

WPTG/04



LAND TO THE REAR OF JOHN MOORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, COLUMBINE ROAD, WALTON CARDIFF, GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WHEATPIECES 1A)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Bloor Homes Western

February 2016

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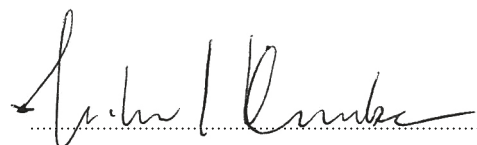
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PROJECT SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology undertook a trial trench field evaluation on land at Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. The evaluation identified evidence of a probable prehistoric 'ring-ditch' feature, a later prehistoric ditch and ditch terminal of probable prehistoric date. Two undated ditches and plough furrows of probable medieval date were also recorded. Features identified were of relatively shallow depth suggesting plough truncation of the site over a prolonged period.

A small amount of prehistoric pottery and animal bone was recovered during the investigation.

The trial trenching has corroborated the evidence of the geophysical survey in suggesting that archaeological remains are of a low density and relatively dispersed on the site.

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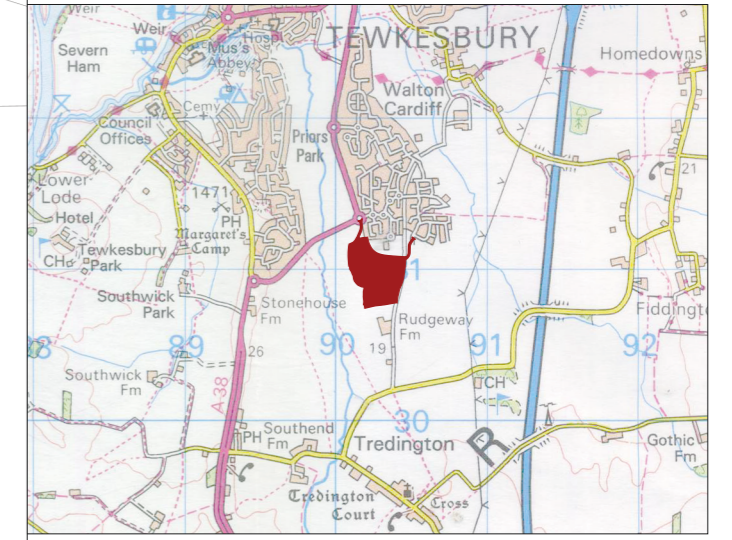
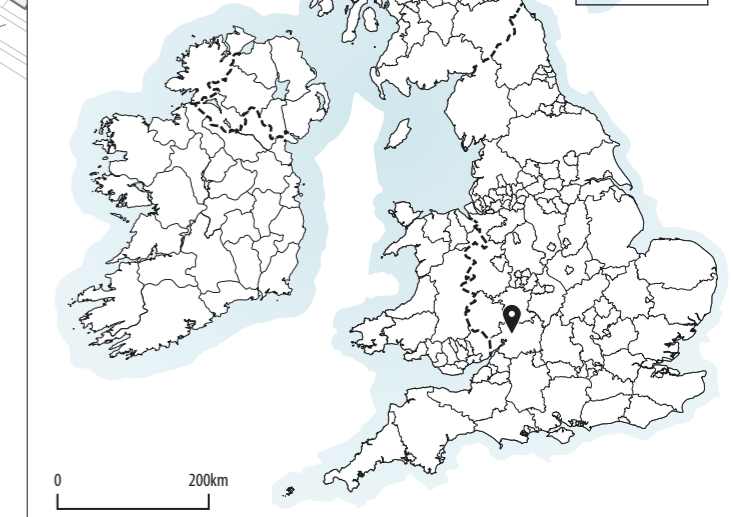
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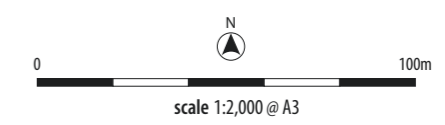
**WHEATPIECES,
 TEWKESBURY(WPTG/04)**
 land adjacent to Rudgeway Lane
 Tewkesbury
 Gloucestershire



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- KEY**
- development boundary
 - trench location
 - feature
 - utility standoff



LAND TO THE REAR OF JOHN MOORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, COLUMBINE ROAD, WALTON CARDIFF, GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WHEATPIECES 1A)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This report presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation on land at Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. The archaeological works, commissioned by Bloor Homes Western, relate to the outcomes of a pre-application consultation (14/00307/PRE) for the proposed residential development of the site.

The archaeological advisor to Tewkesbury Borough Council, Mr. Charles Parry, advised 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 undertook 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 an area of land located at SO 92879 35328. The proposed development area (PDA) is located within an area of land bounded to the north by the Primary School; to the west and south by hedgerows; and to the east by an unclassified country lane. The current masterplan area covers a total of 9ha.

Further to the north is the built-up Wheatpieces suburb of Tewkesbury; further west the River Swilgate meanders from south to north. Rudgeway Farm is located approximately 200m to the south of the area.

The site is located at approximately 14m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), on generally level ground.

The solid geology of the site is recorded as being interbedded mudstone and limestone formed in the Jurassic period when the

local area was dominated by shallow seas with fluctuating sea levels. Other types of mudstones are recorded in bands to the east and west, broadly reflecting the line of the River Severn. Deposits of alluvium are recorded within the flood zone west of the site, but no superficial deposits have been mapped (BGS 2015).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site has been subject to a desk based assessment (Richards 2015) and prior geophysical survey by the Bartlett Clark Consultancy. The geophysical survey identified a group of anomalies to the south-east of the site which were interpreted as representing a possible ring-ditch type feature

Excavations in advance of the Rudgeway Fields development (north and northeast of the application site) revealed settlement, ritual and funerary activity dating to the middle Bronze Age, and late Bronze Age / early Iron Age, including two substantial parallel ditches of middle Bronze Age date (Holbrook 2008). The Rudgeway Fields excavations also revealed evidence of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement (ibid.)

Settlement at Rudgeway continued into the Anglo-Saxon period, however the current settlement pattern developed in the medieval period and Tewkesbury Abbey was founded in 1087 prompting the development of the town. The wider landscape was predominantly fields associated with the settlements at Tewkesbury and the now deserted Walton Cardiff.

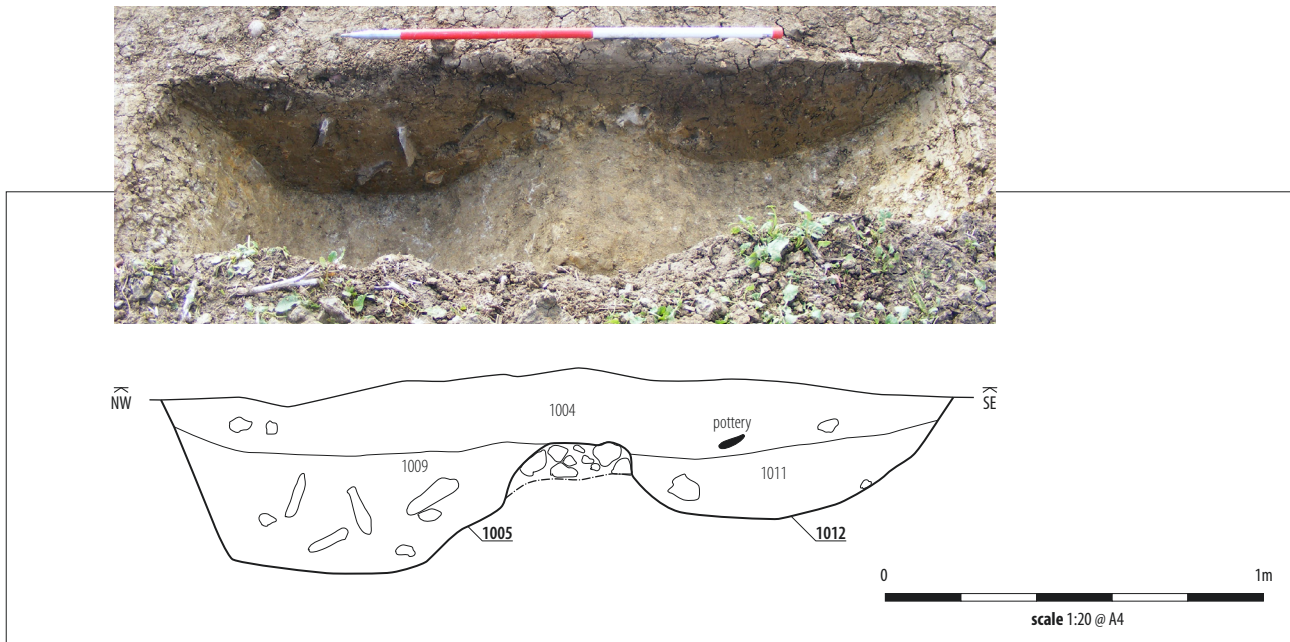
The site of the battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, between Lancastrian and Yorkist forces, lies to the west of the proposed development area. The battlefield is now a designated monument on the Register of Historic Battlefields (ID: 1000039). The battle is currently understood to have been fought on the western side of the River Swilgate (i.e. the opposite side to the proposed development), and the designated area does not extend into the PDA. The river appears to have been a physical barrier to the eastern side of the battlefield, and to have anchored the two opposing eastern wings of the Yorkist and Lancastrian armies – the



ILLUS 2 Trench 12, south facing section showing general stratigraphy



ILLUS 3 Post-excavation view of Trench 18, looking east



ILLUS4 Southeast facing section ditches of ditches [1005] and [1012], Trench 1

significant fighting prior to the rout of the Lancastrians all appears to have taken place on the western side of the battlefield.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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 Tewkesbury Museum and to provide information for accession to the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit;

The local and regional research contexts are provided by the Archaeological Research Framework for the South-West. Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in these frameworks.

3 METHOD

The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the following documents:

- Code of Conduct (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)
- Standards 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 22 trenches totalling 840 linear metres.

The evaluation trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision, with topsoil/upper subsoil being removed by a

mechanical excavator 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.

Exposed archaeological remains were recorded on pro forma record sheets and each feature identified was excavated by hand to determine form, function and retrieve dateable material.

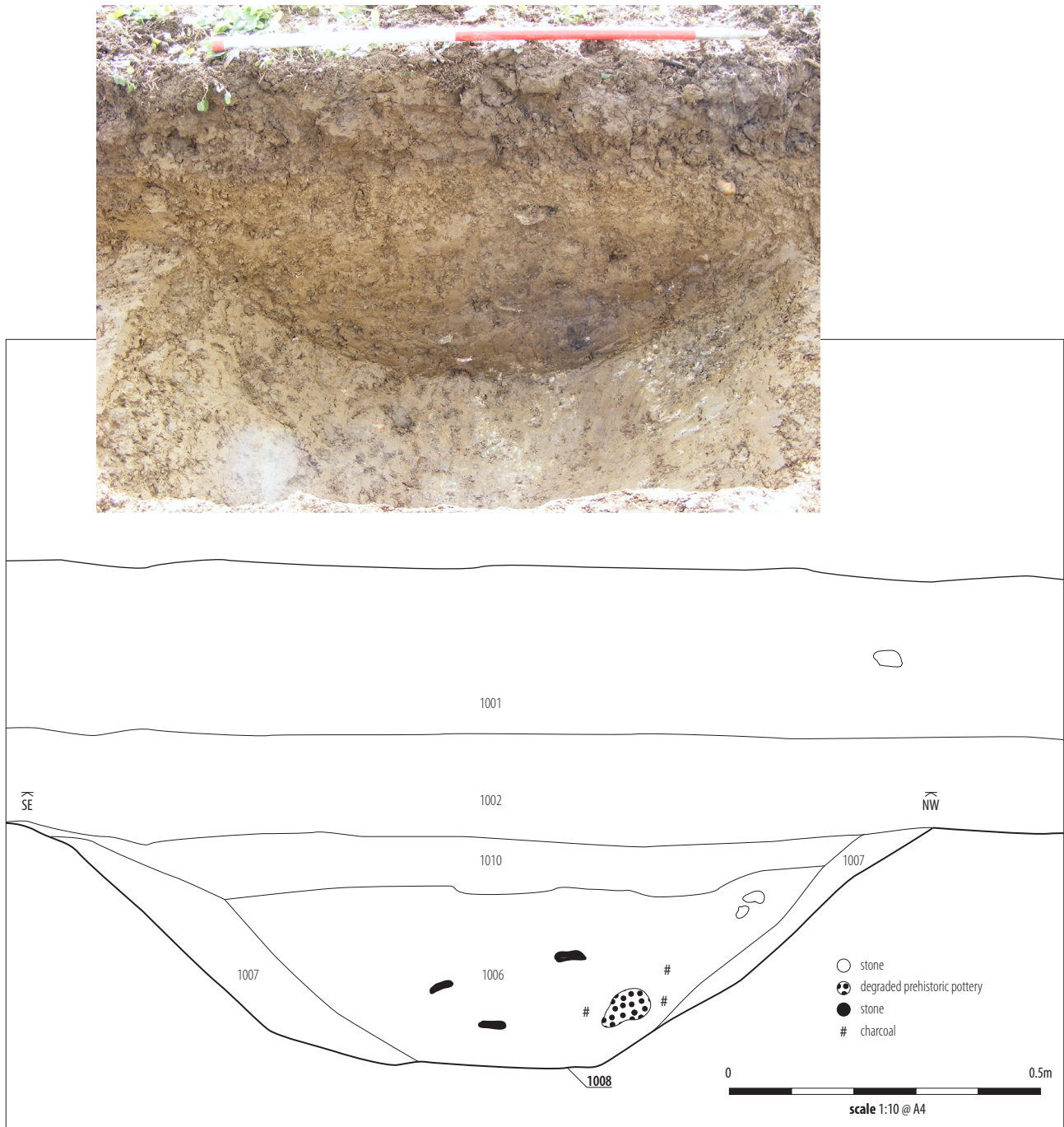
All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The recorded contexts were assigned unique numbers and are detailed in the trench and context registers (Appendix 1) sheets. Digital photographic images and black and white photographs were taken of all trenches with a graduated metric scale clearly visible. Digital surveying was undertaken using a Trimble dGPS system.

4 RESULTS

The location of features discussed below can be found on **ILLUS 1**.

4.1 GENERAL SITE STRATIGRAPHY

Deposits were generally consistent across the site (**ILLUS 2** and **ILLUS 3**). A mid-dark brown silty clay topsoil deposit eg (1001, 2001) between 0.20m and 0.40m in depth overlay a light to mid-yellowish brown silty clay subsoil deposit of between 0.05m and 0.20m in depth e.g. (1002, 2002). Occasional post-medieval pottery sherds were noted in the topsoil deposits. Geological deposits were encountered at a depth of between 0.35m and 0.50m and consisted of a light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay with patches of blue-grey marl and degrading limestone fragments, eg (1003, 2003).



ILLUS 5 North facing section of ditch [1008], Trench 1

4.2 TRENCHES CONTAINING PREHISTORIC FEATURES

Within Trench 1 three linear cut features [1005, 1008 and 1012] were identified.

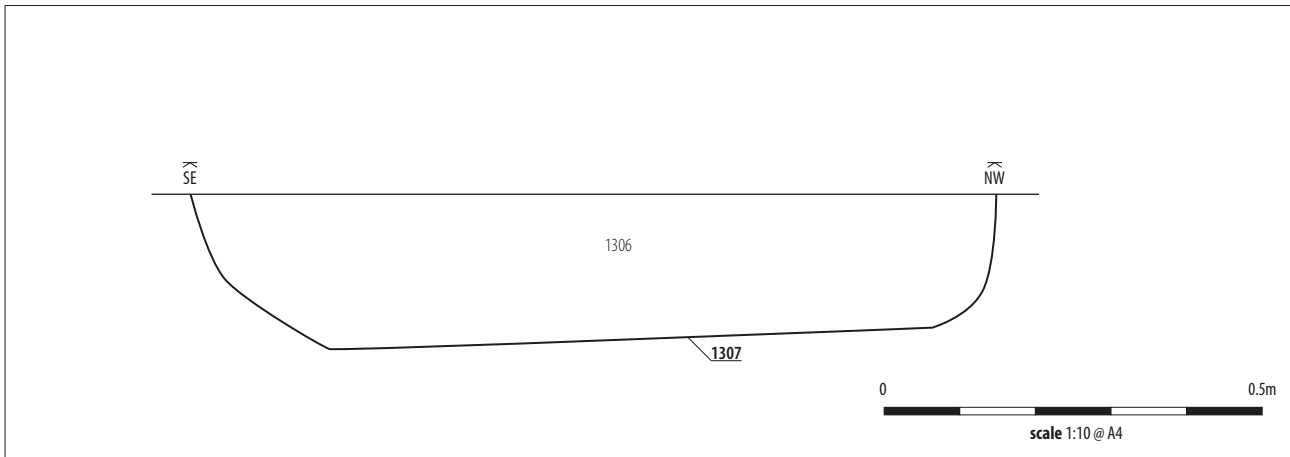
To the west of the trench and interpreted as a ditch, [1005] was oriented north-south and contained a primary fill (1009) which was identified as redeposited natural material, likely deriving from erosion of the sides of the cut and of up-cast material from its excavation. Pottery of middle to later Iron Age date was recovered from the deposit together with quantities of large mammal bone including horse and sheep (see Appendix 2).

A second ditch [1012] was recorded immediately adjacent to [1005] and contained a similar fill (1011) (ILLUS 4). Both ditches appeared to be

sealed by a blackish brown silty clay (1004) from which fired clay and greater quantities of animal bone was recovered. No stratigraphic relationship between the two ditches was detected.

Located at the east of the trench [1008] (ILLUS 5) was also interpreted as a ditch. A similar redeposited natural material (1007) containing pottery deriving from one vessel, of probable Bronze Age or Iron Age date, formed the primary fill of the ditch and was sealed by a dark brown silty clay dumped deposit (1006) from which animal bone and degraded remains of possible pottery of prehistoric origin was recovered.

Located in the central area of the site and partially exposed against the edge of Trench 13, [1304] was interpreted as a probable ditch terminal. The feature contained a grey brown silty clay primary fill



ILLUS 6 Southeast facing section of feature [1307], Trench 13

(1306). Pottery of probable prehistoric origin and date was noted in the deposit. A light brown silty clay (1305) formed the upper fill of the feature.

4.3 TRENCHES CONTAINING UNDATED DEPOSITS

A curvilinear feature [2204] (**ILLUS 7**) was recorded in Trench 22 and was oriented broadly east-west. It was interpreted as a truncated ditch or drainage feature. A mid-brown silty clay (2206) formed the only fill of the feature, with no inclusions or anthropogenic material observed. It appeared to pre-date the furrow systems.

Towards the north-east end of Trench 13 a linear cut [1307] (**ILLUS 6**) was interpreted as a truncated ditch. The ditch was orientated east-west with a flat base and steep sides. Much of its edges were irregular in shape. The feature contained a single fill (1308) from which no finds were recovered.

4.4 TRENCHES CONTAINING RIDGE AND FURROW REMNANTS

Within Trench 22, to the extreme north of the site, and oriented east-west, three furrows measuring between 1 and 1.90m were recorded [2205, 2206, 2207] and interpreted as relating to the remnant of a truncated ridge and furrow field system. Furrows were also recorded in Trenches 17 ([1704, 1705]), 19 ([1904, 1905]) and 20 ([2004, 2005, 2006]). Remnants of further probable ploughed out ridge and furrow were also noted in trenches 7, 8 and 11 in the southern half of the site.

4.5 TRENCHES WITH NO IDENTIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS

No features or significant deposits were identified in Trenches 2–6, 9–10, 12, 14–21.

5 DISCUSSION

Prehistoric deposits were recorded in Trench 1 and correspond with a geophysical anomaly identified in the area. From the evidence of

the geophysics, it appears likely that two of the identified ditches are associated and form part of a ring-ditch type feature. The features survived with shallow depth of around 0.40m. The banding of stone across the upper fill of the westernmost of the two ditches may be suggestive of the ploughing away of up-cast from the excavation of the feature. Given the morphology of the geophysical anomaly, the possibility of a plough truncated barrow cannot be precluded. The third ditch [1012] merged with westernmost segment of the potential ring-ditch. Its association with the geophysical anomaly or the chronological sequence relating to the ditches was not determined but it suggests some phasing in this area. This is supported by the pottery evidence from the features which seemed to suggest a chronological sequence from the Bronze Age to middle or later Iron Age. However, the dating of the pottery from context (1007) is not secure due to the small quantities recovered. Similarly, only with further work can the relationships between the three ditches be fully investigated.

The features in Trench 1 were relatively rich in anthropogenic material and survived to a greater depth than any other feature identified on site. Features in Trenches 13 and 22 were more heavily truncated and contained little or no identified anthropogenic material. Feature [2204], in particular, appears to have been extensively ploughed, surviving to only 0.10m, with the fill suggesting gradual sedimentation within the cut and a more likely agricultural function away from the main focus of occupation and activity. The fine grained nature of the sediments, silts and clays, would also suggest a low energy, slow and gradual natural sedimentation of the feature, making these harder for geophysical survey to identify. The possibility of such other features being present on the site remains.

Undated features on the site were sealed by a subsoil deposit suggesting an element of antiquity to their original formation. It is entirely possible that these remains, along with the prehistoric deposits recorded, represent a continuation of those identified during the Rudgeway Fields excavations, perhaps peripheral to the main focus of occupation identified there.

The features identified on the site were dispersed with no particular concentration or focus of archaeological deposits identified in any one particular area of the site.



ILLUS 7 Ditch [2204], Trench 22, looking east

6 CONCLUSION

In line with the project objectives, the evaluation successfully characterised the nature of archaeological remains present on the site and corroborated the evidence of the geophysical survey in suggesting that archaeological remains of prehistoric date are of a relatively low density and dispersed across the proposed development area.

The trial trench evaluation identified the presence of undated, though probably medieval, agricultural furrows in the northern and southern areas of the site. These appeared to be heavily truncated and survived variably as remnants of the former field systems. The high level of truncation of ridge and furrow remnants surviving on the site is indicative of relatively intensive and more recent ploughing of the site over a prolonged period of time. Both of these episodes of ploughing can be expected to have partially truncated any earlier archaeological features.

With specific reference to The Archaeological Research Framework for the South-West of England (Webster 2008) the features identified do not appear to add significantly to context and criteria of national research agendas. The possibility of the ring ditch representing the plough-truncated remains of a barrow is of interest as these features are relatively rare in the Severn Vale. This feature was discussed during a site meeting with the archaeological advisor and it was indicated that it was not of sufficient importance to present a constraint to development on the site.

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8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER

TR 1	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	E/W	30	1.60	0.45

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
1001	Topsoil. Dark	0.30
1002	Subsoil.	0.15
1003	Natural	Limit of excavation
1004	Mid to d	0.38 max.
1005	Linear cut, irregular sides, uneven base, N-S orientation, 2.10m wide	0.40
1006	Mid to dark brown silty clay containing animal bone, pottery and occasional limestones, fill of [1008]	0.30
1007	Light to mid yellow brown silty clay, primary fill of [1008]	0.10
1008	Linear cut, irregular sides, slightly concave base, N-S orientation, 1.50m wide, ditch	0.38
1009	Light to mid yellow brown silty clay, primary fill of [1005]	0.04-0.14
1010	—	—
1011	Light to mid yellow brown silty clay, primary fill of [1005]	0.30
1012	Linear cut, N-S orientation, steep sides, concave base	—
Trench description	South-eastern area of site, two linear features recorded	

TR 2	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	SE/NW	30	1.60	0.4

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
2001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.25
2002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.17
2003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation
Trench description	Southern extent of site, no archaeological remains	

TR 3	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NE/SW	30	1.60	0.40

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
3001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.25
3002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.11
3003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation
Trench description	Southern extent of site, no archaeological remains	

TR 4	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	E/W	30	1.60	0.48

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
4001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.38
4002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.12 max.
4003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation
Trench description	Southern extent of site, no archaeological remains	

TR 5	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	30	1.60	0.60

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
5001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.40
5002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.20
5003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation
Trench description	Southern extent of site, no archaeological remains	

TR 6	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	N/S	30	1.60	0.50
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
6001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.35		
6002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.15		
6003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Southern half of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 7	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	E/W	30	1.60	0.50
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
7001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.40		
7002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.10		
7003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Southern extent of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 8	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	N/S	30	1.60	0.30
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
8001	Topsoil. Friable, greyish brown silty clay containing occasional small stones	0.20		
8002	Subsoil. Friable, light brown silty clay containing occasional small stones.	0.10		
8003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Southern half of site, no archaeological remains recorded, traces of ridge and furrow noted			

TR 9	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NE/SW	30	1.60	0.45
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
9001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.30		
9002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.15		
9003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Southern half of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 10	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	30	1.60	0.40
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
10001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.27		
10002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.13		
10003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Southern half of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 11	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	N	30	1.60	0.40
Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)		
1101	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20		
1102	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.10		
1103	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation		
Trench description	Northeast extent of site, no archaeological remains recorded, traces of ridge and furrow noted			

TR 12	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	E/W	50	1.60	0.40
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1201	Topsoil. Friable, greyish brown silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1202	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.20
1203	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
Trench description	Northeast of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 13	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	N	50	1.60	0.50
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1301	Topsoil. Dark brown, silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1302	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.10
1303	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
1304	Semi-circular cut, partially exposed, gradually sloping sides, concave base >0.42m x 0.65 x 0.20m – Possible ditch terminal			0.20
1305	Light brown silty clay – Upper fill of 1304			0.13
1306	Grey brown silty clay – Lower fill of 1304			0.09
1307	Linear cut, E-W orientation, >2m x 0.53 x 0.10m, possible ditch/drainage feature			0.10
1308	Mid-grey silty clay, single fill of 1307			0.10
Trench description	Central area of site			

TR 14	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NE/SW	50	1.60	0.
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1401	Topsoil. Dark brown, silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1402	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.15
1403	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
Trench description	Central area of			

TR 15	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	50	1.60	0.40
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1501	Topsoil. Dark brown, silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1502	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.10
1503	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
Trench description	Central area of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 16	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	30	1.60	0.40
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1601	Topsoil. Dark brown, silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1602	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.10
1603	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
Trench description	Central area of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 17	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	50	1.60	0.60
Context	Context description			Thickness of deposit (m)
1701	Topsoil. Dark brown, silty clay containing occasional small stones			0.20
1702	Subsoil. Firm, light brown silty clay			0.20
1703	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops			Limit of excavation
Trench description	Central area of site, no archaeological remains			

TR 18	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	E/W	50	1.60	0.35

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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1801	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20
1802	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.20
1803	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation

Trench description North and west of site, no archaeological remains

TR 19	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	50	1.60	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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1901	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20
1902	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.20
1903	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation

Trench description North and west of site, no archaeological remains

TR 20	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	50	1.60	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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2001	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20
2002	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.15
2003	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation

Trench description North and west of site, no archaeological remains

TR 21	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	NW/SE	50	1.60	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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2101	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20
2102	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions	0.20
2103	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation

Trench description North and west of site, no archaeological remains

TR 22	Orientation	L (m)	W (m)	Avg D (m)
	N-S	30	1.60	0.50

Context	Context description	Thickness of deposit (m)
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2201	Topsoil. Dark black brown, silty loam, containing roots and small pebbles and occasional post-medieval pottery	0.20
2202	Subsoil. Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay containing degraded limestone inclusions.	0.20
2203	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown to mid brown silty clay containing patches of blue grey marl, degrading limestone and limestone outcrops	Limit of excavation
2204	Curvilinear cut, step sides, flat base, E-W orientation, truncated ditch/drainage feature	0.10
2205	Linear, ridge and furrow remnant	-
2206	Mid brown silty clay, single fill of [2204]	0.10

Trench description Northern extent of site, Ridge and Furrow and truncated curvilinear recorded

APPENDIX 2 ANIMAL BONE ASSESSMENT

LAURA BAILEY, TIM HOLDEN

Context	Description	Wgt (g)	Preservation	Non-IDable	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Horse	Large mammal	Comments	Total by context
1004	Fill (1004) of ditch [1005]	1479	Some fair, mostly good	–	32	11	44	3	Includes horse; 1st phalanx (fine cut marks), 3 2nd phalanges, distal metacarpal, distal metatarsal, 32 heavily worn teeth, several mandible and skull fragments, 2 distal tibia, distal humerus, Calcaneus and scapula fragment. Cow; 2 proximal metatarsals (1 vertically split), 16 teeth, phalanx. 11 Sheep teeth. Contains several long bone fragments.	6
1009	Primary fill (1009) of ditch [1005]	350	poor and fair	–	–	3	3	16	Includes horse distal tibia and teeth- heavily worn. Sheep/goat teeth and long bone fragment. Includes several heavily fragmented, large mammal longbones	22
Total	–	1829	–	–	27	14	27	17	–	90

TABLE A2.1 Animal bone

Animal bone recovered during archaeological works at Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, was received for assessment. The site comprised a prehistoric ring ditch, an undated ditch and medieval plough furrows. The animal bone was hand collected from the fills (1004) and (1009) of ditch [1005]. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of the remains and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible.

Method

Identifiable animal bone fragments were recorded together with the preservation and any signs of modification of the bone in order to assess the quality, quantity and potential of the assemblage. Where possible fragments were identified to species level using Schmid (1972). The results are presented in TABLE A2.1.

Results

The assemblage was moderately fragmented and both old and modern breaks were noted. The surface condition of the bone was variable, with the majority being assessed as good. Some of the bones recovered from the primary fill (1009) of the ditch [1005] had a clay 'concretion' adhering to them, which obscured the surface, and were thus described as poor.

A total of 90 identifiable bones together with heavily fragmented unidentifiable bone fragments, likely to derive from large mammal, such as cattle, horse or possibly red deer, were recorded. The assemblage weighed approximately 1830g.

Butchery marks were visible on some of the bones. Many of the bones were chopped and split longitudinally, probably during dismemberment of the carcass and perhaps for marrow extraction.

Whole bones were rare, but complete articular ends were present and would permit the retrieval of some metrical data.

The majority of bone was recovered from deposit (1004) and comprised elements of cow, sheep and horse. Elements of horse were most abundant and included lower limb bones; phalanges and metapodials, several well-worn teeth, skull fragments, a distal humerus and distal tibia. Identifiable elements of cow included teeth, a phalanx and two proximal metatarsals. Sheep/goat and deer teeth and mandible fragments were also identified. Few vertebral elements or ribs were present in the assemblage.

Deposit 1009 contained several heavily fragmented large mammal long bones together with a horse distal tibia and teeth and sheep/goat teeth and long bone fragments.

Discussion

The bone assemblage appeared to be dominated by lower limb bones and skull, parts of the body which support little flesh and represent low-quality cuts of meat. Few high quality meat bones such as femur and or scapula were identified. Similarly, few ribs and vertebrae were identified.

Although the assemblage is too small to allow extensive analysis of species and carcass representation, further analysis may provide information on the nature of the activity that generated the material.

References

Schmid, E 1972 *Atlas of animal bones for prehistorians, archaeologists and Quaternary geologists* Amsterdam.

APPENDIX 3 FINDS ASSESSMENT

JANE TIMBY, JULIE FRANKLIN

Context	Qty	Wgt (g)	Material	Object	Description	Spot Date
1004	2	6	CBM	Fired Clay	fired clay / possibly CBM?, fragments	–
1006	0	0	Pottery (PH)	Fragments	mainly mud with pot smear; not quantifiable	PH
1007	19	84	Pottery (PH)	LISH	coarse rounded limestone, sparse fossil, probably one vessel	PH
1009	6	29	Pottery (PH)	MAL REA	Malvernian metamorphic rock-tempered, jar rim, handmade	M-LIA+
1009	1	4	Pottery (PH)	MAL LI	Palaeozoic limestone-tempered	M-LIA+
1009	2	18	Pottery (PH)	MAL SST	quartz and sandstone-tempered	M-LIA+
1009	1	1	CBM	Fired Clay	fired clay or degraded pot	–

TABLE A3.1 Finds catalogue

The finds assemblage numbered 28 sherds (135g) of pottery and three fragments (7g) of fired clay. The finds all appeared to be of prehistoric date. A complete catalogue of all the finds is given at the end of the report.

Pottery

The pottery was in fragmentary condition with an overall average sherd weight of 5g. For the purposes of the assessment the assemblage was scanned to assess the likely chronology and quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context.

Most of the pottery was found in contexts (1007) and (1009). The pottery from context (1009) is typical of the Malvern area and dates to the mid-later Iron Age although these wares also often continue to feature in early Roman contexts. They include a jar in Malvernian group A rock-tempered ware (MAL REA) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 1470; Peacock 1968); Palaeozoic limestone-tempered ware (MAL LI) probably made in the area of the Woolhope Hills (Peacock 1968, Fabric B) and sandstone-tempered ware (MAL SST) (Peacock 1968, Group C) also from the same general region.

Context (1007) contains 19 sherds of handmade ware (LISH) with slightly abraded edges, probably from the same vessel. None of the pieces are featured. The fine sandy matrix has a sparse scatter of coarse (up to 4mm), rounded, limestone and rare fossil material suggesting a source from a Jurassic area of geology. Dating this group is quite difficult. It is not typical of the mid to later Iron Age pottery. It could be Bronze Age or Iron Age.

Ceramic building material

These consisted of fragments of fired clay. They are too small to be of interpretive value, though are not inconsistent with a prehistoric date.

Discussion

This is a very small finds assemblage but confirms prehistoric activity at the site. It also suggests that deposits (1007) and (1009) are not contemporary.

References

- Peacock, D P S 1968 *A petrological study of certain Iron Age pottery from western England* Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society 34, 414-28.
- Tomber, R & Dore, J 1998 *The National Roman fabric reference collection: a handbook* Museum of London / English Heritage/ British Museum.

APPENDIX 4 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

OASIS ID: headland3-236256

Project details

Project name	land at Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire
Short description of the project	Headland Archaeology undertook a trial trench field evaluation on land at Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. The evaluation identified evidence of a probable prehistoric 'ring-ditch' feature, a later prehistoric ditch and ditch terminal of probable prehistoric date. Two undated ditches and plough furrows of probable medieval date were also recorded. Features identified were of relatively shallow depth suggesting plough truncation of the site over a prolonged period. A small amount of prehistoric pottery and animal bone was recovered during the investigation. The trial trenching has corroborated the evidence of the geophysical survey in suggesting that archaeological remains are of a low density and relatively dispersed on the site.
Project dates	Start: 22-09-2015 End: 29-09-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WPTG15 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	RING-DITCH Iron Age
Significant Finds	ASSEMBLAGE Iron Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GLOUCESTERSHIRE TEWKESBURY WALTON CARDIFF Wheatpieces, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire
Study area	9 Hectares
Site coordinates	SO 92879 35328 52.015908037293 -2.103775008653 52 00 57 N 002 06 13 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd
Project director/manager	Mike Kimber AlFA
Project supervisor	Steve Thomson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
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Entered on	5 January 2016



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