



# Ambrey Archaeology Ltd

## Metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation of land off Station Road, Fladbury, Worcestershire

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With a contribution by Rob Hedge

Version 2

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## Summary

A metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation were carried out by Ambrey Archaeology of land off Station Road, Fladbury, Worcestershire. It was carried out at the request of Cathy Patrick of Orion Heritage whose client submitted an application to Wychavon District Council for the erection of 4no. dwellings and associated works.

A heritage consultation response to the application noted that the site is bounded by two known archaeological features, an Anglo Saxon road to the west and a Medieval holloway extending to the eastern boundary of the site. Furthermore, a WWII camp is recorded immediately to the north.

It was therefore considered that there was a potential for the survival of archaeological remains within the site and suggested that the potential impact of the development should be offset by a programme of archaeological works, the initial stages of which should comprise a metal detecting survey of the site and a programme of trial trenching.

The site comprises a pasture field on the east side of Station Road to the north of the historic core of Fladbury. The River Avon flows 400m to the south-east. Prehistoric activity in the vicinity has been noted through archaeological interventions and cropmarks.

The works were carried out in June 2025. Twenty one objects scattered across the site were recovered during the metal detecting survey. These were largely of a domestic or agricultural nature and could not be directly linked to activity associated with the adjacent WWII camp.

Six trenches, each 20m long and 1.6m wide, were excavated in the proposed house plots, and proposed sustainable drainage system. One trench was also placed to provide a transect of the holloway which is visible within the field as a linear dip.

Three linear features were uncovered cutting the natural substrate and sections were excavated across them. Ceramic building material and metal objects were recovered which, although not closely dateable, are thought to denote post-Medieval activity. Two of these features are thought to be the remains of agricultural boundaries or drainage ditches. A third was at the base of the holloway and may have been an attempt to allow water to flow freely through this feature.

Lidar data shows that the holloway continues northwards from the site across a golf course and onto higher ground to the north of the A44 road. It is possible that this was the northern route from the village before Station Road was constructed.

A single fragment of Medieval glazed tile was recovered from a later dump of material. It is likely to have been taken from a local ecclesiastical site, re-used on a farm and later discarded.

The features and artefacts recorded during the metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation are of no more than local significance.

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## 1. Background

This report describes the results of a metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation carried out by Ambrey Archaeology of land off Station Road, Fladbury, Worcestershire (NGR 399454 246971). It was carried out at the request of Cathy Patrick of Orion Heritage whose client submitted an application to Wychavon District Council (WDC) for the erection of 4no. dwellings and associated works (PiP Approval Ref. 23/02055).

A heritage consultation response to the application prepared by Aidan Smyth, Archaeology and Planning Advisor to Wychavon District Council (WDC), noted that the site is bounded by two known archaeological features, an Anglo Saxon Road (WSM30402), to the west and a Medieval Holloway (WSM69159) extending to the eastern boundary of the site. Furthermore, a WWII camp (WSM25066) is recorded immediately to the north.

It was therefore considered that there was a potential for the survival of archaeological remains within the site and suggested that the potential impact of the development should be offset by a programme of archaeological works, the initial stages of which should comprise a metal detecting survey of the site and a programme of trial trenching.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was submitted and approved by WDC prior to works. Since the submission of the WSI permission has been granted subject to conditions including a programme of archaeological works.

## 2. Aims

The Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA 2023a) notes that an archaeological field evaluation will seek to determine, record and report on the nature, extent, preservation and significance of archaeological remains within a defined area. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts.

The aims of the metal detecting survey were to determine if artefacts relating to the former POW camp to the north of the site survived within the site.



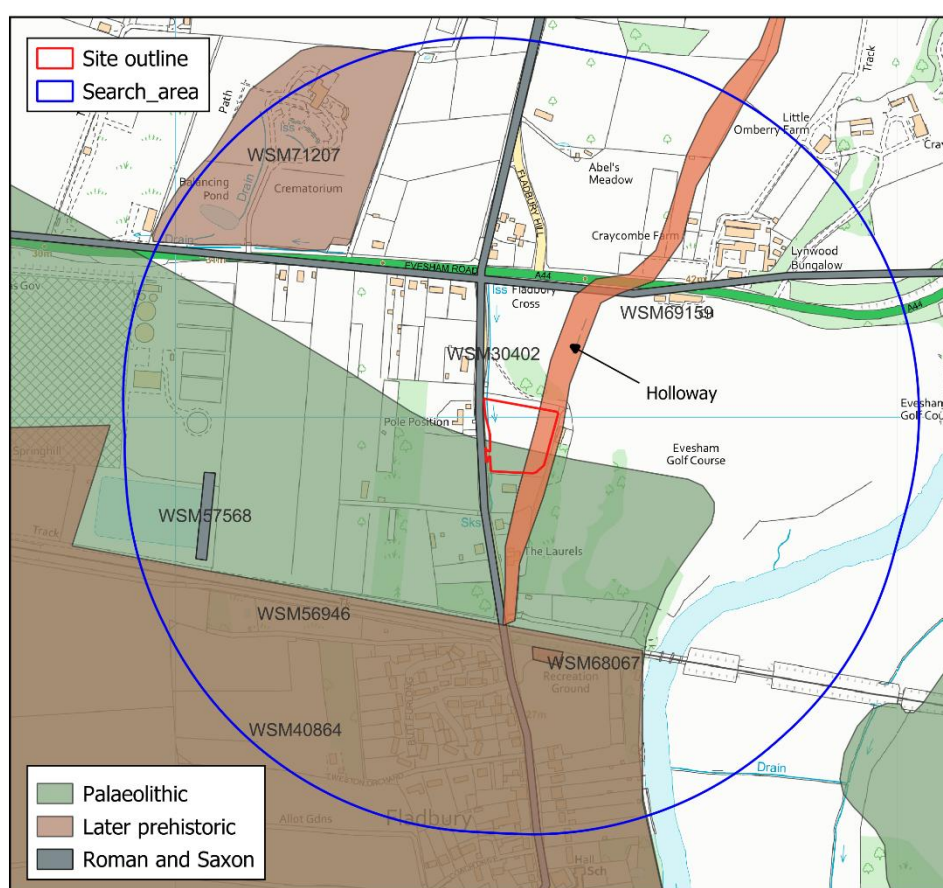
## 4. Archaeological context

### 4.1 Historic Environment Record

A Worcestershire HER search (reference #1714731) with a radius of 500m centred on the site was obtained and the following section presents a summary of the results.

The southern part of the site falls within an area identified as having potential for the survival of artefacts of Palaeolithic date (WSM56946) due to the present of Wasperton Sand and Gravel (Figure 2).

Later prehistoric assets within the search area include a ritual and settlement landscape (WSM40864). This has been identified through a series of cropmarks, unstratified finds and excavations. A survey here was undertaken of a complex of Neolithic Cursus type monuments (WSM49654) by Neal Johnson in 2009 (WSM49654).



*Figure 2.*  
*Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon assets within the search area*  
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A possible Neolithic occupation site was identified in an archaeological evaluation undertaken ahead of the construction of a sports pavilion at Station Road 300m to the SSE of the site (WSM68067). Finds comprised two body sherds of an unidentified prehistoric vessel, flint flakes of possibly Neolithic or early Bronze Age date, and occasional fire-cracked pebbles. Furthermore, anomalies identified during a geophysical survey at Roxley Farm (WSM71207) 500m NNW of the site included possible enclosures, pits and ring ditches

A Roman ditch (WSM57568) was revealed during an excavation to the south of Evesham Road, some 400m WSW of the site, although it was noted that the single sherd which dated the feature was abraded and may therefore have been residual in that context. An archaeological evaluation at this

site in 2006 (WSM35964) revealed the remains of probable Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement activity, along with evidence for Romano-British, Medieval and post-Medieval land use.

Both the Station Road which forms the western boundary of the site and the A44 approximately 200m to the north, are suggested by Della Hooke to have been Saxon Roads (WSM30402). In the eastern part of the site, a clear depression is evident from Lidar images, forming part of a longer, linear dip which can be traced from Machine Farm 800m NNE of the site to a point where it joins the A44, some 200m south of the site. This feature is discussed in more detail below.

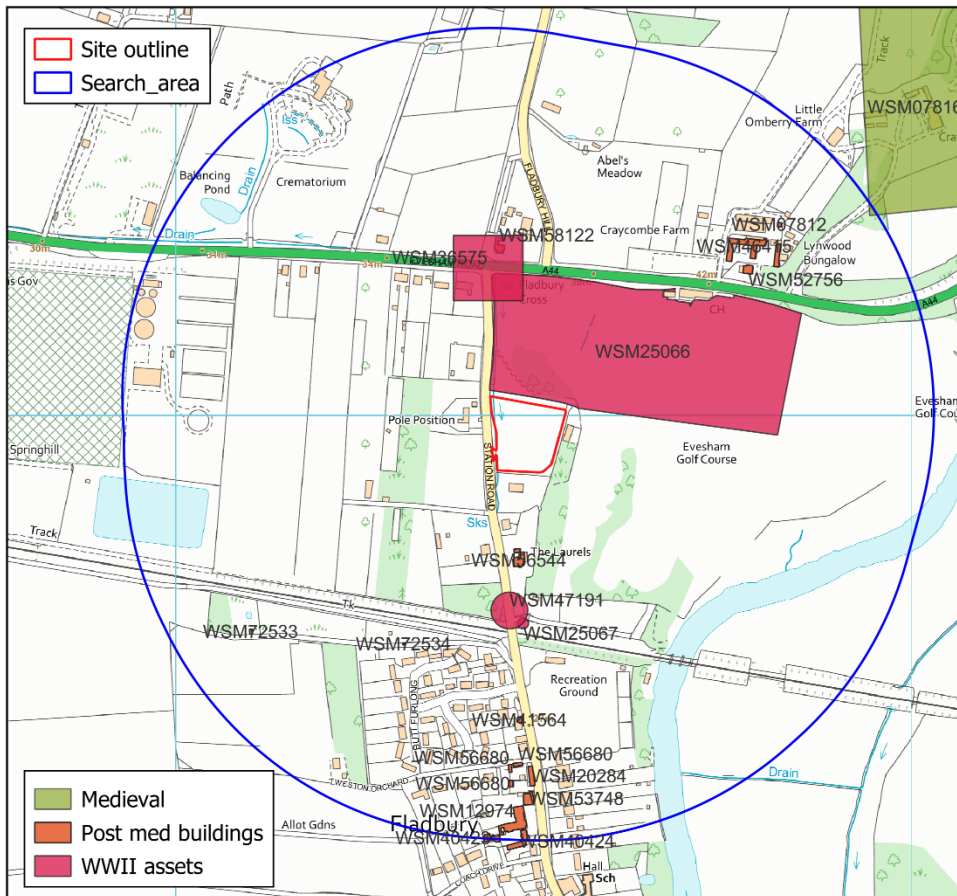


Figure 3. Medieval to 20<sup>th</sup> century assets within the search area

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The site lies within the 13<sup>th</sup> century boundary of Feckenham Forest (WSM42160). The site of a deserted Medieval village (WSM07816) is recorded at Craycombe on the north side of the A44 road 600m north-east of the site, although there is no evidence of the former settlement in the form of cropmarks.

Within the search area there are 17 historic buildings marked on the HER, the oldest of which are 17<sup>th</sup> century box timber framed cottages (WSM40423, WSM40424 and WSM41564), a 17<sup>th</sup> century tithe barn (WSM20284) and a 17<sup>th</sup> century Farmstead (WSM53748). The nearest to the site is Laurels, 150m to the south, described as a Victorian villa (WSM56544).

There are four World War II assets within the search area. Immediately to the north of the site, in an area which is now part of the golf course, is the site of camp described on the HER as a 'Black American WWII Camp'; a prisoner of war camp (WSM25066). This comprised two rows of Nissen Huts with a central service road aligned approximately east-west of which only the entrance to the site remains.

The location of pill boxes is recorded at the junction of Station Road and the A44 Evesham Road, 200m to the north of the site (WSM36575) and a spigot mortar emplacement is recorded as having been placed at the railway bridge to the south (WSM25067). Adjacent to this is the crash site of a Havilland Mosquito Mk T.III which clipped the high tension wires at the POQ camp on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1945 and crashed near Fladbury Station (WSM47191).

## 4.2 Map Regression

The 1811 Ordnance Survey Drawing Sheet 217 (Figure 4) shows the site as an open area to the north of the village of Fladbury although one building in an enclosed area is depicted to the south. The land surrounding Craycombe House to the north-east is shown in green depicting a small area of parkland.



*Figure 4. Extract of OS Drawing 217, Pershore showing approximate site location in red*

*Courtesy of the British Library*

There is little change on the Ordnance Survey one inch to the mile survey of 1828-30 (Figure 5).



*Figure 5. Extract of Ordnance Survey Sheet LIV 1828-30 showing approximate site location in red*

*Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland*



## 5. Methodology

### 5.1 Fieldwork

The works were carried out by Elizabeth Connolly MA ACIfA and Tom Rogers MSc MCIfA following *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2023) and *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* (Worcestershire County Council 2024).

#### Metal detecting survey

The metal detecting survey was carried out on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

An independent grid was established across the impacted area using a Real Time Kinetic Global Position (GPS). Transects 2m wide running north—south across the area were marked out by bamboo cane and the grid was tied into the OS National Grid.

Metal detecting sweeps were carried out along the transects using a Garrett Ace 250 metal detector and identified metal objects were retrieved using a spade.

#### Trial trenching

Evaluation of the site through trial trenching was carried out between 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Six trenches, each 20m long and 1.6m wide, were excavated in the locations shown on Figure 8 to achieve a 4% sample of the impacted area of the site (estimated at 4700sqm). Trenches were laid out using a Real Time Kinetic Global Position System.

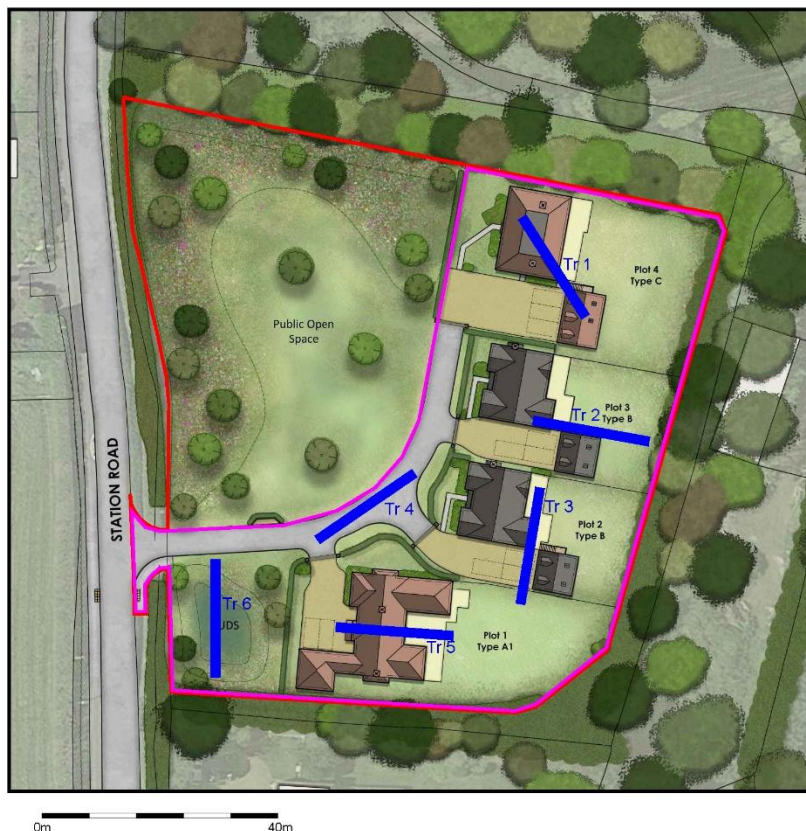


Figure 8. Plan showing locations of trenches in relation to proposed site plan

Basemap provided by client

The trenches were located to test the footprints of the proposed houses and a Sustainable Drainage System soakaway to the south-west. Trench 2 was also located to cross a depression visible on LiDAR data (Figure 4) which may correlate with the holloway referred to in the Heritage Consultation Response.

Prior to excavation, the locations of the trenches were scanned using a Cable Awareness Tool to ensure that no live services were present.

Initial excavation of the trenches (removal of topsoil and subsoil) was carried out using a wheeled mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent cleaning of the trench was undertaken by hand. Sections, generally 1m wide, were excavated through a representative sample of features

Context recording was undertaken using context sheets and other pro-forma recording sheets and photographs were taken with a Nikon D3200 SLR camera. Plans and sections of trenches and features were drawn on permatrace at 1:10 and 1:50 scales and recorded by GPS.

On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

## 5.2 Post excavation works

Following excavation, all context sheets were checked and cross referenced. Survey material was downloaded and processed using QGIS 3.16 Hannover and AutoCAD LT 2023.

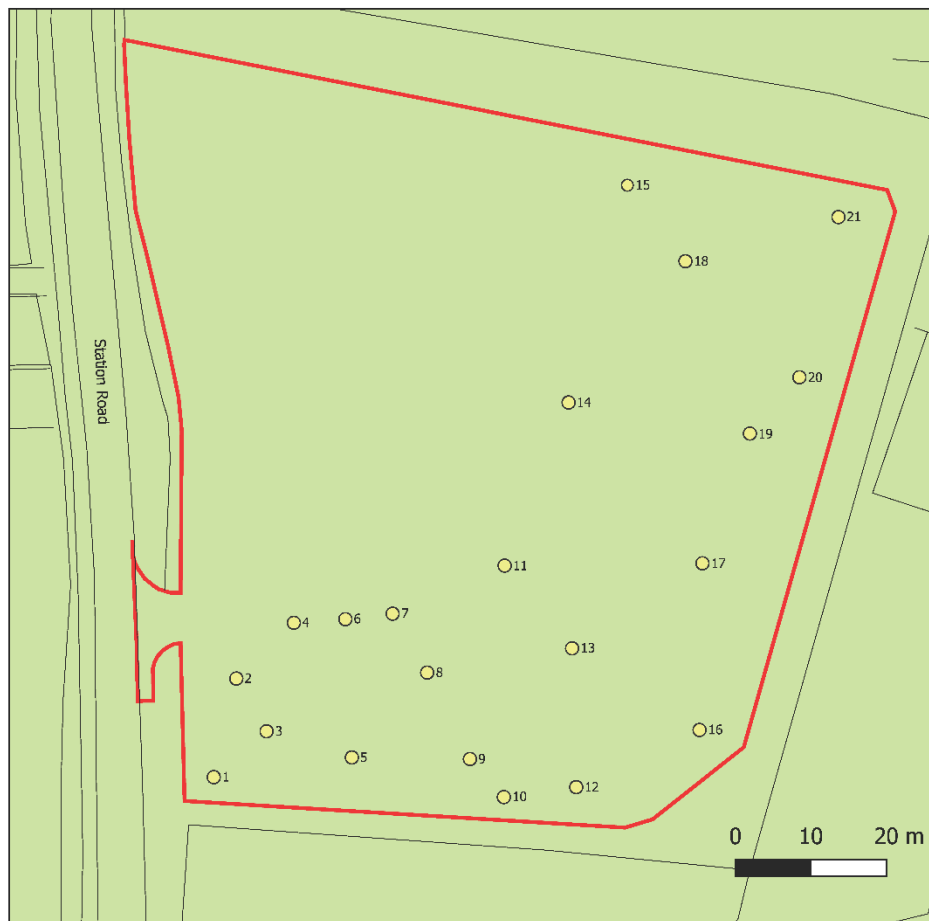
Provision has been made to upload the digital archive of the project via OASIS (OASIS Id: ambreyar2-535283).

## 6. Results

### 6.1 Metal detecting survey

Twenty one individual objects were found and individually bagged. The bags were marked with the site code and the numbered the findspot was recorded by GPS. The locations of each individual findspot are shown in Figure 9.

The objects, which largely comprised agricultural or domestic items are described in Section 7 below.



*Figure 9. Plan showing locations of objects retrieved during metal detecting survey*

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Ordnance Survey  
AC0000808122*

### 6.2 Stratigraphic analysis

Topsoil across the site (101, 201, 301, 401, 501 and 601) was a loose, mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones with a depth of between 0.2m and 0.3m. This overlay subsoil (102, 202, 302, 402, 502, and 602), comprising a compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks. The natural substrate (103, 203, 303, 403, 503 and 603) was generally encountered at a depth of 0.3-0.4m (except in Trench 2 – see below) and consisted of a compact mottled grey-brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones with some bands of orange, sandy clay.

**Trench 1** (Plate 1, Figure 10) was to the north-east of the site, orientated NW-SE crossing the proposed footprint of Plot 4. The centre of the trench was crossed by a linear feature [105] orientated NE-SW and 1.5m wide (Plate 2). A 1m wide section revealed a profile with a sharp break

of slope at the top and gently sloping sides to a bowl shaped base 0.44m deep. It was filled with a compact mid-brown-grey clay with frequent charcoal flecks and small pebbles (104) from which fragments of brick and tile were recovered as well as a nail.

Slightly to the south-east, a modern field drain 0.3m wide (106) crossed the trench.

**Trench 2** (Plate 3, Figure 11) was orientated approximately east-west. It was located within Plot 3 but was also placed slightly to the east to cross the wide, linear depression which runs north-south parallel and adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site.

Topsoil (201) within the trench was 0.2m deep at each end and 0.3m deep towards the centre, whilst subsoil (202) was 0.3m deep at each end but 0.7m in the centre, following a wide, shallow dip in the natural substrate (203).

At the base of the dip was a linear feature 1.47m wide [205] with a distinctly browner and sandier fill (204) than the overlying subsoil (Plates 4 and 5). A section excavated through [205] revealed a profile with a gentle break of slope at the top, gently sloping sides and a slightly irregular U shaped base. Five fragments of brick or tile, a fragment of flat roof tile and a metal hook were recovered from the fill.

**Trench 3** (Plate 6) was located in the footprint of Plot 2 in the central eastern part of the site.

A single modern, gravel-filled drain 0.3m wide (304) was recorded crossing the natural substrate in Trench 3 although a fragment of tile and an iron object were recovered from the topsoil (301).

**Trench 4** (Plate 7), located in the footprint of the proposed driveway providing access to the four plots, was orientated NE-SW. Here a ceramic drain (404) was recorded crossing the trench approximately north-south adjacent to which a small lens of modern pottery, brick metal and a fragment of glazed tile (405) was exposed within the topsoil.

**Trench 5** (Plate 8) was orientated east-west over the footprint of Plot 1. No archaeological features were recorded in the trench although a metal rod was retrieved from the topsoil.

**Trench 6** (Plate 9, Figure 12) was orientated north-south and located in the footprint of the proposed Sustainable Drainage System to the south-west of the site. The centre of the trench was crossed by a shallow linear feature on a NW-SE orientation [605], Plate 10. It was 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep with gentle break of slope at top, gently sloping sides and a flat base, filled by a compact grey-brown silty clay with occasional small, rounded stones (604). A single fragment of brick or tile was recovered from this deposit.

Some 7m to the south, the trench was crossed by a modern land drain filled with white gravel (606)

## 7. Assessment of Artefacts by Rob Hedge

### 7.1 Overview

In June 2025, Ambrey Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation and metal detecting survey at Station Road, Fladbury. These yielded a small artefactual assemblage, mostly from topsoil and subsoil deposits. The majority of finds, where closely dateable, were post-medieval or modern in date; the sole exception was a fragment of medieval floor tile.

This report comprises a preliminary assessment of the artefacts recovered.

### 7.2 Summary

The assemblage comprised 27 artefacts weighing 1908g from the evaluation phase, and 21 artefacts weighing 1511g from the metal-detecting survey (Plates 11-12); the majority were post-medieval or modern in date and typical of material incorporated into agricultural soils through manuring, drainage, or accidental loss. The exception was a large piece of ceramic floor tile that is likely to be medieval in date (Plates 13-14).

### 7.3 Aims

This assessment aims to quantify, spot-date and sort artefacts according to type, to describe their range and significance, and to make recommendations for further analysis.

### 7.4 Recovery strategy

Artefacts were hand-recovered by Ambrey Archaeology staff.

### 7.5 Standards and guidance

The project conforms to standards and guidance issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020) and CIfA's Toolkit for Specialist Reporting (2022), as well as further guidance on analysis, archive creation and museum deposition created by the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF 2011), and the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993).

### 7.6 Methodology

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. This date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded digitally. The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form. Where possible, sherds have been classified according to the Worcestershire county type series (WAAS 2017).

## 7.7 Quantification

The assemblage comprised 27 artefacts weighing 1908g from nine stratified contexts in the evaluation phase, and 21 artefacts weighing 1511g from the metal-detecting survey

<b>material</b>	<b>object type</b>	<b>count</b>	<b>weight(g)</b>
ceramic	brick/tile	7	50
	drainage tile	2	175
	flat roof tile	2	107
	floor tile	1	727
	pot	6	68
	tile	2	118
composite	watch strap	1	6
galvanised steel	round wire nail	1	31
glass	molten fragment	1	5
iron	agricultural equipment	1	114
	bracket	2	504
	fe object	1	12
	fragment	3	20
	hook	2	142
	nail	5	9
	padlock case	1	50
	plate	3	572
	plough fragment	1	88
	rod	1	80
	strap	1	7
	threaded bolt	1	55
lead	tine	1	99
	flashing fragments	1	152
slag	iron bloomery slag	1	228
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>3419</b>

Table 1: quantification of pottery and CBM

## 7.8 Condition

The condition of the artefacts was poor: pottery was fragmented, ceramic building material was generally small and abraded, and corrosion of metals was extensive. This is typical of material within agricultural contexts.

## 7.9 Discussion

### 7.9.1 Building material

A large fragment from a glazed floor tile 130mm in diameter and 23mm thick was recovered from context (405). One corner was missing, and post-depositional damage is evident in a scar across the upper surface. Nothing remains of any decoration or glaze on the upper surface, and the presence there of traces of mortar suggests that it had been re-used within a structure. However, the bevelled

edges reveal a dark red slip and a patchy olive glaze; traces of glaze have spilled over onto the sanded base. These features are typical of medieval encaustic floor tile. Such tiles typically originated in medieval ecclesiastical contexts, and were made between the 13th and the early-16th century in locations including Worcester and Great Malvern Priory. Its presence here is therefore unexpected, but not unprecedented: fragments of tile have been recovered from an agricultural context at Station Road, Pershore (Hedge 2015), and a cache of medieval floor tiles from a farm near Pershore (Griffin, pers comm.) demonstrate that the reclamation of floor tiles for use on local farmsteads must have been common practice, possibly reflecting the stripping of monastic complexes after the dissolution.

The remainder of the building material comprises small fragments of flat roof tile and brick/tile, most of which is likely to be later medieval or post-medieval in date. Several fragments of 19th/20th century drainage tile were also noted.

### 7.9.2 Pottery

<i>period</i>	<i>fabric group</i>	<i>fabric number</i>	count	weight(g)
7 - 8: post-medieval	Pearlware, plain	85.11	1	25
8 - 9: later post-medieval/modern	Porcelain	83	2	10
	Redware, unglazed	78	3	33
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>6</b>	<b>68</b>

*Table 2: pottery quantification by type, ware and fabric*

The small quantity of pottery dated from the late-18th century onwards: a single piece of late-18th/early-19th century plain pearlware; two fragments of 19th/20th century porcelain; and three sherds of unglazed 19th/20th century redware.

### 7.9.3 Metalwork

Where diagnostic, all of the metalwork was later post-medieval or modern. Several of the small nails might potentially be earlier, but extensive corrosion precludes certainty. The majority of the ironwork was agricultural in origin: it included bolts, brackets, tines and fragments from agricultural machinery. There was nothing definitively military in character, or which could clearly be attributed to the nearby 20th century military installation, though such an association might be possible with a fragment from a padlock shell and several plates and brackets.

One fragment of metalworking residue was present in deposit (204), comprising a dense chunk of iron bloomery slag. This material is typical of iron smelting in a bloomery furnace, a technique in use from the Roman period up until the 16th century in the region. Whilst it may suggest iron production in the area, this material was frequently re-purposed as rubble or coarse building material, and may therefore have been imported for that purpose.

## 7.10 Context Dating

The following table presents a context date range for each deposit. This is based on production dates for the range of material within each context. It is important to remember that it represents a *terminus post quem* range: the formation of the deposit may have occurred at any time within the range, or subsequent to it, but it cannot have occurred prior to the earlier stated date.

<b>Context</b>	<b>object type</b>	<b>start date</b>	<b>end date</b>	<b>count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>TPQ date range</b>
104	brick/tile	1200	1900	1	3	AD 1200 - 1900
104	nail	1100	1900	2	2	
204	brick/tile	1200	1900	5	46	AD 1500 - 1800
204	flat roof tile	1500	1800	1	29	
204	hook	1100	1900	1	30	
204	iron bloomery slag	40	1600	1	228	
301	drainage tile	1870	1970	1	80	AD 1870 - 1970
302	fe object	1100	1900	1	12	AD 1100 - 1900
405	bracket	1870	2000	1	311	AD 1870 - 2000
405	floor tile	1200	1500	1	727	
405	pot	1770	1850	1	25	
405		1800	1950	2	28	
501	rod	1870	1970	1	80	AD 1870 - 1970
601	drainage tile	1780	1900	1	95	AD 1800 - 1950
601	pot	1800	1950	3	15	
601	tile	1200	1500	1	54	
601		1200	1700	1	64	
602	flat roof tile	1500	1800	1	78	AD 1500 - 1800
604	brick/tile	1200	1900	1	1	AD 1200 - 1900

Table 3: Context dating TPQs

## 7.11 Conclusion

The artefacts are largely post-Medieval in date, and derive from or were re-used in agricultural activity. The presence of a Medieval floor tile is unusual, but fits a pattern of agricultural re-use of ecclesiastical building material in the local area. They are not considered a priority for museum accession, but the final decision rests with Museums Worcestershire and/or a local repository. The assemblage is not sufficiently large to warrant further analysis but should be taken into consideration if further work is undertaken on the site.

## 8. Discussion

The metal detecting survey uncovered a range of metal objects, but these appeared to be largely of agricultural origin and could not be specifically linked to the former existence of the WWII camp to the north. There was a slight bias in the deposition towards the gateway to the site from Station Road and it is thought likely that some objects may have derived from materials imported to shore up the entrance to the field from the road.

Three linear features were recorded within the site in Trenches 1, 2 and 6. Although these could not be very closely dated, the material recovered, in the form of ceramic fragments and metal objects is largely indicative of post medieval activity and the paucity of material would not suggest that they were directly related to settlement. Ditches [105] and [605] are likely to have either been drainage ditches or boundaries related to agricultural activity.

Feature [205] was at the base of the linear depression identified as a former holloway on the Historic Environment Record (WSM69159). This feature is traced from a location close to the point at which Station Road crosses the railway line 200m south of the site to a small wood 800m NNE of the site on high ground above Craycombe House. The holloway may have been an alternative route to Station Road which formerly led from Craycombe Farm to Fladbury. If so, it appears to have gone out of use prior to 1811 as it is not shown as a route on the Ordnance Survey drawing surveyed in that year or on subsequent maps.

Lidar data shows the holloway as a sharp edged feature within the area of the golf course between the site and the A44 Evesham Road which clearly survives as an earthwork feature (Figure 10).



*Figure 10. DEFRA Lidar data at resolution 1dtm showing site in red*

Within the site it is less well defined; it has possibly been degraded by ploughing or deliberately backfilled at some point to remove an obstacle within the field. The land here falls gently to the south and such a depression would have attracted a flow of water in this direction. The ditch at its base may represent a natural gully formed by the flow of storm water or (considered more likely) a

ditch deliberately dug to prevent water pooling at its base within agricultural land. It is possible that this section of the holloway represents an earlier route northward from the village of Fladbury toward Hill Furze and the Lenches which was later realigned, perhaps when the Evesham Turnpike road, now the A44, was established in 1728.

To the north of the A44 the holloway is, once again, a wider depression within the landscape which ascends gently northward to slightly higher ground. In places it forms a field boundary. The Lidar data shows a very uneven surface within the small patch of wood at which it terminates which might suggest that this was, at some point, a small scale quarry, in which case the holloway may have been used for transporting stone.

Archaeological activity in the vicinity of the village of Fladbury is well attested. To the south-west of the site in particular, a landscape of prehistoric activity is recorded in which settlement and ceremonial monuments have been recognised both through intrusive works and study of cropmarks. An extensive evaluation undertaken to the west of the site in 2006 ahead of the construction of a spring onion plant (WSM35964) identified two areas of prehistoric activity interpreted as small scale farming in the Bronze and Iron Ages and that activity continued into the Roman period. The survival of the remains of these periods forms a part of a wider pattern of settlement and agriculture centred on the valley of the River Avon.

Evaluation within the site, however, produced no evidence of such activity despite the river flowing less than 400m from the site. It is suggested that this lack of archaeological activity may have a geological background. To the south and west of the village, a large area of Wasperton Sands and Gravels is mapped. Such a deposit would produce the light, well drained soils with which much of the settlement activity in the area and across the country in general, is associated. In contrast, however, the natural substrate within the site was a heavy and unworkable clay even in the southern section in which the superficial deposits are mapped. Furthermore, between the site and the river there is a slight river cliff as the land drops sharply from a height of about 40m AOD to 25m AOD which would have limited access to the river which would have been a vital asset for food resources and hunting.

The inclusion of a Medieval glazed tile in deposit (405) demonstrates how formerly high status materials have been re-used and put to agricultural use. However in the context of what was clearly a later dump of material this does not have any bearing on the archaeological significance of the site.

It is not considered that the features and artefacts recorded during the metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation are any more than local significance.

## 9. Acknowledgements

Ambrey Archaeology would like to thank the following for their assistance in completing this project; Cathy Patrick for commissioning the project on behalf of Karl Lockley of Lockley Homes Ltd, Aidan Smyth of Wychavon District Council for monitoring the works and Arthur Redman and Son Ltd for supplying the plant.

## 10. Bibliography

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### Cartography

1811 Ordnance Survey Drawing 217: Pershore – Draughtsman Robert Dawson

1828-30 Ordnance Survey Sheet LIV SW Worcester at one inch to the mile scale

1884 Ordnance Survey Sheet XL11.9 at 25 inches to the mile

1884 Ordnance Survey Sheet XL11.10 at 25 inches to the mile

1903 Ordnance Survey Sheet XL11.9 at 25 inches to the mile

1903 Ordnance Survey Sheet XL11.10 at 25 inches to the mile

Figures 11-13

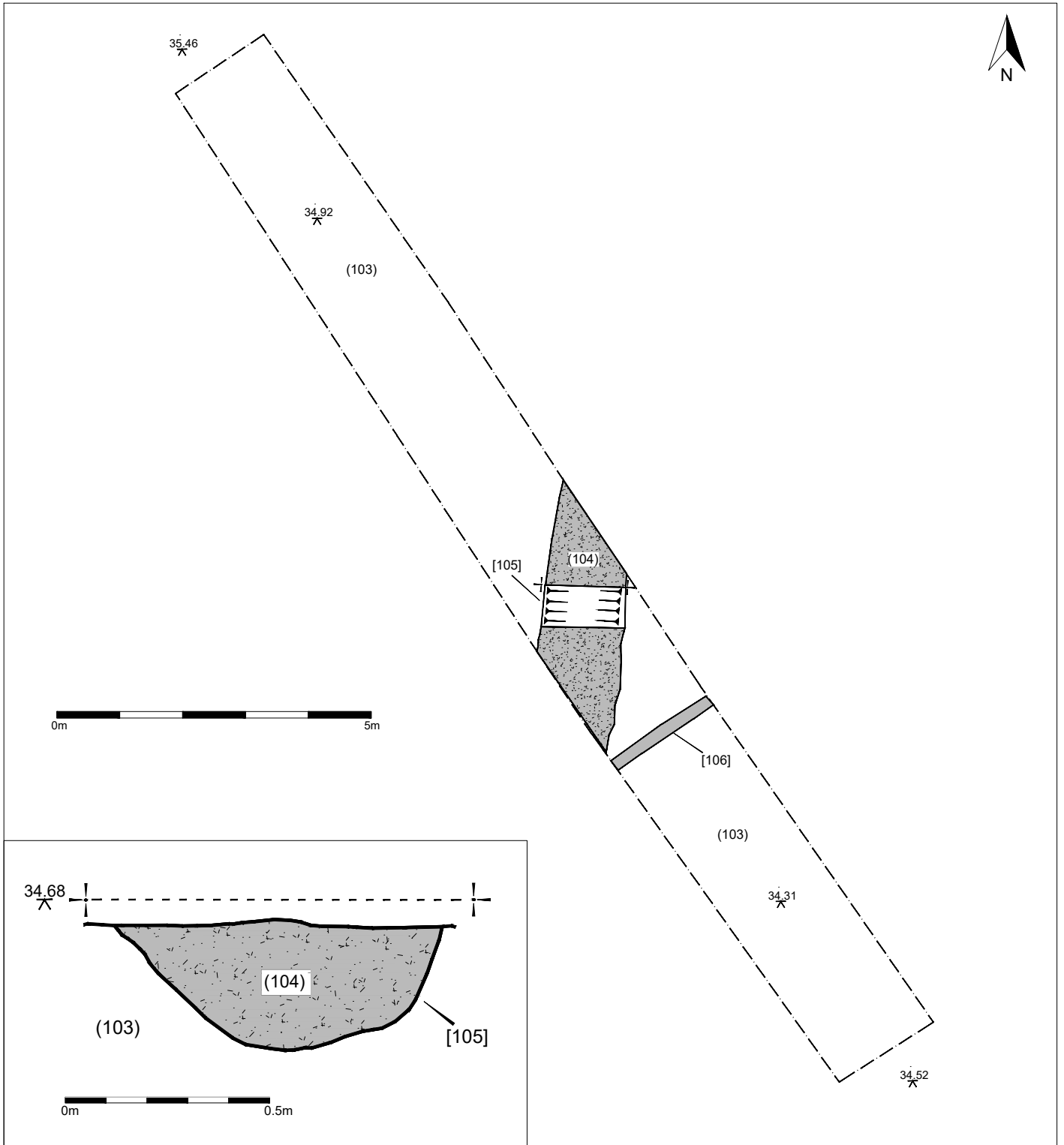


Figure 11. Plan of Trench 1 with excavated section of [105]

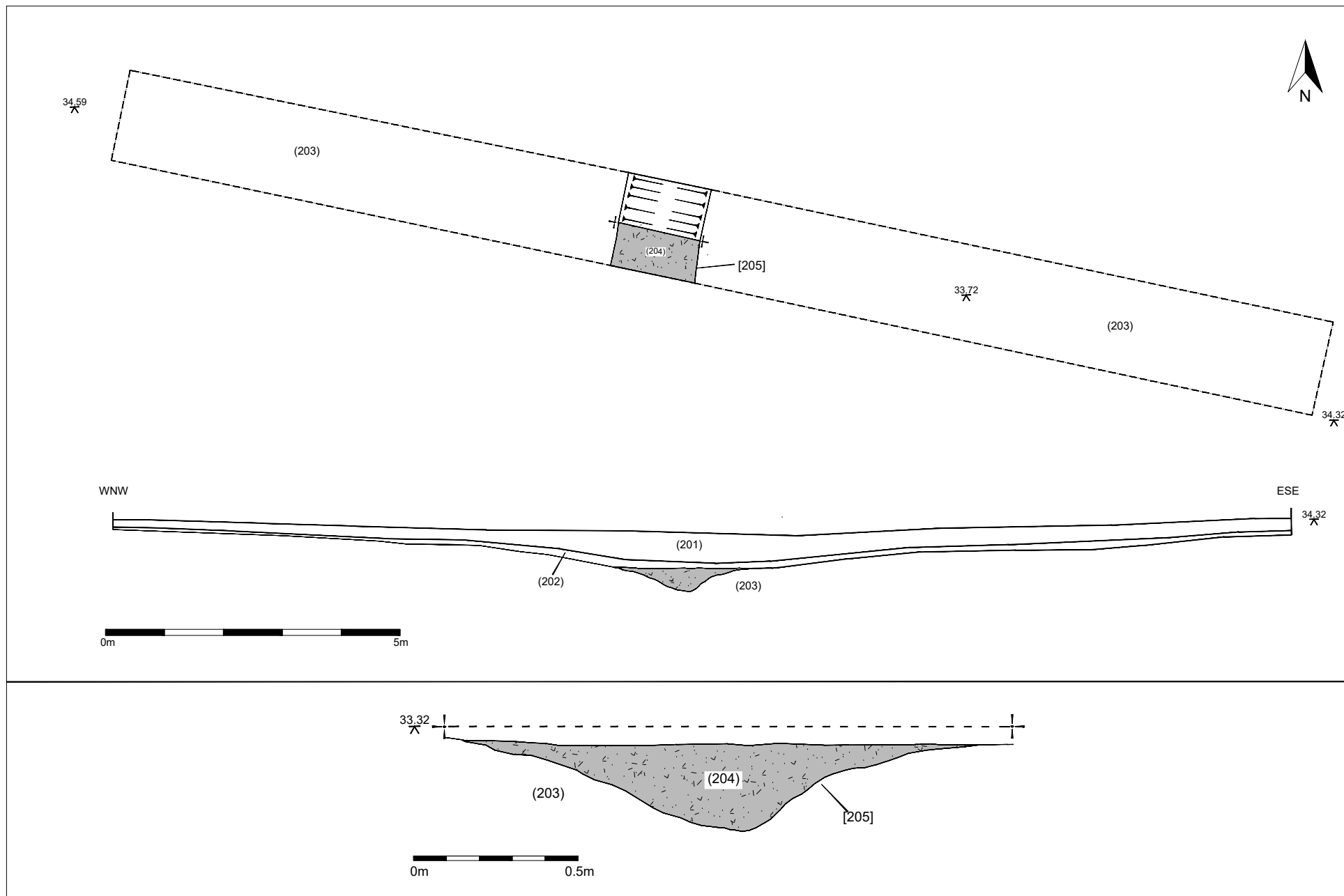


Figure 12. Plan of Trench 2 with SSW facing section and excavated section of [205]

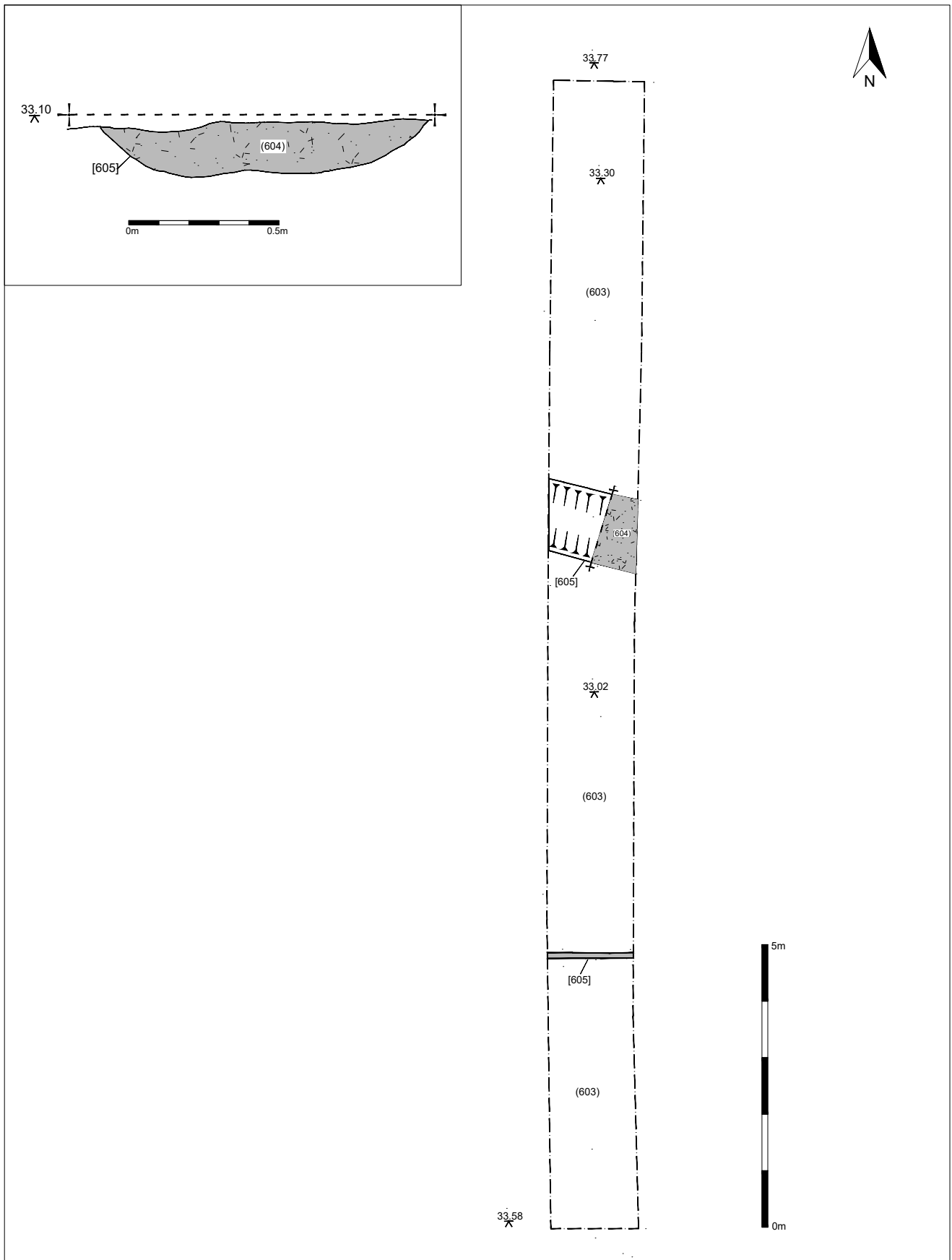


Figure 13. Plan of Trench 6 with excavated section of [605]

## Plates

*Plate 1. Trench 1 following initial machine excavation, view north-west, scales 1m*



*Plate 2. South facing section of ditch [105], scales 1m and 0.5m*



*Plate 3. Trench 2 following machine excavation, view north, scale 1m*



*Plate 4. View north-east of section through linear feature [205], scale 1m*



*Plate 5. View east of section through linear feature [205], scales 1m and 0.3m*



*Plate 6. Trench 3, view north, scales 1m*

*Plate 7. Trench 4, view north-east, scales 1m*



*Plate 8. Trench 5, view west, scales 1m*



*Plate 9. Trench 6 following machine excavation, view north, scales 1m*

*Plate 10. Section through shallow ditch [605], view east, scale 1m*





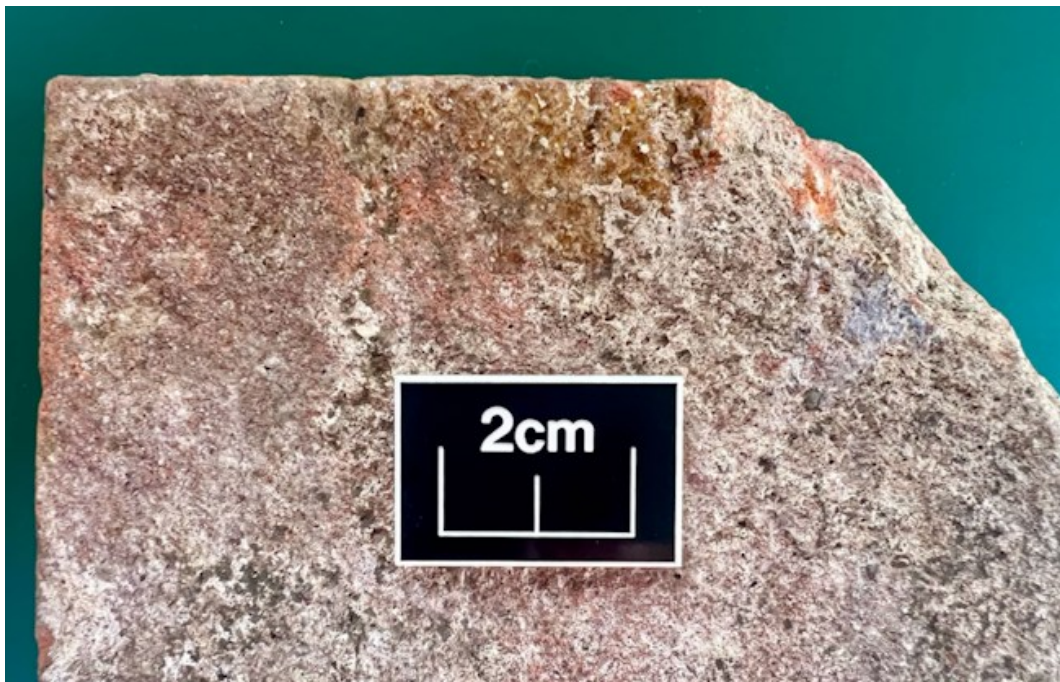
Plate 11. Artefacts recovered in metal detector survey, nos 1-11



Plate 12. Artefacts recovered in metal detector survey, nos 12-21



*Plate 13. Ceramic floor tile from context (405)*



*Plate 14. Ceramic floor tile from context (405), showing glaze and sanded base*

## Appendix 1 Context descriptions

**Trench 1:** Length: 20.2m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 0.84m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
101	0.0 – 0.26m	Loose mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones	Topsoil
102	0.26 – 0.4m	Compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
103	0.4m+	Compact mottled grey-brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones. Some bands of orange, sandy clay	Natural substrate
104	0.4m – 0.84m	Compact mid-brown-grey clay with frequent charcoal flecks and small pebbles.	Fill of cut [105]
105	0.4m – 0.84m	Linear feature orientated NE-SW 1.55m wide and 0.44m deep. Profile has sharp break of slope at top, gently sloping sides to a bowl shaped base.	Ditch
106	0.4m+	Field drain, 0.3m wide filled with white pebbles	Field drain

**Trench 2:** Length: 20.9m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 1.03m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
201	0.1 – 0.2m	Moderately loose, mid brown clay silt with frequent pebbles and frequent rooting.	Topsoil
202	0.2 – 0.37m at ends of trench and 0.3 - 0.7m in centre of trench	Compact mid brown clay with charcoal flecking and infrequent white stone flecks. Some reddish streaks in centre of trench	Subsoil
203	0.37m+ at ends of trench and 0.7m+ in centre of trench	Hard, mottled grey/brown clay with orange streaks formed of decayed bedrock.	Natural substrate
204	0.7 – 1.03m	Hard reddish-brown silty clay with moderate small pebbles and moderate charcoal flecks	Fill of cut [205]
205	0.1 – 0.2m	Linear feature at base of dip orientated approximately north-south, 1.47m wide with a gentle break of slope at top, gentle sides to U shaped base.	Ditch

**Trench 3:** Length: 19.8m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 0.6m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
301	0.1 – 0.3m	Loose mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones	Topsoil
302	0.2 – 0.3m	Compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
303	0.3 – 0.6m	Compact mottled grey-brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones. Some bands of orange, sandy clay	Natural substrate
304	0.6m+	Modern gravel filled field drain 0.3m wide crossing northern end of trench	Field drain

**Trench 4:** Length: 20m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 0.45m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
401	0.0– 0.3m	Loose mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones	Topsoil
402	0.3 – 0.45m	Compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
403	0.45m+	Compact mottled grey-brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones. Some bands of orange, sandy clay	Natural substrate
404	0.45m+	Ceramic land drain (unexcavated)	Modern drainage
405	0.3m	Small lens of modern pottery, brick metal and tile	Deposit of modern refuse

**Trench 5:** Length: 20.1m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 0.6m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
501	0.0– 0.3m	Loose mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones	Topsoil
502	0.3 – 0.6m	Compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
503	0.6m+	Compact mottled grey-brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones. Some bands of orange, sandy clay	Natural substrate

**Trench 6:** Length: 20.2m; Width: 1.6m; Maximum depth: 0.76m

Context	Depth	Description	Interpretation
601	0.0– 0.28m	Loose mid brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecking and moderate small, rounded stones	Topsoil
602	0.28 – 0.56m	Compact, mid grey-brown silty clay with frequent cobbles and charcoal flecks	Subsoil
603	0.56m+	Compact mottled grey, brown and orange clay with frequent cobbles and angular stones. Some bands of orange, sandy clay	Natural substrate
604	0.56 – 0.76m	Compact grey-brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones	Fill of [605]
605	0.56 – 0.76m	Linear feature crossing trench on a NW-SE orientation. 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep with gentle break of slope at top, gently sloping sides and a flat base.	Shallow ditch
606	0.56m+	Modern field drain filled with white gravel	Drainage feature