

# Land at Areley Common Astley Cross Stourport-On-Severn

*Archaeological Evaluation*



for:  
Pegasus Group

On behalf of:  
Gladman Developments Ltd

CA Project: CR1263  
CA Report ref: CR1263\_2  
Worcestershire HER ref.: WSM78488

February 2023



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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
1	24/01/2023	APS	APS	Draft	–	APS
2	03/02/2023	APS	APS	Draft	Client review	APS

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On-Severn
<b>Location:</b>	Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On-Severn, Worcs
<b>NGR:</b>	SO 80235 69595
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	December 2022
<b>Planning reference:</b>	Malvern Hills District Council (application ref: M/22/00573/OUT) and Wyre Forest District Council (application ref: 22/0315/OUT)
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Worcestershire Museums Service and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Event Number:</b>	WSM78488
<b>Site Code:</b>	LARE22

In December 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire. A total of 70 trenches, were excavated, equivalent to a 4% sample of the 9.4ha trenchable part of the proposed development area. The trial trenching followed on from an earlier geophysical survey that identified anomalies taken to primarily reflect agricultural land usage, modern activity and anomalies of a natural or undetermined origin. Cropmarks indicative of prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains have been recorded from a 1959 aerial photograph on land to the south and also within part of the site.

The evaluation identified a cluster of features of Roman date, primarily in the northeast part of the site, in an area that had not previously been subject to geophysical survey due to being heavily overgrown at the time of survey.

Centred on trenches 41, 42 and 44 to 47, with outlying features in trenches to the west principally comprising what appear to be field system ditches, features in the core area comprised pits, ditches and a possible ring gully in trench 46. Pottery indicates activity broadly spans the 2nd to 4th century period, with the material including regional wares from Dorset, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire as well as a mix of locally produced coarsewares. Vessel forms include bowls, jars and at least one mortarium, all likely involved in the storage and consumption of food, suggesting a domestic/ settlement related aspect to the site.

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A series of ditches were also recorded across the site, seemingly representing successive phases of land division and management over time. Some appear to be of Roman date, such as ditch 3702 in trench 37, while others, such as ditch 3402 in trench 34, are post-medieval. Others remain undated but are conjectured to be post-Roman in date.

Trench 61 contained a single seemingly isolated pit containing three charcoal-rich fills from which fired clay was recovered. Other apparently isolated and undated pits were encountered in trench 22 and trench 70, while a large probable quarry pit was investigated in trench 69. Roman material recovered from the backfill is considered to be redeposited and the feature is most likely of post-medieval date although not seemingly depicted on any historic maps of the site. An intermittent anomaly crossing trench 66 was the result of an unrecorded service.

The focus of activity in the northeast of the site and the isolated pit in trench 61 aside, the remainder of the proposed development area appears to contain only features related to the past agricultural management of the land, quarrying, or is otherwise devoid of archaeological remains.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In December 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-on-Severn (NGR: SO 80235 69595). The evaluation was undertaken for Pegasus Group, acting on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd.
- 1.2. Two planning applications for the residential development of the site, which is primarily within Malvern Hills District Council (application ref: M/22/00573/OUT) and partly within Wyre Forest District Council (application ref: 22/0315/OUT) have been refused, with one of the reasons for refusal from MHDC on grounds that insufficient information has been submitted with the application to allow assessment of the possible harm the proposed development may have on any heritage assets of archaeological interest that are present within the site area. This evaluation is intended to address this absence of information. None of the reasons for refusal from WFDC related to the historic environment.
- 1.3. The scope of the evaluation was defined in discussions between Pegasus Group and Aidan Smyth, Archaeology and Planning Advisor to MHDC, and Emma Hancox, County Archaeologist – Worcestershire County Council, on behalf of Wyre Forest. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by the archaeological advisors.
- 1.4. The evaluation was also undertaken in line with the *Worcestershire County Council Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* (2019), the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.5. The proposed development site is approximately 10.72ha in extent, within which a parcel of existing woodland in the east part of the site will be retained, leaving a development area of approximately 9.4ha. The site comprises part of four fields of arable land and the above-noted parcel of woodland bounded by Areley Common



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road to the west, the rear gardens of residential properties fronting onto Redstone Lane to the north and further arable and pasture farmland to the east and south.

- 1.6. The solid geology of the site is mapped by the British Geological Survey as primarily comprising Wildmoor Sandstone Formation. No superficial deposits are recorded within the site, although alluvial sand and gravel deposits are recorded c. 70m to the east by the BGS. However, gravel quarries identified on historic aerial photographs indicate that upper gravel terrace deposits are present immediately to the east of the site. (BGS 2022; Pegasus Group 2022).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The site has been subject of an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Pegasus, 2017), and Archaeology and Built Heritage Statement (hereafter ABHS; Pegasus Group 2022) and a geophysical survey undertaken in two phases (Magnitude Surveys 2017; Magnitude Surveys 2022). What follows is a brief summary of these reports.
- 2.2. Cropmarks indicative of prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains were recorded from a 1959 aerial photograph on land to the south and within the north part of the site. A cropmark enclosure is visible on aerial photographs situated partially within the north part of the site, elements of which extend further north, outside the site boundary (WSM08070). This appears to represent a Romano-British farmstead including a long but narrow rectangular building, possibly a barn, the barn/ building that is situated immediately to the north of the site. The Worcestershire Historic Environment Record (WHER) describes two possible buildings within the enclosure, although only the rectangular structure is clearly visible, which is c. 30m long and c. 9m wide. A number of more ambiguous cropmarks are located to the south of the building, within the site (Pegasus 2022).
- 2.3. Salvage excavations took place in the field immediately to the east of the site in the 1950s, during gravel extraction, which recorded a prehistoric barrow, Iron Age activity and Roman rural settlement (WSM34721). Further associated salvage excavations took place c. 500m and c. 700m south-east of the site which also recorded putative Romano British farmsteads (WSM34723, WSM34724). Excavations at Longmore Hill Farm c. 400m south of the site, associated with the Blackstone-Astley Aqueduct, recorded evidence of Neolithic/Bronze Age settlement (WSM34780). A desk-based assessment and geophysical survey immediately to

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the south-west of the site recorded only a single curvilinear anomaly of possible archaeological origin (WSM47431, 45753, 55800). A subsequent evaluation was undertaken in 2019 (WSM72090) and strip map and sample in 2021 (WSM77604) of which the results are pending. Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Redstone Lane immediately to the north-east of the site recorded only 19th-20th century detritus (WSM29099) associated with the former Chequers Farm.

#### Previous archaeological work

- 2.4. A geophysical survey (WSM68391; Magnitude Surveys 2021) of approximately 8.32ha within the site area was undertaken in 2017, in connection with the Desk-Based Assessment also undertaken at that time. The application boundary was subsequently extended and a second geophysical survey of approximately 2.5ha was undertaken in 2022 (Magnitude Survey 2022). No anomalies of probable archaeological origin were detected by the 2017 survey, the results primarily reflecting agricultural land usage, modern activity and anomalies of a natural origin, while the 2022 survey identified anomalies classified as ‘Undetermined’. The report concluded that whilst these anomalies could highlight archaeological features an agricultural or modern origin cannot be completely discarded.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objective of the evaluation is to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable the archaeological advisors to MHDC and WFDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal. This process is in line with policies contained in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021). A further objective of the project is to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive (see Section 7).
- 3.2. Where significant archaeological remains have been identified then section 8 of this report has sought to place them in their local and regional context with reference to the *West Midlands Regional Research Framework* (Watt, S. 2011).

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## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 70no. 30m by 1.8m trenches, in the locations shown on figure 2 and equivalent to a 4% sample of the 9.4ha trenchable part of the proposed development area. The trenches were located to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the site. At the request of the Archaeology and Planning Advisor to MHDC a box extension was added to trench 66 to better investigate a geophysical anomaly of uncertain origin subsequently shown to be the result of a previously unrecorded modern drain.
- 4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4. Artefacts were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.5. CA will make arrangements with Worcestershire Museums Service for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.6. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

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## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. Following cleaning and hand investigation, archaeological features were identified in 19 of the 70 trenches (trenches, 11, 21, 22, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34, 37, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 61, 68, 69 & 70). The remaining trenches were devoid of archaeological remains, or contained only natural or obviously modern features (e.g. a previously unrecorded drain in trench 66) and are not described further.
- 5.3. The natural substrate in all trenches comprised sand that varied across the site between an orange-brown sand with grey mottles and occasional gravelly lenses and a bright orange sand. A subsoil deposit, possibly colluvial in nature, was encountered in trenches 1-3, 8, 14, 41-42, 44-45, 47, 49 and 50, comprising a loose dark brown grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions. As the subsoil/colluvial deposit also coincided with the area of greatest archaeological survival, centred on trenches 41 to 47, which it was noted was heavily overgrown at the time the geophysical survey of the site was undertaken then it is possible that this deposit was originally more extensive and has simply been ploughed away/incorporated into the existing agricultural topsoil across the rest of the site. Topsoil/ploughsoil comprised a loose dark grey brown sandy silt averaging 0.33 to 0.38m thick. A selection of blank trench photographs are presented as figures 5 and 6.

### Trench 11 (Figs. 2, 3 & 7)

- 5.4. Located at the north end of Trench 11 were intercutting ditches 1102 and 1105. The earlier of the two, ditch 1105, ran southwest to northeast across the trench and measured 1.03m wide by 0.3m deep, with moderate straight sides and a concave base. It contained a single undated fill of loose mid yellow brown silty sand (1106) that was truncated by east-west orientated ditch 1102. This ditch again measured approximately 1.03m wide by 0.3m deep, with moderately sloping straight sides and a concave base, and contained two fill comprising a 0.1m thick basal deposit of loose dark brown grey silty sand (1103) overlain by a 0.2m thick light brown grey silty sand (1104).

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#### **Trench 21 (Figs. 2, 3 & 8)**

- 5.5. Trench 21 contained a single undated ditch, 2102, running northeast to southwest across the trench. Measuring 0.66m wide by 0.22m deep, with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base, it contained a single fill of mid yellow brown silty sand (2103).

#### **Trench 22 (Figs. 2,3 & 9)**

- 5.6. Undated ditch 2202 ran northwest to southeast across the trench. Measuring 1m wide by 0.23m deep, with shallow concave sides and a concave base, it contained a loose mid yellow brown silty sand (2203). Toward the north end of the trench was pit 2204, which was only partially exposed, extending into the trench from the east-facing baulk. Semi-circular as seen, with steep sloping sides and a flat base, it measured 1.3m long by 0.3m deep and contained a single undated fill of loose mid brown grey sandy silt (2205).

#### **Trench 28 (Figs. 2 & 3)**

- 5.7. Trench 28 contained a single north to south orientated ditch that was investigated in Trench 30 as ditch 3002, as described below.

#### **Trench 30 (Figs. 2, 4 & 10)**

- 5.8. Trench 30 contained a single north to south orientated ditch that appeared to correlate with a short linear geophysical anomaly on the same alignment. The feature also appears to correspond with a suggested ditch plotted from aerial photographs of the site (Pegasus 2022; WSM08070). Measuring 2.15m wide by 1.05m deep, with a steeply sloping straight east side, a moderately sloping straight west side and a concave base, the ditch contained three undated deposits, beginning with a 0.47m thick basal fill of loose mid grey white silty sand with occasional brown orange patches (3003). This was overlain by 3004, a mid brown grey with patches of pink brown silty sand, with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional rounded stones, possibly representing bank material slumping in from the east side of the ditch. This was in turn overlain by 3005, a mid yellow brown silty sand.

#### **Trench 31 (Figs. 2, 4 & 11)**

- 5.9. Trench 31 contained intercutting ditches 3102 and 3104, both running broadly southwest to northeast across the east end of the trench. The earlier of the two, 3102, measured 1.23m wide as surviving, by 0.49m deep, with a steeply sloping

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west side and concave base, and contained a single charcoal-flecked fill of mixed light yellow-brown and brown-yellow silt sand with dark brown grey patches, taken to represent a deliberate backfilling event.

- 5.10. Ditch 3104 truncated ditch 3102 along the eastern edge of the earlier ditch. Measuring 2.57m wide by 0.8m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, ditch 3104 contained a sequence of three fills, beginning with 3105, a loose light brown grey silty sand. This was overlain by a mid brown grey sandy silt, 0.4m thick at its greatest extent (3106), which was sealed by a mid yellow brown sandy silt, up to 0.22m thick (3107). None of these deposits produced any dating evidence.

#### **Trench 32 (Figs. 2, 4 & 12)**

- 5.11. Trench 32 was crossed by a series of southwest to northeast linear anomalies, none of which appeared to have corresponding sub-surface features. The trench did however contain two parallel undated east to west aligned ditches in the southeast part of the trench. Ditch 3202 was 0.52m wide by 0.14m deep and contained a fill of light grey, loose sandy silt with frequent rooting present (3203). To the northeast, ditch 3204 was 0.61m wide by 0.19m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, and contained a single fill of light grey loose sandy silt, again with frequent rooting.

#### **Trench 34 (Figs. 2, 4 & 13)**

- 5.12. Trench 34 contained a single feature, ditch 3402, which ran east to west across the north end of the trench. The feature spatially corresponded with part of a small horseshoe-shaped anomaly of suggested natural origin, although due to the size of the feature as excavated then this may be coincidental. Measuring 3.1m wide by 1.1m deep, with a V-shaped profile and moderately sloping sides, ditch 3402 contained a sequence of four fills, beginning with context 3403, a 0.35m thick deposit of loose mid red grey silty sand from which three presumably residual sherds of Roman pottery were recovered. This was sealed by 3404, an undated 0.23m thick deposit of mid pink grey silty sand that was in turn covered by 3405, a 0.36m thick deposit of light yellow grey sandy silt that produced a single sherd of post-medieval/ modern pottery and a fragment of ceramic building material (CBM). The final deposit in the sequence comprised a mid yellow brown sandy silt (3406).

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### **Trench 37 (Figs. 2, 4 & 14)**

- 5.13. Ditch 3702 ran east to west across the central part of Trench 37. Measuring 1.53m wide by 0.76m deep, with moderate sloping straight sides and a concave base, it contained a basal fill of light orange grey sandy silt, 0.16m thick, from which three sherds of Roman pottery were recovered (3703). This was overlain by 3704, a 0.6m thick undated deposit of mid yellow grey silty sand. Ditch 3702 appears to broadly correspond with an east to west orientated suggested ditch plotted from aerial photographs of the site (Pegasus 2022; WSM08070).

### **Trench 41 (Figs. 2, 4 & 15)**

- 5.14. Trench 41 contained intercutting ditches/ gullies 4103 and 4105 and two areas of bioturbation/ rooting, potentially relating to previous vegetation cover on this part of the site (uninvestigated and 4107/ 4108). Running broadly northwest to southeast across the central part of the trench, the earlier of the two features was gully 4103, which as seen was 0.44m wide by 0.1m deep, with a shallow concave side and concave base, and contained a single undated fill of mid brown grey sandy silt (4104). This was truncated by ditch 4105, which was 0.88m wide by 0.25m deep, with moderately sloping straight sides and a concave base, and contained a mid brown grey sandy silt that produced no dating evidence.

### **Trench 42 (Figs. 2, 4 & 16)**

- 5.15. Trench 42 also contained an area of bioturbation, investigated as 4206/ 4207. To the east of this, crossing the trench on a north northwest to south southeast alignment was ditch 4203, which appeared to intersect immediately to the south of the trench with another northeast to southwest orientated ditch that was investigated in Trench 46 as 4606.
- 5.16. Ditch 4203 was 3.2m wide by 0.9m deep, with a steeply sloping straight west side, a moderately sloping convex east side and a flat base. It contained two fills, a basal deposit of mid grey brown sandy silt, 0.33m thick, that produced a piece of post-medieval bottle glass (4204), overlain by 4205, a mid brown grey sandy silt that produced a variety of finds including pottery, iron-working waste, fired clay and brick/ tile of post-medieval date including a fragment of possible drain. This feature appears to correspond with the position of a now-removed north northwest to south southeast aligned boundary depicted on the 1840 Astley Tithe Map and the 1884 Ordnance Survey Map (Pegasus Group 2022).

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#### **Trench 44 (Figs. 2, 4 & 17)**

- 5.17. Trench 44 contained intercutting ditches 4403 and 4405, both of which ran broadly north to south along almost the entire length of the trench. The earlier of the two, ditch 4403, was 1.02m wide by 0.25m deep as surviving, with a shallow, concave side and a concave base. It contained a single fill of loose mid yellow brown sandy silt, 4404, that produced six sherds of Roman pottery of broad C2-C4 date. Ditch 4403 was truncated along its eastern edge by ditch 4405, which as seen in the excavated section was 1.2m wide by 0.8m deep with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base. It contained an undated fill of mid brown grey sandy silt (4406). Ditch 4405 was also seen in trenches 45 and 47, to the south, where it was recorded in plan only.

#### **Trench 45 (Figs. 2, 4 & 18)**

- 5.18. Trench 45 contained four linear features, one of which was the continuation of ditch 4405 in Trench 44 and was not investigated further in this trench (4509/ 4510 – unexcavated). Running broadly northeast to southwest across the eastern half of the trenches were ditch/ gullies 4503 and 4505. Ditch/ gully 4503 was 0.66m wide by 0.25m deep, with moderately sloping straight sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill, 4504, of mid yellow grey sandy silt that produced pottery of broad C2-C4 date. Ditch/ gully 4505 was 0.3m wide by 0.13m deep, with irregular concave sides and a concave base. No artefactual material was recovered from the single undated fill of mid yellow grey sandy silt (4506). Given the irregular, sinuous nature of the feature the excavator noted some uncertainty as to whether this was a real feature or a geological variation/ animal burrow or similar.
- 5.19. To the east and running north to south across the trench, parallel and immediately to the west of ditch 4509 (unexcavated), was ditch 4507. Measuring 0.98m wide by 0.34m deep with moderately sloping concave sides and a concave base, it contained a single undated fill of mid yellow brown sandy silt (4508).

#### **Trench 46 (Figs. 2, 4 & 19-21)**

- 5.20. Trench 46 contained a dense concentration of archaeological features although, in contrast to the surrounding trenches, no subsoil was identified. At the south end of this north to south orientated trench was ditch 4602, which ran broadly northwest to southeast. Measuring 0.5m wide by 0.18m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, it contained a fill of mid grey brown, friable sandy clay with occasional



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angular/ rounded stones and rooting present (4203). Single sherds of Roman and Post-medieval/ modern pottery were recovered from the fill.

- 5.21. In the central part of the trench was possible ring gully 4604, which curved into the trench from the west-facing baulk before being truncated by a land drain. Measuring 0.34m wide by 0.07m deep, with rounded sides and a flat base, it contained an undated fill of loose grey brown sandy clay (4605).
- 5.22. Immediately north of the possible ring gully were parallel ditches 4606 and 4609, with ditch 4606 potentially curving to the west, to run through trench 42. Ditch 4606 was 3.2m wide by at least 0.83m deep, with steeply sloping sides. It contained a lower fill of dark orange brown loose clayey silt with iron panning throughout, 4607, from which both Roman and Post-medieval pottery was recovered. Overlying this was upper fill 4608, a mid grey brown friable sandy silt that produced a single sherd of Roman pottery. Ditch 4609 was much smaller in scale, measuring 0.8m wide by 0.29m deep, with concave sides and rounded base, and contained a loose mid grey brown sandy silt, 4610, that produced a sherd of Roman pottery.
- 5.23. At the north end of the trench were intersecting ditches 4611 and 4613. Ditch 4611 ran broadly northeast to southwest across the trench and measured 0.97m wide by 0.3m deep with concave sides with rounded base. It contained a fill of mottled yellow/grey brown friable sandy clay, 4612, that produced Roman pottery and a fragment of worked sandstone. Ditch 4611 shared an uncertain but probably contemporary relationship with north to south orientated ditch 4613, which seemingly terminated where it intersected with ditch 4611. Measuring 0.65m wide by 0.21m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, it was filled by a single deposit of loose, mottled mid grey/ orange brown sandy silt, 4614, that also produced a quantity of Roman pottery, fired clay and nine fragments of Roman brick. A bulk environmental sampled taken from this feature (sample 2) contained only a small number of charcoal pieces.

#### **Trench 47 (Figs 2, 4 & 22)**

- 5.24. Trench 47 contained a single ditch that ran north to south across the western part of the trench, also passing through trenches 44 and 45 to the north, where it was investigated in Trench 44 as ditch 4405.

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### **Trench 61 (Figs 2, 3 & 23)**

- 5.25. Trench 61 contained a single feature, large pit 6102, which was sub-circular as seen with steep straight sides, flaring out at the top, and a flat base, and measured 2.06m in diameter by 0.54m deep. The feature contained three deposits the earliest of which, dish-shaped basal deposit 6103, a loose mid yellow brown silty sand, appeared to have been deposited across the base and against the northern side of the pit. This was overlain by 6104, a charcoal-flecked dark brown grey sandy silt that was in turn overlain by 6105, a mid grey brown silty sand. Two small fragments of burnt clay were recovered from context 6104 while a bulk environmental sample (sample 1) from the same deposit contained a large number of charcoal pieces, a small number of hazelnut shell fragments and a small number of hulled wheat cereal grains interpreted as a small deliberate dump of hearth waste.

### **Trench 68 (Figs 2, 3 & 24)**

- 5.26. Trench 68 contained one partially exposed undated feature, extending into the trench from the northwest-facing baulk of this southwest to northeast orientated trench. Pit or ditch terminus 6802 was 0.97m long by 0.62m deep with a rounded end as seen, steep straight sides and a flat base. It contained two fills comprising a shallow basal deposit of mid grey orange silty sand (6803) only partially exposed, and a primary fill of mixed light white grey and mid grey silty sand (6804).

### **Trench 69 (Figs 2, 3 & 25)**

- 5.27. Trench 69 contained a large amorphous feature, 6902, interpreted as a possible former extraction pit or hollow/ wet area in the field that had subsequently been infilled to consolidate the ground. Extending out of the central part of the trench to the northeast and southwest and measuring at least 20m in extent north to south, the feature was investigated via a hand-dug section located at the south edge of the feature and a test-pit in the centre of the feature. The south section revealed four deposits, comprising a 0.19m thick basal layer of slightly humic dark brown grey sandy silt (6903) overlain by a mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions (6904). This was in turn partially overlain by a 6905, a 0.07m thick slightly humic dark brown grey sandy silt. Both 6904 and 6905 were then sealed by 6906, a mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions. Single sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from both contexts 6904 and 6906 but may be redeposited from elsewhere on the site.

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- 5.28. The test pit in the central part of the feature as seen in the trench revealed a sequence of three deposits, beginning with 6907, a loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions. This was overlain by 6908, a somewhat humic dark brown grey sandy silt, which was in turn sealed by 6909, a mid brown grey silty sand. No dating evidence was recovered from any of these deposits, with 6907 and 6909 seemingly representing episodes of silting of the feature, which was only 0.47m deep in total, while 6908 potentially represented a period where the feature had lain wet.

#### **Trench 70 (Figs 2, 3 & 26)**

- 5.29. Trench 70 contained a modern drain (7002/ 7003) and a single archaeological feature, pit 7004, which extended into the trench from the northeast facing baulk. Semi-circular in plan as seen and measuring 1.22m long by 0.3m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base, it contained a loose mid grey brown sandy silt (7005) that produced no dating evidence.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1. The artefactual material was recorded from 17 contexts comprising the fills of ten ditches, a pit, possible quarry or pond and a natural feature (Appendix B). The material was recovered by hand and from one bulk sample and recorded in accordance with the ClfA finds Toolkit (ClfA 2022).

### **Pottery**

- 6.2. The pottery from the evaluation has been recorded direct to an Excel spreadsheet from which Appendix B (Table 1) is derived. This forms part of the project archive. The assemblage was examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabrics are described in summary (Table 2) in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and cross-referenced with the National Roman Fabrics Reference Collection where appropriate (Tomber and Dore 1998). The post-medieval fabric codes are based on Sue Anderson's (*unpublished*) post-Roman fabric series. A concordance with the Worcestershire pottery fabric series has also been provided (Worcestershire County Council 2023).
- 6.3. The assemblage comprises 72 sherds, weighing 1774g. Condition of the material is moderate; the fractures and surfaces are mildly abraded. The mean sherd weight is 24.6g, which is high for a predominately Roman assemblage.

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### Roman

- 6.4. The majority of the assemblage (69 sherds, 1754g) consists of pottery dating to the Roman period. Severn Valley oxidised wares (**SVW OX 1/SVW OX 2**) make up the largest fabric group (36 sherds, 743g). Severn Valley ware is known to have been produced throughout the Roman period at kiln sites such as Newland Hopfields, Great Malvern (Evans *et al.* 2000, 56). Diagnostic sherds include from a bead and flange bowl (Webster 1976, 35, No. 65) and a jar with hooked rim from ditches 4613 and 4403 respectively. Roman reduced fine and coarse sandy wares (UNS FGW/UNS CGW) are less common (16 sherds, 196g). Roman black fired sandy wares (UNS BSW) are present in small quantities (Table 2) and include an everted rim, probably from a jar, from ditch 4611. These fabrics can only be broadly dated to the Roman period; their origin is uncertain, but they are most likely produced locally.
- 6.5. Regional wares are common. The most frequently recorded are Southeast Dorset Black-burnished wares (**DOR BB1**). A total of eleven sherds were recovered from four ditches. A sherd from ditch 4611 exhibited burnished lattice decoration, whilst a plain rim, possibly a (Seager Smith and Davies) Type 20 dish, and a sharply everted Type 3 jar rim and shoulder came from ditches 3702 and 4613 respectively. Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware was manufactured in the Wareham and Poole Harbour region and traded widely in the 2nd to 4th centuries AD; Type 3 jars were produced from the late 3rd century onwards (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 231). The spout and rim (619g) of a mortarium in Verulamium-region white ware (**VER WH**), from ditch 4613, is of mid-1st to mid-2nd century date (Davies *et al.* 1994). The low internal beading and hooked flange form is similar to examples found in London (*ibid.*, 47, no. 208). A heavily abraded sherd (76g) of Pink grog-tempered ware (**PNK GT**) came from ditch 4606. It is known to have been produced in the Stowe Park area, Buckinghamshire, and dates to between the later 2nd to 4th centuries AD (Henig and Booth 2000).

### Post-medieval/modern

- 6.6. A single sherd (6g) of North Midlands earthenware (NMEW), from ditch 3402, dates to the 17th to 20th centuries. A sherd of white salt-glazed stoneware (SGSW, 1g), recovered from ditch 4606, can be dated to late 18th century. Roman pottery was also found in ditch 4606 but is likely residual. A post-medieval red earthenware (PMR) sherd (13g) came from ditch 4602. It is in a high-fired, badly wedged, fine quartz fabric with a thick red slip and probably dates to the post-medieval period.

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### Summary

- 6.7. The pottery provides evidence for activity during the Roman and post-medieval/modern periods. The Roman assemblage includes regional wares (from Dorset, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire) as well as a mix of locally produced coarsewares, likely involved in the storage and consumption of food. The post-medieval/modern assemblage is small, with no diagnostic sherds; as a result it is not possible to comment on the form and function of the vessels or draw any meaningful conclusions.

### Ceramic building material

- 6.8. A total of 13 fragments (1261g) of ceramic building material (CBM) was recorded from three ditches. They are in oxidised medium sandy fabrics (ms). Ferrous (fe) inclusions are the most prolific, with several instances of clay pellet (cp) also recorded. Nine fragments (860g) of Roman bricks came from ditch 4613. A fragment of possible drain (156g) and a post-medieval/modern brick fragment (363g) were recovered from ditch 4203. Based on characteristics of form, fabric and firing the fragments of CBM from ditch 4203 most likely date to the post-medieval/modern periods. An undiagnostic fragment (38g), from ditch 3402, could not be closely dated.

### Fired clay

- 6.9. A total of seven fragments (171g) of fired or burnt clay were recorded from two ditches and pit 6104. They are in oxidised fine (fs) or medium sandy (ms) fabrics, with clay pellet (cp) or ferrous (fe) inclusions. The fired clay did not exhibit diagnostic features and is of uncertain date; The pottery recovered from ditch 4613 consists of 24 sherds (1152g), most of middle to late Roman date (c. 2nd to 4th centuries).

### Glass

- 6.10. Ditch 4203 contained a fragment (27g) of brown bottle glass, dating broadly to the post-medieval/modern period.

### Industrial waste

- 6.11. Ditch 4203 produced nine fragments (48g) of ironworking waste most likely associated with smithing activity and of uncertain date.

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### Worked stone

- 6.12. A fragment of sandstone (105g), measuring 69mm by 60mm by 15mm, was recovered from ditch 4611. Its function is uncertain, although use as roofing or building material is most likely. The sandstone is likely to have been locally sourced; the Wildmoor Sandstone Member dominates the land at Areley Common, with the Helsby Sandstone formation 0.5km to the south. Due to the absence of diagnostic features it cannot be closely dated.

### Further work and selection strategy

- 6.13. The finds have been recorded in sufficient detail at this stage and no further work is required. The assemblage has the potential for further analysis and the pottery is recommended for long-term curation. The remainder of the material (CBM, fired clay, glass, industrial waste and worked stone) is not recommended for long-term curation.

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

### Animal bone by Andy Clarke

- 7.1. A total of 41 fragments of animal bone (22g) was recovered from deposits 4205, 4404 and 6104, fills of ditches 4203 and 4403 and pit 6103 (See Table 1, Appendix C). Artefactual material dating to the Roman period was recovered from the first of these two features; fired clay from the latter. The bone was poorly preserved, fragmentary, and displayed the calcined nature and bright white colouration indicative of prolonged burning. As a result, the bone was entirely unidentifiable to both skeletal element and species. No useful interpretative information can be gained from this material, as such it is recommended for discard rather than long term retention as part of the site archive.

### The Paleoenvironmental Evidence by Charlotte L. Molloy

- 7.2. Two samples (36 litres of soil) were taken from Roman ditch 4613 in Trench 46 and undated pit 6102 in Trench 61 (see Table 2, Appendix C). The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/ absence, character, extent, date, and state of preservation. The samples were intended to contribute to the realisation of this objective. They were taken to evaluate the preservation of paleoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental

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evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. It was also hoped that these samples might assist with the dating of these features.

7.3. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (using a 0.25mm mesh for the flot and a 0.5mm mesh for the residue). The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope and the presence of any charred plant remains or ecofacts are noted in Table 1. Appendix C. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals.

7.4. The flot of sample 2 was very small and contained a high proportion of fibrous root material, whereas the flot of sample 1 was only moderately small and contained a low proportion of fibrous root material. A higher proportion of fibrous root material can be indicative of post deposition movement of material. The charcoal pieces in both flots were fairly well preserved and both contained some round wood. The charred plant remains in sample 1 were poorly preserved.

#### *Trench 46*

7.5. Sample 2, recovered from fill 4614 of Roman ditch 4613 contained a small number of charcoal pieces. This material most likely represents windblown/ dispersed settlement waste material. The small quantity of material recovered would suggest that no settlement activity was taking place in the immediate vicinity of this trench. However, the quantity of Roman pottery recovered from this and adjacent features in Trench 46 may be taken to infer that domestic food/ hearth waste was either being disposed of elsewhere on the site or the depositional environment was not conducive to the survival of such material.

#### *Trench 61*

7.6. Sample 1 was taken from fill 6104 of undated pit 6102. This sample contained a large number of charcoal pieces, a small number of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell pieces, and a small number of hulled wheat cereal grains (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*)). This material appears to be a small deliberate dump of hearth waste. The cereal grains and roundwood present suggest that this may represent domestic hearth waste. Hulled wheat was the dominant cereal in southern Britain in the prehistoric and Roman periods (Godwin 1984). Moreover,

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hazelnut would be compatible with this date. Therefore, based on this material, a prehistoric/ Roman date can be tentatively suggested for this ditch.

### *Summary*

- 7.7. Based on the paleoenvironmental material from Trench 61, it appears that there may have potentially been domestic settlement in the vicinity of that trench in the prehistoric or Roman periods.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1. The evaluation identified a cluster of features of Roman date, primarily in the northeast part of the site, in an area that had not previously been subject to geophysical survey due to being heavily overgrown at the time of survey.
- 8.2. Centred on trenches 41, 42 and 44 to 47, with outlying features in trenches to the west principally comprising what appear to be field system ditches, features in the core area comprised pits, ditches and a possible ring gully in trench 46. Pottery indicates activity broadly spans the 2nd to 4th century period, with the material including regional wares from Dorset, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire as well as a mix of locally produced coarsewares. Vessel forms include bowls, jars and at least one mortarium, all likely involved in the storage and consumption of food, suggesting a domestic/ settlement related aspect to the site.
- 8.3. A series of ditches were also recorded across the site, seemingly representing successive phases of land division and management over time. Ditch 3002 in Trench 32 and ditch 3702 in Trench 37 were both noted to potentially correlate with linear cropmark features recorded from aerial photographs of the site and interpreted as ditches associated with the suggested Romano-British building to the immediate north of the site (Pegasus 2022 and WSM08070). Roman pottery recovered from ditch 3702 would appear to confirm the suggested date. Others such as ditch 3402 in trench 34 and 4203 in trench 42, are post-medieval, while a number remain undated, including ditches 1102 and 1105 in trench 11 and ditches 2102 and 2202 in trenches 21 and 22 respectively. On balance, a Roman or earlier post-medieval date is considered most likely for these.
- 8.4. Trench 61 contained a single seemingly isolated pit containing three charcoal-rich fills from which fired clay was recovered. An environmental sample take from the feature contained material indicative of a dump of domestic hearth waste but given



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the isolated nature of the feature then it is suggested that the material was either deposited as the result of a single deliberate event or the pit was intentionally used for the disposal of waste at a distance from either the settlement in the northeast of the site or the previously excavated Iron Age and Roman remains to the southeast of the site (Pegasus Group 2022; WSM08071 – 73). Other apparently isolated and undated pits were encountered in trench 22 and trench 70, while a large probable quarry pit was investigated in trench 69. Roman material recovered from the backfill is considered to be redeposited and the feature is most likely of post-medieval date although not seemingly depicted on any historic maps of the site. An intermittent anomaly crossing trench 66 was the result of an unrecorded service.

- 8.5. The focus of activity in the northeast of the site and the isolated pit in trench 61 aside, the remainder of the proposed development area appears to contain only features related to the past agricultural management of the land, quarrying, or is otherwise devoid of archaeological remains. Should further archaeological works take place at the site then they have the potential to contribute to a number of historic environment research themes for the Romano-British period, including themes relating to the origins of settlement in the post-conquest period (no obvious Iron Age material was identified from the site); settlement types and organisation; Romanisation; pottery consumption and trade networks; and, settlement shift/abandonment in late Roman Britain (Watt, 2011; <https://researchframeworks.org/wmrf/romano-british-period/#section-9>).

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Ralph Brown, assisted by Abbey Breen and staff from Pre-Construct Archaeology. This report was written by Adrian Scruby. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Laura Pearson, Andy Clarke and Charlotte Malloy respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Helena Munoz-Mojado. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Molly Agnew-Henshaw. The project was managed for CA by Adrian Scruby.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench #	Context #	Fill of	Context type	Interpretation	Comments	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)
1	100		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.52
1	101		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.26
1	102		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
2	200		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.46
2	201		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.28
2	202		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
3	300		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.45
3	301		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.26
3	302		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
4	400		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.36
4	401		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	0.1
5	500		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.41
5	501		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
5	502		void				1.8	
6	600		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.4
6	601		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
7	700		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.35
7	701		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
8	800		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.4
8	801		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.27
8	802		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
9	900		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.43
9	901		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
10	1000		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.4
10	1001		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm		1.8	
11	1100		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm		1.8	0.42

11	1101	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
11	1102	cut	Ditch	E-W linear with straight moderate sides and a concave base	1.03	0.3
11	1103	1102 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose dark brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	0.85	0.1
11	1104	1102 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose light brown grey silty sand with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-30mm	1.03	0.2
11	1105	cut	Ditch	NE-SW linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	1.03	0.3
11	1106	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.03	0.3
12	1200	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36
12	1201	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
13	1300	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.43
13	1301	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
14	1400	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36
14	1401	layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.18
14	1402	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
15	1500	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4
15	1501	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
16	1600	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4
16	1601	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
17	1700	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.45
17	1701	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
18	1800	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38
18	1801	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
19	1900	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.5
19	1901	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
20	2000	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.41
20	2001	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
21	2100	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.35
21	2101	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
21	2102	cut	Ditch	NW-SE linear with straight moderate sides and a flat base	0.66	0.22
21	2103	2102 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	0.66	0.22
22	2200	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	0.36

22	2201	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
22	2202	cut	Ditch	NW-SE linear with shallow concave sides and a concave base	1	0.23
22	2203	2202 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	1	0.23
22	2204	cut	Pit	Circular as seen with steep straight sides and a flat base	1.3	0.4
22	2205	2204 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.3	0.4
23	2300	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4
23	2301	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
24	2400	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.41
24	2401	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
25	2500	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.37
25	2501	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
26	2600	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.37
26	2601	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
27	2700	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36
27	2701	layer	Natural		1.8	
28	2800	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4
28	2801	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
28	2802	cut	Ditch	NE-SW linear, not excavated	2.05	
28	2803	2802 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	2.05	
29	2900	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.43
29	2901	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
30	3000	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.5
30	3001	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
30	3002	cut	Ditch	N-S linear with steep straight E side, moderate straight W side and a concave base	2.15	1.05
30	3003	3002 fill	Primary Fill	Loose mid grey white with occasional brown orange patches silty sand with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	1.66	0.47
30	3004	3002 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey and patches of pink brown silty sand with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm; possibly bank material slumping in from E side	1.55	0.44
30	3005	3002 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	1.79	0.47
31	3100	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.39
31	3101	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	

31	3102		cut	Ditch	N-S linear with steep straight sides and a concave base	1.23	0.49
31	3103	3102	fill	Deliberate Backfill	Loose mixed light yellow brown and brown yellow with dark brown grey and charcoal flecks	1.23	0.49
31	3104		cut	Ditch	N-S linear with moderate straight sides and flat base	2.57	0.8
31	3105	3104	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose light brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.45	0.4
31	3106	3104	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.95	0.4
31	3107	3104	fill	Tertiary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	2.2	0.22
32	3200		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38
32	3201		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
32	3202		cut	Ditch	Linear running E-W. Same allingment as [3204]. Sloping moderate sides with rounded base.	0.52	0.14
32	3203		fill	Secondary Fill	Light grey, loose sandy silt. Occasional rounded and angular stones. Frequent rooting present. No finds recovered.	0.52	0.14
32	3204		cut	Ditch	Linear running E-W. Same allingment as [3202]. Steep moderate sides with rounded base.	0.61	0.19
32	3205		fill	Secondary Fill	Light grey, loose sandy silt. Occasional rounded and angular stones. Frequent rooting present. No finds recovered	0.61	0.19
33	3300		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.37
33	3301		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
34	3400		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38
34	3401		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
34	3402		cut	Ditch	E-W linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	3.1	1.1
34	3403	3402	fill	Primary Fill	Loose mid red grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	1.19	0.35
34	3404	3402	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid pink grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.9	0.23
34	3405	3402	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose light yellow grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	2.5	0.36
34	3406	3402	fill	Tertiary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	3.19	0.18
35	3500		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.45
35	3501		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
36	3600		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.43
36	3601		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
37	3700		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.39
37	3701		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
37	3702		cut	Ditch	E-W linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	1.53	0.76
37	3703	3702	fill	Primary Fill	Loose light orange grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	0.46	0.16

37	3704	3702	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.53	0.6
38	3800		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.41
38	3801		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
39	3900		layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.42
39	3901		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
40	4000		layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.45
40	4001		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
41	4100		layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.55
41	4101		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.2
41	4102		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange brown fine sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
41	4103		cut	Ditch	NW-SE linear with shallow concave sides and a concave base	0.44	0.1
41	4104	4103	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	0.44	0.1
41	4105		cut	Ditch	NW-SE linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	0.88	0.25
41	4106	4105	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	0.88	0.25
41	4107		cut	Natural Feature	Irregular ovoid with irregular sides and a concave base	1.26	0.4
41	4108	4107	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mixed mid brown grey and dark brown grey sandy silt	1.26	0.4
42	4200		layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.55
42	4201		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.2
42	4202		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
42	4203		cut	Ditch	N-S linear with steep straight west side moderate convex east side and a flat base	3.2	0.9
42	4204	4203	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	0.75	0.33
42	4205	4203	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	3.2	0.57
42	4206		cut	Natural Feature	Sub ovoid as seen with shallow concave sides and a concave base; probably geological	0.9	0.12
42	4207	4206	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	0.9	0.12
42	4208		cut	Natural Feature	Irregular in plan with shallow concave sides and a concave base; bioturbation	1.54	0.25
42	4209	4208	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mixed mid brown grey and dark brown grey sandy silt	1.54	0.25
43	4300		layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.45
43	4301		layer	Natural	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.15
43	4302		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange brown, sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	



44	4400	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.45
44	4401	layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.3
44	4402	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange brown, sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
44	4403	cut	Ditch	NE-SW linear with shallow concave sides and a concave base	1.02	0.25
44	4404	4403 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.02	0.25
44	4405	cut	Ditch	N-S linear with moderate straight sides and a flat base	1.2	0.8
44	4406	4405 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.2	0.8
45	4500	layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.47
45	4501	layer	Natural	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.2
45	4502	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange brown, sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
45	4503	cut	Ditch	E-W linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	0.66	0.25
45	4504	4503 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	0.66	0.25
45	4505	cut	Ditch	E-W irregular linear with moderate concave sides and a concave base; uncertain whether real feature or geology as is quite sinuous	0.3	0.13
45	4506	4505 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	0.3	0.13
45	4507	cut	Ditch	N-S linear with moderate concave sides and a concave base	0.98	0.34
45	4508	4507 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	0.98	0.34
45	4509	cut	Ditch	N-S linear, not excavated	1.5	
45	4510	4509 fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.5	
46	4600	layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.45
46	4601	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange brown, sandy clay with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100m	1.8	
46	4602	cut	Ditch	Linear running NW-SE. Moderate steep sides with flat base. Function unclear	0.5	0.18
46	4603	4602 fill	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown, friable sandy clay. Occasional angular/rounded stones and rooting present. X2 fragments of pot retained.	0.5	0.18
46	4604	cut	Ring Gully	Curvilinear present middle of trench, part truncated by field drain. Rounded sides with flat base.	0.34	0.07
46	4605	4604 fill	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown, loose sandy clay. Occasional angular stones and rooting present. No finds recovered.	0.34	0.07
46	4606	cut	Ditch	Steep sloping sides, base not reached due to health and safety. Running SW-NE. Also seen in Trench 42. Possible boundary/encloser ditch.	3.2	0.83
46	4607	4606 fill	Secondary Fill	Dark orange brown, loose clayey silt. Frequent angular stones and Nat flint. Iron panning through out. Small fragments of pottery retained	3.1	0.62
46	4608	4606 fill	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown, friable sandy silt. Occasional angular and rounded stones. Disturbed by rooting. X1 piece of pottery retained.	3.2	0.23
46	4609	cut	Ditch	Linear running E-W, adjacent to large linear [4606]. Concave sides and rounded base. Function unclear	0.8	0.29

46	4610	4609	fill	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown, loose sandy silt. Occasional rounded stones and rooting present. X1 piece of pottery retained.	0.8	0.29
46	4611		cut	Ditch	Linear running NE-SE. Sloping/ concave sides with rounded base. Function unknown possibly part of small . •Another linear runs of this ditch [4613] which may be contemporary as not seen the other side.	0.97	0.3
46	4612	4611	fill	Secondary Fill	Mottled yellow/grey brown, friable sandy clay. Frequent angular stones and rooting present. Vast amount of roman pottery retained.	0.97	0.3
46	4613		cut	Ditch	Linear running N-S. Steep, moderate sides with flat base. • linear runs of another linesr ditch [4611] which may be contemporary as not seen the other side.	0.65	0.21
46	4614	4613	fill	Deliberate Backfill	Mottled mid grey/orange brown, loose sandy silt. Occasional angular and rounded stones and rooting present. Thought to be deliberate backfill after disuse. Vast amount of pottery and cbm retained.	0.65	0.21
47	4700		layer	Topsoil		1.8	0.47
47	4701		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.2
47	4702		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
47	4703		cut	Ditch	N-S linear with straight moderate sides and a concave base	1.26	0.46
47	4704	4703	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.26	0.46
47	4705		cut	Ditch	N-S linear with moderate straight sides and a concave base	1.83	0.8
47	4706	4705	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	0.74	0.2
47	4707	4705	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.83	0.62
48	4800		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.44
48	4801		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
49	4900		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60m	1.8	0.41
49	4901		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm; only in NW 7m of trench	1.8	0.22
49	4902		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
50	5000		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	40
50	5001		layer	Colluvial Layer	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm; only in NW 7m of trench	1.8	20
50	5002		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
51	5100		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.35
51	5101		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
52	5200		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38
52	5201		layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
53	5300		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.39
53	5301		layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8	
54	5400		layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4

54	5401	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
55	5500	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36	
55	5501	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
56	5600	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38	
56	5601	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
57	5700	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.34	
57	5701	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
58	5800	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.33	
58	5801	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
59	5900	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.34	
59	5901	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
60	6000	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.32	
60	6001	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
61	6100	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36	
61	6101	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
61	6102	cut	Pit	Sub circular as seen with steep straight sides, flaring out at the top, and a flat base	2.06	0.54	
61	6103	6102	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid yellow brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	1.84	0.34
61	6104	6102	fill	Deliberate Backfill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm and charcoal flecks	1.42	0.23
61	6105	6102	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid grey brown silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-80mm	1.65	0.15
62	6200	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.3	
62	6201	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
63	6300	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.38	
63	6301	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
64	6400	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.37	
64	6401	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
65	6500	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36	
65	6501	layer	Natural	Loose mid orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
66	6600	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.37	
66	6601	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		

67	6700	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.36	
67	6701	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
68	6800	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.34	
68	6801	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
68	6802	cut	Ditch	N-S linear with a rounded end as seen with steep straight sides and a flat base	0.97	0.62	
68	6803	6802	fill	Primary Fill	Loose mid grey orange silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm	0.19	0.23
68	6804	6802	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mixed light white grey and mid grey silty sand; uncertain whether it is a terminus, pit, or natural	0.97	0.62
69	6900	layer	Ploughsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.4	
69	6901	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
69	6902	cut	Natural Feature	Too large to see in plan with shallow concave sides and a flat base	1.8	0.44	
69	6903	6902	fill	Tertiary Fill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt, a bit humic; decomposition of plant matter on side of wet area	1.6	0.19
69	6904	6902	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm; silting of shallow wet area	2.05	0.28
69	6905	6902	fill	Tertiary Fill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt, a bit humic; decomposition of plant as area dried and soil formed	0.95	0.07
69	6906	6902	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm; more rapid silting into shallow dip	4.8	0.2
69	6907	6902	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm; silting of shallow wet area	0.8	0.19
69	6908	6902	fill	Tertiary Fill	Loose dark brown grey sandy silt, a bit humic; decomposition of plant as area dried and soil formed	0.8	0.08
69	6909	6902	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid brown grey silty sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-40mm; silting of shallow wet area	0.8	0.2
70	7000	layer	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with rare rounded stone inclusions 10-60mm	1.8	0.43	
70	7001	layer	Natural	Loose mid red orange and yellow orange fine sand with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-100mm	1.8		
70	7002	cut	Modern	NE-SW linear with modern pipe in the base; drain	0.7	0.85	
70	7003	7002	fill	Deliberate Backfill	Loose mixed mid grey brown sandy silt and redeposited natural	0.7	0.85
70	7004	cut	Pit	Circular as seen with moderate straight sides and a concave base	1.22	0.3	
70	7005	7004	fill	Secondary Fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions 10-50mm	1.22	0.3

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1. Finds Concordance

Context	Class	Description/ Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
3403	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	3	20	C2-C4
3405	Post-medieval/modern pottery CBM	NMEW	1	6	C17-C20
		mscpfe	1	38	
3703	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	2	16	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	<b>DOR BB1</b>	1	9	
4204	Glass		1	27	
4205	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	3	C2-C4
	CBM	Tile, Brick; mscp, msfe, ms	3	363	
	Fired/burnt clay	mscpfe, mscp	3	137	
	Industrial waste		9	48	
4404	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	5	84	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	UNS CGW	1	10	
4504	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 1</b>	1	50	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	31	
	Roman pottery	<b>DOR BB1</b>	2	5	
	Roman pottery	UNS FGW	2	25	
4603	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	27	C2-C4
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	PMR	1	13	
4607	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	3	5	LC18
	Roman pottery	UNS BSW	2	5	
	Post-medieval pottery	SGSW	1	1	
4608	Roman pottery	<b>PNK GT</b>	1	76	C2-C4
4610	Roman pottery	UNS CGW	1	13	RB
4612	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	2	178	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	<b>DOR BB1</b>	6	47	
	Roman pottery	UNS BSW	1	34	
	Roman pottery	UNS CGW	6	101	
	Stone		1	105	
4614	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	14	192	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	<b>DOR BB1</b>	2	20	
	Roman pottery	UNS CGW	4	33	
	Roman pottery	<b>VER WH</b>	2	619	
	CBM	Brick; msfe, ms, mscpfe	9	860	
	Fired/burnt clay	fscpfe	2	24	
4614 <2>	Roman pottery	UNS CGW	2	14	RB
4704	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	12	C2-C4
6104	Fired/burnt clay	fs	2	10	
6904	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	41	C2-C4
6906	Roman pottery	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	1	84	C2-C4

\*National Roman Fabric Reference Collection in bold (Tomber and Dore 1998)

Table 2: Fabric descriptions and qualities

Class	Description	Fabric Code	Worcestershire Fabric Series**	Count	Weight (g)
Roman pottery	Unsourced black fired sandy ware	UNS BSW	98	3	39
	Unsourced coarse sandy grey ware	UNS CGW	15	14	171

	Unsourced fine sandy grey ware	UNS FGW	14	2	25
	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	<b>DOR BB1</b>	22	11	81
	Pink grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b>	17	1	76
	Severn Valley Oxidised ware (Malvernian)	<b>SVW OX 1</b>	12	1	50
	Severn Valley Oxidised ware (Unsourced)	<b>SVW OX 2</b>	12	35	693
	Verulamium-region white ware	<b>VER WH</b>	35	2	619
Post-medieval pottery	Post-medieval red earthenware	PMR	100	1	13
	White salt-glazed stoneware	SGSW	81.5	1	1
Post-medieval/modern pottery	North Midlands earthenware	NMEW	100	1	6
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>72</b>	<b>1774</b>

\*National Roman Fabric Reference Collection in bold (Tomber and Dore 1998)

\*\*Worcestershire pottery fabric series (Worcestershire County Council 2023)

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

**Table 1:** Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
4203	4205	1	1	2
4403	4404	36	36	19
6103	6104	4	4	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	
Weight		22	22	

Ind = indeterminate

**Table 2:** Assessment of the paleoenvironmental evidence

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
<b>Trench 46 Roman ditch</b>												
4613	4614	2		20	70	-	-	-	-	-	**/**	-
<b>Trench 61 Undated pit</b>												
6102	6104	1		131	1	**	-	Hulled wheat	*	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags	****/*****	-

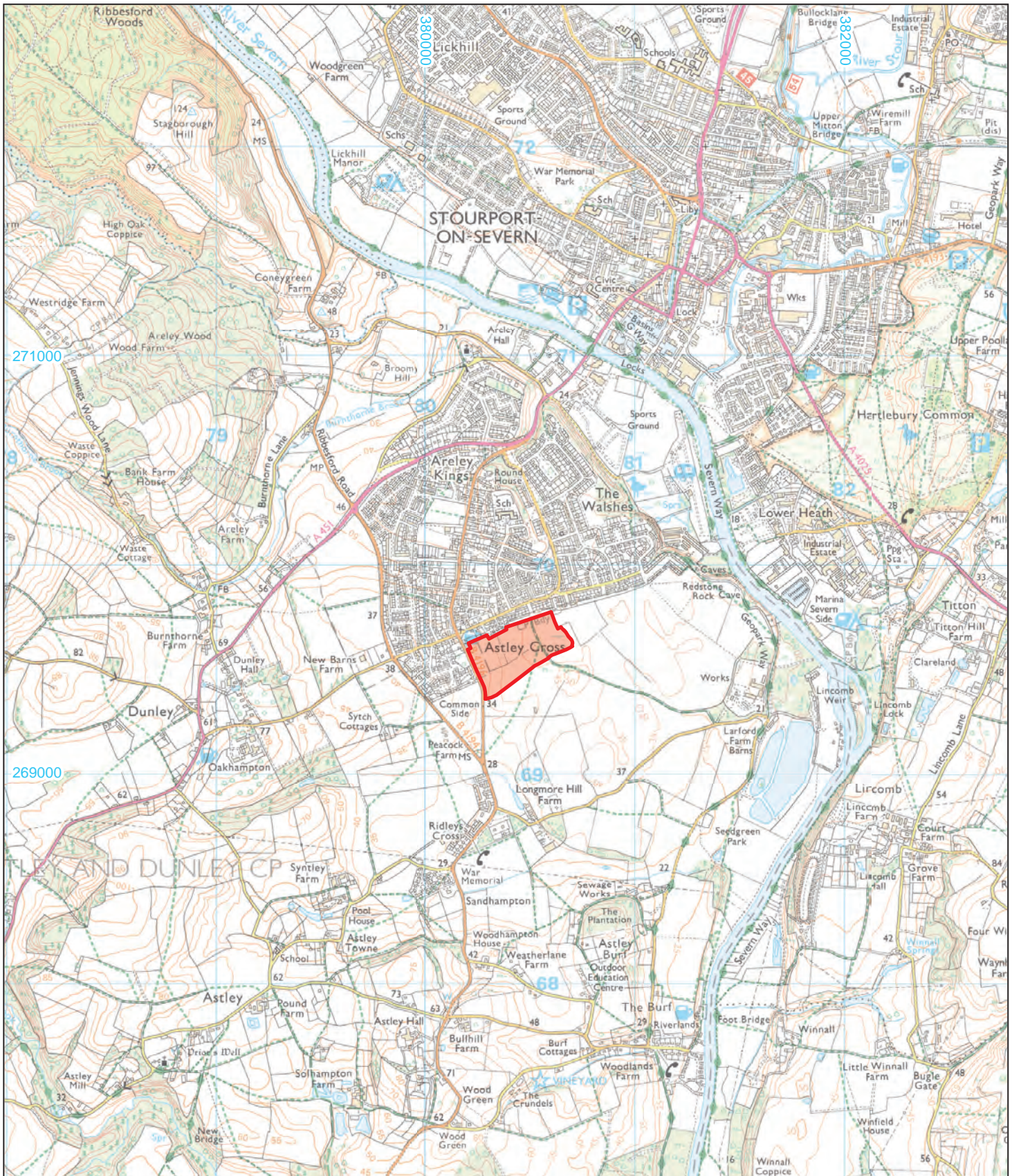
Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 5–19 items; \*\*\* = 20–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
Project name	Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn: Archaeological Evaluation
Short description	<p>Trial trenching followed on from an earlier geophysical survey that identified anomalies taken to primarily reflect agricultural land usage, modern activity and anomalies of a natural or undetermined origin. Cropmarks indicative of prehistoric and Roman archaeological remains have been recorded from a 1959 aerial photograph on land to the south and also within part of the site. The evaluation identified a cluster of features of Roman date, primarily in the northeast part of the site, in an area that had not previously been subject to geophysical survey due to being heavily overgrown at the time of survey.</p> <p>Centred on trenches 41, 42 and 44 to 47, with outlying features in trenches to the west principally comprising what appear to be field system ditches, features in the core area comprised pits, ditches and a possible ring gully in trench 46. Pottery indicates activity broadly spans the 2nd to 4th century period, with the material including regional wares from Dorset, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire as well as a mix of locally produced coarsewares. Vessel forms include bowls, jars and at least one mortarium, all likely involved in the storage and consumption of food, suggesting a domestic/ settlement related aspect to the site.</p> <p>A series of ditches were also recorded across the site, seemingly representing successive phases of land division and management over time. Some appear to be of Roman date, such as ditch 3702 in trench 37, while others, such as ditch 3402 in trench 34, are post-medieval. Others remain undated but are conjectured to be post-Roman in date.</p> <p>Trench 61 contained a single seemingly isolated pit containing three charcoal-rich fills from which fired clay was recovered. Other apparently isolated and undated pits were encountered in trench 22 and trench 70, while a large probable quarry pit was investigated in trench 69. Roman material recovered from the backfill is considered to be redeposited and the feature is most likely of post-medieval date although not seemingly depicted on any historic maps of the site. An intermittent anomaly crossing trench 66 was the result of an unrecorded service.</p> <p>The focus of activity in the northeast of the site and the isolated pit in trench 61 aside, the remainder of the proposed development area appears to contain only features related to the past agricultural management of the land, quarrying, or is otherwise devoid of archaeological remains.</p>
Project dates	December 2022
Project type	Field evaluation
Previous work	<p>Geophysical survey: Magnitude Surveys 2017 Geophysical Survey Report of Land at Astley Cross, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire. Project ref: MSSO85</p> <p>Magnitude Surveys 2022 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-on-Severn - Geophysical Survey Report. Project ref: MSSO1351</p> <p>Desk-based assessment: Pegasus Group 2022 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-on-Severn – Archaeology and Built Heritage Statement. Report ref P16-1283</p>
Future work	Unknown
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Site location	Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn, Worcs
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	9.4ha
Site co-ordinates	SO 80235 69595
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology



Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby	
Project Supervisor	Ralph Brown	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	Ditch, pit, gully	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	Pottery, CBM, Fired Clay, industrial residue (slag)	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)</b>
Physical	Worcestershire Museums Service	Pottery, CBM, Fired Clay, industrial residue (slag)
Paper	Worcestershire Museums Service	Context sheets, registers, drawings, report
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Database, digital photos, survey data, report
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2023 <i>Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report CR1263_1		



 Site boundary

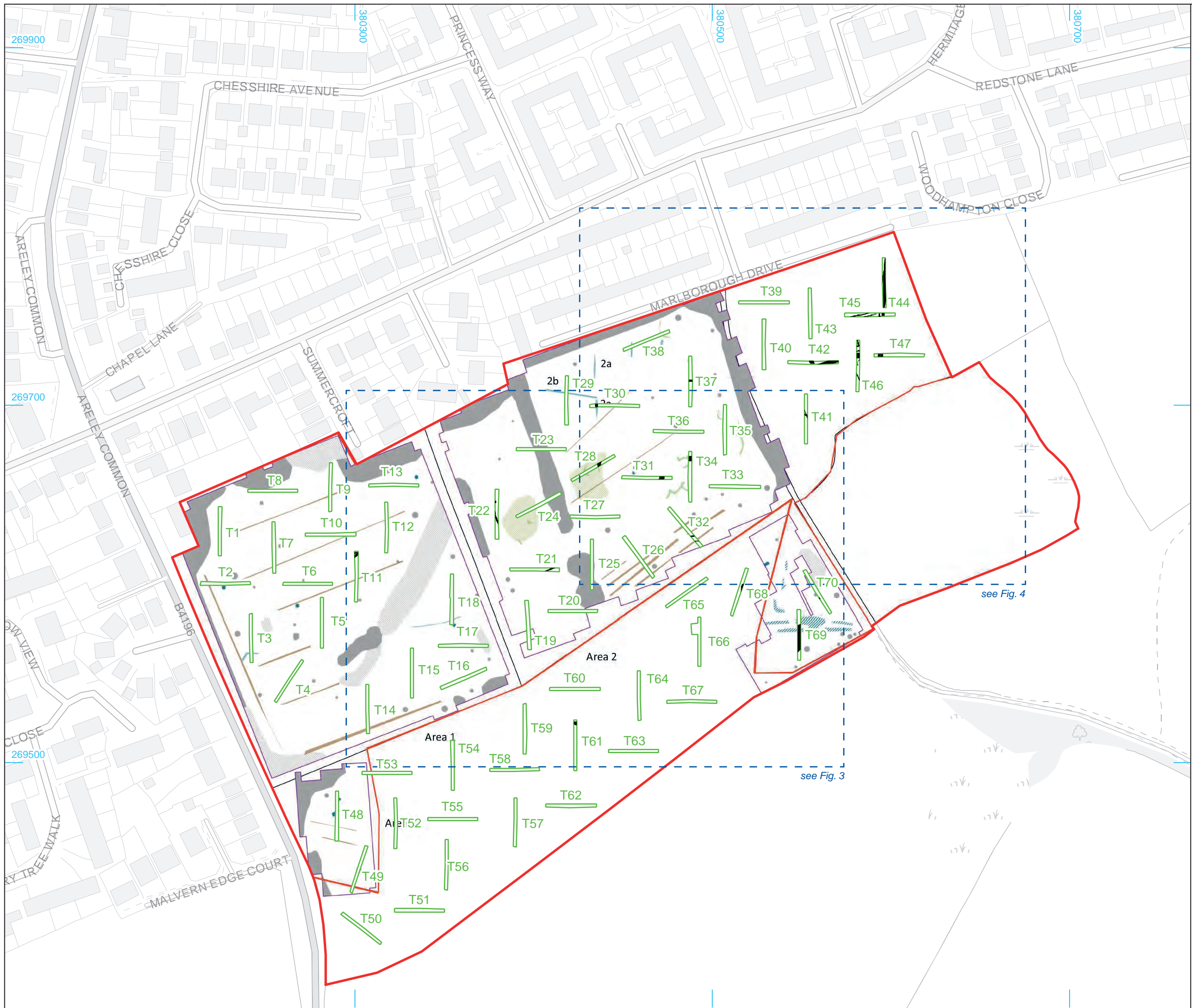


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>HMM</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>CR1263</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>DJB</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>24/01/2023</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	<b>SB</b>	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	<b>1:25,000</b>	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature

*Geophysical survey results  
Magnitude Surveys (2017)*

- Agricultural (Weak)
- Natural (Weak)
- Natural (Spread)
- Ferrous (Dipolar)
- Ferrous (Spread)
- Undetermined (Spread)
- Undetermined (Strong)
- Undetermined (Weak)
- Site boundary
- Surveyable Extent

0 1:2000 100m

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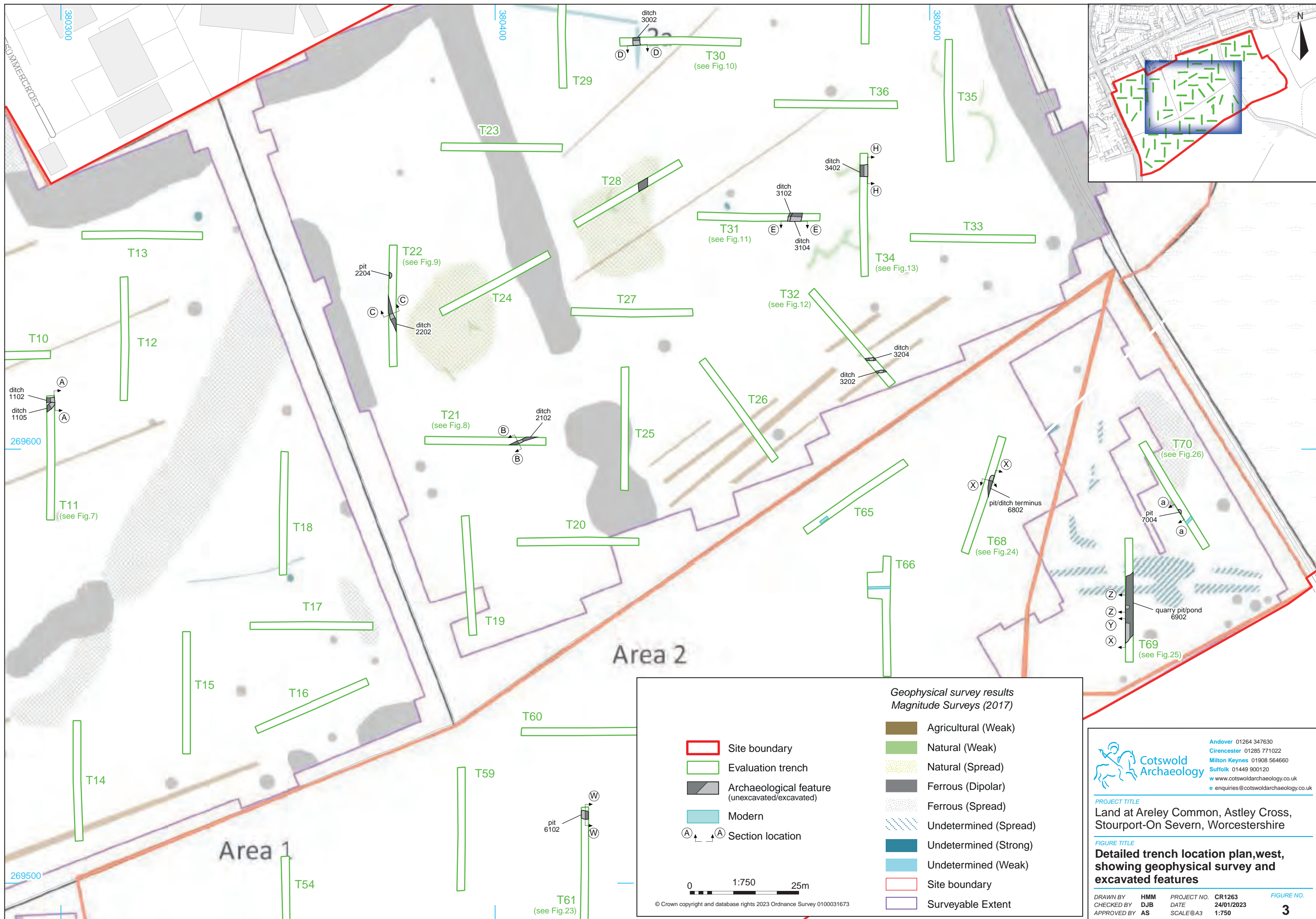
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan showing  
 geophysical survey and excavated  
 features

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	2
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:2000	



**Geophysical survey results**  
Magnitude Surveys (2017)

Site boundary	Agricultural (Weak)
Evaluation trench	Natural (Weak)
Archaeological feature (unexcavated/excavated)	Natural (Spread)
Modern	Ferrous (Dipolar)
Section location	Ferrous (Spread)
	Undetermined (Spread)
	Undetermined (Strong)
	Undetermined (Weak)
	Site boundary
	Surveyable Extent

0 1:750 25m

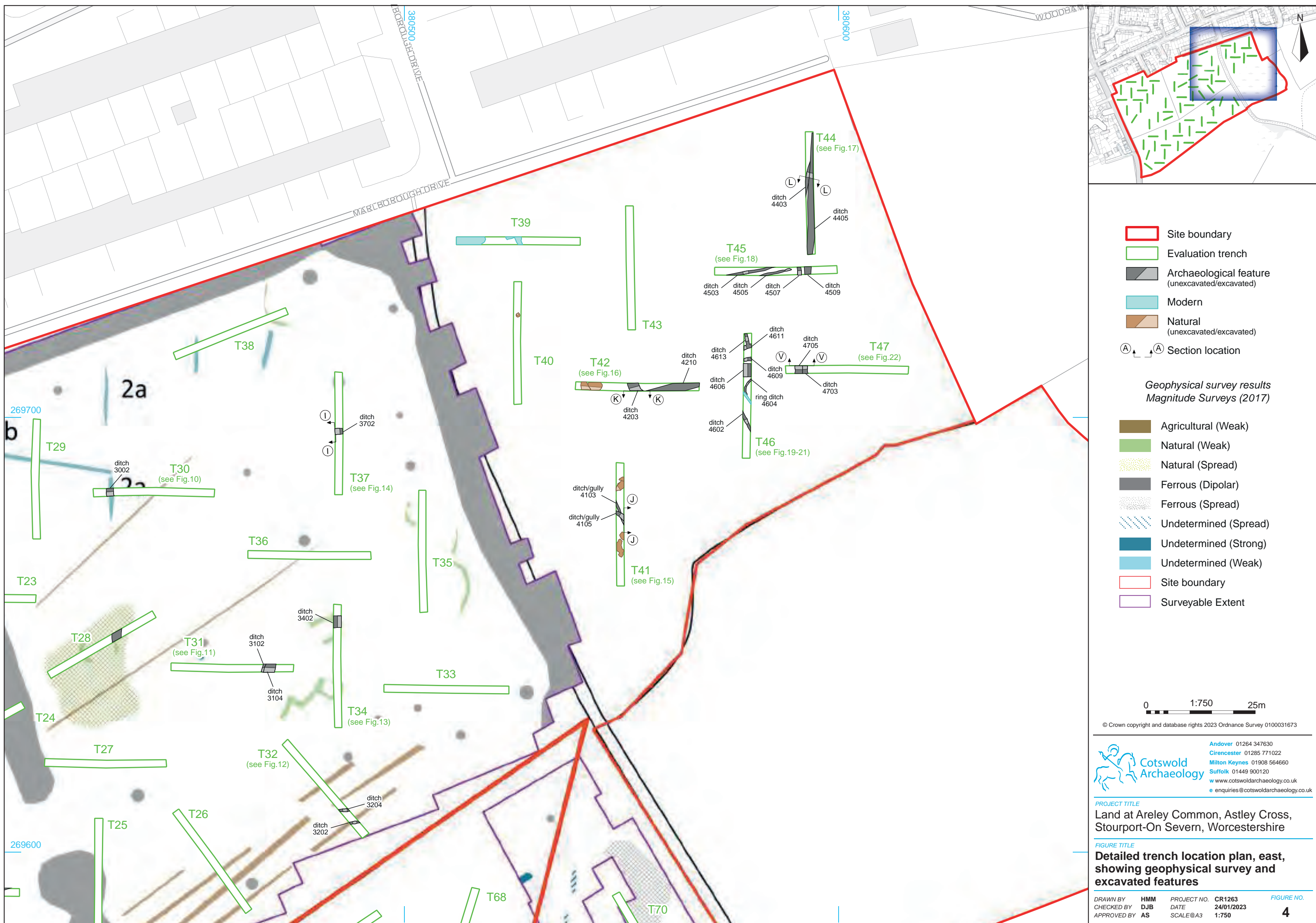
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Detailed trench location plan, west, showing geophysical survey and excavated features

DRAWN BY HMM PROJECT NO. CR1263 FIGURE NO.  
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24/01/2023 3  
 APPROVED BY AS SCALE@A3 1:750



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (unexcavated/excavated)
- Modern
- Natural (unexcavated/excavated)
- Section location

*Geophysical survey results  
Magnitude Surveys (2017)*

- Agricultural (Weak)
- Natural (Weak)
- Natural (Spread)
- Ferrous (Dipolar)
- Ferrous (Spread)
- Undetermined (Spread)
- Undetermined (Strong)
- Undetermined (Weak)
- Site boundary
- Surveyable Extent

0 1:750 25m

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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Detailed trench location plan, east,  
 showing geophysical survey and  
 excavated features

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	4
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:750	



Trench 6, looking east (1m scales)



Trench 9, looking north (1m scales)



Trench 24, looking north-east (1m scales)



Trench 29, looking north (1m scales)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Selection of trench photographs**

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	5
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE	@A3 NA	



Trench 50, looking north-east (1m scale)



Trench 56, looking north (1m scales)



Trench 67, looking west (1m scales)



Trench 68, looking north-east (1m scales)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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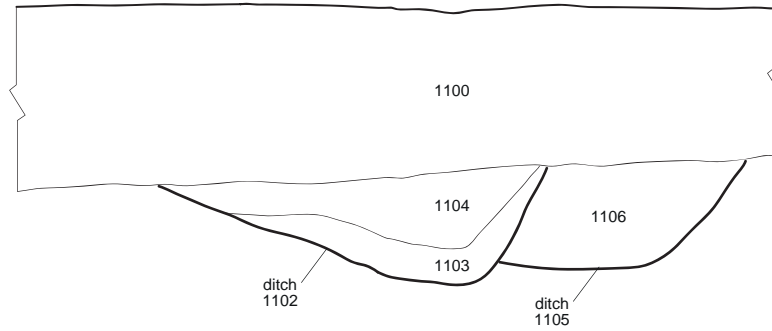
FIGURE TITLE  
**Selection of trench photographs**

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	6
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE	@A3 NA	

Section AA

N  
40.1m  
AOD

S



Ditches 1102 and 1105, looking east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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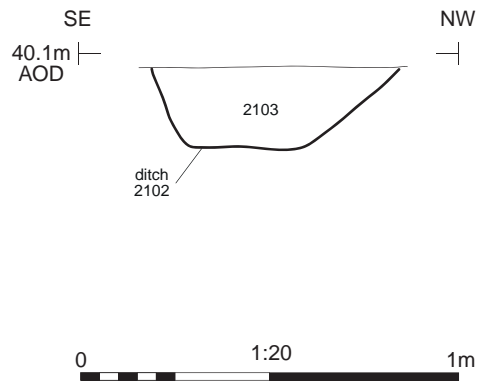
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 11: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	7
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:20	



Section BB



Ditch 2102, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

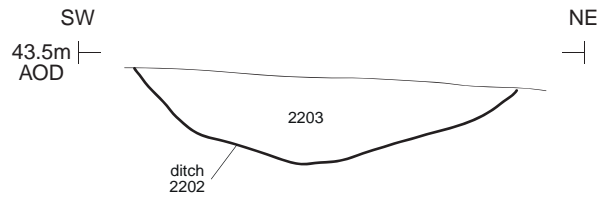
Trench 21: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

8

Section CC



Ditch 2202, looking north-west (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

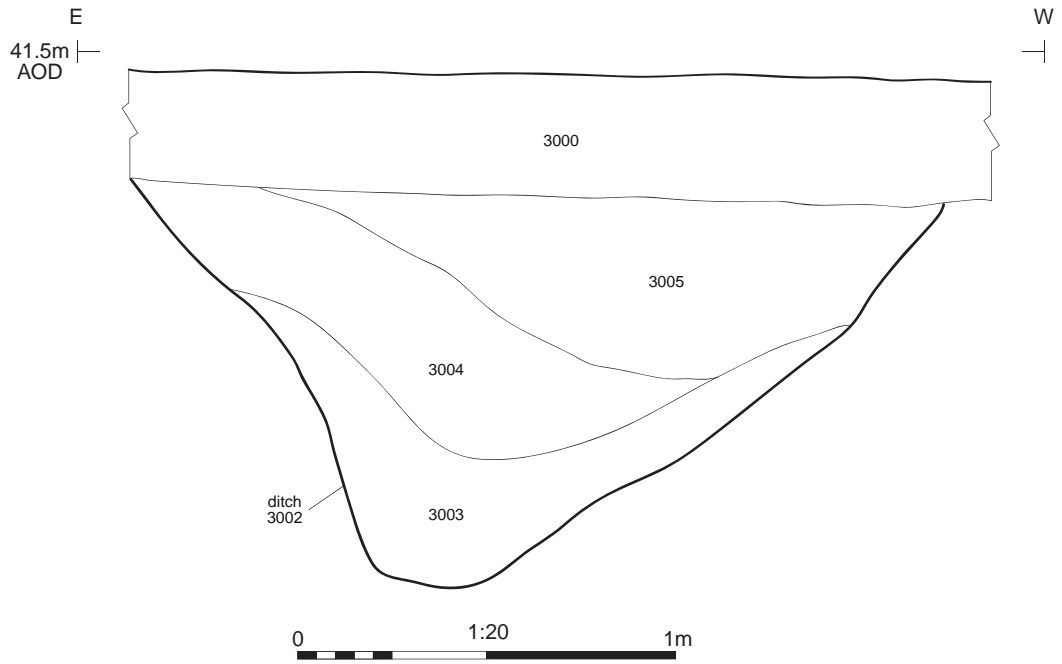
Trench 22: section and photograph

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CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24/01/2023  
APPROVED BY AS SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

9

Section DD



Ditch 3002, looking south-east (1m scale)



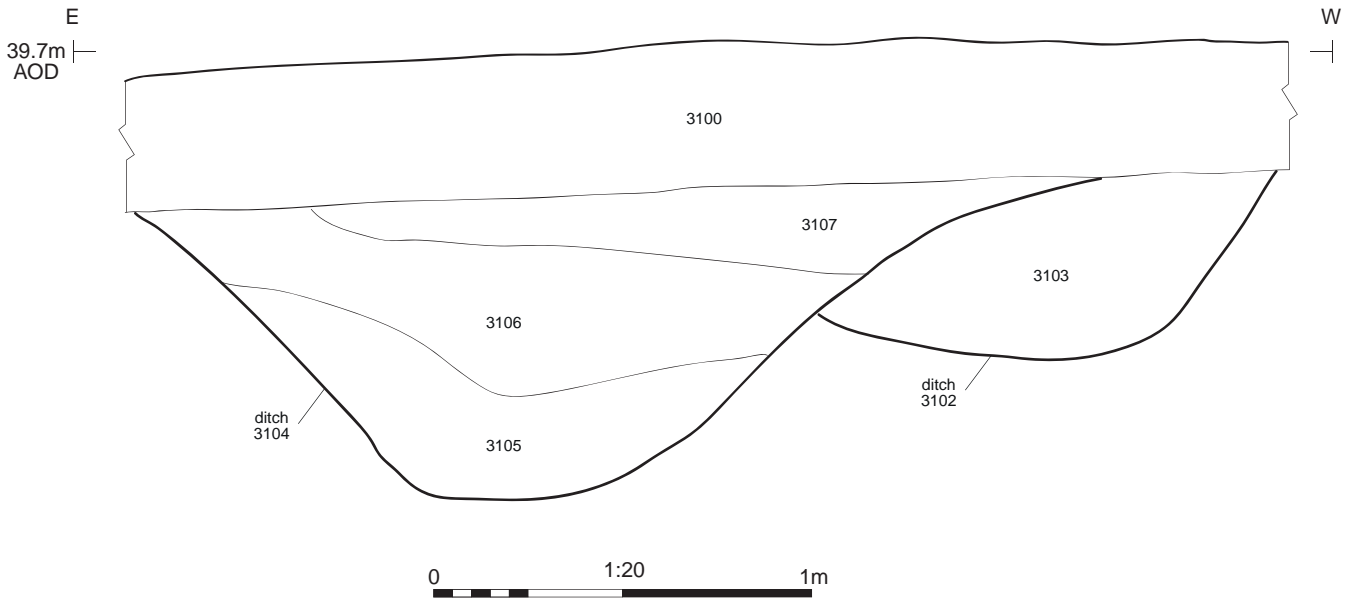
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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 30: section and photograph**

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APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:20	

Section EE



Ditches 3102 and 3104, looking north (1m scale)

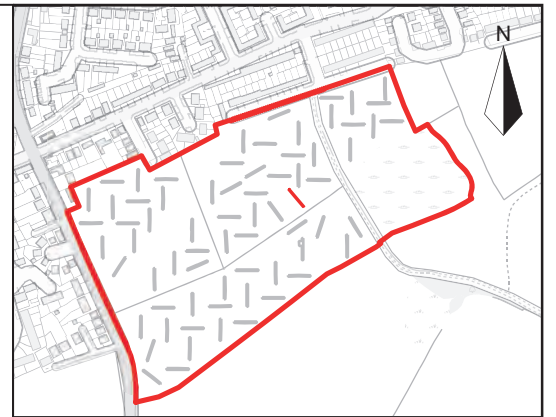
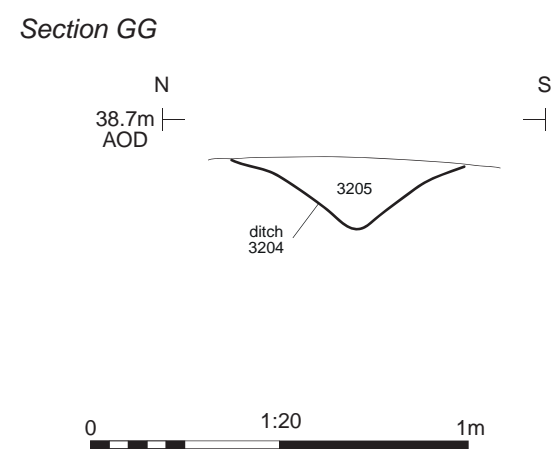
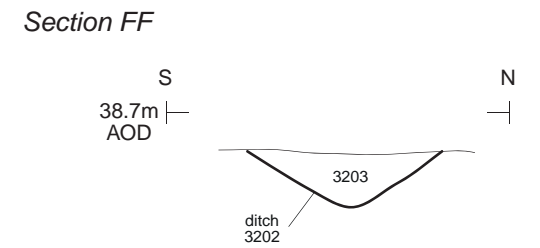
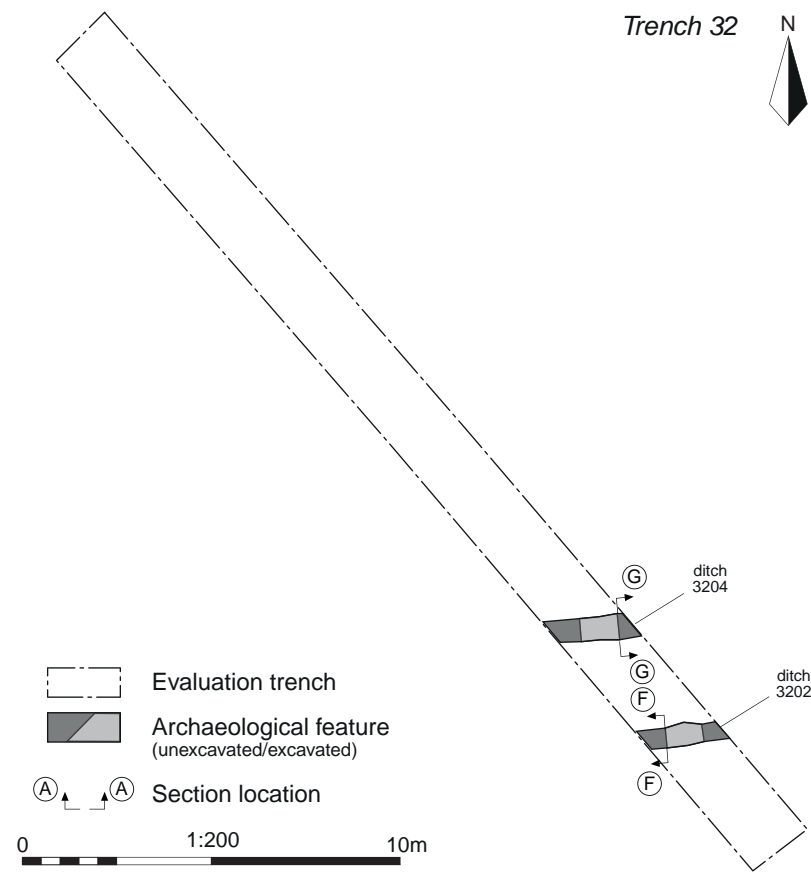


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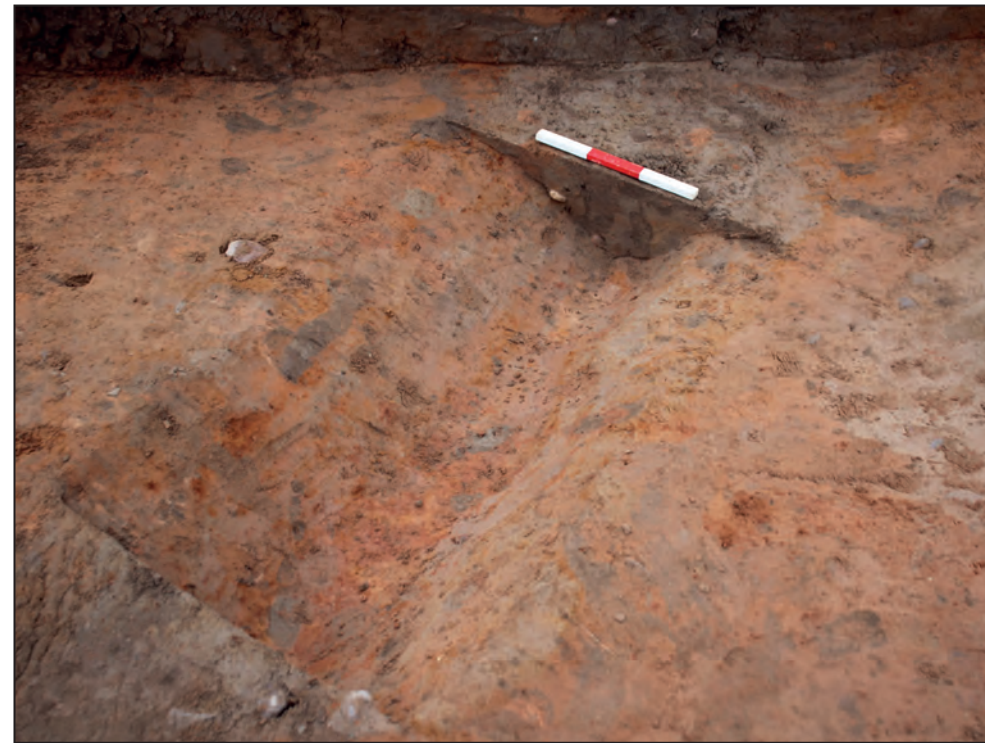
PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 31: section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	<b>11</b>
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:20	



Ditch 3202, looking west (0.3m scale)



Ditch 3204, looking north-east (0.3m scale)

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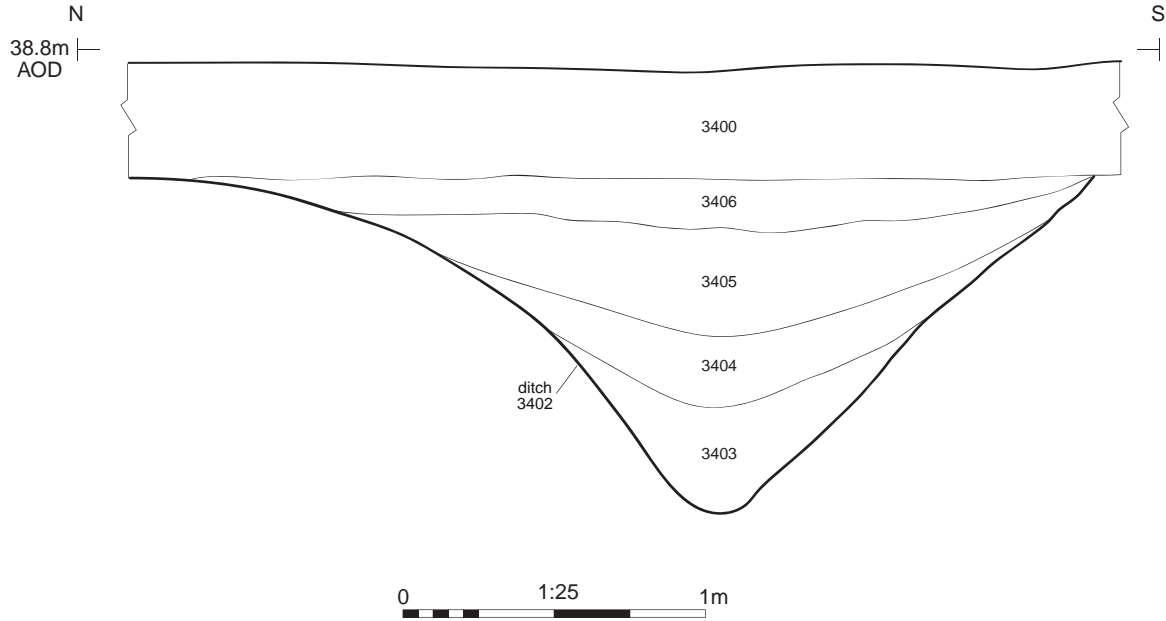
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench 32: plan, sections and  
 photographs

<small>DRAWN BY</small> HMM	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> CR1263	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 26/01/2023	<b>12</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> AS	<small>SCALE</small> @A3 1:20 & 1:200	

Section HH



Ditch 3402, looking east (1m scale)



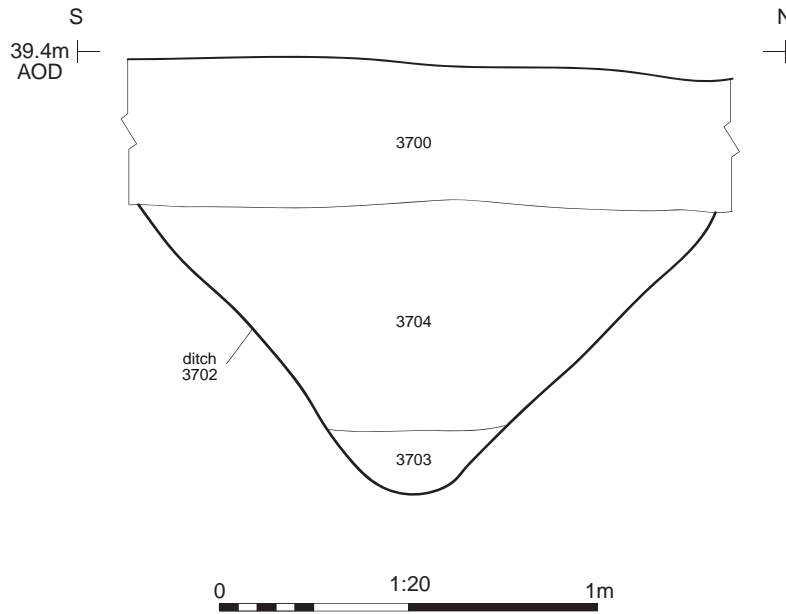
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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
 Trench 34: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	13
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:25	

Section II



Ditch 3702, looking west (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

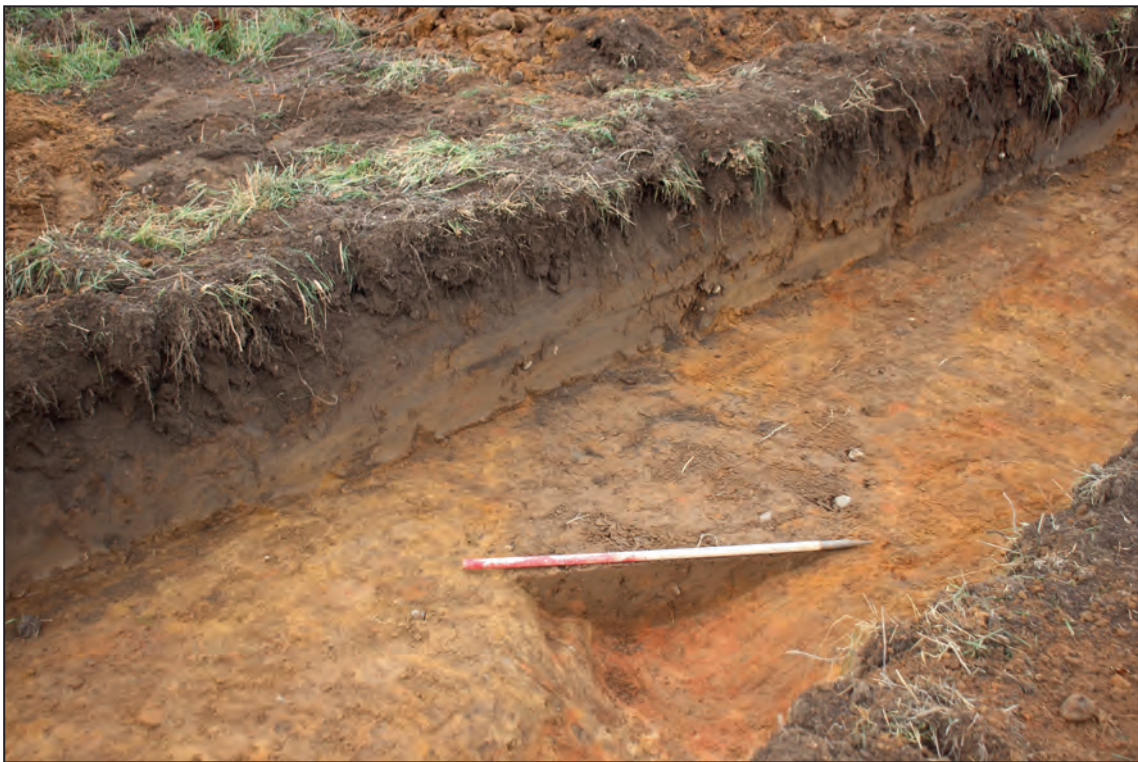
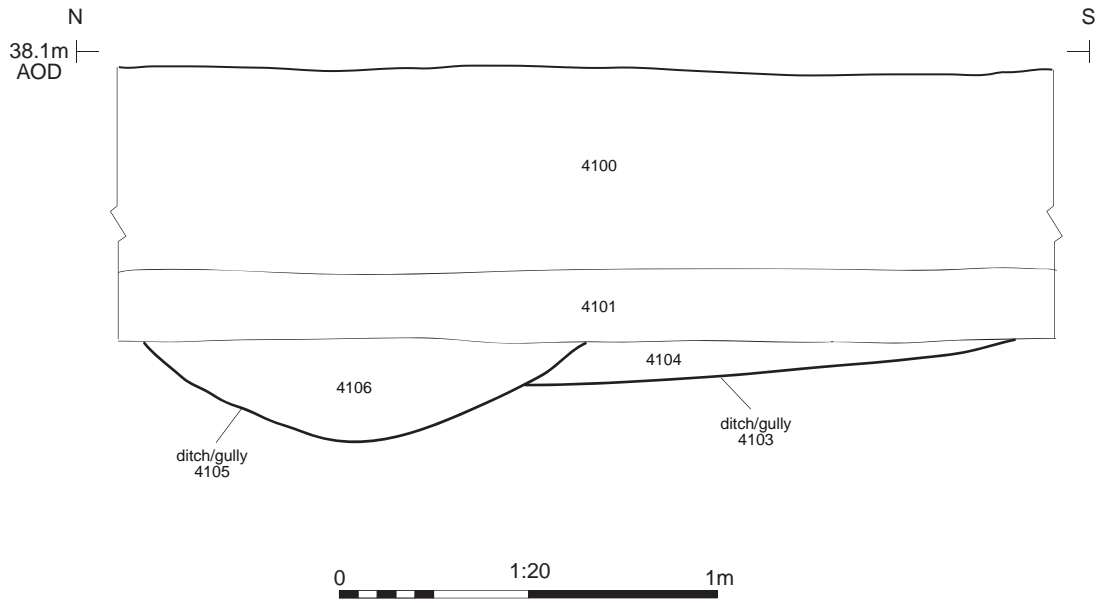
Trench 37: section and photograph

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 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24/01/2023  
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FIGURE NO.

14

Section JJ



Ditches/gullies 4103 (right) and 4105 (left), looking south-east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

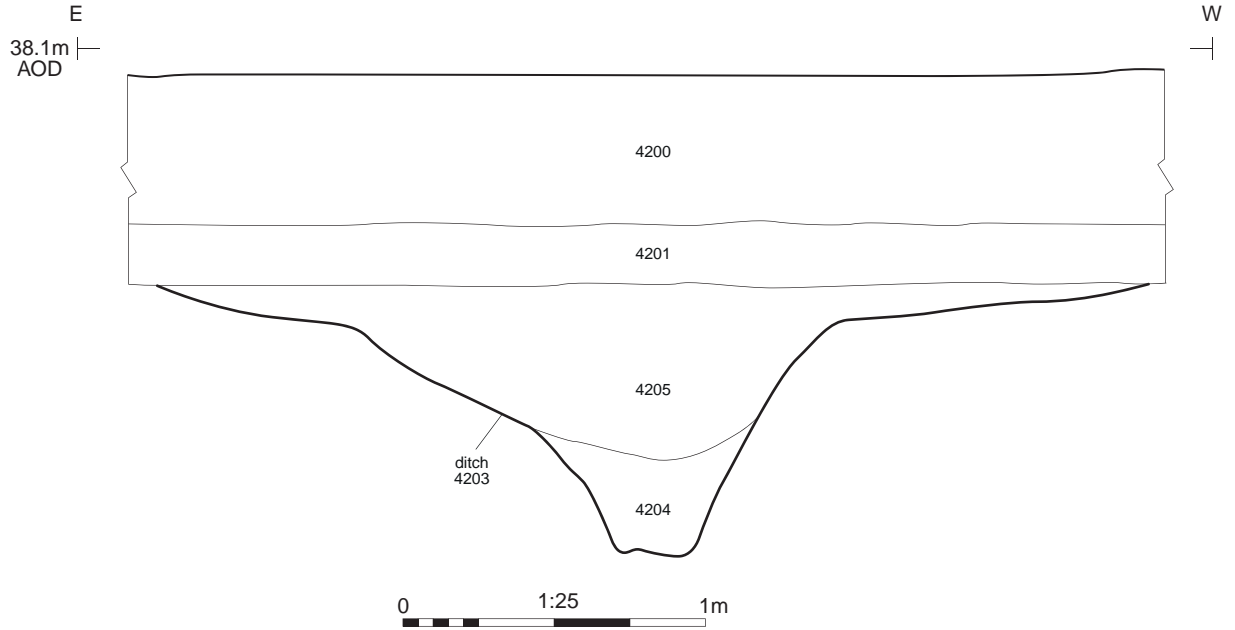
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 41: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:20	



Section KK



Ditch 4203, looking south (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 42: section and photograph**

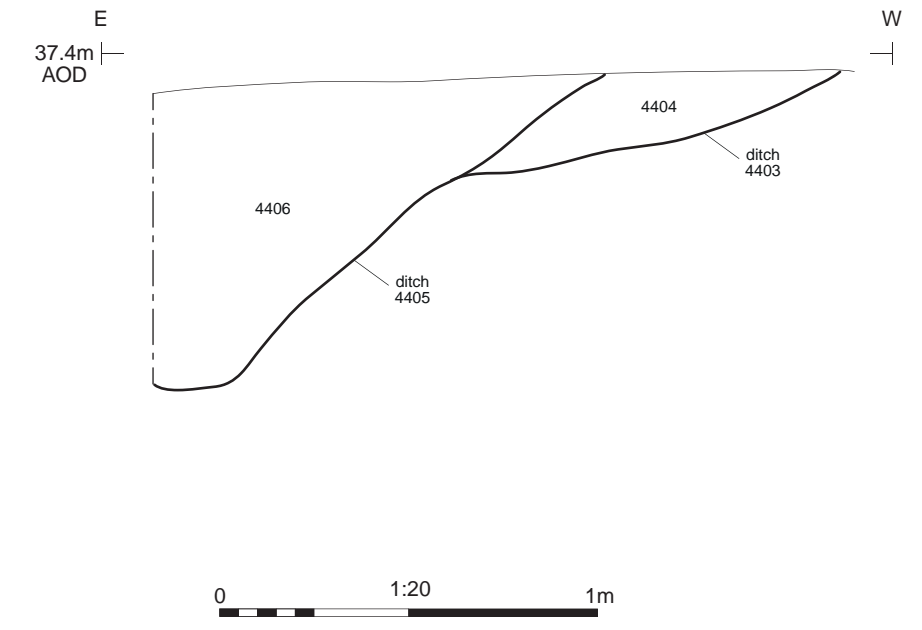
DRAWN BY HMM PROJECT NO. CR1263  
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24/01/2023  
 APPROVED BY AS SCALE@A4 1:25

FIGURE NO.

**16**



Section LL



Trench 44, looking north (1m scales)



Ditches 4403 and 4405, looking south-west (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross, Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 44: section and photographs**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	26/01/2023	17
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Trench 45, looking west (1m scales)



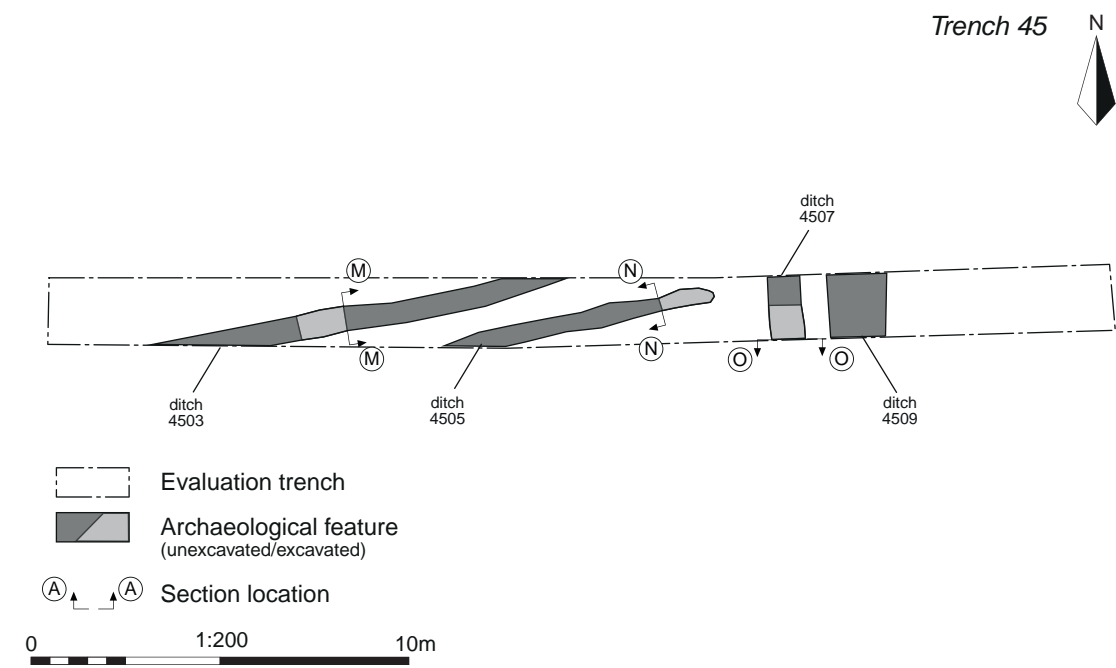
Ditch 4503, looking north-east (0.3m scale)



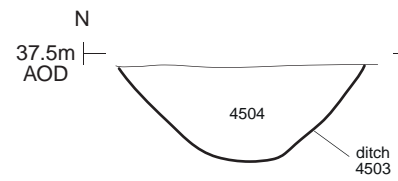
Ditch 4505, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



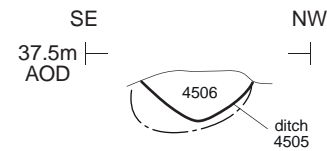
Ditch 4507, looking south (1m scale)



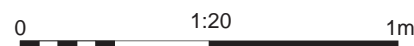
Section MM



Section NN



Section OO

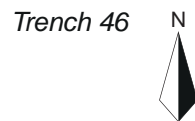
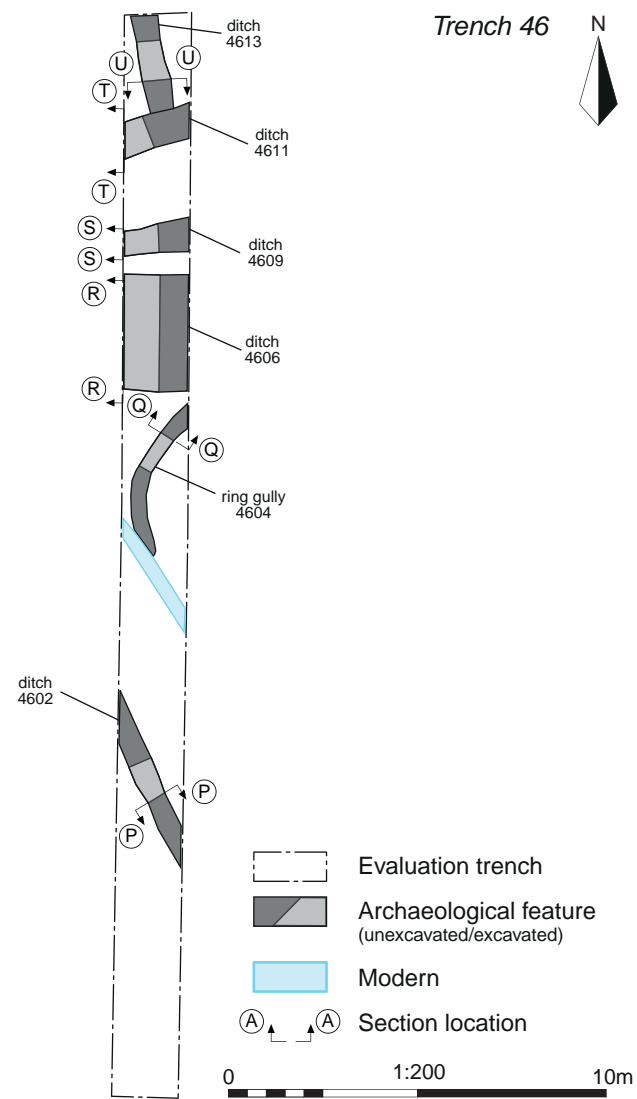


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
 Stourport-On Severn, Worcestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench 45: plan, sections and  
 photographs

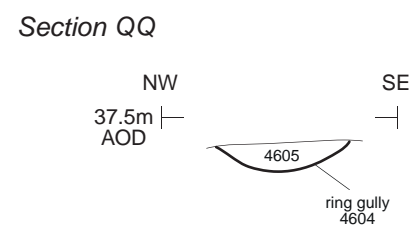
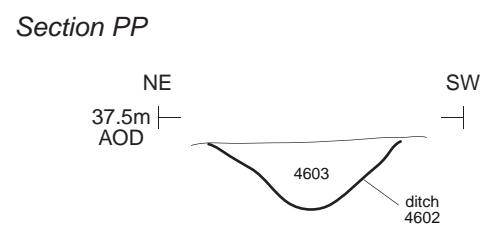
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	26/01/2023	18
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:20 & 1:200	



Ditch 4602, looking south-east (0.3m scale)



Ring gully 4604, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



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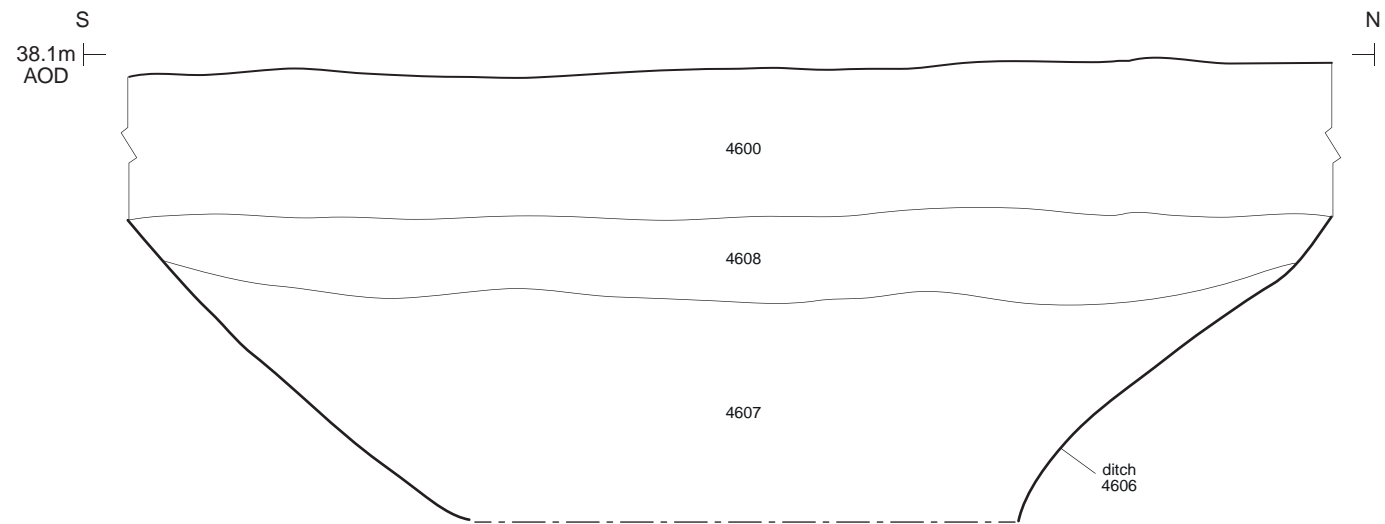
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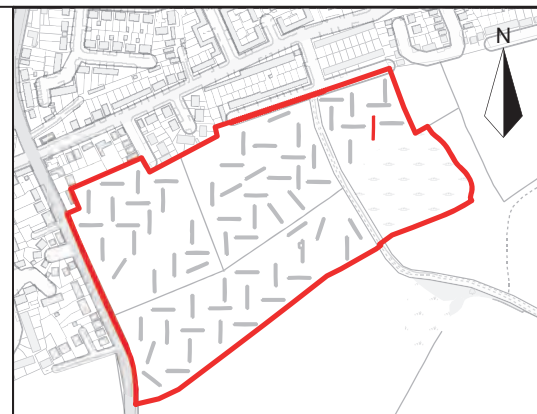
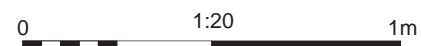
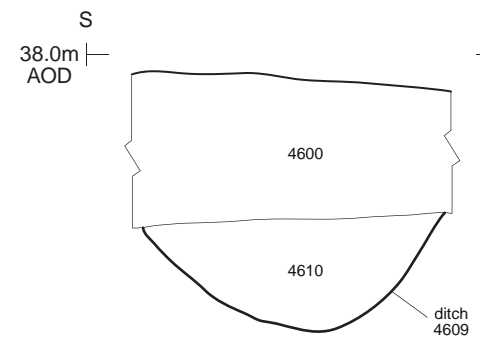
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench 46: plan, sections and  
 photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	26/01/2023	19
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Section RR



Section SS



Ditch 4606, looking west (1m scale)



Ditch 4609, looking west (0.3m scale)


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 46: sections and photographs**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	26/01/2023	20
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:20 & 1:200	

Section TT



Section UU



Ditch 4611, looking west (0.3m scale)



Ditch 4613, looking south (0.3m scale)

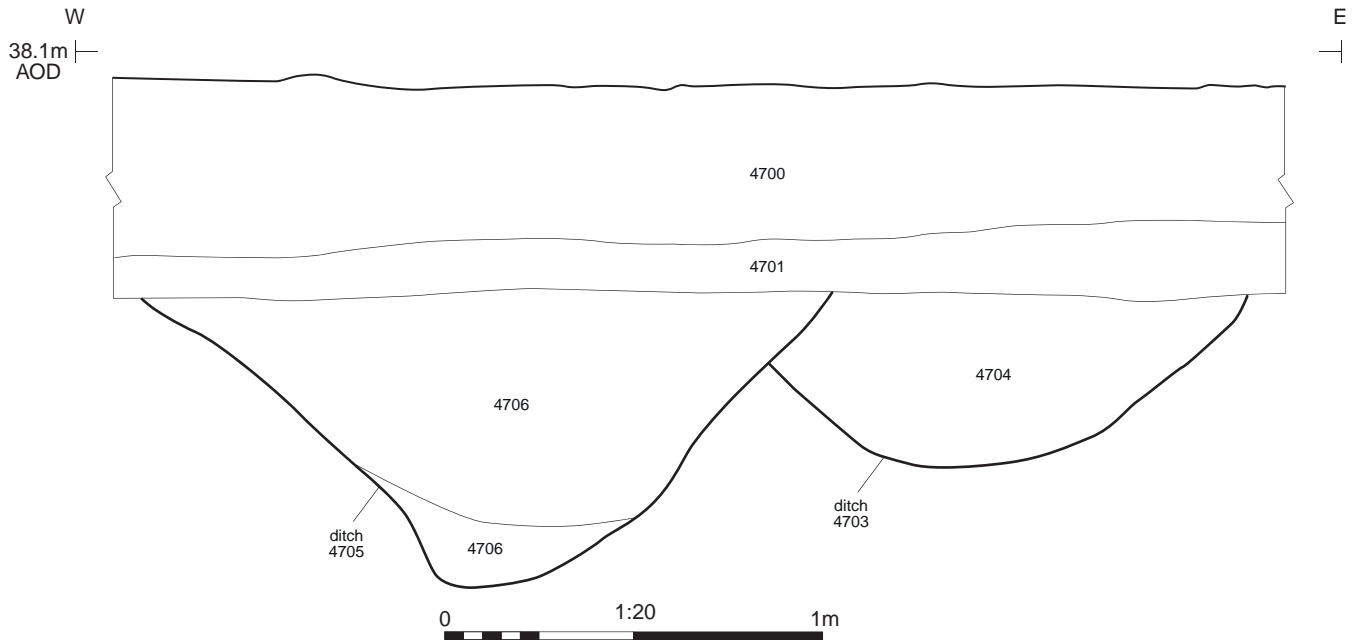

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PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 46: sections and photographs**

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Section VV



Ditches 4703 (right) and 4705 (left), looking north (1m scale)

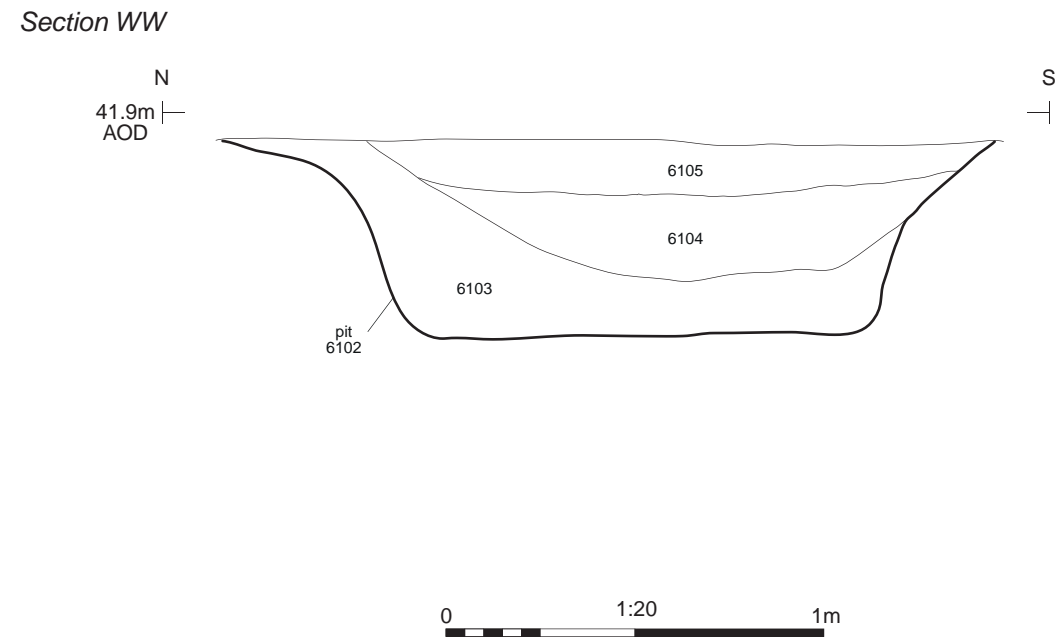


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 47: section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	CR1263	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24/01/2023	<b>22</b>
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Trench 61, looking north (1m scales)



Pit 6102, looking east (1m scale)


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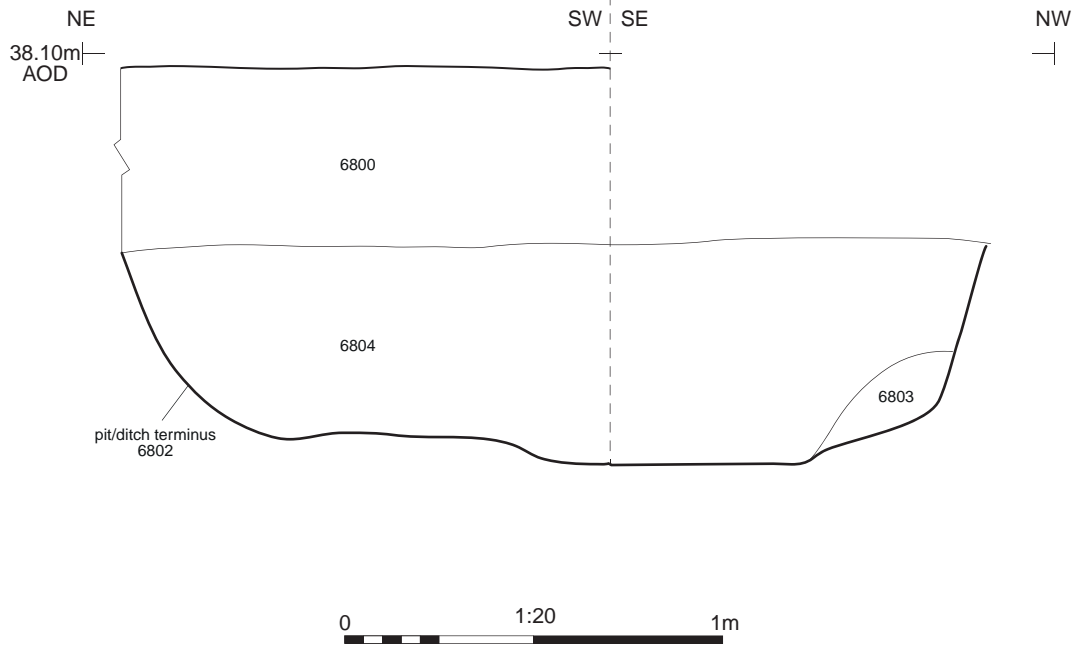
PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 61: section and photographs**

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Section XX



Pit or ditch terminus 6802, looking south-east (1m scales)



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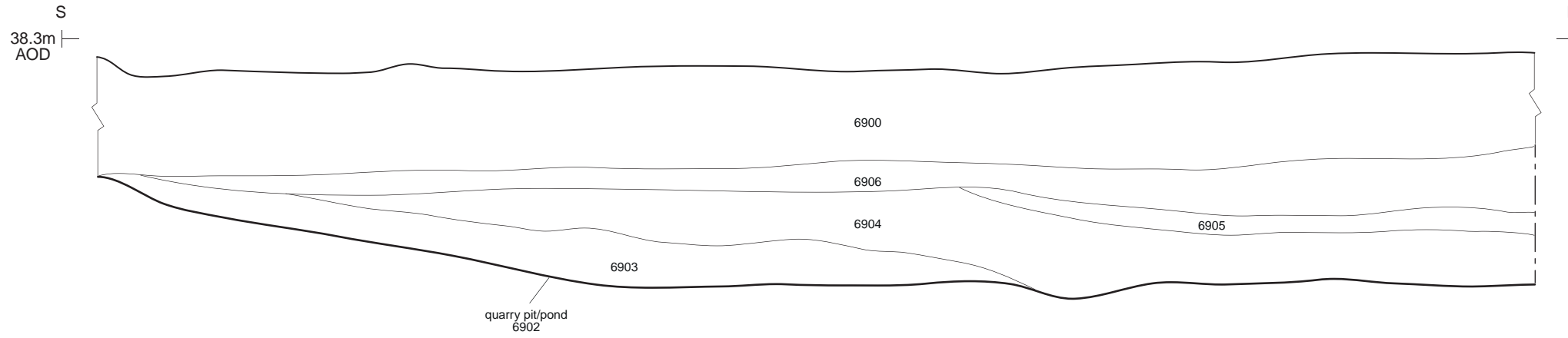
PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Areley Common, Astley Cross,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 68: section and photograph**

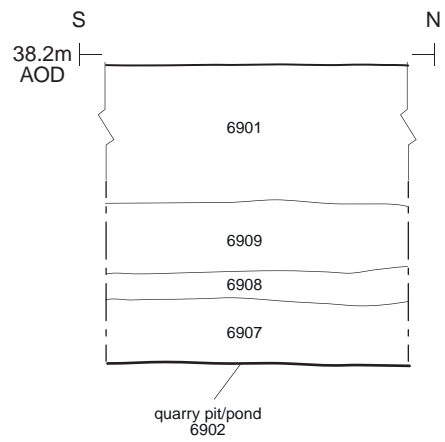
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Section YY



Section ZZ



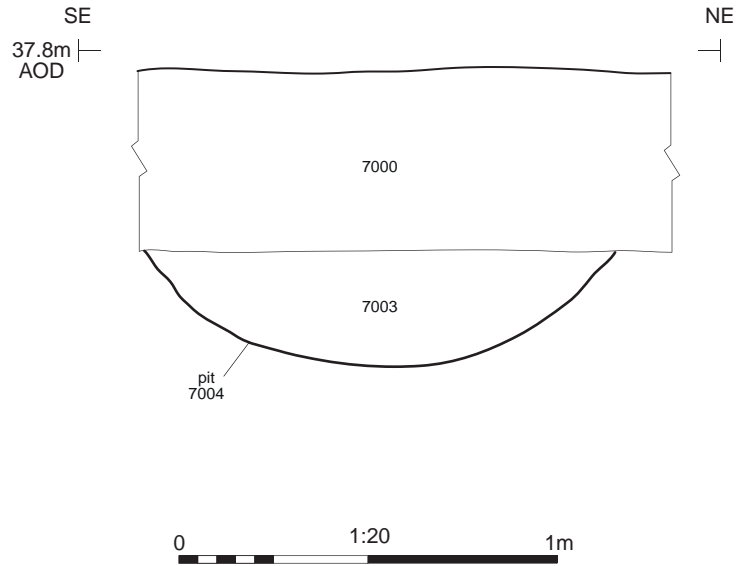
Quarry pit/pond 6902, looking west (1m scale)


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 69: sections and photograph**

Section aa



Pit 7004, looking north-east (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 70: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

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