

**LAND OFF CHURCH STREET
KING'S STANLEY, STROUD
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

For

COLBURN HOMES LIMITED

CA PROJECT: 2491
CA REPORT: 08007

JANUARY 2008


COTSWOLD
ARCHAEOLOGY



LAND OFF CHURCH STREET
KING'S STANLEY
STROUD
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 2491
CA REPORT: 08007

prepared by	Stuart Joyce, Project Supervisor
date	14 January 2008
checked by	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager
date	18 January 2008
approved by	Mark Collard, Head of Contracts
signed	
date	23 January 2008
issue	01

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
<i>The site</i>	3
<i>Archaeological background</i>	3
<i>Archaeological objectives</i>	4
<i>Methodology</i>	4
2. RESULTS	5
<i>Trench 1</i>	5
<i>Trench 2</i>	5
<i>Trench 3</i>	6
<i>Trenches</i>	6
<i>The finds and palaeoenvironmental evidence</i>	6
3. DISCUSSION	7
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	7
5. REFERENCES	7
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	8
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS	10
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	11

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing archaeological features (1:1250)

Fig. 3 Trenches 1-3, sections AA-CC (1:20)

SUMMARY

Project Name: Land off Church Street
Location: King's Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire
NGR: SO 8105 0362
Type: Evaluation
Date: 7-9 January 2007
Location of Archive: The Museum in the Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire
Site Code: CSK 07

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2008 at the request of Colburn Homes Limited at land off Church Street, King's Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Five trenches were excavated.

Three ditches dating to the medieval period were identified, together with one undated ditch. One modern ditch and two modern service trenches were also identified.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Colburn Homes Limited at land off Church Street, King's Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SO 8105 0362; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a planning application to Stroud District Council for the proposed residential development of the site.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2007) and approved by Stroud District Council (SDC) acting on the advice of Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council, the archaeological advisor to SDC. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 2001), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological fieldwork in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1995) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

The site

- 1.3 The site is bounded to the north by properties on Gardeners Way, to the east by The Rectory and Coach House, to the south by housing on Bathleaze, and to the west by a stream and properties on Brimley (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 46m AOD, with the ground level dropping downward to the west.
- 1.4 The site encloses an area of approximately 0.57ha, and is currently utilised as pasture for horses.
- 1.5 The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Middle Lias of the Lower Jurassic era (BGS 1975). The natural substrate of clay was encountered within all the evaluation trenches.

Archaeological background

- 1.6 Archaeological interest in the site arises from its proximity to the medieval settlement area of King's Stanley. It lies c.100m north of the area known as 'The Borough' (GCC SMR Ref: 17445), which contains the medieval market place of the town

(GCC SMR Ref: 17435). Immediately to the east of the proposed development area lie a medieval rectory and its associated buildings, including a late 16th-century dovecote (GCC SMR Refs: 17438, 17439 and 13267 respectively). All of the buildings within this complex are of Grade II Listed status.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist Stroud District Council, in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of five trenches, each measuring 25m in length and 1.8m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The layout of the trenches was revised from that originally agreed in the WSI due to the presence of trees (with Tree Preservation Orders) within the site; this was undertaken in consultation with Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council.
- 1.9 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* (2007).
- 1.10 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* (2003) and no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).
- 1.11 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 the Museum in the Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire, 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.

2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features are included in Appendix A.
- 2.2 During the evaluation four ditches were identified within trenches 1 to 3. Three of these ditches dated to the medieval period, and one was undated. A modern ditch (trench 4) and two modern service trenches were also identified. Trench 5 was devoid of archaeological features. A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was identified in all of the trenches. Undisturbed natural, comprising silty clay, was revealed within all of the trenches, at a depth of approximately 0.55m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by subsoil, up to 0.30m thick which in turn was sealed by topsoil 0.25m thick.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.3 Ditch 107 was orientated north-west/south-east and fill 103 contained pottery dating to the medieval period. Parallel and immediately to the north of this feature was ditch 106 the fills of which, 108, 109, 104 and 102, did not contain any dating evidence. The fills of the ditches were overlain by subsoil 101, which in turn was overlain by topsoil 100.

Trench 2 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.4 Ditch 205 was on a similar north-west/south-east orientation as ditches 106 and 107 and the fill 204 also contained pottery dating to the medieval period.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 5)

- 2.5 Ditch 302 was orientated east/west and fill 303 contained pottery dating to the medieval period.

Trenches 4 and 5

- 2.6 A modern ditch was identified in trench 4 and trench 5 was devoid of archaeological features.

The finds and palaeoenvironmental evidence

- 2.7 Quantities of pottery, fired clay, animal bone, glass and ceramic building material were recovered from five deposits.
- 2.8 Pottery of medieval date was recovered from deposits 103, 204 and 303, with a quantity of modern china from deposit 404. The medieval material comprises oolitic limestone-tempered fabrics of local Cotswold type and a similar fabric with sparsely applied lead glaze, identifiable as being from Minety, North Wiltshire. The Cotswold fabric is dateable broadly to between the 11th to 13th centuries. A 'clubbed' rim sherd in this fabric from 103 may indicate a relatively early date (before 1200) in this range. The Minety sherds, from deposit 204, feature combed-wavy line decoration which frequently occurs with tripod-pitchers dating to the period c. 1150-1250.
- 2.9 Fragments of fired clay, totalling seven in number, were recovered from two contexts, but no forms are identifiable from the fragments.
- 2.10 A total of 10 fragments of animal bone were recovered from two contexts. Those from deposit 102 were identifiable as a cattle forelimb and those from 103 were more fragmented and included cow-sized ribs. The bone shows some evidence of weathering but most breakage is modern.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Three medieval ditches 107, 205, 302 dating from the 11th to 13th centuries were identified during the evaluation. These features probably represented field boundaries, delineating the land and acting as drainage channels. A fourth ditch 106, identified within trench 1 is considered to be of similar date as it followed the same orientation as ditch 107 and had a fill of similar character which was also sealed by the subsoil.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Stuart Joyce, assisted by Ashley Strutt and Robert Elliot. The report was written by Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Jemma Elliot. The archive has been compiled by Stuart Joyce, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 1975 *Geological Survey of Britain (England and Wales) Solid and Drift*. Sheet 234: Gloucester
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007 *Land off Church Street, Kings Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1 Present ground level: 45.16m AOD (west end), 46.02m AOD (east end)

No.	Type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer	Topsoil, dark grey clay silt		0.22	
101	Layer	Subsoil, orange brown clay silt		0.18	
102	Deposit	Final fill of Linear 106, orange brown silt clay	0.45	0.10	
103	Deposit	Single fill of 107, orange-brown silty clay	0.64	0.10	C11-C13
104	Deposit	Charcoal layer, secondary fill of 106	0.26	0.01	
105	Layer	Natural Substrate, clay			
106	Cut	Linear ditch	0.45	0.10	
107	Cut	Linear ditch	0.64	0.10	C11-C13
108	Deposit	Primary fill of 106, greyish brown clay silt	0.100	0.02	
109	Deposit	Primary fill of 106, greyish brown clay silt	0.06	0.01	

Trench 2 Present ground level: 46.58m AOD (east end), 46.66m AOD (west end)

No.	Type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
200	Layer	Topsoil, dark brown silt		0.06	
201	Layer	Subsoil, mid brown silt		0.24	
202	Layer	Natural Substrate, yellow brown silty clay			
203	Deposit	Natural fill of 206, yellow brown silty clay	0.63	0.20	
204	Deposit	Single fill of 205, dark brown silty clay	1.06	0.17	C12-C13
205	Cut	Linear ditch	1.06	0.17	C12-C13
206	Cut	Natural cut – root disturbance	0.63	0.20	

Trench 3 Present ground level: 44.40m AOD (north end), 44.80m AOD (south end)

No.	Type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
300	Layer	Topsoil, mid grey brown clay silt		0.25	
301	Layer	Subsoil, yellow brown silty clay		0.25	
302	Cut	Linear ditch	1.17	0.34	C11
303	Deposit	Single fill of 302, yellow brown silty clay	1.17	0.34	C11
304	Layer	Natural Substrate, yellow clay			

Trench 4 Present ground level: 42.71m AOD (west end), 44.83m AOD (east end)

No.	Type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
400	Layer	Topsoil, dark grey brown clay silt	n/k	0.25	
401	Layer	Subsoil, yellow brown silty clay	n/k	0.30	
402	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/k		
403	Cut	Linear ditch, dark black, charcoal and coal rich deposit	1.00		C19
404	Deposit	Primary fill of 403, dark black, charcoal and coal rich deposit	0.50		C19
405	Deposit	Secondary fill of 403, yellow brown silty clay	1.00		

Trench 5 Present ground level: 43.90m AOD (south-west end), 44.09m AOD (north-east end)

No.	Type	Description	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
500	Layer	Topsoil, mid grey brown clay		0.25	
501	Layer	Subsoil, yellow brown silty clay		0.25	
502	Layer	Natural Substrate, mottled yellow and orange clay			

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Finds concordance

Context	Artefact type	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
102	Fired clay	6	86	-
	Stone	1	4	
	Animal bone	4	30	
103	Medieval pottery; oolitic limestone cooking pot fabric	8	86	C11-C13
	Fired clay	1	18	
	Stone tile	1	84	
	Animal bone	7	6	
204	Medieval pottery; Minety-type pitcher	3	948	C12-C13
303	Medieval pottery; cooking pot fabric	2	20	C11-C13
	Ceramic building material	1	1	
404	Modern pottery; china	3	48	C19-C20
	Modern glass	2	26	
	Burnt stone	1	44	

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land Off Church Street	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2008 at the request of Colburn Homes Limited at land off Church Street, King's Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire. Five trenches were excavated.</p> <p>Three ditches dating to the medieval period were identified, together with one undated ditch. One modern ditch, as well as two modern service trenches were also identified.</p>	
Project dates	7-9 January 2008	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Archaeological Evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Not known	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land Off Church Street, King's Stanley, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.57ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8105 0362	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Stuart Joyce	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	The Museum in the Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire	ceramics, animal bone, fired clay, burnt stone
Paper	The Museum in the Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire	Context sheets, trench recording sheets, photographic registers, levels registers, WSI, site data
Digital	The Museum in the Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire	N/A
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 <i>Land off Church Street, King's Stanley, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 08007		



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

Land off Church Street, King's Stanley
Stroud, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY

JE

SCALE

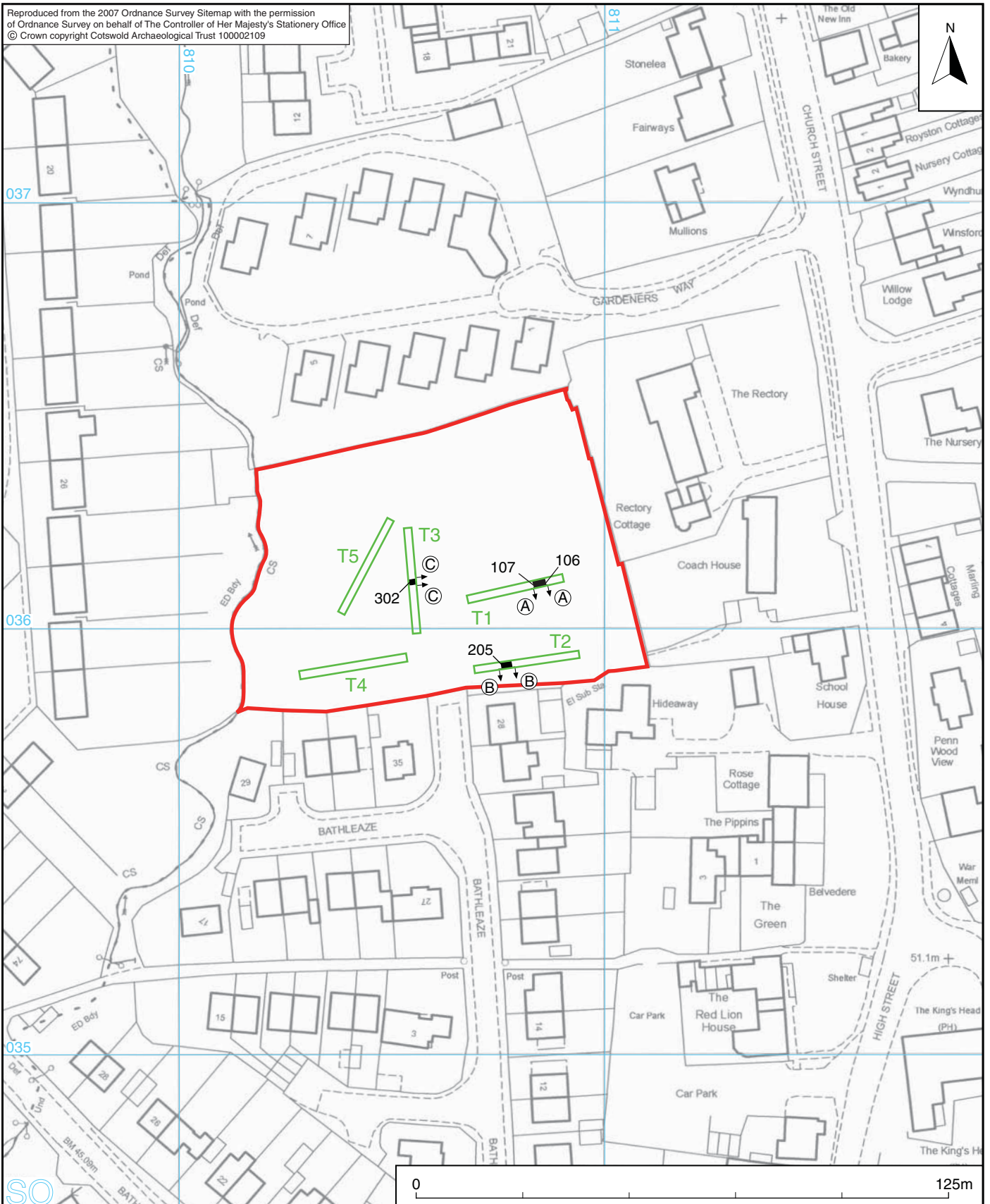
1:25,000@A4


PROJECT NO.

2491

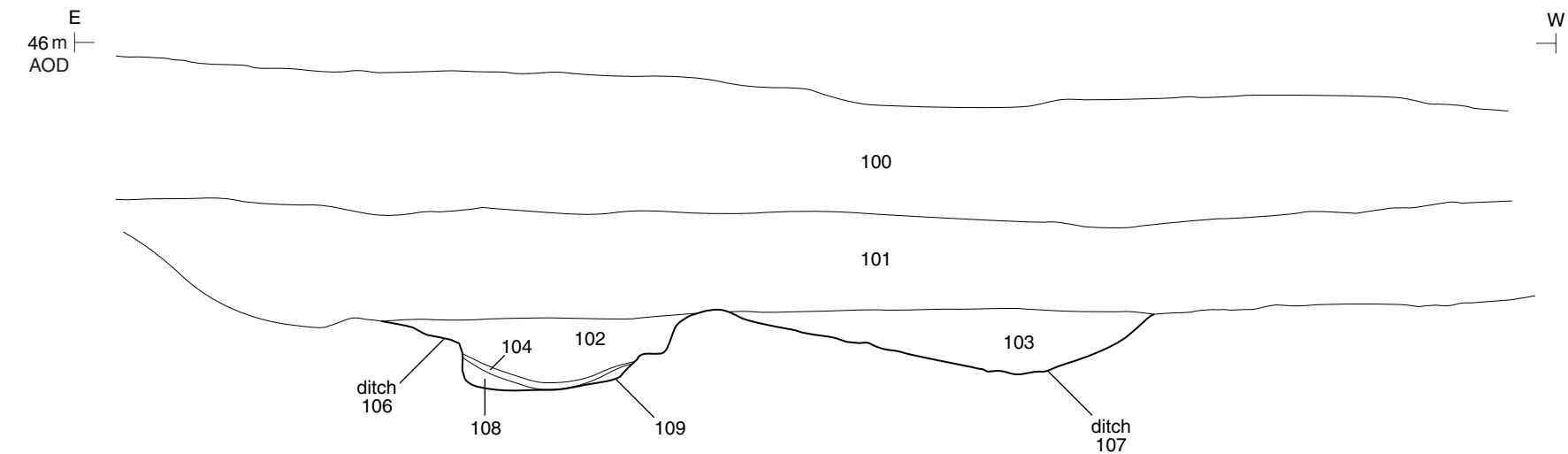
FIGURE NO.

1

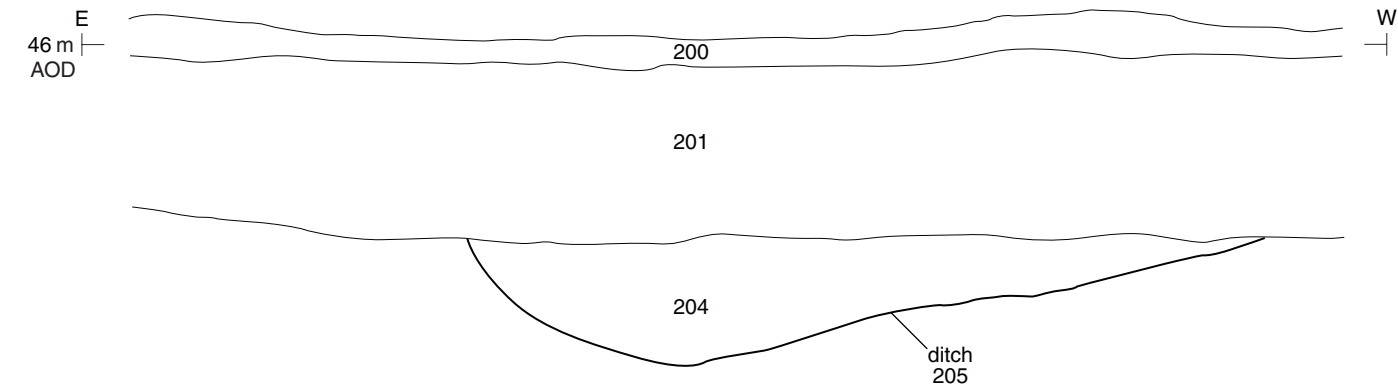


0 125m			
 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE Land off Church Street, King's Stanley Stroud, Gloucestershire			
FIGURE TITLE Trench location plan showing archaeological features			
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JE	1:1250@A4	2491	2

Trench 1: North facing section AA



Trench 2: North facing section BB



Trench 3: West facing section CC

