



# Land at Severn Road Stourport-on-Severn Worcestershire

Programme of Archaeological Work



for: Barratt West Midlands

CA Project: CR1074 CA Report: CR1074\_1 WHER Ref: WSM78160

September 2022



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# **SUMMARY**

Project name: Land at Severn Road

**Location:** Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire

**NGR:** 381354 271044

**Type:** Evaluation and Watching Brief

**Date:** 17-26 May and 23-26 August 2022

Location of Archive: To be deposited with Worcestershire Museums Service and the

Archaeology Data Service (ADS)

Accession Number: WSM78160

Site Code: STOU 22

In May and August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out a programme of archaeological work on land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire. A total of 15 evaluation trenches were excavated and three areas of groundworks were archaeologically monitored.

A probable Roman pit was identified in a trench excavated in the south-western part of site, with its location corresponding to a probable gravel island deposited by riverine action.

Structural remains, correlating with boundary walls and buildings relating to a late 19th to early 20th-century carpet works, as depicted on historic mapping were recorded across the site.

A reinforced concrete basement and a 600mm narrow gauge hand cart rail system, recorded in the centre of the site, are considered likely to be associated with the use of site as a munitions factory during the Second World War.

A post-medieval/modern animal burial was identified in the southern extent of the site, and late 20th-century structural remains, likely relating to the post-War expansion of the carpet works and its subsequent demolition in the early 21st century, were also recorded.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In May and August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out a programme of archaeological work on land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire (centred at NGR: 381354 271044; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Barratt West Midlands.
- 1.2. Wyre Forest District Council (WFDC) has granted planning permission for the residential development of the site (planning ref: 20/0892/FUL). Conditions 25 and 26 of this planning permission require the implementation and completion of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved WSI.
- 1.3. The scope of this programme of archaeological work was defined by Emma Hancox, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service (WAAS), the archaeological advisor to WFDC, in a brief (WAAS 2022). The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by Emma Hancox. The site required a phased approach due to ecological constraints, with Phase 1 undertaken in May 2022 and Phase 2 in August 2022.
- 1.4. The programme of archaeological work was also undertaken in line with Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Projects in Worcestershire (WCC 2019), Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England 2015).

#### The site

- 1.5. The development site is approximately 3.2ha in extent. It lies near the centre of the town of Stourport-on-Severn and comprises areas of hard standing and scrub pertaining to the former Carpets of Worth factory. It is bounded to the north-east and south-east by the River Stour, to the south-west by Discovery Road, to the north-west by Severn Road and to the north by a supermarket and associated access. The site lies at approximately 23m AOD and is broadly level.
- 1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped Wildmoor Member Sandstone, which formed in the Triassic era, overlain by Quaternary era clay, sand

and gravel alluvium (BGS 2022). The natural geological substrate identified during the course of the programme of archaeological work comprised riverine gravels and sand.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. The site has previously been the subject of an *Archaeological and Heritage*Assessment (EDP 2020). The following is a brief summary of relevant information taken from this assessment.

#### **Prehistoric**

2.2. There are no known prehistoric remains within the site; however, prehistoric activity is known in the area of Hartlebury Common, approximately 1km to the north-east of the site. The HER records a prehistoric, possibly Neolithic, settlement (WSM27075), as well as a number of possible Bronze Age round barrows (WSM04089); it is also noted that flint arrowheads have been found close to these mounds although they do not appear within the HER (EDP 2020).

#### Roman and medieval

- 2.3. Three historic trackways, also on Hartlebury Common, have been ascribed the broad date range of Roman to 18th century. The turnpike road (the B4193) which forms the northern boundary of the common is likely to be a route that linked Mitton and Hartlebury (WSM32715). Redstone Lane or 'The Common Roadeway' (WSM32709) formed a network of access routes to Redstone Ford and may indicate the former extent of the Common. A further trackway (WSM32714) runs north to south across the common and links to 'The Common Roadeway' and another trackway dating from the 17th Century (WSM32710).
- 2.4. There is no known medieval precursor to the post-medieval settlement of Stourport-on-Severn. However, the HER records an area of ridge and furrow (WSM09074) adjacent to the north-east of the site; and further areas to the south (WSM09072) and south-west (WSM05130), suggesting that the site may have been in agricultural usage during this period. A possible site of a fish weir (WSM23806) lies just below the confluence of the rivers Stour and Severn, 150m to the south of the site.

#### **Post-medieval and Modern**

2.5. The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal was constructed during the late 1760s to link the River Trent with the River Severn. The town of Stourport-on-Severn was

founded at the southern terminus of this route. The core of the town was laid out during the late 18th century, with the main development between then and the mid-19th century (EDP 2020).

- 2.6. The site encompasses the former works of the 'Severn Valley Carpet Company', also known as the 'Bond Works' and more recently 'Carpets of Worth'. The original factory (WSM19650) was built in 1850 by William Henry Worth and his three sons, Thomas, William and Joseph. The company was called Bond Worth and its factory was one of the first steam-powered carpet factories. Between 1883 and 1927 there was considerable expansion of the Bond Worth factory, with changes depicted on historic mapping, and in 1926 the then largest weaving shed in Great Britain was opened on the site. The Bond Works gatehouse building was built between 1929 and 1938 (EDP 2020).
- 2.7. The Bond Worth factory continued to grow until World War II when the carpet works became an Admiralty Storage Unit and in 1941 the production of carpets ceased. The factories were then used in the production of phosphorous anti-tank bombs, the filling of hand grenades and repairing Spitfire machine guns (EDP 2020).
- 2.8. In 1946 the production of carpets resumed and by 1968, 1,100 people were employed at the factory. In 1977, Bond Worth was sold to new owners and its name was changed to 'Carpets of Worth'. In the 1990s, Carpets of Worth moved to Kidderminster and the abandoned factory buildings were mostly demolished between 2004 and 2005 (EDP 2020).
- 2.9. There are three standing buildings within the site connected to the carpet works, which include the Former Dye House to the Bond Worth Carpet manufactory adjacent to the River Stour; the inter-War Bond Works gatehouse building in Art Deco style, on Severn Road; and the 'White House', a former factory manager's house, also on Severn Road.

# 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objective of the programme of archaeological work was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable WFDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed

development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021).

## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. Due to onsite ecological constraints, the programme of archaeological work was undertaken in two phases. The Phase 1 works comprised the excavation of 11 evaluation trenches (Trenches 1-11; Fig. 2), each measuring 30m in length by 1.8m in width, and the subsequent monitoring of the machine reduction of an area of *c*. 900m² (Trench 12; Figs 2, 3 and 8). The Phase 2 works comprised the excavation of a further five evaluation trenches (Trenches 13-16; Figs 2 and 9) of 30m length and all of 1.8m width (except Trench 16, which measured 3.2m in width), and the monitoring of the excavation of two ecological mitigation trenches (Trenches 18 and 19; Fig. 2).
- 4.2. The evaluation trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. They were positioned to provide a representative sample of the site. During the course of the evaluation the position of the trenches was adjusted to avoid buried services and extant modern structures where possible. Trench 4 was extended to further define an identified archaeological feature, as requested by Emma Hancox.
- 4.3. Overburden was stripped from the evaluation trenches and watching brief areas by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential, and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and a single environmental sample was taken.
- 4.6. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

- 4.7. CA will make arrangements with Worcestershire Museums Service for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection under accession number WSM78160. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.8. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

# 5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the results of the programme of archaeological work. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) and animal bone are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. The stratigraphic sequence identified during the course of the programme of archaeological works varied across the site, with variable levels of alluvial deposition and modern truncation identified within the excavated trenches.
- 5.3. The natural substrate recorded in the central and southern parts of site (Trenches 1-4, the western extent of Trench 5, and Trenches 12-19) consisted of riverine gravels and sand in a yellow and red silty-clay matrix, suggestive of a gravel island deposited by the changing courses of the River Stour and River Severn. In the north and eastern parts of the site (the eastern extent of Trench 5 and Trenches 6-11) the natural substrate comprised light-yellow sand. Due to modern ground reduction and levelling, the depth of the natural substrate varied throughout site and was identified between 0.4m and 1.1m below present ground level (bpgl). Within Trench 9, for example, the construction of a retaining wall and concrete platform had resulted in the truncation of approximately 0.5m of the natural horizon.
- 5.4. Within Trenches 1, 2, 4-12, 15 and 16, the natural substrate was sealed by deposits of sandy riverine alluvium, measuring between 0.4m and 0.8m in thickness, with two sherds of Roman pottery being recovered from this horizon in Trench 6. These layers,

and the natural substrate in Trench 3, were sealed by various deposits, relating to modern levelling, demolition and surfacing, which measured up *c*. 0.8m in thickness.

5.5. A pit was identified in Trench 4, a post-medieval/modern animal burial pit was recorded in Trench 14, and 19th and early 20th-century structural elements were identified in Trenches 4, 10 and 11, where their location generally correlated to walls and buildings depicted on late 19th and early 20th-century mapping. Ceramic land drains were identified within Trenches 7 and 13, and late 20th-century basements, services, inspection chambers, pile caps and footings (Fig. 9) were identified in Trenches 1-9, and 14-17, all probably relating to structures post-dating 1946 and the resumption of carpet manufacture at the site. Undated tree-throw pits, defined by their irregular plan and profile, were recorded in Trenches 1, 10 and 12.

### Trench 4 (Fig. 4)

- 5.6. Pit 417/422 (Fig. 4, Section AA) was identified in the south-western part of Trench 4, cutting the natural gravel substrate. It was sub-circular in plan, measured 2.4m in length, 1.7m in width and 0.6m in depth, and contained three fills; 416/421, 415/420, 414 and 413/419; four sherds of pottery of broad Roman date were recovered from fill 415. An environmental sample, taken from fill 415 (Sample 1), contained no charred plant remains and only a minimal amount of charcoal fragments, probably representative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material.
- 5.7. Walls 405 and 407 were identified in the north-eastern part of the trench and extended beyond the limits of excavation. They measured approximately 0.45m in width and at least 0.6m in height and were constructed from regular coursed red brick, bonded by brown mortar. The location of wall 405 correlates closely to the corner of a boundary wall depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884, and also to the corner of a small building, likely associated with the expanding carpet works, shown on the 1927 Ordnance Survey (OS) map. Wall 407 correlates to the north-eastern wall of a small building shown on both of these maps.

#### Trench 5 (Fig. 5)

5.8. In the western half of Trench 5, underground concrete chamber 502 was recorded on a broadly north-west/south-east alignment. It was partially exposed in plan and measured at least 2m in length, approximately 5.5m in width, and was backfilled with demolition rubble 504. Underground concrete chamber 502 was constructed with a spur protruding from its north-eastern extent towards 600mm narrow gauge railway

system 501. These structural elements are not depicted on early 20th-century mapping and likely relate to activities within the site during the Second World War, potentially representative of a munitions storage area and transport system.

# Trench 10 (Fig. 6)

5.9. North-east/south-west aligned walls 1004 and 1006 were identified in the south-eastern part of Trench 10. They measured approximately 0.85m in width, at least 0.75m in height, and were constructed from regular courses of red brick bonded by a grey-brown mortar. The walls correlated closely to the locations of a boundary wall and the north-western external wall of the main carpet factory building, as depicted on the 1884 and 1927 editions of OS mapping.

## **Trench 11 (Fig. 7)**

- 5.10. A series of structural elements were identified within Trench 11. None of these correlated to structures depicted on historic cartographic sources and they would appear to wholly reside within a larger carpet works structure shown on the 1927 OS map, and therefore likely represent internal features.
- 5.11. Construction cut 1114 was recorded in the northern part of the trench, where it contained 0.44m thick clay lining 1115 and curving wall 1116, which probably represents a watertight tank related to the carpet factory. Wall 1116 was constructed from blueish-red brick and was exposed to a width of 7m within the trench and contained backfill/demolition material 1118. Brick surface 1117 was identified butting the north of circular wall 1116 and is likely contemporary, and this was overlain by concrete surface 1119, probably representing a later repair.
- 5.12. Walls 1109 and 1112 were identified immediately to the south of wall 1116 and likely represent the south-western a pair of perpendicular internal divisions within the larger carpet works structure. They were both constructed from regular coursed blueish-red bricks and measured approximately 0.4m in width and measured at least 0.3m in height.
- 5.13. Walls 1103 and 1105 were recorded in the southern part of the trench. They were aligned broadly north-east/south-west, measured approximately 0.6m in width, 0.8m in height and were constructed from regular coursed blueish-red brick. Both walls broadly correspond with the south-eastern external wall of the carpet factory depicted on the 1927 OS map.

#### Trench 14

5.14. Intercutting ovoid pits 1405 and 1407 were recorded at the southern end of Trench 14. They measured up to 2.4m in length and 1.1m in width and remained unexcavated due to the identification of asbestos containing materials in the surrounding deposits. An articulated animal skeleton was apparent in the fill of pit 1407; post-medieval/modern artefactual material was noted from the fills of both pits and was not retained.

#### 6. THE FINDS

6.1. Artefactual material was hand-recovered from three deposits (an alluvial/subsoil layer, a pit fill, and a modern deposit). The recovered material dates to the Roman period and quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded in accordance with current standards for archaeological material (Barclay *et al.* 2016). Fabric codes (in parenthesis in the text) are equated to the Worcestershire online ceramics database (http://www.worcestershireceramics.org).

# **Pottery**

6.2. A total of six (5g) unfeatured bodysherds were recovered. The fabrics represented are a black-firing, sand-tempered fabric (98) from fill 415 of pit 417 and a sandy whiteware fabric (98) from alluvial/subsoil layer 601. The sherds of black-firing, sand-tempered fabric include very small rimsherds with a rounded rim top, possibly deriving from a jar. All of the pottery is broadly Roman in date and is likely to originate from local sources.

#### 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

#### **Animal bone**

7.1. A single fragment of animal bone (9g) was recovered from alluvial/subsoil layer 601 (see Table 1, Appendix C). The fragment was a partial long bone shaft but was too poorly preserved and lacked sufficient osteological landmarks to identify beyond the level of a medium sized mammal.

#### **Palaeoenvironmental Assessment**

7.2. A single environmental sample (20 litres of soil) was recovered from fill 415 of Roman pit 417, identified in Trench 4. This was undertaken to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains in the area and with the intention of recovering

environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

7.3. Any dates discussed within this report have been obtained through the dating of finds discussed above.

#### Trench 4

7.4. Sample 1 contained no charred plant remains and only a minimal amount of charcoal fragments. The charcoal was comminuted, and silt impregnated so it was not possible to achieve further wood species identification. The charred remains are likely to be representative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material and do not provide any insight into the possible use or function of the pit, and provides no evidence for any specific settlement activity, such as crop processing, in this area of the site during the Roman period.

## 8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. The programme of archaeological work confirmed that, despite the site being subjected to industrial development from the 19th century onwards, *in situ* deposits of historic alluvium at least partially survived within all trenches. However, modern truncation was prevalent throughout site with all trenches showing varying degrees of disturbance down to the natural horizon.
- 8.2. Probable Roman pit 417, identified in trench 4 is the only archaeological feature predating the post-medieval period identified during the current works. The pit was identified within an area of natural gravel, likely representing a gravel island derived from the movements of the River Stour and River Severn depositing gravel over the sandier natural seen in the north-western part of site, showing similarities to Roman activity recorded on gravel islands along the River Severn. Despite the extension of Trench 4, no further features were identified in this area. The recovered artefactual and palaeoenvironmental assemblage recovered from this feature suggest that is not directly associated with settlement activity, and therefore likely represents a feature within the Roman agricultural hinterland.
- 8.3. The structural elements identified in Trenches 4, 10 and 11 correlated closely to boundaries and buildings depicted on late 19th and early 20th-century mapping, all relating to the Severn Valley Carpet Company/Bond Worth factory.

- 8.4. The pits identified in Trench 14, including an articulated animal burial, contained post-medieval/modern artefactual material and were located in an area that is depicted as open ground into the early 20th century. It is possible that these pits represent small-scale agricultural activity on the floodplain of the River Stour during these periods, prior to the expansion of the carpet works.
- 8.5. The small network of 600mm narrow gauge track identified within and around Trench 5, in association with an underground concrete chamber, is suggestive of a network of rails operated by handcarts. The 600mm gauge track used was first used on an industrial scale by the military during the First World War where large networks covered western Europe supplying the front line. Because of the military connection, and with non-military industrial networks preferring 610mm (2 foot) narrow gauge railway, it is probable that the concrete chamber and narrow-gauge network are associated with the use of the site as a munitions factory during the Second World War.
- 8.6. The remaining structural elements and truncations recorded across the site relate to expansion and eventual demolition of the carpet factory buildings during the later 20th and early 21st century.

#### 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Daniel Sausins and Liam Wilson, assisted by Nathan Chinchen, Beth Moreing and Nicole Burkhardt. This report was written by Daniel Sausins and Liam Wilson. The finds, animal bone and palaeoenvironmental evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Andy Clarke and Emma Aitken, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ken Lymer. The project archive has been compiled by Daniel Sausins and Liam Wilson and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neil. The project was managed for CA by Alex Thomson and Monica Fombellida.

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# **APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam with tarmac			0.15	
1	101	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.25	
1	102	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.3	
1	103	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.25	
1	104	Layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
1	105	Cut		Modern	Aligned NE/SW. vertical sides. Cuts 102	>2.3	0.9	>0.4	
1	106	Fill	105	Deliberate Backfill	Mixed light grey-brown and dark grey silty sand. Small stones, brick fragments with ash and clinker		0.9	>0.4	
1	107	Cut		Tree-throw pit	Irregular in plan and profile	>2.7	>1.16	0.76	
1	108	Fill	107	Tree-throw fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand	>2.7	1.16	0.76	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark grey sandy silt			0.2	
2	201	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Finely crushed pale red CBM with ash and clinker			0.1	
2	202	Layer		levelling	Very dark greyish black crushed ash and clinker.			0.6	
2	203	Layer		Podzol soil horizon	Very light brownish grey silty sand. Undulating horizon sealing 204 and iron-pan lens at base			0.25	
2	204	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid brownish orange silty sand			0.2	
2	205	Layer		Natural	Light brown-orange and red sand with riverine gravel and pebbles				
3	300	Layer		Levelling	black tarmac crush and stone chippings			0.33	
3	301	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed light red CBM hardcore			0.2	
3	302	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Mixed brown and black sand			0.17	
3	303	Layer		Natural	Riverine pebbles in red sand matrix			0.14	
3	304	Layer		Natural	Dark grey sand with abundant riverine pebbles. Under 303			>0.2	
3	305	Layer		Natural	Mottles reddish yellow and orange sand with pebbles				
3	306	Cut		Modern	Aligned NW/SE. vertical sides.	>2.1	0.4	>0.3	
3	307	Structure	306	Drainpipe	Salt glazed	>2.1	0.4	0.3	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey sandy silt with black tarmac chippings			0.1	
4	401	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Black ash and clinker			0.5	
4	402	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid brownish grey silty sand			0.25	
4	403	Layer		Natural	Mid red-brown sand and riverine gravel and pebbles			0.25	

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
4	404	Cut		Construction Cut	L-shaped wall foundation construction cut		1.1	0.45	
4	405	Structure	404	Wall	Brick built wall corner.		1.1	0.45	
4	406	Cut		Modern	Aligned NW/SE. vertical sides.	>2.1	0.4	>0.4	
4	407	Structure	406	Drainpipe	Salt glazed	>2.1	0.4	>0.3	
4	408	Cut		Construction Cut	Aligned NW/SW vertical sides, flat base	>2.1	0.4	0.6	
4	409	Structure	408	Wall	Brick built wall, regular courses on concrete footing		0.4	0.6	
4	410	Cut		Modern	Aligned NW/SW	>2.1	1.0	>0.3	
4	411	Fill	410	Service	Fuel line and mixed dark backfill	>2.0	1.0	>0.3	
4	412	Layer		Podzol soil horizon	Very light brownish grey silty sand. Undulating horizon partially sealing 402 and iron-pan lens at base			0.15	
4	413	Fill	417	Uppermost pit fill	Mid brown-grey silty sand	>1.3	1.7	0.26	
4	414	Fill	417	Pit fill	Light grey-brown silty sand and riverine pebbles	0.9	0.6	0.14	
4	415	fill	417	Pit fill	Mid brown-grey silty sand	>1.3	1.5	0.2	Roman
4	416	fill	417	Basal pit fill	Mid brown-grey silty sand with abundant riverine pebbles	>1.3	1.5	0.14	
4	417	cut		Pit	Sub-circular in plan with moderate sides and concave base	>1.3	1.7	0.6	
4	418	layer		Bank material	Light brown-yellow silty sand with abundant riverine gravel and pebbles	1.46	0.5	0.28	
4	419	fill	422	Pit fill	Same as 413	>0.67	0.6	0.12	
4	420	fill	422	Pit fill	Same as 415	>0.8	0.64	0.18	
4	421	fill	422	Pit fill	Same as 416	>0.7	0.3	0.12	
4	422	cut		Pit	Same as 417	>0.8	0.64	0.4	
4	423	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Cut by 417/422. Light yellow grey-brown silty sand			0.2	
5	500	layer		Floor Surface	Grey concrete			0.2	
5	501	structure		Rail system	Set into 500.600mm gauge track with steel cross ties.				
5	502	structure		Basement walls	Reenforced concrete walls and spur. Partially exposed in plan. Basement floor not exposed.	>2.1	5.5	>1.2	
5	503	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Mixed demolition rubble. Concrete and brick	>3.0	1.0	>0.1	
5	504	fill	502	Basement infill	Loose brick and concrete rubble.		5	0.5	
5	505	layer		Levelling	Black stone chippings			0.25	
5	506	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid reddish brown sandy silt			0.52	
5	507	layer		Natural	Light yellow sand at eastern end of trench				
5	508	layer		Natural	Riverine pebbles in red sandy matrix at western end of trench				
5	509	structure		Footings	Concrete	>2.1	1.5	>1.0	
6	600	layer		Levelling	Black tarmac and light orange-red hardcore			0.36	

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
6	601	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid grey, brown mottled with dark grey silty sand			0.48	Roman
6	602	layer		Natural	Light greyish brown-red sand				
6	603	cut		Modern	Aligned NE/SW	>2.3	0.2		
6	604	structure	604	Service	Cast iron pipe and mixed backfill	>2.3	0.2		
7	700	layer		Levelling	Black tarmac and stone chippings			0.55	
7	701	layer		Layer	Bright orange-red sand with lenses of black stone chippings.			0.18	
7	702	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid grey-brown silty sand			0.64	
7	703	layer		Natural	Bright orange-red sand				
7	704	cut		Modern	Aligned NE/SW. vertical sides	>2.1	0.15		
7	705	structure		Field drain	Red ceramic field drain. Unglazed	>2.1	0.15		
8	800	layer		Surface	Concrete and hardcore			0.2	
8	801	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Red sandy silt and black stone and tarmac chippings			0.25	
8	802	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid reddish brown clayey sandy silt			0.42	
8	803	layer		Natural	Light yellowish red sand				
8	804	structure		Other Structure	Concrete manhole/ service chamber	>1.0	>0.5		
9	900	layer		Buried topsoil	Mid reddish brown silty sand			0.24	
9	901	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light reddish brown silty sand			0.41	
9	902	layer		Natural	Light brownish red and yellow sand				
9	903	cut		Construction Cut	Terrace cut containing retaining wall 904 and concrete surface 905		2.15		
9	904	structure	903	Wall	Aligned NE/SE. red brick wall. Unfrogged bricks with dark grey concrete mortar. wall formed of two faces and inner pitch core.	>2.1	0.52	0.67	
9	905	structure	903	Surface	Concrete floor	>20	>2.15	0.2	
9	906	Layer		Made ground	Against the NE face of 904 and covering 905. Dark greyish brown silty sand with modern plastic, glass and CBM	>2.1	5.0	0.7	
9	907	layer		Made ground	Sealing 904 and 906. Mid greyish brown silty sand with plastic, metal and CBM.		10	0.9	
9	908	void							
9	909	Void							
9	910	Cut		Pit	Modern pit. Partially exposed in plan with steep sides.	>1.2	0.62	>1.02	
9	911	Fill		Deliberate Backfill	Mid reddish brown silty sand with plastic	>1.2	0.62	>1.02	
9	912	structure		Other Structure	Concrete plinth		0.77	0.37	
9	913	structure		Other Structure	Concrete plinth		0.79	0.23	

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
9	914	layer		Disturbed natural	Light yellow sand with CBM	>10.0	2.1	0.2	
9	915	structure		Sceptic tank	Concrete tank	>4.0	2.0	>0.5	
10	1000	layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sand with black tarmac chippings			0.2	
10	1001	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid brownish grey silty sand			0.4	
10	1002	layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy with riverine pebbles and gravel				
10	1003	cut		Construction Cut	Aligned NE/SW. vertical sides. unexcavated	>2.1	0.85	0.74	
10	1004	structure	1003	Wall	Red brick construction. Regular coursing with grey concrete mortar on concrete footing	>2.1	0.85	>0.74	
10	1005	cut		Construction Cut	Aligned NE/SW. vertical sides. unexcavated	>2.1	0.85	0.74	
10	1006	structure	1005	Wall	Red brick construction. Regular coursing with grey concrete mortar on concrete footing	>2.1	0.85	0.74	
10	1007	cut		Basement construction cut	Vertical sides. Base not exposed.	5.0	1.2	>0.74	
10	1008	structure	1007	Basement wall	Regular coursing with grey concrete mortar	5.0	0.25	>0.74	
10	1009	fill	1007	Basement infill	Brick and concrete rubble	5.0	1.2	>0.74	
10	1010	cut		Modern drain	Aligned NE/SW	>2.1	0.5	0.4	
10	1011	structure	1010	Drain	Salt glazed pipe in mixed backfill	>2.1	0.2	0.2	
10	1012	cut		Tree-throw pit	Irregular in plan and profile	2.74	1.47	0.52	
10	1013	fill	1012	Tree-throw pit fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand	2.74	1.47	0.52	
11	1100	layer		Topsoil	Mid grey silty sand with gravel, CBM fragments and concrete			0.42	
11	1101	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light greyish brown silty sand with riverine pebbles			0.42	
11	1102	layer		Natural	Light orange-brown and yellow sand				
11	1103	structure		Wall	Aligned NE/SW. Bluish red brick in regular courses and grey mortar on a gravel and concrete footing	>2.1	0.8	>0.1	
11	1104	cut		Construction Cut	L-shaped corner? Vertical sides. Base unseen	1	0.8	0.6	
11	1105	structure	1104	Wall	Bluish red brick in regular courses and grey mortar on a gravel and concrete footing		2.13	0.6	
11	1106	cut		Modern pit	Vertical sides. Flat base	1.25	0.77	0.1	
11	1107	fill	1106	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish brown silty sand	1.25	0.77	0.1	
11	1108	cut		Construction Cut	Aligned NW/SW. Vertical sides. Base unseen	>2.1	0.58	0.08	
11	1109	structure	1108	Wall	Bluish red brick in regular courses and grey mortar	>2.1	0.36	0.08	
11	1110	fill	1108	Deliberate Backfill	Mid greyish red silty sand		0.22	0.21	
11	1111	cut		Construction Cut	Aligned NE/SW. vertical sides. Base unseen. Same as 1108?		0.8	0.08	

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
11	1112	structure	1111	Wall	Bluish red brick in regular courses and grey mortar. Same as 1109?		0.43	0.08	
11	1113	fill	1111	Deliberate Backfill	Mid greyish red silty sand. Same as 1110?		0.37	0.08	
11	1114	cut		Construction Cut	Partially exposed in plan. circular with vertical side	>8.0	>0.8	>0.5	
11	1115	fill	1114	Clay lining	Mid greyish green clay	>8.0	0.44	>0.5	
11	1116	structure		Tank	Circular structure. Bluish red brick in regular courses and light brown mortar		0.36	0.08	
11	1117	structure		Surface/ step	Single course of bluish red brick	>2.15	>0.85	0.08	
11	1118	fill	1116	Tank infill	Mixed greyish brown silty sand with red brick rubble.	>7.5	1.42	0.08	
11	1119	structure		Other Structure	Concrete floor. Associated with 1117?		2.13	0.1	
12	1200	layer		Topsoil	Mid to dark grey sandy silt			0.2	
12	1201	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Finely crushed pale red CBM with ash and clinker			0.1	
12	1202	layer		levelling	Very dark greyish black crushed ash and clinker.			0.5	
12	1203	layer		Podzol soil horizon	Very light brownish grey silty sand. Undulating horizon sealing 204 and iron-pan lens at base			0.21	
12	1204	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid brownish orange silty sand			0.31	
12	1205	layer		Natural	Light brown-orange and red sand with riverine gravel and pebbles				
13	1300	layer		Surface	Modern concrete slab			0.24	
13	1301	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.55	
13	1302	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.47	
13	1303	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.32	
13	1304	layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
13	1305	cut		Modern service	Sewage pipe cut				
13	1306	fill		Service fill	Fill of service cut				
14	1400	layer		Surface	modern concrete			0.25	
14	1401	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.35	
14	1402	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.34	
14	1403	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.4	
14	1404	layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
14	1405	cut		Pit	Unexcavated ovoid pit		1.1		
14	1406	fill	1405	Pit fill	Pit fill		1.1		
14	1407	cut		Pit	Unexcavated ovoid pit containing articulated animal remains		1		

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
14	1408	fill	1407	Pit fill	Fill of pit, including animal remains		1		
15	1500	layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam with tarmac			0.25	
15	1501	layer		demolition material	Mixed rubble			0.3	
15	1502	structure		wall	NW/SE aligned brick wall			0.25	
15	1503	layer		Surface	modern concrete			0.25	
15	1504	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.36	
15	1505	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.25	
15	1506	layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
16	1600	layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam with tarmac			0.25	
16	1601	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.15	
16	1602	layer		demolition material	mixed clay, CBM and concrete			1.3	
16	1603	structure		Concrete pillars	Eight concrete pillar bases	1.22	0.4		
16	1604	cut		Construction cut	NE/SW aligned cut	15	1.9	2	
16	1605	fill	1604	Construction cut fill	pinkish-orange silty-sand	15	1	0.4	
16	1606	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Dark brown-black silty-sand	15	3	0.8	
16	1607	layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
17	1700	layer		Surface	concrete slab	9.7		0.44	
17	1701	layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.25	
17	1702	layer		demolition material	mixed clay, CBM and concrete			0.3	
17	1703	cut		modern drain	brick-built drain		0.15	0.15	
17	1704	fill		fill of drain	subsoil and modern demolition material		0.15	0.15	
17	1705	layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.35	
17	1706	layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
18	1800	layer		Surface	concrete slab			0.25	
18	1801	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.25	
18	1802	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.3	
18	1803	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.45	
18	1804	Layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				
19	1900	layer		Surface	concrete slab			0.25	
19	1901	Layer		Made ground/ levelling	Crushed stone with CBM rubble with ash, silt, and clinker			0.25	

Trench	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)	Spot- date
19	1902	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Light-mid orangey brown silty sand			0.3	
19	1903	Layer		Subsoil/ alluvial deposits	Mid red-brown silty sand with rounded pebbles			0.3	
19	1904	Layer		Natural	Light brownish red sand and riverine pebbles				

# **APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
415	Roman pottery	Black-firing sand-tempered fabric	BS (98)	4	2	Roman
601	Roman pottery	Sandy whiteware	WHS (98)	2	3	Roman
1107	Fired clay			1	12	-

# APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Context	ММ		Total	Weight (g)
601		1	1	9
Total		1	1	
Weight		9	9	

MM = medium sized mammal

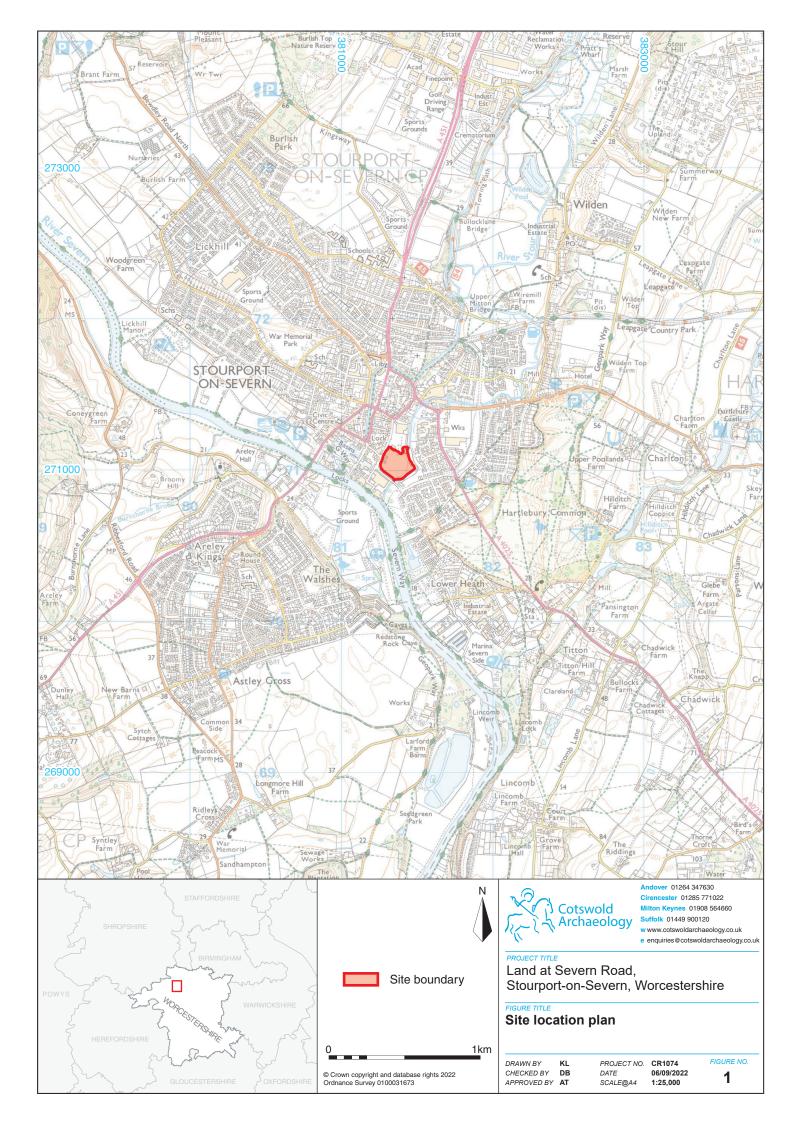
Table 2: Assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains

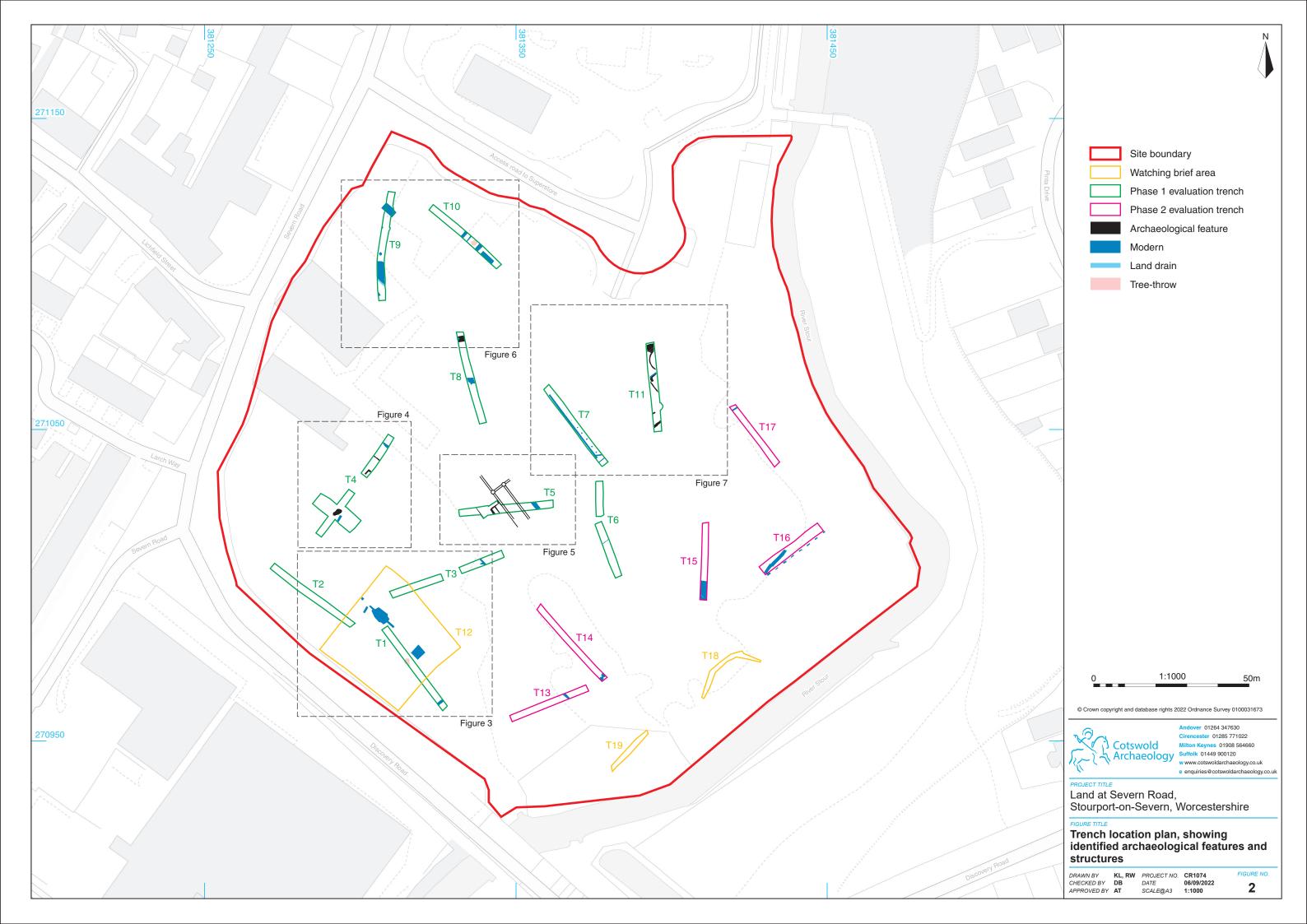
			Processed	Unprocessed	Flot size	Roots			Charred	Charcoal	
Feature	Context	Sample	vol (L)	vol (L)	(ml)	%	Grain	Chaff	Other	>4/2mm	Other
Pit 417	415	1	20	20	55	98	-	-	-	*/**	-

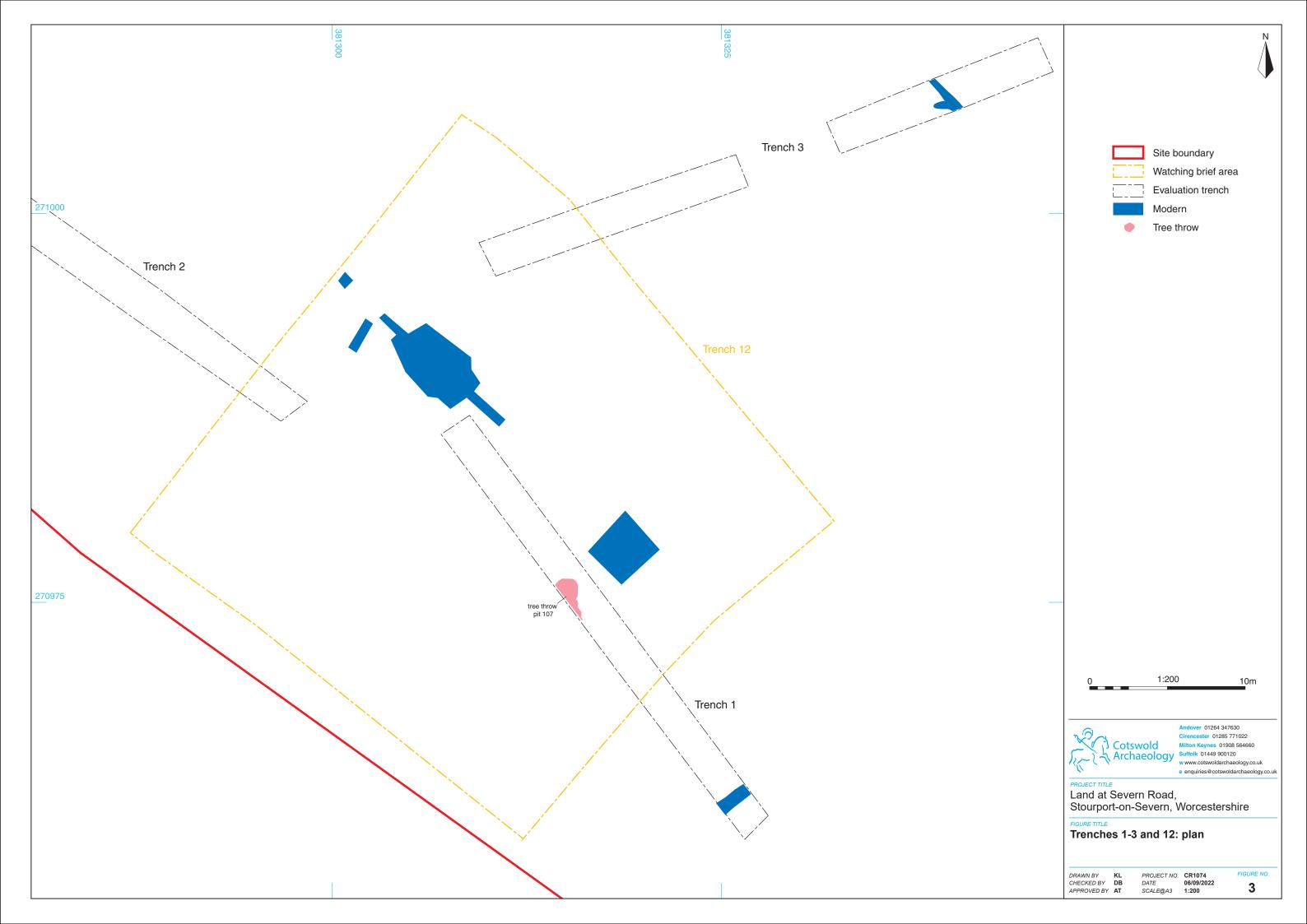
Key: \* = 1-4 items; \*\* = 4-20 items; \*\*\* = 21-49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50-99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items

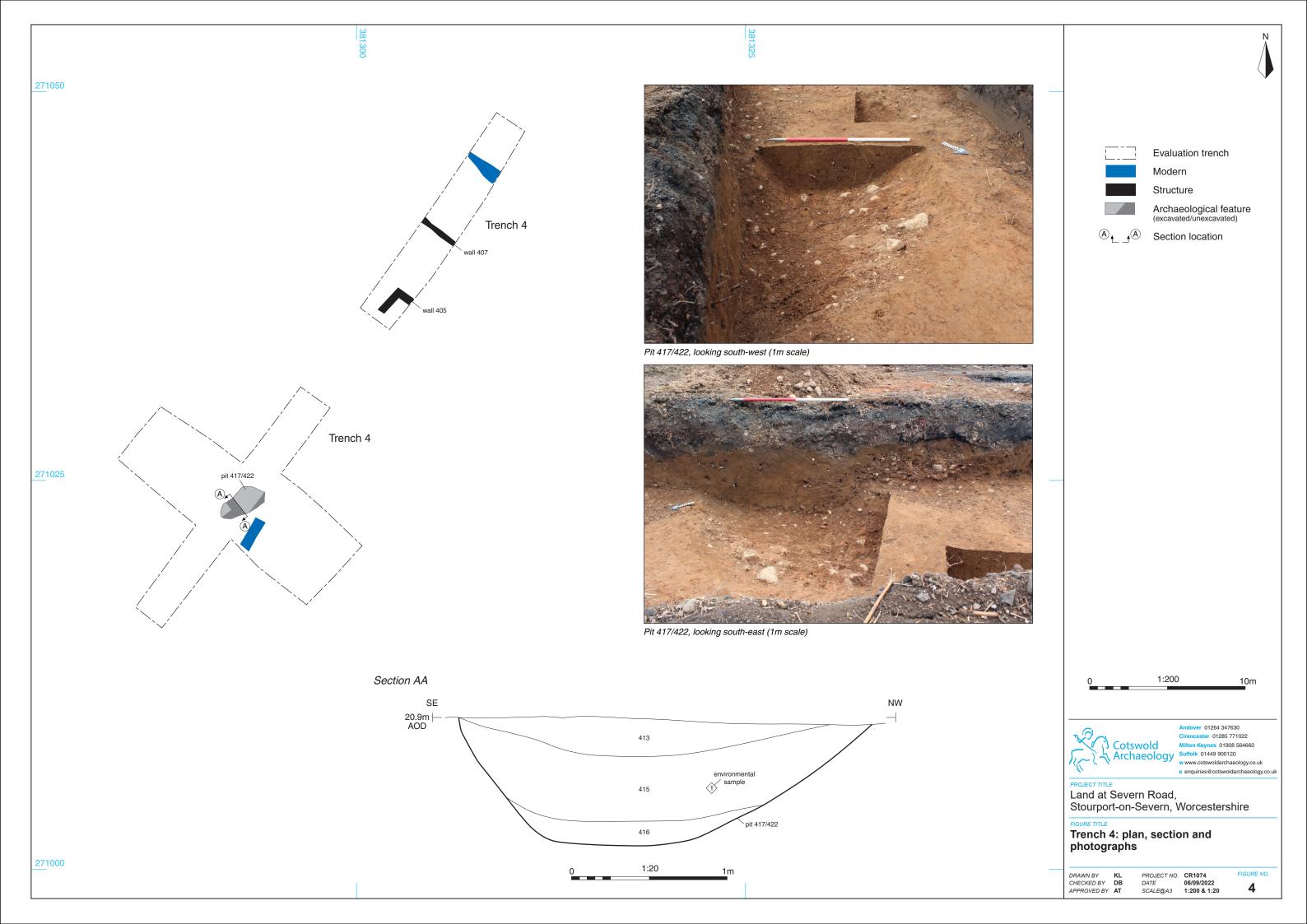
# **APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM**

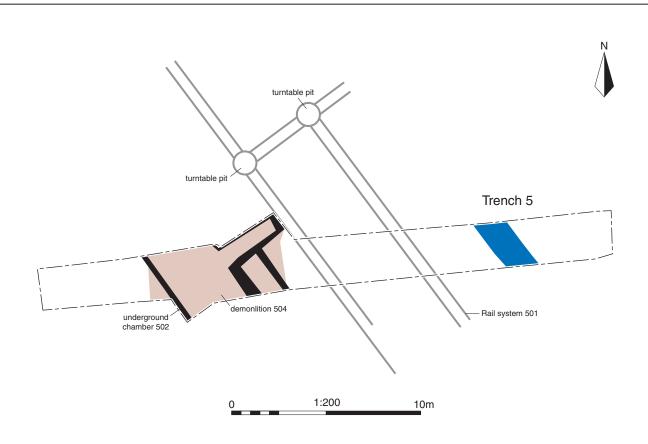
PROJECT DETAILS							
Project name	Land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Se	evern, Worcestershire					
	programme of archaeological work Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire.	In May and August 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out a programme of archaeological work on land at Severn Road Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire. A total of 15 evaluation trenches were excavated and three areas of groundworks were					
	A probable Roman pit was identified in a trench excavated in the south-western part of site, with its location corresponding to a probable gravel island deposited by riverine action.						
Short description	relating to a late 19th to early 20th	Structural remains, correlating with boundary walls and buildings relating to a late 19th to early 20th-century carpet works, as depicted on historic mapping were recorded across the site.					
	A reinforced concrete basement and a 600mm narrow gauge hand cart rail system, recorded in the centre of the site, are considered likely to be associated with the use of site as a munitions factory during the Second World War.						
	A post-medieval/modern animal burial was identified in the southern extent of the site, and late 20th-century structural remains, likely relating to the post-War expansion of the carpet works and its subsequent demolition in the early 21st century, were also recorded.						
Project dates	17-26 May and 23-26 August 2022	17-26 May and 23-26 August 2022					
Project type	Field Evaluation and Watching Brief	Field Evaluation and Watching Brief					
Previous work	Archaeological and Heritage Assessm	Archaeological and Heritage Assessment (EDP 2020).					
Future work	Unknown	Unknown					
PROJECT LOCATION							
Site location		Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire					
Study area (m²/ha)	3.2ha						
Site co-ordinates	381354 271044						
PROJECT CREATORS	<del>_</del>						
Name of organisation		Cotswold Archaeology					
Project brief originator		Worcestershire Archaeology and Archive Service					
Project design (WSI) originator		Cotswold Archaeology					
Project Manager		Alex Thomson					
Project Supervisor	Daniel Sausins and Liam Wilson						
MONUMENT TYPE	none						
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none						
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content					
Physical	Worcestershire Museum Services/ WSM78160	Pottery, animal bone					
Paper	Worcestershire Museum Services/ WSM78160	Context sheets, trench sheets, photo registers, section drawings					
Digital	Worcestershire Museum Services/ WSM78160	Database, digital photos					
BIBLIOGRAPHY							
Cotswold Archaeology 2022 Land at Archaeological Work CA types	Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worceste script report CR1074_1	ershire: Programme of					





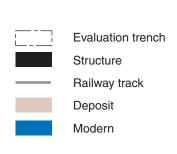








Underground chamber 502 and rail system 501, looking west





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ROJECT TITLE

Land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire

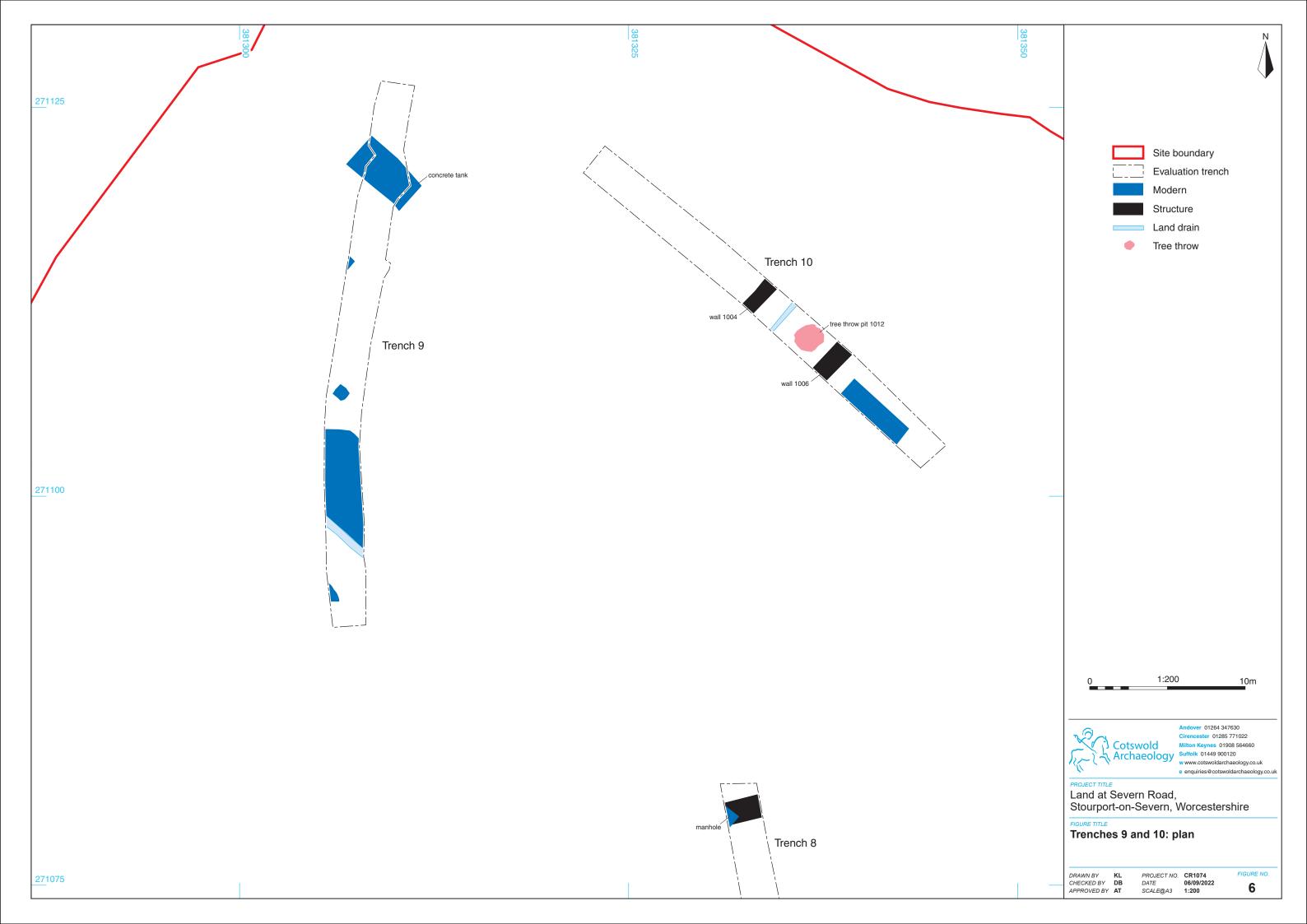
FIGURE TITLE

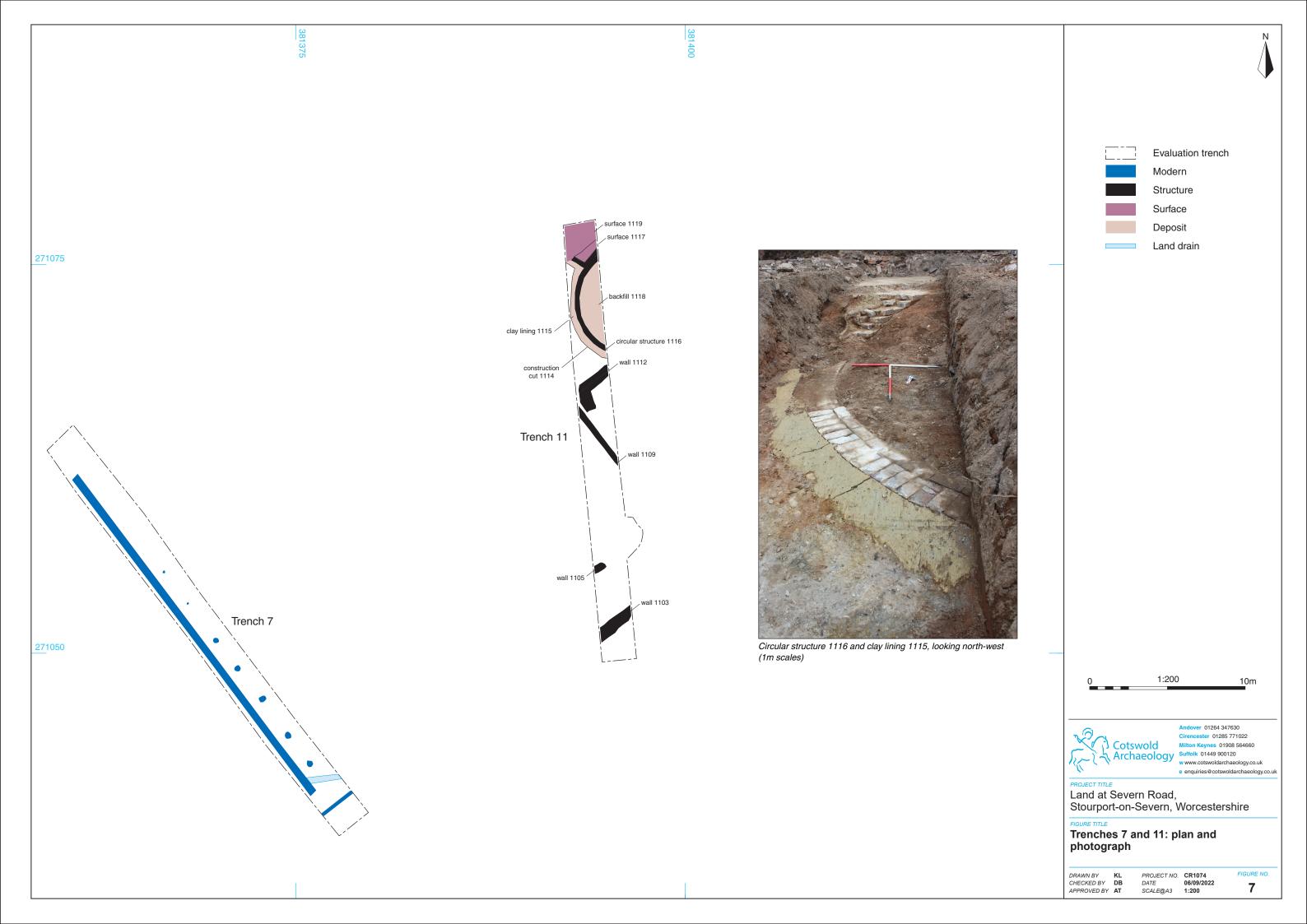
# Trench 5: plan and photograph

DRAWN BY	KL	PR
CHECKED BY	DB	DA
APPROVED BY	ΔT	SC

PROJECT NO. CR1074 PATE 06/09/2022 PCALE@A4 1:200 FIGURE NO.

5







Trench 12, during excavation



Trench 12, during excavation, looking south-west (1m scale)



Trench 12, during excavation, looking south-west (1m scale)



Land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 12: photographs

DRAWN BY KL
CHECKED BY DB
APPROVED BY AT

 PROJECT NO.
 CR1074

 DATE
 06/09/2022

 SCALE@A3
 NA



Concrete post-pads in south-eastern extent of Trench 16, looking south-east



Trench 16, looking north-east (1m scales)



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Land at Severn Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 16: photographs



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