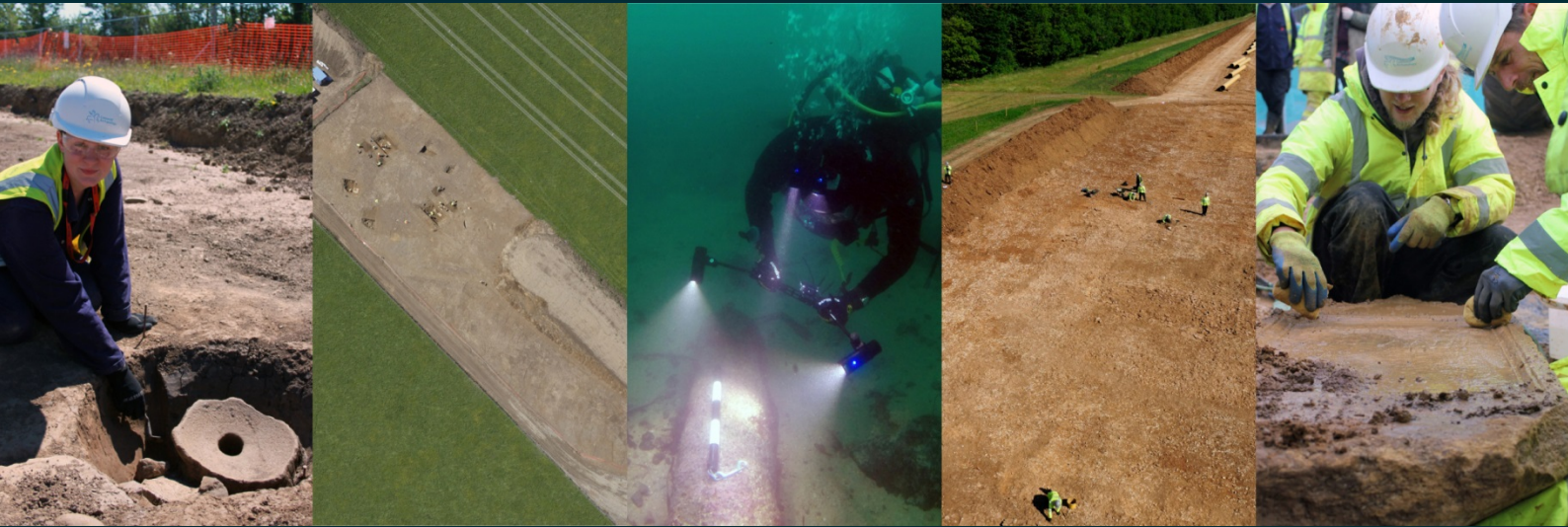


Land South of Poplar Lane
Wickwar
South Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
CgMs Limited

on behalf of
Bellway Homes Ltd (South West)

CA Project: 6647
CA Report: 18317

July 2018



Land South of Poplar Lane
Wickwar
South Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: 6647
CA Report: 18317



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	9 July 2018	Charlotte Haines	Ian Barnes	Internal review	Client comment	Cliff Bateman
B	10 July 2018	Charlotte Haines	Ian Barnes	External review	Client comment	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.....	3
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4. METHODOLOGY	4
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3).....	5
6. THE FINDS	6
7. DISCUSSION.....	6
8. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	7
9. REFERENCES.....	7
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	9
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	11
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	12

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results (1:1000)
- Fig. 3 Trench 14: plan (1:200), section (1:20) and photograph



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land South of Poplar Lane
Location:	Wickwar, South Gloucestershire
NGR:	372709 187698
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	4 - 6 June 2018
Planning Reference:	PK16/4006/O
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Bristol's Museum, Galleries and Archives
Site Code:	POPL 18

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2018 on land south of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire. Twelve trenches were excavated.

A single undated ditch was recorded during the evaluation. The ditch does not align with modern or historic boundaries, or with adjacent ridge and furrow cultivation remains, hence the date and function of the ditch remains uncertain.

The site lies within the agricultural hinterland of the medieval village of Wickwar and further ridge and furrow cultivation identified in the western part of the site during the evaluation, is indicative of the agricultural use of the site at this time. Two sherds of pottery dating to the 11th to 14th centuries were recovered from subsoil deposits.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CgMs Limited, on behalf of Bellway Homes Ltd (South West), on land south of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 372709 187698; Fig. 1). Outline planning permission for residential development and associated infrastructure at the site has been granted by South Gloucestershire Council (SGC; planning ref: PK16/4006/O) conditional on a programme of archaeological work being completed (condition 14).
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* produced by CgMs Limited (CgMs 2018) and approved by Paul Driscoll, Natural & Built Environment Team Manager, SGC, the archaeological advisor to SGC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2014)*

The site

- 1.3 The development area is approximately 4.3ha in extent, and comprises four pasture fields, bounded to the west by Sodbury Road, to the north and south by Poplar Lane and Horwood Lane respectively, and by further fields to the east. The western area of the site lies at approximately c. 89m AOD, falling to c. 75m in the east.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the majority of the area is mapped as Mudstone of the Westbury Formation and Sandstone of the Tintern Sandstone Formation. In the eastern extent of the site, Mudstone of the Mercia Mudstone and Blue Anchor Formations is recorded. No superficial deposits were identified (BGS 2018). A light yellow brown clay substrate was recorded in all trenches excavated during the evaluation.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has been subject to archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs 2016) and geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016). These assessments are summarised briefly below.
- 2.2 The site is considered to lie within an area of unclear archaeological potential given its position in the hinterland of the historic core of Wickwar (CgMs 2016).

- 2.3 The geophysical survey identified ridge and furrow cultivation remains, in addition to a small number of uncertain linear and pit-like anomalies (Stratascan 2016); see Fig. 2 of this report.

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). This information will enable SGC 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 12 trenches (all measuring 1.8m in width and 30m in length) in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). In agreement with the LPA archaeological advisor, Trenches 1, 2 and 4 were not initially excavated due to ecological constraints. Following the results from the other trenches (3 and 5-12), it was agreed that Trenches 1, 2 and 4 did not need to be excavated at any future date. 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. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Bristol's Museum, Galleries and Archives, 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 A similar stratigraphy was observed across all the trenches. The natural substrate comprising light yellow brown clay was revealed at a depth of between 0.25m and 0.44m below present ground level (bpgl). It was covered by a layer of brown silty clay subsoil which was in turn sealed by dark brown silt clay topsoil. North-east/south-west aligned furrows were recorded in Trenches 3, 5, 8, 10 and 11, in the western part of the site. The furrows cut the natural substrate and were filled by material similar in appearance to the subsoil. Ridge and furrow cultivation in this part of the site had not been identified by the preceding geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016).
- 5.3 Two sherds of pottery dating to the medieval period, along with an undated fragment of ceramic building material, a fragment of clay tobacco pipe and an iron nail or rivet were recovered from the subsoil 502 in Trench 5. A single prehistoric worked flint flake was recovered as a residual find from subsoil 1102 in Trench 11.

Trench 14 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.4 Ditch 1404, which was aligned east/west, measured 1.2m in width and 0.43m in depth. The subsoil/natural substrate boundary in this location was unclear, but the ditch appeared to cut the subsoil and be sealed by topsoil. No dateable material was

recovered from its fill 1405, which comprised dark red brown silt clay. The ditch corresponds to a positive linear anomaly identified by the preceding geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016).

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material was recovered from two subsoil deposits. The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Pottery fabric codes (in parenthesis in the text) are equated to the online Gloucester pottery type series (<http://glospot.potsherd.net/docs/intro>) where possible.

Pottery

6.2 Two unfeathered bodysherds of medieval pottery (7g) were retrieved as redeposited finds from subsoil 502. Represented are Cotswold oolitic limestone tempered ware (TF41), which dates to the 11th to 13th centuries, and an unsourced sandy coarseware fabric (TF42), most likely dating to the 12th to 14th centuries.

Lithics

6.3 A worked flint flake (4g), of broad prehistoric date, was recovered as a residual find from subsoil 1102.

Ceramic building material

6.4 Subsoil 502 produced an abraded fragment of ceramic building material (4g) of uncertain date.

Other finds

6.5 A fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem, dateable to the late 16th to late 19th centuries, was recorded from subsoil 502.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 Undated ditch 1404 corresponds to an east/west aligned linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016). The ditch does not share an alignment with any historic boundaries nor with furrows in the vicinity. The evidence from the evaluation does not however preclude the ditch being of archaeological interest.

- 7.2 Furrows were recorded in the western part of the site in Trenches 3, 5, 8, 10 and 11. The mixed date finds assemblage from the subsoil does not further the understanding of the site with respect to any connection to the medieval settlement at Wickwar.
- 7.3 With the exception of ditch 1404, none of the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey were identified as archaeological features during the evaluation. The historic field boundary expected in Trench 8 was noted to be a modern field drain. The furrows noted by the geophysical survey and on aerial photography were not recorded in Trench 14, suggesting localised truncation most probably from modern ploughing.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, assisted by Liam Wilson and Josh Nowlan. The report was written by Charlotte Haines. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled by Charlotte Haines, 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://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed June 2018

CgMs (CgMs Limited) 2016 *Land South Of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*

CgMs (CgMs Limited) 2018 *Land South Of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Mitigation*

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Stratascan 2016 Wickwar, Gloucestershire: Geophysical Survey Report



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
3	301	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.23	
3	302	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.07	
3	303	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
5	501	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.23	
5	502	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.09	
5	503	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
6	601	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.21	
6	602	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.15	
6	603	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
7	701	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.18	
7	702	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.07	
7	703	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
8	801	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.25	
8	802	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.12	
8	803	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
9	901	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.22	
9	902	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.06	
9	903	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
10	1001	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.22	
10	1002	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.05	
10	1003	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
11	1101	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.23	
11	1102	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.05	
11	1103	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
12	1201	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt clay			0.22	
12	1202	Layer		Subsoil	Brown clay silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.06	
12	1203	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
13	1301	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt			0.15	
13	1302	Layer		Subsoil	Red brown silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.27	
13	1303	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
14	1401	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt			0.15	
14	1402	Layer		Subsoil	Red brown silt with sandstone and mudstone			0.26	

					gravel				
14	1403	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				
14	1404	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned with steeply sloping sides and concave base	>1.8	1.2	0.43	
14	1405	Fill	1404	Fill of ditch	Dark red brown silt clay	>1.8	1.2	0.43	
15	1501	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silt			0.12	
15	1502	Layer		Subsoil	Red brown silt with sandstone and mudstone gravel			0.32	
15	1503	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay				

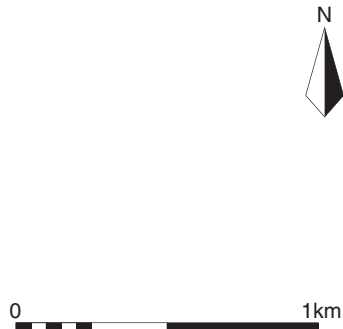
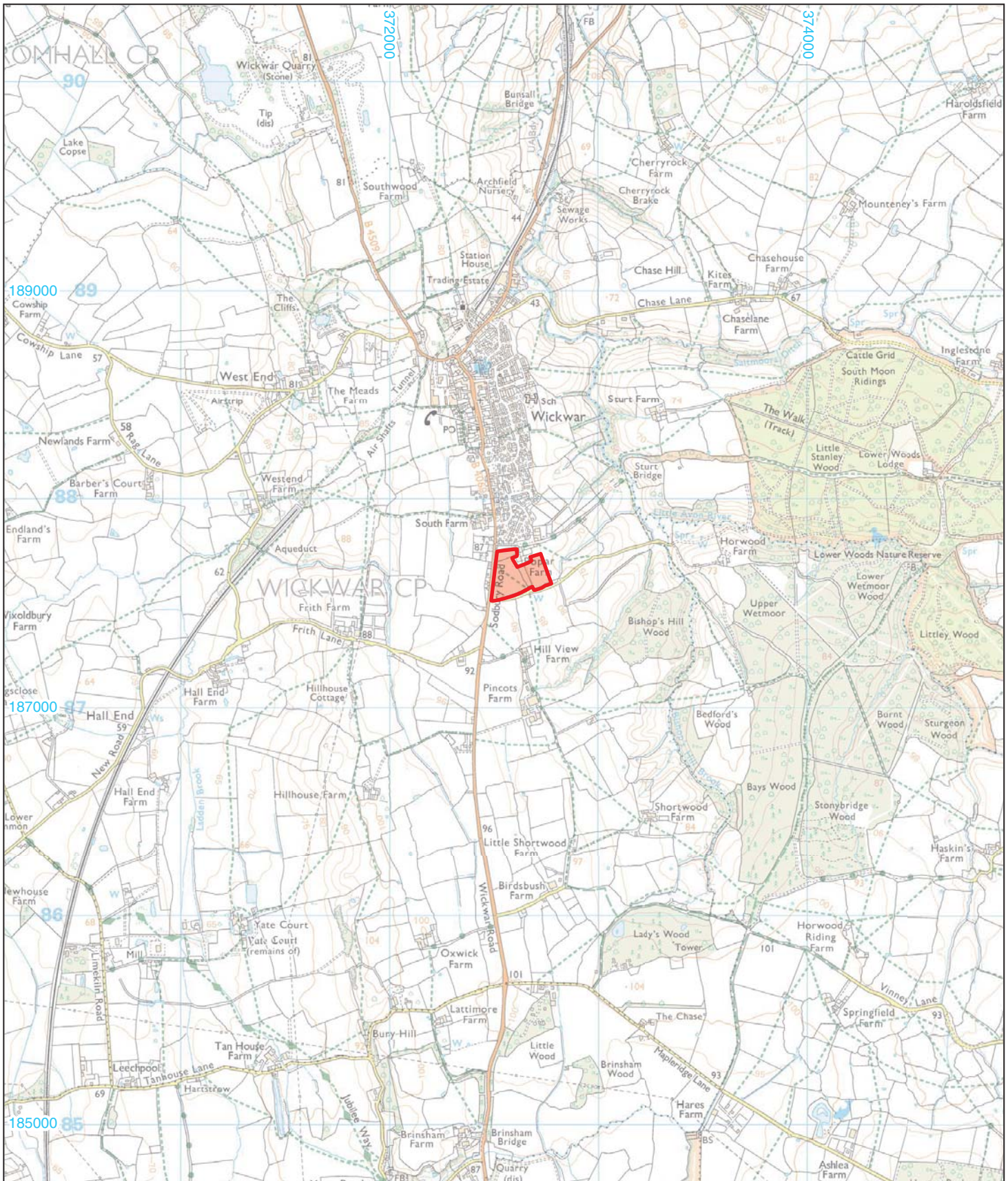


APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
502	Medieval pottery	Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware	TF41	1	2	LC16-LC19
	Medieval pottery	Sandy coarseware	TF42	1	5	
	Ceramic building material	Fragment		1	4	
	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem		1	4	
	Iron	Nail/rivet		1	6	
1102	Flint	Flake		1	4	-

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June 2018 on land south of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire. Twelve trenches were excavated. A single undated ditch was recorded during the evaluation. The ditch does not align with modern or historic boundaries, or with adjacent ridge and furrow cultivation remains, hence the date and function of the ditch remains uncertain.</p> <p>The site lies within the agricultural hinterland of the medieval village of Wickwar and further ridge and furrow cultivation identified in the western part of the site during the evaluation, is indicative of the agricultural use of the site at this time. Two sherds of pottery dating to the 11th to 14th centuries recovered from subsoil deposits further attest to medieval activity in the vicinity of the site.</p>	
Project dates	4 - 6 June 2018	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2016)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	4.3ha	
Site co-ordinates	372709 187698	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	CgMs Limited	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Bristol's Museum, Galleries and Archives	Ceramics, CBM, flint, clay pipe, Iron
Paper	Bristol's Museum, Galleries and Archives	Context sheets, trench sheets
Digital	Bristol's Museum, Galleries and Archives	Database, digital photos, survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire: <i>Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report: 18317</p>		



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

PROJECT TITLE
 Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar,
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

© Crown copyright and database rights 2018
 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6647	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/06/2018	
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Unexcavated trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Furrow
- Field drain
- Section location

STRATASCAN geophysical survey

	Former field boundary (corroborated)
	Ridge and furrow
	Magnetic disturbance
	Ferrous
	Uncertain (positive/increased response/trend)



© Crown copyright and database rights 2018 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

Cotswold Archaeology

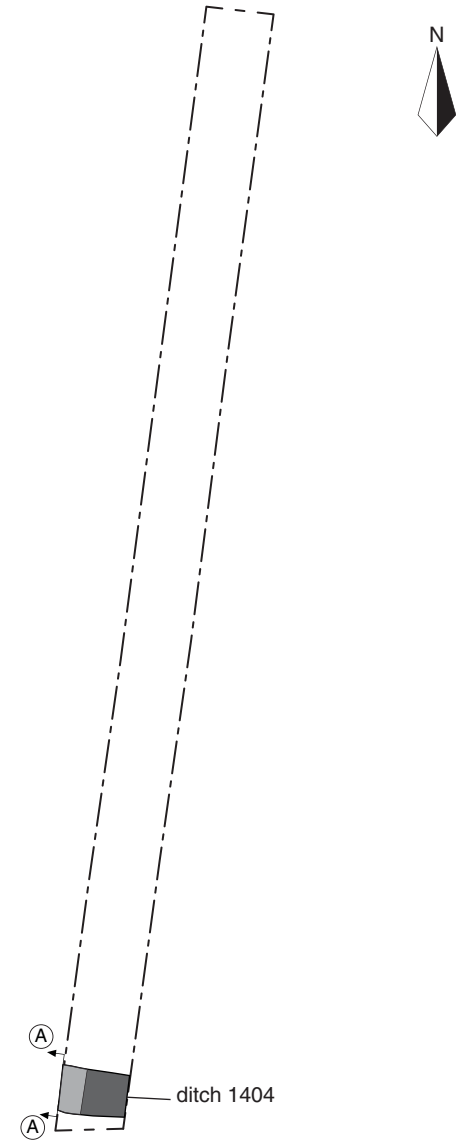
Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar,
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
**Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6647	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/06/2018	2
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE @A3	1:1000	

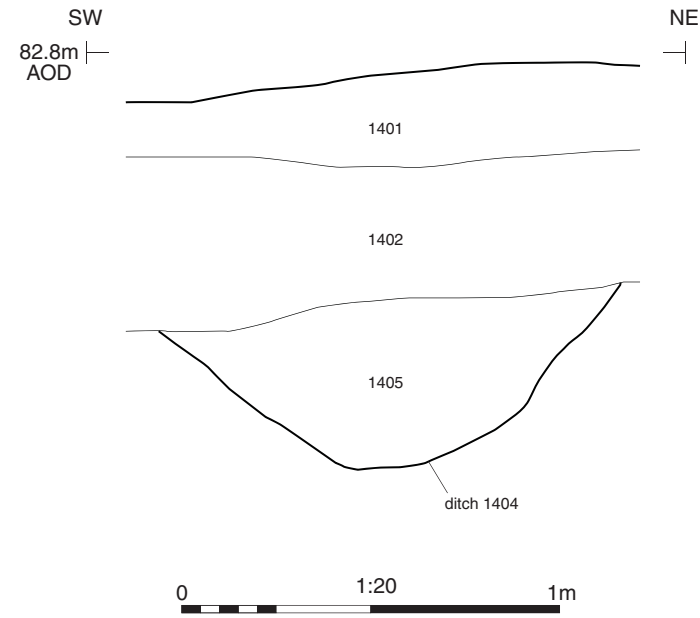
Trench 14 plan



0 1:200 10m

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location

Section AA



Ditch 1404, looking north-west (1m scale)

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

PROJECT TITLE
 Land South of Poplar Lane, Wickwar,
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 14: plan, section and
 photograph**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6647	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/06/2018	3
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE @A3	1:200 / 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 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

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

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

