

# Land south of Lichfield Staffordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

*for*  
**Persimmon Homes (West Midlands)**

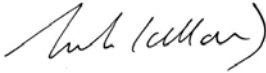
CA Project: 4330  
CA Report: 13373

June 2013

# Land south of Lichfield Staffordshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 4330  
CA Report: 13373

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land south of Lichfield
<b>Location:</b>	Staffordshire
<b>NGR:</b>	SK 1187 0780
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	20 to 28 May 2013
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Accession Number:</b>	2013.LH.28
<b>Site Code:</b>	LIC 13

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2013 at land south of Lichfield, Staffordshire. A total of 19 trenches was excavated.

Industrial activity relating to clay extraction and the production of brick and tile was identified within the north-eastern quarter of the site. A total of five large pits interpreted as clay extraction pits and the bases of two brick clamps were recorded. A trackway was identified within the northern half of the site dating to the post-medieval period, although it may have earlier origins.

Post-medieval/modern ditches relating to agricultural activity and land division were also identified.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Persimmon Homes (West Midlands) at land south of Lichfield, Staffordshire (centred on NGR: SK 1187 0780; Fig. 1). Following discussions with Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist, Staffordshire County Council, the archaeological advisor to Lichfield District Council, a programme of trial trench evaluation of the site was recommended prior to the submission of a planning application to Lichfield District Council for development of the site. The development is expected to include housing, a primary school with playing fields, and a mixed-use local centre.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2013) and approved by Mr Dean. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Mr Dean, including a site visit on 23 May 2013.

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The proposed development area encloses an area of approximately 45ha, and comprises arable farmland to the south of the town of Lichfield. It is bounded to the north by properties fronting onto Shortbutts Lane and Wordsworth Close, to the east by properties fronting onto London Road, to the south by Knowle Lane and to the west by Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield Railway. The site lies at approximately 85m AOD in the north, rising gently to 100m AOD in the south.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Keuper Sandstone of the Triassic Period (BGS 2013). No overlying drift deposits are recorded within the site and no deposits of potential palaeoenvironmental significance have been recorded within the site (CA 2011). The natural geological substrate in the south and west of the site consisted of yellow sand, whilst orange brown clay was identified in the north-eastern parts of the site.

### **Archaeological background**

- 1.5 The site has been the focus of an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA; CA 2011) which contributed to the Cultural Heritage chapter of a subsequent Environment Assessment. A summary of the results of the DBA is presented below.
- 1.6 Within the site, a single piece of prehistoric worked flint has been recorded as a surface find on the Staffordshire HER. A Late Bronze Age bronze harness has also been recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), near the worked flint findspot. Within the site locality, Bronze Age material has been recorded 150m to the south of the site but no further detail is recorded (CA 2011). In the wider landscape, worked flint waste flakes have been recorded in St Michael's Churchyard, and evidence of Neolithic settlement has been recorded adjacent to Lichfield Cathedral (VCH 1990).
- 1.7 A single Roman trumpet brooch is recorded by the PAS from the central area of the site, and a second Roman brooch was recovered immediately west of the site. In addition, a surface find of a piece of copper alloy mortar has been recorded immediately south of the site, also potentially of Roman date (CA 2011). Roman settlement in the region was centred on *Letocetum*, a 1st century AD fort that developed into an important civilian centre. Archaeological works within *Letocetum* have uncovered the foundations of an inn and bathhouse, along with other civilian and military buildings. The site is now a Scheduled Monument and lies in the village of Wall, over 1.6km to the south-west of the site, close to the junction of two Roman roads, Ryknild Street (Margary 1973); and Watling Street. Ryknild Street itself, a Roman road running from Gloucestershire to South Yorkshire, runs immediately to the east of the site (CA 2011).
- 1.8 No early medieval remains have been recovered from within the site. Borrowcop Hill, a natural summit 400m north-east of the site, was traditionally thought to be the site of a Saxon defended settlement, and an antiquarian investigation recorded burnt bone approximately 2.2m below present ground level during excavations in the 18th century. However, a watching brief in 2005 failed to record any evidence of such (Stoke-on-Trent Archaeology 2005). *Letocetum* declined as a local centre throughout the 4th and 5th centuries AD, and the focus of settlement in the early medieval period moved to Lichfield, the historic core of which lies 1.5km to the north of the site. Lichfield became an ecclesiastical centre c. 700 AD following the establishment of a cathedral in the town, and continued as an important settlement

within the Saxon region of *Mercia*. The wooden Saxon cathedral in Lichfield was replaced by a stone building from 1075 onwards. This was subsequently replaced with the current Gothic building between 1195 and 1330, and Lichfield remained a religious centre throughout the medieval period.

- 1.9 Four medieval surface finds are recorded within the site or immediately adjacent to it, comprising a jetton, silver halfgroat, silver penny and a copper alloy seal. The medieval core of Lichfield was based around the cathedral, and the site would probably have lain in the agricultural hinterland of the city.
- 1.10 The Portable Antiquities Scheme records five undated finds at one location within the site, including a book fitting, weight, jetton, buckle and a strap fitting. The form of the finds suggests that they are likely to be of post-medieval or modern date.
- 1.11 The Wyrley and Essington Canal formerly ran approximately east-west in the northern part of the site. Originally constructed in 1797, it was intended to bring coal from the mines at Wyrley and Essington into the industrial centre at Wolverhampton. The canal fell out of use after 1954 and was extensively backfilled, including the portion which ran through the site. Its former course now lies beneath an area of green space on the northern edge of the site. A watching brief on the north-western edge of the site recorded a length of the canal below ground. A section of the canal to the east of the site been partially re-excavated, and the locks and revetments uncovered or rebuilt in the later 20th-century (AOC 2007).
- 1.12 One of the earliest cartographic sources for the site is Yates's 1775 Map of the County of Staffordshire. Although the large scale of this map means there is very little detail recorded within the site, a small label Bury Hill is recorded in the approximate location of the site. Subsequent maps record Berry Hill farmhouse in this location, and so this would suggest that a farm was located in this area from at least 1775. A single modern barn is the only remaining extant part of the farm in this location.
- 1.13 The term Bury may sometimes derive from the old English word *Burh*, indicating 'land by or with a fortification or fortified manor house' (Field 1989). No evidence of structures, earthworks or cropmarks, was identified from aerial photographs, and no manor houses or other pre-1775 structures are recorded in this location. There may, therefore, be an alternative origin for the name. This early map also records the

course of the Roman road running to the east the site, but no detail on field boundaries or other information is recorded.

- 1.14 The first map to record land within the site in detail is a 1776 map of lands belonging to St John's Hospital in Lichfield. This map records a small section of the site which is now bounded by the Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield Railway. The curving field boundaries recorded as running north-east/south-west on this map may derive from post-medieval enclosure of former medieval strip fields. These boundaries have since been removed and the area heavily ploughed. No evidence of these 18th-century field boundaries or ridge and furrow earthworks survive.
- 1.15 The earliest cartographic evidence for land use across the majority of the site is found on the 1847 Tithe map and accompanying apportionment register for the parish of Lichfield St Michael. The Tithe map records the Birmingham road to the west of the site, but was made before the Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield Railway was constructed. A large number of field boundaries are recorded within the site, most of which have since been removed. The majority of the fields are recorded in the apportionment register as 'arable'. One field name, Brick Kiln Piece, lies in the central part of the site, and may indicate that brick production previously took place. No other fieldnames in the apportionment register appear to be archaeologically significant.
- 1.16 The Tithe map also records the farm in the central area of the site, labelled as Berry Hill Farm. This is almost certainly the Bury Hill recorded on the 1775 Map, comprising a farmhouse and associated outbuildings. A single modern Dutch barn survives in the location today, in a state of disrepair. Berry Hill Farm is recorded in detail on the 1887 OS map, including a small area of orchard to the south of the farm buildings. No additional buildings are recorded within the site. The farm is still recorded on a Third Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1938, and fell into disuse after this date and was demolished in the 1990s.
- 1.17 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in September 2011 (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2011). The survey recorded an array of isolated anomalies and groups of relatively strong magnetic anomalies. These lie predominately within the central part of the survey. It is conjectured that elements of these might represent traces of brick kilns and ancillary features, an interpretation based not only on their magnetic properties but also the name 'Brick Kiln Piece', which lies to the south (op. cit., 1).



The results suggest that the original position of Marsh Lane may have differed slightly to that recorded on early and recent maps. Elsewhere, the survey recorded probable natural responses, including a potential palaeochannel and slight magnetic traces of cultivation and possible land drains. Strong responses were registered in close proximity to certain boundaries, including that induced by boundary fencing and a service (ibid.).

### **Archaeological objectives**

- 1.18 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009). This information will enable Lichfield District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

### **Methodology**

- 1.19 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 19 trenches, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trenches 1 to 17 measured 50m in length and 2m in width, whilst Trenches 18 and 19 measured 30m in length and 2m in width. The positions of Trenches 4, 9 and 19 were revised from those agreed in the WSI due to overhead services and site access constraints, with the approval of Mr Dean. Trial trenching was restricted to the northern area of the site affected by development, with the southern area of the site plan to be utilised as public open space. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (2012).
- 1.20 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

- 1.21 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003), however, no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).
- 1.22 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery under accession number 2013.LH.28, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-6)

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 2.2 A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was identified in all of the trenches. Within the southern and western part of the site undisturbed natural sand substrate was revealed at depths of between 0.5m and 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl). In the eastern part of the site, the natural geological substrate was identified at 0.4m bpgl and consisted of clay with rounded pebbles. These were in turn sealed by topsoil c. 0.4m to 0.6m thick. Isolated patches of subsoil were identified in the eastern part of the site, but do not survive in the west due to the depth of ploughing. All identified archaeological features/deposits cut the natural substrate, except where re-cutting of earlier features occurred.
- 2.3 The results of the fieldwork broadly correlated with the preceding geophysical survey. Features interpreted as trackways and ditches were identified, which corresponded to anomalies in the geophysical survey. Archaeological features associated with industrial activity and related to brick/tile making were also identified as anomalies in the geophysical survey. These were recorded in some, but not all of the trenches in which it was suggested they may potentially have occurred.

- 2.4 No archaeological features or deposits were identified within Trenches 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 15, 18 and 19.

**Trench 1 (Fig. 2)**

- 2.5 Located at the western end of the trench was north-west/south-east orientated holloway 102 and flanking ditches 106 and 107. These remained unexcavated within this trench.

- 2.6 These features are the continuation of holloway 215 and flanking ditches 202, 204, 206, 211 and 209 identified within Trench 2 and ditches 902 and 907 identified within Trench 9. They correlate with a geophysical anomaly and are depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map.

**Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 4)**

- 2.7 Located at the south-eastern end of the trench was broadly north/south orientated parallel ditches 206 and 211 (Fig. 4, section AA). These form the original flanking ditches for holloway 215. The gradual erosion of the underlying natural geological substrate by the holloway has resulted in the migration of these flanking ditches to the north-west, 204 and 202 and to the south-east, 209. Flanking ditches 206, 209 and 211 contained six, four and two sherds of pottery dating to the late 18th to 19th-centuries within their respective fills 208, 210 and 212. In addition ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from fills 210 and 212. Holloway 215 contained one sherd of abraded Romano-British grey ware pottery, considered to be intrusive within this context, three sherds of 18th-century pottery and three fragments of post-medieval/modern flat tile within its primary fill 216. It contained 19 sherds of 19th-century pottery as well as two fragments of tile and one piece of bottle glass within its secondary fill 217.

- 2.8 These features are the continuation of holloway 102 and flanking ditches 106 and 107 identified within Trench 1 and ditches 902 and 907 identified within trench 9. They correlate with a geophysical anomaly and are depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map.

**Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 5)**

- 2.9 Pit 302 was identified at the centre of the trench. Its primary fill 303 contained fragments of post-medieval/modern brick and flat tile (not retained) and appears to represent rapid backfilling with waste material and topsoil. The secondary fill 304

contained two sherds of pottery dating to the 19th century. It comprised natural clay, presumably representing the final infilling of the feature following slumping/silting. The full depth of the pit was not excavated, which was in excess of 1.2m in depth. The pit is interpreted as a probable quarry pit for localised clay extraction.

- 2.10 The geophysical anomaly targeted by the north-western end of this trench was not identified. The geophysical anomaly located at the centre of the trench corresponds with quarry pit 302. Charcoal, brick and tile fragments were identified at the south-eastern end of the trench which broadly correlate with an anomaly depicted by the geophysical survey.

#### ***Trench 4 (Fig. 2)***

- 2.11 The geophysical anomaly of probable natural origin targeted by this trench was not identified.

#### ***Trench 6 (Fig. 2)***

- 2.12 Two parallel north-west/south-east orientated ditches, 604 and 606, were located at the eastern end of the trench. Both ditches contained a single dark grey brown silty sand fill, identical to the surrounding topsoil. Fill 607 of ditch 606, contained two sherds of post-medieval pottery, one piece of clay tobacco pipe stem and one fragment of CBM. A thin lens of silty sand (602) was identified to the immediate west of ditch 604 which may represent a former bank.

- 2.13 Ditch 604 corresponds with a field boundary depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map. The geophysical anomaly of probable natural origin targeted by the centre of this trench was not identified.

#### ***Trench 7 (Fig. 2)***

- 2.14 The geophysical anomalies of probable natural origin targeted by this trench were not identified.

#### ***Trench 8 (Fig. 2)***

- 2.15 The geophysical anomaly targeted by this trench was not identified.

#### ***Trench 9 (Figs 2 & 3)***

- 2.16 Parallel north-east/south-west orientated ditches 902 and 907 were located towards the south-eastern end of the trench. Both contained a similar sequence of edge

collapse/silting and deliberate backfilling episodes. Initial edge collapse deposits 903 and 908, the former containing two distorted/overfired bricks were overlain by material 904 and 909 containing brick rubble and red sand. These were in turn overlain by silting 905 and 910 which were covered by deliberately dumped deposits 906, 911 and 912. Deposit 906 contained two distorted/overfired bricks.

- 2.17 These features are the continuation ditches 106 and 107 identified within Trench 1 and ditches 202, 204, 206, 211 and 209 identified within Trench 2. They correlate with a geophysical anomaly and run parallel with and close to the former location of Marsh Lane as depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map and may represent flanking ditches, delineating this trackway.

### **Trench 10 (Figs 2, 3 & 5)**

- 2.18 Wide and deep pit 1004 was identified at the western end of the trench (Fig. 5, section BB). The primary fill 1005 comprised pink-grey clayey sand. The secondary fill 1009 comprised orange brown sandy silt, representing natural silting and contained fragments of post-medieval brick. This may lie in an area of erosion surrounding the pit, rather than the pit itself and was presumably created during the extraction process. Overlying both these deposits was a large deposit 1006, comprising charcoal, ash, coal and clinker, which may be derived from the waste products from the brick/tile production identified to the south-east. It contained five sherds of pottery and three fragments of glass dating to the late 19th century. Sealing all these deposits was orange brown sandy silt deposit 1007.
- 2.19 The feature was in excess of 1.2m in depth and is likely to represent clay extraction associated with localised brick/tile production. During its secondary usage phase the pit appears to have been utilized as a rubbish pit for industrial waste relating to brick/tile production. Brick land drain 1002 cut the fills 1007 and 1009 of quarry pit 1004.
- 2.20 A spread of charcoal, 1008, was identified at the eastern end of the trench. This contained one fragment of post-medieval tile and one piece of bottle glass dated to the 19th century, as well as modern wood and charred straw. This deposit corresponded to a discrete geophysical anomaly thought to represent a modern bonfire.

- 2.21 Extraction pit 1004 corresponds to an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and is in the location of an indistinct feature depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map.

**Trench 11 (Figs 2 & 3)**

- 2.22 The geophysical anomalies targeted by the trench were not identified.

**Trench 12 (Figs 2, 3 & 6)**

- 2.23 An area of heat-affected natural, 1203, measuring 5m in length and in excess of 1.2m in width was identified at the south-western end of the trench. The full extent of the feature was not revealed which continued beyond the north-western edge of the trench.

- 2.24 This deposit corresponded to a geophysical anomaly and probably represents the base of a brick clamp or scove kiln (i.e. a clamp with earth around it) similar to the one identified within Trench 13.

**Trench 13 (Figs 2, 3 & 6)**

- 2.25 An area of heat-affected natural, 1302, was identified towards the north-western end of the trench. The full extent of the feature was not revealed as it continued beyond the south-western edge of the trench. This deposit probably represents the base of a brick clamp or scove kiln similar to the one identified within Trench 12.

- 2.26 Pits 1308 and 1309 were identified within the south-eastern part of the trench. These features were not excavated but three sherds of pottery dating to the 18th-century were recovered from the surface of fill 1312, fill of pit 1308. Post-medieval brick and tile (not retained) was identified on the surface of the respective fills of both pits. These features most likely represent clay extraction pits associated with localised brick/tile production similar to those excavated within Trenches 3, 10 and 14. Both pits appear to have been utilised as rubbish pits following excavation.

- 2.27 Brick clamp base 1302 and pit 1309 correspond to anomalies detected by the geophysical survey and interpreted as ceramic material associated with industrial activity (PCG 2011). Ash and charcoal was noted at the interface between the topsoil and natural at the north-western end of the trench. This corresponded with a discrete geophysical anomaly. No geophysical anomaly was identified at the south-eastern end of the trench, corresponding to feature 1308.

**Trench 14 (Figs 2 & 3)**

- 2.28 Pit 1404 was identified at the south-western end of the trench. It contained orange-red brick rubble in a sandy silt matrix, 1402. A single distorted brick was recovered dating to the 18th to 19th century. The feature was in excess of 1.2m in depth and is likely to represent clay extraction associated with localised brick/tile production. Its secondary use was as a rubbish pit for waste material associated with brick/tile production.
- 2.29 Pit 1401 corresponded to a geophysical anomaly interpreted as displaying characteristics indicative of near surface rubble (PCG 2011).

**Trench 15 (Fig. 2)**

- 2.30 The geophysical anomaly of probable natural origin targeted by this trench was not identified.

**Trench 16 (Fig. 2 & 3)**

- 2.31 Located towards the south-western end of the trench was broadly north/south orientated ditch 1602. Its single sandy silt fill 1603 contained one sherd of 18th-century pottery and one fragment of bottle glass. Located to the east was a brick-rubble filled land drain 1605. Its single fill 1604 contained seven sherds of 18th-century pottery, one fragment of CBM and bottle glass, an iron knife blade fragment and one fragment of cattle bone.
- 2.32 Ditch 1602 appears to represent the continuation of a geophysical anomaly interpreted as being of probable natural origin identified to the north.

**Trench 17 (Fig. 2)**

- 2.33 Located towards the eastern end of the trench was modern machine cut service trench 1703. It measured 0.3m in width with vertical sides and a symmetrical profile. The base was not excavated.
- 2.34 Service cut 1703 was not identified by the geophysical survey. The linear geophysical anomaly targeted by the trench was not identified. Charcoal and brick rubble was noted at the interface between the topsoil and natural at the eastern end of the trench. This corresponded with a discrete geophysical anomaly interpreted by the geophysical survey as modern rubble of recent origin (PCG 2011).

**Trenches 18 & 19 (Fig. 2)**

- 2.35 No geophysical survey was carried out within Trenches 18 and 19.

**The finds evidence**

- 2.36 The recovered artefacts are listed in Appendix B. A single sherd of Roman pottery, a re-deposited find from deposit 216, was recorded. The remaining material is post-medieval or later in date with the dateable pottery and glassware dating to the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 2.37 None of the recovered artefacts will be retained.

**3. DISCUSSION****Romano-British**

- 3.1 Romano-British activity is represented by a single residual sherd of abraded greyware pottery recovered from the primary fill 216 of holloway 215.
- 3.2 No further evidence of Roman activity was identified despite the site's close proximity to Ryknild Street, a Roman road running from Gloucestershire to South Yorkshire, which lies to the immediate south-east of the site and Roman settlement centred on Letocetum, a Scheduled Monument in the village of Wall, c. 1.6km to the south-west (CA 2011).

**Post-medieval to Modern**

- 3.3 No features pre-dating the 18th-century were identified. Industrial activity relating to clay extraction and the production of brick/tile was identified within the north-eastern area of the site. A post-medieval trackway and post-medieval/modern ditches were also identified.
- 3.4 Industrial activity relating to the production of brick and tile was identified within the north-eastern area of the site (Trenches 12 and 13). This is represented by the presence of areas of heat-affected natural. No indication of a superstructure survives and it is likely that the areas of scorched natural probably represent the bases of brick clamps or possibly scove kilns.



- 3.5 Distorted/overfired bricks recovered from the site and dating to the late 18th to 19th-century are likely to be wasters from on-site brick production. This would suggest that the identified clamps date to this period. These clamps are of a similar date to, and may relate to the construction in 1797 of, the Wyrley and Essington Canal, which ran along the northern part of the site, immediately to the north of the area of identified industrial activity. The field labelled as Brick Kiln Piece on the 1847 Tithe Map lies immediately to the south-east of this area of industrial activity.
- 3.6 Wide and deep pits identified within trenches 3, 10, 13 and 14 probably represent quarry pits for localised clay extraction, presumably for use in the small scale brick/tile production identified within the north-eastern area of the site. Large amounts of charcoal, brick and tile fragments, including distorted/overfired bricks were recovered from the backfills of these features. These finds are indicative of waste material from the brick/tile manufacturing process and would further indicate that these two processes are broadly contemporary. However, due to the limited exposure of these pits their exact form and nature could not be determined and it remains possible that they may relate to other activities.
- 3.7 The trackway identified within trenches 1, 2 and 9 corresponds with the former course of Marsh Lane, first depicted on the 1884 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map and last depicted on the 1955 Ordnance Survey map. The uneven nature of the base of the holloway within Trench 2 and evidence from the geophysical survey in this area indicate possible quarrying at the base of the holloway, probably for extraction of sand. Within Trench 2 the trackway appears to have widened considerably due to the soft nature of the underlying geology and resulted in the gradual migration of the flanking ditches to the north-west and south-east. Brick fragments identified within the backfills of these ditches within Trench 9 may be related to brick/tile production identified to the south.
- 3.8 The ditches identified within Trenches 6 and 16 relate to agricultural activity and land division. Ditch 604 corresponds with a boundary depicted on the 1884 1st Edition OS map. Finds recovered from the respective fills of the remaining ditches were dated to the 18th century.
- 3.9 A modern machine cut service trench was identified within Trench 17.

#### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Stuart Joyce, assisted by Gary Baddeley, Sikko van de Brug, Jerry Stone and Aleksandra Osinska. The report was written by Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Stuart Joyce, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

#### 5. REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark brown silty sand. Friable, Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.4	
1	101	Deposit	102	Primary fill	Dark grey brown sandy silt, occasional rounded pebbles		7		
1	102	Cut		Holloway	Unexcavated		7.5		
1	103	Deposit	102	Secondary fill	Dark grey brown. Slightly sandy silt. Occasional small rounded pebble inclusions		1		
1	104	Layer		Natural	Light yellow and orange sand. Occasional rounded pebble inclusions				
1	105	Deposit	106	Single fill	Mid yellow brown silty sand		1		
1	106	Cut		Trackway ditch	Unexcavated		1		
1	107	Cut		Trackway ditch	Unexcavated		1		
1	108	Deposit	107	Single fill	Mid yellow brown silty sand		1		
2	200	Layer		Ploughsoil					
2	201	Layer		Natural					
2	202	Cut		Trackway ditch	moderately sloping, even sides, rounded base.		1.73	0.54	
2	203	Deposit	202	Single fill	Light grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		1.73	0.54	
2	204	Cut		Trackway ditch	Gently sloping, even sides, rounded base		1.65	0.33	
2	205	Deposit	204	Single fill	Light grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		1.65	0.33	
2	206	Cut		Trackway ditch	Gently to moderately sloping, even sides, truncated base		1.44	0.32	
2	207	Deposit	206	Primary fill	Dark grey brown, silty sand		0.28	0.07	
2	208	Deposit	206	Secondary fill	Light grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		1.44	0.22	C18
2	209	Cut		Trackway ditch	Gently sloping, even sides, truncated base		1.66	0.26	
2	210	Deposit	209	Single fill	Light grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		1.66	0.26	LC18-C19
2	211	Cut		Trackway ditch	Gradually sloping uneven sides		2.9	0.68	
2	212	Deposit	211	Primary fill	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		1.52	0.16	LC18-C19

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
2	213	Deposit	211	Secondary fill	Yellow and brown silty sand		1.48	0.28	
2	214	Deposit	211	Tertiary fill	Dark grey brown, silty sand		2.78	0.41	
2	215	Cut		Holloway	Moderately sloping, slightly irregular sides, rounded base		5.56	0.69	
2	216	Deposit	215	Primary fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt		3.59	0.3	C18
2	217	Deposit	215	Secondary fill	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		5.56	0.5	C19
3	300	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt				
3	301	Layer		Natural	Pink clay with lenses of sand. Occasional rounded pebbles				
3	302	Cut		Clay extraction pit	Machine slot excavated	>1.8	14	>1.2	
3	303	Deposit	302	Primary fill	Mid grey brown organic rich sandy silt	>1.8	>6	>1.2	
3	304	Deposit	302	Secondary fill	Pinky brown clay sand	>1.8	14	>1.2	C19
4	400	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown			0.5	
4	401	Layer		Natural	Mid to light yellow brown compact sand				
5	500	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown			0.4	
5	501	Layer		Natural	Mid to light yellow brown compact sand				
6	600	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.5	
6	601	Void		Void	Void				
6	602	Deposit		Bank Material?	Dark grey brown silty sand			0.1	
6	603	Deposit	604	Single fill	Dark grey brown silty sand		0.5	0.2	
6	604	Cut		Ditch	Moderately sloping, even sides, U-shaped profile rounded base.		0.5	0.2	
6	605	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand			0.1	
6	606	Cut		Ditch	Moderately sloping even sides, U-shaped profile. Flat to concave base		0.55	0.23	
6	607	Deposit	606	Single fill	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles		0.55	0.23	Pmed
6	608	Layer		Natural	Pinkish yellow sand				
7	700	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.35	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.15	
7	702	Layer		Natural	Mid red-brown sand				

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
8	800	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.4	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand. Occasional small rounded pebbles			0.2	
8	802	Layer		Natural	Mid red-brown sand				
9	900	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt, occasional rounded pebbles			0.4	
9	901	Layer		Natural	Light yellow, slightly clay, compact sand				
9	902	Cut		Trackway ditch	Moderately sloping even sides, broad V-shaped profile. Flat to concave base		2	0.55	
9	903	Deposit		Primary fill	Primary collapse, mid yellow sand		1.08	0.32	C18-C19
9	904	Deposit		Secondary fill	Secondary dumped deposit. Pinky red sand		0.57	0.12	
9	905	Deposit		Tertiary fill	Edge collapse/erosion deposit. Light yellow clay sand		1.07	0.12	
9	906	Deposit		Quaternary fill	Backfill deposit. Mid red, brick and tile fragments.		1.36	0.19	C18-C19
9	907	Cut		Trackway ditch	Moderately steep, slightly convex sides, slight asymmetry due to edge collapse, rounded base.		1.21	0.41	
9	908	Deposit		Primary fill	Edge collapse/erosion deposit. Light yellow clay sand		0.65	0.16	
9	909	Deposit		Secondary fill	Backfill deposit, light grey brown, silty clay		0.71	0.19	
9	910	Deposit		Tertiary fill	Edge collapse/erosion deposit. Light yellow clay sand		0.13	0.13	
9	911	Deposit		Quaternary fill	Backfill deposit, light grey brown, silty clay		0.19	0.17	
9	912	Deposit		Quinary fill	Backfill deposit, light slightly orange, grey brown, silty clay		1.21	0.14	
10	1000	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid grey brown, slightly sandy clay silt. Occasional small to medium sized rounded pebble inclusions			0.36	
10	1001	Layer		Natural	Pink brown clay. Moderate amounts of rounded pebbles				
10	1002	Cut		Land drain	Brick constructed land drain		0.84	>0.44	
10	1003	Deposit	1002	Backfill	Brick land drain. Sandy silt backfill		0.84	>0.44	
10	1004	Cut		Quarry pit	Clay extraction pit		26	>1.2	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
10	1005	Deposit	1004	Primary fill	Pink grey, clay sand		>5	>0.4	
10	1006	Deposit	1004	Secondary fill	Dark grey, coal, ash and silt				LC19
10	1007	Deposit	1004	Tertiary fill	Mid slightly orange grey brown sandy silt		26	0.28	
10	1008	Deposit		Charcoal spread	Dark grey brown, wood, ash and silt				C19
11	1100	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey clayey sand			0.3	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Orange brown clay sand			0.3	
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Cream/yellow sand				
12	1200	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand			0.4	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid to light orange brown sandy silt			0.15	
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Orange brown sandy clay				
12	1203	Layer		Heat affected natural	Orange sandy clay				
13	1300	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown clay sand			0.3	
13	1301	Layer		Natural	Pinkish plastic clay				
13	1302	Cut		Brick clamp	Rectangular in plan			Un excavated	
13	1303	Deposit	1302	Primary fill	Heat affected sand			Un excavated	
13	1304	Deposit	1304	Heat affected natural	Sandy clay			Un excavated	
13	1305	Deposit	1308	Primary fill	Yellow brown silty sand			Un excavated	
13	1306	Deposit	1308	Primary fill	Brick in silty sand matrix			Un excavated	
13	1307	Deposit	1308	Secondary fill	Mid yellow brown silty sand			Un excavated	
13	1308	Cut		Quarry pit	Clay extraction pit			Un excavated	
13	1309	Cut		Quarry pit	Clay extraction pit			Un excavated	
13	1310	Deposit	1309	Primary fill	Brick, tile and clinker in a mid-yellow brown silty sand matrix			Un excavated	
13	1311	Deposit	1309	Primary fill	Brick and charcoal in a id yellow brown silty sand matrix			Un excavated	
13	1312	Deposit	1309	Secondary fill	Mid yellow brown silty sand			Un excavated	C18
14	1400	Layer		Ploughsoil	Mid to dark grey-brown silty sand			0.4	
14	1401	Layer		Natural	Pink clayey sand with lenses of yellow sands				
14	1402	Deposit	1404	Single fill	Brick rubble in a brown silt matrix	>4	>1.8	>1.2	C18-C19
14	1403	Void		Void	Void				
14	1404	Cut		Quarry pit	NW/SE orientated cut.	>4	>1.8	>1.2	
15	1500	Layer		Ploughsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt, occasional rounded pebbles			0.6	
15	1501	Void		Void	Void				

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
15	1502	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand			0.15	
15	1503	Layer		Natural	Yellow brown sand, frequent small pebbles				
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil and turf	Mid grey brown sandy silt			0.3	
16	1601	Layer		subsoil	mid to dark red-brown silty sand			0.2	
16	1602	Cut		Ditch	Field system ditch. Moderately sloping sides, symmetrical profile. Slightly concave base	>1.6	1.02	0.55	
16	1603	Deposit	1602	Single fill	Mid red-brown sandy silt	>1.6	1.02	0.55	C18+
16	1604	Deposit	1605	Single fill	Red brick in a sandy silt matrix				C18
16	1605	Cut		Land drain	steep sides, flat base, symmetrical profile				
16	1606	Layer		Natural	Red sand, outcropping as sandstone in places				
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil and turf	Dark grey brown, organic rich sandy silt			0.25	
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey brown, sandy silt			0.15	
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Reddish brown sandy clay				
17	1703	Cut		Machine cut trench	Vertical sides. Base not reached		0.3		
17	1704	Deposit	1703	Fill	Single homogenous silty sand fill		0.3		
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil and turf	Dark grey brown slightly silty, organic rich fine to med sandy silt			0.25	
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Medium pinkish brown fine sandy silt. Occasional small rounded pebble inclusions			0.2	
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Medium to light pinkish brown sandy clay, with occasional pebble inclusions				
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown slightly silty, organic rich fine to med sandy silt			0.25	
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Medium pinkish brown fine sandy silt. Occasional small rounded pebble inclusions			0.15	
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Medium to light pinkish brown sandy clay, with occasional pebble inclusions				

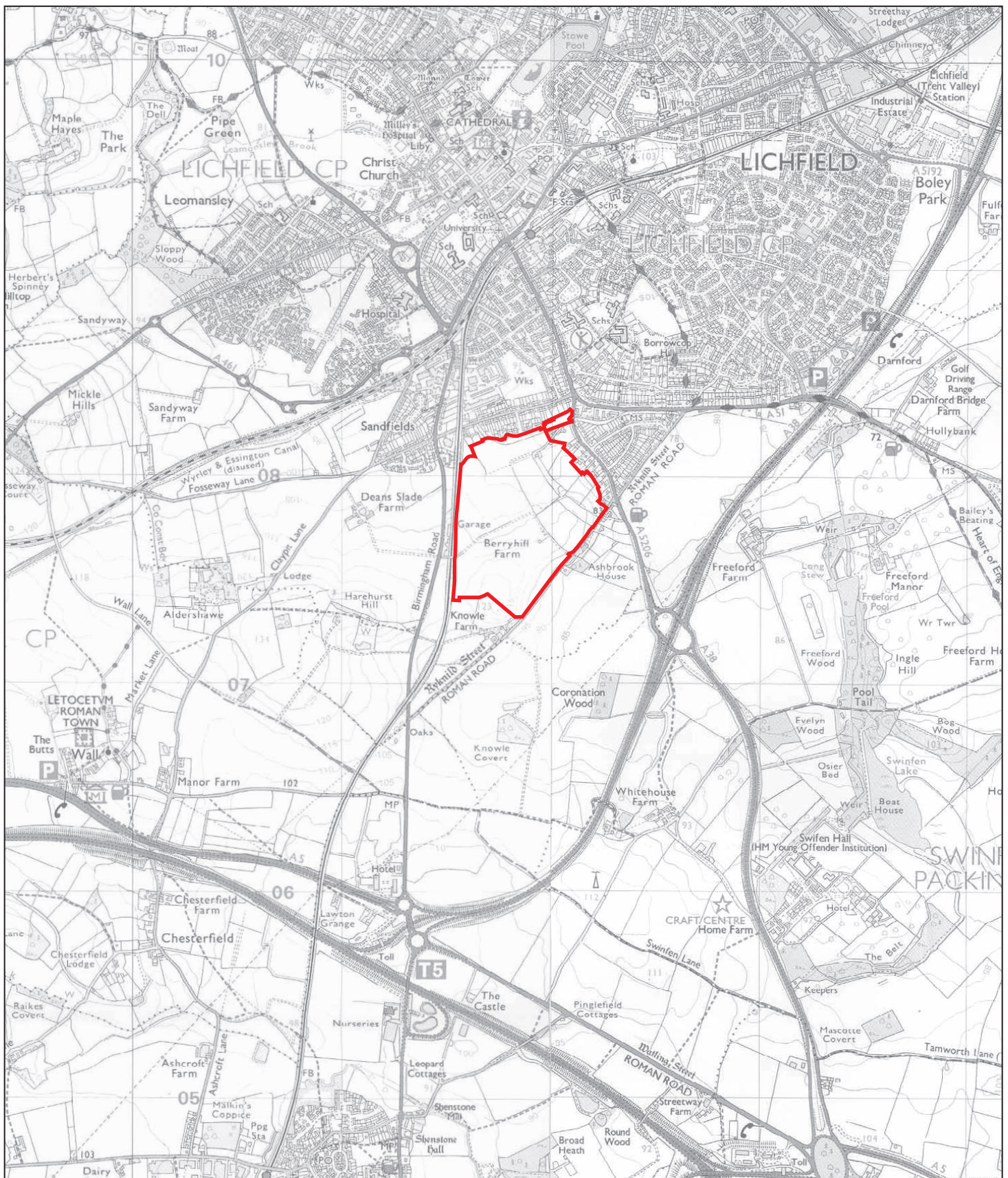
## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
208	Post-medieval/modern pottery: manganese-glazed earthenware; white salt-glaze stoneware (dot/diaper moulded plate); white salt-glazed stoneware (blue-in-filled)	6	62	C18
210	Post-medieval/modern pottery: black-glazed earthenware; refined whitewares; Nottingham/Derby stoneware Ceramic building material	4 2	62 70	LC18-C19
212	Post-medieval/modern pottery: creamware; black-glazed earthenware Ceramic building material: flat tile	4 1	30 106	LC18-C19
216	Roman pottery: greyware jar (abr) Post-medieval/modern pottery: brown-glazed earthenware Ceramic building material: flat tile	1 3 3	33 159 429	C18
217	Post-medieval/modern pottery: creamware; black-glazed earthenware; t-p decorated refined whitewares Ceramic building material: flat tile Glass: green bottle	5 2 1	186 154 280	C19
304	Post-medieval/modern pottery: unglazed earthenware (flowerpot); English stoneware	2	22	C19
607	Post-medieval/modern pottery: creamware; black-glazed earthenware Clay tobacco pipe: stem Ceramic building material	2 1 1	2 1 6	Pmed
903	Brick: distorted/overfired (4 x 2 1/2 inch)	2	3004	C18-C19
906	Brick: distorted/overfired (4 x 2 1/2 inch)	2	2729	C18-C19
1006	Modern pottery: English stoneware; English refined whitewares; Chinese porcelain Glass: clear jar; nat green lid; opaque 'milk glass' ornamental venetian basket vase (Sowerby, Gateshead; design registered 1878)	5 3	680 560	LC19
1008	Post-medieval glass: wine/spirits bottle glass Ceramic building material: flat tile	1 1	143 25	C19
1009	Post-medieval brick	1	495	pmed
1312	Post-medieval/modern pottery: white salt-glaze stoneware; tin-glaze earthenwares	3	10	C18
1402	Brick: distorted (9 x 4 x 2 1/2 inch)	1	2757	C18-C19
1603	Post-medieval/modern pottery: black-glaze earthenwares Post-medieval glass: wine/spirits bottle glass Ceramic building material: flat tile	1 1 3	60 22 138	C18+
1604	Post-medieval/modern pottery: white salt-glaze stoneware (dot/diaper moulded plate); black-glaze earthenwares Ceramic building material: flat tile Post-medieval glass: wine/spirits bottle glass; string-moulded rim Fe. object: knife blade fragment Animal bone: cattle lumbar vertebra and coxae fragment	7 1 1 1 2	628 312 98 - 154	C18



## APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land south of Lichfield, Staffordshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2013 at land south of Lichfield, Staffordshire. A total of 19 trenches was excavated.</p> <p>Industrial activity relating to clay extraction and the production of brick and tile was identified within the north-eastern quarter of the site. A total of five large pits interpreted as clay extraction pits and the bases of two brick clamps were recorded. A trackway was identified within the northern half of the site dating to the post-medieval period, although it may have earlier origins.</p> <p>Post-medieval/modern ditches relating to agricultural activity and land division were also identified.</p>	
Project dates	20 to 28 May 2013	
Project type	Archaeological field evaluation	
Previous work	CA 2011 Heritage Desk-Based Assessment Pre-Construct Geophysics 2011 Geophysical Survey	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land south of Lichfield, Staffordshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	45ha	
Site co-ordinates	SK 1187 0780	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Staffordshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Stuart Joyce	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
None		
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
None		
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	Not retained
Paper	The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery / 2013.LH.28	WSI, pro forma registers, recording forms
Digital	The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery / 2013.LH.28	Digital photographs, digital survey data
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>Land south of Lichfield: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>13373</b>		



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land south of Lichfield  
 Staffordshire

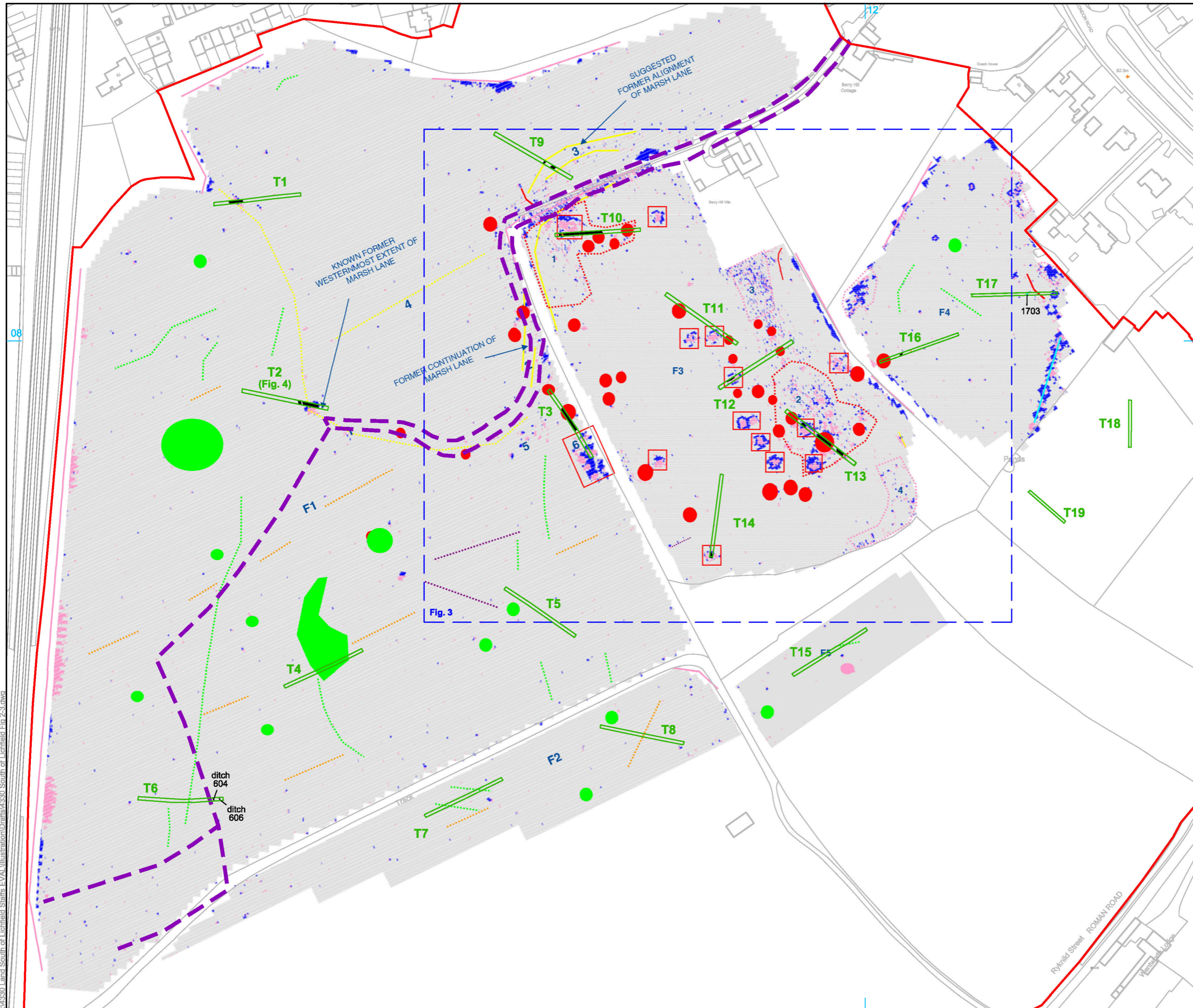
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

0 1km

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PROJECT NO. 4330 DATE 30-05-2013  
 DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00  
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.  
**1**



- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern feature
- field drain
- former course of Marsh Lane and field boundaries as depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884

**Geophysical Survey Results (PCG 2011)**

- MAX 10 nT  
MIN -10 nT
- Typically modern (rubble, metal objects/fencing etc)
  - Most archaeological features produce weak magnetic anomalies within this range (e.g. ditches/pits). Exceptions include fired material (e.g. tile/pottery, kilns, hearths and other sites subject to intense heat).
  - Typically modern (rubble, metal objects/fencing etc)
- Potential pit/pits
  - potential site of burning (kilns?)
  - Potential ditch
  - Former boundary (historic maps)
  - Probable cultivation
  - Potential land drain
  - Probable natural response (examples)



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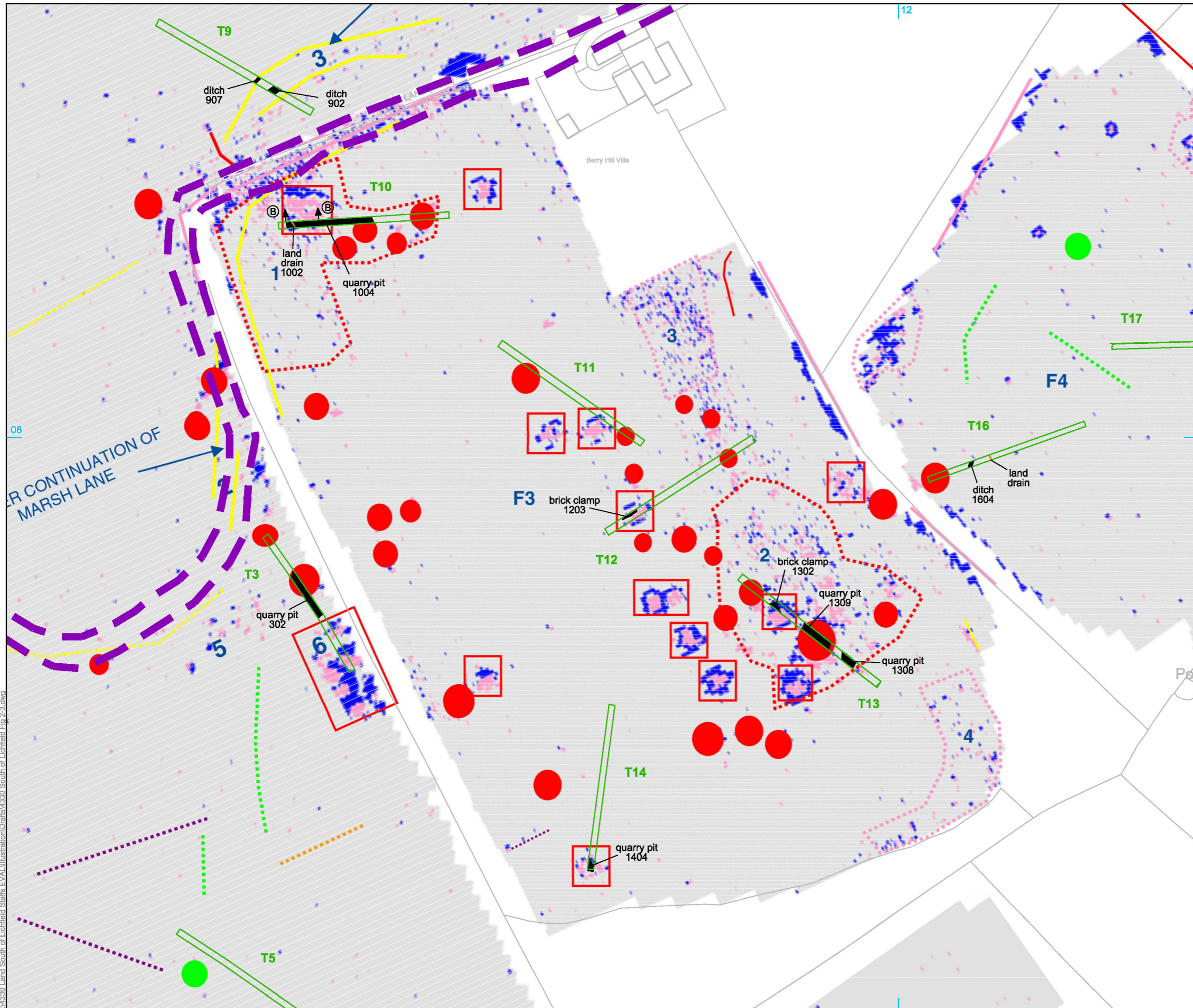
**Cotswold Archaeology**  
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 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land south of Lichfield  
 Staffordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan, showing  
 archaeological features, historic  
 mapping and geophysical survey results

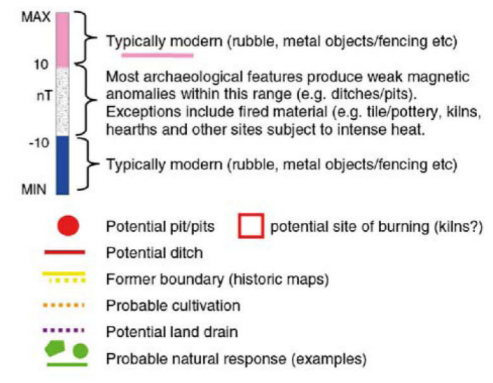
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DRAWN BY	LG	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:2000	

P:\4330 Land South of Lichfield Staffs EVA\Illustration\Drawings\4330 South of Lichfield Fig 2-3.dwg



- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern feature
- field drain
- former course of Marsh Lane and field boundaries as depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884

**Geophysical Survey Results (PCG 2011)**



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land south of Lichfield  
Staffordshire

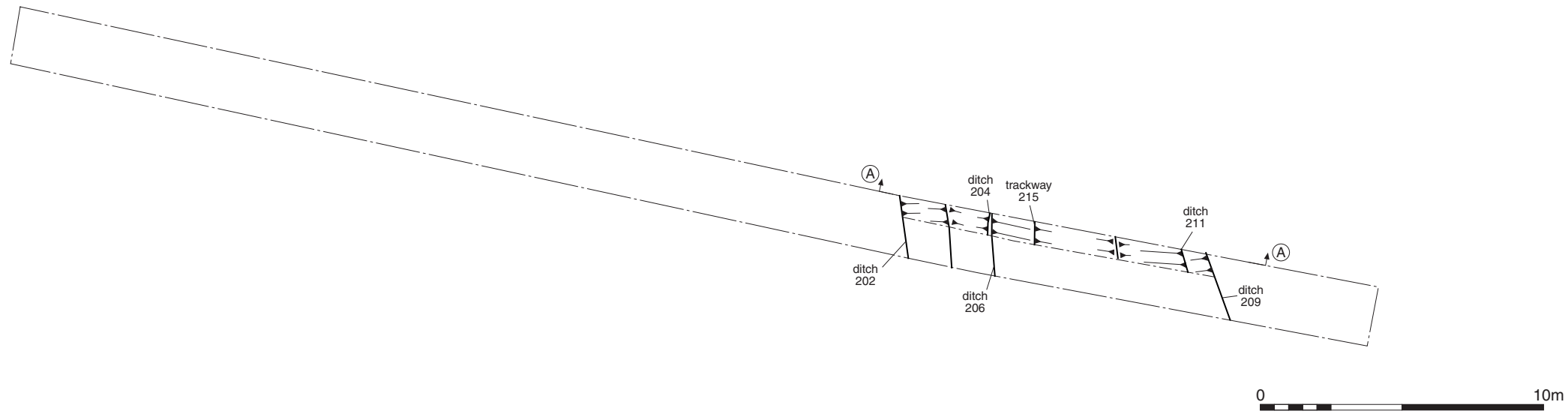
**FIGURE TITLE**  
Trench location plan, showing area of industrial activity

PROJECT NO.	4330	DATE	25-06-2013	FIGURE NO.	3
DRAWN BY	LG	REVISION	00		
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:1000		

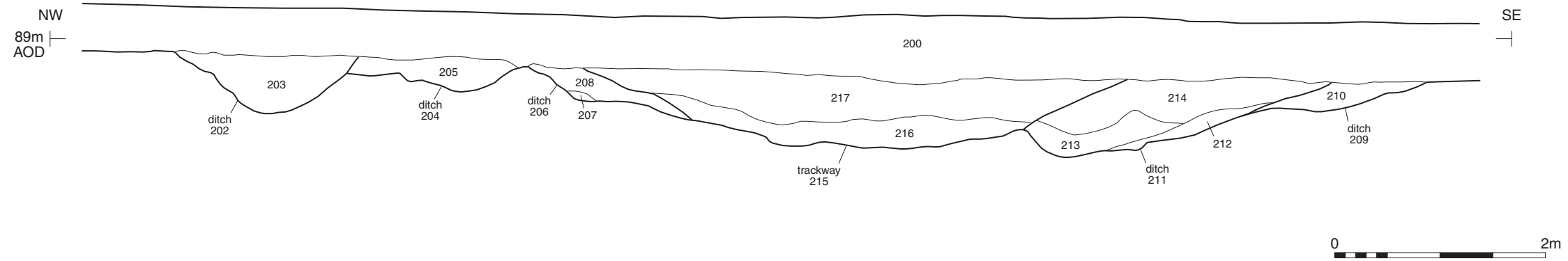
P:\4330 Land South of Lichfield Staffs EVA\Illustration\Drawings\4330 South of Lichfield Fig 2-3.dwg



Trench 2: plan



Section AA



Trench 2: view of trackway 215 and ditches 202, 204, 206, 209 and 211, looking east (scale 1m)



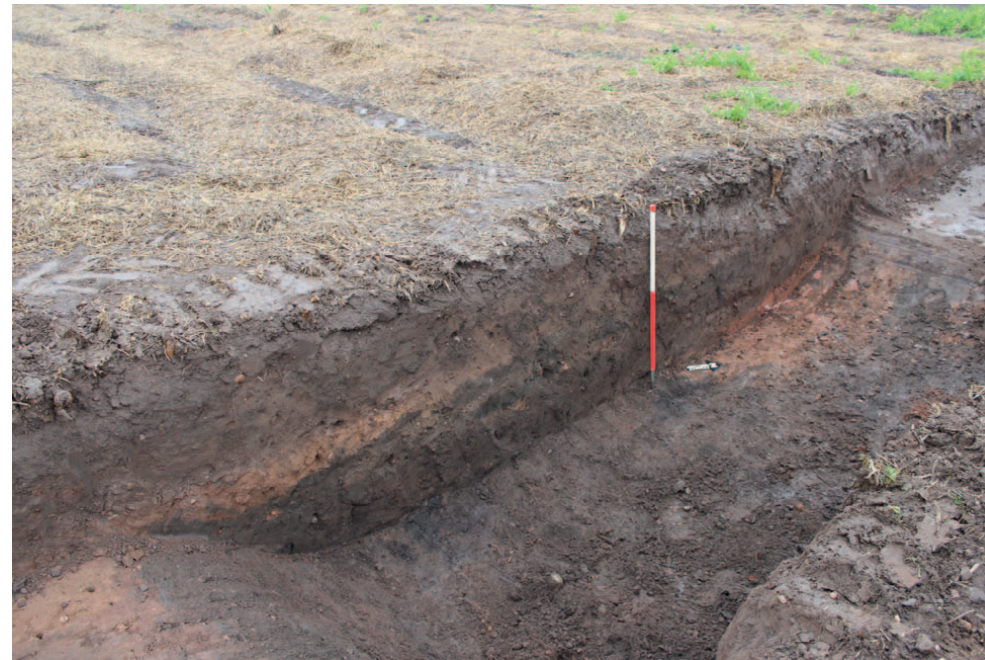

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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land south of Lichfield  
 Staffordshire

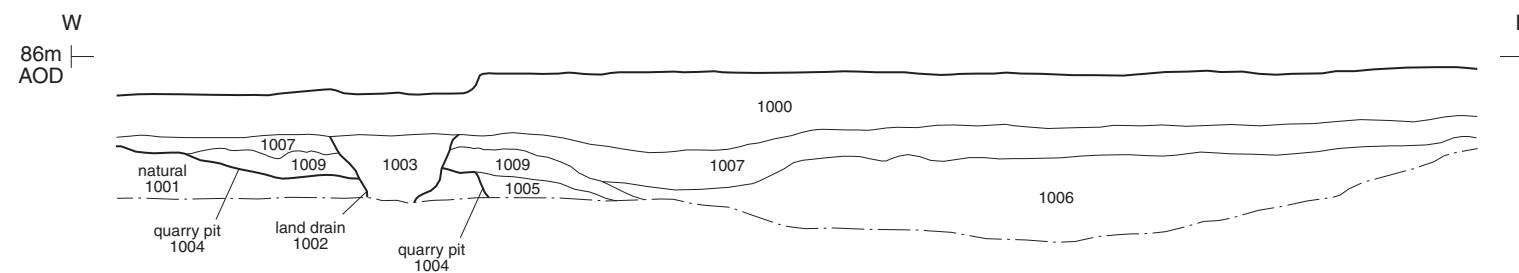
FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 2: plan, section and photograph**

PROJECT NO. 4330	DATE 30-05-2013	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY LG	REVISION 00	4
APPROVED BY PJM	SCALE@A3 1:50 & 1:20	

Trench 3: view of quarry pit 302, looking west (scale 1m)



Trench 10: section BB



Trench 10: view of quarry pit 1004 and land drain 1002, looking north-west (scale 1m)



0 2m

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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land south of Lichfield  
 Staffordshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 3: photograph**  
**Trench 10: section and photograph**

PROJECT NO.	4330	DATE	25-06-2013	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	LG	REVISION	00	<b>5</b>
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:50	

Trench 12: view of brick/tile clamp base 1203, looking north-east (scale 1m)



Trench 13: view of brick/tile clamp base 1302, looking south-west (scale 1m)



Trench 13: view of quarry pit 1309, looking south-east (scale 1m)

