

# birmingham archaeology

Land at Moreton Business Park,  
Moreton-on-Lugg, Herefordshire:

an archaeological evaluation  
2005

Project No.1350

Land at Moreton Business Park, Moreton-on-Lugg, Herefordshire:  
an archaeological evaluation 2005

By

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**LAND AT MORETON BUSINESS PARK, MORETON-ON-LUGG, HEREFORDSHIRE:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2005**

**CONTENTS**

<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>4</b>
1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT .....	4
1.2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY .....	4
<b>2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>4 METHODOLOGY</b> .....	<b>5</b>
4.1 FIELDWORK .....	5
<b>5 RESULTS</b> .....	<b>6</b>
5.1 INTRODUCTION .....	6
5.2 NATURAL DEPOSITS .....	6
5.3 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND DEPOSITS .....	6
5.4 ROMANO-BRITISH.....	7
5.5 MODERN.....	7
5.6 UNDATED.....	7
<b>6 THE FINDS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
6.1 THE POTTERY by Erica Macey-Bracken .....	8
6.2 THE ANIMAL BONE by Ian L. Baxter.....	8
6.2.1 Introduction.....	8
6.2.2 Description .....	8
6.2.3 Discussion and conclusion.....	9
6.3 OTHER FINDS by Kate Bain.....	9
<b>7 DISCUSSION</b> by Kate Bain and Laurence Jones .....	<b>9</b>
<b>8 CONCLUSIONS</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>10 REFERENCES</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>TABLES (within text)</b>	
1 FINDS QUANTIFICATIONS .....	8
2 BONE MEASUREMENTS .....	9
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
1 BRIEF BY HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL	
2 DETAILED RESULTS OF TRIAL- TRENCHING	

## **FIGURES**

- Fig. 1: location map
- Fig. 2: site location
- Fig. 3: trench location plan
- Fig. 4: sample trench sections
- Fig. 5: plans of Trenches 1, 2 and 11 and sections

## **PLATES**

- Plate 1: ditch 200 and pit 202, looking east
- Plate 2: ditch 200 with partial remains of horse skeleton *in situ*, looking south
- Plate 3: ditch 1100, looking west
- Plate 4: ditch 1101, looking west

## SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation of land at Moreton Business Park, Moreton-on-Lugg, Herefordshire (centred on NGR SO 5050 4832) was undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology in October 2005 on behalf of GreatWest 2003 Ltd. The work was carried out as a condition of planning consent for the development of the site, which was formerly part of a military base. The landscape in the vicinity of the study area has produced a wealth of archaeological information, dating from the Palaeolithic to the post-medieval period and Worcestershire Archaeological Service has carried out a series of archaeological investigations, immediately to the north of the present site, at Wellington Quarry. A previous desk-based assessment of the site suggested that there was good potential for the survival of archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric and Romano- British periods. A preliminary programme of test- pitting and deposit modelling within the site, carried out by Worcestershire Archaeological Service, revealed extensive alluvial deposits and indicated archaeological features and deposits may be present.

Seventeen trial- trenches were excavated in order to assess the nature and significance of any potential archaeological features or deposits. In two of the trenches potentially significant archaeological features were revealed. In Trench 11, at the west part of the site two parallel shallow linear ditches were recorded, one of which contained three abraded sherds of Romano- British pottery. In Trench 2, close to the northern limit of the site, a shallow linear ditch was recorded containing a partial semi- articulated horse skeleton. The size of the horse skeleton was consistent with an animal dating to the Iron Age or Romano- British periods. Close to the southern edge of this linear ditch was an undated feature, possibly a pit. The linear ditches were all on a similar alignment, all the features contained similar fills and were sealed by a similar depth of alluvium. This evidence may suggest that all these features could date to the Romano- British period or perhaps earlier. Preservation of artefacts from the probable Romano- British features was fairly poor, although the condition and survival of the features was good, as they were protected by layers of alluvial deposits and modern overburden. The precise function of the features is unclear, although it seems possible that the ditches could be associated with drainage and/ or agricultural activities. Similar features have been recorded in investigations to the north of the site and at the nearby Wellington Quarry.

The deep alluvial deposits, encountered in all of the trenches, sealed the probable Romano- British features indicating that the site was often prone to flooding in the post-Roman period. This may be a contributing factor for the lack of evidence for any cultivation or other activity during much of this period. However, the alluvial deposits had been truncated, in some of the trenches, by landscaping and construction activities during the period between the 1940s and 1990s, when the site was in use as a military base and depot. It may be that these 20<sup>th</sup> century activities have obscured any possible archaeological evidence for medieval and post-medieval cultivation and land management. It was concluded that the probable Romano- British features, identified during the evaluation, were likely to be of regional significance.

## LAND AT MORETON BUSINESS PARK, MORETON-ON-LUGG, HEREFORDSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2005

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background to the project

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by GreatWest 2003 Ltd, at the request of Building Design Practice Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at Moreton Business Park, Moreton-on-Lugg, Herefordshire (hereinafter referred to as the site). The work was carried out in October 2005 as a condition of planning consent (Planning Application Number DC2004/1299/0) for the development of the site, which was formerly part of a military base. The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by Herefordshire Council (Herefordshire Council 2005, Appendix 1), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2005) which was approved by Herefordshire Council prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

A previous desk-based assessment of the site suggested that there was good potential for the survival of archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric and Romano- British periods. A preliminary programme of test- pitting and deposit modelling within the site revealed extensive alluvial deposits and indicated archaeological features and deposits may be present.

This report outlines the results of the evaluation and has been prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* (IFA 2001).

#### 1.2 Location and geology

The site is located within a former army base at Moreton-on-Lugg, Herefordshire (NGR SO 5050 4832, Figs. 1 and 2) and occupies approximately three hectares. The A49 runs north-south to the west and the River Lugg is situated approximately 1km to the east of the site.

The site lies within the floodplain of the River Lugg and is fairly flat, lying at 55m AOD. The underlying geology consists of sands and gravels overlain by alluvial deposits. At present the site contains a spur of the former 1940s railway line serving the base, locomotive shed (1960s), petroleum store (1980s) and associated hardstanding/ access roads.

### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A desk-based assessment of the former army base was carried out by BUFAU (now Birmingham Archaeology), in 2002 (Nichol and Watt 2002). This assessment contains detailed background information about the site and the archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity. The landscape in the vicinity of the study area has produced a wealth of archaeological information, from the Palaeolithic to the post-medieval period. Worcestershire Archaeological Service, formerly Hereford and Worcester County Council Archaeology Section, have carried out a series of archaeological investigations at Wellington Quarry, Marden, immediately to the north of the site. These yielded important remains dating to the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods. The assessment concluded that the apparent lack of development at the site

prior to its use as an army base, together with its proximity to known archaeological sites suggested good potential for the survival archaeological deposits.

The northern part of the former army base, within the Brooks Industrial Estate, was the subject of an evaluation by Worcestershire County Council Archaeological Service in 2002 and 2003 (Miller & Griffin 2002, Griffin & Jackson 2003). Evidence of activity dating from the Mesolithic to the medieval period was recorded. A single pit dated to the Neolithic period was revealed. A large pit of Bronze Age date, interpreted as a funerary monument, was associated with possible cremations and postholes. Also a channel dug through a former watercourse, which had probably become silted up in the later Roman period, was interpreted as an attempt to maintain drainage at this time. A further drainage ditch of Roman date was also revealed. Alluvial deposits sealing sand and gravel dated from the post-glacial period until at least the post-Roman period.

The southern part of the former army base, including the area of the present site, was the subject of a preliminary evaluation carried out by Worcestershire County Council Archaeological Service in 2003 (Miller 2003), prior to the determination of a planning application. Eleven trenches were excavated and although no archaeological features were encountered, alluvial deposits, up to 1.4m deep, which sealed sand and gravels, were recorded. In some places these alluvial deposits were truncated by modern landscaping. The limited ambit of this evaluation meant that although general depths of alluvium were recorded, further more detailed evaluation of potential archaeological remains across the development site was required.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The principle aim of the evaluation was to determine the character, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains.

More specific aims were to:

- establish the likely presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and features within the proposed development site,
- define the nature, extent and significance of surviving deposits and features,
- provide information to allow the formulation of a mitigation scheme, possibly involving further excavation and recording in advance of development, where appropriate.

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 Fieldwork**

The site covers approximately 3 hectares. A total of seventeen trenches (Fig. 3) were excavated across the site, which provided an approximate 2% sample of the total area. Trenches were regularly spaced over the whole area in order to gain a representative sample of the site. All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation was down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections were drawn through all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and cut cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs, using monochrome and colour print and colour slide photography.

The full site archive consists of one box containing all artefacts recovered from the site and one box containing all paper records. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the UKIC Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (Walker, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museums and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with the appropriate repository, subject to permission from the landowner.

## 5 RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

Detailed summaries of the individual trenches are presented in Appendix 2 and full details are available in the project archive. This section is presented in chronological sequence and gives a summary of the results from each identifiable phase.

### 5.2 Natural deposits

The natural gravels were overlain by a subsoil consisting of a red- brown sandy clay with gravel, 0.10- 0.45m deep, which merged into the gravels below and into which archaeological features were cut. The subsoil was located at various depths, below the present ground surface, across the site, ranging from depths of 2.30m (53.85m AOD) in the northeast area of the site, to 1.20m (55.34m AOD) in the northwest. In all trenches the subsoil was sealed by a layer of alluvial clay, between 0.19m and 0.93m deep, which had been truncated by modern features and sealed below various layers of modern overburden (Fig. 4).

Where the subsoil was sealed by very deep layers of both alluvial deposits and modern overburden, mainly in the trenches at northeast part of the site, sondages were machine excavated in order to establish the depth of the natural subsoil.

### 5.3 Summary of archaeological features and deposits

Archaeological features were found in the following trenches, one of which contained dating evidence from the Romano-British period.

- Romano- British: ditch 1100, Trench 11
- Modern: concrete floors 506, (Trench 5) and 602 (Trench 6), brick walls 1110 and 1111, (Trench 11) and pits 108, (Trench 1) and 507, (Trench 5)
- Undated: ditch 1101, (Trench 11), ditch 200 and feature 202, (Trench 2)



#### 5.4 Romano-British

In Trench 11 an east- west aligned linear ditch (1101, Fig. 5 and Plate 1) was recorded, 1.0m wide and 0.20m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a mid-dark grey silty clay (1103) and contained three sherds of Romano-British pottery, which were recovered from the base of the feature.

#### 5.5 Modern

A number of modern features were identified, mainly of 20<sup>th</sup> century date, associated with the former use of the site as an army depot. These included concrete floors (506 and 602) in Trenches 5 and 6, and brick walls (1110 and 1111) in Trench 11, probably associated with the base of a former Nissen hut. The above ground structures associated with these features had all been levelled and the features were sealed by demolition debris and domestic waste associated with the former military base. Further modern features included two pits (108, Trench 1; Fig. 5 and 507, Trench 5), which were cut through layers of modern overburden probably associated with the clearance and redevelopment of the base. A further pit (1415, Trench 14) was probably associated with the construction of an adjacent former petroleum store. In all the trenches layers of modern overburden sealed layers of alluvial clay. In Trenches 1, 5, 8, 9 and 12 thick layers of overburden made up of rubble and domestic debris were recorded. In Trench 1 layers of dumped material over 1.2m deep were recorded. These consisted of ash, rusted metal and other waste including numerous glass bottles both domestic and medical, crushed cans, and military cookwares.

#### 5.6 Undated

In Trench 11 an east- west aligned linear ditch (1100, Fig. 5 and Plate 2) was revealed, 0.75m wide and 0.07m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with mid grey silty clay (1102). Ditch 1100 was located 4m south of ditch 1101, which contained sherds of Romano- British pottery, and it had a similar fill to ditch 1100.

In Trench 2 a roughly east- west orientated linear ditch (200, Fig. 5 and Plates 3 and 4) was recorded, 0.58m wide and 0.22m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a grey silty clay (201) containing the semi-articulated, partial remains of a horse skeleton. Immediately to the south of ditch 200 was a sub-circular feature (202, Fig. 5 and Plate 1), possibly a pit, extending beyond the trench. It was at least 0.72m wide x 4m long and 0.28m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a grey silty clay (203) similar to the fill of ditch 200. The fills of ditch 200 and feature 202 were similar to the fill of ditch 1101 in Trench 11, which contained Romano-British pottery.

In addition to these features a number of other undated possible features were also identified. Irregular hollows in the natural subsoil were present in Trenches 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 and 17. These hollows contained sterile silty clays often similar to the alluvial layers that sealed them. None of the hollows contained any artefacts or material that indicated human intervention. The hollows are probably natural features, either tree boles and associated tree root activity or variations in the natural geology, although in some cases it was not possible to be absolutely certain of this.

## 6 THE FINDS

Material Type	Quantity
Roman pottery (g)	12
Glass bottles	89
Animal bone (g)	2367

**Table 1: finds quantifications**

### 6.1 The pottery by Erica Macey-Bracken

Three small body sherds of abraded pottery, weighing 12g, were recovered from Trench 11 (1103). The largest of the three sherds was identified as a piece of Severn Valley Ware (mid 1st- 4<sup>th</sup> century AD), with oxidised surfaces and a reduced core. The other two sherds, which both measured less than 1cm in width, were undiagnostic but were of a similar appearance to the larger sherd, and are likely to also be Severn Valley Ware.

### 6.2 The animal bone by Ian L. Baxter

#### 6.2.1 Introduction

The partial skeleton of a horse was found in an undated shallow ditch [200] filled by a single clay context (201) at the eastern end of Trench 2. The remains were semi-articulated with the right radius, carpus, metacarpal, first and second phalanges lying in anatomical relation together with the complete left mandible. Other skeletal elements recovered from the same context and apparently belonging to the same individual include the right lower dentition, fragments of the right humerus, left femur, patella, tibia, tarsus and a hind first phalanx. Cranial fragments discovered to the east of the main deposit included most of the upper dentition.

#### 6.2.2 Description

The bones were not well preserved and some, for example the maxillae and right mandible, appear to have totally disintegrated. Temporary reconstructions of the radius and metacarpal permitted some measurements to be taken (Table 2). No cut marks or other signs of butchery were seen on any of the bones.

The animal possessed fully erupted and worn canines in both the upper and lower jaws and was almost certainly a stallion or gelding. Only 2-3% of mares have erupted canines in both jaws (Sisson and Grossman 1953, p.399). The morphology of the teeth, particularly the protocone in the upper molars and the penetration of the external sulcus between the metaflexid and entoflexid in the lower molars, are indicative of horse (*Equus caballus*) (Baxter 1998). The wear of the lower incisors (Barone 1980) and the crown height of the lower third molar (Levine 1982) suggest an age at death of around twelve years. Withers height estimations, based on the multiplication factors of May (1985), for both the radius and metacarpal, are approximately 128cm or 13 hands.

Element	Crown ht.	GL	LI	Bd	Dd	GH	GB	BFd	LmT
M <sub>3</sub>	42.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Radius	-	297.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mc.III	-	207.0	200.0	40.9	31.4	-	-	-	-
Astragalus	-	-	-	-	-	51.7	e52.3	44.2	51.5

**Table 2:** Bone measurements in millimetres (based on von den Driesch 1976 and Levine 1982)

### 6.2.3 Discussion and conclusion

The equid remains found in ditch 200 are consistent with the partial and semi-articulated skeleton of a single male horse (stallion or gelding) aged approximately twelve years at time of death that stood in life around thirteen hands high. It was a pony-sized animal with no apparent pathologies. In its size and conformation this animal is similar to horses typically found on Iron Age and Romano-British sites, for example at Haddon, Cambridgeshire (Collins 1994; Baxter 2003). It seems possible that the skeletal elements found in anatomical relation, and in particular the bones of the right fore-leg and at least part of the left hind leg, were still held together by tendons and ligaments when deposited. None of the bones exhibited any signs of butchery or canid gnawing, but they were not well preserved and any such evidence may have been destroyed or masked by later damage. The apparent placement of the left mandible above the right fore-leg and this above the left hind leg on the same alignment in the main deposit suggests intentionality or structured deposition in the sense of Hill (1995).

### 6.3 Other finds by Kate Bain

A total of 89 small clear glass bottles were recovered from layers 104 and 504 in Trenches 1 and 5. These were clearly marked as being of American origin, with many having the words TCW.CO NO.SOLVIT USA stamped on the base. TCW CO is the stamp of the pharmaceutical glassmakers T. C. Wheaton based in Millville, New Jersey, USA. This company, formed in 1888 by Dr Theodore Corson Wheaton, has manufactured laboratory, chemical and drug bottles from 1888 to the present day ([www.myinsulators.com](http://www.myinsulators.com)).

Considerable quantities of rusted metal objects were also recorded in layers 104, 504, 604 and 1107. The heavily degraded nature of the articles in question suggested that they had been stored, redundant, for some time, before being dumped as part of the landscaping of the site. It is therefore impossible to assess which part of the base they originated from. A few identifiable metal items were also recorded in these layers, including mess tins and other military cookwares.

## 7 DISCUSSION by Kate Bain and Laurence Jones

The earliest dateable feature recorded on the site was shallow linear ditch 1101 in Trench 11, on the west part of the site, which probably dated to the Romano-British period. Undated linear ditch 1100, 4m to the south, was on a similar alignment and may also date to this period. Undated linear ditch 200, in Trench 2 close to the northern edge of the site, contained a partial semi-articulated horse skeleton. The size of the horse skeleton was consistent with an animal dating to the Iron Age or Romano-British periods and there is a possibility that the animal may have been deliberately deposited in the ditch. Nearby undated feature 202

contained a similar fill to this ditch and may also date to this period. The three shallow linear ditches all contained similar fills, were sealed by a similar depth of alluvium and were all orientated approximately east- west heading down slope in the direction of the River Lugg, to the east of the site. This evidence suggests all these features may be of Romano- British date or perhaps earlier.

Two shallow ditches of probable Romano- British date, on a similar orientation to those recorded on the site, were recorded in two evaluations 500m to the north of the site (Miller and Griffin 2002) and 300m to the northeast of the site (Griffin and Jackson 2003). These were on similar alignment to drainage or boundary ditches located at nearby Wellington Quarry to the northeast of the site. A drainage ditch or artificial channel of Romano- British date, recutting an earlier watercourse, was also recorded 300m to the north (ibid). It was thought possible that this drainage ditch could be evidence of land reclamation and it may be associated with land management relating to the villa at Wellington Quarry (Jackson and Edwards 2002). Although the precise function of the linear ditches recorded on site is unclear, it is unlikely that they are associated with settlement activity due to the small quantity and the abraded nature of the sherds of pottery recovered. The evidence suggests that the linear ditches are more likely to be associated with drainage and/ or agricultural activities, which are part of a wider, managed farmed Romano- British landscape.

The deep alluvial deposits sealing the probable Romano- British features indicate that the site was often prone to flooding in the post-Roman period. This may be a contributing factor for the lack of evidence for any cultivation or other activity during much of this period. However, these alluvial deposits had been truncated in some of the trenches by landscaping and construction during the period, between the 1940s and 1990s, when the site was in use as a military base and depot. It may be that these 20<sup>th</sup> century activities have obscured any possible archaeological evidence for medieval and post- medieval cultivation and land management. Although, the site appears to have been occupied by an orchard in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, as this is shown on a plan of 1777 and the 1845 Tithe map (Nicol and Watt 2002, figs. 3 and 4)

A probable Nissen hut base, recorded in Trench 11 was almost certainly one of those shown on a 1943 plan of the base depicted as being part of Block 1 (ibid, fig. 8). Part of this block of huts was used for the storage of medical and engineering supplies in the 1940s and 1950s (ibid). This is confirmed by the large number of glass bottles recovered from Trenches 1 and 5, which appear to have been used for either a laboratory or medical application. Layers and dumps of 20<sup>th</sup> century debris in all of the trenches, were related to the landscaping, clearance, construction and demolition of parts of the military base. In the early post war period (1953- 54) the base was almost completely restructured and rebuilt (ibid).

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

The probable Romano- British features identified during the evaluation, associated with drainage and/ or agricultural activities, are considered to be of regional significance, as knowledge of these activities is lacking in the region. The probable Romano- British features have a high group value when considered in relation to evidence for Romano- British farming and land management in the surrounding landscape. Preservation of artefacts from the probable Romano- British features is fairly poor, although the condition and survival of the

features is good as they protected by layers of alluvial deposits and modern overburden. The vulnerability of the features is low, unless groundworks associated with the proposed development are to exceed a depth of more than 1.2m below the modern ground surface. Groundworks deeper than this may directly affect the survival of archaeological features.

## 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to Andrew Horner of GreatWest 2003 Ltd, Bruce Jones and Colin Proctor of Building Design Practice Ltd for their co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Thanks also go to Julian Cotton, who monitored the project on behalf of Herefordshire County Council. Work on site was supervised by Kate Bain and carried out by Tim Evans, Phil Mann and Sally Radford. The finds were reported on by Erica Macey- Bracken, Ian Baxter and Kate Bain who also wrote the report. The figures were prepared by Nigel Dodds and the report was edited by Laurence Jones who also managed the project.

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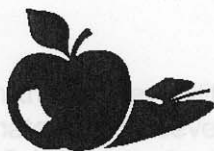
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## APPENDIX 1- BRIEF BY HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

## 1 THE DEVELOPMENT SITE

The development site is located within the secondary camp at Moreton on Lugg, and is centred at NGR SO 502484 approximately. The development encompasses an area of 30 hectares approximately. The above information is for identification for the purposes of this brief only. Full details of the site are obtainable from the developers, or agents acting on their behalf.



HEREFORDSHIRE  
COUNCIL

## 2 THE PLANNING BACKGROUND

### **BRIEF FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK: PROPOSED BUSINESS PARK DEVELOPMENT AT MORETON ON LUGG, HEREFORDSHIRE.**

**Ref: SO502464**

**Date of issue: 27/07/2005**

The County of Herefordshire District Council considers that this proposed development has significant archaeological implications, and has attached an archaeological condition to the grant of planning permission. The archaeological condition requires the developer to secure a programme of archaeological work (hereinafter referred to as "the project") in order to record the archaeological interest of the site.

The project will in summary comprise the following operations: preliminary investigative trenching; an archaeological watching brief on the ground-works; limited archaeological excavations (only if necessary); a complete post-excavation programme of assessment, archiving, interim reporting, and publication in accordance with English Heritage procedures.

The project must follow general archaeological best practice as defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, be in accordance with the broad framework provided by this brief, and comply with current Herefordshire Council archaeological standards.

The project must also be undertaken to the specified terms of a written scheme of investigation (project design) prepared by a professional archaeological contractor and submitted by the developer / on the developer's behalf. Archaeological work must be undertaken by a professional archaeological contractor.

## 4 THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT

The formal submission of a project design by or on behalf of the developer will be taken to mean that the developer, if undertaking the development referred to above, is under binding contract to discharge the project design in full. Project Designs must be approved by Herefordshire Archaeology in advance.

**No development shall take place until all these matters have been addressed.** If the required archaeological project is not properly and/or fully implemented, the developer may be in breach of the archaeological condition and be subject to enforcement action.

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## **1 THE DEVELOPMENT SITE**

The development site is located within the former military camp at Moreton on Lugg, and is centred at NGR SO 502464 approximately. The development encompasses an area of 30 hectares approximately. The above definitions are for broad identification for the purposes of this brief only. Full details of the proposed development are obtainable from the developers, or agents acting on their behalf.

## **2 THE PLANNING BACKGROUND**

Following archaeological assessment and evaluation (see Section 3), the development as proposed was granted planning permission. This permission was subject to a standard archaeological 'site investigation' condition. This condition follows national government guidance (PPG 16), and is in accordance with local government (Herefordshire) plans.

## **3 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

The general area of the Lugg valley within which the development site is situated displays very high potential for particularly significant archaeological finds. The development site is thus very sensitive archaeologically. Extensive and ongoing archaeological work connected with the immediately adjoining 'Tarmac' gravel pits has uncovered a wealth of remains from many periods of history and prehistory. Some of these remains (for instance a recently uncovered Saxon mill) are of national importance. It is also considered that the palaeo-environmental interest of the area is of great significance.

Two archaeological studies specifically relating to the development site were submitted as part of the planning application for the development. Firstly there was a Desk-Based Assessment undertaken by the University of Birmingham. Secondly there was a short field evaluation report undertaken by the Historic Environment and Archaeology Service of Worcestershire County Council (Miller 2003, Report 1201). Although the scope of the latter did not extend to a comprehensive analysis of the likely archaeological remains on site, it was possible to outline broad depths of deposit and degrees of truncation for the purposes of determining the application.

*This section (3) is intended as a concise summary of what currently appear to be the main archaeological themes, and does not constitute an anticipation of what might be found.*

## **4 THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT**

The broad aims of the project are to record, prior to and during development, all archaeological materials present on the site. The primary intention will be to make a satisfactory detailed record of those archaeological materials to be destroyed or damagingly affected by development. There is a secondary intention, however, to make concise records of other relevant features of the site, in order to put the work in context. The work will also aim to result in the deposition of a satisfactory archaeological archive and production of a satisfactory publication. The archaeological project will not be regarded as complete until satisfactory deposition and publication has been achieved.

## 5 THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The project will consist of the following items:

- Preliminary investigative trenching in order to properly understand the potential of specific areas, and to formulate an appropriate strategy for subsequent operations. It may be (for example) that particular areas are demonstrated to be of such low potential that parts of the watching brief [below] will not be necessary.
- An archaeological watching brief on all ground-disturbing operations forming part of the development, except where Herefordshire Archaeology agree otherwise in advance. It is assumed that during the course of this watching brief, the archaeological contractor may need to make occasional small scale/short duration interventions in order to properly undertake the recording of archaeological features of moderate value.
- If (and only if) discoveries made during the watching brief warrant it, full archaeological excavation of any high value archaeological remains that are present within the direct scope of the development or any associated ground-works.
- Full and proper analysis, processing, and deposition of all retained archaeological materials and archives of any kind deriving from the works, and proper reporting and publication of the results.
- It is anticipated that the interim report on the findings, and the publication of a summary note in the *Transactions* of the Woolhope Club and in *West Midlands Archaeology*, will probably meet the publication requirement. However, if particularly significant finds are made, *more detailed* publication in a recognised period Journal, or in some other form, may be necessary.

## 6 THE PROJECT METHODS

The project will be undertaken in accordance with the Herefordshire Archaeology document *Standards for Archaeological Projects in Herefordshire (Issue 1)*, and to the relevant standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). Submitted project designs must indicate in detail the methods to be followed.

## 7 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

There are no special requirements in relation to this particular development proposal.

## 8 DISCLAIMER

## APPENDIX 2- DETAILED RESULTS OF TRIAL-TRENCHING

This brief has been prepared to the best of the information currently available to Herefordshire Archaeology, but despite our best efforts should not be assumed to be complete, consistent or completely accurate. If the applicant, the applicant's agent, or anybody else acting on behalf of the applicant or otherwise involved in the project, has supplementary or contrary information which may be relevant to the site or the archaeological project, they should contact the archaeological advisor (see below) as soon as possible. Herefordshire Archaeology has advised that the project described by this brief should take place, and will monitor archaeological standards during the full course of the work, but is not *responsible* for the project, particularly as regards site hazards and health and safety matters.

### 9 FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained from **Herefordshire Archaeology, Planning Services, Herefordshire Council, PO Box 144, Hereford HR1 2YH Fax 01432 383354**

Correspondence would normally be through **Mr Julian Cotton, the Archaeological Advisor** (at the above address, on telephone number **01432 383350**)

Email **[jcotton2@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:jcotton2@herefordshire.gov.uk)**

#### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Dr Keith Ray, County Archaeologist	01432 383351
Sites and Monuments Record	01432 260130
The Institute of Field Archaeologists	0118 3786446
Herefordshire County Records Office	01432 260750

## APPENDIX 2- DETAILED RESULTS OF TRIAL-TRENCHING

Trench/ Context number	Context/ feature type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)
<u>Trench 1</u>				
100	Layer	Topsoil		0.3
101	Layer	Dump of ash and tarmac		0.4
102	Layer	Orange- brown silt-clay		0.5
103	Layer	Orange- brown silt- clay with stones		0.5
104	Layer	Layer containing corroded metal and waste with numerous bottles		0.8
105	Layer	Pink- brown alluvial clay		0.85
106	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 2.3m below present ground surface (BPGS) 53.85m AOD		
107	Fill	Pink sandy clay fill of modern pit 108		n/a
108	Cut	Square cut of modern pit	1.65	n/a
109	Layer	Black ash and tarmac layer		0.5
110	Layer	Yellow crushed stone hardcore		0.1
111	Layer	Charcoal rich layer containing modern waste.		0.35
112	Layer	Compact pink silt- clay with cobbles		0.35
<u>Trench 2</u>				
200	Ditch	Cut of e- w ditch, concave base, steeply sloping sides	0.58	0.22
201	Fill	Grey silty clay fill of ditch 200 containing animal bone	0.58	0.22
202	Cut	Cut of sub-circular feature, slightly irregular with steeply sloping sides and concave base	4.0	0.28
203	Fill	Grey silty clay fill of pit 202	4.0	0.28
204	Layer	Topsoil dark brown clay- silt		0.16
205	Layer	Red- brown silt clay		0.34
206	Layer	Black crushed tarmac		0.24
207	Layer	White and yellow crushed stone hardcore		0.1
208	Layer	Red- brown alluvial clay		0.5
209	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.34m BPGS 54.82m AOD		
<u>Trench 3</u>				
300	Layer	Topsoil		0.16
301	Layer	Orange brown silt- clay		0.26
302	Layer	Crushed tarmac		0.10
303	Layer	Yellow crushed stone hardcore		0.05
304	Layer	Orange- brown alluvial clay		0.60
305	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.20m BPGS 55.43m AOD		
306	Hollow/ ?Cut/	Natural hollow/ ?Shallow pit, sloping sides and irregular, roughly v- shaped base	0.68	0.46
307	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 306	0.68	0.46
308	Hollow/ ?cut	natural hollow/?Shallow pit, sub-circular, bowl shaped profile	0.56	0.30
309	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 308	0.56	0.30
310	Hollow/ ?cut	?Shallow scoop/ natural hollow, sloped sides and uneven concave base.	0.70	0.20

311	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 310	0.70	0.20
312	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?Shallow pit, sub-circular with uneven profile and concave base	0.86	0.22
313	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 312	0.86	0.22
314	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ Shallow ?scoop, sub-circular with sloped sides and roughly bowl shaped profile	0.70	0.20
315	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 314	0.70	0.20
<u>Trench 4</u>				
400	Layer	Topsoil		0.16
401	Layer	Orange- brown silt- clay		0.26
402	Layer	Black crushed tarmac		0.10
403	Layer	Yellow crushed stone hardcore		0.05
404	Layer	Yellow-brown alluvial clay		0.63
405	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.20m BPGS 54.90m AOD		
406	Tree bole/ ?Cut	Tree bole/ ?shallow linear gully, steep sides with irregular profile	0.34	0.26
407	Fill	Mid yellow-brown silt clay fill of 406	0.34	0.26
408	Tree bole/ ?cut	Tree bole/ ?sub-circular pit with roughly bowl shaped profile	0.76	0.18
409	Fill	Mid brown silt clay fill of 408	0.76	0.18
410	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural feature/?V. shallow linear gully with irregular profile	1.0	0.12
411	Fill	Mid reddish brown silt clay fill of 410	1.0	0.12
412	Tree bole/ ?cut	Tree bole/ ?linear gully irregular with roughly v. shaped profile	1.6	0.38
413	Fill	Mid yellow-brown silt clay fill of 412	1.6	0.38
<u>Trench 5</u>				
500	Layer	Topsoil		0.09
501	Layer	Pink- brown silt- clay		0.22
502	Layer	black silt- sand charcoal & ash rich		0.20
503	Layer	Compact light brown silt- clay with stones		0.32
504	Layer	Ash and rusted metal debris containing numerous bottles		0.30
505	Layer	Pink- brown alluvial clay		0.12 +
506	Floor	Concrete base		0.13
507	Cut	Modern cut of possible pit/ ditch. Not excavated		
508	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 2.00m BPGS (in sondage) 53.82m AOD		
<u>Trench 6</u>				
600	Layer	Topsoil		0.23
601	Layer	Charcoal and ash rich layer		0.10
602	Floor	Concrete base		0.20
603	Layer	Light brown silt-sand with stones		0.34
604	Layer	Ash and charcoal rich layer with some corroded metal debris		0.02
605	Layer	Pink- brown alluvial clay		0.80

606	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.70m BPGS 54.60m AOD		
607	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow /?shallow linear gully bowl- shaped profile	0.78	0.16
608	Fill	Reddish-brown silt clay fill of 607	0.78	0.16
609	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?shallow gully with u-shaped profile.	0.58	0.10
610	Fill	Mid brown silt clay fill of 609	0.58	0.10
<u>Trench 7</u>				
700	Layer	Tarmac layer		0.06
701	Layer	Pink hardcore		0.22
702	Layer	Yellow-green hardcore layer		0.12
703	Layer	Compact pink-brown silt clay with cobbles		0.16
704	Layer	Mid-light grey silt-clay alluvial layer		0.18
705	Layer	Red-brown alluvial clay		0.24
706	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.00m BPGS 54.52m AOD		
707	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/?shallow pit with sloping sides and u-shaped profile	1.08	0.22
708	Fill	Mid-brown silty clay fill of 707	1.08	0.22
709	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?terminal of possible shallow gully sloping sides and bowl- shaped profile	0.84	0.22
710	Fill	Orange-brown sterile silt clay fill of 709	0.84	0.22
<u>Trench 8</u>				
800	Layer	Topsoil		0.23
801	Layer	mid- brown silty clay		0.10
802	Layer	Charcoal rich layer with some stones		0.08
803	Layer	Compact pink silt clay and stone layer		0.49
804	Layer	Charcoal rich layer similar to 802		0.14
805	Layer	mid pink- brown alluvial clay		0.53
806	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.50m BPGS 54.41m AOD		
807	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/?linear gully, v. shallow with sloped sides and u-shaped profile	1.24	0.12
808	Fill	mid brown silt-clay fill of 807	1.24	0.12
809	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/?Irregular linear gully with bowl shaped profile	0.86	0.26
810	Fill	Pink brown silt-clay fill of 809 similar to layer 805	0.86	0.26
811	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?linear gully terminal and roughly bowl shaped profile	0.68	0.12
812	Fill	Pink brown silt-clay fill of 8011 similar to layer 805	0.68	0.12

<u>Trench 9</u>				
900	Layer	Topsoil		0.14
901	Layer	Pink- orange silt clay		0.22
902	Layer	Charcoal rich silt-sand		0.09
903	Layer	Compact pink/orange silt clay and cobbles		0.42
904	Layer	Charcoal rich layer		0.06
905	Layer	Grey alluvial clay		0.19
906	Layer	Mid pink-brown alluvial clay		0.50
907	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.10m BPGS 55.03m AOD		
908	hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ shallow linear ?gully with roughly bowl shaped profile	0.86	0.16
909	Fill	Yellow brown silt clay fill of 908	0.86	0.16
910	Tree bole/ ?Cut	Tree bole/ ?shallow sub-circular pit	0.54	0.16
911	Fill	Mid yellow brown silt clay fill of 910	0.54	0.16
912	Tree bole/ ?cut	Tree bole/ ?irregular pit with bowl- shaped profile	0.76	0.24
913	Fill	Yellow pink compact clay fill of 912	0.76	0.24
914	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/?Shallow irregular pit feature	0.82	0.16
915	Fill	Light pink brown silt clay fill of 914	0.82	0.16
916	Tree bole/ ?cut	Tree bole/ ?shallow pit sub-circular with bowl shaped profile	0.68	0.16
917	Fill	Mid brown silt-clay fill of 916	0.68	0.16
918	hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?Shallow pit with steeply sloping sides and U- shaped profile	1.08	0.16
919	Fill	mid brown silt-clay fill of 918	1.08	0.16
920	Tree bole /?cut	Tree bole/ ?elongated pit/ ?gully irregular shape with bowl- shaped profile	0.58	0.12
921	Fill	Mid yellow- brown silt clay fill of 920	0.58	0.12
922	Tree bole	Shallow sub- circular tree bole	0.90	0.10
923	Fill	Yellow- brown silt clay fill of 922	0.90	0.10
<u>Trench 10</u>				
1000	Layer	Tarmac surface		0.08
1001	Layer	Grey hardcore		0.16
1002	Layer	Compact orange sand and hardcore		0.10
1003	Layer	Thin lens of ashy material		0.05
1004	Layer	Compact pink silt clay with stones		0.53
1005	Layer	Pink alluvial clay		0.56
1006	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.50m BPGS 54.95m AOD		
1007	hollow/ ?Cut	natural hollow / ?shallow pit sub-circular with sloping sides and concave base	0.80	0.20
1008	Fill	Mid brown silt clay fill of 1007	0.80	0.20
1009	Hollow/ ?cut	natural hollow/ ?shallow pit with sloping sides and bowl shaped profile	0.54	0.08



1010	Fill	Mid brown silt-clay fill of 1009	0.54	0.08
1011	Hollow/ ?cut	natural hollow?/ shallow pit with U-shaped profile	0.84	0.16
1012	Fill	Mid- brown silty clay with some small stone inclusions fill of 1011	0.84	0.16
<u>Trench 11</u>				
1100	Ditch	linear e- w ditch with gently sloping sides and concave base	0.75	0.07
1101	Ditch	linear e- w ditch with gently sloping sides and concave base	1.00	0.20
1102	Fill	Distinct grey silty clay fill of 1100	0.75	0.07
1103	Fill	Distinct grey silty clay fill of 1101 containing Romano- British pottery	1.00	0.20
1104	Layer	Pink- brown clay		0.56
1105	Layer	Black ashy surfacing material		0.06
1106	Layer	Dirty brown clay layer		0.10
1107	Layer	Ash, tarmac and corroded metal debris layer		0.21
1108	Layer	Crushed stone hardcore levelling layer		0.35
1109	Layer	Tarmac car park surface		0.07
1110	Wall	n- s aligned brick wall 2.0m long below 1108		0.33
1111	Wall	e- w aligned brick wall 10.0m long below 1108		0.40
<u>1112</u>	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.40m BPGS 55.25m AOD		
<u>Trench 12</u>				
1200	Layer	Topsoil		0.30
1201	Layer	Light brown silt clay with stones		0.20
1202	Layer	Charcoal & ash rich layer		0.06
1203	Layer	Compact silt clay with stones		0.22
1204	Layer	Charcoal & ash rich layer		0.17
1205	Layer	Light brown alluvial clay		0.37
1206	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.40m BPGS 54.68m AOD		
1207	Hollow/ ?cut	Shallow linear gully/ natural hollow	0.72	0.20
1208	Fill	Pink-brown silt clay fill of 1207	0.72	0.20
1209	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ shallow ?linear gully	0.80	0.16
1210	Fill	Mid brown silt clay fill of 1209	0.80	0.16

1211	Layer	Light grey alluvial clay		0.17
Trench 13				
1300	Layer	Topsoil		0.28
1301	Layer	Pink orange brick rubble		0.18
1302	Layer	Charcoal/ ash rich layer		0.08
1303	Layer	Pink clay gravel mixed with rubble		0.38
1304	Layer	Grey- pink alluvial clay		0.44
1305	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.40m BPGS 54.57m AOD		
Trench 14				
1400	Layer	Tarmac car park surface		0.12
1401	Layer	Pink crushed stone hardcore levelling layer		0.16
1402	Layer	Yellow crushed stone hardcore levelling layer		0.16
1403	Layer	Charcoal/ ash rich layer		0.15
1404	Layer	Pink- brown alluvial clay		0.40
1405	Layer	Pink alluvial clay		0.35
1406	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.36m BPGS 54.94m AOD		
1407	Hollow/ ?cut	natural hollow/ irregular shallow ?linear gully	1.0	0.08
1408	Fill	Yellow-brown silt clay fill of 1407	1.0	0.08
1409	Tree bole	Tree bole	1.0	0.18
1410	Fill	Grey- orange sandy clay fill of 1409	1.0	0.18
1411	Hollow/ ?cut	natural hollow/? pit sub- circular with U-shaped profile	0.94	0.25
1412	Fill	Mid brown silt-clay fill of 1411	0.94	0.25
1413	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?pit sub- circular with U-shaped profile	0.30	0.17
1414	Fill	Light grey silt-clay fill of 1413	0.30	0.17
1415	Cut	cut of possible pit or ditch terminal vertical sided. Possible modern feature. Not bottomed.	1.5	
1416	Fill	Mid brown slightly stony clay upper fill of 1415	1.5	0.70
1417	Fill	Dark grey silt clay lower fill of 1415. Heavily contaminated with hydrocarbons. Not excavated.	1.4	
Trench 15				

1500	Layer	Topsoil		0.2
1501	Layer	Light brown silt- clay		0.3
1502	Layer	Charcoal and ash rich layer		0.15
1503	Layer	Compact light brown silt- sand with stone inclusions		0.25
1504	Layer	Grey silt- clay with some charcoal flecks		0.26
1505	Layer	Mid brown alluvial clay		0.19
1506	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.38m BPGS 55.45m AOD		
1507	Hollow/ ?Cut	Natural feature/ ?sub-circular pit with U-shaped profile	0.72	0.13
1508	Fill	Mid brown silt-clay fill of 1507	0.72	0.13
1509	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow /?pit with bowl shaped profile	0.72	0.26
1510	Fill	Sterile orange/pink silt clay fill of 1509	0.72	0.26
1511	Tree bole/ ?Cut	Tree bole/ terminal of linear ?gully with roughly bowl shaped profile	0.86	0.22
1512	Fill	Sterile orange- pink silt clay fill of 1511	0.86	0.22
<u>Trench 16</u>				
1600	Layer	Topsoil		0.20
1601	Layer	Pink gravel and crushed stone hardcore levelling layer		0.25
1602	Layer	Green crushed stone hardcore levelling layer		0.08
1603	Layer	Pink- brown compact silt- clay with stones		0.22
1604	Layer	Grey silt- clay with small stones		0.15
1605	Layer	Mid orange- brown alluvial clay		0.35
1606	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.26m BPGS 55.64m AOD		
<u>Trench 17</u>				
1700	Layer	Tarmac		0.08
1701	Layer	Pinkish crushed stone hardcore levelling		0.15
1702	Layer	Green crushed stone hardcore levelling		0.09
1703	Layer	Compact pink silt-clay with stones		0.18
1704	Layer	Grey silt- clay		0.25
1705	Layer	Pink alluvial clay		0.93
1706	Layer	Natural red- brown sandy clay and gravel 1.70m BPGS 55.13m AOD		
1707	Hollow/ ?cut	Natural hollow/ ?pit sub-circular with steeply sloping sides and irregular base	0.70	0.08
1708	Fill	Mid yellow-brown sterile fill of 1707	0.70	0.08

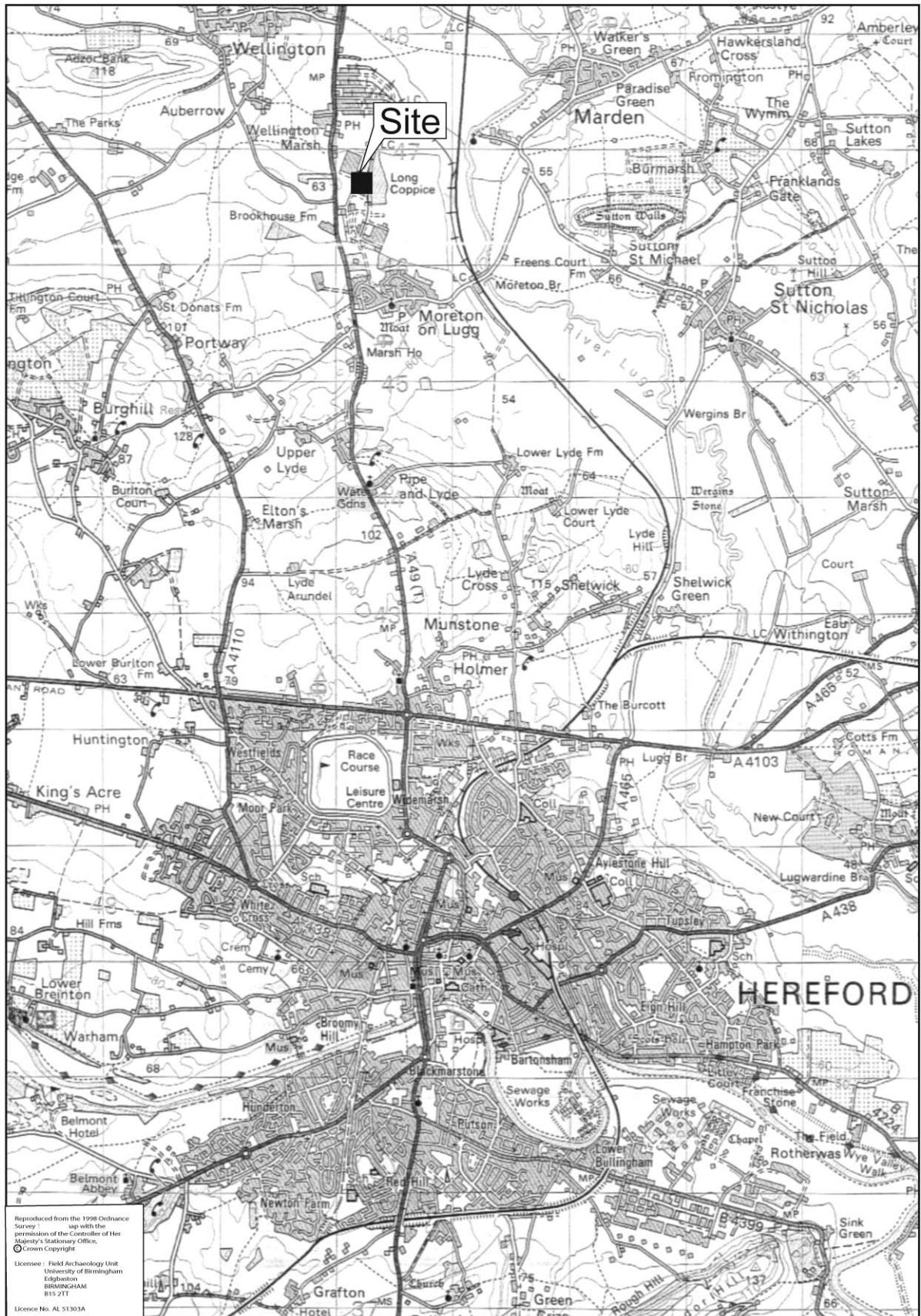


Fig.1

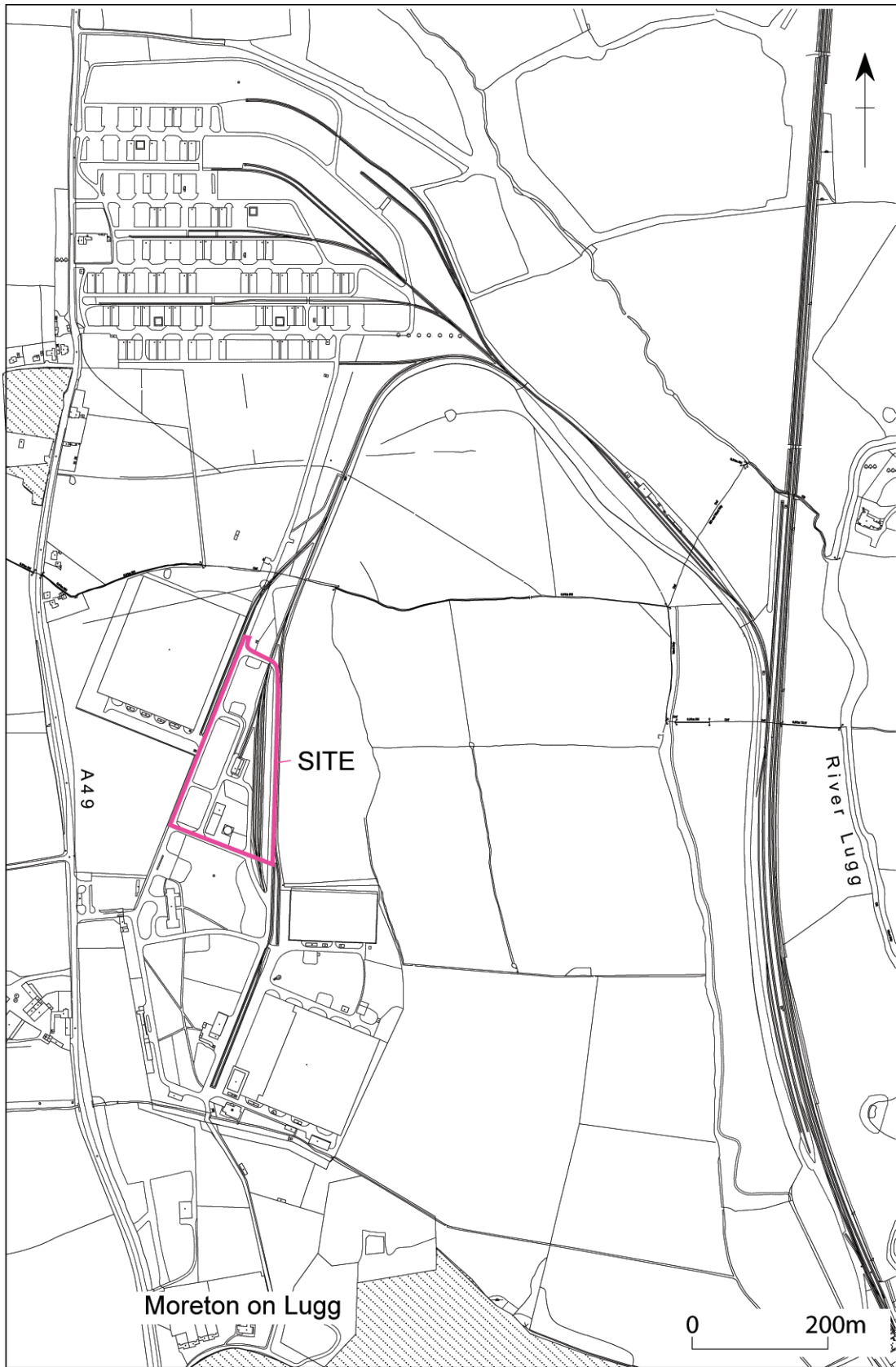


Fig. 2

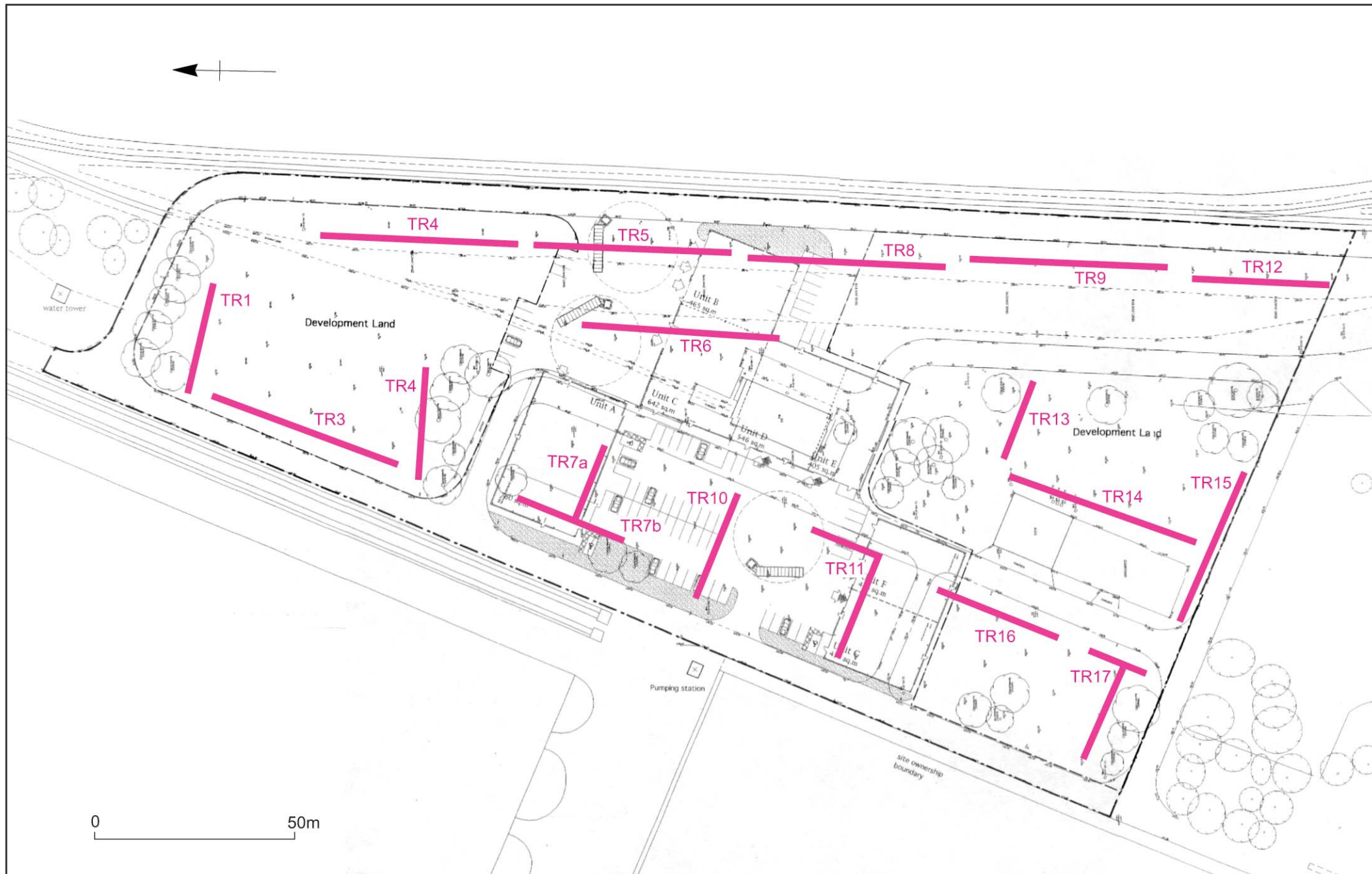


Fig.3

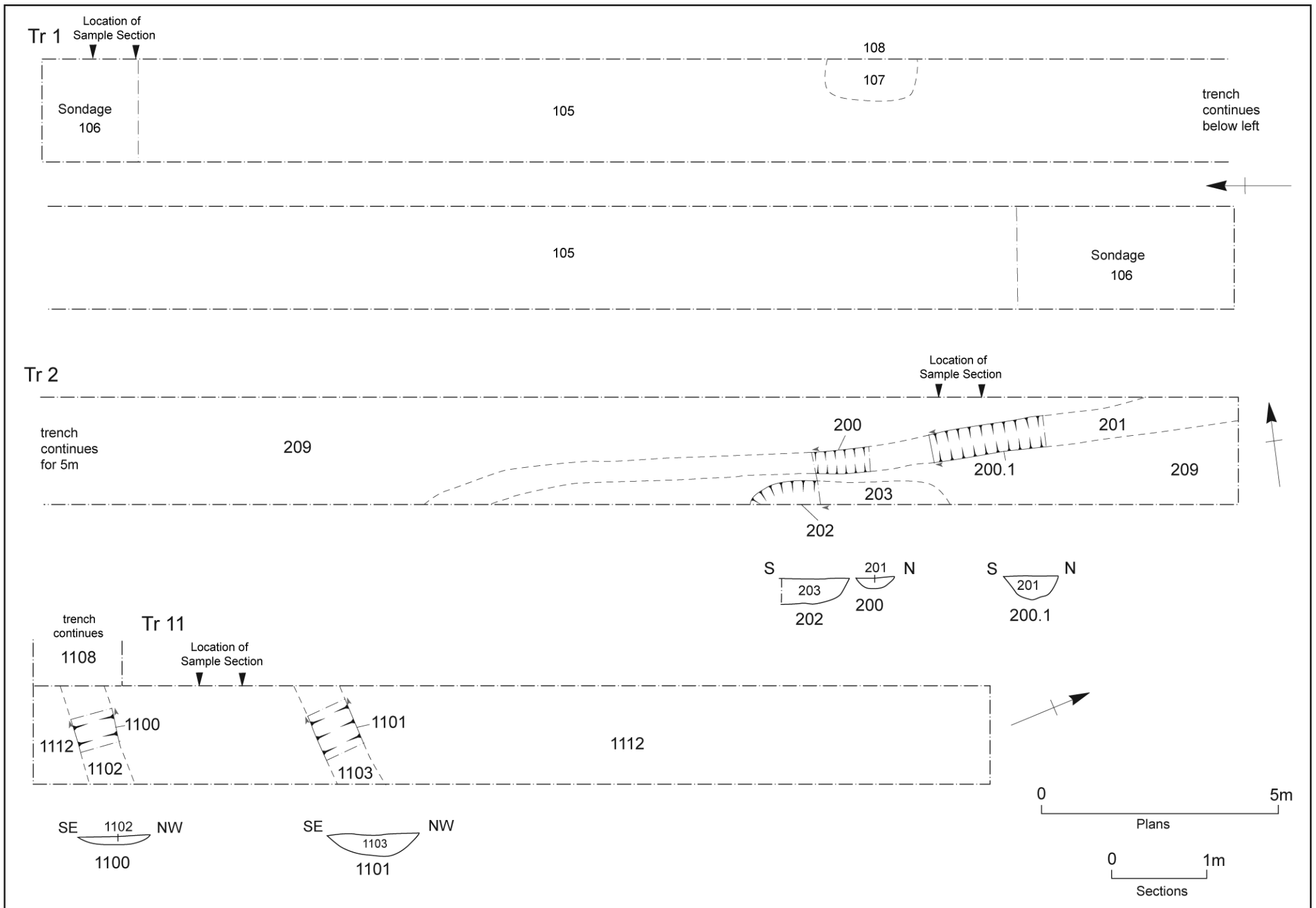


Fig.4

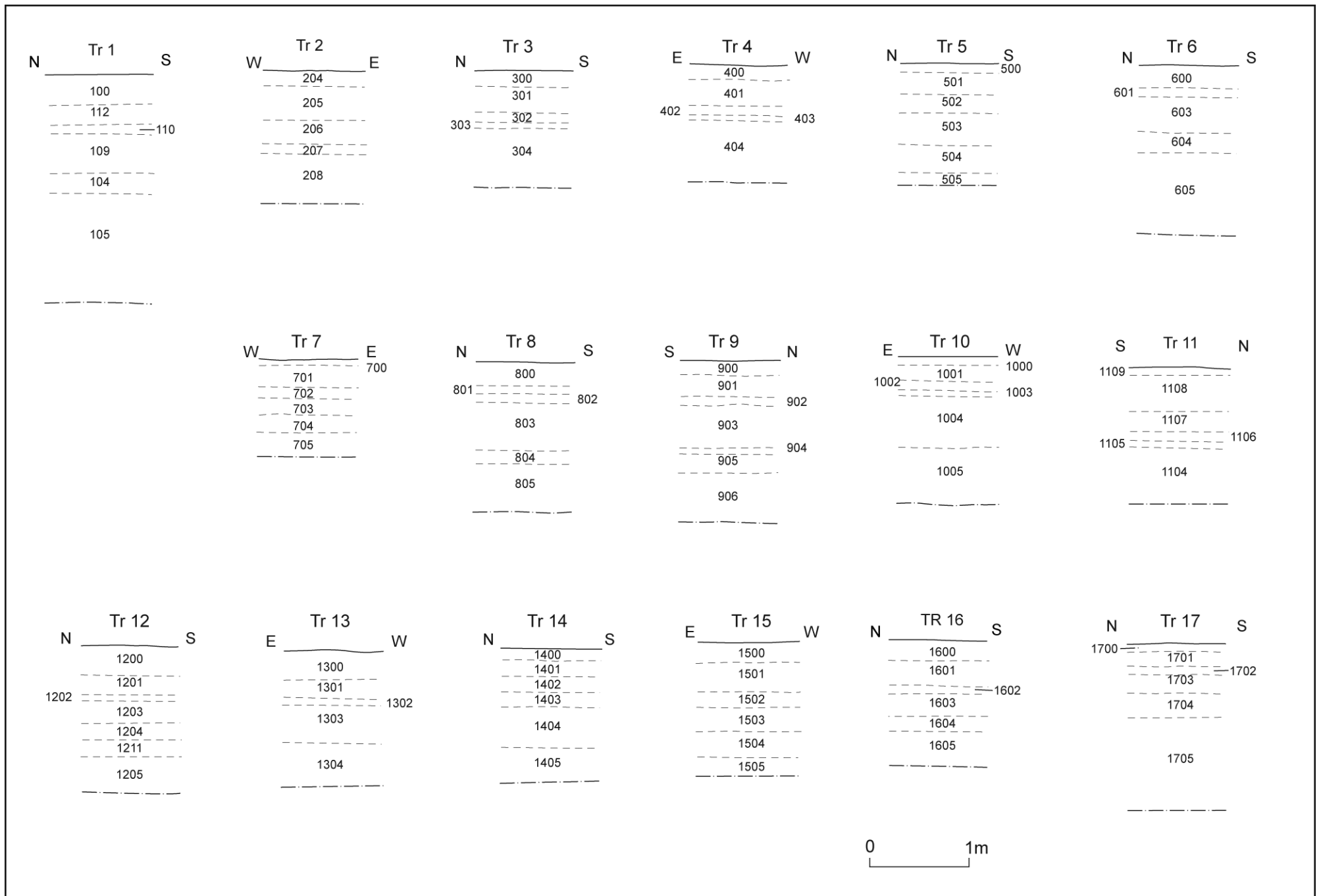


Fig.5





Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4