Cotswold Archaeology

Land at Leintwardine
Herefordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

for

Heritage Collective

on behalf of

LWD Developments LLP

CA Project: 5037
CA Report: 14433

September 2014

Land at Leintwardine
Herefordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 5037
CA Report: 14433

prepared by	Steven Sheldon, Project Officer
date	22 September 2014
checked by	Cliff Bateman, Principal Fieldwork Manager
date	26 September 2014
approved by	Laurent Coleman, Principal Fieldwork Manager
signed	
date	29 September 2014
issue	01

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land at Leintwardine
Location:	Herefordshire
NGR:	SO 40748 74016
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	15-19 September 2014
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre
Accession Number:	2014-50
Site Code:	LEI 14

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2014 on land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire. Nineteen trenches were excavated.

An undated ditch/gully terminal was identified in Trench 17. Evidence of modern dumping was identified in the far north-western corner and the central parts of the site. No further archaeological features or deposits were identified during the evaluation.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2014 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Heritage Collective, on behalf of LWD Developments LLP, on land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire (centred on NGR: SO 40748 74016; Fig. 1). A planning application for housing development has been made to Herefordshire Council (HC). Following the preparation of a desk-based assessment (Heritage Collective 2014a) and a watching brief during geotechnical works (L-P Archaeology 2014), Julian Cotton, Archaeological Advisor, HC, has recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken prior to determination of the application.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by Heritage Collective (2014b) that was approved by Julian Cotton. 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 Cotton, including site visits on 16, 17 and 18 September 2014.

The site

1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 2.7ha in extent and comprises two fields currently under pasture. The site is bounded by fields to the north and east, by residential housing to the west and by Rosemary Lane to the south. The site lies at approximately 132m AOD at its north-western boundary with ground levels sloping down to approximately 120m AOD at its south-eastern extent.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Lower Elton Formation, Middle Elton Formation and Upper Elton Formation, sedimentary mudstone of the Silurian Period (BGS 2014). No superficial geology is identified for the majority of the site, although alluvial deposits are recorded at, or close to, the eastern boundary of the site (ibid.). The natural substrate identified during the evaluation comprised mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand.

Archaeological background

1.5 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site and its immediate surroundings has been carried out in support of the application (Heritage Collective 2014a). A brief summary of findings set out in this document is given below:

1.6 No entries for the earlier prehistoric period are recorded by HC Historic Environment Record (HER) within the site or its immediate area. However, a number of entries dating to the Bronze Age and Iron Age are recorded in the immediate vicinity, including Bronze Age barrows as well as an area of occupation within the current village of Leintwardine. A single pit containing prehistoric pottery, representing fragments of an urn, has previously been uncovered at Swan House, Watling Street, Leintwardine. Iron Age activity is focussed to the south of the application site at Brandon Camp, a univallate hillfort and scheduled monument, in which a number of enclosures have been excavated. In addition, cropmarks in the fields surrounding the application site have revealed evidence for possible later prehistoric enclosures (ibid.).

1.7 In the Roman period a major road, Watling Street West, was constructed through the Welsh Marches along which a number of forts were constructed, including Jay Lane fort approximately 1km to the north-west of the current site. A civilian settlement was constructed in the present position of the village of Leintwardine in the 1st century, potentially to serve the fort at Jay Lane. In AD 160 the settlement was reconstructed as a military supply fort along the Roman road from Caerleon to Wroxeter. A number of excavations within the village of Leintwardine have identified extensive Roman remains. While there has been no evidence to date for extra mural activity to the east of the village (where the application site is located), archaeological excavations to the north of the village illustrate the potential for occupation, albeit this is likely to be focussed around the Roman road. The Roman settlement and subsequent supply fort are protected as a Scheduled Monument (National Monument 1005522: Roman station at Bravinium). The current site lies outwith the Scheduled Monument (ibid)..

1.8 Following the Roman period, the fort was abandoned and, although there is little evidence for Saxon activity within the area, it must have been reoccupied at some point, as illustrated by its inclusion in the 1086 Domesday Survey (ibid.).

1.9 Following the Norman invasion, the village of Leintwardine continued to grow and develop from probable Anglo-Saxon origins. A possible motte and bailey castle was constructed approximately 600m to the north-east of the application site and the church of St Mary Magdalene, located 250m to the west, dates to at least the 13th-century and may possibly be earlier. Extensive archaeological dating to the medieval period have also been uncovered within the village. In addition, evidence for medieval field systems represented by lynchet earthworks and ploughed out field systems are also present across the study area (ibid.).

1.10 Cartographic evidence indicates that the current site was occupied by agricultural fields from the early 19th-century onwards, the boundaries of which have remained unchanged (ibid.).

Archaeological objectives

1.11 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 HCl 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

1.12 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 19 trenches, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). All trenches, with the exception of Trench 2, measured 20m in length and 1.8m in width. Trench 2 measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width. A number of trenches were, with the approval of Julian Cotton, moved slightly from their original positions due to their proximity to overhead power lines and public footpaths,. 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).

1.13 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* (2013).

1.14 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).

1.15 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The site archive will be deposited with Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre under accession number 2014-50. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, 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 are to be found in Appendix A.

2.2 The natural substrate identified in each of the excavated trenches comprised mid orange-brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand. Typically it was overlain by between 0.1m and 0.51m of subsoil which was itself overlain by topsoil. However, in Trenches 15 and 18 the natural substrate was overlain by sterile sand silt deposits, ranging between 0.25m and 0.55m in thickness, which most probably represent episodes of colluviation. These deposits were subsequently overlain by subsoil that was itself sealed by topsoil. In Trenches 7-11 and 16 the subsoil was overlain by sequences of dumped deposits containing modern brick fragments, concrete fragments and plastic. These deposits were in turn overlain by topsoil.

Trench 17 (Figs 2 & 3)

2.3 Narrow, shallow ditch/gully terminal 1704 was identified towards the centre of the trench cutting natural sands and gravels 1702. It was aligned north-west/south-east, had a 'U'-shaped profile and contained a single undated fill, 1703, that was sealed by subsoil 1701.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 The evaluation identified a single, undated ditch/gully terminal within Trench 17. Due to the seemingly isolated nature of this feature, coupled with the lack of dating evidence, its exact function remains unclear.

3.2 Despite the close proximity of Roman and medieval remains, identified during previous archaeological fieldwork in the village of Leintwardine (see A*rchaeological Background* above), no evidence of further Roman or medieval activity was exposed by the current evaluation.

3.3 Demonstrably modern dumped deposits were identified in Trenches 7-11 and 16. Although unproven, these deposits are most probably associated with the construction of the modern houses located immediately to the west of the proposed development area.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Steven Sheldon, assisted by Michael Joyce and Jon Pick. The report was written by Steven Sheldon. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Steven Sheldon, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 22 September 2014

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Heritage Collective 2014b *Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire, SY7 0NW: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, Heritage Collective Report

Heritage Collective 2014b *Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

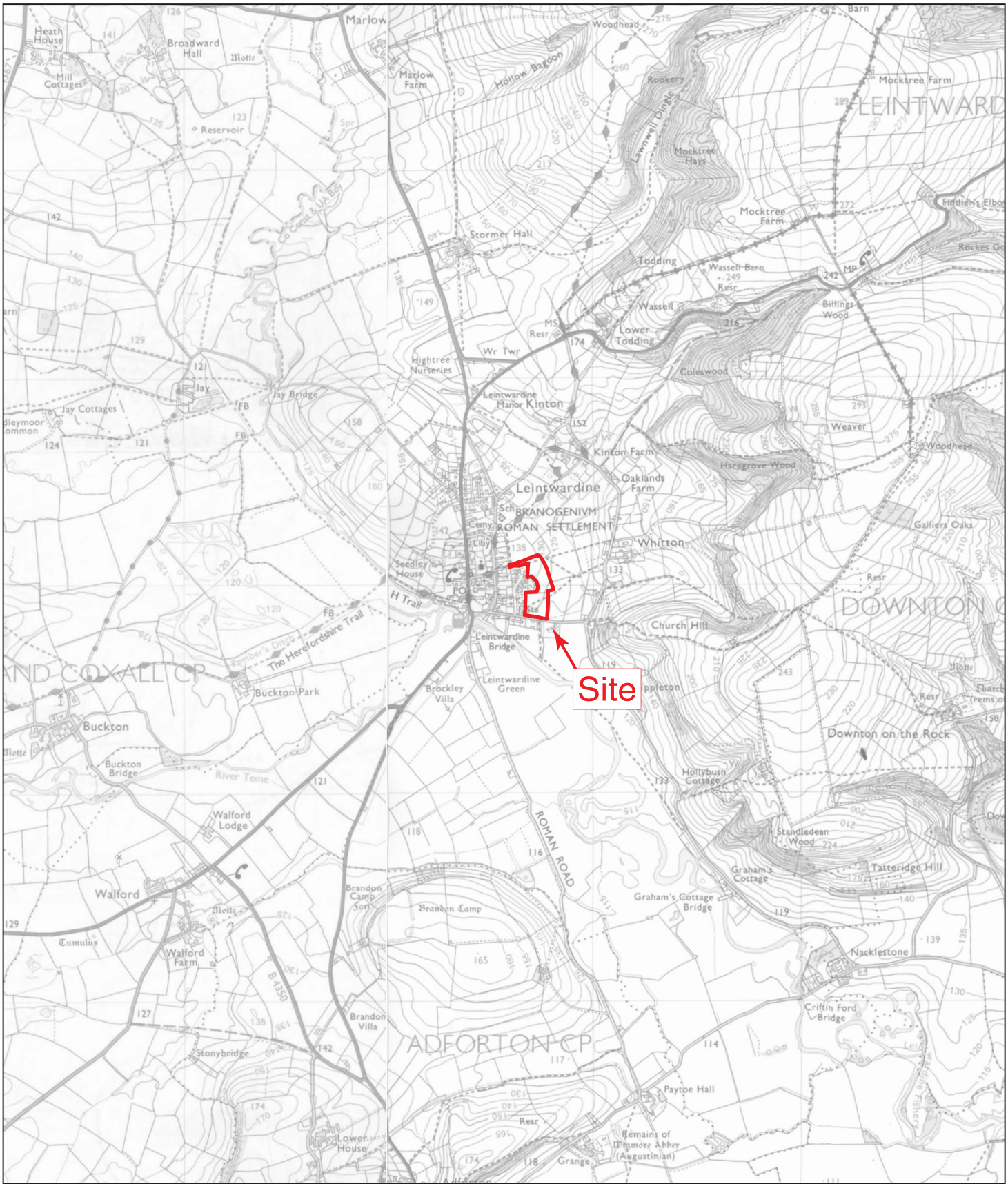
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.12	
1	102	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>10	>1.8	0.26	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>10	>1.8	0.1	
2	202	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>10	>1.8	>0.3	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.14	
3	302	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.19	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.51	
4	402	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.1	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.16	
5	502	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.26	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.18	
6	602	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.3	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
7	701	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with frequent modern CBM, concrete and plastic inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.32	
7	702	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.08	
7	703	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.24	
8	801	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with frequent modern CBM, concrete and plastic inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.38	
8	802	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.18	
8	803	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.7	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.3	
9	901	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with frequent modern CBM, concrete and plastic inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.2	
9	902	Layer		Modern make-up	Dark grey brown clay sand with frequent concrete, plastic and metal inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.55	
9	903	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.22	
9	904	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of	>20	>1.8	>0.4	

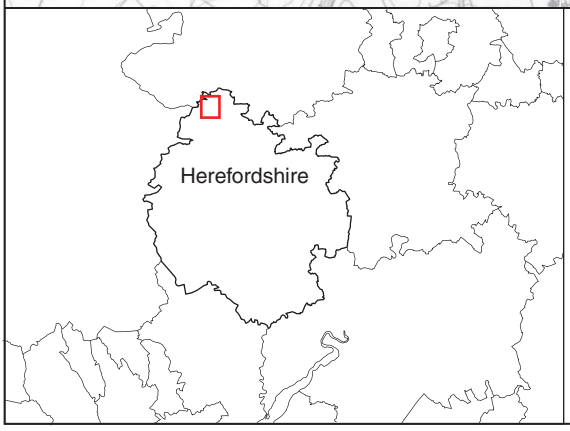
					light grey yellow sand				
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.4	
10	1001	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with frequent modern CBM, concrete and plastic inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.4	
10	1002	Layer		Modern make-up	Dark grey brown clay sand with frequent concrete, plastic and metal inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.3	
10	1003	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.5	
10	1004	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.2	
11	1101	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with frequent modern CBM, concrete and plastic inclusions	>20	>1.8	1	
11	1102	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.35	
11	1103	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.26	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.18	
12	1202	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.1	
13a	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>12	>1.8	0.31	
13a	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>12	>1.8	0.25	
13a	1302	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>12	>1.8	>0.3	
13b	1303	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>8	>1.8	0.3	
13b	1304	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>8	>1.8	0.27	
13b	1305	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>8	>1.8	>0.5	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.26	
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.14	
14	1402	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.1	
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.27	
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.33	
15	1502	Layer		Colluvium	Mid-dark grey brown sand silt, occasional small rounded pebble inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.55	
15	1503	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.3	
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.32	
16	1601	Layer		Modern make-up	Light grey brown clay sand with rare modern CBM, concrete fragments and charcoal inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.91	
16	1602	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.25	
16	1603	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.5	
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.16	
17	1702	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.3	
17	1703	Fill	1704	Fill	Single fill of ditch/gully terminal 1704	>1.2	0.44	0.21	

17	1704	Cut		Ditch/gully terminal	NW/SE ditch/gully terminal	>1.2	0.44	0.21	
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.3	
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
18	1802	Layer		Colluvium	Mid-dark grey brown sand silt, occasional small rounded pebble inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.25	
18	1803	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.1	
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.31	
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown sand silt	>20	>1.8	0.23	
19	1902	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mid orange brown sand and gravel with frequent patches of light grey yellow sand	>20	>1.8	>0.7	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshie	
Short description (	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2014 at Land at Leintwardine. Nineteen trenches were excavated. An undated ditch/gully terminal was identified in Trench 17. Evidence of modern dumping was identified in the far north-western corner and the central parts of the site. No further archaeological features or deposits were identified during the evaluation.	
Project dates	15-19 September 2014	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	DBA (Heritage Collective 2014) Archaeological Watching Brief (L-P Archaeology 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	2.7ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 40748 74016	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Heritage Collective	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Steven Sheldon	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Physical	Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre/2014-50	Pottery
Paper	Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre/2014-50	Context sheets, section drawings, trench recording forms, photographic registers
Digital	Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre/2014-50	Digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **14433**		





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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

PROJECT NO.	5037	DATE	26-09-2014	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	1
APPROVED BY	LM	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

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407
408
741
740
739
SO
T1
T2
T3
T4
T5
T6
T7
T8
T9
T10
T11
T12
T13b
T14
T13a
T17
(see inset)
T15
T16b
T16a
T19
T18
ditch/gully terminus 1704
Middle Wardens
Rosemary Lane

N

site
evaluation trench
archaeological feature

inset
archaeological feature

T17
ditch/gully terminus 1704
A
B
0
5m

0
50m

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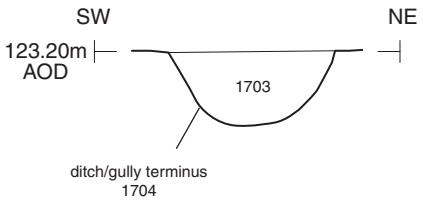
PROJECT TITLE
Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan, showing archaeological features

PROJECT NO.	**5037**	*DATE*	**26-09-2014**	*FIGURE NO.*
DRAWN BY	**JB**	*REVISION*	**00**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**LM**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:1000 & 1:100 (inset)**	

P:\5037 Land at Leintwardine Herefordshire EVAL\Illustration\Drafts\5037 Leintwardine, Herefordshire Fig 2.dwg

Section AA



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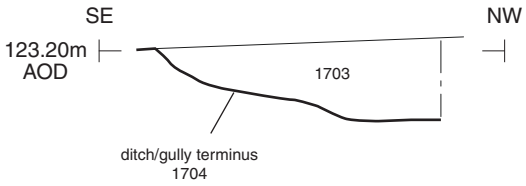

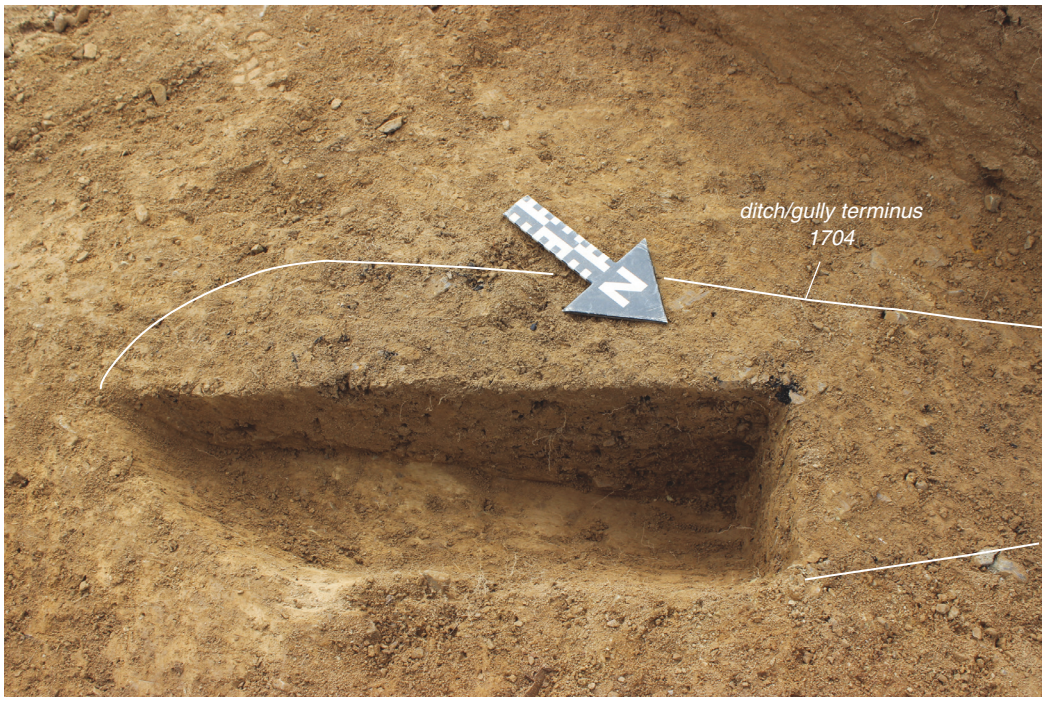

Ditch/gully terminus 1704, looking south-west

N

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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 17: sections and photograph

PROJECT NO.	5037	DATE	26-09-2014	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	3
APPROVED BY	LM	SCALE@A4	1:20	

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4 **Working shot, showing mechanical excavation of trenches**

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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Leintwardine, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Photograph

PROJECT NO.	**5037**	*DATE*	**26/09/2014**	*FIGURE NO.*
DRAWN BY	**JB**	*REVISION*	**00**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**LM**	*SCALE@A4*	**N/A**	