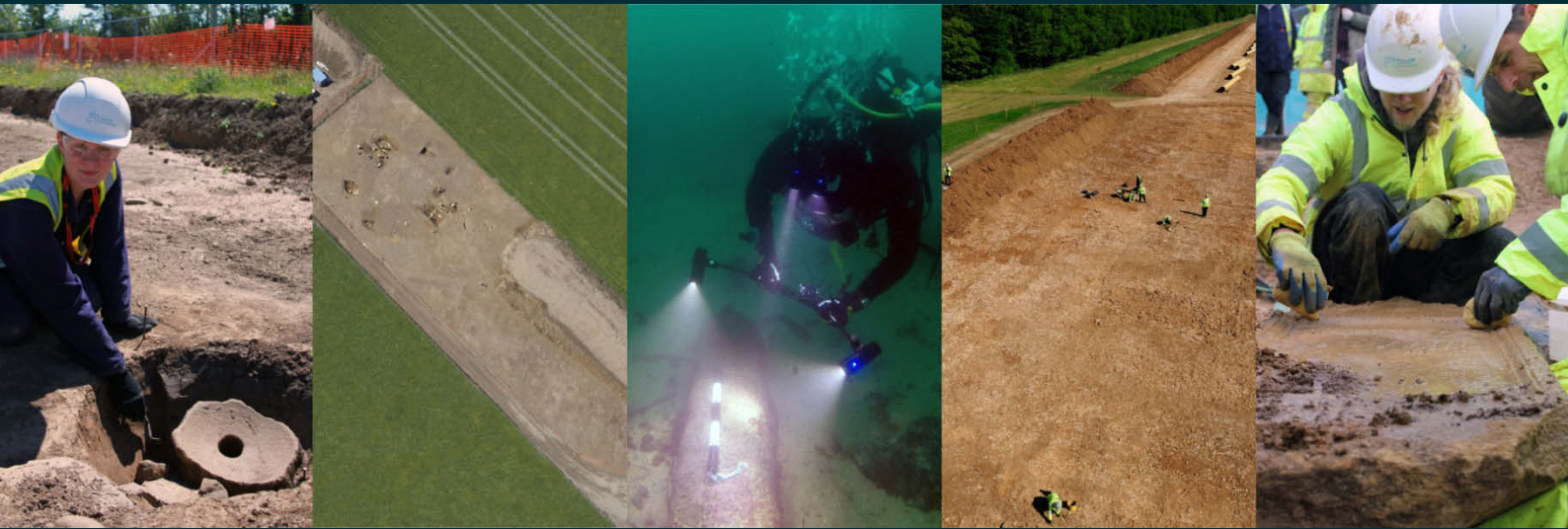


Wickwar Road Kingswood Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Persimmon Homes Severn Valley Limited

CA Project: 5396
CA Report: 15268

June 2015



Wickwar Road
Kingswood
Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 5396
CA Report: 15268



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	27/05/15	Luke Brannlund	Simon Cox	Internal review	For client review	

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Wickwar Road
Location: Kingswood, Gloucestershire
NGR: ST 74358 91488
Type: Evaluation
Date: 18-20 May 2015
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Stroud Museum in the Park
Site Code: WRK 15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2015 at Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire. Eight trenches were excavated.

A north-south aligned post-medieval gully was the only archaeological feature recorded.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Persimmon Homes Severn Valley Limited at Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: ST 74358 91488; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken as part of an ongoing programme of heritage assessment, including an earlier desk-based assessment and geophysical survey, to support a future planning application for a residential development.
- 1.2 The scope of the trial-trench evaluation was agreed through email correspondence between Messrs Chris Morley of Cotswold Archaeology and Charles Parry, Senior Archaeologist for Gloucestershire Council and archaeological advisor to Stroud District Council, on 23 March 2015. A subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) was produced by CA (2015b) and approved by Charles Parry. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *the Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork 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). It was monitored by Toby Catchpole (Heritage Team Leader at Gloucestershire County Council).

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 2ha, and comprises small agricultural fields, located to the south of Wickwar Road, on the south-western edge of Kingswood. The site also includes a small residential area to the north and a small paddock, containing a small number of agricultural buildings, in the eastern part of the site. The site lies at approximately 55m AOD, and is generally flat.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area comprises Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated), sedimentary bedrocks formed approximately 183 to 204 million years ago (BGS 2015). No superficial deposits are recorded within the proposed development site (BGS 2015). Natural clay substrate was encountered at 0.3m below present ground level (bgpl) in all eight trenches.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has been subject to a desk-based Heritage Assessment (HA; CA 2015a) and geophysical survey (PCG 2015), to which reference should be made for greater detail. In summary, no archaeological remains pre-dating the modern period are known to survive within the proposed development area, although the HA identified some potential for previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains to survive, based on the discovery of Roman field systems and settlement c. 200m to the north of the site, and recommended a geophysical survey be carried out (ibid). A subsequent geophysical survey was carried out, but only detected a limited range of anomalies interpreted as cultivation marks, domestic rubbish heap and a scrap vehicle (PCG 2015).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information will enable Stroud 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).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of eight trenches (Trenches 1-5, 8; 1.2m in width and 30m in length, Trenches 6-7 1.2m in width and 15m in length), in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The southern end of Trench 1 was moved approximately 1m east for ecological reasons. 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*.

- 4.2 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*.
- 4.3 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* and, no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 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 Stroud Museum in the Park 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.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 The natural geological substrate, consisting of blue lias clay was revealed at in all eight trenches at an average depth of 0.3m bpgl. This was overlain by silt-clay subsoil averaging 0.1m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by 0.2m of clay silt. Both the topsoil and subsoil contained a large quantity of post-medieval/modern pottery that was not recovered.
- 5.2 All trenches were devoid of archaeological remains except for Trenches 2 and 3 (see below). All other geophysical anomalies identified (PCG 2015) were found to relate to modern field drains. No further features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks.

Trenches 2-3 (Fig. 3)

- 5.3 A north-south aligned gully was identified in Trench 2 (205) It was up to 0.75m in width and 0.25m in depth, contained two silt clay fills (203, 204) and appeared to continue into Trench 3, gully 305, fills 303, 304. In both trenches the gully cut the

subsoil. Gully 305 appears to relate to a geophysical anomaly (Fig. 2) and its fills contained pottery dating from the 16th to 19th-century.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from two deposits (fills 303 and 304 of gully 305). The recovered material dates to the post-medieval/modern period. Quantities of the artefact types recovered are given in Appendix B: Table 1. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Pottery fabric codes are equated to the Gloucester pottery type series as defined by Vince (unpublished).

Pottery: post-medieval/modern

6.2 A total of four bodysherds (6g) of pottery was recorded in gully fills 303 and 304. Condition is good, however the average sherd weight of 1.5g indicates a highly fragmented assemblage. A sherd of Glazed earthenware (TF50) retrieved from fill 304 is dateable to the mid-16th to 18th centuries. Two probable Staffordshire products were represented in fill 303: one sherd of combed yellow slipware (TF72), of late 17th to 18th-century date; and two of black-glazed ware (TF75), which dates to the late 18th to 19th centuries (Vince unpublished).

Ceramic building material

6.3 Gully fill 303 produced a scrap of ceramic building material of post-medieval date which is too fragmentary for further classification.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 The gullies found in Trenches 2 and 3 could form part of the same feature, and may be indicative of a sub-division of the site within the post-medieval period, although the pottery found may have been intrusive as it was similar to the assemblage noted in the topsoil and subsoil. No evidence for such a division can be seen on historic mapping, but recent aerial photographs of the site do appear to show a linear cropmark feature in this location, suggesting there may have been a field boundary on this alignment at some time during the post-medieval period, possibly prior to the

18th century judging by the pottery dates. Despite the archaeological potential of the application area the evaluation identified no other archaeological remains.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Luke Brannlund, assisted by Greg Crees. The report was written by Luke Brannlund. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Simon Cox.

9. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 20 May 2015

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015a *Wickwar Road, Kingswood, Gloucestershire: Heritage Assessment*, CA Report No. **15032**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015b *Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

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

PCG (Pre-Construct Geophysics) 2015 *Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire: Archaeological Geophysical Survey*

Vince, A. G. *Guide to the Pottery of Gloucester*. Unpublished type fabric series.



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.2	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.1	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
2	203	Fill	205	Top gully fill	Mid yellow-grey-brown silt clay	1.6	0.75	0.1	
2	204	Fill	205	Bottom gully fill	Light grey-yellow-brown clay	1.6	0.75	0.1	
2	205	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan with U-shaped profile	1.6	0.75	0.2	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.2	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
3	303	Fill	205	Top gully fill	Mid yellow-grey-brown silt clay	1.6	0.4	0.15	LC18-C19
3	304	Fill	205	Bottom gully fill	Light grey-yellow-brown clay	1.6	0.4	0.1	MC16-C18
3	305	Cut		Gully	Linear in plan with U-shaped profile	1.6	0.4	0.25	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.15	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
4	402	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.2	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
5	502	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay				
5	503	Fill	504	Fill of field drain	Mid grey-brown silt clay with plastic pipe		0.3	n/a	
5	504	Cut		Field Drain	Field Drain		0.3	n/a	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.15	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
6	602	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.15	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
7	702	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	
7	703	Fill	704	Fill of field drain	Mid grey-brown silt clay with plastic pipe		0.45	0.6	
7	704	Cut		Field Drain	Field Drain		0.45	0.6	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.2	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow-grey silt clay			0.1	
8	802	Layer		Natural	Light yellow-blue grey clay			n/a	

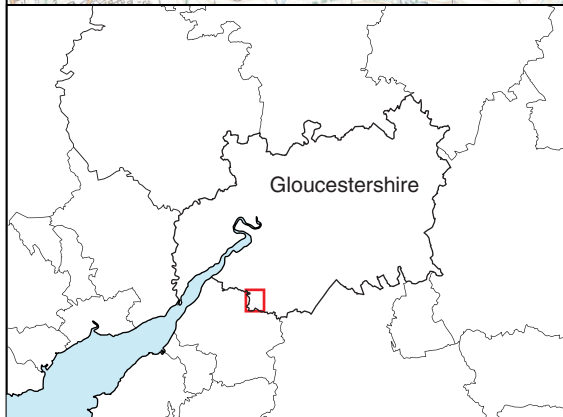
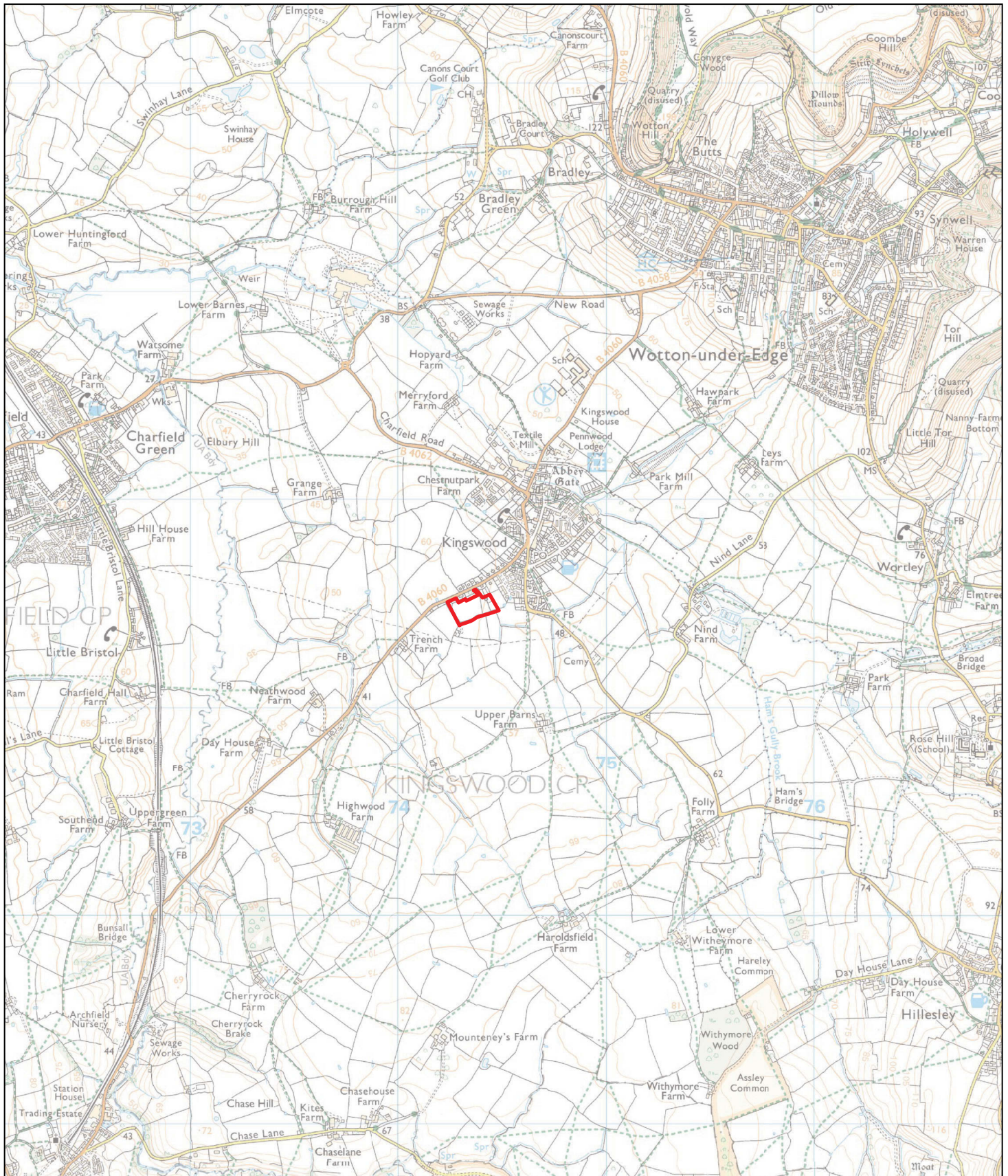
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Fabric Code	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
303	Post-medieval pottery	TF72	Staffordshire combed slipware	1	3	LC18-C19
	Post-medieval pottery	TF75	Staffordshire black-glazed ware	2	1	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material		Fragment	1	<1g	
304	Post-medieval pottery	TF50	Glazed earthenware	1	2	MC16-C18

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Wickwar Road Kingswood, Gloucestershire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2015 at Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire. Eight trenches were excavated. A north-south aligned post-medieval gully was the only archaeological feature recorded.	
Project dates	18-20 May 2015	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (PCG 2015) Desk Based Assessment (CA 2015a)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Wickwar Road, Kingswood Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	2ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 74358 91488	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Cox	
Project Supervisor	Luke Brannlund	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Stroud Museum in the Park	Pottery, CBM
Paper	Stroud Museum in the Park	Context sheets,
Digital	Stroud Museum in the Park	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Wickwar Road Kingswood, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 15268		



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PROJECT TITLE
 Wickwar Road, Kingswood
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

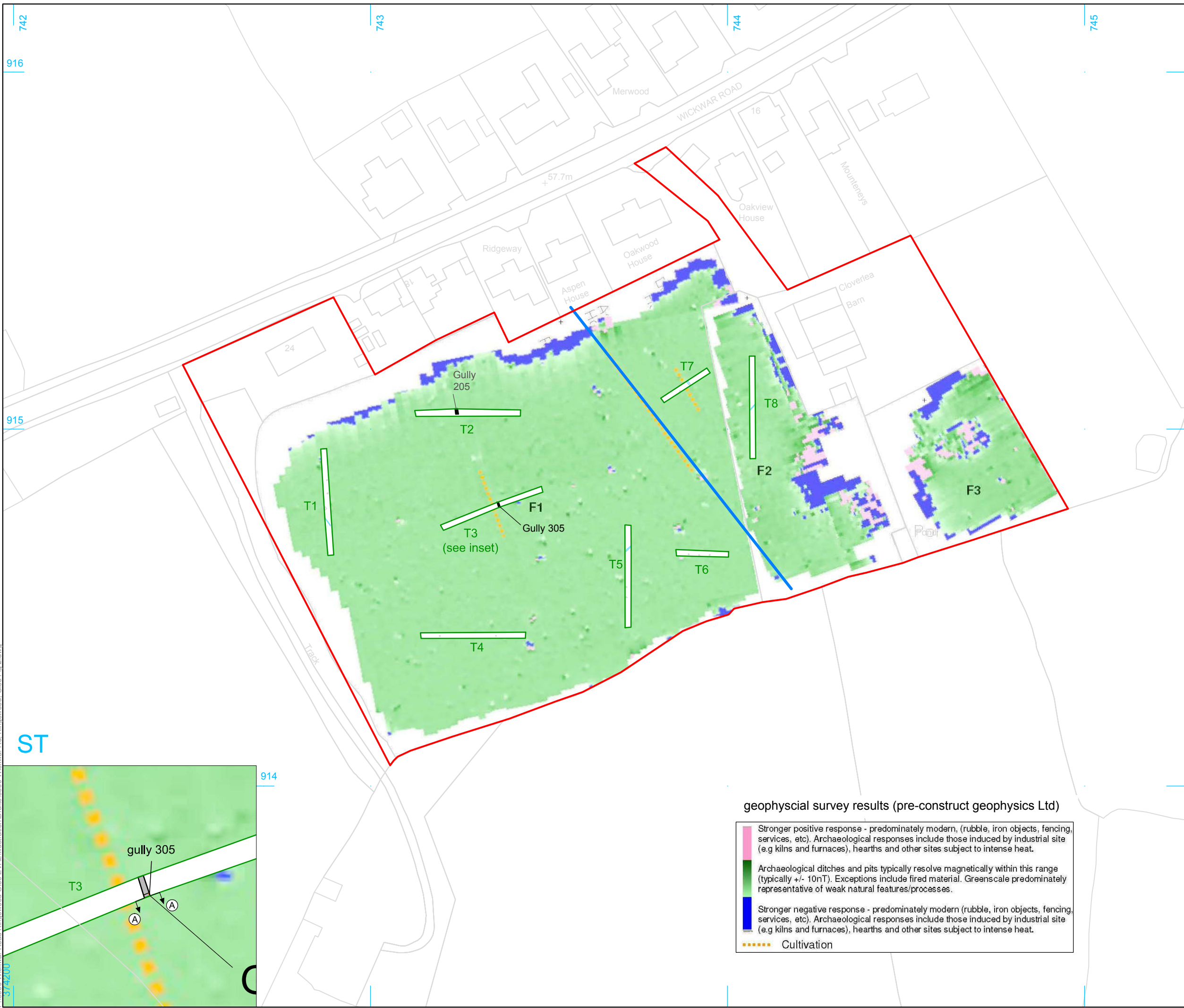
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CHECKED BY LB **DATE** 22-05-2015
APPROVED BY RM **SCALE@A4** 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- modern
- field drain

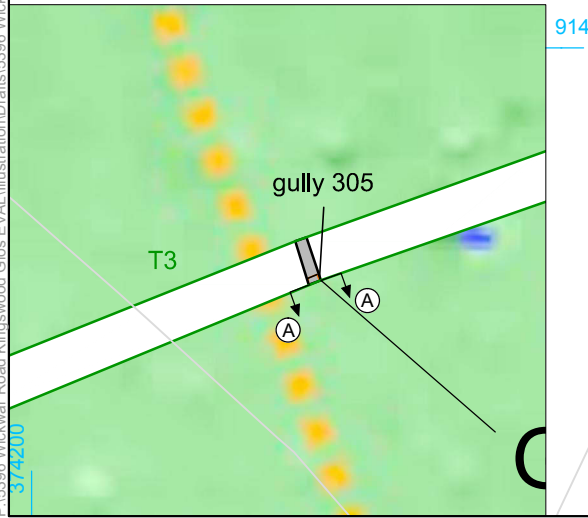


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geophysical survey results (pre-construct geophysics Ltd)

- Stronger positive response - predominately modern, (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological ditches and pits typically resolve magnetically within this range (typically +/- 10nT). Exceptions include fired material. Greenscale predominately representative of weak natural features/processes.
- Stronger negative response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Cultivation

ST



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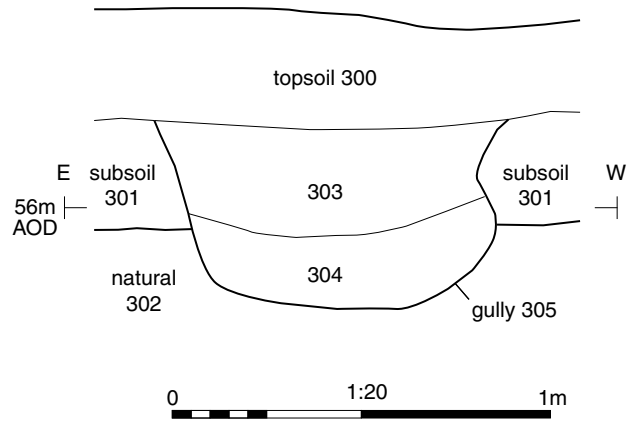
PROJECT TITLE
Wickwar Road, Kingswood, Gloucestershire

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

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APPROVED BY	SC	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

P:\5396 Wickwar Road Kingswood Glos E\VAL\Illustration\Drafts\5396 Wickwar Rd - Kingswood - Glos Fig 2.dwg 3/4/2010

Section AA



Gully 306, looking south-west (scale 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

Wickwar Road, Kingswood
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3: section and photograph

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CHECKED BY	LB	DATE	22/05/15	
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