



**Salwarpe Road
Droitwich Spa
Worcestershire**
Archaeological Evaluation



for
Pegasus Group

on behalf of
Fletcher Construction Ltd

CA Project: MK00178
CA Report: MK0178_3
HER event number: WSM72702

January 2020

SALWARPE ROAD DROITWICH SPA WORCESTERSHIRE

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Salwarpe Road
Location:	Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire
NGR:	389462 263697
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	16-19 December 2019
Planning Reference:	Wychavon District Council 19/01306/FUL
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
HER event number:	WSM72702
Site Code:	LSRD 19

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2019 on land at Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 11 trenches.

Archaeological interest in the site derives from the site's location to the west of Netherwich Pit and the potential for associated remains to continue into the site. Netherwich Pit is one of the three main Anglo-Saxon saltworks that operated out of Droitwich. The principle objectives of this evaluation were to investigate the 'ashy' deposits identified in preceding geotechnical surveys to establish if they related to earlier industrial processes associated with Netherwich Pit and to investigate whether these deposits overlie associated Anglo-Saxon industrial features.

No remains associated with the Anglo-Saxon Netherwich Pit saltworks were identified during the evaluation. The 'ashy' deposits identified during the earlier geotechnical surveys correspond with a dark brown grey clay silt deposit likely to originate from silting and identified across an area formerly comprising marshy bog; the deposit characteristics deriving from the natural marshy environment rather than representing ash from industrial processes.

Two ditches were identified, cutting the alluvium and sealed beneath marsh silt deposits in Trenches 3 and 9 in the southern part of the site. Both ditches contained significant quantities of pottery dating to the Roman period. One post-medieval ditch was also recorded, which is likely to have served to drain water to the river in the north of the site.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2019, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: 389462 263697; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken at the request of Pegasus Group on behalf of Fletcher Construction Ltd.
- 1.2 The evaluation was undertaken to inform a full planning application to Wychavon District Council (WDC; the local planning authority), for the '*Erection of block A, B, C and D comprising 32 industrial units and 5,044.1 sqm of floorspace under Use Classes B1, B2 and B8 with access from Salwarpe Road and associated site infrastructure including parking and lorry turning area.*' under Planning Ref 19/01306/FUL.
- 1.3 The scope of the evaluation, which comprised the excavation of 11 trenches (Fig. 2), was defined during discussions between Christopher Morley, Associate Heritage Consultant, Pegasus Group and Aidan Smyth, Archaeology and Planning Advisor for Wychavon District Council (APAWDC).
- 1.4 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with *Written Schemes of Investigation* (WSI) produced by Pegasus Group (2019) and CA (2019) and approved by Mr Smyth, APAWDC. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014) and was monitored by the APAWDC.

The site

- 1.5 The proposed development site is approximately 1ha in area, located within the north of Droitwich, Worcestershire, to the east of Salwarpe Road. The site comprises a single parcel of land which has been developed and in commercial use since the later 20th century. It is bounded to the north by the River Salwarpe, with a commercial property and associated parking beyond, to the east by a steep railway embankment with railway line and tree line beyond, to the south by Droitwich Canal, with open ground and industrial units beyond and to the west by Salwarpe Road, with open land beyond. To the north-west, beyond Salwarpe Road, lies an area of residential development. The site lies at approximately 28m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) on relatively flat ground.
- 1.6 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is recorded as Sidmouth Mudstone Formation mudstone of the Triassic period, overlain by Quaternary period alluvium,

comprising clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS 2020). Across the site, these geological deposits are sealed by made ground, recorded at a depth of between 0.4m and 1.2m below present ground level (bpgl). This is recorded as comprising cohesive and granular horizons with gravel and contained fragments of brick and locally ash/clinker (Enviroarm 2019). The composition, age and provenance of these ashy deposits was unknown, and formed the key focus of the evaluation.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been detailed within a Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment prepared by Benchmark Archaeology (BA 2019), which is further supplemented by the WSI produced by Pegasus Group (2019), as well as advice issued by Aidan Smyth, Archaeological Advisor for Wychavon District Council (APAWDC).

Roman (AD 43 - AD 410)

2.2 Within the immediate environs of the site, Roman remains include the Scheduled Monument of Bay Meadow Villa as well as Roman burials, e.g. at Vines Lane and extensive salt works. In addition numerous settlement and occupation sites of Roman date are also recorded across Droitwich.

Early medieval and medieval (AD 411 – 1539)

2.3 Extensive settlement evidence from the early medieval and medieval periods are recorded within the immediate locality of the site.

2.4 The undesignated site of Netherwich Pit (WSM00686; SO 8954 6367) is located to the east of the site. This is recorded in King Edgar's 972 charter as the site for eight vats for salt-making, mentioned as being located at Neodemestanwic (present day Netherwich). This is one of the three main Anglo-Saxon saltworks that operated out of Droitwich. These salt industrial sites operated throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods, although as yet, no archaeological evidence for salt making has been identified in the immediate environs of the site. Nearby excavations at Upwich Pit (WSM04575) suggest that as well as the spring itself the area would have contained furnaces, vats, ovens and associated buildings.

Post-medieval – Modern (1540 – present)

2.5 Prior to the 19th-century the site remained as open-ground, however, it is noted that the surrounding areas were subject to significant post-medieval and early modern developments which may have impacted on the site, resulting in the presence of features and deposits, especially ‘made ground’ associated with the nearby development, which included:

- The construction of the canal to the south of the site during the 18th century;
- Canalisation of the river to the north of the site and construction of the railway to the east during the mid-19th century;
- The more recent construction of Salwarpe Road to the west of the site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. This information will enable the LPA 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* (MHCLG 2019).

3.2 During the course of the fieldwork the results were assessed, to ascertain whether further reference was necessary to the regional research objectives outlined in *The Archaeology of the West Midlands. A framework for research* (Watt 2011) so that the remains could, if possible, be placed within their local and regional context. However, no finds, features or deposits were identified which merited revisiting the initial aims.

3.3 In addition to the general Objectives, the specific aims of the project were to:

- investigate the ‘ashy’ deposits identified during previous borehole and trial pit surveys within the site;

- confirm the presence / absence of any remains associated with 'Netherwich Pit', either within or underlying the ashy deposits, and, if present:
- assess the nature, extent, level of preservation and significance of those remains;
- determine the likely extent and depth of any associated archaeological and/or palaeo-environmental remains, and their likely stratigraphic context;
- recover and record a proportionate sample of any artefacts and palaeo-environmental remains revealed;
- contribute to our understanding of the on-site hydrological conditions; and
- if required, inform a proportionate mitigation strategy to be agreed and implemented post-consent, ensuring either the preservation of any significant remains in situ or by record.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 11 trenches; Trenches 1 to 7 measured 25m in length and 1.8m wide, and Trenches 8 to 11 measured 12.5m in length and 1.8m wide, 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 Due to the depth of the trenches, the sides of each trench were 'stepped' in order to ensure safety; the width of all of the trenches at ground-level was therefore c. 3.6m, with their lengths extended to either 27m or 15m.
- 4.4 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* and, ten deposits were sampled and processed.

All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

- 4.5 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with museum, 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 - 6)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively.
- 5.2 With the exception of Trenches 4 and 8, a broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was identified across the site. Within the eleven trenches excavated the natural alluvial substrate (104, 204, 308, 402, 403, 404, 405, 504, 604, 605, 704, 705, 803, 905, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1104, 1105) was encountered at an average depth of 1.67m below the present ground level (bpgl). This comprised loose light brown grey silt sand, which in places was overlain by thin layers of mid brown grey with patches of orange silt sand, and dark brown black silt sand. A total of 21 sherds of Romano-British pottery was recovered from three contexts (104, 905, 1004), as well as a fragment of CBM (403) and an iron pin fragment (1006). A series of environmental samples were taken from these deposits. Sample 1, taken from layer 1004, contained a very small number of charred glume fragments, a small number of charred seeds and large quantities of charcoal fragments. Sample 3, taken from layer 1006 contained a small number charred cereal grains, as well as large quantities of uncharred seeds and large quantities of charcoal. Sample 7, taken from layer 403 contained no charred plant remains and only a small number of charcoal fragments. A total of 96 fragments of animal bone were recovered from this layer (104, 403, 404 and 1004).
- 5.3 Overlying this alluvium was a layer comprising dark blue grey clay silt with slightly humic properties (103, 203, 305, 306, 307, 503, 603, 703, 904, 1003, 1103). This layer, which averaged 0.57m thick, is likely to derive from a silting process during a period when the area was subject to marshy, wet conditions. It is thought to

correspond with the ashy deposit recorded in the geological report (Enviroarm 2019). A total of nine sherds of pottery broadly dateable to the Roman period were recovered from four contexts (203, 603, 904, 1103), along with two fragments of CBM (203, 904). Four environmental samples were taken from this layer, from locations across the site. The recovered material gave some indication of domestic settlement activities and some industrial activities taking place in the area. Samples 4, 6 and 9, taken from layers 603, 203 and 305 respectively did not contain any charred plant remains, but moderate to moderately large quantities of charcoal fragments. Moderate quantities of waterlogged seeds were noted from within Samples 4 and 6, with a small number of uncharred seeds noted from Sample 9. A total of 36 fragments of animal bone were recovered from this deposit (203, 503, 603, 904).

5.4 These marsh silts were overlain by a 'made ground' deposit (102, 202, 302, 303, 304, 401, 502, 602, 702, 802, 903, 1002, 1102), comprising friable dark brown black sandy silt, which averaged 0.67m thick. A total of five sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from two contexts (602, 702), as well as two sherds of likely residual Romano-British pottery from context 1002. A further 21 fragments of animal bone were also recovered from this deposit (401, 602, 1002). An environmental sample (Sample 2), taken from layer 1002 contained a small number of charred cereal grains alongside moderately small numbers of charcoal fragments and a small number of uncharred seeds. This 'made ground' was likely deposited or re-worked shortly prior to the modern development of the site, levelling the ground, and subsequently sealed by the asphalt and hardcore preparation layer (101, 201, 301, 501, 601, 701, 801, 901, 902, 1001, 1101) for the overlying concrete surface (100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1100) that currently covers the site. These measured on average 0.29m and 0.19m thick respectively.

5.5 The only trenches to diverge from this general deposit profile were Trenches 4 and 8, which did not contain the marsh silts. These are discussed below.

5.6 No finds or features pre-dating the modern period were identified within Trenches 1, 2 (Fig. 2), 4, 5, 8, 10 and 11. The remains of silted or infilled ditches were exposed within Trenches 3, 6, 7, and 9 (Figs. 2 & 4 - 6, and Plate: 1).

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

5.7 A modern pit (105) was partially revealed emanating from the north-eastern end of the trench. It measured in excess of 8m in length and in excess of 4m in width and

was investigated to a depth of 1.3m bpgl without the base being reached. It had steeply sloping sides which contained an orange brown mixed sandy silt fill (106) with frequent CBM and sub-angular stone inclusions. The continuation of this feature was recorded in Trench 8 as pit 804.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 4)

- 5.8 Ditch 309 was exposed running through the centre of Trench 3 on a broadly east/west orientation (Fig. 4). It measured 2.8m wide and was cut through the alluvium (308) at a depth of 1.85m bpgl. Due to its depth the ditch could not be excavated; however, 40 sherds of 2nd to 4th-century pottery and 66 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the surface of its grey brown silty clay fill (310). An environmental sample (Sample 10), taken from deposit 310 contained a very small number of charred hazelnut shells alongside moderately-low quantities of charcoal.

Trench 4 (Figs 2 & 5)

- 5.9 Within Trench 4, the earliest encountered deposit comprised light brown grey alluvial deposit (405), encountered at a depth of 1.45m bpgl (Fig. 5; section AA). This was overlain by a further layer of alluvium (404), comprising soft mid grey brown sandy silt, measuring 0.4m thick. This was in turn overlain by mid brown orange sandy clay layer 403, which measured 0.3m thick. Deposit 403 sloped downwards, towards the south and the former course of the River Salwarpe. The exact origin of this layer is uncertain, although it is interpreted as alluvium, laid down following a change in prevailing conditions. Overlying this deposit was grey brown sandy silt alluvial layer (402), which was in turn overlain by sandy silt made ground deposit 401, which was sealed by concrete layer 400. Trench 4 did not contain evidence of the marsh silt deposit which was present within all but one of the other trenches. This is likely due to Trench 4 being located to the north of the former route of the River Salwarpe, which has since been canalised and now forms the northern boundary of the site.

Trench 6 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.10 Ditch 606 was located in the western part of Trench 6 on a broadly north/south orientation (Fig: 6; Section BB). It was cut from the top of the marsh silts (603) and was excavated to a depth of 0.9m from the top of the cut without its base being reached. It measured 3.7m wide with moderate, slightly convex, sides and contained two silty clay fills (607 & 608) derived from secondary silting. One fragment of CBM was recovered from its lower fill (607) dated to the post-medieval period. An environmental sample (Sample 5), taken from fill 608 contained no charred plant

remains, moderate quantities of charcoal fragments and large quantities of uncharred seeds. Ditch 606 appears to be the continuation of ditch 706, identified in Trench 7 to the south.

Trench 7 (Fig. 2)

- 5.11 Ditch 706 was exposed within the western half of Trench 7 running on a north/south alignment. The ditch measured 4.08m wide but was not further investigated. No finds were recovered from the exposed surface of its uppermost mid brown grey silty clay fill (707), which was similar in character to the uppermost fill (608) within ditch 606.
- 5.12 Ditch 706 appears to be the continuation of ditch 606, identified in Trench 6 to the north.

Trench 8 (Fig. 2)

- 5.13 Soft mid grey brown sandy silt alluvium (803), similar to deposits 402 and 404 recorded within Trench 4 to the east, was encountered at a depth of 1.55m bpgl. This was cut at the western end of the trench by modern pit 804. The pit was partially revealed extending from the western bank of the trench. It had steeply sloping straight sides and was excavated to a depth of 1.3m bpgl without the base being encountered. The single encountered fill (805) comprised mixed mid orange brown sandy silt, representing a single high energy backfill event, which contained numerous fragments of CBM and a single sherd of modern pottery.
- 5.14 Both overlying alluvial layer 803 and sealing the uppermost fill 805 of pit 804 was modern 'made ground' deposit 802, which comprised dark brown black sandy silt. This was in turn overlain by hardcore make-up layer 801 and concrete surface 800.
- 5.15 Trench 8, along with Trench 4, were the only trenches which did not contain any evidence of the marsh silts recorded across the majority of the site, suggesting different formation processes or a different localised landscape to the north of the former river channel.

Trench 9 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.16 The earliest encountered deposit comprised light brown, grey silt sand, alluvial layer 905. This was cut towards the northern end of the trench by east/west orientated ditch 906 (Fig. 6; Section CC, and Plate: 1). It had steeply sloping straight sides with a concave base and measured 0.49m wide and 0.28m deep. It was filled with a single

fill (907), comprising mid brown grey clay silt, from which 25 sherds of 2nd to 4th-century pottery were recovered, as well as 6 iron hobnails and 99 fragments of animal bone. An environmental sample (Sample 8) was also taken from fill (907), which contained a very small number of cereal grain fragments, a small number of charred plant remains, moderately large quantities of charcoal and moderately small quantities of waterlogged seeds. Sealing fill 906 was clay silt layer 904, which measured 0.48m in depth and was overlain by made ground deposit 903, which was overlain by a succession of hardcore layers and a modern concrete surface (902, 901, 900).

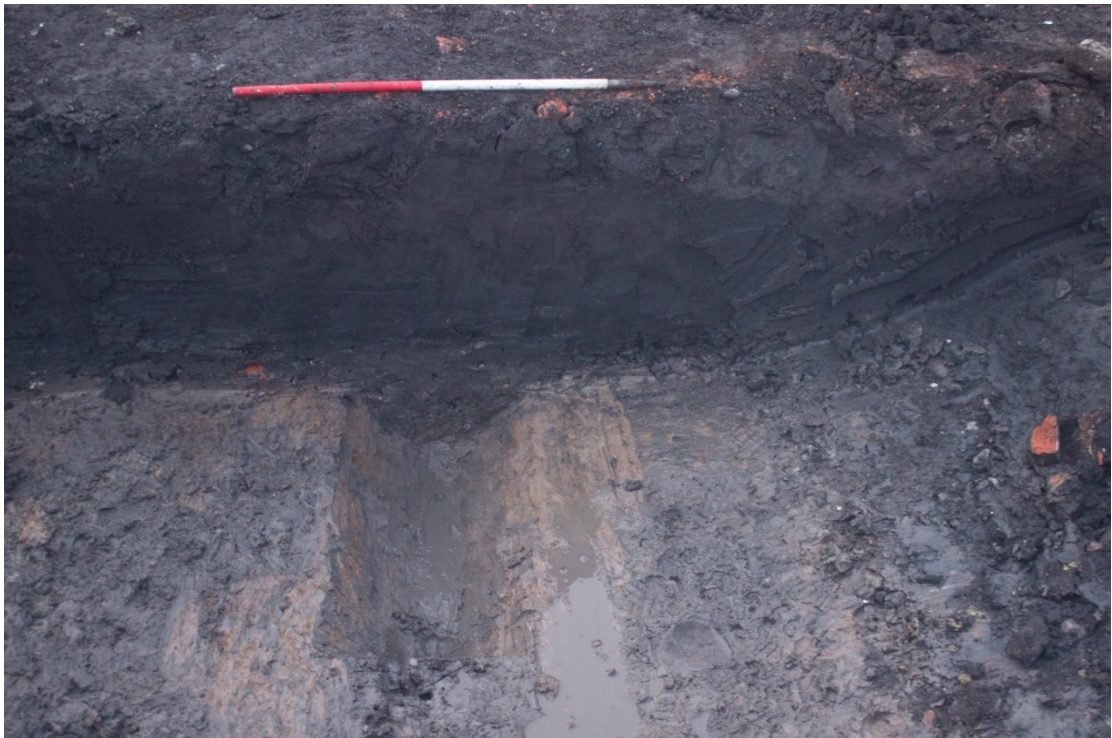


Plate 1: Ditch 906, looking west (photograph)

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was recovered from hand excavation and bulk soil sampling of 17 deposits (ditch and pit fills, and layers of alluvium, made ground and marsh silts). The recovered material dates to the late prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern periods, and quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric and form/rim morphology where possible. Pottery fabric codes, in parenthesis in the text beginning “TF”, are equated to the Worcestershire ceramics database (<http://www.worcestershireceramics.org>) where possible. Where applicable, National Roman

Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Pottery: Late prehistoric-Roman

- 6.2 A total of 93 sherds (962g) of pottery was retrieved. The average sherd weight of 10g is slightly low for an assemblage of this date. However, in terms of edge abrasion and surface loss, condition is mostly moderate to good. Of Late prehistoric/Early Roman date are: Malvernian rock-tempered ware (TF3), which was in use from the Middle Iron Age to the 2nd century AD; and Malvernian limestone-tempered ware (MAL REB) and calcite-tempered fabric (CAL), both of which date from the Late Iron Age to the 1st century AD. Most common among the Roman pottery is Severn Valley ware (both oxidised and reduced variants, TF12 and TF12.1) which was produced throughout the Romano-British period. A rimsherd from a tankard with slightly flaring sides from marsh silts deposit 603 is more closely dateable to the 2nd to 3rd centuries (Webster 1976, 30 – 1). Regional imports include Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (TF22), which dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries AD when found outside the manufacturing zone (Davies *et al.* 1994, 107). Of similar date is a sherd of Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware (TF28), which was manufactured in Cambridgeshire (Tyers 1996, 103). A rimsherd from a Young Type M22 mortarium in Oxford White ware (TF33.1) is of mid-3rd to 4th-century date (Young 1977, 76 – 7). Continental imports comprise a rimsherd from a cup or small bowl in central Gaulish samian (TF43.2) and a base sherd from a Drag. 33 cup in east Gaulish samian (TF43.3). Samian was imported to Britain from central Gaulish manufacturing centres during the 2nd century AD and from east Gaulish centres from the mid-2nd to mid-3rd centuries (Webster 1996, 2 – 3).

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.3 Pottery from this date range totals three sherds (11g). Represented fabrics are Creamware (TF84), dating to the mid to late 18th century, brown-glazed earthenware (BGE, 18th to 19th centuries) and refined whiteware (REF, late 18th to 19th centuries). The latter features painted decoration.

Ceramic building material

- 6.4 Roman ceramic building material is represented by a fragment of tegula (flanged roofing tile) from marsh silts deposit 203 and an unclassifiable fragment from marsh silts deposit 904. A fragment of ceramic building material from alluvial deposit 403 (7g) is too fragmentary for classification or dating. The remainder of the assemblage

is post-medieval in date and includes two fragments of brick – one measuring 4 x 2.5” from made ground deposit 602 and the other measuring 4.5 x 2.5” from made ground deposit 702. Also present are four fragments of flat roof tile.

Other finds

- 6.5 A total of seven (6g) fragmentary iron objects were retrieved. The fragment from alluvial deposit 1006 may derive from a pin and those from fill 907 of ditch 906 consist of a hobnail and nail fragments.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 Animal bone amounting to 318 fragments (1597.3g) was recovered via hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from 13 deposits. Artefactual material dating to the Romano-British period was also recovered (See Table 2, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but well preserved enough to make possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*) and red deer (*Cervus elaphus*).

Romano-British

- 7.2 A total of 308 fragments (1341.1g) were recovered from deposits 310 and 907, fills of ditches 309 and 906 and from six alluvial and silt layers. The remains of cattle were most common with 23 fragments (888g) recovered from six deposits. The bone consisted of fragments of the fore and hind limbs, from the humerus to the metacarpals and the femur to the metatarsals together with pieces of the scapula and the pelvis. These elements, both rich and poor in meat yield, showed clear signs of butchery, with frequent chop marks, and heavy impact damage, and small repeated cuts. This is highly suggestive of the stepped stages of butchery where a heavy cleaver-like tool is used to divide a carcass into manageable portions which were in turn separated into cuts of meat, using a knife. The remains of sheep/goat were less common, with 12 fragments (76g) recovered from three deposits. While no cut marks were present, the bone consisted of elements both rich and poor in meat that are common to butchery waste. This latter point coupled with recovery with the cattle remains suggests a similar origin for the sheep/goat bone.

- 7.3 Red deer and pig were identified from a single fragment each. A small piece of antler from layer 203 and partial molar from layer 603.

Modern and undated

- 7.4 The remaining 10 fragments (256.2) were recovered from five deposits that were either modern or remain undated. Five fragments of cattle (212g) and one of sheep/goat (9g) were identified. No butchery marks were present, but the condition of the bone was very similar to that seen in the Roman-British portion of the assemblage.

Palaeoenvironmental Assessment

- 7.5 Ten environmental samples (189 litres of soil) were processed from a range of feature types from across the site. This was done with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. Two of these samples were sub-sampled for the recovery of waterlogged remains. The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (250 micro mesh size) (CA Technical Manual No. 2) and the waterlogged samples processed by wet sieving (250 micro mesh size) (Ca Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.6 Varying quantities of potential waterlogged material were noted in nine of the samples, with significant amounts in the two sub-samples from undated layer 1006 and ditch 608. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 3 for charred remains and for waterlogged material in Table 4, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals.
- 7.7 The flots varied in size from small to large with low to high numbers of rooty material and uncharred seeds. The charred material comprised of varying levels of preservation. Due to the poor to moderate preservation levels of the charred material, it is hard to firmly identify the charred cereal grains to species. Where possible species identification took place on the charcoal however due to poor preservation levels this was not always achievable.
- 7.8 The dates discussed within this report have been obtained from spot dates of finds recovered from the same fills as the samples (McSloy; this report).

Roman Layer

- 7.9 Sample 1 (Trench 10, layer 1004) contained a very small number of charred glume fragments that could not be further identified to species due to preservation levels. A small number of charred seeds including those of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) seeds were noted from within Sample 1. Large quantities of charcoal fragments, including those of oak (*Quercus*) and roundwood fragments were also noted.
- 7.10 Sample 4 (Trench 6, layer 603) contained no charred plant remains but did contain a large quantity of charcoal fragments larger than 2mm. A small number of waterlogged seeds were recorded as belonging to rush (*Juncus* sp.).
- 7.11 Sample 6 (Trench 2, layer 203) contained no charred plant remains and only moderately large quantities of charcoal fragments including those of non-oak wood were noted. Moderate quantities of waterlogged seeds were noted from within sample 6 and include seeds of docks (*Rumex* sp.), mallow (*Malva* sp.), plantain (*Plantago* sp.) and rushes.
- 7.12 All three samples discussed above (Samples 1, 4 and 6) are all likely representations of dumps of industrial hearth waste material and also possibly indicate slight environmental changes across the site due to the presence of waterlogged plant remains alongside charred material. Trench 2 appears to be in a damper part of the site during this period.

Ditches

- 7.13 Fill 907 (Trench 9, Sample 8) of ditch 906 contained a very small number of indeterminate cereal grain fragments alongside a small number of charred plant remains including a possible catkin, an indeterminate seed, a possible tuber stem and some seeds of vetch/wild pea. Moderately large quantities of charcoal were recorded and also include oak wood and roundwood fragments. Moderately small quantities of waterlogged seeds were noted from within Sample 8 and include those of fumitory (*Fumaria* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), cinquefoils (*Potentilla* sp.) and thistles (*Carduus/Cirsium* sp.).
- 7.14 Fill 310 (Trench 3, Sample 10) of ditch 309 contained a very small number of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments alongside moderately low quantities of

charcoal including fragments of twig wood. A small number of uncharred buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.) seeds were noted from within Sample 10.

- 7.15 These samples may be representative of dumps of hearth waste material with an indication of some possible industrial waste as well as domestic activity.

Undated Layer

- 7.16 Sample 2 (Trench 10, layer 1002) contained a small number of charred indeterminate cereal grains alongside moderately small numbers of charcoal fragments. A small number of uncharred meadow grass/cat's-tails seeds were noted from within Sample 2.
- 7.17 Sample 3 (Trench 10, layer 1006) contained a small number charred indeterminate cereal grains alongside a small number of glume fragments. A possible charred dock seed was also noted. Large quantities of charcoal including fragments of roundwood and non-oak wood were noted from within Sample 3. Large quantities of uncharred seeds were recorded from within layer 1006 and include seeds of buttercup, fumitory, goosefoot, black-bind weed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), bramble (*Rubus* sp.), lady's-mantles (*Alchemilla* sp.), cinquefoils, medick/clover (*Medicago/Trifolium* sp.), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), thistles, rush and sedge (*Carex* sp.). A small number of uncharred wood fragments were also recorded from within Sample 3.
- 7.17 Sample 7 (Trench 4, layer 403) contained no charred plant remains and only a small number of charcoal fragments. No uncharred seeds were noted from within Sample 7 and only a small number of uncharred wood fragments were recorded.
- 7.18 Sample 9 (Trench 3, layer 305) contained no charred plant remains and only a moderate quantity of charcoal fragments. A small number of uncharred seeds were recorded and include those of elder, thistle and rush.
- 7.19 Sample 3 (Trench 10, layer 1006) is likely to be indicative of a dump of hearth waste material and indications of the local vegetation, and samples 2, 7, and 9 may be representative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material. Sample 3 also indicates that a change in environment/water-table occurred due to the preservation of both charred material and uncharred material.

Ditch

- 7.20 Fill 608 (Trench 6, Sample 5) of ditch 606 contained no charred plant remains. Moderate quantities of charcoal fragments were recorded. Large quantities of uncharred seeds were noted from within the assemblage and include those of buttercup, fumitory, goosefoot, docks, bramble, lady's-mantles, cinquefoils, elder, thistle, pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.), rush, sedge and meadow grass/cat's-tails. Small numbers of uncharred wood fragments were also noted from within Sample 5. The assemblage may reflect the local vegetation in and around the ditch along with dumped possible industrial hearth waste.

Summary

- 7.21 The environmental remains indicate that there is some potential for waterlogged remains to be preserved in some areas of the site as well as charred remains. There is some indication of domestic settlement activities and some industrial activities taking place in the area. However there is no clear suggestion from the undated samples, that this industrial activity could definitely be related to the Anglo-Saxon salt works nearby.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The principle objective of this evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of any remains associated with the Netherwich Pit situated to the east of the site. No remains associated with the Anglo-Saxon saltworks have been identified through archaeological or environmental evidence. Flooding was evident due to upwelling groundwater in all eleven trenches. This appeared to stabilise at approximately 1.4m bpgl within each trench.
- 8.2 The 'ashy' deposits identified during earlier borehole and trial pit surveys appear to correspond to a dark brown grey clay silt deposit likely to originate from silting across an area formerly comprising marshy bog; the dark colour more likely deriving from organic deposits rather than ash.
- 8.3 With the exception of Trenches 4 and 8, the silts of this marsh ground were evident in all trenches. The absence of these silty deposits within Trenches 4 and 8 is likely due to their location north of the former route of the River Salwarpe. Trenches 4 and 8 both also contained mid grey brown alluvium not evident in the other trenches. The

brown orange sandy clay interleaved between two of these alluvial layers in Trench 4 is thought to represent another alluvial layer; however, the environmental sample was unable confirm this.

- 8.4 Two ditches were identified cutting the alluvium and sealed beneath the marsh silt deposits within Trenches 3 and 9 in the southern part of the site. Although on different alignments, east/west and north-east/south-west respectively, both contained significant quantities of pottery dating to Romano-British period, as well as quantities of butchered animal bone.
- 8.5 One post-medieval ditch was recorded aligned north/south through Trenches 6 and 7, again in the southern part of the site. This ditch was cut from the top of the marshy silt deposit and is likely to have served to drain water to the river in the north.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Ralph Brown, assisted by Abigail Breen, Mark Davies, John Hardisty and Tommaso Rossi. The report was written by Ralph Brown and Andrew Whelan. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Sharon Clough and Emma Aitken respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The archive has been compiled by Emily Evans, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	L (m)	W (m)	T (m)
100	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>25	>4.3	0.17
101	Layer		Made ground	Loose black broken asphalt and stone hardcore	>25	>4.3	0.07
102	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt	>25	>4.3	1.02
103	Layer		Marsh silts	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with a few sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>25	>4.3	0.54
104	Layer		Alluvium	Loose dark mid brown grey clay sand with patches of brown orange	>25	>4.3	-
105	Cut		Modern Pit	Steep straight sided, too large to record shape and base not reached, same as 804, cuts through 103	>8	>4	>1.3
106	Fill	105	Deliberate deposition	Firm mid orange brown mixed sandy silt with frequent CBM inclusions and subangular stone 0.01-0.1m	>8	>4	>1.3
200	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>27	>4	0.15
201	Layer		Made ground	Loose black broken asphalt and stone hardcore	>27	>4	0.12
202	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt	>27	>4	0.98
203	Layer		Marsh silts	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with a few sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>27	>4	0.65
204	Layer		Alluvium	Soft light brown grey clay sand	>27	>4	-
300	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>25	>4	0.26
301	Layer		Made ground	Loose dark black asphalt layer	>25	>4	0.2
302	Layer		Made ground	Loose mid pink and green hardcore of sand and stone 0.04-0.06m	>25	>4	0.34
303	Layer		Made ground	Soft Dark blue black clay silt slightly humic with a few sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>25	>4	0.3
304	Layer		Made ground	Firm mid pink brown sandy clay with moderate sub angular stone inclusions 0.01-0.06m	>25	>4	0.3
305	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious mid brown grey clay silt	>25	>4	0.36
306	Layer		Marsh silts	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with a few sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>25	>4	0.36
307	Layer		Marsh silts	Tenacious dark black clay silt	>25	>4	0.2
308	Layer		Alluvium	Soft light brown grey clay sand	>25	>4	-
309	Cut		Ditch	NE-SW Linear ditch, unexcavated	>2	2.8	>0.1
310	Fill		Secondary silting		>2	2.8	>0.1
400	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>27	>4	0.25
401	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt	>27	>4	0.35
402	Layer		Alluvium	Soft mid grey brown sandy silt	>27	>4	0.5
403	Layer		Alluvium	Friable mid brown orange sandy clay	>14	>4	0.3
404	Layer		Alluvium	Soft mid grey brown sandy silt	>13	>4	0.4
405	Layer		Alluvium	Soft light brown grey clay sand	>13	>4	-
406	Layer		Made ground	Loose black broken asphalt and stone hardcore	>27	>4	0.27
500	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>27	>4	0.2
501	Layer		Made ground	Loose black broken asphalt and stone hardcore	>27	>4	0.24
502	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt	>27	>4	0.71
503	Layer		Marsh silts	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>27	>4	0.5
504	Layer		Alluvium	Soft light brown grey clay sand	>27	>4	>0.05
600	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>0.27	>4	0.2
601	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light brown yellow sub angular stone and sand	>0.27	>4	0.24
602	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>0.27	>4	0.7
603	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>0.27	>4	0.6
604	Layer		Alluvium	Loose dark brown black clay sand	>0.27	>4	0.15

605	Layer		Alluvium	Loose light brown grey silt sand	>0.27	>4	-
606	Cut		Ditch	N-S linear ditch with moderate slightly convex sides. Base not reached	>2	>3.7	>0.9
607	Fill	606	Secondary silting	Tenacious light yellow brown silty clay	>2	>3.7	>0.9
608	Fill	606	Secondary silting	Tenacious mid brown grey silty clay	>2	3.2	>0.9
700	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>27	>4	0.17
701	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light brown yellow sub angular stone and sand	>27	>4	0.23
702	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>27	>4	0.62
703	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>27	>4	0.32
704	Layer		Alluvium	Loose dark brown black silt sand	>27	>4	0.2
705	Layer		Alluvium	Loose light brown grey silt sand	>27	>4	>0.04
706	Cut		Ditch	N-S linear ditch with moderate slightly convex sides. Base not reached	>2	4.08	>0.45
707	Fill		Secondary silting	Tenacious mid brown grey silty clay	>2	4.08	>0.45
800	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>16	>4	0.2
801	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light brown yellow sub angular stone and sand	>16	>4	0.4
802	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>16	>4	0.95
803	Layer		Alluvium	Soft mid grey brown sandy silt	>16	>4	>0.25
804	Cut		Modern Pit	Steep straight sided, too large to see shape and base not reached, same as 105	>8	>4	>1.3
805	Fill	804	Deliberate deposition	Firm mid orange brown mixed sandy silt with frequent CBM inclusions and subangular stone 0.01-0.1m	>8	>4	>1.3
900	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>16	>4	0.16
901	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Loose dark black asphalt layer	>16	>4	0.34
902	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light green yellow hardcore gravel	>16	>4	0.2
903	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>16	>4	0.57
904	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>16	>4	0.48
905	Layer		Alluvium	Loose light brown grey silt sand	>16	>4	-
906	Cut		Ditch	E-W linear ditch with steep straight sides and a concave base	>2	0.49	0.28
907	Fill	906	Secondary silting	Tenacious mid brown grey clay silt with occasional small rounded stones	>2	0.49	0.28
1000	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>14	>4	0.2
1001	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light brown yellow sub angular stone and sand	>14	>4	0.3
1002	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>14	>4	0.7
1003	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>14	>4	0.43
1004	Layer		Alluvium	Loose dark brown black silt sand	>14	>4	0.14
1005	Layer		Alluvium	Loose mid brown grey with patches of brown orange silt sand	>14	>4	0.13
1006	Layer		Alluvium	Loose light brown grey clay sand	>14	>4	>0.1
1100	Layer		Surface	Concrete	>14	>4	0.15
1101	Layer		Hardcore makeup	Light brown yellow sub angular stone and sand	>14	>4	0.27
1102	Layer		Made ground	Friable dark brown black sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments	>14	>4	0.48
1103	Layer		Marsh silt	Tenacious dark blue grey clay silt slightly humic with rare sub rounded sand stone inclusions 0.01-0.15m	>14	>4	0.7
1104	Layer		Alluvium	Loose dark brown black silt sand	>14	>4	0.2
1105	Layer		Alluvium	Loose light brown grey silt sand	>14	>4	>0.12

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	5	93	MC3-C4
	Roman pottery	Oxford white ware	TF33.1/OXF WH	1	32	
	Roman pottery	White-slipped flagon fabric	WSF	1	6	
203	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	TF16.2	1	63	RB
	Roman ceramic building material	Tegula		1	55	
310	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	9	58	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	TF13	19	76	
	<10> Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Calcite-tempered fabric	CAL	1	5	
	<10> Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	7	27	
	<10> Roman pottery	Severn Valley (reduced) ware	TF12.1	1	3	
	<10> Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	TF22/DOR BB1	1	8	
	<10> Roman pottery	Central Gaulish samian	TF43.2/LEZ SA2	1	1	
	<10> Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	OXIF	1	5	
403	Ceramic building material	Fragment		1	7	-
602	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Refined whiteware	REF	1	6	LC18-C19
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Brick, flat roof tile		4	740	
603	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	1	73	C2-C3
607	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	157	Post-medieval
702	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Brown-glazed earthenware	BGE	1	4	C18-C19
805	Post-medieval pottery	Creamware	TF84	1	1	MC18-LC18
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Brick		3	1709	
904	Roman Pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	4	33	RB
	Roman Pottery	East Gaulish samian	TF43.3	1	12	
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		1	6	
905	Roman Pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	2	80	RB
907	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	10	192	C2-C4
	<8> Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	TF3/MAL REA	1	8	
	<8> Roman pottery	Local colour-coated ware	LOC CC	1	2	
	<8> Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	11	133	
	<8> Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	TF22/DOR BB1	1	4	

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
<8>	Roman pottery	White-slipped flagon fabric	WSF	1	21	
<8>	Iron	Hobnail, nails		6	6	
1002 <2>	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian rock-tempered ware	TF3/MAL REA	1	4	RB
<2>	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	TF13	1	3	
1004 <1>	Late prehistoric/Early Roman pottery	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	MAL REB	1	0.8	C2-C4
<1>	Roman pottery	Lower Nene Valley colour coated ware	TF28/LNV CC	1	1	
<1>	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	TF12/SVW OX2	6	13	
<1>	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (reduced) ware	TF12.1	1	2	
<1>	Roman pottery	Shell-tempered fabric	ROB SH	3	7	
1006 <3>	Iron	Pin fragment?		1	0	-
1103	Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	OXIF	1	12	RB
	Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric	TF13	1	2	

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 2: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	CERV	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
Romano-British											
	104	6	5			9		10	17	47	609.9
	203	3			1	3	3			10	194
309	310	6	2			3	1	2	52	66	269
	603			1				1	16	18	7.9
	904	2				2				4	58
906	907	2	5					7	85	99	89
	1002					1		4	13	18	36.3
	1004	4					1		41	46	77
Subtotal		23	12	1	1	18	12	17	224	308	1341.1
Modern and Undated											
	401					1				1	27
	403								2	2	0.2
	404	1								1	28
	503	2	1			1				4	122
	602	1						1		2	79
Subtotal		4	1			2		1	2	10	256.2
Total		27	13	1	1	20	12	18	226	318	
Weight		1100	85	3	10	315	22	38	24.3	1597.3	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; CERV = red deer; LM = cattle size mammal; MM = medium sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = unidentifiable burnt bone from bulk soil samples

Table 3: Assessment of environmental evidence

Trench No.	Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Roman														
Layer														
10	-	1004	1	12	0	140	<1	-	*	glume	*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> ; <i>Galium</i>	****/** ***	sab**
6	-	603	4	20	0	70	<1	-	-	-	-	-	****/** ***	sab*; ind wste*
2	-	203	6	18	0	160	<1	-	-	-	-	-	****/** ***	brnt bn*; ind wste* **; sab**
Ditches														
9	906	907	8	20	0	60	1	*	-	indet grain	**	cf. catkin; indet seed; cf. tuber stem; <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	****/** ***	ind wste* **; brnt bn**; f- scale ****; f-bn*; sab**

3	309	308	10	19	0	15	10	-	-	-	*	hazelnut shell frag	**/**	ind wste* ; bn*; sab*
Undated														
Layer														
10	-	100 2	2	19	0	25	<1	*	-	indet grain	-	-	**/**	ind wste* ; bn**
10	-	100 6	3	20	20	32 0	<1	*	**	indet grain (v. abraded); glume	*	cf. <i>Rumex</i>	****/* ****	bn*
10	-	100 6	3	1	19	17 5		-	-	-	*	indet seed	*/**	bn*; frd clay*; ind wste*
4	-	403	7	20	20	7	90	-	-	-	-	-	*/**	ind wste* ; frd clay** **
3	-	305	9	19	0	35	1	-	-	-	-	-	**/**	ind wste* ; bn*
Ditch														
6	606	608	5	20	20	90	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	***/**	sab*; ind wste* *
6	606	608	5	1	19	60	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	*/*	-

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items
moll-a = aquatic mollusc, bone = bone, brnt bn = burnt bone, ind wste = industrial waste

Table 4: Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Spot Date	Roman					Undated					
	10	6	2	9	3	10	4	3	6		
Trench No.	10	6	2	9	3	10	4	3	6		
Feature Type	Layer			Ditches		Layer				Ditch	
Feature	-	-	-	906	309	-	-	-	-	-	606
Context	1004	603	203	907	308	1002	1006	1006	403	305	608
Sample	1	4	6	8	10	2	3	3	7	9	5
Processed vol (L)	12	20	18	20	19	19	20	1	20	19	20 1
Waterlogged material											
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.					+		+	++			++ +++
<i>Fumaria</i> sp.				+			+	+			+
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.				+				+			+
<i>Persicaria</i> sp.							+	+			
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Love							+				
<i>Rumex</i> sp. L.			+								+
<i>Malva</i> sp.			+								
<i>Rubus</i> sp.							+				+
<i>Alchemilla</i> sp.								+			+
<i>Potentilla</i> sp.				+				+			+
<i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> sp. L.							+				
<i>Plantago</i> sp.			+								
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.							++	+		+	+

<i>Carduus/Cirsium</i> sp.				+			+			+	+	
<i>Potamogeton</i> sp.											++	+
<i>Juncus</i> sp.		+	++				++	++		+	+	+
<i>Carex</i> sp. <i>L. trigonous</i>				+			++				++	+
<i>Poa</i> sp./ <i>Phleum</i> sp.						+					+	
Woody stems/twigs frags > 4mm							+	+			+	+
Woody stems/twigs frags > 2mm							+	+	+		+	+
Leaf/grass frags		+	+	+	+		+++	++	++	+	++	+
Other												
Insect remains												
Egg shell frags												
Small animal/fish bone	+	+	+	++	+	+	+				+	+
Fish scales				+++								
Burnt Bone			+	+								
Industrial waste		+	++	++	+	+	+		+	+	+	
Fired clay							+		++			

Key: + = 1–49 items; ++ = 50–100 items; +++ = >100 items

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2019 on land at Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 11 trenches.</p> <p>Archaeological interest in the site derives from the site's location to the west of Netherwich Pit and the potential for associated remains to continue into the site. Netherwich Pit is one of the three main Anglo-Saxon saltworks that operated out of Droitwich. The principle objectives of this evaluation were to investigate the 'ashy' deposits identified in preceding geotechnical surveys to establish if they related to earlier industrial processes associated with Netherwich Pit and to investigate whether these deposits overlie associated Anglo-Saxon industrial features.</p> <p>No remains associated with the Anglo-Saxon Netherwich Pit saltworks were identified during the evaluation. The 'ashy' deposits identified during the earlier geotechnical surveys correspond with a dark brown grey clay silt deposit likely to originate from silting and identified across an area formerly comprising marshy bog; the deposit characteristics deriving from the natural marshy environment rather than representing ash from industrial processes.</p> <p>Two ditches were identified, cutting the alluvium and sealed beneath marsh silt deposits in Trenches 3 and 9 in the southern part of the site. Both ditches contained significant quantities of pottery dating to the Roman period. One post-medieval ditch was also recorded, which is likely to have served to drain water to the river in the north of the site.</p>	
Project dates	16-19 December 2019	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Borehole Survey Enviroarm Ltd 2019 Desk Based Assessment Benchmark Archaeology 2019	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	1ha	
Site co-ordinates	389462 263697	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Mr Aidan Smyth, Archaeological Advisor, Wychavon District Council (WDC)	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Pegasus Group 2019 CA 2019 Unpublished	
Project Manager	Stuart Joyce	
Project Supervisor	Ralph Brown	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Worcestershire County Museum	Ceramics, animal bone, Biological evidence
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Context sheets, Trench Sheets, Site Diary, Survey sheets
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	Database, digital photos, geomatics data, digital report.
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 <i>Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report MK0178_1		



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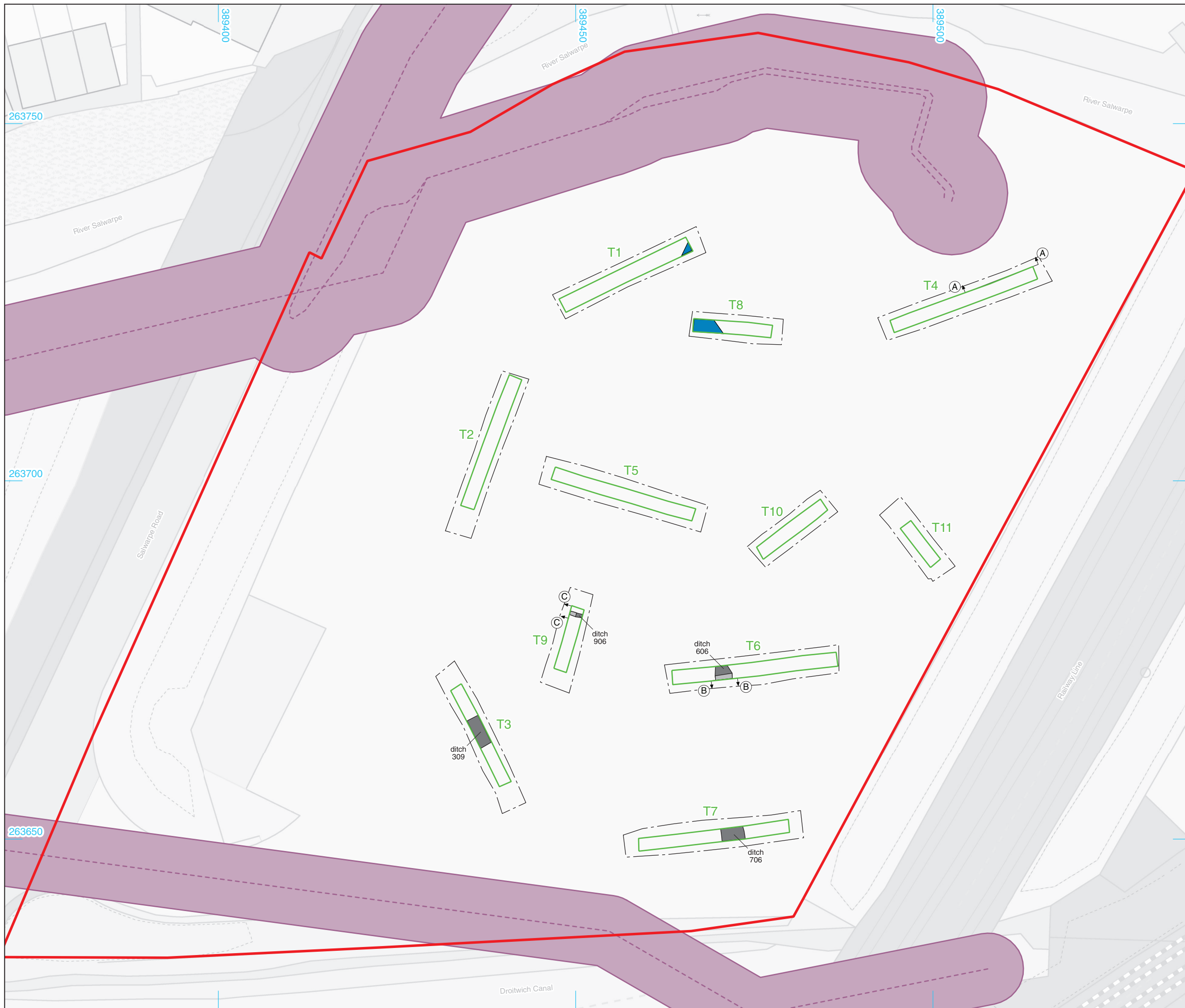


Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

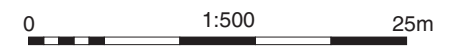
PROJECT TITLE
Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa,
Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

DRAWN BY RW	PROJECT NO. MK0178	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 08/01/2020	1
APPROVED BY RB	SCALE@A4 1:25,000	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Topsoil removal
- Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
- Modern feature
- Buried HV cable (and buffer)
- Ⓐ ↕ Ⓐ Section line



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 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
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www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench plan including archaeological
 features

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0178	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08/01/2020	2
APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A3	1:500	



Site pre-excitation, looking south-east



Trench 1, looking south-east (1m scale)



Trench 2 looking south (1m scale)


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 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0178	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08/01/2020	3
APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A3	NA	



Ditch 309, looking south-west (1m scale)



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Milton Keynes 01908 564660
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PROJECT TITLE

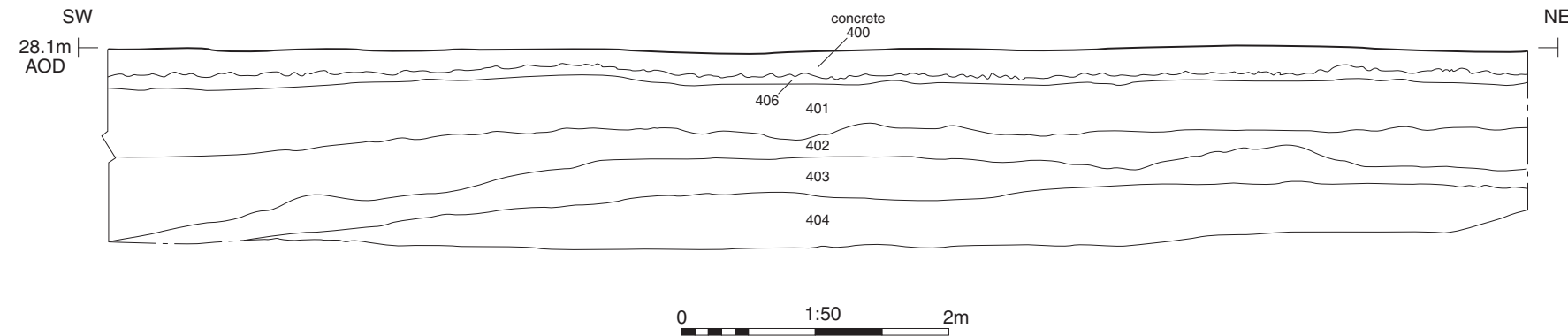
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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 3: photograph

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APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A4	NA	4

Section AA



Trench 4 section, looking north-east (1m scale)

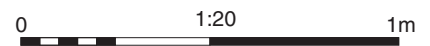
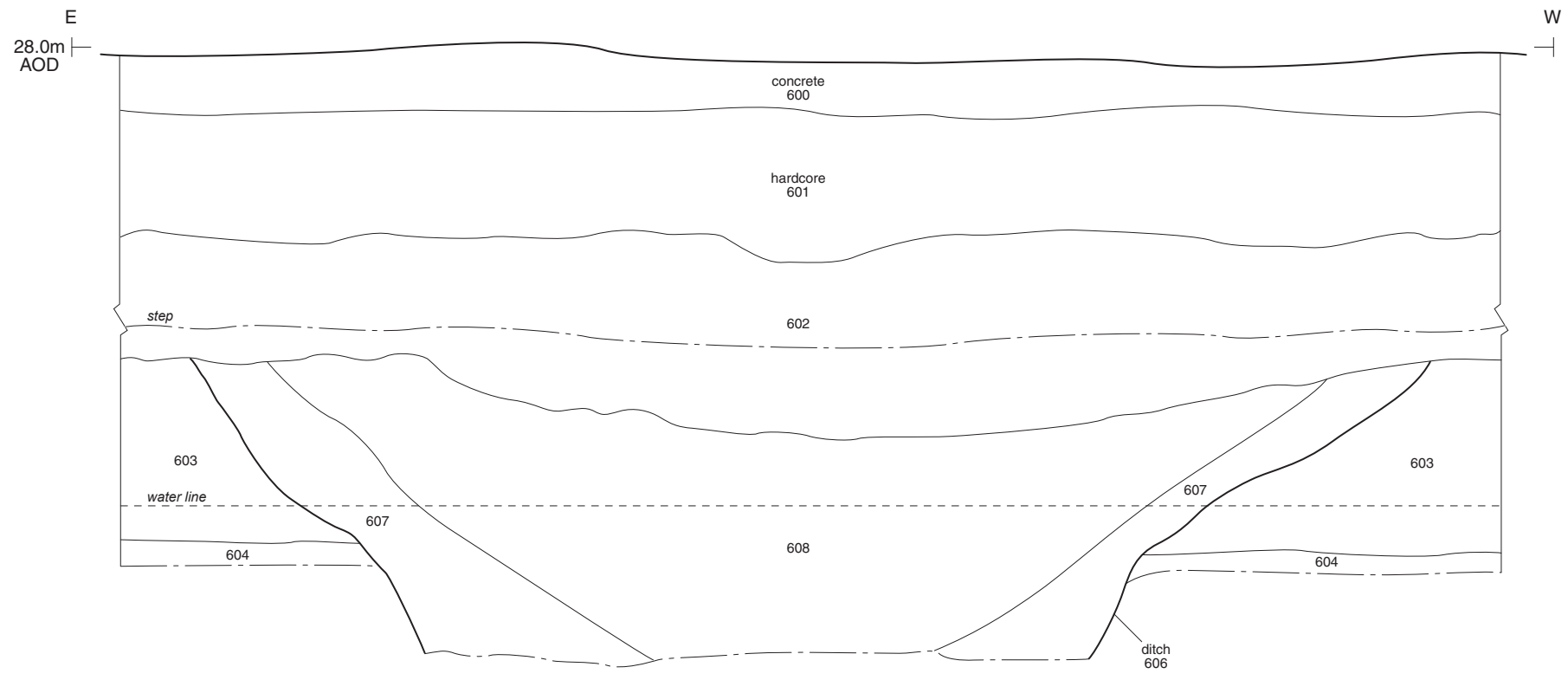
 Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
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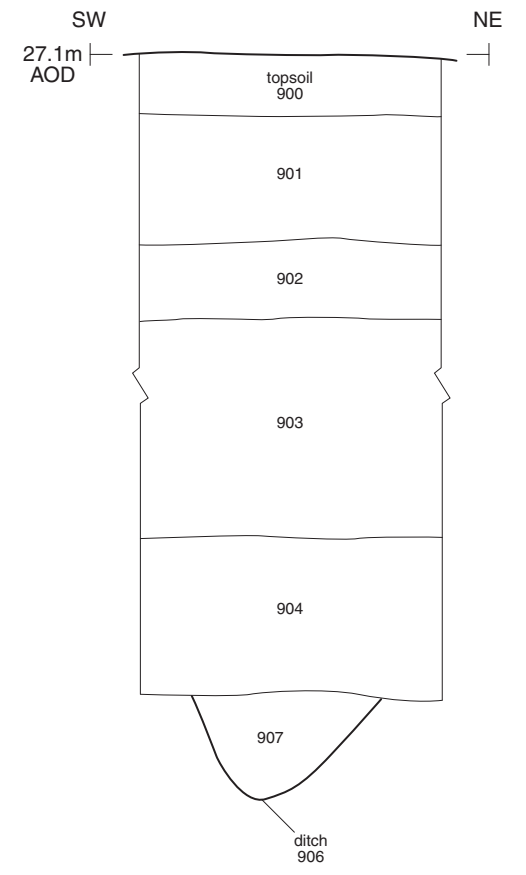
FIGURE TITLE
Trench 4: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0178	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08/01/2020	5
APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A3	1:50	

Section BB



Section CC



Ditch 606, looking south (1m scale)


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 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
**Salwarpe Road, Droitwich Spa,
 Worcestershire**
 FIGURE TITLE
**Trenches 6 and 9: sections and
 photograph**

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0178	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08/01/2020	6
APPROVED BY	RB	SCALE@A3	1:20	

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 1, Clyst Units
Cofton Road
Marsh Barton
Exeter
EX2 8QW

t: 01392 573970

Milton Keynes Office

Unit 8 - The IO Centre
Fingle Drive, Stonebridge
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

Suffolk Office

Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road
Lion Barn Industrial Estate
Needham Market
Suffolk
IP6 8NZ

t: 01449 900120

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

