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# Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Planning Ref: PT13/3585/RVC  
WA ref: 103280.02  
March 2013



**Land off Morton Way,  
Thornbury, South Gloucestershire**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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# Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bloor Homes to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire (centred on NGR 364384 191304).

The proposed development of the site includes the construction of residential properties and associated works and totals approximately 24.5 hectares. The Phase 1 area of the development site subject to archaeological evaluation, and to which this report relates, is located in the northernmost part of the site which measures approximately 3.82 hectares. Previous archaeological investigation of the site, including a desk based assessment and a detailed geophysical survey, identified potential archaeological remains within the Phase 1 area of the site. A subsequent Heritage Statement concluded that the archaeological potential of the site was “*very low*”. In consultation with the County Archaeologist South Gloucestershire County Council a targeted archaeological evaluation was required in order to ground truth the geophysical anomalies and better understand the nature of any archaeological resource within the Site.

The evaluation consisted of 15 machine excavated trial trenches, comprising an approximate 4% sample of the Site. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded within any of the trenches. Natural features that broadly correspond with geophysical anomalies were identified within the base of the excavated trenches and have been interpreted as possible ice wedge/erosion channels (**Trench 5**) and combs (**Trenches 2–4** and **12**). A modern soakaway was identified in **Trenches 1** and **2** which corresponded to an area of strong geophysical response.

The natural limestone/mudstone geology was recorded at a depth of 32.8m aOD at the western side of the Site and 38m aOD to the east. Overall, natural deposits were located between 0.3m and 0.55m below the current ground surface. Notable ridges of natural stone were recorded in **Trench 13** towards the eastern boundary of the Site and in **Trenches 1** and **5**.

The fieldwork was carried out between 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014.



# **Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **Acknowledgements**

This project was commissioned by Bloor Homes and Wessex Archaeology is grateful for the assistance of Colin Botter (Bloor Homes) and Martin Brown (WYG Planning and Environment) who acted as archaeological consultant for Bloor Homes on the project.

The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Paul Driscoll (County Archaeologist South Gloucestershire County Council) and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank him for his help and advice during the course of the project.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd. The evaluation was carried out by John Powell, Mark Stewart and Tom Blencowe. This report was written by John Powell and edited by Caroline Budd. The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer



# Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bloor Homes through WYG Planning and Environment to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire (**Figure 1**), hereafter “the Site” (centred on NGR 364384 191304).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was required to be undertaken in order to satisfy planning condition 10 of planning permission PT13/3585/RVC that stated: *‘Prior to the commencement of development a programme of archaeological investigation and recording for the site shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the approved programme shall be implemented in all respects, unless the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to any variation.’*
- 1.1.3 The development of the Site includes the construction of residential properties and associated works and totals approximately 24.5 hectares. The Phase 1 area of the development Site subject to archaeological evaluation, and to which this report relates, includes the northernmost part of the Site which measures approximately 3.82 hectares. The Site is located to the north-east of Thornbury in Upper Morton, immediately to the north-east of Morton Way.

#### 1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is bound by Morton Way, a byway, to the south-west and south, Gloucester Road to the north and Crossways Lane to the south-east. To the eastern extent of the Site is mixed agricultural land and there are a number of farm buildings within the vicinity of the development site, including Mile End Farm to the north and Crossways Farm to the south. A patchwork of agricultural land surrounds the Site and the topography of the area is rolling open land, which is broken by hedgerows.
- 1.2.2 The Site slopes very slightly towards the west and lies at an elevation of around 35m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The wider topography of the Site falls away into the shallow valley of a stream towards the south-east before rising again to the south-east corner of the Site. The underlying geology is siltstone and mudstone of the Raglan and Mercia groups, no superficial or drift geology has been recorded at the Site (British Geological Survey).

### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 Previous archaeological investigation of the Site has revealed limited evidence of archaeological and historic significance. A Desk Based Assessment (DBA, Kendall 2010),



Heritage Statement (WYG 2012) and a magnetic geophysical survey of the Site (Biggs 2012) have been carried out which identified potential archaeological remains within the Phase 1 area of the Site. The results of the DBA, Heritage Statement and geophysical survey are summarised below.

## **2.2 Recent investigations in the area**

- 2.2.1 The magnetic geophysical survey of the Site concluded that there was little evidence of archaeological remains within the Site (Briggs 2012). Features identified within the Phase 1 area of the Site included evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation, linear anomalies and magnetic spikes (**Figure 1**).
- 2.2.2 The DBA and Heritage Statement (Kendall 2010 and WYG 2012) recorded the presence of Prehistoric work flint scatters at Yew Tree Farm to the north-east of the Site and evidence of potential ploughed out Bronze Age burial mounds and arrowheads in Morton and Alveston to the south of the Site.
- 2.2.3 There is limited evidence of both Romano-British and Saxon archaeology in the area of the Site and occupation of this date is thought to have been located towards the centre of Thornbury where Romano-British pottery and a number of Roman coins have been recovered. Place name evidence and mention of a market in the Domesday Survey indicate an early medieval date for the settlement at Thornbury (Kendall 2010).

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Aims and objectives**

- 3.1.1 Prior to the commencement of the works a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by WYG (WYG 2014), submitted to and approved by South Gloucestershire County Council which detailed the standards and specifications of the fieldwork. All trial trenching, excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the WSI and to the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008).
- 3.1.2 The general aims of the programme of archaeological works were to assess the Site for previously unrecorded archaeological remains and record the location, date and nature of the archaeological resource. Specific objectives of the archaeological evaluation were to:
- *Excavate archaeological evaluation trenches as identified in the WSI;*
  - *Identify archaeological features and deposits of interest;*
  - *Excavate and record any identified archaeological features and deposits to a level to enable their nature and significance to be identified;*
  - *Undertake sufficient post-excavation analysis to confidently interpret archaeological features identified during site works;*
  - *Undertake sufficient post-excavation analysis of artefacts and samples to identify the potential scope for detailed analysis in future mitigation;*
  - *Report the results of any investigation in the field and subsequent post-excavation analysis and place these results within their local and regional context;*
  - *Compile and deposit a site archive at a suitable repository; and*
  - *Identify areas with significant archaeological potential and areas where archaeological potential is considered non-significant.*



### 3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 In consultation with the South Gloucestershire's County Archaeologist, acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, a programme of trial trenching was agreed and intended to target geophysical anomalies. A total of 15 trenches, measuring 50m x 2m, were specified, representing a 4% sample of the Phase 1 site. Trenches have been placed in order to confirm the interpretation and characterise the significance of possible archaeological remains and other anomalies, and to confirm the presence or absence of more discreet features not detected by geophysical survey.
- 3.2.2 The archaeological trial trenches targeted a variety of geophysical features which included possible ridge of furrow cultivation, linear anomalies and magnetic variations and spikes. Full details of the targeted features were presented in the WSI (WYG 2014) and are detailed in **Appendix 1** below.
- 3.2.3 The trial trenches were set-out using a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 3.2.4 Prior to excavation, the investigation areas were scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT) by operatives experienced in the use of such equipment. Trench excavation was carried out by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 2.0m wide toothless ditching bucket, supervised by a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times. Topsoil and subsoil were removed by machine in a series of level spits to the top of the archaeology or natural, whichever was encountered first. The excavated spoil was stockpiled at a safe distance from the edge of each trench, and separated into topsoil and subsoil bunds.
- 3.2.5 On completion of investigations at each trench, topsoil and subsoil were reinstated to broadly replicate the stratigraphic sequence encountered, and levelled to the existing ground surface.

### 3.3 Monitoring

- 3.3.1 The fieldwork stage of the evaluation was monitored by the County Archaeologist from South Gloucestershire County Council and WYS Planning and Environmental.

### 3.4 Recording

- 3.4.1 All archaeological features and deposits exposed in the trial trenches were cleaned and recorded in plan using GPS survey equipment. To ensure that a unique project-wide geo-referenced sequence was maintained, all context numbers were related to the investigation areas (*i.e.*, the trench number).
- 3.4.2 Full written and photographic records were made of each investigation area, even where no archaeological remains were identified. Feature sections and representative sections were recorded at an appropriate scale (1:10). Other plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits were drawn as necessary at an appropriate scale (normally 1:10 or 1:20). Drawings were made in pencil on permanent drafting film. Written records were made using WA *pro forma* record sheets.
- 3.4.3 The spot height of all principal features and levels was calculated in metres relative to Ordnance Datum, correct to two decimal places. Plans and sections have been annotated with spot heights as appropriate.



- 3.4.4 A full photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using both digital cameras colour and black and white film. General site photographs were taken to record the progress of the investigations, including shots suitable for use in publicity material, and to record the condition of the land prior to trenching and after reinstatement.

### 3.5 Specialist strategies

#### *General*

- 3.5.1 All finds and environmental samples were processed according to procedures set out in WA's policies and guidelines on finds analysis, environmental sampling and archive preparation, and in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008). Copies of the WA policies and guidelines can be supplied on request.

#### *Artefact*

- 3.5.2 All artefacts were recovered, stored and processed in accordance with standard methodologies and national guidelines (Institute for Archaeologists 2001; Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993; 1995). Small finds were recorded three-dimensionally using GPS surveying equipment. Bulk finds were collected and recorded by context from both excavated features and the surfaces of unexcavated features.

- 3.5.3 Any finds requiring immediate on site conservation treatment to prevent deterioration were dealt with according to guidelines laid down in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).

#### *Environmental*

- 3.5.4 Bulk environmental soil samples, normally up to 40 litres, for plant macro-fossils, charred plant remains, small animal bones and other small artefacts, were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits following Wessex Archaeology's standard environmental sampling policy.
- 3.5.5 The environmental sampling strategy followed the recommendations outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)* (English Heritage 2011).

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 All 15 intended evaluation trenches were excavated during the course of the evaluation, no evidence of archaeological features or deposits were recorded within the trenches (**Figure 1**). Where negative features were recorded they proved to be of geological origin and included a possible ice wedge/erosion channel and combs.
- 4.1.2 Full details of the excavated trenches are detailed in **Appendix 1**. Trench and context numbers are shown in bold (e.g., Ice Wedge **504** in **Trench 5**), while geophysical anomaly reference codes are shown in italics (e.g. *1*).
- 4.1.3 Prior to the commencement of the evaluation **Trenches 2–4, 6 and 8** were moved and shortened from their original intended positions stated in the WSI (WYG 2014) in order to avoid suspected buried and overhead services. During the course of the evaluation it became apparent that the overhead services no longer existed so the shortened trenches were extended to the full 50m where possible.

## 4.2 General site stratigraphy

4.2.1 The natural soil sequence was consistent across the Site and was generally fairly shallow, although variations in the depth of the underlying geology were recorded. The soil sequence was characterised by mid reddish brown sandy loams that were present to between a depth of 0.14m to 0.27m. Below the topsoil was a reddish brown sandy clay loam subsoil with moderate limestone/mudstone inclusions, that was between 0.10m and 0.35m thick. The underlying natural geology was limestone/mudstone with lenses of red brown clay, which was variably eroded with areas of both loose stone and outcrops of compact rocks. The natural geology was recorded at a depth 32.8m aOD at the western side of the Site and 38m aOD to the east. Overall, natural deposits were located between 0.3m and 0.55m below the current ground surface. Notable ridges of natural stone were recorded in **Trench 13** towards the eastern boundary of the Site and in **Trenches 1** and **5**.

## 4.3 Notes on geophysical features

4.3.1 The strong magnetic response (geophysical feature 10, Briggs 2012) targeted by **Trench 1** and **2** corresponded to a backfilled modern soakaway trench that was 2.6m wide and present below the topsoil (**Figure 2, Plate 1**).

4.3.2 A possible ice wedge or erosion channel was excavated and recorded within **Trench 5** (**Figure 1**). The feature (**504, Figure 2, Plate 2**) was aligned broadly east to west was slightly curvilinear in plan and had steep irregular sides with an irregular base in section; it measured 0.6m wide and 0.65m deep and was mapped for a distance of 15m within the base of the trench. A single stiff red brown sandy clay, that was similar to the red clay infilling areas within the weathered natural stone, was contained within the feature. Feature **504** broadly corresponds to geophysical feature type 1 and would suggest that these features are related to localised changes on geology rather than archaeological features.

4.3.3 Areas of “*amorphous magnetic variation of probable natural origin*” recorded during the geophysical survey corresponded to probable combe features within the excavated trenches. Combes were recorded within **Trenches 2–4** and **12** (**Figure 1**), excavation within Trench 2 showed the feature was present to a depth greater than 0.80m below current ground level (**Figure 2, Plate 3**).

4.3.4 The areas interpreted as ridge and furrow cultivation by the geophysical survey did not correspond with any below ground features of either archaeological or geological origin. Interestingly, the linear features targeted by **Trenches 7, 10, 11 and 14** did correspond to a slight valley noted within the contours of the Site and significant below ground water ingress into the trenches, which may indicate the presence of a spring towards the eastern edge of the Site.

## 5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

### 5.1 Artefacts

5.1.1 No archaeological finds were recovered during the course of the trial trenching from either the plough-soil or from fills of excavated features.

## 6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Environmental samples

6.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the fieldwork.



## 7 CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Archaeological conclusions

- 7.1.1 The archaeological trial trench evaluation has achieved its stated aims (WYG 2012, see above section 3.1). No archaeological features or deposits were recorded during the evaluation. Natural features that broadly correspond with geophysical anomalies were identified within the base of the excavated trenches and have been interpreted as possible ice wedge/erosion channels (**Trench 5**) and combs (**Trenches 2–4** and **12**). A modern soakaway was identified in **Trenches 1** and **2** which corresponded to an area of strong geophysical response.
- 7.1.2 The potential ridge and furrow cultivation targeted towards the eastern half of the Site did not correspond to either geological or below ground archaeological features. It remains unclear what these features relate to, but, a shallow valley was evident within the contours of the Site which broadly corresponded to these features.

## 8 STORAGE AND CURATION

### 8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive is currently stored at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code **103280**. The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), and in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's *Guidelines for Archive Preparation*. The archive will be deposited at the completion of all post-excavation works with the Bristol City Museum.
- 8.1.2 Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

### 8.2 Archive

- 8.2.1 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the Site code (**103280**). A fully cross-referenced index of the archive will be prepared on completion of the project.

### 8.3 Discard policy

- 8.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002).

### 8.4 Copyright

- 8.4.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly



relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.

- 8.4.2 This report, and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-WA copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties WA are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of the company copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by WA. This report, and the archive generally, remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

## 8.5 Security Copy

- 8.5.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. 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.

## 8.6 OASIS

- 8.6.1 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form were completed for submission to the South Gloucestershire HER, a copy of this has been supplied in **Appendix 1**. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). A full archive of site photographs will also be submitted to the ADS.

## 9 REFERENCES

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## 10 APPENDICES

### 10.1 Appendix 1:Trench Tables

<b>Trench 1</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	50.5m x 2.2m x 0.5m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	32.83ma OD NW 33.58ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Linear anomalies and areas of magnetic disturbance.			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
101	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Slightly reddish brown with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.	0-0.2m	
102	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 5 cm Ø. Distinct and slightly coarser sandy element than in the topsoil.	0.2-0.33m	
103	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick veins of dark brownish red sandy clay throughout.	0.33m+	
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	46.2m x 2.2m x 0.8m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	33.19ma OD NE 33.59ma OD SW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	A number of roughly parallel linear anomalies			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
201	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Brown loam with very rare sandy limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.	0m-0.25m	
202	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown clay loam with occasional limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø. Distinct and slightly coarser sandy element than in the top soil.	0.25m-0.4m	
203	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick veins of dark brownish red sandy clay throughout.	0.4m+	
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 3</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	52m x 2.2m x 0.65m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	33.25ma OD NE 32.93ma OD SW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	A number of roughly parallel linear anomalies that most likely represent plough marks and a area of magnetic variation of probable natural origin.			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
301	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Brown loam with very rare sandy limestone fragments no greater than 3cm Ø.	0m-0.15m	
302	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown clay loam with occasional limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø. Distinct and slightly coarser sandy element than in the top soil.	0.15m-0.35m	
303	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick veins of dark brownish red sandy clay throughout.	0.35m+	
BLANK TRENCH				





<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	50.2m x 2.2.m x 0.5m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	33.61ma OD NW 34.64ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Targeted the same anomalies as Trench 3			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
401	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.15m
402	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.15-0.35m
403	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick veins of dark brownish red sandy clay throughout.		0.35m+
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 5</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	49m x 2.2m x 0.4m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	33.32ma OD W 34,00ma OD E
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	An area of magnetic variation of probable natural origin, linear anomalies and a magnetic spike			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
501	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Slightly reddish brown clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 1cm Ø.		0m-0.14m
502	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with occasional limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0.14m-0.35m
503	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick veins of dark reddish brown sandy slay throughout.		0.35m+
504	<b>Cut of ditch / ice wedge</b>	<b>Cut of possible ditch.</b> E-W alignment. Steep sided and sterile, more likely to be a geological formation (e.g. ice wedge).		0.35m-1m
505	<b>Secondary Fill</b>	<b>Fill of 504.</b> Reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional coarse limestone no greater than 15cm Ø spread throughout. Naturally derived fill.		0.35m-1m
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	44m x 2.2m x 0.35m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	34.64ma OD NE 34.77ma OD SW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Parallel linear anomalies and magnetic disturbance that is possibly associated to metal objects or filed boundaries.			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
601	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown clay loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.15m
602	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.15m-0.3m
603	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands of reddish brown clay throughout.		0.3m+
BLANK TRENCH				



<b>Trench 7</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	49.6m x 2.2m x 0.5m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	35.66ma OD NNE 35.89ma OD SSW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	A magnetic spike towards the northern end of the trench			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
701	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.2m
702	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0.2-0.4m
703	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands of reddish brown sandy clay throughout.		0.4m+
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 8</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	46.6m x 2.2m x 0.58m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	35.68ma OD NW 36.20ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	A linear anomaly to the northern end of the trench			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
801	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Slightly reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5 cm Ø.		0m-0.27m
802	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Reddish-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.27m-0.5m
803	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands of reddish brown clay throughout.		0.5m+
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 9</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	48m x 2.2m x 0.6m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	36.08ma OD WNW 37.46ma OD ESE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Magnetic spikes to the western end of trench			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
901	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.2m
902	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.2m-0.55m
903	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands of red sandy clay throughout.		0.55m+
BLANK TRENCH				



<b>Trench 10</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	50m x 2.2m x 0.45m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	36.32ma OD NNE 36.56ma OD SSW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Probable ridge and furrow remains and magnetic spikes			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
1001	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.2m
1002	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.2m-0.38m
1003	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands of reddish brown sandy slay throughout.		0.38m+
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 11</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	49.7m x 2.2m x 0.45m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	36.73ma OD NW 37.27ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Areas of magnetic disturbance possibly associated to metal objects or field boundaries			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
1101	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.17m
1102	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.17m-0.4m
1103	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands and patches of red sandy clay throughout.		0.4m+
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<b>Trench 12</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	48.5m x 2.2m x0.45m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	37.42ma OD WNW 38.38ma OD ESE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Magnetic variation of probable natural origin			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth BGL</b>
1201	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.		0m-0.15m
1202	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.		0.15-0.4m
1203	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands and patches of red sandy clay throughout.		0.4m+
BLANK TRENCH				



<b>Trench 13</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	48.5m x 2.2m x 0.65m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	38.88ma OD NW 38.90ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	No geophysical anomalies			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
1301	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.	0m-0.25m	
1302	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Brown-red sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8 cm Ø.	0.25m-0.55m	
1303	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands and patches of red sandy clay.	0.55m+	
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 14</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	50m x 2.2m x 0.45m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	37.82ma OD NNE 38.54ma OD SSW
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	Probable ridge and furrow remains			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
1401	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.	0m-0.2m	
1402	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red-brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.	0.2m-0.4m	
1403	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands and patches of red-brown sandy clay throughout.	0.4m+	
BLANK TRENCH				

<b>Trench 15</b>	<b>Dimensions :</b>	49.4m x 2.2m x 0.45m	<b>Top of trench m aOD</b>	37.03ma OD NW 38.40ma OD SE
<b>Geophysical Target</b>	No geophysical anomalies			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>	
1501	<b>Layer - Topsoil</b>	Reddish brown sandy loam with very rare limestone fragments no greater than 5cm Ø.	0m-0.25m	
1502	<b>Layer - Subsoil</b>	Red brown sandy clay loam with rare limestone fragments no greater than 8cm Ø.	0.25m-0.35m	
1503	<b>Layer - Natural</b>	Weathered limestone with thick bands and patches of red-brown sandy clay throughout,	0.35m+	
BLANK TRENCH				



## 10.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

### OASIS ID: wessexar1-174593

#### Project details

Project name	Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bloor Homes to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire (centred on NGR 364384 191304). The evaluation consisted of 15 machine excavated trial trenches, comprising an approximate 4% sample of the site. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded within the 15 evaluation trenches. Natural features that broadly correspond with geophysical anomalies were identified within the base of the excavated trenches and have been interpreted as possible ice wedge/erosive channels (Trench 5) and combs (Trenches 2 - 4 and 12). A modern soakaway was identified in Trenches 1 and 2 which correspond to an area of strong geophysical response.
Project dates	Start: 03-03-2014 End: 07-03-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	103280 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	SITE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate



Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE THORNBURY Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire
Postcode	BS35 1LJ
Study area	3.82 Hectares
Site coordinates	ST 364384 191304 50.967535901 -2.90529127745 50 58 03 N 002 54 19 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 32.00m Max: 38.00m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Bloor Homes
Project design originator	WYG Planning and Environment
Project director/manager	Caroline Budd
Project supervisor	John Powell
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer



Name of sponsor/funding body  
Bloor Homes

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient ADS

Digital Archive ID 103280

Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient Bristol City Museum

Paper Archive ID 103280

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", ' Research', ' General Notes', "Photograph", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land off Morton Way, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Powell, J

Other bibliographic details Report Ref No: 103280.02

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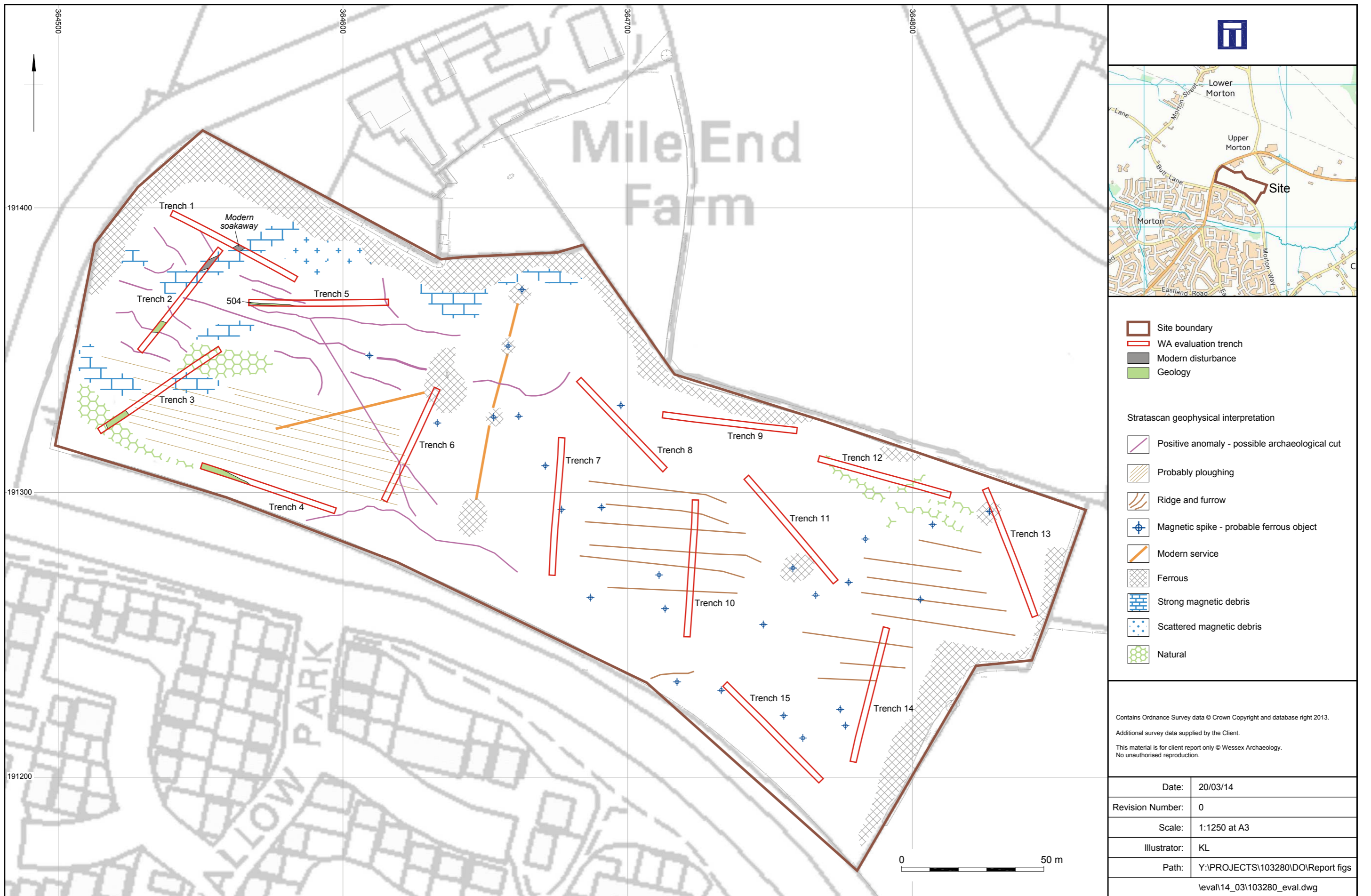
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Site location, trench plan and previous geophysical survey results

Figure 1





Plate 1: General view of Trench 2 (1 x 1 and 2m scale)



Plate 2: East facing section of feature 504 (1 x 0.5m scale)



Plate 3: Oblique view of combe within Trench 2 (1 x 2m scale)



Plate 4: Representative section of Trench 6 (1 x 1m scale)



Plate 5: Representative section of Trench 11 (1 x 1m scale)



Plate 6: General view of Trench 9 (1 x 1 and 2m scale)



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