

Programme of Archaeological Works

Re-excavation of engineering access pits
AP1, AP2, AP3, AP4 and AP5, Stretton
Grandison, Herefordshire

*NGR: SO 6300 4300
SITE CODE: LORSG2
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Contents

1. Non-Technical Summary	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Aim	6
4. Site description	6
5. Brief Historical & Archaeological Background.....	6
6. Scheme of Works	9
7. Results.....	11
8. Conclusion	21
9. Copyright	22
10. References.....	23
11. Appendix 1: Context Register.....	24
12. Appendix 2: Ceramic Assessments.....	26
13. Appendix 3: Animal Bone Assessment	32
14. Appendix 4: Coin Assessment	37
15. Appendix 5: NMR OASIS archaeological report form.....	38
16. Appendix 6: Site Summary.....	42
17. Appendix 7: Harris Matrices	43

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1. Non-Technical Summary

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological observation and re-excavation undertaken by Border Archaeology on the site of Access Pits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke Ledbury Trunk Main, situated to the south of Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire. The report was commissioned by Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke. The excavations ran from 8th February 2011 to 24th May 2011.

The excavation of the original Access Pits 1-5 undertaken by Border Archaeology in 2007 had revealed significant archaeological deposits and features ranging in date from the Neolithic to the post-Roman periods, which included:

Evidence of worked wood fragments of Neolithic date associated with a timber structure, possibly a trackway or a fishtrap/weir in APs 2 and 5.

Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement activity in AP 1 represented by domestic waste pits and a metalled surface, possibly a yard or roadway/

A complex of occupation features and deposits was identified in AP4, representing evidence of Romano-British settlement activity associated with a stone lined well, close to which evidence of a burial ground was found, comprising a series of cremation and inhumation burials ranging in date from the late 1st-early 2nd century AD through to the 7th century AD, including a largely intact wooden coffin burial dated to the late 1st-2nd century AD.

Due to the significance of these previous finds it was imperative that there was an archaeological presence at this new phase of groundworks in case that any new archaeology was uncovered.

In this instance the programme of groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 1, 2 and 3 revealed no new archaeological evidence, however the groundworks at Access Pits 4 and 5 revealed evidence of further Roman settlement activity, consisting of linear ditches and occupation layers dated to the 1st – 3rd centuries AD.

2. Introduction

Following the Company's pre-excitation of five engineering access pits located to the S of Stretton Grandison (SO 63183 43262) in 2007, Border Archaeology undertook ~~other way round for the two companies!~~ a further programme of excavation on behalf of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke (DCWW/LOR) in advance of engineering works to replace pipe couplers deemed to be at risk of potential leak and as part of a comprehensive replacement programme along the whole 2007/8 installation. This further programme of archaeological work reflected the importance of the finds encountered during the original excavations, which represent significant evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British settlement.

The archaeological work was carried out in approximately the same locations previously excavated, namely those indicated (**Fig 1 & Fig 2**) as Access Pits (APs) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, the aim being to ascertain the presence/absence of any further archaeological deposits, to ensure their preservation by record and to recover and process all materials considered to be of archaeological significance or having the potential to contribute to archaeological knowledge. As was anticipated in the WSI (Border Archaeology, 2010, 3), the locations of AP4 and AP5 were not immediately evident, and some minor variation to the original trench location occurred which resulted in further significant deposits being revealed. The original locations of AP1, AP2 and AP3 were found with relative ease, and no variation to the original trench location occurred which resulted in no further significant deposits being revealed.

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 8th and 24th May 2011.

A copy of the Report will be sent to DCWW/LOR and Julian Cotton Archaeological Advisor Herefordshire Archaeology. A copy of the archive report and digital data relating to the archaeological remains investigated (.dxf or shapefile format) will be deposited with the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Record.

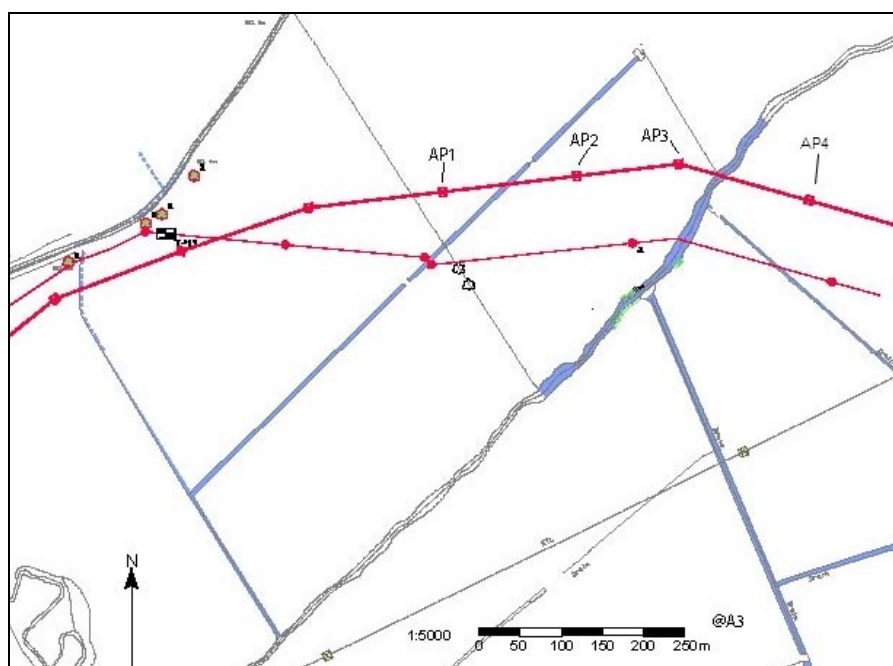


Fig 1: Site and trench location plan of AP1, 2 and 3

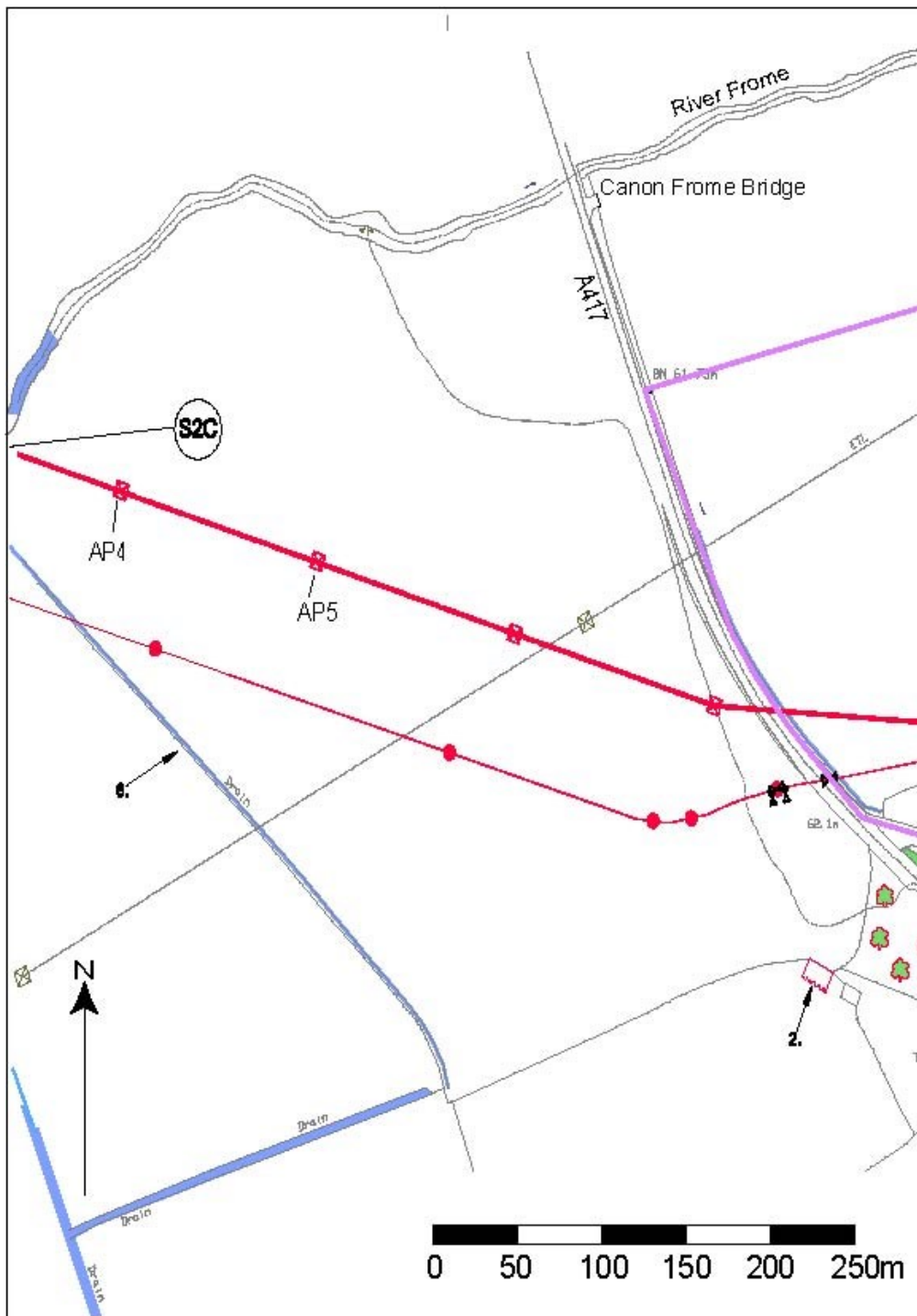


Fig 2: Site and trench location plan showing AP4 and 5

3. Aim

The project aim was to locate the original Access Pits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and re-excavate them to locate the pipe and couplers, and in the event of further evidence of significant archaeological deposits and features being revealed, to investigate these as fully as possible by means of archaeological excavation, in order to establish the extent, date, state of preservation and significance of the archaeological resource on the site.

4. Site Description

APs 1, 2 and 3 (NGR SO 62807 43740; SO 62909 43755; SO 63002 43763) are located within fields to the north of the River Frome, bounded to the north by Watery Lane, and to the east, south and west by field boundaries (Fig 1). APs 4 and 5 (NGR SO 63177 43271; SO 63266 43239) are located within a large field to the south of the River Frome, bounded to the east by the A417 road and to the south and west by field boundaries (**Fig 2**).

The underlying geology in the vicinity of the study area comprises of typical brown alluvial soils of the LUGWARDINE series (561d). These soils overlie reddish river alluvium and consist of deep stoneless permeable reddish fine silty soils, with similar coarse silty soils locally, and are associated with fine silty soils variably affected by groundwater (SSEW, 1983).

5. Brief Historical & Archaeological Background

Historical Background

The origins, topography and historical development of the Roman urban settlement of Stretton Grandison remain extremely obscure. This area has been identified in the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey as containing buried archaeological deposits of 'high potential' (Buteux, 1996, 1).

Although a certain amount of archaeological work has been carried out since the late 1960s, in terms of aerial reconnaissance, auguring, fieldwalking surveys and archaeological observation of limited trenching, no detailed archaeological investigations have been carried out on the site to date.

The origins of the settlement appear to be connected with its location at the junction of two roads, one running N from Gloucester via Dymock (mostly following the line of the present A417 road) and the other running W towards the major Roman town of Kenchester. A small Roman fort was constructed some 250m to the E of this road junction, at NGR SO 641 434, probably in the mid 1st century AD. The layout of the fort, a bivallate rectangular enclosure covering an area of 4.8 acres, has been identified from aerial photography (Baker, 1970, 45-7).

Aerial photography has also identified the outline of a rectangular ditched enclosure lying immediately east of the modern A417 road. The Roman road junction falls within the boundaries of this enclosure and within the area to the north framed by the intersection of the two roads an oblong shaped cropmark has been identified, which may well represent the outline of a structure, possibly a *mansio* or staging post commonly built at the intersection of two important Roman roads. Both the fort and the defended settlement are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Several cropmark features comprising a series of pits and one unenclosed hut circle have been identified from aerial photography within the field immediately SE of the enclosure at NGR SO 639 431 (SMR Ref. 7534), which may represent an outlying part of the Roman settlement or possibly traces of earlier prehistoric occupation. To the south of this field, several linear features have been identified from field observation in a plot immediately N of Blacklands (SMR Ref. 1751) but it is unclear whether they are associated with prehistoric or Roman occupation or if they are of a considerably later date

Place-name evidence clearly points to the existence of a Roman settlement in this area. The place-name element *Stretton* denotes 'a settlement on a Roman road', while the name 'Blacklands' is indicative of blackened earth and burnt deposits in the vicinity, suggestive of intensive occupation or a destruction event presumably associated with the Roman settlement. 'Budbury', the name of the large field immediately to the west of the A417 opposite the scheduled area, and within which lie AP4 and AP5, may also recognize the presence of a settlement or defensive feature of Roman or perhaps earlier date in this area.

The limited archaeological evidence to date suggests that the settlement was a small town and local market centre, with evidence of possible industrial activity (Buteux, 1996).

The location of the Roman urban settlement within the floodplain of the River Frome means that there is a considerable degree of alluvial deposition across the area, particularly close to the river, where exceptionally well preserved archaeological deposits of Roman date appear to have survived in a waterlogged state, covered by up to 3m of alluvium in places. Further to the S of the Frome, the alluvial deposits are of a shallower depth and have been further reduced by modern intensive ploughing and land drainage.

Summary of Previous Archaeological Fieldwork

The results of the archaeological programme of works previously undertaken by Border Archaeology at Stretton Grandison in 2007 identified significant evidence of land use and settlement ranging in date, at its broadest, from the Neolithic through to the early medieval period (Border Archaeology, 2009).

The excavations at AP1, AP2 and AP3 revealed evidence of occupation ranging in date from the Neolithic/Early Bronze Age through to the Romano-British period. AP1 revealed evidence of Romano-British occupation, possibly indicative of a farmstead, in the form of domestic waste pits, surface middens and a metalled surface possibly representing a yard or roadway (Border Archaeology, 2009c, 64-65).

The excavations within AP2 uncovered a sequence of occupation deposits of late Iron Age/Romano-British date, while at the base of the access pit a concentration of waterlogged, worked wood fragments was identified *in situ*, interpreted as



representing either the remains of a wooden trackway over marshy ground or a fishtrap/weir, possibly of Neolithic date (Border Archaeology, 2009c, 67-69). Evidence of Romano-British occupation deposits was also found within AP 3 although no discernible features were identified.

Of particular importance were the results of the excavations at AP 4 which revealed significant evidence of Romano-British settlement activity (associated with a stone-lined well), in addition to which evidence of a burial ground was identified which appears to have continued in use throughout the Romano-British and post-Roman/early medieval periods.

The excavations revealed a small number of cremation and inhumation burials, together with evidence of domestic activity, representing two principal phases of activity spanning the late 2nd through to the 6th/7th centuries, with an apparent break in occupation beginning some time in the 4th century (Border Archaeology, 2009a, 75).

AP5 revealed a series of worked wood fragments radiocarbon dated to the late Mesolithic-early Neolithic, several of which probably represented vertical and longitudinal components of one or several wooden hurdles or panels, which probably formed components of a timber structure, possibly a trackway, extending across an area of shallow wetland, possibly similar to that encountered in AP2.

The character of the Roman occupation deposits and features identified in AP 5 consisted of pits and a possible linear ditch containing domestic fire waste which presumably were associated with settlement activity nearby. The dating of the Roman occupation features revealed in AP 5 is uncertain, although the available evidence suggests a date range extending from the early 2nd century-4th century AD (Border Archaeology, 2009b, 129).

6. Scheme of Works

Summary Description of Works

This programme of archaeological works was carried out in accordance with *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (English Heritage 2006) and with other relevant published sources of technical, professional and ethical guidance. Border Archaeology adheres to the IfA *Code of conduct* (2010) and *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology* (2008) and to Herefordshire Archaeology's *Standards for Archaeological Projects in Herefordshire (Issue 1)* (Herefordshire Council 2004).

Methodology

Five Access Pits were excavated within the site (**Fig 1 & Fig 2**).

AP1, measuring 6m x 6.7m x 2.20m, AP2 measuring 6.30m x 6.30m x 2.77m, AP3 measuring 5.60m x 5.80m x 2.03m, AP4, measuring 6m x 12m x 3.29m, and AP5 measuring 7m x 7m x 2.40m were re-excavated by Border Archaeology in advance of engineering works to determine the presence/absence of further buried deposits and to record any materials, features, artefacts, ecofacts and associated archaeological strata within the pits. The Pits were made safe for access by implementing a 1m step for every 1m in depth of the trench, as approved by Laing O'Rourke.

The plough soil was carefully removed by contractors under Border Archaeology supervision. As a re-excavation, a machine was used to dig where it was evident the ground had already been excavated and examined for archaeology previously. Where new, unexcavated, archaeology was revealed machine excavation ceased and the archaeology was investigated and recorded by Border Archaeology. This was deemed sufficient to characterise revealed archaeological deposits with the extent, colour, texture, boundary characteristics etc of each archaeological context being defined by trowelling.

The locations of the evaluation trenches were recorded by Border Archaeology by measuring from the field boundaries and using a hand held GPS. Temporary benchmarks were established, one between AP4 and AP5, with a value of 60.26m OD, and another between AP1 and AP2, with a value of 60.15m OD.

Recording

A detailed written, drawn and photographic record was produced in accordance with archaeological practices set out by the Institute for Archaeologists and Border Archaeology's *Field Recording Manual* (2008). A detailed stratigraphic record using a sequential context numbering system was compiled and Harris matrices were produced for each Access Pit.

Written records were compiled using separate numbered pro forma record sheets to create a detailed stratigraphic record of the site. Plans, sections and elevations

were produced at scales of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10, as appropriate, on pro-forma gridded archivally stable polyester film; while artefact details were recorded at an appropriate scale. All plans, elevations and sections contain grid and level information relative to OS data. All drawings have been numbered and listed in a drawing register; these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records.

A high resolution digital photographic record (12MPX) was compiled of all stratigraphic units, comprising record views of contexts, samples or artefacts, together with a representative photographic record of the progress of the evaluation. All photographic records were indexed by frame number and cross-referenced to written site records. Details concerning subject and direction of view were maintained in a photographic register, indexed by film and frame number.

The progress of the evaluation was recorded & assessed by the Company's General Manager George Children MA MIFA using the Company's ISO 9001 procedures.

The site has produced 19 context records; 3 archaeological observation recording sheets; 5 section drawings at 1:20 and 1:50; 5 trench plans at 1:50 and 62 photographs.

The site records can be found under the site code LORSG2 in the Hereford archive.

Recovery, processing and curation of artefactual data

All associated artefacts recovered were retained, cleaned, labelled and stored according to *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008) and *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 2001).

All artefacts were bagged and labelled with the site code and context number before being removed off-site and each assemblage will be examined by an approved specialist according to typological or chronological criteria and conservation needs identified.

Conservation will be undertaken by approved conservators as listed by the *Conservation Register* and in accordance with United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) (now ICON: The Institute of Conservation) guidelines and in the case of electronic data storage media the British Library Preservation Advisory Centre.

Environmental Strategy

No deposits considered suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the fieldwork.

7. Results

Access Pits

For trench locations see Fig 1 & Fig 2.

Access Pit 1	
Location	SO 62807 43740
Dimensions	6m x 6.70m x 2.20m
Modern ground level	59.97m OD
Base of plough soil	59.62m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	N/A
Level of base of trench	56.62m OD
Sterile deposits observed	58.41m OD

AP1 was located at SO 62807 43740 (**Fig 1**). The ground level in the area measured 59.97m OD. Overlying the whole area was ploughsoil (500), a moderately compact mid brown silty clay 0.35m in depth. Beneath this was backfill (501), a reddish-brown silty clay with occasional pebble inclusions 1.85m in depth, which represented the backfill of the original AP1 excavation (**Plate 1**). Due to the fact that the pipe couplers were found with relative ease, and no variation to the original trench location occurred, the excavation only revealed a deep backfill deposit from the excavation of the previous access pit. Neither new archaeological features nor the natural gravels were observed.



Plate 1: North facing section of AP1 showing topsoil (500) and backfill (501)

Access Pit 2	
Location	SO 62909 43755
Dimensions	6.30m x 6.30m x 2.77m
Modern ground level	59.83m OD
Base of plough soil	59.53m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	N/A
Level of base of trench	57.06m OD
Natural observed	N/A

AP2 was located SO 62909 43755 (**Fig 1**). The ground level in the area measured 59.83m OD. The trench consisted of 0.35m of modern mid-brown sandy-silt plough soil (700) overlying a reddish-brown silty-clay (701) 2.47m deep which was identified as the original backfill of AP2 (**Plate 2**). Due to the fact that the pipe couplers were quickly located (and consequently no variation to the original trench location occurred) the excavation only revealed a deep backfill deposit from the excavation of the previous access pit. Neither new archaeological deposits nor natural gravels were observed.



Plate 2: North facing section of AP2 showing topsoil (700) and backfill (701)

Access Pit 3	
Location	SO 63002 43763
Dimensions	5.60m x 5.80m x 2.03m
Modern ground level	60.15m OD
Base of plough soil	59.85m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	N/A
Level of base of trench	58.12m OD
Natural observed	N/A

AP3 was located at SO 63002 43763 (**Fig 1**), and the ground level measured 60.15m OD. The trench consisted of a mid-brown silty sand plough soil (600) measuring 0.30m deep which overlay the original backfill of AP3 (601), which comprised of 1.73m of reddish-brown silty clay (**Plate 3**). Due to the fact that the pipe couplers were rapidly located, and no variation to the original trench location occurred, the excavation only revealed a deep backfill deposit derived from the excavation of the previous access pit. No significant archaeological deposits were observed, and natural was not reached.



Plate 3: North facing section of AP3 showing topsoil (600) and backfill (601)

Access Pit 4	
Location	SO 63177 43271
Dimensions	8m x 12m x 3.29m
Modern ground level	59.91m OD
Base of plough soil	59.31m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	1m
Level of base of trench	56.62m OD
Sterile deposits observed	58.41m OD

AP4 was located approximately 51m south of the River Frome and 42m east of the western field boundary at SO 63177 43271 (**Fig 2**). The ground level in the area measured 59.91m OD. Overlying the whole area was ploughsoil (100), a moderately compact mid brown silty clay 0.60m in depth.

Beneath this was subsoil (101), a moderate light brown alluvial clay 0.60m in depth, which may indicate post-Roman hydrological change resulting in seasonal flooding. A (residual) Roman coin was discovered within this deposit, identified as a *nummus*, minted in London during the reign of the Emperor Licinius I, and dated to 316-317 AD.

(101) overlay (102), a layer of black-brown sandy silt 0.30m thick. This deposit contained occasional Fe nails, charcoal flecks and Roman pot, and frequent small pebbles (**Plate 4**). (102) has been identified as being the same as (4046) from the 2007 excavation (Border Archaeology, 2009a, 76), and appeared to represent a period of disuse and possible abandonment.

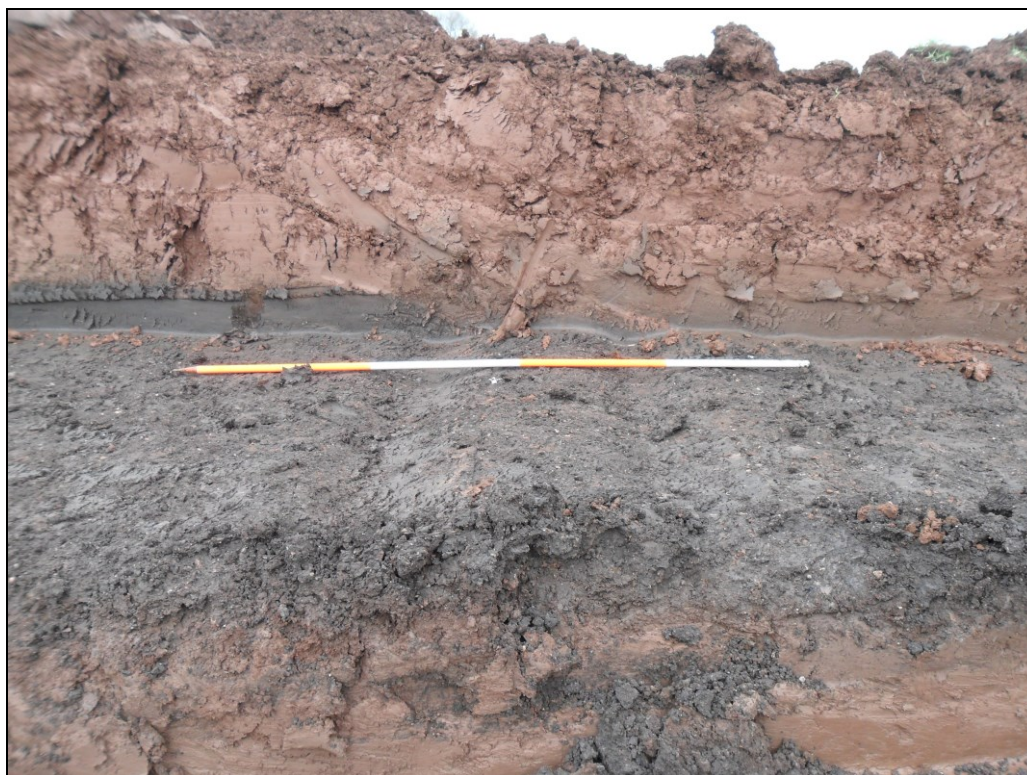


Plate 4: West facing section of AP4 showing topsoil (100), subsoil (101), layer (102) and deposit (103)

Beneath (102) lay (103), a firm reddish brown alluvial clay which appears to have been laid down by periods of flooding. This appears to be the same deposit as (4003=4047). Cut into (103) was [105], a linear concave ditch orientated east-west 0.44m deep. The fill of [105] was (104), which consisted of a loose mid-dark brown clayish silt with moderate pot, bone and charcoal inclusions.

The location of the ditch and the pottery within it, which dates it to the late 2nd - 3rd century AD, suggests this is the continuation of ditch [4009] from the 2007 excavation (**Fig 3 & 4**) (Border Archaeology, 2009a, 86). Butchery marks were apparent on some of the animal bones from (104), including a cattle scapula with chops around the glenoid cavity and another scapula fragment from which the spine had been sliced off (Foster, 2011, Appendix 3).

Only a small part of the ditch was revealed during this phase of archaeological work; hence it was not possible to fully determine its extent and function. However evidence from the previous excavations in 2007 suggested that it may have represented a boundary between two distinct areas of use within the site (**Plate 5**).



Plate 5: Ditch [105] cut into deposit (103), facing east

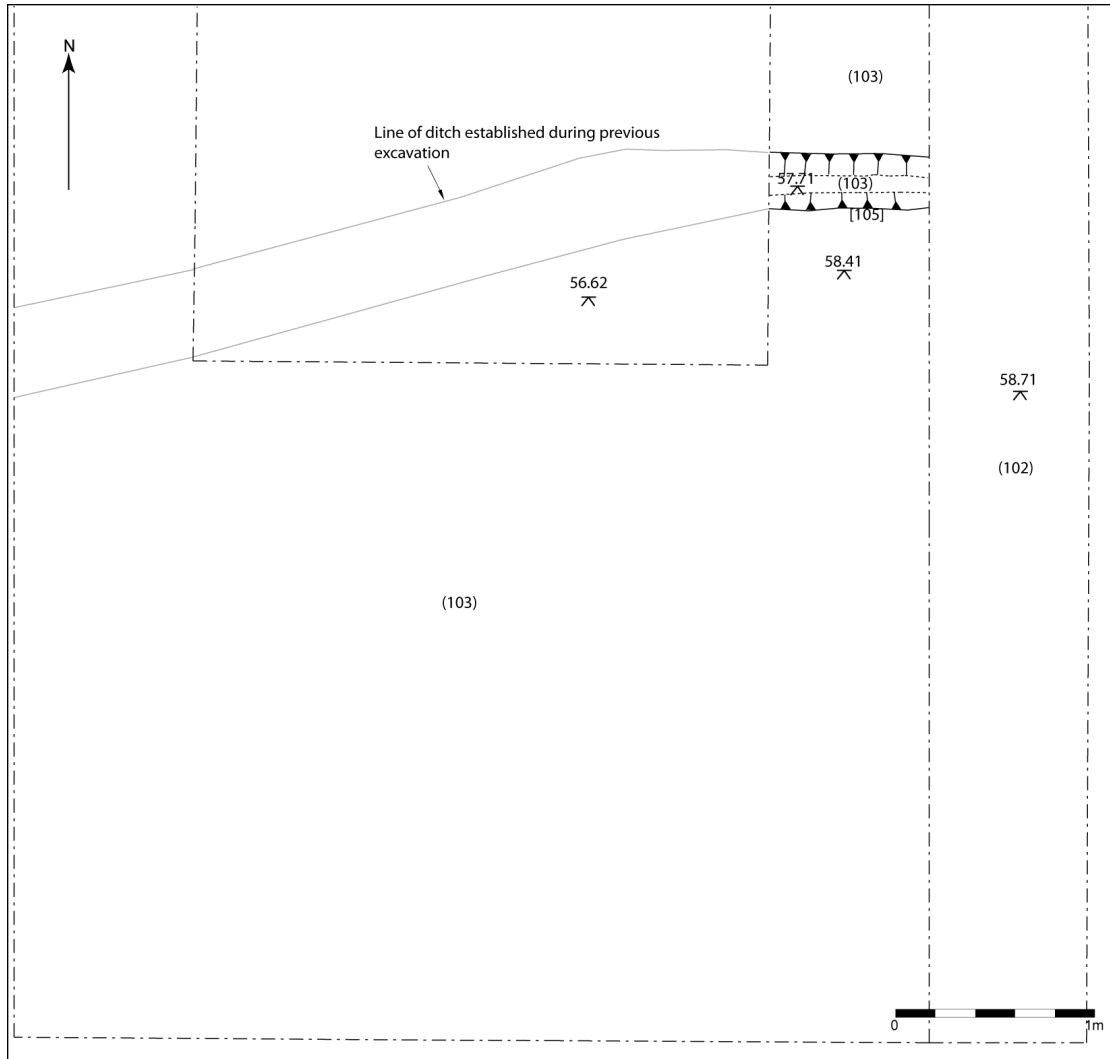


Fig 3: Plan of AP4 showing deposits (102) and (103), and ditch [105]

Beneath (103) was a thin layer of light blue-grey alluvial clay 0.10m thick which overlaid (107); a deposit consisting of bands of natural gravels with deposits of waterlogged and preserved wood sandwiched within them (**Plate 6**). Much of this wood was not archaeological, and it is likely to represent a pre-Roman wood or forest, which raises the possibility that earlier phases of occupation could be present within the area of AP4, as was excavated in AP2 and AP5 in 2007.



Plate 6: South facing section showing deposit (103) overlying banded natural gravels with layers of waterlogged wood (107)

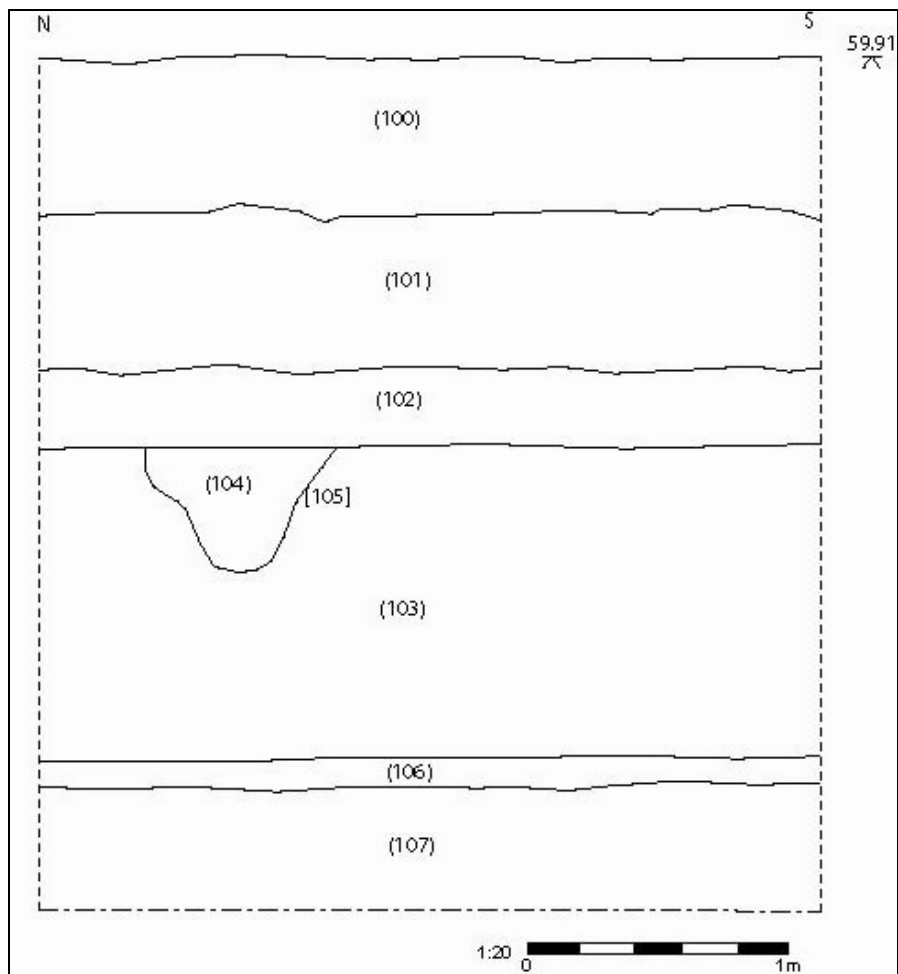


Fig 4: West facing section of AP4

Access Pit 5	
Location	SO 63266 43239
Dimensions	7m x 6.90m x 2.40m
Modern ground level	60.06m OD
Base of plough soil	59.56m OD
Depth of archaeological deposits seen	1.20m
Level of base of trench	57.66m OD
Natural observed	N/A

AP5 was located 68m east of the western field boundary and 127.40m south of the River Frome at SO 63266 43239 (**Fig 2**). The ground level in the area measured 60.06m OD. The trench consisted of 0.60m of modern mid-brown silty clay plough soil (200) overlying 0.60m of light-brown clay subsoil (201).

Beneath (201) in the east of the trench was a blue-grey clay deposit (202) measuring 6.90m by 1.40m and 0.20m deep. (202) contained frequent Roman pottery and CBM, the pottery was mainly fragments of Severn Valley Ware which give a wide date of 2nd – 4th century AD. Human bone and an adult molar were also recovered from this deposit.

Beneath (202) was ditch [204], and its fill (203) (**Fig. 6; Plate 8**); a grey-blue clay 0.95m deep containing frequent charcoal flecks and occasional pottery, again dating loosely to the 2nd – 4th centuries AD. Ditch [204] cut deposit (205); a mid-brown clay with frequent pottery, occasional pebbles, snail shells and charcoal flecks 0.40m in depth, dating to the 2nd century AD. This overlay a light reddish-brown clay layer (206) 0.20m deep with occasional pot and frequent degraded sandstone (**Plate 7**).



Plate 7: West facing section of AP5 showing deposits (201), (202), (205) and (206)



Plate 8: Section of AP5 showing deposit (202) overlying ditch [204]

The western area of the trench contained the original AP5 trench, and so consisted of mid-brown clay backfill (207) overlying the water pipe and coupler. The pipe was located at 2.40m below ground level and the excavation was discontinued at this level.

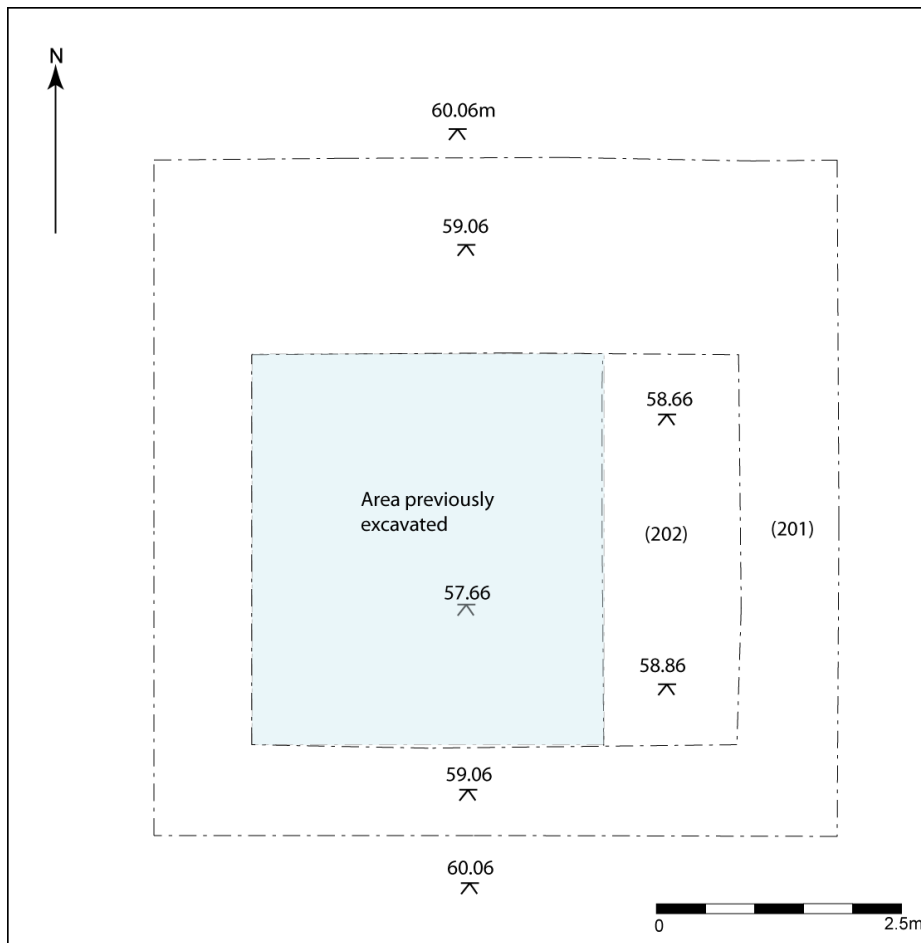


Fig 5: Plan of AP5

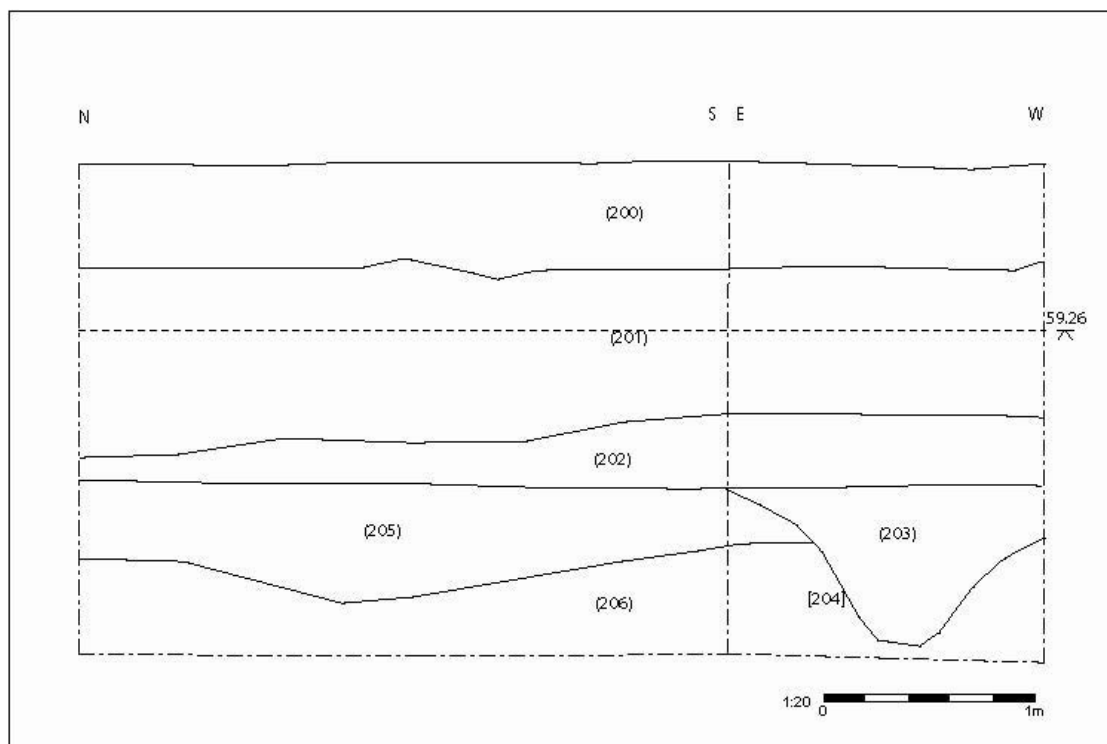


Fig 6: West and north facing section of AP5

8. Conclusion

The programme of groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 1, 2 and 3, Stretton Grandison revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007, no additional archaeological deposits were observed in any of these Access Pits. The groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 4 and 5 also revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007. In addition to this, where the new excavations deviated away from the original trenches, further evidence of Roman activity was identified.

In AP4 the additional archaeological deposits consisted of layer (102), which is most likely an extension of deposit (4046) which was excavated in the original AP4 excavation in 2007. This deposit was identified as representing a period of disuse and abandonment (Border Archaeology, 2009a, 76). Pottery recovered from (102) could not give a firm date, consisting of local grey wares and Severn Valley ware sherds which could conceivably range broadly in date from the late 1st century through to the 4th century AD. Beneath this was ditch [105], a continuation of [4009] from the previous excavation, which dates to the late 2nd – 3rd century AD.

In AP5 a series of Roman layers and a ditch were identified. Layer (202) corresponds with layer (5004) excavated in 2007, and (205) with (5006). This places ditch (204) within the same phase as pit/posthole feature [5007], possible pit/linear feature [5010] and pit [5012] from the 2007 excavation, this hypothesis is supported by the pottery, which suggests the ditch can be approximately dated to the 2nd-4th centuries AD. Layer (5004) was interpreted in 2007 as one of occupation (Border Archaeology, 2009b, 124-5), although it is possible that layer (5004)=(205) is associated with the same period of gradual abandonment and disuse in AP 4 represented by (4003)=(4027)=(102).



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11. Appendix 1: Context Register

AP1

Context	Description
(500)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Plough soil</i>
(501)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Backfill of original AP1</i>

AP2

Context	Description
(700)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Plough soil</i>
(701)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Backfill of original AP2</i>

AP3

Context	Description
(600)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Plough soil</i>
(601)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Backfill of original AP3</i>

AP4

Context	Description
(100)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Plough soil</i>
(101)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Subsoil</i>
[102]	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Roman deposit, thought to be a period of abandonment/disuse</i>
(103)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Natural clay/ aluvium</i>
(104)	Fill
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Fill of ditch [105]</i>
(105)	Cut
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Cut of ditch</i>
(106)	Clay layer
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Naturally deposited clay</i>
(107)	Gravel
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Natural gravel with preserved wood</i>
[108]	Silty clay backfill
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Backfill of original AP4</i>
(109)	Cut
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Cut of original AP4</i>

AP5

Context	Description
(200)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Plough soil</i>
(201)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Subsoil</i>
(202)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Roman layer</i>
(203)	Fill
<i>INTERPRETATION:</i>	<i>Fill of [204]</i>
(204)	Cut
<i>INTERPRETATION</i>	<i>Cut of ditch</i>
(205)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION</i>	<i>mid-brown clay</i>
(206)	Deposit
<i>INTERPRETATION</i>	<i>Aluvium, flood plain</i>
(207)	Fill
<i>INTERPRETATION</i>	<i>Backfill of original AP5</i>
([208])	Cut
<i>INTERPRETATION</i>	<i>Cut of original AP5</i>

12. Appendix 2: Ceramic Assessments

Note: For completeness, the full results of the ceramic assessment (including APs 8 & 9) have been reproduced here and will be similarly reprinted in the report on the excavations in the Scheduled Area of the Roman settlement.

Pottery and CBM assessment (excluding Samian Ware)

Jane Timby

Introduction

The archaeological work carried out at Stretton Grandison resulted in the recovery of 823 sherds of pottery weighing 10.4 kg dating to the Roman period. In addition four small fragments of daub / fired clay and 36 fragments (751 g) of largely degraded ceramic building material (CBM) were present with the pottery (**Table 1**).

In general terms the assemblage is in moderately good condition, reflected in the overall average sherd weight of 12.6 g. Surface preservation of the sherds is good and surface finishes such as colour-coats have survived.

Pottery was recovered from 13 contexts, individual assemblages ranging from single sherds up to a maximum of 519 sherds from AP8 topsoil (400).

At this stage no detailed research work has been carried out to specifically compare the assemblage with other material published from the immediate locality or to link the fabrics in with any pre-existing local fabric or form series.

Following a comment on the methodology used, the assemblage is briefly described. A section follows this on the potential of the group and further work required.

Methodology

The assemblage was sorted into broad fabric groups based on inclusions present, the frequency and grade of the inclusions and the firing colour. For the Roman sherds known regional or traded wares were coded following the system advocated for the National Roman reference collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

The sorted assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight for each recorded context and the data entered onto an MS Excel spreadsheet. A summary of this is presented in Table 1 with spot dates.

Roman: composition

The assemblage comprises a mixture of handmade wares and wheel made Roman wares. The latter mainly comprise local wares but there are a few imported continental and regional vessels represented.

The earliest fabrics present include Palaeozoic limestone (MAL RE B), and Malvernian rock-tempered (MAL RE A). These wares originated in the mid-later Iron Age but continue to feature in assemblages up to the end of the 1st century

AD/early 2nd century, and in the case of MAL RE A well into the 2nd century and later basically using the same technology. Fabric MAL RE A is the dominant ware present in this group with tubby jars, rolled rim jars and bowls most of which are likely to be later 1st or 2nd century AD here. Overall Malvernian wares account for 8.5% by count of the total assemblage.

Continental imports include fine table wares, mortaria and amphorae.

Three sherds of amphorae are present, all from Baetican globular (Dressel 20) olive-oil amphorae imported from Southern Spain. This is the commonest amphorae to be found in British sites and was imported in quantity between the 1st and 3rd centuries.

Four sherds from an imported North Gaulish mortarium in slightly worn condition came from context (419).

Regional imports are dominated by products of the Dorset and South-west black burnished ware industry but these only account for 3% of the assemblage. Most of the sherds appear to belong to the early phases of the industry dating to the 2nd century with a range of bowls and jars. There were no obvious later Roman sherds.

Other regional imports present include a sherd from a barbotine decorated Lower Nene Valley colour-coated beaker and five sherds of mortaria. The latter include three from Mancetter Hartshill; one possibly from Wroxeter or the West Midlands and one small fragment possibly from Gloucester .

Of unknown source but probably not local, is a sherd of Romano-British glazed ware, possibly from Holt.

The Roman wares are dominated by local grey wares at 44.9% followed by Severn Valley wares at 27%. The former mainly comprise jars, including some with rouletted or rusticated decoration, accompanied by a few bowls and dishes and single examples of a tankard and a single-handled flagon. The Severn Valley wares included wide-mouthed jars, tankards, bowls, dishes and a lid.

A few sherds of fine oxidised ware are probably also of local origin and are mainly from jars and a dish.

Chronology and distribution

The entire assemblage dates to the Roman period, specifically it spans the 1st to later 2nd/3rd centuries. There are no obvious later Roman wares present.

The earliest contexts appear to be from AP8 which also coincidentally produced the largest amount of pottery, just over 95% of the total recovered assemblage. The topsoil alone produced 519 sherds.

AP4 yielded just 23 sherds which appear to span the 1st-3rd centuries whilst AP5 produced just 16 sherds from four contexts. Ten of these were body sherds of Severn Valley ware and not closely datable. No pottery was submitted from AP9.

Fired clay and ceramic building material (cbm)

A small assemblage of 36 fragments of CBM was present, most of which (28 fragments) came from the topsoil in AP8. The remaining pieces also came from this area with no examples from AP4 and AP5. Most of this comprised very small, abraded fragments with few diagnostic features to suggest original form. At least one *tegula* (roofing tile) could be discerned and all the pieces are likely to be of Roman date. Four very small fragments of fired clay or daub also came from AP8 contexts.

Potential and further work

This is a further useful assemblage from the Stretton Grandison area to add to that previously recorded. In broad terms it shows many similarities in terms of chronology and composition to other groups from the immediate area. The assemblage is very typical for the region and largely dominated by local grey wares and Severn Valley wares accompanied by a range of non-local material. The only surprise in view of other assemblages from the locality is the lower incidence of samian which might be a reflection of the location of the trenches away from the postulated fort area.

If publication is envisaged a moderately brief report could be prepared and a selection of vessels illustrated. The fabrics should be tied in to the Worcestershire County Council system to facilitate subsequent comparative work.

Reference

Tomber, R, and Dore, J, 1998 *The National Roman fabric reference collection: a handbook*, Museum of London / English Heritage/ British Museum

Context	Description	Malv	sam	amp	SVW	GY	Other	BB1	Tot No	Tot Wt	Date	cbm
102	deposit	0	1	0	11	2	1	0	15	156	C1+	
104	fill of ditch	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	8	32.5	late	
105											C2-C3	
202	layer	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	19	C2-C4	
203	fill of [204]	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.5	C2-C4	
205	deposit	0	0	0	6	5	2	0	13	511	C2+	
206	alluvium	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	16	C2+	
400	topsoil	34	2	2	159	235	73	14	519	5628	C2	x28
401	layer	2	0	0	13	63	16	0	94	1214	C1-C2	
407	foundation layer	2	0	0	1	3	1	6	13	332	C2	x3
409	slag deposit	1	1	0	4	11	0	2	19	152	C2-C3	x5
411	occup surface	20	0	1	17	15	6	2	61	929	C1/C2	x1
416	fill pit 415	5	0	0	1	11	16	0	33	413	C1/C2	x2; daub x1
419		6	0	0	8	25	5	0	44	996	C1/C2	
TOTAL		70	4	3	224	370	127	25	823	10399		

Table 1: Pottery and CBM list

Samian Ware Report

Felicity C. Wild

The excavation produced a further 45 sherds of samian ware from about 29 vessels (**Table 2**). The material was largely similar in nature to that from the previous excavations, confirming the previous findings. Forms and vessel numbers are listed below, by origin.

Form	SG	MdeV	CG	Total
30	1			1
37	4	5	3	12
27	1			1
33		1		1
18	2			2
18 or 18/31	1			1
18/31		3		3
18/31 or 31		1	1	2
36 variant		1		1
Bowl			2	2
Uncertain		1	2	3
Total	9	12	8	29

Table 2: Samian pottery list

31% of the material was South Gaulish and 69% Central Gaulish, with as much as 41% probably from Les Martres-de-Veyre, a surprisingly high proportion. With the exception of one sherd of Central Gaulish ware, all the material was from the area of Access Pit 8, to which area, specifically, the discussion below applies.

Access Pit 8

Like the samian ware previously excavated from Access Pit 8, the material ranged in date from the later Flavian-Trajanic period to the middle of the second century AD, with the bulk likely to date to the period before c.AD 140. The proportion of decorated ware, c.45%, is high, though it should be noted that most of the decorated ware from the previous excavations also came from this area.

In the following descriptions of the decorated ware, figure types are quoted from Oswald 1936-37 (O.), Central Gaulish decorative details from Rogers 1974 (Rogers) and parallels from Stanfield and Simpson 1958 (S&S). Lower case numerals after a potter's name denote homonyms in the system used by Hartley and Dickinson (2008-12).

1. Form 37, South Gaulish. Five joining sherds of a small bowl with zonal decoration. A band of triple festoons containing a goat (O. 1823), a hare (?) and part of a bird, separated by a distinctive pendent motif (Hermet 1934, pl. 12, 69) lies above a straight wreath of triple poppy-heads, over a basal wreath of trifid buds. The ovolo occurs on bowls stamped by Crucuro i (e.g. Mees 1995, Taf. 52, 2), though there is no evidence that he used the various types and motifs. However, on small bowls, potters often used a different style of decoration from usual. Although this cannot be ascribed to a potter with certainty, the connection with Crucuro suggests a date c.AD 75-110. (400)

2. Form 37, South Gaulish. Two sherds, one burnt, from the same bowl, showing a lion (O1419) seated on conventional grass tufts above a trifold basal wreath. The trident tongue of the ovolo is just visible on one sherd. The style and motifs are typical of the Flavian-Trajanic period. The lion was used by potters such as Germanus, M. Crestio and Crucuro, while the basal wreath is perhaps most characteristic of the work of Mercator. Insufficient survives of the ovolo for more accurate identification. c.AD 80-110. (400, 401)
3. Form 37, South Gaulish. Small sherd with a thick, single festoon and part of a trifold bud. The bud was used by potters such as Biragillus, who also used a similar single festoon (Mees 1995, Taf. 11, 1). c.AD 85-110. (400)
4. Form 37, Central Gaulish, in the style of Drusus i of Les Martres-de-Veyre, showing the sphinx (O.855) and beaded circle (Rogers C294) over a wreath of bifid leaves (Rogers G284). The type and motifs are all attested on his style (S&S, pl. 12, 154; 14, 178). c.AD 100-120. (401)
5. Form 37, Central Gaulish, with the ovolo (Rogers B28) and beaded border of Drusus i. c.AD 100-120. (419)
6. Form 37, Central Gaulish, showing the ovolo (Rogers B38) with wavy line border, as used by X9 and X10 of Les Martres-de-Veyre. This is probably the style of X10, Stanfield's Ranto-Silvio style, with the upper edge of its characteristic scroll (S&S, pl. 33, 387). c.AD 110-135. (411)
7. Form 37, Central Gaulish. Small bowl, with the ovolo (Rogers B14) used by X13 and Sacer and a beaded border. The fabric, similar to no. 6 above, is probably that of Les Martres-de-Veyre, suggesting X13. c.AD 100-120. (411)
8. Form 37, Central Gaulish, showing the ovolo (Rogers B24) used by Docilis, and possibly part of his bear (O.1588?), cf. S&S, pl. 91, 6. c.AD 130-155. (400)
9. Form 37, Central Gaulish. Two joining sherds in the style of Divixtus i, showing panels containing medallions with Abundance (O.802) and Bacchus (O.571), both used by him (S&S, pl. 115, 3). The circular motif at the end of the bead row is also characteristic of his style. c.AD 145-175. (400)
10. Form 18/31, Central Gaulish, showing the end of the potter's stamp, JIV.SF or perhaps JLV.SF, not yet identifiable. Possibly in the fabric of Les Martres-de-Veyre, suggesting a Trajanic-Hadrianic date. (411)

Access Pit 4

The fill of ditch [105] produced a sherd of form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish, Hadrianic or Antonine.

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13. Appendix 3: Animal Bone Assessment

Note: For completeness, the full results of the animal bone assessment (including APs 8 & 9) have been reproduced here and will be similarly reprinted in the report on the excavations in the Scheduled Area of the Roman settlement.

Alison Foster

Assessment of vertebrate remains recovered during further excavations at Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire (site code: LORSG2)

Summary

An archaeological excavation was carried out by Border Archaeology in 2007, to the south of Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire, in advance of water pipeline works. Subsequently, four of the access pits (APs) were re-excavated (in 2011) as part of a maintenance programme and, as it was not possible to determine the exact location of the original pits, further archaeological deposits were encountered. The small assemblage of vertebrate remains recovered during this re-excavation was submitted for an assessment of its bioarchaeological potential.

Bone was present in three of the re-excavated pits (APs 4, 5 and 8), with the bulk recovered from AP8. Much of this material was, however, derived from a layer of topsoil interpreted as ploughsoil. Preservation was generally good but as a result of considerable fragmentation (including frequent fresh breakage) approximately a quarter of the assemblage remained unidentified. Butchery marks were present on bone from AP4 and AP8, with most of the evidence being for secondary carcass preparation, including split metapodials and long bones, and scapula trimming.

The potential value of this small additional quantity of vertebrate remains depends upon establishing the date of the deposits and identifying any corresponding contexts from this and the previous phase of excavation, in order to supplement the data from the original, more substantial, bone assemblage.

KEYWORDS: STRETTON GRANDISON; HEREFORDSHIRE; ASSESSMENT; ROMAN; VERTEBRATE REMAINS

Methods

One small box of hand-collected bone from the excavations (approximately 10 litres in total) was submitted to Palaeoecology Research Services Limited (PRS), Kingston upon Hull, for an assessment of its bioarchaeological potential.

Subjective records were made of the state of preservation, colour of the bone fragments, and the appearance of broken surfaces ('angularity'). Other information, such as fragment size, dog gnawing, burning, butchery and fresh breaks, was noted, where applicable.

Where possible, fragments were identified to species or species group using the PRS modern comparative reference collection and published works (Hillson

1990; Schmid 1972; Cohen and Serjeantson 1996). Those which could not be identified to species were described as the 'unidentified' fraction. Within this fraction, fragments were grouped into a number of categories: large mammal (assumed to be cattle, horse or large cervid), medium-sized mammal 1 (assumed to be caprine (sheep/goat), pig or small cervid), medium-sized mammal 2, (from a cat or hare-sized animal), and totally unidentifiable.

Nomenclature for mammal species follows Corbet and Southern (1977) and birds follow Walters (1980).

Results

Of the four engineering access pits re-excavated, all bar one (AP9) yielded animal bone. Hand-collected remains amounted to 215 fragments from 12 deposits (Table 1), with approximately three-quarters of these being derived from a layer of topsoil interpreted as ploughsoil encountered in AP8. Preservation of the vertebrate material was generally good but fresh breakage was extensive throughout the assemblage. Seven of the fragments were measurable and there were two mandibles with teeth *in situ* of use for providing biometrical and age-at-death data.

AP4

A relatively large amount of bone was recovered from this access pit during the original excavations in 2007 (Jaques and Carrott 2008). Re-excavation, however, produced only 11 fragments from two contexts, most of which were unidentifiable or could only be categorised by size. Preservation was good, but with frequent fresh breaks. There was no evidence for scavenging by dogs or other carnivores. Butchery marks were apparent on some of the bones from Context 104 (the fill of ditch 105), including a cattle scapula with chops around the glenoid cavity and another scapula fragment from which the spine had been sliced off.

Amongst the other remains submitted from this access pit the only one that could be identified to species was a piece of pig tooth enamel; the remaining material consisted of rib and long bone fragments from large and medium-sized mammals, together with some totally unidentifiable fragments.

AP5

Just five small bone fragments were recovered from this access pit, all but one of them from a layer (Context 202) dated to the Roman period. All were of good preservation but there was some fresh breakage. With the exception of a broken pig premolar from Context 202, none of the material could be identified more closely than large or medium-sized mammal.

AP8

This pit produced the majority of the bone in the assemblage, with a total of 199 fragments submitted, although most (over 75%) of these were derived from a layer of ploughsoil. The remaining material was recovered from deposits (as yet undated) related to occupation and industrial activity.

Although preservation was generally good, the material was heavily fragmented, which resulted in a quarter of the bones from this access pit being recorded as 'unidentified'. The damage included a significant degree of fresh breakage, especially among those bones recovered from the ploughsoil (Context 400). This context also produced all but six of the bones that showed signs of dog gnawing. Evidence for butchery was noted on approximately 10% of the assemblage, mostly splitting of long bones and metapodials (possibly for marrow extraction), together with a few examples of chop marks to pelves and the ends of long bones (indicating division of the carcass into smaller joints). A cattle scapula with the spine chopped off was also present. These butchery techniques were also noted on material from this access pit recovered by the first phase of excavations.

Species represented were almost entirely restricted to the main domesticates, predominantly caprines (sheep/goat) and cattle, with identified elements for these species numbering 23 and 18, respectively. For the purposes of this assessment, no attempt has been made to distinguish between post-cranial sheep and goat remains. Evidence for goat was present in the form of a single horncore (with no associated butchery marks); however, the majority of the caprine bones are likely to be sheep. Bones that, due to fragmentation, could only be identified as 'medium-sized mammal 1' were also relatively numerous; these are also assumed to be mainly caprines or pigs. Positively identified pig remains were restricted to just three bones. Bird bones were scarce and comprised a fragment of pelvis from a domestic fowl and a distal radius of similar size and morphology to that of a lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus* L.).

Mandibles were the most commonly occurring skeletal element for caprines in the material previously recovered from this pit and it was noted that seven mandible fragments were among the identified caprine elements from this phase of excavation, including two with tooth rows.

Discussion and statement of potential

Vertebrate remains totalling 215 fragments were recovered from three of the re-excavated engineering access pits (**Table 1**). Pits AP4 and AP5 produced small quantities of material but the bulk of the remains were concentrated in pit AP8. Of these, over three-quarters were recovered from a layer identified as topsoil/ploughsoil. Preservation of the vertebrate material was generally good but fragmentation, including numerous fresh breaks, resulted in a large proportion (over 25%) of the material remaining unidentified and only seven of the bones being measurable. There were also two sheep/goat mandibles with teeth *in situ* of use for providing age-at-death data.

A narrow range of species was present; much of the material was identified as cattle or caprine (sheep/goat), with the bulk of the remainder being categorised as large or medium-sized mammal. It is very likely that most of the fragments grouped by size were also of cattle and sheep. In addition, a few pig bones were noted, together with a fragment of domestic fowl pelvis and a distal radius which showed morphological similarities to that of a lapwing.

Evidence for primary carcass preparation was sparse, and most of the butchered bone comprised split metapodials and long bone fragments, which have been associated with marrow extraction. Trimming of the glenoid and spine was also noted on a few cattle scapulae, which is typical of assemblages from the Roman period and has been noted in Winchester (Maltby 2010) and in 4th century

deposits from Lincoln (Dobney *et al.* 1996). These butchery techniques were also noted on material recovered during the first phase of excavation.

The value of this additional material is dependant upon equating the contexts from this phase with those of the previous excavation, if possible, and establishing the dates of the deposits.

Recommendations

The re-excavations of the access pits produced only relatively small amounts of vertebrate remains. However, provided that corresponding contexts from the two phases of excavation can be identified and issues of dating resolved, a basic archive of securely-dated material, including the collection of biometrical and age-at-death data, should be undertaken to supplement the data from the original excavation.

Retention and disposal

The recovered remains should be retained as part of the physical archive for the site.

Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 4, National Industrial Estate, Bontoft Avenue, Kingston upon Hull), pending return to the excavator, along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

Acknowledgements

The author is grateful to Neil Shurety and Sarah Ritchie, of Border Archaeology, for providing the material and the archaeological information.

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Species		AP4	AP5	AP8	Total
<i>Sus f. domestic</i>	pig	1	1	3	5
<i>Bos f. domestic</i>	cow	2	-	18	20
<i>Capra hircus</i> L.	goat	-	-	1	1
Caprovid	sheep/goat	-	-	23	23
Large mammal		4	2	40	46
Medium-sized mammal 1		1	1	54	56
Medium-sized mammal 2		-	-	4	4
<i>Gallus f. domestic</i>	chicken	-	-	1	1
cf. <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> L.	?lapwing	-	-	1	1
Unidentified		3	1	54	58
Total		11	5	199	215

Table 1: Hand-collected vertebrate remains recovered from re-excavations at Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire, by access pit

14. Appendix 4: Coin Assessment

Adrian Popescu

Context	Quantity	
401	1	Hadrian
		Coin: As, Minted: Rome, Date: 119-138 AD
		Period 15 (294-317)
		Reference: BMC III, p. 438, no 1341 or p. 448, no 1380.
101	1	Licinius I
		Coin: Nummus, Minted: London, Date: 316-317 AD
		Reference: RIC VII, p. 102, no 97.

15. Appendix 5: NMR OASIS archaeological report form

OASIS ID: borderar1-95696

Project details

Project name	Re-excavation of engineering access pits AP1, AP2, AP3, AP4 and AP5, Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire
Short description of the project	<p>An archaeological observation and re-excavation was undertaken by Border Archaeology on the site of Access Pits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke Ledbury Trunk Main, situated to the south of Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire. The excavations ran from 8th February 2011 to 24th May 2011. The programme of groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 1, 2 and 3, Stretton Grandison revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007, no additional archaeological deposits were observed in any of these Access Pits, nor was natural observed. The groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 4 and 5 also revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007. In addition to this, where the new excavations deviated away from the original trenches, further evidence of Roman activity was identified. In AP4 the additional archaeological deposits consisted of layer (102), which is most likely an extension of deposit (4046) which was excavated in the original AP4 excavation in 2007. This deposit was identified as representing a period of disuse and abandonment. The local place name 'Blacklands' may originate in this deposit. Pottery from (102) could not give a firm date, but is no earlier than the 1st century AD. Beneath this was ditch [105], a continuation of [4009] from the previous excavation, which dates to the late 2nd - 3rd century AD. Natural was observed at 58.41m OD. In AP5 a series of Roman layers and a ditch were identified. Layer (202) corresponds with layer (5004) excavated in 2007, and (205) with (5006). This places ditch (204) within the same phase as pit/posthole feature [5007], possible pit/linear feature [5010] and pit [5012] from the 2007 excavation, this hypothesis is supported by the pottery, which suggests the ditch is post 2nd century AD. Layer (5004) was interpreted in 2007 as one of occupation, although it is possible layer (5004)=(205) represents the same period of disuse as (4003)=(4027)=(102) in AP4. Natural was not observed.</p>
Project dates	Start: 08-02-2011 End: 24-05-2011
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LORSG2 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None



Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	OCCUPATION LAYER Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HEREFORDSHIRE HEREFORDSHIRE STRETTON GRANDISON Fields to the south of Stretton Grandison, near River Frome
Postcode	HR8 2TN
Study area	14.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	SO 63177 43271 52.0861492143 -2.537469043710 52 05 10 N 002 32 14 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 56.61m Max: 57.96m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Border Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Border Archaeology



Project director/manager Border Archaeology

Project supervisor Sarah Ritchie MA

Type of sponsor/funding body Water Authority/Company

Name of sponsor/funding body Dwr Cymru Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Hereford City Museum

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Human Bones','Metal'

Digital Archive recipient Hereford City Museum

Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography'

Paper Archive recipient Hereford City Museum

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Map','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Programme of Archaeological Works - Re-excavation of engineering access pits AP1, AP2, AP3, AP4 and AP5, Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Ritchie, S.

Date 2011



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16. Appendix 6: Site Summary

<i>Report Title</i>	Re-excavation of engineering access pits AP1, AP2, AP3, AP4 and AP5, Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire
<i>Contractor's Name and Address</i>	Border Archaeology PO Box 36 Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8DE
<i>Site Name</i>	APs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Ledbury Trunk Main, Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire
<i>Grid Reference</i>	NGR SO 6300 4300
<i>SMR number</i>	EHE1884
<i>Date of Field Work</i>	February - May 2011
<i>Date of Report</i>	May 2011
	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS
<i>Pottery</i>	<i>Period:</i> Roman <i>Quantity:</i> 41 sherds
<i>Coin</i>	<i>Period:</i> Roman <i>Quantity:</i> 1
<i>Animal bone</i>	<i>Period:</i> Roman <i>Quantity:</i> 16 pieces
	NUMBER AND TYPE OF SAMPLES COLLECTED
<i>Sieving for charred plant remains</i>	<i>No of features sampled:</i> N/A <i>No of buckets:</i> N/A
<i>C14/scientific dates</i>	<i>No and Type:</i> N/A <i>Result:</i> N/A
<i>Pollen</i>	<i>No of columns/spot samples:</i> N/A <i>Name of pollen specialist:</i> N/A
<i>Bone</i>	<i>Number of buckets sieved for bone:</i> N/A <i>Quantity Recovered:</i> N/A <i>Period:</i> N/A
<i>Summary of the report</i>	<p>An archaeological observation and re-excavation was undertaken by Border Archaeology on the site of Access Pits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Welsh Water/Laing O'Rourke Ledbury Trunk Main, situated to the south of Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire. The excavations ran from 8th February 2011 to 24th May 2011.</p> <p>The programme of groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 1, 2 and 3, Stretton Grandison revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007, no additional archaeological deposits were observed in any of these Access Pits, nor was natural observed.</p> <p>The groundworks undertaken at Access Pits 4 and 5 also revealed the original Access Pit trenches dug in 2007. In addition to this, where the new excavations deviated away from the original trenches, further evidence of Roman activity was identified. In AP4 the additional archaeological deposits consisted of layers and a ditch, all of which were continuations of deposits discovered in the 2007 excavation. Pottery from these deposits dates the features in AP4 to the 1st – 3rd centuries AD. Natural was observed at 58.41m OD.</p> <p>In AP5 a series of Roman occupation layers and a ditch were identified. The ditch can be placed within the same phase as pit/posthole feature [5007], possible pit/linear feature [5010] and pit [5012] from the 2007 excavation, this is supported by the pottery, which suggests the ditch is post 2nd century AD. Natural was not observed.</p>

17. Appendix 7: Harris Matrices

Harris Matrix for AP1



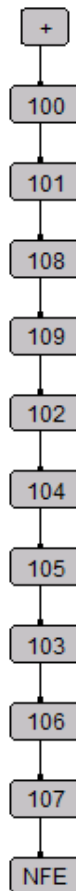
Harris Matrix for AP2



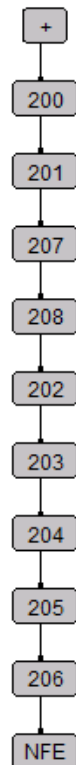
Harris Matrix for AP3



Harris Matrix for AP4



Harris Matrix for AP5





Document Control

Job title	Re-excavation of engineering access pits APs 1, 2, 3, 4 and AP5, Stretton Grandison, Herefordshire	Job No	BA1031LORSG2
Report written by	<i>Sarah Ritchie MA AIFA</i>		
Report edited by	<i>George Children MA MifA</i>		
Issue No	Status	Date	Approved for issue
1	Final	May 2011	<i>Neil Shurety Dip M.GM Inst. M</i>