





# **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report**

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# **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report**

# Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Longborough Developments to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation of c. 1.2ha of land at Badgers Field, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, centred on OS NGR 415275 238944. The evaluation consisted of 11 trenches, comprising an approximate 2.5% sample of the Site. The archaeological evaluation was carried out on the  $5^{th}$  and the  $6^{th}$  of December 2011, as part of a package of works in support of a planning application to develop the Site.

A previous geophysical survey had identified the presence of a number of linear and discrete anomalies (Archaeological Surveys Ltd 2011). The evaluation trench array was therefore designed to achieve an even spread of investigations across the entire Site, examining a combination of strong linear anomalies, more ephemeral linear and curvilinear anomalies, discrete anomalies, and apparent 'blank areas' across the remainder of the Site.

The results of the evaluation confirmed the presence of a number of archaeological features on the Site. The features identified correlated very well with the geophysical survey anomalies, with archaeological features recorded in all excavated trenches; primarily comprising linear ditches and a possible pit. A probable trackway was recorded in the south-east corner of the Site, possibly aligned on a concentration of features located in Trench 7 in the south-east corner of the Site toward the higher ground. A curvilinear geophysical anomaly to the western edge of the Site correlated to a change in the underlying geology.

With regard to dating evidence, although single stray sherds of Romano-British and post-medieval pottery were recovered, otherwise the remainder of the, albeit small, pottery assemblage recovered was dated to the early to mid-Saxon period (i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> centuries AD), often recovered in association with animal bone fragments.

On balance, the remains appear to indicate the presence of a small early to mid-Saxon settlement, probably focused off-site immediately to the south-east of the Site, with the majority of the Site occupied by associated field boundary/ enclosure ditches and a trackway. Although many of the larger discrete features identified during the geophysical survey could not be positively identified during evaluation, given the problematic nature of feature identification (e.g. generally low anthropogenic content, very poor differentiation between the underlying parent geology and reworked parent geology-based feature fills *etc.*), the similarity in size and shape for some of these anomalies with Saxon sunken-featured buildings should not be overlooked.

With Chipping Campden known to have Saxon origins, these remains should therefore be considered of regional significance.



# **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report**

### Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Longborough Developments through Archaeology and Planning Solutions and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Martin Graham (Longborough Developments) and Alan Thomas (Archaeology and Planning Solutions) in this regard.

The project was monitored on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council by Charles Parry (Archaeological Officer Gloucestershire County Council Heritage) and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank him for his help and advice during the course of the project.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andy Crockett. The evaluation was undertaken by John Powell, Naomi Brennan and Piotr Orczewski. The report was compiled by John Powell and Naomi Brennan with specialist finds reports by Lorraine Mepham (pottery and other finds) and Lorrain Higbee (animal bone), and edited by Andy Crockett. The figures were prepared by Linda Coleman, based on GPS survey data captured by Naomi Brennan. Pippa Bradley is thanked for her constructive comments on an earlier version of this report.



# **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report**

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (the **Contractor**) was commissioned by Longborough Developments (the **Client**), through Archaeology and Planning Solutions, to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation of *c*. 1.2ha of land at Badgers Field, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, GL55 6DD (the **Site** centred on OS NGR 415275 238944; **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was being carried out as part of a package of works in support of a planning application to develop the Site.

# 1.2 Scope of Works

- 1.2.1 The scope of works undertaken comprised the excavation of 11 no. machine-excavated 1.8m wide evaluation trenches, each measuring 15m in length, comprising an approximate 2.5% sample of the Site. All trenches were located to target the interpreted results of a previous geophysical survey carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd (ASL) (Figure 1; ASL 2011, interim greyscale and interpretive plots provided via e-mail). The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2011), including proposed trench array, was approved in advance by the Archaeological Officer for Gloucestershire County Council Heritage (the Curator), who also monitored the fieldwork.
- 1.2.2 The trench array was designed to achieve an even spread of investigations across the entire Site, examining a combination of strong linear anomalies, more ephemeral linear and curvilinear anomalies, discrete anomalies, and apparent 'blank areas' across the remainder of the Site.
- 1.2.3 In addition, the trench array avoided clear strong linear responses that both crossed the north-east corner of the Site, and ran parallel to George Lane, which were most likely to be modern utility runs (the George Lane anomaly may be the result of overhead cables along the field boundary in this location), and a less well-defined linear anomaly that crossed the Site diagonally from north-west to south-east which was also considered likely to be another utility run (this was confirmed as a plastic water feed to a watering trough against the east boundary of the Site by the farmer during site works).

#### 1.3 The Site, Location and Geology

1.3.1 Badgers Field comprises a single rectangular field of 1.2ha on the southern side of Chipping Campden (NGR 415285, 238943). Chipping Campden High Street lies approximately 200m to the north. The Site is bounded by housing to the north; George Lane formed the western boundary of the Site and open fields lie to the east and south. A single dwelling ("The Sheppey") is also located on the southern boundary.



- 1.3.2 The River Cam is located c. 55m to the north, and the Site lies on sloping ground overlooking the river valley. The Site ground surface slopes downwards from the southwest to the north-east from a height of c. 145m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 140m aOD.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped as siltstones and mudstones of the Dryham Formation, which are overlain by Ferrunginous limestone of the Marlstone Rock Formation (Sheet 217, British Geological Survey 2000).

#### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Previous work

- 2.1.1 An archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) of the Site was carried out by CgMs (CgMs 2010), the results of which are summarised below.
- 2.1.2 There are no records within the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record relating to finds and/or remains within the Site footprint. Moreover, there are no records for either prehistoric or Romano-British remains within the wider study area, and only single solitary findspots for either period from the village in its entirety.
- 2.1.3 Chipping<sup>1</sup> Campden is known to have Saxon origins, and the town today is noted for the wealth of architecture along its principal roads dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century. The market town's prosperity is based on a flourishing wool trade during the later medieval and early post-medieval periods, as evidenced, for instance, by the Wool Church of St James, the central Market Hall and the Woolstapler's Hall.
- 2.1.4 The DBA noted that the Scheduled Monument Campden House and Gardens (no. 11504; see **Front Cover**) is located just 75m to the north-east of the Site. Campden House and Gardens comprises both standing and below-ground remains of the early 17<sup>th</sup> century estate, including garden earthworks, canals and other ornamental features. The house was virtually completely destroyed during the Civil War, though much of the contemporary formal gardens survived relatively unscathed, and represents an extremely rare example of high quality Renaissance period formal garden. Also included within the parameters of the scheduling are very well-preserved medieval ridge and furrow earthworks to the east of the main house.
- 2.1.5 A site visit as part of the DBA preparation did note the presence of ridge and furrow cultivation within the Site, but as the report concluded "...this is a heritage asset of low significance and better examples survive within the scheduled area to the east" (ibid, 2).

# 2.2 Geophysical survey

- 2.2.1 The geophysical survey results are shown on **Figure 1** and **2**, and demonstrate a number of clear linear and (less clear) discrete anomalies within the Site, including a possible ditched trackway or droveway crossing the south-west corner of the Site. Given that the only surface remains currently extant comprised ridge and furrow cultivation, it was considered very probable that should the anomalies identified represent subsurface archaeological remains, these would probably pre-date the ridge and furrow cultivation (of probable medieval date).
- 2.2.2 Reference to specific anomalies in the following narrative will employ the anomaly identification numbers provided in the geophysical survey report (ASL 2011), in the form

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Chipping" is derived from the Old English *cēping*, meaning market or market-place



ASL01-22. These reference numbers (without the ASL prefix) are demonstrated on Figure 2.

#### 3 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 3.1.1 The general objectives of the archaeological evaluation were defined in the WSI (WA 2011), following the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), and comprised:
  - Identify the presence of archaeological remains;
  - Aid the early identification of significant archaeological constraints, thereby reducing the risk of unforeseen discoveries during construction; and
  - Identify areas for additional archaeological mitigation as necessary.

#### 4 FIELDWORK

#### 4.1 Mechanical excavation

- 4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was carried out on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.
- 4.1.2 All trenches were excavated in the locations proposed in the WSI (WA 2011). The evaluation comprised a 2.5% sample of the 1.2ha Site through the excavation of 11 no. machine-excavated trial trenches, each approximately 15m by 1.8m (layout shown on **Figure 1**).
- 4.1.3 The evaluation trenches were marked out on the ground relative to the OS National Grid to an accuracy of within  $\pm$  500mm prior to the commencement of work, and scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT).
- 4.1.4 The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through topsoil and subsoil down to either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. Topsoil was stored separately from subsoil and any other arisings. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. The trenches were back-filled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.

# 4.2 Recording

- 4.2.1 The exposed archaeological horizon was cleaned by hand where required for the acceptable definition of archaeological remains. A sufficient number of the features located were investigated by hand in order to fulfil the aims of the project.
- 4.2.2 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system with a unique numbering system for individual contexts that were linked to the trench number. Excavated archaeological features and deposits were handdrawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections; these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and this information is included on both plans and sections. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.



- 4.2.3 A photographic record was kept utilising black and white film, colour slides and digital images. The record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.
- 4.2.4 The setting out and as-dug survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 4.2.1 A unique Wessex Archaeology site code **83560** was allocated to the Site, and is cited on all records and finds.

#### 5 RESULTS

# 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the project archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.1.2 The archaeological trial trenches were targeted on geophysical features and anomalies (ASL 2011) and as such were intended to test the validity of the possible buried archaeological features. Archaeological features were identified in all eleven trenches. All archaeological features were sealed by the top and subsoil and were cut into the underlying geology. Probable medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (*ASL18*) was noted across the ground surface of the Site and was aligned broadly north-north-west to south-south-east (**Plate 1**).

#### 5.2 Natural soil sequences

- 5.2.1 The natural soil sequence recorded across the Site was fairly uniform. A mid-grey brown, sandy silt loam topsoil (0.22m 0.32m deep) was present in all trenches. Below the topsoil a mid-reddish brown sandy loam that was up to 0.35m deep was recorded above the natural geology. In the majority of trenches the underlying geology was mid-red brown (orange) compact sandy clay with a 'blocky' appearance, which probably represents weathered siltstones or mudstones.
- 5.2.2 In Trench 2 the underlying geology was limestone (cornbrash) and probably represents a localised outcrop. The underlying geology was recorded between 0.46m and 0.65m below ground level (BGL).

#### 5.3 Trench summaries

Trench 1

- 5.3.1 Trench 1 (**Figure 1**, **2** and **Plate 2**) was targeted over a possible trackway (*ASL03*) recorded during the geophysical survey of the Site.
- 5.3.2 Two parallel linear ditches (**104** and **106**) aligned west-north-west to east-south-east were recorded within the trench. The southern ditch **104** was excavated; it had a V-shaped profile and measured 1m wide by 0.36m deep. It contained a single fill, from which early to mid-Saxon pottery was recovered. Ditch **106** was located *c*. 4.70m to the north-east and was 0.6m wide, this feature was unexcavated.
- 5.3.3 The ditches recorded in Trench 1 fit well with the results of the geophysical survey; continuations of these ditches were mapped across the south-west corner of the Site and



almost certainly represent a trackway, perhaps leading towards the area of more intensive archaeological activity evidenced by the remains in Trench 7 (see below).

#### Trench 2

- 5.3.4 Trench 2 was targeted over linear (*ASL02*), curvilinear (*ASL11*) and discrete anomalies (unnumbered) mapped during the geophysical survey (**Figure 2** and **Plate 3**).
- 5.3.5 As noted above (**Section 5.2**), the underlying natural in Trench 2 represented a significant variation from most other trenches, comprising predominantly a limestone (cornbrash) outcrop, to the south of which was mid-reddish brown compact sandy clay. It is likely that the curvilinear anomaly (*ASL11*) mapped during the geophysics reflects this change in the underlying geology.
- 5.3.6 At the northern end of Trench 2 a wide, shallow possible ditch (or pit) **204** was recorded. The feature measured 2.06m wide by 0.24m deep and contained a single fill containing early to mid-Saxon pottery, animal bone and burnt stone (the latter noted but not recovered). This feature correlates well with the northernmost of the unnumbered sub-rectangular discrete anomalies mapped during the geophysical survey.
- 5.3.7 The large east to west aligned linear anomaly (*ASL02*) recorded crossing the trench during the geophysical survey could not be confirmed during evaluation. An area of more disturbed looser limestone geology was located in the approximate location of this anomaly, but attempted excavation failed to confirm that this was indeed an archaeological feature, and it is therefore possible that *ASL02* simply reflects the variable geology in this area.

#### Trench 3

- 5.3.8 Trench 3 was located over a large approximately north to south aligned linear feature (ASL01), as well as an oval discrete anomaly (ASL14) recorded during the geophysics (Figure 1 and 2).
- 5.3.9 Ditch **304** (**Plate 4**) matched well with the linear feature recorded during the geophysical survey. The ditch was 2.15m wide by 0.75m deep with a well-defined V-shaped profile and contained two deposits, with two fragments of animal bone recovered from the upper fill. Ditch **304** represents a substantial field boundary, which appears on the basis of the geophysical survey results to be interrupted by the trackway (*ASL03*) crossing Trench 1 (see above), and may therefore be considered broadly contemporaneous with each other.
- 5.3.10 The large oval anomaly at the eastern end of the trench could not be positively identified within the confines of the excavated trench, though the similarities in morphology with the anomaly and a sunken-featured building have been considered further below. Pottery recovered from the topsoil of Trench 3 comprised a single sherd of post-medieval white salt glaze.

#### Trench 4

- 5.3.11 Trench 4 was located towards the northern boundary of the Site and was targeted on a linear feature (*ASL04*) and an oval anomaly (unnumbered) recoded during the geophysical survey (**Figure 1** and **2**).
- 5.3.12 A possible north-west to south-east aligned ditch **404** was recorded in plan at the south-western end of Trench 4. The ditch measured 0.85m wide and contained a single mid-red brown fill, which produced animal bone and rare charcoal flecks. Although apparently



located to its east, ditch 404 may be related to the unnumbered oval geophysical anomaly indicated at the very west end of this trench.

5.3.13 To the north-eastern end of the trench a wide U-shaped ditch **406** was recorded. The ditch measured 1.81m wide by 0.69m deep, and contained two naturally formed deposits, no finds were recovered from the feature, though charcoal flecking was noted throughout. Ditch **406** matched well with geophysical anomaly *ASL04* that continued for at least *c*. 40m to the south-west and probably represents a large field boundary. It is of note that this feature appears to respect anomaly *ASL01*, suggesting that although *ASL01* is probably the earlier feature, that the ditches are most likely broadly contemporaneous.

#### Trench 5

- 5.3.14 Trench 5 targeted two possible geophysical anomalies, which included a north-west to south-east positive and negative combined linear feature (*ASL10*) and an oval anomaly (*ASL14*) (**Figure 1** and **2**).
- 5.3.15 Within the excavated trench a possible pit **504** was recorded to the northern end of the trench. The pit was recorded in plan and measured 1.40m in length by 1.04m wide. The pit was fairly poorly-defined in plan and was better-defined by the presence of flecks of charcoal and CBM within the mid-reddish brown sandy-clay fill of the pit than any clearly defined context boundary between natural and feature fill. This pit fits well with oval geophysical anomaly *ASL14*.
- 5.3.16 There were no obvious features visible to correlate with *ASL10*, though it is possible that this anomaly was actually situated beyond the southern end of the final as-dug trench location.

# Trench 6

- 5.3.17 Trench 6 was located towards the eastern boundary of the Site and was targeted on two possible linear anomalies (*ASL07*) recorded in the geophysical survey (**Figures 1**, **2** and **Plate 6**).
- 5.3.18 Within the excavated trench a possible north-south aligned linear ditch **604** was recorded. The ditch was recorded in plan and measured 1.05m wide; the ditch was very poorly-defined in plan, containing a light yellowish-brown sandy clay fill that was hard to differentiate from the underlying natural geology. This feature probably represents the easternmost linear element of anomaly *ASL07* from the geophysical survey, and as such may have continued south into Trench 11 *c*. 23m to the south. The westernmost component of *ASL07* could not be identified within the trench footprint.

#### Trench 7

- 5.3.19 Trench 7 was located in close proximity to the southern boundary of the Site and was targeted on one strong linear anomaly (unnumbered), one weaker linear anomaly (*ASL15*) and a slightly curvilinear linear anomaly (*ASL06*) (**Figures 1, 2** and **Plate 6**).
- 5.3.20 Features in Trench 7 were recorded in plan only. At the north-western end of Trench 7 a large probable ditch feature **704** was recorded, measuring 1.94m wide and aligned approximately north-north-east to south-south-west. The feature was poorly defined in plan, primarily only identifiable by the presence of small fragments of animal bone, burnt stone and flecks of charcoal. The slightly irregular shape of this feature in plan suggests Trench 7 was situated at the intersection of this feature and the weaker approximately east-north-east to west-south-west aligned linear anomaly (*ASL15*) recorded during the



- geophysical survey. The probably feature intersection was cleaned by hand but no obvious relationships could be established.
- Towards the south-eastern end of the trench two probable ditches were recorded. Ditch **706** (**Plate 7**) was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 0.80m wide, it contained a mid-grey brown sandy clay. Burnt limestone and charcoal flecks were recorded within the fill but were not retained. This feature did not appear to have been detected by the geophysical survey, but may be a continuation of ditch 604 (Trench 6) and ditch 1104 (Trench 11), and therefore a component of anomaly *ASL07*.
- 5.3.22 At the south-eastern end of Trench 7 a large ditch **708** (**Plate 7**) was recorded, the feature measured 2.2m long by 1.55m wide and continued beyond the excavated extents of the trench. The ditch fill comprised dark reddish-brown sandy clay, and produced several sherds of early to mid-Saxon pottery. This feature correlates very well with anomaly *ASL06*.

#### Trench 8

- 5.3.23 Trench 8 was located over a large east to west aligned linear anomaly (*ASL05*) mapped during the geophysical survey (**Figure 1** and **2**).
- 5.3.24 East to west aligned ditch **804** recorded within the evaluation trench matched well to the geophysical feature, measuring *c*. 1.8m wide and containing a single mid-red brown silty clay fill. On the south-eastern edge of ditch **804** an area of dark red-brown silty material was recorded; on excavation this material was thought to be an area of bioturbation, but post-fieldwork correlation with the geophysical survey results suggests this is the ephemeral base of one of the medieval furrows (*ASL18*).
- 5.3.25 Anomaly *ASL05* appears to terminate just to the west of Trench 8, possibly coinciding with the eastern terminal of anomaly *ASL04* (investigated in Trench 4) to form an entranceway. An apparent break in anomaly *ASL05* to the east of Trench 8 appears to coincide with ridge and furrow cultivation, and may therefore be truncation rather than a genuine interval in *ASL05*.

#### Trench 9

- 5.3.26 Trench 9 was located towards the southern boundary of the Site, and targeted two small unnumbered possible linear anomalies recorded during the geophysical survey (**Figure 1** and **2**).
- 5.3.27 An approximate east-north-east to west-south-west aligned linear ditch **904** was recorded within the trench. The ditch was fairly shallow and had a moderate, concave profile, and measured 0.56m wide by 0.13m deep. Pottery and animal bone were recovered from the single fill recovered, the former including both early to mid-Saxon pottery and a stray sherd of Romano-British greyware. Ditch **904** matched well with the southernmost geophysical anomaly in Trench 9 and probably continued into Trench 7 c. 17m to the east. Ditch **904** probably represents a truncated field boundary.
- 5.3.28 The northernmost short linear geophysical anomaly crossed by Trench 9 was not identified in the field.

#### Trench 10

5.3.29 Trench 10 was targeted on the southern portion of an approximately north to south aligned possible linear feature (*ASL08*) mapped during the geophysical survey (**Figure 1** and **3**).



5.3.30 Within the excavated trench a north-south aligned linear feature **1004** was recorded in plan, however this ditch was *c*. 3.7m to the east of geophysical anomaly *ASL08*. Feature **1004** was fairly poorly-defined in plan, measuring 1.15m wide and containing a single mid-yellow brown, sandy silt loam fill. Flecks of charcoal and burnt stone were visible within the fill but not retained. In relation to the geophysical survey results, this is most likely the base of one of the medieval furrows (*ASL18*).

#### Trench 11

- 5.3.31 Trench 11 was located over several geophysical anomalies, including the apparent terminal of a large north-north-east to south-south-west aligned unnumbered linear anomaly, a sub-rectangular possible pit-like feature, and a narrow weaker linear anomaly (part of *ASL07*) (**Figure 1, 3** and **Plate 8**).
- 5.3.32 On excavation a possible north-south aligned linear ditch **1104** (1.34m wide) was recorded. The ditch was poorly-defined in plan, and contained a light brownish-yellow, sandy silt fill with early to mid-Saxon pottery, animal bone, burnt stone and charcoal flecks (the latter two not recovered). Although it is possible that ditch **1104** was a continuation of ditch **604** to the north (and potentially continuing to the south as ditch **706**), it should be noted that ditch **1104** was actually located within the area of the unnumbered sub-rectangular anomaly; the continuation of linear anomaly ASL07 into this trench was not observed on the line proposed by the geophysical survey results.
- 5.3.33 There was no indication of the larger anomaly at the west end of the trench, even though this feature had already been positively identified as an archaeological ditch in Trench 7 to the south; it is therefore probable that the northern terminal of this feature was located immediately to the south of Trench 11.

#### 6 FINDS

#### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The evaluation produced a small quantity of finds, in a very limited range of material types; these are quantified by context in **Table 1**. Finds derived from topsoil and subsoil contexts, and from the fills of cut features (five ditches), in eight of the 11 trenches excavated (no finds were recovered from Trenches 5, 6 or 10).

Table 1: Finds quantification by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Trench	<b>Animal Bone</b>	<b>Clay Pipe</b>	Fired Clay	Pottery
102	1				1/4
205	2	35/292		1/18	7/88
301	3				1/2
306	3	2/5			
405	4	1/1			
709	7				3/29
801	8		2/5		
905	9	14/28			3/3
1105	11	28/75			1/2
7	OTALS	80/401	2/5	1/18	16/128



# 6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 Datable material consists solely of pottery sherds. One of these, residual within ditch **904** (secondary fill **905**), is a Romano-British coarse greyware, and one, from Trench 3 topsoil, is a post-medieval white salt glaze ware (early 18<sup>th</sup> century).
- 6.2.2 The remaining 14 sherds are of early to mid-Saxon date (5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> centuries AD). Fabric types are hard-fired and coarsely sandy, containing subangular quartz grains, and occasional calcareous inclusions; similar fabrics have been observed, for example, within an early Saxon (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> century AD) assemblage from Bicester, about 45km to the southeast (Mepham 2002). None of the sherds are diagnostic.
- 6.2.3 The Saxon sherds provide the only dating evidence for ditches **204**, **708**, **904** and **1104**, although quantities throughout are very small.

#### 6.3 Animal Bone

- 6.3.1 Eighty fragments (or 401g) of animal bone were recovered from several early Saxon ditches located in evaluation Trenches 2 to 4, 9 and 11. Bone preservation is generally good and the proportion of gnawed fragments is relatively low, despite this however the number of identifiable fragments is relatively small.
- 6.3.2 Identified bone was recovered from two ditches. Ditch **204** produced a fragment of cattle skull and several sheep bones including a complete horn core from a ram. Saw marks were noted at the base of the horn core, this evidence indicates that horn was a valued resource. The keratinous outer sheath is extremely malleable and can be used to manufacture a wide variety of objects. A small number of cattle and sheep bones were also recovered from ditch **1104**.

#### 6.4 Other Finds

6.4.1 Other finds comprise two fragments of plain clay tobacco pipe stem; and one small fragment of fired clay, with one flattish surface (unknown date and origin).

#### 7 CONCLUSIONS

#### 7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The results of the evaluation correlate very well with the results of the geophysical survey. Probable medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was noted as earthworks across the ground surface of the entire Site, and the furrows were detected as linear anomalies during the geophysical survey on occasion even appearing to truncate 'earlier' subsurface anomalies.
- 7.1.2 Archaeological features were identified in all 11 trenches and included a probable trackway, seven well-defined linear ditches, three possible linear features and a possible pit. The excavated features varied in size, the largest features were field or boundary ditches (ditch **304** for instance measuring 2.15m wide by 0.75m deep). Smaller linear ditches were also recorded (ditch **904** for instance measuring 0.56m wide by 0.13m deep).
- 7.1.3 Although a single stray residual sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered, the vast majority of the small assemblage of pottery belonged to the early to mid-Saxon period (5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> century AD); all recovered from feature fills, often in association with similarly small quantities of animal bone. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from topsoil, and is almost certainly the result of manuring.



#### 7.2 Discussion

- 7.2.1 The archaeological features recorded during the evaluation suggest settlement of early to mid-Saxon date is located in or very near to the Site, probably focused just to the southeast on the higher ground in that area. The trackway in Trench 1 appears to be aligned towards this probable settlement focus.
- 7.2.2 The remainder of the Site appears to be occupied by a number of larger field boundary/ enclosure ditches, generally grouped into a down-slope and along-slope arrangement to form sub-rectangular/ trapezoidal fields or enclosures, with elements appearing to respect the trackway noted above (based on the geophysical survey results).
- 7.2.3 Although many of the larger discrete features identified during the geophysical survey could not be positively identified during evaluation, given the problematic nature of feature identification (e.g. generally low anthropogenic content, very poor differentiation between the underlying parent geology and re-worked parent geology-based feature fills *etc.*), the similarity in size and shape for some of these anomalies with Saxon sunken-featured buildings should not be overlooked.
- 7.2.4 In the context of the known Saxon origins for Chipping Campden, this limited settlement evidence of early to mid-Saxon date on the very edge of the market town is clearly therefore of considerable regional significance.

#### 8 ARCHIVE

- 8.1.1 The project archive was prepared to the standards set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 1991) and the requirements of the recipient museum, who will be consulted by Wessex Archaeology prior to commencement of the investigation. The written archive was on clean, stable materials, and was suitable for photocopying. The materials used were of the standard recommended in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (Walker 1990).
- 8.1.2 The basic computerised data will form part of the Site archive.
- 8.1.3 With the agreement of the landowner(s), the project archive, including written, drawn, photographic and material elements (together with a summary of the contents of the archive), including any objects declared Treasure under the *Treasure Act* (1996), will be deposited upon completion of the post-fieldwork programme.
- 8.1.4 The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the project code **83560**. In due course the complete archive will be deposited with Gloucestershire County Council's Museum Service.

# 9 REFERENCES

- Archaeological Surveys Ltd [ASL], 2011, Badgers Field, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire. Magnetometer Survey Report, unpublished client report. Ref. no 383
- British Geological Survey (England and Wales), 2000, *Moreton-in-Marsh* Sheet 217, 1:50,000 Solid and Drift
- CgMs, 2010, Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Badgers Field, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, unpublished client report

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- Institute for Archaeologists, 2008, Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation
- Walker, K., 1990, Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for Long-term Storage, UKIC Archaeology Section
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# **APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES**

bgl = below ground level

Note that the use of the term 'secondary fill' below denotes a deposit derived from gradual silting and/erosion over the lifespan of an archaeological feature, to differentiate from 'primary fill' which is reserved to identify rapid initial feature in-fill, generally considered broadly contemporaneous with the immediate post-construction of a feature – there were no primary fills identified at Badgers Field.

TRENCH	1			Type:	Machine ex	cavated		
Dimension	ns: 12.90x1.5	5m	Max. depth: 0.70m		Ground le	evel: 147.13-1	47.88m aOD	
X co-ord:	415288.97		Y	co-ord: 238	908.48			
Context	Context Description							
101	Topsoil		n topsoil. Mid grey-brow				0.00-0.30	
			ar, <1-2cm. Loose and fr grass. Slightly diffuse in				bgl	
102	Subsoil		n subsoil. Mid red-browr				0.30-0.50	
			ons. Fairly friable. Fairly y diffuse interface with (			turbation.	bgl	
103	Natural	Natura Comp	al geology. Mid red-brow act.	n silty clay. N	o visible ind	clusions.	0.50+ bgl	
104	Ditch	South	-east - north-west aligi	ned ditch. Pa	rallel to (1	06).	0.36 deep	
		_	ht, moderate sides, co e/unclear in plan. Filled			•		
105	Secondary fill		dary fill of ditch (104). M ngular, <1-2cm. Homoge				0.36 deep	
106	Ditch	Unexc	-east - north-west aligi cavated. 0.6m wide. Ve 107). Cuts (103).				-	
107	Secondary fill		dary fill of ditch (106). M ngular, <1-2cm. Homoge				-	

TRENCH	2		Type:	Machine ex	cavated		
Dimension	ons: 13.70x1.54	4m	Max. depth: 0.47m		Ground lev	<b>/el:</b> 145.69-1	46.70m aOD
X co-ord:	<b>X co-ord:</b> 415223.72 <b>Y co-ord:</b> 2389						
Context	Description						Depth (m)
201	Topsoil	inclusi	n topsoil. Mid red-brov ons. Loose and friable Slightly diffuse interfa	. Homogenous.	Bioturbated	. Under	0.00-0.32 bgl
202	Subsoil	loam. homog	n subsoil, poorly deve 1% stone, sub-angular genous. Some bioturba es (203).	r, <1-3cm. Fairly	, friable. Fair	·ly	0.27-0.46 bgl
203	Natural	Natura	al geology. Limestone.	Horizontally be	dded. Comp	act.	0.38+ bgl
204	Ditch		west aligned ditch. Swide. Slightly diffuse				0.24 deep
2.0m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan. Fill  Secondary fill of ditch (204). Mid brown s sub-angular, <1-10cm. Occasional chard burnt stone and animal bone. Rare potte Some bioturbation. Overlies (204).					flecks. Frag	ments of	0.24 deep



TRENCH	3				Type:	Machine ex	cavated
Dimension	ons: 13.20x1.5	5m	Max. depth: 0.61m		Ground	level: 145.86-1	46.14m aOD
<b>X co-ord:</b> 415242.48 <b>Y co-ord:</b> 2389							
Context	Description						Depth (m)
301	Topsoil		n topsoil. Mid grey silgrass. Slightly diffuse				0.00-0.24 bgl
302	Subsoil	angula	n subsoil. Mid yellow- ar, <1cm. Fairly friable pation. Overlies (303).	. Fairly homoge			0.23-0.64 bgl
303	Natural		Natural geology. Mid red-brown silty clay. No visible inclusions. Compact.				
304	Ditch	base.	- south aligned ditclescope 2.15m wide. Slightly Cuts (303).				0.75 deep
305	Secondary fill	stone, homog	dary fill of ditch (304). sub-angular, <1-6cm geneous some mid groce with (306). Overlie	. Rare charcoal ey mottling. Som	flecks. Fai	rly	0.56 deep
306	Secondary fill	visible	Secondary fill of ditch (304). Mid red-brown sandy silt loam. No visible inclusions. Rare charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Diffuse interface with (306). Overlies (304).				

TRENCH	4			Type:	Machine ex	cavated
Dimension	ns: 12.60x1.5	5m	Max. depth: 0.56m	Groun	d level: 143.41-1	44.08m aOD
X co-ord:	415224.74		Y co-ord: 2	38968.76		
Context	Description					Depth (m)
401	Topsoil		n topsoil. Mid red-brown sandy silt			0.00-0.28
			ons. Loose and friable. Homogeno Slightly diffuse interface with (402			bgl
402	Subsoil		n subsoil. Mid orange-brown sand			0.28-0.50
			ngular, <1-3cm. Fairly compact. Fa			bgl
			pation. Slightly diffuse interface wit			
403	Natural	Natura	al geology. Mid red clay. No visible ng. Some bioturbation. Compact.			0.45+ bgl
404	Ditch		ble linear. South-east - north-we wide. Diffuse/unclear in plan. Fi			-
405	Secondary fill	angula	dary fill of ditch (404). Mid red silty ar, 2-8cm. Rare charcoal flecks and geneous. Compact. Overlies (404).			-
406	Ditch		- west aligned ditch. Steep, strai Diffuse/unclear in plan. Filled wi			0.69 deep
407	Secondary fill	Rare	dary fill of ditch (406). Mid red silty charcoal flecks. Homogeneous. Co Overlies (408).			0.38 deep
408	Secondary fill	inclusi	dary fill of ditch (406). Mid red-brovons. Occasional manganese flecks act. Clear interface with (407). Ove	. Homoger		0.34 deep



TRENCH	5				Type:	Type: Machine excavated		
Dimension	ons: 11.25x1.55	īm	Max. depth: 0.80m		Ground le	vel: 142.50-1	43.11m aOD	
X co-ord:	415278.03			Y co-ord: 238	970.92			
Context	Description						Depth (m)	
501	Topsoil	Loose	n topsoil. Dark grey-b and friable. Bioturbate Overlies (502).				0.00-0.22 bgl	
502	Subsoil	angula	n subsoil. Mid red-bro ar, <1-2cm. Fairly well bioturbation. Diffuse h	cmpacted but fr	iable when	excavated.	0.22-0.50 bgl	
503	Natural		al geology. Mid red-bro Occasional mid yellov	, ,		patches of	0.50+ bgl	
504	Pit	Possible pit, oval. Unexcavated. 1.4m long, 1.04m wide. Filled with (505). Cuts (503).				-		
505	Secondary fill	Secondary Secondary fill of possible pit (504). Mid red-brown sandy clay. 2%					-	

TRENCH	6				Type:	Machine ex	cavated	
Dimensio	ns: 11.20x1.58	3m	Max. depth: 0.80m		Ground lev	vel: 142.09-1	42.19m aOD	
X co-ord:	415319.98			Y co-ord: 238	975.30			
Context	Description						Depth (m)	
601	Topsoil	Loose	Modern topsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy loam. No visible inclusions. Loose and friable once excavated. Well defined humic horizon and turfline. Under grass. Slightly diffuse interface with (602). Overlies					
602	Subsoil	inclusi	n subsoil. Mid red-bro ons. Fairly friable. Fail e interface with (603).	ly homogenous			0.26-0.65 bgl	
603	Natural		ıl geology. Mid red-bro s. Compact.	wn sandy clay.	Occasional	mid yellow	0.65+ bgl	
604	604 Ditch North-north-east - south-south-west aligned ditch. Unexcavated. 1.05m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan. Filled with (605). Cuts (603).					-		
605 Secondary fill Secondary fill of ditch (604). Pale yellow-brown sandy clay. N visible inclusions. Rare charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies (604).							-	



TRENCH	7				Type:	Machine ex	e excavated	
Dimensio	ons: 13.80x1.5	5m	Max. depth: 0.73m		Ground le	vel: 145.82-1	46.38m aOD	
X co-ord:	415319.78		Υ	co-ord: 238	922.35			
Context	ext Description							
701	Topsoil	Moder	n topsoil. Dark grey-brow	vn sandy loar	n. 1% stone	e, sub-	0.00-0.28	
		angula	ar - sub-rounded, <1-2cm	. Loose and f	riable. Wel	developed	bgl	
		turfline	e. Bioturbated. Under gra	ss. Overlies (	702).			
702	Subsoil	Moder	n subsoil. Mid red-brown	sandy silt loa	am. No visil	ole	0.28-0.54	
			ons. Fairly friable. Fairly				bgl	
			BM throughout. Diffuse in					
703	Natural		al geology. Mid red-browr		Occasional	mid yellow	0.54+ bgl	
		mottle	s. No visible inclusions. (	Compact.				
704	Ditch		-east – south-west aligr				-	
			s but unclear in plan. U			e. Slightly		
			e in plan. Filled with (70					
705	Secondary		dary fill of ditch (704). Mi				-	
	fill		ngular - sub-rounded, <1-			gments of		
			I bone. Fairly homogened					
706	Ditch		-east – south-west aligr		nexcavated	l. 0.8m	-	
			Filled with (707). Cuts (					
707	Secondary		dary fill of ditch (706). Mi				-	
	fill		ons except some fragme					
			oal flecks. Fairly homoger					
708	Ditch		-east – south-west aligr				-	
			cavated. 1.55m wide. Fil					
709	Secondary		dary fill of ditch (708). Da				-	
	fill		one, sub-angular, <1-7cm					
		stone,	rare pottery. Fairly homo	ogeneous. So	me bioturb	ation.		

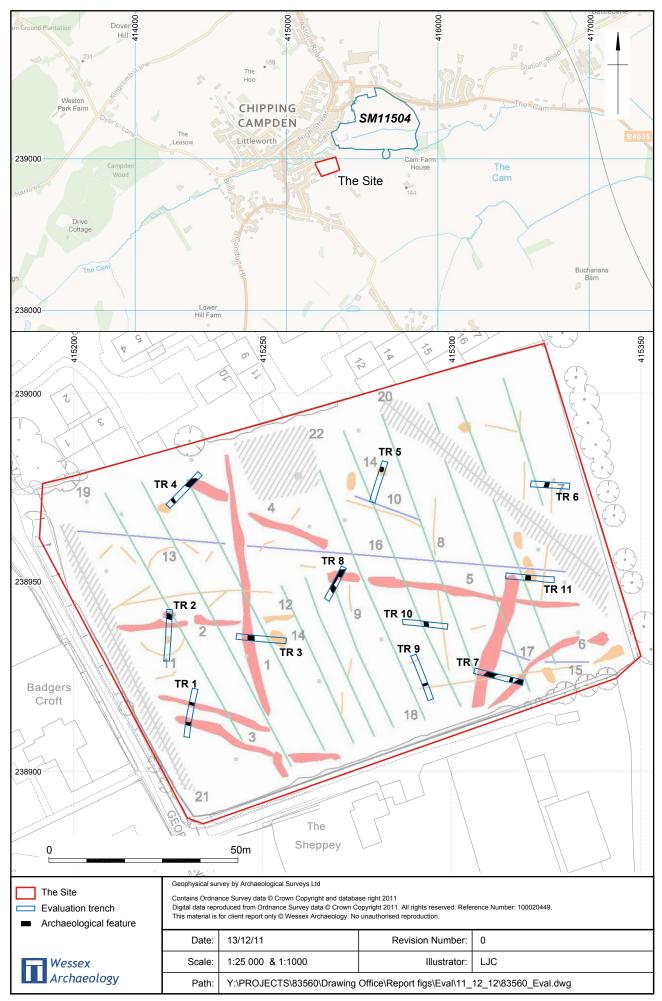
TRENCH	8		Type:	Type: Machine excavated			
Dimension	ons: 10.00x1.54	4m	Max. depth: 0.63m		Ground le	vel: 144.29-1	45.08m aOD
X co-ord:	415267.09			Y co-ord: 238	944.02		
Context	Description						Depth (m)
801	Topsoil	angula	n topsoil. Mid red-brov ar, <1-3cm. Loose and grass. Slightly diffuse	friable. Homoge	enous. Bioti	urbated.	0.00-0.28 bgl
802	Subsoil	sub-ar bioturb	n subsoil. Mid orangengular, <1-2cm. Fairly pation. Slightly diffuse	friable. Fairly ho interface with (8	omogenous. 303). Overlie	Some es (803).	0.26-0.49 bgl
803	Natural		al geology. Mid red cla e mottling. Compact.	y. No visible inc	lusions. Oc	casional	0.48+ bgl
804	Ditch	East – west aligned ditch. Unexcavated. 1.8m wide. Diffuse/unclear in plan. Filled with (805). Cuts (803).					-
805 Secondary fill of ditch (804). Mid red-brown inclusions. Rare charcoal flecks. Fairly hom bioturbation. Overlies (804).							-

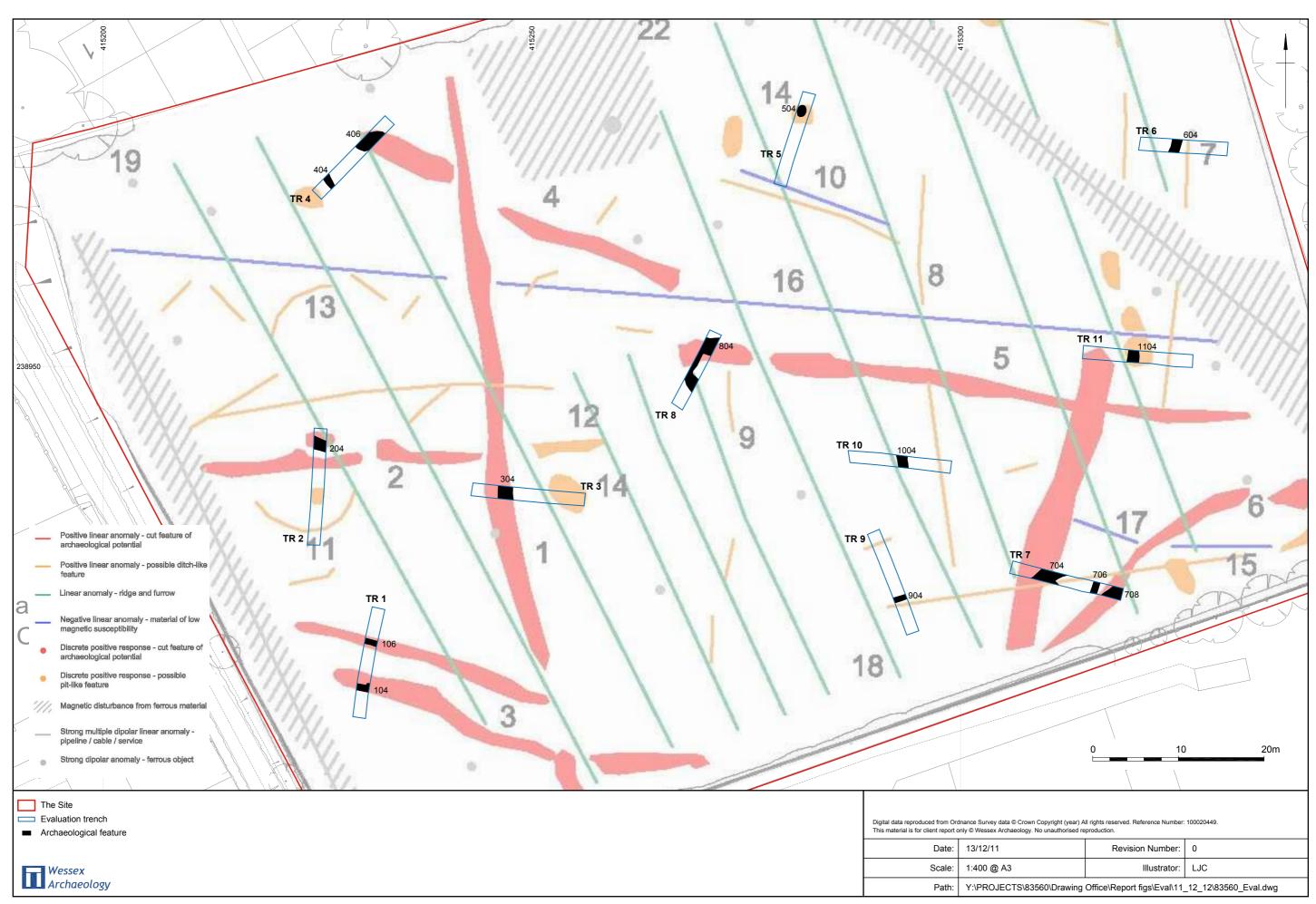


TRENCH	9	Type:	Machine ex	cavated			
Dimensions: 12.70x1.55m Max. depth: 0.62m						evel: 145.62-1	46.32m aOD
X co-ord:	415293.97		,	Y co-ord: 238	918.01		
Context	Description						Depth (m)
901	Topsoil	Loose	Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Loose and friable. Homogenous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Slightly diffuse interface with (902). Overlies (902).				
902	Subsoil	Fairly	Modern subsoil. Mid yellow-brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Fairly friable. Fairly homogenous. Some bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interface with (903). Overlies (903).				
903	Natural	Natural geology. Mid red-brown silty clay. No visible inclusions. Occasional mid yellow mottling. Compact.					0.53+ bgl
904	Ditch	East-north-east – west-south-west aligned ditch. Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 0.56m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan. Filled with (905). Cuts (903).				0.13 deep	
905	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch (904). Pale grey- brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Occasional animal bone. Fairly homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies (904).				0.13 deep	

TRENCH	TRENCH 10 Type: Machine exc						
Dimensio	ns: 12.10x1.54	4m		Ground le	vel: 145.12-1	44.99m aOD	
X co-ord:	415299.97			Y co-ord: 238	937.38		
Context	Description					Depth (m)	
1001	Topsoil	angula	Modern topsoil. Mid red-brown sandy silt loam. <1% stone, subangular, <1-3cm. Loose and friable. Homogenous. Bioturbated. Under grass. Slightly diffuse interface with (1002). Overlies (1002).				
1002	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown sandy silt loam. No visible inclusions. Fairly friable. Fairly homogenous. Some bioturbation. Fairly clear interface with (1003). Overlies (1003).				0.20-0.59 bgl	
1003	Natural	Natural geology. Mid red-orange silty clay. Occasional small stones (regolith). Compact.					0.57+ bgl
1004	Ditch	North – south aligned ditch. Unexcavated. 1.15m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan. Filled with (1005). Cuts (1003).					-
1005	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch (1004). Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Rare charcoal and burnt stone flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Compact. Overlies (1004).					-

TRENCH 11					Type:	Machine ex	cavated	
Dimensions: 13.10x1.55m Max. depth: 0.80m					Ground le	vel: 143.92-1	44.08m aOD	
X co-ord:	415327.83		Y co-ord: 2389	949.72				
Context	Description						Depth (m)	
1101	Topsoil	Loose	Modern topsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy loam. No visible inclusions.  Loose and friable once excavated. Bioturbated. Well developed turfline. Slightly diffuse interface with (1102). Overlies (1102).					
1102	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Mid red-brown sandy loam. No visible inclusions. Fairly friable. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact. Fairly diffuse horizon with (1103). Overlies (1103).					0.28-0.60 bgl	
1103	Natural	Natural geology. Mid red-brown sandy clay. No visible inclusions.  Occasional mid yellow-grey mottles. Compact.				0.60+ bgl		
1104	Ditch	North – south aligned ditch. Unexcavated. 1.34m wide.  Diffuse/unclear in plan. Filled with (1105). Cuts (1103).					-	
1105	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch (1104). Pale yellow-brown sandy silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1cm. Occasional charcoal flecks and animal bone. Fairly homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies (1104).				-		





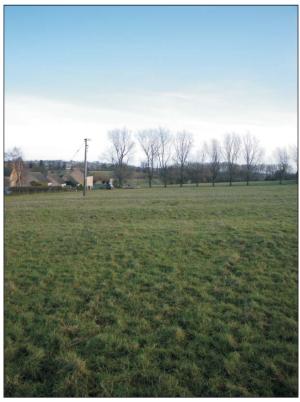


Plate 1: Ridge and furrow cultivation earthworks



Plate 2: General view of Trench 1

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Plate 3: General view of Trench 2



Plate 4: South facing section of ditch 304

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Plate 5: Representative section of Trench 6



Plate 6: General view of Trench 7

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Plate 7: View of ditches 706 and 708



Plate 8: General view of Trench 11

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