

Land off Kingsdale Court Broadway Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Rooftop Housing Group Ltd.

CA Project: 5600
CA Report: 15720

Worcs HER Event No: WSM67190

September 2015



Land off Kingsdale Court
Broadway
Worcestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land off Kingsdale Court
Location:	Broadway, Worcestershire
NGR:	SP 1028 3780
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	24-25 September 2015
Planning Reference:	Wychavon District Council ref: W/13/01493/PN
Worcestershire HER Reference:	WSM67190
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
Site Code:	KCB15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2015 at land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire. Five trenches were excavated.

The site contained a relict ploughsoil associated with extant east/west orientated ridge and furrow. A single, shallow, post-medieval/modern pit was observed cutting the ploughsoil. No further archaeological features or deposits were revealed.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Rooftop Housing Group Ltd on land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: SP 1028 3780; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to comply with a condition of planning permission granted by Wychavon District Council (WDC) for the construction of 13 dwellings, including a new access and associated works (WDC planning reference: W/13/01493/PN, condition 2).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief for archaeological evaluation (WAAS 2015) written by Mike Glyde and amended by Adrian Scruby, the former and current archaeological advisors to WDC respectively, and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Adrian Scruby. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the *Requirements and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire* (WAAS 2010), 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 is 0.45ha in extent and comprises agricultural land currently under pasture. It is bounded to the north and east by further agricultural fields and to the south and west by residential properties. The site lies at approximately 108m AOD. Tree coverage in the northern and southern parts of the site restricted the area suitable for trenching to approximately 0.2ha in the centre of the site.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation of the Jurassic Period with no superficial deposits being recorded (BGS 2015). The natural substrate encountered in all trenches consisted of yellow-brown clay.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In line with the requirements of the Brief, a Historic Environment Record (HER) search was undertaken, in addition to reviews of public domain data and aerial photography from the mid-20th century. The most salient points from this research are summarised here.

Prehistoric

- 2.2 An unstratified Bronze Age leaf-shaped bronze sword, now housed in the British Museum, has previously been recovered from an unknown location in Broadway (WSM10946).
- 2.3 Two enclosures, represented by cropmarks, are located to the north-east of the site. The furthest, located 350m away, is potentially of an Early Iron Age date (WSM10080). The other enclosure (WSM31102), located approximately 150m away within an adjacent field, is undated.
- 2.4 An archaeological evaluation undertaken approximately 700m to the north-west of the current site identified a number of potentially Iron Age features, including an enclosure and circular ditches (CA 2013).

Medieval and Post-medieval

- 2.5 The site is located approximately 400m to the north-east of the medieval core (WSM10947), and 100m to the north of the boundary of the conservation area, of Broadway. Medieval tenement plots are recorded to the north (WSM 17729; WSM 17737) and south (WSM 177730) of the High Street and along the medieval street system (WSM17733). Within the immediate vicinity of Broadway, medieval ridge and furrow earthworks survive. These are particularly concentrated to the north-east of the town (WAAS 2015), including the proposed development site where earthwork remains of east/west orientated ridge and furrow and an associated north/south aligned headland, the latter adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site,
- 2.6 The site is depicted as an orchard on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps from 1884 to 1977. The remains of an apple orchard survive within the northern and southern portions of the site.

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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information will enable WDC 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 five trenches, each 20m long and 1.8m wide, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trenches 2, 3 and 5 were moved slightly to avoid an existing sewer. The trenches were set out on Ordnance Survey 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* but 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 Worcestershire County Museum, 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 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.
- 5.2 The natural clay substrate was encountered in all trenches at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.6m below present ground level (bpgl). It was sealed by a c. 0.28m thick relict ploughsoil, most probably associated with the extant ridge and furrow earthworks, which was overlain by topsoil.
- 5.3 In Trench 5 the relict ploughsoil was cut by shallow, oval pit 504. It measured approximately 1m in length, 0.8m in width and was 0.1m in depth. It contained a single clay fill, 505, from which a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered. The relict ploughsoil (contexts 102 and 202) contained a sherd of 12th to 14th century medieval pottery alongside later, post-medieval, ceramics and building material.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from three deposits: relict ploughsoils and a pit fill. The recovered material dates to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. Where possible, fabric codes are equated to the Worcestershire online ceramics database.

Pottery: Medieval

- 6.2 An unfeatured bodysherd of Malvernian Rock-tempered ware (TF56) (35g), recorded in relict ploughsoil 102, is dateable to the 12th to 14th centuries. Condition, in terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, is moderate to good.

Post-medieval

- 6.3 Pottery dating to this period totals four sherds (151g) in very good condition, both recovered from relict ploughsoil 202. Represented fabric types are: glazed earthenware (GLEW), of mid 16th to 18th century date; and Yellow slipware (TF80), which dates to the late 17th to 18th centuries.

Ceramic building material

- 6.4 Relict ploughsoil 202 also produced a fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material in poor condition.

Clay tobacco pipe

- 6.5 A fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem, retrieved from fill 505 of pit 504, is of late 16th to late 19th century date.

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1 No archaeological features or deposits predating the relict ploughsoil and the extant ridge and furrow were encountered during the evaluation. Such evidence suggests that either earlier archaeological remains have been removed by historic ploughing or that they were never present. The finds from the relict ploughsoil suggest that it may have been cultivated as late as the 18th century. Pit 504 had no obvious function, but clearly cut the relict ploughsoil and as it contained a clay tobacco pipe stem it may date to the use of the site as an orchard, possibly even representing a tree planting hole.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, assisted by Gary Baddeley. The report was written by Peter Busby. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Peter Busby, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

9. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 16 September 2015

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

CA 2013 *Averill Close, Broadway, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **13577**

WAAS (Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service) 2015 *“Requirements for a programme of archaeological work at Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire.”* Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council

Worcester County Council online ceramic database, <http://www.worcestershireceramics.org/> (accessed 30 September 2015).



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

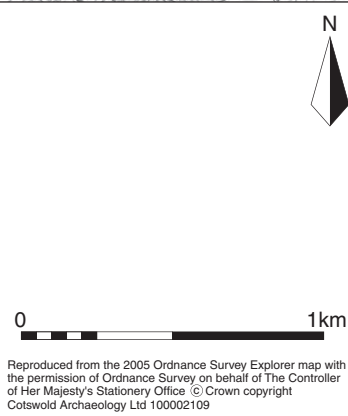
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown clay silt	>20	>1.8	0.28	
1	102	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Light yellow grey clay silt	>20	>1.8	0.3	C12-14
1	103	Layer		Natural	Brown yellow clay	>20	>1.8	>0.11	
2	201	Layer		Topsoil	As 101	>20	>1.8	0.25	
2	202	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 102	>20	>1.8	0.25	LC16-C18
2	203	Layer		Natural	As 103	>20	>1.8	>0.23	
3	301	Layer		Topsoil	As 101	>20	>1.8	0.28	
3	302	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 102	>20	>1.8	0.32	
3	303	Layer		Natural	As 103	>20	>1.8	>0.07	
4	401	Layer		Topsoil	As 101	>20	>1.8	0.25	
4	402	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 102	>20	>1.8	0.27	
4	403	Layer		Natural	As 103	>20	>1.8	>0.14	
5	501	Layer		Topsoil	As 101	>20	>1.8	0.27	
5	502	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 102	>20	>1.8	0.24	
5	503	Layer		Natural	As 103	>20	>1.8	>0.34	
5	504	Cut		Pit	Oval in plan with shallow sides and flat base	1.05	0.82	0.09	
5	505	Fill	504	Pit fill	Dark grey clay with 1% charcoal flecks	1.05	0.82	0.09	LC16-LC19

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
102	Medieval pottery	Malvernian Rock-tempered ware	56	1	35	C12-C14
202	Post-medieval pottery	Yellow slipware	80	1	116	LC16-C18
	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GLEW	3	35	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Brick		1	42	
505	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem		1	2	LC16-LC19

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land off Kingsdale Court	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2015 at land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire. Five trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The site contained a relict ploughsoil associated with extant east/west orientated ridge and furrow. A single shallow post-medieval/modern pit was observed cutting the ploughsoil. No further archaeological features or deposits were revealed.</p>	
Project dates	24-25 September 2015	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Broadway, Worcestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.45ha	
Site co-ordinates	SP 1028 3780	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Worcestershire County Museum	Ceramics
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Context and trench sheets, drawings
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 15720</p>		





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PROJECT TITLE

Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway,
Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	28.09.15	1
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- area not suitable for trenching
- archaeological feature
- ridge
- furrow



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PROJECT TITLE

Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench location plan, showing archaeological features

DRAWN BY RP
 CHECKED BY LM
 APPROVED BY CMB

PROJECT NO. 5600
 DATE 28.09.15
 SCALE@A4 1:750

FIGURE NO.
2



3

3 Trench 3, looking north



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PROJECT TITLE

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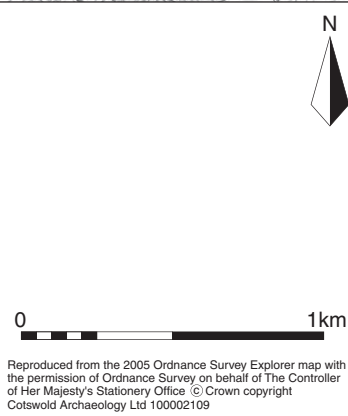
FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5600
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	28.09.15
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	N/A

FIGURE NO.

3





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PROJECT TITLE

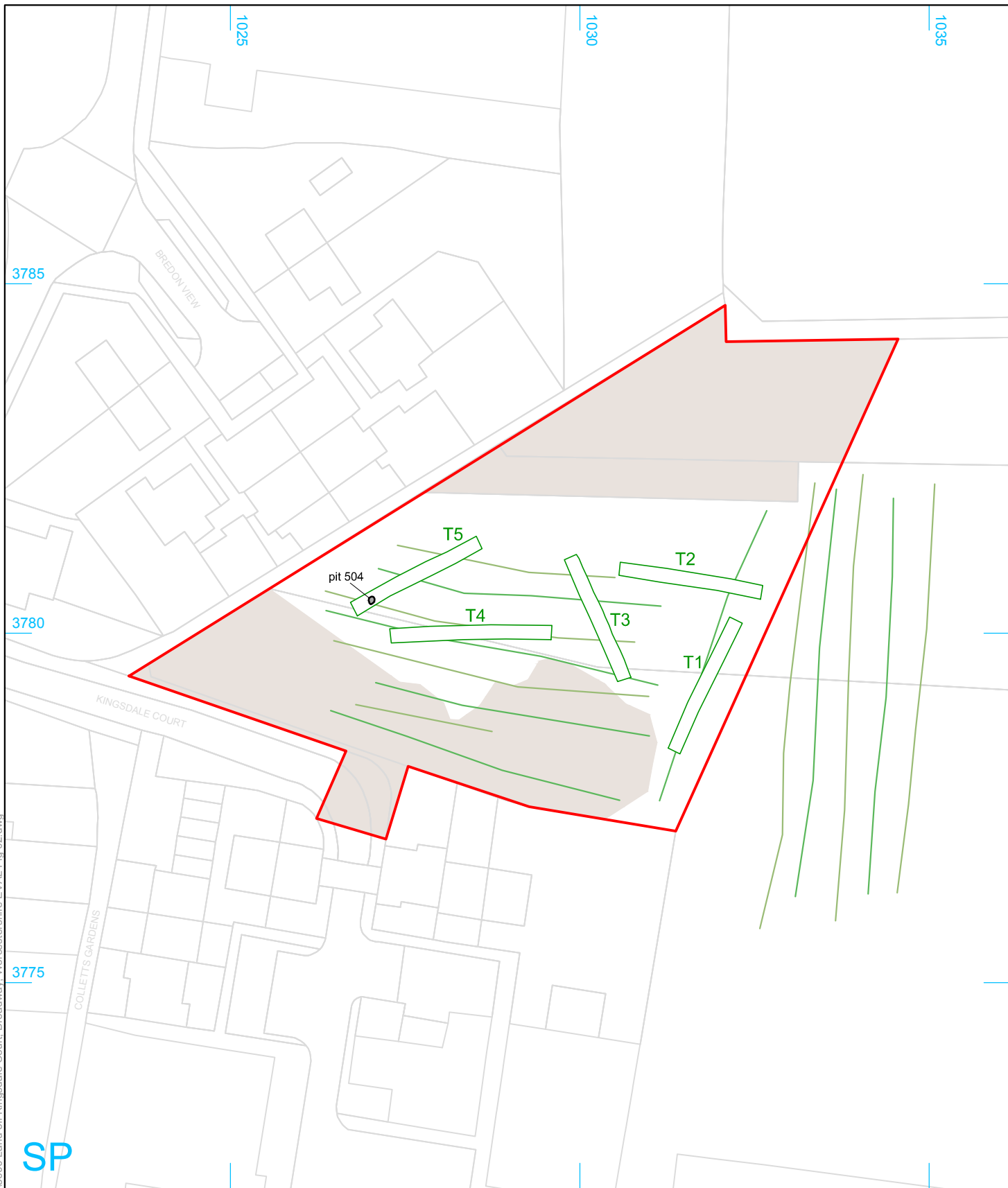
Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5600	FIGURE NO.	1
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	28.09.15		
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000		

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- area not suitable for trenching
- archaeological feature
- ridge
- furrow



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PROJECT TITLE
 Land off Kingsdale Court, Broadway,
 Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5600	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	28.09.15	2
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	1:750	



3

3 Trench 3, looking north



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PROJECT TITLE

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Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	28.09.15
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	N/A

FIGURE NO.

3

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