



# Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



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**Land off Blacksmiths Lane  
Lower Moor, Worcestershire**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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# Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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# **Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a programme of archaeological work on land off Blacksmiths Lane, Lower Moor, Worcestershire centred on National Grid Reference (NGR 398180, 247099). The archaeological works are in advance of a proposed residential development on the plot (Planning Ref: W/16/00779/PN).

The evaluation works comprised the excavation of four trenches with Romano-British ditches and gullies identified in the two eastern most trenches. The revealed features were indicative of agricultural activity, with no features associated with structural remains. It seems likely that the Romano-British features identified may represent the western limit of the field system associated with the Romano-British Scheduled Monument to the east. A very small quantity of finds were recovered, which comprised six sherds of Romano-British pottery and four unstratified fragments of probable roof tile.

Post-medieval furrows were noted across the Site as well as a series of pits and tree throws of uncertain date.

The project archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's Sheffield office and will be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum in due course. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code yet to be agreed. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.



# **Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire**

## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

### **Acknowledgements**

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by Nathan Thomas of CgMs Consulting.

Thanks are extended to Adrian Scruby, Historic Environment Advisor (HEA), acting on behalf of Worcestershire County Council (WCC), who provided curatorial support and guidance throughout the project.

The fieldwork was carried out by Stuart Pierson, Ciaran O'Neill and Ifi Klopa between April 18th and 21st 2017. Stuart Pierson supervised the excavations and produced this report. Illustrations were prepared by Nancy Dixon. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Chris Swales.

The samples were processed by Liz Chambers and assessed by Inés López-Dóriga and the finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram.





# Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting (hereafter the 'Client') to carry out a programme of archaeological work on land off Blacksmiths Lane, Lower Moor, Worcestershire (Figure 1), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR398180, 247099 hereafter the 'Site'). The archaeological works are in advance of a residential development on the plot (Planning Ref: W/16/00779/PN).

1.1.2 The proposed development is on land close to Spring Hill Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1005352), and following discussion between CgMs and WCC the excavation of four evaluation trenches measuring 35 m by 1.8 m was agreed. WA produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2017) outlining how the work would be carried out, which was approved by WCC.

#### 1.2 Scope of this document

1.2.1 This report provides a brief overview of the archaeological background to the Site, the methodologies employed during fieldwork and the results of the evaluation trenching. In form and content this report conforms to national guidelines (Historic England 2015; ClfA 2014a-c).

#### 1.3 Site location and topography

1.3.1 The Site is located within the settlement of Lower Moor in pastoral land, comprising a rectangular parcel of land of 0.6 hectares (ha) in area (Plates 1-2). Approximately 300 m north of the Site is the A44; the Site is bordered by residential development along Blacksmiths Lane to the north and Bridge Street to the west.

1.3.2 The Site is situated within a relatively flat area of land at an elevation of approximately 26 m to 27 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.3 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped as Lias Group comprising mudstone, siltstone, Limestone and Sandstone, with no superficial deposits (British Geological Survey 2017).

### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 No Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was available for review at the time of writing. As such this background is compiled from recorded heritage assets from the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (WHER). Heritage assets within a 1 km Study Area of the Site were considered in order to provide a context for the discussion and interpretation of



the known and potential historic recourses surrounding the Site. Input from the HEA has also been included.

## **2.2 Prehistoric**

- 2.2.1 A study performed by Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service identified the Site to be an area that is likely to hold potential Palaeolithic remains (Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service 2014).
- 2.2.2 There is also the potential for later prehistoric remains to be present within the Site; a series of cropmarks, unstratified finds, and excavations indicated that extensive settlement activity dating from the Neolithic through to the Iron Age is likely to have occurred (WHER WSM40864). The activity relating to the Neolithic in particular appears to be ritualistic as cropmarks of cursus like features have been identified.

## **2.3 Romano-British**

- 2.3.1 Approximately 90 m to the east of the Site is a prehistoric and Romano-British dated Scheduled Monument settlement site, north of Spring Hill (NHLE 1005352). The monument comprises cropmarks visible on aerial photography and survives as seven ring ditches, five sub-rectangular enclosures, two rectangular enclosures and a long, narrow double ditched curvilinear enclosure with linear features. Romano-British finds have also been recovered from this site.
- 2.3.2 In the wider area, prehistoric and Romano-British activity was present along the River Avon, during the monitoring of groundworks, approximately 150 m southwest of the Site (Worcestershire County Council 2002).

## **2.4 Anglo-Saxon and medieval**

- 2.4.1 No Anglo-Saxon activity is recorded within the Site, however, approximately 250 m southeast of the Site, land was granted to Offfor, Bishop of Worcestershire by King Ethelred in 691-693 to establish a monastery (PastScape 117984). Lower Moor is combined with Upper Moor, and recorded in the Domesday Book as Moor, consisting of a small settlement of 2.7 households in the hundred of Oswaldslow (Opendomesday.org). Later medieval activity is not recorded within the Site, however, approximately 150 m north of the Site, earthworks dated to the medieval, or potentially later, shrunken village have been identified (PastScape 117966).

## **2.5 Post-medieval**

- 2.5.1 Lower Moor has experienced a substantial degree of residential development with a number of Grade II Listed Buildings dating to the post-medieval located to the northeast along Manor Road and approximately 50 m west of the Site along Bridge Street.
- 2.5.2 Heritage assets relating to the modern period in close vicinity to the Site comprise the Donald Fryer and James Wilfred Payne memorial park commemorating World War II, along with a war memorial plaque just north of the Site (WHER WSM66783).

## **2.6 Work in the surrounding area**

- 2.6.1 Work conducted 500 m to the east of the site in 2007 and 2011 by Worcestershire County Council (WCC) identified continued evidence of farming from the Bronze Age to the Romano British period. Two major ditch complexes were excavated, which dated predominately to the Bronze Age with Iron Age recuts; evidence of Romano British ditches



were also present in other areas of excavation. Small pits in association with each of these periods were also present. Satellite imagery shows that this complex extends both south and west of the excavation into the Scheduled Monument and towards the Site. Fieldwalking returned a number of fragments of Romano British pottery over a large area, this has been presumed to be caused by farming and manuring during the roman period.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Project aim**

3.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA Standard and guidance: archaeological evaluation (ClfA 2014b), the principle aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality of any identified archaeological deposits. The works were in compliance with national guidelines (ClfA 2014a-c).

#### **3.2 Project objectives**

3.2.1 In furtherance of the project aim, the following objectives were defined:

- *to identify the location, extent and character of archaeological remains within the Site, specifically;*
- *to ensure the preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
- *to confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
- *to determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;*
- *to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;*
- *to provide information that will enable an assessment of the impact of the development on any potential archaeological remains identified; and*
- *to prepare a report on the results of the archaeological works.*

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 Health and safety**

4.1.1 Health and Safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will override archaeological considerations at all times.

4.1.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

4.1.3 WA supplied a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment was read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commenced.

4.1.4 WA staff complied with the standard PPE requirements for working on construction sites (hard hat, steel toe capped boots, high visibility clothing) and any specific requirements of the Client.



## **4.2 Service location**

- 4.2.1 Service plans were consulted prior to arriving on Site. Prior to breaking ground the trench locations were swept by trained staff with a proprietary cable detector (i.e. CAT).

## **4.3 Machine excavation**

- 4.3.1 Trench locations were set out by means of a GPS system, and tied into the OS grid. Mechanical excavation was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA.
- 4.3.2 Following removal of the topsoil, machine excavation was carried out in level spits of no more than 100 mm until the level of the natural geology or the first significant archaeological horizon was reached.
- 4.3.3 Topsoil and subsoil was stored separately on either side of the trench. Spoil was stored neatly at a minimum distance of 1 m from the trench edge.

## **4.4 Hand excavation**

- 4.4.1 Where archaeological features and deposits were encountered, excavation was carried out by hand.
- 4.4.2 Written and drawn records were made of the stratigraphy within the areas investigated. Full written and drawn records of all excavated contexts were made in accordance with best archaeological practice.
- 4.4.3 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system, and a full photographic record was maintained comprising of digital images taken with a suitable camera of at least 10 megapixels in addition to 35 mm monochrome prints.

# **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

## **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 A full list of all trench depths and context numbers is presented within Appendix 1. Of the four trenches excavated, all contained archaeological remains (Plates 3-6). A summary of the key features is presented below.

## **5.2 Overburden**

- 5.2.1 All trenches were overlain by topsoil between 0.26 m and 0.4 m in depth. Beneath the topsoil was a relic ploughsoil (subsoil) comprised of a pale brown sandy silt between 0.32 m and 0.41 m thick.
- 5.2.2 Natural geology comprised light orange silty clay with occasional gravel. Variations in colour ranged from light yellow to areas of orange mottling. Natural was reached at depths of between 0.6 m and 0.8 m.

## **5.3 Archaeological features**

- 5.3.1 Trench 1 contained two pits at the eastern end, 104 and 107 (Figure 2, Plates 8 and 9). Pit 104 was sub-circular with steep concave sides and an irregular base measuring 0.9 m in diameter and 0.5 m deep. Pit 107 was sub-circular with shallow, straight sides and a concave base measuring 0.66 m in length, 0.56 m wide and 0.20 m deep. A tree throw

was also recorded at the western end of the trench. No dating material was recovered from these features.

- 5.3.2 Trench 2 contained a pit/tree throw at the eastern end and a probable tree throw at the centre, 204 and 206 (Figure 3, Plates 7, 12 and 14). Pit 204 was irregular with moderate, straight sides and a flat base measuring 2.60 m in length, 0.9 m wide and 0.24 m deep. Probable tree throw 206 was irregular with moderate, concave sides and a concave base measuring 4 m in length, 1.5 m wide and 0.42 m deep. Both features contained dark fills which were initially thought to be derived from burning. Hand excavation revealed this material to be silty in nature with only a minimal charcoal component. No dating material was recovered from these features.
- 5.3.3 Trench 3 contained a ditch, 309, at the northwestern end and two parallel gullies at the centre, 304 and 306 (Figure 4, Plates 10 and 11). Gully 304 was linear with shallow, straight sides and a concave base measuring 0.8 m in length, 0.4 m wide and 0.32 m deep. Gully 306 was linear with steep, straight sides and a flat base measuring 1.1 m in length, 0.3 m wide and 0.40 m deep. Ditch 309 was linear with shallow, concave sides and a flat base measuring 1.5 m in length, 0.85 m wide and 0.78 m deep. No dating material was recovered from these features.
- 5.3.4 Trench 4 contained three gullies, 405 and 406 at the centre and 413 at the western end. Two ditches in parallel to 405 and 406 were also found, 408 and 410, and a single pit to the east, 415. The fills of gullies 405 and 406 were cut by ditch 410 to their east and the fill of ditch 408 was cut by ditch 410 to its west (Figure 5, Plates 13, 15 and 16).
- 5.3.5 Gully 405 was linear with shallow to moderate, concave sides and a flat base measuring 1.8 m in length, 0.75 m wide and 0.24 m deep. Gully 406 was linear with shallow, concave sides and a flat base measuring 1.8 m in length, 0.47 m wide and 0.32 m deep. Gully 413 was linear with moderate, straight sides and a concave base measuring 1.8 m in length, 0.5 m wide and 0.24 m deep. Ditch 408 was linear with moderate, concave sides and a flat base measuring 1.8 m in length, 1.86 m wide and 0.4 m deep. Ditch 410 was linear with moderate to steep, concave to straight sides and a flat base measuring 1.8 m in length, 1.56 m wide and 0.53 m deep. Pit 415 was sub-circular with shallow, straight sides and a concave base measuring 0.5 m in length, 0.45 m wide and 0.28 m deep. Romano-British material was recovered from ditch 408 and pit 415.
- 5.3.6 At least nine furrows were noted across the site running north south but due to previous farming and ploughing they were barely visible on the surface and not seen in section.

## **6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE**

### **6.1 General**

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, all from Trench 4; these are summarised by context and by material type in Table 1. All these finds are of Romano-British date, and comprise seven sherds of pottery (correlations with the Worcestershire fabric type series are given in Table 1) and four fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), probably roof tile. None of these finds can be dated more closely within the Romano-British period.

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	Material Type	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
409	pottery	5	24	Probably from single vessel, RB: sandy oxidised ware (Worcs fabric 13), flagon neck/handle
410	Pottery	1	4	RB: fine greyware (Worcs fabric 14)
416	pottery	1	1	RB: oxidised Severn Valley ware (Worcs fabric 12); tiny rim
unstrat Tr 4	CBM	4	304	RB flat fragments (thickness <25mm)

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Three bulk samples were taken from a range of features and were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence, particularly charred plant remains and charcoal. The size of the samples varied between 34 and 40 litres.

### 7.2 Methods

#### *Charred plant remains*

7.2.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions were detected, such as earthworm eggs and insects. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence/absence of other environmental remains such as molluscs, animal bone and insects (if anoxic conditions for their preservation are present), is recorded in Table 2.

7.2.2 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

### 7.3 Results

7.3.1 The flots were generally small and a high proportion of their volume was made of roots and modern seeds. This suggests high potential of stratigraphic movement and contamination by later intrusive elements.

#### *Charred plant remains*

7.3.2 Charred material was rare and generally poorly preserved. Ditch 410 provided an assemblage composed of a barley grain fragment and a cereal culm fragment, together with a fragment of indeterminate plant tissue. Pit 204 only included a grass culm fragment and pit 206 some fragments of indeterminate plant tissue.



*Wood charcoal*

7.3.3 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples in very small quantities.

**7.4 Discussion**

7.4.1 The assemblage has little potential and requires no further analysis. Whilst it is possible that some plant remains might have not floated and are trapped in the residues, the assemblages are so limited as to suggest the preservation of plant remains seems to have been truly limited. Whilst the acid soils present in the area are not particularly detrimental to charred plant material (Braadbaart 2009), it seems likely that the limited trenching areas have not identified site features where, or near where, the deposition by-products from domestic activities, particularly related to plant processing, took place.



**Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal**

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Charcoal	Other	Preservation
410	410	1	40	30	90%, A	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain fragment	C	Poaceae culm, indet.	<1 ml	Mature	-	Poor
204	205	2	35	50	90%, B, I	-	-	-	C	Poaceae culm	<1 ml	Mature	-	Fair
206	207	3	34	50	90%, E	-	-	-	C	Indet. Tissue	<1 ml	Mature + roundwood	-	Poor

Key: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects; Sab/f = small animal/fish bones/charred faecal pellets, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = aquatic molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon





## **8 DISCUSSION**

### **8.1 Summary**

8.1.1 The evaluation work has succeeded in identifying agricultural activity from at least the Roman period. All four trenches contained archaeological features; Roman activity appears to have been focused towards the east end of the Site.

### **8.2 Romano-British**

8.2.1 One large ditch and gully complex was identified in Trench 4. The features are likely to represent boundary ditches, with evidence of re-cutting present. The limited assemblage of Romano-British pot and absence of features to the west of Trench 3 is suggestive that the Site is on the periphery of a field system associated with the Scheduled Monument to the east. Work in the wider landscape (WCC 2007) also identified complex ditch systems dating to the same period (and earlier), and this complex likely forms part of a wider Romano British landscape. Pit 415 is of similar nature to that seen in the wider landscape; small pits were found in association within field enclosures associated with the complex field boundaries (WCC 2007).

8.2.2 The gullies and ditch which are present in Trench 3 are likely extensions of farming boundaries seen in Trench 4 with the evidence indicative of several phases of realigned boundaries.

### **8.3 Post-medieval**

8.3.1 Pits and tree throws within Trenches 1 and 2 remain undated. Many of these features contained dark fills which were initially thought to be derived from burning. Hand excavation revealed this material to be silty in nature with only a minimal charcoal component.

### **8.4 Conclusions**

8.4.1 The Romano-British revealed features were indicative of agricultural activity, with no features associated with structural remains. It seems likely that the Romano-British features identified may represent the western limit of the field system associated with the Romano-British Scheduled Monument to the east. A very small quantity of finds were recovered, which comprised six sherds of Romano-British pottery and four unstratified fragments of probable roof tile.

## **9 STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Museum**

9.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code to be agreed. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

### **9.2 Preparation of archive**

9.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Worcestershire County Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).



9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- *1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type; and*
- *1 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics.*

### **9.3 Selection policy**

9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, the finds from the evaluation should be retained in the expectation of further fieldwork on the Site.

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



## 10 REFERENCES

### 10.1 Bibliography

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Archaeology Service



## 11 APPENDICES

### 11.1 Appendix 1:Trench tables

<b>Trench 1</b>			
<b>Trench dimensions: L: 35 m, W: 1.8 m, D: 0.66 m</b>			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
101	Layer	Topsoil. Dark brown sandy silt with common stones	0–0.30
102	Layer	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay with common stones	0.3–0.66
103	Layer	Natural. Light orangy brown silty sand with common stones	0.66+
104	Cut	Pit with steep, concave sides and an irregular base	0.66–1.16
105	Fill	Secondary fill with light yellow brown silty sand and flecking	0.66–1.11
106	Fill	Secondary fill with dark greyish brown silty sand	0.66–1.16
107	Cut	Pit with shallow, straight sides and a concave base	0.66–0.86
108	Fill	Secondary fill with dark blackish brown silty sand and common stones	0.66–0.86

<b>Trench 2</b>			
<b>Trench dimensions: L: 35 m, W: 1.8 m, D: 0.8 m</b>			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
201	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown sandy silt with common gravel	0–0.39
202	Layer	Subsoil. Pale to light brown sandy silt with rare gravel	0.39–0.8
203	Layer	Natural. Yellow orange silty sand with frequent gravel	0.8+
204	Cut	Pit/tree throw with moderate, straight sides and a flat base	0.8–1.04
205	Fill	Secondary fill with dark blackish brown sandy silt and sparse stones	0.8–1.04
206	Cut	Pit/tree throw with moderate to concave sides and a concave base	0.7–1.2
207	Fill	Fill with dark black grey clayie sand and stone flecking	0.7–0.8
208	Fill	Fill with pale yellowy grey clayie sand and rare stones	0.8–1.2
209	Fill	Fill with pale goldie yellow silty sand and rare stones	0.8–1.2
210	Fill	Fill with mid browny orange sand with common stones	0.8–1.2
211	Fill	Fill with mid orangy brown silty sand with rare stones	0.8–1.2
212	Fill	Fill with mid yellow orange silty sand and un-common gravel	0.8–1.2

<b>Trench 3</b>			
<b>Trench dimensions: L: 35 m, W: 1.8 m, D: 0.72 m</b>			
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
301	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown silty sand with uncommon stones	0–0.4
302	Layer	Subsoil. Pale brown sandy silt with uncommon stones	0.4–0.72
303	Layer	Natural. Grey yellow mottle with frequent stones	0.72+
304	Cut	Gully with shallow, straight sides and a concave base	0.72–1.04
305	Fill	Secondary fill with dark greyish brown silty sand and common stones	0.72–1.04



<b>Trench 3</b>		<b>Trench dimensions: L: 35 m, W: 1.8 m, D: 0.72 m</b>	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
306	Cut	Gully with steep, straight sides and a flat base	0.72–1.12
307	Fill	Secondary fill with dark greyish brown silty sand and common stones	0.72–0.82
308	Fill	Secondary fill with mid orangy brown silty sand and common stones	0.82–1.12
309	Cut	Ditch with shallow, concave sides and a flat base	0.6–1.5
310	Fill	Secondary fill with pale goldie yellow sand and stones	1.4–1.5
311	Fill	Secondary fill with mid grey brown silty sand and rare stones	0.6–1.4

<b>Trench 4</b>		<b>Trench dimensions: L: 35 m, W: 1.8 m, D: 0.6 m</b>	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
401	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown sandy silt with rare stones	0–0.26
402	Layer	Subsoil. Pale brown sandy silt with uncommon stones	0.26–0.4
403	Layer	Subsoil. Grey brown sandy silt with common stones	0.4–0.6
404	Layer	Natural. Yellow orange mottle sand with common stones	0.6+
405	Cut	Gully with shallow to moderate, concave sides and a flat base	0.6–0.84
406	Cut	Gully with shallow, concave sides and a flat base	0.6–0.96
407	Fill	Secondary fill with mid orange brown sandy silty and common stones	0.6–0.96
408	Cut	Ditch with moderate, concave sides and a flat base	0.6–1
409	Fill	Secondary fill with pale brown grey silty sand and common stones	0.6–1
410	Cut	Ditch with moderate to steep, concave to stright sides and a flat base	0.6–1.13
411	Fill	Secondary fill with mid orange grey silty sand and common gravel	0.93–1.13
412	Fill	Secondary fill with dark grey sandy silt and common stones	0.6–0.93
413	Cut	Gully with moderate, straight sides and a concave base	0.6–0.84
414	Fill	Secondary fill with mid brown silty sand and common stones	0.6–0.84
415	Cut	Pit with shallow, straight sides and a concave base	0.6–0.88
416	Fill	Secondary fill with mid greyish brown sandy silt with common stones	0.6–0.88



## 11.2 Appendix 2: Oasis Form ID: wessexar1 - 285834

### OASIS ID: wessexar1-285834

#### Project details

Project name	Land off Blacksmiths Lane, Lower Moor, Worcestershire
Short description of the project	The evaluation works comprised the excavation of four trenches with Romano-British ditches and gullies identified in the two eastern most trenches. The revealed features were indicative of agricultural activity, with no features associated with structural remains. It seems likely that the Romano-British features identified may represent the western limit of the field system associated with the Romano-British Scheduled Monument to the east. A very small quantity of finds were recovered, which comprised six sherds of Romano-British pottery and four unstratified fragments of probable roof tile. Post-medieval furrows were noted across the Site as well as a series of pits and tree throws of uncertain date.
Project dates	Start: 18-04-2007 End: 21-04-2007
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	116680 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	WSM69165 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	GULLY Roman
Monument type	FURROW Post Medieval
Monument type	PITS Uncertain
Monument type	TREE THROWS Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Uncertain
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	WORCESTERSHIRE WYCHAVON WYRE PIDDLE Land off Blacksmiths Lane, Lower Moor, Worcestershire
Postcode	WR10 2PA
Study area	0.6 Hectares



Site coordinates SO 398180 247099 51.917224288381 -2.875121954094  
51 55 02 N 002 52 30 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 26m Max: 27m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology  
Project brief originator CgMs Consulting Ltd.  
Project design originator Wessex Archaeology  
Project director/manager Chris Swales  
Project supervisor Stuart Pierson  
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

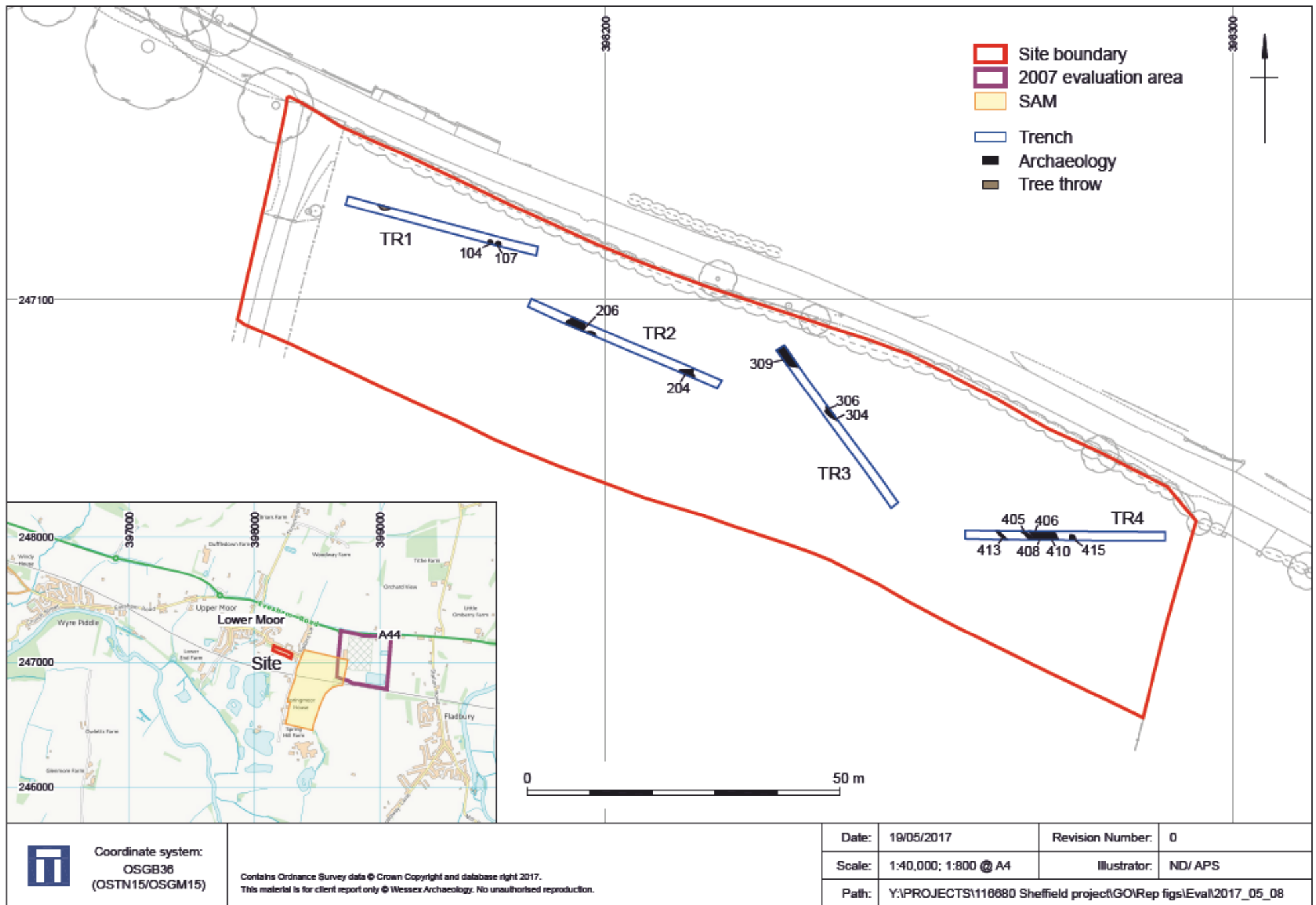
#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
Digital Archive recipient Worcester County Museum  
Digital Archive ID WSM69165  
Digital Contents "Ceramics"  
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital  
photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"  
Paper Contents "Ceramics"  
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Plan", "Report"

#### Project bibliography 1

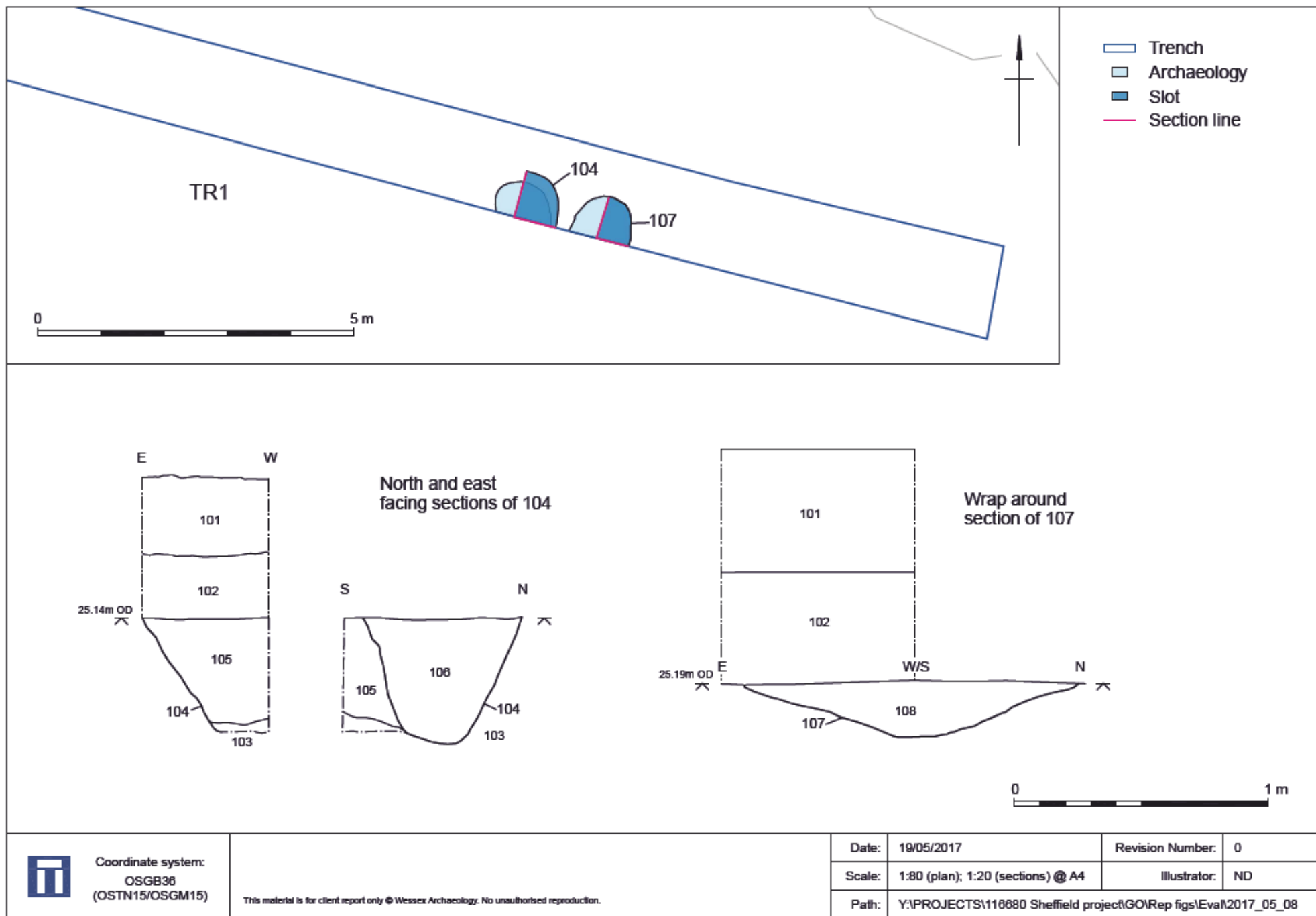
Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Land off Blacksmiths Lane Lower Moor, Worcestershire,  
Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Author(s)/Editor(s) Pierson, S.  
Other bibliographic details 116680  
Date 2017  
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology  
Place of issue or publication Sheffield  
Description A4 Comb bound report  
Entered by Jessica Tibber (j.tibber@wessexarch.co.uk)  
Entered on 24 May 2017





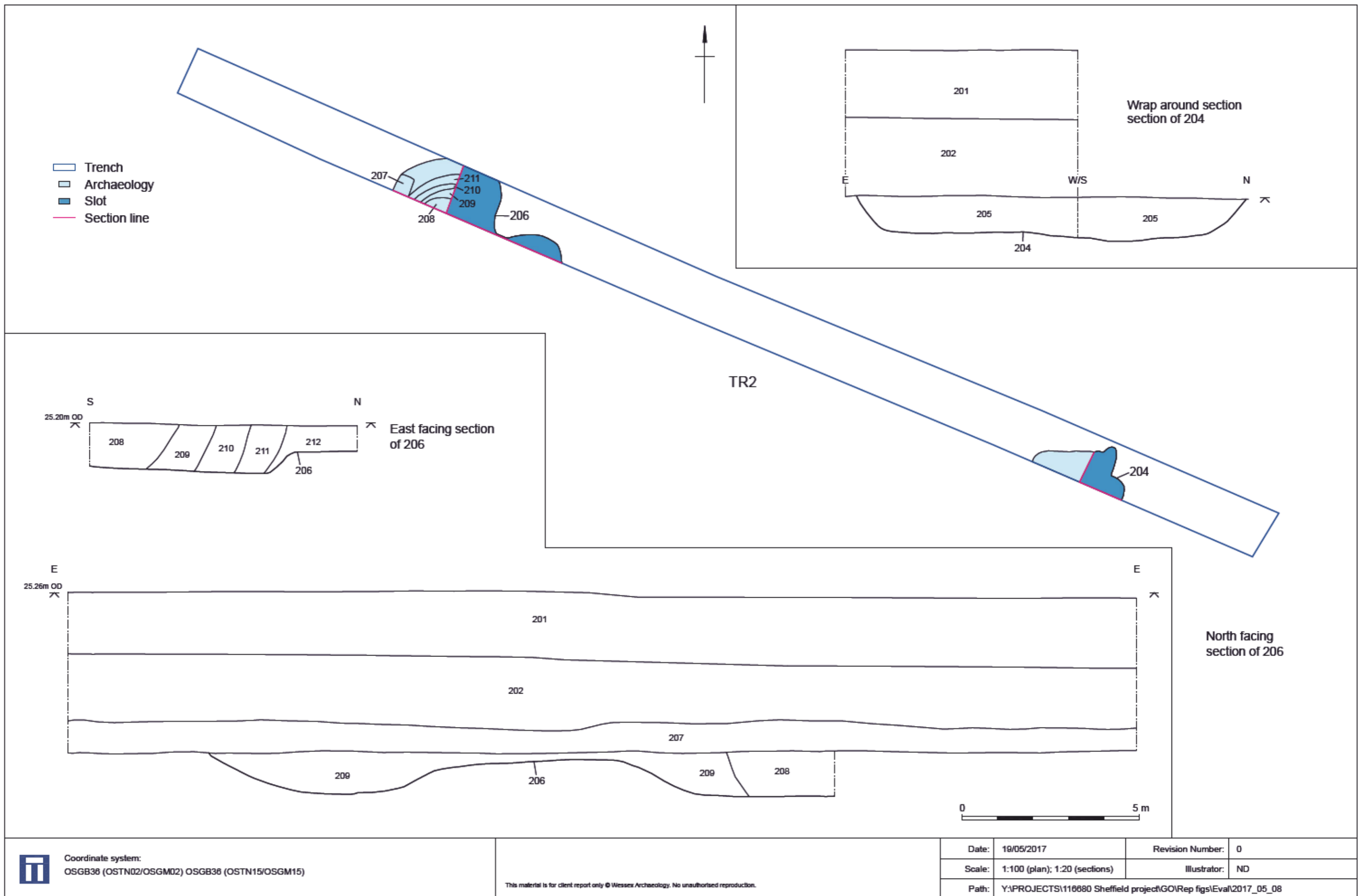
Site location and trench layout

Figure 1



Plan and sections of features in trench 1

Figure 2



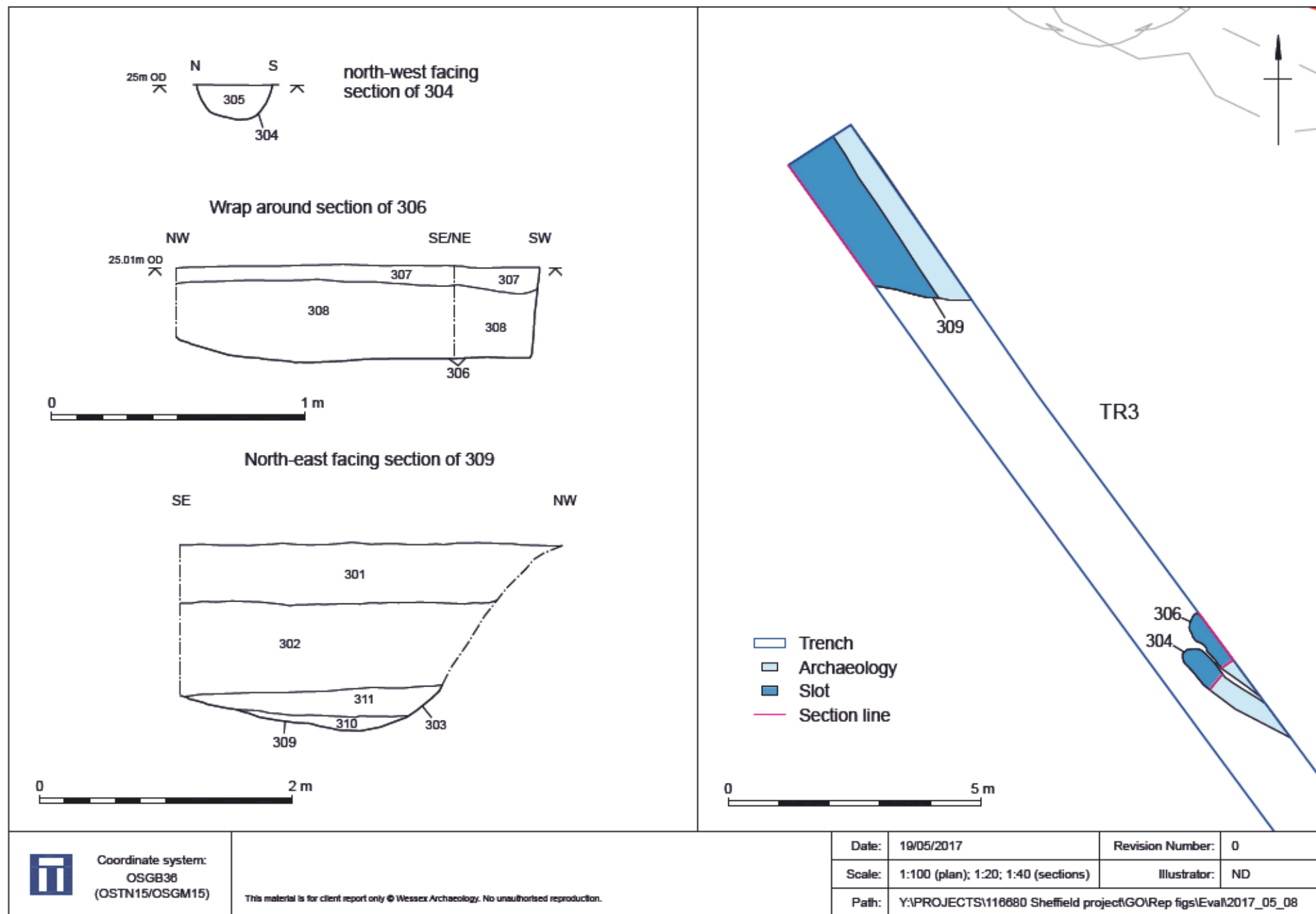
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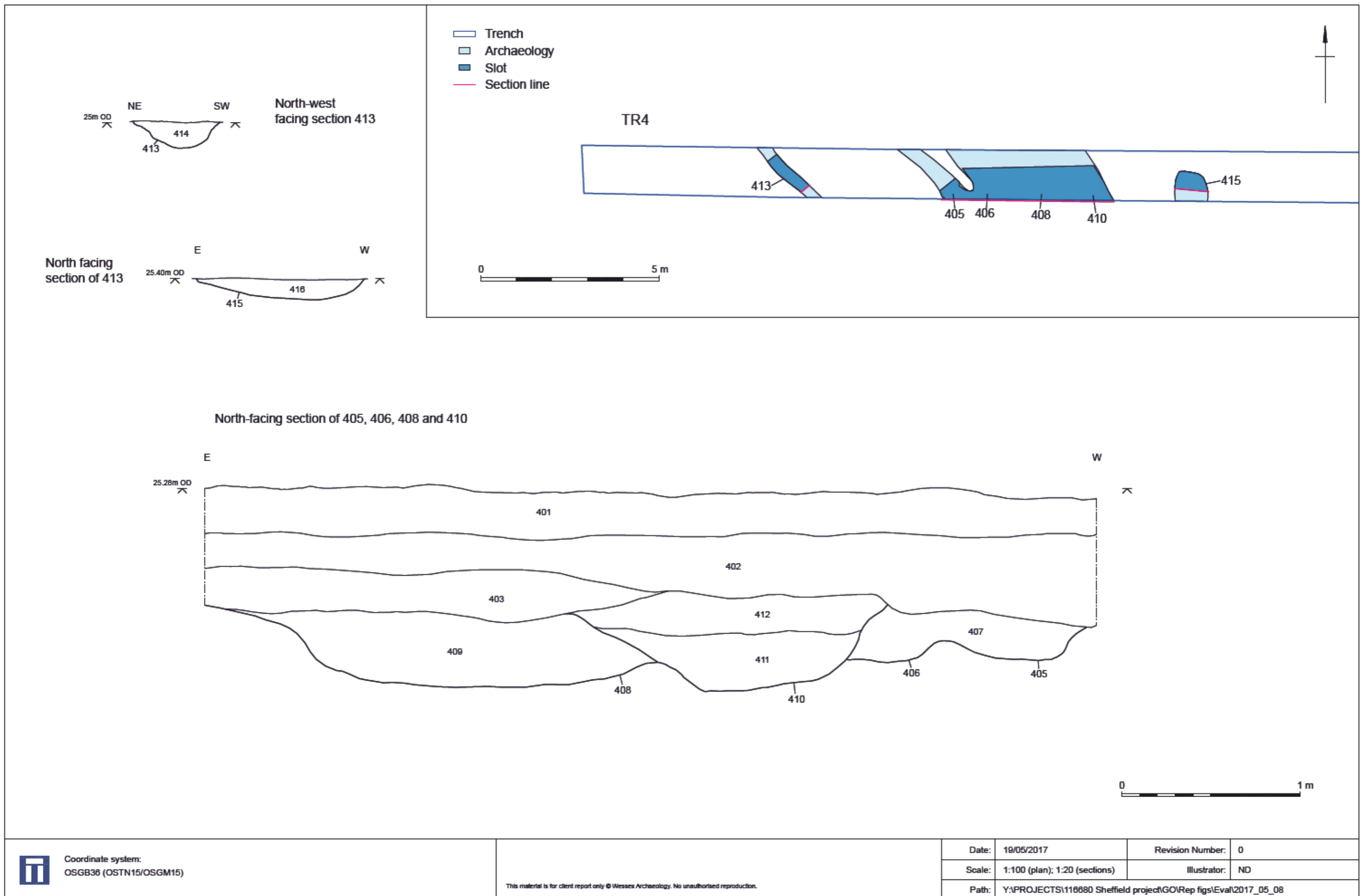
Plan and sections of features in trench 2

Figure 3



Plan and sections of features in trench 3

Figure 4



Plan and sections of features in trench 4

Figure 5



Plate 1: View of site looking south-east



Plate 2: View of site looking east


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Plate 3: Trench 1 from the south-east



Plate 4: Trench 2 from the north-west


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Plate 5: Trench 3 from the north-west



Plate 6: Trench 4 from the west


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Plate 7: Pre-excavation of feature 206



Plate 8: South-east facing section of pit 104


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Plate 9: South-east facing section of pit 107



Plate 10: North east facing section of ditch 309


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Plate 11: North-west facing sections of gullies 304 and 306



Plate 12: Oblique view of feature 204


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Plate 13: Oblique view of ditches and gullies 405, 406, 408, 410



Plate 14: Oblique view of feature 206



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Plate 15: North facing section of pit 415



Plate 16: North west facing section of gully 413

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