



making sense of heritage

Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire

Metal Detector Survey,
Topographic Survey and Trial Trenching



Ref: 103380.01
May 2014



**Land off Harding Avenue,
Tattenhall, Cheshire**

**Metal Detector Survey, Topographic Survey
and Trial Trenching**

Prepared for:

CgMs Consulting Ltd
Newark Beacon
Beacon Hill Office Park
Cafferata Way
Newark
Notts
NG24 2TN

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Unit R6, Riverside Block
Sheaf Bank Business Park
Prospect Road
Sheffield
S2 3EN

www.wessexarch.co.uk

May 2014

103380 .01



Quality Assurance

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Project Code | 103380 | Accession Code | CHEGM:2014.141 | Client Ref. | |
| Planning Application Ref. | 12/04702 /OUT | Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR) | NGR 349075 358725 | | |

| Version | Status* | Prepared by | Checked and Approved By | Approver's Signature | Date |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| v01 | I | MT/SDB | RJO | Richard O'Neill | 01.05.14 |
| File: | | | | | |
| V02 | E | MT/SDB | APN | Andrew Norton | 02.05.14 |
| File: | | | | | |
| V03 | F | MT/SDB | RJO | Richard O'Neill | 08.05.14 |
| File: | | | | | |
| File: | | | | | |

* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

DISCLAIMER

THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT WAS DESIGNED AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A REPORT TO AN INDIVIDUAL CLIENT AND WAS PREPARED SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT CLIENT. THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT DOES NOT NECESSARILY STAND ON ITS OWN AND IS NOT INTENDED TO NOR SHOULD IT BE RELIED UPON BY ANY THIRD PARTY. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY WILL NOT BE LIABLE BY REASON OF BREACH OF CONTRACT NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE (WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OCCASIONED TO ANY PERSON ACTING OR OMITTING TO ACT OR REFRAINING FROM ACTING IN RELIANCE UPON THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT ARISING FROM OR CONNECTED WITH ANY ERROR OR OMISSION IN THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THE REPORT. LOSS OR DAMAGE AS REFERRED TO ABOVE SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, ANY LOSS OF PROFITS OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS DAMAGE TO REPUTATION OR GOODWILL LOSS OF BUSINESS OR ANTICIPATED BUSINESS DAMAGES COSTS EXPENSES INCURRED OR PAYABLE TO ANY THIRD PARTY (IN ALL CASES WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OR ANY OTHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OR DAMAGE.



Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire

Metal Detector Survey, Topographic Survey and Trial Trenching

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Summary | iii |
| Acknowledgements..... | iv |
| 1 INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1.1 Project background | 1 |
| 1.2 Location, Topography and Geology..... | 1 |
| 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND | 1 |
| 2.1 Previous investigations..... | 1 |
| 3 METHODOLOGY..... | 2 |
| 3.1 Aims and Objectives..... | 2 |
| 3.2 Metal Detecting Survey | 2 |
| 3.3 LiDAR and Topographic Survey | 3 |
| 3.4 Trial Trenching | 3 |
| 3.5 Monitoring | 3 |
| 4 METAL DETECTING SURVEY..... | 3 |
| 4.1 Summary..... | 3 |
| 4.2 Functional Range | 4 |
| 5 LIDAR AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY..... | 5 |
| 5.1 Summary..... | 5 |
| 6 TRIAL TRENCHING | 5 |
| 6.1 Summary..... | 5 |
| 6.2 Results..... | 6 |
| 6.3 Finds | 6 |
| 7 DISCUSSION..... | 7 |
| 7.1 Summary..... | 7 |
| 8 STORAGE AND CURATION | 8 |
| 8.1 Museum and Archive..... | 8 |
| 8.2 Discard Policy | 8 |
| 8.3 Security Copy..... | 8 |
| 9 REFERENCES..... | 9 |
| 10 APPENDICES..... | 10 |
| 10.1 Appendix 1: Material Recovered by Metal Detecting Survey | 10 |
| 10.2 Appendix 2: Summary of Contexts | 11 |
| 10.3 Appendix 3: Material Recovered during Field Evaluation..... | 13 |



Figures

- Figure 1: Site and trench location plan
Figure 2: LiDAR data and hachure plan (LiDAR and topographic survey)
Figure 3: Trench 3: Plan with north facing section of **305 & 307**
Figure 4: Trench 5: Plan with south-east facing section of **504**
Figure 5: Trench 6: Plan with north facing section of **608** and east facing section of pit **604**

Plates

- Front cover: General view, machine excavation of Trench 1, looking south-west
Back cover: The metal detecting group
Plate 1: Lead weight, discoid in form, recovered during metal detecting survey.
Plate 2: Boundary ditch in Trench 3, looking south.
Plate 3: Boundary ditch in Trench 5, looking north-west.
Plate 4: Boundary ditch in Trench 6, looking south.
Plate 5: East facing section of pit 604, Trench 6, looking west



Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire

Metal Detector Survey, Topographic Survey and Trial Trenching

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Redrow Homes Limited to undertake a metal detecting survey, topographic survey and an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land adjacent to Harding Avenue, Tattenhall (NGR 349075 358725) prior to the redevelopment of the site with residential housing. The programme of works was drawn up in consultation with Julie Edwards, Senior Archaeologist on behalf of Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The metal detecting survey recovered 160 metal objects: all of the identified objects are post-medieval/ modern in date. These included coins, tokens, personal items and items associated with agriculture and transport. The less common items of intrinsic interest have been recommended as being retained.

LiDAR survey data, enhanced by topographic survey, recorded extant ridge and furrow and extant field boundaries within the site.

Field evaluation comprised the excavation of seven trenches, each measuring 50m by 2m targeting extant field boundaries and blank areas. The archaeology present included ridge and furrow, a boundary in Trench 3 later recut along the same alignment, a former field boundary in Trenches 5 and 6, and two pits in Trench 6. No trace of a former field boundary was found in Trench 7. No evidence of occupation or land use pre-dating the formation of the ridge and furrow earthworks in the late medieval/ early post medieval period was observed. The finds from the trenches were exclusively post-medieval/ modern in date, nothing that necessarily falls outside of the 18th to 20th century.

The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code 103380, and will be deposited with the Grosvenor Museum under Accession Number CHEGM:2014.141 in due course. An online OASIS record will be completed for the site at the time of deposition.



Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire

Metal Detector Survey, Topographic Survey and Trial Trenching

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Redrow Homes, and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Paul Clark and Simon Mortimer in this regard. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful to Julie Edwards who monitored the works on behalf of the Cheshire West and Chester Council Planning Department.

The metal detecting survey was carried out by Colin Sharratt, Trevor Brown, Harry and Gordana Mitchel, Mick Trow and Robert Steel, under the supervision of Martina Tenzer (Wessex Archaeology). LiDAR work was carried out by Andrew Reid and topographic survey by Laurence Savage. The evaluation was carried out under the supervision of Martina Tenzer with assistance from Charlotte Firth, Richard Mason, Martyn Cooper and Sean Bell. The report was compiled by Martina Tenzer with illustrations by Chris Swales. Lynn Wootten undertook x-radiography and finds assessment was carried out Lorraine Mepham and Dr Nicholas Cooke. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Richard O'Neill.



Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire

Metal Detector Survey, Topographic Survey and Trial Trenching

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake a metal detecting survey, topographic survey and an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land adjacent to Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire centred on NGR 349075 358725 (hereafter 'the Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 Planning permission (reference 12/04702/OUT) was granted for residential development of the Site with condition 18 relating to archaeological investigation. Following discussion with Julie Edwards, Senior Archaeologist of Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC), a metal detecting survey, topographic survey and trial trenching was agreed upon in order to satisfy this condition.

1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CgMs Consulting (2014) on behalf of Redrow Homes Limited outlining the scheme of archaeological surveys and investigations.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Site (**Figure 1**) comprises 2.8 hectares of agricultural land east of Harding Avenue in Tattenhall and consists of two fields, with a hedge boundary separating them. The land is currently used for pasture. A former marl pit lies in the north-western portion of the Site. At the time of the archaeological investigation a spoil heap was present in the north-eastern portion of the northern field. To the north and west the site is bounded by residential houses and gardens.

1.2.2 The Site lies at 37m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with an underlying geology of sandstone of the Chester Pebble Beds Formation (Scythian). The superficial deposit is characterised as Till (Devensian).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Previous investigations

2.1.1 The following section summarises the presented archaeological and historical background of the Site and the surrounding landscape as given in the desk-based assessment (MetroMola 2012).

2.1.2 Archaeological monitoring of construction works at the Church of St Alban in 1982 identified a number of architectural components of the Roman period, and indicating a possible Roman Villa in the immediate vicinity. In 2001 a harness fitting, dating from the



Late Iron Age/ Early Roman period (HER 7025), and a Bronze Age axe were discovered by metal detecting in Tattenhall. No Romano-British remains are known on or adjacent to the Site.

- 2.1.3 There is no evidence of archaeological remains predating the later medieval period. Later medieval ridge and furrow earthworks lie within the site boundary. Medieval artefacts have been recovered from Tattenhall, though these findspots are all at least 250m away from the site.
- 2.1.4 Throughout the post-medieval period the land remained arable in character, with a windmill approximately 40m beyond the Site's south boundary being the only notable structure.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 Each element of the archaeological investigations had its own aims and objectives.

3.1.2 The general aims of the LiDAR and Topographic Survey were:

- *to record the surviving known earthwork evidence within the Site, comprising ridge and furrow and field boundaries, and to record previously unidentified earthworks, with relative dates of these earthworks.*

3.1.3 The general aims of the Metal Detecting Survey were:

- *to ensure the recording of archaeological finds discovered during the survey;*
- *to place this record in its local context and make it available in a report.*

3.1.4 The general aims of the Evaluation Trenching were:

- *to ensure the recording of archaeological assets discovered during the archaeological works;*
- *to ensure the recording of archaeological remains, to place the record in its local context and to make this record available;*
- *to recover palaeo/environmental evidence from any securely dated context;*
- *inform the need for and extent of any further archaeological work.*

3.2 Metal Detecting Survey

3.2.1 The survey was carried out in a series of 10m wide strips across the Site giving full coverage of the field.

3.2.2 The location of archaeological finds was recorded with a handheld GPS, with an accuracy of +/- 10m.

3.2.3 With the exception of material with a clearly modern date (post 1900) and metalwork clearly not of archaeological origin/ interest, all humanly-modified material, whether manufactured, fashioned or indirectly affected, was collected and retained.



3.3 LiDAR and Topographic Survey

- 3.3.1 LiDAR (Light Detecting and Ranging) data was acquired from the Environment Agency in raw ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) format and converted into a raster image within ArcGIS. The “Hillshade” function was used to cast virtual light across the raster image in order to create a graphical display of the topography of the site. Several hillshades were created in order to illuminate the LiDAR data from various angles and azimuths, with two mosaicked together to create a final representation of the visible earthworks within the site.
- 3.3.2 The upstanding ridge and furrow earthworks within the development area were the subject of a measured ground survey using a RTK GPS system and tied into the Ordnance Survey grid (to an accuracy of within 0.1m). This recorded tops, bottoms and breaks of slope with the limits of the visible to produce, in concert with the LiDAR data, an accurate contour plan.

3.4 Trial Trenching

- 3.4.1 The location of each trench was scanned for underground services with a Cable Avoidance Tool prior to the commencement of machine-excavation.
- 3.4.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the specification (CgMs 2014) and with industry best practice, as outlined by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008), the United Kingdom Institute of Conservation (UKIC 2001) and the relevant local and regional frameworks.
- 3.4.3 All archaeological features and deposits encountered were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system. Trenches and features were located using a RTK GPS system and tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. No sampling was undertaken, by agreement with Julie Edwards.
- 3.4.4 A photographic record was created of all trenches and features using a digital camera and where archaeological features were identified additionally on black and white prints and colour transparencies.

3.5 Monitoring

- 3.5.1 The survey and evaluation trenching was monitored by Julie Edwards on behalf of Cheshire West and Chester Council Planning Department (CWCC) and by Paul Clark and Simon Mortimer on behalf of CgMs Consulting.

4 METAL DETECTING SURVEY

4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 A total of 160 artefacts were recovered during the metal detecting survey. The assemblage comprised the following items: three silver; 87 copper alloy (including one piece of copper slag); 38 lead/ lead alloy; 27 iron; three of other metals (e.g. aluminium); and two composite (one iron/copper alloy; one ?steel/plastic) artefacts.
- 4.1.2 The assemblage is summarised in **Appendix 1**. All of the identified objects are post-medieval/ modern in date.



4.2 Functional Range

Coins and tokens

- 4.2.1 A total of 20 coins and one token was recovered. The coins are post-medieval, ranging in date from 1797 to 1949, and consist largely of pennies and halfpennies. Condition varies, and one is too badly corroded even to be identified to broad period (although likely to be post-medieval).
- 4.2.2 The token (22) is heavily corroded, but none the less identifiable as a one penny token for the Flint Lead Works, struck in 1813. The obverse bears an engraving of the lead works, and reads FLINT LEAD WORKS 1813, whilst the reverse has ONE PENNY TOKEN centrally, encircled by ONE POUND NOTE FOR 240 TOKENS. There was a significant spate of private tokens, such as these, struck to compensate for the lack of official small change in the later years of the Napoleonic Wars. No copper coinage was issued between 1799 and 1821, with the cost of copper per tonne almost doubling to c. £200. Although initially tolerated by the government, these tokens, produced by local traders and factory owners, were made illegal by an 1817 Act of Parliament with the exceptions of penny tokens for the Birmingham Workhouse and Sheffield Overseers of the Poor, which were allowed to remain in circulation until 1820 and 1823 respectively.

Personal items

- 4.2.3 This category includes 13 buttons and 16 buckles. The buttons are, with one exception, plain copper alloy disc forms in varying sizes with rear attachments, generically post-medieval types although probably dating to the 18th century or later. The exception is a two-piece livery button with a deer motif, probably of 19th century date.
- 4.2.4 Most of the buckles comprise simple rectangular, sub-rectangular or 'D'-shaped frames, sometimes with sheet rollers; they occur in both iron and copper alloy (the latter with iron pins, where these survive). The buckles range in size from medium to large, and are likely to have been used for belts or horse harness. One slightly smaller sub-rectangular buckle has a drilled frame for a separate spindle; this is likely to be a shoe buckle of late 18th century date (Whitehead 1996, no. 667), as is a fragment from a rectangular buckle frame with incised and beaded decoration (ibid., no. 679).
- 4.2.5 Other personal items comprise a lead dress weight (a disc with two perforations for attachment), the back of a silver watch, a decorated silver thimble, a pendant featuring a horse's head over an inverted horse shoe, and a penknife with a plastic casing. All are of 19th- or 20th-century date.

Agriculture

- 4.2.6 This category is represented by a single object: half of an animal's nose ring, probably a bull ring (one of a pair of hinged semi-circles).

Household equipment

- 4.2.7 Seven objects were identified as weights, all lead. Four of these are of disc form, and approximate to a 1 oz weight. A fifth is of larger discoid form, with a central perforation, and stamped with the numerals VIII (**Plate 1**). This weighs 219g, not quite 8oz. The other two objects comprise one conical weight (315g; c. 12.5 oz), and one small perforated spheroid (15g; c. 0.5 oz).
- 4.2.8 Other items in this category include five items of cutlery (spoons and forks, but no knives); the rim from a cast copper alloy vessel; a padlock; the top of an oil lamp; and part of a possible lantern or candleholder.



Military equipment

- 4.2.9 Four lead shot were recovered, ranging in diameter from 14mm to 17mm; these are consistent with a use as musket balls. A later copper alloy cartridge was also recovered.

Transport

- 4.2.10 The probable harness buckles have already been mentioned (see above, under Personal Items). Also in this category are three other items of horse harness (all terrets) and three horseshoes.

Leisure

- 4.2.11 Objects in this category include a complete barrel lock, two barrel keys, and a shroud from a barrel cap, all of late 18th century date or later. These could have been lost during *al fresco* social events (Bailey 1995, 60-3).
- 4.2.12 Also included here is a hawking whistle, again of 18th century date or later, used by the falconer to recall the bird after its kill (Bailey 1999, 58-9).

Structural fixtures and fittings

- 4.2.13 Many objects could only be broadly defined as 'fittings', with an indeterminate function. Those which could be identified include a drop handle, probably from furniture; and a possible latch fitting. There are also two nuts and a nail.

Miscellaneous

- 4.2.14 The remaining objects are classified as 'miscellaneous', and include fragments of lead waste; copper alloy rings (diameters 32-39mm) of uncertain function; and various strip, bar and sheet fragments.

5 LIDAR AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

5.1 Summary

- 5.1.1 LiDAR data, enhanced by topographic survey, recorded extant boundaries, ridge and furrow and a more recent earthwork within the Site boundaries (**Figure 2**). The ridge and furrow survived best in the north-west and central areas of the Site, less so to the north-east and south. The ridge and furrow was aligned primarily north-west to south east, with the exception of the north-east corner of the Site where the alignment runs north-east to south-west. No additional features were noted in the LiDAR data.

6 TRIAL TRENCHING

6.1 Summary

- 6.1.1 Seven trenches were excavated, each measuring 50m by 2m width (**Figures 1**). Trenches 3 and 5-7 were located to target field boundaries shown on maps dating to 1838 and 1874. Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 were located in an area of the ridge and furrow which was poorly preserved. Detailed contextual information for each trench is summarised in **Appendix 2**.
- 6.1.2 The stratigraphy across the Site was fairly consistent. The dark grey-brown coloured silty-sand topsoil had a thickness of between 0.18m and 0.27m, and overlay subsoil, typically



0.08m thick. The underlying natural deposits were encountered at an average depth of 0.30m, and consisted of sandy clay with well dispersed sandstones.

6.2 Results

- 6.2.1 Where present, furrows could be seen were clearly cutting into the natural geology. The furrows were filled with soil derived from the overlying subsoil. It was noted that, though the earthworks were poorly visible on the surface in the south-west corner of the Site, the furrows observed cutting into the natural were significantly deeper here than elsewhere on the Site. Furrows were typically spaced at intervals of 6m and measured, on average, 2.6m in width. The presence of charcoal and abundant small stones (0.01m-0.02m in diameter) was noted in the furrow fills.
- 6.2.2 **Trench 3** targeted a field boundary ditch still visible in the ground surface (**Figure 3; Plate 2**). The ditch consisted of an earlier cut **307** that matched the position of the field boundary as shown on the 1838 tithe map. The cut was filled by a sandy clay deposit **306** from which a sherd of 18th-century pottery was recovered. The field boundary was recut (**305**), with its fill **304** containing fragments of clay pigeons, glass, ceramics, a shotgun cartridge and fragments of ceramic building material. These were assessed on site as dating to the mid-20th century.
- 6.2.3 A field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 1874 map was targeted by **Trenches 5** and **6** and was clearly identified during the fieldwork. The feature in both trenches (**504** and **608**) was generally 'U'-shaped in section, though somewhat irregular (**Figures 4** and **5; Plates 3** and **4**). Both sections of the ditch **504** and **608** were filled with a silty clay (**505** and **609**), with a single sherd of post-medieval ware being recovered from **505**. Both of these features were still visible on the current ground surface as a shallow ditch running south-east to north-west. This contrasts with the orientation of the ridge and furrow fieldworks with different lines of directions.
- 6.2.4 Furrows and an area of disturbance associated with former shrub growth were also noted in **Trench 5**. No furrows were identified in **Trench 6**, but a number of post-medieval land drains were present running across the trench.
- 6.2.5 A clay-lined pit **604** was hand-excavated in Trench 6. This was filled with very dark grey-coloured clay **606** with a very high incidence of charcoal fragments throughout the fill (**Figure 5; Plate 5**). The north edge of **604** had been partially truncated by a smaller pit **610**. No archaeologically significant material was recovered from either **604** or **610** and so the date and use of these features remains uncertain.
- 6.2.6 No features of archaeological significance were identified in **Trenches 1, 2, 4** and **7**. **Trench 7** contained a number of post-medieval land drains and former utility trenches backfilled with sand cut into the natural. A discrete area of bioturbation **704** was also noted towards the south end of the same trench.

6.3 Finds

- 6.3.1 The trial trenching produced a small quantity of finds, most of which were found in topsoil contexts, with a few finds from ditches in Trenches 3 and 5. The assemblage is dominated by ceramics. The date range is exclusively post-medieval/modern, and there is nothing here that necessarily falls outside a date range of 18th to 20th century.
- 6.3.2 The evaluation finds assemblage has little or no potential for further analysis or publication. The date range is relatively recent, quantities are small, and provenance is largely unstratified.



6.3.3 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Appendix 3**.

Pottery

6.3.4 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence; the assemblage is listed in **Appendix 3** by ware type. A restricted range of ware types is represented here, with an emphasis on industrial wares of the mid/late 18th century or later (creamware, pearlware, refined whiteware, yellow ware). These clearly comprised primarily tablewares and tea wares, some transfer printed and also including a group of pearlware flatwares with blue feathered edges. The yellow wares were used for kitchenware bowls.

6.3.5 Alongside these industrial wares are a few sherds (found unstratified and probably all from a single vessel) of manganese mottled ware, and a small quantity of coarse redwares, mostly black-glazed wares. These are likely to have been supplied by the Buckley production centre. While these are not particularly chronologically distinctive, and potentially have a wide date range within the post-medieval/modern period, there is no reason here to suppose that they necessarily pre-date the industrial wares, and a date range in the 18th or 19th century seems most likely.

Glass

6.3.6 Apart from one piece of modern window glass from **501**, all of the glass recovered is vessel glass. The majority comprises fragments of green wine bottle. The earliest piece is a basal fragment from a bottle of 'mallet' form (c.1725-60) from ditch **504**, while nine fragments from ditch recut **305** belong to a cylindrical bottle of late 18th or early 19th century date. Other fragments are undiagnostic (unstratified from Trench 2) or diagnostically 19th /20th century (**501**).

Other material

6.3.7 Other finds comprise small quantities of metalwork, all found unstratified (iron nails and unidentifiable corroded lumps, copper alloy or steel tool handles, illegible post-medieval halfpenny); ceramic building material (brick and field drain) and other ceramics (fragments of clay pigeon).

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Summary

7.1.1 The majority of objects recovered during the metal detecting survey have been identified and confirmed as being of post-medieval or modern in date.

7.1.2 LiDAR survey data, enhanced by topographic survey, recorded extant ridge and furrow and extant field boundaries within the Site.

7.1.3 The field evaluation did not expose any archaeologically significant features or identify any remains associated with any potential occupation or land use pre-dating the formation of the ridge and furrow earthworks in the late medieval/ early post medieval period. The archaeology present included ridge and furrow, a boundary in Trench 3 later recut along the same alignment, a former field boundary in Trenches 5 and 6, and two pits in Trench 6. No trace of a former field boundary was found in Trench 7.



8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum and Archive

- 8.1.1 The Site archive, including the project record and cultural material from the survey, will be prepared in accordance with guidance issued by the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF) (Brown 2011) and the IfA Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (2009), and in consultation with Cheshire West Museum Services.
- 8.1.2 A policy of very selective retention for long-term curation is proposed for the metal detecting finds, focusing on less common items of intrinsic interest (a maximum of 15 objects). No further conservation treatments are warranted. The objects that are to be retained should be air-dried, gently brushed to remove loose soil, and packaged appropriately, with sufficient support and protection, and in a stable airtight environment (with drying agent). Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.
- 8.1.3 The evaluation finds assemblage has also been recorded to an appropriate archive level. Retention for long-term storage is not recommended, and the finds will be discarded prior to archive deposition.
- 8.1.4 The archive will be deposited with the Grosvenor Museum under Accession Number CHEGM:2014.141. Copies of the report will be submitted to Julie Edwards. One bound and one digital copy will be provided to the Cheshire HER and also uploaded as part of the ADS OASIS database records.
- 8.1.5 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code 103380.

8.2 Discard Policy

- 8.2.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993; 1995), 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 Security Copy

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.



9 REFERENCES

- Brown, D. H. 2011. *Archaeological archives – a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*. Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition).
- Bailey, G. 1995. *Detector Finds 2*. Greenlight Publishing, Chelmsford.
- Bailey, G. 1999. *Detector Finds*. Greenlight Publishing, Chelmsford. (3rd revised edition)
- CgMs. 2014. Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall, Cheshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for Programme of Archaeological Works PC/SM/16915/01.
- IfA. 2008. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*.
- IfA. 2009. *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*.
- MetroMOLA. 2012. Land off Harding Avenue, Tattenhall. Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment. Unpublished Report MT062 HES-001 Rev A.
- SMA. 1993. Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Society of Museum Archaeologists.
- SMA. 1995. Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive. Society of Museum Archaeologists.
- Whitehead, R. 1996. *Buckles 1250-1800*. Greenlight Publishing, Chelmsford.



10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Material Recovered by Metal Detecting Survey

| Function | Object type | Copper Alloy | Iron | Lead/Lead Alloy | Other Metal | Silver | Composite | Total |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|------|-----------------|-------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| AGRICULTURE | nose ring | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| COINS & TOKENS | coin/token | 20 | | | | | | 20 |
| | token | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| FIXTURES & FITTINGS | decorated plate | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| | fitting | 10 | 1 | 1 | | | | 12 |
| | handle | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| | hinge | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | nail | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| | nut | | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT | candle holder? | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| | cutlery | 4 | | 1 | | | | 5 |
| | oil lamp | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| | padlock | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | vessel | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | weight | | | | 7 | | | 7 |
| LEISURE | barrel lock | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | barrel tap | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | key | 2 | | | | | | 2 |
| | whistle | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| MILITARY EQUIPMENT | cartridge | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| | shot | | | | 4 | | | 4 |



10.2 Appendix 2: Summary of Contexts

| Trench 1 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.38m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 101 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.23m |
| 102 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.23 – 0.30m |
| 103 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.30m+ |

| Trench 2 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.33m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 201 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.18m |
| 202 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.18 – 0.26m |
| 203 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.26m+ |
| 204 | Furrow - Reddish brown sandy clay | 0.26m+ |

| Trench 3 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.35m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 301 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.23m |
| 302 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.23 – 0.29m |
| 303 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.29m+ |
| 304 | Furrow - Reddish brown sandy clay | |
| 305 | Fill of Modern Ditch - Grey black silty clay | |
| 306 | Cut - Modern Ditch recut of 307 | |
| 307 | Fill - Secondary fill of Ditch 305. Light orangey brown sandy clay | |

| Trench 4 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.54m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 401 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.26m |
| 402 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.26 – 0.35m |
| 403 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.35m+ |

| Trench 5 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.49m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 501 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.27m |
| 502 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.27 – 0.37m |
| 503 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.37m+ |
| 504 | Cut - Field boundary | 0.35 – 0.65m |
| 505 | Fill - Secondary Fill of Field boundary | 0.35 – 0.65m |

| Trench 6 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.60m |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 601 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.26m |
| 602 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.26 – 0.34m |
| 603 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.34m+ |
| 604 | Cut - Subcircular clay lined pit | 0.60 – 0.92m |
| 605 | Fill - Yellow clay, upper fill of pit | 0.60 – 0.92m |
| 606 | Fill - Layer of charcoal | 0.60 – 0.92m |
| 607 | Fill - Blue clay 'lining' of pit | 0.60 – 0.92m |
| 608 | Cut - Field boundary | 0.21 – 0.61m |
| 609 | Fill - Secondary Fill of Field boundary, dark grey silty clay | 0.21 – 0.61m |
| 610 | Cut - Small circular feature/pit, cutting 604 | 0.60 – 0.92m |
| 611 | Fill: Fill of 610, pale yellow sandy clay, charcoal | 0.60 – 0.92m |



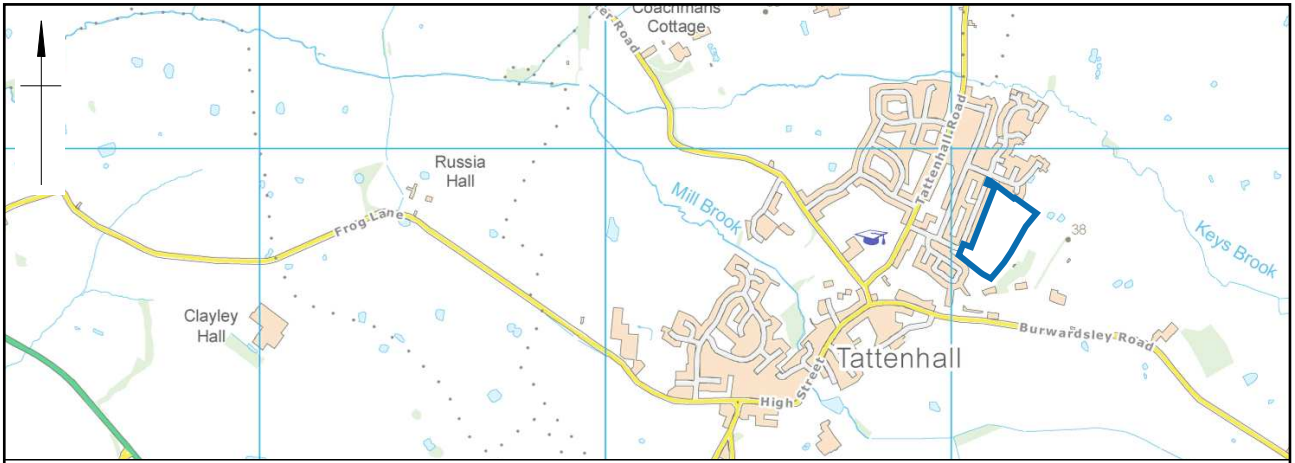
| Trench 7 | | Dimensions: 50 x 2m; Max depth: 0.70m |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 701 | Topsoil - Dark greyish brown silty sand | 0 – 0.26m |
| 702 | Subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty sand | 0.26 – 0.34m |
| 703 | Natural - Light orangey brown sandy clay | 0.34m+ |
| 704 | Bioturbation - silvery white patches mottled with black spots, decayed clay, animal action | 0.34m+ |




10.3 Appendix 3: Material Recovered during Field Evaluation

| Context | Glass | Metal | Pottery | Other Finds |
|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 101 | | | 1/8 | |
| Tr 2 U/S | 1/10 | | 5/58 | |
| 301 | | | 6/26 | |
| 304 | 9/120 | | 6/152 | 5 clay pigeon; 1 CBM |
| 306 | | | 1/245 | |
| Tr 3 U/S | | 1 Cu | | |
| 401 | | | 4/16 | |
| 501 | 3/4 | | 24/376 | 1 CBM |
| 505 | 1/142 | | 1/18 | |
| 601 | | | 4/12 | |
| U/S | | 2 Cu; 15 Fe; 1 misc metal | 44/450 | |
| TOTAL | 14/276 | 3 Cu; 15 Fe; 1 misc. metal | 96/1361 | |

All finds by material type (number / weight in grammes)



| | | |
|---|---|--------------------|
|  | <small>Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2012. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</small> | |
| | Date: 01/05/2014 | Revision Number: 0 |
| | Scale: 1:2000 @ A4 | Illustrator: CS |
| | Path: Y:\Projects\103380 (Tattenhall, Cheshire)\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\2014-03-13 | |

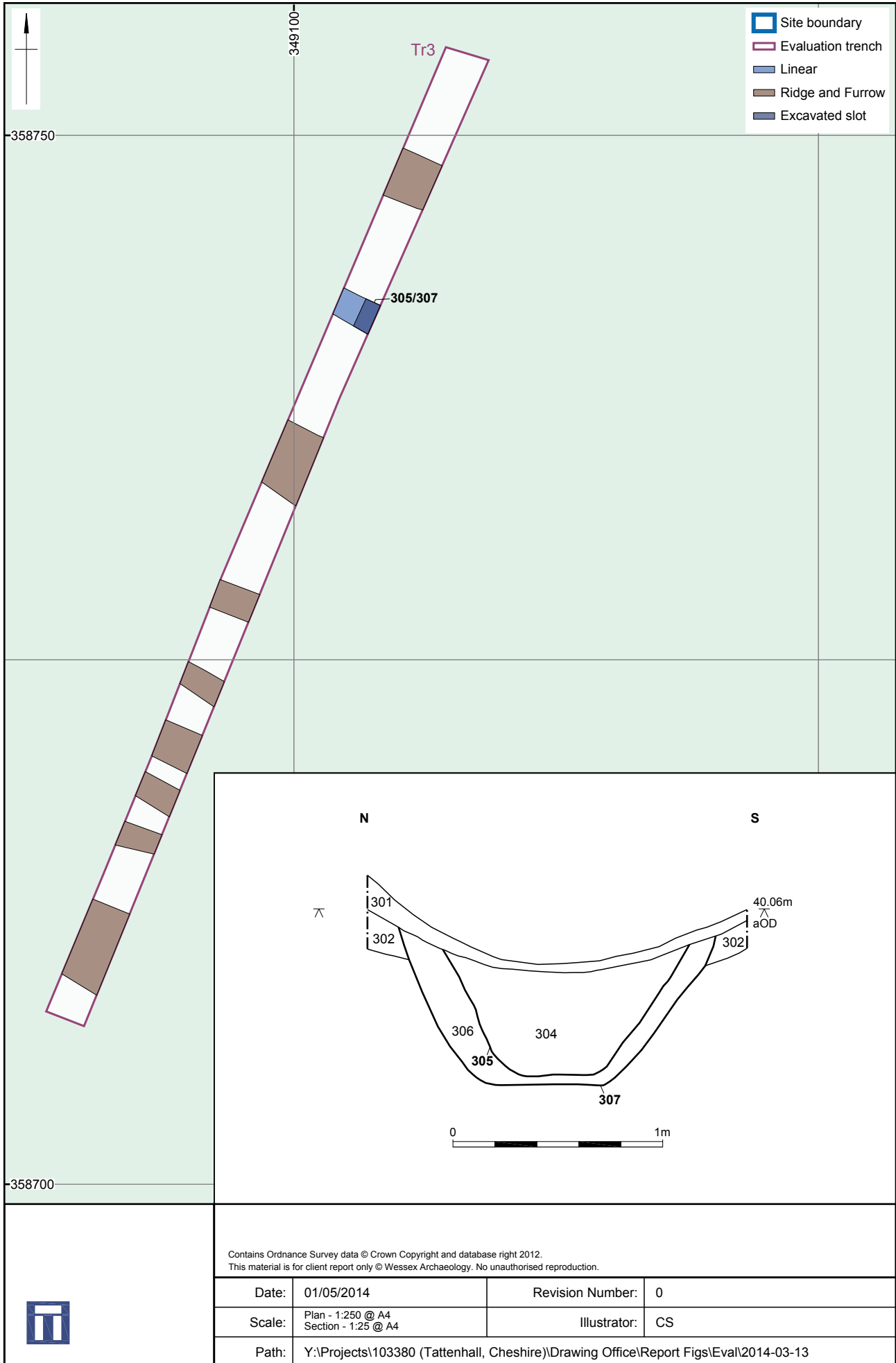
Site and trench location

Figure 1



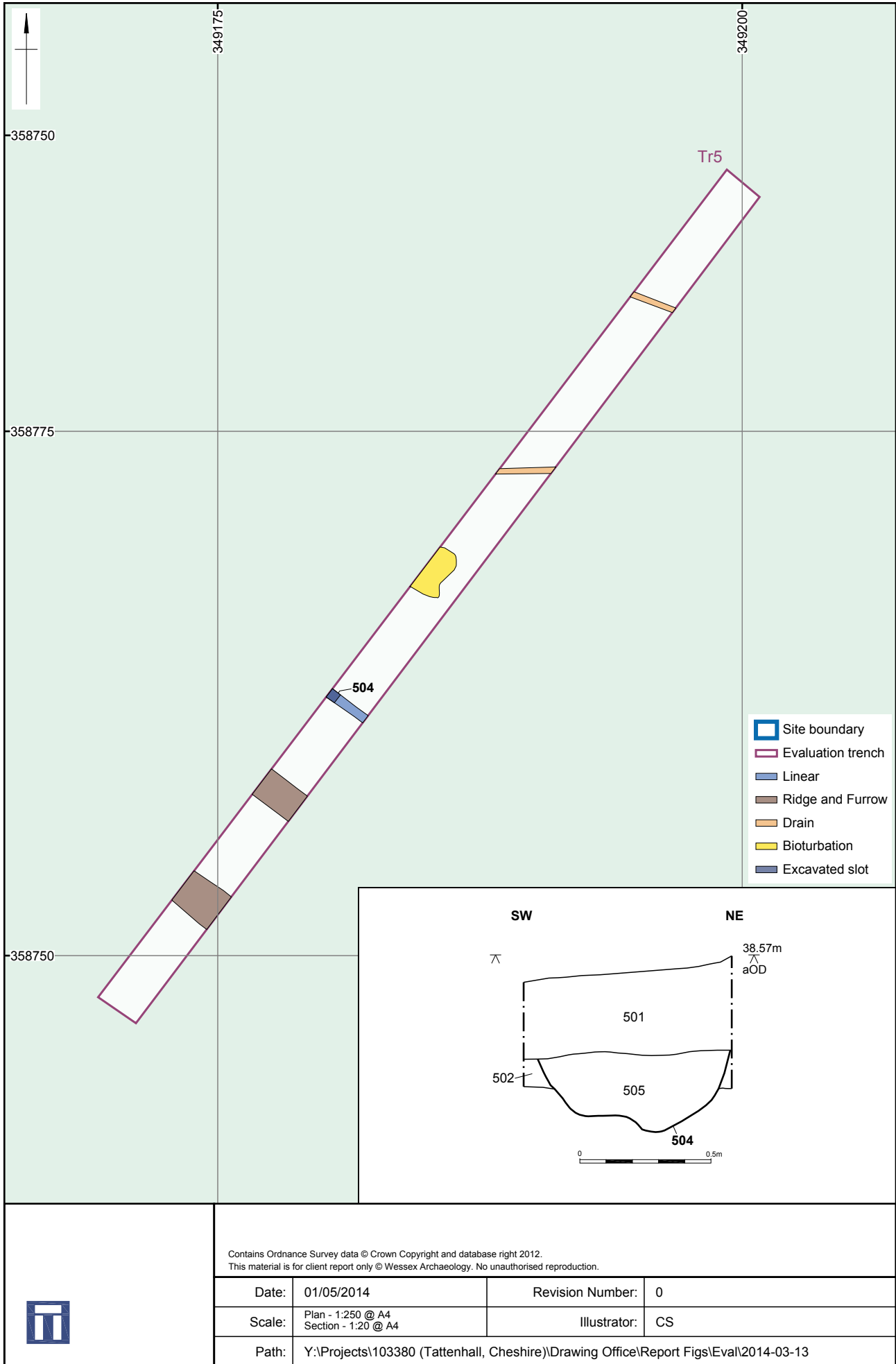
LiDAR data and hachure plan (LiDAR and topographic survey)

Figure 2



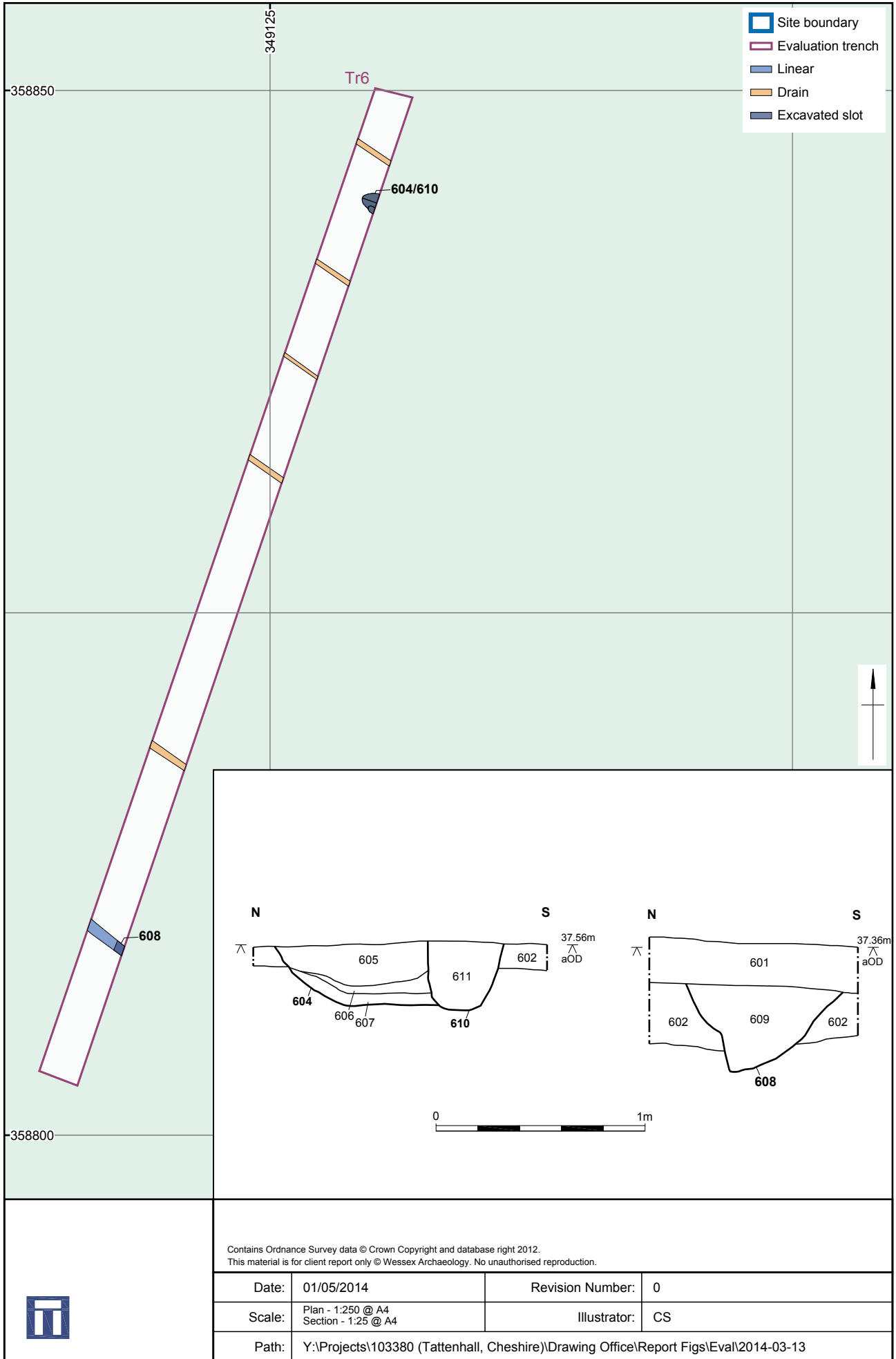
Trench 3: Plan with north facing section of 305 & 307

Figure 3



Trench 5: Plan with south-east facing section of 504

Figure 4



Trench 6: Plan with north facing section of 608 and east facing section of pit 604

Figure 5



Plate 1: Lead weight, discoid in form, recovered during metal detecting survey



Plate 2: Boundary ditch in **Trench 3**, looking south


| | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------|----|
|  | This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction. | | | |
| | Date: | 01/05/2014 | Revision Number: | 0 |
| | Scale: | N/A | Illustrator: | CS |
| | Path: | Y:\Projects\103380 (Tattenhall, Cheshire)\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\2014-03-13\plates.cdr | | |



Plate 3: Boundary ditch in **Trench 5**, looking north-west



Plate 4: Boundary ditch in **Trench 6**, looking south



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------|----|
|  | This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction. | | | |
| | Date: | 01/05/2014 | Revision Number: | 0 |
| | Scale: | N/A | Illustrator: | CS |
| | Path: | Y:\Projects\103380 (Tattenhall, Cheshire)\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\2014-03-13\plates.cdr | | |



Plate 5: East facing section of pit **604**, **Trench 6**, looking west

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------|----|
|  | This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction. | | | |
| | Date: | 01/05/2014 | Revision Number: | 0 |
| | Scale: | N/A | Illustrator: | CS |
| | Path: | Y:\Projects\103380 (Tattenhall, Cheshire)\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\2014-03-13\plates.cdr | | |



wessex archaeology

salisbury rochester sheffield edinburgh



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

