial Waste	Hammerscale?	–	–	–

fabric suggests a locally produced redware. This form appears in assemblages of this region around the 14th-15th century (Vince 2004).

A single rim sherd of an internally brown glazed earthenware bowl in a South Somerset ware fabric (602) dates to around late 16th - early 17th century.

### Industrial waste

Small quantities (<0.5g) of magnetic residues were recovered from sample retents from two contexts (606, 605). Both contain probable fragments of hammerscale. Though this might be indicative of smithing, the quantities found are not enough to draw any conclusions about on-site activities.

### Discussion

The pottery provides good dating evidence, though the small sherd count and abraded nature of the pottery means these dates should be used with caution to date the contexts in which they were found. The sherds in (605) and (606) suggest a 13th century date for these deposits. The later medieval and early post-medieval sherds (500, 602) imply activity in the area continued into the later medieval and early-post-medieval period.

The assemblage is too small to warrant further work unless additional material is recovered from the same locality in which case it should be added into any overview.

### References

- Bryant, V 2004 Medieval and early post-medieval pottery, in Dalwood, H & Edwards, R (eds) *Excavations at Deansway, Worcester 1988–89, Romano-british small town to late medieval city*, CBA Report 139, York.
- Sorensen, ML 1996 'Sherds and pot groups as keys to site formation process', in Needham, S & Spence, T (eds.) *Refuse and disposal at area 16 East, Runnymede*, Runnymede Bridge Research Excavations 2, London, 61–74.
- Vince, A 2004 *Assessment of the Roman and Medieval Pottery from the Victoria Works, Long Street, Dursley* (STGCM 2003.19) AVAC Report 2004/120.

## APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

LAURA BAILEY, TIM HOLDEN

### Introduction

Two 20 litre samples recovered during the course of archaeological works on land off Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire, were received for palaeoenvironmental assessment. The samples were from the fills (605) and (606) of a ditch [604] containing pottery dating to the medieval period. The aims of the environmental work were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains in the samples and to establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site.

### Method

The samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any remaining material in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. All samples were scanned 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 seeds atlases using Cappers et al (2006).

### Results

Results of the assessment are presented in Tables A3.1 (Retent samples) and A3.2 (Flotation samples). Material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

#### *Charcoal*

Heavily abraded and fragmented wood charcoal was present in small numbers in both samples. Oak charcoal was present in the fill (606) of ditch [604].

#### *Charred plant remains*

Single blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus/idaeus*) and fat hen (*Chenopodium sp.*) 'seeds' were present in the secondary fill (606) of ditch [604]. Both species are common and indicative of open, disturbed ground or waste places, but both are also food plants in some circumstances.

### Discussion

Very few environmental remains were recovered from the site. Although the blackberry/raspberry seed could possibly have been the remains of foods the single seeds of each were more probably charred incidentally and offer little scope for further interpretation.

### References

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

Context	Sample	Sample Vol (l)	Charcoal		Material available for AMS dating	Comments
			Qty	Max size (mm)		

606	1	20	+	10	Yes	Charcoal oak
605	2	20	+	1	No	Charcoal not retained

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

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

TABLE A3.1

Retent samples

Context	Sample	Total flot Vol (ml)	Charred plant remains	Charcoal		Comments
				Qty	size (mm)	

606	1	15	+	+	1	Charred <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> and <i>Chenopodium sp.</i> seeds
605	2	10	–	+	–	–

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

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

TABLE A3.2

Flotation samples







© 2015 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

**NORTH**

Headland Archaeology  
13 Jane Street  
Edinburgh EH6 5HE

**T** 0131 467 7705  
**E** north@headlandarchaeology.com

**SOUTH & EAST**

Headland Archaeology  
Building 68C, Wrest Park, Silsoe  
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS

**T** 01525 861 578  
**E** southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

**MIDLANDS & WEST**

Headland Archaeology  
Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Faraday Road  
Hereford HR4 9NZ

**T** 01432 364 901  
**E** midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

[www.headlandarchaeology.com](http://www.headlandarchaeology.com)