

**Broadway Farm
Down Ampney
Gloucestershire**

Archaeological Evaluation



for

The Co-Operative Estates


CA Project: 4372
CA Report: 13414

June 2013

Broadway Farm
Down Ampney
Gloucestershire

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CA Project: 4372
CA Report: 13414

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signed	
date	5 July 2013
issue	01

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Broadway Farm
Location:	Down Ampney, Gloucestershire
NGR:	SU 1023 9738
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	17-19 June 2013
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Corinium Museum
Site Code:	BWD 13

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2013 at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire. Three trenches were excavated.

The evaluation revealed a pit within the south-east corner of the site which contained a sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 11th-13th centuries and a fragment of cow rib with a visible cutmark, indicating butchery. Across the northern part of site four shallow ditches and a more substantial one interpreted as a former field boundary were identified, all of which were undated.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation at the request of The Co-Operative Estates on land at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SU 1023 9738; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a proposed planning application to Cotswold District Council (CDC) for development of the site.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2013) and approved by Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), archaeological advisor to CDC. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Field Work in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1996), 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).

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area encloses an area of 2.4ha, and comprises a farmyard with derelict agricultural buildings and areas of open grassland to the north and east of the farmyard. The site is bounded to the north-east and south-east by Charlham Way a minor thoroughfare, to the north-west by open grassland and to the south-west by neighbouring properties and a playground and tennis court. The site is relatively flat and lies at approximately 87m AOD. The area to be evaluated was restricted to the north and east of the site, the south and west of the site having been evaluated in 2004.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone of the Jurassic era, with superficial deposits of Summertown-Radley Sand and Gravel Member sand and gravel from the Quaternary period (BGS 2013). A mixed natural comprising bluey grey clay and yellowish brown sandy gravel was observed within all of the evaluation trenches.

Archaeological background

- 1.5 A desk-based assessment of land at the Down Ampney estate was carried out in 2008 (Scott Wilson 2008). The site at Broadway Farm is located within the search area covered by that assessment. The study identified evidence of prehistoric and later settlement activity in the area from cropmarks, aerial photographs and previous fieldwork. Sites and find spots of prehistoric to medieval date were identified in the immediate vicinity of Broadway Farm. Bronze Age features in close proximity to the site included a probable round barrow located approximately 330m to the north-west and the find spot of two loop-sided Bronze spear heads found in 1910, approximately 150m to the south of the site. A cropmark located 600m west of the site may represent a prehistoric or Romano-British enclosure or field system whilst a further cropmark enclosure located approximately 500m north-east of the site, is believed to represent an Iron Age or Romano-British farmstead. Medieval features, including gravel pits located approximately 380m north-west of the site and earthwork enclosures located 500m south-west of the site, were also identified, along with numerous undated cropmarks which may represent trackways and enclosures of prehistoric to medieval date.
- 1.6 The DBA identified three scheduled ancient monuments, located to the south of Broadway farm. One, approximately 1.35km directly south of the site, comprises a possible Neolithic causewayed enclosure (ref. no. 1003446) The others, located 2km south of the site, comprises a Roman settlement consisting of enclosures, field boundaries, pits and a trackway seen as cropmarks, along with a substantial building which may represent the site of a Roman villa (ref. no. 1004689 and 1004690).
- 1.7 Subsequently to the DBA, an archaeological evaluation, encompassing topographic survey and trial trenching of land at the Down Ampney Estate approximately 1.8km to the south and south-east of the site, was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2009 (CA 2009). The evaluation identified prehistoric activity from limited, dispersed, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age artefacts across the site. No firm evidence was encountered for actual settlement foci pre-dating the Iron Age. A well preserved Late Iron Age to late Roman complex of ditched enclosures, with associated trackway/droeway, was identified at Down Ampney airfield (located 1.5km south of the site).

- 1.8 An archaeological evaluation of the southern portion of the site proposed for development at Broadway Farm was carried out in 2004 (CA 2004). The evaluation identified a series of shallow linear features; 12th to 13th-century pottery recovered from two of these features suggests they may form part of a medieval field system.
- 1.9 An archaeological geophysical gradiometer survey of the site at Broadway Farm has been carried out (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2013). The survey identified magnetic variation mostly reflecting recent and modern activity and features, including a buried service, metal fencing, and miscellaneous ferrous-rich materials or objects. However a number of relatively weak responses in the eastern part of the site exhibited some potential as being indicative of pits and ditches.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.10 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 CDC 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

- 1.11 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 3 trenches 30m long and 1.8m wide, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The evaluation trenches were positioned to examine potential archaeological features identified during the preceding geophysical survey, and provided a 2% sample of the 0.9ha that had not been previously evaluated. 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).
- 1.12 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).

- 1.13 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), 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).
- 1.14 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 Corinium Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 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. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) appear in Appendix C.
- 2.2 A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was observed within the evaluation trenches. The natural geological substrate (102, 202 and 302) consisting of a mix of bluey grey clay and yellowish brown sandy gravel, was revealed at a depth of between 0.57m and 0.82m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by a mix of a mid orangey brown and greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (101, 201 and 301) between 0.29m and 0.48m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by approximately 0.3m of dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (100, 200 and 300). All archaeological features were cut in to the natural substrate and covered by subsoil.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

- 2.3 Located towards the centre of the trench two shallow ditches were identified. Both ditches were of similar depth, width and profile (averaging 1m wide and 0.25m deep). Ditch 103 was aligned north-east/south-west and contained one fill, 104.

Ditch 105 was aligned north/south and also contained one fill, 106. No finds were recovered from either ditch. The locations of these ditches do not correspond to geophysical anomalies.

Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.4 Within Trench 2 three ditches were identified, two of which were shallow. Ditch 204 was similar in depth, width and profile to those identified in Trench 1 (1.11m wide and 0.22m deep). The ditch was aligned north-west/south-east, contained one fill, 203, and did not correspond to any geophysical anomalies. Ditch 206 was similar in width but much deeper (1.18m wide and 0.57m deep), and was also aligned north-west/south-east containing one fill 205. Ditch 208 was aligned north-east/south-west and was fairly shallow measuring 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep with one fill 207. The south-west side of ditch 206 and both sides of ditch 208 were fairly irregular, which therefore could be explained as root action as both of these ditches corresponded approximately to geophysical anomalies identified as recent field boundaries. No finds were recovered from any of these ditches.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.5 A possible pit, 303, was identified towards the northern end of Trench 3, and was only partially observed against the eastern limit of excavation. The pit was approximately 1.42m in diameter and 0.69m deep and contained two fills. Two sherds of medieval pottery dating to the 11th-13th centuries was recovered from the lower fill 304 and a fragment of animal bone with a visible cutmark, indicating butchery was recovered from the upper fill 305.

The finds and palaeoenvironmental evidence

- 2.6 Two sherds of Cotswolds-type oolitic limestone-tempered ware (F202; Ireland 1998, 103) were recovered from pit fill 304. They are base sherds, probably from a jar. This medieval pottery fabric is commonly found throughout the Cotswolds and dates to the 11th-13th centuries.
- 2.7 One fragment of cow rib was recovered from pit fill 305. There was one cutmark visible, indicating butchery.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The evaluation revealed a possible pit within Trench 3 from which two sherds of medieval pottery dating to the 11th-13th centuries was recovered. The function of this pit is unknown however it is possible that this pit was associated with the shallow ditches identified within the previous archaeological evaluation of the southern portion of the site carried out in 2004. This evaluation identified a series of shallow linear features which for the most part these remained undated, although 12th-13th century pottery recovered from two of these features suggests they may form part of a medieval field system (CA 2004). The four shallow ditches identified during the current evaluation are similar to those found within the previous archaeological evaluation in 2004 and are therefore likely to also form part of the medieval field system.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Reynish, assisted by Hazel O'Neill and Christopher Watts. The report was written by Sian Reynish, with the finds report by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Jonathan Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Sian Reynish, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2011 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 20 June 2013

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2004 *Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **04128**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *Land at the Down Ampney Estate, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **09069**

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Ireland, C.A. 1998. 'The Pottery' in Wilkinson, D. and McWhirr. A. *Cirencester Anglo-Saxon Church and Medieval Abbey*, 98-140. Cirencester. Cotswold Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Pre-Construct Geophysics 2013 *Archaeological Geophysical Survey: Land at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire*

Scott Wilson 2008 *Land at the Down Ampney Estate: Cultural Heritage Desk Based Assessment*



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		topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt	30	1.8	0.3	
1	101	Layer		subsoil	mix of a mid orangey brown and greyish brown clayey silt	30	1.8	0.35	
1	102	Layer		natural substrate	mix of a bluey grey clay and yellowish brown sandy gravel	30	1.8		
1	103	Cut		cut of ditch	cut of NE/SW shallow ditch	>3.07	1.23	0.27	
1	104	Fill	103	fill of ditch	mid yellowish grey silty clay	>3.07	1.23	0.27	
1	105	Cut		cut of ditch	cut of N/S shallow ditch	>1.9	0.83	0.23	
1	106	Fill	105	fill of ditch	mid yellowish grey silty clay	>1.9	0.83	0.23	
2	200	Layer		topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt	30	1.8	0.35	
2	201	Layer		subsoil	mix of a mid orangey brown	30	1.8	0.48	
2	202	Layer		natural substrate	mix of a bluey grey clay and yellowish brown sandy gravel	30	1.8	>0.08	
2	203	Fill	204	fill of ditch	mid reddish brown silty clay	>2.32	1.11	0.22	
2	204	Cut		cut of ditch	cut of NW/SE shallow ditch terminus	>2.32	1.11	0.22	
2	205	Fill	206	fill of ditch	mid orangey brown silty clay	>1.8	0.18	0.57	
2	206	Cut		cut of ditch	cut of NW/SE possible boundary ditch	>1.8	0.18	0.57	
2	207	Fill	208	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay	>1.8	0.5	0.16	
2	208	Cut		cut of ditch	cut of NW/SE shallow ditch	>1.8	0.5	0.16	
3	300	Layer		topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey silt	30	1.8	0.28	
3	301	Layer		subsoil	mix of a mid orangey brown and greyish brown clayey silt	30	1.8	0.29	
3	302	Layer		natural substrate	mix of a bluey grey clay and yellowish brown sandy gravel	30	1.8	>0.07	
3	303	Cut		cut of pit	cut of possible pit against eastern limit of excavation	1.42	>0.5	0.69	
3	304	Fill	303	fill of pit	mid yellowish/greyish brown sandy silt	>0.51	>0.3	0.4	11th-13th centuries
3	305	Fill	303	fill of pit	mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt with bluey grey clay lenses	1.42	>0.5	0.29	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
304	Medieval pottery: oolitic limestone-tempered ware (fabric F202)	2	64	11th-13th centuries
305	Animal bone: cow rib	1	12	

APPENDIX C: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES

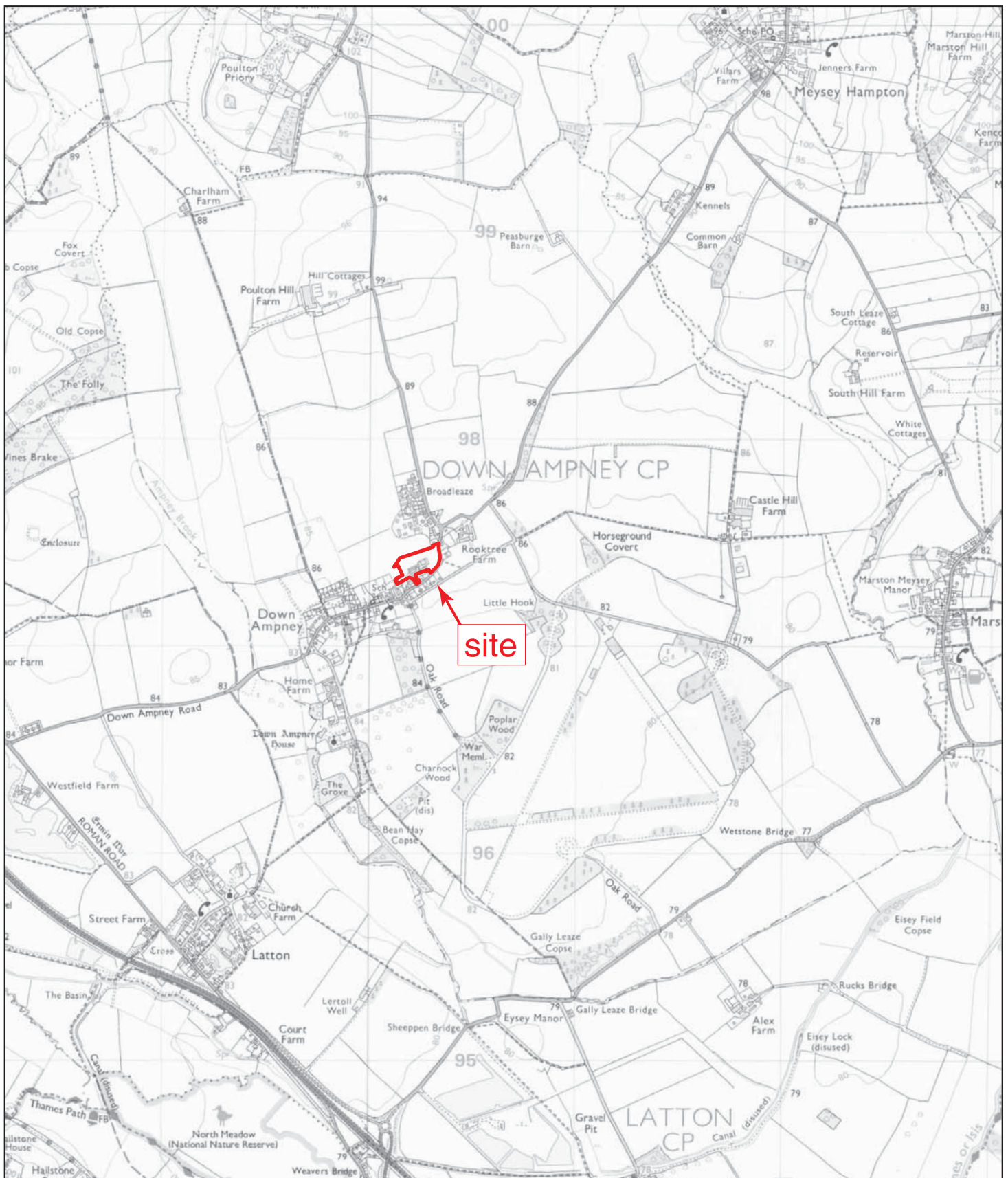
Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), calculated using GPS survey data.

	Trench 1	Trench 2	Trench 3
Current ground level	0.00m (86.97m)	0.00m (86.74m)	0.00m (86.22m)
Top of archaeological features	0.65m (86.32m)	0.82m (85.92m)	0.57m (85.65m)

Upper figures are depth below modern ground level; lower figures in parentheses are metres AOD.

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2013 at Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire. Three trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation revealed a pit within the south-east corner of the site which contained a sherd of medieval pottery dating to the 11th-13th centuries and a fragment of cow rib with a visible cutmark, indicating butchery. Across the northern part of site four shallow ditches and a more substantial one interpreted as a former field boundary were identified, all of which were undated.</p>	
Project dates	17-19 June 2013	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Evaluation (CA 2004) Geophysical Survey (Pre-construct Geophysics 2013)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire	
Study area	2.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	SU 1023 9738	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Gloucester County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Corinium Museum	Pottery and animal bone
Paper	Corinium Museum	Trench sheets, context sheets, sections, digital photograph register matrices
Digital	Corinium Museum	Digital plan and digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>Broadway Farm, Down Ampney, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 13414</p>		



0 1km

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PROJECT TITLE

Broadway Farm, Down Ampney
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

PROJECT NO. 4372 DATE 03-07-2013
 DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1

975

geophysics key (Pre-Construct Geophysics, 2013)

- Potential pit
- Potential ditch
- Recent boundary
- Service
- Typically modern (rubble, metal objects/fencing etc)

974

973

SU



- site
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- previous evaluation trench (CA 2012)



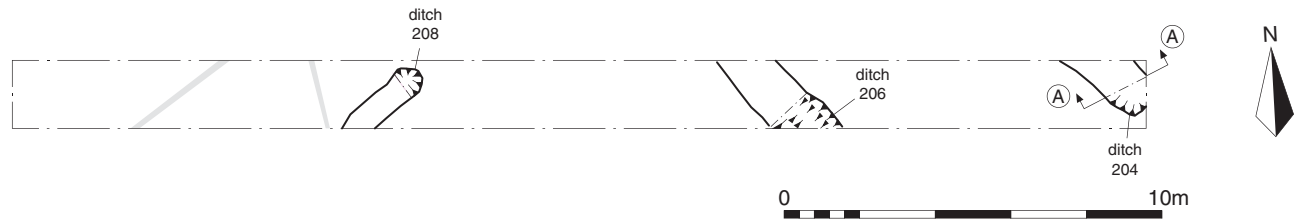
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PROJECT TITLE
**Broadway Farm, Down Ampney
 Gloucestershire**

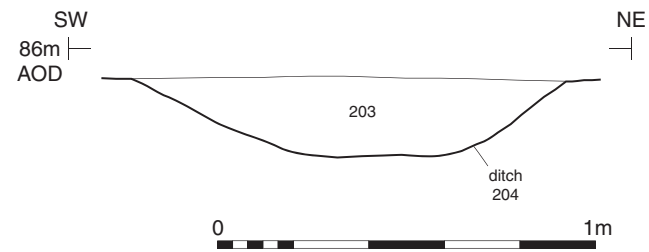
FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results**

PROJECT NO.	4372	DATE	03-07-2013	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:1250	

Trench 2, plan



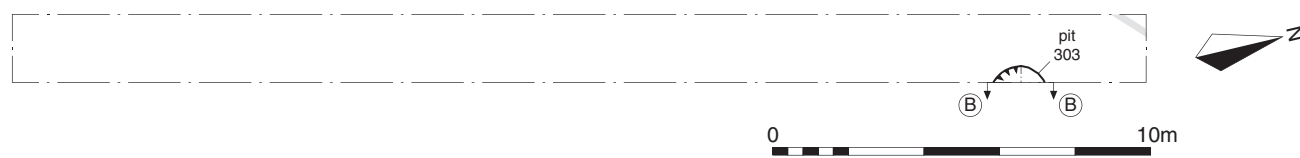
Trench 2, section AA



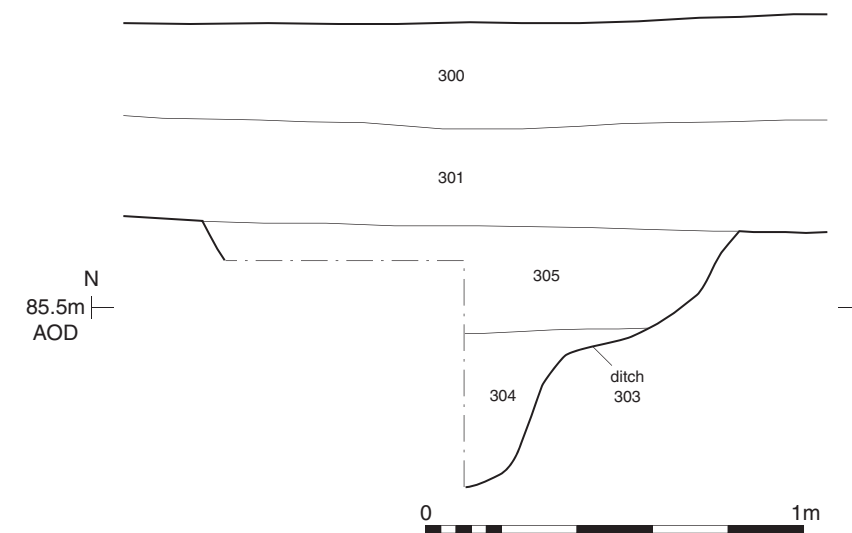
Trench 2, ditch 204, looking north-west (scale 1m)

- archaeological feature
- modern

Trench 3, plan



Trench 3, section BB



Trench 3, ditch 303, looking east (scale 1m)

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 2 and 3; plans, sections
 and photographs**

PROJECT NO. 4372 DATE 03-07-2013 FIGURE NO.
 DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A3 1:200 and 1:20 **3**