

ORSS/01



LAND SOUTH OF OTELEY ROAD, SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Lands Improvement Holdings Shrewsbury

March 2016

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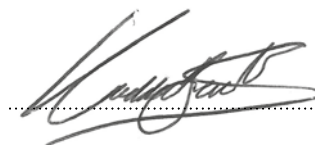
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PROJECT SUMMARY

An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Headland Archaeology on three sites located to the south of Oteley Road, Shrewsbury. The evaluation recorded evidence for probable later prehistoric land division, and Romano-British activity within the western part of the proposed development area.

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES	1
1.2	SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING	1
1.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	2
	Development area	2
	Site 1	2
	Site 2	2
	Site 3	2
2	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2
3	METHOD	2
4	RESULTS	5
4.1	SITE 1 EAST (ILLUS 2A)	5
	General stratigraphy	5
	Trenches containing geological features	7
	Trenches containing later prehistoric remains	7
	Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains	7
	Trenches containing no archaeological remains	7
4.2	SITE 1 WEST (ILLUS 2B)	7
	General stratigraphy	7
	Trenches containing undated remains	7
	Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains	7
	Trenches containing no archaeological remains	7
4.3	SITE 2 (ILLUS 6)	7
	General stratigraphy	7
	Trenches containing undated, probable prehistoric remains	7
	Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains	8
	Trenches containing no archaeological remains	9
4.4	SITE 3 NORTH (ILLUS 11)	9
	General stratigraphy	9
	Probable Romano-British features	9
	Undated features	12
4.5	SITE 3 SOUTH (ILLUS 13)	12
	General stratigraphy	12
	Trenches containing Romano-British features	12
	Trenches containing undated features	12
4.6	TRENCHES WITH NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	12

5	DISCUSSION	12
	5.1 SITE 1	12
	5.2 SITE 2	12
	5.3 SITE 3	12
6	CONCLUSION	14
7	BIBLIOGRAPHY	14
8	APPENDICES	15
	APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS	15
	APPENDIX 2 FINDS ASSESSMENT	23
	Prehistoric and Roman pottery	23
	Post-medieval and modern pottery	23
	Copper alloy	24
	Stone	24
	Ceramic building material	24
	Industrial waste	24
	Discussion	24
	References	24
	Finds catalogue	25
	APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	26
	Introduction	26
	Methodology	26
	Results	26
	Discussion	27
	Recommendations	27
	Reference	27

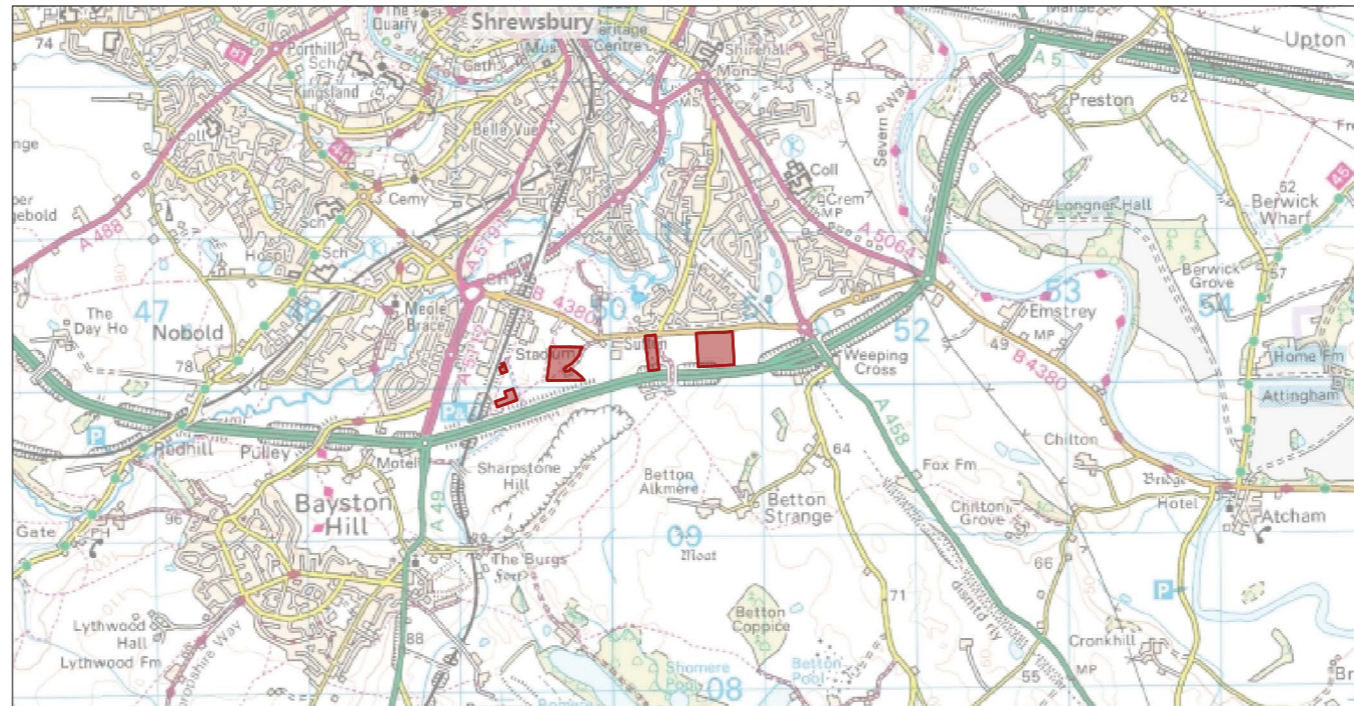
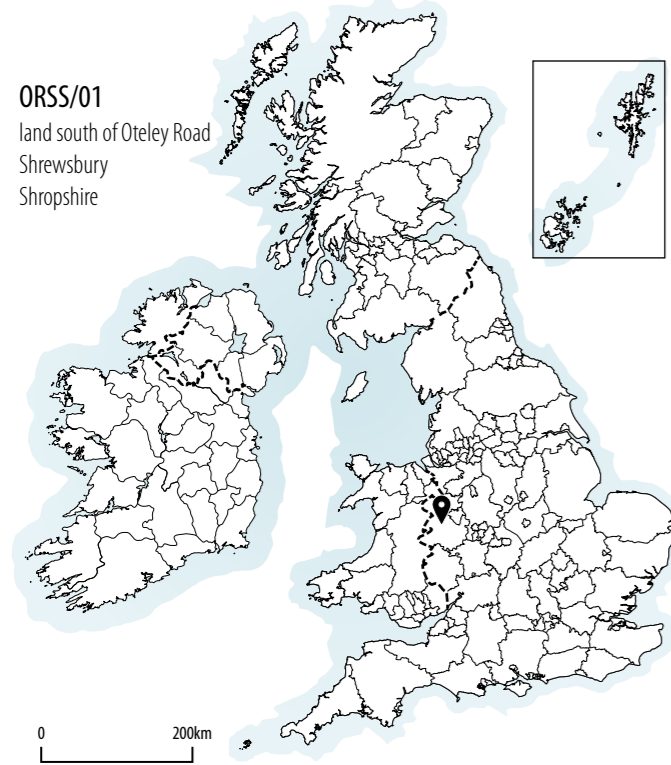
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

ILLUS 1 SITE LOCATION	XI
ILLUS 2A SITE 1 (EAST), TRENCH LOCATIONS SHOWING GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS	3
ILLUS 2B SITE 1 (WEST), TRENCH LOCATIONS SHOWING GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS	4
ILLUS 3 PLAN VIEW OF POST-HOLE [1505]	5
ILLUS 4 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH DITCH [0405]	5
ILLUS 5 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION, POSSIBLE PIT OR DITCH TERMINAL [2304]	5
ILLUS 6 SITE 2, TRENCH LOCATION PLAN SHOWING MODERN CUTS	6
ILLUS 7 TRENCH 32, SHOWING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	8
ILLUS 8 TRENCH 37, SHOWING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	9
ILLUS 9 GENERAL VIEW OF FEATURES IN TRENCH 32, LOOKING SOUTHWEST	10
ILLUS 10 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH DITCHES [3208 AND 3215]	10
ILLUS 11 SITE 3 (NORTH), TRENCHES SHOWING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	11
ILLUS 13 SITE 3 (SOUTH), TRENCHES SHOWING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	13
ILLUS 14 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH DITCH [4305]	14

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE A2.1 SUMMARY OF ASSEMBLAGE BY TRENCH	23
TABLE A3.1 FLOTATION SAMPLE CONTENTS	26
TABLE A2.2 RETENT SAMPLE CONTENTS	27
TABLE A3.3 BURNT BONE	27

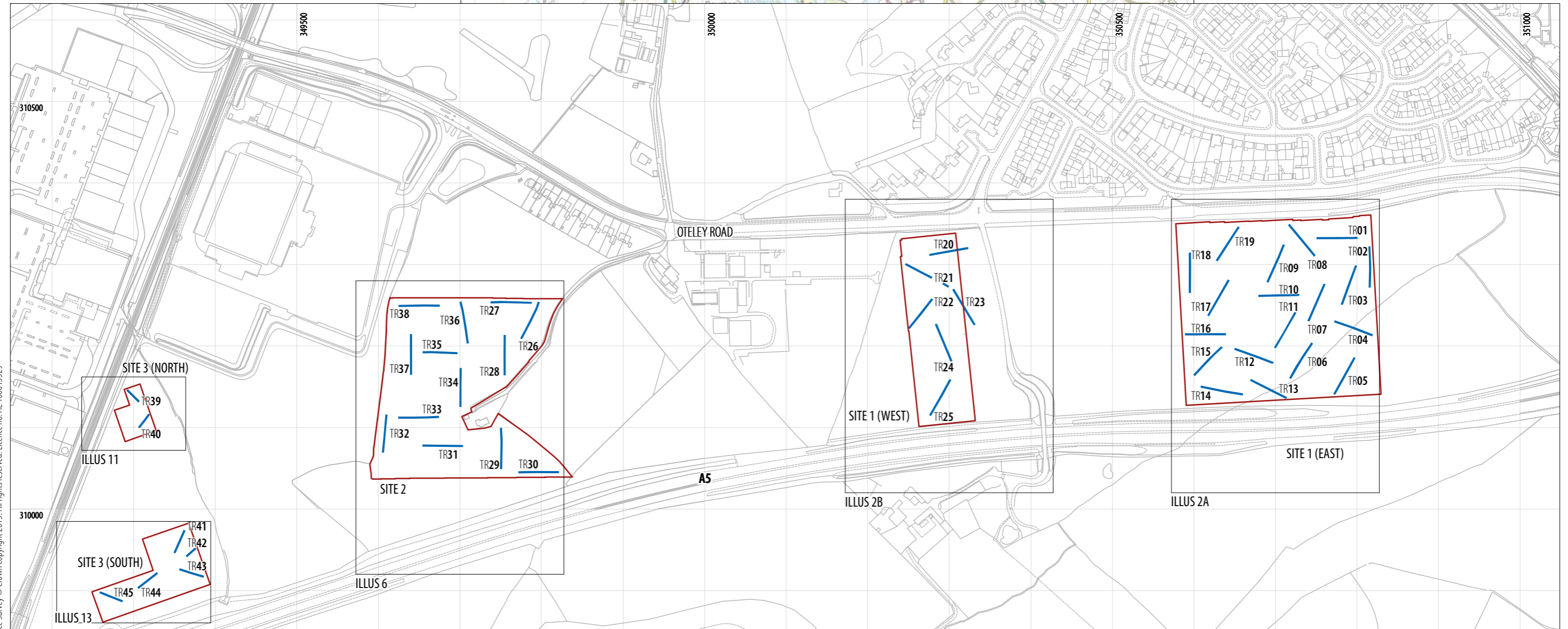
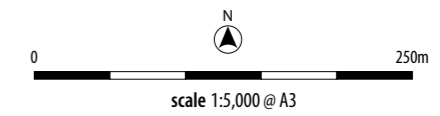
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KEY
 targeted evaluation area
 trench location



LAND SOUTH OF OTELEY ROAD, SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

Lands Improvement Holdings Shrewsbury (the client) has been granted outline planning permission to develop a c.44ha site at the southern limit of Shrewsbury, with a mix of housing, retail and business space proposed. The development site is centred on the former Percy Thrower garden centre (NGR 350061, 310205).

As a condition of the planning permission, the local planning authority requested a programme of archaeological trial trenching to determine the need, or otherwise, for further archaeological mitigation.

This report presents the results of the archaeological field evaluation which was undertaken by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd between the 11th and 28th January 2016.

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Outline planning permission (14/04428/OUT) was granted by Shropshire County Council for residential and commercial development of the site. Condition 4 of the permission relates to archaeology, and states:

'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work, including a Written Scheme of Investigation, has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and: a) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording. b) The programme for post investigation assessment. c) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording. d) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation e) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation f) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation. 2) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.'

In response to Condition 4 the client commissioned Wardell Armstrong Archaeology to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). Three separate WSIs were prepared (Webster 2015a, b and c), each one relating to a different land parcel within the development area. The WSIs were submitted to the local planning authority and agreed with the archaeological advisor Dr Andrew Wigley.

In December 2015 the client commissioned Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd to undertake the archaeological evaluations in accordance with the agreed WSIs. A method statement (Craddock-Bennett 2015), confirming the change of archaeological contractor, was submitted to and approved by the archaeological advisor in January 2016.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The proposed development site occupies a c.44ha area bound by Oteley Road in the north, the A5 in the south, the Ludlow to Shrewsbury railway line to the west and the A458 Wenlock Road to the East.

Three land parcels within the development area were targeted for investigation (ILLUS 1).

Site 1 Land to the south of Oteley Road (NGR 350498,310238)

Site 2 Land around The Hawthorns (NGR 349695,310131)

Site 3 Land north of the A5, east of A5112 (NGR 349310,309997)

The topography of the site is variable. The eastern half of the development area (Site 1) slopes from 74mOD in the north to 82mOD in the south. The western half of the development (Sites 2 and 3) slopes from 70mOD in the east to 74m in the west.

The underlying solid geology in the west of the development area (Sites 2 and 3) is mapped as coal measure strata (mudstone, sandstone, siltstone and coal) associated with the Halesowen Formation. To the east of this, mudstone, sandstone and conglomerates associated with the Salop Formation are mapped as being present. The above

formations cover metamorphosed sedimentary rocks associated with the Bayston-Oakwood Formation and Portway Formation. Superficial geology within the development area is recorded as glaciofluvial deposits of sands and gravels mapped as being around 5m in thickness. The exception to this being the western extremity of Site 2, around The Hawthorns, and Site 3, where sand and gravels associated with the 3rd Terrace gravels of the River Severn are mapped, formed up to 3 million years ago by the migrational course of the River Severn (BGS 2015).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A number of previous investigations have taken place both within and in the vicinity of the proposed development area.

Development area

A desk-based assessment produced by Morris and Associates (2012) outlined the historical background to the site.

An Iron Age hillfort, is known to the southwest of the site at the southern end of Sharpstones Hill (c.1km south of Site 3), whilst excavations in advance of the Shrewsbury Town FC stadium carpark identified an Iron Age enclosure which has been interpreted as broadly contemporary with the hillfort (Bain 2007).

A Roman road is thought to pass to the south of Shrewsbury but its precise location is unknown.

Early medieval development of Shrewsbury is believed to have been confined to the loop of the River Severn, only spreading into Sutton and the vicinity of the site in the later early medieval period.

Previous archaeological interventions to the north of Oteley Road have identified the presence of 18th and 19th century coal workings in the vicinity of the development area.

Site 1

A geophysical survey undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (2015) identified wide linear anomalies on an NW-SE alignment. Prior to evaluation it was unclear whether the anomalies represented archaeological features or geological variations. A number of discrete responses were also identified during the survey.

Site 2

Site 2 is located immediately to the south and east of the Iron Age enclosure excavated in 2007. A trial trench evaluation (McAree 2004) was undertaken in advance of the main excavation in order to understand the nature of linear cropmarks present in the areas surrounding the main enclosure. Eight trenches were excavated, revealing the remains of post-medieval field boundaries. A single ditch produced evidence of possible Romano-British activity.

The properties in the centre of Site 2 currently known as The Hawthorns were originally built in the 19th century and called Coal

Pit Cottages. The 2004 evaluation identified several pits containing coal working waste, confirming the presence of post-medieval industrial activity within the site.

Site 3

Site 3 is located to the south-west of the Iron Age enclosure. Geophysical surveys of the areas proposed for trenching were undertaken by GSB Prospection in 2000. A number of discrete anomalies potentially representing archaeological features were identified.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the evaluation were to:

- › determine the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the proposed development site,
- › determine the character, date, extent and distribution of any archaeological deposits and their potential significance,
- › determine levels of disturbance to any archaeological deposits from plough damage or from any other agricultural/industrial practices or later building activities,
- › investigate and record all deposits and features of archaeological interest within the areas to be disturbed by the current development,
- › determine the likely impact on archaeological deposits from the proposed development, and to
- › disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of reporting,

Where geophysical survey had been undertaken (Sites 1 and 3), two further objectives were identified;

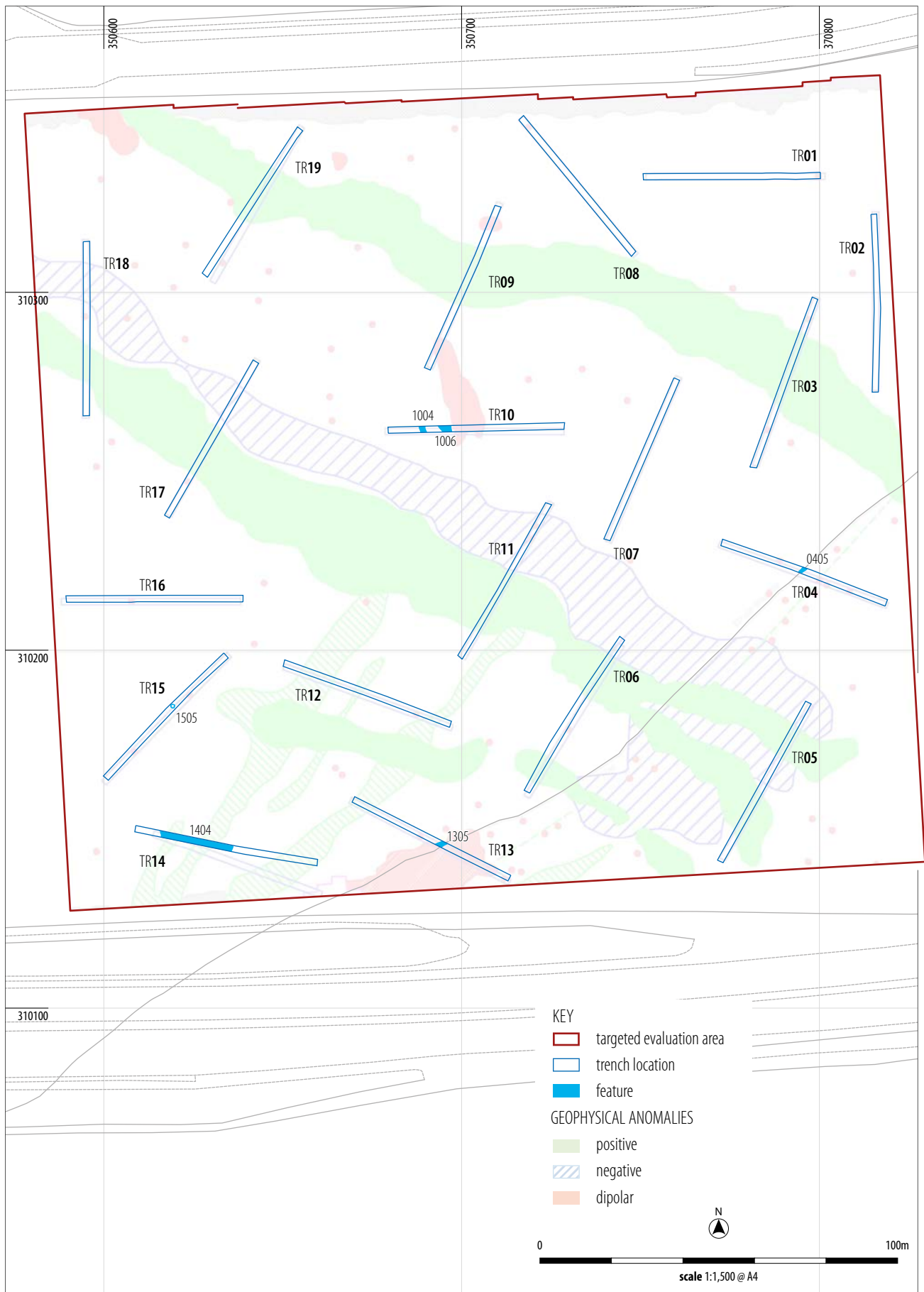
to determine if the anomalies revealed by the geophysical survey are of archaeological or geological origin, and to,

determine the clarity of the geophysical results by assessing if any feature type was not seen due to ground and/or geological conditions.

3 METHOD

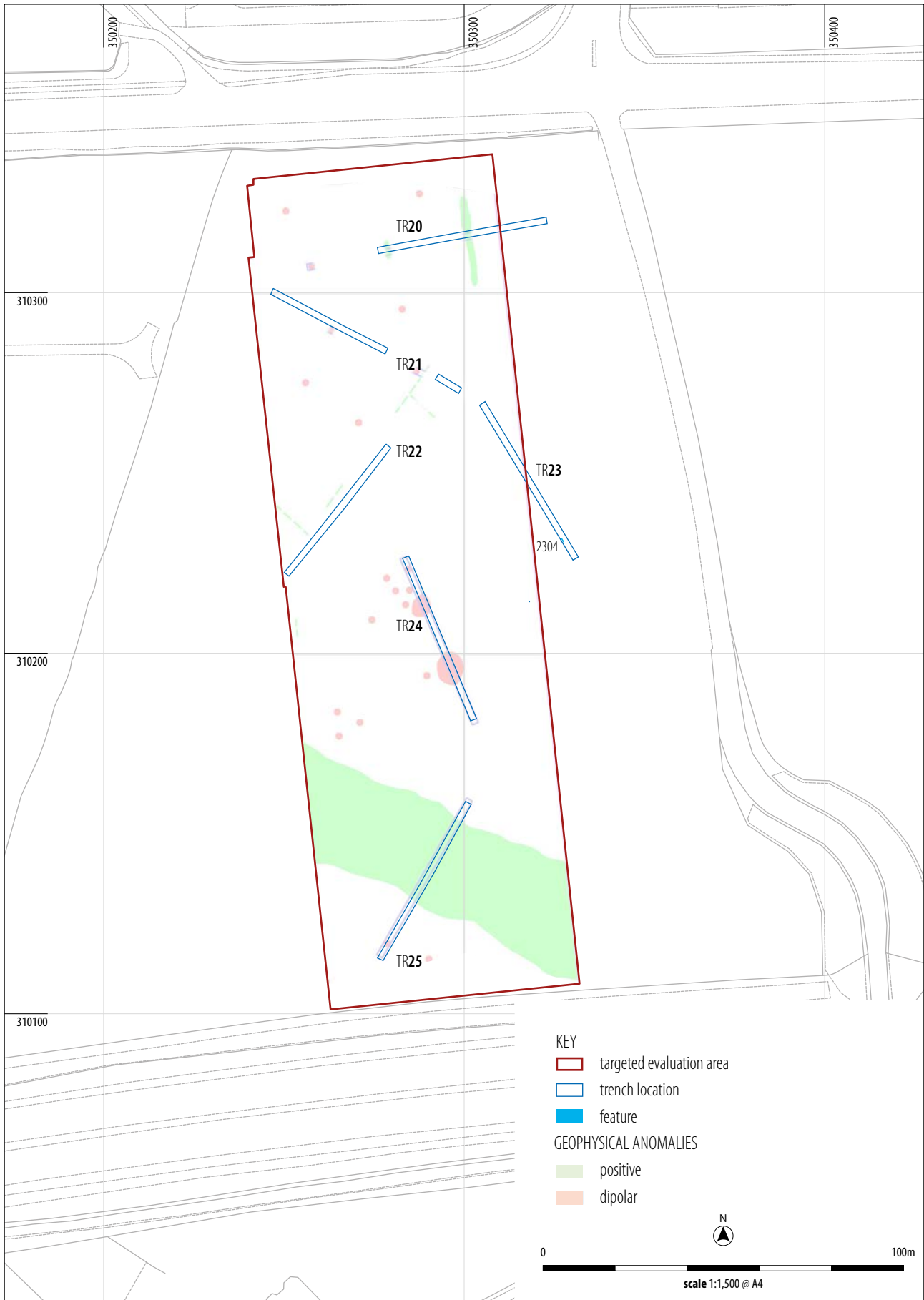
The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the above mentioned WSI's and method statement and in accordance with the following documents:

- › Code of Conduct (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)
- › Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014a)



ILLUS 2A Site 1 (East), trench locations showing geophysical survey results

ILLUS 2A Site 1 (East), trench locations showing geophysical survey results



ILLUS 2B Site 1 (West), trench locations showing geophysical survey results



ILLUS 3 Plan view of post-hole [1505] **ILLUS 4** Northeast facing section through ditch [0405] **ILLUS 5** Northeast facing section, possible pit or ditch terminal [2304]

The investigation was undertaken across three land parcels with sub-divisions within Site 1 (East and West) and Site 3 (North and South) (ILLUS 1).

Due to on-site constraints, a number of trenches were moved from their proposed locations.

Trenches 20 to 23 (Site 1 west) and Trenches 31 to 34 (Site 2) were repositioned to accommodate public footpaths. Trench 26 (Site 2) was repositioned to the west as its original position was constrained by the existing hedgerow and track. Trench 14 (Site 1 west) was moved slightly north due to the proximity of a tree and potential damage to its roots.

Trenches were set out using a differential GPS. Prior to excavation, utility plans were consulted, and all trench areas including a 2m additional buffer, were scanned using a cable avoidance tool to identify any potential buried services. Trenches were excavated using a 14.5 tonne mechanical excavator, fitted with a bladed bucket, to the level of archaeological deposits or natural geology.

Exposed archaeological remains were 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 recording was undertaken on Headland Archaeology pro forma trench and context record sheets. Digital and black and white 35mm film photographs

were taken of all trenches and identified features, with a graduated metric scale clearly visible. An overall site plan of the trenches and recorded features was digitally produced. Digital surveying was undertaken using a Trimble dGPS system.

4 RESULTS

Results are presented by site. A complete context register is included in Appendix 1 and supporting specialists reports are included in Appendices 2–4.

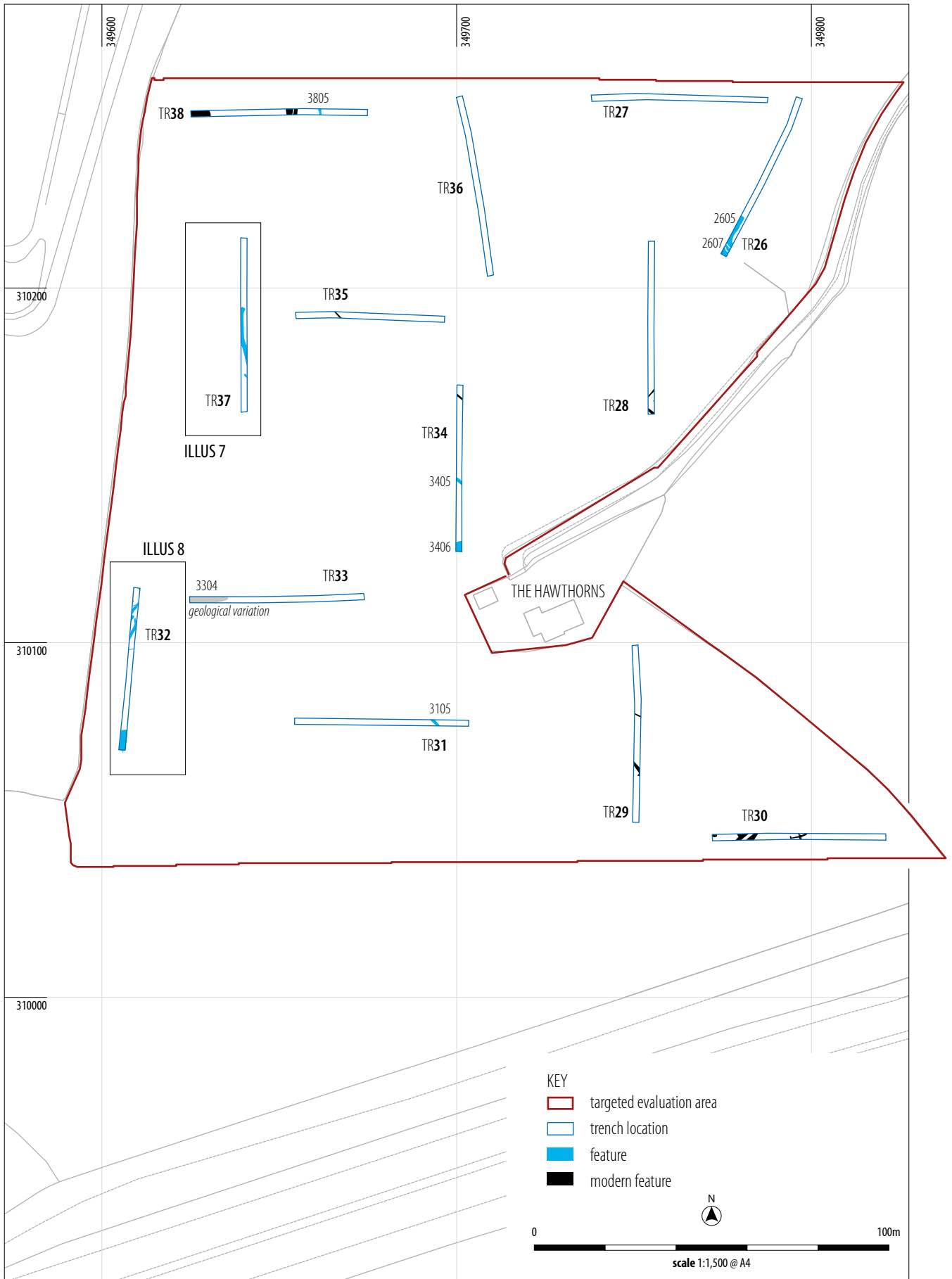
4.1 SITE 1 EAST (ILLUS 2A)

General stratigraphy

The depth at which geological deposits were encountered varied from as shallow as 0.36m in the higher, southern part of the site, to a depth of 0.90m in the lower lying northern part of the site where colluvial subsoil deposition was evidenced.

A dark grey sandy clay topsoil (eg 0101) was recorded across the entire site, measuring between 0.30 and 0.35m in depth. This sealed a reddish grey (eg 0102) or light yellowish brown (eg 0802) sandy clay.

Geological deposits varied across the site, displaying an approximate correlation to the broad linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.



ILLUS 6 Site 2, trench location plan showing modern cuts

In the north of the site, a reddish brown sandy clay (eg 0103) formed the natural geology. In the southeast, mottled reddish brown and yellowish brown sandy clays (eg 0503) were present. Grey eroding mud or siltstone, and brownish grey sandy clay gravels (eg 1803) were encountered in the west of the site.

Trenches containing geological features

Trench 10 identified two broadly linear features which had an apparent correlation with geophysical anomalies. Feature [1004] was oriented north-south and measured 2.03m in width. The feature was filled with a sterile yellowish brown sandy clay (1005) interpreted as a geological variation. A further band of the same material [1006] was identified immediately to the west.

At the highest point of the site, within Trench 14, a weathered mudstone outcrop was identified within the western part of the trench.

Trenches containing later prehistoric remains

Within Trench 15, a sub-circular cut [1505] (ILLUS 3) was identified as a post-hole measuring 0.33 x 0.29m in plan and 0.19m in depth. A brownish grey sandy clay (1504) formed the only fill of the post-hole from which a sherd of probable late iron-age pottery was recovered.

Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains

A northeast-southwest oriented ditch [0405] (ILLUS 4) was recorded in Trench 4. The ditch survived to a depth of 0.35m and was 1.16m wide. Modern porcelain was recovered from the single fill of the ditch (0404). A continuation of the feature [1305] was identified within Trench 13.

Trenches containing no archaeological remains

Trench numbers; 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, and 19 contained no archaeological remains.

4.2 SITE 1 WEST (ILLUS 2B)

General stratigraphy

Archaeological and geological horizons were encountered at approximately 0.45m below ground surface. An exception was noted in Trench 20 where geological deposits were encountered at a depth of between 0.40m and 1.05m beneath a colluvial subsoil.

The earliest deposits encountered were a light yellow-brown and grey sandy clay gravel (2003) and a patchy reddish brown and yellow-brown sandy clay (2203) which represented natural geological deposition, glaciofluvial in origin.

These deposits were sealed by a light yellowish brown sandy clay subsoil (2002) and a mid- grey sandy clay topsoil (2001).

Trenches containing undated remains

To the south-eastern end of Trench 23, a partially exposed cut feature [2304] (ILLUS 5) was interpreted as a ditch terminal or pit. The feature

measured 1.57m x 0.37m in plan and 0.30m in depth. Excavation identified two fills; a reddish brown sandy clay (2305) and a greyish brown sandy clay (2306).

Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains

Within Trenches 21, 22, 24 and 25, a modern service cut on a north-south orientation was identified. An iron manhole cover associated with the cut was present in Trench 24, correlating with the location of an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey.

Trenches containing no archaeological remains

No archaeological remains were present in Trench 21.

4.3 SITE 2 (ILLUS 6)

General stratigraphy

Archaeological remains were encountered at depths of between 0.40 and 0.60m below the existing ground surface.

A mid grey sandy clay topsoil (eg 2601, 2901) up to 0.36m deep, overlay a variably light reddish brown and light yellowish brown subsoil (eg 2602, 2902) the depth of which varied from 0.10m to 0.50m. Underlying geological deposits were exceptionally variable from trench to trench and were represented by gravels, sandy clays and clays (2603, 2703, 2903, 3503 and 3703). These were identified as glacio-fluvial deposits in keeping with known drift deposits in the area.

Within Trench 32, a light greyish brown sandy clay (3221) containing frequent manganese fragments extended over the southern part of the trench. The deposit contrasted with the lighter yellow-brown and grey clays observed in the north of the trench (3203). Whilst the deposit was believed to be geological in origin there is the possibility that it could mask earlier remains within a hollow or depression.

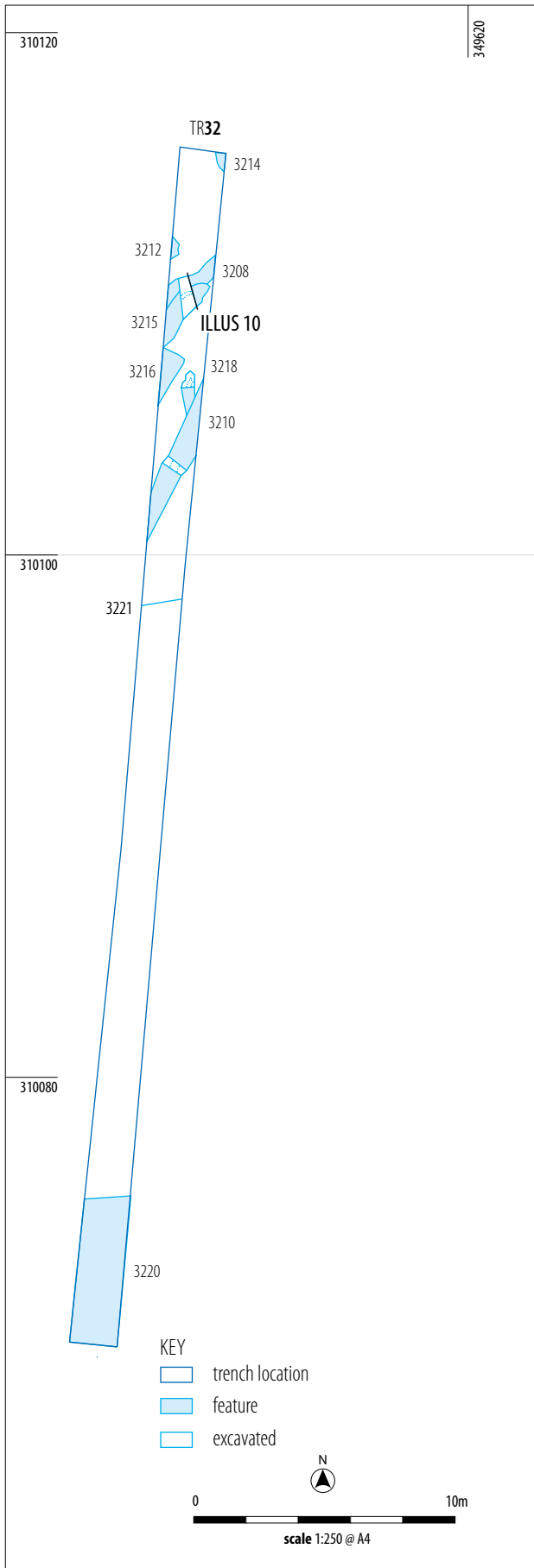
Trenches containing undated, probable prehistoric remains

Trench 32 (ILLUS 7)

Trench 32 contained several features which displayed relationships and potential phasing (ILLUS 9).

Oriented north-south and measuring 1.41m x 0.43m in plan and 0.06m deep, a truncated ditch cut with a northern terminal end [3218] was filled with a yellowish brown sandy clay (3219). The ditch was truncated to its southern extent by a northeast-southwest oriented ditch [3210] 0.93m wide and 0.33m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of brownish grey sandy clay (3209).

Immediately to the north of these, three ditches [3208], [3215] and [3216] were recorded. Ditch [3208] (ILLUS 10) appeared to be the earliest of these and was oriented northeast – southwest, measuring >0.70m wide and 0.53m deep. The ditch contained three fills indicative of phases of gradual sedimentation and deliberate dumping of material (3206). From the dumped deposit fired clay, a probable whetstone and worked stone of a marble type, were recovered.



ILLUS 7 Trench 32, showing archaeological features

The ditch was truncated by the terminal end of a further ditch [3215] which appeared to curve from the southwest to the east. The ditch contained a single fill of light brown sandy clay (3204).

Also oriented northeast-southwest and with a blunt, almost square terminal end [3216] was interpreted as a ditch, partially exposed in the trench. The relationship between [3216] and [3215] was not determined. A slot positioned to characterise the ditch revealed it was > 1.02m wide and in excess of 0.38m deep. No dateable material was recovered from either of the latter ditches.

Trench 37 (ILLUS 8)

Within Trench 37, approximately 50m to the north of Trench 32, three features were identified as ditch cuts [3704], [3706] and [3708].

Ditch [3704] appeared to be oriented northwest-southeast and terminated to its northern extent. The ditch continued southeast beyond the trench limit and measured 0.54m wide and 0.12m deep. Small fragments of modern pottery were recovered from the single fill of the ditch (3705) together with hammerscale. Environmental samples recovered burnt bone, hazelnut shell and a barley grain.

Ditch [3708] gradually curved from the north to the southeast, with a terminal end to the north. The linear measured in excess of 18m long, 1.10m wide and 0.23m deep. The ditch contained a primary fill of yellowish grey sandy clay (3709) which contained fragments of fired clay and an upper fill of brownish grey sandy clay (3710) within which hammerscale was identified.

Truncating [3708], an east-west aligned cut [3706] was identified as a further truncated ditch measuring 0.35m wide and 0.09m deep. The ditch contained a single fill of greyish brown sandy clay (3707).

Within Trench 34, a broadly northeast-southwest aligned cut [3405] was recorded as a ditch. The feature was highly truncated, surviving only to 0.07m in depth. A mid-brown sandy clay (3404) containing frequent gravel and frequent manganese inclusions formed the only fill and was likely to represent the primary filling of the ditch.

Trenches containing post-medieval and modern remains

Oriented northwest-southeast and measuring 1.20m wide and 0.22m deep a ditch [2607] was filled with a greyish brown sandy clay and gravel (2608) from which modern brick was recovered.

Approximately 16m northeast of [2607] a truncated post-hole [2605] was identified cutting through subsoil deposits into the geology (2603) and likely to be of post-medieval or modern date.

Ditch [3105] was identified in Trench 31 on a northwest-southeast orientation. The fill (3104) was noted to contain brick fragments, coal and charcoal. Due to flooding of the trench (within one hour of opening) the feature was not excavated but was identified as being of post-medieval origin due to the nature of the material within the fill observed during stripping.

Ditch [3805], in the north of the site, appeared to be a continuation of feature [3105]. The ditch was oriented north-south and measured 0.77m wide and 0.38m deep. A single fill of greyish brown silty, sandy

clay (3804) was recorded within which coal and brick fragments were observed but not retained.

Recorded in the southern extent of Trench 34 a deposit of stone, brick and sandy clay (3406) extending 2m north-south formed a rough metallated surface. The deposit lay within the subsoil (3402) and represented the remains of a former track. A similar deposit was recorded in Trench 32 (3220) where it was recorded to be 0.20-0.25m in depth and represented a continuation of the trackway.

Group context number (2904) was assigned to a series of linear and other cuts and deposits identified in Trenches 28, 29, 30, 34, 35 and 38. The fills of these features were consistently a combination of redeposited yellow and light grey clays containing large quantities of coal fragments. Brick, glass and white glazed ceramic were noted within the fills of some of the features. Test and sample excavation of several revealed them most likely to be related to drainage of the site and associated with coal working in the vicinity.

Trenches containing no archaeological remains

Trench numbers 27, 33 and 36 contained no archaeological remains.

4.4 SITE 3 NORTH (ILLUS 11)

General stratigraphy

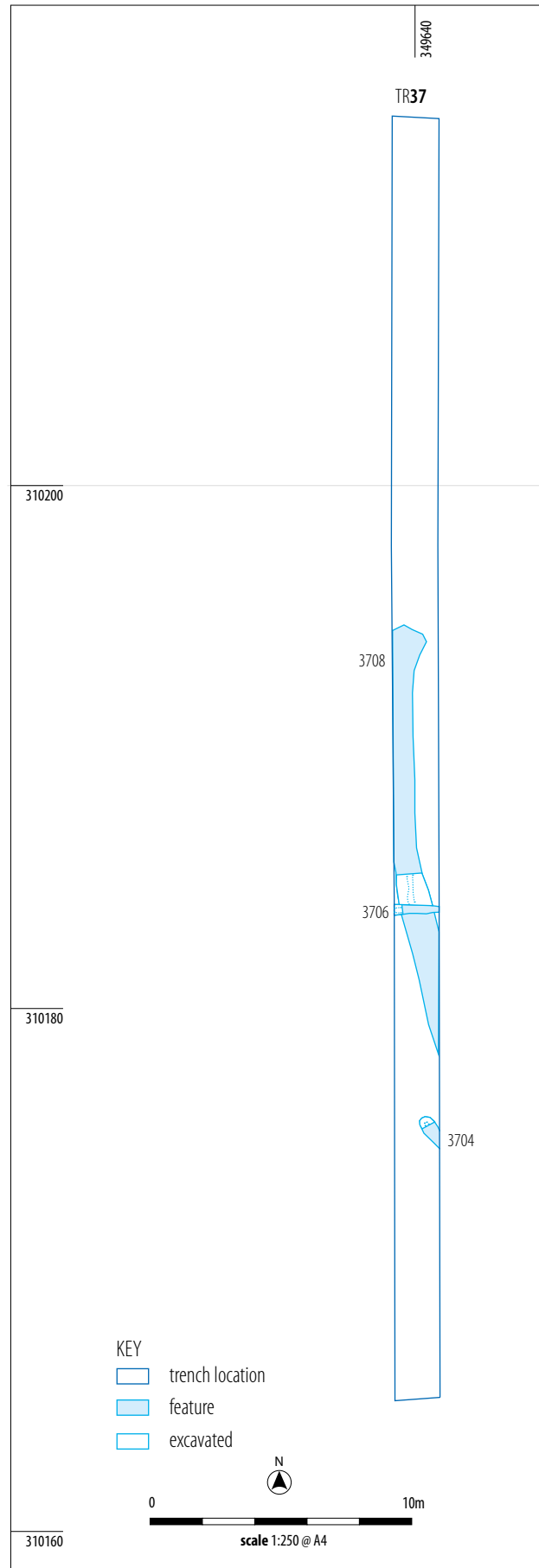
Archaeological deposits were encountered at a depth of between 0.40m and 0.50m below ground surface. A light brown sandy clay gravel (3903) represented the earliest deposit encountered, deriving from glacio-fluvial action. This was sealed by a light brown sandy clay and gravel subsoil (3902) and a dark grey silty sandy clay and gravel topsoil (3901).

Probable Romano-British features

Within Trench 39 a partially exposed feature extending 2.40m through the trench [3905] was interpreted as a ditch. The feature appeared to be oriented northwest-southeast and a sondage through the feature revealed it to be >0.71m wide and 0.35m deep. A mid grey sandy clay (3904) filled the ditch from which a sherd of later Iron Age or Romano-British pottery was recovered.

Within Trench 40 a series of six post-hole cuts were identified. Three were partially exposed against the south-eastern trench edge [4010], [4012] and [4014] with [4004], [4006] and [4008] broadly parallel and located towards the centre of the trench. A section through [4006] (ILLUS 12) revealed it to measure 0.55m x 0.46m in plan and 0.37m deep with a flat base. A dark greyish brown sandy clay and stone matrix (4007) filled the post-hole from which iron slag, fired clay, burnt animal bone and heat affected stone were recovered.

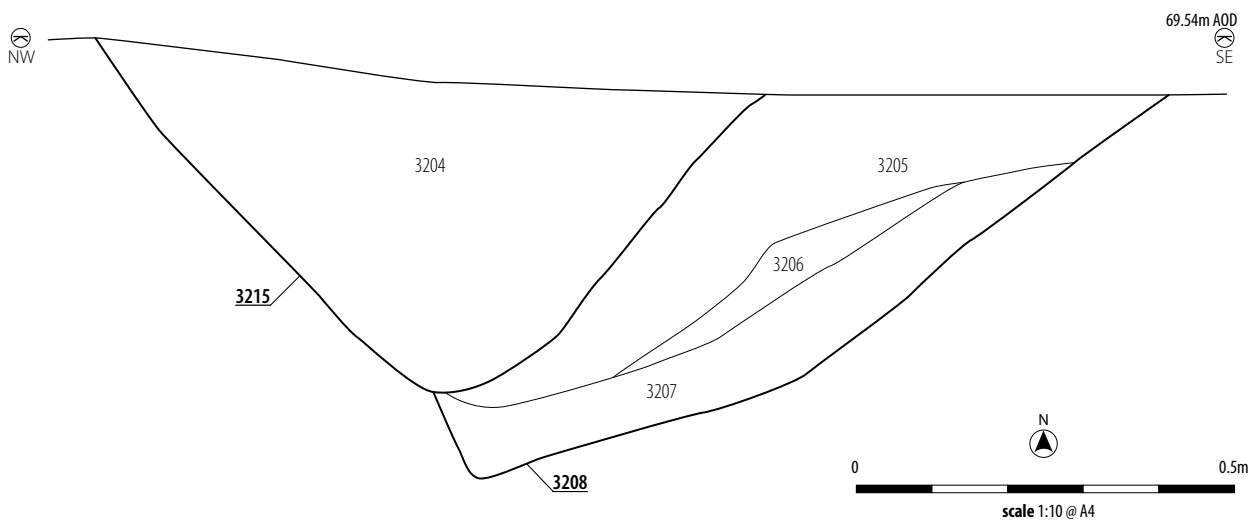
Post-hole [4004] measured 0.41 x 0.36m and 0.18m deep and was filled with a greyish brown sandy clay stone matrix (4005) from which burnt bone was also recovered. The other four post-holes were recorded in plan only with burnt bone observed within the exposed fill.



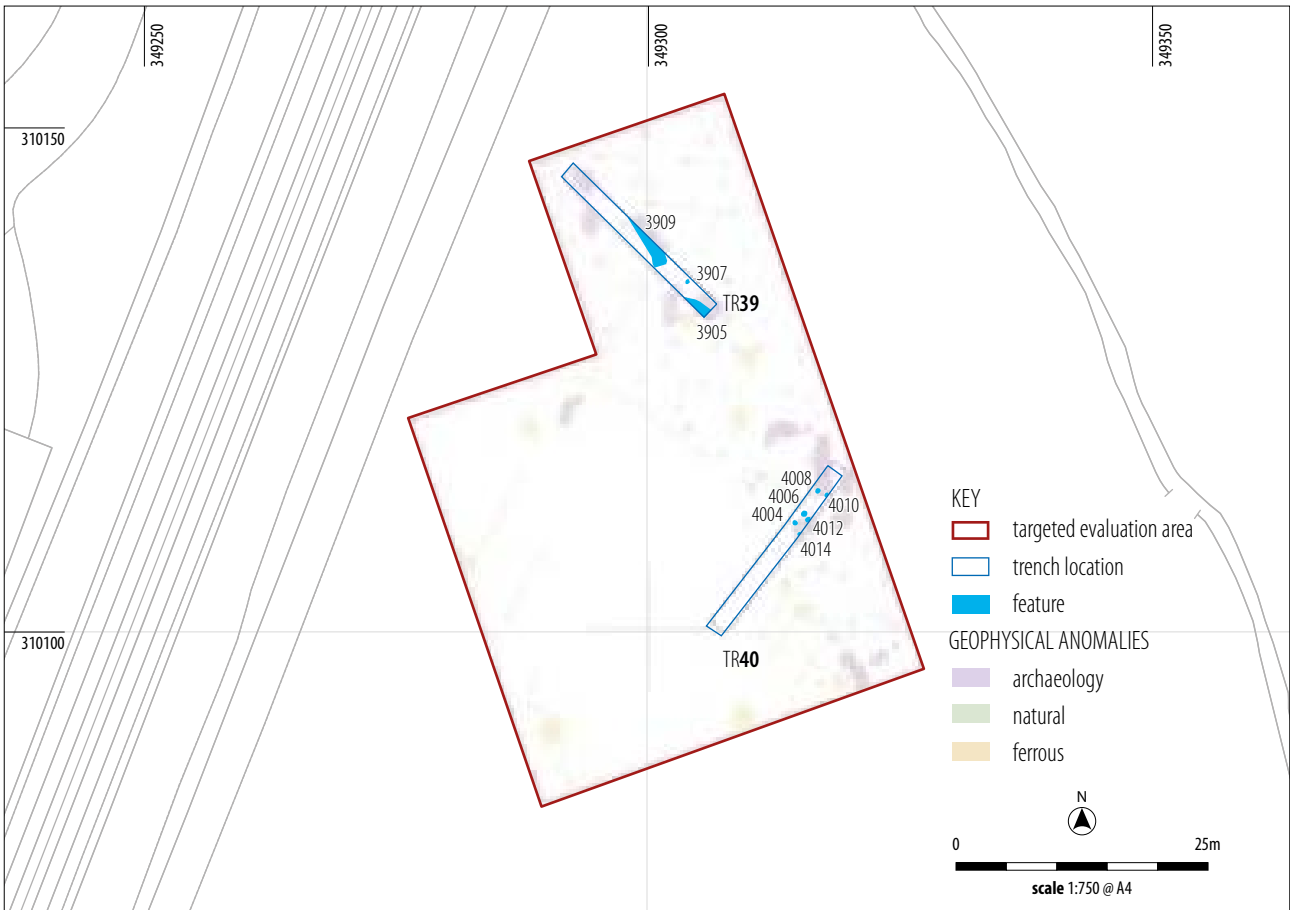
ILLUS 8 Trench 37, showing archaeological features



ILLUS 9 General view of features in Trench 32, looking southwest



ILLUS 10 Northeast facing section through ditches [3208 and 3215]



ILLUS 11 Site 3 (North), trenches showing archaeological features



ILLUS 12 Northeast facing section through post-hole [4006]

Undated features

A linear cut [3909] oriented broadly north-south was present within Trench 39. The ditch measured 1.36m wide and 0.42m deep with a blunt terminal end to the south and contained a single fill of mid grey slightly sandy, silty clay (3908). The deposit contained frequent amounts of heat affected soil with burnt animal bone and hazelnut shell recovered from environmental samples.

An undated post-hole [3907] measuring 0.37m x 0.30m and 0.35m deep was also recorded.

4.5 SITE 3 SOUTH (ILLUS 13)

General stratigraphy

Stratigraphy within this area was generally consistent with that observed to the north. The only exception being that subsoil deposits in Trenches 41, 42 and 43 (4102, 4202 and 4302) displayed an element of colluviation being slightly deeper, lying towards and at the base of a gentle slope from the south and west.

Trenches containing Romano-British features

A linear cut [4105] oriented northwest-southeast was recorded in Trench 41 and interpreted as a possible ditch. The cut measured 1.40m wide and 0.14m deep and the base exhibit a slightly uneven concave profile which showed signs of the underlying geology having been affected by heat. A mid brown sandy clay (4104) formed the single fill of the ditch and contained heat affected stones with some stone appearing to be set towards the edges of the cut. Pottery of later Iron Age or Romano-British provenance was recovered from the ditch.

Within Trench 43, a northeast-southwest oriented ditch [4305] was recorded (ILLUS 14). The ditch was heavily truncated surviving to 0.16m deep and 0.69m wide and contained a single fill of greyish brown sandy clay (4304) from which Roman tegula and sherds of 2nd to 4th century mortaria were recovered.

A further heavily truncated ditch was recorded in Trench 45 [4506]. The ditch was also aligned northeast-southwest and measured 0.67m wide and 0.14m deep. A primary fill of brownish grey silty, sandy clay (4505) was sealed by a yellowish brown silty clay (4504) which was identified as a combination of dumping of fire rakings and general sedimentation. Later Severn Valley Ware pottery of 2nd to 4th century date was recovered together with fired clay, burnt bone, cereal grains and possible hammerscale.

Trenches containing undated features

Within Trench 43 a single post-hole [4307] measuring 0.33 x 0.31m and 0.24m deep was recorded and a probable burnt out tree throw [4309].

4.6 TRENCHES WITH NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

Trenches 42 and 44 displayed no archaeological features with only geological deposits encountered.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 SITE 1

A single post hole [1505] was identified within Site 1. No function could be ascribed to the feature, though it was relatively substantial in size with a vertical axis. Fragments of Iron Age pottery recovered from the feature may suggest an early date, however, the limited amounts of material recovered mean that the dating is not conclusive.

The distinctive linear bands identified by geophysical survey appear to relate to the geological variations identified during trenching. Discrete geophysical anomalies are likely to relate to either geological variation or the presence of ferrous objects within the topsoil.

5.2 SITE 2

Archaeological activity is concentrated within the western part of Site 2, in the region of Trenches 32 and 37.

The ditches identified in this area are largely undated. A small ditch [3705] contained tiny fragments of post-medieval pottery which are believed to be intrusive and an earlier date for the feature is likely. Given the largely aceramic nature of the Iron Age in the area and the depth beneath subsoil that the features were encountered, an earlier date is more likely. Given the proximity of the features to the previously excavated Iron Age enclosure to the northwest, it is likely that the features relate to associated land division.

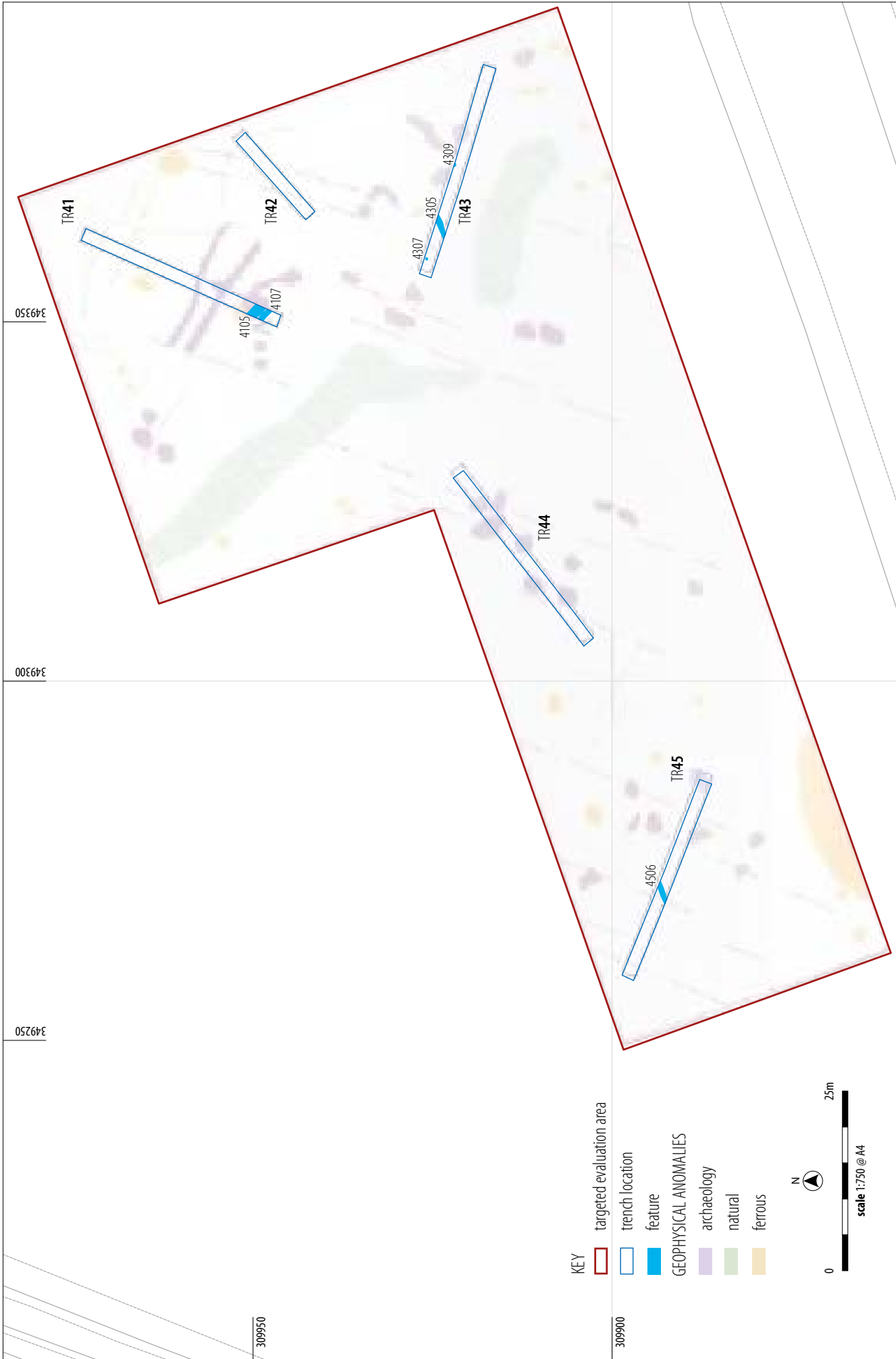
5.3 SITE 3

Trenching confirmed the results of the geophysical survey in identifying archaeological deposits in both the northern and southern areas of the site.

Two ditches dating to the 2nd to 4th centuries were identified in the south of the site. It is entirely possible that the ditches represent part of the same northeast-southwest aligned boundary. The nature of the finds and deposits suggests that domestic occupation was taking place in close proximity to the area, with fire rakings and individual vessels such as mortaria represented by the pottery finds.

A concentration of post holes in the north of the site (Trench 40) is also suggestive of occupation. Whilst no definitive structure can be unequivocally identified, the nature of the arrangement is suggestive of a rectilinear building, rather than circular, and would argue for a Romano-British date. The presence of burnt animal bone suggests a domestic function, though industrial residues in the form of slag and hammerscale could equally argue for an industrial function connected with iron-working.

Two undated ditches in Trench 39, may relate to the positively identified Roman-British activity on the site, or alternatively could relate to the Iron Age activity identified during previous archaeological work to the north.



ILLUS 13 Site 3 (South), trenches showing archaeological features



ILLUS 14 Northeast facing section through ditch [4305]

6 CONCLUSION

The programme of archaeological trial trenching to the south of Oteley Road has supplemented the previous desk-based and geophysical survey work in determining the archaeological potential of the site.

The evaluated areas within Site 1 were largely devoid of archaeology; a single post hole identified containing Iron Age pottery.

Although largely undated, the linear features identified within the western part of Site 2, are archaeological in nature and potentially relate to previously identified Iron Age activity to the north-west.

Site 3 has potential for further archaeological remains extending beyond the areas that have been evaluated to date. Romano-British features were identified in the south of the site, with further, undated archaeological features identified in the northern trenches.

The trial trenching undertaken over Sites 1 and 2 has determined the archaeological potential within these areas, and is considered sufficient to enable a decision to be reached by the archaeological advisor as to whether or not further works are required.

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8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

Appendix 1.1 Trench and context register

DBGL = Depth below ground level; **LOE** = Limit of excavation

TR01	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0101	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
0102	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.60
0103	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel			0.40–0.60

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR02	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.35
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0201	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
0202	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.37
0203	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel			0.37 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR03	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NNE-SSW	50	1.8	0.34
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0301	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
0302	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.36
0303	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel			0.36 (LOE)

Summary: No Archaeological remains

TR04	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	WNW-ESE	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0401	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
0402	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.49
0403	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel			0.40–0.49 (LOE)
0404	Fill of [0405], mid-brown slightly silty sandy clay containing occasional charcoal and frequent rounded and angular stones			0.4
0405	Ditch cut, Linear, NE-SW orientation, gradually sloping sides and concave base			0.4

Summary: Post-medieval ditch, modern post-hole (not recorded)

TR05	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0501	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
0502	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.40
0503	Natural geological deposit – Patchy and variably reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel			0.40 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR06	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.32
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0601	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragment			0–0.36
0602	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel			0.36 (LOE)
0603	Natural geological deposit – Outcropping weathered bedrock			0.36 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR07	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.35
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
0701	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30

0702	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.41
703	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.41(LOE)

Summary: No Archaeological remains

TR08	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.50

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
0801	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
0802	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.30–0.90
0803	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.40–0.90 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR09	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NNE-SSW	50	1.8	0.45

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
0901	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
0902	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.69
0903	Mid brownish grey sandy clay gravel, occasional patches of yellow brown clay	0.40–0.69 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR10	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.35

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
1000	Unstratified finds	————
1001	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
1002	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.43
1003	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.30–0.43 (LOE)
1004	Linear cut, gradually sloping sides, uneven base, N-S orientation	0.43
1005	Mottled mid-yellowish brown and grey sandy clay	0.43
1006	Cut feature, possible linear, gradually sloping sides, uneven sloping base, possibly north-south orientation	0.43

1007	Mid reddish brown sandy clay containing occasional gravel.	0.43
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Summary: 2 features 1 possibly natural, 1 possible quarry pit

TR11	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	15	1.8	0.38

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
1101	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
1102	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.45
1103	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.45 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR12	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.40

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
1201	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
1202	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.46
1203	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.46 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR13	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.42

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)
1301	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments	0–0.30
1302	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones	0.30–0.46
1303	Natural geological deposit – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay, occasional patches of light yellowish brown sandy clay, containing frequent angular and rounded stones and gravel	0.46 (LOE)
1304	Dark Brown silty, sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel, occasional CBM and charcoal and coal fragments.	0.46
1305	Linear cut, N-S orientation steep sides, slightly concave base	0.46

Summary: Post-medieval ditch

TR14	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	WNW-ESE	50	1.8	0.37
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1401	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
1402	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.50
1403	Natural geological deposit – Patchy and variably reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel			0.50 (LOE)
1404	Loose and compacted eroded/weathered mudstone type bedrock outcrop			0.37 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR15	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.36
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1501	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
1502	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.54
1503	Natural geological deposit – Patchy and variably reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel			0.30–0.54 (LOE)
1504	Mid brownish grey sandy clay containing occasional charcoal fragments and gravel			0.4
1505	Sub-circular cut, steep sides, concave base, Post-hole			0.4

Summary: Post-hole

TR16	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.42
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1601	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.35
1602	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.45
1603	Natural geological deposit – Patchy and variably reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel			0.40–0.45 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR17	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1701	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
1702	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.47
1703	Natural geological deposit – Patchy and variably reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel			0.47 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR18	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1801	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
1802	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.75
1803	Natural geological deposit. Mid brownish grey sandy clay gravel			0.45–0.75

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR19	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
1901	Topsoil – Dark grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones frequent rootlets and rare charcoal and CBM fragments			0–0.30
1902	Subsoil – Reddish grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones			0.30–0.55
1903	Natural geological deposit. Light yellowish brown coarse sandy clay containing frequent rounded stones, gravel and manganese fragments			0.50 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR20	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	ENE-WSW	50	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2001	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30
2002	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.30–1.05
2003	Natural geological deposit, light yellowish brown and grey with frequent manganese fragments			0.40–1.05

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR21	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2101	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30
2102	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.3–0.52
2103	Natural geological deposit, light yellowish brown and grey with frequent manganese fragments			0.45–0.52 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR22	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2201	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30
2202	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.30–0.43
2203	Natural geological deposit – Reddish brown and yellow-brown sandy clay and gravels			0.43 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR23	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2301	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30
2302	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.30–0.49
2303	Natural geological deposit – Reddish brown and yellow-brown sandy clay and gravels			0.40–0.49 (LOE)
2304	Partially exposed sub-circular cut 1.57 x 0.37 x 0.30m deep – Possible pit or ditch terminal			0.40
2305	Primary fill of 2304 – Mid-reddish brown sandy clay			0.40
2306	Secondary fill of 2304 – Mid-greyish brown sandy clay			0.40

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR24	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2401	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30

2402	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.30–0.54
2403	Natural geological deposit – Reddish brown and yellow-brown sandy clay and gravels			0.45–0.54

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR25	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2501	Topsoil – Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent rounded and angular stones and gravel, occasional charcoal, CBM and coal fragments			0–0.30
2502	Subsoil – Light yellowish brown sandy clay containing frequent stones and gravel			0.30–0.43
2503	Natural geological deposit, light yellowish brown and grey with frequent manganese fragments			0.43 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR26	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2601	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.35
2602	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.35–0.78
2603	Natural geological deposit – Mottled reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay			0.45–0.78 (LOE)
2604	Natural geological deposit – Light brownish grey sandy clay and gravel			0.4–0.50 (LOE)
2605	Sub-circular cut, heavily truncated, probable post-hole			0.45
2606	Fill of [2605] Mid-greyish brown sandy clay			0.45
2607	Linear cut, steep sides, flat base, NW-SE orientation – ditch cut			0.45
2608	Fill of [2607], mid greyish brown sandy clay and gravels			0.45

Summary: Post-medieval ditch and single post-hole

TR27	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2701	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.30
2702	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.40
2703	Natural geological deposit, Dark greyish brown gravel and sandy clay			0.40–0.50 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR28	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.55
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2801	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0-0.36
2802	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.36-0.60
2803	Natural geological deposit – Light brownish grey sandy clay and gravel			0.50-0.60 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR29	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	30	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
2901	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0-0.25
2902	Subsoil – Light brown silty clay containing frequent rounded and angular gravel, occasional coal and CBM fragments			0.25-0.50
2903	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay			0.50 (LOE)
2904	Group context – series of coal and clay filled cuts identified in several trenches – largely linear or spreads of material – waste from coal mining in area			0.50

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR30	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3001	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0-0.30
3002	Subsoil – Light brown silty clay containing frequent rounded and angular gravel, occasional coal and CBM fragments			0.30-0.45
3003	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay			0.40-0.45

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR31	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3101	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0-0.25
3102	Subsoil – Light brown silty clay containing frequent rounded and angular gravel, occasional coal and CBM fragments			0.25-0.40
3103	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay			0.40 (LOE)
3104	Fill of [3105] – Dark grey sandy clay containing occasional coal, CBM and stones			0.25
3105	Linear cut, NW-SE orientation, – post-medieval ditch			0.25

Summary: 1 x post-medieval ditch

TR32	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	30	1.8	0.55
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3201	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0-0.30
3202	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30-0.50
3203	Natural geological deposit – Mottled reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay			0.50 (LOE)
3204	Light brown silty sandy clay containing frequent gravel and occasional charcoal and manganese fragments – Fill of 3215			0.50
3205	Light grey sandy clay containing frequent angular gravel, occasional charcoal fragments and rare rounded gravel – Fill of 3208			0.50
3206	Light grey silty clay containing frequent charcoal fragments and occasional heat affected stones – Fill of 3208			0.50
3207	Light brownish grey silty, sandy clay containing rare gravel and charcoal flecks – Fill of 3208			0.50
3208	Linear cut – NE-SW orientation, step sides, concave base – Ditch			0.50
3209	Light-brownish grey sandy, silty clay containing frequent gravel and occasional charcoal fragments – fill of 3210			0.50
3210	Linear cut – NE-SW orientation, steep sides concave base – Ditch			0.50
3211	Bark blackish brown sandy clay and stones – Backfill of tree-throw 3212			0.50
3212	Partially exposed cut – amorphous shape, uneven irregular base – Burnt out tree-throw			0.50
3213	Mid grey silty clay – unexcavated fill of partially exposed cut – 3214			0.50
3214	Partially exposed cut feature – not excavated			0.50
3215	Linear or curvilinear cut, broadly NE-SW orientation steep sides, slightly pointed concave base – Ditch			0.50
3216	Linear cut – NE-SW orientation, >2m long x >1.02m wide, sondaged – steep sides – Ditch			0.50
3217	Mid brownish grey sandy clay containing occasional sub-angular stones – Fill of 3216			0.50
3218	Linear cut 1.41 x 0.43m x 0.06 deep, N-S orientation – terminal end at north – Truncated ditch			0.50
3219	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay containing occasional gravel. Fill of 3218			0.50
3220	Dark brownish grey stones and sandy clay >2m N-S x >1.8m E-W, 0.2-0.25m deep – occasional brick and coal fragments – Metalled surface			0.50
3221	Light greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent gravel and manganese fragments – Natural accumulation within a hollow			0.50

Summary: Series of ditches with intercutting relationships possibly prehistoric, post-medieval metalled track

TR33	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3301	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.30
3302	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.58
3303	Natural geological deposit – Mottled reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay			0.50 (LOE)
3304	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay			0.50 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR34	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3401	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.30
3402	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.53
3403	Natural geological deposit – Mottled reddish brown and yellow brown sandy clay			0.37–0.53 (LOE)
3404	Mid-brown sandy clay and gravel – Primary fill of ditch 3405			0.40
3405	Linear cut, highly truncated >1.8m long, 0.86m wide 0.07m deep, WNW-ESE orientation – Ditch			0.40
3406	Stone, brick and sandy clay – occasional coal and charcoal fragments – Metaled track			0.30

Summary: 1 x undated ditch, metalled post-medieval track

TR35	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3501	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.30
3502	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.54
3503	Natural geological deposit – Mottled light grey and yellow brown sandy clay			0.48–0.54 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR36	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3601	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.36
3602	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.54

3603	Natural geological deposit – Light yellowish brown sandy clay and gravels	0.40–0.54 (LOE)
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Summary: No archaeological remains

TR37	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.60
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3701	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.35
3702	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments			0.30–0.50
3703	Natural geological deposit – Light yellowish brown sandy clay and gravels			0.50 (LOE)
3704	Curvilinear cut, N-SE, N – Terminal end in trench, >1.25m long x 0.54m wide x 0.12m deep, concave base gradually sloping sides – Ditch			0.50
3705	Mid greyish brown sandy clay containing occasional gravel – fill of ditch 3704			0.50
3706	Linear cut E-W orientation, >1.8m long x 0.35m wide x 0.09 deep, flat base step sides – ditch			0.50
3707	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay containing rare gravel and charcoal flecks – fill of ditch 3706			0.50
3708	Slight curvilinear cut, N-SE, >18m long x 1.10m wide x 0.23m deep. Gradually sloping sides concave base – Ditch			0.50
3709	Mid-yellowish grey sandy clay containing occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks – primary fill of ditch 3708			0.50
3710	Mid-brownish grey sandy clay containing frequent charcoal fragments and occasional gravel – fill of ditch 3208			0.50

Summary: Three ditches – possibly prehistoric

TR38	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	30	1.8	0.55
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
3801	Topsoil- Mid grey silty sandy clay containing occasional CBM fragments and Frequent rounded and angular stones/gravel			0–0.35
3802	Subsoil – Light reddish brown to light yellowish brown silty sandy clay containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments – survives to eastern end of trench			0.35–0.62
3803	Natural geological deposit – Light brownish grey sandy clay and gravel			0.50–0.621 (LOE)
3804	Mid-greyish brown silty, sandy clay containing frequent gravel, occa CBM, charcoal and coal fragments – Fill of 3805			0.50
3805	Linear cut, N-S orientation, >1.8m long x 0.77 wide x 0.38m deep, steep sides, flat base – Ditch			0.50

Summary: Post-medieval ditch

TR39	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NW-SE	20	1.8	0.50
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)		
3901	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments	0–0.30		
3902	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments	0.30–0.50		
3903	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments	0.50 (LOE)		
3904	Mid grey sandy clay containing frequent charcoal fragments and occasional gravel – fill of ditch 3905	0.50		
3905	Partially exposed linear? Cut, Broadly E-W, >2.4m long x 0.71 x 0.35m deep – probable ditch	0.50		
3906	Light grey slightly sandy clay containing frequent gravel and occasional charcoal flecks – fill of 3907	0.50		
3907	Sub-circular cut, 0.37 x 0.30m x 0.35deep, step sides concave base – Post-hole	0.50		
3908	Mid-grey slightly sandy silty clay containing frequent stones and gravel, frequent charcoal and patches of heat affected soil- fill of ditch 3909	0.50		
3909	Linear cut, N-S, >5m long x 1.36m wide x 0.42m deep, steep sides, concave base – Ditch	0.50		

Summary: 2 ditches and post-hole – Romano-British?

TR40	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	20	1.8	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)		
4001	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments	0–0.30		
4002	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments	0.30–0.41		
4003	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments	0.35–0.41		
4004	Sub-circular cut, step sides flat base, 0.41 x 0.36m x 0.18m deep – Post-hole	0.40		
4005	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay and sub-angular stones – fill of post-hole 4004	0.40		
4006	Sub-circular cut, step sides, flat base, 0.55 x 0.46m x 0.37m deep – Post-hole	0.40		
4007	Dark-greyish brown sandy clay and sub-angular stones, containing occasional charcoal fragments and burnt bone fragments	0.40		
4008	Sub-circular cut, not excavated, 0.39 x 0.37 in plan – Post-hole	0.40		
4009	Dark greyish brown sandy clay and stones – Not excavated – Fill of 4008	0.40		
4010	Sub-circular cut, partially exposed – not excavated, 0.39 x 0.34m – probable post-hole	0.40		

4011	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay and stones – Unexcavated – fill of 4011	0.40
4012	Sub-circular cut, partially exposed, unexcavated, 0.42 x 0.26m – probable post-hole	0.40
4013	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay and stones – Unexcavated – fill of 4012	0.40
4014	Sub-circular cut, partially exposed, 0.44 x 0.20m – Probable post-hole	0.40
4015	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay and stones – Unexcavated – fill of 4014	0.40

Summary: Series of post-holes, probable structural remains

TR41	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	30	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)		
4101	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments	0–0.30		
4102	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments	0.30–0.48		
4103	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments	0.41–0.48		
4104	Mid-brown sandy clay containing frequent charcoal flecks and fragments, rounded and angular stones and occasional patches of heat affected soil. Fill of 4105	0.48		
4105	Linear cut, NNW-SSE orientation, >1.8m x 1.40m x 0.14m deep, gradually sloping sides, uneven but generally concave base showing signs of in-situ burning – Indeterminate function	0.48		
4106	Mid-yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel and rare charcoal flecks – fill of 4107	0.48		
4107	Linear feature, NNW-SSE orientation >1.8m x 0.76m x 0.24m, Gradual slope uneven concave base – Possible ditch	0.48		

Summary: .1 x possible ditch, 1 x Linear feature

TR42	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	NE-SW	15	1.8	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL (M)		
4201	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments	0–0.30		
4202	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments	0.30–0.52		
4203	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments	0.43–0.52 (LOE)		

Summary: No archaeological remains

TR43				
ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)	
NW-SE	30	1.8	0.50	
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
4301	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments			0–0.35
4302	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments			0.35–0.62
4303	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments			0.48–0.62
4304	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent gravel – fill of ditch 4305			0.60
4305	Linear cut, NE-SW orientation, >3.36m long x 0.69 x 0.16m. gradually sloping sides, concave base – Ditch			0.60
4306	Mid-brown sandy, silty clay containing frequent sub-rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks – Fill of 4507			0.60
4307	Sub-circular cut, 0.33 x 0.31 x 0.24m, steep nr vertical sides, concave base – Post-hole cut			0.60
4308	Dark blackish brown sandy clay and sub-rounded stones – Fill of 4309			0.60
4309	Irregular generally sub-circular feature uneven irregular base and sides 0.57 x >0.28 x 0.09 deep			0.60
Summary: Romano-British ditch, undated post-hole, tree-throw				

TR44				
ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)	
WSW-ENE	30	1.8	0.45	
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
4401	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments			0–0.30
4402	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments			0.30–0.45
4403	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments			0.45 (LOE)
Summary: No archaeological remains				
TR45				
ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)	
ENW-SE	30	1.8	0.50	
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL (M)
4501	Topsoil – Dark grey silty sandy clay and gravels. Abundance of rounded and angular gravels/stones, rare white glaze ceramic and occasional charcoal fragments			0–0.30
4502	Subsoil – Light brown sandy clay and gravels containing occasional charcoal fragments			0.30–0.54
4503	Natural geological deposit – Light brown sandy clay gravel with frequent manganese fragments			0.50 (LOE)
4504	Mid-brownish grey silty, sandy clay containing occasional burnt bone, charcoal fragments, gravel and rare fired clay – Fill of ditch 4506			0.50
4505	Light yellowish brown silty clay containing occasional gravel and rare charcoal flecks – Primary fill of ditch 4506			0.50
4506	Linea cut – NE-SW orientation, gradually sloping sides, concave base >2m x 0.67 x 0.14m – Ditch			0.50
Summary: Romano-British ditch				

APPENDIX 2 FINDS ASSESSMENT

JULIE FRANKLIN, JANE TIMBY, JULIE LOCHRIE

The assemblage included 55 sherds (894g) of pottery, 73 sherds (273g) of ceramic building material, 17g of industrial waste a single metal object and a few finds of possible worked stone. Most of the material seems to fall into either the Roman or modern periods. A summary of the assemblage is given in **TABLE A2.1** below. A complete catalogue of all the finds is given at the end of the report.

Prehistoric and Roman pottery

A total of 49 sherds (852g) were of Roman or later prehistoric date, spread across six trenches. The assemblage was sorted into fabrics based on the colour, texture and nature of the inclusions present in the clay. The prehistoric material was classified following the recommended nomenclature in PCRG (1997) where the letters denote the main inclusions present. Known named or traded Roman wares were coded using the National Roman fabric reference system (Tomber and Dore 1998). The sorted assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context. In general terms the assemblage was in very poor condition with some well-fragmented, abraded sherds. Surface preservation was also poor.

The later prehistoric assemblage comprises a total of five body sherds from handmade vessels. The pieces are small. Two sherds are rock tempered (RO1 and RO2) and a further three are of a coarse sandy ware (SA). The two rock-tempered sherds are single finds in post-hole [1505] (1504) and ditch [3905] (3904). The sandy wares were found alongside Roman wares in linear [4105] (4104). Dating

these small pieces is difficult; the tradition is typical of the Iron Age but such wares continued to be used into the Roman period, thus it is unclear if these sherds represent pre-Roman activity.

Of the 44 sherds (837g) of Roman date, 27 sherds (714g) came from a single mortarium found in ditch [4305] (4304). The mortarium has a flanged rim with a defined low bead and is in an oxidised sandy ware. The trituration grits consist of quartz, flint and rounded fine grained stones. The profile is probably reconstructable. The type is one typical of the West Midlands area and typologically probably dates to the second half of the 2nd century.

The other wares include nine pieces of oxidised Severn Valley ware (SVW OX2), seven sherds of oxidised, gritty sandy ware (OXID) and one fine grey/oxidised sandy ware (GY/OXSY). There are just two vessels represented by rims, one a beaker; the other a beaker or jar. While none of these sherds can be tightly dated, they are not incompatible with the dating of the mortarium.

Post-medieval and modern pottery

Six sherds of post-medieval/modern date were recovered; five pieces of industrial white china and one sherd of Midland purple ware. These sherds provide a post-medieval/modern terminus post-quem for contexts (0404), (1304), (3705) and (3900).

TR	POTTERY (PH)		POTTERY (ROM)		POTTERY (PM-MOD)		COPPER ALLOY		STONE		CBM		IND WASTE	DATING
	ct	wgt	ct	wgt	ct	wgt	ct	ct	ct	wgt	ct	wgt		
04	–	–	–	–	3	7g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mod
10	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mod
13	–	–	–	–	1	26g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Mod
15	1	3g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	LIA-Rom
23	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	<0.5g	–	–	PH/Rom?
26	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	35g	–	–	PM/Mod
28	–	–	2	9g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Rom
32	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	3	2g	–	–	?
37	–	–	–	–	1	1g	–	–	–	1	2g	–	<0.5g	Mod
39	1	7g	–	–	1	8g	–	–	–	50	190g	–	–	LIA/Rom, PM
40	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1	1g	–	17g	?
41	3	5g	1	2g	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Rom
43	–	–	34	741g	–	–	–	–	–	1	37g	–	–	Rom
45	–	–	7	85g	–	–	–	–	–	14	6g	–	<0.5g	Rom
TOTAL	5	15g	44	837g	6	42g	1	5	73	273g	17g	17g		

Table A2.1 Summary of assemblage by trench

Copper alloy

The only metal find recovered appears to be a fragment of a rectangular buckle frame (1000). It cannot be tightly dated, but is likely to be of recent origin.

Stone

Five pieces of stone were retained though it is not clear that all are worked. Some fragments of possible pumice stone were found in post-hole [4006] (4007), though an association with fired clay and a possible slag lump might suggest this material had a more industrial origin. Two pieces of stone found in linear [3208] (3206) include a possible highly abraded whetstone and a piece of apparently worked marble-type stone. The dating of either of these deposits is not clear based on finds evidence.

Ceramic building material

Fragments of fired clay (201g) were recovered from six contexts. The pieces are exceptionally small and featureless. The largest concentration (190g) was found in ditch [3909] (3908), though with no associated finds to aid dating or interpretation. The only fired clay associated with dating evidence was 6g found in ditch [4506] (4504) associated with Roman pottery.

A single sherd of probable tegula is also of Roman date and was associated with the mortarium in ditch [4305] (4304). The only other ceramic building material was a sherd of modern brick (2608).

Industrial waste

A small lump of possible iron slag and a scattering of hammerscale and slag spheres was recovered from samples from ditches [3704]

(3705), [3708] (3710), and [4506] (4504) and post-hole [4006] (4007). Hammerscale is created when iron is hammered into shape, it can occur during smelting and smithing. Though the pieces indicate ironworking in the general vicinity, the small quantities found here cannot pinpoint its location or nature.

Discussion

Activity on site may begin as early as the late Iron Age, with fragments of rock tempered pottery found in post-hole [1505] and ditch [3905]. These finds however are too small and isolated to date these features with any certainty and it is entirely possible that they in fact relate to the later Roman occupation.

The Roman period is better defined with the fills of ditches [4105], [4305] and [4506] apparently dating to around the 2nd century. It is possible that finds of fired clay and a suggestion of ironworking in the area might also relate to this period. The finding of a mortarium and tegula in ditch [4305] suggests this is close to the focus of Roman activity.

There is no evidence for post-Roman activity until the post-medieval period. The small quantity of later finds suggests low level agricultural activity and may derive from manuring.

References

- PCRG 1997 *The study of later prehistoric pottery: general policies and guidelines for the analysis and publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group occasional papers 1-2, Oxford
- Tomber, R & Dore, J 1998 *The National Roman fabric reference collection: a handbook*, Museum of London / English Heritage/ British Museum

Finds catalogue

TR	CONTEXT	SAMPLE	QTY	WEIGHT (G)	MATERIAL	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE
04	0404	—	3	7	Pottery (Mod)	PMCH	glazed china	Mod
10	1000	—	1	9	Copper Alloy	Buckle?	corner fragment of rectangular buckle frame, plano-convex section	Mod?
13	1304	—	0	26	Pottery (Mod)	PMCH	glazed china dish	Mod
15	1504	—	1	3	Pottery (PH)	RO1	rock-tempered, handmade	LIA-Rom
23	2306	3	2	0	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
26	2608	—	1	35	CBM	Brick	brick?	PM/Mod
28	2802	—	2	9	Pottery (Rom)	SVWOX	Severn Valley ware beaker?	2nd-4th
32	3206	6	3	2	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
32	3206	6	1	239	Stone	Whetstone?	long square sectioned stone, thickening towards one end. Broken in middle and break very abraded. One edge particularly flat and smooth, though no obvious signs of use wear. Possibly a very abraded broken whetstone? Or pebble used briefly as whetstone?	—
32	3206	6	1	110	Stone	Worked Stone	Piece of worked ?marble, appears to be rim sherd with flat outer edge and curving inner, possibly part of a font or similar	—
37	3705	4		0	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	small fragments of hammerscale	—
37	3705	4	2	0	Pottery (Mod)	OO	crumbs	—
37	3705	4	1	1	Pottery (Mod)	PMCH	glazed china	Mod
37	3709	—	1	2	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
37	3710	5		0	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	small fragments of hammerscale and a slag sphere	—
39	3900	—	1	8	Pottery (PM)	PMMP	Midlands purple	PM
39	3904	—	1	7	Pottery (PH)	RO2	rock-tempered, handmade	LIA-Rom
39	3908	9	50	190	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
40	4007	7	1	1	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
40	4007	7	3	59	Stone	Pumice?	fragments of pumice stone or possibly industrial waste of some kind?	—
40	4007	7	1	17	Industrial Waste	Slag?	small dense metallic lump with slightly vitreous appearance	—
41	4104	—	1	2	Pottery (Rom)	GY/OXSY	grey/oxid sandy	Rom
41	4104	—	3	5	Pottery (PH)	SA	coarse sandy, handmade	LIA-Rom
43	4304	—	27	714	Pottery (Rom)	MORT	oxidised sandy mortarium, W Midlands type	M2nd-4th
43	4304	—	8	2	Pottery (Rom)	OO	crumbs	—
43	4304	—	7	27	Pottery (Rom)	SVWOX	Severn Valley ware	2nd-4th
43	4304	—	1	37	CBM	Tegula	probable tegula	Rom
45	4504	10	14	6	CBM	Fired clay	—	—
45	4504	10	—	0	Industrial Waste	Mag Res	possible hammerscale and some magnetised gravel	—
45	4504	—	5	75	Pottery (Rom)	OXID	oxidised sandy beaker	2nd
45	4504	10	2	10	Pottery (Rom)	OXID	oxidised sandy	Rom

APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DR CATHERINE LONGFORD, LAURA BAILEY

Introduction

Nine soil bulk samples ranging in volume from 1 to 40 litres, recovered during archaeological works at Oteley Road Shrewsbury, were received for environmental analysis. The samples were taken from ditches and post holes which are believed to be prehistoric or Romano-British in date. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of environmental remains in the sample and to characterize the assemblage as far as possible.

Methodology

Bulk samples were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. All samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications up to x45. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using seed atlases including Cappers et al. (2006) and Zohary et al. (2012).

Results

Results of the assessment are presented in TABLES A3.1 (Flot samples) and A3.2 (Retent samples). Samples with material suitable for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables. Modern roots and seeds were present in all samples.

Wood charcoal

Wood charcoal was common to abundant in all of the samples and was more plentiful in the retent than in the flot. Significant

concentrations of wood charcoal were present in the fills (3710), (3206), and (4504) of ditches [3708], [3208], and [4506] and the fill (4007) of post hole [4006] (TABLES A3.1 and A3.2).

Where preservation allowed, the charcoal from the flots was categorized as either oak or non-oak. On initial assessment, non-oak charcoal appeared more ubiquitous in the assemblage. Most of the charcoal appeared encrusted with minerals. Growth ring curvature in the wood charcoal fragments was weak indicating the presence of trunk wood.

Cereal grain and chaff

Cereal grains were present in small quantities in five samples. The fill (4007) of post hole [4006] was the richest in grain content with eight oat (*Avena sativa*), five wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and four indeterminate cereal grains identified. A spelt (*Triticum spelta*) glume base and straw culm node were also present in deposit (4007). One barley grain (*Hordeum vulgare/distichum*) was found in the retent of (3704) and one oat and four indeterminate cereal grains in the retent of (4504).

Other charred plant remains

Fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus* sp.) were present in the fills (3705) and (3908) of ditches [3704] and [3909] respectively. Weed seeds were rare in the assemblage and only found in the fill (4007) of post-hole [4006]. This sample contained one rye-grass (*Lolium* sp.) and one Polygonaceae/Cyperaceae embryo. Rye-grass is a common weed of arable fields and disturbed ground (Stace 2010).

Bone

A small amount of heavily fragmented burnt bone was present in the retents of 5 deposits (TABLE A3.3). The bone was fully calcined. The majority of bone was indeterminate, however, two small fragments of sheep phalange were identified in the fill (4007) of post-hole [4006].

TABLE A3.1 Flotation sample contents

CONTEXT	SAMPLE	TOTAL FLOT VOL. (ML)	OAT	WHEAT	INDET. CEREAL	CEREAL CHAFF	OTHER CHARRED PLANT REMAINS	CHARCOAL		MATERIAL AVBL FOR AMS	COMMENTS
								Qty	Max size (cm)		
1504	001	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	no	modern roots and seeds
2306	003	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	no	modern roots and seeds
3705	004	20	–	–	–	–	–	++	0.8	no	modern roots and seeds
3710	005	30	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	no	1 abraded cereal grain. Modern roots and seeds.
3206	006	10	–	–	–	–	–	+	0.5	no	modern roots and seeds
4007	007	200	+++	+	+	+	+	+++	0.8	yes	8 oat, 5 wheat, 4 indeterminate cereal grains. 1 Lolium and 1 Polygonaceae/Cyperaceae embryo. 1 spelt glume base, 1 culm node
4005	008	10	–	–	+	–	–	+++	1	yes	1 abraded cereal grain
3908	009	30	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	no	modern roots and seeds
4504	010	50	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	no	modern roots and seeds

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

TABLE A2.2 Retent sample contents

CONTEXT	SAMPLE	SOIL SAMPLE VOL (L)	CERAMIC		WORKED STONE	INDUSTRIAL WASTE		BURNT BONE	CHARRED SEEDS	CHARRED PLANT REMAINS	CHARCOAL			MATERIAL AVBL FOR AMS	COMMENTS
			Pottery	CBM		Magres	Slag				Mammal	Qty	Vol (ml)		
1504	001	10	-	-	-	+++	-	-	-	-	+++	5	0.5	no	non-oak charcoal
2306	003	20	-	+	+	+++	-	-	-	-	++++	10	0.5	no	non-oak charcoal
3705	004	20	+	+	-	++	-	+	+	-	+++	5	0.3	no	1 Barley grain, 1 hazelnut shell frag. Oak and non-oak charcoal
3710	005	20	-	-	-	++	-	-	-	-	++++	200	3	yes	oak and non-oak charcoal
3206	006	20	-	+	+	++	-	-	-	-	++++	50	1	yes	non-oak charcoal
4007	007	40	-	+	+	++++	+	++++	-	-	+++	20	1	yes	Porous slag or vitrified clay? Heat affected rock. Non-oak charcoal
4005	008	1	-	-	-	+	-	++	-	-	-	-	-	no	-
3908	009	20	-	++++	-	++++	-	+	-	+	++	10	1	yes	2 fragments of hazelnut shell
4504	010	20	+	++	-	+++	-	++	+	-	++++	20	1	yes	1 Oat, 4 indeterminate cereal grains. Non-oak charcoal

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

Other remains

Finds recovered from the retents, including pottery, CBM and worked stone (TABLE A3.2), are discussed in the finds report. A large quantity of amorphous heat affected soil and magnetised soil particles were recovered from the retent of (3908).

TABLE A3.3 Burnt bone

CONTEXT	SAMPLE	WEIGHT (G)	DESCRIPTION
3705	004	<0.1	Indeterminate burnt bone
3908	009	<0.1	Indeterminate burnt bone
4005	008	7	Indeterminate burnt bone
4007	007	39	Heavily fragmented burnt bone. Sheep phalange fragments present
4504	010	3	Indeterminate burnt bone

Discussion

The charred plant remains provide limited evidence for agricultural practices in the vicinity of the Oteley Road site. Oat was the most common grain and first appears in the Midlands in the Roman period before becoming an agricultural staple in the medieval period (Monkton 1996). Both barley and wheat were the main crops from the Neolithic onwards, although spelt, found in context (4007) became a very common cereal in the Iron Age and Roman period (Van der Veen 1992). Most grains, however, were broken and abraded and are likely to represent material incidentally incorporated into the backfill of the ditches and post holes over time and are not

necessarily contemporary with the creation and use of the features at the site.

The presence of amorphous lumps of heat affected soil and magnetised soil particles in the fill (3908) of ditch [3909] suggests that a burning event occurred either in the ditch or nearby. The presence of burnt bone together with cereal grain and pottery in the fills, (3705) and (4504), of ditches [3704] and [4506], is characteristic of hearth sweepings and domestic waste.

Recommendations

No further analysis is recommend for the environmental remains from Oteley Road, Shrewsbury.

If material is required for dating, sample <007> (4007) contained enough oat grains for AMS radiocarbon dating. Wood charcoal, greater than 1cm in size and suitable for AMS dating, was found in contexts (3710), (3206), (4007), (3908) and (4504). These fragments all appear to be trunkwood. No fragments of roundwood, which are more suited for radiocarbon dating than trunk wood, were observed in the samples.

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