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Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Ref: 108000.03
May 2015

archaeology

Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by JJ Gallagher Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road (NGR SJ 75487 07312), near Shifnal, Shropshire.

The work follows on from previous Desk-Based Assessment (CSa Environmental Planning, 2013) and Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2014). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, Wessex Archaeology 2015a), outlining a methodology for the evaluation, was submitted to, and approved by, the Shropshire Council Archaeology Service (SCAS), prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

A limited number of archaeological features were identified in five out of twenty-one trenches; however, dating evidence was completely absent and no informative environmental material was recovered. The vast majority of the site is devoid of any significant archaeology.

Five undated linear ditches and a gully were observed in **Trenches 21**, **25** and **27**, and a further undated gully was seen in **Trench 40**. An undated pit was also seen in **Trench 28**. Only the linear features in **Trench 25** shared their alignment with sporadic geophysical linear anomalies in the wider area interpreted as remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation (Stratascan 2014). However, the identification of these archaeological features as furrows is not likely; furrows would be expected to be evenly spaced along the trenches, especially given the depth of the surviving features. The features also lacked the characteristic appearance that many furrows exhibit. The ditches in **Trench 21** and **27** shared a north-south alignment, but only the feature in **Trench 27** roughly correlated with the location of a linear geophysical anomaly interpreted as a land drain. The profiles and fills varied across the features. Evaluation on the adjacent site and land to the north (Wessex Archaeology 2015b) also revealed several, mostly undated, linear features on varying north-east to south west, north to south and north-west to south-east alignments. The feature fills on these sites were of a common type (Wessex Archaeology 2015b), in contrast to this site where the fills were more varied.

Apart from demonstrating a limited number of archaeological features, the correlation of the results of the evaluation with those of the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014) was poor. The date of the features observed was unclear. The absence of material evidence suggests these features are not associated with settlement and are most likely medieval or post-medieval agricultural features of little archaeological significance.

The archive of the archaeological evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code **108000**. It is recommended that the project archive be deposited at Shropshire Museum under an accession number to be determined. An OASIS form, ID number **wessexar1-206956** has been provisionally completed and will be finally submitted at the time of deposition.

Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire

Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was commissioned by JJ Gallagher Limited and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to them in this regard. The assistance of the Archaeology Service Historic Environment Team at Shropshire Country Council is also acknowledged. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Richard O'Neill. Fieldwork was directed by Laurence Savage, and undertaken by Laurence Savage and Lucy Reddin. This report was written by Ashley Tuck with assistance from Gabrielle Kinney, and illustrated by Chris Breeden and Alix Sperr. The environmental samples were processed and analysed by Ellen Simmons.

Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire

Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by JJ Gallagher Limited (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road (NGR SJ 75487 07312), near Shifnal, Shropshire, hereafter 'the Site', (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The Site is proposed for residential development and has been subject to archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (CSA Environmental Planning 2013) and a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014). Following this work and discussions with Shropshire Council Archaeology Service (SCAS) Historic Environment Team, it was agreed that a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching would be required to confirm the nature of the geophysical anomalies.

1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailing the methodology for the evaluation, was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (2015a), and was submitted to, and approved by, SCAS in advance of fieldwork commencement. All work was carried out in accordance with current industry guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a - 2014c).

1.1.4 A concurrent evaluation was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology on land adjacent to the north-west of the Site, for Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd., and the results of this work are detailed in a separate report (Wessex Archaeology 2015b).

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site consists of three arable fields (**Figure 1**), bounded to the south by residential developments, to the north by a railway line, to the east by further arable land and to the west by arable land that was archaeologically evaluated at the same time as this Site (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming). The four fields evaluated across the two Sites south of the railway totalled 14 hectares.

1.3 Topography

1.3.1 The Site slopes gently down from the south-east to the north-west from 98m to 83.5m aOD.

1.4 Geology

1.4.1 The bedrock geology across the Site comprises sandstone of the Bridgnorth formation. Glaciofluvial sands and gravels are recorded as superficial deposits across most of the Site, with areas of till in the south-west (British Geological Survey viewer http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following section summarises the archaeological background of the Site provided in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2015a), and derived from the Desk-Based Assessment (CSa Environmental Planning 2013).

2.2 Medieval

2.2.1 Shifnal is recorded in the 11th century and the north-south aligned street through the town, which lies approximately 500m to the west of the Site, is likely to be of pre-13th century date. Ridge and furrow earthworks are recorded from aerial photographs on Site which may be medieval in date. A deer park is recorded in 1369 within the southern part of the present day settlement of Shifnal although it is not known whether this extended into the Site.

2.3 Post medieval

2.3.1 The Shrewsbury & Birmingham Railway forming the northern boundary of the Site was built in 1848. A stream running south to feed a fishpond is recorded as being present on late 19th century Ordnance Survey mapping north of the Site. However, this feature was not marked on the consulted Ordnance Survey map of 1881. A brickfield with a 19th century brick kiln is also recorded to the north. The Smithfield Cattle Market was to the west, along with a school shown on the 1840 Shifnal tithe map and a former toll house. A possible ornamental canal is marked immediately adjacent to the Site on the 1840 Shifnal tithe map and this is referred to on an 1882 Ordnance Survey map as a fishpond with a boat house. This feature lies within the former grounds of the 19th century Park House, now covered by housing. The Coalport Works, a wire mill and chain works of 19th century and later date, is recorded approximately 150m to the east.

2.4 Conservation areas

2.4.1 The Shifnal and Shifnal Broadway Conservation Areas are located to the west of the Site. A number of listed buildings are included within these conservation areas and further listings exist outside of them. In addition the Grade II* listed Aston Hall is located to the north of the Site, and the Grade II listed Uplands is located approximately 350m to the south-west of the Site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General

3.1.1 The detailed methodology for the work can be found in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2015a). A 2% sample of the Site was excavated, requiring 19 50m long evaluation trenches and two 25m long trenches. These trenches were labelled as **Trenches 21-40**.

3.2 Machine excavation

3.2.1 Topsoil was removed using a 360˚ mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under the continuous direct supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist. Topsoil and overburden were removed in a series of level spits down to the level of the upper archaeological horizon, or the level of the natural geology, whichever was reached first.

3.2.2 All spoil was scanned with a metal detector however no artefacts were recovered using this technique.

3.3 Hand excavation

3.3.1 Surfaces were cleaned when necessary to allow inspection and to define the extent of any archaeological features and deposits. Archaeological features were hand excavated but the complete excavation of features was not regarded as necessary for the evaluation, and care was taken not to compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits, which may be deemed suitable for preservation by record or preservation in situ. However, excavation was sufficient to understand and record the full stratigraphic sequence, down to naturally occurring deposits.

3.3.2 The following minimum sample-excavation strategy was employed:

- *50% of discrete features/deposits;*
- *Minimum 20% of all linear features, with a minimum section-width of 1m;*
- *Other features and deposits (such as walls and floors) will be excavated sufficient to meet the aims of the evaluation.*

3.3.3 Written and drawn records were made of the stratigraphy within the trench, even if no archaeological deposits were identified. Full written and drawn records of all excavated contexts were made in accordance with best archaeological practice. Archaeological deposits that were not excavated were recorded to the maximum extent possible.

3.3.4 Records include overall Site plans. All archaeological features were related to Ordnance Survey datum and to the National Grid. Survey was undertaken using an RTK GPS system.

3.4 Recording

3.4.1 All deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system. This written record is hierarchically based and centred on the context record. Each context record fully describes the location, extent, composition and relationship of the subject and will be cross-referenced to all other assigned records. Context numbers used in the evaluation have not been repeated.

3.4.2 A photographic record was maintained using 35mm monochrome film and digital images. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features.

3.5 Finds

3.5.1 No archaeological artefacts were recovered from the Site.

3.6 Environmental samples

3.6.1 All sealed and stratified archaeological contexts were considered for standard environmental sampling. Bulk soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal and fish bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits. The collection and processing of environmental samples was undertaken in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2011). Further detail is provided in **Section 7** below.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 General

4.1.1 The aims of the project were:

- *to confirm or otherwise the results of the existing geophysical survey;*
- *to record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;*
- *to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made about the need for additional archaeological mitigation; and,*
- *to make available the results of the work.*

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following section provides a summary of the information held in the Site archive, with a full list of context numbers and context descriptions contained in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 General stratigraphy

5.2.1 Most commonly the geological substrate was pinkish red clay (e.g. **2103**), as seen in **Trenches 21**, **22**, and **30**-**40** or variable silty clay or clayey silt as seen in **Trenches 23**-**29** and **36**.

5.2.2 Subsoil was present in all trenches and was variable. The depth of subsoil varied from 0.08m to 0.3m.

5.2.3 Topsoil was uniform across the site and between 0.25m and 0.32m deep, except for **Trench 21** where it was 0.2m thick.

5.3 Ditches, gullies and a pit in Trenches 21, 25, 27, 28 and 40

5.3.1 A series of probable post-medieval ditches, two gullies and a pit were seen in **Trenches 21**, **25**, **27**, **28** and **40**.

5.3.2 Two parallel ditches were seen in **Trench 21**. Ditch **2104** (**Figure 2**, **Plate 1**), was 1m wide and 0.3m deep with a dark red brown gravelly sand fill (**2105**). **2104** was re-cut as a small gully 0.3m wide and 0.15m deep (**2112**), with red brown sand fill (**2106**).

5.3.3 **2107** was a ditch terminus in **Trench 21** with a series of fills (**Figure 2**, **Plate 2**). Ditch **2107** was 1m wide and 0.5m deep and was almost 'V'-shaped. The fills, all interpreted as secondary, were gravelly sand **2110**, **2111** and **2109**, and sandy clay **2108**.

5.3.4 In **Trench 25**, **2504** was a roughly 'V' shaped ditch (**Figure 3**, **Plate 3**), 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep, with a very small primary fill (**2506**) of disturbed natural pink red sandy clay, a major secondary fill of mid brown silt sand (**2105**) and a small upper fill (**2507**) of light brown silty sand.

5.3.5 Parallel to **2504** was **2508**, a ditch with a large convex shoulder on the north side, 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep (**Figure 3**, **Plate 4**). Ditch **2508** had a small primary fill of mid brown sandy silt bank slump (**2509**) and a main fill of redeposited natural pink red clay (**2510**).

5.3.6 A small (0.3m wide and 0.15m deep) gully (**2511**, **Figure 3**, **Plate 5**) was also present running in the same direction (northwest-southeast) in **Trench 25**. Gully **2511** was filled with light yellow grey sand (**2512**).

5.3.7 A north-south aligned ditch (**2706**, **Figure 4**, **Plate 6**) was seen in **Trench 27**. Ditch **2706** was 0.8m wide and 0.34m deep, with two fills, a large mixed dark greyish and white silty sand primary fill (**2705**) and a dark grey sandy silt fill (**2704**). The position of the ditch roughly correlated with a linear geophysical survey anomaly interpreted as a land drain, but was on a different alignment.

5.3.8 A pit (**2804**) was seen in the section of **Trench 28**, 1.1m by 0.5m by 0.2m deep. Pit **2804** had a single fill, **2805**, dark grey silty sand.

5.3.9 A small northwest-southeast aligned gully (**4004**, **Figure 6**, **Plate 8**) was present in **Trench 40**, 0.6m wide and 0.16m deep, with a single fill of mid yellow brown sand (**4005**).

5.4 Tree throws

5.4.1 Many tree throws were present on Site. Some of these were assigned context numbers (e.g. **2206**) but the majority were not recorded.

6 FINDS

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 No archaeological artefacts were recovered from the Site.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 One bulk sample of forty litres in volume was taken from undated linear feature fill **2105**. The sample was taken in order to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. The sample was processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and wood charcoal.

7.2 Charred plant remains and wood charcoal

7.2.1 The bulk sample was processed by standard flotation methods using a water separation machine. Floating material was collected in a 300µm mesh, and the remaining heavy residue retained in a 1mm mesh. The flot and heavy residue were air dried. The residue was scanned for metallurgical debris such as hammer scale, using a large magnet and the > 2mm fraction of the heavy residue was fully sorted for organic remains and artefacts, weighed and then discarded. Where no potential for the recovery of < 2mm artefacts, such as fish bone or beads was noted, the < 2mm fraction of the heavy residue was also then weighed and discarded.

7.2.2 The sample was assessed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines for environmental archaeology assessments (Jones, 2011). The main aim of this assessment was to determine the concentration, diversity, state of preservation and suitability for use in radiocarbon dating, of any archaeobotanical material present within the sample. A further aim was to evaluate the potential of this material to provide evidence for the function of the contexts, the economy of the site or for the nature of the local environment.

7.2.3 A preliminary assessment of the sample was made by scanning under a low power binocular microscope (x7-x45) and recording the abundance of the main classes of material present. This data is recorded in **Table 1**. Preliminary identification of plant material was carried out by comparison with material in the reference collections at the Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield and various reference works (e.g. Cappers et al, 2006). Cereal identifications and nomenclature follow Jacomet (2006). Other plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010).

7.2.4 A moderate proportion of intrusive roots were present in the sample. No charred plant remains or wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size were present.

7.2.5 **Sample 1** from linear feature fill **2105** contained a moderate proportion of intrusive roots and no charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size. No charred plant remains were present.

7.3 Further potential

Charred plant remains

7.3.1 No charred cereal grains or other identifiable charred plant remains were present in the sample. No further analysis of the charred plant remains assemblage would be recommended due to the low quantities of material present. No charred plant remains suitable for radiocarbon dating were present.

Wood charcoal

7.3.2 Wood charcoal was present in low quantities in **Sample 1** from undated linear feature fill **2105**. The low proportion of wood charcoal present in this sample suggests that domestic or other activity involving fire was not being carried out in the vicinity during the deposition of this fill. No wood charcoal suitable for further analysis was present in the sample. No wood charcoal suitable for use in radiocarbon dating was present in the sample.

Table 1: Environmental data

Samples				Flot								
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other	Analysis
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments			
2104	2105	1	40	5	50						vesicular indeterminate material (C)	

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C= < 5.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Summary

8.1.1 A limited number of archaeological features were identified in five out of twenty-one trenches; however, dating evidence was completely absent and no informative environmental material was recovered. The vast majority of the Site is devoid of any significant archaeology.

8.1.2 Five undated linear ditches and a gully were observed in **Trenches 21**, **25** and **27**, and a further undated gully was seen in **Trench 40**. An undated pit was also seen in **Trench 28**. Only the linear features in **Trench 25** shared their alignment with sporadic geophysical linear anomalies in the wider area interpreted as remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation (Stratascan 2014). However, the identification of these archaeological features as furrows is not likely; furrows would be expected to be evenly spaced along the trenches, especially given the depth of the surviving features. The features also lacked the characteristic appearance that many furrows exhibit. The ditches in **Trench 21** and **27** shared a north-south alignment, but only the feature in **Trench 27** roughly correlated with the location of a linear geophysical anomaly interpreted as a land drain. The profiles and fills varied across the features. Evaluation on the adjacent site and land to the north (Wessex Archaeology 2015b) also revealed several, mostly undated, linear features on varying north-east to south west, north to south and north-west to south-east alignments. The feature fills on these sites were of a common type (Wessex Archaeology 2015b), in contrast to this site where the fills were more varied.

8.2 Conclusions

Apart from demonstrating a limited number of archaeological features, the correlation of the results of the evaluation with those of the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014) was poor. The date of the features observed was unclear. The absence of material evidence suggests these features are not associated with settlement and are most likely medieval or post-medieval agricultural features of little archaeological significance.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive of the archaeological evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code **108000**. It is likely that the project archive will be deposited at Shropshire Museum in due course.

9.1.2 An OASIS form, ID number **wessexar1-206956** has been provisionally completed and will be completed at the time of deposition.

9.2 Preparation of archive

9.2.1 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Shropshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). All archive elements will be marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared.

9.3 Discard policy

9.3.1 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.

9.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2011).

9.4 Security copy

9.4.1 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.

10 REFERENCES

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10.2 Online sources

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11 APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1: Context descriptions

Trench 21		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2101	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.2**
2102	**Subsoil:** Red brown clay sand	**0.2-0.37**
2103	**Natural:** pink-red clay	**0.37+**
2104	**Cut:** E-W Ditch, linear, 2m+ by 1m by 0.3m deep	**0.37-0.67**
2105	**Fill of 2104:** Dull red brown gravelly sand	**0.37-0.67**
2106	**Fill of 2112:** Red brown sand	**0.37-0.15**
2107	**Cut:** E-W Ditch, terminus, 1m by 1m by 0.5m deep	**0.37-0.87**
2108	**Fill of 2113:** Pink red sandy clay	**0.37-87**
2109	**Fill of 2107:** Red sandy gravel	**0.37-0.87**
2110	**Fill of 2107:** Yellow red gravelly sand	**0.37-0.47**
2111	**Fill of 2107:** Yellow red sandy gravel	**0.37-**
2112	**Cut:** NE-SW Ditch recut, linear, 2m+ by 0.3m by 0.15m deep	**0.37-52**
2113	**Cut:** NE-SW Ditch, terminus recut, 1m by 0.5m by 0.5m deep	**0.37-87**

Trench 22		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2201	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.25**
2202	**Subsoil:** Red brown sandy clay	**0.25-0.45**
2203	**Natural:** Pink red clay, appears to have tilted sedimentary rock and large bands of sand angled down to 45° facing N	**0.45+**
2204	**Natural:** Sand layer angled 45° facing N and protruding into base TR base, Pink and white natural, brown staining to top	**0.45+**
2205	**Natural:** Geological layer see (2204)	**0.45+**
2206	**Tree Throw:** Fill of tree throw	**0.45-0.7**
2207	**Natural:** Geological layer see (2204)	**0.45+**

Trench 23		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2301	**Topsoil:** Medium brown sandy silt	**0-0.28**
2302	**Subsoil:** Yellowish reddy brown sandy silt	**0.28-0.50**
2303	**Natural:** Dark reddish brown silty clay	**0.50+**
2304	**Natural:** Geological- yellowish red clay silt	**0.5+**
2305	**Tree Throw:** Fill of tree throw, dark greyish to white yellow	**0.5+**
2306	**Natural:** Same as (2304), natural, geological	**0.5+**

Trench 24		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2401	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.26**
2402	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red sandy silt	**0.26-0.50**
2403	**Natural:** Yellow reddish brown	**0.50+**
2404	**Tree Throw:** Tree throw, light greyish yellow	**0.5+**

Trench 25		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2501	**Topsoil:** mid brown silty sand	**0-0.31**
2502	**Subsoil:** Reddish brown silty snad	**0.31-0.54**
2503	**Natural:** Light reddish brown silty clay	**0.58+**
2504	**Cut:** NE-SW Ditch, linear, 2m+ by 1.1m by 0.5m deep	**0.55-1.05**
2505	**Fill of 2504:** Mid brown silty sand	**0.6-1.05**
2506	**Fill of 2504:** Pink red sandy clay	**0.7-0.75**
2507	**Fill of 2504:** Light brown silty sand	**0.55-0.6**
2508	**Cut:** NE-SW Ditch, linear, 2m+ by 1.2m by 0.4m deep	**0.58-98**
2509	**Fill of 2508:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0.58-0.98**
2510	**Fill of 2508:** Pink red clay, a small segment to lower N part of section, 0.1m	**0.58-98**
2511	**Cut:** NE-SW Gully, linear, 2m+ by 0.3m by 0.15m deep	**0.58-0.73**

2512	**Fill of 2511:** Light yellow grey sand	**0.58-0.73**

Trench 26		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BL)**
2601	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.28**
2602	**Subsoil:** Yellowish brown sandy silt	**0.28-0.42**
2603	**Natural:** Reddish yellow silty clay	**0.42+**
2604	**Tree throw:** Tree throw	**0.42+**

Trench 27		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2701	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.24**
2702	**Subsoil:** Reddish yellowy brown sandy silt	**0.24-0.46**
2703	**Natural:** Reddish brown clayey silt	**0.46**
2704	**Fill of 2707:** Dark grey sandy silt	**0.46-0.7**
2705	**Fill of 2706:** Dark greyish, white in some areas silty sand	**0.46-0.8**
2706	**Cut:** NE-SW Ditch, linear, 2m+ by 0.8m by 0.34m deep	**0.46-0.8**
2707	**Cut:** NE-SW Gully cutting 2706, linear, 2m+ by 0.6m by 0.24m deep	**0.46-0.7**

Trench 28		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2801	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.31**
2802	**Subsoil:** Yellowsh brown sandy silt	**0.31-0.52**
2803	**Natural:** Reddish yellow silty clay	**0.52+**
2804	**Cut:** Sub Circular Pit, 1.1m by 0.5m+ by 0.2m deep	**0.52-0.72**
2805	**Fill of 2804:** Dark grey silty sand	**0.52-0.72**

Trench 29		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
2901	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.29**
2902	**Subsoil:** Yellowish brown silty sand	**0.29-0.50**
2903	**Natural:** Yellowish red silty clay	**0.50+**

Trench 30		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3001	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.26**
3002	**Subsoil:** Yellowish reddy brown clayey silt	**0.26-0.48**
3003	**Natural:** Red pink clay	**0.48+**

Trench 31		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3101	**Topsoil:** Mid brown sandy silt	**0-0.31**
3102	**Subsoil:** Reddish brown clayey silt	**0.31-0.54**
3103	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.54+**

Trench 32		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3201	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.28**
3202	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red silty clay	**0.28-0.58**
3203	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.58+**

Trench 33		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3301	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty clay	**0-0.29**
3302	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red silty clay	**0.29-0.56**
3303	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.56+**

Trench 34		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3401	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.28**
3402	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red brown clayey sand	**0.28-0.50**
3403	**Natural:** Pinkish red clayey silt	**0.50+**

Trench 35		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3501	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silt	**0-0.28**
3502	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red sandy silt	**0.28-0.38**
3503	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.38+**

Trench 36		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3601	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.32**
3602	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red silty clay	**032-0.58**
3603	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.58+**
3604	**Natural:** Geology, reddish yellow clayey silt	**0.58+**

Trench 37		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3701	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.26**
3702	**Subsoil:** Yellowish reddy brown silty clay	**0.26-0.34**
3703	**Natural:** Reddish pink clay	**0.34+**

Trench 38		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3801	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silt loam	**0-0.28**
3802	**Subsoil:** Yellow brown silt sand	**0.28-0.47**
3803	**Natural:** Pink red alluvial clay	**0.47+**

Trench 39		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
3901	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.26**
3902	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red silty clay	**0.26-0.54**
3903	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.54+**

Trench 40		
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m BGL)**
4001	**Topsoil:** Mid brown silty sand	**0-0.28**
4002	**Subsoil:** Yellowish red silty clay	**0.28-0.56**
4003	**Natural:** Pinkish red clay	**0.56+**
4004	**Cut:** NE-SW Gully, linear, 2m+ by 0.6m by 0.16m deep	**0.56-0.72**
4005	**Fill of 4004:** Mid yellow brown sand	**0.56-0.72**

11.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-206956

Project details

Project name	Land off Stanton Road and Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd. and JJ Gallagher Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land off Stanton Road (NGR SJ 75557 07698) and Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road (NGR SJ 75439 07370), near Shifnal, Shropshire. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, Wessex Archaeology 2015) was submitted to, and approved by, Shropshire Council Archaeology Service, prior to the commencement of fieldwork. Limited archaeology was identified across the Site and dating evidence was scarce. The only dating evidence recovered was a single perforated sherd of Early Bronze Age beaker pot recovered from a pit in the northern area. The pot was abraded and likely residual in a later context; however, the small pit was itself cut into an earlier larger sub-circular pit, and the likelihood is that the features are of prehistoric date. Pits, gullies and ditches were identified elsewhere on site; however, the majority of features lacked dateable evidence and informative environmental material and most likely represent medieval or post-medieval agricultural features. The results of this evaluation did not correlate strongly with the previous geophysical survey of the site (Stratascan 2014). Most of the archaeological features encountered during the evaluation were located in areas where the geophysical survey did not detect any anomalies.
Project dates	Start: 11-02-2015 End: 24-02-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	108000 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCHES Uncertain
Monument type	PITS Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches'","'Targeted Trenches'"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SHROPSHIRE BRIDGNORTH SHIFNAL Land off Stanton Road and Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire
Postcode	TF11 8SD
Study area	19.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	SJ 75557 07698 52.6660970652 -2.3614741117 52 39 57 N 002 21 41 W Point
Site coordinates	SJ 75439 07370 52.6631428311 -2.36319466359 52 39 47 N 002 21 47 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 83.50m Max: 98.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	R. O'Neill
Project supervisor	Laurence Savage
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd. and Gallagher Homes Ltd.

Project archives

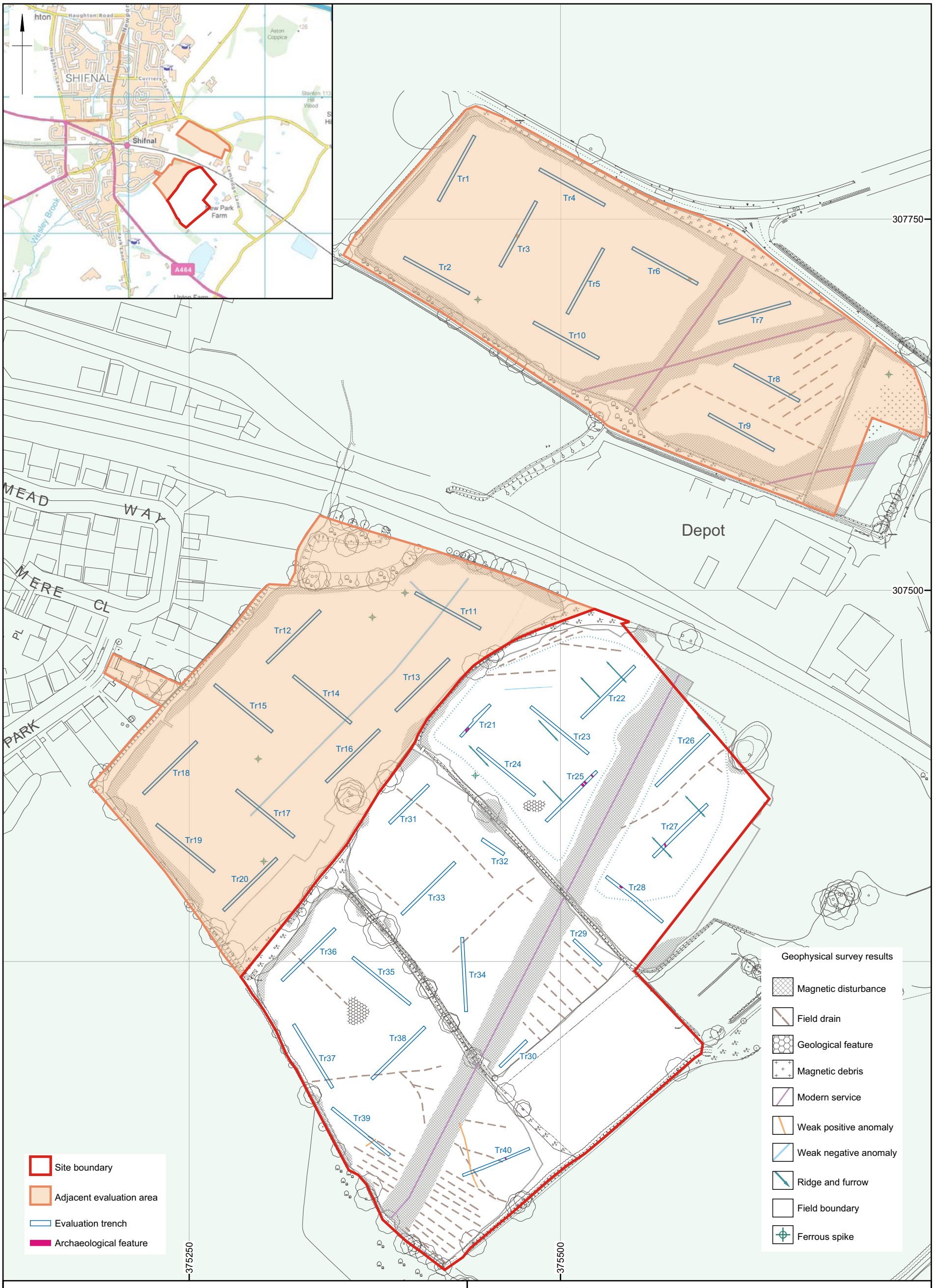
Physical Archive recipient	Shropshire Museum Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Shropshire Museum Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Shropshire Museum Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context

	sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land off Stanton Road and Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire: Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Tuck, A.
Other bibliographic details	108000.02
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	A4 comb bound laser printed report

Project bibliography 2	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land to the North of Wolverhampton Road, Shifnal, Shropshire: Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Tuck, A.
Other bibliographic details	108000.02 and 10800.03
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	A4 comb bound laser printed report

Entered by	Richard O'Neill (r.oneill@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	14 May 2015



Geophysical survey data provided courtesy of Alan Thomas Archaeology and Planning Solutions

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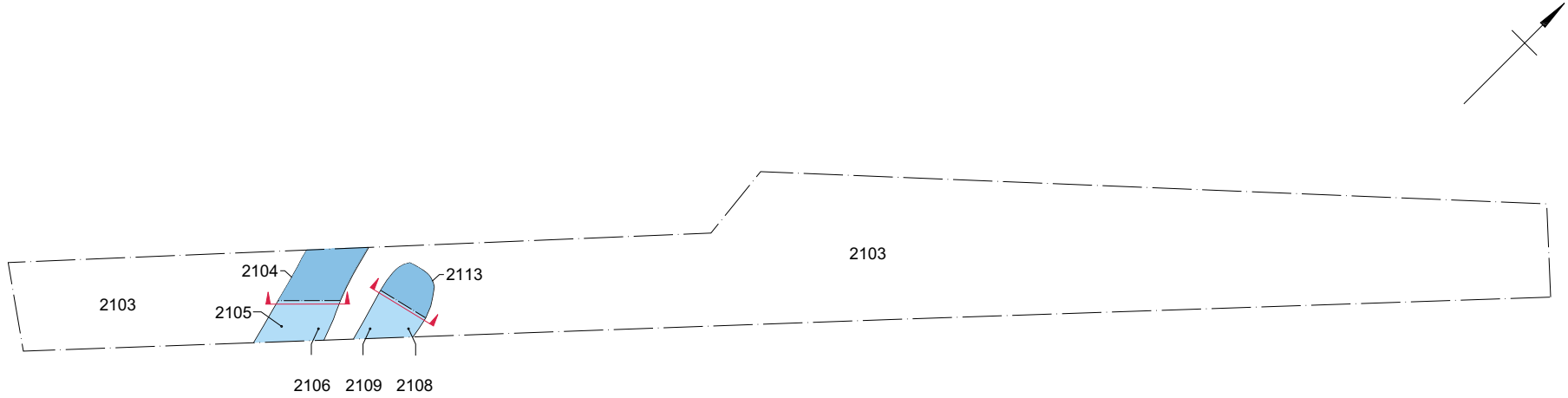
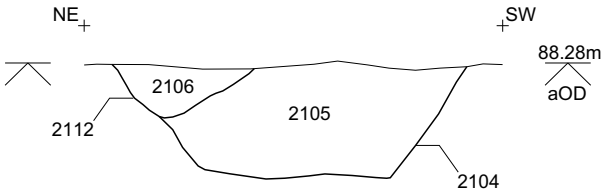
Site and trench plan

Figure 1

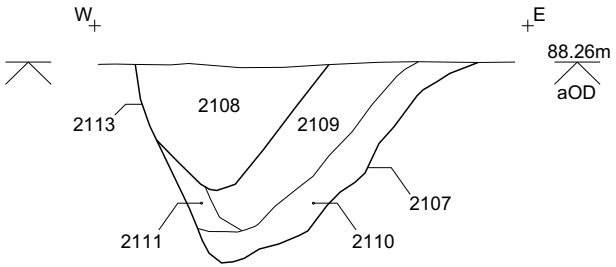


Plan of Trench 21 1:125

0 5m



North-west facing section through features 2104 & 2112 1:20



North facing section through features 2107 & 2113 1:20

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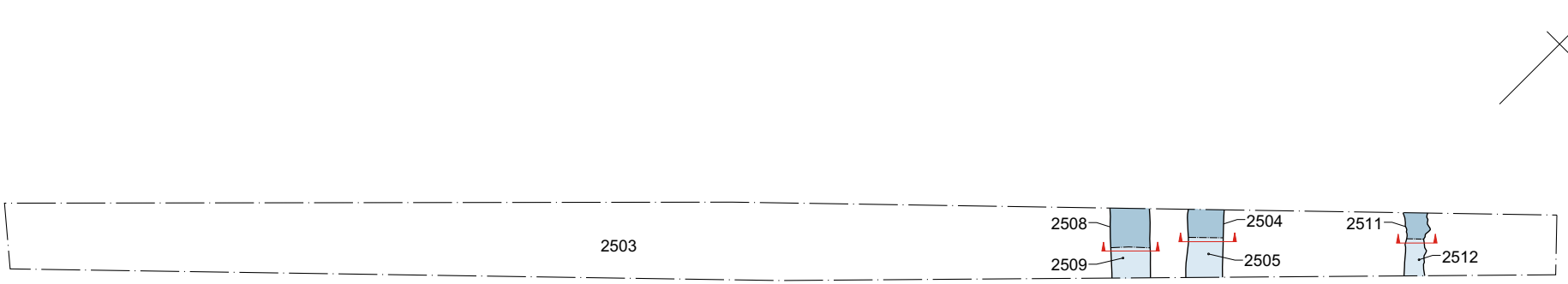
Plan of Trench 21 with sections of ditches 2104 and 2107

Figure 2

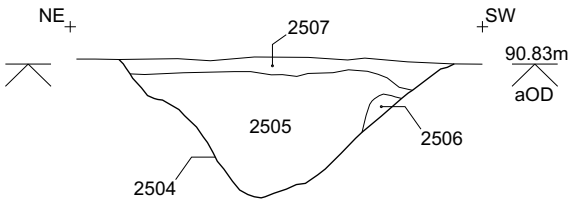


Plan of Trench 25 1:200

0 10m

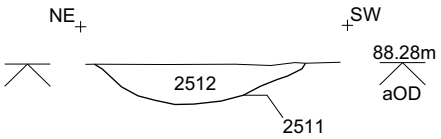
North-west facing section through feature 2508 1:25

0 1m



North-west facing section through feature 2504 1:25

0 1m



North-west facing section through features 25112 1:20

0 0.5m

Archaeology Excavation

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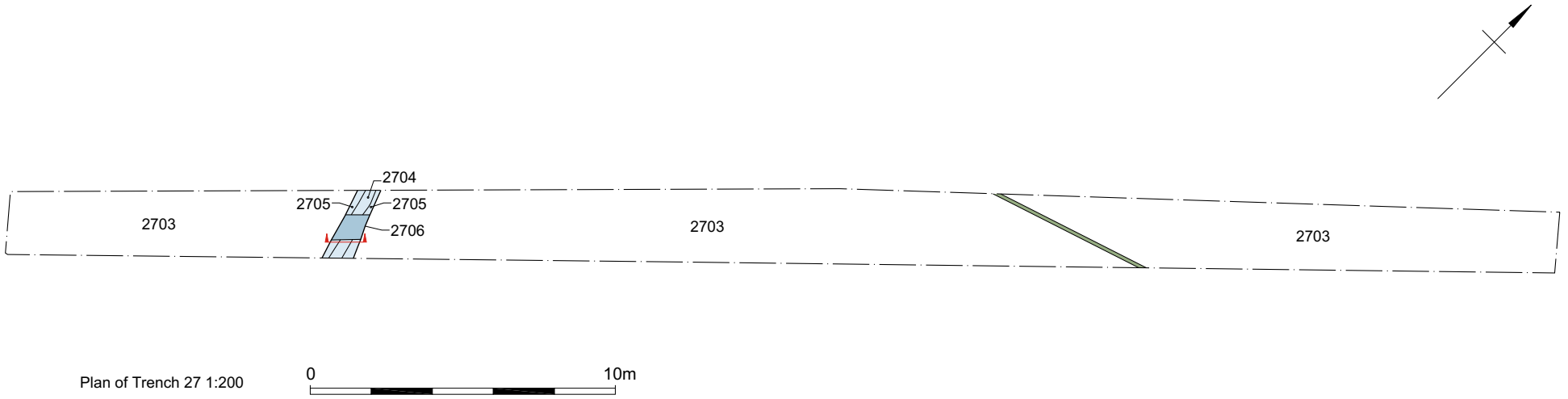
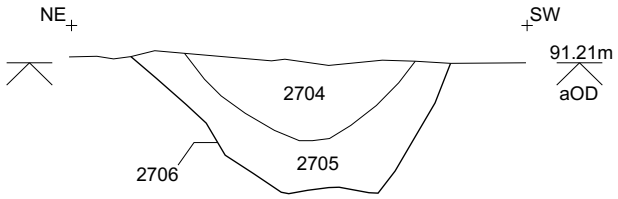
Plan of Trench 25 with sections of ditches 2504, 2508 and 2511

Figure 3



Plan of Trench 27 1:200 0 10m



North-west facing section through feature 2706 1:20

0 1m

Archaeology Excavation Field drain

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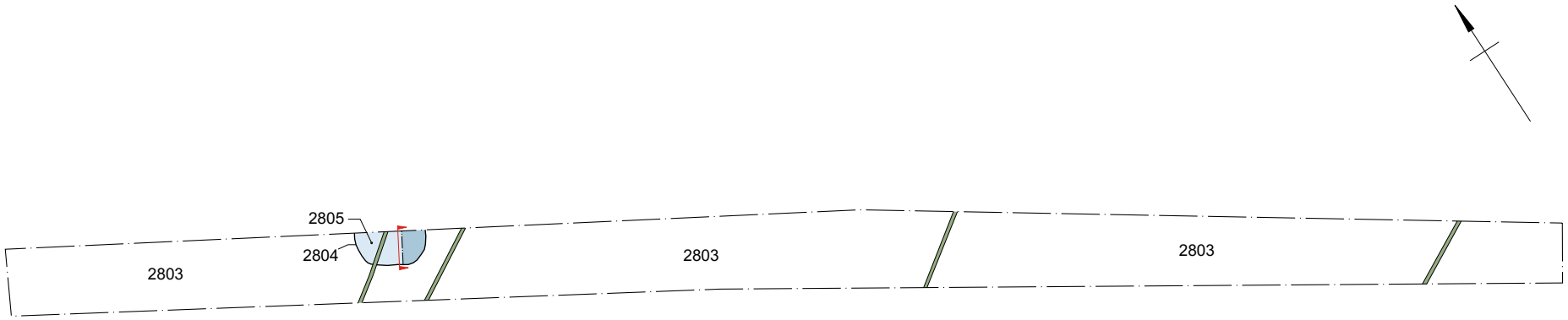
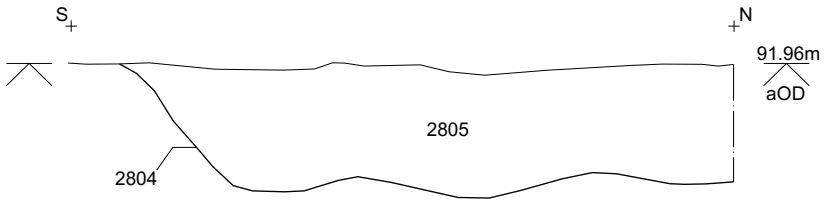
Plan of Trench 27 and section of ditch 2706

Figure 4



Plan of Trench 28 1:200

0 10m



East facing section through pit 2804 1:25

0 1m

Archaeology Excavation Field drain

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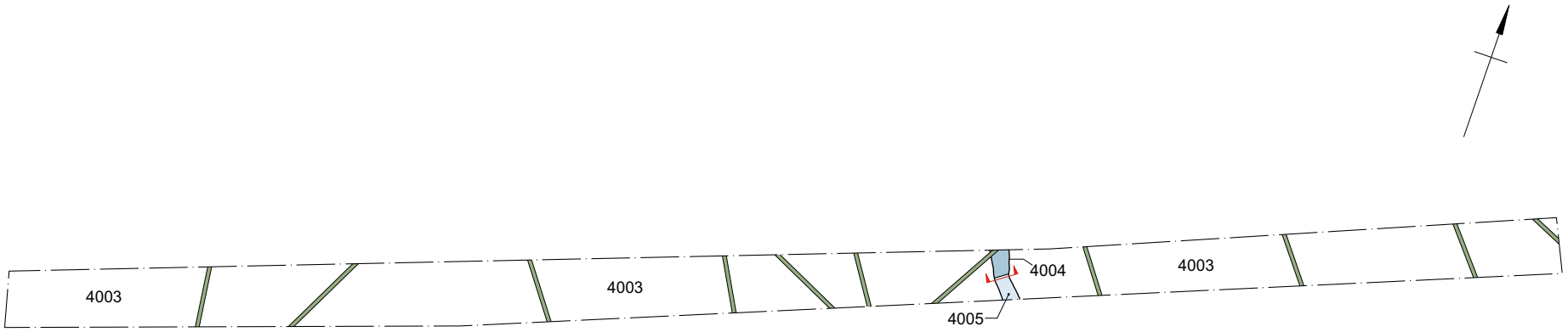
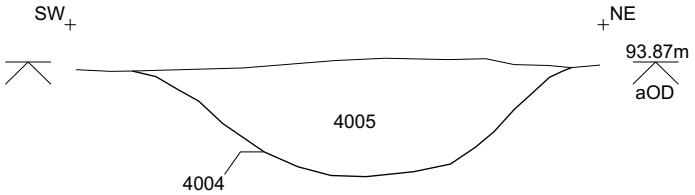
Plan of Trench 28 and section of pit 2804

Figure 5



Plan of Trench 40 1:200

0 10m



East facing section through pit 2804 1:10

0 0.4m

Archaeology Excavation Field drain

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Plan of Trench 40 and section of gully 4004

Figure 6

Plate 1: Ditch **2104** from northwest

Plate 2: Ditch terminus **2107** from northwest

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Plate 3: Ditch **2504** from northwest

Plate 4: Ditch **2508** from northwest

Date:	31/03/2015	Revision Number:	1.0
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Plate 5: Gully **2511** from northwest

Plate 6: Ditch **2706** from west

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Plate 7: Pit **2804** from east

Plate 8: Gully **4004** from southeast

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