

Land at Manders Croft  
Southam  
Warwickshire  
*Archaeological Evaluation*



for  
Hayfield Homes

CA Project: 6501  
CA Report: 18159

April 2018



# Land at Manders Croft Southam Warwickshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 6501  
CA Report: 18159



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Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing furrows.  
Fig. 3 Trench 4: plan, section and photograph



## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Land at Manders Croft  
**Location:** Southam, Warwickshire  
**NGR:** 441354 261861  
**Type:** Evaluation  
**Date:** 14-16 March 2018  
**Planning Reference:** SADC; planning ref: 15/02047/OUT  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Warwickshire Museum  
**Site Code:** MCS18

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in March 2018 on land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire. Five trenches were excavated.

Evidence of ridge and furrow was identified in all the trenches, which accords with the agricultural use of the area during the post medieval period.

No other artefacts or deposits of archaeological interest were identified in any of the trenches.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In March 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Hayfield Homes on land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire (centred at NGR: 441354 261861; Fig. 1). The evaluation was required as a condition of planning approval from Stratford-on-Avon District Council (SADC; planning ref. 15/02047/OUT). Following consultation with Louise Koelman (Planning Officer, SADC), it had been agreed that the archaeological work should comprise a staged approach: geophysical survey to be followed by trial trenching.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* produced by CA (2018) and approved by Louise Koelman (Planning Officer, SADC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014).

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 2.5ha in extent, and comprises a grass field. It is bounded to the north, east and south by residences (variously of Holywell Road, Mill Crescent and Manders Croft), and to the west by open fields. The site lies at between 77m AOD and 95m AOD, rising from south to north.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Rugby Limestone Member - Mudstone and Limestone, Interbedded of the Jurassic Period. No superficial deposits were noted (BGS 2018). The natural substrate encountered during the evaluation comprised clay with embedded limestone.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A heritage desk-based assessment of the site has previously been completed (CA 2015). A brief summary of this assessment is provided below.
- 2.2 While no evidence for pre medieval activity has hitherto been identified, the site's location overlooking the River Stowe is generally considered to be favourable for settlement in the region (CA 2015).

- 2.3 During the medieval and post-medieval periods, there is evidence for the establishment and subsequent influence of the manorial and ecclesiastical estates at Southam. However, it is likely that the site has remained in agricultural use from the medieval period. Evidence of ridge and furrow within in the site boundary is indicative of this, though it was largely removed in the latter part of the 20th century through ploughing (CA 2015).

### 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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information will enable SADC 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 5 trenches, all 50m in length and 1.8m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). 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. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts (if any were found) will be deposited with Warwickshire 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 respectively.
- 5.2 Natural substrate was encountered consistently at approximately 0.4m below ground level and comprised yellow clay and embedded limestone. This was overlaid by subsoil which was typically between 0.2m and 0.3m thick and comprised mid brown silty clay. The subsoil was in turn sealed by 0.2m thick topsoil which comprised mid to dark grey brown silty clay.
- 5.3 Remains of furrows were identified in all trenches. The furrows were all aligned north-south, their width varied between 1.4 and 2m and they all measured approximately 0.1m in depth. All furrows across site were sealed by subsoil, though indications of modern ploughing were evident across the furrow fills.
- 5.4 No other artefacts or deposits of archaeological interest were identified in any of the trenches.

## 6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material dating to the post-medieval/modern period was hand-recovered from the fills of six furrows. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric (Appendix B). Pottery fabric codes are equated, where possible, to the Warwickshire pottery type series as defined by Soden and Ratkai (1998).





### *Pottery*

- 6.2 A total of seven unfeathered bodysherds was recovered, totalling 52g. Five ware types were represented: glazed earthenware (GRE, mid 16th to 18th centuries), Bristol/Staffordshire mottled brown-glazed earthenware (MANG, late 17th to mid 18th centuries), white salt-glazed earthenware (STE03, 18th century), porcelain (MGW, mid 18th to 19th centuries) and transfer-printed refined whiteware (MGW, late 18th to 19th centuries).

### *Ceramic building material*

- 6.3 Two fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material (59g) were recorded, including flat roof tile from fill 104 of furrow 103.

### *Other finds*

- 6.4 Clay tobacco pipe totals three stem fragments (5g), dating to the late 16th to 19th centuries. The heavily abraded fragment from fill 508 of furrow 507 features a maker's stamp. However, only the letters "CHA" at the bottom of the stamp are legible and it has not been possible to identify this maker.
- 6.5 Three iron objects were retrieved – part of a spring, probably of modern date, from fill 504 of furrow 503 and two nails from fill 506 of furrow 505. The nails are not closely dateable by form; although it is likely they are post-medieval or modern.

## **7. DISCUSSION**

- 7.1 The evaluation results confirmed that the site was in use for agricultural purposes during the post-medieval period as suggested in the archaeological background.
- 7.2 The evaluation also noted evidence of modern ploughing which had an impacted on the remains of ridge and furrow. This accords with the conclusions of the DBA (CA 2015).

## **8. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Paolo Guarino, assisted by Holy Young and Ferran Bonnet. The report was written by Paolo Guarino. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The



archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes.

## 9. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2018 *Geology of Britain Viewer*  
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 11 January 2018

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, CA Report No. **15261**

CA 2018 *Land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Soden, I. and Ratkai, S. 1998 *Warwickshire Medieval and Post Medieval Pottery Type Series*. Warwick. Warwickshire Museum Field Services



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

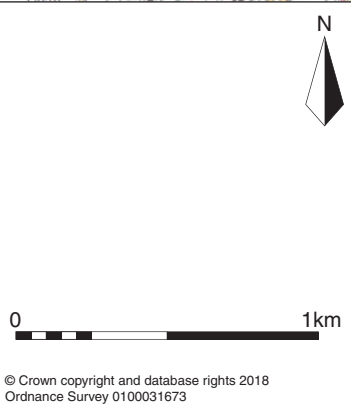
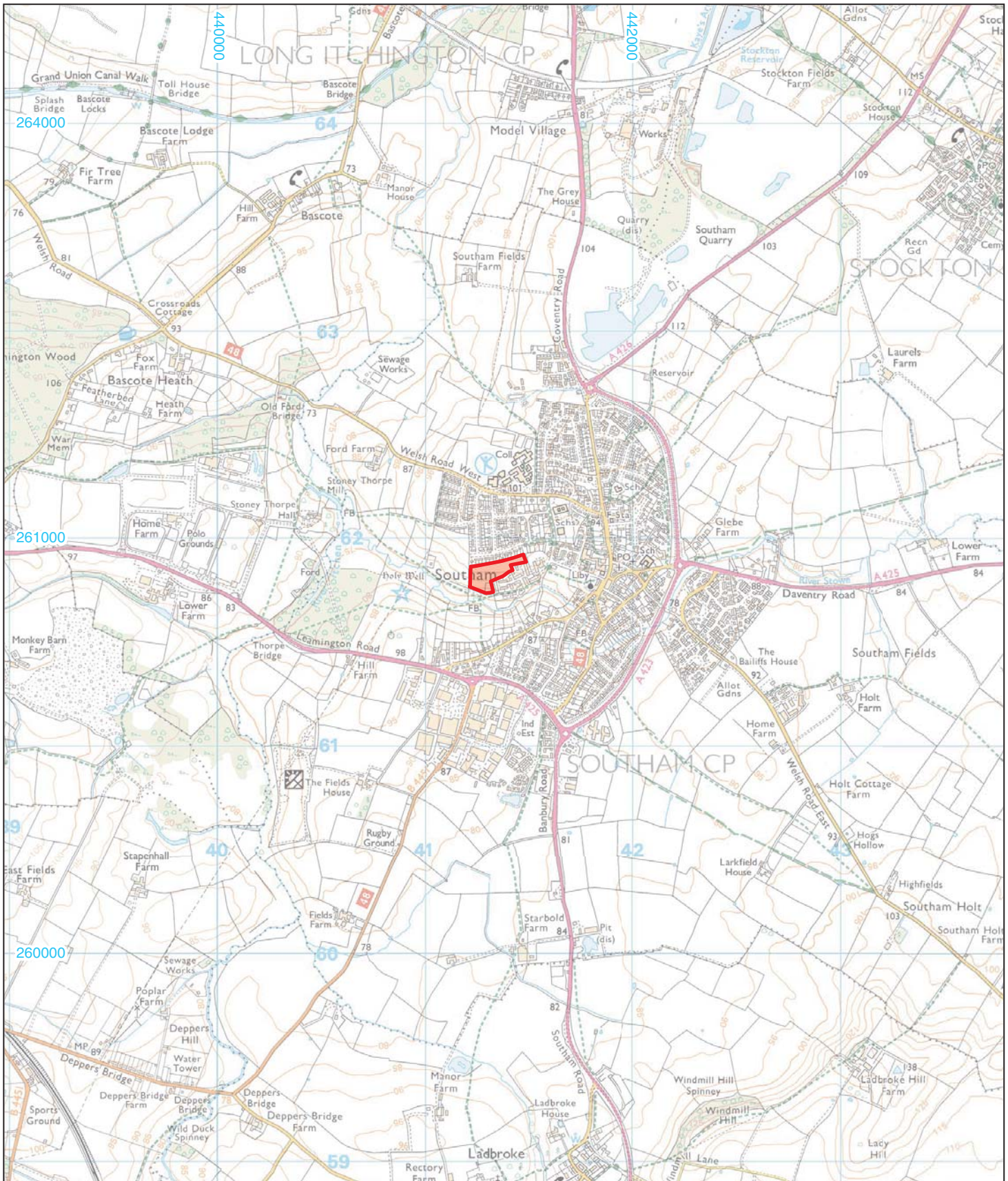
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Mod
1	101	Layer		subsoil	Mid-light brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Mod
1	102	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow clay with embedded limestone	50	1.8	NA	NA
1	103	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	1.5	0.12	Post-Med
1	104	Fill	103	Fill	Mid-light grey yellow silty clay	>1.8	1.5	0.12	Post-Med
2	200	Layer		topsoil	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
2	201	Layer		subsoil	Mid-light brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
2	203	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow clay with embedded limestone	50	1.8	NA	NA
3	300	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
3	301	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
3	302	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow clay with embedded limestone	50	1.8	NA	NA
4	400	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
4	401	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
4	402	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow clay with embedded limestone	50	1.8	NA	NA
4	403	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	2	0.10	Post-Med
4	404	Fill	403	Fill	Mid-light grey yellow silty clay	>1.8	2	0.10	Post-Med
4	405	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	2	0.10	Post-Med
4	406	Fill	405	Fill	Mid-light grey yellow silty clay	>1.8	2	0.10	Post-Med
5	500	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
5	501	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.20	Modern
5	502	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow clay with embedded limestone	50	1.8	NA	NA
5	503	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	2	0.1	Post-Med
5	504	Fill	503	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt	>1.8	2	0.1	Post-Med
5	505	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	2.1	0.7	Post-Med
5	506	Fill	505	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt	>1.8	2.1	0.7	Post-Med
5	507	Cut		Furrow	Shallow cut of N-S furrow	>1.8	2	0.11	Post-Med
5	508	Fill	507	Fill	Mid grey brown clay silt	>1.8	2	0.11	Post-Med
5	509	Cut		Modern truncation	linear	>1.8	1.2	NFE	Modern
5	510	Fill	509	Fill	Dark grey brown loose silty sand	>1.8	1.2	NFE	Modern

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	1	13	LC17-MC18
	Post-medieval pottery	Bristol/Staffordshire mottled brown-glazed earthenware	MANG	1	22	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	59	
404	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Porcelain	MGW	1	12	LC18-C19
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed refined whiteware	MGW	1	<1	
	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem		1	3	
406	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem		1	<1	LC16-C19
	Iron	Fragment		3	3	
504	Iron	Spring		1	6	-
506	Post-medieval pottery	White salt-glazed stoneware	STE03	1	3	LC18-C19
	Post-medieval pottery	Bristol/Staffordshire mottled brown-glazed earthenware	MANG	1	2	
	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Transfer-printed refined whiteware	MGW	1	1	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	4	
	Iron	Nail		2	10	
508	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem		1	2	LC16-C19

**APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Manders Croft Southam, Warwickshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in March 2018 at Land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire. Five trenches were excavated. All trenches showed evidence of ridge and furrow confirming the use of the land for agricultural purposes during the post medieval period. No other artefacts or deposits of archaeological interest were identified in any of the trenches	
Project dates	14-16 March 2018	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land at Manders Croft Southam, Warwickshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)		
Site co-ordinates	SP 4136 6186	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisor	Paolo Guarino	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Warwickshire Museum	Ceramic, Clay Tobacco Pipe
Paper	Warwickshire Museum	Trench Sheets, registers
Digital	Warwickshire Museum	Digital survey and photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>Land at Manders Croft, Southam, Warwickshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>18159</b>		




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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Manders Croft, Southam,  
 Warwickshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b> CP	<b>PROJECT NO.</b> 6501	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b> AO	<b>DATE</b> 22/03/2018	
<b>APPROVED BY</b> IB	<b>SCALE@A4</b> 1:25,000	<b>1</b>





- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- field drain
- furrow  
(excavated/unexcavated)
- modern  
(excavated/unexcavated)



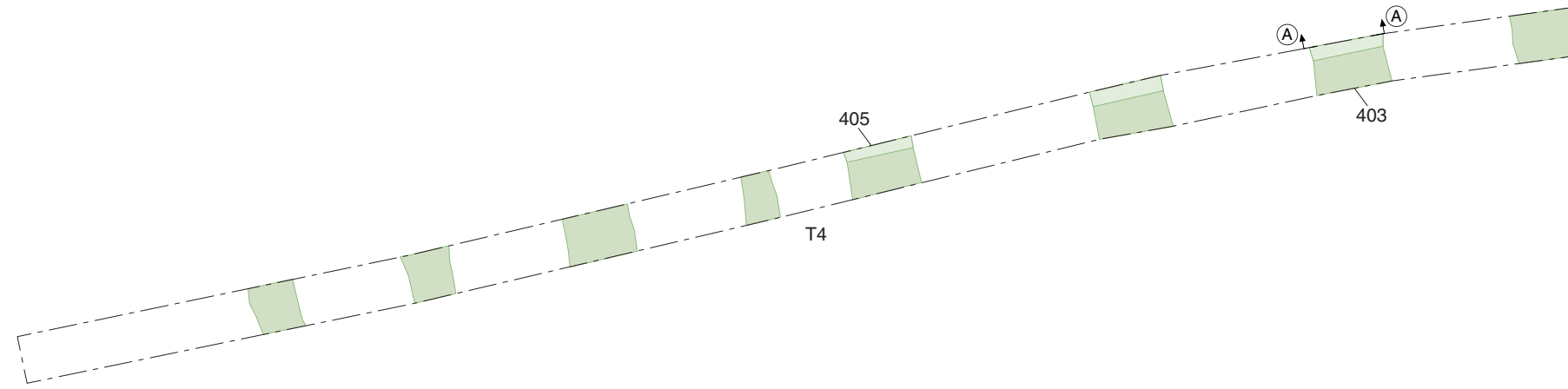
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

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Manders Croft, Southam,  
 Warwickshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trench location plan showing furrows**

DRAWN BY CP	PROJECT NO. 6501	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY AO	DATE 22/03/2018	<b>2</b>
APPROVED BY IB	SCALE@A3 1:1,000	

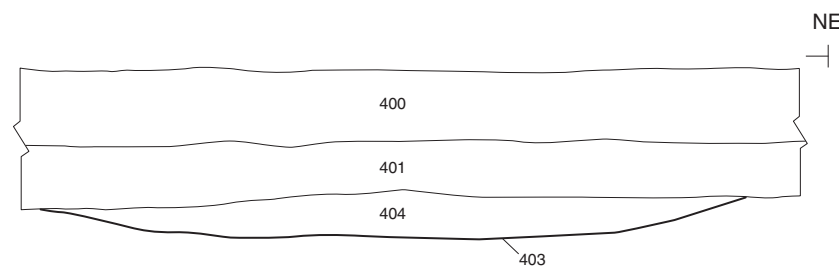


0 1:200 10m

-  evaluation trench
-  furrow (excavated/unexcavated)
-  section location

Section AA

SW  
89.5m  
AOD



0 1:20 1m



Furrow 403, looking north-west (scale 1m)

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PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Manders Croft, Southam,  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 4: plan, section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	6501	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	AO	DATE	22/03/2018	<b>3</b>
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE@A3	1:20 & 1:200	



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