

## Report Specification:

### Compilation:

Ross Shurety MA (Cantab.)

### Artwork:

Holly Litherland BA

Owain Connors MA PhD

### Editing:

George Children MA MCIfA

### Final Edit & Approval:

Neil Shurety Dip. M G M Inst M

### Report Ref:

BA1642BCA

### Grid Reference:

NGR: SO 43100 84170

### OS Licence No:

100055758

### Date:

August 2016

*Cover: Northeast-facing section of Trench 001*

**General Enquiries:** E: [ask@borderarchaeology.com](mailto:ask@borderarchaeology.com) | T: [01568 610101](tel:01568610101)

## Border Archaeology Regional Offices

### Bristol

Trelawney House, Surrey Street,  
Bristol, BS2 8PS  
T: 0117 3878 921

### Leeds

No 1 Leeds, 26 Whitehall Road,  
Leeds, LS12 1BE  
T: 0113 3570390

### Leominster (Administration)

Chapel Walk, Burgess Street,  
Leominster, HR6 8DE  
T: 01568 610101

### London

23 Hanover Square, London, W1S 1JB  
T: 020 3714 9345

### Milton Keynes

Luminous House, 300 South Row,  
Milton Keynes, MK9 2FR  
T: 01908 933765

### Newport

Merlin House, No1 Langstone Business Park,  
Newport, NP18 2HJ  
T: 01633 415339

### Winchester

Basepoint Business Centre, Winnal Valley Road,  
Winchester, SO23 0LD  
T: 01962 832777

**Bristol | Leeds | Leominster | London | Milton Keynes | Newport | Winchester**

Contents:

1	Executive Summary .....	1
2	Introduction.....	2
3	Site Location .....	2
	3.1 Soils & Geology.....	2
4	Aim.....	3
5	Methodology .....	3
	5.1 Recording.....	4
6	Results .....	5
	6.1 Trench 001.....	5
7	Results .....	9
8	Conclusion .....	10
9	Copyright .....	10
10	Bibliography.....	11

## 1 Executive Summary

---

*Border Archaeology Ltd (BAL) was instructed by Simon Angell Architectural Consultant to undertake an Archaeological Field Evaluation of Land at Belair Watling Street Berrymill Craven Arms SY7 8BX prior to the proposed construction of a dwelling and associated access and drainage features (Planning Ref. 15/00359/FUL).*

*One trench, measuring c.25.00m × c.1.80m, was excavated to the northeast of the existing house, the precise location of which was dictated by live services and the position of a large tree stump.*

*No features of archaeological significance were revealed.*

## 2 Introduction

---

Border Archaeology Ltd (BAL) was instructed by Simon Angell Architectural Consultant on behalf of Mr & Mrs Anthony to carry out a programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation on Land at Belair Watling Street Berry Mill Craven Arms SY7 8BX (NGR: SO 43100 84170) in accordance with Condition 3 of the Appeal Decision (Ref: APP/L3245/W/16/3143403) relating to the proposed construction of a dwelling (including vehicular and pedestrian access and land-drains/septic tank) (Planning Ref. 15/00359/FUL) (*fig. 1*).

The evaluation was carried out on July 27<sup>th</sup> 2016.

As approved on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016 by Andrew Wigley Historic Environment Manager Shropshire County Council, a single trench measuring c.25.00m × c.1.80m was excavated at an agreed location to the NE of the current residence (BAL 2016); the precise location was determined by the existing services and a large tree stump (*fig. 2*).

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the evaluation.

## 3 Site Location

---

The overall development occupies an area of c.8600m<sup>2</sup>, although only c.940m<sup>2</sup> was subject to evaluation (*fig. 1*). Currently, the site is occupied by a well-maintained domestic garden.

### 3.1 Soils & Geology

The site is characterised by an area of typical argillic brown earths of the Rowton series (571A) consisting of well-drained fine silty and fine loamy soils, locally over gravel, overlying glaciofluvial or river terrace gravel and till (SSEW 1983).

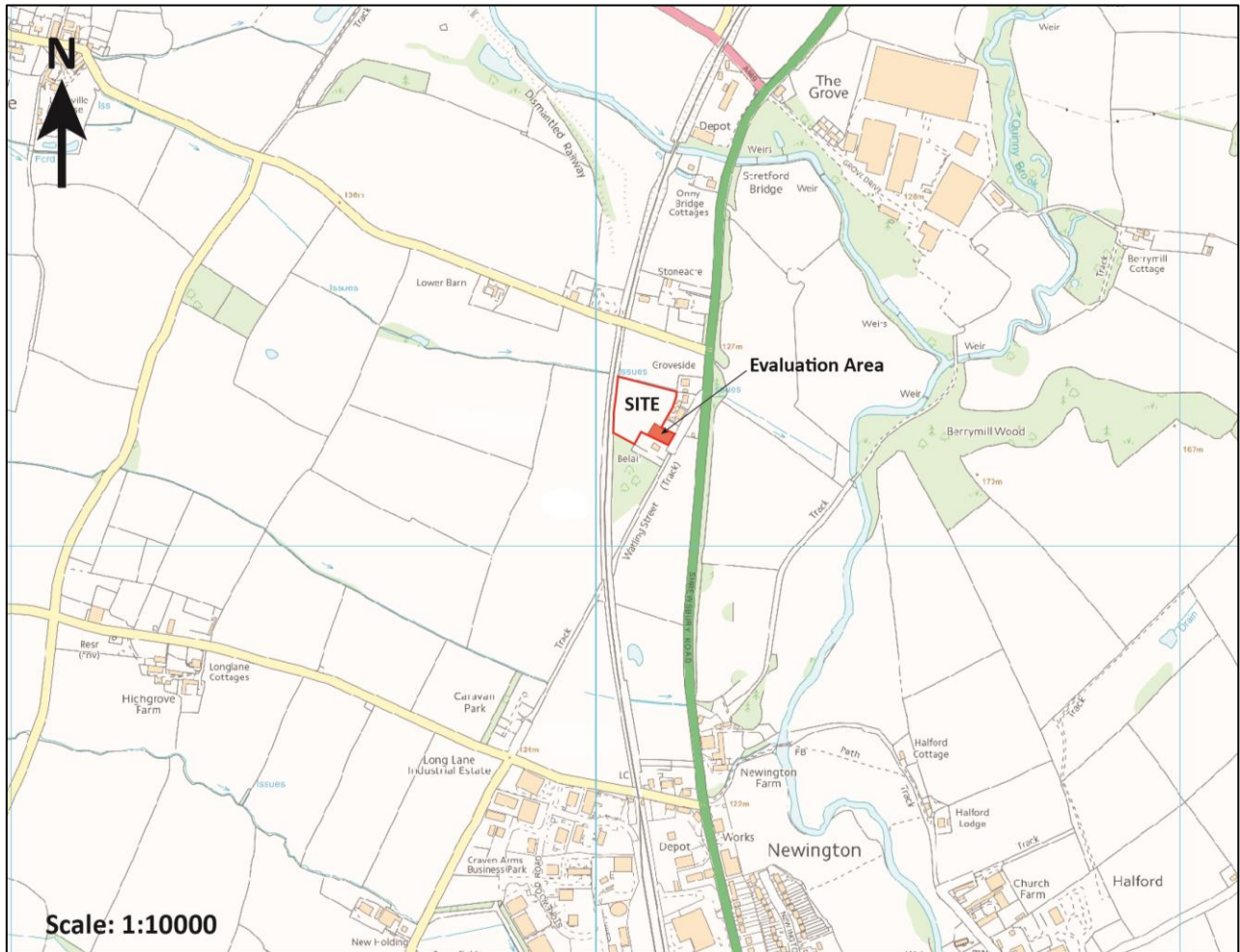


Fig. 1: Site location plan

## 4 Aim

The overall aim of the evaluation was to determine, as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains likely to be threatened by the proposed development, and to produce an appropriate mitigation strategy for further archaeological investigation.

## 5 Methodology

The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014), *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Lee 2015).

## 5.1 Recording

Full written, drawn and photographic records were made in accordance with BAL's *Archaeological Field Recording Manual* (2014). Records included the following:

- A completed standard context record for each stratigraphic unit examined
- A full graphic record of all evaluated areas using a survey-grade GPS in combination with hand-drawn plans and sections showing the extent of the area, the extent of all stratigraphic units and appropriate detail within stratigraphic units, at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. Overall site plans were produced using a survey-grade GPS (scale 1:100). All hand-drawn records were produced on gridded archive-stable polyester film. These are numbered and listed in a drawing register, with drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records.
- A detailed high-resolution (20MPX) digital photographic record of all stratigraphic units, in addition to a representative photographic record of the progress of the archaeological work. The record comprised photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. All photographic records have been indexed and cross-referenced to written site records. Details of subject and direction of view are maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.

## 6 Results

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the evaluation programme; Table 1 contains the detailed trench description.

### 6.1 Trench 001

Trench 001 was orientated NW-SE and measured c.25.00m × c.1.80m (*fig. 2*); excavation ceased once natural deposits had been identified (at a maximum depth of c.0.70m beneath the modern ground-level).

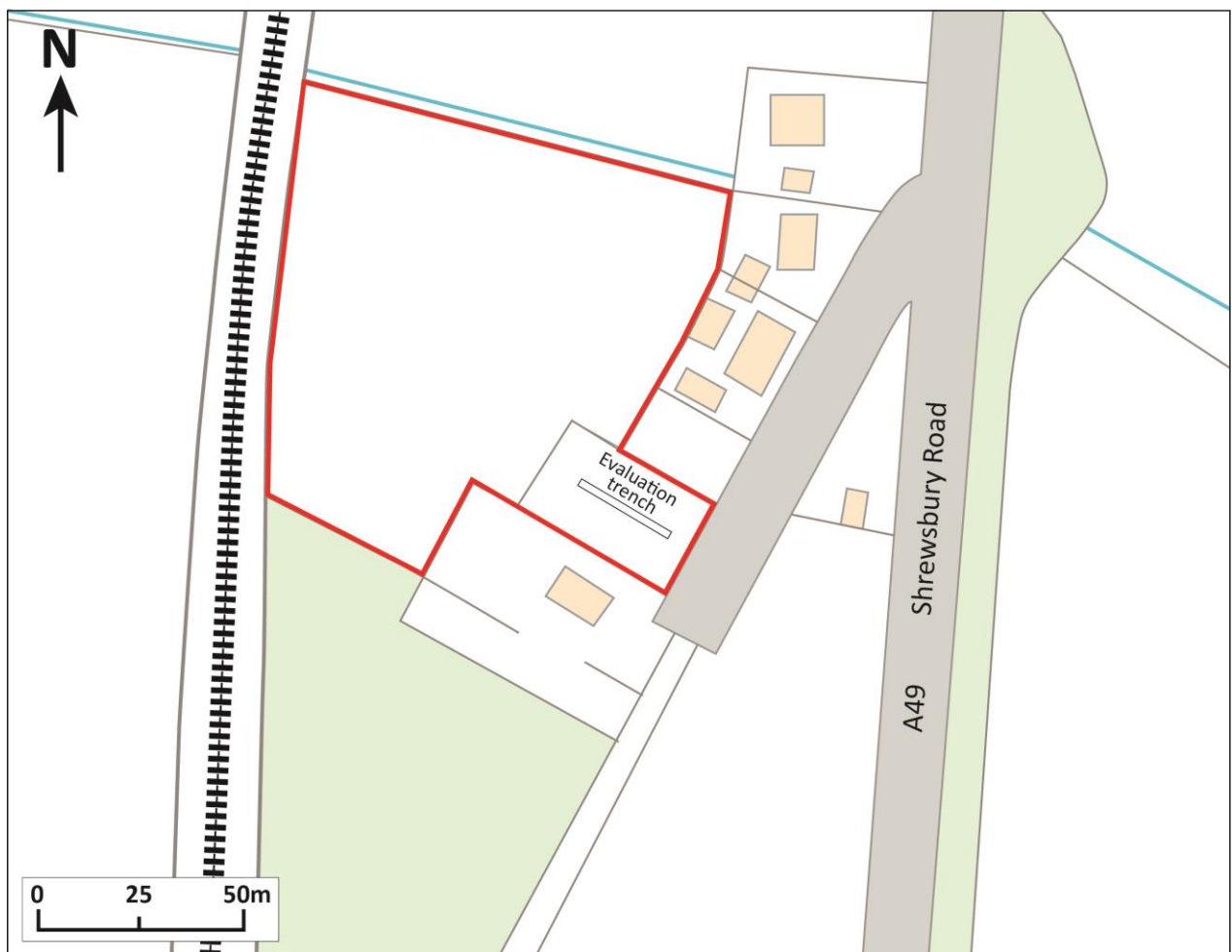
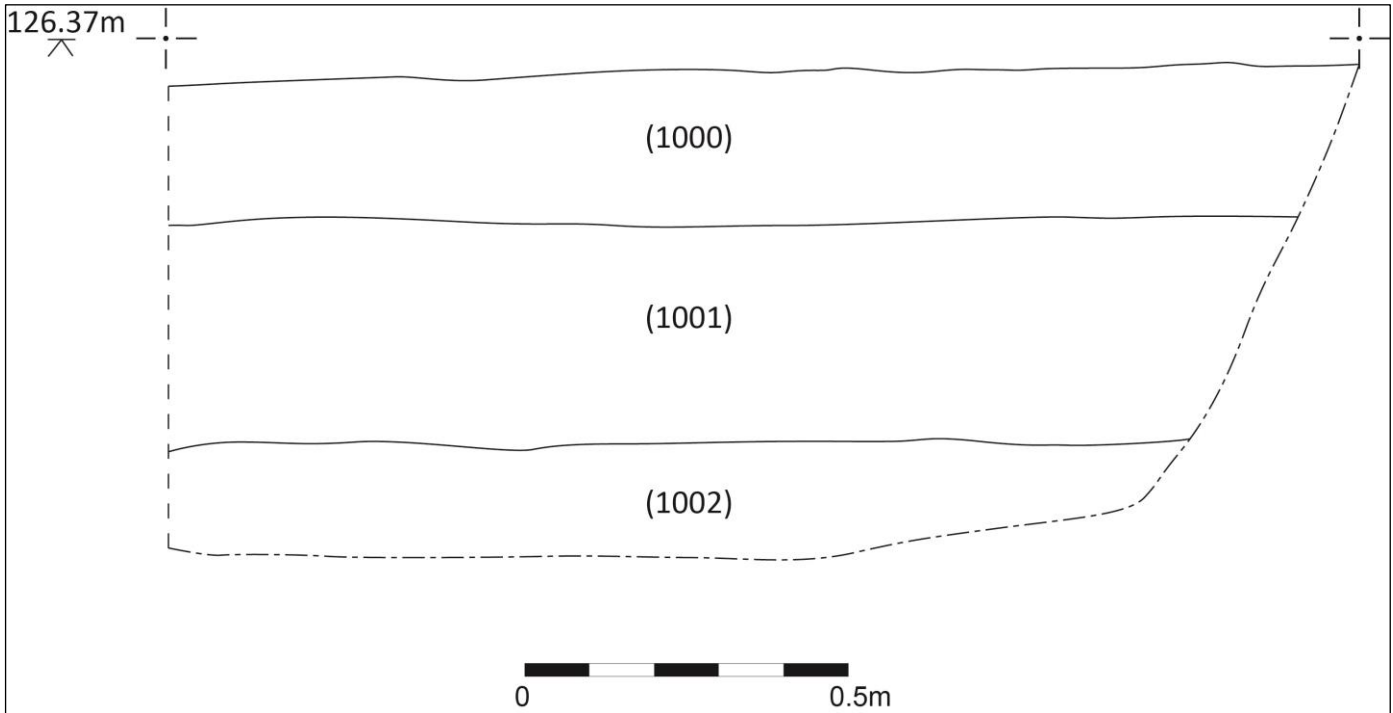


Fig. 2: Trench location plan of Trench 001



The uppermost context was topsoil (1000), which comprised a c.0.24m -deep moderately compacted, light greyish-brown sandy silt with very occasional gravel inclusions; this overlay subsoil (1001), which consisted of a c.0.34m - deep moderately/well-compacted, light greyish-brown clayey silt with very occasional gravels and small angular stones.



*Fig. 3: NE-facing section of Trench 001*

Subsoil (1001) overlay natural (1002), which comprised a moderately compacted mid-greyish-brown sandy silt/gravels.

No finds were recovered from any context within Trench 001.



*Plate 1: NE-facing section of Trench 001*



*Plate 2: View SE of Trench 001*

## 7 Results

Context No.	F/O	F/B	Description	Finds	Interpretation
(1000)	-	-	Moderately compacted, light greyish-brown sandy silt; very occasional gravels; depth c.0.24m	-	Topsoil
(1001)	-	-	Moderate/well-compacted, light greyish-brown clay-silt; very occasional gravels & angular stones; depth c.0.34m	-	Subsoil
(1002)	-	-	Moderately compacted, mid-greyish-brown gravels & sandy silt	-	Natural

*Table 1: Context Information*

---

## 8 Conclusion

---

The Archaeological Field Evaluation revealed no evidence of human occupation within Trench 001; the complete absence of charcoal and finds from the contexts identified suggests that there has been extremely limited occupation in the immediate vicinity of the development area.

## 9 Copyright

---

Border Archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides a licence to the client and the Council for the use of the report by the client and the Council in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification to use the documentation for their statutory functions and to provide copies of it to third parties as an incidental to such functions.

---

## 10 Bibliography

---

Border Archaeology Ltd, 2014, *Archaeological Field Recording Manual*

Border Archaeology Ltd, 2016, *Written Scheme of Investigation Belair Watling Street Berrymill Craven Arms SY7 8BX*

ClfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

ClfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*

ClfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

Lee, E., 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*, Historic England

SSEW, 1983, *Soil Map of England and Wales Scale 1:250, 000*, Silsoe

Watt, S., 2011, *The Archaeology of the West Midlands: A Framework for Research*, Oxford

Report Title		Report Ref	
Archaeological Evaluation: Land at Belair, Watling Street, Berrymill, Craven Arms SY7 8BX		BA1642BCA	
Report written by	Ross Shurety MA (Cantab.)		
Reported edited by	George Children MA MCI fA		
Issue No.	Status	Date	Approved for issue
1	Final	August 2016	Neil Shurety Dip. M G M Inst M