Cotswold Archaeology

Land North of the Viaduct
Ledbury
Herefordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

for
Bloor Homes Western

CA Project: 6156
CA Report: 17261
HER Ref: EHE80168

June 2017

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land North of the Viaduct
Location:	Ledbury, Herefordshire
NGR:	370274 239010
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	24 April – 5 May 2017
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Hereford Museum Resource & Learning Centre
Accession Number:	2017-3
Site Code:	NVL 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April and May 2017 on land north of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire. Thirty trenches were excavated.

A small number of Roman ditches and a pit were identified in two trenches in the central-southern part of the site. The size and character of the recovered pottery assemblage from these features suggests the presence of a contemporary settlement within close proximity.

Ditches and a mill race pertaining to post-medieval and modern agricultural activity, land division and water management were also identified.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April and May 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Bloor Homes Western on land north of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire (centred on NGR: 370274 239010; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site, at the request of Julian Cotton, Archaeological Advisor, Herefordshire Council (HC), prior to the determination of a planning application which will be made to HC for residential development, employment land and a school.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Julian Cotton. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). It was monitored by Julian Cotton, including site visits on 26 April and 3 May 2017.

The site

1.3 The site, located immediately to the north of Ledbury, is approximately 26ha in extent and comprises two fields and part of a further field, all currently under arable cultivation. The site is bounded to the south by the Worcester and Hereford Railway line, to the west by further agricultural fields, to the north-west by the B4214 (Bromyard Road) and to the north-east and east by an industrial estate. The site lies at approximately 64m AOD at its eastern edge, with ground levels gradually sloping down to reach 54m AOD at the western extent of the site.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Raglan Mudstone Formation - Siltstone and Mudstone of the Silurian Period (BGS 2017). Superficial deposits of Head - Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel of the Quaternary Period are noted across the site's central field and along its far western edge (ibid.). The natural substrate, comprising variable mid to dark red-brown to mid grey-yellow glacial till with occasional patches of silt clay, was identified in all of the excavated trenches.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site has previously been subject to archaeological desk-based assessment (CA 2016) and geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016). The following is a brief summary of these assessments:

Prehistoric

2.2 A small number of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools have been recorded as surface finds from areas of higher ground in the immediate vicinity of the current site (CA 2016). A circular feature, possibly representing a Bronze Age round barrow, is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs *c*. 170m to the south-west of the site (*ibid*.).

2.3 The site is located approximately 800m to the south-west of Wall Hills Camp (National Monument 1001760), an Iron Age hillfort, likely to have influenced local settlement patterns during the later prehistoric period and the site itself may have formed part of the agricultural hinterland of this hillfort (*ibid*.).

Roman

2.4 No evidence of Roman activity is recorded within the site itself. In the wider area, three sherds of dispersed and heavily abraded Roman pottery were recorded during an archaeological evaluation *c*. 500m to the west of the site (*ibid*.). Excavations carried out at Wall Hills Camp also recovered a small quantity Roman pottery suggesting that occupation of the hilltop may have continued into the Roman period.

Early medieval (AD 410 – 1066)

2.5 No early medieval features or artefacts have been found within the site or the wider study area. The borough of Ledbury (*Liedeberge*) is documented from the late 7th-century and the Domesday Book of 1086 records the settlement of Ledbury, as well as other nearby Late Saxon settlements at Hazle to the south-west and Eastnor to the east. Occupation of Wall Hills Camp had ceased by this period, with the focus of settlement in the vicinity of the site being Ledbury itself.

Medieval (1066 – 1539)

2.6 During the 11th-century the documented meeting place for the hundred was at 'Wigmund's Tree' now known as Winster Elms Copse. This lies just beyond the northern site boundary, which has now been developed to form the northern extent

of the Bromyard Trading Estate. The medieval town expanded during the 12th and 13th centuries, and at least 78 tenements are recorded by the late 13th- century. These tenement plots were largely focused within the historic core of Ledbury, located *c.*660m to the south-east of the current application area, with the site itself most probably forming part of the agricultural hinterland of the town. Within the wider study area examples of field lynchets, ridge and furrow and other agricultural features have been recorded. The most proximal features to the site are located beneath Ledbury Viaduct, immediately to the south of the site.

Post-medieval and Modern

2.7 The possible location of 'Wymondestre Mill' has been identified to the south of the present-day B4214, within the northern part of the site itself. Historical evidence suggests that this may have been the site of the bishop's corn mill. However, being a significant distance from the river, the recorded location for the mill is probably inaccurate. Better evidenced is the 'New Mills' complex, which lies immediately to the south of the site. The grant of a lease for 'New Myll' is recorded in 1532, and the original mill was shortly replaced by two others which came to be known as 'New Mills'. The New Mills buildings were also associated with a number of ponds, leats etc. and buildings associated with this complex are still standing.

2.8 A mill race (an artificial water channel), diverting water from a weir on the River Leadon to the north and carrying it to the New Mills complex to the south, runs on a north-west/south-east alignment through the south-western part of the site. No longer extant, the mill race is depicted on historic mapping from 1816 onwards, though all of the fields depicted on the 1816 mapping respect its location, indicating a likely post-medieval origin for the mill race. The mill race is evident as an extant feature on both aerial photography and mapping until the mid-1960s when it was removed.

2.9 The earliest available mapping for the site comprises a series of plans relating to the enclosure of the parish in 1816. This shows the site divided into numerous small fields, and parts of fields, largely under pasture. The field arrangement within the site is largely unchanged on the Ledbury Tithe Map of 1841. However, a building (*Winster Elms Farmhouse*) is depicted on the tithe map in the northern part of the site; this is no longer shown on the 1967–1974 Ordnance Survey (OS) map.

2.10 The major 19th-century development in the area was the construction of the Worcester and Hereford Railway, immediately to the south of the site in 1857. This included the construction of the now Grade II Listed Ledbury Viaduct, built in 1859–60 for the Worcester and Hereford Railway Company.

Geophysical survey

2.11 In April 2016 a geophysical survey was conducted across the site by Stratascan (2016). This identified the former mill race and the remains of the 19th-century Winster Elms Farmhouse, as well as a number of former field boundaries, a former pond and areas of ploughing. Three areas of possible archaeological activity were identified, however it was noted that these could equally relate to post-medieval agriculture. The remaining identified anomalies were natural or modern in origin and related to underground services, scattered magnetic debris, ferrous objects, and fencing.

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* (CIfA 2014). This information will enable HC 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 30 trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). A total of 19 trenches were 50m long and 11 trenches were 30m long; all trenches were 2m wide. The locations of Trenches 10 and 30 were adjusted on site to avoid overhead power lines and Trench 28 was moved to avoid blocking the site entrance. All changes were made with the approval of Julian Cotton. The 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*; no deposits were identified that required sampling at this stage. 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 Hereford Museum Resource and Learning Centre under accession number 2017-3, 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.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2–8)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and biological evidence are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.

5.2 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered in Trenches 1, 5, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22–27, 29 and 30. Post-medieval and modern field boundary ditches were identified in Trenches 2, 3, 4, 6, 12 and 28 (Figs 3 and 4). All of these ditches are depicted on the Ordnance Survey 6 Inch Map (1888) and were not excavated due to modern material being recovered from them during machining.

5.3 The course of a post-medieval mill race (see *Archaeological Background*, above) was identified in Trenches 13, 15, 18 and 19 (Figs 3 and 4). The feature was excavated in Trench 18 as feature 1803, where it was found to be 1.45m wide and 0.12m deep with gently sloping sides and an uneven base. The mill race was filled

with grey silt containing large amounts of mollusc shells, indicating that this deposit accumulated during the use of the feature and that later backfills have been truncated by deep ploughing.

General Stratigraphy

5.4 The natural geological substrate was encountered at varying depths, but was typically identified at a depth of 0.8m below present ground level (bpgl) in the north-western part of the site and 0.45m bpgl at the east. In all trenches it was overlain by yellow or orange clay silt subsoil, often containing manganese inclusions, which was in turn overlain by an agricultural ploughsoil.

Trench 7 (Figs 3 & 5)

5.5 Ditch 707 (Fig. 5, section AA) was located at the western end of the trench on a north/south alignment and was linear in plan, 1.83m wide, 0.86m deep with steep sides and a narrow, rounded base. It contained two fills the lower of which, 708, contained considerable amounts of pottery dating to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD, animal bone and burnt bone, while upper fill 709 contained pottery that could also be broadly dated to the Roman period. Ditch 707 correlates closely with a linear anomaly identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

5.6 The ditch was truncated on its western side by probable pit 710 (Fig. 5, section AA), which was sub-circular or ovoid in plan. The pit was 0.82m deep with steep sides, but its full length and width could not be determined as it was only partially revealed within the trench. It contained three fills, comprising two clay silt fills (711 and 713) each containing quantities of Roman pottery and animal bone, sandwiching a thin charcoal-rich layer, 712, which had burnt clay inclusions, but no artefacts. A complete copper alloy brooch (Ra. 1) dating to the mid to late 1st century AD, was recovered from fill 713.

5.7 Ditch 714 (Fig. 6, section BB) was located at the eastern end of the trench on a north/south alignment and was 2.6m wide, 1.26m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. The ditch appeared to be slightly curvilinear, and may have turned to the north-west beyond the northern trench baulk. It contained two fills, 715 and 716, both comprising dark silty material with frequent charcoal inclusions. The earliest of these, 715, contained pottery dating to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD, whilst later fill 716 contained material dating almost exclusively to the 2nd century AD. Ditch 714

correlates closely with a linear anomaly identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

5.8 Ditch 703/705 (Fig. 6, section CC) was aligned north-east/south-west and had its north-eastern terminus within the trench. It was 0.94m wide, 0.21m deep with a gently sloping south-eastern side and a near-vertical north-western side. The ditch was filled by accumulated silt deposit 704/706, from which quantities of pottery dating to the late 2nd to 4th centuries AD and animal bone were recovered.

5.9 Ditch 721 (Fig. 5) was also aligned north-east/south-west. It evidently represented a continuation of ditch 804 in Trench 8 and was unexcavated in this trench.

5.10 Two narrow, undated broadly north/south aligned ditches, 717 and 719 (Fig. 5), were identified 6.5m apart near the centre of the trench. The ditches were 0.31m to 0.35m wide, 0.07m deep with moderately steep sides and rounded bases. No artefacts were recovered from either feature and they may have been modern drainage features.

Trench 8 (Figs 3 & 6)

5.11 Ditch 804 (Fig. 7, section DD) was located near the south-eastern end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment. It was linear in plan, 0.85m wide, 0.38m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. The ditch contained grey silt fill 803, from which a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered. Ditch 804 correlates closely with a linear anomaly identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

5.12 At the northern end of the trench, probable pit 805, measuring at least 2m long and 2.75m wide was identified. It was backfilled with wooden stakes and posts and covered with a thin layer of brown silt, 806, but was otherwise filled with water. Depth-testing of the feature indicated that it was at least 1m deep however it was not excavated. The feature corresponded to an area of disturbance identified by the preceding geophysical survey and was probably a modern water tank.

Trench 9 (Figs 3 & 7)

5.13 Towards the western end of the trench, 'T'-shaped construction cut 903 (Fig. 7) was 1.8m wide and contained the stone footings of a wall, 904. Fragments of floor tile recovered from among the stone footing date to the medieval period and may date the construction. As only a small part of the structure was exposed in the trench, and

it was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey, it was impossible to determine its size or function.

5.14 Ditch 906 was aligned north-west/south-east and was 3.65m wide, 0.26m deep with moderately steep sides and a flat base. A single large sherd of pottery of broadly Roman date was recovered from the fill, 907. This material is likely to be residual, as the ditch broadly corresponded to a geophysical anomaly representing the corner of a field depicted on historic mapping of 1816 (see *paragraph 2.9* above) and the return of the ditch was identified in the trench as ditch 908, but was not excavated.

Trench 21 (Fig. 2)

5.15 North/south aligned ditches 2104 and 2106 were located 1.9m apart near the centre of the trench and correspond to the location of a field boundary identified by the preceding geophysical survey and depicted on historic mapping of 1816 (see *paragraph 2.9* above). Ditch 2104 was 1.1m wide, 0.92m deep with moderately steep sides and a rounded base. Ditch 2106 was 1.22m wide, 0.46m deep with moderately steep sides and a rounded base. No finds were recovered from either feature. The continuation of the boundary was identified in Trench 28 as ditch 2804, where a large fragment of modern glass was noted on the surface, but not retained.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from 13 deposits (mostly ditch and pit fills, but also a wall footing and subsoil). The recovered material dates to the late prehistoric/early Roman transitional, Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included form/rim morphology and a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Fabric codes, in Appendix B and in parenthesis in the following text, correspond to the Hereford/Worcester pottery type series codes as defined by Hurst and Rees (1992). Where applicable, National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Pottery

Roman (including Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'transitional')

6.2 A total of 202 sherds (3.69kg) was recorded from this date range. The average sherd weight was relatively high at 18g and condition, in terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, was good to moderate. Internal 'limey' residues were recorded on several sherds from fill 708 of ditch 707 and fill 715 of ditch 714. Thirty-nine sherds were recovered of Malvernian igneous/metamorphic rock-tempered ware (3, Peacock's Group A) (Peacock 1968, 421). This ware type was in use from the Middle Iron Age to the 2nd century AD, although post-conquest dating is likely here for all material. Identifiable forms were a large storage jar from fill 711 of pit 710 and 'tubby cooking pots' from fill 706 of ditch 705, fill 708 of ditch 707 and fill 715 of ditch 714. The latter form can be dated to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD (Peacock 1967). Malvernian limestone-tempered ware (4.1, Peacock's Group B; Peacock 1968, 415) was represented by 30 sherds. This type similarly has Middle Iron Age origins, with use continuing into the later 1st century AD. A rimsherd from a large storage jar with a 'hammer' rim, recovered from fill 715 of ditch 714, is a typical form in this ware type and common into the later 1st century AD. A total of 14 sherds presented in a grog-tempered fabric (8) are common during the mid/later 1st century AD.

6.3 Severn Valley oxidised ware (12), which was manufactured throughout the Roman period, was represented by 88 sherds, in addition to one sherd of Severn Valley reduced ware (12R). Included amongst the oxidised material was a rimsherd from a slightly flaring tankard from fill 716 of ditch 714, dateable to the 2nd to 3rd centuries (Webster 1976, 30–1) and a bodysherd from a carinated bowl, of 1st to 2nd century date (ibid., 33–4) from fill 715 of ditch 714. Also present were two sherds in a charcoal-tempered variant (12.2) of Severn Valley ware from fill 716 of ditch 714, which typically dates to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries. A total of 19 sherds were retrieved in fine (14) or coarse (15) sandy greyware fabrics. Most are of broad Romano-British date, however, a rimsherd from fill 706 of ditch 705 was from a plain rim dish in imitation of a Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware form. It is, therefore, dateable to the late 2nd to 4th centuries. Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (22) was the only regional import present, with five sherds being recovered. Manufactured in the area of Poole in Dorset, this ware type dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries when found outside the production area. Narrower dating was possible for a (Seager Smith and Davies) Type 20 plain rim dish from fill 706 of ditch

705 (late 2nd to 4th centuries) and a Type 22 flat rim dish from fill 716 of ditch 714 (2nd century) (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 232–3).

Lithics

6.4 A heavily edge damaged and recorticated flint flake (1g) was retrieved as a residual find in fill 713 of pit 710.

Ceramic building material

6.5 A fragment of Roman brick (48g), in an abraded condition, was recorded from fill 709 of ditch 707. A further four fragments of ceramic building material (514g) were recovered from wall footing 904. These comprised three unclassifiable fragments and one fragment of a medieval floor tile.

Other finds

6.6 Two items of copper alloy were recorded. From subsoil deposit 201 was a complete, slightly oval ring of uncertain date. It measured 27-28mm externally and 20-24mm internally. A brooch (Ra. 1) from fill 713 of pit 710 was an unusual find in that it was complete and intact. It has been identified as of Mackreth's type CD PH 5A1, i.e. a Colchester derivative, using the Polden Hill spring system, falling within the Western Group (Mackreth 2011, 75). Dating in the mid to late 1st century is most likely.

6.7 Two fragments of clear bottle glass, both of modern date, were recorded from fill 2805 of ditch 2804.

6.8 Fill 803 of ditch 804 produced a fragment from the stem of a clay tobacco pipe, which is broadly dateable to the late 16th to late 19th centuries.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

7.1 Animal bone amounting to 37 fragments (1696g) was recovered the fills of ditches 705, 707 and 714 and also from probable pit 710, in association with artefacts dating to the Roman period. The bone was moderately well preserved but had been subject to both historical and modern damage. It was, however, possible to identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and pig (*Sus*

scrofa sp.). The presence of dog (*Canis familiaris*) is inferred from evidence of gnawing.

7.2 The majority of the assemblage (32 fragments, 1130g) was recovered from fill 706 within ditch 705 and fills 708, 709 and from 715, the fills of enclosure ditches 707 and 714. Cattle, sheep/goat and pig were each identified from bones both meat-rich such as the scapula and meat-poor such as the bone of the feet.

7.3 A further five fragments (566g) fragments were recovered from fills 711 and 713 within pit 710. Cattle and sheep/goat were once again identified, but only from fragments of meat-poor bones

7.4 The skeletal elements identified are typical of primary and secondary butchery waste, although no cut or chop marks or impact damage indicative of such activity was present on any of the recovered fragments. However, such evidence may have been removed by the extensive canid gnawing present throughout the assemblage. Each was a commonly exploited domestic animal in this period, so an origin in butchery waste is likely (Baker and Worley, 2014).

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The results of the evaluation largely corroborate those of the preceding geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016). All of the cut features predicted by the geophysical survey were identified in the trenches, with the exception of agricultural furrows, which were presumably within the subsoil and too shallow to penetrate in to the natural substrate.

Roman

8.2 Trenches 7 and 8, located in the central-southern part of the site, contained a small, discrete area of Roman activity, dating mainly to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD. On site it was apparent that these trenches occupy a small plateau overlooking the River Leadon to the south and it is possible that the activity is confined to this terrace. Parallel north/south aligned ditches 707 and 714 at either end of Trench 7 were notably much deeper and more substantial than any of the other features on site and it is probable that they were contemporary, if not directly related to each other. The ditches are not visible on the geophysics very far beyond the limits of the

trench, but it is possible that they form opposite arms of an enclosure defining an area approximately 25m across.

8.3 The considerable assemblages of pottery and animal bone, including burnt bone, recovered from the enclosure ditches are indicative of domestic settlement nearby, probably within the area enclosed by the ditches, although no structural evidence was identified during the evaluation. The presence of pit 710, containing Roman material, cutting the fill of ditch 707 suggests more than one phase of Roman activity on site. The fills of the pit also contained assemblages of Roman pottery and animal bone, suggesting that domestic activity continued after the enclosure ditches were abandoned. Notable amongst the finds from pit 710 was the copper alloy brooch (Ra. 1) dating to the mid to late 1st century AD, found in a rare, complete condition.

8.4 Narrow ditches 717 and 719 near the centre of the postulated enclosure shared a north/south alignment with the enclosure ditches, although given the lack of dating evidence from these features it cannot be ruled out that they were much later in date. Ditches 703/705 were both on north-east/south-west alignments and may therefore represent another phase of Roman activity.

Post-medieval/modern

8.5 The evaluation confirmed the locations of the post-medieval mill race and field boundaries depicted on cartographic sources and also identified by the preceding geophysical survey.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Christopher Leonard, Luke Brannlund, Jack Harrison, Richard Scurr and Alex Stephens. The report was written by Christopher Leonard. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Andrew Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Steven Sheldon.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Tr	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt			0.35	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay silt			0.1	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Orange-brown gravel with clay patches				
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 100			0.35	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 101			0.15	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Same as 102				
2	203	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned. Unexcavated	>2	1.8		
2	204	Fill	203	Ditch fill	Dark grey brown clay silt. Contains modern brick	>2	1.8		
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 100			0.3	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 101			0.1	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Same as 102				
3	303	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Unexcavated	>2	1.5		
3	304	Fill	303	Ditch fill	Dark grey brown clay silt. Contains modern concrete drain pipe	>2	1.5		
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 100			0.3	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 101			0.2	
4	402	Layer		Natural	Same as 102				
4	403	Cut		Ditch	Continuation of 303. Unexcavated	>2	1.2		
4	404	Fill	403	Ditch fill	Same as 304	>2	1.2		
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 100			0.35	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 101			0.1	
5	502	Layer		Natural	Same as 102				
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 100			0.3	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 101			0.15	
6	602	Layer		Natural	Same as 102				
6	603	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Unexcavated	>2	1.6		
6	604	Fill	603	Ditch fill	Dark grey brown clay silt. Contains asphalt pieces	>2	1.6		
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt			0.3	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Light brown yellow sandy silt with frequent manganese			0.1	
7	702	Layer		Natural	Red clay				
7	703	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Gently sloping south-east side and steep north-west side. Rounded base	>4.5	0.94	0.21	
7	704	Fill	703	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>4.5	0.94	0.21	
7	705	Cut		Ditch	Terminus slot. Continuation of 703	>4.5	0.88	0.18	
7	706	Fill	705	Ditch fill	Same as 704	>4.5	0.88	0.18	LC2-C4
7	707	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Steep sides and rounded base	>2	1.83	0.86	
7	708	Fill	707	Ditch fill	Lower fill: mid red brown clay silt. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>2	1.83	0.4	MC1-C2
7	709	Fill	707	Ditch fill	Upper fill: mid grey brown clay silt. Occasional small-med stones and charcoal	>2	1.83	0.46	RB
7	710	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular. Steep sides and rounded base	>0.75	>1.8	0.82	
7	711	Fill	710	Pit fill	Lower fill: mid yellow grey clay silt. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>0.75	>1.5	0.4	RB
7	712	Fill	710	Pit fill	2nd fill: Dark brown grey clay silt. Frequent charcoal, occasional burnt clay pieces	>0.75	>1.8	0.15	

Tr	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot date
7	713	Fill	710	Pit fill	Upper fill: mid grey brown clay silt. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>0.75	>1.8	0.21	MC1-LC1
7	714	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Steep sides and rounded base	>2	2.6	1.26	
7	715	Fill	714	Ditch fill	Lower fill: mid brown grey silty clay. Common clay and charcoal	>2	1.8	0.61	MC1-C2
7	716	Fill	714	Ditch fill	Upper fill: mid grey brown silty clay. Common small stones, occasional charcoal	>2	2.6	0.65	C2
7	717	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Moderately steep sides and rounded base	>2	0.35	0.07	
7	718	Fill	717	Ditch fill	Mid brown grey silty clay. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>2	0.35	0.07	
7	719	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Moderately steep sides and rounded base	>2	0.31	0.06	
7	720	Fill	719	Ditch fill	Mid brown grey silty clay. Occasional small stones and charcoal	>2	0.31	0.06	
7	721	Cut		Ditch	Continuation of 803. Unexcavated	>3	0.85		
7	722	Fill	721	Ditch fill	Same as 804	>3	0.85		
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.44	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.26	RB
8	802	Layer		Natural	Yellow-brown gravel				
8	803	Fill	804	Ditch fill	Mid yellow brown sandy clay. Occasinal small stones	>2	0.85	0.38	LC16-LC19
8	804	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Steep sides and rounded base	>2	0.85	0.38	
8	805	Cut		Pit	Modern water-filled pit. Unexcavated	>2	2.75		
8	806	Fill	805	Pit fill	Fill of 805	>2	2.75		
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.49	
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.45	
9	902	Layer		Natural	Same as 802				
9	903	Cut		Construction cut	Contained wall 904. Unexcavated	>2	1.8		
9	904	Structure		Wall	Stone wall footings. Recorded in plan	>2	1.6		Medieval
9	905	Fill	903	Fill	Mid brown grey silty clay	>2	1.8		
9	906	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned. Moderately steep sides and flat base	>2.5	3.65	0.26	
9	907	Fill	906	Ditch fill	Mid yellow grey silty clay. Occasional charcoal	>2.5	3.65	0.26	RB
9	908	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW aligned. Return of 906. Unexcavated	>2.5	2.27		
9	909	Fill	908	Ditch fill	Same as 907	>2.5	2.27		
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.4	
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.3	
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Orange clay				
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.35	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.3	
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.3	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.4	
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
12	1203	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Unexcavated	>2	1.5		
12	1204	Fill	1203	Ditch fill	Dark grey brown silty clay. Contains modern plastic bag	>2	1.5		
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.3	
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.4	
13	1302	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
13	1303	Cut		Mill race	Continuation of 1803. Unexcavated	>2	2		
13	1304	Fill	1303	Mill race fill	Same as 1804	>2	2		

Tr	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot date
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.3	
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.4	
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.45	
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.35	
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
15	1503	Cut		Mill race	Continuation of 1803. Unexcavated	>2	1.23		
15	1504	Fill	1503	Mill race fill	Same as 1804	>2	1.23		
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.25	
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.15	
16	1602	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 700			0.25	
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 701			0.25	
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Same as 1002				
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy clay			0.25	
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay			0.55	
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Yellow mudstone with red clay patches				
18	1803	Cut		Mill race	NW/SE aligned. Gently sloping sides and uneven base	>2	1.45	0.12	
18	1804	Fill	1803	Mill race fill	Dark brown grey clay silt. Occasional small stones and mollusc shell	>2	1.45	0.12	
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.65	
19	1901			Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.45	
19	1902			Natural	Same as 1802				
19	1903	Cut		Mill race	Continuation of 1803. Unexcavated	>2	1.6		
19	1904	Fill	1903	Mill race fill	Same as 1804	>2	1.6		
20	2001	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.5	
20	2002	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.42	
20	2003	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
21	2101	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.37	
21	2102	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.4	
21	2103	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
21	2104	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Moderately steep sides and rounded base	>2	1.1	0.92	
21	2105	Fill	2104	Ditch fill	Mid brown red silty sand. Occasional charcoal	>2	1.1	0.92	
21	2106	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Moderately steep sides and rounded base	>2	1.22	0.46	
21	2107	Fill	2106	Ditch fill	Mid brown red silty sand. Frequent charcoal	>2	1.22	0.46	
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.1	
22	2201	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.66	
22	2202	Layer		Natural	Red clay				
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.49	
23	2301	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.27	
23	2302	Layer		Natural	Same as 2202				
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.57	
24	2401	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.23	
24	2402	Layer		Natural	Same as 2202				
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.49	
25	2501	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.52	
25	2502	Layer		Natural	Same as 2202				
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.46	
26	2601	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.22	
26	2602	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.7	
27	2701	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.45	

Tr	Context	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot date
27	2702	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.52	
28	2801	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.26	
28	2802	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
28	2803				Context void				
28	2804	Cut		Ditch	N/S aligned. Unexcavated	>2	3		
28	2805	Fill	2804	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown clay silt. Contains modern glass	>2	3		Modern
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.51	
29	2901	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.26	
29	2902	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil	Same as 1800			0.58	
30	3001	Layer		Subsoil	Same as 1801			0.2	
30	3002	Layer		Natural	Same as 1802				

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
201	Copper alloy	Ring		1	4	-
706	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3/**MAL REA**	3	59	LC2-C4
	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	22/**DOR BB1**	2	22	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	9	230	
	Roman pottery	Fine sandy greyware	14	2	6	
	Roman pottery	Coarse sandy greyware	15	5	74	
708	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3/**MAL REA**	26	455	MC1-C2
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	4.1	23	198	
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	8	12	145	
	Slag			1	16	
709	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3/**MAL REA**	4	43	RB
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	8	145	
	Roman pottery	Fine sandy greyware	14	6	752	
	Roman ceramic building material	Brick		1	48	
711	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3/**MAL REA**	2	299	RB
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	8	2	7	
	Roman pottery	Fine sandy greyware	14	1	3	
713	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	4.1	3	10	MC1-LC1
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	14	274	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	1	
	Copper alloy	Brooch		1	15	
715	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3/**MAL REA**	3	49	MC1-C2
	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	4.1	7	216	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	3	54	
716	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	3	1	6	C2
	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	22/**DOR BB1**	3	45	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	52	416	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware (charcoal-tempered variant)	12.2	2	25	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley reduced ware	12R	2	13	
	Roman pottery	Fine sandy greyware	14	1	39	
	Roman pottery	Coarse sandy greyware	15	1	21	
801	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised ware	12/**SVW OX2**	1	3	RB
	Roman pottery	Coarse sandy greyware	15	3	31	
803	Clay tobacoco pipe	Stem		1	1	LC16-LC19
904	Medieval ceramic building material	Floor tile, fragments		4	514	Medieval
907	Roman pottery	Severn Valley oxidised	12/**SVW OX2**	1	56	RB

		ware				
2805	Modern glass	Bottle		2	32	Modern

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

APPENDIX C: THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

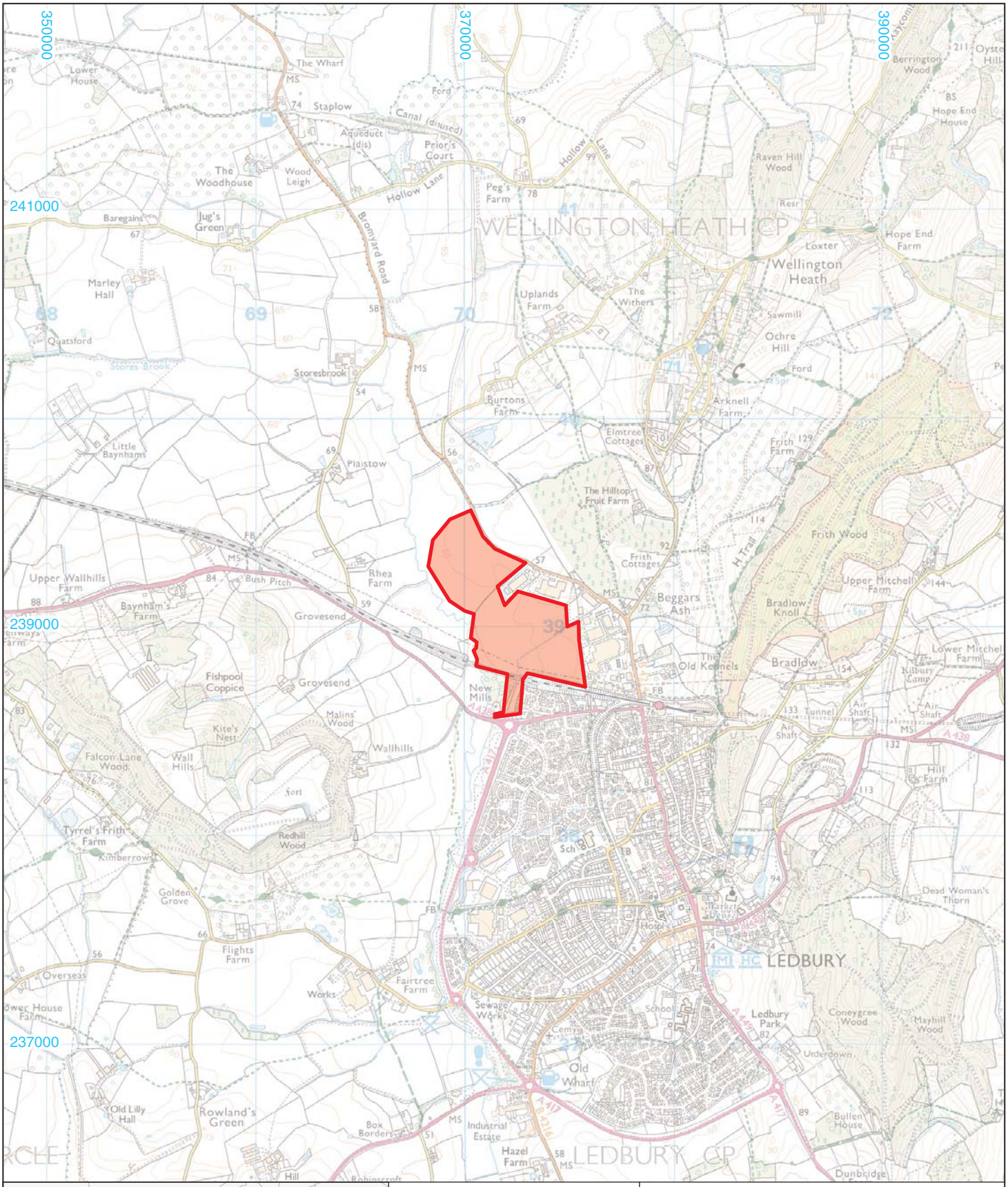
Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

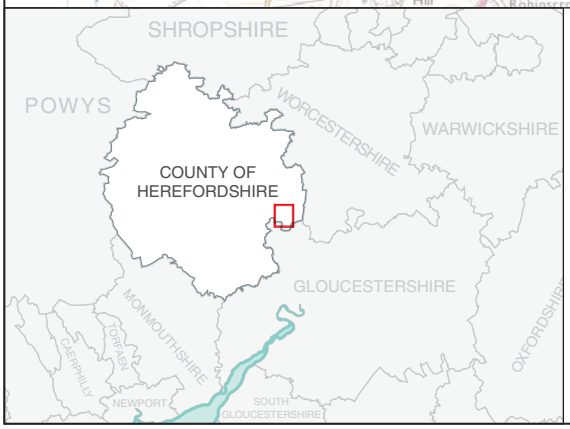
Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
705	706						1	1	1
707	708	5	5	4	5	5		24	890
707	709	2			3			5	175
710	711	3	1					4	565
710	713					1		1	1
714	715	1	1					2	64
Total		**11**	**7**	**4**	**8**	**6**	**1**	**37**	
Weight		**1483**	**73**	**45**	**80**	**14**	**1**	**1696**	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; LM= cattle sized mammal; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate;

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April and May 2017 on land north of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire. Thirty trenches were excavated. A small number of Roman ditches and a pit were identified in two trenches in the central-southern part of the site. The size and character of the recovered pottery assemblage from these features suggests the presence of a contemporary settlement within close proximity. Ditches and a mill race pertaining to post-medieval and modern agricultural activity, land division and water management were also identified.	
Project dates	24 April – 5 May 2017	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2016) Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2017)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Ledbury, Herefordshire	
Study area	26ha	
Site co-ordinates	370274E 239010N	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Steven Sheldon	
Project Supervisor	Christopher Leonard	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Cu alloy brooch	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (Museum/Accession no.):	Content:
Physical	Hereford Museum Resource and Learning Centre/ 2017-3	Ceramics, animal bone, metal objects
Paper	Hereford Museum Resource and Learning Centre/ 2017-3	Context sheets, trench recording forms
Digital	Hereford Museum Resource and Learning Centre/ 2017-3	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **17261**		





N

0 1km

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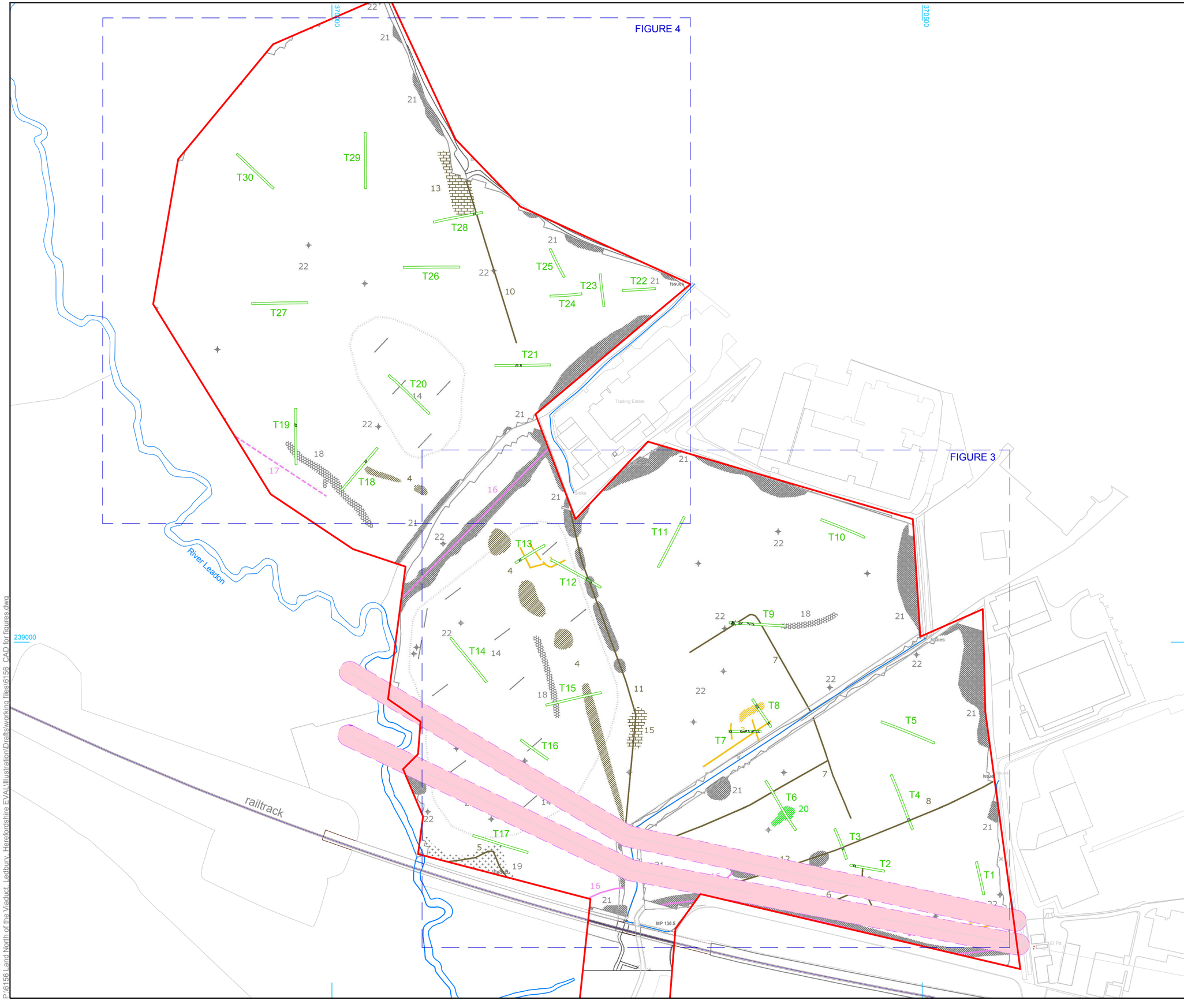
PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**6156**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**10/05/2017**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**SS**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	



N

Site boundary

Evaluation trench

OHPs with exclusion zone

Archaeological feature

Geophysics Key (Stratascan 2016)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
MEDIEVAL/POST-MEDIEVAL AGRICULTURE	
	Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow
	Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
	Linear anomaly - probably related to a former field boundary not present on available mapping
	Linear anomaly - related to a former field boundary present on available mapping
	Areas of disturbance related to a former mill race present on available mapping
	Strong magnetic debris related to 19th century farmhouse
OTHER ANOMALIES	
	Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to service trench
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
	Positive anomaly - unknown origin, likely modern
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
	Scattered magnetic debris
	Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
	Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object

0 100m

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PROJECT TITLE
Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Overall trench location plan showing identified archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6156	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	10/05/2017	2
APPROVED BY	SS	SCALE@A3	1:3,000	

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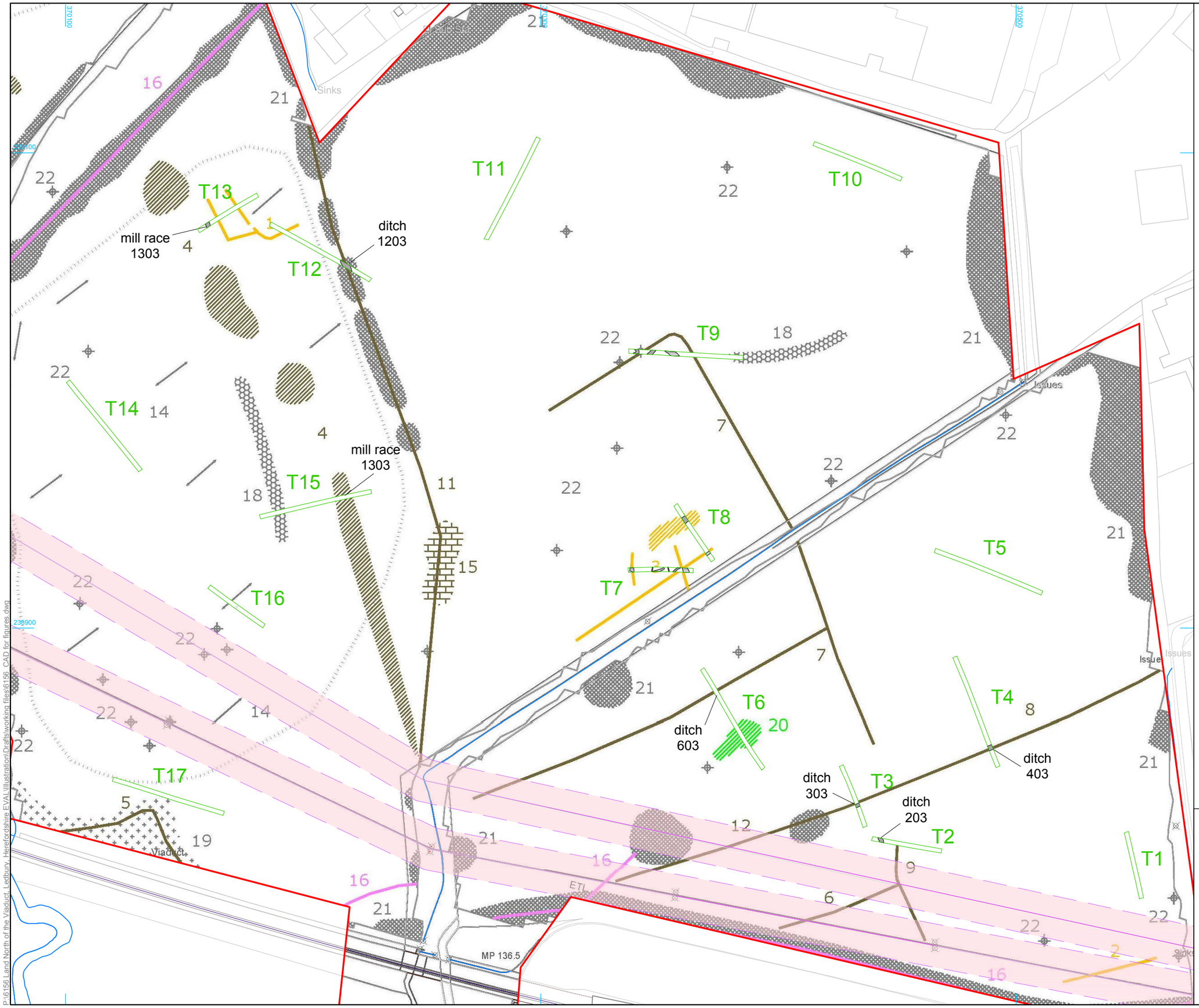

N

- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- OHPs with exclusion zone
- Archaeological feature

Geophysics Key (Stratascan 2016)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
MEDIEVAL/POST-MEDIEVAL AGRICULTURE	
	Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow
	Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
	Linear anomaly - probably related to a former field boundary not present on available mapping
	Linear anomaly - related to a former field boundary present on available mapping
	Areas of disturbance related to a former mill race present on available mapping
	Strong magnetic debris related to 19th century farmhouse
OTHER ANOMALIES	
	Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to service trench
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
	Positive anomaly - unknown origin, likely modern
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
	Scattered magnetic debris
	Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
	Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 1-17, showing identified archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	EE	*PROJECT NO.*	6156	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	DJB	*DATE*	10/05/2017	3
APPROVED BY	SS	*SCALE@A3*	1:1,500	

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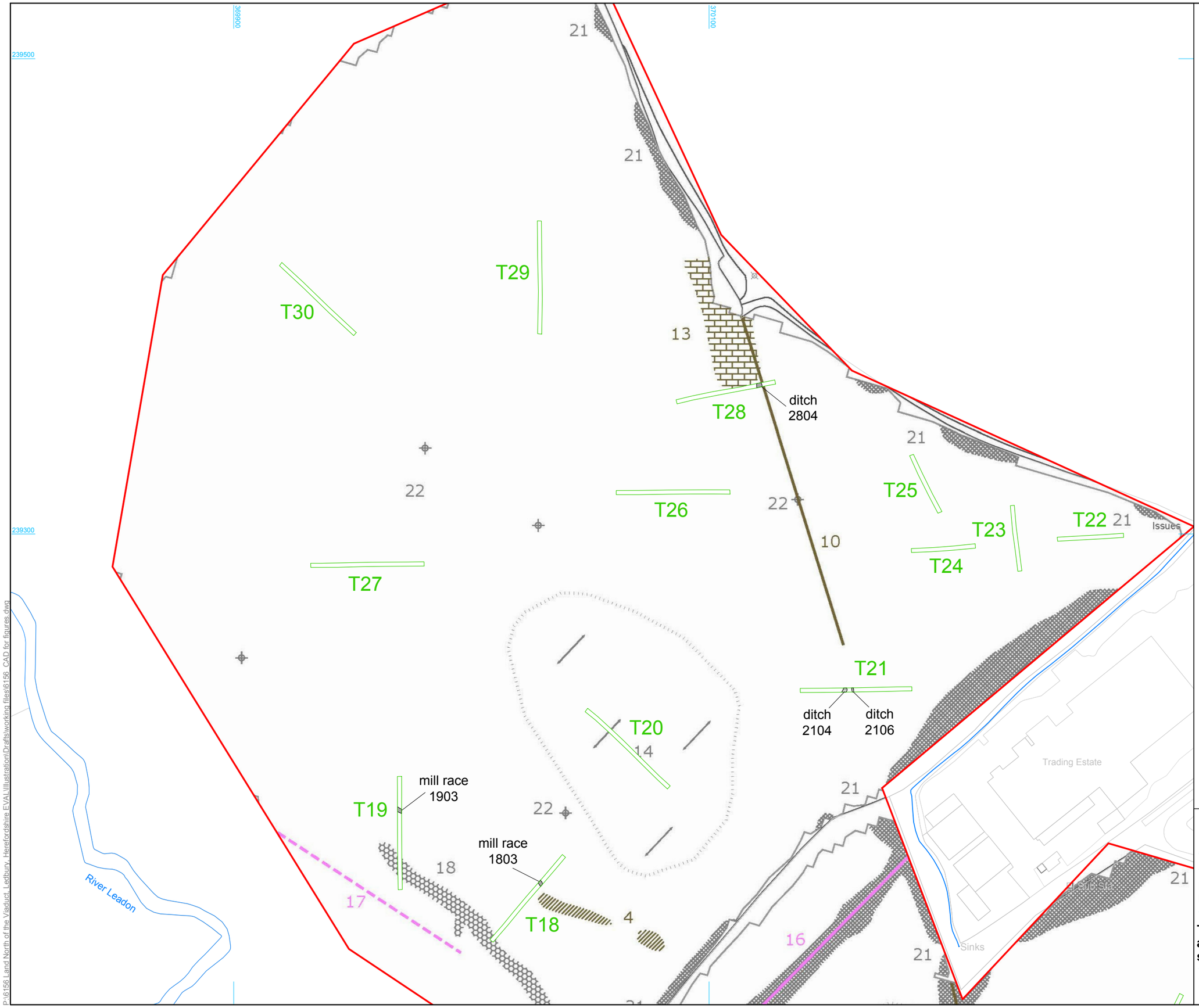

N

- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- OHPs with exclusion zone
- Archaeological feature

Geophysics Key (Stratascan 2016)

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
MEDIEVAL/POST-MEDIEVAL AGRICULTURE	
	Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow
	Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
	Linear anomaly - probably related to a former field boundary not present on available mapping
	Linear anomaly - related to a former field boundary present on available mapping
	Areas of disturbance related to a former mill race present on available mapping
	Strong magnetic debris related to 19th century farmhouse
OTHER ANOMALIES	
	Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to service trench
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
	Positive anomaly - unknown origin, likely modern
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
	Scattered magnetic debris
	Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
	Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object

0 50m

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PROJECT TITLE
Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 18-30, showing identified archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6156	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	10/05/2017	4
APPROVED BY	SS	SCALE@A3	1:1,500	

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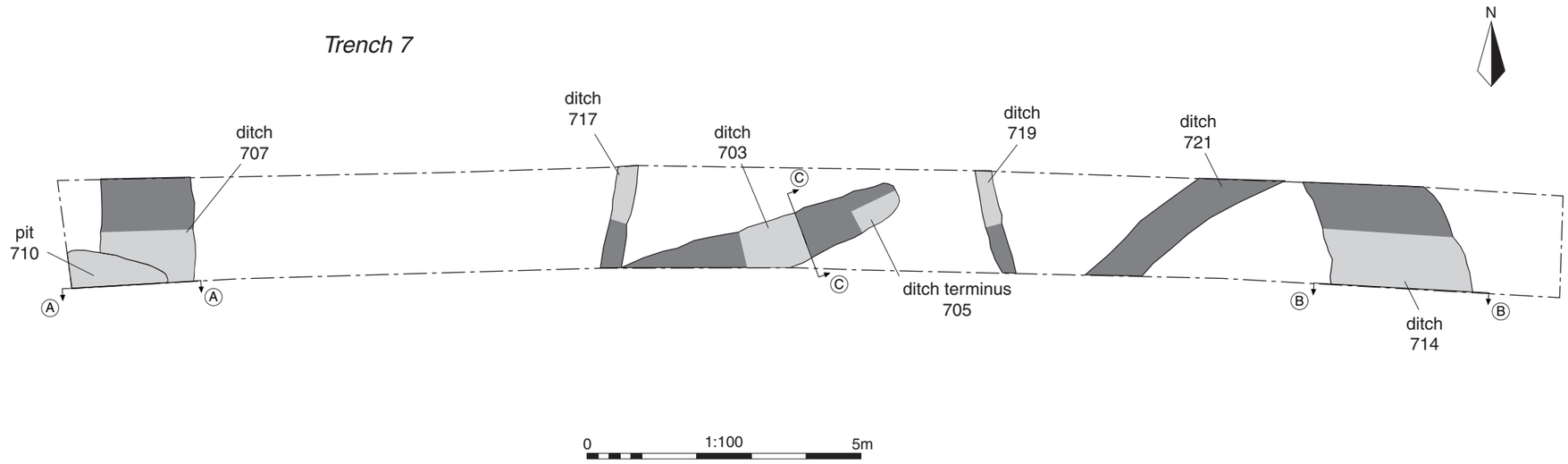
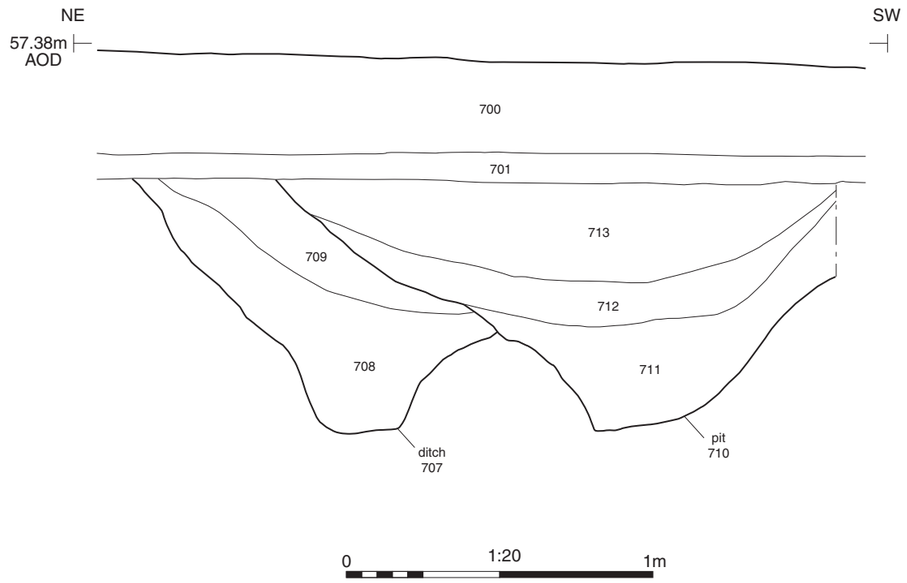


Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(unexcavated / excavated)

Section AA



Ditch 707 and Pit 710, looking south-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: plan, section and photograph

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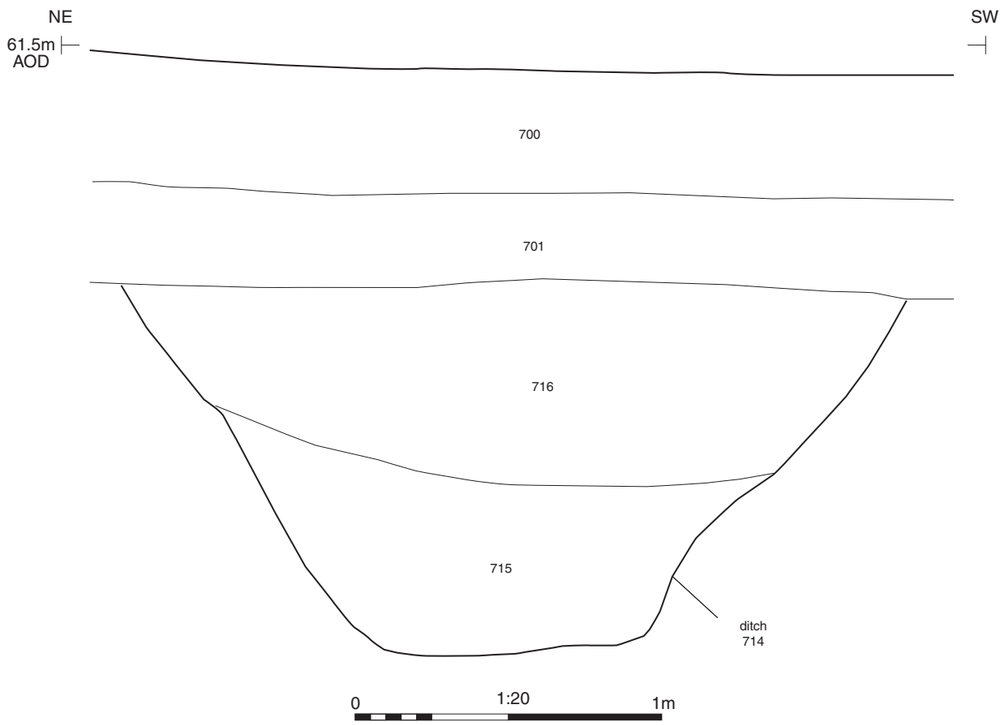
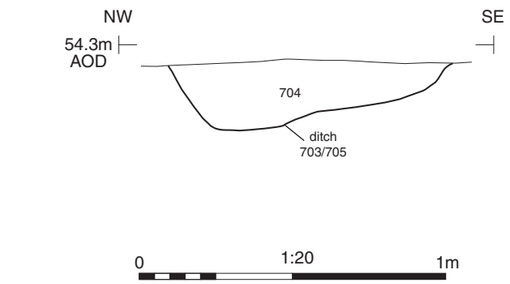
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**10/08/2017**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**SS**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:100 / 1:20**	

Section BB



Ditch 714, looking south-east (1m scale)

Section CC



Trench 7 post-excavation, looking west (2 x 1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: sections and photographs

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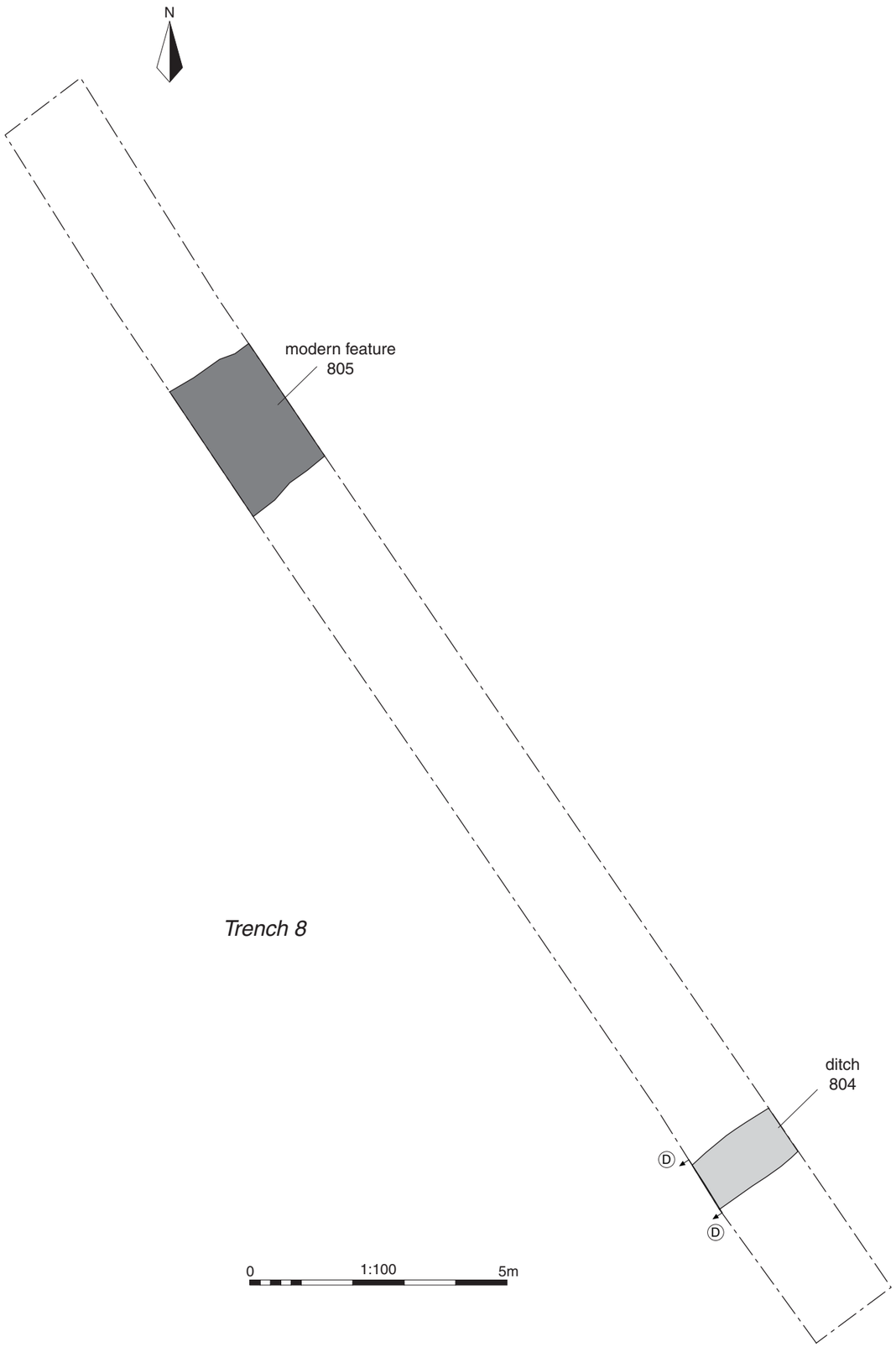
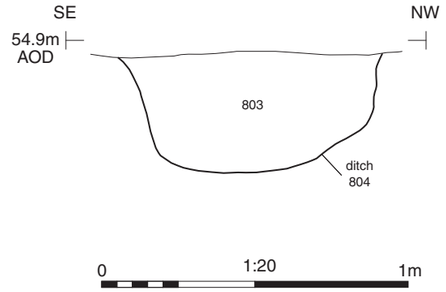
APPROVED BY	**SS**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Trench 8

Section DD



Ditch 804, looking south-west (1m scale)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(unexcavated / excavated)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 8: plan, section and photograph

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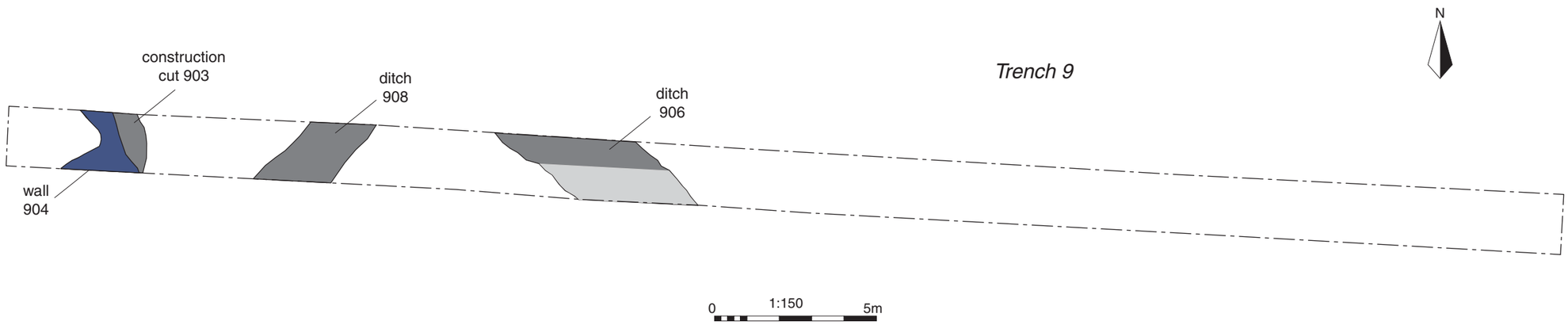

Wall 904, looking south-west (0.5m scale)

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature
(unexcavated / excavated)

Structural feature

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PROJECT TITLE

Land North of the Viaduct, Ledbury, Herefordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 9: plan and photograph

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