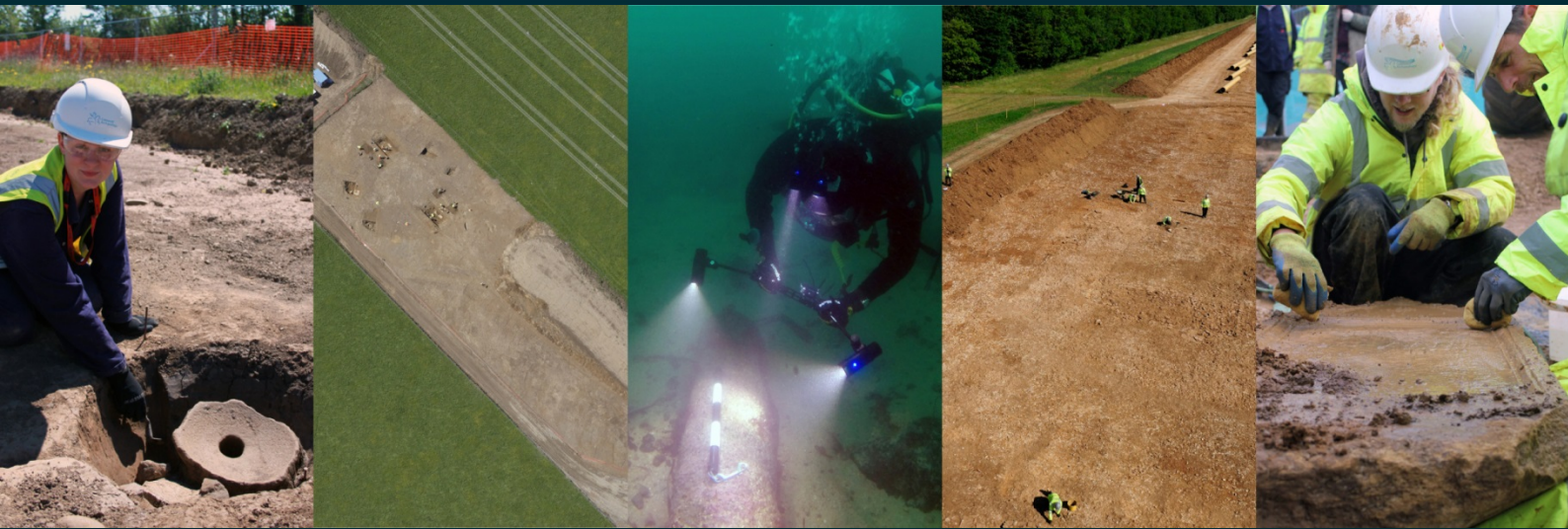


New Entrance Building Warwick Racecourse Hampton Street Warwick

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Roberts Limbrick Ltd

on behalf of
The Jockey Club

CA Project: 6332
CA Report: 17578

October 2017



NEW ENTRANCE BUILDING WARWICK RACECOURSE HAMPTON STREET WARWICK

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 6332
CA Report: 17578



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	17 October 2017	Peter Searle	Steven Sheldon	Final LPA Issue		Cliff Bateman

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	5
4. METHODOLOGY	5
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3).....	6
6. DISCUSSION.....	7
7. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	7
8. REFERENCES.....	8
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	9
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	10

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan, showing identified archaeological features (1:200)
- Fig. 3 Trench 2: section (1:20) and photograph



SUMMARY

Project Name:	New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse
Location:	Hampton Street, Warwick
NGR:	427692 264657
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	27-28 September 2017
Planning Reference:	Warwick District Council planning ref: W/17/0676, condition 4
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Warwickshire Museum Service
Site Code:	WARH17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2017 at Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick. A total of five trenches was excavated.

An undated ditch was identified cutting the natural substrate in northern part of the site. The exact function of this ditch remains unclear however; it is likely to relate to agricultural land management or division. An undated post-hole was identified cutting the subsoil in the central part of the site.

No further features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the evaluation.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Roberts Limbrick Ltd, on behalf of The Jockey Club, at Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick (centred on NGR: 427692 264657; Fig. 1). Planning permission for the construction of a new entrance building and associated landscaping has been granted by Warwick District Council (WDC), conditional on a programme of archaeological work being completed (WDC planning ref: W/17/0676, condition 4). Following consultation between CA and John Robinson, Planning Archaeologist, Warwickshire County Council (WCC), the archaeological advisor to WDC, it was determined that this would initially comprise archaeological trial-trench evaluation.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Mr Robinson. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Mr Robinson, including a site visit on 28 September 2017.

The site

1.3 The development area is approximately 0.1ha in extent and comprises a single storey entrance building to Warwick Racecourse, along with areas of associated hardstanding and grass. The site is bounded to the north-west and south-west by Warwick Racecourse, to the north-east by Bread and Meat Close and to the south-east by the A4189 (Hampton Street). The site lies at approximately 52m AOD and is broadly level.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Mercia Mudstone Group - Mudstone of the Triassic Period, overlain by River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2017). The natural substrate, comprising compact orange-yellow sand and gravel, was identified in all of the excavated trenches.



2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has not been subject to previous archaeological assessment; however it is located in an area of known archaeological potential. The following is a summary of relevant, publically available information, pertinent to the site.
- 2.2 The origins of Warwick as a permanent settlement probably began in the 6th-century AD (VCH 1969, 418) and its location on the border between the kingdoms of Hwicce and the South Mercians may have ensured later royal protection or sponsorship (Slater 1982). A burh (fortified town) was established at Warwick in 914AD to defend Mercia against the Danes and it acquired an administrative status in the early 10th-century (VCH 1969, 418).
- 2.3 The western extent of Warwick's medieval defences is indicated by the line of Bowling Green Street, c. 150m to the east of the current site (VCH 1969, 418) and a known medieval suburb is concentrated along West Street, c. 40m to the west of the current site (NA 2007).
- 2.4 A number of archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the current site have revealed evidence of medieval activity. A group of medieval (11th to 13th-century) pits and a series of pottery kilns were revealed during archaeological works undertaken in Market Street, c. 425m to the north-east of the current site (*ibid.*). Archaeological works undertaken at Bread and Meat Close, c. 40m to the north-east of the current site, revealed evidence of medieval (13th to 14th-century) industrial activity including a probable tile kiln, a tile-lined drain, a stone working surface and an oven or malting kiln (*ibid.*).
- 2.5 Warwick Racecourse itself is widely regarded as being one of the oldest race courses in the country, with the earliest recorded race on the present site taking place in 1707. Warwick's suburbs expanded rapidly during the 19th-century and the area immediately to the south-east of the current site is depicted as being extensively developed on the 1887 First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map. The majority of the current site is shown as an undeveloped parcel of land on this map, although three small buildings are shown partially occupying the south-eastern corner of the site. The function of these buildings remains unclear, however they may relate to a 19th-century ornamental lodge purported to be located to the south of the Common Gate entrance to the racecourse (*ibid.*). These buildings are shown

on all later editions of OS mapping until 1972 after which they are no longer depicted.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were 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), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered 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 in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Trench 1 measured 7.3m in length and 1.8m in width, Trench 2 measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width, Trench 3 measured 6.8m in length and 1.8m in width, Trench 4 measured 7.7m in length and 1.8m in width and Trench 5 measured 10.7m in length and 1.8m in width. All trenches were moved slightly from their original positions, as set out in the WSI, due to the presence of trees, fences and buried services. Additionally, Trench 5 was split due to the presence of a modern service. 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. 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 and will be deposited with Warwickshire Museum Service. 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.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A.
- 5.2 A broadly comparable stratigraphic sequence was observed in all of the excavated trenches. The natural substrate, comprising compact orange-yellow sand and gravel, was encountered at a depth of between 0.74m and 1.07m below present ground level (bpgl). It was overlain by subsoil measuring between 0.18m and 0.5m in thickness which was, in turn, overlain by make-up/levelling deposits, all of which contained modern material including plastic, metal and concrete fragments. These deposits were sealed by modern tarmac and gravel surfaces associated with the former racecourse entrance building.
- 5.3 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in Trenches 1, 4 or 5.

Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.4 Broadly north/south aligned ditch 204 (Fig. 3, section AA) was identified towards the western end of the trench. It cut the natural substrate, had a shallow irregular profile and contained a single undated fill, 205.

Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

- 5.5 Posthole 304 was identified cutting the subsoil towards the south-eastern end of the trench. It had a flat base and steeply sloping sides and contained a single undated fill, 305.



6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The evaluation has identified a small number of archaeological features within the development area. These features were confined to Trenches 2 and 3.
- 6.2 The function of undated ditch 204, identified cutting the natural substrate in Trench 2, remains unclear. Despite the presence of known medieval industrial and settlement activity to the east and north-east of the current site (see *archaeological background* above) the absence of artefactual material recovered from the fill of this ditch suggests that it is set away from any focus of activity and it is therefore most likely to be associated with agricultural land management and/or division. Whatever the function of ditch 204, it does not appear to correlate to any field boundary depicted by 19th-century cartographic sources and the possibility remains that it is therefore of some antiquity.
- 6.3 Given the apparent absence of industrial or settlement activity within the current site, it is tempting to suggest that an extant watercourse observed immediately to the north-east during the current works, and shown on the First Edition 1887 Ordnance Survey map, formed a natural obstacle to Warwick's urban expansion during the medieval and post-medieval periods; however this interpretation remains necessarily tentative at present.
- 6.4 Posthole 305, identified in Trench 3, remained artefactually undated but is likely to be of post-medieval/modern date as it was shown to cut the subsoil within the trench. However, due to the isolated nature of this feature, no further interpretation is possible at present.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 7.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Searle, assisted by Gary Baddeley and Jack Harrison. The report was written by Peter Searle. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Peter Searle, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Steven Sheldon.

8. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2017 Geology of Britain Viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 5 October 2017
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*
- NA (Northamptonshire Archaeology) 2007 *Archaeological excavation at Bread and Meat Close, Warwick, Warwickshire, 2003*, NA Report No. **07/108**
- VCH (Victoria County History) 1969 *The Victoria County History of the County of Warwickshire, VIII, The City of Coventry and the Borough of Warwick*. London.
- Slater, T. 1982 *Urban Genesis and Medieval Town Plans in Warwickshire and Worcestershire* in Slater, T. and Jarvis, P. J. *Field and Forest: an historical geography of Warwickshire and Worcestershire*. Norwich: Geobooks.

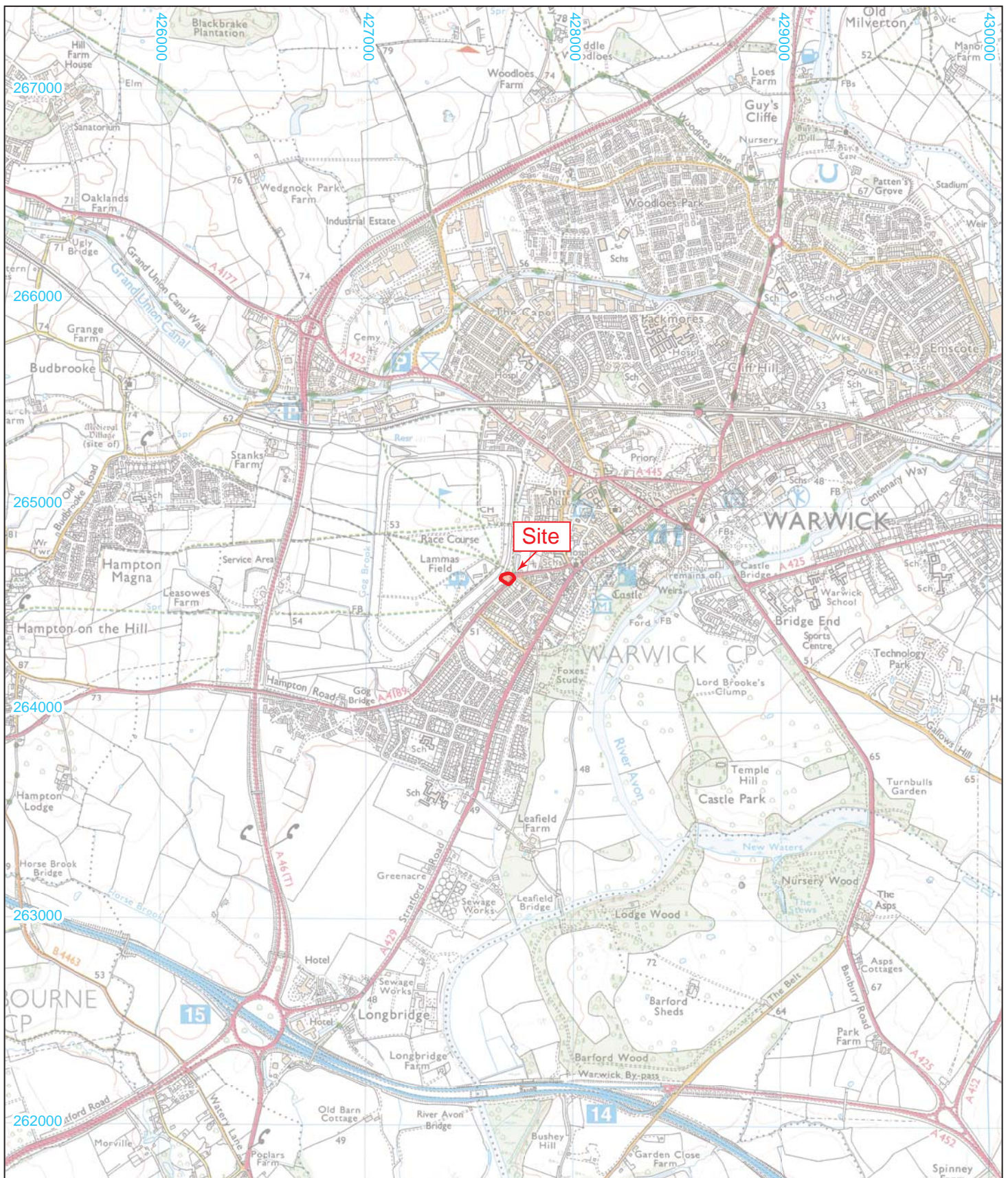


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer	Modern tarmac surface	Tarmac	>7.3	>1.8	0.25	
1	101	Layer	Modern make-up/levelling	Mixed orange grey silt sand with frequent plastic, metal, red brick and concrete fragments	>7.3	>1.8	0.25	
1	102	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown silt sand With frequent rounded pebble inclusions	>7.3	>1.8	0.5	
1	103	Layer	Natural substrate	Compact orange-yellow sand and gravel	>7.3	>1.8	>0.2	
2	200	Layer	Modern tarmac surface	Tarmac	>10	>1.8	0.45	
2	201	Layer	Modern make-up/levelling	Mixed orange grey silt sand with frequent plastic, metal, red brick and concrete fragments	>10	>1.8	0.21	
2	202	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown silt sand With frequent rounded pebble inclusions	>10	>1.8	0.41	
2	203	Layer	Natural substrate	Compact orange-yellow sand and gravel	>10	>1.8	0.45	
2	204	Cut	Ditch	N/S aligned, shallow irregular profile	>1.8	1.75	0.53	
2	205	Fill	Single fill of ditch 204	Light grey brown sand clay with occasional rounded pebble inclusions	>1.8	1.75	0.53	
3	300	Layer	Modern tarmac surface	Tarmac	>6.8	>1.8	0.25	
3	301	Layer	Modern make-up/levelling	Mixed orange grey silt sand with frequent plastic, metal, red brick and concrete fragments	>6.8	>1.8	0.25	
3	302	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown silt sand With frequent rounded pebble inclusions	>6.8	>1.8	0.5	
3	303	Layer	Natural substrate	Compact orange-yellow sand and gravel	>6.8	>1.8	>0.1	
3	304	Cut	Posthole	Sub-circular, steeply sloping sides and flat base	>0.3	0.25	0.57	
3	305	Fill	Single fill of posthole 304	Dark grey brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks	>0.3	0.25	0.57	
4	400	Layer	Modern tarmac surface	Tarmac	>7.7	>1.8	0.27	
4	401	Layer	Modern make-up/levelling	Mixed orange grey silt sand with frequent plastic, metal, red brick and concrete fragments	>7.7	>1.8	0.25	
4	402	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown silt sand With frequent rounded pebble inclusions	>7.7	>1.8	0.26	
4	403	Layer	Natural substrate	Compact orange-yellow sand and gravel	>7.7	>1.8	>0.5	
5	500	Layer	Modern tarmac surface	Tarmac	>10.7	>1.8	0.25	
5	501	Layer	Modern make-up/levelling	Mixed orange grey silt sand with frequent plastic, metal, red brick and concrete fragments	>10.7	>1.8	0.31	
5	502	Layer	Subsoil	Mid grey brown silt sand With frequent rounded pebble inclusions	>10.7	>1.8	0.18	
5	503	Layer	Natural substrate	Compact orange-yellow sand and gravel	>10.7	>1.8	>0.2	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2017 at Warwick Racecourse Hampton Street, Warwick. A total of five trenches was excavated.</p> <p>An undated ditch was identified cutting the natural substrate in northern part of the site. The exact function of this ditch remains unclear however; it is likely to relate to agricultural land management or division. An undated post-hole was identified cutting the subsoil in the central part of the site.</p> <p>No further features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the evaluation.</p>	
Project dates	27-28 September 2017	
Project type	Archaeological Evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.1ha	
Site co-ordinates	427692 264657	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Steven Sheldon	
Project Supervisor	Peter Searle	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive:	Content:
Physical	Warwickshire Museum Service	B&W photographs
Paper	Warwickshire Museum Service	Trench sheets, context sheets, permatrace drawings, photographic registers
Digital	Warwickshire Museum Service	Digital Photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 17578		



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick

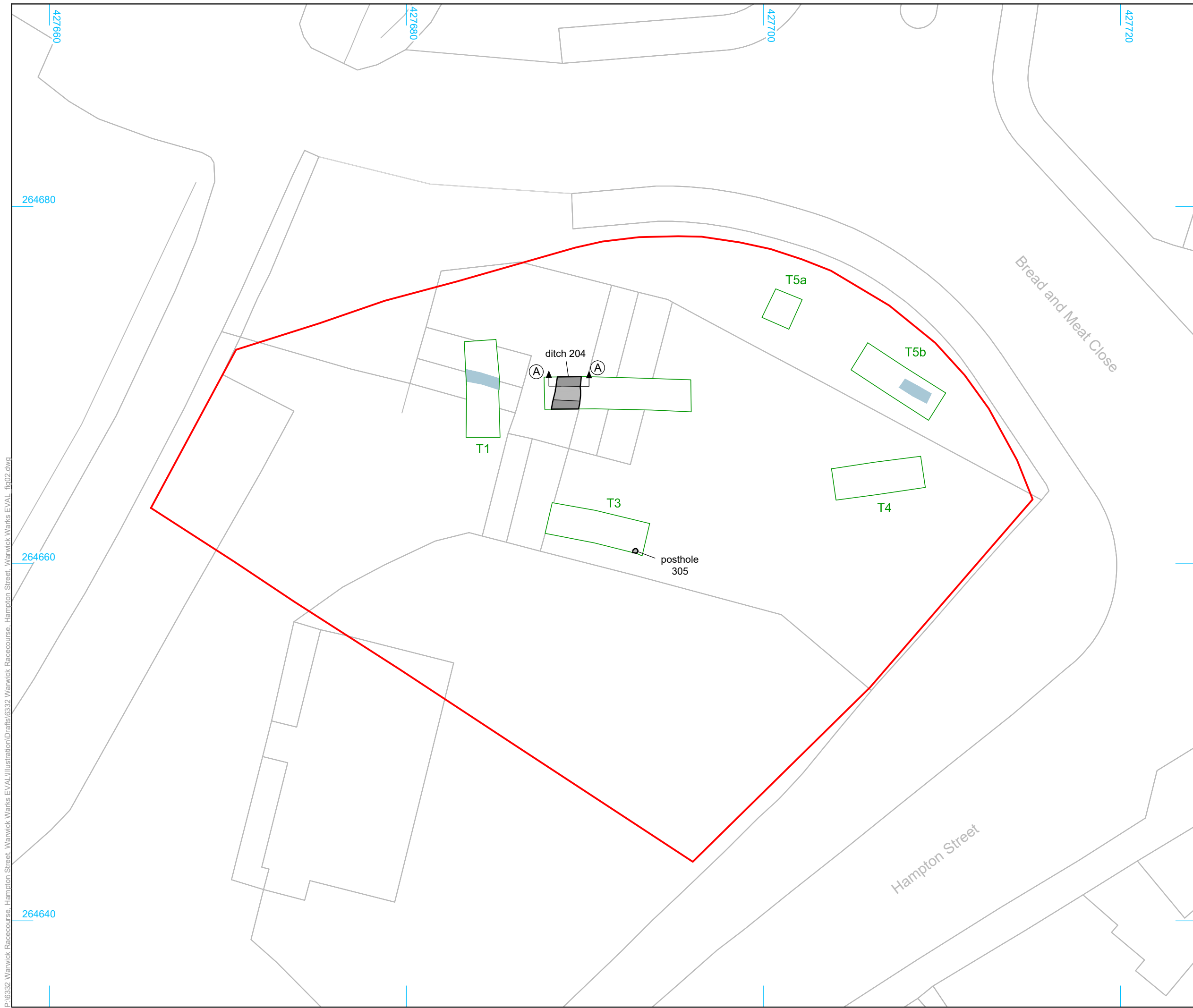
FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan



Reproduced from the digital Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright
 Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	6332	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	29/07/2017	
APPROVED BY	SS	SCALE	@A4 1:25,000	1



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- modern



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover	01264 347630
Cirencester	01285 771022
Exeter	01392 826185
Milton Keynes	01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk	

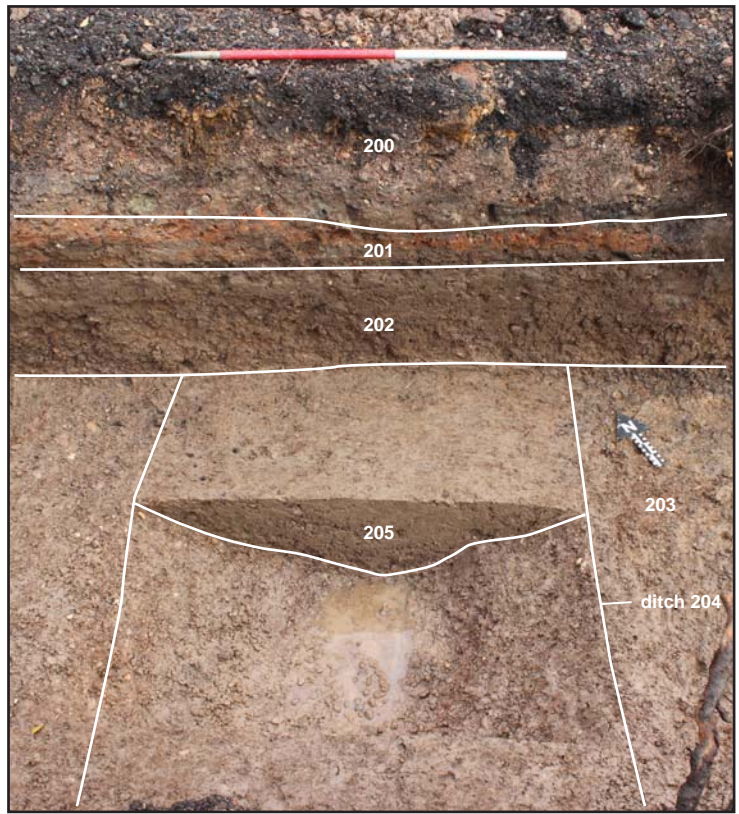
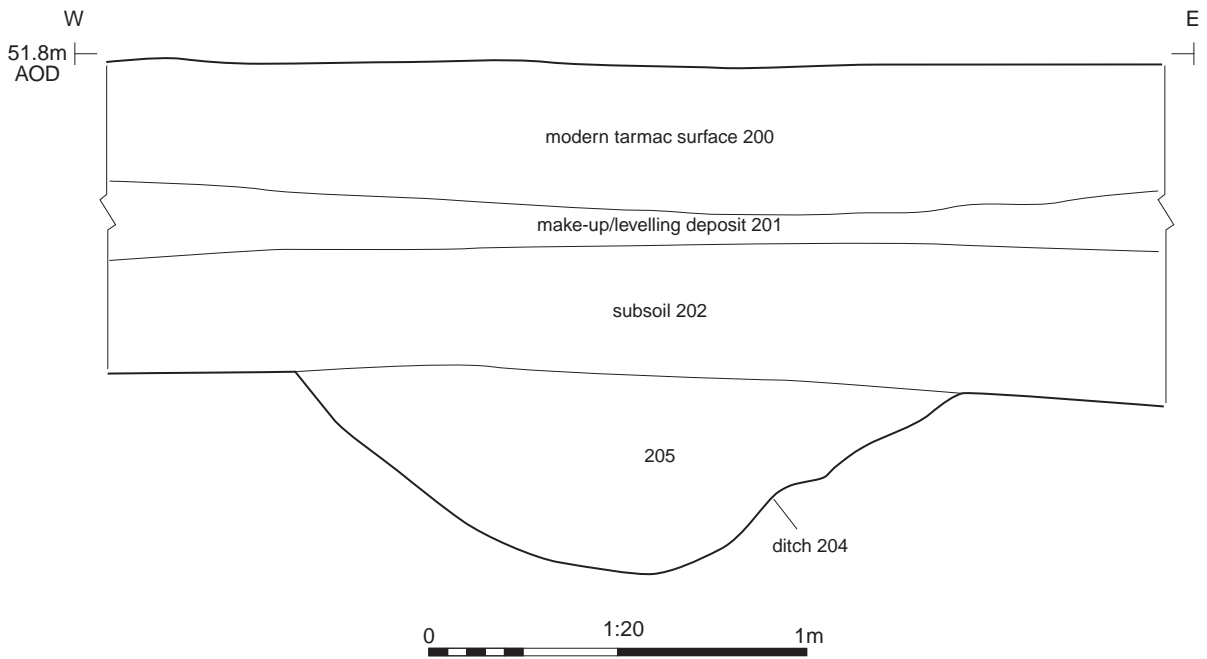
PROJECT TITLE
New Entrance Building, Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan, showing identified archaeological features

DRAWN BY AO	PROJECT NO. 6332	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 29/09/2017	2
APPROVED BY REY	SCALE @A3 1:200	

P:\6332 Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick Works E\VAL\Illustration\Drafts\6332 Warwick Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick Works E\VAL, fig02.dwg

Section AA



Ditch 204, looking north (1m scale)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

New Entrance Building, Warwick
 Racecourse, Hampton Street, Warwick

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 2: section and photograph

DRAWN BY AO PROJECT NO. 6332
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 29/09/2017
 APPROVED BY SS SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

3

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660