



# Canon Pyon Road, Hereford Herefordshire

Archaeological Evaluation



Planning Ref: 191770  
HER Event Number EHE80467  
Accession Number: 2021-4  
Ref: 235870.3  
September 2021



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## Document Information

Document title Canon Pyon Road, Hereford, Herefordshire  
Document subtitle Archaeological Evaluation  
Document reference 235870.3

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Site location Canon Pyon Road, Hereford  
County Herefordshire  
National grid reference 349106 242539 (SO 49106 42539)  
Planning authority County of Herefordshire District Council  
Planning reference 191770  
Museum name Herefordshire Museum Service  
Museum accession code 2021-4  
HER event number EHE80467  
OASIS Id 429174

WA project code 235870  
Dates of fieldwork 16–19 August 2021  
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| Issue | Date       |                             | Author | Approved by   |
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| 1     | 15/09/2021 | Draft to client for comment | CBM    |  |



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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 3.8 ha parcel of land to the east of Canon Pyon Road, Hereford, Herefordshire, centred on NGR 349106 242539. The evaluation, which comprised the excavation of ten 50 m trenches, was undertaken between 16–19 August 2021.

Archaeological remains, comprising four ditches, were revealed in the northernmost three trenches. The ditches share a common alignment and are likely to be at least broadly contemporary. None of the ditches correlate with boundaries depicted on the 1844 Tithe Map of Holmer, or later Ordnance Survey maps, which suggest that they predate the mid-19th century. The presence of Romano-British pottery in one of the ditches is likely to be residual. All that can be said with confidence is that the ditches are likely to form part of a coaxial field system of unconfirmed date.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Taylor Wimpey for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, and to Dafydd Andrews and Tom Kilsby in particular. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of County Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Herefordshire Council, and to Smiths (of Gloucester) Ltd for their cooperation and help on site.



# Canon Pyon Road Hereford, Herefordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 3.8 ha parcel of land to the east of Canon Pyon Road, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR4 7RB, centred on NGR 349106 242539 (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of 95 dwellings including access, a play area, landscaping, and associated infrastructure.

1.1.3 A planning application (ref. 191770) submitted to Herefordshire Council, was granted 15 November 2019, subject to conditions. The following condition relates to archaeology:

*Condition 8 No development shall take place until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological survey and recording [to include recording of the standing historic fabric and any below ground deposits affected by the works]. This programme shall be in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority and shall be in accordance with a brief prepared by the County Archaeology Service.*

1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies, and standards to be employed to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2021). The County Archaeologist approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.5 The evaluation, comprising ten 50 m by 1.8 m trial trenches (representing a 3% sample), was undertaken between 16–19 August 2021.

#### 1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional, or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.

1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision regarding the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

#### 1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The evaluation area comprises an irregular 3.8 ha parcel of land, located approximately 3.4 km to the north-west of Hereford city centre, and immediately to the north of the suburb of Westfield.

1.3.2 The site is currently under arable cultivation and comprises a single field, enclosed on all sides by hedgerows. Residential development borders the site to the south and north-west,



with pasture fields to the east, west and north. The south-western section of the site is bordered by the A4110 Canon Pyon Road.

- 1.3.3 Topographically, the site occupies an area of gently undulating land that overlooks the broad shallow valley of the Yazor Brook. Existing ground levels slope downhill from 88 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north to 82 m aOD in the south.
- 1.3.4 The underlying geology is mapped as interbedded Silurian siltstone and mudstone of the Raglan Mudstone Formation (British Geological Survey 2021).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior desk-based assessment (DBA: Wessex Archaeology 2018), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within 1 km of the proposed development. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Herefordshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

### **2.2 Previous investigations within 1 km of the site**

- 2.2.1 The HHER contains entries pertaining to several investigations which have been carried out within 1 km of the site. These comprise:
  - A watching brief undertaken in 2003 during the laying of a sewer pipeline. This revealed a buried soil horizon and a pit (Border Archaeology 2003);
  - an archaeological watching brief recording no archaeological finds or features (HWCC Archaeological Service 1980);
  - an archaeological watching brief in 1996, which located a metalled surface in the position of a holloway and an early 18th-century rubbish pit (Worcestershire Archaeological Service 2002);
  - a programme of archaeological work undertaken along the A4103 Roman Road between Stretton Sugwas and Tillington Road, Hereford as part of a road improvement scheme. Discoveries made during the project included Iron Age ditches and cremations, although these appear to have been located over 1 km from the present evaluation site;
  - archaeological evaluation, recording pottery which was not dated but thought to be a domestic assemblage, possible prehistoric cremations, and medieval pottery in the upper layers (Worcestershire Archaeological Service 2014); and
  - an archaeological evaluation, comprising 193 trenches, following a programme of geophysical survey. The investigation revealed features dating to the prehistoric, Romano-British, late medieval, and post-medieval/modern periods (Cotswold Archaeology 2015).



## 2.3 Archaeological and historical context

### *Prehistoric (970,000 BC – AD 43)*

- 2.3.1 Evidence for prehistoric activity within 1 km of the site has predominantly been recorded along the Yazor Brook, near to Huntington village. This includes a possible burnt mound identified within a trench 0.85 km south-west of the site (Cotswold Archaeology 2015). Two pits, two ditches and a possible trackway, and a working platform or surface were recorded in the same trench and may have been associated with the burnt mound. A curvilinear ditch contained sherds of late prehistoric pottery was identified within a trench 0.6 km to the south-west of the site.
- 2.3.2 Other possible evidence of prehistoric activity revealed during the same evaluation included a concentration of features, comprising pits, ditches, and postholes, approximately 0.55 km south of the site. A modest assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the features, although some of this material may have been residual.
- 2.3.3 The HHER also contains an entry relating to the discovery of a pit or ditch of possible prehistoric or Romano-British date during the installation of a sewer pipe close to the Yazor Brook, at the western edge of the 1 km study area.
- 2.3.4 Previous investigations have identified further traces of prehistoric activity slightly more than 1 km from the site. These include Iron Age ditches and cremation burials found during road improvement works on the A4103 Roman Road, and a small cluster of probable prehistoric cremation burials identified during trial trenching, just over 1 km to the east of the site

### *Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)*

- 2.3.5 The most notable recorded evidence for Romano-British activity within 1 km of the site is the route of a Roman road along the line of the A4103 Roman Road, approximately 150 m south of the site. The road runs from Stretton Grandison in the east, westwards to Kenchester, and then on to the Roman forts at Clifford and Clyro. The road was constructed in the mid-1st century and maintained until the late 2nd or early 3rd century. However, there is evidence for its continued use after this date, indicated by coins recovered from the surface of the road. These include a Byzantine coin of emperor Justinus I, dated to the 6th century, which was recovered 0.9 km to the south-east of the site.
- 2.3.6 A single Romano-British ditch, probably relating to agricultural land management or division, was identified during trial trenching around Huntington in 2015. No further demonstrably contemporary features were identified, although several undated features may also have been of late prehistoric or Romano-British date. It was suggested that these may represented the continuation of activity identified during an evaluation prior to the development of the new Hereford Livestock Market (Cotswold Archaeology 2015).

### *Anglo-Saxon and medieval (AD 410 – 1500)*

- 2.3.7 No direct evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity has been identified within 1 km of the site. There are however several nearby settlements that are known to have been occupied since at least the Late Anglo-Saxon period.
- 2.3.8 The nearby city of Hereford, located approximately 2.8 km south-east, had become the Saxon capital of West Mercia by the beginning of the 8th century. It was the location of the only mint west of the Severn in the reign of Athelstan.
- 2.3.9 The village of Huntington, located approximately 0.45 km south-west of the site, is a pre-conquest settlement, which subsequently developed into a township. The village is recorded

in the Domesday book as being a medium sized settlement comprised of 13 households ([www.opendomesday.org](http://www.opendomesday.org)). The settlement was burned in 1264–5 during the Second Barons' War. Various earthworks within the village demonstrate that it has contracted since this period. A probable holloway has also been identified leading towards the village from the east. The HHER also contains an entry relating to a possible medieval mill site associated with Huntington, identified via cartographic sources, and located 0.8 km south-west of the site.

- 2.3.10 A trial trench evaluation of land surrounding the village of Huntington in 2015, revealed a ditch containing late medieval to post-medieval pottery. This was found to share a relationship with another ditch, pit, and pit/ditch terminus, all of which were presumed to be broadly contemporary. The exact function of these features remains unclear (Cotswold Archaeology 2015).
- 2.3.11 The village of Holmer was also documented in Domesday, at which time it comprised a very small settlement of four households ([www.opendomesday.org](http://www.opendomesday.org)). Evidence of activity associated with the medieval occupation of the settlement was uncovered a 2014 evaluation. A complex of shallow ditches, pits, and postholes, from which medieval pottery was recovered were recorded.
- 2.3.12 To the north of the site, the Domesday Survey records the settlements of Pipe and Lyde. Pipe was documented as a very small settlement, and Lyde, slightly larger, numbering 11 households ([www.opendomesday.org](http://www.opendomesday.org)). Earthworks in the parish of Pipe and Lyde, 0.5 km to the north-east of the site, have been identified as the vestiges of a deserted medieval settlement.

#### *Post-medieval and modern (AD 1500 – present)*

- 2.3.13 There are several instances of nearby quarrying, with an example noted within the HHER, to the west of Canon Pyon Road, 70 m south-west of the site. Likely used for gravel extraction, historic mapping shows that the quarry was extant until the mid-20th century.
- 2.3.14 The first accurate cartographic depiction of the site is the 1844 Tithe Map of Holmer. It shows the site located within two parcels of land just north of Roman Road and alongside Canon Pyon Road. Later maps show that the site remained in agricultural use until the present day. The only changes being the removal of an east/west field boundary from the centre of the site between 1904 and 1929, and the construction of detached residential properties along the Canon Pyon Road in the 1930s.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General aims**

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2021) and in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were to:
- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
  - inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.



## 3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 To achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

## 3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (Watt 2011), site-specific objectives defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2021) were to:

- examine the potential for remains of Romano-British activity within the vicinity of the Roman road that exists 200 m to the south of the site;
- examine the artefactual and ecofactual potential of archaeological deposits, some of which may be waterlogged; and
- assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2021) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

#### *General*

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, although Trenches 5 and 8 had to be split into two sections, and Trenches 1 and 3 had to be moved slightly, all to avoid a previously unknown buried electrical cable (**Figure 1**).

4.2.2 Ten trial trenches, each measuring 50 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.



- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the County Archaeologist were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### *Recording*

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### **4.3 Finds and environmental strategies**

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing, and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2021). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

### **4.4 Monitoring**

- 4.4.1 The County Archaeologist monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the County Archaeologist.

## **5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Three of the ten excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present towards the northern end of the site (**Figure 1**). These archaeological features comprised four ditches of uncertain date, one of which contained two conjoining sherds of Romano-British pottery.
- 5.1.2 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period.

5.1.3 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**). **Figure 1** shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches. **Figure 2** is a detailed plan of features in the northern part of the site.

## 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The natural geology of the site, which was exposed at depths of between 0.35 m and 1.06 m below ground level (bgl), comprised a pale red-brown to dark red silty clay, with common sub-rounded to sub-angular medium to coarse gravel and cobble-sized stone inclusion, sometimes with flecks of manganese. Trench 6 was excavated to a depth of 1.25 m bgl without reaching natural geology.

5.2.2 In Trenches 4 and 6–8, the natural geology was at least partially overlain by colluvial deposits of pale red-brown sandy clay, containing common sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to coarse gravel inclusions. The colluvium was very variable in depth, with the deepest deposits being recorded in Trench 4 (over 0.80 m), Trench 7 (over 0.50 m) and Trench 6 (over 0.40 m).

5.2.3 In Trenches 2, 4–5 and 7–10, the natural geology and/or colluvium was overlain by a 0.13–0.47 m thick layer of mid to pale red-brown sandy clay subsoil that contained sparse to common sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to coarse gravel inclusions.

5.2.4 In Trench 6 (**Plate 1**), the colluvium was overlain by a 0.35 m thick buried ploughsoil (603), which was sealed by a 0.20 m thick layer of redeposited natural (602). This deposit was capped by 0.30 m of ploughsoil.

5.2.5 In Trenches 1 and 3, the natural geology was directly overlain by ploughsoil, which measured 0.38 m and 0.47 m thick respectively.

5.2.6 In all other trenches, the subsoil was sealed by a 0.30–0.59 m layer of mid red-grey or red-brown clay loam ploughsoil that contained moderate to common and medium to coarse gravel inclusions.

## 5.3 Uncertain date

5.3.1 Four ditches (103, 105, 205 and 303; **Plates 2–5**) were recorded in Trenches 1–3. Ditch 103 was aligned east/west and north/south; the others were all aligned north-south. These features, which are interpreted as former field boundaries, ranged between 0.46 m and 1.00 m wide, and between 0.17 m and 0.47 m deep. The deeper ditches (103, 105 and 205) had steep straight sides with concave or V-shaped bases; ditch 303 was only 0.17 m deep and had a shallow concave profile.

5.3.2 All the ditches were filled with pale brown or red-brown silty clay that contained sparse to frequent gravel and cobble-sized stones. The only finds were two abraded joining sherds of Romano-British pottery from the fill (304) of ditch 303. Whilst it is possible that this ditch dates from the Romano-British period, it is perhaps more likely that these are residual finds that were deposited at a later date.

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1.1 The only finds recovered were two conjoining body sherds of pottery from the fill of ditch 303. This is a Romano-British greyware which, in the absence of any diagnostic features, cannot be dated any more closely within the period. The sherds are abraded and may well have been redeposited in the ditch rather than representing primary refuse.



## 7 CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Summary

7.1.1 The evaluation uncovered archaeological remains in three of the ten trenches, all of which were located towards the northern end of the site. The archaeological remains comprised four ditches that followed the north/south and east/west alignments of the extant fields. The only dating evidence were two joining sherds of abraded Romano-British pottery.

### 7.2 Discussion

7.2.1 The ditches share a common alignment and are likely to be at least broadly contemporary. None of the ditches correlate with boundaries depicted on the 1844 Tithe Map of Holmer, or later Ordnance Survey maps, which suggest that they predate the mid-19th century. The presence of Romano-British pottery in one of the ditches is likely to be residual. All that can be said with confidence is that the ditches are likely to form part of a coaxial field system of unconfirmed date.

## 8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 8.1 Museum

8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Hereford Museum Service has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **2021-4**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### 8.2 Preparation of the archive

#### *Physical archive*

8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, and will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hereford Museum Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011).

8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with accession code 2021-4, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 2 sherds of pottery
- 1 file of paper records

#### *Digital archive*

8.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (eg site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

### 8.3 Selection strategy

8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained



for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities. The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*.

- 8.3.2 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

#### *Finds*

- 8.3.3 The only finds were two small sherds of Romano-British pottery, possibly redeposited. These have limited archaeological significance and little or no further research potential. Retention not recommended.

#### *Documentary records*

- 8.3.4 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (Written Scheme of Investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

#### *Digital data*

- 8.3.5 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

## **8.4 Security copy**

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

## **8.5 OASIS**

- 8.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (**Appendix 2**). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the County Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.



## **9 COPYRIGHT**

### **9.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 Trench summaries

| Trench No 1    |                         | Length 48.10 m          | Width 2.15 m   | Depth 0.51 m  |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------|
| Easting        |                         | Northing                |  | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled With | Interpretative Category | Description  | Depth bgl (m) |
| 101            |                         | Ploughsoil              | Mid reddish grey clay loam. 10% stone inclusions, 10-40 mm. Lots of roots from previous crop. Very dry loosely compacted soil. Diffuse horizon with natural.                   | 0-0.38        |
| 102            |                         | Natural                 | Light reddish brown silty clay. 20% stone inclusions, 10-60 mm. Dry moderately compacted.  | 0.38+         |
| 103            | 104                     | Ditch                   | Linear ditch with irregular, concave sides, and a V-shaped base. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.47 m.   |               |
| 104            | 103                     | Secondary fill          | Light brown silty clay with common sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (15-20%, <10-60mm), sparse manganese flecks (3-7%, <2-10 mm), rare sandstone (1%, <10-30 mm) inclusions. |               |
| 105            | 106                     | Ditch                   | Linear ditch with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >2.50 m. Width: 0.64 m. Depth: 0.31 m.   |               |
| 106            | 105                     | Secondary fill          | Mid reddish brown silty clay with 15% sub-rounded stone inclusions, 20-150 mm.   |               |

| Trench No 2    |                         | Length 50 m             | Width 2.10 m   | Depth 1.05 m  |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------|
| Easting        |                         | Northing                |  | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled With | Interpretative Category | Description  | Depth bgl (m) |
| 201            |                         | Ploughsoil              | Mid dark red brown silty clay with sparse sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (3-7%, <10-60 mm) and rare manganese flecks (1-3%, <2-6 mm). Soft and loose compaction. Heavy bioturbation such as rooting activity and low worm activity. Clear boundary with the subsoil. Homogenous across the trench.                         | 0-0.46        |
| 202            |                         | Subsoil                 | Light red brown silty clay with sparse manganese (3%, <2-6 mm) and sparse sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (7%, <5-40 mm). Very compact. Clear horizon with the natural (in the NW of trench) and with colluvium (in the SE part). Moderately bioturbated by rooting activity. Get thicker towards the SE end of the trench. | 0.46-0.87     |
| 203            |                         | Colluvium               | Located in the SE part of the trench. Dark red brown silty clay (more clayey though) with very common sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (30-35%, <10-70 mm), sparse manganese (3%, <2-10 mm), and rare sandstone 1-3%, <10-40 mm). Clear boundary with the subsoil. Moderately loose compaction. Rare rooting activity.       | 0.87+         |
| 204            |                         | Natural                 | Mid dark red silty clay with common gravel (25-30%, <10-80 mm), sparse manganese flecks (3-7%, <2-6 mm), sparse sandstones (3-7%, <10-40 mm). Mid hard compaction. Clear boundary with subsoil. Not reached in the SE of trench (too deep). No evidence of bioturbation.   | 0.43+         |
| 205            | 206                     | Ditch                   | Linear cut with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Width: 0.67 m. Depth: 0.17 m.   |               |
| 206            | 205                     | Secondary fill          | Light brown silty clay with sparse manganese (7%, <2-6 mm), moderate gravel (10%, <10-50 mm), rare sandstone (<1%, <10-30 mm).   |               |
| 207            | 208                     | Natural feature         | Sub-circular cut with irregular, concave sides, and a flat base. Width: 0.78 m. Depth: 0.38 m.   |               |
| 208            | 207                     | Fill                    | Light brown silty clay with sparse manganese flecks (3%, <2-6 mm), moderate sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (15%, <10-70 mm).   |               |



| Trench No 3    |                            | Length 48.80 m             | Width 2.14 m   | Depth 0.53 m  |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------|
| Easting        |                            | Northing                   |  | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled<br>With | Interpretative<br>Category | Description  | Depth bgl (m) |
| 301            |                            | Ploughsoil                 | Mid reddish grey clay loam. 10% sub-rounded stone inclusions, 10-40 mm. Lots of roots from previous crop. Very dry loosely to moderately compacted soil. Diffuse horizon with natural. | 0-0.47        |
| 302            |                            | Natural                    | Light reddish brown silty clay. 20% sub-angular stone inclusions, 10-60 mm. Dry and very compacted.  | 0.47+         |
| 303            | 304                        | Ditch                      | Linear gully with steep, straight sides and a V-shaped base. Length: >15.00 m. Width: 0.46 m. Depth: 0.20 m.   |               |
| 304            | 303                        | Secondary fill             | Mid reddish brown silty clay with sparse 5% sub-rounded stones, 10-30 mm   |               |

| Trench No 4    |                            | Length 50.40 m             | Width 2.10 m  | Depth 1.30 m  |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Easting        |                            | Northing                   |   | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled<br>With | Interpretative<br>Category | Description   | Depth bgl (m) |
| 401            |                            | Ploughsoil                 | Reddish mid brown sandy loam with frequent sub-angular to rounded stones ≤100 mm. Crop stubble and vegetation above. Fine rooting throughout. | 0-0.35        |
| 402            |                            | Subsoil                    | Reddish mid brown with greyish hue. Silty clay. More frequent larger stones than topsoil and more compact.                                    | 0.35-0.5      |
| 403            |                            | Colluvium                  | Yellowish mid brown sandy clay loam, frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular stones ≤ 50 mm. Full depth not reached.                              | 0.5+          |
| 404            |                            | Natural                    | Reddish brown sandy clay with frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular stones ≤100 mm. Not reached at NW end only at shallower SW end of trench.   | 0.35+         |

| Trench No 5    |                            | Length Unknown             | Width 2.10 m  | Depth 0.58 m  |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Easting        |                            | Northing                   |   | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled<br>With | Interpretative<br>Category | Description   | Depth bgl (m) |
| 501            |                            | Ploughsoil                 | Reddish mid brown clay loam. sub-rounded to sub-angular stones throughout, ≤100 mm. Crop stubble above and fine rooting throughout. | 0-0.35        |
| 502            |                            | Subsoil                    | Reddish light brown sandy clay with sub-rounded to sub-angular stones, ≤ 50 mm.   | 0.35-0.5      |
| 503            |                            | Natural                    | Reddish brown sandy clay with frequent stones, ≤ 150 mm   | 0.5+          |

| Trench No 6    |                            | Length 51 m                | Width 2.10 m   | Depth 1.25 m  |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------|
| Easting        |                            | Northing                   |  | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled<br>With | Interpretative<br>Category | Description  | Depth bgl (m) |
| 601            |                            | Ploughsoil                 | Reddish mid brown clay loam. Frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular stones, ≤ 50 mm. Crop stubble above and fine rooting throughout.                    | 0-0.3         |
| 602            |                            | Redeposited natural        | Reddish brown clay with frequent angular stones, ≤50 mm throughout. Possibly aid down to fill in ruts or stabilise ground.                           | 0.3-0.5       |
| 603            |                            | Buried soil                | Reddish mid light brown sandy clay. Common sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, ≤ 100 mm. Earlier ploughsoil / subsoil covered by redeposited natural. | 0.5-0.85      |



|     |  |           |   |       |
|-----|--|-----------|---|-------|
| 604 |  | Colluvium | Reddish mid brown sandy clay with common sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, ≤ 100 mm. Rare charcoal flecks. | 0.85+ |
|-----|--|-----------|---|-------|

| Trench No 7    |                     | Length 50 m             | Width 2.10 m  | Depth 1.40 m  |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------|
| Easting        |                     | Northing                |   | m OD          |
| Context Number | Fill Of/Filled With | Interpretative Category | Description   | Depth bgl (m) |
| 701            |                     | Ploughsoil              | Reddish brown loam with frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, ≤80 mm. Crop stubble above and fine rooting throughout. | 0–0.5         |
| 702            |                     | Subsoil / colluvium     | Reddish light brown sandy clay. Common sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, ≤ 50 mm. A later phase of colluvium.              | 0.5–0.9       |
| 703            |                     | Colluvium               | Reddish mid to dark brown clay loam with common small, rounded stones, ≤ 30 mm.   | 0.9+          |
| 704            |                     | Natural                 | Reddish / pinkish brown clay with common sub-rounded to sub-angular stones, ≤50 mm.   | 0.38+         |

| Trench No 8    |                      | Length 50 m             | Width 2.10 m  | Depth 1.14 m |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| Easting        |                      | Northing                |   | m OD         |
| Context Number | Fill Of/ Filled With | Interpretative Category | Description   | Depth BGL    |
| 801            |                      | Ploughsoil              | Mid dark red brown silty clay with sparse sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (3-7%, <10-60 mm) and rare manganese flecks (1-3%, <2-6 mm). Soft and loose compaction. Heavy bioturbation such as rooting activity and low worm activity. Clear boundary with the subsoil. Homogenous across the trench.      | 0–0.59       |
| 802            |                      | Subsoil /colluvium      | Light red brown silty clay with sparse manganese (3%, <2-6 mm) and moderate sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (10-15%, <5-40 mm). Very compact. Clear horizon with the natural. Moderately bioturbated by rooting activity. Get thicker towards the SE of trench. Not present in the SW end of the trench. | 0.59–1.06    |
| 803            |                      | Natural                 | Dark red silty clay with patches of abundant sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (40-50%, <10-100 mm) and red brown silty geological patches across the trench. Hard compaction. Very low bioturbation. The natural was deeper in the SW end of the trench.  | 1.06+        |

| Trench No 9    |                      | Length 50 m             | Width 2.13 m  | Depth 0.57 m |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| Easting        |                      | Northing                |   | m OD         |
| Context Number | Fill Of/ Filled With | Interpretative Category | Description   | Depth BGL    |
| 901            |                      | Ploughsoil              | Mid reddish brown clay loam. 10% sub-rounded stones, 5-20 mm. Diffuse horizon with subsoil. Few roots from plants.                              | 0–0.37       |
| 902            |                      | Subsoil                 | Mid to light reddish brown sandy clay. 15% sub-rounded stones, 10-40 mm. Diffuse horizon with natural.  | 0.37–0.5     |
| 903            |                      | Natural                 | Light reddish brown sandy clay. 25% sub-rounded and sub-angular stone inclusions, 10-120 mm, distributed more heavily at western end of trench. | 0.5+         |
| 904            | 905                  | Natural feature         | Sub-circular cut with moderate, straight sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 0.80 m. Width: 0.72 m. Depth: 0.13 m.                |              |
| 905            | 904                  | Fill                    | Light reddish brown sandy clay with 2 large stones 100 mm in diameter. No other coarse components.  |              |



| Trench No 10   |                            | Length 48.80 m             | Width 2.15 m  | Depth 0.56 m |
|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Easting        |                            | Northing                   |   | m OD         |
| Context Number | Fill Of/<br>Filled<br>With | Interpretative<br>Category | Description   | Depth BGL    |
| 1001           |                            | Ploughsoil                 | Mid reddish brown clay loam. 15% sub-rounded stones, 10-40 mm. Some rooting evident and previous crop.                    | 0-0.3        |
| 1002           |                            | Subsoil                    | Mid to light reddish brown sandy clay. 10% sub-angular to angular large stones, 100-150 mm. Diffuse horizon with natural. | 0.3-0.43     |
| 1003           |                            | Natural                    | Light reddish brown sandy clay. 30% sub-rounded to sub-angular stones, 20-160 mm.   | 0.43+        |



## Appendix 2 OASIS record

OASIS ID: wessexar1-429174

### Project details

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Project name                           | Canon Pyon Road, Hereford, Herefordshire   |
| Short description of the project       | Ten trench archaeological evaluation. Four ditches were identified in three of the trenches. One of the ditches contained two conjoining sherds of abraded Romano-British pottery. |
| Project dates                          | Start: 16-08-2021 End: 19-08-2021  |
| Previous/future work                   | No / Not known   |
| Any associated project reference codes | 2021-4 - Museum accession ID   |
| Any associated project reference codes | 235870 - Sitecode  |
| Any associated project reference codes | EHE80467 - HER event no.   |
| Type of project                        | Field evaluation   |
| Site status                            | None   |
| Current Land use                       | Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined   |
| Monument type                          | COAXIAL FIELD SYSTEM Uncertain   |
| Significant Finds                      | POTTERY Roman  |
| Methods & techniques                   | "Sample Trenches"  |
| Development type                       | Housing estate   |
| Prompt                                 | Planning condition   |
| Position in the planning process       | After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)   |

### Project location

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Country       | England   |
| Site location | HEREFORDSHIRE HEREFORDSHIRE HOLMER AND SHELWICK Canon Pyon Road |



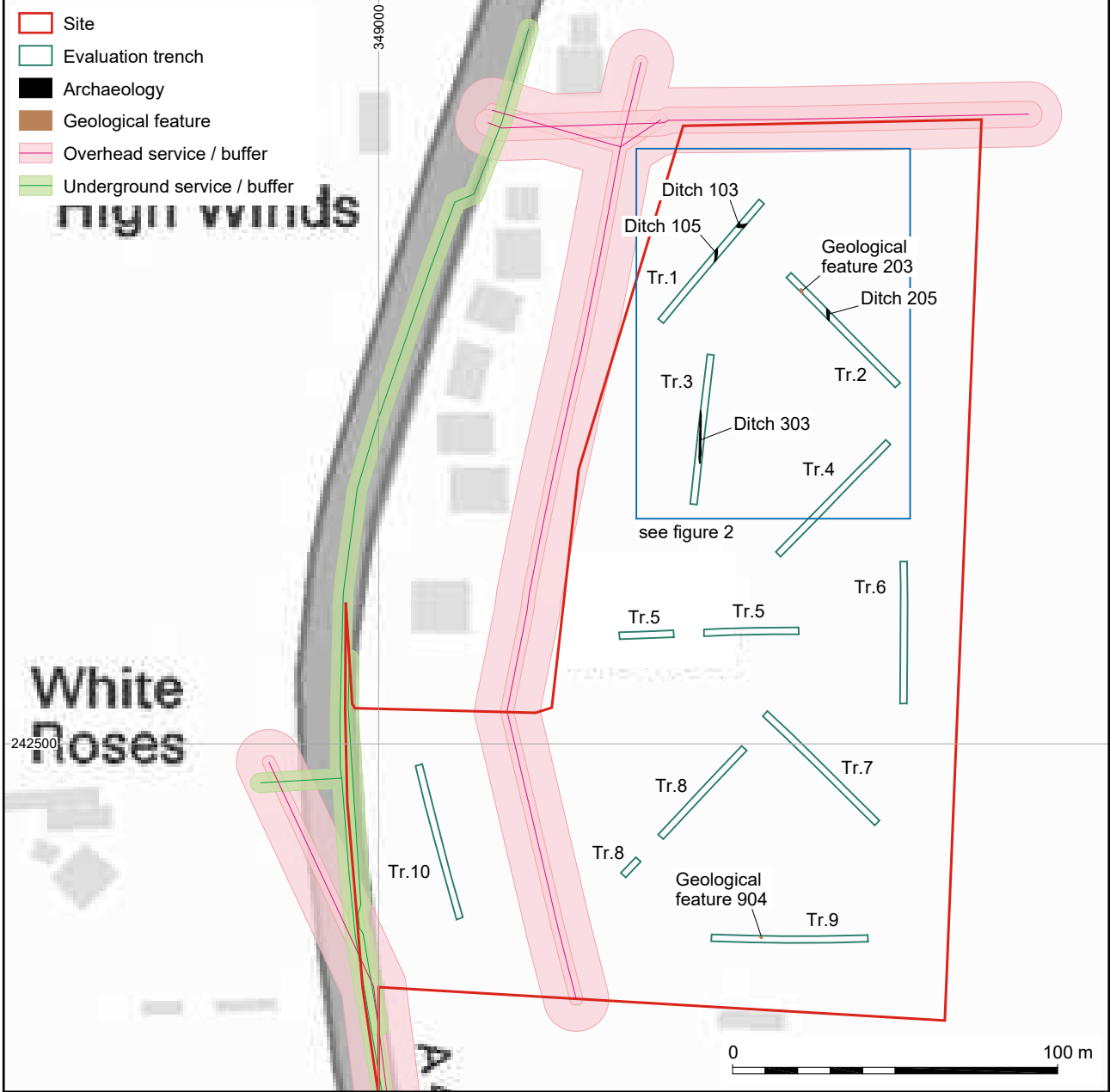
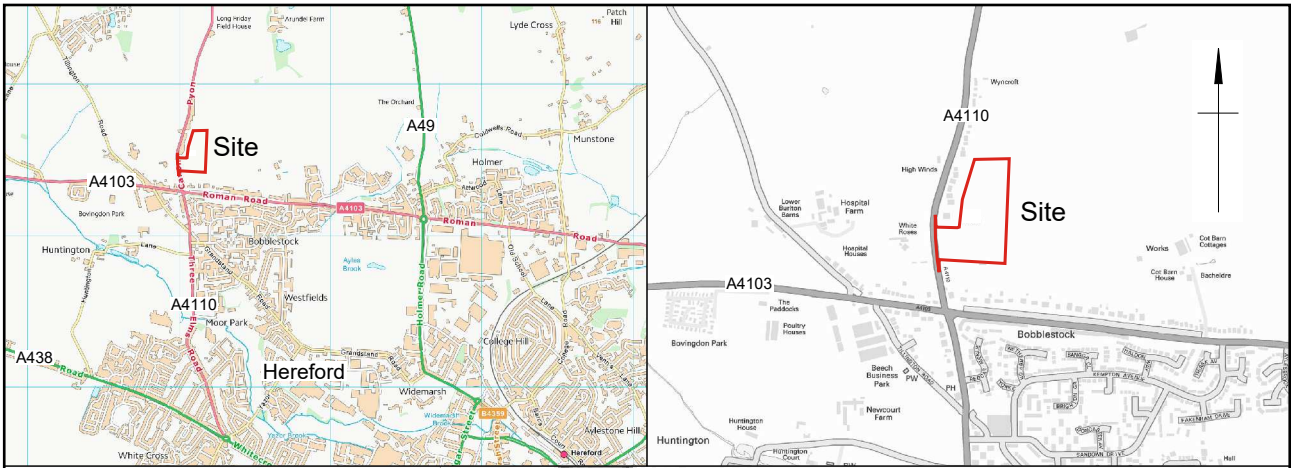
### Project archives

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Physical Archive Exists?  | No  |
| Digital Archive recipient | ADS   |
| Digital Media available   | "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient   | Hereford Museum Service                                 |
| Paper Media available     | "Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Report", "Section"   |

### Project bibliography 1

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Publication type              | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)                   |
| Title                         | Canon Pyon Road, Hereford, Herefordshire, Archaeological Evaluation |
| Author(s)/Editor(s)           | Mason, C.   |
| Other bibliographic details   | Report ref. 235870.3  |
| Date                          | 2021  |
| Issuer or publisher           | Wessex Archaeology  |
| Place of issue or publication | Bristol   |
| Description                   | A4 .pdf.  |
| Entered by                    | Cai Mason (c.mason@wessexarch.co.uk)                                |
| Entered on                    | 14 September 2021   |





- Site
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Geological feature
- Overhead service / buffer
- Underground service / buffer

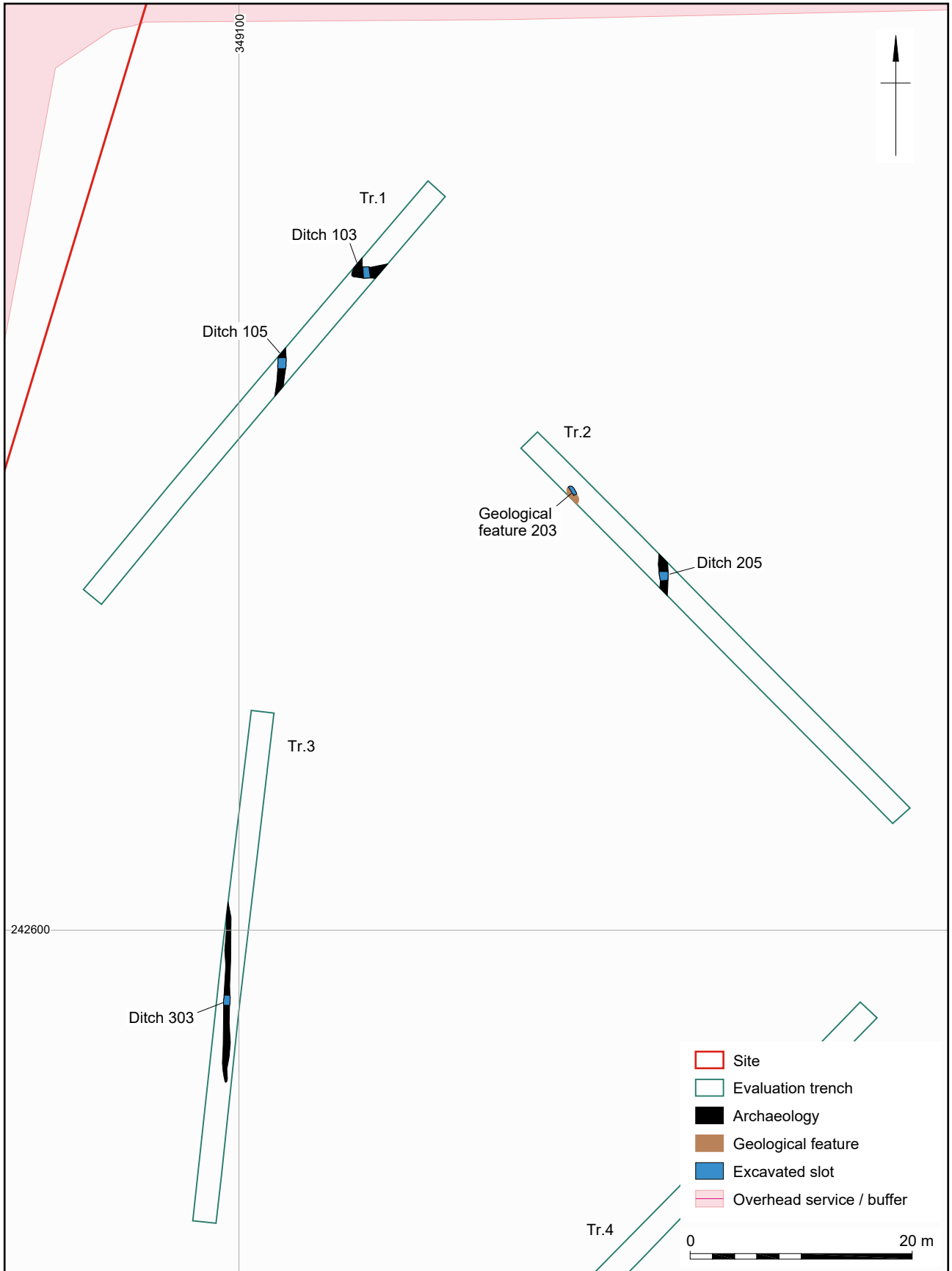
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Site location and trench plan

Figure 1



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Detail of survey focused on features in trenches 1–3

Figure 2



Plate 1: Trench 6, representative section, looking east. 1 m scale

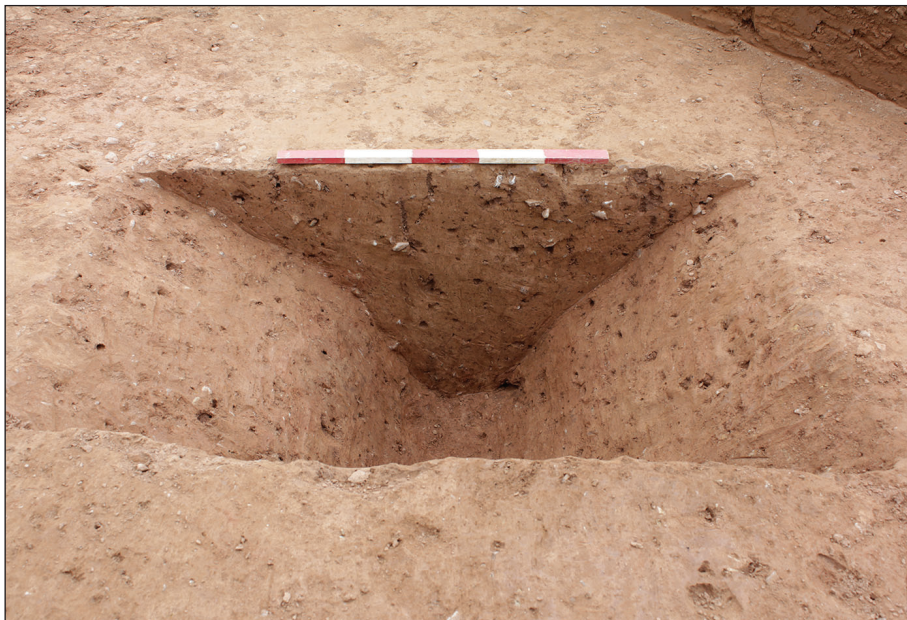


Plate 2: Ditch 103, looking east. 1 m scale


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|---|---|---|--------------------|
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Plate 3: Ditch 105, looking north. 1 m scale



Plate 4: Ditch 205, looking south. 1 m scale

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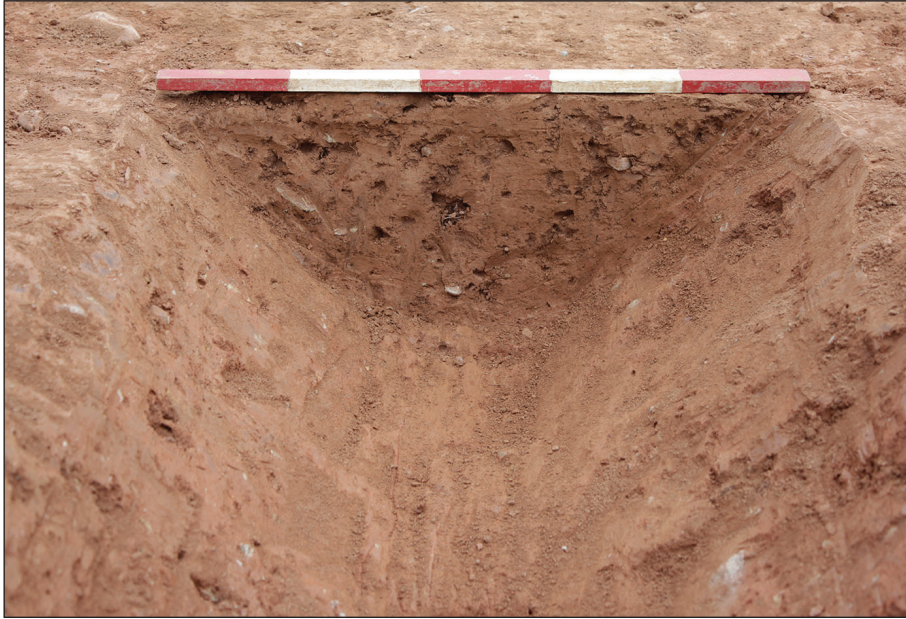



Plate 5: Ditch 303, looking north. 1 m scale

|   |   |   |                  |    |
|---|---|---|------------------|----|
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